



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Wednesday, March 20, 1974

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Daily guide to wholesale prices and supply of basic food  
commodities

Release time : 7.15 p.m.

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## SOCIAL CAUSES OF CRIME

### As Seen By Prisoners

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Sensational treatment of crime in the mass media received the most mention by prisoners in group discussions conducted by the Prisons Department on the social causes of crime.

The prisoners blame the mass media for "glorifying crime" and teaching potential offenders the "methods of criminal enterprise."

They believe that the mass media suggest criminal or sexually abnormal ideas and create a mental preparedness for temptation.

According to Miss Rebecca Wong, a sociologist working in the Prisons Department, the suggestion that the mass media are responsible for crime "enjoys little solid ground."

Studies do not indicate that reading, hearing or seeing so-called "harmful dramas" cause delinquency and crime, Miss Wong says.

Rather the opposite may be true.

"For example, an aroused desire for easy money and luxury," Miss Wong says, "may induce a man to work harder to earn more through legitimate means."

Another popularly suggested cause of crime is poverty. Economic deprivation and going to work at an early age are considered to have a detrimental effect.

Other causes suggested by the prisoners include crowded living conditions, broken homes, corruption, triad influence, and drugs.

/Miss Wong .....

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Miss Wong puts in a word of caution when using the findings from these discussions. She says that the materials that can be obtained are those that the prisoners are willing and able to report.

"Reports about one's criminal behaviour necessarily require self-diagnosis which is often embarrassing, humiliating or degrading," she says.

Objectivity is lost when one's report tends, self-consciously and defensively, to show one in a favourable light.

Useful as they are for the study of the criminal mind, Miss Wong says, the present findings show at best the idiosyncratic experiences of inmates in different penal institutions, their perception of reality and their self-concepts.

"All these may bear little relevance to the social causes of crime," she adds.

More than 450 prisoners took part in these group discussions in the Prisons Department's 13 penal institutions. Most of the participants were young offenders under 25.

The discussions were conducted by the department's after care officers.

Miss Wong says: "Group counselling is a regular feature of after care services for the inmates. We brought out this particular subject for discussion during these sessions so that they could express their views freely on basis of their experiences."

Group discussions provided the right atmosphere for prisoners to gain an insight into what they have done in the past, Miss Wong says.

"With a group of 'people like ourselves', they can speak their minds out without inhibitions."

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TEACHER EDUCATION ADVISER

Completes Intensive Study

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Mr. Charles Griffiths, a teacher education adviser who arrived in Hong Kong on February 7 at the invitation of the Education Department to advise on the professional training of teachers, will leave for London tomorrow.

During his six-week visit, Mr. Griffiths carried out an intensive grass roots study of teacher education in the colleges of education, the Assistant Director of Education, Mr. William Fisher-Short said today.

Mr. Griffiths has also visited the two universities, the Polytechnic and the Morrison Hill Technical Institute.

"He will advise on the internal organisation of, and courses conducted by, the three colleges of education and will, in due course, report on his views on the general development of teacher training to meet the demands of future educational expansion," said Mr. Fisher-Short.

During the course of his visit Mr. Griffiths, who is the Deputy Principal of the Sidney Webb College in London, has in addition established wide contact with many sectors of the education system.

He has spent time in primary and secondary schools of all types, had in-depth discussions with administrators and inspectors of schools, and has studied the contribution made to education by various statutory and private organisations.

/"In view .....

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"In view of his specialised experience and expertise, we confidently expect Mr. Griffiths' recommendations will be of positive value to our developing education system," Mr. Fisher-Short said.

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Note to Editors: Mr. Griffiths will give a press conference at 3.00 p.m. tomorrow (Thursday) in the Education Department's Conference Room, Lee Gardens, 3rd floor, Hysan Avenue, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong.

You are invited to have the press conference covered.

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#### GOVERNOR TO TOUR OPTICAL FACTORY

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The Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose, will make a "shop-floor" tour of the North Point factory of W. Haking Industries (Mechanics & Optics) Ltd. tomorrow (Thursday) afternoon to see manufacturing operations in progress.

The firm is a leading producer of cameras, binoculars and other optical products. Its factory at Haking Building, 981 King's Road, employs about 3,000 workers.

Sir Murray will arrive at the factory at 3 p.m., and will be met by Mr. Haking Wong, board chairman, and Miss Pauline Chan, permanent governing director. The Director of Commerce and Industry, Mr. David Jordan, and the Principal Trade Officer, Industrial Development Branch, Mr. K.H. Yeung, will be accompanying the Governor.

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Note to Editors: You are invited to send a reporter and photographer to cover the Governor's visit. He will be arriving at Haking Building, 981 King's Rd., at 3 p.m., Thursday, March 21.

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SERVICE OF THE ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

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The Queen has commanded that a Service of the Order of the British Empire should be held in St. Paul's Cathedral at 11.30 a.m., on Wednesday, May 22, 1974. The chairs presented to the Cathedral by the Order will be dedicated at this Service.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh, Grand Master of the Order, will be present.

