



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Tuesday, December 18, 1973

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Release time: 7.00 p.m.

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WARNING ON USE OF PROHIBITED LIGHTING

The Director of Oil Supplies, Mr. Roy Porter, said today that some business firms and shops were still not fully complying with the terms of the new restrictions on lighting.

This was particularly noticeable in shops which continued to use lights to display goods inside shop counters and cabinets.

He pointed out that this constituted display or decorative lighting which was prohibited under the law.

"These lights must be switched off during the day and for most hours of darkness, except for the permitted period between the hours of 6 p.m. and 10.30 p.m."

Mr. Porter added that in cases where these lights were wired to the overall lighting system in shops it would be necessary for them to make alternative arrangements.

He said that the police were now taking out summonses against people who were contravening the new law.

At the same time, Mr. Porter appealed for voluntary restrictions on lighting during the period when display and advertising lights could be turned on. "Because they are allowed to be on between 6 p.m. and 10.30 p.m., does not mean that they have to be switched on."

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DEPARTMENTS STEP UP FUEL-SAVING MEASURES

A number of government departments have taped over light and power switches to prevent them from being used, in a positive move to save fuel.

These measures, coupled with the removal of non-essential light bulbs or fluorescent tubes from office and corridor lighting, are resulting in substantial reductions in the amount of electricity consumed.

The Marine Department, the Medical and Health Department and the Treasury are among the offices where these steps have been taken.

In a special circular, the Director of Medical and Health Services, Dr. G.H. Choa said that economies in a medical service are not easy, but they are possible "particularly in the consumption of electricity" and he urged the staff to do all they could to meet a 15 to 20 per cent cut back.

In Queen Elizabeth and Queen Mary Hospitals, evening inspections have been carried out during which bulbs were removed from non-essential lights, and some other switches were turned off and taped over.

At Marine Department headquarters, about 20 per cent of the fluorescent lights and 50 per cent of the electric light bulbs in the building and the Seamen's Recruiting Office have been put out of action either by removing the lights, taping over the switches or by shutting off the electricity at the mains.

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Air-conditioning has been switched off, except for ventilation where this is necessary.

Notices are also being displayed at strategic locations requesting officers to switch off all lights not required for immediate use.

In the Treasury, a number of lights which are to be switched off permanently have been identified by special labels.

The steps being taken by the various departments clearly illustrate the government's determination to set a lead to the Community by saving now for later.

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TRAFFIC CONTROL BY COMPUTER

Note to Editors:- A contract for the supply and installation of a computerised traffic control system in West Kowloon will be signed at 11 a.m. tomorrow (Wednesday) in the Public Works Department conference room.

The Area Traffic Control System -- introduced for the first time in S.E. Asia -- will, among other things, ease traffic flow and clear routes for emergency vehicles in heavily congested areas.

Representing the government in signing the contract will be the Principal Government Highway Engineer, Mr. G.A.G. Sapstead.

The Senior British Trade Commissioner, Mr. T.W. Aston, will also be present.

Officer-in-charge of the P.W.D. Area Traffic Control Unit, Mr. K.E. Softly, and his assistant, Mr. K.H. Lee will be available for interviews afterwards.

You are invited to send your representative to cover the occasion. The P.W.D. conference room is on the 6th floor of Murray Building, Garden Road.

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LRS HELPS SETTLE 242 LABOUR DISPUTES IN NOVEMBER

The Labour Relations Service of the Labour Department helped settle 242 of the 347 disputes last month.

Of the remaining cases, 75 were referred to the Labour Tribunal and 11 to the Legal Aid Department. The rest were either withdrawn by the applicants or settled by direct negotiation.

The head of the Labour Relations Service, Mr. T.F. Tsui, said as a result of agreements reached, 560 employees had received a total of \$620,026 as outstanding wages, payment in lieu of notice, statutory holiday pay, bonuses, severance pay and other ex-gratia payments.

"During the month officers of the Service also handled 1,479 consultations and enquiries about labour laws, industrial relations and personnel management," Mr. Tsui said.

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HEADMASTER RETURNS FROM STUDY COURSE

Mr. Lee Shung-tak, headmaster of the Caritas St. Godfrey Pre-vocational School, has returned from Turin after attending a 12-week course in training methodology at the International Centre for Advanced Technical and Vocational Training.

The course was designed to further the knowledge and develop the skills and competence of the heads of technical and vocational training institutions. It was financed by the United Nations Development Programme.

