



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1981

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EDUCATION REVIEW PANEL OUTLINES INITIAL IMPRESSIONS

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MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL PANEL OF VISITORS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO CONDUCT AN OVERALL REVIEW OF HONG KONG'S EDUCATION SYSTEM ARRIVED IN HONG KONG OVER THE WEEKEND FOR THEIR FIRST JOINT MEETING.

THEY ARE SIR JOHN LLEWELLYN (FORMER VICE-CHANCELLOR OF EXETER UNIVERSITY AND DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE BRITISH COUNCIL), DR GREG HANCOCK (CHIEF EDUCATION OFFICER, AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY SCHOOLS AUTHORITY), DR KARL ROELOFFS (SECRETARY-GENERAL, FEDERAL GERMAN ACADEMIC EXCHANGE SERVICE) AND PROFESSOR MICHAEL W. KIRST (PROFESSOR OF EDUCATION AND BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, STANFORD UNIVERSITY). THE PANEL IS ASSISTED BY TWO SPECIAL ADVISERS, MR Q.W. LEE AND MR JAMES MCHUGH.

INTRODUCING THE VISITORS TO THE PRESS TODAY, THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION, MR KENNETH TOPLEY, SAID THAT A WIDE DIVERSITY OF PERSONS AND GROUPS HAD RESPONDED TO THE PRESS ADVERTISEMENTS INVITING WRITTEN REPRESENTATIONS ON ASPECTS OF HONG KONG EDUCATION: THESE INCLUDED INDIVIDUAL PARENTS, STUDENTS, TEACHERS' ASSOCIATIONS, INTEREST GROUPS, AND STAFF OF TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS. IN ADDITION SOME 30 OR SO PERSONS OR GROUPS HAD ASKED TO MEET MEMBERS OF THE PANEL.

MR TOPLEY SAID THAT THE VISITORS WOULD HAVE A VERY BUSY TIME DURING THE NEXT TWO WEEKS. IN ADDITION TO THE REQUEST MEETINGS THEY WOULD VISIT SCHOOLS OF VARIOUS TYPES, THE TWO UNIVERSITIES, THE POLYTECHNIC, TECHNICAL INSTITUTES, A COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND A POST-SECONDARY COLLEGE.

THEY WOULD DISCUSS EDUCATIONAL POLICY IN THE CONTEXT OF GENERAL GOVERNMENT POLICY WITH SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICERS AND MEET REPRESENTATIVES OF EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATIONS AS WELL AS THE PRINCIPAL ADVISORY BODIES IN EDUCATION.

SIR JOHN LLEWELLYN SAID THAT THE PANEL HAD BEEN STUDYING THE POLICY DOCUMENTS CONCERNING EDUCATION, TOGETHER WITH THE GENERAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION MADE AVAILABLE BY THE GOVERNMENT. THEY HAD PAID PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE WRITTEN REPRESENTATIONS FORWARDED TO THEM AND WERE STRUCK BY THE IMMENSE VARIETY OF POINTS OF VIEW EMBODIED IN THEM. A GOOD DEAL OF THE DISCUSSION OF THE NEXT TWO WEEKS WOULD CENTRE ON THE STATEMENTS AND OPINIONS MADE IN THE REPRESENTATIONS. HE THOUGHT THAT THE OPENNESS OF THE REVIEW, GIVING THE PANEL ACCESS TO ALL SHADES OF OPINION ON EDUCATION, WAS ONE OF ITS MOST VALUABLE FEATURES.

SIR JOHN EXPLAINED THAT AT THE PRESENT STAGE THEIR VIEWS HAD BEEN INFORMED BY CONSIDERABLE BACKGROUND READING, THE STUDY OF WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS, AND PREVIOUS VISITS TO HONG KONG. THEIR IMPRESSIONS WOULD BE CONSIDERABLY INFLUENCED IN THE LIGHT OF DISCUSSIONS AND OBSERVATIONS OVER THE NEXT FORTNIGHT. HE SAID THE PANEL HAD NOTED MANY ISSUES WHICH SEEMED TO BE OF INTEREST TO ALL SECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY, LAY AND PROFESSIONAL, OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL. THREE MATTERS WHICH RECEIVED PROMINENCE IN THE MATERIAL WHICH THE PANEL HAD CONSIDERED TO DATE WERE:

