



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MAJOR CHANGES IN GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE APPROVED

MAJOR CHANGES TO THE STRUCTURE OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT AND THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT HAVE BEEN APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE BY THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL.

THE CHANGES WILL TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE DEVELOPING REQUIREMENTS IN THE FIELD OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ENVIRONMENT BRANCH AND PWD.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT THE RESTRUCTURING WOULD INVOLVE:

- * CREATION OF A LANDS AND WORKS BRANCH=
- * CREATION OF A TRANSPORT BRANCH=
- * CREATION OF A LANDS DEPARTMENT=
- * SPLITTING UP THE PWD INTO FIVE INDEPENDENT DEPARTMENTS.

THE MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ENVIRONMENT BRANCH WOULD BE DISTRIBUTED BETWEEN THE NEW SECRETARIAT BRANCHES, AND THE ENVIRONMENT BRANCH WOULD LAPSE.

+IN VIEW OF THE PACE AND COMPLEXITY OF DEVELOPMENT IN HONG KONG AND THE CONSIDERABLE RESOURCES INVOLVED, THE GOVERNMENT WISHES TO STRENGTHEN THE ORGANISATION OF COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING, PROGRAMMING AND CO-ORDINATION OF LAND AND TRANSPORT MATTERS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE RESTRUCTURING EXERCISE WAS SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND THAT SOME OF THE PERSONNEL CHANGES WOULD REQUIRE THE APPROVAL OF THE PUBLIC SERVICES COMMISSION.

HE ADDED THAT BEFORE THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS COULD BE IMPLEMENTED, THE DETAILED ORGANISATIONAL AND STAFFING REQUIREMENTS WOULD HAVE TO BE WORKED OUT. IN CONCLUSION, HE SAID THE HEUNG YEE KUK WOULD AS USUAL BE FULLY CONSULTED ON ASPECTS OF LAND ADMINISTRATION CONCERNING THE NEW TERRITORIES.

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HK PLAYS LEADING ROLE IN AVIATION

HONG KONG IS PLAYING A LEADING ROLE IN CIVIL AVIATION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AND THE EFFICIENCY OF HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IS GENERALLY ACCLAIMED BY AIRPORT OPERATORS OF THE REGION.

ENQUIRIES FROM AVIATION AUTHORITIES OVERSEAS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED ALL YEAR ROUND CONCERNING VARIOUS ASPECTS OF OPERATION OF HONG KONG AIRPORT INCLUDING AIRPORT ECONOMY AND CHARGES, TERMINAL AND APRON FACILITIES, PUBLIC AND FLIGHT INFORMATION SERVICES, AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL FACILITIES AND OTHERS OF AVIATION INTERESTS.

AIRPORT OPERATORS AND PLANNERS IN THE REGION HAVE ALSO BEEN SENDING REPRESENTATIVES HERE TO MAKE ON-THE-SPOT STUDIES OF THE OPERATION OF HONG KONG AIRPORT WITH A VIEW TO BRINGING HOME PRACTICAL KNOWLEDGE TO ENHANCE THE EFFICIENCY OF THEIR OWN AIRPORTS.

TWO SUCH DELEGATIONS WILL BE COMING TO HONG KONG LATER THIS MONTH.

ARRIVING ON APRIL 22 WILL BE A THAI DELEGATION COMPRISING THREE SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS REPRESENTING THE AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF THAILAND. IN ADDITION TO TAKING A CLOSE LOOK AT THE AIRPORT FACILITIES, IN AND OUT OF THE PASSENGER TERMINAL, THEY WILL ALSO STUDY THE AIRPORT'S FLIGHT PROCEDURES, CHARGES COLLECTION, PUBLIC INFORMATION SERVICES, FLIGHT INFORMATION FACILITIES AND THE DAY TO DAY OPERATION OF THE TERMINAL BUILDING.

ANOTHER PARTY, COMPRISING TWO MANAGEMENT STAFF OF THE KOREAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY, WILL ARRIVE ON APRIL 23. THEIR PURPOSE HERE IS TO OBSERVE THE OPERATION OF THE AIRPORT AND TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON CIVIL AVIATION MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST AS WELL AS TO FOSTER A GOOD RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE AVIATION AUTHORITIES IN THE TWO PLACES.

