



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1981

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1980 POPULATION ESTIMATE
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THE ESTIMATED POPULATION OF HONG KONG AT THE END OF DECEMBER 1980 WAS 5 147 900, ACCORDING TO FIGURES RELEASED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THIS REPRESENTS AN INCREASE OF 130 900 PEOPLE OR 2.6 PER CENT OVER END-1979. THE SLOWER RATE OF INCREASE AS COMPARED WITH THE GROWTH RATE OF 6.3 PER CENT FOR 1979 WAS DUE TO A LOWER LEVEL OF IMMIGRATION FROM CHINA AS WELL AS A NET OUTFLOW OF 32 873 VIETNAMESE REFUGEES.

THE LARGEST CONSTITUENT IN THE POPULATION GROWTH WAS NET IMMIGRATION, THAT IS THE BALANCE OF TOTAL ARRIVALS OVER TOTAL DEPARTURES, WHICH ACCOUNTED FOR 69 560 OR 53 PER CENT OF THE GROWTH.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF BIRTHS FOR 1980 WAS 86 518, AN INCREASE OF 4.2 PER CENT COMPARED WITH 83 019 FOR 1979. THE INCREASE WAS DUE TO THE GRADUAL INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF WOMEN IN THE CHILDBEARING AGES AND ALSO AN INCREASE IN BIRTHS (1 357 AS COMPARED WITH 618) GIVEN BY VIETNAMESE REFUGEES.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF DEATHS FOR 1980 WAS 25 173= THIS COMPARES WITH 25 268 FOR 1979. OVERALL, NATURAL INCREASE, THAT IS THE BALANCE OF BIRTHS OVER DEATHS, CONTRIBUTED TO A GAIN OF 61 345 PEOPLE OR 47 PER CENT OF THE GROWTH.

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COMMUNITY CAN HELP EDUCATE YOUNG PEOPLE AGAINST DRUG ABUSE
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THE DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS, MR GRAHAM BARNES TODAY (SUNDAY) CALLED ON THE COMMUNITY TO GIVE SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE TO EDUCATE YOUNG PEOPLE AGAINST DRUG ABUSE.

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE TELEMATCH AND PRIZE-PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN HELD AT THE ABERDEEN SPORTS GROUND.

MR BARNES POINTED OUT THAT THE DISTRICT IS A FAST DEVELOPING COMMUNITY WITH A YOUNG POPULATION.

TO HELP THESE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE TO TEMPTATION TO TRY DRUGS, HE SAID, WE SHOULD CHANNEL THEIR ENERGIES AND CURIOSITY BY PROVIDING MORE AND BETTER RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL FACILITIES AND TO INSTILL A SENSE OF SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY INTO THEM THROUGH GUIDANCE AND EDUCATION.

MR BARNES NOTED THAT AS A RESULT OF YEARS OF DETERMINED AND CONCERTED JOINT EFFORTS BY THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS, THE GOVERNMENT, VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND ENTHUSIASTIC CITIZENS, HONG KONG'S FIGHT AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKING AND ABUSE HAD ACHIEVED CONSIDERABLE SUCCESS.

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THE NUMBER OF DRUG ADDICTS IN HONG KONG HAS DECREASED FROM ABOUT 200 000 IN 1959 TO ABOUT 40 000. +WE MUST NOT, HOWEVER, BE COMPLACENT WITH THE ACHIEVEMENTS THUS FAR,+ MR BARNES SAID.

HE EMPHASISED THAT THE PRESENCE OF THE 40 000 DRUG ADDICTS IN OUR COMMUNITY COULD POSE, TO A GREATER OR LESSER EXTENT, A THREAT TO THE COMMUNITY'S INTEGRITY AND PEACE OF MIND.

+DESPITE THE FACT THAT THOSE UNDER 19 MAKE UP ONLY FOUR PER CENT OF THE TOTAL ADDICT POPULATION AND THERE IS EVERY SIGN OF ITS CONTRACTION, WE MUST NOT OVERLOOK THE POTENTIAL DANGER WHICH DRUG ABUSE POSES TO THE YOUNG IF WE ARE TO RELAX OUR EFFORTS TO ERADICATE THE DRUG PROBLEM.+

+WE MUST NEVER FORGET THAT WE WILL ALWAYS HAVE IN OUR MIDST ALSO THOSE WHO, IN THEIR PITILESS GREED FOR PROFIT, WOULD WISH TO SEE A VAST INCREASE IN ADDICTION,+ HE ADDED.

TODAY'S EVENT WAS ORGANISED BY THE ACAN AND THE DISTRICT'S ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE, RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE, CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (SOUTHERN) AND THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION, WONG CHUK HANG OFFICE.

ALSO OFFICIATING AT THE PRIZE-PRESENTATION WERE MR KARL STUMPF, CHAIRMAN OF ACAN'S PREVENTIVE EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY SUB-COMMITTEE AND MR C.M. LEUNG, ACTING COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS.

AMONG THE GUESTS WERE REPRESENTATIVES FROM VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS AND LOCAL KAIFONG LEADERS.

