



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, JULY 4, 1975

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TRAINING SCHEMES FOR CONSTRUCTION AND CLOTHING INDUSTRIES

THE GOVERNMENT TODAY ANNOUNCED BILLS TO IMPLEMENT COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING SCHEMES TO PROVIDE SKILLED PERSONNEL FOR TWO OF HONG KONG'S BIGGEST INDUSTRIES -- THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY AND THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY.

THE BILLS -- THE INDUSTRIAL TRAINING (CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY) BILL 1975 AND THE INDUSTRIAL TRAINING (CLOTHING INDUSTRY) BILL 1975 -- ARE PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GOVERNMENT GAZETTE AND WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON JULY 16.

THEY PROVIDE FOR:

- * ESTABLISHMENT OF SEPARATE STATUTORY AUTHORITIES TO ADMINISTER THE TWO SCHEMES=
- * IMPOSITION OF A TRAINING LEVY ON THE VALUE OF ALL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS ON THE ONE HAND, AND ON ALL CLOTHING ITEMS EXPORTED ON THE OTHER, TO FINANCE THE SCHEMES= AND
- * SETTING-UP OF SPECIAL TRAINING CENTRES TO PRODUCE CRAFTSMEN AND OPERATIVE FOR THE TWO INDUSTRIES.

THE ACTING COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR. NEIL HENDERSON, SAID TODAY THE TWO CONTRIBUTORY TRAINING SCHEMES WERE ORIGINALLY PROPOSED BY INDUSTRY MEMBERS OF THE BUILDING TRADES INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEE AND THE CLOTHING INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEE OF THE FORMER INDUSTRIAL TRAINING ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

THE WORK OF PLANNING THE SCHEMES HAD BEEN TAKEN OVER AND CONTINUED BY THE PROVISIONAL CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TRAINING AUTHORITY CHAIRED BY MR. WONG TIN-SUN AND THE PROVISIONAL CLOTHING INDUSTRY TRAINING AUTHORITY CHAIRED BY MR. FRANCIS Y.H. TIEN.

MR. HENDERSON DESCRIBED THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION AS A BREAKTHROUGH FOR INDUSTRIAL TRAINING IN HONG KONG. +THESE BILLS ARE A SIGNIFICANT STEP FORWARD IN THAT THEY WILL NOT ONLY ENSURE A STEADY SUPPLY OF MANPOWER TO INDUSTRY, BUT ALSO INVOLVE INDUSTRY IN ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN MANPOWER PLANNING AND TRAINING,+ HE SAID.

MR. HENDERSON SAID THE LEVEL OF THE TWO TRAINING LEVIES WOULD BE SET LATER BY SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE LEVY ON EXPORT CLOTHING ITEMS WAS DISTINCT FROM, AND ADDITIONAL TO, THE AD VALOREM TAX ON ALL EXPORT GOODS WHICH FINANCED THE TRADE PROMOTION WORK OF THE TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, AND THAT THE TRAINING LEVY WOULD BE USED SOLELY FOR THE TRAINING OF SKILLED MANPOWER FOR THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY.

/PROCEDURES

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PROCEDURES FOR THE COLLECTION OF THE TRAINING LEVY WOULD BE SIMILAR TO THE EXISTING PROCEDURES FOR COLLECTING THE AD VALOREM CHARGES, SO INCONVENIENCE TO EXPORTERS WOULD BE MINIMAL.

IN THE CASE OF THE CONSTRUCTION TRAINING LEVY, THE CONTRACTOR AND THE AUTHORISED PERSON UNDER THE BUILDING ORDINANCE (SUCH AS THE ARCHITECT) WOULD BE REQUIRED TO GIVE NOTICE TO THE STATUTORY AUTHORITY OF THE COMMENCEMENT AND COMPLETION OF WORKS, AND THE CONTRACTORS THEMSELVES WOULD VE REQUIRED TO NOTIFY THE AUTHORITY OF THE PAYMENTS THEY RECEIVED.

MR. HENDERSON SAID THE LAST AVAILABLE MANPOWER SURVEY FIGURES SHOWED THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY NEEDED AS MANY AS 700 NEW SKILLED CRAFTSMEN EACH YEAR, AND THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY NEEDED AS MANY AS 17,000 SKILLED MACHINE OPERATORS.

+BECAUSE OF THE NATURE OF THESE TWO INDUSTRIES, EMPLOYERS HAVE LONG BEEN FACED WITH THE PROBLEM OF HOW TO TRAIN THEIR WORKERS WITHOUT AFFECTING PRODUCTION SCHEDULES,+ HE SAID.

