



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FARE REVISION FOR MAXICAB SERVICES

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THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, FOLLOWING THE ADVICE GIVEN BY THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE, HAS APPROVED A 50 PER CENT INCREASE IN MAXIMUM FARES FOR MAXICAB ROUTES.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY, A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT MAXICAB OPERATORS WOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO ADJUST THEIR FARES AUTOMATICALLY.

+HOWEVER, THEY MAY NOW MAKE APPLICATIONS TO THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT FOR FARE INCREASES FOR THE SERVICES THEY OPERATE WITHIN THE NEW MAXIMUM LIMITS,+ HE CONTINUED.

+ONCE THEIR APPLICATIONS ARE APPROVED, ADVANCE NOTICE WILL BE GIVEN TO ADVISE PASSENGERS ON THE NEW FARES,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

LETTERS ADVISING OF THE NEW MAXIMUM FARES WILL BE SENT OFF TO INDIVIDUAL OPERATORS SHORTLY.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE APPROVAL OF INCREASED MAXIMUM FARES WAS GIVEN AFTER A DETAILED SURVEY INTO THE OPERATING ECONOMICS AND SERVICES.

AND THE REVISION, HE SAID, WAS LARGELY ATTRIBUTABLE TO INCREASES IN FUEL COSTS, DRIVER WAGES, MAINTENANCE AND ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES WHICH OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS HAD LARGELY REDUCED THE REVENUE OF THE OPERATORS.

THE FARE SCALE FOR MAXICAB SERVICES WAS LAST REVISED IN MID-1980 FOLLOWING A SURVEY ON THE MAXICAB TRADE IN 1979.

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POLICY ON CHILD CARE SERVICES EXPLAINED

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ADMISSION TO DAY CARE CENTRES FOR CHILDREN IN FUTURE WILL NO LONGER BE RESTRICTED TO THOSE FROM LOW-INCOME FAMILIES ALTHOUGH PRIORITY SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE GIVEN TO THOSE WITH THE GREATEST NEED, THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS ANSON CHAN, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE FIRST GRADUATION CEREMONY OF STUDENTS FROM THE CHILD CARE CERTIFICATE COURSE AT THE LEE WAI LEE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, SHE SAID: +THIS IS AN AREA WHERE BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR CAN PLAY USEFUL COMPLEMENTARY ROLES.+

THE GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE THE GROWTH OF NON-PROFIT-MAKING CHILD CARE CENTRES BY WAY OF ASSISTANCE IN SECURING ACCOMMODATION, CAPITAL FITTING-OUT COSTS AND REIMBURSEMENT OF RENTS AND RATES.

/MRS CHAN

MRS CHAN SAID THAT UNDER THE NEW FEE ASSISTANCE SCHEME WHICH WOULD COME INTO OPERATION IN SEPTEMBER, PARENTS WHO COULD NOT AFFORD TO PAY THE FULL COST AND WHO HAD A SOCIAL NEED TO PLACE THEIR CHILDREN IN DAY CARE WOULD RECEIVE ASSISTANCE.

THE SCHEME OPERATES ON A SLIDING SCALE PRINCIPLE WHICH ENSURES THAT THOSE WITH THE LOWEST INCOME RECEIVE THE HIGHEST AMOUNT OF GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE.

NONETHELESS, MIDDLE INCOME FAMILIES WILL ALSO QUALIFY FOR SOME ASSISTANCE WITH CHILD CARE CENTRE FEES.

+THIS,+ SHE SAID, +IS A SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT ON PAST POLICY UNDER WHICH SUCH FAMILIES WOULD NOT EVEN HAVE QUALIFIED FOR A PLACE IN A SUBVENTED CHILD CARE CENTRE.+

MRS CHAN SAID THAT ACCORDING TO THE REPORT OF THE 1981 CENSUS STUDY, NEARLY 40 PER CENT OF MOTHERS WITH PRE-SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN GO OUT TO WORK - +A HIGH PROPORTION COMPARED WITH MANY OTHER COUNTRIES.+

THIS WAS PARTLY DUE TO ECONOMIC FACTORS BUT ALSO REFLECTED THE INCREASING SOCIAL TREND OF WOMEN ASSUMING A MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN BUSINESSES, INDUSTRIES AND THE PROFESSIONS.

+THIS TREND APPEARS TO BE IRREVERSIBLE AND SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED PROVIDING IT IS NOT TO THE DETRIMENT OF THE CARE AND WELL-BEING OF YOUNG CHILDREN IN THE FAMILY,+ MRS CHAN SAID.

THAT IS ONE OF THE REASONS WHY THE GOVERNMENT HAS STATED IN THE 1981 WHITE PAPER ON PRIMARY EDUCATION AND PRE-PRIMARY SERVICES ITS INTENTION TO EXPAND THE PROVISION OF CHILD CARE CENTRE PLACES TO MEET THE INCREASING DEMAND.

