



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SPEEDPOST FINDS MORE CLIENTS

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MORE PEOPLE ARE FINDING THE SPECIAL +SPEEDPOST+ SERVICE PROVIDED BY THE POST OFFICE A HANDY AND RELIABLE AID IN CONDUCTING BUSINESS WITH OVERSEAS PARTNERS.

LAST YEAR, MORE THAN 75 000 PACKAGES WERE POSTED THROUGH THE SERVICE. ABOUT 55 000 IN-COMING PACKAGES WERE DELIVERED TO BUSINESS HOUSES IN HONG KONG.

ITEMS SENT OR RECEIVED INCLUDED BUSINESS DOCUMENTS, COMPUTER DATA, MICROFILMS, SAMPLES, DRAWINGS, CHEQUES, AND SMALL CONSIGNMENTS OF MERCHANDISE.

TRANSMISSION OF THE PACKAGES WAS CAREFULLY PROGRAMMED TO ENSURE SAFE, SPEEDY AND RELIABLE DELIVERY TO THEIR DESTINATIONS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE POST OFFICE TODAY (SUNDAY) POINTED OUT THAT UNDER THE SERVICE, MOST OF THE NORMAL MAIL PROCESSING STEPS BOTH IN HONG KONG AND OVERSEAS WERE ELIMINATED.

+PACKAGES SENT BY SPEEDPOST ARE GIVEN TOP PRIORITY. AT THE OVERSEAS END, THEY ARE GIVEN THE SAME PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT ALL THE WAY TO THEIR RECEIVER.

+FOR EXAMPLE, ITEMS CAN BE DELIVERED ALMOST ANYWHERE IN THE UK AND USA IN LESS THAN 48 HOURS- THOSE SENT TO MACAU IN THE MORNING CAN BE RECEIVED IN THE AFTERNOON,+ HE SAID.

SPEEDPOST IS AVAILABLE, DEPENDING ON THE NATURE OF BUSINESS CONDUCTED, ON A CONTRACT BASIS OR +ON DEMAND+.

+THE CONTRACT SERVICE IS DESIGNED PRIMARILY FOR CUSTOMERS WHO REQUIRE TO SEND PACKAGES TO THE SAME ADDRESS REGULARLY OR ON A FIXED FREQUENCY,+ THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED.

+SENDERS HAVE TO SIGN A CONTRACT FOR AT LEAST THREE MONTHS, WITH A MINIMUM OF ONE REGULAR PRE-DETERMINED POSTING A MONTH.

+PACKAGES ARE COLLECTED AT SCHEDULED TIMES FROM THEIR OFFICE, DESPATCHED ON PRE-ARRANGED FLIGHTS, AND DELIVERED AT THE CONVENIENCE OF THE ADDRESSEES.

+TIMES OF COLLECTION AND DELIVERY OF PACKAGES ARE SPECIFIED IN THEIR AGREEMENT,+ HE ADDED.

THE +ON DEMAND+ SERVICE ON THE OTHER HAND MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF CASUAL USERS OF SPEEDPOST OR SUPPLEMENTS A CONTRACT SERVICE.

NOT ONLY COMMERCIAL FIRMS FIND +ON DEMAND+ SPEEDPOST CONVENIENT, INDUSTRIALISTS AND CONSUMERS TOO SOMETIMES FIND IT INDISPENSABLE. +THE SERVICE CAN BE USED TO FILL URGENT ORDERS AND OBTAIN SPARE PARTS FOR MACHINERY,+ THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT.

/AT PRESENT

AT PRESENT, SPEEDPOST REACHES NEARLY EVERY OF OUR TRADING CLIENTS IN THE WORLD AND CAN BE EXPANDED IF THERE IS SUFFICIENT DEMAND. PACKAGES CAN BE SENT TO OUR NEAR NEIGHBOUR MACAU, TO TAIWAN, SINGAPORE, SOUTH KOREA, JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA IN THE PACIFIC REGION, TO KUWAIT IN THE MIDDLE EAST, ONWARD TO BRITAIN, BELGIUM, FRANCE, SWITZERLAND AND THE NETHERLANDS IN EUROPE, AND TO THE UNITED STATES, BRAZIL AND SOUTH AFRICA.

ANYONE WHO WISHES TO HAVE FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE SERVICE SHOULD CONTACT THE POSTAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE ON 5-2671108.

