



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1977

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BETTER PAY AND PROSPECTS FOR PWD SURVEYORS

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THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY APPROVED A NEW SIMPLIFIED STRUCTURE WITH IMPROVED PAY SCALES AND CAREER PROSPECTS FOR A NUMBER OF THE TECHNICAL GRADES IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT. THE NEW SCALES TAKE EFFECT FROM AUGUST 1, 1977.

AT THE SAME TIME IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE GOVERNOR WOULD APPOINT AN INDEPENDENT COMMITTEE OF ENQUIRY TO ENQUIRE INTO THE FACTS OF THE CURRENT DISPUTE BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND P.W.D. STAFF ASSOCIATIONS ABOUT THE NEW STRUCTURE, AND TO PROFFER INDEPENDENT ADVICE ON THE FAIRNESS OR OTHERWISE OF THE NEW PAY STRUCTURE.

THE SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE, MR. RON BRIDGE, SAID THAT THE APPROVAL OF THE NEW STRUCTURE WITH ITS THREE MAIN GRADES OF INSPECTOR/CLERKS OF WORKS, TECHNICAL OFFICER AND SURVEY OFFICER FOLLOWED PROLONGED DISCUSSIONS WITH THE STAFF ASSOCIATIONS CONCERNED.

HE IS CONFIDENT THAT THE NEW PAY SCALES ARE VERY FAIR AND REASONABLE.

HOWEVER, THEY HAVE NOT YET BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE STAFF ASSOCIATIONS.

AS A RESULT OF THE DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN MANAGEMENT AND STAFF, MOST OF THE MEMBERS OF ONE OF THE ASSOCIATIONS, THE ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT LAND AND ENGINEERING SURVEYING OFFICERS (AGLESO), COMPRISING LAND AND ENGINEERING ASSISTANTS IN THE P.W.D., HAVE BEEN REFUSING TO PERFORM OUTDOOR SURVEY WORK, WHICH CONSTITUTES THE BULK OF THEIR USUAL DUTIES, SINCE JULY 12, 1977.

MR. BRIDGE SAID THAT THE REVISED STRUCTURE AROSE FROM A DETAILED STUDY OF THE WORK AND ORGANISATION OF THE P.W.D. TECHNICAL GRADES.

HE EXPLAINED THAT LAND AND ENGINEERING SURVEYING ASSISTANTS USUALLY ENTER WITH CLERICAL LEVEL QUALIFICATIONS (CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION), DO THREE YEARS TRAINING AT GOVERNMENT EXPENSE, AND ON COMPLETION OF THEIR TRAINING RECEIVE A VERY SUBSTANTIAL JUMP IN SALARY OF OVER \$1,000 A MONTH.

THE NEW STRUCTURE GIVES THEM HIGHER PAY SCALES AND GREATLY IMPROVED CAREER PROSPECTS. FOR EXAMPLE, IT PROVIDES THE 442 LAND AND ENGINEERING SURVEYING ASSISTANTS WITH:

- * A GRADE TITLE OF SURVEY OFFICER WHICH HAD BEEN SUGGESTED BY AGLESO ITSELF,
- * STARTING PAY OF \$2,240 ON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THEIR TRAINING,
- * A \$305 (10.4%) INCREASE PER MONTH IN PAY FOR THOSE ON THE MAXIMUM OF THE BASIC SURVEY OFFICER RANK SCALE IN ADDITION TO THE RECENT GENERAL CIVIL SERVICE PAY INCREASE OF 7.5%,

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- * GREATLY IMPROVED CAREER PROSPECTS TO A NEW RANK OF SENIOR SURVEY OFFICER, WITH AN INCREASE IN PAY AT THE MAXIMUM OF \$635 A MONTH (14.8%) HIGHER THAN THE PRESENT SENIOR RANK,
- * AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF POSTS OF THE NEW SENIOR SURVEY OFFICER RANK FROM 80 TO 103, AND
- * THE CREATION OF 10 POSTS IN A NEW HIGHER RANK OF PRINCIPAL SURVEY OFFICER WITH A SALARY MAXIMUM OF \$6,935 PER MONTH (COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS MAXIMUM AT THE TOP OF THE GRADE OF \$4,295).

