



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Thursday, November 9, 1972

## FURTHER INCREASE IN INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT

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The Commissioner of Labour, Mr. Paul Tsui, said today (Thursday) industrial employment in the third quarter of this year had shown a moderate increase over the previous two quarters.

He was disclosing the results of the quarterly employment statistical survey conducted by the Labour Department in September this year.

Compared with the previous quarter, Mr. Tsui said, the number of industrial undertakings has increased by 546 to 20,954, and the number of employees by 8,003 to 616,724.

"Employment continued to expand in the garments, electronics and metal products industries," he said.

However, he added, employment in the wig industry continued to drop for the ninth successive quarter from its peak figure of June, 1970.

According to the survey, the more significant changes in employment over the previous quarter were increases of 5,410, 4,659 and 1,568 employees in the garments, electronics and metal products industries respectively, and decreases of 3,892, 784 and 532 employees in the wigs, plastic toys and ship-yards industries respectively.

/The survey .....

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The survey showed that, in terms of employment, the four largest industries were the manufacture of textiles and made-up textile goods (264,647), the manufacture of plastic products (72,565), the manufacture of electrical machinery, apparatus, appliances and supplies (59,639), and the manufacture of fabricated metal products other than machinery (48,850).

The survey also recorded 18,841 vacancies over a wide range of industries -- a drop of 1,051 from the figure for the previous quarter.

The main vacancies were in the electronics industry (4,607), garments (4,577), plastics (1,705), metal products (1,409), and cotton spinning and weaving industry (1,217).

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"PLACE OF REFUGE" FOR ABERDEEN REHABILITATION CENTRE

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A "place of refuge" will be provided in the Aberdeen Rehabilitation Centre for the training and care of delinquent children who are mentally defective and aggressive, and who are considered not suitable for confinement in a correctional institution.

At present, some of these retarded children who come before the Courts, and who have an unsuitable home environment, have to be placed in correctional institutions.

However, because of their low intelligence, they are not able to fit into the more normal training programme, and their behaviour poses a serious threat to discipline.

It is considered more appropriate for these children to be placed in a special "place of refuge" where they will be cared for and trained.

The provision of a "place of refuge" in the Aberdeen Rehabilitation Centre will involve conversion and fitting-out work to be carried out shortly in several rooms on the first floor of the Centre's reception block.

Three rooms will be turned into one big meeting place for the children. It will be equipped with folding partitions in case separate rooms are required.

A six-foot wide covered concrete ramp with railings on both sides will also be constructed so that wheelchair cases can travel under proper shelter between dormitories.

Construction and conversion works will start next month and should take about three months to complete.

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UNCLAIMED IDENTITY CARDS AWAIT COLLECTION

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The Commissioner of Registration today appealed to people who have lost their Hong Kong Identity Cards to come forward and collect them.

Owners of lost cards can now collect them in person at the Registration of Persons Office on the 4th floor of the Causeway Bay Magistracy Building.

Found Identity Cards will be cancelled if they remain unclaimed by their owners after a period of over three months.

Lists containing the names and numbers of the unclaimed cards can be inspected at all City District Offices in the urban areas and District Offices in the New Territories.

The Commissioner emphasised that if everyone notified his office of their changes of previously registered particulars, it would be much easier for lost identity cards to be returned to their owners.

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TAI YIP STREET IN KWUN TONG TO BE EXTENDED

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The northern end of Tai Yip Street in Kwun Tong will be extended to provide access to the new Ngau Tau Kok police station now under construction, and to enable the land on both sides of the extended section to be developed.

The extension work involves the construction of about 2,400 feet of road up to the police station in Kowloon Bay Reclamation, with a carriageway width of 34 feet and a nine-foot-wide footpath on each side of the road.

The project will also include the construction of associated drainage works. The cost of the whole project is estimated at \$1.5 million.

Work is expected to start in January next year, and should take about 12 months to complete.

The work has been designed, and construction will be supervised, by the Highways (Kowloon) Division of the Highways Office, Public Works Department.

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NEW PLAYGROUND FOR KENNEDY TOWN AREA

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A new playground will be built in Kennedy Town on Hong Kong Island to provide additional recreational facilities for residents living in the area.

A site covering an area of about 90,000 square feet to the south of Kwun Loong Lau Estate has been earmarked for the project.

