



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Friday, December 21, 1973

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Daily guide to wholesale prices and supply of basic food commodities

Release time: 7.45 p.m.

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LIGHTING RESTRICTIONS FOR NEW YEAR FESTIVALS

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The Government is to grant a temporary and partial extension to the period in which lights are allowed to be turned on during the forthcoming new year festivals.

The Chairman of the Oil Policy Committee, Mr. M.D.A. Clinton, said today that the present 10.30 p.m. "switch off" deadline would be extended on New Year's Eve (December 31) until 1 a.m. the next day.

For the Lunar New Year, the extensions will be spread over three days. On the nights of January 20 and January 21, the normal 10.30 p.m. deadline will be extended till 1 a.m. on the following days. On the night of January 22 the lights will be permitted to remain on until 7 a.m. the following morning (January 23), which is the first day of the Lunar New Year.

Mr. Clinton said the decision had been made after taking into consideration the opinions of a wide cross-section of the Community.

The extension to the hours of lighting was in keeping with the traditions of these two festivals from which so many people derived enjoyment.

Mr. Clinton explained that Christmas was not included because it was felt that the neon lights were not essential for the celebration of this festival which, by tradition, is more of a family affair at home.

He stressed that the extension was only for a total of four days, and that at all other times, the existing restrictions must remain in force.

Although the lights are permitted during the specified hours, Mr. Clinton said, it does not mean that they must be turned on.

"In fact, the more voluntary restraints we have, the less likelihood there is of mandatory restrictions appearing at a later date."

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FLYOVER TO LINK GARDEN ROAD AND QUEENSWAY

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The Public Works Department is proposing to construct a flyover from Garden Road to Queensway.

At present traffic proceeding down Garden Road and wishing to travel east along Queensway must pass through the busy junction of Garden Road and Queensway, and then go round the Hong Kong Cricket Club Ground by way of Jackson, Chater and Murray Roads.

The proposed 700-foot long flyover will provide a two-lane one way direct traffic route from Garden Road, passing over the signal controlled junction into the eastbound lane of Queensway.

A footway will be provided integrally with the flyover with branches to link the Multi-Storey Carpark, the Hilton Hotel high level <sup>light walk place</sup> promenade and the existing footbridge at Queensway over Cotton Tree Drive.

An additional footbridge is also included in the project to give safe pedestrian access across Connaught Road Central at its junction with Murray Road.

Minor ground level improvements will be carried out as part of the scheme to facilitate ground level traffic circulation in the general area.

An announcement in the Government Gazette giving notice of an order to be made under the Streets (Alteration) Ordinance is made today. The closing date for objections will be January 21, 1974, and any claims for compensation should be made by February 21, 1974.

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NEW MEASURES TO BE INTRODUCED IN TRAINING CENTRES

To Deal With Younger And Less Amenable Offenders

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New measures are being proposed to deal more effectively with the present generation of younger and less amenable offenders detained in training centres.

These proposals are contained in the Training Centres (Amendment) Bill 1973 which will soon be introduced into the Legislative Council.

The Bill, published in the Gazette today, reduces the minimum period of detention from nine to six months so that those who are to benefit from a short period of treatment need not be detained unnecessarily long.

It provides that the period of supervision in future will run for three years from the date of release rather than, as at present, for four years from the date of sentence.

The existing system gives rise to the anomaly that those released earlier are subject to a longer period of supervision than those for whom an early release is considered undesirable.

A person who fails to comply with any requirements specified in a supervision notice shall be liable, upon conviction, to a fine of \$5,000 and imprisonment for 12 months.

A section of the Bill provides that if a person is imprisoned for not more than two years whilst he is being detained in a training centre or under a supervision notice or order of recall, the sentence of detention or notice or order shall be suspended until the expiration of his term of imprisonment.

/However, .....

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However, if he is imprisoned to a term of more than two years, or a new sentence of detention is passed on him, the first mentioned sentence of detention, or the notice or order shall cease to have effect.

Provision is also made in the Bill that a person liable to detention, whether actually detained or at large, may be declared incorrigible and the unexpired part of his term of detention will be commuted to a term of imprisonment.

The Bill specifies that courts shall not remand to a training centre a person who is considered not suitable for detention there.

These proposals will add up to a new and tougher approach to training centre detention.

However, the primary objective of training centres will not be reduced in importance -- the tighter discipline needed will in no way prejudice the training programmes involved.

These provisions are introduced because it is generally felt that there should be a sharper regime with stricter discipline in training centres.

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BETTER CONDITIONS FOR REHABILITATION OF DRUG ADDICTS

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A number of improvements to present procedures relating to the detention of drug addicts in drug addiction treatment centres will be made under a new Bill to be introduced into the Legislative Council shortly.

These improvements are aimed at providing better conditions for the rehabilitation of drug addicts and reducing the problem of drug addiction.

