



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 1980

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TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 1980

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YEAR BOOK UNVEILS LATEST FACTS ON HONG KONG
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THOUSANDS OF NEW FACTS, FIGURES AND STATISTICS ON HONG KONG ARE UNVEILED IN THE NEW GOVERNMENT YEAR BOOK WHICH WILL GO ON SALE TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

HONG KONG 1980, WHICH ALSO CONTAINS 80 COLOUR PLATES, COSTS \$22 AND IS AVAILABLE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CITY DISTRICT OFFICES- NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICT OFFICES- AND LEADING BOOKSHOPS.

+THE BOOK IS AN IMPORTANT SOURCE OF MATERIAL ABOUT HONG KONG AND AN ESSENTIAL REFERENCE ON THE CONTINUING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE TERRITORY,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES SAID.

A TOTAL OF 37 000 ENGLISH COPIES AND 11 000 CHINESE COPIES HAVE BEEN PRINTED TO MEET THE DEMAND FOR THE BOOK WHICH HAS BECOME A BEST-SELLER IN HONG KONG IN RECENT YEARS.

LAST YEAR, WHEN HONG KONG 1979 WAS PUBLISHED, MORE THAN HALF THE ENGLISH EDITION AND THREE-QUARTERS OF THE CHINESE EDITION WERE SOLD IN THE FIRST THREE MONTHS.

+PUBLICATION OF THE YEAR BOOK IS ALWAYS EAGERLY AWAITED BECAUSE IT PRESENTS A VAST RANGE OF UP-TO-DATE FACTS AND FIGURES WITH COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHS OF A VERY HIGH STANDARD,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE NEW EDITION GIVES ADDED VALUE THROUGH THE INCLUSION OF TWO SPECIAL REVIEW CHAPTERS. ONE EXPLORES THE EFFECTS OF THE VIETNAMESE REFUGEE INFLUX ON HONG KONG, WHILE THE OTHER HERALDS THE ADVENT OF THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY.

BOTH CHAPTERS ARE ILLUSTRATED BY PHOTOGRAPHIC SECTIONS.

OTHER PHOTOGRAPHIC SECTIONS IN THE BOOK COVER HONG KONG'S AUXILIARY SERVICES, THE FURNITURE INDUSTRY, THE POST OFFICE, THE ARTS, BOAT FESTIVALS, LANTAU ISLAND, CHILDREN AND EVENTS OF THE YEAR.

THE BOOK DEVOTES COMPREHENSIVE COVERAGE TO SUCH TOPICS AS TRADE AND INDUSTRY, POPULATION, THE ECONOMY, SOCIAL SERVICES, IMMIGRATION, THE ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC ORDER, COMMUNICATIONS, EMPLOYMENT, AND HONG KONG'S CONSTITUTION AND ADMINISTRATION.

IN ADDITION, THERE ARE MORE THAN 40 APPENDICES PROVIDING DETAILED STATISTICS.

HONG KONG 1980 WAS PRODUCED IN ENGLISH BY THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES, TRANSLATED BY THE CHINESE LANGUAGE DIVISION OF THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, AND PRINTED BY THE GOVERNMENT PRINTER.

GUANGZHOU AGRICULTURISTS HERE ON A VISIT
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A DELEGATION FROM THE SOUTH CHINA AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE IN GUANGZHOU IS HERE ON A ONE-WEEK VISIT TO SEE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE GROUP ARRIVED IN HONG KONG LAST (MONDAY) NIGHT AND STARTED THE PROGRAMME THIS MORNING WITH A BRIEFING BY THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, MR JOHN RIDDELL-SWAN, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DR C T WONG, AND OTHER SENIOR STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENT.

THE PARTY IS ON A RETURN VISIT TO HONG KONG FOLLOWING A TOUR OF GUANGZHOU LAST DECEMBER BY SENIOR STAFF OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT. THE DEPARTMENT PREPARED THE ITINERARY FOR THE VISITORS.

