



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 1975.

CONTENTS

PAGE NO.

RESULTS OF JOINT FEASIBILITY STUDIES FOR SHELL/DOW REFINERY AND PETROCHEMICAL PLANT SUBMITTED TO GOVERNMENT	1
PAPER MARKERS AND ORAL ENGLISH EXAMINERS SOUGHT FOR 1975 CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION	2
TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS TO BE INTRODUCED IN KOWLOON CITY LATER THIS WEEK	3
DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE UNDERLINES IMPORTANCE OF SHELTERED WORK	3
OPENING OF FIRST CONSTRUCTION SAFETY EXHIBITION IN HONG KONG ON THURSDAY	4
DEATH SENTENCE COMMUTED	4

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 1975

- 1 -

SHELL/DOW REFINERY AND PETROCHEMICAL PLANT STUDY

THE GOVERNMENT HAS RECEIVED FROM THE SHELL COMPANY OF HONG KONG LTD. AND DOW CHEMICAL PACIFIC LTD. THE CONCLUSIONS DERIVED FROM THEIR JOINT FEASIBILITY STUDIES FOR A REFINERY AND PETROCHEMICAL COMPLEX IN HONG KONG.

THESE STUDIES INDICATE THAT, GIVEN THE RIGHT GLOBAL BUSINESS CONDITIONS, SUCH A COMPLEX IS BOTH ECONOMICALLY AND TECHNICALLY FEASIBLE AND BOTH SHELL AND DOW REMAIN INTERESTED IN DEVELOPING A PROJECT IN HONG KONG.

HOWEVER, THE GOVERNMENT IS ADVISED BY SHELL AND DOW THAT, IN VIEW OF THE PRESENT UNCERTAINTY REGARDING THE LONG TERM AVAILABILITY OF CRUDE OIL SUPPLIES, AND THE EFFECT HIGHER OIL PRICES AND THE CURRENT RECESSION IN INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES MIGHT HAVE ON THE FUTURE DEMAND FOR OIL PRODUCTS, THE TWO COMPANIES ARE NOT, FOR THE TIME BEING, IN A POSITION TO PUT FORWARD A PROPOSAL TO DEVELOP THE PROJECT.

SHELL, WHOSE ORIGINAL PROPOSAL FOR A REFINERY IN HONG KONG WAS SUBMITTED IN 1971, HAVE SINCE MARCH OF LAST YEAR BEEN STUDYING TOGETHER WITH DOW A SCHEME WHEREBY THE REFINERY WOULD PRODUCE FEEDSTOCK FOR A PETROCHEMICAL COMPLEX IN ADDITION TO OIL PRODUCTS FOR THE HONG KONG MARKET.

SHELL AND DOW HAVE INDICATED THAT AS A RESULT OF ANTICIPATED SURPLUS REFINING CAPACITY ELSEWHERE ARISING FROM LOWER GROWTH PROSPECTS IN THE DEMAND FOR OIL AND PETROCHEMICAL PRODUCTS, IT DOES NOT APPEAR THAT THE MINIMUM ECONOMIC LOADING FOR THE REFINERY COULD BE ACHIEVED UNTIL SOME TIME WELL INTO THE PERIOD BETWEEN 1980 AND 1985- SUCH A PROJECT, IF DEVELOPED PREMATURELY, WOULD NOT BE VIABLE AND WOULD CONTRIBUTE NO SIGNIFICANT BENEFIT TO THE HONG KONG CONSUMER.

SHELL AND DOW HAVE CARRIED OUT A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION OF POSSIBLE SITES FOR A REFINERY AND PETROCHEMICAL COMPLEX AS PART OF AN EXTENSIVE WORK PROGRAMME UNDERTAKEN BOTH IN HONG KONG AND ABROAD BY VARIOUS SPECIALIST GROUPS. THE TWO COMPANIES CONCLUDE THAT THE OPTIMUM SOLUTION WOULD BE FOR A REFINERY AND A PETROCHEMICAL PLANT LOCATED ON TWO DIFFERENT SITES, BOTH ON LAMMA ISLAND, EACH OF APPROXIMATELY 300 ACRES. THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN GIVEN DETAILS OF THE PROPOSED SITES.

THE TWO COMPANIES CONFIRM THAT SPECIAL ATTENTION WAS PAID DURING THEIR STUDIES TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS OF A REFINERY AND PETROCHEMICAL COMPLEX, IN THE LIGHT OF THE EARLIER REPORTS SPECIALLY COMMISSIONED BY THE GOVERNMENT AND OF THE UNDERSTANDABLE PUBLIC CONCERN THAT HAS BEEN EXPRESSED ON THIS ISSUE.

