



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SUNDAY, MAY 10, 1992

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45 NEW BUILDING PLANS APPROVED IN MARCH

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THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE OF THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT APPROVED 45 NEW BUILDING PLANS IN MARCH.

OF THESE, 11 WERE FOR HONG KONG, 14 FOR KOWLOON AND 20 FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE APPROVED PLANS INCLUDED 23 FOR APARTMENT, APARTMENT/COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS, FOUR FOR COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENTS AND FIVE FOR INDUSTRIAL PURPOSE.

DURING THE MONTH, THE OFFICE GAVE CONSENT FOR WORK TO START ON 40 PROJECTS, INVOLVING 29,766 SQUARE METRES OF USABLE DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA AND 140,752 SQUARE METRES OF USABLE NON-DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA.

THE TOTAL DECLARED COST OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED DURING THE MONTH WAS ABOUT \$2,373 MILLION.

USABLE FLOOR AREAS FOR DOMESTIC AND NON-DOMESTIC USES PROVIDED IN BUILDINGS WHICH WERE CERTIFIED FOR OCCUPATION WERE ABOUT 128,004 SQUARE METRES AND ABOUT 204,081 SQUARE METRES RESPECTIVELY.

ALSO DURING MARCH, THE OFFICE ISSUED 42 OCCUPATION PERMITS; 20 FOR HONG KONG ISLAND, 6 FOR KOWLOON, AND 16 FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES.

IN ADDITION, 23 DEMOLITION CONSENTS AFFECTING 48 BUILDINGS WERE ISSUED.

THE CONTROL AND ENFORCEMENT DIVISION RECEIVED 696 COMPLAINTS ON ILLEGAL BUILDING WORKS, CARRIED OUT 1,884 INSPECTIONS AND ISSUED 475 REMOVAL ORDERS.

THE DANGEROUS BUILDINGS SECTION INSPECTED 855 BUILDINGS AND NO EMERGENCY CLOSURES WERE REQUIRED.

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DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION OF ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS IMMINENT

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THE ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT (EMSD) TODAY (SUNDAY) REMINDED COMPANIES THAT INTEND TO CARRY OUT ELECTRICAL WORK OR DO BUSINESS AS ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS AFTER JUNE 1 THIS YEAR TO SUBMIT THEIR APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION AS ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE COMPULSORY REGISTRATION EXERCISE WAS LAUNCHED IN NOVEMBER LAST YEAR AS PART OF THE MEASURES INTRODUCED UNDER THE ELECTRICITY ORDINANCE WHICH PROVIDED A COMPLETELY NEW FRAMEWORK OF REGULATORY CONTROL ON ELECTRICITY-RELATED MATTERS IN ORDER TO ENHANCE PUBLIC SAFETY.

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UNDER THE ELECTRICITY (REGISTRATION) REGULATIONS, IT HAS BEEN STIPULATED THAT WITH EFFECT FROM JUNE 1 THIS YEAR, ALL ENGINEERING CONSULTANT FIRMS, CONTRACTING COMPANIES, ELECTRICAL SHOPS AND IN FACT ANY FIRMS OR COMPANIES CARRYING OUT ELECTRICAL WORK IN HONG KONG MUST BE REGISTERED WITH EMSD AS AN ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR BEFORE THEY CAN CONTINUE THEIR BUSINESS.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT ELECTRICAL WORK MEANS WORK IN RELATION TO THE INSTALLATION, COMMISSIONING, INSPECTION, TESTING, MAINTENANCE, MODIFICATION OR REPAIR OF A LOW VOLTAGE OR HIGH VOLTAGE FIXED ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION.

IT ALSO INCLUDES THE SUPERVISION AND CERTIFICATION OF THAT WORK AND THE CERTIFICATION OF DESIGN OF THAT INSTALLATION.

