



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 1975

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NO CUTS IN GOVERNMENT CLERICAL STAFF

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THE SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE, MR. A.J. SCOTT, SAID TODAY OFFICIALS OF THE GOVERNMENT CLERICAL OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION HAD APPARENTLY MISUNDERSTOOD A CONFIDENTIAL MEMO WHICH THEY CLAIMED CALLED FOR CUTS IN GOVERNMENT CLERICAL STAFF.

HE SAID THE MEMO IN NO WAY SUGGESTED THAT CLERICAL OFFICERS WOULD BE RETRENCHED IN THE COURSE OF IMPLEMENTING THE RECENTLY ANNOUNCED PACKAGE AGREEMENT ON THE CLERICAL GRADES.

+THE ASSOCIATION HAS CONFUSED IN THEIR PUBLIC STATEMENTS THE REDUCTION IN POSTS AGREED OFFICIALLY BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENT AND THE CLERICAL STAFF WITH A REDUCTION IN THE EXISTING STAFF,+ HE SAID.

+IT SHOULD BE CLEAR TO THE ASSOCIATION FROM READING THE MEMO THAT ANY REDUCTION IN CLERICAL POSTS WILL NOT AFFECT STAFF NOW EMPLOYED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

+ADJUSTMENTS IN POSTS WILL BE MADE ONLY THROUGH NATURAL WASTAGE, SUCH AS TRANSFERS, RESIGNATIONS AND RETIREMENTS.

+THIS IS NORMAL GOVERNMENT PROCEDURE AND NOTHING CONTAINED IN THE MEMO TO WHICH THE ASSOCIATION HAS REFERRED IN PRESS REPORTS INDICATES THAT ANY OTHER APPROACH HAS BEEN CONTEMPLATED.

+IF THE ASSOCIATION THINKS THAT ANY OF ITS MEMBERS WILL LOSE THEIR JOBS BECAUSE OF THE RECENT AGREEMENT THEN NOTHING COULD BE FURTHER FROM THE TRUTH.

+THE REDUCTION IN POSTS AS A MEASURE OF ACHIEVING SAVINGS WAS, OF COURSE, PROPOSED BY THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE CLERICAL CLASS, ON WHICH THERE WERE BOTH OFFICIAL AND ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVES.+

MR. SCOTT SAID HE WAS MYSTIFIED BY REPORTED ASSOCIATION CLAIMS THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS CONTINUING TO MAKE REGULAR ADJUSTMENTS TO HOUSING ALLOWANCES FOR CIVIL SERVANTS EARNING \$4,900 AND ABOVE.

+THESE ALLOWANCES HAVE NOT BEEN ALTERED SINCE 1973+ HE ADDED.

MR. SCOTT SAID HE WAS ALSO MYSTIFIED BY REPEATED REFERENCES BY THE ASSOCIATION TO PAY RISES GRANTED TO OVERSEAS QUALIFIED SCHOOL MISTRESSES.

+THE ASSOCIATION REPORTEDLY CLAIMS THAT THE SCHOOL MISTRESSES PUT IN THEIR CLAIM AFTER THE CLERKS AND WERE GRANTED THEIR RISE,+ HE SAID.

+THIS IS NOT TRUE, BECAUSE THE INCREASES GRANTED TO SCHOOL MISTRESSES IN 1974 WERE PART OF THE NEW SALARY STRUCTURE FOR TEACHERS WHICH HAD BEEN UNDER DISCUSSION AND GRADUAL IMPLEMENTATION FOR AT LEAST THREE YEARS PREVIOUSLY.+

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MAY WEATHER ROUND-UP
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HONG KONG EXPERIENCED MORE RAIN THAN USUAL DURING THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR WHEN A TOTAL OF 1069.5 MM OF RAINFALL WAS RECORDED BY THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY.

THIS WAS NEARLY 85 PER CENT MORE THAN THE NORMAL RAINFALL FOR THIS PERIOD, AND WAS MAINLY DUE TO THE EXCEPTIONALLY HEAVY RAINS IN APRIL AND MAY.

DURING MAY ALONE, A TOTAL OF 571.5 MM OF RAINFALL WAS RECORDED WHICH WAS NEARLY DOUBLE THE AVERAGE FOR THE MONTH. ALMOST HALF THIS AMOUNT FELL ON MAY 20 WITH RAINFALL THAT DAY AMOUNTING TO 215.7 MM WHICH WAS THE SEVENTH HIGHEST DAILY RAINFALL RECORDED IN MAY SINCE 1884.

