



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 1978

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NUMBER OF BUILDING PLANS APPROVED -- THE HIGHEST SINCE 1974  
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A TOTAL OF 795 NEW BUILDING PLANS WERE APPROVED IN 1977 -- THE HIGHEST NUMBER SINCE 1974, ACCORDING TO FIGURES ISSUED TODAY BY THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

DURING THE YEAR, THE TOTAL DECLARED COST OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED WAS \$2,435 MILLION, COMPARED WITH \$1,730 MILLION IN 1976.

THE TOTAL USABLE FLOOR AREA OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED WAS ABOUT 2.3 MILLION SQUARE METRES AS AGAINST 1.5 MILLION SQUARE METRES IN 1976.

IN DECEMBER LAST YEAR A TOTAL OF 71 BUILDING PLANS WERE APPROVED BY THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE COMPARED WITH 55 IN NOVEMBER.

OF THESE, 30 WERE FOR PROJECTS ON HONG KONG, 11 FOR KOWLOON AND 30 FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THEY INCLUDED A YOUTH CENTRE BETWEEN MANSION STREET AND MODEL STREET, A SCHOOL AT DUKE STREET, AN OIL TANK IN CHA KWO LING ROAD, A PIER AND FOOTBRIDGE AT YI LONG WAN, LANTAU ISLAND AND AN ELECTRIC SUB-STATION IN YUEN LONG.

THE TOTAL DECLARED COST OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED DURING THE MONTH WAS ABOUT \$170 MILLION.

THE TOTAL USABLE FLOOR AREA OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED IN DECEMBER WAS ABOUT 177,000 SQUARE METRES, COMPRISING 122,000 SQUARE METRES OF NON-DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA AND 55,000 SQUARE METRES OF DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA.

IN DECEMBER, THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE GAVE CONSENT FOR WORK TO START ON 56 NEW BUILDING PROJECTS, INCLUDING A HOSPITAL EXTENSION AT MOUNT KELLETT ROAD, A TEMPLE ON LANTAU ISLAND AND A SCHOOL IN YUEN LONG.

FIFTY-THREE NEWLY COMPLETED BUILDINGS WERE CERTIFIED FOR OCCUPATION DURING THE MONTH.

THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE ALSO CONSENTED TO THE DEMOLITION OF 31 BUILDINGS.

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HK GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO MEET IN LONDON  
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THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS, MR. DAVID JORDAN, LEFT FOR LONDON LAST (SATURDAY) NIGHT TO ATTEND A LIAISON MEETING WITH HONG KONG'S REPRESENTATIVES OVERSEAS.

THE TWO-DAY MEETING IS A ROUTINE ONE. THE DISCUSSIONS WILL COVER A WIDE RANGE OF SUBJECTS WHICH FALL WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT'S SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITIES.

OFFICIALS OF HONG KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN LONDON, BRUSSELS, GENEVA AND WASHINGTON WILL ATTEND THE MEETING.

ALSO ATTENDING WILL BE HONG KONG'S DIRECTOR OF TRADE, MR. LAWRENCE MILLS, WHO HAS BEEN IN EUROPE SINCE JANUARY 9 NEGOTIATING NEW TEXTILES AGREEMENTS WITH FINLAND, SWEDEN AND AUSTRIA.

WHILE IN LONDON, MR. JORDAN WILL TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO HOLD INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH BRITISH OFFICIALS FROM THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE.

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PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE RECIPIENTS  
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SPECIAL PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR RECIPIENTS OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND DISABILITY AND INFIRMITY ALLOWANCES WHOSE PAY DATES FALL ON THE LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE CORRESPONDING ADVANCE PAYMENT DATES FOR RECIPIENTS WITH COUPONS TO BE CASHED ON FEBRUARY 7, 8 AND 9 WILL NOW BE FEBRUARY 3 (FRIDAY), FEBRUARY 4 (SATURDAY) AND FEBRUARY 6 (MONDAY).

HE STRESSED: +THOSE INVOLVED SHOULD TAKE NOTE OF THEIR OWN PAYMENT DATES SO THAT THEY CAN GET THE ALLOWANCES BEFORE THE LUNAR NEW YEAR.+

AS BOTH THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND THE DISABILITY AND INFIRMITY ALLOWANCES WILL BE INCREASED BY ABOUT 11 PER CENT FROM NEXT MONTH, THE SPOKESMAN ALSO REMINDED RECIPIENTS TO BRING THEIR ORIGINAL CASH VOUCHER BOOKS AND THE SUPPLEMENTARY COUPONS WHEN COLLECTING PAYMENTS.

HE POINTED OUT THAT RECIPIENTS CURRENTLY RECEIVING PAYMENTS HAVE BEEN GIVEN SUPPLEMENTARY CASH COUPONS FOR THE ADDITIONAL SUM ACCORDING TO THE REVISED SCALE.

