



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Thursday, October 18, 1973

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MCST TV SETS TO RECEIVE WIRELESS TRANSMISSION

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About 70 per cent of all television viewers will be able to receive the existing wireless service and the two new stations when they come "on air", without change to their aerials or equipment, the Commissioner for Television and Films, Mr. N.J.V. Watt, said today.

Addressing a luncheon meeting of the Rotary Club of Hong Kong Island South, Mr. Watt said this was made possible because the government's approved frequency plan had grouped the main transmitters of all three television stations together in Band IV -- close to TVB's existing main transmitter frequencies.

The outlying district transmitters of all stations were similarly grouped close together for ease of reception on a single aerial, he said, although inexpensive new aerials might have to be installed.

This was achieved after seven separate frequency plans had been carefully considered by the government with the help of specialised engineers from overseas.

"Throughout, the guiding policy has been the convenience of the viewing public," he stressed.

Mr. Watt said one problem brought about by this combined frequency plan was that TVB had to alter their secondary frequencies to provide space for the other two stations, and the necessary equipment would take a few months to install.

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But the government, together with the television companies, had found a means of bringing one of Rediffusion Television's main transmitters on air before TVB clears the required channels.

As a result, Mr. Watt said, the Chinese language service of Rediffusion could expect to begin transmission this December. This would be followed by the opening of their English channel probably a few months later, while the third Chinese channel run by Commercial Television would come into operation in July 1975.

Turning to the question of wired television sets after Rediffusion Television closes down its wired services on November 1, Mr. Watt gave an assurance that all dual-purpose sets would be able to receive all the new wireless television transmissions, although sets previously used only for wired reception would have to be modified at a small cost.

He said Rediffusion Television had been importing only dual-purpose sets since 1963 and "unless you have a ten year old wired set you have no real problem".

Mr. Watt added: "If you are one of the very few who have the very old set (405 line only set) you will have to replace it with one capable of receiving wireless television signals on 625 lines in Bands IV and V, that is channels 21-59 on the tuning knob."

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Note to Editors: Copies of the full text of Mr. Watt's speech (in English only) are boxed for collection.

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STUDY ON CHILDREN'S ATTITUDES TOWARDS THEIR PARENTS

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The Tai Hang Tung Community Centre is conducting a survey among children in the Tai Hang Tung Estate to find out what their attitudes are towards their parents.

Miss Lilian Wong, the Warden of the Centre, said the study would provide information on such matters as relationship between children and parents, parental care and family educational backgrounds among others.

Some 1,000 children or about ten per cent of the children population in the estate have been chosen for this study. The survey, through interviews in schools and welfare agencies in the district, is being carried out by a team of 50 youth volunteers.

The study including the analysis of data collected is expected to be completed by the end of this month.

Miss Wong said the need for such a study was apparent because the number of working parents in Hong Kong had greatly increased over the past ten years.

Because parents are working, they do not have enough time for their children who are left to themselves at home or to wander the streets, she said.

"While some mothers are not employed outside, they would still engage in home industries neglecting the care, love and concern for their children. Poor educational background and living environment also affect their roles as parents."

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Concern about this neglect has been voiced by educationalists, civic and kaifong leaders in the district, she added.

"The data and facts collected in this survey will help to throw some light on the behaviour, needs and other problems of these children. We will then be able to gear our programmes to help and guide them and their parents as well," Miss Wong said.

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SAFETY SEMINAR

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Note to Editors: The Commissioner of Labour, Mr. I.R. Price, will officiate at the opening ceremony of the one-day safety seminar at the Mandarin Hotel tomorrow (Friday) from 9.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.

The seminar - organised by the Chinese Manufacturers' Association - will be attended by some 80 management representatives from 55 industrial establishments.

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LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD ELECTION

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Mr. Leung Tat-shing of Urban Services Department Kowloon Workers General Union and Mr. Lee Shing-chu of Hong Kong Stevedores Union (Chap Yin) were today elected as workers' representatives to be appointed by the Governor as members of the Labour Advisory Board for the year 1974.

