

(English Translation)

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本函檔號 Our Ref.:
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15 January 2021

Ms Joanne MAK
Legislative Council Panel on Constitutional Affairs Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road, Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms Mak,

**Follow-up reply to informal meeting of the
Legislative Council Panel on Constitutional Affairs
for policy briefing by video-conferencing on 5 January 2021**

On 5 January 2021, the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs briefed Members of the Legislative Council Panel on Constitutional Affairs on the Chief Executive's 2020 Policy Address. At the meeting, the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) has agreed to provide written response to the Members on: (1) the implementation of education on the Constitution of the People's Republic of China (the Constitution), the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China (the Basic Law) and national security for students, including whether the HKSAR Government would proactively monitor the relevant work and the means or indicators to be adopted to evaluate its effectiveness; and (2) the outcome of complaint cases received and investigated by the Electoral Affairs Commission (EAC) in relation to the 2019 District Council Ordinary Election (DCOE). The HKSAR Government provides the relevant information as follows –

Education on the Constitution, the Basic Law and national security for students

Fostering students' sense of national identity has long been a key learning goal of primary and secondary education. The Education Bureau (EDB) has been adopting a multi-pronged and co-ordinated approach in supporting schools to promote the Constitution and the Basic Law education (CBLE) as well as the national security education (NSE) within and beyond the school curriculum.

On curriculum, the EDB provides schools with guidelines on teaching the learning elements relevant to the CBLE in different subjects (including General Studies, Chinese History and Geography, etc) as well as in moral and civic education lessons. In view that the Law of the People's Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region has been added to Annex III to the Basic Law, schools should integrate the NSE into the existing framework for implementing the CBLE. The EDB will provide curriculum documents/ guidelines within this school year to enable schools to build on their implementation of the CBLE to promote the NSE holistically through various subjects and learning activities within and beyond lessons according to students' cognitive abilities.

In addition, the EDB is constantly updating or enriching learning and teaching (L&T) resources. In June 2020, the EDB provided all schools in Hong Kong with new L&T resources on the CBLE, including three sets of wall-charts and resource packages on the themes of "Event Book on Hong Kong's Return to China", "Human Rights and the Rule of Law", and "The Constitution and the Basic Law", to enable teachers to explain the related basic concepts to students. Within this school year, the EDB will provide students with more diversified learning resources, including online self-learning courses and online games. Further details are available at the relevant webpage of the EDB (<http://www.edb.gov.hk/tc/basiclaw>) (in Chinese only).

On teacher training, the EDB continues to organise workshops, seminars, online self-learning courses and experience-sharing sessions, etc., to enable teachers and school leaders to better understand how to promote the CBLE and the NSE through various subjects, learning activities, L&T resources, as well as diversified and effective teaching strategies, etc. From July 2020 onwards, the EDB has introduced the

advanced version of the Constitution and the Basic Law Knowledge Enrichment Online Course for Secondary School Teachers, and will launch the Knowledge Enrichment Online Course for Primary School Teachers. Furthermore, a series of seminars aiming at enriching knowledge about national security has been organised for primary and secondary teachers from November 2020 onwards, and the schools' response has been overwhelming.

On student activities, the EDB continues to organise diversified life-wide learning activities, including the Territory-wide Inter-school Basic Law Competition, talks by experts, and visits to barracks, as well as various activities for the Constitution Day on 4 December, such as 2020 Constitution Day Online Competition which recorded participation of more than 26 000 students. Starting from this school year, the EDB has also implemented the Basic Law Student Ambassadors Training Scheme, which aims at providing students with diversified life-wide learning activities, such as diplomatic and law seminars, visits and study tours, etc., to deepen their understanding of the Constitution and the Basic Law, to encourage them to attend to the affairs of our country and Hong Kong actively, to develop their leadership skills and to widen their horizons. The EDB has all along been organising different types of exchange activities to the Mainland, amounting to about 100 000 exchange places every year, or providing schools with subsidies to organise these activities, so that students can acquire practical experience of the country's development in various aspects and have a comprehensive understanding of the relationship between the country and Hong Kong, thereby developing a sense of national identity.

Promotion of the CBLE is an ongoing work of schools. The EDB oversees the implementation of the CBLE and the NSE in schools through school inspection and visits, etc., and provides advice to schools to strengthen their implementation.

Outcome of complaint cases received and investigated by the EAC in relation to the 2019 DCOE

The 2019 DCOE was conducted on 24 November 2019. The complaints-handling period for the 2019 DCOE started on 4 October 2019, i.e. the day when the nomination period commenced, and ended on 8 January 2020, i.e. 45 days after the polling day. The

EAC received 36 221 cases. A breakdown of the outcome of investigations as at 14 January 2021 is at Annex for Members' reference.

Yours sincerely,

(Dennis CHING)
for Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

**2019 District Council Ordinary Election
Outcome of complaint cases investigated by the
Electoral Affairs Commission
(Showing position as at 14 January 2021)**

Nature		Outcome							Total
		Investigation underway	Action completed						
			Withdrawn	No further action	Referred to Returning Officers/ law enforcement agencies	Not substantiated	Partially substantiated	Substantiated	
1	Election advertisements	-	22	1 166	3 152	4	-	-	4 344
2	Electioneering activities on private premises	1	-	80	403	3	-	-	487
3	Entitlement to vote	-	1	80	7	17	-	-	105
4	Allocation/designation of polling station	1	1	84	1	-	-	-	87
5	False statements	-	-	323	96	-	-	-	419
6	False claim of support	-	-	6	9	-	-	-	15
7	Corruption/bribery/ treating/duress/undue influence	-	1	396	108	-	-	-	505
8	Impersonation in relation to voting	-	-	36	20	-	-	-	56
9	Employment of young persons under 18 years of age for canvassing or electioneering	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	3
10	Disturbances to electors caused by loudspeakers/ broadcasting vehicles/telephone canvassing/others	-	-	182	67	1	-	-	250
11	Personal data privacy	-	-	260	68	-	-	21	349
12	Polling arrangements	22	6	1 662	38	4	-	-	1 732
13	No Canvassing Zone arrangements	-	-	30	1	-	-	-	31
14	Illegal canvassing in No Canvassing Zone/No Staying Zone	-	1	166	100	1	-	-	268
15	Conduct of exit polls	-	-	14	-	-	-	-	14
16	Against Returning Officer or his/her staff	1	-	10	6	-	-	-	17
17	Against polling staff	21	-	255	5	-	-	-	281
18	Nomination and candidature	-	-	142	-	-	-	-	142
19	Election expenses	-	-	115	14	-	-	-	129
20	Inaccurate voter registration particulars	-	-	31	1	-	-	-	32

Nature		Outcome							Total
		Investigation underway	Action completed						
			Withdrawn	No further action	Referred to Returning Officers/ law enforcement agencies	Not substantiated	Partially substantiated	Substantiated	
21	False registration of electors	-	-	29	4	-	-	-	33
22	Unfair and unequal treatment by the media	3	-	300	9	2	1	1	316
23	Counting arrangements	5	-	21 339	1	-	-	-	21 345
24	Criminal damage/use of violence	1	-	1 144	13	-	-	-	1 158
25	Deception in relation to voting	-	-	2 583	16	-	-	-	2 599
26	Illegal conduct at the polling station	-	-	1 060	29	-	-	-	1 089
27	Others	8	1	379	22	5	-	-	415
Total		63	33	31 874	4 191	37	1	22	36 221