



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1991

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1991

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CONCERTED EFFORTS FOR INDUSTRIAL SAFETY UNDERScoreD

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REAL IMPROVEMENT IN INDUSTRIAL SAFETY CAN ONLY BE ACHIEVED IF ALL PARTIES INVOLVED TAKE POSITIVE STEPS TOWARDS THE FULLEST POSSIBLE INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS IN RAISING SAFETY AWARENESS AND STANDARDS.

TO THIS END, THE GOVERNMENT IS EXAMINING THE POSSIBILITY TO ATTACH GREATER EMPHASIS ON SAFETY IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE LISTS OF APPROVED CONTRACTORS FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE SECRETARY FOR WORKS, MR JAMES BLAKE, THIS (MONDAY) EVENING WHEN ADDRESSING THE FIRST ANNUAL CONSTRUCTION SAFETY CONFERENCE.

THE CONFERENCE WAS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ASSOCIATION. THE HONG KONG INDUSTRIAL SAFETY ASSOCIATION AND THE SOCIETY OF REGISTERED SAFETY OFFICERS AND SPONSORED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

"I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT CONTRACTUAL PROVISIONS CAN BE EFFECTIVE, WITHOUT THE BACKING OF PERFORMANCE EVALUATION AS A MEASURE, IN PART, FOR THE CONTINUING STATUS OF CONTRACTORS ON APPROVED LISTS.

"IF INDIVIDUAL CONTRACTORS SEE THAT GREATER IMPORTANCE IS ATTACHED TO SAFETY, AS A LIST REQUIREMENT, I BELIEVE THAT THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY AS A WHOLE WILL BENEFIT FROM AN IMPROVED IMAGE," HE SAID.

CITING AN EXAMPLE, MR BLAKE SAID THE HOUSING AUTHORITY HAD TAKEN THE INITIATIVE IN REQUIRING THEIR CONTRACTORS TO EMPLOY STATED NUMBERS OF SAFETY OFFICERS, TO DESIGN SPECIAL TEMPORARY PROTECTION; TO MAKE SAFETY MANAGEMENT A CRITERION FOR BEING A LISTED CONTRACTOR AND TO REMOVE CONTRACTORS FROM THEIR LISTS WHO HAD BAD SAFETY RECORDS.

ON THE LEGISLATION ASPECT, HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD INTRODUCED IMPORTANT SAFETY LEGISLATION TO REQUIRE THE EMPLOYMENT OF SAFETY OFFICERS, SETTING DOWN THE OBLIGATION OF EMPLOYERS TO ENSURE HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORK.

"I KNOW THAT LABOUR DEPARTMENT IS MONITORING AND ENFORCING THESE REQUIREMENTS, BUT THE NUMBER OF CONSTRUCTION SITES IS VERY LARGE AND THE BURDEN OF ENFORCEMENT CANNOT BE LEFT SOLELY WITH INSPECTORATE STAFF.

"LEGISLATION IS VITAL, BUT ON ITS OWN IS NOT ENOUGH," HE SAID.

MR BLAKE WAS GREATLY CONCERNED THAT THE NUMBER OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS AT CONSTRUCTION SITES, WHICH STOOD AT AN AVERAGE OF 70 PER DAY, HAD IMPROVED A LITTLE DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

HE POINTED OUT THAT SOME OF THESE WERE INNOCENT VICTIMS OF OTHERS' CARELESSNESS WHILE SOME WERE DUE TO THEIR OWN CARELESSNESS.

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"OFTEN THE DISREGARD FOR SAFETY MATTERS REVEALS A LACK OF AWARENESS OR UNDERSTANDING OF THE REAL DANGERS OF THEIR WORK.

"AN UNSAFE WORKING ENVIRONMENT IS CLEARLY ANOTHER MAJOR FACTOR," HE NOTED.

STRESSING THE IMPORTANCE OF CONCERTED EFFORT, MR BLAKE SAID SAFETY AND THE WELFARE OF WORKERS ON CONSTRUCTION SITES MUST BE A MATTER OF CONCERN TO ALL PARTIES INVOLVED.

