



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4, 1982

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MORE +WILL AND SENSE+ FOR INDUSTRIAL SAFETY
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MORE PEOPLE ARE SHOWING THEIR +WILL AND SENSE+ FOR INDUSTRIAL SAFETY IN A POSITIVE MANNER.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S ACTING DEPUTY CHIEF FACTORY INSPECTOR, MR T.K. CHAN, WHEN HE ADDRESSED THE HONG KONG BAYVIEW LIONS CLUB TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

IN HIS TALK, MR CHAN OUTLINED THE PRESENT TREND IN THE PROMOTION OF INDUSTRIAL SAFETY IN HONG KONG AND ITS EFFECTS ON THE WELL-BEING OF THE COMMUNITY.

HE POINTED OUT THAT OVER THE YEARS THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN TRYING ITS UTMOST TO REDUCE THE HIGH INCIDENCE OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

CONSEQUENTLY THERE WAS A SIX PER CENT DECREASE IN THE NUMBER OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED LAST YEAR COMPARED WITH 48 691 IN 1980. THERE WAS A FURTHER 12 PER CENT DROP IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

MR CHAN ATTRIBUTED THE DECREASES IN INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS TO THE GROWING AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AND ACCIDENT PREVENTION AMONGST EMPLOYEES AND EMPLOYERS, AS WELL AS THE GROWING INTEREST AMONGST THE GENERAL PUBLIC ON THE SUBJECT.

EMPLOYEES, HE NOTED, WERE BEGINNING TO ASSUME A MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN NEGOTIATING FOR BETTER AND SAFER WORKING ENVIRONMENTS FOR THEMSELVES, WHILE EMPLOYERS WERE STEPPING FORWARD BY REMOVING THE +BRICKWALL+ HITHERTO PUT UP AROUND THEMSELVES AGAINST ANY MOVE WHICH THEY THOUGHT MIGHT CUT INTO THEIR BUSINESS PROFIT MARGIN.

THIS MOVEMENT, MR CHAN CONTINUED, WAS GAINING MOMENTUM AND ITS SUCCESSFUL START OWED MUCH TO THE EFFORTS OF A TRIPARTITE BODY COMPOSED OF EMPLOYERS' AND EMPLOYEES' REPRESENTATIVES AS WELL AS LABOUR DEPARTMENT OFFICERS, NAMELY THE COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AND ACCIDENT PREVENTION.

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE COMMITTEE, FOUR SAFETY SUB-COMMITTEES HAD BEEN SET UP FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, TEXTILE, PLASTICS AS WELL AS SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING INDUSTRIES.

LAST YEAR HAD BEEN A SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR THE CONSTRUCTION SUB-COMMITTEE WHEN A 2.5 PER CENT DROP WAS RECORDED IN THE NUMBER OF SITE ACCIDENTS AS COMPARED WITH THE YEAR BEFORE.

THE BLITZ ON INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS OVER THE YEARS, BOTH THROUGH INTENSIFIED ENFORCEMENT OF THE SAFETY LAWS AND ENDLESS PROGRAMMES ON SAFETY EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY HAD HELPED TO INCULCATE SAFETY AWARENESS AND SPEED UP THE PROGRESS ON SAFETY PERFORMANCES IN ALL FIELDS, HE ADDED.

MR CHAN POINTED OUT THAT A RECENTLY-CONDUCTED MARKET RESEARCH STUDY ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY PUBLICITY HAD SHOWN THAT FAMILIES PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE PREVENTION OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

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HONG KONG ASKS FOR GATT PANEL OVER FRENCH RESTRICTIONS

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THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT IS ASKING THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE (GATT) TO CONVENE A PANEL TO CONSIDER ITS COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE UNILATERAL RESTRICTIONS BY FRANCE AGAINST THE IMPORT OF HONG KONG-MADE QUARTZ WATCHES AND OTHER PRODUCTS.

THIS FOLLOWS THE DEADLOCK AFTER THREE ROUNDS OF CONSULTATIONS WITH THE EEC COMMISSION, ACTING ON BEHALF OF FRANCE, AND THE TALKS WHICH THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE DESIGNATE, MR LAWRENCE MILLS HAD IN PARIS LAST THURSDAY.

