



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Thursday, September 28, 1972

GOVERNMENT EXPANDING EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES THROUGH AIDED SECTOR

The Government expects to grant 10 more sites to non-profit-making secondary schools during the current financial year.

The move is in line with the government's aim to expand educational facilities through the aided sector.

This policy is contained in the White Paper on Education Policy 1965. As a result, the Government gives free sites, grants and interest-free loans towards the capital costs of new school buildings and equipment to selected non-profit-making organisations in order to achieve the approved targets in the primary and secondary fields.

In addition, grants and subsidies are given to meet or help to meet the recurrent costs in these schools.

Commenting on land grants and financial assistance to selected non-profit-making schools, a spokesman for the Education Department said that during the past five years a total of 56 sites for secondary schools were granted.

Last year, six sites were granted to secondary schools providing a total of 5,080 places.

/These schools

Thursday, September 28, 1972

- 2 -

These schools were also given either capital subsidies or interest-free loans, or both, totalling \$14,595,042 and \$2,725,100 respectively.

The spokesman said that the area to be granted was normally based at the ratio of 1,000 square feet per classroom for a primary school and 2,000 square feet per classroom for a secondary school.

The degree of financial assistance applicable, he said, depends on the type of project.

Capital subsidy is normally granted to fully-aided projects and interest-free loans to private non-profit-making projects. The interest-free loans are repayable over 11 years for a primary school and 21 years for a secondary school.

Referring to the six sites granted last year, the spokesman said:

"The new schools will provide extra places to meet the target aimed at providing by 1976 three years of assisted post-primary education for 50 per cent of the 12-14 age group, and five years of assisted post-primary education for 18-20 per cent of the 12-16 age group."

- - - 0 - - -

13

Thursday, September 28, 1972

- 3 -

DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASE BY 8.5 PER CENT

Hong Kong's domestic exports last month were valued at \$1,417 million, a rise of 8.5 per cent or \$111 million over the figure for August 1971, according to provisional trade figures issued today by the Census and Statistics Department.

At the same time, imports jumped by 18.9 per cent or \$301 million to \$1,895 million. Re-exports also increased substantially over those of August last year and were worth \$370 million -- an increase of 33.3 per cent or \$93 million.

A spokesman for the Commerce and Industry Department said today that during the three-month period from June to August this year, domestic exports totalled \$4,052 million, imports \$5,680 million and re-exports \$1,096 million.

Compared with the corresponding period in 1971, these figures represented increases of 7.7 per cent, 11.5 per cent and 26.7 per cent respectively.

Figures for the eight-month period from January to August show increases over the same period last year of 8.7 per cent for domestic exports, 5.2 per cent for imports and 18.6 per cent for re-exports.

/Details

Thursday, September 28, 1972

- 4 -

Details of the provisional figures for August are:-

MERCHANDISE: Domestic Exports: \$1,417 million
 Imports : \$1,895 million
 Re-exports : \$ 370 million

COMPARATIVE FIGURES:

	<u>August 1972</u>	<u>August 1971</u>	<u>Increase or decrease</u>	
	\$ Mn.	\$ Mn.	\$ Mn.	%
Domestic Exports	1,417	1,306	+ 111	+ 8.5
Imports	1,895	1,594	+ 301	+ 18.9
Re-exports	370	278	+ 93	+ 33.3

	<u>June-Aug. 1972</u>	<u>June-Aug. 1971</u>	<u>Increase or decrease</u>	
	\$ Mn.	\$ Mn.	\$ Mn.	%
Domestic Exports	4,052	3,764	+ 288	+ 7.7
Imports	5,680	5,096	+ 584	+ 11.5
Re-exports	1,096	865	+ 231	+ 26.7

	<u>Jan.-Aug 1972</u>	<u>Jan.-Aug. 1971</u>	<u>Increase or decrease</u>	
	\$ Mn.	\$ Mn.	\$ Mn.	%
Domestic Exports	9,715	8,938	+ 777	+ 8.7
Imports	14,063	13,363	+ 700	+ 5.2
Re-exports	2,561	2,158	+ 402	+ 18.6

- - - - 0 - - - -

/5

Thursday, September 28, 1972

- 5 -

CONTRACT FOR HIGH ISLAND DAMS TO BE SIGNED TOMORROW

The multi-million dollar contract for the construction of the main dams for the High Island Water Scheme will be signed tomorrow, Friday (September 29).

The document will be signed by the Director of Water Supplies, Mr. A.S. Robertson and Mr. Marco Possenti, an engineer of the Italian civil engineering construction company, Vianini - Societa per Azioni of Rome.

Another engineer of the construction firm, Mr. Ezio D'Attomo, will also attend the function to be held at the Public Works Department Headquarters, Murray Building.

The contract is worth just over \$460 million and work will begin next month. It includes the construction of two rockfill dams rising 210 feet above sea level and 340 feet above the foundation level. One dam will be about 2,500 feet long while the other 1,500 feet.

The contract also includes the construction of two smaller rockfill dams to seal neighbouring valleys against overflow, and the formation of roads, cofferdams as well as other ancillary works.

Late last year, the Government signed two other contracts under the High Island Scheme with a consortium comprising Gamaon (Hong Kong) Ltd. and several international firms from Sweden, Germany and France, to build three main tunnels, a number of branch tunnels and their associated stream intakes and shafts.

/The two

Thursday, September 28, 1972

- 6 -

The two contracts were worth another \$298 million.

It is expected water storage within the reservoir will begin in 1976, but construction will not be completed until early 1979.

At top water level, the reservoir will be $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles long and 2 miles wide. It will hold 60,000 million gallons of water -- the total storage capacity of all reservoirs in Hong Kong at present.

