



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1977

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SAU MAU PING LANDSLIDE REPORT

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS ACCEPTED THE FINDINGS OF THE SAU MAU PING LANDSLIDE REPORT PREPARED BY THE INTERNATIONAL PANEL OF EXPERTS COMMISSIONED BY THE GOVERNOR, AND THE SEPARATE REPORT BY THE SPECIALIST FIRM OF CONSULTANT ENGINEERS, BINNIE AND PARTNERS.

A SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THE GOVERNMENT HAS ALREADY BEGUN IMPLEMENTING THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS.

BOTH THE REPORTS ON THE FAILURE OF THE FILL SLOPES BEHIND BLOCK 9 AND 15 OF THE ESTATE ON AUGUST 25 LAST YEAR ARE NOW BEING PRINTED IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE AND WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

THE REPORTS CONCUR IN FINDING THAT THE PRINCIPAL CAUSE OF THE LANDSLIPS WAS SURFACE INFILTRATION OF RAINWATER INTO THE SLOPES, AND THAT THE SLOPES HAD NOT BEEN SUFFICIENTLY COMPACTED.

STUDIES UNDERTAKEN BY THE PANEL OF SIX EXPERTS HAVE DETERMINED THAT THE SPECIFICATIONS SET DOWN FOR THE SLOPES' COMPACTION, ALTHOUGH OF A STANDARD WIDELY ACCEPTED AND USED AT THE TIME OF CONSTRUCTION IN THE EARLY 'SIXTIES, WERE NOT RIGOROUS ENOUGH TO WITHSTAND THE SEVERE RAINFALL CONDITIONS OF AUGUST 25 LAST YEAR.

THE REPORTS ADD THAT THE METHOD USED TO PLACE THE FILL MATERIAL - ALSO IN GENERAL USE AT THE TIME - WAS NOT STRICTLY IN KEEPING WITH THE SPECIFICATIONS AND COULD NOT PRODUCE SOIL DENSITIES CAPABLE OF PREVENTING WHAT WAS NOW KNOWN TO BE A CRITICAL DEGREE OF RAINWATER INFILTRATION.

THE EXPERTS' INVESTIGATIONS HAVE SHOWN THAT ABNORMALLY HEAVY AND PROLONGED RAINFALL ON SLOPES BUILT IN THE MANNER OF THE EARLY 'SIXTIES CAN CAUSE WHAT THEY TERM A +MUD AVALANCHE+ BY LIQUIFYING THE TOP LAYERS OF THE TYPE OF FILL MATERIAL USED FOR SUCH SLOPES IN HONG KONG. THE PARTICULAR PATTERN OF RAIN DURATION AND RAIN INTENSITY NECESSARY TO CAUSE A +MUD AVALANCHE+ WILL VARY FROM SLOPE TO SLOPE.

THE EXPERTS DISCOVERED THAT THE TYPE OF DECOMPOSED GRANITE USED IN HONG KONG'S FILL SLOPES REQUIRES A HIGH DEGREE OF COMPACTION IN ITS SURFACE LAYERS TO ELIMINATE ALL RISK OF MUD AVALANCHES.

THE GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THESE STRICT NEW STANDARDS OF COMPACTION ARE NOW BEING APPLIED IN HONG KONG.

THE INTERNATIONAL PANEL OF EXPERTS ALSO SAYS THAT IN THE LIGHT OF ITS INVESTIGATIONS IT IS NOW CLEAR THAT THE SLOPE INVOLVED IN THE JUNE 1972 LANDSLIDE AT SAU MAU PING FAILED FOR SIMILAR REASONS.

THE GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT DESPITE THE FACT THAT THE SAU MAU PING SLOPES WHICH FAILED IN 1972 AND 1976 WERE BUILT IN A MANNER COMMONLY ADOPTED AND WIDELY ACCEPTED THROUGHOUT THE EARLY 'SIXTIES, THE GOVERNMENT CONSIDERED IT HAD A SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SAFETY OF THE SLOPES WHICH IT BUILDS.

