



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SATURDAY, MAY 13, 1978

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
REPORT ON QUARTERLY BUSINESS SURVEY .....	1
KEENER DEMAND FOR GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS .....	2
BIOLOGY TEACHERS URGED TO STIMULATE THINKING .....	4
FREEDOM FOR SEA TURTLE .....	5
COURSE ON JAZZ DANCE FOR STUDENTS .....	6
PHOTOGRAPHS OF DEPARTMENT HEADS .....	6

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SATURDAY, MAY 13, 1978

- 1 -

REPORT ON QUARTERLY BUSINESS SURVEY  
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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT HAS COMPILED A REPORT ON A QUARTERLY BUSINESS SURVEY HELD IN APRIL THIS YEAR — THE FIFTH OF A SERIES OF QUARTERLY SURVEYS.

IN THE SURVEY ABOUT 700 FIRMS FROM VARIOUS INDUSTRIES, FORMING A CROSS-SECTION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY, WERE ASKED ABOUT THEIR BUSINESS EXPERIENCE IN THE FIRST QUARTER THIS YEAR AND THEIR BUSINESS EXPECTATIONS IN THE SECOND QUARTER.

THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY SUGGESTED THAT THE MANUFACTURING DIVISION, WHICH EXPERIENCED ITS USUAL LOW FIRST QUARTER, WAS EXPECTING A CONSIDERABLE UPTURN IN BUSINESS IN THE SECOND QUARTER.

'ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPLIANCES AND SUPPLIES' AND 'FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS' ARE THE TWO MOST ENCOURAGING SECTORS WHICH REPORTED GOOD FIRST QUARTER PERFORMANCE AND LOOKED FORWARD TO GOOD PROSPECTS IN THE SECOND QUARTER.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE WATCHES AND CLOCKS INDUSTRY EXPERIENCED SOME SLOW-DOWN IN BUSINESS AFTER GOOD PERFORMANCE IN 1977 AND HAD RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE IMMEDIATE PROSPECTS IN THE SECOND QUARTER.

FOR NON-MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR, WHICH REPORTED REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENTS IN ALL FOUR PREVIOUS SURVEYS, EXPECTED ITS UPTREND TO CONTINUE.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE AND RESTAURANTS REPORTED A SATISFACTORY FIRST QUARTER, BETTER THAN ORIGINALLY EXPECTED, BUT DUE TO SEASONAL EFFECT, A SLOW-DOWN IN THE SECOND QUARTER PERFORMANCE IS PREDICTED.

HOTELS AND OTHER SERVICES WERE CONFIDENT OF A CONTINUATION IN THEIR STRONG UPTREND IN BUSINESS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT SAID THE DATA, OBTAINED WITH A MINIMUM TIME LAG, WERE BASICALLY INTENDED TO FACILITATE A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF THE CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION OF HONG KONG.

+APART FROM A LIMITED NUMBER OF QUESTIONS REQUIRING ANSWERS IN QUANTITATIVE TERMS, THE FIRMS WERE ASKED TO COMPARE THE QUARTER JUST PAST WITH THE PREVIOUS QUARTER AND SIMILARLY WITH THE FORTHCOMING ONE,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+THEY ONLY HAD TO INDICATE WHETHER, IN THEIR OPINION, A CERTAIN VARIABLE WAS UP, SAME OR DOWN,+ HE ADDED.

/THE SPOKESMAN .....

SATURDAY, MAY 13, 1978

- 2 -

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT IN A SURVEY OF THIS NATURE, CONSIDERABLE RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE IN THE INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS, AS IT WAS DIFFICULT TO ESTABLISH THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE RESPONDENTS' PERCEPTION OF THE PAST AND THE FUTURE ACCORDS WITH THE UNDERLYING TRENDS, AND THE SURVEY RESULTS ARE PROBABLY AFFECTED CONSIDERABLY BY SEASONALITY.

