# Growth and development since 1945

#### Reconstruction after the war

- 1945/8 restoration 恢復 of British rule
  - HKG carried out measures 政策
    - Action
      - price control
      - · building public utilities
    - ↓ To
      - reconstruct economy livelihoods 民生
    - Result
      - HK population : 0.6 → 1.7 million
      - Social stability 安定 was restored
      - Economic conditions were greatly improved

HKG =
Hong Kong
Government

HK = Hong Kong

#### **Economic development**

#### Difficulties faced by entrepot trade

- · After the second World War
  - become an important entrepot
    - → between China & other countries
  - ↓ Result
  - · brought the development of related industries
    - example
      - shipping

- shipbuilding
- transportation

#### Changes in China's external trade

- 1949/10/1 the People's Republic of China 中華人民共和國 was set up 成立
  - adopted 採用 planned economy 計劃經濟
    - established trade relations 建立貿易關係 → socialist countries 社會/ 共產主義國家

    - HK's re-exports → mainland decreased greatly
      - badly hit HK's entrepot trade that had just revived after the war

#### **UN trade embargo on China**

- Korean War 韓戰 (1950-1953)
  - China sent voluntary soldiers 志願軍
    - → help North Korea 朝鮮
  - ↓ Therefore



#### 抗美援朝

result:以美爲首的聯合國軍 撤回到38線,在板門店簽停戰 協議

- UN imposed a trade embargo 禁運 on China
  - ↓ Therefore
- impacted on HK's entrepot trade
  - decreased by 2/3
  - **↓** Action
- HK committed 堅定 itself → industrial development

### Favourable factors for developing manufacturing industry

To

reduce the dependence on bad-hit entrepot

┰

• HK actively development light industries 輕工業



輕工業(占地 少、低成本、 少機械)

- 1950 -1970
  - HK developed in manufacturing industries

意義: HK's first economic transformation in 20th century

#### **Abundant labour & capital**

- HK population ↑
  - to the pre-war levers
- 1946 (Chinese Civer War)
  - mainland Chinese fled to HK
    - brought
      - capital
      - skills
      - manpower

**↓** To

- stimulated the development of HK's manufacturing industries
- 1950
  - employed in manufacturing industries continued to ↑

#### Stable political environment

- After 1945
  - Cold War (1946-1991)
    - Europe
      - · spread to Asia

- Korean War (1950-1953)
- Vietnam War 越南戰爭 (1957-1975)
- HK
  - stable political environment
  - attractive place for foreign investment 外國投資

#### Tariffs concessions

- Ottawa Agreement (1932)
  - HK products enjoy tax concessions 稅收優惠 in Commonwealth countries
    - ↑ competitiveness 競爭力
- General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (1947)
  - promote international trade
    - provided a great opportunity 機會 for HK products → enter world market
      - stimulated HK's industrial development

#### Positive non-intervention policy

- HKG adopted a **positive non-intervention policy** 積極不干預政策
  - help maintain 維持 HK's free economy
    - to create a good investment environment
- From 1960
  - HKG set up semi-offical business & trade organizations 半官方商貿組織
    - provide different kinds of supply to industry
- encourage HK's industrial development 產業發展

### Development of manufacturing industry, 1950s-1970s

#### 1950s-1960s: labour-intensive industry

- Labour-intensive industries
  - less capital
  - more labour
  - · less machinery
  - major industries
    - textiles 紡織
      - textiles manufacturing was the starting industry of HK's industrial take off in 1950s
    - garments 成衣
    - plastic

#### 1970s and after: technology-intensive industry

- By 1970s, manufacturing industry started to grow at slower pace 速度較慢
  - face challenge from neighbouring regions
- Stepping in 踏入 1970
  - advanced technology were introduced 引進 HK
    - · new industries
      - electronics
      - toys
      - watched

HK's industrial production : labour-intensive → technology-intensive

### Favourite factors for developing into an international financial centre (by 1980)

Geographical location

- · situated in Southern China
  - regarded as gateway 門戶 to China
- centre for Asian region
- Favourable business and investment environment
  - · simple tax system
    - low taxes
  - sound legal system
  - absence of foreign exchange control 無外匯管制
- Time zone
  - between London & New York
    - stock market (London & New York) closed
      - investors 投資者 continue to trade in HK's trade market
- Support of mainland's policy
  - China adopt 'reform and opening-up' (1978)
    - mainland enterprises 公司 had come to HK → seek 尋找 investment opportunities 投資機會
    - ↓ Result
      - promoted development of local financial industry & other related industries

