



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FUNDING APPROVAL FOR NEW FOUNDATION  
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THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL HAS RECENTLY APPROVED A COMMITMENT OF \$30 MILLION TOWARDS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE QUEEN ELIZABETH FOUNDATION FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED.

AN EQUIVALENT SUM FOR THE FOUNDATION COMES FROM THE PROCEEDS OF THE SALE OF THE 1986 ROYAL VISIT GOLD COIN ISSUE.

THE FOUNDATION, WHEN ESTABLISHED, WILL COMPLEMENT THE GOVERNMENT'S EXISTING PROGRAMME FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED AND WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO IMPROVE CARE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

THE DECISION TO ESTABLISH THE FOUNDATION TOOK INTO ACCOUNT THE NATURE AND PERVASIVENESS OF THE DISABILITY AND THE FACT THAT MENTALLY HANDICAPPED PEOPLE REQUIRE A WIDER RANGE OF SERVICES THAN DO OTHER DISABILITY GROUPS.

EVEN THOUGH A COMPREHENSIVE RANGE OF SERVICES IS BEING PROVIDED BY THE GOVERNMENT AND THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR, THERE ARE STILL SHORTFALLS IN THE VARIOUS STANDARD PROVISIONS OFFERED.

IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE INCOME OF THE FOUNDATION WILL BE SPENT ON FUNDING A RANGE OF ACTIVITIES WHICH WOULD INCLUDE RESEARCH ACTIVITIES ON THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS OF THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED.

THEY WOULD ALSO INCLUDE HOME-BASED OR COMMUNITY-BASED REHABILITATION SERVICES FOR THE MORE SEVERELY HANDICAPPED AND THOSE WITHOUT IMMEDIATE POST-SCHOOL PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES.

THE TRAINING OF REHABILITATION WORKERS AND LAUNCHING OF PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAMMES TO PROMOTE UNDERSTANDING AND POSITIVE ATTITUDES TOWARDS THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED WOULD ALSO PLAY AN INTEGRAL ROLE IN THE PROGRAMME.

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INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY IN HONG KONG  
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HONG KONG IS TO HOST A MAJOR INTERNATIONAL GATHERING NEXT MONTH ON THE PROTECTION OF AN IMPORTANT FORM OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY - INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY.

THE SYMPOSIUM ON INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY AND ECONOMIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT TO TAKE PLACE AT THE PARK LANE HOTEL FROM MARCH 2 TO 4, HAS ALREADY RECEIVED REGISTRATIONS FROM AROUND THE WORLD.

/THE GATHERING .....

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THE GATHERING IS ORGANISED BY THE WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANISATION (WIPO) AND THE JAPANESE PATENT OFFICE, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT.

THE SITING OF THE CONFERENCE IN HONG KONG WAS AN INDICATION OF THE TERRITORY'S INTERNATIONAL STANDING AS A PLACE WHERE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS WERE PROTECTED IN THE MARKETPLACE, SAID MR BERTRAND DE SPEVILLE, WHO IS CO-ORDINATING THE ASSISTANCE BEING GIVEN BY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT.

WIPO IS ONE OF 16 SPECIALISED AGENCIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM OF ORGANISATIONS AND IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY CONSISTS OF TWO MAIN BRANCHES - INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY, CHIEFLY IN INVENTIONS, TRADEMARKS, INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS AND APPELLATIONS OF ORIGIN; AND COPYRIGHT.

THE FIRST DAY OF THE SYMPOSIUM WILL BE DEVOTED TO THE NATIONAL MANAGEMENT OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY SYSTEMS AND THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT.

THE SECOND DAY WILL BE DEVOTED TO THE EFFECTIVE USE OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY BY THE ENTERPRISE SECTOR AND THE LAST DAY WILL DEAL WITH EMERGING AREAS OF IMPORTANCE IN THE FIELD OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, INCLUDING THE PROTECTION AND LICENSING OF COMPUTER PROGRAMMES AND INTEGRATED CIRCUITS AND OF BIOTECHNOLOGY.

