



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

MONDAY, MAY 31, 1982

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
SOCIAL SECURITY ALLOWANCES TO GO UP FROM TOMORROW .....	1
GOVERNOR TO VISIT KWUN TONG DISTRICT .....	2
JUBILEE BECOMES OPEN REFUGEE CENTRE .....	2
GRANTS FOR MATRIC COURSES AVAILABLE .....	3
MORE SPORTS AND RECREATION FACILITIES FOR TUEN MUN .....	4
SURVEY OF AUTOMOBILE REPAIRS INDUSTRY .....	5
TAX EXEMPTION ON INTEREST EARNED .....	5
TENDERS CALLED FOR SALE OF LIGHT REFRESHMENTS .....	6
WATER FIGURES .....	6

SOCIAL SECURITY ALLOWANCES TO GO UP FROM TOMORROW  
\* \* \* \*

PAYMENT RATES FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE, OLD AGE AND DISABILITY ALLOWANCES WILL GO UP FROM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO HELP RECIPIENTS KEEP ABREAST WITH IMPROVED STANDARDS OF LIVING.

THE 29 PER CENT INCREASE WAS ANNOUNCED IN MID-MARCH BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

OTHER IMPROVEMENTS INCLUDE THE RAISING OF THE SAVINGS LIMIT UNDER THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SCHEME TO RECOGNISE THE INCREASE IN PRICES SINCE THE LAST REVISION TWO YEARS AGO.

THE NEW RATES FOR THESE MONTHLY ALLOWANCES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

FOR A SINGLE PERSON	\$450
FOR A FAMILY:	
FIRST TO THIRD ELIGIBLE MEMBER	\$325
FOURTH TO SIXTH ELIGIBLE MEMBER	\$280
SEVENTH AND ADDITIONAL ELIGIBLE MEMBER THEREAFTER	\$215
OLD AGE SUPPLEMENT (FOR RECIPIENT AGED 60 AND ABOVE)	\$225
DISABILITY SUPPLEMENT (FOR PARTIALLY DISABLED RECIPIENT)	\$225
LONG-TERM SUPPLEMENT (FOR THOSE RECEIVING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FOR 12 MONTHS OR MORE)	
(A) SINGLE PERSON	\$570 (PER YEAR)
(B) FAMILY	\$1 140 (PER YEAR)

SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE

OLD AGE ALLOWANCE	\$225
DISABILITY ALLOWANCE	\$450

THE SWD NOW HANDLES ABOUT 46 200 PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CASES, 173 000 OLD AGE ALLOWANCE CASES AND 31 900 DISABILITY ALLOWANCE CASES.

+THE INCREASE IS EXPECTED TO COST THE GOVERNMENT AN ADDITIONAL \$221 MILLION FOR A FULL YEAR,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

THE SAVINGS LIMIT UNDER THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SCHEME WILL BE INCREASED FROM THE PRESENT \$4 500 TO \$5 700 FOR A SINGLE PERSON, AND FROM \$3 000 TO \$3 800 FOR A PERSON IN A FAMILY.

THE LEVEL OF DISREGARDED EARNINGS, WHICH IS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE AN INCENTIVE TO WORK, IS ALSO TO GO UP BY 70 PER CENT. THIS MEANS THAT THE FIRST \$85 AND 50 PER CENT OF THE NEXT \$340 WILL BE DISREGARDED, THUS ALLOWING MAXIMUM DISREGARDED EARNINGS OF \$225 AS AGAINST THE PRESENT MAXIMUM OF \$150 A MONTH.

UNDER THE NEW RATES, AN ELIGIBLE FOUR-MEMBER FAMILY WOULD RECEIVE \$1 255 A MONTH, AS AGAINST \$965 THEY WOULD GET UNDER THE OLD RATES. WITH RENT, SUPPLEMENTS AND OTHER ESSENTIAL EXPENSES PROVIDED SEPARATELY, A FOUR-MEMBER HOUSEHOLD ON PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CAN RECEIVE AN AVERAGE OF ABOUT \$1 670 A MONTH.

MONDAY, MAY 31, 1982

- 2 -

GOVERNOR TO VISIT KWUN TONG DISTRICT  
\* \* \*

THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, AND LADY YOUDE WILL VISIT KWUN TONG DISTRICT TOMORROW (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON TO SEE RELIEF WORK FOR VICTIMS OF THE RECENT RAINSTORMS.

