

**HONG KONG  
GOVERNMENT  
INFORMATION  
SERVICES**

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**DAILY  
INFORMATION  
BULLETIN**

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Thursday, May 18, 1972

SECOND MANPOWER SURVEY OF THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY

Information Used For Meaningful Planning

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The Plastics Industrial Committee, one of the ten associated industrial committees of the Industrial Training Advisory Committee, will be conducting, with the assistance of the Labour Department, a second manpower survey of the plastics industry during the period June 1 to 21, 1972.

The first manpower survey was conducted from August 18 to September 2, 1967, in which 99 per cent of the factories covered in the survey willingly supplied the information required.

The Plastics Industrial Committee has subsequently compiled and analysed the statistical information obtained and published its findings and recommendations in a manpower survey report, which has been available in both English and Chinese at the Government Publications Centre at the Star Ferry Concourse since February 18, 1970.

The committee is pleased to learn that Government has already implemented some of the recommendations.

At the time of the first manpower survey, manpower statistics in the Labour Department showed that in September 1967, the total labour force was 51,556 and the total number of registered and recorded factories was 1,542.

/In December .....

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In December 1971 however, the corresponding figures had risen to 59,021 manual workers and 3,019 registered and recorded factories. In view of these changes, the Plastics Industrial Committee has decided to conduct a second manpower survey to up-date the data on training requirements and to make new recommendations when necessary, to Government and industry in the light of new statistical information.

The information required from employers in this survey will include:-

- (i) The number of workers at present employed;
- (ii) The number of workers at present under training;
- (iii) The number of existing vacancies;
- (iv) A forecast of the total number of workers required by June 1973.

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 factory, a Labour Department spokesman said.

"As such information is vital to the work of the Plastics Industrial Committee if it is to draw up meaningful plans to meet the training needs of the industry, employers are requested to provide accurate answers to the questionnaire," he added.

Owing to the size of the industry, it was not possible to include all plastics factories. So, a random stratified sampling method has been adopted to select 450 factories to be covered, he said.

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An explanatory letter in English and Chinese, together with the questionnaire was sent on May 18, 1972 to selected factories. If on receipt of the questionnaire, an employer has any queries, he is requested to contact the Labour Statistics and Surveys Unit of the Labour Department by telephoning H-778271 Ext. 3 to 4.

During the period of the survey, on a date to be arranged previously by appointment, a survey interviewing officer of the Labour Department will call at each of these factories.

He will answer queries, assist in the completion of the questionnaire if necessary, and collect one copy for processing.

"It is sincerely hoped that employers in the plastics industry will co-operate in this survey and thus assure success equal to, if not better than, the first manpower survey," the spokesman said.

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NEW VACCINE INSTITUTE

Handing Over Ceremony In Early July

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The Medical and Health Department's new institute for the production of human vaccines, in Victoria Road, Pok Fu Lam, will be handed over to Dr. the Hon. G.H. Choa, Director of Medical and Health Services, by Mr. C.R.J. Donnithorne, Director of Building Development, at a ceremony on July 6.

The institute will not only serve the needs of the people of Hong Kong, by producing vaccines to combat infectious diseases such as plague, cholera, typhoid, rabies and small pox, but, because of the facilities provided, will also make vaccines available for export to other countries in the region in times of emergency.

It comprises four blocks in an area of approximately 45,000 square feet. The main block, three storeys high, contains 10 laboratories, offices and other service rooms, linked to a two-storey animal house on the ground and first-floor levels.

Within the animal house, small animals such as monkeys, rabbits, guinea pigs, mice, and fowl are kept. There is a full range of facilities for experiments and research connected with the production of vaccines -- including an operating theatre equipped for the dissection of animal bodies.

Large animals such as horses, buffaloes and sheep, are housed in pens and stalls in a fan-shaped building especially designed to provide comfortable conditions for them, with adequate lighting and ventilation.

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When animal carcasses have served the purpose of protecting the lives of human beings, they are destroyed by burning in an incinerator on the site.

The new institute will replace the existing vaccine institute in Caine Lane built in 1905 and now considered obsolete.

It cannot cope, for example, with sudden demands for large quantities of vaccine in the event of an epidemic breaking out in Hong Kong -- against which reserved storage of vaccines beyond a certain quantity is not practical because vaccines such as those for smallpox, plague and cholera have only a limited storage life.

In May 1958, a replacement institute was first considered, and in 1965, a site was found at Shek Pai Wan Road in Pok Fu Lam, but it was abandoned because it would interfere with a proposed road-widening scheme.

