



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 1975

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LESS DOMESTIC FLATS COMPLETED LAST YEAR  
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THE NUMBER OF DOMESTIC UNITS PROVIDED BY PRIVATE DEVELOPERS LAST YEAR SHOWED A DECREASE, BY 1973 STANDARDS, BUT A SMALL INCREASE OVER THE AVERAGE FOR THE LAST TEN YEARS.

DURING 1974 SOME 19,000 DOMESTIC UNITS WERE PROVIDED IN THE METROPOLITAN AREA -- THE URBAN AREA OF HONG KONG ISLAND, KOWLOON, NEW KOWLOON AND PART OF THE NEW TERRITORIES, MAINLY TSUEN WAN AND KWAI CHUNG.

IN 1973, THERE WERE 23,700 UNITS WHILE THE YEARLY AVERAGE FOR THE PERIOD 1964-74 WAS 18,000 UNITS.

FOR 1975, THE FORECAST FOR NEW DOMESTIC UNITS IS 13,600 AND FOR 1976, 12,400 UNITS, WHICH ARE WELL BELOW THE AVERAGE.

THESE FIGURES ARE COMPILED BY THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT FOR ITS 1975 PROPERTY REVIEW WHICH WILL BE PUBLISHED IN APRIL.

THE COMMISSIONER OF RATING AND VALUATION, MR. R.A. FRY DISCLOSED THAT DETAILS OF THE PART ON DOMESTIC ACCOMMODATION HAVE ALREADY BEEN PREPARED AND OTHER SECTIONS WILL SOON BE COMPLETED.

OF THE 19,000 UNITS COMPLETED IN 1974, MR. FRY SAID, 7,800 UNITS WERE STILL VACANT AT THE END OF THE YEAR.

+THIS FIGURE IS NOT PARTICULARLY SIGNIFICANT,+ HE ADDED, +AS MANY OF THE VACANT PREMISES WERE ONLY COMPLETED DURING THE LAST THREE MONTHS.+

THE OVERALL SITUATION SHOWED LITTLE CHANGE -- THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VACANT UNITS IN THE METROPOLITAN AREA IS ESTIMATED AT 10,500 UNITS IN DECEMBER LAST YEAR, WHILE THE CORRESPONDING FIGURE IN 1973 WAS 10,000.

HOWEVER, MR. FRY NOTED THAT 1974 WAS A PARTICULARLY GOOD YEAR FOR THE SUPPLY OF LARGE AND MEDIUM FLATS AND THERE WAS AS A RESULT A MARKED INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF VACANCIES IN THESE FLATS.

FOR THIS TYPE OF FLAT IN NEWLY COMPLETED BUILDINGS, THERE WAS A FALL IN THE RENTS TOWARDS THE END OF LAST YEAR. BUT FOR THE OTHER CLASSES OF FLATS, LITTLE CHANGE IN RENTALS WAS RECORDED.

THE DOMESTIC RENTAL INDICES CONTINUED UPWARDS FOR ALL CLASSES OF PROPERTY, MR. FRY CONTINUED, THE OVERALL INCREASE BEING 15 POINTS OR NINE PERCENT DURING THE YEAR.

HE POINTED OUT HOWEVER THAT ALL THE PREMISES INCLUDED IN THE INDICES ARE SUBJECT TO THE CURRENT RENT CONTROLS WHICH PERMIT MODEST INCREASES.

+THE INCREASE IS AN INCREASE ON RENTS WHICH ARE UNDER RESTRAINT AND THE RENTAL REMAINS GENERALLY BELOW CURRENT MARKET LEVELS,+ HE SAID.

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WHOLE DAY SCHOOLING IN NINE MORE  
GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOLS  
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NINE MORE GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOLS - FIVE ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND FOUR IN KOWLOON - WILL RE-INTRODUCE WHOLE DAY SCHOOLING FROM SEPTEMBER 1975.

