



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 1975

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TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 1975

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DANGEROUS GOODS VEHICLES TO BE LICENSED ANNUALLY
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VEHICLES USED FOR CARRYING COMPRESSED GASES AND INFLAMMABLE LIQUIDS ARE TO BE LICENSED ANNUALLY BEGINNING FROM APRIL 1.

THE LICENCE FEE IS \$50 PER YEAR AND APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE MADE IN WRITING TO THE FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU, ASIAN HOUSE, HENNESSY ROAD.

A CENTRE IS BEING SET UP AT HARBOUR ROAD FIRE STATION TO START INSPECTING VEHICLES NEXT MONTH.

A CERTIFICATE OF ROAD-WORTHINESS ISSUED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT IN RESPECT OF EACH VEHICLE MUST ALSO BE PRODUCED WHEN THE VEHICLE UNDERGOES INSPECTION.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT REMINDED VEHICLE OWNERS THAT UNDER EXISTING REGULATIONS THE FINE FOR CONVEYING INFLAMMABLE LIQUIDS WITHOUT A LICENCE IS \$2,000 AND ONE MONTH IMPRISONMENT AND THAT A FINE OF \$5,000 MAY BE IMPOSED, PLUS TWO MONTHS IMPRISONMENT, FOR CARRYING COMPRESSED GASES WITHOUT A LICENCE.

THEY ARE ALSO REMINDED NOT TO LEAVE A VEHICLE UNATTENDED WHILE CARRYING DANGEROUS GOODS AND NOT TO SMOKE OR CARRY MATCHES OR LIGHTERS ON THESE VEHICLES.

A CIRCULAR LETTER EXPLAINING THE NEW REQUIREMENTS HAS ALREADY BEEN SENT TO OWNERS OF VEHICLES LICENSED BY THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO CONVEY DANGEROUS GOODS.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THERE HAD BEEN CONCERN ABOUT THE NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS AND FIRES INVOLVING VEHICLES USED TO CONVEY CATEGORY 2 (COMPRESSED GASES) AND CATEGORY 5 (INFLAMMABLE LIQUIDS) DANGEROUS GOODS.

PREVIOUS LEGISLATION HAD REQUIRED ALL VEHICLES INTENDED FOR CONVEYING THESE TWO CATEGORIES OF DANGEROUS GOODS TO BE INSPECTED AND APPROVED BY THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT BEFORE BEING PUT INTO USE. BUT AT THAT TIME THESE VEHICLES ONLY HAD TO BE LICENSED ONCE AND NOT ANNUALLY AND BECAUSE OF THIS MANY ACCIDENTS HAD OCCURRED AS A RESULT OF WEAR AND TEAR COUPLED WITH LACK OF CARE AND MAINTENANCE BY VEHICLE OWNERS.

TO ENSURE THAT SAFETY STANDARDS ARE MAINTAINED, DANGEROUS GOODS VEHICLES WILL HAVE TO BE LICENSED ANNUALLY.

THE SPOKESMAN WARNED THAT LACK OF MAINTENANCE OF SAFETY STANDARDS WAS MOST DANGEROUS. +APART FROM THE TOTAL LOSS OF THE VEHICLES CONCERNED, OTHER ROAD USERS WOULD ALSO BE ENDANGERED,+ HE ADDED.

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PRESENTATION TO COMMUNITY CHEST
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A SUM OF \$997.90 RAISED BY A GROUP OF DISABLED PEOPLE DURING THE 'WALK FOR A MILLION' HELD ON HONG KONG ISLAND ON JANUARY 19 THIS YEAR, WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE COMMUNITY CHEST ON FRIDAY (MARCH 14).

THE PRESENTATION WILL BE MADE AT THE COMMUNITY CHEST OFFICE IN ROOM 724, GLOUCESTER BUILDING, WEST WING AT 2.30 PM.

A TOTAL OF 25 PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY HANDICAPPED UNDER THE CARE OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT REHABILITATION CENTRE IN ABERDEEN TOOK PART IN THE WALK AND FOUND THEIR OWN SPONSORS.

