



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

MONDAY, JULY 21, 1975

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NEW SHAPE COINS PRESENT NO PROBLEM
FOR COIN-COUNTING MACHINES

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LOCAL BANKS, PUBLIC TRANSPORT COMPANIES AND OTHER MAJOR COIN USERS WILL HAVE LITTLE DIFFICULTY IN HANDLING THE NEW SCALLOP-EDGE \$2 AND 20-CENT COINS IN LARGE QUANTITIES.

A SURVEY SHOWS THAT MOST OF THE COIN-COUNTING MACHINES NOW IN USE THROUGHOUT HONG KONG CAN TAKE THE NEW SHAPE COINS WITH ONLY SLIGHT MODIFICATIONS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR A LEADING BANK WHICH HAS TRIED OUT THE NEW COINS SAID MOST OF THEIR COIN-COUNTING MACHINES WORK SATISFACTORILY WITH THE SCALLOP-EDGE COINS.

+THE ONLY MODIFICATION REQUIRED IS AN ADJUSTMENT OF THE THICKNESS OF THE SLIT AND THE WIDTH OF THE COIN-CONVEYOR BELT IN THE MACHINE TO SUIT THE SIZE OF THE NEW COINS,+ HE SAID.

THE NEW COINS, WHICH WILL COME INTO CIRCULATION ON AUGUST 18, CANNOT BE USED IN COIN-OPERATED MACHINES ACTIVATED BY EITHER \$1, 50-CENT OR TEN-CENT COINS.

BUT EVENTUALLY, PARKING METRES, STAMP, FOOD AND SOFT-DRINK VENDING MACHINES WILL HAVE TO BE CONVERTED TO ACCEPT THE NEW SMALLER-SIZED \$1 AND 50-CENT COINS DUE TO BE INTRODUCED IN PHASES TOGETHER WITH THE \$5 COINS OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS.

TO COPE WITH THE NEW \$1 AND 50-CENT COINS, THE ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT HAS DRAWN UP A TENTATIVE PLAN TO CONVERT ALL THE PARKING METRES TO COINCIDE WITH THE PHASED NEW COIN INTRODUCTION PROGRAMME.

THE SHAPE AND SIZE OF ALL THE NEW COINS INCLUDING THE \$5 PIECE HAS BEEN TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION BY THE MASS TRANSIT PROVISIONAL AUTHORITY IN WRITING UP SPECIFICATIONS FOR ITS AUTOMATIC TICKET VENDING MACHINES.

THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY, NOW LOOKING INTO THE POSSIBILITY OF INSTALLING AUTOMATIC FARE COLLECTION SYSTEMS TO COPE WITH THE ANTICIPATED INCREASE OF PASSENGERS WHEN THE SHATIN RACECOURSE BECOMES OPERATIONAL, ALSO TAKES INTO ACCOUNT THE SHAPE OF THE NEW COINS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: COPIES OF A PHOTOGRAPH SHOWING A COIN-COUNTING MACHINE USING THE NEW COINS IS AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION FROM THE G.I.S. PRESS ROOM, 6TH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE.

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SUSPENSION OF LICENSING OF TEXTILE EXPORTS TO EEC PARTIALLY LIFTED

LAST FRIDAY'S SUSPENSION OF LICENSING FOR EXPORTS OF TEXTILE PRODUCTS TO THE COMMON MARKETS HAS BEEN PARTIALLY LIFTED FOLLOWING THE AGREEMENT REACHED OVER THE WEEK-END BETWEEN HONG KONG AND THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY ON EXPORTS OF CERTAIN COTTON, WOOLLEN AND MAN-MADE FIBRE TEXTILES TO THE COMMUNITY.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY, THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, MR. JIMMY MCGREGOR, SAID THAT HIS DEPARTMENT WOULD RESUME, WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT, NORMAL LICENSING PROCEDURES IN RESPECT OF ALL TEXTILE ITEMS NOT UNDER RESTRAINT.

THE SUSPENSION OF LICENSING FOR TEXTILE PRODUCTS FOR TRANSHIPMENT, RE-EXPORT AND FOR ITEMS REQUIRING EXPORT AUTHORISATIONS UNDER THE NEW AGREEMENT HAS ALSO BEEN LIFTED WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT.

