



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

MONDAY, MARCH 13, 1978

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CHIEF SECRETARY OPENS INTERNATIONAL SPEEDPOST CONFERENCE

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THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DENYS ROBERTS, SAID TODAY THE SPEEDPOST SERVICE HAD BROUGHT VALUABLE BENEFITS TO BUSINESSMEN AND SHOULD BE EXPANDED.

+THE ENTERPRISE OF THOSE POSTAL ADMINISTRATIONS WHICH HAVE ESTABLISHED SPEEDPOST LINKS HAS PROVED THE NEED FOR SUCH A SERVICE AND THAT IT BRINGS SUBSTANTIAL BENEFITS TO BUSINESSMEN IN THOSE COUNTRIES WHERE IT IS AVAILABLE,+ HE SAID.

+THE LARGER THE NUMBER OF POSTAL ADMINISTRATIONS PARTICIPATING IN THIS SERVICE, THE MORE VALUABLE DOES IT BECOME TO THE TRADERS,+ HE ADDED.

SIR DENYS WAS ADDRESSING DELEGATES AT THE OPENING OF THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL SPEEDPOST CONFERENCE BEING HOSTED BY THE POST OFFICE AT THE SHERATON HOTEL.

THE FIVE-DAY CONFERENCE, CHAIRED BY THE DEPUTY POSTMASTER GENERAL, MR. A.C. HEATHCOTE, IS THE FIRST OF ITS KIND TO BE HELD IN HONG KONG AND IS BEING ATTENDED BY 30 DELEGATES FROM 18 COUNTRIES, INCLUDING AUSTRALIA, CANADA, FRANCE, JAPAN, KOREA, MALAYSIA, THE NETHERLANDS, THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE U.S.A.

OPENING THE CONFERENCE, SIR DENYS SAID THE SPEEDPOST SERVICE WAS ONE OF THE MOST VALUABLE DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FIELD OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS.

+IT IS A FINE ACHIEVEMENT THAT POSTAL PACKAGES CAN BE COLLECTED IN ONE COUNTRY AND DELIVERED IN ANOTHER THOUSANDS OF MILES AWAY IN A MATTER OF ONE OR TWO DAYS,+ HE SAID.

HE NOTED THAT HONG KONG'S ABILITY TO SELL ITS MANUFACTURED GOODS IN HIGHLY COMPETITIVE OVERSEAS MARKETS DEPENDED TO A SIGNIFICANT EXTENT UPON THE SPEED AND RELIABILITY OF ALL FORMS OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS, OF WHICH THE POSTAL SERVICES WERE PERHAPS THE MOST IMPORTANT.

SIR DENYS SAID SPEEDPOST HAD EXPANDED RAPIDLY SINCE ITS MODEST BEGINNINGS IN 1971, WHEN A TWO-WAY SERVICE WAS ESTABLISHED BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE UNITED STATES.

SPEEDPOST HAS SINCE BEEN INTRODUCED BY 12 POSTAL ADMINISTRATIONS. MOST OF THEM NOT ONLY CATER, UNDER CONTRACT, FOR BUSINESSMEN WISHING TO SEND DOCUMENTS TO PARTICULAR DESTINATIONS AT REGULAR INTERVALS, BUT WERE ALSO DEVELOPING BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WITH EACH OTHER FOR THOSE WHO WANTED TO USE THE SERVICE INTERMITTENTLY.

+HONG KONG HAS MADE SUCH ARRANGEMENTS WITH SIX ADMINISTRATIONS AND HOPES TO CONCLUDE SIMILAR AGREEMENTS WITH THE REMAINDER,+ HE SAID.

SIR DENYS SAID IT WAS ENCOURAGING THAT REPRESENTATIVES FROM ADMINISTRATIONS WHICH HAD NOT YET ADOPTED SPEEDPOST WERE ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE.

