



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1975

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PUBLIC NEEDS ENSURED IN MTR CORPORATION BILL  
INITIAL CAPITAL SET AT \$2,000 MILLION  
\* \* \* \* \*

THE GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN ANOTHER MAJOR STEP TOWARDS IMPLEMENTING THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY PLAN WITH ARRANGEMENTS MADE TO SET UP A MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION TO BUILD AND RUN THE RAILWAY TO BEST SERVE HONG KONG'S FUTURE PUBLIC TRANSPORT NEEDS.

A BILL, THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION BILL 1975, WHICH SETS OUT THE CONSTITUTION, POWERS AND FINANCIAL PROVISIONS OF THE CORPORATION, HAS BEEN DRAFTED AND IS PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GOVERNMENT GAZETTE FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION. IT WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHORTLY.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID +AS THE RAILWAY WILL BE AT THE CORE OF HONG KONG'S PUBLIC TRANSPORT SYSTEM IN THE 1980'S THE MAIN OBJECT OF THE CORPORATION MUST BE TO ENSURE THAT IT WILL BE OPERATED IN SUCH A WAY AS BEST TO SERVE HONG KONG'S PUBLIC TRANSPORT REQUIREMENTS+.

HE NOTED THAT UNDER THE BILL THE CORPORATION WOULD BE REQUIRED TO +CONDUCT ITS BUSINESS ACCORDING TO PRUDENT COMMERCIAL PRINCIPLES+.

HOWEVER, TO GUARD AGAINST THIS BEING INTERPRETED AS MEANING THAT THE CORPORATION WOULD BE FREE TO MAXIMISE ITS RETURN ON INVESTMENT, FOR EXAMPLE, BY CHARGING VERY HIGH FARES AND CARRYING FEWER PASSENGERS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE BILL WOULD REQUIRE THE CORPORATION TO TAKE COGNIZANCE OF THE REASONABLE NEEDS OF THE PUBLIC TRANSPORT SYSTEM IN HONG KONG.

UNDER THE BILL, THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE IN A POSITION TO EXERCISE A GREATER DEGREE OF CONTROL OVER THE CORPORATION THAN OVER OTHER PUBLIC UTILITIES.

FOR INSTANCE, AS THE MAJOR AND, INITIALLY, THE ONLY SHAREHOLDER, THE GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE A LEGITIMATE RIGHT TO HAVE A MAJORITY ON THE BOARD OF THE CORPORATION THROUGH THE APPOINTMENT OF SENIOR PUBLIC OFFICERS.

UNDER THE BILL, MOREOVER, THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL MAY GIVE GENERAL DIRECTIONS TO THE CORPORATION IF HE THINKS IT IS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST TO DO SO- BUT THERE IS ALSO PROVISION THAT GOVERNMENT MUST AUTOMATICALLY COMPENSATE THE CORPORATION FOR LOSS OF REVENUE OR PROFITABILITY WHICH ARISES AS A RESULT OF SUCH A DIRECTIVE, E.G. TO LOWER OR TO SUSPEND AN INCREASE IN ITS FARES.

OTHER MEANS THROUGH WHICH THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE ABLE TO EXERT CONTROL UNDER THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION WOULD INCLUDE:

/THE GOVERNOR .....

- \* THE GOVERNOR MAY FOR SUFFICIENT REASON REMOVE A PERSON FROM THE BOARD.
- \* THE CORPORATION MAY NOT INVEST IN ANY TYPE OF SECURITIES WITHOUT THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S APPROVAL.
- \* THE CORPORATION IS REQUIRED TO PROVIDE AUDITED ACCOUNTS AND A REPORT IN ITS ACTIVITIES AND TO FURNISH INFORMATION TO THE GOVERNOR ON REQUEST.

THE BILL PROVIDES FOR A BOARD OF THE CORPORATION TO CONSIST OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CORPORATION, ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR AND BETWEEN FOUR AND EIGHT MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR. IT IS ENVISAGED THAT THESE MEMBERS WILL INCLUDE BOTH PUBLIC OFFICERS AND PEOPLE DRAWN FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR. THE LATTER WILL BE APPOINTED FOR A TERM NOT EXCEEDING THREE YEARS BUT MAY BE RE-APPOINTED.

THE CHAIRMAN WILL BE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR, WHO WILL ALSO DETERMINE HIS TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE.

THE MANAGING DIRECTOR WILL BE APPOINTED BY THE CORPORATION BUT IT MUST OBTAIN THE GOVERNOR'S APPROVAL FOR HIS APPOINTMENT, SUSPENSION OR DISMISSAL.

ONE OF THE IMPORTANT FEATURES IN THE FINANCIAL PROVISIONS OF THE BILL IS THAT THE CORPORATION WILL HAVE AN INITIAL AUTHORISED CAPITAL OF \$2,000 MILLION.

THIS CONSISTS OF:

- \* THE AMOUNT OF THE GOVERNMENT EQUITY CONTRIBUTION, WHICH IS \$800 MILLION IN CASH= AND
- \* THE PROVISION OF A REASONABLE MARGIN TO COVER FURTHER EQUITY ISSUES IN RESPECT OF GRANTS OF LAND AND TO MEET TAX LIABILITIES.

