



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1982

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
HOSPITAL ACTIVITY HITS RECORD LEVEL .....	1
CHAIRMAN, MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION .....	2
WRITTEN TESTS FOR LANTAU TAXI LICENCES .....	3
CARNIVAL FOR YOUNG AND OLD .....	3
WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC .....	4
44 BUILDING PLANS APPROVED IN NOVEMBER .....	5
ROAD CLOSURE IN TSZ WAN SHAN .....	6

HOSPITAL ACTIVITY HITS RECORD LEVEL

\* \* \* \*

ATTENDANCES AT THE CASUALTY DEPARTMENTS OF MAJOR GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS AND AT VARIOUS GENERAL AND SPECIALIST OUT-PATIENT CLINICS - AND ADMISSIONS TO HOSPITAL WARDS - REACHED THE HIGHEST RECORDS LAST YEAR.

THE 1981-82 ANNUAL REPORT PUBLISHED RECENTLY BY THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT, SHOWS THAT MORE THAN 13.4 MILLION OUT-PATIENTS WERE TREATED AT VARIOUS GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

+HOWEVER, THE DEVELOPMENT OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES SHOWED NO SIGNS OF SLOWING DOWN BUT, IN FACT, PROGRESSED SATISFACTORILY IN KEEPING PACE WITH THE NEED OF THE GROWING POPULATION,+ THE REPORT STATES.

THE TOTAL COMPRISED 4.46 MILLION AT GENERAL CLINICS, 761 000 AT CASUALTY DEPARTMENTS AND 8.19 MILLION AT SPECIALIST CLINICS.

\*THE NUMBER OF OUT-PATIENTS AT GOVERNMENT-ASSISTED INSTITUTIONS TOPPED 1.94 MILLION DURING THE YEAR.

IN-PATIENTS AT GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS TOTALLED 384 246 AND AT GOVERNMENT-ASSISTED INSTITUTIONS 195 232.

FOR THE 1981-82 FISCAL YEAR, EXPENDITURE FOR THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT REACHED \$1 204.3 MILLION, SUBVENTIONS FOR NON-GOVERNMENT MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANISATIONS \$629.4 MILLION AND CAPITAL OUTLAYS ON HOSPITALS AND OTHER BUILDINGS \$286 MILLION. THESE FIGURES REPRESENT INCREASES OF 31.8 PER CENT, 32 PER CENT AND 13.5 PER CENT OVER THE PRECEDING YEAR.

THE REPORT POINTS OUT THAT THE GENERAL LEVEL OF HEALTH OF HONG KONG'S POPULATION REMAINED GOOD, DUE LARGELY TO THE ANTI-EPIDEMIC AND SURVEILLANCE MEASURES, DEVELOPMENTS IN PREVENTIVE AND PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES AND GENERAL IMPROVEMENT IN SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS.

THE CRUDE DEATH RATE OF 4.8 PER THOUSAND POPULATION IN 1981 CONTINUED ITS STEADY DECLINE OVER THE LAST TWO DECADES, COMPARED WITH THE RATE OF 5 FOR EVERY THOUSAND PEOPLE IN 1971 AND 5.9 IN 1961.

THE FIVE LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1981 WERE CANCER, HEART DISEASES, CEREBRAL VASCULAR DISEASES, PNEUMONIA AND VARIOUS INJURIES AND POISONING.

CANCER ACCOUNTED FOR 127.8 DEATHS FOR EVERY 100 000 PEOPLE, UP FROM 104.7 IN 1971 AND 72 IN 1961 WHILE HEART DISEASES KILLED 74.3 OUT OF 100 000 PEOPLE, COMPARED WITH 74 IN 1971 AND 58.9 IN 1961.

BUT TUBERCULOSIS MORTALITY DROPPED FROM 60.2 PER 100 000 POPULATION TO 30.9 IN 1971 AND TO 9.5 LAST YEAR.

