



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
WATER SUPPLY PROJECT PROGRESSING SMOOTHLY	1
LEGAL AID TO DEFENDANTS IN CRIMINAL CASES	2
INDUSTRIAL BOOM IN TUEN MUN	3
LOCAL ROUND IN READINESS FOR COMMONWEALTH ESSAY COMPETITION	5
WATER CUT	5

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1978

- 1 -

WATER SUPPLY PROJECT PROGRESSING SMOOTHLY
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WORK ON THE SECOND STAGE OF THE EAST RIVER WATER SUPPLY SCHEME IS RACING AHEAD TO CATER FOR ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES OF WATER FROM CHINA.

THE \$12.7 MILLION CIVIL WORK PROJECT IS PROGRESSING RAPIDLY WITH PIPES BEING LAID, PILING FOR AN ENLARGED BALANCE TANK IN PLACE, AND THE FOUNDATIONS OF A NEW FOUR-PUMP STATION NEARING COMPLETION.

WORK BEGAN IN FEBRUARY THIS YEAR AND THE COMPLETION DATE HAS BEEN SET FOR THE END OF SEPTEMBER NEXT YEAR.

WATER FROM CHINA IS DELIVERED FROM THE SHAM CHUN RESERVOIR, THROUGH TWO PIPES ACROSS THE SHAM CHUN RIVER TO THE MUK WU BALANCE TANK.

FROM THERE THREE PIPELINES TAKE THE WATER THROUGH THE MUK WU PUMPING STATION.

AT PRESENT THERE ARE FOUR VERTICAL PUMPS IN THE STATION, BUT THE NEW STATION WILL ADD ANOTHER FOUR PUMPS.

THE PILES FOR THE NEW TANK, SAID A PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN, WERE +CAST IN-SITU+ IN THAT THEY WERE CAST IN PLACE, TO THE DESIRED LEVEL, AND THEN THE OUTSIDE STEEL SLEEVE REMOVED.

A 1,620 MM DIAMETER PIPELINE BETWEEN MUK WU PUMPING STATION AND RIVER INDUS PUMPING STATION AT LO WU IS ALSO PART OF STAGE II OF THE SCHEME.

A CONTRACT WAS RECENTLY AWARDED FOR THE LAYING OF THIS PIPELINE, AND WORK STARTED ABOUT TWO MONTHS AGO. IT IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN SEPTEMBER 1979.

THE WORK, INCLUDING STORES, IS ESTIMATED TO COST ABOUT \$12 MILLION.

THE MOST RECENT DEVELOPMENT IS THE INVITING OF TENDERS BY THE P.W.D. FOR THE MAJOR WORK ON THE SECOND STAGE OF THE EAST RIVER SUPPLY SYSTEM. THIS INCLUDES PIPELINE AND TUNNELS FROM RIVER INDUS PUMPING STATION TO PLOVER COVE.

THE WORK INVOLVES THE LAYING OF A 2,020 MM TRUNK MAIN ABOUT 4,320 METRES LONG IN TWO SECTIONS, THE CONSTRUCTION OF TWO NEW TUNNELS, AND THE ENLARGEMENT OF A SECTION OF EXISTING PLOVER COVE TUNNEL.

THE P.W.D. SPOKESMAN SAID IT WAS EXPECTED THE WORK WILL BEGIN IN JANUARY AND TAKE ABOUT TWO YEARS TO COMPLETE.

A 1,370 MM PIPELINE WAS LAID FROM THE SHAM CHUN RIVER TO MUK WU PUMPING STATION IN 1976 AS FIRST STAGE WORK FOR THE EAST RIVER WATER SUPPLY SCHEME.

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1978

- 2 -

LEGAL AID TO DEFENDANTS IN CRIMINAL CASES

THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT PROVIDED AID TO DEFENDANTS IN 409 CASES TRIED AT DISTRICT COURTS IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR SINCE LEGAL AID WAS EXTENDED TO COVER ALL CRIMINAL CASES IN DISTRICT COURTS ON APRIL 1 THIS YEAR.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THIS REPRESENTED A 10 PER CENT INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF CASES IN WHICH LEGAL AID WAS APPLIED FOR COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD LAST YEAR.