THE BILL WILL ENABLE THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL, IF NECESSARY, TO AUTHORISE A GOVERNMENT GUARANTEE FOR THE CORPORATION'S DEBTS, WITH ANY SUMS REQUIRED FOR FULFILLING A GUARANTEE FALLING AS A CHARGE TO GENERAL REVENUE. +THIS WAS IMPORTANT BOTH TO THE CORPORATION AND TO POTENTIAL LENDERS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE BILL ALSO PROVIDES FOR THE CORPORATION TO REIMBURSE THE GOVERNMENT FOR CERTAIN EXPENDITURE INCURRED BY IT ON THE RAILWAY. THIS WILL INCLUDE EXPENDITURE ON SALARIES AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE OVERHEADS IN PLANNING THE RAILWAY, FEES PAID TO CONSULTANTS AND ADVISERS AND THE SALARIES OF STAFF BEING RECRUITED BY THE CORPORATION. IT WILL ALSO INCLUDE THE COST OF INVESTIGATIONS, ADDITIONAL PUBLIC WORKS, THE DIVERSION OF PUBLIC UTILITY INSTALLATIONS AND SOME OF THE COMPENSATION ARISING FROM CLAIMS IN RELATION TO LAND.

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THE SPOKESMAN SAID IT WAS ENVISAGED THAT, AS THE INITIAL DEBT WAS CALCULATED, THE CORPORATION WOULD DRAW DOWN SUMS FROM THE MASS TRANSIT FUND TO REIMBURSE THE GOVERNMENT.

UNDER THE BILL, THE CORPORATION WILL NOT BE EXEMPTED FROM TAXES AND RATES.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THERE WERE NO OVERRIDING REASONS JUSTIFYING EXEMPTION, EXCEPT AS A MEASURE TO HELP THE CORPORATION OVERCOME ITS INITIAL CASH FLOW DIFFICULTIES. +INDEED,+ HE SAID, +TO EXEMPT ANY ENTERPRISE ON THIS BASIS WOULD BE MOST INADVISABLE BECAUSE IT WOULD ERODE THE GOVERNMENT'S FISCAL POLICIES AND WOULD CREATE AN UNDESIRABLE PRECEDENT FOR OTHER DEVELOPING ENTERPRISES.+

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE RAILWAY WOULD CAUSE SOME DEGREE OF UNAVOIDABLE DISRUPTION TO THE ENVIRONMENT, BUT HE ASSURED THE PUBLIC THAT THE CONTRACTS WOULD RESTRICT CERTAIN TYPES OF PILING TO PARTICULAR HOURS AND WOULD LIMIT NOISE, INCONVENIENCE AND OTHER FORMS OF DISRUPTION AT EVERY SITE TO TOLERABLE LEVELS. TO ALLOW NIGHT WORK TO BE CARRIED OUT, HOWEVER, THE BILL WILL EXEMPT THE CORPORATION FROM THE OPERATIONS OF THE GENERAL LAW OF NUISANCE.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WOULD ONLY HAVE REMEDY AGAINST NUISANCE CAUSED BY CONSTRUCTION IF THEY WERE ABLE TO PROVE THAT EITHER THE WORKS WERE NOT AUTHORISED OR THAT NEGLIGENCE WAS INVOLVED. IN THESE CASES, THEY COULD APPLY TO THE COURTS FOR A CEASE-WORK ORDER.

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KWAI CHUNG OUTLINE ZONING PLAN APPROVED

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THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL HAS APPROVED THE OUTLINE ZONING PLAN FOR KWAI CHUNG.

THE OBJECT OF THE PLAN, WHICH REPLACES THE KWAI CHUNG PART OF A LARGER PLAN EMBRACING TSUEN WAN, KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI, IS TO BRING UP TO DATE THE STATUTORY LAND USE PATTERN AND MAJOR ROAD FRAMEWORK WITHIN WHICH THE USE AND DEVELOPMENT OF LAND MAY BE LEGALLY CONTROLLED.

THE PLAN, COVERING AN AREA OF 2,884 ACRES, ALSO AIMS TO CONSOLIDATE AND REGULARISE THE USE OF LAND IN THE DISTRICT, TO BRING UP TO DATE THE PLANNING PROPOSALS FOR THE AREA AND TO ENSURE A PROPER BALANCE BETWEEN INDUSTRIAL AND RESIDENTIAL AREAS. THE POPULATION OF THE DISTRICT IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE TO ABOUT 550,000 BY 1983.

EARMARKED FOR RESIDENTIAL USE ARE 480 ACRES OF LAND. THESE AREAS INCLUDE A NUMBER OF EXISTING AND PROPOSED PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES. IN ADDITION, 149 ACRES OF LAND HAVE BEEN RESERVED FOR VILLAGE TYPE DEVELOPMENT, COVERING AREAS MAINLY OCCUPIED BY VILLAGES RESITED OR TO BE RESITED FROM THE PLANNING AREA OR NEXT DOOR TSUEN WAN.

