



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SATURDAY, JULY 2, 1977

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SPECIAL ACCESS FACILITIES FOR THE DISABLED
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A SPECIAL COUNTER WILL BE SET UP ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE NEW GENERAL POST OFFICE IN CONNAUGHT PLACE FOR THE USE OF DISABLED PEOPLE ON WHEELCHAIRS, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY.

THE SPECIAL COUNTER WILL BE INDICATED BY ONE OF THE INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED SYMBOLS SHOWING A WHEELCHAIR, AND A RAMP WILL BE BUILT AT THE ENTRANCE TO PROVIDE EASY ACCESS, HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THE POSTMASTER GENERAL HAS AGREED TO PROVIDE THIS FACILITY FOR THE DISABLED FOLLOWING A SURVEY CONDUCTED EARLIER THIS YEAR BY THE ACCESS COMMITTEE FOR THE PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY DISABLED.

THE ACCESS COMMITTEE WAS FORMED LAST YEAR BY THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE TO LOOK INTO WAYS OF IMPROVING TRANSPORT AND ACCESS FOR THE DISABLED TO BUILDINGS AND OTHER FACILITIES WITHIN THE COMMUNITY.

ITS MEMBERS INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE SOCIAL SERVICES AND ENVIRONMENT BRANCHES OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT.

AMONG OTHER PLACES LOOKED AT IN THE SURVEY WERE THE HUNG HOM RAILWAY STATION, THE CITY HALL AND THE OCEAN TERMINAL.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED: +THE K.C.R. IS EXAMINING THE FEASIBILITY OF RAMPING PART OF THE KERB OUTSIDE THE MAIN ENTRANCE OF THE HUNG HOM STATION, MODIFYING THE TOILETS THERE TO MAKE THEM ACCESSIBLE TO THE WHEELCHAIR DISABLED AND PUTTING UP SIGNS TO INDICATE DIRECTIONS TO THE LIFTS.

+IT HAS ALREADY PUT UP SIGNS AT ALL STATIONS INVITING DISABLED PASSENGERS, OR THEIR ATTENDANTS, TO CONTACT THE STATIONMASTER FOR ASSISTANCE IN BOARDING, LEAVING AND FINDING A SEAT ON THE TRAIN.+

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE ACCESS COMMITTEE WILL CONTINUE WITH SUCH SURVEYS IN FUTURE AND, AMONG OTHER PLACES, INTEND TO LOOK AT FACILITIES AT THE POLYTECHNIC, THE NEW ABERDEEN SWIMMING POOL AND THE OCEAN PARK.

+AS FAR AS SWIMMING POOLS ARE CONCERNED, THE POOL COMPLEX AT ABERDEEN HAD BEEN SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED FOR THE HANDICAPPED WITH A WHEELCHAIR SIGN AT THE ENTRANCE. SIMILARLY, THE TAI WAN POOL COMPLEX AT HUNG HOM WHICH IS DUE TO OPEN IN AUGUST THIS YEAR HAS ALSO BEEN BUILT WITH THE DISABLED IN MIND.

+OTHER WORK WHICH THE ACCESS COMMITTEE IS PROMOTING IS THE ADOPTION OF THE CODE OF PRACTICE AMONG PRIVATE DEVELOPERS TO INCORPORATE DESIGNS OR FACILITIES TO ASSIST THE DISABLED. IN TAKING THE LEAD, THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT HAS ALREADY ACCEPTED THE APPLICATION OF THE CODE WHICH WILL BE ADOPTED IN ALL FUTURE GOVERNMENT AND SUBSIDISED BUILDINGS.

+THE COMMITTEE IS ALSO ENCOURAGING THE USE WHEREVER NECESSARY OF SIGNS INDICATING FACILITIES AVAILABLE TO THE DISABLED,+ HE SAID.

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THRIVING CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN HONG KONG
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THE CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN HONG KONG IS THRIVING, WELL LED AND NOT LACKING IN IMAGINATION, THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, MR. E.H. NICHOLS SAID THIS EVENING.

MR. NICHOLS, WHO IS ALSO THE REGISTRAR OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES, WAS SPEAKING AT A CELEBRATION DINNER HELD TO MARK THE 55TH INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE DAY TODAY.

