



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1978

<u>CONTENT</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
GOVERNOR OPENS TRAINING CENTRE FOR THE BLIND .....	1
BRITISH CONSULTANTS STUDY WHOLESALE MARKETING PRACTICES IN H.K. ....	2
KCR TO ACQUIRE NEW MACHINE FOR TRACK MAINTENANCE .....	4
S.W.D.'S COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR YOUTH OUTLINED .....	5
MR. F.K. LI TO ATTEND CHARITY SHOW .....	6
WATER CUT .....	6

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1978

- 1 -

GOVERNOR OPENS TRAINING CENTRE FOR THE BLIND  
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, TODAY OPENED THE POKFULAM TRAINING CENTRE FOR THE BLIND -- THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN HONG KONG PROVIDING FORMAL TRAINING FACILITIES FOR MENTALLY RETARDED BLIND CHILDREN.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE CENTRE, SIR MURRAY SAID IT SIGNIFIES THE BEGINNING OF REHABILITATION WORK ON A SYSTEMATIC BASIS FOR BLIND PERSONS SUFFERING FROM MULTIPLE HANDICAPS.

+THIS CENTRE OFFERS FINE VOCATIONAL FACILITIES AND SOPHISTICATED PROGRAMMES. I HAVE NO DOUBT IT WILL DEMONSTRATE CONVINCINGLY TO EMPLOYERS AND THE PUBLIC THAT BLIND PEOPLE CAN POSSESS MORE ABILITIES THAN THEIR APPARENT HANDICAPS,+ SIR MURRAY SAID.

THE THREE-STOREY CENTRE WHICH WAS BUILT WITH DONATIONS FROM THE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES FUND, THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB, AND OTHER WELFARE FUNDS, IS A JOINT VENTURE OF THE HONG KONG SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND AND THE EBENEZER SCHOOL AND HOME FOR THE BLIND.

FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE POKFULAM TRAINING CENTRE TODAY.

+I AM VERY PLEASED TO BE HERE THIS AFTERNOON TO OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE POKFULAM TRAINING CENTRE.

+THE NEED FOR FACILITIES FOR MENTALLY RETARDED AND BLIND PEOPLE IN HONG KONG HAS LONG BEEN FELT. IN THE PAST THE CARE OF YOUNG PEOPLE SUFFERING FROM A COMBINATION OF BLINDNESS AND MENTAL RETARDATION WAS MAINLY PROVIDED BY THE EBENEZER SCHOOL AND HOME FOR THE BLIND, BUT UNDER A RESTRICTED PROGRAMME.

+THIS CENTRE, A JOINT VENTURE OF THE HONG KONG SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND AND THE EBENEZER SCHOOL AND HOME FOR THE BLIND IS THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN HONG KONG PROVIDING FORMAL TRAINING FACILITIES FOR MENTALLY RETARDED BLIND CHILDREN. IT SIGNIFIES THE BEGINNING OF REHABILITATION WORK ON A SYSTEMATIC BASIS FOR BLIND PERSONS SUFFERING FROM MULTIPLE HANDICAPS.

+THIS CENTRE OFFERS FINE VOCATIONAL FACILITIES AND SOPHISTICATED PROGRAMMES. I HAVE NO DOUBT IT WILL DEMONSTRATE CONVINCINGLY TO EMPLOYERS AND THE PUBLIC THAT BLIND PEOPLE CAN POSSESS MORE ABILITIES THAN THEIR APPARENT HANDICAPS. GIVEN THE RIGHT NUMBER OF THE RIGHT JOBS, MOST DISABLED PERSONS OF WHATEVER AGE CAN BE HELPED TO MAKE THEIR OWN WAY INTO SOCIETY.

+I WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE THE EBENEZER SCHOOL AND HOME FOR THE BLIND AND THE HONG KONG SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND ON THIS MAGNIFICENT PROJECT.

+I HAVE ALWAYS APPRECIATED THE PIONEERING AND SUCCESSFUL ROLE ASSUMED BY THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR IN THESE MATTERS AND THIS CENTRE IS INDEED AN EXAMPLE FOR OTHERS TO FOLLOW.

+I NOW HAVE GREAT PLEASURE IN DECLARING THE POKFULAM TRAINING CENTRE OPEN.+

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1978

- 2 -

BRITISH CONSULTANTS STUDY WHOLESALE MARKETING  
PRACTICES IN H.K.

