



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1975

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APPLICATIONS NOW ACCEPTED FOR
SHIPMENTS TO U.S. UNDER G.S.P.

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THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT IT WAS ACCEPTING, WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT, APPLICATIONS FOR "FORMS A" IN RESPECT OF GOODS SHIPPED TO THE UNITED STATES UNDER THAT COUNTRY'S GENERALISED SCHEME OF PREFERENCES.

THE U.S.-G.S.P., OF WHICH HONG KONG WAS RECENTLY MADE A BENEFICIARY, GOES INTO EFFECT ON JANUARY 1, 1976.

UNDER THE SCHEME, ABOUT 2,700 HONG KONG PRODUCTS INCLUDING CERTAIN TOYS, PLASTIC ARTICLES, MOTION CAMERAS AND PHOTOGRAPHIC ACCESSORIES ARE ALLOWED INTO THE UNITED STATES DUTY-FREE.

THERE ARE, HOWEVER, SOME PRODUCTS WHICH WILL NOT RECEIVE THE SAME BENEFIT, HAVING BEEN EXCLUDED FROM THE SCHEME. THESE ARE TEXTILES, WATCHES, FOOTWEAR AND SOME ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS, DESCRIBED BY THE UNITED STATES AUTHORITIES AS "IMPORT-SENSITIVE."

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT EXPLAINED THAT TO CLAIM U.S.-G.S.P. THE COST OF DOMESTIC MATERIALS PLUS THE DIRECT MANUFACTURING COST OF THE ITEM IN QUESTION MUST BE EQUIVALENT TO AT LEAST 35 PER CENT OF ITS EX-FACTORY VALUE.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAD SENT OUT TO MANUFACTURERS AND EXPORTERS TODAY A CIRCULAR (CERTIFICATE OF PREFERENCE CIRCULAR 23/75), CONTAINING INFORMATION ON HOW THE US-GSP WORKS, AND HOW TO FILL OUT THE FORMS A IN RESPECT OF IT.

HE ADDED THAT A COUNTER HAD BEEN SET UP IN THE CERTIFICATION BRANCH ON THE 1ST FLOOR OF THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT TO HANDLE ANY FURTHER ENQUIRES TRADERS MIGHT HAVE ABOUT THE SCHEME.

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APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTHAM GRANTS INVITED
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STUDENTS IN NEED OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO CARRY ON THEIR STUDIES IN THE SECOND HALF OF THIS ACADEMIC YEAR MAY NOW APPLY FOR THE GRANTHAM MAINTENANCE GRANTS.

TO BE ELIGIBLE, AN APPLICANT MUST BE TAKING A SECONDARY OR MATRICULATION COURSE, OR A TECHNICAL COURSE AT THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, A TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, OR THE INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL WORK TRAINING.

DIPLOMA STUDENTS AT THE HONG KONG BAPTIST COLLEGE AND UNDERGRADUATES AT THE TWO UNIVERSITIES CAN ALSO APPLY.

THE OVER-RIDING CRITERION FOR AWARDS WILL BE FINANCIAL NEED. THE GRANTS ARE INTENDED FOR THOSE STUDENTS WHO DID NOT NEED A GRANTHAM SCHOLARSHIP AT FIRST BUT WHO NOW HAVE TO SEEK ASSISTANCE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SCHOOL YEAR BECAUSE OF A DROP IN THE FAMILY INCOME.

AWARDS ARE NOT NORMALLY MADE TO STUDENTS WHO ALREADY HAVE A SCHOLARSHIP OR HAVE ASSISTANCE OTHER THAN INTEREST-FREE LOANS OR FEE REMISSION.

UNSUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS FOR GRANTHAM SCHOLARSHIPS WHOSE FAMILY EARNINGS HAVE DROPPED MAY APPLY.

APPLICATION FORMS CAN NOW BE OBTAINED FROM THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT'S TRUST FUNDS OFFICE ON THE 10TH FLOOR OF INTERNATIONAL BUILDING, 141 DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG.