+WE HAVE TAKEN THIS ACTION BECAUSE THE RESTRICTIONS ARE DISCRIMINATORY, AND ARE IN CONTRAVENTION OF FRANCE'S GATT OBLIGATIONS,+ SAID THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF TRADE, MR JUSTIN YUE TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

+ALTHOUGH THE FRENCH OFFICIALS LAST WEEK CONSIDERED MAKING SOME FURTHER PROPOSALS, IT HAS BEEN QUITE A LONG WHILE SINCE OUR INITIAL PROTEST. WE CAN ONLY CONCLUDE THAT THE BI-LATERAL PROCEDURES ARE NOW EXHAUSTED WITHOUT PRODUCING A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION. WE ARE THEREFORE TAKING STEPS TO RAISE THE MATTER OFFICIALLY WITH THE GATT,+ SAID MR YUE.

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JOBS FOUND FOR REDUNDANT TEACHERS

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ALL 271 REDUNDANT TEACHERS IN AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS WHO REGISTERED WITH THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S PLACEMENT SERVICE IN MAY HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFULLY PLACED IN VARIOUS SCHOOLS, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY.

+THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS EXTREMELY GRATEFUL TO THE MANY SCHOOL AUTHORITIES FOR THEIR CO-OPERATION IN BRINGING THIS ABOUT,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE PLACEMENT SERVICE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1975 TO ASSIST REDUNDANT TEACHERS IN AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN SEEKING ALTERNATIVE JOBS AS A RESULT OF THE DROP IN THE POPULATION OF PRIMARY SCHOOL AGE AND A SHIFT OF POPULATION FROM THE URBAN AREAS TO THE NEW TOWNS.

SINCE THEN, THE SERVICE HAS HELPED A TOTAL OF 2 736 REDUNDANT TEACHERS TO SECURE ALTERNATIVE TEACHING POSTS. LAST YEAR THE NUMBER OF REDUNDANT TEACHERS WAS 329.

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ACAN TO LAUNCH SECOND YOUTH AGAINST DRUGS SCHEME

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THE SECOND +YOUTH AGAINST DRUGS SCHEME+ OF THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS IS NOW OPEN TO STUDENTS AND YOUTH GROUPS.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (WEDNESDAY), A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NARCOTICS DIVISION SAID THE SCHEME HAD PROVED VERY POPULAR AS IT PROVIDED AN EXCELLENT OUTLET FOR IMAGINATIVE YOUNG PEOPLE TO DISPLAY THEIR TALENTS AND SKILLS THROUGH DRAMAS, SINGING, PAINTING AND EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS.

+THE AIM OF THE SCHEME IS TO ENCOURAGE MORE ACTIVE AND DIRECT PARTICIPATION IN ANTI-NARCOTICS WORK BY YOUTHS THROUGH PREVENTIVE EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY,+ THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED.

+THERE ARE TREMENDOUS NUMBERS OF ENTHUSIASTIC AND RESOURCEFUL YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE WILLING AND ABLE TO HELP IN ANTI-DRUGS ACTIVITIES IN HONG KONG.+

UNDER THE SCHEME, THE ACAN WILL FINANCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ANTI-NARCOTICS EDUCATION OR PUBLICITY PROJECTS WHICH ARE PLANNED BY YOUNG PEOPLE THEMSELVES.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE FIRST +YOUTH AGAINST DRUGS SCHEME+, WHICH WAS LAUNCHED IN AUGUST LAST YEAR, HAD BEEN WELL RECEIVED. THERE WERE OVER 100 APPLICATIONS. HOWEVER ONLY 19 PROJECTS FROM STUDENTS AND YOUTH GROUPS WERE SELECTED BECAUSE OF MANPOWER AND FINANCIAL LIMITATIONS.

+THIS HAS MADE THE SCHEME ALL THE MORE COMPETITIVE,+ HE ADDED.

LAST YEAR, A VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES INCLUDING SEMINARS, EXHIBITIONS, COMPETITIONS, GAMESDAYS, TELEMATCHES, SONG-WRITING, CAMPING, PAINTING, DRAMA - ALL CARRYING ANTI-DRUGS MESSAGES - WAS IMPLEMENTED.

DESPITE THE FACT THAT THE MAXIMUM GRANT FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL PROJECT WAS LIMITED TO \$3 000, ALL GROUPS MADE CONSIDERABLE EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT THEIR IDEAS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE SCHEME ALSO ENABLED YOUNG PEOPLE TO KNOW AND UNDERSTAND MORE ABOUT THE PROBLEMS OF DRUG ABUSE THROUGH RESEARCH, PLANNING, ORGANISING AND IMPLEMENTING ANTI-DRUGS ACTIVITIES.

