



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1979

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
MORE PEOPLE EMPLOYED IN WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES	1
NEW ZEALAND MPS VISIT NEW TOWNS	2
NEW DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF TRADE APPOINTED	2
EFFORTS BEING STEPPED UP TO PROTECT COUNTRYSIDE FROM WANTON DESTRUCTION	3
LIFE-SAVING TRAINING CENTRE FOR AMS	3
\$457 MILLION WORTH OF CONTRACTS AWARDED BY PWD IN NOVEMBER	4
LEGCO MEETS ON WEDNESDAY	4

**MORE PEOPLE EMPLOYED IN WHOLESALE, RETAIL
AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES
* * * * ***

A TOTAL OF 288 250 PERSONS WERE ENGAGED IN THE WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES IN SEPTEMBER 1979, ACCORDING TO THE THIRD QUARTER 1979 EMPLOYMENT SURVEY COVERING THESE TRADES AS WELL AS RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS.

THIS WAS AN INCREASE OF 3 190 OR 1.1 PER CENT OVER JUNE 1979. WHEN COMPARED WITH 269 142 PERSONS ENGAGED IN SEPTEMBER 1978, THERE WAS AN INCREASE OF 19 108 PERSONS OR 7.1 PER CENT.

RESULTS OF THE SURVEY WERE ANNOUNCED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (MONDAY).

THEY ALSO SHOW THAT EMPLOYMENT IN RESTAURANTS, CAFES AND BARS REACHED 110 169 PERSONS, BEING 5.1 PER CENT ABOVE THE JUNE 1979 FIGURE AND 9.1 PER CENT ABOVE SEPTEMBER 1978.

AT THE SAME TIME, IT IS SHOWN THAT THERE WERE 19 006 PERSONS ENGAGED IN HOTELS AND BOARDING HOUSES. THIS REPRESENTS AN INCREASE OF 0.1 PER CENT OVER JUNE 1979 AND AN INCREASE OF 7.5 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD OF 1978.

DETAILS OF EMPLOYMENT IN WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS IN SEPTEMBER 1979, JUNE 1979 AND SEPTEMBER 1978 ARE AS FOLLOWS:-

NATURE OF BUSINESS	PERSONS ENGAGED IN SEPTEMBER 1978	PERSONS ENGAGED IN JUNE 1979	PERSONS ENGAGED IN SEPTEMBER 1979	CHANGE OF SEPTEMBER 1979 OVER JUNE 1979	
				PERSONS ENGAGED	% CHANGE
WHOLESALE TRADE	40 387	44 351	44 862	+ 511	+1.2
RETAIL TRADE	134 882	138 132	139 617	+1 485	+1.1
IMPORT/EXPORT BUSINESS	93 873	102 577	103 771	+1 194	+1.2
RESTAURANTS, CAFES AND BARS	101 001	109 605	110 169	+ 564	+0.5
HOTELS AND BOARDING HOUSES	17 688	18 990	19 006	+ 16	+0.1
TOTAL	387 831	413 655	417 425	+3 770	+0.9

DETAILED EMPLOYMENT FIGURES FOR VARIOUS TRADES AND ACTIVITIES ARE OBTAINABLE ON REQUEST FROM THE EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

NEW ZEALAND MPS VISIT NEW TOWNS

THREE SENIOR NEW ZEALAND MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND THEIR WIVES, WHO ARE ON A SHORT VISIT TO HONG KONG, TODAY (MONDAY) VISITED SHA TIN AND TAI PO TO SEE NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENTS THERE.

THE PARTY COMPRISED THE HON. DICK HARRISON, SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE HON. BILL YOUNG, MINISTER OF WORKS AND DEVELOPMENT, AND THE HON. ERIC HOLLAND, A FORMER CABINET MINISTER.

THEY WERE ACCOMPANIED ON THE VISIT BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES (DEVELOPMENT), MR. JOSEPH WONG, AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER (COMMUNITY AFFAIRS) OF THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, MISS ANISSA WONG.

IN SHA TIN, THEY VISITED WO CHE ESTATE AND CALLED ON A FAMILY IN HONG WO HOUSE.

