Council meeting of 19 December 2012

Amendments to motion on
“Reviving the quality of local education and stopping the blind industrialization of education”

Further to LC Paper No. CB(3) 220/12-13 issued on 7 December 2012, nine Members (Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG, Hon Claudia MO, Hon Starry LEE, Hon Gary FAN, Dr Hon Helena WONG, Hon IP Kin-yuen, Hon MA Fung-kwok, Hon Charles Peter MOK and Hon Paul TSE) have respectively given notices of their intention to move separate amendments to Hon Mrs Regina IP’s motion on “Reviving the quality of local education and stopping the blind industrialization of education” scheduled for the Council meeting of 19 December 2012. As directed by the President, the respective amendments will be printed in the terms in which they were handed in on the Agenda of the Council.

2. The President will order a joint debate on the above motion and amendments. To assist Members in debating the motion and amendments, I set out below the procedure to be followed during the debate:

(a) the President calls upon Hon Mrs Regina IP to speak and move her motion;

(b) the President proposes the question on Hon Mrs Regina IP’s motion;
(c) the President calls upon the nine Members who intend to move amendments to speak in the following order, but no amendment is to be moved at this stage:

(i) Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG;
(ii) Hon Claudia MO;
(iii) Hon Starry LEE;
(iv) Hon Gary FAN;
(v) Dr Hon Helena WONG;
(vi) Hon IP Kin-yuen;
(vii) Hon MA Fung-kwok;
(viii) Hon Charles Peter MOK; and
(ix) Hon Paul TSE;

(d) the President calls upon the designated public officer(s) to speak;

(e) the President invites other Members to speak;

(f) the President gives leave to Hon Mrs Regina IP to speak for the second time on the amendments;

(g) the President calls upon the designated public officer(s) to speak again;

(h) in accordance with Rule 34(5) of the Rules of Procedure, the President has decided that he will call upon the nine Members to move their respective amendments in the order set out in paragraph (c) above. The President invites Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG to move his amendment to the motion, and forthwith proposes and puts to vote the question on Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG’s amendment;

(i) after Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG’s amendment has been voted upon, the President deals with the other eight amendments; and

(j) after all amendments have been dealt with, the President calls upon Hon Mrs Regina IP to reply. Thereafter, the President puts to vote the question on Hon Mrs Regina IP’s motion, or her motion as amended, as the case may be.
3. For Members’ ease of reference, the terms of the original motion and of the motion, if amended, are set out in the **Appendix**.

(Odelia LEUNG)
for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl.
Appendix

(Translation)

Motion debate on
“Reviving the quality of local education and stopping the blind industrialization of education”
to be held at the Council meeting of 19 December 2012

1. Hon Mrs Regina IP’s original motion

That, as the former Chief Executive proposed in 2009 to develop education services, profit-making has consequently become the objective of quite a number of tertiary institutions; for example, the successive uncovering of the over-enrollment and inadequate facilities of the community colleges affiliated to the Lingnan University and to the University of Hong Kong has reflected that in recent years, local post-secondary colleges have, for the sake of chasing profits, concentrated their resources on offering a lot of self-financing degree and associate degree programmes with high tuition fees but recognition of their qualifications in doubt, thus causing local students holding such qualifications upon graduation to face the quandary of having their academic qualifications questioned by employers, and to bear huge amounts of debt due to high tuition fees; besides, since some private universities and the community colleges affiliated to various major institutions have concentrated their limited resources on programmes which aim at attracting mainland students to study in Hong Kong, many local students face the difficult problem of being unable to receive appropriate tertiary education owing to insufficient places despite their fulfillment of the entry requirements; worse still, the Government’s sale of precious land resources to international school groups at nominal prices and its permission for such schools to charge overseas students high tuition fees for profiteering not only cannot help attract foreign investment but also dilute local students’ share of educational resources; the aforesaid practices actually cannot help students to devote themselves to society, are not conducive to upgrading the academic standards of local tertiary institutions, and undermine Hong Kong’s long-term development; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to adopt the following measures:

(1) to reiterate to society that education is for upgrading students’ quality in the five areas of personality, intellectuality, physicality, sociability and aesthetics, increasing upward mobility opportunities for the middle class and the grassroots, narrowing the rich-poor gap and fostering social progress, and is not a profit-making tool for the highest bidder;
(2) to draw up a policy for regulating tertiary institutions on programme offers and student admission to ensure that the academic standards of the degree programmes offered are recognized by the Government’s Qualifications Framework; and, all things being equal, to accord admission priority to local students who meet the entry requirements, so as to satisfy local people’s keen demand for education as far as possible;

(3) to ensure that public money is used for upgrading the qualifications of teachers, scientific research capability and campus facilities of local publicly-funded universities, assisting local poor students who meet entry requirements, and financing local outstanding students’ participation in exchange programmes at overseas universities, so as to uphold the principle of public resources for public use; and, to further equip Hong Kong people to meet the ever-growing challenges in the international community, promote Hong Kong’s global competitiveness and maintain Hong Kong’s status as a first-class world city;

(4) to adopt appropriate policies to encourage universities to concentrate their resources on upgrading their scientific research capability and academic standards, and to assist local universities in inviting first-class academics from outside Hong Kong to conduct exchanges and even engage in teaching in Hong Kong; and

(5) by drawing on the experience of advanced countries, to allocate more resources for facilitating research co-operation between the academia and the industries, and to assist universities in obtaining more technological research funding through high technology industrialization to form a value-added ‘technological research — industry chain’, so as to enable Hong Kong tertiary institutions to add value to themselves and facilitate the upgrading and transformation of Hong Kong industries.