+EQUALLY IMPORTANT,+ HE ADDED, +THESE YOUNG PEOPLE CAN AT THE SAME TIME PASS ON THE ANTI-NARCOTICS MESSAGES TO THEIR PEERS IN THEIR OWN LANGUAGE.+

THE SECOND ROUND OF THE SCHEME IS NOW OPEN TO ANY YOUTH GROUP COMPRISING AT LEAST 10 OR MORE MEMBERS WHO ARE 15 YEARS OLD OR ABOVE. ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECOMMENDED BY THEIR SCHOOLS, YOUTH CENTRES, COMMUNITY CENTRES OR EMPLOYERS.

EACH APPLICATION WILL BE CAREFULLY EXAMINED BY A SELECTION BOARD ON ITS APPLICABILITY, PUBLICITY VALUE, INNOVATION, COST-EFFECTIVENESS AND ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE.

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A SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION WILL RECEIVE AN AMOUNT BETWEEN \$1 000 AND \$3 000 TO COVER THE NECESSARY EXPENSES, DEPENDING ON THE DECISION OF THE SELECTION BOARD.

APPLICATION FORMS TOGETHER WITH THE SCHEME'S REGULATIONS ARE NOW OBTAINABLE FROM ALL CITY DISTRICT OFFICES, NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICT OFFICES AND THE OFFICES OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT.

APPLICATIONS SHOULD REACH THE DRUG EDUCATION/LIAISON CENTRE OF THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS AT UNITED CENTRE, 31ST FLOOR, 95 QUEENSWAY, ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30 THIS YEAR.

FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT THE CENTRE AT 5-295140.

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VIEWS SOUGHT ON WEIGHTS CONTROL

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VIEWS ON THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY'S PROPOSAL TO INTRODUCE A NEW SET OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES LEGISLATION WILL BE SOUGHT AT THE SIXTH SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD AT 2 PM ON FRIDAY (AUGUST 6).

THE PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN PREPARED WITH THE PURPOSE OF REPLACING THE EXISTING WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ORDINANCE WHICH WAS ENACTED IN 1885 BY PROVIDING A MORE COMPREHENSIVE LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND AN ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT EQUITABLE FOR SELLERS AND BUYERS IN THE LIGHT OF TODAY'S CIRCUMSTANCES AND IN PARTICULAR TO PROTECT ORDINARY CONSUMERS FROM FRAUDULENT OR UNFAIR TRADING PRACTICES IN CONNECTION WITH QUANTITY.

MR R.G. CHURCH, PRINCIPAL INDUSTRY OFFICER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES BRANCH OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, WILL ATTEND THE MEETING FOR DISCUSSION ON THE ITEM.

AT THE MEETING, BOARD MEMBERS WILL ALSO BE CONSULTED ON THE GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSAL TO IMPLEMENT A FILM CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM WITH A STATUTORY AGE RESTRICTION FOR THE VIEWING OF ADULT FILMS.

THEY WILL ALSO BE BRIEFED ON THE WORK OF THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION BY THE COMMISSIONER, MR P.B. WILLIAMS.

OTHER TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING WILL INCLUDE THE PROGRESS REPORT ON PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS, THE PUBLICATION OF A BOOKLET ON THE BOARD'S PROJECTS, AN EXHIBITION OF THE WORK OF THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD AND DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, AND THE SHAM SHUI PO CHILDREN'S CHOIR.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD TO BE HELD AT THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF SHAM SHUI PO CITY DISTRICT OFFICE, HANG SHUN BUILDING, 37-39 TONKIN STREET, SECOND FLOOR, KOWLOON ON FRIDAY (AUGUST 6) AT 2 PM.

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APPLICATIONS FOR FISH FARMING CLOSE ON MONDAY

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APPLICATIONS BY MARINE FISH FARMERS FOR LICENCES TO OPERATE IN THE DESIGNATED FISH CULTURE ZONES WILL CLOSE ON MONDAY (AUGUST 9).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY THAT LICENCES WOULD BE GRANTED TO ALL MARINE FISH FARMERS WHOSE OPERATIONS WERE SURVEYED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN APRIL AND MAY THIS YEAR.

