



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Tuesday, April 24, 1973

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OVER 770 SUCCESSFUL IN TAXI TENDERS
Total Premium Amounts To \$84 Million

The Commissioner for Transport has announced the results of the recent tender to register 1,000 taxis.

A total of 4,158 tenders were received - 1,182 for Hong Kong taxi licences and 2,976 for Kowloon taxi licences.

Following a full analysis of these, and on the decision of the Central Tender Board, offers have been made to register 78 Hong Kong taxis and 922 Kowloon taxis for a total premium of \$84,665,080.

The average premium offered for the 78 Hong Kong taxi licences was \$81,688 and for the 922 Kowloon taxi licences \$84,917.

A total of 777 tenderers were successful. Of these 663 were offered single licences, 78 were offered two licences and the remaining 36 were offered varying numbers of licences between three and 13; 13 being the highest number of licences offered to a single tenderer.

As it is mandatory for a taxi to be mechanically inspected before licensing, it will not be possible to issue the 1,000 licences to the successful tenderers all at once.

Appointments for inspection of the taxis are being arranged in tender price order, giving priority to the higher bidders. Inspection and licensing procedure will be carried out as quickly as possible.

Unsuccessful tenderers are being notified and arrangements will be made for their tender deposits to be returned.

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DC & I TO HELP LOCAL AND OVERSEAS MANUFACTURERS

To Make Business Contact

The Commerce and Industry Department is trying to help local manufacturers who wish to do business with overseas industrialists making enquiries in Hong Kong.

The Industrial Development Branch of the Department has for many years encouraged investment in Hong Kong's manufacturing industry. It has received many enquiries from overseas industrialists wishing to place sub-contracting orders or to enter into joint venture or licensing arrangements with local manufacturers.

The enquirers, who come from a very wide range of industries, often ask for the names of Hong Kong factories which have the capacity and the capability to carry out particular manufacturing processes.

"Useful business comes Hong Kong's way from these enquiries, and the Department is anxious to enlarge the amount of information it now has on Hong Kong companies which might be interested in expanding their operations in this way," a spokesman said.

Of particular interest are companies engaged in the metal-based industries such as tool and die-making, electro-plating and anodizing, and general machining to fine tolerances, but more information and contacts are needed on other industries also.

Interested parties are invited to contact Mr. Michael Lee (5-258790) of the Department's Industrial Development Branch, who will be pleased to answer questions on this subject.

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GOVERNOR THANKS THOSE INVOLVED IN MAJOR DRUG HAUL

The Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose, has sent a message of thanks to those concerned in last week's seizure of a major cargo of narcotics bound for Hong Kong from Thailand.

The drugs - six tons of opium and 281 lbs. of morphine - were intercepted and seized off the coast of South Vietnam.

In his message, which was sent through the British Ambassador in Saigon, the Governor said: "Grateful if you would convey my personal thanks and congratulations and those of the entire Government and community of Hong Kong to those concerned in the interception and seizure of this major cargo of narcotics bound for Hong Kong from Thailand. We are all most heartened by this example of successful international co-operation to defeat the traffic in narcotics."

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ANTI-MEASLES CAMPAIGN

Slight Improvement In Second Week's Figures

During the second week of the current anti-measles campaign, a total of 938 doses of vaccine was administered, according to figures released today by the Medical and Health Department.

"This was a slight improvement over the previous week," a spokesman said.

Of the total, 205 doses were administered on the Island, 548 in Kowloon, and 185 in the New Territories.

Since the 1973 anti-measles campaign began earlier in the month, 1,493 children have been immunised against the disease. The campaign is continuing for another seven weeks.

Free vaccine is available at all government maternity and child health centres. The spokesman urged parents of children between six months and five years to have them immunised.

During the campaign period, there are 25 vaccination centres in resettlement estates, health offices, government clinics and hospitals.

In the New Territories, mobile teams are visiting villages, and the department's two floating dispensaries are making the vaccine available to children on outlying islands.

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PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS

Mr. Szeto Wai, Legislative Councillor, will present diplomas on Thursday (April 26) to eleven candidates from industry and Government departments who have successfully completed a special training course for Industrial Safety Officers.

The course - the first of its kind in Hong Kong - was organised by the Industrial Safety Training Centre of the Labour Department. The course covered, in general, all aspects of accident prevention.

Mr. Szeto will be introduced to the meeting by the Commissioner of Labour, Mr. Paul Tsui.

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Note to Editors: The presentation ceremony will be held at the Industrial Safety Training Centre of the Labour Department in Canton Road Government Offices Building, 3rd floor, at 4.00 p.m. on Thursday. You are cordially invited to send a reporter/photographer to cover the occasion.

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EXPORTS OF RESTRAINED TEXTILES TO SWEDEN

The Director of Commerce and Industry today issued a notice to exporters on the exports of certain restrained textiles to Sweden.

The notice concerns Phase II of the Export Authorisation Scheme in respect of the disposal of quota balance for knitted shirts and sweaters (Group 1b) for the 12-month period ending June 30, 1973.

Companies are reminded that the Department will accept applications for export authorisations from all comers on Friday (April 27).

Trade associations and companies on the Department's mailing list will receive copies of the notice shortly.

However, to avoid delay caused by postal delivery, companies which are interested in participating in the scheme are strongly advised to obtain copies of this notice from the Department's receptionist counter on the ground floor of No. 46 Connaught Road Central.

Mr. C.L. Li, Industry Assistant, can be contacted on Tel. No. 5-445678 for further information on the subject.

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REFUSE COLLECTION CENTRE FOR SAN PO KONG

An off-street refuse collection centre is to be built at the junction of Hong Keung Street and Shung Ling Street in San Po Kong.

It will relieve the heavy use of local kerb-side refuse collection.

The centre will cover an area of about 1,300 sq. ft. It will be enclosed by reinforced concrete walls on three sides, with a concrete covered area at the south-eastern corner of the compound.

Construction will begin towards the end of next month and is expected to be completed in three months.

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STREET TO BE MADE ONE-WAY

From 10 a.m. on Thursday (April 26), the section of Great George Street between Paterson Street and Gloucester Road will be made one-way eastbound.

Appropriate signs will be erected to guide motorists.

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Release Time: 7.00 p.m.