



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SATURDAY, JULY 27, 1974

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PROMPTER SALARIES TAX ASSESSMENTS

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COMPUTERISATION IN THE SALARIES TAX SECTION OF THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT WILL ENABLE SALARIES TAX ASSESSMENTS TO BE ISSUED EARLIER THAN IN THE PAST.

THIS IN TURN WILL GIVE THE TAXPAYER LONGER ADVANCE WARNING OF THE AMOUNT OF TAX DUE AND WILL ENABLE THE DEPARTMENT TO SPREAD ITS WORK MORE EVENLY THAN IN THE PAST.

IT IS FOR INSTANCE HOPED THAT THE EXTREME CONGESTION IN THE COLLECTION OFFICE AND THE INCONVENIENCE EXPERIENCED BY THE PUBLIC THIS YEAR WILL NOT BE REPEATED.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE DUE DATES FOR PAYMENT WILL IN THE MAIN STILL FALL IN THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF THE YEAR.

IN AN INTERVIEW, MR. IAN HARRIS, A SENIOR ASSESSOR WITH THE DEPARTMENT, DISCLOSED THAT THE FIRST BATCH OF COMPUTER-PRODUCED DEMAND NOTES WERE SENT TO TAXPAYERS ON WEDNESDAY (JULY 24).

THE USE OF THE COMPUTER IN PREPARING THESE HAS MEANT THAT THEY SHOULD REACH THE TAXPAYER ABOUT A WEEK AFTER THE ASSESSOR HAS DETERMINED THE CORRECT INCOME AND ALLOWANCES, AS OPPOSED TO SOMETHING LIKE EIGHT WEEKS IN THE PAST.

THIS SAVING IN TIME IS LARGELY A RESULT OF THE ELIMINATION OF BOTTLENECKS WHICH HAD DEVELOPED IN THE PAST IN CALCULATING THE TAX AND TYPING AND CHECKING THE ASSESSMENTS.

MR. HARRIS POINTED OUT THAT THE NUMBER OF SALARIES TAXPAYERS HAD INCREASED STEADILY OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS. IN MARCH 1972, THE FIGURE STOOD AT 85,000, RISING TO 93,000 IN 1973 AND 120,000 THIS YEAR. HE PREDICTED THAT THIS WOULD LIKELY REACH 150,000 BY MARCH NEXT YEAR.

THIS DRAMATIC INCREASE HAS PLACED A HEAVY WORKLOAD ON STAFF. DURING PEAK PERIODS, RECOURSE HAS HAD TO BE MADE TO OVERTIME WHICH IS NEVER A VERY SATISFACTORY SOLUTION BECAUSE OF ITS HIGH COST IN TERMS OF BOTH MONEY AND MORALE.

APART THEREFORE FROM THE PROVISION OF A BETTER SERVICE TO THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PUBLIC, IT IS HOPED THAT THERE WILL BE SAVING IN TERMS OF COST.

MR. HARRIS SAID THAT THE DEMAND NOTES WOULD GIVE THE SAME INFORMATION AS IN THE PAST BUT IT HAD BEEN NECESSARY TO CODE SOME OF THE MORE FREQUENTLY USED ASSESSOR'S NOTES.

IN FUTURE THESE NOTES WOULD BE SHOWN ON THE FRONT OF THE DEMAND NOTE AS A TWO DIGIT CODE BUT FOR EASY REFERENCE A LIST OF THE CODES AND THEIR MEANING IS SHOWN ON THE REVERSE SIDE. HE DID NOT HOWEVER CONSIDER THAT THESE WOULD CAUSE THE TAXPAYER ANY DIFFICULTY.

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PREVENTIVE SERVICE'S ROLE AS PUBLIC CONFIDENCE-BOOSTER

THE COMMISSIONER OF THE PREVENTIVE SERVICE, MR. DAVID JORDAN TODAY STRESSED THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF HAVING MEMBERS OF THE FORCE TO BUILD UP, PRESERVE AND DEVELOP TO THE FULL PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN THE INTEGRITY OF THE PREVENTIVE SERVICE.

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE PASSING OUT PARADE AT THE PREVENTIVE SERVICE TRAINING SCHOOL IN TAI LAM CHUNG, THE FIRST SUCH EVENT HELD THERE SINCE THE SCHOOL'S OPENING LAST MONTH.

