



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, 1991

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TRANSPORT COMPLAINTS DROPPED 21 PER CENT IN 1990/91

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THE TRANSPORT COMPLAINTS UNIT (TCU) OF THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) RECEIVED A TOTAL OF 7,805 COMPLAINTS IN 1990/91, A DROP OF 21 PER CENT COMPARED WITH 1989/90.

A TCU SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (SATURDAY) PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES AND TRAFFIC CONDITIONS REMAINED THE MAIN SUBJECTS OF PUBLIC COMPLAINTS.

OF ALL THE COMPLAINTS RECEIVED, 56 PER CENT WERE ABOUT PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES, A RISE OF THREE PER CENT, WHILE 19 PER CENT WERE ABOUT TRAFFIC CONDITIONS, A DROP OF THREE PER CENT COMPARED WITH LAST YEAR.

OTHER MAJOR AREAS OF COMPLAINTS WERE LAW ENFORCEMENT AND ROAD MAINTENANCE.

THE NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS ON BUS SERVICES STOOD AT 1,994, A PLUNGE OF 20 PER CENT. THEY ARE MOSTLY ON INADEQUATE SERVICE AND STANDARD OF SERVICE.

ON INADEQUATE SERVICE, 106 COMPLAINTS WERE LODGED AGAINST THE CHINA MOTOR BUS COMPANY (CMB) WHILE 459 WERE AGAINST THE KOWLOON MOTOR BUS COMPANY (KMB).

LAST YEAR, THERE WERE 116 AND 497 COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE CMB AND THE KMB RESPECTIVELY.

MOST OF THESE COMPLAINTS WERE ABOUT FREQUENCY OF BUS SERVICES OR ROUTINGS, PARTICULARLY TO NEW TOWNS. 110 COMPLAINTS WERE RECEIVED ON CROSS-HARBOUR BUS SERVICES, COMPARED WITH 79 CASES RECEIVED LAST YEAR.

COMPLAINTS ON THE STANDARD OF SERVICE OF FRANCHISED BUS COMPANIES INCLUDED FAILURE TO KEEP TO SCHEDULES AND DRIVERS' UNSATISFACTORY BEHAVIOUR.

THE UNIT RECORDED 375 COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE CMB, A DROP OF 209, AND 649 AGAINST THE KMB, A FALL OF 197.

A TOTAL OF 209 COMPLAINTS WERE RECEIVED ON CROSS-HARBOUR BUS SERVICES, COMPARED WITH 267 LAST YEAR.

ON TAXI SERVICES, THERE WAS A TOTAL OF 1,520 COMPLAINTS RECEIVED IN 1990/91, A DROP OF 6.5 PER CENT COMPARED WITH LAST YEAR.

OF THESE, 1,465 WERE ON TAXI MALPRACTICES, A DROP OF 90 CASES. THE MAJOR COMPLAINT WAS ON OVERCHARGING.

THE UNIT RECEIVED 1,477 COMPLAINTS ON TRAFFIC CONDITIONS, OF WHICH 744 WERE ON ROAD CONGESTION.

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THE MAIN CONGESTION AREAS WERE EASTERN ON HONG KONG ISLAND; KOWLOON CITY AND KWUN TONG IN KOWLOON; AND SHA TIN AND KWAI TSING IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

SUGGESTIONS TO IMPROVE ROAD CONGESTION AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTED TO 993 CASES AS AGAINST 1,693 CASES IN 1989/90, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE TRANSPORT COMPLAINTS UNIT WAS SET UP UNDER THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO RECEIVE AND MONITOR COMPLAINTS AND SUGGESTIONS ON TRANSPORT MATTERS.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WANT TO MAKE ANY SUGGESTION OR COMPLAINT COULD CALL THE ROUND-THE-CLOCK TCU HOTLINE ON TEL. 577 6866.

AFTER INVESTIGATING INTO THE COMPLAINTS, THE UNIT WILL GIVE THE COMPLAINANT EITHER A VERBAL OR WRITTEN REPLY.

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MINISTER AND GOVERNOR THANK RESCUE TEAM

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THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR HONG KONG, LORD CAITHNESS, HAS CONVEYED HIS THANKS AND CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THOSE INVOLVED IN THE RESCUE FROM THE OIL BARGE, DB 29, WHICH SANK IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA ON THURSDAY (AUGUST 15).