MR. BRIDGE SAID THAT AGLESO IS ASKING FOR A FURTHER \$880 (27.3%) INCREASE PER MONTH FOR THOSE ON THE MAXIMUM OF THE NEW SURVEY OFFICER RANK SCALE IN ADDITION TO THE APPROVED 10.4% INCREASE, WHICH IS ITSELF ADDITIONAL TO THE GENERAL CIVIL SERVICE INCREASE OF 7.5%. AT THE TOP OF THE SENIOR SURVEY OFFICER SCALE AGLESO IS ASKING FOR A FURTHER \$500 (10.1%) ON TOP OF THE 14.8% AND 7.5% ALREADY APPROVED.

MR. BRIDGE SAID THAT THE INCREASES SOUGHT BY AGLESO WOULD PUT THE MAXIMUM PAY FOR THE SURVEY OFFICER WELL ABOVE THAT OF THE ASSISTANT INSPECTOR/ASSISTANT CLERKS OF WORKS AND BRING THE MAXIMUM OF THE SENIOR SURVEY OFFICER UP TO THAT OF THE INSPECTOR AND CLERKS OF WORKS.

AGLESO'S REQUESTED SALARIES WERE FAR HIGHER THAN COULD BE JUSTIFIED BY ANALYSIS OF THE EVIDENCE PROVIDED BY THE INDEPENDENT PAY INVESTIGATION UNIT'S RECENTLY CONCLUDED SURVEY OF PAY RATES FOR COMPARABLE WORK IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

THE SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD TO BEAR IN MIND ITS RESPONSIBILITY TO THE PUBLIC NOT TO ALLOW LENGTHY DELAY IN IMPORTANT PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS, INCLUDING THE PUBLIC HOUSING PROGRAMME, AND IN PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE APPROVED NEW STRUCTURE AND PAY SCALES IN RESPECT OF THOSE LAND AND ENGINEERING SURVEY OFFICERS WHO ARE CURRENTLY REFUSING TO PERFORM OUTDOOR SURVEY DUTIES WILL, THEREFORE BE CONDITIONAL UPON THEIR RETURN TO NORMAL DUTIES.

HOWEVER ALL THE POINTS AT ISSUE WOULD BE REVIEWED BY THE INDEPENDENT COMMITTEE OF ENQUIRY APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR, AND THE NEW STRUCTURE WILL BE REVIEWED IN THE LIGHT OF THE COMMITTEE'S ADVICE.

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SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS VISITS YOUNG SWIMMERS

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THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR. F.K. LI THIS (WEDNESDAY) MORNING VISITED MORSE PARK SWIMMING POOL TO SEE SCORES OF HANDICAPPED CHILDREN TAKING PART IN A 'LEARN-TO-SWIM' COURSE ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

MR. LI BEGAN HIS VISIT BY WATCHING SOME SCHOOL CHILDREN DOING WARM-UP EXERCISES AT THE POOL SIDE. HE THEN MOVED ON TO THE TRAINING POOL WHERE HANDICAPPED CHILDREN WERE ENTHUSIASTICALLY SPLASHING AND PADDLING IN THE POOL UNDER THE TUTORSHIP OF INSTRUCTORS FROM THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT. HE ALSO WATCHED A GROUP OF SCHOOL CHILDREN TAKING THEIR SWIMMING LESSON IN ANOTHER POOL.

MR. LI PAUSED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS TO CHAT WITH THE CHILDREN AND ENQUIRED WHETHER THEY ENJOYED THEIR SWIM.

HE WAS ACCOMPANIED ON THE VISIT BY THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS), MR. A.J. REEVE= THE PRINCIPAL INSPECTOR (PHYSICAL EDUCATION), MRS. CHIU SHUM SHUK-HAAN= PHYSICAL EDUCATION INSPECTOR, MR. MA YING-KIN AND THE MORSE PARK SWIMMING POOL SUPERVISOR, MR. CHENG TAK-HOY.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN NORTH POINT AND WAN CHAI

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THE SECTION OF CHUN YEUNG STREET BETWEEN NORTH POINT ROAD AND TONG SHUI ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL TRAFFIC EXCEPT TRAMS BETWEEN 11.30 A.M. AND 4 P.M. THIS FRIDAY (AUGUST 26).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT EXPLAINED THAT THE STREET IS TO BE TEMPORARILY CLOSED TO ENABLE THE RESITING OF HAWKERS.

