



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 5-8428777

MONDAY, JULY 17, 1989

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
WAGE INDEXES FOR MARCH 1989	1
CAREERS EDUCATION GEARED TO FUTURE CHANGES	4
DRAWING CONTEST FOR TAI PO PRIMARY PUPILS	6
WATER STORAGE FIGURE	6
TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT IN HENNESSY ROAD	7
TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF WING FUNG STREET WEST	7

MONDAY, JULY 17, 1989

- 1 -

WAGE INDEXES FOR MARCH 1989

* * * * *

THE OVERALL NOMINAL WAGE INDEX FOR MARCH 1989, AT 176.7, INCREASED BY 12.6 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH MARCH 1988 AND BY 6.1 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1988, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS PUBLISHED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

A COMPARISON OF THE MARCH 1989 AND MARCH 1988 INDEXES SHOWS THAT THE NOMINAL WAGE INDEX FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR INCREASED BY 10.8 PER CENT; FOR THE WHOLESALE/RETAIL, IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR BY 15.3 PER CENT; FOR THE TRANSPORT SERVICES SECTOR BY 12.4 PER CENT; FOR THE BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR BY 19.9 PER CENT; AND FOR THE PERSONAL SERVICES SECTOR BY 25.4 PER CENT.

A COMPARISON OF THE MARCH 1989 AND DECEMBER 1988 INDEXES SHOWS THAT THE NOMINAL WAGE INDEX FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR INCREASED BY 5.8 PER CENT; FOR THE WHOLESALE/RETAIL, IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR BY 6.3 PER CENT; FOR THE TRANSPORT SERVICES SECTOR BY 5.0 PER CENT; FOR THE BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR BY 8.8 PER CENT; AND FOR THE PERSONAL SERVICES SECTOR BY 9.0 PER CENT.

THE NOMINAL WAGE INDEXES FOR THE PERIOD MARCH 1988 TO MARCH 1989 FOR SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS ARE GIVEN IN TABLE 1. DETAILED BREAKDOWNS FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR ARE GIVEN IN TABLE 2.

THE OVERALL REAL WAGE INDEX, AT 112.5 IN MARCH 1989, WAS 2.8 PER CENT HIGHER THAN THAT IN MARCH 1988 AND 2.9 PER CENT HIGHER THAN THAT IN DECEMBER 1988.

THE REAL WAGE INDEXES FOR THE PERIOD MARCH 1988 TO MARCH 1989 FOR SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS ARE GIVEN IN TABLE 3.

THESE NOMINAL AND REAL WAGE INDEXES ARE DERIVED FROM THE SURVEY OF WAGES, SALARIES AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CONDUCTED EACH QUARTER BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THIS COVERS BOTH MANUAL AND NON-MANUAL WORKERS (EXCLUDING WORKERS AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROFESSIONAL LEVELS) IN SELECTED INDUSTRIES IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, THE WHOLESALE/RETAIL, IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR, THE TRANSPORT SERVICES SECTOR, THE BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR AND THE PERSONAL SERVICES SECTOR.

SUCH INDEXES MEASURE CHANGES IN WAGE RATES BY HOLDING THE STRUCTURAL PATTERN OF THE LABOUR FORCE WITH RESPECT TO INDUSTRY, OCCUPATION, SEX AND MODE OF PAYMENT THE SAME AS THAT OF MARCH 1982, WHICH IS THE BASE PERIOD OF THE WAGE INDEXES.

WHILE THE NOMINAL WAGE INDEX MEASURES CHANGES IN WAGE RATES IN MONEY TERMS, THE REAL WAGE INDEX, WHICH IS OBTAINED BY DEFLATING THE NOMINAL WAGE INDEX BY THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A), MEASURES CHANGES IN THE PURCHASING POWER OF THE WAGES RECEIVED.

/A SPOKESMAN

MONDAY, JULY 17, 1989

- 2 -

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT DREW ATTENTION TO THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE WAGE INDEXES AND THE INDEXES OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED WHICH ARE ALSO PUBLISHED AT QUARTERLY INTERVALS.

HE POINTED OUT THAT WHILE WAGE RATES PROVIDE A MEASURE OF THE UNIT PRICE OF LABOUR, PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED IS A MEASURE OF PER CAPITA EARNINGS.

