



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 1978

CONTENTS

PAGE NO.

TEMPORARY DRIVING LICENCES FOR PEOPLE TAKING UP RESIDENCE IN HK	1
SALARIES TAXPAYERS REMINDED OF SECOND INSTALMENT PAYMENT	1
CROWN LEASES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1978	2
CALL FOR EARLY RETURN OF EMPLOYMENT SURVEY CARDS	3
SPECIAL REVIEW ARTICLE IN MONTHLY DIGEST OF STATISTICS ..	4
PASSING-OUT PARADE OF FIREMEN AND AMBULANCEMEN	5
DOLLS FESTIVAL AT VICTORIA PARK	6

- 1 -

TEMPORARY DRIVING LICENCES FOR PEOPLE
TAKING UP RESIDENCE IN HK
* * * * *

NEW REGULATIONS WILL BE INTRODUCED SHORTLY TO ENABLE THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT TO ISSUE TEMPORARY DRIVING LICENCES TO PERSONS WHO TAKE UP RESIDENCE IN HONG KONG AND HOLD DRIVING LICENCES FROM OVERSEAS COUNTRIES NOT ON THE APPROVED LIST FOR DIRECT ISSUE OF A FULL HONG KONG DRIVING LICENCE.

THE AMENDING LEGISLATION, KNOWN AS THE ROAD TRAFFIC (DRIVING LICENCES) (AMENDMENT)(NO. 2) REGULATIONS 1978, IS PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE PUBLIC.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID THAT AT PRESENT ANY PERSON ARRIVING IN HONG KONG TO TAKE UP RESIDENCE CANNOT OBTAIN A HONG KONG DRIVING LICENCE WITHOUT GOING THROUGH A TEST, UNLESS THAT PERSON ALREADY HOLDS A VALID DRIVING LICENCE FROM A COUNTRY ON THE APPROVED LIST.

THE PRESENT WAITING TIME FOR A DRIVING TEST IS ABOUT SEVEN MONTHS, AND TO ENABLE THESE PEOPLE TO DRIVE WHILE THEY ARE WAITING FOR THEIR TESTS THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS WILL EMPOWER THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT TO ISSUE THEM WITH TEMPORARY DRIVING LICENCES VALID INITIALLY FOR TWELVE MONTHS.

HOWEVER, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, IF DURING THIS PERIOD THEY SIT AND FAIL THEIR DRIVING TEST, THEY WILL HAVE TO RETURN THE TEMPORARY DRIVING LICENCE TO THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT FOR CANCELLATION.

VISITORS WHO HAVE RESIDED IN HONG KONG FOR MORE THAN TWELVE MONTHS WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE ISSUE OF TEMPORARY DRIVING LICENCES.

- - - - 0 - - - -

SALARIES TAXPAYERS REMINDED OF
SECOND INSTALMENT PAYMENT
* * * * *

THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT TODAY REMINDED SALARIES TAXPAYERS TO CHECK THE DUE DATE OF THEIR SECOND TAX INSTALMENT AND ENSURE THAT PAYMENT IS MADE BEFORE THAT DATE AS THESE PAYMENTS WILL BE DUE COMMENCING NEXT MONDAY (APRIL 17).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT ALSO REMINDED TAXPAYERS THAT THEY CAN AVOID INCONVENIENCE BY PAYING THEIR TAX BY POST BECAUSE THE DEPARTMENT'S COLLECTION OFFICES, ESPECIALLY THOSE IN KOWLOON, WILL BE VERY CROWDED DURING THIS PERIOD.

HE POINTED OUT THAT OVER 40,000 TAXPAYERS PAID THEIR FIRST INSTALMENTS BY THIS METHOD THIS YEAR.

NO SURCHARGE WILL BE INCURRED WHERE THE ENVELOPE CONTAINING THE PAYMENT IS POSTMARKED NOT LATER THAN THE DUE DATE. RECEIPTS TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE PAYMENT WILL BE RETURNED BY POST IN A FEW DAYS.

PAYMENT BY POST CAN BE MADE BY MAILING A CROSSED CHEQUE FOR THE AMOUNT DUE, PAYABLE TO THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT, TOGETHER WITH THE DEMAND NOTE TO THE COMMISSIONER OF INLAND REVENUE, P.O. BOX 132, HONG KONG.

- - - - 0 - - - -

FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 1978

- 2 -

CROWN LEASES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1978

* * * *

A BILL, PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE AS THE CROWN LEASES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1978, WILL SHORTLY BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO AMEND CERTAIN PROVISIONS IN THE CROWN LEASES ORDINANCE.

