



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1977

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FULL-DAY WATER SUPPLIES FOR CHRISTMAS  
AND LUNAR NEW YEAR  
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WATER RESTRICTIONS ARE TO BE RELAXED ON CERTAIN DAYS OVER THE COMING CHRISTMAS AND LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS, THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY).

OVER THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY THERE WILL BE FULL-DAY SUPPLY ON CHRISTMAS DAY (DECEMBER 25) AND DURING THE LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAY PERIOD NEXT YEAR THERE WILL BE NO RESTRICTIONS FOR FOUR CONSECUTIVE DAYS BEGINNING FROM LUNAR NEW YEAR'S EVE (FEBRUARY 6).

THE DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES, MR. BILL TUCKER, SAID WITH THE RESULTS ACHIEVED BY THE OVERALL EFFORTS OF EVERYONE IN SAVING WATER, IT WAS FELT THE RESTRICTIONS COULD BE RELAXED DURING THESE TWO FESTIVE OCCASIONS WITHOUT SERIOUSLY REDUCING OUR STORAGE CAPACITY.

HOWEVER, HE CAUTIONED AGAINST BEING OVER-OPTIMISTIC AND SAID THAT WATER SHOULD STILL BE USED SPARINGLY AS THERE ARE SOME DRY MONTHS TO GO BEFORE THE WET SEASON AND EVEN THEN THERE IS NO GUARANTEE OF RAINFALL.

THE PRESENT STORAGE CAPACITY IS 168.6 MILLION CUBIC METRES AS AGAINST 254.2 MILLION CUBIC METRES THE SAME TIME LAST YEAR.

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COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT SCHEME FOR TSING YI

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THE GOVERNMENT WILL SPEND \$60 MILLION TO DEVELOP THE CENTRAL AND NORTH-EASTERN PARTS OF TSING YI ISLAND FOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HOUSING, AS WELL AS FOR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT UNDER A COMPREHENSIVE SCHEME.

ABOUT 20.5 HECTARES OF LAND WILL BE PRODUCED BY CUTTING THE HILLS AND RECLAIMING THE SEA BY MID-1980 FOR VARIOUS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT.

THE LAND TO BE FORMED AT CENTRAL TSING YI IS EARMARKED FOR ROADS AND DRAINS AND FOR THE THIRD PHASE OF CHEUNG CHING ESTATE TO HOUSE ANOTHER 26,700 PEOPLE.

THE SOUTHERN PART OF TSING YI BAY WILL BE RECLAIMED TO PROVIDE LAND FOR A TOWN CENTRE, GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES, OPEN SPACE, A PIER AND FERRY CONCOURSE.

THE LAND FORMATION AND RECLAMATION WORKS, TO BE CARRIED OUT BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT'S CONTRACTORS, WILL START EARLY NEXT YEAR AND TAKE ABOUT TWO-AND-A-HALF YEARS TO COMPLETE.

THE TSUEN WAN TOWN MANAGER, MR. JAMES HAYES, SAID TODAY THE SCHEME WAS AN IMPORTANT ONE AS IT WOULD CATER FOR THE EXPECTED GROWTH OF THE ISLAND.

MR. HAYES SAID THAT TO FACILITATE LAND FORMATION AND RECLAMATION, ABOUT 2,100 SQUARE METRES OF AGRICULTURAL LAND AND 2,424 SQUARE METRES OF BUILDING LAND WOULD HAVE TO BE RESUMED.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD PAY COMPENSATION FOR CROPS, FRUIT TREES, FENCES, WELLS, WATER PIPES AS WELL AS EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE FOR CULTIVATORS, PIG BREEDERS AND POULTRY FARMERS.

THIRTY-THREE TEMPORARY DOMESTIC STRUCTURES AND 49 OTHER TEMPORARY STRUCTURES WILL ALSO HAVE TO BE CLEARED TO MAKE WAY FOR DEVELOPMENT, HE SAID.

+THE DISPLACED FAMILIES, IF FOUND ELIGIBLE, WILL BE OFFERED PUBLIC HOUSING IN TSUEN WAN OR TSING YI, AND THOSE NOT ELIGIBLE WILL BE OFFERED SPACE IN A LOCAL TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA,+ HE SAID.

+IN ADDITION,+ HE SAID, +ALL THESE FAMILIES MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR EX-GRATIA DOMESTIC REMOVAL ALLOWANCE.+

LAND OWNERS INVOLVED IN THE LAND RESUMPTION WILL BE OFFERED THE ALTERNATIVE OF CASH COMPENSATION OR LAND EXCHANGE ENTITLEMENT DOCUMENTS, HE ADDED.

