



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, JULY 13, 1979

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS FOR MARCH

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THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH, 1979, SHOW A DEFICIT OF \$631.1 MILLION, COMPARED WITH A DEFICIT OF \$161.0 MILLION FOR THE SAME MONTH IN 1978.

REVENUE AND RECEIPTS FOR THE MONTH AMOUNTED TO \$1,248.8 MILLION AND TOTAL EXPENDITURE AMOUNTED TO \$1,879.9 MILLION.

REVENUE AND RECEIPTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1978-79 TOTALLED \$12,557 MILLION, AND TOTAL EXPENDITURE WAS \$11,090.1 MILLION, GIVING A FINAL SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR OF \$1,466.9 MILLION.

IN THE BUDGET DEBATE AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN FEBRUARY, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY PREDICTED A SURPLUS OF \$1,600 MILLION, WITH TOTAL REVENUE AND RECEIPTS AT AN ESTIMATED \$12,600 MILLION, AND TOTAL EXPENDITURE AT AN ESTIMATED \$11,000 MILLION.

COMMENTING ON THE FACT THAT THE FINAL SURPLUS WAS SLIGHTLY LOWER THAN PREDICTED, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT WHILST ACTUAL REVENUE TURNED OUT TO BE VERY CLOSE TO THE PREDICTION, EXPENDITURE WAS HIGHER THAN EXPECTED.

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SAI LAU KOK OCCUPANTS GIVEN TWO WEEKS NOTICE TO MOVE

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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT OCCUPANTS OF SEVEN MULTI-STORY BUILDINGS AT SAI LAU KOK, TSUEN WAN, AFFECTED BY THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY WILL ON MONDAY (JULY 16) BE GIVEN TWO WEEKS' NOTICE TO MOVE.

THE TSUEN WAN TOWN MANAGER, MR. JAMES HAYES, INFORMED THE OCCUPANTS BY LETTER TODAY THAT CROWN LAND NOTICES POSTED ON THE BUILDING ON MONDAY WOULD EXPIRE ON JULY 31, AFTER WHICH PERSONS STILL OCCUPYING THE PREMISES WOULD BECOME LIABLE TO EVICTION.

HOWEVER, HE POINTED OUT THAT THIS WAS A PROCEDURAL ACTION THAT WOULD NOT CONCERN THE MAJORITY OF THOSE STILL LIVING IN THE BUILDINGS AS THEY WERE IN THE PROCESS OF MOVING OUT UNDER REHOUSING ARRANGEMENTS MADE BY THE GOVERNMENT.

+IN CASES OF GENUINE NEED WHERE PEOPLE NEED TO STAY FOR A SHORT PERIOD AFTER THE EXPIRY DATE, DISTRICT OFFICE STAFF MAY BE ABLE TO ARRANGE A BRIEF EXTENSION,+ MR. HAYES SAID.

MR. HAYES SAID THAT THE OWNERS AND OCCUPANTS HAD FIRST BEEN INFORMED MORE THAN 18 MONTHS AGO - IN JANUARY 1978 - THAT THE BUILDINGS WERE TO BE DEMOLISHED AND THE BUILDINGS HAD IN FACT REVERTED TO THE CROWN ON NOVEMBER 12 LAST YEAR.

/+HOWEVER,

+HOWEVER, THE OCCUPANTS HAVE BEEN ALLOWED TO REMAIN IN THE INTERVENING PERIOD TO ENABLE BOTH THEM AND THE GOVERNMENT TO MAKE THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS FOR REHOUSING AND COMPENSATION.

+THIS HAS NOW BEEN LARGELY DONE AND THE BUILDINGS ARE NOW REQUIRED SO THAT THE SITE CAN BE HANDED OVER TO MTR CONTRACTORS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE TSUEN WAN MTR DEPOT AND TAIL TRACKS,+ MR. HAYES SAID.

THERE ARE 389 UNITS IN THE SEVEN BUILDINGS - 339 DOMESTIC AND 50 GROUND FLOOR SHOPS AND WORKSHOPS AND A WIDE RANGE OF STATUTORY COMPENSATION, EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES AND ASSISTANCE SCHEMES HAD BEEN OFFERED TO THOSE AFFECTED, MR. HAYES SAID.

HE REVEALED THAT 268 OF THE 339 FLAT OWNERS HAD ACCEPTED THE GOVERNMENT'S COMPENSATION TERMS - FULL MARKET VALUE AT THE DATE OF REVERSION PLUS DISTURBANCE ALLOWANCE PLUS PUBLIC HOUSING OR A CAPITALISED INTEREST-FREE LOAN TO HELP BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN STATUTORY COMPENSATION AND DISTURBANCE ALLOWANCE AND THE VALUE OF THE NEWLY-PURCHASED FLAT.

