



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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LEGISLATIVE CONTROL OF BEDSPACE APARTMENTS BEING CONSIDERED

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN CONSIDERING THE FEASIBILITY OF INTRODUCING LEGISLATION, ALONG THE LINES OF THAT BEING PROPOSED FOR GUESTHOUSES, TO CONTROL BEDSPACE APARTMENTS, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

TO THIS END, A TERRITORY-WIDE SURVEY OF BEDSPACE APARTMENTS AND TENANTS WAS LAUNCHED IN NOVEMBER AND IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED NEXT MONTH (JANUARY).

"THE AIM OF THE SURVEY IS TO COLLECT INFORMATION ON THE SOCIAL PROFILE OF THE BEDSPACE TENANTS WITH A VIEW TO FORMULATING MEASURES TO IMPROVE THE LIVING CONDITIONS OF THIS TYPE OF ACCOMMODATION," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"WHEN WE HAVE ADEQUATE INFORMATION ON THE OPERATION OF SUCH APARTMENTS AND ON THE LODGERS, WE SHALL BE ABLE TO CONSIDER PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEM.

"THE INFORMATION COLLECTED WILL INCLUDE THE OCCUPANT'S AGE, OCCUPATION, PLACE OF WORK, MONTHLY INCOME, MARITAL STATUS, AND THE REASONS FOR RENTING A BEDSPACE," THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED.

IN THE MEANTIME, THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN CARRYING OUT INSPECTIONS OF THE 174 BEDSPACE APARTMENTS KNOWN TO THE GOVERNMENT TO ENSURE THAT THEY COMPLY WITH FIRE REGULATIONS.

OF THESE, 99 WERE FOUND TO BE NOT POSING FIRE HAZARDS. ACTION IS BEING TAKEN IN RESPECT OF THE REMAINDER.

THE BEDSPACE APARTMENTS INVOLVED IN THE FOURTH ALARM FIRE YESTERDAY (DECEMBER 23) WERE NOT KNOWN TO THE GOVERNMENT.

THE CNTA SPOKESMAN REITERATED HIS APPEAL TO ALL BEDSPACE APARTMENT OPERATORS AND TENANTS TO COOPERATE WITH THE DISTRICT OFFICE STAFF CONDUCTING THE SURVEY.

HE ALSO APPEALED TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO NOTIFY THE DISTRICT OFFICES OF BEDSPACE APARTMENTS THAT THEY COME ACROSS.

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CHRISTMAS PRESENTS FOR VIETNAMESE CHILDREN

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VIETNAMESE CHILDREN AT THE THREE BOAT PEOPLE DETENTION CENTRES ON OUTLYING ISLANDS TODAY (MONDAY) HAD A HAPPY CHRISTMAS EVE WITH A GROUP OF TELEVISION AND MOVIE ACTRESSES WHO VISITED THEM AND DISTRIBUTED CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES (VIETNAMESE UNIT), MR RAYMOND LAI, THE GROUP -- INCLUDING MS SIAO FONG-FONG, MS NANCY SIT KAR-YIN, MS WONG WAN-SEE AND MS NG YUEN-YEE -- CHATTED AND PLAYED WITH THE CHILDREN AT CHI MA WAN DETENTION CENTRE, HEI LING CHAU DETENTION CENTRE AND NEI KWU DETENTION CENTRE.

ABOUT 1,000 PRESENTS, WHICH HAD BEEN COLLECTED BY THE VISITORS THEMSELVES AND THEIR FRIENDS, WERE DISTRIBUTED TO THE CHILDREN.

EXPRESSING APPRECIATION OF THE GROUP'S VISIT, MR LAI SAID HE WAS GREATLY IMPRESSED WITH THE ENTHUSIASM AND KINDNESS OF THESE LADIES WHO TRAVELLED SUCH A LONG WAY TO THE OUTLYING ISLANDS TO MEET THE CHILDREN.

HE SAID THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN ORGANISING ACTIVITIES FOR VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE DURING CHRISTMAS.

"ALTHOUGH MOST OF THE ACTIVITIES IN WHITEHEAD DETENTION CENTRE, THE LARGEST CENTRE IN HONG KONG, ARE BEING ORGANISED BY VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, IN THE MORE REMOTE CENTRES ON OUTLYING ISLANDS, THE DEPARTMENT IS TAKING THE LEAD," HE SAID.

THIS YEAR A WIDE VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES HAD BEEN ARRANGED FOR THESE REMOTE CENTRES, INCLUDING CHRISTMAS PARTIES, VARIETY SHOWS, KARAOKE CONCERT, OUTINGS FOR CHILDREN, AND VOLLEYBALL AND FOOTBALL COMPETITIONS, HE ADDED.

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