主旨: 附件:	views on population growth Population growth.doc
(See attached file: Population growth.doc)	
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- 1. Direct subsidy is not recommended for the following reasons:-
- Huge amount of expenditure and administration cost involved.
- Heavy burden on tax payer which leads to increase in tax payment.
- Unfair to tax payer without children
- Difficult to control the number of new born baby which brings new problems such as education placement, housing, public health, environmental pollution created by human activities, traffic congestion.
- 2. Extending retirement age is **not** recommended for the following reasons:-
- Slow down the mobility of young generation.
- Create health problem on the extended retirement group. Emergency medical support is required in working place.
- Slow down productivity or growth of company. E.g. sick leave, medical appointment.
- Less creativity or less vibrant to have large amount of elderly in a company.
- Create labour disputes or conflict in a company.
- 3. Release the work force from new immigrants/young female homemakers/CSSA receipents by the following ways:
- Set up day nursery/child care centre subsidized by government
- Reduce subsidy of CSSA by encouraging housewife to work half day. Add extra bonus (e.g. food coupon, buffet ticket, free ticket for Ocean Park or Disneyland) if they attain a certain number of working hours.
- Compulsory working hours(4 hrs per day) for CSSA receipents who are
  physically and mentally fit. Provide free consultation service on classwork
  for their children as a bonus.
- 4. Encourage child birth by the following ways:
- Increase the amount of tax exemption for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> children for working woman.
- Offer discount on milk powder/dippers/medical consultation for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> children for working woman.
- Child care centre at special discount and extended working hours (e.g.7:30 am to 7:00 pm).

## 5. Family friendly policy

- Shorten the working hours of working woman from (9:00 am to 5:00 pm and Saturday off) or through work at home/part-time/flexible working hours for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> children.
- On month maternity leave for man for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> children.
- Increase the annual leave for working woman or married man who has children up to 30 working days.

## 6. Labour policy

- Vocational Training and Mentor and Mentees scheme to train students to work in some labour shortage industries.
- Import of skillful construction workers is essential since the shortage is acute.