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- * THE EXTENT TO WHICH PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS ALLOW A SMOOTH PROGRESSION FROM PRE-SCHOOL ONWARDS-
- * THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION IN THE SCHOOL SYSTEM AND STANDARDS OF LANGUAGE EDUCATION- AND
- * THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE EDUCATION SYSTEM AND FUTURE INDUSTRIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

SIR JOHN SAID THAT THE PANEL MEMBERS WERE NO DOUBT ASKING THEMSELVES THE SAME SORT OF QUESTIONS AS THOSE RAISED BY THE VARIOUS GROUPS THAT HAD WRITTEN TO THEM.

+IS THE SYSTEM PRACTICAL ENOUGH, HUMAN ENOUGH, FAMILIAR ENOUGH AND SUFFICIENTLY RESPONSIVE TO THE HONG KONG COMMUNITY?+ HE ASKED. +IS IT GEARED TO THE NEEDS OF THE ECONOMY, THE CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE AND THE PRESENT STAGE OF EVOLUTION OF HONG KONG SOCIETY?+

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DEBATE ON MOTION OF THANKS

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A TWO-DAY DEBATE ON THE MOTION OF THANKS FOR THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS MOVED BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY, THE HON SIR JACK CATER WILL BEGIN IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON WEDNESDAY (OCTOBER 28).

A TOTAL OF 23 UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS WILL SPEAK ON THE MOTION ON WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY.

LEADING OFF THE DEBATE ON WEDNESDAY WILL BE THE SENIOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBER, THE HON R.H. LOBO, FOLLOWED BY DR THE HON HARRY FANG, THE HON T.S. LO, DR THE HON FRANCIS TIEN, THE HON ALEX WU, THE REV THE HON JOYCE BENNETT, THE HON S.L. CHEN, THE HON MISS LYDIA DUNN, DR THE HON HENRY HU, THE HON PETER C. WONG, DR THE HON RAYSON HUANG AND THE HON J.J. SWAINE.

ON THURSDAY, 11 OTHER UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS WILL SPEAK ON THE MOTION. THEY ARE: THE HON CHARLES YEUNG, DR THE HON HO KAM-FAI, THE HON ANDREW SO, THE HON F.K. HU, THE HON WONG PO-YAN, THE HON W.C.L. BROWN, THE HON K.C. CHAN, THE HON STEPHEN CHEONG, THE HON CHEUNG YAN-LUNG, THE HON MRS SELINA CHOW AND THE HON MISS MARIA TAM.

THE SPEECHES WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE ON RTHK'S CHINESE AND ENGLISH CHANNELS 2 AND 4.

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SWD WILL CONTINUE TO IMPROVE ACCIDENT SCHEME

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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE TO TRY AND IMPROVE UPON THE OPERATION OF THE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS ASSISTANCE SCHEME, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR SELWYN ALLEYNE, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE HONG KONG INSURERS' CLUB, HE SAID IT HAD BEEN PROPOSED TO RELAX THE SEVEN-DAY SICK LEAVE QUALIFICATION TO A THREE-DAY REQUIREMENT FOR INJURY CASES, SO THAT MORE PEOPLE COULD BENEFIT FROM THIS SCHEME.

IT HAD ALSO BEEN PROPOSED TO RAISE THE LEVEL OF PAYMENT AND TO REDUCE THE LEVEL OF LEVIES ON VEHICLE AND DRIVING LICENCES.

THE DIRECTOR NOTED THAT IN 1980-81, INCOME FROM LEVIES AND FROM THE GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTION WAS \$41.1 MILLION AND \$18.5 MILLION RESPECTIVELY, WHILE TOTAL EXPENDITURE INCLUDING ADMINISTRATION COST WAS ONLY \$21 MILLION.

THEREFORE PAYMENTS MADE AMOUNT TO JUST ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF INCOME, HE SAID.

MR ALLEYNE SAID TWO RECENT TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS HAD THROWN UP PROBLEM AREAS IN THE SCHEME. ONE WAS THE CASE OF A CHINESE UNIVERSITY STUDENT KNOCKED DOWN BY A LORRY ON A ROAD WITHIN THE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS, AND THE OTHER WAS AN ACCIDENT INVOLVING AN MTR TRAIN.

