Summary

In the last decade, Singapore has concentrated on the development of industrial sector in order to solve the problem of unemployment and to speed up the economic growth. Under this scheme, several areas have been located as the sites for industrial activities, in which the most vigorous attempt is the development of Jurong.

Jurong, once a swampy and most undeveloped region in Singapore, which after decade of progress, has become an important industrial estate. The industrial structure and organisation has been changed toward complexity because of the rapid expansion of industrial growth. In 1963, there are only two industry groups established in Jurong and in 1970 it increased to fifteen. There are also rapid growth rates in employment, capital, output and sales etc. At present (31th Dec. 1970) there are 271 factories in production and nearly 30,000 workers employed. Although small and medium size establishments still remain as the main portion in the industry of Jurong, the emergence of large scale firms with capital intensive has increased its importance in recent years. In order to complete the Jurong project successfully, the tactics mainly emphasize on absorbing capital especially foreign capital and the use of modern machines to substitute the tradition, low productivity industries. This is also the schedule of industrialization of Singapore.

One of the dilemma in Singapore industrialization is the choice between labour intensive and capital intensive. The former, solved the problem of unemployment but hardly stimulate the growth of economics, and the latter, using less workers but speed up economic development. In the case of Jurong, the industrial development has, in a great extent, emphasizing capital intensive. The attraction of both foreign and local investments to this industrial estates has been a part of the schedule in order to step forward to economic growth.