



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1979

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FUNDS FOR IMPLEMENTING SALARIES COMMISSION'S  
PROPOSALS APPROVED

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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY (MONDAY) ANNOUNCED THAT THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL HAS APPROVED FUNDS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE STANDING SALARIES COMMISSION'S GENERAL PROPOSALS - CONTAINED IN THEIR FIRST REPORT ON CIVIL SERVICE PAY (REPORT NO. 2) - FOR A REVISED MASTER PAY SCALE, MODEL 1 PAY SCALE, DISCIPLINED SERVICES PAY SCALES, AND APPRENTICE PAY SCALES TOGETHER WITH THEIR DETAILED RECOMMENDATIONS ON SALARY SCALES FOR INDIVIDUAL RANKS.

THE APPROVAL WAS A FOLLOW-UP TO THE ANNOUNCEMENT IN LATE NOVEMBER THAT THE REPORT HAD BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF NECESSARY FUNDS BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE. THE REVISED PAY SCALES WILL BE BACK-DATED TO OCTOBER 1 THIS YEAR.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT DETAILS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REPORT WOULD SHORTLY BE ANNOUNCED TO THE SERVICE IN A CIVIL SERVICE BRANCH CIRCULAR, AND THAT THE MAIN CHANGES WOULD BE REFLECTED IN PAY PACKETS BY CHINESE NEW YEAR.

THE TOTAL COST OF THE INCREASES INCLUDING GRANTS TO THE URBAN COUNCIL AND SUBVENTED ORGANISATIONS IS ESTIMATED AT OVER \$250 MILLION FOR THE CURRENT YEAR, OF WHICH \$163 MILLION IS IN RESPECT OF THE CIVIL SERVICE.

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SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN NUMBER OF PEOPLE FOUND JOBS

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S LOCAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE HELPED 19 207 JOB-SEEKERS, INCLUDING 197 UNIVERSITY AND POST-SECONDARY COLLEGE GRADUATES, OBTAIN EMPLOYMENT DURING THE FIRST TEN MONTHS OF THIS YEAR.

THE NUMBER OF SUCCESSFUL JOB PLACEMENTS REPRESENTS A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE OF 44 PER CENT OVER THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

THIS WAS STATED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR. J.N. HENDERSON, AT THE OPENING OF THE SERVICE'S NEW BRANCH OFFICE AT 67-69 TAI HO ROAD, TSUEN WAN.

THE SERVICE, HE SAID, OPERATES FROM 13 OFFICES LOCATED IN THE MAJOR INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL AREAS THROUGHOUT HONG KONG.

ITS PERFORMANCE HAD IMPROVED CONSIDERABLY SINCE A FACSIMILE SYSTEM WAS INSTALLED IN JULY LAST YEAR TO PROVIDE AN EFFICIENT AND SPEEDY MEANS OF DISSEMINATING VACANCY INFORMATION AMONG THE BRANCH OFFICES.

MR. HENDERSON POINTED OUT THAT THE WORK OF THE SERVICE WAS KEPT UNDER CONSTANT REVIEW TO ENSURE THAT ANY IMPROVEMENT OR EXPANSION OF ITS SERVICES WAS GEARED TO THE NEEDS OF EMPLOYERS, JOB-SEEKERS AND THE ECONOMY AT LARGE.

+ONE OF THE AIMS OF THE SERVICE THIS YEAR HAS BEEN TO MOVE SOME OF ITS OLDER BRANCH OFFICES FROM UPPER FLOORS TO MORE EASILY ACCESSIBLE SHOP SPACES ON THE GROUND FLOOR, FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF JOB-SEEKERS AND EMPLOYERS WHO MAKE USE OF ITS SERVICES.

+THE TSUEN WAN BRANCH OFFICE, ORIGINALLY LOCATED ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF THE CHARTERED BANK BUILDING, IS THE FIRST OF THOSE OLDER BRANCH OFFICES TO BE MOVED,+ HE ADDED.