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A FIRM OF MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM HAS BEEN COMMISSIONED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO CONDUCT A SURVEY INTO EXISTING WHOLESALE MARKETING PRACTICES IN HONG KONG.

THE RESULTS OF THE NINE MONTHS' SURVEY WILL BE INCORPORATED IN PLANNING NEW WHOLESALE MARKET COMPLEXES, ESTIMATED TO COST ALMOST \$300 MILLION AT CHEUNG SHA WAN AND THE WESTERN RECLAMATION.

THIS WAS REVEALED TODAY BY THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, MR. TED NICHOLS, WHEN HE SIGNED A \$1 MILLION CONSULTANCY CONTRACT WITH THE CHAIRMAN AND MANAGING DIRECTOR OF MODERN MATERIALS MANAGEMENT LTD., MR. K.E. BOOTH.

THE NEW MARKETS ARE EXPECTED TO BE OPERATIONAL IN 1984 AND WILL REPLACE EXISTING AND TEMPORARY MARKETS AT CHEUNG SHA WAN AND KENNEDY TOWN.

THE GOVERNMENT'S COMPLEX FOR THE WHOLESALE MARKETING OF VEGETABLES, FRUIT, FRESHWATER FISH, POULTRY AND EGGS IS ESTIMATED TO COST ABOUT \$243 MILLION WHILE THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION COMPLEX FOR THE MARKETING OF MARINE FISH IS EXPECTED TO COST ABOUT \$43 MILLION.

MODERN MATERIALS MANAGEMENT LTD. OF BASINGSTROKE, HAMPSHIRE, WAS THE CONSULTANCY FIRM INVOLVED IN THE REDESIGNING AND TRANSFER OF THE NEW CONVENT GARDEN MARKET AT NINE ELMS.

IN HONG KONG, THE FIRM WILL BE REQUIRED, WITHIN ITS TERMS OF REFERENCE, TO PREPARE LAYOUT DRAWINGS SHOWING A TYPICAL INDIVIDUAL TRADER'S PREMISES AS WELL AS THE TOTAL MARKET AND SITE LAYOUTS, INDICATING ACCESS AND PARKING REQUIREMENTS.

EARLY NEXT YEAR, THE FIRM WILL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT AN INTERIM REPORT ON THE CHEUNG SHA WAN MARKET. THE REPORT WILL COVER THE CHARACTERISTICS AND OPERATING REQUIREMENTS OF EACH OF THE TRADES AS WELL AS PROVIDING ALTERNATIVE SUGGESTIONS ON HANDLING AND STORAGE SYSTEMS SUITABLE FOR EACH TRADE.

A SIMILAR REPORT FROM THE CONSULTANTS ON THE WESTERN RECLAMATION MARKET PROJECT WILL BE MADE IN MID-1979.

THE REPORTS WILL ALSO COVER DETAILS SUCH AS THE PATTERN OF VEHICLE MOVEMENTS TO MATCH ESTABLISHED TRADING HOURS AND ACCESS MANOEUVERING SPACE COUPLED WITH THE REQUIRED FACILITIES FOR LOADING AND UNLOADING.

/OTHER POINTS.....

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1978

- 3 -

OTHER POINTS TO BE COVERED BY THE CONSULTANTS INCLUDE:-

- \* TO PREPARE ALTERNATIVE SYSTEMS FOR MECHANISED HANDLING OF INCOMING CONSIGNMENTS BY SEA AND ESTABLISH PIER LAYOUTS-
- \* TO PREPARE OVERALL LAYOUTS SHOWING THE MARKETS AND THEIR LOCATION ON THE SITES TOGETHER WITH ACCESS DETAILS AND FEATURES OF EACH OPERATIONAL ELEMENT WITHIN THE TOTAL MARKET COMPLEXES- AND
- \* DEFINE BUILDING CHARACTERISTICS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

AT THE CONTRACT SIGNING CEREMONY TODAY MR. NICHOLS SAID THAT THIS WAS A POSITIVE STEP FORWARD IN THE PLANNING PROCESS.

