



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Monday, February 4, 1974

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Daily guide to wholesale prices and supply of basic food commodities

Release time: 7.30 p.m.

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OIL SUPPLIES STORAGE SITES

The Government has made available sites at Sha Tin and on Tsing Yi Island for the storage of oil supplies from China.

Announcing this today, the Deputy Colonial Secretary and Chairman of the Oil Policy Committee, Mr. Michael Clinton, said that these facilities would enable China Resources Company to import significant quantities of oil to Hong Kong on a regular long term basis.

China Resources Company has indicated that it has secured from China the allocation of some 300,000 tons of various oil products for Hong Kong during 1974. This represents about seven per cent of Hong Kong's total oil demand.

Mr. Clinton said that these supplies would clearly be most welcome in the light of the expected 10 per cent shortfall in our Middle East supplies. However, he added that of these products the additional supply of fuel oil from China would be only four per cent of our requirements for fuel oil. This meant that it was still vital for the community to economise in the use of electricity which was the major consumer of fuel oil.

He said that the Government's decision on the storage sites was the outcome of discussions held with China Resources Company, who would purchase the land by private treaty grant.

Two sites are to be provided at Sha Tin and these comprise $2\frac{1}{4}$ acres of formed land, situated alongside the railway line near the junction of Tai Po Road and Fo Tan Road. Oil and other products from China would be transported there by rail.

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The site on Tsing Yi comprises seven acres of formed land at the south-west corner of the island, alongside the drainage reserve adjacent to the Peninsula Electric power station. Tankers from China would berth there to unload.

In addition to providing these two storage sites, the Government proposes to construct a railway siding at Sha Tin, which will remain government property but will be available to China Resources Company for deliveries to its adjoining storage area. It is anticipated that this siding will take about two months to build.

It is also proposed to construct a spur railway line at Hung Hom, bringing into operation the sidings already built there so that light diesel oil can be off-loaded directly into barges and conveyed to the storage tanks of other oil companies.

Mr. Clinton added that the discussions which he had held with the management of China Resources Company had been most cordial and he was sure that the Hong Kong community as a whole would be extremely pleased at this news.

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HK DELEGATE RETURNS FROM ECAFE SESSION IN BANGKOK

Mr. John Roberts, Assistant Director of Commerce and Industry, has returned to Hong Kong after attending the ninth session of the Asian Industrial Development Council (A.I.D.C.) in Bangkok.

Mr. Roberts will be submitting a report to the Trade and Industry Advisory Board on matters under discussion at the meeting, which was held under the auspices of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE).

The object of the A.I.D.C. is to accelerate industrialisation in the ECAFE region by the promotion of multi-national industrial projects and the provision of industrial advisory and technical services.

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HONG KONG POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS 1971 MAIN REPORT

Chinese Version Published

Note to Editors: The Chinese version of the "Hong Kong Population and Housing Census 1971 Main Report" has been published.

It is now on sale at \$10 per copy in the Government Publications Centre, Star Ferry Concourse, Hong Kong.

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GOVERNOR OPENS SECOND H.K. ARTS FESTIVAL

The Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose, today welcomed the Hong Kong Arts Festival as "a stimulus and a catalyst" to stimulate for residents and visitors alike the concept of Hong Kong as a cultural and artistic as well as a commercial and tourist centre.

Sir Murray was speaking at the opening concert of the Second Hong Kong Arts Festival by the Sydney Symphony Orchestra at the City Hall this (Monday) evening.

He said the idea of the Festival was to build on the natural advantages of Hong Kong as a meeting place of cultures and communications, to offer the art of many cultures, in large and small events, but "all at the highest level of excellence".

The idea was to do this for the pleasure it would bring and for the knowledge it would give of other cultures and to encourage people in Hong Kong to widen their lives by enjoying or practising the arts, Sir Murray said.

Following is the full text of the Governor's speech:

"Sir Kenneth, Ladies and Gentlemen:

"Tonight Hong Kong extends its welcome to the second Hong Kong Arts Festival.

"I would like to thank the many public and private organisations which have supported this Festival and in particular the Urban Council, the Hong Kong Tourist Association, British Airways and the Hong Kong Hotels Association, and all those who have taken part in the scheme to subsidise seats for students.