RESUMPTION OF LICENSING FOR ITEMS UNDER RESTRAINT WILL, HOWEVER, TAKE A LITTLE LONGER BECAUSE OF THE NEED TO RE-CALCULATE THE ALLOCATION OF QUOTAS AS A RESULT OF THE NEW AGREEMENT.

THE NEW AGREEMENT REPLACES THE UNILATERAL ARRANGEMENT WHICH WAS INTRODUCED BY HONG KONG IN FEBRUARY THIS YEAR. ALL QUOTAS ISSUED AND CONTROL ARRANGEMENTS UNDER THE UNILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS HAVE NOW LAPSED, AND DETAILS OF THE NEW CONTROL ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED SHORTLY IN THE DEPARTMENT'S NOTICES TO EXPORTERS.

ITEMS UNDER QUOTA CONTROL IN THE NEW AGREEMENT INCLUDE GARMENTS, FABRICS AND HOUSEHOLD LINENS.

MR. MCGREGOR SAID THAT FULL DETAILS OF THESE AND OTHER ITEMS ARE BEING CONVEYED TO EXPORTERS IN THE DEPARTMENT'S NOTICES WHICH ARE BEING ISSUED FROM TODAY.

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MEANWHILE, THE LEADER OF HONG KONG'S NEGOTIATING TEAM IN BRUSSELS MR. LAWRENCE MILLS AND HIS ASSISTANT, MR. PETER TSAO, HAVE RETURNED TO HONG KONG. MR. MILLS WILL BE MAKING A FULL REPORT ON THE NEW AGREEMENT AND ON THE BRUSSELS NEGOTIATIONS TO MR. MCGREGOR AND TO THE TEXTILES ADVISORY BOARD.

MR. MILLS DISCLOSED THAT THE NEW AGREEMENT RUNS FROM JULY 18, 1975 TO DECEMBER 31, 1977 AND COVERS OVER 85 PER CENT, BY VALUE, OF HONG KONG'S TEXTILE EXPORTS TO THE COMMON MARKET.

COMMENTING ON THE DETAILS OF THE AGREEMENT, HE SAID THAT HE WAS SATISFIED THAT THE TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT WERE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE MULTILATERAL FIBRE ARRANGEMENT, AND THAT THEY WOULD GIVE THE TRADE A LARGE MEASURE OF CERTAINTY WHICH HAD BEEN LACKING UP TO NOW.

MR. MILLS ADDED THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS HAD BEEN DIFFICULT AND THAT THEY HAD, IN FACT, AT ONE STAGE ALMOST REACHED AN IMPASSE ON THE DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT DESPITE THE FACT THAT OTHER MAJOR POINTS OF THE AGREEMENT HAD, BY THAT STAGE, BEEN AGREED UPON.

ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE MADE FOR MR. MILLS AND MR. TSAO TO MEET THE PRESS AFTER THEY HAVE REPORTED TO THE DIRECTOR OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND TO THE TEXTILES ADVISORY BOARD. EDITORS WILL BE INFORMED OF THE TIMING ON THE GIS TELEPRINTER.

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FULL-TIME COURSE ON DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY
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AN INTENSIVE FULL-TIME COURSE ON DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE BEGAN TODAY AT THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE.

THE COURSE IS BEING ATTENDED BY 42 WOODWORK AND METALWORK TEACHERS FROM A CROSS-SECTION OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY IS THE NAME GIVEN TO A NEW APPROACH TO THE TEACHING OF PRACTICAL SUBJECTS SUCH AS WOODWORK AND METALWORK AT SECONDARY LEVEL.

SINCE FEBRUARY, THE 42 TEACHERS HAVE BEEN TAKING A PART-TIME IN-SERVICE COURSE ON THIS NEW APPROACH AND THE FULL-TIME ONE-WEEK COURSE IS A FINALE TO THE WORK OF THE LAST SIX MONTHS.

THE TEACHERS WILL USE THE WEEK TO ROUND OFF THEIR TRAINING AND COMPLETE PROJECTS FOR DISPLAY AT AN EXHIBITION ON SATURDAY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE COLLEGE SAID TODAY: +THE MAIN AIM OF THE COURSE IS TO GIVE TEACHERS A THOROUGH UNDERSTANDING OF THE EDUCATIONAL POTENTIAL OF THE DESIGN PROCESS, ITS RELATIONSHIP TO TECHNOLOGY, AND ITS RELEVANCE TO THE VARIOUS STAGES OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE.

