



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1978

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16 QUESTIONS TO BE RAISED BY UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS
AT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING
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UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL ASK A TOTAL OF 16 QUESTIONS AT THE COUNCIL MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE HON. HILTON CHEONG-LEEN WILL ASK TO WHAT EXTENT THE RECENT INDUSTRIAL ACTION BY POLICE INTERPRETERS HAS CAUSED DELAY IN COURT PROCEEDINGS AND WHAT MEASURES THE GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN TO RECTIFY THE SITUATION.

THE HON. ALEX WU IS TO ASK IF THE GOVERNMENT HAS ANY PLANS TO PROVIDE DECOMPRESSING FACILITIES FOR DIVERS IN DISTRESS IN VIEW OF THE INCREASING POPULARITY OF UNDERWATER DIVING ACTIVITIES.

ON TRANSPORT, THE HON. PETER C. WONG WILL ASK IF THE GOVERNMENT IS SATISFIED THAT ADEQUATE BUS SERVICES ARE BEING PROVIDED FOR COMMUTERS IN CENTRAL AND, IF NOT, WHAT STEPS ARE BEING TAKEN TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION.

THE HON. FRANCIS TIEN IS TO ASK IF THE GOVERNMENT IS AWARE OF THE INITIAL DIFFICULTIES BEING EXPERIENCED BY THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT IN TRYING TO REACH PREMISES TO DEAL EFFECTIVELY WITH FIRE OR OTHER CALAMITY AND, IF SO, IF IT WILL STATE WHAT ACTION IS BEING TAKEN TO ENSURE THAT FIRE APPLIANCES AND AMBULANCES ARE NOT IMPEDED BY TRAFFIC CONGESTION CAUSED BY ON-STREET PARKING AND OTHER OBSTRUCTIONS.

THE REV. THE HON. JOYCE M. BENNETT WILL ALSO ASK THE GOVERNMENT TO STATE WHAT ACTION IS BEING TAKEN BY THE POLICE TO EFFECT THE REMOVAL OF BROKEN AND ABANDONED VEHICLES AND OTHER OBSTRUCTIONS WHICH IMPEDE PEDESTRIAN AND VEHICULAR TRAFFIC ON MANY PAVEMENTS AND ROADS.

OTHER QUESTIONS TO BE RAISED BY UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS CONCERN MEDICAL FACILITIES FOR SHA TIN, COMMUNITY FACILITIES FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, LABORATORY FACILITIES IN GOVERNMENT AND AIDED SCHOOLS AND THE RELAXATION OF SPEED LIMIT IN THE HARBOUR FOR MORE SPEEDY CROSS-HARBOUR FERRY SERVICES.

THREE BILLS WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS TOMORROW. THEY ARE THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (AMENDMENT)(NO. 4) BILL 1978, THE DUTIABLE COMMODITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1979 AND THE ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT)(NO. 4) BILL 1978.

SEVERAL COUNCILLORS WILL SPEAK ON THE MATTER OF +WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ORDINANCE IN RELATION TO CONSUMER PROTECTION+ TO BE RAISED BY THE HON. ALEX WU.

THREE SESSIONAL PAPERS -- THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE, HONG KONG 1977-78= THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HONG KONG EXPORT CREDIT INSURANCE CORPORATION 1977-78 AND THE ACCOUNTS OF THE LOTTERIES FUND 1978 -- WILL BE TABLED.

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'KEEP CHRISTMAS HAPPY AND SAFE FROM FIRE'

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'KEEP CHRISTMAS HAPPY AND SAFE FROM FIRE' IS THE MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT AS THE FESTIVE SEASON DRAWS NEAR.

DURING CHRISTMAS EVERY STEP MUST BE TAKEN TO PREVENT THE SLIGHTEST RISK OF STARTING A FIRE, A FIRE SERVICES SPOKESMAN APPEALED TO THE PUBLIC TODAY (TUESDAY).

+CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS, TREES, COLOURED LIGHTS AND GIFT WRAPPINGS OFTEN ADD TO THE FIRE HAZARDS IN THE HOME,+ THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT.

+THE SITUATION IS AGGRAVATED BY THE LOW HUMIDITY WHICH DRIES OUT EVERYTHING THAT WILL BURN,+ HE WARNED.

