



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

THURSDAY, JULY 13, 1978

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
FINANCE COMMITTEE APPROVES ABOLITION OF TUITION FEES FOR F.1-3 PLACES IN PUBLIC SECTOR	1
PROPOSALS TO EXPAND CODES OF AID FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION BEING EXAMINED	2
SHA TIN TAU CLEARED FOR DEVELOPMENT	4
FIELD STUDIES CENTRE TO BE BUILT AT SAI KUNG	5
SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME IN WAN CHAI BEGINS ON SATURDAY	5
CLEAN HONG KONG VARIETY SHOW	6
PRINCIPAL OF TECHNICAL INSTITUTE RETIRES	6

THURSDAY, JULY 13, 1978

- 1 -

GO-AHEAD FOR ABOLITION OF TUITION FEES
* * * * *

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL HAS APPROVED THE ABOLITION OF TUITION FEES FOR ALL PRIMARY 6 LEAVERS WHO HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED A FORM 1 PLACE-THROUGH THE SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES ALLOCATION (SSPA) SYSTEM.

AS A RESULT, ALL FORM 1 TO 3 PUPILS IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR WILL NO LONGER BE REQUIRED TO PAY TUITION FEES FROM SEPTEMBER 1, 1978. THIS APPLIES EQUALLY TO PLACES IN GOVERNMENT, AIDED AND PRIVATE NON-PROFIT-MAKING SCHOOLS AND TO BOUGHT PLACES IN PRIVATE INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS.

ONLY THREE TYPES OF PUPILS WILL CONTINUE TO PAY FEES. THEY ARE:

- * FORM 2 AND 3 PUPILS IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS WHO ARE NOT OCCUPYING BOUGHT PLACES=
- * PUPILS WHO, HAVING ATTENDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS NOT TAKING PART IN THE SSPA SYSTEM, ARE PROCEEDING TO INDEPENDENT PRIVATE SCHOOLS OUTSIDE THE PUBLIC SECTOR= AND
- * PUPILS ATTENDING ENGLISH-SPEAKING SCHOOLS, WHICH HAVE A DIFFERENT MODE OF FINANCING.

THE ABOLITION OF FEES WILL COST THE GOVERNMENT AN ESTIMATED \$39.1 MILLION IN THE 1978-9 FINANCIAL YEAR, RISING TO \$73.3 MILLION IN 1982-3.

BECAUSE OF THE APPROACHING RECESS IN THE CURRENT SESSION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNMENT AND THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HAVE DEFERRED UNTIL THE NEXT SESSION A DECISION ON TONG FAI OR SIMILAR CHARGES FOR JUNIOR SECONDARY FORMS.

THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL INFORM ALL SCHOOLS IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS ABOUT THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS RESULTING FROM THE ABOLITION OF TUITION FEES.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/2

PROPOSALS TO EXPAND CODES OF AID FOR
SPECIAL EDUCATION BEING EXAMINED
* * * * *

THE GOVERNMENT IS EXAMINING PROPOSALS TO EXPAND THE CODES OF AID FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION TO ALLOW SPECIAL SCHOOLS TO HAVE A WIDER RANGE OF MULTI-DISCIPLINARY CARE WITHIN SCHOOLS AND BETTER RESOURCES AND SUPPORT SERVICES.

MR. IAN STRACHAN, PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY IN THE SOCIAL SERVICES BRANCH OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, SAID THIS TODAY (THURSDAY) AT THE SPEECH DAY OF THE HONG KONG SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF.

HE SAID: +I ANTICIPATE THAT THIS PROPOSAL WILL BE CONSIDERED BY THE EDUCATION SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE REHABILITATION CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE IN ABOUT TWO MONTHS TIME AND, IF THESE PROPOSALS ARE SUBSEQUENTLY APPROVED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, THEY WILL BE IMPLEMENTED ON APRIL 1 NEXT YEAR.+

MR. STRACHAN ALSO POINTED OUT THAT DEAF CHILDREN MUST BE GIVEN AN EDUCATION WHICH IS AT LEAST AS GOOD AS NON-HEARING IMPAIRED CHILDREN HAVE SO THAT THEY ARE ABLE TO FULLY UTILISE THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO THEM ONCE THEY LEAVE SCHOOL.

