

SJ speaks about constitutional reform

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Following is the transcript of remarks by the Secretary for Justice, Mr Rimsky Yuen, SC, at a media session after attending a radio programme today (December 7):

Secretary for Justice: I was saying in Cantonese just now that I have read from the media that there are certain suggestions that when there is the explanation about the nominating committee as an institutional or organisational nomination, there are suggestions that this is seemed to be the use of a very vivid illustration suggesting the building of an illegal structure on the framework of the Basic Law. This is the literal translation of what I have read from the Chinese media. What I am trying to explain is that this is not the case. The explanation about institution or organisation, whatever way you would like to translate it, is no more than by reference to, or explaining the nominating committee because the nominating committee is not an individual. You can call it an institution or you can call it an organisation. I think the explanation is no more than to explain that under Article 45, the power of nomination is rested in the nominating committee. So there is no question of departing from Article 45 of the Basic Law nor, as I said, that the vivid description of building any illegal structure above the framework of the Basic Law. That is not really the case. That is the point I would like to stress today. Thank you.

(Please also refer to the Chinese portion of the transcript.)

Ends/Saturday, December 7, 2013