DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FINANCE COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER BOAT PEOPLE FUNDING

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THE FINANCE COMMITTEE WILL BE ASKED TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) TO APPROVE ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTING EMERGENCY CONTINGENCY PLANS FOR THE RECEPTION AND ACCOMMODATION OF THE INCREASED NUMBER OF VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE, AND FOR IMPLEMENTING THE CHANGE IN POLICY UNDER WHICH ALL VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE ARE BEING SCREENED ON ARRIVAL TO DETERMINE THEIR STATUS.

THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE POLICY CHANGE, INCLUDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SCREENING PROCEDURES, DETENTION CENTRES AND THE UPGRADING OF SECURITY AT GREEN ISLAND, ARE ESTIMATED TO BE SOME $39 MILLION IN CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND $103 MILLION IN RECURRENT EXPENDITURE PER ANNUM.

THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE CONTINUED MAINTENANCE OF ACCOMMODATION AND CARE FOR BOAT PEOPLE ALREADY HERE ARE ESTIMATED TO BE SOME $88 MILLION IN CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, AND SOME $166 MILLION IN RECURRENT EXPENDITURE.

OF THESE, NEARLY $41 MILLION WOULD BE RECOVERED DIRECTLY FROM THE UNHCR UNDER THE CURRENT AGREEMENT ON REIMBURSABLE EXPENDITURE.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT EVERY EFFORT WOULD BE MADE TO PERSUADE THE UNHCR TO INCREASE ITS SUBSIDY AND TO REVISE ITS APPARENT APPROACH THAT HONG KONG, AS A RELATIVELY PROSPEROUS TERRITORY, SHOULD RECEIVE RELATIVELY LESS SUBSIDY FROM THEM.

THE EXPENDITURE TO BE SOUGHT TOMORROW INCLUDES PROVISION FOR THE CREATION OF 1,126 NON-DIRECTORATE POSTS TO MAINTAIN SERVICES TO AND ACCOMMODATION FOR VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE ALREADY HERE, AND TO IMPLEMENT THE CHANGE IN POLICY.

OF THESE, 664 POSTS ARE NEEDED BECAUSE OF THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE WHO ARRIVED BEFORE THE CHANGE IN POLICY, WHILE 462 POSTS ARE NEEDED FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW POLICY OF SCREENING AND DETENTION.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THERE MIGHT BE SOME SAVINGS ON CERTAIN ITEMS IN LATER YEARS IF THE NEW POLICY WAS SUCCESSFUL AS A DETERRENT, AND THAT A REDUCED LEVEL OF PROVISION MIGHT BE INCLUDED IN THE ESTIMATES FOR 1989-90 AND BEYOND.

AT THE MEETING, MEMBERS WILL ALSO CONSIDER APPROVING A DAILY RATE OF HONORARIUM OF $2,500 FOR MEMBERS OF THE KOWLOON WALLED CITY CLEARANCE SPECIAL COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO ASSESS APPEALS FOR COMPENSATION ARISING FROM RESUMPTION CASES. THE TOTAL EXPENDITURE IS ESTIMATED TO BE IN THE REGION OF $800,000 A YEAR.

/ALSO ON .....

ALSO ON THE AGENDA IS THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF CREATING A POST OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER STAFF GRADE C IN THE OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF SECRETARY TO REPLACE THE POST OF GOVERNMENT SCIENTIST.

THE CREATION OF THE POST WILL PROVIDE A FULL-TIME SECRETARY TO THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

OTHER ITEMS ON TOMORROW'S AGENDA INCLUDE:

* THE GENERAL PRINCIPLE THAT STAFF OF THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SHOULD RECEIVE THE SAME SALARY SCALES AND SIMILAR CONDITIONS OF SERVICE AS EQUIVALENT STAFF OF THE OTHER TWO UNIVERSITIES;

* A NEW PROJECT ESTIMATE OF $6,151,000 FOR THE CONVERSION OF A SALVATION ARMY'S SPECIAL SCHOOL FOR MILDLY MENTALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN; AND

* THE CREATION OF A SUPERNUMERARY POST OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER STAFF GRADE C IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND INFORMATION BRANCH IN ORDER TO MEET INCREASED RESPONSIBILITIES ON BROADCASTING AND LIAISON POLICY MATTERS.

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SURVEY FINDINGS OF STUDENTS ABUSING DRUGS RELEASED

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A SURVEY HAS SHOWN THAT ABOUT 1.1 PER CENT OF SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS AND 2.8 PER CENT OF TECHNICAL INSTITUTE STUDENTS IN HONG KONG HAVE BEEN FOUND TO HAVE ABUSED PSYCHOTROPIC DRUGS, MAINLY MANDRAX, CANNABIS AND SECONAL.

THE FINDINGS WERE GIVEN BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS (ACAN), DR GERALD CHOA, AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (TUESDAY) FOLLOWING THE COMPLETION OF THE FIRST LARGE-SCALE SURVEY ON THE ABUSE OF PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES AMONG STUDENTS.

THE SURVEY WAS MADE BY THE NARCOTICS DIVISION OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT.

ABOUT 110,000 STUDENTS HAD BEEN ENUMERATED. THESE INCLUDED 88,147 IN 148 SECONDARY DAY SCHOOLS OUT OF A TOTAL OF SOME 441,000 STUDENTS IN 419 SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN THE TERRITORY, AND ALL THE 21,243 WHO ATTENDED FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME DAY-RELEASE COURSES IN ALL THE EIGHT TECHNICAL INSTITUTES.

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ALL THE STUDENTS SURVEYED WERE ASKED TO COMPLETE CONFIDENTIALLY AND ANONYMOUSLY A QUESTIONNAIRE WITH 26 QUESTIONS.

DR CHOA SAID THAT FOLLOWING A SMALL SCALE PILOT SURVEY IN 1985, THIS TERRITORY-WIDE SURVEY WAS STARTED LAST OCTOBER.

IT WAS AIMED MAINLY AT ASSESSING THE EXTENT OF PSYCHOTROPIC ABUSE PROBLEM AMONG STUDENTS AND OBTAINING INFORMATION ON THEIR SOURCES OF ILLICIT DRUGS, THEIR GENERAL KNOWLEDGE ABOUT PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES AND THEIR ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE ABUSE OF THESE DRUGS.

