



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Friday, December 14, 1973

## CONTENTS

|   | <u>Page No.</u> |
|---|-----------------|
| Motorists asked to voluntarily reduce the use of their vehicles .....                     | 1               |
| Report on Aplichau oil spillage submitted to Governor .....                               | 3               |
| Labour Commissioner deploras unnecessary huge losses caused by industrial accidents ..... | 4               |
| Sha Tin to get more schools to keep pace with development .                               | 6               |
| Re-appraisal of type of education being provided in Hong Kong .....                       | 8               |
| Contribution to society of secondary technical education ..                               | 10              |
| \$6.8 million expansion project in South Kwai Chung polyclinic .....                      | 12              |
| Special review on employment in manufacturing industries published .....                  | 13              |
| Section of Electric Road routed one-way temporarily .....                                 | 13              |
| New time-table for holiday passenger train services .....                                 | 14              |
| Clear Water Bay Road to be re-aligned in development programme .....                      | 15              |
| Estate shop tenancy agreement finalised .....   | 16              |
| New Police divisional headquarters in Kwai Chung .....                                    | 18              |
| *****   |                 |
| Daily guide to wholesale prices and supply of basic food commodities                      |                 |

Release time: 8.30 p.m.

Friday, December 14, 1973

- 1 -

IS THAT TRIP TO THE NEW TERRITORIES REALLY NECESSARY

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The government is sending out letters, in English and Chinese, to 200,000 motorists asking them to voluntarily cut back on the use of their vehicles, in a determined drive to economise on the use of fuel.

The letter states that it must now be obvious to everyone that Hong Kong cannot escape some of the effects resulting from reduced oil production.

It points out that owners of motor vehicles can assist by cutting out unnecessary journeys and adopting a few simple economies, and asks "must you really take that trip to the New Territories next weekend?"

The letter recommends that motorists set a target of 30 per cent reduction in their fuel bill, which it says "can easily be done with sensible driving, by sharing, by reducing pleasure trips and by cutting out all unnecessary journeys."

Giving advice to motorists in other ways to economise, the letter says that when using a vehicle, drivers should: reduce speed, do not race the engine, cut out engine idling; and use the accelerator gently - drive, and brake, smoothly.

The letter also suggests the possibility of motorists setting up a roster or pooling system in their neighbourhoods as one way of improving the efficiency of cars and reducing fuel consumption.

/It says .....

Friday, December 14, 1973

- 2 -

It says that the government has already appealed to the community to economise where they can, and points out that there are other sectors where **economies** can be made without causing great inconvenience to our daily lives.

At a news conference yesterday, the Deputy Colonial Secretary, Mr. M.D.A. Clinton, who is also Chairman of the Oil Policy Committee, stressed the need for community co-operation. The more we save now by voluntary cut-backs, the more we reduce the need for mandatory controls later.

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/3 .....

Friday, December 14, 1973

- 3 -

REPORT ON APLICHAU OIL SPILLAGE COMPLETED

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The three-man Commission of Inquiry into the oil spillage at Aplichau last month submitted its report to the Governor today.

The report covers 15 pages and includes four appendices of detailed drawings, technical charts and relevant engineering information.

The Commission, headed by Judge W.S. Collier, was appointed on November 13, with Professor S. Mackey and Mr. P.K. Ng as members.

During their investigations they made several site inspections and held a number of preliminary hearings. Public hearings were held in the Legislative Council Chamber on December 4 and 6.

Most of the evidence presented at the hearing was in the form of written reports. Altogether 18 submissions were made. These included reports by the Fire Services Department, the Marine Department, the Public Works Department, Gammon Ltd., Tian San Construction Company, and the Shell Company.

The Commission was given up to January 31, 1974 to submit its report.

Its terms of reference were:

- \* To enquire into the circumstances in which a storage tank at the Shell Oil Installation at Aplichau fractured during the night of the 8th/9th November, 1973.
- \* To ascertain how oil escaped from that tank into the sea in spite of the various safety devices provided, and
- \* To make recommendations to the Governor for the prevention of similar accidents in future.

