



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, MAY 6, 1977

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## PAID ANNUAL LEAVE PROPOSED

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ALL MANUAL WORKERS, AND NON-MANUAL EMPLOYEES EARNING LESS THAN \$2,000 A MONTH, WILL BE ENTITLED TO PAID ANNUAL LEAVE IF A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE IS APPROVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THE EMPLOYMENT (AMENDMENT) (NO. 3) BILL 1977 PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY) STIPULATES THAT ALL EMPLOYEES WILL BE ENTITLED TO SEVEN DAYS ANNUAL LEAVE WITH PAY AFTER SERVING 12 MONTHS WITH THE SAME EMPLOYER.

IN EVERY 12 MONTHS THE EMPLOYEE MUST HAVE SEVEN CONSECUTIVE DAYS' ABSENCE FROM WORK WITH PAY, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER SUCH CONSECUTIVE DAYS ARE COMPRISED WHOLLY OF ANNUAL LEAVE OR PARTLY ALSO OF STATUTORY HOLIDAYS AND REST DAYS.

THE BALANCE OF THE ANNUAL LEAVE CAN THEN BE GRANTED AS INDIVIDUAL PAID HOLIDAYS TO BE FIXED BY THE EMPLOYER IN CONSULTATION WITH THE EMPLOYEE.

ON TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT, PRO RATA ANNUAL LEAVE PAY MUST BE PAID TO THE EMPLOYEE EXCEPT WHERE HIS RELEVANT PERIOD OF EMPLOYMENT IS THEN LESS THAN THREE MONTHS, OR HE IS DISMISSED FOR MISCONDUCT AND HIS RELEVANT PERIOD OF EMPLOYMENT IS LESS THAN 12 MONTHS.

APART FROM THESE CIRCUMSTANCES PAYMENT IN LIEU OF LEAVE WOULD BE PROHIBITED.

THE BILL ALSO REQUIRES AN EMPLOYER TO KEEP RECORDS OF ANNUAL LEAVE TAKEN BY HIS STAFF AND TO POST NOTICE OF ANY INTENTION TO CLOSE DOWN HIS BUSINESS TEMPORARILY FOR THE PURPOSE OF GRANTING ANNUAL LEAVE TO HIS EMPLOYEES. IN SUCH EVENT, ANY EMPLOYEE WHO HAS NOT COMPLETED ONE YEAR'S SERVICE WOULD BE ENTITLED TO ANNUAL LEAVE WITH PAY FOR THE PERIOD OF THE SHUT DOWN.

COMMENTING ON THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION, THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR MR. IAN PRICE SAID THAT IT WOULD ALLOW EMPLOYEES A CONTINUOUS PERIOD OF LEAVE SO THAT THEY COULD RECUPERATE FROM THE STRESSES AND STRAIN OF WORK.

+IT WILL ALSO IMPROVE CONDITIONS OF WORK IN INDUSTRY AND LABOUR RELATIONS GENERALLY AND GIVE WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES MORE TIME TOGETHER.

ON THE ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF THE BILL, MR. PRICE SAID: +IN THE CASE OF MONTHLY PAID WORKERS, THERE WILL BE NO INCREASE IN THE SIZE OF WAGE BILL PAID BY EMPLOYERS EXCEPT IN CASES WHERE ANNUAL LEAVE IS GIVEN BY ROTATION AND REPLACEMENT WORKERS ARE ENGAGED.

+IF ALL EMPLOYERS ENGAGED REPLACEMENT WORKERS, IT IS CALCULATED THAT THE ADDITION TO THE WAGE BILL WOULD BE IN THE REGION OF 2.3 PER CENT.

+SOME EMPLOYERS, ESPECIALLY AMONG ESTABLISHED COMPANIES, ARE ALREADY PROVIDING ANNUAL LEAVE ENTITLEMENT TO THEIR EMPLOYEES IN TERMS MORE GENEROUS THAN IS BEING PROPOSED. NO ADDITIONAL COSTS WOULD BE ADDED TO THE WAGE BILLS OF THESE EMPLOYERS.+

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COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO STUDY LAND PRODUCTION  
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THE GOVERNOR HAS APPOINTED A SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO STUDY LAND PRODUCTION AND TO IDENTIFY NEW AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT.

