



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 1982

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METRICATION PROGRAMMES IN FULL SWING
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THE PROPER CHINESE TERMINOLOGY FOR METRIC UNITS WILL BE DISCUSSED, AMONG OTHER SUBJECTS, AT A SEMINAR TO BE HELD IN GUANGZHOU, CHINA FROM APRIL 27 TO 30, WHICH WILL BE ATTENDED BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM HONG KONG, SINGAPORE, MACAU AND CHINA.

ANNOUNCING THIS AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (TUESDAY), PROFESSOR S.Y. KING, CHAIRMAN OF THE METRICATION COMMITTEE POINTED OUT THAT HIS COMMITTEE WAS WELL AWARE THAT THERE HAD BEEN SOME CRITICISMS OF THE PROPOSED CHINESE TERMS FOR METRIC UNITS IN HONG KONG.

HE SAID, +WE HOPE THAT BY SHARING EXPERIENCES WITH OTHER CHINESE-SPEAKING COMMUNITIES, WE WILL BE ABLE TO COME UP WITH A SET OF CHINESE UNIT NAMES WHICH ARE ALTOGETHER COMMON, PRACTICABLE AND ACCEPTABLE TO THE PEOPLE HERE AS WELL AS IN OTHER CHINESE-SPEAKING COMMUNITIES.+

PROFESSOR KING ALSO DISCLOSED THAT A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES WILL BE HELD IN EARLY 1983 TO MARK THE BEGINNING OF A NEW ERA - THE IMPLEMENTATION STAGE OF THE METRICATION PROGRAMMES. THESE ACTIVITIES WILL INCLUDE A METRIC EXHIBITION AND A +METRIC 10 DAYS+ PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN.

THE ORGANISING CHAIRMAN OF +METRIC 10 DAYS+ AND CHAIRMAN OF THE CONSUMER GOODS AND SERVICES SECTOR COMMITTEE OF THE METRICATION COMMITTEE, MISS OPHELIA CHEUNG, ALSO SPOKE AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

SHE SAID THAT THE SECTOR COMMITTEE HAD SO FAR ACHIEVED A GREAT DEAL IN PROMOTING METRICATION IN HONG KONG AND IT HAD SET THE PLANS FOR THE COMING YEAR.

MISS CHEUNG ALSO POINTED OUT THAT LOCAL CLOTHING PRODUCTS WOULD GO METRIC IN SEPTEMBER.

+FROM THEN ON, BODY MEASUREMENTS WILL BE IN CENTIMETRES RATHER THAN INCHES, AND NEW METRIC CLOTHING SIZES WILL BE INTRODUCED,+ MISS CHEUNG SAID.

METRICATION PROGRAMMES FOR THE PIECE GOODS, TAILORING, DAIRY AND PRE-PACKAGED FOOD INDUSTRIES ARE ALSO BEING PLANNED.

PIECE GOODS MERCHANTS AND TAILORS WILL BE SUPPLIED WITH A NEW METRE STICK AND A 50-CENTIMETRE TAILORING RULER BY THIS SEPTEMBER, JUST BE IN TIME FOR THE TRADES' METRIC CHANGEOVER, SHE SAID.

THE DAIRY PRODUCTS INDUSTRY IS ALREADY HALFWAY INTO THE METRIC SYSTEM.

+THE COMMITTEE HAS CALLED ON MANUFACTURERS TO CHANGE TO METRIC PACKAGING IN JANUARY, 1983.

/+THERE ARE

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+THERE ARE ALSO PLANS TO PLACE METRIC WEIGHING INSTRUMENTS AT MARKETS AND HAWKER AREAS FOR USE BY CONSUMERS AND HAWKERS,+ MISS CHEUNG SAID.

IN ADDITION, HAWKERS AND STALL KEEPERS WILL BE GIVEN POSTERS AND CONVERSION CHARTS.

MISS CHEUNG ALSO DISCLOSED THAT THE COMMITTEE HAD AGREED TO STOP THE IMPORT AND MANUFACTURE OF NON-METRIC WEIGHING INSTRUMENTS AS FROM JANUARY, 1983.

