



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1974.

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
TRAIN FARES TO GO UP NEXT MONTH	1.
MORE OLD PARKING METERS TO BE REPLACED	3
OVERSEAS INVESTMENT IN TUEN MUN NEW TOWN WELCOMED	4
WATER SITUATION REPORT	4
TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE ENDORSES REPORT ON PEDESTRIAN PROBLEM SPOTS	5
GREATER FLEXIBILITY FOR INSURANCE COMPANIES	6
IMPROVEMENTS TO THE OLD NORTHCOTE TRAINING COLLEGE	6
NINE HONG KONG SCHOLARSHIP AWARD-HOLDERS STUDYING AT UNIVERSITIES IN BRITAIN	7
EMPLOYERS URGED TO DRAW UP TYPHOON RULES TO GUIDE WORKERS DURING THE APPROACH OF A STORM	8
SURVEY ON MACHINE SHOP AND METAL WORKING INDUSTRY IN HONG KONG	9
TRAINING COURSE FOR VOLUNTEERS	10

DAILY GUIDE TO WHOLESALE PRICES AND SUPPLIES OF BASIC FOOD COMMODITIES	

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1974.

- 1 -

K.C.R. FARE STRUCTURE TO BE REVISED

* * * * *

AN INCREASE IN FARES AND A REVISED STRUCTURE WILL BE INTRODUCED BY THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY FOR ITS PASSENGER SERVICES BEGINNING ON NOVEMBER 4, 1974.

THE FARE INCREASES RANGE FROM 27 TO 60 PER CENT WITH AN AVERAGE OF 35 PER CENT.

THERE WILL BE HALF FARE CONCESSIONS FOR CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGE OF THREE AND 12 YEARS AND FOR STUDENTS ON WEEKDAYS, DURING THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS. SCHOLAR TICKETS, VALID FOR SIX MONTHS, WILL CONTINUE TO BE AVAILABLE TO APPROVED STUDENTS AT \$48 EACH.

THE NEW STRUCTURE WILL INCLUDE THE ABOLITION OF THE THREE-MONTH SEASON TICKET. THE PRICE FOR THE MONTHLY TICKET WILL BE CALCULATED ON BASIS OF 40 INSTEAD OF 30 SINGLE JOURNEYS A MONTH. SINCE THEY ARE NORMALLY USED FOR 52 JOURNEYS, THE DISCOUNT FOR TICKET HOLDERS WILL BE OVER 20 PER CENT.

ANNOUNCING THE REVISION TODAY, THE KCR GENERAL MANAGER, MR. REG. GREGORY, SAID THE INCREASE IN FARES IS THE FIRST IN 27 YEARS AND WAS DECIDED AFTER A CAREFUL STUDY OF THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

INVESTIGATIONS REVEALED THAT SURPLUSES HAVE TENDED TO DECLINE IN RECENT YEARS AND OPERATING COSTS HAVE RISEN SHARPLY. IN THE CURRENT YEAR FUEL COSTS WILL BE \$1 MILLION MORE THAN THEY WERE IN 1973/74.

+THIS,+ MR. GREGORY SAID, +COUPLED WITH AN INCREASE OF \$1.7 MILLION FOR WAGES AND AN ESTIMATED DECLINE IN FREIGHT REVENUE OF ABOUT \$1.5 MILLION SHOWED THAT THE KCR WOULD HAVE HAD A DEFICIT AT THE END OF THIS FINANCIAL YEAR, UNLESS THE INCREASE IS INTRODUCED.+

IN RETURN FOR THE FARES INCREASE PASSENGERS WILL FIND THAT TRAINS WILL HAVE MORE SEATS, ABOUT HALF OF THE COACHES WILL BE NEW AND, IN ADDITION, IT IS HOPED THAT BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR, IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO OPERATE DAILY AN ADDITIONAL FIVE TRAINS EACH WAY BETWEEN UNIVERSITY AND KOWLOON STATIONS, SOME OF WHICH WILL FURTHER ASSIST IN REDUCING OVER-CROWDING IN THE PEAK HOURS.

