



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 1976.

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MORE THAN 78,000 BABIES BORN LAST YEAR  
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THE NUMBER OF REGISTERED BIRTHS IN HONG KONG STAYED BELOW THE 100,000 MARK FOR THE TENTH SUCCESSIVE YEAR LAST YEAR.

WITH THE TOTAL STANDING AT 78,200, 1975 WAS THE FIRST YEAR SINCE 1972 IN WHICH A DROP WAS RECORDED WHEN COMPARED WITH THE PRECEDING YEAR. THE FIGURE FOR 1974 WAS 81,879.

THE 1975 FIGURE WAS THE THIRD LOWEST IN THE PAST DECADE, COMING AFTER 77,465 IN 1970 AND 76,818 IN 1971.

OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF REGISTERED BIRTHS, 76,157 WERE CHINESE AND 2,043 WERE NON-CHINESE.

JUST LIKE THE PREVIOUS YEARS, MORE BABY BOYS WERE BORN. THE NUMBER WAS 40,754 AS AGAINST 37,446 BABY GIRLS, BUT IT WAS THE FIRST TIME WHEN BABY GIRLS MADE UP LESS THAN 48 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF BIRTHS.

A TOTAL OF 442 MULTIPLE BIRTHS WAS REGISTERED IN THE YEAR, 441 OF TWINS AND ONE OF TRIPLETS, PRODUCING ALTOGETHER 885 LIVEBORN BABIES. ALSO INCLUDED IN THE TOTAL NUMBER WERE 6,543 BIRTHS REGISTERED AS ILLEGITIMATE AND TEN FOUNDLINGS.

DURING THE SAME YEAR, THE NUMBER OF DEATHS REGISTERED DROPPED BY 859 TO 21,191. THEY COMPRISED 11,665 MALES, 9,521 FEMALES AND FIVE OF UNKNOWN SEX.

OF THE TOTAL, 1,315 DIED FROM ACCIDENTS OR SUICIDES.

CAUSES OF THE ACCIDENTAL DEATHS INCLUDE TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS, ACCIDENTAL POISONING, ACCIDENTAL FALLS FROM HEIGHTS AND OTHER ACCIDENTS WHILE SUICIDES WERE COMMITTED BY POISONING, JUMPS FROM HEIGHTS AND BY OTHER MEANS.

MORE MEN LOST THEIR LIVES IN ACCIDENTS AND SUICIDES. DURING THE YEAR, 534 MALES WERE KILLED IN ACCIDENTS AS COMPARED WITH 246 FEMALES. IN THE CASE OF SUICIDES, 326 MALES COMMITTED SUICIDES AS COMPARED WITH 209 FEMALES.

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SEVENTEEN TENANTS COLLECT  
ADVANCE EX-GRATIA COMPENSATION  
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SEVENTEEN DOMESTIC TENANTS OF TAI ON MANSION AND A NEARBY BUILDING IN SAI YEUNG CHOI STREET, SHAMSHUIPO, HAVING SIGNED AGREEMENTS TO MOVE OUT, HAVE COLLECTED A TOTAL OF \$50,104 IN ADVANCE EX-GRATIA COMPENSATION PAYMENTS FROM THE GOVERNMENT TO HELP WITH REMOVAL EXPENSES.

IN ADDITION TO THE EX-GRATIA COMPENSATION, ALL ELIGIBLE DOMESTIC TENANTS FROM THESE BUILDINGS ARE BEING OFFERED PUBLIC HOUSING.

BOTH BUILDINGS HAVE TO BE VACATED BY SEPTEMBER 1 TO MAKE WAY FOR TUNNELLING WORKS FOR THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY: +THE EX-GRATIA COMPENSATION SCHEME FOR TENANTS OF POST-WAR BUILDINGS RESUMED FOR ESSENTIAL PUBLIC PURPOSES CAME INTO FORCE IN JUNE THIS YEAR.

+AS PART OF THE SCHEME, ADVANCE PAYMENTS OF 50 PER CENT OF THE EX-GRATIA COMPENSATION ARE MADE WHEN TENANTS SIGN AGREEMENTS TO LEAVE THE PREMISES, TO HELP THEM WITH REMOVAL EXPENSES.

