



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Thursday, January 15, 1976

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NEW HOMES FOR 15,000 AT CHAI WAN

The Public Works Department will shortly begin construction work on the second stage of a large new modern estate at Chai Wan which will house a total of 15,390 people.

The \$51 million housing complex is being built by the Architectural Office of the P.W.D. on behalf of the Housing Authority as part of the ten year housing programme.

When fully completed in March 1978, it will contain 2,240 self-contained flats, a central shopping centre, two primary schools, a welfare hall, a post office, an inoculation centre, recreational grounds and a restaurant.

Mr. Thomas Ku, Senior Architect of P.W.D.'s Architectural Office, said today construction work on the second stage of the estate would start in April and should be completed within two years.

Tenders for the project, which involves construction of a 22-storey domestic block and a market and carpark complex, will be invited this week.

"The 22-storey block will be the tallest in the estate and will provide 1,324 spacious rooms for 10,171 people. Each unit will have its own kitchen and toilet facilities," he said.

Mr. Ku said foundation work on the three other blocks being built under Stage One was almost finished and work on the superstructure would begin in a few weeks.

"These three seven-storey blocks should be ready by January next year and the first of the 5,200 tenants will be able to move in shortly after.

"By then," he added, "the two estate primary schools, the welfare hall, inoculation centre, post office and much of the recreational open space being provided will also be ready to serve residents."

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He noted that a secondary school was also being built outside the estate boundary. This school would serve the whole district.

Mr. Ku said the planning of centralised facilities for the future estate residents had enabled a more generous allocation of open space for the area.

Nearly four acres of open space would be provided in and around the estate to cater for the recreational needs of the residents. There would include two rest gardens and children's playgrounds.

To enable tenants and nearby residents to go about their daily shopping activities conveniently, the P.W.D. architects have designed a large market and carpark complex next to the estate.

"This shopping complex," Mr. Ku said, "will be of a higher standard to make up for the rather inadequate commercial and marketing facilities in the adjacent older estates."

Two footbridges would be built over Chai Wan Road to provide easy access for residents of the old Chai Wan Estate to make use of the shopping facilities and other amenities of the new estate.

The market complex, to be managed by the Urban Services Department, would provide 59 large and 356 mini-stalls, complete with washing, scalding, storage and refuse disposal facilities. Provision has also been made for 20 cooked-food stalls with a centralised fume-extracting system.

Incorporated in the complex would be a library, U.S.D. registration offices and a carpark.

Mr. Ku said it was intended initially to build only two floors of the carpark providing spaces for 225 cars, but allowance would be made to extend it at a later stage to provide another 327 parking spaces.

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DC & I CLARIFIES MISUNDERSTANDING

It is believed that some people in the textile trade have somehow had the wrong impression that the DC & I has changed its rules and is currently not allowing people to transfer their textile quotas.

A Commerce and Industry Department spokesman said categorically today that this was not so.

"This is an erroneous impression due probably to a recent misreporting by several Chinese newspapers of a DC & I Notice to exporters. This Notice stated that only certain preliminary quota allocations made to certain specified companies may not be transferred for the time being," he said.

The reason for this, the spokesman continued, was that those companies' quota entitlements had still to be checked. "This is an isolated case and the situation is a temporary one."

He said that for many years now, quotas had been transferred among people in the textile trade, and these were still transferrable. Transfers, he added, enabled maximum utilisation of quotas and this was something the departments accepted.

The Notice to exporters which was wrongly reported in several Chinese newspapers was issued on November 29, 1975, Series 2 (EEC) No. 28/75, and concerns preliminary quota allocations for 1976 in respect of exports of restrained textiles to the EEC.

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PRESS CONFERENCE ON MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY

NOTE TO EDITORS:

A press conference will be held in the G.I.S. Theatre at 3 p.m. tomorrow (Friday) about the effects of the construction of the Mass Transit Railway.

Officers from the Public Works Department, the Home Affairs Department, Transport Department, Royal Hong Kong Police and the Mass Transit Railway Corporation, will be on hand to answer questions from the Press.

You are cordially invited to attend.

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PRESS CONFERENCE ON HILL FIRES

NOTE TO EDITORS:

A press conference will be held at 10.30 a.m. tomorrow (Friday) at the G.I.S. Theatre, on the fifth floor of Beaconsfield House, in connection with the recent series of hill fires.

The conference will be given by Mr. H.S. Grewal, Deputy Secretary for the Environment, Colonial Secretariat, and Mr. P.A. Daley, Senior Forestry Officer of the Agriculture and Fisheries Department.

You are invited to cover the conference.

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"PHAB WALK" ROUND THE PEAK

About 400 people, including more than 100 handicapped, are expected to take part in a walkathon round the Peak on Saturday (January 17).

The walk, the second jointly organised by the Hong Kong PHAB Association and the Education Department's Recreation and Sport Service, will begin at 10.30 a.m. from the Peak carpark.

Participants will go round the Peak through Lugard Road and Harlech Road.

Mr. Thomas Lee, Director of Social Welfare, Mr. Michael Caswell, Principal Education Officer, Recreation and Sport, and the Acting Commissioner of Police, Mr. Roy Henry, will officiate at the opening ceremony.

Dr. Harry Fang, Legislative Councillor, will present prizes at the conclusion of the walk.

Note to Editors: You are cordially invited to cover the event.

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