The election - held by secret ballot at the regional office of the Labour Department at New Rodney Block, Queensway - was supervised by officers of the Labour Department.

The Board is a non-statutory body to advise the Commissioner of Labour on such matters affecting labour, including legislation and International Labour Organisation Conventions and Recommendations. It is composed of four employers' representatives and four workers' representatives, with the Commissioner of Labour as Chairman.

Two of the workers' representatives are elected by registered trade unions and two are selected for appointment by the Governor.

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MAY ROAD RE-OPENING SHORTLY

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The section of May Road, which was closed to vehicular traffic following a landslide early last month, will be re-opened to one-way westbound traffic on Saturday (October 20) at 7 a.m.

At the same time, Tregunter Path will also be re-routed back to one-way westbound traffic from May Road to Old Peak Road.

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HEALTH REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER

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There were 73 notifications of measles during September, but no deaths from the disease, according to monthly health returns issued by the Medical and Health Department today.

These figures contrast markedly with the statistics for August, when 101 cases of measles were recorded, and five deaths.

A spokesman for the department said the September measles' position was "encouraging," but he warned that there was "no room for complacency, and any relaxation of vigilance could lead to an epidemic of the disease."

He urged parents with susceptible children between six months and five years to have them immunised. Vaccine was free and available at all government maternity and child health centres.

The latest statistics brought the total number of measles' notifications to 602 so far this year, and 11 deaths. In 1972, there were 783 notifications and nine deaths.

Of the 81 deaths recorded during September, tuberculosis accounted for 79 and typhoid fever for two.

There were two cases of scarlet fever, one of meningococcal meningitis, 39 typhoid, one of paratyphoid, and 24 of bacillary dysentery. There were no reports of diphtheria or poliomyelitis.

During the month, Hong Kong remained free from cholera and other quarantinable diseases.

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URBCO MEMBERS TO MEET MR. ROYLE

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Four Urban Councillors will have lunch in London next Monday with Mr. Anthony Royle, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs.

The Councillors, Mr. Henry H.L. Hu, Mr. Kenneth T.C.Lo, Dr. Denny Huang and Mr. Peter P.K. Ng, leave Hong Kong on Saturday (October 20) for a 10-day working visit to Britain.

Before lunching with Mr. Royle they will hold talks at the Commonwealth Office and call on Sir Duncan Watson, the Superintending Under-Secretary in charge of the Hong Kong and Indian Ocean Department of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

On Tuesday the Councillors will have talks with Sir Robin Vanderfelt, general secretary of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, and have lunch with the Royal Commonwealth Society.

In the afternoon they will make working visits to the Hong Kong Government Office and the Hong Kong Students' Centre, and later have dinner with the Hong Kong Commissioner, Mr. A.M.J. Wright.

During the following two days the Councillors will see the workings of the Greater London Council and the Hammersmith Borough Council, and inspect housing projects.

They will have lunch with the Anglo-Hong Kong Parliamentary Group and dinner with Sir Duncan Watson.

Next they will visit the Port of London Authority Headquarters and the Tilbury Container Terminal. After the weekend they will visit Bristol.

On Tuesday (October 30), the four Councillors will be guests at the State Opening of Parliament. They leave the following day to return to Hong Kong.

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SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY IN SAU MAU PING

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A dance party will be held at the Kwun Tong Community Centre on Saturday (October 20) to raise funds to finance entertainment programmes for elderly people in the Sau Mau Ping area.

The function has been organised by the Sau Mau Ping (South) Estate Community Work Office of the Social Welfare Department and other welfare agencies in the district.

One of the regular programmes run by the office for the elderly is a social gathering which takes place every Tuesday afternoon from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Estate Welfare Building. Activities at the gathering include games, tea parties, observational visits and picnics.