"OUR CONDOLENCES GO TO THE FAMILIES OF THOSE WHO HAVE LOST RELATIVES IN THIS TRAGEDY, BUT THE TOLL WOULD HAVE BEEN MUCH GREATER WITHOUT THE MAGNIFICENT EFFORTS IN APPALLING CONDITIONS OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG AUXILIARY AIR FORCE, THE ROYAL AIR FORCE, THE ROYAL NAVY, THE MARINE DEPARTMENT AND OTHERS WHO HAVE HELPED IN HONG KONG," HE SAID.

THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, WHO IS ON LEAVE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, HAS ALSO SENT HIS CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF THE VICTIMS.

HE ALSO PRAISED ALL THOSE WHO RISKED THEIR LIVES UNDER ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS DURING THE RESCUE OPERATION.

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EMPLOYMENT OF CHILD WORKERS AN OFFENCE

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (SATURDAY) REMINDED EMPLOYERS THAT THEY SHOULD NOT ILLEGALLY TAKE ON CHILD WORKERS, PARTICULARLY IN INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS.

DURING TWO RECENT TERRITORY-WIDE OPERATIONS, THE DEPARTMENT FOUND 21 FACTORIES ILLEGALLY EMPLOYING 24 CHILDREN AGED BELOW 15, AND TWO NON-INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS EMPLOYING TWO CHILDREN AGED BELOW 13.

THE SENIOR LABOUR OFFICER (LABOUR INSPECTION), MR CHAN KWOK-KUEN, EXPLAINED THAT IT WAS AN OFFENCE UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN REGULATIONS TO EMPLOY CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 15 IN AN INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKING.

"AS FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS, THE LAW PROVIDES THAT ONLY CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN 13 AND 14 MAY BE EMPLOYED ON A PART-TIME BASIS SUBJECT TO CERTAIN RESTRICTIONS," MR CHAN SAID.

"EMPLOYERS SHOULD, THEREFORE, BE MINDFUL OF THE REQUIREMENT PARTICULARLY WHEN THEY OFFER EMPLOYMENT TO STUDENTS SEEKING SUMMER JOBS," HE STRESSED.

THE TWO OPERATIONS MOUNTED ON JULY 30 AND AUGUST 6 COVERED 7,529 INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS AND 408 NON-INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE TERRITORY.

"THE OPERATIONS WERE A MAJOR EXERCISE BY THE DEPARTMENT TO PREVENT ILLEGAL CHILD EMPLOYMENT WHICH MAY INTERFERE WITH A CHILD'S SCHOOLING AND WHICH MAY POSE POSSIBLE SAFETY AND HEALTH PROBLEMS," MR CHAN SAID.

"ANY EMPLOYER WHO BREACHES THE PROVISIONS ON CHILD EMPLOYMENT MAY BE FINED UP TO \$20,000," HE SAID.

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LEGCO ELECTION FORUMS GO ON AIR

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THE ELECTORS OF HONG KONG ISLAND EAST CONSTITUENCY FOR THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS CAN HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THEIR CANDIDATES AT AN ELECTION FORUM TO BE HELD AT THE NORTH POINT FERRY PIER ON MONDAY (AUGUST 19) MORNING.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION (CNTA) SAID TODAY (SATURDAY) THAT THE FORUM WOULD START OFF A SERIES OF FORUMS TO BE HELD IN THE FOLLOWING DAYS FOR EACH OF THE GEOGRAPHICAL CONSTITUENCIES.

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"THE FORUMS, JOINTLY ORGANISED BY RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG (RTHK) AND THE CNTA, REPRESENT AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE GOVERNMENT'S PUBLICITY EFFORT TO PROMOTE THE MAIDEN DIRECT ELECTIONS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL," HE SAID.

APART FROM ATTENDING THE FORUM, THE ELECTORS CAN TAKE PART IN ANOTHER FORMAT: LISTEN TO THE RADIO AND CALL 338 4711.

"THE ENTIRE PROCESS OF EACH FORUM, INCLUDING PLATFORM PRESENTATION, OPEN DEBATE BY CANDIDATES, AND QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE AND RADIO LISTENERS, WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE ON THE RTHK-PROGRAMME 'TALKABOUT' BETWEEN 8 AM AND 10 AM ON RADIO I (FM 92.6-94.4) AND RADIO V (AM 783)," HE ADDED.

