



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1976

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BUDGET DAY ON WEDNESDAY
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HONG KONG'S BUDGET FOR THE COMING FINANCIAL YEAR WILL BE MADE KNOWN ON WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 25) WHEN THE APPROPRIATION BILL 1976 IS PRESENTED TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THE PROCEEDINGS WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 P.M. DURING WHICH THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, THE HON. PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, WILL MOVE THE SECOND READING OF THE BILL AND OUTLINE THE MAIN FEATURES OF ESTIMATED REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR 1976/77.

THE ESTIMATED HEADS OF EXPENDITURE WILL BE SET OUT IN THE SCHEDULE OF THE BILL TO BE PUBLISHED IN A GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY AT 2.30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY.

DEBATE ON THE SECOND READING OF THE BILL WILL BE ADJOURNED AND RESUMED ON MARCH 24 WHEN UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS WILL SPEAK ON THE FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC STATE OF HONG KONG AND THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF GOVERNMENT POLICY AND ADMINISTRATIONS AS INDICATED BY THE BILL AND ESTIMATES. IF NECESSARY, THE DEBATE WILL CONTINUE ON MARCH 25.

THE DEBATE WILL BE RESUMED ON APRIL 7 WHEN THE OFFICIAL MEMBERS WILL REPLY TO POINTS RAISED BY THEIR UNOFFICIAL COLLEAGUES.

THE COUNCIL WILL THEN ADJOURN AGAIN UNTIL APRIL 28, WHEN THE BILL WILL BE CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE AND THIS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY THE FORMAL THIRD READING.

AS IN PREVIOUS YEARS, THE PROCEEDINGS WILL BE COMPREHENSIVELY COVERED BY RADIO AND TELEVISION STATIONS.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S SPEECH AT WEDNESDAY'S SITTING WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE OVER RADIO HONG KONG'S CHINESE (RHK 2) AND ENGLISH (RHK 4) SERVICES. THE SAME CHANNELS WILL ALSO BROADCAST ALL THE OTHER SITTINGS LIVE.

COMMERCIAL RADIO'S CHINESE SERVICE WILL BROADCAST THE FIRST BUDGET SITTING LIVE ON CHANNEL ONE.

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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR JANUARY
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THE NEW CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) FOR JANUARY 1976 WAS 108, THE SAME AS THAT FOR THE PREVIOUS MONTH.

THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS ROSE BY ONE POINT. THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SALT WATER FISH, FRESH WATER FISH, PORK AND LIVE POULTRY ADVANCED WHILE THOSE OF FRESH VEGETABLES AND MEALS BOUGHT AWAY FROM HOME DECLINED.

AN INCREASE OF THREE POINTS WAS RECORDED IN THE INDEX FOR SERVICES, DUE MAINLY TO INCREASED CHARGES FOR HAIRDRESSING BEFORE THE LUNAR NEW YEAR FESTIVAL AND HIGHER POSTAL RATES FOR CERTAIN CATEGORIES OF MAIL.

THE INDEX FOR DURABLE GOODS ALSO ADVANCED BY ONE POINT AS A RESULT OF HIGHER PRICES FOR FURNITURE, WATCHES, CAMERAS AND OPTICAL GOODS.

MOVEMENTS IN THE INDICES FOR OTHER SECTIONS OF COMMODITY WERE INSIGNIFICANT.

THE NEW CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (B) FOR JANUARY 1976 WAS 109, ONE POINT HIGHER THAN THAT FOR THE PREVIOUS MONTH.

A RISE OF ONE POINT WAS RECORDED IN THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS. THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SALT WATER FISH, FRESH WATER FISH AND LIVE POULTRY ADVANCED WHILE THAT OF FRESH VEGETABLES DECLINED.

AN INCREASE OF TWO POINTS WAS ALSO RECORDED IN THE INDEX FOR SERVICES, DUE MAINLY TO INCREASED CHARGES FOR HAIRDRESSING BEFORE THE LUNAR NEW YEAR FESTIVAL AND HIGHER POSTAL RATES FOR CERTAIN CATEGORIES OF MAIL.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE INDEX FOR CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR FELL BY ONE POINT.

MOVEMENTS IN THE INDICES FOR OTHER SECTIONS OF COMMODITY WERE INSIGNIFICANT.

THE NEW CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) IS BASED ON WEIGHTS DERIVED FROM THE EXPENDITURE OF HOUSEHOLDS SPENDING BETWEEN \$400 AND \$1,499 A MONTH. INDEX (B) COVERS HOUSEHOLDS SPENDING BETWEEN \$1,500 AND \$2,999 A MONTH.

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BRIGHT FUTURE FOR TUEN MUN NEW TOWN
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SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS AUGUR WELL FOR THE FUTURE OF TUEN MUN AS A NEW TOWN.

