

**HONG KONG  
GOVERNMENT  
INFORMATION  
SERVICES**

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**DAILY  
INFORMATION  
BULLETIN**

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Thursday, June 1, 1972

## FRANCHISE AWARDED BY GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL

## To Operate Passenger Ferry Services

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The Transport Department announced today that the Governor-in-Council had awarded a franchise to the Hongkong and Yaumati Ferry Co. to operate passenger ferry services between Shau Kei Wan/Kwun Tong and Shau Kei Wan/Sam Ka Tsuen.

For this purpose, the Company would build a new pier at Shau Kei Wan and would start the new services in October after completion of the pier.

In the meantime, with the agreement of the Marine Department, the Company will run a temporary service between Shau Kei Wan (Ah Kung Ngam) and Sam Ka Tsuen from about mid-June, between 6.15 a.m. and 9.15 p.m. at a 20 minute frequency and a fare of 20 cents.

The landing facilities at both ends will necessarily be of a temporary nature until the new piers are ready in October.

Until the Yaumati Ferry Company is ready to take over in October, the Rymo Motorboat Company under a Marine Department licence will continue to provide a temporary passenger service between the Hing Man Street pier (Shau Kei Wan) and the public pier at Kwun Tong.

This service will operate from 6 a.m. to midnight at a frequency of 7 - 10 minutes, with a flat fare of 30 cents.

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EXHIBITION OF CONTEMPORARY HONG KONG ART

At City Hall Art Gallery

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An exhibition of contemporary Hong Kong art will be on show at the City Hall Art Gallery as from tomorrow (Friday).

The exhibition, entitled "Art Now Hong Kong" was the first exhibition of its kind sent abroad by the City Museum & Art Gallery and it has recently returned to Hong Kong.

"It was first held at the Commonwealth Institute Art Gallery in London exactly a year ago, and subsequently it travelled to Edinburgh, Manchester and Bristol," a spokesman of the City Museum & Art Gallery said.

The exhibition, he added, had proved a great success in the United Kingdom.

About 64 paintings, prints and sculpture by Hong Kong artists selected from the City Museum & Art Gallery's permanent collection made up this exhibition.

"It represents a cross-section of Hong Kong art as we see it today, but at the same time, it illustrates the evolution of a unique 'Hong Kong Style' which is the product of East-West cultural interfusion," the spokesman said.

Three folios containing colour reproductions of the exhibits have been specially published for the exhibition. These folios are for sale at the City Museum & Art Gallery at \$2.50 each.

The exhibition will remain open to the public until June 18.

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UNIVERSITY VOLUNTARY WORKERS

Nine Youthful Helpers For Disabled On Two-Day Outing

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Nine volunteers from the Hong Kong University and the Chinese University of Hong Kong helped out last weekend at an outing for 25 disabled residents of the Social Welfare Department's Aberdeen Rehabilitation Centre.

The outing took place in the YMCA's Wu Kwa Sha Youth Village, and was designed to give as much pleasure as possible to the participants by introducing a new scene and a break from routines.

The disabled taking part were made up of several age groups. Some were teenagers, others young men and women. All reside at the Centre and are either disabled or mentally retarded. It was a new experience for most.

Mr. Tsau Tsor-yan, Principal Social Welfare Officer (Rehabilitation), today commended the volunteers from the two universities. He praised their dedication, enthusiasm, and efforts that had brought much joy to handicapped lives.

"Rather more than just enjoyment followed as a result," he commented. "The outing gave a moral uplift to the participants. The Department is especially happy when volunteers join us on occasions like this."

The time was spent in indoor and outdoor activities. There were games, contests, fishing, hikes in the countryside, music, and periods devoted entirely to happy chatter.

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PLASTICS INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEE CONDUCTS

Second Manpower Survey Of The Plastics Industry

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The Plastics Industrial Committee, one of the 10 associated industrial committees of the Industrial Training Advisory Committee, will conduct, with the assistance of the Labour Department, a second manpower survey of the plastics industry during the period from today to June 21, 1972.

The first manpower survey was conducted from August 18, to September 2, 1967, in which 99% of the factories covered in the survey willingly supplied the information required.

The Plastics Industrial Committee has subsequently compiled and analysed the statistical information obtained and published its findings and recommendations in a manpower survey report, which has been available in both English and Chinese at the Government Publications Centre at the Star Ferry Concourse since February 18, 1970.

The committee is pleased to learn that Government has already implemented some of the recommendations.

At the time of the first manpower survey, manpower statistics in the Labour Department showed that in September 1967, the total labour force was 51,556 and the total number of registered and recorded factories was 1,542.

In December 1971, however, the corresponding figures had risen to 59,021 manual workers and 3,019 registered and recorded factories.

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In view of these changes, the Plastics Industrial Committee has decided to conduct a second manpower survey to up-date the data on training requirements and to make new recommendations when necessary, to Government and industry in the light of new statistical information.