THE COMPLETED FORM, TOGETHER WITH A SWORN STATUTORY DECLARATION ON FAMILY CIRCUMSTANCES, MUST BE RETURNED THROUGH THE HEAD OF THE APPLICANT'S SCHOOL BY JANUARY 19.

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EXHIBITIONS ON ELECTRICAL SAFETY
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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT IS TO STAGE A SERIES OF MINI EXHIBITIONS ON ELECTRICAL SAFETY.

THE EXHIBITIONS ARE DESIGNED TO REMIND CONSTRUCTION SITE EMPLOYEES OF THE DANGERS ARISING FROM THE USE OF FAULTY ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT AND INSTALLATIONS, THE COMMON MALPRACTICES IN THE USE OF ELECTRIC POWER, AND THE METHODS OF MINIMISING OR OBTAINING SUCH HAZARDS.

ELECTRICAL ACCIDENTS, AS THE DEPARTMENT'S INDUSTRIAL SAFETY TRAINING OFFICER, MR. T.K. CHAN, POINTED OUT, HAVE DOUBLED OVER THE PAST FOUR YEARS.

IN 1974, 50 PER CENT OF THE FATAL AND ABOUT 30 PER CENT OF THE NON-FATAL ELECTRICAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OCCURRED IN BUILDING AND ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION SITES.

THE EXHIBITIONS WILL BE STAGED ON BOARD THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S MOBILE DISPLAY VAN AT CONSTRUCTION SITES.

THE FIRST OF THE SERIES OF EXHIBITIONS WILL BE HELD AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE CONSTRUCTION SITE OF GAMMON (H.K.) LTD. FOR THE NEW CAMPUS OF THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC IN YUK CHOI ROAD, HUNG HOM. THE TWO-DAY DISPLAY BEGINS AT 10.30 A.M. ON FRIDAY (DECEMBER 19).

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE EXHIBITION WHICH WILL BE PERFORMED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE BUILDING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION, MR. HO SAI-CHU, AT 10.30 A.M. ON FRIDAY (DECEMBER 19) AT THE SITE FOR THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC'S NEW CAMPUS IN YUK CHOI ROAD, HUNG HOM.

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N.T. LAND SALES

TWO LOTS OF LAND FOR RESIDENTIAL USE IN THE CLEARWATER BAY AREA WILL BE PUT UP FOR AUCTION NEXT MONTH.

ONE SITE, WITH AN AREA OF ABOUT 27,600 SQ. FT., IS IN SILVERSTRAND. THE OTHER WITH AN AREA OF ABOUT 62,500 SQ. FT. IS IN TA KU LING.

THEY WILL BE OFFERED FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION ON JANUARY 13 IN THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE AT THE SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES. THE AUCTION BEGINS AT 2.30 P.M.

FULL PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, NORTH KOWLOON MAGISTRACY, TAI PO ROAD, AND AT THE DISTRICT OFFICES OF YUEN LONG, TUEN MUN, TSUEN WAN, TAI PO, SHA TIN, SAI KUNG AND ISLANDS.

SALE PLANS CAN ALSO BE INSPECTED AT THESE OFFICES.

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SIR DAVID TRENCH FUND: APPLICATIONS INVITED

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW INVITED FOR GRANTS FROM THE SIR DAVID TRENCH FUND FOR RECREATION.

APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM CITY DISTRICT OFFICES, THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT AND THE DISTRICT OFFICES OF THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION.

THE SIR DAVID TRENCH FUND FOR RECREATION WAS SET UP IN 1970 TO PROVIDE FACILITIES FOR RECREATIONAL, SPORTS AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES.

PREFERENCE IS GIVEN TO PROJECTS WHICH WILL HELP DEVELOP THE INDIVIDUAL AND ENCOURAGE THE PURPOSEFUL USE OF LEISURE BY YOUNG PEOPLE.

COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE SECRETARY OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE FUND, C/O COUNCIL FOR RECREATION AND SPORT AT 1A GARDEN ROAD, 1ST FLOOR, NOT LATER THAN JANUARY 26, 1976.

