



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
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Couple awarded for saving falling man

An expatriate couple who helped rescuing an elderly man from plunging down a Quarry Bay building a month ago was awarded the Chief Fire Officer's Commendation and \$500 cash.

At the presentation ceremony today (Saturday), Chief Fire Officer (Hong Kong), Mr Paul Chan Hoi, praised Mr Joseph Salawood Oddie and Mrs Oddie for their courage and public spirit in the rescue. The incident occurred at 7.10 pm on June 18 when the couple heard a loud bang outside their flat on the 11th floor of a building at 995 King's Road.

They found an elderly man dangling upside down outside their bedroom window with his right ankle caught by the bracket of a metal drying rack.

Fearing that the rack could not support the man's weight and might break sooner or later, Mr Oddie wasted no time to grasp the man's ankle in a bid to stop him from falling down onto the street. At the same time, Mrs Oddie gave full physical support to her husband so that he would not lose balance and fall out of the window.

They kept on holding the man until firemen's arrival within minutes.

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Hong Kong Monetary Authority money market operations

	<u>\$ million</u>	<u>Time</u> <u>(hours)</u>	<u>Cumulative</u> <u>change</u> <u>(\$ million)</u>
Opening balance in the account	1,721	09:30	+500
Closing balance in the account	1,591	10:00	+500
Change attributable to:		11:00	+500
Money market activity	+500	11:30	+500
LAF today	-630	15:00	

LAF rate 4.25% bid/6.25% offer TWI 119.1 *-0.1* 22.7.95

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JLG to discuss transitional Budget

The Sino-British Joint Liaison Group will hold their third round of Expert Talks from July 25 to 27 in Hong Kong to discuss the preparation for Hong Kong's transitional Budget and related matters.

The British team will be led by Mr K C Kwong, Secretary for the Treasury of the Hong Kong Government. The Chinese team will be led by Mr Chen Zuo'er, Chinese Representative on the Sino-British Joint Liaison Group. They will be assisted by experts.

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Radar station contract awarded for new airport

The Public Works Tender Board has approved the award of an Airport Core Programme (ACP) contract for the construction of a radar station at Tai Lam Chung for the new airport at Chek Lap Kok.

The contract, valued at \$10.9 million, has been awarded by the Architectural Services Department to Progress Construction Limited of Hong Kong.

The contractor will be responsible for site formation works and the construction of a Terminal Doppler Weather Radar Station at Tai Lam Chung.

The radar station will be equipped with facilities to detect windshear conditions associated with rain showers or thunderstorms. Warnings will be communicated to the new airport for the attention of air traffic controllers and pilots. Work will start early next month for completion in mid-1996.

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Crime victims get \$9.8 million compensation

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The Criminal and Law Enforcement Injuries Compensation (CLEIC) Boards paid out \$9.82 million in compensation to victims or their dependants in 1993/94, according to the Boards' latest annual report.

The payments were awarded to 877 criminal injuries cases and four law enforcement injuries cases.

This brings the total payment of grants to \$82.88 million since the inception of the CLEIC Scheme in 1973.

The Chairman of the Boards, Mr Anthony Neoh, said 867 applications for criminal injuries compensation were received in the year, representing 10.06 per cent of the 8,619 reported cases of criminal injuries.

Among the applications, 345 were related to assault and wounding; 152 to robbery, theft and burglary; 44 to homicide, murder and manslaughter; 19 to arson; 11 to injuries caused by falling objects and four to sexual offences.

Regarding the source of applications, 619 of them were referred by the Police, 207 submitted by the victims themselves or their families, and the rest referred by the Social Welfare Department and other organisations, Mr Neoh said.

During the year, the largest single payment was \$167,134, which was given to a victim, a partner of a decoration company, who sustained injuries during a wounding incident because he refused to pay protection fee to triad groups. The smallest award was \$258.

The scheme is designed to provide financial assistance to people who are victims of violent crimes or are killed or injured in helping to prevent crime in Hong Kong, and their dependants.

It also provides for the payment of compensation where a person is killed or injured by law enforcement officers using weapons in the execution of their duties. The scheme does not involve a means test and is non-contributory.

For enquiries, please call the Social Welfare Department hotline 2343 2255.

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Integration is the key to successful education

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The key to successful education is integration, rather than segregation. Many students coming from China have proved that they can adapt easily to the local education environment if given the chance.

Ling Yin considered himself lucky to get a school place in just a few days when he came to Hong Kong last year. His principal was most surprised as he did exceptionally well in the English admission test. Before coming to Hong Kong, his mother realised that the major problem of Ling Yin was English and therefore, she made a plan for his son to start learning the language a year ago in China.

Li Yuan-yuan, a mainland-born-and-raised girl, moved to Hong Kong in December 1993. She secured a school place in January 1994.

"Some schools simply said they had no place and others said my daughter's English was far below standard," Yuan-yuan's mother said.

Ling Yin and Li Yuan-yuan are now Primary Six students of Tsuen Wan Lutheran School.

