



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

MONDAY, APRIL 25, 1977

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PLAN FOR PREVENTIVE SOCIAL WORK

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A PROGRAMME PLAN IS BEING DEvised FOR PREVENTIVE SOCIAL WORK FOR THE YOUTH OF HONG KONG, THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR. DENIS BRAY REVEALED TODAY.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE THIRD REGIONAL YOUTH WORK CONFERENCE FOR ASIA AND WESTERN PACIFIC, MR. BRAY INDICATED THAT THIS FOLLOWED THE EXPERIENCE GAINED FROM FOUR PILOT PROJECTS AIMED AT TACKLING YOUTH PROBLEM BY TESTING VARIOUS APPROACHES.

+HAPPILY NOT MANY CHILDREN ARE INVOLVED BUT THEY DO NEED HELP,+ HE TOLD THE GATHERING DISCUSSING 'YOUTH: DEVELOPMENT THROUGH INVOLVEMENT'.

REFERRING TO THE PLAN, MR. BRAY SAID THAT IT WOULD BE COSTLY AND THERE WAS NO SURE GUIDE TO SUCCESS.

HE HOPED, HOWEVER, THAT THE CONFERENCE WOULD GIVE SOME ATTENTION TO THIS ASPECT OF YOUTH SOCIAL WORK.

MR. BRAY RECALLED THAT A POPULAR THEORY IN HONG KONG AT ONE TIME WAS THAT YOUNG CRIMINALS WERE MADE FROM THOSE WHO LEFT SCHOOL AT 12 BUT COULD NOT, BY LAW, START WORK UNTIL THEY WERE 14.

+THERE WAS SUCH STRENGTH IN THIS BELIEF THAT SEVERAL PROJECTS WERE STARTED AIMED AT RESCUING THESE CHILDREN.

+IN ONE CASE WE TRACED EVERY CHILD OF THIS AGE LIVING IN A LARGE HOUSING ESTATE. WHEN WE GOT DOWN TO IT WE FOUND MOST OF THE CHILDREN WHO WERE NOT AT SCHOOL WERE HELPING AT HOME OR IN SOME FORM OF LIGHT EMPLOYMENT -- A FEW WERE FOUND IN FACTORIES WHERE THEY SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN BUT VERY FEW.

+THEY WERE FOR THE MOST PART ORDINARY CHILDREN WITH NO CRIMINAL TENDENCIES.

+IT BECAME CLEAR THAT SECONDARY SCHOOLING FOR ALL WILL NOT SOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF THESE CHILDREN,+ MR. BRAY SAID.
+THEY NEED SOMETHING MORE.+

HE SAID THAT FOR THE GREAT BULK OF YOUNG PEOPLE IT WAS POSSIBLE TO OFFER SOMETHING MORE POSITIVE. A VARIETY OF SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES WERE AVAILABLE.

THEIR VALUE, MR. BRAY BELIEVED, SHOULD BE MEASURED BY THE SUCCESS THEY HAD IN TURNING OUT YOUNG PEOPLE WHO CAN CONTRIBUTE TO A SATISFYING AND WORTHWHILE COMMUNITY LIFE.

/+THIS IS

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+THIS IS AN IMPORTANT OBJECTIVE IN ANY SOCIETY BUT IN HONG KONG, WHERE CROWDED LIVING AND WORKING CONDITIONS ARE THE NORM, LIFE WOULD BE INTOLERABLE IF PEOPLE WERE NOT BROUGHT UP TO EXERCISE FORBEARANCE AND CONSIDERATION, IF THEY DID NOT THINK OF COMMUNITY AS WELL AS SELF.

+ALL THE VARIOUS SERVICES AIMED AT THIS END COMPRISE WHAT WE HAVE COME TO CALL COMMUNITY BUILDING,+ HE SAID.

