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Date: 10th December 2016

Mak Ip Sing
Elected member of the Yuen Long District Council

Our reference.: YLK16B-013

Dear Chairman,
Subcommittee on Rights of Ethnic Minorities,
The Legislative Council of Hong Kong

Written submission
Subcommittee on Rights of Ethnic Minorities
Meeting on 12th December 2016.

At present, there are over ten thousands of ethnic minorities' people living in Hong Kong, with which mainly are Nepal and Pakistan. Some ethnic minorities are born, studied, raised and worked in Hong Kong. They can be known as "local Hongkongers". However, the support of the government to ethnic minorities is obviously not adequate. For instance, the government's support for ethnic minorities' students in learning cannot meet their needs and consequently, increase their learning difficulties. Many ethnic minorities can understand and speak fluent Chinese, but not read. The main teaching medium in traditional local primary and secondary schools is Chinese and this actually increases their difficulties in learning.

Therefore, I believe that the government should increase the support to the ethnic minorities' students as well as the schools concerned. Firstly, the government should consider to build primary and secondary schools which are mainly for ethnic minorities in the district where they are densely populated, such as Yuen Long and Tsim Sha Tsui. These schools may adopt a



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more appropriate mode of study for ethnic minorities, such as using English as the core teaching medium. In addition, the government should strengthen the support for ethnic minorities' students who are studying in the traditional local schools. For example, subsidize the school provide extra after-school tutorial classes which are taught in English, in order to help the ethnic minorities' students further understand the content of the courses.

Finally, there are some kindergartens in Hong Kong which are specialized for ethnic minorities' kids. However, it is extremely difficult to operate such kindergartens, not only because of the high rents, but also lacks of government's support. I hope the government could look into the case and increase assistance to these kindergartens of ethnic minorities, such as providing rent subsidy, in order to help the ethnic minorities have better learning opportunities in Hong Kong.

Yours sincerely,



SIGNATURE

Mak Ip Sing

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