



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 1993

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TALK IN CONSTRUCTIVE SPIRIT: GOVERNOR

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THE BRITISH TEAM WOULD CERTAINLY ENTER THE TALKS IN A CONSTRUCTIVE SPIRIT AND A POSITIVE FRAME OF MIND, THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AT THE AIRPORT ON HIS RETURN FROM LONDON, THE GOVERNOR SAID : "SIR ROBIN MCLAREN, OUR AMBASSADOR IN PEKING, WILL BE VISITING HONG KONG NEXT WEEK BEFORE THE TALKS BEGIN TO DISCUSS WITH US THE WAY WE INTEND TO HANDLE THE FIRST ROUND OF TALKS AND I HOPE THAT WILL CLEAR THE GROUND FOR SUCCESS LATER ON IN THE TALKS."

ASKED ABOUT COMMENTS BY MR DOUGLAS HURD ON THE "THROUGH TRAIN" CONCEPT, THE GOVERNOR SAID : "IF THERE IS TO BE A THROUGH TRAIN WHICH CHINESE OFFICIALS SAY THAT THEY ARE KEEN ON AND WHICH WE ARE KEEN ON , THEN, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT PEOPLE SHOULD DEFINE WHAT SORT OF VEHICLE THAT IS GOING TO BE AND WHO IS GOING TO TRAVEL ON IT."

"I THINK THERE IS WIDE SCEPTICISM ABOUT THE CONCEPT OF A THROUGH TRAIN WHICH IS RESTRICTIVE ABOUT THOSE WHO CAN ACTUALLY TRAVEL IN ITS CARRIAGES."

ON THE TIMING OF LEGISLATING THE ELECTION BILL, THE GOVERNOR SAID THAT WE HAD TO WEIGH IN THE BALANCE A NUMBER OF FACTORS.

"FIRST OF ALL, WE HAVE TO CONSIDER HOW WELL THE TALKS ARE GOING AND WHETHER THEY APPEAR TO BE PROCEEDING TOWARDS SATISFACTORY SOLUTION," HE SAID.

"SECONDLY, WE HAVE TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE FACT THAT WE NEED ARRANGEMENTS IN PLACE NOT LEAST FOR THE 1994 DISTRICT BOARD ELECTION IN TIME AND THAT WE NEED TO GIVE LEGISLATORS THE TIME TO DISCUSS MATTERS PROPERLY.

"THIRDLY, WE HAVE TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE FACT THAT I DON'T BELIEVE LEGISLATORS WOULD BE VERY HAPPY ABOUT US BOTH NEGOTIATING AND LEGISLATING ON THE SAME MATTER AT THE SAME TIME."

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CHANGEABLE WEATHER IN MARCH

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A ROYAL OBSERVATORY MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT SHOWED THAT MARCH WAS WARMER, CLOUDIER AND MORE HUMID THAN NORMAL.

THE WEATHER WAS TYPICALLY CHANGEABLE FOR SPRING, WITH SPELLS OF COOL WEATHER BROUGHT ABOUT BY LATE BURSTS OF WINTER MONSOON INTERSPERSED WITH WARM SUNNY PERIODS WITH SOUTHERLY WINDS, HUMID CONDITIONS WITH FOG AND PERIODS OF UNSETTLED WEATHER.

/THUNDERSTORMS OCCURRED

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THUNDERSTORMS OCCURRED FOR THE FIRST TIME THIS YEAR ON MARCH 16.

RAINFALL AMOUNT FOR THE MONTH WAS BELOW AVERAGE. THE MONTHLY TOTAL OF 49.0 MILLIMETERS WAS 27 PER CENT BELOW THE MARCH NORMAL OF 66.9 MILLIMETERS.

THE TOTAL RAINFALL SINCE JANUARY 1 OF 83.5 MILLIMETERS WAS 40 PER CENT BELOW THE NORMAL OF 138.3 MILLIMETERS FOR THE PERIOD.

UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF THE NORTHEAST MONSOON, THE WEATHER WAS CLOUDY AND RELATIVELY COOL IN THE EARLY DAYS OF MARCH.

A WEAK REPLENISHMENT OF THE NORTHEAST MONSOON ON MARCH 3 BROUGHT MIST PATCHES IN THE EVENING AND LIGHT RAIN THAT NIGHT.

THE WEATHER TURNED FINE ON MARCH 5 AND IT WAS MUCH WARMER THE NEXT DAY AS THE NORTHEAST MONSOON WEAKENED.

