



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Thursday, September 6, 1973

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CONTROLLER OF TRANSLATION SERVICES APPOINTED

Recruitment Of More Interpreters And Translators At Advanced Stage

Two prominent Chinese scholars have been appointed to help further improve the quality of translation work in the government.

Mr. Jao Yu-wei is appointed Controller of Translation Services, and Dr. Francis K. Pan designated Adviser to the Chinese Language Authority and Controller of Translation Development.

Mr. Jao assumed his post last Saturday (September 1) while Dr. Pan is expected to take up his new duties in early November.

The postings represent another step towards implementing the government's policy on wider use of the Chinese language in its dealings with the public.

Recruitment to the basic rank of interpreter/translator class is also at an advanced stage, and it is expected that some 50 successful candidates will be appointed within the next few weeks.

It will be recalled that the Chinese Language Committee, in its fourth and final report, made a number of recommendations "to advise on practical ways and means by which the use of Chinese might be further extended in the interest of good administration and for the convenience of the public."

One of the recommendations was that there should be a rapid expansion of Chinese translation services throughout the government in terms of both quality and quantity.

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Until his new appointment, Mr. Jao was Dean of the Arts Faculty and Professor of the English Department of the Hong Kong Baptist College.

A member of the Linguistic Society of America, he has helped organise and lectured in a number of translation courses which are currently being consolidated into a Certificate Course in Translation, sponsored by the Department of Extra-Mural Studies, University of Hong Kong.

Mr. Jao received his first degree at Tsing Hua University and his M.A. degree at the University of Edinburgh.

He is married with two children and is the author of a number of published works dealing with the problems of languages and translation techniques.

Dr. Pan is currently heading a glossary project of applied legal terms jointly sponsored by the government and the Chinese University and will assume his appointment once the project is completed.

He graduated from Tsing Hua College and obtained his Doctorate degree in Commercial Science at the Graduate School of Business Administration, New York University.

Dr. Pan has served as Director-General of many governmental institutions. He took up teaching in 1955 and for 13 years was Senior Lecturer in Economics and Management Studies with both the University of Hong Kong and the Chinese University.

In March 1971, he was assigned Director, Dictionary Project supervising the editing and publication of the recently published Chinese-English Dictionary of Modern Usage by Lin Yu-tang.

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Note to Editors: Photographs of Mr. Jao and Dr. Pan are boxed for collection together with some biographical notes. They will meet press representatives at a press conference tomorrow (Friday) at 3 p.m. in the G.I.S. theatre, 5th floor, Beaconsfield House. You are invited to have the meeting covered.

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GATT TALKS - HONG KONG TO ATTEND

Mr. D.H. Jordan, Director of Commerce and Industry, will leave for Tokyo on September 11 to attend the ministerial meeting convened by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) to launch a new round of multilateral trade negotiations.

He will be accompanied by Mr. G.L. Pearson, Counsellor for Hong Kong Affairs in the UK Mission at Geneva, who looks after Hong Kong's interests in the various international organisations, including the GATT, which are located there.

The trade negotiations, which are expected to span over two years, are aimed at achieving expansion and further liberalization of world trade. Special consideration will be given to problems of developing countries.

A Commerce and Industry Department spokesman explained that the last round of multilateral trade negotiations, the so-called Kennedy Round, was completed in 1967. This resulted in substantial reduction of tariffs, particularly in industrial products.

"It is now envisaged that the coming round of negotiations will go even further in that, for the first time in such negotiations, there will be an attempt not only to reduce tariffs but also to remove or reduce the effect of non-tariff barriers to international trade, such as import restrictions. These are of considerable interest to Hong Kong," the spokesman said.

"Hong Kong can generally cope with reasonable import tariffs, but other restrictions can cause serious inhibition of trade."

Mr. Jordan and Mr. Pearson are expected to return to Hong Kong on September 15.

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CRITICISM OF DISINTEREST AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE UNFOUNDED

The Principal Assistant Colonial Secretary (Social Services), Mr. David Lai Ka-wah, said this (Thursday) evening criticisms that young people were not interested in their community were unfounded.

"The young people today have a different concept of value and have become increasingly interested in public affairs. This is an encouraging sign and we must seize this opportunity to further promote the aspirations of our young people," he said.

Mr. Lai was speaking at the presentation ceremony of certificates to volunteers who participated in the Social Welfare Department's summer youth programme. The ceremony also marked the closing of the department's summer youth activities.

Mr. Lai said the importance of strengthening and developing youth services was fully recognised by the government and was kept under constant review by departments responsible for various aspects of youth work and by various advisory committees with relevant terms of reference.

"Further consideration is now being given to the possibility of achieving a greater degree of co-ordination of the efforts being made by both government and the voluntary bodies."

Most of the summer programmes for 1973, he said, had come to an end and the Central Co-ordinating Committee was now making an evaluation to be used for future planning.

"We do not accept the fact that because the summer programme has been an annual event in the past six years, it must therefore continue and no changes should be called for.

