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# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
INSPECTION CAMPAIGN TO ENHANCE FIRE AND CHEMICAL SAFETY .....	1
NEW FEES FOR MARINE FISH CULTURE LICENCES .....	2
TREATED DRUG ABUSERS ARE USEFUL MEMBERS OF SOCIETY .....	2
CORRECTIONAL SERVICES SCOUTS TO STAGE "BEATING RETREAT" .....	3
DSW TO ATTEND INTERNATIONAL WELFARE CONFERENCE .....	4
SALT WATER CUT IN SHA TIN .....	4

INSPECTION CAMPAIGN TO ENHANCE FIRE AND CHEMICAL SAFETY

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT WILL LAUNCH AN EXTENSIVE FIRE AND CHEMICAL SAFETY CAMPAIGN ON FACTORIES AND CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS TOMORROW (MONDAY) AS PART OF ITS CONTINUED EFFORTS TO IMPROVE WORKPLACE SAFETY THROUGH STRINGENT ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS.

"ALTHOUGH THE ACCIDENT FIGURES FOR THE TWO INDUSTRIES HAVE BEEN ON THE DECLINE FOR THE PAST FEW YEARS, THE FACTORY INSPECTORATE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT IS ALWAYS COMMITTED TO BRINGING DOWN FURTHER THE NUMBER OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS INVOLVING FIRE AND CHEMICALS," DEPUTY CHIEF FACTORY INSPECTOR MR KAN HON-SANG SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

"PROPRIETORS OF FACTORIES AND CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS SHOULD ALSO MAINTAIN THEIR VIGILANCE, ESPECIALLY DURING THE COMING DRY SEASON, AS THERE WERE STILL TWO FATAL ACCIDENTS IN CONNECTION WITH FIRE IN 1993."

THE SPECIAL INSPECTION CAMPAIGN, WHICH WILL LAST TWO MONTHS, WILL TARGET ON FACTORIES AND CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS INVOLVING LARGE QUANTITIES OF FLAMMABLE SUBSTANCES AND DANGEROUS CHEMICALS, AND THOSE WITH POOR PERFORMANCE RECORDS UNDER THE FIRE AND CHEMICAL SAFETY REGULATIONS.

"DURING THE CAMPAIGN, FACTORY INSPECTORS WILL MAKE SURPRISE INSPECTIONS TO THESE INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS AND PROSECUTIONS WILL BE TAKEN, WITHOUT PRIOR WARNING, AGAINST PROPRIETORS OR WORKERS WHO BREACH THE SAFETY AND HEALTH PROVISIONS," HE SAID.

MR KAN POINTED OUT THAT UNDER THE FIRE AND CHEMICAL SAFETY PROVISIONS OF THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS ORDINANCE AND ITS SUBSIDIARY REGULATIONS, PROPRIETORS OF INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS ARE REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN MEANS OF ESCAPES SUCH AS DOORWAYS, PASSAGEWAYS AND STAIRCASES IN GOOD CONDITION AND FREE FROM OBSTRUCTION.

"EXIT DOORS SHOULD BE CONSTRUCTED TO OPEN OUTWARD AND MAINTAINED UNLOCKED OR UNFASTENED AT ALL TIMES TO FACILITATE SPEEDY ESCAPE OF WORKERS IN CASE OF FIRE," HE SAID.

"IN PLACES WHERE SMOKING IS PROHIBITED, PROPRIETORS ARE REQUIRED TO DISPLAY PROHIBITION NOTICES CONSPICUOUSLY AND ENSURE THAT NO PERSON SMOKES IN THE AREA," HE ADDED.

WITH REGARD TO THE HANDLING OF DANGEROUS CHEMICALS, MR KAN SAID CONTAINERS OF THESE SUBSTANCES SHOULD BE PROPERLY LABELLED TO INDICATE ANY RISK INHERENT IN THE SUBSTANCES AND THE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS REQUIRED IN RESPECT OF THE SUBSTANCES.

HE REMINDED PROPRIETORS THAT CONTRAVENING THE PROVISIONS UNDER THE FIRE AND CHEMICAL SAFETY REGULATIONS WOULD RENDER THEM LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$200,000 AND SIX MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT WHILE AN EMPLOYEE WOULD BE LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$10,000.

IN THE INTEREST OF THEIR OWN SAFETY AND HEALTH, MR KAN CALLED ON ALL EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES TO COMPLY WITH THE LAW AND WORK TOGETHER TO KEEP THE WORKPLACE SAFE.

