



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1976

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BIRTH OF HOSPITAL A LONG AND COMPLICATED PROCESS--DR. CHOA

THE DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, DR. GERALD CHOA, TODAY TOLD OF THE LONG AND COMPLICATED PROCESS OF GIVING BIRTH TO A MAJOR HOSPITAL WITH OVER A THOUSAND BEDS AND ALL SPECIALIST SERVICES.

SPEAKING AT THE ROTARY CLUB OF KOWLOON WEST ON THE BIRTH OF A HOSPITAL, HE SAID IT WOULD REQUIRE THE METICULOUS PLANNING AND HARD WORK OF PROFESSIONAL STAFF FOR AS LONG AS A DECADE OR LONGER.

THE DIRECTOR SAID THERE WERE FIVE BASIC STEPS LEADING TO THE DELIVERY OF A HOSPITAL: DETERMINING THE NEED, FORMULATING POLICIES, DECIDING PRIORITIES AND ALLOCATING FUNDS, PLANNING AND PREPARING DETAILED WORK DRAWINGS AND, FINALLY, CONSTRUCTING THE HOSPITAL.

AFTER THE COMPLETION OF THE BUILDINGS, THE HOSPITAL COMPLEX IS HANDED OVER TO THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR COMMISSIONING. THE WHOLE PROCESS, FROM CONCEPTION TO DELIVERY, TAKES AT LEAST TEN YEARS TO COMPLETE.

SOME PEOPLE HAVE OFTEN WONDERED IF THE SIZE AND SCALE OF A GENERAL HOSPITAL COULD BE REDUCED IN ORDER TO SHORTEN THE LENGTH OF TIME NEEDED TO BUILD IT. TO THIS, DR. CHOA SAID SINCE LAND WAS SO SCARCE IN HONG KONG IT WOULD BE MORE ECONOMICAL AND PRACTICAL TO BUILD A MAJOR HOSPITAL ON AN AVAILABLE SITE RATHER THAN A NUMBER OF SMALL-SCALE HOSPITALS ON DIFFERENT SITES. HE POINTED OUT THAT OUR TARGET WAS TO ACHIEVE A RATIO OF 5.5 BEDS PER THOUSAND POPULATION AND, THEREFORE, AN ADDITIONAL 6,000 BEDS WOULD NEED TO BE PUT UP WITHIN THE NEXT TEN YEARS IF THE TARGET WAS TO BE MET.

+OUR MEDICAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN CALLS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ONE MAJOR ACUTE HOSPITAL WITH ALL KINDS OF SPECIALIST SERVICES IN EVERY REGION. THESE REGIONAL HOSPITALS, AS THEY ARE TO BE CALLED, WILL BE SUPPORTED BY ONE OR MORE DISTRICT HOSPITALS WHICH ARE ON A SMALLER SCALE,+ HE SAID.

WITH THE OPENING OF THE NEW PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL, DR. CHOA SAID HE NATURALLY CHERISHED NEW HOPES AND EXPECTATIONS.

HE SAID THAT THE PROVISION OF AN IDEAL HOSPITAL SERVICE WOULD DEPEND ON THE HOSPITAL STAFF WHO HAD AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY.

+RIGHT FROM THE BEGINNING THEY MUST NOT GIVE PEOPLE A BAD IMPRESSION, AND THEY MUST DO AWAY WITH BAD CUSTOMS AND PRACTICES SUCH AS RECEIVING TIPS AND TEA MONEY AND SO FORTH,+ HE SAID.

IN THIS CONNECTION, HE HAD HAD DISCUSSIONS WITH THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION ON WAYS OF STAMPING OUT THIS SOCIAL EVIL.

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COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO LEUNG WING-SANG CASE
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PREPARATIONS ARE ALMOST COMPLETED FOR THE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE LEUNG WING-SANG CASE TO COMMENCE ITS HEARINGS.

THIS WAS STATED TODAY BY THE ONE-MAN COMMISSION, MR. JUSTICE T.L. YANG, WHO CONFIRMED THAT THE FIRST PUBLIC HEARING OF THE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 1, AT VICTORIA DISTRICT COURT, BATTERY PATH.

MR. JUSTICE YANG SAID THAT LEUNG HAD APPLIED FOR AND BEEN GRANTED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM PUBLIC FUNDS TO ENABLE HIM TO BE LEGALLY REPRESENTED AT THE INQUIRY. HE WILL BE REPRESENTED BY MR. HERMAN POON, INSTRUCTED BY PETER C. WONG AND CO.

A NUMBER OF WITNESSES WILL BE SUMMONED TO ATTEND TO GIVE EVIDENCE AT THE INQUIRY. SUMMONSES ARE BEING PREPARED AND WILL BE SERVED THIS WEEK ON THE PEOPLE CONCERNED.

