



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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NEW TECHNICAL INSTITUTE TAKING SHAPE AT KOWLOON TONG
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BUILDING WORK HAS STARTED ON HONG KONG'S FIFTH TECHNICAL INSTITUTE.

THE INSTITUTE, TO BE LOCATED ON A SITE IN RENFREW ROAD, KOWLOON TONG, WILL INITIALLY BE ABOUT THE SAME SIZE AS THE FOUR EXISTING INSTITUTES -- THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, THE KUNG TONG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, THE HAKING WONG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE AND THE KWAI CHUNG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, -- AND THERE IS ROOM FOR EXPANSION.

COURSES TO BE PROVIDED AT THE KOWLOON TONG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE WILL INCLUDE AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERING= COMMERCE= DESIGN= ENGINEERING= CLOCK AND WATCH REPAIR= FOOTWEAR= AND OPTICAL MECHANICS.

PART OF THE BUILDING WILL BE READY FOR OCCUPATION IN SEPTEMBER NEXT YEAR AND A NUMBER OF COURSES WILL BE STARTED AT THAT TIME. HOWEVER, FULL WORKSHOP FACILITIES WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL 1980.

THE KOWLOON TONG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE WILL HAVE STUDENTS' UNION OFFICES, STUDENT COMMON ROOMS, AND FACILITIES FOR SPORT AND RECREATION.

THE FIVE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES TOGETHER WILL HAVE PLACES FOR ABOUT 5,000 FULL-TIME STUDENTS, PLUS 1,400 PART-TIME DAY-RELEASE STUDENTS. BETWEEN 15,000 AND 20,000 STUDENTS ALSO WILL BE ON EVENING COURSES WHEN FULL DEVELOPMENT IS REACHED IN ABOUT THREE YEARS TIME.

THE FOUR EXISTING TECHNICAL INSTITUTES, WHICH PLAY A MAJOR PART IN TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN HONG KONG, ARE NOW WELL DISTRIBUTED GEOGRAPHICALLY THROUGHOUT THE URBAN AREAS OF HONG KONG AND KOWLOON.

THE ROLE OF THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES IS TO PROVIDE A BROAD BASE OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION FOR CARFTSMEN AND TECHNICIANS IN THE MANUFACTURING AND SERVICES INDUSTRY, AS WELL AS COURSES IN BUSINESS AND COMMERCE.

THE INSTITUTES OFFER TWO-YEAR DIPLOMA PROGRAMMES SIMILAR TO THOSE OF THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING= PRODUCTION ENGINEERING= ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING= TEXTILE MANUFACTURE= AND BUSINESS STUDIES AND ACCOUNTANCY.

THERE ARE ALSO MANY ONE-YEAR CRAFT-BASED COURSES THAT ENABLE STUDENTS PROCEED TO AN APPRENTICESHIP AND PART-TIME DAY-RELEASE STUDIES.

MANY TECHNICAL INSTITUTE GRADUATES WHO HAVE COMPLETED CERTIFICATE OR DIPLOMA PROGRAMMES PROCEED TO THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC FOR HIGHER CERTIFICATE OR HIGHER DIPLOMA.

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INDUSTRIAL SURVEY IN TUEN MUN NEW TOWN
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THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE WILL CONDUCT A COMPREHENSIVE SURVEY ON THE INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS IN TUEN MUN NEW TOWN STARTING AUGUST 1.

THE SURVEY IS BEING CARRIED OUT ON THE ADVICE OF THE INDUSTRIAL SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD WITH A VIEW TO OBTAINING USEFUL INFORMATION AND DATA FOR CO-ORDINATING EXISTING SERVICES AND FUTURE PLANNING.

IT WILL COVER TYPES AND CHARACTERISTICS OF INDUSTRIES IN THE NEW TOWN= SIZE, CHARACTERISTICS AND EMPLOYMENT OF THE INDUSTRIAL WORKFORCE IN THE NEW TOWN= GENERAL CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT= AVAILABILITY OF JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN THE NEW TOWN= LABOUR TURN-OVER AND WORKERS' NEED FOR PUBLIC AMENITIES, TRANSPORT AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES.

THE ACTING TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR. GEOFFREY ORR, SAID TODAY ALL FACTORIES IN THE NEW TOWN IRRESPECTIVE OF SIZES WILL BE VISITED BY DISTRICT OFFICE STAFF WITH A QUESTIONNAIRE FORM DESIGNED JOINTLY BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, AND THE DISTRICT OFFICE.

+FACTORY OWNERS ARE REQUESTED TO CO-OPERATE AND ASSIST BY PROVIDING THE INFORMATION REQUIRED,+ HE SAID.