ANY APPLICATION RECEIVED AFTER THAT DATE WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

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AIM OF EDUCATION TO PRODUCE LEADERS
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THE ULTIMATE PURPOSE OF EDUCATION IS TO ENABLE PUPILS TO BECOME FUTURE LEADERS OF HONG KONG AND NOT JUST TO FIND A JOB, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (ADMINISTRATION), MR. YEUNG KAI-YIN, SAID THIS AFTERNOON.

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE JOINT ANNUAL SPEECH DAY OF THE BUDDHIST WONG FUNG LING COLLEGE AND THE BUDDHIST WONG CHEUK UM PRIMARY SCHOOL.

+NOWADAYS, THE SCHOOL CURRICULUM IS DESIGNED NOT ONLY TO IMPART MODERN KNOWLEDGE RELEVANT TO REAL LIFE SITUATIONS, BUT ALSO TO IMPART THIS KNOWLEDGE IN SUCH A WAY AS TO EXCITE YOUR INTEREST AND TO TRAIN AND REFINE YOUR POWERS OF JUDGEMENT,+ MR. YEUNG SAID.

REFERRING TO SOCIAL STUDIES, HE EMPHASISED THAT A PROPER APPRECIATION OF HONG KONG'S HISTORY, GEOGRAPHY AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS WOULD HELP US +TO UNDERSTAND HOW WE AS A COMMUNITY CAN SURVIVE IN FUTURE.+

A PROPER APPRECIATION OF GROGRAPHY +TELLS US THAT WE ARE A VITAL LINK BETWEEN THE EAST AND THE WEST, PARTICULARLY IN TERMS OF TRADE AND TRAVEL.+

MR. YEUNG ADDED THAT A PROPER APPRECIATION OF +OUR RECENT HISTORY TELLS US THAT WE HAVE BECOME A POWERFUL MANUFACTURING AND EXPORT-ORIENTED ECONOMY, MAINLY AS A RESULT OF A FORTUNATE COMBINATION OF CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE 1950S AND 1960S.

+THIS COMBINATION CONSISTED OF THE INFLUX OF CAPITAL, EQUIPMENT AND INDUSTRIAL EXPERTISE FROM CHINA, OF THE CREATION OF A SERIES OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS ON WORLD TRADE AND OF COMMONWEALTH PREFERENCE= OF A LARGE, HARDWORKING LABOUR FORCE= AND OF THE GROWTH OF OUR PORT, OUR SHIPPING, BANKING AND OTHER FACILITIES ALL HAPPENING AT ROUGHLY THE SAME TIME.

+TO ALL THESE FACTORS WE OWE OUR ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL SUCCESSES OVER THE LAST 20 YEARS OR SO,+ HE SAID.

/+AS HONG KONG HAS

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AS HONG KONG HAS NO NATURAL RESOURCES IT MUST EXPORT ITS MANUFACTURES IN ORDER TO LIVE.

THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR SAID: +WE HAVE HAD A FORTUNATE COMBINATION OF CIRCUMSTANCES BUT WE ARE UNLIKELY TO BE AS LUCKY AGAIN, FOR OUR TRADING PARTNERS ARE TENDING TO LOOK LESS FAVOURABLY ON US THAN ON OUR COMPETITORS IN THE TREATMENT OF OUR EXPORTS.

+WE HAVE, THEREFORE, TO EARN THEIR GOODWILL AND TO CONTINUE IMPROVING UPON THE QUALITY OF THE GOODS AND SERVICES THEY WANT TO BUY FROM US.+

MR. YEUNG SAID THAT GONE WERE THE DAYS WHEN A GOOD MANAGER WAS A PERSON WHO COULD EXPRESS HIMSELF WELL.

+NOWADAYS A GOOD MANAGER MUST ALSO BE ABLE TO MAKE DECISIONS FOUNDED ON SUCH THINGS AS THE COST EFFECTIVENESS OF A PROPOSAL OR A PROJECT, THE COMPANY'S OR THE PROJECT'S CASH FLOW, AND THE LIKELY BEHAVIOUR OF HIS CLIENTELE, ALL OF WHICH REQUIRE A SOUND APPRECIATION OF PRACTICAL MATHEMATICS,+ HE SAID.

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