



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 1977

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QUEEN'S SILVER JUBILEE APPEAL FUND
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AN APPEAL FUND IN CONNECTION WITH THE QUEEN'S SILVER JUBILEE THIS YEAR HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED IN HONG KONG TO RAISE MONEY FOR PROJECTS THAT WILL BENEFIT YOUNG PEOPLE HERE.

THE QUEEN'S SILVER JUBILEE APPEAL FUND AS IT IS KNOWN, HAS BEEN SET UP WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE QUEEN'S SILVER JUBILEE APPEAL ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL IN BRITAIN, OF WHICH HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE CHARLES IS CHAIRMAN.

A COMMITTEE WILL MANAGE THE APPEAL FUND IN HONG KONG AND THE GOVERNOR HAS APPOINTED MR. Q.W. LEE AS ITS CHAIRMAN. ITS TREASURER IS MR. M.G.R. SANDBERG AND OTHER MEMBERS COMPRISE LEADING PERSONALITIES FROM THE COMMUNITY.

ANY PERSON OR ORGANISATION WISHING TO DONATE TOWARDS THE FUND SHOULD SEND THEIR DONATIONS TO MR. M.G.R. SANDBERG, QUEEN'S SILVER JUBILEE FUND, C/O THE HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION AT 1, QUEEN'S ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG. APPROPRIATE RECOGNITION WILL BE MADE OF DONATIONS IF DONORS SO WISH.

THE MONEY RAISED IN THE APPEAL WILL BE SPENT ENTIRELY IN HONG KONG AND WILL GO TOWARDS PROJECTS THAT WILL BE OF MOST BENEFIT TO THE YOUTH IN HONG KONG AS A WHOLE. IT IS ENVISAGED THAT INITIALLY THE FUNDS RAISED WILL BE USED TO PROVIDE SOME OF THE FACILITIES AND PROGRAMMES AT THE PLANNED SHA TIN SPORTS CENTRE.

THE SILVER JUBILEE APPEAL COMMITTEE FEELS THAT THIS CENTRE WOULD BE AN EMINENTLY SUITABLE PROJECT FOR THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG TO ASSOCIATE WITH IN EXPRESSING THEIR GOOD WISHES TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN ON THE OCCASION OF HER SILVER JUBILEE.

THE SPORTS CENTRE, DETAILS OF WHICH HAVE ALREADY BEEN ANNOUNCED, WILL BE BUILT ON 41 ACRES OF RECLAIMED LAND AT THE WESTERN END OF THE NEW RACE COURSE AT SHA TIN. WHEN COMPLETED BY ABOUT 1981, THE SPORTS CENTRE, WHICH WILL BE DIFFERENT FROM ANY SPORTS FACILITIES EVER BUILT IN HONG KONG, WILL PROVIDE TRAINING AND COACHING BY NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL EXPERTS TO RAISE THE LEVEL OF SPORT THROUGHOUT HONG KONG AND STIMULATE INCREASING PARTICIPATION IN SPORT.

THE LAND ON WHICH THE SPORTS CENTRE IS TO BE BUILT IS BEING MADE AVAILABLE BY THE JOCKEY CLUB AND THE GOVERNMENT IS PUTTING UP \$25 MILLION TO MEET INITIAL CONSTRUCTION COSTS.

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NEW SAND DEPOT IN KWUN TONG OPENED

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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT HAS OPENED A NEW DEPOT IN KOWLOON FOR THE SALE OF MANUFACTURED SAND -- A CHEAPER YET SUPERIOR ALTERNATIVE TO MARINE SAND FOR USE IN PLASTERS, MORTARS AND CONCRETE.

THE NEW DEPOT IS LOCATED IN THE HEART OF KWUN TONG ON THE KOWLOON BAY RECLAMATION OFF SHUN YIP STREET AND SHOULD PROVE A BOON TO BUSY KOWLOON CONTRACTORS, PARTICULARLY MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CONTRACTORS WHO HAVE EXTENSIVE WORKS IN THE KOWLOON BAY AREA.