HE SAID SOME DEAF CHILDREN WOULD, OF COURSE, GO STRAIGHT INTO EMPLOYMENT AFTER NINE YEARS OF EDUCATION, WHILST OTHERS WOULD CONTINUE EDUCATION EITHER IN VOCATIONAL TRAINING OR IN FORMS IV AND V.

+THE GOVERNMENT MUST ENSURE THAT THE RESOURCES ARE THERE TO ENABLE DISABLED CHILDREN TO MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE AT THE END OF FORM 3 COMPATIBLE WITH THEIR ABILITIES,+ MR. STRACHAN SAID.

HE SAID THERE WERE AT PRESENT NINE EAR, NOSE AND THROAT CLINICS AND THERE WERE PROPOSALS TO INCREASE THIS NUMBER TO 12 BY 1984.

HE ALSO DISCLOSED THAT THE DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES IS IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF SERVICE IN CLINICS AND THE NUMBER OF CONSULTATIONS AND SESSIONS IS BEING INCREASED SO THAT DOCTORS CAN SPEND MORE TIME IN EXAMINING INDIVIDUAL CASES.

ONE SPECIFIC PROPOSAL TO IMPROVE SERVICES MADE THIS YEAR HAD BEEN TO ASK THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO CONSIDER PROVIDING SPECIAL CLINICS FOR CHILDREN AT EAR, NOSE AND THROAT CLINICS.

+THE ADDITION OF THESE SESSIONS WOULD ALLOW TEACHERS WHO USUALLY ACCOMPANY CHILDREN FOR TREATMENT WITH PARENTS TO BE ABLE TO UTILISE THEIR TIME BETTER= SECONDLY, IT WOULD BE EASIER TO TRANSPORT CHILDREN DURING SCHOOL HOURS TO CLINICS= AND, THIRDLY, SPECIALISTS WITH A FLAIR FOR TREATING CHILDREN COULD BE ALLOTTED TO SUCH SESSIONS.+

MR. STRACHAN SAID THE REQUIREMENT FOR AUDIOLOGISTS TO PROVIDE ASSESSMENT AND TRAINING OF HEARING IMPAIRED CHILDREN WOULD BE MET IN FULL THIS YEAR.

/IN ADDITION,

IN ADDITION, HE SAID, AUDIOMETRIC SCREENING PROGRAMMES NOW COVERED ABOUT 55 PER CENT OF PRIMARY 1 STUDENTS IN GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS AND SOME AIDED SCHOOLS, AND BY 1981 IT IS PLANNED TO PROVIDE UNIVERSAL COVERAGE FOR PRIMARY 1 STUDENTS.

HE SAID SPEECH SCREENING PROGRAMMES WERE ALSO EXPANDING AND BEGINNING THIS YEAR A SPECIAL CLASS SPEECH SCREENING PROGRAMME WAS BEING WIDENED TO PROGRESSIVELY COVER ALL SPEECH IMPAIRED CHILDREN IN SPECIAL AND RESOURCE CLASSES IN GOVERNMENT AND AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

MR. STRACHAN SAID THE HONG KONG SOCIETY FOR THE DEAF WAS AT PRESENT LOOKING AFTER 10 PRE-SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN IN ITS CENTRE AT HOSPITAL ROAD. THE PROGRAMME PLAN RECOMMENDED THAT PRE-SCHOOL CARE FOR PROFOUNDLY DEAF CHILDREN IN SPECIAL CENTRES BE EXPANDED IN 1979 AND THAT PLACES FOR PARTIALLY DEAF CHILDREN BE EXPANDED BY 24 PLACES IN 1978 AND 1979 IN ORDINARY CHILD CARE CENTRES.

THERE WAS ALSO A NEED, HE SAID, TO PROVIDE MORE RESOURCES FOR SPEECH AND AUDITORY TRAINING FOR HEARING IMPAIRED CHILDREN IN THE SPECIAL EDUCATION CENTRES OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT BETWEEN NOW AND 1984.

THE NUMBER OF ROOMS DESIGNED WITH ACCOUSTICAL TREATMENT WOULD BE EXPANDED FROM THREE TO FIVE AND THE NUMBER OF STAFF PROVIDING SPEECH AND AUDITORY TRAINING SERVICES WOULD BE EXPANDED FROM THREE TO 16.

MR. STRACHAN SAID MORE THAN HALF THE DEAF PEOPLE IN HONG KONG WERE AGED OVER 60 YEARS AND THE PROGRAMME PLAN HAD PROPOSED THAT A CENTRE FOR DEAF ADULTS BE ESTABLISHED BY THE HONG KONG SOCIETY FOR THE DEAF DURING 1979.