The Bill, known as the Drug Addiction Treatment Centres (Amendment) Bill 1973, was published in today's Gazette.

Under the Bill, a conviction shall only be entered on the offender's record if the court considers that the circumstances of the offence so warrant and so orders.

Commenting on the proposed legislation, a spokesman for the Prisons Department said: "The treatment is regarded as medical rather than punitive; it is in the interest of successful rehabilitation that offenders, particularly young and first offenders, should be able to return to normal life with a clean sheet."

A further provision of the Bill enables the Commissioner of Prisons to recall a person to a centre for further treatment if he fails to comply with a supervision order under which he is allowed to leave the centre.

A person recalled to an addiction treatment centre will be detained until the expiry of 18 months from the date of the original detention order or the expiry of six months from the date of his arrest following recall, whichever is the later.

/This will .....

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This will replace the present provision under which the procedure for such a breach involves a further appearance before a magistrate.

Another change is made to provide better opportunities for the rehabilitation of drug addicts sentenced to prison.

Under present legislation, a detention order lapses if the person concerned is sentenced to any term of imprisonment.

"It is not in the interest of such a person that provision for his treatment and supervision should cease when a short period of imprisonment is imposed on him," the spokesman said.

Under the new Bill, a detention order, supervision order or recall order will be suspended during any period of imprisonment of two years or less to which an addict is sentenced. In the event of a greater sentence of imprisonment, the detention order, supervision order or recall order, as the case may be, shall cease to have effect.

The Bill also provides that a prisoner may be transferred by order of the Governor from a prison to a treatment centre during the last 18 months of his sentence if it is in his interest and the public interest that he should receive treatment and rehabilitation.

On the other hand, inmates in a detention centre, who are considered a bad influence may, also by order of the Governor, be transferred to a prison.

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IMPORTANCE OF GOOD PRODUCT DESIGN EMPHASIZED

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The need for Hong Kong manufacturers to maintain improvements in product design was stressed today by the Director of Commerce and Industry, Mr. David Jordan.

"The degree of sophistication of our consumer goods is steadily increasing and, in the foreseeable future, this is where our strength will be," he said.

Mr. Jordan was speaking at the C.M.A. Exhibition at a prize-giving ceremony for the Best Stalls Competition. The awards were presented by his wife.

"The average standard of stall design is very high," said Mr. Jordan, "and I take this to reflect an increased awareness by manufacturers of the need for good product design.

"Without continuing improvements in this field, Hong Kong will fail to maintain its position in traditional overseas markets and lag behind in the hunt for new ones -- especially in view of the increasing competitiveness of other East Asian suppliers."

Mr. Jordan said that light industry would continue to predominate in Hong Kong, but there was still a need for further diversification.

Recent developments at the heavier end of industry were encouraging, he added, and gave grounds for certain optimism regarding our long-term industrial future.

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Note to Editors: Copies of Mr. Jordan's speech, in English and Chinese, will be distributed separately in the press boxes this evening.

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PASSENGER FERRY SERVICES

For Shau Kei Wan, Rennie's Mill and Hang Hau

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The Government today invited tenders for the exclusive right to operate a passenger ferry service between Shau Kei Wan, Rennie's Mill and Hang Hau for a period of three years.

A tender notice published in the Gazette stipulates that the maximum fares which may be charged will vary between 30 and 40 cents, depending on the destination.

The successful tenderer will be required to maintain and provide a ferry service for the conveyance of passengers and their luggage between the hours of 6 a.m. and 10 p.m. daily in accordance with a schedule of service to be first approved by the Commissioner for Transport.

He is also required to provide by February 1 next year, or another date to be agreed, an adequate number of ferries to operate an efficient service.

Each tenderer will have to state in his tender the arrangements that he proposes for the embarking and disembarking of passengers at Shau Kei Wan, Rennie's Mill and Hang Hau.

The successful tenderer will have to pay the Government a fixed monthly rent, which is payable in advance on the first day of each month, from the commencement of the term of licence. Therefore, each tenderer must state in his tender the amount of rent he offers the Government.

/All tenders .....

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All tenders should be addressed to the Secretary, Central Tender Board, and placed in the Tender Box situated in the lift lobby on the ground floor of the Colonial Secretariat, Central Government Offices (Main Wing) before noon on Friday, February 1, 1974.

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MAIL DESTROYED IN PLANE ACCIDENT

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The Postmaster General regrets to announce that mail conveyed on the Lufthansa aircraft (Flight No.LH645) involved in an accident in New Delhi earlier this week was destroyed.

The mail concerned was posted in Hong Kong on December 18 and 19 to places in West Germany, Greece, Bulgaria, Hungary and Dahomey.

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EXCHANGE OF CHILDREN'S PAINTINGS TO PROMOTE WORLD PEACE

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Fifty-three water colour paintings by Japanese school children in Kagoshima have been sent to the Hong Kong Education Department by the Kagoshima UNESCO Association.

