



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

MONDAY, JUNE 14, 1976

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
GRANTS AND LOANS SCHEME FOR POLYTECHNIC STUDENTS.....	1
GOVERNOR VISITS ALUMINIUM FACTORY.....	2
REDUCED FARE TRAIN TICKETS FOR STUDENTS DURING SUMMER HOLIDAYS.....	3
SHA TIN SHOP OPERATORS TAKE UP TENANCIES IN LEK YUEN ESTATE.....	4
WATER CUT IN AP LEI CHAU AND WONG CHUK HANG.....	5
CANOE CAMP AT TAI MONG TSAI.....	5

FINANCE SCHEME FOR POLYTECHNIC STUDENTS

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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT A SCHEME OF GRANTS AND LOANS WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO FULL-TIME STUDENTS AT THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC. IT WILL COME INTO OPERATION IN THE NEW ACADEMIC YEAR 1976-77. THE GOVERNMENT HAS ALSO ENDORSED THE DECISION OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR THE POLYTECHNIC TO INCREASE TUITION FEES FOR NEW FULL-TIME STUDENTS FROM THE TIME WHEN THE FINANCE SCHEME IS INTRODUCED.

THE SCHEME FOR POLYTECHNIC STUDENTS WILL BE SIMILAR TO THE SCHEME THAT IS AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITIES. ALL AWARDS WILL BE MADE ON THE BASIS OF NEED, TAKING ACCOUNT OF FAMILY INCOME AND OF OTHER CONSIDERATIONS.

THE MAXIMUM GRANT THAT WILL BE AVAILABLE TO A STUDENT WILL BE THE FULL TUITION FEE PLUS \$600 FOR EXPENSES SUCH AS BOOKS AND EQUIPMENT. THE MINIMUM GRANT WILL BE \$100.

THE LOANS, WHICH PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TOWARDS THE STUDENTS' LIVING EXPENSES, WILL RANGE FROM A MINIMUM OF \$600 TO A MAXIMUM OF \$4,000. THE LOANS ARE INTEREST FREE AND ARE PAYABLE OVER THREE OR FIVE YEARS AFTER LEAVING THE POLYTECHNIC, DEPENDING ON THE LENGTH OF COURSE TAKEN BY THE STUDENT.

THE GRANT AND LOAN SCHEME IS NOT OPEN TO PART-TIME STUDENTS.

IT IS NOT KNOWN HOW MANY POLYTECHNIC STUDENTS WILL NEED ASSISTANCE, BUT FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF THE SCHEME IT HAS BEEN ASSUMED THAT THE DISTRIBUTION OF INCOMES AND RESOURCES AMONG POLYTECHNIC STUDENTS WILL BE THE SAME AS AT THE UNIVERSITIES. THIS MEANS THAT ABOUT 60 PER CENT OF THE FULL-TIME STUDENTS, OR ABOUT 3,000 WILL BE ASSISTED.

STUDENTS WILL HAVE TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL AID AND THE INFORMATION THEY PROVIDE WILL HAVE TO BE SUPPORTED BY A STATUTORY DECLARATION, WHICH MAY BECOME THE BASIS OF PROSECUTION IF THE INFORMATION IS FOUND TO BE FALSE. THE SCHEME IS AN ANNUAL ONE AND FRESH APPLICATIONS WILL HAVE TO BE MADE EACH YEAR.

APPLICATIONS FOR ASSISTANCE FROM EXISTING STUDENTS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE POLYTECHNIC BY AUGUST 4, 1976. APPLICATION FORMS FOR NEW STUDENTS WILL BE GIVEN TO THEM WHEN THEY ARE NOTIFIED THAT THEY HAVE BEEN ADMITTED TO THE POLYTECHNIC. THEY SHOULD BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED IMMEDIATELY.

