



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1975.

MORE GOVERNMENT PROJECTS NOW COMPUTERISED

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THE DATA PROCESSING DIVISION IS HELPING MORE GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS TO COMPUTERISE THEIR PROJECTS TO ACHIEVE GREATER EFFICIENCY.

SITUATED AT NEW MERCURY HOUSE, THE DATA PROCESSING DIVISION SERVES AS THE GOVERNMENT'S CENTRAL COMPUTER BUREAU.

CURRENTLY, IT IS HANDLING SOME 40 SYSTEMS FOR 13 GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DIVISION SAID THAT DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS, COMPUTER USAGE BY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS HAD INCREASED FIVEFOLD.

+ACCORDINGLY,+ HE SAID, +OUR COMPUTER RENTAL HAS GONE UP THREEFOLD AND OUR NUMBER OF PROGRAMMERS AND SYSTEMS ANALYSTS BY NO LESS THAN FOURFOLD.+

+EVEN THIS EXPANSION DOES NOT REFLECT THE INCREASED LEVEL OF ACTIVITY,+ HE SAID.

DURING THE PAST THREE YEARS, THE DIVISION'S INVESTMENT IN THE USE OF CONTRACTORS HAS INCREASED FROM ALMOST NIL IN 1972 TO MORE THAN \$5 MILLION IN THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR.+

THE DIVISION EXPECTS TO IMPLEMENT 10 NEW APPLICATIONS BETWEEN LATE 1975 AND 1976. AMONG THEM ARE THE 1976 BI-CENSUS AND WATER WORKS BILLING.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE DIVISION'S ROLE IN THE BI-CENSUS WOULD BE TO PROCESS INFORMATION GATHERED FROM A 10 PER CENT SAMPLE OF THE POPULATION, WHICH WOULD AMOUNT TO ABOUT 78,000 HOUSEHOLDS OR 450,000 PEOPLE.

WATER WORKS BILLING, HE SAID, WOULD INITIALLY INVOLVE INDUSTRIAL ACCOUNTS ONLY AND THE DIVISION'S WORK WOULD BE THE ISSUE OF DEMAND NOTES, REMINDERS AND THE UPDATING OF PAYMENT RECORDS.

IN FUTURE, THE MOST HEFTY COMMITMENT OF THE DIVISION IS THE VEHICLE AND LICENSING DATA SYSTEM "(VALID)".

/BY THEN

BY THEN, TERMINALS AT THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT'S LICENSING COUNTER WILL BE "ON-LINE" TO VEHICLE AND DRIVING LICENCE FILES HELD ON THE DPD COMPUTER.

WHEN A PERSON GOES TO APPLY FOR A DRIVING LICENCE OR TO HAVE HIS LICENCE RENEWED, HE WILL BE ABLE TO GET IT IN A MATTER OF ONLY TWO TO THREE MINUTES.

WHEN THE SYSTEM GOES INTO FULL IMPLEMENTATION, DPD WILL BE WORKING ROUND THE CLOCK SEVEN DAYS A WEEK INSTEAD OF THE PRESENT SCHEDULE OF FIVE DAYS A WEEK.

OF THE DIVISION'S PRESENT COMMITMENTS, THE MOST WIDELY-KNOWN IS PERHAPS THE PROCESSING OF SECONDARY SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAMINATION AND THE CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION PAPERS.

THE ENTIRE PROCEDURE OF THE EXAMINATIONS, FROM THE ENROLMENT OF CANDIDATES TO THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS, IS HANDLED BY COMPUTER. THE SAME THING APPLIES TO THE ALLOCATION OF SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES.

APART FROM THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, DPD HELPS ALLEVIATE THE WORKLOAD OF THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT BY TAKING CARE OF THE ISSUE OF TAX RETURN FORMS, DEMAND NOTES AND AMENDMENT OF RECORDS BASED ON INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY EMPLOYERS AND TAXPAYERS.

