



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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HK LEADS IN NEW TRAINING SYSTEM FOR DISABLED
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HONG KONG IS THE FIRST IN THE WORLD TO APPLY THE 'MODULES OF EMPLOYABLE SKILLS' (MES) SYSTEM TO THE TRAINING OF DISABLED PERSONS, THE PRINCIPAL INSPECTOR OF THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINING DEPARTMENT, MR GEORGE RIBEIRO, SAID TODAY.

THE MES SYSTEM, USED BY THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING FOR THE DISABLED SECTION SINCE 1983, WAS DEVELOPED BY THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION.

THROUGH THE SYSTEM, DISABLED PEOPLE ARE HELPED TO DEVELOP THEIR POTENTIAL AND TO ACQUIRE TECHNICAL SKILLS.

AT PRESENT, 266 TRAINEES ARE RECEIVING MES TRAINING IN THE KWUN TONG AND ABERDEEN SKILLS CENTRES.

THE PROGRAMMES INCLUDE INDUSTRIAL SEWING, ELECTRONIC AND OFFICE MACHINE PRACTICE AND OTHER ACTIVITIES.

THESE COURSES HAVE BEEN CHOSEN ON THE BASIS OF MANPOWER SURVEY REPORTS PUBLISHED BY THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL.

UNDER THE MES SYSTEM, EACH JOB IS DIVIDED INTO SEVERAL LOGICAL AND ACCEPTABLE DIVISIONS OF WORK, KNOWN AS MODULAR UNITS.

EACH MODULAR UNIT IS TECHNICALLY SELF-CONTAINED AND FORMS A PART OF THE JOB SPECIFICATION OF A FULLY QUALIFIED CRAFTSMAN.

THE TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR INDUSTRIAL SEWING, FOR INSTANCE, IS MADE UP OF MODULES, INCLUDING THE SKILLS OF OPERATING LOCKSTITCH SEWING MACHINE, OVERLOCKING MACHINE AND HEMMING MACHINE.

THE TRAINEES, MAKING USE OF SHORT, CONCISE AND ILLUSTRATIVE LEARNING MATERIALS, CAN LEARN AND PERFORM TASKS ON THEIR OWN, SEEKING EXPLANATION AND DEMONSTRATION FROM INSTRUCTORS WHEN DIFFICULTIES ARE ENCOUNTERED, MR RIBEIRO EXPLAINED.

ONE OF THE ADVANTAGES IS THAT INSTRUCTORS CAN PAY MORE ATTENTION TO EACH INDIVIDUAL AND EACH TRAINEE CAN PROGRESS AT HIS OWN PACE, MR RIBEIRO SAID.

THE DEPARTMENT ALSO PROVIDES A VOCATIONAL ASSESSMENT SERVICE AND TECHNICAL AIDS FOR DISABLED PERSONS.

THE SERVICE IS RUN BY A WORKING TEAM COMPOSED OF AN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST, A SOCIAL WORKER, A SELECTIVE PLACEMENT OFFICER, A DOCTOR, AN INDUSTRIAL PSYCHOLOGIST AND FIVE WORK EVALUATORS.

IN ITS ASSESSMENT OF THE DISABLED PERSON'S CAPACITY AND LIMITATIONS, THE TEAM TAKES INTO ACCOUNT HIS PHYSICAL STRENGTH, PSYCHOLOGICAL FACTORS AND VOCATIONAL ABILITY.

THE ASSESSMENT SERVICE, AVAILABLE AT THE KWUN TONG SKILLS CENTRE, IS OPEN TO ALL DISABLED PERSONS OVER 15 YEARS OF AGE. SINCE IT WAS STARTED IN NOVEMBER 1982, 349 PERSONS HAVE MADE USE OF IT.

THE TEAM ALSO ASSESSES THE NEED OF DISABLED PEOPLE FOR SPECIAL AIDS OR ADAPTATION OF WORKING CONDITIONS. ALL THOSE REQUIRING SUCH AIDS CAN APPROACH THE TECHNICAL AIDS AND RESOURCE CENTRE LOCATED IN THE LEE WAI LEE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE IN KOWLOON TONG.

