



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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DRUG SITUATION HAS STABILISED

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ALTHOUGH THERE WAS A SLIGHT INCREASE OF ONE PER CENT IN THE NUMBER OF PERSONS OF ALL AGES NEWLY REPORTED TO THE CENTRAL REGISTRY OF DRUG ABUSE (CRDA) IN 1985 COMPARED WITH 1984, THE OVERALL POSITION REPRESENTED A SUSTAINED IMPROVEMENT ON THE FIGURES FOR 1983.

THIS WAS DISCLOSED AT THE 59TH MEETING OF THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS (ACAN) HELD THIS WEEK.

THE COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR GORDON MORTIMER, POINTED OUT AT THE MEETING THAT IN 1984 THERE HAD BEEN A SIGNIFICANT REDUCTION OF 13.3 PER CENT IN THE NUMBER OF PERSONS NEWLY REPORTED TO THE CRDA COMPARED WITH 1983.

DURING 1985, A TOTAL OF 470 KILOGRAMS OF ILLICIT OPIATES, MAINLY NO. 3 HEROIN AND HEROIN BASE, AND A TOTAL OF 166 KILOGRAMS OF CANNABIS AND CANNABIS RESIN WERE SEIZED BY POLICE AND CUSTOMS OFFICERS.

IT WAS REPORTED TO THE MEETING THAT SINCE 1982 THE NUMBER OF ACTIVE AND KNOWN ADDICTS HAD REMAINED STABLE AT ABOUT 0.8 PER CENT OF THE POPULATION OVER THE AGE OF 11.

REGARDING PREVENTIVE EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY PROGRAMMES, DISTRICT CAMPAIGNS AS WELL AS OTHER ACTIVITIES HAD BEEN SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED IN VARIOUS DISTRICTS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY DURING 1985. ANNOUNCEMENTS OF PUBLIC INTEREST FOR TELEVISION WERE SCREENED AND SUPPORTING POSTERS WERE RELEASED DURING THE YEAR.

THE PUBLICITY STRATEGY FOR 1986 WILL COVER THE TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION FACILITIES WHICH ARE AVAILABLE IN HONG KONG IN ORDER TO ENCOURAGE MORE ADDICTS TO VOLUNTEER FOR TREATMENT.

PREVENTIVE EDUCATION, PARTICULARLY AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE AT RISK, WILL REMAIN THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF THE PREVENTIVE EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY SUB-COMMITTEE OF ACAN.

REPORTING ON HIS ATTENDANCE AT A MEETING OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS, MR MORTIMER SAID THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH A RESOLUTION OF THE U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY, A WORLD CONFERENCE AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL IS DUE TO BE HELD IN VIENNA IN JUNE 1987. IT WILL BE THE AIM OF THE CONFERENCE TO HEIGHTEN AWARENESS OF THE DANGERS OF DRUG ABUSE AND TO SHOW THAT THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD HAVE THE POLITICAL WILL TO COMBAT THE DRUG MENACE. IT IS INTENDED THAT THE CONFERENCE SHOULD ADOPT A BROAD PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES WHICH SHOULD BE FOLLOWED AT NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS.

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TEXTILE ENTRY PROCEDURE TO U.S. REVISED
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CERTAIN CATEGORIES OF TEXTILE PRODUCTS SENT BY POST TO THE UNITED STATES ARE NOW EXEMPTED FROM THE FORMAL ENTRY PROCEDURE, A POST OFFICE SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY).