UNDER THE REVISED STRUCTURE, THERE WILL ONLY BE TWO CLASSES OF FARES - FIRST CLASS AND ORDINARY CLASS, WITH THE PRESENT SECOND AND THIRD CLASSES ELIMINATED.

IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT ALL EXISTING MONTHLY AND SEASON TICKETS PURCHASED BEFORE THE DATE OF THE INCREASE WILL BE VALID UNTIL THEIR DATE OF EXPIRY WITHOUT AN INCREASE IN PRICE. ALSO, BECAUSE THERE WILL BE NO SECOND CLASS COACHES, HOLDERS OF SECOND CLASS TICKETS WILL BE ALLOWED TO USE FIRST CLASS COACHES DURING THE VALIDITY OF THEIR TICKET.

/A SPECIAL

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1974.

- 2 -

A SPECIAL FEATURE OF THE NEW STRUCTURE, HE ADDED, WAS THAT IT IS BASED ON A TAPERED-MILEAGE SCALE SO THAT THE LONGER THE JOURNEY, THE SMALLER WILL BE THE FARE INCREASE PER MILE.

+THIS IS DONE WITH SPECIAL REGARD FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN FANLING, SHEUNG SHUI, TAI PO AND THE NEIGHBOURING AREAS AS THEY ARE SIGNIFICANTLY DEPENDENT ON TRAINS FOR THEIR TRANSPORT REQUIREMENTS TO KOWLOON AND HAVE THE SMALLEST RATE OF INCREASE.+

ANOTHER IMPORTANT POINT IS THAT THE ORDINARY FARE BETWEEN TSIM SHA TSUI AND HONG KOK IS RAISED BY 60 PER CENT TO 40 CENTS. THIS WILL TEND TO PROVIDE MORE SPACE FOR PASSENGERS TRAVELLING ON LONGER JOURNEYS.

BEGINNING ON NOVEMBER 4, KCR WILL ALSO INTRODUCE PRE-BOOKING FOR FIRST CLASS TICKET HOLDERS, EXCEPT ON FESTIVAL DAYS. THIS MEANS THAT FIRST CLASS PASSENGERS WILL NO LONGER HAVE TO QUEUE UP AT THE LAST MINUTE FOR A TICKET BUT INSTEAD WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE ADVANCE BOOKINGS, INITIALLY ONE DAY EARLIER. IF THEY PURCHASE THEIR TICKET WHEN MAKING THE RESERVATION THERE WILL BE NO EXTRA CHARGE.

COMMENTING ON THE NEW FARE STRUCTURE, MR. GREGORY STRESSED THAT THE PRIMARY OBJECT OF THE INCREASE IN FARES WAS TO MAINTAIN THE VIABILITY OF THE RAILWAY IN RELATION TO THE NEED TO PROVIDE SURPLUSES FOR FUTURE INVESTMENT.

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS INCLUDE DOUBLE-TRACKING OF THE LINES BETWEEN HUNG HOM AND SHA TIN, THE OPENING OF THE NEW TERMINAL AT HUNG HOM, AIR-CONDITIONING OF FOUR OUT OF THE 40 NEW CARRIAGES, AND THE RE-CONSTRUCTION OF MONG KOK AND SHA TIN STATIONS.

HE STRONGLY BELIEVED THAT THESE IMPROVEMENTS, AND OTHERS WHICH IT IS HOPED WILL FOLLOW, WILL BRING ABOUT A MORE COMFORTABLE AND EFFICIENT RAILWAY SERVICE FOR THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG AND ENABLE FUTURE FARE LEVELS TO REMAIN STABLE.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

COPIES OF A TABLE OF THE NEW FARE STRUCTURE ARE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION FROM THE G.I.S. PRESS ROOM, 6TH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/3

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1974.

- 3 -

MORE OLD PARKING METERS TO BE REPLACED

* * * * *

A PARKING METER CONVERSION PROGRAMME WILL START NEXT TUESDAY (OCTOBER 29) ON HONG KONG ISLAND IN AREAS WHERE OLD METERS HAVE NOT YET BEEN REPLACED BY THE NEW-RATE TYPE.

