



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 1987

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DEEP BAY OYSTER BED SURVEY ANNOUNCED

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AN OYSTER BED SURVEY EXERCISE WILL BE CONDUCTED BETWEEN APRIL 28 AND MAY 1 IN THE FORESHORE OF DEEP BAY FOR A MARINE CLEARANCE LATER THIS YEAR IN CONNECTION WITH THE TIN SHUI WAI DEVELOPMENT, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE SURVEY IS TO MEASURE THE AREA OF INDIVIDUAL OYSTER BEDS UNDER ACTIVE CULTIVATION ON THE SEABED OPPOSITE MONG TSENG WHICH IS REQUIRED TO MAKE WAY FOR A MARINE TRANSPORTATION ROUTE.

THE ROUTE WILL BE USED AS A CHANNEL TO TRANSPORT DREDGED MARINE FILL FROM THE GAZETTED DEEP BAY MARINE BORROW AREA FOR LAND FORMATION OF TIN SHUI WAI.

IN PREPARATION FOR THE SURVEY, THE CHANNEL WILL BE MARKED OUT BY SATURDAY (APRIL 25) WITH BUOYS AND PLASTIC FLOATS TO PINPOINT ITS LOCATION AS WELL AS FOR OYSTER FARMERS INVOLVED WHO MIGHT BE AFFECTED BY THE CLEARANCE TO REGISTER THEIR CLAIMS.

MEASURING ABOUT 4.2 KILOMETRES IN LENGTH, THE ROUTE WILL HAVE TWO SECTIONS OF DIFFERENT WIDTHS OF 200 AND 450 METRES WITH THE NARROW END LINKED TO SHORE.

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT ABOUT 165 HECTARES OF SEABED WILL HAVE TO BE CLEARED FOR THE ROUTE.

ELIGIBLE OYSTER FARMERS AFFECTED BY THE CLEARANCE WILL BE ENTITLED TO PAYMENTS OF EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES AND THE FINDINGS OF THE SURVEY NEXT WEEK WILL FORM ONE OF THE BASES FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF THE PAYMENTS.

YUEN LONG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ALAN WONG SAID THAT IN VIEW OF THE NATURE OF THE OYSTER FARMING INDUSTRY, THE FULL CO-OPERATION OF OYSTER FARMERS CONCERNED IN IDENTIFYING THEIR INDIVIDUAL OYSTER BED IS ESSENTIAL TO ENSURE THE ACCURACY OF THE SURVEY.

+IN THIS CONNECTION, WE HAVE SOUGHT THE ASSISTANCE OF LOCAL ORGANISATIONS SUCH AS THE LAU FAU SHAN OYSTERS INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION AND THE NEW TERRITORIES OYSTER AND CRUSTACEAN UNITED ASSOCIATION TO INFORM, THROUGH THEM, THE OYSTER FARMING COMMUNITY THE PURPOSE, TIMING AND LOGISTICS OF THE SURVEY.+

NOTICES WERE POSTED ON APRIL 9 AT THE TWO ASSOCIATIONS, THE HA TSUEN AND PING SHAN RURAL COMMITTEES PREMISES AS WELL AS CONCERNED VILLAGE OFFICES TO NOTIFY ALL OYSTER FARMERS IN THE AFFECTED FORESHORE TO TAKE PART IN THE SURVEY AND TO MARK OUT THE OYSTER BED BOUNDARIES UNDER THEIR CULTIVATION.

MR WONG

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MR WONG NOTED THAT THE SURVEY WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY THIS YEAR BUT HAD BEEN POSTPONED TO THIS MONTH AFTER THE TIN HAU FESTIVAL AS SUGGESTED BY THE TWO OYSTER ASSOCIATIONS ON THE GROUNDS OF TIDAL CONDITIONS IN DEEP BAY AND THAT THE LUNAR NEW YEAR PERIOD SHOULD BE AVOIDED AS IT WAS THE HARVESTING SEASON FOR THE INDUSTRY.

HOWEVER, MR WONG STRESSED THAT THE FORTHCOMING SURVEY WOULD BE A ONE-OFF EXERCISE WHICH THE GOVERNMENT WAS DETERMINED TO CONDUCT PROMPTLY BECAUSE ANY DELAY OR SLIPPAGE OF THE TIN SHUI WAI DEVELOPMENT WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE IN VIEW OF THE TIGHT SCHEDULE OF CONTRACT AND PUBLIC FUNDS INVOLVED.

