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DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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NEW KOWLOON POLICE HEADQUARTERS

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A multi-million-dollar modern complex is to be built in Kowloon City to replace the existing Kowloon District Police Headquarters in Mongkok.

The new headquarters will be built on a 110,000-square-foot site at the junction of Argyle Street and Tin Kwong Road.

Costing about $22 million, the project will be carried out in two stages, with the first stage due to start in mid-October.

Stage one will consist of the site formation and the construction of a six-storey office building which will be the nerve-centre of Kowloon police.

The first floor of the building is to be used for rest and recreational purposes. It will comprise a communal dining-lounge, canteen, television room, library, storeroom and an officers emergency room which will also serve as a gazetted officers' mess during normal times. The overall floor area for recreational purposes will be about 10,000 square feet.

The second and third floors will house the Criminal Investigation Department and the Traffic Headquarters (Kowloon) respectively, while the fourth and top floors will provide separate accommodation for the district headquarters and government chemists. The total office area will be about 42,000 square feet.

When the project enters its second stage at a later date, two other blocks -- one three-storey and the other four-storey -- will be built.

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The ground floor of the three-storey block will be an assembly/ gymnasium hall. The first and second floors will be linked with the third and fourth floors of the adjacent office block by a bridge to provide better mutual access. These floors will be taken up by the Police/Military Control.

It is envisaged that the four-storey block will serve as barracks. The ground floor will be used as a parking area for police vehicles.

The new headquarters will also have a helicopter landing pad in the spacious compound.

Work on the construction of Stage One is expected to be completed by October next year.

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Note to Editors: Copies of a photograph of a model of the new Kowloon District Police Headquarters are boxed for collection.

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MORE RECREATIONAL SPACE IN K.G.V. MEMORIAL PARK

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Residents of the densely populated area of Sai Ying Pun will have more recreational space next spring.

This will be made possible when a 6,500-square-foot site at the north-western corner of the King George V Memorial Park will be turned into a sitting-out area, with chess tables, flower beds and trees.

Work on the project, costing about $157,000, is expected to begin in October and will take about five months to complete.

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LEK YUEN ESTATE ENTERS FINAL PHASE

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Homes for 15,600 people are to be provided in the final phase of the $63 million Lek Yuen Estate in Sha Tin.

Work on this phase, consisting of five domestic blocks, will begin in October and will take two years to complete.

Facilities provided in these blocks will include a central complex, comprising a covered car park for 314 cars, a shopping centre, marketing facilities and two restaurants.

One estate primary school and premises for welfare agencies will also be provided.

Other facilities in the estate will include a secondary school and kindergarten, recreational grounds, a workshop area and bus and mini-bus terminals.

The Lek Yuen Estate, occupying an area of 23 acres, is part of the Sha Tin New Town development.

Work on the first phase of the project began last April and should be completed towards the end of next year. This phase involves the building of two blocks which will accommodate 7,400 people.

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NEW-LOOK IDENTITY CARDS FOR JUVENILES

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New regulations concerning changes in the registration system for identity cards are published in today's gazette.

Under the Registration of Persons (Amendment) Regulations 1973, the age of registering for a juvenile identity card is raised from six to 11, while the age of re-registering for an adult identity card is revised from 17 to 18 years.

The regulations also list modifications to the design of the juvenile identity card, making it easier for holders to identify themselves when applying for jobs or for schooling purposes.

At present, juvenile identity cards list only the holder's surname and the identity card number of the parent or guardian.

The new juvenile identity cards will bear the holder's photograph, full personal name in English and Chinese, date and place of birth, and nationality.

It is hoped that the new type of juvenile identity card will be introduced later this year.

The design of the adult identity card will also be modified by discontinuing the present practice of having the holder's thumbprint imposed on it.

The regulations make it clear that all existing identity cards will remain valid and present holders need not apply for new cards.

However, it is an offence under the regulations to possess a defaced identity card or to use an identity card belonging to another person.

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SCHOOL FOR HANDICAPPED

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A 10-classroom school for physically handicapped children will soon be opened in Kwai Fong Estate as part of the Education Department's second five-year development plan for expanding special education for the handicapped.

The school will occupy the ground and first floors of the newly-completed school building in the estate and will be operated by the Spastics Association of Hong Kong.

It will provide whole day special education facilities for 200 physically handicapped children. Two special rooms and one physiotherapy room will be included.

The remaining four storeys of the estate school will be converted into 18 classrooms to provide bi-sessionalism education for 1,620 ordinary primary school students. This school will be operated by Sheng Kung Hui.

Both schools are being built by the government and will be fully subsidised.

Tenders are being invited for the construction of an extension to the ground floor and related conversion work to the upper floors of the school building.

Work is expected to start in October this year and should take about four months to complete.

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KENNEDY TOWN INCINERATOR TO BE ENLARGED

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Piling work for an extension to accommodate an additional furnace unit in the Kennedy Town incineration plant will start next month.

According to a spokesman for the Public Works Department, the plant at present consists of four furnace units, three of which are operated continuously throughout the year with one unit under maintenance by rotation.

The fifth unit to be added will be capable of disposing of 250 tons of refuse per day.

The spokesman said that the piling work was expected to be completed towards the end of November.

These works have been designed by W.V. Zinn and Associates and construction will be supervised by Maunsell Consultants Asia on behalf of the Public Works Department.

Construction of the building extension will take another year to complete and it will be followed by the erection of machinery and equipment.

The whole project costs about $14 million and the fifth furnace is expected to be in operation by the end of 1975.

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MID-LEVEL BUILDING DECLARED DANGEROUS

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The Building Authority today declared No. 1A Monmouth Terrace on Hong Kong Island to be in a dangerous condition.

In a statement, the Principal Government Building Surveyor said that this two-storey building, which forms part of No. 1 Monmouth Terrace, was inspected as a result of fractures observed during the inspection of adjoining buildings.

He said there was evidence of continuing movement in the walls indicating risk of failure leading to a collapse.

"There is no evidence at this juncture that the condition of this building is connected with the slip area nearby at present under observation," he said.

A notice of intention to apply for a closure order was posted today. The case will be heard in the Victoria District Court at 9.30 a.m. on September 3.

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ANDERSON ROAD SQUATTER CLEARANCE COMPLETED

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More than 70 wooden structures in the Anderson Road squatter area were demolished this (Friday) morning by officers and men of the Housing Department.

The operation was carried out very smoothly. It was completed in half a day instead of two days as originally scheduled.

A spokesman for the Housing Department said this was largely due to the co-operation of squatters and to the policy and planning of the department.

All 150 people eligible for public housing have moved to the Sau Mau Ping Estate, and a few others who were not eligible were given accommodation in a licensed area.

All eligible shopowners,pig breeders and farmers got their share of compensation at the usual rate.

"The squatters knew very well that the action was taken in the interest of their own safety because their houses were near two quarries in the area," the spokesman added.

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TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN TAI KOK TSUI

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Temporary traffic arrangements will be introduced next week in Cherry Street between Tong Mi Road and Palm Street, Tai Kok Tsui.

Starting from 10 a.m. on Monday (August 27), this section of Cherry Street will be temporarily reduced from dual to single carriageway with one lane in each direction.

The restriction is to enable re-construction work on Cherry Street to be carried out.

For the duration of the work, the right turn movement from Cherry Street into Tong Mi Road will also be prohibited.

Appropriate signs will be put up to guide motorists.

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Release time: 7.30 p.m.