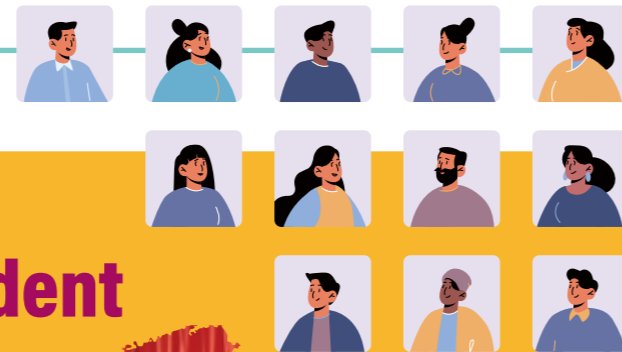


Our Youth's Voice from a Sri Lankan Undergraduate Student



Growing up in Hong Kong, I have found it difficult to feel part of Hong Kong society as an ethnic minority. Taking on more responsibilities and being an active community member is crucial if we want to build a life in this city as our home. In order to integrate into Hong Kong society, I became an active member of the community through volunteering. My volunteer work began in secondary school when I visited elderly homes, seeing their happiness gave me so much joy that I continued doing different types of community service. As a volunteer, you do not earn a salary, but the skills and lessons you discover will be priceless. Volunteering may be a bit tiring, but the sense of satisfaction and meaning that it brings to our lives cannot be measured.



I have learned a great deal from volunteering, including teamwork, communication skills, and listening to and understanding different viewpoints. As a volunteer, I've met many motivational, driven, and passionate people. When you surround yourself with people who possess these qualities, you will not only form valuable connections, but you will also achieve your goals with the right attitude and motivation. Among other things, I have learned that a language is truly a tool for integration since they are one of the components. Learning Cantonese is critical to integrate into Hong Kong

society. Personally, I am still struggling but have been taking classes that have been extremely beneficial and have given me the confidence to speak more Cantonese. Being able to speak Cantonese will open up many career opportunities for you in Hong Kong and will make your integration into Hong Kong society much easier. Integrating socially may be a challenge, but taking it step by step will help. Hopefully one day it will get easier, but for now, we need to keep trying!

New call-up programme HKID card replacement service resumed

Smart Identity Card Replacement Centres have re-opened since April

Eligible birth year group **Revised application period**

1983/84 **NOW to July 23, 2022**

1987 to 91

1954 or before **NOW to January 14, 2023**

Eligible group thereafter

1992 to 95 **July 25 - October 6, 2022**

1996 to 2000 **October 7 - December 10, 2022**

***Make an appointment by:**

- Website: www.gov.hk/newicbooking
- ImmD Mobile App
- 24-hour telephone booking hotline 2121 1234



*No need to book again if you have made appointment before

Message from Legislative Council Member Hon Edward LEUNG Hei >>



It is my pleasure and honour to be greeting you in this newsletter, as one of the newly elected members of the Legislative Council from DAB. It is not surprising that my name is a bit new to many, however, I had been working very closely with the ethnic minorities community before I became a LegCo member.

I have always appreciated the contribution of ethnic minorities to the diversified and pluralistic culture in Hong Kong, which is also one of the many unique features of the city. Yet, often when I meet different ethnic minorities groups or individuals, I noticed they are constantly facing challenges in integrating into Hong Kong society. I understand that with the increasing population of ethnic minorities in Hong Kong, social support and measures have to be adequately improved in order to accommodate such change. Higher demand for social support, such as needs for more community facilities for social, education and religious purposes and language support at schools for parents are often reflected by ethnic minorities groups.



DAB has always been proactive in communicating with the government concerning the needs and opinions of ethnic minorities communities. Becoming a Legislative Council member provides me with platforms and opportunities to advocate better support for ethnic minorities from the government at the LegCo level. I will work closely with the DAB Ethnic Minorities Committee in the future, and hope that there will be more chances to meet and listen to your views, and relay them directly to the government for the benefits and well-being of the ethnic minorities community.