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WATERGEL EXPLOSIVES PLANT  
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THE GOVERNMENT, WITH THE AGREEMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE, HAS DECIDED TO AUTHORISE THE BUILDING OF A WATERGEL EXPLOSIVES PLANT ON STONECUTTERS ISLAND.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE PLANT WILL BE A SMALL ONE DESIGNED TO SUPPLY HONG KONG'S OWN NEEDS OF THIS NEW-TYPE CARTRIDGE EXPLOSIVE. ITS MAXIMUM ANNUAL OUTPUT WILL ONLY BE BETWEEN 2,000 - 3,000 TONNES. LAST YEAR THE QUANTITY OF EXPLOSIVES OF ALL TYPES USED IN HONG KONG WAS ABOUT 3,200 TONNES.

THE SITE CHOSEN IS CONTAINED AND SHELTERED ON THREE SIDES BY HILLS IN THE NORTH, EAST AND SOUTH, THUS ENSURING THAT PEOPLE LIVING IN KOWLOON ARE IN NO DANGER. IT IS OVER TWO MILES FROM HONG KONG ISLAND. THE SITE IS ADJACENT TO THE AREA ON THE SOUTHERN SIDE WHERE THE BRITISH SERVICES HAVE STORED AMMUNITION AND EXPLOSIVES FOR MANY YEARS AND WHERE STRICT SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS ARE ALREADY IN FORCE.

THE SITE MEETS ALL THE REQUIREMENTS OF INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED SAFETY STANDARDS WITHOUT AFFECTING ANY OTHER PART OF HONG KONG.

+CARTRIDGED WATERGEL HAS EXCELLENT SAFETY CHARACTERISTICS AND IS ALREADY FAMILIAR TO THE LOCAL CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY. THERE ARE CONSIDERABLE ADVANTAGES TO BE GAINED IN COSTS AND IN PROMPT AVAILABILITY BY MANUFACTURING THIS EXPLOSIVE LOCALLY,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

WITH THE REDUCTION OF THE GARRISON, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED, IT HAS BEEN POSSIBLE FOR THE SERVICES TO MAKE UNDERGROUND STORAGE SPACE AVAILABLE TO THE GOVERNMENT WHICH IS ALREADY EXTENSIVELY UTILISED AND WHEN CERTAIN ADDITIONAL FACILITIES ARE COMPLETE THE STORAGE OF GOVERNMENT EXPLOSIVES ON GREEN ISLAND WILL BE UNNECESSARY.

OUTPUT FROM THE WATERGEL PLANT CAN BE PLANNED TO MEET LOCAL REQUIREMENTS ALMOST ON A DAILY BASIS AND IT WILL HELP TO REDUCE THE QUANTITY OF BUFFER STOCKS WHICH NOW HAVE TO BE HELD. ISSUES WILL ALSO BE MADE DIRECT FROM STONECUTTERS ISLAND AVOIDING ANY TRANS-SHIPMENT THROUGH GREEN ISLAND.

+VARIOUS USES HAVE BEEN PROPOSED FOR GREEN ISLAND, BUT ITS SHORES ARE STEEP AND ROCKY AND THE SURROUNDING CURRENTS SOMETIMES DANGEROUS. IT IS WITHOUT FRESH WATER AND MUCH OF THE ISLAND HAS TO BE RESERVED FOR MARINE DEPARTMENT USE. THE LIGHTHOUSE AND SIGNAL STATION FOR EXAMPLE WILL REMAIN UNDER MARINE DEPARTMENT CONTROL AND THE DEPARTMENT IS EXAMINING THE POSSIBILITY OF USING THE ISLAND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, FOR EXAMPLE A MARINE TRAINING SCHOOL. IT IS ALREADY A WILDLIFE SANCTUARY AND IT IS INTENDED TO RETAIN IT AS SUCH, PROVIDING AT THE SAME TIME A VISUAL AMENITY AT THE WESTERN APPROACH TO HONG KONG'S HARBOUR.+

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TENDERS FOR THE PLANT WILL BE CALLED FOR SHORTLY FROM TWO INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES, NOBELS EXPLOSIVES LIMITED, A SUBSIDIARY OF IMPERIAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES OF BRITAIN AND E.I. DUPONT DE NEMOURS OF THE UNITED STATES.