THE SPOKESMAN SUGGESTED THE FOLLOWING BASIC FIRE PREVENTION GUIDELINES TO TAKE AT HOME:

- * USE NON-COMBUSTIBLE DECORATING MATERIALS WHERE POSSIBLE.
- * PLASTIC ARTIFICIAL CHRISTMAS TREES CAN BURN, SO KEEP THEM WELL AWAY FROM SOURCES OF HEAT.
- * CHECK ALL TREE LIGHTING SETS, ELECTRIC CANDLES AND SIMILAR LIGHTING EQUIPMENT AS WELL AS EXTENSION CORDS FOR FRAYED WIRES, LOOSE CONNECTIONS AND BROKEN SOCKETS. NEVER USE LIGHTED WAX CANDLES ON OR NEAR ANY TREE.
- * DISPOSE GIFT WRAPPINGS AND BOXES PROMPTLY AND SAFELY.
- * DON'T SMOKE NEAR THE TREE, AMID DECORATIONS AND WRAPPINGS AND BE SURE THERE ARE PLENTY OF LARGE AND SAFE ASHTRAYS AT HAND.
- * SUPERVISE SMALL CHILDREN PLAYING NEAR THE TREE AND KEEP MATCHES, LIGHTERS AND CANDLES OUT OF THEIR REACH.
- * TURN OFF ALL TREE AND OTHER INDOOR HOLIDAY LIGHTING BEFORE GOING TO BED OR LEAVING THE HOUSE.

THE SPOKESMAN FURTHER ADVISED ALL RESTAURANTS, NIGHTCLUBS AND DEPARTMENT STORES TO DOUBLE FIRE PRECAUTIONS DURING THE HOLIDAY PERIOD WHEN LARGE CROWDS ARE EXPECTED.

+IN SUCH PREMISES,+ HE SAID, +CHRISTMAS CROWDS MAY EASILY LEAD TO PANIC IN CASE OF FIRE AND IT IS THEREFORE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO KEEP ALL EXIT ROUTES CLEARLY MARKED AND FREE OF OBSTRUCTION.+

FIRE SERVICES OFFICERS HAVE ALREADY STARTED THEIR ROUNDS OF INSPECTION TO ALL PUBLIC PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT TO ADVISE ON FIRE PREVENTION AND TO ENSURE THAT FIRE SAFETY STANDARDS ARE BEING PROPERLY MAINTAINED.

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SPEECH CONTEST ON FIRE PREVENTION
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AN INTER-AREA COMMITTEE CHINESE SPEECH CONTEST ON FIRE PREVENTION IN WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT WILL BE HELD AT 8 P.M. TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AT THE WONG TAI SIN COMMUNITY CENTRE, CHING TAK STREET, WONG TAI SIN.

ORGANISED BY THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (WONG TAI SIN), THE CONTEST IS AIMED AT AROUSING THE RESIDENTS' AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF FIRE PREVENTION IN WINTER.

THE 12 MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES IN WONG TAI SIN WILL EACH NOMINATE A REPRESENTATIVE TO SPEAK EITHER ON +HOW TO PUBLICISE AND CARRY OUT FIRE PREVENTION+ OR +IT IS THE DUTY OF THE CITIZENS TO HELP IN PREVENTING FIRE+.

ON THE PANEL OF JUDGES WILL BE MR. LAM KAM-KWONG, CITY DISTRICT OFFICER (WONG TAI SIN), MR. TAM HON-CHEUNG OF THE FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU, MR. YU WAH-CHI, POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICER (AUXILIARY), MR. LAI CHARM-KAN, COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICER (WONG TAI SIN), MR. CHAN YIN-LUI, RECREATION AND SPORT OFFICER (WONG TAI SIN) AND MR. LAM CHUNG-LUNG, HEALTH INSPECTOR.

THERE WILL BE FOUR PRIZES AND WINNERS WILL EACH RECEIVE A SHIELD.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE INTER-AREA COMMITTEE CHINESE SPEECH CONTEST ON FIRE PREVENTION WHICH WILL BE HELD AT THE WONG TAI SIN COMMUNITY CENTRE, CHING TAK STREET, WONG TAI SIN, AT 8 P.M. TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

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CAS CADET CORPS TO CELEBRATE 10TH ANNIVERSARY
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THE CIVIL AID SERVICES CADET CORPS WILL CELEBRATE ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY DURING ITS ANNUAL FOUR-DAY JOINT CAMP AT THE YMCA WU KWAI SHA YOUTH VILLAGE FROM DECEMBER 27-30.

ABOUT 1,000 CADETS FROM 20 UNITS THROUGHOUT HONG KONG WILL TAKE PART.

A FULL PROGRAMME OF OUTDOOR AND WATER ACTIVITIES, GAMES AND COMPETITIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED TO FURTHER PROMOTE FRIENDSHIP AND SPIRIT OF CO-OPERATION.