THIS WAS STATED THIS (MONDAY) EVENING BY MR. TONY BENNETT, DISTRICT OFFICER FOR TUEN MUN, WHO WAS ADDRESSING MEMBERS OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF THE NEW TERRITORIES AT THE PENINSULA HOTEL.

MR. BENNETT SAID THAT WHILE ON THE INDUSTRIAL FRONT WE WERE NOW BEGINNING TO EMERGE FROM A PERIOD OF ECONOMIC UNCERTAINTY, THERE HAD BEEN IN TUEN MUN INDICATIONS IN THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR WHICH WERE VERY ENCOURAGING.

+WHILST NO INDUSTRIAL LAND WAS DISPOSED OF WITHIN THE NEW TOWN DURING 1975, DUE TO A SLOWING DOWN OF INTEREST IN DEVELOPMENT,+ MR. BENNETT SAID, +WE HAVE HAD ABOUT 20 GENUINE ENQUIRIES FOR THE PURCHASE OF INDUSTRIAL LAND DURING THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF THIS YEAR.

+WITH RETURNING BUSINESS CONFIDENCE, + HE WENT ON, +WE NOW EXPECT TO SEE AN INCREASED INTEREST IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRIAL SITES AT TUEN MUN. FOR THE FACILITIES OFFERED BY TUEN MUN ARE NOW VERY ATTRACTIVE: INDUSTRIAL LAND IS AVAILABLE AT A COST OF ABOUT \$50 PER SQ. FT. ON AN INSTALMENT BASIS OVER TEN YEARS AT FIVE PER CENT INTEREST.+

MR. BENNETT SAID THAT UNDER A NEW GOVERNMENT POLICY, LAND MAY BE MADE AVAILABLE BY PRIVATE TREATY GRANT IN THE CASE OF INDUSTRIES BRINGING NEW OR SOPHISTICATED TECHNOLOGY TO HONG KONG. +APPLICATIONS FOR SUCH ARE ALREADY UNDER PROCESS AND ONE FACTORY WITHIN THIS CATEGORY IS PLANNED TO BE IN OPERATION IN TUEN MUN BY SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR,+ HE POINTED OUT.

MR. BENNETT CONTINUED: +CONSIDERATION IS NOW BEING GIVEN TO A SCHEME WHEREBY A PART OF THE ACCOMMODATION IN THE NEW TOWN'S PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES WOULD BE RESERVED FOR WORKERS IN THE NEW FACTORIES TO BE BUILT AT TUEN MUN. A NUMBER OF INDUSTRIALISTS HAVE ALREADY EXPRESSED INTEREST IN SUCH A SCHEME.+

SPEAKING ABOUT THE NEW HIGHWAY WHICH WILL LINK TSUEN WAN WITH TUEN MUN WHEN IT IS COMPLETED IN SEPTEMBER NEXT YEAR, MR. BENNETT SAID IT WAS A MAJOR FACTOR IN OPENING UP COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL OPPORTUNITIES.

+THE PAST SIX MONTHS HAVE BEEN VERY ENCOURAGING FOR TUEN MUN NEW TOWN,+ DECLARED MR. BENNETT. +PROGRESS ON ITS PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT IS NOW GETTING INTO HIGH GEAR, DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS ARE BEING RESOLVED WITH THE ACTIVE HELP OF THE COMMUNITY, AND THE MAIN FACILITIES ARE NOW APPEARING JUST AT THE TIME WHEN THE ECONOMIC CLIMATE FAVOURS A RETURN TO MORE POSITIVE AND AGGRESSIVE INVESTMENT IN DEVELOPMENT.+

/MR. BENNETT

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MR. BENNETT ALSO SPOKE ON THE CLEARANCE OF SHAM SHING HUI, A VILLAGE COMMUNITY CLOSE TO TUEN MUN WHICH SERVES THE FISHING FLEET. THE CLEARANCE WAS TO MAKE WAY FOR DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING A CRUCIAL PART OF THE TSUEN WAN - TUEN MUN HIGHWAY, A TYPHOON SHELTER AND BUSINESS AND RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION. HE SAID REMOVAL OF BUSINESSES TO A RESITE AREA, WHICH WAS NOW IN PROGRESS, HAD NOT BEEN WITHOUT ITS PROBLEMS, +BUT, THEN, WHEN SO MANY PEOPLES' HOMES AND LIVELIHOOD HAVE TO BE DISTURBED IN SUCH A TRAUMATIC WAY AS THIS, PROBLEMS ARE ONLY TO BE EXPECTED.+

HE PRAISED THE TUEN MUN AND SHAM SHING HUI COMMUNITIES AS WELL AS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS +FOR ALL THE TIME AND EFFORT WHICH THEY HAVE CONTRIBUTED TOWARDS THE SOLUTION OF THESE PROBLEMS.+

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INCREASE IN AIR PASSENGER 'TRAFFIC'
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PASSENGER TRAFFIC AT KAI TAK DURING THE LAST QUARTER OF 1975 WENT UP BY NEARLY FOUR PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH THAT OF THE PREVIOUS QUARTER.

