



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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75-YEAR LAND GRANT FOR CHINA MERCHANTS CO.

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO GRANT BY PRIVATE TREATY FOR 75 YEARS AN AREA OF ABOUT 13 100 SQUARE METRES IN KENNEDY TOWN TO THE CHINA MERCHANTS STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY LIMITED (CMSN) FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A CARGO HANDLING PIER AND GODOWN.

THE SITE COMPRISES 7 020 SQUARE METRES OF SEABED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE PIER AND AN AREA OF ABOUT 6 100 SQUARE METRES TO PROVIDE GODOWN FACILITIES.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE COMPANY, WHICH BEGAN OPERATING AT WESTERN IN 1900, HAD TO GIVE UP ITS PIER AT WESTERN LAST YEAR TO MAKE WAY FOR RECLAMATION WORK.

HE POINTED OUT THAT TRADE BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CHINA HAD INCREASED RAPIDLY OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS.

LAST YEAR, HONG KONG IMPORTED OVER 8.7 MILLION TONNES OF GOODS FROM CHINA, REPRESENTING SLIGHTLY OVER 30 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL IMPORTS.

+ABOUT 80 PER CENT OF IMPORTS FROM CHINA ARRIVES BY SEA AND IN 1981 ABOUT ONE THIRD OF THIS WAS HANDLED BY CMSN, WHICH IS THE LARGEST SINGLE CARRIER OF HONG KONG'S IMPORTS FROM CHINA,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+CMSN HANDLED SOME 2.7 MILLION TONNES OF CARGO LAST YEAR AND ITS ACTIVITIES ARE EXPECTED TO INCREASE BY ABOUT 10 PER CENT EACH YEAR.+

HE ADDED THAT CARGO HANDLING AND STORAGE FACILITIES AVAILABLE AT PRESENT TO CMSN WERE INADEQUATE. AS A RESULT, SOME OF THE GOODS HAD TO BE HANDLED AT THE WESTERN PUBLIC CARGO WORKING AREA.

THEREFORE, HE SAID, THE PRIVATE TREATY GRANT WOULD NOT ONLY PROVIDE CMSN WITH ADEQUATE CARGO HANDLING AND GODOWN FACILITIES FOR A RAPIDLY EXPANDING TRADE BUT WOULD ALSO REDUCE THE PRESSURE ON THE WESTERN PUBLIC CARGO WORKING AREA AND RELIEVE LORRY CONGESTION IN THE VICINITY.

UNDER THE CONDITIONS OF GRANT, CMSN HAS TO COMPLETE THE PROPOSED \$33-MILLION DEVELOPMENT WITHIN 48 MONTHS.

THE \$30-MILLION PREMIUM, WHICH IS THE FULL MARKET VALUE ON THE BASIS OF ACTUAL DEVELOPMENT PROPOSED, WILL BE PAID IN ONE LUMP SUM.

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COMPUTERS INSTALLED IN SCHOOLS

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS RECENTLY COMPLETED INSTALLING COMPUTERS IN 30 SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR WHICH HAVE FOR THE FIRST TIME INCORPORATED COMPUTER STUDIES IN THEIR CURRICULUM ON A TRIAL BASIS FROM THE CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR.

THE NEW SUBJECT HAS BEEN INTRODUCED IN ONE CLASS AT FORM 4 LEVEL IN THESE SCHOOLS AND WILL BE EXTENDED TO FORM 5 LEVEL NEXT YEAR, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY.

BY MAY 1984, THE STUDENTS WILL TAKE PART IN THE FIRST EXAMINATION ON COMPUTER STUDIES IN THE HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE OBJECTIVES OF THE COMPUTER STUDIES SUBJECT ARE TO:

ENABLE STUDENTS TO UNDERSTAND THE FUNCTIONS, USES AND LIMITATIONS OF COMPUTERS,

PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE STUDY OF THE MODERN METHODS OF INFORMATION PROCESSING,

ENCOURAGE AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE IMPLICATIONS OF COMPUTERS IN THE MODERN WORLD, AND

PREPARE STUDENTS FOR FURTHER STUDIES IN COMPUTER SCIENCE.

