



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 1977

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\$25 MILLION SPORTS CENTRE FOR SHA TIN

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HONG KONG IS TO HAVE A MASSIVE AND NOVEL SPORTS FACILITY WHICH WILL RAISE THE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS IN MANY FORMS OF ATHLETICS AND TEAM GAMES.

THIS NEW CONCEPT IN THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF SPORT IN HONG KONG HAS BEEN PLANNED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB WHO ARE PROVIDING LAND AND FUNDS FOR A SPORTS CENTRE AT THE SITE OF THEIR NEW RACECOURSE IN SHA TIN.

THE PROJECT HAS BEEN APPROVED AND ENCOURAGED BY THE GOVERNMENT WHO WILL MATCH THE JOCKEY CLUB'S FIRST CAPITAL EXPENDITURE ON THE LAND WITH A \$25 MILLION CONTRIBUTION TO THE BUILDING OF THE CENTRE. THE JOCKEY CLUB WILL THEN TAKE OVER FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE COST OF RUNNING THE CENTRE AND CONTRIBUTE CAPITAL FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT.

ANNOUNCING THE NEW PROJECT TODAY THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR. DENIS BRAY, SAID THAT THE AIM OF THE NEW SPORTS CENTRE WAS TO RAISE THE STANDARD OF PERFORMANCE IN SPORTS AND TO ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION IN SPORT GENERALLY.

WITH AN AREA OF 41 ACRES THE PROJECT IS THE BIGGEST STEP FORWARD EVER TAKEN IN HONG KONG IN THE PROVISION OF MUCH NEEDED SPORTING FACILITIES.

MR. P.G. WILLIAMS, CHAIRMAN OF THE STEWARDS OF THE JOCKEY CLUB, SAID TODAY THAT THE CONCEPT WAS SOMETHING ENTIRELY NEW TO HONG KONG. +IT IS NOT SIMPLY ANOTHER STADIUM FOR BIG MATCHES AND SPECTATOR SPORTS, NOR IS IT SIMPLY ANOTHER PARK FOR GENERAL RECREATION.

+WHAT WE HAVE PLANNED,+ SAID MR. WILLIAMS, +IS A SPORTING ORGANISATION WITH FACILITIES AND EXPERT STAFF TO DEVELOP THE POTENTIAL OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF HONG KONG IN SPORTS AND ATHLETICS.+

+IT WILL NOT BE A HOT-HOUSE FOR REARING CHAMPIONS BUT IT WILL GIVE THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF HONG KONG THE CHANCE TO RAISE THEIR STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE. IN SOME CASES THIS WILL CERTAINLY MEAN RAISING THEIR STANDARDS TO INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVE LEVELS.+

THE GOVERNMENT HAS RECOGNISED THE SPECIAL NATURE OF THIS PROPOSAL WHICH WAS PUT FORWARD BY THE JOCKEY CLUB IN 1976 AND HAS AGREED THAT IT SHOULD BE OPERATED AS A JOINT VENTURE BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE CLUB.

THE CENTRE WILL BE UNDER THE CONTROL OF A BOARD OF MANAGEMENT INCORPORATED BY ORDINANCE. IT WILL COMPRISE NINE MEMBERS. THEY WILL INCLUDE PEOPLE WITH EXPERIENCE IN SPORT AND WILL BE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR. FOUR OF THE MEMBERS WILL BE APPOINTED IN CONSULTATION WITH THE JOCKEY CLUB.

/MR. BRAY .....

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MR. BRAY ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT TO ENABLE ACTION TO BEGIN AT ONCE A PROVISIONAL BOARD WILL BE SET UP TO APPOINT A CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND PROCEED WITH DETAILED PLANNING OF THE CENTRE.

THE BOARD WILL ALSO BE CONSIDERING A SUITABLE NAME FOR THE CENTRE.

THE CONCEPT OF THE NEW SPORTS CENTRE GREW OUT OF THE JOCKEY CLUB'S DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW RACECOURSE AT SHA TIN. THERE WERE ALREADY PLANS FOR A +PASSIVE+ LANDSCAPED RECREATION AREA IN THE CENTRE OF THE RACECOURSE, AN ATTRACTIVE AREA FOR RELAXATION.