"UNIONS AND EMPLOYERS ACTING IN CONSORT MUST BE A DESIRED MARRIAGE, FOR BETTER EDUCATION, TRAINING AND ENFORCEMENT OF SAFETY PROCEDURES UPON WORKERS, MAKING THEM AWARE OF THE RISKS, AND OF THE NEED TO USE APPROPRIATE SAFETY EQUIPMENT AND SAFE WORKING METHODS.

"CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TRAINING AUTHORITY HAS CONTRIBUTED GREATLY TO TRAINING, AS HAVE INDIVIDUAL COMPANIES, BUT THERE IS A CONTINUING NEED FOR WORKERS TO ATTEND AVAILABLE COURSES," HE SAID.

UNION SUPPORT FOR SUCH TRAINING AND POSITIVE ENCOURAGEMENT TO THEIR MEMBERS, WITH THE BACKING OF EMPLOYERS, WOULD BE INVALUABLE.

"I LOOK FORWARD TO A FUTURE THAT HAS LESS CONSTRUCTION ACCIDENTS, SIGNALLING THE PRACTICAL EFFECTS OF OUR BEING HERE TODAY," MR BLAKE ADDED.

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HK TEAM TO ATTEND REGIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE

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HONG KONG WILL SEND A DELEGATION TO ATTEND THE 11TH ASIAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION (ILO) TO BE HELD IN BANGKOK FROM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO DECEMBER 2 (MONDAY).

LED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR MR DARWIN CHEN, THE TEAM WILL COMPRISE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS MR HO SAI-CHU AND MR LEUNG FU-WAH, REPRESENTING EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES RESPECTIVELY, AND SENIOR LABOUR OFFICER MRS TERESA LO.

THE CONFERENCE WILL FOCUS ON THE GROWTH AND STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT IN THE ASIAN REGION AND IMPROVEMENT IN OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH.

HONG KONG HAS BEEN INVITED BY THE ILO TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE TOGETHER WITH ABOUT 38 COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES IN THE ASIAN-PACIFIC REGION.

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1991

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NOMINATIONS FOR SOCIAL SERVICE AWARDS TO CLOSE ON SATURDAY

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VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, COMMUNITY BODIES AND RESIDENTS IN SOUTHERN DISTRICT ARE TODAY (MONDAY) REMINDED THAT THEY WILL HAVE A FEW MORE DAYS TO SUBMIT THEIR NOMINATIONS FOR THIS YEAR'S DISTRICT SOCIAL SERVICE AWARD SCHEME, BEFORE THE SATURDAY (NOVEMBER 30) DEADLINE.

A DISTRICT OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID NOMINATION FORMS ARE STILL AVAILABLE FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING AND AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE, SECOND FLOOR, MEI FUNG COURT, 7-11 NAM NING STREET, ABERDEEN CENTRE. COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE OFFICE ACCORDINGLY.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE AWARD SCHEME, HELD FOR THE EIGHTH YEAR, WAS AIMED AT GIVING DUE RECOGNITION TO VOLUNTEERS WHO HAD MADE OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY.

"IT ALSO OFFERS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE NOMINEES TO SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCE IN VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE AT A DAY CAMP TO BE HELD IN JANUARY," HE ADDED.

THE SCHEME IS DIVIDED INTO SIX SECTIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS. THE INDIVIDUAL SECTIONS COVER CHILDREN, YOUTH, WORKING PEOPLE, NON-WORKING RESIDENTS AND ELDERLY CITIZENS. THE GROUP SECTION IS FOR THOSE WHO HAVE JOINED TOGETHER TO OFFER GROUP VOLUNTARY SERVICE.

THE NOMINEES, WHO MUST LIVE, STUDY OR WORK IN THE DISTRICT, MUST HAVE PROVIDED SERVICES TO LOCAL PEOPLE LIKE THE ELDERLY, THE DISABLED, THE HANDICAPPED, YOUTH AND CHILDREN.

THOSE WHO HAVE OFFERED ASSISTANCE TO ORGANISATIONS SUCH AS MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, KAIFONG ASSOCIATIONS, VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, THE DISTRICT OFFICE OR OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, ARE ALSO ELIGIBLE TO APPLY.