IN A BRIEF PROGRESS REPORT ON THE LOCAL MOVEMENT, MR. NICHOLS NOTED THAT THE PAST YEAR HAD BEEN A RECORD OF PROGRESS FOR BOTH THE FARMERS' AND FISHERMEN'S SOCIETIES IN TERMS OF SURPLUSES, INCREASE OF SAVINGS, PRICES OF PRODUCE AND BUSINESS.

THE PRODUCTION OF VEGETABLES INCREASED BY 15.6 PER CENT DURING 1976-77 AMOUNTING TO AN ESTIMATED VALUE OF \$281 MILLION, HE SAID. OVER 78 PER CENT OF THE LOCAL VEGETABLES SOLD THROUGH THE VEGETABLE MARKETING ORGANISATION CAME FROM CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

+THE LARGEST SOCIETY HAD A TURNOVER OF OVER \$9 MILLION. THIS ACHIEVEMENT WAS, TO A GREAT EXTENT, DUE TO THE BETTER MANAGEMENT BOTH ON FARMS AND IN THE INDIVIDUAL SOCIETIES,+ HE ADDED.

MR. NICHOLS POINTED OUT THAT MEMBERS OF PIG RAISING CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES TOO HAD A GOOD YEAR, WITH GENERALLY HIGH PRICES FOR PIGS AND LOWER PRICES FOR FEEDING STUFF.

+A SURVEY IN MARCH, 1977 SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 5 PER CENT OR 21,500 HEAD IN THE LOCAL PIG POPULATION AS AGAINST THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD OF 1976,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID THIS PROGRESS REPRESENTED THE DILIGENT WORK OF PIG FARMERS AND GOOD MANAGEMENT OF MANY INDIVIDUAL SOCIETIES THROUGH WHICH MEMBERS WERE ABLE TO OBTAIN BOTH FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, ALTHOUGH SEVERAL SOCIETIES WERE BEDEVILLED BY INACTIVE MEMBERS.

AS FOR THE FISHING INDUSTRY, MR. NICHOLS NOTED THAT LANDINGS THROUGH THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION INCREASED 3 PER CENT BY WEIGHT AND 11 PER CENT IN VALUE LAST YEAR.

+NEW BOATS BUILT AND LICENSED NUMBERED 673, 9 PER CENT FEWER THAN IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR BUT 17 AND 19 PER CENT UP IN TERMS OF CAPACITY AND ENGINE POWER, INDICATING THAT THE TREND FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF LARGER, MORE HIGHLY POWERED CRAFT HAS CONTINUED,+ HE SAID.

MR. NICHOLS ALSO RECORDED THAT A TOTAL OF OVER \$8 MILLION WAS LOANED TO FARMERS TO MEET CREDIT NEEDS, FROM THE KADOORIE AGRICULTURAL AID LOAN FUND AND THE J.E. JOSEPH TRUST FUND DURING 1976-77, WHILE SOME 9,602 FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION LOANS HAD BEEN ISSUED SINCE 1946 AMOUNTING TO \$59.5 MILLION.

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PLASTICS INDUSTRY MANPOWER SURVEY

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A SURVEY OF HONG KONG'S PLASTICS INDUSTRY TO COLLECT UP-TO-DATE MANPOWER INFORMATION OF THE INDUSTRY WILL START ON MONDAY (JULY 4) AND LAST UNTIL JULY 25.

THE SURVEY, IS THE FOURTH IN THE SERIES BEING CONDUCTED BY THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD OF THE HONG KONG TRAINING COUNCIL, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT AND CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

QUESTIONNAIRES AND EXPLANATORY LETTERS WERE SENT OUT THREE WEEKS AGO TO ABOUT 450 ESTABLISHMENTS SELECTED BY RANDOM SAMPLING.

OFFICERS OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT WILL VISIT EACH OF THESE ESTABLISHMENTS TO ASSIST EMPLOYERS IN COMPLETING THE QUESTIONNAIRES.

THE INFORMATION WHICH EMPLOYERS ARE ASKED TO SUPPLY INCLUDES THE NUMBER OF WORKERS AT PRESENT EMPLOYED AND THE NUMBER UNDER TRAINING, THE NUMBER OF EXISTING VACANCIES, AND A FORECAST OF ADDITIONAL NUMBER OF WORKERS IN THE NEXT 12 MONTHS.