MR WONG URGED ALL OYSTER FARMERS AFFECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SURVEY, ADDING THAT THOSE WHO FAILED TO DO SO WOULD RISK FORFEITING THEIR CLAIMS FOR EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES.

MR WONG POINTED OUT THAT ONLY A SMALL PORTION OF ACTIVELY CULTIVATED OYSTER BEDS OPPOSITE MONG TSENG WOULD HAVE TO BE CLEARED TO MAKE WAY FOR THE CHANNEL, AND MOST OYSTER BEDS IN DEEP BAY WOULD NOT BE AFFECTED BY THE PROJECT.

+INNER DEEP BAY, WHICH IS INTENSELY CULTIVATED FOR OYSTERS, HAS BEEN DELIBERATELY EXCLUDED FROM THE MARINE BORROW AREA,+ HE SAID.

REGARDING THE DEEP BAY MARINE BORROW AREA, MR WONG NOTED THAT THE PROPOSAL WAS FIRST ENDORSED BY THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD IN JUNE 1985 AND SINCE THEN THERE HAD BEEN MANY DISCUSSIONS WITH THE OYSTER ASSOCIATIONS AND A WIDE RANGE OF CONSULTATION.

THE DECISION TO RECOMMEND DEEP BAY AS A MARINE BORROW AREA (HENCE THE MARINE CLEARANCE OF OYSTER BED FOR THE CHANNEL) WAS MADE AFTER PROLONGED DELIBERATION BY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS INVOLVED, HAVING CONSIDERED THAT OBTAINING THE REQUIRED QUANTITY OF FILL FROM THERE IS MORE PRACTICAL, ECONOMICAL AND ENVIRONMENTALLY ACCEPTABLE THAN OBTAINING LAND-BASED FILL OR OTHER OPTIONS.

IT WOULD ALSO AVOID PROBLEMS SUCH AS CLEARANCES, LAND RESUMPTION, NUISANCE AND FUNG SHUI ASSOCIATED WITH OBTAINING EARTH FROM LAND-BASED SOURCES, HE ADDED.

SOME 12 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF FILL WAS REQUIRED TO COVER THE FISH PONDS AND LOW LYING AREAS OF TIN SHUI WAI AS PART OF THE LAND FORMATION WORK, WHICH THE GOVERNMENT WOULD DEVELOP INTO A NEW TOWN TO INITIALLY ACCOMMODATE A POPULATION OF 146 500 IN THE 1990'S.

THE FIRST PLOT OF LAND FOR PUBLIC HOUSING IS EXPECTED TO BECOME AVAILABLE IN TIN SHUI WAI IN LATE 1988, AND THE FIRST INTAKE OF TENANTS WILL TAKE PLACE IN EARLY 1991, TO BE FOLLOWED BY PRIVATED HOUSING DEVELOPMENT.

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LOWER PENALTIES FOR SEAT BELT OFFENCES ENDORSED
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THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE TODAY (TUESDAY) ENDORSED DRAFTING GUIDELINES TO LOWER THE PENALTIES FOR DRIVERS OF PRIVATE CARS, TAXIS AND LIGHT BUSES IN RESPECT OF THEIR VICARIOUS LIABILITY SHOULD A FRONT SEAT PASSENGER FAIL TO WEAR A SEAT BELT.

MEMBERS NOTED THAT UNDER THE EXISTING LEGISLATION, BOTH THE DRIVER AND THE FRONT SEAT PASSENGER IN PRIVATE CARS ARE LIABLE TO PROSECUTION WHEN THE LATTER FAILS TO WEAR A SEAT BELT.

THE PRESENT PENALTIES ARE A FIXED PENALTY OF \$140, OR A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$5 000 AND THREE MONTHS IMPRISONMENT IF PROSECUTIONS ARE BY WAY OF SUMMONS.

AT THE MEETING IN SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR, TAC MEMBERS ACCEPTED THE EXTENSION OF VICARIOUS LIABILITY TO DRIVERS OF TAXIS AND LIGHT BUSES FOR THEIR FRONT SEAT PASSENGERS' FAILURE TO WEAR A SEAT BELT AS THESE TWO GROUPS OF DRIVERS HAVE UNDER THE PRESENT LAW - REGULATION 45 (1) (D) OF THE ROAD TRAFFIC (PUBLIC SERVICE VEHICLES) REGULATIONS - A BASIC RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PASSENGERS RIDING IN THE VEHICLES.

