



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SATURDAY, JUNE 19, 1976

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EVENING METHADONE DETOXIFICATION CLINICS

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THE DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, DR. G.H. CHOA, TODAY ANNOUNCED THAT 12 EVENING METHADONE DETOXIFICATION CLINICS WOULD BE OPENED ON WEDNESDAY (JUNE 23) TO COPE WITH AN EXPECTED INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF DRUG ADDICTS SEEKING TREATMENT.

THE OPENING OF THESE EVENING CLINICS FOLLOWS THAT OF THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT'S FIRST FULL-TIME METHADONE DETOXIFICATION CENTRE AT VIOLET PEEL CLINIC, WHICH CAME INTO OPERATION AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MONTH.

THE 12 NEW CLINICS -- TWO ON THE ISLAND, NINE IN KOWLOON AND ONE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES -- WOULD OPERATE FROM 6 P.M. TO 10 P.M. DAILY.

DR. CHOA SAID THERE WERE TWO MAIN REASONS FOR CHOOSING THE EVENING HOURS.

HE EXPLAINED THAT PAST EXPERIENCE WITH THE METHADONE MAINTENANCE SCHEME HAD SHOWN THAT A LARGE NUMBER OF THE METHADONE USERS CAME FOR THEIR DAILY DOSAGE AFTER 6 P.M.

+THEY MIGHT FIND IT MORE CONVENIENT TO ATTEND THE CLINICS EITHER BEFORE OR AFTER WORK,+ HE ADDED.

DR. CHOA SAID ANOTHER REASON WAS THAT BY OPERATING IN THE EVENING THE DEPARTMENT COULD MAKE USE OF EXISTING POLYCLINICS OR HEALTH CENTRES, LOCATED IN ALMOST EVERY DISTRICT, WHICH ARE CLOSED AFTER 5 P.M.

IT WOULD ALSO ENABLE GOVERNMENT DOCTORS TO BE EMPLOYED FOR THIS PROJECT WITHOUT INTERFERING WITH THEIR NORMAL DUTIES, HE SAID.

THE 12 CENTRES ARE LOCATED IN AREAS WHERE THE ADDICT POPULATION IS THOUGHT TO BE COMPARATIVELY LARGE. THEY ARE IN EXISTING GOVERNMENT CLINICS AT CHAI WAN AND WAN CHAI ON THE ISLAND, CHEUNG SHA WAN, KWUN TONG, KOWLOON CITY, TSZ WAN SHAN, MONG KOK, SHAM SHUI PO, SHEK KIP MEI, WANG TAU HOM AND YAU MA TEI IN KOWLOON AND NORTH KWAI CHUNG IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

EACH OF THESE CENTRES WILL BE MANNED BY A DOCTOR AND THREE AUXILIARY MEDICAL SERVICES MEMBERS COMPRISING ONE ASSISTANT NURSE AND TWO ASSISTANT DRESSERS.

DR. CHOA ESTIMATED THAT EACH CENTRE, AT FULL STRETCH, WOULD BE ABLE TO COPE WITH ABOUT 150 ATTENDANCES EACH EVENING.

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OF THE VIOLET PEEL METHADONE DETOXIFICATION CENTRE, THE DIRECTOR SAID SOME 140 HAD BEEN REGISTERED FOR TREATMENT UP TO JUNE 18, WITH AN ATTENDANCE RATE OF 70 PER CENT, WHICH IS CONSIDERED TO BE SATISFACTORY.

+ALTHOUGH THE NUMBER IS NOT SIGNIFICANTLY LARGE, THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT THE FACILITIES ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL TIMES TO THOSE WHO MAY REQUIRE TREATMENT IN ONE FORM OR ANOTHER,+ HE SAID.

DR. CHOA SAID HE REGARDED THE THREE-YEAR METHADONE MAINTENANCE TRIAL SCHEME AS SUCCESSFUL.

SOME 7,100 HAVE NOW BEEN REGISTERED WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S FOUR METHADONE MAINTENANCE CENTRES. THE AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE AT THESE CENTRES IS 2,362, AN INCREASE OF 22 PER CENT OVER TWO MONTHS AGO AND 54 PER CENT AS COMPARED WITH DECEMBER LAST YEAR.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

A PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AT THE GIS THEATRE ON MONDAY, JUNE 21, AT 3.30 P.M. WHEN DETAILS OF THE NEW METHADONE DETOXIFICATION CENTRES WILL BE GIVEN. DR. CHOA, TOGETHER WITH THE COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR. E.I. LEE, AND THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (NARCOTICS), DR. K.F. CHAN, WILL BE PRESENT TO ANSWER QUESTIONS.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE SIR ALBERT RODRIGUES, CHAIRMAN OF ACAN, AND REV. K.L. STUMPF, CHAIRMAN OF ACAN'S PREVENTIVE EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY SUB-COMMITTEE.

