



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, AUG. 23, 1974.

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**NEW RULES TO PAVE WAY
FOR LAMINATED DRIVING LICENCES

LEGAL CHANGES ENABLING THE PRESENT BOOKLET TYPE OF DRIVING LICENCES TO BE GRADUALLY REPLACED BY A LAMINATED CARD HAVE BEEN MADE UNDER AMENDING REGULATIONS GAZETTED TODAY.

THE ROAD TRAFFIC (DRIVING LICENCES) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1974, WHICH WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE ON A DAY TO BE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR, ALSO INTRODUCE CHANGES IN THE RENEWAL DATE OF DRIVING LICENCES AND THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF RENEWAL.

TO ENABLE THE INTRODUCTION OF LAMINATED DRIVING LICENCES, THE REQUIREMENTS HAVE BEEN DELETED CONCERNING THE MEASUREMENTS OF AN APPLICANT'S PHOTOGRAPH IN ORDER TO PERMIT A SMALLER PHOTOGRAPH SUITED TO THE LAMINATED CARD.

THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE RECIPIENT OF A DRIVING LICENCE TO SIGN HIS NAME FORTHWITH IN INK ON THE LICENCE HAS ALSO BEEN DELETED.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY :
+IT MAY BE A MONTH OR SO BEFORE WE ARE READY TO START ISSUING LAMINATED LICENCES. WHEN WE DO, IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE TO CONVERT ALL EXISTING BOOKLET LICENCES GENERALLY. WE COULD NOT COPE IF OVER 450,000 LICENCE HOLDERS COME FORWARD AT THE SAME TIME.

+IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO PHASE THE CONVERSION SO THAT LAMINATED DRIVING LICENCES WILL BE ISSUED ONLY ON INITIAL ISSUE, RENEWAL OF LICENCE OR ON CHANGE OF PARTICULARS OF LICENCE.+

AS REGARDS THE RENEWAL OF DRIVING LICENCES, THE AMENDING REGULATIONS PROVIDE THAT THIS MAY BE DONE UP TO FOUR MONTHS BEFORE THE DATE OF EXPIRY OF THE LICENCE, AND UP TO 15 DAYS AFTER ITS DATE OF EXPIRY, WITH RENEWAL IN BOTH CASES RUNNING FROM THE DATE OF EXPIRY.

IN THE CASE OF A DRIVING LICENCE RENEWED AT ANY TIME EXCEEDING 15 DAYS BUT NOT EXCEEDING THREE YEARS AFTER EXPIRY, SUCH RENEWAL WILL BE EFFECTIVE FROM THE DATE OF RENEWAL.

HITHERTO, IF A PERSON RENEWED HIS DRIVING LICENCE BEFORE THE DATE OF EXPIRY, RENEWAL RAN FROM THE DATE OF RENEWAL AND NOT FROM THE DATE OF EXPIRY. THIS IS IN CONTRAST TO A SIMILAR PROVISION FOR VEHICLE LICENCES WHERE RENEWAL RUNS FROM THE DATE OF EXPIRY.

ANOTHER PROVISION IN THE AMENDING REGULATIONS SETS AT \$15 THE FEE PAYABLE BY A DRIVING LICENCE HOLDER FOR THE ISSUE OF A RECORD OF CONVICTIONS.

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NEW SEVERANCE PAY LAW NOW IN FORCE

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LEGISLATION GRANTING HONG KONG WORKERS THE RIGHT TO CLAIM SEVERANCE PAY IF THEY LOSE THEIR JOBS THROUGH NO FAULT OF THEIR OWN COMES INTO EFFECT TODAY.

THEY ARE COVERED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE EMPLOYMENT (AMENDMENT) (NO. 3) ORDINANCE 1974 WHICH IS PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

THE PROVISIONS COVER ALL MANUAL WORKERS AND ALL NON-MANUAL EMPLOYEES EARNING NOT MORE THAN \$2,000 A MONTH, AND SET OUT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH THEY WOULD QUALIFY FOR AND RECEIVE SEVERANCE PAY ON REDUNDANCY.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MADE SEVERAL AMENDMENTS TO THE BILL FOLLOWING PUBLIC DEBATE BUT THESE DO NOT ALTER THE BASIC PRINCIPLE OF GIVING EVERY QUALIFIED WORKER THE RIGHT TO CLAIM SEVERANCE PAY ON REDUNDANCY.

THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT WILL BE PUBLISHING A LEAFLET IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE TO EXPLAIN THE NEW LAW.

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KOWLOON RECEPTION CENTRE

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A NEW RECEPTION CENTRE IS TO BE BUILT IN KOWLOON TO HELP EASE THE HEAVY PRESSURE ON THE VICTORIA RECEPTION CENTRE, WHICH NOW HOLDS APPROXIMATELY 850 INMATES A DAY.

THE NEW CENTRE WILL BE SITUATED AT LAI CHI KOK ON THE WEST SIDE OF BUTTERFLY VALLEY ROAD, OPPOSITE CHINA LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY'S LINK SUBSTATION.

IT WILL BE A MAXIMUM SECURITY INSTITUTION PROVIDING ACCOMODATION FOR ABOUT 1,000 INMATES. QUARTERS AND BARRACKS WILL BE PROVIDED FOR RESIDENTIAL STAFF.

PART OF THE 150,000 SQ. FT. SITE WAS ONCE OCCUPIED BY THE FORMER LAI CHI KOK WOMEN'S PRISON WHICH WAS DEMOLISHED EARLY THIS YEAR. A PORTION OF THE ADJACENT HILLSIDE WAS CUT BACK AND FORMED TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL BUILDING LAND.

TENDERS ARE NOW INVITED FOR SITE FORMATION WORK WHICH IS EXPECTED TO START IN OCTOBER AND WILL TAKE EIGHT MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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FOOTPATH TO REMOTE VILLAGE ON LAMMA ISLAND

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A FOOTPATH FROM MOU TAT VILLAGE TO SOK KWU WAN ON LAMMA ISLAND WILL SHORTLY BE CONSTRUCTED FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF VILLAGERS LIVING THERE.

AT PRESENT, MOU TAT IS CUT OFF FROM THE MAIN ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES AT SOUTH LAMMA. THE FOOTPATH WILL INTEGRATE IT WITH THE PROSPEROUS SOK KWU WAN AND MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR VILLAGERS OF MOU TAT TO USE THE REGULAR FERRY SERVICE BETWEEN HONG KONG AND SOK KWU WAN.

THE WORK WILL COMPRISE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SIX-FOOT WIDE CONCRETE FOOTPATH OF 6,200 FEET LENGTH, WITH ASSOCIATED DRAINAGE WORKS AND THE EXCAVATION OF 8,000 CUBIC YARDS OF EARTH.

CONSTRUCTION WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN OCTOBER AND WILL TAKE ABOUT SEVEN MONTHS TO COMPLETE. TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF FOOTPATH ARE INVITED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE.

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\$151 MILLION DEFICIT RECORDED IN MAY

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THE GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 1974 SHOW A DEFICIT OF \$151 MILLION COMPARED WITH A SURPLUS OF \$118 MILLION IN MAY LAST YEAR.

THIS HAS RESULTED IN AN ACCUMULATED DEFICIT OF \$183 MILLION FOR THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF THIS FINANCIAL YEAR, COMPARED WITH A SURPLUS OF \$102 MILLION FOR THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

TOTAL REVENUE FOR THE MONTH AT \$335 MILLION WAS \$115 MILLION LESS THAN IN MAY 1973 WHEN OVER \$80 MILLION WAS RECEIVED FROM THE SALE OF TAXI CONCESSIONS.

TOTAL EXPENDITURE AMOUNTED TO \$486 MILLION, AN INCREASE OF \$153 MILLION OVER THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR. THIS WAS MAINLY BECAUSE OF INCREASED SPENDING ON PROJECTS IN THE PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME.

