



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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GOVERNMENT FORGING AHEAD WITH MAMMOTH ROAD PROJECTS
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THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE SPENDING A PROJECTED TOTAL OF \$6.3 BILLION ON NEW ROAD CONSTRUCTION WITHIN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

THIS MASSIVE SUM WILL BE USED BY THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE TO BUILD AN ESTIMATED 145 KILOMETRES OF ADDITIONAL ROADS PLUS VARIOUS STRUCTURES FOR PEDESTRIANS AND TRAFFIC.

THESE NEW ROADS WOULD REPRESENT AN INCREASE OF 12 PER CENT OVER THE EXISTING 1 200-KILOMETRE ROADWAYS, THE GOVERNMENT PRINCIPAL HIGHWAY ENGINEER, MR HAROLD BEATON, SAID.

+BUT MORE IMPORTANT, WE PROJECT THAT THE TOTAL PAVED ROAD AREA OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS WILL EXPAND BY AS MUCH AS 22 PER CENT, FROM 11 MILLION SQUARE METRES TO SOME 13.4 MILLION SQUARE METRES.

+THIS MEANS THAT THE NEW ROADS TO BE BUILT WILL GENERALLY BE WIDER AND HAVE MORE TRAFFIC LANES,+ HE EXPLAINED.

FOR THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR ALONE, ABOUT \$1.15 BILLION WILL BE SPENT, UP BY 21.7 PER CENT OVER SOME \$900 MILLION EXPENDED IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

THESE PROJECTS EXCLUDE THOSE TO BE BUILT IN THE NEW TOWNS WHERE THE CAPITAL COST OF THE ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE IS LUMPED INTO THE TOTAL PACKAGES OF THE TOWNSHIPS.

+THE MAMMOTH ROAD EXPANSION PROGRAMME DOVETAILS INTO HONG KONG'S OVERALL TRANSPORT NETWORK, PROVIDING GREATER CAPACITY FOR THE MOVEMENT OF PASSENGERS AND GOODS,+ MR BEATON SAID.

CURRENTLY, THE NUMBER OF BUS PASSENGERS AVERAGES 3.5 MILLION A DAY, MAKING BUS TRAVEL BY FAR THE MOST WIDELY USED TRANSPORT MODE IN HONG KONG.

FORMING PART OF THE OVERALL ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMME ARE THE VARIOUS FEEDER ROAD SYSTEMS BEING CONSTRUCTED TO SERVICE RAILWAY COMMUTERS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

+THESE FEEDER ROADS ARE ESSENTIAL AS FEW PEOPLE LIVE NEXTDOOR TO RAILWAY STATIONS,+ HE SAID.

AT THE MOMENT, ABOUT 120 SEPARATE ROAD PROJECTS ARE UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND SOME 80 ARE IN VARIOUS STAGES OF PLANNING.

ON HONG KONG ISLAND, MAJOR PROJECTS TO BE COMPLETED WITHIN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS INCLUDE THE ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR STRETCHING FROM VICTORIA PARK TO CHAI WAN.

IN URBAN KOWLOON, THE WEST KOWLOON CORRIDOR SHOULD GREATLY IMPROVE TRAFFIC FROM YAU MA TEI TO LAI CHI KOK WHEN THIS ELEVATED ROAD SYSTEM IS COMPLETED IN 1987, HE SAID.

+ROAD TRAFFIC IN THE ONCE SEDATE NEW TERRITORIES IS BEING REVOLUTIONISED, AS MORE ULTRA-MODERN HIGHWAYS ARE BUILT TO SERVICE THE GROWING POPULATION AND INDUSTRIALISATION THERE,+ MR BEATON SAID.

LOOKING AT THE HUGE TRANSPORT MAP ON HIS OFFICE WALL, HE TICKED OFF SOME OF THE IMPORTANT TRUNK ROADS UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN THE NEW TERRITORIES -- STAGE 2 OF THE TSUEN WAN BY-PASS, THE TAI PO BY-PASS AND THE NEW TERRITORIES CIRCULAR ROAD SYSTEM FROM SHA TIN TO WO HOP SHEK PLUS A COASTAL ROAD THAT FORMS PART OF THIS SYSTEM.

THE \$911-MILLION TRUNK ROAD BETWEEN SHA TIN AND NORTH TAI PO, ONE OF HONG KONG'S LARGEST ROAD PROJECTS, IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED EARLY IN 1985.

