



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS FOR APRIL-JUNE QUARTER

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY RELEASED THE FOLLOWING LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS FOR THE QUARTER APRIL - JUNE 1983 OBTAINED FROM THE GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY.

THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR THE QUARTER APRIL - JUNE 1983 WAS 4.4 PER CENT, WHICH COMPARES WITH 5.1 PER CENT FOR THE PREVIOUS QUARTER ENDING MARCH 1983.

THIS LATEST RESULT CONFIRMS THE POINT NOTED LAST MONTH THAT UNEMPLOYMENT IS NOW DROPPING. THE RATE FOR THE QUARTER ENDING JUNE LAST YEAR WAS 3.2 PER CENT, THE COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS POINTED OUT TODAY.

THE NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS IN THE QUARTER ENDING JUNE 1983 WAS PROVISIONALLY ESTIMATED TO BE 110 000, AS COMPARED WITH 127 300 FOR THE PREVIOUS QUARTER, AND 79 400 FOR THE CORRESPONDING QUARTER LAST YEAR.

THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE FOR THE QUARTER ENDING JUNE 1983 WAS ESTIMATED TO BE 1.9 PER CENT, WHICH COMPARES WITH 2.5 PER CENT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING MARCH 1983.

THE PROVISIONAL ESTIMATE OF THE NUMBER OF UNDEREMPLOYED PERSONS WAS 49 000 FOR THE QUARTER ENDING JUNE, AS COMPARED WITH 63 200 FOR THE PREVIOUS QUARTER. CONSISTENT WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION, PERSONS WHO WORKED LESS THAN 35 HOURS A WEEK WERE REGARDED AS UNDEREMPLOYED ONLY IF THEY WERE SEEKING MORE WORK OR WERE NOT SEEKING MORE WORK BECAUSE THEY BELIEVED MORE WORK WAS NOT AVAILABLE.

THE UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT STATISTICS WERE OBTAINED FROM A CONTINUOUS GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT. THIS SURVEY COVERS A QUARTERLY SAMPLE OF SOME 15 000 HOUSEHOLDS OR 55 000 PERSONS, SELECTED SCIENTIFICALLY TO REPRESENT THE LAND-BASED CIVILIAN NON-INSTITUTIONAL POPULATION IN HONG KONG.

PERSONAL AND LABOUR FORCE DATA WERE OBTAINED IN THE SURVEY BY INTERVIEWING EACH INDIVIDUAL MEMBER IN THE HOUSEHOLDS SAMPLED.

IN COMMENTING UPON THESE FIGURES, THE COMMISSIONER SAID THAT BECAUSE THE PROPORTION OF FIRST-TIME JOB-SEEKERS (E.G. PEOPLE WHO HAVE JUST LEFT SCHOOL) VARIES FROM MONTH TO MONTH, THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATES SEASONALLY ADJUSTED FOR THE VARIATIONS IN FIRST-TIME JOB-SEEKERS SHOULD BE USED IN MAKING COMPARISONS OVER TIME. THE UNADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR THE QUARTER ENDING JUNE 1983 WAS HOWEVER ALSO 4.4 PER CENT.

HE ADDED THAT DETAILED ANALYSIS OF THE LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS IS GIVEN IN THE REPORT OF THE GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY WHICH IS PUBLISHED FOUR TIMES A YEAR.

THE NEXT REPORT COVERING THE QUARTER ENDING JUNE 1983 SHOULD BE AVAILABLE FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE NEXT MONTH.

UNHCR TO GIVE MORE FOR REFUGEES' CARE

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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT HAS SECURED THE AGREEMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES TO INCREASE HIS CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES IN GOVERNMENT-RUN CENTRES IN HONG KONG TO HK\$12.8 MILLION FOR THE CURRENT CALENDAR YEAR.

DEPENDING ON THE TOTAL EXPENDITURE ACTUALLY INCURRED DURING THE REST OF THE YEAR, THE AGREEMENT PROVIDES THAT THIS AMOUNT MAY BE FURTHER INCREASED UP TO A TOTAL OF \$15.7 MILLION, SUBJECT TO FURTHER DISCUSSION BETWEEN THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AND THE UNHCR.

