



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 842 8777

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1994

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
TRANSCRIPT OF THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S Q AND A SESSION	1
D-G OF TRADE LEAVES FOR APEC MEETING IN JAKARTA	2
GOVERNMENT TO IMPROVE FAMILIES AND CHILDREN SERVICES	2
LAND GRANT FOR NEW HOSPITAL	4
ED STAFF RECOGNISED FOR GOOD CUSTOMER SERVICE	4
TRAINING COURSE FOR HEALTH WORKERS	6

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1994

- 1 -

TRANSCRIPT OF THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S Q AND A SESSION

* * * * *

THE FOLLOWING IS A TRANSCRIPT OF THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION AFTER THE OPENING OF THE CARITAS BAZAAR AT FA HUI PLAYGROUND TODAY (SUNDAY):

QUESTION: JUST ONE THING, BOTH THE LIBERAL PARTY AND THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAVE EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS ON WHETHER, YOU KNOW, THE 23 BILLION INJECTION INTO THE AIRPORT RAILWAY SHOULD BE GIVEN IN ONE GO. SO IS THE GOVERNMENT PREPARED TO, YOU KNOW - THE FUNDING IN STAGES?

FS: WELL, I DON'T THINK THERE WILL BE ANY PROBLEM. I THINK IT'S A NATURAL REACTION THAT SOME POLITICIANS WILL ASK WHETHER THE MONEY CAN BE SPLIT UP - AS WE DID FOR THE PAA, OF COURSE. I THINK ONCE WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO EXPLAIN TO THEM HOW QUICKLY THE MONEY IS NEEDED FOR THE AIRPORT RAILWAY AND HOW MANY CONTRACTS ARE JUST WAITING TO BE SIGNED ONCE THE MONEY IS APPROVED, I THINK THAT THEY WILL AGREE. BUT THEY ARE ENTIRELY RIGHT TO RAISE THE QUESTION AND IT IS FOR US TO PERSUADE THEM THAT WE'VE GOT THE ANSWERS. SO OF COURSE THERE WILL BE BRIEFINGS FOR LEGCO - THERE WILL BE A FULL PAPER FOR LEGCO - BUT WE CERTAINLY HOPE TO GET THE MONEY APPROVED LATER THIS MONTH. WE HAVEN'T DECIDED EXACTLY WHICH FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING BUT CERTAINLY IT SHOULD BE LATER THIS MONTH.

I THINK THERE IS A LOT OF SUPPORT FOR THE RAILWAY, OF COURSE, BECAUSE IT SERVES NOT JUST THE AIRPORT BUT IT SERVES THAT WHOLE COMMUNITY WHICH LIVES ALONG KOWLOON ALL THE WAY TO KWAI CHUNG AND TSUEN WAN, SO THERE IS A LOT OF SUPPORT FOR IT.

QUESTION: BUT HOW MUCH WILL THEY NEED? HOW MUCH MONEY, YOU KNOW?

FS: THE 23 BILLION IS ALL NEEDED WITHIN THE SPACE OF ABOUT TWO OR THREE MONTHS. I DON'T HAVE THE PRECISE AREA BUT IT IS QUITE A SHORT PERIOD. THE CONTRACTS ALREADY OUTSTANDING WILL USE UP THE GREAT MAJORITY OF THAT MONEY, SO I THINK ONCE THE FIGURES ARE PUT TO THEM THERE WILL BE NO PROBLEM.

QUESTION: BUT DOES THE GOVERNMENT HAVE ANY CONTINGENCY PLAN IF THEY DON'T APPROVE THE MONEY?

FS: NO, WE DON'T HAVE ANY CONTINGENCY PLAN. WE WILL GO AND DISCUSS - LEGCO MEMBERS ARE PERFECTLY RATIONAL AND REASONABLE PEOPLE - I THINK WHEN WE HAVE TALKED TO THEM, I AM VERY HOPEFUL THEY WILL APPROVE. THEY ARE RIGHT TO RAISE THE QUESTION AND IT IS FOR US TO ANSWER IT.

QUESTION: STEVEN POON SAID THERE SHOULD BE WAYS FOR LEGCO TO MONITOR THE RUNNING OF THE MTRC (INAUDIBLE) FOR A LONG TIME (INAUDIBLE).