EVEN IF THIS IS DONE, HOWEVER, IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE ON THIS OCCASION TO TELL EACH STUDENT EXACTLY WHAT AID IS BEING OFFERED UNTIL AFTER THE START OF THE NEW ACADEMIC YEAR. IN THE UNIVERSITY SCHEME NOTIFICATIONS ARE MADE SHORTLY BEFORE THE STUDENTS REGISTER. IT IS HOPED NEXT YEAR TO ACHIEVE THIS ALSO FOR POLYTECHNIC STUDENTS, BUT THE LATENESS OF THE PUBLICATION OF THE RESULTS OF THE HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATIONS, ON WHICH MANY POLYTECHNIC STUDENTS DEPEND FOR ADMISSION, MAKES IT VERY DIFFICULT.

MONDAY, JUNE 14, 1976

- 2 -

THE SCHEME WILL BE CONTROLLED BY A JOINT COMMITTEE CALLED THE POLYTECHNIC STUDENTS FINANCE COMMITTEE. IT WILL CONSIST OF THE SECRETARY OF THE UNIVERSITY AND POLYTECHNIC GRANTS COMMITTEE AS CHAIRMAN, THREE STAFF REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE POLYTECHNIC, THREE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE POLYTECHNIC CHOSEN BY THEMSELVES AND AN OBSERVER FROM THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

THE INCREASE IN TUITION FEES FOR FULL-TIME COURSES WILL NOT APPLY TO STUDENTS ALREADY ENROLLED IN THE POLYTECHNIC AND THEY WILL CONTINUE TO PAY THE EXISTING FEE OF \$400 PER YEAR UNTIL THEY COMPLETE THEIR COURSE.

HOWEVER, NEW STUDENTS ENROLLING ON FULL-TIME COURSES WILL BE REQUIRED TO PAY \$700 FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 1976-77, AND BOTH THEY AND NEW STUDENTS ENROLLING IN 1977 WILL PAY \$1,000 FOR 1977-78 AND THE SAME IN SUBSEQUENT ACADEMIC YEARS.

PART-TIME COURSE FEES WILL ALSO BE RAISED IN THE 1976-77 AND 1977-78 ACADEMIC YEAR.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT TUITION FEES AT THE POLYTECHNIC, AS AT THE UNIVERSITIES, ARE VERY MUCH LESS THAN THE REAL COSTS. EVEN WHEN FULL-TIME FEES ARE RAISED TO \$1,000 PER ANNUM, THEY WILL ONLY AMOUNT TO ABOUT 7 PER CENT OF THE ANNUAL COST OF RUNNING THESE COURSES.

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GOVERNOR VISITS FACTORY
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, TODAY TOOK A CLOSE LOOK AT HOW ALUMINIUM SHEETS AND ALUMINIUM PRODUCTS ARE BEING MADE IN HONG KONG.

SIR MURRAY SPENT OVER AN HOUR VISITING THE MEYER MANUFACTURING COMPANY AND ITS SISTER FACTORY, THE MEYER ALUMINIUM LTD. IN KWUN TONG.

HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THE DIRECTOR OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, MR. DAVID JORDAN, AND THE PRINCIPALS OF THE MEYER GROUP, MR. W.G. CHENG, AND MRS. STANLEY CHENG.

THE MEYER COMPANIES WERE ESTABLISHED IN 1949 BY THE CHENG BROTHERS, WHO OPERATED THE HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL CHIAP HUA GROUP, TO MANUFACTURE FLASHLIGHTS. SUBSEQUENTLY IT PIONEERS INTO ALUMINIUM ROLLING AND A WIDE RANGE OF ALUMINIUM PRODUCTS, INCLUDING THE FAMOUS CHINESE +WOK+.

THE TURNOVER OF THESE TWO COMPANIES IS CURRENTLY \$6 MILLION A MONTH.

THE TWO FACTORIES EMPLOY A TOTAL OF ABOUT 550 WORKERS.

