



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1978

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NEW REGULATIONS TO CLEAR WAY FOR MINI-CINEMAS
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THE GOVERNMENT IS PLANNING TO INTRODUCE A NEW SET OF REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE OPERATION OF PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT TO PERMIT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MINI-CINEMAS IN MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THIS DECISION FOLLOWED STUDIES BY A WORKING GROUP COMPRISING REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE TELEVISION AND ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING AUTHORITY, THE ENVIRONMENT BRANCH OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, FIRE SERVICES AND THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

THE WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDED THAT A CINEMA OR CINEMAS, WHETHER ON THE SAME LEVEL OR NOT, SHOULD BE PERMITTED IN A MULTI-STOREY BUILDING OF MIXED OCCUPANCY.

HOWEVER, IN THE INTERESTS OF SAFETY, VARIOUS LIMITATIONS HAVE BEEN PROPOSED. FOR EXAMPLE, CINEMAS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED IN A BUILDING WITH CERTAIN OTHER OCCUPANCIES SUCH AS A REPAIR GARAGE, PETROL STATION, GODOWN OR WAREHOUSE, FACTORY, SCHOOL OR CHILD CARE CENTRE, NOR WOULD THEY NORMALLY BE ALLOWED IN THE BASEMENT OF A COMPOSITE BUILDING.

FOR CINEMAS WITH TOTAL CAPACITY EXCEEDING 2,000, THE EXISTING REGULATIONS STILL APPLY.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT PENDING THE ENACTMENT OF THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION, THE PROPOSALS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED ON AN ADMINISTRATIVE BASIS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE +GUIDELINES FOR CINEMAS PERMITTED IN COMPOSITE BUILDINGS+ AS ISSUED BY THE OFFICE OF THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IN JULY 1978.

WHERE A CONFLICT ARISES WITH ONE OR MORE OF THE PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT REGULATIONS, THE RELEVANT PROVISIONS THEREOF SHOULD BE THE SUBJECT OF A WRITTEN APPLICATION FOR A MODIFICATION OR MODIFICATIONS AS PROVIDED FOR UNDER SECTION 168 OF THE REGULATIONS.

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GOVERNMENT LABORATORY EXPANDING
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THE GOVERNMENT LABORATORY IS EXPANDING ITS SERVICES ON A CONSIDERABLE SCALE TO MEET THE GROWING NEEDS OF OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

THE EXPANSION WHICH IS FORGING AHEAD ON ALL FRONTS INCLUDES A 25 PER CENT INCREASE IN STAFF, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SECTION, THE CREATION OF ADDITIONAL OFFICE AND LABORATORY SPACE AND THE ACQUISITION OF MORE SOPHISTICATED SCIENTIFIC EQUIPMENT.

THE INCREASE . . .

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THE INCREASE IN ESTABLISHMENT TO ABOUT 150 OFFICERS HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE GOVERNMENT AND RECRUITMENT EXERCISES ARE NOW IN PROGRESS.

THE STAFF EXPANSION HAS INVOLVED A RE-STRUCTURING AT THE HIGHER LEVELS AND RESULTED IN THE PROMOTIONS OF ONE LOCAL OFFICER TO THE POST OF CHIEF CHEMIST, SIX OTHERS TO THE SENIOR PROFESSIONAL GRADE AND ADVANCEMENT FOR SEVERAL TECHNICAL STAFF.

THE GOVERNMENT CHEMIST, DR. A.J. NUTTEN SAID: +THE EXTRA STAFF ARE REQUIRED TO COPE WITH THE INCREASING WORKLOAD INCLUDING COMPLETELY NEW COMMITMENTS AND TO FILL NEW POSTS CREATED IN THE RECENTLY ESTABLISHED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SECTION.+

+THE NEW SECTION IS DESIGNED TO CENTRALISE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH PREVIOUSLY UNDERTAKEN BY INDIVIDUAL UNITS OF THE LABORATORY,+ DR. NUTTEN SAID.

THE NEW SECTION WILL REVIEW EXISTING METHODS FOR EXAMINING FOOD, DRUGS AND OTHER COMMODITIES, PROBE INTO APPLICATION OF NEW METHODS, AND COLLECT AND COLLATE ESSENTIAL DATA.

TO HELP KEEP PACE WITH THESE DEVELOPMENTS, THE GOVERNMENT LABORATORY HAS RECENTLY ACQUIRED AN ADDITIONAL 6,000 SQ. FT. OF LABORATORY SPACE IN THE ADMINISTRATION BLOCK OF THE GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT AT OIL STREET, NORTH POINT.

IT IS HOPED THAT CONVERSION OF THE AREA, WHICH WILL BE DIRECTLY LINKED TO THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE GOVERNMENT LABORATORY, WILL COMMENCE SHORTLY.

AS PART OF THE EXPANSION THE GOVERNMENT LABORATORY HAS ACQUIRED A FLAMELESS ATOMIC ABSORPTION SPECTROPHOTOMETER FOR USE IN DETERMINING METALS IN TRACE CONTENTS AND HIGH PERFORMANCE LIQUID CHROMATOGRAPHS WITH A BUILT-IN PROCESSOR AND FACILITY FOR A PRINT-OUT OF RESULTS.

