



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 1975

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## EMPLOYMENT IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY

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A TOTAL OF 591,659 PERSONS WERE EMPLOYED IN MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS ON MARCH 14 THIS YEAR, ACCORDING TO THE LATEST EMPLOYMENT SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THIS REPRESENTS A DROP OF 8,469 PERSONS OR 1.4 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH THE FIGURE OF 600,128 FOR DECEMBER 1974.

IN INDUSTRY, THE MAIN DECREASES WERE IN RESPECT OF ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS (-8,200), BLEACHING AND DYEING (-2,374), MANUFACTURE OF METAL WRIST WATCH BANDS (-965), SHIPBUILDING AND REPAIRING (-838), COTTON WEAVING (-738), RUBBER FOOTWEAR (-652), BAKERY PRODUCTS (-630) AND COTTON SPINNING (-627).

INCREASES IN EMPLOYMENT OCCURRED IN MANUFACTURE OF GARMENTS (+5,543), MANUFACTURE OF WOOL KNITTING (+1,423), PLASTIC PRODUCTS OTHER THAN TOYS AND FLOWERS (+815), MISCELLANEOUS FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS (+719) AND MANUFACTURE OF GLOVES (+622).

THE FIVE LARGEST INDUSTRY GROUPS, IN TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT, REMAINED THE SAME= WEARING APPAREL, 195,914= TEXTILES, 95,314= PLASTIC PRODUCTS, 58,942= ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPLIANCES AND SUPPLIES, 55,774= AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS 52,133.

IN RELEASING THE SURVEY RESULTS, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THE FIGURES WERE BASED ON AN ENLARGED COVERAGE OF MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS.

AS PART OF CONTINUING EFFORTS TO IMPROVE EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION, AN EXERCISE HAS BEEN UNDERTAKEN OF MATCHING MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS REGISTERED WITH THE BUSINESS REGISTRATION OFFICE WITH THOSE KNOWN TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT. THIS HAS RESULTED IN A MORE COMPLETE REGISTER OF MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS. THE PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED DECEMBER EMPLOYMENT FIGURES HAVE BEEN ADJUSTED TO ALLOW FOR THIS, AND ARE NOW COMPARABLE WITH THE RESULTS OF THE MARCH SURVEY.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE CONTINUING DECLINE IN EMPLOYMENT, FROM DECEMBER 1974 TO MARCH 1975, REFLECTED THE STATE OF THE WORLD ECONOMY, AND THE CONSEQUENT FALLS IN HONG KONG'S EXPORTS.

NEVERTHELESS, HE SAID, THE FALL IN EMPLOYMENT IN THE THREE MONTHS TO MARCH THIS YEAR HAD BEEN RELATIVELY SMALL, AS IT HAD BEEN IN THE PREVIOUS THREE MONTHS, BY COMPARISON WITH MOST OF 1974.

IT WAS REASONABLE TO INTERPRET THE LATEST EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS, IN THE LIGHT OF ALL THE OTHER INFORMATION, AS INDICATING A LEVELLING OFF IN THE DOWNWARD TREND IN THE ECONOMY.

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GOVERNOR VISITS HONG KONG'S LARGEST TOY FACTORY

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, MAKING HIS SECOND FACTORY VISIT IN A WEEK, TODAY (THURSDAY) VISITED THE HONG KONG INDUSTRIAL LIMITED COMPANY, IN KENNEDY TOWN.

THE COMPANY IS THE LARGEST TOY MANUFACTURER IN HONG KONG AND VERY POSSIBLY THE LARGEST CONSOLIDATED TOY MANUFACTURER IN ASIA. IT EMPLOYS OVER 1,800 WORKERS AND IT IS EXPECTED TO EXPORT GOODS WORTH OVER \$65 MILLION THIS YEAR.

THE GOVERNOR, ACCOMPANIED BY MR. K.H. YEUNG, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (INDUSTRIAL DIVISION) OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY WAS MET ON ARRIVAL AT THE FACTORY BY MR. ARTHUR DORF, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE COMPANY AND MR. PETER O. SCALES, DIRECTOR.

