



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Monday, December 25, 1972

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APPRENTICESHIP SCHEME GAINING SUPPORT

The apprenticeship training scheme fostered by the Labour Department's Apprenticeship Unit is receiving support from a wide cross-section of the industrial community.

Designed to train the much-needed manpower in Hong Kong's industry, the Apprenticeship Unit seeks to assist and encourage employers to start modern technician and craft apprentice training programme.

A total of 750 school-leavers received training as apprentice technicians and craftsmen this summer -- 50 per cent more than the 1971 level.

Of these, 625 worked as apprentices in major industrial concerns - 150 as technicians and 475 as craftsmen. The remainder joined the Government as apprentices of various types.

Among this batch of apprentices, 425 received training under the arrangement of the Labour Department.

The training scheme is geared to imparting to apprentices both practical working experience and relevant industrial education at the same time. Apprentices are required to attend evening courses offered at various government technical schools.

Under the scheme, both employers and apprentices sign an apprenticeship contract which sets out the terms and duration of training in conjunction with the obligations and privileges of both parties concerned.

/Commenting

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Commenting on the scheme, a Labour Department spokesman said that local industrialists at large had acknowledged the importance of apprentice training, and this was reflected in the fact that the scheme had been adopted by a large segment of industry.

More than 120 industrial organisations, ranging from the electronic to plastic industries, have at present adopted the training scheme.

The spokesman said that it was gratifying to note that the Federation of Hong Kong Industries, the Chinese Manufacturers' Association and the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce rendered wide support to the scheme.

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COLLECT YOUR I.D. CARD WITHIN STIPULATED TIME

Over 6,000 Cards Uncollected In 1971-72

A spokesman for the Registration of Persons Department today reminded people who have registered for identity cards to collect their cards during the stipulated period.

People who failed to collect their identity cards during this period would have to register again, resulting in inconvenience and additional expense to themselves, he said.

In the financial year 1971-72, a total of 6,406 identity cards issued by the department were cancelled due to non-collection. This comprised 4,179 adult identity cards and 2,227 juvenile identity cards.

The spokesman explained that the normal period for collection after the cards were issued was six weeks for ordinary applicants and 150 days for new arrivals.

"People who do not collect their cards ten days before the collection period expires will be sent a reminder, notifying them that their cards are available," he added.

He said that many people had failed to collect their identity cards for a number of reasons.

"Many people, especially children, did not collect their cards because of carelessness such as losing their receipts," he said.

"Others failed to collect them because they have been out of town or because of plain forgetfulness."

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He went on to say that illegal immigrants who registered as new arrivals had to be carefully screened by the Investigation Section of the Immigration Department before they were issued with entry permits to regularise their continued stay here and be permitted to collect their identity cards.

"These enquiries are often protracted and it is not uncommon for some illegal immigrants to have to register twice before their identity cards can be issued," he said.

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Release Time: 3.00 p.m.