



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1975

CONTENTS

PAGE NO.

NEW AREAS IN THE N.T. TO BE BROUGHT INTO RATING FROM NEXT APRIL	1
GOLD COIN TO MARK YEAR OF DRAGON SOON TO BE ON SALE	3
FOUR-MONTH RECREATION PROGRAMME ORGANISED FOR CHILDREN IN SAI KUNG	4
SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT CALLS FOR POSITIVE STEPS TO IMPROVE ENVIRONMENT	5
TECHNICAL COURSES OPEN FOR APPLICATION	6
SALES OF LUCKY CAR NUMBERS RAISE NEARLY \$280,000	7

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1975.

- 1 -

N.T. RATEPAYERS TO GET NOTICES OF RATEABLE VALUE
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THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT IS SENDING NOTICES OF RATEABLE VALUE TO RATEPAYERS IN A NUMBER OF NEW AREAS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WHICH WILL BE BROUGHT INTO RATING NEXT YEAR.

THE AREAS ARE YUEN LONG, TAI PO, LUEN WO MARKET, ON LOK TSUEN, SHEK WU HUI, TUEN MUN, SHA TIN AND THE CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD AREA.

PREMISES IN THESE AREAS, WHICH WERE SPECIFIED BY THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL FOR RATING PURPOSES IN JUNE THIS YEAR, WILL BE LIABLE FOR RATES WITH EFFECT FROM APRIL 1, 1976.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (SATURDAY) THAT PROPERTIES IN THE URBAN AREAS AND IN CERTAIN PARTS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES, INCLUDING KWAI CHUNG, TSUEN WAN AND TSING YI, WERE ALREADY ASSESSED TO RATES.

THE INCLUSION OF THE NEW AREAS FOR RATING WAS IN CONFORMITY WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED POLICY OF EXTENDING RATING TO DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING PARTS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES, HE SAID.

NEVERTHELESS, AS HAS ALREADY BEEN MENTIONED, BY VIRTUE OF RECENT AMENDMENTS TO THE RATING ORDINANCE, VILLAGE HOUSES IN CERTAIN DESIGNATED AREAS ARE TO BE EXEMPTED.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE PURPOSE OF SENDING THE NOTICES OF RATEABLE VALUE WAS TO INFORM RATEPAYERS OF THE RATING ASSESSMENTS PROPOSED FOR THEIR PROPERTIES.

HE EXPLAINED THAT, ALTHOUGH THE RATEABLE VALUE OF ANY PROPERTY WAS BASED ON AN ESTIMATE OF ITS ANNUAL RENTAL VALUE, THE DEPARTMENT, IN FIXING VALUES, HAD TO TAKE IN CONSIDERATION THE LEVEL OF VALUES IN OTHER AREAS WHICH WERE ALREADY ASSESSED TO RATES.

+SINCE RATEABLE VALUES FOR PREMISES IN OTHER AREAS HAVE NOT BEEN REVISED SINCE 1972-73,+ HE SAID, +VALUES ARE GENERALLY BELOW CURRENT OPEN MARKET RENTALS AND THE SAME WILL APPLY FOR THESE NEW AREAS.+

+IN ADDITION, BECAUSE OF THE DISTANCE FROM THE MAIN URBAN AREAS AND THE LACK OF CERTAIN SERVICES, RENTS GENERALLY ARE LOWER THAN IN THE URBAN AREAS AND THUS RATEABLE VALUES, TOO, WILL BE LOWER.+

/TO ILLUSTRATE,

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1975

- 2 -

TO ILLUSTRATE, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT AN AVERAGE MODERN TENEMENT FLOOR OF ABOUT 350 SQUARE FEET IN TSIM SHA TSUI MIGHT HAVE A RATEABLE VALUE OF \$5,670, IN WAN CHAI OF \$5,460, IN KWUN TONG OF \$4,830 AND IN SHAM SHUI PO OF \$4,200.

