



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 1976

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
FINANCIAL SECRETARY WELCOMES ADB'S INTEREST IN PUBLIC HOUSING PROJECTS	1
CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN TO COVER GOODS MADE BY MORE THAN ONE MANUFACTURER	2
OUTLINE ZONING PLANS FOR CAUSEWAY BAY AND WONG NAI CHUNG	3
CONSTRUCTION OF MTR OVERHEAD LINE BETWEEN KWUN TONG AND NGAU TAU KOK	4
ADULT EDUCATION CONFERENCE TO BEGIN TOMORROW	5
CONTROL OVER IMPORTED MEAT AND POULTRY TO BE TIGHTENED ..	6
GOVERNOR TO ATTEND SCOUT RALLY AT MONGKOK STADIUM TOMORROW	6
CALCULATORS HAVE BECOME TEACHERS' TOOL OF THE TRADE	7
CO-OPERATIVE EFFORT NEEDED IN SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK	8
SPECIAL OLYMPICS FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED	9
PING PONG TABLES FOR REMOTE VILLAGES	9

FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 1976

- 1 -

ADB INTERESTED IN PUBLIC HOUSING PROJECTS

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR. PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) HE WOULD WELCOME THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK TO PARTICIPATE IN HONG KONG'S PUBLIC HOUSING PROJECTS BY WAY OF A LONG TERM LOAN FROM ORDINARY RESOURCES, ALBEIT AT 9.5 PER CENT.

SPEAKING AT THE BANK'S ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS CURRENTLY HELD IN JAKARTA, HE SAID HE WAS GLAD TO NOTE PRESIDENT INOUE'S (OF THE ADB) REFERENCE TO THE BANK'S INTEREST IN LOW COST PUBLIC HOUSING.

+THIS IS A FIELD IN WHICH, FOR WELL KNOWN REASONS, THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT HAS HAD TO INVEST ENORMOUS AMOUNTS OF CAPITAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL SKILLS, AND WILL HAVE TO CONTINUE TO DO SO FOR ANOTHER DECADE OR SO.+

MR. HADDON-CAVE SAID HE WOULD WELCOME THE BANK'S PARTICIPATION +BECAUSE THE COMPETING DEMANDS OF OUR OTHER PUBLIC SECTOR PROGRAMMES ARE MAKING IT DIFFICULT FOR US TO CONTINUE FINANCING THE NET COST OF OUR VARIOUS HOUSING SCHEMES FROM PUBLIC REVENUE ALONE.+

+FOR THE BANK TO PARTICIPATE IN ONE OR MORE OF THESE SCHEMES WOULD MEAN THAT OUR EXPERIENCE IN THIS FIELD OF HIGH DENSITY PUBLIC HOUSING — WITH ITS COMPLEX OF PROBLEMS CONNECTED WITH SITE FORMATION, LAYOUT, LAND USAGE, CONSTRUCTION, MANAGEMENT AND ANCILLIARY SERVICES — WOULD BECOME DIRECTLY AVAILABLE TO THE BANK,+ HE ADDED.

IN THIS CONNECTION, MR. HADDON-CAVE BELIEVED THAT, THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF THE BANK, THERE SHOULD BE A GREATER INTERCHANGE OF THE SPECIALISED EXPERIENCE OF MEMBER COUNTRIES IN FIELDS OF COMMON INTEREST FOR THEIR COMMON GOOD.

THIS, HE SAID, WOULD RESULT IN THE DISSEMINATION AND THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF SUCH SPECIALISED EXPERIENCE, AND, HOPEFULLY BUT INCIDENTALLY, IN A DIMINISHED USE OF EXPENSIVE OUTSIDE CONSULTANTS.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY SAID WHILE HE UNDERSTOOD THE NEED FOR A CONTINUING FLOW OF FUNDS ON CONCESSIONARY TERMS TO CERTAIN DEVELOPING MEMBER COUNTRIES, HE FELT OBLIGED TO SOUND A WARNING.

+WHEN ANY COMMODITY, INCLUDING MONEY, IS PRICED ON THE BASIS OF EXTRA-MARKET CONSIDERATION, NOT ONLY IS THERE A DANGER OF DISTORTION IN THE PATTERN OF DEVELOPMENT, BUT ALSO THE IMPORTANCE OF SOUND AND COMPLEMENTARY DOMESTIC POLICIES BEING PURSUED MAY WELL BE OVERLOOKED.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 1976

- 2 -

+ALL OF US IN THIS BANK AND OTHER SIMILAR INSTITUTIONS, AND GOVERNMENTS, HAVE BECOME PREOCCUPIED WITH MULTI-LATERAL AND BILATERAL LENDING PROGRAMMES ON CONCESSIONARY AND QUASI-CONCESSIONARY TERMS, AND LARGELY FOR PUBLIC SECTOR DEVELOPMENT.

