



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY SHOULD ADDRESS ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS
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THE PROBLEMS OF THE ENVIRONMENT, THEIR IMPACT ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, AND THE ROLE OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION ARE ALL KEY ISSUES WHICH NEED TO BE ADDRESSED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, THE ACTING GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID FORD, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

ADDRESSING THE 1991 ICSW ASIA AND PACIFIC REGIONAL CONFERENCE, SIR DAVID SAID IF THE WORLD WAS TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN FINDING A SOLUTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS, WE MUST FIND WAYS IN WHICH ALL THOSE RESPONSIBLE COULD COME TOGETHER, TO POOL KNOWLEDGE AND RESOURCES AND TO AGREE THE WAY FORWARD.

"THIS INVOLVES NOT ONLY GOVERNMENT AND NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS BUT PRESSURE GROUPS AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS ALSO.

"IN PARTICULAR THE PROBLEM OF EDUCATING COMMUNITIES AND ENLISTING THEIR SUPPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMMES MUST BE A TOP PRIORITY," SIR DAVID SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT LEGISLATION AND ENFORCEMENT WERE IMPORTANT, BUT WITHOUT THE UNDERSTANDING AND ACTIVE SUPPORT OF ALL THOSE AFFECTED, THE SEA CHANGE IN PEOPLES' ATTITUDES SO ESSENTIAL TO ARREST THE DAMAGE BEING DONE TO THE ENVIRONMENT, WOULD NOT BE BROUGHT ABOUT.

"CLEARLY SOCIAL WORK PROFESSIONALS CAN PLAN A VITAL ROLE IN CHANGING COMMUNITY ATTITUDES ON THESE CRUCIAL ISSUES," THE ACTING GOVERNOR SAID.

SIR DAVID TOLD THE DELEGATES THAT HONG KONG HAD ACHIEVED SOME SUCCESSES IN IMPROVING THE ENVIRONMENT AND ENLISTING COMMUNITY SUPPORT, BUT THE PROBLEMS WHICH STILL FACED THE TERRITORY WAS DAUNTING, AS THEY WERE IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD.

"WE ARE DETERMINED TO TACKLE THESE, BUT WE NEED ALL THE HELP WE CAN GET," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID THE SHARING OF EXPERIENCES AND IDEAS THROUGH THE REGIONAL CONFERENCE WOULD GIVE EVERYBODY A NEWER AND BROADER PERSPECTIVE IN UNDERSTANDING THE ENVIRONMENT AND FINDING BETTER IDEAS TO PRESERVE IT.

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GOVT LAWYER SECONDED TO UN CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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A SENIOR CROWN COUNSEL FROM THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT WILL BE SECONDED TO THE UNITED NATIONS' CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN GENEVA FOR ONE YEAR IN ORDER TO GAIN PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE IN THE FIELD OF INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS.

ONE OF THE MAIN DUTIES OF THE SENIOR CROWN COUNSEL, MR STEPHEN WONG KAI-YI, WILL BE TO ASSIST IN SERVING THE SECRETARIAT OF THE UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE (UNHRC) BY PROVIDING LEGAL RESEARCH, DRAFTING ASSISTANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT.

THE UNHRC IS SET UP UNDER THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS. THE POSTING WILL HELP DEVELOP CONTACTS WITH EXPERTS IN HUMAN RIGHTS.

MR WONG, AGED 36, JOINED THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT AS CROWN COUNSEL IN 1986 AND WAS PROMOTED TO SENIOR CROWN COUNSEL IN 1988.

HE SERVED IN THE PROSECUTIONS DIVISION BEFORE TAKING UP HIS PRESENT POSTING IN THE LEGAL POLICY DIVISION IN THE DEPARTMENT.

HE WILL ASSUME DUTY IN THE UN CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN EARLY SEPTEMBER.

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INT'L CONFERENCE ON LANGUAGE QUALITY
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MORE THAN 300 PEOPLE FROM THE EDUCATION SECTOR, INCLUDING 73 FROM OVERSEAS, ATTENDED LAST YEAR'S INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LANGUAGE ORGANISED BY THE INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID THIS TODAY (MONDAY) IN REMINDING THOSE WHO WISH TO ATTEND THIS YEAR'S LANGUAGE CONFERENCE OF THE SEPTEMBER 30 DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION AS GENERAL PARTICIPANTS.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO SAID SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR REGISTERED GOVERNMENT AND AIDED SCHOOL TEACHERS TO RECEIVE A PARTIAL REFUND OF THE REGISTRATION FEE.