THE COMMITTEE IS THE ONE MENTIONED BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY IN HIS SPEECH DURING THE BUDGET DEBATE.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE IS THE SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, THE HON. D.J.C. JONES, AND THE MEMBERS INCLUDE THE HON. LI FOOK-WO AND THE HON. LYDIA DUNN, BOTH OF WHOM SPOKE VIGOROUSLY ON INDUSTRIAL LAND IN THE DEBATE. MR. LI IS CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG INDUSTRIAL ESTATES CORPORATION.

THE OFFICIAL MEMBERS ARE THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, THE HON. D. AKERS-JONES= THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, THE HON. D.G. JEAFFRESON= THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, THE HON. D.W. MCDONALD, AND THE PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR. A.T. ARMSTRONG-WRIGHT.

THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE REQUIRE IT TO ASSESS PRESENT LAND PRODUCTION, IDENTIFY WHERE NEW LAND FOR DEVELOPMENT COULD BE PRODUCED ON THE MAINLAND, ADVISE ON THE SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF DEVELOPING THESE AREAS AND FINALLY TO RECOMMEND WHICH AREAS SHOULD BE INVESTIGATED IN DETAIL. GENERALLY LAND INVOLVING SERIOUS CLEARANCE PROBLEMS IS TO BE AVOIDED AND THE MAIN AREAS PLANNED FOR COUNTRY PARKS ARE EXCLUDED FROM THE STUDY.

THE COMMITTEE WILL HOLD ITS FIRST MEETING VERY SHORTLY AND IS EXPECTED TO PRODUCE ITS REPORT IN LATE JULY.

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GOVERNOR INSPECTS PUBLIC HOUSING SLOPES  
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, THIS AFTERNOON MADE A THREE-HOUR INSPECTION OF PUBLIC HOUSING SLOPES BEING RECONSTRUCTED AS A RESULT OF THE LANDSLIP ENQUIRY REPORT RELEASED EARLIER THIS YEAR.

SIR MURRAY SAW SLOPES IN EIGHT HOUSING AREAS IN KOWLOON AND AT TSUEN WAN. HE VISITED THE REMAINING SLOPES BEING RECONSTRUCTED UNDER THE \$30 MILLION REMEDIAL PROGRAMME DURING A TOUR OF THE CHAI WAN AREA LAST WEEK.

THE GOVERNOR WAS ACCOMPANIED ON HIS TOUR TODAY BY THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, MR. DAVID MCDONALD, AND P.W.D. PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT ENGINEER MR. BRYAN O'RORKE, WHO IS IN CHARGE OF SETTING UP THE NEW OFFICE OF P.W.D. WHICH WILL ACT AS A +WATCHDOG+ OVER THE CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF ALL SLOPES IN HONG KONG.

THE GOVERNOR WAS TOLD THAT WORK ON THE SLOPES WAS WELL ADVANCED. MR. O'RORKE SAID THE WORK INVOLVED THE REMOVAL OF THE UPPER THREE METRES OF FILL FROM THE SLOPES, THEN REPLACING AND RECOMPACTING IT TO THE STRICT STANDARDS LAID DOWN BY THE INTERNATIONAL PANEL OF EXPERTS COMMISSIONED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

IT WAS INTENDED THAT ALL THE WORK NECESSARY TO ELIMINATE THE RISK OF MUD AVALANCHES ON THE SLOPES WOULD BE FINISHED BEFORE THE ONSET OF HEAVY RAIN.

+ACTUALLY THIS POSSIBILITY HAS ALREADY BEEN LARGELY ELIMINATED,+ HE SAID. +NEARLY ALL THE LOOSELY-COMPACTED SURFACE MATERIAL WHICH POSED A POSSIBLE PROBLEM HAS BEEN REMOVED AND RECOMPACTING IS NOW UNDERWAY, TOGETHER WITH THE INSTALLATION OF NEW DRAINAGE SYSTEMS.

+AFTER THE REMOVAL OF THE LOOSE FILL, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE PANEL OF EXPERTS, WE ARE COVERING MUCH OF THE EXPOSED SURFACE WITH CHUNAM PLASTERING WHILE WE RECOMPACT THE REST, WORKING FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE SLOPE TO THE TOP.

