



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Anti-Noise Pollution Campaign Launched

A month-long campaign against noise pollution was launched by the Government and the Advisory Committee on Environmental Pollution (EPCOM) today (Monday).

The campaign is aimed at drawing the attention of the public to the fact that noise is a form of pollution and that a great deal of noise is avoidable.

Posters will be displayed prominently throughout Hong Kong, and a 30-second film will also be shown nightly on television during the period of the campaign.

Speaking at a press conference to launch the campaign, Mr. Henry Litton, Chairman of the Noise Pollution Sub-Committee of EPCOM, said that the purpose behind the campaign was to bring home the message that excessive noise was a form of pollution. He said in Hong Kong many people do not associate noise with pollution.

To them pollution was smoke belching out from vehicle exhausts or from factory chimneys or may be from refuse thrown out of a window, Mr. Litton said.

Excessive noise, he said, was also a type of pollution of the environment.

Mr. Litton cited some typical examples of avoidable noise pollution in the home, which included: television and radio sets and hi-fi equipment.

Because of the high population density in Hong Kong's high-rise buildings, the sound from T.V. and radio sets is all the more concentrated and intense.

The Chairman called on the public to be a little more considerate and turn down the volume of their sets, especially at night.

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He said that this little gesture would go some way towards reducing noise pollution.

Touching on mahjong games, Mr. Litton called on players to use insulated tables to reduce the noise of tiles clattering on the table top.

In mentioning noise produced by the construction industry, Mr. Litton said that pile driving was banned between the hours of 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. and all day on Sundays and public holidays. Legislation was being drafted extending this ban to other items of noisy construction equipment.

The Chairman also called on motorists and motorcyclists to pay particular attention to their vehicles' defective exhausts, which, he said, were another source of noise pollution. As for the motorcyclists who deliberately tamper with their exhausts, they must realise, he added, that they are acting illegally and courting punishment.

Mr. Litton pointed out that more and more summonses had been issued under Section/3 of the Summary Offences Ordinance which deals with disturbing public tranquility between the hours of 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. In 1974 over 840 people had been summonsed under this section of the Ordinance while up to November 1975, 1,555 people had been summonsed.

Mr. Litton called on the Mutual Aid Committees to help in "spreading the message" that excessive noise is a kind of pollution and that everyone can make some contribution towards reducing the problem by showing concern for their neighbours and keeping noise to a minimum.

Also present at the press conference was Mr. Hilton Cheong-leen, a member of the Noise Pollution Sub-Committee of EPCOM and Mr. Harnam Grewal, Deputy Secretary for the Environment.

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M.T.R. TRAFFIC RE-ROUTINGS IN SHAM SHUI PO

A number of streets in Sham Shui Po, Kowloon will be re-routed and bus routes altered from 10 a.m. on Wednesday, January 7.

A spokesman for the Transport Department said that this was the first of a series of changes in Kowloon resulting from the construction of the Mass Transit Railway.

The re-routing of traffic and bus services will be implemented in stages which will spread over a three-month period.

The streets affected by the re-routing are:- Hai Tan Street (between Yen Chow Street and Boundary Street) which will be re-routed one-way westbound; Pei Ho Street (between Hai Tan Street and Yee Kuk Street) which will be made one-way southbound; Yee Kuk Street (between Nam Cheong Street and Boundary Street) which will be re-routed one-way eastbound, and, Boundary Street (between Nam Cheong Street and Tai Kok Tsui Road) which will become one-way westbound.

At the same time, there will be no right turns from Tai Kok Tsui Road into Tung Chau Street.

When these changes are implemented, Tung Chau Street and Hai Tan Street will form a quick relief route for traffic proceeding to Lai Chi Kok and Tsuen Wan.

The public light bus stands in Hai Tan Street will be re-located to the opposite side of the road as a result of the reversal of traffic in the street.

Franchised buses serving this area will also be affected. KMB Route Nos. 12, 30, 36B and 50 will be re-routed to operate via Tong Mi Road, Tung Chau Street, Tai Kok Tsui Road, Boundary Street, Hai Tan Street and Yen Chau Street instead of via Tong Mi Road, Lai Chi Kok Road and Yen Chow Street.

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Route No. 2E buses on their return journeys from Shek Kip Mei will be routed through Yee Kuk Street, instead of Hai Tan Street.

Bus stops serving these routes and now located in Tong Mi Road and Lai Chi Kok Road will be relocated to Tung Chau Street and Hai Tan Street.

