



Received by PRO  
on 10 AUG 1993

## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES  
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 842 8777

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, 1993

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
AFD STEPS UP VEGETABLE CHECKS .....	1
HEALTH DEPARTMENT CONTINUES TO CHECK VEGETABLES .....	1
VOTE IN REGIONAL COUNCIL BY-ELECTION: DISTRICT OFFICER .....	2
MORE HELP FOR CHRONICALLY ILL .....	2
PNEUMOCONIOTICS GIVEN BETTER PROTECTION .....	3
YOUTHS URGED TO PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS .....	4
YOUNG MUSICIANS TOUR AUSTRALIA .....	4
HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS ..	5

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, 1993

- 1 -

AFD STEPS UP VEGETABLE CHECKS

\* \* \* \* \*

THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT HAS STEPPED UP SAMPLING OF IMPORTED VEGETABLES, ESPECIALLY FROM SHENZHEN AND BUJI, FOR CHECKING OF CONTAMINANTS AT THE VEGETABLE MARKETING ORGANISATION'S CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE VEGETABLE MARKET.

THE NUMBER OF SAMPLES HAS INCREASED FROM THE DAILY ROUTINE OF 100 TO 200.

THE STEPPED-UP ACTION WILL CONTINUE FOR AS LONG AS NECESSARY.

INITIAL RESULTS FROM THE GOVERNMENT LABORATORY ON SAMPLES SENT FOR TESTING YESTERDAY HAVE INDICATED NO PRESENCE OF NITRATES OR OTHER CHEMICAL CONTAMINANTS.

THE DEPARTMENT WILL ALSO STRENGTHEN ITS MONITORING FOR PESTICIDE RESIDUE AS SOME FARMERS MAY HARVEST THEIR PRODUCE EARLIER THAN USUAL.

- - - - 0 - - - -

HEALTH DEPARTMENT CONTINUES TO CHECK VEGETABLES

\* \* \* \* \*

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TODAY (SATURDAY) CONTINUED THE MONITORING OF FOOD INCLUDING VEGETABLES IMPORTED FROM CHINA AT THE BORDER CHECK POINTS.

SINCE THE BLAST IN SHENZHEN, 111 LORRY-LOADS OF VEGETABLES FROM CHINA HAVE BEEN INSPECTED AND NO CONTAMINATION HAS BEEN DETECTED.

THIRTY SAMPLES OF VEGETABLES HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE GOVERNMENT LABORATORY FOR TESTS OF CONTAMINATION ARISING FROM THE BLAST, IN PARTICULAR OF ANY POSSIBLE CONTAMINATION BY AMMONIUM NITRATES.

SO FAR, 14 OF THE SAMPLES HAVE NEGATIVE RESULTS SHOWING NO EVIDENCE OF CONTAMINATION. LABORATORY RESULTS FOR THE REMAINING 16 SAMPLES ARE PENDING.

MEANWHILE, THE DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR VEGETABLES OVER THE WEEKEND AND THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

THE PUBLIC ARE ADVISED TO OBSERVE GOOD HYGIENIC PRACTICES, THOROUGHLY WASH VEGETABLES AND COOK WELL BEFORE CONSUMPTION.

- - - - 0 - - - -

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, 1993

- 2 -

VOTE IN REGIONAL COUNCIL BY-ELECTION: DISTRICT OFFICER

\* \* \* \* \*

RESIDENTS OF SAI KUNG SHOULD EXERCISE THEIR CIVIC RIGHT TOMORROW TO ELECT THEIR REPRESENTATIVE TO THE REGIONAL COUNCIL, THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR PARRISH NG, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

SEVEN CANDIDATES WILL VIE FOR ONE SEAT IN THE CONSTITUENCY. THEY ARE MR WONG SHUI-SANG, MR LAW CHEUNG-KWOK, MR WONG WAH-KEUNG, MR WAI HING-CHEUNG, MR CHEUNG HON-TIN, MR FRANCIS CHAU AND MR LAM WING-YIN.

NOTING THAT THE REGIONAL COUNCIL IS THE STATUTORY MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR NG SAID ITS WORK WAS CLOSELY RELATED TO THE LIVELIHOOD OF THE RESIDENTS.

IT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE, PUBLIC HEALTH, AND THE PROVISION OF RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL FACILITIES FOR THE 2.5 MILLION PEOPLE IN THE RURAL AREA, HE SAID.

"THE SATISFACTORY TURNOUT RATES OF PREVIOUS ELECTIONS HAVE SHOWN THAT SAI KUNG RESIDENTS ARE VERY ENTHUSIASTIC IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS, AND THAT THEY HAVE DEMONSTRATED A STRONG SENSE OF BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.