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#### LIAISON TEAMS BUSY VISITING FARMS

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THE THREE LIAISON TEAMS SET UP BY THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION TO HELP SMOOTH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL SCHEME HAVE BEEN BUSY.

A TOTAL OF 300 PIG AND POULTRY FARMS HAVE BEEN VISITED SINCE THE TEAMS WERE FORMED IN DECEMBER.

THE DEPUTY REGIONAL SECRETARY, NEW TERRITORIES (SPECIAL DUTIES), MR LEO KWAN, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT IN ADDITION TO LIVESTOCK FARMS IN TOLO AREA, ANGLER'S BEACH AND MUI WO, WHICH WOULD BE PUT UNDER CONTROL IN MID-1988, FARMS IN YUEN LONG AND NORTH DISTRICT HAVE ALSO BEEN VISITED.

THE VISITING PROGRAMME FOR THE LIAISON TEAMS WAS DESIGNED TO ENSURE THAT SMALL, MEDIUM AND LARGE FARMS IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS, INCLUDING REMOTE AREAS, WERE VISITED, MR KWAN SAID.

/LIVESTOCK REARING .....

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LIVESTOCK REARING BODIES WERE ALSO VISITED AND VIEWS WERE EXCHANGED WITH OPERATORS.

DURING EACH VISIT, LIAISON OFFICERS EXPLAINED TO THE FARMS IN DETAIL THE WASTE CONTROL SCHEME, EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE ARRANGEMENTS, SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED BY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND THE AVAILABILITY OF ASSISTANCE, HE SAID.

INFORMATION PAMPHLETS WERE ALSO DISTRIBUTED.

A SERIES OF VISITS TO THE GOVERNMENT'S EXPERIMENTAL FARM AT TA KWU LING AND SEMINARS ON THE WASTE CONTROL SCHEME AND WASTE TREATMENT METHODS HAD BEEN ORGANISED FOR FARMERS, MR KWAN WENT ON.

REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT AND THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT WERE INVITED TO BRIEF THE FARMERS.

MR KWAN ALSO NOTED THAT THE TELEPHONE HOT-LINES, SET UP LAST MONTH IN CONNECTION WITH THE WASTE CONTROL SCHEME, WERE WELL PATRONISED.

THE THREE HOT-LINES - IN THE CNTA HEADQUARTERS, YUEN LONG DISTRICT OFFICE AND NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE - HAD RECEIVED OVER 120 ENQUIRIES.

OF THESE, ABOUT 40 WERE IN RELATION TO THE EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES. OTHER CALLS INCLUDED ENQUIRIES ABOUT DETAILS OF THE CONTROL SCHEME AND IMPLEMENTATION DATES.

THE THREE TELEPHONE HOT-LINES ARE: CNTA HEADQUARTERS, 3-7241771; YUEN LONG LIAISON OFFICE, 0-792261 EXT. 186; AND NORTH LIAISON OFFICE, 0-6754664.

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#### MORE WORKERS TO UNDERGO HEARING TESTS

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MORE THAN 350 FACTORY WORKERS HAVE UNDERGONE AUDIOMETRIC TESTS UNDER THE CURRENT HEARING CONSERVATION PROGRAMME WHICH IS EXPECTED TO COVER ABOUT 600 WORKERS FROM 30 FACTORIES.

THE YEAR-LONG PROGRAMME IS BEING ORGANISED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HONG KONG BY THE HONG KONG FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS, THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY AND THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

IT INVOLVES MEASURING THE HEARING OF WORKERS AS WELL AS NOISE LEVELS IN THE WORKPLACES OF SIX NOISE-PRONE INDUSTRIES.

/OF THE .....

OF THE WORKERS TESTED, 176 WERE FROM THE TEXTILES, 96 FROM THE SHIPBUILDING/SHIP REPAIRING, 43 FROM THE CONSTRUCTION AND 42 FROM THE METAL INDUSTRIES. WORKERS IN THE ELECTRONICS AND PLASTICS INDUSTRIES WILL ALSO BE TESTED.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY) SAID NO SEVERE CASES OR LOSS OF HEARING HAD SO FAR BEEN DETECTED BUT THE FINAL RESULTS WOULD NOT BE KNOWN UNTIL THE PROGRAMME ENDED IN AUGUST THIS YEAR.

