



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1978

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SNT'S LUNAR NEW YEAR MESSAGE
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THE PEOPLE OF THE NEW TERRITORIES AND THE GOVERNMENT ARE BEING DRAWN CLOSER TOGETHER IN THE MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING OF THEIR AFFAIRS BY THE FORMATION LAST YEAR OF DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARDS, THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR. DAVID AKERS-JONES SAID TODAY.

IN A LUNAR NEW YEAR MESSAGE, MR. AKERS-JONES SAID THAT IT WAS A TIME OF CHANGE AND GREAT TRANSFORMATION IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

MR. AKERS-JONES POINTED OUT THAT \$770 MILLION WAS BEING SPENT THIS YEAR ON BUILDING THE THREE NEW TOWNS OF SHA TIN, TUEN MUN AND TSUEN WAN.

NEARLY \$40 MILLION WAS BEING SPENT IN TAI PO AS PART OF A RELATED PLAN TO EXPAND AND IMPROVE OUR MARKET TOWNS.

+NEW HOMES FOR ABOUT 100,000 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN COMPLETED AND THERE IS WORK FOR PEOPLE IN THE NEW FACTORIES IN ALL OUR TOWNS,+ HE SAID.

+THE BUILDING OF TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL HAS BEGUN: EVERYWHERE MORE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES ARE BEING PROVIDED.+

+THE CREATION OF COUNTRY PARKS WILL MAKE THE COUNTRYSIDE MORE ACCESSIBLE AND ENJOYABLE FOR MILLIONS OF PEOPLE NOW AND IN THE FUTURE.+

HE ADDED: +IT IS RIGHT AT THE END OF THE YEAR TO REST FOR A FEW DAYS TO REFLECT ON THE YEAR THAT IS PAST AND TO LOOK FORWARD TO THE NEW YEAR WITH CONFIDENCE AND HOPE.+

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SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS AT SHA TIN FOR CHE KUNG FESTIVAL

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SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE IN SHA TIN TO HELP COPE WITH THE TENS OF THOUSANDS OF WORSHIPPERS WHO ARE EXPECTED TO VISIT THE CHE KUNG TEMPLE OVER THE NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS.

UP TO 100,000 PEOPLE ARE EXPECTED TO VISIT THE TEMPLE — AT LEAST HALF OF THEM ON THE THIRD DAY OF THE LUNAR NEW YEAR WHEN THE CHE KUNG FESTIVAL REACHES ITS PEAK.

THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER OF SHA TIN, MR. K.K. KWOK, SAID TODAY THAT BECAUSE OF THE LARGE-SCALE DEVELOPMENTS TAKING PLACE IN THE AREA, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS HAD WORKED OUT SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR PEDESTRIANS.

A FOOTPATH OUTSIDE THE TEMPLE HAD BEEN WIDENED TO PROVIDE BETTER ACCESS AND A FOOTBRIDGE HAD BEEN BUILT AT THE EXIT.

HE SAID A ONE-WAY CIRCULATION SYSTEM WILL BE PROVIDED FOR PEDESTRIANS, WHO WILL BE DIRECTED TO USE A NEW ROAD FROM THE LION ROCK TUNNEL ROAD EAST OF THE SHING MUN RIVER TO ENTER THE TEMPLE.

THE PEDESTRIANS WILL BE ASKED TO LEAVE THE TEMPLE BY USING THE SPECIALLY-BUILT FOOTBRIDGE LEADING FROM THE TEMPLE COMPOUND TO THE SOUTH.

MR. KWOK POINTED OUT THAT ONLY FRANCHISED BUSES WOULD BE ALLOWED TO PARK ON THE LION ROCK TUNNEL ROAD, WHICH IS CURRENTLY BEING WIDENED.

+PARKING FACILITIES WILL BE VERY LIMITED BECAUSE OF EXTENSIVE CONSTRUCTION WORKS GOING ON IN THE AREA,+ HE ADDED, +AND VISITORS TO THE TEMPLE ARE STRONGLY ADVISED TO USE PUBLIC TRANSPORT.+

MR. KWOK EMPHASISED THAT WORSHIPPERS SHOULD TAKE SPECIAL CARE WHEN BURNING JOSS STICKS TO REDUCE FIRE HAZARDS.

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CONTRACT SIGNED FOR MUI WO DEVELOPMENT

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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TODAY SIGNED A CONTRACT WORTH MORE THAN \$12 MILLION FOR THE SECOND STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT IN MUI WO ON LANTAU ISLAND AS A RURAL TOWN.

THE CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF SEAWALL IN SILVER MINE BAY AND THE FORMATION OF ABOUT FOUR HECTARES OF LAND WAS AWARDED TO FOOK LEE CONSTRUCTION CO. LTD.

MR. BOSCO KEOWN, SENIOR ENGINEER OF P.W.D.'S NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT BRANCH, SAID TODAY THAT THE LAND FORMED UNDER THIS CONTRACT WOULD BE USED TO PROVIDE SITES FOR A SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT, AN ABATTOIR, THE SECOND PHASE OF A PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE FOR 1,200 PEOPLE, A HELICOPTER LANDING PAD AND OTHER GOVERNMENT USES.