The question of pollution caused by the oil, any damage resulting therefrom, and the steps taken to remove the spilled oil were outside the Commission's terms of reference.

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/4 .....

Friday, December 14, 1973

- 4 -

#### INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS CLAIM RECORD TOLL THIS YEAR

Final Responsibility Lies With Management: Labour Commissioner

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One in every seven people employed in Hong Kong in the past 10 years had been injured at work badly enough to require medical treatment, the Commissioner of Labour, Mr. I.R. Price, said today.

"The number of accidents in this period was nearly 180,000," he said. "Or let me put it another way: imagine the entire population -- man, woman and child -- of the Tsz Wan Shan and Tung Tau housing estates, all injured and undergoing medical treatment."

Mr. Price was speaking at a reception held to mark the opening of South-East Asia's biggest-ever Industrial Safety Exhibition in the Chinese Manufacturers' Association Pavilion at the C.M.A. Fair.

Guests at the reception included representatives of industrial, commercial and shipping firms who donated funds or loaned machinery and equipment for the exhibition.

Mr. Price said: "During the same period of 10 years, 2,340 people have been killed at work -- imagine some 30 double-decker buses, stretched along Queen's Road, Central, and in every seat a mangled, lifeless body."

Mr. Price said people did not realise the magnitude of the toll Hong Kong faced from accidents at work in terms of human lives, injuries, and huge losses to the economy.

"How many realise that the number of people killed at work is about three times the number killed in crimes of violence?" he asked. "And that the number of injured at work is double the road accident rate?

/ "Today, .....

Friday, December 14, 1973

- 5 -

"Today, this year's accident toll is approaching -- if not actually passing last year's record high. Last year's toll was 296 dead and 29,639 injured. About 24 hours ago, the latest figures for this year showed 293 dead and 29,450 injured in accidents at work.

"As has been said before, accidents are now happening at the rate of one every seven or eight minutes throughout the working day."

Mr. Price said: "The cost of accidents in terms of wasted time and production is enormous. In the past ten years, 3.1 million mandays have been lost as a result of accidents at work -- say a five-day break for our entire present industrial workforce.

"And what has been the cash cost to management -- and to the economy? In the past 10 years, I estimate, about \$1,388 million, without doubt the greatest loss from any single factor.

"This enormous bill in human misery and economic losses must be reduced and reduced quickly.

"The only way in which this can be achieved is for management to take positive action in the essential work of accident prevention. While all must play their part, the final responsibility must rest upon the shoulders of management."

The Industrial Safety Exhibition is open every morning and evening until January 9.

It shows working models, accident tableaux featuring lifelike dummies, operating machinery, films and other aids to show the main accident hazards in Hong Kong's major industries, and the best ways to combat them.

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Friday, December 14, 1973

- 6 -

MANY SCHOOLS TO BE BUILT IN SHA TIN

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The Sha Tin Government Secondary School is one of the forerunners of many schools to be built in the township of Sha Tin, according to Mr. P.C. Woo, Senior Unofficial Member of the Legislative Council and Chairman of the Board of Education.

"This fine new secondary school will meet a need that is already being felt in the district," he said when he officially opened the school today.

"Its existence now makes it possible for a larger number of young people of the area to complete their secondary education, as it were 'at home', thus avoiding the tiresome journeys to and from Kowloon or Hong Kong Island."

The school, built by the government at a cost of \$5.5 million, should also serve the valuable purpose of bringing together the young people of the area to share in their studies and other school activities, thus helping to cement those ties which will be required if Sha Tin was to develop and maintain a healthy community spirit.

Mr. Woo said the pace and extent of new developments in Sha Tin was going to accelerate greatly.

"In the very near future we are going to see here in this valley a staggering growth in the population and the establishment of an imposing township in which it is planned to provide its residents with all these amenities and services normally associated with such a development.

/"A very .....

Friday, December 14, 1973

- 7 -

"A very important part of the social services which must be made available will be the provision of sufficient educational facilities, both for primary and secondary education, to meet the needs of the young people who will live here," he said.

