



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FIRST WATER SPORTS CENTRE TAKING SHAPE

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HONG KONG WILL HAVE ITS FIRST WATER SPORTS CENTRE EARLY NEXT YEAR.

THE MULTI-MILLION-DOLLAR CENTRE COMPRISING A NUMBER OF JOINT-USER FACILITIES AND INDIVIDUAL CLUB HOUSES IS TAKING SHAPE AT TAI MEI TUK NEAR PLOVER COVE.

ON THE 5 500-SQUARE METRE SITE, THE GOVERNMENT WILL PROVIDE A CANTEEN, HOSTELS, WASHROOMS, CHANGING FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT SUCH AS CANOES, DINGHIES AND YACHTS FOR COMMUNAL USE WHILE SEVERAL VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS WILL SET UP THEIR OWN CLUB HOUSES.

COMMENTING ON THIS JOINT-VENTURE TODAY (WEDNESDAY) MR. WONG KIN-FAI, TECHNICAL AND PLANNING OFFICER OF THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE SAID HE ANTICIPATED THAT TAI MEI TUK WILL BECOME A MAJOR CENTRE FOR WATER SPORTS ACTIVITIES WHEN THE AREA IS FULLY DEVELOPED.

+THE PROPOSAL CAME ABOUT,+ ACCORDING TO MR. WONG,+AFTER THE GOVERNMENT RECEIVED APPLICATIONS FROM VOLUNTARY AGENCIES FOR THE ALLOCATION OF LAND IN THE PLOVER COVE AREA TO SET UP WATER SPORTS FACILITIES.+

SUBSEQUENTLY, THE SITE WAS CHOSEN AND EARMARKED FOR DEVELOPMENT BY VARIOUS PARTICIPATING VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, HE SAID.

IN ORDER TO ECONOMISE CONSTRUCTION COSTS FALLING ON THESE ORGANISATIONS AND TO COPE WITH THE INCREASING POPULARITY OF WATER SPORTS AS EVIDENCED BY INCREASING NUMBER OF PEOPLE GOING TO BEACHES AND THE SEA, ABOUT \$1.5 MILLION WAS ALLOCATED FROM THE GOVERNOR'S SPECIAL FUND TO PROVIDE THE ESSENTIAL FACILITIES.

+CHARGE FOR BOARD AND LODGING, AND THE USE OF EQUIPMENT WILL BE MINIMAL WHILE THE USE OF OTHER FACILITIES WILL BE ENTIRELY FREE,+ MR. WONG SAID.

HE NOTED THAT THE SITE IS SITUATED NEAR THE MAIN DAM OF THE PLOVER COVE WATER SCHEME WHICH TOGETHER WITH THE SURROUNDING ISLANDS ACT AS NATURAL WINDBREAKS, AND THE RELATIVELY CALM WATER SERVES AS AN EXCELLENT PRACTISING GROUND FOR NOVICE CANOEISTS AND SAILORS.

+AT THE SAME TIME, THE MORE EXPERIENCED ENTHUSIASTS CAN VENTURE OUT TO TOLO HARBOUR TO THE SOUTH.+

+THE CENTRE WILL UNDOUBTEDLY ADD A NEW DIMENSION TO WATER RECREATION IN HONG KONG,+ HE ADDED.

MR. WONG SAID THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE WILL RUN COURSES AT VARIOUS LEVELS FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC WHO DO NOT BELONG TO ANY OF THE ORGANISATIONS PARTICIPATING IN THE SCHEME.

HE ALSO STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF SAFETY IN WATER SPORTS ACTIVITIES. WHILE PARTICIPANTS AT THE CENTRE WILL BE URGED TO OBSERVE ALL THE SAFETY RULES, THE RSS WILL ON ITS PART PROVIDE FAST RESCUE CRAFT TO PATROL THE BOATING AREA.

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NEW MEASURES TO FIGHT TB

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SHORT-COURSE CHEMOTHERAPY, A NEW TREATMENT REGIME FOR TUBERCULOSIS ADOPTED BY THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT SINCE MARCH THIS YEAR, HAS PROVED TO BE VERY EFFECTIVE.

+RESPONSE FROM PATIENTS TO THIS SHORT, EFFECTIVE AND FREE TREATMENT HAS BEEN MOST ENCOURAGING,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY.

DURING THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS UP TO OCTOBER, MORE THAN 3 000 PATIENTS WERE PUT ON THIS TREATMENT COURSE WHICH CONSISTED OF SEVERAL DRUGS TAKEN TOGETHER OVER A PERIOD OF FOUR TO SIX MONTHS, HE SAID.