THEY BRING TO 21 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOLS ON WHOLE DAY OPERATION, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY. THESE SCHOOLS ARE IN AREAS WHERE THERE ARE SUFFICIENT PRIMARY PLACES.

PARENTS OR GUARDIANS WHO WISH TO SEEK ADMISSION FOR THEIR CHILDREN TO PRIMARY 1 IN THESE SCHOOLS AND OTHER BI-SESSIONAL GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOLS (WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ARSENAL STREET POLICE, SAI YING PUN, TAI HANG TUNG, EASTERN HOSPITAL ROAD AND PERTH STREET GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOLS) FOR THE NEXT SCHOOL YEAR CAN DO SO BETWEEN MARCH 10 AND 15.

+APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM ALL GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN HONG KONG, KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES DURING THIS PERIOD,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

ONLY CHILDREN BORN BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 2, 1967 AND SEPTEMBER 1, 1969 WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR ADMISSION. IN OTHER WORDS, THEY MUST BE SIX YEARS OF AGE OR UNDER EIGHT BY WESTERN RECKONING ON SEPTEMBER 1, 1975.

+BIRTH CERTIFICATES SHOULD BE PRODUCED WHEN PARENTS OR GUARDIANS GO TO THE SCHOOLS TO OBTAIN APPLICATION FORMS,+ HE SAID.

ALL COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE SCHOOL NAMED AS THE FIRST CHOICE ON THE FORM BY MARCH 20.

SELECTED CANDIDATES WILL BE INFORMED BY LETTER ON OR BEFORE MARCH 28 AND INTERVIEWED AT THE SCHOOLS CONCERNED ON APRIL 2.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID : +CHILDREN WILL NORMALLY BE ADMITTED TO SCHOOLS WHICH SERVE THE DISTRICT IN WHICH THEY LIVE ACCORDING TO THE ZONING SYSTEM USED IN PREVIOUS YEARS UNLESS THE PLACES IN A PARTICULAR SCHOOL HAVE ALL BEEN TAKEN UP.

+CARE WILL BE TAKEN SO THAT CHILDREN FROM THE SAME FAMILY ARE NOT SEPARATED.+

PLACES IN POLICE PRIMARY SCHOOLS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE TO CHILDREN WHOSE PARENTS ARE NOT MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE.

THE SPOKESMAN ADVISED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC THAT +APPLICATION FORMS ARE FREE, NO ENTRANCE FEE IS CHARGED FOR ADMISSION TO ANY GOVERNMENT SCHOOL AND NO TUITION FEE IS CHARGED IN ANY GOVERNMENT CHINESE PRIMARY SCHOOL.+

A FURTHER ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE MADE SHORTLY ABOUT THE ADMISSION OF PUPILS TO PRIMARY 2 TO 6 IN GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOLS. PARENTS SHOULD WAIT FOR THE ANNOUNCEMENT BEFORE APPLYING FOR PLACES IN THESE CLASSES.

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## 12 NEW SECONDARY SCHOOLS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

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TWELVE NEW SECONDARY SCHOOLS WHICH ARE AT VARIOUS STAGES OF CONSTRUCTION WILL PROVIDE SOME 11,000 MORE PLACES FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN DURING THE NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY.

FUNDS FOR THESE GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIZED AND ASSISTED PROJECTS ARE INCLUDED IN THE 1975-76 DRAFT ESTIMATES AND ALLOW FOR THE EXPANSION OF EDUCATION SERVICES IN ACCORDANCE WITH PRESENT APPROVED POLICIES.

THE TOTAL BUILDING COST OF THESE SCHOOLS IS MORE THAN \$65,300,000. FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT WILL REQUIRE ANOTHER \$6,600,000.