WAGE RATES REPRESENT THE AMOUNT OF REMUNERATION FOR NORMAL HOURS OF WORK, AND ARE DEFINED TO INCLUDE BASIC WAGES AND SALARIES, COST-OF-LIVING ALLOWANCE, MEAL BENEFITS, COMMISSION AND TIPS, GOOD ATTENDANCE BONUS AND NIGHT SHIFT ALLOWANCE.

IN ADDITION, YEAR-END BONUS AND OTHER GUARANTEED AND REGULAR BONUSES AND ALLOWANCES THAT ARE PAID LESS FREQUENTLY THAN MONTHLY, ARE CONVERTED TO AN EQUIVALENT MONTHLY RATE WHEN COMPILING THE WAGE RATE INDEXES.

TOTAL PAYROLL, ON THE OTHER HAND, IS THE AMOUNT OF DIRECT CASH PAYMENTS THAT EMPLOYEES RECEIVE FROM EMPLOYERS. APART FROM THE ABOVE MENTIONED CASH RECEIPTS, IT ALSO INCLUDES OVERTIME PAY AND OTHER NON-GUARANTEED AND IRREGULAR BONUSES AND ALLOWANCES.

HENCE, STATISTICS ON PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED TEND TO BE SENSITIVE TO CHANGES IN THE NUMBER OF HOURS ACTUALLY WORKED, THE TIMING OF THE PAYMENT OF BONUSES AND BACK-PAY, AND THE COMPOSITION OF THE LABOUR FORCE.

AS A RESULT, MOVEMENTS IN WAGE RATES DO NOT NECESSARILY CONFORM WITH THOSE IN PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED.

AS THE LABOUR MARKET TIGHTENS, THE RATE OF INCREASE IN PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED CAN NORMALLY BE EXPECTED TO EXCEED SLIGHTLY THE RATE OF INCREASE IN WAGES.

HOWEVER, THERE MAY BE OCCASIONS WHERE, ON ACCOUNT OF RAPID LABOUR TURNOVER AND ACUTE LABOUR SHORTAGE, MORE EXPERIENCED AND BETTER PAID WORKERS ARE TEMPORARILY SUBSTITUTED BY THOSE WITH LESS EXPERIENCE AND LOWER PAY, RESULTING IN THE LATTER RATE OF INCREASE EXCEEDING THE FORMER RATE.

THE SURVEY FINDINGS ARE PUBLISHED IN A REPORT OF WAGES, SALARIES AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS STATISTICS VOL. I, MARCH 1989 WHICH WILL BE ON SALE SHORTLY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL.

THE VOL. II ISSUE OF THE REPORT CONTAINING DETAILED OCCUPATIONAL STATISTICS, SUCH AS WAGE RATES, NUMBER OF NORMAL HOURS OF WORK AND NUMBER OF STANDARD WORKING DAYS IS EXPECTED TO BE AVAILABLE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE IN EARLY AUGUST.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE WAGE INDEXES MAY BE MADE TO THE WAGES AND LABOUR COSTS STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL. 5-8234744 OR 5-8234747.

/TABLE 1

TABLE 1 : NOMINAL WAGE INDEXES BY SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS

SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS	INDEXES (MARCH 1982 = 100)					% CHANGE MAR.89/ MAR.88
	MAR.	JUN.	SEPT.	DEC.	MAR.	
	1988	1988	1988	1988	1989	
MANUFACTURING	154.6	158.3	161.1	161.9	171.3	+10.8
WHOLESALE/RETAIL, IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	151.6	154.8	159.6	164.4	174.8	+15.3
TRANSPORT SERVICES	177.9	184.6	188.2	190.4	199.9	+12.4
BUSINESS SERVICES	168.2	178.2	182.3	185.4	201.7	+19.9
PERSONAL SERVICES	155.3	160.5	171.3	178.7	194.8	+25.4
ALL SECTORS ABOVE	156.9	161.0	164.7	166.6	176.7	+12.6

