



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1977

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REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON LAND PRODUCTION PUBLISHED
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MORE THAN 5,200 HECTARES OF LAND WILL BE PRODUCED BY EXISTING AND PLANNED PROJECTS, OF WHICH NEARLY 3,000 HECTARES WILL BE PRODUCED DURING THE FIVE YEAR PERIOD 1977/78 - 1981/82 AND THE BALANCE AFTER 1981/82. A FURTHER 777 HECTARES COULD BE PRODUCED FROM NEW DEVELOPMENT AREAS.

THIS IS REVEALED IN THE REPORT OF A SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON LAND PRODUCTION WHICH HAS JUST BEEN PUBLISHED.

THE REPORT DIVIDES THE LAND TO BE PRODUCED INTO TWO CATEGORIES : THAT IN AREAS COVERED BY DEFINITE PROJECTS AND THAT IN AREAS NOT COVERED BY DEFINITE PROJECTS.

IN THE FORMER CATEGORY, 3,815.01 HECTARES WILL BE PRODUCED, OF WHICH 2,860.51 WILL BE READY BY 1981/82.

THE LAND WILL BE USED FOR INDUSTRIAL (751.42 HECTARES), PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT (923.69 HECTARES), PUBLIC HOUSING (636.48 HECTARES), GOVERNMENT (1,457.77 HECTARES) AND UNDESIGNATED (45.65 HECTARES) PURPOSES.

THE AMOUNT OF LAND TO BE PRODUCED IN THE MAIN URBAN AREAS IS 1,206.87 HECTARES, WHILE 2,608.14 HECTARES WILL BE PRODUCED IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE 1,392.65 HECTARES TO BE PRODUCED IN AREAS NOT COVERED BY DEFINITE PROJECTS IS MADE UP OF 502.79 HECTARES IN THE MAIN URBAN AREAS AND 889.86 HECTARES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

A TOTAL OF 126.33 HECTARES WILL BE PRODUCED BY 1981/82 AND 1,266.32 HECTARES AFTER THIS DATE.

THE LARGEST AMOUNT OF LAND (522.42 HECTARES) WILL BE FOR GOVERNMENT USE= 488.68 HECTARES WILL BE FOR PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT, 215.74 HECTARES FOR INDUSTRIAL USE AND 109.35 HECTARES FOR PUBLIC HOUSING. THE REMAINDER - 56.46 HECTARES - WILL BE FOR UNDESIGNATED USES.

THE REPORT STATES THAT THE TOTAL COST OF LAND PRODUCTION IN +DEFINITE PROJECTS+ IN THE NEXT 10 YEARS IS ESTIMATED TO BE IN THE REGION OF \$5,400 MILLION, OF WHICH ABOUT \$4,600 MILLION WILL BE SPENT IN THE NEW TERRITORIES TO IMPLEMENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES FOR THE NEW TOWNS AND RURAL TOWNSHIPS.

WITH REGARD TO NEW DEVELOPMENT AREAS, THE REPORT SAYS THAT THE MAIN AREAS OF SEARCH WERE IN THE CENTRAL AND NORTHERN NEW TERRITORIES: +EVEN IN THESE AREAS, HOWEVER, A VERY LARGE PROPORTION OF THE LAND IS WITHIN WATER CATCHMENTS AND CONSEQUENTLY IS NOT AVAILABLE. EVEN SO, THE MAIN IMPEDIMENT TO FURTHER DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES HAS NOT BEEN LACK OF DEVELOPABLE LAND, BUT THE EXPENDITURE WHICH WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR COMPENSATION AND THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DISRUPTION WHICH WOULD BE CAUSED BY ITS DEVELOPMENT.+

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THE REPORT GOES ON : +BECAUSE THE COMMITTEE'S TERMS OF REFERENCE STIPULATED THAT THE AREAS STUDIED SHOULD BE AREAS WITH 'MINIMAL CLEARANCE' PROBLEMS, THE WORKING PARTY EXCLUDED MANY OTHERWISE SUITABLE AREAS. EVEN SO, THE CLEARANCE IMPLICATIONS MAY WELL BE FORMIDABLE UNLESS A SATISFACTORY CASH COMPENSATION SYSTEM IS WORKED OUT TO REPLACE THE PRESENT SYSTEM OF EXCHANGES. FEW OF THE AREAS CHOSEN INCLUDE ANY SUBSTANTIAL AREA OF CROWN LAND WHICH COULD BE USED FOR EXCHANGES, WITH THE RESULT THAT COMMITMENTS FOR LAND EXCHANGES MAY WELL BE UNACCEPTABLE.+

THE DIFFICULTIES DERIVING FROM CLEARANCES ALSO GAVE CAUSE FOR A NEW LOOK AT LAND POLICY TO PERMIT THE CONVERSION OF AGRICULTURAL LAND FOR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ON PAYMENT OF THE APPROPRIATE PREMIUM, SAYS THE REPORT.

