

LegCo Panel on Education

List of outstanding items for discussion

1. Implementation of whole-day primary schooling

In his 1997 Policy Address, the Chief Executive undertook to expedite the implementation of whole-day primary schooling to enable 60% of primary school pupils to study in whole-day schools in the 2002-03 school year. He also undertook to set out a time table for full implementation in his 1998 policy address.

2. Review of academic structure

The Education Commission (EC) has been tasked to review the structure of pre-primary, primary, secondary and tertiary education which will cover, among others, the age at which students should begin each stage of education, the duration of each stage, the curriculum and assessment methods, and the interface between the different stages. On 20 April 1998, two working groups, namely, the Working Group on Pre-primary and Universal Basic Education and the Working Group on Post-Secondary 3 Education, were set up under the EC to conduct the review. The Working Groups will consult the various advisory bodies and education community.

3. Strategy on information technology (IT) in education

The Chief Executive has pledged in his first Policy Address in 1997 to formulate a five-year strategy to promote application of IT in enhancing the effectiveness of teaching and learning. The Administration has subsequently published a consultation document on Information Technology for Quality Education in June 1998 to invite public views on its proposed five-year strategy for the use of IT in education. The consultation will end on 31 August 1998.

The Panel will discuss the subject at its meeting on 28 July 1998.

4. Review of the education-related executive and advisory bodies

In accordance with the recommendation of the Education Commission Report No.7 (ECR7), the Education and Manpower Bureau (EMB) has conducted a review on the education-related executive and advisory system. A

consultation document on the Review of the Education-related Executive and Advisory Bodies was published in May 1998. The consultation period ended on 27 May 1998. The Panel may wish to be briefed on the outcome of the review.

5. Installation of air-conditioning in primary and secondary schools

In response to requests of school teachers, the Government is examining the proposal to install air-conditioners in all primary and secondary schools, irrespective of whether they are located in a noisy environment.

The Administration will brief the Panel on the progress at the meeting on **28 July 1998**.

6. Review of the Education Department

The Education Commission Report No. 7 published in October 1997 recommended, inter alia, a review of the management structure of the Education Department to facilitate implementation of the various new initiatives to improve the quality of education. A management consultancy firm was appointed in December 1997 and had submitted its final report to the Government. The Government published a consultation document in July 1998 (issued to Members under LegCo Brief Ref. EMBCR 11/11/2041/95) on the subject. The consultation period will end on 19 October 1998. The Government is ready to brief the Panel on the subject.

7. Review of the public examination system

The Hong Kong Examination Authority has appointed the Hong Kong Baptist University to conduct a review of the public examination system in Hong Kong. The scope of the review covers six specific issues including the development of school-based assessment in the Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination and the Hong Kong Advanced Level Examination. Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung suggested discussion of this item at a future Panel meeting.