THE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY HAS BEEN SET UP TO INQUIRE INTO THE CIRCUMSTANCES LEADING UP TO AND SURROUNDING THE ARREST AND CHARGING OF LEUNG AND WHETHER OR NOT THESE CIRCUMSTANCES MIGHT HAVE PREJUDICED LEUNG'S TRIAL.

ANY PERSON WHO MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON THE CASE IS INVITED TO WRITE TO THE SECRETARY, COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE LEUNG WING-SANG CASE, VICTORIA DISTRICT COURT, HONG KONG. THE SECRETARY'S TELEPHONE NO. IS 5-249512.

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STATEMENT BY SECRETARY FOR CIVIL SERVICE

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THE SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE, MR. A.J. SCOTT, COMMENTED TODAY ON RECENT PRESS REPORTS REFERRING TO A +PROPOSED NEW POLICY+ OF THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION TO HOLD SENIOR PUBLIC SERVANTS RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR STAFF DOING THEIR JOBS PROPERLY AND EFFICIENTLY. MR. SCOTT SAID THAT IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN A BASIC CIVIL SERVICE PRINCIPLE THAT OFFICERS ARE RESPONSIBLE AND ACCOUNTABLE FOR THEIR OWN ACTIONS AND FOR THOSE OF THE STAFF UNDER THEIR CONTROL.

HE WELCOMED THE CLARIFICATION GIVEN BY THE COMMISSIONER AGAINST CORRUPTION, MR. J. CATER, AT HIS LUNCHTIME ADDRESS ON TUESDAY (FEBRUARY 17), BECAUSE IT WAS CLEAR THAT THERE MIGHT BE MISUNDERSTANDING ABOUT THE PRINCIPLE OF +ACCOUNTABILITY+, AND ITS RELEVANCE TO THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION.

THE SECRETARY CONTINUED: +IF A CORRUPTION CASE IN A DEPARTMENT OR BRANCH OF A DEPARTMENT IS THE RESULT OF INEFFICIENCY ON THE PART OF A SUPERVISING OFFICER, APPROPRIATE DISCIPLINARY ACTION IS TAKEN.+

MR. SCOTT ALSO RESPONDED TO A QUESTION POSED IN THE S.C.M.P. ON FEBRUARY 15: +HOW OFTEN HAVE YOU HEARD OF PUBLIC SERVANTS BEING DISMISSED FOR NOT DOING THEIR JOBS?+ BY POINTING OUT THAT DURING 1975 SIX PENSIONABLE CIVIL SERVANTS WERE COMPULSORILY RETIRED (UNDER COLONIAL REGULATION 59) FOR INEFFICIENCY OR UNSATISFACTORY SERVICE= THIRTEEN WERE DISMISSED (UNDER CR 42 AND 57) FOR MISCONDUCT= AND THIRTEEN WERE DISMISSED (UNDER CR 58) AS A RESULT OF BEING CONVICTED IN COURT ON CRIMINAL CHARGES. A NUMBER OF OFFICERS CHOSE TO RESIGN OR RETIRE VOLUNTARILY RATHER THAN FACE PROCEEDINGS FOR COMPULSORY RETIREMENT.

IN REPLY TO FURTHER QUESTIONS, MR. SCOTT CONFIRMED THAT ONE OF HIS MOST IMPORTANT RESPONSIBILITIES IS THE EFFICIENT USE OF MANPOWER RESOURCES. HE WELCOMED ANY IDEAS TO REDUCE OPPORTUNITIES FOR CORRUPTION, WHICH WOULD NOT REDUCE EFFECTIVENESS BY ADDING FURTHER LEVELS OF SUPERVISION AND THUS REDUCE INITIATIVE AND SLOW DOWN SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC.

IT IS VITAL, HE SAID, THAT A DYNAMIC AND GROWING COMMUNITY LIKE HONG KONG SHOULD FIND THE RIGHT BALANCE BETWEEN THE NECESSARY CONTROL OF CORRUPTION, BOTH IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND IN THE CIVIL SERVICE, AND THE CAPACITY FOR INITIATIVE AND DECISION-MAKING ESSENTIAL TO A FLEXIBLE AND RESPONSIVE CIVIL SERVICE.

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GOOD WELFARE FACILITIES CONDUCTIVE TO HAPPY LABOUR RELATIONS
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THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR. IAN PRICE, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT GOOD WELFARE FACILITIES AND ATTRACTIVE WORKING CONDITIONS IN FACTORIES PAVED THE WAY FOR HAPPY LABOUR RELATIONS AND REDUCED EXCESSIVE TURNOVER OF LABOUR.

HE MADE THESE COMMENTS AFTER VISITING CASEY DIAMONDS LIMITED IN WONG CHUK HANG, ABERDEEN. IT WAS THE FIRST OF HIS REGULAR +KEEPING UP-TO-DATE+ VISITS TO INDUSTRY THIS YEAR.

