



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRI DAY, JULY 22, 1977

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NON-GRADUATE TEACHERS' VIEWS GIVEN TOP-LEVEL CONSIDERATION
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THE SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES, MR. ERIC HO, TODAY ASSURED GOVERNMENT NON-GRADUATE TEACHERS THAT TOP LEVEL CONSIDERATION HAD BEEN GIVEN TO THEIR VIEWS ON THE FUTURE OF GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

HE GAVE THE ASSURANCE IN A REPLY TO LETTERS FROM THE GOVERNMENT SCHOOL NON-GRADUATE TEACHERS' UNION ADDRESSED TO THE GOVERNOR, THE CHIEF SECRETARY AND OTHER SENIOR OFFICERS IN WHICH THE UNION REQUESTED NEGOTIATIONS ON THE PROPOSED MEASURES TO REDUCE THE SURPLUS OF GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS.

MR. HO SAID THE UNION'S VIEWS EXPRESSED IN DECLARATIONS IN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL HAD BEEN CONSIDERED BY BOTH THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IN THEIR DELIBERATIONS ON THE REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION ON CERTIFICATED MASTERS.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD ACTED IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST BY TAKING MEASURES TO ELIMINATE THE MOUNTING COST TO PUBLIC FUNDS ARISING FROM THE RETENTION OF SURPLUS TEACHERS. AT THE SAME TIME, THESE MEASURES PAY DUE REGARD TO THE INTERESTS OF THE TEACHERS.

+FIRSTLY, THE RETENTION OF A PERMANENT GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SECTOR WILL ENABLE SOME GOVERNMENT TEACHERS TO CONTINUE IN THEIR PRESENT WORK WITHOUT THE LOSS OF GOVERNMENT TERMS OF SERVICE, WHEREAS THE COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATIONS WOULD HAVE MEANT THAT ALL GOVERNMENT PRIMARY TEACHERS WOULD HAVE BEEN TRANSFERRED COMPULSORILY TO THE AIDED SECTOR,+ HE SAID.

+THE CHANCES ARE THEREFORE PARTICULARLY GOOD FOR TEACHERS WITH CERTAIN SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS OR TWO YEARS OF TRAINING WHO WISH TO REMAIN PART OF THE PERMANENT GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SECTOR.+

MR. HO NOTED THAT AS THE GOVERNMENT HAD GIVEN MORE THAN THREE YEARS' NOTICE OF ITS DECISION TO INTRODUCE COMPULSORY RETIREMENT IN AUGUST 1980, TEACHERS AFFECTED WOULD HAVE AMPLE TIME TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE MANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR REDEPLOYMENT THAT WOULD BE AVAILABLE IN THE INTERIM PERIOD OR TO TAKE OTHER STEPS TO SAFEGUARD THEIR FUTURE.

+IN ADDITION, MORE THAN 1,100 ALTERNATIVE JOBS THAT HAVE BEEN FORECAST ARE WITHIN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT. THOSE SELECTED FOR THE JOBS THAT WILL BE OFFERED IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS OR IN SPECIAL EDUCATION WILL BE ABLE TO CONTINUE AS GOVERNMENT TEACHERS, WHILE THOSE SELECTED FOR THE REMAINING JOBS - SUCH AS IN THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE AND IN THE STUDENT COUNSELLING SCHEME -- WILL BE ENGAGED ON IMPORTANT WORK RELATED TO EDUCATION.

+FURTHERMORE, SUITABLE GOVERNMENT PRIMARY TEACHERS WILL BE GIVEN PREFERENTIAL CONSIDERATION OVER OTHER CANDIDATES FOR JOBS IN OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

/+TEACHERS WHO

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+TEACHERS WHO ARE ACCEPTED FOR SUCH POSTS WILL RETAIN THEIR PRESENT SALARY WHERE THIS WOULD BE TO THEIR ADVANTAGE,+ HE SAID. IN FACT, HE ADDED, SOME OF THESE POSTS PROVIDED OPPORTUNITIES FOR HIGHER EARNINGS AND PROMOTION PROSPECTS THAN THE PRESENT CERTIFICATED MASTER SCALE.

MR. HO POINTED OUT THAT THOSE TEACHERS WHO RETIRE IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST IN 1980 OR EARLIER, WOULD RECEIVE GENEROUS PENSION AND GRATUITY TERMS. AND THIS PENSION WOULD CONTINUE IF RETIRED GOVERNMENT TEACHERS ACCEPTED EMPLOYMENT OUTSIDE THE PUBLIC SERVICE.

MR. HO SAID THAT WHILE THE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO RETAIN A GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SECTOR WAS NOT IN QUESTION, THE IMPLICATIONS OF THAT DECISION WERE, OF COURSE, OPEN TO CONSULTATION WITH THE TEACHERS.

