



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SUNDAY, JUNE 1, 1975

MORE PUBLIC TRANSPORT COMMUTERS RECORDED LAST YEAR

THE NUMBER OF PASSENGERS USING BUSES AND TRAMS DURING 1974 WENT UP BY OVER 11 PER CENT WHILE THE AVERAGE DAILY TRAFFIC FLOWS RELATED TO ALL VEHICLES SHOWED A GENERAL DOWNWARD TREND OVER THE PRECEDING YEAR.

THIS IS REVEALED IN THE 1974 ANNUAL TRAFFIC CENSUS, WHICH WAS TABLED AT A RECENT MEETING OF THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

THE CENSUS, MADE BY THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT SURVEY DIVISION OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, ALSO SHOWED THE FIRST DROP OF 4.8 PER CENT IN THE TOTAL NUMBER OF REGISTERED VEHICLES SINCE 1947.

LAST YEAR, 329 MILLION PASSENGERS USED THE BUS AND TRAM SERVICES ON HONG KONG ISLAND, 11 PER CENT MORE THAN IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR, WHILE THE KOWLOON MOTOR BUS COMPANY CARRIED 565 MILLION PASSENGERS - 14.4 PER CENT MORE THAN THAT IN 1973.

ON THE OTHER HAND, REDUCTIONS IN TRAFFIC FLOWS, WERE WITNESSED IN MORE LOCATIONS BY TRAFFIC COUNTING STATIONS DURING THE YEAR.

OUT OF A TOTAL OF 321 TRAFFIC COUNTING STATIONS, 181 (56 PER CENT) RECORDED REDUCTIONS AS COMPARED WITH 34 PER CENT IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR. AMONG THIS 56 PER CENT, 31 STATIONS REGISTERED FIRST DROP IN TRAFFIC FLOWS SINCE INSTALLATION.

ON TRAFFIC FLOWS ON A ZONE BASIS, 10 OUT OF A TOTAL OF 15 CORDONS AND SCREENLINES RECORDED A DECREASE IN AVERAGE DAILY TRAFFIC FLOWS TO VARYING EXTENT. GENERALLY, THE REDUCTIONS WERE GREATER IN KOWLOON THAN ON HONG KONG ISLAND.

ACCORDING TO THE TRAFFIC CENSUS, THE CORDONS ENCLOSING THE BUSY CENTRAL AND MONG KOK DISTRICTS SHOWED A 3 PER CENT AND 12 PER CENT DECREASE RESPECTIVELY.

DURING THE YEAR, THE HIGHEST AVERAGE DAILY TRAFFIC ON HONG KONG ISLAND OCCURRED ON GLOUCESTER ROAD WITH 72,340 VEHICLES PER DAY. IN KOWLOON, THE HIGHEST FLOW WAS 114,170 VEHICLES PER DAY ON PRINCE EDWARD ROAD NEAR CHOI HUNG ROAD, WHILE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, THE MAXIMUM OF 44,710 VEHICLES PER DAY OCCURRED ON CASTLE PEAK ROAD NEAR TEXACO ROAD.

REGISTERED VEHICLES AT YEAR END TOTALLED 193,601 - A DECREASE OF 4.8 PER CENT FROM THAT FOR 1973. THE DROP WAS MAINLY DUE TO THE DECREASE IN PRIVATE CAR REGISTRATIONS FROM 129,651 TO 119,273.

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ON CROSS-HARBOUR TRAFFIC, THE CENSUS SHOWED THAT THE HONG KONG AND YAUMATI FERRY COMPANY CARRIED 133 MILLION PASSENGERS, A 3.8 PER CENT DROP COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS YEAR, WHILE THE STAR FERRY COMPANY CARRIED 51 MILLION PASSENGERS OR 4 PER CENT LESS THAN THAT IN 1973.

HOWEVER, THE NUMBER OF PASSENGERS CARRIED BY THE CROSS-HARBOUR TUNNEL BUSES, WHICH ACCOUNTED FOR 26.4 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL CROSS-HARBOUR PASSENGER VOLUME, REACHED A RECORD OF 67.5 MILLION - 44.8 PER CENT HIGHER THAN THAT IN 1973.

OF THE TOTAL 18 MILLION CROSS-HARBOUR VEHICULAR TRIPS, WHICH WERE 8.3 PER CENT HIGHER THAN THAT FOR 1973, 79.3 PER CENT WERE MADE VIA THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL WITH THE REMAINING 20.7 PER CENT CARRIED BY THE HONG KONG AND YAUMATI FERRY COMPANY.

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ANOTHER 6,300 ESTATE TENANTS WILL BE RE-HOUSED
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ANOTHER 6,300 TENANTS OF LOWER SHEK KIP MEI ESTATE WILL SOON HAVE THEIR LIVING CONDITIONS GREATLY IMPROVED.

THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT IS NOW READY TO LAUNCH ANOTHER PHASE OF ITS REHOUSING SCHEME WHICH HAS ALREADY PROVIDED BETTER ACCOMMODATION FOR 22,000 ESTATE TENANTS.

THE DEPARTMENT WILL SEND OUT EXPLANATORY LETTERS TOMORROW (MONDAY) GIVING DETAILS OF THE SCHEME TO THE AFFECTED TENANTS.

STAFF OF ITS REDEVELOPMENT DIVISION WILL BE VISITING THEM IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS TO EXPLAIN THE PROJECT AND TO OFFER ANY ASSISTANCE.

THE 6,300 TENANTS WHO COME FROM BLOCKS 11, 12 AND 13 OF THE ESTATE WILL BE RE-HOUSED IN EITHER BLOCK 12 OR 13 OF UPPER PAK TIN ESTATE. A LIMITED NUMBER OF FLATS IS ALSO AVAILABLE AT THE CONVERTED SHEK KIP MEI ESTATE.

FOR THEIR CONVENIENCE, STAFF OF THE RE-HOUSING UNIT AT UPPER PAK TIN ESTATE WILL BE AVAILABLE TO HELP ANYONE WHO HAS DIFFICULTIES IN FILLING IN THE VOLUNTARY APPLICATION FORM ATTACHED TO THE EXPLANATORY LETTER.

BESIDES THE TENANTS, OPERATORS OF 62 SHOPS AND 29 WORKSHOPS HAVE BEEN INCLUDED IN THE REHOUSING OPERATION. DETAILS AFFECTING THEM ARE NOW BEING FINALISED AND THEY WILL BE DUELY INFORMED AT A LATER DATE.

THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT'S REHOUSING PROJECT WAS LAUNCHED IN OCTOBER, 1972 AND IS NOW IN ITS FOURTH PHASE. THOSE WHO WERE RE-ACCOMMODATED HAVE MOVED EITHER TO UPPER PAK TIN ESTATE OR TO THE SIX RENOVATED BLOCKS AT THE CONVERTED SHEK KIP MEI ESTATE.

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