+IT IS A STEP MANY OF US HAVE LOOKED FORWARD TO OVER A PERIOD OF TEN YEARS. A STEP OF PROVIDING HONG KONG WITH MODERN EFFICIENT MARKETS COMPLETE WITH THE FACILITIES THAT WHOLESALERS REQUIRE TO PROVIDE THE HONG KONG CONSUMER WITH THE QUALITY OF PRODUCE HE REQUIRES AT THE RIGHT PRICE,+ MR. NICHOLS SAID.

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1978

- 4 -

KCR TO ACQUIRE NEW MACHINE FOR TRACK MAINTENANCE  
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THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY WILL SOON ACQUIRE A \$1.2 MILLION TAMPING MACHINE WHICH WILL PUT IT ON A PAR IN RAIL MAINTENANCE WORK WITH THE WORLD'S MOST MODERN RAILWAY AUTHORITIES.

AN ORDER FOR THIS MACHINE WHICH WILL GREATLY SPEED UP AND IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF RAILWAY TRACK MAINTENANCE WORK HAS BEEN PLACED WITH AN AUSTRIAN MANUFACTURER FOR DELIVERY EARLY NEXT YEAR.

THE ONE-MAN OPERATED MACHINE, WHICH RESEMBLES A LOCOMOTIVE IN APPEARANCE, IS CAPABLE OF DETECTING AND ADJUSTING ANY DEVIATION BOTH HORIZONTALLY AND VERTICALLY ON ALIGNMENT OF THE RAILWAY LINE AS IT TRAVELS ALONG THE TRACK AT A SPEED OF ABOUT 400 METRES AN HOUR.

THE RAILWAY CHIEF CIVIL ENGINEER OF K.C.R., MR. CHUNG KWOK-SANG SAID THE MACHINE WILL GREATLY REDUCE THE TIME AND EXPENDITURE ON TRACK MAINTENANCE AS A NIGHT'S WORK BY THIS MACHINE WOULD REQUIRE 30 MEN TWO WEEKS TO FINISH IT UNDER THE EXISTING ARRANGEMENT.

+THE MACHINE IS ALSO NECESSARY FOR THE MODERNISATION AND ELECTRIFICATION OF K.C.R. AS IT CAN MAINTAIN THE TRACK TO THE MUCH HIGHER STANDARDS REQUIRED FOR THE SMOOTH RUNNING OF TRAINS AT SPEEDS OF 120 KM AN HOUR WHEN THEY ARE OPERATED ELECTRICALLY,+ MR. CHUNG SAID.

HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT ANOTHER MERIT OF THE MACHINE IS THAT THE MAINTENANCE OF THE RAILWAY LINE, NOW FOUR TIMES A YEAR, WILL BE REDUCED TO TWICE EVERY YEAR, DUE TO THE BETTER AND MORE CONSISTENT QUALITY OF WORK ACHIEVED BY THE MACHINE.

+THIS, COUPLED WITH THE TIME SAVED IN ACTUAL TRACK MAINTENANCE, WILL ENABLE A GREATER UTILISATION OF THE RAILWAY LINE, BOTH FOR PASSENGER AND FREIGHT TRAFFIC,+ MR. CHUNG SAID.

THE MACHINE WEIGHING ABOUT 25 TONS IS TO BE MANUFACTURED ACCORDING TO K.C.R.'S SPECIFICATIONS WITH A SPECIALLY BUILT-IN NOISE-PROOF FEATURE.

IT IS EQUIPPED WITH PRECISION INSTRUMENT TO DETECT ANY DEVIATION WITH AN ACCURACY UP TO 1 MM. AS IT TRAVELS ALONG THE TRACK ANY DEVIATION INCLUDING SETTLEMENT OR MISALIGNMENT DETECTED IS IMMEDIATELY CORRECTED.

THIS IS DONE BY POWERFUL EQUIPMENT IN THE MACHINE TO JACK UP THE TRACK, AND LEVEL IT BACK TO THE DESIRED ALIGNMENT, LEVEL AND SUPER-ELEVATION.

THE ACTION OF THE TAMPING UNITS OF THE MACHINE IS SIMILAR TO THAT OF A VIBRATOR USED AT A CONSTRUCTION SITE. THEY TAMP THE TRACK FOUNDATION TO A CONSISTENT PRE-DETERMINED DEGREE OF CONSOLIDATION TO GIVE THE TRACK GOOD RIDING QUALITY.