#### Development of financial industry, 1980s-1990s

- HK had modern banking system
  - many international financial organizations set up headquarters & branches
    - 1997, 500 financial institutions in HK
      - 82 from 100 largest banks
  - HK: well-developed stock market
  - Local & overseas companies for financing in HK

#### Social development

- HK population : (1950) 2 000 000 → 5 000 000 (1980)
  - demand for social services : ↑

#### **Housing development**

- 1948, Hong Kong Housing Society 房協 was founded
  - provide public housing
    - ↓ Problem
  - no enough
    - ↓ Solve
  - 1953, HKG built different types of public housing & revise housing policy
  - 1972, 'Ten-year Housing Programme' was announced

#### **Development of public housing in HK**

#### 1. Huts and boat houses (1950)

- HKG allowed wooden houses & boat houses in designated areas 指定區域
  - solve problem of housing shortage
  - living conditions : poor
  - · wooden houses: easy caught fire

#### 2. Resettlement blocks (1953-1954)

- 25/12 1953 : fire (Shek Kip Mei)
  - 58 000 people → homeless
    - HKG built 7-storey resettlement blocks in Kowloon

#### 3. Low-cost housing (1961)

- HKG: Low-cost Housing Programme
  - · provide low-cost housing for people on low incomes

#### 4. Ten-year Housing Programme (1972)

- Governor MacLehose announced Ten-year Housing Programme
- NT = New Territories
- provide public housing for 1 800 000 people in 10 years
  - went hand in hand 配合 with development of new towns in NT
    - public estates in Tsuen Wan, Sha Tin, Tuen
       Mun

#### 5. Home Ownership Scheme (1978)

- HKG built → sold apartment at discounted price
  - For: Lower-income families & better-off public housing tenants 較富裕的
     公屋租戶

#### 6. Home Purchase Loan Scheme (1988)

• help lower-and middle-income families to buy flats in private market

#### 7. Adjusting housing policy and strategy (1990)

- HKG set up new Housing Branch 房屋科
  - formulated 规划 policies & strategies 策略 about private/public housing
  - One objective
    - rational allocation 合理的分配 of public housing resources
- 1998, Tenants.Purchase Scheme 租者置其屋计划
  - allowed tenants 房客 in public estates → buy their flats → became flat owners

#### **Education development**

After WW II

- HKG built more school
- Introduce 引进 free & compulsory 强制 education for younger generation 年轻一代

WW II = Second World War

- Education level ↑
  - Promote economic development

#### 1950s-1960s: expanding primary education

- After WW II, many babies were born
  - Children reached school age (1950s)
    - HKG expanded primary education (1950, 1960)
    - HKG established 建立 more teacher-training colleges
      - meet 面对 rising demand for teachers

### 1970s: introducing compulsory education & providing techical training

- 1971, HKG: six-year free and compulsory primary education
  - 1978, extended to nine years
- manufacturing industry → technology-intensive
  - HKG set up technical school
    - 1973, Vocational Training Council set up
      - provide vocational training for young people

#### 1980s-1990s: expanding tertiary education

- 1980, HK developed into international financial centre
  - Raised demand for more high-educated new generation 更高学历新一代
    - · expanded tertiary education
    - Built more universities

#### Social welfare development

- Provided by voluntary organizations
  - Tung Wah Group of Hospital 东华三院
  - Po Leung Kuk 保良局
- 1948, Social Welfare Office 社会局 was set up
  - coordinate 协调 work of different social bodies
    - No provided social services
  - 1958, renamed Social Welfare Department 社会福利署
    - main provider of social services
      - Social security
      - Family
      - · Child welfare
      - rehabilitation 康復/復康
      - Services for elderly, young people, offenders 罪犯

## Effects of economic and social development

- · Improved people's living standard
- wages 工资 increased
- Education, housing, social welfare raised The general living standard 标准



