



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MANUFACTURERS URGED TO ENTER AWARD

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THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR T.H. BARMA, TODAY (MONDAY) URGED MANUFACTURERS TO ENTER INTO THE 1992 COMPETITIONS FOR THE GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR INDUSTRY.

THE AWARD IS A MAJOR AWARD SCHEME TO RECOGNISE AND ENCOURAGE EXCELLENCE IN DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF INDUSTRIAL PERFORMANCE.

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE, MR BARMA SAID TWO NEW CATEGORIES HAD BEEN INTRODUCED INTO THIS YEAR'S AWARD SCHEME.

THEY ARE ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE AND EXPORT MARKETING.

THESE TWO NEW COMPANY-BASED CATEGORIES WILL BE IN ADDITION TO THE EXISTING CATEGORIES OF CONSUMER PRODUCT DESIGN; MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT DESIGN; PRODUCTIVITY; AND QUALITY.

MR BARMA SAID THE ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE CATEGORY WOULD BE ORGANISED BY THE PRIVATE SECTOR COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT.

"THIS CATEGORY UNDERSCORES THE IMPORTANCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS IN MANUFACTURING.

"IT RECOGNISES ENDEAVOURS BY HONG KONG MANUFACTURERS TO PROTECT OR IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT BY TAKING MEASURES TO CONSERVE RAW MATERIALS AND REDUCE POLLUTION," HE SAID.

AS REGARDS THE EXPORT MARKETING CATEGORY, MR BARMA SAID THIS WOULD BE ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL WITH THE AIM OF ACKNOWLEDGING THE FACT THAT MOST OF HONG KONG'S INDUSTRIES WERE EXPORT-ORIENTED AND RECOGNISING THE IMPORTANCE OF EXPORT MARKETING STRATEGIES, METHODS AND TECHNIQUES IN EXPANDING AND OPENING MARKETS ABROAD.

MR BARMA SAID THIS WAS THE FOURTH ANNUAL COMPETITION FOR THE GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR INDUSTRY SINCE THE AWARD WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1989.

"THE AIM OF THE AWARD IS TO RECOGNISE AND ENCOURAGE OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS DEVELOPING THE EFFICIENCY AND COMPETITIVENESS OF HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES," HE SAID.

THE CONSUMER PRODUCT DESIGN AND THE MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT DESIGN AWARD CATEGORIES ARE PRODUCT-BASED, AND ARE AIMED AT RECOGNISING THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD DESIGN IN CONSUMER PRODUCTS AND IN MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT FOR USE IN MANUFACTURING.

THE PRODUCTIVITY AND QUALITY AWARD CATEGORIES ARE COMPANY-BASED, AND RECOGNISE ENDEAVOURS BY HONG KONG COMPANIES TO ACHIEVE IMPROVED PRODUCTIVITY AND BETTER QUALITY IN THEIR MANUFACTURING PROCESSES.

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AS IN PREVIOUS YEARS, THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ORGANISING THE CONSUMER PRODUCT DESIGN CATEGORY; THE CHINESE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG THE MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT DESIGN CATEGORY; THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL THE PRODUCTIVITY CATEGORY; AND THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT THE QUALITY CATEGORY.

MR BARMA SAID ONE GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR INDUSTRY WAS MADE IN EACH CATEGORY WHICH ENTITLED ITS HOLDER TO DISPLAY AN OFFICIAL LOGO FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS.

"THE AWARD IS THE HIGHEST RECOGNITION AVAILABLE TO INDUSTRY, AND WINNING IT THROUGH TOUGH COMPETITION IS AN OUTSTANDING HONOUR WITH A LASTING VALUE," HE SAID.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES IN ALL SIX AWARD CATEGORIES IS JUNE 19 AND THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE 1992 GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR INDUSTRY WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE HONG KONG CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE ON NOVEMBER 17.

THE AWARDS WILL BE PERSONALLY PRESENTED BY THE GOVERNOR.

ALSO SPEAKING AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE, THE ACTING DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF INDUSTRY, MR WILFRED WONG, SAID THE QUALITY AWARD WAS AIMED AT PROMOTING A WIDER APPRECIATION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF QUALITY AMONG HONG KONG MANUFACTURERS BY RECOGNISING THOSE WHO HAD PRACTISED EFFECTIVE QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN THEIR MANUFACTURING PROCESSES AND WHOSE PRODUCTS WERE MANUFACTURED TO A HIGH STANDARD OF QUALITY.

"ALL COMPANIES MANUFACTURING PRODUCTS IN HONG KONG WHICH QUALIFY FOR A CERTIFICATE OF HONG KONG ORIGIN ARE ELIGIBLE TO ENTER THE COMPETITION," HE SAID.