EARLIER, THE AIRPORT MANAGEMENT RECEIVED A MALAYSIAN DELEGATION CONSISTING OF HIGH OFFICIALS FROM BAHTIAR BUYONG AIRPORT AND A GROUP OF AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL OFFICIALS FROM BANGKOK.

HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IS CURRENTLY HANDLING OVER 19 000 PASSENGERS, ABOUT 720 TONNES OF AIR CARGO AND OVER 140 FLIGHTS A DAY, WHICH MAKE IT ONE OF THE BUSIEST AIRPORTS IN THE REGION.

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LAND GRANT FOR \$18 M, MULTI-SERVICE COMMUNITY CENTRE
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THE GOVERNMENT HAS GRANTED A 2 600-SQUARE METRE SITE IN HO MAN TIN, KOWLOON, TO THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-HONG KONG SYNOD FOR BUILDING AN \$18 MILLION MULTI-SERVICE COMMUNITY CENTRE.

THE PROJECT HAS BEEN PLANNED IN CONSULTATION WITH THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, AND ON COMPLETION, WILL PROVIDE MUCH-NEEDED SERVICES FOR THE YOUNG, THE ELDERLY AND THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED.

THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR SELWYN ALLEYNE, THIS (SATURDAY) MORNING OFFICIALLY OPENED A GRAND BAZAAR AND FUN FAIR ORGANISED BY THE SYNOD IN A TAI HANG TUNG SCHOOL TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE PROJECT.

ADDRESSING THE GATHERING, MR ALLEYNE PAID TRIBUTE TO MEMBERS OF THE SYNOD FOR THEIR UNTIRING EFFORTS IN PROMOTING WELFARE SERVICES AND, IN PARTICULAR, FOR THEIR COMMUNITY CENTRE PROJECT.

THE PIECE OF CROWN LAND, AT THE JUNCTION OF CHUNG HAU STREET AND SHEPHERD STREET, WAS GRANTED BY THE GOVERNMENT IN JANUARY THIS YEAR.

THE COMMUNITY CENTRE WILL SERVE AS A FOCAL POINT FOR GROUP AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES FOR THE RESIDENTS OF HO MAN TIN.

/IT WILL

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IT WILL HOUSE A NURSERY, A SOCIAL AND DAY CARE CENTRE FOR THE ELDERLY, A SOCIAL CENTRE FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED, AS WELL AS FAMILY COUNSELLING AND SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK UNITS.

MR ALLEYNE DESCRIBED THE PROJECT AS +AMBITIOUS AND WORTHWHILE+ AND HE FELT CONFIDENT THE SYNOD WOULD SUCCEED IN SOLICITING THE ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT OF THE COMMUNITY TO MAKE THE PROJECT A REALITY.

INDEED, HE SAID, THE SYNOD HAS A LONG HISTORY OF PROVIDING WELFARE SERVICES FOR PEOPLE OF HONG KONG.

HE NOTED THAT SERVICES NOW OPERATED BY THE SYNOD, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF GOVERNMENT SUBVENTION, INCLUDED TWO CENTRES OFFERING ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH, A CENTRE FOR THE BLIND, THREE SOCIAL CENTRES FOR THE ELDERLY AND A SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK UNIT.

THE NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE IN HO MAN TIN WILL BE NAMED THE MARTHA BOSS COMMUNITY CENTRE.

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TEACHERS UPDATE KNOWLEDGE DURING EASTER * * * *

RESPONSIBLE TEACHERS OFTEN DEVOTE THEIR HOLIDAYS TO UPDATING THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND THUS PROVIDE A BETTER SERVICE FOR CHILDREN IN SCHOOLS, MR COLVYN HAYE, DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE EDUCATION INTERFLOW WEEK AND COMMENDING THE PARTICIPANTS WHO WOULD BE SPENDING THEIR EASTER HOLIDAYS ATTENDING SEMINARS AND TALKS.

THE EDUCATION INTERFLOW WEEK IS ONE IN A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES ORGANISED TO MARK THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION.

