



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部教育局
Education Bureau
Government Secretariat, The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
The People's Republic of China

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8 June 2015

Miss Polly YEUNG
Clerk to Panel on Education
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central
Hong Kong

Dear Miss Yeung,

Panel on Education
Follow up to the issues related to promotion of Basic Law education in schools
and “Basic Law Video Teaching Resource Package”
(「活學趣論·基本說法—《基本法》視像教材套 2015」)

The Panel Chairman requested the Administration to provide a written response in both Chinese and English to the issues related to the issues raised in the letter from Dr Hon Helena WONG dated 30 April 2015, including the promotion of Basic Law education in schools and “Basic Law Video Teaching Resource Package” (「活學趣論·基本說法—《基本法》視像教材套 2015」). Copies of the Package were sent to Legislative Council Secretariat by Education Bureau on 8 May 2015 for dissemination among the members. The paper in both Chinese and English is now provided for information of the Panel.

Yours sincerely,

(Stephen Y W YIP)
for Secretary for Education

Encl.

For information

Legislative Council Panel on Education
Promotion of Basic Law education in schools and
“Basic Law Video Teaching Resource Package”
(「活學趣論·基本說法 —《基本法》視像教材套 2015」)

Purpose

This paper reports the latest developments of the promotion of Basic Law education in primary and secondary schools in Hong Kong and the Basic Law Video Teaching Resource Package (「活學趣論·基本說法 —《基本法》視像教材套 2015」).

Background

2. The Basic Law is a constitutional document for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR). It enshrines within a legal document the important concepts of “One Country, Two Systems”, “Hong Kong People administering Hong Kong” and a high degree of autonomy. It also prescribes the various systems to be practised in the HKSAR. The Basic Law and our daily lives are intimately related.

3. Education Bureau (EDB) has always attached great importance to the promotion of the Basic Law as its regular, on-going task. Related learning elements of the Basic Law have long been incorporated into the curricula of primary and secondary schools as well as learning activities. These include, for example, General Studies at primary level, Life and Society at junior secondary level and Liberal Studies at senior secondary level. The “Revised Moral and Civic Education Curriculum Framework” (2008) has strengthened the related content of the Basic Law. All primary and secondary schools in Hong Kong could implement Basic Law education with close reference to their own contexts and needs for curriculum development through multiple modes inside and outside the classroom. Though the “Moral and National Education Curriculum Guide” was shelved in 2012, the importance of Basic Law education in the school curriculum has not been varied.

Recurrent measures of Basic Law education

4. EDB continues to promote Basic Law education in primary and secondary schools through Key Learning Areas/subjects/learning experiences. EDB continues to produce teaching and learning resources and question banks as well as organise learning activities to promote Basic Law education. Based on the recommendations in the 2010-11 Policy Address, learning packages have been produced since November 2010 to foster students' understanding of the Basic Law. The packages have been distributed to schools in phases from January 2012 to January 2013. At the same time, online resources have been provided to schools in support of Basic Law learning.

5. For primary schools, the "Community and Citizenship" strand of the General Studies curriculum includes key learning points/core learning elements on the Basic Law. EDB would continuously evaluate and update the "General Studies for Primary Schools Curriculum Guide" to keep track with the societal development. Meanwhile, EDB has also developed in 2012 "Let's Learn the Basic Law - Basic Law Learning Package (Senior Primary) (bilingual version)" and the Basic Law Assessment Bank to provide support to primary school teachers on relevant teaching and assessment and, to increase students' knowledge on the background, Articles and important concepts of the Basic Law. The Learning Package (bilingual version in DVD format) was distributed to all primary schools, including the schools operated by the English Schools Foundation. In addition, EDB also established an on-line assessment bank which was uploaded onto the learning and teaching resource websites of EDB for schools' reference and use. Teachers can encourage students to do online self-assessment to consolidate the learning of the Basic Law. In addition, in 2015, EDB will compile the "Let's Learn the Basic Law: Effective Use of the Learning Package" which comprises various primary school exemplars on Basic Law education. It can serve as a good reference to strengthen teachers' confidence of adopting the Learning Package for learning and as a professional platform for schools to share their teaching experiences.

6. For secondary schools, EDB has started developing "Understanding the Law, Access to Justice - Basic Law Learning Package (Junior Secondary)" and the Package (bilingual version) was distributed to all secondary schools in 2011 and 2012. In order to ensure its relevance to the development of community and students' learning needs, EDB developed the bilingual version of "Understanding the Law, Access to Justice - Basic Law Learning Package (Junior Secondary)" (Reprinted with

minor amendments) in 2015. To tie in with the development of e-learning, EDB will complete the e-book version of the Package for all junior secondary students by June 2015.

7. As for senior secondary schools, the Basic Law is related to the theme of “Rule of law and socio-political participation” in Module 2 “Hong Kong Today” of the curriculum of senior secondary Liberal Studies. The Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination of Liberal Studies is set according to the “Liberal Studies Curriculum and Assessment Guide (Secondary 4-6)”. Questions are set in accordance with the curriculum aims, curriculum contents, design of issues, explanatory notes and assessment objectives, so as to assess candidates' comprehension of the issues, application of relevant knowledge and concepts as well as use of different thinking skills and positive values. Two teacher's manuals concerning “the Basic Law and One Country, Two Systems” with different content written in Chinese and English were produced by EDB for the teachers of Liberal Studies.