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BUSY DAY FOR VISITING MP'S
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THE TWO VISITING MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT, MR. JAMES LAMOND AND MR. LEWIS CARTER JONES, HAD A BUSY DAY TODAY LOOKING AT VARIOUS HOUSING PROJECTS AND DISCUSSING THE DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATION IN HONG KONG WITH EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS.

THE VISITORS FIRST CALLED ON THE DIRECTOR OF HOUSING, MR. DONALD LIAO, FOR GENERAL DISCUSSIONS. THEY SHOWED APPRECIATION OVER THE GOVERNMENT'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN PROVIDING PUBLIC HOUSING FOR 45 PER CENT OF THE POPULATION AND WERE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THE DEPARTMENT'S FUTURE HOUSING PROGRAMME.

LATER IN THE MORNING THEY INSPECTED THE SHEK KIP MEI REHOUSING SCHEME AND VISITED THE NEW HO MAN TIN LICENSED AREA. THEY ALSO HAD A LOOK AT OI MAN ESTATE WHERE THEY CALLED ON ONE OF THE 600 FAMILIES WHICH MOVED IN UNDER PHASE ONE OF THE HUGE HOUSING PROJECT.

THE MP'S WERE ACCOMPANIED BY MR. BERNARD WILLIAMS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF HOUSING, AND WERE IMPRESSED BY THE GENERAL CLEANLINESS OF THE ESTATES.

IN THE AFTERNOON, THEY MET THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR. JOHN CANNING, WHO TOLD THEM ABOUT THE DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATION IN HONG KONG AND THE PROGRESS MADE BY THE E.T.V. SERVICE IN THE LAST THREE YEARS. ALSO PRESENT WAS THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION RESPONSIBLE FOR EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION, MR. COLVYN HAYE, WHO INFORMED THE VISITORS ABOUT THE PHILOSOPHY AND PRACTICE OF THE E.T.V. SERVICE.

THE VISITORS EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THE E.T.V. COVERAGE OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS BELIEVED TO BE ONE OF THE MOST EXTENSIVE AND COST EFFECTIVE SERVICES OF ITS KIND.

THE EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION PACKAGE, DESIGNED AND PRODUCED AT THE E.T.V. CENTRE AT BROADCAST DRIVE, INCLUDES TV LESSONS, NOTES FOR TEACHERS AND PUPILS' WORK BOOKS. NEXT SEPTEMBER, THE E.T.V. AUDIENCE WILL RISE TO ABOUT 440,000 PUPILS AND ABOUT 10,000 TEACHERS. IT IS HOPED THAT FUNDS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THE EXTENSION OF THE SERVICE FROM PRIMARY TO SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN SEPTEMBER 1976.

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YOUTH MUSICAL EVENING
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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S COMMUNITY CENTRE IN TAI HANG TUNG HAS ARRANGED AN EVENING OF MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT TOMORROW (SATURDAY) FOR YOUNG PEOPLE LIVING IN THE AREA.

IT WILL BE HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE IN TONG YAM STREET, TAI HANG TUNG FROM 8 P.M. TO 10 P.M.

THE PROGRAMME, ENTITLED +RHYTHM OF AUGUST+, WILL INCLUDE WESTERN AND ORIENTAL FOLK SONGS, CHINESE AND WESTERN MUSIC AND CHORALS BY THE WONG TAI SIN CHILDREN'S CHOIR.

TICKETS FOR THE EVENING WHICH INCLUDE REFRESHMENTS, ARE AVAILABLE AT \$1 EACH AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE OFFICE.

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HOLIDAY POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS
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THERE WILL BE ONLY ONE MAIL DELIVERY ON MONDAY (AUGUST 26) WHICH IS A PUBLIC HOLIDAY.

POST OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE DAY, BUT FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF THE PUBLIC A NUMBER OF POST OFFICES ON THE ISLAND, KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES WILL OPEN IN THE MORNING FROM 9 A.M. TO 12 NOON.

