



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Monday, November 5, 1973

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NEW ESTATE TO HOUSE 16,000

A new public housing estate to provide homes for some 16,000 people is to be built in Chai Wan shortly. It will comprise three seven-storey and one 22-storey blocks.

Apart from recreational, welfare and other basic facilities essential for a self-contained community, there will be a market complex with more than 450 stalls, and a car park for about 500 cars.

The estate will also have two primary schools, a post office, a welfare building, and an administrative block, when it is completed in late 1976 or early 1977.

To enable piling and construction work to start, the site which partly falls within and partly outside the Chai Wan Licensed Area will have to be cleared.

A two-day clearance operation, starting tomorrow (Tuesday) has been drawn up. About 750 structures will be demolished to make way for the estate.

Site formation and piling work is expected to take place immediately afterwards.

More than 2,500 people living in the licensed area have been offered public housing at Ho Man Tin Estate. About 1,200 people squatting on the outskirts of the licensed area have also been offered new sites in the vicinity.

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HONG KONG'S NEW MAN IN WASHINGTON

Mr. Alec Hermann, a member of the British Diplomatic Service, has been appointed Hong Kong's Counsellor for Commercial Affairs in Washington.

He is already familiar with the post having held it previously from 1967, when it was created, until two years ago.

Mr. Hermann has been Britain's Consul General in Osaka since 1971. He will take up his post at the British Embassy in Washington next month.

He is currently visiting Hong Kong to bring himself up-to-date with the commercial and industrial scene.

A programme arranged by the Commerce and Industry Department includes talks with government officials and representatives of trade and industry. Mr. Hermann will also be visiting local factories.

As Hong Kong's "man on the spot" in Washington, he will be keeping a close eye on commercial relations with the United States, which is the biggest buyer of locally-manufactured products.

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Note to Editors: Reporters and photographers are invited to cover several factory visits by Mr. Hermann tomorrow (Tuesday) afternoon. Transport will be available at 2.15 p.m. sharp at the car park behind the Tsim Sha Tsui Post Office. The P.R.O. of the Commerce and Industry Department, Mr. Brian Hickman, will be on hand to assist media representatives.

Mr. Hermann will be visiting two factories in the Hung Hom area -- Asia Industrial Development Co. Ltd., 3-5 San Ma Tau Street; and Motorola New Works Semi-Conductors (H.K.) Ltd., 41-J Ma Tau Wai Road, 11th floor.

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MOTORCYCLISTS REMINDED TO WEAR HELMETS

Motorcyclists and their pillion riders who fail to wear crash helmets in future may be jailed for three months on first conviction.

New regulations requiring the compulsory wearing of safety helmets of an approved standard come into effect on January 1 next year. The new rules are laid down in the Road Traffic (Protective Equipment) Regulations 1973, which were approved by the Executive Council in June this year.

Motorcyclists and their pillion passengers who fail to put on safety helmets will be liable to a fine of \$500 and three months' imprisonment on first conviction. The maximum penalty on second or subsequent convictions is a fine of \$1,000 and six months' jail.

Approved protective helmets are those bearing a mark applied by the manufacturer indicating compliance with the specifications in British Standard 2001; 1869 and 2495; Japanese Industrial Standard JIS T 8133-1970; Australian Standard E 33-1968; American National Standards Institute Z90.1-1966, Z90.1-1970 and Z90.1-1971; Institute Belge De Normalization BENOR NBN 626; Deutsche Normen DIN 4848; French National Standard AFNOR NFS 72-301; or Dutch National Institute for Road Vehicles TNO.

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WIDENING OF POKFULAM ROAD

A section of Pokfulam Road will be widened shortly to improve traffic flow between Aberdeen and the urban areas.

The work will involve the widening of 1,400 feet of Pokfulam Road between Claymore Avenue and Pokfulam Reservoir Road. It will also include the construction of a reinforced concrete box culvert to convey the flow from an existing nullah.

Work is expected to begin in January next year and will take about 18 months to complete.

The widened road will provide a dual two-lane carriageway through Pokfulam Village with a central verge for the preservation of a number of trees.

Commenting on the project, a spokesman for the Public Works Department noted that Pokfulam Road was one of the main traffic routes linking Aberdeen with the urban areas.

Following the completion of Wah Fu Estate and further industrial and housing development at Aberdeen, he said, traffic volume on that road had substantially increased.

