



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 1992

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EXPERIENCED BRITISH GOVERNMENT GOOD FOR HK : GOVERNOR

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HAVING A BRITISH GOVERNMENT WHICH IS EXPERIENCED IN HONG KONG AFFAIRS MUST BE GOOD FOR HONG KONG, THE GOVERNOR, LORD WILSON SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER VISITING THE BIG BIRD RACE AT MAI PO, LORD WILSON SAID : "I THINK FOR HONG KONG CONTINUITY IS A VERY GOOD THING.

"WE HAVE NOW GOT THE CONTINUITY OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT. SO WE HAVE A TEAM WHO ARE EXPERIENCED IN HONG KONG AFFAIRS.

"I AM SURE THAT MUST BE GOOD FOR HONG KONG."

ASKED WHEN AN ANNOUNCEMENT WOULD BE MADE ABOUT HIS SUCCESSOR, THE GOVERNOR SAID : "I DO NOT THINK THERE CAN BE ANY PARTICULAR DATE.

"BUT NOW THAT THE ELECTIONS ARE OUT OF THE WAY, I HOPE THE PRIME MINISTER WILL GET ON WITH SELECTING AND DECIDING ON THE NEXT GOVERNOR AND THAT THERE WILL BE AN ANNOUNCEMENT WITHIN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS."

REPLYING TO A QUESTION ON WHAT RECOMMENDATIONS HE WOULD GIVE TO HIS SUCCESSOR, LORD WILSON SAID HE WOULD SAY TWO THINGS.

"FIRST OF ALL, HONG KONG IS A TREMENDOUS PLACE AND BEING GOVERNOR OF HONG KONG IS A TREMENDOUS JOB," HE SAID.

"SO I HOPE MY SUCCESSOR WILL ENJOY IT AND FEEL THAT HE IS DOING A REALLY WORTHWHILE JOB.

"SECONDLY, WHAT I'LL SAY IS THAT AT THE MOMENT THINGS ARE GOING WELL IN HONG KONG. THE ECONOMY IS DOING WELL. THE ECONOMY OF SOUTHERN CHINA IS DOING WELL.

"I BELIEVE PRESERVING THAT AND MAKING SURE HONG KONG REMAINS PROSPEROUS IS SOMETHING WHICH IS FUNDAMENTAL TO THE WHOLE QUESTION OF THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG."

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TRANSPORT COMPLAINTS TOTALLED 2,128 IN FOURTH QUARTER

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DURING THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1991, THE TRANSPORT COMPLAINTS UNIT (TCU) OF THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECEIVED A TOTAL OF 2,128 COMPLAINTS, A DROP OF 11 PER CENT COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS QUARTER.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TCU SAID TODAY (SATURDAY) THAT A SIGNIFICANT DROP IN THE NUMBER OF COMPLAINT CASES WAS RECORDED ON SOME FRONTS, INCLUDING THE ADEQUACY AND STANDARD OF FRANCHISED BUS SERVICES, FERRY SERVICES, TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT MEASURES AND ROAD MAINTENANCE.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID A TOTAL OF 166 COMPLAINTS ON THE INADEQUACY OF FRANCHISED BUS SERVICES WERE RECEIVED DURING THE PERIOD, REPRESENTING A DROP OF 26 CASES OR 14 PER CENT OVER THE PREVIOUS QUARTER.

ON THE STANDARD OF FRANCHISED BUS SERVICES, THE SPOKESMAN SAID A TOTAL OF 331 COMPLAINTS WERE RECEIVED, REPRESENTING A DECREASE OF FOUR PER CENT COMPARED WITH 343 IN THE PREVIOUS QUARTER.

THESE COMPLAINTS WERE INDIVIDUALLY TAKEN UP WITH THE BUS COMPANIES CONCERNED.

DURING THE PERIOD, THE NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE FERRY SERVICES ALSO DECREASED FROM 17 TO 14.

"THE MAIN COMPLAINT AREAS INCLUDED REGULARITY OF SERVICE, AND PASSENGER SERVICES AND FACILITIES," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID COMPLAINTS ABOUT TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT MEASURES ROSE FROM 178 CASES TO 183, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF THREE PER CENT.

THE MAJOR AREAS OF CONCERN INCLUDED PHASING OF TRAFFIC LIGHTS AND TRAFFIC LANE ARRANGEMENT, ADDITION OF TRAFFIC SIGNS AND AIDS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY.

THERE WERE 129 COMPLAINTS CONCERNING ROAD MAINTENANCE, THE SAME NUMBER AS IN THE PREVIOUS QUARTER. THE MAJOR COMPLAINTS WERE DEFECTIVE ROAD SURFACES, FAULTY TRAFFIC LIGHTS AND DAMAGED TRAFFIC SIGNS OR AIDS.

"TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT CASES STAND AT 422, A RISE OF 23 CASES OR SIX PER CENT COMPARED WITH FIGURES FOR THE PREVIOUS QUARTER.

"THESE ARE RELATED MAINLY TO ILLEGAL PARKING AND MOTORISTS FAILING TO COMPLY WITH TRAFFIC REGULATIONS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT DURING THE PERIOD, A 12 PER CENT DECREASE IN COMPLAINTS AGAINST TAXI SERVICES WERE RECORDED, DROPPING FROM 556 CASES TO 487 CASES.