FS: YES. OF COURSE LEGCO DOES MONITOR AND WILL MONITOR ALL THE PROJECTS FOR WHICH THEY APPROVE FUNDS. AND THE MTRC AND THE PAA PUBLISH THEIR ANNUAL ACCOUNTS; WE GIVE BRIEFINGS - WE ACTUALLY GIVE A QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT TO LEGCO ON THE AIRPORT CORE PROGRAMME. SO THERE IS NOTHING HIDDEN THERE, IT IS ENTIRELY TRANSPARENT AND IF THEY WANT TO KNOW MORE, THEN WE WILL TELL THEM MORE. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

D-G OF TRADE LEAVES FOR APEC MEETING IN JAKARTA

* * * * *

HONG KONG DELEGATES WILL BE DISCUSSING WITH THEIR COUNTERPARTS FROM THE OTHER 17 MEMBER ECONOMIES OF THE ASIA PACIFIC ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION (APEC) WAYS TO FURTHER LIBERALISE AND FACILITATE TRADE IN THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION.

THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRADE, MR TONY MILLER, SAID THIS TODAY (SUNDAY) AS HE LEFT FOR THE FOURTH SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING OF THE APEC TO BE HELD FROM NOVEMBER 8 TO 10 IN JAKARTA, INDONESIA.

"WE SHALL BE EXPLORING IN GREATER DEPTH A NUMBER OF SPECIFIC FACILITATION MEASURES, INCLUDING THE NON-BINDING INVESTMENT CODE, THE ELECTRONIC TARIFF DATABASE, WORK ON STANDARDS AND CONFORMANCE ISSUES, PROJECTS RELATING TO SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES, AND MANY MORE," HE SAID.

"PRIOR TO THE MEETING OF SENIOR OFFICIALS, EXPERTS WILL MEET TO DISCUSS MATTERS CONCERNING CUSTOMS PROCEDURES, INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES, STANDARDS AND CONFORMANCE AND TARIFF DATABASE.

"THERE WILL ALSO BE A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INVESTMENT. ITS PRINCIPAL TASK IS TO IDENTIFY THE WORK PROGRAMME FOR 1995."

FOLLOWING THE SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING, MR MILLER WILL ACCOMPANY THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR CHAU TAK-HAY, TO THE SIXTH APEC MINISTERIAL MEETING TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 11 AND 12.

HE WILL THEN ACCOMPANY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, SIR HAMISH MACLEOD, TO THE APEC ECONOMIC LEADERS MEETING TO BE HELD IN BOGOR ON NOVEMBER 15.

MEMBERS OF THE HONG KONG DELEGATION COMPRISE OFFICIALS FROM THE TRADE AND INDUSTRY BRANCH, FINANCIAL SERVICES BRANCH, ECONOMIC SERVICES BRANCH, INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT, CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT AND THE TRADE DEPARTMENT.

MEMBER ECONOMIES OF THE APEC ARE AUSTRALIA, BRUNEI DARUSSALAM, CANADA, THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, HONG KONG, INDONESIA, JAPAN, THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, MALAYSIA, MEXICO, NEW ZEALAND, PAPUA NEW GUINEA, THE PHILIPPINES, SINGAPORE, CHINESE TAIPEI, THAILAND AND THE UNITED STATES. CHILE WILL JOIN AS A NEW MEMBER AT THE MINISTERIAL MEETING.

- - - - 0 - - - -

GOVERNMENT TO IMPROVE FAMILIES AND CHILDREN SERVICES

* * * * *

THE GOVERNMENT, TO COMPLEMENT THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE FAMILY (IYF), WILL PUT IN ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO IMPROVE BOTH THE QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF WELFARE SERVICES FOR FAMILY AND CHILDREN.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY, MRS ANSON CHAN, WHEN SHE OFFICIATED AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE "FAMILY TOGETHERNESS DAY" AT VICTORIA PARK THIS (SUNDAY) AFTERNOON.

/"WE WOULD

"WE WOULD AIM TO ESTABLISH A BETTER NETWORK OF SUCH SERVICES AND TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATE SUPPORT SERVICES FOR NEEDY FAMILIES.