+WE HAVE ABSORBED THIS EXTRA WORKLOAD WITHOUT ANY INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF OUR STAFF,+ HE SAID.

UNDER THE EXISTING RULES, LEGAL AID IS AVAILABLE SUBJECT TO MEANS TESTED LIMITS OF A MONTHLY DISPOSABLE INCOME OF \$1,500 AND A DISPOSABLE CAPITAL OF \$10,000 TO DEFENDANTS IN ALL CRIMINAL TRIALS IN THE HIGH COURT AND THE DISTRICT COURTS.

PERSONS CONVICTED AND SENTENCED BY MAGISTRATES ARE ELIGIBLE FOR LEGAL AID IF THEY WISH TO APPEAL TO THE HIGH COURT.

APPEALS FROM THE HIGH COURT AND THE DISTRICT COURTS COME BEFORE THE COURT OF APPEAL AND SIMILARLY LEGAL AID IS AVAILABLE IF THERE ARE ANY VALID GROUNDS FOR APPEAL.

IN ADDITION, LEGAL AID IS AVAILABLE TO PERSONS INVOLVED IN CIVIL PROCEEDINGS IF HIS MONTHLY DISPOSABLE INCOME IS WITHIN THE LIMIT OF \$1,000 OR HIS DISPOSABLE CAPITAL, \$10,000.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT PEOPLE WITH REAL INCOME OR CAPITAL OF MUCH MORE THAN THESE LIMITS OFTEN QUALIFY FOR LEGAL AID BECAUSE THESE LIMITS ARE ARRIVED AT AFTER ALL STATUTORY DEDUCTIONS FROM REAL INCOME AND REAL CAPITAL HAVE BEEN MADE.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO NOTED THAT LACK OF LEGAL REPRESENTATION IN COURT PROCEEDINGS IS ALMOST NECESSARILY A HARDSHIP AND A HANDICAP.

+PARTICULARLY IN CIVIL CASE WHERE THERE IS A LOT OF PRE-TRIAL INTERLOCUTORY TECHNICAL PROCEDURES TO BE CARRIED OUT. THESE MATTERS INVOLVE PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE WHICH FEW LAYMEN CAN HOPE TO DEAL WITH.

+IF THIS PRE-TRIAL WORK IS DONE PROPERLY YOU MAY WELL HAVE YOUR CASE MORE THAN HALF WON BEFORE THE TRIAL EVEN STARTS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE GOING RATES OF PRIVATE PRACTITIONERS IN HONG KONG ARE OUT OF THE REACH OF THE MIDDLE-INCOME PEOPLE WHO DO NOT QUALIFY FOR LEGAL AID.

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TO REMEDY THIS SITUATION, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, HONG KONG COULD WELL ADOPT THE +CONTINGENCY FEE+ SYSTEM OR THE +LEGAL INSURANCE+ SCHEME. BOTH OF THESE SYSTEMS ARE USED SUCCESSFULLY IN THE UNITED STATES AND IN CERTAIN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.

A CONTINGENCY FEE SYSTEM WOULD HAVE TO BE CAREFULLY SUPERVISED IN ORDER TO PREVENT ABUSE, AND TO RETAIN ETHICAL STANDARDS.

+THE CONTINGENCY FEE SYSTEM COULD WELL BE USED, FOR INSTANCE, FOR CIVIL PROCEEDINGS TO RECOVER DAMAGES FOR NEGLIGENCE IN TRAFFIC ACCIDENT CASES. THE APPELLANT WOULD ONLY BE REQUIRED TO PAY A COMPARATIVELY SMALL FEE AS A DEPOSIT TO HIS LAWYER FOR REPRESENTATION.

+IF THE CASE WAS WON AND DAMAGES AWARDED, THEN THE SUM SO AWARDED WOULD BE SHARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUCH PROPORTIONS AS HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN AGREED BETWEEN THE LAWYER AND THE CLIENT.