2. Motion as amended by Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG

That, as the former Chief Executive proposed in 2009 to develop education services, profit-making has consequently become private universities and self-financing tertiary programmes, shirking the education responsibility to families and individuals, and consequently rendering profit-making as the objective of quite a number of tertiary institutions and even aggravating the burden on grass-root students; for example, the successive uncovering of the over-enrollment and inadequate facilities of the community colleges affiliated to the Lingnan University and to the University of Hong Kong has reflected that in recent years, local post-secondary colleges have, for the sake of chasing
profits, concentrated their resources on offering a lot of self-financing degree and associate degree programmes with high tuition fees but recognition of their qualifications in doubt, thus causing local students holding such qualifications upon graduation to face the quandary of having their academic qualifications questioned by employers, and to bear huge amounts of debt due to high tuition fees; besides, since some private universities and the community colleges affiliated to various major institutions have concentrated their limited resources on programmes which aim at attracting mainland students to study in Hong Kong, many local students face the difficult problem of being unable to receive appropriate tertiary education owing to insufficient places despite their fulfillment of the entry requirements; worse still, the Government’s sale of precious land resources to international school groups at nominal prices and its permission for such schools to charge overseas students high tuition fees for profiteering not only cannot help attract foreign investment but also dilute local students’ share of educational resources; the aforesaid practices actually cannot help students to devote themselves to society, are not conducive to upgrading the academic standards of local tertiary institutions, and undermine Hong Kong’s long-term development; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to adopt the following measures:

(1) to reiterate to society that education is for upgrading students’ quality in the five areas of personality, intellectuality, physicality, sociability and aesthetics; fully cultivating and developing personal potentials through the growth in vision, knowledge and skills; manifesting, inheriting and transmitting fundamental social values; nurturing citizens of the future who have free and independent personality, care for the community and embrace the world; and increasing upward mobility opportunities for the middle class and the grassroots, narrowing the rich-poor gap and fostering social progress, and is not a profit-making tool for the highest bidder;

(2) to draw up a policy for regulating tertiary institutions on programme offers and student admission to ensure that the academic standards of the degree programmes offered are recognized by the Government’s Qualifications Framework; and, all things being equal, to accord admission priority to local students who meet the entry requirements, so as to satisfy local people’s keen demand for education as far as possible;

(3) to set up an independent monitoring mechanism for regulating self-financing degree and sub-degree programmes;

(4) to increase the numbers of subsidized degree places and subsidized top-up degree places;
(5) to immediately halt the University Grants Committee’s (‘UGC’) Competitive Allocation mechanism and allow tertiary institutions to decide on their own arrangements for allocation of places;

(6) to reform the composition of UGC by introducing elected representatives of local teaching staff and students;

(7) to assist students with disabilities and ethnic minority students in admitting to institutions of higher education, and encourage various tertiary institutions to set up a dedicated mechanism for providing them with appropriate support;

(3)(8) to ensure that public money is used for upgrading the qualifications of teachers, scientific research capability and campus facilities of local publicly-funded universities, assisting local poor students who meet entry requirements, and financing local outstanding students’ participation in exchange programmes at overseas universities, so as to uphold the principle of public resources for public use; and, to further equip Hong Kong people to meet the ever-growing challenges in the international community, promote Hong Kong’s global competitiveness and maintain Hong Kong’s status as a first-class world city;

(4)(9) to adopt appropriate policies to encourage universities to concentrate their resources on upgrading their scientific research capability and academic standards, and to assist local universities in inviting first-class academics from outside Hong Kong to conduct exchanges and even engage in teaching in Hong Kong; and

(5)(10) by drawing on the experience of advanced countries, to increase research funding and allocate more resources for facilitating research co-operation between the academia and the industries, and to assist universities in obtaining more technological research funding through high technology industrialization to form a value-added ‘technological research — industry chain’, so as to enable Hong Kong tertiary institutions to add value to themselves and facilitate the upgrading and transformation of Hong Kong industries.

Note: Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG’s amendment is marked in bold and italic type or with deletion line.

