



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SUNDAY, JULY 31, 1994

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NOMINATION FOR DB ELECTIONS TO START TOMORROW
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NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR THE DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS IN SEPTEMBER WILL START TOMORROW (MONDAY) AND LAST UNTIL AUGUST 15.

NOMINATION MUST BE HANDED IN BY THE NOMINATED CANDIDATE IN PERSON AND RECEIVED BY THE RETURNING OFFICER OR ONE OF HIS ASSISTANT RETURNING OFFICERS AT THE RESPECTIVE DISTRICT OFFICE DURING OFFICE HOURS ON ANY DAY OTHER THAN A GENERAL HOLIDAY OR A SATURDAY.

ANOTHER MEANS OF DELIVERY OF NOMINATIONS MAY BE ALLOWED ON APPLICATION TO THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER.

FORMS OF NOMINATION MAY BE OBTAINED FREE OF CHARGE DURING OFFICE HOURS ON ANY DAY OTHER THAN A GENERAL HOLIDAY FROM THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL OFFICE (REO), 10TH FLOOR, HARBOUR CENTRE, 25 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, OR ANY DISTRICT OFFICE.

AN REO SPOKESMAN SAID IN RESPECT OF EACH CONSTITUENCY, UNLESS THE NUMBER OF VALIDLY NOMINATED CANDIDATE WAS LESS THAN TWO, A POLL WOULD BE HELD ON THE ELECTION DAY ON SEPTEMBER 18, 1994.

THERE WILL BE A TOTAL OF 346 SINGLE-SEAT DISTRICT BOARD CONSTITUENCIES OPEN FOR NOMINATION. IN THE 1991 DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS, THERE WERE A TOTAL OF 274 SEATS FROM 210 CONSTITUENCIES.

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PUBLICATION OF 1994 FINAL REGISTER OF ELECTORS
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THE 1994 FINAL REGISTER OF ELECTORS FOR GEOGRAPHICAL CONSTITUENCIES WILL BE PUBLISHED TOMORROW (MONDAY), AND IS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION AT THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL OFFICE AND THE DISTRICT OFFICES DURING OFFICE HOURS ON ANY WORKING DAY.

THERE ARE 2.45 MILLION ELECTORS ON THE NEWLY PUBLISHED GENERAL ELECTORAL ROLL.

THESE INCLUDE THE 520,000 NEWLY REGISTERED ELECTORS RECRUITED FROM THIS YEAR'S VOTER REGISTRATION CAMPAIGN WHICH HAS BEEN SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED ON JULY 1, OF WHICH 108,000 ARE BETWEEN THE AGE OF 18 AND 21 YEARS, ELECTORS WHO HAVE FOR THE FIRST TIME BECOME ELIGIBLE FOR REGISTRATION WITH THE LOWERING OF THE VOTING AGE TO 18.

ABOUT 13,000 ELECTORS HAVE BEEN DELETED FROM THIS YEAR'S FINAL REGISTER. THESE ARE MAINLY CASES OF DEATH AND CHANGE OF ADDRESS WITHOUT NOTIFYING THE REGISTRATION OFFICER.

THE SIZE OF THE ELECTORATE IN 1994 REPRESENTS SOME 26 PER CENT INCREASE COMPARED WITH THE 1.94 MILLION IN 1993. THE REGISTRATION RATE HAS ALSO SOARED FROM LAST YEAR'S 52 PER CENT TO THIS YEAR'S 62 PER CENT.

ELECTORS WHOSE NAMES APPEAR ON THE 1994 FINAL REGISTER OF ELECTORS WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AT THE FORTHCOMING DISTRICT BOARD ORDINARY ELECTIONS TO BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 18, AND THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ORDINARY ELECTIONS TO BE HELD IN MARCH 1995.

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AMENDMENT EMPOWERS DIRECTOR TO REFER PUPILS

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AN AMENDMENT TO THE CODES OF AID FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS TO PROVIDE THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION WITH CLEAR AUTHORITY TO DIRECT AIDED SCHOOLS TO ADMIT PUPILS REFERRED BY HIM TO FILL VACANT PLACES IN THESE SCHOOLS WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON SEPTEMBER 1, 1994.

THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (SCHOOLS), MR TSUI SEEMING, SAID THE AMENDMENT WOULD ALSO APPLY TO GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS, CAPUT SCHOOLS AND PRIVATE INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS IN THE BOUGHT PLACE SCHEME.

HE SAID AN ADMINISTRATIVE CIRCULAR HAD BEEN SENT TO SCHOOLS AND SUPERVISORS TO THIS EFFECT. HEADS OF SCHOOL ARE REQUESTED TO TAKE NOTE OF THE IMPENDING AMENDMENT.

MR TSUI EXPLAINED THAT ADDITIONAL PROVISION 12 (AA) HAD BEEN INSERTED AFTER PARAGRAPH 12 (A) OF APPENDIX 1 OF THE CODES OF AID FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS UNDER THE ADMISSION OF PUPILS.

THE NEW PARAGRAPH READS: "NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISION IN PARAGRAPH 12 (A) ABOVE, THE DIRECTOR MAY DIRECT AN AIDED SCHOOL TO ADMIT TO THAT SCHOOL AS A PUPIL A CHILD WHO IS REFERRED BY THE DIRECTOR TO FILL AN AVAILABLE VACANT PLACE."

MR TSUI ASSURED THAT IN IMPLEMENTING THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS, THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WOULD OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES:

- * CHILDREN REQUIRING PLACEMENT WILL BE GIVEN INITIAL SCREENING BY EDUCATION DEPARTMENT STAFF TO ASSESS THEIR LEVEL OF ABILITY AND TO SEE IF SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES ARE NEEDED.
- * CHILDREN PLACED IN ORDINARY SCHOOLS WHO REQUIRE SUPPORT SERVICES WILL BE REFERRED TO STUDENT GUIDANCE OFFICERS/STUDENT GUIDANCE TEACHERS OR SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS AS APPROPRIATE FOR ASSISTANCE.
- * THE ABILITY OF THE CHILDREN TO BE PLACED, IN TERMS OF SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES ALLOCATION BANDING, SHOULD NOT BE TOO DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF THE PUPILS OF THE RECEIVING SCHOOLS.
- * THE RESIDENCE OF THE CHILDREN TO BE PLACED WILL BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION.

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RENTAL INFORMATION FOR LANDLORDS AND TENANTS

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BOTH TENANTS AND LANDLORDS OF DOMESTIC PREMISES WILL BE ABLE TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ON MARKET RENTS FROM THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT AS FROM TOMORROW (MONDAY).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID FOR A FEE OF \$570, AN APPLICANT COULD OBTAIN INFORMATION OF UP TO SIX COMPARABLE RENTALS FOR ACCOMMODATIONS OF SIMILAR SIZE IN NEARBY AREAS.

/HE ADDED

HE ADDED HOWEVER THAT THIS INFORMATION WOULD ONLY BE MADE AVAILABLE TO LANDLORDS AND TENANTS, OR THEIR AUTHORISED PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS, WHO APPLIED TO THE LANDS TRIBUNAL FOR TENANCY RENEWAL UNDER PART IV OF THE LANDLORD AND TENANT (CONSOLIDATION) ORDINANCE.

UNDER THESE PROVISIONS, LANDLORDS AND TENANTS OF DOMESTIC PREMISES MAY, PRIOR TO THE EXPIRATION OF A CURRENT TENANCY, FREELY AGREE ON THE RENEWAL OF THE TENANCY.

BUT IF THE PARTIES CANNOT AGREE ON THE RENT, THEY MAY APPLY TO THE LANDS TRIBUNAL FOR A DECISION.

"THE RENTAL DATA PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT CAN SERVE AS A REFERENCE TO THE LANDLORDS AND THEIR TENANTS SO THAT THEY CAN NEGOTIATE AN AMICABLE SETTLEMENT OR CAN BASE THE RENTAL FIGURES IN PRESENTING THEIR CASES BEFORE THE LANDS TRIBUNAL," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THOSE WISHING TO ACCESS THIS INFORMATION SHOULD FILL IN A FORM WHICH IS AVAILABLE AT THE LANDS TRIBUNAL AND THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT.

COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD THEN BE SENT TO THE COMMISSIONER OF RATING AND VALUATION, HENNESSY CENTRE, 17TH FLOOR, 500 HENNESSY ROAD, CAUSEWAY BAY, HONG KONG.

ENQUIRIES CAN ALSO BE MADE TO A RENT OFFICER OF THE DEPARTMENT ON TEL 805 7666 OR 805 7888.

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PUBLIC GIVES PESC SERVICES A HIGH SCORE

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THE PUBLIC ENQUIRIES SERVICE CENTRES (PESCS) OPERATED BY THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION (CNTA) HAVE BEEN GIVEN A HIGH RATING, ACCORDING TO AN OPINION SURVEY CONDUCTED IN APRIL.

AN OVERWHELMING 90 PER CENT OF THE RESPONDENTS SAID THEY HAD OBTAINED THE REQUIRED SERVICES, EITHER WHOLLY OR PARTIALLY.

MOREOVER, 95 PER CENT SAID THEY WERE SATISFIED WITH THE STAFF'S WORKING ATTITUDE.

THE FIGURES WERE 82 PER CENT AND 93 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN THE FIRST SURVEY IN OCTOBER LAST YEAR.

AND ON A SCALE OF 1 TO 10, THE SCORE GIVEN TO THE OVERALL STANDARD OF PESC SERVICES WAS 7.7 AS COMPARED TO 7.5 IN THE PREVIOUS POLL.

THE SURVEY WAS CARRIED OUT BETWEEN APRIL 18 AND 29 IN 11 PESCS AND INVOLVED 858 PEOPLE.

THESE CENTRES WERE LOCATED AT CENTRAL AND WESTERN, SOUTHERN, YAU TSIM, SHAM SHUI PO, KOWLOON CITY AND WONG TAI SIN IN THE URBAN AREA; AND MUI WO, CHEUNG CHAU, SAI KUNG, TSUEN WAN AND YUEN LONG IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

A CNTA SPOKESMAN REITERATED THAT THE POLL FINDINGS THEMSELVES SHOULD GIVE NO ROOM FOR COMPLACENCY AS THE DEPARTMENT WAS COMMITTED TO FURTHER IMPROVING SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC.

ACCORDING TO THE APRIL SURVEY, A LARGE MAJORITY - 91 PER CENT - OF THE RESPONDENTS SAID THE CENTRES HAD FULFILLED THEIR PLEDGE TO ATTEND TO PEOPLE WITHIN THREE MINUTES.

AND 94 PER CENT SAID THEY FOUND THE WORKING ENVIRONMENT OF THE CENTRES ACCEPTABLE, WHICH WAS THE SAME AS THE LAST SURVEY.

THE TWO POLLS ARE PART OF A SERIES TO BE CONDUCTED AT INTERVALS TO GAUGE PUBLIC'S VIEWS TOWARDS PESCS SERVICES SINCE THE PROMULGATION OF THE DEPARTMENT'S PERFORMANCE PLEDGE IN APRIL LAST YEAR.

MEANWHILE, THE SPOKESMAN SAID IMPROVEMENTS WERE BEING CARRIED OUT AT A NUMBER OF PESCS AT A COST OF \$2.3 MILLION.

UP TO THE PRESENT, WORKS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED AT THE SERVICE CENTRES OF CENTRAL AND WESTERN, WAN CHAI, SHAM SHUI PO, TUEN MUN, KWAI TSING AND YUEN LONG WHILE THAT AT WONG TAI SIN IS NEAR COMPLETION.

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LAND REGISTRY STATISTICS FOR THE FIRST HALF OF 1994

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THE LAND REGISTRY REGISTERED 70,752 SALES AND PURCHASE AGREEMENTS OF BUILDING UNITS DURING THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF THIS YEAR.

