



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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NEGLIGENCE TO BLAME FOR FIRES

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THE DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES, MR LAM CHEK-YUEN, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) THAT MORE THAN 65 PER CENT OF THE FIRES IN THE PAST THREE YEARS WERE ATTRIBUTABLE TO HUMAN NEGLIGENCE AND CARELESSNESS.

SPEAKING AT A CEREMONY TO LAUNCH THIS YEAR'S FIRE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN AT EDINBURGH PLACE IN CENTRAL, MR LAM SAID THE CAUSES INCLUDED CARELESS DISPOSAL OF CIGARETTE ENDS, MISHANDLING OF COOKING STUFF, AND FAILURE TO OBSERVE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS.

"SUCH LOSSES COULD BE AVOIDED IF DUE ATTENTION HAD BEEN GIVEN TO DAILY ROUTINES AT HOME AND AT WORK," HE STRESSED.

HE CITED TWO RECENT TYPICAL FIRES THAT WERE BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN SPARKED OFF BECAUSE OF HUMAN NEGLIGENCE AND CARELESSNESS.

A FOURTH ALARM FIRE BROKE OUT IN AN OFFICE UNDER EXTENSIVE RENOVATION IN INTERNATIONAL BUILDING IN AUGUST, INJURING SIX PEOPLE AND FORCING MORE THAN 150 OCCUPANTS TO TAKE REFUGE ON THE ROOF.

A DOMESTIC FLAT IN MEI FOO SUN CHUEN THAT WAS ALSO UNDER RENOVATION CAUGHT FIRE IN SEPTEMBER, BRINGING NOT ONLY PROPERTY LOSSES BUT ALSO CLAIMING THE LIVES OF TWO WORKERS.

MR LAM SAID WHILE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE STEPPING UP FIRE PREVENTION PUBLICITY, CO-OPERATION FROM THE PUBLIC WAS VITAL TO PREVENT FIRE.

THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES HAS PRODUCED A SERIES OF POSTERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST TO DRIVE HOME THE MESSAGE.

LAST YEAR THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT CONDUCTED 1,011 EDUCATIONAL VISITS, ORGANISED 372 LECTURES FOR ABOUT 18,000 STAFF MEMBERS OF HOTELS, HOSPITALS AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS, AND STAGED SEVEN MOBILE EXHIBITIONS IN COMMERCIAL COMPLEXES AND HOUSING ESTATES.

MR LAM CALLED ON RESIDENTS TO EXERCISE EXTRA CARE AT HOME AND AT WORK TO GUARD AGAINST FIRE.

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TRADE OFFICIALS VISIT BEIJING AND DALIAN  
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A DELEGATION OF SENIOR TRADE OFFICIALS, LED BY DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRADE, MR DONALD TSANG, HAS LEFT HONG KONG TODAY (SUNDAY) FOR A WEEK-LONG VISIT TO BEIJING AND DALIAN.

"THE MAIN PURPOSE OF OUR VISIT IS TO MAINTAIN A CLOSE WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR COUNTERPARTS IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN ECONOMIC RELATIONS AND TRADE (MOFERT) IN THE CAPITAL OF CHINA, AND TAKE A FIRST-HAND LOOK AT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS IN DALIAN," MR TSANG SAID.

THE FOUR-MEMBER DELEGATION WILL SPEND THE FIRST THREE DAYS IN BEIJING WHERE THEY WILL BE RECEIVED BY OFFICIALS FROM VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS OF MOFERT.

THEY WILL ARRIVE IN DALIAN LATER IN THE WEEK, AND MEET OFFICIALS OF THE MUNICIPAL COMMISSION FOR FOREIGN ECONOMIC RELATIONS AND TRADE.

MEMBERS OF THE HONG KONG DELEGATION INCLUDE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRADE MR JOHN C TSANG, PRINCIPAL TRADE OFFICER MISS LISA CHAN AND TRADE OFFICER MISS ELIZA LAM.

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AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT SUPPORTS ORGANIC FARMING  
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THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT HAS ALWAYS BEEN A KEEN SUPPORTER OF ORGANIC FARMING, AFFORESTATION, COUNTRYSIDE CONSERVATION AND NATURE EDUCATION, THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT, DR LAWRENCE LEE, SAID THIS (SUNDAY) MORNING.

ADDRESSING THE "AUTUMN FESTIVAL" GATHERING AT THE PRODUCE GREEN'S HOK TAU FARM IN FANLING, HE SAID AS RICE FARMERS IN HONG KONG HAD BEEN SCARCE NOWADAYS, IT WAS A RARE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE HARVESTING FUNCTION.

DR LEE NOTED THAT SINCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PRODUCE GREEN IN EARLY 1989, EFFORTS HAD BEEN MADE TO PROMOTE ORGANIC FARMING.