THE SPECTROPHOTOMETER HAS A VARIETY OF APPLICATIONS SUCH AS IN FOOD STANDARD AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION CONTROL WORK, WHILE THE CHROMATOGRAPH IS MAINLY USED FOR ASSAYING OF PHARMACEUTICALS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS.

ADDITIONALLY, IT IS HOPED TO ACQUIRE A SCANNING ELECTRONIC MICROSCOPE AND A MASS SPECTROMETER/GAS CHROMATOGRAPH WHICH WILL ENABLE TRACES OF MATERIALS TO BE PRECISELY IDENTIFIED AND DETERMINED.

THE MICROSCOPE USES AN ELECTRON BEAM INSTEAD OF LIGHT TO SCRUTINISE MATERIALS AND HAS A HIGH MAGNIFYING POWER UP TO SEVERAL THOUSAND TIMES THE ACTUAL SIZE OF THE SPECIMEN. THERE IS NO DESTRUCTION OF THE SPECIMEN AND THIS IS OF PARTICULAR VALUE IN FORENSIC SCIENCE WHERE PRESERVATION OF EVIDENCE FOR COURT PURPOSES IS VITAL.

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ACTION AGAINST WATER THIEVES STEPPED UP
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THE PROSECUTION UNIT OF THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT HAS STEPPED UP ITS WAR AGAINST WATER THIEVES AND RACKETEERS.

THE UNIT WILL INCREASE ITS NUMBER OF DAILY PATROLS, ESPECIALLY IN SQUATTER AREAS, IN A BID TO STOP PEOPLE FROM TAKING WATER FROM THE MAINS ILLEGALLY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT WARNED THAT ANY PERSON SUMMONSED FOR BREACHING THE WATERWORKS ORDINANCE AND REGULATIONS COULD BE FINED, ON CONVICTION, A MAXIMUM OF \$5,000.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID RECENTLY THERE HAD BEEN REPORTS OF PEOPLE APPROACHING AND SOLICITING SQUATTER RESIDENTS FOR MONEY IN RETURN FOR ILLEGAL WATER CONNECTIONS TO THEIR HUTS.

+PEOPLE SHOULD REALISE THAT THEY RISK HEAVY FINANCIAL LOSS IF THEY ARE CAUGHT AND SUMMONSED FOR VIOLATING THE ORDINANCE AND REGULATIONS,+ HE EMPHASISED.

AS AN EXAMPLE, HE CITED A TOTAL OF 66 SUMMONSES WERE RECENTLY TAKEN OUT AGAINST A GROUP OF RESIDENTS IN A KOWLOON SQUATTER AREA FOR CARRYING OUT ILLEGAL INSTALLATIONS AND DRAWING WATER WITHOUT A METER. ALL OF THEM WERE CONVICTED AND FINED.

PEOPLE ARE URGED TO CO-OPERATE BY REPORTING TO THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT WHEN THEY ARE APPROACHED BY PEOPLE OFFERING TO MAKE ILLEGAL CONNECTIONS FOR THEM.

+THEY CAN REPORT BY DIALLING 3-948261 EXTENSION 297,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THIS YEAR, THE PROSECUTION UNIT HAS ISSUED NEARLY 800 SUMMONSES AGAINST PEOPLE FOR VIOLATING THE ORDINANCE AND REGULATIONS.

DURING THE SAME PERIOD, THERE WERE 750 SUCCESSFUL CONVICTIONS, AND FINES TOTALLED MORE THAN \$313,000.

THE OFFENCES INCLUDED MAKING ILLEGAL CONNECTIONS TO WATER MAINS, USING WATER WITHOUT A METER AND WASTING WATER.

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EMPLOYMENT AT CONSTRUCTION SITES

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THE NUMBER OF MANUAL WORKERS ENGAGED AT BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION SITES CONTINUED TO RISE TO 67,971 IN SEPTEMBER 1978, ACCORDING TO A RECENT EMPLOYMENT SURVEY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE FIGURE REPRESENTS AN INCREASE OF 291 WORKERS OR 0.4 PER CENT OVER JUNE 1978. COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER 1977 THE INCREASE WAS 7,331 WORKERS OR 12 PER CENT.

THERE WERE 1,210 BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION SITES IN OPERATION IN SEPTEMBER, OF THESE 361 WERE SITES OF THE PUBLIC WORKS AND HOUSING DEPARTMENTS, WHICH ACCOUNTED FOR 27,533 WORKERS, AN INCREASE OF 822 OR THREE PER CENT OVER JUNE 1978.

EMPLOYMENT AT THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION SITES RECORDED A DECREASE OF TWO PER CENT TO 7,275 WORKERS IN SEPTEMBER 1978.

DURING THE PERIOD JUNE TO SEPTEMBER 1978, THE NUMBER OF WORKERS ENGAGED AT BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION SITES OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR DECREASED BY ONE PER CENT TO 33,163.

