



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SATURDAY, JULY 5, 1980

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SATURDAY, JULY 5, 1980

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**\$32 MILLION SUBVENTION FOR CHILD CARE CENTRES THIS YEAR**

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THE GOVERNMENT IS PROVIDING MORE SUBVENTIONS FOR CHILD CARE CENTRES, WITH THE AMOUNT REACHING MORE THAN \$32 MILLION FOR THIS YEAR COMPARED WITH THE \$10 000 23 YEARS AGO.

THIS WAS SAID TODAY (SATURDAY) BY THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR THOMAS LEE, WHILE OPENING A NURSERY RUN BY THE SALVATION ARMY IN WO CHE ESTATE, SHA TIN.

MR LEE SAID GOVERNMENT SUBSIDY FOR EACH CHILD IN A SUBVENTED NURSERY HAS NOW RISEN TO \$171 A MONTH FROM \$10 IN 1967.

HE SAID THERE WAS AN EVER-INCREASING DEMAND FOR CHILD CARE CENTRES AS MORE MARRIED WOMEN WERE TAKING UP JOBS IN THE LIGHT OF RAPID INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT.

THE GREEN PAPER ON PRIMARY EDUCATION AND PRE-PRIMARY SERVICES ESTIMATES THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILD CARE PLACES REQUIRED BY 1990-91 WOULD REACH OVER 67 000, HE SAID.

AT PRESENT, HE ADDED, ABOUT 16 000 CHILDREN ARE UNDER THE PROPER CARE OF MORE THAN 200 CHILD CARE CENTRES.

MR LEE SAID THAT GOVERNMENT-SUBVENTED CHILD CARE CENTRES NOW CATER FOR CHILDREN FROM LOW-INCOME FAMILIES ONLY.

+WITH CHANGES IN THE ROLE OF CHILD CARE CENTRES ARISING FROM CHANGES IN THE SOCIAL STRUCTURE, THE GREEN PAPER HAS PROPOSED AN OVERALL REVIEW OF SUBVENTION BY EXTENDING CHILD CARE SERVICE TO ALL WALKS OF LIFE,+ HE SAID.

IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WHERE THERE HAS BEEN RAPID DEVELOPMENT AND INCREASE IN POPULATION, MR LEE SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT CHILD CARE SERVICE WAS PROVIDED TO MEET THE NEED OF THE NEW TOWN RESIDENTS.

+OF THE EXISTING SUBVENTED CHILD CARE PLACES, ONE-THIRD ARE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, AND IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THREE-FIFTH OF THE ADDITIONAL SUBVENTED PLACES PLANNED FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS WILL BE IN THE NEW TOWNS AS WELL,+ HE SAID.

MR LEE STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF CHILDREN GROWING UP IN A SAFE, FULLY EQUIPPED AND HYGIENIC ENVIRONMENT IN ORDER TO ENSURE A BALANCED PHYSICAL AND MENTAL DEVELOPMENT.

TO THIS END, HE SAID, CHILD CARE LEGISLATION WAS ENACTED IN 1975 AND A CHILD CARE CENTRES ADVISORY INSPECTORATE WAS SET UP ONE YEAR LATER WITHIN THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT TO PROMOTE THE STANDARDS OF CHILD CARE SERVICE.

HE PRAISED THE WORK OF THE SALVATION ARMY WHICH HAS BEEN ENGAGED IN A WIDE RANGE OF SOCIAL SERVICES INCLUDING CHILD CARE.

THE SALVATION ARMY OPERATED ITS FIRST CHILD CARE CENTRE AS EARLY AS 20 YEARS AGO AND HAS OPENED ANOTHER 11 CENTRES THROUGHOUT HONG KONG SINCE THEN, HE NOTED.

IN ADDITION TO THE WO CHE NURSERY, THE SALVATION ARMY PLANS TO OPEN ANOTHER IN SAM SHING ESTATE IN TUEN MUN SHORTLY.

+THESE TWO NURSERIES WILL NO DOUBT PROVIDE SERVICES OF HIGH QUALITY TO CHILDREN FROM LOW-INCOME FAMILIES IN THE TWO PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES,+ HE SAID.

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SAFETY FIRST — STUDENTS SEEKING SUMMER JOBS ADVISED  
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+A FEW HUNDRED DOLLARS TO RISK ONE'S LIFE? IT'S JUST NOT WORTH IT.+

THIS WAS THE MESSAGE GIVEN TODAY (SATURDAY) BY A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TO STUDENTS LOOKING FOR SUMMER JOBS.