+A CHANGE TO A MORE LIBERAL POLICY WOULD HAVE SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL AND PLANNING IMPLICATIONS, AND WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY RESULT IN UNFORESEEN SERVICING COSTS. BUT THE FACT REMAINS THAT THIS IS A SIGNIFICANT SOURCE OF LAND, PARTICULARLY FOR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, WHICH REQUIRES FURTHER CONSIDERATION.+

A TOTAL OF 11 NEW DEVELOPMENT AREAS WERE IDENTIFIED AND, THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT ALL OF THEM SHOULD BE INVESTIGATED COMPREHENSIVELY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

THE COMMITTEE CONSIDERED THAT A COMPREHENSIVE INVESTIGATION OF NORTH LANTAU SHOULD PROCEED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND THAT +SUBJECT TO THE FINDINGS OF THAT INVESTIGATION AND THE IDENTIFICATION OF A DEFICIT BETWEEN THE OVERALL DEMAND FOR AND THE PRODUCTION OF LAND, IT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHETHER IT MIGHT BE PREFERABLE TO PROCEED WITH ITS DEVELOPMENT IN ADVANCE OF SOME OR ALL OF THE OTHER AREAS IDENTIFIED BY THE COMMITTEE.+

IT IS STATED IN THE REPORT THAT A PRELIMINARY PLANNING STUDY OF LANTAU HAS SHOWN THAT OVER 2,000 HECTARES OF LAND MIGHT BE PRODUCED.

THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON LAND PRODUCTION WAS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR ON MAY 4 UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, MR. DEREK JONES. THE COMMITTEE PLANS TO SUBMIT A FURTHER REPORT IN ABOUT 18 MONTHS.

CHINESE AND ENGLISH COPIES OF THE REPORT ARE AVAILABLE AT \$7 EACH FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE.

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LEGCO RESUMES ANNUAL POLICY DEBATE

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THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL DEBATE ON THE MOTION OF THANKS FOR THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS RESUMES ON WEDNESDAY (NOVEMBER 9) WHEN SEVEN OFFICIAL MEMBERS WILL REPLY TO THE POINTS RAISED BY THEIR UNOFFICIAL COLLEAGUES A FORTNIGHT AGO.

LEADING OFF THE RESUMED DEBATE WILL BE THE HON. KENNETH TOPLEY, DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, FOLLOWED BY THE HON. THOMAS LEE, DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE= THE HON. PETER WILLIAMS, COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR= THE HON. ALAN SCOTT, SECRETARY FOR HOUSING= THE HON. E.P. HO, SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES= THE HON. JOHN WALDEN, DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE HON. LI FOOK-KOW, SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS.

EIGHT OTHER OFFICIAL MEMBERS WILL SPEAK ON THURSDAY (NOVEMBER 10). THEY ARE: THE HON. WILLIAM DORWARD, ACTING DIRECTOR OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS= THE HON. RONALD BRIDGE, SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE= THE HON. DAVID AKERS-JONES, SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES= THE HON. DAVID MCDONALD, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS= THE HON. DEREK JONES, SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT= THE HON. ATTORNEY GENERAL, MR. JOHN HOBLEY= THE HON. FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR. PHILIP HADDON-CAVE AND THE HON. CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DENYS ROBERTS.

ON BOTH DAYS, THE PRECEEDINGS WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE BY RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG ON RTHK 2 (CHINESE) AND RTHK 4 (ENGLISH).

DURING THE SITTING, TWO BILLS WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE COUNCIL. THEY ARE THE CROWN RIGHTS (RE-ENTRY AND VESTING REMEDIES) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1977 AND THE WIDOWS' AND CHILDREN'S PENSIONS BILL 1977.