+AT LEAST 80 PER CENT OF THESE COSTS ARE BEING BORNE BY THE GOVERNMENT. THE BALANCE IS BEING MET BY THE SPONSORING ORGANISATIONS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

TWO OF THE NEW SECONDARY SCHOOLS UNDER CONSTRUCTION ARE ON HONG KONG ISLAND, FIVE IN KOWLOON AND FIVE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

ANOTHER STEP FORWARD IN THE SECONDARY FIELD IS THE INCLUSION IN THE DRAFT ESTIMATES OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO 36 ASSISTED PRIVATE NON-PROFIT-MAKING SCHOOLS TO ENABLE THEM TO CONVERT BY STAGES TO FULLY SUBSIDIZED STATUS UNDER THE UNIFIED CODE OF AID FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

PENDING LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL APPROVAL OF THIS COMMITMENT IN THE APPROPRIATION BILL, THE FIRST STAGE OF THE SCHEME SHOULD BE ABLE TO PROCEED IN SEPTEMBER 1975, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

ABOUT 42,000 PLACES ARE PROVIDED IN THESE 36 SCHOOLS.

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## PARTY FOR 1,000 CHILDREN

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THE GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT WILL HOLD PARTY FOR CHILDREN OF ITS STAFF MEMBERS ON SUNDAY (MARCH 9) AT THE DEPARTMENT'S COMPOUND IN OIL STREET, NORTH POINT.

THE PARTY, AN ANNUAL EVENT, WILL BE ATTENDED BY SOME 1,000 CHILDREN. PROGRAMMES WILL INCLUDE MUSIC BY THE CAPE COLLINSON BOYS BAND AND THE A.M.S. BAND, BICYCLE PERFORMANCE, SIDE SHOWS, A LION DANCE, CARTOON SHOWS AND MULE RIDES.

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### NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO COVER THE PARTY WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 1.30 P.M.

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PHONE PROBE REPORT TO BE MADE PUBLIC  
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THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE HONG KONG TELEPHONE COMPANY WILL BE PUBLISHED AFTER IT HAS BEEN SUBMITTED TO THE GOVERNOR.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY THE CHAIRMAN, SIR ALASTAIR BLAIR-KERR, SAID : +THE DECISION WAS TAKEN IN VIEW OF THE WIDE PUBLIC INTEREST IN THE TELEPHONE ISSUE.+

HE ADDED THAT UNDER THE TERMS OF REFERENCE, THE COMMISSION MUST SUBMIT ITS REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR WITHIN SIX MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF ITS FIRST SITTING.

IN THE MEANTIME, THE PUBLIC RESPONSE TO SIR ALASTAIR'S INVITATION TO APPEAR BEFORE THE PUBLIC HEARINGS OF THE COMMISSION HAS IMPROVED SLIGHTLY.

BY LATE THIS AFTERNOON, EIGHT PEOPLE HAD MADE APPOINTMENTS TO APPEAR DURING THE HEARINGS NEXT WEEK, BUT THIS IS STILL REGARDED AS RATHER DISAPPOINTING.

A NUMBER OF WRITTEN REPRESENTATIONS HAS ALSO BEEN RECEIVED BY THE SECRETARY, MR. DONALD TSANG, FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF THE COMMISSION.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE SECRETARY HAS SENT PERSONAL INVITATIONS TO ALL THOSE KNOWN TO HAVE PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED VIEWS ON THE ISSUE TO APPEAR BEFORE THE COMMISSION.

ANY PERSON OR ORGANISATION WISHING TO APPEAR BEFORE THE COMMISSION IN PRIVATE OR IN PUBLIC OR MAKE WRITTEN REPRESENTATIONS SHOULD DO SO BY TELEPHONING MR. TSANG ON 5-95334, OR BY WRITING TO HIM AT ROOM 120, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, MAIN WING, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG.

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HONG KONG (COINAGE) (AMENDMENT) ORDER 1975  
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AN ORDER ENABLING GOLD TO BE ADDED TO THE LIST OF COINS ISSUED IN HONG KONG FOR LEGAL TENDER HAS BEEN PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE FOR GENERAL INFORMATION.

