



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1993

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1993

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GOVERNOR ON ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS

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THE FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TRANSCRIPT OF THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, SPEAKING TO THE PRESS AFTER INSPECTING THE ST JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE ANNUAL PARADE AT THE SOUTH CHINA ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION STADIUM:

GOVERNOR: GOOD MORNING.

QUESTION: COULD YOU TELL US YOUR REACTION TO THE EVENT TO DATE?

GOVERNOR: WE HAD, ALAS, ANOTHER SAD AND DISAPPOINTING ROUND, THE 17TH IN THE TALKS THAT WE'VE BEEN HAVING ABOUT MATTERS WHICH, SHOULD I THINK, BE PRETTY STRAIGHT-FORWARD AND 17 ROUNDS OF TALKS WHICH WE WENT INTO IN GOOD FAITH. THROUGHOUT THOSE TALKS THAT THEY'VE GONE ON FOR WEEKS AFTER WEEKS AND MONTHS AFTER MONTHS, WE'VE BEEN DOING ALL WE REASONABLY COULD TO TRY TO ACHIEVE A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME. WE OFFERED, AS YOU KNOW, DURING THE COURSE OF THE TALKS SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONAL CONCESSIONS BUT ALAS, THERE HASN'T BEEN MUCH SIGN OF MOVEMENT ON THE OTHER SIDE. CHRISTOPHER HUM AFTER THIS ROUND OF TALKS IS GOING BACK TO LONDON TO REPORT TO MINISTERS AND MICHAEL SZE AND BOB PEIRCE AND PETER LAI WILL BE COMING BACK TO HONG KONG TO REPORT TO ME AND TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL. WE'VE ONLY REALLY AGREED ONE ISSUE SO FAR AFTER 17 ROUNDS. WE HAVEN'T, ALAS, EVEN BEEN ABLE TO AGREE THE STRAIGHT-FORWARD THINGS ON WHICH, I THINK, THERE IS A LOT OF AGREEMENT IN THE COMMUNITY AND A LOT OF AGREEMENT IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL. SO, YOU CAN IMAGINE THE GAP ON THE BIG ISSUES IS STILL VERY CONSIDERABLE. I THINK THE COMMUNITY HAS BEEN VERY VERY PATIENT BUT I THINK THAT PATIENCE IS UNDERSTANDABLY WEARING A BIT THIN. SO, WE'LL BE CONSIDERING THE WAY FORWARD IN A CALM AND MEASURED WAY. WE'LL HAVE TO ENSURE THAT THINGS DEVELOP IN AN ORDERLY FASHION. I STILL HOPE THAT IT IS POSSIBLE TO PROCEED BY AGREEMENT. WE HAVE CERTAIN RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG AND WE'LL CARRY THEM OUT TO THE BEST OF OUR ABILITY.

QUESTION: DO YOU NOW TABLE THE LEGISLATION? IF SO, CAN YOU TELL US WHAT IS SUGGESTED THE PROCEDURE .... YOUR OWN AGENDA?

GOVERNOR: WHAT I NOW DO IS TALK TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND HEAR FROM MICHAEL SZE AND OTHERS ABOUT HOW THIS ROUND OF TALKS WENT. OBVIOUSLY, WE'LL BE TALKING TO MINISTERS IN LONDON AS WELL.

QUESTION: YOU'VE SAID FOR A YEAR THAT A UNIFIED LEGISLATION WASN'T A PIECE OF MEAL AND COULDN'T BE PIECEMEAL AND WE SHOULD HAVE IT ALL AT ONCE. HOW COULD YOU BRING FORWARD LEGISLATION NOW THAT IS BROKEN APART WITHOUT TRYING TO...?

GOVERNOR: WHAT I'VE ACTUALLY SAID AND SAID IT IN A NUMBER OF TIMES WITH YOU AND ME CROWDED OF THOSE WHO ASKED ME THE QUESTIONS IS THAT IT WASN'T A SOLUTION TO TRY TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN THE DISTRICT BOARDS AND MUNICIPAL COUNCILS ELECTIONS ON THE ONE HAND AND THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS ON THE OTHER BECAUSE, AS I THINK EVERYBODY KNOWS, THE REAL TASK OF PRESSURE ON US CONCERNS THE LEGISLATIVE TIMETABLE FOR THE LEGCO ELECTIONS. EVEN THOUGH IT'S THE DISTRICT BOARDS AND MUNICIPAL COUNCILS ELECTIONS WHICH COME FIRST, WE HAVEN'T, I REPEAT, BEEN GIVING DEADLINES BUT THE CALENDER ITSELF PRODUCES THEM AND PRODUCES THEM ELECTIVELY. IN A YEAR'S TIME, WE'LL ALREADY HAVE, AS I SAID TO YOU BEFORE, THE DISTRICT BOARD'S IS A COUPLE OF MONTHS BEHIND US AND WE WON'T BE VERY FAR AWAY FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS. SO, WE'LL PROCEED IN A SENSIBLE WAY AND I CAN PROMISE YOU WE WILL CONTINUE TO BE SENSIBLE AND MEASURED AND WE CERTAINLY WON'T BE MAKING THREATS ABOUT ANYTHING TO ANYONE.