NOTING THE BUSY PROGRAMME THAT HAS BEEN ARRANGED FOR THE WEEK, MR HAYE DREW PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT THE PLANNERS OF EDUCATION INTERFLOW WEEK HAD ORGANISED ACTIVITIES IN THE AREAS OF PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION, AND THE TEACHING OF THE SPECIALISMS ON THE FIRST DAY BECAUSE GRANTHAM COLLEGE WAS OFFERING ART AND DESIGN AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION AT THE ADVANCED COURSE OF TEACHER EDUCATION LEVEL, AND A NEW KINDERGARTEN TEACHER COURSE STARTING THIS SEPTEMBER.

+IT IS PARTICULARLY AUSPICIOUS THAT THIS IS HAPPENING AT GRANTHAM WHICH IS CELEBRATING ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR+, HE SAID.

ALTHOUGH A GREAT VARIETY OF TALKS, DEMONSTRATION LESSONS AND ACTIVITIES HAD BEEN ARRANGED TO MAKE INTERFLOW WEEK AS LIVELY AND AS STIMULATING AS POSSIBLE FOR PARTICIPANTS, THE DIRECTOR FELT THAT HE SHOULD DRAW ATTENTION TO HIS UNDERLYING CONCERN THAT THE '80S OFFER A PARTICULAR CHALLENGE TO TEACHERS TO MAKE THE CLASSROOM AS ENTERTAINING A PLACE AS POSSIBLE FOR THE CHILDREN OF HONG KONG.

/MUCH HAD

MUCH HAD BEEN SAID RECENTLY ABOUT THE MANNER IN WHICH COMPULSORY EDUCATION HAD POSSIBLY TAKEN SOME OF THE COMPETITIVE SPIRIT OUT OF EDUCATION AND CONSEQUENTLY CONTRIBUTED TO BOREDOM IN SCHOOL.

SOME HAD EVEN GONE SO FAR AS TO SEE A DIRECT LINK BETWEEN COMPULSORY EDUCATION AND REPORTS OF RISING JUVENILE DELINQUENCY. AND RELIGIOUS LEADERS AND OTHERS WERE INCREASINGLY CONCERNED WITH THE APPARENT COLLAPSE OF MORAL STANDARDS AND THE NEED TO PROMOTE MORAL EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS.

+WHERE DO TEACHERS STAND IN ALL THIS GLOOM AND DOOM?+ MR HAYE ASKED.

THE TEACHER HAS A CARDINAL ROLE TO PLAY IN COMBATTING BOREDOM, IN PROMOTING INTELLIGENT AND RESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOUR, AND IN INCULCATING A MORAL SENSE OF VALUES IN CHILDREN, HE SAID.

EDUCATION INTERFLOW WEEK WAS YET ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF HOW RESPONSIBLE PROFESSIONALS GATHERED TO EXCHANGE IDEAS, TO SHARE EXPERIENCES AND TO RETURN ENRICHED TO THEIR REWARDING TASK IN EDUCATION, THE DIRECTOR CONCLUDED.

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SAFETY OF WORK AT HEIGHTS * * * *

WORKING AT HEIGHTS - WHETHER ON A SCAFFOLD, PLATFORM OR IN A BOSWAIN'S CHAIR - COULD PROVE FATAL IF NO ADEQUATE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS ARE TAKEN.

THEREFORE BOTH BUILDING CONTRACTORS AND WORKERS AT CONSTRUCTION SITES SHOULD STRICTLY OBSERVE ALL SAFETY RULES AND REGULATIONS LAID DOWN IN THE CONSTRUCTION SITES (SAFETY) REGULATIONS, 1978, SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE FACTORY INSPECTORATE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (SATURDAY).

THE PLEA WAS PROMPTED BY A NUMBER OF RECENT FATAL ACCIDENTS IN WHICH WORKERS FELL FROM HEIGHTS AT CONSTRUCTION SITES.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE REGULATIONS REQUIRE EVERY WORKING PLATFORM BE SECURELY FENCED TO A HEIGHT OF NOT LESS THAN THREE FEET IF A WORKER MAY FALL SIX FEET SIX INCHES OR MORE.

AND THE SAME PROVISION APPLIES TO EVERY OPENING IN THE FLOORS AND EVERY OTHER DANGEROUS PLACE.

