



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1976

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GOVT'S FAMILY PLANNING SERVICE PROVES SUCCESSFUL

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GOVERNMENT'S EFFORT IN DIRECTLY PROVIDING FAMILY PLANNING SERVICE HAS PROVED TO BE SUCCESSFUL, JUDGING FROM THE RESPONSE FROM PEOPLE USING THE SERVICE DURING THE PAST THREE YEARS.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, DR. K.L. THONG, IN HIS ADDRESS TO THE LION'S CLUB OF SOUTH KOWLOON THIS EVENING.

SINCE OCTOBER 1973, THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN OFFERING FAMILY PLANNING SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC AFTER INTEGRATING SOME 30 CLINICS FORMERLY OPERATED BY THE FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION INTO THE DEPARTMENT'S FAMILY HEALTH SERVICE.

IN ADDITION, ANOTHER 10 CLINICS HAVE SINCE BEEN SET UP BY THE DEPARTMENT, MAKING A TOTAL OF 40 CLINICS THROUGHOUT HONG KONG ISLAND, KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES.

TO DATE, THESE CLINICS SERVE SOME 31,500 MOTHERS WITH A TOTAL ATTENDANCE OF 243,000 UP TO THE END OF LAST YEAR.

DR. THONG SAID IT WAS THE GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT SERVICES OF THE FPA, PARTICULARLY ITS HEALTH EDUCATION ACTIVITIES.

HE SAID FAMILY PLANNING IS NOW PART OF THE POST-NATAL SERVICE RENDERED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH CLINICS.

+WITH THE COOPERATION OF THE FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION, I AM SURE THAT OUR COMMUNITY WILL CONTINUE TO ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF AN EFFICIENT AND GOOD PREVENTIVE HEALTH SERVICE WHICH RANKS AMONG THE BEST THROUGHOUT THIS REGION,+ HE SAID.

TURNING TO THE GENERAL HEALTH OF THE COMMUNITY, DR. THONG SAID VERY OFTEN PEOPLE TENDED TO HEAR VARIOUS COMMENTS ON STATISTICS AS INDICES TO THE STATE OF HEALTH OF THE COMMUNITY, SUCH AS THE DOCTOR/POPULATION RATIO AND THE HOSPITAL BED/POPULATION RATIO.

+WHILE THESE ARE IN THEIR OWN WAY IMPORTANT INDICES OF THE IN-PUT OF MEDICAL FACILITIES AND CARE AVAILABLE TO THE COMMUNITY THEY DO NOT REALLY IN THE ULTIMATE REFLECT DIRECTLY THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE SERVICES IN REGARD TO THE HEALTH OF THE COMMUNITY,+ HE SAID.

/DR. THONG

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DR. THONG POINTED OUT THAT THERE WERE MORE TANGIBLE AND IMPORTANT INDICES TO THE STATE OF HEALTH OF THE COMMUNITY.

+THIS IS BECAUSE IRRESPECTIVE OF THE NUMBER OF DOCTORS OR THE NUMBER OF BEDS FOR THE SICK IN A COUNTRY, IN THE ULTIMATE IT IS THE MEASURE OF THE SICKNESS OR DEATH OR THE ABSENCE OF SUCH IN THE COMMUNITY THAT REALLY COUNTS,+ HE SAID.

DR. THONG SAID ACCURATE SICKNESS RATES WERE VERY DIFFICULT TO RECORD, BUT A MORE CERTAIN INDEX OF THE HEALTH OF A COMMUNITY WOULD BE THE DEATH OR MORTALITY RATE, IN PARTICULAR THE INFANT MORTALITY RATE AND THE MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE WHEN DEALING WITH THE SUBJECT OF MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH.

HONG KONG COULD CLAIM TO HAVE DONE WELL IN BOTH -- THE IMR AT 15 PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS AND THE MMR AT AN ALL TIME LOW OF 0.03 PER 1,000 COMPARE VERY FAVOURABLY WITH MOST ADVANCED WESTERN COUNTRIES, SUCH AS THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE UNITED STATES.

