



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

TUESDAY, MAY 20, 1975.

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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING TOMORROW
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THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR. PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, WILL INTRODUCE A RESOLUTION INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) SEEKING APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMODITY EXCHANGE IN HONG KONG.

DURING QUESTION TIME, THE HON. HILTON CHEONG-LEEN WILL ASK WHAT IS BEING DONE TO ASSIMILATE SOME OF THE VIETNAMESE REFUGEES INTO THE HONG KONG SOCIETY.

HE WILL ALSO ASK WHAT STEPS ARE BEING TAKEN TO URGE COUNTRIES BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE COMMONWEALTH TO ACCEPT THE REMAINING REFUGEES.

OTHER QUESTIONS TO BE RAISED BY THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS WILL INCLUDE THE APPLICATION BY CHINA LIGHT AND POWER CO. LTD. FOR AN INCREASE IN ELECTRICITY CHARGES AND THE GROUNDS ON WHICH IT IS BASED= THE SETTING UP OF AN INTER-DEPARTMENTAL WORKING PARTY TO DEVISE MEANS OF PROVIDING ADEQUATE POSTAL SERVICES TO RESITE AREAS AND THE STEPS TO BE TAKEN TO REDUCE THE INCIDENCE OF HEPATITIS.

THREE BILLS WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TOMORROW. THEY ARE THE INLAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT) (NO. 4) BILL 1975, THE PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES (EXTENSION OF GRANTS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1975 AND THE SUMMARY OFFENCES (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1975.

DEBATE WILL BE RESUMED ON TWO OTHER BILLS -- THE INLAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT) (NO. 3) BILL 1975 AND THE LOANS BILL 1975.

DEBATE ON AN UNOFFICIAL MEMBER'S BILL -- THE BISHOP OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH IN HONG KONG INCORPORATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1975 -- WILL ALSO BE RESUMED.

SESSIONAL PAPERS TABLED WILL BE THE ANNUAL REPORT BY THE COMMISSIONER OF THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION 1974 AND THE SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS APPROVED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL DURING THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1974/75.

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SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAMME FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN
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TEN SCHOOLS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES AND ON VARIOUS OUTLYING ISLANDS WILL BE OPEN TO SCHOOLCHILDREN AS CAMP SITES IN THE COMING SUMMER VACATION.

THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, CURRENTLY ENGAGED IN THE PLANNING OF THIS YEAR'S SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAMME, IS GIVING SPECIAL PRIORITIES TO CAMPING ACTIVITIES AS THEY PROVED A BIG ATTRACTION TO STUDENTS IN PAST YEARS.

SOME 425 SCHOOLCHILDREN FROM VARIOUS PARTS OF HONG KONG ARE EXPECTED TO SHARE THE FUN AND EXCITEMENT IN THE CAMPS WHICH OFFER A WIDE RANGE OF ACTIVITIES INCLUDING CANOEING, SWIMMING, HIKING AND VARIOUS KINDS OF BALL GAMES.

AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID: +THE OBJECT OF THE CAMPS IS TO ENABLE SCHOOLS TO EXTEND CLASSROOM THEORY INTO FIELDWORK IN SUCH SUBJECTS AS GEOGRAPHY, BIOLOGY, BOTANY, ZOOLOGY AND SURVEYING COUPLED WITH AN ADDED FLAVOUR OF RECREATION.+

AS IN PREVIOUS YEARS, THE DEPARTMENT HAS SENT OUT CIRCULARS TO ALL PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS, ASKING THEM TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS TO FINANCE THOSE SUMMER ACTIVITIES WHICH WILL WIDEN THE SCOPE OF THE SCHOOLS' NORMAL PROGRAMMES AND ENRICH PUPILS' MINDS AND BODIES.

LAST YEAR, 582 OUT OF THE 1,112 SCHOOLS PARTICIPATING IN THE DEPARTMENT'S SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAMME RECEIVED GRANTS MADE AVAILABLE FROM FUNDS DONATED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB.

OTHER ACTIVITIES LISTED IN THE INITIAL PLANNING OF THIS YEAR'S PROGRAMME COMPRISE AN OUTDOOR PAINTING AND DRAWING CONTEST, FENCING TRAINING AND COACHING COURSES AS WELL AS DAY-CAMPS FOR HANDICAPPED SCHOOLCHILDREN.

IN ADDITION, THERE WILL ALSO BE GUIDED TOURS OF SOME GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS. THE IDEA BEHIND THE TOURS IS TO FAMILIARISE STUDENTS WITH THE DAY-TO-DAY WORKING OF THE GOVERNMENT. AT THE SAME TIME, THEY WILL ENABLE STUDENTS TO KNOW BETTER THE CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN THE CIVIL SERVICE.

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29 COMPLAINTS AGAINST SCHOOLS
STILL BEING INVESTIGATED
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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S ACTION COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL TEXTBOOKS AND SUPPLIES IS STILL ACTIVELY INVESTIGATING 29 CASES OF COMPLAINTS AGAINST SCHOOLS.

SINCE THE COMMITTEE WAS SET UP IN DECEMBER 1974, IT HAS RECEIVED A TOTAL OF 206 COMPLAINTS AGAINST 160 SCHOOLS. OF THESE, 101 WERE SUBSTANTIATED AND RESOLVED WHILE THE ALLEGATIONS MADE IN 76 CASES WERE UNSUBSTANTIATED.