THE ORDINANCE, ENACTED IN 1973 TO DEFINE THE TERMS OF RENEWAL OF CERTAIN RENEWABLE CROWN LEASES, PROVIDES FOR AUTOMATIC RENEWAL OF SUCH LEASES AT AN ANNUAL CROWN RENT OF THREE PER CENT OF THE RATEABLE VALUE OF THE PROPERTY AT THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE RENEWAL.

THIS CROWN RENT WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED THROUGHOUT THE RENEWED TERM UNLESS THE PROPERTY IS ALTERED OR REDEVELOPED, IN WHICH CASE IT SHOULD INCREASE TO THREE PER CENT OF THE RATEABLE VALUE OF THE ALTERED OR REDEVELOPED PROPERTY.

COMMENTING ON THE AMENDING BILL, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT BRANCH OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT SAID: +THE OBJECT IS TO CLARIFY THE EXISTING PROVISIONS.

+IT DOES NOT SEEK TO ALTER THE CROWN RENT DETERMINED UNDER THE PRINCIPAL ORDINANCE BUT INSTEAD EXPRESSLY ELIMINATES THE POSSIBILITY OF DOUBLE ACCOUNTING ON REDEVELOPMENT,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

HE SAID THAT THE OPPORTUNITY IS ALSO TAKEN TO AMEND THE EXISTING LAW TO PREVENT AN AGENT OR OCCUPIER, WHO IS REQUIRED TO PAY CROWN RENT IN THE FIRST INSTANCE, RECOVERING SUCH RENT FROM ANY PERSON OTHER THAN THE OWNER OF THE TENEMENT IN RESPECT OF WHICH THE MONEY WAS PAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/3

FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 1978

- 3 -

CALL FOR EARLY RETURN OF EMPLOYMENT SURVEY CARDS
* * * * *

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY URGED THE MANAGEMENT OF SOME 8,600 MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS, WHICH HAVE NOT YET FURNISHED THEIR EMPLOYMENT RETURNS FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR, TO DO SO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID REMINDERS HAVE BEEN SENT TO THESE ESTABLISHMENTS AND NOTED THAT PROMPT RETURN OF THE COMPLETED EMPLOYMENT ENQUIRY CARDS WOULD FACILITATE THE EARLY RELEASE OF SURVEY RESULTS.

ENQUIRY CARDS WERE FIRST MAILED TO INDIVIDUAL MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS ON MARCH 23. MANAGERMENTS WERE REQUESTED TO COMPLETE THE CARDS WITH THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED AND EXISTING VACANCIES AS AT MARCH 15, AND TO RETURN THEM TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT BY THE END OF MARCH.

THE FULL SCALE MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT SURVEY NOW IN PROGRESS COVERS SOME 14,000 MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS. INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM THE SURVEY WILL PROVIDE ESSENTIAL DATA FOR THE ANALYSIS OF EMPLOYMENT LEVELS AND TRENDS.

AT THE SAME TIME, ENQUIRIES ARE ALSO BEING MADE ABOUT EMPLOYMENT AND VACANCIES IN THE IMPORT/EXPORT, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADES, RESTAURANTS, HOTELS, BANKS, INSURANCE COMPANIES, AND OTHER SELECTED TRADES AND SERVICES.

THE COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS APPEALED TO ALL SUCH ESTABLISHMENTS FOR CO-OPERATION IN THE EMPLOYMENT SURVEY.

HE STRESSED THAT INFORMATION FURNISHED BY INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS WOULD BE TREATED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND WOULD BE USED SOLELY FOR COMPILING STATISTICAL TABLES.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/s
/4

FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 1978

- 4 -

SPECIAL REVIEW ARTICLE IN
MONTHLY DIGEST OF STATISTICS
* * * * *

THE JANUARY 1978 ISSUE OF THE HONG KONG MONTHLY DIGEST OF STATISTICS ON SALE TODAY CONTAINS A SPECIAL ARTICLE ENTITLED 'ESTABLISHMENTS AND EMPLOYMENT IN HONG KONG'S WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS'.

IT IS ONE IN A SERIES OF REVIEW ARTICLES ON SPECIAL TOPICS OF INTEREST TO THE PUBLIC PUBLISHED EVERY THREE MONTHS BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE ARTICLE DESCRIBES THE LEVELS, DISTRIBUTION AND TRENDS OF ESTABLISHMENTS AND EMPLOYMENT IN THE WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS AND UP-DATES AN EARLIER ARTICLE ON THE SAME SUBJECT PUBLISHED IN THE JANUARY 1975 ISSUE OF THE MONTHLY DIGEST.