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MORE AND BETTER RECREATION AND SPORT FACILITIES IN NT
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PROSPECTS WERE EXCELLENT FOR MORE AND BETTER RECREATION AND SPORTS FACILITIES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR AUGUSTINE CHUI KAM, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

ADDRESSING THE 5TH NEW TERRITORIES ATHLETIC MEETING AT WAN CHAI SPORTS GROUND, MR CHUI SAID, HOWEVER, THERE WAS NO ROOM FOR COMPLACENCY BECAUSE CURRENT NEEDS WERE ALREADY PRESSING AND WE MUST REALISTICALLY ENDEAVOUR TO MEET THE PRESENT SHORTFALL BY INTERIM MEASURES WHEREVER AND WHENEVER WE COULD.

+OUR EXPERIENCES HAVE SHOWN THAT, WITH AN IMAGINATIVE AND ENERGETIC APPROACH, IT IS POSSIBLE TO PROVIDE TEMPORARY FACILITIES QUICKLY AND INEXPENSIVELY TO MEET LOCAL NEEDS,+ HE SAID.

MR CHUI PAID TRIBUTE TO THE +GENEROUS DONATIONS+ FROM VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS AND PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS TOWARDS PROJECTS FOR RECREATION AND SPORT WHICH HE SAID CONSTITUTED IN TOTAL +AN IMPRESSIVE LIST+.

+I SHOULD ENCOURAGE COMMUNITY LEADERS TO CONTINUE TO PRESS ON WITH OUR POLICY AND OBJECTIVES - SOUND LONG TERM PLANNING WITH HIGH PRIORITY FOR RECREATION AND SPORT PLUS PRACTICAL, ENERGETIC SHORT TERM MEASURES TO MEET THE CURRENT SHORTFALL,+ HE SAID.

+THE MORE LOCAL INITIATIVES THAT CAN BE TAKEN IN THIS DIRECTION, THE BETTER.+

MR CHUI SAID GOVERNMENT HAD SET ASIDE ADEQUATE LAND FOR RECREATION AND SPORT IN THE DESIGNATION OF COUNTRY PARKS AND THE PLANNING OF OUTDOOR STADIA, GAMES HALLS AND RUNNING TRACKS FOR THE NEW TOWNS.

+PROJECTING FUTURE POPULATION GROWTH, WE AIM TO PROVIDE THREE INDOOR GAMES HALLS FOR TSUEN WAN, ONE FOR TAI PO AND ONE FOR THE NORTH DISTRICT, AS WELL AS STADIA WITH RUNNING TRACKS FOR TUEN MUN, TAI PO, SAI KUNG AND SHA TIN, IN ADDITION TO THE EXISTING FACILITIES AT KWAI CHUNG, TSUEN WAN AND YUEN LONG.

/+I MUST

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+ I MUST EMPHASISE THAT THESE MAJOR PROJECTS MUST NECESSARILY TAKE MANY YEARS TO MATERIALISE BECAUSE THE INFRASTRUCTURE TAKES A LONG TIME TO CONSTRUCT AND PROGRAMMES NEED TO BE PHASED,+ MR CHUI SAID.

THERE WAS ALSO THE FINANCIAL CONSTRAINT BECAUSE THEY MUST COMPETE FOR PUBLIC FUNDS ALONGSIDE OTHER COMMUNITY PROJECTS AND FACILITIES.

MR CHUI SAID PROGRESS IN THE FIELD OF RECREATION AND SPORT WAS A MANIFESTATION OF THE DYNAMISM OF COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND THE STRONG SUPPORT THE GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN GETTING FROM VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS IN EXTENDING AND EXPANDING SERVICES TO KEEP PACE WITH THE RAPID GROWTH IN POPULATION AND TO SATISFY THE GROWING NEEDS FOR RECREATION AND SPORT.

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LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE HELPS SETTLE CLAIMS
FROM WORKERS
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A TOTAL OF 17 067 HONG KONG WORKERS LAST YEAR RECEIVED \$14 MILLION FROM THEIR EMPLOYERS AFTER THEIR LABOUR-MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS WERE SETTLED THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

OF THIS SUM, \$2 985 503 OR ABOUT 21.4 PER CENT, WAS SEVERANCE PAYMENT MADE TO 1 389 EMPLOYEES RENDERED REDUNDANT BY OPERATIONAL OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES.

THE REMAINING \$10 955 477 WAS PAID AS ARREARS OF WAGES, WAGES IN LIEU OF NOTICE, STATUTORY HOLIDAY PAY, BONUSES AND OTHER PAYMENTS DUE TO 17 067 EMPLOYEES, INCLUDING 1 389 WHO RECEIVED SEVERANCE PAYMENT.

TRADE DISPUTES HANDLED BY THE SERVICE DURING THE YEAR TOTALLED 161 OF WHICH 128, OR MORE THAN 79.5 PER CENT, WERE SETTLED WITH THE HELP OF THE LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE.