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MONDAY, JUNE 14, 1976

- 3 -

REDUCED FARE TRAIN TICKETS FOR STUDENTS
DURING SUMMER HOLIDAYS
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HALF-FARE TRAIN TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS DURING THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS TO ENCOURAGE YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE URBAN AREAS TO ORGANISE PICNICS AND OUTINGS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY, THE GENERAL MANAGER OF THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY, MR. REG GREGORY, SAID THE REDUCED FARE WOULD ALSO PROVIDE AN INCENTIVE FOR STUDENTS IN RURAL DISTRICTS TO VISIT THE CITY MORE FREQUENTLY.

+THIS WILL ENABLE THEM TO PARTICIPATE IN ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY THE URBAN SERVICES AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS AND TO ENJOY THE AMENITIES LACKING IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.+

THE CONCESSION FARES, HE ADDED, WOULD BE INTRODUCED ON THE KCR BRITISH SECTION FOR TWO MONTHS FROM JULY 2 UP TO AND INCLUDING AUGUST 31, SUBJECT TO A NUMBER OF CONDITIONS.

ORDINARY HALF-FARE "CHILD" TICKETS, OVERPRINTED WITH THE WORD "STUDENT", WILL BE SOLD FOR TRAIN JOURNEYS ON SCHEDULED PASSENGER TRAINS FROM NT STATIONS TO MONG KOK OR THE HUNG HOM TERMINAL, AND VICE-VERSA.

ONLY RETURN TICKETS FOR ORDINARY CLASS, VALID FOR THE DATE OF ISSUE, WILL BE SOLD. THESE TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE ON WEEK DAYS ONLY, AND NOT ON SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

NO REFUNDS WILL BE MADE IN RESPECT OF UNUSED RETURN PORTIONS OF THE TICKETS UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.

STUDENTS OVER-RIDING THE STATIONS FOR WHICH THEIR HALF-FARE TICKETS WERE SOLD WILL BE REQUIRED TO PAY HALF-FARE PLUS 50 PER CENT FOR THAT PORTION OF THE JOURNEY FOR WHICH THEY DO NOT HOLD TICKETS.

STUDENTS FOUND TRAVELLING IN FIRST CLASS COACHES WITH THE CONCESSION TICKETS WILL BE REQUIRED TO PAY THE FULL FARE OF THE HIGHER CLASS PLUS 50 PER CENT, LESS THE ORDINARY CLASS HALF-FARE.

PURCHASERS OF HALF-FARE STUDENT TICKETS MUST SHOW TO THE RAILWAY BOOKING CLERKS AND, WHEN REQUESTED, TO THE TICKET INSPECTORS ON THE TRAINS, DOCUMENTS CERTIFYING THAT THEY ARE BONA FIDE STUDENTS EMPLOYED ON FULL TIME STUDY.

IF SUCH DOCUMENTS DO NOT BEAR PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE HOLDERS, HONG KONG IDENTITY CARD MUST ALSO BE PRODUCED FOR INSPECTION.

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MONDAY, JUNE 14, 1976

- 4 -

SHA TIN MARKET SHOP OPERATORS TO TAKE UP TENANCIES
IN LEK YUEN ESTATE

THE TENANCIES OF EIGHT SHOPS IN LEK YUEN ESTATE, RESERVED FOR THE OPERATORS OF BUSINESSES IN SHA TIN MARKET WHICH ARE TO BE CLEARED ON WEDNESDAY (JUNE 16), WERE ALLOCATED AT A RESTRICTED TENDER HELD THIS (MONDAY) AFTERNOON.

A FURTHER SHOP WAS ALLOCATED AT A SIMILAR TENDER HELD EARLIER THIS MONTH, LEAVING 19 SHOPS STILL TO BE DISPOSED OF.

ALTOGETHER A TOTAL OF 28 SHOP AND RESTAURANT OPERATORS OCCUPYING THE FIRST THREE ROWS OF SHA TIN MARKET ARE AFFECTED BY WEDNESDAY'S CLEARANCE.