THE FIGURE REPRESENTS AN INCREASE OF 0.7 PER CENT AND 12.7 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY COMPARED WITH THOSE OF THE PRECEDING SIX MONTHS AND THE FIRST HALF OF 1993.

THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF THE CONSIDERATIONS INVOLVED IN THESE AGREEMENTS WAS \$277.86 BILLION, WHICH WAS UP BY 45.4 PER CENT AND 76 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY COMPARED WITH THE SECOND AND FIRST HALVES OF 1993.

DURING THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1994, 75,675 ASSIGNMENTS OF BUILDING UNITS, THE MAJORITY BEING RESIDENTIAL, WERE SUBMITTED FOR REGISTRATION.

WHEN COMPARED WITH 89,163 AND 62,338 RECORDED RESPECTIVELY DURING THE SECOND AND FIRST HALVES OF 1993, THE FIGURE SHOWED A DECREASE OF 15.1 PER CENT AND AN INCREASE OF 21.4 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF CONSIDERATIONS INVOLVED, AMOUNTING TO \$208.37 BILLION, INDICATES INCREASES WHEN COMPARED WITH THE TWO PRECEDING SIX-MONTH PERIODS.

THE TOTAL AMOUNT SECURED UNDER MORTGAGES (OTHER THAN BUILDING MORTGAGES) WAS \$49.82 BILLION, SHOWING A DECREASE OF 10.6 PER CENT AND AN INCREASE OF 3.1 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH THAT OF THE PRECEDING SIX MONTHS AND THE FIRST HALF OF 1993 RESPECTIVELY.

SEARCHES OF LAND RECORDS MADE BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 1994 TOTALLED 1,962,127, UP BY 11.6 PER CENT AND 25 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH THE SECOND AND FIRST HALVES OF 1993 RESPECTIVELY.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PROPERTY OWNERS ROSE BY 3.2 PER CENT FROM 1,532,459 IN JUNE 1993 TO 1,580,877 IN DECEMBER 1993, AND AGAIN BY 2.4 PER CENT TO 1,618,934 IN JUNE 1994.

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WARNING AGAINST WATER THEFT
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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT (WSD) TODAY (SUNDAY) REMINDS THE PUBLIC THAT ANYONE WHO UNLAWFULLY TAKES WATER FROM FIRE SERVICE INSTALLATIONS WILL BE PROSECUTED.

"EXCEPT WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE WATER AUTHORITY, NO PERSON SHALL TAKE WATER THROUGH A FIRE SERVICE INSTALLATION FOR ANY PURPOSE OTHER THAN FOR FIRE FIGHTING," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

ONCE CONVICTED, OFFENDERS ARE LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$5,000.

THE SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT TWO MEN WERE CONVICTED AND FINED BY THE COURT \$1,000 AND \$500 RESPECTIVELY FOR UNLAWFULLY TAKING WATER FROM FIRE SERVICE INSTALLATIONS FOR CLEANSING PURPOSE.

THE FIRST DEFENDANT WAS A CLEANSING CONTRACTOR FOR A COMMERCIAL COMPLEX IN A PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE. THE OTHER WAS AN EMPLOYEE OF A ROAST-MEAT STALL IN A PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE MARKET.

THE DEPARTMENT HAS INFORMED THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT OF THE INCIDENTS AND URGED THAT ACTION BE TAKEN TO PREVENT SUCH INCIDENTS FROM RECURRING.

THE SPOKESMAN WARNED THAT ANY PERSON CONTRAVENING THE PROVISIONS OF THE WATERWORKS ORDINANCE WILL BE PROSECUTED.

STATISTICS KEPT BY THE PROSECUTION UNIT OF WSD INDICATE THAT IN THE PAST THREE YEARS THERE WERE OVER 20 CONVICTIONS FOR THE MISUSE OF WATER FROM FIRE SERVICE INSTALLATIONS AND THE OFFENDERS WERE FINED FROM \$800 TO \$4,500.

THE OFFENCES MOSTLY OCCURED IN THE PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES AND CAR PARKS OF RESIDENTIAL PREMISES.

