



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1976

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PROGRAMME PLANS ON PREVENTIVE SERVICES FOR YOUTH

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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT IS DRAFTING PROGRAMME PLANS ON PREVENTIVE SERVICES FOR YOUTH TO SOLVE THE GENERAL PROBLEM OF INDIVIDUAL LONELINESS, BOREDOM, AND LACK OF UNDERSTANDING OF A WIDER COMMUNITY, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, SAID TODAY.

THIS PROBLEM, WHICH CAN HAVE SERIOUS SOCIAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECTS, PARTICULARLY AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE, WAS POINTED OUT BY THE GOVERNOR IN HIS OPENING ADDRESS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL EARLIER THIS MONTH.

THE PLAN, MR. LEE SAID, WAS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED NEXT YEAR.

MR. LEE WAS SPEAKING AT THE JOINT GRADUATION CEREMONY OF THE 12 SECONDARY AND PRIMARY SCHOOLS OF LOK SIN TONG HELD AT THE YU KAN HING SCHOOL THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON.

+AT PRESENT, BESIDES APPOINTING COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICERS IN VARIOUS DISTRICTS, THE DEPARTMENT HAS ALSO SET UP COMMUNITY CENTRES AND ESTATE COMMUNITY WORK OFFICES IN ALL DENSELY-POPULATED AREAS,+ HE SAID.

HE CITED THREE EXAMPLES OF VARIOUS SCHEMES THAT HIS DEPARTMENT WAS ORGANISING AND SPONSORING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH SCHEME, HE SAID, WAS AIMED AT ENCOURAGING YOUTHS TO PARTICIPATE IN ACTIVITIES THAT WOULD PROMOTE THEIR PERSONAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND, AT THE SAME TIME, COULD PROVIDE SOCIAL BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY.

+SINCE 1974, A TOTAL OF 194 PROJECTS HAVE BEEN SUPPORTED AND AMONG THEM ARE THE HOT LINE SERVICE WHICH IS DESIGNED TO HELP STUDENTS WHO HAVE PROBLEMS WITH THEIR SCHOOL WORK AND THE BEAUTIFICATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT SCHEME,+ HE ADDED.

THE PLAY LEADERSHIP SCHEME, HE WENT ON, WAS AIMED AT ORGANISING CONSTRUCTIVE ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE FOUND LOITERING IN PLAYGROUNDS, WHILE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DISTRICT YOUTH DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEES WAS AIMED AT IDENTIFYING THE NEEDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN A DISTRICT AND THEN PROMOTING PROJECTS THAT WOULD SATISFY THESE NEEDS.

EARLIER, MR. LEE COMMENDED THE LOK SIN TONG FOR ITS OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY DURING ITS 97 YEARS OF HISTORY.

HE SAID THE 12 SCHOOLS RUN BY THE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY HAD PROVIDED STUDENTS WITH MEANINGFUL EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, AND POINTED OUT THAT THEY SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO TAKE PART IN COMMUNITY SERVICES TO PROMOTE IN THEM A BALANCED PHYSICAL AND MENTAL DEVELOPMENT.

+THROUGH THESE ACTIVITIES, THE STUDENTS CAN LEARN DIRECTLY FROM PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE, UNDERSTAND THE RESOURCES, THE PROBLEMS, AND THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY, AND AS A RESULT, ACCELERATE THE REALISATION OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT,+ HE ADDED.

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NEW CHAIRMAN OF HKTA APPOINTED

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MR. DAVID NEWBIGGING, CHAIRMAN AND SENIOR MANAGING DIRECTOR OF JARDINE, MATHESON AND CO., LTD., HAS BEEN APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR TO SUCCEED THE HON. JOHN BREMRIDGE AS CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT OF THE HONG KONG TOURIST ASSOCIATION WHEN MR. BREMRIDGE RELINGQUISHES THE POST NEXT JANUARY.

