



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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PNEUMOCONIOSIS COMPENSATION SCHEME STARTS TODAY

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THE LEGISLATION WHICH PROVIDES COMPENSATION TO PEOPLE SUFFERING FROM PNEUMOCONIOSIS AND DEPENDANTS OF THOSE WHO DIE FROM THE DISEASE COMES INTO OPERATION TODAY.

ANNOUNCING THIS, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT SAID THE PNEUMOCONIOSIS (COMPENSATION) ORDINANCE APPLIES TO ANY PERSON, INCLUDING THOSE WHO ARE SELF-EMPLOYED OR UNEMPLOYED, DIAGNOSED TO BE SUFFERING FROM PNEUMOCONIOSIS ON OR AFTER TODAY.

THE ORDINANCE, HOWEVER, DOES NOT APPLY :

- \* WHERE EX-GRATIA COMPENSATION HAS BEEN OR WILL BE PAID BY THE GOVERNMENT FOR INCAPACITY OR DEATH RESULTING FROM PNEUMOCONIOSIS DIAGNOSED BEFORE TODAY-
- \* TO A PERSON WITH LESS THAN FIVE YEARS' RESIDENCE, UNLESS IT IS PROVED THAT HE CONTRACTED THE DISEASE IN HONG KONG- AND
- \* TO A PERSON WHOSE INCAPACITY, OTHER THAN INCAPACITY OF A PERMANENT NATURE, DOES NOT INCAPACITATE HIM FOR A PERIOD EXCEEDING THREE CONSECUTIVE DAYS FROM EARNING FULL WAGES.

COMPENSATION WILL BE PAID FROM THE PNEUMOCONIOSIS COMPENSATION FUND FINANCED BY LEVIES FROM CONSTRUCTION WORKS AND QUARRY PRODUCTS.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION FOR TOTAL (100 PER CENT) PERMANENT INCAPACITY WOULD BE BASED ON THE AGE OF THE PERSON SUFFERING FROM THE DISEASE.

THE LEVELS OF COMPENSATION ARE : BELOW 40 YEARS OF AGE, 96 MONTHS' EARNINGS= 40 TO BELOW 56, 72 MONTHS= AND 56 AND ABOVE, 48 MONTHS, SUBJECT TO A MAXIMUM OF \$192 000 AND A MINIMUM OF \$64 000.

FOR PERMANENT PARTIAL INCAPACITY, THE AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION IS A PERCENTAGE OF COMPENSATION PAYABLE FOR 100 PER CENT INCAPACITY. THE PERCENTAGE IS DECIDED BY THE DEGREE OF INCAPACITY ASSESSED BY THE PNEUMOCONIOSIS MEDICAL BOARD.

TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE UNIQUE NATURE OF PROGRESSIVE DETERIORATION OF PNEUMOCONIOSIS, THE BOARD IS AUTHORISED TO ASSESS, IN CASES OF PERMANENT PARTIAL INCAPACITY, THE DEGREE OF INCAPACITY SUFFERED AT THE TIME OF ASSESSMENT AND ANY FURTHER DEGREE LIKELY TO BE SUFFERED IN FUTURE.

COMPENSATION FOR DEATH, THE SPOKESMAN CONTINUED, ALSO DEPENDS ON THE AGE AND MONTHLY EARNINGS OF THE DECEASED AND THE DEGREE OF DEPENDENCY OF DEPENDANTS. COMPENSATION LEVELS FOR DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS ARE : BELOW 40, 84 MONTHS' EARNINGS= 40 TO BELOW 56, 60 MONTHS= AND 56 AND ABOVE, 36 MONTHS, SUBJECT TO A MAXIMUM OF \$168 000 AND A MINIMUM OF \$56 000.

A PNEUMOCONIOTIC SUFFERING FROM PERMANENT TOTAL INCAPACITY AND REQUIRING CONSTANT ATTENTION TO PERFORM ESSENTIAL DAILY ACTIVITIES IS ALSO ENTITLED TO COMPENSATION TO MEET THE COST OF PROVIDING SUCH ATTENTION, SUBJECT TO A MAXIMUM OF \$77 000.

FOR A PNEUMOCONIOTIC WHO IS GIVEN SICK LEAVE EXCEEDING THREE CONSECUTIVE DAYS, COMPENSATION WILL BE IN THE FORM OF TWO-THIRDS OF HIS EARNINGS OVER THE PERIOD OF INCAPACITY. MEDICAL EXPENSES ARE PAYABLE SUBJECT TO A MAXIMUM OF \$20 PER DAY FOR HOSPITALISATION AND \$10 PER DAY FOR OUT-PATIENT TREATMENT.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT ANYONE SUFFERING FROM INCAPACITY AND WISHING TO CLAIM COMPENSATION SHOULD NOTIFY THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR IN THE SPECIFIED FORM AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE. IN FATAL CASES, THE DEPENDANTS SHOULD LIKEWISE NOTIFY THE COMMISSIONER.

