



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Saturday, March 16, 1974

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Release time: 2.30 p.m.

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ACCIDENTS ON CONSTRUCTION SITES

Four Killed And Over 270 Injured Last Month

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Four workers were killed and 274 injured last month in accidents on construction sites, according to figures released by the Labour Department today.

The victims in the four fatal cases were all killed as the result of falls. Another 46 workers were injured in similar accidents.

The Industrial Safety Training Officer of the Labour Department, Mr. Nick Carter said today: "This type of accident is a persisting problem in this industry. During 1973, 10 construction workers died and 578 were injured as a result of such falls."

"These accidents," he added, "are mainly caused by bad housekeeping, unsafe means of access, unsafe work platforms and workers taking short cuts."

"Proper means of access and safe working platforms are essential. Makeshift arrangements should be prohibited. Trenches and excavations should be fenced, and where it is necessary for workers to cross, proper access should be provided."

Mr. Carter stressed that the main way of preventing this type of accident lay in maintaining high standards of housekeeping at all times.

"This does not mean the clearing and tidying of a site occasionally," he said. "It means a continuous process during the whole building operation. Good housekeeping not only helps prevent accidents, it also increases efficiency."

He appealed to management, supervisors and workers to work as a team with the common goal of reducing accidents on construction sites.

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### HEALTH REPORT FOR JANUARY

#### Incidence Of Measles Continues To Increase

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Health returns for January issued today by the Medical and Health Department show that 11 children died from measles -- the highest number of deaths from the disease recorded for any single month since June, 1967.

Notifications of measles during the month rose to 367, compared with 191 in December last year and 129 in November.

Commenting on these figures, a spokesman said they emphasised the need for parents of susceptible children between six months and five years to have them immunised.

"Free vaccine is available throughout the year at all maternal and child health centres," he stressed.

Of the 103 other deaths recorded during January, 99 were caused by tuberculosis, two by tetanus, one by typhoid, and one by bacillary dysentery.

There were 18 notifications of bacillary dysentery, a drop from the 50 cases reported in December. But notifications of chickenpox rose from 15 in the preceding month to 97. There were no notifications either of diphtheria or poliomyelitis.

The incidence of other communicable diseases showed no appreciable variation.

During the month, Hong Kong remained free from cholera and other quarantinable diseases.

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REFUSE DUMP TO BE TURNED INTO RECREATIONAL AREA

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Some six hectares of land for recreational use will be formed, partially by reclamation, at Shuen Wan, Tai Po, on completion of controlled tipping of refuse in that area in 1976.

Tenders for the controlled tipping of refuse at Shuen Wan are being invited.

The work also consists of the construction of all necessary access, drainage and protective works required for the systematic disposal of refuse by sanitary and inoffensive methods.

Controlled tipping consists essentially of the spreading of refuse in layers, covering each layer with inert soft earth material as tipping proceeds and scaling off all working faces at the end of each day's work in order to obviate noxious smells, control vermin and to eliminate health and fire hazards.

A spokesman for the Public Works Department said: "Covering material will be obtained from adjacent borrow areas which will be excavated to produce about one hectare of level platforms for future development use."

Work is expected to begin in May and will take about 12 months to complete.

The project has been designed by the Development and Airport Division of the Civil Engineering Office, Public Works Department which will also supervise the construction.

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#### FEBRUARY'S WEATHER

Cooler, Sunnier And Drier Than Usual

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The weather last month was cooler, sunnier and drier than usual. It was the fifth successive month with rainfall below average. Although the mean temperature for the month was only 0.9 degree Celsius below normal, two very cold spells were experienced in the Colony during the month and low temperature warnings were issued from February 7 to 10 and from February 25 to 27.

Early on February 26, the air temperature at the Royal Observatory fell to 4.2 degrees Celsius, the lowest in the month.

In the same morning, the minimum temperatures recorded at Tai Mo Shan and Tate's Cairn were -6.5 degrees Celsius and -2.2 degrees Celsius respectively. At Tai Mo Shan, frost was reported on February 25 and some ice formation was also observed early on February 27.

The total sunshine during February amounted to 128.1 hours, which was 27.9 hours above normal.

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Note to Editors: A full report of last month's weather prepared by the Royal Observatory will be distributed separately in the press boxes this afternoon.

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LARGE CROWD EXPECTED TO VISIT G.H. GARDENS TOMORROW

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Improved arrangements have been made this year to ensure that more residents will have an opportunity of seeing the beautiful flowers in the gardens of Government House.

Thousands of people are expected to visit the gardens which will be open to the public from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. tomorrow (Sunday).

The Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose said he was very happy that the people of Hong Kong could again have the opportunity of appreciating the beautiful flowers which were a great credit to the Government House gardeners.

Because the number of visitors this year is expected to be even larger than previous years, there will be no band in attendance so that there will be a freer flow of people in the gardens.

It has also been necessary to erect temporary barriers around some of the flower beds to protect them from the increasingly large crowds which visit the gardens each year.

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WATER INTERRUPTION

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Water supply to a number of premises in Wanchai will be interrupted for five hours, starting from 1 a.m. on Tuesday (March 19). The temporary stoppage is to enable a leakage test to be carried out in the area.

The area affected is bounded by Canal Road East, Hennessy Road, Heard Street, north side of Wanchai Road, Tin Lok Lane, Morrison Hill Road and Leighton Road.

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