3. Motion as amended by Hon Claudia MO

That, as since the former Chief Executive proposed in 2009 to develop education services, profit-making has consequently become the objective of
quite a number of tertiary institutions; for example, the successive uncovering of the over-enrollment and inadequate facilities of the community colleges affiliated to the Lingnan University and to the University of Hong Kong has reflected that in recent years, local post-secondary colleges have, for the sake of chasing profits, concentrated their resources on offering a lot of self-financing degree and associate degree programmes with high tuition fees but recognition of their qualifications in doubt, thus causing local students holding such qualifications upon graduation to face the quandary of having their academic qualifications questioned by employers, and to bear huge amounts of debt due to high tuition fees; besides, since some private universities and the community colleges affiliated to various major institutions have concentrated their limited resources on programmes which aim at attracting mainland students to study in Hong Kong, many local students face the difficult problem of being unable to receive appropriate tertiary education owing to insufficient places despite their fulfillment of the entry requirements; worse still, the Government’s sale of precious land resources to international school groups at nominal prices and its permission for such schools to charge overseas students high tuition fees for profiteering not only cannot help attract foreign investment but also dilute local students’ share of educational resources; the aforesaid practices actually cannot help students to devote themselves to society, are not conducive to upgrading the academic standards of local tertiary institutions, and undermine Hong Kong’s long-term development; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to adopt the following measures:

(1) to reiterate to society that education is for upgrading students’ quality in the five areas of personality, intellectuality, physicality, sociability and aesthetics, increasing upward mobility opportunities for the middle class and the grassroots, narrowing the rich-poor gap and fostering social progress, and is not a profit-making tool for the highest bidder;

(2) to draw up a policy for regulating tertiary institutions on programme offers and student admission to ensure that the academic standards of the degree programmes offered are recognized by the Government’s Qualifications Framework; and, all things being equal, to accord admission priority to local students who meet the entry requirements, so as to satisfy local people’s keen demand for education as far as possible;

(3) to ensure that public money is used for upgrading the qualifications of teachers, scientific research capability and campus facilities of local publicly-funded universities, assisting local poor students who meet entry requirements, and financing local outstanding students’ participation in exchange programmes at overseas universities, so as to uphold the principle of public resources for public use; and, to further equip Hong Kong people to meet the ever-growing challenges in the
international community, promote Hong Kong’s global competitiveness and maintain Hong Kong’s status as a first-class world city;

(4) to adopt appropriate policies to encourage universities to concentrate their resources on upgrading their scientific research capability and academic standards, and to assist local universities in inviting first-class academics from outside Hong Kong to conduct exchanges and even engage in teaching in Hong Kong; and

(5) by drawing on the experience of advanced countries, to allocate more resources for facilitating research co-operation between the academia and the industries, and to assist universities in obtaining more technological research funding through high technology industrialization to form a value-added ‘technological research — industry chain’, so as to enable Hong Kong tertiary institutions to add value to themselves and facilitate the upgrading and transformation of Hong Kong industries; and

(6) to enhance the English proficiency of university students, allocate more resources for training local English language teachers, and raise the admission percentage of overseas students, so as to ensure that local universities achieve genuine ‘internationalization’, in contrast to the current situation where over 80% of the non-local students admitted to programmes funded by the University Grants Committee come from Mainland China.

Note: Hon Claudia MO’s amendment is marked in bold and italic type or with deletion line.

4. Motion as amended by Hon Starry LEE

That, as the former Chief Executive proposed in 2009 to develop education services, profit-making has consequently become the objective of quite a number of tertiary institutions; for example, but due to the Government’s lax monitoring and inadequate ancillary measures, a number of problems have consequently emerged in the post-secondary education sector; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to adopt measures to enable education services to develop healthily, and avoid situations such as the successive uncovering of the over-enrollment and inadequate facilities of the community colleges affiliated to the Lingnan University and to the University of Hong Kong has reflected that in recent years, local post-secondary colleges have, for the sake of chasing profits, concentrated their resources on offering colleges, and their offer of a lot of self-financing degree and associate degree programmes with high tuition fees but recognition of their qualifications in
doubt, thus causing local students holding such qualifications upon graduation to face the quandary of having their academic qualifications questioned by employers, and to bear huge amounts of debt due to high tuition fees; besides, since some private universities and the community colleges affiliated to various major institutions have concentrated their limited resources on programmes which aim at attracting mainland students to study in Hong Kong, making many local students face the difficult problem of being unable to receive appropriate tertiary education owing to insufficient places despite their fulfillment of the entry requirements; worse still, and the Government’s sale of precious land resources to international school groups at nominal prices and its permission for such schools to charge overseas students high tuition fees for profiteering, because the aforesaid situations not only cannot help attract foreign investment but also dilute local students’ share of educational resources; the aforesaid practices actually, cannot help students to devote themselves to society, are not conducive to upgrading the academic standards of local tertiary institutions, and undermine Hong Kong’s long-term development; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to adopt the following measures the specific recommendations include:

(1) to reiterate to society that education is for upgrading students’ quality in the five areas of personality, intellectuality, physicality, sociability and aesthetics, increasing upward mobility opportunities for the middle class and the grassroots, narrowing the rich-poor gap and fostering social progress, and is not a profit-making tool for the highest bidder;

(2) to draw up a policy for regulating tertiary institutions on programme offers and student admission to ensure that the academic standards of the degree programmes offered are recognized by the Government’s Qualifications Framework; and, all things being equal, to accord admission priority to local students who meet the entry requirements, so as to satisfy local people’s keen demand for education as far as possible;

(3) to ensure that public money is used for upgrading the qualifications of teachers, scientific research capability and campus facilities of local publicly-funded universities, assisting local poor students who meet entry requirements, and financing local outstanding students’ participation in exchange programmes at overseas universities, so as to uphold the principle of public resources for public use; and, to further equip Hong Kong people to meet the ever-growing challenges in the international community, promote Hong Kong’s global competitiveness and maintain Hong Kong’s status as a first-class world city;

