



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1978

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NEED FOR MORE SELF-SUPPORTING
AND NON-PROFIT-MAKING NURSERIES
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THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, TODAY URGED VOLUNTARY WELFARE ORGANISATIONS TO SET UP MORE SELF-SUPPORTING AND NON-PROFIT-MAKING CHILD CARE CENTRES TO CATER FOR CHILDREN FROM FAMILIES WHICH CANNOT AFFORD THE HIGH FEES OF THE PRIVATE NURSERIES AND ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR ADMISSION TO GOVERNMENT SUBVENTED ONES.

MR. LEE WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE TUNG WAH SELF-SUPPORTING DAY NURSERY - THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN HONG KONG.

HE SAID THAT WITH THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE CHILD CARE CENTRES ORDINANCE FROM JUNE 1, 1977, A DEMAND IN THIS SERVICE WAS CREATED BY THE CLOSURE OF A NUMBER OF GROSSLY SUBSTANDARD NURSERIES AND THE REDUCTION OF CAPACITY OF SOME CENTRES IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH THE REGULATIONS.

+TO MAKE UP FOR THIS SHORTFALL, THE GOVERNMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE EXISTING POLICY WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SUBSIDISED NURSERY PLACES AT THE RATE OF 1,000 PER YEAR, AND AT THE SAME TIME CONTINUE TO OFFER SUPPORT TO THE EXISTING SUBVENTED CHILD CARE CENTRES FOR CHILDREN COMING FROM FAMILIES WHOSE INCOME IS BELOW THE PRESCRIBED LEVEL.+

FOR CHILDREN FROM FAMILIES IN THE HIGHER INCOME BRACKET, MR. LEE SAID, THE GOVERNMENT ENCOURAGED VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS TO SET UP NON-SUBVENTED, NON-PROFIT-MAKING AND SELF-SUPPORTING NURSERIES WITH GRANTS FROM THE LOTTERIES FUND ONLY TO COVER INITIAL CAPITAL COST.

+THESE NURSERIES WILL RELY ON FEES PAID BY PARENTS TO MEET THE RUNNING COST.+

TURNING TO THE 101 SUBVENTED CHILD CARE CENTRES RUN BY VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS, MR. LEE SAID THAT \$17 MILLION OF SOCIAL WELFARE SUBVENTION HAD BEEN EARMARKED FOR FINANCING THEIR OPERATION IN THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR.

+MOREOVER, AN ESTIMATED \$1.65 MILLION FROM THE LOTTERIES FUND HAS ALSO BEEN EARMARKED FOR THE NON-RECURRENT EXPENDITURE OF THESE CENTRES. IN OTHER WORDS, MORE THAN \$18 MILLION WILL BE SPENT THIS YEAR TO SUPPORT ABOUT 10,300 SUBVENTED NURSERY PLACES, OR AN AVERAGE OF \$150 PER CHILD PER MONTH.+

THIS SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF PUBLIC FUNDS, MR. LEE NOTED, WAS PRIMARILY INTENDED TO AID THOSE FAMILIES WHO WERE IN NEED OF CHILD CARE SERVICE BUT COULD NOT AFFORD THE HIGH FEES IN PRIVATE NURSERIES.

+HOWEVER, AS EXPERIENCE REVEALS, A NUMBER OF CHILDREN CURRENTLY OCCUPYING SUBVENTED PLACES COME FROM FAMILIES WITH INCOME LEVEL HIGHER THAN THE SET CRITERIA.

/+IN ORDER TO ENSURE

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+IN ORDER TO ENSURE A FAIR SPREAD OF WELFARE BENEFITS, AND TO GIVE PRIORITY TO THE NEEDY FAMILIES TO ENJOY THE SUBSIDISED SERVICE, THE GOVERNMENT IS REVIEWING THE PRESENT POLICY ON CHILD CARE SERVICE AND IN CONNECTION WITH SUBVENTION GRANTED TO THEM.

+SUBJECT TO DETAILED RESEARCH AND CONSULTATION, THE WORKING GROUP ON DAY NURSERIES SET UP LAST YEAR WOULD SOON COME UP WITH PROPOSALS, WHICH MIGHT INCLUDE A CHANGE OF THE ADMISSION CRITERIA TO MAKE THEM MORE REALISTIC AND A REASONABLE INCREASE IN FEES FOR THOSE PARENTS WHO CAN AFFORD TO PAY MORE,+ HE SAID.

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HONG KONG JURY LIST
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THE REGISTRAR OF THE SUPREME COURT, MR. SIMON HERBERT MAYO, HAS ANNOUNCED THAT A FURTHER LIST OF COMMON JURORS WOULD BE POSTED ON THE NOTICE BOARD NEAR THE LIFT INSIDE THE SOUTHWEST ENTRANCE OF THE SUPREME COURT BUILDING ON JANUARY 23.

THE LIST WILL REMAIN POSTED FOR 14 DAYS.

DURING THIS PERIOD ANY PERSON MAY APPLY BY NOTICE IN WRITING TO THE REGISTRAR REQUIRING THAT HIS NAME OR THE NAME OF SOME OTHER PERSON BE POSTED OR REMOVED UPON CAUSE DULY ASSIGNED IN SUCH NOTICE.