HOWEVER, THE STEWARDS RECOGNISED THAT THE ROAD AND RAIL ACCESS ALREADY PROVIDED FOR THE RACECOURSE WERE ALSO A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE ACCESS TO A CENTRE FOR ACTIVE SPORTS ON AN UNPRECEDENTED SCALE AND IN A TOTALLY NEW WAY.

ALTHOUGH AT THE TIME THE CLUB WAS STILL INVOLVED IN THE COMPLETION OF OCEAN PARK AND HAD HEAVY CAPITAL COMMITMENTS IN COMPUTERISATION OF BETTING SYSTEMS AND IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF SHA TIN ITSELF THE STEWARDS DECIDED THAT THIS OPPORTUNITY SHOULD NOT BE MISSED AND THAT FUNDS OUGHT TO BE FOUND FOR IT.

THE SPACE FOR THE NEW SPORTS CENTRE, ABOUT THE SAME SIZE AS HAPPY VALLEY WAS MADE AVAILABLE BY THE REARRANGEMENT OF BUILDINGS ON THE RACECOURSE COMPLEX.

THE FACILITIES AT THE NEW SPORTS CENTRE WILL BE AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE TO ANYONE UNDER THE AGE OF 18. PARTICIPANTS WILL HAVE TO MEET CERTAIN STANDARDS OF PROFICIENCY IN THEIR CHOSEN SPORTS AND SELECTION WILL BE BASED ON RECOMMENDATIONS FROM SCHOOLS, DISTRICT RECREATION AND SPORTS OFFICERS AND CLUBS AND ASSOCIATIONS.

THE CENTRE WILL ALSO BE OPEN TO INDIVIDUAL +ASSOCIATE+ MEMBERS WHO WILL BE SELECTED BY THE MANAGEMENT ON ATHLETIC MERIT AND WHO WILL BE EXPECTED TO PAY A SMALL ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION.

IN ADDITION TO THE APPOINTMENT OF A CHIEF EXECUTIVE WITH A SPORTS BACKGROUND THE CENTRE WILL EMPLOY TOP-CLASS COACHES, INCLUDING COACHES FROM OVERSEAS WHO ARE SPECIALISTS IN VARIOUS ACTIVITIES.

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RATE RELIEF SCHEME

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THE GOVERNOR HAS SIGNED AN ORDER GIVING EFFECT TO THE SCHEME OF RATE RELIEFS PROPOSED BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY IN HIS BUDGET SPEECH. THIS WILL ENABLE THE RELIEFS TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT FOR THE ISSUE OF THE RATE DEMAND NOTES FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF THIS YEAR.

RATEPAYERS SHOULD CAREFULLY CHECK THEIR RATE DEMAND NOTES FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF THIS YEAR AGAINST THOSE FOR THE PREVIOUS QUARTER.

IF THE AMOUNT NOW DEMANDED EXCEEDS BY MORE THAN 33.33 PER CENT THE AMOUNT LAST DEMANDED, RATEPAYERS SHOULD TAKE BOTH THE FIRST AND SECOND QUARTERS' RATE DEMAND NOTES TO THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT, WHO WILL ADVISE THEM ON WHAT TO DO.

THE COMMISSIONER OF RATING AND VALUATION HAS ISSUED A BRIEF PAMPHLET EXPLAINING HOW THE RELIEF SCHEME WILL WORK AND COPIES (IN BOTH CHINESE AND ENGLISH) MAY BE OBTAINED FREE OF CHARGE FROM CITY DISTRICT OFFICES, DISTRICT OFFICES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES AND THE OFFICES OF THE DEPARTMENT AT NEW MERCURY HOUSE, WAN CHAI OR 1, GARDEN ROAD.

THE COMMISSIONER EMPHASISED THAT, IN RESPECT OF RENT-CONTROLLED PREMISES, WHERE THE LANDLORD IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYING THE RATES DIRECT, ONLY THE INCREASE IN RATES ACTUALLY PAYABLE CAN BE PASSED ON TO A TENANT AS INCREASED RENT. IN OTHER WORDS, IN ARRIVING AT THE INCREASED AMOUNT PAYABLE - IF ANY - THE AMOUNT OF THE 1977-78 RATES MUST BE REDUCED WHERE APPLICABLE BY THE AMOUNT OF RELIEF ALLOWED.