TO BE READY AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME IS THE FINAL STAGE OF THE DUAL THREE-LANE TSUEN WAN BY-PASS, JOINING KWAI CHUNG TO TUEN MUN ROAD AND PROVIDING EASIER ACCESS TO THE CONTAINER PORT.

THE MAIN SECTION OF THE SHA TIN-LOK MA CHAU HIGHWAY SHOULD BE READY BY 1985, LINKING UP SHA TIN AND FANLING, WITH THE FINAL STRETCH TO LOK MA CHAU SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION BY 1986, MR BEATON SAID.

LOOKING FURTHER INTO THE FUTURE, MR BEATON CITED A SIX-KILOMETRE DUAL TWO-LANE HIGHWAY LINKING SHA TIN AND TSUEN WAN, A \$600-MILLION PROJECT NOW IN ITS ADVANCED STAGE OF PLANNING, WITH CONSTRUCTION EXPECTED TO START IN 1985.

+THIS HIGHWAY WILL INCLUDE TWO TUNNEL SECTIONS TO BE DRIVEN UNDERNEATH THE SHING MUN COUNTRY PARK,+ MR BEATON EXPLAINED.

ONE MAJOR ROAD LINK IS TO BE BUILT IN THE BORDER AREA OF LOK MA CHAU TO JOIN UP EVENTUALLY WITH SHENZHEN-GUANGZHOU HIGHWAY AND ANOTHER IN SHA TAU KOK.

CONSTRUCTION OF THE NORTH TSING YI BRIDGE COULD START IN 1985, LINKING THE THRIVING INDUSTRIAL AREA ON THE ISLAND TO BUSTLING TSUEN WAN NEW TOWN.

A NEW CONCEPT IN HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION HAD BEEN INTRODUCED TO HONG KONG, HE SAID, CITING THE ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR AS AN EXAMPLE.

IN THIS CORRIDOR AN ELEVATED SYSTEM IS BEING BUILT ON RECLAIMED LAND AND ABOVE THE SEA, WITH SUPPORTING STRUCTURES DRIVEN 35 TO 40 METRES INTO THE SEABED.

CONSTRUCTION STARTED TWO YEARS AGO AND THE CORRIDOR WOULD BE OPENED IN STAGES, WITH THE WHOLE PROJECT TO BE FINISHED BY 1986, HE SAID.

+MODERN PUBLIC TRANSPORT NETWORKS ARE INSEPARABLE FROM THE ECONOMIC AND OVERALL INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENTS.

+DESPITE OUR LAND SHORTAGE AND HIGH POPULATION AND TRAFFIC DENSITIES, WE AIM TO MAINTAIN A HIGH DEGREE OF MOBILITY THROUGHOUT OUR WHOLE ROAD SYSTEM,+ MR BEATON SAID.

JOB VACANCIES ON STEADY RISE
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THE NUMBER OF JOB VACANCIES REPORTED TO THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT INCREASED STEADILY ACROSS THE BOARD IN THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR, REFLECTING A QUICKENING ECONOMIC TEMPO, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT'S EMPLOYMENT SERVICE DIVISION SAID TODAY.

A TOTAL OF 37 376 VACANCIES WERE NOTIFIED TO THE DIVISION, A 13.7 PER CENT RISE OVER LAST YEAR'S CORRESPONDING PERIOD AND A HEFTY 45 PER CENT INCREASE OVER THE LAST FIVE MONTHS OF 1982, MR LEUNG LIT-CHEONG, SENIOR LABOUR OFFICER OF THE DIVISION, DISCLOSED.

HE STRESSED THAT THE INCREASE HAD BEEN PARTICULARLY NOTICEABLE IN THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY WHICH PROVIDED 51 PER CENT OF THE VACANCIES FOR THE FIVE-MONTH PERIOD, COMPARED WITH 41 PER CENT IN THE SAME PERIOD OF 1982.

THE BALANCE COMPRISED CLERICAL, SERVICE-RELATED AND VARIOUS PROFESSIONAL PLUS ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS.

THE MONTH-TO-MONTH INCREASES WERE SUBSTANTIAL THIS YEAR, RISING FROM 4 143 VACANCIES IN JANUARY TO 12 551 IN MAY.