THE CHINESE DELEGATION IS LED BY DEAN OF THE SOUTH CHINA AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, LI PEI-WEN, WITH ZOOLOGIST MRS LI PIN-YI AND PROFESSORS LIANG FU-REN, KUANG RONG-LU, LI YONG-LU AND LU FANG-YU.

TODAY THEY VISITED THE POULTRY BREEDING ESTABLISHMENTS AND VETERINARY DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORIES AT THE GOVERNMENT'S BREEDING CENTRE AT CASTLE PEAK AND INSPECTED FARMS IN THE TAI KONG PO AREA.

IN THE AFTERNOON THEY INSPECTED ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FACILITIES AT THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT'S SHEUNG SHUI FARM. THEY ALSO SAW PIG BREEDING AND ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION ACTIVITIES AT THE GOVERNMENT'S TA KWU LING PIG BREEDING CENTRE.

PROGRAMME FOR THE REST OF THE WEEK WILL INCLUDE VISITS TO THE TWO UNIVERSITIES, OCEAN PARK, THE KADOORIE AGRICULTURE FARM, PRIVATE FARMS AND ANIMAL FEED MANUFACTURERS.

THE DELEGATION WILL RETURN TO GUANGZHOU ON SUNDAY (MARCH 16).

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LEGCO MEETS TOMORROW
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THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE ASKED TO GIVE A STATEMENT AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) ON THE PROPOSALS IT HAS IF IN THE EVENT OF AN APPEAL, THE COURT OF APPEALS UPHOLDS A RECENT DISTRICT COURT DECISION CONCERNING CERTAIN TENANCIES ENTERED INTO BEFORE DECEMBER 18, 1979.

THE QUERY FROM THE HON JOHN BREMIDGE WILL BE AMONG THE SEVEN QUESTIONS TO BE RAISED BY UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS.

DR THE HON HO KAM-FAI WILL ASK WHAT MEASURES THE GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE TO IMPROVE SECURITY IN PEDESTRIAN SUBWAYS, ESPECIALLY THOSE IN AREAS MORE SUSCEPTIBLE TO CRIME.

REV THE HON JOYCE M BENNETT WILL ASK THE GOVERNMENT TO EXPLAIN WHY THE GREEN PAPER ON PRE-PRIMARY AND PRIMARY EDUCATION WHICH WAS PROMISED FOR THE END OF 1979 HAS STILL NOT BEEN PUBLISHED.

THE HON WONG LAM WILL ASK THE GOVERNMENT ON WHAT STEPS ARE BEING TAKEN TO MONITOR THE SUPPLY OF DRUGS IN GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS AND CLINICS TO ENSURE THERE IS NO SHORTAGE AT ANY TIME OF THE YEAR.

ON TRADE, THE HON WONG PO-YAN WILL ASK WHAT STEPS THE GOVERNMENT IS TAKING TO PERSUADE THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT TO LIFT ITS DISCRIMINATION AGAINST HONG KONG IN EXCLUDING SEVEN ITEMS OF HONG KONG MERCHANDISE FROM ITS GENERALISED SCHEME OF PREFERENCE.

THE OTHER TWO QUESTIONS CONCERN A STUDY TO AIR-CONDITION AND MODERNISE THE AMBULANCE FLEET, AND THE HEUNG YEE KUK ELECTIONS.

A MOTION SEEKING TO REVISE THE FARE STRUCTURE OF THE STAR FERRY COMPANY WILL BE INTRODUCED AT TOMORROW'S SITTING.

THE MOTION TO AMEND THE +STAR+ FERRY COMPANY (SERVICES) ORDINANCE, WILL BE MOVED BY THE SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, THE HON DEREK JONES.

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TAX EXEMPTION ON INTEREST RAISED

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INTEREST PAYABLE BY LICENSED BANKS, CERTAIN PUBLIC UTILITIES AND THE GOVERNMENT AT RATES OF UP TO 10-1/2 PER CENT PER ANNUM WILL BE EXEMPTED FROM INTEREST TAX FROM TODAY (TUESDAY), A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED.