THE SURVEY SHOWED THAT CANNABIS, MANDRAX AND COCAINE WERE THE THREE DRUGS MOST COMMONLY HEARD OF BY STUDENTS MAINLY THROUGH TELEVISION OR FILMS.

A TOTAL OF 1,011 SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS, REPRESENTING 1.1 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL SURVEYED, HAD CLAIMED TO BE DRUG ABUSERS.

TWO-THIRDS WERE MALES. ABOUT HALF LIVED IN PUBLIC OR SUBSIDISED HOUSING ESTATES, AND MANY (42 PER CENT) TOOK DRUGS REGULARLY.

THE MAJORITY OF THE REGULAR DRUG ABUSERS WERE WITHIN THE AGE GROUP OF 13 AND 17 AND WERE STUDENTS IN FORMS 2 TO 4. OVER HALF OF THEM TOOK DRUGS MORE THAN ONCE A MONTH.

DR CHOA SAID A HIGHER PROPORTION OF DRUG ABUSERS COULD BE FOUND IN PRIVATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS THAN IN GOVERNMENT AND AIDED SCHOOLS.

OF THE 21,243 TECHNICAL INSTITUTE STUDENTS SURVEYED, THE CHAIRMAN OF ACAN CONTINUED, 591, REPRESENTING 2.8 PER CENT, HAD BEEN REPORTED TO HAVE ABUSED PSYCHOTROPIC DRUGS.

OVER 95 PER CENT OF THEM WERE MALES, MORE THAN HALF LIVED IN PUBLIC OR SUBSIDISED HOUSING ESTATES, AND ABOUT ONE-THIRD TOOK DRUGS REGULARLY.

THE MAJORITY OF THE REGULAR DRUG ABUSERS WERE AGED FROM 15 TO 19 AND CAME FROM PART-TIME DAY-RELEASE COURSES AT THE CRAFT LEVEL. ABOUT TWO-THIRDS OF THEM ABUSED DRUGS MORE THAN ONCE A MONTH.

DR CHOA POINTED OUT THAT BOTH CATEGORIES OF THE STUDENT DRUG ABUSERS OBTAINED ILLICIT SUBSTANCES MAINLY FROM THEIR FRIENDS, NEIGHBOURS OR RELATIVES WHILE THEY WERE AT HOME OR THEIR FRIENDS' HOMES, IN DISCOS, PARTIES OR PICNICS.

/"MOST LIKELY .....

"MOST LIKELY THEY STARTED WITH MANDRAX OUT OF CURIOSITY AND THEY DID NOT GIVE UP ABUSING BECAUSE THEY THOUGHT THE DRUGS WERE NOT REALLY DANGEROUS," HE SAID.

HOWEVER, DR CHOA SAID MORE THAN 90 PER CENT OF THE STUDENTS COVERED BY THE SURVEY CONSIDERED THAT THE NON-MEDICAL USE OF PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES WAS HARMFUL.

MOST DID NOT APPROVE OF PEOPLE ABUSING DRUGS OCCASIONALLY OR REGULARLY AND THEY THOUGHT THEIR PARENTS WOULD DISAPPROVE IF THEY ABUSED DRUGS.

COMMENTING ON THE SURVEY FINDINGS, THE COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR GARETH MULLOY, SAID THE SURVEY HAD CONFIRMED THE EXISTENCE AND MEASURED THE SIZE OF THE PROBLEM AMONG STUDENTS.

THIS FOLLOWED COMMUNITY CONCERN IN RECENT YEARS THOUGH IT WAS FAR FROM BEING A PROBLEM AS SERIOUS AS HEROIN ADDICTION, HE SAID.

ABOUT 97 PER CENT OF THE 39,000 ACTIVE DRUG ADDICTS REPORTED TO THE GOVERNMENT'S COMPUTERISED CENTRAL REGISTRY OF DRUG ABUSE TAKE HEROIN AS THE PRIMARY DRUG.

MR MULLOY SAID: "PUBLICITY HAS, IN FACT, BEEN STEPPED UP SINCE LAST YEAR THROUGH POSTERS, LEAFLETS, EXHIBITIONS, AND TV AND RADIO ANNOUNCEMENTS OF PUBLIC INTEREST TO WARN YOUNGSTERS ABOUT THE DANGER OF ABUSING PSYCHOTROPIC DRUGS.

"ADDITIONALLY, THE SCHOOL TALKS TEAM IN THE NARCOTICS DIVISION HAS INTENSIFIED ITS EFFORTS TO EDUCATE SECONDARY SCHOOL AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTE STUDENTS ABOUT THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF THE DRUGS SO AS TO DISSUADE THEM FROM ABUSING OR EXPERIMENTING WITH ILLICIT SUBSTANCES," HE SAID.

"WITH SUPPORT FROM ACAN, THE FIRST COUNSELLING CENTRE FOR PSYCHOTROPIC DRUG ABUSERS, PS 33, HAS ALSO BEEN SET UP BY THE HONG KONG CHRISTIAN SERVICE EARLY THIS YEAR TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO THOSE IN NEED.

"ALL THESE MEASURES CLEARLY INDICATE THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN POSITIVE STEPS TO TACKLE THE PROBLEM AND ARE MOVING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION ON PREVENTION EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY," HE ADDED.

"WE WILL CONTINUE TO CLOSELY MONITOR THE SITUATION AND TAKE FURTHER ACTION WHEN NECESSARY," MR MULLOY SAID.

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TAC CONSIDERS MEASURES TO EASE TUNNEL CONGESTION

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THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) TODAY (TUESDAY) DISCUSSED THE MEASURES IDENTIFIED IN THE REPORT OF THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL TRAFFIC STUDY FOR ALLEVIATING TRAFFIC CONGESTION AT THE APPROACHES TO THE TUNNEL BEFORE THE OPENING OF THE EASTERN HARBOUR CROSSING NEXT YEAR.

MEMBERS NOTED THAT TUNNEL THROUGHPUT COULD NOT BE INCREASED BY TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT MEASURES AND THAT THERE WAS ONLY LIMITED SCOPE FOR INCREASING THE CAPACITY OF CROSS HARBOUR VEHICULAR FERRY SERVICES TO HELP RELIEVE CONGESTION AT THE TUNNEL.

