

Meena Krishnan

Tel:email:

Mr. Stephen Fisher (w/tape)  
 Deputy Secretary for Home Affairs  
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 130 Hennessy Road  
 Wanchai,  
 Hong Kong

cc: Ms. Shirley Chan (no tape)  
 Senior Programme Officer  
 (Race Relations Unit)  
 6/F, Southorn Centre  
 Wanchai  
 Hong Kong

16 February, 2005

Dear Mr. Fisher/Ms. Chan,

**Continued protest against racism laws**

We have not been in touch with you for some time but myself and my group of friends have been active and have not been silently sitting around, but will carry on our fight to the end, even if it now appears that the Government is set to go down this destructive path. Even psychologists agree that if a person is determined to commit suicide, nothing can stop them.

I have just returned after spending about 6 months in the UK and India and it has convinced us more than ever what a catastrophic mistake the SAR Government will be making if, even at this late stage, it goes ahead with these laws. Ironically, when I returned to HK I learnt that the "consultation paper" on this subject was available. I have not seen one of these and am also aware that the date is now finished. I will try and obtain one of these just to read it but I doubt if we would say anything different to everything that we have been saying all this time.

I am sending you herewith a Videotape (VHS format) of a programme which I recorded whilst in London. I believe that this is a most enlightening and very-well produced programme, and is a **MUST** see not only for yourself and your staff but for the **Director of Immigration and/or his staff.**

**No need to return the tape and please use it in anyway you feel appropriate and show to any persons whom you choose. (The tape is ready to play - ignore any programmes after this)**

This tape proves beyond doubt that it is the SAR Government's duty to not go ahead with these racism laws. The problem has a lot to do with increased Immigration. The more undesirable people are allowed in, and they are increasingly being so, and here I include people of all races, HK will undoubtedly be entering the very dangerous channels that UK has gone into and is now unable to get out of. Note especially the ominous word "**Invasion**", which is exactly what is beginning to happen now in HK and will soon get out of control if the racism laws are also passed. As I am sure you are aware, UK is now desperately trying to reverse history by tightening up immigration laws but it may be too late for them. Let it not be the same case for HK. With increasing foreign population, their demands for rights, including meaningless laws, also increases.

Myself and my group of friends now also feel, besides trying to save our own relationships with the Chinese built over the past several years, that we are also compelled to preserve our

own home, Hong Kong, the way we have struggled to build it. If I wanted it to be like England, or India, then I would have lived in those countries. I came here when I did because I liked the Colonial style of government at the time, and then, looked forward to moving onto Chinese Sovereignty and continuing to assist in the progress of the Chinese culture together with teaching the pride in their race to our Chinese friends. We believe this vision of our Hong Kong "home" is gravely under threat now. We pay our taxes as a gesture of gratitude to our hosts for allowing us to stay and prosper here and hope that it will go to assist less fortunate Chinese families perhaps on social welfare for instance. It is not to go towards supporting undeserving foreign elements and their demands.

I am also sending you some recent articles in the UK Press, note especially the one about the Sikh play which was stopped in the UK. This is particularly relevant, and frightening, in view of your taking the same path by "consulting" on the comedy, "Himalaya Singh", and asking a group of Indians, to "judge" on it. To their credit, the Indian group raised no objections this time. But if their "judgement" had gone the other way did you think of the consequences? Is it also not obvious to you that the Sikh complainants were merely brewing trouble in the hope of repeating their clan's UK victory?? A dangerous precedent has been set which we hope will never be repeated as the results may be quite disastrous the next time.

I will also throw some random questions below and see if you can, in all honesty, answer them. Although I have specified "Chinese" the following can apply to all foreigners in India.

- Is there one Chinese who has a job in India? No.
- Do Chinese get "equal" rights in India? No.
- Is there anti-Chinese feelings in India? Yes.
- Is India a complex country where discrimination of all sorts exists? Yes.
- What right then do the Asians have to come to HK and rock the boat for all of us? None, absolutely none.

