

Subba Sabite

Good afternoon, chairman and everyone!

I am Subba, I have secondary school education. When I came to Hong Kong, I work as a Clerk in a Nepali Company. But Since I had children then I was not able to go to work, because I need to take care of my children. I really want to get a part time job at least but there is not enough Child Care Services.

And the language barrier is also a big problem, many employers want to hire people with s fluent speaking Cantonese, reading and writing Chinese. That is not fair to us. In Hong Kong, there are many EM women who are highly educated but still it is difficult for them to find job.

Mostly EM Women are labelled that they do not want to work or bound by their families and they cannot go out to work. But the reality is that we want to work, contribute to our families and really want to support our husbands too but we are not provided enough child care services, opportunities to learn Cantonese and join courses to upgrade our skills. Although many of us can at least do a part time job.

Even with all problems we luckily find some job but we will be paid less than local workers because we do not know Chinese although many jobs may not require speaking, reading or writing Chinese.

Furthermore, my friends and also I want to take some skills training like Cantonese, catering or other professional courses to upgrade ourselves but the courses time and other requirements do not suit us. Some courses are in the evening or weekends that make us impossible to join those.

Moreover, the courses are mostly in Cantonese or some are in

Subba Sabita

English, so if there are some EM who do not know Chinese and English, they cannot take the courses at all.

Based on these problems, I want to suggest designated employment centres for EM should be set up in districts densely populated by EMs, so that EM job seekers can gain access to the LD's case management and intensive employment support services. The following elements should be included in the service:

1. Employing case managers, with some of them having EM ethnic backgrounds, to engage with EM job-seekers with intensive follow-up by :
  - Providing career counselling, exploring their job preferences commensurate with their qualification, experiences, interests and aspirations.
  - addressing their vocational and non-vocational barriers to achieve sustainable employment
  - connecting job seekers with activities or trainings that will improve their employment opportunities
  - rendering post recruitment support to foster effective labour-employer communications on job experience

Thank you!