FOR A COMPARABLE FLOOR IN TAI PO THE AVERAGE RATEABLE VALUE WOULD BE OF THE ORDER OF \$3,360, IN YUEN LONG \$3,120, IN TUEN MUN \$2,880 AND IN SHEK WU HUI OR LUEN WO MARKET \$2,640.

IN SOME CASES, THEREFORE, RATEABLE VALUES WILL BE LESS THAN HALF THE VALUES FOR SIMILAR PREMISES IN THE CENTRAL URBAN AREAS.

THE SPOKESMAN EMPHASISED ALSO THAT IN ESTIMATING RATEABLE VALUE, THE FACT THAT PREMISES WERE OCCUPIED BY AN OWNER WAS NOT TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.

LEAFLETS EXPLAINING GENERALLY RATES, LIABILITY FOR PAYMENT, EXEMPTIONS, AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS WILL BE SENT WITH THE NOTICES OF RATEABLE VALUE.

RECIPIENTS ARE ADVISED TO STUDY THE LEAFLETS CAREFULLY, PARTICULARLY IF THEY HAVE NOT PAID RATES BEFORE.

RATEPAYERS ARE ALSO ADVISED TO PAY ATTENTION TO THE PROCEDURES ON THE MAKING OF PROPOSALS FOR THE ALTERATION OF RATEABLE VALUES, WHICH ARE PRINTED ON THE BACK OF THE NOTICES.

ANYONE WHO IS IN DOUBT ABOUT THE RATEABLE VALUE ASSESSED FOR HIS PROPERTY OR OTHER ASSOCIATED RATING MATTERS MAY MAKE ENQUIRIES AT THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT, 1 GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG (TEL. NO. 5-249021), OR AT THE DISTRICT OFFICES OF THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION.

TECHNICAL OFFICERS OF THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT WILL BE STATIONED AT DISTRICT OFFICES FOR CERTAIN SPECIFIED PERIODS INITIALLY TO DEAL WITH ENQUIRIES. RATEPAYERS CAN ALSO MAKE APPOINTMENTS TO SEE VALUERS AT DISTRICT OFFICES IF THEY DO NOT WISH TO TRAVEL INTO TOWN.

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/3

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1975

- 3 -

ISSUE OF GOLD COINS TO MARK YEAR OF DRAGON

THE FIRST OF WHAT MAY BE A SERIES OF 12 UNIQUE GOLD COINS, EACH DEPICTING ONE OF THE TWELVE ANIMALS TRADITIONALLY REPRESENTATIVE OF PARTICULAR LUNAR YEARS, WILL SHORTLY BE ISSUED FOR THE COMING NEW YEAR.

THE COIN TO BE ISSUED WILL BE THE ONLY ONE ISSUED BY HONG KONG TO SHOW A LUNAR YEAR ANIMAL -- THE DRAGON.

THE OTHER ELEVEN ANIMALS IN THEIR ORDER ARE THE SNAKE, HORSE, GOAT, MONKEY, COCKEREL, DOG, PIG, RAT, OX, TIGER AND RABBIT.

THE DRAGON YEAR GOLD COINS WILL HAVE A LIMITED CIRCULATION OF NO MORE THAN 30,000, OF WHICH NO MORE THAN 10,000 WILL BE PROOFS.

EACH COIN IS MADE OF 22 CARAT GOLD, WITH A STANDARD WEIGHT OF 15.976 GRAMMES AND A DIAMETER OF 28.4 MM. (1.118 INCHES). IT HAS A PORTRAIT OF THE QUEEN ON THE OBVERSE SIDE AND A PICTURE OF THE DRAGON ON THE REVERSE.

THEY MAY BE BOUGHT IN BRILLIANT UNCIRCULATED CONDITION AT THEIR FACE VALUE OF \$1,000 OR IN PROOF QUALITY AT \$1,500. EACH COIN WILL BE SUPPLIED WITH A DESCRIPTIVE BOOKLET AND PACKAGED IN AN ATTRACTIVE PRESENTATION CASE.

THE FIRST TIME LEGAL TENDER GOLD COINS WERE ISSUED IN HONG KONG WAS IN MAY THIS YEAR, MARKING THE VISIT OF THE QUEEN AND PRINCE PHILIP.

