



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1976

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STUDY ON NUCLEAR POWER IN H.K.

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BY AGREEMENT WITH THE GOVERNMENT, THE CHINA LIGHT AND POWER CO LTD, PENINSULAR ELECTRIC POWER CO LTD, AND THE HONG KONG ELECTRIC CO LTD, THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA) IN 1975 UNDERTOOK A STUDY OF THE TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC FEASIBILITY OF INTRODUCING NUCLEAR POWER GENERATION TO HONG KONG.

A STEERING GROUP, WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENT AND THE POWER COMPANIES, WAS ESTABLISHED TO CO-ORDINATE INFORMATION AND TO CONSIDER THE RESULTS OF THE STUDY. THE AGENCY'S REPORT, +NUCLEAR POWER PLANNING STUDY FOR HONG KONG+, WAS PRESENTED TO THE STEERING GROUP EARLIER THIS YEAR, AND WILL BE PUBLISHED.

THE STEERING GROUP HAVE REPORTED THEIR APPRECIATION OF THE VERY EXTENSIVE AND USEFUL ANALYSIS UNDERTAKEN BY IAEA, AND AFTER A THOROUGH EXAMINATION OF THE REPORT REACHED THE FOLLOWING CONCLUSIONS:

- (A) IT WOULD BE TECHNICALLY FEASIBLE TO INTRODUCE NUCLEAR POWER IN HONG KONG, AND ADEQUATE SAFETY STANDARDS COULD BE ENSURED.
- (B) UNDER THE ASSUMPTIONS USED BY THE IAEA, NUCLEAR GENERATION SHOWED A SMALL ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE OVER CONVENTIONAL GENERATION. HOWEVER, GIVEN THE UNCERTAINTIES AS TO THE TREND OF RELATIVE FUEL PRICES OVER THE NEXT TWENTY YEARS OR SO, AND THE FURTHER UNCERTAINTIES AS TO THE FINAL CAPITAL COST OF BUILDING THE FIRST NUCLEAR POWER PLANT IN HONG KONG, THE APPARENT ADVANTAGE OF NUCLEAR POWER WAS TOO SMALL, TOO UNCERTAIN, AND SPREAD OVER TOO LONG A TIME SPAN.
- (C) THE CAPITAL COST OF NUCLEAR PLANT, AT US\$800 PER KW (1975 PRICES) IS SOME THREE OR FOUR TIMES THE COST FOR CONVENTIONAL PLANT. EVEN IF THE PROGRAMME WERE CONFINED TO TWO NUCLEAR PLANTS AT 600 MW EACH, THE CAPITAL COST WOULD BE APPROXIMATELY HK\$5 BILLION, AS OPPOSED TO A SUM WELL UNDER HK\$2 BILLION FOR CONVENTIONAL PLANT OF THE SAME CAPACITY. IT WOULD THEREFORE POSE THE QUESTION OF RAISING A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF ADDITIONAL FINANCE, WHICH IN VIEW OF THE FACTORS ALREADY MENTIONED, AND AGAINST THE COMPETING CLAIMS OF POSSIBLY MORE IMPORTANT PROJECTS, WOULD BE NEITHER EASY NOR JUSTIFIABLE.

THE STEERING GROUP AGREED THAT, UNLESS THERE WERE SIGNIFICANT FUTURE CHANGES IN ANY OF THE ECONOMIC OR FINANCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO A NUCLEAR PROJECT, IT SHOULD NOT BE PURSUED ANY FURTHER.

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80,000 REGAIN STRENGTH THROUGH PHYSIOTHERAPY TREATMENT
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PHYSIOTHERAPISTS AT GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS HAVE HELPED SOME 80,000 PATIENTS REGAIN THEIR NORMAL PHYSICAL STRENGTH DURING 1975 -- FOUR TIMES AS MANY AS IN 1961.

ATTENDANCES FOR PHYSIOTHERAPY TREATMENT LAST YEAR TOTALLED SOME 760,000 OR THREE TIMES THAT OF A DECADE AGO.

AS THE DEMAND FOR PHYSIOTHERAPY CONTINUES TO GROW, THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT HAS INCREASED ITS PHYSIOTHERAPY STAFF FROM 79 TO MORE THAN 100 THIS YEAR.