WHEN HIS TERM EXPIRES AT THE BEGINNING OF JANUARY 1977, MR. BREMRIDGE WILL HAVE SERVED FOR OVER TWO YEARS AT THE HELM OF THE TOURIST ASSOCIATION. DURING THIS PERIOD, THERE HAS BEEN A NOTICEABLE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF OVERSEAS VISITORS AND THEIR SPENDING DESPITE THE DIFFICULTIES CAUSED BY THE WORLD-WIDE RECESSION.

MR. NEWBIGGING HAS BEEN CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH HONG KONG SINCE HE FIRST ARRIVED IN 1955 TO JOIN JARDINE, MATHESON AND CO., LTD.

AS CHAIRMAN OF JARDINES, ONE OF THE LARGEST AND MOST DIVERSIFIED COMPANIES IN THE FAR EAST WITH HEADQUARTERS IN HONG KONG AND OFFICES IN 15 COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD, MR. NEWBIGGING TRAVELS EXTENSIVELY AND IS WELL PLACED TO PROMOTE HONG KONG TOURISM. HE IS A MEMBER OF THE AVIATION ADVISORY BOARD AND THROUGH JARDINES' REPRESENTATION OF MANY AIRLINES AND THEIR INTERESTS IN LOCAL HOTELS AND CONVENTION FACILITIES HE IS ALREADY CLOSELY INVOLVED IN THE TOURIST INDUSTRY.

IN ADDITION TO HIS BUSINESS INTERESTS, MR. NEWBIGGING IS INVOLVED IN A WIDE SPECTRUM OF COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES IN HONG KONG. HE IS CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNITY CHEST, A MEMBER OF THE HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, A MEMBER OF THE PORT COMMITTEE AND CHAIRMAN OF THE SAILORS' HOME AND MISSIONS TO SEAMEN. MR. NEWBIGGING IS ALSO AN ACTIVE SPORTSMAN AND IS A STEWARD OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB.

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1976

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN NORTH POINT AND N.T.

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A SERIES OF TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE INTRODUCED WITH EFFECT FROM 10 A.M. TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW IN KAM HONG STREET IN NORTH POINT.

THE SECTION OF MARBLE ROAD BETWEEN KAM HONG STREET AND SHU KUK STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY WESTBOUND WHILE THE SECTION BETWEEN KAM HONG STREET AND TIN CHIU STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY EASTBOUND.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE EXISTING PUBLIC LIGHT BUS PROHIBITION ZONE IN KAM HONG STREET WILL BE EXTENDED SOUTHWARDS TO THE JUNCTION WITH MARBLE ROAD, AND THE PLB STAND ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF MARBLE ROAD WILL BE MOVED TO THE NORTH SIDE OF THE ROAD.

ALL EASTBOUND VEHICLES ON KING'S ROAD WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO TURN RIGHT INTO KAM HONG STREET.

MOTORISTS TRAVELLING EASTWARD ALONG KING'S ROAD WHO WISH TO ENTER KAM HONG STREET SHOULD TURN LEFT INTO SHU KUK STREET AND PROCEED VIA JAVA ROAD INTO KAM HONG STREET SOUTHBOUND.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE PUT UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS AND PLB DRIVERS.

IN TSUEN WAN, URBAN CLEARWAY RESTRICTIONS WILL BE IMPOSED ON THE SECTION OF TAI WO HAU ROAD FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH TEXACO ROAD TO A POINT ABOUT 590 FEET TO THE EAST FROM 10 A.M. ON SATURDAY (OCTOBER 23).

NO VEHICLES, OTHER THAN FRANCHISED BUSES, WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP TO PICK UP AND SET DOWN PASSENGERS OR TO LOAD AND UNLOAD GOODS BETWEEN 7 A.M. AND 7 P.M. DAILY.