+THE APPROPRIATE MACHINERY FOR SUCH CONSULTATION ALREADY EXISTS IN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL. THE COUNCIL'S MEETING ON JULY 6 WAS ADJOURNED AT THE REQUEST OF THE STAFF SIDE TO ALLOW THEM TIME TO CONSIDER THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION'S STATEMENT,+ HE SAID.

+IT WILL RECONVENE SHORTLY AND IT IS HOPED THAT THE GOVERNMENT SCHOOL NON-GRADUATE TEACHERS' UNION WILL IN THE INTEREST OF THEIR MEMBERS PARTICIPATE IN THE FORTHCOMING DISCUSSIONS.+

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HIGHER COST OF LIVING IN JUNE

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THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES A AND B FOR JUNE 1977 ADVANCED BY 3 POINTS AND 2 POINTS RESPECTIVELY COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS MONTH.

BOTH INDEXES FOR JUNE WERE 118.

THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS WAS 4 POINTS HIGHER THAN THAT FOR THE PREVIOUS MONTH IN BOTH INDEXES A AND B. RISES IN AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SALT WATER FISH, FRESH WATER FISH, LIVE POULTRY, FRESH VEGETABLES, FRESH FRUITS AND MEALS BOUGHT AWAY FROM HOME MORE THAN OFFSET REDUCTIONS IN THOSE OF PORK AND EGGS.

THE INDEX FOR HOUSING ADVANCED BY 2 POINTS EACH IN INDEXES A AND B AS A RESULT OF AN INCREASE IN THE RENT OF SOME PRIVATE DWELLINGS.

FOLLOWING HIGHER CHARGES FOR PUBLIC LIGHT BUS FARES, THE INDEX FOR TRANSPORT AND VEHICLES ROSE BY 1 POINT IN INDEX A.

INCREASES OF 1 POINT EACH WERE RECORDED IN THE INDEXES FOR CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR, AND MISCELLANEOUS GOODS IN INDEX B OWING TO HIGHER TAILORING CHARGES AND HIGHER PRICES FOR OTHER HOUSEHOLD GOODS.

PRICE MOVEMENTS IN OTHER COMMODITY SECTIONS WERE INSIGNIFICANT.

INDEX A IS BASED ON HOUSEHOLDS SPENDING BETWEEN \$400-\$1,499 A MONTH IN THE HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY, 1973/74 AND INDEX B IS BASED ON HOUSEHOLDS SPENDING BETWEEN \$1,500-\$2,999 A MONTH IN THE HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY, 1973/74.

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TENDERS CALLED FOR FIRST STAGE OF TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL

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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TODAY INVITED TENDERS FOR THE FIRST STAGE OF THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL — A 1,500-SEAT AUDITORIUM FOR CONCERTS AND DANCE PERFORMANCES, EXHIBITION HALLS AND AN ENTRANCE FOYER WITH BAR FACILITIES.

MR. W.T. MOK, ACTING PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT ARCHITECT OF THE P.W.D.'S ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE, SAID TODAY THAT THE TSUEN WAN AUDITORIUM WOULD BE SIMILAR IN DESIGN TO THE CONCERT HALL OF THE CITY HALL.

+BUT FROM EXPERIENCE GAINED IN THE USE OF THE CITY HALL CONCERT HALL, WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MAKE A NUMBER OF MODIFICATIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE DESIGN WHICH WILL MAKE IT AN EVEN BETTER VENUE FOR CONCERTS AND DRAMATIC PERFORMANCES,+ HE SAID.

/THE CULTURAL

THE CULTURAL COMPLEX HAS BEEN DESIGNED AS THE FOCAL POINT OF CULTURAL ACTIVITIES IN TSUEN WAN, TO CATER FOR THE NEEDS OF SUCH ORGANISATIONS AS THE TSUEN WAN CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES CO-ORDINATING ASSOCIATION FOR ITS MANY CONCERTS, PLAYS, DANCING PERFORMANCES AND EXHIBITIONS, AND OF LOCAL SCHOOLS FOR PRIZE-GIVING DAYS AND SIMILAR EVENTS.

THE TOWN HALL WILL BE LOCATED IN THE CENTRE OF TSUEN WAN NEW TOWN, NEXT TO THE TSUEN WAN MAGISTRACY BUILDING.

EVENTUALLY IT WILL BE LINKED VIA A PEDESTRIAN DECK TO THE PROPOSED GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING ADJACENT TO IT.

MR. MOK SAID THAT THE AUDITORIUM WILL BE ABLE TO ACCOMMODATE AS MANY PEOPLE AS THE CITY HALL CONCERT HALL.