+AS A RESULT, WE HAVE, I SUSPECT, TENDED TO IGNORE THE CONTRIBUTION TO ECONOMIC WELL BEING WHICH WOULD STEM FROM SIMILAR INPUT OF FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCES INTO THE PRIVATE SECTOR, THEREBY, IN ADDITION, MOBILISING THE POTENTIAL FOR SELF-HELP MORE EFFICIENTLY.

+AS IT HAPPENS, THERE ARE AVAILABLE IN OUR REGION SEVERAL MODELS WHICH DEMONSTRATE QUITE CLEARLY WHAT CAN BE ACHIEVED IN TERMS OF MATERIAL PROGRESS WHEN THE PRIVATE SECTOR IS SUITABLY EMPHASISED AND WHEN HUMAN EFFORT IS RELEASED,+ HE SAID.

MR. HADDON-CAVE CONTINUED THAT DESPITE HIS +GRUDGING ACCEPTANCE+ OF A SECOND LENDING WINDOW FROM ORDINARY RESOURCES AT A RATE WHICH INCLUDED A FINE OR PREMIUM OF THREE-QUARTERS OF ONE PER CENT, HE FELT BOUND TO SAY THAT, SO FAR AS HE KNEW, OTHER MULTI-LATERAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS HAD NOT SEEN FIT TO FOLLOW SUIT EVEN THOUGH THEY CONTINUED TO EXTEND LOANS TO THEIR MORE DEVELOPED DEVELOPING MEMBER COUNTRIES.

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CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN TO COVER GOODS MADE BY
MORE THAN ONE MANUFACTURER

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APPLICATIONS MAY NOW BE MADE TO THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT FOR STANDARD CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN TO COVER GOODS MADE BY UP TO THREE MANUFACTURERS PROVIDED THE TOTAL VALUE OF THE GOODS CONCERNED DOES NOT EXCEED HK\$4,000.

UNTIL NOW THE D C AND I HAS BEEN ISSUING CERTIFICATES ON A ONE-MANUFACTURER - ONE-CERTIFICATE BASIS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT POINTED OUT TODAY THAT THE NEW ARRANGEMENT WAS DESIGNED TO ASSIST THE TRADE IN GENERAL, AND WOULD BE OPERATED INITIALLY FOR A TRIAL PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS AFTER WHICH THE POSITION WOULD BE REVIEWED.

THE DEPARTMENT WILL BE SENDING A CIRCULAR (CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN CIRCULAR NO. 1/76) TO THE LOCAL TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATIONS EXPLAINING THE OPERATIONAL DETAILS OF THE NEW ARRANGEMENT.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 1976

- 3 -

CAUSEWAY BAY AND WONG NAI CHUNG OUTLINE
ZONING PLANS
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THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD HAS AMENDED THE DRAFT OUTLINE ZONING PLANS FOR CAUSEWAY BAY AND WONG NAI CHUNG. BOTH NOW INCORPORATE A NEW FORM OF NOTES WHICH DEFINE THE DEVELOPMENT PERMITTED IN THE VARIOUS ZONES, AND ALSO DEVELOPMENT WHICH MAY EXCEPTIONALLY BE PERMITTED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD.

IN ADDITION, MINOR ZONING AMENDMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO THE CAUSEWAY BAY OUTLINE ZONING PLAN INVOLVING THE INCLUSION OF A SMALL OPEN SPACE AREA ON THE SOUTH WEST SIDE OF AND ADJACENT TO THE CAUSEWAY BAY TYPHOON SHELTER, AND ALSO THE ALLOCATION OF TWO PLOTS OF LAND SURROUNDING THE TUNNEL PORTAL AREA FOR THE EXPANSION OF CLUB FACILITIES — THESE TO BE ZONED AS 'OTHER SPECIFIED USES'.

UNDER A NOTICE PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE, ANYONE OBJECTING TO THE AMENDMENTS MAY ADDRESS HIS OBJECTION IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY OF THE BOARD, C/O PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, MURRAY BUILDING, HONG KONG, BEFORE JUNE 22, 1976.

