



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1975

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PILOT COMPOSTING AND BALING PLANTS TO BE SET UP
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PLANS ARE IN HAND TO DEVELOP BETTER AND MORE ECONOMICAL METHODS OF SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL TO COPE WITH THE INCREASING AMOUNT OF REFUSE GENERATED BY THE GROWTH OF HONG KONG.

AS A FIRST STEP, THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT INTENDS TO SET UP A COMPOSTING PLANT AND A BALING PLANT ON AN EXPERIMENTAL BASIS TO ASSESS THEIR ADAPTABILITY IN HONG KONG.

THE TWO NEW FACILITIES WERE RECOMMENDED BY CONSULTANT ENGINEERS FOLLOWING A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL IN HONG KONG. FUNDS FOR THE TWO PROJECTS, AMOUNTING TO \$39 MILLION, HAVE ALREADY BEEN APPROVED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A PWD SPOKESMAN SAID IT WAS PROPOSED TO SET UP THE COMPOSTING PLANT AT CHAI WAN AND THE BALING PLANT AT SAI TSO WAN IN KOWLOON.

PRELIMINARY INDICATIONS, HE SAID, WERE THAT UNIT COSTS OF SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL BY COMPOSTING AND BALING WERE SUBSTANTIALLY LOWER THAN BY INCINERATION, AND WERE SANITARY AND DID NOT CAUSE POLLUTION PROBLEMS.

ACCORDING TO ESTIMATES, HE SAID, THE UNIT COST FOR DISPOSING ONE TON OF SOLID WASTE BY COMPOSTING WOULD BE \$27 AND \$12 FOR HIGH DENSITY BALING. THESE COMPARE WITH \$38 BY INCINERATION.

WORK WILL SHORTLY BEGIN ON THE DESIGN OF THE FIRST STAGE OF THE COMPOSTING PLANT AND CONSTRUCTION IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN EARLY 1977. WHEN COMPLETED, THE PLANT WILL BE ABLE TO TREAT SOME 200 TONS OF REFUSE A DAY.

THE COMPOSTING PROCESS INVOLVES THE TREATMENT OF SOLID WASTE THROUGH GRADUAL DECOMPOSITION INTO HYGIENICALLY SAFE, INERT AND INOFFENSIVE MATERIAL. THIS METHOD DOES NOT PRODUCE ANY ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION AND THE COMPOSTED WASTES MAY BE USED AS INTERMEDIATE AND FINAL COVER MATERIAL IN CONTROLLED TIPPING OPERATIONS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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ON THE BALING PLANT, THE SPOKESMAN SAID IT WAS PLANNED TO SET UP THIS PILOT PROJECT ON A PROPOSED CONTROLLED TIPPING SITE AT SAI TSO WAN AND TRY IT OUT FOR TWO YEARS TO EVALUATE THE RESULTS. THE PLANT WILL HANDLE ABOUT 600 TONS OF REFUSE A DAY.

HE NOTED THAT BALING -- A PROCESS WHEREBY SOLID WASTES ARE FIRST TREATED AND THEN COMPRESSED INTO BLOCKS -- WAS SUBSTANTIALLY CHEAPER AND THE END-PRODUCT VASTLY EASIER TO DISPOSE OF IN LANDFILL AREAS.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT IN BOTH THE COMPOSTING AND BALING PROCESSES, THE BULK REDUCTION IN VOLUME OF THE TREATED WASTE WOULD YIELD LOWER TRANSPORTATION COSTS AND ENABLE MORE ECONOMICAL USE TO BE MADE OF LANDFILL SITES.

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RESERVOIRS 95 PER CENT FULL
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A TOTAL OF 63,897 MILLION GALLONS OF WATER WERE IN STORE IN ALL RESERVOIRS AS AT 9 A.M. THIS (MONDAY) MORNING, REPRESENTING 94.9 PER CENT OF THE FULL STORAGE CAPACITY OF 67,300 MILLION GALLONS.

ON THE SAME DAY LAST YEAR THE TOTAL STORAGE WAS ONLY 54,116 MILLION GALLONS, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE WATERWORKS OFFICE SAID.

PLOVER COVE, HONG KONG'S BIGGEST RESERVOIR, HELD 49,300 MILLION GALLONS, REPRESENTING 97.6 PER CENT OF ITS FULL STORAGE CAPACITY OF 50,500 MILLION GALLONS. AT THIS TIME LAST YEAR, IT HELD 38,462 MILLION GALLONS.

+TOTAL RAINFALL SO FAR THIS YEAR STANDS AT 2,979.4 MM (117.3 IN). THE MEAN AVERAGE RAINFALL THIS YEAR IS 2,140.3 MM (84.26 IN),+ HE CONTINUED.