THE FAMILY HEALTH SERVICE OPERATES 40 CENTRES, PROVIDING A COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH PROGRAMME FOR WOMEN OF CHILD BEARING AGE AND CHILDREN UP TO FIVE YEARS OF AGE.

LAST YEAR, ABOUT 90 PER CENT OF THE NEWLY BORN BABIES ATTENDED THE FAMILY HEALTH CENTRES.

THE INFANT MORTALITY RATE FOR THE YEAR WAS 9.7 PER THOUSAND LIVE BIRTHS, DOWN FROM 11.8 IN 1980.

THE REPORT POINTS OUT, HOWEVER, THAT THE MATERNITY MORTALITY RATE WAS 0.08 PER THOUSAND TOTAL BIRTHS, AS COMPARED WITH 0.05 IN 1980. THE MAJOR CAUSE OF MATERNAL DEATHS WERE POSTPARTUM HAEMORRHAGE AND OBSTETRICAL PULMONARY EMBOLISM.

THE DECLINING INCIDENCE OF LEPROSY FOR THE PAST TWO AND A HALF DECADES CONTINUED THROUGH 1981 DURING WHICH ONLY 55 NEW CASES WERE TREATED, REPRESENTING AN INCIDENCE RATE OF 1.1 PER 100 000 POPULATION.

THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT RUNS A METHADONE MAINTENANCE AS WELL AS DETOXIFICATION SCHEME FOR DRUG ADDICTS, HANDLING A DAILY AVERAGE OF 6 000 TO 7 000 CASES.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PSYCHIATRIC BEDS AT THE END OF 1981 WAS 3 184, AND IN LINE WITH THE UNIVERSAL TREND OF OPERATING SMALL PSYCHIATRIC UNITS IN GENERAL HOSPITALS, IT WAS INTENDED THAT AN ADDITIONAL 2 200 BEDS WOULD BE INCORPORATED INTO THE VARIOUS FUTURE MEDICAL PROJECTS, THE REPORT SAID.

IN 1981, THERE WERE 6 359 ADMISSIONS TO THE MENTAL HOSPITALS, 546 TO THE VARIOUS DAY HOSPITALS AND 169 018 ATTENDANCES AT THE OUT-PATIENT PSYCHIATRIC CENTRES.

THE NUMBER OF HOSPITAL BEDS AT THE GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS AT THE END OF 1981 STOOD AT 10 281 AND AT THE GOVERNMENT-ASSISTED INSTITUTIONS AT 8 755.

----- 0 -----

CHAIRMAN, MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION  
\*\*\*\*\*

IT WAS ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE GOVERNOR HAS APPROVED THE APPOINTMENT OF MR C.W. NEWTON TO SUCCEED MR N.S. THOMPSON, C.B.E., AS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION.

MR NEWTON, WHO IS 54 YEARS OF AGE, IS AT PRESENT THE GROUP MANAGING DIRECTOR OF TURNER AND NEWALL PLC, IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, HAVING JOINED THEM IN 1968 AS FINANCE DIRECTOR. HE FORMERLY HELD SENIOR POSITIONS WITH MOBIL OIL IN AFRICA AND JAPAN.

MR NEWTON IS MARRIED WITH FOUR CHILDREN. HE IS EXPECTED TO ARRIVE IN HONG KONG ON 1ST MAY 1983 TO TAKE UP HIS NEW APPOINTMENT.

----- 0 -----

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1982

- 3 -

WRITTEN TESTS FOR LANTAU TAXI LICENCES  
\* \* \* \*

SPECIAL WRITTEN TESTS FOR LANTAU TAXI LICENCES WILL BE ARRANGED IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH PRIOR TO THE INTRODUCTION OF TAXIS ON LANTAU ISLAND.

ONLY RESIDENTS ON THE ISLAND WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE ARRANGEMENT IS TO ENABLE THE ISLAND'S RESIDENTS TO OBTAIN TAXI DRIVING LICENCES WITH A VIEW TO DRIVING LANTAU TAXIS WHICH WILL COME INTO OPERATION SOON.