HOWEVER, THEY ADVISED THAT A LOWER PENALTY SHOULD APPLY TO THE DRIVERS.

FOLLOWING DISCUSSION BY THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT, TRANSPORT BRANCH, TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT AND THE POLICE, IT WAS AGREED THAT AS THE VICARIOUS LIABILITY OF PRIVATE CAR DRIVERS AND DRIVERS OF TAXIS AND LIGHT BUSES IN RESPECT OF A PASSENGER'S FAILURE TO WEAR A SEAT BELT WAS ESSENTIALLY THE SAME, THE SAME PENALTY SHOULD APPLY.

TAC NOW ENDORSED DRAFTING GUIDELINES FOR A UNIFORM AND REDUCED PENALTY FOR THE THREE GROUPS OF DRIVERS, WHICH WILL BE A FIXED PENALTY OF \$100 OR A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$2 000 ON PROSECUTION BY SUMMONS IN VIEW OF THE HARDSHIP THAT MAY BE FACED BY DRIVERS OF TAXIS AND PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES.

MEMBERS ALSO DECIDED THAT THE DEFENCE OF +REASONABLE EXCUSE+ PROPOSED FOR DRIVERS OF TAXIS AND LIGHT BUSES FOR THE FAILURE OF THEIR FRONT SEAT PASSENGERS TO WEAR A SEAT BELT SHOULD BE EXTENDED TO DRIVERS OF PRIVATE CARS IF THEY WISHED TO CONTEST A SUMMONS.

AT THE MOMENT, THIS IS AN OFFENCE WITH STRICT LIABILITY UNDER THE LAW.

NOTICES IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE STATING THE LEGAL REQUIREMENT FOR FRONT SEAT PASSENGERS TO WEAR A SEAT BELT WOULD BE DISPLAYED IN TAXIS AND LIGHT BUSES. NOTICES IN JAPANESE WOULD ALSO BE DISPLAYED IN TAXIS.

/MEMBERS WILL

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MEMBERS WILL CONSIDER THE ISSUE AGAIN WHEN THE DRAFT LEGISLATION IS READY.

AT THE MEETING TODAY, TAC MEMBERS ALSO EXAMINED THE FIRST REPORT OF THE TAC SUB-COMMITTEE TO REVIEW THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN (1987-1991) OF THE KOWLOON MOTOR BUS COMPANY.

MEMBERS ENDORSED THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE IN RESPECT OF THE ROUTE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME, FLEET REQUIREMENT AND DEPOT PROGRAMME IN KMB'S FIVE-YEAR PLAN.

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PRIVATE SECTOR URGED TO +ADOPT+ PUBLIC PLACES
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THE PRIVATE SECTOR HAS BEEN URGED TO SUPPORT THE KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN BY +ADOPTING+ THEIR SURROUNDING PUBLIC PLACES.

THE APPEAL WAS MADE BY THE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT URBAN COUNCIL/REGIONAL COUNCIL KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN STEERING COMMITTEE, MR WALTER SULKE, AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF KOWLOON EAST TODAY (TUESDAY).

MR SULKE EXPLAINED THAT A CORPORATION OR AN ORGANISATION COULD +ADOPT+ PUBLIC PLACES BY TAKING UP THE CLEANSING RESPONSIBILITY OF A SURROUNDING AREA, BOTH PHYSICALLY AND FINANCIALLY.

+ONE OF THE COMMON FEATURES OF THE CAMPAIGNS IN THE UNITED STATES, AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND IS THAT CORPORATIONS AND SCHOOLS ADOPT A CITY SQUARE, A PARK OR A BEACH AND THEY THEN ACTUALLY PHYSICALLY GO AND CLEAN IT,+ HE SAID.

MR SULKE HOPED THAT WITH THE FULL SUPPORT OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR, THIS PRACTICE COULD START TAKING PLACE IN HONG KONG.

THE STEERING COMMITTEE HAS TAKEN THE FIRST STEP TO ACCOMPLISH THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF REAL PARTICIPATION AND REAL INVESTMENT FROM THE WHOLE COMMUNITY BY OPENING THE COMMITTEE TO THREE NEW MEMBERS.