+AS THE WORK-FRONT MOVES UP THE SLOPE INCLINE, WE REMOVE THE TEMPORARY CHUNAM PLASTERING TO CARRY OUT THE RECOMPACTING.+

+THIS MEANS THAT THROUGHOUT THE REMAINING STAGES OF THE EXERCISE, VIRTUALLY ALL THE SLOPE SURFACES WILL EITHER HAVE BEEN SAFELY RECOMPACTED OR WILL BE COVERED WITH WATERPROOF CHUNAM PLASTERING,+ MR. O'RORKE SAID. +SO UNTIL ALL THE RECOMPACTING IS COMPLETE, ONLY THE SMALL AREA OF SURFACE ACTUALLY BEING WORKED ON WILL BE EXPOSED.+

MR. O'RORKE ADDED, +IN THE VERY UNLIKELY EVENT OF OUR GETTING ABNORMALLY HEAVY RAINS OF THE TYPE ASSOCIATED WITH MUD AVALANCHES BEFORE THE NORMAL TIME AT THE HEIGHT OF THE WET SEASON, WE'LL COVER THESE EXPOSED AREAS WITH PLASTIC SHEETING TO ENSURE THERE IS NO DANGER OF MUD-AVALANCHE.+

/SIR MURRAY'S .....

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SIR MURRAY'S TOUR ENDED AT SAU MAU PING, WHERE RECOMPACTING OF SLOPES IS WELL ADVANCED.

SPEAKING AT THE END OF HIS INSPECTION, SIR MURRAY STRESSED THE SCOPE OF THE WORK NOW IN PROGRESS.

HE SAID THAT APART FROM THE ELEVEN SLOPES BEING RECONSTRUCTED BECAUSE THEY MIGHT AFFECT TENANTS, WORKS OF VARYING TYPES WERE BEING CARRIED OUT ON 30 OTHER SLOPES.

+ALTOGETHER, 41 SLOPES ARE BEING DEALT WITH IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER.

+OF THESE, 18 (INCLUDING THE 11 AFFECTING TENANTS) ARE BEING COMPLETELY REBUILT= 16 ARE BEING COVERED WITH CHUNAM= AND THE REST ARE BEING REPAIRED TO A MINOR EXTENT.

+I'VE JUST BEEN LOOKING AT THE SLOPES THAT I LOOKED AT SIX WEEKS AGO,+ SAID SIR MURRAY, +AND IT'S PERFECTLY OBVIOUS THAT VERY CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE.+

SIR MURRAY SAID THAT IN SOME INSTANCES UNFORESEEN ENGINEERING PROBLEMS HAD BEEN ENCOUNTERED -- SUCH AS CONCEALED BOULDERS, AND THESE HAD LED TO UNAVOIDABLE DELAYS. BUT THE P.W.D. WAS CONFIDENT THAT ALL THE WORKS NECESSARY TO MAKE THE SLOPES SAFE COULD BE CARRIED OUT IN TIME.

IN THE INSTANCE OF THE SLOPE BEHIND BLOCK NINE AT SAU MAU PING WHICH FAILED LAST AUGUST, ENGINEERS HAD RUN INTO THIS TYPE OF PROBLEM.

BUT THEY HAD MADE UP THE LOST TIME, AND NOW EXPECTED TO HAVE ALL THE COMPACTION WORK NECESSARY FOR THE SLOPE'S SAFETY COMPLETED BY ABOUT THE END OF THE MONTH.

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RABIES PREVENTION DRIVE IS GREAT SUCCESS

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+THE GOVERNMENT'S CURRENT RABIES AWARENESS CAMPAIGN WHICH BEGAN ON WEDNESDAY HAS BEEN TREMENDOUSLY SUCCESSFUL,+ THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, MR. E.H. NICHOLS, SAID TODAY.

MR. NICHOLS VISITED ANTI-RABIES INOCULATION/LICENSING CENTRES IN SHAU KEI WAN TO SEE FOR HIMSELF HOW THE CAMPAIGN WAS PROGRESSING.

