



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Sunday, February 18, 1973

## INITIAL WORK ON NEW G.P.O. TO START SOON

### Better Postal Facilities To Be Provided

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Preliminary work on the new General Post Office on the Central reclamation, including the building of a high-level promenade, will begin shortly.

Piling will start in April while the actual construction for the new building is expected to begin early next year.

The whole G.P.O. project is scheduled for completion at the end of 1975 to further improve postal services in Hong Kong.

The promenade, stretching about 300 feet along the waterfront, will serve to link the Star Ferry to an elevated walkway which is to be built by a private land developer.

When completed by the end of this year, the promenade will provide direct access from several high-rise buildings in Central to the ferry concourse through the elevated walkway.

The promenade, forming Stage I of the new G.P.O. development plan, will also be connected to the new Post Office building.

Commenting on the improved facilities, a spokesman for the Post Office said the new building would have 15,000 Post Office Boxes.

The existing G.P.O. building has only about 6,700 P.O. Boxes.

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Better counter facilities and an increase in mechanical aid would enable the Post Office to handle a larger volume of mail in a shorter time, he said.

The spokesman pointed out that the existing 62-year-old G.P.O. building was too old for large-scale mechanisation.

However, extensive mechanisation would be employed in the new one, with the British Post Office providing expert advice on the mechanisation requirements.

More newspaper and parcel sorting machines, chain conveyors, chutes and storage slides for bags would be installed to facilitate the flow of mail inside the building.

More public counter space for the purchase of stamps and spacious working area for mail and parcel sorting would be available, he said.

There would also be ample room for administration offices in the five-storey new G.P.O. building, which will have a total floor area of more than 150,000 sq. ft. -- about 37,800 sq. ft. more than the present G.P.O.

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#### WATER CUT IN WAN CHAI

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A number of premises in Wan Chai will be without water for five hours on Tuesday (February 20) starting from 1 a.m. This is to allow the Waterworks Office to carry out a leakage test.

Affected premises include those within the area bounded by Gao Street, the south side of Johnston Road, the north side of Queen's Road East, and Lee Tung Street.

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Release Time: 3.00 p.m.