



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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EASY 2 UP FOR SALE

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VEHICLE OWNERS WHO WISH TO GRACE THEIR CARS WITH THE SPECIAL CAR REGISTRATION NUMBER 2 SHOULD NOT MISS THE AUCTION OF VEHICLE REGISTRATION NUMBERS NEXT SATURDAY (FEBRUARY 27) AT THEATRE I OF THE HONG KONG CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE.

THE SPECIAL REGISTRATION NUMBER 2 WITHOUT PREFIX IS AMONG 50 LUCKY NUMBERS TO BE SOLD AT THE AUCTION WHICH STARTS AT 9.30 AM. OTHER NUMBERS WITHOUT PREFIX TO BE SOLD INCLUDED 44, 303, 899 AND 989.

THE NUMBER 2 VEHICLE REGISTRATION MARK IS MADE AVAILABLE FOR AUCTION BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, AS A NEW YEAR GESTURE TO BOOST THE LOTTERIES FUND FOR CHARITY. THE REGISTRATION NUMBER HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO HIS OFFICE.

AS A FURTHER PERSONAL GESTURE, MR MACLEOD WILL GIVE A SMALL PRESENT TO THE NEW OWNER OF THE LICENCE NUMBER. THIS GIFT WILL BE A SET OF NEW PROOF COINS WHICH WILL GRADUALLY REPLACE THE OLD COINS IN CIRCULATION.

PREVIOUS AUCTIONS OF SPECIAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION NUMBERS SAW THE AUSPICIOUS NUMBER 8 SOLD FOR A RECORD HIGH OF \$5 MILLION IN FEBRUARY 1988, A RECORD FIGURE THAT FOUND ITS WAY INTO THE GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS.

IN JANUARY THE FOLLOWING YEAR, ANOTHER SINGLE DIGIT NUMBER 7 WAS SOLD FOR \$4.8 MILLION. AT OTHER AUCTIONS, THE PRICES OF THE OTHER SINGLE DIGIT NUMBERS WITHOUT PREFIX ARE:

NO. 3 SOLD IN JULY 1983 FOR \$1.03 MILLION

NO. 4 SOLD IN OCTOBER 1978 FOR \$147,000

NO. 5 SOLD IN JANUARY 1993 FOR \$2.5 MILLION

NO. 6 SOLD IN DECEMBER 1978 FOR \$330,000

NO. 10 SOLD IN MARCH 1977 FOR \$206,000

SINCE MAY 1973, A TOTAL OF 6,087 VEHICLE REGISTRATION MARKS HAVE BEEN SOLD AT 188 AUCTIONS ORGANISED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, RAISING MORE THAN \$170 MILLION FOR THE LOTTERIES FUND.

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ALASDAIR SINCLAIR TAKES OVER AS COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS

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MR ALASDAIR SINCLAIR WILL TAKE OVER FROM MR K J WOODHOUSE TOMORROW (MONDAY) AS COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS.

MR SINCLAIR, 41, FIRST JOINED THE GOVERNMENT IN SEPTEMBER 1976 AS AN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER AND WAS PROMOTED TO SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER IN APRIL 1983.

HE HAS HELD ADMINISTRATIVE POSTS IN THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT AND VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS, INCLUDING THE CIVIL SERVICE BRANCH, CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE BRANCH AND MONETARY AFFAIRS BRANCH.

HE WAS PROMOTED TO ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER STAFF GRADE C IN APRIL 1986.

BEFORE HE WAS APPOINTED AS THE COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR SINCLAIR WAS A PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR SECURITY.

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SEASONAL REMINDER ON LICENCE RENEWAL

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT TODAY (SUNDAY) REMINDS DRIVERS AND VEHICLE OWNERS WHO WISH TO RENEW THEIR LICENCES THAT THEY DO NOT HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL THEIR LICENCES EXPIRE AS THEY CAN APPLY ANY TIME DURING THE FOUR-MONTH PERIOD BEFORE THE EXPIRY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE LICENSING OFFICES WERE USUALLY MORE CROWDED DURING THE BEGINNING AND THE END OF EACH MONTH.