ABOUT 1,670 NEW METERS WILL BE INSTALLED TO REPLACE OLD METERS IN WESTERN DISTRICT, THE PEAK, HAPPY VALLEY, CAUSEWAY BAY AND NORTH POINT. METERS HAVE ALREADY BEEN CONVERTED IN CENTRAL AND WANCHAI ON HONG KONG ISLAND AS WELL AS IN TSIM SHA TSUI AND YAU MA TEI IN KOWLOON.

THE NEW METER SCHEME AIMS AT FURTHER RATIONING THE LIMITED NUMBER OF PARKING SPACES AVAILABLE IN ORDER TO ENSURE A BETTER TURNOVER OF PARKING FACILITIES FOR SHORT-TERM PARKERS.

THE CONVERSION PROGRAMME, WHICH WILL BE SPREAD OVER 12 WORKING DAYS, WILL START IN VILLAGE ROAD IN HAPPY VALLEY AND THEN PROGRESS UP TO HOI KWONG STREET IN NORTH POINT.

THE NEW METERS ACCEPT ONLY 50-CENT OR ONE DOLLAR COINS DEPENDING ON THEIR TYPE. THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF TWO-HOUR METERS ONE WHICH TAKES 50-CENT COINS FOR 30 MINUTES AND THE OTHER WHICH ACCEPTS 50-CENT COINS FOR ONE HOUR. THERE ARE ALSO NEW-RATE HALF-HOUR METERS FOR WHICH THE CHARGE IS A FLAT \$1.

A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY ADVISED MOTORISTS TO READ CAREFULLY THE INFORMATION PRINTED ON THE METAL PLATE ATTACHED TO THE PARKING METER TO ENSURE THAT THE CORRECT COINS ARE INSERTED.

+CARS ALREADY PARKED AT OLD-RATE METERS, WHICH ARE SUBSEQUENTLY CHANGED TO NEW METERS WHILE THE CARS ARE STILL PARKED, WILL BE GIVEN THE FULL TIME ALLOWED BY THE METERS AFTER THEY HAVE BEEN CONVERTED.

+ARRANGEMENTS HAVE ALSO BEEN MADE TO CANCEL ANY PARKING TICKET ISSUED TO A MOTORIST WHO MAY HAVE PARKED HIS CAR AT A 10-HOUR OR FOUR-HOUR METER WHEN IT WAS REPLACED BY A NEW TWO-HOUR METERS,+ HE SAID.

----- 0 -----

/4

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1974.

- 4 -

OVERSEAS INVESTMENT IN TUEN MUN NEW TOWN WELCOMED
* * * * *

THE DISTRICT OFFICER, TUEN MUN, MR. DAVID LAN, TODAY SAID HE WOULD WELCOME AMERICAN INVESTMENT IN THE NEW TOWN OF TUEN MUN.

ADDRESSING A GROUP OF ABOUT 150 AMERICAN REAL ESTATE AGENTS VISITING HONG KONG, MR. LAN SAID IT WAS THE GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION THAT TUEN MUN SHOULD BE THE HOME FOR EXECUTIVES, ENGINEERS, SCHOLARS AND ENTREPRENEURS, AS WELL AS BLUE-COLLAR AND JUNIOR OFFICE WORKERS= ALL FORMING AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE NEW TOWN.

PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT, HE SAID, HAD AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN HELPING TO BUILD THE NEW TOWN, WHICH EVENTUALLY WILL BE SELF-CONTAINED WITH ADEQUATE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES.

+FOR THIS REASON,+ MR. LAN ADDED, +LAND HAS BEEN MADE AVAILABLE AND MORE WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR DEVELOPMENT BY THE PRIVATE SECTOR.+

UPON COMPLETION, TUEN MUN NEW TOWN WILL COVER A TOTAL AREA OF ABOUT 2,700 ACRES, ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF WHICH WILL BE RECLAIMED FROM THE SEABED IN CASTLE PEAK BAY.

ALSO ADDRESSING THE VISITING LAND AGENTS WAS THE DISTRICT OFFICER, SAI KUNG, MR. CLIVE OXLEY, WHO SPOKE ON VILLAGE LIFE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WATER SITUATION REPORT
* * * * *

THE TOTAL WATER STORAGE IN ALL RESERVOIRS AS AT 9 A.M. TODAY (FRIDAY) STOOD AT 48,584 MILLION GALLONS, REPRESENTING 72.2 PER CENT OF THE FULL CAPACITY OF 67,300 MILLION GALLONS. AT THIS TIME LAST YEAR THERE WERE 62,175 MILLION GALLONS IN STORE.