COMMENTING ON THE RESPONSE OF THE PUBLIC TO THE CAMPAIGN, HE SAID: +SO MANY SHAU KEI WAN RESIDENTS AND EVEN PEOPLE FROM OTHER URBAN DISTRICTS HAVE TAKEN THEIR DOGS TO THE MOBILE CENTRES FOR INOCULATION THAT IN TWO TO THREE DAYS WE HAVE USED UP A SUPPLY OF VACCINE WHICH WOULD NORMALLY BE ADEQUATE FOR THREE TO FOUR MONTHS.+

MR. NICHOLS REVEALED THAT SUPPLIES OF THE ANTI-RABIES VACCINE AT THE SHAU KEI WAN CENTRES RAN OUT TODAY BUT HE SAID THAT AN URGENT S.O.S. HAD BEEN MADE TO SPAIN, SINGAPORE, MALAYSIA AND THE UNITED STATES FOR FRESH SUPPLIES.

SAID MR. NICHOLS, +A SUPPLY OF VACCINE EQUIVALENT TO THE NUMBER OF DOSES WE WOULD USE IN AN AVERAGE YEAR IS AT THIS MOMENT BEING AIR-LIFTED TO HONG KONG FROM SPAIN.+

+THE THREE MOBILE UNITS AT SHAU KEI WAN ARE DUE TO BE WITHDRAWN TODAY, BUT IN FAIRNESS TO THE LARGE NUMBER OF DOG OWNERS WHO STILL WANT TO HAVE THEIR ANIMALS INOCULATED, MOBILE UNITS IN SHAU KEI WAN WILL CONTINUE OPERATION ONCE THE NEW SUPPLY ARRIVES,+ HE ADDED.

MR. NICHOLS ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE DEPARTMENT WOULD CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS TO BUILD UP SUPPLIES OF ANTI-RABIES VACCINE IN HONG KONG SO AS TO GEAR UP FOR THE HEAVY PUBLIC DEMAND.

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HEAVIER PENALTIES FOR TOUTING AT AIRPORT  
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PENALTIES FOR TOUTING AT KAI TAK AIRPORT HAS BEEN INCREASED.

ACCORDING TO THE HONG KONG AIRPORT (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE, THE FINE HAS BEEN RAISED FROM \$500 TO \$1,000 FOR A FIRST OFFENCE. FOR A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENCE THE PENALTY WILL BE A FINE OF \$2,000 AND SIX MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT.

COMMENTING ON THE AMENDED REGULATIONS, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION, MR. BRIAN KEEP, SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THE INCIDENTS OF TOUTING AT THE AIRPORT DIMINISHED CONSIDERABLY, THERE WERE STILL SEVERAL CASES EACH MONTH.

+THESE ARE, OF COURSE, DAMAGING TO THE TOURIST INDUSTRY AND THE IMAGE OF HONG KONG GENERALLY AS SEEN BY VISITORS. THE PENALTY FOR THIS OFFENCE HAS BEEN AT THE LEVEL OF \$500 FOR MANY YEARS PAST AND IT HAS NOT BEEN AN EFFECTIVE DETERRENT TO THIS NUISANCE.+

THE NEW LEGISLATION WOULD ALLOW THE COURTS TO IMPOSE HEAVIER PENALTIES AS APPROPRIATE, HE SAID.

MR. KEEP ALSO POINTED OUT THAT A WORKING PARTY, COMPRISING GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE TOURISM FIELD, INCLUDING THE HONG KONG TOURIST ASSOCIATION, THE HONG KONG HOTELS ASSOCIATION, AND THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF TRAVEL AGENTS, HAD STUDIED THE PROBLEM OF TOUTING.

THE WORKING PARTY STRONGLY FELT THAT IT WAS ESSENTIAL TO INCREASE THE PENALTY IN ORDER TO MINIMISE TOUTING, PARTICULARLY FOR HABITUAL OFFENDERS.

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TIN HAU FESTIVAL PROCESSION IN YUEN LONG

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THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE ARE EXPECTED TO WATCH A COLOURFUL PROCESSION TO BE HELD IN YUEN LONG NEXT TUESDAY (MAY 10) TO MARK THE TIN HAU FESTIVAL.

THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR. DAVID AKERS-JONES, WILL BE THE GUEST OF HONOUR AT THE PROCESSION IN YUEN LONG STADIUM AT 12 NOON.