MEANWHILE, IN THE EARLY MORNING BETWEEN 3 A.M. AND 5 A.M. ON THE SAME DAY, THE SECTION OF LEIGHTON ROAD WESTBOUND BETWEEN MATHESON STREET AND CANAL ROAD EAST WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC TO FACILITATE STREET LIGHTING WORKS.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP AT THESE PLACES TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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SEMINAR ON GOVERNMENT SERVICES AND PROCEDURES

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A SEMINAR ON GOVERNMENT SERVICES AND PROCEDURES FOR FACTORY MANAGERMENTS IN CHAI WAN WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (THURSDAY) AND ON FRIDAY FROM 2 P.M. TO 6 P.M. DAILY TO ENABLE THEM TO UNDERSTAND HOW THE GOVERNMENT WORKS.

A NUMBER OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WILL BE INVITED TO SPEAK AT THE SEMINAR WHO INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (EASTERN), LABOUR DEPARTMENT, DISTRICT RECREATION AND SPORT OFFICE (EASTERN), URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT, FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, HOUSING DEPARTMENT, ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE, ICAC AND THE CHAI WAN COMMUNITY CENTRE. MISS CHRISTINE CHOW, CITY DISTRICT OFFICER (EASTERN) WILL DELIVER THE OPENING SPEECH.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT THE OBJECTIVES OF THE SEMINAR ARE TO +STRENGTHEN THE LIAISON WITH THE LARGE NUMBER OF FACTORIES IN CHAI WAN AND TO INCREASE THE CITIZENS' KNOWLEDGE OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES AND PROCEDURES WITH A VIEW TO ENHANCING THEIR CIVIC AWARENESS AND TO ERADICATING CORRUPTION OPPORTUNITIES.+

THE SEMINAR IS ORGANISED BY THE WORKING GROUP ON CHAI WAN COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROJECTS WHICH COMPRISES THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (EASTERN), THE CHAI WAN COMMUNITY CENTRE AND THE ICAC FOOK-SING SUB-OFFICE, AND SPONSORED BY THE CHAI WAN AREA COMMITTEES NOS. 9 AND 10.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO COVER THE SEMINAR ON GOVERNMENT SERVICES AND PROCEDURES TOMORROW AT 2 P.M. IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF CHAI WAN COMMUNITY CENTRE.

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AIRPORT SHOP TO LET

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TENDERS WILL BE INVITED FOR THE TENANCY OF A SHOP AT HONG KONG AIRPORT FOR SELLING CONFECTIONARY, TOYS, FLOWERS, OR OWN BRAND AND MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS.

THE SHOP, NO.151, WITH AN AREA OF 375 SQ. FT. IS SITUATED AT THE DEPARTURES LEVEL IN THE TERMINAL BUILDING.

DUE TO DEVELOPMENT TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN THE PASSENGER TERMINAL, THE TENANCY WILL BE FOR A PERIOD OF 12 MONTHS AND THEREAFTER ON MONTH-TO-MONTH TERMS.

FORMS OF TENDER AND FURTHER PARTICULARS ARE OBTAINABLE FROM THE MANAGEMENT OF THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT OR THE HONG KONG AIRPORT.

ALL TENDERS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL TENDER BOARD AND PLACED IN THE TENDER BOX AT THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT BEFORE NOON ON FRIDAY (SEPTEMBER 9).

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MARINE DEPARTMENT OPENING HOURS ON PUBLIC HOLIDAY
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THE MARINE DEPARTMENT'S WAN CHAI AND YAU MA TEI PUBLIC CARGO WORKING AREAS AND PORT COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE WILL REMAIN OPEN ON MONDAY (AUGUST 29) WHICH IS A PUBLIC HOLIDAY.

THE DEPARTMENT'S VICTORIA SMALL CRAFT LICENSING OFFICE WILL BE OPEN FROM 9 A.M. TO 11 A.M. THAT DAY, WHILE THE MACAU FERRY WHARF UNIT OFFICES WILL BE OPEN FROM 7.30 A.M. TO 1.30 A.M. THE NEXT DAY (TUESDAY).

ALL ITS OTHER OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED.

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