



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SATURDAY, JULY 27, 1991

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LORD CAITHNESS IMPRESSED BY HK DONATIONS

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THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR HONG KONG, LORD CAITHNESS SAID TODAY (SATURDAY) THAT HE WAS IMPRESSED BY THE ENORMOUS SPONTANEITY OF THE HONG KONG PEOPLE IN MAKING VOLUNTARY DONATIONS TO THE FLOOD VICTIMS IN CHINA.

"I THINK IT'S VERY IMPRESSIVE; I THINK IT'S VERY GOOD FOR THE FUTURE BECAUSE IT SHOWS JUST HOW GENEROUS HONG KONG PEOPLE HAVE BEEN AND THE AFFINITY THEY HAVE WITH MAINLAND CHINA," HE SAID.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER VISITING WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT, LORD CAITHNESS SAID: "IT'S JUST TO ME THAT IT HAS HAD A MARKED EFFECT ON A LOT OF PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD THAT HONG KONG HAVE RESPONDED IN THIS WAY."

"I THINK THAT WHEN YOU'VE GOT A HUMANITARIAN SITUATION LIKE THIS WHEREVER IT IS; WHETHER IT IS AN EARTHQUAKE OR VOLCANO IN THE PHILIPPINES, OR AN EARTHQUAKE IN RUSSIA OR FLOODS IN CHINA, IT IS QUITE RIGHT THAT THE WORLD RESPOND IN A GENEROUS MOOD," HE SAID.

"I THINK THAT IS ALL PART OF THE WORLD WORKING MUCH CLOSER TOGETHER THAN IT DID BEFORE. NOW THAT'S GOOD FOR ALL OF US," HE ADDED.

LORD CAITHNESS SAID BRITAIN HAD MADE AN INSTANTANEOUS AND A VERY GOOD FIRST DONATION (ABOUT 100,000 STERLING), WHICH WAS OFTEN THE WAY WHEN YOU HAVE A DISASTER.

"YOU MAKE AN INITIAL DONATION AND THEN YOU ASSESS THE SITUATION AND THE FULL CONSEQUENCES. AND QUITE OFTEN IF YOU LOOK BACK YOU'LL FIND THAT BRITAIN MAKES AN INITIAL PAYMENT AND THEN A FURTHER PAYMENT AFTER THAT," HE SAID.

WHEN ASKED ABOUT A QUERY RAISED BY A MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CONCERNING SOME FAMILIES IN HONG KONG BEING SPLIT BY THE BRITISH NATIONALITY ACT, LORD CAITHNESS SAID HE WOULD LOOK INTO THE MATTER WHEN HE RETURNED TO BRITAIN.

"THE '81 ACT WAS A WORLDWIDE ACT. IT DIDN'T RELATE TO HONG KONG AND THERE WAS A CUT-OFF DATE THAT APPLIED WORLDWIDE. THE SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF HONG KONG I SAID I WOULD LOOK AT," HE SAID.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR DAVID LAN, AND THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR BRIAN LAU, THE MINISTER FIRST WENT TO THE ROOFTOP OF KAM WAN HOUSE IN CHOI HUNG ESTATE FOR A PANORAMIC VIEW OF HONG KONG'S LONGEST TUNNEL, THE TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL, AND THE FLYOVER NETWORK.

A CHIEF HIGHWAY ENGINEER OF THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT, MR P.D. ORANGE, WAS PRESENT TO BRIEF THE MINISTER ON THE TUNNEL WHICH WAS OFFICIALLY OPENED ON JULY 1 THIS YEAR.

/AFTER A

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AFTER A SHORT TOUR OF THE WONG TAI SIN TEMPLE, LORD CAITHNESS THEN VISITED THE 30-YEAR-OLD UPPER WONG TAI SIN ESTATE AND THE NEWER CHUK YUEN ESTATES.