MOST OF THE PHYSIOTHERAPISTS ARE TRAINED LOCALLY, AT THE DEPARTMENT'S PHYSIOTHERAPY TRAINING SCHOOL AT QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL, WHICH OPENED IN 1960.

FORTY-EIGHT STUDENTS PHYSIOTHERAPISTS ARE UNDERGOING A THREE-YEAR TRAINING COURSE. OF THESE, 14 WILL GRADUATE NEXT WEEK.

PHYSIOTHERAPY IS A METHOD BY WHICH A CURE IS ATTEMPTED THROUGH NATURAL PHYSICAL EXERCISE. PATIENTS COMMONLY REQUIRING PHYSIOTHERAPY TREATMENT INCLUDE VICTIMS OF TRAUMA, FRACTURES, STROKES, ARTHRITIS, SPINAL SPONDYLOSIS, AND CHEST DISEASES. CHILDREN WHO HAVE HAD BRAIN DAMAGE ALSO BENEFIT FROM SUCH TREATMENT.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID: +PHYSIOTHERAPY PLAYS A VERY IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE HEALTH SERVICE AS AN EARLY RETURN TO NORMAL PHYSICAL CONDITION CONTRIBUTES TO A SPEEDIER TURNOVER IN HOSPITAL BEDS.+

IT WOULD ALSO MEAN THAT A PATIENT COULD RESUME HIS OCCUPATION WITHOUT A LENGTHY AND NON-PRODUCTIVE CONVALESCENCE, HE SAID.

PHYSIOTHERAPY IS OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO VICTIMS OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS, WHO VERY OFTEN ARE THE SOLE BREADWINNERS IN A FAMILY, HE ADDED.

PHYSIOTHERAPY FACILITIES ARE PROVIDED AT QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL, QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL, KOWLOON HOSPITAL, THE KOWLOON REHABILITATION CENTRE, THE WAN CHAI POLYCLINIC, TANG SHIU KIN HOSPITAL, PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL AND THE DAVID TRENCH REHABILITATION CENTRE.

THERE IS A PHYSIOTHERAPY SERVICE IN SOME GOVERNMENT ASSISTED HOSPITALS AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

A GRADUATION CEREMONY FOR THE 14 STUDENT PHYSIOTHERAPISTS WILL BE HELD AT THE PHYSIOTHERAPY TRAINING SCHOOL AT BLOCK D1, QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL AT 3.30 P.M. ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4.

DR. G.H. CHOA, DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, WILL ADDRESS THE GATHERING AND MRS. CHOA WILL PRESENT CERTIFICATES TO GRADUATES.

YOU ARE WELCOME TO SEND A REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER TO COVER THE CEREMONY.

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LOW-DENSITY DEVELOPMENT ON CHEUNG CHAU

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THE GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR CHEUNG CHAU CALL FOR A LOW-DENSITY AND BALANCED DEVELOPMENT TO ENSURE THAT THE ISLAND DOES NOT BECOME OVER-CROWDED, THE ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICER, MR. DAVID TSUI, SAID TODAY.

SPEAKING AT THE OPEN DAY OF THE SALVATION ARMY'S CHILDREN'S HOME ON CHEUNG CHAU, MR. TSUI OUTLINED A FIVE-POINT DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE ISLAND WHICH IS:

- * THE EXTENSIVE RATIONALISATION OF THE WATERFRONT THROUGH RECLAMATION AND SEAWALLS AND THE PROVISION OF A PROMENADE.
- * PROVISION OF GREEN-BELT AREAS TO PREVENT OVER-DEVELOPMENT.
- * PROVISION OF COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND OPEN SPACE SO THAT CHEUNG CHAU IS A SELF-CONTAINED ISLAND.
- * GOVERNMENT RURAL HOUSING FOR 5,000 PEOPLE WHICH MR. TSUI SAID WAS LOW-DENSITY HOUSING OF THREE OR FOUR STOREYS FOR PEOPLE LIVING IN SUB-STANDARD HOUSES ON CHEUNG CHAU AND NOT FOR RESITING PEOPLE FROM THE URBAN AREAS.
- * NEW WORKSHOP AND VILLAGE-TYPE HOUSING AREAS TO PROVIDE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES.

MR. TSUI SAID: +THE PEACEFUL ISLAND OF CHEUNG CHAU WITH ITS BEAUTIFUL AND PEACEFUL ENVIRONMENT WILL INEVITABLY BECOME AN ATTRACTION FOR PEOPLE TO COME HERE TO LIVE.