+ON COMPLETION OF THE COURSE THE TEACHERS, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF A MONITORING TEAM FROM THE TECHNICAL INSPECTORATE, WILL BE READY TO INTRODUCE DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY INTO THEIR SCHOOLS. 24 SCHOOLS HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THE COURSE. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THEY WILL ALL ADOPT THE NEW SYLLABUS THIS COMING SEPTEMBER.+

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE ON WEDNESDAY WHEN THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE COURSE WILL BE COMPLETING A DISPLAY FOR SATURDAY.

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE REQUESTED TO CONTACT MR. W.B. POTTER AT 11.30 AM ON WEDNESDAY (JULY 23) AT THE INSTITUTE.

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FIFTH GOVERNMENT LOTTERY

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THE FIFTH GOVERNMENT LOTTERY THIS YEAR WAS OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED TODAY WITH HIGH HOPES THAT TICKET SALES WILL CONTINUE TO PICK UP.

ACCORDING TO MR. DAVID WU OF THE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, TICKET SALES FOR EACH OF THE LAST TWO LOTTERIES BOTH EXCEEDED THE 600,000 MARK - A BIG IMPROVEMENT OVER THE PREVIOUS TWO. AND I AM SURE THAT WITH STEPPED-UP PUBLICITY EFFORTS, SALE FIGURES WILL CONTINUE TO RISE, MR. WU SAID.

TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE AT \$2 EACH AT ALL ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB TICKET SELLING BOOTHS AND BANK OFFICES.

WINNING NUMBERS WILL BE DRAWN ON AUGUST 2 AT THE CITY HALL THEATRE BY FOUR RADIO HONG KONG ARTISTES -- MISS TERESA WONG SHIU-FUNG, MISS LOUISA CHAN YEE-NOR, MR. CHU PUI-HING AND MR. RAYMOND NG SHEK-FAI.

THEY WILL ALSO HELP TO PROMOTE TICKET SALES AT STATUE SQUARE ON JULY 28 BETWEEN 1 AND 2 P.M.

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WATER CUTS

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WATER SUPPLY TO LAM TIN ESTATE IN KWUN TONG WILL BE INTERRUPTED FOR ABOUT FIVE HOURS AS FROM 1 AM ON THURSDAY (JULY 24).

ALSO WITHOUT WATER DURING THIS PERIOD WILL BE PREMISES BOUNDED BY NORTH POINT, THE SEAFRONT, SHU KUK STREET AND THE NORTH SIDE OF KING'S ROAD ON HONG KONG ISLAND.

THE TEMPORARY STOPPAGES ARE TO ENABLE TESTS FOR LEAKAGE TO BE CARRIED OUT IN THE AREAS.

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RESERVOIRS 98 PER CENT FULL
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A TOTAL OF 66,279 MILLION GALLONS OF WATER WERE IN STORE IN ALL RESERVOIRS AS AT 9 A.M. THIS (MONDAY) MORNING, REPRESENTING 98.5 PER CENT OF THE FULL STORAGE CAPACITY OF 67,300 MILLION GALLONS.

ON THE SAME DAY LAST YEAR THE TOTAL STORAGE WAS ONLY 40,266 MILLION GALLONS.

PLOVER COVE, HONG KONG'S BIGGEST RESERVOIR, HELD 50,257 MILLION GALLONS, REPRESENTING 99.5 PER CENT OF ITS FULL STORAGE CAPACITY. AT THIS TIME LAST YEAR, IT HELD 30,910 MILLION GALLONS.

A TOTAL OF 2.8 MM (0.11 IN) OF RAINFALL WAS RECORDED AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY DURING THE PAST TWENTY FOUR HOURS ENDING AT 9 AM THIS MORNING.

TOTAL RAINFALL SO FAR THIS YEAR STANDS AT 1,908.8 MM (75.15 IN). THE MEAN AVERAGE RAINFALL THIS YEAR IS 1,209.1 MM (47.60 IN).

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