



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SCHOOL MEDICAL SCHEME POPULAR

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THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE SCHEME IS CONTINUING TO ATTRACT CHILDREN FROM SCHOOLS AND THE TOTAL ENROLMENT NOW PASSES THE 200 000 MARK.

IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS THERE HAS BEEN AN INCREASE OF 21 PER CENT IN THE NUMBER OF PUPILS TAKING PART, BRINGING THE TOTAL ENROLMENT TO 207 508 AT MARCH 31, COMPARED TO 170 574 IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE BOARD SAID IT WAS ENCOURAGING THAT MORE SCHOOL PRINCIPALS ARE BECOMING AWARE OF THE BENEFITS OF THE MEDICAL SCHEME.

UNDER THE SCHEME, THE PUPIL PAYS \$5 A YEAR AND RECEIVES MEDICAL ATTENTION AND MEDICINE FROM A DOCTOR CHOSEN BY THE SCHOOL.

THE SCHEME IS HEAVILY SUBSIDISED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO COMPLEMENT THE EXTENSIVE SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT. FROM APRIL 1, THE GOVERNMENT'S CONTRIBUTION WAS INCREASED FROM \$30 TO \$50 A PUPIL ENROLLED A YEAR.

DESIGNED TO PROVIDE ECONOMICAL MEDICAL TREATMENT TO SCHOOL CHILDREN FROM PRIMARY ONE TO FORM THREE, THE SCHEME IS A SCHOOL-BASED, VOLUNTARY SCHEME UNDER WHICH CHILDREN ARE FREE TO TAKE PART.

DOCTORS WHO PARTICIPATE VOLUNTARILY IN THE SCHEME ARE REGISTERED PRIVATE PRACTITIONERS.

PUPILS MAY JOIN AT ANY TIME OF THE YEAR AND ARE ENTITLED TO 12 MONTHS' MEDICAL TREATMENT FROM THE DATE OF ENROLMENT.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE SERVICE IS ALSO AVAILABLE TO PUPILS WHO APPLY INDIVIDUALLY IN THE EVENT THAT THE SCHOOL DOES NOT ADOPT THE SCHEME.

A PUPIL IS ENTITLED TO A FREE PHYSICAL EXAMINATION ON ENROLMENT AND MAY VISIT THE DOCTOR ASSIGNED TO HIM AS MANY TIMES AS HE NEEDS.

ALTHOUGH ENROLMENT HAS BEEN INCREASING, THE PRESENT ENROLMENT REPRESENTS ONLY 25 PER CENT OF ALL ELIGIBLE SCHOOL CHILDREN, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE URGED SCHOOL AUTHORITIES TO PLAY A MORE ACTIVE PART IN GETTING AS MANY PUPILS ENROLLED AS POSSIBLE.

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MARINE DEPARTMENT BUSY TRAINING SEAMEN

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THE NAUTICAL TRAINING SCHOOL OF THE MARINE DEPARTMENT IS THE ALMA MATER OF THE DEPARTMENT'S ENTIRE FLOATING STAFF.

THE SCHOOL, OPERATED BY THE TRAINING UNIT OF THE GOVERNMENT DOCKYARD AT CANTON ROAD, PROVIDES FULL-TIME NAUTICAL AND ENGINEERING TRAINING TO THE VARIOUS GRADES FROM SEAMAN TO SENIOR COXSWAIN AND FROM OILER TO SENIOR LAUNCH MECHANIC. IT ALSO OFFERS TRAINING FOR MARINE INSPECTORS OF THE MARINE DEPARTMENT.

THIS YEAR, THE SCHOOL PLANS TO PROVIDE 26 FULL-TIME COURSES FOR THE DEPARTMENT'S OWN STAFF.

THESE COURSES ARE AT VARIOUS LEVELS AND ARE FOR BOTH DECK HANDS AND ENGINE ROOM RATINGS, THE OFFICER IN CHARGE OF THE SCHOOL, MR LAM YAU SUM SAID.

+WITH THE EXCEPTION OF INDUCTION CLASSES FOR NEW RECRUITS, MR LAM SAID, +ALL COURSES ARE DESIGNED TO HELP IN-SERVICE STAFF TO OBTAIN THE STATUTORY QUALIFICATION OF A MASTER OF LOCAL ENGINEERS OF LOCAL VESSELS.

