DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

SUNDAY, JULY 9, 1978

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GOVERNMENT TO LAUNCH MASSIVE MUSIC TRAINING PROGRAMME

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THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL LAUNCH A HONG KONG-WIDE TRAINING PROGRAMME IN INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC FOR YOUNG STUDENTS IN OCTOBER THIS YEAR.

UNDER THE PROGRAMME, PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS AS WELL AS YOUNG PEOPLE UNDER 23 YEARS OF AGE WILL BE SELECTED AND TRAINED IN INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC BY THE OFFICE.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT 1,500 PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS, AGED BETWEEN SIX AND 11, AND 1,000 SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE WILL RECEIVE TRAINING ON BOTH CHINESE AND WESTERN ORCHESTRAL INSTRUMENTS.

THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR, MR. GORDON SIU SAID: +MANY YOUNG MUSICIANS IN HONG KONG ARE NOT ONLY GIFTED BUT ALSO DEDICATED AND HARDWORKING. GIVEN SUITABLE TRAINING, THEY WILL MATURE INTO MUSICIANS OF THE HIGHEST STANDARD AND THEIR MUSIC WILL BRING JOY TO MANY.+

HE EXPECTS THAT THE NUMBER OF YOUNG PEOPLE TAKING PART IN THE TRAINING PROGRAMME WILL BE DOUBLED NEXT YEAR.

MUSIC TRAINING CLASSES WILL BE HELD AT SCHOOLS IN URBAN AND NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICTS AND IN THE FOUR OFFICES OF THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE IN WAN CHAI, TSUEN WAN, MONG KOK AND KWUN TONG.

+FOR TALENTED YOUNG MUSICIANS, SPECIAL TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED AT BOTH LOCAL AND OVERSEAS MUSIC INSTITUTIONS. SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ADVANCED COURSES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE,+ MR. SIU SAID.

THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE, ESTABLISHED IN OCTOBER 1977, NOW RUNS THE HONG KONG YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, THE HONG KONG YOUTH SYMPHONY BAND AND THE HONG KONG YOUTH CHINESE ORCHESTRA. IT INTENDS TO FORM DISTRICT YOUTH ORCHESTRAS AND BANDS WHEN THE MASSIVE TRAINING PROGRAMMES HAVE BEGUN.

TO PAVE THE WAY FOR THE HONG KONG-WIDE MUSIC TRAINING PROGRAMME, THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE IS HOLDING A SERIES OF +MUSIC-FOR-THE-MILLIONS+ CONCERTS EVERY SATURDAY IN BOTH PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS. SIMILAR CONCERTS WILL BE INTRODUCED TO FACTORIES AND COMMUNITY CENTRES.

+APART FROM CREATING A SUITABLE ATMOSPHERE FOR LAUNCHING THE TRAINING PROGRAMME, THESE CONCERTS WILL PROVIDE STUDENTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE A LIVE CONCERT AND TO LEARN ABOUT THE VARIOUS MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS,+ MR. SIU SAID.

THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE WILL ALSO ORGANISE A SERIES OF INTERNATIONAL MUSIC EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES TO PROMOTE INTERNATIONAL MUSIC EXCHANGE ACTIVITIES AND TO PROVIDE YOUNG MUSICIANS IN HONG KONG WITH THE OPPORTUNITY OF LEARNING FROM YOUNG MUSICIANS FROM OTHER TERRITORIES.

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A YOUTH ORCHESTRA FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN HONG KONG IN AUGUST THIS YEAR AND WILL JOIN LOCAL YOUTH ORCHESTRAS IN GIVING PERFORMANCES. IN NOVEMBER, HONG KONG WILL SEND A TEAM TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SECOND ASIAN YOUTH MUSIC CAMP IN SINGAPORE.

FOR NEXT YEAR, TWO MAJOR FUNCTIONS ARE BEING PLANNED -- THE HOSTING OF THE THIRD ASIAN YOUTH MUSIC CAMP HERE, AND THE VISIT OF HONG KONG'S YOUTH ORCHESTRA TO THE UNITED KINGDOM.

IN ADDITION, OVERSEAS MUSICIAN PASSING THROUGH HONG KONG WILL BE INVITED TO HOLD CLASSES AND SEMINARS FOR STUDENTS TO BROADEN THE OUTLOOK AND EXPERIENCE OF LOCAL YOUTH MUSICIANS.