"OUR PLANS INCLUDE SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASING THE NUMBER OF FAMILY CASE-WORKERS, CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS, HOME HELPERS AND FAMILY AIDES. MORE PLACES IN FOSTER CARE SERVICE AND SMALL GROUP HOMES, AS WELL AS ADDITIONAL RESIDENTIAL CARE STAFF FOR CHILDREN AND CHILD CARE CENTRE FACILITIES WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED.

"THIS YEAR ALONE HAS SEEN THE INTRODUCTION OF A NEW RANGE OF SERVICES, SUCH AS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FAMILY CARE DEMONSTRATION AND RESOURCE CENTRE, AND THE 19 FAMILY ACTIVITY AND RESOURCE CENTRE," MRS CHAN SAID.

APART FROM PUTTING IN MORE RESOURCES, THE CHIEF SECRETARY SAID THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT AND OTHER NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS SENT STAFF, TO ATTEND BOTH LOCAL AND OVERSEAS CONFERENCES AND COURSES, WHERE EXPERIENCE WAS EXCHANGED AND NEW KNOWLEDGE ACQUIRED TO HELP UPGRADE THE QUALITY OF FAMILY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES IN HONG KONG.

"THE 'FAMILY TOGETHERNESS DAY' IS A TERRITORY-WIDE EVENT TO MARK THE 1994 INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE FAMILY, THE PURPOSE OF WHICH IS TO REMIND US OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE FAMILY, AND TO ENCOURAGE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN FAMILY MEMBERS IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH A HARMONIOUS FAMILY RELATIONSHIP.

"SINCE THE UNITED NATIONS PROCLAIMED 1994 AS THE IYF, THERE HAS BEEN STRONG SUPPORT FROM VARIOUS SECTORS OF OUR COMMUNITY.

"THE CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE ON THE IYF WAS SET UP IN MAY 1993 TO PLAN AND ORGANISE VARIOUS ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE THE IYF. 'FAMILY AND COMMUNITY: UNITY, HARMONY, DEVELOPMENT' IS CHOSEN AS THE MAIN THEME OF IYF, AND THE SLOGAN 'LOVE: FAMILY AND ME' IS USED TO AROUSE PUBLIC CONCERN," SHE SAID.

MRS CHAN SAID OVER THE PAST YEAR, THE CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE HAD ACTIVELY PUT ACROSS THE MESSAGE OF IYF TO THE COMMUNITY THROUGH THE MASS MEDIA AND VARIOUS MEANS OF PUBLICITY.

"ACTIVITIES IN THE FORM OF GAMES, COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS SUCH AS THE 'FAMILY TOGETHERNESS DAY' ARE ORGANISED TO ENLIST GREATER PUBLIC SUPPORT.

"I UNDERSTAND THAT THE CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE WILL PUBLISH A SOUVENIR BROCHURE ON IYF. IT WILL CONTAIN A REPORT OF THE IYF ACTIVITIES. FAMILY PROBLEMS IN HONG KONG WILL ALSO BE EXPLORED IN THE BROCHURE," SHE SAID.

"ALTHOUGH 1994 IS DRAWING TO A CLOSE, THE SPIRIT OF THE IYF SHOULD BE SUSTAINED. IYF DOES NOT MERELY AIM AT AROUSING OUR CONCERN FOR THE FAMILY, IT IS ALSO HOPED THAT PEOPLE FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE WILL BE ENCOURAGED TO HELP DISSEMINATE THE MESSAGE THROUGH VARIOUS ACTIVITIES.

"I STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT HARMONY IN THE FAMILY IS A PREREQUISITE TO STABILITY AND UNITY IN THE COMMUNITY. I HOPE YOU WILL ALL START WITH CARING FOR YOUR OWN FAMILY, AS AN EFFORT TO CREATE A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR HONG KONG," SHE ADDED.

THE "FAMILY TOGETHERNESS DAY" IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE ON THE IYF, THE COMMITTEE OF FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN AND RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG. ACTIVITIES INCLUDE A FAMILY TELEMATCH, AN EXHIBITION AND GAMES STALLS.

ALSO PRESENT WERE THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR IAN STRACHAN, THE DIRECTOR OF THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE, MR HUI YIN-FAT, AND THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF BROADCASTING, MISS MARIA WAN.

