



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Friday, November 16, 1973

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OIL DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

Reviews Progress On Action Plans

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The Oil Distribution Committee, chaired by Mr. Roy Porter, met this morning to review progress on action plans initiated at its previous meeting last Tuesday (November 13).

The Committee examined all those sectors of the community which used fuel and petroleum products. The importance of the sectors in relation to the essential livelihood of Hong Kong was discussed to identify areas where economies can be made with the minimum of disruption and inconvenience.

The Committee also examined the stock situation and noted that it remained normal and that further deliveries of different products were scheduled to arrive over the next few weeks.

Nevertheless with the uncertainty of the oil situation in the world, the Committee decided to recommend to the Oil Policy Committee that it would be prudent to make some economies in the near future. Such economies would be directed towards cutting out waste and reducing demands for electricity.

The drafting of legislation to provide the Government with powers to deal with a possible shortage continues as a matter of urgency.

Representatives of the oil companies stated that they have already been resisting pressures to supply quantities of bunkering fuel oils and aviation fuels. They will continue to regulate deliveries in order to maintain stocks in Hong Kong to meet normal needs.

Discussions and consultation will now take place with representatives and experts from the fields of public transport, industry and the public utilities.

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TEMPORARY OFFICE ACCOMMODATION

For New Territories Development Department

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The New Territories Administration will shortly set up an operations centre in Sha Tin for easy management of the development of the new town.

The centre will be staffed by three separate sections -- a new district office and two project management teams.

It will help to implement at a faster pace government plans to house more people in public estates in the new town.

One of the project teams moving into the office centre will be responsible for the new town's planning, programming and co-ordination work. It will be headed by a project manager.

The other team, headed by a Government Engineer, will deal with development in rural areas in all parts of the New Territories in addition to Sha Tin.

The new District Office, housed under the same roof, will provide the necessary administrative facilities both during and after the completion of town projects.

The office itself will be situated in Tung Lo Wan by the side of the Sha Tin Police Station.

The building will be constructed to standards designed for permanent use and is located in a convenient position for integration into future permanent government offices.

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It will have three-storeys providing about 20,000 square feet of usable office space.

The project teams will be accommodated on the top floor and staff of the new District Office will work on the ground floor. Professional agencies engaged on new town works will be located on the first floor.

Site formation for the building is in progress and it is expected that construction will begin in January and be completed some time in August next year.

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#### IMPROVEMENT OF WATER SUPPLY TO CHAI WAN

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Work will begin shortly on a fresh water pumping station to improve water supply to the Quarry Bay, Shaukiwan and Chai Wan areas.

The new pumping station, to be located on Chai Wan Road, will be able to handle a reliable output of 2.5 million gallons of water a day.

It will meet rising demands in the district where there has been rapid domestic and industrial development.

Construction of the station will start next month and will be completed a year later.

As part of the improvement project, modification work on the existing distribution system, including the laying of new steel mains, will be carried out to cope with the increased supply of water.

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SCOPE OF PO LEUNG KUK WIDENED

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A Bill will soon be introduced into the Legislative Council to repeal and replace the existing Po Leung Kuk Incorporation Ordinance with a new one which will reflect more accurately the current functions of the Kuk.

Known as the Po Leung Kuk Bill 1973, it will also amend the Kuk's constitution, enabling its scope of charitable services to be widened.

The Bill, published in today's Gazette, is being modelled along the lines of the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals Ordinance which replaced the former Tung Wah Hospital Ordinance in February 1971.

The amended constitution, which forms the schedule of the Bill, makes provisions for matters of the Kuk to be administered by a board which is to be constituted in a manner different from that provided under the existing ordinance.

The schedule of the Bill stipulates that an Advisory Board shall be formed to advise the Kuk's directors on any matter affecting the Kuk or its administration.

It provides that the Secretary for Home Affairs shall be the Chairman of the Advisory Board, and that the Director of Social Welfare, an unofficial Chinese member of the Executive Council and another from the Legislative Council shall also be ex-officio members of the Board.

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Under the Bill, the main object of the Kuk is still to provide and maintain a temporary home for women and children who are in need of care and protection until proper provision is made for their marriage, adoption or settlement in life.

