



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1992

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PROMOTION OF LAW AMONG YOUTH URGED
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THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR MICHAEL SUEN, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY) THAT LEGAL AWARENESS SHOULD BE PROMOTED AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE "LAW : IN-TOUCH PIAZZA" EXHIBITION ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG FEDERATION OF YOUTH GROUPS AT KOWLOON PARK, HE EMPHASISED THAT LAW WAS A PRACTICAL SUBJECT CLOSELY RELATED TO PEOPLE'S EVERYDAY LIFE.

"IN SALES AND PURCHASES, IN EMPLOYMENTS AND INVESTMENTS AND EVEN IN BIRTHS AND MARRIAGES, LEGAL KNOWLEDGE WILL FACILITATE US IN UNDERSTANDING OUR RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

"FROM A BROADER PERSPECTIVE, RESPECT FOR LAW AND ORDER IS A BASIC CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY," HE NOTED.

IN VIEW OF THIS, HE SAID, THE COMMITTEE ON THE PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION HAS PROPOSED TO PUT ITS WORK EMPHASIS FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS ON THE PROMOTION OF RULE OF LAW AMONG THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

ON THE EXHIBITION, HE SAID IT MARKED THE FEDERATION'S FURTHER DEDICATION IN CULTIVATING YOUTH'S INTEREST IN LAW.

THE ORGANISER HAD DEVOTED MUCH EFFORT IN THE PAST YEARS TO THE PROMOTION OF LEGAL KNOWLEDGE AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE, HE ADDED.

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CHING MING A STATUTORY HOLIDAY FOR ALL EMPLOYEES
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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (SATURDAY) REMINDED EMPLOYERS THAT CHING MING FESTIVAL, WHICH FALLS ON APRIL 4 (SATURDAY), IS ONE OF THE 11 STATUTORY HOLIDAYS FOR ALL EMPLOYEES.

ALL EMPLOYEES, IRRESPECTIVE OF THEIR WAGE LEVELS, ARE ENTITLED TO THE HOLIDAY AND MUST BE PAID FOR THE DAY OFF IF THEY HAVE WORKED CONTINUOUSLY FOR THE SAME EMPLOYER FOR THREE MONTHS OR LONGER IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY.

HOLIDAY PAY SHOULD BE EQUIVALENT TO AN EMPLOYEE'S EARNINGS ON A FULL WORKING DAY AND SHOULD INCLUDE BASIC WAGES AS WELL AS ALLOWANCES THAT CAN BE EXPRESSED IN MONEY TERMS SUCH AS MEALS AND COST OF LIVING ALLOWANCES.

WHERE THE EARNINGS VARY FROM DAY TO DAY, HOLIDAY PAY SHOULD BE THE AVERAGE DAILY EARNINGS DURING EVERY COMPLETE WAGE PERIOD, WHICH COULD BE BETWEEN 28 DAYS AND 31 DAYS, PRECEDING THE HOLIDAY.

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IF AN EMPLOYEE IS REQUIRED TO WORK ON A STATUTORY HOLIDAY, HE MUST BE GIVEN AN ALTERNATIVE DAY OFF WITHIN 60 DAYS BEFORE OR AFTER THAT DAY.

FURTHER ENQUIRIES ABOUT STATUTORY HOLIDAYS MAY BE DIRECTED TO ANY BRANCH OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT'S LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE, OR THE DEPARTMENT'S ENQUIRY HOTLINE ON 815 5066.

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FIRE SAFETY ADVICE FOR GRAVE SWEEPERS

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THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT TODAY (SATURDAY) URGED THE PUBLIC TO TAKE EXTRA CARE IN HANDLING FIRE WHEN THEY VISIT ANCESTRAL GRAVES IN THE COUNTRYSIDE DURING THE CHING MING FESTIVE PERIOD.

THE DEPARTMENT'S COUNTRY PARKS PROTECTION OFFICER, MR LAI CHING-WAI, SAID: "ON THE LAST CHING MING FESTIVAL DAY, 10 REPORTS OF HILL FIRES WITHIN COUNTRY PARKS WERE RECEIVED, DAMAGING 113 HECTARES OF PLANTATIONS AND SOME 3,400 TREES."

HE SAID IF THE GRAVE SWEEPERS WERE CARELESS IN HANDLING WORSHIPPING ITEMS, HIGHER RISKS OF COUNTRYSIDE FIRES WOULD BE POSSIBLE DURING THE COMING FESTIVAL.

