



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1974.

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
SPECIAL COMMITTEE SET UP TO ADVISE MAJOR ASPECTS OF INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION'S WORK	1
SIGNIFICANCE OF AFTER-CARE AND WELFARE IN PRISON INSTITUTIONS UNDERLINED	2
TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN CENTRAL DISTRICT	3
PROPOSED PROVISIONAL PROFITS TAX EXPLAINED -- NEW SYSTEM MUCH FAIRER TO BUSINESSMEN	4
TEMPORARY WATER CUT IN YAU MA TEI	5
TEACHERS INVITED TO ATTEND MATHEMATICS EXHIBITION AT GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION	6

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1974.

- 1 -

SPECIAL COMMITTEE SET UP TO ADVISE
COMMISSIONER AGAINST CORRUPTION
ON MAJOR POLICY MATTERS
* * * * *

A SPECIAL COMMITTEE HAS BEEN SET UP TO ADVISE THE COMMISSIONER AGAINST CORRUPTION ON MAJOR POLICY ASPECTS OF THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION'S WORK IN THE FIELD OF CORRUPTION PREVENTION.

THE INTENTION TO FORM SUCH A COMMITTEE WAS ANNOUNCED BY THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, IN HIS OPENING ADDRESS TO THE NEW SESSION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON OCTOBER 16.

THE CORRUPTION PREVENTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE WILL HAVE AS ITS CHAIRMAN, THE COMMISSIONER AGAINST CORRUPTION, MR. JACK CATER.

THE 10 MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ARE MR. J.H. BREMRIDGE, MISS PAULINE CHAN, MISS SAN SAN CHING, MR. S.V. GITTINS, MR. I.G. DANIEL, DR. L.K. DING, MR. G.M. MACWHINNIE, MR. WILLIAM K.C. SHUM, MR. M.D.A. CLINTON AND THE DIRECTOR OF CORRUPTION PREVENTION, MR. PERCY WARR.

THE COMMITTEE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR RECEIVING AND CALLING FOR REPORTS FROM THE ICAC ABOUT PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, PUBLIC BODIES AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR WHICH MAY BE CONDUCTIVE TO CORRUPTION, AND TO ADVISE THE COMMISSIONER AGAINST CORRUPTION WHAT AREAS SHOULD BE EXAMINED AND THEIR DEGREE OF PRIORITY.

IT WILL CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS ARISING FROM SUCH EXAMINATIONS AND ADVISE THE COMMISSIONER ON FURTHER ACTION TO BE TAKEN AS WELL AS MONITORING THE STEPS TAKEN TO IMPLEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS MADE ON THE COMMITTEE'S ADVICE.

A FURTHER ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO BE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR TO ASSIST IN THE WORK OF THE ICAC, THE CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY RELATIONS, IS EXPECTED TO BE SET UP EARLY NEXT YEAR AFTER MORE STAFF HAVE BEEN RECRUITED TO THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS BRANCH OF ICAC.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/2

- 2 - THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1974.

AFTER-CARE AND WELFARE IN PENAL INSTITUTIONS

* * * * *

THE COMMISSIONER OF PRISONS, MR. THOMAS GARNER, HAS EMPHASISED THE SIGNIFICANCE AND IMPORTANCE OF AFTER-CARE AND WELFARE IN VIEW OF THE GROWING POPULATION IN PENAL INSTITUTIONS, PARTICULARLY IN THE YOUNGER AGE GROUP.

IN HIS LATEST DEPARTMENTAL REPORT, HE SAYS THAT BECAUSE OF THE INCREASING DEMAND IN THE FIELD OF AFTER-CARE A CHIEF OFFICER WAS APPOINTED LAST NOVEMBER FOR THE JOB. THE OFFICER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ORGANISATION, CO-ORDINATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF ALL AFTER-CARE AND WELFARE WORK WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT.

MR. GARNER ALSO MAKES THE POINT THAT AFTER-CARE COMMENCES ALMOST IMMEDIATELY AN INMATE IS ADMITTED TO A TRAINING, DETENTION OR TREATMENT CENTRE WHEN STEPS ARE TAKEN TO BUILD UP A GOOD RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE INMATE, HIS FAMILY AND THE AFTER-CARE OFFICER. +THIS REQUIRES UNDERSTANDING AND INVOLVES COUNSELLING WITH, BOTH THE INMATE, AND HIS FAMILY.+

IN ADDITION TO THESE DUTIES, OFFICERS ARE ALSO EMPLOYED ON CASEWORK IN CONNECTION WITH PRE-SENTENCE REPORTS, INMATE WELFARE AND SUPERVISION. ASSISTING THE CHIEF OFFICER IN HIS WORK ARE TWO PRINCIPAL OFFICERS, 39 OFFICERS AND FOUR ASSISTANT OFFICERS.