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+THERE CAN SURELY BE NO DOUBT THAT THERE IS A PRESSING NEED FOR ITS EXPANSION,+ HE SAID. +THROUGH OUT THE WORLD BUSINESSMEN OFTEN SUFFER SEVERE DISADVANTAGE FROM THE FACT THAT SPEEDPOST SO FAR SERVES ONLY A MINORITY OF COUNTRIES.+

SIR DENYS SAID THE CONFERENCE PROVIDED AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY FOR DELEGATES TO IMPROVE THE WORKING ARRANGEMENTS OF THE SERVICE AND TO DISCUSS AND RESOLVE THE DIFFICULTIES WHICH INEVITABLY AROSE IN A HIGH-SPEED SERVICE OF THIS NATURE.

+WE HOPE THAT AS A RESULT OF YOUR DISCUSSIONS AT THIS CONFERENCE, THE DAY WILL BE CLOSER ON WHICH LONG DISTANCE, HIGH-SPEED, EXPRESS MAIL WILL BE AS MUCH AN ACCEPTED PART OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS AS IS ORDINARY AIR MAIL,+ SIR DENYS SAID.

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MARCH EMPLOYMENT SURVEY OF BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION SITES
IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR
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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT IS CONDUCTING THE FIRST QUARTERLY SURVEY FOR THIS YEAR ON EMPLOYMENT AT BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION SITES IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

ACCORDING TO RESULTS OF THE LAST SURVEY, A TOTAL OF 63,010 MANUAL WORKERS WERE EMPLOYED AT VARIOUS WORK SITES IN THE MIDDLE OF DECEMBER LAST YEAR, OF WHICH 32,291 WERE INVOLVED IN BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID LETTERS AND SURVEY FORMS FOR THE MARCH SURVEY HAD BEEN SENT TO CONTRACTORS SEEKING INFORMATION ON THE NUMBER OF MANUAL WORKERS AT EACH SITE UNDER THEIR CHARGE AS AT MARCH 15, 1978.

+SURVEY OFFICERS OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, EACH CARRYING A GOVERNMENT IDENTITY CARD, WILL VISIT THE RESPECTIVE SITES FROM MARCH 15 TO 17 TO COLLECT THE COMPLETED SURVEY FORMS,+ HE SAID.

+THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT APPEALS TO CONTRACTORS AND THEIR SITE STAFF FOR THEIR CO-OPERATION IN THE SURVEY.+

+INFORMATION RELATING TO INDIVIDUAL CONTRACTORS OR SITES WILL BE TREATED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND WILL BE USED SOLELY FOR COMPILING STATISTICAL TABLES,+ THE SPOKESMAN EMPHASISED.

ENQUIRIES CONCERNING THIS SURVEY MAY BE MADE TO MR. CHAN TUNG-WAH, STATISTICIAN (INDUSTRY) AT 5-444674.

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METEOROLOGISTS FROM CHINA VISIT ROYAL OBSERVATORY

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A GROUP OF FIVE METEOROLOGISTS FROM CHINA, LED BY PROFESSOR TAO SHIH-YEN OF THE INSTITUTE OF ATMOSPHERIC PHYSICS IN THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE, VISITED THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY TODAY (MONDAY).

THE DELEGATION VISITED THE CENTRAL FORECASTING OFFICE AND THE DATA ACQUISITION AND PROCESSING SECTIONS AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY HEADQUARTERS AND THE UPPER-AIR INVESTIGATION SECTION AT KING'S PARK.

AFTER THE VISIT, PROFESSOR TAO GAVE A SHORT TALK ON METEOROLOGICAL RESEARCH ACTIVITIES IN PEKING.

PROFESSOR TAO AND TWO OTHER METEOROLOGISTS RECENTLY ATTENDED THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANISATION COMMISSION FOR ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES HELD IN MANILA, AT WHICH HONG KONG WAS REPRESENTED BY MR. C.Y. LAM, SCIENTIFIC OFFICER OF THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY.

