The Department of Justice will conduct a recruitment exercise for Government Counsel (GC) starting in October 2010.

A spokesman for the Department of Justice today (July 14) said, "As with the recruitment exercise last year, GC applicants will be required to obtain a Level 2 result in the Use of English (UE) paper and a Level 1 result in the Use of Chinese (UC) paper in the Common Recruitment Examination (CRE). In this connection, grade C or above in Use of English in the Hong Kong Advanced Level Examination (HKALE) will be accepted as equivalent to Level 2 in the UE paper in the CRE; and grade D or above in Chinese Language and Culture or Chinese Language and Literature in the HKALE will be accepted as equivalent to Level 1 in the UC paper in the CRE."

"In exceptional circumstances, candidates may be exempted from compliance with the Chinese language requirement," the spokesman added.

Since 2008, candidates applying for the GC post should also take a Basic Law Test (BLT). While not mandatory, the results of the BLT will be taken into account in considering the suitability of a candidate for appointment.

The next CRE and BLT will be held on October 2 and 9, 2010. Candidates without the requisite results in CRE or equivalent, and/or who wish to sit the BLT, are invited to apply between July 30 and August 12, 2010, to sit the relevant test(s).

Further information on the CRE and BLT is available on the homepage of the Civil Service Bureau (under the Recruitment section) at <a href="https://www.csb.gov.hk">www.csb.gov.hk</a>.

Ends/Wednesday, July 14, 2010