THE ORDER -- THE HONG KONG (COINAGE) (AMENDMENT) ORDER 1975 -- WHICH HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE QUEEN IN COUNCIL ON FEBRUARY 12, SHALL COME INTO OPERATION ON THE DAY ON WHICH IT IS PROCLAIMED IN HONG KONG BY THE GOVERNOR.

THE GOVERNMENT PLANS TO MINT A SPECIAL GOLD COIN TO MARK THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO HONG KONG IN MAY.

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MCGREGOR LEADS INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT PROMOTION TEAM TO AUSTRALIA  
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THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, MR. JAMES MCGREGOR, LEAVES FOR SYDNEY TOMORROW (SATURDAY) FOR TALKS WITH AUSTRALIAN INDUSTRIALISTS ON THE POSSIBILITY OF SETTING UP BRANCH FACTORIES IN HONG KONG.

THE TWO-WEEK TRIP IS THE FIRST IN A SERIES OF INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT PROMOTIONS WHICH THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT WILL CARRY OUT DURING 1975 AND 1976 IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL.

THE TWO ORGANISATIONS HAVE BEEN WORKING FOR MANY YEARS IN CLOSE LIAISON TO PROMOTE THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY FROM THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO HONG KONG.

THIS HAS BEEN DONE THROUGH SEMINARS, MISSIONS, REGIONAL CONFERENCES AND DIRECT APPROACHES TO INDIVIDUAL INDUSTRIAL COMPANIES IN A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES.

THIS PROGRAMME HAS BEEN INTENSIFIED FOR 1975, AND IT IS HOPED THAT THE TWO ORGANISATIONS WILL BE ABLE TO CARRY OUT AT LEAST FIVE MAJOR PROMOTIONS IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES DURING THE NEXT 12 MONTHS, AIMED AT ATTRACTING MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES TO HONG KONG.

THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT HAS OFTEN STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF FOREIGN INVESTMENT, EXPERTISE AND PARTICIPATION TO HONG KONG INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

MR. MCGREGOR POINTED OUT THAT THERE WERE ABOUT 240 INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS IN HONG KONG WHICH WERE FULLY OR PARTLY FOREIGN-OWNED AND THAT THESE EMPLOYED AT LEAST 65,000 WORKERS AT THE END OF 1974. THEY REPRESENT HIGH STANDARDS OF MANAGEMENT, TECHNOLOGY AND MARKETING EXPERTISE, HE ADDED.

MR. MCGREGOR SAID THAT AUSTRALIAN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES REPRESENTED HIGH TECHNICAL STANDARDS AND MANY AUSTRALIAN INDUSTRIES HAD PARTICULAR RELEVANCE TO HONG KONG'S PRESENT STATE OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

IN ENGINEERING, PARTICULARLY, HE BELIEVED THAT AUSTRALIAN INDUSTRIAL KNOWLEDGE COULD BE MOST HELPFUL TO HONG KONG.

+WE ALREADY HAVE A USEFUL AUSTRALIAN ELEMENT IN OUR INDUSTRY AND WE ARE PROPOSING TO DO WHAT WE CAN TO INCREASE THIS. THIS ISN'T A BAD TIME TO TRY,+ MR. MCGREGOR ADDED.

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EMPLOYERS URGED TO PROVIDE CAREERS GUIDANCE FOR YOUTHS  
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A SENIOR LABOUR DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL TODAY (FRIDAY) URGED EMPLOYERS TO STEP UP THEIR EFFORTS TO PROVIDE YOUNG PEOPLE WITH CAREERS GUIDANCE AND INFORMATION ON JOB PROSPECTS IN HONG KONG.

THE APPEAL CAME FROM THE DEPARTMENT'S SENIOR LABOUR OFFICER, MRS. SOO MOK SAU-HA, IN A LUNCHEON SPEECH TO THE ROTARY CLUB (WEST) AT THE HILTON HOTEL.