A spokesman for the Transport Department said that adequate traffic signs would be put up to guide motorists. Notices will also be posted at all affected bus stops to advise bus passengers of the new routes.

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CORRECTION

Note to Editors:

In the New Year Honours List, Mr. John William Tucker was awarded a MBE. In the citation, it was erroneously stated that Mr. Tucker set up the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme in Hong Kong. In fact, he started the scheme in Malaysia (not in Hong Kong) and came to Hong Kong in 1969 to set up the Outward Bound School.

The mistake is regretted.

It would be appreciated, if a correction could be published in your newspapers.

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UNOFFICIALS TO RAISE EDUCATION WHITE PAPER

Three Unofficials will bring up the matter of implementation of the White Paper on Secondary Education in the Legislative Council on Wednesday (January 7).

The subject will be raised in an adjournment debate by the Hon. Hilton Cheong-Leep, the Hon. Mrs. Joyce Symons and the Hon. Miss Ko Siu-wah.

Mrs. Symons will also ask during the questions session for the Government's views on a scheme of Government assistance proposed by the Hong Kong Private Anglo-Chinese Schools Association.

Other Unofficials will ask questions on the outcome of the HK/EEC textile talks, a possible way of reporting crime at CDO and Kaifong offices and simplification of the reporting system, staffing of the Official Receiver's Office, and utilisation of Government school playgrounds and premises after school.

Questions will also be asked on the progress of the working party on legislation required to govern professions supplementary to medicine, on more restrictions on piling noise for the protection of both workers and residents, and on the need for review of sentences imposed on offences against the person.

There will be other questions on the scheduled removal of the Sheung Shui Tanneries, the pilot scheme to install aerators to improve water quality in Kowloon Bay, proper maintenance of the tower clock at the old KCR terminus and the maintenance of air traffic control standard.

Four new bills will be introduced into the Council. They are the Companies (Amendment) Bill 1976, the Country Parks Bill 1976, which protects the vegetation and wild life of selected country areas for the benefit of the public, the Wild Animals Protection Bill 1976, and the Apprenticeship Bill 1975, which improves apprentice training and regulates the employment of apprentices in certain trades.

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LUNAR NEW YEAR STAMPS ON SALE IN TWO WEEKS

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Two special stamps to commemorate the Year of the Dragon will be put on sale at all post offices on January 21 (Wednesday).

The stamps, in denominations of 20 cents and \$1.30, are the tenth in the series of Lunar New Year stamps.

They will be on display on the first floor lift lobby of the General Post Office in Pedder Street on January 13 and 14 from 9.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Special first day covers have been designed and will be placed on sale at 20 cents each at all post offices from Wednesday, January 7. Members of the public are advised to get them early to avoid disappointment.

Advance orders for the servicing of these first day covers will be accepted at the General Post Office in Pedder Street, the Kowloon Central Post Office in Nathan Road and the Tsim Sha Tsui Post Office in Salisbury Road.

The addressed first day covers must be handed in with an order form together with a remittance to cover the cost. The charge will be \$1.70 per cover — \$1.50 for the stamps and 20 cents service fee.

The covers must be fully addressed and no fewer than ten will be accepted with each order.

Order forms will be available at the same three post offices at the same time as the first day covers. The latest acceptance date for advance orders of serviced covers is 5 p.m. on Friday, January 16.

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Anyone ordering serviced covers addressed to a local destination will be able to collect them on January 22 from the office where the order was placed. Covers addressed overseas will be sent forward by ordinary post, surface mail, unless there are sufficient stamps to cover airmail and/or registration charges.

In addition, first day covers will be accepted at all post office counters on the issuing day, impressed with the normal post office date chop and handed back to the person presenting them.

However, no time type will appear in the postmark and the articles must bear an indication that they are "first day covers". They must be addressed to a local destination and must not be registered or bear any other cancellation.

Special posting boxes will also be available at the General Post Office, Kowloon Central Post Office and Tsim Sha Tsui Post Office on January 21 for those who wish to have first day covers carefully hand-postmarked before despatch.

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WATER INTERRUPTION

Water supply to a number of premises in Hung Hom will be cut off from 1 a.m. to 6 a.m. on Thursday (January 8) to enable the Waterworks Office to carry out leakage tests.

The premises affected are bounded by Chatham Road, Winslow Street, Ming On Street and Bulkeley Street.

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