



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

MONDAY, MARCH 20, 1978

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GOVERNOR TO VISIT DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARDS IN THE
NEW TERRITORIES

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, WILL START A ROUND OF VISITS TO THE NEWLY-CREATED DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARDS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES TOMORROW (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON.

SIR MURRAY, WHO WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR. DAVID AKERS-JONES, WILL MEET MEMBERS OF THE TSUEN WAN AND TUEN MUN DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARDS AND DISCUSS THEIR PLANS AND PROBLEMS.

SIR MURRAY WILL ARRIVE AT YEUNG UK SPORTS GROUND IN TSUEN WAN AT 2.25 P.M. HE WILL MEET MEMBERS OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE AT 2.45 P.M.

THE GOVERNOR WILL LEAVE TSUEN WAN AT 3.30 P.M. AND CONTINUE HIS VISIT IN TUEN MUN.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE GOVERNOR'S VISIT TO THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD TOMORROW (TUESDAY). TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED. IT WILL LEAVE FROM BEHIND THE TSIM SHA TSUI POST OFFICE FOR TSUEN WAN AT 1.30 P.M. SHARP.

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS HAVE ALSO BEEN MADE FOR MEMBERS OF THE PRESS TO INTERVIEW A SENIOR OFFICER OF TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE ON THE VISIT AFTER THE GOVERNOR'S MEETING WITH THE DISTRICT'S ADVISORY BOARD.

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HONG KONG NEEDS COMPETENT TECHNICIANS AND CRAFTSMEN
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INDUSTRIAL DIVERSIFICATION AND THE MOVE TOWARDS MAKING HIGHER QUALITY PRODUCTS FOR HONG KONG WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO REALISE WITHOUT COMPETENT TECHNICIANS AND CRAFTSMEN, MR. I.T. TSANG, SENIOR EDUCATION OFFICER (TECHNICAL), SAID TODAY AT THE LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF KWUN TONG.

HE SUGGESTED THAT A SOUND SYSTEM OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION WITH A CONTINUED ELEVATION OF THE STATUS OF TECHNICIANS AND CRAFTSMEN MIGHT ATTRACT MORE ABLE STUDENTS INTO TECHNICAL INSTITUTIONS.

MR. TSANG MADE THESE REMARKS AS HE FEARED THAT TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN THE NEAR FUTURE WOULD NOT BE ATTRACTING YOUNG MEN OF THE RIGHT CALIBRE AT THE LOWER LEVEL COURSES.

HE SAID THAT MOST PEOPLE IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES STILL HAD A MUCH GREATER URGE TO BECOME WHITE-COLLAR WORKERS BECAUSE OF HIGHER STATUS AND BETTER PROMOTION PROSPECTS.

HONG KONG, MR. TSANG SAID, HAD A VERY GOOD EMPLOYMENT RECORD AND FURTHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATES OF CRAFT COURSES.

DESPITE THIS AND THE INCREASED NUMBER OF PLACES PROVIDED IN THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES, THE NUMBER OF APPLICANTS FOR FULL-TIME BASIC CRAFT COURSES HAD REMAINED CONSTANT OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS. ALSO THE QUALITIES OF THE APPLICANTS WERE FOUND TO BE DECLINING, HE SAID.

MR. TSANG THEN OUTLINED GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS IN THE PROVISION OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION. THESE INCLUDED: OPENING A FIFTH TECHNICAL INSTITUTE IN KOWLOON TONG IN SEPTEMBER 1979, WHICH WOULD ALSO PROVIDE COURSES SUITABLE FOR PHYSICALLY-HANDICAPPED STUDENTS= BUILDING THREE NEW PRE-VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS AT SAU MAU PING, SHA TIN AND CHAI WAN BEFORE 1980= AND EXPANDING THE STUDENT POPULATION OF THE EXISTING FOUR TECHNICAL INSTITUTES AND THE 10 PRE-VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS.

