



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SUNDAY, MARCH 13, 1994

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COMMONWEALTH DAY MESSAGE 1994  
FROM HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN  
HEAD OF THE COMMONWEALTH

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THE MOST POPULAR COMMONWEALTH EVENT THIS YEAR WILL BE THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES IN VICTORIA, CANADA AND THE LINKED CULTURAL FESTIVAL. MILLIONS OF PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD WILL WATCH THIS GREAT CELEBRATION OF ACHIEVEMENT BY REPRESENTATIVES OF COUNTRIES OF EVERY SIZE AND LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT. MOST OF US, WHETHER WE ARE YOUNG OR OLD, ARE INVOLVED OR INTERESTED IN SPORT AS PARTICIPANTS OR AS SPECTATORS. SO IT IS APPROPRIATE THAT SPORT IS THE THEME CHOSEN FOR THIS YEAR'S COMMONWEALTH DAY.

WHEN THEY MET IN CYPRUS LAST YEAR, THE COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT RECOGNISED THE IMPORTANT PART WHICH SPORT PLAYS IN OUR DEVELOPMENT BOTH AS INDIVIDUALS AND AS NATIONS. WE MAY BE THE CITIZENS OF A SMALL OR LITTLE-KNOWN COUNTRY BUT, IF OUR COUNTRY STARS IN A SPORT, WE TOO HAVE OUR PLACE ON THE WORLD STAGE. IF WE STRIVE TO IMPROVE OURSELVES, IF WE AIM FOR EVER MORE DIFFICULT GOALS IN THE DISCIPLINE OF PHYSICAL AND MENTAL ENDEAVOUR, WE ARE THE GAINERS. IF WE PLAY AS MEMBERS OF A TEAM, WE LEARN TO MAKE THE MOST OF EACH OTHER'S STRENGTHS AND MINIMISE EACH OTHER'S WEAKNESSES. WE FIND OUT WHAT IT IS TO WIN AND TO LOSE AND THE PART THAT LUCK CAN PLAY. ANY ONE OF US MAY BE BORN WITH AN OUTSTANDING GOD-GIVEN TALENT WHETHER WE COME FROM A PRIVILEGED OR UNDERPRIVILEGED ENVIRONMENT. WE ADMIRE THOSE WHO DEVELOP THAT TALENT TO THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT. THEY SET AN EXAMPLE OF DEDICATION AND DETERMINATION TO US ALL.

COMPETITION IS HARD AND NOT EVERYONE IS ABLE TO COPE. NOT EVERYONE HAS WHAT THEY NEED FOR EVEN BASIC SURVIVAL LET ALONE THE SPARE RESOURCES, INCLUDING TIME, FOR ANY KIND OF SPORT. BUT SPORT IS NOT ONLY ABOUT EXCELLENCE; IT IS PERHAPS THE BEST WAY IN WHICH PEOPLE OF DIFFERENT NATIONALITIES AND LANGUAGES CAN COMMUNICATE WITH EACH OTHER. SPORT CAN BUILD BRIDGES AND BREAK DOWN BARRIERS; IT IS ALSO ABOUT RELAXATION, ENJOYMENT AND COMPANIONSHIP, WITH SOMETHING IN COMMON TO TALK ABOUT.

OUR LIVES ARE A RACE WE HAVE TO RUN. SOMETIMES THE TRACK IS ROUGH, AND IF WE ARE RUNNING ON OUR OWN IT CAN LOOK LIKE AN ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE OBSTACLE COURSE. BUT BY HELPING EACH OTHER ALONG WE CAN MAKE IT AN EASIER AND FAIRER RACE. AMONG THE FIFTY MEMBERS OF THE COMMONWEALTH WE CAN CO-OPERATE AND ENGAGE IN FRIENDLY COMPETITION AT THE SAME TIME. WE CAN ALSO COMBINE OUR RESOURCES AND ABILITIES TO MAKE LIFE BETTER FOR EVERYONE. THAT IS INDEED A PRIZE WORTH WINNING.