THIS MORNING'S STORAGE AT PLOVER COVE WAS 32,279 MILLION GALLONS, COMPARED WITH 48,135 MILLION GALLONS ON THE SAME DAY LAST YEAR. PLOVER COVE'S PRESENT STORAGE REPRESENTS 63.9 PER CENT OF ITS FULL CAPACITY OF 50,500 MILLION GALLONS.

NO RAINFALL WAS RECORDED AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY DURING THE PAST 24 HOURS ENDING AT 9 A.M. TODAY. TOTAL RAINFALL RECORDED SO FAR THIS YEAR IS 1,865.4 MM (73.44 IN).

THE MEAN AVERAGE RAINFALL SINCE JANUARY 1 STANDS AT 2,081.2 MM (81.94 IN), REPRESENTING A SHORTFALL OF 10.4 PER CENT.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/5

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1974.

- 5 -

PEDESTRIAN PROBLEM SPOTS IDENTIFIED
T.A.C. ENDORSES IMPROVEMENT MEASURES
* * * * *

THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE HAS ENDORSED AN UP-TO-DATE REPORT ON HONG KONG'S PEDESTRIAN PROBLEM SPOTS AND VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS WHICH ARE EITHER BEING MADE OR RECOMMENDED TO MAKE IT SAFER TO CROSS AT THESE POINTS.

THE REPORT, PREPARED BY THE TRAFFIC ENGINEERING BRANCH OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT'S HIGHWAY OFFICE, REPRESENTS THE FINDINGS OF AN ANNUAL REVIEW OF ACCIDENT-PRONE LOCATIONS WHERE SUBSTANTIAL CONFLICTS BETWEEN PEDESTRIANS AND VEHICLES EXIST.

THE FIRST REPORT WAS DRAWN UP AND SUBMITTED TO THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOUR YEARS AGO WHEN IT WAS AGREED THAT THE SITUATION WOULD BE REVIEW ANNUALLY.

APART FROM UPDATING THE INFORMATION ON PEDESTRIAN PROBLEM SPOTS EACH YEAR, THE REVIEW RECOMMENDS THE PRIORITY AND FORM OF IMPROVEMENTS BASED ON THE LEVEL OF TRAFFIC AND PEDESTRIAN FLOWS, ACCIDENT RATES AND SPECIFIC CONDITIONS AT THE LOCATIONS, AS WELL AS THE TARGET DATE FOR THEIR COMPLETION.

FORMS OF IMPROVEMENT VARY WITH DIFFERENT SITES. THEY INCLUDE THE PROVISION OF GRADE-SEPARATED PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS, TRAFFIC SIGNAL CONTROLS, ROAD IMPROVEMENTS, FOOTPATHS AND VEHICLE AND PEDESTRIAN RE-ROUTING.

THIS YEAR, THE REPORT LISTS A TOTAL OF 156 PEDESTRIAN PROBLEM SPOTS 53 ON HONG KONG ISLAND, 73 IN KOULOON AND 30 IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WHERE IMPROVEMENTS HAVE EITHER BEEN PROPOSED, ARE IN HAND, OR COMPLETED.

EACH PROBLEM SPOT HAS BEEN INSPECTED TO ASCERTAIN THE SITUATION. SOME LOCATIONS ARE THE SUBJECT OF DETAILED INVESTIGATIONS IN THE FORM OF TRAFFIC SURVEYS OR BASED ON THE POLICE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT REPORT, WHILE OTHER LOCATIONS, WHERE IT APPEARS THAT CONDITIONS HAVE NOT WORSENED DURING THE YEAR, ARE KEPT UNDER CLOSE OBSERVATION.

THE PRIORITY RATING FOR IMPROVEMENT IS CONSIDERED IN THE LIGHT OF THE DATA OBTAINED FROM SURVEYS AND THE FORM OF IMPROVEMENTS PROPOSED.