Mr. Woo noted that the opening of the 24-classroom school was very real proof of the continuing expansion of Hong Kong's secondary educational facilities.

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Note to Editors: Copies of the full text of Mr. Woo's speech are boxed for collection.

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/8 .....

Friday, December 14, 1975

- 8 -

RE-APPRAISAL OF TYPE OF EDUCATION BEING PROVIDED IN HONG KONG

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Hong Kong, now in the midst of a period of rapid expansion of secondary education, is going through a period of re-appraisal of the type of education that is being provided.

"This process has been going on quietly for a number of years now but is now more noticed, more discussed," the Assistant Director of Education (Secondary), Mr. R.M. Cameron said this morning.

Speaking at the Speech Day of Tsung Tsin College in the City Hall, Mr. Cameron added: "For example, in recent years there have been considerable changes in the public examinations. In the questions being set in the various subject papers the emphasis has slowly moved away from those questions requiring mainly factual answers to those which require thought, selection of relevant data and analysis.

"Rote learning is no longer the path to success. Students are required to think for themselves and to use their own judgement."

On the development of secondary education, Mr. Cameron reiterated the government's stated policy to achieve as soon as possible a minimum of three years secondary education for all children in Hong Kong and to make provision for 40 per cent of children in the 12-16 age group to receive five years secondary schooling leading to the Certificate of Education.

The Assistant Director described this as "an ambitious programme by any standards" and it would make great demands on the resources of Hong Kong.

/He said .....

Friday, December 14, 1973

- 9 -

He said schools like Tsung Tsin College would have a part to play in this development and he was confident that they would do so readily and enthusiastically. "The Government," he added, "will certainly do all it can to assist them to do so."

On extra-curricular activities, he said Tsung Tsin College had established a very fair range of extra-curricular activities, thus greatly increasing the opportunities for its students to receive a well-rounded education.

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/10 .....

Friday, December 14, 1973

- 10 -

VALUE OF SECONDARY TECHNICAL EDUCATION UNDERLINED

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The Deputy Director of Education (Technical), Mr. A.J. Kingwell today stressed the value of secondary technical education at the Speech Day of the Victoria Technical School.

"If Hong Kong is to meet the needs of this technological age the public must come to recognise the value to society of trained technicians and technologists as well as the value of a secondary technical education as a sure foundation for further studies at university level for a wide variety of professions and not necessarily a branch of engineering," he said.

Describing the results of the students of both the lower and upper 6 forms as "excellent", Mr. Kingwell said: "These are the kind of results which will persuade future students to choose a secondary technical education as their first choice.

"When this begins to happen, there will then be no problem concerning recognition by the universities and the Polytechnic of the suitability of graduates from secondary technical schools to take courses to qualify at professional level."

The Deputy Director said it must be stimulating for secondary technical students to hear that they have been "in the vanguard of a great social and educational advance."

By September 1976 lower form students of Victoria Technical School may be in a new school which is being expressly designed to meet the future requirements of secondary technical education.

/"There is .....

Friday, December 14, 1973

- 11 -

"There is no reason why technical education should not grow in popularity as a suitable medium for girls. It is happening elsewhere, why not in Hong Kong?" Mr. Kingwell said.

He announced that after the Victoria Technical School had vacated the building in Wood Road, the premises would be refurbished to form part of the new College of Technical Education - a technical teachers college to provide the additional teachers which will be required to meet the needs of the expanding technical education system.

The need for additional technical teachers was so urgent that a start would be made in September 1974 in adjacent premises which originally housed the Junior Technical School.

"It was in 1957 that the original Junior Technical School in Hong Kong moved into those premises and became the Victoria Technical School offering a complete five-year secondary technical education," he said.

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Note to Editors: Copies of Mr. Kingwell's speech are boxed for collection.

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/12 .....