The information required from employers in this survey will include:-

- (i) The number of workers at present employed;
- (ii) The number of workers at present under training;
- (iii) The number of existing vacancies;
- (iv) A forecast of the total number of workers required by June 1973.

The information collected will be handled in strict confidence and will be published only in the form of statistical summaries without reference to any individual factory.

As such information is vital to the work of the Plastics Industrial Committee if it is to draw up meaningful plans to meet the training needs of the industry, employers are requested to provide accurate answers to the questionnaire.

Owing to the size of the industry, it is not possible to include all plastics factories. So, a random stratified sampling method has been adopted to select 450 factories to be covered.

An explanatory letter in English and Chinese, together with the questionnaire has been sent to selected factories.

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If on receipt of the questionnaire, an employer has any queries, he is requested to contact the Labour Statistics and Surveys Unit of the Labour Department by telephoning H-778271 Ext. 3 to 4.

During the period of the survey, on a date to be arranged previously by appointment, a survey interviewing officer of the Labour Department will call at each of these factories.

He will answer queries, assist in the completion of the questionnaire if necessary, and collect one copy for processing.

It is sincerely hoped that employers in the plastics industry will co-operate in this survey and thus assure success equal to, if not better than, the first manpower survey.

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#### PASSING-OUT PARADE ON SATURDAY

At Fire Services Training School

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Commodore R.E.S. Wykes-Sneyd will take the salute in a passing-out parade at the Fire Services Training School at Pat Heung on Saturday, June 3.

The parade, the biggest ever held by the Fire Services, will comprise 130 firemen and fire officers in seven squads.

A display of the Fire Services' equipment and fire drills will also take place after the ceremony.

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Note to Editors: You are invited to have the event covered.  
It will start at 10.15 a.m. on Saturday, June 3.  
The Fire Services Training School is situated at  
Fan Kam Road, Pat Heung, New Territories.

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BUILDING DECLARED DANGEROUS

At Jervois Street, Hong Kong

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The Building Authority today declared No. 67 Jervois Street Hong Kong to be in a dangerous condition and ordered demolition.

In a statement issued this morning, the Principal Government Building Surveyor said that this four storey pre-war building has been under observation for three years following the demolition under order of the rear kitchen block.

Fractures in the brickwork of the rear main wall show signs of recent movement and the continuing deterioration of roof and floor joists gives rise to the possibility of a collapse.

Notice of intention to apply for a Closure Order in Victoria District Court at 9.30 a.m. on July 12, 1972 was posted today.

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LEI CHENG UK SWIMMING POOL

To Be Closed For Swimming Gala

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The main and diving pools and the spectator stand in the Lei Cheng Uk Swimming Pool will be closed to the public for periods of time on June 3 (Saturday), June 8 (Thursday) and June 10 (Saturday).

On Saturday (June 3) from 8 a.m. to 11.45 a.m., the pools will be used for races.

On Thursday (June 8) from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., and on Saturday (June 10) from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., the pools will be used by the Kowloon Technical School and The Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association respectively for their swimming gala.

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FACILITY FOR URGENT CONSULTATION

Concerning Labour And Management Problems

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The Labour Department is providing urgent consultation facility for the managements and workers in certain areas in Kowloon.

The facility is being provided for those managements and workers in Tsim Sha Tsui, Yau Ma Tei, Sham Shui Po, Tai Kok Tsui, Lai Chi Kok, part of Hung Hom to the south of Ngan Hon Street, To Kwa Wan Road, Chatham Road, Sun Lau Street, Shun Yung Street and Yan Fung Street.

As from today (June 1), they may contact the Labour Officer in charge of the Labour Relations Service (Kowloon West) at Telephone No. K-889001 for urgent consultations and advice concerning labour and management problems.

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WATER SUPPLY INTERRUPTION

For Certain Premises In Shaukiwan Area

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Water supply to a number of premises in Shaukiwan on Hong Kong Island will be turned off for eight hours starting at 10 p.m. tomorrow (June 2).

The temporary stoppage is to enable the Waterworks staff to fix up fresh water mains in the area.

Affected premises will include 15-55 and 30-48 Shaukiwan Road, 183-193 and 164-174 Sai Wan Ho Street, Shaukiwan Police Station, Tai Lok House, western portion of Tai On Building, Quarry Bay Marine Lot No. 2 and No. 15 (Ship Yard Lane), and all buildings in Tai Cheong, Tai Hong and Tai Foo streets.

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636,000 LOTTERY TICKETS SOLD

Draw On Saturday

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A total of 636,000 tickets of the 47th Government Lottery have been sold up to 5 p.m. today (Thursday).

The draw of the lottery will be held at the City Hall Concert Hall at 10 a.m. on Saturday.

The Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose, will draw the first prize and Lady MacLehose will present souvenir to the Colony's radio and television stations and the Government Information Services.

Tickets of the lottery at \$2 each are on sale at the Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club and its branch offices up to 9 p.m. tomorrow (Friday).

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PRESENT CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

To Be Completely Revised

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The present Consumer Price Index will be completely revised in order to increase its accuracy and its capacity to reflect current conditions.

