



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 1977

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THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 1977

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FEWER PEOPLE USE CROSS-HARBOUR FERRIES
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THE NUMBER OF PASSENGERS CARRIED ACROSS HONG KONG HARBOUR BY FERRIES LAST YEAR DROPPED BY NEARLY 12 MILLION WHILE PASSENGER TRAFFIC ON THE OUTLYING DISTRICT FERRY SERVICES ROSE BY SOME 1.3 MILLION COMPARED WITH 1975.

ACCORDING TO FIGURES RELEASED TODAY BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, A TOTAL OF 169.5 MILLION PASSENGERS USED THE 17 CROSS-HARBOUR FERRY SERVICES LAST YEAR. WHEN COMPARED WITH THE FIGURE OF 181.5 MILLION IN 1975, THIS REPRESENTED A DROP OF 7.4 PER CENT.

OF THE TOTAL, 118.8 MILLION PASSENGERS WERE CARRIED BY VESSELS OF THE HONGKONG AND YAUMATI FERRY COMPANY (HYF) WHILE THE REMAINDER USED THE +STAR+ FERRY COMPANY.

AT THE SAME TIME, 16.5 MILLION PEOPLE PATRONISED HYF'S OUTLYING DISTRICT FERRY SERVICES, AN INCREASE OF 8.9 PER CENT OVER THE FIGURE OF 15.2 MILLION IN 1975.

COMMENTING ON THE FIGURES, A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE DECREASE IN THE CROSS-HARBOUR PASSENGER FERRY TRAFFIC WAS THE RESULT OF COMPETITION FROM TUNNEL BUS SERVICES COUPLED WITH INCREASED FERRY FARES.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE OUTLYING DISTRICT FERRY SERVICES HAD CONTINUED TO EXPAND. HOWEVER, THE DISPARITY IN THE NUMBER OF PASSENGERS ON WEEKDAYS COMPARED TO THE HEAVY DEMAND ON HOLIDAYS AND AT WEEKENDS +PRESENTS A DIFFICULT PROBLEM IN BOTH MEETING THIS DEMAND AND IN HAVING AN ECONOMICALLY UTILISED FLEET+, HE SAID.

THE NUMBER OF PASSENGERS CARRIED ON THE HYF CROSS-HARBOUR SERVICES LAST YEAR DROPPED BY 2.5 MILLION COMPARED WITH 1975. A TOTAL OF 3.5 MILLION VEHICLES WERE CARRIED BY THE THREE VEHICULAR FERRY SERVICES. A FOUR PER CENT DECREASE IN THE FIRST THREE QUARTERS OF THE YEAR COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1975 WAS RECOVERED IN THE FINAL QUARTER WITH THE RE-OPENING OF THE NORTH POINT TO KOWLOON CITY SERVICE. AS A RESULT, THE COMPANY CARRIED ABOUT THE SAME NUMBER OF VEHICLES AS IN 1975.

AT PRESENT, THE HONGKONG AND YAUMATI FERRY COMPANY PROVIDES 39 SERVICES, COMPRISING ONE COASTAL, THREE VEHICULAR, 13 CROSS-HARBOUR PASSENGER AND 22 OUTLYING DISTRICT SERVICES.

THE COMPANY HAS A FLEET OF 89 VESSELS COMPRISING 40 DOUBLE-DECK FERRIES, EIGHT TRIPLE-DECK FERRIES, 11 WATER 'BUSES', 13 WATER 'TAXIS', FIVE HOVERFERRIES, 12 VEHICULAR FERRIES AND A SPECIAL 397-SEATER DELUXE FERRY SUITABLE FOR OPEN WATERS.

/THROUGHOUT

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, THE COMPANY CONTINUED ITS EFFORTS TO USE HIGH SPEED FERRIES AND REORGANISE ITS SERVICES TO COPE WITH THE CHANGING PATTERN OF TRAVEL CAUSED BY THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE COMPANY CONTINUED TO APPLY OPERATING ECONOMIES BY REDUCING LATE NIGHT SAILINGS AND, TO ACHIEVE BETTER USE OF VESSELS, SOME VESSELS FROM CROSS-HARBOUR SERVICES WERE DIVERTED TO OUTLYING DISTRICTS ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

1976 ALSO SAW A DECREASE OF 4.7 PER CENT IN THE PASSENGER TRAFFIC FOR THE +STAR+ FERRY COMPANY WHEN COMPARED WITH THE FIGURE FOR 1975.