(4) to adopt appropriate policies to encourage universities to concentrate their resources on upgrading their scientific research capability and
academic standards, and to assist local universities in inviting first-class academics from outside Hong Kong to conduct exchanges and even engage in teaching in Hong Kong; and

(5) by drawing on the experience of advanced countries, to allocate more resources for facilitating research co-operation between the academia and the industries, and to assist universities in obtaining more technological research funding through high technology industrialization to form a value-added ‘technological research — industry chain’, so as to enable Hong Kong tertiary institutions to add value to themselves and facilitate the upgrading and transformation of Hong Kong industries;

(6) to ensure the provision of adequate educational resources for providing local youngsters with adequate degree and sub-degree places, and to conduct a study on offering subsidies in the form of education vouchers or direct subsidies to sub-degree graduates for enrolling on self-financing degree programmes;

(7) to enhance the recognition of self-financing degree and sub-degree programmes by the Hong Kong community and overseas universities, so as to increase graduates’ opportunities for securing employment and pursuing further studies;

(8) to assist Hong Kong sub-degree graduates in pursuing studies in Mainland universities, including studying the establishment of a mutual recognition mechanism between Hong Kong sub-degree qualifications and Mainland tertiary diploma qualifications, and strive for the exemption of sub-degree graduates from sitting the Joint Entrance Examination for Universities in the People’s Republic of China for Overseas Chinese, Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan Students, so as to promote exchanges between Hong Kong and Mainland students; and

(9) to allocate more land to ensure that institutions provide adequate hostel places for meeting the accommodation demands of local and non-local students.

Note: Hon Starry LEE’s amendment is marked in bold and italic type or with deletion line.
5. **Motion as amended by Hon Gary FAN**

That, as the former Chief Executive proposed in 2009 to develop education services, profit-making has consequently in order to resolve the economic plight in those years and delay young people’s joining the employment market, former Chief Executive TUNG Chee-hwa introduced associate degree programmes in 2000; since then, profit-making has become the objective of quite a number of tertiary institutions; for example, the successive uncovering of the over-enrollment and inadequate facilities of the community colleges affiliated to the Lingnan University and to the University of Hong Kong has reflected that in recent years, local post-secondary colleges have, for the sake of chasing profits, concentrated their resources on offering a lot of self-financing degree and associate degree programmes with high tuition fees but approved recognition of their qualifications in doubt, thus causing local students holding such qualifications upon graduation to face the quandary of having their academic qualifications questioned by employers, and to bear huge amounts of debt due to high tuition fees; besides, since some private universities and the community colleges affiliated to various major institutions have concentrated their limited resources on programmes which aim at attracting mainland students to study in Hong Kong, many local students face the difficult problem of being unable to receive appropriate tertiary education owing to insufficient places despite their fulfillment of the entry requirements; worse still, the Government’s sale of precious land resources to international school groups at nominal prices and its permission for such schools to charge overseas students high tuition fees for profiteering not only cannot help attract foreign investment but also dilute local students’ share of educational resources; the aforesaid practices actually cannot help students to devote themselves to society, are not conducive to upgrading the academic standards of local tertiary institutions, and undermine Hong Kong’s long-term development; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to adopt the following measures:

(1) to reiterate to society that the aim of higher education is for upgrading students’ quality in the five areas of personality, intellectuality, physicality, sociability and aesthetics, increasing upward mobility opportunities for the middle class and the grassroots, narrowing the rich-poor gap and fostering social progress, and is not a profit-making tool for the highest bidder;

(2) to draw up a policy for regulating tertiary institutions on programme offers and student admission to ensure that the academic standards of the degree programmes offered are recognized by the Government’s Qualifications Framework restore the ceiling of non-local student enrollment in the associate degree, degree and taught postgraduate
programmes offered by institutions funded by the University Grants Committee (‘UGC’) to the pre-2008 level of 10% of the approved UGC-funded student number for such programmes; and, all things being equal, to accord admission priority to local students who meet the entry requirements, so as to satisfy local people’s keen demand for education as far as possible;

(3) to ensure that public money is used for upgrading the qualifications of teachers, scientific research capability and campus facilities of local publicly-funded universities, assisting local poor students who meet entry requirements, and financing local outstanding students’ participation in exchange programmes at overseas universities, so as to uphold the principle of public resources for public use; and, to further equip Hong Kong people to meet the ever-growing challenges in the international community, promote Hong Kong’s global competitiveness and maintain Hong Kong’s status as a first-class world city;

(4) to adopt appropriate policies to encourage universities to concentrate their resources on upgrading their scientific local research capability and academic standards, and to assist so as to avoid various institutions blindly competing for entering the Mainland to set up branch campuses, to ensure that given equal academic qualifications, various institutions should treat local and non-local academics fairly and equally in respect of recruitment, to stop institutions from discriminating against local academics in areas such as teaching ranks, post titles, employment conditions, remuneration packages and the right to participate in the governance structure, etc., and to prompt local universities in inviting first-class academics from outside Hong Kong to conduct exchanges and even engage in teaching in Hong Kong; and