ALL CLAIMS FOR COMPENSATION AND MEDICAL EXPENSES SHOULD BE MADE IN THE FIRST INSTANCE TO THE COMMISSIONER WITHIN 24 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF INCAPACITY OR DEATH.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO POINTED OUT THAT OTHER THAN CLAIMING COMPENSATION AND MEDICAL EXPENSES, A PNEUMOCONIOTIC MAY FILE CLAIMS TO THE DISTRICT COURT FOR DAMAGES ACCORDING TO COMMON LAW FOR INCAPACITY OR DEATH. SUCH DAMAGES AWARDED BY THE COURT WILL ALSO BE PAID OUT FROM THE COMPENSATION FUND.

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TRAINERS AND INSTRUCTORS GO BACK TO SCHOOL  
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THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE IS PREPARED TO TAILOR TRAINING COURSES TO INDIVIDUAL NEEDS FOR COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINERS AT MANAGEMENT, SUPERVISORY AND INSTRUCTOR LEVELS, AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY.

SOME 1 000 TRAINERS HAVE ATTENDED SUCH COURSES IN THE PAST 10 YEARS AT THE COLLEGE, HE SAID.

COURSES INCLUDED THOSE DESIGNED FOR THE CHINA LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY FOR THEIR INSTRUCTORS, THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION FOR THEIR STATION MANAGERS, AND MORE RECENTLY THE SAN MIGUEL BREWERY FOR THEIR DEPARTMENTAL MANAGERS.

+THE COLLEGE PROPOSES TO EXPAND THIS AREA OF ITS WORK TO MEET THE INCREASING DEMAND FROM INDUSTRY.

+IT IS HOPED THAT ADVANCED COURSES IN INSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES FOR INSTRUCTORS AND A BASIC COURSE FOR TRAINING OFFICERS WILL BE OFFERED IN THE NEAR FUTURE,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

TRAINING COURSES ARE ALSO OFFERED AT THE COLLEGE FOR IN-SERVICE TRADE AND WORKSHOP INSTRUCTORS.

+AT PRESENT THE COLLEGE IS RUNNING BLOCK-RELEASE, PART-TIME DAY-RELEASE AND EVENING COURSES FOR THESE INSTRUCTORS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THESE COURSES HAVE IDENTICAL CURRICULUM AND LEAD TO THE SAME CERTIFICATE, HE EXPLAINED, AND ONLY THE MODE OF ATTENDANCE IS DIFFERENT. FEES FOR ALL THREE TYPES OF COURSES ARE SET AT \$100.

THE BLOCK-RELEASE COURSE LASTS TWO WEEKS FULL-TIME, AND FIVE SUCH COURSES HAVE BEEN PLANNED FOR THE CURRENT ACADEMIC YEAR.

TUTORS WILL VISIT PARTICIPANTS AT THEIR PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT WHEN THE COURSE IS COMPLETED TO PROVIDE THEM WITH FURTHER ADVICE.

THE PART-TIME DAY-RELEASE COURSE IS HELD OVER 15 WEEKS AND PARTICIPANTS ATTEND CLASSES ONE DAY A WEEK. COURSES BEGIN IN OCTOBER AND FEBRUARY EACH YEAR.

EVENING COURSES COMPLETE IN 30 WEEKS, AND PARTICIPANTS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND CLASSES TWO EVENINGS A WEEK. APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED IN AUGUST EACH YEAR.

+EXPERIENCED WORKERS WHO WILL TAKE UP INSTRUCTION DUTIES IN FUTURE MAY ALSO APPLY TO ATTEND THE COURSES,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

CONTENTS OF THE COURSE WILL INCLUDE SUCH TOPICS AS TEACHING TECHNIQUE, CLASS DISCIPLINE, THE USE OF VISUAL AIDS, WORKSHOP LAYOUT AND CONTROL, AND LESSON PLANNING.

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PUBLIC DUMP OPENS AT WESTERN RECLAMATION  
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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT A PUBLIC DUMP AT WESTERN RECLAMATION STAGE II WOULD BE OPENED TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE ENTRANCE WILL BE THE ONE USED FOR THE STAGE I PUBLIC DUMP, AT CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST NEAR ITS JUNCTION WITH WHITTY STREET. OPENING HOURS WILL BE 8 AM TO 6 PM.