THE SCHEME, HE SAID, DID NOT COVER AN ACCIDENT INVOLVING THE USE OF A VEHICLE NOT ON A ROAD AS DEFINED UNDER THE ORDINANCE GOVERNING THE SCHEME.

AN ACCIDENT INVOLVING A TRAIN, HE WENT ON, WAS IN A DIFFERENT CATEGORY AS IT DID NOT SEEM APPROPRIATE FOR THE SCHEME TO FUND COMPENSATION FOR SUCH VICTIMS. MOREOVER, THERE WERE DIFFICULTIES IN EXTENDING A SCHEME BASED ON ROAD TRANSPORT CONDITIONS TO RAILWAY OPERATIONS.

+STEPS ARE NOW BEING TAKEN TO CLARIFY THE MEANING OF 'ROAD' IN THE ORDINANCE AS WELL AS TO CONSIDER PROVISION OF SEPARATE COVERAGE FOR ACCIDENTS INVOLVING TRAINS AND IT IS HOPED TO FORMULATE NEW ARRANGEMENTS TO COVER THESE AREAS OF NEED,+ MR ALLEYNE SAID.

MR ALLEYNE SAID IT WAS NOT KNOWN TO WHAT EXTENT THE SCHEME HAD DISCOURAGED VICTIMS TO CLAIM DAMAGES OR COMPENSATION.

IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS, THERE WERE ONLY 72 REFUNDS FROM THIRD PARTY CLAIMS, BUT 483 REFUNDS AND DEDUCTIONS FROM EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION, THE AMOUNT BEING ABOUT \$300 000 AND \$1 100 000 RESPECTIVELY.

+THIS IS AN INDICATION THAT ABOUT 88 PER CENT OF TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS WOULD BE UNLIKELY TO GET ANY COMPENSATION IF NO FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WAS MADE UNDER THIS SCHEME,+ HE SAID.

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WELFARE WORKERS OFTEN REACHED OUT TO CONTACT VICTIMS IN MAJOR ACCIDENTS TO HELP THEM APPLY.

PAYMENTS ARE ALSO OFTEN MADE IN STAGES FOR SERIOUS CASES WHERE A PROLONGED SICK LEAVE PERIOD IS INVOLVED.

+WE ARE ALSO VERY CONSCIOUS TO KEEP THE PROCEDURES AS SIMPLE AS POSSIBLE,+ HE SAID.

MR ALLEYNE PAID TRIBUTE TO THE POLICE FOR PLAYING A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN FURTHERING THE SCHEME. ABOUT HALF OF THE APPLICANTS WERE REFERRED TO THE DEPARTMENT BY THEM, WITH THE OTHERS APPLYING DIRECTLY, HE NOTED.

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EMPLOYMENT OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES * * * *

EMPLOYERS WHO WISH TO EMPLOY VIETNAMESE REFUGEES ARE REMINDED TO MAKE SURE THAT THE LATTER ARE LAWFULLY EMPLOYABLE UNDER THE LAW.

THOSE ALREADY EMPLOYING VIETNAMESE REFUGEES ARE URGED TO CHECK THEIR REFUGEE CARDS EVERY PAY DAY TO ENSURE THAT THEY REMAIN EMPLOYABLE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THAT ACCORDING TO THE IMMIGRATION (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1981, A VIETNAMESE REFUGEE IS LAWFULLY EMPLOYABLE ONLY IF HIS OR HER REFUGEE CARD DOES NOT PROHIBIT HIM OR HER FROM TAKING EMPLOYMENT.

THE ORDINANCE ALSO REQUIRES AN EMPLOYER TO CHECK THE REFUGEE CARDS OF HIS VIETNAMESE EMPLOYEES EVERY PAY DAY TO MAKE SURE THAT THEY REMAIN LAWFULLY EMPLOYABLE.

THE SPOKESMAN FURTHER REMINDED EMPLOYERS THAT CAMP PASSES HELD BY VIETNAMESE REFUGEES CANNOT BE REGARDED AS REFUGEE CARDS.

