



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
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Thursday, August 3, 1995

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Tender of Tamar Basin announced

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The Lands Department announced today (Thursday) that it had awarded the tender of the site in Tamar basin (I.L. No. 8822) to Goldon Investment Limited which is a subsidiary of Citic Pacific Ltd.

The premium tendered is \$3.351 billion which equates to an overall accommodation value of \$64,195 per square meter.

The Director of Lands, Mr Bob Pope, said that he was very pleased with the result. He confirmed that eight tenders were received and added that this showed there was a great deal of interest in the site.

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Response to enquiry on tribunal appeals judgement

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In response to press enquires arising from a judgement delivered by Mr Justice Findlay on the three appeals against the decisions of the Obscene Articles Tribunal on Tuesday (August 1), a spokesman of the Judiciary said a decision on whether to appeal was yet to be made.

"In an individual case, the criticism of a lower court's decision by a higher court is not unknown within the Judiciary," added the spokesman.

The Obscene Articles Tribunal is set up under the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance. The major duties of the Tribunal include the determination of public standards, both social and moral, and classifications in accordance with this ordinance.

"The Tribunal understands its roles and functions. Members of the Tribunal are responsible members of the community. They perform a very difficult and demanding task with great sensitivity and dedication," said the spokesman.

"The operation of the Tribunal are kept under constant review," the spokesman added.

End/Thursday, August 3, 1995

Fund granted for disaster relief in China

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The Disaster Relief Fund Advisory Committee today (Thursday) approved four grants totalling \$15 million from the Disaster Relief Fund for flood and earthquake victims in China.

A Government spokesman said the grants were made in response to four applications, one each from the Hong Kong Red Cross and World Vision Hong Kong and two from Oxfam Hong Kong. These include:

For flood victims in China:

Oxfam Hong Kong	\$2.5 million
Hong Kong Red Cross	\$6 million
World Vision Hong Kong	\$5 million

For earthquake victims in Yunnan:

Oxfam Hong Kong	\$1.5 million
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The widespread flooding in China has affected 10 provinces along the Yangtze River and more than 100 million people in the region, while the earthquake in Yunnan has affected 340 000 people.

The spokesman said, "the Committee is satisfied that the applications are in line with the guidelines for grants from the Fund. And the relief organisations which received the grants are required to submit to the Hong Kong Government an evaluation report and an audited account on the use of the money.

"The Committee is also concerned that these recent disasters have not attracted much public attention in Hong Kong, and appeals to the public to give a helping hand."

A total of \$32 million has been granted since the setting up of the Disaster Relief Fund in December 1993. As the main source of the Fund comes from public donations and appropriations from the General Reserve, the spokesman called on members of the public to make donations to the Fund.

The Advisory Committee is chaired by the Chief Secretary. Other members include Ms Rosanna Wong, Dr Raymond Ch'ien, Mrs Elsie Tu, Mr Hui Yin-fat, the Secretary for Health and Welfare and the Secretary for the Treasury.

Enquires can be made to the Secretary to the Disaster Relief Fund Advisory Committee, Room 553, Central Government Offices, East Wing, or at 2810 3503.

End/Thursday, August 3, 1995

Eight more nominations of LegCo candidates

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Eight nominations of candidates were received today (Thursday) for the Legislative Council Elections in September.

They were Mr Wong Siu-yee for Kowloon South Geographical Constituency (GC); Wong Wang-fat, Andrew, for New Territories South-east GC; Mr Chan Wai-yip, Albert, for New Territories Central GC; Mr Chan Wan-sang for New Territories West GC; Mr Ho Chung-tai for the Engineering Functional Constituency (FC); Mr Law Chi-kwong for the Social Welfare FC; Mr Kwan Lim-ho for Import and Export FC; and Mr Leong Che-hung, Edward, for the Medical FC. Details are as follows:

Mr Wong Siu-yee

Sex: M

Age: 42

Occupation: Full time board member

Telephone: (Day) 2333 2080

(Night) 2711 6409

Inc/Pol*: DB/Liberal Democratic Federation

Mr Wong Wang-fat, Andrew

Sex: M

Age: 51

Occupation: Lecturer

Telephone: (Day) 2699 7699

(Night) 2602 6732

Inc/Pol: Nil

Mr Chan Wan-sang

Sex: M
Age: 45
Occupation: Full time DB member
Telephone: (Day) 2450 3636
(Night) 2458 5174