HE SAID THIS REPRESENTS AN INCREASE OF 1-1/4 PER CENT IN THE EXEMPTION LIMIT AND FOLLOWS THE ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE EXCHANGE BANKS' ASSOCIATION ON SATURDAY (MARCH 8) THAT THE RATE OF INTEREST PAYABLE ON SAVINGS ACCOUNTS WOULD BE SIMILARLY RAISED TO 10-1/2 PER CENT ALSO WITH EFFECT FROM TODAY.

SECTION 28 OF THE INLAND REVENUE ORDINANCE WAS AMENDED TODAY BY A PUBLIC REVENUE PROTECTION ORDER SIGNED THIS MORNING BY THE GOVERNOR, TO RAISE FROM 9-1/4 PER CENT TO 10-1/2 PER CENT THE CEILING ON THE POWER OF THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY TO INCREASE THE RATE UP TO WHICH INTEREST IS EXEMPTED FROM INTEREST TAX.

THE PUBLIC REVENUE PROTECTION ORDER, AND THE NOTICE SIGNED BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, WERE PUBLISHED IN AN EXTRAORDINARY GAZETTE TODAY.

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SIX NT SITES SOLD FOR \$56.9 MILLION
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A TOTAL OF \$56.9 MILLION WAS PAID FOR SIX NEW TERRITORIES SITES WHEN THEY WERE AUCTIONED AT THE CITY HALL THIS (TUESDAY) MORNING.

FOUR OF THE SITES WERE IN SAI KUNG DISTRICT, ONE ON CHEUNG CHAU AND THE REMAINING SITE ON LANTAU.

THE HIGHEST PRICE PAID WAS \$22.8 MILLION FOR A 3 231 SQUARE METRE SITE AT TUI MIN HOI, SAI KUNG, TO BE DEVELOPED FOR INDUSTRIAL/GODOWN PURPOSES. THIS REPRESENTS A PRICE OF \$7 057 PER SQUARE METRE. THERE IS A REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEVELOPER TO PROVIDE SMALL FACTORY UNITS OF 75 SQUARE METRES EACH.

ANOTHER INDUSTRIAL SITE AT TUI MIN HOI MEASURING 2 638 SQUARE METRES WENT FOR \$17.2 MILLION (\$6 520 PER SQUARE METRE).

A SITE FOR A SUPERMARKET AT RAZOR HILL, CLEARWATER BAY, MEASURING 800 SQUARE METRES, REALISED \$5.6 MILLION (\$7 000 PER SQUARE METRE).

A RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT SITE AT TAI MONG TSAI, SAI KUNG, MEASURING 2 420 SQUARE METRES WAS SOLD FOR \$4.2 MILLION (\$1 736 PER SQUARE METRE). DEVELOPMENT OF THE SITE IS LIMITED TO TWO-STOREYS.

THE FIRST SITE TO BE SOLD ON CHEUNG CHAU SINCE NOVEMBER, 1973, REALISED \$5.3 MILLION (\$1 677 PER SQUARE METRE). THE SITE, MEASURING 3 160 SQUARE METRES, IS FOR LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT RESTRICTED TO TWO STOREYS. THE PLOT RATIO WILL BE ONLY 0.6.

A SITE FOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT CHEUNG SHA, LANTAU WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE OF THE BEACH WAS SOLD FOR \$1.8 MILLION (\$2 105 PER SQUARE METRE). IT MEASURES 855 SQUARE METRES AND WILL BE DEVELOPED AS VILLA TYPE HOUSING.

THE AUCTIONEER WAS A CHIEF ESTATE SURVEYOR OF THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, MR NIGEL BURLEY, WHO DESCRIBED THE RESULTS OF THE AUCTION AS +MOST ENCOURAGING+.

+THESE ARE RECORD PRICES AND REFLECT THE CONTINUOUS DEMAND FOR LAND IN THE NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICT,+ HE SAID.