THE SERVICE ALSO PROVIDED CONCILIATION FOR 10 995 CLAIMS IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE OR THE TERMS OF THE CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT- SETTLED 6 206, OR SOME 56.4 PER CENT OF THEM, AND REFERRED MOST OF THE REMAINDER TO THE LABOUR TRIBUNAL FOR JUDICIAL DECISION.

THE SERVICE ALSO INVESTIGATED 297 MAJOR COMPLAINTS ABOUT ALLEGED BREACHES OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE SUCH AS FAILURE TO PROVIDE REST DAYS, HOLIDAYS WITH PAY, ANNUAL LEAVE WITH PAY AND IMPROPER DEDUCTIONS OF WORKERS' WAGES.

DURING 1979 THERE WERE 46 WORK STOPPAGES IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR, RESULTING IN 39 743 WORKING DAYS LOST. THIS REPRESENTED AN AVERAGE OF 20.6 DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES.

COMMENTING ON THE AVERAGE FIGURE, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) THIS WAS CONSIDERED LOW BY INTERNATIONAL STANDARD AND WAS A POSITIVE INDICATOR OF GOOD LABOUR RELATIONS.

IN THE SAME YEAR, THE SERVICE HANDLED 124 916 ENQUIRIES AND CONSULTATIONS, COMPARED WITH 99 913 CASES IN 1978. MOST OF THESE CONCERNED THE PROVISIONS IN THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE, PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AND OTHER MATTERS CONCERNING LABOUR RELATIONS.

+THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF ENQUIRIES AND CONSULTATIONS REFLECTS THE GROWING IMPORTANCE NOW ATTACHED TO LABOUR RELATIONS AND EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS BY BOTH EMPLOYEES AND EMPLOYERS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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SCHOOLS DANCE FESTIVAL TO BEGIN NEXT TUESDAY
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A TOTAL OF 329 TEAMS WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE 16TH SCHOOLS DANCE FESTIVAL THIS YEAR COMPARED WITH 254 IN 1979.

THE TEAMS FROM MORE THAN 240 SCHOOLS WILL COMPETE FOR TOP HONOURS IN THE FESTIVAL TO BE HELD BETWEEN NEXT TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26 AND MARCH 14.

PARTICIPANTS WILL INCLUDE 11 TEAMS OF HANDICAPPED CHILDREN FROM NINE SPECIAL SCHOOLS, AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

THE OTHER PARTICIPANTS COMPRISE 75 TEAMS FOR THE LOWER PRIMARY SECTION= 92 TEAMS FOR THE UPPER PRIMARY SECTION= AND 151 FOR THE SECONDARY SECTION.

THE DANCE FESTIVAL IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, THE HONG KONG SCHOOLS SPORTS ASSOCIATION AND THE NEW TERRITORIES SCHOOLS SPORTS ASSOCIATION.

ITEMS IN THE FESTIVAL INCLUDE WESTERN FOLK OR NATIONAL DANCES, ORIENTAL DANCE AND CREATIVE DANCE.

SPECIAL AWARD CERTIFICATES WILL BE PRESENTED FOR THE BEST CHOREOGRAPHY IN EACH DANCE ITEM.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THE DANCE FESTIVAL TO BE HELD AT THREE CENTRES ON HONG KONG ISLAND, IN KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES. ADMISSION IS FREE.

ON HONG KONG ISLAND, THE FESTIVAL WILL BE HELD AT CLEMENTI MIDDLE SCHOOL IN FORTRESS HILL ROAD, NORTH POINT= IN KOWLOON THE VENUE IS HONG KONG SZE YAP COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION WONG TAI SHAN MEMORIAL COLLEGE, NAM CHEONG STREET= AND IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, TSUEN WAN GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL, 70 HOI PA STREET, TSUEN WAN.

PERFORMANCES WILL BE HELD IN THE NEW TERRITORIES CENTRE FROM FEBRUARY 26 TO 28= THE KOWLOON CENTRE FROM MARCH 3 TO 7= AND THE HONG KONG ISLAND CENTRE FROM MARCH 12 TO 14.

/WINNERS'

WINNERS' PERFORMANCES WILL BE HELD BETWEEN APRIL 30 AND MAY 6 IN THE CITY HALL CONCERT HALL.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND YOUR REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE VARIOUS EVENTS IN THE 16TH SCHOOLS' DANCE FESTIVAL.

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1 500 CHILDREN ENJOY LUNAR NEW YEAR PARTY
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THE LUNAR NEW YEAR FESTIVITIES REACHED A CLIMAX FOR ABOUT 1 500 CHILDREN TODAY (SUNDAY) WHEN THEY WERE TREATED TO A DAY OF FUN AND GAMES BY THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

THE ANNUAL FUN FAIR, ORGANISED FOR CHILDREN OF THE WATERWORKS STAFF, WAS HELD AT THE KOWLOON WAH YAN COLLEGE.

