



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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INDUSTRIAL DESIGN BACKED BY GOVERNMENT

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THE GOVERNMENT NURTURED DESIGN DEVELOPMENT BECAUSE IT BELIEVED IT TO BE A VERY IMPORTANT ASPECT OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG'S INDUSTRIES, THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR JOHN YAXLEY, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 1983 ASIAN PRODUCTIVITY ORGANISATION SEMINAR ON PRODUCT DESIGN, MR YAXLEY SAID THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT RECOGNISED THE IMPORTANCE OF INDUSTRIAL DESIGN IN TODAY'S WORLD OF SOPHISTICATION AND IMPROVING LIVING CONDITIONS.

MR YAXLEY OUTLINED THE VARIOUS WAYS IN WHICH THE GOVERNMENT PROMOTED INDUSTRIAL DESIGN IN HONG KONG.

+FIRST OF ALL, WE PROVIDE INDUSTRIAL DESIGN TRAINING -- THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND THE TERTIARY EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS ARE ABLE TO TURN OUT QUALITY DESIGNERS.

+SECONDLY, WE SUPPORT, FINANCIALLY OR OTHERWISE, ORGANISATIONS SPECIALISING IN THE PROMOTION OF INDUSTRIAL DESIGN, SUCH AS THE HONG KONG INDUSTRIAL DESIGN COUNCIL.

+THIRDLY, THROUGH OUR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD (IDB) WE SUPPORT CERTAIN INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH PROJECTS WHICH ARE RELEVANT TO INDUSTRIAL DESIGN.

+IN FACT, DETAILED CONSIDERATION IS CURRENTLY BEING GIVEN BY THE IDB TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PRODUCT INNOVATION DESIGN SERVICE IN HONG KONG.

+LASTLY, WE PROMOTE QUALITY ASSURANCE AS A COMPLEMENT TO OUR EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE THE STANDARD AND QUALITY OF OUR PRODUCTS, + MR YAXLEY SAID.

ANY EXPORT-ORIENTED ECONOMY WAS FORCED TO IMPROVE ITS DESIGN STANDARDS, AND BUSINESSMEN HAD TO BE WATCHFUL OF DEVELOPMENTS OVERSEAS AND BUILD UP THE CAPABILITY AND RESOURCES TO MEET ANTICIPATED NEEDS, HE SAID.

+FURTHER, TO MAINTAIN A POSITION AMONG KEEN COMPETITORS, TO OVERCOME QUOTA AND OTHER IMPORT RESTRICTIONS, AND TO DIVERSIFY INTO NEW PRODUCTS AND NEW MARKETS, THE DEVELOPMENT OF ORIGINAL DESIGN IS A MATTER OF GREAT IMPORTANCE AND URGENCY FOR ALL OF US IN THIS REGION.

+IN THIS RESPECT, THE BUSINESS ACUMEN COMBINED WITH THE ENERGY AND INITIATIVE OF PRODUCT DESIGNERS MUST BE GIVEN FREE REIN, + HE ADDED.

HONG KONG WAS MAKING CONSIDERABLE EFFORTS, IN THE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTORS, TO UPGRADE ITS INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY AND IN DIVERSIFYING INTO NEW PRODUCTS AND NEW MARKETS, HE SAID.

/+THESE EFFORTS

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+THESE EFFORTS HAVE NOT BEEN UNREWARDED. FOR EXAMPLE, MANY OF THE COMPONENTS REQUIRED BY OUR ELECTRONICS SECTOR, WHICH USED TO BE IMPORTED, ARE NOW BEING DESIGNED AND MANUFACTURED LOCALLY.

+HIGH FASHION GARMENTS DESIGNED AND MADE IN HONG KONG NOW HAVE AN INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION.

+IN OUR EFFORTS TO MOVE UP MARKET THERE IS, IN HONG KONG, AN INCREASINGLY FRUITFUL COMING TOGETHER OF BUSINESS ACUMEN AND DESIGN TALENT,+ MR YAXLEY SAID.

HE DESCRIBED ASIA AS A MEETING GROUND FOR ORIENTAL AND OCCIDENTAL CULTURES.

WITH THE INSPIRATION THIS BROUGHT, THERE WAS CLEARLY PLENTY OF SCOPE FOR DESIGNERS TO DEVELOP NEW IDEAS OR COMBINE DIFFERNT TASTES, HE ADDED.

BUT HE WARNED THAT THERE HAD TO BE A CAREFUL ADAPTATION OF THOSE IDEAS TO THE HOME ENVIRONMENT, AND THAT CULTURAL INTEGRITY SHOULD NOT BE COMPROMISED.