THE SUCCESSFUL TENDERER WILL BE REQUIRED TO SET UP AND OPERATE THE PLANT TO COMPLY WITH GOVERNMENT SAFETY AND SECURITY REGULATIONS AT ALL TIMES.

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GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS  
FOR SEPTEMBER SHOW \$148.6 MILLION DEFICIT  
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THE GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 1977, SHOW A DEFICIT OF \$148.6 MILLION, COMPARED WITH A DEFICIT OF \$97.6 MILLION IN SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR. THIS HAS RESULTED IN AN ACCUMULATED DEFICIT OF \$371.1 MILLION FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF THIS FINANCIAL YEAR, COMPARED WITH A DEFICIT OF \$397.5 MILLION FOR THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

TOTAL EXPENDITURE, AT \$663.5 MILLION, WAS \$94.9 MILLION MORE THAN IN SEPTEMBER, LAST YEAR.

TOTAL REVENUE AND RECEIPTS, AT \$514.9 MILLION, WERE \$43.9 MILLION MORE THAN FOR THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR.

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POST EARLY FOR CHRISTMAS

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THE POST OFFICE TODAY REMINDED THE PUBLIC THAT DECEMBER 21 IS THE DEADLINE FOR POSTING OF LOCAL MAIL FOR DELIVERY BEFORE CHRISTMAS DAY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE POST OFFICE SAID THAT POSTING OF LOCAL MAIL ITEMS AFTER THIS DATE COULD NOT BE GUARANTEED DELIVERY BEFORE CHRISTMAS DAY.

MEANWHILE, MAIL DELIVERY ARRANGEMENTS DURING THE CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR PERIODS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18	TWO DELIVERIES
CHRISTMAS DAY, DECEMBER 25	NO DELIVERY
BOXING DAY, DECEMBER 26	ONE DELIVERY
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27	ONE DELIVERY
NEW YEAR'S DAY, JANUARY 1	NO DELIVERY
MONDAY, JANUARY 2	ONE DELIVERY

ALL POST OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED ON CHRISTMAS DAY, DECEMBER 27 AND NEW YEAR'S DAY. HOWEVER, COUNTER FACILITIES WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM 9 A.M. TO NOON AT 32 POST OFFICES THROUGHOUT HONG KONG ON BOXING DAY (DECEMBER 26) AND JANUARY 2 (MONDAY) WHICH ARE GENERAL HOLIDAYS.

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QUALIFYING AGE FOR OLD AGE ALLOWANCE NOT HIGH

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FIXING THE QUALIFYING AGE FOR 'OLD AGE ALLOWANCE' AT 70 IS NOT HIGH BECAUSE OLD PEOPLE BELOW 70 WITH FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES ARE ELIGIBLE FOR AN 'OLD AGE SUPPLEMENT' OF \$100 A MONTH TO THEIR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE, MRS. ROSE GOODSTADT, HEAD OF THE REHABILITATION DIVISION OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SAID.

SPEAKING AT THE PENINSULA LIONS CLUB MEETING THIS (FRIDAY) EVENING, MRS. GOODSTADT NOTED THAT THE AMOUNT OF OLD AGE SUPPLEMENT AND THAT OF OLD AGE ALLOWANCE ARE IDENTICAL AS PROPOSED IN THE TWO GREEN PAPERS PUBLISHED RECENTLY - ONE ON SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY AND THE OTHER ON SOCIAL SECURITY DEVELOPMENT.

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+THE ONLY DIFFERENCE IS THAT OLD AGE SUPPLEMENT IS PAYABLE TO OLD PEOPLE WHO ARE IN FINANCIAL HARDSHIP WITH THE QUALIFYING AGE BEING SET AT 60, WHILE THE OLD AGE ALLOWANCE WHICH IS NON-MEANS-TESTED IS PAYABLE TO ALL OLD PEOPLE OF 70 OR ABOVE,+ SHE STRESSED.

MRS. GOODSTADT POINTED OUT THAT APART FROM CASH ASSISTANCE TO OLD PEOPLE, MEASURES TO HELP SOLVE THEIR HOUSING PROBLEM AND THE PROVISION OF PERSONAL CARE AND ATTENTION WERE IMPORTANT.

ON CASH ALLOWANCE, SHE SAID THAT THE TWO GREEN PAPERS HAD PROPOSED TO PROVIDE FURTHER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO OLD PEOPLE TO MEET ADDITIONAL EXPENSES ARISING FROM OLD AGE.