ACCORDING TO A REVISED CUSTOMS DIRECTIVE ISSUED BY THE UNITED STATES CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES RECENTLY, THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES OF TEXTILE PRODUCTS ARE EXEMPTED FROM THE FORMAL ENTRY PROCEDURE:

- (1) BONA FIDE GIFTS OF VALUE BELOW US\$50
- (2) COMMERCIAL SAMPLES VALUED AT US\$250 OR LESS PROVIDED THEY ARE INDELIBLY STAMPED WITH THE WORD 'SAMPLE'

+HOWEVER+, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, +FOR ARTICLES WHICH ARE INCAPABLE OF BEING MARKED, A FABRIC LABEL, NOT SMALLER THAN TWO-AND-A-HALF INCHES BY HALF INCH CONTAINING THE WORDS +SAMPLE -- NOT TO BE SOLD+ MUST BE CONSPICUOUSLY AND PERMANENTLY AFFIXED TO THE ARTICLE IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN LABEL.+

+THE INVOICE FOR THE COMMERCIAL SAMPLE SHOULD ALSO CONTAIN A STATEMENT 'MARKED SAMPLE -- NOT FOR RESALE',+ HE ADDED.

CUSTOMERS SEEKING FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE FORMAL ENTRY PROCEDURE IN THE UNITED STATES SHOULD APPROACH THE UNITED STATES CONSULATE IN HONG KONG.

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NEW COMMUNITY HALL IN TUEN MUN OPENING
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A NEW COMMUNITY HALL, LOCATED IN SHAN KING ESTATE IN TUEN MUN, WILL BE OPEN TO LOCAL RESIDENTS FROM APRIL 1.

THE SHAN KING COMMUNITY HALL, MANAGED BY TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE, WILL SERVE A POPULATION OF ABOUT 36 000 IN THE VICINITY.

+COMMUNITY FACILITIES FOR HIRE AT THE HALL INCLUDE A MULTI-PURPOSE HALL, CHANGING ROOMS AND A CONFERENCE ROOM,+ A TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+REGISTERED ORGANISATIONS, COMMUNITY GROUPS, AND SCHOOLS WISHING TO MAKE USE OF THE FACILITIES SHOULD SEND IN THEIR APPLICATION FORMS, WHICH ARE OBTAINABLE FROM THE BOOKING COUNTER AT THE COMMUNITY HALL,+ HE ADDED.

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ON THE OTHER HAND, NON-PROFIT MAKING ORGANISATIONS WISHING TO ORGANISE ACTIVITIES OF PUBLIC INTEREST FOR YOUTHS AND LOCAL RESIDENTS, CAN ONLY APPLY FOR EXEMPTION OR REDUCTION RATES.

THE OPENING HOURS OF THE SHAN KING COMMUNITY HALL ARE FROM 9 AM TO 10 PM, MONDAYS TO SATURDAYS, AND FROM 9 AM TO 6 PM ON SUNDAYS. THE CENTRE WILL BE CLOSED ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

ENQUIRIES ON BOOKING FACILITIES IN THE NEW HALL CAN BE MADE ON 0-840301.

AT PRESENT, TUEN MUN DISTRICT HAS THREE COMMUNITY HALL AND CENTRES, WHICH ARE THE TAI HING COMMUNITY HALL IN TAI HING ESTATE, BUTTERFLY ESTATE COMMUNITY CENTRE IN BUTTERFLY ESTATE, AND THE ON TING/YAU OI COMMUNITY CENTRE IN ON TING ESTATE.

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CHILDREN'S CHOIR SEEKING NEW MEMBERS
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THE SHAM SHUI PO CHILDREN'S CHOIR IS LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS TO JOIN ITS TRAINING AND PERFORMING PROGRAMMES.

CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN SIX AND 12, WHO LIVE OR STUDY IN SHAM SHUI PO, CAN APPLY TO BE A CHOIR MEMBER. APPLICATION FORMS AND OTHER PARTICULARS CAN BE OBTAINED AT THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE AND SUB-OFFICES AND AT THE PREMISES OF THE SHAM SHUI PO ARTS ASSOCIATION AT S14 LAI FU HOUSE IN LAI KOK ESTATE.

AUDITIONS WILL BE HELD AT THE END OF APRIL FOR NEW APPLICANTS.