## NEW FEES FOR MARINE FISH CULTURE LICENCES

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THE REVISED FEES FOR APPLYING OR RENEWING MARINE FISH CULTURE LICENCES WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE ON THURSDAY (OCTOBER 20), THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT (AFD) ANNOUNCED TODAY (SUNDAY).

AN AFD SPOKESMAN SAID THE NEW FEES, AT \$7.40 PER SQUARE METRE OF MARINE FISH CULTURE ZONE, WERE ADJUSTED TO RECOVER THE ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS OF LICENSING.

"THE LAST REVISION OF THE LICENSING OR RENEWAL FEES WAS MADE IN 1989," THE SPOKESMAN SAID, ADDING THAT THE NEW FEES WOULD ONLY REPRESENT LESS THAN ONE PER CENT OF THE OPERATING EXPENSES OF A TYPICAL FISH FARM.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE CALCULATION OF THE NEW FEES HAD BEEN BASED ON A NEW AND FAIRER METHOD WHICH WAS WELCOMED BY PEOPLE IN THE TRADE.

THE MARINE FISH CULTURE (AMENDMENT) REGULATION 1994, WHICH SETS OUT THE REVISED FEES, WAS PUBLISHED AT THE GAZETTE IN JUNE.

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## TREATED DRUG ABUSERS ARE USEFUL MEMBERS OF SOCIETY

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DRUG ABUSERS UNDERGOING TREATMENT ARE USEFUL MEMBERS OF SOCIETY, THE COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR ALASDAIR SINCLAIR, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT ANTI-DRUG CONCERT CUM PRIZE-PRESENTATION CEREMONY HELD AT THE TSUEN WAN PLAZA.

"PEOPLE WHO GET TRAPPED INTO DEPENDENCY ON DRUGS NEED HELP. THEY ARE VICTIMS OF THE DRUG DEALERS AND THEY NEED SUPPORT.

"WITH YOUR ASSISTANCE THEY CAN BE REHABILITATED," MR SINCLAIR ADDED.

HOWEVER, THE GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT TOLERATE TRAFFICKING IN ILLICIT DRUGS AND WAS DETERMINED TO FIGHT AGAINST IT.

FIRM ACTION WAS NEEDED TO STAMP OUT THEIR ACTIVITIES. THE POLICE AND THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT WORKED HARD TO CUT DOWN THE SUPPLY, HE SAID.

"DRUG PUSHERS EXPLOIT HUMAN WEAKNESS. THEY MAKE MONEY BY DESTROYING PEOPLE'S LIVES," HE REMARKED.

"YOUNGSTERS LACK INSIGHT AND MATURITY, THEY MAY HAVE DIFFICULTY IN DISTINGUISHING BAD PEERS FROM GOOD ONES.

"THEY NEED TO DEVELOP CONFIDENCE, SELF-ESTEEM AND THE SKILLS TO RESIST OFFERS OF DRUGS," HE SAID.

"PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE.

"BE SMART, SAY NO TO DRUGS," THE COMMISSIONER REPEATED THE CURRENT ANTI-DRUG CAMPAIGN MESSAGE.

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CORRECTIONAL SERVICES SCOUTS TO STAGE "BEATING RETREAT"

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A GROUP OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT SCOUTS WILL DEMONSTRATE THEIR MUSIC TALENT AND MAGNIFICENT MARCHING DISPLAY IN TWO "BEATING RETREAT" SHOWS TO BE STAGED ON WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY (OCTOBER 19 AND 20) NIGHTS AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM.

THE EVENT, JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND THE HONG KONG ISLAND 221ST GROUP, IS A FUND-RAISING ACTIVITY FOR A VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION, THE YOUTH OUTREACH.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) THAT SCOUTING ACTIVITIES FORMED AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE REHABILITATION PROGRAMME FOR TRAINING CENTRE INMATES.

"THROUGH SCOUTING ACTIVITIES, INMATES CAN DEVELOP THEIR POTENTIALS AND CULTIVATE SELF-CONFIDENCE, AND APPRECIATE THE MEANING OF DISCIPLINE AND SPIRIT OF TEAMWORK," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"PUBLIC RESPONSE TO THE 'BEATING RETREAT' SHOWS HAS BEEN ENCOURAGING, FOR MOST OF THE TICKETS HAVE BEEN SOLD OUT," HE ADDED.