"The daily volume of traffic is now well above the capacity of this narrow section," he said. But this would be considerably improved once the road was widened.

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LION ROCK INTERCHANGE - TRAFFIC CHANGES

New traffic arrangements will be introduced at the Lion Rock Interchange as from tomorrow (Tuesday).

A single lane over the completed flyover will be opened for traffic travelling south to Waterloo Road. Traffic wishing to turn right into Lung Cheung Road will be diverted via Cornwall Street.

Waterloo Road will also be re-opened to northbound tunnel traffic. Westbound traffic on Lung Cheung Road will have access to the tunnel by turning left into a loop road and thence via Waterloo Road.

As only one lane will be brought into use initially, heavy vehicles are advised to continue using the present route to the tunnel via Junction Road, Fung Mo Street, and Lung Cheung Road to avoid possible congestion.

At a later stage, the southern carriageway of Lung Cheung Road from Fung Mo Street, will also be opened for traffic, a spokesman for the Transport Department said.

Motorists are urged to observe the direction signs at the approaches to the interchange particularly tomorrow morning while these changes are being introduced.

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SUGGESTIONS ON HOME SAFETY

A four-day health education exhibition will be held in the Yuen Long Town Hall at the end of this month under the sponsorship of the Medical and Health Department.

The theme will be "Home Safety," and the show will stress personal and food hygiene. It will be opened to the public, and group visits by students from the Yuen Long area are planned.

The exhibition will be in Chinese. Items will include drawings, graphs, models -- all designed for easy comprehension by an audience of young people and rural folk.

The show is being mounted by the department's Health Education Unit, New Territories. It will open on November 27 and continue until November 30. The hours will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. daily.

A similar exhibition last year was very successful. It placed the accent on nutrition, protection of the eyesight and how to prevent gastrointestinal diseases.

"The need for care to ensure safety at home is generally recognised," a spokesman said. "The exhibition will help to provide a number of useful hints in visual form."

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Note to Editors: You are invited to have this exhibition covered.

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TWO PRE-WAR BUILDINGS CONDEMNED

The Building Authority today declared Nos. 170 and 172 Aberdeen Main Road to be in a dangerous condition.

The Principal Government Building Surveyor said these three-storey pre-war building were inspected following a detailed inspection of the adjoining buildings at Nos. 166 and 168 which were subsequently made subject to closure orders.

It was found that the reinforced concrete elements in Nos. 170 and 172 had deteriorated to such an extent that repair was impractical and there is a risk of failure leading to a collapse.

Notices of intention to apply for closure orders in Victoria District Court at 9.30 a.m. on December 17 were posted today.

CHRISTMAS MAIL TO INDIA AND THE KHMER REPUBLIC

The Post Office announced today that the latest dates of posting of sea mail for India and the Khmer Republic have been advanced to November 8.

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MR. PRICE VISITS TEXTILE FACTORY

The Commissioner of Labour, Mr. I.R. Price today spent the afternoon visiting Kowloon Textile Industries Ltd. at Sham Tseng, New Territories, to see at first hand current working conditions in Hong Kong's textile industry.

He was accompanied by the Labour Department's Principal Information Officer, Mr. Barry Walsh and the Labour Officer in charge of Industrial Undertakings, Mr. Stanislaus Tsao. The visit was the third of a series of monthly visits being made by Mr. Price to see at first hand various industries and their working conditions.

During this afternoon's visit, Mr. Price showed particular interest in welfare facilities provided for the factory's workers. He said he was pleased to note that in addition to a year-end bonus, transportation allowances and other benefits, the workers were provided with accommodation. Quarters for unmarried workers were rent free, and monthly rents for married quarters ranged from \$30 - \$45.

Mr. Price said Hong Kong workers were becoming increasingly concerned about the types of welfare facilities offered by management. High standard welfare facilities in a factory helped reduce labour turnover, fostered harmonious labour-management relationship and ultimately increased production.

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"This is the sort of investment that will definitely bring management a good return," he said. "A contented worker is a good producer."

Mr. Price pointed out that the Hong Kong worker was receiving increasingly improved conditions of employment under the Employment Ordinance, which now included provisions for payment of wages, termination of contracts of employment, sickness allowance, holidays with pay, four rest days and maternity leave.

"And we plan to continue revising and adding to the ordinance from time to time to keep up with the changing needs," he said.

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Release time: 7.00 p.m.