THEY WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE SECRETARY FOR HOUSING, MR DONALD LIAO, AND THE REGIONAL SECRETARY (HONG KONG AND KOWLOON), MR GRAHAM BARNES.

SIR EDWARD AND LADY YOUDE WILL ALSO VISIT SHUN LEE ESTATE AND SHUN CHI COURT HOME OWNERSHIP ESTATE.

PRESS TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED. IT WILL LEAVE AT 2 PM TOMORROW FROM THE HOUSING AUTHORITY HEADQUARTERS BUILDING IN HO MAN TIN, KOWLOON. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WISHING TO MAKE USE OF THIS FACILITY ARE REQUESTED TO ARRIVE EARLY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

JUBILEE BECOMES OPEN REFUGEE CENTRE  
\* \* \* \*

THE PRESENT JUBILEE REFUGEE RECEPTION CENTRE IN SHAM SHUI PO WILL BECOME AN OPEN CENTRE FOR VIETNAMESE REFUGEES FROM WEDNESDAY (JUNE 2), A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY.

IT WILL BE MANAGED ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES BY A VOLUNTARY AGENCY, CARITAS-HONG KONG.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE CENTRE WILL BE USED TO ACCOMMODATE THE 1 000-ODD REFUGEES NOW TEMPORARILY ACCOMMODATED AT THE OLD ARGYLE STREET NO. 4 CENTRE, AND THEIR TRANSFER IS DUE TO BE COMPLETED BY FRIDAY.

JUBILEE WILL ALSO ACCOMMODATE SEVERAL HUNDRED OTHER REFUGEES WHO HAVE RECENTLY ARRIVED IN HONG KONG AND WHO ARE JUST COMPLETING THEIR STAY IN THE RECEPTION CENTRE.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID JUBILEE IS BECOMING AN OPEN CENTRE BECAUSE OF THE NEED TO EASE MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS AND CONDITIONS IN THE KAI TAK NORTH CENTRE.

HE EXPLAINED THAT AFTER LONG DISCUSSIONS, THE GOVERNMENT AND THE UNHCR HAD AGREED THAT IN PRESENT DAY CIRCUMSTANCES, KAI TAK NORTH WAS TOO LARGE TO BE MANAGED EFFECTIVELY AS A SINGLE CENTRE, AND THE RECENT DISTURBANCES IN EARLY MAY HAD CONFIRMED THIS VIEW.

+THE CENTRE AT JUBILEE HAS BEEN USED AS A RECEPTION FACILITY FOR NEW ARRIVALS, BUT THE CURRENT LOW RATE OF ARRIVALS HAS RESULTED IN ITS UNDER-UTILISATION.

+THE GOVERNMENT AND UNHCR HAVE THEREFORE AGREED TO CONVERT IT INTO AN OPEN CENTRE AGAIN TO HOLD THE REFUGEES NOW TEMPORARILY ACCOMMODATED AT THE ARGYLE STREET NO. 4 CENTRE, + HE SAID.

THE ARGYLE STREET NO. 3 CENTRE WILL AT THE SAME TIME CEASE TO BE A DEPARTURE CENTRE FOR THOSE REFUGEES LEAVING FOR RESETTLEMENT OVERSEAS, AND WILL BECOME THE MAIN RECEPTION CENTRE FOR NEW ARRIVALS FOR THE TIME BEING, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

REFUGEES ABOUT TO LEAVE HONG KONG ON DEPARTURE FOR OVERSEAS RESETTLEMENT WILL CONTINUE TO BE ACCOMMODATED AT THE OTHER DEPARTURE CENTRE AT MA TAU WAI, HE ADDED.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THESE MOVES WOULD ALSO FACILITATE THE RELEASE OF THE LAND AT ARGYLE STREET NO. 4 CENTRE, AND OF PART OF THE LAND AT ARGYLE STREET NO. 3 CENTRE, FOR REDEVELOPMENT TO CONSTRUCT A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT MEDICAL PROJECTS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

#### GRANTS FOR MATRIC COURSES AVAILABLE

\* \* \* \*

APPLICATION FORMS FOR GOVERNMENT MAINTENANCE GRANTS WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO STUDENTS AIMING TO PURSUE FULL-TIME MATRICULATION COURSES.

NEEDY STUDENTS NOW STUDYING IN FORM/MIDDLE 5 OR FORM 6 WHO WISH TO APPLY FOR THE GRANT CAN OBTAIN THE FORMS FROM THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S OVERSEAS STUDENTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS SECTION, 77 LEIGHTON ROAD, ROOM 1522, LEIGHTON CENTRE, 15TH FLOOR, HONG KONG.