(5) by drawing on the experience of advanced countries, to allocate more resources for facilitating research co-operation between the academia and the industries through tax concessions, and to assist universities in obtaining more technological research funding through high technology industrialization to form a value-added ‘technological research — industry chain’, so as to enable Hong Kong tertiary institutions to add value to themselves and facilitate the upgrading and transformation of Hong Kong industries;

(6) to allocate more resources for supporting various institutions in developing disciplines such as arts, pure science, fine arts and social science, etc., which lack the ability to attract research funding from the market, to avoid the lopsided development of university education towards the market as well as industrial and commercial services and
to maintain the balance between humanistic quality and knowledge and pluralism in society; and

(7) to enhance the monitoring of fee charging by post-secondary colleges and private universities to avoid any unreasonable and unfair fee charging, and to set up a mechanism for handling complaints about fee charging and arbitration, so as to protect students’ rights and interests.

Note: Hon Gary FAN’s amendment is marked in **bold and italic type** or with deletion line.

6. Motion as amended by Dr Hon Helena WONG

That—as education is an important government policy and the basis for leading the society to upward development, but the former Chief Executive proposed in 2009 to develop education services, profit-making has consequently become the objective of quite a number of tertiary institutions; for example, the successive uncovering of the over-enrollment and inadequate facilities of the community colleges affiliated to the Lingnan University and to the University of Hong Kong has reflected that in recent years, local post-secondary colleges have, for the sake of chasing profits, concentrated their resources on offering a lot of self-financing degree and associate degree programmes with high tuition fees but recognition of their qualifications in doubt, thus causing local students holding such qualifications upon graduation to face the quandary of having their academic qualifications questioned by employers, and to bear huge amounts of debt due to high tuition fees; besides, since some private universities and the community colleges affiliated to various major institutions have concentrated their limited resources on programmes which aim at attracting mainland students to study in Hong Kong, many local students face the difficult problem of being unable to receive appropriate tertiary education owing to insufficient places despite their fulfillment of the entry requirements; worse still, the Government’s sale of precious land resources to international school groups at nominal prices and its permission for such schools to charge overseas students high tuition fees for profiteering not only cannot help attract foreign investment but also dilute local students’ share of educational resources; the aforesaid practices actually cannot help students to devote themselves to society, are not conducive to upgrading the academic standards of local tertiary institutions, and undermine Hong Kong’s long-term development; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to adopt the following measures:

(1) to reiterate to society that education is for upgrading students’ quality in the five areas of personality, intellectuality, physicality, sociability and
aesthetics, increasing upward mobility opportunities for the middle class and the grassroots, narrowing the rich-poor gap and fostering social progress, and is not a profit-making tool for the highest bidder; **the Government should also encourage institutions to increase and develop humanities subjects and implement liberal arts education**;

(2) to draw up a policy for regulating tertiary institutions on **self-financing** programme offers and student admission to ensure that the academic standards of the degree **self-financing** programmes offered are recognized by the Government’s Qualifications Framework; and, all things being equal, to accord admission priority to local students who meet the entry requirements, so as to satisfy local people’s keen demand for education as far as possible; **and avoid the marketization and industrialization of education caused by the indiscriminate offer of programmes by various institutions**;

(3) to increase the number of Government-funded university places to enable students satisfying university entry requirements to receive government subsidy for further study in university, and make nurturing talents the prime objective of education;

(4) to review the policy direction of sub-degree programmes and conduct a study on providing more subsidies to associate degree students for offering education opportunities to all persons who have an aspiration to learn and to obtain grants and scholarships through different channels, so as to encourage them to pursue studies from which no economic burden will arise; and to design associate degree programmes conducive to career development and ensure programme quality, so as to effectively enhance graduates’ competitiveness and enable associate degree graduates failing to enroll in undergraduate programmes to have clear career prospects;

(5) to review the number and percentage of non-local students enrolling in research postgraduate programmes offered by local funded-institutions, and to reserve a sufficient number of postgraduate programme places in graduate schools for local university undergraduates, so as to provide opportunities to students who have an aspiration to pursue further studies and nurture local academic research talents;

(3)(6) to ensure that public money is used for upgrading the qualifications of teachers, scientific research capability and campus facilities of local publicly-funded universities, assisting local poor students who meet entry requirements, and financing local outstanding students’ participation in exchange programmes at overseas universities, so as to
uphold the principle of public resources for public use; and, to further equip Hong Kong people to meet the ever-growing challenges in the international community, promote Hong Kong’s global competitiveness and maintain Hong Kong’s status as a first-class world city;

(⁴)(⁷) to adopt appropriate policies to encourage universities to concentrate their resources on upgrading their scientific research capability and academic standards, and to assist local universities in inviting first-class academics from outside Hong Kong to conduct exchanges and even engage in teaching in Hong Kong; and

(⁵)(⁸) by drawing on the experience of advanced countries, to allocate more resources for facilitating research co-operation between the academia and the industries, and to assist universities in obtaining more technological research funding through high technology industrialization to form a value-added ‘technological research — industry chain’, so as to enable Hong Kong tertiary institutions to add value to themselves and facilitate the upgrading and transformation of Hong Kong industries.

