



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 1979

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 1979

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**\$720,000 PAID OUT FROM EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND**

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ABOUT \$720,000 FROM THE EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND WAS PAID OUT TO NEEDY PEOPLE DURING THE LAST FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1978.

THIS WAS ABOUT ONE QUARTER OF THE RELIEF PAYMENTS MADE IN 1976-77 WHICH AMOUNTED TO \$2,706,000.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT THE SHARP DROP IN PAYMENT WAS DUE TO THE FACT THAT NO SIGNIFICANT NATURAL DISASTERS OCCURRED DURING THE PERIOD.

+LARGE PAYMENTS WERE MADE IN 1976-77 BECAUSE OF TYPHOON ELLEN, THE SAU MAU PING LANDSLIDE AND MANY FLOODINGS,+ SHE POINTED OUT.

+IN THE LAST FINANCIAL YEAR \$604,550 WAS PAID OUT AS RE-ACCOMMODATION AND RE-EQUIPMENT GRANTS WHICH ACCOUNTED FOR ABOUT 84 PER CENT OF THE YEAR'S PAYMENT.

TOPPING LAST YEAR'S LIST OF GRANT RECIPIENTS WERE FIRE VICTIMS WHO RECEIVED \$454,000.

LAST YEAR, THE FUND RECEIVED \$850,500 FROM REVENUE --- \$800,000 FROM GOVERNMENT GRANTS AND THE REST FROM PUBLIC DONATIONS.

THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED: +GRANTS AND LOANS ARE ONLY MADE TO PEOPLE IN NEED OF RELIEF AS A RESULT OF FIRE, FLOODING, TYPHOON OR NATURAL DISASTERS.

+GRANTS FROM THE FUND ARE AVAILABLE FOR DEATH OR PERSONAL INJURY= DOMESTIC RE-ACCOMMODATION AND RE-EQUIPMENT EXPENSES= REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT OF VESSELS= AGRICULTURAL LOSS AND SPECIAL CASES,+ SHE ADDED.

THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR APPROVING GRANTS AND MAKING PAYMENTS IS, IN MOST CASES, VESTED IN OFFICERS OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT, THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, THE MARINE DEPARTMENT AND THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT.

THE FUND WAS FIRST INTRODUCED IN JUNE 1962 AS THE COMMUNITY RELIEF TRUST FUND AND WAS RENAMED THE EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND IN 1973.

THE EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND COMMITTEE FUNCTIONS UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE.

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263,685 FIRE INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT LAST YEAR  
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THE FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU OF THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT CARRIED OUT 263,685 INSPECTIONS OF ALL TYPES OF PREMISES LAST YEAR.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THE INSPECTIONS RESULTED IN 9,357 FIRE HAZARD ABATEMENT NOTICES BEING ISSUED AND 5,555 PROSECUTIONS WITH FINES AMOUNTING TO MORE THAN \$1.1 MILLION IMPOSED FOR CONTRAVENING FIRE REGULATIONS.

COMPLAINTS FROM THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTED FOR 63 PER CENT OF THE INSPECTIONS, WITH 150,139 RELATING TO MEANS OF ESCAPE AND 16,983 CONCERNING VARIOUS HAZARDS.

APART FROM INVESTIGATING THESE COMPLAINTS, STAFF OF THE BUREAU ALSO CARRIED OUT 15,749 REGULAR VISITS TO BUILDINGS TO ENSURE THAT THEIR COMMON CORRIDORS AND EXITS WERE NOT OBSTRUCTED.

THE BUREAU CONDUCTED 52,329 INSPECTIONS OF FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL PREMISES AND 4,623 INSPECTIONS OF VENTILATION SYSTEMS.

INSPECTIONS RELATED TO THE MANUFACTURE AND STORAGE OF DANGEROUS GOODS TOTALLED 5,064. MORE THAN 2,500 INSPECTIONS WERE MADE ON FIRE SERVICE INSTALLATIONS AND NEON SIGNS.

BUREAU STAFF MADE MORE THAN 11,700 VISITS TO RESTAURANTS, NIGHTCLUBS, SCHOOLS, CINEMAS, MATSHEDS, DANCE HALLS, BILLIARD ROOMS AND TIMBER YARDS.

IN ADDITION, 1,915 INSPECTIONS WERE MADE OF VEHICLES USED FOR CONVEYING COMPRESSED GASES AND INFLAMMABLE LIQUIDS AND 751 INSPECTIONS WERE CARRIED OUT ON CHILD CARE CENTRES.

THE BUREAU ALSO FINALISED 8,466 NEW BUILDING PLANS AND ISSUED OR RENEWED 3,393 DANGEROUS GOODS AND TIMBER YARD STORAGE LICENCES, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

FIRE OFFICERS ALSO INVESTIGATED 58 FIRES IN DEPTH AND CONDUCTED 168 LECTURES AND EXHIBITIONS ON THE RUDIMENTS OF FIRE-FIGHTING FOR STUDENTS, STAFF OF PRIVATE ORGANISATIONS AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

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TENDERS FROM PREQUALIFIED CONTRACTORS  
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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT MAY INVITE TENDERS WITHIN THE NEXT THREE MONTHS FROM PREQUALIFIED CONTRACTORS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE ROAD, DRAINAGE AND BUILDING WORKS OF PHASE ONE OF THE SHEK WU HUI SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS.