In a letter to the Director of Education, the Association's representative, Mr. Saburo Kanemaru, said that the object of sending the paintings was to promote world peace through the cultivation of international understanding and East-West exchange.

Commenting on the paintings, a spokesman for the Education Department's Arts Section said: "They are bold in style and are of very high standard.

"Twenty paintings by Hong Kong children have been selected and presented to the Kagoshima UNESCO Association in return," he said.

The Japanese children's paintings are on display at the Cultural Craft Centre of the Education Department in North Point.

The Centre is organising an open exhibition from January 28 to February 2 next year when the paintings will be displayed together with selected articles and garments made by Hong Kong secondary school needlework/dress students.

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Note to Editors: Copies of two photographs - one showing pupils and their teachers admiring the Japanese children's paintings and the other showing three teachers examining the paintings - are distributed in the G.I.S. press boxes this evening.

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NEW CENTRE FOR CHILDREN WITH LEARNING DIFFICULTIES

Exhibition Of Special Teaching Aids

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The Special Education Services Centre, which provides diagnostic and remedial services for children with learning difficulties, will be opened by the Director of Education, Mr. J. Canning on January 3, 1974.

The Centre is on the second floor of Sir Ellis Kadoorie Government Primary School (Western). It is run by the Education Department's Special Education Section.

Coinciding with the opening is a three-day exhibition of special teaching aids to be held at the adjacent Sai Ying Pun Government Primary School.

Exhibits will include remedial and specially adapted materials designed for children with learning problems related to visual, auditory, physical and speech handicaps and school failures.

"The exhibition will also show assessment and therapeutic materials for children with learning difficulties and graded materials in relation to curriculum development in special education," a spokesman for the Department said.

He added: "Films on the education of children with learning difficulties related to visual, auditory and physical handicaps and school failures will also be shown."

/Primary school .....

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Primary school teachers and students at the three Colleges of Education have been invited to attend the exhibition. Members of the public are also welcome.

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Note to Editors: You are invited to send representatives to cover the opening ceremony of the Centre on January 3, 1974 at 10.00 a.m. at Sir Ellis Kadoorie Government Primary School (Western), Hospital Road, Hong Kong. Your representatives are also invited to cover the Exhibition of Special Teaching Aids.

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BROAD AIMS OF EDUCATION OUTLINED

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The Deputy Director of Education (Profession), Mr. N.M.Ho, this afternoon stressed the importance of determining the aims of education in the context of modern life and outlined briefly the broad aims of education.

He was speaking at the dedication and blessing of the Holy Family Canossian College, a Government subsidized secondary school.

Mr. Ho said: "It is not enough that we should devise the means of education and elaborate them with all the aids that modern thought can contribute.

"We must, in all sincerity, try to determine the ends of education, and so give purpose and direction to our efforts to discover the best means of achieving those ends."

In his opinion, Mr. Ho said that education meant much more than teaching children to acquire certain skills and to learn certain facts.

"It is concerned with the whole child - his physical, mental and spiritual growth; his feelings, attitudes and relationships; his character and his personality," he said.

The Deputy Director pointed out that it was obvious that the education of the whole child could not be undertaken entirely, or even primarily, by the school, although the school would play an important part in it.

Mr. Ho added: "Education is already well advanced before the child comes to school, whether he comes at the age of five or six years. Education is the sum total of our learning which in turn is the result of our experience.

"Experience, in its usually accepted sense, begins at birth and continues throughout life, and it is gained in whatever place we happen to be, and from all things that we perceive and the people whom we encounter."

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AIRLINE COMPANIES INSTRUCTED TO RESCHEDULE LATE EVENING FLIGHTS

Result Of Decision To Change To Summer Time

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Following the decision to change to summer time on December 30, airline companies operating through Hong Kong International Airport have been instructed to make any necessary re-scheduling of late evening flights within thirty days.

Commenting on last Wednesday's announcement, the Acting Director of Civil Aviation, Mr. Brian Keep, said that all airlines were required to notify their plans for new late schedules before the introduction of summer time but because of international obligations some airlines would require up to four weeks before rescheduling could be completed.

Mr. Keep went on to explain: "This will mean that for just over two weeks after the change to summer time, we have to face the fact that some aircraft movements presently taking place between 11 p.m. and midnight local time, will operate between midnight and 1 a.m. due to the advancing of the clock.

"The airlines have been urged to change their schedules at the earliest possible date and I will ensure that a very valid reason will have to be given for any aircraft movement that takes place after midnight," he said.

"I am very conscious that instances of noise up to 1 a.m. will cause some disturbance due to the change to summer time but I can assure the public that by January 20, 1974 at the latest, we will be back to normal operations at the airport," Mr. Keep concluded.