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$72 MILLION SCHEME TO IMPROVE CLEARWATER BAY ROAD

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MAJOR IMPROVEMENT WORK ON CLEARWATER BAY ROAD ESTIMATED TO COST MORE THAN $72 MILLION, IS WELL UNDERWAY.

THE WORK IS BEING CARRIED OUT IN STAGES AND THE LENGTH OF ROAD UNDER IMPROVEMENT MEASURES ABOUT 10 KILOMETRES.

MR. AU CHI-LAU, ACTING CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE P.W.D.'S HIGHWAYS (N.T.) DIVISION, SAID TODAY THAT THE ENTIRE LENGTH OF ROAD WAS DIVIDED INTO FIVE SECTIONS.

+WORK IS PROGRESSING SMOOTHLY ON THREE SECTIONS WHILE WORK FOR THE REMAINING TWO SECTIONS WILL BEGIN TOWARDS THE END OF THIS YEAR,+ HE SAID.

THE SECTION ADJOINING NGAU CHI WAN ESTATE, ABOUT HALF A KILOMETRE IN LENGTH, IS BEING WIDENED TO A SINGLE THREE-LANE CARRIAGEWAY. THE WORK WILL BE COMPLETED BY SEPTEMBER.

MR. AU SAID A NEW ALIGNMENT WAS CHOSEN FOR ANOTHER SECTION OF THE ROAD FROM PING SHEK ESTATE TO ANDERSON ROAD, WHICH WAS ON A VERY STEEP GRADIENT.

+THE NEW CLEARWATER BAY ROAD IS CONSTRUCTED IN A 'LOOP' AND CROSSES OVER ITSELF AT SHUN LEE TSUEN WHERE THERE WILL BE FOUR BRIDGES OR FLYOVERS,+ HE ADDED.

+THE LOWER SECTIONS OF THE NEW ROAD WILL HAVE DUAL-CARRIAGEWAYS WITH THREE UPHILL LANES AND TWO DOWNHILL LANES WHILE THE UPPER SECTIONS WILL HAVE A SINGLE THREE-LANE CARRIAGEWAY.+

WORK ON THIS SECTION, DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTED BY THE CIVIL ENGINEERING OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SHUN LEE TSUEN DEVELOPMENT, IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN THE MIDDLE OF NEXT YEAR.

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IN ADDITION, A NEW TWO-LANE CARRIAGEWAY IS BEING BUILT ALONGSIDE A 1.5-KILOMETRE SECTION OF THE ROAD BETWEEN PIK UK AND HIRAM'S HIGHWAY.

+THIS TOGETHER WITH THE EXISTING ROAD WILL FORM A DUAL TWO-LANE CARRIAGEWAY.+

WORK ON THIS SECTION IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED TOWARDS THE END OF NEXT YEAR.

+IMPROVEMENTS TO THE TWO REMAINING SECTIONS OF THE ROAD, EACH MEASURING ABOUT 2.5 KILOMETRES, ARE SCHEDULED TO BEGIN TOWARDS THE END OF THIS YEAR,+ SAID MR. AU.

ONE OF THESE SECTIONS FROM ANDERSON ROAD TO PIK UK WILL BE IMPROVED TO DUAL TWO-LANE CARRIAGEWAYS ALONG THE EXISTING ALIGNMENT.

A PEDESTRIAN SUBWAY WILL ALSO BE BUILT AT THE VILLAGE OF TSENG LAN SHUE.

DETAILED DESIGN WORK ON THE OTHER SECTION BETWEEN HIRAM'S HIGHWAY AND HANG HAU TOWN IS IN HAND.

A PORTION OF THIS LENGTH BETWEEN HIRAM'S HIGHWAY AND SHAWS STUDIO WILL BE WIDENED TO A 7.3 METRE CARRIAGEWAY ON IMPROVED ALIGNMENT AND THE REMAINING PORTION WILL ALSO BE IMPROVED TO INCLUDE AN ADDITIONAL CLIMBING LANE.

MR. AU SAID: +TO FACILITATE PEDESTRIANS, NEW FOOTPATHS WILL BE CONSTRUCTED THROUGH THE ENTIRE 10 KILOMETRE SECTION.

+LANDSCAPING TO ROADSIDE AREAS AND SELECTED MEDIAN STRIP WILL ALSO BE CARRIED OUT AS PART OF THE ROAD PROJECT.+

THE ENTIRE IMPROVEMENT SCHEME IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY 1980.