SHE POINTED OUT THAT THE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT ADVISORY SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT ORGANISED VISITS TO FACTORIES AND COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS FOR STUDENTS AND YOUTH GROUPS.

HOWEVER, THIS SERVICE WAS ONLY RENDERED ON A LIMITED BASIS BECAUSE OF THE INSUFFICIENT NUMBER OF EMPLOYERS WHO WERE WILLING TO ENTERTAIN SUCH VISITS AND THE LIMIT ON THE NUMBER OF VISITORS ON EACH TRIP.

+CAREERS GUIDANCE,+ SHE SAID, +IS SUCH AN IMPORTANT ASPECT IN THE LIFE OF OUR YOUNG PEOPLE AND ITS SCOPE IS SO LARGE THAT A JOINT EFFORT RATHER THAN THE EFFORT OF A SINGLE AGENCY IS REQUIRED.

+THERE SEEMS TO BE SPECIAL ROLES FOR THE VARIOUS BODIES AND ORGANISATIONS TO PLAY.+

MRS. SOO SAID A NUMBER OF EMPLOYERS WERE ALREADY ADOPTING A VERY SYMPATHETIC ATTITUDE TOWARDS CAREERS GUIDANCE.

+WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE MORE EMPLOYERS, MANY MORE EMPLOYERS, ALLOWING ORGANISED GROUPS OF STUDENTS TO VISIT THEIR ESTABLISHMENTS AND MAKE AVAILABLE THEIR STAFF OR EVEN THEMSELVES TO DELIVER SPECIFIC TALKS ON THEIR RESPECTIVE TRADES OR OCCUPATIONS.+

ON THE ROLE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, SHE SAID IT OFFERED ITS EXPERTISE IN THE EMPLOYMENT SERVICES, CONNECTIONS WITH EMPLOYERS, KNOWLEDGE OF THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION AND THE ACTUAL JOB SITUATIONS.

THE DEPARTMENT ACTED AS ADVISER TO CAREERS TEACHERS, SUPPLIED THEM WITH INFORMATION ON EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN HONG KONG AND UPDATED THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF THE LATEST TECHNIQUES IN CAREERS GUIDANCE.

IN ADDITION, IT ARRANGED TALKS BY EXPERTS IN THE VARIOUS TRADES AND INDUSTRIES AND VISITS TO FACTORIES AND FIRMS FOR STUDENTS, ENABLING THEM TO SEE FOR THEMSELVES WHAT WORKING IN THESE JOBS WAS LIKE.

/MRS. SOO WENT ON .....

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MRS. SOO WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE FORM OF CAREERS SERVICES AND THE KIND OF SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED BY THE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT ADVISORY SERVICE WOULD DEPEND ON DEMAND -- THE DEMAND OF CAREERS TEACHERS, OF THE STUDENTS, THE YOUNG PEOPLE, THEIR PARENTS AND OF THE EMPLOYERS AS A WHOLE.

+WHATEVER SUGGESTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN AND WILL BE PUT FORWARD, WILL, I AM SURE, BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT,+ SHE SAID. +WE IN THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT ARE ALWAYS READY TO EXAMINE SUCH PROPOSALS WITH A VIEW TO PROVIDING BETTER SERVICES.+

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VALUATION LISTS FOR 1975-76  
AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION TOMORROW  
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THE VALUATION LISTS FOR 1975-76 WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC FROM TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

FOR 21 DAYS, ENDING ON MARCH 28, THEY WILL BE DISPLAYED DURING NORMAL OFFICE HOURS AT THE OFFICES OF THE COLLECTOR OF RATES IN THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, SECOND FLOOR, ICE HOUSE STREET, HONG KONG.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY THAT ANYONE WHO DISAGREES WITH THE INCLUSION OR OMISSION OF ANY PREMISES IN THE LISTS, OR DISAGREES WITH THE FIGURE OF RATEABLE VALUE ASSESSED, MAY SERVE ON THE COMMISSIONER OF RATING AND VALUATION A PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE LIST DURING THESE 21 DAYS.