+WE AND OTHERS IN ASIA CANNOT RELY ON THE SPECIFICATIONS AND DESIGNS OF DEVELOPED COUNTRIES ALONE. WE MUST BUILD UP OUR OWN DESIGN CAPABILITIES AND PRODUCE NEW AND MARKETABLE PRODUCTS WHICH ARE COMPETITIVE IN TERMS OF UTILITY, PRODUCT APPEARANCE AND COST,+ MR YAXLEY CONCLUDED.

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INTERPRETATION SERVICE WIDELY USED

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THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION SCHEME MARKED A MAJOR STEP FORWARD IN THE USE OF CHINESE AS AN OFFICIAL LANGUAGE, THE COMMISSIONER FOR CHINESE LANGUAGE, MR CANICE MAK SAID TODAY.

SPEAKING AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE TSIM SHA TSUI KAIFONG WELFARE ASSOCIATION TODAY, MR MAK ADDED THAT THE CONFERENCE ROOMS OF THE 18 DISTRICT BOARDS WERE NOW FITTED WITH THE LATEST SIMULTANEOUS EQUIPMENT.

MORE THAN 90 GOVERNMENT BODIES, INCLUDING THE HOUSING AUTHORITY, THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THE POLICE FORCE COUNCIL NOW USED THE SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION SERVICE.

MR MAK EXPLAINED THAT CONSULTATION PLAYED A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF HONG KONG, AND TO ENABLE THE SYSTEM TO FUNCTION PROPERLY, THE GOVERNMENT HAD TO ENSURE THAT THE PUBLIC'S VIEWS, WHETHER EXPRESSED IN CHINESE OR ENGLISH, COULD BE REFLECTED TO THE HIGHEST POLICY-MAKERS.

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WHEN THE GOVERNMENT APPOINTS SOMEONE TO ANY ADVISORY COMMITTEE, WHETHER THE PERSON SPEAKS ENGLISH OR NOT IS NOT OF CONCERN.

+AS A MATTER OF FACT, MANY NON-ENGLISH-SPEAKING PERSONS ARE NOW SERVING ON THE LEGISLATIVE AND URBAN COUNCILS, DISTRICT BOARDS AND OTHER GOVERNMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEES,+ MR MAK SAID.

IN 1980, THE SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION UNIT, WHICH WAS SET UP TO EASE THIS ARRANGEMENT, PROVIDED SERVICE FOR ABOUT 220 MEETINGS. THIS NUMBER IS EXPECTED TO REACH 700 THIS YEAR. TO COPE WITH DEMAND, THE UNIT IS STEPPING UP ITS RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING WORK.

UMELCO ALSO SET UP A CHINESE LANGUAGE PANEL AT THE END OF 1978 TO MONITOR THE USE OF CHINESE IN OFFICIAL BUSINESS BY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS. THE PANEL, CURRENTLY CHAIRED BY MR WONG LAM, HOLDS REGULAR MEETINGS WITH THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS AND HEADS OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS TO KEEP THE SITUATION IN REVIEW AND TO BRING UP PROBLEMS FOR DISCUSSION.

MR MAK SAID THAT SINCE THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGES ORDINANCE WAS ENACTED IN FEBRUARY 1974, DEMAND FOR TRANSLATION SERVICES BY THE GOVERNMENT HAD INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY.

+MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY USE EITHER ENGLISH OR CHINESE IN COMPLETING FORMS WITHOUT BEING PREJUDICED.

+ALL KINDS OF POLICY PAPERS, WHICH INCLUDE THE GOVERNOR'S POLICY ADDRESS AT THE OPENING OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S BUDGET SPEECHES, SPEECHES OF UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, GREEN PAPERS, WHITE PAPERS AND REPORTS OF VARIOUS WORKING PARTIES, MUST BE PUBLISHED IN BOTH LANGUAGES.

+THE TRANSLATION SERVICES SECTION OF THE CHINESE LANGUAGE DIVISION IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE TRANSLATION OF THE ABOVE DOCUMENTS AND IN THE PAST YEAR IT COMPLETED SEVERAL MAJOR COMPLEX ASSIGNMENTS,+ HE SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE CHINESE LANGUAGE DIVISION ALSO PLAYED A PART IN THE PROMOTION OF CHINESE CULTURE.

IN APRIL THIS YEAR, IT HELPED FOUR MAJOR LOCAL CHINESE NEWSPAPERS ORGANISE A TERRITORY-WIDE YOUTH CHINESE CALLIGRAPHY AND PAINTING CONTEST TO PROMOTE INTEREST IN CHINESE ART AND LITERATURE AND TO PROVIDE HEALTHY ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG STUDENTS.

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TREES PLANTED TO BEAUTIFY SHA TIN

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A GROUP OF 100 STUDENTS AND DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS PLANTED TREES IN SHA TIN TODAY TO HELP BEAUTIFY THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE NEW TOWN.