+RECIPIENTS WHO HAVE ANY DOUBTS OR QUERIES CONCERNING THE SCALE OR DATE OF PAYMENT SHOULD CONTACT THEIR RESPECTIVE SOCIAL SECURITY FIELD UNITS,+ HE ADDED.

THIS INCREASE IN SOCIAL WELFARE PAYMENTS, THE FIFTH REVISION SINCE THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SCHEME WAS INTRODUCED IN 1971, AIMS TO MAINTAIN THE PURCHASING POWER OF THE POORER SECTOR OF OUR COMMUNITY.

IN DECIDING THE SCALE OF REVISION, REFERENCE IS MADE TO THE MOVEMENT OF THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE INDEX WHICH COMPRISES ELEMENTS IN THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX SUCH AS FOOD, FUEL, LIGHTING AND CLOTHING IN PROPORTIONS REFLECTING THE SPENDING HABITS OF THE POORER FAMILIES.

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NEW OUTLETS IN NT FOR GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

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TWO NEW GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES OFFICES WILL COME INTO OPERATION IN THE NEW TERRITORIES ON WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 1).

THE TWO NEW OFFICES ARE IN THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT TOWN MANAGEMENT OFFICE, MAN NIN STREET, SAI KUNG HUI, AND IN THE KWAI CHUNG DISTRICT TOWN MANAGEMENT OFFICE, 31, KWONG FAT CIRCUIT, KWAI KING BUILDING, KWAI CHUNG.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY, +WE WILL NOW HAVE A TOTAL OF EIGHT SALES OUTLETS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, THUS MAKING IT MUCH EASIER FOR PEOPLE LIVING THERE TO OBTAIN GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.+

+THE TWO NEW OUTLETS COULD NOT HAVE BEEN CREATED WITHOUT THE ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE STAFF IN THE AREAS CONCERNED,+ HE ADDED.

THE OTHER SALES OUTLETS ARE LOCATED AT DISTRICT OFFICE HEADQUARTERS IN SHA TIN, TSUEN WAN, YUEN LONG, TUEN MUN AND SAI KUNG, AND AT THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY CENTRE IN SHEUNG SHUI.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CHAIN OF OUTLETS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES HAS BEEN INITIATED BY THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES AS PART OF AN OVERALL DRIVE TO EXTEND CUSTOMER SERVICES IN THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS FIELD.

A SIMILAR NETWORK HAS ALREADY BEEN ESTABLISHED TO SERVE THE URBAN AREAS THROUGH THE CREATION OF OUTLETS IN CITY DISTRICT OFFICES IN KOWLOON AND ON HONG KONG ISLAND.

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE FROM LEADING BOOKSHOPS AND FROM RECEPTION COUNTERS IN A NUMBER OF COMMERCIAL PREMISES.

THE VARIOUS +SATELLITE+ OUTLETS SUPPLEMENT THE MAIN SALE FACILITIES PROVIDED AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE NEW POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL. A FREE GUIDE TO THE LARGE NUMBER OF PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE CAN BE OBTAINED ON REQUEST FROM THE CENTRE.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN WONG TAI SIN AND SHATIN  
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THE SECTION OF LUNG CHEUNG ROAD BETWEEN SHATIN PASS ROAD AND FUNG MO STREET IN WONG TAI SIN WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC BETWEEN 1.30 A.M. AND 5 P.M. TOMORROW (MONDAY) TO FACILITATE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY WORKS.

DURING THE CLOSURE PERIOD, SOUTHBOUND TRAFFIC WILL BE DIVERTED VIA SHATIN PASS ROAD, TUNG TAU TSUEN ROAD AND FUNG MO STREET TO REJOIN LUNG CHEUNG ROAD.

NORTHBOUND TRAFFIC WILL BE DIVERTED VIA FUNG MO STREET, TUNG TAU TSUEN ROAD AND SHATIN PASS ROAD TO REJOIN LUNG CHEUNG ROAD.

TRAFFIC WILL BE TEMPORARILY ALLOWED TO TURN RIGHT FROM SHATIN PASS ROAD TO LUNG CHEUNG ROAD.

MEANWHILE, SHA TIN MARKET ROAD AT ITS JUNCTION WITH SHATIN BY-PASS WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 10 A.M. TOMORROW (MONDAY) UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

MOTORISTS PROCEEDING TO SHATIN MARKET FROM SHATIN BY-PASS ARE ADVISED TO USE A NEW ACCESS ROAD SITUATED ABOUT 450 FEET NORTH OF SHATIN MARKET ROAD.

PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM ENTERING THIS NEW ACCESS ROAD.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP IN THESE AREAS TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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