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Royal Education Council
Paro : Bhutan



REC/CDC/01/2016-2017/ 870

26th Jan 2017

Circular

The 18th National Education Conference held at Tashi Namgay Grand, Phuntsholing from January 9 to 12, 2017 resolved that, *“In order to strengthen language and literacy, Environmental Studies (EVS) to be infused into Dzongkha and English curriculum for classes PP to III without losing its essence”*. This resolution was endorsed in line with the **Resolution 6: Strengthen primary education with special focus on literacy and numeracy** of the National School Curriculum Conference held at the National Convention Centre, Thimphu on October 29-31, 2016.

The resolution will entail in:

1. the principles and concepts of EVS being integrated into Class PP-III Dzongkha and English curricula based on relevance,
2. number of subjects decreased to three (Dzongkha, English and Mathematics) for students at such young ages,
3. increased number of teaching periods for Dzongkha and English subjects,
4. Dzongkha subjects taught by dedicated Dzongkha teachers as opposed to general teachers, and
5. improved standard of Dzongkha learning (and English) without compromising on the quality of EVS learning in these class levels.

While the development of EVS infused language curricula will begin with immediate effect, they will not be ready for implementation until 2018 Academic Session. Therefore, as an interim measure for 2017, it was decided that Dzongkha language teachers would teach the existing EVS curriculum along with Dzongkha with relatively increased number of periods. To this effect, Royal Education Council will be issuing (by March/ April 2017 or before) standards and guidelines as to how the existing EVS should be taught by Dzongkha teachers. Before such guidelines are received, schools should continue with the teaching of Dzongkha curriculum.

To further support the effective implementation of the resolution, it was decided that relevant authorities/ agencies should deploy adequate Dzongkha teachers to schools.

(Kinga Dakpa)
Director

Copy to:

1. Hon'ble Sherig Lyonpo (Vice Chairperson, Royal Education Council), Ministry of Education, Thimphu for kind information.
2. Hon'ble Secretary, Ministry of Education, Thimphu for kind information.
3. The Director General, Department of School Education, Ministry of Education, Thimphu for kind information.
4. The Secretary, Dzongkha Development Commission, Thimphu for kind information.
5. The President, Paro College of Education, Paro for kind information.
6. The President, Samtse College of Education, Samtse for kind information.
7. Dasho Dzongdags, all Dzongkhags for kind information.
8. The Secretary, BCSEA, Thimphu for kind information and necessary actions.
9. The Dean, Curriculum Development Centre, REC, Paro for follow-up actions.
10. The Chief, HRD, Ministry of Education, Thimphu for necessary actions.
11. Chief DEOs and TEOs for necessary actions.
12. Principals for necessary actions.