COPIES OF THE REPORT, CONTAINING AN ANALYSIS AND STATISTICAL TABLES ON VARIOUS ECONOMIC VARIABLES, HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED TO FIRMS TAKING PART IN THE SURVEY AND OTHER BUSINESS ORGANISATIONS.

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#### KEENER DEMAND FOR GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

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A KEENER DEMAND IS DEVELOPING FOR OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS WHICH CONVEY INFORMATION ON A WIDE RANGE OF SUBJECT MATTERS.

THIS IS INDICATED BY THE INCREASE IN THE SALES OF GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS IN LAST FINANCIAL YEAR 1977-78, FOR WHICH REVENUE TOTALLED MORE THAN \$5 MILLION -- AN 11 PER CENT INCREASE OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID: +THE PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE RANGE FROM TRADE STATISTICS AND GOVERNMENT ORDINANCES TO WELL-PRESENTED COLOUR BOOKLETS ON NEW TOWNS AND LEAFLETS ON COUNTRY PARKS.+

+TO BALANCE THE HEAVY READING THAT MANY GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS REQUIRE WE HAVE ALSO INTRODUCED NEW BOOKS OF A MORE GENERAL INTEREST NATURE WHICH EXTEND PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE ON FEATURES OF HONG KONG THAT HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED WIDE COVERAGE,+ HE ADDED.

THESE BOOKS ARE BEING PUBLISHED IN A SERIES UNDER THE TITLE +THIS IS HONG KONG+ FOR WHICH A STANDARDISED FORMAT, USING ILLUSTRATIONS IN FULL COLOUR, HAS BEEN DEVISED. TWO BOOKS IN THIS SERIES ARE SO FAR AVAILABLE -- ONE ON HONG KONG TEMPLES AND THE OTHER ON THE HISTORY OF GOVERNMENT HOUSE. THEY ARE SELLING WELL.

A THIRD BOOK ON HONG KONG BUTTERFLIES, AIMED AT THE NON-SPECIALIST READERS, IS NOW BEING PREPARED AND WILL BE PUBLISHED LATER THIS YEAR.

SEVERAL OTHER SUBJECTS ARE NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR INCLUSION IN PUBLICATION IN THIS SERIES. THE USE OF A STANDARD FORMAT IS INTENDED TO ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO START A COLLECTION WHICH CAN BE ADDED TO AS NEW TITLES ARE PUBLISHED.

/+AT THE SAME .....

SATURDAY, MAY 13, 1978

- 3 -

+AT THE SAME TIME WE ARE NOT NEGLECTING OUR MAIN OBJECTIVE TO PRODUCE PUBLICATIONS WHICH DISSEMINATE INFORMATION ABOUT THE WORK OF THE GOVERNMENT AND ITS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES,+ THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED.

+THE HONG KONG YEAR BOOK, WHICH PUTS ON RECORD THE ADVANCES BEING MADE ON MANY DIFFERENT FRONTS, CONTINUES TO BE OUR MAJOR PUBLICATION, AND DEMAND FOR IT, ESPECIALLY THE CHINESE EDITION, IS RISING YEAR BY YEAR.

+SALES OF THE CURRENT EDITION, +HONG KONG 1978+, ARE EXPECTED TO REACH A RECORD TOTAL OF AROUND 40,000 COPIES BY THE END OF THE YEAR.+

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE OPENING OF A NEW GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, WHERE MODERN BOOKSHOP FACILITIES ARE PROVIDED, HAS STIMULATED DEMAND FOR GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS. THE CENTRE IS ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE NEW POST OFFICE BUILDING IN CONNAUGHT PLACE.