MR. DORF, BRIEFING SIR MURRAY BEFORE THE START OF THEIR FACTORY TOUR, SAID THAT THE 1974 DOLLAR VOLUME OF EXPORTS WAS 40% HIGHER THAN 1973 DESPITE THE MANY PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH MATERIAL SHORTAGES, WORLDWIDE INFLATION AND THE RECESSION IN THE COMPANY'S OVERSEAS MARKETS.

MR. DORF STATED THAT THE COMPANY HAD A GREAT DEAL OF CONFIDENCE IN THE CONTINUING VIABILITY OF HONG KONG AS A MANUFACTURING CENTRE AND WAS LOOKING WITH CONFIDENCE TO ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR IN 1975.

HE FURTHER STATED THAT, IN HIS OPINION, HONG KONG TODAY WAS IN A STRONGER POSITION THAN IT WAS 12 MONTHS AGO IN COMPETING WITH THE OTHER COUNTRIES IN SOUTH EAST ASIA SUCH AS TAIWAN AND KOREA.

+THIS IS DUE TO THE ABILITY OF BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS TO RESPOND FASTER AND MORE EFFECTIVELY TO THE RAPIDLY CHANGING CONDITIONS IN THE WORLD,+ HE SAID, ADDING THAT HE BELIEVED THAT THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE TOY INDUSTRY DURING THE COMING YEARS WOULD BECOME MORE AND MORE COMPLEX.

+HONG KONG,+ HE CONTINUED, +WITH ITS HIGH DEGREE OF TECHNICAL COMPETENCE AND MANUFACTURING SKILL THEREFORE BECOMES A NATURAL PLACE FOR AN INCREASE IN SOPHISTICATED TOY MANUFACTURING.+

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EXHIBITION-ON-WHEELS FOR LABOUR DEPARTMENT

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THE ROTARY CLUB OF KOWLOON TODAY (THURSDAY) PRESENTED THE CAREERS SERVICE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT WITH AN EXHIBITION-ON-WHEELS - THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN HONG KONG.

THE CLUB PRESIDENT, MR. BOB HAMILLA, HANDED THE KEYS OF THE MOBILE EXHIBITION UNIT TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR. NEIL HENDERSON, AT A SPECIAL LUNCHEON IN THE PENINSULA HOTEL.

AFTER THE CEREMONY, THE NEW MOBILE UNIT WENT ON DISPLAY IN THE HOTEL FORECOURT.

MR. HENDERSON SAID THE PRESENTATION OF THE VEHICLE FOR THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF HONG KONG WAS IN THE BEST SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY SERVICE, AND THAT KOWLOON ROTARY HAD SET A LEAD WHICH HE HOPED OTHER SERVICE CLUBS WOULD FOLLOW.

WHEN ON THE ROAD, THE MOBILE UNIT - BUILT BY WARPERS - APPEARS TO BE AN ORDINARY (IF BRIGHTELY-PAINTED) TRUCK. BUT ITS SIDE AND BACK WALLS FALL DOWN TO FORM AN EXTENDED FLOOR SPACE, ROOFING SLIDES OUT FROM A CONCEALED AREA WITHIN THE CEILING, AND THE RESULT IS A ROOM OF JUST OVER 500 SQUARE FEET.

THE ROOM HAS ITS OWN BUILT-IN POWER SYSTEM, WHICH PLUGS INTO ORDINARY MAINS SUPPLY - COLLAPSIBLE TABLES - PUBLIC ADDRESS, SOUND-ON-SLIDE, FILM, LECTURE AND OTHER FACILITIES - AND AN INTRICATE NETWORK OF INTERCHANGEABLE DISPLAY PANELS.

BY OPENING THE WALLS OUT AND ADAPTING THEM TO VARIOUS DEGREES, THE UNIT CAN PROVIDE A WEATHER-PROOF AREA RANGING FROM ABOUT 100 TO THE MAXIMUM OF 500 SQUARE FEET. IT CAN BE USED FOR EVERYTHING FROM INDIVIDUAL INTERVIEWS TO A CINEMA OR LECTURE AREA CAPABLE OF SITTING UP TO 200 PEOPLE, OR A MINIATURE EXHIBITION OR DEMONSTRATION AREA. FOR TODAY'S OPENING CEREMONY IT WAS SET UP AS A MINIATURE CAREERS EXHIBITION.