AN OPEN DAY WILL ALSO BE HELD ON THURSDAY (DECEMBER 28) FOR SENIOR CAS OFFICIALS AS WELL AS MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES TO VISIT THE CAMP SITE AND WATCH THE COMPETITIONS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE OPEN DAY OF THE CIVIL AID SERVICES CADET CORPS ANNUAL FOUR-DAY CAMP AT THE YMCA WU KWAI SHA YOUTH VILLAGE ON THURSDAY (DECEMBER 28).

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WISHING TO COVER THIS EVENT, WHICH COINCIDES WITH THE CADET CORPS' 10TH ANNIVERSARY, ARE REQUESTED TO REPORT TO MR. WONG SZE-KEUNG, TRAINING OFFICER, AT 9 A.M. AT CAS HEADQUARTERS, 100 CAROLINE HILL ROAD, HONG KONG, OR MR. TSANG KWOK-KEUNG, TRAINING OFFICER, AT 9.30 A.M. AT THE CAS KOWLOON TRAINING CENTRE, 204 ARGYLE STREET, ON DECEMBER 28.

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SHA TIN INDUSTRIAL SITE SOLD FOR \$50.2 MILLION
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TWO ADJOINING INDUSTRIAL SITES AT FO TAN IN SHA TIN NEW TOWN WERE SOLD TODAY (TUESDAY) FOR A TOTAL OF \$50.2 MILLION AT A PUBLIC AUCTION.

ONE SITE OF 2,966 SQ. METRES FETCHED \$25.6 MILLION AND THE SECOND SITE OF 2,821 SQ. METRES WAS KNOCKED DOWN FOR \$24.6 MILLION.

BOTH WERE PURCHASED BY SHUI KAI CO. LTD. AFTER COMPETITIVE BIDDING AT THE AUCTION HELD IN THE SHA TIN GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL.

THE LARGER SITE REALISED \$8,631 PER SQ. METRE AND THE SECOND SITE, \$8,720 PER SQ. METRE, ONLY marginally lower than the new territories record price paid for a site in the same area last (NOVEMBER) MONTH.

HOWEVER, THE SENIOR ESTATE SURVEYOR OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE, MR. ROGER THOMPSON SAID THE PRICES PAID AT TODAY'S AUCTION WERE IN LINE WITH THE SPECIAL CONDITIONS ATTACHED TO THE SITES.

+BOTH LOTS HAVE PROVISIONS FOR AT LEAST TWO FLOORS WITH HIGH CEILING CLEARANCES AND HEAVIER FLOOR LOADING CAPACITY,+ MR. THOMPSON SAID.

+THESE CONDITIONS WOULD ADD TO THE COST OF DEVELOPMENT AND THE BIDDERS WOULD HAVE TAKEN THIS INTO CONSIDERATION.+

MR. THOMPSON ADDED THAT THE CONDITIONS WOULD ALLOW FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TWO SITES AS A WHOLE.

+THE CONDITIONS WERE INCLUDED TO ALLOW A DIVERSITY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND THE BUILDINGS, WHEN COMPLETED, WILL BE ABLE TO ACCOMMODATE INDUSTRIES, SUCH AS SILK WEAVING, WHICH NORMALLY FIND IT DIFFICULT TO OPERATE IN REGULAR HIGH-RISE INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS.

+TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE SPECIAL CONDITIONS AND GENERAL MARKET CONSIDERATIONS, THE PRICES REFLECTED A CONTINUING AND STABLE MARKET FOR INDUSTRIAL LAND IN THE NEW TOWN,+ HE SAID.

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D.S.W. TO INAUGURATE SPECIAL BUS SERVICE FOR OLD PEOPLE
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THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) WILL INAUGURATE A TRANSPORT SERVICE SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR OLD PEOPLE.

THE SERVICE, RUN BY THE HONG KONG SOCIETY FOR THE AGED, IS EXPECTED TO SERVE 14,000 OLD PEOPLE EACH YEAR.

AT A CEREMONY TO BE HELD OUTSIDE QUEEN'S PIER IN CENTRAL, MR. LEE WILL RECEIVE, ON BEHALF OF THE SOCIETY, A BUS FROM THE HONG KONG COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING CO. LTD. AND LATER CUT THE RIBBON TO MARK THE INAUGURATION OF THE SERVICE.

THE 50-SEATER BUS, WITH SPECIAL EQUIPMENT FOR OLD PEOPLE'S COMFORT AND TO FACILITATE THEIR ACCESS, WAS DONATED BY THE BROADCASTING COMPANY.

AFTER THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY, A GROUP OF 50 OLD PEOPLE WILL TRAVEL ON THE SPECIAL BUS FOR A TRIP TO OCEAN PARK.

THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S CASTLE PEAK BOYS' HOME WILL PROVIDE A BAND AND SCOUTS TO ENTERTAIN AND HELP THE OLD PEOPLE.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF A SPECIAL TRANSPORT SERVICE FOR THE ELDERLY, WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AT 11.30 A.M. OUTSIDE QUEEN'S PIER IN CENTRAL. THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE CEREMONY.

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SEVEN DAYS PAID ANNUAL LEAVE

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) REMINDED EMPLOYERS WHO HAVE NOT YET GRANTED SEVEN DAYS PAID ANNUAL LEAVE TO STAFF ENTITLED TO IT THAT THEY SHOULD DO SO BEFORE THE YEAR ENDS.

+ALL MANUAL WORKERS, AND THOSE NON-MANUAL EMPLOYEES EARNING NOT MORE THAN \$2,000 A MONTH WHO HAVE COMPLETED A YEAR'S CONTINUOUS EMPLOYMENT WITH ONE EMPLOYER BY DECEMBER 31, 1977, ARE ENTITLED TO PAID ANNUAL LEAVE DURING 1978,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE SEVEN DAYS ANNUAL LEAVE WILL BE IN ADDITION TO THE 10 STATUTORY HOLIDAYS.

+HOWEVER,+ HE SAID, +THE LAW HAS BEEN MADE FLEXIBLE SO THAT A COMBINATION OF PAID ANNUAL LEAVE WITH STATUTORY HOLIDAYS OR REST DAYS TO FORM A TOTAL OF SEVEN CONSECUTIVE DAYS IS ALLOWED.

+IN SUCH A CASE, THE BALANCE OF THE ANNUAL LEAVE CAN THEN BE GRANTED AS INDIVIDUAL PAID HOLIDAYS TO BE FIXED BY THE EMPLOYER IN CONSULTATION WITH THE EMPLOYEE.

+ON TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT, AN EMPLOYEE MUST BE GIVEN PRO RATA ANNUAL LEAVE PAY EXCEPT WHERE HIS RELEVANT PERIOD OF EMPLOYMENT IS LESS THAN THREE MONTHS, OR IF HE IS DISMISSED FOR MISCONDUCT WITHOUT HAVING PREVIOUSLY COMPLETED 12 MONTHS OF CONTINUOUS EMPLOYMENT.

+APART FROM THESE CIRCUMSTANCES PAYMENT IN LIEU OF LEAVE IS PROHIBITED,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE LAW ALSO REQUIRES AN EMPLOYER TO KEEP RECORDS OF ANNUAL LEAVE TAKEN BY HIS STAFF.

A LEAFLET EXPLAINING THE PROVISIONS OF REST DAYS, STATUTORY HOLIDAYS AND PAID ANNUAL LEAVE IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE CAN BE OBTAINED FREE OF CHARGE FROM ALL LABOUR DEPARTMENT OFFICES.

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EIGHT OUT-PATIENT CLINICS OPEN DURING CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
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THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT EIGHT GOVERNMENT OUT-PATIENT CLINICS WILL REMAIN OPEN DURING THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS FROM DECEMBER 24 TO 26 FROM 9 A.M. TO 1 P.M. DAILY.

THEY ARE THE VIOLET PEEL POLYCLINIC AND THE SHAU KEI WAN JOCKEY CLUB CLINIC ON HONG KONG ISLAND= THE KWUN TONG JOCKEY CLUB CLINIC, THE YAU MA TEI JOCKEY CLUB CLINIC AND THE ROBERT BLACK HEALTH CENTRE IN KOWLOON= AND THE LADY TRENCH POLYCLINIC IN TSUEN WAN, THE YUEN LONG JOCKEY CLUB HEALTH CENTRE AND THE SHEK WU HUI JOCKEY CLUB CLINIC IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

ALL OTHER GOVERNMENT OUT-PATIENT CLINICS AND EVENING CLINICS WILL BE CLOSED DURING THOSE THREE DAYS.

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POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS DURING CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR
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THE POST OFFICE ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THERE WILL BE NO MAIL DELIVERY ON CHRISTMAS DAY (DECEMBER 25). ALL POST OFFICES WILL ALSO BE CLOSED ON THAT DAY.

HOWEVER, A POST OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID THERE WILL BE TWO MAIL DELIVERIES ON DECEMBER 24 (SUNDAY), ONE ON DECEMBER 26 (TUESDAY) AND ONE ON NEW YEAR'S DAY (JANUARY 1).

IN ADDITION, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, 32 POST OFFICES INCLUDING THE GENERAL POST OFFICE, THE KOWLOON CENTRAL POST OFFICE AND THE TSIM SHA TSUI POST OFFICE WILL BE OPEN FOR COUNTER BUSINESS FROM 9 A.M. TO NOON ON DECEMBER 26 AND JANUARY 1. ALL OTHER POST OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED.

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