HE ADDED THAT ANY TENANT IN DOUBT AS TO THE INCREASED AMOUNT THEY ARE ASKED TO PAY SHOULD GET IN TOUCH WITH THE RENT CONTROL DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT AT NEW MERCURY HOUSE.

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H.K. SPORTS FESTIVAL CANOE RACE

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OWNERS, COXSWAINS AND PEOPLE IN CHARGE OF LOCAL CRAFT ARE REQUESTED TO EXERCISE DUE CAUTION WHILE NAVIGATING OFF APPROACH BAY NEAR 10-1/2 MILESTONE CASTLE PEAK ROAD ON SUNDAY (APRIL 3) WHEN THE HONG KONG SPORTS FESTIVAL WILL HOLD ITS CANOE RACE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MARINE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY THAT THEY SHOULD ALSO AVOID PASSING CLOSE TO COMPETING CRAFT.

THE RACE WILL BE HELD BETWEEN 10 A.M. AND 5 P.M. ON THAT DAY.

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MORE COMMUNITY FACILITIES PLANNED FOR SHA TIN  
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THE GOVERNMENT WILL SHORTLY START FORMING LAND IN SIU TAN, SHA TIN, IN ORDER TO PROVIDE SITES FOR FUTURE COMMUNITY PROJECTS WHICH INCLUDE A 1,200-BED REGIONAL HOSPITAL TO SERVE THE EASTERN NEW TERRITORIES.

OTHER PROJECTS PLANNED FOR THE AREA, AFTER THE LAND IS FORMED, WILL BE A POLYCLINIC, A POLICE STATION AND OTHER COMMUNITY FACILITIES.

LAND FORMATION WORK IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN NEXT MONTH AND WILL TAKE ABOUT 27 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

IT INVOLVES THE RESUMPTION OF 175,432 SQUARE METERS OF AGRICULTURAL LAND, AND ONE MONTH'S NOTICE OF THE RESUMPTION WAS PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

A NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THE RESUMPTION OF LAND IN SIU TAN WAS NECESSARY TO ENABLE THE GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE ITS MASSIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME IN THE FAST-GROWING NEW TOWN OF SHA TIN.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD PLANS FOR VARIOUS PROJECTS IN THE AREA AND THIS WOULD MEAN BETTER COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE GROWING POPULATION IN SHA TIN.

+IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THE POPULATION IN THE NEW TOWN WOULD RISE FROM THE PRESENT 60,000 TO 231,000 BY 1981,+ HE SAID.

APART FROM THE POLYCLINIC, HE SAID, THE REGIONAL HOSPITAL WOULD PROVIDE INCREASED MEDICAL SERVICES NOT ONLY TO PEOPLE OF SHA TIN BUT ALSO TO THOSE LIVING IN OTHER PARTS OF THE EASTERN NEW TERRITORIES.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE RESUMPTION WOULD INVOLVE 11 TEMPORARY STRUCTURES, ONLY ONE OF WHICH WAS DOMESTIC STRUCTURE OCCUPIED BY ONE FAMILY.

+IF FOUND ELIGIBLE, THIS FAMILY WILL BE OFFERED PUBLIC HOUSING IN THE LEK YUEN ESTATE= IF NOT, IT WILL BE OFFERED SPACE IN A LICENSED AREA,+ HE SAID.

THE GOVERNMENT WOULD ALSO PAY COMPENSATION FOR CROPS, TREES, GRAVES, PIPES, FENCES AND WELLS, AS WELL AS EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE FOR CULTIVATORS, HE SAID.

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GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS FOR JANUARY  
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THE GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY SHOW A SURPLUS OF \$525 MILLION AS COMPARED WITH A SURPLUS OF \$461 MILLION IN JANUARY LAST YEAR.

THIS HAS RESULTED IN AN ACCUMULATED SURPLUS OF \$586 MILLION FOR THE FIRST TEN MONTHS OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR, COMPARED WITH A SURPLUS OF \$424 MILLION FOR THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

GROSS EXPENDITURE AT \$573 MILLION WAS \$42 MILLION MORE THAN IN JANUARY 1976.