THE REGISTRAR SHALL IN HIS DISCRETION, POST OR REMOVE SUCH NAME ACCORDINGLY AND SHALL, IF NECESSARY, ALTER THE LIST.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS TO ATTEND GALA FILM PREMIERE
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THE DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS, MR. JOHN WALDEN WILL ATTEND THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG 1977/78 RAFFLE DRAW AND THE GALA PREMIERE OF THE FILM +STAR WARS+ TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AT THE OCEAN THEATRE, KOWLOON.

THE RAFFLE DRAW AND GALA FILM PREMIERE IS PART OF THE DRIVE TO RAISE FUNDS FOR A TRAINING BUNGALOW TO BE BUILT AT THE SCOUT TRAINING CENTRE AT TUNG TSE, NEW TERRITORIES.

MRS. WALDEN WILL DRAW THE RAFFLE TICKETS AND THE FILM WILL BE SHOWN AFTERWARDS.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO COVER THE EVENT TOMORROW AT 9.30 P.M. AT THE OCEAN THEATRE, CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON.

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LICENSING OF FISHING VESSELS
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THE GOVERNMENT WILL CARRY OUT LICENSING OF FISHING VESSELS OPERATING IN JUNK BAY, HANG HAU, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE SAID TODAY.

TO MAKE IT CONVENIENT FOR THE FISHERMEN, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE MARINE DEPARTMENT WOULD SEND A LICENSING TEAM ON ITS DEPARTMENTAL VESSEL TO JUNK BAY TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AND ON JANUARY 23 AND 25.

HE SAID DURING THESE THREE DAYS, THE TEAM WILL OPERATE AT HANG HAU FROM 9.30 A.M. TO NOON, AND AT RENNIE'S MILL PUBLIC LANDING AREA FROM 2 P.M. TO 3.30 P.M.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO URGED THE FISHERMEN TO BRING ALONG THEIR IDENTITY CARDS AND OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS FOR THE LICENSING OR RE-LICENSING OF THEIR VESSELS.

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PRESENTATION OF NEW BOOK AT MAN MO TEMPLE

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REPRESENTATIVES OF LOCAL TEMPLES WILL RECEIVE COPIES OF THE RECENTLY PUBLISHED BOOK, +THIS IS HONG KONG: TEMPLES+ AT A PRESENTATION CEREMONY AT MAN MO TEMPLE, HOLLYWOOD ROAD ON FRIDAY (JANUARY 20) AT 3 P.M.

THE AUTHOR, MRS. JOYCE SAVIDGE, DURING THE COURSE OF WRITING THE BOOK, RECEIVED INVALUABLE ADVICE AND HELP FROM THE VARIOUS TEMPLES SHE VISITED.

THE BOOK, PRICED AT HK\$20 A COPY, IS THE FIRST IN A NEW SERIES OF PUBLICATIONS UNDER THE GENERAL TITLE OF +THIS IS HONG KONG.+ IT IS AVAILABLE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING AND ALL LEADING BOOK SHOPS.

THE MAN MO TEMPLE, ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR TEMPLES IN HONG KONG, HAS BEEN MADE AVAILABLE FOR THE PRESENTATION BY THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS, WHICH LOOKS AFTER IT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND A REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER TO COVER THE BOOK PRESENTATION AT MAN MO TEMPLE, HOLLYWOOD ROAD ON JANUARY 20 AT 3 P.M.

TELEVISION CREWS MAY ARRIVE AT 2.30 P.M. TO FILM THE TEMPLE SCENES BEFORE THE CEREMONY, IF NECESSARY.

THE AUTHOR, MRS. JOYCE SAVIDGE WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ANSWER ANY PRESS ENQUIRIES.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN SHA TIN AND TSIM SHA TSUI
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT FROM 10 A.M. TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) UNTIL JUNE THIS YEAR, TRAFFIC ON TAI PO ROAD NEAR HO TUNG LAU WILL BE DIVERTED TO A REVISED ALIGNMENT TO FACILITATE CONSTRUCTION OF A TRUNK ROAD ADJACENT TO THE SHA TIN RACECOURSE.

THE REVISED ALIGNMENT IS TO THE SOUTH OF THE EXISTING TAI PO ROAD AND IT INCORPORATES A NEW LEVEL CROSSING WITH THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY REPLACING THE PRESENT ONE AT HO TUNG LAU.

THE DEPARTMENT ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT FROM 10 A.M. SATURDAY (JANUARY 21), THE SECTION OF CARNARVON ROAD BETWEEN NATHAN ROAD AND BRISTOL AVENUE WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM THE PRESENT ONE-WAY EASTBOUND TO ONE-WAY WESTBOUND TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC CIRCULATION IN THE AREA.

AT THE SAME TIME, MODY ROAD BETWEEN NATHAN ROAD AND BRISTOL AVENUE WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM TWO-WAY TO ONE-WAY EASTBOUND.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP IN THESE AREAS TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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