ANOTHER 375 ACRES OF LAND ARE RESERVED FOR GOVERNMENT, INSTITUTION AND COMMUNITY USE, SUCH AS SCHOOLS, COMMUNITY CENTRES, CAR PARKS, FIRE STATIONS, POLICE STATIONS AND CLINICS.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHT ACRES ARE ZONED FOR DISTRICT OPEN SPACE, THE DEVELOPMENT OF WHICH WILL PROVIDE TWO SWIMMING POOL COMPLEXES AND A COUNTRY PARK. A GREEN BELT TOTALLING 813 ACRES WILL ESTABLISH THE LIMITS OF URBAN EXPANSION OF KWAI CHUNG ON THE NORTH AND WEST OF THE PLANNING AREA.

FOR LIGHT INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES, 254 ACRES ARE SET ASIDE. PROVISION OF INDUSTRIAL LAND IN KWAI CHUNG IS MADE IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE INDUSTRIAL LAND PLANNED FOR TSUEN WAN AND TSING YI, THUS ENSURING THAT SUFFICIENT INDUSTRIAL LAND IS RESERVED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE POTENTIAL LABOUR FORCE OF THE TOWN AS A WHOLE AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXPANSION OF ESTABLISHED INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES.

AS FOR COMMUNICATIONS, AN AREA IS RESERVED ABOUT MIDWAY ALONG THE NEW KWAI CHUNG ROAD FOR A +DIAMOND+ ROAD-INTERCHANGE. AN EXISTING ROAD BRIDGE LINKS KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI, A ROAD LINK TO SHA TIN IS ALSO BEING PLANNED.

/APART FROM .....

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APART FROM THE CONTAINER TERMINAL WHICH WHEN COMPLETED WILL BE SELF-CONTAINED WITH ITS OWN CARGO HANDLING FACILITIES, AN AREA ON THE WESTERN SEA FRONT HAS BEEN RESERVED FOR CARGO HANDLING TO SERVE THE NEARBY INDUSTRIAL AREAS AS WELL AS THE ADJOINING AREA WHICH IS PROPOSED FOR AN INCINERATOR AND A SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS.

COPIES OF THE APPROVED PLAN WITH AN ACCOMPANYING EXPLANATORY STATEMENT ARE AVAILABLE AT \$25 PER COLOURED COPY AND \$5 FOR AN UNCOLOURED COPY, FROM THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE, 19TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG.

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#### FUN FAIRS IN KOWLOON THIS WEEKEND \* \* \* \* \*

HUNDREDS OF CHILDREN IN LAM TIN ESTATE AND THE LYEMUN AREA IN KOWLOON WILL BE HAVING A DAY OF FUN AT TWO FUN FAIRS OVER THE WEEKEND.

ABOUT 1,500 CHILDREN ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND THE SPRING FAIR IN LAM TIN ESTATE WHICH BEGINS AT 2 PM ON SATURDAY (MARCH 1). THERE WILL BE 11 GAME STALLS MANNED BY VOLUNTEERS FROM WELFARE AGENCIES.

THE EVENT IS SPONSORED BY THE LAM TIN ESTATE WELFARE BUILDING MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, AND ORGANISED BY FIVE WELFARE AGENCIES OPERATING WITHIN THE ESTATE.

THE NEXT DAY (SUNDAY) A LUNAR NEW YEAR FAIR WILL BE HELD IN THE LYEMUN AREA OF EAST KOWLOON.

IN ADDITION TO THE USUAL GAME STALLS, THERE WILL BE A SPECIAL BOOTH WHERE MUSIC LOVERS CAN PLACE REQUESTS FOR THEIR FAVOURITE TUNES. ANOTHER HIGHLIGHT WILL BE A DISPLAY OF PRODUCTS BY THE TAILORING AND KNITTING GROUPS OF THE ORGANISERS -- THE +CO OPERATION SOCIETY+, A SELF-PROGRAMMING GROUP OF THE KWUN TONG COMMUNITY CENTRE.

THE FAIR, TO BE HELD AT THE PLAYGROUND OF HOI BUN SCHOOL IN LYEMUN, IS SPONSORED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S +OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH SCHEME+ THROUGH ITS COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICE AND COMMUNITY CENTRE IN KWUN TONG.

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STIFFER FINES PROPOSED FOR FIRE HAZARD OFFENCES

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PEOPLE FAILING TO COMPLY WITH A FIRE HAZARD ABATEMENT ORDER WITHIN THE SPECIFIED TIME MAY BE FINED \$2,000, DOUBLE THE EXISTING AMOUNT, UNDER PROPOSED NEW LEGISLATION PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE.

THEY ARE ALSO LIABLE TO A FINE OF \$40, INSTEAD OF THE PRESENT \$20, FOR EACH DAY DURING WHICH THE OFFENCE CONTINUES.

THE HIGHER FINES ARE CONTAINED IN THE FIRE SERVICES (AMENDMENT) BILL WHICH TIGHTENS UP SAFETY REQUIREMENTS AND UPDATES THE EXISTING ORDINANCE.

THE BILL ALSO DOUBLES FROM \$2,000 TO \$4,000 THE FINE FOR CONTRAVENING A FIRE HAZARD ORDER.