/QUESTION: DO .....

QUESTION: DO YOU MEAN THAT YOU'RE TAKING ..... WALKING AWAY FROM THE NEGOTIATING TABLE ....?

GOVERNOR: WE ARE NOT WALKING AWAY FROM ANY NEGOTIATING TABLE. WHAT WE ARE DOING IS WALKING FIRMLY IN THE DIRECTION OF OUR RESPONSIBILITY AND THAT WE'LL CONTINUE TO DO. THANKS VERY MUCH.

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POST OFFICE TO SET UP CUSTOMER LIAISON GROUP

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A CUSTOMER LIAISON GROUP WILL BE SET UP THIS TUESDAY (NOVEMBER 30) TO PROMOTE BETTER UNDERSTANDING AND COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE POST OFFICE AND ITS SERVICE USERS.

COMPRISING 60 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, THE GROUP WILL BE DIVIDED INTO THREE REGIONAL SUB-GROUPS - HONG KONG ISLAND AND OUTLYING ISLANDS, KOWLOON AND NEW TERRITORIES.

EACH OF THEM WILL BE CHAIRED BY A SENIOR CONTROLLER OF POSTS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE POSTAL SERVICES OF THAT REGION.

THEY WILL MEET REGULARLY TO PROVIDE FEEDBACKS AND EXCHANGE VIEWS ON POSTAL SERVICES SO THAT THE POST OFFICE CAN RESPOND BETTER TO THE NEEDS OF CUSTOMERS.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

AN INAUGURATION CEREMONY AND A FAMILIARISATION VISIT TO THE GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING WILL BE ARRANGED FOR THE GROUP MEMBERS THIS TUESDAY (NOVEMBER 30).

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL, MR M PAGLIARI, WILL ATTEND THE CEREMONY.

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE VISIT AND THE CEREMONY. THEY SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT 5.30 PM ON TUESDAY ON THE FOURTH FLOOR OF THE GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, 2 CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL.

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INMATES MAKE LITTER CONTAINERS FOR URBAN COUNCIL

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CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAS RECENTLY OBTAINED AN ORDER FROM THE URBAN COUNCIL FOR MAKING 11,200 LITTER CONTAINERS AT A COST OF MORE THAN \$7.28 MILLION.

LAST YEAR THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES INDUSTRIES, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE URBAN COUNCIL, HAS DEVELOPED A NEW, ROUND-SHAPED, DARK BLUE-COLOURED FIBREGLASS LITTER CONTAINER.

THE NEW CONTAINER IS DIFFERENT FROM THE CONVENTIONAL ONE WHICH IS MADE OF METAL AND IS RECTANGULAR-SHAPED AND ORANGE-COLOURED.

SOME 2,000 OF THE NEW CONTAINERS WERE MANUFACTURED BY THE INDUSTRIES AND WERE PUT ON TRIAL IN VARIOUS URBAN AREAS EARLY THIS YEAR.

/AS A .....

AS A RESULT OF THE FAVOURABLE RESPONSE, THE URBAN COUNCIL DECIDED TO ADOPT THE NEW DESIGN AND WILL REPLACE ALL EXISTING ONES BY PHASES.

THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES INDUSTRIES OPERATES SOME 120 WORKSHOPS ENGAGING OVER 6,500 INMATES IN VARIOUS CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

IT HAS AN IMPORTANT DUAL ROLE OF KEEPING PRISONERS FULLY EMPLOYED AND SAVING TAXPAYERS' MONEY BY PRODUCING A WIDE RANGE OF GOODS AND SERVICES, INCLUDING GARMENT, LAUNDRY, OFFICE FURNITURE AND PRECAST CONCRETE.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION WILL ALSO ENABLE INMATES TO ACQUIRE THE HABIT OF DOING USEFUL WORK SO THAT THEY CAN GET JOBS AFTER THEIR RELEASE.

THE FIBREGLASS LITTER CONTAINERS WILL BE MADE BY PRISONERS AT MA PO PING PRISON AND IT IS HOPED THAT THE NEW CONTAINERS WILL GIVE A NEW LOOK TO THE CITY.