LANTAU RESIDENTS WHO HAVE EARLIER REGISTERED FOR AN NT OR URBAN TAXI WRITTEN TEST MAY ALSO APPLY FOR THESE SPECIAL TESTS.

THE TEST WILL CONSIST OF QUESTIONS ON THE HIGHWAY CODES, TAXI REGULATIONS AND LOCATIONS ON HONG KONG ISLAND, KOWLOON, THE NEW TERRITORIES AND LANTAU ISLAND.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT MUI WO COMMUNITY AFFAIRS BRANCH OFFICE, AND THE FOUR RURAL COMMITTEES AT MUI WO, SOUTH LANTAU, TUNG CHUNG AND TAI O.

COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IN PERSON TO MUI WO COMMUNITY AFFAIRS BRANCH OFFICE AT GRANDVIEW MANSION, SOUTH LANTAU ROAD FROM JANUARY 5 TO 8.

LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

CARNIVAL FOR YOUNG AND OLD  
\* \* \* \*

MORE THAN 2 500 RESIDENTS OF EAST KOWLOON ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE PART IN A SPORTS CARNIVAL TO BE HELD ON SUNDAY (JANUARY 2), FROM 9.30 AM TO 1 PM, AT THE ARGYLE STREET PLAYGROUND AND MA TAU WAI PLAYGROUND.

THERE WILL BE A VARIETY OF GAMES RANGING FROM DANCE-IN SESSIONS, DARTS COMPETITIONS TO THREE-A-SIDE BASKETBALL MATCHES, AS WELL AS TELEMATCHES FOR CHILDREN AND ELDERLY PEOPLE.

THERE WILL ALSO BE A MARCHING BAND DISPLAY AND DANCE DEMONSTRATION.

THE EAST KOWLOON SPORTS CARNIVAL IS CO-ORGANISED BY THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT AND THE URBAN COUNCIL.

ITS AIM IS TO ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO DISCOVER THE JOY OF SPORT AND RECREATION PURSUIT THROUGH PARTICIPATION.

/THE CARNIVAL .....

- 4 -

THE CARNIVAL IS OPEN TO ALL FREE OF CHARGE. PARTICIPANTS MUST FIRST REGISTER FOR THE EVENTS AND MAY OBTAIN APPLICATION FORMS FROM THE FOLLOWING RSS DISTRICT OFFICES : KOWLOON CITY (3-7128500), WONG TAI SIN (3-377103) AND KWUN TONG (3-436123).

- - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EAST KOWLOON SPORTS CARNIVAL AT THE ARGYLE STREET PLAYGROUND AND THE MA TAU WAI PLAYGROUND ON SUNDAY (JANUARY 2) FROM 9.30 AM TO 1 PM.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC  
\* \* \* \* \*

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WILL BE ABLE TO SEE THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AT WORK AT THE SECOND DB MEETING TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY (JANUARY 4).

A LIMITED NUMBER OF SEATS WILL BE RESERVED ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS. THOSE INTERESTED ARE WELCOME TO CONTACT THE DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARY AT 5-8921239.

TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE COMING MEETING WILL INCLUDE THE PROPOSED CANCELLATION OF THE SOUTH CONCOURSE AT MTR CAUSEWAY BAY STATION, THE RESTRICTING OF O'BRIEN ROAD FOR PEDESTRIAN USE, THE EFFECT OF THE NEW SUBVENTION SYSTEM ON SOCIAL CENTRES FOR THE ELDERLY, AND THE INTRODUCTION OF THE +MEET THE PUBLIC+ SCHEME.

THE DB MEMBERS WILL ALSO SELECT A LOGO FOR THE DISTRICT BOARD FROM ENTRIES TO A RECENT OPEN COMPETITION.

- - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THE SECOND MEETING OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY (JANUARY 4) AT 4 PM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE AT TUNG WAH MANSION, 8TH FLOOR, 201 HENNESSY ROAD, HONG KONG.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1982

- 5 -

44 BUILDING PLANS APPROVED IN NOVEMBER  
\* \* \* \*

FORTY-FOUR NEW BUILDING PLANS WERE APPROVED BY THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE OF THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IN NOVEMBER THIS YEAR, COMPARED WITH 63 IN NOVEMBER LAST YEAR.

OF THE NEW PLANS, 20 WERE FOR NEW BUILDINGS ON HONG KONG ISLAND, 10 FOR KOWLOON AND 14 FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES.

INCLUDED WERE PLANS FOR A SCHOOL IN BRAEMAR HILL ROAD, A FOOTBRIDGE IN SHA TIN, AN L/P GAS FILLING STATION IN TAI SHANG WAI, YUEN LONG AND A PETROL FILLING STATION IN FAIRVIEW PARK, YUEN LONG.

THE DECLARED COST OF ALL THE NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED DURING THE MONTH WAS \$1 047 MILLION, COMPARED WITH \$452.2 MILLION FOR NOVEMBER LAST YEAR.

THEIR USABLE FLOOR AREA TOTALLED 241 334.9 SQUARE METRES, COMPRISING 168 507.9 SQUARE METRES OF NON-DOMESTIC AND 72 827 SQUARE METRES OF DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA.

IN THE SAME MONTH, THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE ALSO GAVE CONSENT FOR WORK TO START ON 34 PROJECTS, INCLUDING THE SALVATION ARMY HEADQUARTERS AT WING SING LANE, TWO SCHOOL EXTENSIONS AT SYCAMORE STREET AND YUK WAH STREET AND A CLUB HOUSE AT BEAS RIVER, SHEUNG SHUI.

AND, 42 OCCUPATION PERMITS WERE ISSUED FOR NEWLY-COMPLETED BUILDINGS, INCLUDING A SWIMMING POOL IN WONG MA KOK ROAD, STANLEY, TWO POWER STATIONS IN AP LEI CHAU AND A PASSENGER JETTY IN PO LO TSUI, LAMMA ISLAND.

THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE ALSO GAVE PERMISSION FOR 35 BUILDINGS TO BE DEMOLISHED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/6 .....

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1982

- 6 -

ROAD CLOSURE IN TSZ WAN SHAN

\* \* \* \*

AS A RESULT OF THE BURST OF WATER MAINS AT WAN WAH STREET, TSZ WAN SHAN, THE SECTION BETWEEN WAI WAH STREET AND SHEUNG FUNG STREET WILL REMAIN CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FOR ANOTHER THREE WEEKS FOR ROAD WORKS TO BE CARRIED OUT.

DURING THE CLOSURE, TRAFFIC ON THE OTHER SECTION BETWEEN WAI WAH STREET AND TSZ WAN SHAN ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE WAY NORTHBOUND.

KMB ROUTES 3A, 3B AND 15A HEADING FOR TSZ WAN SHAN WILL BE DIVERTED VIA PO KONG VILLAGE ROAD AND TSZ WAN SHAN ROAD. ON THEIR WAY TO WONG TAI SIN, THEY WILL TRAVEL ALONG TSZ WAN SHAN ROAD AND YUK WAH STREET BEFORE TURNING INTO WAN WAH STREET.

MAXICAB ROUTE NO. 19 HEADING FOR SAN PO KONG WILL USE TSZ WAN SHAN ROAD, PO KONG VILLAGE ROAD AND HAMMER HILL ROAD.

ON JOURNEYS TO TSZ WAN SHAN, MAXICAB ROUTE NO. 20 WILL BE DIVERTED VIA SHEUNG FUNG STREET, WAN WAH STREET, YUK WAH STREET, HONG WAH STREET AND WAI WAH STREET. RETURN TRIPS WILL BE VIA TSZ WAN SHAN ROAD AND YUK WAH STREET, BEFORE REJOINING WAN WAH STREET.

- - - - 0 - - - -