UNHCR HAS ALREADY AGREED TO CONTRIBUTE HK\$7.4 MILLION TO THE COST OF MAINTAINING VRS IN GOVERNMENT CENTRES HERE, AND AN AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED BETWEEN THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AND UNHCR IN DECEMBER 1982 TO COVER EXPENDITURE OVER THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF THIS YEAR.

THE NEW AGREEMENT WILL COVER ANY ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE FOR THE PERIOD FROM JULY 1 TO DECEMBER 31.

AS IN THE PAST, UNHCR'S CONTRIBUTION COVERS EXPENDITURE ON ITEMS SUCH AS FOOD, MEDICAL SUPPLIES, UTILITIES AND OTHER RELIEF ITEMS FOR VRS DETAINED IN GOVERNMENT CENTRES.

THERE ARE AT PRESENT 5 600 VRS IN GOVERNMENT CENTRES, OF WHOM 5 100 ARE IN THE THREE CLOSED CENTRES AT CHI MA WAN, CAPE COLLINSON, AND HEI LING CHAU AND THE REMAINDER ARE IN THE ARGYLE STREET RECEPTION CENTRE AWAITING DEPARTURE FOR OVERSEAS RESETTLEMENT.

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MTRC'S FINANCIAL TIES CLARIFIED IN BILL

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A BILL TO CLARIFY THE FINANCIAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION IS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT AS THE ONLY SHAREHOLDER OF THE MTRC, THE GOVERNMENT, IN EFFECT, IS THE PARENT COMPANY AND THE CORPORATION IS ITS SUBSIDIARY.

IT IS THEREFORE APPROPRIATE FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO HAVE CONTROL OVER ITS FINANCIAL POSITION, WHICH IS NOT SET OUT SPECIFICALLY IN THE EXISTING LAW, HE SAID.

THE MTRC (AMENDMENT) BILL 1983, PUBLISHED TODAY, SEEKS TO ENSURE THAT THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY IS CONSULTED AND HIS APPROVAL OBTAINED BEFORE THE MTRC APPLIES ITS PROFITS IN ANY WAY.

HIS APPROVAL IS ALSO REQUIRED BEFORE ANY GENERAL OR SPECIAL RESERVE FUND IS SET UP OR USED, AND HE WILL BE EMPOWERED TO DIRECT THAT THE WHOLE OR PART OF THE MTRC'S PROFITS BE PAID INTO RESERVE.

/IN ADDITION,

IN ADDITION, THE MTRC WILL BE ABLE TO DECLARE AND PAY DIVIDENDS, AND THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE CORPORATION AND TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ITS LOAN OBLIGATIONS, MAY DIRECT THAT THE WHOLE OR PART OF ANY PROFITS IN ANY FINANCIAL YEAR BE PAID AS DIVIDEND INTO THE GENERAL REVENUE. IN CALCULATING SUCH PROFITS, ALLOWANCE WILL BE MADE FOR ANY SUMS EARMARKED FOR RESERVE FUNDS AND FOR ANY ACCUMULATED LOSS OF PREVIOUS YEARS.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS PROPOSED TO EMPOWER THE MTRC TO DECLARE AND PAY DIVIDENDS BECAUSE SUCH POWER COULD NOT BE INFERRED AT PRESENT, ALTHOUGH IT MIGHT BE DESIRABLE AT SOME FUTURE TIME.

THE AMENDMENT BILL IS EXPECTED TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AT THE BEGINNING OF THE NEXT SESSION. ANYONE WHO WISHES TO COMMENT ON ITS PROVISIONS CAN WRITE TO UMEICO, AT SWIRE HOUSE, 12TH FLOOR, CHATER ROAD, OR TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, AT THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR MELODY GARDEN FLATS RELAXED

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GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO RELAX THE RULES OF ELIGIBILITY TO PROMOTE THE SALE OF THE FLATS UNDER THE MIDDLE INCOME HOUSING SCHEME AT MELODY GARDEN, TUEN MUN.