REFERRING TO THE SURVEY, MR. DENNIS TING, CHAIRMAN OF THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD, SAID +THE INFORMATION COLLECTED WILL BE HANDLED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND WILL BE PUBLISHED ONLY IN THE FORM OF STATISTICAL SUMMARIES WITHOUT REFERENCE TO ANY INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENT.

+THE INFORMATION REQUIRED IS OF VITAL IMPORTANCE FOR FORMULATING TRAINING PLANS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY, THEREFORE CO-OPERATION OF THOSE ESTABLISHMENTS CONCERNED IS SINCERELY SOLICITED TO MAKE THE SURVEY AGAIN A SUCCESSFUL ONE.+

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ART AND CRAFT IN SCHOOL AS A NATURAL MEANS OF EXPRESSION

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THE TEACHER SHOULD MOVE GRADUALLY AWAY FROM ART AND CRAFT AS A SUBJECT AND BEGIN TO REGARD IT AS A +NATURAL MEANS OF EXPRESSION, AS COMMUNICATION AND AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE SCHOOL DAY.+

THIS APPEAL CAME FROM THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS), MR. AUTHUR BROWN, AT THE CLOSE OF A SEMINAR AT THE HILTON HOTEL ON +APPRECIATION AND EVALUATION OF PUPILS' WORKS IN ART AND CRAFT IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS+ THIS AFTERNOON.

+THE TEACHER NEEDS TO MAKE AVAILABLE A WIDE RANGE OF MATERIALS, AND HELP CHILDREN DISCOVER WHAT THEY CAN DO WITH VARIOUS MEDIA AND TEACH THEM BASIC TECHNIQUES WHEN SUCH TECHNIQUES ARE REQUIRED,+ MR. BROWN SAID.

HE COMMENDED THE TEACHERS FROM BOTH GOVERNMENT AND AIDED SECTORS FOR THEIR OVERWHELMING RESPONSE TO THE SEMINAR - MORE THAN 850 APPLICATIONS WERE RECEIVED FOR THE 114 PLACES AVAILABLE.

THE SEMINAR WAS ORGANISED BY NON-GRADUATE TEACHERS OF GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS AND WAS ASSISTED BY THE ADVISORY INSPECTORATE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

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ANTI-RABIES INOCULATION

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THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT WILL CONDUCT THE FINAL ROUND OF ITS ANTI-RABIES INOCULATION OPERATION FOR HONG KONG ISLAND AT CHAI WAN, SHEK O AND STANLEY NEXT MONDAY AND TUESDAY, JULY 4 AND JULY 5.

SINCE THE CURRENT RABIES AWARENESS CAMPAIGN STARTED IN MAY THIS YEAR, THE DOG INOCULATION TEAMS OF THE DEPARTMENT HAVE CARRIED OUT A TOTAL OF SIX DISTRICT INOCULATION CAMPAIGNS COVERING SHAU KEI WAN, QUARRY BAY, NORTH POINT, TAI HANG, CAUSEWAY BAY, HAPPY VALLEY, WAN CHAI, CENTRAL, MID-LEVELS, SHEUNG WAN, WESTERN, KENNEDY TOWN, ABERDEEN AND WONG CHUK HANG.

IN THE LAST TWO MONTHS ENDING JUNE 30, ABOUT 12,000 DOGS HAVE BEEN IMMUNISED AGAINST RABIES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT DISCLOSED TODAY.

HE SAID, +AFTER THE IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME IS COMPLETED ON HONG KONG ISLAND, WE WILL MOVE ON TO KOWLOON, THEN TO THE NEW TERRITORIES AND THE OUTLYING ISLANDS.+

DURING THE TWO-DAY OPERATION AT CHAI WAN, SHEK O AND STANLEY, THREE TEMPORARY DOG INOCULATION AND LICENSING CENTRES WILL BE SET UP IN THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

1. JUNCTION OF CHAI WAN ROAD AND WAN TSUI ROAD (OPPOSITE CHAI WAN BUS TERMINUS)=
2. SHEK O BUS TERMINUS=
3. JUNCTION OF STANLEY MARKET ROAD AND STANLEY NEW STREET (NEAR STANLEY BUS TERMINUS).

THESE CENTRES WILL BE OPEN FROM 9 A.M. TO 5 P.M. DAILY. DOG OWNERS IN THESE AREAS ARE ADVISED TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO GET THEIR PETS INOCULATED AGAINST RABIES.

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