



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 3, 1980

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**\$5 MILLION FOR EXPERT ADVICE ON REPAIRING NT DEVELOPMENT DAMAGE

THE GOVERNMENT HAS SPENT \$5 MILLION FOR EXPERT ADVICE ON HOW TO REPAIR THE DAMAGE TO THE ENVIRONMENT CAUSED BY DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW TERRITORIES, A SENIOR OFFICER OF THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE NINTH HONG KONG YOUTH ENVIRONMENT FORUM AT THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY, ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR DEVELOPMENT, MR JOSEPH WONG, SAID THERE WAS NO DISPUTE THAT THE ACTUAL PROCESS OF DEVELOPMENT HAD DAMAGED OUR ENVIRONMENT +IN SOME WAYS+.

+WE HAD TO TEAR DOWN HILLS TO BORROW FILL MATERIALS- FILL IN THE SEA TO RECLAIM LAND- DEMOLISH ANCIENT VILLAGES TO MAKE WAY FOR ROADS.

+THE SCARS OF DEVELOPMENT ARE EVERYWHERE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES AND YOU CAN READILY POINT TO SOME OF THEM IN SHA TIN,+ HE SAID.

+BUT,+ MR WONG SAID, +I HOPE THIS DAMAGE IS ONLY TEMPORARY.

+I SAY THIS BECAUSE THE GOVERNMENT HAS SPENT NO LESS THAN \$5 MILLION FOR EXPERT ADVICE ON LANDSCAPING OUR NEW TOWNS.

+A LANDSCAPE STUDY TELLS US MUCH MORE THAN HOW TO REHABILITATE THE DAMAGE DONE BY DEVELOPMENT WORK.

+ESSENTIALLY, IT TELLS US HOW TO MAKE OUR HIGH DENSITY NEW TOWNS AS PLEASANT AS POSSIBLE.+

MR WONG SAID A LANDSCAPE CORE TEAM HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED IN SHA TIN TO ENSURE THAT VARIOUS LANDSCAPING PROPOSALS WOULD BE IMPLEMENTED IN KEEPING WITH THE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME.

THIS SYSTEM WOULD BE EXTENDED TO THE OTHER NEW TOWNS.

SPEAKING OF +VARIOUS THREATS TO OUR WORK+, MR WONG MENTIONED WASTE FROM PIG AND CHICKEN FARMS, PRODUCING 1 363 CUBIC METRES AND 210 TONNES OF MANURE RESPECTIVELY EACH DAY WHICH WENT INTO STREAMS AND RIVERS.

+THIS IS A VERY SERIOUS PROBLEM. IN THE WET SEASON, THE WASTE IS GENERALLY FLUSHED AWAY AFTER HEAVY RAIN. BUT IN THE DRY SEASON THE WASTE WILL COMBINE WITH OTHER RUBBISH TO BUILD UP A THICK CRUST WITH AN OBNOXIOUS SMELL. THERE ARE OF COURSE SANITARY AND HEALTH HAZARDS.+

MR WONG SAID TWO MONTHS AGO THE WASTE DISPOSAL ORDINANCE CAME INTO EFFECT. THE ORDINANCE EMPOWERED THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL TO DESIGNATE ANY AREA IN HONG KONG AS AN AREA IN WHICH ANIMAL WASTE WAS TO BE STORED IN PRESCRIBED CONTAINERS, AND TO MAKE REGULATIONS PRESCRIBING THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF SUCH STORAGE CONTAINERS.

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THE PROPER STORAGE AND DISPOSAL OF ANIMAL WASTE, PARTICULARLY IN AREAS WHERE LEAKAGE OR SPILLAGE OF SUCH WASTE MIGHT BE HAZARDOUS TO PUBLIC HEALTH OR DETRIMENTAL TO THE ENVIRONMENT, WOULD BE PART OF A COMPREHENSIVE WASTE DISPOSAL PLAN TO BE PREPARED UNDER THE ORDINANCE, WHICH WOULD COVER THE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF ALL KINDS OF WASTE.

+IT IS FAR TOO EARLY TO SAY ANYTHING ABOUT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ORDINANCE,+ MR WONG SAID.

+SUFFICE TO SAY, ITS ENACTMENT REFLECTS GOVERNMENT'S DETERMINATION TO TACKLE THE POLLUTION PROBLEM.+

IN THE MEANTIME, EFFORTS HAD BEEN MADE TO IMPROVE WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL SERVICE.

