



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 1976

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PROPOSAL TO SET UP INDUSTRIAL ESTATES
PROVISIONAL AUTHORITY

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THE GOVERNMENT IS PROPOSING TO ESTABLISH AN INDUSTRIAL ESTATES PROVISIONAL AUTHORITY.

THE PROVISIONAL AUTHORITY WILL BE SET UP AS AN INTERIM MEASURE TO CONTINUE THE WORK OF A STEERING GROUP ON INDUSTRIAL ESTATES, PENDING THE CREATION LATER THIS YEAR OF A STATUTORY CORPORATION WHICH WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR CONSTRUCTING AND MANAGING INDUSTRIAL ESTATES IN HONG KONG. THE MEMBERS OF THE PROVISIONAL AUTHORITY WILL BE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR.

THIS IS PROVIDED FOR IN THE HONG KONG INDUSTRIAL ESTATES PROVISIONAL AUTHORITY BILL 1976 PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE FOR GENERAL INFORMATION.

THE BILL EMPOWERS THE PROVISIONAL AUTHORITY TO ACQUIRE LAND AND TO DEVELOP IT FOR LETTING FOR USE BY INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS. THE BILL ALSO EMPOWERS THE PROVISIONAL AUTHORITY TO APPOINT THE NECESSARY STAFF TO CARRY OUT THE FUNCTIONS.

THE FUNDS OF THE PROVISIONAL AUTHORITY WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION IS EXPECTED TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHORTLY.

COMMENTING ON THE BILL, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT FOR THE STAGE ONE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TAI PO INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, WORK HAD BEGUN ON RECLAIMING 60 ACRES OF LAND FROM THE SEA, ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF THE TOTAL AREA PLANNED.

SITES MIGHT, HOWEVER, BEGIN TO BECOME AVAILABLE FOR DISPOSAL AS EARLY AS AUGUST THIS YEAR, AND OCCUPATION SHOULD BE POSSIBLE AS FROM THE END OF THIS YEAR OR THE BEGINNING OF 1977. EARLY OCCUPANTS MIGHT HAVE PLANTS OPERATING BY THE SECOND HALF OF 1977.

MEANWHILE, SITE INVESTIGATIONS FOR ANOTHER INDUSTRIAL ESTATE AT YUEN LONG ARE NEARING COMPLETION.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT SUBJECT TO EARLY APPROVAL OF FUNDS AND DEVELOPMENT PROCEEDING AS ANTICIPATED, THIS ESTATE COULD BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF 1980, WITH THE FIRST SITES BECOMING AVAILABLE TOWARDS THE END OF 1978.

WHEN FULLY DEVELOPED, BOTH THE TAI PO AND YUEN LONG INDUSTRIAL ESTATES WILL HAVE A GROSS AREA OF ABOUT 185 ACRES.

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H.K. WILL PROSPER BY WORK OF ENGINEERS

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, TONIGHT SAID THAT BY THE WORK OF ENGINEERS, HONG KONG +IS GROWING AND WILL PROSPER.+

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE INAUGURAL DINNER OF THE HONG KONG INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS AT THE PENINSULA HOTEL.

SIR MURRAY SAID IN HONG KONG THERE WAS +A CONJUNCTURE OF TERRAIN, PROFITABILITY AND SHEER THRUST OF DYNAMIC DEVELOPMENT AND EVEN WITHIN SUCH A COMPARATIVELY SMALL AREA, THIS OFFERS A COMBINATION OF CHALLENGE AND OPPORTUNITY TO THE ENGINEER WHICH MUST BE UNIQUE.+

THE FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH:

+MR. PRESIDENT, GENTLEMEN, MAY I SAY HOW HONOURED I WAS TO BE INVITED TO THIS INAUGURAL DINNER OF THE HONG KONG INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS. I CONGRATULATE YOU ON GAINING STATUTORY RECOGNITION, AND ON THE SPEED AND RESOLUTION WITH WHICH THIS HAS BEEN ACHIEVED.

+I UNDERSTAND YOUR NEXT OBJECTIVE IS FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE INSTITUTION TO BE RECOGNISED AS A QUALIFICATION TO PRACTISE. I HEARTILY WISH YOU SUCCESS SINCE IT COULD SAVE GRADUATES OF THE UNIVERSITIES AND THE POLYTECHNIC FROM HAVING FIRST TO SEEK MEMBERSHIP OF OVERSEAS INSTITUTIONS.