THE MOST CAREFUL CONSIDERATION IS GIVEN TO LOCATIONS WHERE THERE IS A VERY HIGH PEDESTRIAN FLOW - MORE THAN 10,000 PER HOUR.

THE NEXT ARE LOCATIONS WITH HIGH PEDESTRIAN FLOW (4,000 TO 10,000 PER HOUR), HIGH VEHICULAR FLOW (MORE THAN 2,500 PER HOUR) AND HIGH RATE OF ACCIDENTS INVOLVING DEATH AND SERIOUS OR SLIGHT INJURIES.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/6

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1974.

- 6 -

GREATER FLEXIBILITY FOR INSURANCE COMPANIES
* * * * *

MINOR AMENDMENTS ARE TO BE MADE TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANIES DEPOSIT ORDINANCE AND THE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES ORDINANCE, UNDER TWO BILLS PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE.

THE AMENDMENTS ENABLE INSURANCE COMPANIES TO MAINTAIN WITH THE REGISTRAR OF COMPANIES AS THEIR STATUTORY DEPOSITS INVESTMENTS AUTHORISED IN THE TRUSTEE ORDINANCE, WITH SOME MINOR EXCEPTIONS.

PREVIOUSLY, SUCH COMPANIES WERE ALLOWED TO MAINTAIN DEPOSITS EITHER IN FIXED INTEREST DEPOSITS WITH BANKS OR IN THE FORM OF INVESTMENTS AUTHORISED BY THE UNITED KINGDOM TRUSTEE ACT 1925.

THE NEW PROVISIONS WILL ALLOW A WIDER RANGE OF INVESTMENTS AND IN PARTICULAR WILL PERMIT COMPANIES TO DEPOSIT NOTES ISSUED BY THE HONG KONG BUILDING AND LOAN AGENCY THE PAYMENT OF WHICH IS GUARANTEED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

THE ADVANTAGE TO INSURANCE COMPANIES IN THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION LIES IN GREATER FLEXIBILITY AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO OBTAIN MORE FAVOURABLE RATES OF INTEREST.

- - - - 0 - - - -

IMPROVEMENTS TO OLD COLLEGE BUILDING
* * * * *

TWO MORE STAIRCASES PROVIDING BETTER FIRE ESCAPE MEANS ARE TO BE PROVIDED IN THE OLD NORTHCOTE TRAINING COLLEGE BUILDING IN BONHAM ROAD.

THE STAIRCASES WILL BE ADDED TO THE DEAD-ENDS OF THE THREE-STORY BUILDING WHICH IS CURRENTLY BEING USED AS A LANGUAGE TEACHING CENTRE BY THE ADVISORY INSPECTORATE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AS WELL AS FOR TEACHER TRAINING PURPOSES BY THE NORTHCOTE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION.

IN LINE WITH THE PROJECT, SOME MINOR ALTERATIONS TO THE WINDOWS AND DOORS OF THE PREMISES WILL BE CARRIED OUT WHILE FOUR MORE AIR-CONDITIONING UNITS WILL ALSO BE INSTALLED.

WORK ON THE PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO START IN EARLY DECEMBER THIS YEAR AND SHOULD BE COMPLETED IN THREE MONTHS' TIME.

- - - - 0 - - - -

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1974.

- 7 -

**NINE HONG KONG SCHOLARSHIP AWARD-HOLDERS
STUDY AT UNIVERSITIES IN BRITAIN**

NINE HONG KONG SCHOLARS COMPRISING TWO DOCTORS, TWO ENGINEERS, TWO TEACHERS, ONE SOCIAL WORKER AND TWO POST-GRADUATE STUDENTS ARE AMONG THE 600 AWARD-HOLDERS UNDER THE COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP PLAN IN THE CURRENT ACADEMIC YEAR.

THE HONG KONG AWARD-HOLDERS HAVE BEEN SELECTED BY THE COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIP COMMISSION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM FROM AMONG THOSE NOMINATED AS CANDIDATES BY THE LOCAL COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIPS SELECTION COMMITTEE.