TODAY'S TENDER WAS THE THIRD TO BE ARRANGED. SIX OF THE SHOPS WENT FOR THEIR UPSET PRICES RANGING FROM \$15,000 TO \$50,000. A METALWARE AND HOUSEHOLD UTENSIL SHOP, WITH AN UPSET PRICE OF \$30,000 WENT FOR \$40,200 WHILE A CAFE, WITH AN UPSET PRICE OF \$46,000 WENT FOR \$81,000.

A TOTAL OF 16 PEOPLE WERE INVOLVED IN THE TENDER WHICH WAS ARRANGED AT SHORT NOTICE AT THE REQUEST OF THE SHOP OWNERS WHO MADE APPROACHES TO THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION OVER THE WEEKEND.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE N.T.A. SAID THAT SOME OF THE OPERATORS WHO HAD NOT TAKEN UP THEIR TENANCIES TO ESTATE SHOPS WERE PROBABLY INTENDING TO EXERCISE THEIR RIGHT TO ASSIGN THEM TO OTHERS.

+THEY RECENTLY ADVERTISED THE AVAILABILITY OF TENANCIES AND ARE AWAITING APPROACHES FROM INTERESTED PARTIES,+ HE ADDED.

OTHERS, HE SAID, HAD VERY LIKELY BOUGHT SHOPS ELSEWHERE AND WOULD NOT TAKE UP TENANCIES IN LEK YUEN.

BESIDES THE OFFER OF SHOPS IN LEK YUEN ESTATE, THE 28 SHOPKEEPERS ARE ALSO ENTITLED TO EX-GRATIA COMPENSATION. THOSE OCCUPYING SURVEYED DOMESTIC STRUCTURES ARE ALSO QUALIFIED FOR PUBLIC HOUSING.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID CLEARANCE OF THE MARKET SHOPS WOULD BEGIN EARLY ON WEDNESDAY AND PROBABLY TAKE THREE DAYS TO COMPLETE. HE APPEALED TO THE OCCUPANTS TO VACATE BEFORE WEDNESDAY SO THAT THE CLEARANCE OPERATION, WHICH IS IN CONNECTION WITH THE WIDENING OF TAI PO ROAD AND OTHER NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENTS, COULD GO AHEAD SMOOTHLY.

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MONDAY, JUNE 14, 1976

- 5 -

WATER CUT
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WATER SUPPLY TO THE WHOLE OF AP LEI CHAU, INCLUDING THE AP LEI CHAU POWER STATION OF THE HONG KONG ELECTRIC COMPANY LIMITED, WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR 10 HOURS STARTING FROM 9 P.M. TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

THIS IS TO ENABLE THE WATERWORKS OFFICE TO CARRY OUT REPAIR WORK ON A FRESH WATER SUBMARINE MAIN AT TIN WAN NEAR THE BREAK-WATER.

ON WEDNESDAY (JUNE 16), WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN WONG CHUK HANG WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR FIVE HOURS FROM 1 A.M. TO FACILITATE A LEAKAGE TEST.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY THE NORTH SIDE OF WONG CHUK HANG ROAD FROM ABERDEEN TRADE SCHOOL TO SHOUSON HILL ROAD, SOUTH SIDE OF WONG CHUK HANG ROAD FROM HOUSE NO. 44 TO 62, HOUSE NO. 2 TO 10, HEUNG YIP ROAD, HOUSE NO. 2 TO 12, YIP FAT STREET, INCLUDING THE GRANTHAM HOSPITAL.

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CANOE CAMP
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A TWO-DAY CANOE CAMP WILL BE ORGANISED FOR YOUNGSTERS BETWEEN 16 AND 25 AT THE TAI MONG TSAI YOUTH CAMP IN SAI KUNG AT THE END OF THIS MONTH.

ACTIVITIES IN THE CAMP WILL INCLUDE CANOEING, HIKING, GAMES AND THE INTRODUCTION OF BASIC KNOWLEDGE IN WATER SAFETY AND CANOEING.

ANYONE WHO IS INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING SHOULD CONTACT THE GROUP AND COMMUNITY WORK UNIT OF THE SHAM SHUI PO YOUTH CENTRE AT 88 YU CHAU STREET.

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