



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 1976

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INFORMATION ON QUOTA UTILISATION

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THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT TODAY ISSUED INFORMATION ON THE UTILISATION OF QUOTA IN RESPECT OF HONG KONG'S TWO MAJOR TEXTILE MARKETS, THE UNITED STATES AND THE EEC.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THAT IT WAS HOPED THAT PUBLICATION OF THIS INFORMATION MIGHT HELP TO DISPEL SOME OF THE DOUBTS AMONG PEOPLE IN THE TRADE AS TO THE AMOUNTS OF QUOTA STILL UNUSED IN QUOTA HOLDERS' HANDS. IT WAS INTENDED THAT DATA ON QUOTA UTILISATION IN RESPECT OF ALL RESTRAINT MARKETS WOULD IN FUTURE BE ISSUED ON A REGULAR BASIS. DETAILS OF HOW THIS INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DEPARTMENT WILL BE ANNOUNCED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

FOLLOWING IS A BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE QUOTA POSITION FOR THE UNITED STATES AND THE EEC AS AT THE END OF FEBRUARY.

USA

THE CURRENT 12-MONTH US TEXTILE RESTRAINT PERIOD BEGAN ON OCTOBER 1, 1975. IN THE FIVE MONTHS UP TO THE END OF FEBRUARY 1976, A TOTAL OF 310 MILLION EQUIVALENT SQ. YDS. REPRESENTING 35 PER CENT OF THE OVERALL QUOTA FOR THE US HAD BEEN USED. THE RATES OF UTILISATION OF THE MORE POPULAR CATEGORIES ARE SET OUT BELOW :-

<u>CATEGORY NO.</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>UTILISATION RATE</u>
41/42	COTTON KNIT T-SHIRTS	72%
22/23	COTTON TWILL AND SATEEN (INCLUDING DRILLS, JEANS AND DENIM)	61%
43/62(2)	OTHER COTTON KNIT SHIRTS AND BLOUSES	61%
50/51	COTTON WOVEN TROUSERS, SLACKS AND SHORTS	60%
219	MAN-MADE FIBRE KNIT SHIRTS (OTHER THAN T-SHIRTS) AND BLOUSES	51%

/EEC

EEC

THE TWELVE-MONTH RESTRAINT PERIOD FOR THE EEC BEGAN ON JANUARY 1, 1976. IN THE FIRST TWO MONTHS TOTAL QUOTA USED REPRESENTED 16 PER CENT OF THE OVERALL MEMBER STATE LIMITS IN THE CASE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND DENMARK, 14 PER CENT IN THE CASE OF THE UK AND EIGHT PER CENT IN THE CASE OF THE BENELUX. FOLLOWING ARE FIGURES SHOWING RATES OF QUOTA UTILISATION IN RESPECT OF THE POPULAR CATEGORIES :-

<u>CATEGORY NO.</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>UTILISATION RATE</u>			
		<u>FRG</u>	<u>UK</u>	<u>BENELUX</u>	<u>DENMARK</u>
3	KNIT SHIRTS	24%	34%	20%	14%
4	KNIT SWEATERS	16%	19%	10%	25%
8	WOVEN TROUSERS	26%	22%	17%	25%
10	WOVEN DRESSES AND SKIRTS	27%	13%	21%	23%
11	WOVEN BLOUSES	18%	31%	17%	25%
12	WOVEN SHIRTS	15%	23%	13%	24%
13	WOVEN PYJAMAS	28%	14%	10%	4%

THE OVERALL QUOTA UTILISATIONS FOR THE OTHER MEMBER STATES OF THE EEC NAMELY FRANCE, ITALY AND THE IRISH REPUBLIC WERE LOW, WITH NONE OF THE CATEGORIES EXCEEDING 10 PER CENT OF THE LIMITS AS AT END FEBRUARY 1976.

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SUMMER WORK EXPERIENCE SCHEME FOR STUDENTS
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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS SUPPORTING THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF CAREERS MASTERS IN ORGANISING ANOTHER SUMMER WORK EXPERIENCE SCHEME FOR SCHOOL LEAVERS.

MISS ROSE LAU, THE DEPARTMENT'S CAREERS OFFICER, SAID TODAY THAT THE RESPONSE FROM FIRMS AND ORGANISATIONS IN THE LAST TWO YEARS WAS MOST ENCOURAGING INDEED.