THE CAUSEWAY BAY OUTLINE ZONING PLAN COVERS A TOTAL AREA OF ABOUT 142 HECTARES (351 ACRES) OF WHICH MORE THAN 30 PER CENT OR ABOUT 31 HECTARES (76 ACRES) ARE ZONED AS OPEN SPACE. ANOTHER 22 HECTARES (55 ACRES) ARE RESERVED AS GREEN BELT.

THE AREA EARMARKED FOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AMOUNTS TO ABOUT 14 HECTARES (35 ACRES), COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL 19 HECTARES (47 ACRES), AND THAT FOR GOVERNMENT, INSTITUTION AND COMMUNITY USES 15.5 HECTARES (38 ACRES).

THE WONG NAI CHUNG OUTLINE ZONING PLAN COVERS A TOTAL AREA OF 134 HECTARES (332 ACRES). OF THIS, ABOUT 35 HECTARES (86 ACRES) ARE RESERVED FOR RESIDENTIAL USE, 14 HECTARES (34 ACRES) FOR OPEN SPACE, 24 HECTARES (60 ACRES) FOR GREEN BELT, AND 19 HECTARES (47 ACRES) FOR GOVERNMENT, INSTITUTION AND COMMUNITY USES.

COPIES OF THE TWO PLANS AND THE NOTES MAY BE INSPECTED UNTIL JUNE 22 AT THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TOWN PLANNING OFFICE, 17TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, OR AT THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (CENTRAL AND WESTERN) ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, HONG KONG.

COPIES OF THE PLANS ARE ALSO ON SALE AT THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE, P.W.D., 19TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, AT \$5 FOR EACH UNCOLOURED COPY.

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/4

FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 1976

- 4 -

CONSTRUCTION OF OVERHEAD LINE

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WORK ON A FURTHER SECTION OF THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY OVERHEAD LINE BETWEEN KWUN TONG AND NGAU TAU KOK STATIONS IS DUE TO BEGIN IN JULY THIS YEAR AND BE COMPLETED IN DECEMBER, 1979.

TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THIS OVERHEAD LINE CERTAIN STREETS WILL BE PARTIALLY CLOSED FROM TIME TO TIME.

THE PRINCIPAL ROADS AFFECTED WILL BE KWUN TONG ROAD, HONG NING ROAD AND NGAU TAU KOK ROAD, WHERE RESTRICTIONS TO CARRIAGEWAYS AND FOOTPATHS WILL BE NECESSARY DURING THE CONSTRUCTION PERIOD.

IN ORDER TO REDUCE CONGESTION WHILE WORK IS TAKING PLACE MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED TO USE THE NEW ALTERNATIVE ROUTE CONNECTING WAI YIP STREET TO KWUN TONG ROAD WHICH IS EXPECTED TO BE READY BEFORE CONSTRUCTION WORK BEGINS IN KWUN TONG ROAD.

PLANS SHOWING THE AREAS AFFECTED BY THE PROJECT MAY BE INSPECTED AT THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (CENTRAL AND WESTERN) ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING ENTRANCE, HONG KONG- AT THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE, 10TH FLOOR, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 405 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON- AND AT THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (KWUN TONG), KWUN TONG DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICES BUILDING, TUNG YAN STREET, 3RD FLOOR, KOWLOON.

A NOTICE IN TODAY'S GOVERNMENT GAZETTE STIPULATES THAT ANY PERSON MAKING A CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION MUST SEND HIS CLAIM IN WRITING TO THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS. THE CLAIMS MUST REACH THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF ONE YEAR FROM THE DATE OF CLOSURE OF THE STREET OR FROM THE COMPLETION OF THE SUBSTANTIAL ALTERATION WHICH IS ALLEGED TO HAVE CAUSED PECUNIARY LOSS OR DAMAGE.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 1976

- 5 -

ADULT EDUCATION CONFERENCE
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ABOUT 700 FIELD WORKERS AND PART-TIME TEACHING STAFF WILL ATTEND THE TWO-DAY 21ST ADULT EDUCATION CONFERENCE WHICH BEGINS AT THE GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

"ADULT EDUCATION AS A COMMUNITY SERVICE" IS THE THEME OF THE CONFERENCE, WHICH IS ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S ADULT EDUCATION SECTION.

THE CONFERENCE WILL BE OPENED AT 10 A.M. BY MISS KO SIU-WAH, UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, WHO WILL DELIVER THE THEME LECTURE.

THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (PROFESSIONAL), MR. HO NGA-MING WILL TAKE THE CHAIR AND MAKE THE WELCOMING REMARKS AT THE OPENING CEREMONY.

PART-TIME TEACHERS AND FIELD WORKERS WITH TEN AND 20 YEARS' SERVICE IN ADULT EDUCATION WILL RECEIVE CERTIFICATES OF COMMENDATION AND SOUVENIRS FROM THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (FURTHER), MR. JOHN WINFIELD.

AT PRESENT, THE ADULT EDUCATION SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT RUNS NINE DIFFERENT TYPES OF COURSES IN 130 CENTRES IN HONG KONG, KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES. THE COURSES ARE ATTENDED BY SOME 50,000 PEOPLE.

THE CONFERENCE, AN ANNUAL EVENT DESIGNED SPECIALLY FOR TEACHING STAFF AND FIELD WORKERS, GIVES PARTICIPANTS AN OPPORTUNITY TO KEEP UP WITH MODERN TRENDS OF THINKING, TO EXCHANGE VIEWS AND TO SHARE EXPERIENCES IN THE FIELD OF ADULT EDUCATION IN HONG KONG.

THE MAIN FEATURE ON THE FIRST DAY INCLUDES A PLENARY LECTURE ON "PRAMATIC AND ENRICHMENT VALUE IN ADULT EDUCATION."

THE PROGRAMME ON THE SECOND DAY INCLUDES TWO PLENARY LECTURES ON "ADULT EDUCATION AND FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION" AND "CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION."

NOTE TO EDITORS :

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CONFERENCE WHICH BEGINS AT 10 A.M. TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

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/6

FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 1976

- 6 -

STRICTER CONTROLS TO BE IMPOSED ON
IMPORTED MEAT AND POULTRY

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AMENDMENTS ARE BEING MADE TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND URBAN SERVICES ORDINANCE TO TIGHTEN UP THE CONTROL OVER IMPORTED MEAT AND IMPORTED POULTRY.

THE AMENDMENTS WILL REINFORCE THE POWERS OF THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S HEALTH INSPECTORATE TO SEIZE ANY SUCH FOOD WHICH APPEARS TO THEM TO BE UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.

UNDER THE AMENDMENTS, IMPORTERS OF FOOD LINES WHICH MAY REQUIRE A SPECIAL PROCEDURE FOR EXAMINATION MUST ALSO PROVIDE ALL SUCH FACILITIES FOR SUCH AN EXAMINATION TO BE MADE.

ANOTHER AMENDMENT WILL ADD DISTILLED WATER AND WATER FROM NATURAL SPRINGS TO THE DEFINITION OF +DRINK,+ AND SO BRINGS DISTILLED WATER AND MINERAL WATER UNDER THE REGULATIONS NOW CONTROLLING OTHER TYPES OF DRINKS SUCH AS SOFT DRINKS.

+THESE CHANGES ARE BEING MADE TO ENSURE THE CONTINUED GOOD QUALITY OF MEAT AND POULTRY IMPORTED INTO HONG KONG,+ SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT TODAY.

THE AMENDMENTS ARE CONTAINED IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND URBAN SERVICES (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1976, WHICH IS PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GOVERNMENT GAZETTE. THE AMENDMENTS ARE SCHEDULED TO GO INTO FORCE IN TWO MONTHS, THUS ALLOWING ADEQUATE TIME FOR MEAT AND POULTRY IMPORTERS TO ACQUAINT THEMSELVES WITH THE REVISED REGULATIONS.

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GOVERNOR TO ATTEND SCOUT RALLY

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, WILL TAKE THE SALUTE AT THE ANNUAL ST. GEORGE'S DAY SCOUT RALLY TO BE HELD AT THE MONGKOK STADIUM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AFTERNOON.

IN HIS CAPACITY AS THE CHIEF SCOUT OF HONG KONG, THE GOVERNOR WILL ALSO PRESENT AWARDS TO 21 LAY OFFICIALS AND 9 SCOUTERS IN APPRECIATION OF THEIR OUTSTANDING SERVICES RENDERED TO SCOUTING.

AMONG THE RECIPIENTS WILL BE SIR KENNETH PING-FAN FUNG AND MR. CHAU CHAM-SON, WHO WILL BE PRESENTED WITH THE SILVER ACORN, ONE OF THE HIGHEST AWARDS IN BRITISH SCOUTING.