A TOTAL OF 30 REVENUE INSPECTORS AND 17 ASSISTANT REVENUE OFFICERS WHO HAVE COMPLETED THEIR RESPECTIVE INDUCTION COURSES TOOK PART IN THE PARADE.

MR. JORDAN TOLD THE OFFICERS THAT IN THEIR DAILY DUTIES THEY WOULD BE SUBJECT TO MANY PRESSURES AND TEMPTATIONS, AND +AS MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE IT IS OUR DUTY TO RESIST THEM,+ THEREBY GAINING PUBLIC CONFIDENCE.

IT IS ALSO THE DUTY OF EVERY MEMBER, HE ADDED, TO ERADICATE THE EVIL TRADE OF DRUG TRAFFICKING, +IN CONCERT WITH OUR COLLEAGUES IN THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE AND OTHER CUSTOMS SERVICES IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD.+

MR. JORDAN FURTHER NOTED THAT DUE TO THE RECENTLY ENACTED COPYRIGHT ORDINANCE, THE PREVENTIVE SERVICE HAS TAKEN ON THE ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF SEIZING PIRATED RECORDS AND CASSETTE TAPES.

THE COLLECTION OF DUTIES IS AN IMPORTANT JOB, HE SAID, BECAUSE IT MAKES UP A SUBSTANTIAL PART OF GOVERNMENT REVENUE. THE ESTIMATED PAYABLE DUTIES FOR THE CURRENT YEAR AMOUNTS TO SOME \$500 MILLION, OR ABOUT 10 PER CENT OF TOTAL REVENUE.

AS A GREAT PART OF THE REVENUE GOES TOWARDS SOCIAL SERVICES, MR. JORDAN EMPHASISED THAT +FOR THE GOOD OF THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE, WE SHOULD COLLECT THAT REVENUE AND PREVENT AS FAR AS WE CAN THE EVASION OF DUTY.+

HE ALSO URGED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO HELP BY PROVIDING INFORMATION AND REPORTING ANYTHING THAT AROUSES THEIR SUSPICION.

APART FROM INDUCTION COURSES, THE NEW TRAINING SCHOOL PROVIDES REFRESHER COURSES AND ADVANCED TRAINING FOR EXPERIENCED OFFICERS.

+WE ARE ALSO PLANNING TO RUN COURSES DESIGNED TO IMPROVE REGIONAL CUSTOMS LIAISON IN DRUG SUPPRESSION AND ANTI-SMUGGLING GENERALLY,+ MR. JORDAN SAID.

IN THEIR INDUCTION COURSES, THE GRADUATES HAVE RECEIVED TRAINING IN LAW, PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT, DISCIPLINE, CIVICS AND PHYSICAL TRAINING.

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SURVEY ON EMPLOYMENT SITUATION IN HONG KONG
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A GOVERNMENT SURVEY RELEASED TODAY SHOWS THAT DESPITE ADVERSE WORLD ECONOMIC CONDITIONS THE AVERAGE MANUAL WORKER IN HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES LOST ONLY ONE HOUR FROM HIS WORKING WEEK IN THE YEAR ENDING MAY.

AND INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT STEADIED IN THE PERIOD BETWEEN MARCH AND THE TIME OF THE SURVEY LAST MONTH, FOLLOWING THE DOWNTURN IN THE WORKFORCE DURING THE FIRST QUARTER OF THE YEAR.

AT THE END OF MAY, THE AVERAGE WORKING WEEK - INCLUDING OVERTIME - WAS 49 HOURS 9 MINUTES, COMPARED WITH 50 HOURS 12 MINUTES IN MAY LAST YEAR - A MARGINAL DROP OF ONLY 2.09 PER CENT OR JUST OVER ONE HOUR A WEEK.

COMPARED WITH THE AVERAGE WORKING WEEK OF 49 HOURS 4 MINUTES IN MARCH THIS YEAR, THE MAY FIGURE SHOWED AN UP-TURN OF 0.14 PER CENT.