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WARNING ON USING FALSE DOCUMENTS
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PEOPLE WHO SUBMIT FALSE DOCUMENTS TO SUPPORT THEIR APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION AS AN ELECTRICAL WORKER UNDER THE ELECTRICITY ORDINANCE ARE LIABLE TO PROSECUTION, AN ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT (EMSD) SPOKESMAN WARNED TODAY (SUNDAY).

THE WARNING FOLLOWED THE CONVICTION AT THE EASTERN MAGISTRACY LAST WEEK OF A 34-YEAR-MAN FOR USING A COPY OF A FALSE INSTRUMENT IN HIS APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION.

THE DEFENDANT PLEADED GUILTY AND WAS FINED \$1,000.

THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT EMSD WOULD SCRUTINISE ALL APPLICATIONS, ESPECIALLY SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED ALONG WITH THE APPLICATIONS.

"PROSECUTION WILL BE TAKEN AGAINST THOSE APPLICANTS WHO KNOWINGLY MAKE A STATEMENT WHICH IS FALSE IN A MATERIAL PARTICULAR," HE SAID.

UNDER THE ELECTRICITY AND ORDINANCE, ALL WORKERS ENGAGED IN WORK ON FIXED ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION ARE REQUIRED TO BE REGISTERED WITH EMSD.

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FUND-RAISING BODIES FOR AUGUST

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TEN ORGANISATIONS HAVE BEEN GRANTED PERMISSION TO RAISE FUNDS NEXT MONTH (AUGUST), A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

THEY WILL EITHER SELL FLAGS, TOKENS OR SIMILAR ITEMS, OR PLACE DONATION BOXES IN DESIGNATED PUBLIC PLACES.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC CAN CALL THE DEPARTMENT'S HOTLINE 343 2255 OR THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE'S 866 8123 IN CASE OF DOUBT.

THE SPOKESMAN APPEALED TO ORGANISERS TO TAKE PRECAUTIONS AGAINST ANY POSSIBLE FRAUD.

"SELLERS SHOULD DISPLAY THE PERMIT OR CARRY COPIES OF THE PERMIT FOR INSPECTION UPON REQUEST IF THE FUND-RAISING IS MOBILE," HE ADDED.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO ADVISED THEM TO PREPARE GUIDELINES FOR SELLERS, SETTING OUT THE PLACES AND THE TIMES FOR SELLING AND THE COLLECTION POINTS FOR BAGS.

ORGANISERS SHOULD INFORM THE POLICE IN CASE OF LOSS OF PROPERTY, AND SEEK THEIR HELP WHEN FRAUDULENT ACTS, SUCH AS TAMPERING OF COLLECTION BAGS OR MAKING UNAUTHORISED SELLING, ARE FOUND.

PERMITS ARE GIVEN TO THE FOLLOWING ORGANISATIONS FOR RAISING FUNDS NEXT MONTH:

FLAG DAY

EVENT DATE

ORGANISATION

AUGUST 6

CHRISTIAN FAMILY SERVICE CENTRE

AUGUST 13

LUTHERAN CHURCH - HONG KONG SYNOD LIMITED

AUGUST 20

ARTS WITH THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION HONG KONG

/PUBLIC SUBSCRIPTION

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PUBLIC SUBSCRIPTION

EVENT DATE

ORGANISATION

AUGUST 1 TO 14, 18 TO 21	HONG KONG COMMITTEE FOR UNICEF
AUGUST 1 TO 5, 13, 14, 20 AND 21	HONG KONG UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' UNION
AUGUST 1 TO 5, 12 TO 14, 25 TO 31	FRIESLAND FOODS LIMITED
AUGUST 6 AND 7	ART FETE BRINGS HOPE
AUGUST 7, 14, 21 AND 28	JESUS IS LORD SCHOOL OF MINISTRY (HONG KONG) LIMITED
AUGUST 13, 14, 20, 21, 27 AND 28	WORLD VISION OF HONG KONG
AUGUST 28	LAND OF VIRTUE CENTRE LIMITED

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