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Submission from:

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On the third report of HKSAR under the international convention on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination

Support for Ethnic Minorities

Education:

EM students does not have equal access to some of the departments in universities as Cantonese proficiency are affecting their chances to enrol. They should be enrolled if they have all other requirements fulfilled and parallelly improve their proficiency through language courses designed by language faculties. In the 21st century, with so much innovation and apps development which can be handy to translate instantly should not bar students with talent to study in their choice of subjects.

Employment rights:

Government is reviewing to adjust Chinese language requirement for civil service for EM. It is a good step forward to give opportunities to the aspiring civil service EM candidates. But in the contrary EM should be appointed first if they fulfil all other criteria's and enhance their Chinese language proficiency through job learning and periodical departmental test. So every department should be open to them to have an equal opportunity.

Immigration:

Immigration should approve visa processing faster and easier for the relative of EM permanent residents and their invited guest or business associates. Ethnic Minorities of some the countries hailed from, are facing uphill tasks to get the visa approval for their guests. Though a form required from the sponsor that he/she should be responsible to repatriate the guest to the country they are from. This should be enough for visa approval since they can be under legal bindings any time. Some frequent business visitors from the south Asian countries are going through the same process and lengthy time of visa issuance affecting the businesses run by the Ethnic minorities in Hong Kong. If there is no changes in policy for quicker and simplifier visa processing then customers may opt out Hong Kong.

Scarcity of event venues for EM organisation:

Some of the smaller EM community feel they are not having equal opportunity of using venues since they are not provided any. Government should give this organization priority while applied to book public venues.