A TOTAL OF 20,000 COINS WERE ISSUED AT THAT TIME TO MEET LOCAL AND OVERSEAS DEMAND. SOME 18,000 HONG KONG RESIDENTS APPLIED FOR THEM.

THE PROOFS OF THE DRAGON YEAR GOLD COIN ARE MINTED WITH SPECIAL QUALITY DIES AND THE COIN DISCS ARE POLISHED TO A MIRROR-LIKE FINISH, AND HAVE THEIR RELIEF DESIGN DELICATELY FROSTED.

BECAUSE OF THEIR FINE QUALITY, THEIR LIMITED CIRCULATION AND THE FACT THAT THEY WILL BE ISSUED BY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT, BOTH THE PROOFS AND THE VERY HIGH QUALITY UNCIRCULATED COINS ARE EXPECTED TO BE IN GREAT DEMAND ALL OVER THE WORLD.

TO ENSURE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY, EACH APPLICATION IS RESTRICTED TO ONE COIN. APPLICATION FORMS WILL BE OBTAINABLE FROM A DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED IN A PRESS ADVERTISEMENT AT ALL BRANCHES OF THE HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

IN CASE THE ISSUE IS OVERSUBSCRIBED A BALLOT WILL BE HELD AND THE SUCCESSFUL APPLICANT WILL BE NOTIFIED INDIVIDUALLY.

THE COINS SHOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION BEFORE THE YEAR OF THE DRAGON ACTUALLY BEGINS.

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/4

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1975

- 4 -

RECREATION FOR RURAL CHILDREN
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A FOUR-MONTH RECREATIONAL PROGRAMME STARTING TOMORROW (SUNDAY) HAS BEEN ORGANISED FOR ABOUT 150 CHILDREN IN SAI KUNG.

THE PROGRAMME, RUN BY THE YOUTH SERVICES CORPS OF KWUN TONG COMMUNITY CENTRE, IS A PROJECT UNDER THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S "OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUTH" SCHEME.

THE INTENTION IS TO SERVE RURAL AREAS WHERE THERE IS A LACK OF RECREATIONAL RESOURCES AND FACILITIES FOR CHILDREN. IT IS HOPED THAT YOUNG PEOPLE FROM THESE AREAS WILL BE ENCOURAGED TO RENDER SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY.

MOST OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN THIS PROGRAMME COME FROM THREE VILLAGES: TAI PO TSAI VILLAGE, LAM WAI VILLAGE AND PIK UK VILLAGE. ACTIVITIES PLANNED INCLUDE GAMES DAYS, TOWN VISITS, COMPETITIONS, QUIZ AND SLIDE SHOWS.

MR. KO KAI MAN, WARDEN OF THE KWUN TONG COMMUNITY CENTRE, AND VILLAGE REPRESENTATIVES WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE PROJECT AT THE KWONG PUI SCHOOL, CLEARWATER BAY ROAD, SAI KUNG AT 2.00 P.M. TOMORROW.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: YOU ARE WELCOME TO SEND YOUR REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1975

- 5 -

'POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT IMPROVEMENTS' CALLED FOR
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IF THE QUALITY OF LIFE IS TO BE MADE BETTER IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT POSITIVE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS ARE INTRODUCED WHEREVER POSSIBLE.

MR. JAMES ROBSON, THE SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, SAID THIS TODAY (SATURDAY) WHEN HE OFFICIATED AT THE PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY OF THE NEW PLAYGROUND CONCEPTS COMPETITION ORGANISED BY THE PENINSULA JAYCEES.

HE ADDED : +IN THIS RESPECT THE PROVISION OF BETTER HOUSING AND AMPLE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES PROBABLY PLAY THE MOST IMPORTANT ROLE.+

HE NOTED THAT THE PROVISION OF BETTER PLAYGROUND FACILITIES WAS VERY IMPORTANT.