Note: Dr Hon Helena WONG’s amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

### 7. Motion as amended by Hon IP Kin-yuen

That, as the Task Force on Economic Challenges established in response to the global financial tsunami in 2008 identified education services as an industry with competitive edge in Hong Kong, and the former Chief Executive proposed in 2009 to develop education services, profit-making has consequently become the objective of quite a number of tertiary institutions with the objective of consolidating Hong Kong’s status as a regional education hub through internationalization and diversification of education and in turn enhancing its competitiveness; yet, this policy objective has not been achieved, but has instead led quite a number of tertiary institutions to pursue short-term international ranking and even set profit-making or expansion as the objective; for example, the successive uncovering of the over-enrollment and inadequate facilities of the community colleges affiliated to the Lingnan University and to the University of Hong Kong has reflected that in recent years, local post-secondary colleges have, for the sake of chasing profits, concentrated their resources on offering a lot of self-financing degree and associate degree programmes with high tuition fees but recognition of their qualifications in doubt, thus causing local students holding such qualifications upon graduation to face the quandary of having their academic qualifications questioned by employers, and to bear huge amounts of debt due to high tuition
fees; besides, since some private universities and the community colleges affiliated to various major institutions have concentrated their limited resources on programmes which aim at attracting mainland students to study in Hong Kong, many local students face the difficult problem of being unable to receive appropriate tertiary education owing to insufficient places despite their fulfillment of the entry requirements; worse still, the Government’s sale of precious land resources to international school groups at nominal prices and its permission for such schools to charge overseas students high tuition fees for profiteering not only cannot help attract foreign investment but also dilute local students’ share of educational resources; the aforesaid practices actually cannot make local education internationalized, cannot help students to devote themselves to society, are not conducive to upgrading the academic standards of local tertiary institutions, and undermine Hong Kong’s long-term development; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to adopt the following measures:

(1) to reiterate to society that education is for upgrading students’ quality in the five areas of personality, intellectuality, physicality, sociability and aesthetics, increasing upward mobility opportunities for the middle class and the grassroots, narrowing the rich-poor gap and fostering social progress, and is not a profit-making tool for the highest bidder;

(2) to draw up a policy for regulating tertiary institutions on self-financing programme offers and student admission to ensure that the academic standards of the degree programmes offered are recognized by the Government’s Qualifications Framework; to implement the recommendation in the Report on the Higher Education Review 2010 on the setting up of a single oversight body for the non-publicly funded part of the post-secondary education system; and, all things being equal, to accord admission priority to local students who meet the entry requirements, so as to satisfy local people’s keen demand for education as far as possible;

(3) to review the current situation of Mainland Chinese students accounting for as high as 65% of the student enrollment in research postgraduate programmes heavily-subsidized by public funding amid the shortage of places in the institutions funded by the University Grants Committee; to internationalize the admission of non-local students as much as possible and at the same time, to admit more local students to publicly-funded degree programmes, so as to nurture local young talents;

(3)(4) to ensure that public money is used for upgrading the qualifications of teachers, scientific research capability and campus facilities of local publicly-funded universities, assisting local poor students who meet
entry requirements, and financing local outstanding students’ participation in exchange programmes at overseas universities, so as to uphold the principle of public resources for public use; and, to further equip Hong Kong people to meet the ever-growing challenges in the international community, promote Hong Kong’s global competitiveness and maintain Hong Kong’s status as a first-class world city;

(4)(5) to adopt appropriate policies to encourage universities to concentrate their resources on upgrading their scientific research capability and academic standards, and to assist local universities in inviting first-class academics from outside Hong Kong to conduct exchanges and even engage in teaching in Hong Kong; and increase research funding to strengthen research on local issues, so as to make tertiary education and research more diversified; to create an environment conducive to research and teaching, so as to attract first-class local and non-local academics to conduct research or teach in Hong Kong, and at the same time, to strive to nurture local young academics at tertiary institutions;

(6) to enhance the democratization of university governance, and set up an independent inter-institutional appeal mechanism for handling complaints about academic research, contracts and dismissal, etc.; and

(5)(7) by drawing on the experience of advanced countries, to allocate more resources for facilitating research co-operation between the academia and the industries, and to assist universities in obtaining more technological research funding through high technology industrialization to form a value-added ‘technological research — industry chain’, so as to enable Hong Kong tertiary institutions to add value to themselves and facilitate the upgrading and transformation of Hong Kong industries.

Note: Hon IP Kin-yuen’s amendment is marked in bold and italic type or with deletion line.