THE CENTRE HAS COMPLETED 65 PROJECTS TO MEET THESE NEEDS SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT IN JULY 1982.

BY WAY OF EXAMPLE, MR RIBEIRO CITED A JEWELLERY WORKER WHO HAD LOST THE NORMAL FUNCTION OF HIS LOWER LIMBS BECAUSE OF POLIOMYELITIS.

THE TRADITIONAL BELLOWS CONTROLLING THE AIR SUPPLY TO THE FLAME OF A JEWELLER'S BLOWPIPE IS CONTROLLED BY LEG MOVEMENT.

THE CENTRE ADAPTED THE DEVICE FOR THE DISABLED WORKER SO THAT IT COULD BE CONTROLLED BY PNEUMATIC MEANS.

WITH A DONATION FROM THE JOCKEY CLUB, A STUDIO WITH MODERN AUDIO AND VIDEO EQUIPMENT WAS SET UP RECENTLY AT THE CENTRE FOR FILM SHOOTING, EDITING AND SOUND RECORDING.

'WE PLAN TO PUT ALL THE MES LEARNING MATERIAL ON VIDEO TAPES SO THAT A TRAINEE WHO ENCOUNTERS DIFFICULTY IN ANY ASPECT OF HIS WORK CAN STUDY THE CORRESPONDING PART ILLUSTRATED ON THE TAPE. THIS ILLUSTRATION WILL ALSO BENEFIT TRAINEES WITH LOW READING ABILITY,' MR RIBEIRO SAID.

THE DEPARTMENT WILL EXTEND THE MES SYSTEM TO THE FOUR SUBVENTED TRAINING CENTRES WITHIN THREE YEARS.

IT WILL ALSO PROVIDE MORE TRAINING COURSES AND MAKE ALL MES LEARNING MATERIALS AVAILABLE ON VIDEO AND AUDIO TAPES.

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SHORTEST DURATION OF SUNSHINE FOR APRIL
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LAST MONTH HAD THE SHORTEST DURATION OF SUNSHINE -- 38.6 HOURS -- EVER RECORDED FOR APRIL, ACCORDING TO THE LATEST MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT RELEASED BY THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY TODAY.

THE MONTH'S MEAN CLOUD AMOUNT OF 94 PER CENT WAS ALSO THE CLOUDIEST FOR APRIL, EQUALLING THE RECORD FOR APRIL ESTABLISHED IN 1934.

RAIN WAS RECORDED ON 20 DAYS OF THE MONTH, THE SAME AS THE NUMBER FOR APRIL 1926 AND THE SECOND HIGHEST FOR THE MONTH AFTER THE 21 DAYS OF RAIN RECORDED FOR APRIL 1906.

THE RAINFALL FOR THE MONTH TOTALLED 215 MM, 54 PER CENT ABOVE NORMAL. BUT THE ACCUMULATED LEVEL OF 234.8 MM SINCE JANUARY WAS 11 PER CENT BELOW AVERAGE.

THE MONTH WAS ALSO MILDER AND MORE HUMID THAN USUAL.

FOG WAS WIDESPREAD THROUGHOUT THE DAY ON APRIL 1, DISRUPTING FERRY SERVICES AND CAUSING A 10 000-TON PANAMANIAN-REGISTERED CARGO VESSEL TO RUN AGROUND AT LEI YUE MUN.

A WEAK COLD FRONT PASSED THROUGH HONG KONG EARLY ON APRIL 2, DISPERSING THE FOG. WINDS FRESHENED FROM THE EAST AND TRACES OF RAIN WERE RECORDED.

FOG RETURNED ON APRIL 3, BUT DISSIPATED THE FOLLOWING MORNING AS WINDS TURNED SOUTHWESTERLY.

ON APRIL 4 THE WEATHER WAS CLOUDY AND WARM, WITH THE TEMPERATURE RISING TO 26.7 DEGREES CELSIUS IN THE AFTERNOON, THE HIGHEST OF THE MONTH.