HE SAID THE 89 OWNERS WHO HAD ACCEPTED GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE IN BUYING NEW FLATS HAD ALSO BEEN GIVEN OTHER ALLOWANCES TO HELP MEET THE EXPENSE OF PURCHASING THE NEW HOMES.

ALL GENUINE TENANTS HAD BEEN OFFERED PUBLIC HOUSING AND MOST OF THEM WERE BEING REHOUSED AT THE NEW CHEUNG SHAN ESTATE - NORTH TSUEN WAN.

MR. HAYES SAID THE WORKSHOP-SHOP OWNERS HAD BEEN OFFERED STATUTORY COMPENSATION AND DISTURBANCE ALLOWANCE AND 41 OUT OF 60 OPERATORS HAD ALSO BEEN OFFERED SPACE IN A GOVERNMENT FLATTED FACTORY.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS ANXIOUS TO COME TO AGREEMENT WITH A SMALL GROUP OF OWNERS WHO HAD STILL NOT ACCEPTED COMPENSATION TERMS AND OTHERS WHO WERE +STILL SITTING ON THE FENCE.+

+DESPITE ALL EFFORTS OVER THE LAST 18 MONTHS, IT WOULD SEEM THAT THEY STILL DO NOT FULLY APPRECIATE THE WIDE RANGE OF COMPENSATION AND ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO THEM,+ HE SAID.

+BUT THE TIME FOR THE CLEARANCE IS NOW VERY CLOSE AND I HAVE GIVEN FAIR WARNING TO THE REMAINING OCCUPANTS THAT THERE INEVITABLY WILL BE A GREAT DEAL OF INCONVENIENCE ONCE THE CROWN LAND NOTICE EXPIRES.

+THE BUILDINGS WILL HAVE TO BE FENCED OFF AND WATER AND ELECTRICITY SUPPLIES CURTAILED SO THAT PREPARATIONS CAN BE MADE FOR THE DEMOLITION.

+I APPEAL TO THOSE OCCUPANTS WHO HAVE NOT YET FINALISED REMOVAL ARRANGEMENTS TO DO SO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE,+ HE ADDED.

CENTRAL SITE FETCHES \$79 MILLION

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A 1,176-SQUARE-METRE NON-INDUSTRIAL SITE AT QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG, WAS SOLD FOR \$79 MILLION AT AN AUCTION CONDUCTED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT'S CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE IN THE CITY HALL THEATRE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE SITE WAS BOUGHT BY KANE FUNG ESTATES LIMITED AT \$67,176.87 PER SQUARE METRE.

AT THE SAME AUCTION, ANOTHER NON-INDUSTRIAL SITE WAS SOLD TO MR. WOO BING-KWAN FOR \$1.5 MILLION OR \$17,942.58 PER SQUARE METRE.

THE SITE, COVERING AN AREA OF 83.6 SQUARE METRES, IS LOCATED AT 171 RECLAMATION STREET, KOWLOON.

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**CONSTRUCTION OF A BRIDGE ACCESS
IN SHA TIN TO START LATER THIS YEAR**

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WORK WILL BEGIN TOWARDS THE END OF THE YEAR ON CONSTRUCTING A BRIDGE ACCESS TO THE NEW JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE IN SHA TIN.

THE BRIDGE TO THE SPORTS COMPLEX -- AND THE RACE-COURSE AS WELL -- WILL PROVIDE THE MOST IMPORTANT PEDESTRIAN LINK, AS WELL AS VEHICULAR ACCESS.

IN ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (FRIDAY), A SPOKESMAN FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT SAID THAT TENDERS HAVE BEEN INVITED FOR THE SPORTS CENTRE ACCESS WORK AS WELL AS FOR THE DREDGING OF THE SHING MUN RIVER.

THE DREDGING, SAID THE SPOKESMAN, WOULD BE FROM THE RIVER'S CONFLUENCE WITH FO TAN NULLAH TO THE KCR BRIDGE AT TAI WAI.

+AT PRESENT THIS SECTION OF THE RIVER IS NOT VERY PLEASANT AT LOW TIDE,+ HE SAID.

BUT WITH THE DREDGING COMPLETED THERE WILL BE AT LEAST HALF A METRE OF WATER IN THE RIVER AT ALL TIMES.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE CHANNEL WAS A VITAL ASPECT OF SHA TIN AND THAT THE AESTHETIC IMPACT ON THE NEW TOWN WAS NOT BEING OVERLOOKED BY THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

+THE WORK IS DESIGNED TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY OF THE RIVER CHANNEL WHICH IS CENTRAL TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW TOWN,+ HE EXPLAINED.