+FURTHERMORE, THERE IS AN INCREASING DEMAND BY LOCAL PEOPLE IN CHEUNG CHAU FOR BIGGER AND BETTER HOUSING TO COPE WITH POPULATION EXPANSION AND BETTER STANDARD OF LIVING.+

+THE PRESSURE OF DEVELOPMENT CALLS FOR A PARALLEL NEED FOR CHEUNG CHAU TO BE DEVELOPED ON A PROPER AND PLANNED BASIS TO AVOID OVERCROWDING+.

MR. TSUI SAID THAT THIS WAS THE AIM OF THE REPORT ON THE ENGINEERING FEASIBILITY OF DEVELOPMENT AT CHEUNG CHAU PREPARED BY THE GOVERNMENT'S CONSULTING ENGINEERS.

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GOVERNOR TO OPEN ASIAN WOMEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE WILL OPEN THE 6TH ASIAN WOMEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP AT THE MACPHERSON STADIUM ON TUESDAY.

APART FROM HONG KONG, SEVEN COUNTRIES WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE CHAMPIONSHIP WHICH IS ORGANISED BY THE ASIAN BASKETBALL CONFEDERATION AND SPONSORED BY THE HONG KONG AMATEUR BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION.

THE SEVEN COUNTRIES ARE CHINA, JAPAN, THE PHILIPPINES SOUTH KOREA, MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE AND IRAN.

AMONG THE GUESTS ATTENDING THE OPENING CEREMONY ARE MR. A. DE O. SALES IN HIS CAPACITY AS THE PRESIDENT OF THE ASIAN SPORTS FEDERATION AND PRESIDENT OF HONG KONG'S OLYMPIC COMMITTEE, MR. CHAM SIU-LEUN, PRESIDENT OF THE HONG KONG AMATEUR BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (HKABA) AND MR. M.C. CASWELL, HON. PRESIDENT OF HKABA.

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND A REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY AT QUEEN ELIZABETH II YOUTH CENTRE, MACPHERSON STADIUM AT 2.50 P.M. ON TUESDAY.

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H.K. - SYDNEY AIR SERVICES AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNITED KINGDOM THAT THE PAN-AMERICAN AIRWAYS SERVICES BETWEEN HONG KONG AND SYDNEY WILL END NOT LATER THAN JANUARY 31, 1977. IN THE MEANTIME THERE WILL BE A RESTRICTION ON THE NUMBER OF PASSENGERS CARRIED ON THAT SECTOR BY PAN-AMERICAN AIRWAYS.

THE AGREEMENT HAS BEEN AMICABLY REACHED IN THE COURSE OF NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES ON AIR SERVICES WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN LONDON AND WASHINGTON. DISCUSSIONS ARE CONTINUING ON THE BROADER ASPECTS OF AIR SERVICES BETWEEN U.K. AND U.S.A.

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FURTHER TRAFFIC CHANGES IN NORTH POINT

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THE NEXT STAGE OF THE NORTH POINT TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SCHEME WILL BE INTRODUCED AT 10 A.M. ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2.

UNDER THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS, THE RIGHT-TURNING MOVEMENT FROM THE WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF KING'S ROAD INTO NORTH POINT NORTHBOUND WILL BE PROHIBITED AND VEHICLES REQUIRING TO ENTER THIS SECTION OF NORTH POINT ROAD WILL BE DIVERTED VIA A LEFT TURN INTO CHEUNG HONG STREET TO TRAVEL VIA FORT STREET AND NORTH VIEW STREET.

AT THE SAME TIME, PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM OPERATING ALONG CHEUNG HONG STREET AND NORTH VIEW STREET BECAUSE OF THE CONGESTION THEY HAVE BEEN CAUSING IN NORTH VIEW STREET, WHERE ALL TRAFFIC HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO A STANDSTILL FREQUENTLY DUE TO DOUBLE PARKING.

A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN DISCLOSED TODAY THAT THE FINAL STAGE OF THE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SCHEME FOR THE NORTH POINT AREA WOULD BE INTRODUCED AT THE END OF NOVEMBER INVOLVING THE BAN ON THE RIGHT-TURNING MOVEMENT OF VEHICLES FROM THE WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF KING'S ROAD INTO SHU KUK STREET.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE PLB STAND IN HARBOUR PARADE AT THE NORTH POINT FERRY CONCOURSE WILL BE MOVED TO A NEW OFF-STREET STAND AT THE JUNCTION OF JAVA ROAD AND TIN CHIU STREET NEAR THE VEHICULAR FERRY PIER.