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SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY VISITS USA

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THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR T H CHAU, LEFT HONG KONG TODAY (SUNDAY) FOR A THREE-DAY VISIT TO WASHINGTON, DC, USA.

IN WASHINGTON, HE WILL MEET SENIOR OFFICIALS IN THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION, INCLUDING THE U.S. TRADE REPRESENTATIVE AMBASSADOR MICKEY KANTOR, AND MEMBERS OF THE U.S. CONGRESS.

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MAXIMUM FINES FOR BREACHING LABOUR LAWS

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (SUNDAY) REMINDED FACTORY PROPRIETORS TO COMPLY WITH LABOUR LAWS OR THEY WILL FACE HEAVY PENALTIES.

LABOUR OFFICER (PROSECUTIONS), MISS KATHERINE TSANG, MADE THE APPEAL IN VIEW OF TWO RECENT COURT CASES IN WHICH THE EMPLOYERS WERE EACH GIVEN MAXIMUM FINES OF \$10,000 FOR ENGAGING WOMEN IN ILLEGAL OVERTIME WORK AND TO WORK ON A REST DAY.

DURING A ROUTINE INSPECTION, LABOUR INSPECTORS FOUND THAT NEW BRIGHT INDUSTRIAL COMPANY LIMITED IN SAN PO KONG HAD ENGAGED 178 WOMEN IN UNREPORTED OVERTIME WORK.

IN ANOTHER INSPECTION, THREE STARS KNITTING FACTORY LIMITED IN KOWLOON BAY WAS FOUND TO HAVE EMPLOYED 25 WOMEN TO WORK ON A REST DAY.

THE MAXIMUM FINE OF \$10,000 WAS IMPOSED ON BOTH COMPANIES BY A KWUN TONG MAGISTRATE RECENTLY.

"IT IS AN OFFENCE UNDER THE WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS (INDUSTRY) REGULATIONS OF THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE FOR AN EMPLOYER TO CHANGE THE PRESCRIBED WORKING HOURS OF WOMEN IN INDUSTRY OR TO ENGAGE THEM IN OVERTIME WORK, WITHOUT NOTIFYING THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT BEFOREHAND," MISS TSANG SAID.

THE LAW ALSO REQUIRES THE EMPLOYER TO DISPLAY IN A CONSPICUOUS PLACE IN THE FACTORY A PRESCRIBED NOTICE SETTING OUT THE PERIOD OF EMPLOYMENT, INTERVALS FOR MEALS OR REST, AND REST DAY FOR WOMEN WORKERS.

EMPLOYERS SHOULD STRICTLY ADHERE TO THE PERMISSIBLE HOURS OF WORK SET OUT IN THE PRESCRIBED NOTICE.

"IF THEY REQUIRE WOMEN WORKERS TO WORK ON A SCHEDULED REST DAY, THEY MUST APPLY FOR A CHANGE OF REST DAYS FOR THEIR WOMEN EMPLOYEES AT THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT," SHE ADDED.

MISS TSANG ALSO REMINDED EMPLOYERS THAT YOUNG PERSONS SHOULD NOT BE EMPLOYED TO WORK OVERTIME IN INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS.

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CNTA HANDLED OVER 11.7 MILLION CASES IN 1993

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THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION (CNTA) HANDLED 11,746,270 CASES AND ENQUIRIES LAST YEAR.

THIS REPRESENTS AN INCREASE OF 22 PER CENT OVER THE FIGURE OF 9,649,162 CASES IN 1992.

DURING THE PAST YEAR, ITS 20 PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRES (PESCS) THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY HANDLED 11,585,645 CASES AND ENQUIRIES, WHILE THE REMAINING 160,625 CALLS WERE DEALT WITH BY THE CENTRAL TELEPHONE ENQUIRY CENTRE (CTEC).

THE CTEC WAS SET UP IN APRIL 1991 AT CNTA HEADQUARTERS TO BACK UP THE SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE PESCS AT DISTRICT LEVEL.

