

**HONG KONG
GOVERNMENT
INFORMATION
SERVICES**

**DAILY
INFORMATION
BULLETIN**

Wednesday, May 31, 1972

GOVERNMENT AHEAD IN APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING

More Trainees This Year

Government is steaming ahead with a modern apprenticeship scheme and by far has become the largest employer of apprentices under training in Hong Kong.

At the present count, there are 378 apprentices in various departments and plans are to increase this number to 520 within this financial year.

The apprentice training scheme was started in 1969. It was the first properly organised scheme for training craft and technical apprentices to meet the needs of expanding industry.

Theoretical and practical training are both emphasized. The apprentice first joins the Government Apprentices Training Practice Shop, and on completion of basic training are sent to work in various Government Departments.

They have to attend the Morrison Hill Technical School one day a week during working hours, and attend classes two evenings a week for theoretical training.

Craft apprentices are trained for four years. They are taught such trades as fitting, welding, turning, auto and diesel repair, sheet metal work, and various electrical trades.

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Technical apprentices are trained for five years. They receive theoretical and practical training in subjects like Workshop Techniques, Engineering Science and Applied Mathematics.

On completion of their courses, technical apprentices will work at a level between that of the professional engineer and the craftsman.

The Public Works Department Superintendent of Apprentices, Mr. E.M. Laishley, disclosed that there were plans to construct a four-storey apprentice training workshop at the Electrical and Mechanical Office at Caroline Hill, to anticipate future training requirements.

Technical Apprentices

This project, already in Category A of the Public Works Programme, will replace the present workshop in the former Whitfield Barracks in Kowloon.

Prospective technical apprentices must be between 16 and 18 years of age and have completed form five. They have to pass a qualifying examination at form V level and an interview. They should also be medically fit

Those who want to be craft apprentices must be between 14 and 15, and have completed primary six. They also have to take appropriate qualifying examinations.

Both craft and technical apprentices receive pay from Government during their period of training.

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One of the technical apprentices, Mr. Ko Kam Fai, was accepted by the University of Hong Kong last year in the Second Year B.Sc. (Engineering) Degree Course.

Mr. Ko also won the Brown Cup, a trophy given to the best apprentice in a year, in 1969-70.

The Brown Cup winner this year is Mr. Tang Wai Keung of the Waterworks Office.

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PRESS BADGES FOR GOVERNMENT LOTTERY DRAW ON SATURDAY

Note to Editors: We have been asked by the Government Lotteries Management Committee to issue Press badges on their behalf for the occasion of the draw of the 47th Government Lottery.

The badges will be available at the Press Room, G.I.S., as from Thursday (June 1).

The Lottery will be drawn at 10 a.m. on Saturday (June 3) at the City Hall Theatre by the Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose.

Lady MacLehose will present souvenirs to Commercial Radio, H.K.-T.V.B., R.T.V., Radio Hong Kong, and the Government Information Services.

You are cordially invited to cover the event.

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OFFICIAL OPENING OF NEW SHAU KEI WAN MARKET

By Mr. James Wu On June 2

Mr. James M.H. Wu, an Urban Councillor, will officially open the new Shau Kei Wan Market at a ceremony to be held at 3.00 p.m. on Friday, June 2, 1972.

The new market at the junction of Shau Kei Wan Main Street East and Kam Wah Street occupies a site of 10,800 square feet. It replaces the old market which was built in 1893 and demolished in June 1970.

Constructed at a cost of two million dollars, the new building has two marketing floors containing 10 meat stalls, 12 fish stalls, five poultry stalls, one ice stall and 60 mini-stalls for the sale of fruit, vegetables and other hawker commodities.

The purpose of the mini-stalls is to provide custom-built accommodation within the market building for hawkers who previously traded from wooden stalls in an open air bazaar or on the streets.

The market building also houses Government offices, including a new Eastern Health Office. There is a spacious covered play area on the second floor, and an open play area on the roof.

A bridge at second floor level links the market with the adjacent Hong Kong Housing Society Estate, Ming Wah Dai Ha, thus giving the residents of the estate convenient access to the market.

The business hours of the market are from 6.00 a.m. to 8.00 p.m. daily. During these hours the covered and open play areas will also be open.

The temporary market at Factory Street which provided marketing facilities during the construction of the new market has been demolished.

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INTER-INSTITUTIONAL SONG CONTEST

Programme To Promote Cultural Interest

About 200 trainees in correctional institutions maintained by the Social Welfare Department and voluntary organisations will take part in an inter-institutional song contest at the O Pui Shan Boys' Home at 2.00 p.m. on Friday, June 2.

The contest is sponsored by Miss Annie Chan Suet-man, Assistant Director (Social Work), of the Social Welfare Department.

Participants will come from the Begonia Road Boys' Home, the Castle Peak Boys' Home, the Ma Tau Wei Girls' Home, the Kwun Tong Hostel, the O Pui Shan Boys' Home, and also from the Juvenile Care Centre and the Society of Boys' Centres.

Popular Chinese folk songs have been selected for the contest, and participants will compete in solo numbers as well as in choirs.