THE MAY FIGURE REPRESENTED AN 80 PER CENT INCREASE OVER APRIL THIS YEAR AND A 63 PER CENT INCREASE OVER MAY OF 1982.

MR LEUNG POINTED OUT THAT THIS FIGURE ALSO SHOWED THAT THE MAJORITY OF MANUFACTURING-RELATED JOBS WAS PROVIDED BY THE GARMENT AND ELECTRONICS SECTORS.

THE INCREASE IN INDUSTRIAL JOB VACANCIES WAS IN LINE WITH THE PERFORMANCE OF HONG KONG'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS.

ACCORDING TO THE LATEST STATISTICS, THESE EXPORTS FOR JANUARY TO APRIL ROSE BY NINE PER CENT OVER LAST YEAR'S CORRESPONDING PERIOD TO \$26 241 MILLION.

+IT APPEARS THAT HONG KONG'S IMPROVED EXPORT PERFORMANCE HAS BEGUN TO FILTER DOWN TO THE EMPLOYMENT SCENE,+ MR LEUNG SAID.

ACCORDING TO FEEDBACK INFORMATION RECEIVED BY OFFICERS OF THE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE DIVISION, MOST MAJOR MANUFACTURERS REPORTED GROWING NUMBERS OF ORDERS ON HAND AND EXPECTED TO EMPLOY MORE WORKERS IN THE MONTHS AHEAD.

SOME OF THE SMALLER MANUFACTURERS, HOWEVER, WERE STILL WAITING FOR MORE SOLID SIGNS OF ECONOMIC RECOVERY IN HONG KONG'S PRINCIPAL MARKETS BEFORE MAKING MAJOR RECRUITMENT DECISIONS.

MOST EMPLOYERS SEEKING RECRUITMENT ASSISTANCE FROM THE DIVISION WERE LOOKING FOR PEOPLE BETWEEN THE AGES OF 18 AND 29, MR LEUNG SAID.

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MORE FACILITIES FOR KING'S PARK
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REDEVELOPMENT WORK WILL SOON BE CARRIED OUT IN KING'S PARK TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FACILITIES.

THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THIS PROJECT.

THE PROJECT COVERING A 2 600-SQUARE-METRE SITE SOUTH OF THE EXISTING PARK AREA WILL INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF REINFORCED CONCRETE ARBOURS, PLANTERS, PLANTING BOXES, METAL RAILINGS, FENCING AND ASSOCIATED FACILITIES.

WORK WILL START IN AUGUST AND WILL TAKE ABOUT SIX MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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WATER MAINS TENDER
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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS TO LAY ABOUT 1 600 METRES OF MILD STEEL WATER MAINS, 600 MM IN DIAMETER, IN SHA TIN NEW TOWN.

THE MAINS WILL BE LAID FROM THE SHA TIN TREATMENT WORKS VIA KENG HAU ROAD TO THE SHA TIN WEST FRESH WATER SERVICE RESERVOIR NOW BEING BUILT NEAR LOWER SHING MUN ROAD.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START THIS JULY AND WILL TAKE ABOUT 12 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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TRAFFIC CHANGES FOR BOAT RACES
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SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE MADE IN YAU MA TEI AND TAI PO ON WEDNESDAY (JUNE 15) TO ALLOW FOR DRAGON BOAT RACES.

IN YAU MA TEI, MAN CHEONG STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 0.01 AM TO 6 PM.

DURING THE CLOSURE, MOTORISTS ON FERRY STREET SOUTHBOUND WHO WISH TO TAKE THE JORDAN ROAD VEHICULAR FERRY MUST FIRST PROCEED TO THE PASSENGER FERRY CONCOURSE AND THEN REACH THE VEHICULAR FERRY CONCOURSE USING THE ENTRANCE ON FERRY STREET NORTH OF ITS JUNCTION WITH JORDAN ROAD.

/MOTORISTS ON

MOTORISTS ON SAIGON STREET WESTBOUND HEADING TOWARDS THE SAME DESTINATION MUST PROCEED VIA CANTON ROAD NORTHBOUND, KANSU STREET WESTBOUND, FERRY STREET SOUTHBOUND, THE JORDAN ROAD PASSENGER FERRY CONCOURSE AND FERRY STREET NORTHBOUND.

