



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MEASURES TO IMPROVE UTILISATION OF COMMUNITY HALLS

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THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION (CNTA) WILL INTRODUCE NEW MEASURES TO IMPROVE THE UTILISATION RATE OF COMMUNITY HALLS UNDER ITS MANAGEMENT.

"A PILOT SCHEME IS BEING CARRIED OUT TO ALLOW APPROVED NON-GOVERNMENT COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS TO TAKE OVER THE OPERATION OF COMMUNITY HALLS BY WAY OF A TENANCY AGREEMENT," A CNTA SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE TENANTS WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE COMMUNITY HALL AND FOR ADVERTISING AND PROMOTING IT TO ACHIEVE MAXIMUM UTILISATION BY LOCAL COMMUNITY AND MAKING IT AVAILABLE FOR NORMAL PUBLIC BOOKINGS AS WELL.

THE CHILDREN'S CLUB HAD RECENTLY TAKEN OVER THE NEWLY COMPLETED TSING YI ESTATE COMMUNITY HALL AND NEGOTIATIONS WERE GOING ON WITH REGARD TO TENANCIES FOR TWO OTHER NEW COMMUNITY HALLS.

ANOTHER MEASURE TO IMPROVE THE UTILISATION RATE IS THE INTRODUCTION OF CONTINUOUS BLOCK BOOKING ARRANGEMENTS.

SIMILAR TO THE TENANCY AGREEMENT SYSTEM, APPLICANTS WOULD ASSIST THE CNTA IN PROMOTING THE UTILISATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THESE HALLS AND THE BLOCK BOOKING ARRANGEMENT SHOULD GO SOME WAY TOWARDS OVERCOMING THE PROBLEM OF INSUFFICIENT DAILY BOOKINGS AND LOW UTILISATION RATES.

THE CONCERNED DISTRICT OFFICERS WILL ENSURE THAT FACILITIES WILL STILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC BOOKING WHEN NOT BEING USED BY THE MAJOR BOOKER FOR A SPECIFIC ACTIVITY.

THERE ARE AT PRESENT A TOTAL OF 13 COMMUNITY CENTRES, 18 ESTATE COMMUNITY CENTRES, 31 COMMUNITY HALLS AND TWO NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMUNITY CENTRES UNDER THE MANAGEMENT OF CNTA.

THE SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT AS ALREADY ANNOUNCED, THE CNTA WOULD WITHDRAW ON-SITE STAFF MANNING COMMUNITY CENTRES AND HALLS STARTING IN STAGES FROM APRIL 1 IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE BETTER UTILISATION OF RESOURCES.

"DESPITE STAFF WITHDRAWAL, WE WILL MAINTAIN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE SERVICE AND FACILITIES TO THE PUBLIC IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXISTING COMMUNITY BUILDING POLICY," HE STRESSED, "AND AT THE SAME TIME ALSO PROMOTE BETTER UTILISATION OF THE COMMUNITY HALLS."

"THE SPECIFIC MEANS OF ACHIEVING THIS IS SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE MAXIMUM USE OF RESOURCES.

"WE ARE SEEKING FULL CO-OPERATION OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES WHO ARE TENANTS OF OUR CENTRES IN A BID TO ACHIEVE OUR OBJECTIVE AND PROVIDE THE BEST SERVICE FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC," HE SAID.

MEANWHILE, REVISED ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF COMMUNITY CENTRE FACILITIES HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED TO DISTRICT OFFICES.

"THE GUIDELINES HAVE BEEN DRAWN UP FOR THE REFERENCE OF DISTRICT STAFF IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE A UNIFORM STANDARD IN BOTH MANAGEMENT AND PROVISION OF SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC IN THESE CENTRES AND HALLS.

"DISTRICT OFFICERS WILL WORK OUT AT DISTRICT LEVEL DETAILED INDIVIDUAL MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THESE GUIDELINES WILL BE REGULARLY REVIEWED, MODIFIED OR REVISED WHEREVER NECESSARY, BASED ON PRACTICAL OPERATING EXPERIENCES," HE ADDED.

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IMPORTANCE ON COMPUTER EDUCATION STRESSED

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THE PRESENCE OF SO MANY DELEGATES FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD AT THE MICROCOMPUTERS IN EDUCATION INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE REFLECTS THE GROWING CONCERN OF EDUCATORS ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF COMPUTER USAGE IN EDUCATING THE YOUNG, THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR LI YUET-TING, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) AT THE CONFERENCE'S OPENING.

MR LI TOLD THE GATHERING THAT HONG KONG HAD A MODEST BEGINNING IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMPUTER EDUCATION.

THIRTY SCHOOLS WERE FIRST INVITED IN 1982 TO OFFER COMPUTER STUDIES TO SENIOR SECONDARY STUDENTS, WITH EACH SCHOOL GIVEN 11 EIGHT-BIT, 32K MICROCOMPUTERS AND TWO PRINTERS.