WHERE WORKS ON BAMBOO SCAFFOLDS AND PLATFORMS ARE CARRIED OUT, THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED, THE CODE OF SAFE PRACTICES JOINTLY PREPARED BY THE INSPECTORATE AND THE BUILDING CONTRACTORS' ASSOCIATION SHOULD BE OBSERVED.

THE CODE RECOMMENDS THAT ERECTION, ALTERATION OR DISMANTLING OF A SCAFFOLD SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT BY A COMPETENT PERSON OR PERSONS AND ALL SCAFFOLDS SHOULD BE PROPERLY MAINTAINED AND INSPECTED BY THESE PERSONS AND A RECORD OF SUCH INSPECTION SHOULD BE KEPT.

/WHERE WORKERS

WHERE WORKERS ARE WORKING ON OR FROM A DOUBLE-ROW SCAFFOLD, SCAFFOLD PLATFORMS SHOULD BE PROVIDED.

THE SPOKESMAN URGED BUILDING CONTRACTORS TO PAY MORE ATTENTION TO THE STRUCTURE OF A SCAFFOLD PLATFORM.

THE CODE FURTHER RECOMMENDS THAT A SCAFFOLD PLATFORM SHOULD BE OF SOUND MATERIAL, ADEQUATE STRENGTH AND FREE FROM PATENT DEFECT AND BE AT LEAST 15 IN. (400 MM) IN WIDTH AND 1 IN. (25 MM) IN THICKNESS.

IN CASE OF A PLYWOOD PLATFORM, THE PLYWOOD SHOULD BE A SINGLE BOARD OF NOT LESS THAN 15 IN. (400 MM) IN WIDTH AND NOT LESS THAN 3/4 IN. (18 MM) THICK.

IN ADDITION, THE CODE RECOMMENDS THAT A SCAFFOLD PLATFORM SHOULD BE SECURELY PLACED IN POSITION AND, WHERE PRACTICABLE, SHOULD BE SECURELY FENCED ON ALL SIDES (EXCEPT THE INNER SIDE) FROM WHICH A PERSON MAY FALL SIX FEET SIX INCHES OR MORE.

WHERE IT IS NOT PRACTICABLE TO PROVIDE A WORKING PLATFORM AND A PERSON MAY FALL SIX FEET SIX INCHES OR MORE, HE SHOULD WEAR A SAFETY BELT SECURED TO AN ANCHORAGE OR AN INDEPENDENT LIFT LINE.

SAFETY BELTS SHOULD BE READILY ACCESSIBLE FOR USE BY SITE WORKERS AND BUILDING CONTRACTORS SHOULD TAKE ALL REASONABLE STEPS TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO USE THE BELTS.

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ANTI-TB CAMPAIGN TO BE LAUNCHED NEXT WEEK

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THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT WILL BEGIN A MASSIVE ANTI-TUBERCULOSIS CAMPAIGN NEXT WEEK IN AN EFFORT TO BRING DOWN THE INCIDENCE OF THIS INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN HONG KONG.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE CAMPAIGN AIMS AT BRINGING HOME THE MESSAGE THAT PEOPLE, PARTICULARLY MEN OVER 40 OF AGE, COUGHING PERSISTENTLY FOR MORE THAN A MONTH SHOULD GO TO A GOVERNMENT CHEST CLINIC FOR A FREE X-RAY.

+APPROPRIATE TREATMENT AT AN EARLY STAGE OF INFECTION IS MOST ESSENTIAL IN COMBATting THE DISEASE,+ HE SAID.

DURING THE CAMPAIGN POSTERS WILL BE DISPLAYED AT PUBLIC PLACES AND RADIO ANNOUNCEMENTS AND TELEVISION CLIPS WILL BE BROADCAST REGULARLY.

UNTIL RECENT YEARS, TB HAD BEEN ONE OF THE TOP KILLER DISEASES IN HONG KONG. SINCE 1969, THE INCIDENCE OF TUBERCULOSIS HAD BEEN GOING DOWN. THE NOTIFICATION RATE OF 286.5 PER 100 000 POPULATION IN 1969 DROPPED TO 143.8 IN 1978.