HE CALLED ON FACTORY PROPRIETORS AND WORKERS TO TAKE IMMEDIATE STEPS TO MINIMISE THE RISK OF HEARING LOSS DUE TO INDUSTRIAL NOISE.

"IF THE PROPRIETOR OF AN INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKING FINDS THAT THERE MAY BE A PROBLEM IN ANY PART OF HIS WORKPLACE, HE SHOULD TAKE STEPS TO MEASURE THE NOISE LEVEL," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"HE CAN ALSO REQUEST THE FACTORY INSPECTORATE DIVISION OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT FOR ASSISTANCE."

UNDER THE CURRENT HEARING CONSERVATION PROGRAMME, SEVERE CASES OF LOSS OF HEARING DISCOVERED IN THE COURSE OF FACTORY VISITS WILL BE REFERRED TO THE PRINCE OF WALES HOSPITAL FOR ASSESSMENT.

THE COST OF THE PROGRAMME, ESTIMATED AT \$200,000, IS FUNDED BY THE HONG KONG FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS.

THE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH UNIT OF THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY'S DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY MEDICINE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MEASURING THE ACUITY OF WORKERS.

THE FACTORY INSPECTORATE DIVISION IS TO ARRANGE APPROPRIATE INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS FOR THE PROGRAMME, CONDUCT NOISE SURVEYS AND GIVE ADVICE AND SUGGESTIONS TO FACTORY PROPRIETORS TO REDUCE THE NOISE LEVELS IN THEIR WORKPLACES.

AT THE END OF THE PROGRAMME, A REPORT WILL BE COMPILED AND FORWARDED TO THE RELEVANT ORGANISATIONS AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS FOR REFERENCE.

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MORE MADE USE OF CNTA'S PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE

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THE 67 PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRES OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION (CNTA) HANDLED 6,463,000 CASES LAST YEAR, REPRESENTING A 6.1 PER CENT INCREASE OVER THE FIGURE FOR 1986.

A CNTA SPOKESMAN SAID THE 67 CENTRES, LOCATED CONVENIENTLY AT THE 19 DISTRICT OFFICES AND THEIR SUB-OFFICES AS WELL AS AT THE ADMINISTRATION'S HEADQUARTERS IN TSIM SHA TSUI, PROVIDED A WIDE RANGE OF SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC.

/THE SERVICES .....

THE SERVICES AVAILABLE INCLUDED ANSWERING GENERAL ENQUIRIES, ADMINISTERING DECLARATIONS, ADVISING ON SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE GOVERNMENT, HANDLING SIMPLE COMPLAINTS AGAINST GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, RENDERING ASSISTANCE IN SOLVING PERSONAL PROBLEMS AND ARRANGING REFERRALS FOR COMPLICATED CASES WHICH REQUIRED LEGAL AND EXPERT ADVICE, HE SAID.

DURING 1987, THE MOST COMMON ENQUIRIES CONCERNED GOVERNMENT JOB VACANCIES; LOCATIONS, TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND OPENING HOURS OF GOVERNMENT OFFICES; PROCUREMENT OF POSTERS, PAMPHLETS, FORMS AND CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENTS ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS; DECLARATION/OATH/AFFIRMATION; AND ISSUES RELATED TO EMIGRATION AND OVERSEAS VISITS, HE ADDED.

ON THE NUMBER OF DECLARATIONS, OATHS AND AFFIRMATIONS ADMINISTERED BY THE CENTRES, THE SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT THERE WAS A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE OF 46.6 PER CENT OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

OF THE 733,000 CASES HANDLED DURING 1987, 42 PER CENT WERE DECLARATION OF TRUE COPIES OF DOCUMENTS. THE OTHERS WERE MAINLY IN RELATION TO EDUCATION AND EXAMINATIONS, AND APPLICATIONS FOR SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS.