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FLYOVERS TO BE BUILT AT BUSY ROAD JUNCTION
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WORK WILL BEGIN SOON ON TWO FLYOVERS AT THE ROBINSON ROAD/CASTLE ROAD JUNCTION IN THE MID-LEVELS TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW IN THE AREA.

TENDERS ARE NOW BEING CALLED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE FLYOVERS, WHICH FORM PART OF A MAJOR IMPROVEMENT SCHEME TO ELIMINATE TRAFFIC CONFLICT AT THE BUSY JUNCTION. IT WAS DESIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT'S HIGHWAYS OFFICE BY CONSULTANT ENGINEERS APPOINTED BY THE PWD.

MR. C.K. CHOW, CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE CONSULTANT MANAGEMENT DIVISION OF THE PWD'S HIGHWAYS OFFICE, SAID: +CONSTRUCTION WORK ON THE FLYOVERS IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN EARLY NEXT YEAR AND SHOULD TAKE ABOUT 12 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.+

HE SAID THE IMPROVEMENT SCHEME WAS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE IN SERVING RAPID AND INTENSIVE DEVELOPMENTS IN THE CONDUIT ROAD, SEYMOUR ROAD, PARK ROAD, ROBINSON ROAD AND KOTEWALL ROAD AREAS.

ONE OF THE FLYOVERS, HE SAID, WOULD CARRY EASTBOUND TRAFFIC ON ROBINSON ROAD ON A NEW ALIGNMENT OVER THE NORTHERN PORTION OF CASTLE ROAD, WHILE NORTHBOUND TRAFFIC ON CASTLE ROAD WOULD PROCEED TO THE EASTBOUND LANE OF ROBINSON ROAD VIA THE OTHER FLYOVER.

APART FROM THE TWO FLYOVERS, SOME ADDITIONAL GROUND LEVEL WORKS IN ROBINSON ROAD WOULD ALSO BE CARRIED OUT.

THESE GROUND LEVEL WORKS, MR. CHOW SAID, WOULD ENABLE EARLY BENEFIT TO BE GAINED FROM PREVIOUSLY COMPLETED WORKS BY A FORMER CONTRACTOR.

HE ADDED: +THE SHARP AND NARROW BEND ON ROBINSON ROAD NEAR YING WA GIRLS' SCHOOL WILL ALSO BE STRAIGHTENED AND WIDENED WHEN CONSTRUCTION WORK ON THE TWO FLYOVERS GETS UNDER WAY.

+AT THE SAME TIME, THE VERY STEEP GRADIENT AND TORTUOUS ALIGNMENT ON THE UPPER SECTION OF CASTLE ROAD WILL BE SUBSTANTIALLY IMPROVED.+

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AWARD FOR MONEY AND TIME SAVING SUGGESTION
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THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. MORRIS MORGAN, WILL PRESENT A CHEQUE FOR \$500 TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO MISS LUK YIU-CHEUNG, AN ASSISTANT SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER IN THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, AS AN AWARD FOR A SUGGESTION WHICH WILL MEAN THE GOVERNMENT MAKING A SUBSTANTIAL SAVING IN TIME AND MONEY.

THE AWARD HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE GOVERNMENT'S STAFF SUGGESTIONS COMMITTEE AND IS ONE OF THE LARGEST EVER MADE.

LAST NOVEMBER MISS LUK, WHO WAS THEN DEPUTY SUPERVISOR OF THE DEPARTMENT'S SOCIAL SECURITY FIELD UNIT IN TAI PO, SUGGESTED THAT PAYMENTS OF THE DISABILITY AND INFIRMITY ALLOWANCES (DIA) BE MADE TO RECIPIENTS THROUGH BANKS TO REPLACE PAYMENTS THROUGH CASH ORDER BOOKS AT POST OFFICES.

FOLLOWING DISCUSSION WITH THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, HER SUGGESTION WAS IMPLEMENTED IN JULY THIS YEAR THROUGH THE AUTO-PAY SYSTEM AND SO FAR MORE THAN A THIRD OF THE NEARLY 63,000 PEOPLE RECEIVING THE ALLOWANCES ARE BEING PAID THROUGH BANKS.

+IN TERMS OF PRINTING COSTS ALONE, MISS LUK'S SUGGESTION MEANS THAT THERE WILL BE A SAVING OF AT LEAST \$200,000 A YEAR. OVER A PERIOD OF YEARS THIS WOULD AMOUNT TO QUITE A SUBSTANTIAL SUM. APART FROM THIS, IT IS HELPING TO RELIEVE PRESSURE ON STAFF OF OUR PAYMENTS CONTROL SECTION AS WELL AS ON STAFF AT POST OFFICES WHERE THESE PEOPLE FORMERLY RECEIVED THEIR MONEY,+ A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE ADDED THAT THE BENEFITS WERE NOT ONLY ON THE GOVERNMENT SIDE BECAUSE RECIPIENTS WERE FINDING IT MORE CONVENIENT TO GET THEIR MONEY FROM BANKS NEAREST THEIR HOMES. THIS MEANT THAT THEY DID NOT HAVE TO LINE UP AT POST OFFICES AND ALSO SAVED TIME ON TRAVELLING.

