HKGIS 香港政府新聞處

SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 1974

DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ENQUIRY SERVICE ALSO AVAILABLE TO N.T. PEOPLE

* * * * * *

ENQUIRY SERVICE PROVIDED BY THE GOVERNMENT FOR THE PUBLIC IS NOT SOMETHING THAT IS EXCLUSIVE TO URBAN RESIDENTS.

DURING THE PAST THREE YEARS, THE DISTRICT OFFICES IN TSUEN WAN AND TAI PO HAD SET UP THREE PUBLIC ENQUIRY CENTRES FOR PEOPLE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

ANOTHER NEW CENTRE IS NOW BEING PLANNED FOR THE TOWN AREA OF TSUEN WAN FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF NEARBY RESIDENTS.

A SIMILAR SERVICE IS ALSO OFFERED BY THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT OFFICE WHICH HAS A COUNTER ESPECIALLY SET UP IN ITS MAIN OFFICE TO ANSWER PUBLIC ENQUIRIES. THIS COUNTER ALONE HANDLES OVER 1,700 ENQUIRIES A MONTH.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION SAID: +LIKE THEIR COUNTERPARTS IN THE URBAN AREAS, THESE ENQUIRY CENTRES ARE DESIGNED TO PROVIDE A LINK BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE COMMUNITY AND TO GIVE WHATEVER ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE THEY CAN TO PEOPLE OF THEIR DISTRICT.+

THE FIRST OF THE THREE EXISTING CENTRES WAS OPENED IN THE KWAI CHUNG ESTATE IN SEPTEMBER 1971. THE OTHER TWO, LOCATED AT SHEK LEI ESTATE AND SHEUNG SHUI, WERE OPENED IN DECEMBER 1972 AND OCTOBER 1973 RESPECTIVELY.

MR. WU HON-SUN, THE OFFICER IN CHARGE OF THE SHEK LEI ENQUIRY CENTRE NOTED THAT THE RAPID URBANISATION AND INDUSTRIALISATION OF TSUEN WAN HAD NECESSITATED THE PROVISION OF SUCH SERVICES, ESPECIALLY FOR RESIDENTS OF THE MUSHROOMING HOUSING ESTATES IN THE DISTRICT.

+ONE PARTICULAR REASON IS WE ARE AWARE OF A GROWING CHANGE IN THE SOCIAL STRUCTURE OF OUR COMMUNITY BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE MODERNISATION OF THE DISTRICT.+

IN THE PAST, HE SAID, IT WAS VERY EASY FOR US TO REACH THE VILLAGERS THROUGH THEIR RURAL LEADERS, BUT THE APPEARANCE OF MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS AND FACTORIES IN THE DISTRICT IN RECENT YEARS HAD CALLED FOR A NEW APPROACH FROM OUR END.

MANNED BY LIAISON OFFICERS FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE, THESE ENQUIRY CENTRES HELP TO EXPLAIN TO THE COMMUNITY VARIOUS GOVERNMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES WHICH HAVE DIRECT BEARINGS ON THE LIFE OF THE PEOPLE.

THE ENQUIRIES DEALT WITH MAINLY CONCERNED HOUSING PROBLEMS, VACANCIES IN GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, IMMIGRATION PROCEDURES AS WELL AS FAMILY DISPUTES.

/THE TWO .....

Issued by Government Information Services, Beaconsfield House, Hong Kong. Tel: 5-233191

THE TWO CENTRES IN TSUEN WAN ALSO PROVIDE STATUTORY DECLARATION SERVICES FOR THE PEOPLE.

THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF QUESTIONS HANDLED BY EACH OF THE THREE CENTRES EVERY MONTH VARIES FROM ABOUT 300 IN KWAI CHUNG TO OVER 1,000 IN SHEUNG SHUI.

LEAFLETS AND OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS ARE ALSO DISTRIBUTED FREE OF CHARGE TO PEOPLE WHO CALL AT THE CENTRES.

+STRAIGHT FORWARD CASES ARE NORMALLY HANDLED IMMEDIATELY BY THE STAFF, WHILE THE MORE COMPLICATED ONES ARE SOMETIMES REFERRED TO THE GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED OR TO THE DISTRICT OFFICE HEADQUARTERS,+ MR. WU ADDED.

.....

NOTE TO EDITORS: COPIES OF A PHOTOGRAPH WHICH SHOWS PEOPLE CALLING AT ONE OF THE ENQUIRY CENTRES ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION AT THE G.I.S. PRESS ROOM ON THE SIXTH FLOOR OF BEACONSFIELD HOUSE.

----•----

NEW SUB-TREASURY FOR KOWLOON CITY

******

KOWLOON CITY RESIDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO PAY THEIR BILLS TO THE GOVERNMENT WITHIN EASY REACH OF THEIR HOMES WHEN THE NEW SUB-TREASURY IN THE DISTRICT OPENS ON MONDAY (JUNE 17).

THE NEW SUB-TREASURY, THE SECOND ONE IN KOWLOON, IS HOUSED ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF THE MAN SANG COMMERCIAL BUILDING AT 348-352, PRINCE EDWARD ROAD.

IT DEALS WITH THE COLLECTION OF MONEY DUE TO GOVERNMENT AND PAYMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

POSTAL REMITTANCE, HOWEVER, SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE ADDRESSED TO THE ACCOUNTANT GENERAL AT CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, ICE HOUSE STREET, HONGKONG.

THE DECISION TO OPEN ANOTHER TREASURY OFFICE IN KOWLOON FOLLOWED A SURVEY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT WHICH SHOWED A SUFFICIENT DEMAND TO JUSTIFY THE ADDITIONAL FACILITIES.

TO AVOID CONFUSION, THE PRESENT KOWLOON SUB-TREASURY AT THE KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES AT 405, NATHAN ROAD, HAS BEEN RENAMED THE YAU MEI TEI SUB-TREASURY.

----0----