EXISTING NON-METRIC WEIGHING INSTRUMENTS WILL BE MARKED WITH METRIC GRADUATIONS STARTING JANUARY 1984.

THE TYPES OF PRE-PACKAGED FOODS AND DRINKS TO GO METRIC FIRST WILL BE RICE, EDIBLE OIL, SUGAR, AND NOODLES.

MISS CHEUNG STRESSED THAT A MAJOR COMMITMENT OF THE COMMITTEE IN THE COMING YEAR WILL BE TO EDUCATE CONSUMERS ON THE BENEFITS OF PURCHASING GOODS IN METRIC UNITS.

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ILLEGAL STRUCTURES TO BE CLEARED FROM WONG TAI SIN
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FUNG WONG NEW VILLAGE IN WONG TAI SIN WILL SOON BE RID OF ALL ILLEGAL STRUCTURES FROM ITS BACK AND SIDE LANES WHICH ARE POSING SERIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AND HYGIENE PROBLEMS TO RESIDENTS IN THE AREA.

TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD AND THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS WILL CARRY OUT THE SECOND STAGE OF A CLEARANCE OPERATION TO REMOVE ALL THE WALL STALLS AND ILLEGAL EXTENSIONS IN THE BACKLANES OF FEI FUNG STREET AND MING FUNG STREET. THE FIRST STAGE OF THE OPERATION WAS COMPLETED ON MARCH 12.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE WONG TAI SIN CITY DISTRICT OFFICE SAID: +THE BACK LANES OF THESE STREETS HAVE LONG BEEN INFESTED WITH UNLICENSED WALL STALLS, ILLEGAL STRUCTURES AND EXTENSIONS, AND THE OPERATION IS AIMED AT REMOVING THEM TO IMPROVE THE DISTRICT'S ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITION.

+APART FROM POSING SERIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AND HYGIENE PROBLEMS TO THE AREA, THEY ALSO CAUSED OBSTRUCTION TO FIRE ESCAPES.+

+NOTICES AND SUFFICIENT TIME HAVE ALREADY BEEN GIVEN TO THE OWNERS OF THESE ILLEGAL STRUCTURES TO MOVE OUT BEFORE WE CARRY OUT OUR OPERATION.

+AFTER THE CLEARANCE STAFF OF HIGHWAYS OFFICE WILL REPAVE THE SURFACE OF THE BACKLANE.+ HE SAID.

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PUBLIC WARNED ABOUT ENDANGERED ANIMALS

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FINES TOTALLING \$50 000 WERE IMPOSED LAST YEAR ON 174 PEOPLE CONVICTED OF IMPORTING ENDANGERED ANIMALS AND THEIR PARTS INTO HONG KONG.

THE 174 PEOPLE WERE PROSECUTED UNDER THE ANIMALS AND PLANTS (PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES) ORDINANCE, WHICH IS THE HONG KONG LEGISLATION GIVING EFFECT TO THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA (CITES).

THE OFFENDERS WERE MOSTLY HONG KONG RESIDENTS RETURNING FROM VISITS TO CHINA AND OTHER NEIGHBOURING SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRIES BETWEEN APRIL LAST YEAR AND THE END OF LAST MONTH.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT SAID THAT DURING MARCH ALONE, EIGHT PEOPLE WERE INTERCEPTED FOR ILLEGALLY IMPORTING PANGOLINS, SEA TURTLES AND OWLS.

DURING THE YEAR, 36 LIVE PANGOLINS AND ANOTHER 13 BODIES OF THE ANIMAL WERE SEIZED FROM THE TRAVELLERS. OTHER SEIZURES INCLUDED 32 LIVE OWLS AND 78 SEA TURTLE SPECIMENS.

THE SEIZURES WERE VALUED AT \$580 000.

FORTY-THREE OTHER CASES STEMMING FROM SIMILAR SEIZURES ARE TO BE HEARD IN COURT.

THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED PEOPLE RETURNING TO HONG KONG AFTER VISITS TO CHINA AND OVERSEAS COUNTRIES THAT THEY SHOULD NOT BRING BACK SOUVENIRS OF LIVE OR PRESERVED ANIMALS LISTED UNDER THE ANIMALS AND PLANTS (PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES) ORDINANCE.