THE COMMISSIONER SAYS: +DUE TO STAFF SHORTAGE -- UNDER STRENGTH BY 29 OFFICERS -- AFTER-CARE OFFICERS WERE CONSTANTLY WORKING UNDER PRESSURE. AT THE END OF MARCH THIS YEAR, THE AVERAGE CASELOAD CARRIED BY AN OFFICER WAS 76 AS COMPARED WITH THE OPTIMUM NUMBER OF 40. IN RECOGNITION OF THE NEED TO EXTEND WELFARE SERVICES TO COVER PRISONERS 17 OFFICER POSTS WERE CREATED FOR THIS PURPOSE DURING THE YEAR UNDER REVIEW.+

ON PRISON INDUSTRIES, MR. GARNER NOTES THAT THE TOTAL OUTPUT (IN ESTIMATED COMMERCIAL VALUE) BY THE VARIOUS INSTITUTIONS IN THE LAST FINANCIAL YEAR WAS \$8.5 MILLION, SOME \$500,000 ABOVE THAT FOR 1972/73.

HE SAYS THAT EVERY PRISONER WAS REQUIRED, BY LAW, TO BE ENGAGED ON USEFUL WORK, UNLESS EXCUSED ON MEDICAL GROUNDS AND PROVIDED THAT HE HAD BEEN CERTIFIED FIT TO UNDERTAKE THE PARTICULAR TYPE OF WORK INVOLVED.

/+THIS REQUIREMENT

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1974.

+THIS REQUIREMENT IS MET LARGELY BY THE EMPLOYMENT OF PRISONERS IN THE INDUSTRIAL SECTION OF INSTITUTIONS, TRADES AVAILABLE BEING TAILORING, CARPENTRY, METAL WORK, SILK-SCREENING, PRINTING, SHOE-MAKING, FIBRE-GLASS MOULDING, RATTAN, BAMBOO WORK AND LAUNDRY,+ MR. GARNER STATES.

THE OUTPUT, OVER 80 PER CENT OF WHICH CAME FROM STANLEY PRISON, WAS MAINLY TO MEET ORDERS FROM THE GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT.

+FOR INMATES DETAINED IN TRAINING CENTRES,+ THE COMMISSIONER SAYS VOCATIONAL TRAINING IS GIVEN. TRADES AVAILABLE IN THESE CENTRES INCLUDE CARPENTRY, BRICK-LAYING, METAL WORK, TOOL-HANDLING, GARDENING AND LAUNDRY.+

MR. GARNER SAYS: +IT IS APPARENT THAT, WITH THE INCREASING PENAL POPULATION, THERE IS A NEED FOR BETTER UTILIZATION OF MANPOWER ON GAINFUL AND USEFUL WORK.+

HE STRESSES THAT AS PART OF THE REHABILITATION PROGRAMME, IT IS NECESSARY TO PROVIDE PROPER TRAINING TO THE UNSKILLED TO ENABLE THEM TO BE READILY ABSORBED IN EMPLOYMENT WITHIN THE COMMUNITY AFTER RELEASE.

----- 0 -----

TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN CENTRAL DISTRICT

MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED THAT, WITH EFFECT FROM 10 A.M. TOMORROW (FRIDAY), RIGHT TURNING MOVEMENT FROM DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL INTO RUMSEY STREET WILL BE PROHIBITED FOR ABOUT THREE WEEKS.

THIS IS TO ENABLE WORKS ON TRAM TRACK RENEWAL TO BE CARRIED OUT BY THE HONG KONG TRAMWAYS LTD.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE POSTED.

----- 0 -----

/4

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1974.

- 4 -

PROVISIONAL PROFITS TAX SYSTEM EXPLAINED
* * * * *

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE PROPOSED PROVISIONAL TAX SYSTEM WILL MEAN A MUCH FAIRER TAXATION SYSTEM FOR BUSINESSMEN IN HONG KONG WHEN COMPARED WITH THE PRESENT COMPLICATED AND OFTEN INEQUITABLE METHOD.

THIS WILL BE PARTICULARLY EVIDENT IN CASES WHERE PROFITS ARE FALLING SIGNIFICANTLY - A TIME WHEN THE PRESENT SYSTEM CAN BE PARTICULARLY ONEROUS IN TERMS OF TAX PAYABLE.

THE BUSINESSMAN IN THIS SITUATION IS IN A MUCH WORSE POSITION THAN ONE WHOSE PROFITS ARE RISING BECAUSE THE PRESENT METHOD UNFAIRLY BENEFITS THE LATTER.

THE PROPOSED NEW METHOD OF ASSESSMENT WILL, HOWEVER, PLACE BOTH BUSINESSMEN ON THE SAME FOOTING WITH FINAL TAX PAYABLE IN EACH CASE, ALWAYS BEING CALCULATED AT THE STANDARD RATE ON ACTUAL PROFITS.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE ILLUSTRATES THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE FINAL TAX PAYABLE UNDER THE PRESENT METHOD AND THE PROPOSED NEW METHOD :-