THIS INVOLVES THE REMOVAL OF THE RESTRICTION RELATING TO FAMILY SIZE, FAMILY INCOME, OWNERSHIP OF PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES AND LENGTH OF RESIDENCE IN HONG KONG.

HOWEVER, THE RESTRICTION ON RE-SALE AND THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA STILL REMAIN UNCHANGED :

- * APPLICANT MUST BE 21 YEARS OF AGE OR MORE;
- * APPLICANT MUST NOT BE A MEMBER OF ANY GOVERNMENT CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING SCHEME OR SIMILAR;
- * APPLICANT MUST NOT BE THE OWNER OF A HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME OR PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION SCHEME FLAT;
- * HOUSING AUTHORITY AND HOUSING SOCIETY TENANTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO SURRENDER THE EXISTING TENANCIES ON ACQUIRING A FLAT.

FULL DETAILS REGARDING APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND DATE OF SALE WILL BE ANNOUNCED EARLY NEXT WEEK.

COMMENTING ON THE DECISION, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID: +THE MIDDLE INCOME HOUSING SCHEME WAS INTRODUCED TO CATER FOR THE HOUSING NEEDS OF MIDDLE INCOME GROUPS. THE SALE OF MELODY GARDEN FLATS UNDER THIS SCHEME WAS NOT VERY SUCCESSFUL LARGELY BECAUSE THEY BECAME AVAILABLE AT A TIME WHEN THE SUPPLY OF FLATS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR HAD INCREASED AND THERE WAS A REDUCTION OF MORTGAGE INTEREST IN THE OPEN MARKET.

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HE ADDED: +A SECOND SALES EXERCISE WAS MOUNTED IN APRIL BUT THE RESULT REMAINED UNSATISFACTORY AND IT WAS THEN DECIDED THAT MIDDLE INCOME HOUSING SCHEMES WOULD NOT BE BUILT IN FUTURE.

+IT HAS NOW BEEN DECIDED THAT THE MELODY GARDEN FLATS SHOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO MORE PEOPLE BY WIDENING CONSIDERABLY THE ELIGIBILITY RULES.+

THE HOME OWNERSHIP AND PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION SCHEMES CONTINUE TO BE EXTREMELY POPULAR AND EVERY SALES EXERCISE HAS BEEN OVERSUBSCRIBED. IN THE LATEST SALES EXERCISE FOR PHASE VA OF THE HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME 20 968 APPLICATIONS WERE RECEIVED FOR THE 4 925 FLATS AVAILABLE. THERE IS NO INTENTION OF CHANGING THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA OF THESE SCHEMES, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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CIGARETTES REQUIRED TO CARRY HEALTH WARNING

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CIGARETTE MANUFACTURERS AND DISTRIBUTORS WERE REMINDED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT IT WILL BE AN OFFENCE FROM MONDAY (AUGUST 15) TO SELL, OFFER OR POSSESS FOR SALE CIGARETTES IN PACKETS OR RETAIL CONTAINERS WHICH DO NOT CARRY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT HEALTH WARNING AND THE APPROPRIATE TAR GROUP RATING.

IT WOULD ALSO BE AN OFFENCE TO SELL, OFFER OR POSSESS FOR SALE ANY CIGARETTE TOBACCO WHOSE CONTAINER DOES NOT CARRY THE HEALTH WARNING.

THOSE WHO FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENT ARE LIABLE ON SUMMARY CONVICTION TO A FINE OF \$5 000.

IN ISSUING THIS REMINDER, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THESE ARE REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE SMOKING (PUBLIC HEALTH) ORDINANCE, PART III OF WHICH COMES INTO OPERATION ON AUGUST 15.

DETAILS OF THE STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS AND COMMENCEMENT DATES WERE PUBLISHED ON AUGUST 13, 1982, WHILE THE PRINCIPAL ORDINANCE WAS GAZETTED ON JULY 30, 1982.

