

立法會 CB(2)1231/17-18(10)號文件
LC Paper No. CB(2)1231/17-18(10)

✓ Seem Akhtar

Good afternoon everyone

My name is Akhtar and I am here today to talk about employment difficulties that my daughters faced in Hong Kong. I have two daughters, they finished their secondary school in Pakistan and moved to Hong Kong seven years ago. But they find it very difficult to get suitable jobs.

So my elder daughter found a job with help of an NGO, which is NOT an EM support service centre. My younger daughter is actively looking for a job for last four months and she has attended different kind of courses at ERB to increase her chances of employment. But it is also not helpful.

She wanted to go to Labour Department to seek help but my elder daughter told her that going to Labour Department is not helpful in getting a suitable job because of her own unfruitful experience in visiting Labour Department, so she mentioned that it is waste of time visiting Labour Department.

My daughter mentioned that "job vacancies welcoming application from EMs" in labour department website are mostly elementary jobs like cleaning, dishwashing and so on. When my daughter called some employers they speak in Cantonese only and hang up the calls.

She also went to some of EM Support Service Centres but they have not provide much help except taking name and contact number and told that we will get back. Recently my daughter went for the interview of a receptionist position in a Hotel. The HR officer mentioned that we want to offer you this job but you need to take off your Hajib, as the most of our Chinese Customers will be scared and therefore will not come to the Hotel.

So if you wish to work then you have to remove your Hajib. My daughter was very disappointed and hurt from this response and refused the offer, as it interfere with our religious practice.

It is the responsibility of Labour Department to engage with employers to discuss with them about the talent and potentials that EMs can bring to their businesses, specially our young educated EMs.

Neither Labour Department nor employers have much understanding on our cultural and religious practices. Labour Department should hire full time university graduate employment officers from EM background to provide in-depth employment consultation, career guidance and follow up the EM jobseekers until they get job successfully.