IN VIEW OF THE SERIOUS EFFECT OF TRAFFIC QUEUES AT THE TUNNEL ON OTHER TRAFFIC USING THE SAME ROADS, MEMBERS AGREED WITH THE REPORT THAT MEASURES SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED TO SEPARATE NON-TUNNEL TRAFFIC FROM TUNNEL TRAFFIC.

AS FRANCHISED BUSES ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT AND EFFICIENT CARRIERS OF PASSENGERS THROUGH THE TUNNEL, THE TAC AGREED THAT MEASURES SHOULD BE INTRODUCED TO IMPROVE THEIR OPERATION.

THESE INCLUDED BUS ROUTE DIVERSIONS, RELOCATION OF CROSS HARBOUR BUS STOPS ON CHATHAM ROAD, AS WELL AS THE WIDENING OF THE BUS LAYBY OUTSIDE THE TOLL PLAZA, PROVISION OF NON-STOP AND SHUTTLE BUS SERVICES AND BUS ONLY TOLL BOOTH.

IN CONSIDERING THE TOLL MEASURES, MEMBERS LOOKED INTO A RANGE OF OPTIONS INCLUDING A GENERAL TOLL INCREASE, DIFFERENTIAL TOLLS BY VEHICLE TYPE AND DIFFERENTIAL TOLL BY TIME PERIOD.

AT TODAY'S MEETING, NO DECISIONS WERE MADE ON THE TOLL MEASURES. MEMBERS REQUESTED FURTHER INFORMATION FOR DISCUSSION AT THE NEXT TAC MEETING ON JULY 4 IN ORDER TO ARRIVE AT A DECISION.

ON OTHER AGENDA ITEMS, MEMBERS WERE BRIEFED ON THE PROGRESS ON THE PROVISION OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES BEFORE AND AFTER THE MTR FARE REVISIONS IN MAY.

THE TAC ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE AN APPLICATION BY THE NEW LANTAU BUS COMPANY FOR A TWO-YEAR EXTENSION OF ITS FRANCHISE FROM MARCH 31, 1993 TO MARCH 31, 1995.

IN MAKING THE DECISION, MEMBERS CONSIDERED THE PERFORMANCE OF THE COMPANY AND FELT THAT IT HAD CONTINUED TO IMPROVE ITS PERFORMANCE OVER THE PAST 12 MONTHS AND HAD MADE PROGRESS IN OBTAINING A NEW DEPOT AT MUI WO TO PROVIDE IMPROVED MAINTENANCE FACILITIES.

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CONFIDENCE IN HK'S FUTURE AS FINANCIAL CENTRE: DAVID NENDICK

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THE GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO ALLOW INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES INCLUDING FINANCIAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS TO ESTABLISH THEMSELVES HERE WITHOUT LET OR HINDRANCE, THE ACTING FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR DAVID NENDICK, SAID THIS (TUESDAY) EVENING.

OFFICIATING AT THE TELERATE ASIA-PACIFIC REGIONAL OFFICE OPENING, MR NENDICK SAID HE WELCOMED THIS INDICATION OF CONFIDENCE IN HONG KONG'S FUTURE AS A MAJOR INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRE.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO RECOGNISE THAT THE FACT THAT HONG KONG IS THE CENTRE WITH THE LARGEST NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION, AND IS STILL ATTRACTING FURTHER SUCH INSTITUTIONS HAS ONLY BEEN MADE POSSIBLE BECAUSE THERE HAS BEEN A PARALLEL GROWTH IN A WIDE RANGE OF INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES, HE SAID.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS SUCH AS TELERATE ARE AN IMPORTANT COMPONENT, HE ADDED.

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CONSTRUCTION SAFETY LEGISLATION IN PERSPECTIVE

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT IS ORGANISING A SERIES OF DISCUSSION SESSIONS WITH INDUSTRIALISTS AND TRADE UNIONISTS TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON THE EXISTING LEGISLATION GOVERNING SAFETY AND HEALTH IN THE WORKPLACE.

THE FIRST SESSION, ENTITLED CONSTRUCTION SAFETY LEGISLATION IN PERSPECTIVE, WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE DEPARTMENT'S INDUSTRIAL SAFETY TRAINING CENTRE IN CENTRAL ON FRIDAY (JUNE 24).

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY HAD SEEN A BOOM IN RECENT YEARS BUT AT THE SAME TIME HAD BROUGHT ABOUT A LARGE NUMBER OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

THERE ARE AT PRESENT AT LEAST SIX SETS OF REGULATIONS UNDER THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS ORDINANCE WHICH DEAL WITH SAFE PRACTICES IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY.

/"ALTHOUGH REGULAR .....

"ALTHOUGH REGULAR REVIEWS ON THE ORDINANCE AND ITS SUBSIDIARY REGULATIONS ARE BEING CARRIED OUT AND AMENDMENTS ARE MADE WHERE NECESSARY TO MEET THE CHANGING NEEDS, WE FIND IT WOULD BE BENEFICIAL TO HAVE A FACE TO FACE DISCUSSION WITH THOSE IN THE TRADE SO AS TO FIND OUT THEIR VIEWS AND REAL NEEDS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

INVITATION TO ATTEND THE FIRST SESSION HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO VARIOUS ORGANISATIONS INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY RELATED TRADE UNIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS, INDUSTRIAL GROUPS, EXECUTIVES IN THE CONSTRUCTION TRAINING FIELD, AND MEMBERS OF THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD'S INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AND HEALTH COMMITTEE.

TO GIVE AN INSIGHT INTO THE CURRENT INDUSTRIAL SAFETY LEGISLATION, DISPLAY PANELS AND AUDIO VISUAL AIDS WILL BE USED DURING THE SESSION WHICH WILL BE CHAIRED BY THE CHIEF FACTORY INSPECTOR OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, MR YIP YUK-LUN.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE NEXT SESSION DEALING WITH HEALTH RELATED LEGISLATION IS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE SOMETIME IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND A REPORTER AND/OR PHOTOGRAPHER TO COVER THE FIRST DISCUSSION SESSION WHICH WILL BE HELD AT THE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY TRAINING CENTRE, 13TH FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, CENTRAL, AT 2.30 PM ON FRIDAY (JUNE 24).