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REGISTRATION OF PERSONS OFFICE EXPANSION PLAN

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The Commissioner of Registration, Mr. A. Chapman, today outlined his department's plans for future expansion.

Speaking at the opening of the new Registration of Persons Sub-office in Tai Po, he said that a long-term programme had been drawn up to provide the public with adequate and convenient registration facilities.

"Registration facilities will be provided in other parts of Hong Kong, such as the new townships at Shatin and Tuen Mun, as the need arises," he said.

Referring to the new Sub-office in Tai Po, Mr. Chapman said it was the fifth office of the department and that arrangements were in hand to open a similar office in the Western District of Hong Kong Island.

The new Sub-office will serve the residents in Tai Po and those in the surrounding areas of the New Territories.

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C.A.S. CADET DAY

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The Civil Aid Services Cadet Corps will hold its annual Cadet Day on Sunday (December 23), between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. at the C.A.S. Kowloon Training Centre at 204, Argyle Street.

More than 1,000 cadets will participate in various events, including demonstrations of foot drill, rescue, first aid and trick bicycling.

There will also be 20 game stalls designed and decorated by the cadets themselves.

A C.A.S. spokesman said the aim of involving the cadets in the preparation of this annual function was to develop the initiative of the boys, to exercise them in organising and conducting activities, and to promote close friendship and mutual co-operation amongst the cadets.

The C.A.S. Commissioner, Mr. P.C. Woo, will inspect the parade and present the Duke of Edinburgh Award certificates and medals to cadets. He will also officiate at the opening ceremony and address the gathering.

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Note to Editors: You are invited to have the event covered.

Mr. Fung Kwok Him, Senior Training Officer, Cadets, will be present to assist the press.

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Supplies and Wholesale Prices of Marine Fish

<u>Species</u>	<u>Availability of Supply</u>	<u>Wholesale Price (\$/catty)</u>		
		<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>Average</u>
Golden Thread	Normal	4.50	2.50	3.50
Big-Eyes	Good	2.50	0.50	1.40
Squid	Normal	5.80	2.50	4.00
Hair-Tails	Normal	0.80	0.40	0.60
Lizard Fishes	Limited	2.50	1.00	1.80
Croakers	Good	1.70	0.50	1.20
Conger-Pike-Eels	Normal	2.80	1.80	2.50
Melon Coat	Limited	2.60	1.50	2.20
Breams	Limited	4.50	3.50	4.00
Yellow Belly	Good	1.20	0.50	0.80
Mackerels	Normal	4.00	2.50	3.00
Red Goat Fish	Good	2.30	0.40	1.50
Fork-Tail	Good	0.70	0.30	0.50
Horse-Head	Limited	4.50	3.00	3.50
Melon Seed	Normal	3.00	2.50	2.80
Pomfrets	Scarce	8.50	6.00	7.00
Garoupas	Normal	6.50	4.00	5.00
Yellow Croaker	Normal	4.70	3.20	4.00

/Supplies and .....

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Supplies and Wholesale Prices of

Locally Produced Vegetables

<u>Type</u>	<u>Availability of Supply</u>	<u>Wholesale Price (\$/catty)</u>		
		<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>Average</u>
Flowering cabbage	Limited	2.2	0.8	1.6
White cabbage	Normal	0.6	0.2	0.45
Chinese Lettuce	Normal	0.6	0.2	0.45
Chinese Kale	Normal	0.7	0.25	0.5
Spring onion	Normal	1.4	0.5	1.0
Spinach	Normal	1.5	0.5	1.0
Water cross	Normal	1.1	0.4	0.7
Leaf mustard cabbage	Scarce	0.6	0.2	0.4
Tomato	Normal	1.6	0.8	1.2

Supplies and Wholesale Prices of Pork (Live weight)

	<u>Availability of Supply</u>	<u>Wholesale Price</u>
		<u>( \$/ picul)</u>
		(Average)
Pork	Good	285

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CONSUMER ADVISORY SERVICE

Daily Guide To Wholesale Market Prices And Supplies

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The following prices were realised today (Friday) at sales 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

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Availability of Supply</u>	<u>Wholesale Price (\$/catty)</u>
<u>China Rice</u>		<u>Average</u>
See Mew -- old crop	Good	1.64
-- new crop		1.72
S.C.Jion -- old crop	Good	1.58
new crop		1.66
Po Ngai	Good	1.42
Chu Cho	-	-
<u>Thai Rice</u>		
100% Whole	-	-
10-15% Broken	Good	1.50
A1 Super Extra	-	-
A1 Super	Good	1.37
Whole Glutinous	Limited	1.52
<u>U.S. Rice</u>	Good	1.62
<u>Australian Rice</u>	-	-
<u>Pakistan Rice</u>	-	-
<u>Taiwan Rice</u>	-	-

/Supplies and .....