



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Monday, November 12, 1973

CONTENTS

	<u>Page No.</u>
Compensation for squatter factories involved in clearances..	1
Administration building for Lok On Pai desalting plant nears completion	3
Medical and Health Department taking part in careers exhibition	5
Temporary traffic re-arrangement in Central	7
Lady MacLehose to visit Community Chest member agency in Chai Wan	8
New government appointment	9
Education green paper in popular demand	10

Monday, November 12, 1973

- 1 -

COMPENSATION FOR SQUATTER FACTORIES

The Housing Authority is preparing to spend millions of dollars to compensate owners of squatter factories that have to be cleared for development. This is to help them re-establish their business in the private sector.

Under the old policy, owners of surveyed industrial undertakings were offered units in Housing Authority flatted factories.

From now on the new policy which is more generous and flexible will allow ex-gratia compensation of \$20 per square foot - calculated on the differential between Housing Authority Factory Rent and those in the open market. To minimise hardship for small operators with premises under 300 square feet, a minimum of \$6,000 will be paid.

The new policy has been adopted because of a severe shortage of Housing Authority flatted factory units brought about by the increase in the major development projects including the 10-year housing programme and the Mass Transit Railway. It is estimated that in the next two years 2,800 flatted factory units of 256 square feet will be needed to reprovision operators displaced by scheduled clearances.

Another factor behind the change is the large number of operators whose trades are unsuitable for Housing Authority flatted factories, and who re-assign their units rather than change trade. A problem has also arisen because of the large number of operators requiring single units. Because of the design of the factory building, only a limited number of these can be allocated.

/In future

Monday, November 12, 1973

- 2 -

In future clearances, cash compensation will be offered to those who qualify but, if flatted factory space is available, owners of small undertakings of 50 to 3,000 square feet will have the option of applying for a unit, or units, instead. But no change of trade or assignments will be allowed.

If all eligible undertakings opt for cash, it is estimated that it will cost the government \$5 million to cover the rest of this year's commitment, and a probable \$9 million in 1974-75.

Mr. David Weeks, Administrative Officer (Clearance) of Housing Department, said the amount of cash compensation had been computed on the basis of capitalizing the subsidy element in the differential between government and commercial factory rents.

"It is necessary to change our policy at this time because although there is a shortage of Housing Authority units, there is a good supply of suitable premises in the private sector, and we must press on with our clearances. Families living in small workshops will continue to be offered public housing", he said.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/3

Monday, November 12, 1973

- 3 -

DESALTING PLANT ADMINISTRATION BUILDING READY SOON

The administration building for the sea-water desalting plant at Lok On Pai, in the New Territories is nearing completion and is expected to be ready for occupation in about four months.

The four-storey building, which stands at the waterfront near the Castle Peak Hotel, will contain the main control room for the desalting plant as well as offices, a laboratory, storage of records and a canteen. Also housed in the building will be the main workshops and workshop stores for maintenance of the plant.

In the meantime, work on other parts of the desalting plant is going ahead at full speed.

Foundation work of the auxiliary plant building and boiler houses is almost completed. These structures will house six turbo-generators and six boilers respectively.

The base for one of the six evaporators, which will work in conjunction with the boilers, has also been completed.

In addition, site formation work for fuel storage tanks and the product water treatment house is well in progress.

The fuel jetty, where tankers will off-load fuel oil for the plant, is half done and should be completed in about a month.

/The sea-water

Monday, November 12, 1973

- 4 -

The sea-water desalting plant, on completion, will be the largest of its kind in the world with an output of 40 million gallons of fresh water a day. The biggest plant of this type now is the one in Kuwait which has a daily production of five million gallons.

The Hong Kong desalting plant will consist of six units each complete with its steam boiler, evaporator and associated ancillaries.

"The first unit," the Chief Resident Engineer, Mr. J.L. McDermont of the Public Works Department, said "is expected to be operational at the end of October next year with a daily production of 6-2/3 million gallons of fresh water. The remaining units will come into operation thereafter at three-monthly intervals."

The desalting plant is expected to become fully operational in January 1976 when some 200 engineers and technicians will be required to carry out processing and maintenance work.

The fresh water produced by the plant will be pumped under pressure to the existing Tai Lam Chung Reservoir through steel pipelines and a mile-long tunnel, which are being built.

.....

Note to Editors: Copies of a photograph of the administration building are boxed for collection.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/5

Monday, November 12, 1973

- 5 -

NURSING AS A CAREER

Medical And Health Department Taking Part In Exhibition

The Medical and Health Department is taking up two stalls in the Careers Exhibition opening in the Wanchai reclamation later this month to draw attention to the rewards of nursing as a profession.

One stall will deal with general nursing, and the other with psychiatric nursing.

In the general nursing stall, there will be demonstrations throughout the day of a nurse at work by the bedside of a patient. She will be seen taking care of him, and attending to his needs.

In the psychiatric nursing stall, a model of the new Princess Margaret Hospital will be on display. This hospital is composed of two wings - the general and the psychiatric, with 1,300 beds in each wing.

The general wing is expected to open in the latter part of next year, and the psychiatric wing by 1978. The model gives an accurate impression of what the completed project will look like.

The complex includes the third nursing school proposed by the Medical Development Advisory Committee in its recently-published report. The present two schools are in the Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth hospitals.