HE SAID UNDER THE FREE LEGAL ADVICE SCHEME, A TOTAL OF 2,945 CASES WERE HANDLED BY THE HONG KONG LAW SOCIETY IN 1987 OF WHICH 2,933 CASES WERE REFERRED TO THE SOCIETY BY CNTA. SOME 273 CASES WERE SUBSEQUENTLY REFERRED TO THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT FOR ASSISTANCE.

DURING THE YEAR, 17,152 PEOPLE APPROACHED THE RENT OFFICERS FROM THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT WHO WERE ON DUTY AT 13 DISTRICT OFFICES - 10 IN THE URBAN AREA AND THREE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES - FOR ADVICE ON RENTAL AND TENANCY PROBLEMS.

APART FROM THE ABOVE SERVICES, THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRES ALSO HELPED TO DISTRIBUTE GOVERNMENT FORMS, LEAFLETS, POSTERS, CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENTS AND OTHER PUBLICITY MATERIALS.

ABOUT 9,763,000 FORMS AND OTHER INFORMATION MATERIALS WERE DISTRIBUTED LAST YEAR, 17.6 PER CENT OF WHICH WERE APPLICATION FORMS FOR GOVERNMENT VACANCIES, REGISTRATION AS AN ELECTOR, HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME, VARIOUS GOVERNMENT COMPETITIONS AND ACTIVITIES.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID ANYONE WHO WISHED TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE VARIOUS SERVICES AVAILABLE AT THESE CENTRES COULD APPROACH THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY SECTION AT CNTA HEADQUARTERS, 13TH FLOOR, WORLD SHIPPING CENTRE, HARBOUR CITY, 7 CANTON ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI, KOWLOON, OR TELEPHONE 3-692255.

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SKILLS CENTRE FOR DISABLED IN TUEN MUN

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A SKILLS CENTRE FOR THE DISABLED IS TO BE BUILT IN TUEN MUN AREA 16 OPPOSITE YAU OI ESTATE, CATERING FOR ALL CATEGORIES OF DISABILITY.

THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAS AWARDED A \$7.6 MILLION PILING CONTRACT FOR THE CENTRE, WHICH WILL BE SITUATED ON A 5,000 SQUARE METRE RECLAIMED SITE.

PILING WORK WILL START BY THE END OF THIS MONTH AND BE COMPLETED IN SIX MONTHS.

WORK ON BUILDING THE FIVE-STOREY SUPERSTRUCTURE WILL THEN BEGIN UNDER A SEPARATE CONTRACT AND THE CENTRE IS EXPECTED TO BE READY BY MID-1990.

FACILITIES INCLUDE 15 DORMITORIES, OFFICES, THREE LIFTS, TECHNICAL AID AND REPAIR WORKSHOP, AUDIO VISUAL ROOM, LIBRARY, FOUR CLASSROOMS, KITCHEN, CANTEEN, TOILETS, CHANGING ROOMS, COURTYARD, BASKETBALL COURT AND TWO VOLLEYBALL COURTS.

THE CENTRE PROVIDES VOCATIONAL TRAINING FOR THE DISABLED AGED OVER 15, WHO HAVE COMPLETED NINE YEARS OF COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

THE TRADES COMPRISE CARPENTRY, PAINTING AND SIGN-WRITING AND DECORATION, METAL WORK, INDUSTRIAL SEWING, GARMENT MAKING, OFFSET PRINTING, ELECTRONICS, INDUSTRIAL ARTS, AND OFFICE MACHINE PRACTICE.

THE CENTRE WILL HAVE A CAPACITY OF 300 TRAINING PLACES INCLUDING 150 BOARDING PLACES TO BE ACCOMMODATED IN THE DORMITORIES.

THE AIM OF BOARDING PLACES IS TO PROVIDE TRAINEES WITH ADDITIONAL TRAINING IN SOCIAL SKILLS AND OTHER EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES.

THE SKILLS CENTRE WILL CATER FOR THE DISABLED LIVING IN THE NORTHWEST AREAS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES.

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