APART FROM SOME MISTY CONDITIONS ASSOCIATED WITH A FRESH AND MOIST EASTERLY AIRSTREAM ON MARCH 7 AND 8, THE WEATHER REMAINED MAINLY FINE AND MILD TILL MARCH 12 WHEN THE EASTERLIES BECAME FRESH AGAIN.

THE WINDY CONDITIONS PRODUCED A COOLER AND CLOUDIER DAY ON MARCH 13. STACKS OF CONTAINERS IN YUEN LONG FELL DOWN.

LIGHT RAIN BECAME FREQUENT THAT AFTERNOON AND PERSISTED INTO THE EARLY HOURS OF MARCH 14.

AS THE RAIN DIED OUT, SOME MORNING MIST PATCHES APPEARED BEFORE THE ONSET OF A SOUTHWESTERLY AIRSTREAM DURING THE DAY.

STRONG GUSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SOUTHWESTERLIES BLEW DOWN SOME SCAFFOLDINGS IN KENNEDY TOWN THAT AFTERNOON. WITH TEMPERATURES CLIMBING SMARTLY, THE WEATHER ON MARCH 15 WAS RATHER WARM WITH PERIODS OF SUNSHINE AS WELL AS SOME LIGHT RAIN LATER THAT DAY.

THE INTRUSION OF MOIST MARITIME AIR ALSO LED TO THE FORMATION OF COASTAL FOG ON THE MORNINGS OF MARCH 15 AND 16.

ON THE FORMER OCCASION, A FISHING BOAT COLLIDED WITH A CONTAINER SHIP IN POOR VISIBILITY NEAR WAGLAN ISLAND.

THE WEATHER DETERIORATED AS A COLD FRONT CROSSED THE SOUTH CHINA COAST ON THE EVENING OF MARCH 16. THUNDERSTORMS AND RAIN LASTED TILL THE MORNING OF MARCH 17.

FOR THE NEXT THREE DAYS, THE WEATHER REMAINED CLOUDY WITH PATCHES OF LIGHT RAIN AT NIGHT. WINDS WERE FRESH FROM THE EAST AT FIRST BUT GRADUALLY TURNED MORE NORTHERLY.

COLD AIR FROM THE INLAND AREAS OF GUANGDONG WAS PUSHED TO THE COASTAL REGION AND TEMPERATURES FELL PROGRESSIVELY TO THE MONTH'S LOWEST OF 11.3 DEGREES ON THE MORNING OF MARCH 19.

AS WINDS VEERED TO THE EAST ON MARCH 21 AND SOUTHEASTERLY ON MARCH 23, TEMPERATURES CONTINUED TO RISE.

/COASTAL MIST

COASTAL MIST AND FOG OCCURRED FROM TIME TO TIME DURING THE PERIOD FROM MARCH 23 TO 27.

A BARGE WAS SLIGHTLY DAMAGED AFTER BEING HIT BY A CONTAINER SHIP IN FOGGY CONDITIONS OVER THE WATERS OFF AP LEI CHAU ON THE MORNING OF MARCH 25.

MEANWHILE, THE SUN BROKE THROUGH ON MARCH 24 AND THE WEATHER BECAME FINE AND WARM OVER THE NEXT FOUR DAYS ONCE THE MORNING MISTS AND FOGS LIFTED.

AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY THE MONTH'S HIGHEST TEMPERATURE, 28.1 DEGREES, WAS RECORDED ON MARCH 28.

FOLLOWING THE PASSAGE OF ANOTHER COLD FRONT, STRONG EASTERLY WINDS SET IN EARLY IN THE MORNING ON MARCH 29 AND BROUGHT MUCH COOLER CONDITIONS.

LIGHT RAIN OCCURRED DURING THE FRONTAL PASSAGE AND AGAIN ON THE EVENINGS OF MARCH 30 AND 31.

WHILE THE CLOUDY WEATHER PERSISTED, TEMPERATURES WERE ON THE RISE AS WINDS TURNED SOUTHEASTERLY TOWARDS THE END OF THE MONTH.

THERE WAS ONE TROPICAL CYCLONE OVER THE WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC AND THE SOUTH CHINA SEA IN MARCH.

NO AIRCRAFT WAS DIVERTED IN THE MONTH AS A RESULT OF INCLEMENT WEATHER.

