



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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GOVT WORKS HARD TO PROMOTE COMPUTER LITERACY IN SCHOOLS

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS WORKED HARD TO PROMOTE COMPUTER LITERACY IN SCHOOLS FOR OVER 10 YEARS, THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, MR K.Y. YEUNG, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 7TH MICRO-COMPUTERS CREATIVITY CONTEST AND EXHIBITION, MR YEUNG SAID THIS HAD FOLLOWED SHIFTS IN HONG KONG'S ECONOMY AND SOCIETY TOWARDS HIGHER SKILLS AND TECHNOLOGY.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS INCLUDED INTRODUCING COMPUTER STUDIES AT THE SENIOR SECONDARY LEVEL, A COMPUTER LITERACY PROJECT AT THE JUNIOR SECONDARY LEVEL AND SETTING UP A COMPUTER EDUCATION CENTRE.

"IN ORDER TO ASSIST SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR - WHICH NOW ACCOUNTS FOR 85 PER CENT OF ALL SCHOOLS IN HONG KONG - TO IMPLEMENT THIS SUBJECT, THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT LAUNCHED THE COMPUTER STUDIES SCHEME IN 1984," HE SAID.

"BY 1989-90, 327 SCHOOLS HAVE JOINED THE SCHEME, REPRESENTING ABOUT 90 PER CENT OF ALL PUBLIC SECTOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS. THE TOTAL COST HAS BEEN ABOUT \$40 MILLION.

"A FURTHER 20 SCHOOLS HAVE APPLIED TO PARTICIPATE IN 1990. IT IS EXPECTED THAT ALL SECONDARY SCHOOLS WISHING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCHEME WILL BE COVERED BY THE 1992-23 SCHOOL YEAR."

MR YEUNG SAID THIS INVESTMENT HAD YIELDED ENCOURAGING DIVIDENDS.

"IN 1984, THE FIRST YEAR IN WHICH COMPUTER STUDIES BECAME AN EXAMINATION SUBJECT, 2,561 STUDENTS OR ABOUT 1.6 PER CENT OF THE HKCEE CANDIDATURE SAT FOR THIS EXAMINATION," HE SAID.

"BY 1989, THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS HAS RISEN TO 11,852, REPRESENTING A LITTLE OVER NINE PER CENT OF THE HKCEE CANDIDATURE IN THAT YEAR.

THESE PERCENTAGES ARE EXPECTED TO INCREASE AS THE SCHEME TAKES ROOT IN OUR SECONDARY SCHOOLS."

MR YEUNG SAID THE COMPUTER LITERACY PROJECT WAS INTRODUCED IN SEPTEMBER 1987 AND NOW 70 SCHOOLS OR ABOUT 20 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL HAD INCLUDED THE SUBJECT IN THEIR SECONDARY 1 TO 3 CLASSES.

"THE NEXT PHASE WILL INVOLVE 30 ADDITIONAL SCHOOLS BY SEPTEMBER 1990 AND A FURTHER 50 SCHOOLS IN EACH OF THE SUBSEQUENT YEARS," HE SAID.

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AS FOR THE COMPUTER EDUCATION CENTRE, MR YEUNG SAID THIS WAS SET UP IN 1986 TO PROVIDE TEACHER TRAINING SUPPORT FOR THESE COURSES.

"IT HELPS TO UPGRADE THE TEACHING SKILLS OF COMPUTER STUDIES TEACHERS AND PROVIDES FACILITIES FOR THE EXCHANGE AND DISTRIBUTION OF COMPUTER ASSISTED LEARNING PACKAGES."

MR YEUNG POINTED OUT THAT CONSCIOUS EFFORTS NEEDED TO BE MADE TO ENSURE THAT THE YOUNGER GENERATION WAS QUALIFIED TECHNICALLY TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF THE NEXT DECADE.

"WITH THIS IN MIND, THE EDUCATION COMMISSION WILL BE ASKED TO LOOK AT THE ROLE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN CURRICULUM IN THE NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE," HE ADDED.

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TRANSPORT DEPT TO REVISE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT DATA SYSTEM  
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT IS TO REVISE ITS TRAFFIC ACCIDENT DATA SYSTEM (TRADS) TO PROVIDE BETTER MEANS AND FACILITIES FOR STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF TRAFFIC ACCIDENT DATA.

THE NEW SYSTEM WILL REPLACE THE EXISTING ONE CURRENTLY USED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND THE POLICE.

A CONTRACT FOR THE PROVISION OF THE COMPUTER SYSTEM HAD RECENTLY BEEN SIGNED BETWEEN THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, MR PANG HAU-CHUNG, AND THE SUPPLIER. THE NEW TRADS WILL COST \$1.1 MILLION TO INSTALL.

SOME OF THE MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THE NEW SYSTEM ARE TO IMPROVE ON THE EXISTING COMPUTERISED RECORDS ON TRAFFIC ACCIDENT DATA; TO IMPROVE ON THE PROCESSING OF BOTH STANDARD AND CUSTOMISED ACCIDENT REPORTS, INCLUDING GRAPHICAL PRESENTATIONS; TO IDENTIFY ACCIDENT BLACK SPOTS FOR INVESTIGATION; TO PROVIDE STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF TERRITORY-WIDE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT DATA; AND TO PROVIDE DATA COLLECTION ANALYSIS UNDER THE PEDESTRIAN ACCIDENT REDUCTION SCHEME.