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YOUNG MUSICIANS WANTED

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THE MUSIC OFFICE OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT IS INVITING YOUNG MUSICIANS TO JOIN THE OFFICE'S YOUTH SYMPHONIC BANDS, YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS, YOUTH CHINESE ORCHESTRAS, YOUTH CHOIR AND CHINESE FOLK SINGING CHILDREN'S ENSEMBLE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE OFFICE SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THAT THOSE INTERESTED IN JOINING THE BANDS OR ORCHESTRAS SHOULD BE UNDER THE AGE OF 23 AND HAVE ATTAINED AT LEAST GRADE V OR ABOVE IN THE ROYAL SCHOOLS OF MUSIC EXAMINATION OR EQUIVALENT IN AT LEAST ONE MUSICAL INSTRUMENT, OR HAVE GOOD KNOWLEDGE IN ONE OR MORE CHINESE MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

+PREFERENCE WILL BE GIVEN TO THOSE WITH ORCHESTRAL EXPERIENCE,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+YOUNG PEOPLE, BETWEEN 17 AND 26 YEARS OF AGE, WITH AN INTEREST IN CHORAL REPERTOIRE AND ARE GOOD AT SIGHT-SINGING MAY APPLY TO JOIN THE YOUTH CHOIR,+ HE SAID.

/+AS FOR

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+AS FOR THE CHINESE FOLK SINGING CHILDREN'S ENSEMBLE,+
HE CONTINUED, +APPLICANTS SHOULD BE AGED BETWEEN EIGHT AND 12
AND INTERESTED IN CHINESE FOLK REPERTOIRE.+

ALL QUALIFIED APPLICANTS WILL BE AUDITIONED AT A LATER DATE.

SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES WILL BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND REGULAR
REHEARSALS AND TRAINING.

THERE ARE AMPLE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERFORMING LOCALLY AND
OVERSEAS.

APPLICATION FORMS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM ALL MUSIC CENTRES
OF THE MUSIC OFFICE.

COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE MUSIC
OFFICE HEAD OFFICE AT THE HONG KONG ARTS CENTRE, 9/F, 2 HARBOUR
ROAD, WAN CHAI OR ANY OF ITS MUSIC CENTRES BY JANUARY 15.

FOR ENQUIRIES PLEASE CALL 3-7226240.

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NEW TEXTILE AGREEMENT WITH AUSTRIA

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A TRADE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE CURRENT
TEXTILE AGREEMENT BETWEEN AUSTRIA AND HONG KONG IS TO BE EXTENDED
FOR ANOTHER YEAR FROM FEBRUARY 1, 1983 ON ALMOST THE SAME TERMS.

THE NEW AGREEMENT HAS BEEN CONCLUDED FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS
IN VIENNA LAST WEEK BY A HONG KONG DELEGATION HEADED BY MR JUSTIN
YUE, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF TRADE.

FULL DETAILS OF THE NEW AGREEMENT WILL BE ANNOUNCED AFTER A
REPORT HAS BEEN MADE TO THE TEXTILES ADVISORY BOARD LATER THIS
WEEK, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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1982 ANNUAL DIGEST OF STATISTICS ON SALE
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THE +HONG KONG ANNUAL DIGEST OF STATISTICS+, A PUBLICATION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, IS NOW ON SALE.

IT CONTAINS IN ONE VOLUME SOME OF THE MOST IMPORTANT SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC STATISTICAL SERIES ON HONG KONG.

WHEREVER POSSIBLE IT ALSO PROVIDES DATA FOR A TEN-YEAR PERIOD (FROM 1972 TO 1981) TO CATER FOR PLANNING AND RESEARCH WORK THAT REQUIRE LONGER STATISTICAL SERIES.

IN ADDITION TO UPDATING MOST TABLES IN THE PREVIOUS EDITION, IT ALSO INCLUDES CERTAIN NEW STATISTICS, SUCH AS THE NEW SERIES OF MONETARY STATISTICS, PRINCIPAL STATISTICS FROM THE 1979 SURVEY OF BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE SECTORS AND SOME RESULTS FROM THE 1981 POPULATION CENSUS.

