

**Motion on**  
**“Reviewing the education policy for ethnic minority students”**  
**moved by Hon Abraham SHEK**  
**at the Council meeting of 8 February 2012**

**Motion as amended by Hon Tanya CHAN and Hon Starry LEE**

That education is the key to success and the future of our next generation; while the Equal Opportunities Commission (‘EOC’) already published ‘Education for all: the Report on the Working Group on Education for Ethnic Minorities’ (‘the Report’) in July 2011, highlighting how the mainstream education system has let down ethnic minority students who are mostly from low-income families and putting forward various recommendations to the Government on addressing their learning needs, the Government has not yet proposed any concrete measures on following up the implementation of the EOC’s recommendations in the Report and offered any additional support to the 14 000 ethnic minority students in Hong Kong; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to review its education policy for ethnic minority students, so as to address their concerns, particularly the admission and assessment procedures of schools, the available choices of designated schools and mainstream schools, learning support for pre-primary ethnic minority students and provision of an alternative Chinese Curriculum and Qualification, so that ethnic minority students can enjoy equal access to quality education, which is pivotal not only to such students’ pursuit of further education and employment, but also to Hong Kong maintaining its competitiveness; the relevant initiatives should include:

- (a) implementing a separate Chinese curriculum assessment scheme especially for ethnic minority students to help them meet the requirements of further education and vocational training;
- (b) providing pre-primary educational institutions with additional resources and relevant support to encourage the admission of ethnic minority students;
- (c) enhancing the training for teachers who teach Chinese as a second or foreign language;
- (d) designing suitable assessment schemes for adoption by schools to facilitate early identification of ethnic minority students’ special needs, so that they can receive appropriate education;
- (e) launching a study to monitor the learning progress of ethnic minority students to enable the Government to review their needs and the effectiveness of their education, and establishing a database for systemic

data collection and analysis, so as to facilitate the formulation of an education policy and the provision of support which meet the needs of ethnic minority students;

- (f) increasing intake quotas, providing a positive learning environment and adequate support to meet the demand of ethnic minority students with special educational needs;
- (g) enhancing the career guidance and vocational training services for ethnic minority graduates; and
- (h) enhancing public awareness of the importance of cultural diversities and ethnic integration, so as to create a better learning environment for ethnic minority students; and
- (i) developing teaching materials and providing parental education.