



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Thursday, September 14, 1972

PRINCESS ALEXANDRA TO ARRIVE IN HONG KONG ON OCTOBER 21

Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra will arrive in Hong Kong on October 21 on an official visit and will stay until October 26.

The Princess will be accompanied by her husband, the Hon. Angus Ogilvy. They will be the guests of Sir Murray and Lady MacLehose.

During her stay here, Princess Alexandra will carry out a number of engagements in her capacity as Honorary Commandant-General of the Royal Hong Kong Police and the Royal Hong Kong Auxiliary Police.

She will open a new polyclinic in Tsuen Wan and visit a number of social welfare institutions.

The Princess will also open the British Industrial Exhibition on October 23.

Early in her visit, Princess Alexandra will drive through the cross-harbour tunnel and unveil a plaque to mark her visit to the tunnel company.

Note to Editors: Full details of the programme for her visit will be announced when they have been finalised.

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WATER SUPPLY TO NEW TERRITORIES VILLAGES

The Government is considering new plans for a further extension of the mains water supply to remote areas of the New Territories.

The initial programme, a four-year scheme to connect villages in the Tai Po and Yuen Long Districts, began in March 1969 and is now nearing completion.

The provision of treated drinking water to the villages has become increasingly necessary over the years because, in many cases, traditional sources of water from streams and wells are no longer adequate to cope with the increase in population.

These sources may also become contaminated through the changes in land usage from rice growing to animal farming and industrial and residential developments.

Under the existing four-year plan, some 53,000 villagers in five areas of the Tai Po District are receiving treated mains water, while in the Yuen Long area some 42,000 people will eventually benefit from the scheme.

This year no less than three major water schemes were completed to bring a reliable water supply to rural communities.

In May, 20,000 residents of Tai O on Lantau Island saw the inauguration of a new \$1.5 million supply scheme which draws on the resources of the Shek Pik Reservoir.

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In April, a \$21 million Tuen Mun water supply scheme was officially opened to provide fully treated water from the Tai Lam Chung Reservoir to people in the Castle Peak area.

Early in January, water from the Kowloon distribution system was brought to Sai Kung town with the inauguration of a \$3.5 million water supply scheme.

The scheme not only benefits some 5,000 people in the town, it also brought clean mains water to a further 5,000 people in villages along the route of the pipeline from Kowloon.

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WATER INTERRUPTION IN POKFULAM

Water supply to certain premises in Pokfulam will be turned off for five hours beginning from 1 a.m. on Saturday (September 16)

The temporary stoppage will enable the Waterworks Office to carry out a leakage test for waste detection.

The area affected is from No. 102 to 136 Pokfulam Road, including Queen Mary Hospital and all its quarters.

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INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT SURVEY BEGINS

A detailed study of Hong Kong's industrial employment for the third quarter of 1972, including the number of vacancies in industry, is now under way.

The Labour Department, which is carrying out the survey, has sent out printed forms to the managements of all registered and recorded industrial establishments asking them to provide the necessary information as the situation stands on September 15 (tomorrow).

The cards, printed in both English and Chinese, should be returned to the Department on or before next Wednesday (September 20).

The number of people employed and vacancies in each of the main industries will be calculated from the information collected. These statistics provide useful information on trends of employment over the years.

A spokesman for the Labour Department said today that it was hoped all managements would ensure that the cards were completed accurately and promptly returned in the reply-paid envelopes provided.

He added that the co-operation received in the last survey resulted in an almost total coverage of larger industrial establishments. However, the previous overall response rate of 61 per cent could be improved if all smaller establishments would respond promptly to the survey.

The information provided is kept strictly confidential and used only for compiling statistical information. The cards are not for the enforcement of labour legislation, and will be destroyed under supervision when the relevant information has been extracted.

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ANTI-MEASLES VACCINATION FIGURES STILL "VERY POOR"

Figures released by the Medical and Health Department today show that 1,611 doses of anti-measles vaccine were administered during the fifth week of the current nine-week campaign.

Of the total, 257 doses were administered to children on the Island, 799 in Kowloon, and 555 in the New Territories.

Since the campaign began on August 8, the number of children immunised now stands at 8,375.

"The figure is very poor and nothing is gained by pretending that we are happy with the results achieved," said Dr. J.K. Craig, Acting Director of Medical and Health Services.