"NOW IN 1991, 347 SECONDARY SCHOOLS, REPRESENTING 90 PER CENT OF THE SCHOOLS IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR, ARE EQUIPPED WITH COMPUTERS. THE LATEST MODEL PURCHASED IS THE A.T. COMPATIBLES WITH ONE MEGABYTE MEMORY ON BOARD, COMPLEMENTED BY HIGH RESOLUTION VGA MONITORS," MR LI SAID.

FOR SCHOOLS BUILT TO A NEW STANDARD DESIGN, A FULLY EQUIPPED COMPUTER IS A STANDARD FEATURE AND, AS STANDARD EQUIPMENT, 21 SETS OF MICROCOMPUTERS WILL BE INSTALLED IN THESE ROOMS.

IN THIS WAY, HE SAID, A BETTER MACHINE TO USER RATIO WILL BE ATTAINED FOR THE NEW SCHOOLS.

MR LI SAID CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS WERE NOT FORGOTTEN - BY SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR, 39 SPECIAL SCHOOLS WILL HAVE BEEN PROVIDED WITH MICROCOMPUTERS, MANY OF WHICH ARE EQUIPPED WITH ADAPTIVE DEVICES.

"THESE SPECIAL SCHOOLS ARE NOW OFFERING COMPUTER-ASSISTED LEARNING, COMPUTER LITERACY, COMPUTER STUDIES AS WELL AS USING THE COMPUTER AS A COMMUNICATION AND REHABILITATION TOOL," HE SAID.

WHEN COMPLETED, HE ADDED, THE COMPUTER EDUCATION IN SPECIAL SCHOOLS PROJECT WILL HAVE INCLUDED ALL SPECIAL SCHOOLS SO THAT NO CHILD WHO COULD BE HELPED BY "THIS POWERFUL TOOL" WOULD BE DEPRIVED OF THE OPPORTUNITY.

MR LI SAID TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENT ASIDE, THE COMPUTER STUDIES CURRICULUM HAD ALSO UNDERGONE A GREAT DEAL OF CHANGES.

A COMPUTER LITERACY COURSE, HE SAID, WAS NOW BEING OFFERED TO 100 SECONDARY SCHOOLS TO ENABLE JUNIOR SECONDARY STUDENTS TO BECOME COMPUTER LITERATE AND 50 MORE SCHOOLS EACH YEAR WILL JOIN THE SCHEME.

THE DIRECTOR SAID 14 SETS OF EDUCATIONAL SOFTWARE WERE SPECIALLY PRODUCED UNDER A CONTRACT WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG TO SUPPORT THE TEACHING OF THE SUBJECT.

"GREATER INVESTMENT IS BEING PLANNED AND CONTINUED EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE TO ENSURE THAT THE YOUNGER GENERATION IS TECHNICALLY QUALIFIED TO MEET THE NEW CHALLENGES OF THE FUTURE," HE SAID.

MR LI SAID THERE WERE PLANS TO INTRODUCE TWO NEW SUBJECTS - ADVANCED LEVEL COMPUTER STUDIES AND ADVANCED SUPPLEMENTARY LEVEL COMPUTER APPLICATIONS - IN THE SIXTH FORM CURRICULUM IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

"THE SYLLABUSES OF THESE SUBJECTS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED AND ENDORSED BY BOTH THE CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AND THE HONG KONG EXAMINATIONS AUTHORITY," HE ADDED.

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EMPLOYEES MUST BE INSURED
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EMPLOYERS MUST TAKE OUT INSURANCE POLICIES TO COVER THEIR FULL LIABILITIES TO COMPENSATE EMPLOYEES FOR INJURY OR DEATH AT WORK.

SENIOR LABOUR OFFICER (PROSECUTIONS) MR TSANG KIN-WOO SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THE STATUTORY REQUIREMENT WAS TO ENSURE THAT AN INJURED EMPLOYEE WOULD OBTAIN COMPENSATION TO WHICH HE WAS ENTITLED UNDER THE EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION ORDINANCE.

MR TSANG ADDED THAT EVEN PROPRIETORS OF SMALL ESTABLISHMENTS WERE REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH THE PROVISION.

HE NOTED THAT TWO FISHMONGERS AT THE URBAN COUNCIL KOWLOON CITY MARKET, LAU SICK-WING OF LAU WING KEE AND TAM CHI-NANG OF FOON HO, WERE FINED \$5,000 AND \$10,000 RESPECTIVELY BY THE SAN PO KONG MAGISTRACY EARLIER THIS MONTH FOR NOT TAKING OUT INSURANCE POLICIES FOR THEIR EMPLOYEES.

"EMPLOYERS MUST BEAR THE FULL COST OF THE INSURANCE POLICIES AND ARE NOT ALLOWED TO DEDUCT IT FROM THE EARNINGS OF THEIR EMPLOYEES," HE ADDED.

THEY ARE ALSO REQUIRED TO DISPLAY AT A CONSPICUOUS PLACE IN THE WORKPLACE A NOTICE SHOWING THE PARTICULARS OF SUCH POLICIES AND TO PRODUCE THE POLICIES FOR INSPECTION BY LABOUR INSPECTORS.