THREE NOMINEES WILL BE CHOSEN FROM EACH OF THE SIX SECTIONS BY AN ADJUDICATING PANEL AND EACH WILL BE AWARDED A CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION AND A BOOK COUPON. OTHER NOMINEES WILL ALSO RECEIVE SOUVENIRS.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE AWARD SCHEME CAN BE MADE ON TEL. 554 0271.

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TWO DEBATES IN LEGCO ON WEDNESDAY

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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS WILL ASK A TOTAL OF 12 QUESTIONS AND CONSIDER FIVE BILLS AT THE COUNCIL'S MEETING ON WEDNESDAY (NOVEMBER 27).

OF THE FIVE BILLS, THREE WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS. DEBATES ON THEM WILL BE ADJOURNED.

THEY ARE THE INLAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT) (NO. 5) BILL 1991, BROADCASTING AUTHORITY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991 AND COPYRIGHT (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991.

DEBATES ON THE STOCK EXCHANGES UNIFICATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991 AND EMPLOYMENT (AMENDMENT) (LONG SERVICE PAYMENT) BILL 1991 WILL BE RESUMED AND DUE TO GO THROUGH THE COMMITTEE STAGE AND BE GIVEN A THIRD READING.

IN ADDITION, THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES WILL MOVE A MOTION UNDER THE TELEPHONE ORDINANCE.

MEANWHILE, THE HON LEE WING-TAT WILL MOVE A MOTION ON THE SALE OF PUBLIC HOUSING FLATS TO SITTING TENANTS.

THE MOTION WILL READ: "THAT THIS COUNCIL URGES THE HOUSING AUTHORITY TO WIDELY CONSULT THE PUBLIC IN REVIEWING THE OBJECTIVE, PRICING, MAINTENANCE, MANAGEMENT, AND OTHER ASPECTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE SALE OF PUBLIC HOUSING UNITS TO SITTING TENANTS."

ALSO, THE HON K.K. FUNG WILL RAISE THE MATTER OF "CONTROL OF PORNOGRAPHIC PUBLICATIONS" FOR ADJOURNMENT DEBATE.

THE SECRETARY FOR THE TREASURY WILL TABLE AND ADDRESS THE COUNCIL ON THE REPORT OF CHANGES TO THE APPROVED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE APPROVED DURING THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1991-92 WHILE THE HON RONALD ARCULLI WILL TABLE AND ADDRESS THE COUNCIL ON THE OCEAN PARK CORPORATION ANNUAL REPORT 1990/91.

THE SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE WILL ALSO TABLE THE HONG KONG SPORTS INSTITUTE (JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE) ANNUAL REPORT 1990/91.

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 SUPPLY SUSPENSION

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SUPPLY OF SALT WATER TO SOME PREMISES IN KWAI CHUNG WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 9 AM TO 10 PM TOMORROW (NOVEMBER 26) TO FACILITATE MAINTENANCE WORKS.

IT WILL AFFECT CHO YIU CHUEN, LAI CHI LING ROAD, LIM CHO STREET, LAI YIU ESTATE AND WAH KING HILL ROAD.

MEANWHILE, SUPPLY OF FRESH WATER TO SOME PREMISES IN SHAM SHUI PO WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 11 PM ON WEDNESDAY (NOVEMBER 27) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY TO FACILITATE LEAKAGE TEST.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY LAI CHI KOK ROAD, KWEILIN STREET, CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD AND NAM CHEONG STREET, AND INCLUDING THE PREMISES AT APLIU STREET, KI LUNG STREET AND PEI HO STREET.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 43.4 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 254.594 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 269.268 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 45.9 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND  
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

	DATE	\$MILLION
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CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	23.11.91	500
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	25.11.91	-179
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		+179
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS AFTERNOON		NEUTRAL
TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX	110.6 *-0.1*	25.11.91

/HONG KONG .....

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1991

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS

TERMS	YIELD
1 WEEK	3.77 PCT
1 MONTH	3.80 PCT
3 MONTHS	3.88 PCT
6 MONTHS	4.13 PCT
12 MONTHS	4.81 PCT

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
24 MONTHS	2311	6.25	101.23	5.66

TURNOVER - BILLS 3,010 MN, BONDS 37 MN

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