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"I would like in particular to thank the artists who have come from overseas to make the Festival for us. Hong Kong is honoured by their presence and Hong Kong will make them very welcome.

"I am delighted that this year so many of Hong Kong's own artists are participating.

"Might I say a special word of welcome to Mr. Iwaki and the Sydney Symphony Orchestra who are inaugurating the Festival tonight.

"The idea of this Festival is to build on the natural advantages of Hong Kong as a meeting place of cultures and communications, to offer for a month the art of many cultures, in large and small events, but ~~all at the~~ highest level of excellence. The idea is to do this for the pleasure it will bring and for the knowledge it will give of other cultures; to encourage people in Hong Kong to widen their lives by enjoying or practising the arts; but also to stimulate for residents and visitors alike the concept of Hong Kong as the cultural and artistic as well as a commercial and tourist centre which it could be.

"This leaven has already begun to work. It is no coincidence that since the last Festival our Youth Orchestra has performed with credit abroad, a professional orchestra has been formed and that the project for an Arts Centre is at last making progress. The interest was always there, but the Festival has acted as a stimulus and a catalyst.

"There is indeed much which the Festival can do for Hong Kong. It is therefore with the greatest pleasure that I declare open this 2nd Hong Kong Arts Festival."

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COMPLETION OF COMPRESSED AIR BREATHING APPARATUS COURSE

By Seven Auxiliary Fire Services Officers

Seven Auxiliary Fire Services officers have passed a 10-day Compressed Air Breathing Apparatus course - the first members of the Services to do so.

They are Station Officer Mak Wing-chuen and Assistant Station Officer Lee Yiu-huen (Tsim Sha Tsui Fire Station); Assistant Station Officer Fung Yuen-shan (Kwun Tong Fire Station); Station Officer Lai Bing-fu (Tsuen Wan Fire Station), Assistant Station Officer Fung Pak-shun and Station Officer Hung Ping-wong (Harcourt Road Fire Station); and Station Officer Mou Wai-ming (Aberdeen Fire Station).

The group received their training at the Fire Services Training School, Pat Heung, New Territories over five week-ends in September last year.

They can now instruct other Auxiliary Firemen in the use of breathing apparatus.

A spokesman for the Fire Services Department said: "Being able to operate breathing apparatus is an essential qualification for a Fireman, but Auxiliaries were previously not trained in its use."

As the Director of Fire Services recognised this meant they lagged behind their full-time colleagues, he directed that a training course covering theory and practice be held, the spokesman added.

The seven who passed have been presented with certificates by the Director of Fire Services Mr. Harry Wood.

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YOUTH DEVELOPMENT TRAINING COURSE

The Tai Hang Tung Community Centre is starting another youth development training course this month along the lines of a similar course last year.

"Young people nowadays need the kind of training and guidance that will give them an opportunity to develop their insight into society and this the course will aim to do," said Mr. Sit Sui-lun, Warden of the Centre.

It will begin next Tuesday (February 12) and last for eight months.

"The course has been planned to enable the young people to gain a broader perspective in life and to develop a genuine concern for the social environment in which they live," Mr. Sit said.

Various methods will be used in getting this across to the participants and part of the course will be in the form of a guidance scheme. The course will be conducted by volunteers, many of whom had themselves attended the first one.

Programmes will be scheduled in groups to develop thinking, interest and creativity in addition to providing assistance with school-work.

Anyone interested in joining this course can obtain application forms from the Community Centre in Tong Yam Street, Tai Hang Tung, or by telephoning 3-001919.

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IMPROVEMENT OF YUEN LONG NULLAH BUND

To Carry Vehicular Traffic

The nullah bund between Tai Kei Leng and Tong Tau Po in Yuen Long will be improved shortly to carry vehicular traffic.

The improvement work will mainly involve the strengthening of about one mile of the existing nullah bund.

At the Tong Tau Po end, a turning circle will also be constructed.

The new road will have a 10-foot-wide carriageway with a 3½-foot-wide footpath on one side.

Work on the project will start in April and will take about four months to complete.