THE WEATHER DETERIORATED ON APRIL 5, WITH PERIODS OF LIGHT RAIN, MIST AND COASTAL FOG. DUE TO REDUCED VISIBILITY, FERRY SERVICES WERE DISRUPTED AND A PANAMANIAN CONTAINER SHIP SANK AFTER COLLIDING WITH A KOREAN VESSEL ABOUT FIVE KILOMETRES SOUTHEAST OF WAGLAN ISLAND.

ALL 28 CREW MEMBERS FROM THE PANAMANIAN VESSEL WERE RESCUED WHILE A SAILOR ON THE KOREAN VESSEL WAS INJURED AND HOSPITALISED.

ANOTHER COLD FRONT ARRIVED IN THE MORNING OF APRIL 6, DISSIPATING THE FOG.

THE WEATHER FROM APRIL 6 TO 8 BECAME SLIGHTLY COOLER BUT REMAINED CLOUDY WITH PATCHES OF LIGHT RAIN AND DRIZZLE.

MIST AND FOG RETURNED ON APRIL 9 AND BECAME WIDESPREAD THE FOLLOWING DAY, SERIOUSLY DISRUPTING BOTH SEA AND AIR TRAFFIC. THE FOG EVENTUALLY DISPERSED IN THE MORNING OF APRIL 11.

/LIGHT RAIN

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LIGHT RAIN FROM APRIL 11 TO 13 TURNED HEAVIER AND MORE FREQUENT ON APRIL 14.

AFTER SOME IMPROVEMENT IN THE WEATHER ON APRIL 15, ISOLATED THUNDERSTORMS WERE REPORTED THE FOLLOWING AFTERNOON AND DETERIORATED RAPIDLY INTO WIDESPREAD HEAVY SHOWERS AND THUNDERSTORMS ON APRIL 17.

AT THE PEAK OF THE DOWNPOUR, 54.4 MM OF RAIN WAS RECORDED AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY BETWEEN NOON AND 2 PM.

THE RAINSTORM CAUSED MINOR FLOODING IN VARIOUS PARTS OF HONG KONG AND RESULTED IN THE DEATH OF TWO PERSONS. ONE OF THEM WAS A 27-YEAR-OLD WOMAN, CARRIED AWAY BY TORRENTS IN TUEN MUN, AND THE OTHER A 59-YEAR-OLD MAN, FOUND BURIED IN A MUDSLIP AT A CONSTRUCTION SITE IN TAI PO.

THE WEATHER REMAINED UNSTABLE ON APRIL 18 WITH MORE THUNDERY SHOWERS DURING THE NIGHT.

THERE WERE MIST PATCHES AND PERIODS OF LIGHT RAIN ON APRIL 19 AND 20, FOLLOWED BY MORE THUNDERY SHOWERS ON APRIL 21, RESULTING IN FLOODING IN VARIOUS PLACES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE WEATHER IMPROVED ON APRIL 22, WITH ONLY ISOLATED SHOWERS DURING THE NIGHT, AND LED TO FINE AND SUNNY DAY ON APRIL 23.

HOWEVER, CLOUDY CONDITIONS RETURNED ON APRIL 24 AND WINDS FRESHENED FROM THE EAST AND TURNED STRONG OFF-SHORE IN THE MORNING.

LIGHT RAIN AND MIST PATCHES WERE RECORDED ON APRIL 25 AND 26.

A TROUGH OF LOW PRESSURE OVER SOUTH CHINA BROUGHT OCCASIONAL HEAVY RAIN TO HONG KONG ON APRIL 27 AND ISOLATED THUNDERSTORMS AT NIGHT, RESULTING IN MINOR FLOODING IN VARIOUS PARTS OF HONG KONG.

THE REST OF THE MONTH WAS CHARACTERISED BY CLOUDY WEATHER WITH PERIODS OF RAIN.

THERE WERE NO TROPICAL CYCLONES OVER THE WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC AND THE SOUTH CHINA SEA DURING THE MONTH.

A TOTAL OF SIX AIRCRAFTS WAS DIVERTED FROM HONG KONG DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER.

THUNDERSTORM WARNINGS WERE ISSUED ON APRIL 17, 18, 21, 27 AND 28 WHILE FLOODING WARNINGS WERE IN EFFECT ON APRIL 17, 21, 27 AND 28.