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TWO MUSIC TRAINING SCHEMES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE
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MR. GORDON SIU, THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR, TODAY INVITED ALL YOUNG MUSICIANS TO JOIN TWO NEW TRAINING SCHEMES.

THE FIRST SCHEME, CALLED THE YOUTH MUSIC SERVICE, IS OPENED TO ALL YOUNG PLAYERS OF BOTH CHINESE AND WESTERN INSTRUMENTS. THOSE WHO BECOME MEMBERS OF THE SERVICE WILL BE PROVIDED WITH REGULAR MUSIC MAKING ACTIVITIES AND TRAINING. THEY MAY BECOME MEMBERS OF YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS, CHINESE ORCHESTRAS AND ENSEMBLES WHICH WILL GIVE CONCERTS HERE AND ABROAD.

THE SECOND SCHEME CONCERNS SCHOLARSHIP IN THE UNITED KINGDOM FOR SPECIAL FULL-TIME MUSIC STUDENTS AND IS ORGANISED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND DRAMA OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

ANNOUNCING THE SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME, MR. SIU SAID THAT THIS WAS THE FIRST OF A NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES WHICH THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE WOULD OFFER TO TALENTED AND PROMISING YOUNG MUSICIANS. THE OBJECTIVE WAS TO PROVIDE FURTHER TRAINING TO ENABLE A NUMBER OF PLAYERS WHO HAD ATTAINED A HIGH STANDARD TO BECOME PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS.

CANDIDATES WILL BE AUDITIONED BY A SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO BE SET UP BY THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE. SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES WILL BE PROVIDED WITH RETURN PASSAGES, COURSE FEES AND SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE. ON SATISFACTORY COMPLETION OF TRAINING, CANDIDATES WILL BE EXPECTED TO RETURN TO WORK IN A MUSIC ORGANISATION IN HONG KONG.

DETAILS OF BOTH TRAINING SCHEMES ARE ADVERTISED IN LOCAL NEWSPAPERS AND THE PROSPECTUS AND APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED AT THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE, CAROLINE MANSION, 4TH FLOOR, 8, YUN PING ROAD, CAUSEWAY BAY, AND ALL CITY DISTRICT OFFICES AND DISTRICT OFFICES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

APPLICATION FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE BEFORE THE DUE DATES LISTED ON THE FORMS.

ENQUIRIES MAY BE MADE TO THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE AT 5-779007.

DETAILED PROSPECTUS OF THE GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND DRAMA IS AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION AT THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE.

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PUBLIC URGED TO HELP FORMER OFFENDERS

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MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY CAN HELP REDUCE CRIME BY DISCARDING THEIR PREJUDICE AGAINST FORMER LAW OFFENDERS AND ASSISTING THEM TO RE-INTEGRATE INTO SOCIETY, SAID MR. MAK WING-HONG, HEAD OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S PROBATION AND CORRECTIONS DIVISION.

SPEAKING AT THE LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE LION ROCK'S LIONS CLUB TODAY (TUESDAY), MR. MAK WARNED THAT SUSPICION AND APATHY SHOWN TOWARDS THOSE WHO HAVE ONCE GONE ASTRAY WOULD SET RUNNING A VICIOUS CYCLE AS YOUNG OFFENDERS, LACKING THE CONFIDENCE TO START A NEW LIFE, MIGHT TURN BACK TO DELINQUENCY AGAIN.

+FEELING THAT THEY ARE BEING REJECTED BY THE COMMUNITY, THE OFFENDERS WOULD DEVELOP FURTHER ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, AND ARE LIKELY TO RETURN TO CRIME,+ HE SAID.

DESCRIBING THIS KIND OF PUBLIC ATTITUDE AS ONE OF THE MAJOR OBSTACLES OF PROBATION OFFICERS IN HELPING PROBATIONERS TO START AFRESH, MR. MAK CALLED UPON THE PUBLIC TO CONTRIBUTE MORE TOWARDS PROBATION WORK.

HE URGED EMPLOYERS TO OFFER MORE JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROBATIONERS AS THERE ARE ADVANTAGES IN EMPLOYING THEM.

+FOR ONE, THEY CAN HAVE A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF EMPLOYEES' BACKGROUND WHICH IS BENEFICIAL TO STAFF MANAGEMENT= AND WITH THE SUPERVISION OF PROBATION OFFICERS, THESE EMPLOYEES ARE LIKELY TO EXHIBIT BETTER WORK ATTITUDE,+ HE NOTED.