+THESE TWO NEW BILLS WERE INITIATED BY EMPLOYERS IN THE TWO INDUSTRIES AS A SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM, AND TO THE PROBLEM OF HOW TO SHARE THE COST OF PROVIDING PRACTICAL TRAINING TO SKILLED AND SEMI-SKILLED WORKERS.

+TO SUPPLEMENT THESE INDUSTRY EFFORTS TO TRAIN THEIR OWN MANPOWER , THE GOVERNMENT WILL GIVE THE TWO STATUTORY AUTHORITIES FREE LAND TO BUILD THEIR TRAINING CENTRES.

+CONSIDERATION IS ALSO BEING GIVEN TO THE PROVISION OF CAPITAL LOANS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION WORK, TO BE REPAID OUT OF THE TRAINING LEVY FUNDS, WHICH WILL ALSO MEET THE CONTINUING COSTS OF THE PROGRAMME.+

MR. HENDERSON SAID MEMBERSHIP OF THE STATUTORY AUTHORITIES WOULD INCLUDE INDUSTRIALISTS, REPRESENTATIVES OF EMPLOYER AND OTHER INTERESTED BODIES, TRADE UNIONISTS, AND GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES. IT WAS HOPED THAT THE AUTHORITIES WOULD BE SET UP NEXT MONTH.

HE SAID IT WAS EXPECTED THAT THE LEVIES WOULD COME INTO FORCE AT THE BEGINNING OF NEXT YEAR, AND THAT WORK ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE TWO TRAINING CENTRES WOULD BEGIN A FEW MONTHS LATER, ENDING IN TIME FOR THE RECRUITMENT OF THE FIRST TRAINEES DURING 1977.

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MAY EXPORTS DOWN BY 21 PER CENT

THE VALUE OF HONG KONG'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN MAY FELL BY \$465 MILLION OR 21.1 PER CENT COMPARED WITH MAY LAST YEAR, ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES ISSUED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

EXPORTS FOR MAY AMOUNTED TO \$1,738 MILLION IN VALUE COMPARED WITH \$2,203 MILLION IN THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR.

THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FELL BY 22.7 PER CENT TO \$2,677 MILLION AS AGAINST \$3,461 MILLION IN MAY 1974, AND RE-EXPORTS DROPPED BY 19.1 PER CENT TO \$553 MILLION, COMPARED WITH \$684 MILLION IN MAY LAST YEAR.

FIGURES FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY TO MAY THIS YEAR SHOWED DECREASES BY VALUE OF 15.6 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, 17.0 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS, AND 13.8 PER CENT FOR THE RE-EXPORTS, AS AGAINST THE SAME PERIOD IN 1974.

DURING THE 12-MONTH PERIOD FROM JUNE 1974 TO MAY 1975, THERE WERE DECREASES OF 4.0 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, 6.2 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS AND 12.0 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS, WHEN COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS 12-MONTH PERIOD.

THE FOLLOWING TRADE TABLE GIVES AN EASY GUIDE TO THE PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES:-

DOMESTIC EXPORTS:	\$1,738 MILLION
IMPORTS :	\$2,677 MILLION
RE-EXPORTS :	\$ 553 MILLION

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

	MAY 1975 \$ MN.	MAY 1974 \$ MN.	INCREASE OR DECREASE \$ MN. %
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	1,738 (75.9%)	2,203 (76.3%)	- 465 - 21.1
IMPORTS	2,677	3,461	- 784 - 22.7
RE-EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	553 (24.1%)	684 (23.7%)	- 130 - 19.1

/MAR.-MAY

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	MAR.-MAY 1975	MAR.-MAY 1974	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	5,020	5,995	- 976	- 16.3
IMPORTS	7,624	9,696	-2,071	- 21.4
RE-EXPORTS	1,666	1,927	- 260	- 13.5

	JAN.-MAY 1975	JAN.-MAY 1974	INCREASE DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	7,927 (74.8%)	9,397 (75.2%)	-1,470	- 15.6
IMPORTS	12,184	14,681	-2,497	- 17.0
RE-EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	2,666 (25.2%)	3,093 (24.8%)	- 426	- 13.8

	JUNE 1974 TO MAY 1975	JUNE 1973 TO MAY 1974	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	21,441	22,332	- 891	- 4.0
IMPORTS	31,623	33,705	-2,082	- 6.2
RE-EXPORTS	6,698	7,608	- 910	- 12.0

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NEW SITE FOR DRIVING TEST CENTRE

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE KWUN TONG DRIVING TEST CENTRE WILL BE MOVED TO THE CAR PARK IN FRONT OF BLOCK 17, LAM TIN ESTATE, AT PING TIN STREET, KWUN TONG, AS FROM NEXT MONDAY (JULY 7).