THE MAIN PERFORMERS AT THE "BEATING RETREAT" ARE MEMBERS OF THE 221ST HONG KONG ISLAND SCOUT GROUP, WHICH WAS SET UP BY THE DEPARTMENT IN 1986. SINCE THEN, THE GRAND MUSICAL EVENT WAS HELD EVERY TWO YEARS TO PROMOTE THE IMAGE OF THE DEPARTMENT AND PROVIDE A GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR THE SCOUT MEMBERS TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY.

THE "BEATING RETREAT" PERFORMANCE WOULD ALSO INVITE THE 141ST HONG KONG RANGER GUIDES UNIT, A GIRL GUIDE GROUP ESTABLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN 1987, AS GUEST PERFORMERS. THEY WILL PERFORM BAND DISPLAY AND THE "PAVANE" FOLK DANCE.

CORRECTIONAL SERVICES SCOUTS HAVE TAKEN PART IN VARIOUS SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES, INCLUDING CLEANING WORK IN COUNTRY PARKS, GRASS CUTTING AND MAINTENANCE WORK ON CAMP SITES, AND SERVICES FOR THE AGED.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

A PREVIEW OF THE "BEATING RETREAT" PERFORMANCE SPECIALLY ARRANGED FOR THE MEDIA WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY (OCTOBER 18) AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM, OI KWAN ROAD, WAN CHAI, BEGINNING AT 3.40 PM.

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO ATTEND THE PREVIEW AND TAKE PICTURES OF THE PERFORMANCE.

THE DEPARTMENT'S SENIOR SUPERINTENDENT (YOUNG OFFENDERS), MR CHOW TAK-WAH, THE PRESIDENT AND CHAIRMAN OF THE 221ST HONG KONG ISLAND SCOUT GROUP, MR STEVE LAU AND MR HERMAN HUI, WILL BE PRESENT TO BRIEF MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ON SCOUTING ACTIVITIES ORGANISED FOR TRAINING CENTRE INMATES.

MEMBERS OF THE SCOUT GROUP WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE FOR MEDIA INTERVIEWS ON THEIR PREPARATIONS FOR THE EVENT.

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1994

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DSW TO ATTEND INTERNATIONAL WELFARE CONFERENCE

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THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR IAN STRACHAN, WILL LEAVE FOR MANILA THIS (SUNDAY) EVENING TO ATTEND THE FIFTH ASIAN AND PACIFIC MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE IN PREPARATION FOR THE WORLD SUMMIT FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT.

ORGANISED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (ESCAP), THE CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD BETWEEN OCTOBER 12 AND 18.

MR STRACHAN WILL ADDRESS THE CONFERENCE ON OVERALL SOCIAL SERVICES DEVELOPMENT IN HONG KONG SINCE 1991 AND ITS STRATEGY TOWARDS THE YEAR 2,000 AND BEYOND.

"THE CONFERENCE PROVIDES A GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR DELEGATES IN THE ESCAP REGION TO EXCHANGE VIEWS AND TO SHARE EXPERIENCE ON STRATEGIC PLANNING OF SOCIAL SERVICES IN THEIR OWN PLACES.

"IT ALSO INTENDS TO REVIEW THE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT SITUATION IN THE REGION AND TO LOOK AT THE QUALITY OF LIFE FROM DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES SUCH AS HEALTH, EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND ENVIRONMENT," HE SAID.

ALSO REPRESENTING HONG KONG AT THE CONFERENCE IS THE REGIONAL OFFICER (WEST KOWLOON) OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, MRS PUN LEE WAI-CHUN, WHO WILL DELIVER A TALK ON THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY IN HONG KONG.

SENIOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR LUCAS CHAN, WILL ALSO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE.

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SALT WATER CUT IN SHA TIN

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SALT WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN SHA TIN WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 8 AM TO 8 PM ON TUESDAY (OCTOBER 18) TO FACILITATE MAINTENANCE WORK.

THE AFFECTED AREAS INCLUDE BELAIR GRDENS, CITY ONE SHATIN, YUE TIN COURT, PRINCE OF WALES HOSPITAL, CHAP WAI KON STREET, YUEN SHUN CIRCUIT, KWONG YUEN ESTATE, KWONG LAM COURT, HONG LAM COURT, TREASURE FLOATING RESTAURANT, ON KING STREET, ON MUK STREET, ON LAI STREET, ON YIU STREET, ON PING STREET, ON SUM STREET, ON KWAN STREET, ON MING STREET AND THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING OF THE TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL.

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