



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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ROYAL OBSERVATORY EXPANDS WARNING SERVICES

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THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY THIS YEAR HAS FURTHER EXTENDED ITS PUBLIC WARNING SYSTEM TO COVER THE DANGERS OF LANDSLIPS AND FLOODING DUE TO HEAVY RAIN.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS GIVING WEATHER INFORMATION AND APPROPRIATE ADVICE WILL BE ISSUED AND BROADCAST TO ALL CONCERNED.

+THE PURPOSE IS TO PROVIDE SPECIFIC ADVICE TO THOSE WHO MAY BE AFFECTED AND TO ALERT THEM TO TAKE PRECAUTIONS,+ THE DIRECTOR OF THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY, MR JOHN PEACOCK, EXPLAINED TODAY.

PREPAREDNESS, HE STRESSED, IS THE KEY FACTOR FOR MINIMISING DAMAGE TO PROPERTY, INJURIES AND LOSS OF LIFE DUE TO HAZARDOUS WEATHER.

SINCE 1884 THE OBSERVATORY HAS BEEN PROVIDING TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNINGS TO MARINERS AND TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

AND OVER THE YEARS, IT HAS EXPANDED THE SCOPE OF THESE SERVICES AND INTRODUCED ADDITIONAL WARNING SYSTEMS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE PUBLIC AS WELL AS THE INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL SECTORS.

+FOR INSTANCE, THE OBSERVATORY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ISSUING WARNINGS TO ADVISE FARMERS OF POSSIBLE DAMAGE TO THEIR CROPS DUE TO LOW TEMPERATURES, WARNINGS TO ALERT THE PUBLIC OF THE DANGERS WHEN USING SOME GAS WATER HEATERS AND WARNINGS OF THE HIGH RISK OF HILL FIRES,+ MR PEACOCK POINTED OUT.

IT HAS BEEN NEARLY FOUR YEARS SINCE TYPHOON HOPE SWEEPED OVER HONG KONG AND 12 YEARS SINCE TYPHOON ROSE KILLED 110 PEOPLE AND LEFT OVER 5 600 HOMELESS.

MANY PEOPLE MAY HAVE FORGOTTEN OR NEVER EXPERIENCED SUCH DISASTROUS EFFECTS, BUT SOME BASIC PRELIMINARY PRECAUTIONS AGAINST TYPHOONS SHOULD BE TAKEN NOW, AS THE TROPICAL CYCLONE SEASON IS APPROACHING, MR PEACOCK SAID.

+CIVIL ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND CONTRACTORS SHOULD ENSURE THAT PROCEDURES ARE ESTABLISHED SO THAT SCAFFOLDINGS MAY BE SECURED WHEN HIGH WINDS THREATEN HONG KONG AND THAT PREVENTIVE MEASURES ARE TAKEN AT WORK SITES, ESPECIALLY THOSE NEAR HILL SLOPES, AGAINST DAMAGE BY HEAVY RAIN, FLOODING AND LANDSLIPS.

+THOSE LIVING IN HUTS ON HILL-SIDES ARE URGED TO BE AWARE OF THE DANGERS OF LANDSLIPS. THOSE LIVING IN LOW-LYING AREAS SHOULD BE PREPARED FOR FLOODING ARISING FROM VIOLENT RAINFALL AND STORM SURGES,+ HE STRESSED.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SHOULD KNOW THE NEAREST SAFETY SHELTERS TO GO TO IF THEIR HOMES ARE THREATENED OR DAMAGED, HE ADDED.

INFORMATION REGARDING THE OPENING OF TEMPORARY SHELTERS DURING STORMS IS AVAILABLE AT THE NEAREST DISTRICT OFFICE OR POLICE STATION. IT WILL ALSO BE BROADCAST ON RADIO AND TELEVISION WHEN THERE IS AN EMERGENCY.

+OWNERS OF SMALL CRAFT SHOULD ENSURE THAT THEIR MOORINGS ARE IN GOOD CONDITION AND THAT THE MOORINGS BITTS AND CLEATS ON THEIR VESSELS ARE STRONG AND SECURELY FIXED TO WITHSTAND TYPHOON CONDITIONS,+ HE SAID.

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SECURITY CHIEF SEES VOLUNTEERS IN TRAINING CAMP

THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MR DAVID JEAFFRESON, SPENT THE MORNING AND PART OF THE AFTERNOON TODAY (WEDNESDAY) WITH MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT (THE VOLUNTEERS) AT THEIR SPRING CAMP IN LO WU, NEW TERRITORIES.