In addition, the Kuk will be able to provide vocational training for women and children in its care, to establish homes and nurseries, schools and other educational institutions in Hong Kong.

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GOVERNOR TO INSPECT ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE

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The Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose, will make his annual inspection of the St. John Ambulance Brigade on Sunday, November 18, at the South China Athletic Association Stadium in Caroline Hill.

Some 2,200 members representing various divisions of the Brigade will take part in the parade.

Mr. Wong Yan-sing, Area Commissioner of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, will be the parade commander.

During the ceremony, trophies will be presented by the Governor to winners of various first-aid competitions held by the Brigade during the year. Sir Murray will also address the parade.

The band of the Royal Hong Kong Police will be in attendance.

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Note to Editors: You are invited to have the parade covered.

It will start at 9 a.m. on Sunday. Officers of the Brigade will be present to assist the Press.

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CROWN LAND SALE

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Three lots of Crown land on Hong Kong Island and in Kowloon will be put up for sale in the middle of next month.

The biggest lot is located at Black's Link on Hong Kong Island. It has an area of 38,000 square feet, and has been allocated for private residential purposes.

A second lot, also on the Island, is located at Chai Wan Road and is for non-industrial purposes.

The lot in Kowloon is situated between Cheung Sha Wan Road and Lai Chi Kok Road, and is reserved for industrial and/or go-down or open storage purposes.

The auction will take place at 2.30 p.m. on December 14 in the City Hall lecture room on the 8th floor of the High Block.

Full particulars and conditions of sale may be obtained from and sale plans inspected at the Public Enquiry Sub-office, Central Government Offices (West Wing), Hong Kong, or at the Crown Lands and Survey Office, Kowloon Government Offices, Nathan Road, Kowloon.

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FLATTED FACTORY UNITS IN KWUN TONG RECOVERED

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The Housing Authority today (Friday) took action to recover a total of 105 flatted factory units in Kwun Tong Estate and no resistance was encountered.

All but two of the 27 operators involved had already vacated their premises before hand. Housing Department staff on the job needed only to seal up the two units that had not been surrendered.

The factory units, involved in this morning's recovery action, were granted to the operators on a month-to-month basis in 1968 when there was a surplus.

In 1970, government took steps to recover them. However the move was strongly opposed by the operators who subsequently started off a round of petitions.

The deadline was extended several times and a final warning letter was issued in August this year giving yesterday (November 15) as the date by which they must vacate.

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF WYNDHAM STREET

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A section of Wyndham Street between On Lan Street and Queen's Road Central will be closed to all traffic from 7.50 a.m. to about 6.45 p.m. on Sunday (November 18) and the same period again on Sunday (November 25).

Announcing this today, a spokesman for the Transport Department said the temporary closure is to enable the Hong Kong Electric Co. Ltd. to move a 42-ton transformer from On Lan Street to Tin Chong Street.

Only vehicles seeking access to Wellington Street will be permitted to enter Wyndham Street during this period.

All other traffic will be diverted east into Lower Albert Road.

Motorists are advised that due to the weight of the load, the transporting vehicle is extremely slow and will require about 15 minutes to cross Queen's Road Central from Wyndham Street into Pedder Street.

East and westbound traffic flow along Queen's Road Central will therefore be stopped for about 15 minutes from about 6 p.m. on those two days.

Appropriate signs will be in position to assist motorists.

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WIDER POWER FOR CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL OFFICERS

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A Bill, aimed at strengthening the existing legislation relating to offences against the Cross Harbour Tunnel By-Laws committed by motorists in the tunnel area, will be introduced into the Legislative Council shortly.

Published in the Gazette today, it is known as the Cross Harbour Tunnel (Amendment) Bill 1973.

The new Bill seeks to introduce provisions similar to those in Section 29 of the Road Traffic Ordinance in order to enable tunnel officers to demand personal particulars of offending drivers.

It will require any person to furnish to a tunnel officer, on demand made within three months after the date of an alleged offence, the name, address and driving licence number of the person driving the vehicle at the time of the offence.

Failure to comply with this requirement may lead, upon conviction, to a fine of \$2,000 and six months' imprisonment.

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Release time: 6.45 p.m.