A SYSTEM FOR COMPILING TRAFFIC ACCIDENT STATISTICS WAS FIRST INTRODUCED IN THE EARLY 1960'S. THE SYSTEM WAS REVISED AND NAMED TRAFFIC ACCIDENT STATISTICS SYSTEM IN 1976.

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IN 1981, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SET UP THE ROAD SAFETY AND STANDARDS DIVISION TO CARRY OUT TRAFFIC ACCIDENT STUDIES AND ANALYSIS FOR ACCIDENT REDUCTION AND PREVENTION.

THE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT DATA SYSTEM WAS THEN SET UP TO RETRIEVE AND ANALYSE DATA STORED IN THE POLICE COMPUTERS AND TO PRODUCE MANAGEMENT INFORMATION. IT HAD BEEN USED MAINLY AS A DATA BANK IN DEVISING ROAD ACCIDENT PREVENTION SCHEMES AND IT WAS CONSIDERED OPPORTUNE TO REVISE THE SYSTEM GIVEN THE PRESENT INNOVATION AND APPLICATION IN COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY.

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59 NEW BUILDING PLANS APPROVED IN JANUARY  
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THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE APPROVED A TOTAL OF 59 NEW BUILDING PLANS IN JANUARY.

OF THE PLANS, 27 WERE IN HONG KONG ISLAND, 15 IN KOWLOON AND 17 IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE APPROVED PLANS INCLUDED 29 FOR APARTMENT, APARTMENT/COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS; 14 FOR COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT; AND FIVE FOR FACTORY, WORKSHOP OR GODOWN PURPOSES.

DURING THE MONTH, THE OFFICE GAVE CONSENT FOR WORK TO START ON 46 PROJECTS, INVOLVING 88,866.1 SQUARE METRES OF USABLE DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA AND 134,921.4 SQUARE METRES OF USABLE NON-DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA.

THE TOTAL DECLARED COST OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED DURING THE MONTH WAS ABOUT \$1,376 MILLION. THE USABLE FLOOR AREAS FOR DOMESTIC AND NON-DOMESTIC USES WERE ABOUT 61,597 SQUARE METRES AND 257,665.5 SQUARE METRES RESPECTIVELY.

ALSO DURING THE MONTH, THE OFFICE ISSUED 39 OCCUPATION PERMITS, 14 FOR HONG KONG ISLAND, NINE FOR KOWLOON AND 16 FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES.

IN ADDITION, THE OFFICE ISSUED 30 DEMOLITION CONSENTS AFFECTING 59 BUILDINGS.

THE CONTROL AND ENFORCEMENT DIVISION RECEIVED 506 COMPLAINTS ON ILLEGAL BUILDING WORKS, CARRIED OUT 567 INSPECTIONS AND ISSUED 77 REMOVAL ORDERS.

THE DANGEROUS BUILDING SECTION INSPECTED 374 BUILDINGS. NO EMERGENCY CLOSURES WERE REQUIRED.

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IMPROVEMENTS TO PO TOI PIER PLANNED

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IMPROVEMENT WORKS HAD BEEN PLANNED TO UPGRADE THE PIER ON PO TOI ISLAND TO WITHSTAND ROUGH SEA WAVES AND TO FACILITATE THE BERTHING OF FLOATING CLINIC AND POLICE LAUNCHES EVEN AT LOW TIDE, THE ACTING ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS JENNIFER CHAN, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

"THE ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICE IS ACTIVELY WORKING ON THE IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND SEEKING FUNDS, AMOUNTING TO \$6 MILLION, FROM THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB FOR THE PROJECT," SHE SAID.

OFFICIATING AT A CEREMONY TO CELEBRATE THE COMPLETION OF RENOVATION WORK FOR THE TIN HAU TEMPLE ON PO TOI ISLAND, MISS CHAN RECALLED THAT THE JOCKEY CLUB AGREED TWO YEARS AGO TO ALLOCATED \$1.5 MILLION FOR MINOR IMPROVEMENT WORKS OF THE PIER.

AFTER DETAILED CONSIDERATIONS OF THE PROJECT BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE, RECONSTRUCTION WORKS OF A LARGER SCALE WAS PLANNED SO THAT THE PIER WOULD BECOME MORE USEFUL AND DURABLE, SHE SAID.

MISS CHAN ALSO TOLD THE ISLANDERS THAT \$0.7 MILLION HAD BEEN ALLOCATED TO RE-INSTALL TWO ELECTRICITY GENERATORS AND TO REBUILD THE POWER GENERATING ROOM ON THE ISLAND IN THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR. IT IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY JULY THIS YEAR.

"AFTER THE COMPLETION OF THESE TWO PROJECTS, LIVELIHOOD OF PO TOI ISLANDERS WILL BE MUCH IMPROVED," MISS CHAN SAID.

THE PO TOI TIN HAU TEMPLE, WHICH WAS CONSECRATED TODAY, HAS A HISTORY OF OVER 150 YEARS AND IS REGARDED AS A PRECIOUS CULTURAL HERITAGE OF THE ISLAND.

AS THE TEMPLE HAD BECOME DILAPIDATED OVER THE YEARS, VILLAGERS THEN FORMED A COMMITTEE TO RAISE FUNDS FOR RENOVATION.

WITH THE HELP OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE, THE COMMITTEE OBTAINED SUBSIDIES FOR THE PROJECT FROM THE CHINESE TEMPLES COMMITTEE, AND WORKS WAS CARRIED OUT SMOOTHLY DURING THE PAST WINTER MONTHS.

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