AFTER AN INITIAL BREAKING-IN PERIOD OF A MONTH OR SO, THE UNIT WILL START TRAVELLING TO SCHOOLS AND OTHER AREAS THROUGHOUT HONG KONG WHERE YOUNG PEOPLE GATHER.

AT THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY TODAY, LABOUR COMMISSIONER MR. HENDERSON SAID THE MOBILE UNIT WOULD ADD A NEW DIMENSION TO THE WORK OF THE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT ADVISORY SERVICE - AND ONE WHICH WAS PARTICULARLY APT FOR A GIFT FROM ROTARIANS.

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HE SAID THE TERM "ROTARIAN" WAS ADOPTED FROM THE EARLY DAYS OF THE ROTARY MOVEMENT WHEN MEMBERS MET AT THE HOUSE OF EACH MEMBER IN ROTATION.

+IT IS THEREFORE EXTREMELY APT THAT YOUR SPLENDID GIFT SHOULD BE DESIGNED FOR THE PURPOSE OF ROTATING CAREERS INFORMATION AROUND SCHOOLS AND OTHER SUITABLE PLACES FOR ATTRACTING THE INTEREST OF YOUNG PEOPLE,+ HE SAID.

MR. HENDERSON POINTED OUT THAT THE DEPARTMENT'S YOUTH EMPLOYMENT ADVISORY SERVICE FIRST STARTED SOME YEARS AGO GIVING CAREERS TALKS AND DISSEMINATING CAREERS INFORMATION TO SENIOR SECONDARY STUDENTS.

HOWEVER, IT WAS FELT THAT SOMETHING ELSE OUGHT TO BE ADDED TO THE SERVICE IN ORDER TO PROVIDE A WIDER COVERAGE OF YOUNG PEOPLE, NOT NECESSARILY THOSE STILL AT SCHOOL, WHO WERE IN NEED OF SOME FORM OF CAREERS ADVICE.

AS A RESULT, HE SAID, CAREERS SEMINARS AND EXHIBITIONS WERE ORGANISED FOR STUDENTS, YOUNGSTERS, PARENTS AND TEACHERS TO ACQUIRE FIRST-HAND KNOWLEDGE ABOUT A LARGE NUMBER OF TRADES IN A SHORT TIME AND AT THE SAME PLACE.

BUT SUCH SEMINARS AND EXHIBITIONS WERE EXTREMELY EXPENSIVE TO ORGANISE IN TERMS OF MONEY AND MANPOWER. TO SUPPLEMENT THEM, SOMETHING ELSE WAS NEEDED.

+I AM HAPPY TO SAY THAT THIS NEED IS NOW FULFILLED BY THE KINDNESS OF YOUR CLUB,+ HE SAID.

THE VEHICLE, WHEN FULLY EXTENDED, WOULD PROVIDE A STAGE AREA OF SOME 500 SQUARE FEET - LARGER THAN MANY FLATS. +BUT THIS FLAT CAN MOVE AT WILL, AND IT CARRIES A LOT OF CREATIVE IDEAS AS WELL AS YOUR GOODWILL,+ HE SAID.

+IT WILL BRING TO ALL YOUNG PEOPLE NOT ONLY IMPORTANT MESSAGES ABOUT MAKING A SUITABLE CHOICE OF CAREER, BUT ALSO USEFUL MATERIALS AND CONSTRUCTIVE ADVICE ON HOW TO MAKE THIS CHOICE.

+NOT ALL THEIR QUESTIONS WILL BE ANSWERED ON THE SPOT, MUCH LESS CAREER DECISIONS TAKEN. BUT IF IT LEADS THEM TO MAKE FURTHER ENQUIRIES, AND DEVOTE THOUGHT TO THEIR CAREER EVALUATION, MUCH WILL HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED.+

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TWO COMMUNITY CENTRES CELEBRATE ANNIVERSARIES

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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY CENTRES IN TSUEN WAN AND WONG TAI SIN WILL CELEBRATE THEIR ANNIVERSARIES TODAY AND TOMORROW.

THE PRINCESS ALEXANDRA COMMUNITY CENTRE IN TSUEN WAN, OPENED IN 1961, WILL HOLD A SOCIAL GATHERING FOR ITS MEMBERS AT 8 P.M. THIS (THURSDAY) EVENING. THERE WILL BE A LUCKY DRAW AND ENTERTAINMENT. PRIZES WILL BE PRESENTED TO WINNERS OF THE 1975 PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION ORGANISED BY THE CENTRE.

