



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Wednesday, March 21, 1973

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LEGAL AID SCHEME TO BE EXPANDED

To Cover Serious Crime Cases In District Court

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Legal aid will, under some proposed new rules, be made available to people tried in the District Court for serious crimes from April 1.

The Director of Legal Aid announced today that on March 28, the Legislative Council would be asked to approve the Legal Aid in Criminal Cases (Amendment) Rules 1973.

These rules, he said, were designed to make legal aid available to those charged in the District Court with crimes which, if tried on indictment (before a judge and jury), would be punishable on conviction by imprisonment for 14 years or more.

"Statistics indicate that this will mean that legal aid will be available for more than half of the criminal cases tried in the District Court," he added.

Legal aid is already available for those standing trial in the Supreme Court as well as for criminal appeals from decisions of magistrates, the District Court and the Supreme Court.

During the 12 months ended January 31, 1973, legal aid was granted to a total of 183 applicants in connection with criminal trials in the Supreme Court and for 56 criminal appeals.

Applications for legal aid for criminal cases or appeals should be made by completing and lodging the prescribed forms with the Director of Legal Aid.

Application Forms are obtainable from the Legal Aid Department, at Victoria District Court, Battery Path, Hong Kong, or, if an applicant for aid is in prison custody, from the Commissioner of Prisons.

SCHOOLS FOR OUTLYING ISLANDS

Land Granted To Non-Profit Sponsoring Groups

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The Government is assisting non-profit-making organisations to provide secondary and pre-vocational education in the outlying islands of Lantau and Cheung Chau.

A spokesman of the Education Department said today that a secondary school would be built in Tai O, the principal township on the western part of Lantau Island.

A 30,000 sq. ft. site for the school has been granted to the Hong Kong Buddhist Association together with an appropriate capital subsidy.

The Tai O Secondary School will be the first subsidized secondary school on Lantau Island with ten classrooms and six special rooms and a capacity of 400 pupils.

The school will not only provide secondary education to children in Tai O but will also cater for the primary school leavers in the southern district of Lantau Island.

At present, there are four subsidized primary schools in Tai O Town with a total of 48 primary classes operating in two sessions.

In Cheung Chau, a three-year pre-vocational school sponsored by the Catholic Mission is under construction.

A site of 67,000 square feet at Peak Road, East, on the island has been granted free to the sponsoring body by the Government. Site formation is now in progress.

The completion of the pre-vocational school will provide 360 new school places in addition to the Cheung Chau Government Middle School to cater for the growing demand for secondary school places in Cheung Chau.

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MILDEST FEBRUARY ON RECORD

Onset Of Spring Marked By Widespread Fog

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Last month was the mildest February on record.

A Royal Observatory spokesman said today that the mean temperature for the month was  $19.2^{\circ}\text{C}$  against a normal of  $15.2^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

"The absolute maximum temperature of  $27.8^{\circ}\text{C}$  recorded on February 27 has only been equalled once, in February 1953," he said.

"In addition, both the mean dew point and the mean minimum temperature for the month were the highest on record for February," he added.

Only relatively weak surges of the winter monsoon affected Hong Kong during the month.

They occurred on February 6, 14, 19, and 24, and the lowest temperature recorded was  $14.3^{\circ}\text{C}$  early on February 20.

Widespread coastal fog and low visibility occurred towards the end of the month and marked the onset of Spring.

The month began with a fine spell of seven days heralding the year of the Ox.

A surge of cool northeasterly winds came through the Taiwan Strait on February 5 and reached Hong Kong the next day.

As the winds gradually freshened from the east, weather became cloudy late on February 7 and three dull days followed with periods of light rain.

Thereafter, until February 18, conditions were very changeable with a sequence of alternating bright and cloudy days.

/On February 19, .....

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On February 19, an anticyclone over China intensified and caused a cold front to move south through Hong Kong.

Temperatures fell to a minimum of  $14.3^{\circ}\text{C}$  as winds strengthened from the east and there were patches of rain during the late hours of February 19.

The Strong Monsoon Signal was hoisted between 1.15 a.m. and 10.15 a.m. on February 20.