+THE BALANCE IS PAID AFTER THEY VACATE THE PREMISES.+

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT EX-GRATIA COMPENSATION PAYMENTS FOR DOMESTIC TENANTS WERE COMPUTED AT ABOUT \$20 PER SQUARE FOOT OF LIVING SPACE, AND AT REDUCED RATES FOR KITCHENS, BATHROOMS, TOILETS, BALCONIES AND PASSAGEWAYS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE EX-GRATIA PAYMENTS TO THE 17 TENANTS OF TAI ON MANSION AND SAI YEUNG CHOI STREET RANGED UP TO AS MUCH AS \$11,514 AND AVERAGED MORE THAN \$5,000 TO EACH DOMESTIC TENANT.

+MORE CHEQUES FOR PEOPLE IN BOTH BUILDINGS WILL BE GOING OUT IN THE NEXT WEEK OR SO AS MORE TENANTS SIGN AGREEMENTS TO MOVE OUT,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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BIG INCREASE IN THE SALE OF TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES  
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A RECORD \$63.9 MILLION WORTH OF TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES WERE SOLD BY THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT IN THE LAST FINANCIAL YEAR.

THIS REPRESENTED AN INCREASE OF 178 PER CENT OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR FIGURE.

THE INCREASE INDICATED A GROWING AWARENESS BY TAXPAYERS OF THE WISDOM OF MAKING ADEQUATE PROVISION DURING THE YEAR FOR THEIR ANNUAL TAX LIABILITIES.

AS IN PREVIOUS YEARS, ABOUT 90 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL SALES WAS TO BANKS ON BEHALF OF TAXPAYERS WITH STANDING INSTRUCTIONS.

TAX FREE INTEREST RATE PAID TO THE BUYERS OF THE CERTIFICATES BY THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN REDUCED FROM 5.7 PER CENT PER ANNUM TO 4.2 PER CENT PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED AFTER SEPTEMBER 19, LAST YEAR.

CERTIFICATES ARE OBTAINABLE FROM THE COUNTER AT THE DEPARTMENT'S MAIN COLLECTION OFFICE AND AT BRANCH OFFICES IN KOWLOON AND TSUEN WAN.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE SHOWS THE GROWTH OF THE SALE OF TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES BETWEEN APRIL 1971 AND AT THE END OF THE LAST FINANCIAL YEAR:

|                                     | <u>1971/72</u> | <u>1972/73</u> | <u>1973/74</u> |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| SALES - NUMBER OF CERTIFICATES      | 23,038         | 26,040         | 25,142         |
| VALUE                               | \$11,893,450   | \$14,954,850   | \$16,682,700   |
| REDEMPTION - NUMBER OF CERTIFICATES | 22,954         | 23,499         | 25,700         |
| VALUE                               | \$11,205,450   | \$13,055,050   | \$16,335,400   |
| INTEREST                            | \$ 235,040     | \$ 291,271     | \$ 443,882     |
| <hr/>                               |                |                |                |
|                                     | <u>1974/75</u> | <u>1975/76</u> |                |
| SALES - NUMBER OF CERTIFICATES      | 26,929         | 36,477         |                |
| VALUE                               | \$23,050,250   | \$63,868,920   |                |

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| REDEMPTION -<br>NUMBER OF<br>CERTIFICATES | 30,118       | 31,417       |
| VALUE                                     | \$23,815,800 | \$50,460,070 |
| INTEREST                                  | \$ 571,204   | \$ 1,097,968 |

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CAREERS NIGHT IN MORSE PARK  
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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT IS HOLDING A '+CAREERS NIGHT+ PROGRAMME AT THE OPEN-AIR THEATRE, MORSE PARK, KOWLOON TODAY AND TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY) TO BRING CAREERS INFORMATION TO STUDENTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN NEAR-BY HOUSING ESTATES.