THE DAY'S EVENTS INCLUDED SONGS AND DANCES, A MAGIC SHOW, BAND DRILLS AND GAMES STALLS. IN ADDITION, THE CHILDREN WERE ABLE TO SEE +LIVE PERFORMANCES+ BY POPULAR RTV AND RTHK ARTISTES.

THE +CANNON BALL EXPRESS+ WHICH TOOK CHILDREN ON TOURS ROUND THE FAIR PROVED TO BE VERY POPULAR.

SIXTEEN GAMES STALLS WERE ORGANISED BY VARIOUS DIVISIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT AND TROPHIES WERE AWARDED TO THE BEST ONES BY MR T.H. TOMLINSON, ACTING DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES.

ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS WAS A RAFFLE DRAW. THE WINNING NUMBERS WERE DRAWN BY MRS TOMLINSON, WIFE OF THE DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES= MRS WONG KWOK-LAI, WIFE OF THE GOVERNMENT WATER ENGINEER (SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION) AND MRS LAU TO-HIN, WIFE OF THE GOVERNMENT WATER ENGINEER (DESIGN AND PLANNING).

MR TOMLINSON ALSO PRESENTED GOLD MEDALS TO TWO STAFF MEMBERS IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE LAST YEAR.

THEY WERE MR CHAN CHI-KWAN AND MR KO TUNG, BOTH FROM THE MECHANICAL DIVISION.

MR CHAN HAS BEEN WITH THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT FOR MORE THAN 10 YEARS AND HAS BEEN ENGAGED IN THE MAINTENANCE OF DIESEL ENGINES AND PUMPS IN KOWLOON.

+HE POSSESSES THE SKILLS OF A FIRST-RATE CRAFTSMAN AND IS COMPETENT IN SUPERVISORY WORK,+ MR TOMLINSON SAID.

+HE ACCEPTS RESPONSIBILITY READILY AND EXERCISES HIS INITIATIVE TO EXTEND HIS JOB, AS DEMONSTRATED BY HIS DESIGNING OF SPECIAL TOOLS AND FIXTURES, TO FACILITATE MAINTENANCE WORK FROM TIME TO TIME.

/+HE RESPONDS

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+HE RESPONDS ENTHUSIASTICALLY TO THE NEEDS OF HIS SECTION. HE AND HIS GANG FREQUENTLY DELAY THEIR LUNCH-BREAKS TO COMPLETE AN ITEM OF WORK WHICH THEY CONSIDER TO HAVE PRIORITY OVER TAKING A BREAK.+

MR KO HAS BEEN WITH THE DEPARTMENT FOR 33 YEARS AND HAS BEEN A VALVE REPAIRER SINCE 1952.

+MR KO'S EXPERIENCE AND EXPERTISE IN THE REPAIR OF VALVES ARE RECOGNISED THROUGHOUT THE MECHANICAL DIVISION TO BE THE BEST,+ SAID MR TOMLINSON.

+HIS DEVOTION TO DUTY AND ENTHUSIASM IN PRODUCING FIRST CLASS WORKMANSHIP HAVE MADE HIM A FIGURE OF ADMIRATION AMONG HIS COLLEAGUES.+

THE PRESENTATION OF THE MEDALS, KNOWN AS THE KIRKWOOD AWARDS, WAS STARTED IN 1967 WITH DONATIONS FROM TEXTILE AND ENGINEERING FIRMS IN MEMORY OF THE LATE MR W.K. KIRKWOOD, A FORMER WATERWORKS ENGINEER.

THESE AWARDS ARE GIVEN ANNUALLY TO STAFF OF THE RANK OF WORKS SUPERVISOR AND BELOW WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES BY THEIR GENERAL CAPABILITIES AND ATTENTION TO DUTIES, OR BY THEIR NOTEWORTHY CONDUCT, OR PERFORMANCE OF DUTY IN A PARTICULAR INSTANCE.

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SALT WATER CUT
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SALT WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF DISTRICTS IN KOWLOON WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 9.30 AM ON TUESDAY (FEBRUARY 26) TO 1 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY TO FACILITATE PUMP REPAIR WORKS.

THE DISTRICTS TO BE AFFECTED ARE HUNG HOM, TO KWA WAN, KOWLOON TONG, KOWLOON CITY AND WONG TAI SIN INCLUDING WANG TAU HOM ESTATE, LOK FU ESTATE, TUNG TAU ESTATE AND WONG TAI SIN ESTATE.

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