THE POLICE ARE ALSO ASSISTED BY THE DIVISION AS DPD HAS RECENTLY IMPLEMENTED A SYSTEM OF DETECTION OF CRIMINALS BY "MODUS OPERANDI". THE SMOOTH ENFORCEMENT OF THE FIXED PENALTY PARKING SYSTEM IS DUE TO THE FACT THAT PARKING TICKETS ARE COMPUTER-PROCESSED BY THE DIVISION.

OTHER DEPARTMENTS ON THE DPD'S CURRENT LIST OF CLIENTS ARE CENSUS AND STATISTICS, CIVIL AVIATION, GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES, LABOUR, MEDICAL AND HEALTH, PUBLIC WORKS, PRISONS, REGISTRAR'S GENERAL, ROYAL OBSERVATORY AND TRANSPORT. THEY ALL TURN TO DPD FOR THE CONSOLIDATION OF ESSENTIAL STATISTICS.

+AS THE INFORMATION COLLECTED BY MANY DEPARTMENTS IS IN FACT OVERLAPPING, WE ARE PLANNING TO SET UP A DATA BASE, OR A COMMON FILE OF DATA, WHICH WILL BE ACCESSIBLE TO MORE THAN ONE DEPARTMENT,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+IT IS ALSO OUR PLAN TO INSTALL ANOTHER COMPUTER IN 1977. IT IS GOING TO BE LARGER THAN THE EXISTING ONE AND WILL BE CAPABLE OF HANDLING JOBS OF A DIFFERENT NATURE,+ HE ADDED.

IN ADDITION TO THE DPD, THE TREASURY AND THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY ALSO HAVE COMPUTERS. THE COMPUTER AT THE TREASURY IS USED SOLELY FOR PROCESSING THE WORK OF THE TREASURY AND THAT AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY ASSISTS THE STAFF IN THE SPECIALISED FIELD OF METEOROLOGY.

SCHOOL PATROLS PRAISED FOR "ADMIRABLE WORK"
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THE ACTING GOVERNOR, SIR DENYS ROBERTS, TODAY (SUNDAY) PRAISED THE SCHOOL ROAD SAFETY PATROLS FOR THEIR "ADMIRABLE WORK" THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

SIR DENYS WAS TAKING THE SALUTE AT THE ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE PATROLS AT THE GOVERNMENT STADIUM.

HE NOTED THAT IT WAS ALMOST UNKNOWN FOR A CHILD TO HAVE BEEN INJURED IN A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT WHILE UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A PATROL.

+IT IS A TRIBUTE TO THE ALERTNESS AND GOOD SENSE OF PATROL MEMBERS THAT THEIR INSTRUCTIONS ARE IMPLICITLY OBEYED, NOT ONLY BY THEIR FELLOW-STUDENTS BUT BY MOTORISTS,+ HE SAID.

HE ADDED THAT WITH THE PATROLS TAKING CARE OF STUDENTS ON THE ROADS, MORE POLICE OFFICERS COULD BE EMPLOYED IN THE MAINTENANCE OF ORDER AND IN DEALING WITH CRIME.

THE GOVERNOR URGED THE PRINCIPALS OF SCHOOLS LOCATED IN BUSY AREAS TO SET UP ROAD SAFETY PATROLS.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH :

MR. PRESIDENT, MR. COMMISSIONER AND PATROL MEMBERS,

I AM VERY PLEASED TO HAVE BEEN INVITED TO COME HERE TODAY TO TAKE THE SALUTE AT YOUR ANNUAL REVIEW, WHICH IS PERHAPS THE MOST IMPORTANT EVENT IN THE ROAD SAFETY ASSOCIATION'S CALENDAR.

FIRST OF ALL, MAY I OFFER TO ALL THOSE WHO ARE TAKING PART IN THE PARADE MY WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS ON MAINTAINING THE VERY HIGH STANDARDS OF APPEARANCE AND SMARTNESS WHICH WE HAVE ALL COME TO EXPECT FROM SCHOOL ROAD SAFETY PATROLS.