"IN VIEW OF THE POTENTIAL HIGH FIRE RISK, THE DEPARTMENT WILL MOBILISE 22 TEAMS OF 200 FIRE FIGHTERS ON STAND-BY DUTIES ROUND THE CLOCK TO SAFEGUARD COUNTRY PARK PLANTATIONS DURING THE PERIOD," HE SAID.

THE FIRE FIGHTERS WILL BE JOINED BY SIX TEAMS OF 120 CIVIL AID SERVICES PERSONNEL.

MR LAI SAID MOST OF THE COUNTRYSIDE FIRES WERE CAUSED BY HUMAN NEGLIGENCE AND COULD HAVE BEEN PREVENTED IF PEOPLE OBSERVED SEVERAL SIMPLE RULES AS FOLLOWS:

- * BURN WORSHIPPING ITEMS IN METAL CONTAINERS;
- * DO NOT LEAVE LIGHTED CANDLES, JOSS ARTICLES AND PAPERS UNATTENDED; AND
- * MAKE SURE ALL BURNING ITEMS ARE EXTINGUISHED BEFORE LEAVING GRAVE SITES.

MR LAI SAID THE DEPARTMENT WOULD PROVIDE METAL CONTAINERS AT APPROPRIATE LOCATIONS INSIDE COUNTRY PARK AREAS FOR GRAVE SWEEPERS.

HE ALSO REMINDED PICNICKERS TO LIGHT FIRE ONLY AT DESIGNATED BARBECUE AREAS.

"ILLEGAL LIGHTING OF FIRES INSIDE COUNTRY PARKS MAY LEAD TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$5,000 AND ONE YEAR'S IMPRISONMENT, AND A FINE OF UP TO \$2,000 MAY BE IMPOSED FOR CAUSING FIRE IN THE COUNTRYSIDE," HE SAID.

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CONFERENCE ON WHOLE SCHOOL APPROACH TO GUIDANCE

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ABOUT 600 PRINCIPALS, GUIDANCE AND DISCIPLINE MASTERS-MISTRESSES WILL ATTEND A CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOPS ON THE WHOLE SCHOOL APPROACH TO GUIDANCE.

THE FORUM IS ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO DISCUSS THE ROLES OF TEACHERS AND SCHOOL HEADS IN CREATING A POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT IN SCHOOLS TO RESPOND TO STUDENTS' PROBLEMS.

THE CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOPS WILL BE HELD AT THE HONG KONG TEACHERS CENTRE, 4 PAK FUK ROAD, NORTH POINT, FROM MARCH 31 TO APRIL 3.

TWO EDUCATION EXPERTS, MR CHRIS WATKINS AND MISS PATSY WAGNER, WILL ADDRESS THE CONFERENCE AND LEAD THE WORKSHOPS.

THEY ARE SPECIALISTS IN PASTORAL CARE IN EDUCATION AND HAVE WRITTEN ARTICLES AND BOOKS ON THE SUBJECT. LAST YEAR, THEY HAD SUCCESSFULLY HELD A SIMILAR FUNCTION ON THE WHOLE SCHOOL APPROACH TO DISCIPLINE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE WORKSHOPS ARE FOR TRAINERS IN GUIDANCE.

ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CONFERENCE WHICH WILL START AT 9 AM ON TUESDAY (MARCH 31).

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COURTEOUS AND SAFE BOATING URGED

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THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF MARINE, MR ALLAN PYRKE, TODAY (SATURDAY) URGED YACHTSMEN TO THINK OF COURTESY AND SAFETY WHILE BOATING.

ADDRESSING THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE HONG KONG BOAT SHOW 1992 AT THE CLUB MARINA COVE IN SAI KUNG, MR PYRKE SAID: "COURTESY ON THE WATER WILL REDUCE ACCIDENTS, AND THE NEED FOR MY DEPARTMENT TO IMPOSE MORE FORMAL RESTRICTIONS WITH PROSECUTIONS AND PENALTIES WHICH IS A ROUTE NO ONE WANTS.

"HELP US TO TRAVEL THIS NON-REGULATORY ROAD - THE SOLUTION IS IN YOUR HANDS."

BEING A YACHTSMAN HIMSELF, MR PYRKE SAID: "SAFETY BEGINS AT HOME."