MR WONG SAID ENTRIES FOR THE QUALITY AWARD WOULD BE EVALUATED ON TWO MAIN CRITERIA.

"THE FIRST CRITERION IS THE EXTENT TO WHICH A COMPANY'S QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM APPLIES TO DESIGN, MATERIALS SOURCING, PRODUCTION AND TESTING, AND ELIMINATES DELAYS AND REJECTIONS DURING THE MANUFACTURING PROCESS AND CONSUMER COMPLAINTS AFTERWARDS.

"THE SECOND CRITERION IS THE QUALITY OF THE COMPANY'S PRODUCTS, IN TERMS OF FITNESS FOR PURPOSE, CONSISTENCY OF PERFORMANCE, APPEARANCE, VALUE FOR MONEY AND SAFENESS," HE SAID.

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EFFORTS NEEDED TO PROMOTE EMPLOYMENT OF DISABLED

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THE STEADY PROLIFERATION OF CLEAR EXAMPLES OF DISABLED PEOPLE SUCCESSFULLY AND PRODUCTIVELY EMPLOYED SHOULD HELP TO REINFORCE PUBLIC EDUCATION AND THUS CONTRIBUTE TO A PROGRESSIVE IMPROVEMENT IN THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION AMONG THE DISABLED.

THIS WAS SAID TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR M. D. CARTLAND, WHILE HE WAS ADDRESSING THE OPENING OF A SHAM SHUI PO HEALTH MASSAGE AND TREATMENT CENTRE OF THE HONG KONG SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND.

HE NOTED THAT THE GREEN PAPER HAD POINTED TO THE NEED TO INTENSIFY EFFORTS TO PROMOTE EMPLOYMENT OF THE DISABLED.

"THIS IS PARTLY A MATTER OF OVERCOMING THE RESERVATIONS OF EMPLOYERS, OFTEN BASED ON MISCONCEPTIONS, BUT IT IS ALSO A MATTER OF IDENTIFYING SUITABLE FORMS OF EMPLOYMENT, PROVIDING APPROPRIATE TRAINING AND ADAPTING THE WORKPLACE," HE ADDED.

MR CARTLAND NOTED THAT THE HONG KONG SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND HAD BEEN PLAYING A LEADING ROLE IN OFFERING A VARIETY OF TRAINING AND REHABILITATION SERVICES TO THE VISUALLY HANDICAPPED AT ITS MULTI-SERVICE REHABILITATION CENTRE AND OTHER PREMISES.

"THE HEALTH MASSAGE AND TREATMENT CENTRE FOR THE BLIND IS AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF WHAT CAN BE ACHIEVED BY A RESPONSIVE AND CREATIVE APPROACH TO PROGRAMME PLANNING AND DELIVERY OF SERVICE," HE SAID.

MR CARTLAND COMMENDED THE SOCIETY FOR ITS CONTINUOUS EFFORTS IN PROVIDING VOCATIONAL TRAINING TO THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED.

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GOVT CONTINUES TO ENHANCE QUALITY SERVICES

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MOST OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF A GOVERNMENT-COMMISSIONED QUALITY STRATEGY STUDY HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTED WITH THE AIM OF MAINTAINING AND ENHANCING HONG KONG'S INDUSTRIAL COMPETITIVENESS IN WORLD MARKETS.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE ACTING DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF INDUSTRY, MR WILFRED WONG, THIS (MONDAY) MORNING.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE ISO/DIN QUALITY MANAGEMENT AND ISO 9000 SEMINAR, MR WONG SAID THE STUDY IDENTIFIED THE NEED TO ESTABLISH A LOCAL BODY FOR ISO 9000 CERTIFICATION OF COMPANIES' QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS.

"THE HONG KONG QUALITY ASSURANCE AGENCY (HKQAA) WAS FOUNDED IN 1989 AND AN INVITED GROUP OF DISTINGUISHED INDUSTRIALISTS HAVE BEEN GUIDING ITS DEVELOPMENT," HE SAID.

/MR WONG .....

MR WONG SAID THE AGENCY OPERATED AS AN INDEPENDENT REGISTERED COMPANY, BUT FOR THE TIME BEING WAS FUNDED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

"BECAUSE OF THE VERY POSITIVE RESPONSE BY BOTH THE MANUFACTURING AND SERVICE SECTORS OF INDUSTRY TO THE CONCEPT OF ISO 9000 CERTIFICATION, THE AGENCY HAS HAD TO REVISE ITS BUSINESS PLANS TO ACCOMMODATE WHAT HAS AMOUNTED TO AN AVALANCHE OF APPLICATIONS.

