



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1976

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CREMATION BECOMES MORE POPULAR

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THE INCREASING NUMBER OF PRIVATE CREMATION BEING CARRIED OUT AT TWO OF THE THREE GOVERNMENT CREMATORIA IS EASING THE DEMAND FOR BURIAL SPACES IN PRIVATE CEMETERIES.

DURING THE LAST FINANCIAL YEAR, SOME 6,300 PRIVATE CREMATIONS TOOK PLACE AT THE CAPE COLLINSON (HONG KONG ISLAND) AND DIAMOND HILL (KOWLOON) CREMATORIA, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 23 PER CENT OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR'S FIGURE.

IN 1965-66, THE NUMBER OF CREMATIONS TOTALLED LESS THAN 1,000.

ACCORDING TO THE STAFF OFFICER (CEMETERIES AND CREMATORIA OF THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT), MR. CHIN YIU-CHEONG, CREMATION CONTINUES TO BECOME MORE GENERALLY ACCEPTED AS A SIMPLE BUT DIGNIFIED METHOD OF DISPOSING OF THE DEAD.

CURRENTLY, HE SAID, 35 PER CENT OF ALL BODIES WERE BEING DISPOSED OF IN THIS MANNER IN THE TWO CREMATORIA.

THE THIRD CREMATORIUM IN WO HOP SHEK IS USED TO CREMATE EXHUMED SKELETAL REMAINS. DURING THE YEAR UNDER REVIEW, 2,628 PRIVATE SKELETAL CREMATIONS TOOK PLACE THERE.

MR. CHIN EXPLAINED THAT EVER SINCE CREMATION WAS INTRODUCED IN HONG KONG MORE THAN 13 YEARS AGO, THE DEMAND FOR THIS FACILITY KEPT ON RISING YEAR AFTER YEAR.

HE ATTRIBUTED ITS POPULARITY TO THREE MAIN FACTORS: SHORTAGE OF BURIAL SPACES IN PRIVATE CEMETERIES, ECONOMIC AND CONVENIENCE.

AT PRESENT, HE SAID, FIVE CREMATORS IN CAPE COLLINSON AND TWO IN DIAMOND HILL CREMATE 20 BODIES A DAY.

+THE CREMATORIA OCCASIONALLY OPERATE 12 HOURS A DAY BECAUSE OF THE DEMAND,+ MR. CHIN SAID.

BECAUSE OF THIS, HE POINTED OUT, AN ORDER HAD BEEN PLACED FOR TWO MORE CREMATORS TO BE INSTALLED AT THE CAPE COLLINSON CREMATORIUM.

+THEY ARE EXPECTED TO ARRIVE IN HONG KONG FROM BRITAIN THIS MONTH,+ HE SAID, +AND THE INSTALLATION WILL BE COMPLETED IN TWO MONTHS' TIME.+

MR. CHIN ALSO DISCLOSED THAT THE STAGE FOUR OF THE EXTENSION TO THE COLUMBARIUM AT THIS CREMATORIUM, TO PROVIDE ANOTHER 6,000 NICHES, (FOR THE DEPOSIT OF CREMATED ASHES) WAS PLANNED.

/AT THE PLANNING .....

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AT THE PLANNING STAGE ALSO, HE ADDED, WERE A NEW CREMATORIUM AT DIAMOND HILL, TO INCLUDE A COLUMBARIUM WITH INITIALLY 3,000 NICHES, AND A NEW CREMATORIUM AT TSUEN WAN.

+THE TSUEN WAN CREMATORIUM IS UNDER ACTIVE PLANNING AND IS EXPECTED TO BE UPGRADED TO CATEGORY A IN THE PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME,+ HE EMPHASISED.

+CREMATION IS BEING ACCEPTED BECAUSE PEOPLE CAN EASILY FIND PLACES TO STORE THE ASHES, SUCH AS ON ALTARS OR SHRINES IN HOMES, TEMPLES, MONASTERIES, NUNNERIES AND OTHER PLACES.

+I THINK THIS DEMAND WILL KEEP ON RISING AT A RATE OF OVER 20 PER CENT A YEAR.+

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#### NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN JORDAN ROAD AREA

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NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE INTRODUCED IN THE JORDAN ROAD AREA TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY'S JORDAN STATION.

FROM 10 A.M. ON MONDAY (OCTOBER 4), CHI WO STREET BETWEEN NANKING STREET AND JORDAN ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND.

ALSO, FROM 10 A.M. ON THURSDAY (OCTOBER 7), THE LEFT TURN FROM NATHAN ROAD SOUTHBOUND INTO JORDAN ROAD EASTBOUND WILL BE PROHIBITED.