THE MINISTER ALSO LEARNT FROM THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT'S CHIEF HOUSING MANAGER (ISLANDS AND KOWLOON CENTRAL), MR K.W. CHOY, THAT THE 20-BLOCKED UPPER WONG TAI SIN ESTATE WOULD UNDERGO REDEVELOPMENT IN TWO PHASES FOR COMPLETION BY 1998/99.

LORD CAITHNESS CONCLUDED HIS VISIT WITH A WALK THROUGH THE CHINESE-STYLE LANDSCAPED GARDENS AND THE COMMERCIAL AND MARKET COMPLEX OF THE CHUK YUEN NORTH AND SOUTH ESTATES.

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SPECIAL EXPORT/IMPORT LICENSING (TEXTILES) SCHEME ANNOUNCED

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THE TRADE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (SATURDAY) THAT A SPECIAL EXPORT AND IMPORT LICENSING (TEXTILES) SCHEME REGARDING CERTAIN PIECE-KNITTED GARMENTS FOR EXPORT AND RE-EXPORT TO THE U.S.A. WILL BE IMPLEMENTED WITH EFFECT FROM AUGUST 1 THIS YEAR.

UNDER THIS SCHEME, SUCH PRODUCTS COULD BE LABELLED, INSOFAR AS COUNTRY OF ORIGIN IS CONCERNED, IN ACCORDANCE WITH WHERE THE KNITTING OF SUCH GOODS TAKE PLACE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRADE DEPARTMENT SAID: "THE SCHEME SHALL COVER THE IMPORT INTO AND/OR EXPORT FROM HONG KONG OF FINISHED AND SEMI-FINISHED PIECE-KNITTED GARMENTS AND KNIT-TO-SHAPE PANELS, FOR EVENTUAL EXPORTATION TO THE U.S.A. IN THE FORM OF FINISHED AND SEMI-FINISHED PIECE-KNITTED GARMENTS.

"THE SCHEME WILL NOT APPLY TO SILK BLEND/NON-COTTON VEGETABLE FIBRE SWEATERS ASSEMBLED IN HONG KONG FROM PANELS KNITTED ELSEWHERE AND FOR EXPORTATION TO THE U.S.A. UNDER THE HK/US TEXTILES AGREEMENT."

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT AS PRE-REQUISITE REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE SCHEME, COMPANIES USING LOCALLY-KNITTED PANELS FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF FINISHED GARMENTS WOULD BE REQUIRED TO REGISTER WITH THE DEPARTMENT UNDER A SPECIAL FACTORY REGISTRATION ARRANGEMENT WHILE COMPANIES USING FOREIGN PANELS WOULD BE REQUIRED TO BE REGISTERED UNDER THE TEXTILES IMPORTER REGISTRATION SYSTEM.

THE TRADE DEPARTMENT IS INTRODUCING SIX NEW LICENCE FORMS FOR TEXTILE PRODUCTS TO BE EXPORTED AND IMPORTED UNDER THIS SCHEME.

THE PURPOSE OF EACH LICENCE AS WELL AS THE LICENSING CONDITIONS AND APPLICATION PROCEDURES ARE CONTAINED IN NOTICE TO EXPORTERS (SERIES 1: U.S.A.) NO. 39/91 OF JULY 27 (IN RESPECT OF EXPORT LICENCE (TEXTILES) FORM 8) AND NOTICE TO EXPORTERS (SERIES 3: COUNTRIES OTHER THAN U.S.A AND EEC) NO. 36/91 CUM IMPORT LICENSING (TEXTILES) CIRCULAR NO. 4/91 OF JULY 27 (IN RESPECT OF SPECIAL EXPORT LICENCE FORMS 8A AND 8D AND SPECIAL IMPORT LICENCE FORMS 8B, 8C AND 8E).

/APPLICATION FORMS

APPLICATION FORMS FOR THE NEW LICENCES ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT THE COLLECTION OFFICE, TRADE DEPARTMENT, ROOM 813, TRADE DEPARTMENT TOWER, 700 NATHAN ROAD (IN RESPECT OF ALL NEW FORMS) AND GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL (IN RESPECT OF ALL NEW FORMS OTHER THAN EXPORT LICENCE (TEXTILES) FORM 8).