MR. HENDERSON EMPHASISED THAT AN EMPLOYMENT SERVICE BY ITSELF COULD NOT AND DID NOT CREATE JOBS ANY MORE THAN IT COULD CREATE WORKERS IN TIMES OF LABOUR SHORTAGE. WHAT IT COULD DO WAS TO MATCH JOB-SEEKERS WITH VACANCIES AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

STRESSING THAT SUCCESS DEPENDED ON THE AVAILABILITY OF VACANCIES NOTIFIED BY EMPLOYERS AND THE TYPES OF JOB-SEEKERS REGISTERED, MR. HENDERSON EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THEY WOULD BOTH MAKE THE BEST USE OF THE FREE SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE NEW OFFICE.

EARLIER, MR. HENDERSON AND TWO LEADERS OF THE TSUEN WAN COMMUNITY, MR. LAM KIN-MING, UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD, AND MR. TANG YUEN-PUI, CHAIRMAN OF THE TSING YI RURAL COMMITTEE, OFFICIATED AT THE OPENING OF THE NEW OFFICE BY PERFORMING A RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY.

THE OPENING CEREMONY WAS ROUNDED OFF WITH A TEA RECEPTION AND A LION DANCE.

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#### MORE PATROLS JOIN FIRE WATCH SCHEME

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ANOTHER 24 SQUATTER AREAS AND VILLAGES HAVE FORMED THEIR OWN FIRE WATCH PATROLS TO PROTECT THE LIFE AND PROPERTIES OF THOSE LIVING IN THEIR AREAS.

THEIR FORMATION NEARLY DOUBLED THE NUMBER OF PATROLS ALREADY PARTICIPATING IN THE FIRE WATCH SCHEME. THERE ARE NOW 50 SUCH TEAMS COVERING DENSELY POPULATED AREAS.

THE SCHEME, FIRST INTRODUCED AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS YEAR AS PART OF THE FIRE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN, AIMS TO GET RESIDENTS IN SQUATTER AREAS AND VILLAGES MORE INVOLVED IN FIRE PRECAUTION MEASURES.

THE PATROLS ARE FORMED BY VOLUNTEERS WITHIN THE LOCAL AREAS. THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT RECOGNISES THEIR USEFULNESS AND PROVIDES ALL THE NECESSARY TRAINING FOR THEIR MEMBERS.

THROUGH THIS TRAINING, MEMBERS ARE ABLE TO DEVISE EVACUATION PLANS IN CASE OF FIRE AND RECOGNISE FIRE HAZARDS.

DURING THEIR ACTUAL PATROLS THEY REMOVE ITEMS BLOCKING FIRE EXITS AND ADVISE THEIR NEIGHBOURS OF DANGEROUS PRACTICES WHICH CAN GIVE RISE TO A FIRE. SHOULD THERE BE ONE, THEY QUICKLY ALERT THE FIRE SERVICES AND THE POLICE AND HELP OTHER RESIDENTS TO EVACUATE.

/IF NECESSARY .....

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IF NECESSARY, THEY CAN ALSO ASSIST IN FIRE FIGHTING BEFORE FIREMEN ARRIVE. TO HELP THEM COPE WITH THIS WORK, EACH PATROL IS PROVIDED WITH A SET OF FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING FIRE EXTINGUISHERS AND SAND BUCKETS.

STAFF OF THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, CITY DISTRICT OFFICES AND DISTRICT OFFICES ARE BEHIND THEM IN THEIR EFFORTS AND ARE READY TO GIVE THEM SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE WHENEVER THEY NEED THEM.

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#### NEW EXTENSION FOR OLD PEOPLE'S CENTRE

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THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, TODAY (MONDAY) UNVEILED A PLAQUE AT A CEREMONY TO MARK THE COMPLETION OF EXTENSION WORK OF AN OLD PEOPLE'S CENTRE IN KOWLOON CITY.

THE CENTRE, WHICH WAS OPENED EARLIER THIS YEAR AS A FOCAL POINT OF RECREATIONAL AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR OLD PEOPLE, HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO PROVIDE MORE FACILITIES.

NOW COVERING AN AREA OF OVER 280 SQUARE METRES (3 000 SQUARE FEET), THE CENTRE IS OPERATED BY THE CHRISTIAN NATIONALS' EVANGELISM COMMISSION. THE COST OF EXTENSION WAS MET BY CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE LIONS CLUB OF THE PEAK, HONG KONG.