Inc/Pol: DB/Independent

Chan Wai-Yip, Albert

Sex: M
Age: 40
Occupation: Self-employed
Telephone: (Day) 2411 3107
2416 2382
(Night) 1128632 A/C 9002

Inc/Pol: DB/Democratic Party

Mr Ho Chung-tai

Sex: M
Age: 56
Occupation: Engineer
Telephone: (Day) 2570 1566
(Night) 132382313

Inc/Pol: Nil

Mr Law Chi-kwong

Sex: M

Age: 41

Occupation: University Lecturer

Telephone: (Day) 2859 2080

(Night) 2548 3858

Inc/Pol: Democratic Party

Mr Kwan Lim-ho

Sex: M

Age: 48

Occupation: Trade Manager

Telephone: (Day) 2845 7910

(Night) 2536 4693

Inc/Pol: Nil

Mr Leong Che-hung, Edward

Sex: M.

Age: 56

Occupation: Medical Doctor

Telephone: (Day) 2524 9596

(Night) 2524 9596

Inc/Pol: Nil

* Inc - Incumbent District Board/Council member

Pol - Political Affiliation

That brings the total number of nominations to 74 as at the close of nomination today.

End/Thursday, August 3, 1995

Revised Route 3 scheme approved

* * * * *

The Governor-in-Council has approved that Phase II of the Route 3 Country Park Section should be constructed according to a revised scheme.

A Government spokesman today (Thursday) said: "The revision seeks to modify the original proposal gazetted in October last year by shifting the road alignments and replacing some sections of elevated roads by carriageways at grade, at the Au Tau Interchange."

"The modifications also include reprovisioning of access roads with footpaths at the Au Tau Interchange and amendments to the boundary of the works area," he said.

Construction works for Phase II of the Route 3 Country Park Section are scheduled to commence on site starting from December.

The Route 3 Country Park Section will provide a fast link between Ting Kau and Yuen Long. Upon completion of the project in late 1998, it will relieve congestion at Tuen Mun Road and improve road links between the border and the container port. Plans showing the modified works are available for public inspection at the Public Enquiry Service Centre of the Central and Western District Office, Yuen Long District Lands Office and Yuen Long District Office.

End/Thursday, August 3, 1995

Results of student finance scheme announced

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The Student Financial Assistance Agency (SFAA) has informed some 9500 students the results of their applications for grants and loans for the academic year 1995/96.

A spokesman said another 2500 applicants would be informed of the results within the next two weeks.

SFAA has received applications from more than 21400 students for financial assistance under the Local Student Finance Scheme (LSFS) in the next academic year.

"The processing of the remaining 9400 odd applications, including a significant number of late submissions, was being held up pending the provision of additional information from the applicants," the spokesman said.

Students should submit the necessary information as soon as possible to avoid delays.

Full-time students of 11 post secondary institutions who need financial assistance are entitled to apply under the LSFS. The scheme is set to ensure no eligible student would be denied the opportunity to pursue further education due to lack of means.

The scheme covers the seven tertiary institutions funded by the University Grants Committee, namely the City University of Hong Kong, the Hong Kong Baptist University, the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, the Lingnan College, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, the Hong Kong University of Science & Technology and the University of Hong Kong.

The other four institutions being covered are the Hong Kong Technical College (Chai Wan), the Hong Kong Technical College (Tsing Yi), the Prince Philip Dental Hospital and the Hong Kong Institute of Education.

End/Thursday, August 3, 1995

Education chief calls on schools to admit kids from China

* * * * *

The Director of Education, Mr W K Lam, today (Thursday) appealed to heads of schools to give favourable consideration to applications for school places by school-age immigrant children from China when school places are available.

Mr Lam said: "These children are eligible for entry to public sector schools and like their local counterparts are entitled to receive education. They should not be refused from admission solely on grounds of over-age and inadequate academic standard."

"As provided under the Codes of Aid, the Director of Education may direct an aided school to admit to that school as a pupil a child who is referred by him to fill an available vacant place where necessary."

As a result of the increase in the daily quota for immigrants from China, a number of school-age children will be entering Hong Kong's education system each year. An administration circular calling on school heads to offer places and assistance to these children was issued this week.