+THE PLAYGROUND IS ONE OF THE FEW PLACES WHERE A CHILD SPENDS OR SHOULD SPEND A LOT OF HIS TIME AND WHERE HE LEARNS AT AN EARLY AGE THE NEED, IN LIFE, FOR BOTH CO-OPERATION AND COMPETITION WITHIN THE COMMUNITY,+ HE SAID.

MR. ROBSON THOUGHT THAT THE PENINSULA JAYCEES' NEW PLAYGROUND CONCEPTS REPRESENTED A PROMISING START IN IMPROVING THE QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF OUR PLAYGROUNDS.

+THE ENTRIES THAT HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED ARE IMAGINATIVE AND INGENIOUS, AND WILL, I AM SURE, DELIGHT AND THRILL CHILDREN IN HONG KONG BY PROVIDING A STIMULATING AND ENJOYABLE ENVIRONMENT WHEN THESE CONCEPTS ARE TURNED INTO REALITY,+ HE SAID.

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/6

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1975.

- 6 -

ENROLMENT IN TECHNICAL COURSES INVITED
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APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED BY THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE FOR ENROLMENT IN A PART-TIME DAY-RELEASE INDUSTRIAL TRADE INSTRUCTORS' COURSE.

THE 12-WEEK COURSE WILL START NEXT MONTH AND STUDENTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND CLASSES FOR ONE DAY AND TWO EVENINGS EVERY WEEK.

THE ENROLMENT FEE IS \$80 AND THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION WILL BE CHINESE BUT SOME ENGLISH TERMS WILL BE USED.

APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE COLLEGE AT 373 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST AND THEY SHOULD BE RETURNED ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 27.

MEANWHILE, THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE ARE INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR ENROLMENT IN A NUMBER OF EVENING SHORT COURSES PLANNED TO RUN IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 1976.

THE COURSES INCLUDE COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENCE, ACCOUNTING AND FUNDAMENTALS OF TRANSISTORS.

TUITION FEES RANGE FROM \$20 TO \$40. THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION WILL BE EITHER ENGLISH OR CHINESE OR BOTH.

APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE INSTITUTE AT 601 KWAN ROAD, WANCHAI, FROM 9 A.M. TO 5 P.M. AND 7 P.M. TO 8 P.M. ON WEEKDAYS AND FROM 9 A.M. TO 12 NOON ON SATURDAYS.

COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE INSTITUTE ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 23. SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL BE NOTIFIED OF THE COMMENCING DATES OF THE COURSES.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1975

- 7 -

SALES OF LUCKY CAR NUMBERS FETCH OVER \$270,000

FIFTEEN SPECIAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION NUMBERS WERE SOLD BY AUCTION THIS MORNING FOR A TOTAL OF \$278,000 WHICH WILL GO INTO THE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES FUND FOR CHARITY PURPOSES.

THE AUCTION, HELD AT THE CITY HALL LECTURE ROOM, SAW THE REGISTRATION NUMBER 6006 FETCH THE HIGHEST PRICE OF \$44,000.

ANOTHER NUMBER AZ 88 WAS SOLD AT THE SECOND HIGHEST PRICE OF \$40,000 WHILE THE LOWEST PRICE WAS \$2,300 FOR AH 7007.

THE OTHER SPECIAL REGISTRATION NUMBERS WERE SOLD AT THE FOLLOWING PRICES :-

8899	-	\$37,000
BB 838	-	\$35,000
AP 3	-	\$21,000
AR 555	-	\$20,000
AW 11	-	\$15,000
AJ 99	-	\$15,000
AZ 2	-	\$14,500
AV 7777	-	\$13,000
AC 23	-	\$ 7,000
AX 300	-	\$ 6,500
BC 123	-	\$ 4,500
AD 212	-	\$ 3,600

THE NUMBERS AUCTIONED WILL BE ASSIGNED ONLY TO VEHICLES REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF THE DATE OF AUCTION.

TODAY'S SALE, THE 27TH IN A SERIES ORGANISED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SINCE MAY 1973, BROUGHT THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF MONEY REALISED SO FAR TO ABOUT \$4.3 MILLION.

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