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- TSUI LAM COMMUNITY
HALL

SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE'S
TSEUNG KWAN O SUB-OFFICE
GROUND FLOOR, PO NING HOUSE,
PO LAM ESTATE
TEL. NO.: 701 3218

ENQUIRIES ON THE ABOVE CHANGES CAN BE DIRECTED TO THE SAI KUNG
DISTRICT OFFICE ON TEL. 792 4455 EXT. 28.

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CLEAN AND GREEN SCHEME PARTICIPANTS ENJOY FUN DAY

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MORE THAN 500 YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAVE TAKEN PART IN VARIOUS
ACTIVITIES UNDER THE CLEAN AND GREEN SCHEME 1990/91 GATHERED AT THE
SHING MUN COUNTRY PARK TODAY (FRIDAY) TO ENJOY A FUN DAY IN THE
SCENIC COUNTRYSIDE.

THE CLEAN AND GREEN FUN DAY AND PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY
WAS HELD TO WIND UP THIS YEAR'S SCHEME WHICH STARTED LAST DECEMBER.

OFFICIATING AT THE FUNCTION WERE LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, MR
PAUL CHENG; DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE;
CHAIRMAN OF THE PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE COUNTRY PARKS BOARD,
MR DANIEL TO, AND BOARD MEMBER MR GEORGE TAN; AND REPRESENTATIVES OF
THE SCHEME'S SPONSORS - MR CHARLES PANG OF TIMBERLAND AND MR BENJAMIN
KWAN OF KODAK (FAR EAST) LTD.

SPEAKING AT THE PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY, DR LEE SAID IT
WAS YET ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR THE SCHEME WITH SOME 12,000
PARTICIPANTS TAKEN PART IN VARIOUS ACTIVITIES.

A TOTAL OF 11,608 PEOPLE TOOK PART IN LITTER COLLECTION AND
TREE TENDING WORK IN COUNTRY PARKS ON WEEKDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS,
WHILE THE CLEAN AND GREEN PHOTO COMPETITION AND THE PAINTING AND
POSTER DESIGN COMPETITION ATTRACTED 132 AND 134 ENTRIES RESPECTIVELY.

TEN WINNING ENTRIES WERE SELECTED FOR EACH OF THE COMPETITION
BY A PANEL OF JUDGES ON MARCH 13. PRIZES WERE PRESENTED TO THE
WINNERS AT TODAY'S FUNCTION.

DR LEE THANKED ALL THE PARTICIPANTS FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE IN
SPREADING THE CONSERVATION MESSAGE FAR AND WIDE. TOGETHER WITH MR
PAUL CHENG, HE CONGRATULATED THE WINNERS OF THE TWO COMPETITIONS.

HE ALSO THANKED TIMBERLAND FOR THEIR GENEROUS SPONSORSHIP
KODAK (FAR EAST) LTD AND CATHAY PACIFIC AIRWAYS LTD FOR DONATING
PRIZES FOR THE PHOTO COMPETITION, AND HONG KONG TRAMWAYS LTD AND HONG
KONG TELEPHONE CO FOR PROVIDING PRIZES FOR TODAY'S ACTIVITIES.

THE CLEAN AND GREEN SCHEME IS AN ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL AND
PUBLICITY PROGRAMME ORGANISED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES
DEPARTMENT TO PROMOTE THE MESSAGE OF KEEPING OUR COUNTRY PARKS CLEAN
AND GREEN.

THIS YEAR MARKED THE EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SCHEME.

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FENWICK STREET FOOTBRIDGE EXTENSION
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THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT PROPOSES TO RECONSTRUCT THE EXISTING FOOTBRIDGE AT THE JUNCTION OF GLOUCESTER ROAD AND FENWICK STREET IN WAN CHAI.

THE PROPOSED NEW FOOTBRIDGE WILL INCLUDE A COVER AND ADDITIONAL SPANS ACROSS THE GLOUCESTER ROAD WESTBOUND SERVICE ROAD AND FENWICK STREET TO FACILITATE PEDESTRIAN MOVEMENT AT THE ROAD JUNCTION.

A NOTICE ON THE PROPOSED WORKS WAS PUBLISHED IN THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE GAZETTE.

THE PLAN AND SCHEME OF THE PROPOSED WORKS MAY BE INSPECTED AT THE FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT OFFICES:

- * CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY, CENTRAL;
- * HONG KONG WEST DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, SOUTHOEN CENTRE, 19TH FLOOR, 130 HENNESSY ROAD, WAN CHAI;
- * WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE, PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, 2 O'BRIEN ROAD, WAN CHAI.

ANY PERSON WHO WISHES TO OBJECT TO THE PROPOSED WORKS SHOULD WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG NOT LATER THAN MAY 27 THIS YEAR.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR SITTING-OUT AREA
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THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SITTING-OUT AREA AT THE BANYAN TREE SITE ON STANLEY MAIN ROAD, HONG KONG.

THE WORKS WILL INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN ARBOUR, CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA AND A METER ROOM.

CONSTRUCTION WORKS ARE EXPECTED TO START IN JUNE AND BE COMPLETED NEXT MARCH.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF TENDERS IS NOON ON APRIL 19.

FORMS OF TENDERS AND TENDER PARTICULARS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, 34TH FLOOR, QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 66 QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG.

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