+IN ADDITION, WE RECOGNISE THE NEED TO HAVE MORE SOCIAL WORKERS TRAINED IN DEALING WITH DEAF PEOPLE AND THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT WILL BE CONDUCTING SPECIAL COURSES FOR ITS FAMILY CASE WORKERS SO THAT THERE IS AT LEAST ONE TRAINED CASE WORKER IN EACH FAMILY SERVICE CENTRE BY 1980,+ HE SAID.

ON HOUSING FOR THE DISABLED, MR. STRACHAN SAID MOST PEOPLE DID NOT REALISE THE PARTICULAR PROBLEMS WHICH DEAF PEOPLE FACED IN OBTAINING HOUSING. THE HOUSING SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE REHABILITATION DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE (R.D.C.C.) IS NOW REVIEWING THE PROVISION IN PUBLIC HOUSING FOR DISABLED PEOPLE INCLUDING THE COMPASSIONATE HOUSING QUOTA, THE HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME, INTERNAL TRANSFERS AND THE HOUSING OF SINGLE DISABLED PEOPLE.

+THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE EXAMINED BY THE FULL R.D.C.C. SHORTLY AND THE NEEDS OF THE DEAF WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN THIS EXAMINATION,+ HE SAID.

THURSDAY, JULY 13, 1978

- 4 -

SHA TIN TAU CLEARED FOR
HOUSING AND NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT
* * * * *

THE SECOND PHASE OF THE SHA TIN TAU CLEARANCE WAS COMPLETED TODAY (THURSDAY) TO MAKE MORE LAND AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC HOUSING AND NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT.

ABOUT \$2.5 MILLION IN EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES WAS PAID BY THE GOVERNMENT TO ELIGIBLE SHOP AND WORKSHOP OPERATORS AS WELL AS FOR PIGSTIES, POULTRY SHEDS AND CROPS.

A NEW ESTATE, SUN TIN WAI HOUSING ESTATE, WILL BE BUILT ON THE CLEARED AREA TO PROVIDE ACCOMMODATION FOR ABOUT 20,000 PEOPLE BY THE END OF 1981. A NEW TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA FOR 2,000 PEOPLE WILL ALSO BE BUILT BY APRIL NEXT YEAR.

TODAY'S CLEARANCE INVOLVED 428 STRUCTURES WHICH WERE DEMOLISHED BY HOUSING DEPARTMENT AND THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION WORKMEN.

A TOTAL OF 1,969 PERSONS (416 FAMILIES) AFFECTED BY THE CLEARANCE HAVE MOVED INTO PUBLIC HOUSING WHILE ANOTHER 284 PERSONS (116 FAMILIES) HAVE MOVED INTO TEMPORARY PUBLIC HOUSING.

A NUMBER OF FAMILIES HAVE INDICATED THAT THEY WISH TO BE ALLOCATED PUBLIC HOUSING OUTSIDE SHA TIN AND THEIR REQUESTS ARE BEING PROCESSED BY THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT.

A TOTAL OF 47 ELIGIBLE WORKSHOP OPERATORS WERE EITHER GIVEN EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE OR FLATTED FACTORY UNITS.

THE FIRST PHASE OF THE CLEARANCE WAS IMPLEMENTED ON JULY 4.

A TOTAL OF 1,303 PERSONS AFFECTED BY AN EARLIER PHASE OF THE CLEARANCE HAVE MOVED INTO PUBLIC HOUSING AND ANOTHER 70 INTO TEMPORARY PUBLIC HOUSING.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/5

FIELD STUDIES CENTRE TO BE BUILT AT SAI KUNG
* * * *

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT HAS AWARDED A CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FIELD STUDIES CENTRE AT THE SAI KUNG OUTDOOR RECREATION CENTRE TO CHIU KAN KEE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY.

THE CONTRACT, WORTH JUST OVER \$700,000, WAS RECENTLY SIGNED BY MR. S.S. MAK, P.W.D.'S CHIEF ARCHITECT, AND MR. CHIU KAN, OF THE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY.

MR. K. KRUMINS, PROJECT ARCHITECT, SAID THAT THE SITE FOR THE FIELD CENTRE WAS SITUATED AT THE EAST END OF THE SAI KUNG OUTDOOR RECREATION CENTRE NEAR THE SAI KUNG MARKET.