+A LEGAL FEES INSURANCE SCHEME,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID, +COULD BE OPERATED ALONG THE SAME LINES AS INSURANCE FOR MEDICAL FEES - SUCH AS HOSPITAL FEES AND DOCTORS FEES.

+IN PRACTICE, THE INSURANCE COMPANIES WHICH PROVIDED SUCH SERVICES COULD DO VERY WELL OUT OF IT FINANCIALLY, AND THE SYSTEM SHOULD ATTRACT A LOT OF CLIENTS ON A MODERATE PREMIUM BASIS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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INDUSTRIAL BOOM IN TUEN MUN

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GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AT TUEN MUN ARE COPING WITH A SHORT-TERM PROBLEM THEY THOUGHT THEY WOULD NEVER HAVE TO FACE - A SHORTAGE OF WORKERS BROUGHT ABOUT BY AN INDUSTRIAL BOOM IN THE NEW TOWN.

DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS, 20 MULTI-STOREY FACTORY BUILDINGS HAVE SPRUNG UP IN TUEN MUN. THERE ARE ANOTHER 21 FACTORY BUILDINGS UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND WORK WILL SOON BEGIN ON FOUR MORE.

THE SENIOR ESTATE SURVEYOR OF THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE, MR. VICTOR LEUNG, SAID TODAY THE RAPID INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION IN THE TOWN HAD CREATED A GREAT DEMAND FOR WORKERS. +THE RESULT IS THAT THERE IS A BIT OF A SHORTAGE, ALTHOUGH NOT ACUTE, AND SOME FACTORY OWNERS ARE BRINGING IN WORKERS FROM OTHER PARTS OF HONG KONG AND THE NEW TERRITORIES.

/+BUT.....

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1978

- 4 -

+BUT WE DON'T EXPECT TO HAVE THE PROBLEM MUCH LONGER. THE FIRST STAGE OF THE TAI HING ESTATE - WITH ACCOMMODATION FOR SOME 24,000 PEOPLE - HAS NOW BEEN COMPLETED AND WORK HAS STARTED ON THE SECOND STAGE AND ANOTHER ESTATE AT SAM SHING HUI, WHICH WILL HOUSE 22,400 AND 9,000 PEOPLE RESPECTIVELY.+

BY MID-1980'S, HE SAID, THERE WILL BE A TOTAL OF NINE PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES TO ACCOMMODATE 70 PER CENT OF THE TARGET POPULATION OF NEARLY 500,000 PEOPLE IN THE NEW TOWN.

TO TIDE OVER THE INTERIM SHORTAGE, THE HOUSING AUTHORITY IS OFFERING PRIORITY PUBLIC HOUSING UNITS TO WAITING LIST APPLICANTS WHO HAVE SECURED FULL-TIME JOBS IN TUEN MUN.

MR. LEUNG SAID THERE WERE ALSO PLANS TO BUILD SEVERAL DAY NURSERIES TO PROVIDE A MUCH-NEEDED CHILD CARE SERVICE FOR RESIDENTS OF THE NEW TOWN.

+THESE NEW FACILITIES WILL HELP EASE THE SHORTAGE TO A CONSIDERABLE EXTENT AS MOTHERS CAN LEAVE THEIR YOUNG CHILDREN TO THE CARE OF THE NURSERIES AND GO OUT TO WORK TO SUPPLEMENT THE FAMILY INCOME.+

HE POINTED OUT THAT THERE WAS A GROWING DEMAND FOR LAND FROM INDUSTRIALISTS AND THE DISTRICT OFFICE WAS PROVIDING EVERY PIECE OF AVAILABLE LAND TO MEET THE NEED.

+AND BY THE TIME THE LAND HAS BEEN DEVELOPED, NEW RESIDENTS WILL BE MOVING INTO THE TOWN - PROVIDING WORK FOR THE NEWCOMERS AND A READY-MADE WORKFORCE FOR THE INDUSTRIALISTS,+ MR. LEUNG ADDED.

HE SAID THAT ABOUT TEN INDUSTRIAL SITES WOULD COME ON TO THE MARKET BEFORE THE END OF NEXT YEAR.