THESE ANNUAL PARADES GIVE THE COMMUNITY AN OPPORTUNITY TO PAY TRIBUTE TO THE ADMIRABLE WORK WHICH IS DONE BY SCHOOL ROAD SAFETY PATROLS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. BY HELPING YOUR FELLOW STUDENTS TO CROSS BUSY AND DANGEROUS ROADS YOU PERFORM AN ESSENTIAL TASK, WHICH RELIEVES THE POLICE FORCE OF A SUBSTANTIAL COMMITMENT. THIS ENABLES MORE POLICE OFFICERS TO BE EMPLOYED IN THE MAINTENANCE OF ORDER AND IN DEALING WITH CRIME, SO THAT THE PATROLS ARE THEMSELVES MAKING A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THESE VITAL TASKS.

THERE ARE NOW 85 SCHOOLS WITH ROAD SAFETY PATROLS, WITH A TOTAL MEMBERSHIP OF OVER 4,000. HOWEVER, THERE IS STILL A NEED FOR MANY MORE SCHOOLS TO FORM PATROLS AND I STRONGLY URGE THE PRINCIPALS OF SCHOOLS LOCATED IN BUSY AREAS TO TAKE THIS STEP, THUS ENSURING THAT THEIR PUPILS CAN CROSS THE ROADS IN THE VICINITY OF THE SCHOOLS WITH FAR GREATER SAFETY.

/I REALISE

I REALISE THAT THE COST OF PROVIDING UNIFORMS FOR PATROL MEMBERS SOMETIMES HOLDS BACK THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW PATROLS, BUT I UNDERSTAND THAT THE ROAD SAFETY ASSOCIATION HAS INITIATED A NEW SCHEME WHEREBY PRIVATE COMPANIES WILL BE ASKED TO SPONSOR INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL PATROLS AND CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS THE COST OF THEIR UNIFORM.

I BELIEVE THAT, ALTHOUGH SCHOOL ROAD SAFETY PATROLS EXIST IN OTHER COUNTRIES, HONG KONG IS UNIQUE IN REQUIRING THE MEMBERS OF PATROLS TO WEAR A FULL UNIFORM. NO DOUBT THIS CONTRIBUTES GREATLY TO THE SENSE OF DISCIPLINE, THE PRIDE AND THE EFFECTIVENESS OF OUR PATROLS AND I AM SURE THAT WE SHOULD SEEK TO RETAIN THIS REQUIREMENT IF AT ALL POSSIBLE.

THE GOVERNMENT IS ALSO MOST GRATEFUL TO THE ROAD SAFETY ASSOCIATION FOR ITS ADMIRABLE WORK IN THE PROMOTION OF ROAD SAFETY ACTIVITIES. TODAY MARKS THE CLOSE OF A MONTH LONG ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN WHICH WILL, I TRUST, HAVE HAD SOME EFFECT IN REDUCING THE SAD TOLL OF DEATH AND SERIOUS INJURIES CAUSED BY MOTOR VEHICLES.

TO ANYONE WHO MIGHT QUESTION THE VALUE OF ROAD SAFETY PATROLS THE REPLY SHOULD BE THAT IT IS ALMOST UNKNOWN FOR A CHILD TO HAVE BEEN INJURED IN A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT WHILE UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A PATROL. AND IT IS A TRIBUTE TO THE ALERTNESS AND GOOD SENSE OF PATROL MEMBERS THAT THEIR INSTRUCTIONS ARE IMPLICITLY OBEYED, NOT ONLY BY THEIR FELLOW-STUDENTS BUT BY MOTORISTS.