+THEREFORE, WITHOUT BEING COMPLACENT, IN HONG KONG TODAY WE CAN CLAIM THAT OUR FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES ARE VERY GOOD AS COMPARED EVEN TO WORLD STANDARDS,+ HE ADDED.

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TA CHIU FESTIVAL AT KAT O
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A LARGE NUMBER OF VISITORS TODAY ARRIVED AT KAT O FOR THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE ISLAND'S TEN-YEAR TA CHIU FESTIVAL.

GUEST OF HONOUR WAS THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR. DAVID AKERS-JONES, WHO LIT THE FIRST CEREMONIAL JOSS STICKS TO MARK THE BEGINNING OF FIVE DAYS OF ACTIVITIES TRADITIONALLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE TA CHIU.

ISLANDERS AND GUESTS WILL OBSERVE ONE OF THE MAIN CUSTOMS OF THE TA CHIU UNTIL THE FESTIVAL ENDS ON SUNDAY - THEY WILL EAT ONLY VEGETARIAN FOOD.

AND TRUE TO ANOTHER FESTIVAL TRADITION, THE ORGANISERS HAVE ARRANGED CHINESE THEATRICAL PERFORMANCES EVERY NIGHT DURING THE TA CHIU.

MR. AKERS-JONES WAS ACCOMPANIED AT THE OPENING CEREMONY BY MR. LAU YUM-MAN, WHO IS KAT O ISLAND'S VILLAGE REPRESENTATIVE AND ALSO CHAIRMAN OF THE SHA TAU KOK RURAL COMMITTEE.

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GOVERNOR OPENS NEW WING OF POLYTECHNIC
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THE MOST IMPORTANT OBJECT OF THE POLYTECHNIC IS SIMPLY EDUCATION ITSELF -- TO TRAIN THE MINDS OF ITS STUDENTS SO THAT THEY MAY MASTER THE PROBLEMS THEY FACE IN AFTER LIFE, THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, SAID TODAY.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE POLYTECHNIC'S NEW WING, SIR MURRAY SAID THAT AT PRESENT THERE WERE ABOUT 8,600 FULL-TIME STUDENTS AND AN EQUIVALENT NUMBER OF PART-TIME STUDENTS.

HE REVEALED THAT THE INSTITUTION'S PRIORITY HAD BEEN SO HIGH THAT DESPITE THE RECESSION ITS EXPANSION HAD BEEN PUSHED FORWARD AT THE HECTIC RATE OF BETWEEN 20 AND 30 PER CENT.

+EVEN THOUGH A PERIOD OF CONSOLIDATION IS NOW CALLED FOR, BY 1980 ITS NUMBERS WILL BE 11,400, AND INCLUDING EVENING CLASSES IT WILL THEN CATER FOR SOMETHING LIKE 30,000 YOUNG PEOPLE,+ THE GOVERNOR SAID.

+IT IS INDEED A GREAT PROJECT. HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT, FOR THEIR PART, AND AS A GESTURE OF BRITISH INTEREST AND GOODWILL, HAVE DONATED THE CONTENTS OF THE LIBRARY WHICH WILL BE OPENED BY HER ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS ALEXANDRA NEXT FEBRUARY.

+THIS IS ALL A MEASURE OF IMPORTANCE AND URGENCY WE ATTACH TO THIS PLACE OF LEARNING WHERE MANY ARTS ARE TAUGHT -- FOR THAT IS WHAT THE WORD +POLYTECHNIC+ MEANS -- IN THIS CASE THE MANY ARTS WHICH GOVERN, AND PROVIDE FOR, AND ENRICH OUR CITY.+

IT WAS HONG KONG'S HOPE, SIR MURRAY CONTINUED, THAT THE POLYTECHNIC WOULD CAUSE THESE ARTS TO BE HONOURED AND KNOWLEDGE OF THEM SPREAD WIDELY, SO THAT THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF THIS MANY-SIDED SOCIETY WOULD HAVE THE QUALITY, THE KNOWLEDGE AND THE EDUCATION TO SERVE IT AND CONTRIBUTE TO ITS FUTURE.

