



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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GROWTH IN PROVISION OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES PHENOMENAL  
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THE GROWTH IN THE PROVISION OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES BY GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN +PHENOMENAL,+ THE SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES, MR. E.P. HO, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) AT THE OPENING OF A CHILDREN'S CULTURAL DAY ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE TO MARK THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD.

TWENTY-FOUR WELFARE AGENCIES TOOK PART IN THE CHILDREN'S CULTURAL DAY WHICH CONSISTED OF ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMMES AND COMPETITIONS.

SPEAKING AT THE BAPTIST COLLEGE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY HALL MR. HO TOLD THE ORGANISERS:

+YOU HAVE NOT ONLY SUCCEEDED IN AROUSING THE AWARENESS OF PARENTS ON THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF CHILD RAISING, DRAWING SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THE PROBLEM OF CHILD ABUSE BUT ALSO IN INCULCATING IN THE PUBLIC A CORRECT APPROACH TO MEETING CHILDREN'S NEEDS.+

MR. HO WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE GROWTH IN SUCH SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AS MEDICAL AND HEALTH, LABOUR, SOCIAL WELFARE, EDUCATION, RECREATION AND SPORT GAVE GOVERNMENT GROUNDS FOR PRIDE IN ITS PLANS FOR THE FUTURE.

+SINCE SEPTEMBER SCHOOLING HAS BEEN MADE COMPULSORY UP TILL A CHILD'S 14TH BIRTHDAY, AND NEXT SEPTEMBER THE AGE WILL BE RAISED TO 15 ON COMPLETION OF FORM III SO THAT OUR CHILDREN WILL BE ABLE TO ENJOY AT LEAST NINE YEARS OF UNIVERSAL AND FREE EDUCATION,+ HE SAID IN LISTING SOME MILESTONES IN GOVERNMENT'S PROVISION OF SERVICES TO CHILDREN THIS YEAR.

+A STEADY INCREASE IN SUBSIDISED SENIOR SECONDARY AND TERTIARY EDUCATION HAS BEEN PLANNED UP TO 1986,+ HE SAID.

MR. HO SAID THE GOVERNMENT'S FREE MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH SERVICES HAVE EXPANDED RAPIDLY AND HAVE CONTRIBUTED IMMENSELY TO REDUCING OUR INFANT MORTALITY RATE TO 11.8 PER 1 000 LIVE BIRTHS IN 1978 -- THIS RATE COMPARED VERY FAVOURABLY WITH THAT IN MANY DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

+THE GOVERNMENT IS NOW SUBVENTING OVER 70 PER CENT OF CHILD CARE CENTRE PLACES IN HONG KONG, AND INTENDS TO CONTINUE PROVIDING ADDITIONAL PLACES PER YEAR,+ HE SAID.

AN EXAMINATION OF THE NEEDS OF CHILDREN OF PRIMARY AND PRE-PRIMARY AGE HAS ALREADY BEEN COMPLETED, AND A GREEN PAPER OUTLINING PROPOSALS FOR DEALING WITH THEM WILL BE PUBLISHED SHORTLY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND DEBATE BEFORE FINAL DECISIONS ARE TAKEN, MR. HO SAID.

+THERE HAS ALSO BEEN AN EXPANSION OF PERSONAL SOCIAL WORK SERVICES AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE IN NEED OF MORE INTENSIVE PERSONAL GUIDANCE AND HELP, THROUGH THE EXTENSION OF SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK, OUTREACHING SOCIAL WORK AND FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION,+ HE ADDED.

REMINDER TO SALARIES/PROFITS TAXPAYERS  
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THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT TODAY (SUNDAY) REMINDED SALARIES AND PROFITS TAXPAYERS WISHING TO PAY BY INSTALMENT TO ENSURE THAT THE FIRST PAYMENT IS MADE ON OR BEFORE THE DUE DATE SHOWN ON THE DEMAND NOTE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THAT NOTICES FOR PAYMENT OF PROVISIONAL SALARIES AND PROFITS TAX WILL CARRY A WARNING THAT, IF THE FIRST INSTALMENT IS NOT PAID BY THE DUE DATE, THE SECOND INSTALMENT WILL AUTOMATICALLY BECOME DUE IMMEDIATELY.

+THIS WILL BE STRICTLY APPLIED AND PLEAS OF OVERSIGHT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED,+ THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED.

IN ADDITION, HE SAID, IF TAX IS NOT PAID BY THE DATE SPECIFIED IN THE NOTICE, A SURCHARGE OF FIVE PER CENT MAY BE ADDED TO THE TOTAL TAX UNPAID AND THIS ADDITIONAL SURCHARGE WILL ALSO BE IMMEDIATELY DUE FOR PAYMENT.