HE SAW MORE THAN 500 VOLUNTEERS TAKING PART IN A WIDE RANGE OF MILITARY TRAINING ACTIVITIES AND WAS IMPRESSED BY THE ENTHUSIASM AND TEAM SPIRIT THEY DISPLAYED.

THIS WAS THE FIRST VISIT TO THE REGIMENT BY MR JEAFFRESON SINCE HIS APPOINTMENT AS THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY LAST OCTOBER.

ON ARRIVAL BY HELICOPTER AT THE REGIMENT'S CAMP SITE, MR JEAFFRESON WAS MET BY THE COMMANDING OFFICER, LIEUTENANT COLONEL MIKE BARNEBY AND SENIOR OFFICERS, WHO BRIEFED HIM ABOUT THE WEEK-LONG TRAINING CAMP.

HE WAS THEN ESCORTED TO A NEARBY FOOTBALL PITCH WHERE HE SAW A SQUADRON OF VOLUNTEERS UNDERGOING HELICOPTER TRAINING.

THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY A VISIT TO THE LO WU AND CASTLE PEAK FIRING RANGES, WHERE TWO OTHER SQUADRONS WERE BEING TRAINED IN DEFENCE SHOOTING AND FIELD FIRING UNDER BATTLE CONDITIONS.

AFTERWARDS, MR JEAFFRESON SPENT SOME TIME AT A TRAINING GROUND IN TAI LAM CHUNG, CHATTING WITH THE VOLUNTEERS ENGAGED IN EXERCISES.

THE SPRING CAMP, WHICH COMMENCED LAST SATURDAY, INCLUDES SUCH ACTIVITIES AS FIELD FIRING SESSIONS WITH THE USE OF LIVE AMMUNITION, HELICOPTER AND ASSAULT BOAT TRAINING AND A 48-HOUR BATTLE EXERCISE TO TEST THE EFFICIENCY OF THE REGIMENT AT ALL LEVELS.

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THE REGIMENT IS A VOLUNTARY FORCE COMPRISING SOME 870 MEMBERS WHO GIVE UP THEIR SPARE TIME TO BE TRAINED AS SOLDIERS. IT OPERATES AS PART OF THE GURKHA FIELD FORCE TO SUPPORT THE BRITISH GARRISON IN THE EVENT OF ANY EMERGENCY OR INTERNAL DISORDER.

THE REGIMENT PLANS TO RECRUIT 100 VOLUNTEERS LATER THIS YEAR.

A PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN WILL BE MOUNTED IN JULY IN SUPPORT OF THE RECRUITMENT EXERCISE.

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COUNCIL OF SCHOOL HEADS SET UP * * * *

BETTER COMMUNICATION AND CLOSER TIES ARE EXPECTED AMONG THE 82 SCHOOLS IN CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT WITH THE SETTING UP OF A COUNCIL OF SCHOOL PRINCIPALS.

FORMED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE, THE DISTRICT BOARD AND A 12-MEMBER SCHOOL LIAISON COMMITTEE, THE 'COUNCIL OF CENTRAL AND WESTERN SCHOOL HEADS' WILL PROVIDE A FORUM FOR SCHOOL PRINCIPALS TO MEET REGULARLY, DISCUSS PROBLEMS AND ORGANISE JOINT-SCHOOL FUNCTIONS, THEREBY STRENGTHENING THE LINK AMONG TEACHERS, STUDENTS AND PARENTS.

THE COUNCIL HAS FORMED FIVE WORKING GROUPS TO DEAL WITH STUDIES, SERVICES, PUBLIC RELATIONS, RECREATION AND CULTURE, AND THE DRAFTING OF A CONSTITUTION.

ALL PRINCIPALS OF GOVERNMENT, AIDED AND PRIVATE SECONDARY, PRIMARY, PREVOCATIONAL AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICT HAVE BEEN INVITED TO JOIN.

THE COUNCIL WILL BE INAUGURATED AT A CEREMONY AT 5 PM TOMORROW (THURSDAY) AT THE ROYAL HK AUXILIARY POLICE OFFICERS' MESS IN BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, CENTRAL.

THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR TONY COOPER, THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MR LEE KAI-FAT, AND THE PRINCIPAL EDUCATION OFFICER (HONG KONG REGION), MR TANG YAN, WILL BE PRESENT.