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+IN RECOGNITION OF THIS GENERAL PRINCIPLE,+ HE SAID, +THE GOVERNMENT ACCEPTS RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE 1972 AND 1976 LANDSLIPS AT SAU MAU PING, AND WISHES TO EXPRESS ITS PROFOUND REGRET AT THE LOSS OF LIVES AND INJURIES WHICH OCCURRED IN THE TRAGEDIES.+

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS PREPARED TO SETTLE CLAIMS FOR EX-GRATIA COMPENSATION IN RESPECT OF BOTH LANDSLIDES, AND TO PAY THE LEGAL COSTS OF VICTIMS IN THE PREPARATION OF CLAIMS. FINANCE COMMITTEE WILL BE INVITED TO APPROVE THE PROVISION OF THE NECESSARY FUNDS.

THE AMOUNT OF EX-GRATIA PAYMENT TO BE MADE TO ANY CLAIMANT WOULD BE ASSESSED ON THE USUAL PRINCIPLES APPLIED TO COMMON LAW CLAIMS AND WILL NOT BE REDUCED BY ANY SUMS RECEIVED BY HIM FROM VOLUNTARY PUBLIC DONATIONS. IN THE EVENT OF DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN A CLAIMANT AND THE GOVERNMENT, THE CLAIM WILL BE REFERRED TO AN INDEPENDENT BOARD OF ARBITRATION, THE MEMBERS OF WHICH WILL BE SELECTED FROM A PANEL APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR. THE GOVERNMENT WOULD REGARD ITSELF AS BOUND BY THE FINDING OF THE BOARD.

HE SAID CLAIMS SHOULD BE MADE TO THE CROWN SOLICITOR, AND ALL CLAIMANTS -- IRRESPECTIVE OF THEIR MEANS -- COULD SEEK FREE LEGAL ADVICE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AID IN SUBMITTING THEIR CLAIMS.

IN THE FIRST INSTANCE, ADVICE COULD BE OBTAINED FROM ANY CITY DISTRICT OFFICER OR GOVERNMENT HOUSING MANAGER.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE REPORTS HAD RECOMMENDED REMEDIAL MEASURES FOR OTHER FILL SLOPES NOW CONSIDERED TO BE AT RISK BOTH AT SAU MAU PING AND AT A NUMBER OF OTHER PUBLIC HOUSING AREAS. PLANS ARE ALREADY IN HAND TO CARRY OUT ALL THESE WORKS AS A MATTER OF URGENCY.

+ALL THE WORKS REQUIRED TO MAKE THE SLOPES SAFE WILL BE COMPLETED BEFORE THIS YEAR'S WET SEASON,+ HE SAID, +AND SHOULD THERE BE A THREAT OF HEAVY RAIN UNUSUALLY EARLY IN THE YEAR SPECIAL MEASURES WILL BE TAKEN TO PREVENT INFILTRATION OF RAIN.+

+REMEDIAL WORKS ON THE SLOPES INVOLVED IN LAST YEAR'S SAU MAU PING LANDSLIP ARE IN PROGRESS, AND THE NECESSARY WORKS IN OTHER HOUSING AREAS WILL BEGIN IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

FOLLOWING DETAILED INSPECTION BY THE CONSULTANTS ENGINEERS OF ALL FILL SLOPES IN ALL PUBLIC HOUSING AREAS, IT HAD BEEN DETERMINED THAT ONLY 11 SLOPES AFFECTING TENANTS MIGHT BE AT RISK. THESE WERE AT LEI MUK SHUE, TAI WO HAU, KWAI SHING, SO UK, CHAI WAN, TSZ WAN SHAN, SAU MAU PING AND THE LAI CHI KOK AND CHAI WAN COTTAGE AREAS.