THE ALTERNATIVE ROUTE FOR LEFT-TURNING TRAFFIC WILL BE VIA NANKING STREET AND CHI WO STREET TO JORDAN ROAD.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE POSTED TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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QUAIL VENDORS WARNED  
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THE GOVERNMENT HAS WARNED QUAIL VENDORS THAT THEY WOULD BE PROSECUTED IF THEY SKIN THE BIRDS IN AN INHUMAN MANNER.

THE VENDORS HAD ALSO BEEN URGED TO CONSULT WITH INSPECTORS FROM THE SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS ON THE BEST METHODS OF KEEPING AND KILLING QUAILS, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION SAID TODAY.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE WARNING HAD BEEN GIVEN THROUGH A LETTER TO THE HEUNG YEE KUK IN REPLY TO REPRESENTATIONS OVER THE PROSECUTION OF A QUAIL VENDOR IN TAI KOK TSUI ROAD EARLIER THIS YEAR.

REPRESENTATIVES OF QUAIL VENDORS IN YUEN LONG AND TUEN MUN COMPLAINED TO THE KUK AFTER THE MAN WAS CONVICTED OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS AND WAS SENTENCED TO ONE MONTH'S JAIL.

THE N.T.A. SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THE QUESTION HAD BEEN RAISED WITH EXPERTS FROM THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT AND THE H.K.S.P.C.A.

+OUR ADVICE TO THE VENDORS IS THAT IF THEY WISH TO AVOID PROSECUTION, THEY MUST SELL UNKILLED QUAILS OR QUAILS SKINNED IN A MORE HUMANE WAY THAN THE PRESENT METHODS USED BY SOME - WHICH IS SKINNING ALIVE,+ HE ADDED.

+THE OFFENCE IS NOT IN THE KILLING OF THE BIRDS, BUT IN THE INHUMAN MANNER OF SKINNING.

+THE PUBLIC SHOULD BE FULLY AWARE THAT DESPITE ANY CLAIM TO THE CONTRARY, THE SKINNING OF BIRDS ALIVE IS INHUMAN AND HAS NO ADVANTAGE OVER KILLING BY OTHER CONVENTIONAL METHODS.

+WE HAVE INFORMED THE KUK THAT THE H.K.S.P.C.A. INTENDS DOING EVERYTHING IN ITS POWER TO PREVENT CRUELTY TO ANIMALS AND THAT THE POLICE WILL ALSO PROSECUTE OFFENDERS AGAINST THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS ORDINANCE.

+WE HAVE ALSO URGED THOSE IN THE BUSINESS TO CONSULT WITH EXPERTS FROM THE H.K.S.P.C.A. AND THE AGRICULTURAL AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT ON THE BEST WAYS OF OVERCOMING ANY PROBLEMS THEY MAY HAVE IN THEIR METHODS OF KILLING THE QUAILS.+

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BEACH ATTENDANCE  
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TOTAL ATTENDANCE AT BEACHES ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WAS ESTIMATED TO BE 15,000,000 IN LAST YEAR'S SWIMMING SEASON.

THE MOST POPULAR BEACH WAS DEEP WATER BAY WITH AN ATTENDANCE OF 2,311,000, TO BE FOLLOWED BY SHEK O, REPULSE BAY AND STANLEY MAIN BEACH ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND LIDO BEACH IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

AT THE SAME TIME, PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS WERE ALSO HEAVILY USED AND TOTAL ATTENDANCE OF MORE THAN 3,151,000 WAS RECORDED.

THE NUMBER OF SWIMMERS WHO RAN INTO DIFFICULTIES DROPPED BY 32 PER CENT TO 624, COMPRISING 273 AT POOLS AND 351 AT BEACHES.

IN ADDITION, THERE WERE ELEVEN DROWNINGS, A DROP OF 45 PER CENT COMPARED WITH THOSE IN THE PREVIOUS SWIMMING SEASON. ALL THE DROWNINGS OCCURRED AT BEACHES.

THE FIRST NEW TERRITORIES PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL WAS OPENED IN TSUEN WAN ON JULY 21, 1975, BRINGING TO EIGHT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL COMPLEXES.

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INTERRUPTION OF WATER SUPPLY

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THE SALT WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN THE CENTRAL DISTRICT AND MID-LEVELS WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR FIVE HOURS FROM 1 A.M. TOMORROW (OCTOBER 3) AND TUESDAY (OCTOBER 5) TO ENABLE THE WATERWORKS OFFICE STAFF TO CARRY OUT A NIGHT LEAKAGE TEST.

IN CENTRAL DISTRICT, THE AFFECTED PREMISES ARE THOSE IN CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL, INCLUDING THE CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL CAR PARK BUILDING, HILLIER STREET, MERCER STREET, BURD STREET, JERVOIS STREET AND LADDER STREET INCLUDING SQUARE STREET, BRIDGES STREET AND ROZARIO STREET.