SOME RESIDENTS HAD BEEN FOUND IN POSSESSION OF SOUVENIRS, SUCH AS STUFFED SEA TURTLES, CROCODILES, AND TIGER AND LEOPARD SKINS AFTER VISITS TO SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRIES.

ALL THESE ANIMALS AND SOME RARE PLANTS, SUCH AS WILD ORCHIDS, AND WILD AMERICAN GINSENG ARE ENDANGERED SPECIES AND AS SUCH ARE PROTECTED BY LAW.

THE SPOKESMAN WARNED THAT ANY PERSON TRYING TO IMPORT OR POSSESS THESE ENDANGERED SPECIES IS CONTRAVENING THE LAW AND IS LIABLE TO PROSECUTION.

THE LAW PROVIDES FOR A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$5 000 FOR FIRST OFFENCES IN ADDITION TO FORFEITURE OF THE ILLEGAL IMPORTS.

ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ARE KEEPING A CLOSE WATCH ON TRAVELLERS AT ENTRY POINTS IN LO WU, HUNG HOM AND THE AIRPORT, HE ADDED.

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NEW APPROACHES FOR PRIMARY MATHS TEACHERS
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TWO SHORT COURSES ON THE TEACHING OF MATHEMATICS FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS WILL BE HELD BY THE MATHEMATICS TEACHING CENTRE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT FROM APRIL TO JULY.

+THESE TWO TWO-DAY COURSES, ONE FOR LOWER PRIMARY TEACHERS AND ONE FOR UPPER PRIMARY TEACHERS, AIMED AT INTRODUCING SOME NEW APPROACHES TO MATHEMATICS TEACHING, PARTICULARLY LEARNING THROUGH ACTIVITY AND DISCOVERY, + AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

THERE WILL BE FOUR CLASSES FOR EACH COURSE, CONSISTING OF LECTURES, PRACTICAL WORK AND DISCUSSIONS.

THE COURSES ARE FREE OF CHARGE. ALL CLASSES WILL BE HELD AT ADVISORY INSPECTORATE TEACHING CENTRES, 3/F, ROOMS 17 AND 18, 4 PAK FUK ROAD, NORTH POINT.

OWING TO LIMITED FACILITIES, ONLY 40 TEACHERS CAN BE ACCOMMODATED IN EACH CLASS. APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS. HOWEVER, PRIORITY WILL BE GIVEN TO THOSE TEACHERS WHO HAVE NEVER ATTENDED SIMILAR COURSES RUN BY THE CENTRE.

NOMINATIONS FROM SCHOOL HEADS SHOULD BE SENT BEFORE APRIL 15 TO THE INSPECTOR (PRIMARY MATHEMATICS), MATHEMATICS SECTION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, ROOM 526, LEE GARDENS, HYSAN AVENUE, HONG KONG.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE BY CONTACTING THE MATHEMATICS SECTION, AT 5-774001 EXT. 47.

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JOINT EXERCISE
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A JOINT POLICE AND MILITARY COMMUNICATIONS EXERCISE WILL BE HELD BETWEEN MID-DAY WEDNESDAY (APRIL 7) AND MID-DAY THURSDAY (APRIL 8).

THE EXERCISE, DESIGNED TO PRACTICE COMMAND AND CONTROL ORGANISATIONS AND TO TEST COMMUNICATIONS WILL NOT INVOLVE THE MOVEMENT OF ANY LARGE POLICE OR MILITARY UNITS ON THE GROUND.

NO INCONVENIENCE TO THE PUBLIC IS EXPECTED.