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"OF THESE, 474 CASES OR 97 PER CENT ARE ABOUT TAXI DRIVER MALPRACTICES. TWO MAJOR AREAS OF COMPLAINTS ARE OVERCHARGING (130 CASES) AND REFUSING HIRE (141 CASES)," HE SAID.

THE NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS RELATED TO RAIL TRANSPORT SERVICES ALSO DROPPED FROM 34 CASES IN THE PREVIOUS QUARTER TO 24 CASES THIS QUARTER.

IN ADDITION, THE SPOKESMAN SAID COMPLAINTS ABOUT ROAD CONGESTION DECREASED FROM 275 CASES TO 154 CASES, 40 ON HONG KONG ISLAND, 57 IN KOWLOON, 54 IN THE NEW TERRITORIES AND THREE IN TUNNELS AND OTHER AREAS.

FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO ROAD CONGESTION INCLUDED TRAFFIC LIGHT PHASING, VEHICLE OBSTRUCTION, ROAD WORKS, ETC, HE SAID.

THE OVERALL DECREASE IN TRAFFIC COMPLAINTS IN THIS QUARTER WAS PARTLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO MANY RESIDENTS TRAVELLING OUTSIDE HONG KONG DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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TSB RECOMMENDS HK/U.S. TO RESUME TALKS ON KNIT TIGHTS

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AFTER CONSIDERATION OF HONG KONG'S REQUEST FOR REVIEW CONCERNING A NEW U.S. CLASSIFICATION GUIDELINE ON KNIT TIGHTS, THE TEXTILES SURVEILLANCE BODY (TSB) RECOMMENDED IN GENEVA YESTERDAY (FRIDAY) THAT THE TWO PARTIES SHOULD HOLD FURTHER BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS TO RESOLVE THE DISPUTE.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRADE, MR ROBERT FOOTMAN, WHO LED FOR HONG KONG IN THE TSB REVIEW, SAID THE TSB AGREED WITH HONG KONG'S VIEW THAT THE NEW U.S. CLASSIFICATION GUIDELINE HAD RESULTED IN A CHANGE OF PRACTICE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HONG KONG/U.S. TEXTILES AGREEMENT.

"THE TSB HEARD REPRESENTATIONS FROM HONG KONG AND THE U.S. THEY RECOMMENDED THAT WE SHOULD RENEW OUR CONSULTATIONS PROMPTLY, IN ORDER TO REACH AS SOON AS POSSIBLE A DEFINITIVE AND MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY SETTLEMENT," MR FOOTMAN SAID.

"THIS RULING IS HELPFUL TO US, AS IT MAKES CLEAR THAT A CHANGE IN PRACTICE HAS TAKEN PLACE. WE VERY MUCH HOPE THAT IT WILL FACILITATE AN EARLY AGREEMENT ON THIS MATTER. WE WILL CONTACT THE U.S. AUTHORITIES SHORTLY TO ESTABLISH A DATE FOR CONSULTATIONS TO BE RESUMED," HE ADDED.

"WE WILL CONTINUE TO DO ALL WE CAN TO SECURE AN AGREEMENT WHICH DOES NOT COMPROMISE THE IMPORTANT PRINCIPLES WHICH ARE AT STAKE," MR FOOTMAN SAID.

THE TSB HAD ASKED BOTH PARTIES TO REPORT ON PROGRESS BY MAY 18.

UNDER THE HONG KONG/U.S. TEXTILES AGREEMENT, KNIT TIGHTS ARE EXPORTED TO THE U.S. UNDER EXPORT AUTHORISATION CATEGORIES, WHILE TROUSERS ARE SUBJECT TO SPECIFIC QUOTA CATEGORIES.

THE NEW GUIDELINE, IMPLEMENTED ON JANUARY 1 THIS YEAR, RECATEGORYSES CERTAIN KNIT TIGHTS AS TROUSERS. TROUSERS QUOTA IS FULLY UTILISED AND CANNOT FURTHER ACCOMMODATE EXPORTS OF KNIT TIGHTS.

HONG KONG'S EXPORTS OF KNIT TIGHTS TO THE U.S. HAVE BEEN SERIOUSLY DISRUPTED.

DESPITE THREE ROUNDS OF BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS, NO MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY SOLUTION COULD BE REACHED TO RESOLVE THE ISSUE.

THE HONG' KONG GOVERNMENT, AFTER CONSULTATIONS WITH THE TEXTILES ADVISORY BOARD (TEXTAB) AND THE TRADE, FORMALLY SUBMITTED THE REVIEW REQUEST TO TSB ON MARCH 25.

ABOUT \$390 MILLION WORTH OF KNIT TIGHTS WERE EXPORTED FROM HONG KONG TO THE U.S. LAST YEAR.

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CARNIVAL TO PROMOTE ORGAN DONATION

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A CARNIVAL THAT FORMS PART OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE RECENTLY LAUNCHED ORGAN DONATION CAMPAIGN WAS HELD THIS (SATURDAY) AFTERNOON AT NEW TOWN PLAZA IN SHA TIN.