APPROPRIATE SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1976

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KAIFONGS PRAISED FOR THEIR COMMUNITY WORK  
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, THIS (THURSDAY) EVENING PRAISED THE KAIFONGS FOR THEIR ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT.

SPEAKING AT A RECEPTION CELEBRATING THE KAIFONG DAY AT THE CITY HALL, HE SAID THE MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL WAS THE COMMUNITY'S EFFORTS TO FIGHT CRIME.

+HONG KONG RISES MAGNIFICENTLY TO A CRISIS OR DISASTER, BUT THIS IS NO LONGER ENOUGH,+ HE SAID.

+WE MUST ACTIVELY BUILD OUR COMMUNITY, AND MAKE IT SAFER AND HAPPIER, EVERY DAY OF EVERY YEAR,+ HE STRESSED.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH:-

+I AM PLEASED TO BE HERE THIS EVENING TO CELEBRATE THE ANNUAL KAIFONG DAY.

+THE KAIFONG MOVEMENT IN HONG KONG ORIGINATED SOME 27 YEARS AGO AND HAS MADE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION. DURING RECENT YEARS THE KAIFONGS HAVE ADDED TO THEIR TRADITIONAL ROLE OF RELIEF AND WELFARE THAT OF ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT. THE MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL BEING OUR EFFORTS TO FIGHT CRIME. I WELCOME THIS AS I AM SURE DOES THE WHOLE COMMUNITY.

+HONG KONG RISES MAGNIFICENTLY TO A CRISIS OR DISASTER, BUT THIS IS NO LONGER ENOUGH. WE MUST ACTIVELY BUILD OUR COMMUNITY, AND MAKE IT SAFER AND HAPPIER, EVERY DAY OF EVERY YEAR.

+DURING THE PAST YEAR WE HAVE SUCCESSFULLY EMERGED FROM RECESSION AND I LOOK FORWARD WITH CONFIDENCE TO A YEAR OF ECONOMIC GROWTH AND PROSPERITY.

+FINALLY, MAY I THANK YOU MR. CHAIRMAN FOR YOUR HOSPITALITY THIS EVENING. I NOW ASK YOU ALL TO DRINK A TOAST WITH ME TO WISH OUR KAIFONGS EVERY SUCCESS FOR THE FUTURE.+

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CHRISTMAS SURFACE MAIL TO SABAH  
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THE POST OFFICE ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE LATEST POSTING DATE FOR CHRISTMAS SURFACE MAIL TO SABAH OF MALAYSIA HAS BEEN CHANGED.

THE REVISED LATEST ACCEPTANCE DATE FOR SANDAKAN (SABAH) IS NOW OCTOBER 23, 1976 AND THAT FOR KOTA KINABALU (SABAH) IS NOVEMBER 5, 1976.

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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR SEPTEMBER  
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THE NEW CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) FOR SEPTEMBER 1976 WAS 115, ONE POINT HIGHER THAN THAT FOR THE PREVIOUS MONTH.

THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS ROSE BY ONE POINT. INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF FRESH VEGETABLES, EGGS AND MEALS BOUGHT AWAY FROM HOME.

THE INDEX FOR HOUSING ADVANCED BY ONE POINT AS A RESULT OF AN INCREASE IN THE RENT OF SOME PRIVATE DWELLINGS. ON THE OTHER HAND, A DROP OF ONE POINT WAS RECORDED IN THE INDEX FOR CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR BECAUSE OF LOWER PRICES IN SOME OUTERCLOTHING ITEMS.

MOVEMENTS IN THE INDEXES FOR OTHER COMMODITY SECTIONS AND SERVICES WERE INSIGNIFICANT.

THE NEW CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (B) FOR SEPTEMBER 1976 WAS 115, ONE POINT HIGHER THAN THAT FOR THE PREVIOUS MONTH.

THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS ROSE BY ONE POINT. INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF FRESH VEGETABLES AND MEALS BOUGHT AWAY FROM HOME.