THE ANNUAL RALLY, WHICH WILL BE ATTENDED BY SOME 8,000 SCOUTS FROM ALL PARTS OF HONG KONG, WILL ALSO FEATURE A GRAND HOWL BY CUB SCOUTS AND MARCH PAST COMPOSED OF THE ASSOCIATION HEADQUARTERS, THE THREE REGIONS AND THE 31 DISTRICTS.

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CALCULATORS ARE TEACHERS' TOOLS OF THE TRADE
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A CALCULATOR, ALTHOUGH NOT INDISPENSABLE, IS OF IMMENSE HELP TO TEACHERS OF MATHEMATICS, SCIENCE, STATISTICS AND TECHNOLOGY AND COULD NOW BE REGARDED AS A TOOL OF THE TRADE, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (PROFESSIONAL), MR. HO NGA-MING SAID TODAY WHEN HE OPENED A SEMINAR AND EXHIBITION AT KING GEORGE V SCHOOL TO EXPLORE THE USE OF CALCULATORS IN SCHOOLS.

+A CALCULATOR ENABLES THE TEACHER TO CHECK MARKS AT ANY STAGE IN A QUESTION. THIS MAKES MARKING MUCH EASIER. ALSO, TO SOME EXTENT, IT LIBERATES THE TEACHER FROM THE TEXTBOOK. AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE, THE TEXT MAY BE SUPPLEMENTED WITH AN EXTRA SET OF QUESTIONS, EASILY AND QUICKLY WITH THE MINIMUM OF TROUBLE,+ HE SAID.

IN A THOUGHT-PROVOKING SPEECH, MR. HO SAID THE PRIME QUESTION WAS WHETHER STUDENTS SHOULD USE CALCULATORS AND, IF SO AT WHAT LEVEL.

+THERE ARE VARIOUS POINTS OF VIEW, BUT, GENERALLY SPEAKING, THESE CAN BE POLARISED INTO TWO OPPOSING OPINIONS.

+ONE VIEW IS THAT THE CALCULATOR WILL BECOME SOME SORT OF CRUTCH AND OUR CHILDREN WILL FORGET HOW TO PERFORM EVEN THE SIMPLEST CALCULATIONS.

+THE OTHER VIEW ASSERTS THAT OUR CHILDREN SHOULD NOT BE USED AS CALCULATING MACHINES - RATHER LET THE CHILDREN USE THE MACHINES. THIS IS NOT JUST A SPECULATIVE ARGUMENT- IT IS SOMETHING FUNDAMENTAL TO OUR EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY AND HAS TO BE THOUGHT OUT VERY CAREFULLY,+ THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR STATED.

HE CONTINUED WITH A NOTE OF CAUTION: +WE DON'T WANT TO JUST DRIFT WILLY-NILLY INTO USING CALCULATORS: WE MUST DECIDE WHETHER TO USE THEM, WHEN AND HOW TO USE THEM.

+THERE IS A VAST DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CALCULATORS USED AS AN ADJUNCT TO THE SYLLABUS, LIKE A SLIDE RULE, AND THEIR BEING STRUCTURED INTO THE TEACHING SITUATION AND THE CURRICULUM.+

MR. HO URGED THE SEMINAR PARTICIPANTS TO DISCUSS AND EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON A NUMBER OF QUESTIONS WHICH HE PUT TO THEM AS MATHEMATICS TEACHERS.

AMONG THE QUESTIONS WERE: CAN CALCULATORS BE USED IN EXAMINATIONS? SHOULD CALCULATORS BE LIMITED TO THE UPPER FORMS IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS? SHOULD THE SYLLABUS FOLLOW THE CALCULATOR OR VICE VERSA?

+YOU MAY NOW BEGIN TO REALISE JUST HOW COMPLEX THE SITUATION IS AND HOW MANY QUESTIONS NEED ANSWERS. THERE ARE CERTAINLY MANY THINGS TO THINK ABOUT,+ HE TOLD THE PARTICIPANTS.

WHETHER CALCULATORS WOULD FIGURE PROMINENTLY IN FUTURE CURRICULA REMAINED TO BE SEEN. BUT THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR SAID ONE THING WAS CERTAIN: CALCULATORS COULD NOT BE IGNORED.

FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 1976

- 8 -

CO-OPERATIVE EFFORT NEEDED IN SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK
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SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK SHOULD BE THE CO-OPERATIVE EFFORT OF DIFFERENT PROFESSIONS, EACH CONTRIBUTING ITS PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE IN ORDER TO HELP SCHOOL CHILDREN IN HONG KONG DERIVE THE GREATEST BENEFIT FROM EDUCATION, AND TO PREPARE THEM FOR FUTURE ADULT RESPONSIBILITIES, MR. ALEX S.C. WU, UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION SAID TODAY.

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE SEMINAR ON THE SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK SERVICE ORGANISED JOINTLY BY THE EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENTS AT THE GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION.

MR. WU SAID HE WAS PARTICULARLY HAPPY TO LEARN THAT THE TWO DEPARTMENTS HAD JOINED HANDS TO HELP SOLVE PROBLEMS RELATING TO CHILDREN'S BEHAVIOUR OR FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS, WITH THE HOPE TO IMPROVING THEIR BEHAVIOUR AND PERFORMANCE IN AND OUT OF SCHOOL.

+I UNDERSTAND THE PROJECT, LAUNCHED IN NOVEMBER 1974, SERVED ONLY FIVE SCHOOLS IN ITS FIRST YEAR- BUT FOR THE CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR IT HAS EXPANDED ITS SERVICE TO COVER TEN SCHOOLS, SERVING WELL OVER 10,000 CHILDREN.

+I FIND THIS A VERY POSITIVE STEP FORWARD AND A WORTHWHILE TASK. I HOPE MORE TEACHERS AND PARENTS WILL APPRECIATE THE VALUE AND MAKE USE OF SUCH A SERVICE,+ MR. WU SAID.

HE ADDED : +FOR THE REALLY DIFFICULT PROBLEMS, BE IT ACADEMIC, BEHAVIOURAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL OR ORGANIC, I AM HAPPY TO HEAR THAT THE SOCIAL WORKERS AND TEACHERS CAN ALWAYS RELY ON THE HELP AND SERVICES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.+

MR. WU EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE SCHOOL HEADS, TEACHERS AND SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS ATTENDING THE SEMINAR WOULD HAVE A FRUITFUL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AND DERIVE MANY MORE CONCRETE IDEAS FROM THE TALKS WHICH WOULD HELP PREVENT SCHOOL DROP-OUT, PARTICULARLY AMONG THOSE IN THE 12-14 AGE GROUP.

HE SAID THAT TEACHERS BY VIRTUE OF THEIR TRAINING AND DAY-TO-DAY CONTACT WITH PUPILS WERE MORE THAN COMPETENT TO DEAL WITH MANY ACADEMIC OR BEHAVIOURAL PROBLEMS.

+I KNOW THAT MANY TEACHERS REALLY GO OUT OF THEIR WAY TO GIVE GUIDANCE AND HELP TO THEIR PUPILS AND SOMETIMES PARENTS TOO,+ MR. WU SAID.

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/9

FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 1976

- 9 -

SPECIAL OLYMPICS FOR THE MENTALLY RETARDED

THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE HONG KONG SPECIAL OLYMPICS TO BE HELD AT THE WONG CHUK HANG SPORTS GROUND AT 10 A.M. TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

THE SPORTING EVENT, SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR THE MENTALLY RETARDED, IS JOINTLY SPONSORED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, ST. JAMES' SETTLEMENT AND THE ACTION GROUP FOR THE MENTALLY RETARDED.

OVER 580 PARTICIPANTS FROM 20 TRAINING CENTRES, SPECIAL SCHOOLS AND SHELTERED WORKSHOPS WILL BE COMPETING.

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NOTE TO EDITORS :

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT WHICH WILL BEGIN AT THE WONG CHUK HANG SPORTS GROUND AT 10 A.M. TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

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PING PONG TABLES FOR REMOTE VILLAGES

FIVE TABLE TENNIS TABLES, BOUGHT FROM THE GOVERNOR'S SPECIAL FUND FOR RECREATION AND SPORT, WERE DELIVERED TODAY (FRIDAY) TO REMOTE COMMUNITIES IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THREE WENT TO MA WAN ISLAND, OFF LANTAU, ONE TO TSING YI ISLAND AND ONE TO NORTH LANTAU.

DELIVERY, ARRANGED THROUGH THE DISTRICT OFFICE, TSUEN WAN, WAS MADE BY A ROYAL AIR FORCE WESSEX HELICOPTER WHICH CARRIED OUT FIVE TRIPS FROM THE YEUNG UK ROAD PLAYGROUND. THE TABLES ARE MADE OF REINFORCED CONCRETE SO THAT THEY CAN BE USED OUTDOORS.

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