THE EFFORT WAS PART OF THE 'MEI FA' SCHEME COINCIDING WITH THE CURRENT CLEAN HONG KONG CAMPAIGN, A SPOKESMAN OF THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID.

THE DISTRICT-WIDE TREE-PLANTING DAY, ORGANISED BY THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND SPONSORED BY THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD, IS AIMED AT PROMOTING PUBLIC AWARENESS AND INTEREST IN THE CARING FOR PLANTS.

ABOUT 100 YOUNG EVERGREEN TREES WERE PLANTED AT THE AMENITY AREA ADJACENT TO THE LION'S PAVILION AT NGONG TONG HILL NEAR SHUI WO COURT PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE.

ADDRESSING THE GATHERING, THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICER MR DONALD TSANG, SAID THAT BEAUTIFICATION OF THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT PLAYED A VITAL ROLE IN THE RAPIDLY DEVELOPING NEW TOWN.

MORE PLANTS AND TREES MUST BE PLANTED TO KEEP PACE WITH THE BUILDING OF COMMUNITY FACILITIES FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE RESIDENTS, HE ADDED.

HE NOTED THAT SINCE THE LAUNCHING OF THIS 'MEI FA' SCHEME, VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS HAD PLANTED SOME 140 000 PLANTS IN PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS, ROADSIDES AND HIGHWAYS IN SHA TIN DISTRICT TO PROVIDE MORE GREENERY.

WHEN THE TREES PLANTED TODAY, INCLUDING ACACIA CONFUSA, CASUARINA EQUISETIFOLIA AND GREVILLEA ROBUSTA, GROW WELL IN THE YEARS AHEAD, THEY WILL ADD MORE COLOUR TO THE BARREN SPOT OF THE NEW TOWN, MR TSANG SAID.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE SHA TIN URBAN SERVICES OFFICER MR IP SHING-WAI, THE CHAIRMAN OF SHA TIN RURAL COMMITTEE, MR WAI HON-LEUNG, AND A MEMBER OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD, MR NG CHAN-LAM, MR TSANG LATER PLANTED A YOUNG TREE TO HIGHLIGHT THE EVENT.

MEANWHILE, TUEN MUN WILL BE LAUNCHING A DISTRICT TREE PLANTING DAY ON WEDNESDAY (JUNE 1).

A CEREMONY TO MARK THE EVENT WILL BE HELD AT THE TSING WAH REST GARDEN ADJACENT TO CHI LOK FA YUEN IN TUEN MUN AT 2.30 PM.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE TUEN MUN TREE PLANTING DAY AT TSING WAH REST GARDEN, TUEN MUN ON WEDNESDAY (JUNE 1) AT 2.30 PM.

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SCHEME TO SPEED UP TRAFFIC FLOW

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A SCHEME WILL BE LAUNCHED TO EASE CONGESTION AT THE JUNCTION OF GASCOIGNE ROAD WITH WYLIE ROAD, MR PANG HAU-CHUNG, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT (KOWLOON), SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

THE SCHEME, WHICH WILL ADD AN EXTRA LANE TO EACH OF THE EASTBOUND AND WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAYS OF A SECTION OF GASCOIGNE ROAD, IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE THE CAPACITY AT THE JUNCTION BY 25 PER CENT.

THE SCHEME WILL BENEFIT NOT ONLY TRAFFIC HEADING FOR YAU MA TEI FROM THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL, BUT ALSO WESTBOUND TRAFFIC ON CHATHAM ROAD NORTH NEAR THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL, MR PANG SAID.

INITIAL WORK ON WIDENING THE SOUTHERN CARRIAGEWAY WILL START IN A FEW MONTHS.

MR PANG WAS ANSWERING QUERIES FROM THE CHAIRMEN OF THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT SUB-COMMITTEES OF THE KOWLOON DISTRICT BOARDS WHO VISITED THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT'S KOWLOON REGIONAL OFFICES.

DURING THE DISCUSSION, MR PANG HO-CHE, CHIEF TRAFFIC ENGINEER, SAID THAT PLANS WERE ALSO IN HAND FOR WIDENING THE PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD FLYOVER IN HO MAN TIN.

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CHINESE PARTY VISITS TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT

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A DELEGATION OF SEVEN OFFICIALS LED BY THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE SHENZHEN MUNICIPAL OFFICE, INDUSTRY AND TRANSPORT, MR LUO GUIXIANG, TODAY (MAY 30) VISITED THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT.

ON ARRIVAL AT THE DEPARTMENT'S HEADQUARTERS, THEY WERE RECEIVED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, MR PETER LEEDS, AND DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, MR JAMES SO.

THEY WERE BRIEFED BY MR SO AND SENIOR DEPARTMENTAL STAFF ON THE WORK OF THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT AND HONG KONG'S TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT AND TRAFFIC PLANNING ASPECTS.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE CHIEF TRANSPORT OFFICER, MRS DOROTHY CHAN, THE PARTY THEN WENT TO THE ABERDEEN TUNNEL CONTROL ROOM WHERE THEY WERE BRIEFED ABOUT THE OPERATION OF THE TUNNEL CONTROLS.