DETAILS OF THE ISSUANCE/HOISTING AND CANCELLATION/LOWERING OF VARIOUS WARNINGS/SIGNALS IN THE MONTH ARE SUMMARISED IN TABLE 1.1.

MONTHLY METEOROLOGICAL FIGURES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL ARE TABULATED IN TABLE 1.2.

TABLE 1.1 WARNINGS AND SIGNALS IN MARCH 1993

WARNINGS / SIGNALS	EFFECTIVE DATE AND TIME
STRONG MONSOON SIGNALS	MAR 7 2305 - MAR 8 0900
	MAR 12 2245 - MAR 13 0830
	MAR 16 2310 - MAR 17 0800
	MAR 29 0445 - MAR 30 0730
THUNDERSTORM WARNINGS	MAR 16 2135 - MAR 17 1200
GAS HEATER ALERTS	MAR 1 1630 - MAR 2 0600
	MAR 19 1630 - MAR 20 1630

/TABLE 1.2

TABLE 1.2 FIGURES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL - MARCH 1993

TOTAL BRIGHT SUNSHINE	77.3 HOURS; 19.1 HOURS BELOW NORMAL
MEAN DAILY GLOBAL SOLAR RADIATION	9.48 MJ/SQM; 1.76 MJ/SQM BELOW NORMAL
TOTAL RAINFALL	49.0 MM; 17.9 MM BELOW NORMAL
MEAN CLOUD AMOUNT	87 %; 11 % ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN RELATIVE HUMIDITY	82 %; 1 % ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN DAILY MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE	21.7 DEGREES; 0.4 DEGREES ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN AIR TEMPERATURE	19.4 DEGREES; 0.9 DEGREES ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN DAILY MINIMUM TEMPERATURE	17.5 DEGREES; 1.0 DEGREES ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN DEW POINT	16.2 DEGREES; 1.2 DEGREES ABOVE NORMAL
TOTAL EVAPORATION	67.6 MM; 24.6 MM BELOW NORMAL

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LIONS THANKED FOR NATURE EDUCATION CENTRE

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FIFTY-ONE MEMBERS OF THE LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 303 WERE TODAY (SATURDAY) HONOURED FOR HELPING TO SET UP THE LIONS NATURE EDUCATION CENTRE IN JSIU HANG, SAI KUNG.

THEY WERE PRESENTED WITH CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION BY THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE AT A CEREMONY HELD AT A LIONS CLUB LUNCHEON MEETING.

DR LEE SAID THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENTRE IN 1991 WAS THE MOST AMBITIOUS AND FRUITFUL JOINT EFFORT BETWEEN THE LIONS CLUBS AND THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT.

"THE CENTRE HAS PROVIDED THE MUCH-NEEDED EDUCATIONAL AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC, IN PARTICULAR STUDENTS, TO APPRECIATE OUR COUNTRYSIDE RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND OTHER RURAL HERITAGE.

"SINCE ITS OPENING IN JUNE 1991, OVER 600,000 PEOPLE HAVE VISITED THE PLACE. IT IS BECOMING MORE AND MORE POPULAR.

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"THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF VISITORS ON SUNDAYS HAS BEEN OVER 3,000. CONDUCTED GROUP TOURS DURING WEEKDAYS HAVE BEEN FULLY BOOKED BY SCHOOLS AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS."

DR LEE SAID HE WAS DEEPLY IMPRESSED BY THE SPEED WITH WHICH THE LIONS CLUBS HAD RAISED MULTI-MILLION DOLLARS FOR BUILDING THE EXHIBITION HALLS.

HE ADDED THAT HE WAS EVEN MORE IMPRESSED BY THE SHORT PERIOD OF JUST OVER ONE YEAR FOR THE BUILDINGS TO BE COMPLETED.

HE THANKED THE LIONS FOR THEIR OFFER TO FURTHER IMPROVE THE FACILITIES IN THE CENTRE BY SPONSORING A CAFETERIA TO BETTER SERVE THE VISITORS.

AMONG THE AWARDEES WERE MR STEPHEN CHOW, DISTRICT GOVERNOR OF THE LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 303; DR TAM WING-KUN, DISTRICT GOVERNOR IN 1991 AND MR SHUM LOK-NIN WHO DESIGNED THE EXHIBITION HALLS OF THE NATURE EDUCATION CENTRE.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS
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	\$ MILLION -----
OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,800
REVERSAL OF LAF	-550
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	2,250
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	-150
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,100
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER	TWI 112.4 *+0.0* 17.4.93

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