THE FIRST STAGE OF THE ANTI-SMOKING LAWS, WHICH CAME INTO EFFECT ON NOVEMBER 15, 1982, PROVIDED FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN LOCAL NEWSPAPERS AND OTHER PRINTED MATTERS PUBLISHED OR DISTRIBUTED IN HONG KONG TO CARRY THE HEALTH WARNING AND THE TAR GROUP DESIGNATION.

AS FROM FEBRUARY 15, MOST OTHER TYPES OF CIGARETTE ADVERTISEMENTS WERE REQUIRED TO CARRY THE HEALTH WARNING, AND THIS WAS EXTENDED TO NEON SIGNS FROM MAY 15.

NO-SMOKING AREAS ARE NOW REQUIRED TO BE DESIGNATED IN FERRIES, TRAINS AND CINEMAS, CONCERT HALLS AND THEATRES.

SMOKING IS ALSO PROHIBITED IN PUBLIC LIFTS, SINGLE-DECKER ROAD PUBLIC TRANSPORT AND ON THE LOWER DECK OF DOUBLE-DECKER BUSES AND TRAMS.

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4 925 LAND-VALUE-FREE HOME OWNERSHIP FLATS DRAWN

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THE HOUSING AUTHORITY TODAY HELD A BALLOT TO DECIDE THE SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS FOR THE 4 925 LAND-VALUE-FREE FLATS TO BE SOLD UNDER PHASE VA OF THE HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME.

FOR THE 4 425 GREEN-FORM APPLICANTS FROM HOUSING AUTHORITY AND HOUSING SOCIETY TENANTS, THE LUCKY NUMBERS REPRESENTING THE LAST DIGIT OF THEIR REGISTRATION NUMBERS WERE 4, 5, 3, 7 AND 6, WHILE FOR THE 16 543 WHITE-FORM PRIVATE SECTOR APPLICANTS, THE LUCKY NUMBERS REPRESENTING THE LAST TWO DIGITS WERE 67, 91, 70, 65, 59, 61, 04, 36, 27, 73, 15, 55, 77 AND 05.

IN ADDITION, A PROPORTION OF REGISTRATION NUMBERS ENDING IN 2 (GREEN FORM) AND 68 (WHITE FORM) WERE ALSO SUCCESSFUL, MAKING UP THE BALANCE OF THE EQUAL SHARE OF THE FLATS ON SALE TO BE ALLOCATED TO EACH CATEGORY.

THE REMAINDER OF THESE NUMBERS PLUS 8, 0, 9 AND 1 (GREEN FORM), AND 40, 97, 03, 06, 50, 19, 95, 51, 35, 17, 02, 87, 46, 84, 81, 96, 13, 82, 23, 93, 71, 43, 33, 76, 01, 72, 86, 83, 31, 25, 21, 99, 22, 57, 20, 58, 38, 11, 16, 79, 69, 00, 60, 90, 53, 42, 78, 34, 47, 24, 14, 39, 66, 98, 29, 30, 62, 56, 45, 28, 44, 85, 80, 10, 08, 94, 49, 48, 64, 75, 18, 41, 26, 52, 07, 92, 54, 63, 09, 32, 89, 37, 88, 74 AND 12 (WHITE FORM) WILL FORM THE RESERVE LIST.

A COMBINED PRIORITY LIST OF SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS IN EACH CATEGORY WAS LATER PRODUCED BY A COMPUTER AT THE HOUSING AUTHORITY HEADQUARTERS.

THE LUCKY NUMBERS WERE DRAWN BY MR CHARLES C.C. SIN, CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY'S HOME OWNERSHIP COMMITTEE, AT THE HOME OWNERSHIP CENTRE IN OI MAN COMMERCIAL COMPLEX, AND THE DRAW WAS WITNESSED BY AN I.C.A.C. REPRESENTATIVE, MR LAI KWOK-CHEE.

RESULTS OF THE BALLOT WILL BE PUBLISHED TOMORROW. THE LISTS OF SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WITH THEIR ORDER OF PRIORITY WILL BE POSTED FROM TOMORROW AT THE HOME OWNERSHIP CENTRE AS WELL AS FROM MONDAY (AUGUST 15) AT ALL HOUSING AUTHORITY AND HOUSING SOCIETY ESTATE OFFICES AND DISTRICT OFFICES.