THE EVENT MARKED THE BEGINNING OF A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT THE TERRITORY-WIDE CAMPAIGN ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.

THE CAMPAIGN IS CO-ORGANISED BY POK OI HOSPITAL, TELEVISION BROADCASTS LIMITED AND THE RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG AND SUPPORTED BY THE HONG KONG SOCIETY OF NEPHROLOGY LIMITED AND THE HONG KONG KIDNEY FOUNDATION.

ADDRESSING THE OPENING CEREMONY, THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH, DR S.H. LEE, SAID THERE WERE THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE IN HONG KONG SUFFERING FROM SERIOUS IMPAIRMENT OF THEIR EYES, KIDNEYS OR LIVERS AND COULD NOT LIVE A NORMAL LIFE.

"TO THESE PEOPLE, THE ONLY HOPE IS TO HAVE THE DEFECTIVE ORGANS REPLACED," DR LEE SAID.

HE HOPED THAT HONG KONG PEOPLE WHO HAD A PROUD RECORD OF CARING FOR THE LESS FORTUNATE WOULD CONTINUE DEMONSTRATING THEIR CARING ATTITUDE.

HE STRESSED THAT THE SIGNING OF THE ORGAN DONATION CARDS ONLY INDICATES ONE'S WISH TO DONATE HIS OR HER ORGAN AFTER DEATH AND NOT BEFORE.

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ALSO, THE VIEW OF THE DONOR'S RELATIVES WILL BE RESPECTED. IN OTHER WORDS, THE ORGANS PLEDGED WILL NOT BE REMOVED IF OBJECTION IS RAISED.

SPEAKING ON THE SAME OCCASION, A LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, DR LEONG CHE-HUNG, PRAISED THE GOVERNMENT FOR ITS ACTIVE APPROACH TO THE ISSUE -- TO PROHIBIT COMMERCIAL TRADING IN HUMAN ORGANS FOR TRANSPLANT PURPOSES THROUGH LEGISLATIVE MEANS AND TO ORGANISE THE CURRENT MAJOR PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN ON ORGAN DONATION.

DR LEONG APPEALED TO THE PUBLIC FOR THEIR SUPPORT TO THE CAMPAIGN.

THE CARNIVAL WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A SERIES OF PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING A LIVE BROADCAST OF A TELEVISION PROGRAMME, PHOTO DISPLAYS AND DISTRIBUTION OF ORGAN DONATION CARDS AT COMMERCIAL CENTRES, AN ORGAN DONATION CARD SIGNING CAMPAIGN AND COMPETITION AT PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES.

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COMMUNITY GROUPS HAVE CRUCIAL ROLE IN DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

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COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS HAVE BEEN PLAYING A CRUCIAL ROLE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION SCHEME, THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR PAUL WONG, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SHUN TAK FRATERNAL ASSOCIATION, MR WONG SAID THE SCHEME WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN A SUCCESS WITHOUT CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THESE ORGANISATIONS.

MR WONG SAID THESE ASSOCIATIONS HAD CONTRIBUTED TREMENDOUSLY IN COMMUNITY BUILDING.

CITING THE SHUN TAK FRATERNAL ASSOCIATION AS AN EXAMPLE, MR WONG SAID IT HAD GRADUALLY DEVELOPED INTO A BENEVOLENT ORGANISATION SINCE ITS FORMATION OVER 40 YEARS AGO.

"THE ASSOCIATION HAS ALL ALONG BEEN PROMOTING THE SPIRIT OF MUTUAL CO-OPERATION IN THE SOCIETY.

"APART FROM PROVIDING EDUCATIONAL SERVICES, THE ASSOCIATION HAS ALSO DEVOTED ITS EFFORTS AND RESOURCES TO THE TERRITORY'S SOCIAL SERVICES," HE ADDED.

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SALT WATER SUPPLY SUSPENSION

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SALT WATER SUPPLY TO ALL PREMISES IN KOWLOON EAST WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 9 AM TO 5 PM ON MONDAY (APRIL 13) AND TUESDAY (APRIL 14) TO FACILITATE MAINTENANCE WORK ON WATERMAINS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AND KOWLOON HOSPITAL AS WELL AS ALL PREMISES IN HUNG HOM, TO KWA WAN, TUNG TAU, WONG TAI SIN, LOK FU, JORDAN VALLEY, WANG TAU HOM, FU SHAN, CHUK YUEN, KOWLOON TONG, FUNG WONG SUN CHUEN, TSZ WAN SHAN, DIAMOND HILL, NGAU CHI WAN, KOWLOON CITY, MA TAU WAI AND MA TAU KOK.

MEANWHILE, SALT WATER SUPPLY TO ALL PREMISES IN TUEN MUN WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 10 AM TO 6 PM ON MONDAY (APRIL 13) TO FACILITATE MAINTENANCE WORK ON WATERMAINS.

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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	10.4.92	1,200 *
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	11.4.92	NEUTRAL
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		NEUTRAL

* INCLUDES O/N ASSISTANCE OF 500 MN
TO BE REVERSED ON 13.4.92

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