ON EXTREMELY BUSY DAYS, THE LICENSING OFFICES WILL ADOPT A QUOTA SYSTEM UNDER WHICH APPLICANTS ARE GIVEN AN APPOINTMENT DISC FOR A SPECIFIED TIME TO HAND IN THEIR APPLICATIONS. THE APPOINTMENT DISCS WILL BE HANDED OUT ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

TO AVOID LONG QUEUES AT THE LICENSING OFFICES, THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED DRIVERS AND VEHICLE OWNERS THAT THEY COULD SAVE TIME BY APPLYING TO RENEW THEIR LICENCES BY POST OR THROUGH THE DROP-IN BOX PROVIDED AT THE FOUR LICENSING OFFICES.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL POST OFFICES, ENQUIRY CENTRES OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, AND THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT LICENSING OFFICES.

"AS MANY POSTAL APPLICATIONS ARE EXPECTED TO BE RECEIVED AROUND THIS PERIOD, THE PROCESSING TIME MAY BE INCREASED FROM THE NORMAL 14 WORKING DAYS TO 28," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE ASSURED APPLICANTS THAT THE LICENSING OFFICES WOULD TRY TO POST BACK THE LICENCES WITHIN 14 WORKING DAYS AS FAR AS POSSIBLE.

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POLITICAL SYSTEM VITAL TO STABILITY

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THE FOUNDATION FOR HONG KONG'S CONTINUED STABILITY AND PROSPERITY RESTS ON A POLITICAL SYSTEM THAT WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO ITS PEOPLE, THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MRS ROSANNA URE, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

SPEAKING AT A FIGHT CRIME CARNIVAL, MRS URE POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE THAT HONG KONG PEOPLE PARTICIPATED IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS.

SHE CALLED ON RESIDENTS TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THE POLITICAL REFORM PROPOSALS PUT FORWARD BY THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, IN HIS POLICY SPEECH LAST OCTOBER.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE PEOPLE SHOULD ALSO PLAY A ROLE IN MAINTAINING LAW AND ORDER BY HELPING THE POLICE TO COMBAT CRIME, SHE SAID.

MRS URE SAID THEY SHOULD BE VIGILANT AT ALL TIMES AGAINST CRIME, REPORT CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES TO THE POLICE AND BE PREPARED TO TESTIFY AGAINST CRIMINALS.

THE FIGHT CRIME CARNIVAL WAS ORGANISED JOINTLY BY THE DISTRICT'S FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE AND THE DISTRICT OFFICE.

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GOVT WORKS HARD TO PRESERVE HERITAGE

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN STRIVING STRENUOUSLY IN THE PAST DECADES TO PRESERVE THE LOCAL HERITAGE, THE SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR JAMES SO, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE REHABILITATION CEREMONY FOR THE 468-YEAR-OLD TANG CHUNG LING ANCESTRAL HALL IN FANLING, MR SO SAID THE RECENT ESTABLISHMENT OF THE LORD WILSON HERITAGE TRUST WAS ANOTHER FINE EXAMPLE OF SUCH EFFORTS.

"SUCCESS OF THE TRUST DEPENDS VERY MUCH ON THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE COMMUNITY," HE SAID.

OUTSIDE THE GOVERNMENT, THE SECRETARY NOTED THAT THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB HAD BEEN THE BIGGEST BENEFACTOR IN THE FUNDING OF RESTORATION AND CONSERVATION OF HONG KONG'S HERITAGE.

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"THE FUNDING OF \$2.35 MILLION FOR THE RESTORATION OF THIS ANCESTRAL HALL IS YET ANOTHER VIVID EXAMPLE OF THE CLUB'S COMMITMENT TO THE PRESERVATION OF HONG KONG'S HERITAGE," HE SAID.

MR SO ALSO THANKED THE TANG CLAN OF LUNG YEUK TAU FOR THEIR GREATEST ESTEEM AND CARE OF THE BUILDING.

"THE HALL HAS BEEN SO WELL PRESERVED THAT NOW NOT ONLY YOUR CLANSMEN BUT ALSO THE PUBLIC AT LARGE CAN HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO UNDERSTAND ITS HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AS WELL AS TO APPRECIATE ITS ARCHITECTURAL SPLENDOURS," HE ADDED.