"SO PLEASE COME OUT AGAIN TOMORROW TO CAST YOUR VOTES, TO ELECT A REPRESENTATIVE TO FIGHT FOR THE WELFARE OF THE COMMUNITY," MR NG SAID.

THERE WILL BE 12 POLLING STATIONS, OPENING FROM 7.30 AM TO 10.30 PM.

VOTERS SHOULD GO TO THE POLLING STATION SPECIFIED IN THE POLL CARD, AND BRING ALONG THEIR IDENTITY CARDS AND POLL CARDS.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE OF THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL OFFICE ON 827 1122.

- - - - 0 - - - -

MORE HELP FOR CHRONICALLY ILL

\* \* \* \* \*

THE GOVERNMENT IS DETERMINED TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR HONG KONG'S CHRONICALLY ILL, ESTIMATED TO EXCEED 100,000.

THE PLEDGE WAS GIVEN TODAY (SATURDAY) BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF HOSPITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, MRS ROSE GOODSTADT.

"THE MOST URGENT ANXIETY FOR THE CHRONICALLY ILL IS THE QUALITY OF MEDICAL CARE TO WHICH THEY HAVE ACCESS," SHE SAID.

"BUT WE ALSO KNOW FROM EXPERIENCE THAT, VERY OFTEN, THE INDIVIDUAL AND THE FAMILY NEED TO BE RESTORED TO CONFIDENCE IN THEIR ABILITY TO OVERCOME THE DISABLING IMPACT OF A SERIOUS OR CHRONIC ILLNESS."

/A MAJOR .....

A MAJOR STEP FORWARD IN THIS DIRECTION WAS THE GOVERNMENT'S SUPPORT FOR FIVE NEW REGIONAL COMMUNITY REHABILITATION NETWORKS.

MRS GOODSTADT EXPLAINED THAT THESE WOULD COMBINE MEDICAL AND REHABILITATION EXPERTS WITH SOCIAL WORKERS AND PSYCHOLOGISTS, TOGETHER WITH PATIENT SELF-HELP GROUPS.

THE FIRST TWO NETWORKS SHOULD BE OPERATIONAL WITHIN A YEAR.

MRS GOODSTADT WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY FOR THE HONG KONG NEW VOICE CLUB HEAD OFFICE.

SHE PAID TRIBUTE TO THE CLUB'S OUTSTANDING RECORD IN PIONEERING THE DEVELOPMENT OF SELF-HELP GROUPS FOR PATIENTS OF SERIOUS DISEASES.

THE CLUB PROVIDES SERVICES FOR SOME 3,500 HONG KONG RESIDENTS WHO HAVE LOST THEIR VOICE OR NORMAL SPEAKING ABILITY BECAUSE OF CANCER, STROKES OR OTHER ILLNESSES.

SHE EMPHASISED THAT ALTHOUGH MORE PEOPLE NOW SURVIVED WHAT WERE FORMERLY KILLER DISEASES, THEY WERE OFTEN LEFT CHRONICALLY ILL AND UNABLE TO WALK, TALK AND SOMETIMES BREATHE COMFORTABLY.

"WE HAVE TO SEE MEDICAL TREATMENT AS JUST THE FIRST STAGE IN A COMPLEX PROCESS OF REHABILITATION," SHE ADDED, "DESIGNED TO SUPPORT THE PATIENT, RELIEVE THE BURDEN ON THE FAMILY AND ENSURE THAT SICK PERSON RETURNS TO AS FULL, NORMAL AND SATISFYING A LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY AS POSSIBLE."

- - - - 0 - - - -

PNEUMOCONIOTICS GIVEN BETTER PROTECTION

\* \* \* \* \*

SUFFERERS OF PNEUMOCONIOSIS WILL BE GIVEN BETTER PROTECTION FOLLOWING THE ENACTMENT OF THE PNEUMOCONIOSIS (COMPENSATION) (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1993 LAST MONTH, THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MRS KATHERINE FOK, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN FOR THE ORDINANCE, MRS FOK SAID: "THE NEW ARRANGEMENT WILL PROVIDE CONTINUED SUPPORT TO PNEUMOCONIOSIS SUFFERERS AND ENSURE THAT THEY WOULD BE TAKEN CARE OF AS THEIR HEALTH DETERIORATES.

"UNDER THE NEW SCHEME, COMPENSATION PAYMENTS WILL BE PAID MONTHLY UNTIL A PNEUMOCONIOTIC'S DEATH," SHE SAID.

"IN THE PAST, PNEUMOCONIOTICS WOULD BE GIVEN COMPENSATION ON A ONE-OFF BASIS OR BY TWO PAYMENTS," SHE ADDED.