RECENTLY THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS HAD BEEN REARRANGED SO THAT HE WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR SERVICES WHICH ACHIEVED COMMUNITY BUILDING, MR. BRAY ADDED.

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PART VIII OF COMMODITIES TRADING ORDINANCE 1976
EFFECTIVE FROM WEDNESDAY
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PART VIII OF THE COMMODITIES TRADING ORDINANCE 1976, WHICH DEALS WITH THE SETTING UP OF A COMPENSATION FUND BY THE EXCHANGE COMPANY, WILL BECOME OPERATIVE ON WEDNESDAY (APRIL 27).

UNDER THIS PART, THE EXCHANGE COMPANY WILL BE REQUIRED TO ESTABLISH A COMPENSATION FUND TO MEET CLAIMS OF CLIENTS IN THE EVENT OF A DEFAULT COMMITTED BY THE SHAREHOLDERS.

THE EXCHANGE COMPANY WILL ALSO BE REQUIRED TO DEPOSIT AND KEEP DEPOSITED WITH THE COMMODITIES TRADING COMMISSION IN RESPECT OF EACH SHAREHOLDER AN AMOUNT OF \$50,000 IN CASH OR \$25,000 IN CASH AND A BANK GUARANTEE OF \$25,000 IN A FORM ACCEPTABLE TO THE COMMISSION.

THIS PART ALSO PRESCRIBES THAT THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION THAT MAY BE PAID TO ANY PERSON SHALL NOT EXCEED \$1,000,000 IN RESPECT OF EACH SHAREHOLDER.

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REINFORCED RABIES PREVENTION MEASURES
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NORMAL PREVENTIVE MEASURES AGAINST THE OCCURRENCE OF RABIES IN HONG KONG ARE TO BE REINFORCED FROM NEXT WEEK WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF COMBINED OPERATIONS BETWEEN DOG LICENSING, INOCULATION AND CONTROL TEAMS.

THESE COMBINED OPERATIONS WILL BE CARRIED OUT DISTRICT BY DISTRICT, STARTING IN SHAU KEI WAN ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 4.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT EXPLAINED TODAY THAT THE COMBINED OPERATIONS HAD BEEN PLANNED SINCE THE START OF THIS YEAR.

THE PROGRAMME HAD BEEN DRAWN UP AND FINALISED LONG BEFORE THE RECENT DEATH, AT THE BRITISH MILITARY HOSPITAL OF A GURKHA SOLDIER WHO HAD CONTRACTED RABIES IN NEPAL.

+ALTHOUGH WE ARE SATISFIED THAT THE CASE CONCERNED WAS A RARE AND ISOLATED EXAMPLE, WHICH POSES NO THREAT OF INFECTION FOR THE POPULATION AT LARGE, IT HAS HELPED TO REMIND THE POPULACE OF THE EVER-PRESENT DANGER THAT RABIES MAY BE RE-IMPORTED INTO HONG KONG,+ COMMENTED THE SPOKESMAN.

+OUR OBJECT, IN REINFORCING PREVENTIVE MEASURES THROUGH COMBINED OPERATIONS ON A DISTRICT BY DISTRICT BASIS, IS TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC TO UNDERSTAND THIS DANGER AND TO CO-OPERATE WITH US IN TAKING EVERY POSSIBLE PRECAUTION TO AVOID IT.+

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

A PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AT 10.30 A.M. NEXT TUESDAY, (MAY 3) IN THE G.I.S. THEATRE TO EXPLAIN THE RABIES PREVENTIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMME IN DETAIL. YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

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CHARITABLE FUND REACHES \$5M. MARK
WITHIN WEEKS OF ITS ESTABLISHMENT

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THE TANG SHIU KIN AND HO TIM CHARITABLE FUND, WHICH WAS SET UP ONLY A FEW WEEKS AGO, HAS RECEIVED DONATIONS AMOUNTING TO \$5 MILLION.

THIS WAS DISCLOSED BY THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE TODAY AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF THE PAST CHAIRMEN OF THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS.