IN 1974 WHEN THE SCHEME WAS FIRST STARTED, 58 PUPILS BENEFITTED. LAST YEAR ANOTHER 78 PUPILS WORKED IN HOSPITALS, PUBLIC LIBRARIES, ACCOUNTING FIRMS, INSURANCE COMPANIES, THE HONG KONG TOURIST ASSOCIATION, AND A NUMBER OF OTHER ORGANISATIONS.

MISS LAU, WHO IS SECRETARY OF THE ASSOCIATION OF CAREERS MASTERS, SAID: +I AM MOST WILLING TO CALL ON MANAGERS OF INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL CONCERNS TO GIVE THEM DETAILS OF THE SCHEME.+ MISS LAU CAN BE CONTACTED AT TEL. 5-778311 EXT. 157.

BASICALLY THE SCHEME INVOLVES FORM 5 STUDENTS BEING ATTACHED TO A PLACE OF WORK FOR A PERIOD OF TIME IN ORDER TO PROVIDE THEM WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO GET THE +FEEL+ OF THE WORK PLACE, TO REALISE THEIR POTENTIALS AND THUS TO BRING PURPOSEFUL DIRECTION TO THEIR STUDIES AND CAREER AMBITIONS.

IN A CIRCULAR LETTER TO THE MANAGEMENT OF MORE THAN 50 INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL CONCERNS, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF CAREERS MASTERS, MR. JACLAND LAI, APPEALED TO THEM FOR THEIR SUPPORT AND CO-OPERATION SINCE THE SUCCESS OF THE SCHEME DEPENDED VERY MUCH ON THEIR RESPONSE.

MR. LAI SAID: +WE REALISE THAT WE ARE ASKING YOU TO DEVOTE BOTH TIME AND ENERGY TO THIS PROJECT, BUT WE FEEL THAT, WITH THE FULL SUPPORT OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, A SCHEME OF THIS NATURE WILL BE INVALUABLE TO THESE YOUNG PEOPLE AND WE HOPE THAT YOU, AS WELL, MAY BENEFIT FROM THIS EXPERIMENT.+

MR. LAI, WHO IS THE CAREERS MASTER OF THE DIOCESAN BOYS' SCHOOL, ASKED THE MANAGERMENTS TO COMPLETE AND RETURN BY THE END OF THIS MONTH THE FORMS WHICH HE SENT TO THEM.

HE ENVISAGED THAT THIS SUMMER'S SCHEME WOULD COMMENCE IN JULY.

+WE FEEL THAT IF THE STUDENTS ARE TO BENEFIT FROM THE SCHEME, A PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES CONSISTING OF AN INDUCTION PERIOD OF SPECIAL INTRODUCTION AND A PERIOD OF PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE SHOULD BE DRAWN UP IN ADVANCE,+ MR. LAI SAID.

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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX STABLE LAST MONTH

THE NEW CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) FOR FEBRUARY 1976 WAS 108, THE SAME AS THAT FOR THE PREVIOUS MONTH.

THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS FELL BY ONE POINT. THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF LIVE POULTRY AND FRESH VEGETABLES DECLINED WHILE THOSE OF PORK AND MEALS BOUGHT AWAY FROM HOME ADVANCED.

A FALL OF TWO POINTS WAS ALSO RECORDED IN THE INDEX FOR SERVICES, DUE MAINLY TO REDUCED CHARGES FOR HAIRDRESSING AFTER THE LUNAR NEW YEAR FESTIVAL.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE INDEX FOR MISCELLANEOUS GOODS ROSE BY ONE POINT.

MOVEMENTS IN THE INDEXES FOR OTHER SECTIONS OF COMMODITY WERE INSIGNIFICANT.

THE NEW CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (B) FOR FEBRUARY WAS 109, THE SAME AS THAT FOR THE PRECEDING MONTH.

A FALL OF ONE POINT WAS RECORDED IN THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS. THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF LIVE POULTRY AND FRESH VEGETABLES DECLINED WHILE THAT OF PORK ADVANCED.

THE INDEX FOR SERVICES ALSO DROPPED BY ONE POINT, DUE MAINLY TO REDUCED CHARGES FOR HAIRDRESSING AFTER THE LUNAR NEW YEAR FESTIVAL.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE INDEX FOR MISCELLANEOUS GOODS ROSE BY ONE POINT.