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BISHOP KWONG VISITS PENAL INSTITUTIONS

THE BISHOP OF HONG KONG, THE RT REV PETER KWONG KONG-KIT, TODAY (TUESDAY) VISITED PIK UK PRISON AND PIK UK CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION, IN THE COURSE OF VISITS TO GET TO KNOW THE WORK OF DIFFERENT TYPES OF INSTITUTIONS ADMINISTERED BY THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE PRISONS CHAPLAINS, FATHER STEPHEN EDMONDS AND REV CHUNG KA-LOK, BISHOP KWONG TOURED THE TWO INSTITUTIONS, SAW THE VARIOUS FACILITIES PROVIDED, INCLUDING ACCOMMODATIONS FOR INMATES, THE NEWLY-BUILT LAUNDRY, HOSPITALS, KITCHENS AND WORKSHOPS. HE WAS ALSO BRIEFED BY SUPERINTENDENTS IN CHARGE OF THE VARIOUS PROGRAMMES PROVIDED.

PIK UK PRISON IS A PURPOSE-BUILT MINIMUM SECURITY PRISON AND ITS NEWLY-BUILT FIVE-STORY LAUNDRY IS CAPABLE OF HANDLING 5.5 MILLION KILOGRAMMES OF SOILED LINEN A YEAR FROM GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS AND CLINICS.

PIK UK CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION OPERATES AS A MULTI-FUNCTIONAL MAXIMUM SECURITY INSTITUTION WITH FACILITIES FOR A RECEPTION CENTRE, A TRAINING CENTRE AND A PRISON FOR YOUNG OFFENDERS. ITS CORRECTIONAL PROGRAMMES FOR YOUNG OFFENDERS INCLUDE HALF-DAY EDUCATIONAL CLASS AND HALF-DAY VOCATIONAL TRAINING IN ONE OF THE TRADES AVAILABLE, CONDUCTED BY QUALIFIED SCHOOLMASTERS AND INSTRUCTORS.

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COURSE FEE REVISION FOR INDOOR DRIVING INSTRUCTION

FROM APRIL 15 (THURSDAY) COURSE FEES FOR INDOOR DRIVING INSTRUCTION AT THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT'S PUI CHING ROAD CENTRE WILL BE INCREASED FROM \$200 TO \$250 BECAUSE OF HIGHER OPERATIONAL COSTS.

THIS IS THE FIRST FEE INCREASE SINCE THE COURSE WAS INTRODUCED IN JUNE, 1974.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (TUESDAY), A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID THE COURSE FEE REVISION WAS ENDORSED BY THE WORKING GROUP ON TRANSPORT FEES AND CHARGES.

THE CENTRE PROVIDES A 15-HOUR TRAINING PROGRAMME ON ROAD DISCIPLINE AND BASIC DRIVING TECHNIQUES WITH SIMULATORS AND FILMS.

THE CENTRE HAS PROVED TO BE VERY POPULAR, AND ALL CLASSES HAVE BEEN FULLY BOOKED SINCE ITS INTRODUCTION.

CLASSES ARE HELD SEVEN DAYS A WEEK FROM 7.30 AM TO 10.30 PM.

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HOLIDAY HOURS FOR MARINE DEPARTMENT
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THE MARINE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT ITS MACAU FERRY TERMINAL OFFICE AND TSUEN WAN PUBLIC CARGO WORKING AREA WILL REMAIN OPEN THROUGHOUT THE EASTER HOLIDAYS FROM FRIDAY TO MONDAY (APRIL 12).

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE HOURS FOR THE OTHER OFFICES :

- * THE ENTRY AND CLEARANCE OFFICE WILL BE OPEN FROM 9 AM TO 11 AM ON SUNDAY;
- * THE VICTORIA MARINE OFFICE WILL BE OPEN FROM 9 AM TO 11 AM ON SATURDAY AND MONDAY; AND
- * THE FIVE PUBLIC CARGO WORKING AREAS IN WAN CHAI, YAU MA TEI, KWUN TONG, WESTERN DISTRICT AND RAMBLER CHANNEL WILL BE OPEN FROM 7 AM TO 11 PM DURING THE HOLIDAYS.

ALL OTHER OFFICES OF THE DEPARTMENT WILL BE CLOSED.

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WATER FIGURES
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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (TUESDAY) STOOD AT 36.5 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 211.116 MILLION CUBIC METRES, EQUIVALENT TO 168 DAYS' CONSUMPTION.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 238.277 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 41.2 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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