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**DISTRICT BOARD TO DISCUSS PARKING FACILITIES IN MONG KOK

THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF FOUR SITES IN MONG KOK INTO MULTI-STOREY CAR PARKS WILL BE DISCUSSED AT TOMORROW'S (THURSDAY) DISTRICT BOARD MEETING.

THE SITES ARE THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT DEPOT AT SAI YEE STREET, THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT DEPOT AT ARGYLE STREET, THE QUEEN ELIZABETH II YOUTH CENTRE AT YIM PO FONG STREET, AND THE FA YUEN STREET MARKET.

AT THE MEETING, MEMBERS WILL ALSO COMMENT ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 3.4-METRE WIDE PEDESTRIAN SUBWAY ACROSS NATHAN ROAD AT SOY STREET, AND A PEDESTRIAN WALKWAY BETWEEN SAI YEUNG CHOI STREET AND PORTLAND STREET.

MEMBERS WILL BE INFORMED OF THE MEDICAL FACILITIES FOR YAU MA TEI AND MONG KOK RESIDENTS, AND THE PROPOSED TAI KOK TSUI MARKET.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA WILL INCLUDE THE DESIGN OF A LOGO FOR THE DISTRICT BOARD, THE ELECTION OF UNOFFICIAL CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE BOARD'S COMMITTEES AND THE REPORT ON WORKS OF THE DISTRICT'S AREA COMMITTEES.

ON THE SAME AFTERNOON, THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD WILL HOLD ITS 14TH MEETING WHEN MEMBERS WILL BE BRIEFED ON THE ELECTRIFICATION OF THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO STUDY AN INTERIM REPORT ON THE +MEET THE PUBLIC+ SCHEME, THE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY IN THE DISTRICT AND THE PROPOSED MEMBERSHIPS FOR THE BOARD'S COMMITTEES.

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**STUDENTS INVITED TO TAKE PART IN
INTERNATIONAL ART EXHIBITION

PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT ENTRIES TO THE 25TH WORLD SCHOOL CHILDREN'S ART EXHIBITION WHICH WILL BE HELD IN NOVEMBER THIS YEAR AT THE KOREAN CHILDREN'S CENTRE IN SEOUL.

ORGANISED BY THE YOOK YOUNG FOUNDATION OF KOREA, THE EXHIBITION IS AIMED AT PROMOTING MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING, STRENGTHENING FRIENDSHIP AND ENCOURAGING ART EDUCATION THROUGH THE EXCHANGE OF CHILDREN'S ART.

STUDENTS WHO ARE BETWEEN THE AGE OF SIX AND 12 YEARS ARE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EXHIBITION AND THERE IS NO RESTRICTION ON THE THEME OF THEIR WORK.

/THEIR SUBMISSION

THEIR SUBMISSION CAN EITHER BE A DRAWING, PAINTING, PRINTMAKING OR ANY OTHER TWO-DIMENSIONAL WORK, AND THE MAXIMUM SIZE SHOULD BE 45 CM X 55 CM.

PARTICIPANTS MUST WRITE DOWN AT THE BACK OF THEIR WORK THEIR NAME, AGE, SEX AS WELL AS THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THEIR SCHOOL. THEY SHOULD ALSO WRITE DOWN THE THEME OF THEIR WORK AND THEIR NATIONALITY.

ENTRIES MUST BE SUBMITTED VIA SCHOOL HEADS TO THE INSPECTOR (ART), EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, 4 PAK FUK ROAD, 4/F., NORTH POINT ON OR BEFORE JUNE 18 FOR PRELIMINARY VETTING.

ENQUIRIES CONCERNING THE EXHIBITION MAY BE MADE TO THE ART SECTION, ADVISORY INSPECTORATE, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, TEL. 5-621006 OR 5-621967.

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SCENIC ISLANDS TOURS ARRANGED

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PEOPLE WISHING TO TOUR THE SCENIC OUTLYING ISLANDS WILL BE ABLE TO JOIN IN EXCURSIONS ORGANISED BY THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE (ISLANDS OFFICE) OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT.

INCLUDED IN THE EXCURSIONS WILL BE TIU CHUNG CHAU, KIU TSUI AND PAK SHA CHAU.

THE EXCURSIONS ARE HELD ONCE A MONTH, ON A SUNDAY, A SPOKESMAN FOR RSS SAID.

QUITE A LOT OF PEOPLE GO ON THE SIGHTSEEING TRIPS ORGANISED BY THE RSS BECAUSE THESE PLACES CAN ONLY BE REACHED BY SPECIALLY CHARTERED VESSELS.

