



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1975

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GOVERNMENT RE-EXAMINES LAWS TO CONTROL DRUGS

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THE COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR. E. I. LEE, SAID TODAY THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS UNDER CONSTANT REVIEW NEW INITIATIVES IN LEGISLATION TO TIGHTEN CONTROL OVER DRUGS AND THE ESSENTIAL CONSTITUENTS OF THEIR MANUFACTURE.

SPEAKING AT A LUNCHEON OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG HE SAID THAT THIS YEAR, FOR EXAMPLE, HONG KONG BECAME THE FIRST PLACE IN THE WORLD TO MAKE ACETYLATED SUBSTANCES, WHICH IS USED IN THE CONVERSION OF MORPHINE INTO HEROIN, WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE CRIMINAL LAW, FOR POSSESSION WITHOUT A LICENCE.

THE GOVERNMENT IS ALSO RE-EXAMINING THE PENALTIES PROVIDED BY LAW FOR DRUG OFFENCES TO ENSURE THAT THE POLICE AND THE COURTS HAVE A COMPREHENSIVE RANGE OF OPTIONS WHEN DEALING WITH THE ANTI-SOCIAL ELEMENTS ENGAGED IN TRAFFICKING, ESPECIALLY ON THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL.+

MR. LEE ADDED: +BOTH THE POLICE AND MYSELF WOULD LIKE TO SEE VERY HEAVY FINES IMPOSED ON TRAFFICKERS, IN ADDITION TO VERY LONG PRISON SENTENCES, BOTH OF WHICH ARE PERMITTED UNDER OUR PRESENT LAWS.+

HE PRAISED THE +INTELLIGENCE GATHERING AND STRATEGIC DIRECTION OF HONG KONG'S LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES+ AND SAID THAT IMPROVED LIAISON AND PERSONAL CONTACT BETWEEN THESE OFFICERS AND THE INCREASING SOPHISTICATION OF RESEARCH FACILITIES AND COMMUNICATIONS HAVE PAID OFF IN INCREASED SEIZURES OF DRUGS AND HEROIN FACTORIES.

IN ITS EFFORTS TO REDUCE INTERNAL DEMAND, THE COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS SAID ATTENTION WAS BEING DEVOTED TO THE TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION OF ADDICTS, AND EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY AIMED AT PERSUADING YOUNG PEOPLE PARTICULARLY TO AVOID THE TEMPTATIONS OF GETTING INVOLVED WITH DRUGS.

THE TREATMENT PROGRAMMES RUN BY THE PRISONS DEPARTMENT, AND BY SARDA HAVE ACHIEVED INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION. +BUT WHILE THE TREATMENT OF DRUG ADDICTION AND THE REMOVAL OF THE PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS IS RELATIVELY EASY, THE GREAT PROBLEM THAT STILL CONFRONTS US IS HOW TO REDUCE THE PSYCHOLOGICAL DEPENDENCE ON DRUGS WHICH CAN EXERCISE SO STRONG A HOLD ON ADDICTS.+

TO OVERCOME THIS, NEW APPROACHES ARE BEING PLANNED AND NEXT YEAR THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT WILL OPEN A DETOXIFICATION CENTRE WHICH WILL GIVE ADDICTS AN OPPORTUNITY TO FREE THEMSELVES FROM THEIR PHYSICAL DEPENDENCE WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

MR. LEE SAID CONSIDERATION WAS ALSO BEING GIVEN TO WHETHER A MORE EFFECTIVE AND SATISFACTORY METHOD OF DEALING WITH MINOR DRUG OFFENDERS, OTHER THAN IMPRISONMENT, CAN BE FOUND WHICH WILL GIVE MORE HOPE TO THE OFFENDERS AND MIGHT THEREBY PRODUCE BENEFITS FOR THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE.

IN CONCLUSION, MR. LEE MADE TWO APPEALS - ONE FOR INFORMATION ABOUT PUSHERS, TRAFFICKERS, HEROIN FACTORIES AND DRUG ABUSERS. THE SECOND WAS AN APPEAL TO PEOPLE IN CHARGE OF COMPANY HIRING POLICIES TO CONSIDER EMPLOYING THOSE EX-ADDICTS RECOMMENDED FOR EMPLOYMENT BY THE PRISONS DEPARTMENT, SARDA OR THE DISCHARGED PRISONERS AID SOCIETY.

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NEED TO IMPROVE QUALITY OF PRIMARY EDUCATION STRESSED

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THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (PROFESSIONAL), MR. HO NGA-MING THIS EVENING STRESSED THE NEED TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF PRIMARY EDUCATION.