THE SURVEY WAS CARRIED OUT BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT BETWEEN MONDAY JUNE 3 AND WEDNESDAY JUNE 5, AND THE RESULTS WERE PROCESSED AND COLLATED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

A RANDOM SAMPLING METHOD WAS USED, STRATIFIED BY TYPE OF INDUSTRY AND SIZE OF FACTORY, SO THAT RESULTS OF THE SAMPLE SURVEY COULD BE PROJECTED FOR THE ENTIRE WORKFORCE IN HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.

THE FACTORIES SURVEYED COVERED SOME 40 PER CENT OF THE ENTIRE MANUFACTURING WORKFORCE IN HONG KONG, AND EVERY MAILED QUESTIONNAIRE WAS FOLLOWED UP BY A PERSONAL VISIT TO THE FACTORY.

THE SURVEY SHOWED THAT THE SLIGHT REDUCTION IN WORKING HOURS OVER THE YEAR HAD BEEN GENERAL RATHER THAN LIMITED TO PARTICULAR INDUSTRIES OR TO FACTORIES OF A PARTICULAR SIZE.

SIMILARLY, THE UP-TURNS IN WORKING HOURS WHICH WERE EVIDENT IN THE PERIOD FROM MARCH TO THE DATE OF THE SURVEY WERE ALSO WIDE-SPREAD IN VARIOUS INDUSTRIES REGARDLESS OF FACTORY SIZE.

THE WORKING WEEK IN THE TEXTILE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY IN MAY WAS 48 HOURS 27 MINUTES COMPARED WITH 49 HOURS 32 MINUTES IN MAY LAST YEAR, A DROP OF 2.18 PER CENT. WITHIN THE INDUSTRY, SPINNING AND WEAVING SHOWED A DROP OF 2.01 PER CENT AND KNITTING SHOWED A DROP OF 1.25 PER CENT - BUT AN UP-TURN OF 4.05 PER CENT BETWEEN MARCH AND MAY. THE WEARING APPAREL INDUSTRY SHOWED A DROP OF 2.1 PER CENT FROM 49 HOURS 14 MINUTES TO 48 HOURS 19 MINUTES.

PRINTING AND PUBLISHING, WITH A WORKING WEEK OF 49 HOURS 56 MINUTES, WAS DOWN ONE HOUR (1.94 PER CENT) ON LAST MAY, BUT THERE WAS A 4.83 PER CENT UP-TURN BETWEEN MARCH AND MAY, 1974.

/PLASTICS

PLASTICS PRODUCTS (48 HOURS 37 MINUTES) WAS DOWN 1 HOUR 45 MINUTES (3.53 PER CENT).

FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS (51 HOURS 29 MINUTES) WAS DOWN 1 HOUR 10 MINUTES (2.22 PER CENT), BUT SHOWED AN UP-TURN OF 0.57 PER CENT BETWEEN MARCH AND MAY.

ELECTRONICS (46 HOURS 4 MINUTES) WAS DOWN BY JUST UNDER HALF AN HOUR (1.03 PER CENT), BUT SHOWED A MARCH - MAY UP-TURN OF 0.20 PER CENT.

THE EMPLOYMENT FIGURES REVEALED BY THE SURVEY - BASED ON FACTORY PAYROLLS - SHOWED THERE HAD BEEN VIRTUALLY NO CHANGE IN THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE EMPLOYED IN HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES BETWEEN MARCH AND MAY. THIS REFLECTS A CHECK IN THE REDUCTION IN WORKFORCE IN THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES SHOWN BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT'S MARCH QUARTERLY FIGURES.

THERE WERE MINOR FALLS IN EMPLOYMENT IN A NUMBER OF INDUSTRIES, BUT THESE WERE MORE THAN COMPENSATED FOR BY SIGNIFICANT RISES IN EMPLOYMENT IN INDUSTRIES SUCH AS THE MANUFACTURE OF WEARING APPAREL (UP 2.2 PER CENT OR ABOUT 3,900 WORKERS) AND KNITTING (UP 5.8 PER CENT OR 1,200).

THERE WAS A DROP OF ABOUT 1,600 MANUAL WORKERS (2.7 PER CENT) IN THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY= JUST UNDER 600 (1.09 PER CENT) IN THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRY= AND 700 (0.74 PER CENT) IN TEXTILE MANUFACTURING.