IN TAI PO THEY WENT TO THE ROOFTOP OF MEI TAK BUILDING WHERE THEY HAD A PANORAMIC VIEW OF THE NEW TOWN AND WERE BRIEFED ON VARIOUS DEVELOPMENTS IN THE AREA INCLUDING THE NEW INDUSTRIAL ESTATE.

----- 0 -----

NEW DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF TRADE APPOINTED

MR. K.Y. YEUNG, AN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER (STAFF GRADE B) HAS BEEN APPOINTED DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF TRADE IN THE TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT, AND WILL TAKE UP HIS NEW POST ON JANUARY 2.

HE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE TO THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE FOR THE EXTERNAL TRADE AFFAIRS AND NEGOTIATIONS OF THE TRADE DEPARTMENT, WHILST MR. JUSTIN YUE, ALSO A DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF TRADE, WILL LOOK AFTER INTERNAL AFFAIRS SUCH AS QUOTA CONTROLS.

WELCOMING MR. YEUNG'S APPOINTMENT, THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, MR. PETER TSAO SAID: +WITH TWO DEPUTIES IN THE DEPARTMENT, WE SHALL BE ABLE TO MAINTAIN CONTINUITY IN MANAGEMENT WHEN WE HAVE TO SEND DELEGATIONS OVERSEAS TO UNDERTAKE NEGOTIATIONS. THUS, WE HOPE TO BE ABLE TO IMPROVE THE SERVICES WE PROVIDE,+ HE SAID.

MR. YEUNG'S MOST RECENT APPOINTMENT WAS SECRETARY TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON DIVERSIFICATION.

----- 0 -----

EFFORTS BEING STEPPED UP TO PROTECT COUNTRYSIDE FROM
WANTON DESTRUCTION
* * * *

EFFORTS ARE BEING STEPPED UP TO PROTECT THE COUNTRYSIDE FROM WANTON DESTRUCTION, AND DURING THE PAST TWO MONTHS MORE THAN 60 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN CHARGED WITH LIGHTING FIRE ILLEGALLY IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE CHIEF COUNTRY PARK RANGER, MR. C.C. LEE SAID TODAY (MONDAY) DURING NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER, MORE THAN 150 PEOPLE HAD BEEN ARRESTED OR SUMMONSED FOR BREAKING THE COUNTRY CODE.

BESIDES LIGHTING FIRE OUTSIDE THE DESIGNATED BARBECUE SITES, OTHER CHARGES LAID WERE RELATED TO LITTERING, ILLEGAL ENTRY OF VEHICLES TO RESTRICTED AREAS AND THE CARRYING OF AIR GUNS OR FIRE ARMS.

MR. LEE SAID THE VIGILANCE OF FOREST GUARDS AND THE PARK RANGER SERVICE WOULD BE INCREASED DURING THE HOLIDAY PERIOD.

HE ADDED THAT THE NO BARBECUE BAN STILL APPLIED TO TAI LAM COUNTRY PARK (EXCEPT THE PAT HEUNG CATCHWATER), THE TAI PO KAU SPECIAL AREA AND THE FOREST PLANTATION EAST OF THE JUBILEE RESERVOIR IN SHING MUN COUNTRY PARK.

THE PENALTY FOR LIGHTING A FIRE IN COUNTRY PARK AREAS NOT DESIGNATED AS BARBECUE SITES IS \$5 000 AND ONE YEAR IMPRISONMENT- IN THE OPEN COUNTRYSIDE IT IS \$2 000 AND ONE YEAR IMPRISONMENT- AND FOR THE ILLEGAL ENTRY OF VEHICLES, THE CARRYING OF AIR GUNS, AND LITTERING, THE PENALTY IS \$2 000 AND THREE MONTHS IMPRISONMENT.

- - - 0 - - -

LIFE-SAVING TRAINING CENTRE FOR AMS
* * * * *

A TRAINING CENTRE IS BEING BUILT IN SAI KUNG FOR THE AUXILIARY MEDICAL SERVICE TO CONDUCT CANOE LIFE-SAVING COURSES FOR ITS MEMBERS.

