



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1975

COMPOSTING PLANT AT CHAI WAN: FIRST STEP TAKEN

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING PRELIMINARY APPLICATIONS FROM CONTRACTORS AND EQUIPMENT SUPPLIERS INTERESTED IN SETTING UP A MULTI-MILLION-DOLLAR PULVERISING AND COMPOSTING PLANT AT CHAI WAN.

THE PROPOSED PLANT, THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN HONG KONG, WILL PROVIDE AN ECONOMICAL AND +CLEAN+ SYSTEM FOR DISPOSING OF THE INCREASING VOLUME OF REFUSE GENERATED BY THE GROWTH OF HONG KONG.

PRE-QUALIFICATION TENDERS ARE BEING CALLED ON AN INTERNATIONAL BASIS AND PROSPECTIVE TENDERERS ARE BEING ASKED TO SUBMIT DETAILED PROPOSALS ON THE DESIGN, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF THE PLANT.

MR. HARRY STUBBS, CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE P.W.D.'S ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL OFFICE, SAID TODAY FORMAL TENDERS FOR THE PLANT WOULD BE CALLED IN MAY NEXT YEAR.

+CONSTRUCTION WORK AND FABRICATION OF EQUIPMENT IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN BY EARLY 1977 AND THE WHOLE PLANT SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY MID-1978,+ HE SAID.

MR. STUBBS SAID THE PLANT WOULD INITIALLY BE CAPABLE OF DISPOSING OF 240 TONNES OF MIXED URBAN REFUSE PER DAY. +BUT EVENTUALLY WE HOPE TO DOUBLE ITS CAPACITY TO HANDLE ABOUT 480 TONNES OF RUBBISH DAILY,+ HE ADDED.

COMMENTING ON THE PLANT, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE P.W.D.'S CONSULTANTS MANAGEMENT DIVISION, SAID ONE BIG ADVANTAGE OF THE COMPOSTING PROCESS -- WHICH BASICALLY INVOLVES THE BREAKING DOWN AND TREATMENT OF SOLID WASTES INTO HYGIENICALLY SAFE, INERT AND INOFFENSIVE MATERIAL -- WAS THAT IT DID NOT CAUSE ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

+ANOTHER IMPORTANT ADVANTAGE IS THAT THE SOLID WASTE IS REDUCED TO ONE-FOURTH OF ITS ORIGINAL VOLUME AND REDUCED TO TWO-THIRDS ITS ORIGINAL WEIGHT, THEREBY FACILITATING TRANSPORTATION TO LANDFILL AREAS,+ HE SAID.

+MOREOVER, THE COMPOSTED WASTE CAN BE COLLECTED AND STORED AND ALLOWED TO MATURE FOR A FEW DAYS AND THEN USED AS INTERMEDIATE AND FINAL COVER MATERIAL IN CONTROLLED TIPPING OPERATIONS WHERE AVAILABILITY OF SUITABLE COVER MATERIAL MAY BE LIMITED.+

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THERE WAS ALSO A POSSIBILITY THAT THE MATURED COMPOST MIXED WITH TOPSOIL COULD BE USED AS A FERTILISER FOR TURFING AND GRASSING.

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HE STRESSED, HOWEVER, THAT THE PLANT WOULD FUNCTION PRIMARILY AS A WASTE DISPOSAL UNIT AND THE PRODUCTION OF COMPOST WOULD ONLY BE SECONDARY.

+THE NEW FACILITY WILL BE AN IMPORTANT ADDITIONAL ASSET IN SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL ON HONG KONG ISLAND ESPECIALLY SINCE THE KENNEDY TOWN INCINERATOR IS ALREADY WORKING TO CAPACITY,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

AT PRESENT, SOME 760 TONNES OF RUBBISH ARE COLLECTED EACH DAY ON THE ISLAND. OF THIS, 520 TONNES ARE BURNT AT THE KENNEDY TOWN INCINERATOR PLANT WHILE THE REST IS DUMPED AS FILL MATERIAL AT THE GIN DRINKER'S BAY CONTROLLED TIP.

+HOWEVER, ESTIMATES INDICATE THAT THE AMOUNT OF SURPLUS REFUSE WILL INCREASE IN THE YEARS AHEAD AND MEANS MUST BE FOUND OF COPING WITH IT.

+THE NEED FOR FURTHER AND BETTER REFUSE DISPOSAL FACILITIES HAS LONG BEEN RECOGNISED AND THE PULVERISING AND COMPOSTING PLANT IS ONE OF THESE,+ HE SAID.

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OCEAN PARK VISIT ARRANGED FOR RETARDED CHILDREN

ABOUT 100 CHILDREN AND STAFF OF THE KAI CHI CHILDREN'S CENTRE WILL SPEND A FUN-FILLED AFTERNOON NEXT TUESDAY (DECEMBER 16) AT THE OCEAN PARK IN WONG CHUK HANG.

KAI CHI CHILDREN'S CENTRE IS A REHABILITATION INSTITUTION FOR THE MENTALLY-RETARDED.

THE VISIT, WHICH STARTS AT 3 P.M. , WILL INCLUDE A SHOW BY THE SEA LIONS NOW UNDERGOING TRAINING.

MR. KWOK CHEUNG, THE ADMINISTRATION MANAGER OF OCEAN PARK, OFFERS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THE CHILDREN AS A GOODWILL GESTURE TO THE LESS FORTUNATE IN THE COMING FESTIVE SEASON.

THE VISIT ON TUESDAY IS THE FIRST OF A SERIES OFFERED TO HANDICAPPED CHILDREN UNDER THE CARE OF VARIOUS REHABILITATION CENTRES AND INSTITUTIONS RUN BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

VISITS WILL BE ARRANGED EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY UNTIL JANUARY 21 NEXT YEAR.

NOTE TO EDITORS: YOU ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE VISIT ON TUESDAY. TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED. YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE ASKED TO CONTACT THE PUBLIC RELATIONS UNIT ON 4TH FLOOR, LEE GARDENS, BEFORE 2.30 P.M.

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1975

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COLDEST DAY IN ANY NOVEMBER SINCE 1922
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HONG KONG LAST MONTH EXPERIENCED ITS COLDEST DAY IN ANY NOVEMBER FOR 59 YEARS.

THE MINIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 3.5 DEGREES CELSIUS RECORDED BY THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY ON NOVEMBER 24 WAS THE LOWEST IN ANY NOVEMBER SINCE 1922. IT ALSO RANKED AS THE FOURTH LOWEST ON RECORD FOR NOVEMBER.

THE TEMPERATURES AT TAI MO SHAN AND TATE'S CAIRN THAT MORNING WERE 0.2 DEGREE CELSIUS AND 2.5 DEGREES CELSIUS RESPECTIVELY. HOWEVER, NEITHER FROST NOR ICE FORMATION WAS REPORTED.

IN GENERAL, THE MONTH WAS ONLY SLIGHTLY COOLER THAN NORMAL.

LAST MONTH WAS MUCH DRIER THAN USUAL. THE RAINFALL RECORDED AMOUNTED TO ONLY 17.4 MM, WHICH IS ONLY 40 PER CENT OF THE AVERAGE FIGURE FOR NOVEMBER.

THE ACCUMULATED RAINFALL SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR, HOWEVER, IS STILL 39 PER CENT ABOVE NORMAL.

DURING THE MONTH, FOUR TROPICAL CYCLONES WERE REPORTED OVER THE WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC AND THE SOUTH CHINA SEA, BUT NONE CAME CLOSE ENOUGH TO THREATEN HONG KONG.

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