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SURVEY ON OPERATION OF URBAN AND LANTAU TAXIS

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT IS CONDUCTING A SURVEY ON THE OPERATION CHARACTERISTICS AND FINANCE OF URBAN AND LANTAU TAXIS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) THAT THE SURVEY WAS AN ANNUAL EXERCISE AND COMPRISED A QUESTIONNAIRE SURVEY AND A METER-READING SURVEY.

QUESTIONNAIRE FORMS AND SKETCHES SHOWING THE LOCATIONS OF THE METER-READING CENTRES HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED TO TAXI OWNERS SELECTED FOR THE SURVEY.

FOR THE METER-READING SURVEY, URBAN TAXI OWNERS SHOULD PRESENT THEIR VEHICLES TO THE METER-READING CENTRES FROM TOMORROW (MONDAY) TO FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 26) AND FROM MARCH 1 TO 5 BETWEEN 9.30 AM AND 12.30 PM OR BETWEEN 2 PM AND 4.30 PM.

LANTAU TAXI OWNERS SHOULD PRESENT THEIR VEHICLES TO THE METER-READING CENTRE FOR FIVE CONSECUTIVE TUESDAYS FROM FEBRUARY 23 TO MARCH 23 BETWEEN 9.30 AM AND 12.30 PM OR BETWEEN 1.30 PM AND 3.30 PM.

QUESTIONNAIRE SURVEY FORMS FOR URBAN TAXIS SHOULD REACH THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ON OR BEFORE MARCH 5 (FRIDAY) WHILE FORMS FOR LANTAU TAXIS SHOULD BE RETURNED BEFORE MARCH 23 (TUESDAY).

THE SPOKESMAN URGED OWNERS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SURVEY TO HELP THE DEPARTMENT ASSESS THE OPERATING CONDITIONS OF URBAN AND LANTAU TAXIS.

HE SAID THE INFORMATION COLLECTED WOULD BE USED FOR STATISTICAL ANALYSIS ONLY.

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SHRIMP DUMPLINGS FACTORY FINED

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THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH HAS SUCCESSFULLY BROUGHT A FOOD FACTORY TO JUSTICE FOR THE OFFENCE OF SELLING SHRIMP DUMPLINGS CONTAINING SORBIC ACID WHICH IS A NON-PERMITTED PRESERVATIVE USED IN THE POPULAR CHINESE DIM SUM.

THE DEFENDANT, JEBSON DEVELOPMENT LIMITED, PLEADED GUILTY TO THE OFFENCE IN SHA TIN MAGISTRACY ON FEBRUARY 10 AND WAS FINED \$10,000.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT POINTED OUT THAT THE OFFENCE COMMITTED WAS IN CONTRAVENTION OF THE PRESERVATIVES IN FOOD REGULATIONS AND THE MAXIMUM PENALTY COULD AMOUNT TO \$10,000 FINE PLUS SIX MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT.

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SPARES NO EFFORT TO PROSECUTE OFFENCES WHICH AFFECT PUBLIC HEALTH, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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SALT WATER CUT IN KOWLOON EAST

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SALT WATER SUPPLY TO SOME AREAS IN KOWLOON EAST WILL BE CUT OFF FROM 9 AM TO MIDNIGHT ON TUESDAY (FEBRUARY 23) TO FACILITATE CONNECTION WORK ON WATER MAINS.

THE AFFECTED AREAS INCLUDE LAM TIN ESTATE, HING TIN ESTATE, HONG WAH COURT, HONG TIN COURT, SAU MAU PING ESTATE, CHEUNG WO COURT, UNITED CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL, SHUN TIN ESTATE, SHUN ON ESTATE, SHUN LEE ESTATE AND SHUN LEE TSUEN TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA.

ALSO INCLUDED WILL BE SHUN CHI COURT, CHOI WAN ESTATE, NGAU TAU KOK UPPER ESTATE, LOK WAH ESTATE, LOK NGA COURT AND ALL THE PREMISES AT HIU KWONG STREET, KUNG LOK ROAD AND HONG LEE ROAD.

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