UP TO NOW, CONTRACTORS WORKING IN KOWLOON HAD TO TRANSPORT MANUFACTURED SAND ACROSS THE HARBOUR FROM THE NORTH POINT SAND MONOPOLY DEPOT WHERE IT WAS FIRST INTRODUCED IN OCTOBER LAST YEAR.

MR. DICK PILLING, SENIOR ENGINEER OF THE P.W.D.'S QUARRIES SECTION, SAID TODAY A PLENTIFUL SUPPLY OF MANUFACTURED SAND WAS NOW AVAILABLE AT THE KOWLOON BAY DEPOT AND HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT IT COULD MEET THE EXPECTED HEAVY DEMAND.

THE NEW PRODUCT IS SELLING FOR \$36.80 PER CUBIC METRE, INCLUDING THE COST OF MECHANICAL LOADING -- COMPARED WITH ABOUT \$40.50 PER CUBIC METRE, INCLUDING LOADING, FOR MARINE SAND.

MR. PILLING SAID MANUFACTURED SAND WAS BASICALLY MADE BY CRUSHING GOOD QUALITY GRANITE AND EMPLOYING SPECIAL SCREENS TO GIVE THE REQUIRED GRADING CHARACTERISTICS.

+BESIDES BEING CHEAPER, THE NEW PRODUCT OFFERS CERTAIN DISTINCT ADVANTAGES OVER MARINE SAND,+ HE SAID.

+IN THE FIRST PLACE IT HAS THE ADVANTAGE OF CONSISTENT GRADING, IT CONTAINS NO SALT, SHELLS OR OTHER DELETERIOUS MATTER AND ITS COLOUR TOO IS CONSISTANT -- MAKING IT AN IDEAL SUBSTITUTE FOR MARINE SAND,+ HE SAID.

+TESTS CARRIED OUT BY THE P.W.D. MATERIALS TESTING LABORATORIES AND THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION HAVE SHOWN THAT MANUFACTURED SAND IS SUITABLE FOR ITS INTENDED USES AND, IN GENERAL, IS SUPERIOR TO MARINE SAND WHICH HAS THE DISADVANTAGES OF INCONSISTENCY OF GRADING, AND SALT AND SHELL CONTENT,+ HE ADDED.

MANUFACTURED SAND IS SOLD THROUGH THE GOVERNMENT SAND MONOPOLY SALES OFFICES IN KOWLOON AND HONG KONG ISLAND IN THE SAME WAY AS MARINE SAND.

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ACHIEVEMENTS OF JOB PLACEMENT UNIT
IN ITS 10-YEAR HISTORY

THE JOB PLACEMENT UNIT OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S REHABILITATION DIVISION FOUND EMPLOYMENT FOR 526 DISABLED PERSONS DURING THE LAST FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING ON MARCH 31 -- A RECORD IN ITS 10-YEAR HISTORY.

THIS REPRESENTS AN INCREASE OF 220 JOB PLACEMENTS OR 71.9 PER CENT OVER THAT FOR THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

OF THE 526 SUCCESSFUL PLACEMENTS, 65 (12.36 PER CENT) WERE BLIND, 207 (39.35 PER CENT) CRIPPLED, 150 (28.52 PER CENT) DEAF, 49 (9.31 PER CENT) EX-MENTAL PATIENTS, 43 (8.17 PER CENT) MENTALLY RETARDED AND 12 (2.28 PER CENT) EX-TB PATIENTS.

OF THE TOTAL, 140 (26.62 PER CENT) HAVE BEEN TRAINED IN THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING CLASSES OR SHELTERED WORKSHOPS OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S REHABILITATION CENTRES AND INSTITUTIONS.

THE FIGURE FOR THE LAST FINANCIAL YEAR BRINGS TO 2,633 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF JOB PLACEMENTS SINCE THE UNIT WAS SET UP IN APRIL 1967.