A COMPLETE LIST OF SUCCESSFUL REGISTRATION NUMBERS WILL ALSO BE PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE NEXT FRIDAY (AUGUST 19).

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TWO PRIVATE SCHOOLS TO BE FULLY-AIDED
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THE GOVERNMENT HAS RECENTLY GIVEN APPROVAL FOR THE TURNING OF TWO PRIVATE NON-PROFIT-MAKING SECONDARY SCHOOLS INTO FULLY-AIDED INSTITUTIONS FROM SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

THEY ARE THE HONG KONG BUDDHIST SECONDARY SCHOOL IN SHAM SHUI PO AND SUNG LAN MIDDLE SCHOOL IN WAN CHAI.

AFTER ACHIEVING FULLY-AIDED STATUS, THESE TWO SCHOOLS WILL RECEIVE A TOTAL OF NEARLY \$9 MILLION EACH YEAR FROM THE GOVERNMENT.

THE CONVERSION BRINGS THE TOTAL NUMBER OF NON-PROFIT-MAKING PRIVATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS WHICH BECAME FULLY-AIDED TO 62 SINCE THE GOVERNMENT OPENED THE DOOR IN JUNE 1979.

THE OFFER WAS MADE AFTER THE 1978 WHITE PAPER ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF SENIOR SECONDARY AND TERTIARY EDUCATION RECOMMENDED THAT IN ORDER TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF SECONDARY EDUCATION, THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD RAISE THOSE PRIVATE NON-PROFIT-MAKING SCHOOLS WHICH WERE SUITABLE AND WILLING, TO FULLY-AIDED STATUS.

ONCE A SCHOOL HAS ACHIEVED THIS STATUS, IT WILL RECEIVE FUNDS FROM THE GOVERNMENT BY WHICH IT WILL BE ABLE TO IMPROVE THE SALARIES OF TEACHERS AND OTHER STAFF, AND TO BUY NEW TEACHING EQUIPMENT.

NEVERTHELESS, THE SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT FULLY-AIDED SCHOOLS ARE SUBJECT TO THE CONTROL OF THE CODE OF AID WHICH, WHILE GIVING THE SCHOOL AUTHORITIES WIDESPREAD FREEDOM IN ADMINISTERING THEIR INSTITUTES, ENSURES THAT TAXPAYERS' MONEY ARE PROPERLY SPENT.

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REVISED FEES COME INTO EFFECT TODAY
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THE FEES FOR MANUFACTURING, STORING, MOVING OR USING EXPLOSIVES HAVE BEEN INCREASED FROM TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE NEW FEES ARE PRESCRIBED IN THE DANGEROUS GOODS (GENERAL) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1983 AND THE DANGEROUS GOODS (GOVERNMENT EXPLOSIVES DEPOTS) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1983, BOTH OF WHICH WERE PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

THE DANGEROUS GOODS (GENERAL) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS INCREASE THE FEES FOR LICENCES AND PERMITS RELATING TO MANUFACTURING, STORING, MOVING AND USING VARIOUS CATEGORIES OF EXPLOSIVES.

THE OTHER REGULATIONS INCREASE THE FEES IN RESPECT OF THE STORAGE AND DELIVERY OF EXPLOSIVES AND EXPLOSIVES ACCESSORIES IN GOVERNMENT EXPLOSIVES DEPOTS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT SAID THAT THE OLD FEES, WHICH HAD NOT BEEN CHANGED FOR THE PAST NINE YEARS, WERE REVISED AS A RESULT OF A COST REVIEW WHICH SHOWED THAT THEY WERE INSUFFICIENT TO COVER THE FULL COST OF THE SERVICES.