HE SAID: +WITH DEMAND CONTINUING TO RISE, CONSIDERATION IS NOW BEING GIVEN TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PUBLICATIONS CENTRE IN KOWLOON. HOWEVER, THIS WILL DEPEND ON WHETHER FUNDS CAN BE SPARED, BEARING IN MIND THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS MANY OTHER PRIORITIES TO CONSIDER.+

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SATURDAY, MAY 13, 1978

- 4 -

BIOLOGY TEACHERS URGED TO STIMULATE THINKING

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THE DEPUTY CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS, MRS. LOUISE MOK, TODAY ENCOURAGED BIOLOGY TEACHERS TO ASK QUESTIONS BEGINNING WITH '+WHY+' AND '+HOW+' TO STIMULATE CRITICAL THINKING.

MRS. MOK WAS SPEAKING AT A SEMINAR AND WORKSHOP ON THE NEW FORM 4 TO 5 BIOLOGY SYLLABUS HELD AT NORTHCOTE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION.

+IF PUPILS ONLY ACQUIRE THEIR KNOWLEDGE FROM BOOKS WITHOUT ACTUAL OBSERVATION, EXPERIMENTATION AND CRITICAL THINKING, THEY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS BEGINNING WITH 'WHY' AND 'HOW',+ MRS. MOK SAID.

+IN ADDITION TO THE PROVISION OF BIOLOGY CONCEPTS FOR OUR PUPILS, BIOLOGY TEACHERS TODAY HAVE TO MAKE THEIR PUPILS UNDERSTAND THE STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONS OF LIVING ORGANISMS AND THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LIFE AND THE ENVIRONMENT.

+TEACHERS ALSO MUST HELP PUPILS UNDERSTAND THE APPLICATION OF BIOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL AND IN THIS CHANGING SOCIETY.

+BIOLOGY EDUCATION HAS TO NURTURE PUPILS' ABILITY TO MAKE ACCURATE OBSERVATION, TO THINK CRITICALLY AND SOLVE PROBLEMS IN A SCIENTIFIC WAY.

+TO ACHIEVE THESE AIMS, BIOLOGY TEACHERS SHOULD USE THE ENQUIRY APPROACH IN THEIR TEACHING AND PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUPILS TO DO EXPERIMENTS, TO MAKE ACCURATE OBSERVATIONS, TO DISCUSS THEIR EXPERIMENTS AND TO DRAW THEIR OWN CONCLUSIONS.+

MRS. MOK ALSO EMPHASISED THE IMPORTANCE OF MAKING USE OF LOCAL HABITAT AND SITES FOR THE TEACHING OF BIOLOGY.

+OCEAN PARK, THE BOTANICAL AND ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, COUNTRY PARKS AND NATURE TRAILS ARE VERY SUITABLE SITES FOR FIELD STUDIES,+ SHE SAID.

+FIELD TRIPS WERE ALSO IMPORTANT IN DEVELOPING IN PUPILS A CORRECT ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE CONSERVATION OF OUR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT.+

THE SEMINAR AND WORKSHOP WAS ATTENDED BY 200 BIOLOGY TEACHERS.

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SATURDAY, MAY 13, 1978

- 5 -

FREEDOM FOR TURTLE

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A LARGE SEA TURTLE, WEIGHING MORE THAN 300 LBS, WAS RELEASED BY OFFICERS OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT IN MIRS BAY YESTERDAY (FRIDAY).

THE TURTLE, A LOGGERHEAD, WAS SEIZED BY OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT IN TAN LUNG CHAU MARKET ON MARCH 22 IN CONTRAVENTION OF THE ANIMALS AND PLANTS (PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES) ORDINANCE.

THE TURTLE WAS TAKEN FROM A HOLDING CENTRE ON DOUBLE ISLAND AND RELEASED ABOUT 20 KILOMETRES SOUTH IN MIRS BAY. WITH A SWIFT FLIP OF ITS FLIPPERS IT DIVED BELOW THE SURFACE TO FREEDOM.

MARINE BIOLOGISTS BELIEVED THE TURTLE WAS ABOUT 30 YEARS OLD AND POSSIBLY CAME FROM BREEDING GROUNDS IN EASTERN AUSTRALIA.