+AN OLD PERSON AGED 60 OR ABOVE, WHO IS WITHOUT INCOME, UNABLE TO WORK, AND HAS NO CHILDREN TO RELY ON, WILL BE ENTITLED TO, ON TOP OF HIS PUBLIC ASSISTANCE OF \$200 PLUS \$63 RENT ALLOWANCE A MONTH, A MONTHLY OLD AGE SUPPLEMENT OF \$100.

+IF HE IS PERMANENTLY ON PUBLIC ASSISTANCE, HE WILL ALSO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A LONG-TERM SUPPLEMENT OF \$100 TO HIS MONTHLY PAYMENT AFTER THE FIRST 18 MONTHS.+

ON THE QUESTION OF HOUSING, SHE SAID THAT ONLY 18 PERCENT OF THE OLD PEOPLE WERE AT PRESENT LIVING ALONE AND AGED 60 OR OVER, AND 26 PER CENT OF THOSE IN TWO-PERSON HOUSEHOLDS WERE LIVING IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES.

+THE HOUSING AUTHORITY HAS AGREED THAT OVER THE NEXT TEN YEARS, PROVISION WOULD BE MADE FOR 10,000 ELDERLY PERSONS IN ONE AND TWO-PERSON HOUSEHOLDS TO BE REHOUSED IN PUBLIC HOUSING MAINLY THROUGH THE PROVISION OF 5,000 HOSTEL PLACES.+

THE GREEN PAPER ALSO PROPOSED TO RELAX THE PRESENT RESTRICTIONS SO AS TO ALLOW UNRELATED ELDERLY PERSONS EXPRESSING A WISH TO LIVE TOGETHER TO APPLY JOINTLY FOR PUBLIC HOUSING THROUGH THE WAITING LIST, SHE ADDED.

TURNING TO THE PROVISION OF PERSONAL SUPPORT SERVICES, MRS. GOODSTADT NOTED THAT NEEDY OLD PEOPLE PARTICULARLY THOSE WHO WERE WITHOUT SUPPORT OF FAMILY MEMBERS MIGHT HAVE TO ENDURE VARYING DEGREE OF HARDSHIP, OR MIGHT HAVE TO RESORT TO INSTITUTIONAL CARE.

+PERSONAL SUPPORT SERVICES INCLUDE DOMESTIC HELP, PREPARATION OF MEALS, LAUNDRY AND ESCORTING FOR MEDICAL CONSULTATION. FOR THE ELDERLY INFIRM, HOME HELP SERVICE WILL PROVIDE THE NECESSARY PERSONAL CARE SUCH AS HELPING THEM TO COMB THEIR HAIR, WASH THEIR FACE AND GET THEM DRESSED.+

AS THIS SERVICE WAS AT PRESENT PROVIDED AT A LIMITED SCALE, SHE CONTINUED, THE GREEN PAPER PROPOSED TO EXPAND IT FROM THE EXISTING 20 HELPERS TO 80 IN TWO YEARS AND BY THAT TIME, ABOUT 800 ELDERLY PERSONS WOULD BE ABLE TO BENEFIT FROM IT.

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NEW FULL-TIME PRE-TECHNICAL COURSE UNDER WAY  
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EIGHTY STUDENTS ARE ATTENDING A NEW, ONE-YEAR, FULL-TIME, PRE-TECHNICAL COURSE AT THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE.

THE COURSE DESIGNED FOR FORM 3 SCHOOL LEAVERS WITH A TECHNICAL BACKGROUND, PREFERABLY FROM PREVOCATIONAL SCHOOLS, WAS INTRODUCED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR AT THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE.

THE GROUP WAS SELECTED FROM OVER 250 APPLICANTS WHO TOOK AN ENTRANCE EXAMINATION WHICH TESTED THEM IN THREE SUBJECTS -- TRADITIONAL AND MODERN MATHEMATICS, ENGLISH, AND TECHNICAL DRAWINGS. THE SELECTED 80 CANDIDATES ARE RECEIVING TRAINING AT THE INSTITUTE IN TWO BATCHES OF 40 EACH, SAID MR. ALICK FONG YAN, THE ACTING PRINCIPAL OF THE INSTITUTE.

OUT OF THE 80 STUDENTS, 60 ARE FROM PREVOCATIONAL SCHOOLS AND THE REMAINING 20 ARE FROM SECONDARY MODERN OR PRACTICAL SECONDARY SCHOOLS, HE ADDED.