MR PETER WILLIAMS, COMMISSIONER FOR THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION EARLIER VISITED THE SPORTS GROUND TO WATCH THE TELEMATCH GAMES.

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REMINDER TO PNEUMOCONIOSIS SUFFERERS

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WORKERS WHO WERE DIAGNOSED BEFORE JANUARY 1 AS SUFFERING FROM PNEUMOCONIOSIS, BUT WHO HAVE NOT YET BEEN ASSESSED BY THE PNEUMOCONIOSIS MEDICAL ASSESSMENT BOARD, WERE URGED TODAY (SUNDAY) TO CONTACT THE WAN CHAI CHEST CLINIC IN KENNEDY ROAD AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

THEY SHOULD CALL AT THE CLINIC IN PERSON OR TELEPHONE 5-726024.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT SAID PEOPLE DIAGNOSED BEFORE JANUARY 1 AS SUFFERING FROM PNEUMOCONIOSIS MAY APPLY FOR EXGRATIA PAYMENTS FROM GOVERNMENT.

HE SAID THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT HAD WRITTEN TO PEOPLE KNOWN TO IT TO BE SUFFERING FROM THE LUNG DISEASE TO COME FORWARD FOR MEDICAL ASSESSMENT, BUT SOME OF THEM HAD NOT RESPONDED TO THIS NOTIFICATION.

/+PERHAPS THIS

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+PERHAPS THIS IS BECAUSE THEY HAVE NOT RECEIVED THE LETTER DUE TO CHANGE OF ADDRESSES,+ HE NOTED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT UP TO LAST TUESDAY ABOUT 700 APPLICATIONS INVOLVING OVER \$20 MILLION IN EXGRATIA PAYMENT HAD BEEN APPROVED.

PEOPLE DIAGNOSED AFTER JANUARY 1 AS SUFFERING FROM THE DISEASE ARE NOT ENTITLED TO EXGRATIA PAYMENTS. HOWEVER, THEY ARE ENTITLED TO COMPENSATION UNDER THE PNEUMOCONIOSIS COMPENSATION ORDINANCE.

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SCHOLARSHIPS ARE A GOOD WAY TO HELP STUDENTS

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THERE IS NO BETTER WAY TO HELP A STUDENT THAN TO DONATE A SCHOLARSHIP TO THE EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS FUND.

THE FUND, ADMINISTERED BY A SIX-MEMBER COMMITTEE, PROVIDES AWARDS TO PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS AND STUDENTS FROM THE COLLEGES OF EDUCATION AND THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC.

+THE MINIMUM DONATION TO ESTABLISH A SCHOLARSHIP IS \$5 000,+ SAID MISS ROSE LAM, SECRETARY OF THE FUND COMMITTEE.

+DONORS WILL BE ASKED TO NAME THEIR SCHOLARSHIPS AND TO SUGGEST CONDITIONS OF AWARDS FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS FUND COMMITTEE,+ MISS LAM ADDED.

THE MONEY DONATED TO THE FUND WILL NORMALLY BE INVESTED EITHER IN STOCKS OR IN FIXED DEPOSITS. +THE INTEREST DERIVED WILL COVER THE YEARLY AWARD TO THE STUDENT,+ SHE EXPLAINED.

IN THE 1979-80 ACADEMIC YEAR, 388 STUDENTS BENEFITED FROM THE 122 SCHOLARSHIPS IN THE FUND AND THE AMOUNT PAID TO STUDENTS WAS \$92 030.

THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS RECEIVING AWARDS IN 1980-81 ROSE TO 399 AS TWO MORE DONATIONS AMOUNTING TO \$26 000 WERE MADE TO THE FUND. THE TOTAL PAYMENTS CAME CLOSE TO \$100 000.

IN THE COMING ACADEMIC YEAR, ABOUT TEN MORE AWARDS WILL BE OFFERED.

ACCORDING TO MISS LAM, THE EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS FUND HAS BEEN IN EXISTENCE SINCE PRE-WAR YEARS AND HAS ASSISTED NUMEROUS STUDENTS DURING THESE INTERVENING YEARS.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS ARE MADE YEARLY IN JULY OR AUGUST BY PRINCIPALS OF SCHOOLS TO WHICH DONATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS FUND COMMITTEE.

DONATIONS, AS WELL AS ENQUIRIES, CAN BE MADE TO THE OVERSEAS STUDENTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AT LEIGHTON CENTRE, 15TH FLOOR, 77 LEIGHTON ROAD, HONG KONG, (TELEPHONE 5-7903968).

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TRAFFIC RESTRICTIONS ON H.K. ISLAND

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MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED THAT NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED ON HONG KONG ISLAND ON TUESDAY (FEBRUARY 17) AND WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 18).

FROM 10 AM ON TUESDAY, ALL VEHICLES TRAVELLING ALONG POK FU LAM ROAD WITH UNLADEN WEIGHT EXCEEDING TWO TONS WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM MAKING LEFT-TURNS INTO POKFIELD ROAD.

FROM 10 AM ON WEDNESDAY, A 50-METRE SECTION OF TAI CHEONG STREET FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH SHAU KEI WAN ROAD WILL BE DESIGNATED A PUBLIC LIGHT BUS CLEARWAY ZONE.