YOU ARE WELCOME TO SEND A REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER TO COVER THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

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60 BUILDING PLANS APPROVED IN MAY  
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A TOTAL OF 60 NEW BUILDING PLANS WERE APPROVED LAST MONTH BY THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, COMPARED WITH 56 IN APRIL THIS YEAR AND 42 DURING MAY LAST YEAR.

OF THE NEW PLANS APPROVED, 21 WERE FOR BUILDINGS ON HONG KONG ISLAND, 15 FOR KOWLOON AND 24 FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THEY INCLUDED PLANS FOR A NUMBER OF HIGH-RISE APARTMENT/COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS OF 24 OR MORE STOREYS AT CHAI WAN ROAD, JAFFE ROAD, CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST, QUARRY BAY, AND CASTLE PEAK ROAD IN TSUEN WAN.

BUILDING PLANS FOR THREE THREE-STOREY BLOCKS FOR THE POLYTECHNIC AT HUNG HOM RECLAMATION OFF CHATHAM ROAD, A THREE-STOREY CARPARK BUILDING AT TAIKOO DOCKYARD AND 14 CHALETTS FOR HOLIDAY RESORTS (H.K.) LTD. AT YI LONG WAN, LANTAU ISLAND, WERE ALSO APPROVED.

THE TOTAL DECLARED COST OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED DURING MAY THIS YEAR AMOUNTED TO \$69.9 MILLION, COMPARED WITH \$75.6 MILLION FOR APRIL THIS YEAR.

THE TOTAL USABLE FLOOR AREA OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED DURING THE MONTH AMOUNTED TO 724,931 SQ. FT., COMPRISING 359,227 SQ. FT. OF DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA AND 365,704 SQ. FT. OF NON-DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA.

DURING THE MONTH, THE B.O.O. GAVE CONSENT FOR WORK TO START ON 67 NEW BUILDING PROJECTS, INCLUDING ONE COMMERCIAL/APARTMENT BUILDING WITH 744 FLATS AT THE JUNCTION OF CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST AND DES VOEUX ROAD, A SWIMMING POOL AT REPULSE BAY ROAD AND ONE SCHOOL BUILDING AT TAI O, LANTAU ISLAND.

FIFTY COMPLETED BUILDINGS WERE CERTIFIED FOR OCCUPATION DURING THE MONTH. THESE INCLUDED ONE RECREATION PLAYGROUND AND SWIMMING POOL AT POKFULAM ROAD, ONE SCHOOL BUILDING AT TIN KWONG ROAD AND A NUMBER OF HIGH-RISE COMMERCIAL/APARTMENT BUILDINGS OF 20 OR MORE STOREYS AT MEI FOO SUN CHUEN, LAI CHI KOK, DES VOUEX ROAD WEST, ELECTRIC ROAD AND HENNESSY ROAD.

THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE ALSO CONSENTED TO THE DEMOLITION OF 35 BUILDINGS.

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TRAINING COURSES FOR KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS

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PRACTISING KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS WHO ARE PROFESSIONALLY UNTRAINED WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO ATTAIN QUALIFIED STATUS BY ATTENDING A TWO-YEAR PART-TIME IN-SERVICE TRAINING COURSE ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

THE COURSE, WHICH IS FREE, WILL BEGIN IN OCTOBER WHEN 50 CANDIDATES WILL BE ADMITTED. THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION WILL BE CANTONESE. LECTURES WILL BE GIVEN AT THE COLLEGES OF EDUCATION OR OTHER GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS FROM 4 P.M. TO 7 P.M. TWO OR THREE TIMES A WEEK DURING TERM TIME. DEMONSTRATION AND CRITICISM LESSONS WILL BE CONDUCTED ONCE A WEEK FOR 20 WEEKS IN THE MORNING IN KINDERGARTENS.

APPLICANTS MUST HAVE A HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION OR ITS EQUIVALENT, SPEAK CANTONESE FLUENTLY AND HAVE A GOOD CHARACTER AND SUITABLE PERSONALITY. THEY MUST ALSO BE FULL-TIME PERMITTED TEACHERS IN KINDERGARTENS WITH A MINIMUM OF TWO YEARS' SUITABLE TEACHING EXPERIENCE IN REGISTERED SCHOOLS IN HONG KONG.

IN A CIRCULAR TO HEADS OF ALL KINDERGARTENS AND SCHOOLS WITH KINDERGARTEN CLASSES, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS), MR. ARTHUR BROWN, INVITED APPLICATIONS FROM UNTRAINED PRACTISING KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS.

