

Educators in Mainland universities are very conscious of this problem while teaching their students to study technical subjects from foreign periodicals and textbooks. For example, in the East China Normal University (華東師範大學) in Shanghai students undertaking technical courses have a compulsory general reading list. They have to read the great popular novels *The Dream of the Red Chamber* and *The Water Margin*, as well as extracts from the great military strategists and a good selection of poetry from different periods (with modern translations or commentaries). It goes without saying that they will know around one hundred of the *Three Hundred Tang Poems* by heart as it will be required for university entry exams.

Japanese corporations are well-known for ensuring that staff have chances to participate in activities reflecting Japan's cultural heritage, such as flower-arranging, calligraphy and martial arts.

I hope our Government will develop a Chinese culture agenda for the civil service, and make sure that senior staff find time to take part.

We are well past the days of locking our civil servants in dark cubicles to write out the classics by heart; or having them lift heavy rocks, swing a flowery halberd and pull a heavy bow to qualify for Government work. But still, "...the fish, swimming up the rapids of the river, transforms into a dragon and its value increases ten-fold."

Stephen Selby
May 2000

Editor's Note: Chinese Archery, Mr Selby's recent book on traditional archery in China, is published by the Hong Kong University Press. The book contains a wealth of articles from classical Chinese sources in which Chinese writers give vivid and detailed descriptions of the techniques of bow-building, archery and crossbow technique over the centuries.



英漢機電工程辭彙已於六月出版 An English-Chinese Glossary of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Terms Published in June



為配合政府公事上多用中文的政策，法定語文事務署編印了一系列《政府部門常用英漢辭彙》，每輯辭彙各具不同主題，收錄政府各個事務範疇的中英對照常用語，供部門人員和市民大眾參考。

第二十輯辭彙《機電工程》已於六月出版。全書三百二十二頁，收錄詞目約四千三百條。辭彙分為兩個部分，第一部分是辭彙正文，輯錄政府部門常用機電和氣體工程用語，按詞目的英文字母順序排列，方便檢索。除英漢對照的詞條外，還附有中文詞條的漢語拼音。第二部分為附錄，載列資料包括機電工程署組織大綱圖、註冊升降機和自動梯承建商名單，以及註冊氣體供應商名單等。

香港社會發展一日千里，法定語文事務署也力求與時並進，推陳出新。我們不但會繼續出版新專題辭彙，還會修訂舊版辭彙，務使辭彙的內容更加充實完備。

As part of the policy to promote wider use of Chinese in the civil service, the Official Languages Agency (OLA) has been compiling a series of *English-Chinese Glossaries of Terms Commonly Used in Government Departments* for reference by government officers and the public at large. Each volume covers a specific field of government business.

The Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Glossary (Volume 20) published in June is the latest addition to our glossary series. This 322-page glossary with about 4 300 entries is a collection of terms and expressions commonly used in government departments on subjects related to electrical, mechanical and gas engineering. All the entries are listed bilingually in alphabetical order. Each Chinese term is matched with Pinyin romanization. The glossary also contains three appendices, namely, the organization chart of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department, a list of registered lift and escalator contractors, and a list of registered gas supply companies.

To keep pace with the times and the rapid development of Hong Kong, OLA will make every effort to publish new volumes of bilingual glossaries and update existing ones with a view to making our glossaries as accurate, up-to-date and comprehensive as possible.