NONE OF THE COMPLAINTS INVOLVED ANY GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS. TWENTY-NINE OF THE 206 COMPLAINTS WERE MADE AGAINST 29 AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS, FIVE AGAINST AIDED SECONDARIES, 70 AGAINST PRIVATE KINDERGARTENS, 10 AGAINST PRIVATE PRIMARIES, 90 AGAINST PRIVATE SECONDARIES AND TWO AGAINST VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE COMMITTEE SAID: +THESE NUMBERS SHOULD BE SEEN IN RELATION TO THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SCHOOLS TO GIVE A BALANCED PICTURE, THUS THE 206 COMPLAINTS INVOLVING ONLY 160 SCHOOLS REPRESENT SIX PERCENT OF 2,659 SCHOOLS IN OPERATION+

MEANWHILE, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE ADVISED THAT IF THEY WISH TO GIVE DETAILED AND CIRCUMSTANTIAL INFORMATION RELATING TO PRACTICES CONCERNING TEXTBOOKS AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES THEY MAY DO SO BY CONTACTING THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY (REGISTRATION), EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS, ON TELEPHONE NO. 5-778311 EXT. 254 OR WRITE DIRECT TO THE CHAIRMAN, MR. COLVYN HAYE. HIS OFFICE IS IN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, LEE GARDENS, 3RD FLOOR, HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY, HONG KONG.

IT IS STRESSED THAT MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE FREE TO APPROACH THE CONSUMER COUNCIL DIRECT ON THESE MATTERS IF THEY WISHED.

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RENEWAL OF CLOSED ROAD PERMITS

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL NEXT WEEK RENEW CLOSED ROAD PERMITS ISSUED TO VEHICLES FOR USE ON LANTAU ISLAND.

PERMITS WILL BE RENEWED AT THE ISLAND'S CHEUNG SHA POLICE HEADQUARTERS ON THURSDAY, MAY 29 WHEN A TRANSPORT OFFICER WILL BE STATIONED THERE ALL DAY TO PROCESS RENEWAL.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT TODAY URGED PERMIT HOLDERS TO CALL AT CHEUNG SHA EARLIER ON THAT DAY TO ENSURE SMOOTH PROCESSING.

THEY MUST BRING ALONG THE PERMIT TOGETHER WITH THE VEHICLE REGISTRATION BOOK IF THE VEHICLE IS LICENSED FOR USE ON LANTAU ISLAND ONLY, HE SAID.

IN CASES WHERE THE VEHICLE IS LICENSED FOR USE IN URBAN AREAS, THE PERMIT HOLDER MUST ALSO PRODUCE THE VEHICLE ITSELF APART FROM THE VEHICLE REGISTRATION BOOK AND PERMIT.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID ONLY RENEWAL OF EXISTING PERMITS WOULD BE DEALT WITH ON MAY 29 AND NO NEW APPLICATIONS FOR PERMITS WOULD BE ENTERTAINED.

PERMITS ISSUED FOR GOVERNMENT VEHICLES OR FOR CARS OWNED BY GOVERNMENT STAFF WILL BE RENEWED THROUGH THEIR RESPECTIVE DEPARTMENTS.

ALL CLOSED ROAD PERMITS FOR USE ON LANTAU ISLAND ARE DUE TO EXPIRE AT THE END OF THIS MONTH.

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LEK YUEN ESTATE READY FOR OCCUPATION SOON
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LEK YUEN ESTATE -- HOUSING AUTHORITY'S FIRST PUBLIC HOUSING IN SHA TIN -- WILL BE READY FOR OCCUPATION IN A FEW WEEKS AND ITS FIRST TENANTS ARE EXPECTED TO MOVE IN EARLY NEXT MONTH.

AN ESTATE OFFICE HAS JUST BEEN SET UP AND THE STAFF ARE BUSY IN ARRANGING FOR THE INTAKE OF NEW TENANTS.

INITIALLY, ABOUT 100 FLATS IN BLOCK 7 OF THE ESTATE WILL BE LET. THE PROCESS WILL CONTINUE WHEN MORE UNITS IN THE SAME BLOCK AND IN ADJOINING BLOCK 6 BECOME AVAILABLE.

LEK YUEN, WHICH IS ONLY A FEW HUNDRED YARDS FROM THE SHA TIN RAILWAY STATION AND NOT FAR FROM THE SHA TIN END OF THE LION ROCK TUNNEL, WILL HAVE A POPULATION OF OVER 20,000 PEOPLE ON COMPLETION IN 1976.

THE FIRST TWO BLOCKS WILL PROVIDE 1,150 SELF-CONTAINED FLATS FOR ABOUT 7,400 PEOPLE.

FIVE OTHER MULTI-STORY BLOCKS PROVIDING 3,000 MORE UNITS FOR 15,500 PEOPLE ARE EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR.

THE ESTATE WILL HAVE ALL KINDS OF SOCIAL, EDUCATIONAL AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES. THERE WILL BE KINDERGARTENS AND SCHOOLS, WELFARE CENTRES, CLINICS, POST OFFICE, FIRE STATION, POLICE POST, PUBLIC PLAYGROUNDS AND A LARGE COMMERCIAL CENTRE.

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