Mr Lam reminded heads of schools to make use of the existing support services, such as school guidance and counselling services and remedial teaching to help immigrant pupils overcome learning difficulties and adjustment problems.

"As parents' co-operation and support are important, school heads are also encouraged to keep close contact with parents and inform them of what the schools are doing or trying to do for their children," he said.

The Services Division of the Education Department is available to provide resource classes, peripatetic teaching service, resource teaching centres and adjustment programmes to help those immigrant pupils who experience more serious learning difficulties and require intensive remedial services to help them cope with the curriculum.

Other existing support or assessment services provided by the Services Division will render assistance to those immigrant children with learning or behavioural difficulties and those with hearing, visual or speech problems.

The Education Department also runs an induction programme for new immigrant children from China through voluntary organisations to help those children who arrive at Hong Kong for less than six months adapt to the local social and school environment.

Mr Lam requested heads of schools to bring the attention of these pupils to such service and encourage them to make use of the service as far as possible.

Parents or guardians of immigrant children from China may approach district education offices of the Education Department for help. District education officers will continue to offer placement assistance to them and refer eligible children to schools for admission in accordance with the procedural guidelines.

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21-Gun Salute to mark Queen Mother's birthday

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The Royal Navy will mark the official birthday of Her Majesty The Queen Mother tomorrow (Friday) with a 21-Gun Salute, fired from HMS Plover, at precisely 12 noon, as she sails through Hong Kong Harbour.

Since HMS Tamar moved from Prince of Wales Barracks to Stonecutters Island in 1993 salutes have been fired from a site on the south shore of that island. However, the site was unsatisfactory because it was invisible to the public and it has since been enveloped by preparatory work for the new naval base for the PLA Navy.

New saluting cannon have therefore been brought out from the UK so that salutes can be fired from a sea-going warship in the full view of much of the city.

You are invited to send representatives to photograph the event which will be visible from the waterfront at Queen's Pier, Central.

End/Thursday, August 3, 1995

Grading of beach water quality

* * * * *

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) today (Thursday) announced the latest gradings of Hong Kong's beaches, based on the bacteriological water quality.

The purpose of the grading system is to inform swimmers and the general public about the state of bacteriological pollution at various beaches.

The grading will be announced biweekly during the bathing season to coincide with the frequency at which beach waters are usually sampled.

The grading is based on the most recent data obtained by EPD in its routine monitoring programme.

It gives an estimate on the risk of contracting some minor skin or gastrointestinal illnesses resulted from swimming at a beach with some degree of pollution. The estimate is based on a large scale epidemiological study carried out in Hong Kong in the past bathing seasons.

The grading of some beaches fluctuates during the summer. In most cases, this represents a natural fluctuation in the bacteriological quality of bathing waters as rain and tides bring more or less pollution to the beaches.

Beaches with highly developed hinterlands are likely to be more polluted than the grades suggested during and after heavy rain.

Principal Environmental Protection Officer, Dr Daniel Lau said: "Bathers should avoid swimming at such beaches for two to three days after a storm, or even longer if the weather remains overcast, shorter if there is strong sunshine". However, the biweekly grades give a general picture of the most recent water quality at bathing beaches at the time of reporting and form the best available forecast for the immediate future.

The system for grading beach water quality is as follows:

Grade "1" indicates that the water quality is good. The E coli count is no more than 24 per 100 millilitres at each beach so graded, and the expected risk of minor illness to swimmers is undetectable.

Grade "2" indicates that the water quality is fair. The E coli count is no more than 180 per 100 millilitres at each beach so graded, and the expected health risk is no more than 10 cases of minor illness per 1,000 swimmers.

Grade "3" indicates that the water quality is poor. The E coli count is no more than 610 per 100 millilitres at each beach so graded, and the expected health risk is no more than 15 cases of minor illness per 1,000 swimmers.

Grade "4" indicates that the water quality is very poor. The E coli count is more than 610 per 100 millilitres at each beach so graded, and the expected health risk is more than 15 cases of minor illness per 1,000 swimmers.

The decision whether or not to close a beach to swimmers is based on a judgement of what degree of pollution is acceptable.

Normally, the closure of a beach would only be considered by the Urban or Regional Council if a grade "4" occurred repeatedly, so that the average health risk over the bathing season exceeded 15 cases per 1,000 swimmers.