MR. AU SAID THAT WITH INCREASING DEVELOPMENTS IN SAI KUNG AND CLEARWATER BAY AREAS, TRAFFIC ON CLEARWATER BAY ROAD HAD BECOME VERY CONGESTED PARTICULARLY IN THE SUMMER MONTHS WHEN THE RECREATION TRAFFIC DURING THE WEEKENDS AND GENERAL HOLIDAYS WAS EXTREMELY HEAVY.

HE EMPHASISED THAT THE NEW ROAD, ON COMPLETION, WOULD CATER FOR NOT ONLY THE PRESENT TRAFFIC CONDITION BUT ALSO THE TRAFFIC GENERATED FROM FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS.

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SOUTHERN DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME
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THOUSANDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE TODAY PARTICIPATED IN A WIDE RANGE OF ENTERTAINMENT AND SPORTS EVENTS AT THE GRAND OPENING OF THIS YEAR'S SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME FOR HONG KONG ISLAND'S SOUTHERN DISTRICT AT THE WONG CHUK HANG FOOTBALL GROUND IN ABERDEEN.

THE YOUNG PEOPLE HAD FUN IN GAMES STALLS, WENT FOR A THRILLING RIDE ON A HOT-AIR BALLOON, WATCHED A MARCHING BAND AND FOLK DANCE PERFORMANCE, AND TOOK PART IN VARIOUS COMPETITIONS.

THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE DAY'S EVENTS WAS A DISPLAY OF THE SKILLS IN STYLISH PARACHUTING BY MEMBERS OF THE HONG KONG PARACHUTE CENTRE.

THE THREE-HOUR FUN-PACKED OPENING CEREMONY WAS ORGANISED BY THE 1978 SOUTHERN DISTRICT YOUTH RECREATION CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE.

ADDRESSING THE CEREMONY, THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (SOCIAL WORK), MRS. EVELYN DOE, SAID THAT MORE THAN HALF OF HONG KONG'S POPULATION WERE YOUNG PEOPLE AND IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT THEY WERE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROPERLY DEVELOP THEIR MENTAL AND PHYSICAL POTENTIALS.

MRS. DOE SAID THE WIDE VARIETY OF EVENTS SCHEDULED FOR THIS YEAR'S SOUTHERN DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME HAD BEEN ARRANGED TO MEET SUCH NEEDS, COMPRISING NOT ONLY ENTERTAINING AND RECREATIONAL BUT ALSO ADVENTUROUS ACTIVITIES.

+THROUGH GROUP ACTIVITIES SUCH AS CAMPING, OUTDOOR PHYSICAL TRAINING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES, THE YOUNG PEOPLE WOULD HAVE A CHANCE TO DEVELOP THEIR POTENTIALS AND TO SPEND THEIR SUMMER HOURS IN A MORE MEANINGFUL WAY,+ SHE SAID.

AT THE GRAND OPENING A GROUP OF LOCAL COMMUNTIY LEADERS AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED WITH SUMMER YOUTH ACTIVITIES PERFORMED A RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY.

THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME OF MORE THAN 400 EVENTS SCHEDULED FOR THE SUMMER MONTHS, IS BEING SPONSORED BY MORE THAN 50 LOCAL COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS.

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TRAFFIC SIGNALS IN WEST KOWLOON

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SIX MORE ROAD JUNCTIONS IN WEST KOWLOON WILL BE EQUIPPED WITH TRAFFIC SIGNALS LATER THIS YEAR.

THESE SIGNALS ARE IN ADDITION TO THE SIX WHICH WERE RECENTLY INSTALLED AT JUNCTIONS IN SHAM SHUI PO. THE SIGNALS ARE NECESSARY AS A RESULT OF VARIOUS TRAFFIC DIVERSIONS TO FACILITATE WORKS ON MASS TRANSIT TSUEN WAN EXTENSION.

THE NEW SIGNALS, LIKE THOSE RECENTLY INSTALLED IN SHAM SHUI PO WILL BE EQUIPPED WITH HIGH INTENSITY POLYCARBONATE TRAFFIC SIGNAL HEADS WHICH ARE BEING USED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HONG KONG.

THE NEW SIGNAL HEADS INCORPORATE A SPECIAL OPTICAL SYSTEM WHICH IS DESIGNED TO GIVE A MUCH HIGHER LIGHT OUTPUT THAN THE PREVIOUS TYPES.

MOST OF THE SIGNAL HEADS ARE ALSO BEING EQUIPPED WITH BLACK BACKING BOARDS TO MAKE THE GIVEN INDICATION STAND OUT MORE AGAINST THE BACKGROUND.