TWO OF THEM ARE CONNECTED WITH GROUPS THAT ARE POTENTIAL SOURCE OF LITTERER AND THE THIRD NEW MEMBER IS AN EDUCATIONALIST.

+IN TERMS OF INVOLVEMENT, WE ARE LOOKING MAINLY TO YOUTH, BECAUSE THEY HAVE THE ENTHUSIASM AND OPENNESS TO NEW IDEAS, AND TO THE COMMERCIAL SECTOR, BECAUSE THEY HAVE THE MUSCLE AND INFLUENCE.

/+THIS IS

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+THIS IS THE FIRST TIME IN HONG KONG THAT CAMPAIGN POLICY AND DECISION-MAKING HAS TO A DEGREE BEEN TAKEN OUT OF THE HANDS OF OFFICIAL BODIES,+ MR SULKE SAID.

+I HOPE THAT IN THE NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE WE CAN STEP ASIDE AND TURN OVER THE CAMPAIGN TO THE PUBLIC,+ HE ADDED.

HE EMPHASISED THAT THE MOST EFFECTIVE CAMPAIGNS IN OTHER PLACES OF THE WORLD WERE INITIATED, LED AND FINANCED NOT BY GOVERNMENTS, BUT BY A BROAD CROSS SECTION OF THE SOCIETY.

IN HONG KONG, THE CLEANSING WORK IN ONE OF THE SQUATTER VILLAGES WAS A GOOD EXAMPLE. MR SULKE REVEALED THAT SINCE THE CLEANSING RESPONSIBILITY OF THAT VILLAGE WAS TRANSFERRED FROM THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO THE MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE, THERE HAD BEEN CONSIDERABLE IMPROVEMENTS IN THE CLEANLINESS.

THIS WAS UNDERSTANDABLE BECAUSE IF PEOPLE HAD TO CLEAN UP THE MESS THEMSELVES, THEY WOULD NOT LITTER IN THE FIRST PLACE, MR SULKE ADDED.

CITING HONOLULU, HAWAII AS AN EXAMPLE, HE SAID THAT THE CAMPAIGN WAS RUN BY THE GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON LITTER CONTROL. THE COMMITTEE WAS CHAIRED BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE LITTER-PRODUCING INDUSTRIES ON A ROTATION BASIS.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE CAME FROM RELEVANT GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, HAWAII VISITORS BUREAU, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, SCOUTING AND OTHER YOUTH GROUPS, THE MILITARY, PUBLIC RELATIONS FIRMS, FAST FOOD, SNACK AND BEVERAGE ASSOCIATIONS, LABOUR UNIONS, RETAIL GASOLINE DEALERS AND EVEN REFUSE COLLECTION ASSOCIATIONS.

HE SAID THAT IN HONOLULU, WHICH RESEMBLED HONG KONG FOR BEING A TOURIST CENTRE WITH A MAJORITY POPULATION OF ASIAN, LITTER HAD BEEN REDUCED BY 40 PER CENT SINCE 1977.

THE SUCCESS OF THE CAMPAIGN IN 10 YEARS' TIME INDICATED THAT WHEN PEOPLE WERE GIVEN A SENSE OF BELONGING TO A GROUP, OF BEING PART OF THE LAND, THEY WOULD FEEL A SHARE OF RESPONSIBILITY IN SOLVING SOCIAL PROBLEMS.

MR SULKE ANTICIPATED THAT THE URBAN COUNCIL AND REGIONAL COUNCIL WOULD SPEND ABOUT \$500 MILLION ON CLEANSING SERVICES THIS YEAR.

HOWEVER, IF LITTER COULD BE REDUCED ON THE SAME SCALE AS IN OTHER PLACES OF THE WORLD, HONG KONG RATEPAYERS WOULD SAVE A LARGE PART OF THE CLEANSING EXPENDITURE AMOUNTING TO ABOUT ONE THIRD OF THE \$500 MILLION.

/MR SULKE

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MR SULKE SAID THIS YEAR'S KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN, UNLIKE PREVIOUS CAMPAIGNS WHICH EMPHASISED +BIG BROTHER WATCHING YOU+, WOULD APPEAL TO EVERYONE'S BETTER NATURE.

