



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1992

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
EFFLUENT DISCHARGERS URGED TO GET LICENCE	1
FOREIGN WORKERS TO BE TOLD OF THEIR RIGHTS	2
DRY AND HOT IN AUGUST	2
PARENTS AND TEACHERS URGED TO STRENGTHEN COMMUNICATION	6

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1992

- 1 -

EFFLUENT DISCHARGERS URGED TO GET LICENCE

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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE REMINDED THAT THE DEADLINE FOR APPLYING FOR LICENCES UNDER THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ORDINANCE FOR EFFLUENT DISCHARGES IN THE NORTH WESTERN WATER CONTROL ZONE IS SEPTEMBER 30.

THE MAJOR AREAS WITHIN THE NORTH WESTERN WATER CONTROL ZONE INCLUDE TUEN MUN, CASTLE PEAK, LAM TEI, LUNG KWU SHEUNG TAN, PILLAR POINT, SO KWUN WAT, SIU LAM, TAI LAM CHUNG, YAM O, CHEK LAP KOK, TUNG CHUNG AND TAI O.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT SAID OWNERS OR OCCUPIERS OF THE INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL, INSTITUTIONAL, RESIDENTIAL AND ALL OTHER TYPES OF PREMISES WITHIN THE ZONE WITH EFFLUENT DISCHARGES SHOULD APPLY FOR A LICENCE.

THIS INCLUDES DISCHARGES FROM SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANTS AND SEPTIC TANKS.

HOWEVER, DISCHARGES OF DOMESTIC SEWAGE INTO PUBLIC FOUL SEWERS AND UNPOLLUTED WATER ARE NOT UNDER CONTROL.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID IT WAS AN OFFENCE TO DISCHARGE ANY POLLUTING MATTER INTO THE WATERS OF HONG KONG IN A WATER CONTROL ZONE UNLESS THE DISCHARGE IS MADE UNDER, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH, A LICENCE GRANTED UNDER THE ORDINANCE.

AFTER OCTOBER 1 THIS YEAR, ANY EFFLUENT DISCHARGE MADE WITHOUT A LICENCE, OR IN BREACH OF THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS IN THE LICENCE, IS ILLEGAL AND THE DISCHARGER IS LIABLE TO PROSECUTION.

WHILE FAILURE TO OBTAIN A LICENCE IS NOT AN OFFENCE, IT IS STRONGLY ADVISABLE FOR THE DISCHARGER, OR THE OWNER OR OCCUPIER OF THE PREMISES FROM WHICH THE DISCHARGE IS MADE, TO OBTAIN A LICENCE TO AVOID THE RISK OF PROSECUTION.

APPLICATION FORMS FOR LICENCES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE DEPARTMENT'S OFFICES AND THE TUEN MUN AND ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICES.

ENQUIRIES SHOULD BE MADE TO THE DEPARTMENT ON TEL 417 4464.

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1992

- 2 -

FOREIGN WORKERS TO BE TOLD OF THEIR RIGHTS

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OFFICERS OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT WILL BE BRIEFING FOREIGN WORKERS ON THEIR EMPLOYMENT TERMS AND STATUTORY RIGHTS OVER THE NEXT TWO MONTHS AS THEY BEGIN TO ARRIVE IN HONG KONG UNDER THE GENERAL LABOUR IMPORTATION SCHEME.

DURING THESE BRIEFING SESSIONS, OFFICERS WILL EXPLAIN THE TERMS OF THE STANDARD CONTRACT, AND INFORM THE WORKERS OF THE GENERAL LABOUR-MANAGEMENT PRACTICES IN HONG KONG.

"WE HAVE LINED UP 12 SUCH SESSIONS IN TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL AND TSIM SHA TSUI KAIFONG WELFARE ASSOCIATION TO ENSURE THAT THESE WORKERS ARE FULLY AWARE OF THEIR STATUTORY RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE," SAID CHIEF LABOUR OFFICER MR JAMES YEUNG.