FORMS FOR THIS PURPOSE ARE OBTAINABLE AT THE DEPARTMENT'S OFFICE AT 1 GARDEN ROAD, TEL. NO. 5-249021, AND AT NEW MERCURY HOUSE, 17TH AND 18TH FLOORS, 22 FENWICK STREET, HONG KONG, TEL. NO. 5-281424.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THERE IS A RIGHT OF APPEAL TO THE LANDS TRIBUNAL SHOULD THE COMMISSIONER NOT AGREE TO A PROPOSAL.

+THOSE WHO ARE DISSATISFIED WITH THEIR ASSESSMENT AND WHO INTEND TO LODGE A PROPOSAL ARE INVITED FIRST TO GET IN TOUCH WITH THE VALUER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE AREA IN WHICH THE PREMISES ARE SITUATED,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID, +ASSISTANCE AND ADVICE WILL GLADLY BE GIVEN.+

THESE ENQUIRIES CAN BE DIRECTED TO THE OFFICE AT NEW MERCURY HOUSE, BUT THOSE CONCERNING PREMISES SITUATED IN THE NEW TERRITORIES SHOULD BE MADE AT THE HEAD OFFICE AT 1, GARDEN ROAD.

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SECTION OF ELEVATED ROAD NEARING COMPLETION

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CONSTRUCTION OF THE EASTERN SECTION OF THE ELEVATED ROAD ALONG GASCOIGNE ROAD DREW NEARER TO COMPLETION TODAY WITH THE PLACING IN POSITION OF THE LAST TWO GIANT PRESTRESSED CONCRETE BEAMS WHICH WILL SUPPORT THE SURFACE OF THE ROAD.

IN ALL, THERE ARE 190 SUCH PRESTRESSED BEAMS USED TO FORM THE SUPERSTRUCTURE OF THIS SECTION OF THE ROAD. THE LAST TWO BEAMS WERE TOWED THIS MORNING FROM A SITE OFFICE WHERE THEY HAD BEEN PRE-CAST TO A LOCATION NEAR THE DIOCESAN GIRL'S SCHOOL AND LOWERED INTO POSITION BY TWO CRANES.

THE BEAMS ARE EACH 74 FEET LONG, AND WEIGH 28 TONS EACH. THERE ARE NINE SUCH BEAMS SPANNING EVERY PAIR OF PIERS OF THE ELEVATED ROAD. WHEN AN EIGHT-INCH THICK LAYER OF CONCRETE IS LAID OVER THEM, THEY PROVIDE A CARRIAGEWAY OF 40 FEET WIDE.

NOTING THE NEED TO MAINTAIN TRAFFIC USING GASCOIGNE ROAD UNIMPEDED BY THE WORK, THE RESIDENT ENGINEER, MR. TSE JOP-TOA, SAID HE WAS VERY PLEASED WITH THE SMOOTH PROGRESS OF THE WORK.

THIS SECTION OF THE ELEVATED ROAD, WHICH IS ABOUT 2,200 FEET LONG, STARTS FROM GASCOIGNE ROAD NEAR WYLIE ROAD, TERMINATING AT THE YAU MA TEI MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK. COSTING ABOUT \$20 MILLION AND DESIGNED BY P.W.D. HIGHWAYS OFFICE ENGINEERS, THIS SECTION IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN JULY OR AUGUST THIS YEAR. WORK ON THE 24-MONTH CONTRACT FOR THIS PHASE BEGAN IN OCTOBER 1973.

THE WESTERN SECTION WHICH HAS YET TO BE BUILT WILL PASS THROUGH THE YAU MA TEI MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK (STAGE II) AND LINK UP WITH THE TONG MEI ROAD EXTENSION ADJACENT TO THE YAU MA TEI TYPHOON SHELTER. IT IS ABOUT 2,000 FEET LONG. FOUNDATION WORK ON THIS SECTION IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN EARLY NEXT MONTH.