Those belonging to the Order and holders of the British Empire Medal who would like to attend this Service are invited to apply for a ticket to "The Registrar of the Order of the British Empire", 8, Buckingham Gate, London S.W.1. The closing date for applications is April 14, 1974.

Applicants for tickets are asked to give their full names and the appointment which they hold in the Order (K.B.E., C.B.E., O.B.E., M.B.E.,) or whether they hold the Medal of the Order. Letters customarily shown after the name denoting other Orders, Decorations or Medals should also be stated.

Further information on the Service may be obtained from the Director of Protocol, Colonial Secretariat, Hong Kong (Tel: 5-95212).

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NEW BUILDING PLANS APPROVED

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A total of 61 new building plans were approved by the Buildings Ordinance Office last month as compared with a total of 43 in February last year.

The plans included one hotel building at the junction of Electric Road and Lau Li Street in North Point, and five apartment building projects in the "broadcasting city" area.

An apartment building and a school building in Mei Foo Sun Chuen were among 40 completed buildings certified for occupation in February. The total construction cost of the buildings exceeded \$76 million.

Permission was given for the demolition of 41 buildings in the same month, including nine dangerous buildings located in Des Voeux Road West, Wing Lok Street and Bonham Strand West.

Consent to commence work was also granted to 46 building projects. Of these, 18 were on Hong Kong Island, 20 in Kowloon, and eight in the New Territories.

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OPENING OF NEW CDO SUB-OFFICE AT ABERDEEN

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Note to Editors: The Director of Home Affairs, Mr. Eric Ho, will officiate at the opening ceremony of the Aberdeen sub-office of the Western City District Office on Friday (March 22).

The new sub-office is situated at 52-64 Aberdeen Main Road, Ground floor, Hong Kong. It replaces the former and much smaller sub-office to cater for the increasing needs of the community in the district.

Mr. Ho will be accompanied by four local residents in Aberdeen district during the ribbon cutting ceremony at 3.30 p.m. - Mr. Chan Hin-wah, a hawker, Mr. Leung Yin-chee, a fisherman, Miss Ho Po-chun, a factory worker, and Mr. Kwok Sui-fai, a student.

Mr. Peter Ng, City District Commissioner (Hong Kong) and Mr. Rafael Hui, City District Officer (Western) will also attend.

Press, T.V. and radio representatives are invited to cover the event. Transport to the sub-office will be provided.

Media representatives are requested to assemble at the entrance of the City Hall opposite Queen's Pier at 2.40 p.m. on Friday. An officer of the Home Affairs Department will be there to assist them.

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SHOP TENANCY CONDITIONS SIMPLIFIED

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Conditions of tenancy for shop operators in Group B estates were made public today by the Housing Authority.

These conditions, which are similar to those contained in the existing tenancy cards, have been simplified and worded in layman's language for the benefit of shop keepers.

The Authority has carefully considered them to ensure that tenants' fear of a threat to their security of tenure is completely removed.

The only major change concerns transfer of tenancies other than by succession and inheritance.

Such transfers must be made by surrendering the tenancy to the Authority, which will then re-let the premises by inviting public tenders through advertisements. The re-letting premium will go to the outgoing tenant.

"This new arrangement will completely remove any possible scope for irregularities and will also likely produce a higher premium for the outgoing tenant as the incoming tenant will no longer have to be an estate resident as previously required," a Housing Authority spokesman said.

He added that during a tenant's lifetime or on his death, his tenancy may be transferred to a member of his family or his lawful successor, subject to the approval of the Authority in writing.

In the meanwhile, the Housing Department has written to the 10,000-odd shop operators in the various estates informing them of the conditions of the tenancy agreement.

Mr. Donald Liao, Director of Housing, emphasised that the introduction of the agreement was purely to improve management.

"It is not the Authority's aim or intention to deprive tenants of any of the privileges they have been enjoying," he said.

/The conditions .....

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The conditions of tenancy are as follows:

1. The tenant shall:

- (a) pay the rent in advance on the first day of each month;
- (b) pay any additional rates which may in future be assessed over and above the amount of rates shown overleaf;
- (c) keep the shop in a clean, tidy and hygienic condition and carry out any cleansing directed by an authorised officer;
- (d) permit any authorized officer to enter the premises at any reasonable time for the purpose of inspecting them;
- (e) obtain any necessary licence or registration from the appropriate authority or Government Department for any business carried on in the premises;
- (f) confine his business, furniture, fittings and stock within the limits of the shop;
- (g) carry out all cooking or water heating by means of a fuel approved by the Housing Authority.

