



HONG KONG GOVERNMENT

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**INFORMATION SERVICES**

# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Thursday, June 17, 1971

EMBARGO NOTE: This item is embargoed.  
 It is not for broadcast  
 or publication until  
 tomorrow morning.

REVISED POSTAL CHARGES TO COME INTO FORCE

ON JULY/AUGUST 1

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Airmail and Ten Cent Letter Rates Unchanged

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Some changes in Hong Kong's inland and overseas surface postal rates were announced by the Postmaster General today and will come into effect on July 1st this year for overseas surface mail and August 1st for inland mail.

The basic ten cent rate for inland letters up to one ounce and the airmail postage rates which together form the bulk of postal traffic remain unchanged. The inland concessionary rate for printed matter which has not been changed since 1951 goes up from five cents to ten cents on 1st August because the service is no longer paying its way.

Most of the revised postal charges relate to overseas surface mails and are being introduced to bring the existing low Hong Kong postal rates up to world-wide minimum charges determined by the 1969 Convention of the Universal Postal Union. The revised rates are, however, still generally much lower than those charged in most other countries in the world.

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There will be general increases in parcel post charges from 1st July due to higher handling costs, partly within Hong Kong but mainly in countries of destination, and by carriers. These increases generally reflect a world-wide trend.

Commenting on the new rates the Postmaster General, Mr. Addi, said today: "We have had considerable success in keeping postage rates down but nevertheless we have to raise postal charges for those services for which the minimum rates were laid down by the Universal Postal Union at the Tokyo Convention, for which the existing charge is uneconomical, and where we are charged higher fees by carriers and other administrations. Costs have risen considerably over the past years and, as everyone knows, it now costs much more to employ staff than it did 20 years ago, when our basic inland rates were established."

Other changes announced today which will also take effect from July 1st include the following:

The fee for registration will be raised from 40 cents to \$1, as the present charge is less than half the handling cost. Registered mail represents a small percentage of all mail handled by the Post Office and out of a total of 240 million items posted in the Colony during the last financial year only 7 million were registered.

The sample post service will be abolished. Trade samples may be sent by small packet post for which the weight limit is two pounds for all countries, or they may be sent by parcel post, for which the weight limit, for most countries, is 22 pounds.

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The weight limit of printed papers will be reduced to four pounds, except for packets of books for which the weight limit will remain at eleven pounds.

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Note to Editors: A comparative table of the existing and new postal rates is attached (please see page 4).  
Post Office (Amendment) Regulations 1971 giving effect to these changes will be published in the Government Gazette tomorrow.

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#### EXAMINATION NOTICE

The Director of Education announces that the General Certificate of Education examinations conducted by the Education Department as well as those at St. George's School, which were postponed as a result of Typhoon Freda, will now be held on Saturday (19th June) at 9.30 a.m.

The examination of the Association of Certified and Corporated Accountants which was also postponed will similarly be held on Saturday at 9.30 a.m.

The University of Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English examination will be held on Saturday (19th June) at 2.00 p.m.

These examinations will all be held at the centres originally scheduled.

Details of times and places of other postponed examinations will be announced later.

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EXISTING AND NEW INLAND AND OVERSEAS SURFACE

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POSTAGE RATES

Category	Weight Step	Inland		China, Macao, Taiwan		British Commonwealth and Irish Republic		All other Countries	
		Existing	New	Existing	New	Existing	New	Existing	New
LETTERS	1 oz.	.10	.10	.20	.20	.20	.30	.40	.50
	2 oz.	.20	.30	.30	.40	.35	.60	.65	.80
	4 oz.	.40	.40	.50	.50	.65	.75	1.15	1.10
	8 oz.	.80	.80	.90	1.10	1.25	1.65	2.15	2.50
	1 lb.	1.60	1.50	1.70	2.10	2.45	3.15	4.15	4.80
	2 lb.	3.20	2.50	3.30	3.50	4.85	5.25	8.15	7.90
	4 lb.	6.40	4.00	6.50	5.50	9.65	8.25	16.15	12.70
POSTCARDS		.05	.10	.10	.15	.15	.25	.25	.30
PRINTED PAPERS	1 oz.	.05	.10	.10	.15	.15	.25	.15	.25
	2 oz.	.10	.15	.10	.20	.15	.30	.15	.30
	4 oz.	.15	.20	.20	.25	.25	.40	.25	.40
	8 oz.	.25	.40	.40	.50	.45	.65	.45	.65
	1 lb.	.45	.75	.80	1.00	.85	1.10	.85	1.10
	2 lb.	.85	1.25	1.60	1.75	1.65	1.90	1.65	1.90
	4 lb.	-	-	3.20	2.75	3.25	3.20	3.25	3.20
	Per additional 1000 g. (2 lb.) (For books only)	-	-	-	1.25	-	1.60	-	1.60
SMALL PACKETS				Macao Taiwan	China	Macao Taiwan	China		
	4 oz.			.80	.50	.50	.50	.80	.50
	8 oz.			.80	.50	1.00	.50	.80	1.00
	1 lb.			1.40	.80	1.60	.80	1.40	1.60
	2 lb.			3.00	1.60	2.90	1.60	3.00	2.90

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BUILDING DECLARED DANGEROUS

The Building Authority today (Thursday) declared No. 16 Lun Hing Street, Hong Kong, to be in a dangerous condition.

In a statement issued this morning the Principal Government Building Surveyor said that this single storey pre-war building had been inspected following complaint from a tenant, when it was found that the brick walls were fractured and deteriorated and the roof timbers were badly decayed.

A portion of the roof has already collapsed and accordingly notice of intention to apply for a Closure Order in Victoria District Court, Hong Kong, on June 25, 1971 was posted this morning.

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Release Time: 8.00 p.m.