THE PUBLIC CAR PARK NEAR THE JORDAN ROAD VEHICULAR FERRY PIER AND THE PARKING SPACES IN MAN CHEONG STREET WILL BE CLOSED BETWEEN 9 AM AND 6 PM.

IN TAI PO, THE ACCESS ROAD TO THE PLOVER COVE RESERVOIR WILL BE RESTRICTED TO FRANCHISED BUSES FROM 6 AM TO 6 PM.

THE SAME ACCESS ROAD, ALONG WITH THE SECTION OF TING KOK ROAD NORTH OF THE TAI PO INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, WILL BE CLOSED TO CYCLISTS AND LEARNER DRIVERS DURING THE SAME PERIOD.

KMB ROUTE 75K BETWEEN THE TAI PO RAILWAY STATION AND TAI MEI TUK WILL BE TEMPORARILY DIVERTED VIA THE ACCESS ROAD TO THE PLOVER COVE RESERVOIR FOR THE BENEFIT OF SPECTATORS. THE SERVICE FREQUENCY ON THIS ROUTE WILL ALSO BE INCREASED.

PLBS WILL BE OPERATING BETWEEN TAI PO MARKET AND TAI MEI TUK.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TRAVELLING TO YAU MA TEI AND PLOVER COVE AREAS ARE ADVISED TO USE PUBLIC TRANSPORT.

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NEW MAXICAB ROUTE FOR CHEUNG SHA WAN
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A NEW MAXICAB ROUTE LINKING CALDECOTT ROAD WITH THE ARGYLE MTR STATION WILL OPEN ON WEDNESDAY.

THE NEW ROUTE, NO. 30M, WILL OPERATE VIA CALDECOTT ROAD, TAI PO ROAD, PEI HO STREET, BERWICK STREET, SHEK KIP MEI STREET, TAI PO ROAD, POPLAR STREET, CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD, NATHAN ROAD AND FIFE STREET.

THE RETURN JOURNEY WILL BE VIA FIFE STREET, SAI YEE STREET, PRINCE EDWARD ROAD WEST, PORTLAND STREET, YU CHAU STREET, WONG CHUK STREET, TAI PO ROAD AND CALDECOTT ROAD.

THE SERVICE, WITH A \$1.50 FARE, WILL RUN FROM 7.35 AM TO 9.40 PM ON WEEKDAYS AND 8 AM TO 9 PM ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

THE FREQUENCY WILL BE 25 MINUTES DURING PEAK HOURS AND 35 MINUTES DURING OFF-PEAK PERIODS.

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SOUTHERN TO HOLD DISTRICT FESTIVAL IN NOVEMBER
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A THREE-WEEK SOUTHERN DISTRICT FESTIVAL FEATURING A WIDE RANGE OF RECREATIONAL, SPORTS, CULTURAL AND ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMMES WILL BE HELD IN NOVEMBER.

ACTIVITIES WILL INCLUDE A WALKATHON, A VARIETY SHOW WITH A LOCAL TELEVISION STATION, A DISCO MARATHON AND A CARNIVAL.

DRAWING, CROSS-WORD PUZZLES, ESSAY WRITING, SLOGAN AND QUIZ COMPETITIONS WILL ALSO BE HELD.

THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR K.C. KWONG, SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THE FESTIVAL IS TO PROMOTE RESIDENTS' CONCERN FOR THE DISTRICT AND HIGHLIGHT THE COMMUNITY-BUILDING EFFORT.

+THROUGH PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVEMENT IN THE FESTIVAL, IT IS HOPED THAT A DISTRICT IDENTITY AND A SENSE OF BELONGING CAN FURTHER BE FOSTERED,+ HE SAID.

THE DISTRICT BOARD HAS ALLOCATED \$150 000 FOR THE FESTIVAL.

A CENTRAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE COMPRISING DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS, URBAN COUNCILLORS, AREA COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN AND LOCAL LEADERS IN THE DISTRICT HAS BEEN FORMED TO CO-ORDINATE THE PLANNING OF THE FESTIVAL.

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SAFETY HINTS FOR BUILDING CONTRACTORS
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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (MONDAY) REMINDED BUILDING CONTRACTORS TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS TO PROTECT WORKERS FROM FALLING AND FROM BEING HIT BY FALLING OBJECTS AT CONSTRUCTION SITES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT ISSUED THE REMINDER IN THE WAKE OF TWO RECENT COURT CASES, IN WHICH TWO BUILDING CONTRACTORS WERE FINED FOR BREACHES OF THE CONSTRUCTION SITES (SAFETY) REGULATIONS.

