HKGIS 香港政府新聞處

DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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CONTENTS PAGE NO.

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY INITIATES TRAINING SCHEME 1

NT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE PROJECT 2

QUARTERLY BUSINESS SURVEY PUBLISHED 3

HONG KONG TAKES PART IN MACAU FIREMEN'S DAY 4

SCIENCE TEACHERS TAKE REFRESHER COURSE 5

FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION SEMINAR 5

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CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY COMMENDED FOR
INITIATING TRAINING SCHEME
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THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY WAS COMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, FOR TAKING THE INITIATIVE TO SOLVE ITS SKILLED MANPOWER PROBLEMS.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TRAINING CENTRE IN KWUN TONG THIS MORNING, SIR MURRAY SAID DEMAND ON THE BUILDING INDUSTRY OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS WOULD CERTAINLY BE EXCEPTIONALLY HEAVY, AND THE PROBLEM OF MEETING THEM WOULD NOT BE SOLVED WITHOUT VIGOROUS AND IMAGINATIVE ACTION.

TODAY'S OPENING OF THE TRAINING CENTRE, THE FIRST PROJECT OF ITS KIND, WITNESSES A SIGNIFICANT STEP FORWARD IN THE HISTORY OF INDUSTRIAL TRAINING IN HONG KONG, HE SAID.

AFTER UNVEILING A PLAQUE TO COMMEMORATE THE OFFICIAL OPENING, SIR MURRAY TOURED THE SIX-STOREY BUILDING AND WAS BRIEFED ON THE VARIOUS TRAINING FACILITIES AVAILABLE AT THE CENTRE BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TRAINING AUTHORITY, MR. GEOFFREY YEH.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF THE SPEECH BY THE GOVERNOR THIS MORNING :

+TODAY WITNESSES A SIGNIFICANT STEP FORWARD IN THE HISTORY OF INDUSTRIAL TRAINING IN HONG KONG. THIS TRAINING CENTRE IS THE FIRST PROJECT OF ITS KIND AND REPRESENTS THE INDUSTRY'S RESPONSE TO THE REQUIREMENT OF A STEADY SUPPLY OF TRAINED MANPOWER.

+THE TASKS OF IDENTIFYING MAJOR PROBLEMS IN MANPOWER TRAINING AND ASSISTING THE TRAINING NEEDS OF THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY FELL ON THE SHOULDERS OF ITAC'S BUILDING TRADES INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEE.

+IN 1970 THE BUILDING TRADES INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEE PROPOSED TO GOVERNMENT A TRAINING SCHEME WHEREBY ALL CONTRACTORS UNDERTAKING CONSTRUCTION WORK IN HONG KONG WOULD CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS THE PROVISION OF SOUND BASIC TRAINING FOR ABOUT 700 CRAFT TRAINEES ANNUALLY.

+IN SEPTEMBER 1975 THE SCHEME BECAME LAW, THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TRAINING AUTHORITY WAS APPOINTED WITH THE LATE T.S. WONG AS THE FIRST CHAIRMAN, AND FINALLY THE GOVERNMENT PROVIDED A LOAN OF $8.8 MILLION TO ASSIST THE TRAINING AUTHORITY TO BUILD AND EQUIP THIS CENTRE.

/+THE DEMAND .....

+THE DEMAND FOR THE SCHEME SEEMS PROVED SINCE I UNDERSTAND THAT APPLICATIONS FOR ENROLMENT EXCEEDS THE CAPACITY MANY TIMES OVER.

+I SHOULD LIKE TO COMMEND THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY GENERALLY FOR TAKING THIS INITIATIVE TO SOLVE ITS SKILLED MANPOWER PROBLEMS. CERTAINLY THE DEMAND ON THE BUILDING INDUSTRY OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS WILL BE EXCEPTIONALLY HEAVY, AND THE PROBLEM OF MEETING THEM WILL NOT BE SOLVED WITHOUT VIGOROUS AND IMAGINATIVE ACTION.

+MANY PEOPLE HAVE WORKED HARD TO MAKE THIS PROJECT A REALITY. I AM SURE YOU WOULD WISH ME TO REMEMBER THE VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION MADE BY THE LATE MR. T.S. WONG. I CONGRATULATE YOU, MR. YEH, AND MEMBERS OF YOUR TRAINING AUTHORITY FOR YOUR DEDICATED EFFORTS IN BRINGING THIS CENTRE INTO EXISTENCE SO SPEEDILY.

+I HAVE THE GREATEST PLEASURE IN DECLARING OPEN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TRAINING CENTRE.+

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NT FUND RAISING DRIVE FOR SPORTS CENTRE

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A MASSIVE DRIVE WILL SOON BE LAUNCHED IN THE NEW TERRITORIES TO RAISE FUNDS AS THE NEW TERRITORIES PEOPLE'S CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE COST OF THE SILVER JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE PROJECT.

A NEW TERRITORIES-WIDE +WALK FOR A MILLION+ IS PLANNED TO TAKE PLACE SOMETIME BEFORE NOVEMBER. THE TARGET IS $2 TO $2.5 MILLION.