THE MONTH'S WEATHER WAS MAINLY INFLUENCED BY ACTIVE TROUGHS OF LOW PRESSURE LINGERING ALONG THE SOUTH CHINA COAST AND THE NORTHERN PART OF THE SOUTH CHINA SEA. AS A RESULT, FREQUENT HEAVY SHOWERS AND THUNDERSTORMS OCCURRED, NECESSITATING THUNDERSTORMS AND HEAVY RAIN WARNINGS TO BE ISSUED ON 19 DAYS OF THE MONTH.

MAY WAS ALSO WARMER BUT LESS SUNNY THAN USUAL. SUNSHINE AMOUNTED TO 123.3 HOURS, 32.8 HOURS BELOW NORMAL. THE MONTH'S HIGHEST TEMPERATURE OF 31.7 DEGREES CELSIUS WAS RECORDED DURING THE AFTERNOON OF MAY 4 AND THE LOWEST TEMPERATURE OF 22.0 DEGREES CELSIUS ON MAY 7.

DURING THE MONTH, FOUR AIRCRAFT WERE DIVERTED FROM HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS.

NO FIRE WARNINGS WERE ISSUED DURING THE MONTH AND NO TROPICAL CYCLONES WERE REPORTED OVER THE WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC AND SOUTH CHINA SEA.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

COPIES OF THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY'S FULL WEATHER REPORT FOR MAY 1975 ARE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION FROM THE GIS PRESS ROOM, 6TH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE.

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EDUCATION'S ROLE IN FIGHT AGAINST CRIME

APART FROM PROVIDING GREATER OPPORTUNITIES FOR EDUCATION, THE MOST IMPORTANT THING THAT THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT CAN DO TO FIGHT CRIME IS TO MAKE EDUCATION AS INTERESTING AS POSSIBLE, WHICH MEANS GETTING THE CURRICULUM AND THE METHOD OF TEACHING RIGHT.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR. KENNETH TOPLEY TODAY WHEN HE SPOKE AT THE OPENING OF THE WORKSHOP ON "CRIME AND EDUCATION" AT THE BAPTIST COLLEGE ORGANISED BY THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION OF THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE.

+WE ARE INTRODUCING A NEW CURRICULUM, PARTICULARLY FOR FORMS 1 TO 3 IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS WHERE WE ARE GOING TO GET A GREAT NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO WOULD HAVE NEVER ASPIRED PREVIOUSLY TO GO TO SECONDARY SCHOOL.

+AND WE NEED A DIFFERENT CURRICULUM FOR THEM - SOMETHING THAT WILL CARRY THEM ALONG, SOMETHING THAT IS CENTRED ON THEM IN VERY MANY WAYS AND NOT CENTRED SO MUCH ON THE DISCIPLINES THAT THEY ARE SUPPOSED TO ABSORB, SOMETHING WHICH IS DESIGNED TO COUNTERACT DROPPING OUT,+ MR. TOPLEY SAID.

THE DIRECTOR POINTED OUT THAT WITHIN THE CURRICULUM, PARTICULARLY IN THE FIELD OF SOCIAL STUDIES THERE WAS AMPLE ROOM TO TELL CHILDREN ABOUT CRIME AND PUNISHMENT, ABOUT DRUGS, ABOUT CORRUPTION IN ORDER TO GIVE THEM IDEAS OF HOW THESE MATTERS SHOULD BE APPROACHED.

MR. TOPLEY ALSO SAID : +IT IS NATURAL TO TELL CHILDREN WHAT WE BELIEVE TO BE RIGHT AND WHAT WE BELIEVE TO BE WRONG. WE DO IT WITH OUR CHILDREN AT HOME SO WHY NOT WITH OUR CHILDREN IN SCHOOLS AND TEACHERS DO THIS IN FACT,+ HE SAID.

HOWEVER, MR. TOPLEY CAUTIONED THAT THERE SHOULD NOT BE TOO MUCH PREACHING.

HE STRESSED THAT CHILDREN WOULD NOT BECOME CRIMINALS IF THEY WERE BROUGHT UP THE RIGHT WAY.

BUT OF COURSE THERE WERE A FEW PEOPLE, ONLY A FEW, THAT COULD NOT BE CHANGED AT ALL.

+ON THE WHOLE, DEVIANT BEHAVIOUR, SEEMS TO RELATE TO ENVIRONMENT OF WHICH EDUCATION IS A SUBSTANTIAL PART, CERTAINLY A MOST EXPENSIVE PART, AND ONE WHICH WE OUGHT TO GET RIGHT SO THAT IT DOES MAXIMUM GOOD,+ THE DIRECTOR SAID.