THE CENTRE, LOCATED ON A 800-SQUARE-METRE SITE IN TSAM CHUK WAN, IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY NEXT SUMMER.

THE AMS MEDICAL DEFENCE STAFF OFFICER, MR. K.C. TONG SAID ABOUT 600 AMS MEMBERS WERE QUALIFIED LIFE-GUARDS AND THEY WERE ON DUTY AT VARIOUS PUBLIC BEACHES THROUGHOUT HONG KONG DURING THE SWIMMING SEASON.

THEY WERE ALSO IN ATTENDANCE AT VARIOUS WATER SPORT ACTIVITIES SUCH AS CANOE RACES, MARATHON LIFE-SAVING COMPETITIONS AND SWIMMING RACES.

MR. TONG SAID: +THE CANOE HAS PROVED TO BE A VERY FAST AND EFFECTIVE MEANS TO REACH A SWIMMER IN DIFFICULTY.

/+IT IS

+IT IS THEREFORE PLANNED THAT ALL AMS LIFE-GUARDS SHOULD BE TRAINED ON THE TECHNIQUE OF USING CANOES TO SAVE LIFE AT SEA.+

THE TRAINING COURSE TO BE HELD AT THE NEW CENTRE WILL BE DIVIDED INTO THREE PARTS - BASIC CANOEING TRAINING, CANOE LIFE-SAVING AND LIFE-SAVING PROFICIENCY, MR. TONG SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

PWD CONTRACTS IN NOVEMBER WORTH \$457 MILLION
* * * * *

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT AWARDED A TOTAL OF 45 CONTRACTS WORTH MORE THAN \$457.7 MILLION LAST MONTH (NOVEMBER).

OF THESE, 22 WERE AWARDED ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE CENTRAL TENDER BOARD AND OTHERS ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PWD TENDER BOARD.

ONE OF THE LARGEST CONTRACTS WAS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF SHA TIN TEACHING HOSPITAL. IT IS WORTH MORE THAN \$362.2 MILLION.

ANOTHER MAJOR CONTRACT, VALUED AT ABOUT \$12.8 MILLION, WAS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF ROADS AND DRAINS IN THE TOWN CENTRE OF TUEN MUN NEW TOWN.

- - - - 0 - - - -

LEGCO MEETS ON WEDNESDAY
* * * * *

THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE ASKED TO EXPLAIN THE REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN WORKERS AT NIGHT IN THE MANUFACTURING AND COMMERCIAL SECTORS AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING ON WEDNESDAY (JANUARY 2).

THE QUERY FROM THE HON. LYDIA DUNN WILL BE ONE OF SIX QUESTIONS TO BE RAISED BY THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS.

DURING THE QUESTION TIME, THE HON. S.L. CHEN WILL ASK THE GOVERNMENT TO STATE THE EXTENT TO WHICH FACTORY PREMISES ARE BEING CHECKED TO ASCERTAIN COMPLIANCE WITH FIRE PREVENTION REGULATIONS.

THE SUBJECTS OF THE OTHER FOUR QUESTIONS TO BE BROUGHT UP AT THE MEETING ARE THE ELIGIBILITY FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE BY ELDERLY APPLICANTS WHOSE CHILDREN DECLINE TO SUPPORT THEM= MEASURES TAKEN TO CURTAIL PICK-POCKETING DURING THE LUNAR NEW YEAR PERIOD= THE AVAILABILITY TO THE PUBLIC OF GLOSSARIES OF TERMS COMMONLY USED IN GOVERNMENT BUSINESS AND THEIR CHINESE EQUIVALENTS= AND INSTALLATION OF AUTOMATIC DEVICES IN ALL LIFTS TO STOP THEM IN CASE OF OVERLOADING.

THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, THE HON. DAVID JEAFFRESON, WILL MAKE A STATEMENT ON THE 1978/79 HONG KONG EXPORT CREDIT INSURANCE CORPORATION ANNUAL REPORT.

TWO BILLS, THE SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION (1978-79) BILL 1980 AND THE MARINE FISH CULTURE BILL 1980, WILL BE INTRODUCED AT THE MEETING.

- - - - 0 - - - -