The principal, Ms Saelly Lee, said: "Ling Yin always comes out at the top of the list in the school examinations and Yuan-yuan is the school prefect who helps the teachers a lot in maintaining class discipline. I am glad to see that they are allocated to a secondary school of their preference in the coming school year.

"We enrol a lot of immigrant students each year. Unlike what most people think, these children have not added to our difficulties.

"It is true that these children will have some problems with English in the beginning, but they study hard and not long after, most of them can catch up or even get to the top," Miss Lee said.

"We should not label the immigrant students. There should be no discrimination but acceptance," English teacher Miss Lau Oi-lin said.

"Other than English, they are in fact ahead of local students in most subjects. That is to say, if they can spend more effort and time on English, they can easily catch up with the study," another English teacher, Mr Chung Lung-cheung said.

"We try to mix the mainland children with our children by pairing them up in the class so that they can catch up with their classmates in the learning of English. We don't think speaking Cantonese is a problem to the immigrant students. Kids can pick up very quickly."

Another three junior students coming from the mainland, Li Huaqing, Chen Jinghua and Wang Zhao, agreed that they could integrate with other students and catch up their studies in a short time.

"It's easy. At first, we may have to guess or use our body language. But now, we can speak very fluent Cantonese when we chat with our classmates and teachers," one student said.

"We like to work hard and play hard."

The teachers in the school are of the opinion that these children should not be pushed too hard at the beginning. They tend to avoid marking students' homework and classwork all in red because they believe more encouragement will result in less frustration.

Tsuen Wan Lutheran School makes use of the support services which are already available in helping the students. As most immigrant students have a lower standard in English, the school arranges for them to receive remedial teaching in the subject.

Immigrant students and the parents of the school disagree with the proposal that special schools should be set up for the Chinese immigrant children. On the contrary they should be given the chance to integrate into the Hong Kong society. Ling Yin's mother commended the staff at Tsuen Wan District Education Office for the assistance in helping her to look for a school place for her son.

"When I approach them, they briefed me on the education system in Hong Kong and showed me a list of schools with places available.

"I understand that it is the school's discretion to admit or reject students. But at least, they should give mainland children a chance or if not, they should refer them to another suitable school," she said.

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Speedpost service to be extended

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The acting Postmaster General, Miss Nancy Law, announced today (Sunday) that Speedpost acceptance service will be extended to another 12 post offices with effect from August 1. This will bring the total number of Speedpost acceptance offices to 49.

The new Speedpost acceptance offices are:

Hong Kong

Morrison Hill Post Office	28 Oi Kwan Road, Wan Chai.
North Point Post Office	31 Shu Kuk Street, North Point
Tai Koo Shing Post Office	Kam Shing Mansion, 1-3 Tai Fung Avenue, Tai Koo Shing.

Kowloon

Canton Road Post Office	Canton Road Government Office Building.
Hung Hom Bay Post Office	Block 14, Cherry Mansion, Whampoa Garden.
Kwong Wa Street Post Office	Kwong Fai Mansion, 3-13 Kwong Wa Street.
Tai Kok Tsui Post Office	67 Anchor Street.

New Territories

Shek Lei Post Office	Administration Building, Shek Lei Estate.
Shek Wu Hui Post Office	112-116 San Fung Avenue, Sheung Shui.
Tai Po Post Office	Tai Po Government Office Building, Ting Kok Road.
Tuen Mun Central Post Office	1 Tuen Hi Road.
Yuen Long Post Office	51-53 Sau Fu Street.

A self-adhesive multi-part Speedpost address pack will also be introduced on August 1 to replace the Speedpost address label and posting docket presently in use.

"The introduction of this new multi-part address pack aims at streamlining the process of posting Speedpost items," explained Miss Law.

"When particulars of the sender, addressee and the contents are entered on the pack, several copies are made at the same time for use as Certificate of Posting, address label, delivery receipt and customs declarations.

"It will no longer be necessary for the sender and the post office to complete a variety of forms for each Speedpost item posted. Furthermore, the customers will save the trouble of completing separate customs declaration forms for items sent to countries such as Japan, Singapore and the United Kingdom."

Reviewing the series of developments for Speedpost in the past year, Miss Law said: "Since August 1994, the computerisation of Speedpost acceptance system has made it possible for our account customers to post their items at any of the Speedpost acceptance offices on credit.

"The latest time for account customers to make a telephone order for Speedpost items to be picked up on the same day has been extended from 2.30 pm to 3.30 pm. The pick-up service has also been expanded to cover the whole of Hong Kong, Kowloon and the New Territories. The number of countries served by Speedpost has been extended from 62 to 74."

She added: "The increase in Speedpost acceptance points and introduction of the multi-part address pack are part of our continued efforts to improve the Speedpost service. I hope that our endeavours will provide our customers with a competitive edge in their business."

Enquiries about Speedpost may be made with the Postal Services Representatives on 2921 2277.

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