OTHER FUND RAISING MEANS WILL ALSO BE DEVISED TO BOOST THE NEW TERRITORIES' FINANCIAL SHARE OF THE SPORTS CENTRE WHICH IS TO BE BUILT IN SHA TIN NEXT YEAR.

A CENTRAL COMMITTEE WAS FORMED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) TO CO-ORDINATE THESE FUND RAISING ACTIVITIES. THE CHAIRMAN IS THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR. DAVID AKERS-JONES.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ARE DRAWN FROM THE HEUNG YEE KUK AND A WIDE SECTION OF THE NEW TERRITORIES COMMUNITY, AS WELL AS THE VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND DISTRICT OFFICES.

TWO SUB-COMMITTEES WERE ALSO SET UP. ONE IS CHARGED WITH THE TASK OF PLANNING THE TERRITORY-WIDE CHARITY WALK, UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF MR. CHEUNG YAN LUNG, WHO IS THE VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE HEUNG YEE KUK, AND THE OTHER WITH ORGANISING OTHER FUND RAISING ACTIVITIES UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF MR. CHAN YAT SUN, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE KUK.

/THE TWO .....

THE TWO SUB-COMMITTEES WILL MEET SHORTLY TO FORMULATE PLANS AND REPORT TO THE MAIN COMMITTEE IN DUE COURSE.

OUTLINING THE BACKGROUND TO THE FUND RAISING DRIVE, MR. AKERS-JONES SAID TODAY THE QUEEN'S SILVER JUBILEE PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY FOR BUILDING SOMETHING OF PERMANENT VALUE FOR THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF HONG KONG AND FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS.

+THAT IS WHY IT HAS BEEN DECIDED TO BUILD THE SILVER JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE AND WE ARE LUCKY BECAUSE IT WILL BE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES,+ HE SAID.

FOR THIS PROJECT THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB HAS DONATED 41 ACRES OF LAND RECLAIMED AT A COST OF $25 MILLION ADJACENT TO THE SHA TIN RACE COURSE, WHILE THE GOVERNMENT WILL PROVIDE ANOTHER $25 MILLION FOR BUILDING WORKS.

+HOWEVER, $25 MILLION WILL NOT BE ENOUGH FOR ALL THE FACILITIES WE WILL NEED IN THE SPORTS CENTRE. MORE MONEY IS NEEDED.

+I UNDERSTAND THAT THE JOCKEY CLUB WILL MEET DOLLAR TO DOLLAR THE SUM OF MONEY THAT IS RAISED.

+THE SILVER JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE IS AN IMPORTANT PROJECT FOR ALL YOUNG PEOPLE, AND I AM SURE PEOPLE IN HONG KONG, PARTICULARLY THOSE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, WILL GIVE THEIR FULLEST SUPPORT TO THIS WORTHWHILE PROJECT,+ HE SAID.

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REPORT ON QUARTERLY BUSINESS SURVEY

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT HAS COMPILED A REPORT ON A QUARTERLY BUSINESS SURVEY HELD IN JULY 1977 - THE SECOND OF A SERIES OF QUARTERLY SURVEYS FIRST IMPLEMENTED IN APRIL 1977.

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN CAUTIONED THAT IN A SURVEY OF THIS NATURE, CONSIDERABLE RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE IN THE INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS, AS IT HAD YET TO BE ESTABLISHED FIRMLY THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE RESPONDENTS' PERCEPTION OF THE PAST AND THE FUTURE ACCORDS WITH THE UNDERLYING TRENDS.

ABOUT 620 FIRMS FROM VARIOUS TYPES OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY, FORMING A CROSS-SECTION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY, WERE ASKED ABOUT THEIR BUSINESS EXPERIENCE IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF THIS YEAR, AND THEIR BUSINESS EXPECTATIONS FOR THE THIRD QUARTER OF THE YEAR.

THE RESULTS SHOW A WIDE VARIATION IN RESPECT OF LIKELY PERFORMANCE DURING THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1977 BETWEEN PARTICULAR INDUSTRIES AND INDIVIDUAL FIRMS, THOUGH SOME GROWTH WAS LIKELY FOR THE ECONOMY AS A WHOLE.

/THE TEXTILE .....

THE TEXTILE AND CLOTHING INDUSTRIES, IN PARTICULAR, WERE EXPECTING RELATIVELY SLACK BUSINESS, BUT THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY WAS THE LESS WORRIED OF THE TWO.