"These activities involve youth volunteers in long term service to help elderly people and also create a better working relationship among the local agencies," said Mr. Wong King-tong, Warden of Kwun Tong Community Centre.

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WATER CUT

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Water supply to a number of premises in Tsuen Wan will be interrupted for five hours, starting from 1 a.m. on Saturday (October 20) to facilitate a test for leakage in the area.

The area affected is bounded by Texaco Road, Tai Wo Hau Road, Tai Wo Hau Estate Blocks 1 and 12-20, and Asbury Methodist Cottage Area.

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MAIL SERVICES TO MIDDLE EAST DISRUPTED

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The Postmaster General announced today that it is no longer possible to accept surface letters and parcels to Egypt, Israel and Syria due to the disruption to shipping services to the Middle East.

He also warned that although mail for other countries in the Middle East will continue to be accepted, these may be subject to delay.

"Since the shipping services scheduled to carry Christmas mail to the Middle East are affected, the published latest posting dates cannot be maintained," he said.

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H.K. REPRESENTED AT FIRE CHIEFS' CONFERENCE

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The Director of Fire Services, Mr. A.E.H. Wood, left today (Thursday) to attend the International Fire Chiefs' Conference which is being held in Baltimore, U.S.A.

The annual meeting of this world wide body examines developments in fire prevention, fire protection and fire extinction. Experts from a variety of technical disciplines will also present papers on various subjects which are of interest to fire authorities throughout the world.

Mr. Wood will return next Sunday (October 28).

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SPECIAL PASSENGER TRAINS ON SUNDAY

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The Kowloon-Canton Railway will operate special passenger train services on Sundays and public holidays as from this Sunday (October 21) to cope with an expected increase in commuters.

There will be five special up trains and a similar number of down trains -- four of them plying between Kowloon and Tai Po Market and the other between Kowloon and the University.

Of the four up trains running between Kowloon and Tai Po Market, three will leave at 9.49 a.m., 10.57 a.m. and 12.05 p.m. They will pick up passengers en route. The other, which leaves at 3.39 p.m., will not pick up commuters on the way, neither will the special train leaving for the University at 5.31 p.m.

As for the down trains, four will leave Tai Po Market at 10.46 a.m., 11.54 a.m., 1.06 p.m. and 4.31 p.m. while the other will leave the University at 6.30 p.m.

The times for the special trains are subject to change without notice. Additional trains will also be provided in the late evening should circumstances warrant.

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TRAFFIC RE-ARRANGEMENTS IN WANCHAI

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Temporary traffic arrangements will be introduced in Wanchai for about one week to enable drainage work to be carried out in the area.

Starting from 10 a.m. tomorrow (Friday) the section of Marsh Road from Lockhart Road to Jaffe Road will be closed to north-bound traffic.

At the same time, the west side of Marsh Road between Gloucester Road and Jaffe Road will be used for two-way traffic.

A passing bay will be provided in front of houses Nos. 7, 9 and 11, Marsh Road.

Appropriate traffic signs will be erected to guide motorists and pedestrians.

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SANITARY MEASURES

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Sanitary measures imposed against arrivals from Bombay and fourteen Indonesian ports because of cholera have been withdrawn, the Port Health Authority announced today.

The Indonesian ports are Pontianak, Pasuruan, Samarinda, Sabang, Pangkalpinang, Palembang, Pekanbaru, Merauke, Manokwari, Manado, Donggala, Djambi, Belitung, Balikpapan.

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PRESS CONFERENCE ON NEW BILL

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Note to Editors: The Acting Commissioner of Rating and Valuation, Mr. T.F. Edwards will meet the press tomorrow (Friday) to explain the provisions of the new Landlord and Tenant (Consolidation) (Amendment) Bill.

The Bill will be published in the gazette tomorrow.

Press, radio and television representatives are requested to be in the G.I.S. 16 mm theatre on the 5th floor, Beaconsfield House not later than 3.30 p.m. for the press conference.

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Release time: 7.30 p.m.