



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY SHORT OF SKILLED CRAFTSMEN

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THE AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY IS EXPERIENCING A SHORTAGE OF CRAFTSMEN DUE TO THE GROWTH IN THE NUMBER OF REGISTERED VEHICLES, A VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL SURVEY HAS FOUND.

STATISTICS COLLECTED IN MAY 1988 SHOWED THAT THE TOTAL WORKFORCE IN THE INDUSTRY HAD INCREASED SLIGHTLY BY TWO PER CENT A YEAR TO 12,600 SINCE 1986.

EMPLOYERS OF THE INDUSTRY ALSO REPORTED THERE WERE 1,600 VACANCIES OF WHICH 1,400 WERE AT CRAFTSMAN LEVEL, WHICH WAS EQUIVALENT TO 12 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL WORKFORCE.

IT IS ALSO NOTED IN THE SURVEY THAT AN ADDITIONAL OF 1,800 WORKERS WITH 1,600 OF THEM CRAFTSMEN WOULD BE REQUIRED IN THE INDUSTRY IN THE 12 MONTHS FOLLOWING THE SURVEY.

THE AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD OF THE COUNCIL WHICH CONDUCTED THE SURVEY ATTRIBUTED THE SHORTAGE TO THE UPTURN IN BUSINESS AND THE DECREASE IN THE NUMBER OF GRADUATING APPRENTICES DUE TO THE RECESSION BETWEEN 1982 TO 1986.

THE POPULATION OF BOTH PRIVATE CARS AND COMMERCIAL VEHICLES WOULD CONTINUE TO GROW AT A MODERATE RATE IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS IN VIEW OF THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF NEW TOWNS, INCREASED AFFLUENCE OF PEOPLE AND THEIR ASPIRATION OF OWNING CARS, AND THE SUSTAINED GROWTH IN COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES BOTH WITHIN THE TERRITORY AND ACROSS THE BORDER.

THE BOARD PROJECTED THAT THE DEMAND FOR SKILLED MANPOWER AT ALL LEVELS IN THE INDUSTRY WOULD REMAIN STEADY IN THE YEARS UP TO 1994.

DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE MANPOWER SITUATION OF THE INDUSTRY IS CONTAINED IN THE 1988 MANPOWER SURVEY REPORT ON THE AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE AT \$17.50 A COPY.

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MARCH SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL BEING CONDUCTED

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT IS CONDUCTING THE MARCH 1989 ROUND OF THE SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL IN MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY.

THE SURVEY COVERS ABOUT 120,000 ESTABLISHMENTS WHICH ARE DRAWN FROM VARIOUS SECTORS.

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THESE INCLUDE THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR (MINING AND QUARRYING; MANUFACTURING; ELECTRICITY AND GAS), THE DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES SECTOR (WHOLESALE, RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS), WITH FULL ENUMERATION OF ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE SERVICES SECTOR (TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND COMMUNICATION; FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES; COMMUNITY, SOCIAL AND PERSONAL SERVICES).

QUESTIONNAIRES WERE MAILED TO INDIVIDUAL SAMPLE ESTABLISHMENTS AT THE END OF LAST MONTH. REMINDERS ARE NOW BEING SENT TO ESTABLISHMENTS NOT RESPONDING TO THE INITIAL QUESTIONNAIRES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS ORDER 1982 (LEGAL NOTICE NO.69 OF 1982, GAZETTED ON MARCH 5, 1982), ESTABLISHMENTS RECEIVING QUESTIONNAIRES ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE AND RETURN THEM TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT WITHIN THE SPECIFIED PERIOD.

INFORMATION IS BEING SOUGHT ON THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED AND EXISTING VACANCIES ON MARCH 31, 1989 FOR EACH SAMPLED ESTABLISHMENT.

SOME 10,000 ESTABLISHMENTS HAVE BEEN RANDOMLY SELECTED FROM THIS SAMPLE TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON PAYROLL IN EACH OF THE THREE MONTHS DURING THE REFERENCE PERIOD JANUARY - MARCH 1989.