THE INDEX FOR HOUSING ADVANCED BY TWO POINTS AS A RESULT OF AN INCREASE IN THE RENT OF SOME PRIVATE DWELLINGS. A ONE POINT INCREASE IN THE INDEX FOR ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO WAS BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE PRICE INCREASES IN IMPORTED BRITISH AND AMERICAN CIGARETTES.

THE INDEX FOR TRANSPORT AND VEHICLES ALSO MOVED UP BY ONE POINT AS A RESULT OF THE INTRODUCTION OF A FLAT FARE OF 30 CENTS ON ALL CROSS-HARBOUR ROUTES BY THE HONG KONG AND YAUMATI FERRY COMPANY AND THE INCREASED CHARGES FOR SCHOOL BUS FARES. ON THE OTHER HAND, A DROP OF ONE POINT WAS RECORDED IN THE INDEX FOR CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR DUE TO LOWER PRICES IN SOME OUTERCLOTHING ITEMS.

MOVEMENTS IN THE INDEXES FOR OTHER COMMODITY SECTIONS AND SERVICES WERE INSIGNIFICANT.

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LABOUR RELATIONS PRACTICE CODE AVAILABLE

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THE CODE OF LABOUR RELATIONS PRACTICE TABLED AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL RECENTLY IS BEING DISTRIBUTED FREE OF CHARGE TO THE MAIN EMPLOYERS ASSOCIATIONS, MAJOR TRADE ASSOCIATIONS AND ALL REGISTERED TRADE UNIONS BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

THE AIM OF THE CODE IS TO SET STANDARDS AND TO GIVE PRACTICAL GUIDANCE PARTICULARLY TO MANAGEMENT, ON THE CONDUCT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF POLICIES TO IMPROVE HUMAN RELATIONS IN ALL PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT WHATEVER THEIR SIZE.

IT COVERS SUCH MATTERS AS THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYEE, METHODS OF COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION, GRIEVANCE AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES AND OTHER FUNCTIONS OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT INCLUDING EMPLOYMENT POLICIES, RECRUITMENT PROCEDURES, WORKING CONDITIONS, FRINGE BENEFITS AND THE HANDLING OF TRADE DISPUTES.

ITS CONTENTS ARE BASED NOT ONLY ON THE EXTENSIVE AND LONG EXPERIENCE OF THE LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE BUT ALSO, WHERE APPLICABLE, ON PRACTICES IN DEVELOPED INDUSTRIAL SOCIETIES.

PUBLISHED IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE, THE CODE IS ALSO AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE AT ALL OFFICES OF THE LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE AND THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT THE STAR FERRY CONCOURSE, HONG KONG.

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RETIREMENT GIFT FOR FIRE OFFICER

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THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER OF THE FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU, MR. ALAN JONES, TODAY PRESENTED ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL OFFICER LEUNG TAK-YAN WITH A WATCH ON BEHALF OF HIS COLLEAGUES TO MARK HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE DEPARTMENT AFTER 28 YEARS OF SERVICE.

MR. LEUNG FIRST JOINED THE FIRE SERVICES AS A CONTROL ROOM STAFF IN DECEMBER 1948. HE WAS ADVANCED TO SUB-OFFICER IN 1958 AND TO STATION OFFICER SIX YEARS LATER.

IN 1969 HE WAS PROMOTED TO HIS SUBSTANTIVE RANK OF ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL OFFICER AND HAD ACTED AS DIVISIONAL OFFICER ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS. HE WAS AWARDED A COLONIAL FIRE BRIGADE LONG SERVICE MEDAL IN 1967, THE COLONIAL POLICE MEDAL (FIRE) IN 1974 AND A FIRST CLASP TO THE LONG SERVICE MEDAL EARLY THIS YEAR.

DURING HIS 28 YEARS' SERVICE, MR. LEUNG HAD SERVED MOSTLY IN THE OPERATIONAL COMMAND IN KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES, AND IN THE FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU FOR THREE YEARS UNTIL HIS RETIREMENT.