THE TIN HAU FESTIVAL PROCESSION, WHICH TAKES PLACE ANNUALLY, IS IN HONOUR OF TIN HAU, THE GODDESS OF HEAVEN, PROTECTRESS OF SEAFARERS. IT IS ORGANIZED BY THE SHAP PAT HEUNG RURAL COMMITTEE.

THE PROCESSION WILL FEATURE LION DANCES, CHIU CHAU FOLK DANCES, FLAG PROCESSIONS, UNICORN DANCES AND FLORAL CARS SPONSORED BY 30 ORGANISATIONS.

IT WILL TAKE ONE AND A HALF HOURS TO PASS THROUGH THE STADIUM WHERE IT WILL BE WATCHED BY HUNDREDS OF OFFICIAL GUESTS AND LARGE CROWDS OF SPECTATORS. THE ROUTE OF THE PROCESSION TO THE STADIUM IS EXPECTED TO BE LINED WITH ONLOOKERS.

THE PROCESSION WILL FORM UP AT THE EASTERN BUS TERMINUS, REACHING THE STADIUM BY 12 NOON.

AFTER LEAVING THE STADIUM, IT WILL MAKE ITS WAY TO THE TIN HAU TEMPLE AT TAI SHUE HA FOR RELIGIOUS CEREMONIES.

BECAUSE OF THE CROWDS, SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE INTRODUCED IN THE YUEN LONG AREA ON TUESDAY. PEOPLE INTENDING TO WATCH THE PROCESSION ARE ADVISED TO REACH YUEN LONG NOT LATER THAN 11.30 A.M.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT AT THE YUEN LONG STADIUM. SPECIAL BADGES FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION FROM THE G.I.S. PRESS ROOM.

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AMBULANCE STATION FOR CHAI WAN  
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THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT TODAY HAD ANOTHER AMBULANCE STATION ADDED TO ITS LIST WITH THE OPENING OF A NEW ONE IN HING WAH ESTATE, CHAI WAN.

THE NEW STATION WAS OPENED JOINTLY BY MESSRS. SHING TING-PONG AND SO CHING, CHAIRMEN OF THE EASTERN CITY DISTRICT AREA COMMITTEE NO. 9 AND NO. 10, AT A CEREMONY THIS MORNING.

IN HIS SPEECH, MR. SO DESCRIBED THE COMPLETION OF THE NEW STATION AS ANOTHER STEP FORWARD IN THE GOVERNMENT'S PLAN TO IMPROVE AND EXPAND ITS MODERN AND EFFICIENT AMBULANCE SERVICE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.

SITUATED AT CHIN HING HOUSE, THE STATION OCCUPIES AN AREA OF ABOUT 3,700 SQ. FT.

THERE ARE A KITCHEN, A MESS, BARRACK ROOMS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES ON THE GROUND FLOOR. THE MEZZANINE FLOOR IS USED AS AN OFFICE AND A STORE ROOM.

ABOUT 20 AMBULANCE PERSONNEL AND THREE AMBULANCES ARE STATIONED THERE.

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SHORT COURSE ON TOOL AND DIE  
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THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE WILL OFFER A SHORT COURSE ON TOOL AND DIE AT THE END OF THIS MONTH.

THE TWO-EVENING COURSE IS TO BE CONDUCTED BY MR. R.G. BARBER, A SPECIALIST ON TOOL AND DIE MAKING FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM. HE WILL TALK ON +DEVELOPMENTS IN PRESS TOOL MANUFACTURE+.

THE COURSE WILL BE HELD ON MAY 30 (MONDAY) AND MAY 31 (TUESDAY) FROM 7 P.M. TO 9 P.M.

THE LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION IS ENGLISH, WITH CHINESE TRANSLATIONS WHERE NECESSARY. THERE WILL BE FILM SLIDES AND PRACTICAL DEMONSTRATIONS.

EMPLOYED TOOL AND DIE SUPERVISORS WITH ADEQUATE SECONDARY EDUCATION ARE INVITED TO ENROL IMMEDIATELY.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE OBTAINABLE FROM THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE, 373 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG, FROM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AND SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE SAME ADDRESS ON OR BEFORE MAY 19.

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