ADDRESSING THE DINNER MEETING OF THE LIONS CLUB OF HAPPY VALLEY, MR. HO SAID: +ONCE IT IS CONCEDED THAT THE AIM OF EDUCATION SHOULD BE THE FULL DEVELOPMENT OF THE CHILD'S CAPACITIES AND THE ENLARGEMENT AND ORDERING OF HIS EXPERIENCE, IT IS IMPORTANT FOR THE SCHOOLS TO TONE DOWN THE PRESENT EMPHASIS ON THE INSTRUCTIONAL ASPECT OF SCHOOLING.+

MR. HO MENTIONED ABOUT THE MODERN CONCEPT OF A +CHILD-CENTRED EDUCATION+ WHICH DRAWS ATTENTION TO THE NEED TO RECOGNISE INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES, ALLOWS GREATER FREEDOM IN THE CLASSROOM AND ENCOURAGES MORE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION BY PUPILS. +THE ADOPTION OF THIS CONCEPT WOULD GO A LONG WAY TOWARDS RE-VITALIZING PRIMARY EDUCATION,+ HE SAID.

+HERE THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HAS AN IMPORTANT PART TO PLAY.

+WE HAVE MADE A GOOD START IN INITIATING CURRICULUM AND SUBJECT DEVELOPMENT, EXPERIMENTING WITH THE 'ACTIVITY APPROACH', ORGANISING COURSES FOR THE FURTHER TRAINING OF SERVING TEACHERS, TRANSMITTING AND REFINING ETV LESSONS, ISSUING GUIDES AND BULLETINS TO SCHOOLS, AND PERIODICALLY MOUNTING CONFERENCES, SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS.

+NATURALLY, MORE WORK WILL BE DONE TO ENSURE THAT CHANGE CONFORMS TO SOUND WELL-ESTABLISHED PRINCIPLES APPLIED TO THE NEEDS OF LOCAL CONDITIONS,+ THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR SAID.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF PRIMARY EDUCATION, HE SAID, HAD REACHED A STAGE WHERE SUFFICIENT PLACES WERE AVAILABLE IN GOVERNMENT AND AIDED SCHOOLS, TUITION WAS FREE IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR EXCEPT FOR A FEW SCHOOLS, AND A TEXTBOOK AND STATIONERY GRANT WAS ALLOWED FOR NEEDY CHILDREN.

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GOVERNOR TO REVIEW HONG KONG AFFAIRS

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, WILL REVIEW THE AFFAIRS OF HONG KONG TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) IN A MAJOR POLICY SPEECH TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THE PROCEEDINGS WILL START AT 2.30 P.M.

RESIDENTS WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY OF HEARING THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH DIRECT OVER EITHER RADIO HONG KONG OR COMMERCIAL RADIO WHICH WILL BROADCAST THE PROCEEDINGS LIVE.

THE ADDRESS MAY BE HEARD IN CHINESE OVER RHK 1 AND 2 AND OVER COMMERCIAL RADIO CHANNEL ONE, OR IN ENGLISH OVER RHK 3 AND 4.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, SIR DENYS ROBERTS, WILL MOVE A MOTION TO THANK THE GOVERNOR FOR HIS ADDRESS IN THE NEXT SITTING TO BE HELD ON OCTOBER 22.

UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS WILL THEN SPEAK ON THE MOTION ON THAT DAY AND THE FOLLOWING DAY (OCTOBER 23).

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SECONDARY TECHNICAL SCHOOLS
PLAY MAJOR ROLE IN EDUCATION

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HONG KONG CAN NO LONGER AFFORD TO DISCRIMINATE AGAINST TECHNICAL EDUCATION, MR. ANDREW KINGWELL, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (TECHNICAL), SAID TODAY WHEN HE OPENED THE TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE SECOND IN-SERVICE COURSE ON DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY.

+IT IS HEARTENING TO REMEMBER THAT THE 1974 WHITE PAPER STIPULATED THAT THERE SHOULD BE A STRONG PRACTICAL/TECHNICAL ELEMENT IN ALL SECONDARY EDUCATION IN FORM 1 TO 3,+ HE SAID.

+ALL WE NEED IS THE MONEY TO IMPLEMENT THE POLICIES LAID DOWN."

MR. KINGWELL NOTED THAT SECONDARY TECHNICAL SCHOOLS WERE PLAYING AND WOULD CONTINUE TO PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN EDUCATION.

UNFORTUNATELY, HE CONTINUED, SECONDARY TECHNICAL SCHOOLS WERE STILL CONSIDERED A SECOND CHOICE IN THE MINDS OF MANY PARENTS AND CHILDREN.

+THIS REINFORCES PARENTS' INCLINATION TO REGARD PRACTICAL OR TECHNICAL SUBJECTS AS INFERIOR TO ACADEMIC SUBJECTS. THIS ATTITUDE IS NOT CONFINED TO HONG KONG.

+HOWEVER, THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN ECONOMIC TERMS DURING THE POST-WAR PERIOD SUCH AS JAPAN, THE UNITED STATES, SWITZERLAND, WEST GERMANY, ETC., HAVE INVESTED VERY HEAVILY IN TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND FURTHER SOME ARE PREPARED TO BACK THEIR BELIEFS BY APPROPRIATE LEGISLATION,+ MR. KINGWELL POINTED OUT.

THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR SAID THAT WHEN CONSIDERING THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES FOR SECONDARY TECHNICAL SCHOOLS IN HONG KONG, THERE MUST BE A PHILOSOPHY WHICH VALUED EQUALLY BOTH TECHNICAL SKILLS AND SCHOLARSHIP.

+IN THIS WAY BOYS AND GIRLS CAN BE PROVIDED WITH AN INTEGRATED SCHOOL EXPERIENCE. ALL SCHOOLS SHOULD DEVELOP THE MINDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE SO THAT THEY CAN INNOVATE, INVENT AND MAKE THEIR OWN DECISIONS.

+IT IS NECESSARY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO UNDERSTAND AND HAVE SYMPATHY FOR THE TECHNOLOGICAL WORLD IN WHICH THEY ARE LIVING. THIS CAN BE DONE THROUGH A CURRICULUM WHICH INCLUDES THE ARTS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY BROUGHT TOGETHER IN SUCH A WAY THAT THEY CONSTITUTE A UNIFIED EXPERIENCE,+ MR. KINGWELL SAID.

HE APPEALED TO THE TEACHERS ATTENDING THE IN-SERVICE COURSE TO HELP TRANSLATE SUCH A PHILOSOPHY INTO PRACTICE.

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MORE NT VILLAGES TO GET MAINS WATER

MORE VILLAGES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES ARE TO GET MAINS WATER SUPPLIES.

THE SECOND STAGE OF A SCHEME TO PROVIDE MAINS SUPPLY TO VILLAGES IN SHA TIN, TAI PO, TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS SUB-COMMITTEE.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN THE EARLY PART OF NEXT YEAR AND WHEN COMPLETED IN ABOUT 18 MONTHS' TIME, IT WILL SERVE ANOTHER 98 VILLAGES WITH A POPULATION OF ABOUT 92,000.

IT IS ESTIMATED TO COST THE GOVERNMENT \$2 MILLION.

THE FIRST STAGE WAS COMPLETED IN 1973 AT A COST OF \$4.2 MILLION AND IS NOW PROVIDING A POTABLE SUPPLY TO 387 VILLAGES.

COMMENTING ON THE NEW PROJECT, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THERE WAS STILL A GREAT DEMAND FOR THE SUPPLY OF POTABLE WATER IN THE RURAL AREAS AND IT WAS GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO BRING AS MANY VILLAGES AS POSSIBLE INTO THE MAINS SUPPLY SYSTEM.

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NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN TSIM SHA TSUI

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT WITH THE OPENING OF THE NEW CANTON ROAD IN TSIM SHA TSUI, KOWLOON, THE EXISTING OMNIBUS PROHIBITED ZONE ON THE WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF SALISBURY ROAD NEAR THE TSIM SHA TSUI BUS TERMINUS WOULD BE SHORTENED TO IMPROVE LOCAL TRAFFIC CIRCULATION.

FROM 10 A.M. TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY), THE PROHIBITION ON THE WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF SALISBURY ROAD BETWEEN NATHAN ROAD AND NEW CANTON ROAD WILL BE LIFTED.

HOWEVER, WESTBOUND OMNIBUSES WILL STILL BE PROHIBITED FROM ENTERING THE SECTION OF SALISBURY ROAD, WEST OF NEW CANTON ROAD.

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WATER CUT

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WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT WILL BE INTERRUPTED FROM 1 A.M. TO 6 A.M. ON THURSDAY (OCTOBER 9) TO FACILITATE LEAKAGE TEST TO BE CARRIED OUT IN THE AREA.

THE PREMISES AFFECTED ARE BOUNDED BY TAI WO HAU ROAD, KWAI CHUNG ESTATE BLOCKS 3 TO 25.

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CAREERS EXHIBITION IN SHAM SHUI PO

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT WILL STAGE A FOUR-DAY CAREERS EXHIBITION ON ITS MOBILE SHOWCASE FROM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE SHAMSHUIPO AND CHEUNG SHA WAN DISTRICTS.

THE EVENT, THE FIRST OF A SERIES OF +EXHIBITIONS-ON-WHEELS,+ OFFERS INFORMATION AND ADVICE ON HOW BEST TO CHOOSE A CAREER, AND ILLUSTRATES JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN THE COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL AND SERVICE SECTORS FOR SCHOOL LEAVERS.

BESIDES PHOTOGRAPHS AND GRAPHICS, THERE WILL BE A SLIDE SHOW WITH SOUND COMMENTARY ON APPRENTICE TRAINING SCHEMES.

THE MOBILE SHOWCASE, A TRUCK DONATED BY THE ROTARY CLUB OF KOWLOON, HAS BEEN SPECIALLY BUILT AND CAN BE EXTENDED TO PROVIDE ABOUT 500 SQUARE FEET OF STAGE AREA FOR MINIATURE EXHIBITIONS.

THE EXHIBITION WILL BE HELD IN THE COMPOUND OF THE CHEUNG SHA WAN CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL AT 533 FUK WING STREET, SHAMSHUIPO, OPENING FROM 9.30 A.M. TO 5 P.M. DAILY.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

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