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HARD-SLIP  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1976

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FINAL ROUNDS OF ANTI-NARCOTICS CUP BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT  
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THE FINAL ROUNDS OF THE ANTI-NARCOTICS CUP AND E.P. HO CUP BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT WILL BEGIN TOMORROW (FRIDAY) WITH AN OPENING CEREMONY TO BE HELD AT THE INDOOR BASKETBALL COURT, SOUTHERN PLAYGROUND, WAN CHAI AT 6 P.M.

MATCHES WILL BE PLAYED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CEREMONY. ADMISSION WILL BE FREE.

TEN TEAMS FROM 10 DIFFERENT CITY DISTRICTS OF HONG KONG ISLAND AND KOWLOON WILL BE COMPETING FOR THE HONOUR AFTER ELIMINATING 74 OTHER TEAMS IN THE PRELIMINARY ROUNDS. THE WINNING TEAM WILL BE AWARDED BOTH THE ANTI-NARCOTICS CUP AND THE E.P. HO CUP.

THE TOURNAMENT, WHICH IS OPEN TO YOUNG PEOPLE UNDER 20 YEARS OF AGE, IS PART OF THE DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAMME OF THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS (ACAN). IT IS DESIGNED TO ENCOURAGE YOUNG PEOPLE TO DEVELOP A GREATER INTEREST IN MEANINGFUL AND HEALTHY ACTIVITIES, AS WELL AS TO CREATE IN THEM AN AWARENESS OF THE DANGER OF DRUG ADDICTION.

IN ADDITION, THE TOURNAMENT PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR MOUNTING PUBLICITY TO GET THE ANTI-DRUG MESSAGE ACROSS TO THOUSANDS OF SPECTATORS WHO GO AND WATCH THE MATCHES. APART FROM PUTTING UP BANNERS AND DISTRIBUTING LEAFLETS AT THE BASKETBALL COURTS, SHORT ANTI-DRUG DRAMAS WILL BE STAGED DURING HALF-TIME INTERVALS.

THE TOURNAMENT IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, THE HONG KONG AMATEUR BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION, THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE AND ACAN.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND YOUR REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY WHICH WILL BE HELD AT THE SOUTHERN PLAYGROUND BASKETBALL STADIUM AT 6 P.M. TOMORROW (FRIDAY). OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE MR. AUGUSTINE CHUI, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS= REV. K.L. STUMPF, CHAIRMAN OF ACAN'S PREVENTIVE EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY SUB-COMMITTEE= MR. M.C. CASWELL, PRINCIPAL EDUCATION OFFICER= AND MR. CHAM SIU-LEUN, PRESIDENT OF THE HONG KONG AMATEUR BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION.

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1976

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+FRIENDLY FESTIVAL+ AT TAI WO HAU

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A 70-DAY +FRIENDLY FESTIVAL+ AIMED AT PROMOTING CIVIC PRIDE AND A BETTER UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE 45,000 PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN THE TAI WO HAU AREA IS TO BE LAUNCHED ON SUNDAY.

THE FESTIVAL HAS BEEN JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE TSUEN WAN TOWN MANAGEMENT OFFICE AND TWO LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS, THE TSUEN WAN, TAI WO HAU AND KWAI CHUNG ECUMENICAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT AND THE TAI WO HAU RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION.

THE ORGANISERS HAVE ARRANGED ABOUT 30 DIFFERENT COMPETITIONS AND FUNCTIONS DURING THE FESTIVAL, THE FIRST OF ITS KIND TO BE HELD IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS OPERATING IN THE AREA WILL TAKE PART. EVENTS INCLUDE FOOTBALL MATCHES, PARADES, VARIETY SHOWS, A CARNIVAL, CHARITY SALES, SINGING CONTEST, A COOKERY COMPETITION AND SPECIAL GATHERINGS FOR OLD PEOPLE.

