HKGIS 香港政府新聞處

DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Wednesday, August 29, 1973

CONTENTS

	Page No.
Feasibility study on the construction of a bridge to link Lantau to the mainland now in progress	1
A new marriage registry will be opened in Yuen Long next week	3
Importers and exporters must lodge trade declarations within 14 days of transaction	4
Two construction workers were killed in industrial accidents in July	5
An attractive rest garden will be provided for residents of Tin Wan	6
More than 600 lost identity cards are awaiting collection..	7
Famous Brazilian artist will present two paintings to Urbco	8
Mobile registration team will operate at Rennie's Mill next week	9
Two more buildings on Monmouth Terrace to be closed	10

Issued by Government Information Services, Beaconsfield House, Hong Kong. Tel: 5-233191

Wednesday, August 29, 1973

LANTAU BRIDGE FEASIBILITY STUDY

****

A preliminary report on the feasibility study of building a bridge linking Lantau Island with the mainland in the New Territories is expected to be completed within a few weeks.

The study, which is being conducted by Wilbur Smith and Associates, also includes an investigation into possible large-scale industrial and residential development on the island, and is being conducted in conjunction with another survey into the feasibility of providing recreational facilities and conservation reserves.

The preliminary report on the proposed Lantau bridge will be studied by various government departments, but a decision will depend on the findings of the final report of the whole study which is expected to be completed within 12 months.

Disclosing this today, a spokesman for the Public Works Department said that the Lantau bridge study was prompted by "the pressing need for road access to substantial areas of undeveloped land."

One of the principal restrictions on the growth of Hong Kong's economy at the moment was a lack of land attractive to developers, he said.

"However, the shortage of attractive sites arises from inadequate access to suitable land rather than a lack of land itself," the spokesman emphasised.

/Previously .....

Previously the consultants were commissioned for a study aimed at assessing the best use of land for recreational and tourist development at the scenic parts of South Lantau, Ma Wan Island, Sai Kung Peninsula and Middle Island at Deep Water Bay.

"The scope of investigation is now extended to cover the bridge", the spokesman said, "and the consultants will report on the preliminary feasibility of a bridge with indications of design standards based on varying traffic projections and on engineering, marine and civil aviation constraints.

"They will determine the order of costs of building the bridge and the associated approaches and the building of a tunnel crossing will be investigated if the preliminary findings rule out a bridge for any reason," the spokesman added.

Particular consideration will be given to the reciprocal relationship between road access to Lantau and possible large-scale proposals such as industrial development and associated residential development as well as the creation of recreational facilities and conservation areas.

The impact of a bridge or a tunnel crossing and the associated road access will not be restricted to Lantau itself but would have a considerable effect on the pattern of development of Hong Kong as a whole.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/3 .....

NEW MARRIAGE REGISTRY FOR YUEN LONG

****

A new marriage registry will be opened next Monday (September 3) in Yuen Long to meet the increasing demand for wedding registrations in the district.

It will replace the existing combined birth and marriage registry at the Yuen Long District Office.

From Monday, notices of marriage may be given and marriage ceremonies will be performed at the new registry which features a suitably decorated marriage room and a separate waiting room for brides and bridesmaids.

The new registry will only perform registration of marriages, while registration of births will continue to be operated at the old registry at the Yuen Long District Office.

A spokesman for the Registrar General's Department said that the separation of the two registries should greatly reduce congestion in the old offices.

He pointed out that last year, the number of registered marriages. in the New Territories had increased by 20 per cent to 2,945 from 2,444 in 1971.

"The opening of the new Yuen Long Marriage Registry is part of the department's efforts to meet this increasing demand," he said.

The new registry, situated at the Yuen Long Town Hall at Tai Yuk Road, will be open to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays. The registry's telephone number is 12-764003.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/4 .....

DECLARATION OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

****

Importers and exporters were today reminded of their obligations under the Import and Export (Registration) Regulations to lodge trade declarations and pay ad valorem charges within 14 days of transacting business on all imports and exports other than those which are exempted.

A spokesman for the Commerce and Industry Department warned that prosecutions would be initiated against those who, without reasonable excuse, fail to lodge the necessary trade declarations.

Trade declarations submitted outside the prescribed period of 14 days will be liable, without any further notice, to penalty charges which rise after two months to a maximum of $50 per declaration where the total value of articles specified does not exceed $20,000.

Where the value exceeds $20,000, the penalty charges rise after two months to a maximum of $100 per declaration.

---- 0 ----

/5 .....

TWO DIE IN INDUSTRIAL MISHAPS IN JULY

****

Two workers were killed and 380 injured last month in accidents on construction sites, according to figures released today by the Labour Department.

The Industrial Safety Training Officer of the Labour Department, Mr. Chan Wing-kai, said one worker had fallen to his death from the 17th floor of a building under construction whilst unloading a motor from a lifting appliance.

"This accident could have been prevented had suitable lifting appliances been used and proper methods of material handling employed," he said.

In the other fatal case the worker was hit on the head by a steel wedge. "A safety helmet might have saved his life," Mr. Chan said.

He stressed that safety helmets would definitely help reduce the number of accidents caused by falling objects - which accounted for 13 per cent of accidents on construction sites last month.

