



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SUNDAY, MAY 5, 1974

SECOND SURVEY ON AUTOMOBILE REPAIRS AND SERVICING INDUSTRY

A MAJOR SURVEY OF HONG KONG'S AUTOMOBILE REPAIRS AND SERVICING INDUSTRY WILL BE CARRIED OUT BETWEEN MAY 20 AND JUNE 7.

THE SURVEY - THE SECOND OF ITS KIND - WILL BE CONDUCTED BY THE AUTOMOBILE REPAIRS AND SERVICING INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD OF THE HONG KONG TRAINING COUNCIL, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT AND THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

QUESTIONNAIRES AND EXPLANATORY LETTERS IN BOTH ENGLISH AND CHINESE WERE SENT TODAY/TWO WEEKS AGO TO THE ESTABLISHMENTS SELECTED BY RANDOM STRATIFIED SAMPLING.

THE INFORMATION WHICH EMPLOYERS ARE REQUESTED TO SUPPLY INCLUDES :-

- A) THE NUMBER OF WORKERS AT PRESENT EMPLOYED=
- B) THE NUMBER OF WORKERS AT PRESENT UNDER TRAINING=
- C) THE NUMBER OF EXISTING VACANCIES= AND
- D) A FORECAST OF THE NUMBER OF WORKERS REQUIRED BY MAY 1975.

SURVEY INTERVIEWING OFFICERS OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT WILL VISIT EACH OF THE ESTABLISHMENTS CONCERNED DURING THE SURVEY PERIOD TO HELP EMPLOYERS TO COMPLETE THE QUESTIONNAIRE.

THE SECRETARY OF THE AUTOMOBILE REPAIRS AND SERVICING INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD, MR. AU YEUNG MAN-TAK, SAID THAT THE INFORMATION COLLECTED WOULD BE HANDLED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND WOULD BE PUBLISHED ONLY IN THE FORM OF STATISTICAL SUMMARIES WITHOUT REFERENCE TO ANY INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENT.

HE SAID THE FIRST SURVEY WAS CONDUCTED IN DECEMBER 1967 IN WHICH ALL THE ESTABLISHMENTS SELECTED WILLINGLY SUPPLIED THE INFORMATION REQUIRED.

HE IS CONFIDENT THAT THE SECOND SURVEY WILL MEET WITH EQUAL SUCCESS, HE SAID.

THE INFORMATION OBTAINED IN 1967 WAS COMPILED AND ANALYSED AND THE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS WERE SUBSEQUENTLY PUBLISHED. SOME OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS HAVE ALREADY BEEN IMPLEMENTED.

IN VIEW OF THE MANY CHANGES SINCE THE LAST SURVEY, THE AUTOMOBILE REPAIRS AND SERVICING INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD CONSIDERS IT NECESSARY TO CONDUCT ANOTHER SURVEY TO OBTAIN UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ON NEW TRAINING REQUIREMENTS, HE SAID.

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STEERING GROUP TO STUDY PROPOSED COMMODITY EXCHANGE

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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT IT WILL ESTABLISH A SMALL STEERING GROUP COMPRISING OFFICIALS AND UNOFFICIALS UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MR. DEREK JONES, TO APPRAISE THE FEASIBILITY STUDIES SUBMITTED BY FIVE GROUPS, COVERING A WIDE RANGE OF HONG KONG'S FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS COMMUNITY, WHO HAVE EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF A COMMODITY EXCHANGE IN HONG KONG.

THE STEERING GROUP WILL ALSO HAVE THE ASSISTANCE OF AN INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT TO ADVISE IT ON THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF THE VARIOUS APPLICATIONS. HE IS EXPECTED TO ARRIVE IN HONG KONG IN THE LAST WEEK OF MAY AND IT IS HOPED THAT THE STEERING GROUP WILL BE IN A POSITION TO SUBMIT A FORMAL RECOMMENDATION TO THE GOVERNMENT BY THE END OF JUNE.

IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT THE COMMODITY EXCHANGES (PROHIBITION) ORDINANCE, WHICH CAME INTO EFFECT IN AUGUST 1973, EFFECTIVELY BANNED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ANY NEW EXCHANGES IN HONG KONG DEALING IN ANY SPECIFIED COMMODITY INCLUDED IN THE SCHEDULE TO THE ORDINANCE.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY STATED AT THAT TIME THAT IT WAS NOT THE GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO FRUSTRATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PROPERLY REGULATED COMMODITY EXCHANGE BUT THAT ITS INTENTION WAS RATHER TO ENSURE THAT, IF AND WHEN SUCH AN EXCHANGE WAS ESTABLISHED, IT WOULD OPERATE IN A WELL REGULATED AND ORDERLY MANNER, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED PRACTICES AND STANDARDS. THE GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE TO BE CONVINCED THAT THE CASE-FOR, AND VIABILITY OF, AN EXCHANGE HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED.

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\$2 MILLION PROJECT TO BEAUTIFY TUNG TAU ESTATE

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WORK HAS BEGUN ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF 13 REST GARDENS, A CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND, TWO BADMINTON COURTS AND A TABLE TENNIS COMPOUND AT TUNG TAU ESTATE IN KOULOON.

THESE AMENITIES, ESTIMATED TO COST ABOUT \$2 MILLION, FORM PART OF AN OVERALL \$5 MILLION ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME FOR THE ESTATE WHICH IS ONE OF THE EARLIER +GROUP B+ ESTATES HOUSING SOME 46,000 PEOPLE.

THE WORK IS BEING CARRIED OUT ON THE OPEN SPACE BETWEEN BLOCK 11 AND 20 AND SHOULD BE COMPLETED IN ABOUT FOUR MONTHS.

AT PRESENT, THERE ARE ALREADY 10 SMALL REST GARDENS BETWEEN BLOCK 2 AND 10 IN THE ESTATE.

WHEN THE ENTIRE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME IS COMPLETED EARLY NEXT YEAR, THERE WILL BE A TOTAL OF 27 REST GARDENS, 2 BADMINTON COURTS, A CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND AND A TABLE TENNIS COMPOUND.

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