MR WONG SAID THERE WERE MANY ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

+I HAVE MENTIONED PIG AND CHICKEN WASTE, BUT THERE ARE OTHERS. FOR EXAMPLE, MANY SQUATTER FACTORIES ARE DISCHARGING HIGHLY POLLUTING EFFLUENTS INTO OUR STREAM COURSES EVERY DAY.+

BUT, HE SAID, IN DEVELOPING THE NEW TERRITORIES, GOVERNMENT HAD NOT LOST SIGHT OF THE NEED TO PRESERVE AND IMPROVE THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT, IN THE WIDEST SENSE OF THE WORD.

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HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY IN PROGRESS

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THE CURRENT HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY, CONDUCTED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT AND THE HANG SENG BANK, WHICH IS AIMED AT UPDATING THE EXISTING CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES, WILL BE COMPLETED BY SEPTEMBER.

MR C.M. LEE, SENIOR STATISTICIAN OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, SAID THAT MORE THAN 3 500 HOUSEHOLDS HAVE BEEN INTERVIEWED SINCE THE SURVEY STARTED IN OCTOBER 1979, AND THAT ABOUT 600 OTHER HOUSEHOLDS WILL BE INTERVIEWED DURING THE NEXT TWO MONTHS.

+THE SURVEY IS TO EXAMINE THE CONSUMPTION PATTERN OF HOUSEHOLDS IN ORDER TO PROVIDE A BASIS FOR UPDATING THE BASKETS OF GOODS AND SERVICES OF CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES AND THEIR WEIGHTS,+ SAID MR LEE.

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES MEASURE THE CHANGES IN PRICES OF GOODS AND SERVICES CONSUMED BY HOUSEHOLDS AND RESULTS OF THE HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY DIRECTLY AFFECT THE ACCURACY OF THE CPIS — CPI (A), CPI (B) AND HANG SENG CPI.

MR LEE SAID THE CPIS ARE VERY IMPORTANT ECONOMIC INDICATORS, AFFECTING BOTH EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES. MANY EMPLOYERS (INCLUDING GOVERNMENT) TAKE THESE INTO CONSIDERATION WHEN ADJUSTING WAGES AND SALARIES AND VARIOUS KINDS OF LIVING ALLOWANCES OF THEIR EMPLOYEES. THE GOVERNMENT ALSO USES THEM IN MAKING ECONOMIC ANALYSES AND FORMULATING POLICIES IN VARIOUS ASPECTS.

SINCE THE CPIS AFFECT EVERYONE'S DAILY LIFE, MR LEE URGED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO ARE SELECTED TO BE INTERVIEWED IN THE NEXT TWO MONTHS TO CO-OPERATE WITH THE DEPARTMENT TO FACILITATE THE SMOOTH OPERATION OF THE SURVEY AND ESTABLISH A SOUND AND REPRESENTATIVE BASIS FOR THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES.

THE HOUSEHOLDS ARE SELECTED BY MEANS OF A CHANCE MECHANISM. A LETTER WILL BE SENT BY THE DEPARTMENT OR THE HANG SENG BANK TO EACH OF THE SELECTED HOUSEHOLDS, NOTIFYING THEM ABOUT THE SURVEY AND THE TIME AN ASSISTANT CENSUS AND SURVEY OFFICER WILL CALL ON THEM, AND ASKING FOR THEIR CO-OPERATION.

ASSISTANT CENSUS AND SURVEY OFFICERS, CARRYING IDENTITY CARDS ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT, WILL VISIT THE CHOSEN HOUSEHOLDS AND EXPLAIN WHAT INFORMATION IS REQUIRED.

MR LEE ASSURED THE SELECTED HOUSEHOLDS THAT INFORMATION PROVIDED WOULD BE KEPT IN CONFIDENCE AND WOULD NOT BE RELEASED TO ANY OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS. IT WILL BE USED BY THE DEPARTMENT SOLELY FOR PRODUCING STATISTICAL TABULATIONS FROM WHICH PARTICULARS OF INDIVIDUAL HOUSEHOLDS CANNOT BE IDENTIFIED.

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CYC MEMBERS NEARING 40 000 MARK
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NEARLY 40 000 SCHOOL CHILDREN ARE NOW MEMBERS OF COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUBS WHICH WERE INTRODUCED IN 1978 TO INSTIL A SENSE OF CITIZENSHIP IN YOUNG PEOPLE.

THIS YEAR, THE CYC SECRETARIAT IN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT PLANS TO PROMOTE THIS SPIRIT FURTHER THROUGH A SERIES OF COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES INVOLVING ALL ITS MEMBERS.