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PICNICKERS URGED TO PREVENT FIRES IN COUNTRYSIDE
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THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT TODAY URGED PICNICKERS TO TAKE EXTRA CARE IN PREVENTING FIRES IN THE COUNTRYSIDE.

A SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE NUMBER OF FIRES HAD BEEN KEPT DOWN FOR THE PAST FEW WEEKS BECAUSE OF EXCEPTIONALLY WET CONDITIONS, BUT ADDED: +IT ONLY TAKES A DAY OR TWO OF SUNSHINE TO CHANGE THE PICTURE.+

HE SAID THE PUBLIC SHOULD BE REMINDED THAT THE CARELESS THROWING AWAY OF LIGHTED CIGARETTE ENDS AND MATCHES WAS A MAJOR CAUSE OF COUNTRYSIDE FIRES, AND PEOPLE SHOULD MAKE SURE THAT THESE WERE PROPERLY OUT BEFORE DISPOSAL.

+USE AN ASH BIN,+ HE URGED, +OR, IF THERE IS NONE AVAILABLE, GRIND THEM UNDERFOOT.+

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT ANOTHER CAUSE OF RURAL FIRES WAS BARBECUES AT UNSUITABLE SITES CLOSE TO FORESTS OR PLANTATIONS. HE APPEALED THAT PICNICKERS SHOULD FIND OUT WHERE THE DESIGNATED BARBECUE PITS WERE AS THE RISK OF FIRES IN THESE AREAS WAS VERY MUCH LOWER THAN IN OTHERS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID: +THERE IS EVIDENCE THAT CONSTANT APPEAL TO THE PUBLIC TO BE CAREFUL IS A WAY TO HELP REDUCE FIRES. DURING THE LAST FINANCIAL YEAR, A GREAT DEAL OF PUBLICITY HAD BEEN DIRECTED AT CARELESS SMOKERS AND THE NUMBER OF FIRES CAUSED BY CIGARETTE ENDS AND MATCHES DROPPED BY ALMOST 60 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS YEAR'S FIGURE.+

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TICKETS FOR THIRD LOTTERY NOW ON SALE

TICKETS FOR THE YEAR'S THIRD GOVERNMENT LOTTERY ARE NOW ON SALE AT \$2 EACH.

THEY ARE AVAILABLE UNTIL JULY 4 AT ALL ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB SELLING BOOTHS AND THE HEAD AND BRANCH OFFICES OF MAJOR BANKS.

THE DRAW FOR WINNING NUMBERS WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE CITY HALL THEATRE AT 10 AM ON JULY 5 (SATURDAY). THESE NUMBERS WILL BE PUBLISHED IN AN EXTRAORDINARY ISSUE OF THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE ON JULY 7.

THERE WILL BE A TOTAL OF 159 PRIZES -- A FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD PRIZES, TOGETHER WITH 50 SPECIAL AND 106 CONSOLATION PRIZES. THESE PRIZES MUST BE CLAIMED WITHIN TWO YEARS AFTER THE NUMBERS ARE PUBLISHED -- THAT IS BEFORE JULY 7, 1977.

NOTE TO EDITORS: THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, MR. KAI-YIN CHAU, WILL GIVE A PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE CITY HALL RESTAURANT AT 1 PM ON MONDAY (JUNE 23) TO ANNOUNCE DETAILS OF PLANS TO PROMOTE THE THIRD GOVERNMENT LOTTERY. YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

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MOBILE REGISTRATION TEAM VISITS HANG HAU

A REGISTRATION OF PERSONS TEAM WILL VISIT HANG HAU ON THURSDAY (JUNE 26) TO CONDUCT REGISTRATION FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS AND PEOPLE IN THE NEIGHBOURING AREAS.

THE TEAM WILL OPERATE IN THE HANG HAU RURAL COMMITTEE'S OFFICE BETWEEN 9.30 A.M. AND 4.30 P.M.

THE VISIT IS TO ENABLE PARENTS OR GUARDIANS TO REGISTER THEIR CHILDREN OR WARDS AT THE AGE OF 11 FOR JUVENILE IDENTITY CARDS, AND HOLDERS OF JUVENILE ID CARDS REACHING 18 YEARS OF AGE TO REGISTER FOR ADULT ID CARDS.

PEOPLE LIVING IN THIS AREA ARE REMINDED OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO REGISTER THEMSELVES AND THEIR CHILDREN FOR ID CARDS AND TO REPORT ANY CHANGE OF REGISTERED PARTICULARS TO THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS DEPARTMENT.

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