"IN AUGUST 1989, IT JOINED THE AGRICULTURAL LAND REHABILITATION SCHEME BY RENTING ABOUT 20 "DAU CHUNG" (AROUND 1.5 HECTARES) OF FARM LAND IN HOK TAU TO CONDUCT VEGETABLE GROWING WITH HELP FROM THE VEGETABLE MARKETING ORGANISATION," HE SAID.

"SINCE THEN, PRODUCE GREEN HAS DIVERSIFIED ITSELF FROM PRODUCING ORGANIC VEGETABLES TO PROVIDING THE PUBLIC WITH SOME MUCH-WELCOMED EDUCATIONAL COURSES ON ORGANIC FARMING."

/AT PRESENT, .....

AT PRESENT, THE FARM LAND RENTED BY PRODUCE GREEN HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO MA MEI HA WITH A TOTAL AREA OF AROUND 50 "DAU CHUNG" (ABOUT 3.2 HECTARES).

"IT IS MOST ENCOURAGING TO SEE THAT THEY HAVE ACHIEVED SUCH A GOOD RESULT WITHIN ONLY SEVERAL YEARS," HE ADDED.

DR LEE TOOK THE LEAD TO PERFORM THE HARVESTING WORK AT THE FARM. JOINING HIM WERE OTHER GREEN LOVERS INCLUDING THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF PRODUCE GREEN, MR LAU NAI-KEUNG; MANAGING DIRECTOR, MR ALBERT CHEUNG CHI-PIU AND DIRECTOR, MR SIMON CHAU; AS WELL AS A REPRESENTATIVE FROM OXFAM.

THE HARVESTED RICE WAS PRESENTED TO OXFAM FOR RAISING FUNDS FOR NEEDY PEOPLE IN THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES.

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DEMOLITION CONTRACTORS MUST HAVE SAFE WORK PLANS

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DEMOLITION CONTRACTORS ARE REMINDED OF THEIR STATUTORY OBLIGATION TO DEVISE AND ADOPT A SAFE SYSTEM OF WORK TO GUARD WORKERS AGAINST POSSIBLE DANGERS.

"A SAFE SYSTEM OF WORK IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT IF DEMOLITION OF A VACATED BUILDING HAS BEEN DELAYED OVER A PROTRACTED PERIOD OF TIME," CHIEF FACTORY INSPECTOR, MR CHAN TAT-KING, SAID.

THIS IS BECAUSE THE SHORINGS, SCAFFOLDS AND OTHER SUPPORTING STRUCTURES MAY NOT BE AS STRONG AS THEY WERE FIRST PUT UP BECAUSE OF EITHER WEATHERING OR HUMAN TAMPERING, MR CHAN SAID.

"THERE ARE USUALLY SERIOUS DANGERS ON THESE BUILDINGS, SUCH AS CRACKS AND SPALLING CONCRETE RESULTING FROM LACK OF MAINTENANCE, EXCESSIVE MOISTURE AND CHANGING TEMPERATURES, ESPECIALLY AFTER HOSTILE TYPHOONS OR HEAVY RAINS," HE SAID.

MOREOVER, THERE MAY BE DANGEROUS, ILLEGAL RE-CONNECTIONS OF ELECTRICITY SUPPLY, HE ADDED.

"THEREFORE, THE BUILDING SITE MUST BE THOROUGHLY RE-ASSESSED FOR ANY HIDDEN DANGER BY A COMPETENT PERSON, AND A SAFETY WORK PLAN BE DEVISED, BEFORE DEMOLITION WORK BEGINS," MR CHAN SAID.

"THE ASSESSMENT SHOULD INCLUDE CHECK-UP FOR THE PRESENCE OF ASBESTOS IN THE INSULATION MATERIALS OF BOTH THE BUILDING AND ADD-ON STRUCTURES," HE SAID.

MR CHAN SAID IT WAS THE DUTY OF THE EMPLOYERS TO PROVIDE SUITABLE SAFETY EQUIPMENT, SUCH AS SAFETY HELMETS, DUST MASKS AND EAR PROTECTORS, FOR WORKERS.

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"IF WORKERS ARE REQUIRED TO WORK AT A HEIGHT OR NEAR FLOOR OPENINGS, THEY MUST BE PROVIDED WITH SAFETY BELTS WITH HARNESS ATTACHED TO A SUITABLE ANCHORAGE POINT OR HOOKED ON TO STRONG SLIDING WIRE ROPES," HE SAID.

WORKERS SHOULD ALSO BE INFORMED OF THE HAZARDS ASSOCIATED WITH SUCH WORK, MR CHAN SAID.

IN ADDITION, THEY SHOULD BE TRAINED AND SUPERVISED TO CARRY OUT ALL THE NECESSARY SAFETY PRECAUTIONS AND RESCUE OPERATIONS IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, HE SAID.