THE FIRST OF THESE IS A +KNOW YOUR GOVERNMENT+ PROJECT DESIGNED TO GIVE THEM A BETTER INSIGHT INTO THOSE ASPECTS OF GOVERNMENT WORK WHICH ARE MORE DIRECTLY CONCERNED WITH THE LIFE OF THE ORDINARY CITIZEN.

A NUMBER OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS — EDUCATION, AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, MEDICAL AND HEALTH, FIRE SERVICES, HOME AFFAIRS, LEGAL AID, HOUSING, URBAN SERVICES AND PUBLIC WORKS — WILL OUTLINE THEIR SERVICES AND EXPLAIN THEIR ROLES TO THE PARTICIPANTS.

+AT THE SAME TIME, THERE WILL BE A DESIGN COMPETITION ON THE SAME SUBJECT FOR CYC MEMBERS IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN WHICH THE BEST 20 ENTRIES WILL BE EXHIBITED NEXT APRIL,+ SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CYC SECRETARIAT TODAY (SUNDAY).

ANOTHER PROJECT TO INVOLVE CYC MEMBERS IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS IS A +KNOW YOUR DISTRICT+ SCHEME.

+MEMBERS IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS WILL TAKE PART IN A QUIZ COMPETITION IN THEIR OWN DISTRICTS WHILE THOSE IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS WILL HOLD AN EXHIBITION,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

IN MID-SEPTEMBER, SCHOOLS WILL BE INVITED TO JOIN A CARTOON DRAWING COMPETITION ON +THE RIGHTS OF A CONSUMER+. ALL THE ENTRIES WILL BE EXHIBITED.

OTHER ACTIVITIES FOR THIS YEAR INCLUDE VARIOUS CAMPAIGNS, CLEAN BEACH ACTIVITIES, LEADERSHIP TRAINING CAMPS, COMMUNITY SERVICE (VISITING HOMES FOR THE AGED AND REFUGEE CAMPS), TALKS, AND A FUN FAIR.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE ACTIVITIES WERE ORGANISED WITH OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND PUBLIC BODIES.

MEMBERSHIP OF COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUBS AT THE END OF JUNE WAS ABOUT 38 000, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 34 PER CENT OVER THE MEMBERSHIP FIGURE AT THE SAME TIME LAST YEAR.

THE NUMBER OF MEMBER SCHOOLS INCREASED FROM 373 TO 428 DURING THE SAME PERIOD.

+STATISTICS ALSO SHOW THAT MEMBER PARTICIPATION IN EVENTS BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 1979 AND FEBRUARY 1980 WAS WELL OVER 48 000 TIMES, WHICH REPRESENTS AN INCREASE OF A GOOD 50 PER CENT OVER THE SAME PERIOD IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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LANTERN PARADE TO BE HELD IN NORTH NT
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MORE THAN 2 000 STUDENTS FROM NORTHERN NEW TERRITORIES ARE BEING INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN A LANTERN PARADE IN OCTOBER TO MARK THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE.

NORTH DISTRICT, WHICH INCLUDES THE TOWNS OF SHEUNG SHUI, SHEK WU HUI, TA KWU LING, FANLING AND SHA TAU KOK AND THE BORDER AREA, WAS FORMERLY PART OF TAI PO DISTRICT. IT BECAME A SEPARATE DISTRICT LAST OCTOBER TO STREAMLINE ADMINISTRATION.

DURING THE PARADE ON OCTOBER 3, STUDENTS WILL BE PROVIDED WITH LANTERNS AND WILL TOUR THE CENTRAL AREA OF MAJOR TOWNS IN THE DISTRICT BEFORE GATHERING AT FANLING PLAYGROUND WHERE A VARIETY SHOW WILL BE HELD.

THE SHOW WILL INCLUDE PERFORMANCES BY POPULAR SINGERS, A MAGIC SHOW, AND TRADITIONAL CHINESE DANCES BY STUDENTS FROM LOCAL SCHOOLS.

NEARLY 5 000 PEOPLE INCLUDING GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES AND DIGNITARIES WILL ATTEND.

A SPOKESMAN FOR NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE SAID THE EVENT WAS AN EFFORT BY GOVERNMENT AND THE PUBLIC TO HELP CULTIVATE A SENSE OF BELONGING AMONG LOCAL RESIDENTS.

A PREPARATORY COMMITTEE CONSISTING OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, RURAL COMMITTEES AND CIVIC ASSOCIATIONS HAS BEEN FORMED FOR THE OCCASION.