+ALL INTERVIEWS WILL BEAR IDENTIFICATION CARDS WITH SPECIMEN SIGNATURES ISSUED BY THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE.+

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DIRECT DIALLING EASES DELAYS

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A DIRECT DIALLING TELEPHONE SYSTEM MODIFYING THE EXISTING PABX SYSTEM AT THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT HEAD-QUARTERS, MURRAY BUILDING, WILL COME INTO OPERATION TOMORROW (MONDAY) MORNING.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT SAID THAT AS FROM TODAY ALL CALLS WILL GO DIRECT TO THE OFFICES CONCERNED, ELIMINATING THE NEED OF INTERCEPTING INCOMING CALLS BY THE OPERATOR.

THE EXISTING EXCHANGE NUMBER 251111 HAS BEEN REPLACED. THIS MEANS THAT CALLERS WHO WANT TO SPEAK TO AN INDIVIDUAL SHOULD DIAL THE NEW EXCHANGE NUMBER, 2670, FOLLOWED BY THE OFFICER'S EXTENSION NUMBER.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE NUMBER OF THE 24-HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE AND MAIN ENQUIRIES IS 5-26701111, WHILE THE RECEPTIONISTS' NUMBER IS 5-26702111. HOWEVER, THE COMPLAINTS SERVICE NUMBERS REMAIN UNCHANGED, 5-244744 FOR ENGLISH SPEAKING CALLERS AND 5-221616 FOR CANTONESE SPEAKING CALLERS.

THE USUAL DIALLING CODES BETWEEN HONG KONG, AND KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES WILL APPLY.

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OVERSEAS TRAINING FOR CIVIL AVIATION STAFF

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THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT HAS ORGANISED A COMPREHENSIVE OVERSEAS TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR ITS TECHNICAL STAFF TO ENABLE THEM TO DEVELOP THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE AND TO IMPROVE THEIR PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS.

UNDER THIS TRAINING PROGRAMME, MR. LEE PING-WOON, ASSISTANT ELECTRONICS ENGINEER OF THE TECHNICAL AND PLANNING DIVISION, IS TO ATTEND A FOUR-MONTH TRAINING COURSE IN BRITAIN EARLY NEXT MONTH.

THE COURSE WILL INCLUDE ATTACHMENTS TO THE CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY TELECOMMUNICATIONS HEADQUARTERS, THE CIVIL AVIATION FLYING UNIT, THE LONDON AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL CENTRE AND THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ENGINEERING ESTABLISHMENT.

IT WILL ALSO INCLUDE VISITS TO HEATHROW, GATWICK, STANSTED, BIRMINGHAM, PARIS AND SINGAPORE AIRPORTS, AND LECTURES ON RADAR, RADIO AIDS AND INSTRUMENT LANDING SYSTEM.

ANOTHER ASSISTANT ELECTRONICS ENGINEER, MR. ANTONIO J. ROCHA HAS JUST COMPLETED A SIMILAR TRAINING PROGRAMME AND HAS RECENTLY RETURNED TO DUTY.

MEANWHILE, TWO ASSISTANT OPERATIONS OFFICERS OF THE OPERATIONS DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT ARE ATTENDING AN AIRWORTHINESS COURSE IN BRITAIN AND ANOTHER WILL LEAVE FOR BANGKOK SHORTLY TO ATTEND A FLIGHT OPERATIONS OFFICER COURSE.

THIS YEAR'S OVERSEAS TRAINING PROGRAMME WILL ALSO INCLUDE A FOUR-WEEK FAMILIARISATION COURSE WITH ATTACHMENTS AT BRITISH AIRPORTS FOR TWO ASSISTANT AIRPORT MANAGERS, A 12-WEEK BASIC AERODROME AND APPROACH CONTROL COURSE FOR FIVE STUDENT AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL OFFICERS AND A TRAINING COURSE WITH ATTACHMENTS IN BRITAIN FOR AN AERONAUTICAL COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER, I.

DURING LAST FINANCIAL YEAR, SIX STUDENT AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL OFFICERS ATTENDED THE AERODROME AND APPROACH CONTROL COURSE IN BRITAIN= ONE OPERATIONS OFFICER COMPLETED THE AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION COURSE AND AIRWORTHINESS COURSE IN BRITAIN= ONE ASSISTANT OPERATIONS OFFICER ATTENDED THE FLIGHT OPERATIONS OFFICER COURSE IN BANGKOK= ONE ASSISTANT ELECTRONICS ENGINEER ON A FOUR-MONTH ATTACHMENT AND TRAINING COURSE IN BRITAIN, FRANCE AND SINGAPORE= AND ONE ASSISTANT AIRPORT MANAGER ON A TWO-MONTH FAMILIARISATION COURSE WITH ATTACHMENTS AT BRITISH AIRPORTS.