SPEAKING AT THE CEREMONY, MR. LEE SAID THE JOINT EFFORTS TO EXTEND THE CENTRE REPRESENTED A GOOD EXAMPLE OF SUPPORT BY THE COMMUNITY AND THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR TO THE GOVERNMENT IN DEVELOPING SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY.

HE SAID THE CENTRE CLEARLY SERVED A REAL NEED IN THE AREA AS A LARGE NUMBER OF OLD PEOPLE HAD COME FORWARD TO MAKE USE OF THE FACILITIES SINCE THE CENTRE CAME INTO OPERATION.

UNDER THE EXTENSION PROJECT, HE SAID, THE SPACE OF THE CENTRE HAS ALMOST DOUBLED WITH THE ADDITION OF AN ENTIRE FLOOR FOR RECREATION ROOMS, TELEVISION ROOMS AND CANTEEN SERVICES.

+IT IS HOPED THAT THE PUBLIC WILL GIVE THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT SO THAT MORE OLD PEOPLE ARE ABLE TO ENJOY SOCIAL LIFE,+ HE SAID.

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IRD'S COMPLAINTS OFFICE MOVES TO WINDSOR HOUSE  
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THE SPECIAL COMPLAINTS OFFICE OF THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT WILL OPERATE FROM TODAY (MONDAY) IN A NEW OFFICE ON THE 26TH FLOOR OF WINDSOR HOUSE, CAUSEWAY BAY FOLLOWING THE MOVE FROM ICE HOUSE STREET LAST SATURDAY.

THE NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THE COMPLAINTS OFFICER, MRS. AGNES SIN LAW YUK LIN, IS 5-79595656 WHILE THE CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS, GPO BOX 11234, REMAINS UNCHANGED.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID: +TAXPAYERS MAY APPROACH THE COMPLAINTS OFFICER FOR HELP IF DELAYS OR DIFFICULTIES, OTHER THAN THOSE RELATING TO THE CORRECTNESS OF ASSESSMENTS OR THE LAW ITSELF, ARE EXPERIENCED AFTER THEIR INITIAL ENQUIRIES WITH THE OFFICERS HANDLING THEIR CASES FAIL TO RESOLVE THEIR PROBLEMS.+

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WORK ON WATER TREATMENT PLANT'S EXTENSION TO BEGIN SOON  
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CONSTRUCTION WILL BEGIN NEXT WEEK ON AN EXTENSION TO THE RED HILL WATER TREATMENT PLANT IN TAI TAM BAY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT SAID THE CONTRACT FOR THE EXTENSION WORK WAS SIGNED THIS (MONDAY) MORNING BETWEEN THE CHIEF ENGINEER, CONSTRUCTION, MR. LEE GUN-CHEUNG, AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE EXCEL ENGINEERING COMPANY LTD.

HE SAID THE EXTENSION, TO COPE WITH THE INCREASED DEMAND FOR WATER FROM STANLEY AND REPULSE BAY, WILL COST MORE THAN \$1.4 MILLION TO BUILD.

UPON COMPLETION, THE EXTENSION WILL INCREASE THE OUTPUT OF THE WATER TREATMENT WORKS FROM 6 300 CUBIC METRES TO 10 900 CUBIC METRES A DAY.

WORK ON THE PROJECT WILL TAKE 14 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN SHEUNG SHUI

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A SECTION OF LUNG SUM AVENUE BETWEEN SAN SHING AVENUE AND SAN HONG STREET IN SHEUNG SHUI WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 10 AM ON WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 19) FOR ABOUT EIGHT WEEKS FOR ROAD WORKS.

DURING THE CLOSURE, TRAFFIC WILL BE DIVERTED VIA SAN SHING AVENUE, SAN CHEUNG STREET AND SAN HONG STREET BEFORE REJOINING LUNG SUM AVENUE SOUTH OF THE SAN HONG STREET JUNCTION.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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WATER CUT

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES ON TSING YI ISLAND WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR SEVEN HOURS FROM 10 AM ON THURSDAY (DECEMBER 20) TO FACILITATE WATER MAIN WORKS.

THE PREMIES TO BE AFFECTED ARE TSING YI FIRE STATION, HONG KONG CEMENT FACTORY, CHEUNG CHING ESTATE, CHEUNG HONG ESTATE AND THOSE IN TSING YI TOWN CENTRE.

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