MAKING THE PRESENTATION WILL BE 19-YEAR-OLD CHEUNG WING-YIU, REPRESENTING THE WHEELCHAIR-BOUND PARTICIPANTS AND 16-YEAR-OLD WONG YUET-KWAI, REPRESENTING THE OTHERS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE PRESENTATION.

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DEATH SENTENCE COMMUTED
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THE GOVERNOR, AFTER TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE ADVICE OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, HAS DECIDED THAT THE DEATH SENTENCE PASSED ON JANUARY 9, 1973 ON KWAN YIP-CHUEN SHOULD BE COMMUTED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT.

KWAN WAS FOUND GUILTY OF THE MURDER OF CHENG CHING.

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LINGUISTICS EXPERT TO GIVE TALK
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NOTE TO EDITORS:

AN EXPERT IN APPLIED LINGUISTICS, DR. ALAN DAVIES, WILL GIVE A TALK ON +EXAMINING ENGLISH+ TO ENGLISH TEACHERS AND LECTURERS AT THE GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AFTERNOON.

DR. DAVIES, WHO IS THE DEPUTY HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED LINGUISTICS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH, IS HERE IN HONG KONG ON AN OFFICIAL VISIT.

ATTENDING THE TALK TOMORROW WILL BE PANEL CHAIRMEN OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS, COLLEGE OF EDUCATION LECTURERS, ENGLISH INSPECTORS AND EDUCATION OFFICERS OF THE EXAMINATIONS DIVISION.

YOU ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE EVENT, WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 P.M. AND LAST TWO HOURS.

GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION IS AT GASCOIGN ROAD, KOWLOON.

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MAIL SERVICES TO KHMER REPUBLIC
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THE POST OFFICE ANNOUNCES TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT AIR SERVICES TO THE KHMER REPUBLIC (CAMBODIA) ARE TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED, AND AIRMAIL CORRESPONDENCE AND AIR PARCELS POSTED IN HONG KONG FROM FEBRUARY 28, 1975 ONWARDS HAVE BEEN DELAYED.

THE POST OFFICE REGRETS THAT NO LETTERS OR PARCELS FOR DESPATCH BY AIRMAIL TO THE KHMER REPUBLIC WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

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GOVERNOR TO ATTEND H.A.D. ANNUAL SPRING RECEPTION

THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, WILL ATTEND THE ANNUAL SPRING RECEPTION TO BE GIVEN BY THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT AT GARDEN RESTAURANT, CITY HALL ON MARCH 13 (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON.

ABOUT 600 COMMUNITY LEADERS, REPRESENTATIVES OF CITY DISTRICT COMMITTEES, AREA COMMITTEES, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND KAIFONG ASSOCIATIONS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

THE RECEPTION IS AN ANNUAL FUNCTION OF THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT TO PROMOTE THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT AND THE PUBLIC.

THE DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS, MR. E.P. HO, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS, MR. AUGUSTINE KAM CHUI AND OTHER SENIOR STAFF MEMBERS OF THE DEPARTMENT WILL RECEIVE THE GUESTS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 5.30 P.M. ON THURSDAY.

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TAX-FREE INTEREST RATE REDUCED

AS FROM TOMORROW (MARCH 12) THE MAXIMUM RATE OF INTEREST WHICH CAN BE PAID BY LICENSED BANKS WITHOUT DEDUCTION OF INTEREST TAX WILL BE REDUCED FROM 3-1/2% TO 2-1/2% PER ANNUM.

THIS FOLLOWS FROM THE DECISION OF THE EXCHANGE BANKS' ASSOCIATION, ALREADY ANNOUNCED, TO REDUCE THE RATE OF INTEREST PAYABLE ON SAVINGS ACCOUNTS TO 2-1/2% AS FROM THE SAME DATE.