THE WHITE PAPER LAYS DOWN GUIDELINES FOR THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF CHILD CARE SERVICES AND KINDERGARTEN EDUCATION TO MEET THE NEEDS OF VERY YOUNG CHILDREN AT VARIOUS STAGES OF THEIR PRE-SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT.

+FOR VERY YOUNG CHILDREN OF 2 AND 3, AN INFORMAL APPROACH EMPHASISING CARE AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIALISATION AND CREATIVE PLAY ACTIVITIES IS REQUIRED, WHEREAS FOR OLDER CHILDREN OF 4 OR 5 MORE ORGANISED PROGRAMMES WITH AN EDUCATIONAL CONTENT CAN BE INTRODUCED,+ MRS CHAN SAID.

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UNAFEI DIRECTOR VISITS CORRECTIONAL SERVICES INSTITUTION

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THE DIRECTOR OF UNITED NATIONS ASIA AND FAR EAST INSTITUTE FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRIME AND THE TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS (UNAFEI), MR HIROSHI ISHIKAWA, TODAY VISITED THE MAXIMUM SECURITY STANLEY PRISON AND WAS IMPRESSED WITH THE PROGRAMMES PROVIDED FOR PRISONERS.

MR ISHIKAWA, WHO ARRIVED IN HONG KONG FROM TOKYO ON A ONE-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT, WILL LEAVE FOR THAILAND TOMORROW.

DURING THE VISIT, HE WAS SHOWN ROUND THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF DORMITORIES AND PRISON INDUSTRIES AND WAS BRIEFED BY MR I.K. BHAGAT, SENIOR SUPERINTENDENT IN CHARGE OF THE PRISON.

EARLIER, MR ISHIKAWA VISITED THE STAFF TRAINING INSTITUTE TO SEE RECRUITS UNDERGOING TRAINING.

LATER IN THE DAY, HE TOURED ROUND THE TAI TAM GAP CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION WHERE HE WAS SHOWN THE PROGRAMMES AVAILABLE TO YOUNG FEMALE OFFENDERS.

IN THE EVENING, HE ALSO MET MEMBERS OF THE UNAFEI ALUMNI AND OFFICERS OF THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT A FORMAL FUNCTION HELD AT THE OFFICERS' CLUB IN STANLEY.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT ON HONG KONG ISLAND

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WESTBOUND TRAFFIC ALONG SHAU KEI WAN ROAD WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM TURNING RIGHT INTO TAI ON STREET FROM 10 AM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) FOR ABOUT TWO WEEKS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MTR SAI WAN HO STATION.

VEHICLES HEADING TOWARDS TAI ON STREET WILL BE DIVERTED VIA SHING ON STREET, SAI WAN HO STREET, TAI FOO STREET AND SHAU KEI WAN ROAD EASTBOUND.

MEANWHILE THE GLOUCESTER ROAD FLYOVER LEADING FROM NORTH POINT TO THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL WILL BE CLOSED BETWEEN 1 AM AND 6 AM ON WEDNESDAY (JULY 14) FOR CABLE WORKS.

THIS ARRANGEMENT WILL BE REPEATED ON THURSDAY (JULY 15).

DURING THE CLOSURE, TRAFFIC HEADING TOWARDS THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL FROM NORTH POINT WILL BE DIVERTED VIA GLOUCESTER ROAD (WESTBOUND), O'BRIAN ROAD, LOCKHART ROAD, FLEMING ROAD AND GLOUCESTER ROAD (EASTBOUND).

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SUMMER PROGRAMME FOR 240 000 YOUTHS LAUNCHED

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LION DANCES, MILITARY BAND AND ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES HIGHLIGHTED TODAY'S OPENING OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME HELD AT THE LOCAL TOWN HALL.

AND FOR THE COMING MONTHS MORE THAN 170 ITEMS OF VARIOUS ACTIVITIES FEATURING PICNICS, CARNIVALS, CAMPING, EXHIBITIONS AND TOURNAMENTS HAVE BEEN LINED UP FOR THE DISTRICT'S 240 000 YOUNG PEOPLE.

TUTORIAL COURSES ON TYPING, SCREEN PRINTING, PHOTOGRAPHY, GUITAR PLAYING AND HANDICRAFTS WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO PICK UP SOME NEW HOBBIES DURING THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS.

BEING CO-ORDINATED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE FOR THE FIRST TIME, THIS YEAR'S SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME WILL BE PARTLY FINANCED BY THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD WITH \$50 000.

THE REMAINING \$130 000 WILL BE MET BY LOCAL DONATIONS AND THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB.

SPEAKING AT TODAY'S OPENING CEREMONY, THE ACTING TOWN MANAGER, MR LUI HAU-TUEN, SAID THE ANNUAL SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME SERVED TO PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO KNOW THEIR COMMUNITY BETTER.