+THE SYSTEM HAS BEEN FAVOURABLY RECEIVED BY OUR CLIENTS AND MORE OF THEM ARE WANTING TO MAKE THE CHANGE. PRESENT INDICATIONS ARE THAT THE MAJORITY, IF NOT ALL, WILL DO SO.+

NOTE TO EDITORS: YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRESENTATION WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE S.W.D., LEE GARDENS, HYSAN AVENUE, 4TH FLOOR, HONG KONG, AT 12 NOON TOMORROW (DECEMBER 2).

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RECORD NUMBER OF ENQUIRIES HANDLED

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A RECORD 20,491 ENQUIRIES WERE HANDLED BY THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY CENTRE AT THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS IN OCTOBER.

THIS FIGURE REPRESENTS 22.3 PER CENT OF THE 136,202 ENQUIRIES RECEIVED BY THE 22 PUBLIC ENQUIRY CENTRES OPERATED BY THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT IN HONG KONG AND KOWLOON.

THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY CENTRE AT THE H.A.D. HEADQUARTERS NOW HANDLES ALL THE ENQUIRIES OF THE CENTRAL DISTRICT BECAUSE OF THE RECENT AMALGAMATION OF THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN CITY DISTRICT OFFICES AND THE SUBSEQUENT CLOSURE OF THE CENTRE PREVIOUSLY RUN BY THE C.D.O. (CENTRAL) IN WELLINGTON STREET.

THIS CENTRE ALSO OFFERS A 24-HOUR TYPHOON ENQUIRY SERVICE AS SOON AS SIGNAL NO. 1 IS HOISTED.

IT IS ON THE 9TH FLOOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUILDING (TELEPHONE NO. 5-456381-4).

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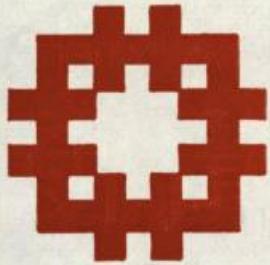
TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF TREGUNTER PATH POSTPONED

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MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED TODAY (MONDAY) THAT THE TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF A SECTION OF TREGUNTER PATH ON HONG KONG, SCHEDULED TO BEGIN TOMORROW, WILL NOW BE POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

THE SECTION OF TREGUNTER PATH BETWEEN HOUSE NO. 11 AND ITS JUNCTION WITH MAY ROAD WAS SCHEDULED TO BE CLOSED TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC FOR ABOUT SIX MONTHS TO ENABLE ROAD WIDENING WORKS TO BE CARRIED OUT.

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HONG KONG HOUSING AUTHORITY 香港房屋委員會

PRESS
RELEASE

新聞稿

Monday, December 1, 1975

SEVEN LICENSED AREAS GET ELECTRICITY SUPPLY :

The Housing Department has recently installed proper electricity supply in seven older licensed areas at a cost of about \$2.5 million.

These are: Chai Wan II, Chai Wan III, Cheung Sha Wan 'D', Wang Tau Hom, Junction Road, Hip Wo Street and Sai Cho Wan.

To meet part of the cost of the installation and other environmental improvement works, the Housing Authority is to raise the licence fee from \$3 to \$6 from January next year.

The fees may be paid monthly or quarterly.

So far, the Housing Department has completed similar power supply programmes in 20 licensed areas.

Licence fees for those areas other than the seven mentioned have already been adjusted and the slight increase to be implemented in January will not affect them in any way.

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七安置區有電力供應

房屋委員會最近在早期興建之七個安置區裝設正當供應電力設備，所費共約二百五十萬元。

該七安置區為柴灣二安置區、柴灣三安置區、長沙灣安置區D段、橫頭磡安置區、聯合道安置區、協和街安置區及茜草灣安置區。

為彌補改善區內居住環境設施所支出之一部份費用，房屋委員會由明年一月起，將上述各安置區內之佔用官地暫准証費由每地盤每月三元增加至六元。

新訂之許可証費，可以按月繳交，亦可照以往辦法按季繳交。

至今為止，房屋署已在二十個安置區內完成供電計劃。

除以上七個安置區外，其餘已供電安置區之許可証費經已調整，故不受此次略增費用之影響。