TOPPING THE LIST OF ENQUIRIES WAS DECLARATION SERVICE (204,572), FOLLOWED BY SUBJECTS ON SUCH MATTERS AS LOCATIONS, TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND OPENING HOURS OF GOVERNMENT OFFICES (191,180) AND THOSE SEEKING INFORMATION ON NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS (178,920).

THE PESCS ALSO ADMINISTERED A TOTAL OF 489,069 DECLARATIONS, OATHS AND AFFIRMATIONS, INCLUDING THOSE FOR SUBMISSION TO NON-GOVERNMENT BODIES FOR SPECIFIC AND GENERAL PURPOSES (168,875), FOR EMIGRATION PURPOSES OR OVERSEAS VISITS (159,917) AND FOR OVERSEAS EXAMINATIONS OR SCHOOLING (66,551).

IN ADDITION, 7,824,262 FORMS AND OTHER INFORMATION SHEETS WERE DISTRIBUTED AT PESCS TO THE PUBLIC.

THESE INCLUDED APPLICATION FORMS FOR CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYMENT (449,190), BRITISH NATIONAL (OVERSEAS) PASSPORT (430,680) AND HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME (237,040).

UNDER THE FREE LEGAL ADVICE SCHEME, A TOTAL OF 3,110 CASES WERE REFERRED TO THE HONG KONG LAW SOCIETY WITH 2,638 CASES HANDLED BY VOLUNTARY SOLICITORS UNDER THE SCHEME AND 198 CASES FURTHER REFERRED TO THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT.

INTRODUCED IN 1978, THIS SERVICE IS BEING OFFERED IN FIVE OF THE DISTRICT OFFICES - WAN CHAI, YAU TSIM, KWUN TONG, TSUEN WAN AND SHA TIN.

IN 1993, THE RENT OFFICERS OF THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT ALSO HANDLED 13,795 ENQUIRIES ON MATTERS RELATING TO RENTAL AND TENANCY PROBLEMS.

THE RENT OFFICER SCHEME, ALSO IMPLEMENTED IN 1978, IS BEING OPERATED AT 10 URBAN DISTRICT OFFICES AND FIVE DISTRICT OFFICES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE VARIOUS SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE PESCS MAY APPROACH ANY OF THESE CENTRES OR CALL THE CTEC HOTLINE ON TEL 835 2500.

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BRIEFING ON EDUCATION CONDUCT COUNCIL ELECTION

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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL HOLD A BRIEFING FOR NOMINEES OF THE ELECTION OF THE COUNCIL ON PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT IN EDUCATION AS THE APRIL 20 VOTING DAY APPROACHES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ELECTION WOULD BE EXPLAINED AT THE BRIEFING AND NOTES ON CANVASSING VOTES DISTRIBUTED. THIS WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY A QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION.

THE BRIEFING WILL TAKE PLACE AT 9.30 AM ON SATURDAY (MARCH 19) IN ROOM G09, LUI KEE EDUCATION SERVICES CENTRE, 269 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, WAN CHAI.

A TOTAL OF 69 CANDIDATES AND ORGANISATIONS WILL COMPETE FOR 25 SEATS IN THE ELECTION.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE COUNCIL WAS AIMED AT PROMOTING THE INTERESTS FOR THE TEACHING PROFESSION.

IT IS A NON-STATUTORY BODY TO ADVISE THE GOVERNMENT ON MEASURES TO PROMOTE PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT IN EDUCATION, INCLUDING THE DRAFTING OF OPERATIONAL CRITERIA, DEFINING THE CONDUCT EXPECTED OF AN EDUCATOR, AND TO ADVISE THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION IN CASES OF DISPUTE OR ON ALLEGED PROFESSIONAL MISCONDUCT.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT BRIEFING FOR NOMINEES OF THE ELECTION OF THE COUNCIL ON PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT IN EDUCATION.

IT WILL BE HELD AT 9.30 AM ON SATURDAY (MARCH 19) IN ROOM G09, LUI KEE EDUCATION SERVICES CENTRE, 269 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, WAN CHAI.