8. To facilitate teachers in their assessment of students' understanding of the Basic Law, two assessment banks have been provided for secondary and primary school teachers respectively in June 2012. Students can assess their own understanding of the Basic Law online through responding to questions or engaging in online games from December 2012. EDB will continue to design various types of examination questions for schools' reference and use.

9. EDB has continued to keep abreast of effectiveness of Basic Law education through curriculum visits, teacher networks and learning circles. EDB has always taken heed of views and suggestions through various channels such as conducting relevant discussions with the Curriculum Development Council and maintaining close communication with school sponsoring bodies and schools, and enriching the contents about the Basic Law in secondary and primary school curricula according to practical needs. The “Basic Education Curriculum Guide - To Sustain, Deepen and Focus on Learning to Learn (Primary 1-6) (2014)” which has been uploaded to EDB's website, gives advice to schools on utilising existing learning and teaching resources to enhance Basic Law education.

10. EDB continues to organise professional development programmes on the Basic Law for secondary and primary school teachers in order to enhance teachers' understanding of the concepts and essence of the Basic Law. These courses cover contents such as curriculum planning, learning and teaching, use of learning and teaching resources, and knowledge

enrichment, and aim to facilitate the promotion of Basic Law education in schools and enhance curriculum leadership and teaching effectiveness.

Strengthening measures of Basic Law education

11. Promotion of Basic Law education should proceed along with the times. In tandem with the work of the Basic Law Promotion Steering Committee and the 25th anniversary of promulgation of the Basic Law in April 2015, EDB, apart from progressively deepening its regular tasks on Basic Law education that embrace curriculum content, professional development programmes for school heads and teachers, learning and teaching support, etc., would also strengthen its work in other areas. These include organisation of an "Inter-school Online Quiz Competition" and production of the Basic Law Video Teaching Resource Package so as to enhance students' understanding of the Basic Law and the concept of "One Country, Two Systems".

Basic Law Video Teaching Resource Package

12. The Basic Law Video Teaching Resource Package was prepared by a number of Sections of the Curriculum Development Institute of EDB and seconded teachers. During the writing process, several legal experts in Hong Kong had been consulted. In addition, trial lessons were conducted in different secondary schools with diverse social-economic background and managed by different school sponsoring bodies. Teachers who conducted the trial lessons were also invited to provide valuable advice on the Package in striving for excellence. EDB is confident that the content of the Package is appropriate and fit for usage.

13. The Basic Law Video Teaching Resource Package consists of two themes, namely, the constitutional status of the Basic Law and the concept of "One Country, Two Systems". The content of the Package is based on 4 forums participated by secondary students and 4 legal experts. Through the awareness and enquiry of secondary students about the Basic Law, and the interaction between the experts and the students, with aid of the videos about the interviews with the experts, it assists students to think about the questions on the relationship of the Basic Law and daily life from different perspectives. The Package includes the video about the drafting process of the Basic Law for students to understand the historical background of the Basic law and its meaning. Included in the Package are an audio-visual component, teaching suggestions, outlines for discussion, suggested lesson length, suggestions for extended reading and project learning as well as proposed assessment resources. In conjunction with the existing teaching

resources of the Basic Law such as “Understanding the Law, Access to Justice - Basic Law Learning Package (Junior Secondary)” developed by EDB, the Basic Law Video Teaching Resource Package has made use of interactive short videos to assist teachers to lead junior secondary students to understand the Basic law, and to facilitate students to further explore and discuss about related issues in their future (e.g. senior secondary and post-secondary years). In conclusion, the Basic Law Video Teaching Resource Package contains many interactive videos and historical scenes that are valuable for students to take as references and for self-learning.

14. In order to support the promotion of Basic Law education in schools, to tie in with the launch of the Basic Law Video Teaching Resource Package as well as to enhance curriculum leadership and teaching effectiveness, EDB will continuously organise a series of focused professional development programmes for school heads and teachers.

15. All along, there are no mandatory teaching materials imposed by EDB in promotion of Basic Law education. Teachers should exercise their professional judgment in choosing the suitable teaching materials of the Basic Law, by taking into consideration the curriculum aims, school situation and students’ needs (including age), so as to support a wide range of pedagogies and suit the needs of a wide range of students. In addition, teachers could develop suitable teaching materials. For learning and teaching of the Basic Law, teachers should help students to analyse related issues objectively and from multiple perspectives.

Way Forward and Progress

16. Promotion of Basic Law education is an existing strategy of EDB, which includes design of school curriculum, production of learning and teaching resources, organisation of learning activities, provision of professional development programmes and support for teachers, cross-bureaux cooperation, and collaboration with non-government organisations. Through the means of curriculum visits, self-evaluation of schools and External School Reviews, etc., it provides more understanding on the situations of promoting Basic law education in schools and facilitates the effectiveness on promoting the Basic Law education.

17. All along, EDB respects and trusts that schools have been adopting a school-based and student-centred approach when providing students with worthwhile learning experiences to develop positive values. In addition, schools are using their professional judgement to choose suitable teaching materials with reference to their own mission, aims of education, school

contexts and students' needs.

18. EDB has continued to keep abreast of schools' needs of promoting Basic Law education through a wide range of channels, such as seminars, interviews and learning circles, and to provide professional development programmes and related professional support when such needs arise.

Education Bureau
June 2015