OF THE 50.7 MILLION PASSENGERS CARRIED BY THE +STAR+ FERRY DURING THE YEAR, 96.7 PER CENT USED THE EDINBURGH PLACE TO TSIM SHA TSUI ROUTE. THE REMAINING 1.7 MILLION PATRONISED THE EDINBURGH PLACE TO HUNG HOM SERVICE WHICH RESUMED OPERATION IN NOVEMBER 1975.

THE HUNG HOM SERVICE OPERATES UNDER A TEMPORARY LICENCE ISSUED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT. THE LICENCE HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO NOVEMBER THIS YEAR WHEN THE FUTURE OF THE SERVICE WILL BE REVIEWED.

THE COMPANY CURRENTLY OPERATES A FLEET OF 10 VESSELS WITH AN OVERALL CARRYING CAPACITY OF 5,643.

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OPEN DAY OF KWAI CHUNG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE
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THE KWAI CHUNG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE WILL HOLD ITS OPEN DAY NEXT WEEK.

STARTING FROM SUNDAY (MARCH 13), THE SCHOOL IN HING SHING ROAD, KWAI CHUNG, WILL OPEN ITS DOORS FROM 2 P.M. TO 5 P.M. DURING WHICH TIME VISITORS WILL BE ABLE TO SEE THE STUDENTS AT WORK IN WORKSHOPS.

THE OPEN DAY WILL END ON MARCH 18 (FRIDAY).

THIS IS THE SECOND OF THREE GOVERNMENT TECHNICAL INSTITUTES TO HOLD THEIR OPEN DAYS THIS MONTH.

THE FIRST BY THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE WAS HELD LAST SUNDAY.

ANOTHER ONE, BY THE KWUN TONG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE WILL BE HELD ON MARCH 25 (FRIDAY).

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NOTE TO EDITORS: YOU ARE INVITED TO HAVE THE EVENTS COVERED.

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BUSINESS EDUCATION COUNCIL COURSES MAY BE ADOPTED
AT POLYTECHNIC AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTES

THE CHIEF OFFICER OF THE BUSINESS EDUCATION COUNCIL IN LONDON, MR. J.E. SELLARS, IS IN HONG KONG EXAMINING THE POSSIBILITY OF OFFERING THE COUNCIL'S COURSES TO STUDENTS AT THE POLYTECHNIC AND THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES AT MORRISON HILL AND KWAI CHUNG FROM SEPTEMBER 1978.

MR. SELLARS IS HAVING DISCUSSIONS WITH SENIOR OFFICIALS OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE POLYTECHNIC ON DEVISING AND VALIDATING COURSES LEADING TO THE COUNCIL'S AWARDS OF CERTIFICATES AND DIPLOMAS.

PROPOSALS FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF MODULES FOR COMMERCIAL STUDIES HAVE ALSO BEEN DISCUSSED.

THE COUNCIL'S CHIEF OFFICER, WHO ARRIVED HERE ON MARCH 5, HAS MET BUSINESSMEN, BANKERS, CHARTERED SECRETARIES AND ADMINISTRATORS, CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS AND SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

YESTERDAY, MR. SELLARS HAD A MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES, MR. LI FOOK-KOW. HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR. COLVYN HAYE AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE POLYTECHNIC, DR. KEITH LEGG.

APART FROM VISITING THE POLYTECHNIC AND TWO TECHNICAL INSTITUTES, MR. SELLARS HAS BEEN TO A BANK AND A NUMBER OF FIRMS. HE ALSO HAD TALKS WITH THE SECRETARY OF THE UNIVERSITY AND POLYTECHNIC GRANTS COMMITTEE, MR. S.F. BAILEY.