8. Motion as amended by Hon MA Fung-kwok

That, as the former Chief Executive proposed in 2009 to develop education services, profit-making has consequently become the objective of quite a number of tertiary institutions; for example, the successive uncovering of the over-enrollment and inadequate facilities of the community colleges affiliated to the Lingnan University and to the University of Hong Kong has reflected that in recent years, local post-secondary colleges have, for the sake of chasing
profits, concentrated their resources on offering a lot of self-financing degree and associate degree programmes with high tuition fees but recognition of their qualifications in doubt, thus causing local students holding such qualifications upon graduation to face the quandary of having their academic qualifications questioned by employers, and to bear huge amounts of debt due to high tuition fees; besides, since some private universities and the community colleges affiliated to various major institutions have concentrated their limited resources on programmes which aim at attracting mainland students to study in Hong Kong, many local students face the difficult problem of being unable to receive appropriate tertiary education owing to insufficient places despite their fulfillment of the entry requirements; worse still, the Government’s sale of precious land resources to international school groups at nominal prices and its permission for such schools to charge overseas students high tuition fees for profiteering not only cannot help attract foreign investment but also dilute local students’ share of educational resources; the aforesaid practices actually cannot help students to devote themselves to society, are not conducive to upgrading the academic standards of local tertiary institutions, and undermine Hong Kong’s long-term development; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to adopt the following measures:

(1) to review the existing policy on industrialization of education, and further promote it only on the premise of perfecting the various ancillary measures and meeting the needs of local students;

(2) to reiterate to society that education is for upgrading students’ quality in the five areas of personality, intellectuality, physicality, sociability and aesthetics, increasing upward mobility opportunities for the middle class and the grassroots, narrowing the rich-poor gap upgrading Hong Kong’s cultural quality and fostering social progress, and is not a profit-making profiteering tool for the highest bidder;

(3) to emphasize the function of education in promoting social mobility and reducing cross-generational poverty, avoid the over-commercialization of tertiary education, and perfect the existing measures to assist students with financial difficulties in admitting to tertiary institutions;

(4) to draw up a policy for regulating tertiary institutions on programme offers review the existing system and strengthen the regulation of various tertiary institutions in respect of their self-financing programmes, ancillary facilities and student admission policy to ensure that the academic standards of the degree programmes offered are recognized by the Government’s Qualifications Framework; and, all things being equal, to accord admission priority to local students who meet the entry requirements, so as to satisfy local people’s keen
demand for education as far as possible; to avoid a lopsided admission policy towards overseas students, enhance the transparency of governance of the relevant institutions and make public their accounts for public monitoring;

(5) to increase the number of subsidized tertiary education places, and formulate a clear and reasonable percentage for overseas students, so as to maintain the educational opportunities for local students meeting the admission requirements amid the internationalization of education;

(3)(6) to ensure that public money is used for upgrading the qualifications of teachers, scientific research capability and campus facilities of local publicly-funded universities, assisting local poor students who meet entry requirements, and financing local outstanding students’ participation in exchange programmes at overseas universities, so as to uphold the principle of public resources for public use; and, to further equip Hong Kong people to meet the ever-growing challenges in the international community, promote Hong Kong’s global competitiveness and maintain Hong Kong’s status as a first-class world city;

(4)(7) to adopt appropriate policies to encourage universities to concentrate their resources on upgrading their scientific research capability and academic standards, and to assist local universities in inviting first-class academics from outside Hong Kong to conduct exchanges and even engage in teaching in Hong Kong; and

(5)(8) by drawing on the experience of advanced countries, to allocate more resources for facilitating research co-operation between the academia and the industries, and to assist universities in obtaining more technological research funding through high technology industrialization to form a value-added ‘technological research — industry chain’, so as to enable Hong Kong tertiary institutions to add value to themselves and facilitate the upgrading and transformation of Hong Kong industries.

Note: Hon MA Fung-kwok’s amendment is marked in bold and italic type or with deletion line.

9. Motion as amended by Hon Charles Peter MOK

That, as the former Chief Executive proposed in 2009 to develop education services, profit-making has consequently become the objective of quite a number of tertiary institutions; for example, the successive uncovering of the
over-enrollment and inadequate facilities of the community colleges affiliated to the Lingnan University and to the University of Hong Kong has reflected that in recent years, local post-secondary colleges have, for the sake of chasing profits, concentrated their resources on offering a lot of self-financing degree and associate degree programmes with high tuition fees but recognition of their qualifications in doubt, thus causing local students holding such qualifications upon graduation to face the quandary of having their academic qualifications questioned by employers, and to bear huge amounts of debt due to high tuition fees; besides, since some private universities and the community colleges affiliated to various major institutions have concentrated their limited resources on programmes which aim at attracting mainland students to study in Hong Kong, many local students face the difficult problem of being unable to receive appropriate tertiary education owing to insufficient places despite their fulfillment of the entry requirements; worse still, the Government’s sale of precious land resources to international school groups at nominal prices and its permission for such schools to charge overseas students high tuition fees for profiteering not only cannot help attract foreign investment but also dilute local students’ share of educational resources; the aforesaid practices actually cannot help students to devote themselves to society, are not conducive to upgrading the academic standards of local tertiary institutions, and undermine Hong Kong’s long-term development; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to adopt the following measures:

(1) to reiterate to society that education is for upgrading students’ quality in the five areas of personality, intellectuality, physicality, sociability and aesthetics, increasing upward mobility opportunities for the middle class and the grassroots, narrowing the rich-poor gap and fostering social progress, and is not a profit-making tool for the highest bidder;