2. The tenant shall not:

- (a) add or remove from the premises any fixtures, fittings or structures, or carry out any alterations to the premises without the previous approval in writing of the Housing Authority;
- (b) assign, sublet or part with possession of the premises other than as stated in clause 3(g) or permit any person to reside therein except the persons named overleaf;
- (c) use the premises for any trade or business other than that shown overleaf, except as provided in clause 3(f);
- (d) do or permit to be done in the shop or any part thereof anything which might be or become a nuisance, annoyance or disturbance to the occupiers of other premises in the neighbourhood or in any way against the laws of Hong Kong;
- (e) permit to be brought into the shop any arms, ammunition, gunpowder, fireworks or any other explosive or inflammable goods (other than a reasonable quantity of kerosene or liquefied petroleum gas for the tenant's own use);
- (f) keep any animal or livestock of any kind except one cat.

The tenancy .....

3. (a) The tenancy is subject to the Housing Ordinance, 1973, and to all regulations and by-laws made thereunder.
- (b) The tenancy may be determined by the tenant on at least one month's notice in writing expiring on the last day of a calendar month.
- (c) On any determination the tenant shall yield up the premises in good and tenantable condition and shall hand over the keys to an authorized officer.
- (d) The rent payable may be varied by the Housing Authority provided always that the Housing Authority shall give not less than one month's notice in writing of such variation.
- (e) During the lifetime or at the death of the tenant, the tenancy may be transferred to a member of his family or his lawful successor or a partnership (of which the tenant is a partner himself), subject to the approval of the Housing Authority in writing.
- (f) A change of trade can be allowed provided the new trade meets estate needs and does not harm the estate environment; applications must be approved by the Housing Authority in writing.
- (g) Any tenant wishing to transfer his shop tenancy other than as stated in clause 3(e) may give the Housing Authority notice in writing to surrender the premises. The Housing Authority will then advertise the tenancy for letting on payment of a lump sum premium, and such premium received by the Housing Authority will be paid to the outgoing tenant. Notice to surrender under this clause will be irrevocable after the Housing Authority has accepted a tender.
- (h) Any notice to the tenant shall be sufficiently served if sent by ordinary post addressed to him at the shop or left at the premises.

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WATER CUT

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Water supply to a number of premises in Yuen Long will be interrupted for eight hours as from 10 p.m. tomorrow (Thursday) to facilitate a water mains connection near the 18½ milestone at Castle Peak Road.

Affected will be premises along Castle Peak Road between the 16 and 20 milestones, including Tai Lam Chung Tsuen, Siu Lam Tsuen, Corden Camp, Psychiatric Centre, Siu Lam Hospital, Dragon Inn, Ching Wah Lane and Tseng Tau Wai Tsuen.

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CONSUMER ADVISORY SERVICE

Daily Guide To Wholesale Market Prices And Supplies

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The following prices were realised today (Wednesday) 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 Mew - old crop	Good	-
- new crop		2.00
S.C. Jien - old crop		-
- new crop	Good	1.94
Po Ngai	-	-
Chu Cho	-	-
<u>Thai Rice</u>		
100% Whole	-	-
10-15% Broken	Good	1.89
A1 Super Extra	-	-
A1 Super	Good	1.52
Whole Glutinous	-	-
<u>U.S. Rice</u>	Good	1.82
<u>Australian Rice</u>	-	-
<u>Pakistan Rice</u>	-	-
<u>Taiwan Rice</u>	-	-

/Supplies and .....

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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	2.6	0.8	1.8
Squid	Normal	5.6	3.5	4.0
Hair-Tails	Good	2.9	0.8	1.2
Lizard Fishes	Normal	2.5	1.1	1.8
Croakers	Good	2.0	0.6	1.5
Conger-Pike-Eels	Normal	2.7	1.8	2.2
Melon Coat	Normal	2.7	1.7	2.0
Breams	Normal	4.5	3.0	3.5
Yellow Belly	Good	1.8	0.7	1.2
Mackerels	Normal	5.2	3.2	4.5
Red Goat Fish	Good	1.0	0.6	0.7
Fork-Tail	Normal	1.6	1.1	1.4
Horse-Head	Normal	6.3	3.2	5.5
Melon Seed	Limited	3.8	1.8	2.8
Pomfrets	Scarce	9.5	3.0	8.2
Garoupas	Normal	6.8	5.5	6.0
Yellow Croaker	-	-	-	-

/Supplies and .....

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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	Scarce	2.8	1.4	2.2
White cabbage	Scarce	2.0	0.8	1.5
Chinese Lettuce	Limited	1.2	0.5	0.8
Chinese kale	Scarce	2.2	0.8	1.6
Spring onion	Good	0.7	0.2	0.5
Spinach	Scarce	2.0	0.8	1.5
water cress	Limited	1.4	0.4	1.0
Leaf mustard cabbage	Scarce	1.0	0.3	0.7
Tomato	Limited	1.8	0.8	1.4

Supplies and Wholesale Prices of Pork (Live weight)

	<u>Availability of Supply</u>	<u>Wholesale Price (\$/picul)</u>
		(Average)
Pork	Good	300

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