SHOULD RESPONDENTS FIND DIFFICULTIES IN COMPLETING THE FORMS, THEY ARE WELCOME TO CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT FOR ASSISTANCE ON 5-8235076.

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OVER \$42 MILLION PAYOUT FROM TAVA
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A TOTAL OF \$42.6 MILLION HAD BEEN APPROVED FOR TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS OR THEIR DEPENDENT FAMILY MEMBERS LAST YEAR, A SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

MISS HELEN LEE, SENIOR SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICER OF THE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS ASSISTANCE SCHEME (TAVA) SAID TODAY THAT THE DEPARTMENT RECEIVED 6,325 APPLICATIONS IN 1988, COMPARED WITH 6,340 THE PREVIOUS YEAR. THIS REPRESENTED A SLIGHT DECREASE OF 0.24 PER CENT OR A DROP OF 15 APPLICATIONS.

DURING THE YEAR, 6,191 NEW CASES WERE COMPLETED. OF THESE 5,682 WERE APPROVED FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

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THE HIGHEST SINGLE PAYMENT WAS \$59,800 THAT WAS PAID OUT IN A FATAL CASE IN WHICH THE DECEASED WAS THE BREAD WINNER SURVIVED BY FIVE ELIGIBLE DEPENDENT FAMILY MEMBERS.

SHE EXPLAINED: "THE SPIRIT OF TAVA IS TO PROVIDE EARLY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS OR THEIR DEPENDENTS REGARDLESS OF THE MEANS OF THE FAMILY OR THE ELEMENT OF FAULT IN THE ACCIDENT.

"TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE ASSISTANCE, THE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT MUST HAVE BEEN REPORTED TO THE POLICE; THE APPLICATION MUST BE MADE WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF THE ACCIDENT AND IN THE CASE OF INJURY NOT CAUSING DEATH, AT LEAST THREE DAYS' SICK LEAVE MUST BE EVIDENCED BY HOSPITALISATION OR BY CERTIFICATION FROM A REGISTERED DOCTOR."

"WHILE BENEFICIARIES UNDER THE TAVA SCHEME STILL RETAIN THE RIGHT TO MAKE CLAIMS FOR LEGAL DAMAGES OR COMPENSATION FROM OTHER SOURCES IN THE USUAL WAY, THOSE WHO RECEIVE OTHER DAMAGES OF COMPENSATION IN RESPECT OF THE SAME TRAFFIC ACCIDENT ARE REQUIRED TO REPAY THE AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE THEY HAVE ALREADY RECEIVED FOR THE SCHEME.

"IN ANY CASE THE AMOUNT TO BE REPAID SHALL NOT EXCEED THE AMOUNT OF DAMAGES OR COMPENSATION AWARDED," MISS LEE ADDED.

APPLICATIONS CAN BE MADE EITHER IN PERSON OR THROUGH THE POST. APPLICATION FORMS ARE OBTAINABLE AT THE ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION SECTIONS OF THE POLICE DISTRICT TRAFFIC FORMATIONS, DISTRICT OFFICES OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION OR AT THE TAVA SECTION, SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT AT 15 WATSON ROAD, VICTORIA CENTRE, 1ST FLOOR, CAUSEWAY BAY, HONG KONG.

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FLOOD CONTROL MEASURES TO BE DISCUSSED

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MEMBERS OF THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD WILL BE BRIEFED ON FLOOD CONTROL MEASURES PLANNED FOR THE DISTRICT AT A MEETING TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

REPRESENTATIVES FROM VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, INCLUDING THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT OFFICE, YUEN LONG DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, CIVIL ENGINEERING SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, WILL ATTEND THE MEETING TO BRIEF DB MEMBERS.

THE BRIEFINGS WILL COVER CAUSES OF FLOODING, MEASURES PREVENT FLOODING, MAINTENANCE OF NATURAL WATERCOURSES ON GOVERNMENT LAND, AND EMERGENCY RELIEF ARRANGEMENTS DURING FLOODING.