Commenting on the project, a spokesman for the Public Works Department said: "The sealing surface on the bund, which is heavily used by both lorries and cars, has shown signs of deterioration and has become inadequate in strength to carry vehicular traffic."

He added that the new road, when completed, would provide better access to villages adjacent to the nullah between Tai Kei Leng and Tong Tau Po which have a population of over 15,000.

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NOTICE

In order to save time and paper, it has been decided to change the system of printing the Daily Information Bulletin, so that it will take the form of clipped copies of news items sent over the teleprinter.

We are taking the opportunity to check the Distribution List for the D.I.B. to ensure all the people now on the List and wish to continue receiving the D.I.B. will get their copies.

Please help us by filling in the form below and return it at your earliest convenience to the Press Officer, News Division, Beaconsfield House, 6/F, Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong.

I wish to continue receiving copies of the D.I.B.

Name: _____

Address: _____

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CONSUMER ADVISORY SERVICE

Daily Guide To Wholesale Market Prices And Supplies

The following prices were realised today (Monday) at sales under the Rice Control Scheme and at the Vegetable Marketing Organisation Wholesale Market and the Fish Marketing Organisation Wholesale Market at Cheung Sha Wan, Kowloon:

Supplies and Wholesale Prices of Rice

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Availability of Supply</u>	<u>Wholesale Price (\$/catty)</u>
<u>China Rice</u>		<u>Average</u>
See Mow -- old crop	Good	No Sale
-- new crop		1.84
S.C.Jien -- old crop	Good	No Sale
		1.78
Po Hgai	Good	1.47
Chu Cho	Good	No Sale
<u>Thai Rice</u>	Good	No Sale
100% Whole		
10-15% Broken	Good	No Sale
A1 Super Extra	Good	1.52
A1 Super	Good	1.42
Whole Glutinous	Good	1.82
<u>U.S. Rice</u>	Good	1.74
<u>Australian Rice</u>	Good	No Sale
<u>Pakistan Rice</u>	Good	No Sale
<u>Taiwan Rice</u>	Good	No Sale

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Supplies and Wholesale Prices of Marine Fish

<u>Species</u>	<u>Availability of Supply</u>	<u>Wholesale Price (\$/catty)</u>		
		<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>Average</u>
Golden Thread	Good	4.8	3.5	4.0
Big-Eyes	Good	2.2	0.7	1.5
Squid	Limited	6.5	3.0	5.2
Hair-Tails	Good	2.7	0.8	1.7
Lizard Fishes	Normal	2.45	1.2	2.0
Croakers	Normal	2.4	0.8	1.4
Conger-Pike-Eels	Normal	3.3	2.4	2.8
Melon Coat	Good	2.2	1.2	1.4
Breams	Normal	5.0	4.0	4.5
Yellow Belly	Good	1.5	0.75	1.1
Mackerels	Normal	5.5	4.0	5.0
Red Goat Fish	Good	2.5	0.7	1.7
Fork-Tail	Good	1.5	1.0	1.2
Horse-Head	Normal	5.5	3.0	4.0
Melon Seed	Normal	3.8	2.0	2.7
Pomfrets	Scarce	9.5	8.5	9.0
Groupers	Normal	7.5	5.5	6.5
Yellow Croaker	-	-	-	-

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Supplies and Wholesale Prices of

Locally Produced Vegetables

<u>Type</u>	<u>Availability of Supply</u>	<u>Wholesale Price (\$/catty)</u>		
		<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>Average</u>
Flowering cabbage	Limited	1.6	0.6	1.2
White cabbage	Limited	0.8	0.3	0.5
Chinese Lettuce	Normal	0.6	0.2	0.4
Chinese Kale	Limited	1.4	0.4	0.9
Spring onion	Good	0.8	0.2	0.5
Spinach	Good	0.6	0.2	0.4
Water cross	Normal	1.0	0.2	0.6
Leaf mustard cabbage	Scarce	0.4	0.2	0.3
Tomato	Limited	1.5	0.5	1.2

Supplies and Wholesale Prices of Pork (Live weight)

	<u>Availability of Supply</u>	<u>Wholesale Price</u>
		<u>(\$/ picul)</u>
Pork	Limited	(Average) 290

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