PRIVATE CAR DRIVING TESTS, WHICH ARE SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE IN THE PRESENT TEST CENTRE AT THE KWUN TONG COMMUNITY CENTRE AT TSUI PING ROAD, WILL NOW BE HELD AT THE NEW SITE.

CANDIDATES WITH TEST APPOINTMENTS IN KWUN TONG DATED MONDAY ONWARDS ARE THEREFORE ADVISED TO REPORT AT THE NEW SITE FOR THEIR TESTS.

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REVISION OF COMPANY'S FEES

A NUMBER OF FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE ARE TO BE REVISED, IN LINE WITH SOME OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE COMPANIES LAW REVISION COMMITTEE.

THE REVISION - PROVIDED IN THE COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) (NO.2) BILL PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE - MAINLY REFERS TO FEES FOR INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS KEPT BY THE REGISTRAR AND TO FEES FOR REGISTERING CERTAIN INSTRUMENTS AND FOR INSPECTING THE REGISTER OF CHARGES.

THE BILL INTRODUCES A NEW FEE OF \$2,000 FOR REGISTERING A PROSPECTUS WITH THE REGISTRAR. A SPOKESMAN SAID THIS WAS CONSIDERED NECESSARY AS EXAMINATION OF DRAFT PROSPECTUSES BY SENIOR STAFF OF THE COMPANIES REGISTRY INVOLVED CONSIDERABLE TIME, AND FREQUENTLY DISCUSSIONS WERE NECESSARY WITH THE COMPANY, ITS SOLICITORS AND THE UNDERWRITERS.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO NOTED THAT SOME OF THE FEES HAD REMAINED UNCHANGED FOR MORE THAN 40 YEARS.

PROVISION IS ALSO MADE IN THE BILL FOR THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL TO INCREASE CERTAIN FEES AND TO ADD FURTHER ITEMS FOR WHICH A CHARGE IS CONSIDERED NECESSARY.

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WAI YIP STREET EXTENSION

A 400-METRE EXTENSION WILL BE ADDED TO WAI YIP STREET TO PROVIDE A TRAFFIC DIVERSION ROUTE TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE KWUN TONG MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY STATION.

THE ROAD EXTENSION, TO RUN BETWEEN KING YIP STREET AND CHA KWO LING ROAD WITH JUNCTION IMPROVEMENTS AT BOTH ENDS, WILL BE 19 METRES WIDE WITH FOOTPATHS AND TWO TRAFFIC LANES IN EACH DIRECTION,

IT WILL INCLUDE A 30-METRE LONG BRIDGE ACROSS THE NULLAH AT THE SOUTH-EASTERN END OF WAI YIP STREET.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROJECT, SOME 500 METRES OF CHA KWO LING ROAD, BETWEEN KWUN TONG ROAD AND THE JUNCTION OF WAI YIP STREET EXTENSION, WILL BE RESURFACED. ASSOCIATED DRAINAGE WORKS WILL ALSO BE CARRIED OUT.

TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE PROJECT ARE INVITED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE. WORK WILL BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER FOR COMPLETION IN MAY NEXT YEAR, WHEN CONSTRUCTION OF THE KWUN TONG M.T.R. STATION IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN.

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SHING MUN FLOOD CONTROL SCHEME NEARS COMPLETION

WORK ON THE FINAL STAGE OF THE SHING MUN RIVER FLOOD CONTROL SCHEME IN SHA TIN WILL BEGIN NEXT MONTH.

THE WORK IS TO EXTEND THE TIN SAM NULLAH BY 1,000 FEET TO LINK IT WITH THE SOUTHERN BANK OF THE SHING MUN RIVER CHANNEL.

THIS WILL INCLUDE SOME DREDGING, WIDENING AND RE-ALIGNMENT WORK TO BE CARRIED OUT IN THIS EXTENDED SECTION.

IN ADDITION, ROADWAYS ON TOP OF THE EMBANKMENTS AND A CONCRETE FOOTBRIDGE ACROSS THE NULLAH WILL BE BUILT TO PROVIDE EASY ACCESS TO LUK WO YUEN AND CHE KUNG TEMPLE.

THE WORK HAS BEEN DESIGNED BY THE DRAINAGE WORKS DIVISION OF THE CIVIL ENGINEERING OFFICE, P.W.D. WHICH WILL ALSO SUPERVISE THE CONSTRUCTION.

