



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Monday, August 27, 1973

SAFETY ASPECTS OF CARGO HANDLING EMPHASISED

Most accidents in cargo handling are caused by improper operation and poor maintenance of lifting equipment, according to a spokesman for the Industrial Safety Training Unit of the Labour Department.

Two workers were killed and 95 others injured during the first three months this year while handling goods on board ships and at wharfs.

"Many of these accidents could have been avoided if the workers had used a safe lifting method," he said.

Commenting on accidents occurring while goods were being lifted manually, he noted that apart from causing cuts and bruises these accidents could lead to more serious injuries like slipped discs, hernia, and torn muscles.

In an effort to minimise such accidents, the Industrial Safety Training Unit is conducting a series of training courses on 'Manual Lifting and Handling' to impress on workers the importance of safe lifting methods.

"The basic rule to follow is never attempt to lift anything beyond your capacity, and at all times wear protective gear like safety helmets, footwear and gloves," he stressed.

/On accidents

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On accidents occurring during mechanical lifting of goods, the spokesman said these were mainly due to the lack of co-ordination between workers and the poor maintenance of cranes and lifting tackles.

"All lifting equipment should be well lubricated and their 'safe working load' clearly indicated. Traffic guides and crossings should be set up in areas where fork-lift trucks are in operation."

The spokesman said free courses in safe cargo handling practices were being run by the Industrial Safety Training Unit and factory inspectors regularly visited dockyards and wharfs to ensure that safety regulations were observed and to offer advice where necessary.

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WATER STOPPAGE

Water supply to a number of premises in Shek Kip Mei will be interrupted for five hours starting from 1 a.m. on Thursday (August 30).

The temporary stoppage is to enable staff from the Waterworks Office to carry out leakage tests in the area.

All premises bounded by Nam Cheong Street, Woh Chai Street, Pak Tin Street, Tai Po Road and Shek Kip Mei Street will be affected.

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FUN PROGRAMME FOR SEPTEMBER

The Urban Council has prepared a series of afternoon and evening entertainment programmes to be held next month in parks and playgrounds in urban areas and the New Territories.

Various Sunday afternoon band concerts will be provided by the bands of the Auxiliary Medical Service, the Royal Hong Kong Police, the Royal Hong Kong Auxiliary Police and the Royal Hong Kong Regiment.

Other programmes include film shows, variety shows, and Chinese band concerts and operas, all beginning at 8 p.m.

Films to be shown in September include a Cantonese feature entitled "Secret Agent No. 1" and a cartoon catering for the young.

There will be a lucky draw at the end of each of the variety shows. Prizes will include toys and useful articles.

The Chinese band concerts and operas will be held in conjunction with Radio Hong Kong, and will last for about two-and-a-half hours.

Admission to all the events is free and members of the public are welcome to attend.

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Release time: 2.15 p.m.

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NEW TV PROGRAMME TO SPOTLIGHT CHINESE PRESS COMMENT

A new television programme has been launched to keep people who don't read Chinese in touch with the main talking points in the Chinese newspapers.

Produced by the Radio Hong Kong Television unit, the programme is being shown in the "Viewpoint" series at 7.30 p.m. every Wednesday on the English channels of RTV and TVB.

The script is prepared from editorial comments which appear in the Chinese newspapers.

A government spokesman commented: "We feel there is a great need to keep the non-Chinese reader informed of the wide range of comment on topical issues which appear in the Chinese press.

"More than 60 Chinese language newspapers are published daily in Hong Kong, covering most shades of political opinion. It is obviously desirable that people who don't read the language should know what these papers are saying on major matters of public interest.

"As there is such a large number we cannot review them all individually, but what we can do is look at topics which attract most attention and summarise Press reaction.

"We hope that people will find the new programme an informative and useful guide to Chinese Press comment."

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