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MEANWHILE, THE COMMISSIONER FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINTS, MR ARTHUR GARCIA WILL BE PRESENT AT THE MEETING TO EXPLAIN THE ORGANISATION AND WORK OF HIS OFFICE.

A MEMBER WILL ASK WHAT MEASURES THE GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE TO PREVENT TRAFFIC CONGESTION IN THE SAN TIN SECTION OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD TO COPE WITH THE IMMINENT COMMISSIONING OF THE VEHICULAR BORDER LINK AT LOK MA CHAU.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD TOMORROW (THURSDAY) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM, 13TH FLOOR, TAI KIU GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 2 KIU LOK SQUARE, YUEN LONG. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 9.30 AM.

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CAC TO BRIEF KCDB MEMBERS

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THE COMMISSIONER FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINTS, MR ARTHUR GARCIA, WILL BRIEF MEMBERS OF THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD ON THE WORK OF HIS OFFICE AT A MEETING TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

AT THE MEETING, BOARD MEMBERS WILL DISCUSS A CONSULTATIVE PAPER ON PROPOSALS TO REMEDY UNFAIR PROVISIONS IN EXISTING DEEDS OF MUTUAL COVENANT. THEY WILL ALSO CONSIDER THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR THE BOARD'S THREE COMMITTEES IN 1989-90.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD MEETING WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 2.15 PM TOMORROW (THURSDAY) AT THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM AT 141 KAU PUI LUNG ROAD.

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DB FUNDS FOR COMMUNITY BUILDING PROJECTS
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VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND INDEPENDENT NON-PROFIT-MAKING COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS IN WONG TAI SIN CAN APPLY FOR FUNDS FROM THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE TO CARRY OUT DISTRICT-WIDE COMMUNITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES IN THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR.

THE COMMITTEE DECIDED LAST WEEK THAT FUNDS SHOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO ENABLE ORGANISATIONS, WHICH WERE NOT REGULARLY SUBSIDISED BY THE COMMITTEE, TO UTILISE DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS IN ORGANISING COMMUNITY BUILDING PROJECTS.

"APPLICATIONS WILL BE PROCESSED IN THREE PHASES AND THE CLOSING DATE FOR THE FIRST PHASE WILL BE MAY 16. ORGANISATIONS AND AGENCIES WISHING TO APPLY FOR SUBSIDY SHOULD SUBMIT APPLICATION FORMS TO THE DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT BEFORE THAT DATE," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE COMMITTEE SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT VETTING OF APPLICATIONS WOULD FOLLOW THE CRITERIA AS SET DOWN BY THE GOVERNMENT, AND THAT THE AMOUNT APPROVED FOR A PARTICULAR ORGANISATION WOULD NOT EXCEED \$10,000 WITHIN A FINANCIAL YEAR.

"REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE APPLICANT ORGANISATIONS HAVE TO ATTEND A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE TO PRESENT THEIR PROJECTS AND ANSWER QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS.

"A REPORT ON THE PROJECT SHOULD ALSO BE SUBMITTED TO THE SECRETARIAT BY THE ORGANISATION WITHIN ONE MONTH AFTER THE PROJECT HAS BEEN COMPLETED," HE ADDED.

THE OTHER TWO PHASES OF APPLICATION WILL BE HELD ON AUGUST 1 AND OCTOBER 10.

APPLICATIONS SHOULD REACH THE DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO THOSE DATES.

APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS SUB-OFFICES. ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 3-230387.

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FUNDS FOR SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME IN KWUN TONG
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LOCAL ORGANISATIONS AND YOUTH CENTRES IN KWUN TONG ARE INVITED TO APPLY FOR FUNDS FOR ORGANISING YOUTH ACTIVITIES THIS SUMMER.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT AS IN PREVIOUS YEARS, FUNDS WOULD BE AVAILABLE THIS YEAR FOR LOCAL ORGANISATIONS TO STAGE VARIOUS SOCIAL, RECREATIONAL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES DURING THE SUMMER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTHS AGED BETWEEN SIX AND 25.

"THE CENTRAL THEME OF THIS YEAR'S SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME IS SHARE THE FUN, SERVE THE COMMUNITY," HE ADDED.