"COPIES OF A LEAFLET CONTAINING SIMILAR INFORMATION AND PRINTED IN SIMPLIFIED CHINESE CHARACTERS ARE BEING DISTRIBUTED TO WORKERS AT THEIR POINTS OF ENTRY INTO HONG KONG, AND WHEN THEY APPLY FOR IDENTITY CARDS AT THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT," HE SAID.

"WE WILL ALSO ASK THEM TO APPROACH US OR THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT WHEN THEY HAVE DOUBTS ABOUT THEIR TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT OR CONDITION OF STAY," MR YEUNG SAID, ADDING THAT A HANDY INFORMATION CARD WITH COMPLAINT HOTLINE NUMBERS WILL BE GIVEN AWAY AS WELL.

THE BRIEFING SESSIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED IN BOTH CANTONESE AND PUTONGHUA. FOREIGN WORKERS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE BRIEFING SESSION UPON THEIR ARRIVAL.

"EMPLOYERS SHOULD MAKE SUITABLE ARRANGEMENTS FOR WORKERS TO ATTEND," HE STRESSED.

ENQUIRIES CONCERNING THESE SESSIONS CAN BE MADE ON 852 3506.

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DRY AND HOT IN AUGUST

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A MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT RELEASED TODAY (SUNDAY) BY THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY SHOWED THAT AUGUST WAS ONE OF THE DRIEST AND HOTTEST AUGUSTS ON RECORD.

THIS WAS IN SHARP CONTRAST TO THE WET ANOMALY THAT PERSISTED FROM JANUARY TO JULY.

THE PROLONGED PRESENCE OF TWO TROPICAL CYCONES, NAMELY MARK AND POLLY, TO THE EAST OF HONG KONG DURING THE LATTER HALF OF THE MONTH INDUCED SPELLS OF NORTHWESTERLY FLOW WHICH BROUGHT HOT AND DRY AIR FROM THE SUN-BAKED INLAND REGIONS TO THE COASTAL AREAS.

/AUGUST 30

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1992

- 3 -

AUGUST 30 WAS ONE OF THE HOTTEST DAYS EVER EXPERIENCED IN HONG KONG. THE DAILY MEAN TEMPERATURE OF 32.0 DEGREES THAT DAY BEAT THE PREVIOUS RECORD OF 31.9 DEGREES ON AUGUST 18 1990, BY 0.1 DEGREE.

THE DAILY MINIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 30.0 DEGREES WAS THE SECOND HIGHEST EVER FOR ALL MONTHS. THE DAILY MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 35.0 DEGREES ON AUGUST 30 AND THE MEAN DAILY MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE FOR THE MONTH OF 32.0 DEGREES WERE BOTH THE FIFTH HIGHEST FOR AUGUST.

BOTH THE MONTHLY MEAN OF 29.4 DEGREES AND MEAN DAILY MINIMUM FOR THE MONTH OF 27.3 DEGREES RANKED SECOND HIGHEST FOR AUGUST AND THIRD HIGHEST FOR ALL MONTHS.

THE MONTHLY RELATIVE HUMIDITY OF 77 PER CENT AND MONTHLY RAINFALL OF 97.7 MILLIMETRES WERE BOTH THE THIRD LOWEST EVER RECORDED IN AUGUST.

THE TOTAL MONTHLY RAINFALL WAS ONLY ABOUT ONE-QUARTER OF THE NORMAL OF 391.4 MILLIMETRES, MAKING IT THE DRIEST AUGUST SINCE 1962.

HOWEVER, WITH THE LARGE SURPLUS IN THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF THIS YEAR, THE TOTAL RAINFALL BETWEEN JANUARY AND AUGUST OF 2508.3 MILLIMETRES WAS 47 PER CENT ABOVE THE JANUARY-AUGUST NORMAL OF 1707.4 MILLIMETRES AND WAS THE FOURTH HIGHEST FOR THE SAME PERIOD.

THE FINE WEATHER AT THE END OF JULY CONTINUED INTO EARLY AUGUST. APART FROM SOME BRIEF SHOWERS ON THE MORNING OF AUGUST 1, THE WEATHER FOR THE FIRST EIGHT DAYS WAS SUNNY AND HOT.