HE STATED THAT EACH TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, WHEN FULLY DEVELOPED, COULD ACCOMMODATE ABOUT 1,000 FULL-TIME, 2,800 PART-TIME DAY-RELEASE AND ABOUT 4,000 EVENING STUDENTS WITH THE FURTHER USE OF OUTSIDE CENTRES IN SCHOOLS. THE ENROLMENT IN TECHNICAL INSTITUTES FOR THE CURRENT ACADEMIC YEAR STOOD AT ABOUT 2,200 FOR FULL-TIME, 4,600 FOR PART-TIME DAY-RELEASE, AND 12,500 FOR EVENING COURSES.

IN TERMS OF OUTPUT, MR. TSANG SAID THAT THERE WOULD BE A 50 PER CENT INCREASE THIS YEAR OVER LAST YEAR IN THE INSTITUTES. IN 1977, THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES HAD AN OUTPUT OF 1,002 GRADUATES FROM THEIR FULL-TIME COURSES= 633 OF THEM WERE AT THE BASIC CRAFT LEVEL.

/MR. TSANG SAID

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MR. TSANG SAID PAST EMPLOYMENT SURVEYS REVEALED THAT 83 PER CENT OF THE GRADUATES OF TECHNICAL INSTITUTES WERE EMPLOYED WITHIN THREE MONTHS AFTER GRADUATION, 13 PER CENT PURSUED FURTHER STUDIES AND 4 PER CENT REMAINED UNEMPLOYED.

MOST GRADUATES WHO WERE EMPLOYED PURSUED FURTHER PART-TIME STUDIES RELATED TO THEIR EMPLOYMENT. ABOUT THREE-QUARTERS OF THE BASIC CRAFT GRADUATES RETURNED TO TECHNICAL INSTITUTES FOR PART-TIME STUDIES.

MR. TSANG ALSO SAID THAT THE AVERAGE MONTHLY SALARY FOR FULL-TIME GRADUATES FROM TECHNICIAN COURSES WAS ABOUT \$1,000 AND THAT FOR GRADUATES FROM FULL-TIME BASIC CRAFT COURSES DURING THEIR THREE-YEAR APPRENTICESHIP WAS ABOUT \$500, ABOUT \$150 LESS THAN THAT EARNED BY COMMERCIAL GRADUATES. ON COMPLETION OF THE CRAFT APPRENTICESHIP, THEIR MONTHLY INCOME VARIED FROM TRADE TO TRADE AND RANGED FROM \$850 TO \$1,600.

THE SURVEYS ALSO REVEALED THAT 50 PER CENT OF THE GRADUATES EMPLOYED, PARTICULARLY AT THE CRAFT LEVEL, WERE NOT SATISFIED WITH THEIR PRESENT EMPLOYMENT. THE GRADUATES FELT THAT THEIR PAY WAS LOW AND PROMOTION PROSPECTS WERE NOT BRIGHT.

AS REGARDS PRE-VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS, MR. TSANG SAID THAT THE DEMAND FOR THESE SCHOOL PLACES IN THE PAST WAS ENCOURAGING. FIRST YEAR PLACES WERE ALWAYS HEAVILY OVER-SUBSCRIBED. THESE SCHOOLS HAD AN ANNUAL INTAKE OF ABOUT 3,000 STUDENTS AND A CURRENT OUTPUT OF ABOUT 1,000 GRADUATES. ABOUT 60 PER CENT OF THESE GRADUATES JOINED INDUSTRY AS APPRENTICES. WHEN THE THREE NEW PRE-VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS WOULD BE COMPLETED BY 1980, THE ANNUAL OUTPUT WOULD GO UP TO 3,500 GRADUATES.

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EASTER HOLIDAY TRAIN SCHEDULE

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THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT PASSENGERS TRAVELLING BEYOND LO WU DURING THE EASTER AND CHING MING HOLIDAYS WILL BE ABLE TO BUY ORDINARY CLASS PERIOD RETURN TICKETS AT KOWLOON STATION FROM WEDNESDAY (MARCH 22) UNTIL APRIL 9.