THE MAJORITY OF THE 1,500 SEATS WILL BE ON THE MAIN FLOOR OF THE AUDITORIUM AND THE REST ON THE BALCONY.

AS WELL AS THE CONCERT HALL, THERE WILL BE AREAS ON THE FIRST AND SECOND FLOORS OF THE FIRST STAGE OF THE COMPLEX SUITABLE FOR HOLDING EXHIBITIONS AND OTHER FUNCTIONS. EACH WILL HAVE AN AREA OF 371.6 SQUARE METRES.

A BAR WILL BE PROVIDED IN THE GROUND FLOOR FOYER.

AT A LATER STAGE OTHER FACILITIES WILL BE PROVIDED INCLUDING LECTURE ROOMS, LIBRARY AND A RESTAURANT.

THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB HAS PLEDGED A DONATION OF \$10 MILLION TOWARDS THE CAPITAL COST OF THE PROJECT.

MR. MOK SAID THAT THE PEOPLE OF TSUEN WAN, WHICH ALREADY HAS A POPULATION OF HALF A MILLION, ARE TAKING AN INCREASING INTEREST IN THE ARTS, MUSIC, DANCE AND DRAMA.

+COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS WITH THE SPECIFIC AIM OF PROMOTING ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT IN CULTURAL PURSUITS ARE SPONSORING PERFORMANCES BY THE TSUEN WAN GIRLS CHOIR AND THE HONG KONG PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA, AS WELL AS OTHER ACTIVITIES SUCH AS LECTURES, CLASSICAL DANCING CLASSES AND FESTIVAL DANCE AND DRAMA.+

HE SAID THAT AT PRESENT THESE ACTIVITIES HAVE TO BE HELD IN UNSUITABLE PREMISES SUCH AS SCHOOL HALLS WHICH HAVE POOR ACOUSTICS, INADEQUATE REHEARSAL ROOMS, AND WHICH CANNOT ACCOMMODATE LARGE AUDIENCES.

PILING WORK FOR THE FOUNDATION OF THE AUDITORIUM HAS ALREADY COMMENCED AND IS NOW NEARING COMPLETION.

WORK ON THE BUILDING CONTRACT IS EXPECTED TO COMMENCE IN THE MIDDLE OF SEPTEMBER, TO BE COMPLETED IN AUTUMN OF 1979.

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NEW INTERNATIONAL MAIL CENTRE

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ANOTHER STEP HAS BEEN TAKEN TOWARDS THE BUILDING OF HONG KONG'S \$44 MILLION NEW INTERNATIONAL MAIL CENTRE ADJACENT TO HUNG HOM RAILWAY STATION.

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT HAS CALLED TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE TWO-STOREY MAIN BUILDING ON THE HUNG HOM RECLAMATION NEXT TO THE STATION.

MR. PATRICK LEE, SENIOR ARCHITECT OF THE P.W.D.'S ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE, SAID TODAY THAT WORK WOULD BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER AND WOULD TAKE ABOUT 15 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

MR. LEE SAID THAT PILING WORK FOR THE FOUNDATIONS, WHICH BEGAN LAST YEAR, IS ALREADY COMPLETED.

THE INTERNATIONAL MAIL CENTRE, HE SAID, WOULD OCCUPY AN AREA OF 7,300-SQUARE METRES AND IT WOULD ACCOMMODATE A 600-SQUARE METRE MAIL SORTING AREA, LOADING PLATFORMS TO RECEIVE MAIL BY RAIL, SEA AND ROAD AS WELL AS SPECIALISED SECURITY AREAS.

PROVISION HAD BEEN MADE FOR INSURED PARCELS HANDLING AND STORAGE AREAS, RECEPTION AND DELIVERY OF REGISTERED ARTICLES, AS WELL AS SPECIALISED STORE ROOMS AND A WORKSHOP, MR. LEE SAID.

+SPECIAL CARE HAS ALSO BEEN TAKEN TO ENSURE THE COMFORT OF THOSE WORKING IN THE NEW INTERNATIONAL MAIL CENTRE,+ HE SAID.

+THE BUILDING WILL BE AIR-CONDITIONED AND THERE WILL BE ALSO A DINING ROOM, A REST ROOM AND RECREATION ROOM FOR THE STAFF.+

THE MOST UP-TO-DATE AUTOMATIC MAIL SORTING EQUIPMENT WILL BE INSTALLED IN THE CENTRE AT A COST OF \$20 MILLION TO HANDLE THE MILLIONS OF ARTICLES OF MAIL WHICH WILL PASS THROUGH IT EACH YEAR.

INSTALLATION AND TESTING OF THIS SPECIALISED MACHINERY WILL TAKE ABOUT SIX MONTHS.