+NOT ONLY ARE WE ENSURING ADEQUATE FACILITIES ARE PROVIDED FOR THE PEOPLE WHO WILL LIVE IN SHA TIN, WE ARE DOING EVERYTHING WE CAN TO MAKE IT AS PLEASANT AS POSSIBLE,+ HE SAID.

THE ACCESS TO THE SPORTS CENTRE AND RACE-COURSE WOULD BE BY A BRIDGE ACROSS FO TAN NULLAH.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT PRESENT PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO THE JUBILEE CENTRE WAS LIMITED.

+THE NEW BRIDGE WILL BE A SINGLE 32-METRE SPAN OF PRESTRESSED CONCRETE. IT WILL BE AN IMPORTANT LINK BETWEEN THE SPORTS CENTRE AND THE NEW TOWN CENTRE,+ HE SAID.

THE WORKS HAVE BEEN DESIGNED, AND CONSTRUCTION WILL BE SUPERVISED, BY MESSRS. MAUNSELL CONSULTANTS ASIA, CONSULTING ENGINEERS TO THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF THE P.W.D.

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CARRYING OF ID CARDS IN PING CHAU IS
COMPULSORY FROM JULY 16

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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC GOING TO PING CHAU IN MIRS BAY ARE REMINDED THAT THEY MUST BRING THEIR IDENTITY CARDS FROM MONDAY (JULY 16) AND ONLY ORIGINAL NOT PHOTOSTATIC COPIES WILL BE ACCEPTABLE.

THE REQUIREMENT WAS STIPULATED IN AN ORDER MADE BY THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL AND PUBLISHED IN LAST FRIDAY'S GAZETTE.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID PING CHAU WAS THE FIRST PLACE DESIGNATED AS AN AREA IN WHICH CARRYING OF IDENTITY CARD IS COMPULSORY UNDER THE NEWLY AMENDED REGISTRATION OF PERSONS REGULATIONS TO HELP SECURITY FORCES IDENTIFY THOSE WHO HAVE ENTERED HONG KONG ILLEGALLY.

THE REGULATIONS, WHICH WERE AMENDED UNDER THE RECENTLY PASSED REGISTRATION OF PERSONS (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1979, STATE THAT THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL MAY, BY ORDER PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE, REQUIRE THAT EVERY PERSON, OR PERSONS OF SUCH CLASS SPECIFIED IN THE ORDER, SHALL CARRY HIS IDENTITY CARD IN AN AREA DESIGNATED IN THE ORDER.

THE REGULATIONS ALSO REQUIRE THAT ON DEMAND BY SECURITY FORCES, A PERSON SHOULD PRODUCE HIS IDENTITY CARD FOR INSPECTION IN A DESIGNATED AREA.

FAILURE TO CARRY AN IDENTITY CARD IN A DESIGNATED AREA OR TO PRODUCE IT FOR INSPECTION ON DEMAND BY SECURITY FORCES WOULD CONSTITUTE AN OFFENCE.

THE SPOKESMAN ASSURED THAT AT THIS JUNCTURE THE GOVERNMENT DID NOT INTEND TO DESIGNATE LARGE AREAS OF POPULATION AS PLACES IN WHICH PEOPLE WOULD BE REQUIRED TO CARRY IDENTITY CARDS.

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MORE US-HONG KONG TEXTILE AND FOOTWEAR TALKS
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TEXTILE TALKS BETWEEN HONG KONG AND THE UNITED STATES ARE SCHEDULED TO BE HELD LATER THIS MONTH IN MANILA, AND THESE WILL BE FOLLOWED BY TALKS ON FOOTWEAR IN WASHINGTON.

THIS WAS ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY MR. LAWRENCE MILLS, DIRECTOR OF TRADE.

+THE FIVE YEAR US-HONG KONG TEXTILE AGREEMENT CONTAINS A PROVISION FOR A MAJOR REVIEW OF THE AGREEMENT BEFORE THE END OF THE THIRD YEAR OF ITS OPERATION, AND THE UNITED STATES HAS ASKED US TO BEGIN THAT REVIEW ON JULY 20,+ MR. MILLS SAID.