THE CHANGE ALSO MEANS THAT INTEREST TAX WILL IN FUTURE BE DEDUCTED FROM INTEREST PAYMENTS ON THE GOVERNMENT 3-1/2% REHABILITATION LOAN. HOWEVER, INTEREST PAID AT UP TO 3-1/2% PER ANNUM BY THE HONGKONG ELECTRIC CO. LTD., AND THE HONG KONG AND CHINA GAS CO. LTD. WILL CONTINUE TO BE EXEMPT FROM INTEREST TAX.

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FIRST SHIPMENT OF NEW COINS ARRIVED

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THE FIRST SHIPMENT OF NEW \$2 AND 20-CENT COINS HAVE ARRIVED IN HONG KONG TO ENABLE OPERATORS OF COIN-COUNTING AND COIN-OPERATED MACHINES TO TRY THEM OUT ON THE MACHINES.

THERE ARE 1,000 COINS OF EACH OF THE TWO DENOMINATIONS IN THIS SHIPMENT, AND THEY WILL BECOME LEGAL TENDER IN AUGUST.

THE NEW \$2 AND 20-CENT COINS WHICH HAVE BEEN MINTED IN THE ROYAL MINT IN BRITAIN, ARE SLIGHTLY SMALLER THAN THE EXISTING \$1 AND 10-CENT COINS, AND THEY HAVE A DISTINCT SHAPE INCORPORATING SCALLOPED EDGES SO THAT THEY CAN BE ADDED TO THE EXISTING RANGE WITHOUT CAUSING CONFUSION.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TREASURY SAID THAT SUBSEQUENT SHIPMENTS OF THE NEW COINS WOULD BE ARRIVING WITHIN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS TO BUILD UP A SUFFICIENT SUPPLY FOR CIRCULATION IN AUGUST.

OTHER COINS SCHEDULED IN THE PHASED PROGRAMME OF A NEW COINAGE RANGE ARE NEW \$1 COINS IN 1976 AND \$5 AND 50-CENT COINS IN 1977.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

COPIES OF A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE FIRST SHIPMENT OF NEW COINS WILL BE DOXED FOR COLLECTION.

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TOPLEY TO VISIT SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND
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THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR. KENNETH TOPLEY, WILL SPEND TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) MORNING VISITING THE EBENEZER SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND AND THE SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES CENTRE.

HE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY MISS ELIZABETH ROWE, PRINCIPAL EDUCATION OFFICER (SPECIAL EDUCATION).

MR. TOPLEY WILL ARRIVE AT THE EBENEZER SCHOOL, 136 POKFULAM ROAD, HONG KONG AT 9.15 A.M. WHERE HE WILL BE MET BY THE PRINCIPAL OF THE SCHOOL, MR. K.J. MARSHALL.

THE EBENEZER SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND PROVIDES EDUCATION, TRAINING AND BOARDING FACILITIES FOR 103 CHILDREN RANGING FROM FIVE TO 18 YEARS OF AGE.

THE PRESENT SCHOOL BUILDING WAS OPENED IN JANUARY 1962 AND THE SCHOOL IS IN RECEIPT OF EDUCATION SUBSIDY AND SOCIAL WELFARE SUBVENTION FOR ITS RECURRENT EXPENSES.

AFTER SPENDING AN HOUR IN THE SCHOOL, MR. TOPLEY WILL THEN LEAVE FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES CENTRE AT THE SIR ELLIS KADOORIE PRIMARY SCHOOL (WESTERN), 20 HOSPITAL ROAD, SAI YING PUN, ARRIVING THERE AT ABOUT 11 A.M.

HE WILL BE BRIEFED ON THE DIAGNOSTIC AND REMEDIAL SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE CENTRE FOR CHILDREN WITH LEARNING DIFFICULTIES RELATING TO VISUAL, AUDITORY, PHYSICAL AND SPEECH HANDICAPS.

THE VISIT WILL END AT 12.10 P.M.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER MR. TOPLEY'S VISIT TOMORROW.