A MODERATE SOUTHWESTERLY AIRSTREAM BLEW FOR MOST PART OF THE PERIOD AND WINDS WERE OCCASIONALLY FRESH OFFSHORE FROM AUGUST 4 TO 7.

THE OCCURRENCE OF SOME THUNDERY SHOWERS ON THE LATTER PART OF AUGUST 8 WAS FOLLOWED BY A SHIFT IN WIND DIRECTION TO EAST TO SOUTHEASTERLY.

THE LOWEST TEMPERATURE OF 25.6 DEGREES FOR THE MONTH OCCURRED IN RAIN ON THE EVENING OF AUGUST 8 ALTHOUGH LONG PERIODS OF SUNSHINE PREVAILED DURING THE DAY.

THE WEATHER FOR THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS TURNED MORE SHOWERY AS SCATTERED RAIN CLOUDS FROM THE SOUTH CHINA SEA DRIFTED TOWARDS THE COAST OF GUANGDONG.

APART FROM FRESHENING OF THE EASTERLIES ON AUGUST 10, MODERATE SOUTHEASTERLY WINDS PREVAILED FOR MUCH OF THE PERIOD.

LOCAL WEATHER WAS INFLUENCED BY TROPICAL STORM MARK FROM AUGUST 16 TO 24.

/DURING THE

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1992

- 4 -

DURING THE FIRST HALF OF THE PERIOD WHEN MARK DEVELOPED AND REMAINED OVER THE COASTAL WATERS OF EASTERN GUANGDONG, MODERATE NORTH TO NORTHWESTERLY WINDS BLEW OVER THE TERRITORY.

THE WEATHER WAS HOT AND MAINLY FINE. BUT AS MARK WEAKENED, ITS REMNANT DRIFTED WESTWARDS ALONG THE COASTAL WATERS OF GUANGDONG, SKIRTING JUST TO THE SOUTH OF HONG KONG.

THE WEATHER BECAME CLOUDY ON AUGUST 20. WINDS TURNED EASTERLY THAT EVENING AND FRESHENED ON AUGUST 21 WITH OCCASIONAL STRONG WINDS OFFSHORE AND PERIODS OF RAIN.

EVEN THOUGH WINDS SOON SUBSIDED THE FOLLOWING MORNING, CLOUDY AND SHOWERY CONDITIONS CONTINUED BEFORE FINE WEATHER RETURNED ON AUGUST 25.

AS TROPICAL DEPRESSION POLLY APPROACHED TAIWAN ON AUGUST 27, HONG KONG CAME UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ITS EXTENSIVE CIRCULATION. ANOTHER SPELL OF NORTHWESTERLY WINDS SET IN AND PERSISTED TILL THE END OF THE MONTH.

ALTHOUGH THE WEATHER REMAINED GENERALLY FINE IN THE DAY DURING THE PERIOD, THERE WERE INTENSE HEAT THUNDERSTORMS ON THE EVENINGS OF BOTH AUGUST 27 AND 28.

ON THE FORMER OCCASION, ACTIVE LIGHTNING AND THUNDER IN A HIGHLY CHARGED ATMOSPHERE CAUSED A DISRUPTION IN THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY SERVICE IN THE EVENING RUSH HOURS.

BUT OVERALL, THE TWO THUNDERSTORM EPISODES PRODUCED NO MORE THAN 30 MILLIMETRES OF RAINFALL AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY.

MEANWHILE, HEAT CONTINUED TO BUILD UP, CULMINATING IN THE EXTREMELY HOT TEMPERATURE OF 35.0 DEGREES ON AUGUST 30.

EIGHT TROPICAL CYCLONES OCCURRED IN AUGUST OVER THE WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC AND THE SOUTH CHINA SEA. HOWEVER, ONLY MARK AFFECTED THE SOUTH CHINA SEA AND PROMPTED THE HOISTING OF TROPICAL CYCLONE STAND-BY SIGNAL NO. 1 ON AUGUST 16.

THERE WAS ONLY ONE AIRCRAFT DIVERSION OWING TO POOR WEATHER DURING THE MONTH.