For the next five days, a succession of disturbances in the upper westerly air flow affected the south China coast and brought 18.4 mm of rain, practically all of the month's measurable rainfall.

From February 21 to 23 a warm and moist southeasterly airstream affected Hong Kong and resulted in low visibility and widespread coastal fog. This mild and humid weather continued until the end of the month.

Seventeen aircraft were diverted from Kai Tak due to low runway visibility during the month.

No thunderstorm or heavy rain warnings and no fire danger warnings were issued last month.

The month's figures and departures from normal were:

Sunshine	109.1 hours;	8.9 hours above normal
Rainfall	21.7 mm ;	25.2 mm below normal
Cloudiness	71 per cent;	4 per cent below normal
Relative Humidity	84 per cent;	5 per cent above normal
Mean Maximum Temperature	$22.1^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;	$4.4^{\circ}\text{C}$ above normal
Mean Temperature	$19.2^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;	$4.0^{\circ}\text{C}$ above normal
Mean Minimum Temperature	$17.1^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;	$3.9^{\circ}\text{C}$ above normal
Mean Dew Point	$16.3^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;	$4.6^{\circ}\text{C}$ above normal
Total Evaporation	83.2 mm ;	10.0 mm below normal

Maximum Temperature of  $27.8^{\circ}\text{C}$  was recorded on February 27.

Minimum Temperature of  $14.3^{\circ}\text{C}$  was recorded on February 20.

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PAID HOLIDAY FOR INDUSTRIAL WORKERS

On Day Of Ching Ming Festival

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The Commissioner of Labour, Mr. Paul Tsui, today reminded employers that the day of the Ching Ming Festival, April 5, is one of the six statutory holidays to which industrial workers are entitled under the Industrial Employment (Holidays with Pay and Sickness Allowance) Ordinance.

With few exceptions, all manual workers in industrial undertaking paid on a monthly, daily, or piece-rate basis must be given a holiday on that day.

Non-manual workers in industrial undertakings earning not more than \$700 a month have the same right.

To qualify for this paid holiday - which is in addition to the compulsory four rest-days a month under the Employment Ordinance - a worker must have worked at least 180 days during a period of 12 months, and at least 20 days in the 28 days preceding April 5.

A worker who does not qualify must also be given a holiday but has no statutory entitlement to be paid although an employer may voluntarily do so.

An employer may grant a holiday on another day instead of April 5, but he must do so within 60 days after that date and must post a notice of his intention at least 48 hours in advance.

/An employer .....

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An employer who grants more than six paid holidays a year is still required to comply with the ordinance. However, by agreement with a worker, he is allowed to designate one of the paid holidays as substitute for the statutory holiday on April 5.

A worker or employer who is in doubt about his rights or obligations regarding statutory holidays or holiday pay may obtain the advice of the Senior Labour Inspector in charge of the Women and Young Persons Unit at various branch offices of the Labour Department.

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INFORMATION SOUGHT ON DEATH OF WORKMAN

To Help Process Dependents' Claim For Compensation

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The Labour Department is anxious to find out the details of an accident on August 21 last year which led to the death of a workman.

The Labour Officer in-charge of the Workmen's Compensation Unit of the Labour Department, Mr. TO Sau-hong, said that the workman, Mr. FUNG Kam-ming, fell into the sea from a plank whilst at work.

The accident happened along the waterfront of Tung Chau Street, Sham Shui Po. The worker was subsequently taken to Queen Elizabeth Hospital where he died on September 7.

Mr. To said: "The dependents of the worker are claiming compensation from the employer whose particulars are unknown to this department, the Police Department and the dependents themselves."

To help the processing of the claim, he said, those who had knowledge of the accident and the particulars of the employer concerned should contact officers of the Workmen's Compensation Unit at Tel. No. 3-669014 during office hours.

Under the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance, an employer is liable to pay compensation to the dependents of a worker who sustains fatal injury in an accident arising out of and in the course of employment.

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NEW LOOK FOR YEARBOOK

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The new yearbook "Hong Kong 1973" has taken on a new look, with an entirely new format and style.

