The gist

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97 apply for estate sites

THE first applicants who have been awarded leases in the Tai Po Industrial Estate will be able to start production in two years' time, said Mr. Wong Pak-kuen of the Hong Kong Industrial Estates Corporation, the papers reported, with Wah Kiu Yat Po using the news as an inside page lead.

In a Rotary Club luncheon meeting, Mr. Wong said that the corporation had received 97 applications for sites in the estate after the Phase One reclamation was completed.

Seventeen of them have been accepted. Six have withdrawn, and two are considering the lease while another five are under negotiation, and four of them have signed the contract.

The second phase of reclamation is now in progress. It is expected to be completed next year to provide 74 acres of land for industrial development, Mr. Wong said.