/DETAILS OF

DETAILS OF THE ISSUE/HOISTING AND CANCELLATION/LOWERING OF
VARIOUS WARNINGS/SIGNALS IN AUGUST ARE:

TYPE OF WARNING -----	EFFECTIVE DATE AND TIME -----
FLOOD WARNINGS	AUG 27 1730 - 2045 HOURS

THUNDERSTORM WARNINGS	AUG 1 1515 - 1815 HOURS
	AUG 6 1345 - 1545 HOURS
	AUG 8 1200 - 1400 HOURS
	AUG 8 1535 - 1735 HOURS
	AUG 8 1815 - 2215 HOURS
	AUG 9 1235 - 1435 HOURS
	AUG 10 2125 - 2325 HOURS
	AUG 15 1805 - 1905 HOURS
	AUG 21 1550 - 1750 HOURS
	AUG 22 0300 - 0630 HOURS
	AUG 25 1805 - 2005 HOURS
	AUG 27 1620 - 2130 HOURS
	AUG 28 1900 - 2200 HOURS

TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNING SIGNALS

NAME OF TROPICAL CYCLONE	SIGNAL NO.		
T.S. MARK	1	AUG 16	AUG 17
		1015 HOURS	1130 HOURS

THE MONTH'S FIGURES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL ARE:

TOTAL BRIGHT SUNSHINE	217.3 HOURS; 10.3 HOURS ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN DAILY GLOBAL SOLAR RADIATION	17.06 MJ/M2; 0.55 MJ/M2 BELOW NORMAL
TOTAL RAINFALL	97.7 MM; 293.7 MM BELOW NORMAL
MEAN AMOUNT OF CLOUD	62%; 4% LESS THAN NORMAL
MEAN RELATIVE HUMIDITY	77%; 4% LOWER THAN NORMAL
MEAN DAILY MAXIMUM AIR TEMPERATURE	32.0 DEGREES CELSIUS; 0.7 DEGREE CELSIUS ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN AIR TEMPERATURE	29.4 DEGREES CELSIUS; 1.0 DEGREE CELSIUS ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN DAILY MINIMUM AIR TEMPERATURE	27.3 DEGREES CELSIUS; 1.0 DEGREE CELSIUS ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN DEW POINT	24.7 DEGREES CELSIUS; 0.1 DEGREE CELSIUS BELOW NORMAL
TOTAL EVAPORATION	147.3 MM; 9.6 MM BELOW NORMAL

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1992

- 6 -

PARENTS AND TEACHERS URGED TO STRENGTHEN COMMUNICATION

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THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR DOMINIC S W WONG, TODAY (SUNDAY) URGED PARENTS, STUDENTS, TEACHERS AND SCHOOLS TO COMMUNICATE AND CO-OPERATE WITH EACH OTHER TO BUILD A BETTER FUTURE.

THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WOULD VIGOROUSLY PROMOTE THE WHOLE-SCHOOL APPROACH TO GUIDANCE SO THAT THERE WOULD BE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF ONE ANOTHER'S ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES, HE SAID.

SPEAKING AT THE SERVICE IN THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL TO MARK EDUCATION SUNDAY, HE SAID THE GOALS WOULD BE TO CREATE A BETTER, CARING AND POSITIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

STRENGTHENED COMMUNICATION AND BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF STUDENTS' PROBLEMS IN THE DEVELOPMENTAL STAGE WOULD PREVENT RASH ACTION, MR WONG EXPLAINED.

HE SAID THE DEPARTMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO PROMOTE THE SCHOOL MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE IN THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR - A SCHEME WHICH WILL GIVE SCHOOLS FLEXIBILITY TO MANAGE THEIR OWN FINANCES AND AFFAIRS AND ALSO INCLUDE PARENTS AND TEACHERS IN SCHOOL MANAGEMENT AND ACTIVITIES.

SCHOOLS, PARENTS AND TEACHERS WOULD THEN BE ABLE TO WORK TOGETHER NOT ONLY IN THE EDUCATION FOR THE STUDENTS BUT ALSO IN HELPING THEM SOLVE THEIR PROBLEMS AT SCHOOL AND AT HOME.

THE CO-OPERATION OF ALL PARTIES WOULD CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION, HE SAID.

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