It has over 250 pages, with an increased page size to allow for more colour illustrations.

It has 10 colour sections comprising some 85 full-colour plates which cover such subjects as the cross-harbour tunnel, the port movement, the royal visit last year and calligraphy.

"Hong Kong 1973", at \$13 a copy, is now on sale at all leading book stores and the Government Publications Centre Star Ferry Concourse.

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GROUP LEADERS TRAINING COURSES ATTENDED

By 240 Young People

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A four part series of group leaders training courses arranged by the Youth Work Unit of the Social Welfare Department will be concluded this week.

The last course in the series, dealing with youth work and voluntary service, is being attended by 80 young people.

Consideration is now being given to organising similar courses during the summer months to meet the needs of youth group leaders.

A total of 240 young people have attended the present series, which started last November.

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U.S.D. WORKERS THANKED FOR CLEANING UP HONG KONG

Governor Calls Campaign A Continuing Effort

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The Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose, today (Wednesday) congratulated workers of the Urban Services Department for doing an excellent job in cleaning up Hong Kong.

Speaking at a tea party given by the "Keep Hong Kong Clean" Campaign Committee at the City Hall today, Sir Murray said that the change in the appearance of our city had been dramatic since the Campaign started last November.

"It has earned wide international acclaim, and it has given satisfaction and pride in Hong Kong because it has made life pleasanter and healthier for everyone," he commented.

The Governor said that the clean-up was a continuing effort, and he asked the workers to brace themselves for a long and steady effort to consolidate and improve their achievements.

Dr. Denny M.H. Huang, Chairman of the Campaign Committee also expressed appreciation for the hard work the labour and supervisory force had put into the Campaign.

Dr. Huang said that improvements in our everyday environment could be seen throughout Hong Kong.

However, what we had done was only the first step towards a really clean Hong Kong, which was our final target, he said.

Dr. Huang pointed out that the second phase of the Campaign will start in the latter part of this year, and annually thereafter there will be a development of the "Keep Hong Kong Clean" theme.

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In a campaign of this nature, he said, the wholehearted support from the Government and from every individual in the community must be sought.

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The following is the full text of the Governor's speech:

"I very much welcome this opportunity to meet a representative cross-section of those responsible for actually cleaning Hong Kong during the big drive last November and since.

"I asked to meet you because I wanted to congratulate you, all of you, on doing such an excellent job.

"The change you have achieved in the appearance of our city has been dramatic. It has earned wide international acclaim. More important, it has given satisfaction and pride in Hong Kong because it has made life pleasanter and healthier for everyone.

"Moreover this is the first time that under the leadership of the civil service the community as a whole has joined hands to achieve an object, except in times of emergency or disaster. This too is something of significance in the life of Hong Kong and something to be proud of.

"I have already done what I could to express my thanks and congratulations to some of the neighbourhood groups. Now I wish to do the same to you, and to assure you that the immense amount of hard work that you have put in has earned you the gratitude and admiration of the whole community of Hong Kong.

/"Before .....

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"Before the campaign started I was asked whether three months would be enough to do the job. I replied that the clean-up was for ever. What has been achieved is a dramatically successful start. In thanking you for what you have done, I should like to ask you to brace yourselves for a long and steady effort to consolidate and improve on your achievements. Much work, much organisation, much effort by the whole community will be necessary before Hong Kong is cleaned and beautified to be the place we all want it to be."

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The following is Dr. Huang's speech:

"Your excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen,

"I am very happy today to have the opportunity to welcome you all and to express on behalf of the Campaign Committee our appreciation for the hard work and devotion to duty that every member of the labour and supervisory force has shown since last November, when the 'Keep Hong Kong Clean' Campaign began.

"The improvements in our everyday environment can be seen throughout Hong Kong and these have been largely achieved by you here today, and by your colleagues who could not be present, working untiringly and dutifully in the field.

"We are most honoured today that Your Excellency has so kindly agreed to join us this afternoon. We know how dedicated you are to improving living conditions for everyone in our community, and your keen patronage and unflinching support for the 'Keep Hong Kong Clean' Campaign is evidence enough of that dedication.