AND FOR EACH DAY THE OFFENCE CONTINUES THE FINE WILL BE \$100, DOUBLE THE EXISTING AMOUNT.

THE DEFINITION OF +FIRE HAZARD+ IS AMENDED TO MAKE PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THOSE WHICH ARISE FROM IMPROPER USE OF MEANS OF EXITS FROM BUILDINGS, SUCH AS STAIRWAYS.

FIRE HAZARDS SPECIFIED IN THE ORDINANCE ARE: ALTERING A BUILDING IN CONTRAVENTION OF THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE= OVER-CROWDING PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT OR ASSEMBLY= REMOVING FIRE SERVICE INSTALLATIONS OR EQUIPMENT FROM A BUILDING OR HAVING IN A BUILDING SUCH INSTALLATIONS OR EQUIPMENT WHICH ARE NOT IN EFFICIENT WORKING ORDER= AND INADEQUATE MEANS OF EXIT FROM ANY PREMISES IN A BUILDING TO STREET LEVEL OUTSIDE THE BUILDING, OR USING SUCH MEANS OF EXIT FOR A PURPOSE WHICH INCREASES THE LIKELIHOOD OF FIRE OR CALAMITY, OR THE DANGER TO LIFE OR PROPERTY RESULTING FROM FIRE OR CALAMITY, OR WHICH WOULD HAMPER THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT IN DISCHARGING ITS DUTIES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID THAT BLOCKING OF STAIRWAYS HAS BEEN TOO PREVALENT AN OFFENCE IN HONG KONG, PARTICULARLY IN INDUSTRIAL PREMISES WHERE STAIRWAYS ARE OFTEN REGARDED SOLELY AS CONVENIENT STORAGE AREAS.

+IN THE PAST,+ HE SAID, +LIVES HAVE BEEN LOST BECAUSE VICTIMS HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO ESCAPE FROM A FIRE AS EXITS AND STAIRWAYS HAVE BEEN OBSTRUCTED. IT IS HOPED THAT THE NEW LEVEL OF FINE WILL DETER PEOPLE IN FUTURE FROM THIS PRACTICE BOTH IN RESPECT OF INDUSTRIAL AND RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS.+

UNDER THE BILL, PROPERTY REMOVED BY THE DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES WHEN ABATING A FIRE HAZARD MAY BE SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION AND THE PROCEEDS USED TO COVER EXPENSES INCURRED. ANY SURPLUS MAY BE PAID TO THE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY IF HE APPLIES WITHIN 12 MONTHS, OR ELSE IT WILL BE PAID INTO GENERAL REVENUE. NO TIME LIMIT IS SPECIFIED AT PRESENT.

/THE FINE .....

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THE FINE FOR OBSTRUCTING A MEMBER OF THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT IN CARRYING OUT HIS DUTIES WILL BE RAISED FOURFOLD FROM \$250 TO \$1,000. THIS OFFENCE ALSO CARRIES A SIX MONTHS' PRISON SENTENCE. A FINE OF \$5,000 AND IMPRISONMENT FOR SIX MONTHS MAY BE IMPOSED ON ANY PERSON WHO WEARS A FIRE SERVICES UNIFORM WITHOUT THE PERMISSION OF THE DIRECTOR. AT PRESENT, FINE FOR THIS OFFENCE IS \$250.

UNDER THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION, THE DEFINITION OF FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT DUTIES WILL BE WIDENED TO INCLUDE GIVING FIRE PROTECTION ADVICE, ASSISTING ANYONE NEEDING MEDICAL ATTENTION AND CONVEYING ANYONE NEEDING SUCH ATTENTION TO OR FROM A HOSPITAL OR A CLINIC.

SECTION 17 OF THE ORDINANCE, WHICH DEALS WITH MEMBERS OF THE DEPARTMENT MAINTAINING A STANDARD OF LIVING ABOVE THAT WHICH WAS COMMENSURATE WITH, OR BEING IN CONTROL OF PECUNIARY RESOURCES IN EXCESS OF, THEIR OFFICIAL EMOLUMENTS WILL BE REPEALED IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE PREVENTION OF BRIBERY ORDINANCE.

THE AMENDED ORDINANCE WILL GIVE THE DIRECTOR POWER TO DISMISS FIREMAN GRADE RANKS FOR OFFENCES AGAINST DISCIPLINE. AT PRESENT, ONLY THE GOVERNOR HAS THIS POWER.

THE NEW BILL WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHORTLY.

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DISTRIBUTION OF PRIMARY CLASSES  
IN NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR  
\* \* \* \* \*

NEARLY 240 NEW CLASSES WILL BE OPENED IN NEW AND DEVELOPING AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT HONG KONG IN THE SCHOOL YEAR BEGINNING NEXT SEPTEMBER.

THE CLASSES WILL BE IN SCHOOLS IN THE NEW TOWNS, IN NEW HOUSING KESTATES IN OTHER DEVELOPING AREAS, AND IN AREAS WHERE THERE ARE SHORTAGES. MOST OF THESE CLASSES ARE NECESSARY TO MATCH THE SHIFT IN POPULATION.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY THAT THE GRADUAL MOVEMENT IN THE POPULATION TO THE NEW AREAS HAD RESULTED IN A STEADY DECLINE IN RECENT YEARS IN ENROLMENTS IN SOME OF THE PRIMARY CLASSES IN THE OLDER URBAN AREAS.