Works include the conversion of the decked surface of the Kennedy Town Service Reservoir within the site into a playground, with two basketball courts and a mini-soccer pitch.

The rest of the site is to be left for turfing and planting. Park benches will be provided at suitable localities.

Construction work is expected to start by early January next year, and should take two months to complete.

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REVISED SCALE OF FEES FOR G.C.E. EXAMS

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The Education Department today (Thursday) announced changes in the scale of fees for entry for the 1973 G.C.E. Examinations of both the Associated Examining Board and University of London.

A department spokesman said the initial entry fee has been revised from \$32 to \$36; the 'O' level subject fee from \$24 to \$29, and 'A' level subject fee from \$44 to \$51.

"These revisions are due to increases in fees charged by the University of London and the Associated Examining Board," the spokesman explained.

Apart from the changes in fees, the arrangements for registering entries for the 1973 summer G.C.E. Examinations are similar to those in recent years.

"Details of these arrangement will be given in notices which will appear in local newspapers on November 11 and 13, 1972," he added.

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BUILDINGS DECLARED DANGEROUS

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The Building Authority today declared Nos. 220 and 222 Queen's Road West to be in a dangerous condition, and No. 224 Queen's Road West liable to become dangerous, and ordered demolition.

In a statement issued this morning, the Principal Government Building Surveyor said that in the course of routine inspections of these three three-storey pre-war buildings, fractures were found in the brick work of the load bearing party wall between Nos. 220 and 222.

There are also signs of disturbance in the brickwalls of the rear kitchen blocks of both these buildings, he said.

Much of the structural timber of the floors and roofs is extensively decayed, he added.

It is considered that No. 224, which stands at the corner of Eastern Street and Queen's Road West, is liable to become dangerous during or after the demolition of Nos. 220 & 222.

Notices of intention to apply for Closure Orders in Victoria District Court at 9.30 a.m. on December 19, 1972 were posted today.

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PANEL DISCUSSION ON SOCIAL WELFARES

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The Deputy Director of Social Welfare, Mr. Thomas C.Y. Lee, will be among five members of a panel discussing his department's draft white paper on the way ahead in social welfare policy on a Radio Hong Kong programme this weekend.

The panel discussion is expected to be centred around future work among the disabled, the proposed severe disability allowances without a means test, Hong Kong's plan to cope with the growing problem of geriatrics, and the provision of more recreational and communal facilities for the young.

Other members of the panel will be Mrs. Peter Choy, the Director of the Hong Kong Family Welfare Society; Mr. Peter C.K. Chan, Urban Councillor; Miss Ko Siu-wah, Chairman of the Children and Youth Division of the Hong Kong Council of Social Service, and Mr. Lo Shiu-kwong, Division Officer of the Council's Rehabilitation Division.

The panel will sit for the discussion in the "Talking Point" programme on Radio Hong Kong's Chinese channel, to be broadcast on Saturday (November 11), at 6.15 p.m. and repeated the next day at 10 a.m.

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TRAINING COURSES FOR YOUTH GROUP LEADERS

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A series of training courses for youth group leaders is being organised by the Social Welfare Department's Youth Work Unit for the next few months.

The courses aim at promoting their knowledge, skills and interest in taking up their roles as group leaders to develop youth groups in Hong Kong.

Trainees will learn about, among other things, group relationship and communication, how a youth group works, programme planning, the development and characteristics of adolescence and probation and correctional service.

The number of participants for each course will be 60. People aged between 18 and 26 with at least secondary education level are eligible to apply for attendance.

Application forms and full particulars of the courses can be obtained at the offices of the Youth Work Unit at Room 908, Causeway Bay Magistracy Building, Hong Kong; and at the Kowloon Government Offices Building, 405 Nathan Road, top floor, Kowloon.

The courses, to be held twice a week, will start on November 28.

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CLOSURE OF PLAYGROUND AND GARDEN FOR LIGHTINGS INSTALLATION

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The Middle Road Playground in Tsim Sha Tsui has now been closed, and the Orsmanthus Road Garden in Yau Yat Chuen will also be closed as from Sunday (November 12) for the installation of park lightings.

The installation work in the Middle Road Playground is expected to take about three weeks to complete, while in the Orsmanthus Road Garden, about a month.

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Release Time: 7.30 p.m.