MOVEMENTS IN THE INDEXES FOR OTHER SECTIONS OF COMMODITY WERE INSIGNIFICANT.

THE NEW CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) IS BASED ON WEIGHTS DERIVED FROM THE EXPENDITURE OF HOUSEHOLDS SPENDING BETWEEN \$400 AND \$1,499 A MONTH IN THE 1973/74 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY. THE NEW CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (B) COVERS HOUSEHOLDS SPENDING BETWEEN \$1,500 AND \$2,999 A MONTH IN THE SAME SURVEY.

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D C AND I ANNOUNCES RICE IMPORT QUOTA
FOR SECOND QUARTER

THE RICE IMPORT QUOTA FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1976 HAS BEEN FIXED AT 91,696.5 METRIC TONS, A COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCEMENT SAID TODAY.

THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (TRADE), MR. PAUL WONG, EXPLAINED THAT THE NEW QUOTA - LARGER THAN THE PREVIOUS QUARTER'S QUOTA BY 11,182.5 METRIC TONS - TOOK INTO ACCOUNT THE AMOUNT OF RICE STOCKS IN HONG KONG AND THE OVERSEAS SUPPLY POSITION.

HONG KONG IMPORTED A TOTAL OF 61,082 METRIC TONS OF RICE SINCE JANUARY THIS YEAR. OF THIS AMOUNT, CHINA SUPPLIED 32,431 METRIC TONS AND THAILAND 21,702 METRIC TONS.

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S.W.D. INTER-CENTRE COMPETITIONS

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MEMBERS OF COMMUNITY AND YOUTH CENTRES RUN BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT WILL SHOW OFF THEIR TALENTS IN FOLK-SONG AND DRESS-MAKING COMPETITIONS ON SATURDAY (MARCH 27) NIGHT.

THE COMPETITIONS ARE PART OF A SERIES ORGANISED BY THE CENTRES TO STIMULATE MEMBERS' INTEREST IN ACTIVITIES THAT ARE CURRENTLY BEING PROMOTED.

THE CONTESTS ON SATURDAY WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE ASSEMBLY HALL OF QUEEN ELIZABETH SCHOOL AT 7 P.M.

MISS ANNIE CHAN, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE (SOCIAL WORK), WILL OFFICIATE AT THE PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY. THIS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY PERFORMANCES BY THE WINNERS.

IN THE PAST WEEKS, COMPETITIONS HAVE ALREADY TAKEN PLACE ON JUDO, COOKING, FOLK DANCING AND CAMPING. ABOUT 80 BOY SCOUTS, GIRL GUIDES AND RED CROSS CADETS PARTICIPATED.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO COVER THE COMPETITIONS AND PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY.

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H.K. AT ESCAP MEETING

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A FOUR-MEMBER DELEGATION LEFT HONG KONG THIS MORNING TO ATTEND THE EIGHT-DAY PLENARY SESSION OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (ESCAP) IN BANGKOK.

THE DELEGATION WAS LED BY MR. Q.W. LEE, A LOCAL PROMINENT BANKER. OTHER MEMBERS INCLUDE MR. D.C. JONES, SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES- MR. M.K. COURTNEY, ASSISTANT SECRETARY (ECONOMIC SERVICES) AND MISS ANNIE YAU, ECONOMIST OF THE ECONOMIC BRANCH OF THE COLONIAL SECRETARIAT.

THE GROUP WILL BE JOINED LATER THIS WEEK BY MR. PETER TSAO, DEPUTY DIRECTOR (COMMERCIAL RELATIONS) OF THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT.

THEY WILL RETURN TO HONG KONG ON APRIL 3.

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TEACHERS FOR TECHNICAL INSTITUTES
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A LIST OF TEACHERS WHO CAN STAND IN FOR DAY STAFF OF THE THREE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES DURING THEIR TEMPORARY ABSENCE IS NOW BEING COMPILED BY THE TECHNICAL BRANCH OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FROM SUITABLY QUALIFIED AND EXPERIENCED TEACHERS WHO WISH TO PLACE THEIR NAMES ON THE LIST.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE TECHNICAL BRANCH, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, BONAVENTURE HOUSE, 2ND FLOOR, 85-91 LEIGHTON ROAD.

THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES -- MORRISON HILL, KWUN TONG AND KWAI CHUNG - OFFER COURSES IN CLOTHING INDUSTRIES, CONSTRUCTION, COMMERCIAL STUDIES, ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING AND ELECTRONICS, MECHANICAL ENGINEERING AND MOTOR VEHICLE WORK, PRINTING AND TEXTILE INDUSTRIES.

GENERAL SUBJECTS TEACHERS IN TECHNICAL ENGLISH, COMMUNICATION SKILLS AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION ARE ALSO INVITED TO APPLY.

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WATER STOPPAGE
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WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN TSIM SHA TSUI WILL BE TURNED OFF BETWEEN 1 A.M. AND 6 A.M. ON THURSDAY (MARCH 25) TO ALLOW THE WATER WORKS OFFICE TO CARRY OUT LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE AREA AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY KIMBERLEY ROAD, OBSERVATORY ROAD, CHATHAM ROAD, CAMERON ROAD AND NATHAN ROAD.

ON HONG KONG ISLAND, A NUMBER OF PREMISES WILL BE WITHOUT WATER FOR FIVE HOURS STARTING FROM 1 A.M. ON FRIDAY (MARCH 26).

THE PREMISES ARE IN AN AREA BOUNDED BY HILL ROAD, DES VOEUX ROAD WEST, FRENCH STREET AND QUEEN'S ROAD WEST.

THE INTERRUPTION IS TO ENABLE THE WATERWORKS OFFICE TO CARRY OUT LEAKAGE TESTS.

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DORWARD TAKES UP NEW POST
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MR. BILL DORWARD HAS RETURNED TO HONG KONG TO TAKE UP HIS NEW POST OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDUSTRY AND ADMINISTRATION) AND CONCURRENTLY OF DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF PREVENTIVE SERVICE.

HE HAS BEEN IN GENEVA SINCE JULY 1974 AS COUNSELLOR FOR HONG KONG AFFAIRS IN THE BRITISH MISSION DURING WHICH TIME HE SERVED AS A MEMBER OF THE EIGHT-MAN TEXTILES SURVEILLANCE BODY (TSB) WHICH OVERSEES THE WORKINGS OF THE GATT ARRANGEMENT REGARDING INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN TEXTILES.

PRIOR TO SERVICE IN GENEVA, MR. DORWARD HELD THE POST OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR (COMMERCIAL RELATIONS). HIS NEW POST WAS VACATED LAST SEPTEMBER BY THE FORMER DEPUTY DIRECTOR, MR. JIMMY MCGREGOR, WHO LEFT THE DEPARTMENT ON RETIREMENT AND HAS SINCE JOINED THE HONG KONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AS ITS DIRECTOR.

MR. ROY PORTER WHO ACTED IN THE POST IN THE INTERIM, IS NOW ON HOME LEAVE, IN THE COURSE OF WHICH HE WILL BE LEADING AN INDUSTRIAL PROMOTION MISSION TO SWITZERLAND AND GERMANY IN MAY TO TRY AND ATTRACT OVERSEAS INDUSTRIALISTS TO HONG KONG.

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GOVERNMENT'S FIRST LORRY PARK
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THE GOVERNMENT WILL OPEN ITS FIRST LORRY PARK NEXT WEEK IN KOWLOON.

A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT THE LORRY PARK, AT HO MAN TIN, WILL BE OPEN FROM 8 A.M. NEXT MONDAY (MARCH 29). IT IS LOCATED AT THE JUNCTION OF CARMEL VILLAGE STREET AND CHUNG HAU STREET, WITH THE ENTRANCE ON CARMEL VILLAGE STREET.

THE LORRY PARK WILL BE OPEN TO UNLADEN GOODS VEHICLES OF ALL TYPES. ON WEEKDAYS THE CHARGES WILL BE \$5 FROM 8 A.M. TO 2 P.M. AND \$5 FROM 1 P.M. TO 7 P.M. OR \$10 FROM 8 A.M. TO 7 P.M. A MONTHLY PASS IS AVAILABLE AT \$400.

THERE WILL BE NO CHARGE FOR PARKING ON WEEKDAYS FROM 7 P.M. TO 8 A.M. AND ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

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