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AMENDMENT TO SOCIETIES ORDINANCE PROPOSED

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THE GOVERNMENT IS PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE SOCIETIES ORDINANCE TO RECTIFY AN OVERSIGHT AFFECTING LARGE PARTNERSHIPS OF LAWYERS, ACCOUNTANTS AND STOCKBROKERS.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT SEEKS TO EXCLUDE THE APPLICATION OF THE SOCIETIES ORDINANCE TO LARGE PARTNERSHIPS, THAT IS PARTNERSHIPS OF MORE THAN 20 PERSONS, PROVIDED THEY ARE ENGAGED SOLELY IN A LAWFUL BUSINESS AND ARE REGISTERED UNDER ANY OTHER ORDINANCE, SUCH AS THE BUSINESS REGISTRATION ORDINANCE.

/THE FOLLOWS .....

THIS FOLLOWS A DECISION BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL THIS MORNING (TUESDAY).

THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT IS PROMPTED BY A PROBLEM THAT ARISES UNDER THE SOCIETIES ORDINANCE WHERE LARGE PARTNERSHIPS WHICH FAIL TO REGISTER AS A SOCIETY ARE IN BREACH OF THE LAW AND ARE DEEMED TO BE "UNLAWFUL SOCIETIES". AS THE LAW WAS NEVER INTENDED TO APPLY TO LEGITIMATE BUSINESS ENTERPRISES, THE GOVERNMENT IS SEEKING TO RECTIFY THE MATTER.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT UNDER THE LAW ALL ORGANISATIONS INCLUDING CLUBS, PARTNERSHIPS AND ASSOCIATIONS ARE REQUIRED TO BE REGISTERED UNDER THE SOCIETIES ORDINANCE, UNLESS THEY APPLY AND ARE EXEMPTED BY THE REGISTRAR OR THEY ARE SPECIFICALLY EXCLUDED IN THE SCHEDULE TO THE ORDINANCE.

UNDER THE SCHEDULE, COMPANIES REGISTERED UNDER THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE ARE EXCLUDED. SO TOO ARE PARTNERSHIPS "... CONSISTING OF NOT MORE THAN 20 PERSONS, FORMED FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF CARRYING ON ANY LAWFUL BUSINESS AND REGISTERED UNDER ANY ORDINANCE.".

THE 20-PARTNER LIMIT REFLECTED THE POSITION UNDER THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE BEFORE MID-1978 WHICH PROHIBITED ANY PARTNERSHIP WITH MORE THAN 20 PERSONS.

HOWEVER, ON JULY 7, 1978 THIS PROHIBITION IN THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE WAS AMENDED TO PERMIT PARTNERSHIPS OF MORE THAN 20 PERSONS, PRACTISING AS SOLICITORS, ACCOUNTANTS OR STOCKBROKERS.

"BUT, BY AN OVERSIGHT, NO CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENT WAS MADE TO THE SCHEDULE OF THE SOCIETIES ORDINANCE TO SIMILARLY EXCLUDE SUCH LARGE PARTNERSHIPS FROM ITS AMBIT," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE PROBLEM IS THAT MANY PROFESSIONAL FIRMS HAVE EXPANDED BEYOND THE 20-PARTNER LIMIT SINCE THEN BUT THEY HAVE FAILED TO REGISTER UNDER THE SOCIETIES ORDINANCE.

"THE CONSEQUENCE OF THEIR FAILURE TO REGISTER MEANS THEY HAVE BECOME 'UNLAWFUL SOCIETIES' TECHNICALLY RENDERING THEIR PARTNERS, AND POSSIBLY THEIR EMPLOYEES, LANDLORDS, CLIENTS AND OTHERS HAVING DEALINGS WITH THEM LIABLE TO CRIMINAL PROSECUTION," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THEIR UNLAWFUL STATUS COULD ALSO HAVE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES IN CIVIL LAW.

EXPLAINING THE DECISION TO AMEND THE LAW, HE SAID THE ORDINANCE IS AIMED MAINLY AT CONTROLLING TRIAD SOCIETIES.

"CLEARLY, THE ORDINANCE WAS NEVER INTENDED TO APPLY TO LEGITIMATE BUSINESSES AND SHOULD NOT APPLY," HE SAID.

/THE SPOKESMAN .....

THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT WHILE THE AMENDMENT RECTIFIES AN OVERSIGHT AND BENEFITS LEGITIMATE BUSINESS ENTERPRISES, IT DOES NOT IN ANY WAY WEAKEN CONTROL AGAINST TRIAD SOCIETIES.

THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT SHALL BE DEEMED TO HAVE COME INTO EFFECT FROM JULY 7, 1978, THAT IS THE DATE WHEN THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE WAS AMENDED.

THE CHANGE WILL NOT, HOWEVER, AFFECT LEGAL PROCEEDINGS WHICH COMMENCED ON OR BEFORE TODAY (TUESDAY).

ON THE DECISION TO APPLY THE AMENDMENTS RETROSPECTIVELY, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT AS A MATTER OF GENERAL PRINCIPLE, LAWS SHOULD NOT BE MADE RESTROSPECTIVE.

"BUT AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION IT WAS FELT THAT IN THIS CASE, THE AMENDMENT HAD TO BE GIVEN RETROSPECTIVE EFFECT TO ENSURE THAT THOSE WHO HAD ALREADY ENTERED INTO OTHERWISE LEGITIMATE TRANSACTIONS WITH LARGE LEGAL, ACCOUNTING AND STOCKBROKING FIRMS ARE NOT PRECLUDED FROM ENFORCING THEIR RIGHTS OR, ALTERNATIVELY, ARE NOT PERMITTED TO EVADE THEIR OBLIGATIONS ARISING FROM SUCH TRANSACTIONS.