A model of a human brain will also be displayed in the psychiatric nursing stall, as well as photographs relating to psychiatric nursing now being carried out in hospitals such as the Castle Peak Hospital.

/One section

Monday, November 12, 1973

- 6 -

One section of the combined stalls will be reserved for the screening of two film-slide shows throughout the day entitled respectively "Life of a general nurse" and "Life of a psychiatric nurse." The audience will see these nurses at work, during their studies, and in their free time.

Literature describing the nursing profession and career prospects will be available free on application at either stall.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/7

Monday, November 12, 1973

- 7 -

TRAFFIC RE-ARRANGEMENTS IN CENTRAL

Temporary traffic restrictions will be imposed at Edinburgh Place and Queen's Pier in Central district tomorrow and Wednesday morning.

The special arrangements are to facilitate a ceremonial parade in Edinburgh Place to mark the departure of His Excellency, the Commander British Forces, Sir Richard Ward and Lady Ward.

The parade will be held at 9 a.m. on Wednesday (November 14), and a rehearsal is to be held the day before.

With effect from 8.30 a.m. on the two days, vehicular access to Edinburgh Place East and Queen's Pier from Connaught Road Central will be prohibited, with the exception of flag cars, labelled cars and official cars entering H.M.S. Tamar.

Peak public light buses will be admitted, but they will be directed to a temporary bus stand at the slip road east of the City Hall multi-storey car park.

The public light bus stand in Edinburgh Place adjacent to the west gate of H.M.S. Tamar, will be temporarily suspended.

The arrangements are expected to last until about 10 a.m., and appropriate traffic signs will be posted to guide motorists.

At the same time, no learner driver will be allowed to use Sau Nga Road in Kwun Tong as from 10 a.m. tomorrow (Tuesday).

A spokesman for the Transport Department explained that the restriction was necessary because Sau Nga Road was the main access to the new United Christian Hospital.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/8

Monday, November 12, 1973

-- 8 --

LADY MACLEHOSE TO VISIT BOYS' BRIGADE

Lady MacLehose, President of the Community Chest of Hong Kong, will be visiting the Hong Kong Council of Boys' Brigade in Chai Wan tomorrow (Tuesday) evening.

The Boys' Brigade aims at promoting the spirit of discipline, obedience and self-respect among boys between the ages of eight and 19.

On arrival, Lady MacLehose will be met by Mr. K.C. Thornton, President of the Brigade and Rev. Li Ping-kwong, the Chairman, who will take her on a tour of the premises.

A review of officers and boys of the 3rd company of the Brigade will take place at the parade ground on the roof, and the company will then demonstrate their skill in drills, gymnastics and group activities.

Lady MacLehose will be accompanied on the visit by Miss Susan Hume, Social Secretary of Government House, and Mr. Colin Morrison, Executive Director of the Chest.

.....

Note to Editors: You are invited to cover the visit. Transport will be provided. A nine-seater van will be waiting at Battery Path outside the Victoria District Court at 7.30 p.m. to take the Press to Chai Wan. Miss Brigitta Wong, Administrative Assistant to the Chest will be on hand to assist Press representatives.

The Hong Kong Council of Boys' Brigade is located at the Epworth Village Community Centre, Epworth Village, Chai Wan.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/9

Monday, November 12, 1973

- 9 -

NEW GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENT

Mr. L.M. Davies, C.M.G., O.B.E., will be arriving in Hong Kong shortly to take up appointment as an Administrative Officer.

An experienced administrator, Mr. Davies is 51 years of age and has been in the Colonial Service since 1948. He has spent much of his career in the Western Pacific, having been Financial Secretary of the Western Pacific High Commission from 1962 to 1965 and Chief Secretary from 1965 to 1970.

He was appointed Deputy Governor of the Bahamas in 1970, where he served until the territory's recent independence.

Mr. Davies, who is a widower, will carry out a familiarisation programme on his arrival, and will initially be attached to the Environment Branch of the Colonial Secretariat.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/10

Monday, November 12, 1973

- 10 -

MANY COPIES OF GREEN PAPER ON EDUCATION GIVEN AWAY

"We are very pleased to hear that teachers are anxious to obtain copies of the report of the Board of Education on the proposed expansion of secondary school education in Hong Kong over the next decade," a spokesman for the Education Department said today.

He added: "This is very encouraging indeed as teachers are naturally concerned with education in Hong Kong. We hope that after studying the report they will send their comments or suggestions in writing to G.P.O. box 1899, Hong Kong, before the end of the year."

The spokesman said that Chinese and English copies of the report were still available free of charge from the Education Department's Information and Public Relations Section, Lee Gardens, Third floor, Hong Kong; the Government Information Services, Beaconsfield House, 5th floor, Hong Kong and Chinese copies from the Home Affairs Department's Information Division, International Building, 9th floor, Hong Kong.

Ever since the publication of the Green Paper, the Education Department has been dealing with individual requests for copies from teachers and educational organisations.

For example, last Friday, 2,000 copies in Chinese and 50 in English were given to the Chinese University of Hong Kong where the Director of Education, Mr. J. Canning, gave a lecture on the Board's recommendations to students and staff of the School of Education and answered questions.

The spokesman pointed out that there were more Chinese copies left to meet individual requests than there were English copies.

- - - - 0 - - - -

Release time: 7.00 p.m.