THE NEW STAND, WHICH WILL HAVE A CAPACITY FOR ABOUT 50 PLBS AT ONE TIME, WILL HELP TO REDUCE THE CONGESTION IN SHU KUK STREET AND HARBOUR PARADE AND ENABLE GOODS VEHICLES TO LOAD AND UNLOAD OUTSIDE THE NORTH POINT CENTRE ESTATE IN HARBOUR PARADE.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED BETWEEN THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT AND THE CHINA MOTOR BUS COMPANY FOR THE NORTH POINT FERRY BUS TERMINUS TO BE ENLARGED TO CATER FOR ADDITIONAL BUS ROUTES TO BE INTRODUCED TO SERVE THE GROWING TRANSPORT DEMANDS IN THE AREA.

THE PROPOSALS INCLUDE THE PROVISION OF A COVERED CANOPY OVER THE ENLARGED TERMINUS WITH PEDESTRIAN WAYS FROM THE FERRY PIER TO THE DEPARTURE BAYS. THREE NEW BUS ROUTES WILL BE INTRODUCED. THEY ARE ROUTE 41 TO WAH FU ESTATE VIA LAI TAK TSUEN AND ABERDEEN, ROUTE 84 TO A KUNG NGAM VIA QUARRY BAY AND SHAU KEI WAN AND ROUTE 26 TO TAI HANG DRIVE VIA BRAEMAR HILL.

AGREEMENT HAS ALSO BEEN REACHED BETWEEN THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT AND CHINA MOTOR BUS THAT BY THE END OF THE YEAR, NINE SEPARATE BUS SERVICES WOULD BE SERVING NORTH POINT FERRY PIER INVOLVING THE OPERATION OF OVER 100 BUSES PER HOUR.

/COMMENTING

COMMENTING ON THE RECENT ADVERSE CRITICISM OF VARIOUS TRAFFIC CHANGES IN THE NORTH POINT AREA, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT IT WAS UNFORTUNATE THAT TRENCH WORKS BY BOTH THE ELECTRICITY AND GAS COMPANIES HAD MADE IT NECESSARY TO INTRODUCE THE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SCHEME EARLIER THAN INTENDED AND IN STAGES RATHER THAN ALL AT ONCE AS ORIGINALLY PLANNED.

TO MITIGATE EFFECTS OF CABLELAYING WORK IN ELECTRIC ROAD AND JAVA ROAD, STAGE ONE OF THIS SCHEME HAD BEEN BROUGHT FORWARD.

THE SPOKESMAN FELT THAT UNTIL THE FULL SCHEME CAME INTO OPERATION AND TWO-WAY TRAFFIC RETURNED IN JAVA ROAD IT WAS PREMATURE TO JUDGE WHETHER IT HAD SUCCEEDED.

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CITY HALL - MAJOR CULTURAL CENTRE IN FAR EAST

THE URBAN COUNCIL'S CITY HALL CONTINUED TO MAINTAIN ITS LEADING POSITION AS A MAJOR CULTURAL CENTRE IN THE FAR EAST LAST YEAR, WITH HOSTS OF INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED ARTISTS PERFORMING IN ITS CONCERT HALL AND THEATRE.

DURING THE 12 MONTHS ENDING ON MARCH 31 THIS YEAR, THERE WERE OVER 750 CONCERTS, OPERAS, FILMS, DRAMAS AND DANCES WHICH ATTRACTED MORE THAN 595,000 PEOPLE.

ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS IN THE YEAR'S ARTISTIC EVENTS WAS THE HONG KONG ARTS FESTIVAL 1976 PRESENTED BY THE HONG KONG ARTS FESTIVAL SOCIETY IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE URBAN COUNCIL.

DURING THE YEAR UNDER REVIEW, THE SEVEN BRANCH LIBRARIES IN THE URBAN AREAS AND ONE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES ACQUIRED ABOUT 78,830 VOLUMES OF BOOKS, BRINGING THE TOTAL STOCK TO SOME 728,750 VOLUMES.