"THERE WAS ALSO CONCERN THAT WHERE THE LARGE FIRMS HAD ACTED AS AGENTS IN LEGAL PROCEEDINGS OR IN COMMERCIAL, FINANCIAL OR SHARE TRANSACTIONS, THE PARTIES FOR WHOM THEY ACTED AND PERSONS WITH WHOM THEY DEALT MIGHT BE UNABLE TO ENFORCE THEIR INTERESTS UNLESS THE AMENDMENT OPERATES RETROSPECTIVELY," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE AMENDING BILL WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON JULY 6.

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THIRTEEN BILLS, NINE QUESTIONS BEFORE LEGCO

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MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL ASK NINE QUESTIONS AND CONSIDER 13 BILLS AT A MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

OF THE 13 BILLS, EIGHT WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS AND DEBATE ON THEM WILL BE ADJOURNED.

/THEY ARE: .....

THEY ARE: THE BANKRUPTCY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1988, COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1988, COMMISSIONER FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINTS BILL 1988, JUDICIAL SERVICE COMMISSION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1988, BANKING (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1988, HONG KONG FUTURES EXCHANGE LTD (TEMPORARY PROVISIONS) BILL 1988, MONEY LENDERS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1988, AND SOCIETIES (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1988.

THE OTHER FOUR BILLS WILL EACH BE GIVEN A SECOND READING, AND ARE THEN DUE TO GO THROUGH THE COMMITTEE STAGE AND THIRD READING.

THESE ARE: THE INTERPRETATION AND GENERAL CLAUSES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1988, AUDIT (AMENDMENT) BILL 1988, MENTAL HEALTH (AMENDMENT) BILL 1987, AND TRADE UNIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1988.

A PRIVATE BILL, THE RAINIER INTERNATIONAL BANK (TRANSFER OF HONG KONG UNDERTAKING) BILL 1988, WILL ALSO BE GIVEN FIRST AND SECOND READINGS.

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23 500 FLATS PRODUCED FOR SALE UNDER PSPS

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THE MARRIAGE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION SCHEME (PSPS) SINCE ITS INCEPTION HAS PRODUCED ABOUT 23 500 FLATS AND MORE THAN 16 000 ARE NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

THIS WAS SAID BY THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF HOUSING (CONSTRUCTION/GENERAL), MR TOM BLAIR, WHEN HE OFFICIATED AT THE GROUND-BREAKING CEREMONY OF A PSPS DEVELOPMENT IN SHEUNG SHUI TODAY.

THE PSPS SCHEME IS AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF THE KIND OF CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS, MR BLAIR SAID.

IT HAS ALSO PROVED VERY SUCCESSFUL IN MANY FIELDS IN HONG KONG IN THE PAST, HE ADDED.

"ON THE ONE HAND THE SCHEME PROVIDES FLATS FOR SALE AT AFFORDABLE PRICES TO MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY WHO WISH TO OWN THEIR OWN HOME BUT WHO CANNOT AFFORD TO PURCHASE A FLAT OF SIMILAR CALIBRE IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

"ON THE OTHER HAND THE FINANCIAL AND CONSTRUCTION RESOURCES OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR ARE WILLINGLY HARNESSED TO ACHIEVE THE SAME OBJECTIVE," MR BLAIR SAID.

/ON THE .....

ON THE SHEUNG SHUI PROJECT, MR BLAIR SAID THIS SCHEME WILL BE THE FIRST PSPS SINCE THE TRANSFER OF THE RESPONSIBILITY FROM GOVERNMENT TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY SINCE APRIL 1 THIS YEAR FOR THE PRODUCTION OF FLATS UNDER BOTH THE HOS AND PSPS.

IT WILL ALSO BE THE FIRST SCHEME IN FANLING AND SHEUNG SHUI AND WILL AUGMENT THE HOS DEVELOPMENT ALREADY COMPLETED AT SHEK WU HUI.

WHEN COMPLETED BY THE END OF 1989, THE PROJECT WILL COMPRISE SIX 28 OR 29-STOREY TOWER BLOCKS PROVIDING OVER 2 000 FLATS OF TWO AND THREE BEDROOMS.

IT WILL ALSO PROVIDE A COMMERCIAL COMPLEX AND BOTH INDOOR AND OUTDOOR CAR PARKING SPACE.

A KINDERGARTEN AND RECREATION AREAS WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED AND THE EXTERNAL AREAS WILL BE SUITABLY LANDSCAPED.

MR BLAIR ENVISAGED THAT THE VERY STRONG DEMAND FOR FLATS FOR SALE UNDER THE HOS AND PSPS IN THE PAST WOULD NOT ONLY CONTINUE BUT WILL INCREASE.

"TO MEET THIS EXPECTED INCREASED DEMAND, UNDER THE HOUSING AUTHORITY'S LONG TERM HOUSING STRATEGY GREATER EMPHASIS THAN HIGHERTO WILL BE PLACED ON THE PRODUCTION OF FLATS FOR SALE UNDER THESE SCHEMES.

"WITH THE LEVEL OF DEMAND RUNNING AS STRONGLY AS IT IS, COUPLED WITH THE IMPROVED ROAD AND RAIL SYSTEMS NOW SERVING THIS AREA OF THE NORTHERN NEW TERRITORIES, THERE IS EVERY REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THIS SHEUNG SHUI SCHEME WILL BE MOST SUCCESSFUL WHEN IT IS PUT ON THE MARKET," MR BLAIR ADDED.

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RECRUITMENT FOR FIREMEN AND STATION OFFICERS

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THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS CURRENTLY LAUNCHING A RECRUITMENT DRIVE FOR FIREMEN AND STATION OFFICERS.

"WE ARE OFFERING A CAREER OF VARIETY, INTEREST AND OPPORTUNITY TO YOUNG PEOPLE WHO WISH TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY," A FIRE SERVICES SPOKESMAN SAID.

AN APPLICANT SHOULD BE UNDER 30 YEARS OF AGE, HAVE GOOD PHYSIQUE AND NORMAL EYESIGHT, AND SPEAK FLUENT CANTONESE.

/HE SHOULD .....

HE SHOULD BE 1.68 METRES TALL OR ABOVE AND WEIGHS AT LEAST 55 KILOGRAMS. HIS CHEST MEASUREMENT SHOULD NOT BE LESS THAN 86 CENTIMETRES DEFLATED, WITH AN EXPANSION OF AT LEAST FIVE CENTIMETRES.