HE SAID THAT THE STUDIES CENTRE WOULD BE HOUSED IN A TWO-STOREY BLOCK WITH AN AREA OF ABOUT 470 SQUARE METRES.

THE CENTRE WILL HAVE A LECTURE ROOM, LABORATORY, PREPARATION ROOM, LIBRARY, EXHIBITION AREA, OFFICE AND COMMON ROOM.

WORK WILL BEGIN NEXT WEEK AND WILL TAKE ABOUT SIX MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WAN CHAI DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH
PROGRAMME STARTS ON SATURDAY
* * * * *

A VARIETY SHOW FOR 3,000 LOCAL RESIDENTS AND CHILDREN WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY (JULY 15) EVENING AT SOUTHERN PLAYGROUND, WAN CHAI, TO HERALD THE START OF THIS YEAR'S SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME FOR WAN CHAI DISTRICT.

THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (SOCIAL WORK), MRS. EVELYN DOE, WILL ADDRESS THE GATHERING AFTER PERFORMING A RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

THE OPENING CEREMONY AND VARIETY SHOW ARE BEING ORGANISED BY THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT YOUTH RECREATION CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE.

THESE PROGRAMMES WILL FEATURE LION DANCE, FOLK DANCE, SINGING, KARATE DEMONSTRATION AND CHINESE MARTIAL ARTS DISPLAY.

THIS YEAR'S WAN CHAI DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME COMPRISES MORE THAN 200 EVENTS PLANNED AND SPONSORED BY 80 LOCAL COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS.

THE EVENTS WILL INCLUDE A WIDE RANGE OF SPORTS, RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES, YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DESIGNED TO ENABLE LOCAL YOUNG PEOPLE TO SPEND THEIR SUMMER MONTHS IN A MORE CONSTRUCTIVE WAY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

THURSDAY, JULY 13, 1978

- 6 -

CLEAN HONG KONG VARIETY SHOW

* * * * *

A VARIETY SHOW WILL BE HELD AT CAUSEWAY BAY TYPHOON SHELTER TOMORROW (FRIDAY) FROM 8 P.M. TO 10 P.M. AS PART OF THE CAMPAIGN TO URGE BOAT USERS NOT TO FOUL THEIR ANCHORAGES WITH RUBBISH.

THE +CLEAN HONG KONG SHOW+, WHICH WILL INCLUDE SONGS, DRAMA AND THE APPEARANCE OF FOUR WINNERS OF THE MISS HONG KONG PAGEANT WILL BE STAGED ON THE DECK OF A FLOODLIT MARINE DEPARTMENT LAUNCH.

URBAN COUNCILLOR, MR. HOWARD YOUNG, WILL ATTEND THE SHOW AND PRESENT PENNANTS TO PERFORMERS.

- - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE +CLEAN HONG KONG SHOW+ AT 8 P.M. TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

MARINE LAUNCH NO. 58 WILL BE AVAILABLE AT QUEEN'S PIER, CENTRAL, TO TAKE REPORTERS AND/OR PHOTOGRAPHERS TO CAUSEWAY BAY. THE LAUNCH WILL LEAVE QUEEN'S PIER AT 7.45 P.M. TOMORROW.

- - - - 0 - - - -

PIONEER OF TECHNICAL TEACHER TRAINING RETIRING

* * * * *

MR. LINCOLN LIEU, PRINCIPAL OF KWAI CHUNG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, IS RETIRING SOON AFTER 19 YEARS SERVICE WITH THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

DURING HIS CAREER IN THE DEPARTMENT, MR. LIEU PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN THE EARLY STAGE OF TECHNICAL TEACHER TRAINING IN HONG KONG.

HE JOINED THE DEPARTMENT AS AN ASSISTANT EDUCATION OFFICER IN 1959 AND BECAME AN EDUCATION OFFICER (TECHNICAL) IN 1964.

IN 1969, HE WAS ASSIGNED TO THE COMBINED POST OF VICE-PRINCIPAL AND HEAD OF DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL TEACHER AND WORKSHOP INSTRUCTOR TRAINING AT THE THEN NEWLY-FOUNDED MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE.

HE BECAME THE PRINCIPAL OF MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE IN 1974 AND WAS TRANSFERRED TO KWAI CHUNG IN THE FOLLOWING YEAR.

- - - - 0 - - - -