On the other side of the coin, the number of times I was told in UK to "go home" and the number of times I had to retort that I was, indeed, going back "home to HK" are countless. Please also remember the very important point that, being an Indian, it is always assumed by Asians in HK that I am "on their side" and would therefore be sympathetic to any untruths and rubbish they spew out, making me privy to various confidences and lies about how "we are going to demand from the Government". On the other hand, in the UK, I am one of the flood of undesirables who have taken over their land. London is now the worst of England and India put together. Please do not allow HK to become just another "Euro-Indian" city also.

May I also express here some random ideas for the Constitutional Reforms for Mr. Stephen Lam? I appreciate it is not directly your concern but time is running short on all these important issues for the present and future of our home, HK, and we respectfully request that your department pass these on for due consideration before HK slips down this abysmal route of listening more and more to "foreign" voices. Our suggestions on Constitutional Reforms will also give increased importance to HK Chinese whom, as we have always maintained, must be kept happy and satisfied first and foremost to solve other resulting and perceived problems like racism. So, briefly,

- As wisely suggested by the then DAB leader, Mr. Tsang Yok-sing, foreigners, including people like myself, must not be allowed to vote for our next Chief Executive - it is the prerogative of our Chinese friends. Now is the time to incorporate this into the constitutional reforms.
- The HK Permanent ID Card system is one of the biggest scams in our Constitution. A British acquaintance of mine who left HK several years ago, is now back

temporarily just to assert his "rights" under the Permanent ID scheme, and to use the medical and other services and get anything else that the SAR Government offers as a "freebie". He has made no secret of this and his standard answer, unfortunately technically correct, is he is doing so "because the law allows it". So, is it not time to change the law?? With the Government's generosity comes also demands for "rights".

To give you another example - in USA, another Indian acquaintance of mine who holds the "green card" recently returned to US after several months absence and was not only taken to task but was given a warning that if this keeps happening his green card will be revoked. Is it not time that HK adopts a more strict policy on the ID card system to stop continuing abuses? Remember there was nothing like "permanent residence or ID card" during the Colonial days. By doing anything less than even what the Colonial Government did, you will be letting us all down very badly.

- By the same token, why are non-permanent ID cardholders not required to surrender their ID cards when they leave HK but are able to repeatedly use it for benefits and obtaining employment whenever they return to HK even for brief periods??
- It is time foreigners even with permanent residency in HK to be progressively excluded from any so-called "rights" which always lead to innumerable problems. Long timers like ourselves have worked very hard to get where we are now, without abusing any privileges, by sheer co-operation with, and goodwill of, our hosts, and we would object strongly to newcomers jeopardising this by demanding laws, including racism, for their selfish advancement.

HK is generally viewed as a place "where anything goes" by all races. This makes a mockery of all the sincere and good work which many of us have put in over the years, together with patriotic Chinese, to build this place to be the "miracle" that it is. So we feel our own interests are very much vested in its present and future and are threatened if the Government does not act now to safeguard our interests.

I read in the SCMP today that more than 60 forums had been held and a total of 220 submissions had been received by your department. As none of us are "important" people, we certainly did not know anything about these forums and, although I personally may have been away during this period, my friends were in the dark also. Therefore, much as we fear that your department and the Government has probably decided to marginalise the voice of our silent majority by increasingly leaning towards passing these laws, we hope until this matter comes to an end, one way or another, you will at least be fair and objective to listen to all our views and read our letters however long - and I agree sometimes tedious - they might seem. After all, we will not be bothering you any more after this important issue comes to a close.

Finally - a quiz question for yourself and/or your staff. What is the "Chinese" word for Racism? I ask because none of my Chinese friends or acquaintances even knew a word for it and, equally importantly, had no idea of its meaning or the concept of Racism!!!! - one of them even thought that it had something to do with running a race!!

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

Meena Krishnan