



SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 1975

DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

NAUTICAL TRAINING SCHOOL MAKING GOOD PROGRESS

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NOTABLE PROGRESS IS BEING MADE BY THE NAUTICAL TRAINING SCHOOL OF THE MARINE DEPARTMENT IN MAINTAINING THE STANDARD OF FLOATING STAFF WORKING ON GOVERNMENT LAUNCHES.

DURING THE PAST 10 YEARS, THE SCHOOL HAS ALSO BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR TRAINING IN-SERVICE STAFF TO GET THE APPROPRIATE QUALIFICATIONS FOR PROMOTION.

+AS THE SCHOOL IS A DEPARTMENTAL ESTABLISHMENT, TRAINING OFFICERS CAN EASILY ADJUST THE PROGRAMMES TO SUIT THE NUMBER OF IN-COMING TRAINEES,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRAINING SCHOOL SAID.

THE SCHOOL PROVIDES FULL-TIME NAUTICAL TRAINING FOR VARIOUS GRADES FROM SEAMAN TO COXSWAIN CLASS I AND FROM STOKER TO LAUNCH MECHANIC CLASS I.

+DESIGNED TO ACHIEVE A COMPREHENSIVE AND BALANCED TRAINING, COURSES INCLUDE MUCH MORE THAN BARE EXAMINATION SYLLABUS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+TRAINEES ARE FIRST TAUGHT THE BASIC TECHNIQUES SUCH AS LIFE-SAVING, FIRST-AID AND FIRE-FIGHTING. THEY ARE THEN TRAINED ON COASTAL NAVIGATION, SEAMANSHIP, PILOTAGE, SHIP HANDLING, MARINE ENGINEERING AND MORSE SIGNALLING,+ HE SAID.

IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE PRACTICAL EFFICIENCY, VERY MODERN TEACHING METHODS ARE EMPLOYED. LECTURES ARE SUPPLEMENTED BY VISUAL AIDS AND VARIOUS KINDS OF WORKING MODELS, SUCH AS SEXTANT, COMPASS AND STATION POINTER. TOURS ON BOARD SHIP WITHIN THE HARBOUR ARE FREQUENTLY ARRANGED, EQUIPPING TRAINEES WITH THE RELEVANT PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE.

RECRUITS OF FLOATING STAFF ARE SELECTED BY THE INTERVIEWING BOARD. MOST OF THEM WORK FOR THREE YEARS ON GOVERNMENT LAUNCHES BEFORE THEY ENTER THE NAUTICAL TRAINING SCHOOL.

APART FROM TRAINING MARINE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL, THE SCHOOL OFFERS IN-SERVICE COURSES FOR STAFF FROM THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT, THE PORT WORKS DIVISION OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS AS AND WHEN REQUIRED.

NAUTICAL SUBJECTS ARE TAUGHT AT THE TWO CLASSROOMS AT THE GOVERNMENT DOCKYARD, WHILE ENGINEERING COURSES ARE HELD AT THE LECTURE ROOM AND DEMONSTRATION ROOM AT THE CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES. DURATION OF THE COURSES RANGES FROM FOUR WEEKS TO THREE MONTHS.

/ON COMPLETION

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ON COMPLETION OF THE COURSES, CANDIDATES HAVE TO SIT FOR EXAMINATIONS SET BY THE DEPARTMENT, STANDARDS OF WHICH ARE CLOSELY RELATED TO THOSE OF COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS.

LATER ON, WHEN GRADUATES LEAVE GOVERNMENT ON RETIREMENT OR RESIGNATION, APPROPRIATE CERTIFICATES MAY BE ISSUED TO THEM WITHOUT FURTHER EXAMINATIONS.

INITIALLY AN EVENING INSTITUTE LOCATED AT THE GOVERNMENT SLIPWAY IN YAU MA TEI, THE SCHOOL WAS EXPANDED IN SEPTEMBER 1964 TO OFFER DAY COURSES. IT STARTED TO OPERATE IN THE PRESENT PREMISES IN 1971.

THE SPOKESMAN WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE SCHOOL MANNED BY A MARINE OFFICER, AN ASSISTANT MARINE OFFICER, AND A MECHANICAL INSPECTOR WOULD CONTINUE TO OPERATE SMOOTHLY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

COPIES OF TWO PHOTOGRAPHS SHOWING STUDENTS ATTENDING THEIR TRAINING COURSES ARE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION IN THE G.I.S. PRESS ROOM.

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