FOLLOWING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FUND, HE SAID, A COMMITTEE WAS FORMED TO MAKE RULES GOVERNING CONDITIONS OF PAYMENT, RANGE OF ASSISTANCE, INVESTMENTS AND DISPOSAL OF TRUST PROPERTIES.

UNDER THE RULES, HE ADDED, FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WOULD BE PROVIDED TO PERSONS OR FAMILIES TO COPE WITH HARDSHIPS ARISING FROM UNEXPECTED CIRCUMSTANCES, SUCH AS THE DEATH OF A BREADWINNER.

THE SAME ASSISTANCE WOULD ALSO BE GIVEN TO PATIENTS DUE TO BE DISCHARGED FROM HOSPITALS WHO MAY HAVE DIFFICULTY IN MEETING SPECIAL EXPENSES DURING CONVALESCENCE.

AMONG OTHERS COVERED BY THE RULES ARE THOSE SUFFERING FROM A PHYSICAL OR MENTAL DISABILITY OR CHRONIC ILLNESSES AND THOSE NEEDY FAMILIES DUE TO MOVE TO NEW ACCOMMODATION IN LICENSED AREAS OR IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES.

MR. LEE SAID THAT WITH EFFECT FROM MAY 1, APPLICATIONS FOR ASSISTANCE COULD BE MADE TO THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS, PO LEUNG KUK OR DISTRICT OFFICES OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

HE POINTED OUT THAT SOCIAL WORKERS OF ANY VOLUNTARY AGENCY, ON COMING ACROSS CASES THAT REQUIRED IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE, MIGHT REFER THEM TO THE COMMITTEE OR THE DEPARTMENT.

THE DIRECTOR FELT SURE THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FUND WOULD NOT ONLY ENRICH THE RESOURCES FOR SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES, BUT WOULD ALSO PROVIDE PRACTICAL HELP TO ALL SOCIAL WORKERS IN DEALING WITH THEIR CASES.

MR. LEE PRAISED MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF PAST CHAIRMEN OF THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE WELFARE OF HONG KONG.

+YOUR ENTHUSIASM HAS REFLECTED THE TRADITIONAL SPIRIT OF THE LOCAL RESIDENTS WHO ARE ALWAYS READY TO HELP EACH OTHER AS WELL AS THOSE IN NEED,+ HE SAID. +IT IS ALSO IN SUCH SPIRIT THAT VOLUNTARY AGENCIES HAVE DEVELOPED IN HONG KONG.+

THE GOVERNMENT, HE SAID, PAID CLOSE ATTENTION TO THE VALUABLE SERVICES PROVIDED BY THESE VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND HAD BEEN GIVING THEM VERY SUBSTANTIAL SUPPORT.

MR. LEE HOPED THAT FURTHER DEVELOPMENT WOULD BE ACHIEVED THROUGH CONSULTATION AND CO-OPERATION WHICH ARE THE CHARACTERISTICS OF SOCIAL WELFARE IN HONG KONG.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR MARCH

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THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) FOR MARCH WAS 117, ONE POINT LOWER THAN THAT FOR THE PREVIOUS MONTH.

THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS FELL BY THREE POINTS. THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SALT WATER FISH, LIVE POULTRY AND FRESH VEGETABLES DECLINED WHILE THOSE FOR PORK AND MEALS BOUGHT AWAY FROM HOME ADVANCED.