THE SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS IS PART OF THE DEVELOPMENT IN FANLING AND SHEK WU HUI AND WILL BE BUILT ON A SITE OF ABOUT 10 HECTARES, ADJACENT TO AND INCORPORATING THE EXISTING PILOT TREATMENT PLANT.

THE PROJECT WILL SERVE A POPULATION OF ABOUT 127,000 AND THE ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES IN THE NEW DEVELOPMENT, AND TREAT SEWAGE BROUGHT BY A SYSTEM OF SEWERS AND PUMPING STATIONS FROM ALL THE URBANISED AREAS OF FANLING AND SHEK WU HUI, USING THE LATEST METHODS OF SEWAGE TREATMENT.

CONTRACTORS WITH PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE OF MAJOR SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS CONSTRUCTION WHO WISH TO HAVE MORE INFORMATION ON THE REQUIREMENTS FOR PREQUALIFICATION FOR THE CIVIL ENGINEERING AND BUILDING WORKS SHOULD CONTACT MESSRS. MAUNSELL CONSULTANTS ASIA, 2 TUNG LO WAN HILL, FIRST FLOOR, SHA TIN, NEW TERRITORIES.

SEPARATE CONTRACTS ARE TO BE LET FOR THE SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT, FOR WHICH TENDERS WILL BE INVITED OVER THE NEXT SIX MONTHS FROM INTERNATIONAL CONTRACTORS.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE CONTRACT FOR STAGE ONE OF THE ROAD, DRAINAGE AND BUILDING WORKS WILL START IN SEPTEMBER AND BE COMPLETED BY MAY 1982, ALTHOUGH PARTS OF THE WORKS WILL BE IN OPERATION BY JANUARY 1982.

THE WORKS ARE BEING DESIGNED, AND CONSTRUCTION WILL BE SUPERVISED BY, MAUNSELL CONSULTANTS ASIA IN ASSOCIATION WITH WATSON (HONG KONG) ON BEHALF OF THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

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**CONTRACT FOR AIRCRAFT FIRE-FIGHTING VEHICLES  
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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT HAS PLACED AN ORDER FOR THREE AIRCRAFT FIRE-FIGHTING VEHICLES ON BEHALF OF THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT.

A CONTRACT TO SUPPLY THESE VEHICLES, WORTH SEVERAL MILLION DOLLARS, WILL BE SIGNED TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

THE SIGNING CEREMONY WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL OFFICE AT CAROLINE HILL, SECOND FLOOR, AT 3 P.M.

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**NOTE TO EDITORS:**

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE CONTRACT SIGNING CEREMONY.

IT WILL BE HELD AT THE ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL OFFICE, CAROLINE HILL, SECOND FLOOR, AT 3 P.M. TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

OFFICERS FROM PWD'S PUBLICITY UNIT WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST THE PRESS.

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**APPLY NOW FOR BRITISH PASSPORTS ISSUED IN LONDON  
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DELAYS ARE EXPECTED IN THE PROCESSING OF APPLICATIONS AND THE DELIVERY OF BRITISH PASSPORTS ISSUED IN LONDON.

THIS WAS STATED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) BY A SPOKESMAN FOR THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT WHEN HE ADVISED ALL THOSE REQUIRING THESE PASSPORTS TO APPLY EARLY.

HE EXPLAINED THAT THE DELAY WAS DUE TO THE SEASONAL INCREASE IN DEMAND FOR PASSPORTS IN U.K. FROM APRIL TO AUGUST.

HE POINTED OUT THAT LAST YEAR THESE APPLICATIONS TOOK 12 WEEKS OR MORE TO FINALISE INSTEAD OF THE NORMAL EIGHT WEEKS, AND THEREFORE, SIMILAR DELAYS ARE EXPECTED THIS YEAR.

REGARDING BRITISH PASSPORTS ISSUED IN HONG KONG, THERE WILL BE NO CHANGE IN THE PROCESSING TIME OF 10 WORKING DAYS, HE SAID.

THE HONG KONG IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ACTS AS AN AGENT FOR THE U.K. IN RESPECT OF APPLICATIONS FOR LONDON-ISSUED UK PASSPORTS.

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TECHNICAL INSTITUTE PROGRAMMES ARE RECOGNISED IN UK  
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TECHNICAL INSTITUTE STUDENTS IN BUILDING AND CIVIL ENGINEERING STUDIES WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR TECHNICIAN EDUCATION COUNCIL (TEC) AWARDS IN UK WHEN THEY GRADUATE THIS SUMMER.

FOUR STUDY PROGRAMMES IN THESE TWO DISCIPLINES LEADING TO THE AWARDS OF CERTIFICATE/DIPLOMA OFFERED BY THE MORRISON HILL AND HAKING WONG TECHNICAL INSTITUTES HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY TEC. STUDENTS WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE THESE PROGRAMMES ARE ELIGIBLE FOR TEC AWARDS.