THE FARE OF AN ORDINARY CLASS RETURN TICKET IS \$3.80 AND EACH SUCH TICKET WILL BE VALID FOR THE JOURNEY FROM KOWLOON TO LO WU ON THE DATE OF ISSUE AND FOR A RETURN JOURNEY ON ANY DAY FROM THE DATE OF ISSUE UNTIL APRIL 9.

THE KCR ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT FIVE SPECIAL UP-TRAINS AND FIVE DOWN-TRAINS WILL BE OPERATED DURING THE EASTER HOLIDAYS FROM MARCH 24 TO 27.

THE FIVE UP-TRAINS WILL LEAVE KOWLOON STATION AT 9.56 A.M., 10.50 A.M., 12.35 P.M., 1.35 P.M. AND 3.39 P.M.

THESE TRAINS, ALONG WITH ALL REGULAR TRAINS FROM KOWLOON STATION, WILL NOT STOP FOR PASSENGERS AT MONG KOK STATION BEFORE 1 P.M. DURING THESE FOUR DAYS.

AS FOR THE DOWN-TRAINS, TWO WILL DEPART FROM LO WU AT 11.34 A.M. AND 12.58 P.M. WHILE THE OTHER THREE WILL LEAVE FAN LING AT 2.14 P.M., 2.42 P.M. AND 4.52 P.M.

THESE TIME SCHEDULES, HOWEVER, ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.

OWING TO THE EXTENSION OF THREE NORTHBOUND TRAINS FROM TAI PO MARKET TO FAN LING OR LO WU, THE SCHEDULED TRAINS LEAVING TAI PO MARKET FOR KOWLOON AT 10.55 A.M., 11.47 A.M. AND 1.29 P.M. WILL NOT RUN ON THESE FOUR DAYS.

THE TRAINS FROM KOWLOON TO THE NEW TERRITORIES BETWEEN 8 A.M. AND 1 P.M. AND THE TRAINS BACK TO KOWLOON BETWEEN 3 P.M. AND 7 P.M. WILL PROBABLY BE FULL. THEREFORE TICKETS FOR TRAINS TO KOWLOON WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT MONG KOK STATION DURING THE EASTER HOLIDAYS.

FURTHER SPECIAL TRAINS WILL BE RUN IN THE LATE EVENINGS IF THERE IS A PUBLIC DEMAND.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:-

PRIZES FOR BEST INDUSTRIAL SAFETY POSTER AND SLOGAN
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WINNERS OF THE TENTH INDUSTRIAL SAFETY POSTER AND SLOGAN COMPETITION ORGANISED JOINTLY BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT AND THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL RECEIVE THEIR PRIZES ON WEDNESDAY (MARCH 22) AFTERNOON.

MR. J.C.A. HAMMOND, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR (DESIGNATE), WILL PRESENT THE PRIZES AT THE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY TRAINING CENTRE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, KOWLOON.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE AT 3.30 P.M.

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GOVERNMENT CLINICS EASTER HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS
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THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT SIX GOVERNMENT OUT-PATIENT CLINICS WILL REMAIN OPEN DURING THE EASTER HOLIDAYS (FROM MARCH 24 - 27) FROM 9 A.M. TO 1 P.M.

THESE CLINICS ARE VIOLET PEEL POLYCLINIC AND THE SHAU KEI WAN ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB CLINIC ON HONG KONG ISLAND= KWUN TONG ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB CLINIC, YAU MA TEI ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB CLINIC AND THE ROBERT BLACK HEALTH CENTRE IN KOWLOON, AND THE LADY TRENCH POLYCLINIC IN TSUEN WAN.

ALL GOVERNMENT OUT-PATIENT CLINICS AND EVENING CLINICS OTHER THAN THOSE LISTED WILL BE CLOSED DURING THE EASTER HOLIDAY PERIOD.

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