TRADERS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN THE SCHEME MAY ALSO WISH TO READ A JOINT CIRCULAR (NOTICE TO EXPORTERS, SERIES 1 NO. 45/91 AND SERIES 3 NO. 85/91; IMPORT LICENSING (TEXTILES) CIRCULAR NO. 3/91; CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN CIRCULAR NO. 10/91) WHICH PROVIDES A BROAD OUTLINE OF THE SCHEME.

TRADERS WHO REQUIRE FURTHER INFORMATION MAY CONTACT THE FOLLOWING:

- * MR K.M. LEUNG (ON TEL. 398 5547) ON SPECIAL FACTORY REGISTRATION;
- * MR C.H. HO (ON TEL. 398 5459) ON TEXTILES IMPORTER REGISTRATION;
- * MR S.K. YU (ON TEL. 398 5471) ON SPECIAL EXPORT LICENCE FORMS 8A, 8D AND SPECIAL IMPORT LICENCE FORMS 8B, 8C AND 8E;
- * MR Y.S. MAK (ON TEL. 398 5420) AND MR Y.P. LEUNG (ON TEL. 398 5421) ON EXPORT LICENCE FORM 8 FOR EXPORT TO THE U.S.A. OF PIECE-KNITTED GARMENTS SUBJECT TO QUOTA RESTRICTION UNDER THIS SCHEME;
- * MR C.L. LAI (ON TEL. 398 5427) ON EXPORT LICENCE FORM 4 FOR EXPORT/RE-EXPORT TO THE U.S.A. OF OTHER PIECE-KNITTED GARMENTS UNDER THIS SCHEME; AND
- * MISS PEGGY LAW (ON TEL. 398 5503 FROM JULY 27 TO AUGUST 7 AND ON TEL. 398 5591 ON OR AFTER AUGUST 8) ON THE SCHEME IN GENERAL.

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CALL FOR SUPPORT OF NEW ELECTRICITY ORDINANCE
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THE DIRECTOR OF ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES, MR MIAO CHI, TODAY (SATURDAY) CALLED ON THE ELECTRICAL CONTRACTING INDUSTRY AND USERS OF ELECTRICITY TO OBSERVE AND COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE NEW ELECTRICITY ORDINANCE TO ENSURE PUBLIC SAFETY.

HE ALSO URGED THE HONG KONG ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS' ASSOCIATION TO PROVIDE CONTINUED SUPPORT TO THE SECOND PHASE OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW ELECTRICITY ORDINANCE WHEN HIS DEPARTMENT EMBARKS ON THE REGISTRATION OF ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS IN NOVEMBER.

/THE APPEALS

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THE APPEALS WERE MADE BY MR MIAO AT THE DINNER PARTY OF THE ASSOCIATION.

HE ALSO THANKED THE ASSOCIATION FOR THEIR SUPPORT TO THE FIRST PHASE OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ORDINANCE WITH REGARD TO THE REGISTRATION OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS.

SINCE NOVEMBER LAST YEAR, THE ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED ABOUT 22,000 APPLICATIONS FROM ELECTRICAL WORKERS.

"EXCEPT FOR A SMALL PERCENTAGE REQUIRING SUPPLEMENTARY DETAILS, OR FAILING TO MEET ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS, THE MAJORITY OF THESE APPLICANTS WERE SATISFACTORY FOR REGISTRATION," MR MIAO SAID.

"I WISH TO CONVEY MY SINCERE THANKS TO THE REGISTRATION VETTING GROUP OF THE ASSOCIATION WHO NOT ONLY PROVIDED INVALUABLE ADVICE TO HIS DEPARTMENT BUT ALSO UNDERTOOK TO PROVIDE SCREENING AND VETTING SERVICE TO MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION SO THAT 'BULK' APPLICATIONS WERE POSSIBLE.