The alternative site in Victoria Road was made available subsequently, and construction of the buildings began in February 1971, the whole complex taking 16 months to complete -- mainly because progress of the work was set back following damage caused by last year's Typhoon Rose.

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PREVENTION OF ENTERIC DISEASES CAMPAIGN

Cholera Can Kill Infected In A Few Hours

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Hong Kong has been free from cholera for about four years but an outbreak is always possible as this disease is constantly present in some South-east Asian countries.

A spokesman of the Urban Services Department said this today in connection with the current Prevention of Enteric Diseases Campaign.

Cholera is an acute and dangerous infectious disease which can kill a patient in a few hours.

Sudden severe vomiting and diarrhoea are the main symptoms of cholera. The stool is watery, pale yellow or whitish in colour and so is the vomitus. The diarrhoea of cholera is not accompanied by severe abdominal pain, and nausea is always absent. If prompt medical treatment is not given, a patient may die in a matter of hours due to rapid loss of body fluid.

Cholera is caused by cholera germs - the cholera vibrios which are passed out with the stool and vomitus of the patient. Food, stored water and well water may be infected with the vibrios through dirty hands, flies and poor sanitation. Man is infected by taking contaminated food and drinks.

Inoculation against cholera is available. To prevent cholera, good sanitation and food hygiene are essential.

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Members of the public are advised to take the following precautionary measures:

- i) Boil all stored water before drinking.
- ii) Cook all food thoroughly.
- iii) Cover all food to prevent fly contamination.
- iv) Prevent fly attraction by putting all refuse and food waste in a proper dust-bin. Keep the bin covered.
- v) Wash hands properly before food and after toilet.
- vi) Avoid buying cut fruit, exposed cooked food, cold drinks and titbits in the street.
- vii) Seek medical advice immediately when suffering from vomiting and diarrhoea. For cholera, every minute counts.

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#### WATER SUPPLY INTERRUPTION

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Water supply to a number of premises in Tai Po will be interrupted for five hours from 1 a.m. on May 20, 1972.

The temporary water stoppage is to enable the Waterworks Office to carry out a leakage test.

The area which will be affected is bounded by Kwong Fuk Road, Pak Shing Street, the Kowloon Canton Railway and Po Heung Street.

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BUILDING DECLARED DANGEROUS

No. 37 Second Street, Hong Kong Island

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The Building Authority today declared No. 37 Second Street to be in a dangerous condition and ordered its demolition.

In a statement issued this morning, the Principal Government Building Surveyor said that this two storey over basement prewar building was inspected in the course of routine investigation when it was found that the brickwork of the rear main wall and of the walls of the kitchen block were badly eroded and fractured.

Also many of the structural timbers of the first floor and of the kitchen roof were noted to be decayed and on the point of failure, he said.

As there is a risk of collapse, notice of intention to apply for a Closure Order in Victoria District Court at 9.30 a.m. on June 29, 1972, was posted today.

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TWO YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMPS

Organised By Army And S.W.D.

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The Army, with the assistance of the Social Welfare Department, is again organizing two youth leadership camps for youth leaders this summer.

These camps, aimed at raising the standard of youth leadership in outdoor activities, will provide good opportunities for leaders and potential leaders of youth agencies and friendship groups to receive practical training and to learn a variety of leadership skills.

"It is hoped that the participants will be able to improve their leadership skills and in turn benefit other youths of the community," an S.W.D. spokesman said.

Each of these residential camps will last twelve days and the medium of instruction will be English.

Training programmes will include hill walking, canoeing, life-saving, first-aid, rock climbing, map reading and various kinds of physical activities.

The camps will be held at Sai Kung respectively from June 26 to July 7 and from July 10 to July 21.

Applications are invited from all young men and women, who are between the ages of 17 and 30. They must be physically fit and capable of swimming 50 metres and possess a good command of the English language.

Each applicant will be invited to attend a short interview and a medical test.

/Fees for .....

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Fees for the whole camp will be \$50.

Application forms are obtainable at the Youth Work Unit of the Social Welfare Department on the ninth floor of Causeway Bay Magistracy Building, Hong Kong, and at the department's Kowloon Office at Kowloon Government Offices Building, 405 Nathan Road.

Enquiries can be made to the Unit on Telephone: H-712467, H-705516, or K-884111, Ext. 334.

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF SWIMMING POOL

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The main pool and the spectator stand in the Morse Park Swimming Pool Complex will be closed to the public from 8 a.m. to 11.45 a.m. on Saturday, May 20, 1972.

During the temporary closure, weekly time-trial races will be held by the Education Department and the Hong Kong Amateur Swimming Association.

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Release time: 6.45 p.m.