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+THE LANDSLIDE REPORTS MAKE IT CLEAR THAT EVEN IN THESE LIMITED INSTANCES IT WOULD TAKE A PARTICULARLY SEVERE RAINFALL PATTERN TO PUT A SLOPE AT RISK,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+AND,+ HE STRESSED, +AS ALL THE WORKS REQUIRED TO MAKE THE SLOPES SAFE WILL BE COMPLETED BEFORE THE WET SEASON, RESIDENTS ARE NOT IN ANY DANGER.+

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE REMEDIAL MEASURES WOULD INCLUDE THE RECONSTRUCTION OF SLOPES BY EXCAVATING AND RECOMPACTING THE FILL MATERIAL TO THE RIGOROUS STANDARDS RECOMMENDED BY THE PANEL OF EXPERTS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS ALREADY TAKING MEASURES TO IMPLEMENT THE REPORTS' RECOMMENDATION FOR THE SETTING UP OF A SPECIALIST OFFICE IN ITS PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TO CONTROL THE DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF ALL SLOPES IN HONG KONG IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR AND THROUGH THE BUILDING ORDINANCE TO CONTROL THE STANDARD OF SLOPES CONSTRUCTED BY THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

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INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY PLANT FOR TSING YI ISLAND

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR. DAVID AKERS-JONES, TOMORROW (FRIDAY) WILL SIGN LEASE DOCUMENTS FOR A \$100 MILLION PROJECT ON TSING YI ISLAND TO ESTABLISH AN INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT PLANT.

THE SIGNING CEREMONY, WITH OFFICIALS OF THE COMPANY CONCERNED, WILL TAKE PLACE IN ROOM 149, FIRST FLOOR, OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, AT 11.30 A.M. SHARP.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO COVER THIS EVENT. TELEVISION CREWS ARE REQUESTED TO ARRIVE AT 11.15 A.M. TO GIVE SUFFICIENT TIME TO SET UP THEIR EQUIPMENT.

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HK MAY RANK WORLD'S THIRD IN CONTAINER TRAFFIC
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FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE INTRODUCTION OF CONTAINERISATION INTO HONG KONG, THE ANNUAL THROUGHPUT AT KWAI CHUNG CONTAINER TERMINAL EXCEEDED ONE MILLION T.E.U.'S (TWENTY-FOOT EQUIVALENT UNITS) LAST YEAR.

ACCORDING TO STATISTICS RELEASED BY THE MARINE DEPARTMENT, SOME 1.03 MILLION T.E.U.'S WERE HANDLED IN 1976, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 25 PER CENT OVER THE 1975-76 FINANCIAL YEAR TOTAL OF 802,283.

+THIS MEANS THAT HONG KONG IS NOW VYING FOR THIRD PLACE IN THE LEAGUE OF WORLD PORTS HANDLING CONTAINER TRAFFIC, + A MARINE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

IN 1975, NEW YORK LED WITH 1.6 MILLION T.E.U.'S FOLLOWED BY ROTTERDAM (1.1 MILLION T.E.U.'S), AND KOBE (0.9 MILLION T.E.U.'S).

IN TERMS OF CONTAINERISED DEADWEIGHT TONNAGE, LAST YEAR'S TOTAL OF SEVEN MILLION TONS SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 1.7 MILLION TONS OR 32.1 PER CENT OVER THAT OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR. THE VOLUME OF NON-CONTAINERISED CARGO HANDLED LAST YEAR ALSO ROSE BY SOME 27 PER CENT.

OF ALL CARGOES IMPORTED AND EXPORTED, SOME 33 PER CENT (INCLUDING PETROLEUM PRODUCTS), OR MORE THAN 44.5 PER CENT (EXCLUDING PETROLEUM PRODUCTS) WAS CONTAINERISED.