(2) to draw up a policy for regulating tertiary institutions on programme offers and student admission to ensure that the academic standards of the degree programmes offered are recognized by the Government’s on the premise of protecting the autonomy and academic freedom of tertiary institutions, to encourage tertiary institutions to apply to the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications for accreditation of the degree programmes they offer, so as to obtain recognition under the Qualifications Framework; and, all things being equal, to accord admission priority to local students who meet the entry requirements, so as to satisfy local people’s keen demand for education as far as possible;

(3) to ensure that public money is used for upgrading the qualifications of teachers, scientific research capability and campus facilities of local publicly-funded universities, assisting local poor students who meet entry requirements, and financing local outstanding students’
participation in exchange programmes at overseas universities, so as to uphold the principle of public resources for public use; and, to further equip Hong Kong people to meet the ever-growing challenges in the international community, promote Hong Kong’s global competitiveness and maintain Hong Kong’s status as a first-class world city;

(4) to adopt appropriate policies to encourage universities to concentrate their resources on upgrading their scientific research capability and academic standards, and to assist local universities in inviting first-class academics from outside Hong Kong to conduct exchanges and even engage in teaching in Hong Kong; and

(5) to expeditiously implement the recommendation put forward in the 2011-12 Policy Address on putting up the Queen’s Hill site for qualified sponsoring bodies to apply for establishment of non-profit-making private tertiary institutions; and

(5)(6) by drawing on the experience of advanced countries, to allocate more resources increase the Government’s technological research expenditure on applied research, and improve the Research Grants Council’s existing university research funding allocation mechanism, which is not conducive to promoting innovation and applied technological research, for facilitating research co-operation between the academia and the industries, and to assist universities in obtaining more technological research funding through high technology industrialization to form a value-added ‘technological research — industry chain’, so as to enable Hong Kong tertiary institutions to add value to themselves and facilitate the upgrading and transformation of Hong Kong industries.

Note: Hon Charles Peter MOK’s amendment is marked in bold and italic type or with deletion line.

10. Motion as amended by Hon Paul TSE

That, as the former Chief Executive proposed in 2009 to develop education services, profit-making has consequently become the objective of quite a number of tertiary institutions; for example, the successive uncovering of the over-enrollment and inadequate facilities of the community colleges affiliated to the Lingnan University and to the University of Hong Kong has reflected that in recent years, local post-secondary colleges have, for the sake of chasing profits, concentrated their resources on offering a lot of self-financing degree and associate degree programmes with high tuition fees but recognition of their qualifications in doubt, thus causing local students holding such qualifications
upon graduation to face the quandary of having their academic qualifications questioned by employers, and to bear huge amounts of debt due to high tuition fees; besides, since some private universities and the community colleges affiliated to various major institutions have concentrated their limited resources on programmes which aim at attracting mainland students to study in Hong Kong, many local students face the difficult problem of being unable to receive appropriate tertiary education owing to insufficient places despite their fulfillment of the entry requirements; worse still, the Government’s sale of precious land resources to international school groups at nominal prices and its permission for such schools to charge overseas students high tuition fees for profiteering not only cannot help attract foreign investment but also dilute local students’ share of educational resources; the aforesaid practices actually cannot help students to devote themselves to society, are not conducive to upgrading the academic standards of local tertiary institutions, and undermine Hong Kong’s long-term development; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to adopt the following measures:

(1) to reiterate to society that education is for upgrading students’ quality in the five areas of personality, intellectuality, physicality, sociability and aesthetics, increasing upward mobility opportunities for the middle class and the grassroots, narrowing the rich-poor gap and fostering social progress, and is not a profit-making tool for the highest bidder;

(2) to draw up a policy for regulating tertiary institutions on programme offers and student admission to ensure that the academic standards of the degree programmes offered are recognized by the Government’s Qualifications Framework; and, all things being equal, to accord admission priority to local students who meet the entry requirements, so as to satisfy local people’s keen demand for education as far as possible;

(3) to ensure that public money is used for upgrading the qualifications of teachers, scientific research capability and campus facilities of local publicly-funded universities, assisting local poor students who meet entry requirements, and financing local outstanding students’ participation in exchange programmes at overseas universities, so as to uphold the principle of public resources for public use; and, to further equip Hong Kong people to meet the ever-growing challenges in the international community, promote Hong Kong’s global competitiveness and maintain Hong Kong’s status as a first-class world city;

(4) to adopt appropriate policies to encourage universities to concentrate their resources on upgrading their scientific research capability and academic standards, and to assist local universities in inviting first-class
academics from outside Hong Kong to conduct exchanges and even engage in teaching in Hong Kong; and

(5) by drawing on the experience of advanced countries, to allocate more resources for facilitating research co-operation between the academia and the industries, and to assist universities in obtaining more technological research funding through high technology industrialization to form a value-added ‘technological research — industry chain’, so as to enable Hong Kong tertiary institutions to add value to themselves and facilitate the upgrading and transformation of Hong Kong industries; and

(6) to review and enhance the regulation of the mode and practices of international schools’ issuance and sale of debentures as well as connivance of speculation in such debentures, so as to protect parents’ rights and interests.

Note: Hon Paul TSE’s amendment is marked in bold and italic type or with deletion line.