



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 1979

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RECORD FISH SALES  
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ALMOST 90,000 TONNES OF FISH VALUED AT \$350 MILLION WERE SOLD THROUGH THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION LAST YEAR.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (FISHERIES AND MARKETING) OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, MR. ALEX MURRAY SAID, THIS WAS +A REMARKABLE RECORD IN THE HISTORY OF THE F.M.O.+

ALTHOUGH THE WEIGHT WAS AN INCREASE OF ONLY ONE PER CENT OVER 1977, THE INCREASE IN VALUE WAS UP MORE THAN 12 PER CENT.

MR. MURRAY MADE THE OBSERVATIONS AT THE F.M.O.'S ANNUAL PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY AT THE ABERDEEN WHOLESALE FISH MARKET TODAY (SATURDAY).

HE SAID THE PRODUCTION OF LIVE MARINE FISH IN 1978 WAS 650 TONNES, AN INCREASE OF 16 PER CENT OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

+IN AN ATTEMPT TO HELP THE INDUSTRY TO DEVELOP IN AN ORDERLY MANNER, GOVERNMENT IS ACTIVELY CONSIDERING LEGISLATION TO PROTECT AND CONTROL ITS DEVELOPMENT,+ SAID MR. MURRAY.

DURING THE CEREMONY, MRS. J.M. RIDDELL-SWAN, WIFE OF THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, PRESENTED AWARDS TO 24 CHAMPION FISHERMEN AND TO EIGHT OTHER FISHERMEN WHO SAVED 369 LIVES AT SEA.

ONE FISHERMAN, LAW SHU-KAN OF SHAU KEI WAN HAD RESCUED 303 PEOPLE FROM A SINKING BOAT NEAR TAI CHAU, HAINAN ISLAND, ON AUGUST 26. ANOTHER, LAI SHING-TAK OF TSUEN WAN, RESCUED FOUR PEOPLE FROM A SINKING PLEASURE BOAT OFF TSING LUNG TAU.

MR. MURRAY SAID THAT LAST YEAR, 157 LOANS AMOUNTING TO ABOUT \$7.4 MILLION WERE MADE TO FISHERMEN.

+TO ENABLE YOU TO ACHIEVE MAXIMUM EFFICIENCY AND THE BEST YIELDS, I MUST POINT OUT THAT IN YOUR OWN INTEREST AND FOR THE SAKE OF SAFETY AND EFFICIENCY, YOU SHOULD CONFORM IN THE BUILDING AND FITTING OF YOUR FISHING VESSELS TO THE TECHNICAL ADVICE PROVIDED BY THE STAFF OF THIS DEPARTMENT. BE RECEPTIVE TO CHANGE WHERE IT IMPROVES YOUR OPERATION AND PROVIDES YOU WITH A BETTER INCOME,+ HE SAID.

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PLEASURE CRUISE — THE SAFE WAY

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GOING OUT ON A CRUISE ON A MOTORISED PLEASURE CRAFT IS FUN, BUT IT MAY END IN TRAGEDY IF THE BOAT IS NOT MANNED BY A QUALIFIED PERSON.

AND THIS IS WHY THE MARINE DEPARTMENT IS REMINDING BOATING ENTHUSIASTS THAT EVEN THE SMALLEST VESSEL, IF FITTED WITH OR CARRYING AN ENGINE, IS REQUIRED BY LAW TO BE LICENSED AND OPERATED BY A PERSON HOLDING A LOCAL CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY AS MASTER AND ENGINEER.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT TODAY (SATURDAY) SAID CANDIDATES FOR THESE CERTIFICATES SHOULD APPLY IN PERSON TO THE RUMSEY STREET MULTI-STORY CAR PARK BUILDING, ROOM 1043, 10TH FLOOR, CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL, BRINGING WITH THEM THEIR HONG KONG IDENTITY CARDS AND THREE PASSPORT-SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS.

SYLLABUSES ARE PROVIDED ON PAYMENT OF THE EXAMINATION FEE, WHICH COSTS \$100. CANDIDATES FOR LOCAL MASTER CERTIFICATES WILL ALSO BE REQUIRED TO TAKE AN EYESIGHT TEST.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT CURRENTLY EXAMINATIONS HAD TO BE SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE A FEW MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF APPLICATION DUE TO THE LARGE NUMBER OF CANDIDATES.

BUT HE ADDED THE DEPARTMENT WAS DOING ALL IT COULD TO DEAL WITH THE BACKLOG BY RECRUITING MORE STAFF AND WORKING OVERTIME.

+COURSES LEADING TO THE EXAMINATION OF COMPETENCY AS PLEASURE BOAT MASTERS OR ENGINEERS ARE CONDUCTED BY THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

CURRENTLY 39,166 MASTER AND 17,727 ENGINEER CERTIFICATES HAVE BEEN ISSUED IN RESPECT OF COMMERCIAL, FISHING AND PLEASURE CRAFT.

PLEASURE CRAFT LICENSED IN HONG KONG TOTALLED 3,350 AT THE END OF NOVEMBER LAST YEAR, COMPARED WITH 2,841 IN 1977 AND 2,508 IN 1976.