- - - - 0 - - - -

LAND GRANT FOR NEW HOSPITAL

* * * * *

THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL HAS AGREED THAT A SITE AT NAM FUNG ROAD, WONG CHUK HANG, BE GRANTED BY PRIVATE TREATY TO THE HONG KONG CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL HOSPITAL FOUNDATION LIMITED (CIHF) FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A PRIVATE HOSPITAL AND TECHNOLOGY EXCHANGE CENTRE ON CONDITION THAT CIHF HAS FINANCIAL CAPABILITY TO IMPLEMENT THE PROJECT.

CIHF IS A NON-PROFIT-MAKING LIMITED COMPANY INCORPORATED IN HONG KONG IN JUNE 1992.

ITS OBJECTIVES ARE TO ESTABLISH AND OPERATE NON-PROFIT-MAKING PRIVATE HOSPITALS IN HONG KONG; TO CARRY OUT RESEARCH IN MEDICINE, TREATMENT OF DISEASES AND MEDICAL PROCEDURES; AND TO TRAIN SURGEONS, NURSES, TECHNOLOGISTS AND TECHNICIANS IN EVERY BRANCH OF MEDICINE.

THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT COMPRISES TWO PHASES. PHASE I WILL BE A 280-BED HOSPITAL BUILT AND ACCREDITED TO NORTH AMERICAN HOSPITAL STANDARDS, AS WELL AS MEETING LOCAL STANDARDS.

IT WILL BE OPERATED AS A TERTIARY REFERRAL CENTRE, WHERE LOCAL DOCTORS CAN REFER THEIR PATIENTS FOR OUT-PATIENT CARE, DAY SURGERY AND IN-PATIENT SURGERY IN ALL MAJOR MEDICAL SPECIALTIES. PHASE I WILL HAVE STAFF OF 682.

PHASE II, COMPRISING A FURTHER 220 BEDS, IS TO BE BUILT SUBJECT TO THE AGREEMENT OF THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE TO AN ASSESSMENT OF THE GROWTH IN DEMAND FOR TERTIARY CARE WITHIN 24 MONTHS OF PHASE I OPENING.

ON FULL DEVELOPMENT, THE HOSPITAL WILL HANDLE 30,000 IN-PATIENT ADMISSIONS, 5,000 DAY SURGERY CASES AND 150,000 OUT-PATIENT CONSULTATIONS PER YEAR.

- - - - 0 - - - -

ED STAFF RECOGNISED FOR GOOD CUSTOMER SERVICE

* * * * *

THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MISS ELAINE CHUNG, RECENTLY PRESENTED STAFF INCENTIVE AWARDS TO THREE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT STAFF FOR THEIR EXCELLENT CUSTOMER SERVICE.

THE THREE WINNERS ARE MR LEE YIK-LOONG, AN ASSISTANT MASTER OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION SECTION, MISS NG WAI-KOU, A CLERICAL OFFICER OF THE BELILIOS PUBLIC SCHOOL, AND MR TSE YUE-LEUNG, A WORKMAN OF THE ISLAND ROAD GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL.

THE AWARDS COMPRISED A MERITORIOUS CERTIFICATE AND A WATCH EMBOSSED WITH THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT LOGO.

THE STAFF INCENTIVE AWARD SCHEME WHICH IS WIDELY SUPPORTED BY THE STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED SINCE 1993.

SUPERVISORS AND THEIR SUB-ORDINATES ARE OF THE OPINION THAT THE SCHEME HELPS TO PROMOTE THE GOVERNOR'S CALL FOR A CLIENT-BASED CULTURE IN SERVING THE COMMUNITY AND TO BOOST THEIR MORALE.

IN PRESENTING THE AWARDS, MISS CHUNG COMPLIMENTED THE WINNERS FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE AND EXTRA EFFORT TO HELP STUDENTS AND PARENTS, SAYING THAT THEY WERE ROLE MODELS OF HELPFUL AND COURTEOUS SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC.

ALL THREE RECIPIENTS SAID THEIR COLLEAGUES WERE ALSO HELPFUL AND COURTEOUS IN PROVIDING CUSTOMER SERVICE.