THIS ELEVATED ROAD - GASCOIGNE ROAD TO TONG MEI ROAD - FORMS PART OF THE WEST KOWLOON CORRIDOR SCHEME WHICH WAS DESIGNED TO DISTRIBUTE TRAFFIC AND PROVIDE A DIRECT LINK FROM THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL TO KWAI CHUNG AND TSUEN WAN.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

COPIES OF A PHOTOGRAPH SHOWING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE ELEVATED ROAD ALONG GASCOIGNE ROAD WILL BE BOXED FOR COLLECTION TODAY.

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FUND RAISING DRIVE FOR HOSPITAL

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A FUN FAIR TO RAISE FUND FOR OUR LADY OF MARYKNOLL HOSPITAL WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY (MARCH 9) AT THE WONG TAI SIN COMMUNITY CENTRE IN CHING TAK STREET.

JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICE AND 18 VOLUNTARY WELFARE SERVICE AGENCIES IN WONG TAI SIN, THE FUN FAIR WILL PROVIDE A DAY OF FUN AND GAMES FOR ABOUT 9,000 CHILDREN IN THE AREA.

+IT IS HOPED THAT THE FAIR WILL GIVE THE YOUNG SERVICE GROUPS A CHANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNITY WORK, ABOUT 140 SCOUTS, JUNIOR RED CROSS MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS WILL BE HELPING OUT AT THE FAIR IN VARIOUS WAYS,+ MRS. HENRIETTA CHEN, THE COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICER SAID.

THE FAIR WILL COMMENCE AT 9.30 A.M. WITH THE JUDGING OF GAMES STALLS. REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE WILL OFFICIATE AT A BRIEF OPENING CEREMONY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:  
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YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO COVER THE EVENT.

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DECEMBER ACCOUNTS SHOW \$133 M. SURPLUS

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THE GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS FOR DECEMBER 1974 SHOW A SURPLUS OF \$133 MILLION COMPARED WITH A SURPLUS OF \$213 MILLION IN DECEMBER 1973.

THIS HAS REDUCED THE ACCUMULATED DEFICIT TO \$673 MILLION FOR THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF THIS FINANCIAL YEAR. THIS DEFICIT COMPARES WITH A DEFICIT OF \$410 MILLION THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY PREDICTED IN HIS BUDGET SPEECH FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR AS A WHOLE.

TOTAL REVENUE FOR THE MONTH AT \$646 MILLION WAS \$3 MILLION LESS THAN IN DECEMBER 1973. TOTAL EXPENDITURE WAS \$513 MILLION - \$77 MILLION MORE THAN DECEMBER 1973.

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ANTI-DRUG VARIETY SHOW  
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THE SHAU KEI WAN YOUTH COUNCIL, WHICH COMPRISES MEMBERS OF EIGHT YOUTH GROUPS IN THE DISTRICT, HAVE ORGANISED THEIR OWN ANTI-DRUG VARIETY SHOW IN SUPPORT OF THE CURRENT KEEP HONGKONG DRUG FREE CAMPAIGN.

THE SHOW WHICH WILL INCLUDE POP AND FOLK SONGS, AN ANTI-DRUG PLAY, FOLK DANCES AND A LUCKY DRAW, WILL BE HELD AT ST. MARK'S SCHOOL IN SHAU KEI WAN FROM 8-10 P.M. TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

SOME OF THE SONGS WILL HAVE AN ANTI-DRUG THEME AND HAVE BEEN COMPOSED BY THE MEMBERS. DURING THE EVENT, BOOKLETS AND BOOKMARKS WILL ALSO BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE 500 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND. TICKETS ARE FREE AND CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE SALVATION ARMY SHAU KEI WAN CENTRE.

THE COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICE FOR EASTERN DISTRICT IS PROVIDING GUIDANCE AND OTHER ASSISTANCE TO THE ORGANISERS.

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