+IN VIEW OF THE INCREASING POPULARITY IN BOATING, WE URGE PLEASURE CRAFT OWNERS AND OPERATORS TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS TO MAKE IT A SAFE AND PLEASANT CRUISE AND TO AVOID UNNECESSARY LOSS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE WARNED THAT IMPROPER OPERATING AND HANDLING OF PLEASURE CRAFT MAY LEAD TO SUCH ACCIDENTS AS COLLISION, FOUNDERING, STRANDING AND FIRE.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT ALTHOUGH ONLY TWO PEOPLE WERE KILLED AND SEVEN OTHERS INJURED IN ACCIDENTS REPORTED TO THE MARINE DEPARTMENT IN THE LAST THREE YEARS, MANY OTHERS MIGHT HAVE BEEN INJURED IN SIMILAR ACCIDENTS WHICH WENT UNREPORTED.

/HE SAID .....

HE SAID SAFETY ADVICE TO PLEASURE CRAFT OWNERS AND OPERATORS WAS CONTAINED IN THE BOOKLET +SAFETY AFLOAT+ WHICH IS A CODE OF SAFE PRACTICE FOR OPERATORS OF SMALL CRAFT.

THE BOOKLET IS AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE AT THE ENQUIRY COUNTER OF THE MARINE DEPARTMENT'S HEADQUARTERS AT 102 CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO ADVISED PLEASURE CRAFT OPERATORS TO INFORM THEIR RELATIVES OR FRIENDS OF THEIR DESTINATION AND EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN BEFORE CASTING OFF.

+THIS WILL HELP NARROW THE SEARCH AREA IN CASE THEY FAIL TO RETURN ON TIME,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

IN ADDITION, HE SAID, ALL PLEASURE VESSELS ARE REQUIRED TO CARRY CERTAIN LIFE-SAVING AND FIRE-FIGHTING APPLIANCES DEPENDING ON THE LENGTH OF THE VESSEL.

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#### HEADWAY MADE IN RESEARCH ON IMMIGRATION MATTERS

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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT'S OPERATIONAL RESEARCH SECTION IS MAKING HEADWAY IN BUILDING UP AN INFORMATION POOL AS A BACK-UP SERVICE TO ITS OPERATIONAL GROUPS TACKLING THE ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION AND OTHER PROBLEMS.

STARTED IN 1976, THE SECTION HAS COMPILED ABOUT 50,000 INDICES ON UNDESIRABLE ELEMENTS ON THE DEPARTMENT'S REMOVAL OR STOP LISTS, FORGED TRAVEL DOCUMENT RACKETEERS, OVERSTAYERS, AS WELL AS NOTORIOUS TRAVEL AGENCIES.

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID: +THE INDICES PROVIDE AN EASY REFERENCE FOR OUR OFFICERS WHO WISH TO OBTAIN BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON AN INDIVIDUAL OR A FIRM ON OUR INDICES OR TO TRACE A PERSON'S WHEREABOUTS.+

INFORMATION FOR THESE INDICES ARE FED IN FROM OTHER OFFICES OF THE DEPARTMENT, PARTICULARLY THOSE INVOLVED IN INVESTIGATION WORK AND IN IMMIGRATION CONTROL POINTS.

ANOTHER SOURCE IS OUTSIDE THE DEPARTMENT WHICH INCLUDES THE POLICE, AND OVERSEAS LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES.

THE INFORMATION COLLECTED IS THEN STUDIED BY EXPERIENCED OFFICERS IN THE SECTION WHO WILL PLOT OUT THE TREND OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION AS WELL AS TRAVEL DOCUMENT FORGERIES.

THE RESULTS OF THESE STUDIES FORM THE BASIS OF THE INDEX SYSTEM AND MAY PINPOINT THE AREAS THAT MIGHT REQUIRE MORE ATTENTION OF IMMIGRATION OFFICERS IN THE INVESTIGATION OFFICE AS WELL AS VARIOUS EXIT CONTROL POINTS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+ACCESS TO THESE RESULTS IS ALSO AVAILABLE TO THE POLICE, THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICE, AS WELL AS OVERSEAS LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES UNDER INTELLIGENCE EXCHANGE ARRANGEMENTS,+ HE SAID.

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REGISTRATION TEAM TO OPERATE IN TUNG CHUNG

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A TEAM FROM THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS OFFICE WILL OPERATE FROM THE TUNG CHUNG PUBLIC SCHOOL ON LANTAU ISLAND ON FEBRUARY 2-3.

REGISTRATIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED BETWEEN 9.30 A.M. AND 4.30 P.M. DAILY.

PEOPLE LIVING IN THIS AREA ARE REMINDED OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO REGISTER THEMSELVES AND THEIR CHILDREN FOR IDENTITY CARDS AND TO REPORT CHANGES OF EMPLOYMENT OR RESIDENTIAL ADDRESSES, MARITAL STATUS, OR ANY OTHER PARTICULARS WHICH HAVE CHANGED SINCE REGISTERING FOR THEIR IDENTITY CARDS.

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FIRING PRACTICE

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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE CASTLE PEAK RANGE ON TWO DAYS NEXT WEEK.

THE PUBLIC ARE REMINDED THAT IT IS DANGEROUS TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN RED FLAGS ARE FLYING DURING THE TIME OF FIRING PRACTICE.

THE PRACTICE TIMES ARE:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 1)	8 A.M. - 5 P.M.
FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 2)	8 A.M. - 4 P.M.

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