



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Monday, January 8, 1973

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# PROPOSALS TO COMBAT LAND AND SEA POLLUTION

## In First Report Of EPCOM

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The Advisory Committee on Environmental Pollution on Land and Water has put forward a number of proposals to the Government to combat land and sea pollution in Hong Kong.

The proposals are contained in the Committee's first report which is now being considered by various Government departments concerned with environmental pollution.

The report gives a broad description of land and water pollution in Hong Kong and the Committee feels that the most important steps to be taken at this stage are:

- \* that top priority be given to the cleanliness and environment of urban areas and a planned programme to instill a greater sense of social responsibility regarding litter and refuse.
- \* that a detailed examination be made of the effectiveness of existing legislation and the Government machinery for its enforcement.
- \* that a reappraisal of land use policy and control in the New Territories be made in relation to pollution activities, including the keeping of pigs and poultry, and an effective collection service be established throughout all parts of the New Territories.

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- \* that a crash programme be implemented throughout Hong Kong for the provision of off-street refuse collection points and that the possibility of requiring developers of new multi-storey buildings to construct refuse shutes and refuse chambers, especially in newly planned areas, be examined in detail.
- \* that legislation be enacted to control trade effluents and pollution of Hong Kong waters by oil, and
- \* that a comprehensive policy regarding offensive trades be implemented, and that the establishment of a regular marine monitoring service be examined.

Commenting on the report, a Government spokesman said today (Monday) that progress had already been made by Government departments in the implementation of some of the proposals.

"New draft legislation to control oil pollution has already been published, and drafting in respect of legislation to control trade effluent is far advanced," he said.

"Moreover," he added, "the impetus engendered by the Clean Hong Kong Campaign can be extended to other forms of pollution."

The spokesman said the various Government departments concerned would be "critically examining" the Committee's recommendations and an official statement was expected to be made in due course.

The committee was appointed in November 1971 to review the state of the environment as regards land and water pollution, and to advise the Governor on measures to control pollution.

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It is intended to publish the report in both English and Chinese for public information but anyone who wishes to have an advance stencilled copy may apply to the Buildings and Lands Branch, Colonial Secretariat, Central Government Offices, Main Wing, Lower Albert Road, Hong Kong.

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Note to Editors:

A press Conference will be held by Mr. H.M.G. Forsgate, chairman of EPCOM, tomorrow (Tuesday) at 10 a.m. in the G.I.S. theatre, Beaconsfield House, 5th floor. Also present will be Mr. H.D. Stead, Principal Government Civil Engineer, and Mr. G. Barnes, Secretary of EPCOM. You are cordially invited to send a reporter and/or photographer to cover the conference.

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# RECORD NUMBER OF NEW COMPANIES INCORPORATED

## Busy Year At Companies Registry

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The high level of business activity in 1972 was reflected in the operations of the Companies Registry, where many records were again broken.

The Registrar General, Mr. W. Hume, announced today that 4,810 new companies were incorporated in 1972 with nominal capitals totalling over \$5,550 million, both figures being the highest ever recorded for any year.

The rate of increase in the number and size of companies in recent years can be gauged by comparing the figures for 1968, when the number of new companies incorporated was 1,675 with nominal capitals of nearly \$540 million.

Thus in a period of only four years, the number of new companies incorporated has almost trebled, while the nominal capitals have increased more than ten times.

Mr. Hume added that in addition to the huge nominal capitals of the new companies, existing companies increased their capitals by more than \$10,458 million, an increase of 218 per cent over the previous record of \$3,291 million in 1971.

Of the companies incorporated in 1972 (with the 1971 figures in brackets), 1,262 (999) were import and export companies; 844 (676) were land investment companies, and 668 (290) were finance companies.

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Apart from the incorporation of new companies, the work of the Companies Registry in 1972 also increased in other respects.

A total of 106 companies were converted from private to public companies in 1972, compared with 14 in 1971.

In the post-war years prior to 1971 very few companies issued prospectuses.

Offers of shares to the public only became common in Hong Kong in 1971, and in that year about 15 prospectuses were registered.

In 1972 the number of prospectuses registered rose to 101, 93 by local companies and eight by companies incorporated overseas.

Documents received for filing during the year totalled 67,632, or 18 per cent more than in 1971, and the number of company files inspected by the public rose by 23 per cent to 68,726.

The revenue collected during the year reached \$33 million, which was \$21.2 million or 179 per cent, above the previous year's \$11.8 million.

At the end of the year, there were 26,067 companies on the Register, compared with 21,622 at the end of 1971. In addition, there were 832 foreign companies registered, as against 763 previously.

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# HEATED SWIMMING POOL PROVES POPULAR DURING WINTER

## Over 680 Use Pool Every Day

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Hong Kong's first heated swimming pool in Morrison Hill is proving to be very popular since its official opening on November 1 last year.