He estimated that of the 340,000 children in the nine-months-to-five-years age group, about 50 per cent are susceptible, having neither suffered from the disease nor been immunised against it, and the message to have them protected is primarily addressed to their parents.

Unless these children are immunised, there is still the possibility of a measles epidemic.

"May I repeat once more that although measles is a common disease, it remains the last major childhood infectious disease that we have to bring under control in Hong Kong," Dr. Craig said. "We want to prevent it as far as possible to protect our young children from disability and possible death which may follow an attack of measles."

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He reminded mothers that for the remainder of the campaign period of four weeks, in addition to the 34 maternal and child health centres offering anti-measles vaccine to children in the age group, 25 new fixed centres have been set up in resettlement estates, health offices, government clinics and dispensaries, as well as hospitals.

There are 21 mobile teams with 48 inoculators making door-to-door visits to residents in resettlement and housing estates.

In the New Territories, in addition to the fixed centres in town areas, mobile teams are visiting villages. The department's two floating dispensaries, or clinic launches, are also providing immunisation for children in the outlying islands.

When the campaign is over, free anti-measles vaccine will continue to be routinely available at all maternal and child health centres.

Dr. Craig concluded: "I urge parents in Hong Kong to give us the support we require, and I appeal to their common sense".

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ECAFE MEETING ON SHIPPERS' CO-OPERATION

Note to Editors: A 10-day ECAFE meeting on Shippers' Co-operation will be held in Hong Kong next week. The meeting is being organised by ECAFE with the assistance of the Governments of Hong Kong and Norway and the Hong Kong Shippers' Council.

The opening session will take place at the City Hall Theatre at 10 a.m. on Monday, September 18. You are welcome to have it covered. Admission will be by means of press badges and these are now available for collection from the GIS Press Room.

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NEW ART EXHIBITION OPENS

An exhibition entitled "Foundations for Art and Design" showing paintings and drawings by students of the University of Hong Kong Extramural Department opened this evening at the City Museum and Art Gallery.

On display are paintings, two- and three-dimensional work, drawings, prints and special projects by the students who are attending a Certificate Course in Fundamentals of Art and Design.

With the help of captions and explanatory notes, the exhibition illustrates the structure and philosophy of the course which provides a foundation training for all aspects of art and design, with equal emphasis on theoretical studies as well as practical studio work.

It has been organised by the University of Hong Kong and the Urban Council and will continue until October 8. Previous exhibitions of this kind have shown the works of students at the Chinese University's Department of Extramural studies and the former Hong Kong Technical College now the Polytechnic.

The series of exhibitions reflects the fact that art and design, long neglected in Hong Kong, is gaining more and more attention.

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CITY MUSEUM TO ORGANISE MORE EDUCATIONAL COMPETITIONS

A special children's competition run in conjunction with the Hong Kong Arts Festival 1972 proved so popular that similar ones are expected to be held in the future.

More than 1,800 children participated in the competition which was based on their powers of observation, logical thinking, imagination and written and pictorial expression.

It was the first of its kind and according to a spokesman for the City Museum and Art Gallery led many school children to a closer understanding of the contents of the collection in the museum.

A number of medals of merit and trophies are being awarded to individual winners and schools for their outstanding performance in the Children's Museum Competition.

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CHURCH SERVICES TO COMMEMORATE EDUCATION SUNDAY

Special church services will be held at St. John's Anglican Cathedral, the Roman Catholic Cathedral, St. Teresa's Church and All Saints' Church to commemorate Education Sunday on September 17.

All teachers and pupils are welcome to attend these services which are held to encourage them in the tasks that lie ahead in the current school year. The services begin at 11:00 a.m.

The services at St. John's Cathedral and St. Teresa's Church will be conducted in English while the service at the Roman Catholic Cathedral will be in both Cantonese and English. The service at All Saints' Church will be conducted in Cantonese only. Mr. Canning, the Director of Education, will attend the service at the Roman Catholic Cathedral.

At St. John's Cathedral, the preacher will be Dr. B.M. Kotewall, Principal of St. Paul's Co-Educational College.

Other Education Department representatives include Mr. C.J.G. Lowe, Deputy Director of Education (Administration), who will read a lesson at the service at St. John's Cathedral; Mr. N.M. Ho, Deputy Director of Education (Professional), who will attend the service at St. Teresa's Church and give a talk; and Mr. Raymond Huang, Principal, Queen's College, who will be present at the service at All Saints' Church, Kowloon.

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Release Time: 6.30 p.m.