THE COURSE COVERS BOTH THEORY AND PRACTICAL CLASSES LEADING TO A PRE-TECHNICAL CERTIFICATE. A TYPICAL FIVE-DAY WEEK RUNS INTO 30 HOURS -- 10 HOURS DEVOTED TO WORKSHOP TRAINING AND 20 HOURS TO THEORY IN GENERAL SUBJECTS OF THE LEVEL OF FORM 4.

THE PRACTICAL TRAINING INCLUDES ELECTRICAL AND MACHINE WORKSHOP EXPERIENCE. TRAINING IS GIVEN IN RADIO, ELECTRIC INSULATION, ELECTRIC REPAIRS AND DOMESTIC APPLIANCES AS WELL AS IN SUCH MACHINE JOBS AS LATHE WORK, PLANING AND SHAPING, PNEUMATIC CONTROL, AND WELDING.

+THERE IS AN EXAMINATION AT THE END OF THE YEAR'S TRAINING,+ MR. FONG YAN SAID. +THOSE WHO PASSED CAN TAKE UP APPRENTICESHIP AND CONTINUE THEIR TECHNICAL EDUCATION EITHER BY DAY-RELEASE OR EVENING STUDIES.+

FOR SCHOOL LEAVERS WHO ARE ALREADY WELL EQUIPPED WITH CRAFT KNOWLEDGE, HE SAID, THE COURSE WOULD PROVIDE A DOOR TO TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

COMMENTING ON THE PRACTICAL PROBLEMS, MR. FONG YAN SAID: +THE COURSE IS INTENSIVE AND REQUIRES A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF ACADEMIC ABILITY. THE THEORY CLASSES ARE IN ENGLISH, AND STUDENTS WHO ARE POOR AT ENGLISH, POSE A PROBLEM SOMETIMES.+

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IMPROVING QUALITY OF ADULT EDUCATION COURSES STRESSED  
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+ONE OF THE MOST IMPRESSIVE ASPECT OF THE EDUCATIONAL SCENE IN HONG KONG IS THE READINESS WITH WHICH STUDENTS OF ALL AGES ARE WILLING TO APPLY THEMSELVES TO THEIR STUDIES,+ SAID MR. JOHN WINFIELD, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (FURTHER), TODAY.

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE ANNUAL SPEECH DAY OF THE SECONDARY SCHOOL COURSES OF THE ADULT EDUCATION SECTION HELD AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH SCHOOL.

MR. WINFIELD SAID THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN STRIVING +TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF THE COURSES+ OFFERED WITHIN BUDGET LIMITATIONS.

+WHAT WE EVENTUALLY HOPE TO DO IN A MODEST WAY, IS TO IMPROVE OUR COURSES BY EXTENDING THE CONTACT HOURS AND BY FINDING THE RIGHT SORT OF MANPOWER AND FACILITIES TO ENABLE US TO BOTH BROADEN AND ENRICH OUR CURRICULUM,+ HE SAID.

+WE WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO STRESS THE SCIENCE SUBJECTS MUCH MORE, FOR INSTANCE AND BECAUSE A SUBJECT LIKE CHEMISTRY CAN ONLY BE DONE EFFECTIVELY WHEN IT IS BASED ON APPROPRIATE PRACTICAL WORK, THIS MEANS WE MUST HAVE ACCESS TO SCHOOL LABORATORIES IN THE EVENINGS.+

HE ADDED: +I AM PARTICULARLY KEEN THAT OUR PLANS WILL COME TO FRUITION BECAUSE PEOPLE LIKE YOURSELVES WHO ARE WILLING TO PURSUE THE EQUIVALENT OF A FULL-TIME EDUCATION IN THE EVENINGS, DESERVE ONLY THE BEST.+

HOWEVER, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR SAID THAT WITH IMPROVED DAY-TIME EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, THERE WOULD BE LESS NEED THAN AT PRESENT FOR SOME OF THE COURSES THAT THE ADULT EDUCATION SECTION WAS PROVIDING IN THE EVENINGS AT THE EQUIVALENT OF THE FORM 1 - 3 LEVEL.

+IT MAY WELL BE THAT WITH BETTER DAY-TIME OPPORTUNITIES A DEMAND FOR AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT RANGE OF PART-TIME OPPORTUNITIES WILL EMERGE,+ HE POINTED OUT.