Friday, December 14, 1973

- 12 -

\$6.8 MILLION POLYCLINIC EXPANSION PROJECT

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The South Kwai Chung Jockey Club Polyclinic is to be expanded with the addition of another building on an adjacent site to provide rehabilitation and specialist services for residents in the Tsuen Wan and Kwai Chung townships.

Work on this \$6.8 million second phase of the Polyclinic will begin early in the new year, with completion expected in 15 months. The building will consist of two wings, rising to six and seven storeys respectively.

The existing Polyclinic is already providing general out-patient, maternal and child health, chest and X-ray services. The extension will add substantially to these by providing a rehabilitation centre, a day treatment centre for psychiatric cases, and various specialist units.

The rehabilitation centre will be on the ground floor. It will have facilities for physiotherapy, occupational therapy, orthopaedic and prosthetic appliances and medical social work.

The first floor will be devoted to a paediatric out-patient clinic and general administration offices.

Medical out-patient and orthopaedic clinics will be located on the second, and surgical out-patient and social hygiene clinics on the third floor.

There will be obstetrical and gynaecological out-patient clinics and ophthalmic, and ear, nose and throat out-patient clinics on the fourth floor.

The remaining floors will house a psychiatric day treatment centre.

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### EMPLOYMENT ANALYSIS OF MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY

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A special review article analysing the employment situation in the manufacturing industry is published in the October issue of the Hong Kong Monthly Digest of Statistics now on sale.

It is one in a series of reviews on special subjects of interest prepared for public information by the Census and Statistics Department.

The article discusses in concise terms certain salient features of the manufacturing work force such as industrial structure, growth, wages and fringe benefits and standard of living.

Statistical references are drawn from the results of the 1971 Census of Manufacturing Establishments and regular surveys on employment and wages conducted by the department.

The monthly digest is available from the Government Publications Centre at the Star Ferry Concourse, Hong Kong, at \$4 per copy.

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### TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN NORTH POINT

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The section of Electric Road from Watson Road to North Point Road will be re-routed temporarily to one-way eastbound starting from 10 a.m. on Sunday (December 16).

A spokesman for the Transport Department explained that the temporary arrangement was to facilitate trench works in the area.

CMB route 23 buses which normally use Electric Road for both east- and westbound journeys, will now be re-routed to operate via Kam Hong Street and King's Road on westbound journeys.

The temporary arrangements are expected to last for about three weeks, the spokesman added. Traffic signs will be posted to guide motorists.

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Friday, December 14, 1973

- 14 -

HOLIDAY PASSENGER TRAIN SERVICES REVISED

\*\*\*\*\*

The Kowloon-Canton Railway today announced that starting from Sunday (December 16) new arrangements will be introduced, for passenger train services on general holidays.

Between 8.30 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Sundays and public holidays, up-trains Nos. 6, 8, 10, 12 and 14, and special passenger up-trains Nos. 450, 452 and 454 will not pick up passengers at Mong Kok railway station.

A spokesman for the Kowloon-Canton Railway explained that these up-trains were usually full when they left the Tsim Sha Tsui station, and it was not possible to take aboard more passengers at Mong Kok. At the same time, down-train No. 5 will be cancelled on general holidays.

The time table for passenger trains operating on weekdays will remain unchanged, the spokesman added.

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/15 .....

Friday, December 14, 1973

- 15 -

RE-ALIGNMENT OF CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD

\*\*\*\*\*

The alignment and level of a section of Clear Water Bay Road will be altered early next year to provide a better gradient and a safer connection to a new road to be built to its south.

The alteration will affect the section of the road between Fei Ngo Shan Road and Anderson Road.

The new road will form part of Clear Water Bay Road Development which includes building platforms and roads for a government housing estate now under construction at Shun Lee Tsuen, a road link to Sau Mau Ping Road and future construction for a government housing estate at Ngau Chi Wan.

A notice concerning the alteration was published in today's Gazette. Objections to the proposal should be made to the Director of Public Works in writing before January 14, 1974, and claims for compensation should be made before February 14, 1974.

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/16 .....