IN THE MID-LEVELS, THE AFFECTED PREMISES ARE THOSE IN THE GLENEALY, ROBINSON ROAD, ALBANY ROAD, MACDONNELL ROAD, BOWEN ROAD FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH MAGAZINE GAP ROAD TO A POINT NEAR NO. 2 MAGAZINE GAP ROAD- AND FROM CALDER PATH TO HOUSE NO. 7B BOWEN ROAD, KENNEDY ROAD FROM PEAK TRAM PATH TO CALDER PATH, PEEL STREET FROM ROBINSON ROAD TO PRINCE'S TERRACE INCLUDING LEUNG FAI TERRACE, REDNAXELA TERRACE, MOSQUE STREET, MOSQUE JUNCTION AND YING FAI TERRACE, LYTTTELTON ROAD, HOUSE NOS. 35-37 AND 56-68 CONDUIT ROAD, KOTEWALL ROAD, PEAK ROAD FROM HOUSE NO. 6A TO ITS JUNCTION WITH BONHAM ROAD, BONHAM ROAD FROM PARK ROAD TO HOUSE NO. 48, CENTRE STREET, YING WA TERRACE, WEST END TERRACE, INCLUDING ST. STEPHEN'S GIRL COLLEGE, SEYMOUR ROAD, CASTLE ROAD AND WOODLANDS TERRACE.

FROM 9 A.M. ON MONDAY (OCTOBER 4) TO 6 A.M. THE FOLLOWING DAY, FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN KWAI CHUNG WILL BE SUSPENDED TO ALLOW THE CONNECTION OF A WATER MAIN.

AFFECTED ARE PREMISES BOUNDED BY TAI LIN PAI ROAD FROM KWAI ON ROAD TO KWAI TING ROAD, KWAI TING ROAD, KA HING ROAD, KA TING ROAD AND WING YIP STREET.

PREMISES AFFECTED INCLUDE SHUI ON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, ORIENTAL INDUSTRIAL BUILDING, BEN-LINE GODOWN, YUE LAM INDUSTRIAL BUILDING PHASE II, ICI BUILDING, SAN CHEONG INDUSTRIAL BUILDING, YUE LAM INDUSTRIAL BUILDING, SANG KEE INDUSTRIAL BUILDING, TAI DI INDUSTRIAL BUILDING, KIU KWONG INDUSTRIAL BUILDING, KIN WAH INDUSTRIAL BUILDING, HSIN CHEONG CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, TAI WAH TRANSPORTATION COMPANY, MEI LO GODOWN, MEI SIK INDUSTRIAL BUILDING, WING GAI DYEING WORKS AND FAT CHIN INDUSTRIAL BUILDING.

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HONG KONG HOUSING AUTHORITY 香港房屋委員會

PRESS  
RELEASE

新聞稿

Saturday, 2nd October 1975

HOUSING AUTHORITY SPENDS MILLIONS OF DOLLARS  
ON MAINTAINING AND IMPROVING ITS ESTATES

The Housing Authority has budgeted to spend \$82 million this financial year on maintaining its older estates and making them more attractive.

The Maintenance Section will carry out 190,000 jobs this year, ranging in size and complexity from clearing blocked drains to renovating 1,000 toilets or fitting 18,000 fluorescent in estate corridors.

One area receiving a great deal of attention is environmental improvements through such schemes as planting trees and flowers in gardens or installing swings and slides or sitting out areas.

The Authority's Chief Maintenance Surveyor, Mr Raymond Bates, said one of the most costly jobs was repainting with 20 contracts let this year costing \$12.8 million. All estates are completely repainted every four years and the Maintenance Section is currently looking into ways to improve repainting.

"This year we are buying equipment to tell us how many coats of paint have been applied to a surface over the years and the thickness of each coat," Mr Bates said. Negotiations were also going on with manufacturers to see whether a paint can be produced to the Authority's specification which would overcome the problem of paintwork deteriorating through fungus growth.

Three more lifts have been installed at Tung Tau Estate and work is to begin early next year on putting in four extra lifts at Lam Tin Estate and three at Shek Lei. The possibility of speeding up some lifts is being investigated. Last month, 788 lifts were inspected. While repairs and improvements to 120 were in progress.

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To help improve the environment, the Authority is at present building refuse points in 10 estates at a cost of \$2.25 million. Refuse will be stored in these points, out of sight of residents, until collected. Also, \$6 million is being spent on constructing playgrounds, sitting out areas and gardens in several estates: a recent development has been to introduce lighting in environmental schemes.

Work has also begun on the mosaic tiling of lift lobbies in five estates at a cost of \$420,000.

"We get on with maintenance and improvement work as quickly as possible," said Mr Bates. "Thirty four per cent of all jobs are completed within one week and 94 per cent are completed within two months. Where a longer period than two months is taken it is usually due to difficulty of access into premises or shortages in the supply of building materials."

It is hoped next year to increase the amount spent by the Authority on maintenance and improvements.

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