THE WORKFORCE IN THE OTHER TWO OF HONG KONG'S MAJOR INDUSTRIES - THE ELECTRONICS AND PRINTING AND PUBLISHING INDUSTRIES - SHOWED VIRTUALLY NO CHANGE.

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CHILDREN'S GAMES DAY

THREE ORGANIZATIONS IN SHEK LEI HOUSING ESTATE IN KWAI CHUNG HAVE ORGANIZED A GAMES DAY TOMORROW (SUNDAY) FOR SOME 600 CHILDREN LIVING IN THE AREA.

THIS WILL BE HELD IN THE SHEK YAM ESTATE PLAYGROUND ADJACENT TO THE SHEK LEI ESTATE. THE GAMES DAY IS ORGANIZED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S ESTATE COMMUNITY WORK OFFICE IN SHEK LEI, THE HONG KONG ENTHUSIAST SOCIETY AND THE SHEK LEI ESTATE HAWKERS FRATERNITY ASSOCIATION WHO WILL BE ASSISTED BY 100 VOLUNTEERS.

MR. ALEXANDER FUNG, COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICER FOR TSUEN WAN= MR. PANG CHUNG, EDUCATION OFFICER AND MR. PUN SHEK-NAM, HOUSING MANAGER OF SHEK YAM ESTATE WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY AT 9.00 A.M.

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ABERDEEN SEWERAGE SYSTEM TO BE IMPROVED

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A MAJOR IMPROVEMENT SCHEME IS BEING PLANNED TO PROVIDE AN INTEGRATED NETWORK OF SEWERS AND SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITIES IN THE ABERDEEN SEWERAGE DISTRICT WHICH INCLUDES THE SHEK PAI WAN AND WONG CHUK HANG AREAS.

A SITE HAS ALREADY BEEN MARKED OFF OUTSIDE THE WESTERN END OF THE ABERDEEN HARBOUR FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT, WHICH FORMS A PART OF THE INTEGRATED SYSTEM.

WHEN THE WHOLE SCHEME IS COMPLETED, SEWAGE FROM ABERDEEN DISTRICT WILL BE INTERCEPTED BY A TRUNK SEWER AND CONVEYED TO THE TREATMENT PLANT FOR PROPER TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL.

THE TREATED EFFLUENT WILL BE DISCHARGED THROUGH A SUBMARINE OUTFALL INTO THE MAIN TIDAL STREAM OUTSIDE THE ABERDEEN HARBOUR FOR ADEQUATE DILUTION AND RAPID DISPERSION.

AS AN INITIAL STEP TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE IMPROVEMENT SCHEME, A 3,000-FT. LONG INTERCEPTING SEWER WILL SOON BE CONSTRUCTED ON THE RECLAMATION ADJACENT TO SHEK PAI WAN ROAD.

IT WILL EXTEND FROM THE ABERDEEN WHOLESALE FISH MARKET TO A POINT JUST OUTSIDE THE BREAKWATER AT THE WESTERN ENTRANCE TO THE ABERDEEN HARBOUR.

TENDERS ARE NOW BEING CALLED FOR THE LAYING OF THE INTERCEPTING SEWER. WORK IS EXPECTED TO COMMENCE IN SEPTEMBER AND TAKE 18 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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SURVEYOR RETIRES AFTER 17 YEARS WITH GOVT.

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MR. M.P.W. TRISTRAM, PRINCIPAL RATING AND VALUATION SURVEYOR OF THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT, WILL BE RETIRING SHORTLY AFTER 17 YEARS WITH THE GOVERNMENT.

TO MARK THE OCCASION, MR. R.A. FRY, COMMISSIONER OF RATING AND VALUATION, WILL PRESENT A SOUVENIR TO MR. TRISTRAM ON BEHALF OF HIS COLLEAGUES AT A DINNER WHICH WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY (JULY 30) AT CHINA RESTAURANT, WANCHAI.

MR. TRISTRAM FIRST JOINED THE DEPARTMENT AS A RATING AND VALUATION SURVEYOR IN AUGUST 1957. HE WAS PROMOTED TO SENIOR RATING AND VALUATION SURVEYOR IN 1967 AND WAS ADVANCED TO HIS SUBSTANTIVE POST FOUR YEARS LATER.