THESE PROGRAMMES ARE OFFERED ON THE BASIS OF A CREDIT-UNIT SYSTEM AND ARE DESIGNED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF HONG KONG CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY.

A CERTIFICATE PROGRAMME COMPRISES 15 UNITS (60 HOURS EACH) AND A DIPLOMA PROGRAMME 25 UNITS PLUS EIGHT TO 10 PRACTICAL UNITS.

THE TEC WAS SET UP IN 1973 BY THE UK GOVERNMENT TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF POLICIES FOR SCHEMES OF TECHNICIAN EDUCATION IN ENGLAND, WALES AND NORTHERN IRELAND TO MEET BOTH THE NEEDS OF THE STUDENTS AND THE REQUIREMENTS OF INDUSTRY.

THE QUALIFICATIONS OF TEC ARE RECOGNISED FOR QUALIFYING OR EXEMPTION PURPOSES BY MANY PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICIAN BODIES IN UK.

THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES HAVE SUBMITTED 10 MORE STUDY PROGRAMMES TO TEC FOR VALIDATION. THESE PROGRAMMES ARE IN THE DISCIPLINES OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING, SHIPBUILDING AND SHIPREPAIR, TEXTILE AND KNITWEAR TECHNOLOGY, TEXTILE COLOURATION AND AUTOMOBILE ENGINEERING.

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NEW POST OFFICE

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THE OPENING OF A NEW POST OFFICE IN PEKING ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI, POSTPONED ON MONDAY (MARCH 5) WILL NOW BE HELD THIS SATURDAY.

THE NEW POST OFFICE WILL REPLACE THE EXISTING ONE IN SALISBURY ROAD WHICH HAS BEEN IN USE SINCE 1928.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TSIM SHA TSUI DISTRICT KAIFONG WELFARE ASSOCIATION, MR. YU LOOK-YAU WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE POST OFFICE SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THE NEW POST OFFICE WILL BE MORE ACCESSIBLE TO CUSTOMERS AS IT IS CENTRALLY LOCATED IN TSIM SHA TSUI.

+UNLIKE THE OLD OFFICE WHERE THE PARCEL DELIVERY AND ACCEPTANCE SERVICES ARE ACCOMMODATED AWAY FROM THE MAIN BUILDING, THE FULL RANGE OF POST OFFICE COUNTER SERVICES WILL BE OFFERED UNDER ONE ROOF IN THE NEW PREMISES.

+THE NEW OFFICE WILL ALSO HOUSE AN ADDITIONAL 1,650 POSTAL BOXES TO MEET DEMAND WHICH COULD NOT BE MET IN THE OLD BUILDING DUE TO LACK OF SPACE,+ HE SAID.

POSTAL BOX SERVICE WILL START AT THE NEW OFFICE AT 8 A.M. ON SATURDAY. THE CALL-FOR PARCEL SERVICE WILL BE TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED THAT MORNING BUT WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE NEW OFFICE FROM 10.30 A.M.

ALL OTHER COUNTER SERVICES WILL BE PROVIDED AT THE OLD TSIM SHA TSUI POST OFFICE AND THE KOWLOON PARCEL OFFICE ON SATURDAY MORNING UNTIL 10.30 A.M. AND THEREAFTER AT THE NEW OFFICE.

THE EXISTING HOURS OF BUSINESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER K-664111 REMAINS UNCHANGED AT THE NEW OFFICE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE NEW POST OFFICE IN PEKING ROAD AT 10 A.M. ON SATURDAY (MARCH 10).

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SPECIAL SCHOOL HOLIDAY TO MARK ROYAL VISIT  
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THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR. KENNETH TOPLEY HAS TODAY (WEDNESDAY) APPROVED A SPECIAL SCHOOL HOLIDAY TO MARK PRINCE CHARLES' VISIT TO HONG KONG.

SCHOOL SUPERVISORS AND PRINCIPALS HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE DISCRETION TO DECIDE A DATE FOR THIS ADDITIONAL HOLIDAY.

A CIRCULAR TO THIS EFFECT WILL BE SENT TO ALL SCHOOLS WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

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WATER CUT  
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WATER SUPPLY IN LUEN WO MARKET, FANLING AND YAU MA TEI WILL BE TEMPORARILY STOPPED ON FRIDAY FOR LEAKAGE TESTS AND MTR CONSTRUCTION WORKS.

IN LUEN WO MARKET, THE STOPPAGE WILL BE FROM MIDNIGHT TO 6 A.M. THAT DAY.

IN YAU MA TEI, THE STOPPAGE WILL BE FROM 8 P.M. ON FRIDAY TO 6 A.M. THE FOLLOWING DAY.

PREMISES AFFECTED ARE THE EAST SIDE OF NATHAN ROAD FROM 438-524, 524A AND 524B, 40-42 WATERLOO ROAD (INCLUDING THE AMBULANCE DEPOT), 2-8 AND 11 WING SING LANE, 1-11 AND 2 CLIFF ROAD, METHODIST COLLEGE, 50 GASCOIGNE ROAD AND 80 AND 81 PUBLIC SQUARE STREET.

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