IN ONE CASE, THE COURT IMPOSED A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$50 000 ON A CONTRACTOR FOR FAILING TO TAKE PRECAUTIONS TO PREVENT A WORKMAN FROM BEING STRUCK ON THE HEAD BY A BRICK AT A CONSTRUCTION SITE. THE WORKER LATER DIED.

IN THE OTHER CASE, ANOTHER CONTRACTOR WAS FINED \$40 000 FOR FAILING TO FENCE OFF WORKING PLATFORMS.

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THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT SUITABLE FENCINGS SHOULD BE PROVIDED FOR FLOOR EDGES, FLOOR OPENINGS, LIFT SHAFTS AND OTHER DANGEROUS PLACES WHERE WORKERS MIGHT FALL A DISTANCE OF MORE THAN TWO METRES. WHERE FENCING IS NOT PRACTICABLE, SAFETY BELTS AND SAFETY NETS SHOULD BE USED, HE ADDED.

TO PREVENT WORKERS FROM BEING HIT BY FALLING OBJECTS, THE SPOKESMAN CONTINUED, SAFETY HELMETS SHOULD BE PROVIDED AND PROPER CHUTES SHOULD BE ERECTED FOR THE DISPOSAL OF DEBRIS. FANS AND NETS SHOULD ALSO BE PROVIDED FOR BAMBOO SCAFFOLDINGS TO CATCH FALLING OBJECTS.

+APART FROM ALL THESE MEASURES, IT IS ALSO ESSENTIAL FOR EMPLOYERS TO SEEK THE CO-OPERATION OF THEIR WORKERS IN COMPLYING WITH SAFETY RULES AND IN USING SAFETY EQUIPMENT PROVIDED FOR THEM,+ HE NOTED.

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WAR ON MOSQUITOES IN SHA TIN

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A TWO-PRONGED CAMPAIGN IS BEING CARRIED OUT IN SHA TIN TO RID THE DISTRICT OF MOSQUITOES WHICH WILL RESULT IN A MORE PLEASANT LIVING ENVIRONMENT FOR NEW TOWN AND RURAL RESIDENTS.

THE MONTH-LONG CAMPAIGN, ORGANISED BY THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT, COMPRISES SEARCH AND DESTROY RAIDS ON POTENTIAL BREEDING GROUNDS, AND EDUCATION OF RESIDENTS ON ANTI-MOSQUITO MEASURES.

BEING RID OF THIS NUISANCE WOULD ALSO SAFEGUARD THE HEALTH OF RESIDENTS AGAINST DISEASES THAT MIGHT BE TRANSMITTED THROUGH MOSQUITOES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NTSD SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

HE SAID THE MOSQUITO FIGHTERS -- COMPRISING FIVE PEST CONTROL TEAMS FROM THE SHA TIN URBAN SERVICES OFFICE -- WERE COMBING THE HILLS, AND VISITING CONSTRUCTION AND VACANT BUILDING SITES AND COMMON PARTS OF BUILDINGS TO SEARCH FOR, AND DESTROY BREEDING GROUNDS.

+CLOGGED STREAMS ARE A POTENTIAL DANGER. THAT IS WHY THE PEST CONTROL TEAMS ARE ARMED WITH GRASS CUTTERS AND RAKES APART FROM INSECTICIDE SPRAYERS. MOSQUITOES CANNOT BREED IN FREE FLOWING WATER -- THAT IS WHY THEY HAVE TO REMOVE ROCKS AND CUT UNDERGROWTH OBSTRUCTING THE FLOW OF THE STREAMS,+ HE SAID.

ON EDUCATION, THE SPOKESMAN SAID PUBLICITY MATERIAL SUCH AS LEAFLETS AND POSTERS ON PROPER METHODS OF RIDDING THE MOSQUITO THREAT (STAGNANT WATER COLLECTED IN DISCARDED TINS, BOTTLES AND RECEPTACLES), WERE BEING DISTRIBUTED TO RESIDENTS.

THEY ARE ALSO ADVISED TO REPORT TO THE SHA TIN URBAN SERVICES OFFICE IN CASE THEY NEED HELP IN TACKLING THE NUISANCE.

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