Adjudicators for the contest will be Miss Josephine Chan Suet-ching and Mrs. Chen Liu Mu-lan, Senior Principal Social Welfare Officer and head of the Probation and Corrections Division.

Mr. Mak Wing-hong, Principal Social Welfare Officer (Correctional Institutions), said today the main aim of the contest was to promote interest in cultural activities, to develop an appreciation of music among the trainees, and to discover "hidden talent" among them, so that future leisure could be properly employed.

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"I hope that through such activities, trainees in the various institutions will come to appreciate the meaning of a cultural approach to leisure and the choice of hobbies," he said. "The contest will also help to promote a working spirit and a sense of co-operation among correctional institutions."

Mr. Mak invited members of the public to attend the contest because their presence would encourage the trainees and staff in the propagation of such activities in the future.

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Note to Editors: You are invited to attend the contest. It begins at 2.00 p.m. in the O Pui Shan Boys' Home, Kau Wa Kang, Kowloon.

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INTERRUPTION OF WATER SUPPLY

Wong Tai Sin Area

Water supply to an area of Wong Tai Sin will be interrupted for five hours from 1 a.m. to 6 a.m. on Friday, June 2.

The Waterworks Office will carry out a leakage test during that period.

The area is bounded by Lung Cheung Road, Sheung Tak Street and Tung Tau Tsuen Road.

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HEALTH REQUIREMENTS BETWEEN HONG KONG AND MACAU

Cholera, Smallpox Certificates Unnecessary From June 1

Requirements for valid vaccination certificates against either cholera or smallpox will be unnecessary for travellers between Hong Kong and Macau, and vice versa, from June 1 this year.

The agreement is based on Article 98 of the International Health Regulations and will remain effective while the two territories continue to be uninfected with either cholera or smallpox.

Article 98 of the International Health Regulations allows for the conclusion of special treaty or arrangement "between two or more States having certain interests in common owing to their health, geographical, social or economical conditions".

Dr. the Hon. G.H. Choa, Director of Medical and Health Services, said today should either of the two territories become infected then restrictions would be re-imposed five days after the notification of the first case.

He explained that five days had been decided upon for administrative convenience, and then appropriate re-imposed health documents would be required of travellers from the infected area, depending on the discovery of a case of cholera, or smallpox, or both.

Dr. Choa said the Hong Kong and Macau governments had already notified the World Health Organization of this agreement. Similar international agreements under Article 98 of the International Health Regulations had been entered into by the Council of Europe countries, and also between Singapore and Malaysia.

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The Macau Ferry Wharf Facilitation Committee is being advised by the Chief Port Health Officer of the terms of this agreement. The Port Health Office at the wharf will be retained.

Travellers are reminded that when required a valid Certificate means one which complies with the International Health Regulation (1969).

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SIR HUGH NORMAN-WALKER GOES ON LEAVE

Mr. M.D.A. Clinton To Act As Colonial Secretary

The Colonial Secretary, the Hon. Sir Hugh Norman-Walker, leaves Hong Kong tomorrow (Thursday) for leave in Britain. He will return to Hong Kong on August 2.

During Sir Hugh's absence, Mr. M.D.A. Clinton will act as Colonial Secretary. Mr. G.P. Lloyd, Defence Secretary, will be Acting Deputy Colonial Secretary.

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Note to Editors: Sir Hugh leaves Kai Tak Airport by BOAC Flight BA 919 at 9.30 p.m. He will not hold a press conference.

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF POOLS

At Victoria Park And Morse Park Swimming Pool Complexes

The Victoria Park Swimming pool will be closed to the public when the following school/organisation will be holding its Swimming Gala:-

<u>School/Organisation</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
* Wellington College	June 1, 1972	8 a.m. - 12 noon
* Caine College	June 2, 1972	8 a.m. - 12 noon
* Caine College	June 8, 1972	8 a.m. - 12 noon

The main pool and spectator stand in the Morse Park Swimming pool complex will also be closed to the public when the following school/organisation will be holding its Swimming Gala:-

<u>School/Organisation</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
* Beacon Hill School	June 2, 1972	9 a.m. - 12 noon
* Public Works Department	June 4, 1972	5 p.m. - 9 p.m.
* Weekly Time-Trial Races organised by Mr. G. Dowsley, The Education Department and The Hong Kong Amateur Swimming Association	June 10, 1972	8 a.m. - 11:45 p.m.

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STATUTORY HOLIDAY FOR INDUSTRIAL WORKERS

On Day Of Dragon Boat Festival

The Commissioner of Labour, Mr. Paul Tsui, today reminded employers that Thursday, June 15, 1972, the day of the Tuen Ng (Dragon Boat) Festival, is one of the six statutory holidays to which industrial workers are entitled under the Industrial Employment (Holidays with Pay and Sickness Allowance) Ordinance.

With few exceptions, all manual workers in industrial undertakings paid on a monthly, daily, or piece-rate basis must be given a holiday on June 15.

Non-manual workers in industrial undertakings earning not more than \$700 a month have the same right.