FOR OTHER MANUFACTURING SECTORS, INDUSTRIALISTS WERE LESS OPTIMISTIC THAN THEY WERE THREE MONTHS AGO=

+THIS MUST BE SEEN AGAINST THE BACKGROUND THAT THE THIRD QUARTER IN A YEAR IS THE NORMAL EXPORTS SEASONAL PEAK. NON-MANUFACTURING SECTORS, ON THE WHOLE, HAD A SOMEWHAT BETTER OUTLOOK,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

WITH REGARD TO THE BUSINESS OUTCOME IN THE SECOND QUARTER, THE SURVEY SUGGESTS THAT THE ECONOMY, TAKEN AS A WHOLE, ACHIEVED SOME GROWTH. EXCEPT FOR THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY, MOST MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES FELT THAT THEY HAD MADE SOME PROGRESS. THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY DID WELL.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID ALL THIS WAS IN LINE WITH THE PREVIOUS FORECAST. WITHIN THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE, FIRMS REPORTED VARYING EXPERIENCES, AND THE TRADE AS A WHOLE SEEMED NOT TO BE DOING AS WELL AS WAS PREVIOUSLY FORECAST.

COMMENTING ON THE SURVEY, THE SPOKESMAN STATED THAT THE DATA, OBTAINED WITH A MINIMUM TIME LAG, WERE BASICALLY INTENDED TO FACILITATE A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF THE CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION OF HONG KONG.

+APART FROM A LIMITED NUMBER OF QUESTIONS REQUIRING ANSWERS IN QUANTITATIVE TERMS, THE FIRMS WERE ASKED TO COMPARE THE QUARTER JUST PAST WITH THE PREVIOUS QUARTER AND THE FORTHCOMING ONE. THEY HAD TO INDICATE WHETHER, IN THEIR OPINION, A CERTAIN ECONOMIC VARIABLE WAS 'UP', 'SAME' OR 'DOWN',+ HE SAID.

COPIES OF THE REPORT, CONTAINING AN ANALYSIS AND STATISTICAL TABLES ON VARIOUS ECONOMIC VARIABLES, HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED TO FIRMS TAKING PART IN THE SURVEY AND OTHER BUSINESS ORGANISATIONS.

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HK FIREMEN ATTEND MACAU FIREMEN'S DAY

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A PARTY OF 20 OFFICERS OF THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN INVITED BY THE MACAU FIRE BRIGADE TO ATTEND THEIR FIREMEN'S DAY TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

WHILE IN MACAU, THE PARTY, HEADED BY DIVISIONAL OFFICER TAM HON-CHEONG, WILL BE ATTENDING A REQUIEM MASS FOR THE SOULS OF DECEASED FIREMEN TOMORROW MORNING AND IN THE AFTERNOON A FRIENDLY MINI-SOCCER MATCH BETWEEN MEMBERS OF THE TWO SERVICES WILL BE HELD, TO BE FOLLOWED BY A FRATERNITY DINNER AT THE MACAU CENTRAL FIRE STATION.

THE PARTY WILL RETURN TO HONG KONG ON FRIDAY MORNING.

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JUNIOR SECONDARY SCIENCE REFRESHER COURSE

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THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS), MR. ALEC REEVE STRESSED THIS MORNING THAT +SCIENCE IS A PRACTICAL SUBJECT THAT REQUIRES BOTH 'BRAIN' AND 'HAND', AND THE ROLE OF A SCIENCE TEACHER IS TO MAKE SCIENCE INTERESTING AND TO GUIDE HIS PUPILS TO INVESTIGATE FOR THEMSELVES.+

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE REFRESHER COURSE ON JUNIOR SECONDARY SCIENCE HELD AT GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION.

+PUPILS NEED TO DO EXPERIMENTS, TO OBSERVE AND RECORD OBSERVATION, TO THINK ABOUT THEIR EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS AND FINALLY TO DRAW THEIR OWN CONCLUSIONS.

+IT IS ESSENTIAL, THEREFORE, THAT TEACHERS SHOULD PREPARE THEIR PUPILS BEFOREHAND, ENCOURAGE ACTIVE THINKING DURING AND AFTER PRACTICAL WORK, AND ORGANISE FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSIONS,+ HE ADDED.

THE EIGHT-DAY COURSE IS DESIGNED TO ACQUAINT TEACHERS WITH APPROACHES TO AND METHODS OF TEACHING THE SECOND HALF OF THE NEW SCIENCE SYLLABUS.

ENCOURAGING THE TEACHERS TO IMPROVISE SIMPLE HOME-MADE APPARATUS, MR. REEVE SAID, +HOME-MADE APPARATUS IS DEFINITELY MUCH CHEAPER AND OFTEN BETTER SUITED TO THE NEEDS OF TEACHERS AND PUPILS.+

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SEMINAR ON FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION

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A SEMINAR ON FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION WILL BE HELD FOR MONG KOK RESIDENTS ON FRIDAY (AUGUST 19) TO PROMOTE THE CONCEPT OF SUCH EDUCATION.

SPONSORED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, ABOUT 60 RESIDENTS IN THE AREA ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND THE SEMINAR AT THE COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICE CENTRE, MONG KOK, FROM 7 P.M. TO 9.30 P.M.

SOCIAL WORKERS FROM THE FAMILY SERVICES DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT WILL BE THE SPEAKERS AT THE SEMINAR.

THOSE WHO ARE INTERESTED IN IT SHOULD APPLY TO THE COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICE AT 38-40 SAI YEUNG CHOI STREET, SECOND FLOOR, MONG KOK.

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