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S.W.D.'S COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR YOUTH OUTLINED  
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THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, TODAY (TUESDAY) URGED MORE YOUNG PEOPLE TO TAKE PART IN YOUTH PROGRAMMES GEARED TO DEVELOP THEIR LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL, SENSE OF CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY AND THE ABILITY TO MAKE CONSTRUCTIVE USE OF LETSURE.

ADDRESSING 800 GRADUATES AT THE ANNUAL SPEECH DAY OF THE HONG KONG AND KOWLOON CHIU CHOW SCHOOL THIS AFTERNOON, MR. LEE SPOKE OF THE PERSONAL AND SOCIAL BENEFITS OFFERED BY VARIOUS SERVICE PROJECTS ADMINISTERED UNDER THE GROUP AND COMMUNITY DIVISION OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

+ACTIVITIES SUCH AS FRIENDSHIP GATHERINGS, INTEREST GROUPS, MASS ACTIVITY FUNCTIONS AND VOLUNTEER SERVICE PROJECTS SERVE TO FOSTER AN INDIVIDUAL'S DEVELOPMENT THROUGH HUMAN INTERACTION,+ HE SAID.

OUTLINING THE GENERAL FACILITIES PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S YOUTH CENTRES, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL CENTRES, COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICES, MR. LEE HIGHLIGHTED TWO SPECIFIC PROGRAMMES WHICH HE CONSIDERED TO BE OF SPECIAL VALUE FOR SCHOOL LEAVERS.

+THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH SCHEME, WHICH PROVIDES CASH GRANTS AND PROFESSIONAL GUIDANCE FOR GROUPS TO IMPLEMENT SERVICE PROJECTS OF THEIR CHOICE, HAS GONE A LONG WAY IN STIMULATING INNOVATIVE IDEAS AND AROUSING YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONSCIOUSNESS OF PROBLEMS IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY,+ HE SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE SCHEME, SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 1974, HAD GRANTED A TOTAL OF \$455,000 FOR 393 PROJECTS CARRIED OUT BY 14,600 VOLUNTEERS, WHO, THROUGH PERSONAL EXPERIENCE, CAME TO UNDERSTAND MORE ABOUT THE PRESENT AND FUTURE SOCIAL NEEDS.

+FURTHERMORE, THESE PROJECTS HAVE BENEFITED 610,000 FELLOW-CITIZENS, AMONG WHOM WERE THE HANDICAPPED, THE ELDERLY, CHILDREN, INDUSTRIAL AND OFFICE WORKERS, THE MARITIME AND RURAL POPULATION,+ HE ADDED.

IN ADDITION TO THIS EXPERIENCE-ORIENTED SCHEME, MR. LEE SAID THE DEPARTMENT ALSO SPONSORS A NUMBER OF SELF-PROGRAMMING GROUPS WHICH PLACE EQUAL EMPHASIS ON YOUTH INITIATIVE AND INVOLVEMENT.

+WITH PROFESSIONAL ADVICE AND MATERIAL ASSISTANCE FROM DEPARTMENTAL STAFF, THESE SELF-PROGRAMMING GROUPS, FORMED BY YOUNG PEOPLE SHARING COMMON INTERESTS AND OBJECTIVES, ARE ABLE TO PROMOTE SOCIAL SERVICES,+ HE SAID.

BY ASSUMING A SELF-PROPELLING ROLE, HE NOTED, THE YOUTH GROUPS COULD ALSO DEVELOP THEIR SENSE OF INDEPENDENCE.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1978

- 6 -

MR. F.K. LI TO ATTEND CHARITY SHOW  
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THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS AND INFORMATION, MR. F.K. LI, WILL OFFICIATE AT A CEREMONY AT THE PO LEUNG KUK'S FUND-RAISING CHARITY SHOW AT 8 P.M. TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AT THE LEE THEATRE.

THE SHOW, WHICH WILL BE ATTENDED BY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE KUK, WILL FEATURE A CANTONESE OPERA BY THE CHO FUNG MING OPERA TROUPE.

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WATER CUT  
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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN KWUN TONG WILL BE STOPPED FOR SIX HOURS FROM MIDNIGHT TOMORROW ( WEDNESDAY) TILL 6 A.M. ON THURSDAY TO FACILITATE LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE AREA TO BE AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY HOI YUEN ROAD, HOI BUN ROAD, TSUN YIP STREET AND HUNG TO ROAD, INCLUDING WAI YIP STREET.

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