

**Section Title:**

The Origin of Public Housing and Establishment of the Housing Authority

**Super:**

Fire in the Shek Kip Mei squatter area

**VO:**

On Christmas night 1953

a fire broke out in the Shek Kip Mei squatter area

**Super:**

Over 53,000 fire victims

**VO:**

Over 53,000 people were made homeless

This crisis persuaded the Government to build resettlement blocks to house both the fire victims and other squatter dwellers

**Super:**

The first Resettlement Estate in Shek Kip Mei completed in 1954

**VO:**

In 1954

the first batch of resettlement blocks was built in Shek Kip Mei

The Government set up the then Hong Kong Housing Authority

a semi-independent organisation

providing low- to middle-income families

low-cost housing with basic provisions

In 1972

the government announced a Ten-year Housing Programme

**Super:**

The Hong Kong Housing Authority was established in 1973

**VO:**

and established the Hong Kong Housing Authority in 1973

putting management of all resettlement blocks

and low-cost housing estates under one roof

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The Housing Authority is a policy-making body which formulates policies on planning, design, construction, maintenance and management of public housing while the Housing Department carries out the policies and day-to-day operations