"THIS ARRANGEMENT DEMONSTRATED THE CLOSE BOND AND CO-OPERATION BETWEEN YOUR ASSOCIATION AND MY DEPARTMENT, WITHOUT WHICH THE REGISTRATION PROCESS WOULD BE PROLONGED."

THE NEW ELECTRICITY ORDINANCE WAS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL LAST YEAR AS A MOVE BY THE GOVERNMENT TO ENHANCE PUBLIC SAFETY IN THE USE OF ELECTRICITY.

ONE OF THE MAIN FEATURES OF THE ORDINANCE IS THE SETTING UP OF A REGISTRATION SYSTEM FOR ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS AND WORKERS.

BY MAY NEXT YEAR WHEN ALL ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS AND WORKERS HAVE BEEN INCLUDED IN THE REGISTER, THE PUBLIC IS REQUIRED TO ENGAGE REGISTERED CONTRACTORS COMPETENT TO INSTALL OR MODIFY THEIR FIXED ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS, TO MAINTAIN OR TO CONDUCT THE STATUTORILY REQUIRED PERIODICAL TESTING OF CERTAIN INSTALLATIONS.

REGARDING THE REGISTRATION OF ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS, MR MIAO POINTED OUT THAT AS A BASIC RULE, FROM MAY NEXT YEAR ONLY REGISTERED ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS MIGHT BE ENGAGED TO UNDERTAKE FIXED ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS IN BUILDINGS.

IN TURN, A REGISTERED ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR WILL EMPLOY REGISTERED ELECTRICAL WORKERS OF THE SUITABLE GRADE TO EXECUTE ELECTRICAL WORK AND AT THE SAME TIME, TO SUPERVISE, TEST AND COMMISSION THE WORK, CERTIFYING THE INSTALLATION IS SAFE AND FIT FOR USE, IN EACH AND EVERY CASE.

LIKewise, ONLY REGISTERED ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS MAY BE PERMITTED TO CARRY OUT MAINTENANCE, PERIODICAL TESTS OR ACCIDENT INVESTIGATIONS ON EXISTING INSTALLATIONS.

/TO OPERATE

TO OPERATE AS A CONTRACTOR, APART FROM EMPLOYING ELECTRICAL WORKERS OF SUITABLE GRADE AND CONSTANTLY UPDATING THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL, ONE WOULD ALSO NEED OTHER ANCILLARY COMMERCIAL SUPPORTS SUCH AS SUITABLE PREMISES, TESTING EQUIPMENT, TOOLS, MATERIALS, AND PROPER WORK RECORDS AND SO ON, WITHOUT THOSE IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT, IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE, FOR THE EMPLOYED ELECTRICAL WORKERS TO DISCHARGE THEIR STATUTORY RESPONSIBILITIES.

HE SAID THE REGISTRATION OF ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS WOULD BE VERY MUCH THE SAME WAY AS IN THE CASE OF REGISTERED ELECTRICAL WORKERS AND HE URGED MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION TO REGISTER THEIR COMPANIES EARLY AFTER NOVEMBER THIS YEAR.

MR MIAO ALSO DISCLOSED THAT WITH THE ASSISTANCE FROM THE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANIES AND THE INDUSTRY, THE ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAD PREPARED A CODE OF PRACTICE ILLUSTRATING THE VARIOUS STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES WHICH REGISTERED CONTRACTORS AND WORKERS COULD REFER TO IN CASE OF DIFFICULTIES.

IN ADDITION, THE DEPARTMENT, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE SUPPLY COMPANIES AND THE INDUSTRY, IS PLANNING TO SET UP A MANAGEMENT SYSTEM TO DETECT THOSE CONTRACTORS AND WORKERS WHOSE PERFORMANCE DID NOT MEET THE SAFETY STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS OF A FIXED ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION AS SPECIFIED IN THE NEW ORDINANCE AND THE CODE OF PRACTICE.