APPLICATION FORMS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS IN LEE GARDENS, CAUSEWAY BAY, OR FROM THE DEPARTMENT'S KOWLOON SUB-OFFICE ON THE 6TH FLOOR OF THE KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN NATHAN ROAD.

ALL APPLICATIONS TOGETHER WITH PHOTOSTAT COPIES OF TEACHING PERMITS ISSUED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE SENT TO THE ORGANISER OF THE COURSE OF TRAINING FOR KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS, MISS FRANCES HON, BY JULY 31, 1976.

SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL BE NOTIFIED BY THE END OF SEPTEMBER.

EACH CANDIDATE MUST ATTEND AT LEAST 80 PER CENT OF ALL LECTURES BEFORE SITTING FOR THE FINAL EXAMINATION.

ON PASSING THE EXAMINATION, THE TEACHERS WILL BECOME +QUALIFIED KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS+.

THEY WILL THEN BE ELIGIBLE FOR ADMISSION TO THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S REGISTER OF TEACHERS IF THEY HAVE FIVE YEARS' TEACHING EXPERIENCE IN HONG KONG SCHOOLS.

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WELFARE PREMISES IN WO CHE ESTATE  
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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT IS NOW INVITING VOLUNTARY WELFARE ORGANISATIONS TO APPLY FOR PREMISES RESERVED FOR WELFARE PURPOSES IN THE WO CHE ESTATE IN SHATIN.

THE ESTATE IS BUILT IN TWO PHASES AND ON FULL DEVELOPMENT, IT WILL HAVE A POPULATION OF 40,900.

IN PHASE I, WHICH IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY DECEMBER 1977, A UNIT INTENDED FOR A NURSERY IS AVAILABLE ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF BLOCK 3 OF THE ESTATE. ANOTHER TWO PREMISES SUITABLE FOR A CHILDREN'S CENTRE AND A YOUTH CENTRE ARE RESERVED ON THE SECOND AND THIRD FLOORS OF THE CENTRAL COMPLEX.

IN PHASE II, SCHEDULED TO BE COMPLETED BY DECEMBER 1978, A UNIT IS RESERVED ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF BLOCK 6 FOR A NURSERY WHILE ANOTHER TWO INTENDED FOR A CHILDREN'S CENTRE AND A YOUTH CENTRE ARE AVAILABLE ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF BLOCK 7 AND 8 RESPECTIVELY.

RENT IS CHARGED ON THE BASIS OF 50 CENTS PER SQUARE FOOT, EXCLUSIVE OF RATES.

APPLICATION FORMS AND FURTHER INFORMATION ARE OBTAINABLE FROM THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT UNIT OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT IN LEE GARDENS, HONG KONG.

APPLICATION SHOULD BE MADE BEFORE JULY 23, 1976 AND INCLUDE THE NATURE OF THE PROJECT, THE AMOUNT OF SPACE REQUIRED, THE NUMBER AND LEVEL OF STAFF AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES.

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60 DISABLED PLACED TO WORK IN MAY  
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THE NUMBER OF DISABLED PEOPLE PLACED TO WORK LAST MONTH BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S JOB PLACEMENT UNIT REACHED A RECORD HEIGHT OF 60, AN INCREASE OF 24 AS COMPARED WITH THE DECEMBER FIGURE OF 36 WHICH WAS THE HIGHEST IN 1975.

AMONG THE DISABLED EMPLOYED, 32 WERE CRIPPLED, 10 BLIND, EIGHT DEAF, FIVE FORMER MENTAL PATIENTS, FOUR MENTALLY-RETARDED AND ONE EX-T.B. PATIENT.

WITH REGARD TO THEIR SALARY, 33 WERE EMPLOYED ON DAILY RATE RANGING FROM \$14 TO \$25 WHILE FOUR WERE PAID ON PIECE-RATE BASIS. THE SALARY OF THE OTHERS AVERAGED \$550 A MONTH.

THE MAJORITY OF THE DISABLED PEOPLE PLACED TO WORK WAS ABSORBED BY THE ELECTRONICS AND CAMERA-MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES AS ASSEMBLERS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SAID: +IT IS ENCOURAGING TO KNOW THAT THE JOB PLACEMENT UNIT HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN ITS FIRST ATTEMPT TO PLACE THE DISABLED IN THE CAMERA-MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY WHICH REQUIRES FINE FINGER DEXTERITY AND PRECISE EYE-HAND CO-ORDINATION.

+IT IS EQUALLY ASSURING TO LEARN THAT EMPLOYERS ARE BECOMING MORE PROGRESSIVE IN ACCEPTING DISABLED WORKERS.+

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