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"On the contrary, we feel that in order to meet the changing needs of the community and to ensure the maximum return on our investment in terms of both manpower and finance, a critical examination must be carried out as we have done in the past, on what we have achieved so that improvement, if necessary, will be made."

He said that comments about the summer youth programme would be welcomed and asked anyone who had any views to write to the Social Welfare Department, the voluntary organisations to which they belong or directly to the Secretary of the Central Co-ordinating Committee in the Colonial Secretariat.

"I am confident that Hong Kong holds a bright future for our young people provided we all work towards one common goal, that is to make Hong Kong a better place to live in and to ensure that everything we do, both inside and outside Government, is in the interest of the community at large."

He thanked all those who were involved in the organising of the overall summer youth programme, including the 30,000 volunteers who, he said had rendered invaluable assistance in the actual running of the programme, and the Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club for its generous donation of over \$1 million.

Also speaking at the ceremony was Miss Annie Chan, Assistant Director (Social Work), Social Welfare Department, who said that many voluntary organisations, schools, community groups, religious bodies, the British Forces and the government had put in tremendous efforts to run this meaningful programme for young people this year.

She said the summer activities provided youth with opportunities to render services to the community and to enable them to make the best use of their summer holidays.

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Note to Editors: Copies of Mr. Lai's speech in English and Chinese are boxed for collection together with Miss Chan's speech which is in Chinese only.

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WARNING ON UNLICENSED CRAFT PLYING FOR HIRE

The Acting Director of Marine, Mr. M.J. Alexander, today warned members of the public against paying for trips on pleasure craft because the boats were not surveyed or licensed for this purpose.

"Pleasure vessels," he said, "are not subject to survey in respect of the hull, machinery and life-saving and fire-fighting appliances, as are commercially operated launches, neither are inspections made to determine the maximum number of people they may safely carry."

He explained that for identification purposes, the name of a commercial boat, together with a number followed by the letter "P" which shows its passenger carrying capacity, was painted on the stern and on both sides of the bow.

"Only vessels showing a number with the letter "P" as a suffix are licensed to carry passengers," Mr. Alexander said.

A pleasure launch, on the other hand, will have a licence number without the letter "P" attached. It may or may not have its name painted on each bow.

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KOWLOON ROAD RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAMME

The 700-foot section of Victory Avenue between Argyle Street and Waterloo Road will shortly be reconstructed to ensure greater motoring safety.

Work is expected to begin in November and will take about five months to complete.

The reconstruction is a part of a \$1.3 million programme launched in May this year to improve a number of roads in Kowloon.

Other roads included in the improvement programme are: Mok Cheong Street between Yin On Street and Kowloon City Road; Ki Lung Street between Boundary Street and Cedar Street; Nelson Street between Shanghai Street and Tong Mi Road; Woo Sung Street between Bowring Street and Austin Road; Ning Po Street between Canton Road and Shanghai Street; and Sheung Tak Street between Tung Tau Tsuen Road and Ching Tak Street.

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FACTORY WORKERS SERVICE SCHEME

Note to Editors: A ceremony to mark the closing of the third stage of the Western District factory workers service scheme will be held at the hall of King's College on Saturday (September 8) from 8 to 10 p.m.

The ceremony will include a presentation of souvenirs by Mr. Au Kwong-man, Principal Social Welfare Officer, and a speech by Mr. Rafael Hui, City District Officer (Western), as well as a programme of entertainment.

About 800 workers from factories in the district are expected to participate.

The scheme aimed at involving factory workers to serve themselves, through a committee of 16 members. It is sponsored by nine different welfare organisations in the district specifically to cater to factory workers.

You are invited to cover the closing ceremony at the hall of King's College on Saturday at 8 p.m.

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CHAI WAN RECLAMATION

Work is now in progress on a 1,700-foot retaining seawall for the Chai Wan reclamation where the site of the proposed Mass Transport Depot will be located.

Part of the reclamation will initially be used as a works area for the construction of the immersed-tube units for the underground railway system.

Construction of the seawall is expected to be completed within 12 months at a cost of about \$5.3 million.

The Marine Department has issued a notice to mariners warning all vessels to keep away from Lo Shue Point in Chai Wan, where the reclamation work is taking place.

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CORRECT WAY OF DISPLAYING MOTORCYCLE LICENCE

A number of motor-cyclists have been summonsed because their vehicle licences were in the wrong position.

Disclosing this today, a spokesman for the Transport Department said that motor-cyclists and motorcycle dealers were apparently unaware of the legal requirement relating to the display of a motorcycle licence.

"Some machines are even offered for sale with the licence holder in the wrong position," the spokesman said.

Under traffic regulations, a motorcycle licence must be displayed in a conspicuous position on the left-hand side of the vehicle in front of the driving seat.

It must not be less than 2 feet 6 inches nor more than 6 feet 6 inches from the ground level so as to be clearly visible from the front at all times in daylight, whether or not the motorcycle is in motion.

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Release time: 6.30 p.m.