CHOIR MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE VOCAL TRAINING BY PROFESSIONAL INSTRUCTORS FOR TWO HOURS EVERY SATURDAY AFTERNOON AT THE BUDDHIST TAI HUNG COLLEGE. ENTRANCE FEE IS \$120 AND THE ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION IS \$80.

THE CHILDREN'S CHOIR IS PART OF THE DISTRICT-BASED RECREATIONAL AND ART PROGRAMME INITIATED BY THE SHAM SHUI PO ARTS ASSOCIATION AND SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD.

THERE ARE AT PRESENT 125 CHOIR MEMBERS COMPRISING A SENIOR AND A JUNIOR SECTION.

SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 1982, THE CHOIR HAD ORGANISED FOUR SUCCESSFUL CONCERTS AND MADE FREQUENT APPEARANCE ON TELEVISION AND LOCAL STAGE PERFORMANCES.

APART FROM TRAINING SESSIONS, MEMBERS WILL ALSO BE ABLE TO TAKE PART IN THE CHOIR'S GATHERINGS, OUTINGS AND OPEN COMPETITIONS, AS WELL AS ATTEND OTHER CONCERTS IN GROUPS.

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ANNUAL CONCERT BY YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
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THE HONG KONG YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA OF THE MUSIC OFFICE WILL STAGE ITS ANNUAL CONCERT ON APRIL 6 AT 8 PM AT THE CITY HALL, CONCERT HALL.

UNDER GUEST CONDUCTOR MR JOHN LAU, THE ORCHESTRA WILL TREAT THE AUDIENCE TO A PROGRAMME WHICH INCLUDES TRAGIC OVERTURE, OP. 18 BY BRAHMS, SYMPHONY NO. 4 BY BEETHOVEN AND 'FAUST' BALLET MUSIC BY GOUNOD.

TO ADD VARIETY TO THE PROGRAMME, THE CONCERT WILL ALSO FEATURE GUEST PERFORMANCES BY THE STOWMARKET SCHOOLS CONCERT BAND FROM ENGLAND, WHICH IS VISITING HONG KONG FROM APRIL 2 TO 11.

SINCE ITS FOUNDATION IN 1961, THE BAND HAS ESTABLISHED A NAME FOR ITSELF THROUGH ITS WIDE-RANGING PROGRAMME OF CLASSICAL AND POPULAR MUSIC FOR BRASS, RECEIVING COMPLIMENTS ON ITS EXCELLENCE OF PERFORMANCE AND PROFESSIONALISM.

HIGHLIGHT OF THE CONCERT WILL BE TCHAIKOVSKY'S 1812 OVERTURE, OP. 49 PERFORMED JOINTLY BY THE YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA AND THE STOWMARKET BAND.

TICKETS AT \$5 EACH ARE AVAILABLE AT URBAN COUNCIL COMPUTERISED TICKETING COUNTERS AT CITY HALL, HONG KONG SPACE MUSEUM, HONG KONG COLISEUM AND QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM.

FOR ENQUIRIES CALL 5-731777.

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LIFE SAVING SERVICE RESUMES APRIL 1
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LIFE-SAVING AND FIRST-AID SERVICES AT 24 GAZETTED BEACHES IN THE NON-URBAN AREAS WILL RESUME ON TUESDAY (APRIL 1).

LIFEGUARDS WILL BE ON DUTY AT THE BEACHES FROM 9 AM TO 6 PM DAILY, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID.

THE BEACHES ARE APPROACH BEACH, TING KAU BEACH, LIDO BEACH, CASAM BEACH, GEMINI BEACH AND HOI MEI BEACH IN TSUEN WAN; NEW AND OLD CAFETERIA BEACHES AND KADOORIE BEACH IN TUEN MUN; FIRST AND SECOND BEACHES OF CLEAR WATER BAY, HAP MUN BEACH, KIU TSUI BEACH, SILVERSTRAND BEACH AND TRIO BEACH IN SAI KUNG; UPPER AND LOWER CHEUNG SHA BEACHES, PUI O BEACH AND SILVERMINE BAY BEACH ON LANTAU ISLAND; HUNG SHING YEH BEACH AND LO SO SHING BEACH ON LAMMA ISLAND; TUNG WAN BEACH AND KWUN YAM WAN BEACH ON CHEUNG CHAU ISLAND AND TUNG WAN BEACH ON MA WAN ISLAND.