THE AUCTION OF THE SIX SITES TOOK ABOUT ONE AND THREE QUARTER HOURS TO COMPLETE.

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REGISTER NOW AS VOTERS FOR UC ELECTIONS

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO ARE ELIGIBLE TO REGISTER AS VOTERS FOR URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS ARE URGED TO DO SO NOW.

THE BIENNIAL URBAN COUNCIL ELECTORAL REGISTRATION CYCLE WHICH BEGAN ON FEBRUARY 15 WILL CLOSE ON JUNE 15, 1980.

MR KUO KET-CHEN, REGISTRATION OFFICER FOR THE 1980 URBAN COUNCIL ELECTION REGISTRATION SAID, +URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS ARE HELD EVERY OTHER YEAR, SOME POTENTIAL VOTERS MAY BE UNAWARE OF THE NEED TO BE REGISTERED AS AN ELECTOR BEFORE THEY CAN VOTE AT AN ELECTION.+

HE EXPLAINED THAT THIS IS BECAUSE APPLICATIONS HAVE TO BE EXAMINED TO VERIFY THE ELIGIBILITY OF THE APPLICANTS- AND A PROVISIONAL REGISTER HAS TO BE COMPILED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION BEFORE THE ACTUAL ELECTION.

TO REGISTER AS A VOTER IS EASY. ALL A PERSON HAS TO DO IS TO OBTAIN AN APPLICATION FORM, FILL IN SIMPLE PERSONAL DETAILS, AND RETURN IT POSTAGE FREE TO THE REGISTRATION OFFICE. THE REGISTRATION IS COMPLETE ONCE AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT HAS BEEN RECEIVED AND WILL STAY VALID ON THE ELECTORAL ROLL UNTIL 1984.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT ALL CITY DISTRICT OFFICES, DISTRICT OFFICES OF NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, POST OFFICES, IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT BRANCH OFFICES, REGISTRATION OF PERSONS OFFICES- BIRTH, DEATH AND MARRIAGE REGISTRIES. DETAILS OF THE PROCEDURE AS WELL AS THE FRANCHISE ARE ANNEXED TO THE APPLICATION FORM.

ENQUIRIES CONCERNING REGISTRATION MATTERS CAN BE MADE BY TELEPHONING 5-769567.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

SNT TO LAY FOUNDATION STONE FOR SCHOOL

THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE FOUNDATION STONE LAYING CEREMONY OF THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS' YOW KAM YUEN COLLEGE IN SHA TIN NEW TOWN TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AT 11 AM.

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE CEREMONY. A GOVERNMENT VAN (AM 2088) WILL LEAVE KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER, TSIM SHA TSUI, AT 10.15 AM SHARP. PRESS MEMBERS USING THEIR OWN TRANSPORT SHOULD MEET MR DONALD STRANGE OF THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION OUTSIDE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE NOT LATER THAN 10.45 AM.

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CONTRACTS AWARDED BY PWD IN JANUARY

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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT AWARDED A TOTAL OF 43 CONTRACTS WORTH MORE THAN \$440 MILLION IN JANUARY.

OF THESE, 26 WERE AWARDED ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE CENTRAL TENDER BOARD AND OTHERS ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PWD TENDER BOARD.

ONE OF THE LARGEST CONTRACTS WAS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF SEAWALL AND RECLAMATION AT THE WESTERN PORTION OF TSUEN WAN BAY. IT IS WORTH MORE THAN \$144 MILLION.

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WATER CUT IN KOWLOON TONG

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN KOWLOON TONG WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR SEVEN HOURS FROM 11 PM ON THURSDAY (MARCH 13) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR WATER WORKS.

THE AREA TO BE AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY JUNCTION ROAD, KAM SHING ROAD, RENFREW ROAD, WATERLOO ROAD, CORNWALL STREET AND KENT ROAD INCLUDING EDE ROAD, DORSET CRESCENT, SOMERSET ROAD, SUFFOLK ROAD, NORFOLK ROAD, YORK ROAD AND HEREFORD ROAD.

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