THE COUNCIL'S LENDING LIBRARIES PROVED TO BE INCREASINGLY POPULAR WITH THE NUMBER OF BOOKS BORROWED FOR HOME READING REACHING A RECORD FIGURE OF 3.5 MILLION VOLUMES, AN INCREASE OF 12 PER CENT OVER THAT OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR. THE NUMBER OF BOOKS READ IN THE LIBRARIES WENT UP BY EIGHT PER CENT.

THE REFERENCE LIBRARIES RECORDED A TOTAL USAGE OF 425,344 BOOKS.

THE MUSEUM OF ART IN THE CITY HALL AND THE NEW MUSEUM OF HISTORY IN STAR HOUSE WERE ALSO A BIG ATTRACTION TO BOTH THE PUBLIC AND TOURISTS.

STATISTICS SHOWED THAT DURING THE YEAR, AN AVERAGE OF 720 PEOPLE VISITED THE MUSEUM OF ART EACH DAY WHILE THE NUMBER OF VISITORS TO THE MUSEUM OF HISTORY EXCEEDED 2,038 PEOPLE A DAY.

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NEW POLICE STATION FOR HOMANTIN
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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IS TO BUILD A NEW DIVISIONAL POLICE STATION AT HOMANTIN.

TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE COMPLEX, WHICH WILL OCCUPY A 3,720-SQUARE METRE SITE AT THE JUNCTION OF PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD AND CHUNG MAN STREET, ARE NOW BEING CALLED.

MR. K.M. TSENG, CHIEF P.W.D. ARCHITECT, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY) CONSTRUCTION WOULD BEGIN IN DECEMBER AND WOULD TAKE ABOUT 19 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

HE SAID THE STATION WOULD SERVE THE HOMANTIN AREA WHICH IS NOW BEING DEVELOPED INTO A PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL AREA WITH PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES.

+THE ESTIMATED POPULATION FOR THE AREA IS ABOUT 170,000 BY 1991,+ MR. TSENG SAID.

+THE NEW STATION WILL BE OF THE STANDARD DESIGN COMPRISING A 16-STOREY BUILDING, A SINGLE-STOREY SERVICES BLOCK AND A COMPOUND. THE NEW BUILDING WILL HOUSE NORMAL POLICE OPERATIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES, BARRACKS, RECREATION ROOMS AND CANTEEN.

+DOG KENNELS, STORE ROOMS, CARPARKS AND SERVICE FACILITIES WILL BE PROVIDED FOR IN THE SINGLE-STOREY BLOCK.+

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WATER CUT

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WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES AND VILLAGES IN CASTLE PEAK WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR EIGHT HOURS FROM 10 P.M. ON TUESDAY (NOVEMBER 2) TO ENABLE THE WATERWORKS OFFICE TO CARRY OUT WORK ON A FRESH WATER MAIN IN THE AREA.

AFFECTED WILL BE ALL PREMISES AND VILLAGES ALONG CASTLE PEAK ROAD FROM TAI LAM CHUNG TO CASTLE PEAK VILLAS.

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HONG KONG HOUSING AUTHORITY 香港房屋委員會

PRESS RELEASE 新聞稿

Saturday, October 30, 1976

1,000 LIFTS IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE ---
AUTHORITY SPENDS \$6 MILLION ON MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

More than 1,000 lifts are in use at least 18 hours every day ferrying millions of people through the Housing Authority's high rise domestic blocks scattered all over Hong Kong.

The cost to the Authority of maintaining these lifts is about \$6 million this year and this will rise to \$8 million next year as more new estates are completed.

To ensure that these lifts function smoothly, a team of 11 technicians headed by a Building Services Inspector carries out regular inspections on the contractors' work.

Mr. H.K. Wong, Assistant Building Services Engineer of the Housing Department, who is in charge of this team, said: "We are now trying out a scratch-proof stainless steel lift in Tsz Wan Shan Estate with the floor indication buttons recessed into the panel.

"We shall be observing this lift to see how successful it is and if it proves satisfactory similar models will be used in the new estates," Mr Wong said.

These lifts are supplied and maintained by nine local firms, representing manufactureres from Europe, United Kingdom and Japan.

Meanwhile, some of the slower lifts in the older estates are to be speeded up to reduce the waiting time for tenants. The older lifts travel at 100 feet per minute, but the new lifts have a speed of 300 feet per minute.

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