"THE GOVERNMENT HAS RECENTLY APPROVED A LONG-TERM INTEREST-FREE LOAN TO THE AGENCY, SO THAT IT CAN RESPOND MORE QUICKLY TO THE GROWTH IN DEMAND FOR CERTIFICATION," HE SAID.

MR WONG SAID AS A MANIFESTATION OF THE GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO THE CONTINUING PROMOTION OF QUALITY PRACTICES, A QUALITY AWARENESS CAMPAIGN WAS LAUNCHED IN 1989, AS PART OF WHICH QUALITY MANAGEMENT SEMINARS, BRIEFING SESSIONS FOR CHIEF EXECUTIVES AND WORKSHOPS IN SPECIALIST QUALITY MANAGEMENT TOPICS WERE ORGANISED.

"WE ALSO CO-OPERATE WITH OUTSIDE BODIES ON QUALITY TRAINING PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVELY ENCOURAGE AND ASSIST NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS TO TAKE ON A MORE PROACTIVE ROLE IN THE PROMOTION OF QUALITY," HE SAID.

"AT THE SAME TIME, WE CONTINUE TO ENHANCE OUR EXISTING QUALITY SERVICES, NAMELY, THE STANDARDS AND CALIBRATION LABORATORY (ESTABLISHED IN 1984), THE HONG KONG LABORATORY ACCREDITATION SCHEME (HOKLAS) (LAUNCHED IN 1985), AND THE PRODUCT STANDARDS INFORMATION BUREAU (ESTABLISHED IN 1986)," HE ADDED.

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#### VOLUNTEERS PLAY VITAL ROLE IN WELFARE

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VOLUNTEERS NOW PLAY A VERY IMPORTANT ROLE IN WELFARE WORK, LADY WILSON SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

OFFICIATING AT A SOUVENIR PRESENTATION AND TEA RECEPTION OF THE HELPING HAND COOKIE CAMPAIGN 1992, LADY WILSON SAID THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOLUNTEERS IN HONG KONG HAD NEVER BEEN SO VARIED AND EXCITING AS THEY WERE NOW.

"THEIR SERVICES HAVE NEVER BEEN SO SOUGHT AFTER AND APPRECIATED BY THE COMMUNITY," SHE SAID.

SHE POINTED OUT THAT VOLUNTEERS NOW RAN HUGE WELFARE AGENCIES WITH MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR BUDGETS.

AND HELPING HAND, WHICH WAS NOT SUBVENTED BY THE GOVERNMENT, PROVIDED A MODEL OF WHAT A GROUP OF DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS WITH DRIVE AND VISION COULD DO.

/"HELPING HAND .....

"HELPING HAND VOLUNTEERS, YOUNG AND OLD, HAVE WORKED HARD TOGETHER TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE OF THE ELDERLY," SHE SAID.

LADY WILSON ADDED THAT THE SUCCESS OF THE ANNUAL COOKIE CAMPAIGN WAS A TESTIMONY TO THEIR EFFORTS AND THE WIDESPREAD SUPPORT THEY HAD IN THE COMMUNITY.

SHE ALSO SAID VOLUNTEER WORK OFFERED OPPORTUNITIES FOR SELF DEVELOPMENT, SHE SAID.

"AS A VOLUNTEER, ONE CAN MEET NEW FRIENDS AND LEARN HOW TO WORK WITH PEOPLE.

"THE WORK CAN WIDEN PERSPECTIVES AND ADD COLOUR AND MEANING TO LIFE, WHILE GIVING MUCH PLEASURE AND HELP TO OTHERS," LADY WILSON SAID.

SHE SAID MANY ELDERLY PEOPLE IN HONG KONG BECAME VOLUNTEERS.

THE WORKS SEEMED TO GIVE THEM AN OPPORTUNITY TO REMAIN ACTIVE IN THE COMMUNITY, AND A WAY TO USE THE EXPERIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE THEY HAD ACCUMULATED IN LIFE, SHE SAID.

"WE WELCOME THIS KIND OF HELP MOST ENTHUSIASTICALLY," LADY WILSON SAID.

THE COOKIE CAMPAIGN ORGANISED BY HELPING HAND HAD BECOME A WELL KNOWN EVENT IN HONG KONG, SUPPORTED BY A VARIED GROUP OF PEOPLE OF ALL AGES.

LADY WILSON THANKED ALL THE VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF OF HELPING HAND FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND IMMENSE EFFORT PUTTING IN TO THE CAMPAIGN.