+THEY WILL BE SOLD EITHER BY AUCTION OR BY TENDER TO HOLDERS OF LAND EXCHANGE ENTITLEMENT DOCUMENTS.+

THE NEXT SALE WILL BE BY PUBLIC AUCTION - FOR A 4,971-SQUARE-METRE INDUSTRIAL SITE AND A 693-SQUARE-METRE COMMERCIAL SITE WHICH GO UNDER THE HAMMER AT THE ST. SIMON LUI MING CHOI SECONDARY SCHOOL AT TUEN MUN AT 2.30 P.M. NEXT TUESDAY (OCTOBER 31).

THE LAST PUBLIC AUCTION OF INDUSTRIAL LAND AT TUEN MUN IN JULY THIS YEAR FETCHED A PRICE OF \$15.2 MILLION, OR \$522 PER SQUARE FOOT.

+MANY INDUSTRIALISTS STILL FIND LAND IN TUEN MUN COMPARATIVELY CHEAPER, AND THE OPENING OF THE NEW TUEN MUN HIGHWAY HAS BROUGHT THE TOWN MUCH CLOSER TO KOWLOON, TSUEN WAN AND THE KWAI CHUNG CONTAINER PORT,+ MR. LEUNG SAID.

+IN THE EARLY DAYS, THERE WERE WORRIES THAT TUEN MUN'S DISTANCE FROM THE MAIN URBAN AREAS MIGHT DETER INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT, BUT DEVELOPERS HAVE SHOWN A GREAT DEAL OF FAR-SIGHTEDNESS 'N COMING TO TUEN MUN.+

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1978

- 5 -

LOCAL ROUND IN READINESS FOR COMMONWEALTH ESSAY COMPETITION

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STUDENTS AGED 19 AND BELOW ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE PRELIMINARY LOCAL ESSAY COMPETITION IN CONNECTION WITH THE ROYAL COMMONWEALTH SOCIETY ESSAY COMPETITION 1978/79.

PRIZE WINNING AND OUTSTANDING ESSAYS IN THE LOCAL ROUND WILL BE SENT TO LONDON FOR THE MAIN COMPETITION, IN WHICH HONG KONG STUDENTS DID VERY WELL IN PAST YEARS.

THE ESSAY COMPETITION IS HELD ANNUALLY BY THE ROYAL COMMONWEALTH SOCIETY TO ENCOURAGE COMMONWEALTH STUDIES IN SCHOOLS.

THE LOCAL ROUND IS SPONSORED BY SIR DOUGLAS CLAGUE, THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY OF THE SOCIETY IN HONG KONG, AND THE HONG KONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

THE COMPETITION WILL BE DIVIDED INTO THREE CLASSES ACCORDING TO AGE GROUPS -- CLASS +A+ FOR STUDENTS BETWEEN 16 AND 19= +B+ FOR THOSE BETWEEN 14 AND 16= AND +C+ FOR THOSE UNDER 14.

BOOK-PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED TO THE TOP THREE WINNERS IN EACH CLASS OF THE LOCAL COMPETITION WHILE AWARDS TO THE WINNERS OF THE ROYAL COMMONWEALTH SOCIETY ESSAY COMPETITION WILL INCLUDE INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL, MONEY AND BOOK-PRIZES. CERTIFICATES ARE AWARDED IN ALL CLASSES FOR HIGHLY COMMENDED AND COMMENDED ESSAYS.

THE ESSAYS FOR THE LOCAL COMPETITION MUST BE SENT TO THE INFORMATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AT LEE GARDENS, HYSAN AVENUE, HONG KONG BEFORE JANUARY 5, 1979.

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WATER CUT

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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN MID-LEVELS WILL BE STOPPED FOR SEVEN HOURS FROM 11 P.M. ON TUESDAY (OCTOBER 31) TO FACILITATE LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE AREA TO BE AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY OLD PEAK ROAD, ROBINSON ROAD FROM GLENEALY TO ALBANY ROAD, AND CONDUIT ROAD FROM OLD PEAK ROAD TO CONDUIT APARTMENT.

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