"THOSE CONTINUALLY NEGLECTING THEIR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES WILL BE SINGLED OUT FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION," HE WARNED.

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LIFT ACCESS FOR DISABLED TO ELEVATED WALKWAY SYSTEM IN CENTRAL
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THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT PROPOSES TO CONSTRUCT TWO LIFTS FOR ACCESS OF THE DISABLED TO THE ELEVATED WALKWAY SYSTEM IN CENTRAL.

ONE LIFT WILL BE LOCATED AT PEDDER STREET OUTSIDE WORLD WIDE HOUSE AND THE OTHER AT THE STAR FERRY OUTSIDE CENTRAL POST OFFICE.

THE WORKS INCLUDE ALSO THE MODIFICATION OF PART OF THE EXISTING STEPS ALONG THE WALKWAY INTO RAMPS FOR THE USE OF THE DISABLED, AND THE DEMOLITION AND REPROVISION OF THE STAIRCASE AT THE STAR FERRY OUTSIDE THE CENTRAL POST OFFICE.

DETAILS OF THE PROPOSAL ARE PUBLISHED IN A NOTICE IN THE GAZETTE YESTERDAY.

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

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- * CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL; AND
- * HONG KONG WEST DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, 19TH FLOOR, SOUTHORN CENTRE, 130 HENNESSY ROAD, WAN CHAI.

ANY PERSON WHO OBJECTS 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 SEPTEMBER 17 THIS YEAR.

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WAN CHAI LAUNCHES FIGHT CRIME CAMPAIGN

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WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR PETER MANN, HAS CALLED ON LOCAL RESIDENTS TO CO-OPERATE WITH THE POLICE SO AS TO HELP BUILD A LAW-ABIDING COMMUNITY.

MR MANN MADE THIS APPEAL WHEN HE LAUNCHED THE DISTRICT'S FIGHT CRIME CAMPAIGN CUM EXHIBITION FOR 1991-92 THIS (SATURDAY) AFTERNOON.

HE SAID THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE (DFCC) HAD BEEN ORGANISING ANNUAL CAMPAIGNS TO REMIND LOCAL RESIDENTS THE IMPORTANCE OF CRIME PREVENTION.

THE DISTRICT OFFICER ALSO TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO URGE ELIGIBLE ELECTORS TO EXERCISE THEIR CIVIC RIGHTS BY CASTING THEIR BALLOTS IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS IN SEPTEMBER.

THE DFCC CHAIRMAN, MR LESTER KWOK, NOTED THAT HIS COMMITTEE HAD BEEN CO-ORDINATING DISTRICT EFFORTS TO HELP POLICE FIGHT CRIME AND TO ENHANCE POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS.

IT HAS ALSO MADE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE ON ITS ADMINISTRATIVE AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION MEASURES BEING UNDERTAKEN TO DETER CRIME.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DFCC'S CAMPAIGN WORKING GROUP, MR CHAN CHING-CHOW, NOTED THAT A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES HAD BEEN PLANNED THIS YEAR TO PUT ACROSS THE CRIME PREVENTION MESSAGE.

"APART FROM TODAY'S CRIME PREVENTION EXHIBITION, THERE WILL BE A COLOURING COMPETITION, A QUIZ AND A LARGE SCALE-CARNIVAL IN SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER AND DECEMBER RESPECTIVELY THIS YEAR," MR CHAN ADDED.

THE DISTRICT'S POLICE COMMANDER, MR LIONEL LAM ALSO OFFICIATED AT THE OPENING OF THE CAMPAIGN CUM EXHIBITION, WHICH HAS ATTRACTED HUNDREDS OF LOCAL RESIDENTS.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	DATE	\$ MILLION
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CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	26.7.91	840*
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	27.7.91	NEUTRAL
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		NEUTRAL

* O/N ASSISTANCE OF HK\$300 MN
TO BE REVERSED ON 29.7.91

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