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TWO MOTION DEBATES IN LEGCO

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THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL HOLD TWO MOTION DEBATES AT ITS MEETING THIS WEDNESDAY (APRIL 8).

ONE OF THEM, TO BE MOVED BY THE HON ERIC LI, WILL BE ON THE GREEN PAPER ON REHABILITATION POLICIES AND SERVICES. THE OTHER MOTION - BY THE HON CHEUNG MAN-KWONG - URGES THE GOVERNMENT TO CONDUCT A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW ON THE BALANCE BETWEEN TERTIARY AND BASIC EDUCATION AS WELL AS THEIR RESPECTIVE DEVELOPMENT.

MEANWHILE, LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS WILL ASK A TOTAL OF 16 QUESTIONS AND CONSIDER SEVEN BILLS AT THE MEETING.

/THE BILLS .....

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THE BILLS - INLAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT) (NO. 3) BILL 1992, DUTIABLE COMMODITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1992, STAMP DUTY (AMENDMENT) (NO. 3) BILL 1992, ENTERTAINMENTS TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL 1992, HUMAN ORGAN TRANSPLANT BILL, PROTECTION OF WOMEN AND JUVENILES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1992 AND BUILDINGS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1992 - WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS.

DEBATES ON THEM WILL BE ADJOURNED.

THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT WILL SPEAK IN AN ADJOURNMENT DEBATE ON "INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL TRANSPORT SERVICES OF NEW TOWNS" RAISED BY THE HON LEE WING-TAT.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO OBSERVE THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL MEETING FROM THE PUBLIC GALLERIES. THEY MAY MAKE RESERVATIONS BY CALLING 869 9492.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE  
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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 36.9 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 216.205 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 152.294 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 26 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT ADVISED THE PUBLIC TO TRY THEIR BEST TO CONSERVE WATER AND AVOID WASTAGE.

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MORE FUNDS TO DISTRICT BOARDS  
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A TOTAL OF \$51.41 MILLION HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED TO THE 19 DISTRICT BOARDS FOR THIS FINANCIAL YEAR TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF LOCAL RESIDENTS AND TO ORGANISE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROJECTS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THAT THIS REPRESENTED AN INCREASE OF \$8.5 MILLION OR 20 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH THE \$42.91 MILLION ALLOCATED FOR 1991-92.

ABOUT \$22.86 MILLION WILL BE GOING TO THE 10 URBAN DISTRICT BOARDS AND \$28.55 MILLION TO THE NINE NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICT BOARDS.

/IN ADDITION .....

IN ADDITION, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, ANOTHER SUM OF \$15.4 MILLION WOULD BE AVAILABLE FROM THE URBAN COUNCIL AND THE REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE DISTRICT BOARDS TO CARRY OUT MINOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY.

"THIS FIGURE IS \$1.4 MILLION OR 10 PER CENT MORE THAN THE \$14 MILLION WE GOT FROM THE MUNICIPAL COUNCILS IN THE PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR.

"IN OTHER WORDS, THE DISTRICT BOARDS HAVE AT THEIR DISPOSAL A TOTAL OF \$66.81 MILLION IN 1992-93," HE SAID.

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WATER SUPPLY SUSPENSION IN NGAU TAU KOK

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SUPPLY OF FRESH WATER TO SOME PREMISES IN NGAU TAU KOK WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 11 PM ON WEDNESDAY (APRIL 8) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY TO FACILITATE LEAKAGE TEST.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT THE SECTION OF NGAU TAU KOK ROAD BETWEEN CHUN WAH ROAD AND ELEGANCE ROAD, INCLUDING BLOCKS 1-7 OF LOWER NGAU TAU KOK ESTATE AND HUNG CHEUK LAU, PAK LING LAU, HAY CHEUK LAU, YIN CHEE LAU AND WAH MEI LAU OF THE GARDEN ESTATE.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND  
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	DATE ----	\$ MILLION -----
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	3.4.92	950
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	6.4.92	-264*
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		+14
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS AFTERNOON		+300**
* O/N ASSISTANCE TO BE REVERSED	-250 MN	
* OTHER FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED	-14 MN	
**O/N ASSISTANCE TO BE REVERSED ON APRIL 7		
TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX 112.4 *-0.1* 6.4.92		

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	4.12 PCT	20 MONTHS	2311	6.25	101.28	5.48
1 MONTH	4.05 PCT	23 MONTHS	2402	5.50	99.40	5.92
3 MONTHS	4.04 PCT					
6 MONTHS	4.24 PCT					
12 MONTHS	4.61 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 3,535 MN

CLOSED 6 APRIL 1992

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