ORGANISED BY THE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT ADVISORY SERVICE (YEAS) OF THE DEPARTMENT, IT FEATURES A MINI CAREERS EXHIBITION ON WHEELS.

THE DISPLAY MATERIALS ON SHOW AND FILMS WHICH WILL BE SCREENED DEAL WITH JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND APPRENTICE TRAINING.

THE STAFF OF THE YEAS WILL ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM YOUNG PEOPLE WISHING TO FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION ON THE SPOT.

CAREERS NIGHT IS A NEW VENTURE FOR THE MOBILE EXHIBITION UNIT SINCE IT MADE ITS DEBUT ABOUT A YEAR AGO. A PORTABLE GENERATOR RECENTLY DONATED BY THE KOWLOON EAST ROTARY CLUB HAS MADE THIS POSSIBLE.

MR. C.C. SZE, PRESIDENT OF THE KOWLOON EAST ROTARY CLUB, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE BRIEF CEREMONY BY STARTING THE GENERATOR TO ENABLE THE MOBILE EXHIBITION UNIT TO BECOME SELF SUFFICIENT IN POWER SUPPLY.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE CEREMONY WHICH WILL BE HELD AT 8 P.M. SHARP. OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES.

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LADY MACLEHOSE VISITS CHILDREN'S SUMMER CAMP AT FANLING  
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LADY MACLEHOSE WAS A WELCOMED VISITOR TO SOME 200 CHILDREN WHO ARE CURRENTLY ENJOYING THEMSELVES IN A SUMMER CAMP AT THE FANLING ROTARY YOUTH CENTRE AND HOSTEL THIS MORNING.

THE CHILDREN, FROM WESTERN DISTRICT ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND FROM THE SURROUNDING VILLAGES IN FANLING, WERE SPENDING THEIR SECOND DAY OF A THREE-DAY HOLIDAY CAMP ORGANISED BY THE WESTERN DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT AND THE WESTERN POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICE.

THEIR ACTIVITIES INCLUDED LEARNING ABOUT CAMPING AND OUTDOOR RECREATION SKILLS, GAMES AND SPORTS COMPETITIONS AND A VISIT TO THE PAT HEUNG FIRE SERVICES TRAINING SCHOOL.

ON ARRIVAL AT THE YOUTH CENTRE, LADY MACLEHOSE FIRST SAW SOME 80 CHILDREN TAKING PART IN A GROUP PAINTING COMPETITION ORGANISED AS A SUMMER YOUTH ACTIVITY FOR FANLING YOUNGSTERS.

THE CHILDREN IMAGINATIVELY USED MATERIALS SUCH AS STRAWS AND WOOD SCRAPINGS IN THEIR PASTICHE WORK AND LADY MACLEHOSE WAS PARTICULARLY IMPRESSED BY A CHILD GLUEING PEAS ONTO HER PAINTING TO REPRESENT MELONS IN AN ORCHARD.

MOVING ONTO THE SPORTS GROUND ADJOINING THE CENTRE, LADY MACLEHOSE TOOK UP A FLAG AND ACTED AS STARTER FOR A TUG OF WAR BETWEEN TWO TEAMS OF CAMPERS.

SHE GAVE THE PRIZE TO THE WINNING TEAM AND WAS PRESENTED WITH A BOUQUET OF FLOWERS BY A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CHILDREN.

ACCOMPANIED BY MR. JACOB LAM, OFFICER-IN-CHARGE OF THE CENTRE AND MR. HENRY AU, SENIOR PRINCIPAL SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER, GROUP AND COMMUNITY WORK, AND OTHER SWD OFFICIALS, LADY MACLEHOSE MET SOME OF THE VOLUNTEER TEAM LEADERS AND CHATTED WITH THE CHILDREN IN THE CAMP.

SHE ALSO TOURED THE NEW DORMITORY WING OF THE CENTRE, LOOKING AT THE FACILITIES. SHE WAS GIVEN A HEARTY SEND-OFF BY THE CHILDREN.