THE JANUARY 1978 ISSUE OF THE MONTHLY DIGEST IS OBTAINABLE AT \$6 A COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/5

FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 1978

- 5 -

PASSING-OUT PARADE OF FIREMEN AND AMBULANCEMEN
* * * * *

FIREMEN AND AMBULANCEMEN ARE REQUIRED TO BE PATIENT, FIRM, COMPASSIONATE AND SYMPATHETIC EVEN THOUGH ON OCCASIONS THEY MAY BE ABUSED, THE DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES, MR. FRED WATSON SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE PASSING-OUT PARADE OF 99 FIREMEN AND 30 AMBULANCEMEN AT THE FIRE SERVICES TRAINING SCHOOL IN PAT HEUNG, THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR. WATSON SAID THIS IS BECAUSE +OTHER PEOPLE'S MISFORTUNES ARE OUR BUSINESS AND PEOPLE WHO ARE SICK OR INJURED OR HAVE LOST THEIR HOME OR CHILD THROUGH FIRE OR OTHER CALAMITY ARE UNDER A GREAT STRAIN AND USUALLY EXCITED AND GRIEF STRICKEN.+

HE SAID: +YOU WILL ENTER PEOPLE'S HOMES OR WORK PLACES AS STRANGERS AND YOU MUST NEVER ABUSE, OR ALLOW OTHERS TO ABUSE, THAT PRIVILEGE.+

+OTHER PEOPLE'S PERSONAL BELONGINGS AND PROPERTY ARE SACRED AND IT IS YOUR DUTY TO DO ALL IN YOUR POWER TO PRESERVE THEM FOR THEIR OWNERS.+

MR. WATSON ALSO TOLD THE MEN ON PARADE THAT THEY ARE JOINING AN EMERGENCY SERVICE WHERE DISCIPLINE IS ESSENTIAL.

+BY YOUR DISCIPLINE, SKILL AND BEHAVIOUR YOU ARE JUDGED BY THE PUBLIC,+ HE SAID.

+NO MATTER WHAT THE PROVOCATION ALWAYS REMEMBER THIS AND UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES BRING THE SERVICE OR YOURSELVES INTO DISREPUTE,+ HE ADDED.

THE PARADE WAS THE 28TH HELD AT THE FIRE SERVICES TRAINING SCHOOL.

ALSO TAKING PART IN THE PARADE WERE 22 ASSISTANT STATION OFFICERS, 60 FIREMEN AND 27 AMBULANCEMEN WHO ARE STILL UNDER TRAINING AT THE SCHOOL.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/6

FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 1978

- 6 -

DOLLS FESTIVAL AT VICTORIA PARK

* * * * *

ABOUT 1,000 DOLLS WILL BE DISPLAYED AT THE DOLLS FESTIVAL AT THE CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND IN VICTORIA PARK FROM 11 A.M. TO 4 P.M. ON SUNDAY (APRIL 16).

THE FESTIVAL IS ORGANISED BY RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG'S YOUTH CALL PROGRAMME AND SPONSORED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB AND CULTURAL CRAFTS CENTRE.

CHILDREN VISITING THE FESTIVAL WILL ALSO BE INVITED TO TAKE PART IN A NUMBER OF DOLL GAMES.

THE DOLLS ON DISPLAY ARE ALL ENTRIES FOR THE DOLLS COMPETITION HELD EARLIER IN CONNECTION WITH THE FESTIVAL. ALL THE DOLLS IN THE COMPETITION WILL LATER BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE WELFARE AGENCIES BY C.Y.C. MEMBERS.

THE FESTIVAL WILL BE OFFICIALLY OPENED AT 11 A.M. ON SUNDAY BY THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF BROADCASTING, MR. SIMON LUN= THE DEPUTY CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS, MRS. LOUISE MOK= AND THE DEPUTY DISTRICT GOVERNOR, DISTRICT 303 LIONS INTERNATIONAL, MR. PETER HO. THE TWO CHILD STARS OF R.T.H.K.'S +WHEN WE ARE YOUNG+ PROGRAMME WILL ALSO TAKE PART IN THE CEREMONY.

AFTER THE OPENING THE ENTRIES WILL BE JUDGED BY THE INSPECTORS OF THE CULTURAL CRAFTS CENTRE, AND PRIZES WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE WINNERS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE DOLLS FESTIVAL AT THE CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND IN VICTORIA PARK FROM 11 A.M. TO 4 P.M. THIS SUNDAY.

- - - - - 0 - - - - -