+TRAINEES ARE FIRST TAUGHT THE BASIC SKILLS OF SEAMANSHIP, MARINE ENGINEERING PRACTICE AND FIRE-FIGHTING. THEY WILL THEN BE TRAINED ON COASTAL NAVIGATION, PILOTAGE, SIGNALLING, CRAFT MANOEUVRING AND MECHANICAL SKILLS, REMEDY OF MACHINERY FAULTS AND GENERAL ENGINE ROOM HOUSE KEEPING.

+IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE HIGHER EFFICIENCY, MODERN TEACHING TECHNIQUES ARE EMPLOYED. LECTURERS ARE SUPPLEMENTED WITH VISUAL AIDS AND VARIOUS KINDS OF WORKING MODELS LIKE SEXTANTS, COMPASSES AND STATION POINTERS. ON THE MECHANICAL ASPECT TRAINEES ARE REQUIRED TO GO THROUGH RUDIMENTARY PRACTICES IN MACHINERY DISMANTLING AND REASSEMBLY AND FAMILIARISATION IN THE VARIOUS COMPONENTS ENCOUNTERED IN THE ENGINE ROOM OF VESSELS.+

TOURS ON BOARD LAUNCHES ARE ALSO ARRANGED TO PROVIDE TRAINEES WITH PRACTICAL EXPERIENCES, MR LAM ADDED.

ON COMPLETION, THE TRAINEES WILL BE REQUIRED TO SIT A CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION WITH THEIR COUNTERPARTS IN THE PRIVATE AND COMMERCIAL SECTOR, WHICH IS NECESSARY FOR PROMOTION.

IN ADDITION TO TRAINING MARINE DEPARTMENT STAFF, THE SCHOOL ALSO TRAINS OTHER GOVERNMENT STAFF WHO ARE REQUIRED TO WORK ON BOARD GOVERNMENT VESSELS. THEY INCLUDE OFFICERS FROM THE FIRE SERVICES, THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICE AND THE CIVIL AID SERVICE.

THE SCHOOL ALSO ORGANISES COURSES ON THE USE OF RADAR EQUIPMENT FOR SENIOR FLOATING STAFF FOR SAFETY AT SEA IN CONDITONS OF RESTRICTED VISIBILITY, MR LAM SAID.

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SHA TIN TO HAVE FIRST EVER REGATTA

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THE ONCE HEAVILY POLLUTED SHING MUN RIVER, WHICH IS BEING CLEANED AT A COST OF \$5 MILLION, WILL BE THE VENUE OF SHA TIN'S FIRST EVER REGATTA.

THE REGATTA IS BEING ORGANISED JOINTLY BY THE DISTRICT BOARD AND THE HONG KONG AMATEUR ROWING ASSOCIATION. IT WILL BE HELD ON THE AFTERNOON OF MAY 9.

THERE WILL BE FOURS AND SINGLE SCULLS EVENTS INVOLVING ABOUT 60 OARSMEN. THE COURSE WILL BE 500 METRES.

THE DISTRICT OFFICER SHA TIN, DR PATRICK HASE, SAID HE HOPED THE REGATTA WOULD BECOME AN ANNUAL EVENT.

IT WAS INTENDED THAT THE RIVER WOULD BE OPENED UP FOR A VARIETY OF BOATING PASTIMES IN DUE COURSE, PROBABLY IN 12 - 18 MONTHS.

IN THE MEANTIME WORK ON THE RIVER WILL CONTINUE. THIS INCLUDES BUILDING A FURTHER BRIDGE, COMPLETING DREDGING AND SEAWALL CONSTRUCTION AND CONSTRUCTING A RIVERSIDE TREELINED FOOT-PATH AND CYCLE TRACK.

+ONCE THIS IS FINISHED, WE WILL BE ABLE TO USE THE RIVER FOR FULL SCALE ACTIVITIES,+ DR HASE SAID.

THE RIVER HAS BEEN POLLUTED WITH PIG AND CHICKEN WASTE AND INDUSTRIAL EFFLUENT.

BUT FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS, IN ADDITION TO DREDGING WORK, A CLEARANCE OPERATION HAS BEEN TAKING PLACE TO REMOVE ALL POLLUTING ELEMENTS FROM NEAR THE RIVER.