/"YOUR THOUGHTFUL

"YOUR THOUGHTFUL CONSIDERATION OF HOW YOU USE AND OPERATE YOUR VESSEL IN RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER USERS OF OUR WATERS WILL GO A LONG WAY TOWARDS ENHANCING YOUR OWN SAFETY AND THAT OF OTHERS," HE SAID.

MR PYRKE GAVE SOME EXAMPLES OF THOUGHTLESS, UNCORTEOUS, AND EVEN DANGEROUS BEHAVIOUR.

THESE INCLUDE HIGH-POWERED VESSELS AT SPEED CREATING A LARGE WASH PASSING CLOSE TO SMALLER SLOWER CRAFT UNDERWAY OR AT ANCHOR, VESSELS TOWING A TENDER OR SPEEDBOAT ON AN EXCEPTIONALLY LONG PAINTER WHICH IS OFTEN INVISIBLE TO OTHER VESSEL AND WATER-SKIING IN AND AROUND GROUPS OF ANCHORED VESSELS WHERE PEOPLE MAY BE SWIMMING.

"MARINE SEARCH AND RESCUE BECOMES NECESSARY WHEN SAFETY HAS BEEN COMPROMISED. UNFORTUNATELY, MANY PEOPLE IN THE LOCAL BOATING COMMUNITY SEEM TO THINK THAT MARINE SAFETY IS THE SOLE FUNCTIONS OF THE AUTHORITIES. THIS IS NOT SO.

"AUTHORITIES LAY DOWN REGULATIONS ON MARINE SAFETY IN LINE WITH THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS AND THE PUBLIC INTEREST. THESE RULES ARE GENERALLY RESTRICTIVE AND THUS INHIBIT THE FREEDOM SOUGHT BY YACHTSMEN," MR PYRKE SAID.

THE MARINE DEPARTMENT STAGED AN EXHIBITION IN THE HONG KONG BOAT SHOW TO INTRODUCE THE MARITIME RESCUE CO-ORDINATION CENTRE AND THE NEW GLOBAL MARITIME DISTRESS AND SAFETY SYSTEM.

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YOUNG MUSIC LOVERS INVITED TO JOIN MUSIC CAMP THIS SUMMER

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YOUNG MUSIC LOVERS ARE INVITED TO JOIN A HOLIDAY PROGRAMME WHICH WILL PROVIDE INTENSIVE MUSIC TRAINING IN A SUMMER-CAMP ATMOSPHERE.

THE 1992 HONG KONG YOUTH MUSIC CAMP, ORGANISED BY THE MUSIC OFFICE AND SPONSORED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB, WILL BE HELD AT THE REGIONAL COUNCIL'S TSO KUNG TAM OUTDOOR RECREATION CENTRE, TSUEN WAN, FROM JULY 17 TO AUGUST 1.

PROMISING YOUNG MUSICIANS WILL BE RECRUITED BOTH LOCALLY AND FROM OVERSEAS TO TAKE PART IN THE CAMP TO HELP FOSTER INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL EXCHANGE THROUGH MUSIC.

RENOWNED MUSICIANS WILL BE INVITED TO CONDUCT MASTER CLASSES, WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS. RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING KARAOKE, VIDEO SHOWS, SWIMMING, BADMINTON AND BILLIARD WILL ALSO BE ORGANISED.

INTENSIVE REHEARSALS AND A NUMBER OF CONCERTS WILL BE ARRANGED FOR THE CAMPERS.

/YOUNG PEOPLE

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YOUNG PEOPLE AGED BELOW 25 AND ABLE TO PLAY AT LEAST ONE CHINESE OR WESTERN ORCHESTRAL OR BAND INSTRUMENT ARE INVITED TO APPLY FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE CAMP. ORCHESTRAL EXPERIENCE WILL BE AN ADVANTAGE.

FEEs INCLUSIVE OF TUITION, THREE MEALS A DAY AND ACCOMMODATION ARE \$280 PER HEAD FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE DAYS AND \$550 PER HEAD FOR A PERIOD OF 10 DAYS.

ALL CAMPERS ARE REQUIRED TO RESIDE IN THE CAMP FOR THE ENTIRE PERIOD.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT ALL MUSIC CENTRES OF THE MUSIC OFFICE. THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS APRIL 10. ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL. 582 5314 OR 492 8127.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	DATE	\$ MILLION
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CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	27.3.92	1,000 *
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	28.3.92	NEUTRAL
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		NEUTRAL

* INCLUDES 300 MN O/N ASSISTANCE
TO BE REVERSED ON MARCH 30

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