



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

MONDAY, MARCH 22, 1976

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MORE AND MORE EMPLOYERS TAKE ON DISABLED
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MORE AND MORE DISABLED PEOPLE ARE MAKING THEMSELVES LESS DEPENDENT ON SOCIETY WITH THE HELP OF THE REHABILITATION DIVISION OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

A WIDE RANGE OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING COURSES - MACHINE-SEWING, CARPENTRY, ELECTRONICS AND ELECTRICAL APPLIANCE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS, PRINTING, METAL WORK, GARDENING AND SHOE-MAKING - IS OFFERED BY THE DIVISION TO THOSE DISABLED PEOPLE WHO WANT TO BETTER THEMSELVES.

THE MAIN TRAINING CENTRES ARE THE WORLD REHABILITATION FUND DAY CENTRE, THE ABERDEEN REHABILITATION CENTRE AND THE KAI NANG TRAINING CENTRE.

MR. KHOO TAI-PIN, HEAD OF THE DIVISION SAID : +THE DISABLED LEARN HOW TO MAKE THE FULLEST USE OF THEIR SKILL THROUGH TRAINING AND THUS IMPROVE THEIR CHANCES OF FINDING EMPLOYMENT IN THE OPEN MARKET.+

IN 1975, 200 DISABLED WORKERS WERE SUCCESSFULLY PLACED IN VARIOUS TYPES OF WORK, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 25 PER CENT OVER THE PRECEDING YEAR.

MR. KHOO POINTED OUT THAT EMPLOYMENT FOR THE DISABLED BEGAN TO PICK UP IN THE LAST QUARTER OF THE YEAR WITH JOBS FOUND FOR AN AVERAGE OF 33 PEOPLE EACH MONTH.

+WE ARE PLEASED TO NOTE THAT THIS PROMISING TREND CONTINUES IN THE NEW YEAR,+ HE ADDED. +JANUARY'S FIGURE WAS AS HIGH AS 44.+

AS IN THE PAST YEARS, THE DISABLED WERE MAINLY EMPLOYED AS MACHINE-SEWING WORKERS, GENERAL WORKERS, PRESS MACHINE OPERATORS AND ASSEMBLERS.

THEY WERE PAID AT A DAILY RATE OF \$15 TO \$20 OR AT A MONTHLY SALARY OF \$300 TO \$600 WHICH ARE STRICTLY ON A PAR WITH THE ABLE-BODIED WORKERS.

MR. KHOO BELIEVED THAT EMPLOYERS WERE BEGINNING TO REALISE THAT THEY HAD NOTHING TO LOSE BY EMPLOYING HANDICAPPED WORKERS.

+THE DISABLED ARE CAREFUL, STABLE AND THEY CONCENTRATE IN THEIR WORK,+ HE POINTED OUT.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE REHABILITATION DIVISION IS DOING ALL IT CAN TO HELP EMPLOYERS TO ACCOMMODATE HANDICAPPED STAFF IN THEIR ORGANISATIONS.

+ONE OF THE IDEAS WE WILL CONTINUE TO PROMOTE IS TO HAVE ONE SMALL UNIT IN A FACTORY TO BE MANNED ENTIRELY BY DISABLED WORKERS,+ MR. KHOO SAID. +IT IS ALL PART OF OUR EFFORTS TO HELP EMPLOYERS WHO ARE PROGRESSIVE ENOUGH TO TAKE ON DISABLED PEOPLE.+

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AN ADVANTAGE OF HAVING SUCH A UNIT IS THAT IT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED TO HAVE A PERSON SPECIALLY DESIGNATED TO LOOK AFTER ONE OR TWO DISABLED STAFF AND THUS REDUCE EXPENSES SO INCURRED.

+ALL THE EMPLOYER HAS TO DO IS TO PROVIDE AN INSTRUCTOR AND OUR DEPARTMENT WILL PROVIDE TRAINING FACILITIES AT OUR CENTRES AND MEET ALL THE TRAINING EXPENSES,+ MR. KHOO EXPLAINED.

THE DIVISION HAD TRIED OUT THE IDEA WITH TWO EMPLOYERS AND THE RESULTS TURNED OUT TO BE SATISFACTORY TO BOTH PARTIES.

MR. KHOO APPEALED TO MORE EMPLOYERS TO ACCEPT DISABLED WORKERS.

THOSE WISHING TO DO SO ARE WELCOME TO CONTACT THE JOB PLACEMENT UNIT OF THE REHABILITATION DIVISION EITHER BY WRITING TO THE WORLD REHABILITATION FUND DAY CENTRE, KWUN TONG ROAD, OR BY TELEPHONING 3-419221.

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BUDGET DEBATE RESUMES ON WEDNESDAY

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UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL GIVE THEIR VIEWS ON THE FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC STATE OF HONG KONG AND THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF GOVERNMENT POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION AT THE RESUMED DEBATE ON THE APPROPRIATION BILL 1976 AT 2.30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY.