OF THE 2,633, 295 (11.20 PER CENT) WERE BLIND, 1,039 (39.46 PER CENT) CRIPPLED OR PHYSICALLY DISABLED, 619 (23.51 PER CENT) DEAF, 35 (1.33 PER CENT) EX-LEPROSY PATIENTS, 359 (13.63 PER CENT) EX-MENTAL PATIENTS, 168 (6.38 PER CENT) MENTALLY RETARDED AND 118 (4.48 PER CENT) EX-TB PATIENTS.

DISCLOSING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE JOB PLACEMENT UNIT OF ITS TENTH ANNIVERSARY THIS MONTH, MR. KHOO TAI-PIN, ACTING ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (SOCIAL WORK), RECALLED THAT IN ITS FIRST YEAR OF EXISTENCE, THE UNIT WAS ABLE TO FIND JOBS FOR ONLY 46 DISABLED PERSONS.

+THE LATEST FIGURES REFLECT THE INCREASING RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYERS OF THE CONTRIBUTION DISABLED WORKERS ARE ABLE TO MAKE,+ HE SAID.

+AT THE SAME TIME,+ HE ADDED, +THE EMPLOYERS ARE MORE AWARE NOWADAYS OF THE BIG, LARGELY UNTAPPED RESERVOIR OF MANPOWER WHICH MAY BECOME AVAILABLE TO THE LABOUR-HUNGRY INDUSTRY THROUGH SELECTIVE PLACEMENT ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.+

TURNING TO THE WORK OF PLACEMENT OFFICERS, MR. KHOO SAID, +THEY CONTINUE TO ADD TO A GROWING LIST OF EMPLOYERS FOR MORE JOB OPPORTUNITIES, CULTIVATED BY CONVINCING THE EMPLOYERS AND THEIR PERSONNEL MANAGERS OF THE CAPABILITIES OF THE DISABLED, APPRAISING JOB REQUIREMENTS AND SUGGESTING SUITABLE OPENINGS.

/+THEY ALSO

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+THEY ALSO HAVE TO ASK THE APPLICANT TO CONSIDER A JOB WHICH IS COMMENSURATE WITH HIS AGE, RESIDUAL CAPACITY, APTITUDE AND INTEREST.

+ALSO TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT ARE SUCH FACTORS AS PERSONALITY, PAST EXPERIENCE AND LOCALITY OF RESIDENCE,+ MR. KHOO SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT ALTHOUGH THE DISABLED WAS GIVEN AS MUCH HELP AS POSSIBLE IN THE INITIAL STAGE TO EASE INTO THE JOB, ADJUSTMENT DIFFICULTIES WERE BY NO MEANS UNKNOWN.

+SOMETIMES IT IS A QUESTION OF WRONGFUL EXPECTATIONS BETWEEN THE EMPLOYER AND THE EMPLOYEE. AT OTHER TIMES, IT MAY BE DUE, ON THE PART OF THE DISABLED, TO THE LACK OF CONFIDENCE, INADEQUATE PREPARATION FOR A SPECIFIC JOB OR INABILITY TO ADJUST TO THE ENVIRONMENT AS WELL AS THE ATTITUDE OF THE WORKMATES.+

IN VIEW OF THESE PROBLEMS, HE SAID, PLACEMENT OFFICERS HAD TO MAKE FOLLOW-UP VISITS AS FREQUENTLY AS CIRCUMSTANCES DICTATED. THESE VISITS WOULD CONTINUE FOR A PERIOD OF THREE MONTHS BEFORE A PLACEMENT WAS DECLARED SUCCESSFUL.

MR. KHOO CONGRATULATED THOSE DISABLED WHO HAVE ACHIEVED +VOCATIONAL EQUALITY WITH THEIR NON-DISABLED PEERS+ FOR THEIR STAMINA, PERSISTENCE AND ADJUSTMENT AND THANKED THEM FOR THEIR CO-OPERATION WITH THEIR PLACEMENT OFFICERS, THEIR WORKMATES AND MANAGEMENT AS A WHOLE.