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ST JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE PROVIDES RESPECTED SERVICES

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THE ST JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE PLAYS AN IMPORTANT AND RESPECTED PART IN HELPING THE ELDERLY AND MANY LESS FORTUNATE YOUNG PEOPLE, IN ADDITION TO PROVIDING FIRST AID SERVICES.

THE TRIBUTE WAS PAID BY THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, TODAY (SUNDAY) AS HE WAS REVIEWING THE ANNUAL PARADE OF THE BRIGADE.

MR PATTEN SAID IT PROVIDED FIRST AID AND AMBULANCE SERVICES AT A VAST AND INCREASING RANGE OF PUBLIC FUNCTIONS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY.

LAST YEAR MEMBERS WERE ON DUTY FOR OVER 106,000 HOURS AND AMBULANCES ANSWERED OVER 3,000 CALLS FOR HELP.

THE GOVERNOR SAID THE BRIGADE WAS SEEKING WAYS TO EXPAND ITS WORK AND REACH OUT MORE INTO THE COMMUNITY.

"I AM FULLY CONFIDENT THAT YOU WILL CONTINUE TO SERVE HONG KONG WELL IN THE YEARS AHEAD," HE SAID.

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STUDENTS ATTEND MENTAL HEALTH TALKS

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STUDENTS FROM MORE THAN 100 SECONDARY SCHOOLS ATTENDED A SERIES OF TALKS ON MENTAL HEALTH AND STRESS MANAGEMENT GIVEN BY MEMBERS OF THE HONG KONG MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT EXTENDED APRECIATION TO THE ASSOCIATION FOR HELPING STUDENTS GET A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF HOW TO HANDLE STRESS.

/"THERE HAS .....

"THERE HAS BEEN INCREASING COMMUNITY AND MEDIA PARTICIPATION IN HELPING STUDENTS ADOPT A POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARDS LIFE," HE SAID.

ABOUT 120 DOCTORS OF DIFFERENT DISCIPLINES AND PSYCHIATRISTS HAVE TAKEN PART IN THE TALKS SINCE APRIL.

SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS HAVE ALSO EXPRESSED INTEREST. SO FAR ABOUT 180 SCHOOLS HAVE REQUESTED THESE VOLUNTEER PROFESSIONALS TO GIVE MORE TALKS WHILE A NUMBER OF SCHOOLS ARE SENDING IN APPLICATIONS.

"IT IS ENCOURAGING TO NOTE THAT THE SCHOOLS ARE ORGANISING FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS EXHIBITIONS, RELAXATION EXERCISES AND STUDENT-TEACHER DISCUSSIONS, AFTER THE SEMINARS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES FOR DECEMBER

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A TOTAL OF EIGHT ORGANISATIONS WERE GRANTED PERMISSION TO RAISE FUNDS NEXT MONTH, A SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

THE ORGANISATIONS WILL EITHER SELL FLAGS, TOKENS OR SIMILAR ITEMS, OR PLACE DONATION BOXES IN DESIGNATED PUBLIC AREAS.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC CAN TELEPHONE THE DEPARTMENT'S HOTLINE 343 2255 OR THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE ON 866 8123 IN CASE OF DOUBTS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE ALSO APPEALED TO ORGANISERS TO ADOPT PRECAUTIONS AGAINST ANY POSSIBLE FRAUD.

"SELLERS SHOULD DISPLAY THE PERMIT OR CARRY COPIES OF THE PERMIT FOR INSPECTION UPON REQUEST IF THE FUND-RAISING IS MOBILE," HE ADDED.

HE ADVISED THEM TO PREPARE GUIDELINES FOR SELLERS, SETTING OUT THE PLACES AND THE TIME FOR SELLING, AND THE COLLECTION POINTS FOR BAGS.

ORGANISERS SHOULD INFORM THE POLICE IN CASE OF LOSS OF PROPERTY, AND SEEK THEIR HELP WHEN FRAUDULENT ACTS, SUCH AS TAMPERING OF COLLECTION BAGS OR MAKING UNAUTHORISED SELLING, ARE FOUND.

DETAILS OF THE EVENTS ARE:

\* FOR FLAGS

| EVENT DATE        | ORGANISATION  |
|-------------------|---|
| 4.12              | HK OUTWARD BOUND SCHOOL   |
| 11.12             | SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF DISABLED CHILDREN (DUCHESS OF KENT CHILDREN HOSPITAL) |
| 18.12             | COMMUNITY CHEST OF HK   |
| 22.12 (WEDNESDAY) | HK PLAYGROUND ASSOCIATION   |

/\* FOR PUBLIC .....

