FACTS and FIGURES

OFFICIAL NAME: Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

NATIONALITY: Chinese/Hong Kong

CAPITAL: Victoria

GOVERNMENT: Limited Democracy

NATIONAL DAY: October 1

LAND AREA: 1,098 sqkm. *(smaller than Bataan)*

LOCATION: Situated on China's south coast

TERRAIN: Mostly hilly but there are parts which are flat especially the Hong Kong Island and the Kowloon peninsula, which are reclaimed.

CLIMATE: Sub-tropical, tending towards temperate for nearly half the year. July to September is month of tropical cyclones, although gales are not unusual at any time between May and November.

NATURAL HAZARDS: Tropical cyclones, Landslides

POPULATION: 7.7 Million (July 2011 est.)

PEOPLE: Southeast Asians, South Asians, White Europeans, Americans, Canadians, Australians, Japanese, Korean

LANGUAGES: English, Chinese but preferably Cantonese

RELIGION: Ancestor Worship, Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism

WORKING WEEK: Offices: Monday-Friday: 9AM -5/6PM; Saturday: 9AM until 1PM.

CURRENCY: Hong Kong Dollar (HKD), Exchange Rate: 1 HKD = 5.455100 PHP *(as of August 31, 2011)*

COUNTRY DIALING CODE: +852

INTERNET COUNTRY CODE: .hk

TIME DIFFERENCE: same with the Philippines

REMINDERS: Living in HONG KONG

Respect Chinese traditions, customs, practices and strictly observe their laws and regulations.

Greet when you meet someone.

When you go to any party or invitation, you must wait for your seat to be allocated.

Take a gift along with you for the host and hostess. It can be food item or any souvenir.

Wear conservative clothes in order to maintain decorum and sobriety.

You should be polite in your manners.

Leave some food in your plate and wipe your hands using the towel provided.

Keep your valuable belongings in a secured place like the hotel safe.

If you are on a business meeting, exchange your business cards using both your hands.

Common Problems

1. Contract Violations
2. Non-payment of claims
3. Maltreatment and abuses
4. Poor working condition
5. Medical Cases (Hospital Assistance)
6. Rape and Sexual Molestation
7. Overstaying
8. Excessive Placement Fees

Mga impormasyon ukol sa bansang pupuntahan na dapat mong malaman.

1. Kultura, kaugalian, relihiyon, tradisyon at wika.
2. Batas ng bansa na may kinalaman sa OFWs.
3. Mapa at pangunahing mga lugar.
4. Klima o mga panahon at mga pagbabago sa buhay dahil sa panahon. Pagbabago ng uri ng damit, gamit at mga gawain.
5. Lugar na tutuluyan, address at telepono
6. Mga pagkain at mga di-kinakain.
7. Mga samahan at ahensya na maaaring makatulong sa OFW.

DON'Ts: Living in HONG KONG

Do not forget to carry your passport and keep it with you.

Do not forget to respond when you are greeted by someone.

Do not reveal your anger or temper in public places.

In case of any invitation or appointment, try not to be late at all.

Do not commence your dinner until you are indicated to do so and do not hold your chopsticks upright, as it is considered unlucky.

Do not put on garments exposing too much skin.

Do not express any bad comments regarding someone or something.

Stay away from political and religious arguments.

Do not deal with loan sharks. Do not pawn your passport.

Do not use your passport as collateral for loan.

Taking double jobs is not allowed.

Do not take snapshots of airport, certain religious and public buildings.

Do not bring any kind of addictive and harmful drug materials to the city.

Do not bring the following in HK:

1. Drugs like opium, morphine, heroin, cocaine, cannabis, methadone, psychotropic drugs like stimulants, Amphetamine, Ecstasy, Benzodiazepine, Antibiotics like penicillin, tetracycline, corticosteroid, etc.
2. Chemicals like Acetic Anhydride, ephedrine.
3. Arms and weapons, grenades, firecrackers, and other explosive items
4. Animals and plants
5. Endangered species
6. Diamonds
7. Meat like pork, chicken
8. Cigarette products

Reminder: Your passport is your personal property. It is illegal for your employer to keep it.