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RESULTS OF FIFTH GOVERNMENT LOTTERY

THE FIRST PRIZE OF \$752,000 FOR THE FIFTH GOVERNMENT LOTTERY THIS YEAR WAS WON BY THE HOLDER OF TICKET NO. 0353509.

TICKET NO. 0198371 IS THE WINNER OF THE SECOND PRIZE OF \$75,200 WHILE THE THIRD PRIZE OF \$7,520 WENT TO THE HOLDER OF TICKET NO. 0827994.

THE THREE PRIZES WERE DRAWN BY FOUR COMMERCIAL RADIO PERSONALITIES -- MISS AMY HO, MISS CONITA CHAN, MISS LEUNG SIU-YUNG AND MR. CHOI WAN -- AT THE CITY HALL THEATRE THIS (SATURDAY) MORNING.

WINNING NUMBERS OF THE 50 SPECIAL PRIZES OF \$1,880 EACH ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1076	176072	295123	527160	777538
3759	181898	348673	561907	809375
12111	200207	356132	591932	831499
15185	218128	362468	602196	833451
19289	228249	401237	609564	846241
93768	249474	433130	624758	849050
97045	253439	440911	646562	866017
126086	256748	449036	649062	892341
135722	262185	489998	693773	893454
168464	294017	511874	772293	924989

THERE ARE ALSO 106 CONSOLATION PRIZES OF \$1,880 EACH. THESE PRIZES WILL BE PAID TO HOLDERS OF THOSE TICKETS WHOSE NUMBERS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDE OR FOLLOW ANY OF THE WINNING NUMBERS IN THE DRAW.

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JOINT ART-MATHS SEMINAR FOR 250 TEACHERS

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MORE THAN 250 TEACHERS ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND A SEMINAR DESIGNED TO EXPLORE THE LINKS BETWEEN TEACHING ART AND MATHEMATICS AT THE CARITAS COMMUNITY HALL IN CAINE ROAD ON MONDAY.

IT WILL BE THE FIRST OF ITS KIND ORGANISED BY THE ART AND MATHEMATICS SECTIONS OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO PREPARE FOR A PROPOSED REVISION OF THE MATHEMATICS SYLLABUS IN HONG KONG SCHOOLS.

AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY DESCRIBED THE SEMINAR AS +EXPERIMENTAL.+

HE SAID: +IN THE PAST, SUCH SEMINARS HAVE BEEN CONFINED BASICALLY TO TEACHING METHODS AND TECHNIQUES.

+THIS SEMINAR IS REALLY ABOUT WIDENING THE PROFESSIONAL HORIZONS OF THE TEACHERS. IT IS TO PROVIDE THE TEACHERS CONCERNED WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND TALKS GIVEN BY SPECIALISTS, TO STUDY THE CORRELATION OF THESE TWO SUBJECTS, TO VIEW THEIR RESPECTIVE SUBJECTS IN A NEW LIGHT AND TO DISCUSS TOPICS OF COMMON INTEREST.

+ONE OF THE AIMS OF THE HALF-DAY SEMINAR IS TO DISCOVER IF ANY ADJUSTMENT OF THE MATHEMATICS SYLLABUS CAN BE MADE TO FIT IN WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF OTHER SUBJECTS.+

THE CO-CHAIRMEN OF THE SEMINAR ARE MR. F. PARKIN, INSPECTOR (MATHEMATICS) AND MR. KWOK CHIU-LEUNG, INSPECTOR (ART).

THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS), MR. ARTHUR BROWN, WILL MAKE AN INTRODUCTORY SPEECH TO OPEN THE SEMINAR.

SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION WILL BE PROVIDED FOR THOSE LECTURES DELIVERED IN ENGLISH.

THE SEMINAR WILL START AT 9.30 A.M. AND END AT 1 P.M.

NOTE TO EDITORS: YOU ARE INVITED TO HAVE THE SEMINAR COVERED. THE LECTURERS ARE MR. G. WILLS, VICE PRINCIPAL OF KING GEORGE V SCHOOL= MR. C. BRAMWELL, PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT ARCHITECT= AND MR. CHENG SHIU-CHING, LECTURER, SCHOOL OF EDUCATION, CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG. MR. M.F. GRIFFITH, SENIOR EDUCATION OFFICER (CULTURAL CRAFTS), WILL DO THE SUMMING UP.

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