

## Section 6: Assessment Mechanism

### (1) Basic Competency Assessments

#### **Target**

The *Student Assessment* helps teachers better understand the learning needs and problems of students, so that timely assistance can be provided to enhance their learning effectiveness. The *System Assessment* provides the Government and school management with useful information on students' standards at the levels of Primary 3, Primary 6 and Secondary 3 on a territory-wide and school basis.

#### **Last Year's Progress**

- The Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority introduced the computer-aided Student Assessment programme to all primary schools in June 2003 and connected it to the supportive learning and teaching materials through the Internet.
- Views are being collected from schools on the basic competencies which students are expected to attain for the three subjects of Chinese, English and Mathematics.

#### **Tasks Ahead for the Coming Year**

- Improve and extend the Student Assessment to cover secondary schools.
- Administer the System Assessment at Primary 3 level in mid-2004.

## (2) Public Examination Reforms

### **Target**

The Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (HKEAA) strives to enhance the flexibility of the public examination system with a view to improving its interface with the curriculum reform and providing a more comprehensive assessment of students' performance.

### *Last Year's Progress*

- Appropriate questions were set for the Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination (HKCEE) and Hong Kong Advanced Level Examination (HKALE) to put more emphasis on the assessment of candidates' ability to apply what they have learnt to solve problems. A flexible approach in awarding marks was adopted to encourage independent and critical thinking.
- A school-based assessment (SBA) component was introduced to some subjects of the HKCEE and HKALE so as to assess students' performance more comprehensively.

### *Tasks Ahead for the Coming Year*

- To conduct seminars to enhance communication with teachers and to share with them the rationale underlying the setting of questions and what are expected of candidates.
- To work closely with the CDI to turn the Chinese Language and English Language examinations in the HKCEE into standards-referenced examinations.
- To gradually extend SBA to other subjects in the HKCEE and HKALE.