+ONLY THOSE ISSUED WITH A SURVEY CHIT WILL INITIALLY BE ELIGIBLE FOR ALLOCATION OF SITES WITHIN THE ZONES. AND ONLY AFTER THEY HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED SITES WILL APPLICANTS WITH NEW OPERATIONS OR NEW EXTENSIONS BE CONSIDERED FOR ANY REMAINING SITES,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

UNDER THE MARINE FISH CULTURE ORDINANCE -- WHICH BECAME FULLY EFFECTIVE LAST MONTH -- 24 AREAS HAVE BEEN DESIGNATED AS MARINE FISH CULTURE ZONES. FISH FARMERS WISHING TO CONTINUE THEIR OPERATIONS WITHIN THE ZONES ARE REQUIRED TO BE LICENSED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT. MARINE FISH CULTURE OUTSIDE THE ZONES WILL NOT BE PERMITTED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT AS IT MAY TAKE SOME TIME FOR ALL THE SURVEYED FISH FARMERS TO BE GRANTED LICENCES, TO BE ALLOCATED SITES WITHIN THE ZONES AND TO MOVE INTO THE SITES, THE GOVERNMENT HAS ALLOWED A GRACE PERIOD OF UP TO NINE MONTHS (TO APRIL 8, 1983) TO ENABLE THE FARMERS TO COMPLY WITH THE ORDINANCE. AFTER THE APRIL 1983 DEADLINE ANY MARINE FISH FARMERS FOUND DEFYING THE ORDINANCE WILL BE LIABLE TO PROSECUTION.

APPLICATION FORMS FOR LICENCES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS AT 393 CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON, ITS FISHERIES OFFICES AND FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION LIAISON OFFICES.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN HUNG HOM AND WAH FU

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NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN HUNG HOM IN KOWLOON AND AT WAH FU IN ABERDEEN FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (AUGUST 6) TO IMPROVE CIRCULATION IN THESE AREAS.

IN HUNG HOM, NORTHBOUND VEHICLES FROM YAN FUNG STREET WILL BE ALLOWED TO GO STRAIGHT INTO SHUN YUNG STREET.

HOWEVER, RIGHT TURNS INTO FAT KWONG STREET EASTBOUND WILL STILL BE BANNED.

IN WAH FU, WAH CHEUNG STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE WAY SOUTHBOUND.

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NEW SECTION OPENS IN TUEN MUN ROAD

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THE SECTION OF TUEN MUN ROAD SECOND CARRIAGEWAY BETWEEN SO KWUN WAT AND SAM SHING HUI WILL BE OPEN TO TRAFFIC ON FRIDAY (AUGUST 6).

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID THAT THE NEW THREE-LANE CARRIAGEWAY WILL BE FOR TUEN MUN-BOUND TRAFFIC, WHILE THE EXISTING SECTION WILL BE FOR TRAFFIC HEADING FOR TSUEN WAN.

AFTER THE OPENING OF THE NEW SECTION, THE EXISTING CARRIAGEWAY WILL BE REDUCED TO TWO-LANE TRAFFIC FOR ABOUT TWO WEEKS TO ALLOW WORK ON THE ROAD MARKINGS TO BE CARRIED OUT.

AT BOTH ENDS OF THIS SECTION IN SO KWUN WAT AND SAM SHING HUI, TWO WAY TRAFFIC WILL BE MAINTAINED ON A SINGLE CARRIAGEWAY.

WORK ON THE OTHER PORTIONS OF THE TUEN MUN ROAD SECOND CARRIAGEWAY IS IN PROGRESS, AND THE PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO BE FINISHED BY JANUARY, 1983.

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EARLY WRITTEN TEST FOR TAXI LICENCES

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ABOUT 11 000 CANDIDATES HAVE REGISTERED FOR THE EARLY WRITTEN TEST FOR TAXI LICENCES TO BE HELD FROM AUGUST 3 TO 17, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE EARLY WRITTEN TEST SCHEME WAS DESIGNED TO REDUCE WAITING TIME SO AS TO ALLEVIATE THE SHORTAGE OF URBAN TAXI DRIVERS.

THE RESPONSE, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, HAS BEEN VERY ENCOURAGING.

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WATER CUT IN CENTRAL

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN CENTRAL WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR SEVEN HOURS FROM 11 PM ON FRIDAY (AUGUST 6) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR A LEAKAGE TEST.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY MORRISON STREET, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, BONHAM STRAND EAST, INCLUDING HILLIER STREET, WING LOK STREET, JERVOIS STREET, MERCER STREET, BURD STREET AND CLEVERLY STREET.

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