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Congratulations to the Chief Executive-Elect John Lee for his high votes

DAB hopes that Mr. John Lee will recruit and invite talents who share his philosophy and vision, and also with a strong sense of mission and determination to join the governance team. In addition, we also hope that Mr. Lee and his team will pay more attention to the communication between officials and members of the Legislative Council, building a new type of executive-legislative relationship, and fully consult and absorb the opinions of the Legislative Council in the process of formulating policies, so that the implementation of policies will be smoother and more harmonious in line with popular view.

For instance, under the COVID-19 epidemic, some stakeholders in our society have discriminated against ethnic minorities. The director of the Centre for Health Protection even speculated that ethnic minorities are more susceptible to the spread of diseases due to cultural and religious factors. Even though former Chief Executive Carrie Lam later stressed that every Hong Kong citizen has the responsibility to promote an anti-epidemic city, the future administration will continue to strengthen the promotion of the concept of a pluralistic society and racial inclusion to avoid such confusion occurrence.



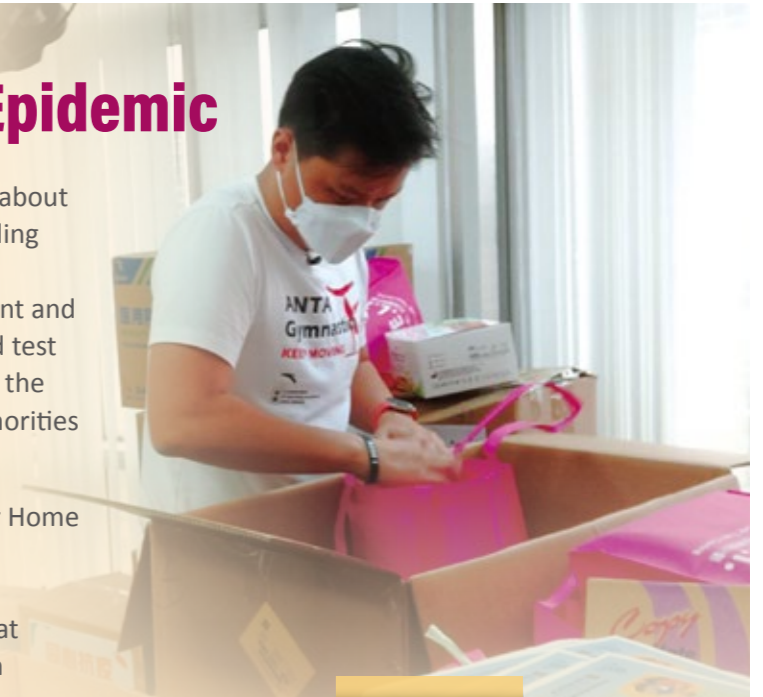
On April 29, DAB Ethnic Minorities Committee submitted to the Chief Executive Election candidate Mr. John Lee a policy proposal on ethnic minorities' concerns, including strengthening employment and education support, promoting the elimination of racial discrimination, and leading Hong Kong towards an inclusive society. Attendees included the chairman of the EMC Mr. Vincent Cheng, advisor Mr. Derek Hung, and EMC members, Me. Rita Gurung, Mr. Muddassar Iqbal and Mr. Syed Mohiuddin Mohi.



DAB's efforts amid the Epidemic

EMC Chairman Vincent Cheng has been concerned about the needs of ethnic minorities and has been providing support to them in collaboration with various organisations to fight against the epidemic. Vincent and Yau Tsim Mong District Officer handed over rapid test kits to different ethnic minority organisations at the MELT Centre for their distribution to ethnic minorities in Yau Tsim Mong District.

Vincent Cheng and the Acting Secretary for Home Affairs, Jack Chan, have distributed a large number of rapid test kits to EM residents through the Islamic Mosque and the Hazrat Siddique Akbar Society in Sham Shui Po in previous months. At the event, Vincent called on minority friends to get vaccinated as soon as possible.



In April, Yuen Long Centre opened as a place providing SinoVac vaccination service. DAB legislator Mr. Holden Chow and EMC Vice-chairman Mr. Jason Chong aided our ethnic minority friends, distributing a large number of anti-epidemic supplies to them through the NGOs. DAB appreciated EM communities, medical teams and volunteers for providing a comfortable and safe environment for vaccination.