WITHIN THE ZONE, ALL PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES, EXCEPT THOSE AUTHORISED IN WRITING BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS BETWEEN 7 AM AND MIDNIGHT DAILY.

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CHEUNG CHAU TO LAUNCH BIG CLEAN-UP

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CHEUNG CHAU RESIDENTS HAVE BEEN URGED TO GIVE THEIR FULL SUPPORT TO AN INTENSIVE CLEAN-UP WHICH WILL BE LAUNCHED TOWARDS THE END OF THIS MONTH.

MORE THAN 40 REFUSE BLACK SPOTS ALONG THE WATERFRONT AREA AND SIDE STREETS ON THE ISLAND WOULD BE GIVEN A FACE-LIFT, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

ALL DISCARDED ITEMS AND BUILDING DEBRIS AND MATERIALS ACCUMULATED AT THE BLACK SPOTS WILL BE REMOVED.

CHEUNG CHAU RESIDENTS ARE REQUESTED TO KEEP THE ISLAND CLEAN AND REMOVE ALL JUNK TO THE REFUSE COLLECTION POINTS.

THEY ARE ALSO REQUIRED TO CLEAN UP ALL RUBBISH PLACED IN PUBLIC PLACE WITHIN SIX METRES OF THEIR PREMISES UNDER THE PROVISION OF THE PUBLIC CLEANSING AND PREVENTION OF NUISANCES BY-LAWS.

THE COMING CLEAN-UP IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE CHEUNG CHAU RURAL COMMITTEE, THE DISTRICT OFFICE OF ISLANDS AND THE URBAN SERVICES OFFICE OF ISLANDS.

+AFTER THE INITIAL IMPACT OF THE DRIVE IS ACHIEVED, THE NTSD WILL SPEND EVERY EFFORT, BACKED UP BY STRONG ENFORCEMENT ACTION, TO MAINTAIN A HIGH STANDARD OF CLEANLINESS THROUGHOUT THE ISLAND,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE REMINDED HOLIDAY-MAKERS VISITING THE ISLAND NOT TO TURN THE PICNIC RESORT INTO A DUMPING GROUND OR THEY WOULD FACE A FINE OF \$1 000 ON FIRST CONVICTION OF A LITTER OFFENCE.

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TUEN MUN OLD PEOPLE CELEBRATE LUNAR NEW YEAR
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MORE THAN 500 TUEN MUN RESIDENTS AGED OVER 70 TODAY (SUNDAY) ATTENDED A CANTONESE OPERA AND A DINNER.

THE EVENTS WERE ARRANGED BY THE RESPECT FOR THE AGED ORGANISING COMMITTEE WITH ASSISTANCE FROM THE LOCAL DISTRICT OFFICE, COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICE AND TUEN MUN ARTS PROMOTION ASSOCIATION.

EXPENSES TOTALLING ABOUT \$50 000 WERE MET BY THE DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD AND LOCAL PRIVATE DONATIONS. THE OPERA WAS PERFORMED BY MEMBERS OF TUEN MUN ARTS PROMOTION ASSOCIATION AT ST. SIMON'S LUI MING CHOI TECHNICAL SCHOOL.

THE TWO ELDEST ATTENDING THE DINNER, MADAME MOK TZE-CHING, AGED 99, AND MR YEUNG CHONG-KWONG, AGED 92, WERE EACH PRESENTED WITH A GOLD MEDAL.

DISTRICT OFFICER, MR BILLY LAM, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF TUEN MUN RURAL COMMITTEE, MR LAU WONG-FAT, WERE ALSO PRESENT AT THE DINNER.

THE EVENTS WERE PART OF A FIVE-WEEK PROGRAMME WHICH BEGAN ON FEBRUARY 1 TO CELEBRATE LUNAR NEW YEAR IN TUEN MUN.

OTHER CELEBRATIONS INCLUDE A VARIETY SHOW AT FIRST NEW MOON, A FUN FAIR, AN EXHIBITION ON TUEN MUN, A BALL, PICNICS, A CHILDREN'S GAMES DAY AND A SPECIAL EVENT FOR FISHERMEN.

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LAND TO BE FORMED IN TAI WAI
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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TODAY (SUNDAY) INVITED TENDERS FOR SITE FORMATION, ROAD AND DRAINAGE WORKS IN TAI WAI, SHA TIN NEW TOWN.

UNDER THE CONTRACT, ABOUT SIX HECTARES WILL BE FORMED FOR PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL, GOVERNMENT, INSTITUTION AND COMMUNITY USES.

ASSOCIATED WORKS WILL INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A ROAD BRIDGE ACROSS SHING MUN RIVER, GROUND LEVEL ROADS TO SERVE THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT IN THE AREA, AND A SUBWAY.

WORK ON THE PROJECT WILL BEGIN IN MAY AND WILL TAKE ABOUT 21 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE WORKS HAVE BEEN DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTION WILL BE SUPERVISED BY MAUNSELL CONSULTANTS ASIA, CONSULTING ENGINEERS FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

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