THE PUBLICATION IS NOW ON SALE AT \$184 A COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, CONNAUGHT PLACE, HONG KONG.

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MACHINERY NEEDED FOR SEWAGE TREATMENT
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TENDERS ARE BEING INVITED BY THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT FOR THE SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF INLET WORKS MACHINERY AND SLUDGE SCRAPERS FOR THE SECOND STAGE OF THE SHA TIN SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS.

THE SECOND STAGE WOULD PROVIDE FACILITIES FOR 270 000 MORE PEOPLE TO MEET THE CONTINUING GROWTH OF SHA TIN NEW TOWN, THUS INCREASING THE TOTAL CAPACITY OF THE TREATMENT WORKS TO SERVE 505 000 PEOPLE, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY.

THE TREATMENT WORKS COULD BE FURTHER EXTENDED TO COPE WITH A POPULATION OF 900 000 IN THE NEW TOWN AND DEVELOPING MA ON SHAN AREA.

THE CONTRACT COMPRISES THE SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF TWO BAR SCREENS, TWO CONVEYORS, SIX RECTANGULAR TANK SLUDGE SCRAPERS, 12 CIRCULAR TANK SLUDGE SCRAPERS, ONE AUTOMATIC WATER GATE AND OTHER ANCILLARY EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING STAINLESS STEEL SKIPS, STEEL GUARDS AND COVERS FOR MACHINERY.

IT REPRESENTS PART OF THE GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO POLLUTION CONTROL, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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ASSISTANCE FOR NEW ARRIVALS TO BE DISCUSSED

A PROJECT TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO NEW IMMIGRANTS FROM CHINA NOW LIVING IN KOWLOON CITY WILL BE DISCUSSED AT THE LOCAL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING ON THURSDAY (DECEMBER 16).

THE PROJECT, PROPOSED BY THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SERVICE HONG KONG BRANCH, WILL INCLUDE ORIENTATION SESSIONS, PERSONAL AND FAMILY COUNSELLING, CANTONESE AND ENGLISH CLASSES AND TUTORIAL GROUPS FOR CHILDREN.

RESULTS OF A SURVEY ON THE NEEDS AND ASPIRATION OF THE LOCAL RESIDENTS ON COMMUNITY BUILDING WILL ALSO BE PRESENTED AT THE MEETING FOR COMMENTS.

DURING THE MEETING, UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS WILL RAISE QUESTIONS ON FACILITIES IN KOWLOON TSAI PARK AND PERTH STREET SPORTS GROUND, REDUCTION OF SUBVENTION FOR CENTRES FOR THE ELDERLY, AND RULES GOVERNING THE TENANCY OF CHILDREN IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THE DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD AT 2.15 PM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE AT 141-143, KAU PUI LUNG ROAD, TO KWA WAN.

TEN SEATS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC INTERESTED SHOULD CONTACT THE DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARY AT 3-7110171 BEFORE WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 15).

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NOTE TO EDITORS :

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD MEETING.

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ABANDONED VEHICLES CLEARED FROM KENNEDY TOWN

AN UNNAMED STREET OFF VICTORIA ROAD TODAY FELT THE FORCE OF THE STRICT STREET MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS OF THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE.

THE STREET, NEAR KENNEDY TOWN BUS TERMINUS AND THE INCINERATOR, HAD BECOME AN ILLEGAL DUMPING GROUND FOR ABANDONED VEHICLES AND THE OPERATIONS OF ILLEGAL CAR REPAIR WORKSHOPS.

THE SITUATION FIRST CAME UNDER OFFICIAL ATTENTION DURING A REGULAR SITE VISIT BY THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR TONY COOPER.

/CO-ORDINATED BY

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CO-ORDINATED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE, THE MATTER WAS SOON TAKEN UP BY THE POLICE, THE LANDS AND WORKS AND THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENTS.

TODAY'S OPERATION INVOLVED THE TOWING AWAY OF ABANDONED VEHICLES, THE PULLING DOWN OF ILLEGAL EXTENSIONS AND THE REMOVAL OF OBSTRUCTIONS ALONG THE ROAD.