THE THEME OF THE THREE-DAY CONFERENCE, WHICH WILL OPEN ON DECEMBER 17, IS "QUILT AND QUILL". KEY ISSUES RELATING TO ACHIEVING AND MAINTAINING QUALITY IN LANGUAGE TEACHING WILL BE EXAMINED.

THE PURSUIT OF QUALITY WILL BE ONE OF THE OBJECTIVES TO BE DISCUSSED AT THIS SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LANGUAGE STUDIES AND TEACHER EDUCATION.

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IT WILL ENCOURAGE DISCUSSION ON:

- * QUALITY IN SCHOOLS: THE TRAINING OF TEACHERS;
- * RELATIONSHIPS WITH SCHOOLS;
- * QUALITY IN LANGUAGE EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC IMPERATIVES;
- * LANGUAGE STANDARDS;
- * AREAS IN THE PURSUIT OF QUALITY; AND
- * ASSESSMENT, APPRAISAL AND MONITORING.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID ABOUT 100 PAPERS, AND WORKSHOPS WILL BE PRESENTED IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE BY WORLD EXPERTS.

THEY INCLUDE PROF FRANCES CHRISTIE, PROFESSOR OF EDUCATION, NORTHERN TERRITORY UNIVERSITY, AUSTRALIA; PROF NIGEL REEVES, HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES, ASTON UNIVERSITY, ENGLAND; DR LOO SHAW CHANG, DIRECTOR OF THE CHINESE LANGUAGE AND RESEARCH CENTRE AT THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE; PROF ZHANG JING, CHANCELLOR AND DIRECTOR OF THE HENAN TV UNIVERSITY; AND PROF TIEN BANNA OF THE EDUCATIONAL SCIENCE RESEARCH UNIT OF TIENJIN NORMAL UNIVERSITY.

ENQUIRIES SHOULD BE MADE AT THE INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION AT 2 HOSPITAL ROAD IN THE MID-LEVELS OR BY TELEPHONING 803 2420.

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PLEA ON CHILD CARE

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A SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT (SWD) SPOKESMAN TODAY (MONDAY) APPEALED TO PARENTS TO MAKE THE BEST USE OF OCCASIONAL CHILD CARE SERVICE, INSTEAD OF LEAVING THEIR YOUNG CHILDREN UNATTENDED AT HOME.

"FOR THE SAFETY OF THE CHILDREN, THEY SHOULD NOT BE LEFT ALONE AT HOME, EVEN FOR A SHORT WHILE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE DEPARTMENT HAS PRODUCED A LEAFLET PUBLICISING OCCASIONAL CHILD CARE SERVICE.

"THE DEPARTMENT HAS EXPANDED ITS OCCASIONAL CHILD CARE SERVICE, WHICH IS AN EXPERIMENTAL PROJECT AIMING AT ELIMINATING THE RISK OF LEAVING CHILDREN UNATTENDED AT HOME," HE REITERATED.

A TOTAL OF 50 GOVERNMENT-AIDED NURSERY CENTRES THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY IS TAKING PART IN THE PROJECT, OFFERING 150 PLACES TO CHILDREN AGED TWO TO SIX.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE LEAFLET ALSO PUBLISHED A LIST OF THE CENTRES RUNNING THE SERVICE.

COPIES OF THE LEAFLET ARE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION AT SWD OFFICES, CHILD CARE CENTRES, DISTRICT OFFICES, HOSPITALS, PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES OFFICES AND NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS.

MEANWHILE, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC INTERESTED IN THE SERVICE MAY CALL THE SWD HOTLINE 343 2255 OR THE DEPARTMENT'S CHILD CARE CENTRES ADVISORY INSPECTORATE ON 578 1892.

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REMINDER ON OUTDOOR WORK DURING THUNDERSTORM

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (MONDAY) URGED WORKERS TO AVOID WORKING IN EXPOSED, OPEN SITES DURING THUNDERSTORMS.

THE DEPUTY CHIEF FACTORY INSPECTOR, MR CHAN HON-TING, POINTED OUT THAT THERE HAD BEEN ACCIDENTS INVOLVING OUTDOOR WORKERS STRUCK BY LIGHTNING, RESULTING IN SERIOUS INJURIES OR DEATH.

HE CALLED ON ALL INDUSTRIAL PROPRIETORS AND WORKERS, PARTICULARLY THOSE OPERATING HEAVY OR POWER-DRIVEN MACHINERY IN CONSTRUCTION SITES, TO TAKE SHELTER DURING A THUNDERSTORM.