ACCORDING TO STATISTICS RELEASED BY THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT, AIR CARGO MOVEMENTS DROPPED BY JUST OVER TWO PER CENT.

HOWEVER, PASSENGER AND CARGO TRAFFIC SHOWED AN INCREASE OF ALMOST 11 PER CENT AND 60 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY WHEN COMPARED WITH THE FIGURES FOR THE LAST QUARTER OF 1974.

DURING THE LAST CALENDAR YEAR, PASSENGER TRAFFIC (3,868,211) WENT UP BY 4.65 PER CENT OVER THAT OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

AIR CARGO (141,619 METRIC TONS) SHOWED AN IMPRESSIVE INCREASE OF 38.49 PER CENT WHILE AIR MAIL (4,763 METRIC TONS) WENT UP BY 5.28 PER CENT.

DESPITE THIS, AIRCRAFT MOVEMENTS CONTINUED TO DECLINE SLIGHTLY AS AIRLINES CHANGED OVER TO WIDE-BODIED AIRCRAFT. DURING THE LAST CALENDAR YEAR, THERE WERE 51,094 MOVEMENTS REPRESENTING A DROP OF 3.47 PER CENT.

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NEW FIRE STATION FOR TSING YI ISLAND

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START NEXT MONTH ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW FIRE STATION ON TSING YI ISLAND.

OCCUPYING AN AREA OF OVER 27,000 SQUARE FEET, THE NEW STATION IS CONVENIENTLY SITUATED ON A SITE NEAR THE BRIDGE.

IT WILL BE A THREE-STOREY BUILDING WITH FOUR BAYS FOR FIRE APPLIANCES AND WILL EVENTUALLY REPLACE THE EXISTING FIRE STATION WHICH IS ACCOMMODATED IN SUB-STANDARD TEMPORARY PREMISES.

OTHER FEATURES WILL INCLUDE A DRILL YARD, OFFICE ACCOMMODATION, BARRACK AND LOCKER ROOMS, AND CANTEEN AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES.

UPON COMPLETION IN NOVEMBER THIS YEAR, A MAJOR PUMP, A PUMP ESCAPE AND A LIGHT RESCUE UNIT WILL BE BASED AT THE STATION.

COMMENTING ON THE PROJECT TODAY, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID : +WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF VARIOUS TYPES OF SOPHISTICATED INDUSTRY AND THE EXPECTED BUILDUP OF POPULATION ON THE ISLAND, IT IS CONSIDERED OF GREAT IMPORTANCE THAT ADEQUATE FIRE COVER BE PROVIDED.+

+IN FACT,+ HE POINTED OUT, +THE PLANNING OF NEW FIRE AND AMBULANCE DEPOTS IS GOVERNED BY FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF AN AREA, BOTH RESIDENTIAL AND INDUSTRIAL, TO ENSURE THAT EMERGENCY SERVICES ARE READILY AVAILABLE WHERE THE NEED ARISES.+

MEANWHILE, PLANS ARE ALSO IN HAND TO BUILD A BERTH FOR FIREBOATS ON TSING YI SO AS TO KEEP PACE WITH ITS RAPID DEVELOPMENT.

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CHIEF TOWN PLANNER RETIRES
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MR. BRIAN HADLAND, CHIEF PLANNING OFFICER OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT'S TOWN PLANNING OFFICE, IS RETIRING SHORTLY AFTER 16 YEARS IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE.

A CHARTERED ARCHITECT AND CHARTERED TOWN PLANNER, MR. HADLAND FIRST JOINED THE PWD AS A PLANNING OFFICER IN 1960. HE WAS PROMOTED TO SENIOR PLANNING OFFICER IN OCTOBER 1965 AND TO HIS PRESENT POST OF CHIEF PLANNING OFFICER IN AUGUST 1972.

HE ALSO ACTED AS GOVERNMENT TOWN PLANNER ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS LAST YEAR.

IN 1967, HE WAS IN CHARGE OF THE HONG KONG OUTLINE PLAN DIVISION AND PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN THE PREPARATION OF THE HONG KONG OUTLINE PLAN WHICH SETS DOWN THE BASIC PLANNING STANDARDS AND POLICIES OF TOWN PLANNING IN HONG KONG UP TO 1981.

AS CHIEF PLANNING OFFICER, MR. HADLAND DEVOTED MOST OF HIS TIME TO THE REVISION OF THE HONG KONG OUTLINE PLAN.