Attendance at the swimming pool complex for the first two months since its opening totalled about 42,000, an average of over 680 a day.

On December 30 last year, which was the coldest day this winter with a minimum temperature of 8.8 degrees Celsius, attendance at the heated pool still reached 315. This included 47 children.

On January 2, the coldest day this year with a minimum temperature of 9.7 degrees Celsius, a total of 505 people went to the pool to enjoy the hot water. This included 123 children.

The Morrison Hill all-weather swimming pool complex is one of the best-equipped in Hong Kong and its water temperature can be adjusted with the rise and fall of the air temperature.

During the coldest days this winter, water temperature was maintained at about 28 degrees Celsius, which is very close to the international standard of 26.7 degrees Celsius for indoor swimming pools.

Temperature inside the whole swimming pool complex is also kept at 29 degrees Celsius, which is slightly higher than the water temperature.

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The heated swimming pool complex, the first of its kind in Hong Kong, includes a 50 metre by 21 metre pool built to Olympic competition standards, a paddling pool for children and an outdoor one for youngsters.

The depth of the heated pool ranges from 4½ feet to 6½ feet.

All other Government swimming pools in Victoria Park, Kowloon Tsai, Morse Park, Kwun Tong and Lei Cheng Uk have been closed on December 1 for three months. The Morrison Hill heated pool is the only one remaining open during the winter to serve year-round swimmers.

The heated pools are open for three periods every day -- from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m.; from 12 noon to 5 p.m.; and from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Admission is 70 cents for adults and 40 cents for children.

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# LUNAR NEW YEAR FAIRS IN N.T.

## Tai Po To Have A Fair For The First Time

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For the first time, the Urban Services Department is holding a Lunar New Year fair in Tai Po, New Territories, this year.

The fair will take place from January 27 to February 3.

During the same period, Lunar New Year fairs will also be held, as in previous years, in Tsuen Wan and Yuen Long.

The sites of the fairs will be situated at the following places:

Tsuen Wan: Sha Tsui Road Playground

Tai Po: Tai Po Government Playground

Yuen Long: On Ling Road, Yuen Long Town

There will be 254 stalls in Tsuen Wan; 150 stalls in Tai Po and 153 stalls in Yuen Long.

A spokesman for the Urban Services Department said all sites would be allocated through open ballot to flower growers in the New Territories and to small traders selling permissible dry commodities.

"Temporary hawker licence of \$25 each will be issued to successful applicants who will be responsible for the erection of stall structures and the connection of electricity."

No specific contractors have been nominated or authorised for such works.

Ballot tickets will be available from January 8 to 17 between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. upon application in person and on payment of \$5 at the following centres:

/Tsuen Wan - .....



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Tsuen Wan - Tsuen Wan Hawkers and Market Office, Chartered Bank Building, Tai Ho Road, 2nd floor, Tsuen Wan.

Tai Po - Tai Po Hawkers and Market Office, Ting Kok Building, Ting Kok Road, Tai Po Market.

Yuen Long - Yuen Long Hawkers and Market Office, Yuen Long District Office, third floor, Yuen Long.

No ballot tickets will be issued after January 17.

Those who have obtained the tickets should fill in the necessary particulars and return the ticket with two photographs to the issuing office on January 18 or 19 for registration.

On being registered, they will be invited to the open ballot which will be held on January 22, 23 and 24 respectively in Tsuen Wan, Tai Po and Yuen Long.

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#### NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN CONDUIT ROAD

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Conduit Road between House No. 28-58 will become two-way from 10 a.m. on Thursday to improve traffic circulation.

Motor vehicles with unladen weights exceeding two tons will be prohibited in the easterly direction along this section of Conduit Road because the road is not wide and strong enough, a Transport Department spokesman said.

Appropriate signs will be posted to guide motorists.

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# NEW G.I.S. FILM ON ENGLISH TEACHING

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Miss Diana Kwong and her class of nine-year-old students from Hill Road Primary School, Pokfulam, will tomorrow (Tuesday) be seeing for the first time the film they helped the Government Information Services make recently.

This film, "Teaching English As A Second Language In Primary Schools," which was made for G.I.S. by Farkas Productions, shows a new approach in teaching a second language.

Although the principles upon which this method is based are universally accepted, this 15-minute film differs from films of a similar nature in that it shows a complete lesson, rather than confining itself to aspects of language teaching.

Other films have shown teachers giving instruction in their own mother-tongue, but in this film a large class of Chinese pupils are shown being taught English by a Chinese teacher.

The film will be used not only in Hong Kong, but it is expected that it will be used all over the world in countries where English is taught as a second language.

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Note to Editors: You are cordially invited to watch this new G.I.S. production with the students at 11:00 a.m. tomorrow on the 5th floor, G.I.S., Beaconsfield House.

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Release Time: 6.30 p.m.