/SHELL AND DOW

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 1975.

- 2 -

SHELL AND DOW HAVE ASSURED THE GOVERNMENT THAT THEY ARE CONFIDENT THAT POLLUTION CONTROL FOR BOTH THE REFINERY AND PETROCHEMICAL PLANT WOULD MEET INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED STANDARDS AND WOULD SATISFY THE MAJOR REQUIREMENTS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS MADE IN THESE REPORTS.

IN ADDITION TO SITE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS THE STATEMENT SUBMITTED BY SHELL AND DOW IS BASED ON EXTENSIVE STUDIES OF THE MANY FEATURES OF A POTENTIAL INVESTMENT PROJECT OF SUCH SIZE AND COMPLEXITY. THESE INCLUDED A SURVEY OF CURRENT AND FORECAST LOCAL OIL AND PETROCHEMICAL PRODUCT DEMAND- PLANT DESIGN AIMED ON THE ONE HAND AT ACHIEVING THE OPTIMUM BALANCE BETWEEN REFINERY OUTPUT AND FORECAST HONG KONG OIL PRODUCT DEMAND, AND PETROCHEMICAL FEEDSTOCK REQUIREMENTS IN BOTH HONG KONG AND THE FAR EAST ON THE OTHER- ANALYSIS OF THE UTILITIES, MANPOWER AND OTHER RESOURCES REQUIREMENTS OF THE OVERALL COMPLEX AND AN EXAMINATION OF THE VARIOUS DIFFERENT CORPORATE STRUCTURES THAT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE.

SHELL AND DOW HAVE CONFIRMED THEIR INTENTION TO KEEP THE PROJECT UNDER REVIEW UNTIL SUCH TIME AS ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, BOTH GLOBALLY AND IN THE PACIFIC BASIN, BECOME SUFFICIENTLY FAVOURABLE TO JUSTIFY CONTINUING PROJECT DEVELOPMENT.

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PAPER MARKERS AND ORAL ENGLISH EXAMINERS SOUGHT
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THE HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION BOARD IS CALLING FOR APPLICATIONS FROM SERVING TEACHERS AND OTHER QUALIFIED PERSONS TO SERVE AS WRITTEN PAPER MARKERS OR ORAL ENGLISH EXAMINERS FOR THE HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION, 1975.

THE MARKING OF WRITTEN PAPERS WILL TAKE PLACE BETWEEN MID-MAY AND THE END OF JUNE, 1975 WHILE THE ORAL ENGLISH EXAMINATIONS WILL BE HELD FROM 2 P.M. TO 5 P.M. ON EACH WEEKDAY BETWEEN JUNE 9 AND 26.

RATES OF PAYMENT FOR PAPER MARKERS VARY WITH THE LENGTH AND COMPLEXITY OF THE QUESTION PAPERS AS WELL AS THE EXPERIENCE OF INDIVIDUAL MARKERS. THE REMUNERATION FOR AN ORAL ENGLISH EXAMINER IS \$70 PER AFTERNOON.

APPLICATION FORMS AND FURTHER DETAILS ABOUT THESE TEMPORARY POSTS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE EXAMINATION DIVISION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IN THE CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS JANUARY 31.

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/3

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 1975.

- 3 -

TRAFFIC CHANGES IN KOWLOON CITY

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MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED THAT THE TEMPORARY FLYOVER AT PRINCE EDWARD ROAD SPANNING WATERLOO ROAD, KOWLOON, WILL BE REDUCED TO ONE LANE FOR WESTBOUND TRAFFIC FROM 10 A.M. ON THURSDAY (JANUARY 9).

THE TEMPORARY ARRANGEMENT IS TO ENABLE REPAIR WORKS TO BE CARRIED OUT TO THE SURFACE.

DRIVERS ARE ADVISED TO AVOID THIS AREA AS FAR AS POSSIBLE DURING THE NEXT TWO MONTHS. MOTORISTS TRAVELLING WESTBOUND MAY USE ALTERNATIVE ROUTES ALONG LANCASHIRE ROAD AND CUMBERLAND ROAD OR JUNCTION ROAD AND CORNWALL STREET.

AT THE SAME TIME, PRINCE EDWARD ROAD BETWEEN KNIGHT STREET AND EARL STREET WILL BE ROUTED ONE-WAY WESTBOUND. EASTBOUND TRAFFIC ALONG PRINCE EDWARD ROAD WILL BE DIVERTED VIA KNIGHT STREET, BOUNDARY STREET AND EARL STREET.