MR LEE YIK-LOONG, A TEACHER IN THE RESOURCE HELP SERVICE OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION SECTION, WAS COMMENDED FOR HIS WILLINGNESS AND EXTRA EFFORT TO HELP THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

MISS NG WAI-KAU HAS BEEN WORKING WITH THE BELILIOS PUBLIC SCHOOL AS A CLERK FOR MORE THAN 20 YEARS.

SHE WAS NOMINATED FOR HER KNOWLEDGE OF WORK AND EXTRA EFFORT TO IMPROVE THE WORKING ENVIRONMENT AND THE RECEPTION AREA FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS.

SHE WAS COMPLIMENTED FOR HER READINESS TO UPDATE HER KNOWLEDGE OF WORK THROUGH THE OFFICE MANAGEMENT TRAINING ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

KNOWN TO ALL AS UNCLE LEUNG, MR TSE YUE-LEUNG, A WORKMAN OF THE ISLAND ROAD GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL, WAS NOMINATED FOR HIS EFFORT IN PROVIDING A BETTER LEARNING ENVIRONMENT FOR THE STUDENTS.

ANOTHER WINNER, MRS CHUNG LO YOK-HO, WAS A FORMER ASSISTANT MASTER OF THE FUK WING STREET GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL. AS MRS CHUNG HAS ALREADY LEFT SERVICE FOR EMIGRATION, SHE COULD NOT ATTEND THE PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY.

SHE WAS HIGHLY PRAISED BY HER SCHOOL HEAD FOR HER EFFORT IN PROVIDING GUIDANCE TO THE STUDENTS AND MAINTAINING A CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PARENTS TO ENSURE THAT THEY HAD A THOROUGH UNDERSTANDING OF THE SCHOOL POLICIES.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1994

- 6 -

TRAINING COURSE FOR HEALTH WORKERS

* * * * *

THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT (SWD) IS INVITING SERVING HEALTH WORKERS WHO HAVE RECEIVED MEDICAL OR NURSING TRAINING OUTSIDE HONG KONG TO APPLY FOR A LOCAL TRAINING COURSE.

THE 11-WEEK TRAINING COURSE, WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO START ON JANUARY 9 NEXT YEAR, AIMS AT IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF SERVICE OF PERSONNEL IN PRIVATE HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SWD SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

"UNDER THE SUBSIDIARY REGULATION OF THE RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES (ELDERLY PERSONS) ORDINANCE WHICH HAS BEEN ENACTED LAST MONTH (OCTOBER), ALL HEALTH WORKERS ARE REQUIRED, AMONG OTHER THINGS, TO COMPLETE TRAINING APPROVED BY THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE BEFORE BEING QUALIFIED FOR REGISTRATION," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE TRAINING COURSE FOR HEALTH WORKERS IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE SWD AND THE COLLEGE OF NURSING, HONG KONG. A TOTAL OF EIGHT TRAINING COURSES HAVE BEEN ORGANISED SINCE 1989.

"THE COURSE INCLUDES BASIC SKILLS IN RENDERING HEALTH CARE TO THE ELDERLY, WITH EMPHASIS ON THE PSYCHOLOGICAL AND PHYSICAL CHANGES OF THE ELDERLY," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

APPLICANTS ARE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE DOCUMENTARY PROOF OF THEIR QUALIFICATION. PRIORITY WILL BE GIVEN TO THOSE RECOMMENDED BY THE ELDERLY HOMES IN WHICH THEY ARE SERVING.

COPIES OF INVITATION LETTERS HAVE ALREADY BEEN SENT TO PRIVATE HOME OPERATORS, INVITING THEM TO RECOMMEND SUITABLE CANDIDATES FOR THE COURSE.

INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE INTERESTED TO TAKE UP A JOB IN THESE HOMES MAY ALSO FORWARD THEIR APPLICATIONS TO SWD'S REGISTRATION OFFICE OF PRIVATE HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY ON THE SEVENTH FLOOR, WU CHUNG HOUSE, 213 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, WAN CHAI.

THE COURSE FEE IS \$1,600 PER TRAINEE.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATION IS NOVEMBER 21 (MONDAY). ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL 834 7414 OR 892 5195.

- - - - 0 - - - -