



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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STATEMENT ON JUDICIAL APPOINTMENT

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IN RESPONSE TO PRESS ENQUIRIES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE JUDICIARY SAID TODAY (SATURDAY):

"THERE IS A FIRM POLICY OF ENCOURAGING LAWYERS IN HONG KONG TO JOIN THE JUDICIARY. TO THIS END, THE CHIEF JUSTICE IS IN FREQUENT TOUCH WITH HEADS OF THE LEGAL PROFESSIONS, AND HIS VIEWS ARE WELL-KNOWN.

"THE THREE CRITERIA FOR JUDICIAL APPOINTMENT, ANNOUNCED PUBLICLY IN THE PAST, ARE: FIRST, COMPETENCE IN LAW, SECOND, JUDICIAL TEMPERAMENT, AND THIRD, PROPRIETY OF CONDUCT.

"APART FROM PROMOTIONS WITHIN THE JUDICIARY, AND APPOINTMENTS OF LAWYERS FROM GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS TO JUDICIAL POSTS, THERE ARE LAWYERS FROM PRIVATE PRACTICE WHO JOIN THE BENCH. ALL JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS ARE MADE WITH THE THREE CRITERIA IN MIND.

"A LOCAL LAWYER IS PREFERRED TO AN EXPATRIATE FOR HIS KNOWLEDGE OF THE LOCAL LANGUAGE, CUSTOMS, CONDITIONS, ETC.

"THE NUMBER OF THOSE FOUND SUITABLE FOR ELEVATION TO THE SUPREME COURT ARE NECESSARILY SMALL, AND LIMITED TO QUEEN'S COUNSEL OF EXPERIENCE.

"THE DISTRICT COURT AND MAGISTRATES' COURTS ARE OPEN TO ALL BARRISTERS AND SOLICITORS OF EXPERIENCE, AND THE PROFESSIONS ARE INVITED TO APPLY WHENEVER VACANCIES OCCUR.

"SUITABLE LAWYERS IN PRIVATE PRACTICE ARE SOMETIMES APPOINTED TEMPORARY JUDGES AND MAGISTRATES, PRINCIPALLY FOR THREE REASONS: FIRST, FOR THE JUDICIARY TO SEE HOW THEY PERFORM AS JUDGES WITH A VIEW TO FUTURE APPOINTMENT, SECOND, FOR THE INDIVIDUAL LAWYERS TO DETERMINE WHETHER THEY LIKE JUDICIAL WORK IN THE HOPE THEY WOULD JOIN THE JUDICIARY, AND THIRD, FOR BETTER UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE BENCH AND THE BAR.

"AS TO LISTING, EXPERIENCE, OVER MANY YEARS, HAS DEMONSTRATED THAT IN ORDER TO ASSIST LISTING IN THE HIGH COURT TO ANY APPRECIABLE EXTENT, A GREATER NUMBER OF QUEEN'S COUNSEL IN PRIVATE PRACTICE SHOULD MAKE AN ANNUAL COMMITMENT OF SITTING AS TEMPORARY JUDGES FOR NOT LESS THAN THREE MONTHS.

"AT THE MOMENT, A FEW ARE WILLING TO BE APPOINTED TEMPORARY JUDGES AND THEY SIT FOR ABOUT ONE MONTH.

"THE DIARIES IN THE OTHER COURTS CAUSE NO PROBLEM AT PRESENT."

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FS COMMENTS ON SFC AND SEHK ANNOUNCEMENT

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COMMENTING TODAY (SATURDAY) ON THE ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION (SFC) AND THE STOCK EXCHANGE OF HONG KONG LTD (SEHK), THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, CONFIRMED THAT THE SFC HAD CONSULTED HIM BEFORE ISSUING RESTRICTION NOTICES TO THE SEHK UNDER SECTION 50 OF THE SFC ORDINANCE.

HE WENT ON TO WELCOME THE FACT THAT EFFORTS WERE CONTINUING BY THE SEHK TO SECURE MEMBERSHIP APPROVAL OF A REVISED VOLUNTARY PACKAGE WHICH WOULD HAVE TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF SFC.

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PUBLIC REMINDED AGAINST ILLEGAL CAMPING IN COUNTRY PARKS

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HOLIDAY-MAKERS WHO WISH TO CAMP IN COUNTRY PARKS HAVE BEEN REMINDED THAT THEY CAN DO SO ONLY IN DESIGNATED CAMP SITES WITHIN THE COUNTRY PARKS AREA.

