



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Friday, May 4, 1973

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MAIN PUMPING STATION FOR HIGH ISLAND RESERVOIR

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A \$7 million pumping station -- an integral part of the \$1300 million High Island Water Scheme -- is to be built at Yuen Ng Fan on the Sai Kung Peninsula.

It will be the main pumping station for the High Island Reservoir, and will be able to pump up to 120 million gallons of fresh water to the recently extended Sha Tin Treatment Works, during period of low water level.

From Sha Tin, the water will be channelled into the supply to meet Hong Kong's ever increasing demand for water.

The station will be 14 metres high and will consist of two sections. The substructure will house five diesel driven pumps while all the ancillary equipment required for the operation and maintenance of the pumps will be contained in the superstructure on top.

An annex to the superstructure will contain a workshop, office, mess room and control room for the use of the operating staff.

Tenders for the project are invited in a notice published in today's Gazette. The closing date is 12 noon on Friday, June 8.

An interesting feature of the contract is that all drawings and documents have been prepared in metric units, in accordance with the government's programme for metrication.

Further contracts are to be awarded for a mechanical plant as construction proceeds so that sufficient elements of the scheme can be commissioned to enable water to be channelled into the supply at the earliest possible date.

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WATER POLLUTION SURVEY

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More than 16,700 pupils from 130 secondary schools will soon take part in a water pollution survey of about 100 freshwater streams in Hong Kong, Kowloon and the New Territories.

The Science Teachers' Association and the Conservancy Association have produced simple testing kits comprising chemicals, small test tubes and diagrams as well as booklets in Chinese and English for free distribution to the teams of students participating in the survey.

The first priority is to get students involved in practical studies in integrated science and an awareness of the social responsibility of science.

Data collected will be analysed by students under the direction of the two Associations. It is hoped that the whole project will provide new information on the state of Hong Kong's streams. Each test will take about 15 to 20 minutes.

A seminar on the organisation and conduct of the survey for teachers leading the school survey teams will be held in the Chemistry Lecture Theatre, University of Hong Kong next Wednesday morning.

Mr. Terry Allsop, a science educator, and Dr. J. Hodgkiss, a biologist, both of the University, will give an illustrated talk on how the survey should be conducted.

A representative of Caltex will also address the seminar. Caltex contributed \$10,000 towards the cost of the kits and the printing of the booklets which will be distributed at the seminar to the teachers by members of the Science Inspectorate of the Education Department.

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NEW MARKET FOR MONG KOK

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The existing Mong Kok market at the junction of Argyle Street and Canton Road will be reconstructed by the Urban Council to cater for the increasing population of the district.

It forms part of the council's programme to provide better market facilities in urban areas. This programme calls for the construction of more new markets and the reprovisioning of existing ones.

During the redevelopment of the Mong Kok market a temporary one will be set up in a nearby area to serve the residents and to accommodate the stallholders.

Tenders are now being called for the clearance of the site for the temporary market at the junction of Shanghai Street and Mong Kok Road. Fencing and demolition of structures within the 27,210 square feet site will take place on June 22. Work is expected to be completed in three months.

The new Mong Kok market -- a two-storey building -- will have an area of 13,000 square feet. It is expected to cost \$2,750,000.

Marketing facilities will be provided on both floors. It will house the existing stallholders and about 100 additional hawkers from the surrounding streets.

Office facilities, a rooftop playground and quarters for the market staff will be situated on top of the compound.

Reconstruction is anticipated to begin in April, 1974 and will be completed in September, 1975.

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#### HIGH SETTLEMENT RATE ACHIEVED IN INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

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The Labour Relations Service of the Labour Department has helped to settle 77.3 per cent of the industrial disputes in which its help was sought during the first quarter of this year.

Out of a total of 1,165 disputes, the service helped to settle 900.

"This rate is high considering the fact that all cases brought to the service were taken up in the first instance irrespective of the rights and wrongs of the parties," the head of the Labour Relations Service, Mr. T.F. Tsui said today.

As a result of settlements reached, a total of \$1,877,245 was paid to 3,646 workers as arrears of wages, payment in lieu of notice under the Employment Ordinance, or as ex-gratia severance pay.

Mr. Tsui said that most labour problems arose out of disagreement over wage rates, changes in conditions of employment, dismissals, prolonged lay-off, redundancies, insolvency of the employer, or simply mutual misunderstanding.

"In settling 32 of the 37 major labour disputes which occurred during the quarter" Mr. Tsui said, "officers of the Labour Relations Service conducted a total of 79 joint meetings lasting an average of nearly three hours each and made 23 visits to the sites of these disputes."

Mr. Tsui said that a large proportion of the major disputes had arisen from demands for wage increases. "They would have deteriorated or remained unsolved had it not been for the tremendous patience, determination and conciliation skill of the officers of the service," he said.

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During the three months from January to March, the service also responded to 5,060 consultations and enquiries.