APPLICATION FORMS AND PUBLICITY LEAFLETS FOR ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR REGISTRATION (IN BOTH ENGLISH AND CHINESE) CAN BE OBTAINED AT VARIOUS DISTRICT OFFICES AND EMSD HEADQUARTERS IN ROOM 101, FIRST FLOOR, 98 CAROLINE HILL ROAD, CAUSEWAY BAY, HONG KONG.

ENQUIRIES ON ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR REGISTRATION MATTERS CAN ALSO BE MADE BY CALLING THE HOTLINE - 895 8863.

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WORKSHOPS ON WORK SAFETY TRAINING

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MORE THAN 100 INDUSTRIAL SUPERVISORS AND SAFETY OFFICERS WILL GET TOGETHER TO EXPLORE EFFECTIVE APPROACHES TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SAFETY TRAINING PROGRAMMES AT A TWO-DAY SYMPOSIUM FROM TUESDAY (MAY 12).

THE SYMPOSIUM ON SAFETY AND HEALTH MANAGEMENT WILL INTRODUCE ESSENTIAL METHODS AND INSTRUCTIONAL TRAINING TECHNIQUES TO PARTICIPATING SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND SAFETY OFFICERS WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ORGANISING IN-HOUSE SAFETY TRAINING PROGRAMMES.

COMPRISING A SERIES OF WORKSHOPS AND AN OPEN FORUM, THE SYMPOSIUM WILL FOCUS PARTICIPANTS' ATTENTION ON THE IMPORTANCE OF SAFETY EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN THE PREVENTION OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

THE SYMPOSIUM IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE REGIONAL OFFICE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION (ILO) AND THE FACTORY INSPECTORATE DIVISION OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

GUEST SPEAKERS AT THE SYMPOSIUM WILL INCLUDE EXPERTS FROM THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC AND PRIVATE COMPANIES.

/THE SYMPOSIUM

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THE SYMPOSIUM WILL BE OPENED BY SENIOR EXPERT OF THE ILO DR KARI KURPPA, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR MR YIU YAN-NANG, VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF TEXTILE BLEACHERS, DYERS, PRINTERS AND FINISHERS LIMITED MR KWAN KON-WAH AND A MEMBER OF THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD MR CHEUNG LUN.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE SYMPOSIUM WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 10 AM ON TUESDAY AT BLOCK 5, LEI YUE MUN PARK AND HOLIDAY VILLAGE.

PRESS TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED. A COACH TAKING NEWS MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES TO THE PLACE WILL DEPART FROM HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL AT 9.15 AM SHARP.

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RETRAINING COURSES FOR LOCAL WORKERS DUE TO START

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TEN PILOT RETRAINING COURSES FOR INDUSTRIES THAT HAVE A LARGE NUMBER OF VACANCIES AND A HIGH DEMAND FOR IMPORTED LABOUR WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR LOCAL WORKERS IN EARLY JULY.

THE COURSES, TO BE RUN IN COLLABORATION WITH THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL, THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY TRAINING AUTHORITY AND THE HONG KONG COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY, COVER:

- * HOTEL HOUSEKEEPING AND CLEANING SERVICES
- * BASIC RETAIL SALES TECHNIQUES
- * COMPUTERISED CHINESE TYPESETTING
- * PRINTING FINISHING
- * CHINESE DATA ENTRY
- * SHIPPING AND DOCUMENTATION
- * PREPARATION OF PRODUCTION ORDER
- * SAMPLE MAKING
- * IN-LINE Q.C. INSPECTION
- * GARMENT FITTING ALTERATION

/A SPOKESMAN

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION AND MANPOWER BRANCH SAID UNDER THE RETRAINING PROGRAMME, A TOTAL OF ABOUT 700 PERSONS CAN BE RETRAINED IN A PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS.

AS REGARDS THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY, HE SAID THE EXISTING TRAINING PROGRAMMES ORGANISED BY THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TRAINING AUTHORITY ALREADY COVER A WIDE SPECTRUM OF THE SKILLS REQUIRED BY THE INDUSTRY.