ALL RECRUITS WILL BE TRAINED FOR GENERAL FIRE FIGHTING AND RESCUE WORK AT THE FIRE SERVICES TRAINING SCHOOL AT PAT HEUNG IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, WHILE STATION OFFICERS WILL HAVE ADDITIONAL SUPERVISORY AND ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES.

THE MINIMUM ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION REQUIRED FOR FIREMEN IS SATISFACTORY COMPLETION OF FORM THREE AND APPLICANTS FOR STATION OFFICERS MUST POSSESS AT LEAST FIVE SUBJECTS INCLUDING ENGLISH LANGUAGE (SYLLABUS B) AT GRADE E OR ABOVE IN THE HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION.

THE STARTING SALARY FOR FIREMEN VARIES FROM $4,225 TO $4,655 PER MONTH DEPENDING ON QUALIFICATIONS, AND RISES TO A MAXIMUM OF $6,165.

FOR STATION OFFICERS, THE STARTING SALARY VARIES FROM $8,110 TO $10,035, AGAIN DEPENDING ON QUALIFICATIONS AND THE MAXIMUM IS $17,710.

APPLICATION FORMS (GF 340) ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL DISTRICT OFFICES AND SHOULD BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED TO THE RECRUITMENT UNIT, FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS, 1 HONG CHONG ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI EAST. ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE TO THE RECRUITMENT UNIT ON 3-7337675.

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STUDY ON RESIDENTIAL MOBILITY

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THE GOVERNMENT WILL CONDUCT A SURVEY ON RESIDENTIAL MOBILITY TO PROVIDE FOR BETTER TOWN PLANNING OF HONG KONG.

THE SAMPLE SURVEY WILL BE CARRIED OUT BY THE LANDS AND WORKS BRANCH BY WAY OF QUESTIONNAIRES BETWEEN JULY 27 AND AUGUST 31 THIS YEAR.

A TOTAL OF 2,000 HOUSEHOLDS WHO RECENTLY MOVED TO NEW TOWNS AND ABOUT 2,000 HOUSEHOLDS IN OLD TENEMENT BLOCKS IN URBAN DISTRICTS WILL BE INTERVIEWED.

NEW TOWNS COVERED BY THE SURVEY INCLUDE TSUEN WAN, FANLING, SHEUNG SHUI, TAI PO AND SHA TIN AND THE OLD DISTRICTS INCLUDE YAU MA TEI AND WESTERN.

/THESE HOUSEHOLDS .....

THESE HOUSEHOLDS WOULD BE ASKED ABOUT THEIR HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS, THE REASONS FOR MOVING TO NEW TOWNS AND FACTORS AFFECTING THEIR CHOICE.

RESPONDENTS IN OLD TENEMENT BLOCKS, ON THE OTHER HAND, WOULD BE ASKED ABOUT THEIR INTENTION TO MOVE AND PREFERENCES.

INFORMATION COLLECTED WILL PROVIDE GUIDELINES AND REFERENCES TO PROVIDE FOR BETTER TOWN PLANNING OF HONG KONG.

THE INFORMATION WILL BE TREATED AS STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL AND WILL ONLY BE USED IN AGGREGATE FOR STATISTICAL ANALYSIS.

HOUSEHOLDS CHOSEN FOR THE SURVEY WILL RECEIVE PRIOR NOTIFICATION BY MAIL.

A SMALL-SCALE PRE-TEST OF THE SURVEY FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINE-TUNING THE QUESTIONNAIRES WILL BE CARRIED OUT BETWEEN TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AND FRIDAY.

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WAN CHAI DB TO DISCUSS GUEST HOUSE PROBLEMS

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THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS THE PROBLEM OF GUEST HOUSES OPERATING IN RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS IN THE DISTRICT AT A MEETING TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE BOARD WILL ALSO CONSIDER THE FIVE-YEAR URBAN COUNCIL CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME, SUMMER TIME, AND TARGET BUILDINGS IDENTIFIED BY THE BUILDING MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE FOR IMPROVEMENT IN 1988-89.

DURING THE MEETING, MEMBERS WILL RAISE QUESTIONS ON VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE AND THE INTRODUCTION OF MAIL BOXES IN MTR STATIONS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD TO BEGIN AT 2.30 PM TODAY (TUESDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE, EIGHTH FLOOR, TUNG WAH MANSION, 201 HENNESSY ROAD, WAN CHAI.

SAI KUNG DB COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS SPORT CONSULTANCY REPORT

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THE CULTURE, RECREATION AND SPORTS COMMITTEE OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD WILL MEET TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) TO DISCUSS A CONSULTANCY REPORT ON SPORTS IN HONG KONG.

THEY WILL ALSO DISCUSS PROPOSED ALLOCATION OF DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS IN 1988/89.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE APPLICATIONS FOR REGIONAL COUNCIL SUBSIDY AND APPLICATIONS FOR DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AT 10 AM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD, SECOND FLOOR, SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES, CHAN MAN STREET, SAI KUNG TOWN.

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HELPLINES BEING INSTALLED ON LANTAU, LAMMA

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PEOPLE GOING HIKING ON LANTAU AND ALSO RESIDENTS OF THE ISLAND WILL BENEFIT FROM THE SCHEME UNDER WHICH EMERGENCY HELPLINES ARE BEING INSTALLED.

BY USING THE HELPLINES THEY WILL BE ABLE TO CONTACT THE POLICE QUICKLY IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY.

THE SCHEME WAS INITIATED AND IS BEING SET UP BY THE HONG KONG TELEPHONE COMPANY AS A FREE SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY.

AT THE OUTSET, THE ISLANDS DISTRICT BOARD WELCOMED THE SCHEME AND WAS INVITED TO PROPOSE PRIORITY SITES.

AFTER CONSULTATIONS WITH AREA COMMITTEES, FOUR SITES WERE IDENTIFIED ON LANTAU AND ONE ON LAMMA.

THESE SITES ARE NGONG PING ROAD, SHAM WATT ROAD NEAR SHAN HOI PAVILION, THE TOP PART OF TUNG CHUNG ROAD, AND THE NAM SHAN CAMP SITE ON LANTAU; AND TAI LUNG TSUEN ON LAMMA.