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MAINTENANCE OF HARBOUR LIGHTS

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THE SAFETY OF SHIPPING TRAFFIC IN A HARBOUR TO A LARGE EXTENT DEPENDS ON THE EFFICIENCY OF BEACONS AND LIGHT BUOYS AND THE FACT THAT HONG KONG HAS ONE OF THE BEST SAFETY RECORDS IN THE WORLD IS A TRIBUTE TO A TEAM OF MAINTENANCE STAFF OF THE MARINE DEPARTMENT'S NAVIGATIONAL AIDS SECTION LED BY MR. TANG SIU-YING.

THIS FACT ASSUMES ADDED SIGNIFICANCE CONSIDERING THAT HONG KONG IS ONE OF THE BUSIEST HARBOURS IN THE WORLD. AND 56-YEAR-OLD MR. TANG, AS FOREMAN OF NAVIGATIONAL AIDS, IS ENTRUSTED WITH THE TASK OF MAINTAINING THE 250 +TRAFFIC LIGHTS+ OF THE SEA.

THE JOB OF NAVIGATIONAL AIDS FOREMAN IS A DIFFICULT ONE BECAUSE MOST OF THE MAINTENANCE WORK HAS TO BE CARRIED OUT AT SEA OR ON THE EDGE OF CLIFFS WHERE THESE AIDS ARE LOCATED.

+FALLING INTO THE WATER TIME AND AGAIN IS NOT UNCOMMON WHILE YOU ARE WORKING ON A SLIPPERY LIGHT BUOY WHICH IS BOBBING AT SEA,+ SAID MR. TANG.

+THIS IS PARTICULARLY THE CASE WHEN YOU HAVE TO SAIL OUT TO SEA AFTER THE PASSAGE OF A STORM TO REPAIR A BUOY.

+SO, IF YOU EASILY GET SEA SICK, THIS IS NOT THE JOB FOR YOU,+ QUIPPED MR. TANG.

BUT MR. TANG HAS GROWN SO ACCUSTOMED TO THIS TOSSING OF THE SEA THAT HE HAS ACTUALLY GROWN FOND OF BOTH HIS WORK AND THE BUOYS WHICH HE HAS TO MAINTAIN.

+IT IS ALWAYS SAD FOR ME TO LEARN THAT A BUOY IS DAMAGED OR LOST,+ SAID MR. TANG.

BUT SUCH LOSSES ARE INEVITABLE AS THERE ARE OVER 250 NAVIGATIONAL AIDS WITHIN OUR TERRITORIAL WATERS WHICH ARE SUBJECTED TO THE ROUGH POUNDING OF THE SEA AND AT TIMES CRUSHED TO PIECES BY A SHIP.

LOOKING BACK AT HIS WORK IN THE LATE 1940S, MR. TANG RECALLED: +THE NAVIGATIONAL AIDS IN THOSE DAYS WERE OPERATED BY GAS, AND TO REFILL THEM WAS QUITE A TASK. WITH 270-LB GAS CYLINDERS STRAPPED ON OUR BACKS, WE HAD FREQUENTLY TO CLIMB SLIPPERY AND JAGGED ROCKS ON THE COAST OF A REMOTE ISLAND IN ORDER TO GET TO THE BEACON SITE.+

+TO GET TO WAGLAN ISLAND TO SERVICE THE LIGHTHOUSE WAS ALSO QUITE AN AMUSING EXPERIENCE,+ MR. TANG REMINISCED.

+THERE WERE NO BERTHING FACILITIES ON THE ISLAND IN THOSE DAYS, AND IN ORDER TO GET ASHORE, OUR TEAM OF FOUR HAD TO CLIMB INTO A RATTAN BASKET WHICH WAS WINCHED ASHORE BY A CRANE ON THE BOAT THAT TOOK US THERE.+

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BUT THOSE WERE THE DAYS. WAGLAN NOW HAS A PIER AND NOW - MOST OF THE NAVIGATIONAL LIGHTS ARE OPERATED BY BATTERIES WHICH HAVE A LONGER LIFE, ARE LIGHTER IN WEIGHT AND MORE ECONOMICAL.

THE NUMBER OF NAVIGATIONAL AIDS WITHIN HONG KONG WATERS HAS INCREASED MORE THAN 12 TIMES IN THE PAST THIRTY YEARS WHILE THE NUMBER OF STAFF IN THE NAVIGATIONAL AIDS SECTION MAINTAINING THESE AIDS HAS ONLY DOUBLED DURING THIS PERIOD.

TO FURTHER MODERNISE THESE NAVIGATIONAL AIDS, THE MARINE DEPARTMENT HAS STARTED A PILOT SCHEME USING SOLAR ENERGY TO OPERATE THEM.

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