MR. PRICE, AFTER A TOUR OF THE FACTORY, SAID HE WAS IMPRESSED BY THE WELFARE FACILITIES WHICH THE COMPANY PROVIDED FOR ITS EMPLOYEES.

IN ADDITION TO THE NORMAL YEAR-END BONUS, THE COMPANY OFFERS A +GOOD ATTENDANCE BONUS+ TO WORKERS WHO HAVE NOT BEEN ABSENT FROM WORK DURING A MONTH.

OTHER BENEFITS INCLUDE A FREE MEAL, FREE TRANSPORT, CANTEEN FACILITIES AND SOCIAL FUNCTIONS ORGANISED BY THE MANAGEMENT.

MR. PRICE OBSERVED THAT THESE BENEFITS, AS WELL AS THE GOOD WAGE STRUCTURE IN THE COMPANY, HAD CONTRIBUTED TO THE SMOOTH RUNNING OF THE FACTORY, WHERE THERE HAD BEEN VIRTUALLY NO LABOUR TURNOVER SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT IN 1973.

HE COMMENTED FAVOURABLY ON THE FACT THAT THERE HAD BEEN ONLY ONE MINOR ACCIDENT IN THE FACTORY SINCE 1973.

MR. PRICE SAID: +IT IS GOOD TO SEE MORE FIRMS IN HONG KONG DISPLAYING A SOUND AND RESPONSIBLE ROLE IN THE PREVENTION OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.+

THE FACTORY POLISHES RAW DIAMONDS BY USING AUTOMATIC POLISHING MACHINES - THE FIRST OF THEIR KIND IN THE FAR EAST.

ITS PRODUCTS ARE MAINLY EXPORTED TO JAPAN, SINGAPORE, U.S.A., EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST AND PARTLY FOR THE LOCAL MARKET.

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CHINESE CALLIGRAPHY COMPETITION
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ABOUT 400 STUDENTS FROM 31 SCHOOLS IN WEST KOWLOON WILL PARTICIPATE IN A CHINESE CALLIGRAPHY COMPETITION ON SUNDAY (FEBRUARY 22).

THE COMPETITION WILL BEGIN AT 10 A.M. AT THE TAI HANG TUNG COMMUNITY CENTRE. PARTICIPANTS WILL BE DIVIDED INTO FOUR GROUPS : PRIMARY= JUNIOR SECONDARY= SENIOR SECONDARY AND ONE FOR YOUTHS UNDER 25. THEIR WORKS WILL BE JUDGED BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE HONG KONG CHINESE CALLIGRAPHY ASSOCIATION.

THE COMPETITION, SPONSORED BY THE TAI HANG TUNG COMMUNITY CENTRE AND WEST KOWLOON YOUTH GUIDANCE COUNCIL, IS AIMED AT AROUSING PEOPLE'S INTEREST IN CHINESE CALLIGRAPHY AND PROMOTING CHINESE CALLIGRAPHY AS A HOBBY AND RECREATION AMONG YOUNGSTERS.

A PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE TAI HANG TUNG COMMUNITY CENTRE ON FEBRUARY 29 (SUNDAY) AT 10.30 A.M. THE HON. PRESIDENT OF THE WEST KOWLOON YOUTH GUIDANCE COUNCIL WILL OFFICIATE.

THE WINNING SCROLLS WILL BE PUT ON SHOW AFTER THE CEREMONY.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO COVER THE EVENTS.

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FORTY-FOUR DISABLED FOUND WORK

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THE NUMBER OF DISABLED PEOPLE PLACED TO WORK LAST MONTH BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S JOB PLACEMENT UNIT SOARED TO 44, AN INCREASE OF EIGHT COMPARED WITH THE DECEMBER TOTAL. THIS WAS THE HIGHEST FIGURE FOR 1975.

OF THE DISABLED PEOPLE EMPLOYED, TEN WERE BLIND, A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE OVER THE PRECEDING MONTH'S FIGURE OF THREE.

THE MAJORITY OF THOSE WHO WERE FOUND WORK WERE EMPLOYED AS MACHINE-SEWING WORKERS, PRESS MACHINE OPERATORS AND PACKERS.

SEVEN WERE EMPLOYED ON A PIECE-RATE BASIS AND 24 ON DAILY RATES RANGING FROM \$15 TO \$20.

THE SALARY OF THE OTHERS VARIES BETWEEN \$200 AND \$550 A MONTH.

MR. CHAN SHIU-WING, OFFICER-IN-CHARGE OF THE JOB PLACEMENT UNIT, ASSURED EMPLOYERS THAT DISABLED WORKERS HAD BEEN WELL PREPARED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT BEFORE PLACING TO A JOB.

+THE DEPARTMENT PROVIDES VOCATIONAL TRAINING FOR THE DISABLED IN A NUMBER OF TRADES INCLUDING CARPENTRY, ELECTRONICS, PRINTING, METAL WORK AND MACHINE-SEWING,+ MR. CHAN SAID.

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