THESE TWO FEATURES GREATLY INCREASE THE SIGNAL VISIBILITY AND HENCE ENHANCE THE EFFICIENCY OF TRAFFIC CONTROL.

THE HOODS OF THE SIGNALS ARE MADE OF A STRONG PLASTIC SUBSTANCE WHICH IS TOUGH AND RESISTANT TO CORROSION, AND HENCE ARE EXPECTED TO REDUCE MAINTENANCE COSTS AND INCREASE RELIABILITY.

THE NEW SIGNALS ARE ALL CONNECTED TO THE WEST KOWLOON AREA TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM.

COMMENTING ON THE NEW INSTALLATIONS, MR. A.A. THOMPSON, P.W.D.'S OFFICER IN CHARGE OF THE TRAFFIC CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE UNIT, SAID THAT THE BENEFITS OF THE AREA TRAFFIC CONTROL ARE BEING APPLIED IN THE SHAM SHUI PO AREA TO EASE THE PROBLEMS CREATED FROM DIVERSIONS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.

+TRAFFIC ENGINEERS FROM OUR UNIT PAY FREQUENT SITE VISITS TO ENSURE THAT THE COMPUTER IS CONTROLLING TRAFFIC IN THE OPTIMUM FASHION.

+IF A CHANGE IS NECESSARY IT IS ONLY A MATTER OF TELEPHONING THE CONTROL CENTRE TO IMMEDIATELY CHANGE THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL TIMINGS AND EASE THE SITUATION.+ HE SAID.

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF SECTION OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE SECTION OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD BETWEEN ROUTE TWISK AND HIP HING STREET IN TSUEN WAN WILL BE TEMPORARILY CLOSED TO ALL VEHICULAR TRAFFIC FOR SIX HOURS FROM MIDNIGHT ON TUESDAY (JULY 11).

THE CLOSURE IS TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A STEEL FOOTBRIDGE ON CASTLE PEAK ROAD NEAR TAI CHUNG NULLAH, TSUEN WAN.

DURING THE CLOSURE PERIOD, THE WESTBOUND VEHICLES ON CASTLE PEAK ROAD EXCEPT THOSE GOING TO ROUTE TWISK WILL BE DIVERTED VIA TAI HO ROAD AND SHA TSUI ROAD TO REJOIN CASTLE PEAK ROAD NEAR CHAI WAN KOK.

IN ADDITION, THE EASTBOUND VEHICLES ON CASTLE PEAK ROAD EXCEPT THOSE INTENDING TO GO TO HIP HING STREET WILL BE DIVERTED TO SHA TSUI ROAD AND TAI HO ROAD AND TO REJOIN CASTLE PEAK ROAD.

MOREOVER, VEHICLES COMING FROM ROUTE TWISK WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO TURN RIGHT INTO CASTLE PEAK ROAD AND NO LEFT TURN WILL BE PERMITTED FOR VEHICLES ENTERING CASTLE PEAK ROAD FROM HIP HING STREET.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP AND POLICE WILL BE ON DUTY TO GUIDE MOTORISTS DURING THE CLOSURE PERIOD.

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REGISTRATION TEAM TO OPERATE IN NGAU TAU KOK

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A TEAM FROM THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS OFFICE WILL CONDUCT REGISTRATIONS IN NGAU TAU KOK ESTATE OFFICE FOR RESIDENTS AND PERSONS LIVING NEARBY FOR FIVE DAYS FROM JULY 17.

REGISTRATIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED BETWEEN 9.30 A.M. AND 4.30 P.M. DAILY.

THE VISIT IS TO ENABLE PARENTS/GUARDIANS TO REGISTER THEIR CHILDREN/WARDS BETWEEN 11 AND 17 YEARS OF AGE FOR JUVENILE IDENTITY CARDS AND HOLDERS OF JUVENILE IDENTITY CARDS TO REGISTER FOR ADULT IDENTITY CARDS ON REACHING 18 YEARS OF AGE.

ALL PERSONS LIVING IN THIS AREA ARE REMINDED OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO REGISTER THEMSELVES AND THEIR CHILDREN FOR IDENTITY CARDS AND TO REPORT CHANGES OF EMPLOYMENT OR RESIDENTIAL ADDRESSES, MARITAL STATUS, OR ANY OTHER PARTICULARS WHICH HAVE CHANGED SINCE REGISTERING FOR THEIR IDENTITY CARDS.

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