+STUDENTS TAKING SUMMER WORK SHOULD MAKE SURE THEY DON'T GET INJURED,+ HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO URGED FACTORY OPERATORS TO PAY MORE ATTENTION TO THE SAFETY OF STUDENTS DOING SUMMER JOBS ON THEIR PREMISES.

HE URGED SUMMER JOB-SEEKERS NOT TO ACCEPT EMPLOYMENT ON CONSTRUCTION SITES WHERE THE ACCIDENT RATE HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE HIGHEST.

LAST SUMMER, HE RECALLED, TRAGEDY STRUCK TWO YOUNG STUDENTS — ONE WAS KILLED ON A CONSTRUCTION SITE AND THE OTHER WAS LEFT WITH ONLY TWO THUMBS FOR THE REST OF HIS LIFE.

+THE FIRST BOY WHO HAD BEEN WORKING ON THE SITE FOR ONLY 20 DAYS WAS EMPLOYED TO WORK ON A HIGH SCAFFOLD PLATFORM. THE SCAFFOLD COLLAPSED AND THE BOY FELL TO HIS DEATH.

+THE OTHER BOY WAS EMPLOYED TO OPERATE A MILLING MACHINE IN A FACTORY. THE MACHINE WAS NOT EFFECTIVELY GUARDED AND THE BOY HAD NEVER BEEN TRAINED PROPERLY.

+ON HIS SIXTH DAY AT WORK, WHEN HE WAS MILLING A METAL BAR, THE COTTON GLOVES HE WAS WEARING GOT ENTANGLED WITH THE CUTTER AND ALL EIGHT FINGERS WERE CUT OFF.+

THE SPOKESMAN ADVISED STUDENTS INTENDING TO TAKE SUMMER JOBS TO BEWARE OF POWER-DRIVEN MACHINERY, ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT AND CHEMICALS USED IN INDUSTRIAL PROCESSES.

/+MACHINERY .....

+MACHINERY, IF HANDLED OR OPERATED IMPROPERLY, CAN INJURE, MAIM, OR EVEN KILL. MAKE SURE THAT YOU ARE GIVEN PROPER TRAINING AND KNOW WHERE THE DANGERS LIE. ALSO TAKE CARE IN HAVING EFFECTIVE GUARDS ON THE DANGEROUS PARTS OF MACHINES BEFORE OPERATING THEM.+

THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED FACTORY OWNERS THAT STUDENTS, BEING UNTRAINED AND INEXPERIENCED, WERE VULNERABLE TO INDUSTRIAL HAZARDS.

+FACTORY PROPRIETORS SHOULD THEREFORE ENSURE THAT THOSE IN THEIR EMPLOY ARE CLOSELY AND PROPERLY SUPERVISED AND NOT ASSIGNED JOBS WHICH ARE POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS OR WHICH INVOLVE THE OPERATION OF DANGEROUS MACHINERY,+ HE ADDED.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT ANY STUDENT INJURED WHILE DOING SUMMER WORK, LIKE ANY OTHER INJURED WORKMEN, HAS THE RIGHT TO CLAIM COMPENSATION UNDER THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ORDINANCE.

IN ADDITION, HE MAY CLAIM DAMAGES UNDER COMMON LAW, AND NO MINIMUM LENGTH OF SERVICE WAS REQUIRED BY LAW IN THIS RESPECT.

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#### LOANS AVAILABLE FOR NEEDY STUDENTS

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STUDENTS IN NEED OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO COMPLETE THEIR STUDIES CAN NOW APPLY FOR THE HONG KONG ROTARY CLUB STUDENTS' LOAN FUND AND THE STANDARD/SING TAO FAT CHOY DRIVE STUDENTS' LOAN FUND.

THE TWO FUNDS PROVIDE INTEREST-FREE LOANS FOR STUDENTS OF POST SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS, THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, TECHNICAL INSTITUTES AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

MAXIMUM LOANS VARY FROM \$1 900 PER ANNUM FOR A POST-SECONDARY STUDENT TO \$1 200 PER ANNUM FOR A SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENT.

PRIORITY WILL BE GIVEN TO APPLICANTS WHO ARE NEARING COMPLETION OF THEIR STUDIES.

SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO REPAY THEIR LOANS BY INSTALMENTS OF AT LEAST 10 PER CENT OF THEIR MONTHLY SALARIES ON COMPLETING THEIR STUDIES.

THE LOANS ARE MADE ON A YEARLY BASIS. NEW APPLICANTS AND PRESENT RECIPIENTS WHO WISH TO APPLY FOR FURTHER LOANS FOR THE COMING ACADEMIC YEAR MUST COMPLETE A PRESCRIBED FORM.

APPLICATIONS FOR ASSISTANCE FROM BOTH FUNDS WILL BE CONSIDERED BY A JOINT COMMITTEE.

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STUDENTS IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTES CAN OBTAIN APPLICATION FORMS FROM THE OVERSEAS STUDENTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS SECTION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, LEIGHTON CENTRE, 15TH FLOOR, 77 LEIGHTON ROAD, HONG KONG.

COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE SECTION NOT LATER THAN AUGUST 1.

APPLICANTS WHO INTEND TO ENTER THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG SHOULD APPLY TO THE UNIVERSITY'S DEAN OF STUDENTS, AND APPLICANTS WHO INTEND TO ENTER THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG SHOULD APPLY TO THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY, STUDENT AFFAIRS.

THOSE WHO INTEND TO ENTER THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC SHOULD APPLY TO THE STUDENT WELFARE OFFICER.

APPLICANTS ALREADY STUDYING IN THESE THREE INSTITUTES SHOULD APPLY IN THE SAME MANNER.

ALL APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE HANDED IN BEFORE OCTOBER 17.

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ISLAND RD TO BE WIDENED  
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A SECTION OF ISLAND ROAD FROM WONG CHUK HANG TO DEEP WATER BAY WILL BE IMPROVED SHORTLY.

TENDERS FOR THE WORK ARE BEING INVITED BY THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

+THE IMPROVEMENT INVOLVES WIDENING 850 METRES OF THE EXISTING ROAD FROM FIVE METRES TO 6.75 METRES ON AN IMPROVED ALIGNMENT,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

+THIS NECESSITATES CONSTRUCTING RETAINING WALLS AND REINFORCED CONCRETE ROAD DECKING ON THE SEAWARD SIDE OF THE ROAD,+ HE SAID.

WORK WILL START IN OCTOBER AND WILL TAKE ABOUT 15 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

+THIS SECTION OF THE ROAD WHEN COMPLETED WILL ACCOMMODATE THE EXPECTED INCREASE IN VEHICULAR TRAFFIC AFTER THE OPENING OF THE ABERDEEN TUNNEL,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE WORK HAS BEEN DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTION WILL BE SUPERVISED BY THE HIGHWAYS (HONG KONG) DIVISION OF THE PWD'S HIGHWAYS OFFICE.

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SNT RETURNS FROM ANNUAL LEAVE

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SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, RETURNED FROM ANNUAL LEAVE TODAY (SATURDAY). HE RESUMES OFFICE IMMEDIATELY.

MR AUGUSTINE CHUI KAM, WHO HAS BEEN ACTING AS SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES SINCE MR AKERS-JONES'S DEPARTURE ON JUNE 3, NOW RESUMES OFFICE AS DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES.

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FIRING PRACTICE

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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE HA TSUEN-CASTLE PEAK RANGE ON FIVE DAYS (MONDAY TO FRIDAY) NEXT WEEK. IT WILL TAKE PLACE BETWEEN 8 AM AND 5 PM EACH DAY, EXCEPT ON WEDNESDAY WHEN IT WILL BEGIN AT 9 AM.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WARNED NOT TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN RED FLAGS ARE FLYING DURING PRACTICE TIMES.

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AIRPORT BOOKSHOP TENDERS

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TENDERS ARE BEING INVITED FOR THE TENANCY OF A BOOKSHOP IN THE DEPARTURE LOUNGE OF THE PASSENGER TERMINAL AT KAI TAK AIRPORT.

THE TENANCY IS FOR THREE YEARS, BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR. BIDS MUST BE PLACED IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TENDER BOX AT THE ENTRANCE OF MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG BEFORE NOON ON FRIDAY, JULY 25.

FORMS OF TENDER AND FURTHER PARTICULARS ARE OBTAINABLE FROM THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS, NEW RODNEY BLOCK, 99 QUEENSWAY, OR FROM THE AIRPORT GENERAL MANAGER AT THE AIRPORT.

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