THE OTHER TWO METEOROLOGISTS FROM THE CENTRAL WEATHER BUREAU, PEKING PARTICIPATED IN A MEETING OF THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANISATION'S WORKING GROUP ON METEOROLOGICAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS FOR THE ASIA REGION IN SINGAPORE LAST WEEK. DR. K.S. TSUI, SCIENTIFIC OFFICER OF THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY, REPRESENTED HONG KONG AT THIS MEETING.

PROFESSOR TAO RETURNS TO PEKING TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN ORDER TO ATTEND THE NATIONAL CONGRESS ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DUE TO OPEN LATER THIS WEEK.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

HONG KONG COMMISSIONER TO GIVE PRESS CONFERENCE

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MR. DENIS BRAY, HONG KONG COMMISSIONER - LONDON, WILL GIVE A PRESS CONFERENCE AT 11 A.M. ON THURSDAY (MARCH 16) IN THE G.I.S. THEATRE, FIFTH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE CONFERENCE.

TELEVISION AND RADIO CREWS ARE REQUESTED TO ARRIVE EARLY SO THEY WILL HAVE AMPLE TIME TO SET UP THEIR EQUIPMENT.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS AT GARDEN ROAD AND HA HEUNG ROAD
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE SLIP ROAD AT THE GARDEN ROAD ROUNDABOUT LEADING FROM GARDEN ROAD INTO ROBINSON ROAD IS TEMPORARILY CLOSED TO ALL TRAFFIC BETWEEN 1 A.M. AND 6.30 A.M. FROM TODAY (MONDAY).

VEHICLES TRAVELLING FROM GARDEN ROAD TO ROBINSON ROAD WILL BE DIVERTED TO TAKE A U-TURN AT MAGAZINE GAP ROAD.

THE CLOSURE, WHICH WILL LAST TILL MARCH 19 IS TO FACILITATE CONSTRUCTION OF GARDEN ROAD ROUNDABOUT IMPROVEMENTS.

THE DEPARTMENT ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT FROM 10 A.M. ON WEDNESDAY (MARCH 15), HA HEUNG ROAD IN KOWLOON CITY WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE WAY NORTHBOUND BETWEEN SZE CHUEN STREET AND LOK SHAN ROAD IN ORDER TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW IN THE AREA.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS HAVE BEEN SET UP IN THE TWO AREAS TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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KWAI CHUNG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE OPEN DAY
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THE KWAI CHUNG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE WILL HOLD ITS OPEN DAY ON MARCH 19 AND 20.

THE INSTITUTE - NOW IN ITS THIRD YEAR OF OPERATION - WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FROM 2 P.M. TO 5 P.M. ON THE FIRST DAY AND FROM 10 A.M. TO NOON AND 2 P.M. TO 5 P.M. ON THE SECOND.

IT HAS A TOTAL ENROLMENT OF 3,214 STUDENTS AND RUNS 15 FULL-TIME DAY CLASSES, 35 PART-TIME DAY-RELEASE CLASSES, AND 49 EVENING CLASSES. IT HAS 55 TEACHING STAFF AND 43 SUPPORTING STAFF.

THERE ARE FIVE TEACHING DEPARTMENTS IN THE INSTITUTE - CLOTHING INDUSTRIES, COMMERCIAL STUDIES, ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, MECHANICAL ENGINEERING, AND TEXTILE INDUSTRIES.

COURSES RUN BY THESE DEPARTMENTS ARE DESIGNED TO MEET THE DEMAND OF LOCAL INDUSTRIES AT BOTH THE TECHNICIAN AND CRAFTSMAN LEVELS.

KWAI CHUNG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE IS ONE OF THE FOUR TECHNICAL INSTITUTES WHICH WERE PLANNED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WITH THE ADVICE OF THE HONG KONG TRAINING COUNCIL IN CLOSE LIAISON WITH THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC. THE INSTITUTE OPENED IN SEPTEMBER 1975.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE OPEN DAY AT THE KWAI CHUNG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, HING SHING ROAD, KWAI CHUNG, KOWLOON, AT 2 P.M. ON MARCH 19 AND 10 A.M. THE FOLLOWING DAY.

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