ACCORDING TO A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN, THE SEA TURTLES, OF WHICH THERE ARE SEVEN SPECIES, ARE IN DANGER OF BECOMING EXTINCT.

+ALTHOUGH A TURTLE MAY LAY MORE THAN A THOUSAND EGGS IN A BREEDING SEASON, THIS DOES NOT OCCUR EVERY YEAR. AND YOUNG TURTLES SUFFER GREATLY FROM PREDATION BY MAMMALS, BIRDS, FISH, CRABS AND MAN. SOME LARGE TURTLES DISCOVERED RECENTLY HAVE BEEN BADLY INJURED BY SHARK BITES,+ HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT WHAT WAS COMMONLY KNOWN IN LUXURIOUS ITEMS AS TORTOISE SHELL, IN FACT CAME FROM THE LOGGERHEAD TURTLE. THE SAME TURTLE WAS POPULAR FOR TURTLE SOUP ... A DELICACY IN RESTAURANTS.

THE TURTLES WERE FIRST PROTECTED UNDER THE WASHINGTON CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA IN 1973 AND WERE INCLUDED IN THE HONG KONG ORDINANCE ON PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES IN 1976. UNDER THIS ORDINANCE IT IS AN OFFENCE FOR ANYONE TO IMPORT, EXPORT OR BE IN POSSESSION OF ANY SEA TURTLE WITHOUT A LICENCE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES. THE MAXIMUM PENALTY IN CONTRAVENTION OF THE ORDINANCE IS \$5,000 FINE.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT FISHERMEN HAVE BEEN ADVISED THAT IF TURTLES BECOME CAUGHT IN FISHING NETS, THEY MUST BE RELEASED IMMEDIATELY.

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SATURDAY, MAY 13, 1978

- 6 -

AMERICAN TO +JAZZ UP+ SCHOOL DANCING  
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THE AMERICAN LEADER OF THE NEWLY-FORMED MODERN DANCE THEATRE OF HONG KONG, MISS DARYL RIES, IS SET TO +JAZZ UP+ DANCING IN LOCAL SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

THE MARTHA GRAHAM-TRAINED DANCER FROM NEW YORK WILL LECTURE SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS ON MODERN JAZZ DANCING AT A SPECIAL COURSE TO BE HELD IN JUNE.

THE COURSE IS BEING ORGANISED BY THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S ADVISORY INSPECTORATE.

IT WILL BE HELD IN THE BELILIOS PUBLIC SCHOOL, TIN HAU TEMPLE ROAD, HONG KONG, FROM 1 P.M. TO 3 P.M. ON JUNE 3, 10, 17 AND 24 AND FROM 5.30 P.M. TO 7.30 P.M. ON JUNE 6, 13, 20 AND 27.

TEACHERS WISHING TO ATTEND THE COURSE MUST REGISTER WITH THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT BEFORE MAY 20.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

PHOTOGRAPHS OF DEPARTMENT HEADS  
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PLEASE NOTE THAT COPIES OF NEW PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, MR. D.J.C. JONES= THE COMMISSIONER OF INLAND REVENUE, MR. R.V. GIDDY= THE COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR. E.I. LEE AND= THE COMMISSIONER FOR SECURITIES, MR. U.A. MCINNES HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED IN THE G.I.S. PRESS BOXES TODAY IN OUR PROCESS OF UPDATING OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHS OF DEPARTMENT HEADS TO REPLACE PREVIOUS STOCKS.

THESE PHOTOGRAPHS ARE FOR YOUR RECORD AND EDITORIAL USE. IT WOULD BE MOST APPRECIATED IF, WHEN THE OCCASION ARISES, THE NEW PHOTOGRAPHS ARE USED INSTEAD OF THE OLD ONES.

MORE PHOTOGRAPHS OF DEPARTMENT HEADS WILL BE SENT TO YOU AS THEY ARE AVAILABLE.

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