DURING THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW, SOME 8,100 SHIPS ENTERED HONG KONG AS COMPARED WITH 7,400 IN THE 1975-76 FINANCIAL YEAR. THE TOTAL NET TONNAGE OF THESE SHIPS INCREASED BY ABOUT 12 PER CENT FROM 33 MILLION TONS TO ABOUT 37 MILLION TONS.

THE VOLUME OF CARGO LOADED AND DISCHARGED IN HONG KONG HARBOUR LAST YEAR TOTALLED JUST OVER 21 MILLION DEADWEIGHT TONS, AN INCREASE OF 28.5 PER CENT OVER THE 1975-76 FINANCIAL YEAR FIGURE OF 16.5 MILLION TONS.

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EMPLOYEES PAID OVER ~~\$16 M.~~ IN LABOUR-MANAGEMENT DISPUTES

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EMPLOYERS PAID MORE THAN \$16 MILLION TO 9,649 EMPLOYEES LAST YEAR IN LABOUR-MANAGEMENT DISPUTES WHICH WERE SETTLED THROUGH EFFORTS OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE, COMPARED WITH \$13 MILLION IN 1975.

PAID IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE, NEARLY 40 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL, OR \$6,125,736, WERE SEVERANCE PAYMENTS TO 5,000 EMPLOYEES RENDERED REDUNDANT BY OPERATIONAL OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES.

THE REMAINDER WAS PAID AS ARREARS OF WAGES, WAGES IN LIEU OF NOTICE, STATUTORY PAY, BONUS AND OTHER SUMS DUE TO EMPLOYEES.

DURING THE YEAR UNDER REVIEW, THE SERVICE HANDLED 43,792 ENQUIRIES AND CONSULTATIONS. MOST OF THESE RELATED TO PROBLEMS ARISING FROM THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE, PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT AND OTHER MATTERS CONCERNING LABOUR RELATIONS.

IN THE SAME YEAR, THERE WERE ONLY 4,977 WORKING DAYS LOST IN 16 STOPPAGES COMPARED WITH 17,600 WORKING DAYS LOST IN 17 STOPPAGES DURING 1975.

COMMENTING ON THE CONSIDERABLE DROP IN THE NUMBER OF WORKING DAYS LOST, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT SAID: +THIS IS AN OUTSTANDING EXAMPLE OF CO-OPERATION BETWEEN LABOUR AND MANAGEMENT IN THEIR JOINT EFFORT TO ACCELERATE THE RECOVERY OF ECONOMY AND TO MAINTAIN A HIGH RATE OF GROWTH DURING THE YEAR.+

DURING THE YEAR, THE LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE DEALT WITH 136 TRADE DISPUTES UNDER THE LABOUR RELATIONS ORDINANCE OF WHICH 99, OR MORE THAN 70 PER CENT, WERE SETTLED WITH THE HELP OF THE SERVICE.

OFFICERS OF THE SERVICE ALSO HELPED TO BRING ABOUT CONCILIATION IN 6,026 CLAIMS ARISING FROM THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE OR THE TERMS OF THE CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT, SETTLED 3,400, OR SOME 57 PER CENT OF THEM, AND REFERRED MOST OF THE REMAINDER TO THE LABOUR TRIBUNAL FOR A JUDICIAL DECISION TO BE MADE.

+TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE, THE LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE THOROUGHLY INVESTIGATED 147 MAJOR COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE ALLEGED BREACHES OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE CONCERNING REST DAYS, HOLIDAYS WITH PAY AND IMPROPER DEDUCTIONS FROM WAGES AND TOOK NECESSARY ACTION TO BRING ABOUT EARLY REMEDY,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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SERVICE OF THE ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE
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THE SOVEREIGN HAVING APPROVED, A SERVICE OF THE ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE IS TO BE HELD AT 2.30 P.M., ON WEDNESDAY MAY 4, 1977 IN ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL. HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH WILL BE PRESENT AS GRAND MASTER OF THE ORDER.

