HKGIS 香港政府新聞處

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MORE TRAVEL BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

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A RECORD 2,047.3 MILLION COMMUTERS MADE USE OF PUBLIC ROAD TRANSPORT SERVICES LAST YEAR -- AN INCREASE OF 144.2 MILLION OR 7.6 PER CENT OVER 1976.

ON THE AVERAGE, THIS WORKS OUT AT 5.61 MILLION PASSENGERS TRAVELLING EACH DAY BY BUS, PUBLIC LIGHT BUS, TAXI, TRAM, TRAIN AND PUBLIC HIRE CAR.

FIGURES RELEASED TODAY BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SHOW THAT 1,052.5 MILLION COMMUTERS TRAVELLED BY BUS LAST YEAR, 136.4 MILLION BY TRAM, 229.2 MILLION BY TAXI AND PUBLIC HIRE CAR, 13.8 MILLION BY TRAIN, AND 587.65 MILLION BY PUBLIC LIGHT BUS AND MAXICAB.

OF THE 1,052.5 MILLION BUS COMMUTERS, KOWLOON MOTORS BUS CARRIED 810.9 MILLION, REPRESENTING 2.22 MILLION PASSENGER JOURNEYS PER DAY. THIS EXCEEDED LAST YEAR'S RECORD BY 13.5 PER CENT.

THE KMB LAST YEAR OPERATED MORE THAN 150 FRANCHISED BUS SERVICES AND A NETWORK OF FRANCHISED LUXURY COACH SERVICES IN KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES, AS WELL AS A SHARE OF THE CROSS-HARBOUR TUNNEL SERVICE TO HONG KONG ISLAND. THE COMPANY HAS A FLEET OF 1,220 DOUBLE-DECKERS, 387 SINGLE-DECKERS AND 102 SINGLE-DECK COACHES.

THE CHINA MOTOR BUS CARRIED A TOTAL OF 239.6 MILLION PASSENGERS DURING THE YEAR, OR 656,000 A DAY, ON ITS 70 ROUTES ON HONG KONG ISLAND. THIS IS AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 9 MILLION OR 3.9 PER CENT OVER THE 1976 FIGURES.

CMB ALSO JOINTLY OPERATED 14 CROSS-HARBOUR BUS SERVICES UNDER A POOLED MILEAGE SCHEME BASED ON ROUTE LENGTH WITH KMB. CMB CARRIED 154,000 PASSENGERS A DAY ON THESE ROUTES, AN INCREASE OF 8.9 PER CENT OVER 1976.

AT THE END OF 1977, CMB HAD A LICENSED FLEET OF 751 VEHICLES, MOST OF THEM ONE-MAN OPERATED. ON AVERAGE, EACH BUS CARRIED 1,120 PASSENGERS DAILY.

LAST YEAR ALSO SAW AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF PASSENGERS USING THE FIVE BUS ROUTES OPERATED ON LANTAU ISLAND. BUS PASSENGER TRAFFIC ON THE ISLAND ROSE TO TWO MILLION PASSENGER JOURNEYS, COMPARED TO 1.69 IN 1976.

DURING THE YEAR, HONG KONG TRAMWAYS CARRIED 134.46 MILLION PASSENGERS, 4.9 PER CENT MORE OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR, WHILE ANOTHER 1.94 MILLION PEOPLE USED THE PEAK TRAM - A RISE OF 6.6 PER CENT.

THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY REGISTERED AN INCREASE OF 10.5 PER CENT IN PASSENGER VOLUME WHICH ROSE TO 13.8 MILLION LAST YEAR.

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MORE PEOPLE ALSO USED TAXIS LAST YEAR. THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ESTIMATED THAT 665,000 PEOPLE TRAVELLED BY TAXI EACH DAY LAST YEAR, COMPARED WITH 591,000 IN 1976.

THE NUMBER OF COMMUTERS USING PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES AND MAXICABS ALSO ROSE FROM 1.595 MILLION A DAY IN 1976 TO ABOUT 1.615 MILLION LAST YEAR.

HOWEVER, THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE USING PUBLIC HIRE CARS DROPPED FROM 47,000 PER DAY IN 1976 TO 33,000 LAST YEAR. THIS WAS MAINLY DUE TO THE PHASING OUT OF PUBLIC HIRE CARS WHICH ARE IN THE PROCESS OF BEING CONVERTED INTO TAXIS OR PRIVATE CARS WITH CONTRACT HIRE CAR PERMITS.

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TENDERS FOR KOWLOON TONG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IS TO BEGIN WORK SHORTLY ON A TECHNICAL INSTITUTE IN KOWLOON TONG.

THE CONSTRUCTION WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN TWO STAGES.

TENDERS FOR THE WORK ON STAGE ONE WERE CALLED TODAY BY THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE P.W.D.