+MANY HAVE ALREADY COMPLETED THE COURSE AND ARE FREE FROM THE DISEASE WHICH NORMALLY TAKES BETWEEN A YEAR AND 18 MONTHS TO CURE,+ HE ADDED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE DROP-OUT RATE FOR THE CHEMOTHERAPY TREATMENT WAS ONLY TWO PER CENT, WHICH WAS CONSIDERED TO BE VERY LOW FOR TREATMENT OF THIS NATURE.

APART FROM RENDERING MEDICAL TREATMENT TO THE PATIENTS, THE DEPARTMENT ALSO PROVIDES MEDICAL SOCIAL WORKERS TO GIVE FINANCIAL OR OTHER SUPPORT TO THOSE IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN RUNNING A MASSIVE TB CASE-FINDING CAMPAIGN TO PERSUADE PEOPLE WITH PERSISTENT COUGH FOR MORE THAN FOUR WEEKS TO GO TO THE CHEST CLINICS FOR A CHECK-UP.

THE MAIN PURPOSE, SAID THE SPOKESMAN, WAS TO DETECT THE MANY +HIDDEN+ CASES IN THE COMMUNITY AND TO CURE THEM.

AS A RESULT OF THE CAMPAIGN, THE CHEST SERVICE DETECTED A TOTAL OF 5 443 CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS DURING THE EIGHT MONTHS BETWEEN MARCH AND OCTOBER, 20 PER CENT MORE THAN THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

HEALTH STAFF FROM THE CHEST SERVICE ALSO TRACED THE CONTACTS OF TB PATIENTS AND ADMINISTERED TREATMENT TO THOSE FOUND TO BE INFECTED.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT ALTHOUGH THE INCIDENCE OF TUBERCULOSIS HAD DROPPED SUBSTANTIALLY OVER THE DECADE, IT WAS STILL ONE OF THE MAJOR DISEASES IN HONG KONG AND ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD.

SOME 400 PEOPLE DIED FROM THE DISEASE WHILE SOME 6 600 FRESH CASES WERE REPORTED IN HONG KONG LAST YEAR, HE SAID.

+THERE IS A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF HIDDEN CASES IN THE COMMUNITY, AND MUCH REMAINS TO BE DONE BEFORE THE DISEASE CAN BE ERADICATED,+ HE ADDED.

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IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT PLANS TO BEEF
UP ITS COMPUTER FILING SYSTEM

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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT PLANS TO BEEF UP ITS COMPUTER FILING SYSTEM TO COPE WITH INCREASING WORKLOAD.

A CONSULTANT TEAM WILL SOON BE APPOINTED TO REVIEW THE PRESENT COMPUTER-INDEX MICROFILM FILING SYSTEM WITH THE VIEW OF EXPANDING IT, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

+IF IT IS FEASIBLE AND FUNDS ARE APPROVED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE, A NEW COMPUTER WILL BE ACQUIRED,+ HE SAID.

THE EXISTING SYSTEM, WHICH WAS INSTALLED IN 1977, HAS PROVED TO BE VERY EFFECTIVE IN RETRIEVING RECORDS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID. HOWEVER, IT IS ONLY CAPABLE OF PROGRAMMING FILES IN THE CHINESE RESIDENTS AND BRITISH PASSPORT SECTIONS.

IF GREEN LIGHT IS GIVEN TO THE NEW COMPUTER, IT WOULD COVER MOST OTHER SECTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT, HE SAID.

+ANOTHER MERIT OF EXPANDING THE COMPUTER FILING SYSTEM IS THAT IT WILL ENABLE ALL RECORDS OF THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT TO BE CENTRALISED AND THERE WILL BE NO PAPER FILES ON RECORD EXCEPT THOSE BEING PROCESSED,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE EXISTING COMPUTER-INDEX MICROFILM SYSTEM IS PARTICULARLY USEFUL IN RECOVERING THE DATA OF A PERSON.

+INFORMATION ON A PARTICULAR PERSON CAN NOW BE OBTAINED WITHIN MINUTES BY FIRST CHECKING WITH THE COMPUTER FOR THE RELEVANT INDEX AND THEN THE MICROFILM,+ HE SAID.

THE SYSTEM IS ALSO SPACE SAVING AS IT OCCUPIES ONLY ABOUT ONE NINTH OF THE AREA USED FOR KEEPING PAPER FILES.

THE MICROFILM RECORDS OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT HAS SO FAR PROGRAMMED 1.4 MILLION NAME RECORDS AND MICROFILMED 1.6 MILLION FILES AND DOCUMENTS OF THE CHINESE RESIDENTS AND BRITISH PASSPORT SECTIONS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THERE ARE STILL 700 000 FILES WAITING TO BE PROCESSED. HOWEVER, IT IS EXPECTED THAT ALL RECORDS IN THE TWO SECTIONS WOULD BE PROGRAMMED AFTER THE NEW SYSTEM IS OPERATIONAL.