+TAXPAYERS ARE INFORMED THAT THE SURCHARGE WILL BE ADDED IF TAX IS NOT PAID ON OR BEFORE THE DUE DATE, UNLESS EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES ARE SHOWN IN A CASE,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

PAYMENTS MAY BE MADE AT ANY OF THE THREE COLLECTION OFFICES OF THE DEPARTMENT, OR BY MAILING A CROSSED CHEQUE TOGETHER WITH THE DEMAND NOTE TO THE COMMISSIONER OF INLAND REVENUE, G.P.O. BOX 132, HONG KONG.

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PUBLICATIONS ON SAFETY IN SCHOOL  
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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HAS ISSUED PAMPHLETS, INSTRUCTIONS AND OTHER ADVISORY MATERIAL DESIGNED FOR SCHOOLS RELATING TO SAFETY ASPECTS IN CERTAIN SUBJECTS.

TOPICS COVERED BY THE PAMPHLETS INCLUDE SAFETY IN SCHOOL WORKSHOPS AND THE LABORATORIES, AND SAFETY PRECAUTIONS IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION.

+SUBJECTS IN WHICH SAFETY PRECAUTIONS ARE OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE ARE PHYSICAL EDUCATION, HOME ECONOMICS, SCIENCE AND OTHER SUBJECTS TAUGHT IN WORKSHOPS SUCH AS WOODWORK, METALWORK AND PRACTICAL ELECTRICITY,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID.

HE DREW THE ATTENTION OF HEADS OF SCHOOLS TO THE VITAL IMPORTANCE OF SAFETY PRECAUTIONS IN THESE SUBJECTS BECAUSE +AN ELEMENT OF DANGER EXISTS IF PROPER PRECAUTIONS ARE NOT TAKEN.+

+WHERE SPECIAL TRAINING IS REQUIRED FOR THE TEACHING OF SPECIFIC SKILLS, FOR EXAMPLE, THE USE OF THE TRAMPOLINE, HEADS OF SCHOOLS SHOULD ENSURE THAT THESE REQUIREMENTS HAVE BEEN FULLY MET BY THE TEACHERS CONCERNED,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR RESERVOIR EXTENSIONS ON TSING YI  
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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF TSING YI EAST FRESH AND SALT WATER RESERVOIR EXTENSIONS.

THE EXISTING RESERVOIRS WILL BE EXTENDED TO PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL CAPACITY OF 12 200 CUBIC METRES FOR FRESH WATER AND 1 450 CUBIC METRES FOR SALT WATER, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

+THESE EXTENSIONS WILL MEET THE INCREASING DEMAND FOR WATER BY THE FAST GROWING POPULATION ON TSING YI ISLAND, WHICH IS PART OF TSUEN WAN NEW TOWN,+ HE SAID.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN FEBRUARY NEXT YEAR AND WILL TAKE ABOUT 17 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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PUBLIC ENQUIRY COUNTERS POPULAR  
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THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE OF THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT HAS PROVED TO BE VERY POPULAR AMONG MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (SUNDAY): +THE POPULARITY IS REFLECTED IN THE LARGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE APPROACHING THE DEPARTMENT'S 26 PUBLIC ENQUIRY COUNTERS FOR ADVICE ON GOVERNMENT PROCEDURES.+

DURING THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR, THE COUNTERS HANDLED A TOTAL OF 143 322 CASES.

+OF THESE, 94.7 PER CENT INVOLVED THE ADMINISTRATION OF STATUTORY DECLARATIONS WHILE 1.45 PER CENT WERE COMPLAINTS ON GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS OR PRIVATE ORGANISATIONS,+ HE SAID.

+THE MOST POPULAR ITEMS HANDLED WERE APPLICATIONS FOR SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS, ENTRY TO SCHOOLS, COLLEGES AND PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS, REGISTRATION OF MARRIAGE AND EMIGRATION.+

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT PUBLIC ENQUIRY COUNTERS ALSO ATTEND TO PERSONAL PROBLEMS AND DISPUTES.

+THEY GIVE ADVICE ON THE VARIOUS COURSES OF ACTION, INTERPRETING GOVERNMENT POLICY AND LEGAL POINTS, AND PROVIDE MEDIATION SERVICES IN DISPUTE CASES,+ HE SAID.

DURING THE NINE-MONTH PERIOD, THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY COUNTERS ALSO ANSWERED 864 634 ENQUIRIES MAINLY ON TECHNICAL EDUCATION, LOCATION AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF GOVERNMENT OFFICES, AS WELL AS APPLICATIONS FOR PUBLIC HOUSING AND VACANCIES FOR GOVERNMENT POSTS.

/ANOTHER SERVICE .....

ANOTHER SERVICE PROVIDED IS THE DISTRIBUTION OF FORMS AND PAMPHLETS OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS.