THERE WILL ALSO BE MINOR CHANGES FOR CERTAIN BUS ROUTES. KOWLOON MOTOR BUS ROUTE NOS. 1, 1A AND 13 TRAVELLING EASTBOUND ALONG PRINCE EDWARD ROAD WILL BE ROUTED VIA KNIGHT STREET AND BOUNDARY STREET.

THESE ROUTES WILL SHARE THE BUS STOP IN BOUNDARY STREET NEAR EARL STREET WHICH IS NOW SERVING ROUTE NOS. 12A AND 103, WHILE THE BUS STOP AT PRINCE EDWARD ROAD NEAR ST. MARGARET SCHOOL WILL BE CANCELLED.

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IMPORTANCE OF SHELTERED WORK EMPHASISED

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SHELTERED WORK IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT PROVISIONS FOR THE DISABLED, PARTICULARLY THE MENTALLY RETARDED, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, SAID TODAY.

+ITS SIGNIFICANCE LIES IN THE PROVISION OF A CONDITION UNDER WHICH THE DISABLED ARE HELPED TO BECOME PRODUCTIVE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY,+ MR. LEE SAID WHEN OPENING THE PO LEUNG KUK'S NEW SHELTERED WORKSHOP FOR MENTALLY RETARDED CHILDREN IN CAUSEWAY BAY.

BUT, HE ADDED, SHELTERED WORK IS NOT NECESSARILY THE ULTIMATE OCCUPATION OF ALL THE RETARDED AS THOUGHT BY SOME.

IN FACT, HE POINTED OUT, SHELTERED WORK IS ALSO THERAPEUTIC AND SOME OF THE WORKERS ARE IN NO WAY INFERIOR TO THE ABLE-BODIED WHEN IT COMES TO SKILL WORK HABIT AND SELF-CONFIDENCE.

+NEVERTHELESS,+ MR. LEE SAID, +NO SHELTERED WORKSHOP CAN SURVIVE WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC.+ HE APPEALED PARTICULARLY TO INDUSTRIALISTS TO CONTINUE PROVIDING JOB ORDERS TO KEEP THESE WORKSHOPS GOING AND TO MAKE JOBS AVAILABLE FOR THOSE WHO LATER BECOME SUITABLE FOR OPEN EMPLOYMENT.

THE WORKSHOP IS NAMED AFTER THE LIONS CLUB OF TAI PING SHAN WHICH MADE A DONATION TOWARDS THE CAPITAL COSTS. IT IS SITUATED IN THE BASEMENT OF THE KUK'S WEST BLOCK AND WILL CATER FOR 40 MENTALLY RETARDED GIRLS.

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/4

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 1975

- 4 -

FIRST CONSTRUCTION SAFETY EXHIBITION

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HONG KONG'S FIRST CONSTRUCTION SAFETY EXHIBITION OPENS ON THURSDAY AFTERNOON AT THE SITE OF THE WORLD TRADE CENTRE PROJECT IN CAUSEWAY BAY.

IT WILL BE OPENED BY MR. SZETO WAI, AN UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WHO HAS TAKEN A KEEN INTEREST IN INDUSTRIAL SAFETY FOR MANY YEARS.

THE EXHIBITION IS SPONSORED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT AND IS BEING SUPPORTED BY THE BUILDING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION LIMITED AND THE SOCIETY OF BUILDERS.

THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR. IAN PRICE, SAID TODAY THE EXHIBITION WAS AIMED AT THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY BECAUSE THERE ARE MORE ACCIDENTS ON CONSTRUCTION SITES THAN IN ANY SINGLE INDUSTRY.

+THIS WAS ONE OF THE REASONS FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF THE CONSTRUCTION SITES (SAFETY) REGULATIONS WHICH CAME INTO FORCE ON MAY 1 LAST YEAR,+ HE SAID.

+THE EXHIBITION HAS BEEN DESIGNED TO SHOW CONTRACTORS AND THEIR EMPLOYEES THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THE REGULATIONS CAN BE IMPLEMENTED WITHOUT ANY REAL PROBLEMS.

+THIS WILL BE DEMONSTRATED ON THE INDUSTRY'S 'HOME GROUND', BECAUSE THE EXHIBITION IS BEING STAGED ON AN ACTUAL CONSTRUCTION SITE.+

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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 JULY 15, 1974 ON LUI KAM-SHING SHOULD BE COMMUTED TO A TERM OF 20 YEARS' IMPRISONMENT.

LUI WAS FOUND GUILTY OF THE MURDER OF TAM KAM-MING.

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