/AN INAUGURATION .....

AN INAUGURATION CEREMONY FOR THE NGONG PING ROAD EMERGENCY HELPLINE WAS HELD TODAY (TUESDAY). THIS IS THE FIRST TO BE SET UP.

SPEAKING AT THE CEREMONY, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ISLANDS DISTRICT BOARD, MR LAM WAI-KEUNG, SAID THE SCHEME WAS IMPORTANT TO THE DISTRICT, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF THE BIG INCREASE IN VISITORS ON HOLIDAYS.

"THE SITES WE RECOMMENDED ARE REMOTE AREAS WITH INFREQUENT POLICE PATROLS SO THAT AN AUTOMATIC LINK-UP TO 999 AND THE NEAREST POLICE STATION THROUGH THE HELPLINES IS ESSENTIAL IN CASE OF ACCIDENTS," MR LAM SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE HELPLINES ARE LOCATED CONSPICUOUSLY.

MR LAM THANKED THE HONG KONG TELEPHONE COMPANY FOR INITIATING SUCH A SCHEME AND HE ALSO THANKED THE RELEVANT GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS FOR EXPEDITING ITS IMPLEMENTATION.

OTHER GUESTS AT THE CEREMONY INCLUDED THE REGIONAL MANAGER (HONG KONG) OF THE HONG KONG TELEPHONE COMPANY, MR KEITH VITTY, AND THE ISLANDS DISTRICT POLICE COMMANDER, MR MIKE HARRIS, WHO MADE AN INAUGURATION CALL ON THE SPOT.

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CARCASS OF RARE FISH FOUND

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THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) IDENTIFIED THE CARCASS OF A RARE FISH FOUND FLOATING ABOUT 30 METRES OFF CHUNG HOM KOK BAY AS THAT OF A STRIPED MARLIN.

FOLLOWING A REPORT RECEIVED AT ABOUT 10 AM, THE DEPARTMENT'S FISHERIES OFFICER, DR PAUL MAK, WENT TO THE SCENE AND IDENTIFIED THE FISH AS A FEMALE ADULT STRIPED MARLIN, WEIGHING ABOUT 90 KG AND MEASURING ABOUT 2.2 METRES FROM THE TIP OF LOWER JAW TO TAIL.

EXAMINATION OF THE CARCASS SHOWED THAT THE FISH HAD BEEN DEAD FOR TWO DAYS. ITS ROUND BILL OR THE UPPER JAW HAD BEEN CUT OFF AND THERE WERE CLEAR INDICATIONS THAT THESE CUTS WERE MADE BY A VERY SHARP KNIFE.

IT BELONGS TO THE SWORD-FISH GROUP BUT THE ONLY DISTINCTION IS THAT THE SWORD-FISH HAS A FLAT UPPER JAW.

/DR MAK .....

DR MAK SAID THAT TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE BODY LENGTH OF THE FISH, THE UPPER JAW OF THIS STRIPED MARLIN SHOULD MEASURE ABOUT 4.5 METRES.

HE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THE FISH WAS RARELY CAUGHT IN HONG KONG WATERS, ITS CATCHES IN HONG KONG AMOUNTED TO SOME 300 KG IN 1986. IT WAS, HOWEVER, REGARDED AS COMMON IN THE PACIFIC OCEAN REGION.

"THIS FISH SPECIES REACHES MATURITY WHEN GROWN TO A LENGTH OF 150 CM. AN ADULT STRIPED MARLIN CAN GROW TO A MAXIMUM LENGTH OF 3.5 METRES WITH A MAXIMUM WEIGHT OF 200 KG.

"IT IS A FISH SPECIES WELL SOUGHT AFTER BY FISHERMEN IN JAPAN, KOREA, AND TAIWAN FOR ITS HIGH ECONOMICAL VALUE. IT IS POPULAR FOR USE AS JAPANESE SASHIMI," DR MAK ADDED.

AS THE CARCASS HAD BEGUN TO DECAY, IT WAS LATER REMOVED FROM CHUNG HOM KOK BY USD CARCASS COLLECTION SERVICE STAFF FOR INCINERATION.

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AUCTION OF SPECIAL CAR NUMBERS ON SATURDAY

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL HOLD ANOTHER AUCTION OF SPECIAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION NUMBERS ON SATURDAY (JUNE 25) AT 10 AM AT THE CITY HALL RECITAL HALL.

A TOTAL OF 40 SPECIAL CAR NUMBERS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR BIDDING. THEY ARE:

DS8996	DT308	DU308	DT525	DU6318
DS8088	DT332	DT328	DT6686	AU82
DT786	DW77	DS969	AS302	DU170
DT888	HK9876	DU1428	CR1881	HK770
AD938	DT280	XX8777	DU638	DT8
DT821	DT560	8996	AC133	DU398
AD3288	AS300	AC9876	AA1885	DU2823
AB58	DT9968	DU168	DT8707	AA1106

SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS MUST PAY BY CHEQUE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE BIDDING.

/A TRANSPORT .....

A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN REMINDED BIDDERS THAT THE VEHICLE REGISTRATION NUMBER WOULD BE ASSIGNED ONLY TO A VEHICLE REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF THE AUCTION.

THE CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION MUST BE PRODUCED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE AUCTION IF THE VEHICLE REGISTRATION MARK IS TO BE REGISTERED UNDER THE NAME OF A BODY CORPORATE.

PROCEEDS OF THE AUCTION WILL AS USUAL GO TO THE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES FUND.

THE COMING AUCTION WILL BE THE 126TH ORGANISED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SINCE MAY 1973.

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COURSE PARTICIPANTS WORK ON SHOW

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AN END-OF-COURSE EXHIBITION OF WORK BY PARTICIPANTS IN COURSES ORGANISED BY THE INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL BE HELD BETWEEN THURSDAY AND SATURDAY (JUNE 23 AND 25).

THE COURSES ARE THE 12TH REFRESHER COURSE FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS OF CHINESE AND ENGLISH AND THE FOURTH REFRESHER COURSE FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS OF CHINESE AND ENGLISH.

TEACHERS AND STUDENTS ARE WELCOME TO VISIT THE EXHIBITION AT THE INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION ON THE 21ST FLOOR, PARK-IN COMMERCIAL CENTRE, DUNDAS STREET, MONG KOK.