MRS FOK NOTED THAT THE PNEUMOCONIOSIS COMPENSATION FUND BOARD PLAYED A MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN THE NEW COMPENSATION SCHEME.

SHE SAID IT WAS MEANINGFUL FOR THE FUND BOARD TO ORGANISE SUCH PUBLICITY ACTIVITIES TO ENABLE THE GENERAL PUBLIC TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE PREVENTION OF THE DISEASE.

HELD AT THE ENTRANCE ARENA OF THE NEW TOWN PLAZA OF SHA TIN, THE OPENING CEREMONY WAS FOLLOWED BY AN EXHIBITION DISPLAYING RESPIRATORY PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AND EXPLAINING THE AMENDMENT ORDINANCE.

STALLS WERE ALSO SET UP TO TEST THE LUNG FUNCTION OF INTERESTED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WITH THE HELP OF NURSES FROM THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH DIVISION.

- - - - 0 - - - -

#### YOUTHS URGED TO PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

\* \* \* \* \*

THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR ALBERT C C LAM, TODAY (SATURDAY) APPEALED TO YOUNG PEOPLE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TERRITORY BY ACTIVELY PARTICIPATING IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE HONG KONG RED CROSS BRADBURY TAI WO HAU CENTRE IN KWAI TSING, HE SAID BY TAKING PART IN COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES, YOUNGSTERS NOT ONLY MAKE MORE FRIENDS, BUT ALSO BUILD UP CONFIDENCE AND ENHANCE THEIR SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY.

MR LAM SAID HE WAS PLEASED TO NOTE THAT THERE WERE NOW MORE THAN 10,000 RED CROSS UNIFORMED MEMBERS FROM DIFFERENT WALKS OF LIFE, SCHOOLS AND YOUTH ORGANISATIONS.

"THEY CARRIED OUT 104 SERVICE PROJECTS LAST YEAR, BENEFITING MORE THAN 15,000 PEOPLE," HE SAID.

MR LAM ALSO COMMENDED THE VOLUNTEERS AND LEADERS OF THE RED CROSS FOR SACRIFICING THEIR LEISURE TIME AND PRAISED THE ORGANISATION FOR ITS MANY SOCIAL SERVICES.

- - - - 0 - - - -

#### YOUNG MUSICIANS TOUR AUSTRALIA

\* \* \* \* \*

FORTY MUSICIANS OF THE HONG KONG YOUTH SYMPHONIC BAND OF THE MUSIC OFFICE LEFT FOR AUSTRALIA LAST (FRIDAY) EVENING ON AN 11-DAY TOUR.

UNDER THE BATON OF ITS MUSIC DIRECTOR, MR FUNG WING-KIT, THE BAND WILL GIVE A SERIES OF PERFORMANCES IN BRISBANE AND SYDNEY.

"IT IS HOPED THAT THEIR PERFORMANCES WILL PROMOTE FRIENDSHIP AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE BETWEEN HONG KONG AND AUSTRALIA," MR FUNG SAID.

THE 35 MEMBERS OF THE YOUTH BAND WERE SELECTED FROM MORE THAN 60 CANDIDATES IN MARCH THIS YEAR BY THE MUSIC OFFICE.

SINCE THEN THEY HAVE BEEN RECEIVING INTENSIVE TRAINING AND HAVE JUST COMPLETED A TRAINING PROGRAMME IN THE 1993 HONG KONG YOUTH MUSIC CAMP.

/THEY HAVE .....

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, 1993

- 5 -

THEY HAVE ALSO GIVEN OVERSEAS PERFORMANCES IN JAPAN AND HAWAII IN RECENT YEARS.

THE TOUR DIRECTOR, MR SAMSON CHEUNG, SAID THE PURPOSE OF THE TOUR COULD ALSO PROVIDE MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG MUSICIANS TO BROADEN THEIR OUTLOOK AND EXPERIENCE.

"IT WILL GIVE THEM THE CHANCE TO ACT AS AMBASSADORS FOR HONG KONG AND EXCHANGE EXPERIENCE WITH PEOPLE FROM AUSTRALIA," HE SAID.

"ALL THE TOUR MEMBERS ARE VERY EXCITED AT THE PROSPECT OF THE TOUR," HE NOTED.

THE GROUP WILL RETURN TO HONG KONG ON AUGUST 16.

- - - - 0 - - - -

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND  
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

\* \* \* \* \*

	\$ MILLION
	-----
OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,920
REVERSAL OF LAF	+80
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	2,000
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	-400
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,600
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER	TWI 112.2 *+0.0* 7.8.93

- - - - 0 - - - -