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INDUSTRIAL SAFETY CONFERENCE FOR SENIOR MANAGEMENT

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A ONE-DAY CONFERENCE DESIGNED TO MAKE SENIOR MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL MORE AWARE OF INDUSTRIAL SAFETY WILL BE HELD IN HONG KONG EARLY NEXT YEAR.

THE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY CONFERENCE FOR SENIOR MANAGEMENT WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE NEW WORLD HOTEL, TSIM SHA TSUI, ON MARCH 25, 1980.

IT IS ORGANISED BY THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD'S COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AND ACCIDENT PREVENTION AND SPONSORED BY FOUR LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS — THE ACCIDENT INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG, THE BUILDING CONTRACTORS' ASSOCIATION, THE HONG KONG COTTON SPINNERS ASSOCIATION AND THE HONG KONG PLASTIC MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION.

A SPOKESMAN OF THE COMMITTEE SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT EXPERTS WILL GIVE TALKS ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY IN CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING, TEXTILES, PLASTICS, METAL WORK AND OTHER RELATED SUBJECTS, WITH EMPHASIS ON PREVENTIVE MEASURES BY MANAGERMENTS TO REDUCE ACCIDENTS.

THE EXPERTS ARE MR. C. STEELE, SENIOR COMMERCIAL ENGINEER, CHINA LIGHT AND POWER CO. LTD.— MR. T.L. NG, PLANT MANAGER AND VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY COMMITTEE OF SONCA INDUSTRIES LTD.— MR. CHAN SHIU-LAP, CHIEF FACTORY INSPECTOR OF LABOUR DEPARTMENT— MR. K.Y. TONGSON, CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG PLASTIC MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION LTD.— MR. G. FREEMAN, CHIEF FIRE AND SECURITY OFFICER, HONG KONG ELECTRIC HOLDINGS LTD.— MR. WILLIAM LAW, CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ASSOCIATION— MR. LINCOLN YUNG, DIRECTOR AND MANAGER OF NANYANG COTTON MILL LTD.— AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU OF THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT.

THE TALKS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY PLENARY DISCUSSIONS.

TWO SAFETY FILMS WILL BE SHOWN DURING THE CONFERENCE — THE FIRST DEALS WITH THE NEED OF CAREFUL INVESTIGATION OF ACCIDENTS WHILE THE SECOND ONE EMBRACES A WIDE SCOPE OF SAFETY MATTERS IN A FACTORY.

A MINI-EXHIBITION OF SAFETY DEVICES AND APPLIANCES FOR USE IN INDUSTRY WILL BE HELD CONCURRENTLY WITH THE CONFERENCE TO ENABLE PARTICIPANTS TO OBTAIN FIRST-HAND KNOWLEDGE OF THE SAFETY EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE IN HONG KONG.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT SENIOR MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL FROM INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS OR OTHER ORGANISATIONS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE.

A DETAILED PROGRAMME AND REGISTRATION FORM OF THE CONFERENCE ARE NOW AVAILABLE AND CAN BE OBTAINED FROM MR. HO HONG-WAI OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT IN CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, KOWLOON, TELEPHONE 3-688111 EXT. 346.

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NEW NORTH POINT FERRY PIER COMES INTO SERVICE ON FRIDAY

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THE NEW FERRY PIER NEXT TO THE EXISTING NORTH POINT FERRY PIER WILL COME INTO SERVICE ON FRIDAY (DECEMBER 28).

THE NEW PIER WILL BE KNOWN AS THE NORTH POINT (WEST) FERRY PIER TO DISTINGUISH FROM THE EXISTING ONE WHICH IS NOW KNOWN AS NORTH POINT (EAST) FERRY PIER.

TWO FERRY SERVICES CURRENTLY OPERATING FROM NORTH POINT (EAST) PIER TO HUNG HOM AND KOWLOON CITY WILL BE DIVERTED TO THE WESTERN BERTH OF THE NEWLY-CONSTRUCTED NORTH POINT (WEST) PIER ON FRIDAY. THERE WILL BE NO CHANGE IN THE FREQUENCIES OF THESE TWO ROUTES.

THE FERRY SERVICE TO KWUN TONG WILL CONTINUE TO OPERATE FROM NORTH POINT (EAST) PIER.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID: +CONSTRUCTION WORK ALONG THE WATERFRONT BETWEEN THE TWO FERRY PIERS WILL CONTINUE FOR THE NEXT 12 MONTHS. HOWEVER, PASSENGER MOVEMENTS TO AND FROM THE TWO PIERS WILL NOT BE MUCH AFFECTED.+

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