FINALLY, MAY I THANK ALL THOSE WHO GIVE OF THEIR TIME AND ENERGY TO THE ORGANISATION OF THE ROAD SAFETY PATROL MOVEMENT OR WHO TAKE PART IN ITS ACTIVITIES. I HOPE THAT THEY WILL DERIVE SATISFACTION FROM THE KNOWLEDGE THAT THEIR EFFORTS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED BY THE COMMUNITY GENERALLY, AS WELL AS BY PARENTS OF SCHOOLCHILDREN. I WISH YOU CONTINUED SUCCESS IN YOUR VALUABLE WORK.

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COURSE CERTIFICATES READY FOR COLLECTION

THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TODAY ANNOUNCED THAT CERTIFICATES FOR FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME EVENING AND SHORT COURSES RUN BY THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE IN THE 1974/75 SESSION ARE NOW READY FOR COLLECTION.

CERTIFICATES CAN BE COLLECTED FROM THE GENERAL OFFICE OF THE INSTITUTE AT 6 01 KWAN ROAD, WANCHAI FROM 9.30 A.M. TO 12 NOON, 2 P.M. TO 4 P.M. AND 7.15 P.M. TO 8 P.M. EVERY WEEK DAY EXCEPT PUBLIC HOLIDAYS OR INSTITUTE HOLIDAYS. ON SATURDAYS, THE HOURS ARE FROM 9.30 A.M. TO 11.30 A.M.

STUDENTS SHOULD BRING WITH THEM THEIR IDENTITY CARDS.

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DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SUPPLEMENT

SPEECH BY THE ACTING GOVERNOR, SIR DENYS ROBERTS,
 AT THE SCHOOL ROAD SAFETY PATROLS ANNUAL REVIEW
 AT THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT STADIUM
 ON SUNDAY, 30TH NOVEMBER 1975

Mr. President, Mr. Commissioner and Patrol Members,

I am very pleased to have been invited to come here today to take the salute at your Annual Review, which is perhaps the most important event in the Road Safety Association's calendar.

First of all, may I offer to all those who are taking part in the parade my warmest congratulations on maintaining the very high standards of appearance and smartness which we have all come to expect from the School Road Safety Patrols.

These annual parades give the community an opportunity to pay tribute to the admirable work which is done by School Road Safety Patrols throughout the year. By helping your fellow students to cross busy and dangerous roads you perform an essential task, which relieves the Police Force of a substantial commitment. This enables more police officers to be employed in the maintenance of order and in dealing with crime, so that the patrols are themselves making a positive contribution towards these vital tasks.

There are now 85 schools with Road Safety Patrols, with a total membership of over 4,000. However, there is still a need for many more schools to form patrols and I strongly urge the Principals of Schools located in busy areas to take this step, thus ensuring that their pupils can cross the roads in the vicinity of the schools with far greater safety.

/I realise

I realise that the cost of providing uniforms for patrol members sometimes holds back the establishment of new patrols, but I understand that the Road Safety Association has initiated a new scheme whereby private companies will be asked to sponsor individual school patrols and contribute towards the cost of their uniform.

I believe that, although School Road Safety Patrols exist in other countries, Hong Kong is unique in requiring the members of patrols to wear a full uniform. No doubt this contributes greatly to the sense of discipline, the pride and the effectiveness of our patrols and I am sure that we should seek to retain this requirement if at all possible.

The Government is also most grateful to the Road Safety Association for its admirable work in the promotion of road safety activities. Today marks the close of a month long Road Safety Campaign which will, I trust, have had some effect in reducing the sad toll of death and serious injuries caused by motor vehicles.

To anyone who might question the value of Road Safety Patrols the reply should be that it is almost unknown for a child to have been injured in a traffic accident while under the supervision of a patrol. And it is a tribute to the alertness and good sense of patrol members that their instructions are implicitly obeyed, not only by their fellow-students but by motorists.

Finally, may I thank all those who give of their time and energy to the organisation of the Road Safety Patrol Movement or who take part in its activities. I hope that they will derive satisfaction from the knowledge that their efforts are greatly appreciated by the community generally, as well as by parents of schoolchildren. I wish you continued success in your valuable work.