HE POINTED OUT THAT IT HAD COME TO THE NOTICE OF THE DEPARTMENT THAT AN EMPLOYER HAD MISTAKEN CAMP PASSES AS REFUGEE CARDS.

IN ANOTHER INSTANCE, AN EMPLOYER FAILED TO NOTE THAT A VIETNAMESE REFUGEE IN HIS EMPLOYMENT HAD CEASED TO BE EMPLOYABLE.

+TO PREVENT THIS, IT IS ESSENTIAL FOR AN EMPLOYER TO CHECK THE REFUGEE CARDS EVERY PAY DAY TO MAKE SURE THERE IS NO CHANGE IN THE EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF HIS VIETNAMESE EMPLOYEES,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE SPOKESMAN WARNED THAT ANY EMPLOYER WHO EMPLOYED A VIETNAMESE REFUGEE NOT LAWFULLY EMPLOYABLE WOULD RISK A \$50 000 FINE AND ONE YEAR'S IMPRISONMENT.

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ESSAY COMPETITION ON DISABLED

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STUDENTS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE INVITED TO JOIN A CHINESE ESSAY COMPETITION AIMED AT AROUSING PUBLIC AWARENESS AND CONCERN TOWARDS THE DISABLED.

THE EVENT IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, WAH KIU YAT PO AND THE HONG KONG PROFESSIONAL TEACHERS' UNION IN SUPPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF DISABLED PERSONS, AND FINANCED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB.

ENTRIES WILL BE DIVIDED INTO THREE SECTIONS: A JUNIOR DIVISION FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL PUPILS, A SENIOR DIVISION FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL PUPILS, AND AN OPEN DIVISION FOR POST-SECONDARY STUDENTS AND ADULTS.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE JUNIOR DIVISION SHOULD WRITE A LETTER OF NOT MORE THAN 500 WORDS TO A DISABLED FRIEND.

SENIOR DIVISION ENTRIES ON THE SUBJECT +ENLIGHTENMENT FROM THE DISABLED+, SHOULD NOT EXCEED 1 000 WORDS.

OPEN DIVISION ENTRIES ON +INTEGRATING THE DISABLED INTO THE COMMUNITY+, SHOULD NOT EXCEED 2 000 WORDS.

THERE WILL BE A FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD PRIZE FOR EACH DIVISION, WITH AWARDS AMOUNTING TO \$500, \$300 AND \$200 RESPECTIVELY. THERE WILL ALSO BE FIVE PRIZES FOR OUTSTANDING ENTRIES IN EACH DIVISION WITH AWARDS OF \$100 EACH.

PERSONAL PARTICULARS SUCH AS NAME, AGE, SEX, IDENTITY CARD NUMBER, ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF HOME AND SCHOOL SHOULD ALL BE CLEARLY WRITTEN ON THE FIRST PAGE OF THE ENTRY.

ALL ENTRIES SHOULD BE SENT TO THE SPECIAL EDUCATION SECTION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, LEE GARDENS, HYSAN AVENUE, HONG KONG ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 21.

JUDGING WILL BE CONDUCTED BY A PANEL OF ADJUDICATORS INVITED BY THE ORGANISERS, AND WINNING ENTRIES WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE EDUCATION PAGE OF WAH KIU YAT PO.

ENQUIRIES MAY BE MADE BY CONTACTING MR W.M. CHIU OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION SECTION ON 5-7904679 EXT. 19.

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BIG NT CLEAN-UP STARTS

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CEREMONIES TO MARK THE OPENING OF THE CLEAN HONG KONG CAMPAIGN TOOK PLACE IN SEVERAL NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICTS TODAY (MONDAY).

THEY WERE HELD AT SHA TIN, TAI PO AND NORTH DISTRICT TO TIE IN WITH THE TERRITORY-WIDE CAMPAIGN WHICH WILL LAST UNTIL THE END OF NEXT YEAR.

IN NORTH DISTRICT, MORE THAN 160 STUDENTS, ASSISTED BY TEACHERS AND MEMBERS OF MUTUAL AID AND RURAL COMMITTEES, TOOK PART IN A CLEAN-UP OF LUEN WO HUI THIS MORNING.