THERE IS EXTRA CAPACITY FOR WORKERS WHO ARE IN NEED OF RETRAINING, HE SAID.

"THE PROVISIONAL RETRAINING FUND BOARD, UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, IS STUDYING THE POSSIBILITY OF DEVELOPING RETRAINING PROGRAMMES FOR OTHER TRADES.

"BASED ON THE EXPERIENCE OF THE PILOT PROGRAMMES, PARTICULARLY THE RESPONSE OF WORKERS AND THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE RETRAINING, THE SCHEME WILL BE EXPANDED IN TERMS OF THE QUANTITY AND VARIETY OF THE COURSES OFFERED," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

APPLICANTS MEETING THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA MAY BE ADMITTED TO THE TRAINING OR RETRAINING PROGRAMMES:

- * AGED ABOVE 30 ;
- * HAVE BEEN WITH THE SAME EMPLOYER OR INDUSTRY FOR AT LEAST TWO YEARS AND HAVE LOST THEIR JOB OR ARE ABOUT TO LOSE THEIR JOB BECAUSE THEIR PLANT OR BUSINESS HAS CLOSED DOWN OR MOVED OR THEIR POSITION OR SHIFT HAS BEEN ABOLISHED, OR NOT ENOUGH WORK IS AVAILABLE FOR THEM TO DO; AND
- * HAVE THE NECESSARY APTITUDE, EDUCATION AND PHYSIQUE REQUIRED BY THE RELEVANT RETRAINING PROGRAMMES.

AN ALLOWANCE OF \$2,800 PER MONTH WILL BE PAID TO WORKERS UNDERGOING TRAINING TO MEET THEIR BASIC NEEDS.

THE LOCAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT WILL PROVIDE SUPPORTING SERVICES FOR THE SELECTION AND PLACEMENT OF TRAINEES. DETAILS FOR APPLICATIONS WILL BE ANNOUNCED SHORTLY.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE COSTS OF THE PILOT SCHEME FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS IS ESTIMATED TO BE ABOUT \$14.3 MILLION WHICH INCLUDE \$4.2 MILLION TRAINING ALLOWANCE.

HE SAID THE SCHEME IS TO BE FINANCED BY A LEVY IMPOSED ON EMPLOYERS IMPORTING WORKERS UNDER THE LABOUR IMPORTATION SCHEME.

"PENDING THE SETTING UP OF A STATUTORY FUND FOR THE SCHEME, THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HAS APPROVED A RECOVERABLE ADVANCE OF \$50 MILLION TO ENABLE THE SCHEME TO BE LAUNCHED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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"THIS SUM WILL BE RECOVERED FROM THE STATUTORY FUND AFTER IT HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED."

A BILL FOR THE SETTING UP OF THE STATUTORY FUND IS BEING PREPARED AND WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHORTLY.

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WEAKENED WATER SUPPLY IN KOWLOON WEST ON TUESDAY
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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO MOST PREMISES IN KOWLOON WEST WILL TURN WEAK FROM 10 AM TO 5 PM ON TUESDAY (MAY 12) TO FACILITATE THE ANNUAL CLEANSING OF HO MAN TIN EAST NO. 1 FRESH WATER SERVICE RESERVOIR.

THE PREMISES TO BE AFFECTED ARE IN MONG KOK, YAU MA TEI, TSIM SHA TSUI AND HUNG HOM, INCLUDING THOSE AT BOUNDARY STREET, PRINCE EDWARD ROAD WEST, ARGYLE STREET, NATHAN ROAD, WATERLOO ROAD, FERRY STREET, JORDAN ROAD, GASCOIGNE ROAD, AUSTIN ROAD, CHATHAM ROAD SOUTH, CHATHAM ROAD NORTH, SALISBURY ROAD, HONG CHONG ROAD, MA TAU WAI ROAD, FAT KWONG STREET, LOK MAN SUN CHUEN, PUI CHING ROAD, PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD AND PERTH STREET.

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