

**Rainfall in Hong Kong by Mr. LAM Chiu Ying**  
**English Subtitles and Super:**

**Super :** Rainfall in Hong Kong  
by Mr. LAM Chiu Ying  
How much does it rain in Hong Kong?

Mr. LAM Chiu Ying  
Former Director of the Hong Kong Observatory

**LAM Chiu Ying :** The average annual rainfall is about 2300mm in Hong Kong.  
It is in the range of 1500 – 2000mm across Guangdong province.

**Super:** Source: The Hong Kong Observatory – “Annual rainfall at the  
Hong Kong Observatory Headquarters (1947-2014)”

**LAM Chiu Ying :** Hong Kong’s rainfall in fact fluctuates significantly,  
for instance, it had dropped to below 900mm in 1963,  
causing a serious drought.  
Severe water rationing was implemented in that year  
with only four hours of water supply once every four days.  
Recently in 2011, the annual rainfall was less than 1500mm,  
a record lower in half a century.

**Super:** 1500mm  
Source: The Hong Kong Observatory – Past and projected  
annual rainfall anomaly of Hong Kong

**LAM Chiu Ying :** According to the Hong Kong Observatory’s climate forecast,  
rainfall might decrease significantly in the next few decades,  
reaching the 1963 drought level.

**Super :** How long can our reservoirs storage last?

**LAM Chiu Ying :** In Hong Kong, 20-30% of fresh water supply  
is rainwater collected from water gathering grounds.  
Normally, this provides enough water  
to last for three to four months.  
Although we can get plenty of rain in summer,  
rainfall is little in autumn and winter.  
Therefore, we must cultivate the habit of conserving water!  
Let’s use less and save up water  
to make sure we get through the autumn and winter time.

**Super :** Can Dongjiang water meet the demand of Hong Kong?

**LAM Chiu Ying :** As there has been no water rationing in Hong Kong since 1982, the young generation takes getting water by turning on a tap for granted. Actually, we rely upon Dongjiang water for maintaining sufficient water supply. However, in the past few decades, there has been a rapid surge in water demand, resulting from the fast pace of economic development, population growth and urbanisation in the Pearl River Delta and Dongjiang River Basin. Overburdening of the Dongjinag water supply is set to begin. Moreover, climate change reduces the stability of rainfall. We must therefore adopt water saving habits earliest possible as a measure to prevent re-occurrence of the 1963 drought. That would make us ably face the water shortage situation in the Pearl River Delta and Dongjiang River Basin together with the people in the region.


**Super :** Water Saving Tips  
Tips: Casual outfit, less laundry

**LAM Chiu Ying :** We can wear casual clothes to cut down the frequency of laundry thereby saving water. Pay attention to the water bill and take a look at the chart to find out there is an increasing or decreasing trend of water consumption.

**Super :** Tips: Check Water Bill

**LAM Chiu Ying :** Shown below is the household's daily water consumption. My family of two consumes 121 litres every day, that makes a daily per capita water consumption of 60 litres which is lower than the world's average of 110 litres.

Save water, I can. Can you?

**Super :**   
Special thanks to Mr. LAM Chiu Ying

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