BEFORE LEAVING HONG KONG ON SUNDAY EVENING, THE CHIEF OFFICER WILL VISIT THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY CENTRE AND THE HONG KONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

HIS VISIT WAS ORGANISED BY THE POLYTECHNIC AND THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IN CONSULTATION WITH THE BUSINESS EDUCATION COUNCIL, LONDON.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MR. SELLARS WILL BE PLEASED TO ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM PRESS AND MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES AT A PRESS CONFERENCE IN ROOM 35 OF THE GOVERNMENT TRAINING DIVISION, LEE GARDENS, 2ND FLOOR, HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY, AT 11 A.M. ON SATURDAY (MARCH 12). THE POLYTECHNIC DIRECTOR, DR. KEITH LEGG AND THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (TECHNICAL), MR. DANIEL WATERS WILL ALSO BE PRESENT.

YOU ARE INVITED TO HAVE THE PRESS CONFERENCE COVERED.

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FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION EXHIBITION

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A SERIES OF EXHIBITIONS ON FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION HAS BEEN LINED UP FOR RESIDENTS OF KWUN TONG STARTING ON SUNDAY (MARCH 13).

MR. HENRY AU, HEAD OF THE GROUP AND COMMUNITY WORK DIVISION OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT- MR. LEUNG CHIN-MAN, CITY DISTRICT OFFICER FOR KWUN TONG AND MR. LAU MAN-LUNG, PRESIDENT OF THE KWUN TONG LION'S CLUB WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY AT THE KWUN TONG COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 3 P.M.

THE SERIES, CO-ORDINATED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICE FOR KWUN TONG, IS A JOINT EFFORT OF 11 ORGANISATIONS IN THE DISTRICT.

ITEMS ON DISPLAY WILL TOUCH ON SEX EDUCATION, FAMILY PLANNING, PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP, SIBLING RELATIONSHIP, HOME SAFETY AND NUTRITION.

DURING THE CEREMONY, PRIZES WILL BE PRESENTED TO WINNERS OF VARIOUS COMPETITIONS ORGANISED TO PROMOTE FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION. THERE WILL ALSO BE FOLK DANCE, STAGE PLAY AND A LUCKY DRAW.

THE EXHIBITION WILL LAST FOR THREE DAYS.

IN ORDER TO INTRODUCE TO MORE RESIDENTS THE CONCEPT AND SIGNIFICANCE OF FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION, THE EXHIBITION WILL BE MOVED TO THE VARIOUS ESTATE WELFARE BUILDINGS IN THE DISTRICT.

OTHER EXHIBITIONS WILL BE HELD IN LAM TIN (MARCH 20 - 23), SAU MAU PING (CENTRAL) (MARCH 27 - 30), SAU MAU PING (SOUTH) (MARCH 31 - APRIL 2) AND NGAU TAU KOK (APRIL 3 - 6).

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WATER CUT

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WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN CENTRAL AND KOWLOON CITY DISTRICTS WILL BE INTERRUPTED FOR FIVE HOURS FROM 1 A.M. ON SATURDAY (MARCH 12).

DURING THIS PERIOD, THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT WILL CARRY OUT NIGHT LEAKAGE TESTS IN THE AREAS.

THE PREMISES TO BE AFFECTED IN CENTRAL ARE BOUNDED BY QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL FROM GARDEN ROAD TO POTTINGER STREET AND THE SOUTH SIDE OF DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL TO ICE HOUSE STREET.

IN KOWLOON CITY, THE AREA IS BOUNDED BY ARGYLE STREET, YIM PO FONG STREET, WATERLOO ROAD AND SOARES AVENUE, INCLUDING PEACE AVENUE, LIBERTY AVENUE, VICTORY AVENUE, HOMANTIN STREET AND HOMANTIN HILL ROAD.

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TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS

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THE SECTION OF KENT ROAD BETWEEN CORNWALL STREET AND SOMERSET ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED TEMPORARILY FROM TWO-WAY TO ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND IN ORDER TO IMPROVE THE TRAFFIC CIRCULATION IN THE AREA DURING THE RECONSTRUCTION OF CORNWALL STREET.

THE RE-ROUTING WILL COME INTO EFFECT FROM 10 A.M. ON SATURDAY (MARCH 12).

ON SUNDAY (MARCH 13) THE WEST-BOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL AT THE WEST SIDE OF PEDDER STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC BETWEEN 1.15 A.M. AND 5.45 A.M. IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE DEMOLITION OF THE OLD GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP AND THE POLICE WILL BE ON HAND TO GUIDE TRAFFIC.

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