ORGANISATIONS APPLYING FOR FUNDS ARE EXPECTED TO HOLD ACTIVITIES WITH THE AIM OF ENHANCING PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, AND PROMOTING THE MEANINGFUL USE OF LEISURE AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT.

LETTERS WILL BE SENT TO VARIOUS ORGANISATIONS IN THE DISTRICT, ENCOURAGING THEM TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAMME.

APPLICATION FORMS FOR AND GUIDELINES ON FUNDING, CAN BE OBTAINED ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT MAIN OFFICE IN TUNG YAN STREET.

THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION IS MAY 5. ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 3-416315.

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NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS FROM FRIDAY
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (APRIL 7), PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ENTER SHEK WAI KOK ROAD IN TSUEN WAN BETWEEN SHEK ON STREET AND THE ACCESS ROAD LEADING TO SHEK TSUI HOUSE AT SHEK WAI KOK ESTATE.

MEANWHILE, FROM 9 AM ON APRIL 7, TO 5 PM ON JULY 31, A ONE-LANE TWO-WAY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT WILL BE INTRODUCED ON SASSOON ROAD IN SOUTHERN DISTRICT BETWEEN VICTORIA ROAD AND POKFULAM ROAD TO FACILITATE ROAD WORKS.

MOTORISTS MAY ENTER POKFULAM ROAD FROM VICTORIA ROAD VIA THE SECTION OF SASSOON ROAD NORTH OF VICTORIA ROAD. HOWEVER, THEY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO DO SO VIA THE SECTION OF SASSOON ROAD SOUTH OF VICTORIA ROAD.

IN TAI PO, THE EXISTING BAN ON VEHICLES EXCEEDING 11 METRES IN LENGTH FROM THE UNNAMED ACCESS ROAD TO TAI PO TAU WILL BE LIFTED FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY.

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TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN URBAN AREAS

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN WONG CHUK HANG, MONG KOK AND CENTRAL FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (APRIL 7).

IN WONG CHUK HANG, VEHICLES EXCEEDING EIGHT METRES LONG WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ENTER YIP FAT STREET BETWEEN 12 YIP FAT STREET AND 2 HEUNG YIP ROAD.

THE LONG VEHICLE BAN WILL BE IN FORCE FOR ABOUT SIX WEEKS FOR ROADWORKS.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE EASTERN KERBSIDE LANE OF TUNG CHOI STREET IN MONG KOK BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH MONG KOK ROAD AND A POINT ABOUT 30 METRES SOUTH OF THE SAME JUNCTION WILL BE DESIGNATED A 7 AM TO MIDNIGHT DAILY URBAN CLEARWAY FOR ABOUT FOUR MONTHS FOR DRAINAGE WORKS.

IN CENTRAL, THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS OF CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL WILL BE DESIGNATED URBAN CLEARWAYS ROUND-THE-CLOCK FOR ABOUT TWO MONTHS FOR PAVEMENT RECONSTRUCTION WORKS:

- * THE SOUTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL BETWEEN JUBILEE STREET AND QUEEN VICTORIA STREET; AND
- * THE SOUTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH POTTINGER STREET TO A POINT ABOUT 45 METRES EAST OF THE SAME JUNCTION.

NO VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS WITHIN THE RESTRICTED AREAS.

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URBAN CLEARWAYS IN CENTRAL

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT THE FOLLOWING ROAD SECTIONS IN CENTRAL WILL BE DESIGNATED URBAN CLEARWAYS ROUND-THE-CLOCK FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (APRIL 7) TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW:

- * JUSTICE DRIVE;
- * THE SLIP ROAD LEADING FROM QUEENSWAY TO JUSTICE DRIVE;
- * THE SLIP ROAD LEADING FROM JUSTICE DRIVE TO QUEENSWAY; AND
- * THE ACCESS ROAD LEADING TO THE N.A.A.F.I. BUILDING (FORMERLY VICTORIA BARRACKS).

NO VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS WITHIN THE RESTRICTED AREAS.

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