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STREET CLOSURE FOR MTR ISLAND LINE WORK

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TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY ISLAND LINE, A CUL-DE-SAC AT THE END OF MODEL LANE IN NORTH POINT WILL BE PERMANENTLY CLOSED. A NOTICE TO THIS EFFECT IS PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

THE AREA TO BE AFFECTED INCLUDES THE CUL-DE-SAC AND ADJACENT FOOTPATHS ON MODEL LANE WHICH LIE 24 METRES SOUTH OF TSAT TSZ MUI ROAD AND THE DATE TO EFFECT THE CLOSURE WILL BE ANNOUNCED LATER. AFTER THE CUL-DE-SAC IS CLOSED, ACCESS TO THE YOUTH CENTRE BEHIND BLOCK F OF MODEL HOUSING ESTATE WILL STILL BE MAINTAINED.

DETAILS OF THE AFFECTED AREA ARE SHOWN ON PLAN MT/G/260. COPIES OF THE PLAN AND THE GOVERNOR'S ORDER AUTHORIZING THE STREET CLOSURE MAY BE INSPECTED DURING NORMAL OFFICE HOURS AT THE ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE (CENTRAL AND WESTERN) AT CGO WEST WING; THE DISTRICT OFFICE (EASTERN) AT 884-886 KING'S ROAD; OR THE LANDS DEPARTMENT, SURVEY DIVISION IN MURRAY BUILDING, COTTON TREE DRIVE.

CLAIMS FOR COMPENSATION IN RESPECT OF THE CLOSURE MUST BE MADE IN WRITING TO THE DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT AND MUST REACH HIS OFFICE WITHIN ONE YEAR AFTER THE ROAD IS CLOSED.

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COMMUNITY LEADERS VISIT CHILDREN'S CHOIR

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A GROUP OF SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS THIS (FRIDAY) MORNING VISITED THE DISTRICT CHILDREN'S CHOIR WHO ARE ATTENDING A TWO-DAY MUSIC CAMP AT THE ROTARY YOUTH CAMP IN FANLING.

MORE THAN 80 MEMBERS OF THE CHOIR TOOK PART IN THE MUSIC CAMP, WHICH IS SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD AND THE SHAM SHUI PO ARTS ASSOCIATION AND WHICH BEGAN YESTERDAY.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CHOIR, MR FAN KAM-PING, TOLD THE BOARD MEMBERS THAT THE CAMP WAS AIMED AT PROVIDING ORIENTATION COURSE FOR THE NEW RECRUITS, AND AT ENRICHING THE MUSICAL KNOWLEDGE OF THE CHOIR MEMBERS.

ACTIVITIES HELD AT THE MUSIC CAMP INCLUDE A TALK ON FAMOUS COMPOSERS AND THEIR WORKS, A LECTURE AND A DEMONSTRATION ON MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, A VOCAL TRAINING, A SINGING CONTEST, AND A MUSIC APPRECIATION SESSION.

THE SHAM SHUI PO CHILDREN'S CHOIR COMPRISES A SENIOR AND JUNIOR VOCAL GROUP, AND A PERCUSSION GROUP AND HAS ABOUT 100 MEMBERS AGED BETWEEN EIGHT AND 12.

SINCE IT WAS FORMED LAST YEAR, THE CHOIR HAS GIVEN MORE THAN 10 PERFORMANCES, AND WILL GIVE A FULL CONCERT AT THE END OF THE YEAR.

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WATER-SKIING SEMINAR AND SHOW BEING HELD
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A WATER SKIING SAFETY SEMINAR WILL BE HELD THIS EVENING (FRIDAY) AND A SKI DEMONSTRATION WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, AS A FOLLOW UP OF THE RECENT WATER SPORTS SAFETY EXHIBITION '83.

TODAY'S SEMINAR WILL BE HELD IN THE CIVIL AID SERVICES HEADQUARTERS LECTURE ROOM IN CAROLINE HILL ROAD BETWEEN 7 PM AND 9 PM. IT IS ORGANISED BY THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT AND THE HONG KONG WATER SKI ASSOCIATION.

THE SKI DEMONSTRATION WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY AT YIM TIN TSAI TYPHOON SHELTER, SAI KUNG, STARTING AT 8.30 AM.