Mr. Tsui said officers of the service had visited 45 industrial and commercial establishments to encourage managements to introduce joint consultative arrangements, to prepare written contracts of employment, and to work out grievance procedures in order to maintain industrial harmony.

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#### GERMAN GRAPHIC ART COMES TO TOWN

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An exhibition entitled "Graphic Art in Germany Today" opens tomorrow (Saturday) at the City Museum and Art Gallery.

The exhibition consists of 130 original prints by contemporary German artists selected from the collection of Lufthansa Airline.

A spokesman for the City Museum and Art Gallery said today the prints vividly reflect the current art scene in Germany. A number of internationally known modern masters such as Hans Arp, Marx Max Ernst and Josef Albers are represented.

The exhibition, which is a joint presentation of the Urban Council and Lufthansa, also includes many artists of the "new generation."

It will remain open to the public until May 20.

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Note to Editors: A review of the exhibition will be held today (Friday) at 5.30 p.m. You are invited to send a reporter and/or photographer to attend.

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TSING YI ISLANDERS CELEBRATE TIN HAU FESTIVAL

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A colourful parade featuring dragon and lion dances will mark Tin Hau Festival on Tsing Yi Island tomorrow (Saturday).

Mr. D.C. Bray, District Commissioner, New Territories, will officiate in the drawing of ballots for the 96 "Fa Bao" - a bamboo floral structure elaborately decorated with lanterns, ribbons and paper figures representing historical personalities.

Tin Hau, the "Goddess of Heaven", is believed by fishermen to have control over the sea.

Three dragons, four unicorns and 40 lions will dance in tomorrow's parade which is expected to be watched by more than 30,000 people.

After the parade, Mr. Bray will meet some of the fishermen on the island and also visit a paper products factory.

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Note to Editors: You are invited to send a reporter and/or photographer to cover the event. A special launch has been arranged to take members of the Press to Tsing Yi tomorrow. The launch will leave Tsuen Wan Ferry Pier at 10.20 a.m.

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### FERRY PIER TO BE IMPROVED

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The existing Ma Liu Shui temporary pier near the Chinese University is to be converted into a permanent public pier.

The government intends to take over the pier, which at present is held by permit, and then plans to improve it to bring it up to the standard of other government public piers.

A spokesman pointed out today that over the past few years this pier has been used by a growing number of people, particularly at weekends and public holidays.

After renovation, the pier will also be used as a landing place for the existing ferry services between Ma On Shan and Ho Tung Lau.

The Ho Tung Lau pier will soon be absorbed in reclamation works associated with the Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club's second racecourse in Sha Tin.

In a public notice in the Gazette today, the Director of Public Works draws the attention of the public to the proposed conversion and stipulates that any person having any objection or any claims of private right in the matter, should submit such objections or claims in writing to him within two months.

Notices in English and Chinese, have also been posted on notice boards near the pier.

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YOUTH AN ASSET TO THE COMMUNITY

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The Deputy Director of Social Welfare today urged a greater understanding of youth in Hong Kong.

Mr. Thomas C.Y. Lee said it was unfortunate that people very often regarded youth as a problem and took a pessimistic viewpoint when talking about young people.

He was addressing the Union of Confucian Societies on the occasion of Mencius' birthday.

He said that when people talk about the generation gap they usually put the blame on youth, without realising that parents also have to make efforts to understand their children.

It should be realised that youth is a great asset to the community and should be looked upon as such. Their contributions to society should not be overlooked, he said.

Mr. Lee also went on to explain the services provided by his Department for young people, and said that these would be further expanded later this year when the department implements the community and youth officer scheme.

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Note to Editors: Copies of Mr. Lee's speech (in Chinese only) are distributed separately in the G.I.S. Press boxes this evening.

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FERRY SERVICES FOR CHEUNG CHAU BUN FESTIVAL

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The grand parade of the Cheung Chau Bun Festival, which began today, will take place on Sunday and will be repeated the following day.

To cope with the big crowds expected, the Hong Kong and Yaumati Ferry Company will provide special ferry services to the island on these two days.

However, as the programmes on Sunday and Monday are identical people are asked not to flock to the island on the Sunday. Those who can, should endeavour to see the procession on Monday to avoid congestion on the island.

On Sunday, ferries will leave the Outlying Districts Pier direct for Cheung Chau every 20 minutes from 7 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Ferry services will be suspended from 12.45 p.m. to 3 p.m. when the grand parade is on.

All normal sailings to Cheung Chau will resume at 3 p.m.

On Monday, ferry service arrangements will be the same as Sunday except sailings between Hong Kong Island and Cheung Chau will not operate from 1 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. when the parade is repeated.

Visitors wishing to watch the parades are advised to arrive at the Outlying Districts Services Pier not later than 11 a.m. or they are liable to miss the processions on Cheung Chau.

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Release time: 7.00 p.m.