

Dear Sir / Madam

I am an Indian in Hong Kong and I have the following views regarding the Population Policy — Thoughts for Hong Kong:

1. Motivate the ethnic minorities (EM) to integrate to the community:

- A. Open more support service centres for EM in Hong Koag for services like language , computer classes, counselling & vocational trainings this can be done through NGO , s'
- B. Expand the existing NGO\ encourage to open more NGO's. Government & private corporations should provide more funding, donations to NGO's.
- C. Many EM people do not know the function of social Service centres, some even haven't heard about these organisations. Government should approach the representatives of EM Community, such as Hong Kong Pakistanis Association, Hong Kong Nepali Association, Sikh Temple Association etc. This can be done to have seminars with these associations, let the EM know that there are many NGO's in Hong Kong which can help them to integrate to the community.
- D. We should also motivate Chinese community to integrate to EM through educating local Chinese more about the cultures and daily life of EM, such as cultural sensitivity trainings. Government and private sectors should give more funds to expand this kind of service in HK so that the service can cover more schools, universities and Vocational Training centres to let the students know more about EM. Wlien the students grow up they have learned about the EM Culture and easy for them to integrate to EM community, good for both communities.

2. Policy in Education:

- A. The Government & Private Schools in Hong Kong should introduce Chinese Language Curriculum as second language.
- B. Encourage EM parents to let their children start learning simple Chinese at the kindergarten stage.
- C. Kindergarten fee is too high, it is expensive for EM, many EM cannot afford the school fee. Government should look in to this otherwise EM kids cannot study KG , if they cannot study KG than it is very hard for them to catch up the languages when they go to primary schools.
- D. Many EM parents cannot speak Chinese, Government through social service centres can provide learning courses for the adults & classes can be held in the evening and week-ends.

E. It should not be compulsory for the EM children to pass in Chinese ' as long these children are good in English & other subjects , they should be given admission in the schools.

F. New Youth Colleges to be set up in Hong Kong , Kowloon , New Territories to provide courses in for non-Chinese speaking.

3. Policy in Job Sectors:

A. Because of language barrier it is very hard for EM to get a job- Government & Private sectors can enhance job opportunities for EM.

B. HK Police have during the last few years started Police Community Liaison Assistant with EM , other government department such as Immigration, Medical & Health , Civil Aid Services AMS etc. can also start similar policy for EM ,

C Government & Private Sector when recruiting workers should not take into consideration the Dress or Skin Color for selecting the candidates

D. In Construction Industry many Pakistanis, Nepalis & Sikh can work hard because their strong build. Constructions Companies should give them job, even they cannot speak Chinese. Or , hire one EM who can. speak fluent Chinese. In Hong kong many EM can speak fluent Chinese, these fluent Chinese speaking EM can be supervisor who can talk to other EM in EM language (urdu, hindi, Punjabi)

E. EM should be given the jobs where is no public dealing like desk work or back side work , many EM can write & speak good English, by giving job training, they can perform these jobs very well

Thank you for your attention.

All the Best,

Raghu Sharma.