



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Monday, February 26, 1973

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GOVERNMENT CONSIDERING THE INSTALLATION OF

Closed Circuit TV In Lion Rock Tunnel

The Government is considering the feasibility of installing various new equipment at the Lion Rock Tunnel to improve administration and control of traffic.

Among these are the installation of a closed circuit television system and the purchase of a more powerful towing vehicle to deal with break-downs and other emergencies.

A spokesman for the Transport Department said that closed circuit television had been widely used by tunnel authorities all over the world, mainly for ensuring safe traffic by keeping everything under continuous surveillance.

"It will also enable the tunnel control staff to find out the exact nature of all break-downs and accidents quickly and to send the right kind of rescue vehicle to the scene at once," he said.

He said that at present, the control staff inside the administration building would not know about an accident or break-down until someone reported it or until traffic began to pile up inside the tunnel.

"This wastes a lot of time and the resulting congestion inside the tunnel often prevents the rescue vehicle from getting to the scene quickly," he added.

The spokesman said that closed circuit television would also ensure a much smoother flow of traffic through the tunnel.

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"If cameras are located on the approach roads, for example, when the tunnel supervisor sees on the television that an unusually large number of cars are coming towards the tunnel, he can open more toll booths in advance so that motorists will not be unduly delayed," he said.

The television system will have the added advantage of enabling control staff to spot law-breaking motorists so that tunnel regulations can be enforced more effectively.

This should indirectly lead to a reduction in the number of accidents.

On the purchase of a more powerful towing vehicle, the spokesman said that in order to avoid congestion, it was essential to remove quickly heavy lorries which broke down inside the tunnel.

"It is particularly needed because of the increasing number of heavy lorries passing through the tunnel in connection with the development going on in Sha Tin," he added.

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SITE FORMATION FOR AP LEI CHAU ESTATE TO BEGIN IN APRIL

Housing For 21,600 People By 1976

Site formation work for the Ap Lei Chau Resettlement Estate is to begin next April for completion in October 1975. However, in order to enable residents to take up accommodation earlier, construction of the estate will start when the site is half formed.

Situated on the north of the islet, the \$49 million estate will provide 3,084 flats for more than 21,600 boat people and residents of licensed areas in Aberdeen.

It will comprise four 20-storey and two seven-storey blocks.

Of the latest Mark VII design, which is the approved standard for all Government low cost housing estates, every flat in the new estate will have its own cooking and toilet facilities.

The whole estate will have additional space for recreation purposes and amenities.

There will be two primary schools each with 24 classrooms, a kindergarten, a clinic, and a combined welfare and community hall.

Residents will also be served by a modular market, two restaurants and three cafes, a post office and a bank.

An integral part of the estate is a central incinerator with three units, each capable of disposing one ton of refuse in an hour.

A flyover and a short road will be built to link the estate with the existing main road.

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Although plans for a bridge linking Ap Lei Chau and Aberdeen are under consideration, there is at present no road access to the islet.

For this reason, the existing ferry service will have to be diverted on to a new route between the Tin Wan reclamation and the northern end of block 3 of the estate.

A new fire station has been proposed on the islet. But, as an added precaution, special arrangements have been incorporated to ensure speedy transportation of additional fire fighting appliances during emergency to supplement the station's facilities.

These include the widening of the western **breakwater** of the Aberdeen Harbour and the construction of a boat-house at the end of the **breakwater**.

The boat-house will be able to accommodate a bat-wing-barge capable of ferrying appliances. The barge, costing \$1 million, can also be used for other purposes elsewhere in Hong Kong.

In normal circumstances, the widened breakwater will be available for cargo handling.

The whole estate is expected to be completed in 1976.

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PRISONS STAFF RECRUITMENT PROCEDURES STREAMLINED

Day-To-Day Terms Within Three Weeks

Recruitment procedures are being streamlined in the current drive to get more young people to join the prisons service.

A successful candidate for the post of Assistant Officer Class II can now be engaged on day-to-day terms at full pay within three weeks of his posting the application form.

Candidates are required to have a minimum of primary six education. The starting salary will be from \$570, but those who possess a Certificate of Education may join at a higher entry point.

Under the present Commissioner of Prisons, Mr. T.G. Garner, the prisons service is offering better than ever promotion prospects to young people of good calibre.

Vacancies in the upper grades are generally filled by officers who start from the bottom rank.

The modern prisons service lays emphasis on a more progressive penal policy.

Men and women in the service must not only be confident in discharging custodial aspect of their duties for the protection of the community, but must also be ready to play an effective part in the treatment and reformation of the offenders.

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At present, institutions administered by the Prisons Department in Hong Kong have a daily prison/inmate population of a little over 6,100 with 1,581 persons being followed up in the department's after-care programme.

To prepare them for their work, all new recruits of the prisons service are required to undergo a six-month induction training course in the Prisons Department.

Once in the prisons service, staff members can enjoy all benefits provided for civil servants, including housing, free medical treatment and holidays.

There are also other departmental benefits such as welfare funds, staff clubs and free sports facilities.

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ARTS FESTIVAL ADDING NEW QUALITY AND NEW DIMENSION TO HONG KONG

The Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose, said tonight that the Hong Kong Arts Festival "could add a new quality and a new dimension to our city."

He was speaking at the opening of the Arts Festival at 8 p.m. in the City Hall.

He commended several organisations for their work in planning this festival, including the Hong Kong Arts Festival Society and the Hong Kong Tourist Association.

The festival, he said, was the product of their "imagination and devotion and hard work."