"UNDER THE GENERAL DUTIES PROVISIONS OF THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS ORDINANCE, A PROPRIETOR HAS THE DUTY TO DEVISE A SAFE SYSTEM OF WORK AND TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE INSTRUCTION AND SUPERVISION TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF HIS WORKERS," MR CHAN SAID.

"IT IS, THEREFORE, AN OFFENCE UNDER THESE PROVISIONS FOR A PROPRIETOR TO INSTRUCT A WORKER TO WORK OUTDOORS DURING A THUNDERSTORM, WHICH MAY CAUSE THE WORKER TO BE INJURED BY LIGHTNING.

"A PROPRIETOR WHO FAILS TO COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS WILFULLY AND WITHOUT REASONABLE EXCUSE IS LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$30,000 AND SIX MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT," HE ADDED.

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MAJOR DRUG SEIZURES IN JULY

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THE POLICE HAVE MADE A NUMBER OF MAJOR ARRESTS AND SEIZURES OF DANGEROUS DRUGS WORTH MILLIONS OF DOLLARS LAST MONTH FOLLOWING JOINT OPERATIONS BETWEEN ITS NARCOTICS BUREAU AND VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES.

"THE SUCCESS WAS MAINLY ATTRIBUTED TO THE CLOSE LIAISON BETWEEN HONG KONG AND OTHER COUNTRIES," ACCORDING TO THE ACTING CHIEF STAFF OFFICER OF THE NARCOTICS BUREAU CHAN KAI-WING.

"WE ALSO MANAGED TO NEUTRALISE A NUMBER OF DRUG SYNDICATES," MR CHAN SAID.

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HE SAID DURING LAST MONTH MORE THAN 16 KILOGRAMS OF HEROIN WERE SEIZED. OTHER SEIZURES INCLUDED 3.34 KILOGRAMS OF HERBAL CANNABIS AND CANNABIS RESIN, 18.2 KILOGRAMS OF RAW OPIUM AND 306.5 GRAMS OF METHYLAMPHETAMINE OR BITTER KNOWN AS "ICE".

AS FOR THE CONFISCATION OF ASSETS SINCE THE INTRODUCTION OF THE DRUG TRAFFICKING (RECOVERY OF PROCEEDS) ORDINANCE IN SEPTEMBER 1989, MR CHAN SAID A TOTAL OF 89 RESTRAINT ORDERS HAD BEEN ISSUED BY THE POLICE AND THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE.

"THE POLICE HAVE ISSUED 15 CONFISCATION ORDERS AND THE CUSTOMS SEVEN SUCH ORDERS," MR CHAN SAID.

HE ADDED THAT MORE THAN \$286 MILLION OF ASSETS HAD BEEN "FROZEN", OF WHICH OVER \$251 MILLION HAD BEEN SEIZED BY THE POLICE AND \$35 MILLION BY THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE.

SO FAR, MR CHAN SAID, ABOUT \$4 MILLION WERE TO BE CONFISCATED WHILE \$591,093 HAD ALREADY BEEN CONFISCATED.

CITING THE CLOSE CO-OPERATION BETWEEN HONG KONG POLICE AND ITS OVERSEAS COUNTERPARTS, MR CHAN SAID A JOINT OPERATION BETWEEN THE NARCOTICS BUREAU AND THE TOKYO METROPOLITAN POLICE RESULTED IN THE SEIZURE OF 10 KILOGRAMS OF "ICE" IN KOBE ON JULY 27, THE FOURTH LARGEST SEIZURE EVER IN JAPAN.

THE DRUG WOULD FETCH \$448 MILLION IF SOLD TO THE JAPANESE YAKUZA GANGS AS ORIGINALLY ARRANGED BY THE DRUG DEALERS.

ALTOGETHER SIX PEOPLE INCLUDING ONE WOMAN WERE ARRESTED IN JAPAN AND HONG KONG.

TWO JOINT OPERATIONS BETWEEN THE NARCOTICS BUREAU, THE DUTCH AND THE THAI POLICE RESULTED IN THE SEIZURE OF 11.3 KILOGRAMS OF NO.4 HEROIN WORTH \$40 MILLION DESTINED FOR EUROPE. TWO HONG KONG CHINESE WERE ARRESTED.

IN ANOTHER CASE, THE THAI ANTI-NARCOTICS POLICE, ACTING ON INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY THE NARCOTICS BUREAU, ARRESTED THREE PEOPLE AND SEIZED \$3 MILLION WORTH OF NO.4 HEROIN DESTINED FOR TAIWAN.

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