MR CHAN ALSO REMINDED WORKERS TO CO-OPERATE WITH EMPLOYERS IN USING SAFETY EQUIPMENT PROVIDED FOR THEM.

HE SAID THE FACTORY INSPECTORATE WAS ALWAYS READY TO OFFER WORK SAFETY ADVICE.

ENQUIRIES MAY BE MADE TO THE REGIONAL OFFICES OF THE FACTORY INSPECTORATE.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES ON TSING YI  
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THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF DISTRICT OPEN SPACE IN AREAS ONE AND TWO ON TSING YI ISLAND.

IT IS PART OF A CONTINUING PROGRAMME FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF TSING YI TO PROVIDE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES FOR THE PUBLIC IN ITS NORTHEASTERN PART.

THEY INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THREE TENNIS COURTS, CHILDREN'S PLAY AREAS, AN ORNAMENTAL LAKE WITH LAKE-SIDE CAFETERIA, SITTING-OUT AREAS, LANDSCAPED AREAS AND OTHER ANCILLARY FACILITIES.

WORKS ARE EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN JANUARY NEXT YEAR AND BE COMPLETED IN JANUARY 1995.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF TENDERS IS NOON ON NOVEMBER 20.

FORMS OF TENDER AND FURTHER PARTICULARS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM URBIS TRAVERS MORGAN LTD, WHICH DESIGNS AND SUPERVISES THE CONSTRUCTION WORKS AS CONSULTANT TO TSUEN WAN DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, FIRST FLOOR, LOK MOON COMMERCIAL CENTRE, 29 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG.

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BARGAINS AT CORRECTIONAL SERVICES AUTUMN FAIR

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THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL HOLD A BARGAIN SALE OF STUFFED TOYS AND HANDICRAFTS FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AT ITS AUTUMN FAIR ON SATURDAY (NOVEMBER 7).

ALL PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE WILL BE DONATED TO CHARITABLE ORGANISATIONS.

ON OFFER WILL BE ARTS AND HANDICRAFT PRODUCTS MADE BY INMATES DURING THEIR DETENTION IN VARIOUS PENAL INSTITUTIONS RUN BY THE DEPARTMENT.

"THE PURPOSE OF THE FAIR IS TO MOTIVATE THE INMATES TO ADOPT A POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARDS THEIR FUTURE AS WELL AS TO ENHANCE THEIR SENSE OF CONTRIBUTION TO SOCIETY," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE FAIR HAD BECOME AN ANNUAL EVENT POPULAR WITH THE PUBLIC, PARTICULARLY BARGAIN HUNTERS.

"LAST YEAR, OUR FAIR ATTRACTED THOUSANDS OF VISITORS WHO WERE GENERALLY HAPPY WITH THE WIDE RANGE OF GOOD-QUALITY AND LOW-PRICE PRODUCTS ON SALE THERE," HE ADDED.

PRODUCTS OFFERED AT SOME 30 STALLS THIS YEAR WILL INCLUDE STUFFED TOYS, HANDICRAFT, RATTAN AND WOODEN FURNITURE.

IN ADDITION, TAI TAM GIRL PIPERS AND MARCHING TEAM AND CAPE COLLINSON BAND WILL PERFORM AT THE FAIR. THERE WILL ALSO BE A PARACHUTE DISPLAY, DANCE PERFORMANCES AND DEMONSTRATIONS BY THE DEPARTMENT'S DOG UNIT.

THE FAIR WILL BE HELD BETWEEN 11 AM AND 5 PM AT THE FOOTBALL FIELD NEXT TO STANLEY PRISON. ADMISSION IS FREE.

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REMOTE VILLAGES GET CONSTANT IMPROVEMENTS

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS CONSTANTLY IMPLEMENTED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FOR REMOTE VILLAGES, REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR NEW TERRITORIES, MR ALBERT LAM, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

OFFICIATING AT THE "TA CHIU" CEREMONY AT LAI CHI WO IN SHA TAU KOK, MR LAM SAID SUCH IMPROVEMENTS TO THE VILLAGES, INCLUDING THOSE IN SHA TAU KOK, HAVE NEVER BEEN IGNORED.

/THESE INCLUDED .....

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THESE INCLUDED BUILDING OF THE SHA TAU KOK ESTATE, ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT WORKS IN YIM LIU HA CHUEN AND CHOI YUEN KOK CHUEN, EXTENSION OF THE SHA TAU KOK ROAD, BUILDING OF A PROMENADE, A TYPHOON SHELTER AND A FOOT PATH.

ALL THESE SHOW THAT CLOSE CO-OPERATION BETWEEN RESIDENTS AND THE GOVERNMENT IS FRUITFUL TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY, MR LAM ADDED.

"TA CHIU" IS HELD ONCE EVERY 10 YEARS IN HING CHUN YORK TO GIVE THANKS TO THE DEITIES AS WELL AS TO COMMEMORATE THE DEAD.

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