THE NINE AWARD-HOLDERS FROM HONG KONG ARE MISS CHOY KWAN-MING, MR. HO KA-LEUNG, DR. LAI CHING-LUNG, MISS LINDA LAI YEUK-LIN, MR. LAM FUEI-KIT, DR. SYBIL WU PUI-CHEE, MR. LEE KAI-FAT, MISS DORA LEE WAI-PIK AND MR. VICTOR SIT FUNG-SHUN.

DR. LAI AND DR. WU, LECTURERS OF THE DEPARTMENTS OF MEDICINE AND PATHOLOGY, H.K.U., FURTHER THEIR STUDY IN THEIR OWN FIELD IN THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH AND OXFORD UNIVERSITY RESPECTIVELY.

MR. HO, A DEMONSTRATOR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, H.K.U., IS STUDYING MICROWAVE ENGINEERING IN THE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LONDON WHILE MR. LAM, A LECTURER IN THE SAME DEPARTMENT, IS STUDYING ULTRASONIC ENGINEERING IN THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUGHBOROUGH.

MISS CHOY AND MR. SIT, BOTH SERVING TEACHERS IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS, ARE STUDYING PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND GEOGRAPHY RESPECTIVELY IN THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS, LONDON UNIVERSITY.

MISS LINDA LAI, A SOCIAL WORKER IN THE FAMILY SERVICE UNIT OF ST. JAMES' SETTLEMENT, IS STUDYING PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION IN THE BRUNEL UNIVERSITY. MR. LEE AND MISS DORA LEE, BOTH POST-GRADUATE STUDENTS FOR THEIR MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREES IN THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, ARE STUDYING MODERN CHINESE LINGUISTICS IN LEEDS UNIVERSITY AND PHILOSOPHY IN LADY MARGARET HALL, OXFORD UNIVERSITY RESPECTIVELY.

----- 0 -----

/8

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1974.

- 8 -

**EMPLOYERS URGED TO DRAW UP TYPHOON RULES
TO GUIDE WORKERS DURING THE APPROACH OF A STORM**

* * * * *

A LABOUR DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT A NUMBER OF ENQUIRIES HAD BEEN RECEIVED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT AS A RESULT OF TYPHOON 'CARMEN', ASKING ABOUT THE POSITION OF EMPLOYEES WISHING TO LEAVE WORK AND RETURN HOME AS WEATHER CONDITIONS DETERIORATED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THERE WERE NO SPECIFIC LAWS OR REGULATIONS ON THIS SUBJECT, AND THAT IT WAS BASICALLY A MATTER TO BE DECIDED BETWEEN EMPLOYERS AND THEIR EMPLOYEES.

+NONETHELESS, IT IS HOPED THAT ON THESE OCCASIONS EMPLOYERS ACT IN THE INTERESTS OF THE SAFETY OF THEIR EMPLOYEES BOTH AT THEIR PLACE OF WORK AND DURING THE JOURNEY TO AND FROM HOME,+ HE SAID.

+IT IS IMPORTANT TOO THAT THE POSITION OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT, SO THAT WORKERS ARE RELEASED FROM THEIR EMPLOYMENT IN REASONABLE TIME TO ENABLE THEM TO REACH THEIR HOMES.+

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED: +IT WOULD AVOID CONFUSION IF FIRMS PUBLISHED THEIR OWN REGULATIONS SO THAT EMPLOYEES CLEARLY KNOW WHAT THEY ARE EXPECTED TO DO WHEN STORM WARNINGS ARE ISSUED.

+IN A FEW CASES, FIRMS WHICH HAVE SPECIAL EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES MAY REQUIRE THEIR EMPLOYEES TO REPORT FOR DUTY DURING A TYPHOON.

+AND FINALLY, IS IMPORTANT THAT MANAGEMENT AND EMPLOYEES REACH AN AGREEMENT ON THE PAYMENT OF WAGES UNDER VARIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES DURING A TYPHOON.+

----- 0 -----

/9

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1974.

- 9 -

MANPOWER SURVEY ON MACHINE SHOP AND METAL WORKING INDUSTRY

* * * * *

A MAJOR SURVEY OF HONG KONG'S MACHINE SHOP AND METAL WORKING INDUSTRY WILL BE CARRIED OUT BETWEEN NOVEMBER 6 TO DECEMBER 4, 1974.