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BEST STUDENT DANCERS TO GIVE PERFORMANCES

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THE BEST DANCERS FROM AMONG 4,000 STUDENTS FROM 228 SCHOOLS WHO TOOK PART IN THE 30TH SCHOOLS DANCE FESTIVAL WILL PERFORM FOR THE PUBLIC AT THE BEGINNING AND MIDDLE OF APRIL.

THE DANCE EXTRAVAGANZA IS PART OF THE PRIZE PRESENTATION AND WINNERS' PERFORMANCES WHICH WILL BE HELD AT THE AUDITORIUM, SHA TIN TOWN HALL ON APRIL 6, 7 AND 8, AND AT THE GRAND THEATRE, HONG KONG CULTURAL CENTRE IN TSIM SHA TSUI ON APRIL 13 AND 14.

/ALL PERFORMANCES .....

ALL PERFORMANCES - CHINESE, ORIENTAL, MODERN AND WESTERN FOLK AND NATIONAL DANCES - WILL BEGIN AT 7.30 PM EACH EVENING.

THE PERFORMANCES ARE PRESENTED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, THE URBAN AND REGIONAL COUNCILS AND THE HONG KONG SCHOOLS SPORTS COUNCIL.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID 17 SPECIAL SCHOOLS, 82 SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND 129 PRIMARY SCHOOLS TOOK PART IN THIS YEAR'S DANCE FESTIVAL.

HE SAID 47 SCHOOLS RECEIVED HONOURS, 118 WERE HIGHLY COMMENDED, 165 COMMENDED AND 10 TEAMS WERE ALSO AWARDED THEIR CHOREOGRAPHY.

TICKETS OF \$15, \$25 AND \$30 FOR ALL PERFORMANCES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE URBTIX OUTLETS. THERE WILL BE 10 PER CENT DISCOUNT FOR ANY PURCHASE OF 10 OR MORE TICKETS.

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APPLICATION FOR PART-TIME TEACHING POSTS CLOSES ON MARCH 26

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AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY REMINDED QUALIFIED TEACHERS WISHING TO APPLY FOR EVENING PART-TIME TEACHING POSTS IN ADULT COURSES FOR THE 1994/95 SCHOOL YEAR TO SUBMIT THEIR APPLICATIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AS THE CLOSING DATE WAS MARCH 26 (SATURDAY).

THE SPOKESMAN SAID APPLICANTS SHOULD BE QUALIFIED TEACHERS WITH A GENUINE INTEREST IN TEACHING ADULTS IN THE EVENING.

EXPERIENCE IN TEACHING AT SENIOR SECONDARY OR POST-SECONDARY LEVELS AND POSSESSION OF A DIPLOMA OR CERTIFICATE IN EDUCATION OR ADVANCED CERTIFICATE IN TEACHER TRAINING WILL BE AN ADVANTAGE, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE OBTAINABLE FROM THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S ADULT EDUCATION SECTION ON THE 11TH FLOOR OF WU CHUNG HOUSE, 213 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, WAN CHAI.

REMUNERATIONS FOR PART-TIME TEACHERS ARE:

- \* \$300 PER HOUR FOR POST-SECONDARY LEVEL SUBJECTS;
- \* \$250 PER HOUR FOR SENIOR SECONDARY LEVEL SUBJECTS;
- \* \$200 PER HOUR FOR JUNIOR SECONDARY LEVEL SUBJECTS;
- \* \$180 PER HOUR FOR PRIMARY LEVEL SUBJECTS.

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WATER CUT IN WAN CHAI

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FRESH AND FLUSHING WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN WAN CHAI WILL BE TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED FROM 11 PM ON TUESDAY (MARCH 15) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY TO FACILITATE WATER MAINS LEAKAGE DETECTION.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT ALL THE PREMISES AT 39 KENNEDY ROAD, 187-271 AND 264 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, KING SING STREET, HING WAN STREET, KAT ON STREET, LUNG ON STREET, KENNEDY STREET, STONE NULLAH LANE, 1-7 WAN CHAI GAP ROAD, SHEK KAI LANE AND YEN WAH TERRACE.

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