THE INDEX FOR TRANSPORT AND VEHICLES DECREASED BY THREE POINTS AS PUBLIC LIGHT BUS FARES RETURNED TO NORMAL AFTER THE CHINESE NEW YEAR. THE REDUCTIONS OF TWO POINTS EACH IN THE INDEXES FOR CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR AND FOR SERVICES WERE MAINLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO LOWER PRICES FOR SOME OUTERCLOTHING ITEMS AND REDUCED CHARGES FOR HAIRDRESSING AFTER THE CHINESE NEW YEAR.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE INDEX FOR HOUSING ROSE BY TWO POINTS AS A RESULT OF AN INCREASE IN THE RENT OF SOME PRIVATE DWELLINGS. THE TWO-POINT RISE IN THE INDEX FOR FUEL AND LIGHT WAS DUE TO INCREASED PRICES FOR KEROSENE AND LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS AND HIGHER ELECTRICITY CHARGES.

MOVEMENTS IN THE INDEXES FOR THE OTHER COMMODITY SECTIONS WERE INSIGNIFICANT.

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (B) FOR MARCH WAS 117, ONE POINT LOWER THAN THAT FOR THE PREVIOUS MONTH.

THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS FELL BY TWO POINTS. THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SALT WATER FISH, LIVE POULTRY AND FRESH VEGETABLES DECLINED WHILE THOSE FOR PORK AND MEALS BOUGHT AWAY FROM HOME ADVANCED.

THE INDEX FOR CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR DECREASED BY TWO POINTS AS A RESULT OF LOWER PRICES FOR SOME OUTERCLOTHING ITEMS. THE REDUCTIONS OF ONE POINT EACH IN THE INDEXES FOR TRANSPORT AND VEHICLES AND FOR SERVICES WERE ATTRIBUTABLE TO REDUCED FARES FOR PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES AND TO REDUCED CHARGES FOR HAIRDRESSING AFTER THE CHINESE NEW YEAR.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE INDEX FOR HOUSING ROSE BY TWO POINTS AS A RESULT OF AN INCREASE IN THE RENT OF SOME PRIVATE DWELLINGS. THE TWO-POINT RISE IN THE INDEX FOR FUEL AND LIGHT WAS DUE TO INCREASED PRICES FOR KEROSENE AND LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS AND HIGHER ELECTRICITY CHARGES.

MOVEMENTS IN THE INDEXES FOR THE OTHER COMMODITY SECTIONS WERE INSIGNIFICANT.

TEXTILE QUOTA UTILISATION POSITION

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THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT TODAY PUBLISHED THE END-OF-MARCH 1977 FIGURES ON THE UTILISATION OF QUOTA IN RESPECT OF MARKETS TO WHICH HONG KONG'S TEXTILES EXPORTS ARE RESTRAINED.

COMMENTING ON THE FIGURES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT SAID THAT FREE QUOTAS FOR CERTAIN CATEGORIES AND MARKETS WERE STILL AVAILABLE ON APPLICATION AND INTERESTED PARTIES SHOULD GET IN TOUCH WITH THE DEPARTMENT FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

FOLLOWING IS A BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE QUOTA POSITION OF THE UNITED STATES AND EEC, HONG KONG'S TWO MAJOR TEXTILE MARKETS.

USA

IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF THE TEXTILE RESTRAINT PERIOD WHICH BEGAN ON OCTOBER 1, 1976, QUOTAS USED AMOUNTED TO 343 MILLION EQUIVALENT SQ. YDS. OR SLIGHTLY OVER 36 PER CENT OF THE OVERALL RESTRAINT LIMIT. FIGURES SHOWING THE QUANTITIES LICENSED FOR EXPORT AND PERCENTAGE UTILISATION ON A GROUP BASIS ARE SET OUT BELOW :

GROUP	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY LICENSED (IN MILLION EQUIVALENT SQ. YDS.)	PERCENTAGE UTILISATION AGAINST GROUP LIMITS
I	YARNS AND FABRICS OF COTTON AND MAN-MADE FIBRES	74.76	29.02
II	APPAREL OF COTTON AND MAN-MADE FIBRES	239.31	40.90
III	MADE-UPS AND MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES OF COTTON AND MAN-MADE FIBRES	19.25	33.09
IV	WOOL TEXTILES AND APPAREL	9.38	22.30