To qualify for this paid holiday, which is in addition to the compulsory four rest-days a month, a worker must have worked at least 180 days during a period of 12 months, and at least 20 days in the 28 days preceding June 15.

A worker who does not qualify must also be given a holiday but has no statutory entitlement to be paid although an employer may voluntarily agree to pay him.

An employer may grant a holiday on another day instead of June 15, but he must do so within 60 days after that date and must post a notice of his intention at least 48 hours in advance.

/An employer

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An employer who grants more than six paid holidays a year is still required to comply with the ordinance, but, by agreement with a worker, he is allowed to designate one of the paid holidays as substitute for the statutory holiday on June 15.

A worker or employer who is in doubt about his rights or obligations regarding statutory holidays or holiday pay may obtain the advice of the Senior Labour Inspector in-charge of the Women and Young Persons Unit at various branch offices of the Labour Department.

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COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO "JUMBO" FIRE

Copies Of Report On Sale

Copies of the Report of the Commission of Inquiry into last October's fire on the "Jumbo" floating restaurant at Aberdeen are now on sale at \$5.00 each at the Government Publications Centre at Star Ferry Concourse, Central, and at the Government Printing Department, North Point.

The Report was tabled in the Legislative Council meeting last Wednesday, (May 24).

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BOTANIC GARDENS ZOO

Proposals For Phased Expansion Approved

Mr. A. de O. Sales, Chairman of the Recreation and Amenities Select Committee of Urban Council, announced today that his Committee had approved proposals for a phased expansion of the Wild Mammals Exhibit in the Botanic Gardens.

The detailed plans for this expansion, drawn up by the Curator of Mammals, Mr. J.D. Romer, include two phases.

Phase 1 is to reprovise all of the existing cages by the building of technically well-designed enclosures, attractively laid out to facilitate viewing, and of adequate size for breeding groups of animals to increase both the educational and conservation value of the exhibits.

There will be seven separate enclosures, two of them double to accommodate two or more similar species.

"Not only will it be possible to establish larger (and consequently more attractive) breeding groups of the animals already exhibited, but also to exhibit several additional species," said Mr. Sales.

He said it is not yet known how soon the work will commence, but this first phase of the expansion might take two years to complete.

Phase 2 is to provide a special enclosure with a view to establishing a small breeding group of Orang-utans. Mr. Sales said his Committee had approved the preparation of technical plans for this project.

Note to editors: Copies of a sketch plan on the phased expansion of the Botanic Gardens Zoo are distributed separately in the G.I.S. Press Boxes this evening.

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DIRECTOR OF BROADCASTING ANNOUNCES

Stereo FM To Continue On Limited Scale

The Director of Broadcasting, Mr. Donald Brooks, announced today that in view of the public response to the stereo FM demonstration transmissions, he would continue these on a limited scale until such time as full stereo coverage of the Colony could be achieved.

"We have received", said Mr. Brooks, "hundreds of telephone calls at Broadcasting House, and very many letters, all indicating that stereo is popular and much wanted.

"As a result, I propose to broadcast the nightly FM Music Service on both monaural FM on 91 M/Hz and in stereo on 96 M/Hz from now on.

"Listeners will, however, have to realise that with the limited power of 100 watts ERP available, the service can only be received within the harbour basin area.

"Programme material available will be mainly in stereo, but will also contain some monaural items, but the fact that whatever is available in stereo, will be broadcast in stereo, will, I hope, give satisfaction to listeners with stereo equipment. I hope it will not be too long before we can provide a Colony-wide FM stereo service," he said.

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SALE OF 47TH GOVERNMENT LOTTERY TICKETS

A total of 515,000 tickets for the 47th Government Lottery has been sold up to 5 p.m. today.

The draw will take place at 10 a.m. on Saturday (June 3).

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Release time: 6.45 p.m

PRESS RELEASE

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ONLY TWO WEEKS LEFT
FOR NEW VOTERS TO REGISTER.

The final phase of an intensive four-month drive to register new voters for next year's Urban Council elections starts tomorrow (Thursday, June 1).

Registration of new voters closes in a fortnight's time on June 14.

The Commissioner of Registration, Mr. J.V.G. Mitchell, stressed that unless people register now they will not have another opportunity to do so for another two years.

New posters are being displayed in English and Chinese informing people where electoral registration forms can be obtained. Radio and television announcements will also be used, and Post Office mail deliveries will be franked with the slogan "Urban Voters Register Now."

Electoral registration forms can be obtained from any of the following places:-

- * Kiosks in Statue Square and near Ocean Terminal
- * Hong Kong Island Star Ferry Concourse
- * City District Offices



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PRESS RELEASE

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- * Post Office Inquiry Counters .
- * Registration of Persons Offices
- * Urban Council Ward Offices
- * District Offices in the New Territories
- * Kaifong and Rural Committee Offices

People on the current roll of electors who have so far failed to re-register are being sent Sexennial Notices of Inquiry for the second time.

These are accompanied by a personal letter signed by the Commissioner of Registration, reminding people that if they fail to re-register they will lose the opportunity of voting in the next Urban Council elections. The closing date for returning the forms is June 30.

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