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SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, AND REGIONAL COMMISSIONER NORTH WEST, MR JIMMY SWEETMAN, ARE SPONSORS OF THE COMMITTEE.

THE LANTERN PARADE AND THE VARIETY SHOW WILL BE HIGHLIGHTS OF A ONE-MONTH PROGRAMME BEING ORGANISED BY THE COMMITTEE.

OTHER ACTIVITIES INCLUDE SOCCER COMPETITIONS, A QUIZ CONTEST, DRAGON DANCES AND LANTERN AND LOGO DESIGN COMPETITIONS.

NORTH DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD PROVIDED \$15 000 FOR THE EVENT, WHICH IS ESTIMATED TO COST \$70 000. THE BALANCE WILL BE RAISED FROM PRIVATE DONATIONS.

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PWD NEEDS 40 AIR-CONDITIONING ARTISANS

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT IS INVITING APPLICATIONS TO FILL 40 VACANCIES FOR CLASS I AND CLASS II AIR-CONDITIONING ARTISANS IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) THE DUTIES INCLUDE THE OPERATION, MAINTENANCE, REPAIR AND SERVICING OF AIR-CONDITIONING SYSTEMS AND RELATED EQUIPMENT.

SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO WORK IN THE URBAN AREA AND IN TSUEN WAN, KWAI CHUNG AND FANLING. THEY MAY HAVE TO WORK SHIFT DUTIES.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID APPLICANTS SHOULD BE OVER 20 YEARS OF AGE WITH FIVE YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN AIR-CONDITIONING FOR THE CLASS I POST AND FOUR YEARS FOR CLASS II.

APPLICANTS WILL ALSO HAVE TO SIT A TRADE TEST.

PREFERENCE WOULD BE GIVEN TO THOSE POSSESSING VALID APPRENTICESHIP CERTIFICATES, HE ADDED.

THE CLASS I POST HAS A MONTHLY STARTING SALARY OF \$1 525, RISING TO \$1 705, AND CLASS II \$1 435, RISING TO \$1 615.

THOSE INTERESTED SHOULD CALL AT ANY BRANCH OFFICE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S LOCAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE, BRINGING ALONG THEIR PHOTOGRAPH AND IDENTITY CARD.

TWO OF THE OFFICES ARE AT THE CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, FOURTH FLOOR, YAU MA TEI, AND NEW RODNEY BLOCK, 99 QUEENSWAY, WAN CHAI.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TELEPHONES 3-683764 AND 3-666615.

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KCR TENDERS CLOSE FRIDAY
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TENDERS FOR A FIVE-YEAR TENANCY TO RUN THE RESTAURANT AND BAR AT THE KOWLOON RAILWAY STATION IN HUNG HOM WILL CLOSE ON FRIDAY (AUGUST 8).

A KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY SPOKESMAN ALSO REMINDED PROSPECTIVE TENDERERS THAT THE CLOSING DATE FOR TENDERS FOR ANOTHER FIVE-YEAR TENANCY TO OPERATE A BOOKSHOP AT THE STATION CONCOURSE WILL ALSO BE ON FRIDAY.

ALL TENDERS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE CENTRAL TENDER BOARD BEFORE NOON ON THAT DAY.

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NEW STAFF QUARTERS FOR KCR
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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IS CALLING TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF STAFF QUARTERS FOR KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY IN MONG KOK.

THE WORK INVOLVES THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 14-STORY BUILDING TO PROVIDE 127 QUARTERS AND THREE BARRACK ROOMS.

THE NEW STAFF QUARTERS WILL BE BUILT AT THE NORTH-WEST CORNER OF THE MONG KOK STATION GOODS YARD.

WORK ON THE PROJECT WILL START IN OCTOBER AND IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN JANUARY 1982.

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ACCESS ROAD CLOSURE
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THE ACCESS ROAD BETWEEN BLOCKS 11 AND 13 OF UPPER PAK TIN ESTATE WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 10 AM ON TUESDAY (AUGUST 5) TO MIDNIGHT ON SATURDAY (AUGUST 9) FOR ROAD RESURFACING WORKS.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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TRAFFIC DIVERSION ON TAI KOK TSUI ROAD
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NORTHBOUND TRAFFIC ON TAI KOK TSUI ROAD BETWEEN CHUNG WUI STREET AND ANCHOR STREET WILL BE DIVERTED TO THE SOUTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY FROM 10 AM ON TUESDAY (AUGUST 5) TO FACILITATE THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE ROAD. LOCAL ACCESS TO SIDE STREETS WILL BE MAINTAINED.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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