/"As Chairman .....

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"As Chairman of the Campaign Committee, I confess to modest satisfaction with the progress we have made so far. However, what we have done is only the first step towards a really clean Hong Kong, which is our final target. For that, we shall work continuously and unflinchingly, though it might take years to achieve. Already the Campaign Committee has started on its 1973 phase in continuing the fight against the bad and ingrained habits of indiscriminately dumping litter and refuse. This second phase is scheduled to start in the latter part of this year, and annually thereafter there will be a development of our 'Keep Hong Clean' theme. In a campaign of this nature, wholehearted support from the Government and from every individual in the community must and will be sought. I believe that just as in the recent major clean-up, we shall again be able to rely on the combined efforts of you all here today, and of your colleagues, to provide the essential backing in the field, for which I once again thank you in the name of the Campaign Committee.

"It is my pleasure now to introduce His Excellency the Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose, who wishes to address the gathering."

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CLEARWAY RESTRICTIONS TO BE IMPOSED

In Kwun Tong And Ngau Tau Kok

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Clearway systems will be introduced during peak hours in Kwun Tong and Ngau Tau Kok starting from Friday (March 23) to improve traffic flow in the areas.

Only franchised buses will be allowed to stop on certain roads in the areas from 7.30 a.m. to 10 a.m. and from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

During the two periods, all other motor vehicles will be prohibited from stopping to pick up and set down passengers, or to load and unload goods.

The restriction will be imposed on the following roads:

- \* Kwun Tong Road, in the eastbound direction from Clearwater Bay Road to Tsui Ping Road, and in the westbound direction from Tsui Ping Road to Lai Yip Street;
- \* Elegance Road up to Ngau Tau Kok Road;
- \* Hip Wo Street for a length of about 300 feet from Kwun Tong Road;
- \* Hoi Yuen Road for a length of about 100 feet from Kwun Tong Road.

Clearway restrictions applying only to public light buses will be imposed in:

/Choi Shek .....

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- \* Choi Shek Lane (north side only);
- \* Ngau Tau Kok Road (a 150-foot length adjacent to Kwun Tong Road between Shing Shun Road and Kwun Tong Road);
- \* Shing Shun Road;
- \* Ting Fu Street from Kwun Tong Road to Ting On Street;
- \* Hong Ning Road from Kwun Tong to Yue Man Square (east side only).

In addition, the following traffic arrangements will be made:-

- \* The section of Choi Shek Road parallel to Kwun Tong Road will be re-routed one-way eastbound;
- \* Ting Fu Street between Kwun Tong Road and Ting On Street will be re-routed one-way northbound;
- \* Ting On Street between Ting Fu Street and Kwun Tong Road will be re-routed one-way eastbound.

Appropriate traffic signs will be posted to guide motorists.

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LECTURE ON INDIAN MINIATURE PAINTINGS

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The City Museum and Art Gallery will be presenting a public lecture in connection with the exhibition of Indian miniature paintings.

The exhibition is being held as part of the Hong Kong Arts Festival.

The lecture will be held on Friday (March 23) at 5.30 p.m. in the Lecture Room North, City Hall. The speaker will be Mr. C.M.N. Sahay of the National Museum, Delhi, India.

An Art historian specialising in the study of Indian painting, Mr. Sahay has been invited to Hong Kong by the Hong Kong Arts Festival Society and the Indian Commission to help with the exhibition at the City Museum and Art Gallery. His lecture will be illustrated with colour-slides.

A film show will be held on March 30 at 6 p.m. in the Lecture Room North, City Hall.

This will consist of a film entitled "The Sword and the Flute" produced in America, plus several other short films produced in India.

These films have been specially air-freighted to Hong Kong for this occasion.

Both the lecture and the film show are open to the public. No admission ticket will be necessary for the lecture, but free tickets have to be obtained for the film show at the museum counter of the City Museum and Art Gallery one hour before the show starts.

The exhibition itself will remain open until March 25.

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Release time: 7.30 p.m.