		OLD METHOD		NEW METHOD		
	YEAR ENDED	ACTUAL PROFIT	FINAL TAX PAYABLE	TAX PAYABLE AS PERCENTAGE OF ACTUAL PROFITS	FINAL TAX PAYABLE	TAX PAYABLE AS PERCENTAGE OF ACTUAL PROFITS
(1) RISING PROFITS						
	1975	\$ 80,000	-	-	-	-
	1976	\$100,000	\$12,000	12.0%	\$15,000	15%
	1977	\$140,000	\$15,000	10.7%	\$21,000	15%
	1978	\$200,000	\$21,000	10.5%	\$30,000	15%
	1979	\$250,000	\$30,000	12.0%	\$37,500	15%
(2) FALLING PROFITS						
	1975	\$250,000	-	-	-	-
	1976	\$200,000	\$37,500	18.75%	\$30,000	15%
	1977	\$140,000	\$30,000	21.4%	\$21,000	15%
	1978	\$100,000	\$21,000	21.0%	\$15,000	15%
	1979	\$ 80,000	\$15,000	18.75%	\$12,000	15%

THE FIGURES

THE FIGURES SHOW THAT IN THE FIRST CASE, THE FINAL TAX PAYABLE, EXPRESSED AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE ACTUAL PROFITS EARNED IN THE YEAR OF ASSESSMENT, WILL ALWAYS BE LESS THAN THE STANDARD RATE OF 15 PER CENT.

HOWEVER, THE BUSINESS IN A FALLING PROFIT SITUATION WILL BE PENALISED BECAUSE ITS TAX PAYABLE WILL ALWAYS BE AT A PERCENTAGE RATE ABOVE THE STANDARD RATE.

THE MORE DRAMATIC THE FALL IN PROFITS, THE MORE PENAL THE EFFECTIVE RATE ON ACTUAL PROFITS BECOMES. THIS IS HIGHLIGHTED BY THE FIGURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1977 (IN THE SECOND EXAMPLE) WHERE A DROP OF 30 PER CENT IN PROFITS RESULTS IN AN EFFECTIVE RATE OF 21.4 PER CENT - MORE THAN 42 PER CENT ABOVE THE STANDARD RATE OF 15 PER CENT.

HOWEVER, UNDER THE PROPOSED NEW SYSTEM, BOTH BUSINESSES, WITH RISING OR FALLING PROFITS, WILL ONLY BE PAYING THE STANDARD RATE AND ON A CURRENT YEAR BASIS.

----- 0 -----

WATER CUT
* * *

WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN YAU MA TEI WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR FIVE HOURS STARTING FROM 1 A.M. ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 28) TO ENABLE A LEAKAGE TEST TO BE CARRIED OUT.

THE AREA AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY SHANGHAI STREET, SAIGON STREET, CANTON ROAD AND KANSU STREET.

----- 0 -----

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1974.

- 6 -

INVITATION TO ALL TEACHERS TO ATTEND
MATHEMATICS EXHIBITION
* * * * *

ALL TEACHERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE MATHEMATICS EXHIBITION AT THE GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION TO BE OPENED BY THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (PROFESSIONAL), MR. HO NGA-MING THIS SATURDAY (DECEMBER 28).

THE EXHIBITION WILL BEGIN AT 10 A.M. AND WILL LAST UNTIL 4.30 P.M.

MORE THAN 100 DIFFERENT TYPES OF TEACHING APPARATUS WILL BE EXHIBITED ON 200 TABLES.

THE DISPLAY WILL FOLLOW THE OPENING OF A SEMINAR BY MR. HO.

THE EXHIBITION AND SEMINAR, TO MARK THE INAUGURATION OF TWO NEW MATHEMATICS CENTRES - ONE AT TANNER ROAD POLICE PRIMARY SCHOOL, HONG KONG, AND THE OTHER AT THE MA TAU CHUNG GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL, KOWLOON - ARE EXPECTED TO ATTRACT MORE THAN 1,000 SCHOOL HEADS AND TEACHERS.

THE THEME OF THE SEMINAR AND EXHIBITION REFLECTS THE CHINESE PROVERB +I DO AND I UNDERSTAND,+ I.E. LEARNING BY DOING.

AT THE ONE-DAY EXHIBITION, 90 STUDENTS FROM THE THREE COLLEGES OF EDUCATION WILL DEMONSTRATE THE TYPES OF EQUIPMENT USED AT THE TWO CENTRES.

AN EDUCATION SPOKESMAN EMPHASISED THAT THE OBJECT IS NOT TO SHOW TEACHERS HOW THEY THEMSELVES CAN USE THE EQUIPMENT, BUT RATHER, HOW THEY CAN TEACH THE CHILDREN TO USE THE EQUIPMENT.

THE UNDERLYING IDEA BEHIND THESE TEACHING METHODS IS TO ENCOURAGE THE GROWTH OF A STUDENT'S POWER OF INQUIRY, TO PROVIDE HIM WITH EXPERIENCE IN ANALYSING SITUATIONS AND IN MAKING HIS OWN DECISIONS.

.....

NOTE TO EDITORS: YOU ARE INVITED TO HAVE THE SEMINAR AND EXHIBITION COVERED AT THE GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, GASCOIGNE ROAD, KOWLOON ON DECEMBER 28.

- - - - 0 - - - -