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# 9,000 factories to be cleared

ABOUT 9,000 squatter factories will be affected by the Government's clearance programme in the next five years, particularly

by  
**Tony Ngan**  
during the development of the New Territories.

A government spokesman said

yesterday that most of these factories ought to be able to find alternative premises either on government or private factory sites.

However, he said that a request had come from a very high government level for information on the true effects of moving squatter factories that cannot be moved to multi-storey factory buildings.

He said some factories were engaged in trades which because of the nature of their products or processes, were unacceptable for tenancy in government factory buildings.

Many were also unsuitable for private multi-storey buildings, he said.

The Census and Statistics Department will conduct a survey in June or July for the Government to find out if any special measures are needed to cope with the situation, the spokesman said.

The survey will find out the number of such factories, the effect of clearance on them and on industry generally, how many are vital to Hongkong's export industries and their relationship with major producers.

The spokesman pointed out that the Government recently said two industrial sites at Fotan in Shatin with heavier floor weight capacity and high ceilings in the completed factories.

They were bought by an industrialist in the silk-weaving industry, which is on the list of possible problem industries, he said.

Priority would be given to industries using special processes clearly advantageous to Hongkong's economy. High technology processes capable of broadening the industrial base or of exceptional export potential would be stressed, he said.

These would be eligible for land at the industrial estate in Taipo or at a second estate being built in Yuenlong, the spokesman said.