DETAILS OF THE OTHER EIGHT ELECTION FORUMS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

CONSTITUENCY -----	DATE ----	VENUE -----
NEW TERRITORIES NORTH	AUGUST 20	FU SHIN ESTATE, TAI PO
NEW TERRITORIES SOUTH	AUGUST 21	KWAI CHUNG PLAZA
NEW TERRITORIES EAST	AUGUST 22	OUTSIDE TAI WAI KCR STATION
NEW TERRITORIES WEST	AUGUST 23	YAN OI SQUARE, TUEN MUN
KOWLOON CENTRAL	AUGUST 26	CHUK YUEN SOUTH, TZE WAN SHAN
KOWLOON EAST	AUGUST 27	TELFORD GARDEN PODIUM, KOWLOON BAY
KOWLOON WEST	AUGUST 28	LAI CHI KOK GARDEN, MEI FOO SUN CHUEN
HONG KONG ISLAND WEST	AUGUST 29	AP LEI CHAU ESTATE

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ROAD CLOSURE FOR SAU MAU PING ESTATE REDEVELOPMENT

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THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSES TO PERMANENTLY CLOSE PART OF TAK WO STREET IN JUNE NEXT YEAR FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT OF SAU MAU PING ESTATE PHASE 2, KOWLOON.

THE AREA OCCUPIED BY THAT PART OF TAK WO STREET WILL BE PARTLY TURNED INTO LANDSCAPED OPEN SPACE AND PARTLY USED FOR CONSTRUCTION OF DOMESTIC BLOCKS.

WHEN COMPLETED IN 1995, THE SAU MAU PING ESTATE PHASE 2 REDEVELOPMENT WILL PROVIDE 2,432 HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME FLATS FOR 7,880 PEOPLE.

/A NOTICE

A NOTICE ON THE PROPOSED ROAD CLOSURE WAS PUBLISHED IN THE LATEST GAZETTE.

THE PLAN AND SCHEME MAY BE INSPECTED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AT THE FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT OFFICES:

- * CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL;
- * KOWLOON EAST DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, YAU MA TEI CARPARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON; AND
- * KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE, SAU MAU PING SUB-OFFICE, UNITS 6 AND 7, BLOCK 28, SAU MAU PING ESTATE, KOWLOON.

THOSE WHO WISH TO OBJECT TO THE WORKS OR THE USE, OR BOTH, SHOULD WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG NOT LATER THAN OCTOBER 15 THIS YEAR, DESCRIBING HIS INTEREST AND HOW HE WILL BE AFFECTED.

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SALT WATER SUPPLY SUSPENSION

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SUPPLY OF SALT WATER TO CERTAIN AREAS IN EAST KOWLOON WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 8 AM TO MIDNIGHT ON MONDAY (AUGUST 19) TO FACILITATE MAINTENANCE WORKS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT YAU TONG INCLUDING YAU TONG ESTATE AND KO CHIU ROAD ESTATE, LEI YUE MUN, CHA KWO LING AND SAM KA TSUEN.

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CSD SCOUT GROUP CELEBRATES FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY MEMBERS OF THE 221ST HONG KONG SCOUT GROUP, WHO ARE TRAINING CENTRE INMATES, TODAY (SATURDAY) ATTENDED A CEREMONY TO CELEBRATE THE GROUP'S FIFTH ANNIVERSARY.

ESTABLISHED BY THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, THE GROUP PROVIDES YOUNG INMATES WITH NORMAL SCOUT TRAINING SUCH AS KNOTTING, MAP READING, EXPEDITION, FIRST AID AND LIFE-SAVING.

IN THE PAST YEAR, MEMBERS OF THE GROUP HAVE TAKEN PART IN VARIOUS ACTIVITIES AND COMPETITIONS ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG SCOUT ASSOCIATION AND HAVE ACHIEVED SATISFACTORY RESULTS.

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THEY HAVE ALSO BEEN ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN A NUMBER OF COMMUNITY SERVICES, SUCH AS CLEANING WORK IN COUNTRY PARKS, MOWING AND MAINTENANCE WORK AT CAMP SITES, AND SERVICES FOR THE AGED AND THE MENTALLY DISABLED.

LAST NOVEMBER THE GROUP STAGED TWO "BEATING RETREAT" PERFORMANCES AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM IN WAN CHAI AND RAISED \$37,000 FOR THE COMMUNITY CHEST.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE GROUP, MR LAU HON-WAH, AND THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, MR ERIC MCCOSH, OFFICIATED AT THE ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION HELD AT THE TAI TAM SCOUT CENTRE THIS AFTERNOON.

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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	16.8.91	600
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	17.8.91	NEUTRAL
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		NEUTRAL

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