+AS A RESULT, AND BY MAINTAINING A CAREFUL WATCH ON ENROLMENT IN PRIMARY 1 CLASSES, IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO PHASE OUT A SIMILAR NUMBER OF THESE UNDER-UTILISED CLASSES IN SEPTEMBER. HOWEVER, ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE MADE TO ENSURE THAT ALL CHILDREN ENTERING PRIMARY 1 IN SEPTEMBER WILL BE ABLE TO OBTAIN PLACES IN SCHOOLS CLOSE TO THEIR HOMES.+

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT APART FROM THE SHIFT IN POPULATION, THERE HAD ALSO BEEN A DECLINE IN THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN THE PRIMARY AGE GROUP. HOWEVER, THIS NUMBER WAS EXPECTED TO INCREASE AGAIN IN 1978. THE DEMAND FOR PRIMARY PLACES WOULD BE MONITORED CONTINUOUSLY, BOTH TO ENSURE THAT SUFFICIENT PLACES WERE ALWAYS AVAILABLE AND ALSO TO AVOID UNDER-ENROLMENT.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WAS MAKING SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS TO HELP ANY TEACHERS AFFECTED BY THE RE-DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION. DEVELOPING SCHOOLS IN WHICH THE NEW CLASSES WERE BEING OPENED WOULD BE ADVISED TO GIVE PREFERENCE TO THESE TEACHERS. +THE OVERALL NUMBER OF TEACHERS REQUIRED BY THE AIDED SECTOR WILL NOT BE REDUCED AS A RESULT OF THESE MEASURES+, HE POINTED OUT.

FOR THE STUDENTS GRADUATING FROM THE COLLEGES OF EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES WILL BE PROVIDED IN THE NORMAL WAY FROM WASTAGE, RETIREMENT, AND FROM THE OPENING OF CLASSES IN NEW AIDED SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

IN THE CASE OF THE GOVERNMENT SECTOR, PLANS ARE IN HAND TO RE-DEPLOY GOVERNMENT PRIMARY TEACHERS FROM SCHOOLS WHERE CLASSES ARE UNDER-ENROLLED INTO OTHER SECTIONS OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, AND, TEMPORARILY, INTO OTHER DEPARTMENTS.

IN SEPTEMBER 1975, THREE COLLEGES OF EDUCATION WILL INTRODUCE A 3RD-YEAR GENERAL COURSE TO ACCOMMODATE OVER 100 GRADUATES FROM THE PRESENT TWO-YEAR COURSES. THIS STEP WILL HAVE THE DUAL ADVANTAGES OF ENHANCING THE KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE OF THE TEACHERS WHILE IMPROVING THEIR TEACHING SKILLS.

THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HAS ALREADY OUTLINED THE POSITION TO THE TEACHERS' UNIONS, AND SCHOOLS CONCERNED HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED OF THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR. THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THESE ARRANGEMENTS WOULD IN NO WAY AFFECT PUPILS WHO WERE ALREADY ENROLLED AT SCHOOL, AND THAT AT ALL TIMES THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WOULD ENDEAVOUR TO MINIMIZE ANY INCONVENIENCE TO PUPILS ENTERING PRIMARY 1.

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GOVERNOR ATTENDS INTER-CHRISTIAN BROTHERS  
SCHOOLS SPORTS MEET  
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, TODAY URGED ALL STUDENTS INTERESTED IN SPORTS, TO CONTINUE THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPORTS EVEN AFTER THEY HAVE LEFT SCHOOL.

HE SAID : +GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP, GOOD HEALTH AND HARDWORK, MAKE FOR A HAPPY AND SUCCESSFUL LIFE.+

SIR MURRAY WAS SPEAKING AT THE INTER-CHRISTIAN BROTHERS SCHOOLS SPORTS MEET WHICH FORMED PART OF THE CELEBRATION MARKING THE CENTENARY OF THE CHRISTIAN BROTHERS' ARRIVAL IN HONG KONG.

THE GOVERNOR SAID: +THE CHRISTIAN BROTHERS HAVE LONG RECOGNISED THE NEED TO PROVIDE A WELL-BALANCED EDUCATION IN THEIR SCHOOLS WHICH COMBINES SOUND ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION WITH CULTURAL AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES.+

THEIR ENCOURAGEMENT OF SPORTS AND GAMES AMONG THEIR STUDENTS, HE SAID, HAD PRODUCED MANY OUTSTANDING SPORTSMEN WHO HAD CONTINUED TO CONTRIBUTE TO SPORTS IN HONG KONG LONG AFTER THEY HAD LEFT SCHOOL.

SIR MURRAY STRONGLY URGED ALL THE PRESENT STUDENTS TO MAINTAIN THIS FINE TRADITION.

FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH:

+BROTHER ALPHONSUS, BROTHER PATRICK, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

+I AM DELIGHTED TO BE HERE THIS AFTERNOON AND TO SHARE IN CELEBRATING THE CENTENARY OF THE CHRISTIAN BROTHERS' ARRIVAL IN HONG KONG, AT THIS SPORTS MEET WHICH I AM SURE EVERYONE HAS THOROUGHLY ENJOYED.

+THE CHRISTIAN BROTHERS, I KNOW, HAVE LONG RECOGNISED THE NEED TO PROVIDE A WELL-BALANCED EDUCATION IN THEIR SCHOOLS WHICH COMBINES SOUND ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION WITH CULTURAL AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES.

+THEIR ENCOURAGEMENT OF SPORTS AND GAMES AMONG THEIR STUDENTS HAS PRODUCED MANY OUTSTANDING SPORTSMEN WHO HAVE CONTINUED TO CONTRIBUTE TO SPORTS IN HONG KONG LONG AFTER THEY HAVE LEFT SCHOOL.

+I STRONGLY URGED ALL THE PRESENT STUDENTS TO MAINTAIN THIS FINE TRADITION. GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP, GOOD HEALTH AND HARD WORK, MAKE FOR A HAPPY AND SUCCESSFUL LIFE.

+IT ONLY REMAINS FOR ME TO CONGRATULATE ALL THE PRIZE WINNERS AND PARTICIPANTS IN THE VARIOUS EVENTS, AND THE ORGANISERS OF THIS SPORTS MEET. I WISH YOU ALL GOOD LUCK AND FUTURE SUCCESS.+

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NEW PARKING METERS FOR MONG KOK

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ABOUT 800 OLD-RATE PARKING METERS IN MONG KOK, KOWLOON, WILL BE REPLACED WITH THE NEW-RATE TYPE AS FROM SUNDAY (MARCH 2) IN ORDER TO PROVIDE A BETTER TURNOVER OF PARKING FACILITIES FOR SHORT-TERM PARKERS IN THE AREA.

THE CONVERSION PROGRAMME, ON METERS WEST OF YIM PO FONG STREET BETWEEN SHAN TUNG STREET AND BOUNDARY STREET, WILL TAKE ABOUT 10 DAYS TO COMPLETE.

THE PROGRAMME WILL START AT SHAN TUNG STREET AND THEN PROGRESS UP TO BOUNDARY STREET. THE OLD-RATE METERS FOR GOODS VEHICLES IN TAI KOK TSUI WILL NOT BE AFFECTED.

A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY ADVISED MOTORISTS THAT, DURING AND AFTER THE CONVERSION, THEY SHOULD READ CAREFULLY THE INFORMATION PRINTED ON THE METAL PLATE ATTACHED TO THE PARKING METER TO ENSURE THAT THE CORRECT COINS ARE INSERTED.

HE SAID ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO CANCEL PARKING TICKETS ISSUED TO A MOTORIST WHO MAY HAVE PARKED HIS CAR AT AN OLD-RATE METER WHICH IS THEN REPLACED BY A NEW-RATE METER.

CARS ALREADY PARKED AT OLD-RATE METERS, WHICH ARE SUBSEQUENTLY CHANGED TO THE NEW TYPE WHILE THE CAR IS STILLED PARKED, WILL BE GIVEN THE FULL TIME ALLOWED BY THE METER AFTER IT HAS BEEN CONVERTED, HE ADDED.

NEW-RATE METERS ACCEPT ONLY 50-CENT OR ONE DOLLAR COINS DEPENDING ON THEIR TYPE. UNDER THE NEW RATE SYSTEM, THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF TWO-HOUR METERS - ONE WHICH ACCEPTS A 50-CENT COIN FOR 30 MINUTES, AND THE OTHER WHICH TAKES A 50-CENT COIN FOR ONE HOUR. THERE IS ALSO ONE TYPE OF HALF-HOUR METERS AT WHICH THE CHARGE IS A FLAT \$1.

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MANY SEEK SHOP SPACES IN OI MAN  
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MORE THAN 140 TENDERS FOR THE TENANCY FOR THE FIRST LOT OF SHOP PREMISES AND COMMERCIAL UNITS IN OI MAN COMMERCIAL COMPLEX WERE RECEIVED BY THE HOUSING AUTHORITY UP TO THE CLOSING OF THE TENDER AT NOON TODAY (FRIDAY).

THESE TENDERS WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION AND THE TENDERERS WILL BE INFORMED OF THE RESULT WITHIN A PERIOD OF A FEW WEEKS.

THE TENDERS WERE REMOVED AT NOON TODAY FROM THE TENDER BOX PLACED AT THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS IN THE PRESENCE OF MR. D.I. MCINTOSH, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, AND THE DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANT SECRETARY AND OFFICER-IN-CHARGE OF THE CONFIDENTIAL REGISTRY.

THEY WERE OPENED IMMEDIATELY AND THE ORIGINAL COPY FROM THE TENDERS WERE CHOPPED AND INITIALED BY THE ASSISTANT DEPARTMENTAL SECRETARY BY WAY OF AUTHENTICATION THAT THEY WERE RECEIVED ON TIME.