THOSE BELONGING TO THE ORDER AND HOLDERS OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE MEDAL, WHO WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND THIS SERVICE, ARE INVITED TO APPLY FOR A TICKET TO +THE REGISTRAR OF THE ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE+, THE CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD, AT ST. JAMES'S PALACE, LONDON SW1A 1BG, MARKING THE APPLICATION ENVELOPE +BRITISH EMPIRE SERVICE+. THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS MARCH 31, 1977.

APPLICANTS FOR TICKETS ARE ASKED TO GIVE THEIR FULL NAMES AND APPOINTMENT WHICH THEY HOLD IN THE ORDER (K.B.E., C.B.E., O.B.E., OR M.B.E.) OR WHETHER THEY HOLD THE MEDAL OF THE ORDER. LETTERS CUSTOMARILY SHOWN AFTER THE NAME DENOTING OTHER ORDERS, DECORATIONS OR MEDALS SHOULD BE STATED.

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LUNAR NEW YEAR POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS
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THE POSTMASTER GENERAL ANNOUNCES THAT ON LUNAR NEW YEAR DAY (FEBRUARY 18) THERE WILL BE NO MAIL DELIVERIES AND ALL POST OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED.

HOWEVER, ON SATURDAY (FEBRUARY 19) AND ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 21), THERE WILL BE ONE DELIVERY OF MAIL.

ALSO, ON THESE TWO DAYS, 32 POST OFFICES, INCLUDING THE GENERAL POST OFFICE, THE KOWLOON CENTRAL POST OFFICE AND THE TSIM SHA TSUI POST OFFICE WILL BE OPEN FOR BUSINESS BETWEEN 9 A.M. AND 12 NOON.

ALL OTHER POST OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED.

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FIRE SERVICES TO CARRY OUT SECOND AREA INSPECTION
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THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS TO CARRY OUT ITS SECOND +AREA INSPECTION+ NEXT TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY IN KWAI CHUNG, NEW TERRITORIES.

THE SCHEME, WHICH AIMS TO AROUSE THE AWARENESS OF THE PUBLIC WITH REGARD TO FIRE SAFETY, WAS FIRST INTRODUCED LAST MONTH IN WONG CHUK HANG AND PROVED TO BE A SUCCESS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THAT THE MAIN FEATURE OF THE SCHEME WAS TO ANNOUNCE IN A DESIGNATED AREA THE INSPECTION DATE IN ADVANCE SO THAT THE RESIDENTS OF THAT AREA WOULD HAVE AMPLE TIME TO ENSURE THAT THE MEANS OF ESCAPE OF THEIR PREMISES ARE FREE OF OBSTRUCTIONS AND THE FIRE SERVICE INSTALLATIONS ARE PROPERLY MAINTAINED AND CAN BE SEEN EASILY.

THE SCHEME WILL ALSO COVER SUCH AREAS AS KWUN TONG, SAN PO KONG, MONG KOK, CHAI WAN AND YUEN LONG.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: SQUADS OF FIRE OFFICERS WILL BE MAKING STREET BROADCASTS CONCERNING THE FORTHCOMING INSPECTIONS IN THE KWAI CHUNG AREA ON SATURDAY AND MONDAY. THE TEAMS WILL BE LEAVING KWAI CHUNG FIRE STATION, TAI LIN PAI ROAD, AT 10 A.M. ON THESE TWO DAYS. YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND MEMBERS OF YOUR STAFF TO COVER THE EVENT. DIVISIONAL OFFICER LAM LOK-BUN WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST THE PRESS.

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PREVENTIVE SERVICE PASSING-OUT PARADE
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A PASSING-OUT PARADE FOR 21 REVENUE INSPECTORS WILL BE HELD IN THE PREVENTIVE SERVICE TRAINING SCHOOL AT TAI LAM CHUNG ON SATURDAY (FEBRUARY 12).