RESULTS OF THE CLEARANCE ACTION — THE LARGEST OF ITS KIND IN CENTRAL AND WESTERN — WILL BE REPORTED TO THE DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, COMPRISING SENIOR OFFICIALS OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS IN THE DISTRICT.

A NAME FOR THE STREET IS NOW BEING CONSIDERED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL.

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BUILDERS REMINDED ABOUT SAFETY

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BUILDING CONTRACTORS WERE REMINDED TODAY (MONDAY) THAT THEY ARE REQUIRED BY LAW TO ADOPT SAFETY PRECAUTIONS TO PROTECT WORKERS ENGAGED IN EXCAVATING OR EARTHWORKING OPERATIONS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT POINTED OUT THAT A BUILDING CONTRACTOR WAS RECENTLY FINED \$10 000 IN COURT FOR FAILING TO COMPLY WITH THIS STATUTORY REQUIREMENT.

THE REQUIREMENT, HE ADDED, IS CONTAINED IN THE CONSTRUCTION SITES (SAFETY) REGULATIONS. IT STATES THAT A STRUCTURE MADE OF SUITABLE TIMBER OR OTHER MATERIAL SHOULD BE ERECTED FOR AN EXCAVATING OR EARTHWORKING OPERATION AS SOON AS NECESSARY SO AS TO PREVENT WORKMEN ON THE SITE FROM BEING ENDANGERED BY A FALL OR DISPLACEMENT OF EARTH, ROCK OR OTHER MATERIALS.

THE REGULATIONS ALSO STATE THAT BARRIERS OR COVERS SHOULD BE PROVIDED TO EXCAVATIONS, SHAFTS, PITS AND OPENINGS INTO WHICH WORKERS MAY FALL A DISTANCE OF MORE THAN 2 METRES, EXCEPT WHEN WORK IS ACTUALLY IN PROGRESS.

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DRIVING TESTS

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ALL DRIVING TESTS SCHEDULED AT THE TIN KWONG ROAD CENTRE WILL BE CONDUCTED AS USUAL FROM TOMORROW (TUESDAY), FOLLOWING THE RE-OPENING OF TIN KWONG ROAD.

THE ROAD WAS CLOSED AFTER AN EXPLOSION LAST FRIDAY.

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URBAN CLEARWAYS IN CENTRAL

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WELLINGTON STREET IN CENTRAL NEAR ITS JUNCTION WITH LYNDHURST TERRACE WILL BE DESIGNATED AS AN URBAN CLEARWAY FROM 10 AM ON WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 15).

AT THE SAME TIME, LYNDHURST TERRACE NEAR ITS JUNCTION WITH WELLINGTON STREET WILL ALSO BE DECLARED AN URBAN CLEARWAY.

WITHIN THESE ROAD SECTIONS, VEHICLES WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM STOPPING FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS DAILY BETWEEN 7 AM AND MIDNIGHT.

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TEMPORARY NIGHT CLOSURE OF PERCIVAL STREET

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PERCIVAL STREET BETWEEN LOCKHART ROAD AND HENNESSY ROAD IN WAN CHAI WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC BETWEEN 12.01 AM AND 6.00 AM ON WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 15) FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MTR CAUSEWAY BAY STATION.

DURING THE CLOSURE, VEHICLES TRAVELLING SOUTHBOUND ALONG PERCIVAL STREET TO HENNESSY ROAD WILL BE DIVERTED VIA LOCKHART ROAD AND CANAL ROAD EAST.

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WATER FIGURES
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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY)
STOOD AT 77.8 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 449.661 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 267.555 MILLION
CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 46.3 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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WATER CUT IN CAUSEWAY BAY
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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN CAUSEWAY BAY WILL
BE TURNED OFF FOR SEVEN HOURS FROM 11 PM ON THURSDAY (DECEMBER 16)
TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR A LEAKAGE TEST.

THE AFFECTED AREAS INCLUDE PATERSON STREET, GLOUCESTER ROAD,
PERCIVAL STREET, HENNESSY ROAD, GREAT GEORGE STREET TO PATERSON
STREET JUNCTION, INCLUDING EXCELSIOR HOTEL, WORLD TRADE CENTRE,
AND KELLETT ISLAND.

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