+THIS TIME WE ARE GOING TO TRY AND CHARM OUR FELLOW CITIZENS INTO SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR,+ HE ADDED.

BEFORE CONCLUDING HIS SPEECH, MR SULKE REITERATED THAT SUPPORT FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR COULD BE THE CATALYST TO PUT THIS CAMPAIGN INTO THE HANDS OF ALL HONG KONG PEOPLE.

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REVISION OF MONETARY STATISTICS PUBLISHED

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THE MONETARY AFFAIRS BRANCH TODAY (TUESDAY) PUBLISHED REVISED FIGURES FOR FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS IN THE MONETARY STATISTICS COVERING THE PERIOD JULY 1982 TO FEBRUARY 1987.

THE REVISION OF THE FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSIT FIGURES WAS NECESSARY BECAUSE, IN THE MONTHLY MONETARY STATISTICS RETURNS AND OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS, A NUMBER OF DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES MIS-CLASSIFIED THE FOREIGN CURRENCY NOTES AND BONDS THEY ISSUED IN OVERSEAS MARKETS AS CUSTOMER DEPOSITS.

AS A RESULT OF THESE REVISIONS, CHANGES WERE ALSO REQUIRED IN OTHER RELATED FIGURES INCLUDING TOTAL DEPOSITS AND TOTAL MONEY SUPPLY M3 FOR THE PERIOD IN QUESTION.

A SPOKESMAN FROM THE MONETARY AFFAIRS BRANCH POINTED OUT THAT THE REVISED FIGURES REPRESENTED ONLY SMALL ADJUSTMENTS TO THE ORIGINAL FIGURES AND THAT THERE WAS NO MAJOR CHANGE IN THE GENERAL PATTERN OF GROWTH IN FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS ARISING FROM THESE REVISIONS.

FOR EXAMPLE, REVISED TOTAL FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS FOR ALL DEPOSIT-TAKING INSTITUTIONS, AS AT THE END OF 1986, ARE ADJUSTED DOWNWARDS BY \$11.9 BILLION, REPRESENTING A DECREASE OF 3.7 PER CENT FROM THE ORIGINAL FIGURE OF \$317.4 BILLION; THE ANNUAL GROWTH RATES OF THESE DEPOSITS FOR THE YEARS 1984, 1985 AND 1986 ARE REVISED FROM 26.2 PER CENT, 35.2 PER CENT AND 34.0 PER CENT TO 20.2 PER CENT, 35.2 PER CENT AND 39.7 PER CENT, RESPECTIVELY.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE MIS-CLASSIFICATION HAS BEEN CORRECTED AND THAT, AS FROM THE NEXT REGULAR RELEASE OF THE MONTHLY MONETARY STATISTICS -- AT THE END OF APRIL FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH -- THE REVISED FIGURES AND SERIES OF FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS OF DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES WOULD BE USED.

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UN CHIEF TO BE BRIEFED ON DRUGS SITUATION

THE SECRETARY FOR THE INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD (INCB) OF THE UNITED NATIONS, MR ABDELAZIZ BAH, WHO IS IN HONG KONG FOR A FIVE-DAY VISIT WILL BE BRIEFED ON HONG KONG'S DRUGS SITUATION AND THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUGS.

COMMENTING ON HIS VISIT HERE, MR BAH SAID THE INCB, IN CARRYING OUT ITS RESPONSIBILITIES, HAD TO ACT IN CO-OPERATION WITH GOVERNMENTS AND MAINTAIN DIALOGUES WITH THEM.

+SUCH DIALOGUES, + HE SAID, +ARE PURSUED THROUGH REGULAR CONSULTATIONS AND SOMETIMES THROUGH SPECIAL MISSIONS ARRANGED IN AGREEMENT WITH THE GOVERNMENT CONCERNED.+

DURING HIS STAY, MR BAH WILL MEET THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MR DAVID JEAFFRESON, THE COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR GARRY MULLOY AND THE ACTING CHIEF STAFF OFFICER OF THE POLICE NARCOTICS BUREAU, MR YIP KWOK-KEUNG.

HE WILL ALSO VISIT THE CUSTOMS INVESTIGATION BUREAU, THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S HEI LING CHAU DRUG ADDICTION TREATMENT CENTRE, THE VIOLET PEEL METHADONE CLINIC OPERATED BY THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND THE SHEK KWU CHAU TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION CENTRE RUN BY THE SOCIETY FOR THE AID AND REHABILITATION OF DRUG ABUSERS.