/AT PAK

AT PAK SHA CHAU AND CAMPER'S BEACHES IN SAI KUNG, LIFEGUARD SERVICE WILL BE PROVIDED FROM 9 AM TO 6 PM ON SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS ONLY.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE ADVISED NOT TO ENTER THE WATER AT THE CASTLE PEAK BEACH, ANGLERS' BEACH AND BUTTERFLY BEACH AS WATER AT THE THREE BEACHES IS UNSUITABLE FOR SWIMMING.

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COMPUTER CONTROL TECHNOLOGY SEMINAR ORGANISED
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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS WILL JOINTLY ORGANISE A SEMINAR ON COMPUTER CONTROL TECHNOLOGY FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEXT MONTH (APRIL).

THE SEMINAR IS TO PROVIDE TEACHERS WITH BASIC CONCEPTS OF COMPUTER CONTROL TECHNOLOGY AND EXPERIENCES IN DEVELOPING HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE FOR COMPUTER-CONTROLLED DEVICES.

A LECTURER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES IN EDUCATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, MR C.T. LEUNG, WILL SPEAK AT THE SEMINAR AT THE LECTURE THEATRE OF JU CHING CHU ENGLISH COLLEGE (TSUEN WAN) AT 1-11, ON CHIT STREET, KWAI CHUNG, ON APRIL 26.

SCHOOL HEADS WISHING TO NOMINATE TEACHERS TO ATTEND THE SEMINAR SHOULD SEND APPLICATIONS TO THE PRINCIPAL INSPECTOR (COMPUTER EDUCATION), ADVISORY INSPECTORATE, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, FOURTH FLOOR, LEE GARDENS, HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY, BEFORE APRIL 19.

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INAUGURAL MEETING OF REGIONAL COUNCIL
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THE REGIONAL COUNCIL WILL HOLD ITS INAUGURAL MEETING ON APRIL 1 (TUESDAY).

BEFORE THE AGENDA IS DEALT WITH, THE COUNCIL WILL ELECT A CHAIRMAN AND A VICE CHAIRMAN IN A BALLOT TO BE CONDUCTED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS.

AMONG TOPICS ON THE AGENDA ARE THE STRUCTURE AND COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEES, THE DELEGATION OF EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY TO THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, AND THE TIMETABLE AND PROCEDURE FOR ELECTING THE COUNCIL'S REPRESENTATIVE TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

/OTHER SUBJECTS

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OTHER SUBJECTS TO BE DISCUSSED INCLUDE FINANCE BY-LAWS, LIQUOR LICENSING POLICY AND PROCEDURES WITHIN THE COUNCIL'S JURISDICTION, DRAFT ESTIMATES FOR 1986-87 AND THE APPOINTMENT OF A COUNCIL SECRETARY.

THE MEETING WILL START AT 10 AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TSUEN WAN MULTI-STOREY CARPARK AND GOVERNMENT OFFICE BUILDING, 2ND FLOOR, TSUEN WAN.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING. SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION SERVICE WILL BE PROVIDED.

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LOWER ALBERT ROAD WEIGHT BAN
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VEHICLES EXCEEDING 5.5 TONNES GROSS ON GARDEN ROAD WILL BE BANNED FROM ENTERING LOWER ALBERT ROAD, DAILY BETWEEN 10 PM AND 6 AM THE NEXT MORNING ON MARCH 31 (MONDAY), APRIL 1 AND APRIL 2.

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