THE SURVEY, THE THIRD OF ITS KIND, IS CONDUCTED BY THE MACHINE SHOP AND METAL WORKING INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD OF THE HONG KONG TRAINING COUNCIL, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT AND THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT. THE SURVEY WILL COLLECT INFORMATION ON THE PRESENT MANPOWER STRENGTH AND FUTURE REQUIREMENTS OF THE INDUSTRY.

QUESTIONNAIRE FORMS AND RELEVANT DOCUMENTS IN BOTH ENGLISH AND CHINESE WERE SENT TODAY TO THE ESTABLISHMENTS SELECTED BY RANDOM STRATIFIED SAMPLING METHOD.

THE INFORMATION WHICH EMPLOYERS ARE REQUESTED TO SUPPLY INCLUDES: THE NUMBER OF WORKERS AT PRESENT EMPLOYED= THE NUMBER OF WORKERS AT PRESENT UNDER TRAINING= THE NUMBER OF EXISTING VACANCIES= AND THE NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL WORKERS REQUIRED BY NOVEMBER 1975.

DURING THE SURVEY PERIOD, SURVEY INTERVIEWING OFFICERS OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT WILL VISIT EACH OF THE ESTABLISHMENTS TO COLLECT THE COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE FROM EMPLOYERS.

THE SECRETARY OF THE MACHINE SHOP AND METAL WORKING INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD STRESSED THAT THE INFORMATION COLLECTED WOULD BE HANDLED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND WOULD BE PUBLISHED ONLY IN THE FORM OF STATISTICAL SUMMARIES WITHOUT REFERENCE TO ANY INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENT.

FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE INDUSTRY, EMPLOYERS ARE URGED TO CO-OPERATE IN THE SURVEY BY SUPPLYING THE ACCURATE INFORMATION SO THAT PLANS CAN BE MADE TO MEET THE INDUSTRY'S MANPOWER NEEDS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1974.

- 10 -

TRAINING COURSE FOR VOLUNTEERS

* * * * *

THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S TAI HANG TUNG COMMUNITY CENTRE HAS SPONSORED ONE OF THEIR SELF-PROGRAMMING GROUPS THE MOBILE SERVICE TEAM, IN ORGANISING A TRAINING COURSE FOR VOLUNTEERS IN THE DISTRICT.

THE COURSE WILL BE HELD AT THE CENTRE ON SATURDAY AFTERNOONS, STARTING FROM TOMORROW (OCTOBER 26) TO MID-NOVEMBER. ABOUT 30 VOLUNTEERS ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND.

+THE MAIN OBJECTIVES ARE TO GIVE THE VOLUNTEERS A BASIC CONCEPT OF VOLUNTARY SERVICES, CHILD GUIDANCE AND PROGRAMME SKILLS, AND TO TRAIN THEM SO THAT THEY CAN TAKE UP A CHILD GUIDANCE PROJECT ON SOME ROOFTOPS OF THE ESTATE,+ SAID MR. SIT LUI-LUN, WARDEN OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE.

THE TRAINING PROGRAMMES WILL BE IN TWO PARTS. THE FIRST OF THESE IS IN THE FORM OF TALKS AND DEMONSTRATIONS ON SUCH TOPICS AS +THE VALUE OF VOLUNTARY WORK+, +HANDLING THE PROBLEM CHILD+ AND +TECHNIQUES IN HOME VISITING+.

THE SECOND PART CONSISTS OF LEADING CHILDREN IN DRAMA, FOLK DANCING, HANDICRAFT AND GROUP GAMES.

AFTER THIS, THE VOLUNTEERS WILL CARRY OUT A PRACTICAL EXERCISE ON THE ROOFTOPS OF FOUR SELECTED ESTATE BLOCKS WHERE THEY WILL HAVE TO RUN A CHILDREN GUIDANCE PROJECT ON SATURDAY AFTERNOONS FROM NOVEMBER 1974 TO FEBRUARY 1975. THE MOBILE SERVICE TEAM WILL BE WORKING CLOSELY WITH THEM DURING THEIR PLACEMENT.