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TRAFFIC DIVERSION IN CENTRAL  
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MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED THAT A NUMBER OF ROADS IN CENTRAL DISTRICT WILL BE TEMPORARILY CLOSED DURING THE EARLY HOURS OF FRIDAY (AUGUST 20) IN ORDER TO ALLOW THE HARCOURT ROAD FOOTBRIDGE TO BE ERECTED.

THE EASTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL BETWEEN EDINBURGH PLACE WEST AND EDINBURGH PLACE EAST WILL BE CLOSED FROM MIDNIGHT TO 3 A.M. MOTORISTS PROCEEDING EAST WILL BE DIVERTED VIA STAR FERRY AND QUEEN'S PIER.

THE HARCOURT ROAD FLYOVER CARRYING WESTBOUND TRAFFIC WILL BE CLOSED FROM MIDNIGHT TO 3 A.M. AND TRAFFIC PROCEEDING WESTWARDS WILL BE DIVERTED ONTO THE HARCOURT SLIP ROAD, THEN ONTO COTTON TREE DRIVE AND QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

BETWEEN 2 A.M. AND 6 A.M. HARCOURT SLIP ROAD, BOTH WESTBOUND AND EASTBOUND, BETWEEN COTTON TREE DRIVE AND MURRAY ROAD, WILL BE CLOSED. AT THE SAME TIME, MURRAY ROAD NORTH OF CHATER ROAD WILL ALSO BE COMPLETELY CLOSED TO TRAFFIC.

MOTORISTS ARE ALSO ADVISED THAT FROM MIDNIGHT TO 1 A.M. HARCOURT ROAD AND GLOUCESTER ROAD WILL BE RESTRICTED TO TWO LANES LEAVING ONE FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF CONCRETE BEAMS, IN THE REVERSE DIRECTION, FROM WANCHAI RECLAMATION TO THE WORK SITE OPPOSITE HUTCHISON HOUSE.

TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP IN THE AREA AND TRAFFIC POLICE WILL BE ON HAND TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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NEW POST OFFICE IN LAI KING ESTATE  
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A NEW POST OFFICE AT LOK KING HOUSE, IN LAI KING ESTATE, KWAI CHUNG, WILL OPEN FOR BUSINESS FROM 10 A.M. ON FRIDAY (AUGUST 20).

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE POST OFFICE SAID ITS OPENING WOULD MARK A FURTHER STAGE IN THE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME OF THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

+IT ALSO BRINGS THE TOTAL NUMBER OF POST OFFICES TO 72, INCLUDING A MOBILE POST OFFICE OPERATING IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, + HE ADDED.

A FULL RANGE OF POSTAL FACILITIES, EXCEPT FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF INSURED LETTERS AND BOXES, WILL BE AVAILABLE AND A STAMP VENDING MACHINE HAS BEEN INSTALLED TO SUPPLY 10-CENT STAMPS AT ALL HOURS.

THE BUSINESS HOURS WILL BE FROM 9 A.M. TO 1 P.M. AND 2.15 P.M. TO 5 P.M. DURING WEEKDAYS, AND FROM 9 A.M. TO 1 P.M. ON SATURDAYS. IT WILL BE CLOSED ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

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WATER CUT  
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WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN YUEN LONG WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR FIVE HOURS FROM 1 A.M. ON FRIDAY (AUGUST 20) TO ALLOW WATERWORKS OFFICE TO CARRY OUT A NIGHT LEAKAGE TEST.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TAN KWAI TSUEN ROAD, INCLUDING HUNG UK TSUEN, TAN KWAI TSUEN, SHEK PO TSUEN, LEI UK TSUEN, SAI SHAN TSUEN, SAN UK TSUEN, LO UK TSUEN, SIK KONG TSUEN, SIK KONG WAI AND TSEUNG KONG WAI.

ON SATURDAY (AUGUST 21), WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN WESTERN DISTRICT WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR FIVE HOURS FROM 1 A.M.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY 17-106 HILL ROAD, 71A, 71B AND 71C, POKFULAM ROAD, PO TACK STREET, CLARENCE TERRACE, CHUN SING STREET AND 450-496, QUEEN'S ROAD WEST.

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