TURNING TO PROBATION WORK, MR. MAK SAID THE REFORMATION OF OFFENDERS INTO USEFUL MEMBERS OF SOCIETY IS THE MAJOR OBJECTIVE OF HIS DIVISION.

TO ACHIEVE THIS AIM, PROBATION OFFICERS CONDUCT SOCIAL ENQUIRIES INTO THE CHARACTER AND FAMILY CIRCUMSTANCES OF OFFENDERS IN ORDER TO COMPILE REPORTS FOR THE COURTS AND ASSIST THEM IN ARRIVING AT AN APPROPRIATE SENTENCE.

+THEN, THEY SUPERVISE PROBATIONERS FOR PERIODS VARYING FROM ONE TO THREE YEARS. DURING THE PERIOD, THEY PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO KEEP THEM AWAY FROM UNDESIRABLE COMPANIONS, TO SECURE GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT OR EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES, AND TO IMPROVE THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH FAMILY MEMBERS,+ HE SAID.

MR. MAK ADDED THAT THE FIVE CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS UNDER THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT ARE ALSO VESTED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE BASIC EDUCATION AND CRAFT TRAINING. GREAT EMPHASIS IS ALSO PLACED ON CHARACTER BUILDING, SOCIAL TRAINING AND THE CONSTRUCTIVE USE OF LEISURE.

RECALLING THE COMMENCEMENT OF PROBATION SERVICE, MR. MAK SAID THAT WHEN THE PROBATION OF OFFENDERS ORDINANCE WAS ENACTED IN 1933, THE SERVICE WAS ONLY PROVIDED FOR YOUNG PEOPLE BETWEEN THE AGES OF EIGHT TO 16.

+IT WAS IN 1956 THAT THE ORDINANCE WAS AMENDED TO INCLUDE ADULTS. AT PRESENT, THERE IS NO AGE LIMIT FOR A PERSON TO BE PLACED ON PROBATION,+ HE SAID.

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SEWAGE SCREENING PLANT FOR AP LEI CHAU
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A SEWAGE SCREENING PLANT IS TO BE BUILT SHORTLY ON AP LEI CHAU TO COPE WITH THE DEVELOPMENT ON THE ISLAND.

TENDERS FOR THE WORK, WHICH FORMS PART OF A MAJOR SEWAGE SCHEME FOR THE AP LEI CHAU AREA, ARE BEING INVITED BY THE CIVIL ENGINEERING OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

MR. CHAN YAN, CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE P.W.D.'S DRAINAGE WORKS DIVISION, SAID TODAY THAT A HOUSING ESTATE CAPABLE OF ACCOMMODATING 19,000 PEOPLE, WAS BEING BUILT ON THE FORMER FISHING ISLAND.

IN THE NEXT THREE TO FIVE YEARS, HE ADDED, THERE WOULD BE CONSIDERABLE RESIDENTIAL AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ON AP LEI CHAU, ALONG WITH THE NECESSARY SUPPORTING GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS, COMMUNITY AND WELFARE CENTRES, SCHOOLS AND MARKETS.

MR. CHAN SAID THE WORK ON THE NEW SEWAGE SCREENING PLANT COMPRISED THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, A STATION CONTROL ROOM, COARSE AND FINE SCREEN CHANNELS AND +CONSTANT VELOCITY GRIT REMOVAL+ CHANNELS.

+A 270-METRE-LONG PIPELINE, MEASURING 900 MM IN DIAMETER, WILL ALSO BE LAID IN A TRENCH TO BE DREDGED IN THE SEABED TO THE SOUTH-EAST OF AP LEI CHAU,+ MR. CHAN SAID.

+ON COMPLETION, SEWAGE FROM AP LEI CHAU WILL BE TREATED THROUGH THE MECHANICAL COARSE AND FINE SCREENS AND GRIT REMOVAL DEVICES BEFORE IT IS DISCHARGED VIA THE SUBMARINE OUTFALL INTO DEEPER WATER WHERE ADEQUATE DILUTION AND SATISFACTORY DISPERSION CAN BE ACHIEVED.+

THE PROJECT HAS BEEN DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTION WILL BE SUPERVISED BY THE DRAINAGE WORKS DIVISION OF THE CIVIL ENGINEERING OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

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