AND IT COSTS ONLY \$10 FOR EACH PERSON FOR A TRIP TO THESE ISLANDS, HE SAID.

PEOPLE INTERESTED IN THE EXCURSIONS SHOULD COMPLETE AN APPLICATION FORM AVAILABLE AT RSS ISLANDS OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR, 55 CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG.

FURTHER INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED BY CALLING 5-423085.

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LUNCH-TIME MUSIC RENDEZVOUS FOR OFFICE WORKERS
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OFFICE WORKERS IN WAN CHAI WILL BE ABLE TO ENJOY THEIR LUNCH AND, AT THE SAME TIME, LISTEN TO LIGHT MUSIC AND FOLK SONGS INSIDE A COSY COMMUNITY HALL.

STARTING TOMORROW (THURSDAY) AND FOR THE FOLLOWING FOUR WEEKS, A +LUNCH-TIME MUSIC RENDEZVOUS+ WILL BE STAGED AT THE HALL OF THE METHODIST CHURCH YOUTH CENTRE IN HENNESSY ROAD FROM NOON TO 2 PM EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY.

A WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE SPOKESMAN WELCOMED OFFICE WORKERS IN THE DISTRICT TO BRING ALONG THEIR LUNCH BOXES TO THE HALL WHERE THEY CAN ENJOY THEIR LUNCH, LISTEN TO LIGHT MUSIC AND RELAX.

HE SAID HAVING LUNCH IN THE AREA WAS QUITE EXPENSIVE AND MOST OFFICE WORKERS HAD TO GO FOR LUNCH BOXES.

+IT CAN WELL BE UNDERSTOOD THAT, HAVING STAYED IN THE OFFICE FOR THE WHOLE MORNING, THEY WILL WANT TO HAVE LUNCH ELSEWHERE. BUT, WAN CHAI IS SHORT OF LEISURE GROUNDS AND REST AREAS,+ HE SAID.

THE FUNCTION, BEING JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD AND THE WAN CHAI (WEST) AREA COMMITTEE, WILL BE ON UNTIL MAY 16.

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FANLING SWIMMING POOL TEMPORARILY CLOSED
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THE MAIN POOL OF THE FANLING PUBLIC SWIMMING COMPLEX WILL BE TEMPORARILY CLOSED FROM FRIDAY (APRIL 22) AND THE OTHER POOLS FROM MONDAY (APRIL 25).

THE CLOSURE IS TO FACILITATE THE DEFLATION AND REMOVAL OF THE AIR SUPPORT STRUCTURE INSTALLED OVER THE MAIN POOL, AS THE STRUCTURE WILL NOT BE NEEDED DURING THE WARM SEASON, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY.

THE WHOLE COMPLEX WILL BE REOPENED ON MAY 2 (MONDAY), THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

MORE THAN 2 000 BATHERS USED THE HEATED MAIN POOL SINCE THE INSTALLATION IN FEBRUARY OF THE AIR SUPPORT STRUCTURE, WHICH SHELTERS THE POOL FROM THE WINTER COLD.

THE STRUCTURE WILL BE REINSTALLED NEXT WINTER.

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YUEN LONG LOT FOR SHORT TERM TENANCY

THE LANDS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE SHORT-TERM TENANCY OF A LOT IN YUEN LONG.

THE SITE, OF ABOUT 2 097 SQUARE METRES AT TAI PEI TAU PATH IN YUEN LONG, IS TO BE USED AS A FEE PAYING PUBLIC CAR PARK.

THE TENANCY OF THE SITE WILL BE INITIALLY FOR SIX MONTHS AND THEREAFTER MONTHLY.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF TENDERS IS 12 NOON ON MAY 6.

TENDER FORMS, NOTICES, AND CONDITIONS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM, AND TENDER PLAN INSPECTED AT, THE LANDS DEPARTMENT, MURRAY BUILDING, 5TH FLOOR, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG; DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE (KOWLOON WEST), KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 10TH FLOOR, 405 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON; AND DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE (YUEN LONG), YUEN LONG DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICE, CASTLE PEAK ROAD, YUEN LONG.

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URBAN CLEARWAY FOR YUEN LONG

FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (APRIL 22), THE WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD (PING SHAN) FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH TAN KWAI TSUEN ROAD TO A POINT ABOUT 60 METRES EAST OF THE SAME JUNCTION WILL BE DESIGNATED AS A 24-HOUR URBAN CLEARWAY.

NO VEHICLES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS WITHIN THE RESTRICTED ZONE, A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

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