+THE PURPOSE OF THE FESTIVAL, WHICH WILL RUN THROUGH TO THE END OF DECEMBER, IS TO INCULCATE MUTUAL CARE AND HELP AMONG THE RESIDENTS OF THE AREA,+ TSUEN WAN'S ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER (URBAN), MISS ALICE SIU, SAID TODAY.

+WE ARE ALSO TRYING TO PROMOTE CIVIC CONSCIOUSNESS AND A BETTER UNDERSTANDING WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

+WITH THIS IN MIND, OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS - HOUSING, POLICE, SOCIAL WELFARE AND URBAN SERVICES - WERE INVITED TO BE PATRONS OF THE FESTIVAL.

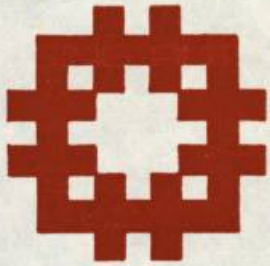
+THE FESTIVAL IS SIMILAR TO THE 'KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOUR' CAMPAIGNS CONDUCTED IN THE URBAN AREAS, BUT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME SUCH A FUNCTION HAS BEEN ORGANISED IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.+

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NOTE TO EDITORS :

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE FRIENDLY FESTIVAL. THE OFFICIAL OPENING WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE OPEN SPACE OUTSIDE BLOCK 6 OF THE TAI WO HAU ESTATE AT 3 P.M. THERE WILL BE A RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY, FOLLOWED BY A LION DANCE AND FOOTBALL MATCH BETWEEN TAI WO HAU RESIDENTS AND A ROYAL HONGKONG POLICE TEAM.

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HONG KONG HOUSING AUTHORITY 香港房屋委員會

PRESS  
RELEASE

新聞稿

Thursday, 21st October 1976

HOUSING AUTHORITY SEEKS TO PREVENT  
CONTRACTORS EXPLOITING TENANTS

The Housing Authority is to try out a new procedure to prevent tenants from being exploited by greedy and unscrupulous contractors.

The trial will be held in Lai Yiu Estate, Tsuen Wan, starting in December where<sup>n</sup> the first occupants are due to move in.

The Estate will have approximately 2,400 flats providing homes for more than 19,000 people.

Contractors will be invited to tender by November 5 to supply and install a range of standard items, such as tiles, rails and cupboards, as well as to paint flats.

Only six contractors will be approved to carry out the work.

Each tender must be accompanied by a \$10,000 deposit and successful tenderers will be required to deposit with the Housing Authority \$100,000 as a surety bond. Contractors not selected will have their deposits returned.

Approved contractors will be allowed to install only good quality fittings listed by the Housing Authority and tenants will not be able to have non-standard items installed during the first six months of their tenancy. After this period, they can engage any contractor they like - not necessarily one of the approved contractors - to fit other than standard items, although estate staff will be on hand to make sure that



tenants are not overcharged and that workmanship is of a satisfactory standard.

Another condition of the tender is that approved contractors must accept all orders from tenants for standard work and complete the orders within two months.

In cases where a contractor defaults, the Housing Authority will reserve the right to take over the work and deduct any charges from the contractor's security bond.

A Housing Authority spokesman said today: "No tenant is compelled to have any type of decoration work done unless he wants to. However, if he wishes to have his flat decorated this new procedure is designed to protect his interests.

"In the past some contractors have been guilty of pressuring tenants into having extra jobs done, resulting in heavy bills.

"Some contractors have even claimed the use of 'special materials' as an excuse for further inflating their bills. The new procedure will prohibit this kind of exploitation."

The spokesman said that among the advantages of the new procedure would be the small number of contractors, thus giving estate staff greater control over their activities.

In drawing up the new procedure, the Housing Authority has co-operated closely with the I.C.A.C.