THE HONG KONG AMATEUR ROWING ASSOCIATION IS TO BUILD A RIVERSIDE BOATHOUSE AND GRANDSTAND COMPLEX IN SHA TIN ON A SITE WHICH IS AT PRESENT BEING USED AS THE CAR PARK FOR A FLOATING RESTAURANT. A NEW FLOATING RESTAURANT SITE IS TO BE PROVIDED ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE RIVER.

DR HASE SAID THIS YEAR'S REGATTA WOULD BE ON A COMPARATIVELY SMALL SCALE, BUT WAS NEVERTHELESS WELCOME AS IT INDICATED THE IMPROVEMENTS TAKING PLACE IN THE CONDITION OF THE RIVER.

THE REGATTA WAS AN EARNEST OF GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION THAT THE RIVER WOULD BECOME, EVENTUALLY, A MAJOR AREA OF RECREATION FOR THE 750 000 PEOPLE WHO WILL BE LIVING IN SHA TIN BY 1990.

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REVISED TENDERING PROCEDURES FOR AIDED SCHOOLS

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SUPERVISORS AND PRINCIPALS OF AIDED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS ARE URGED TO NOTE THAT REVISED TENDERING PROCEDURES HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED REGARDING MAJOR AND EMERGENCY REPAIRS REQUIRING NON-RECURRENT GRANTS, AND FOR THE SUPPLY AND SERVICE OF FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT.

CIRCULARS OUTLINING THE REVISED TENDERING PROCEDURES HAVE BEEN SENT TO ALL AIDED SCHOOLS, AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

+THE TENDERING PROCEDURES FOR MAJOR REPAIRS HAVE BEEN REVISED AFTER TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION A RECOMMENDATION OF AN ICAC REPORT THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S RULES AND PROCEDURES SHOULD BE CONFORMED TO FOR MAJOR REPAIRS IN THE AIDED SECTOR, IN ORDER TO SAFEGUARD THE INTERESTS OF THE GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS THE SCHOOLS,+ HE SAID.

UNDER THE REVISED PROCEDURES, TENDERS FOR WORKS FOR WHICH SUBSIDY IS REQUIRED MUST NORMALLY BE INVITED FROM AT LEAST 10 REGISTERED CONTRACTORS.

INVITATIONS TO TENDER SHOULD CLEARLY INDICATE THE CLOSING DATE AND TIME FOR RECEIPT OF TENDERS AND THE FORM IN WHICH THEY ARE TO BE DELIVERED TO THE APPROPRIATE TENDER BOX.

TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE TO SCHOOLS, COPIES OF +NOTES FOR GUIDANCE OF AIDED SCHOOLS ON BUILDING WORKS+ PREPARED BY THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT ARCHITECT OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT HAVE ALSO BEEN SENT TO ALL AIDED SCHOOLS.

AMENDMENTS TO THE TENDERING PROCEDURES FOR THE SUPPLY AND SERVICE OF FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED TO STREAMLINE THE WHOLE PROCESS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+THE EXISTING TENDERING PROCEDURES HAVE SHOWN, FROM PAST EXPERIENCE, TO BE RATHER TIME-CONSUMING AND HAVE SOMETIMES CAUSED UNNECESSARY DELAY,+ HE SAID.

UNDER THE REVISED SYSTEM SCHOOLS ARE REQUESTED TO GROUP ITEMS OF FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT OF THE SAME CATEGORY IN THE SAME TENDER SCHEDULE BEFORE INVITING SUPPLIERS TO TENDER.

SCHOOLS MUST ALSO ENSURE THAT INVITATIONS TO TENDER SHOULD CLEARLY INDICATE THE CLOSING DATE AND TIME FOR RECEIPT OF TENDERS.

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WATER CUT IN TUEN MUN

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WILL BE CUT OFF FOR NINE HOURS FROM 10 PM ON THURSDAY (APRIL 30) TO 7 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY, FOR WATER MAIN CONNECTION.

THE AREAS TO BE AFFECTED INCLUDE INDUSTRIAL ZONE AREA 9 AND AREA 12 TUEN MUN, TAI HING ESTATE TUEN MUN, MING KUM ROAD LICENSED AREA TUEN MUN, ALONG LUNG MUN ROAD, FROM TSING WUN ROAD TO PILLAR POINT TUEN MUN. (INCLUDE BOYS' HOME TUEN MUN AND CHINA LIGHT AND POWER CO. LTD.)

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