

Enhanced funding arrangements for Technology Voucher Programme announced

The Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) today (November 28) announced the arrangements for disbursing partial funding in advance for projects funded by the Technology Voucher Programme (TVP). The arrangements are part of the measures to support enterprises as announced by the Financial Secretary in mid-August, aiming to ease the funding problems faced by small and medium-sized enterprises and start-ups when they start projects.

Under the new arrangements, the ITC will disburse an initial payment of up to 25 per cent of the approved funding amount in advance upon request by the applicant after signing the funding agreement with the applicant, subject to funding contribution of the same percentage by the applicant on a matching basis. The remaining funding will be disbursed upon the ITC's acceptance of the applicant's project completion report.

The new arrangements will be applicable to applications received by the ITC from December 1, 2019.

Under the Innovation and Technology Fund, the TVP subsidises local enterprises and organisations on a 2 (Government):1 (enterprise or organisation) matching basis to use technological services and solutions to improve productivity, or upgrade or transform business processes in order to enhance their competitiveness. For each enterprise or organisation, the funding ceiling is \$400,000. Further information is available on the TVP website (tvp.itf.gov.hk). For enquiries, please contact the TVP Secretariat (Tel: 3523 1170; email: tvp-enquiry@itc.gov.hk).

Fraudulent website related to Bank of Singapore Limited

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) wishes to alert members of the public to a press release issued by Bank of Singapore Limited on fraudulent website, which has been reported to the HKMA. Hyperlink to the press release is available on the [HKMA website](#) for ease of reference by members of the public.

Anyone who has provided his or her personal information to the website concerned or has conducted any financial transactions through the website should contact the bank concerned using the contact information provided in

the press release, and report to the Police or contact the Cyber Security and Technology Crime Bureau of the Hong Kong Police Force at 2860 5012.

[Appeal for information on missing woman in Sheung Shui \(with photo\)](#)

Police today (November 28) appealed to the public for information on a woman who went missing in Sheung Shui.

Lam Ting, aged 50, went missing after she left her residence on Tin Ping Road on September 18 afternoon. Her family made a report to Police on October 24.

She is about 1.58 metres tall, 45 kilograms in weight and of medium build. She has a round face with yellow complexion and straight black hair. She was last seen wearing a brown short-sleeved T-shirt, a long floral skirt and black shoes.

Anyone who knows the whereabouts of the missing woman or may have seen her is urged to contact the Regional Missing Person Unit of New Territories North on 3661 3112 or 6273 5758 or email to rmpu-ntn-1@police.gov.hk, or contact any police station.



[Fraudulent website related to Ant Bank \(Hong Kong\) Limited](#)

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[Key statistics on business performance and operating characteristics of industrial sector in 2018](#)

According to the results of the 2018 Annual Survey of Economic Activities – Industrial Sector released today (November 28) by the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD), the manufacturing sector's total receipts (comprising sales and other receipts) amounted to \$232.1 billion in 2018, representing an increase of 2.6% compared with 2017; on a per establishment basis, total receipts increased by 5.4% compared with 2017 to \$31.3 million in 2018.

Operating expenses and compensation of employees of the manufacturing sector altogether amounted to \$217.3 billion in 2018, representing an increase of 2.7% compared with 2017; on a per establishment basis, they increased by 5.5% compared with 2017 to \$29.3 million in 2018.

Gross surplus of the manufacturing sector, which is equal to total receipts less operating expenses and compensation of employees, increased slightly by 0.1% compared with 2017 to \$14.8 billion in 2018; on a per establishment basis, gross surplus increased by 2.9% compared with 2017 to \$2.0 million in 2018. Gross surplus accounted for 6.4% of total receipts of this sector in 2018, slightly down by 0.2 percentage point compared with 2017.

Value added of the manufacturing sector, which is a measure of its contribution to Hong Kong's Gross Domestic Product, increased by 2.6%

compared with 2017 to \$35.5 billion in 2018; on a per establishment basis, the value added was \$4.8 million in 2018, which increased by 5.4% compared with 2017.

According to the survey results, it was estimated that the manufacturing sector comprised some 7 400 establishments and engaged about 89 700 persons, or an average of 12.1 persons per establishment in 2018.

Within the manufacturing sector, the four largest industry groupings in terms of value added in 2018 were (1) food, beverages and tobacco; (2) metal products, machinery and equipment; (3) chemicals, rubber, plastics and non-metallic mineral products; and (4) paper products, printing and reproduction of recorded media. They together accounted for 86.5% of the value added of the manufacturing sector.

In the food, beverages and tobacco industry, total receipts amounted to \$44.2 billion while operating expenses and compensation of employees totalled \$38.8 billion in 2018. Gross surplus amounted to \$5.4 billion in 2018, accounting for 12.2% of total receipts in 2018. Value added increased by 4.8% compared with 2017 to \$11.6 billion.

In the metal products, machinery and equipment industry, total receipts amounted to \$126.0 billion while operating expenses and compensation of employees totalled \$123.0 billion in 2018. Gross surplus amounted to \$3.0 billion in 2018, accounting for 2.3% of total receipts in 2018. Value added increased by 4.2% compared with 2017 to \$9.2 billion.

In the chemicals, rubber, plastics and non-metallic mineral products industry, total receipts amounted to \$24.7 billion while operating expenses and compensation of employees totalled \$21.1 billion in 2018. Gross surplus amounted to \$3.6 billion in 2018, accounting for 14.5% of total receipts in 2018. Value added increased by 3.5% compared with 2017 to \$6.3 billion.

In the paper products, printing and reproduction of recorded media industry, total receipts amounted to \$12.5 billion while operating expenses and compensation of employees totalled \$11.5 billion in 2018. Gross surplus amounted to \$1.0 billion in 2018, accounting for 7.9% of total receipts in 2018. Value added decreased by 3.2% compared with 2017 to \$3.6 billion.

In addition to manufacturing establishments, the industrial sector also includes establishments engaged in mining and quarrying; electricity and gas supply; and sewerage, waste management and remediation activities. Selected statistics for the industrial sector (except mining and quarrying) in 2018 are shown in the attached table.

More detailed survey results on the industrial sector will be given in the report "Key Statistics on Business Performance and Operating Characteristics of the Industrial Sector in 2018". Users can download this report (in PDF format) free of charge at the website of the C&SD (www.censtatd.gov.hk/hkstat/sub/sp310.jsp?productCode=B1080012) as from end-December 2019.

For enquiries about the key statistics on business performance and operating characteristics of the industrial sector, please contact the Industrial Production Statistics Section of the C&SD (Tel: 3903 7246; email: manufacturing@censtatd.gov.hk).