TABLE 2 : NOMINAL WAGE INDEXES FOR MAJOR INDUSTRIES IN THE
MANUFACTURING SECTOR

SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS	INDEXES (MARCH 1982 = 100)					% CHANGE MAR.89/ MAR.88
	MAR.	JUN.	SEPT.	DEC.	MAR.	
	1988	1988	1988	1988	1989	
GARMENTS	135.7	138.0	139.7	140.0	144.2	+ 6.3
GLOVES	159.5	164.2	169.3	170.1	189.1	+18.6
HANDBAGS	147.2	146.9	151.4	151.1	167.2	+10.2
COTTON SPINNING/WEAVING	172.0	173.6	174.7	175.0	190.3	+10.6
KNITTING	150.0	152.4	152.9	153.8	161.6	+ 7.7
BLEACHING AND DYEING	175.2	180.1	181.9	182.4	189.6	+ 8.2
PRINTING	170.5	182.5	186.7	190.9	203.5	+19.4
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	151.2	156.5	159.9	160.4	165.2	+ 9.3
METAL PRODUCTS	160.9	166.3	170.4	174.8	182.7	+13.5
ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES	177.2	182.5	186.7	189.4	208.0	+17.4
ELECTRONICS	175.3	180.4	183.9	183.9	202.8	+15.7
WATCHES AND CLOCKS	182.8	187.3	191.0	190.9	215.3	+17.8

/MANUFACTURING 154.6

MANUFACTURING	154.6	158.3	161.1	161.9	171.3	+10.8
---------------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------

TABLE 3 : REAL WAGE INDEXES BY SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS

SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS	INDEXES (MARCH 1982 = 100)					% CHANGE MAR.89/ MAR.88
	MAR.	JUN.	SEPT.	DEC.	MAR.	
	1988	1988	1988	1988	1989	
MANUFACTURING	107.7	108.0	106.8	106.2	109.1	+ 1.3
WHOLESALE/RETAIL, IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	105.6	105.6	105.8	107.9	111.3	+ 5.4
TRANSPORT SERVICES	124.0	125.9	124.7	124.9	127.2	+ 2.6
BUSINESS SERVICES	117.2	121.6	120.8	121.7	128.4	+ 9.6
PERSONAL SERVICES	108.2	109.5	113.5	117.3	124.0	+14.6
ALL SECTORS ABOVE	109.4	109.8	109.2	109.3	112.5	+ 2.8

- - - - 0 - - - -

CAREERS EDUCATION GEARED TO FUTURE CHANGES

* * * * *

THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT IS CLOSELY MONITORING THE CHANGING REQUIREMENTS IN CAREERS EDUCATION AND IS COMMITTED TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE CAREERS ADVISORY SERVICE TO YOUNG PEOPLE.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR HAROLD KWOK, TODAY (MONDAY) AT THE OPENING OF AN ANNUAL SEMINAR ON CAREERS EDUCATION AT THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG IN SHA TIN.

THE SEMINAR WAS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF CAREERS MASTERS AND GUIDANCE MASTERS, AND WAS ATTENDED BY OVER 100 CAREERS TEACHERS.

MR KWOK NOTED THAT CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES IN HONG KONG HAD UNDERGONE VAST CHANGES IN RECENT YEARS AND THAT THE CHANGES WERE LIKELY TO CONTINUE WELL INTO THE 90'S.

/"IN THE

"IN THE SEMINAR, WE WILL THUS EXPLORE THE POSSIBLE CHANGES IN SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENTS IN HONG KONG IN THE 90'S AND ITS RESULTANT CHANGES IN MANPOWER REQUIREMENTS," HE SAID.

"THE SEMINAR ALSO PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY FOR CAREERS TEACHERS TO UPDATE THEIR INFORMATION ON THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF CAREERS EDUCATION.

"IT IS AN OCCASION FOR DISCUSSION OF PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED IN CAREERS GUIDANCE AND COUNSELLING AND TO FIND SOLUTIONS TO THESE PROBLEMS," HE ADDED.

TO STRENGTHEN THE DEPARTMENT'S SERVICES TO SCHOOL LEAVERS, MR KWOK SAID A SPECIAL ENQUIRY SERVICE WAS BEING PROVIDED AT ALL CAREERS INFORMATION CENTRES FOR FORM 5 AND FORM 7 STUDENTS TO DISCUSS WITH CAREERS OFFICERS OPPORTUNITIES FOR FURTHER STUDIES, VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS.

"A SERIES OF CAREERS-ORIENTED VIDEO SHOWS ARE ALSO BEING ORGANISED AT THE CENTRES DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS," HE SAID.

THE DEPARTMENT IS NOW PREPARING FOUR DIFFERENT TYPES OF HANDOUTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE ON PROFESSIONAL ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS AND EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES.

"ANOTHER NEW SERVICE IS THE PRODUCTION OF 12 CAREERS FILMS ON THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF CAREERS EDUCATION, VARIOUS INDUSTRIES, TRADES AND PROFESSIONS, WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC VIEWING IN THE COMING ACADEMIC YEAR," MR KWOK SAID.