At present four gazetted beaches, namely Anglers', Castle Peak, Old Cafeteria, and Rocky Bay, are closed to swimmers. The decision to close the beaches has been made by the Regional and Urban Councils on the basis of beach water quality monitoring data for 1994. The public are advised not to swim at these beaches. They are identified by an "X" in the following list.

The grades of the bacteriological water quality of various beaches in Hong Kong today are listed below :

Beach	Previous Grading (as at 20.7.95)	Present Grading (as at 3.8.95)
Hong Kong South		

Big Wave Bay	2	3
Chung Hom Kok	1	2
Deep Water Bay	2	3
Hairpin	1	2
Middle Bay	2	2
Repulse Bay	1	2
Shek O	2	2
South Bay	1	1
St. Stephen's	1	2
Turtle Cove	2	2
Stanley Main	2	2
Rocky Bay	X	X
To Tei Wan*	1	2
Tuen Mun District		

Golden Beach	2	3
Old Cafeteria	X	X
New Cafeteria	3	4
Castle Peak	X	X
Kadoorie	3	4
Butterfly	3	3

Sai Kung District

Campers	1	1
Clear Water Bay 1st Beach	2	2
Clear Water Bay 2nd Beach	2	2
Hap Mun Bay	1	1
Kiu Tsui	1	1
Pak Sha Chau	1	1
Silverstrand	3	3
Trio (Hebe Haven)	1	1

Beach	Previous Grading (as at 20.7.95)	Present Grading (as at 3.8.95)
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Islands District

Cheung Sha Upper	1	1
Cheung Sha Lower	3	3
Discovery Bay*	2	2
Hung Shing Yeh	1	1
Kwun Yam Wan	2	2
Tong Fuk	1	1
Lo So Shing	1	1
Pui O	2	2
Silvermine Bay	4	4
Tung Wan, Cheung Chau	2	2
Tung O*	2	2

Tsuen Wan District

Anglers'	X	X
Approach	4	4
Casam	4	4
Gemini	3	3
Hoi Mei Wan	3	4
Lido	4	4
Ting Kau	4	4
Tung Wan, Ma Wan	2	3

Note : "X" The beach has been closed for swimming purposes.

* Ungazetted beaches.

The following beaches have changed grading on this occasion:

Chung Hom Kok, Hairpin, Repulse Bay, St. Stephen's and To Tei Wan from "1" to "2"; Big Wave Bay, Deep Water Bay, Golden Beach and Tung Wan of Ma Wan From "2" to "3"; New Cafeteria, Kadoorie and Hoi Mei Wan from "3" to "4".

The changes are within the normal range of fluctuation of the bacteriological water quality of these beaches. The general deterioration of beach water quality is probably due to the recent heavy rainfall which would have caused the pollutants in the beach hinterland to be flushed into the sea water.

For further enquiries, please contact Dr Daniel Lau on 2755-2230 or 2755-1667.

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Fresh water cuts in Quarry Bay and Fanling

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Fresh water supply to some premises in Quarry Bay and Fanling will be temporarily suspended from 11 pm on Monday (August 7) to 6 am the following day to facilitate water mains leakage detection.

The suspension will affect all the premises at 865-939 King's Road in Quarry Bay, as well as Pik Fung Road, Jockey Club Road, Ling Shan Tsuen and Fan Gardens Camp in Fanling.

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Hong Kong Monetary Authority money market operations

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	\$ million	Time (hours)	Cumulative change (\$million)
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Opening balance in the account	1,774	0930	+531
Closing balance in the account	1,861	1000	+524
Change attributable to :		1100	+524
Money market activity	+572	1200	+572
LAF today	-485	1500	+572
		1600	+572

LAF rate 4.25% bid/6.25% offer TWI 119.6 *+0.2* 3.8.95

Hong Kong Monetary Authority

EF bills		EF notes				
Terms	Yield	Term	Issue	Coupon	Price	Yield
1 week	5.32	2 years	2705	6.40	100.77	6.02
1 month	5.36	3 years	3807	6.16	99.54	6.43
3 months	5.44	5 years	5006	6.60	98.44	7.10
6 months	5.53	5 years	M501	7.90	101.90	7.56
12 months	5.62					

Total turnover of EF bills and notes - \$9,678 million

Closed August 3, 1995

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