THE GRANT AMOUNTS TO ABOUT \$500 PER ANNUM PER STUDENT, AND AIMS TO HELP NEEDY STUDENTS WHO WISH TO CONTINUE WITH THEIR ADVANCED LEVEL OR HIGHER LEVEL EXAMINATIONS STUDIES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID.

FOR STUDENTS NOW STUDYING IN FORM/MIDDLE 5, THE FORMS MUST BE RETURNED THROUGH HEADS OF SCHOOLS TO THE SECRETARY, MAINTENANCE GRANTS COMMITTEE, NOT LATER THAN 10 DAYS AFTER THE PUBLICATION OF THE CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION RESULTS.

STUDENTS IN FORM 6 AND PROMOTING TO FORM 7 MUST RETURN THE APPLICATION FORMS THROUGH HEADS OF SCHOOLS TO THE SECRETARY NOT LATER THAN JULY 24.

+GRANTS ARE AWARDED ON A YEARLY BASIS AND RENEWAL IS NOT AUTOMATIC. IF A RECIPIENT IN FORM 6 WISHES TO BE CONSIDERED FOR A GRANT ON PROMOTION TO FORM 7, HE MUST APPLY AGAIN,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

STUDENTS IN FORM 6 WHO ARE NOT RECEIVING GRANTS IN THE CURRENT ACADEMIC YEAR ARE ALSO ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR GRANTS TO ENABLE THEM TO COMPLETE THE ADVANCED LEVEL EXAMINATION COURSE IN 1982/83, HE SAID.

GRANTS WILL BE PAID THROUGH HEADS OF SCHOOLS AT THE END OF EACH MONTH IN ARREARS FOR 10 MONTHS IN THE YEAR, AND THERE WILL BE NO PAYMENTS FOR JULY AND AUGUST.

- - - - 0 - - - -

MONDAY, MAY 31, 1982

- 4 -

MORE SPORTS AND RECREATION FACILITIES FOR TUEN MUN

\* \* \* \* \*

THE GOVERNMENT IS FULLY AWARE OF THE NEED TO PROVIDE, AMONG OTHER THINGS, SPORTS AND RECREATION FACILITIES IN TUEN MUN WHERE THE POPULATION IS RAPIDLY INCREASING, THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR NEW TERRITORIES, MR IAN MACPHERSON, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF THE TUEN MUN SPORTS ASSOCIATION 20TH TERM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, MR MACPHERSON DISCLOSED THAT A SERIES OF SUCH PROJECTS HAD BEEN STARTED IN COLLABORATION WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.

+THE FIRST OF THESE PROJECTS IS THE YAN OI TONG COMMUNITY AND INDOOR SPORTS CENTRE WHICH WILL BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF THIS YEAR,+ HE SAID.

+A SWIMMING POOL TO BE BUILT BY THE YAN OI TONG WITH DONATION FROM THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB WILL BE COMPLETED IN 1983.

+PHASE I OF THE TUEN MUN CIVIC AND CULTURAL COMPLEX WHICH WILL INCLUDE A MULTI-PURPOSE AUDITORIUM FOR 1 400 SPECTATORS IS PROGRAMMED FOR COMPLETION IN 1984/85.

+APART FROM THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES, THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD HAS ALSO ALLOCATED MORE THAN \$1.5 MILLION THIS YEAR FOR SPORTS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES TO BE ORGANISED BY LOCAL ORGANISATIONS.+

AT TODAY'S CEREMONY, 40 EXECUTIVE MEMBERS WERE INAUGURATED FOR A ONE-YEAR TERM OF OFFICE.

THE ASSOCIATION WAS FOUNDED 46 YEARS AGO TO PROMOTE SPORTS AND RECREATION ACTIVITIES FOR THE RURAL COMMUNITY AND WAS FORMALLY REGISTERED IN 1962 TO KEEP IN PACE WITH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

+OVER THE YEARS, THE ASSOCIATION HAS BEEN VERY ACTIVE IN PROMOTING SPORT AND HAS SUCCESSFULLY ORGANISED NUMEROUS SPORTING COMPETITIONS IN THE DISTRICT,+ MR MACPHERSON SAID.

HE ALSO EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION TO ALL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS, ESPECIALLY THE TUEN MUN SPORTS ASSOCIATION, FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS MAKING TUEN MUN A HEALTHY AND BALANCED COMMUNITY.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE INAUGURATION WERE THE FOUNDER AND PERMANENT PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION, MR CHAN YAT-SUN; THE PRESIDENT, MR LAU WONG-FAT; AND THE CHAIRMAN, MR TANG TUNG-CHIU.