THE DISPLAY WILL INCLUDE PROTOTYPE INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS, TEACHING AIDS AND PROJECTS DESIGNED AND PRODUCED BY THE COURSE PARTICIPANTS.

THE EXHIBITION WILL BE OPEN FROM 9 AM TO 5 PM ON THURSDAY AND FRIDAY (JUNE 23 AND 24), AND FROM 9 AM TO 11 AM ON SATURDAY (JUNE 25).

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TENANCY SOUGHT FOR GOVERNMENT LAND
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A PIECE OF GOVERNMENT LAND IS BEING LET BY TENDER ON SHORT TERM TENANCY BY THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT.

THE LAND IN AREA 11, SHA TIN NEW TOWN, NEW TERRITORIES, MEASURING ABOUT 2,113 SQUARE METRES, IS FOR WORKS AREA AND STORAGE (EXCLUDING CONTAINER VEHICLES AND CONTAINER STORAGE).

THE TENANCY IS FOR ONE YEAR, RENEWABLE QUARTERLY AFTERWARDS.

TENDER FORM AND NOTICE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, SHA TIN, 2 TUNG LO WAN HILL ROAD, SHA TIN, NEW TERRITORIES, THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG AND THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES KOWLOON, 10TH FLOOR, YAU MA TEI CAR PARK BUILDING, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMITTING TENDERS IS NOON ON JULY 1.

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TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN WAN CHAI
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN WAN CHAI FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (JUNE 24) FOR ABOUT 11 WEEKS TO FACILITATE WATER MAINLAYING WORKS.

LANDALE STREET BETWEEN QUEEN'S ROAD EAST AND JOHNSTON ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND TO ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND.

IN ADDITION, ALL VEHICLES EXCEEDING FIVE METRES LONG WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THIS ROAD SECTION.

MEANWHILE, ANTON STREET BETWEEN QUEEN'S ROAD EAST AND JOHNSTON ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND TO ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND.

ALSO, ALL VEHICLES OVER SEVEN METRES LONG WILL BE BANNED FROM TURNING FROM WESTBOUND HENNESSY ROAD TO EASTBOUND JOHNSTON ROAD.

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TEMPORARY URBAN CLEARWAYS IN CAUSEWAY BAY AND NORTH POINT

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TWO EXISTING DAILY URBAN CLEARWAYS (7 AM TO 7 PM) ON LEIGHTON ROAD IN CAUSEWAY BAY WILL BE EXTENDED WESTWARDS FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (JUNE 24), THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED.

THE EXTENDED URBAN CLEARWAYS WILL BE LOCATED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

* THE NORTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF LEIGHTON ROAD FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH CANAL ROAD EAST TO A POINT ABOUT 70 METRES EAST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH PERCIVAL STREET; AND

* THE SOUTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF LEIGHTON ROAD BETWEEN HOUSE NOS. 12 AND 54.

THIS MEASURE WILL LAST FOR ABOUT ONE MONTH FOR TRAM TRACK RENEWAL WORKS.

AT THE SAME TIME, TWO ROAD SECTIONS IN NORTH POINT WILL ALSO BE DESIGNATED AS 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY URBAN CLEARWAYS FOR ROADWORKS.

THE WESTERN KERBSIDE LANE OF NORTH VIEW STREET FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH FORT STREET TO A POINT ABOUT SIX METRES NORTH OF THAT JUNCTION AND A 15-METRE STRETCH ALONG NORTH POINT ROAD SOUTH OF ITS JUNCTION WITH JAVA ROAD WILL BE MADE URBAN CLEARWAYS FOR FOUR WEEKS AND TWO MONTHS RESPECTIVELY.

NO VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS WITHIN THE RESTRICTED AREAS.

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TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS ON WATERLOO ROAD

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT IN CONNECTION WITH THE RECONSTRUCTION OF PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD FLYOVER, THE FOLLOWING TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED ON WATERLOO ROAD FROM 10 PM TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY ON THURSDAY (JUNE 23) AND FRIDAY (JUNE 24).

* ONE LANE ON WATERLOO ROAD SOUTHBOUND BETWEEN THE STARTING POINT OF PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD FLYOVER AND ARGYLE STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC.

* THE U-TURNING MOVEMENT FROM WATERLOO ROAD SOUTHBOUND ONTO WATERLOO ROAD NORTHBOUND OUTSIDE KOWLOON HOSPITAL WILL BE BANNED. AFFECTED MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED TO TRAVEL VIA WATERLOO ROAD SOUTHBOUND, PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD, SHEUNG HING STREET, PUI CHING ROAD AND WATERLOO ROAD NORTHBOUND.

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URBAN CLEARWAY RESTRICTION IN WONG TAI SIN

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TO IMPROVE ROAD SAFETY, TWO ROAD SECTIONS IN WONG TAI SIN WILL BE MADE 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY URBAN CLEARWAYS FROM 10 AM ON THURSDAY (JUNE 23), THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED.

THE TWO ROAD SECTIONS ARE:

* HAMMER HILL ROAD FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH KING TUNG STREET TO A POINT ABOUT 180 METRES WEST OF THE SAME JUNCTION.

* PING TING ROAD BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH HAMMER HILL ROAD AND A POINT ABOUT 15 METRES SOUTH OF THE SAME JUNCTION.

NO VEHICLES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP WITHIN THE URBAN CLEARWAYS FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS.

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WATER CUT IN SAN PO KONG AND HUNG HOM

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN SAN PO KONG WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 11 PM ON WEDNESDAY (JUNE 22) TO 6 AM THE NEXT DAY FOR LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY PRINCE EDWARD ROAD, SZE MEI STREET, CHOI HUNG ROAD, TAI YAU STREET, TSEUK LUK STREET, KING FUK STREET AND KING HONG STREET.

IN ADDITION, SALT WATER SUPPLY TO ALL PREMISES IN THE HUNG HOM DISTRICT WILL BE TURNED OFF ON FRIDAY (JUNE 24) FROM 4 PM TO 10 AM THE NEXT DAY FOR WATER MAINS WORK.

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