+THIS YEAR WE EMPHASISE ON VOLUNTARY WORK BY THE YOUNG PEOPLE. BY GENEROUSLY GIVING UP THEIR LEISURE-TIME TO HELP OTHERS THEY CAN ALSO HELP DEVELOP THEIR OWN POTENTIAL.+

MR LUI ADDED THAT HE WAS PLEASED TO SEE THAT SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES WOULD BE STAGED IN SOME REMOTE AREAS OF TSUEN WAN WHERE THERE WAS A LACK OF RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES.

OF THE 175 ITEMS OF ACTIVITIES BEING PLANNED, 10 WILL BE HELD AT THE RURAL VILLAGES, 15 ON TSING YI, 47 IN TSUEN WAN AND 103 IN KWAI CHUNG.

DETAILS OF THIS YEAR'S PROGRAMME CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE, THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICES COUNTERS, COMMUNITY HALLS AND YOUTH CENTRES IN THE DISTRICT.

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SPORTS TRAINING COURSES FOR AUGUST

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THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE (RSS) OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT WILL ORGANISE IN CONJUNCTION WITH A NUMBER OF SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS A SERIES OF SPORTS TRAINING COURSES AND SPORTS EVENTS IN AUGUST.

THE JUNIOR BASKETBALL TRAINING COURSES, CO-ORGANISED WITH THE HONG KONG AMATEUR BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION, ARE OPEN TO BOYS AND GIRLS AGED BETWEEN 15 TO 18.

COURSES WILL TAKE PLACE IN 12 DIFFERENT DISTRICTS IN HONG KONG, KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES.

AFTER TRAINING, A MATCH WILL BE HELD FOR THE VARIOUS DISTRICT TEAMS TO COMPETE WITH ONE ANOTHER TO ENABLE THESE BEGINNERS TO HAVE A CHANCE TO ACQUIRE EXPERIENCE IN REAL MATCHES.

ANOTHER SERIES OF MATCHES IS THE SUMMER SOFTBALL LEAGUE IN WHICH THE HONG KONG SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION IS INVOLVED.

THERE WILL BE TWO DIVISIONS FOR MEN AND WOMEN AGED 25 OR BELOW.

MATCHES WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS AND SATURDAYS.

THE CHAMPIONS AND THE THREE RUNNERS-UP FOR EACH DIVISION WILL BE AWARDED TROPHIES AND MEDALS.

THE INTERMEDIATE VOLLEYBALL REFEREES COURSE, CO-ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG AND KOWLOON VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION, WILL ALSO BE HELD ON WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS.

THOSE WHO HAVE PREVIOUSLY PASSED THE VOLLEYBALL REFEREES TRAINING COURSE AND THOSE REGISTERED CLASS TWO AND CLASS THREE REFEREES COULD JOIN THE COURSE.

DETAILS AND APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE COLLECTED FROM THE RSS HEADQUARTERS AND THE SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS.

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WATER FIGURES

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 64.7 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 373.507 MILLION CUBIC METRES, EQUIVALENT TO 249 DAYS' CONSUMPTION.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 220.816 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 38.2 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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IMPROVEMENTS FOR KCR WORKSHOP

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IMPROVEMENTS WILL BE MADE SHORTLY TO THE EXISTING KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY WORKSHOPS AT HO TUNG LAU, SHA TIN, TO PROVIDE MODERN AND UPDATED FACILITIES FOR THE NEW ELECTRIC TRAINS.

TENDERS FOR THE MODIFICATIONS AND EXTENSIONS OF THE WORKSHOPS ARE BEING INVITED BY THE RAILWAY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

THE WORK WILL INCLUDE THE PROVISION OF THE NEW REPAIR FACILITIES AND THE INSTALLATION OF OVERHAUL TRACTION EQUIPMENT ON THE NEW ELECTRIC TRAINS.

WORK ON THE PROJECT WILL START IN OCTOBER AND IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN JULY NEXT YEAR.

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EXTENSION FOR NORTH POINT FERRY PIER

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WORK ON THE EXTENSION AND MODIFICATION OF THE EXISTING EASTERN PASSENGER FERRY PIER AT NORTH POINT WILL START SHORTLY.

TENDERS FOR THE PROJECT ARE BEING INVITED BY THE CIVIL ENGINEERING OFFICE OF THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

WHEN COMPLETED, THE +NEW+ PIER WILL PROVIDE TWO ADDITIONAL BERTHS FOR PASSENGER FERRY SERVICES IN THE AREA.

WORK ON THE PROJECT WILL START IN OCTOBER AND IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF 1984.

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WATER CUT IN NORTH POINT

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN NORTH POINT WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR SEVEN HOURS FROM 11 PM ON THURSDAY (JULY 15) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR A LEAKAGE TEST.

THE PREMISES AFFECTED WILL BE THOSE ON JAVA ROAD BETWEEN ITS JUNCTIONS WITH HEALTHY STREET EAST AND KING'S ROAD, HOUSE NOS 865 TO 971 KING'S ROAD, TONG CHONG STREET, HOI WAN STREET, HOI TAI STREET, HOI KWONG STREET AND FINNIE STREET.

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