+PERHAPS THE EMPHASIS WILL BE NOT SO MUCH ON BASIC GENERAL EDUCATION BUT ON SPECIALISED AND PERSONAL FORMS OF CULTURAL, SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION, MORE IN LINE WITH THE ADULT EDUCATION SERVICES PROVIDED IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD SUCH AS THE UNITED KINGDOM,+ HE SAID.

AT THE CEREMONY, MRS. WINFIELD DISTRIBUTED PRIZES AND CERTIFICATES TO THE STUDENTS.

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TWO NT DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARDS MEET

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ANOTHER TWO NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARDS HELD THEIR FIRST MEETING THIS AFTERNOON.

TODAY'S MEETINGS OF THE SHA TIN AND SAI KUNG DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARDS WERE THE THIRD AND FOURTH IN A SERIES OF INAUGURAL MEETINGS OF THE SEVEN N.T. DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARDS.

THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR. DAVID AKERS-JONES, ATTENDED BOTH MEETINGS TO MEET THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS.

THE MEETINGS WERE CHAIRED RESPECTIVELY BY THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR. G.A. HIGGINSON, AT LEK YUEN COMMUNITY CENTRE, SHA TIN, AND THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR. COLIN BOSHER, AT THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE, SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING.

MR. HIGGINSON TOLD HIS BOARD THAT THE TIME WAS NOW RIGHT FOR THE FORMATION OF A DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD IN SHA TIN.

+IT WILL PRIMARILY REPRESENT THE LOCAL VIEWS OF THE NEW TOWN COMMUNITY, AND WILL THUS COMPLEMENT THE ROLE OF THE RURAL COMMITTEE IN RESPECT OF THE INDIGENOUS POPULATION,+ HE SAID.

ON THE BOARD ARE EIGHT UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS DRAWN FROM A WIDE CROSS-SECTION OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY. THEY COMPRISE RURAL LEADERS, A SCHOOL HEADMASTER, A DOCTOR, A MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN AND TWO SENIOR STAFF OF THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY.

AFTER THE MEETING THE BOARD MEMBERS WENT ON A TOUR OF THE SHA TIN NEW TOWN TO SEE ITS DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING THE LEK YUEN AND WO CHE ESTATES, THE FOTAN INDUSTRIAL AREA AND THE NEW RACE COURSE.

AT THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD MEETING, MR. BOSHER SAID THAT BY INTRODUCING THE BOARD INTO SAI KUNG, IT GAVE THE DISTRICT EQUAL IMPORTANCE AND PRESTIGE AS ONE OF THE MAJOR DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS SUCH AS TSUEN WAN.

IT ALSO ENSURES THAT EQUAL ATTENTION WILL BE GIVEN TO SAI KUNG IN THE PROVISION OF RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL AMENITIES AND IN THE GENERAL ADVANCEMENT AND WELL BEING OF THE DISTRICT, HE ADDED.

+IN ALL THESE THINGS, WE WOULD DEFINITELY NOT WISH TO BE LEFT BEHIND,+ MR. BOSHER SAID.

ON HIS BOARD ARE 13 UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS WHO REPRESENT A WIDE RANGE OF PROFESSIONAL AND COMMERCIAL KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE - THREE HEADMASTERS, AN ARCHITECT, A METALLURGICAL SCIENTIST, A DOCTOR AND A NUMBER OF LOCAL BUSINESS MANAGERS AND DIRECTORS.

+WITH SUCH AN ACCUMULATION OF SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE, I AM CONFIDENT THAT WE ARE QUALIFIED TO HANDLE ANY PROJECT OR PROBLEM WITHIN OUR TERMS OF REFERENCE,+ HE SAID.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

CAS ANNUAL SPORTS DAY  
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THE CIVIL AID SERVICES WILL HOLD ITS ANNUAL SPORTS DAY ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 11) AT THE DIOCESAN BOYS' SCHOOL.

THE EVENTS OF THE DAY ARE ORGANISED WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE RECREATION AND SPORTS SERVICES OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT. THE HIGHLIGHT WILL BE THE INVITATION RELAY IN WHICH TEAMS FROM VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND CIVIC ORGANISATIONS WILL PARTICIPATE.

THE WINNERS WILL BE PRESENTED WITH PRIZES BY THE C.A.S. COMMISSIONER, MR. ROGER LOBO.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE EVENT WHICH WILL BE HELD FROM 9 A.M. TO 5 P.M. ON SUNDAY AT THE DIOCESAN BOYS' SCHOOL.

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