TOTAL REVENUE AND RECEIPTS AT \$1,097 MILLION WAS \$105 MILLION MORE THAN THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR, DUE MAINLY TO INCREASED RECEIPTS FROM DUTIES, INTERNAL REVENUE, VEHICLE TAXES AND LAND SALES.

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H.K. SEA SCHOOL CADETS RECEIVE CERTIFICATES  
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THE DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES, MR. FRED WATSON, TODAY PRESENTED CERTIFICATES TO FIVE HONG KONG SEA SCHOOL CADETS WHO HAVE COMPLETED THEIR TRAINING.

SPEAKING AT THE PASSING-OUT PARADE HELD AT THE SCHOOL PLAYGROUND, THE DIRECTOR TOLD THE CADETS THAT ALL THE SPLENDID TRAINING THEY RECEIVED, THE DISCIPLINE AND SENSE OF DUTY WHICH WERE INSTILLED TOGETHER WITH PRIDE OF APPEARANCE AND GOOD ATTITUDES TO OTHERS, WERE DESIGNED TO PREPARE THEM IN THE FINEST WAY FOR TAKING A RESPONSIBLE PLACE IN THE ADULT WORLD.

TO THOSE WHO ARE LEAVING THE SCHOOL TO SET OUT ON A CAREER WITH THE MERCHANT NAVY, MR. WATSON SAID THEY SHOULD NEVER FORGET THEIR LIFE AND TRAINING AT STANLEY AND ALWAYS ENDEAVOUR TO LIVE BY THE CODES THEY HAD BEEN TAUGHT.

TWO OLD BOYS OF THE SCHOOL WHO ARE NOW WORKING IN THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT WERE AMONG THE GUESTS AT TODAY'S PARADE.

AFTER THE CEREMONY, THE DIRECTOR AND THE OTHER VISITORS WERE TAKEN ON A TOUR OF THE SCHOOL AND SAW THE BOYS IN VARIOUS TRAINING SESSIONS.

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SEMINAR FOR SCIENCE TEACHERS  
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ABOUT 450 SCIENCE TEACHERS WILL ATTEND A SEMINAR ON +NEW SCIENCE SYLLABUSES (FORMS 4-5)+ AT DIOCESAN BOYS' SCHOOL TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AND AGAIN AT THIS SCHOOL AND WAH YING COLLEGE ON APRIL 16.

THE AIM OF THE SEMINAR IS TO FAMILIARISE TEACHERS WITH THE PHYSICS, CHEMISTRY AND BIOLOGY SYLLABUSES (FORMS 4-5) AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

THERE WILL BE TALKS ON SPECIFIC TOPICS BY EXPERIENCED LECTURERS AND TEACHERS. PRACTICAL SESSIONS WILL ALSO BE HELD. TEACHERS WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE IDEAS AND DISCUSS MATTERS OF COMMON INTEREST.

THE SEMINAR IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION.

THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS), MR. ARTHUR BROWN, WILL GIVE THE OPENING ADDRESS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:  
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YOU ARE INVITED TO HAVE THE SEMINAR ON +NEW SCIENCE SYLLABUSES (FORMS 4-5)+ COVERED. IT WILL BE HELD AT DIOCESAN BOYS' SCHOOL AT ARGYLE STREET, KOWLOON, TOMORROW (SATURDAY) BETWEEN 9.30 A.M. AND 12.45 P.M.

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BLOCK RELEASE INDUSTRIAL TRADE INSTRUCTORS' COURSE  
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THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE IS INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION TO A TWO-WEEK FULL-TIME BLOCK RELEASE INDUSTRIAL TRADE INSTRUCTORS' COURSE.

THE COURSE, COMMENCING ON MAY 9, OFFERS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR TRADE INSTRUCTORS AND WORKSHOP SUPERVISORS TO OBTAIN THE NECESSARY TRAINING FOR CARRYING OUT THEIR DAY TO DAY TEACHING DUTIES.

AMONG THE THINGS TAUGHT WILL BE METHODS OF TEACHING, EDUCATION THEORY AND EDUCATION PSYCHOLOGY.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE OBTAINABLE FROM THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE, 373 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST.

COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE HONG KONG TEACHERS' COLLEGE BY APRIL 23.

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