THEY WERE DIVIDED INTO EIGHT TEAMS AND WERE PROVIDED WITH BROOMS, PLASTIC BAGS, BASKETS AND GLOVES.

A TEAM OF JUDGES, INCLUDING REPRESENTATIVES FROM GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS, INSPECTED THEIR WORK AFTERWARDS.

TEAMS WHICH WON THE HIGHEST MARKS WERE PRESENTED WITH PRIZES AND SOUVENIRS AT A CEREMONY HELD IN LUEN WO HUI PLAYGROUND.

IN THE AFTERNOON, 350 TAI PO RESIDENTS PARTICIPATED IN A PARADE STARTING FROM TAI WING LANE TO PUBLICISE ANTI-LITTER MESSAGES.

THERE WERE ALSO LION DANCES AND PERFORMANCES BY TAI KWONG MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND. A SHOP CLEAN-UP COMPETITION WAS HELD IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE PROCESSION.

MEANWHILE, A BONFIRE CEREMONY WAS HELD IN SHA TIN TO KICK OFF THE CAMPAIGN.

ATTENDING WERE THE DIRECTOR OF NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES, MR JIMMY SWEETMAN= THE DISTRICT OFFICER, DR PATRICK HASE= LOCAL LEADERS= AND 1 000 YOUNGSTERS WHO PUT ON T-SHIRTS AND CAPS SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR THIS OCCASION.

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TSUEN WAN CLEAN-UP CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

THE CLEAN HONG KONG CAMPAIGN IN TSUEN WAN WAS LAUNCHED TODAY (MONDAY) WITH A TWO-HOUR PROGRAMME OF FUN.

THOUSANDS OF LOCAL DIGNITARIES, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, STUDENTS AND RESIDENTS PACKED KWAI CHUNG SPORTSGROUND TO WATCH LION DANCES, SINGING, MAGIC AND ACROBATIC PERFORMANCES, AND PLAY STALL GAMES.

A HUGE HOT-AIR BALLOON, CARRYING CLEAN TSUEN WAN BANNERS, FLEW OVER THE SPORTSGROUND.

FOR THE CAMPAIGN, 11 GEOGRAPHICAL WORKING GROUPS HAVE BEEN FORMED TO ORGANISE COMPETITIONS, SEMINARS AND EXHIBITIONS ON CLEANLINESS FOR RESIDENTS WITHIN THEIR OWN AREA.

A TOTAL OF \$210 000 HAS BEEN ALLOCATED FOR THESE ACTIVITIES, OF WHICH \$20 000 COMES FROM TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CLEAN HONG KONG CAMPAIGN TSUEN WAN DISTRICT COMMITTEES, MR HO CHI-PING, CALLED ON RESIDENTS TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN THE CAMPAIGN.

HE SAID CLEANLINESS IS OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO TSUEN WAN WHICH IS THE LARGEST SATELLITE TOWN WITH A POPULATION OF MORE THAN 600 000.

AND ACCORDING TO STATISTICS PROVIDED BY THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT, MORE THAN 300 TONNES OF GARBAGE IS COLLECTED FROM THE TOWN EACH DAY.

+FOR SUCH A BIG TOWN, IT IS UNFAIR AND IMPOSSIBLE TO RELY ON GOVERNMENT STAFF ONLY TO CLEAN UP OUR DISTRICT,+ HE SAID.

+CLEANING TSUEN WAN IS A RESPONSIBILITY FOR US ALL,+ HE STRESSED.

ALSO PRESENT AT TODAY'S CEREMONY WERE TSUEN WAN TOWN MANAGER, DR JAMES HAYES- THE DIRECTOR OF NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES, MR JIMMY SWEETMAN- AND SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE.

EARLIER IN THE DAY, THE CENTRAL TSUEN WAN WORKING GROUP HELD ITS CAMPAIGN OPENING CEREMONY AT SHA TSUI ROAD PLAYGROUND WHERE HUNDREDS OF STUDENTS TOOK PART IN A CLEAN-UP EXERCISE.

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RE-ROUTING OF LAM TEI ROAD, TUEN MUN

LAM TEI ROAD IN TUEN MUN WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY EASTBOUND FROM 10 AM ON WEDNESDAY (OCTOBER 28) TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW.

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