IN THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR, OVER 1.5 MILLION FORMS AND PAMPHLETS WERE DISTRIBUTED THROUGH THE COUNTERS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+THE FORMS IN GREATEST DEMANDS WERE APPLICATION FORMS FOR GOVERNMENT POSTS, SPONSOR FORMS FOR WALKS FOR MILLIONS, HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTE ENROLMENT FORMS AND APPLICATION FORMS FOR PUBLIC HOUSING,+ HE SAID.

FURTHERMORE, THE DEPARTMENT'S INFORMATION SECTION IN ITS HEADQUARTERS IS MANNED ROUND-THE-CLOCK TO ANSWER TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES FROM THE PUBLIC WHEN LOCAL STORM SIGNAL NO.1 OR ABOVE IS HOISTED.

+THE SERVICE HAD OPERATED ON FIVE OCCASIONS IN THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR AND A TOTAL OF 18 914 ENQUIRIES WERE HANDLED,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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#### TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN TAI KOK TSUI \* \* \* \* \*

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (SUNDAY) THAT NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN TAI KOK TSUI FROM 10 AM ON TUESDAY (DECEMBER 4).

THE ARRANGEMENTS, WHICH WILL LAST FOR ABOUT ONE MONTH, ARE TO FACILITATE RECONSTRUCTION WORKS IN THE AREA.

UNDER THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS, THE SECTION OF POK MAN STREET BETWEEN KOK CHEUNG STREET AND THE UNNAMED ROAD LEADING TO THE BUS TERMINUS WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM ONE-WAY EASTBOUND TO TWO-WAY TRAFFIC.

THE SECTION OF POK MAN STREET EAST OF THE UNNAMED ROAD WILL BECOME A CUL-DE-SAC.

THE SECTION OF FOO KWAI STREET WEST OF HOI KING STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM ONE-WAY WESTBOUND TO ONE-WAY EASTBOUND.

THE UNNAMED ROAD BETWEEN POK MAN STREET AND FOO KWAI STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND TO ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND.

MEANWHILE, THE DEPARTMENT ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT A SECTION OF ANDERSON ROAD FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH THE ROAD LEADING TO SAU MAU PING ROAD TO A POINT ABOUT 500 YARDS TO THE WEST WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FOR AN HOUR FROM 4 PM TO 5 PM ON TUESDAY (DECEMBER 4) TO FACILITATE THE REMOVAL OF A NUMBER OF DANGEROUS BOULDERS.

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FELLOWSHIP GAMES COMPETITION FOR YOUNG AND OLD

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THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, TODAY (SUNDAY) CALLED FOR MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING, FORBEARANCE, TRUST AND RESPECT BETWEEN THE YOUNG AND OLD IN ORDER TO NARROW THE GENERATION GAP.

MR. LEE SAID THAT WITH TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCE, RAPID COMMERCIALISATION AND INDUSTRIALISATION, AND FUSION OF EASTERN AND WESTERN CULTURES, GENERATION GAP WAS A NATURAL PHENOMENUM.

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF A SERIES OF COMPETITIVE GAMES FOR YOUNG AND OLD CONTESTANTS AT SOUTHERN STADIUM IN WAN CHAI.

THE FELLOWSHIP GAMES COMPETITION WAS ORGANISED BY CARITAS-HONG KONG AS PART OF ITS JOINT PROJECT FOR THE ELDERLY AND YOUTH TO FOSTER HARMONIOUS FAMILY RELATIONSHIP.

MR. LEE POINTED OUT THAT THE TRADITIONAL MOULD OF FAMILY LIFE HAD UNDERGONE CONSIDERABLE CHANGES IN THE FACE OF RAPID SOCIAL CHANGES.

+THIS HAS TENDED TO WEAKEN THE BASE FOR STRONG FAMILY TIES, AND THE GOVERNMENT HAS THEREFORE BEEN PROMOTING FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION TO FOSTER FAMILY COHESION AND FORESTALL FAMILY BREAKDOWN,+ HE SAID.

WITH BETTER UNDERSTANDING, MUTUAL TRUST AND RESPECT BETWEEN THE YOUNG AND THE ELDERLY, HE SAID, IT WOULD NOT BE DIFFICULT TO MINIMISE POSSIBLE CONFLICTS BETWEEN GENERATIONS, HE ADDED.

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TRAFFIC RE-ROUTING IN CHAI WAN

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (SUNDAY) THAT NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN CHAI WAN FROM TUESDAY (DECEMBER 4) TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW.

UNDER THE ARRANGEMENTS, THE SECTION OF FUNG YIP STREET BETWEEN SUN YIP STREET AND ON YIP STREET WILL BE ROUTED ONE-WAY EASTBOUND.

THE SECTION OF SUN YIP STREET BETWEEN FUNG YIP STREET AND SUN ON STREET WILL BE ROUTED ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND AND THE SECTION OF ON YIP STREET BETWEEN FUNG YIP STREET AND SUN ON STREET WILL BE ROUTED ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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