THE RED FIRE DANGER WARNING WAS RAISED ON APRIL 4 AND THE YELLOW WARNING ON APRIL 7 AND 8.

/SIGNALS HOISTED

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SIGNALS HOISTED DURING THE MONTH WERE AS FOLLOWS :

<u>WEATHER SYSTEM</u>	<u>SIGNAL</u>	<u>DATE AND TIME OF HOISTING</u>	<u>DATE AND TIME OF LOWERING</u>
WINTER MONSOON	STRONG MONSOON	APRIL 19 11.45 PM	APRIL 20 4.45 AM
WINTER MONSOON	STRONG MONSOON	APRIL 23 11.05 PM	APRIL 24 8.30 AM
WINTER MONSOON	STRONG MONSOON	APRIL 29 10.05 PM	APRIL 30 5.00 AM

THE MONTH'S FIGURES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL WERE :

SUNSHINE	38.6 HOURS	=	81.6 HOURS BELOW NORMAL
RAINFALL	215.0 MM	=	75.6 MM ABOVE NORAL
CLOUDINESS	94%	=	18% MORE THAN NORMAL
RELATIVE HUMIDITY	87%	=	4% HIGHER THAN NORMAL
MEAN MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE	23.5 DEGREES C	=	1.5 DEGREE C BELOW NORMAL
MEAN TEMPERATURE	21.4 DEGREES C	=	0.7 DEGREE C BELOW NORMAL
MEAN MINIMUM TEMPERATURE	19.7 DEGREES C	=	0.3 DEGREE C BELOW NORMAL
MEAN DEW POINT	19.0 DEGREES C	=	0.1 DEGREE C ABOVE NORMAL
TOTAL EVAPORATION	57.0 MM	=	60.6 MM BELOW NORMAL

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 26.7 DEGREES C WAS RECORDED ON APRIL 4.

MINIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 17.0 DEGREES C WAS RECORDED ON APRIL 7.

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CONTRACTS AWARDED FOR TWO POLICE PROJECTS
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WORK HAS STARTED ON BUILDING A SPORTS CENTRE FOR THE POLICE AT BOUNDARY STREET, KOWLOON, FOLLOWING THE AWARD OF A \$34-MILLION CONTRACT BY THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE TO SHUN SHING CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING COMPANY LIMITED.

THE FOUR-STOREY CENTRE WILL CONSIST OF TWO WINGS LINKED BY A CENTRAL HALL.

MOST OF THE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES WILL BE LOCATED IN THE NORTH WING. INCLUDED WILL BE A RESTAURANT AND FUNCTION ROOM, A SPORTSMAN'S BAR AND LOUNGE, A GAMES ROOM, TELEVISION AND READING ROOMS, A DARK ROOM AND PHOTOGRAPHIC LABORATORY, AND OTHER ANCILLARY FACILITIES SUCH AS OFFICES AND STAFF QUARTERS.

THE SOUTH WING WILL HOUSE THE INDOOR SPORTING FACILITIES, INCLUDING A MULTI-PURPOSE SPORTS HALL, SIX SQUASH COURTS, A GYMNASIUM AND FITNESS ROOMS, A JUDO ROOM, TABLE TENNIS ROOMS AND TENNIS COURTS.

THERE WILL ALSO BE CHILDREN'S PLAYROOMS, A STORE ROOM, CHANGING ROOMS AND A SAUNA.

AN INDOOR REVOLVER RANGE, BOWLING ALLEY, SNACK BAR AND GAMES ROOM WILL BE BUILT IN THE BASEMENT.

THE CENTRE WILL BE READY BY AUGUST NEXT YEAR.

MEANWHILE, THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE HAS ALSO AWARDED A \$4.5-MILLION CONTRACT FOR PILING WORK FOR A POLICE MARRIED QUARTERS BLOCK AT YUEN LONG.

A TOTAL OF 144 FLATS WILL BE PROVIDED IN THE 24-STOREY BUILDING AT KAU YUK ROAD, YUEN LONG.