+FOR THE POLYTECHNIC TO FULFIL OUR HOPES, IT MUST MAINTAIN THE CLOSEST CONTACT WITH INDUSTRY, THE COMMERCE AND THE GOVERNMENT OF HONG KONG, SO THAT ITS ACADEMIC FEET WILL BE FIRMLY ON THE GROUND ITS STUDENTS MUST ONE DAY TREAD,+ HE POINTED OUT.

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LABORATORY TRAINING COURSE FOR YOUTH LEADERS
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A LABORATORY TRAINING COURSE ORGANISED FOR YOUTH LEADERS WILL BE HELD TOWARDS THE END OF NEXT MONTH.

ORGANISED BY THE YOUTH WORK UNIT OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, THE COURSE WILL LAST FROM NOVEMBER 28 TO DECEMBER 12.

THE LABORATORY METHOD IS A NEW APPROACH IN WHICH PARTICIPANTS WILL LEARN THROUGH EXPERIMENTING IN A SECURE ENVIRONMENT.

THE TRAINING COURSE IS TO HELP POTENTIAL YOUTH LEADERS TO DEVELOP THEIR SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE IN HUMAN RELATIONSHIP AND THEIR SENSITIVITY TO THE ENVIRONMENT.

IT IS OPEN TO ALL YOUNG PEOPLE AGED BETWEEN 18 AND 25 WHO SHOULD HAVE AT LEAST FORM FIVE EDUCATION LEVEL.

AS THE COURSE IS LIMITED TO 44 PARTICIPANTS, APPLICANTS MAY HAVE TO ATTEND A SELECTION INTERVIEW. APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE YOUTH WORK UNIT ON THE TOP FLOOR OF THE KOWLOON CENTRAL POST OFFICES BUILDING AT 405 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON, BEFORE NOVEMBER 12. THE COST WILL BE \$15 PER PERSON.

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NORTH POINT TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS
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IN ORDER TO IMPROVE THE FLOW OF TRAFFIC ALONG CHEUNG HONG STREET THE FOLLOWING TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED FROM 10 A.M. ON NOVEMBER 2 (TUESDAY).

WESTBOUND VEHICLES ON KING'S ROAD WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO TURN RIGHT INTO NORTH POINT ROAD AND PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO ENTER CHEUNG HONG STREET.

WESTBOUND MOTORISTS IN KING'S ROAD REQUIRING ENTRY INTO NORTH POINT ROAD ARE ADVISED TO TURN LEFT INTO CHEUNG HONG STREET AND PROCEED VIA FORT STREET AND NORTH VIEW STREET INTO NORTH POINT ROAD NORTHBOUND.

APPROPRIATE SIGNS WILL BE PUT UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS AND PLB DRIVERS.

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SHA TO VISIT PO LEUNG KUK'S NO. 1 COLLEGE

THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR. D.C. BRAY, WILL VISIT THE PO LEUNG KUK'S NO. 1 COLLEGE AT PO KONG VILLAGE ROAD, TSZ WAN SHAN, TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) IN ORDER TO GAIN AN INSIGHT INTO THE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES OFFERED BY THE KUK.

HE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY MRS. MAXINE LI KWOK, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF PO LEUNG KUK= MR. J.A. MILLER, CITY DISTRICT OFFICER (WONG TAI SIN)= MR. MERVYN SHIU-CHUN LAW, SECOND VICE-CHAIRMAN, MRS. LAM WONG SHIU-SHUK AND MR. VINCENT WOO WING-FAI, DIRECTORS.

MR. BRAY WILL TOUR THE SCHOOL PREMISES AND INSPECT SOME OF THE TEACHING SESSIONS AND SCHOOL ACTIVITIES IN PROGRESS.