HE SAID THAT A 350-METRE SEAWALL AND A 340-METRE RUBBLE WALL WOULD BE BUILT TO CONTAIN THE FILLING.

ALSO INCLUDED IN THE CONTRACT IS THE CONSTRUCTION OF 0.7 KILOMETRE OF A TWO-LANE ROAD AND 1.8 KILOMETRES OF STORM AND FOUL WATER DRAINS.

+FILLING MATERIALS,+ MR. KEOWN SAID, +WILL BE TAKEN FROM A BORROW SITE AT BARREN HILL TO THE SOUTH OF THE WORKS AND THE HAUL ROAD ALREADY BUILT THERE WILL BE USED TO TRANSPORT THESE MATERIALS.

+THE BORROW SITE, ON COMPLETION, WILL EVENTUALLY BECOME PART OF A COUNTRY PARK.+

WORK ON THE FIRST TWO CONTRACTS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF MUI WO HAS ALREADY BEGUN, PROVIDING SITES FOR THE FIRST PHASE OF THE PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE, A NEW BUS TERMINUS, COOKED FOOD STALLS AS WELL AS SITES FOR COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL USES.

MR. KEOWN ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW FERRY PIER AT MUI WO TO REPLACE THE EXISTING ONE HAD ALREADY BEGUN.

IN THE GOVERNMENT'S RURAL TOWNSHIP PROGRAMME, BETTER HOMES AND FACILITIES WILL BE PROVIDED FOR A TOTAL OF 350,000 PEOPLE IN RURAL AREAS OUTSIDE THE NEW TOWNS OF SHA TIN, TSUEN WAN AND TUEN MUN.

MUI WO IS ONE OF EIGHT AREAS LISTED FOR DEVELOPMENT IN THE PROGRAMME.

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PLAN TO DEVELOP PENG CHAU

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS PLANS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF PENG CHAU ISLAND, INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW PIER AND IMPROVED HOUSING, THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR. JOHN TODD, SAID TODAY.

MR. TODD SAID IT WAS HOPED IT WOULD ENCOURAGE INVESTMENT ON THE ISLAND WHICH WOULD ENSURE THAT PENG CHAU BECAME A PROSPEROUS AND ATTRACTIVE PLACE.

HE WAS SPEAKING AT A CEREMONY IN WHICH HE OFFICIALLY OPENED A CINEMA ON THE ISLAND.

MR. TODD SAID: +IT IS THEREFORE VERY PLEASING TO SEE A PRIVATE DEVELOPER WHO HAS NOT WAITED FOR THESE DEVELOPMENTS BUT WHO HAS HAD SUFFICIENT FAITH IN THE FUTURE OF THE ISLAND TO BEGIN WORK ON A \$5 MILLION COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX OF WHICH THIS CINEMA FORMS A PART.+

HE WAS SURE THAT THE OPENING OF THE CINEMA WOULD NOT ONLY PROVIDE ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE RESIDENTS BUT THAT IT WOULD ALSO ATTRACT OTHER INVESTMENT ON THE ISLAND.

MR. TODD DESCRIBED THE OPENING OF THE CINEMA AS +VERY TIMELY+ FOR IT HAPPENED ON NEW YEAR'S EVE WHEN FAMILIES GATHER TOGETHER TO ANTICIPATE THE START OF A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

COPIES OF MR. TODD'S SPEECH, IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE, ARE DISTRIBUTED IN THE GIS PRESS BOXES THIS AFTERNOON.

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STUDENTS' CREATIVE WORK EXHIBITION

THE CULTURAL CRAFTS CENTRE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HAS ARRANGED A FIVE-DAY EXHIBITION OF CREATIVE WORK BY HONG KONG SCHOOL STUDENTS.

THE EXHIBITION WHICH WILL BEGIN ON FEBRUARY 16 WILL INCLUDE A SELECTION OF 200 PIECES OF ARTWORK BY FORM 5 STUDENTS FROM 50 SCHOOLS, INCLUDING PAINTINGS, LIFE DRAWINGS, DESIGNS, CERAMICS, AND CALLIGRAPHY.

THIS WILL BE OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO TEACHERS AND STUDENTS PREPARING FOR THIS YEAR'S HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION IN ART.

IN ADDITION SOME 450 PAINTINGS, PRINTS, AND CRAFTWORK BY PUPILS FROM 98 PRIMARY SCHOOLS WILL ALSO BE ON DISPLAY.

THE DISPLAYS CAN BE VIEWED AT THE CULTURAL CRAFTS CENTRE, 4 PAK FUK ROAD, 4TH AND 5TH FLOORS, NORTH POINT, BETWEEN 9 A.M. AND 4.30 P.M. ON FEBRUARY 16, 17, 20 AND 21, AND 9 A.M. TO 12 NOON ON FEBRUARY 18.

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