+WE ALSO HAVE SOME UNFINISHED BUSINESS TO CONCLUDE, FOLLOWING THE SUSPENSION OF THE ISSUE OF EXPORT AUTHORISATIONS IN CATEGORY 448, (WOMEN'S AND GIRLS' WOOL TROUSERS, SLACKS AND SHORTS) AND ONE OR TWO TECHNICAL POINTS TO DISCUSS.+

IN VIEW OF OTHER COMMITMENTS OF THE US DELEGATION IN THE FAR EAST, THE TALKS HAVE BEEN SCHEDULED OVER TWO DAYS IN MANILA. THE HONG KONG DELEGATION WILL THEN PROCEED TO WASHINGTON FOR FURTHER TALKS ON EXPORTS OF NON-RUBBER FOOTWEAR TO THE UNITED STATES.

+THE FOOTWEAR TALKS WILL BE A CONTINUATION OF THOSE HELD IN HONG KONG IN JUNE. AT THAT TIME WE BEGAN A REVIEW OF THE CERTIFICATION OF ORIGIN ARRANGEMENTS WE OPERATE FOR FOOTWEAR EXPORTED TO THE UNITED STATES AND EXCHANGED STATISTICAL INFORMATION,+ MR. MILLS SAID.

+THIS SHOWED THAT THERE WERE SOME DIFFERENCES IN STATISTICAL RECORDING, AND POSSIBLE CLASSIFICATION DIFFERENCES AT THE EXPORT AND IMPORT ENDS OF THE TRADE. BOTH SIDES HAVE BEEN LOOKING INTO THESE DIFFERENCES DURING THE INTERVENING PERIOD, AND WE SHALL BE FOLLOWING UP ON THIS AT THE NEXT ROUND OF TALKS,+ HE ADDED.

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IN-SERVICE TEACHERS TO ATTEND SCIENCE COURSE
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AN 11-DAY REFRESHER COURSE ON THE JUNIOR SECONDARY SCIENCE CURRICULUM WILL BE CONDUCTED FOR IN-SERVICE TEACHERS FROM NEXT MONDAY.

THE COURSE, ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S SCIENCE SUBJECTS SECTION, WILL BE HELD AT A DIFFERENT SCHOOL EACH DAY.

MRS. LOUISE MOK, ACTING ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS) WILL ADDRESS THE PARTICIPATING TEACHERS AT AN OPENING CEREMONY TO BE HELD AT NORTHCOTE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, SASSOON ROAD, HONG KONG AT 9.30 A.M. ON MONDAY.

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THE AIM OF THE COURSE IS TO ACQUAINT IN-SERVICE SCIENCE TEACHERS WITH THE NEW FORMS 1-3 SCIENCE CURRICULUM, AND THE MODERN APPROACH TO SCIENCE TEACHING.

PARTICIPATING TEACHERS, APART FROM ATTENDING LECTURES AND FILM SHOWS, WILL SPEND MORE THAN HALF OF THE COURSE TIME TO CARRY OUT EXPERIMENTS OR TO OBSERVE DEMONSTRATION SUGGESTED IN THE SYLLABUS.

THERE WILL ALSO BE A BOOK EXHIBITION AND A VISIT TO THE MEDIA PRODUCTION SERVICES OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

IN ORDER TO EMPHASISE THE USE OF HOME-MADE APPARATUS, THERE WILL BE FOUR WORKSHOPS ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF HOME-MADE APPARATUS. IN THE WORKSHOP TEACHERS WILL LEARN TO MAKE SOLAR CELLS.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR LAYING OF PIPELINES
IN SHA TIN NEW TOWN
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TENDERS ARE BEING INVITED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT FOR THE LAYING OF A SYSTEM OF PIPELINES IN THE EASTERN AREA OF SHA TIN NEW TOWN.

A P.W.D. SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT THE SYSTEM IS A PART OF THE SCHEME TO PROVIDE WATER TO TWO AREAS OF THE NEW TOWN.

+THE PROJECT COMPRISES THE LAYING OF ABOUT 5,600 METRES OF ASBESTOS CEMENT PIPES RANGING FROM 150 MM TO 450 MM IN DIAMETER,+ HE SAID.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN AUGUST AND SHOULD TAKE ABOUT NINE MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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WATER CUT
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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN KWAI CHUNG WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR 10 HOURS FROM 9 A.M. TO 7 P.M. ON SUNDAY TO FACILITATE PIPE CONNECTION WORK.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY 502-510 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, 45-51 KWOK SHUI ROAD, 2-206 YAU MA HOM ROAD, 13-17 CHEONG WING ROAD AND 150-175 WO YI HOP ROAD, INCLUDING YAU MA HOM RESITE AREA AND TUNG CHUNG FACTORY BUILDING.

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