This was said today by Mr. K.W.J. Topley, the Commissioner of Census and Statistics.

"It was proposed to conduct a larger and more detailed Continuous Household Expenditure Survey which will provide material for an annual or biennial revision of the index," he said.

Mr. Topley said that an estimate of the gross domestic product for Hong Kong was also being calculated based on data from various sources.

He said that advice on the future development of economic and social statistics was now given to Government by the Statistics Advisory Board.

"This Board was set up in March this year and it comprises representatives of the government, private sector and academic field," he added.

The Department publishes a Monthly Digest of Statistics, which summarises all available data on social and economic life of Hong Kong in the fields of climate, population, industrial employment and wages, production, trade, transport and communications, prices and price indexes, money and finance, building and construction, and tourism.

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"During the past five years," Mr. Topley said, "the major tasks of the Department have been the setting up of statistical systems in the major departments of government, and the taking of the 1971 Population and Housing Census. The first results of this latter operation will be published shortly and more reports will follow during the year."

"The other major part of the Department activities is directed to a detailed monthly analysis of Hong Kong's external trade," he added.

Statistics are published monthly in two volumes: one for imports and the other for exports and re-exports. The analysis of trade statistics is released to research organisations, trade commissions, consulates, banking and commercial houses and other interested parties in the form of a monthly report entitled "Hong Kong External Trade".

A comprehensive review of Hong Kong's overseas trade is also published annually.

"Production statistics have been collected in a Census of Manufacturing Establishments held in 1971. The initial findings of which will appear in the April issue of the Monthly Digest of Statistics.

"A detailed Census of Industrial Production will be taken for 1973," Mr. Topley said.

In commenting on other social statistics prepared by Government, Mr. Topley said: "The number of employees and vacancies in all registered industrial establishments are collected and published quarterly by the Labour Department.

"Employment in certain non-industrial establishments, and wage rates and hours of work in 21 selected industries are collected and published half-yearly."

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VISIT TO KOWLOON TSAI

To Inspect Squatter Area

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The Commissioner for Resettlement, Mr. I.M. Lightbody, and the Principal Highways Engineer, Mr. Gordon Sapstead paid a two-hour visit today to Kowloon Tsai to inspect the squatter area following the heavy downpours which affected many huts.

The Resettlement Department had earlier conducted a survey to decide which families were likely to be in danger if such downpours were repeated.

As a result of this survey undertaken jointly with the Public Works Department, resettlement was offered to over 900 people in the area.

Today's on-the-spot study by Mr. Lightbody and Mr. Sapstead confirmed the correctness of the original decision to offer resettlement to the 900 people.

In addition, as a result of this survey, another five or six families at the northern end of the valley will be offered resettlement.

The Public Works Department will now undertake a detailed survey of ground levels to possible flood levels in the southern area, and the results will be available in about four days.

The decision will then be taken on whether or not any other families would be likely to be exposed to danger in the event of further heavy rain in this area.

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Note to editors:

A photograph showing Mr. Lightbody and Mr. Sapstead on this morning's visit is available for collection in the Press Room, Government Information Services this (Thursday) evening.

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Release Time: 7.00 p.m.

# PRESS RELEASE

Thursday, June 1, 1972

## WOEFUL RESPONSE TO CALL FOR NEW VOTERS

The Commissioner of Registration, Mr. J.V.G. Mitchell, said today (June 1) that up to the present "a mere handful of 4,115 people" have responded to the call to register as new electors for next year's Urban Council Elections.

He described this number as "woefully small".

Since the campaign for election has been given much publicity at regular intervals in the press, over the radio and also over the television channels, it cannot be said that people do not know about registering, Mr. Mitchell said.

He made these comments during a talk on the various aspects of the work of the Registration of Persons Department at the luncheon meeting of the Y's Men Club.

Mr. Mitchell stressed that, with only another two weeks to go before the registration cycle closes, he has absolutely no doubt that the new register would contain less names than the current one, unless there is a massive response to register from all eligible parties.

For the current registration drive, it was estimated that between 350,000 and 400,000 residents could register as new electors under one or more of the 23 categories of the Urban Council Franchise.

Publicity on this has been done by means of poster displays and talks to various clubs and civic organisations.

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Help run your city Register as Electors

he said.

In addition, the Secretary for Home Affairs has helped by distributing 600 letters to Clansman's and District Associations and to the Chairmen of Multi-Storey Buildings Incorporated Owners Associations, urging their members to register as electors.

The Director of Education has also assisted in sending out 3,500 letters to Supervisors and Headmasters of various schools to urge their staff to register.

Moreover, letters have also been sent to the 10,950 people who have failed so far to respond to the Sexennial Inquiry letters sent to them last February.

Querying the reason for apathy, Mr. Mitchell asked: "Are people in Hong Kong less civic conscious than they ought to be, and content to let things be or is it that the Urban Council lacks sufficient authority and people want wider representation?"

He urged people to ponder over the question: "What about the Council when it assumes greater authority next year - will it not be worthwhile supporting?"

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