Friday, December 14, 1973

- 16 -

### NEW SHOP TENANCY AGREEMENT FINALISED

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The Housing Department and representatives of public housing estate shop tenants and Kaifongs today (Friday) finalised the terms of a new draft shop tenancy agreement to replace the present tenancy card scheme on Group B estates.

The meeting at the department's San Po Kong offices was the latest in a series between Housing officers, the Public Housing Estate Merchants' Association, estate Kaifongs and individual tenants.

When long-term agreements were first proposed in August, tenants raised objections which were discussed when the Secretary for Housing, Mr. Ian Lightbody later met their representatives.

The original December 1 deadline for converting to the new agreement was deferred to allow time for consultation between the two sides.

After today's meeting, Mr. Eu Chen-wan, Senior Estate Manager said: "We have tried to allay the suspicions and doubts of tenants and convince them of the Housing Authority's good intentions. The Authority is writing to all affected tenants giving details of the new draft agreement."

The main principles agreed in answer to points raised by tenants are:

#### Security of tenure

Tenancies will be of a fixed term for two years which will be renewed automatically at the end of each term provided there has not been a persistent or blatant breach of the agreement. However, tenants may opt for a monthly tenancy if they wish.

/Inheritance .....

Friday, December 14, 1973

- 17 -

Inheritance

The present tenant will be allowed to transfer his right to a member of his family.

Change of trade

Tenants will have the right to apply for a change of trade provided it meets with local demands and does not adversely affect the living environment of the estate.

Transfer of shop tenancies

Present tenants who held tenancies before April 1, 1973 will be allowed to assign them. In the past, they could only assign to authorised tenants of an estate. Now they can assign to anyone.

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/18 .....

Friday, December 14, 1973

- 18 -

NEW POLICE DIVISIONAL HEADQUARTERS AT KWAI CHUNG

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A new police divisional headquarters will soon be built in Kwai Chung in the New Territories as part of the Force's multi-million-dollar expansion programme.

The Kwai Chung complex, situated at the junction of Kwai Chung Road and Kwai Foo Road, will consist of a 17-storey block, a two-storey annex block and a single-block ancillary building.

The high block will incorporate a podium of two floors for offices, lecture room, cells and a spacious report room. The report room will have a public waiting area and individual interview rooms for handling public complaints and criminal cases.

Other floors will be taken up by barracks for about 600 rank and file members, quarters for the families of four senior officers, a canteen, recreation room and changing rooms.

A special feature of the new building is that the rank and file barracks are designed for better comfort. Instead of one big common barrack room, single officers will share smaller rooms designed for three to four people.

The annex block will have a number of radio control rooms and will house other equipment for telecommunication. Space for car-parking, dog kennels and general storage will be provided in the ancillary building.

/The design .....

Friday, December 14, 1973

- 19 -

The design of the Kwai Chung police station complex is basically the same as the one for the North Point Station now being constructed, and two other new stations to be built in Central and Ho Man Tin in 1974.

Piling work for the Kwai Chung Divisional Headquarters will be completed in February 1974, and construction is expected to begin in March taking about 21 months to complete.

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Friday, December 14, 1973

CONSUMER ADVISORY SERVICE

Daily Guide To Wholesale Market Prices And Supplies

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The following prices were realised today (Friday) at sales under the Rice Control Scheme and at the Vegetable Marketing Organisation Wholesale Market and the Fish Marketing Organisation Wholesale Market at Cheung Sha Wan, Kowloon:

Supplies and Wholesale Prices of Rice

| <u>Grade</u>           | <u>Availability of Supply</u> | <u>Wholesale Price (\$/catty)</u> |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <u>China Rice</u>      |                               | <u>Average</u>                    |
| See Mew -- old crop    | Good                          | 1.64                              |
| -- new crop            |                               | 1.72                              |
| S.C.Jion -- old crop   | Good                          | 1.58                              |
| -- new crop            |                               | 1.66                              |
| Po Hgai                | Good                          | 1.42                              |
| Chu Cho                | Good                          | 1.22                              |
| <u>Thai Rice</u>       |                               |                                   |
| 100% Whole             | Good                          | 1.52                              |
| 10-15% Broken          | Good                          | 1.50                              |
| A1 Super Extra         | Good                          | 1.45                              |
| A1 Super               | Good                          | 1.37                              |
| Whole Glutinous        | Limited                       | 1.52                              |
| <u>U.S. Rice</u>       | Good                          | 1.62                              |
| <u>Australian Rice</u> | -                             | -                                 |
| <u>Pakistan Rice</u>   | -                             | -                                 |
| <u>Taiwan Rice</u>     | -                             | -                                 |

/Supplies and .....