THERE WILL BE 14 SPEAKERS. ON WEDNESDAY, SEVEN OF THEM WILL SPEAK IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER: DR. THE HON. S.Y. CHUNG, THE HON. ROGER LOBO, THE HON. MRS. JOYCE SYMONS, THE HON. PETER WILLIAMS, THE HON. JAMES WU, THE HON. HILTON CHEONG-LEEN AND THE HON. LI FOOK-WO.

SEVEN OTHER UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS WILL SPEAK ON THE FOLLOWING DAY (THURSDAY). THEY ARE THE HON. JOHN BREMRIDGE, DR. THE HON. HARRY FANG, THE HON. MISS KO SIU-WAH, THE HON. T.S. LO, THE HON. FRANCIS TIEN, THE HON. ALEX WU AND THE HON. OSWALD CHEUNG.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE TWO-DAY DEBATE WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE ON RHK 2 (CHINESE) AND RHK 4 (ENGLISH).

OFFICIAL MEMBERS WILL REPLY TO POINTS RAISED BY THEIR UNOFFICIAL COLLEAGUES ON APRIL 7.

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MORE MACS FORMED IN TSUEN WAN
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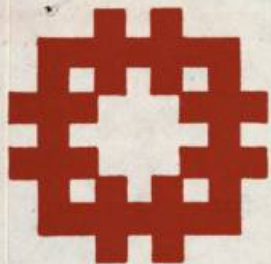
SIX MORE MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES HAVE BEEN FORMED IN TSUEN WAN SINCE THE MIDDLE OF JANUARY BY THE MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE PROMOTION UNIT OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE. THIS BRINGS THE NUMBER OF MACS IN THE TOWN TO 113.

A FURTHER EIGHT MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES ARE IN THE PIPELINE.

IN ADDITION TO MACS, THERE ARE 18 OWNERS' INCORPORATIONS, EIGHT OF WHICH ARE IN INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS.

NEIGHBOURHOOD SECURITY PATROLS HAVE BEEN FORMED IN EIGHT BLOCKS OF THE KWAI HING AND KWAI SHING ESTATES.

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HONG KONG HOUSING AUTHORITY 香港房屋委員會

PRESS
RELEASE

新聞稿

Monday, March 22, 1976

\$72 MILLION REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR
CHAI WAN (WEST) ESTATE

The Housing Authority is to extend its redevelopment programme to embrace Chai Wan (West) Estate which has a population of about 27,000

Announcing this today (Monday), Dr. E.G. Pryor, Assistant Director (Redevelopment), Housing Department, said that blocks 24 and 25 will be demolished in the initial stage of the programme.

These two blocks house about 850 families totalling some 5,000 tenants.

The affected families will be offered new flats in Hing Wah Estate, Stage II. However, applications for accommodation in estates elsewhere will also be considered if flats are available.

"Letters together with information leaflets explaining the scheme have been delivered today to all tenants of the estate. Tenants of blocks 24 and 25, which are to be demolished, have been given a guide on rehousing procedure. Housing Department staff will be calling on them within the next few days to provide further information and to answer any queries," Dr. Pryor said.

/An enquiry

An enquiry office will also be opened in the estate office for the benefit of tenants.

"Needy families will be given every assistance through the co-ordinated efforts of various Government departments. Genuine hardship cases will be offered removal and decoration allowance," Dr. Pryor gave an assurance.

Chai Wan (West) Estate, built between 1959 and 1963, has four Mark I blocks and eight Mark II blocks.

The Authority's aim in redeveloping this and similar old estates is to improve the environment of tenants who are presently living in congested conditions and sharing communal facilities. A head start has already been made at Shek Kip Mei and Tai Hang Tung.

The first phase of the Chai Wan (West) Scheme will comprise a 28-storey building, scheduled for completion in the latter part of 1978. It will contain about 670 flats of various sizes. The flats will all be self-contained, each with its own balcony, toilet with shower and kitchen.

The initial phase of the Chai Wan (West) Estate redevelopment programme will involve a massive decantation programme - homes for about 850 families have to be provided so that the two blocks could be vacated for demolition.

Mr. Pang Yuk-ling, Chief Architect of the Housing Department, envisages that the estate on full redevelopment the population would be reduced from the existing 27,000 to 20,000 giving a density of about 1,000 per acre. The estimated capital cost of the project is in the order of \$72 million. Development works will be in several phases.

/Eventually

"Eventually, the department proposes to demolish 12 vintage blocks which are lacking in private facilities and replace them with six domestic buildings ranging from 12 to 28 storeys.

"One of the features of this redevelopment scheme is the incorporation of a commercial complex along Chai Wan Road and Wan Tsui Road where the existing blocks 17, 18, 26 and 27 stand," Mr. Pang said.

The complex will include shops, market stalls, restaurants, a supermarket, a bank, welfare premises, nurseries, kindergartens and a carpark.

There will also be two primary schools and a secondary school included in the new layout of the estate.