HOLDERS OF VALID DUMPING LICENCES FOR HONG KONG ISLAND WILL BE PERMITTED TO USE THE DUMP TO DISPOSE OF APPROVED SOFT MATERIAL, BUILDING DEBRIS, AND STONES UP TO 225 MM IN SIZE PROVIDED THEY ARE WELL MIXED WITH EARTH.

DUMPING LICENCES MAY BE OBTAINED FREE OF CHARGE ON APPLICATION TO THE CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE PWD PORT WORKS DIVISION. THE ADDRESS IS MURRAY BUILDING, FIRST FLOOR, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG.

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THE DUMP WILL ONLY BE OPEN TO VEHICLES DISPLAYING VALID WINDSHIELD STICKERS ISSUED WITH THE DUMPING LICENCES.

ALL DUMPING MUST BE CARRIED OUT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INSTRUCTIONS OF THE SUPERVISORS AT THE SITE.

THE PWD RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CANCEL DUMPING LICENCES AT ANY TIME AND TO CLOSE THE DUMP WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

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MONG KOK CHILDREN'S CHOIR CONCERT

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THE MONG KOK CHILDREN'S CHOIR WILL GIVE ITS ANNUAL CONCERT ON JANUARY 11 (SUNDAY) AT 8 PM AT THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL.

VARIOUS SPONSORS, INCLUDING THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE, HAVE GIVEN SUPPORT TO THIS EVENT WHICH IS THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE CHOIR'S MANY ACTIVITIES.

THE CHILDREN'S CHOIR, FORMED IN 1975, IS ORGANISED BY THE MONG KOK DISTRICT CULTURAL, RECREATIONAL AND SPORTS ASSOCIATION.

ITS 260 MEMBERS ARE CHILDREN WHO EITHER LIVE OR STUDY IN THE DISTRICT. THEIR AGES RANGE FROM SEVEN TO 16.

DUE TO THEIR HIGH STANDARD OF PERFORMANCE, THE CHOIR WAS INVITED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL TO PERFORM IN THE LAST ASIAN ARTS FESTIVAL. IT ALSO PARTICIPATED IN A NUMBER OF OUTDOOR COMMUNITY EVENTS SINGING TO WIDE AUDIENCES.

TICKETS AT \$3, \$5, \$8 AND \$10 FOR THE COMING PERFORMANCE ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE MONG KOK CITY DISTRICT OFFICE, 157 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD, GROUND FLOOR- MONG KOK KAIFONG ASSOCIATION, 45 FUK TSUN STREET, TAI KOK TSUI- AND TSANG FOOK MUSIC CENTRE, TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL, 2ND FLOOR.

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RAINSHELTER BEING BUILT AT CHEUNG SHA  
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ISLANDS DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD IS SPENDING \$25 000 ON CONSTRUCTING A RAINSHELTER AT CHEUNG SHA, LANTAU.

AT PRESENT THERE IS NOWHERE FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS OR VISITORS TO SHELTER WHEN IT RAINS.

THE PROPOSAL TO BUILD THE SHELTER WAS PUT TO ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICE BY THE SOUTH LANTAU RURAL COMMITTEE.

CONSTRUCTION STARTED IN NOVEMBER AND WILL BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF THIS MONTH (JANUARY).

IT IS LOCATED ON A 27 SQUARE METRE SITE NEAR THE BUS STOP ON SOUTH LANTAU ROAD CLOSE TO THE BEACH. IT WILL BE PROVIDED WITH THREE BENCHES.

THE PROJECT IS BEING SUPERVISED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE WORKS SECTION.

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VACANCIES FOR CLEANERS IN SAI KUNG  
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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT IS INVITING APPLICATIONS TO FILL 30 VACANCIES FOR THE POST OF WORKMAN II IN THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

THE POST CARRIES A STARTING SALARY OF \$1 405, RISING TO \$1 485, PLUS A MONTHLY ALLOWANCE OF \$100.

SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES ARE REQUIRED TO WORK IN SAI KUNG DISTRICT, PERFORMING CLEANSING DUTIES.

APPLICANTS SHOULD HAVE PRIMARY SIX EDUCATION, A STRONG PHYSIQUE AND BE ABLE TO SPEAK CANTONESE.

THOSE INTERESTED SHOULD CALL AT ANY BRANCH OFFICE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S LOCAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE, BRINGING WITH THEM THEIR IDENTITY CARDS.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TELEPHONE 3-666615, 5-270276 OR 12-420154.

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