

Amraz Khan

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Hello, my name is Amraz Khan, I came to Hong Kong around 3 and half years before. I found that it was almost impossible to find any job in Hong Kong if you do not know English or Chinese. I was in so much difficulty.

Then I contacted some of my home town friends, they helped me to find some Casual Work. But those jobs were not stable. And it was quite difficult to manage expenses of 5 family members.

I worked as Construction worker and security guard since then. Salary is quite low and it is very difficult to survive. I am paid less in compare with Chinese local workers because I cannot speak Chinese and so cannot voice out for my right too.

I do not know any Public or Government resources which can help me finding a good job or apply low income subsidies. No one never introduce me or inform me that there is a Department that is called Labour Department and which can help to find jobs too.

By luck one of my friend introduce me Catholic Workers Centre and then this NGO helped me to apply for low income subsidies and introduced me that Labour Department is the one responsible to help in finding jobs.

My friends believe that it is just waste of time to go to Labour department they will never help to find jobs.

As I learned from this NGO some of friends and Group members that So far minor initiative is made by Labour Department, but still a lot more needs to be done.

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I believe reference can be taken from Selective Placement Division that serve jobseekers with disabilities, of course EM jobseekers are not disable but we have certain disadvantages comparative to Chinese counterparts, such as language barrier, cultural sensitivity, some may have lack of effective communication skills and certain employers' stereotype attitude, which needs to be addressed.

As because of these disadvantages, a case worker is vital for EM jobseekers that makes initial engagement between EM jobseekers and employers so as to facilitate effective communication and breakdown stereotypical perceptions of certain employers.

I demand that Labour Department should setup EM Selective Placement Division that delivers holistic and comprehensive employment support to EM jobseekers where, on one hand, it provides job-matching and follow-up service, guidance on vocational and training courses, and making referrals to relevant organizations; and on the other hand, organising employers educational and promotional activities to enhance the local employers' understanding of the working abilities of EM jobseekers and to cultivate a positive attitude towards EM jobseekers.

2