TO MARK HIS RETIREMENT, THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT TOWN PLANNER, MR. A.F. MEYERS, WILL PRESENT A GIFT TO MR. HADLAND ON BEHALF OF HIS COLLEAGUES.

NOTE TO EDITORS: YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND YOUR REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY. IT WILL BE HELD AT 4 P.M. TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE DRAWING OFFICE OF THE TOWN PLANNING OFFICE, MURRAY BUILDING, 17TH FLOOR, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG.

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HONG KONG STUDENT WINS LONDON SCHOLARSHIP

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MISS VIVIAN CHOI WAI-MAN, A FORM THREE STUDENT OF MARYKNOLL CONVENT SCHOOL, KOWLOON IS THE 1975 WINNER OF A 2,000 POUND STERLING SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED BY THE ASSOCIATED BOARD OF THE ROYAL SCHOOLS OF MUSIC, LONDON.

+THE SCHOLARSHIP IS AWARDED ANNUALLY AND JOINTLY TO INDIA AND HONG KONG AND MISS CHOI'S ACHIEVEMENT MEANS THAT FOR THE 16TH SUCCESSIVE YEAR THE SCHOLARSHIP HAS BEEN WON BY A HONG KONG STUDENT+, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY.

EVERY YEAR SEVEN SCHOLARSHIPS ARE PROVIDED BY THE ASSOCIATED BOARD FOR STUDENTS FROM OUTSIDE BRITAIN. EACH SCHOLARSHIP IS TENABLE FOR THREE YEARS AT ONE OF THE ROYAL SCHOOLS OF MUSIC IN LONDON.

EACH AWARD AMOUNTS IN ALL TO ABOUT 2,000 POUNDS STERLING, WHICH INCLUDES TUITION FEES, A GRANT OF 300 POUNDS STERLING A YEAR TOWARDS LIVING EXPENSES AND A CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE COST OF A PASSAGE BACK HOME AT THE END OF THE COURSE.

MISS CHOI WAS AWARDED THE LICENTATE DIPLOMA IN PIANOFORTE PERFORMING AT THE RECENT EXAMINATIONS AND IT WAS ON THE BASIS OF THIS RESULT THAT SHE WAS SELECTED BY THE VISITING PANEL OF EXAMINERS FROM LONDON FOR SCHOLARSHIP CONSIDERATION BY THE BOARD.

MISS CHOI FIRST TOOK PIANO LESSONS AT THE AGE OF FIVE AND HER PRESENT TEACHER IS MRS. BETTY DROWN.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

PRESS REPRESENTATIVES WHO WISH TO INTERVIEW MISS CHOI MAY DO SO BY TELEPHONING HER ON 3-362696.

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WATER CUT

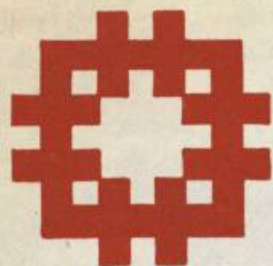
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WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN HO MAN TIN IN KOWLOON AND IN WESTERN DISTRICT ON HONG KONG ISLAND WILL BE INTERRUPTED FOR FIVE HOURS FROM 1 A.M. ON WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 25) TO ENABLE WATERWORKS OFFICE TO CARRY OUT LEAKAGE TESTS.

IN KOWLOON, THE PREMISES TO BE AFFECTED ARE THOSE ON HO MAN TIN STREET BETWEEN HO MAN TIN HILL ROAD AND WATERLOO ROAD, AND ON WATERLOO ROAD BETWEEN PEACE AVENUE AND PUI CHING ROAD.

ON THE ISLAND, THE AFFECTED PREMISES ARE BOUNDED BY HIGH STREET, EASTERN STREET, FIRST STREET AND WESTERN STREET, AND ON POKFULAM ROAD FROM HIGH STREET TO THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY.

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HONG KONG HOUSING AUTHORITY 香港房屋委員會

PRESS
RELEASE

新聞稿

Monday, February 23, 1976

FIRE VICTIMS MOVE INTO HING WAH ESTATE THIS WEEK

The Aldrich Bay fire victims will be moving into Hing Wah Estate this week.

The Applications Section of the Housing Department today (Monday) stationed a working team at the Hing Wah Estate office to speed up the letting process.

A total of 34 families comprising 176 people have signed the tenancy agreement and some of them will likely move to their new homes in one or two days.

The special letting team at Hing Wah will interview about 40 families each day and the whole letting process is scheduled to be completed in about ten days.

Of the 2,700 people eligible for public housing or licensed area sites, 366 families comprising 1,940 people have opted for flats at Hing Wah Estate.

Others have either taken up accommodation at other estates in Kowloon or Kwai Chung and licensed area accommodation in Chai Wan or Kowloon Bay.

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