ADMISSION TO THE SEMINAR AND SKI DEMONSTRATION IS FREE.

HOWEVER, THOSE WISHING TO TAKE PART IN THE SKI DEMONSTRATION MUST BE AGED 18 OR ABOVE AND BE ABLE TO SWIM 25 METERS.

ALSO ON SUNDAY, A CANOE PLAY SAFE DAY FOR THE DISABLED WILL TAKE PLACE AT REPULSE BAY, STARTING AT 10 AM.

THE DEPARTMENT'S RECREATION AND SPORTS SERVICE, THE HONG KONG LIFE GUARD CLUB AND THE HONG KONG CANOE UNION ARE THE ORGANISERS OF THE EVENT.

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TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE FOR MONG KOK STATION
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A TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE WILL SOON BE BUILT AT MONG KOK RAILWAY STATION AS PART OF THE REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR THE STATION.

THE RAILWAY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE PROJECT.

WORK ON THE INTERCHANGE, WHICH WILL START IN OCTOBER, INCLUDES THE CONSTRUCTION OF A BUS PODIUM, ACCESS RAMP, RETAINING WALL AND ASSOCIATED GROUND LEVEL ROAD AND DRAINAGE WORKS.

CONSTRUCTION WORK IS EXPECTED BE COMPLETED TOWARDS THE MIDDLE OF 1985.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

WAN CHAI BOARD CANDIDATES TO MEET PRESS
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THE FOUR CANDIDATES CONTESTING IN THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD BY-ELECTION WILL OUTLINE THEIR PLATFORMS AND ANSWER QUESTIONS AT A PRESS CONFERENCE ON MONDAY (AUGUST 15).

THE CANDIDATES - MR CHUNG YEE-ON, MR CHAN PAK-CHEUNG, MR SZETO CHIK AND MR KWONG HON-WAH - WILL CONTEST ON AUGUST 17 THE SEAT IN THE WAN CHAI WEST CONSTITUENCY MADE VACANT FOLLOWING THE DEATH OF AN ELECTED MEMBER, MR NG SAI-YING.

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE PRESS CONFERENCE AT 11 AM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE AT TUNG WAH MANSION, 201 HENNESSY ROAD, 8TH FLOOR.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

SOUVENIRS FOR LONG-TIME WORKERS
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THIRTY-NINE EMPLOYEES OF THE FISH AND VEGETABLE MARKETING ORGANISATIONS, WHO TOGETHER HAVE COMPLETED 990 YEARS SERVICE, WILL RETIRE SOON.

TO MARK THE OCCASION, THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR JOHN RIDDELL-SWAN WILL PRESENT SOUVENIRS TO THEM AT A CEREMONY ON MONDAY (AUGUST 15).

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY, IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE VEGETABLE MARKET AT 757 LAI CHI KOK ROAD IN KOWLOON AT 2.45 PM ON MONDAY (AUGUST 15).

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

BOARD MEMBERS TO VISIT HOUSING ESTATE
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UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD WILL VISIT A TRIDENT-BLOCK PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE AND A TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA IN THE DISTRICT ON TUESDAY (AUGUST 16) MORNING.

ACCOMPANIED BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT, MEMBERS WILL FIRST VISIT A MODEL FLAT IN MEI LAM ESTATE AND THEN PROCEED TO MUI LEE TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA.

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WISHING TO JOIN THE TOUR SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT 9 AM AT THE DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT OFFICE IN SAU CHUEN HOUSE, LEK YUEN ESTATE.

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TAPS OFF FOR LEAKAGE TESTS
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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN AREAS IN QUARRY BAY WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR SEVEN HOURS FROM 11 PM ON MONDAY (AUGUST 15) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY TO FACILITATE LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE PREMISES TO BE AFFECTED ARE THOSE ALONG THE SECTION OF KING'S ROAD BETWEEN TONG CHONG STREET AND GREIG ROAD, AND INCLUDE 842-888 KING'S ROAD AND 2-16 MOUNT PARKER ROAD; AND THAT OF WESTLANDS ROAD, QUARRY BAY STREET AND PAN HOI STREET.

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