



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Tuesday, April 6, 1976

<u>Contents</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
Officials will reply tomorrow to points raised by their unofficial colleagues during Budget Debate	1
Director of Social Welfare praises the public for their support for welfare services	2
Interruption of water supply to Sai Kung, Kwun Tong and North Point areas	4

Tuesday, April 6, 1976

- 1 -

BUDGET DEBATE: OFFICIALS TO TAKE THE FLOOR TOMORROW

Debate on the Appropriation Bill 1976 resumes tomorrow (Wednesday) when eleven official members of the Legislative Council will reply to points raised by their unofficial colleagues.

Tomorrow's speakers will be the Hon. Kenneth Topley, Director of Education; Dr. the Hon. Gerald Choa, Director of Medical and Health Services; the Hon. Li Fook-kow, Secretary for Social Services; the Hon. James Robson, Secretary for the Environment; the Hon. Ian Lightbody, Secretary for Housing; the Hon. David Akers-Jones, Secretary for the New Territories; the Hon. Lewis Davies, Secretary for Security; the Hon. David Jordan, Director of Commerce and Industry; the Hon. Denis Bray, Secretary for Home Affairs; the Hon. Philip Haddon-Cave, Financial Secretary; and the Hon. Sir Denys Roberts, Colonial Secretary.

Council will then adjourn until April 28 when the Appropriation Bill will be considered in committee before its third and final reading.

Five new bills will be tabled at tomorrow's sitting. They include the Hong Kong Industrial Estates Provisional Authority Bill 1976 which seeks to set up an interim provisional authority for the construction and management of industrial estates; and the Aerial Ropeways (Safety) Bill 1976, designed to control the safety standards of aerial ropeways.

Three other bills, including the Independent Commission Against Corruption (Amendment) Bill 1976 and the Prevention of Bribery (Amendment) Bill 1976, will be considered in committee before their third and final reading.

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/2

Tuesday, April 6, 1976

- 2 -

WELFARE FOR THE BLIND

The Director of Social Welfare, Mr. Thomas Lee, today praised the public for their support for welfare services promoted by the Government and voluntary welfare agencies for the blind.

Mr. Lee was speaking at a luncheon meeting of the Lions Club of South Kowloon, at which a cheque for \$5,000 was presented by the Club to the Hong Kong Federation of the Blind.

The Director noted that the Government and voluntary agencies had been promoting welfare services for the blind since the close of the 19th century.

A home to accommodate blind children was set up by the Canossian Mission. Later on, the Ebenezer School and Home for the Blind and the Canossian School for the Visually Disabled were established one after the other to provide education for them. "The Government, apart from subsidising these two schools, helps other blind children to attend ordinary schools and supplies Braille reading materials," he said.

With Government assistance, he continued, the Hong Kong Society for the Blind ran a workshop, a rehabilitation and training centre, a hostel, and an old people's home for the blind.

"The Social Welfare Department is responsible for registering blind people and helps them to solve problems such as on accommodation, vocational training and employment. The department also runs three centres where sheltered work facilities and other services are provided for blind adults," Mr. Lee said.

The Hong Kong Federation of the Blind, founded in 1972, was formed by the blind people themselves to promote mutual help and co-operation and to organise cultural and recreational activities.

/Mr. Lee

Tuesday, April 6, 1976

- 3 -

Mr. Lee said that the activities organised by the Federation took the form of interest groups, home visits, telephone enquiry service and outdoor activities.

"Moreover, it has always tried to improve the working conditions and livelihood of its members," he added.

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Tuesday, April 6, 1976

- 4 -

WATER CUT

Water supply to a number of premises in Sai Kung and Kwun Tong will be interrupted for eight hours beginning at 10 p.m. on Thursday (April 8).

The temporary stoppage will enable the waterworks Office to connect an outlet main at the Kwun Tong high level service reservoir.

The affected areas are as follows:-

- * All premises along Clear Water Bay Road between Pik Uk Prison and Beyside Villa, including villas and villages along Clear Water Bay Road, Hang Hau Road, Silver Strand Beach Road and Wo Kar Road in Sai Kung;
- * Po Lam Road and the whole of Rennies Mill area, including Ma You Tong villages;
- * Along Hiram's Highway between Nam Wai and Liu Kar Tse, including Villages along Hiram's Highway, Sai Kung;
- * Hip Wo Street from Hiu Kwong Street to Sau Mau Ping Road, including San Nga Road and the United Christian Hospital;
- * Lam Tin Estate, Sau Mau Ping Estate, Ngau Tau Kok Upper Estate, and Ngau Tau Kok Cottage Area, Fuk Wah Tsuen.
- * Hong Ning Road between Hip Wo Street and Kung Lok Road; and
- * Kung Lok Road and Hong Lee Road.

On Hong Kong Island, a number of premises in North Point will be without water for five hours starting from 1 a.m. on Thursday.

This is to enable the Waterworks Office to carry out leakage tests.

The affected area is bounded by the south side of King's Road from Shu Kuk Street to North View Street, Kin Wah Street, Fort Street, Ming Yuen Western Street and Peacock Road.

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