THE PARADE MARKS THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF A SIX-MONTH PREVENTIVE SERVICE TRAINING COURSE BY THE OFFICERS, FIVE OF WHOM ARE WOMEN.

SUBJECTS TAUGHT DURING THE COURSE INCLUDED ELEMENTARY LAW, TECHNIQUES AND PROCEDURES OF EXCISE AND PREVENTIVE DUTIES, SELF DEFENCE, MAP READING, FIRST AID, LIFE SAVING, USE OF FIREARMS AND CIVICS.

SIR YUET-KEUNG KAN WILL TAKE THE SALUTE AT THE PARADE AT WHICH FIVE SQUADS COMPRISING 66 OFFICERS WILL TAKE PART.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND A REPORTER AND/OR PHOTOGRAPHER TO COVER THE EVENT. A PREVENTIVE SERVICE BUS (AM 5606) WILL TAKE YOUR REPRESENTATIVE TO AND FROM THE SCHOOL. IT WILL LEAVE THE KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER AT TSIM SHA TSUI AT 9.30 A.M. AND WILL RETURN AFTER THE CEREMONY. REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED. SENIOR REVENUE INSPECTOR H.W. SHIU, WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST YOUR REPRESENTATIVE. THE PARADE STARTS AT 10.50 A.M.

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HONG KONG HOUSING AUTHORITY 香港房屋委員會

PRESS RELEASE 新聞稿

THURSDAY, February 10, 1977

SEVEN BUILDING CONTRACTS
WORTH \$223 MILLION AWARDED SO FAR

The 7th building contract to be let by the Housing Authority in the current financial year was today signed by Mr Donald Liao, Director of Housing, at a brief ceremony held at the Authority's Headquarters Building in Princess Margaret Road, Kowloon.

This contract, worth \$19.5 million, is for the construction of an additional 700 flats for 3,500 people in Nam Shan Estate.

The seven contracts let this financial year, worth nearly \$223 million, will produce public housing accommodation for about 71,500 people.

Four more building contracts for developing Wo Che Estate in Sha Tin, Ngau Chi Wan Estate in Clearwater Bay Road, and the redevelopment of Chai Wan and Tai Wo Hau Estates will be let by the Authority before March 31.

Since 1973, when the present Housing Authority was formed, 26 building contracts had been awarded by both the Housing and Public Works Departments. Worth \$860 million they will provide accommodation for more than 321,500 people.

In the coming financial year, the Authority plans to let building contracts for 12 estates and commercial complexes for 135,000 people at a cost of over \$500 million.

Nam Shan Estate, being built on the former Tai Hang Sai Cottage Area site, will play an important role in the Tai Hang Tung Redevelopment Scheme.

新聞稿

RELEASED PRESS



The contract awarded today includes the building of two 12-storey domestic blocks. Each block will contain 32 flats per floor, together with a central hall containing lifts, staircases and services.

Each of the 700 self-contained flats will have a total floor area of 290 square feet including kitchen, toilet and balcony.

At present, the construction of three blocks in Phase 1A are already in an advanced stage. These blocks, providing 900 flats to house 6,400 people, are expected to be ready for occupation by the middle of this year.

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The seven contracts for this financial year, worth nearly \$400 million, will provide public housing accommodation for about 70,000 people.

Four more building contracts for developing the Estate in Shek Tin, Nung Chi Wan Estate in Shekwan Bay Road, and the redevelopment of

Chai Wan and Tai Wo Han Estates will be let by the Authority before March 31.

Since 1973, when the present Housing Authority was formed, 26 building contracts had been awarded by both the Housing and Public Works Departments, worth \$860 million they will provide accommodation for more than 351,200 people.

In the coming financial year, the Authority plans to let building contracts for 12 estates and commercial complexes for 122,000 people at a

cost of over \$500 million.

Shek Tin Estate, being built on the former Tai Hang Tai College site, will play an important role in the Tai Hang Urban Redevelopment