Mr. Lee was sponsored by the government and is the first person outside the civil service to have received such training.

Mr. H.R. Knight, Senior Training Officer of the Labour Department said his department supported Mr. Lee's nomination because "we are confident that such training is invaluable to Hong Kong's vocational and pre-vocational institutions."

Mr. Lee himself considered the training extremely useful and expressed his appreciation to the Labour Department for making it possible for him to attend the course.

He said the programme included the extensive use of modern training techniques and research findings. "The additional knowledge gained from visiting vocational and pre-vocational institutions in Europe will definitely enable me to run my school more effectively," he added.

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Note to Editors: Copies of Mr. Lee Shung-tak's photograph are boxed for collection.

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BOX JUNCTION IN TSUEN WAN

Another "box" junction will be introduced on Thursday (December 20) at the junction of Castle Peak Road and Texaco Road in Tsuen Wan.

The "box" junction will be clearly identifiable by yellow criss-cross lines painted on the carriageway with warning signs at the approaches.

A Transport Department spokesman reminded motorists that it is an offence to drive into the box unless the exit is clear. If the exit is blocked, he said, then drivers must wait even if the traffic signals show green.

"The object is to prevent road junctions being blocked in all directions by vehicles which cannot get out of the intersection during a green phase of the signals controlling traffic approaching the junction," the spokesman said.

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CALL FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN SOCIAL SERVICES

The Director of Social Welfare, Mr. K.W.J. Topley, today called for continued public involvement in social services.

He said public activity in this field would certainly contribute to the stability and progress of Hong Kong.

Mr. Topley was speaking at the opening of the new premises of the Eastern District Women's Welfare Club in Marble Road, North Point.

He said in its 18 years of existence the club with a membership of over 2,000 had been actively providing various social services to Hong Kong. These included a primary school for about 1,000 pupils in Chai Wan, an evening school for adults, and a nursery.

Mr. Topley also officiated at the swearing-in of the Club's 7th term office bearers. Mrs. Topley presented certificates of appointments to them.

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CONSUMER ADVISORY SERVICE

Daily Guide To Wholesale Market Prices And Supplies

The following prices were realised today (Tuesday) 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	1.64
-- new crop		1.72
S.C.Jion - old crop	Good	1.58
new crop		1.66
Po Ngai	Good	1.42
Chu Cho	Good	1.22
<u>Thai Rice</u>		
100% Whole	Good	1.52
10-15% Broken	Good	-
A1 Super Extra	Good	-
A1 Super	Good	1.37
Whole Glutinous	Limited	1.52
<u>U.S. Rice</u>	Good	1.62
<u>Australian Rice</u>	-	-
<u>Pakistan Rice</u>	-	-
<u>Taiwan Rice</u>	-	-

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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	3.7	2.4	3.0
Big-Eyes	Good	2.6	0.6	1.5
Squid	Scarce	6.0	1.7	4.5
Hair-Tails	Good	1.7	0.5	1.1
Lizard Fishes	Normal	2.3	0.7	1.7
Croakers	Normal	1.2	0.6	0.9
Conger-Pike-Eels	Normal	2.3	1.5	2.0
Melon Coat	Normal	1.8	1.0	1.5
Breams	Normal	4.8	2.5	3.2
Yellow Belly	Good	1.6	0.55	0.9
Mackerels	Good	3.2	2.4	2.8
Red Goat Fish	Good	2.0	0.5	1.5
Fork-Tail	Normal	1.1	0.6	0.75
Horse-Head	Normal	5.2	3.0	4.0
Melon Seed	Limited	2.5	1.6	2.3
Pomfrets	Scarce	8.5	6.0	7.0
Garcupas	Normal	7.0	4.0	5.0
Yellow Croaker	Good	4.8	2.0	3.5

/Supplies and

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	2.2	0.8	1.5
White cabbage	Normal	0.6	0.2	0.4
Chinese Lettuce	Normal	0.55	0.2	0.4
Chinese Kale	Normal	0.7	0.2	0.45
Spring onion	Normal	1.2	0.4	1.0
Spinach	Normal	1.4	0.5	1.0
Water cross	Normal	1.0	0.35	0.6
Leaf mustard cabbage	Scarce	0.6	0.2	0.4
Tomato	Scarce	1.5	0.8	1.2

Supplies and Wholesale Prices of Pork (Live weight)

	<u>Availability of Supply</u>	<u>Wholesale Price</u>
		<u>(\$/ picul)</u>
		(Average)
Pork	Good	285