.....

Note to Editors: The contract signing ceremony will be held at 11 a.m. in the Conference Room of the Public Works Department Headquarters located on the 21st floor, Murray Building. You are cordially invited to send a reporter and/or photographer to cover the occasion.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/7

Thursday, September 28, 1972

- 7 -

PREPARATIONS FOR AGRICULTURAL SHOW UNDER WAY

Preparations for this year's Agricultural Show, the biggest to be held in Hong Kong, are now well under way.

The show, to be held on the Sek Kong Airstrip in the New Territories from December 8 to 11, will be officially opened by the Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose.

It again promises to provide plenty of entertainment as well as information for both farmers and city-dwellers.

For the farmer, there is an opportunity to learn the latest developments in crop and animal husbandry and to participate in some 150 competitions for the best livestock, vegetables, fruits, flowers or pot plants.

For the family on a country outing, there will be a 'children's corner', where in addition to pets and playthings, live mules will be used to take children for rides.

A series of cookery demonstrations by well-known chefs, with a different vegetable for each recipe, should prove popular with housewives. The more serious-minded will be interested in the numerous display stalls to be set up by government departments, the army, public organisations, and commercial firms.

Entertainment programmes, including demonstrations by a police dog team and army horse-riders, are being arranged, and the Education Department is planning a drawing competition among school children, with the best pictures to be exhibited at the Show.

/The organisers

Thursday, September 28, 1972

- 8 -

The organisers -- the Agriculture and Fisheries Department -- will have its own special stall. Displays there will illustrate the various aspects of good agricultural management.

There will be different sections with separate emphasis on four subjects -- land and water management (irrigation), conservation of land and forestry, livestock, and crop husbandry.

Other government departments and commercial firms which will be setting up stalls will also provide services to farmers and residents of rural areas.

Admission is free and it is hoped to arrange for extra buses and trains during the four-day Show. There will also be a large parking area.

----- 0 -----

/9

Thursday, September 28, 1972

- 9 -

AUCTION OF CROWN LAND

The first group of lots in the new six monthly land sales forecast will be auctioned on Friday, October 27, in the City Hall.

Of the lots being offered, five are for residential purposes and the sixth for non-industrial use.

Three of them are in Watford Road on the Peak. The areas range from 17,000 square feet to 29,000 square feet, and upset prices from \$800,000 to \$1,600,000.

In Kowloon, two lots in the "Broadcasting City" area are being offered for sale. One in Broadcast Drive has an area of about 16,000 square feet and an upset price of \$4,400,000, while the second lot at the junction of Marconi Road and Broadcast Drive, covering 17,000 square feet, has an upset price of \$5,000,000.

The only lot to be used for non-industrial purposes is at Tsung Man Street in Aberdeen. It has an area of about 7,410 square feet and an upset price of \$3,000,000.

Those who want to have the full particulars and conditions of sale and inspect the sale plans may go to the Public Enquiry Sub-office on the ground floor of the Central Government Offices (West Wing).

They may also call at the Crown Lands and Survey Office, on the 10th floor of the Kowloon Government Offices, at 405, Nathan Road.

----- 0 -----

Thursday, September 28, 1972

- 10 -

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD SCHEME PRESENTATION

The Deputy Director of Social Welfare, Mr. Thomas C.Y. Lee, said today the Government's interest in youth work could be seen from the fact that about two-fifths of current subventions to voluntary agencies went to those doing welfare work among the young.

He was speaking at a ceremony in the Mariner's Club when 39 members of the Social Welfare Department's Princess Alexandra Community Centre received bronze awards in the Duke of Edinburgh's award scheme.

Subventions for the current financial year total approximately \$20 million, and two-fifths would be about \$8 million.

Mr. Lee congratulated the award winners, and urged them to strive for further achievements. The scheme was a challenge to them, and to other young people. It promoted the development of self-confidence.

He referred to the department's participation in the scheme from February this year as one of the operating authorities, but the SWD had been interested in the scheme since it was begun in 1961.

He recalled that the department maintained direct youth services through a complex of community centres, youth centres, and social centres. In addition, it helped voluntary agencies in their efforts to promote youth work in Hong Kong. The extent of the subventions was the best proof of this.

The bronze awards were distributed by Mr. Wilson T.S. Wang, Legislative Councillor and chairman of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Committee.

Mr. Wang urged the 39 young recipients to aim for still higher awards by exerting the four "E's" -- effort, energy, enthusiasm and endurance.

"If you have got these," he said, "the Duke's Award is yours."

- - - - 0 - - - -

/11

Thursday, September 28, 1972

- 11 -

EDUCATION OFFICER RETIRING

The head of the Department of Commerce and Management Studies of the Technical College, Mr. Chung Wah-leung, will be retiring on Saturday (September 30) after serving in the department for over 19 years.

Mr. Woolfenden, Acting Principal, Technical College will present a retirement gift to Mr. Chung at a farewell party to be held in the Polytechnic.

Mr. Chung joined the department as an Assistant Education Officer in 1953, and was transferred to the Hong Kong Technical College in 1957.

In 1958, he was promoted to Education Officer, and was further promoted to Organiser (Technical) and Head of the Department of Commerce and Management Studies in 1966.

Mr. Chung played an important part in organising the various ad hoc advisory panels which recommended the type of courses to be run by the Hong Kong Polytechnic, which has replaced the Technical College.

He was also the President of the Hong Kong Chinese Civil Servants Association from 1967 to 1970.

.....

Note to Editors: You are cordially invited to send a reporter and/or photographer to attend the farewell party. It will be held in the Polytechnic at 4 p.m. on September 29 (Friday).

- - - - 0 - - - -

Release time: 7.00 p.m.