OF THE CATEGORIES SUBJECT TO SPECIFIC LIMITS IN THE HONG KONG/US TEXTILE AGREEMENT, THE RATE OF UTILISATION IN SEVEN OUT OF 21 CATEGORIES COULD BE DESCRIBED AS RELATIVELY HIGH. THESE SEVEN CATEGORIES ARE CATEGORY 22/23 (Twill AND SATEEN (INCLUDING JEANS, DRILL AND DENIM), CARDED AND COMBED), CATEGORY 41/42/43/62(2) (COTTON KNIT T-SHIRTS, OTHER KNIT SHIRTS AND BLOUSES, EXCEPT SWEAT-SHIRTS), CATEGORY 48 (COTTON RAINCOATS, 3/4 LENGTH OR LONGER, NOT KNIT), CATEGORY 50/51 (COTTON TROUSERS, SLACKS AND SHORTS, NOT KNIT), CATEGORY 54/63(1) (COTTON PLAYSUITS, SUNSUITS, WASHSUITS, CREEPERS, ROMPERS, ETC. AND ENTIRETIES, NOT KNIT), CATEGORY 229 (MMF COATS, NOT KNIT) AND CATEGORY 237 (MMF SUITS, NOT KNIT).

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EEC

THE CURRENT 12-MONTH RESTRAINT PERIOD BEGAN ON JANUARY 1, 1977. QUOTA UTILISATION POSITIONS ON A MEMBER STATE BASIS FOR THE FIRST THREE MONTHS ENDING MARCH 31, 1977 ARE GIVEN BELOW :

<u>MEMBER STATE</u>	<u>QUANTITY LICENSED (IN MILLION EQUIVALENT KGS.)</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE UTILISATION</u>
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY	6.67	16.30
UNITED KINGDOM	10.16	14.64
BENELUX	1.42	14.10
DENMARK	0.46	13.64
ITALY	0.39	7.00
FRANCE	0.26	7.90
IRISH REPUBLIC	0.06	7.66

OUT OF A TOTAL OF 109 CATEGORIES ON MEMBER STATE/CATEGORY BASIS, THE RATE OF UTILISATION IN 10 OF THEM WAS RELATIVELY HIGH. THESE POPULAR CATEGORIES ARE CATEGORY 3 (KNIT SHIRTS AND BLOUSES) FOR ALL MEMBER STATES, CATEGORY 8 (WOVEN TROUSERS) FOR BENELUX AND DENMARK AND CATEGORY 11 (WOVEN BLOUSES, WOMEN'S, GIRLS' AND INFANTS') FOR BENELUX AND FRANCE.

NOTE TO EDITORS :

COPIES OF THE RELEVANT NOTICES TO EXPORTERS WHICH GIVE DETAILED FIGURES OF UTILISATION OF QUOTAS FOR EACH RESTRAINED MARKET ON A CATEGORY BY CATEGORY BASIS ARE DISTRIBUTED SEPARATELY IN G.I.S. PRESS BOXES.

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+MEET THE MEDIA+ SESSION

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE DIRECTOR OF ROYAL OBSERVATORY, MR. GORDON BELL, WILL ATTEND A +MEET THE MEDIA+ SESSION ON THURSDAY (APRIL 28), STARTING AT 3 P.M.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE MEETING, WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE G.I.S. THEATRE ON THE FIFTH FLOOR OF BEACONSFIELD HOUSE.

TELEVISION CREWS ARE ASKED TO ARRIVE EARLY SO THAT THEY HAVE AMPLE TIME TO SET UP THEIR EQUIPMENT.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT HAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE SECTION OF TREGUNTER PATH BETWEEN BRANKSOME TOWERS AND TAVISTOCK WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM ONE-WAY TO TWO-WAY FROM 10 A.M. TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

THE ARRANGEMENT AIMS TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC CIRCULATION IN THE PEAK AREA.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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