MR. MCINTOSH SAID: +THE TENDERS WILL BE ANALYSED AND PROCESSED AND A COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE TENDERS AS WELL AS AN INITIAL RECOMMENDATION AS TO THE TENDERS TO BE ACCEPTED WILL BE PREPARED BY THE DIVISION CONCERNED.

+THESE DOCUMENTS WILL BE CHECKED BY THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY TO SEE THAT ALL TENDERS HAVE BEEN DEALT WITH AND RETURNED AND NO ALTERATIONS OTHER THAN THOSE PERMITTED HAVE BEEN MADE. THEY WILL THEN BE COMPILED INTO A TENDER REPORT AND WILL BE PLACED BEFORE THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION.+

MR. MCINTOSH SAID THE COMPREHENSIVE TENDER PROCEDURES WERE FOLLOWED TO ENSURE THAT NOTHING WOULD GO WRONG DURING PROCESSING AND ALL TENDERS WERE CONSIDERED FAIRLY AND WITHOUT PREJUDICE.

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY INVITED TENDERS FOR TWO RESTAURANTS, A CAFE, A DEPARTMENT STORE, A SUPER-MARKET AND SEVEN SHOP PREMISES IN THE OI MAN COMMERCIAL COMPLEX ON THE 17TH OF THIS MONTH.

INTEREST WAS SO GREAT THAT THE AUTHORITY HAD TO SET UP A SPECIAL OFFICE TO DEAL WITH ENQUIRIES FROM ENTERPRISES AND INDIVIDUALS.

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1975

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**KWUN TONG TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS**  
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SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE INTRODUCED ON SUNDAY (MARCH 2) IN KWUN TONG IN CONNECTION WITH THE KOWLOON +WALK FOR A MILLION+ EVENT ORGANISED BY THE COMMUNITY CHEST.

THE EVENT WILL START AT 9 A.M. FROM THE KWUN TONG RECREATION GROUND AND IS EXPECTED TO FINISH AT THE SAME PLACE AT ABOUT 6 P.M. MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED TO DRIVE WITH EXTREME CARE.

THE +LINK+ ROAD BETWEEN SAU MAU PING ROAD AND ANDERSON ROAD WILL BE TEMPORARILY CLOSED TO ALL VEHICULAR TRAFFIC BETWEEN 7 A.M. AND 5 P.M. VEHICULAR TRAFFIC USING ANDERSON ROAD FROM THE LINK ROAD TO RENNIES MILL WILL BE RESTRICTED TO FRANCHISED BUSES AND EMERGENCY VEHICLES ONLY.

DURING THE SAME PERIOD, SEVERAL ROADS WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY IN AN ANTI-CLOCKWISE DIRECTION. THESE ARE, LEI YUE MUN ROAD BETWEEN JUNK BAY ROAD AND KAI TIN ROAD= KAI TIN ROAD BETWEEN LEI YUE MUN ROAD AND JUNK BAY ROAD= AND JUNK BAY ROAD BETWEEN KAI TIN ROAD AND LEI YUE MUN ROAD.

TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE POSTED TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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**NEW P.R.O. FOR MEDICAL DEPARTMENT**  
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**NOTE TO EDITORS:**

MR. CHRIS WONG, SENIOR INFORMATION OFFICER, HAS BEEN APPOINTED TO REPLACE MR. ALBERTO DA CRUZ AS HEAD OF THE PUBLIC RELATIONS SECTION OF THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT AS FROM MARCH 1, 1975.

MR. WONG MAY BE REACHED IN HIS OFFICE ON TELEPHONE NUMBER 5-793766.

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LABOUR DISPUTE SETTLED  
AFTER MARATHON NEGOTIATION SESSION

LABOUR DEPARTMENT CONCILIATORS LAST NIGHT CHAIRED A 10-HOUR MEETING TO END AN 18-DAY OLD SEVERANCE PAY DISPUTE AT A KWUN TONG PRINTING FIRM.

THE YEE CHEUNG CO. LTD. WAS TAKEN OVER BY THE APPOINTED RECEIVER OF A BANK ON CHINESE NEW YEAR EVE (FEBRUARY 10).

WITH THE HELP OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT AND THE WING ON BANK, SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE ON THE SAME DAY TO PAY THE REDUNDANT WORKERS THEIR WAGES FOR JANUARY.

FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN WORKERS' REPRESENTATIVES AND THE APPOINTED RECEIVER WERE ARRANGED BY THE LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE.

AT THE FOURTH CONCILIATION MEETING YESTERDAY, SETTLEMENT WAS FINALLY REACHED AT MIDNIGHT AFTER A 10-HOUR SESSION WHEN WORKERS' REPRESENTATIVES AND THE APPOINTED RECEIVER SIGNED AN AGREEMENT IN THE KWUN TONG LABOUR RELATIONS OFFICE.

THE TERMS OF SETTLEMENT COVERED THE PAYMENTS OF WAGES IN LIEU OF NOTICE, ARREARS OF WAGES FOR FEBRUARY, DOUBLE PAY FOR 1974, HOLIDAY PAY AND SEVERANCE PAY.

WORKERS WITH LESS THAN TWO YEARS' SERVICE WILL BE GIVEN \$200 AS SEVERANCE PAY.