## \* FOR PUBLIC SUBSCRIPTION

| EVENT DATE | PERMITTEE                      |
|------------|--------------------------------|
| 4.12       | LIFEWAY FOURSQUARE GOSPEL      |
| 11.12      | CHURCH                         |
| 18.12      |                                |
| 25.12      |                                |
| 4.12       | HONG KONG COMMITTEE FOR UNICEF |
| 5.12       |                                |
| 5.12       | HONG KONG CHURCH OF CHRIST     |
| 26.12      |                                |
| 5.12       | SOWERS ACTION                  |
| 19.12      |                                |

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## 65 NEW BUILDING PLANS APPROVED IN SEPTEMBER

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THE BUILDINGS DEPARTMENT APPROVED 65 NEW BUILDING PLANS IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR.

OF THESE, 22 ARE FOR HONG KONG, EIGHT FOR KOWLOON AND 35 FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE APPROVED PLANS INCLUDE 24 FOR APARTMENT AND APARTMENT/COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENTS, 12 FOR COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENTS AND 17 FOR FACTORY AND INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES.

IN THE MONTH, CONSENTS WERE GIVEN FOR WORK TO START ON 22 PROJECTS, WHICH INVOLVE 17,748 SQUARE METRES OF USABLE DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA AND 21,612 SQUARE METRES OF USABLE NON-DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA.

MEANWHILE, THE DECLARED COST OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED IN THE SAME MONTH TOTALLED ABOUT \$2,478 MILLION.

OF THE BUILDINGS CERTIFIED FOR OCCUPATION IN THE MONTH, USABLE FLOOR AREAS FOR DOMESTIC AND NON-DOMESTIC USE ARE 159,974 SQUARE METRES AND 118,792 SQUARE METRES RESPECTIVELY.

IN SEPTEMBER, THE DEPARTMENT ISSUED 33 OCCUPATION PERMITS - 14 FOR HONG KONG ISLAND, NINE FOR KOWLOON AND 10 FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES.

IN ADDITION, 25 DEMOLITION CONSENTS INVOLVING 62 BUILDINGS WERE ISSUED.

THE DEPARTMENT'S CONTROL AND ENFORCEMENT DIVISION RECEIVED 672 COMPLAINTS OF UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS, CARRIED OUT 1,797 INSPECTIONS AND ISSUED 1,538 REMOVAL ORDERS IN RESPECT OF UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS.

THE DANGEROUS BUILDINGS SECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT INSPECTED 947 BUILDINGS AND OBTAINED TWO EMERGENCY CLOSURE ORDERS.

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### RENT OFFICERS HANDLE OVER 10,000 ENQUIRIES

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THE RENT OFFICERS ON DUTY AT DISTRICT OFFICES HANDLED A TOTAL OF 10,476 PUBLIC ENQUIRIES IN THE FIRST THREE QUARTERS OF THIS YEAR.

A CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) THAT MOST OF THE ENQUIRIES CONCERNED LEGAL PROCEEDINGS OF TENANCY DISPUTED, RECOVERY OR EVICTION OF PREMISES AND ARREARS OF RENT.

UNDER THE RENT OFFICER SCHEME, RENT OFFICERS FROM THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT ARE ON DUTY AT 15 DISTRICT OFFICES DURING OFFICE HOURS ON SPECIFIED DAYS OF THE WEEK.

THEY ALSO HANDLE CASES REFERRED BY STAFF OF THE 20 PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRES (PESCS) OF THE DISTRICT OFFICES ALL OVER THE TERRITORY.

THE 15 DISTRICT OFFICES ARE CENTRAL AND WESTERN, EASTERN, SOUTHERN AND WAN CHAI ON HONG KONG ISLAND; KOWLOON CITY, KWUN TONG, MONG KOK, SHAM SHUI PO, WONG TAI SIN AND YAU TSIM IN KOWLOON; AND KWAI TSING, SHA TIN, TSUEN WAN, TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THOSE WHO WISH TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE SERVICE MAY APPROACH ANY PESCS OR CALL THE CENTRAL TELEPHONE ENQUIRY CENTRE ON TEL 835 2500 DURING OFFICE HOURS.

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### 1,300 TUEN MUN RESIDENTS DONATE BLOOD

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ABOUT 1,300 TUEN MUN RESIDENTS RESPONDED TO THE BLOOD DONATION CALL DURING THE TUEN MUN FESTIVAL '93.

THE EXERCISE WAS AIMED AT ENCOURAGING RESIDENTS TO TAKE PART IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS AND TO STRENGTHEN THEIR SENSE OF BELONGING.

THE MONTH-LONG FESTIVAL ENDED TODAY (SUNDAY) WITH THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MISS CHRISTINE CHOW, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TUEN MUN FESTIVAL '93 ORGANISING COMMITTEE, MR LAU WONG-FAT, PRESENTING SOUVENIRS TO LOCAL GROUPS FOR CONTRIBUTING TO ITS SUCCESS.

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