Friday, December 14, 1973

Supplies and Wholesale Prices of Marine Fish

| <u>Species</u>   | <u>Availability<br/>of Supply</u> | <u>Wholesale Price<br/>(\$/catty)</u> |            |                |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------|----------------|
|                  |                                   | <u>High</u>                           | <u>Low</u> | <u>Average</u> |
| Golden Thread    | Normal                            | 4.0                                   | 2.5        | 3.5            |
| Big-Eyes         | Good                              | 2.4                                   | 0.8        | 1.5            |
| Squid            | Normal                            | 5.3                                   | 1.5        | 4.0            |
| Hair-Tails       | Good                              | 2.0                                   | 1.1        | 1.5            |
| Lizard Fishes    | Good                              | 2.0                                   | 0.8        | 1.5            |
| Croakers         | Good                              | 2.0                                   | 0.6        | 1.2            |
| Conger-Pike-Eels | Normal                            | 2.3                                   | 1.5        | 2.0            |
| Melon Coat       | Good                              | 2.5                                   | 1.3        | 1.8            |
| Breams           | Normal                            | 4.0                                   | 2.8        | 3.2            |
| Yellow Belly     | Good                              | 1.2                                   | 0.65       | 0.8            |
| Mackerels        | Normal                            | 3.2                                   | 2.6        | 3.0            |
| Red Goat Fish    | Good                              | 2.1                                   | 0.5        | 1.8            |
| Fork-Tail        | Limited                           | 1.1                                   | 0.5        | 0.7            |
| Horse-Head       | Normal                            | 5.7                                   | 3.0        | 4.0            |
| Melon Seed       | Limited                           | 2.8                                   | 1.3        | 2.1            |
| Pomfrets         | -                                 | -                                     | -          | -              |
| Garoupas         | Normal                            | 6.5                                   | 5.0        | 6.0            |
| Yellow Croaker   | Good                              | 4.5                                   | 3.0        | 3.5            |

/Supplies and .....

Friday, December 14, 1973

Supplies and Wholesale Prices of

Locally Produced Vegetables

| <u>Type</u>          | <u>Availability<br/>of Supply</u> | <u>Wholesale Price<br/>(\$/catty)</u> |            |                |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------|----------------|
|                      |                                   | <u>High</u>                           | <u>Low</u> | <u>Average</u> |
| Flowering cabbage    | Limited                           | 2.2                                   | 0.6        | 1.4            |
| White cabbage        | Normal                            | 0.6                                   | 0.2        | 0.4            |
| Chinese Lottuce      | Normal                            | 0.5                                   | 0.15       | 0.35           |
| Chinese Kale         | Normal                            | 0.7                                   | 0.15       | 0.45           |
| Spring onion         | Normal                            | 1.0                                   | 0.3        | 0.7            |
| Spinach              | Normal                            | 1.4                                   | 0.6        | 1.0            |
| Water cross          | Normal                            | 1.0                                   | 0.2        | 0.6            |
| Leaf mustard cabbage | Scarce                            | 0.5                                   | 0.2        | 0.35           |
| Tomato               | Scarce                            | 2.2                                   | 1.2        | 1.6            |

Supplies and Wholesale Prices of Pork (Live weight)

|      | <u>Availability<br/>of Supply</u> | <u>Wholesale Price</u> |
|------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
|      |                                   | <u>(\$/ picul)</u>     |
|      |                                   | (Average)              |
| Pork | Good                              | 285                    |

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