THESE WILL INCLUDE THE GENERAL POST OFFICE IN PEDDER STREET, THE CAUSEWAY BAY, NORTH POINT, WANCHAI AND ABERDEEN POST OFFICES, THE KOWLOON CENTRAL POST OFFICE, THE TSIM SHA TSUI POST OFFICE, THE MONG KOK, KWUN TONG AND SHAM SHUI PO POST OFFICES, AND THE CHEUNG CHAU, TAI PO, TSUEN WAN, YUEN LONG AND SHA TIN POST OFFICES.

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CONSUMER ADVISORY SERVICE

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THE FOLLOWING PRICES WERE REALISED TODAY (FRIDAY) AT SALE UNDER THE RICE CONTROL SCHEME AND AT THE VEGETABLE MARKETING ORGANISATION WHOLESALE MARKET AND THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION WHOLESALE MARKET AT CHEUNG SHA WAN, KOWLOON:

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF RICE

GRADE OF RICE	AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY)		
		HIGH	LOW	MODE
<u>CHINA RICE</u>				
SEE MEW	GOOD			2.02
S.C. JIEN	GOOD			1.86
PO NGAI				NO SALE
CHU CHO				NO SALE
<u>THAI RICE</u>				
100% WHOLE	GOOD			1.75
10-15% BROKENS	GOOD			1.72
A1 : SUPER EXTRA	GOOD			1.70
A1 : SUPER	GOOD			1.45
WHOLE GLUTINOUS	GOOD			1.77
<u>U.S. RICE</u>				
				NO SALE
<u>AUSTRALIAN RICE</u>				
	GOOD			1.67
<u>PAKISTAN RICE</u>				
				NO SALE
<u>TAIWAN RICE</u>				
				NO SALE

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF SWINE

AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY - GOOD

WHOLESALE PRICES OF PORK (\$/PICUL-LIVE WEIGHT) - 320 (AVERAGE)

/SUPPLIES AND

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SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF MARINE FISH

(CFMO CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE FISH MARKET)

SPECIES	AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY)		
		HIGH	LOW	MODE
GOLDEN THREAD	NORMAL	4.50	1.20	3.20
BIG-EYES	GOOD	3.00	1.00	1.40
SQUID	NORMAL	3.80	0.80	2.80
HAIR-TAILS	LIMITED	2.40	0.35	1.20
LIZARD FISHES	LIMITED	3.40	0.45	1.60
CROAKERS	LIMITED	1.80	0.40	1.00
CONGER-PIKE-EELS	NORMAL	2.20	1.00	1.70
MELON COAT	SCARCE	3.00	1.40	2.20
BREAMS	SCARCE	4.00	2.50	3.00
YELLOW BELLY	GOOD	2.00	0.60	1.30
MACKERELS	--		NO SALE	
RED GOAT FISH	--		NO SALE	
FORK-TAIL	--		NO SALE	
HORSE-HEAD	LIMITED	5.80	2.50	3.60
MELON SEED	NORMAL	1.70	0.70	1.10
POMFRETS	SCARCE	9.50	8.00	8.50
GARROUPAS	LIMITED	11.00	6.20	9.00
YELLOW CROAKER	--		NO SALE	

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF LOCALLY PRODUCED VEGETABLES
(V.M.O. CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE VEGETABLE MARKET)

TYPE OF VEGETABLE	AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY)		
		HIGH	LOW	MODE
FLOWERING CABBAGE	NORMAL	1.20	0.40	0.80
WHITE CABBAGE	GOOD	0.40	0.10	0.25
CHINESE LETTUCE	LIMITED	1.00	0.40	0.70
WATER SPINACH	GOOD	0.50	0.10	0.30
CHINESE KALE	LIMITED	1.50	0.50	1.00
STRING BEANS	NORMAL	1.50	0.40	1.00
SPRING ONION	NORMAL	1.60	0.40	1.00
SPINACH			NO SALE	
WATER CRESS	SCARCE	2.60	1.00	2.00
LEAF MUSTARD CABBAGE	GOOD	0.40	0.10	0.25
CHINESE SPINACH	GOOD	0.40	0.10	0.25
TOMATO	SCARCE	4.20	2.00	3.20