THE COLLEGE WITH AN ENROLMENT OF ABOUT 1,000 WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1971. IT HAS 24 STANDARD CLASSROOMS AND IS WELL EQUIPPED WITH LABORATORIES, A LIBRARY, A 1,000-SEAT ASSEMBLY HALL, TWO COVERED PLAYGROUNDS, TWO OPEN BASKETBALL COURTS, TWO OPEN VOLLEY-BALL FIELDS, A ROOF-TOP PLAYGROUND AND A STUDENTS' CANTEEN.

NOTE TO EDITORS: MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT. MR. D.C. BRAY WILL ARRIVE AT THE COLLEGE AT 11.30 A.M. TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY). IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE VISIT WILL LAST FOR ABOUT HALF AN HOUR.

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WATER CUT

WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN MONG KOK WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR FIVE HOURS FROM 1 A.M. ON THURSDAY (OCTOBER 28) TO ENABLE THE WATERWORKS OFFICE TO CARRY OUT A NIGHT LEAKAGE TEST.

THE AREA AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY DUNDAS STREET, SHANGHAI STREET, SHAN TUNG STREET AND THE SEA-FRONT, INCLUDING RECLAMATION STREET, CANTON ROAD, KAM LAM STREET, KAM FONG STREET AND SOY STREET.

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DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Tuesday, October 26, 1976

SUPPLEMENT

Governor Opens New Wing Of H.K. Polytechnic

Following is the full text of speech by the Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose, at the opening of the new wing of the Hong Kong Polytechnic today (Tuesday):

"The opening of the permanent buildings of the Polytechnic is a very happy occasion, and a great day. Many have worked and planned for it for a long time. Some, like Mr. P.Y. Tang, are no longer here to see their dream come true. Others like Dr. Chung and the Board and Dr. Legg and his staff have worked tirelessly to make it a reality. It is the outcome of enthusiastic and wholehearted co-operation between the Government and the Polytechnic Board and staff.

"This institution is already very big - this year about 8,600 full-time and equivalent part time students and so high has been its priority that despite the recession its expansion has been pushed forward at the hectic rate of between 20 and 30% a year.

"Even though a period of consolidation is now called for, by 1980 its numbers will be 11,400, and including evening classes it will then cater for something like 30,000 young people.

"It is indeed a great project. Her Majesty's Government, for their part, and as a gesture of British interest and goodwill, have donated the contents of the library which will be opened by Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra next February.

/"This is

"This is all a measure of the importance and urgency we attach to this place of learning where many arts are taught - for that is what the word "polytechnic" means - in this case the many arts which govern, and provide for, and enrich our city.

"It is our hope that the Polytechnic will cause these arts to be honoured in Hong Kong and knowledge of them spread widely, so that the young people of this many-sided society will have the quality, the knowledge and the education to serve it and contribute to its future.

"For the Polytechnic to fulfill our hopes, it must maintain the closest contact with the industry, the commerce and the Government of Hong Kong, so that its academic feet will be firmly on the ground its students must one day tread.

"Indeed a diligent student at the Polytechnic is unlikely to lack for employment. But I would stress that the most important object of the Polytechnic is simply education itself - to train the minds of its students so that they may master the problems they face in after life.

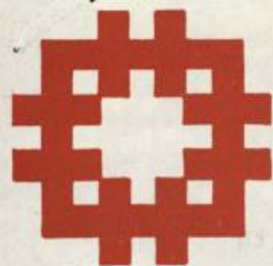
"For the form of education in modern sciences offered here is of the finest. As an American wrote 50 years ago: Modern science, as training the mind to an exact and impartial analysis of facts, is an education specially fitted to promote sound citizenship.

"So now, the first phase of the Polytechnic is built and occupied and the second phase will be completed next year; Hong Kong places high hopes on its Polytechnic; and it now falls to Dr. Legg and his staff to direct its activities and further expansion in these new buildings.