The following is the full text of the Governor's speech:-

"Sir Kenneth Ping-fan Fung, Ladies and Gentlemen:

"It gives me the greatest pleasure to welcome you all, visitors and residents alike, to this new venture, the Hong Kong Arts Festival.

"It could contribute something quite new to this great city. We are rightly known for our port and our manufactures, our hotels and restaurants and the scenic beauty that surround us, but not so far for the arts.

"The Festival is the product of the imagination and devotion and hard work of many people, but particularly the Hong Kong Arts Festival Society and its committee under the Chairmanship of Sir Kenneth Ping-fan Fung.

"They have been backed by the far-sighted generosity of the tourist industry. I mention in particular the Hong Kong Hotels Association, the Hong Kong Tourist Association and the British Overseas Airways Corporation.

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"It is they and their members, with the assistance of many other companies and individuals, who have made this Festival possible.

"Finally I must mention Mr. Ian Hunter, who has waved his wand to assemble the artists, set the scene and organise for us for this month a variety and wealth of artistic talent rarely equalled anywhere.

"It is typical of Hong Kong that through donations of many kinds, over 12,000 seats are being made available to students and others to ensure that enjoyment of this Festival is spread as widely as possible.

"I am pleased that this distinguished orchestra which, as it were, opens the Festival, comes from the country which heads the list of visitors to Hong Kong.

"And now let us be done with speech-making and enjoy the entertainment. Those of us who have seen this idea, this enterprise, grow, are justifiably excited.

"It could add a new quality and a new dimension to our city. We fondly wish it success.

"For this to be assured we have only to enjoy to the full the music and ballet and drama and all that this Festival offers.

"This, Ladies and Gentlemen, I most sincerely hope you all will do.

"I wish you all a very happy and memorable month, and I declare open this first Hong Kong Arts Festival."

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BOOKLET ON "SAFETY AFLOAT"

The Marine Department's booklet, "Safety Afloat", which is intended for pleasure craft owners or potential owners, has been reprinted and copies are available free of charge from the department at 102 Connaught Road, Central.

Any member of the public who is an owner, operates or intends to own or operate a pleasure craft in Hong Kong waters should obtain a copy of this booklet and also a copy of the Merchant Shipping (Pleasure Vessels) Regulations available at Government Publications Centres.

An additional appendix has been added, drawing attention to the dangers of carrying petrol and other inflammable liquids on vessels.

Any inquiries concerning pleasure craft should be directed to the Small Craft Licensing Section of the Marine Department.

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ACCIDENTS AT BUILDING SITES IN JANUARY

A total of 334 workers were injured and one killed on building construction and sites of civil engineering construction during last month, according to reports received by the Labour Department.

Of this number, 70 were the result of stepping on or striking against objects. The fatal accident was the result of being struck by a falling object.

"Stepping on or striking against objects is one of the prevailing causes of industrial accidents," said Mr. A.H. Carter, Industrial Safety Training Officer of the Labour Department.

"This type of accident has resulted in 643 injuries over the past ten months.

"Many of these accidents could have been avoided if a higher standard of housekeeping had been enforced by management.

"Waste materials as well as protruding nails from odd pieces of timber should be removed from the sites, and raw materials should be stacked in an orderly and safe manner," he stressed.

Mr. Carter went on to say that in addition to the physical steps that should be taken to reduce accidents, the training and education of employees at all level to become hazard-conscious is of the utmost importance.

"This is particularly true with accidents where the human element plays a prominent role.

"You can never physically prevent people from stepping on or striking against objects but by training and education you can make them aware of the tragic results." he added.

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SECOND YOUTH WORKERS' SEMINAR ON
"Social Work And School Education"

The Wong Tai Sin Community Centre of the Social Welfare Department will hold a second youth workers' seminar on Wednesday, February 28.

The first seminar on "Deviant Behaviour of Youngsters in Resettlement Estates" was held last December and attended by local school headmasters, priests and social workers.

"It attracted such excellent response that further seminars are thought to be very useful to social workers and school teachers dealing with youth problems," a spokesman for the S.W.D. said.

Organised with the co-operation of the Calvary Church Social Service Centre and the Federation of Youth Group, the coming seminar is entitled "Social Work and School Education".

"We hope this function will throw light on better understanding of the present situation of social work agencies and schools in developing youngsters," the spokesman commented.

The seminar will start off with talks by representatives of the Hong Kong Council of Social Service and the Christian Children's Fund Institute, followed by group discussions, group reports and evaluation.

All youth workers, volunteers in social work and interested people in Wong Tai Sin may apply to attend.

Application forms are obtainable from the Community Centre at No. 104, Ching Tak Street, Kowloon.

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Note to Editors: You are invited to have the seminar covered.
It will be held at the Wong Tai Sin Community Centre
between 2 and 5.15 p.m. on Wednesday, February 28.

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IDENTITY CARD REGISTRATION TEAM TO OPERATE IN TAKULING

The Commissioner of Registration announced today that a team from the Registration of Persons Department will conduct registrations at the Takuling Rural Committee Office from Wednesday (February 28) to Thursday (March 1).

Business hours will be from 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.

The visit will enable parents or guardians to register their children from six to seventeen years of age for juvenile identity cards.

Young persons 17 years of age and over and holding juvenile identity cards, can register for adult identity cards.

People living in the area are reminded of their responsibility to register themselves and their children for identity cards.

They must report to the Registration of Persons Department any changes of employment or residential address, nationality or marital status or any other particulars which have changed since registering for their identity cards.

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Release time: 7.30 p.m.