"ALTOGETHER, THERE ARE 36 DESIGNATED CAMP SITES IN HONG KONG'S 21 COUNTRY PARKS AND MOST OF THESE SITES ARE LOCATED NEAR THE POPULAR HIKING ROUTES.

"THEY CAN BE EASILY IDENTIFIED BY SIGNBOARDS PUT UP BY THE COUNTRY PARKS AUTHORITY," SENIOR COUNTRY PARKS OFFICER OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, MR C.C. LAY, SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE DESIGNATED CAMP SITES WERE PROVIDED WITH BASIC FACILITIES SUCH AS LEVEL GROUND, WOODEN BENCHES, BARBECUE PITS, DRY PIT TOILETS AND LITTER BINS.

"THESE SITES HAVE BEEN CAREFULLY CHOSEN FOR PLEASANT AND SAFE CAMPING AND TO PREVENT CAMPERS FROM POLLUTING WATER SOURCES OR STARTING A HILLFIRE, THESE SITES ARE LOCATED OUTSIDE DIRECT WATER CATCHMENT AREAS AND FAR AWAY FROM DENSE WOODS," MR LAY EXPLAINED.

"APART FROM SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION CONSIDERATIONS, THE DESIGNATION OF CAMP SITES IN COUNTRY PARKS WILL MAKE MANAGEMENT EASIER AND ENSURE THAT CAMPERS WILL NOT GET IN THE WAY OF COUNTRY PARK VISITORS ENGAGED IN OTHER FORMS OF RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES," HE CONTINUED.

MR LAY REMINDED THAT UNDER THE COUNTRY PARKS AND SPECIAL AREA REGULATIONS, CAMPING IN COUNTRY PARKS OTHER THAN IN A DESIGNATED CAMP SITE IS AN OFFENCE WHICH CARRIES A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$2,000 AND IMPRISONMENT FOR THREE MONTHS.

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IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS, 34 CAMPERS WERE PROSECUTED AND FINED A TOTAL OF \$7,000 FOR ILLEGAL CAMPING IN COUNTRY PARKS. THE FINES RANGED FROM \$300 TO \$400.

NOTING THAT COMPLAINTS ABOUT NOISY CAMPERS WERE RECEIVED BY THE DEPARTMENT NOW AND THEN, MR LAY APPEALED TO CAMPERS TO BE MORE CONSIDERATE.

"THEY SHOULD KEEP THEIR VOICES DOWN AND TURN DOWN THE VOLUME OF THEIR RADIO CASSETTE RECORDERS, PARTICULARLY AT NIGHT, SO AS NOT TO DISTURB THOSE CAMPING NEXT TO THEM," HE URGED.

HE REMINDED CAMPERS THAT CAUSING NOISE NUISANCE IN A COUNTRY PARK IS ALSO AN OFFENCE AND OFFENDERS ARE AGAIN LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$2,000 AND IMPRISONMENT FOR THREE MONTHS.

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1,459 TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS IN SEPTEMBER

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A TOTAL OF 1,791 CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED IN 1,459 TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS WHICH OCCURRED THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY LAST MONTH.

A POLICE SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (SATURDAY) THAT 302 OF THESE ACCIDENTS OCCURRED ON HONG KONG ISLAND, 392 IN KOWLOON EAST, 425 IN KOWLOON WEST AND 340 IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE PROVISIONAL FIGURES FOR SEPTEMBER SHOWED THAT 24 PEOPLE WERE KILLED, 388 SERIOUSLY INJURED AND 1,379 SLIGHTLY INJURED IN THESE ACCIDENTS.

THE NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS AND THE NUMBER OF CASUALTIES HAVE INCREASED BY 15.9 PER CENT AND 12.6 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY OVER THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

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SPEEDPOST SERVICE TO IRELAND SUSPENDED

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THE POSTMASTER GENERAL, MR DOMINIC S.W. WONG, ANNOUNCED TODAY (SATURDAY) THAT OWING TO INDUSTRIAL ACTION BY POSTAL WORKERS IN THE IRISH REPUBLIC, THE SPEEDPOST SERVICE THERE IS UNABLE TO OPERATE. AS A RESULT, SPEEDPOST SERVICE FROM HONG KONG TO IRELAND HAS BEEN SUSPENDED WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT.

A FURTHER ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE MADE AS AND WHEN SERVICE CAN BE RESUMED.

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1991

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS
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	DATE -----	\$ MILLION -----
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	4.10.91	600
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	5.10.91	NEUTRAL
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		NEUTRAL

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