THE TOUR ENDED AFTER A VISIT TO THE DEPARTMENT'S TRAFFIC CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE DIVISION WHERE THE CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE UNIT, MR J.R.V. SENEVIRATNE, EXPLAINED TO THE DELEGATION THE OPERATION OF THE KOWLOON AREA TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM.

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NEW MAXICAB ROUTE FOR SO UK ESTATE

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A NEW MAXICAB ROUTE LINKING SO UK ESTATE WITH CHEUNG SHA WAN MTR STATION WILL RUN FROM WEDNESDAY (JUNE 1).

THE CIRCULAR ROUTE, NO. 11M, WILL OPERATE VIA CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD, TONKIN STREET, UN CHAU STREET, HING WAH STREET, PO ON ROAD, CHEUNG FAT STREET, LILAC STREET, LARKSPUR STREET, ORCHID STREET, LILAC STREET, CHEUNG FAT STREET, PO ON ROAD, HING WAH STREET AND CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD.

THE ROUTE WILL BE OPEN FROM 6.30 AM TO 10.40 PM ON WEEKDAYS AND 8 AM TO 10 PM ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS. THE FREQUENCY WILL BE FIVE MINUTES DURING PEAK HOURS AND SEVEN MINUTES DURING OFF-PEAK PERIODS.

PASSENGERS WILL PAY 80 CENTS FOR THE TRIP FROM SO UK TO CHEUNG SHA WAN MTR STATION AND 80 CENTS FOR THE RETURN TRIP.

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NO RIGHT TURN

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TO ALLOW FOR CONSTRUCTION WORK ON THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY IN SHEUNG WAN, WESTBOUND VEHICLES TRAVELLING ALONG DES VOUEX ROAD CENTRAL WILL BE BANNED FROM TURNING RIGHT INTO MAN WA LANE NORTHBOUND FROM 10 AM THIS WEDNESDAY (JUNE 1).

VEHICLES HEADING FOR CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL WILL BE DIVERTED VIA MORRISON STREET INSTEAD.

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BUILDING LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY TODAY DECLARED NO. 452 RECLAMATION STREET, KOWLOON TO BE LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS.

IN A STATEMENT ISSUED THIS MORNING, THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING SURVEYOR SAID THAT THIS THREE-STORY PRE-WAR BUILDING SHARES A COMMON STAIRCASE WITH NO. 450 RECLAMATION STREET, WHICH IS A CROWN-REVERTED PROPERTY.

+BOTH ARE CONSTRUCTED WITH LOAD-BEARING BRICK WALLS AND TIMBER FLOORS AND ROOFS. THEY HAVE BEEN UNDER SURVEILLANCE SINCE 1970,+ HE SAID.

A DETAILED INSPECTION OF NO. 450 RECLAMATION STREET WAS MADE FOLLOWING A RECENT COLLAPSE OF PART OF THE SECOND FLOOR. IT WAS NOTED THAT THE STRUCTURAL TIMBERS HAD REACHED AN ADVANCED STAGE OF DECAY AND THERE WAS A SERIOUS RISK OF COLLAPSE. THE BUILDING WOULD, THEREFORE, BE DEMOLISHED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

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AS NO. 452 RECLAMATION STREET WOULD NOT SAFELY WITHSTAND THE DEMOLITION OF THE ADJOINING BUILDING, IT WAS THEREFORE, NECESSARY TO CLOSE AND DEMOLISH THE BUILDING, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

ACCORDINGLY A NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER IN KOWLOON DISTRICT COURT AT 9.30 AM ON JUNE 28, 1983 WAS POSTED TODAY.

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JEWELLERY INDUSTRY MANPOWER SURVEY STARTS TOMORROW
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FIELD WORK ON HONG KONG'S FIRST MANPOWER SURVEY OF THE JEWELLERY INDUSTRY WILL START TOMORROW AND LAST UNTIL JUNE 4.

OFFICERS FROM THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT WILL VISIT THE 700 JEWELLERY ESTABLISHMENTS TO COLLECT QUESTIONNAIRES AND IF REQUIRED, HELP IN ANSWERING THEM.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE JEWELLERY INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL, WHO ORGANISED THE SURVEY, REITERATED THAT INFORMATION COLLECTED WOULD BE HANDLED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE.

HE ALSO SAID THAT INTERVIEWS WOULD ONLY BE CARRIED OUT DATES PREVIOUSLY ARRANGED WITH THE ESTABLISHMENTS CONCERNED.

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WATER FIGURES
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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 85.1 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 491.756 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 274.609 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 47.5 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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