THEY WILL VARY IN SIZE FROM 47 TO 60 SQUARE METRES AND BE OF STANDARD DESIGN, WITH TWO BEDROOMS.

WORK ON THE SUPERSTRUCTURE WILL START TOWARDS THE END OF THIS YEAR WHEN THE PILING CONTRACT HAS BEEN COMPLETED.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

GOVERNOR RETURNING FROM PEKING TOMORROW
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A FACILITY HAS BEEN ARRANGED FOR PRESS PHOTOGRAPHERS AND CAMERAMEN TO COVER THE ARRIVAL OF THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, FROM PEKING TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

SIR EDWARD WILL RETURN ON FLIGHT BA 20, ETA 7.45 PM.

PLEASE ADVISE THOSE ASSIGNED TO COVER THE ARRIVAL TO ASSEMBLE IN THE PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE AIRPORT TERMINAL BUILDING NOT LATER THAN 6.45 PM TOMORROW. GIS OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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YUEN LONG BOARD MEETS FRIDAY
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YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL BE BRIEFED ON THE DEVELOPMENT LAYOUT PLANS OF FUNG KAT HEUNG AND SHEK WU TONG AT THEIR MEETING ON FRIDAY (MAY 11) MORNING.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO COMMENT ON THE NORTH-WEST NEW TERRITORIES OUTLINE ZONING PLAN.

THE RECENTLY PUBLISHED REVIEWS OF PUBLIC HOUSING ALLOCATION POLICY AND TAXI OPERATION WILL BE DISCUSSED.

A PAPER ON +1985 INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR+, TO ENCOURAGE LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS TO ORGANISE YOUTH SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES, WILL ALSO BE TABLED AT THE MEETING.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA WILL INCLUDE PROGRESS REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND THE BOARD'S COMMITTEES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD MEETING AT 9.30 AM ON FRIDAY (MAY 11) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE, 296 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, YUEN LONG.

A GOVERNMENT VEHICLE, AM 5797, WILL LEAVE KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER AT 8.20 AM FOR YUEN LONG.

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TWO SITES FOR RENT
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TWO SITES ARE BEING OFFERED ON SHORT-TERM TENANCIES BY THE LANDS DEPARTMENT.

ONE IS LOCATED AT THE JUNCTION OF FEI FUNG STREET AND MING FUNG STREET, FUNG WONG VILLAGE, KOWLOON.

IT MEASURES 1 280 SQUARE METRES AND IS FOR USE AS A FEE-PAYING PUBLIC CAR PARK.

THE OTHER SITE OF 1 770 SQUARE METRES IS LOCATED NEAR TAI WAI IN SHA TIN, AND CAN BE USED AS A PLANT NURSERY OR COMMERCIAL GARDEN.

THE INITIAL TENANCY IS ONE YEAR FOR THE KOWLOON SITE AND 18 MONTHS FOR THE SHA TIN SITE, RENEWABLE QUARTERLY AFTERWARDS.

TENDER FORMS, NOTICES AND CONDITIONS ARE AVAILABLE AT :

- * LANDS DEPARTMENT, MURRAY BUILDING, 5TH FLOOR, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG;
- * DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, KOWLOON WEST, YAU MA TEI CAR PARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON; AND
- * DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, SHA TIN, FOR THE SHA TIN SITE.

THE LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF TENDERS IS MAY 25.

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TRAFFIC RESTRICTIONS AT POK FU LAM AND PEAK
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FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (MAY 11), URBAN CLEARWAY HOURS WILL BE CHANGED AT POK FU LAM ROAD WESTBOUND BETWEEN POKFIELD ROAD BUS TERMINUS AND LADY HO TUNG HALL.

THE NEW RESTRICTION HOURS WILL BE FROM 7 AM TO 10 AM AND FROM 4 PM TO 7 PM DAILY, DURING WHICH NO MOTOR VEHICLES OTHER THAN FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS WITHIN THE ROAD SECTION.

ALSO FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (MAY 11), VEHICLES ON PLANTATION ROAD WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM ENTERING GOUGH HILL ROAD, EXCEPT FOR LOCAL ACCESS.

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