IN 1980, IT CLAIMED 551 LIVES, OR TWO PER CENT OF ALL DEATHS. +THIS IS AN IMPROVEMENT WHEN COMPARED WITH THE 1 470 DEATHS FROM TB, OR 7.8 PER CENT, IN 1969,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HOWEVER, THE TREND REVERTED UPWARD IN 1979 TO REACH A RATE OF 161.4, WHICH DROPPED SLIGHTLY LAST YEAR TO 159.

THE INCREASE, SAID THE SPOKESMAN, WAS PARTLY DUE TO THE LARGE INFLUX OF IMMIGRANTS DURING THE PAST FEW YEARS.

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IT WAS ESTIMATED THAT ABOUT 4 000 CASES OF TB NOTIFICATIONS
CAME FROM THE IMMIGRANTS IN THE LAST TWO YEARS, HE SAID.

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SCHOOLS OPEN SPORT FACILITIES TO PUBLIC
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THE RECREATION AND SPORTS SERVICE (RSS) IS TO HOLD A
FUN-FOR-ALL DAY AT TWO TSUEN WAN SCHOOLS TOMORROW (SUNDAY).

THE OCCASION IS TO MARK THE OPENING OF THE SCHOOLS AS
INTERIM SPORTS CENTRES UNTIL A NEW CENTRE IS READY IN TSUEN WAN BY
EARLY AUGUST.

FROM MONDAY, THE HO CHUEN YIU MEMORIAL COLLEGE IN SHEK
WAI KOK ESTATE WILL BE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC FOR RECREATIONAL
PURPOSES FROM 5.30 PM TO 9 PM EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY
AND FROM 9 AM TO 9 PM ON SUNDAY.

THE PO ON COMMERCIAL ASSOCIATION WONG SIU CHING SECONDARY
SCHOOL NEAR TSUEN WAN FERRY PIER WILL OPEN AT THE SAME HOURS ON
TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS, SATURDAYS AND ALSO FOR THE WHOLE DAY ON
SUNDAYS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE RSS SAID MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE
WELCOME TO USE THE SPORTING FACILITIES PROVIDED IN THE TWO SCHOOLS.

ACTIVITIES SUCH AS FENCING, DANCING, ARCHERY, BADMINTON AND
TABLE TENNIS ARE AVAILABLE. STAFF OF THE RSS WILL BE PRESENT
TO SUPERVISE AND HELP ORGANISE ACTIVITIES AND TRAINING COURSES.

REPROVISIONING OF THE NEW CENTRE IS NOW BEING CARRIED OUT.
IT IS LOCATED ON A 750-SQUARE-METRE SITE NEXT TO THE LADY GRANTHAM
HEALTH CLINIC IN CASTLE PEAK ROAD. IT REPLACES THE CHAI WAN
KOK TEMPORARY SPORTS CENTRE WHICH WAS CLOSED AT THE END OF LAST
MONTH.

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NEW SITE TO BE FORMED IN SHA TIN
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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT HAS INVITED TENDERS FOR THE SITE
FORMATION, ROADS AND DRAINAGE WORK IN THE AREA TO THE SOUTH OF
THE RAILWAY LINE BETWEEN BEACON HILL TUNNEL AND THE VILLAGE OF
TIN SAM, AT THE SOUTH-WESTERN END OF SHA TIN NEW TOWN.

THE CONTRACT INVOLVES THE FORMATION OF ABOUT 10 HECTARES OF
LAND FOR INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL USE, AS WELL AS OPEN SPACE.

A 1.3-KILOMETRE-LONG ROAD WILL BE BUILT TO LINK THE
SOUTH-WESTERN PART OF THE TOWN WITH THE NEARBY LION ROCK TUNNEL
ROAD. INTERNAL ROADS AND DRAINS WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED IN THE
INDUSTRIAL AREA ALONG WITH A PEDESTRIAN SUBWAY UNDER THE
KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY EMBANKMENT.

THIS UNDERGROUND WALKWAY WILL JOIN UP THE INDUSTRIAL AND
RESIDENTIAL AREAS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE RAILWAY LINE AT TAI WAI.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN JULY AND TAKE ABOUT 21 MONTHS
TO COMPLETE.

MAUNSELL CONSULTANTS ASIA, CONSULTING ENGINEERS TO THE NEW
TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF THE PUBLIC WORKS
DEPARTMENT, DESIGNED THE WORK AND WILL SUPERVISE ITS CONSTRUCTION.