+ANOTHER OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT IS TO HELP THEM GROW AND MATURE SO THAT THEY MAY, IN THE LONG RUN, BECOME MORE COMMUNITY-MINDED AND INITIATE EFFORTS FOR THE WELL-BEING OF THE COMMUNITY IN WHICH THEY LIVE,+ MR. SIT SAID.

- - - - - 0 - - - - -

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1974

CONSUMER ADVISORY SERVICE
* * * * *

THE FOLLOWING PRICES WERE REALISED TODAY (FRIDAY) AT SALE UNDER THE RICE CONTROL SCHEME AND AT THE VEGETABLE MARKETING ORGANISATION WHOLESALE MARKET AND THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION WHOLESALE MARKET AT CHEUNG SHA WAN, KOWLOON:

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF RICE

<u>GRADE OF RICE</u>	<u>AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY</u>	<u>WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY) AVERAGE</u>
<u>CHINA RICE</u>		
SEE MEW	GOOD	2.02
S.C. JIEN	GOOD	1.86
PO NGAI	GOOD	-
CHU CHO	GOOD	-
<u>THAI RICE</u>		
100% WHOLE	GOOD	1.80
10-15% BROKENS	GOOD	1.65
A1 SUPER EXTRA	GOOD	1.70
A1 SUPER	GOOD	1.45
WHOLE GLUTINOUS	GOOD	1.75
<u>U.S. RICE</u>	GOOD	1.92
<u>AUSTRALIAN RICE</u>	GOOD	1.74
<u>PAKISTAN RICE</u>	GOOD	-
<u>TAIWAN RICE</u>	GOOD	-

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF SWINE

(ALL SOURCES)

AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	-	GOOD
WHOLESALE PRICES OF PORK (\$/PICUL-LIVE WEIGHT)	-	320 (AVERAGE)

/SUPPLIES AND

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1974.

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF MARINE FISH

(CFMO CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE FISH MARKET)

SPECIES	AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY)		
		HIGH	LOW	MODE
GOLDEN THREAD	NORMAL	6.40	2.00	4.00
BIG-EYES	GOOD	3.40	1.50	2.00
SQUID	LIMITED	5.20	1.40	3.50
HAIR-TAILS	NORMAL	3.20	0.50	1.70
LIZARD FISHES	LIMITED	4.60	1.10	2.50
CROAKERS	GOOD	4.00	0.90	2.00
CONGER-PIKE-EELS	LIMITED	3.30	2.40	2.80
MELON COAT	NORMAL	4.00	2.00	3.20
BREAMS	LIMITED	6.20	1.40	3.80
YELLOW BELLY	NORMAL	2.00	0.60	1.40
MACKERELS	LIMITED	5.80	4.70	5.00
RED GOAT FISH	LIMITED	2.00	0.80	1.40
FORK-TAIL	NORMAL	1.50	0.70	1.10
HORSE-HEAD	LIMITED	7.00	4.00	5.50
MELON SEED	NORMAL	3.70	2.40	3.00
POMFRETS	SCARCE	11.00	9.00	10.00
GARROUPAS	SCARCE	13.00	7.50	10.00
YELLOW CROAKER	SCARCE	10.50	4.30	7.50

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF LOCALLY PRODUCED VEGETABLES

(V.M.O. CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE VEGETABLE MARKET)

TYPE OF VEGETABLE	AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY)		
		HIGH	LOW	MODE
FLOWERING CABBAGE	SCARCE	3.20	1.00	2.50
WHITE CABBAGE	SCARCE	2.50	0.80	1.80
CHINESE LETTUCE	SCARCE	2.20	0.80	1.60
WATER SPINACH	SCARCE	1.60	0.60	1.00
CHINESE KALE	SCARCE	3.20	1.00	2.50
STRING BEANS	SCARCE	3.00	1.40	2.50
SPRING ONION	LIMITED	2.60	0.50	1.20
SPINACH	SCARCE	3.50	1.00	2.50
WATER CRESS	SCARCE	4.50	2.50	3.50
LEAF MUSTARD CABBAGE	SCARCE	2.80	0.80	1.40
CHINESE SPINACH	SCARCE	1.80	0.60	1.40
TOMATO	SCARCE	3.50	1.80	2.50