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"They could not have a more fascinating or challenging task. They carry with them the goodwill of all Hong Kong; they have the guidance of an active and expert Board; and the whole-hearted support of the Hong Kong Government.

"I now have much pleasure in declaring these buildings open."



HONG KONG HOUSING AUTHORITY 香港房屋委員會

PRESS
RELEASE

新聞稿

Tuesday, October 26, 1976.

DIRECTOR OF HOUSING SPEAKS AT ROTARY CLUB MEETING

The following is the full text of the speech given by the Director of Housing, Mr. D.P.H. Liao, at the luncheon meeting of the Rotary Club of Hong Kong held today (Tuesday) at the Connaught Room, Mandarin Hotel:

"The other day a prominent architect said at a meeting that the Housing Authority should be proud of the enormous job it has accomplished so far in providing public housing, and that the less well-off people of Hong Kong should be grateful that the Authority is here to help them.

"Now, everybody likes praise and these were pleasant words to hear.

"Housing is a subject every one is familiar with in one way or another; some people however tend to be too quick to criticize and too slow to check the facts. I am, therefore, very glad to have this opportunity to speak to you this afternoon and hope to put the record straight to some extent.

"The fact is that the Hong Kong Housing Authority has today under its management nearly 360,000 flats, or more than one and a half times the number under the control of the Greater London Council.

"In order to meet the target announced by the Governor in 1972 - which is to build on such a scale that there will be permanent, self-contained accommodation for virtually everyone in need - the housing administration was reorganized in April, 1973, with the formation of the new Housing Authority and its executive arm, the equally new Housing Department.

"Their work is now beginning to gather momentum, after a temporary slow down during the recession.

"The building programme is swinging into top gear with work going on in 11 housing estates to provide housing for over 200,000 people. On average, we are now letting each month a new major contract to build for 15,000 people; a further 16 projects are at an advanced planning stage, from which housing for 380,000 people will result. The latest date for completion of these projects is December, 1981, although many will be completed well in advance of this date. From 1973-80, ^{new} housing for more than 820,000 people will have been provided.

"This rate of activity will be substantially increased over the next 2-3 years until we reach our target in the mid-eighties. We would very much like to wave a magic wand to produce all the housing that is needed overnight, but I prefer to be able to tell you that, like in a jet-liner, we have successfully taken off, you may now smoke, relax your seatbelts, and we'll soon be cruising at 200,000 people a year.

"However, the production rate alone will not solve all the housing problems and we still must face many years before it can be said that every one has an adequate home, bearing in mind the requirement for increasing standards.

"In the second half of the fifties, when public housing was still in its infancy, and a big infant too, even in those days, old Mark I blocks with family rooms but with communal washrooms and toilets were being built at a rate of one each week; while the former Housing Authority, was concerned with quality as well as quantity and built the North Point Estate, in 1957, to provide two and three bed room flats, an estate which has always been popular.

"This more spacious standard was not maintained because of the need to provide large numbers of separate flats and accommodation in subsequent Housing Authority estates had to be planned at a somewhat arbitrary space standard of 35 sq. ft. per person. As for the early resettlement blocks, because of the acute shortage of housing, allocation was initially made at 24 sq. ft. per person, gradually improving as later Marks were built, but only reaching 35 sq. ft. per person with the provision of Mark V blocks.

"The second generation of public housing can be said to have begun when all types of accommodation became self-contained with their own kitchens, toilets and private balconies. Shops, market stalls, schools and other community facilities have all been included in the estates built since the beginning of the decade, although the former Housing Authority estates, such as Wah Fu and Ping Shek, were already built as self-contained townships in the mid-sixties.

"As for the provision of community facilities, we have certainly come a long way and we can confidently say that all new self-contained housing will be in a decent environment with facilities catering for the daily needs of the people. Not only are air-conditioned shopping complexes with restaurants, banks, supermarkets and market stalls plus car parking standard features of these new estates, but both primary and secondary schools are being built as part of the contract to ensure that school places are available at the same time as the flats are occupied. All necessary welfare facilities as well as recreational areas are to be found on these estates.