IN ADDITION, PLANS HAVE BEEN MADE TO EXTEND THE RAILWAY FROM THE STATION TO THE CENTRE TO HANDLE MAIL FROM CHINA.

FOUR BERTHS WILL ALSO BE BUILT AT THE SOUTHERN SIDE OF THE SITE TO ACCOMMODATE BOATS WITH SEAMAIL TO AND FROM HONG KONG.

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ENROLMENT OF STUDENTS IN TECHNICAL INSTITUTES
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ENROLMENT OF STUDENTS FOR VARIOUS COURSES IN THE MORRISON HILL, KWAI CHUNG, KWUN TONG AND HAKING WONG TECHNICAL INSTITUTES WILL START ON MONDAY (JULY 25).

DETAILS OF APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO FULL-TIME, SANDWICH, BLOCK-RELEASE AND PART-TIME DAY-RELEASE COURSES WILL BE ADVERTISED IN NEWSPAPERS ON MONDAY.

FIELDS OF STUDY INCLUDE CLOTHING INDUSTRIES, COMMERCIAL STUDIES, CONSTRUCTION, ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, GENERAL STUDIES, HOTEL-KEEPING AND TOURISM, MARINE AND FABRICATION, MECHANICAL ENGINEERING, PRINTING AND TEXTILE INDUSTRIES.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATION IS AUGUST 18.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S NEW NT BRANCH OFFICE
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THREE NEW TERRITORIES LEADERS WILL JOINTLY OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S BRANCH OFFICE AT TAK CHING COURT IN TUEN MUN NEW TOWN ON TUESDAY (JULY 26) AT 4 P.M.

THEY ARE MR. LEUNG KUEN, ACTING CHAIRMAN OF TUEN MUN RURAL COMMITTEE= MR. LAU CHI-YUEN, CHAIRMAN OF TUEN MUN MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION AND MR. LAU NAM-ON, CHAIRMAN OF TUEN MUN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR. PETER WILLIAMS, WILL ALSO BE PRESENT TO ADDRESS THE GATHERING.

FOLLOWING THE CEREMONY, LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED AT THE NEARBY KAR HEY RESTAURANT.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND A REPORTER AND/OR PHOTOGRAPHER TO COVER THE EVENT.

TWO 11-SEATER VANS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT 2 P.M. ON TUESDAY AT HANKOW ROAD, NEXT TO THE PENINSULA HOTEL IN TSIM SHA TSUI TO TAKE PRESS REPRESENTATIVES TO THE CEREMONY.

A ROUGH SKETCH SHOWING THE LOCATION OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S BRANCH OFFICE WILL BE DISTRIBUTED IN THE G.I.S. PRESS BOXES THIS (FRIDAY) EVENING TO FACILITATE THOSE WHO WISH TO MAKE THEIR OWN WAY TO THE CEREMONY ON TUESDAY.

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COURSES FOR WORKSHOP AND TRADE INSTRUCTORS
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A NUMBER OF COURSES WILL BE AVAILABLE THIS SEPTEMBER TO INDUSTRIAL INSTRUCTORS AND WORKSHOP SUPERVISORS TO HELP THEM OBTAIN BETTER TRAINING IN CARRYING OUT THEIR WORK.

THE SUBJECTS TO BE COVERED WILL INCLUDE TEACHING METHODS, EDUCATION THEORY AND EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY.

APPLICANTS FOR THE COURSES MUST BE EMPLOYED AS INSTRUCTOR AND FULLY SKILLED IN THEIR TRADE, AS WELL AS HAVING AN ADEQUATE SECONDARY, PREFERABLY SECONDARY TECHNICAL OR PREVOCATIONAL EDUCATION.

THE COURSES WILL BE CONDUCTED IN CHINESE AND WILL BE HELD ON A BLOCK RELEASE, PART-TIME DAY-RELEASE OR PART-TIME EVENING BASIS AT A FEE OF \$60 TO \$80.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE OBTAINABLE FROM THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE, 373 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, HONG KONG AND MUST BE RETURNED BY AUGUST 13.

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TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT THE SLIP ROAD ON PRINCE EDWARD ROAD JOINING SOUTH WALL ROAD TO LUNG KONG ROAD WILL BE TEMPORARILY CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 7 A.M. ON TUESDAY (JULY 26) TO 7 A.M. ON FRIDAY (JULY 29).

DURING THIS PERIOD, THE SECTIONS OF SOUTH WALL ROAD AND LUNG KONG ROAD BETWEEN PRINCE EDWARD ROAD AND NGA TSIN WAI ROAD WILL BE TEMPORARILY RE-ROUTED FROM ONE WAY TO TWO WAY TRAFFIC.

THE ARRANGEMENT IS TO FACILITATE CABLE-LAYING WORKS.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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