ALSO OFFICIATING AT TODAY'S OPENING WAS THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR JOHN WINFIELD.

HE POINTED OUT THAT AS THE WORLD WAS CHANGING VERY RAPIDLY, PEOPLE BEGAN TO THINK MUCH MORE SEARCHINGLY AND ANALYTICALLY ABOUT THE WORK THEY DID.

"CAREERS EDUCATION IN THE 90'S SHOULD NOT BE LIMITED TO INFORMATION GIVING, BUT SHOULD SEEK TO HELP STUDENTS RECOGNISE THEIR OWN POTENTIAL AND MORE FULLY UNDERSTAND THEIR PERSONALITY, INTERESTS, STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES.

"THIS ENABLES THEM TO MAKE FREE, VOLUNTARY AND REALISTIC CAREER CHOICES AT DIFFERENT STAGES OF THEIR LIVES," MR WINFIELD SAID.

HE ALSO STRESSED THAT STUDENTS NEEDED TO KNOW HOW TO CARRY OUT THEIR OWN CAREER PLANS IN A REALISTIC MANNER.

"GUIDANCE WORK IS THUS AIMED AT HELPING STUDENTS EXPLORE IN ADVANCE THE POSSIBLE RANGES, AVENUES AND RESULTS OF CAREFUL CHOICE, SO THAT THEY CAN MAKE WISE AND WELL-INFORMED DECISIONS.

"THROUGH FREQUENT PARTICIPATION IN SEMINARS AND OTHER CAREERS ACTIVITIES, CAREERS TEACHERS CAN KEEP ABREAST OF CHANGES TAKING PLACE IN SOCIETY AND APPRECIATE THE GROWING COMPLEXITIES OF GUIDANCE WORK."

MR WINFIELD REITERATED THAT THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WOULD JOIN HANDS WITH CAREERS TEACHERS IN FACING CHANGE, SO AS TO PUSH FORWARD THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF GUIDANCE WORK.

MONDAY, JULY 17, 1989

- 6 -

DRAWING CONTEST FOR TAI PO PRIMARY PUPILS
* * * * *

PRIMARY SCHOOL PUPILS IN TAI PO ARE INVITED TO JOIN A DRAWING CONTEST IN THE DISTRICT.

THE CONTEST IS BEING ORGANISED BY THE 1990'S SUB-WORKING GROUP ON COMMUNITY PROJECT OF TAI PO AND IS SPONSORED BY THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD.

IT IS AIMED AT ENCOURAGING PRIMARY SCHOOL PUPILS IN TAI PO TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT THEIR COMMUNITY.

ENTRIES SHOULD ILLUSTRATE THE LOOK OF THE TAI PO COMMUNITY IN THE 21ST CENTURY. THE SIZE SHOULD BE 29CM X 38CM (11 INCHES X 15 INCHES). THERE IS NO RESTRICTION ON COLOURING MATERIALS OR THE NUMBER OF ENTRIES.

MEDALS AND BOOK COUPONS WILL BE AWARDED TO WINNERS.

WINNING ENTRIES WILL BE DISPLAYED IN AN EXHIBITION EARLY NEXT YEAR.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS SUB-OFFICES.

THE DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS OCTOBER 13.

TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 0-6577111, EXT.254.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WATER STORAGE FIGURE
* * * * *

STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 55.4 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 324.752 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 152.595 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 26.0 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/8

MONDAY, JULY 17, 1989

- 7 -

TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT IN HENNESSY ROAD

* * * * *

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM ON WEDNESDAY (JULY 19), THE EXISTING TRAM LANE ON HENNESSY ROAD EASTBOUND BETWEEN HOUSE NO. 447 AND PERCIVAL STREET WILL BE LIFTED FOR ABOUT SIX WEEKS TO FACILITATE WATERMAIN LAYING WORKS

VEHICLES ON HENNESSY ROAD EASTBOUND HEADING FOR PERCIVAL STREET CAN USE THIS SECTION OF TRAM LANE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF WING FUNG STREET WEST

* * * * *

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT TO FACILITATE WATERMAIN LAYING WORKS, THE TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF WING FUNG STREET WEST NEAR ITS JUNCTION WITH MONMOUTH PATH IN WAN CHAI WILL REMAIN IN FORCE UNTIL THE END OF THIS MONTH (JULY).

- - - - 0 - - - -