The other two prevailing causes were - as in previous months - tripping over objects, and persons falling from heights.

Mr. Chan said the government was determined to cut back the present soaring accident rate.

"The Construction Site (Safety) Regulations which will come into force on May 1 next year will give the department the statutory power to enforce safety practices in the construction industry," he said.

/Once .....

Once the regulations become operative, he said, inspections of construction sites will be intensified to ensure compliance with the law.

"Those who fail to toe the line will be prosecuted," he said, adding that contravention of the regulations may lead to a fine of up to $10,000.

---- 0 ----

REST GARDEN FOR TIN WAN RESIDENTS

****

A strip of land at the Tin Wan reclamation that was once an illegal refuse dump will soon be turned into an attractive rest garden by the Urban Council.

The rest garden will be spread over an area of over 8,000 square feet on the northern side of the reclamation. It will command a favourable seaview and provide welcome recreational facilities to the hundreds of squatters living nearby.

The site will be paved and benches will be provided at suitable locations as well as see-saws and slides.

Railings will also be installed along the seawall for safety purposes.

Work on the project will start in mid-October and take about two months to complete.

---- 0 ----

/7 .....

OWNERS URGED TO CLAIM THEIR LOST ID CARDS

****

More than 600 unclaimed identity cards are now lying at the Registration of Persons Office waiting for the owners to pick them up.

A spokesman for the office said today that unless the cards were claimed within three months they would be cancelled and the owners would have to re-apply for new ones.

He stressed that the cards could easily have been returned to the owners if people notified his office of changes in their registered particulars.

Lists containing the names and numbers of the lost cards can be inspected at all City District Offices in the urban areas and at District Offices in the New Territories.

Kaifong associations and rural committees also have lists with identity card numbers for those who wish to check them.

Owners may collect their lost cards by calling in person at the head office of the Registration of Persons Department on the fourth floor of Causeway Bay Magistracy Building.

----0----

/8 .....

PAINTINGS DONATED TO URBAN COUNCIL

****

The wellknown Brazilian artist, Daja, will present two of her works to the Urban Council tomorrow (Thursday) as a memento of her "fond memories of Hong Kong."

The two paintings, entitled "Torn Sudary" and "Backwater", are stiffened painted cloth reliefs of great lyrical elegance.

They will be received by Mr. A. de O. Sales, chairman of the council, and will become part of the permanent collection of the City Museum and Art Gallery. The paintings will be put on public display shortly.

Daja has been living in Hong Kong for the past four years but will be moving her studio to Germany in a few days time.

She was one of the artists invited at the Contemporary Hong Kong Art Exhibition organised last year by the City Museum and Art Gallery.

Her work has been exhibited in Geneva, Stuttgart, Rome and in the Pre-Bienal de Sao Paulo of Brazil and in the Trienal of New Delhi. She has also given one-man shows in New York, Taipei and Hong Kong.

.....

Note to Editors: You are invited to have the presentation ceremony covered. It will take place at 11.30 a.m. tomorrow in the Urban Council Chairman's ceremonial office in the City Hall.

- - - - o - - - -

/9 .....

TEMPORARY REGISTRATION STATION AT RENNIE'S MILL

****

A team from the Registration of Persons Department will conduct registrations at Rennie's Mill from September 4 to 7 for the convenience of residents there.

Business hours will be from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The visits will enable parents or guardians to register their children from six to 17 years of age for juvenile identity cards, and young persons 17 years of age and over to register for adult identity cards.

Children between six and 17 years of age who have Hong Kong birth certificates or valid travel documents need not attend for registration, but children who do not have birth certificates or valid travel documents, must accompany their parents or guardians when registering.

All persons living in the area are reminded of their responsibility to register themselves and their children for identity cards and to report to the Registration of Persons Department any changes of employment or residential address, nationality or marital status or any other particulars which have changed since registering for their Identity Cards.

---- o ----

/10 .....

TWO MORE BUILDINGS AT MONMOUTH TERRACE TO BE CLOSED

****

The Building Authority today declared Nos. 9 and 11 Monmouth Terrace and the sub-basements of Nos. 15A and 15 liable to become dangerous. A hut in the area is also included.

In a statement, the Principal Government Building Surveyor said that these buildings had been under constant observation since the two adjoining buildings at Nos. 5 and 7 were closed earlier.

"There is evidence," he said, "that situation in the area of the slip is not yet static."

This, he added, was confirmed by additional investigations made subsequent to reports and mud penetrating the basement of No. 11 together with some increase in the cracking of the face of the slip.

"A sudden failure in the slip area would now seriously endanger Nos. 9 and 11," he said.

He added that evidence of movement in the sub-basement of Nos. 11, 15A and 15 indicated that further movement in this area could endanger the occupants of the sub-basements "although it is not considered at this juncture that the main buildings of Nos. 15A and 15 Monmouth Terrace are endangered."

The whole area will continue to be kept under observation. Meanwhile, notices of intention to apply for emergency closure orders in Victoria District Court were posted today. The hearing will take place at 9.30 a.m. tomorrow.(Thursday).

- - - - 0 - - - -

Release time: 7.30 p.m.