"The land necessary to do this has already been earmarked and site formation work is progressing, recruitment is continuing to bring the necessary design and construction staff to full strength and, with the recession behind us, we should, metaphorically speaking, be getting up to cruising speed, provided we continue to obtain the necessary support from all concerned.

"Now that the 'No Smoking' sign is off, it may be useful to cast our minds on how 60 per cent of the projected population, are going to live in public housing estates when our target is reached.

"Over two million people will certainly be living in the existing or currently built estates with the majority in flats allocated at 35 sq. ft. per person.

"For the remainder, a range of 'third generation' accommodation will be provided, offering a variety of facilities, such as one would expect to find in a 'town' - and these are what our estates virtually are - elsewhere in the developed world. Housing standards in this third generation accommodation will

continue to be improved. We have not the least intention of resting on our laurels. We will be alive to trends; even now we accept that the modern estates going up all over Hong Kong, although substantially built, may well become outdated in a couple of decades. It is certain that, in a dynamic society such as we have in Hong Kong, our people are going to demand better living conditions and the Authority will continue to do its best to see that these aspirations are met. Going back to the aeroplane again, we will have reached cruising altitude by the end of this decade and, by 1983, will be on our glide path down, ready shortly to land. Thank you."



HONG KONG HOUSING AUTHORITY 香港房屋委員會

PRESS
RELEASE

新聞稿

Tuesday, 26th October 1976

ONE MAJOR CONTRACT BEING SIGNED EVERY MONTH,
REVEALS DIRECTOR OF HOUSING

The Housing Authority is now awarding one major contract each month to provide homes for 15,000 people.

This was revealed today (Tuesday) by the Director of Housing, Mr D.P.H. Liao, who was speaking at the monthly meeting of the Rotary Club of Hong Kong at the Mandarin Hotel.

Mr Liao said the work of the Housing Authority was beginning to gather momentum after a temporary slowdown during the recession.

"The building programme is swinging into top gear with work going on in 11 estates to provide housing for over 200,000 people," Mr Liao said. "On average, we are now letting each month a new major contract to build for 15,000 persons; a further 16 projects are at an advanced planning stage, from which housing for 380,000 people will result." The latest date for completion of these projects was December, 1981, although many would be completed well in advance of this date.

"From 1973 - 80," said Mr Liao, "new housing for more than 820,000 people will have been provided."

He went on to state that this rate of activity would be substantially increased over the next two to three years "until we reach our target."

"We would very much like to wave a magic wand to produce all the housing that is needed overnight, but I prefer to be able to tell you that, like a jetliner, we have successfully taken off, you may now smoke, relax your seatbelts and we'll soon be cruising at 200,000 people a year."

Mr Liao said that, however, the production rate alone would not solve all the housing problems and we still had to face many years before it could be said that everyone had an adequate home, "bearing in mind the requirements for increasing standards."

He said that 60 per cent of the population were going to live in public housing estates by the time the target was reached in the mid-eighties; over two million would be living in existing or currently built flats.

"For the remainder," he continued, "a range of 'third generation' accommodation will be provided, offering a variety of facilities such as one would expect to find in a town - and these are what our estates virtually are - elsewhere in the developed world.

"Housing standards in this 'third generation' accommodation will continue to be improved. We have not the least intention of resting on our laurels. We will be alive to trends; even now, we accept that the modern estates going up all over Hong Kong, although substantially built, may well become outdated in a couple of decades.

"It is certain that, in a dynamic society such as we have in Hong Kong, our people are going to demand better living conditions and the Housing Authority will continue to do its best to see that these aspirations are met."

Mr Liao said the Housing Authority now had under its management 360,000 flats, "or more than one and a half times the number under the control of the Greater London Council."

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