MR. PATRICK LEE, P.W.D.'S SENIOR ARCHITECT, SAID THAT THE INSTITUTE, OCCUPYING AN AREA OF JUST OVER TWO HECTARES, WOULD BE SITUATED AT THE CORNER OF RENFREW ROAD AND HEREFORD ROAD AND OPPOSITE TO THE OSBORNE BARRACKS.

THE SCHOOL BUILDING COMPRISES A FOUR-STOREY ADMINISTRATIVE BLOCK AND A FIVE-STOREY TEACHING BLOCK WITH 55 CLASSROOMS, SPECIAL ROOMS AND WORKSHOPS PROVIDING COURSES FOR ENGINEERING, COMMERCIAL STUDIES, FOOTWEAR TECHNOLOGY AND PRACTICAL DESIGN.

MR. LEE SAID THAT THERE WOULD BE AN ASSEMBLY HALL WITH COVERED PLAY AREA AND CANTEEN FACILITIES ON THE GROUND FLOOR. IN ADDITION, THERE WOULD BE QUARTERS FOR MINOR STAFF.

HE SAID THAT CONSTRUCTION WORK ON THE FIRST STAGE, INCLUDING BOTH THE TEACHING AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE BLOCKS, SHOULD BE COMPLETED IN TIME FOR THE 1979-80 ACADEMIC YEAR.

WORK ON OTHER PARTS OF THE SCHOOL WOULD TAKE ANOTHER SEVEN MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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USD SETS UP MORE PICNIC WARDEN POSTS

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MORE POSTS TO PUBLICISE THE PICNIC WARDEN SCHEME HAVE BEEN SET UP RECENTLY BY THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT IN KOWLOON, SAI KUNG AND YUEN LONG.

THEY ARE LOCATED AT THE JORDAN ROAD FERRY PIER= TSUEN WAN FERRY PIER= PAK SHA WAN FERRY PIER AND TAI MONG TSAI IN SAI KUNG= SHEK KONG VILLAGE AND CHUNG HAU VILLAGE IN YUEN LONG.

THE NEW POSTS WILL REINFORCE THE EXISTING ONES AT KOWLOON RAILWAY STATION, THE OUTLYING FERRY PIER AND THE CHOI HUNG ESTATE BUS TERMINUS.

THE PICNIC WARDEN SCHEME INITIATED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL WAS INTRODUCED IN JUNE 1976 TO HELP PICNIC GROUPS TO APPOINT THEIR OWN VOLUNTARY WARDENS TO ENSURE THEY DO NOT LEAVE LITTER DURING THEIR OUTINGS.

PAMPHLETS AND PICNIC WARDEN BADGES ARE DISTRIBUTED FREE OF CHARGE TO PICNICKERS AT ALL POSTS.

ANY GROUP ORGANISING PICNICS, BARBECUES, HIKES AND BOAT TRIPS AND WHICH REQUIRES MORE THAN ONE BADGE CAN OBTAIN THEM FROM THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT ON REQUEST.

ACCORDING TO THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT, A TOTAL OF 113,000 PAMPHLETS AND 13,500 BADGES HAVE BEEN GIVEN OUT TO THE PUBLIC SINCE THE SCHEME WAS LAUNCHED TWO YEARS AGO.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT'S CLEANSING SECTION SAID, +AS THE NUMBER OF PICNICKERS IS INCREASING IN HONG KONG, WE ARE LOOKING FOR SUITABLE SITES TO SET UP MORE POSTS TO PUBLICISE THIS PICNIC WARDEN SCHEME IN THE FUTURE.+

HE ALSO URGED THE PICNICKERS TO GUARD AGAINST VANDALISM AND THE RISK OF FIRE.

REPORTS FROM THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT SHOW THAT LITTER BINS IN THE COUNTRY PARKS ARE NOW MORE POPULARLY USED THAN BEFORE.

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CAS RESCUERS TO TRAIN IN U.K.

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FIVE OFFICERS OF THE CIVIL AID SERVICES' MOUNTAIN SEARCH AND RESCUE UNIT WILL UNDERGO ADVANCED TRAINING IN THE UNITED KINGDOM IN THE LATEST TECHNIQUES IN MOUNTAIN SEARCH AND RESUCE.

THE GROUP LEAVES IN MAY AND IS THE SECOND TEAM OF CAS PERSONNEL TO UNDERGO SUCH TRAINING. THE FIRST GROUP WENT THROUGH A TOUGH SERIES OF COURSES IN 1976.