- - - - 0 - - - -

MONDAY, MAY 31, 1982

- 5 -

### SURVEY OF AUTOMOBILE REPAIRS INDUSTRY

\* \* \*

A MAJOR SURVEY OF HONG KONG'S AUTOMOBILE REPAIRS AND SERVICING INDUSTRY BEGINS TODAY TO COLLECT UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ON MANPOWER SITUATION AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS.

THE SURVEY IS BEING CONDUCTED BY THE AUTOMOBILE REPAIRS AND SERVICING INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINING DEPARTMENT AND THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT. IT WILL BE COMPLETED ON JUNE 26.

QUESTIONNAIRES AND EXPLANATORY DOCUMENTS WERE SENT OUT TWO WEEKS AGO TO ESTABLISHMENTS COVERED IN THE SURVEY ASKING EMPLOYERS TO SUPPLY INFORMATION ON THE NUMBER OF WORKERS EMPLOYED, THE NUMBER OF WORKERS UNDER TRAINING, THE NUMBER OF EXISTING VACANCIES, AND A FORECAST OF ADDITIONAL WORKERS IN THE NEXT 12 MONTHS.

ASSISTANT CENSUS AND SURVEY OFFICERS WILL VISIT EACH ESTABLISHMENT TO BE SURVEYED AND ASSIST EMPLOYERS IN COMPLETING THE QUESTIONNAIRE.

AS THE INFORMATION TO BE COLLECTED WILL BE IMPORTANT FOR FORMULATING MANPOWER TRAINING PLANS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE INDUSTRY, IT IS HOPED THAT THOSE ESTABLISHMENTS COVERED IN THE SURVEY WILL COOPERATE BY SUPPLYING ACCURATE INFORMATION.

THE INFORMATION COLLECTED WILL BE HANDLED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND PUBLISHED ONLY IN THE FORM OF STATISTICAL SUMMARIES WITHOUT REFERENCE TO ANY INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENT.

- - - - 0 - - - -

### TAX EXEMPTION ON INTEREST EARNED

\* \* \* \* \*

INTEREST PAYABLE BY LICENSED BANKS, BY CERTAIN PUBLIC UTILITIES AND BY THE GOVERNMENT AT RATES OF UP TO 9 PER CENT PER ANNUM WILL BE EXEMPT FROM INTEREST TAX FROM TODAY (MONDAY), A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED.

HE SAID THIS REPRESENTED A REDUCTION OF 1 PER CENT IN THE EXEMPTION LIMIT, AND FOLLOWED THE ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF BANKS ON FRIDAY THAT THE RATES OF INTEREST PAYABLE ON SAVINGS ACCOUNTS WOULD BE REDUCED TO 9 PER CENT WITH EFFECT FROM TODAY.

A NOTICE SIGNED BY THE ACTING FINANCIAL SECRETARY UNDER SECTION 28 (1) OF THE INLAND REVENUE ORDINANCE IS PUBLISHED IN AN EXTRAORDINARY GAZETTE TODAY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

MONDAY, MAY 31, 1982

- 6 -

TENDERS CALLED FOR SALE OF LIGHT REFRESHMENTS

\* \* \* \* \*

TENDERS ARE NOW BEING INVITED FOR OPERATING LIGHT REFRESHMENT STANDS AT TRIO BEACH IN SAI KUNG AND AT TAI PO KAU PARK IN TAI PO.

SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS CAN START THEIR BUSINESS ON JULY 8, SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

THE TRIO BEACH CONTRACT WILL RUN OUT ON NOVEMBER 30, 1984 WHILE THE TAI PO KAU PARK LEASE WILL LAST UNTIL JULY 7, 1985, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

TENDER FORMS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE NTSD HEADQUARTERS ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF AUSTIN CENTRE, 19-23 AUSTIN AVENUE, TSIM SHA TSUI. COMPLETED TENDER FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED BEFORE JUNE 24.

FOR ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT THE RECREATION AND AMENITIES SECTION OF NTSD ON TELEPHONE 3-678715.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WATER FIGURES

\* \* \*

STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 48.8 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 282.075 MILLION CUBIC METRES, EQUIVALENT TO 206 DAYS' CONSUMPTION.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 226.044 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 39.1 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

- - - - 0 - - - -