+I WAS DELIGHTED TO HEAR THAT YOUR STUDENTS SECTION GOES FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH. THIS AUGURS WELL, NOT ONLY FOR THE INSTITUTION BUT ALSO FOR HONG KONG, WHICH WILL RELY SO HEAVILY ON THESE YOUNG MEN IN THE COMING YEARS.

+I DO AGREE WITH WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT THE PARTICIPATION OF ENGINEERS IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS. THEIR EXPERIENCE WITH PROJECT MANAGEMENT, CONTRACT LAW, ACCOUNTING, LABOUR RELATIONS, ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES AND SO ON FITS THEM VERY WELL FOR INVOLVEMENT IN WHAT YOU DESCRIBE AS THE DECISION MAKING PROCESS OF GOVERNMENT AND THE COMMUNITY.

+YOU HAVE HIGH AUTHORITY FOR YOUR VIEW. SOME YEARS AGO AT A CONFERENCE ARRANGED BY THE ROYAL SOCIETY AND THE JOINT ENGINEERING COUNCIL, PRINCE PHILIP SAID:

'I BELIEVE THAT IT IS GOING TO BE PROGRESSIVELY MORE DIFFICULT FOR INDUSTRIAL MANAGEMENT OR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION TO BE CONDUCTED BY PEOPLE WITHOUT TECHNOLOGICAL TRAINING. IN THIS EVENT THESE RESPONSIBILITIES WILL FALL UPON TECHNOLOGISTS AND UNLESS THEY HAVE LEARNT TO APPRECIATE THE EXTENT AND SCOPE OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TECHNOLOGY AND HUMAN EXISTENCE, THEIR DECISION CANNOT HELP THE PROGRESS OF HUMAN CIVILIZATION'.

/+SHORTLY

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+SHORTLY AFTER THIS ADVICE BY PRINCE PHILIP, THE COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING INSTITUTIONS INTRODUCED A COMPULSORY EXAMINATION FOR CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERSHIP ENTITLED 'THE ENGINEER IN SOCIETY'. AMONGST OTHER SUBJECTS, THIS COVERS TECHNOLOGY IN SOCIETY, INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL PROBLEMS, MANAGEMENT AND ORGANISATIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND PUBLIC RELATIONS. THE INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS HAS TAKEN THIS A STAGE FURTHER AND ALSO REQUIRE CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERSHIP TO BE PREPARED TO ANSWER AT THEIR PROFESSIONAL INTERVIEWS, A WIDE RANGE OF COMMUNITY AND MANAGEMENT TOPICS. SO IT SEEMS THAT WHILE IT IS RECOGNISED THAT ENGINEERS MUST PLAY A WIDER ROLE IN THE FUTURE, THE COROLLARY IS ALSO ACCEPTED THAT IN THIS CASE THEIR TRAINING MUST BE CORRESPONDINGLY WIDENED.

+I REALISE, NONE BETTER, THE CONTRIBUTION THAT ENGINEERS HAVE MADE, ARE MAKING, AND WILL MAKE TO HONG KONG. SO IT HAS BEEN EVER SINCE SEVERAL HUNDRED YEARS AGO CHINESE ENGINEERS MADE POSSIBLE THE SETTLEMENT OF THE VALLEYS OF THE SAI KUNG AND SHA TAU KOK PENINSULAS BY BUILDING THOSE GREAT SELF-DRAINING DYKES. SO IT WILL ALWAYS BE. IN HONG KONG THERE IS A CONJUNCTURE OF TERRAIN, PROFITABILITY AND SHEER THRUST OF DYNAMIC DEVELOPMENT AND EVEN WITHIN SUCH A COMPARATIVELY SMALL AREA, THIS OFFERS A COMBINATION OF CHALLENGE AND OPPORTUNITY TO THE ENGINEER WHICH MUST BE UNIQUE. THEIR WORKS ARE ALL ABOUT US, AND BY THEIR WORKS HONG KONG IS GROWING AND WILL PROSPER. AND SO I ASK YOU ALL TO RISE AND DRINK A TOAST TO THE ENGINEERS OF HONG KONG AND THE HONG KONG INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS.+

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TEA PARTY FOR VOLUNTEERS
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NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, WILL HOST A TEA PARTY TOMORROW (SATURDAY) FOR 500 YOUNG VOLUNTEERS WHO ASSISTED IN THE RELIEF WORK FOR THE ALDRICH BAY FIRE VICTIMS.