COMMENTING ON THE NEED FOR ADVANCED TRAINING OF THESE OFFICERS, MR. JOHN FORTUNE, CAS CHIEF STAFF OFFICER SAID: +REGRETTABLY, AS MORE AND MORE YOUNG PEOPLE TAKE TO THE HILLS TO GO HIKING AND CLIMBING, THE NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS WILL INCREASE. IT IS THEREFORE IMPORTANT THAT HONG KONG'S MOUNTAIN RESCUERS SHOULD BE TRAINED IN THE MOST MODERN AND ADVANCED TECHNIQUES IN ORDER TO HANDLE ANY EMERGENCY SITUATION WHICH MAY ARISE.+

THE FIVE OFFICERS WILL BE TRAINED IN THE RUGGED MOUNTAINS OF WALES AND SCOTLAND FOR TWO MONTHS AND WILL THEN UNDERGO SEVERAL WEEKS OF OPEN SEA CANOE TRAINING.

THE TRAINING COURSES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM WILL BE CARRIED OUT WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE LAND RESCUE SERVICE AND THE U.K. CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR PHYSICAL RECREATION.

IN ANOTHER EFFORT TO ENHANCE ITS OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY, THE CAS MOUNTAIN RESCUE UNIT HAS RECENTLY ADDED THE LATEST BELL RESCUE STRETCHER TO ITS ARRAY OF EQUIPMENT.

IT IS THE FIRST OF ITS KIND TO BE USED OUTSIDE EUROPE.

THE BELL STRETCHER WEIGHS ONLY 21 LBS AND CAN BE WINCHED TO A HOVERING HELICOPTER DURING AIR RESCUE MISSION. IT CAN BE SEPARATED INTO THREE PARTS FOR EASY AND SPEEDY TRANSPORTATION OVER MOUNTAINS TO THE SCENE OF AN ACCIDENT. IT IS ALSO SLIGHTLY LONGER THAN USUAL MOUNTAIN RESCUE STRETCHERS TO ACCOMMODATE TALLER CASUALTIES.

MR. FORTUNE SAID THAT THE NEW STRETCHER WOULD BE IDEALLY SUITED FOR MOUNTAIN RESCUE OPERATIONS IN HONG KONG, AS ACCIDENTS IN OUR HILLS NORMALLY OCCURRED OVER TERRAINS WHERE MOVEMENT OF BULKY AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT WOULD ADD DIFFICULTIES TO THE RESCUING GROUP, PARTICULARLY WHEN THEY WERE TRAVERSING MOUNTAINS AT NIGHT OR IN LOW LYING CLOUDS WHEN HELICOPTERS COULD NOT BE USED TO TRANSPORT HEAVY EQUIPMENT TO THE SITE OF ACCIDENT.

ACCORDING TO MR. CHENG SUNG-NGAR, COMMANDER OF THE 56 MEMBER CAS MOUNTAIN RESCUE UNIT, MORE BELL STRETCHERS WILL BE PURCHASED IN THE FUTURE, BUT THE EXISTING OLDER STRETCHERS WILL CONTINUE TO BE USED.

HE SAID THE UNIT, APART FROM CARRYING OUT RESCUE DUTIES, ALSO PROVIDES BRIEFING TO YOUTH GROUP LEADERS AND FACTORY GROUP ORGANISERS ON HOW TO PLAN A SUCCESSFUL HIKE INTO THE HILLS AND WHAT TO DO IN AN EMERGENCY. BRIEFINGS ARE GIVEN ON SUNDAYS, AND THOSE WHO ARE INTERESTED MAY CALL TEL. NO. 3-015011.

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INDUSTRIAL TRADE INSTRUCTORS' COURSE STARTING IN APRIL

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THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE IS INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION TO THE BLOCK RELEASE INDUSTRIAL TRADE INSTRUCTORS' COURSE COMMENCING LATE APRIL.

THE COURSE IS LIMITED TO 20 TRADE INSTRUCTORS AND WORKSHOP SUPERVISORS. IT WILL ENABLE THEM TO OBTAIN THE NECESSARY TRAINING TO CARRY OUT THEIR DAY-TO-DAY TEACHING DUTIES. FROM THIS COURSE THEY WILL LEARN TO IMPROVE THEIR METHODS OF TEACHING, STUDY EDUCATION THEORY AND EDUCATION PSYCHOLOGY.

THE COURSE WILL REQUIRE ATTENDANCE AT THE COLLEGE FOR TWO WEEKS FULL-TIME AND ON-THE-JOB GUIDANCE AT PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT FOR ANOTHER TWO WEEKS.

APPLICANTS SHOULD BE EMPLOYED AS TRADE OR WORKSHOP INSTRUCTORS AND MUST BE FULLY SKILLED IN THEIR TRADES. THEY SHOULD HAVE ADEQUATE SECONDARY EDUCATION.

THE FEE FOR THE COURSE IS $60. THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION WILL BE CHINESE, WITH USAGE OF SOME ENGLISH TERMINOLOGY.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE OBTAINABLE FROM THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE, 373 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, HONG KONG, AND SHOULD BE RETURNED ON OR BEFORE APRIL 8.

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