THE RECEIVER, AFTER REALISING THE ASSETS OF THE COMPANY, WILL UNDERTAKE TO PAY THE WORKERS.

FIRST PAYMENT COVERING WAGES IN LIEU WILL BE MADE ON MARCH 8. FURTHER PAYMENT WILL EFFECT BY THE END OF APRIL.

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AIR POLLUTION SEMINAR

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A SEMINAR WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (SATURDAY) MORNING AT THE KOWLOON TRUE LIGHT GIRLS' COLLEGE IN WATERLOO ROAD TO LAUNCH +PROJECT WINDSHIFT+, WHICH IS A CONTINUOUS EXPERIMENT DESIGNED TO PRODUCE UNIQUE LOCAL WIND PATTERN DATA TO ASSIST IN THE BATTLE AGAINST AIR POLLUTION.

FORTY-FOUR SCHOOLS AND THE TWO UNIVERSITIES ARE TAKING PART IN THE PROJECT, A JOINT EFFORT BY THREE GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS - EDUCATION, LABOUR AND THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY - AND THE CONSERVANCY ASSOCIATION. RANK XEROX IS FINANCING THE PROJECT AND HAS PRINTED THE INSTRUCTION PAMPHLETS FOR STUDENTS. THESE PAMPHLETS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED BY THE FIRM'S MARKETING PLANNING MANAGER, MR. LAWRENCE LUNG.

IN A BRIEF FOREWORD TO THE PAMPHLET, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS), MR. ARTHUR BROWN SAID +EDUCATION, EVEN SCIENCE EDUCATION, CAN SO EASILY BECOME BOOK LEARNING AND THE SOAKING UP OF FACTS, AND HERE WE HAVE THE EXACT OPPOSITES.

+INSTEAD OF SIMPLY MEMORIZING FACTS FROM A BOOK, WE ARE TO DISCOVER THEM FOR OURSELVES AND, WHAT IS MORE, THESE ARE NOT SIMPLY ESTABLISHED FACTS THAT ARE ALREADY KNOWN BUT FACTS TO BE OBTAINED BY ORIGINAL RESEARCH.

+INSTEAD OF READING A BOOK ON POLLUTION WE ARE INVOLVED IN CONTRIBUTING TO THE WRITING OF ONE. I AM QUITE CERTAIN THAT PARTICIPATION IN THE PROJECT WILL HELP US TO REALISE WHAT SCIENCE IS ALL ABOUT, MUCH MORE EFFECTIVELY THAN OUR NORMAL LESSONS.+

AT THE OPENING OF THE SEMINAR, SPEECHES WILL BE MADE BY MR. BROWN AND DR. BETH GOTT, VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE CONSERVANCY ASSOCIATION.

FOLLOWING ILLUSTRATED TALKS BY MR. DAVID NEWBURY, AIR POLLUTION CONTROL OFFICER OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT AND MR. PETER PETERSON, SENIOR SCIENTIFIC OFFICER, ROYAL OBSERVATORY, +HOME-MADE+ ANEMOMETERS WILL BE PRESENTED TO REPRESENTATIVES OF PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO HAVE THE SEMINAR COVERED. IT WILL BEGIN AT 10.30 A.M. TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AT KOWLOON TRUE LIGHT GIRLS' COLLEGE, 54A WATERLOO ROAD.

ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR PRESS REPRESENTATIVES WHO WANT INTERVIEWS WITH THE OFFICIALS CONCERNED TO DO SO HALF-AN-HOUR BEFORE THE START OF THE SEMINAR. ANY MEMBER OF THE MASS MEDIA WHO WISHES TO HAVE AN INTERVIEW IS REQUESTED TO ARRIVE AT THE COLLEGE AT 10 A.M. SHARP.

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1975

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LAND TO BE RECLAIMED FOR POLYCLINIC

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MORE THAN 56 ACRES OF FORESHORE AND SEA BED ON THE EASTERN SIDE OF TIDE COVE, NEW TERRITORIES WILL BE RECLAIMED SHORTLY FOR THE SITING OF A POLYCLINIC.

THE POLYCLINIC WILL PROVIDE MEDICAL FACILITIES FOR FUTURE RESIDENTS OF SHA TIN NEW TOWN.

THE SITE IS NEXT TO A FUTURE RESIDENTIAL AREA EARMARKED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF PRIVATE AND GOVERNMENT HOUSING ESTATES AND IS WELL CONNECTED BY ROAD TO OTHER PART OF THE NEW TOWN.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT SAID THE RECLAMATION OF A FURTHER SMALL AREA OF ABOUT 1.7 ACRES DOWNSTREAM OF THE EXISTING ROAD BRIDGE WOULD PROVIDE OPEN SPACE FOR RECREATION FOR THE FUTURE POPULATION OF NEARBY AREAS.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA INVOLVED IS DESCRIBED IN A NOTIFICATION IN TODAY'S GAZETTE. ANYONE WHO HAS OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSAL OR ANY CLAIM OF PRIVATE RIGHT SHOULD SUBMIT THEM IN WRITING TO THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS WITHIN TWO MONTHS FROM NOW.

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