TO CELEBRATE ITS ANNIVERSARY, THE WONG TAI SIN COMMUNITY CENTRE, OPENED IN 1960, HAS ORGANISED A NUMBER OF FUNCTIONS FOR ITS MEMBERS TOMORROW (FRIDAY). THESE ARE A CHILDREN'S PARTY, A YOUTH SOCIAL AND A DINNER FOR THE ELDERLY. THERE WILL BE A CEREMONY AT 8 P.M. AT WHICH AWARDS WILL BE PRESENTED TO WINNERS OF COMPETITIONS AND CERTIFICATES TO VOLUNTEERS.

THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT PROVIDES IN THESE CENTRES COMMUNITY, GROUP, REHABILITATION AND LIBRARY SERVICES. VOLUNTARY WELFARE ORGANISATIONS ARE ALSO HOUSED IN THE CENTRES TO PROVIDE A VARIETY OF SERVICES INCLUDING NURSERIES AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING.

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NEW CITY DISTRICT OFFICER FOR SHAM SHUI PO

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MR. CHAN SUI-JEUNG, A SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, HAS BEEN APPOINTED CITY DISTRICT OFFICER FOR SHAM SHUI PO WITH EFFECT FROM JUNE 16. HE SUCCEEDS MR. CHEUNG KWOK-WA.

MR. CHAN, A GRADUATE FROM HONG KONG UNIVERSITY, HAS SERVED IN THE GOVERNMENT FOR ABOUT 15 YEARS IN VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS, INCLUDING THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION AND IN THE COLONIAL SECRETARIAT AS AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY.

HE WAS PROMOTED TO SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICER IN MAY 1973.

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CONSULTANTS TO STUDY ESTATE MAINTENANCE  
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THE HOUSING AUTHORITY HAS APPOINTED THE PA MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS TO CARRY OUT A STUDY OF THE ORGANISATION OF THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT'S MAINTENANCE SECTION WHOSE WORKLOAD HAS BEEN STEADILY INCREASING OVER THE YEARS.

THE REVIEW, WHICH COSTS \$343,000, IS EXPECTED TO TAKE A YEAR TO COMPLETE.

+THE AUTHORITY FELT THAT THE GROWING DEMAND BEING MADE ON THE MAINTENANCE SECTION NECESSITATED A THOROUGH AND EXPERT STUDY OF ITS ORGANISATION AND PROCEDURES. THIS IS TO ENSURE FIRSTLY THAT IT IS ADEQUATELY STAFFED TO UNDERTAKE THE INCREASING WORKLOAD, AND SECONDLY THAT IT OPERATES AS ECONOMICALLY AS POSSIBLE, + A SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE MAINTENANCE SECTION, WHICH HAD A STAFF OF ABOUT 400 WITH ONLY SIX PROFESSIONALS LAST YEAR, SPENT \$59 MILLION ON THE MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE AUTHORITY'S 53 PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES AND 28 LICENSED AREAS. IT IS EXPECTED TO SPEND ABOUT \$70 MILLION ON THESE WORKS IN THE CURRENT YEAR.

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HONG KONG NEGOTIATORS LEAVE FOR TEXTILE TALKS  
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A HONG KONG DELEGATION LEAVES TOMORROW (FRIDAY) FOR TEXTILE NEGOTIATIONS WITH NORWAY IN OSLO.

THE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH WILL BE HELD UNDER THE ARRANGEMENT REGARDING INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN TEXTILES ARE CONCERNED WITH THE FUTURE OF THE PRESENT AGREEMENT WITH NORWAY WHICH COVERS EXPORTS OF CERTAIN GARMENTS AND WHICH EXPIRES ON JUNE 30, 1975.

THE HONG KONG DELEGATION COMPRISES MR. LAURENCE MILLS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR (COMMERCIAL RELATIONS), MR. B.T.H. CHAU, AND MR. R.M.K. CHAN.

MR. MILLS WILL BE TRAVELLING ON TO BRUSSELS WHERE HE WILL BE JOINED BY ANOTHER HONG KONG DELEGATION FOR THE THIRD ROUND OF TEXTILE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE EEC.

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