TENDERS FOR THIS PROJECT WERE INVITED TODAY AND THE WORK IS EXPECTED TO TAKE ABOUT 15 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE WHOLE SHING MUN RIVER FLOOD CONTROL SCHEME IS AIMED AT GIVING RESIDENTS IN NEARBY LOW-LYING AREAS ADDED PROTECTION FROM FLOOD DURING PERIODS OF HEAVY RAIN.

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REQUIEM MASS FOR MR. SORBY

A REQUIEM MASS FOR MR. TERENCE DARE SORBY WILL BE SAID AT ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, GARDEN ROAD AT 6 P.M. ON MONDAY (JULY 7).

THE LATE MR. SORBY, FORMERLY DIRECTOR OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, DIED AT HIS HOME IN EDENBRIDGE, KENT, ENGLAND ON JUNE 21. HE WAS 57.

FUNERAL SERVICE WAS HELD AT ST. LAWRENCE'S CHURCH, EDENBRIDGE ON JUNE 28.

MR. SORBY JOINED THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT SERVICE IN 1946 AS AN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER. HE WAS APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY IN 1966, A POST HE HELD UNTIL HIS RETIREMENT IN 1970.

FOLLOWING HIS RETIREMENT THAT SAME YEAR, HE BECAME EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL UNTIL SEPTEMBER, 1973 WHEN HE RETIRED. HE WAS AWARDED THE CBE IN JUNE, 1973.

MR. SORBY IS SURVIVED BY HIS WIFE, ANN; TWO SONS, NICHOLAS AND TIMOTHY= AND TWO DAUGHTERS, LINDA AND FRANCESCA.

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CHINESE WOMEN'S CLUB'S EDUCATIONAL ROLE PRAISED

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THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR. KENNETH TOPLEY TODAY PAID TRIBUTE TO THE HONG KONG CHINESE WOMEN'S CLUB FOR THEIR EDUCATIONAL ROLE BY OPERATING A NUMBER OF SCHOOLS AS A SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY.

MR. TOPLEY WAS SPEAKING AT THE CLUB'S HOIE TJO YOENG PRIMARY AND EVENING SCHOOLS GRADUATION CEREMONY.

HE NOTED THAT THE SCHOOLS PLACED EQUAL EMPHASIS ON ACADEMIC STUDIES AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, WHICH HE STRESSED, WERE JUST AS IMPORTANT AS CLASS-ROOM TEACHING OR LEARNING.

MANY PEOPLE WERE OF THE OPINION THAT EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES CREATED MORE PROBLEMS FOR TEACHERS AND DISTRACTED PUPILS FROM THEIR STUDIES.

BUT, MR. TOPLEY SAID, THESE PEOPLE DID NOT REALISE THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF PERSONALITY, THE ACQUIRING OF TECHNOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE, THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SOUND PHYSIQUE, THE PROMOTION OF CULTURAL AND AESTHETIC TASTES WERE WITHIN THE SCOPE OF EDUCATION.

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF TUNG TAU CHUEN ROAD

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MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED THAT, A SECTION OF TUNG TAU CHUEN ROAD, BETWEEN TUNG TSING ROAD AND JUNCTION ROAD, IN KOWLOON, WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL TRAFFIC FOR ONE DAY ON SUNDAY (JULY 6) STARTING AT 9 A.M. IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE DEMOLITION OF PART OF A BUILDING.

KMB BUSES ON ROUTE NO.3 WILL BE DIVERTED THROUGH HENG LAM STREET, FUNG MO STREET AND THEN BACK TO TUNG TAU CHUEN ROAD.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE POSTED TO INDICATE THE CLOSURE.

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THIRD LOTTERY DRAW TOMORROW

SOMEONE WILL BE RICHER BY \$540,800 TOMORROW (SATURDAY) WHEN THE FIRST PRIZE OF THE THIRD GOVERNMENT LOTTERY IS DRAWN.

A TOTAL OF 676,000 TICKETS WAS SOLD UP TO 9 P.M. TO-DAY (FRIDAY) WHEN SALES CLOSED. THE TOTAL PROCEEDS REACHED \$1,352,000.

THE SECOND PRIZE IS WORTH \$54,080, AND THE THIRD PRIZE \$5,408.

EACH OF THE 50 SPECIAL PRIZES AND THE 106 CONSOLATION PRIZES IS WORTH \$1,352.

THE FIRST THREE WINNING NUMBERS WILL BE DRAWN AT 10 A.M. TOMORROW IN THE CITY HALL THEATRE BY FOUR COMMERCIAL RADIO ARTISTES - MR. HO YA-YUE, MISS CONITA CHAN HOI-SEE, MISS CHENG KIT-MAN AND MISS MA SHUK-KAU.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

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