DETAILED EMPLOYMENT FIGURES AT BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION SITES ARE AS FOLLOWS:-

	<u>SEPTEMBER 1977</u>		<u>JUNE 1978</u>		<u>SEPTEMBER 1978</u>	
<u>TENDERING AUTHORITY</u>	<u>SITES IN OPERATION</u>	<u>MANUAL WORKERS ENGAGED</u>	<u>SITES IN OPERATION</u>	<u>MANUAL WORKERS ENGAGED</u>	<u>SITES IN OPERATION</u>	<u>MANUAL WORKERS ENGAGED</u>
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT	281	16,580	318	19,708	310	20,065
HOUSING DEPARTMENT	30	4,244	54	7,003	51	7,468
MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY	23	6,937	28	7,405	29	7,275
<u>PRIVATE SECTOR</u>	<u>814</u>	<u>32,879</u>	<u>803</u>	<u>33,564</u>	<u>820</u>	<u>33,163</u>
TOTAL	1,148	60,640	1,203	67,680	1,210	67,971

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ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN IN TSUEN WAN

THE DISTRICT ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN IN TSUEN WAN AND KWAI CHUNG WILL KICK OFF TOMORROW (SUNDAY) AT 2 P.M. WITH A ROAD SAFETY DAY TO BE HELD AT SHA TSUI ROAD PLAYGROUND.

THE ROAD SAFETY DAY WILL FEATURE A SONG DEDICATION PROGRAMME TO BE COMPERED BY DISC JOCKEY JOE CHAN AND BROADCAST LIVE BY RTHK.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC CAN IN THE PROGRAMME DEDICATE SONGS TO THEIR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES STARTING AT 2.30 P.M.

IN ADDITION, JOE CHAN WILL ALSO JOIN POP MUSIC SINGERS ALBERT AU, AND DRAGON KING LEE, AND THE TITTLE TATTLE BAND IN GETTING THE ROAD SAFETY MESSAGE ACROSS TO PEOPLE.

BALLOONS AND LEAFLETS WITH ROAD SAFETY MESSAGE WILL BE HANDED OUT AT THE PLAYGROUND.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TSUEN WAN - KWAI CHUNG ROAD SAFETY COMMITTEE, MR. CHAN MAN-FONG SAID TODAY: +WE WILL TRY TO BRING HOME THE ROAD SAFETY MESSAGE TO PEOPLE OF OUR DISTRICT THROUGH ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMMES LIKE THE ROAD SAFETY DAY AS WELL AS THROUGH EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES.+

MR. CHAN ADDED: +IN ADDITION TO THE LIVE BROADCAST ON SUNDAY WE HAVE ALSO PLANNED A SPECTACULAR MOTOR CYCLE DEMONSTRATION BY THE CIVIL AID SERVICES TEAM, PUPPET SHOWS AND A ROAD SAFETY DRAMA BY THE HONG KONG REPERTORY THEATRE.+

AS PART OF THE CAMPAIGN, TRAFFIC POLICE OFFICERS WILL ALSO VISIT PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICT TO GIVE ROAD SAFETY TALKS TO STUDENTS.

IN ADDITION ROAD SAFETY PATROLS WILL EDUCATE PEDESTRIANS ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF CROSSING ROAD IN SAFETY AT ZEBRA CROSSINGS THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE ROAD SAFETY DAY TO BE HELD AT SHA TSUI ROAD PLAYGROUND, TSUEN WAN TOMORROW (SUNDAY) AT 2 P.M.

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MAXICAB ROUTE 2 TO RESUME OPERATION

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MAXICAB ROUTE 2 FROM CENTRAL TO OLD PEAK ROAD WHICH WAS SUSPENDED AS A RESULT OF THE CLOSURE OF A SECTION OF TREGUNTER PATH WILL RESUME OPERATION FROM MONDAY (NOVEMBER 13) AFTERNOON.

THIS IS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE OPENING OF A TEMPORARY NEW ROAD ADJACENT TO TREGUNTER PATH TO TRAFFIC IN A ONE-WAY WESTBOUND DIRECTION FROM 11.30 A.M. ON MONDAY.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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FIRING PRACTICE

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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE AT CASTLE PEAK RANGE ON THREE DAYS NEXT WEEK.

THE PUBLIC ARE REMINDED THAT IT IS DANGEROUS TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN THE RED FLAGS ARE FLYING DURING THE TIME OF FIRING PRACTICE.

THE PRACTICE TIMES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
NOVEMBER 14 (TUESDAY)	9 A.M. - 10 P.M.
NOVEMBER 15 (WEDNESDAY)	9 A.M. - 10 P.M.
NOVEMBER 16 (THURSDAY)	9 A.M. - 10 P.M.

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WATER CUT

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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN SHA TIN WILL BE STOPPED FOR TEN HOURS FROM 8 P.M. ON MONDAY (NOVEMBER 13) TO FACILITATE WATER MAIN CONNECTION WORK.

PREMISES TO BE AFFECTED ARE THOSE AT SHEUNG WO CHE, HA WO CHE, FO TAN, SHA TIN RACECOURSE, HO TUNG LAU AND THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

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