THE PARTY HAS BEEN ORGANISED AS A GESTURE OF APPRECIATION FOR THE GENUINE CONCERN AND PUBLIC SPIRIT SHOWN BY THESE YOUNGSTERS.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND YOUR REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE PARTY, WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE SALESIAN SCHOOL IN CHAIWAN ROAD AT 3 P.M.

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PRICE TOURS ZUNG FU SERVICE CENTRE
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THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR. IAN PRICE, TODAY (FRIDAY) VISITED THE QUARRY BAY SERVICE CENTRE OF THE ZUNG FU COMPANY LTD. AS PART OF HIS PROGRAMME TO KEEP UP-TO-DATE WITH TRAINING, EMPLOYMENT AND INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS IN HONG KONG.

MR. PRICE SAID HE WAS PARTICULARLY IMPRESSED BY THE EFFORTS DEVOTED BY THE MANAGEMENT TO THEIR APPRENTICE TRAINING PROGRAMME.

AT PRESENT, THERE ARE 58 APPRENTICES UNDER TRAINING AT THE COMPANY'S THREE REPAIR AND SERVICE CENTRES AT QUARRY BAY, KWUN TONG AND ABERDEEN.

APPRENTICE TRAINING STARTED IN JULY 1970 ALONG THE LINES OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S PROPOSED APPRENTICESHIP SCHEME.

MR. PRICE SAID THAT A MANPOWER SURVEY CONDUCTED IN 1974 INDICATED THAT THE AUTOMOBILE REPAIR AND SERVICING INDUSTRY NEEDED TO TRAIN ABOUT 600 ADDITIONAL CRAFTSMEN ANNUALLY TO MEET THE DEMANDS OF THE INDUSTRY.

+THE BEST WAY FOR A FIRM TO ENSURE IT HAS A SUFFICIENT SUPPLY OF SKILLED CRAFTSMEN IS TO TRAIN ITS OWN,+ HE ADDED.

MR. PRICE SAID THIS SORT OF INVESTMENT LED TO BETTER SERVICE, INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY, COMPETITIVENESS AND PROFITABILITY.

TURNING TO THE NEED FOR APPRENTICES TO UNDERTAKE RELATED TECHNICAL EDUCATION, MR. PRICE SAID: +THE GOVERNMENT HAS MADE AVAILABLE THE NECESSARY TECHNICAL COURSES IN TECHNICAL INSTITUTES. IT IS NOW UP TO EMPLOYERS TO USE, FOR THEIR OWN BENEFIT, THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION FACILITIES PROVIDED.+

MR. PRICE SAID: +EMPLOYERS OUGHT TO BE THOROUGHLY AWARE OF THE APPRENTICESHIP ORDINANCE WHICH WAS ENACTED IN FEBRUARY THIS YEAR AND WHICH WILL COME INTO EFFECT LATER THIS YEAR. IF THEY HAVE QUERIES, THEY SHOULD APPROACH THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S INDUSTRIAL TRAINING DIVISION.

+THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THE ORDINANCE IS TO ENSURE THAT YOUNG PEOPLE BETWEEN THE AGE OF 14 AND 18 WORKING IN CERTAIN DESIGNATED TRADES WILL BE PROPERLY TRAINED FOR THE BENEFIT NOT ONLY OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE THEMSELVES BUT ALSO OF THE INDUSTRY IN WHICH THEY WORK.+

MR. PRICE WAS ACCOMPANIED ON THE VISIT BY MR. HORACE KNIGHT, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER (INDUSTRIAL TRAINING), MR. C.P. MORRE, MR. R.G. LEE, BOTH DIRECTORS OF THE COMPANY, AND MR. D.E. YOUNG, SERVICE MANAGER.