+THEY MAY NOT REALISE IT, BUT THE EYES OF THE COMMUNITY ARE UPON THEM BECAUSE THEY ARE THE VANGUARD OF A NEW GENERATION OF WORKERS WHO, DESPITE THEIR VARIOUS DISABILITIES, ARE ACCEPTED AS ORDINARY WORKERS, AS IF SUCH HANDICAPPING CONDITIONS ARE NON-EXISTENT.+

DESPITE THE ACHIEVEMENTS DURING THE PAST TEN YEARS, MR. KHOO EMPHASISED THAT WHAT HAD BEEN DONE FOR THE DISABLED STILL SEEMED INSIGNIFICANT, CONSIDERING THE SIZE OF THE LABOUR FORCE IN HONG KONG.

HE URGED EMPLOYERS TO BE SYMPATHETIC TO THE CAUSE AND TO TAKE A LITTLE MORE TROUBLE TO HIRE THE DISABLED IN ORDER TO MAKE THE SCHEME A SUCCESS.

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QUARTERLY INDEX OF TEXTILE PRODUCTION
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IN ORDER TO SHOW MORE EXPLICITLY THE RECENT TREND OF PHYSICAL PRODUCTION IN HONG KONG'S TEXTILES INDUSTRIES, THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT HAS COMPILED A QUARTERLY INDEX OF TEXTILE PRODUCTION WITH 1973 AS THE BASE PERIOD.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THAT THE INDEX WAS COMPILED FROM RESULTS OF A QUARTERLY TEXTILE PRODUCTION SURVEY WHICH COVERED MAINLY THE SPINNING AND WEAVING INDUSTRIES.

WITHIN EACH INDUSTRY, HE SAID, A NUMBER OF REPRESENTATIVE COMMODITY ITEMS WERE SELECTED AND THEIR VOLUME OF PRODUCTION COMPARED WITH SUCCESSIVE QUARTERS. CHANGES IN THE QUANTITIES OF INDIVIDUAL COMMODITY ITEMS PRODUCED WERE THEN PROPERLY WEIGHTED TO GIVE INDEXES AT THE INDUSTRY AND OVERALL LEVELS.

THE INDEX SHOWS THAT PHYSICAL PRODUCTION OF THE TEXTILES INDUSTRIES REACHED A PEAK IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1976. THE OVERALL INDEX STOOD AT 133 IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1976 BUT IN THE FOURTH QUARTER, IT WAS 121.

VIEWS ON AN ANNUAL BASIS, THE VOLUME OF TEXTILE PRODUCTION FOR THE TWO INDUSTRIES COVERED HAS INCREASED BY 26% SINCE 1973, THE INDEX FOR 1976 BEING 126. THE CORRESPONDING SPINNING INDUSTRY AND WEAVING INDUSTRY INDEXES WERE RESPECTIVELY 115 AND 143.

COPIES OF A REPORT ON THIS INDEX ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE DEPARTMENT UPON REQUEST AND THE LATEST INDEX FIGURES ARE BEING PUBLISHED IN THE HONG KONG MONTHLY DIGEST OF STATISTICS.

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WATER CUT
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WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN SHAU KEI WAN WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR FIVE HOURS FROM 1 A.M. ON TUESDAY (APRIL 26).

THE PREMISES AFFECTED ARE BOUNDED BY SHAU KEI WAN ROAD, CHURCH STREET AND THE SEAFRONT, INCLUDING FACTORY STREET, TAI TAK STREET, MONG LUNG STREET, KAM WA STREET, PO MAN STREET, SHAU KEI WAN MAIN STREET EAST AND WANG WA STREET.

ON THE SAME DAY, WATER SUPPLY TO ALL PREMISES IN AP LEI CHAU, INCLUDING THE AP LEI CHAU POWER STATION, WILL ALSO BE TURNED OFF FOR FOUR HOURS FROM 1 A.M.

THE TEMPORARY STOPPAGES ARE TO ENABLE THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT TO CARRY OUT NIGHT LEAKAGE TESTS.

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