MR BAH ARRIVED FROM THAILAND ON MONDAY AND WILL LEAVE FOR BEIJING ON FRIDAY (APRIL 24).

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INVITATION TO JOIN ABERDEEN DRAGON BOAT RACES

BUSINESS FIRMS, FACTORIES, REGISTERED ASSOCIATIONS AND RESIDENTS ARE BEING INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DRAGON BOAT RACES IN ABERDEEN ON MAY 31 TO CELEBRATE THE TUEN NG FESTIVAL.

THE DEADLINE FOR ENTRY IS MONDAY (APRIL 27) AND NO ENTRY FEE IS REQUIRED FOR THE PARTICIPATING TEAMS.

AN ABERDEEN DRAGON BOAT RACES ORGANISING COMMITTEE HAS BEEN FORMED TO CO-ORDINATE THE EVENT WHICH WILL LAST FROM 9 AM TO 5 PM ALONG A 330-METRE CHANNEL OFF THE ABERDEEN WATERFRONT.

THE RACES WILL BE DIVIDED INTO MEN'S INVITATION, MEN'S OPEN AND LADIES' OPEN SECTIONS. EACH TEAM SHOULD CONSIST OF NOT MORE THAN 22 MEMBERS INCLUDING THE DRUMMER AND A LEADER.

A SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE SPOKESMAN URGED LOCAL ORGANISATIONS TO GIVE FULL SUPPORT TO THE RACES WHICH HAVE A LONG TRADITION IN ABERDEEN.

HE SAID LETTERS HAVE BEEN SENT TO ORGANISATIONS TO INVITE THEIR PARTICIPATION AND ENTRY FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE AND SUB-OFFICES IN ABERDEEN CENTRE, WAH FU AND STANLEY.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE TO THE DISTRICT OFFICE ON 5-540271.

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LORRY DRIVERS TO LEARN CONTAINER PORT DEVELOPMENT

KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICER, MR BRIAN COAK, WILL CHAIR A BRIEFING SESSION FOR CONTAINER LORRY DRIVERS ON THURSDAY (APRIL 23) ON DEVELOPMENT OF THE CONTAINER PORT AND ITS FACILITIES.

THE BRIEFING WILL BE HELD AT 7 PM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICE, 10TH FLOOR, KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 166-174, HING FONG ROAD, KWAI CHUNG. SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION SERVICES WILL BE PROVIDED.

MEMBERS OF THE CONTAINER TRANSPORTATION EMPLOYEE'S GENERAL UNION, HONG KONG CONTAINER TRACTOR OWNERS ASSOCIATION, AND THE HONG KONG STOREHOUSES AND TRANSPORTATION STAFF ASSOCIATION ARE BEING INVITED TO ATTEND. INDEPENDENT CONTAINER LORRY DRIVERS AND LORRY SERVICE OPERATORS ARE ALSO INVITED TO TAKE PART.

DURING THE SESSION, REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT AND THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT WILL BE PRESENT TO PROVIDE PARTICIPANTS WITH INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUTURE LAND USES, BACK-UP AREAS AND RELATED ROAD WORKS. THE MANAGEMENT OF MODERN TERMINALS LTD WILL ALSO MAKE A PRESENTATION.

A QUESTION-AND-ANSWER SESSION WILL FOLLOW TO ALLOW PARTICIPANTS TO MAKE ENQUIRIES AND SUGGESTIONS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE BRIEFING SESSION FOR CONTAINER LORRY DRIVERS TO BE HELD AT 7 PM ON THURSDAY (APRIL 23) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICE, 10TH FLOOR, KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 166-174, HING FONG ROAD, KWAI CHUNG, NEXT TO KWAI HING MTR STATION.

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FORTY-FOUR WSD OFFICERS RETIRE

FORTY-FOUR RETIRING OFFICERS OF THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT WERE HONOURED TODAY (TUESDAY) UPON THEIR RETIREMENT.

THEY WERE PRESENTED WITH LONG SERVICE CERTIFICATES BY THE DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES, MR TOM TOMLINSON, AT A CEREMONY HELD AT THE THEATRE HALL, CIVIL AID SERVICES.

THOSE RETIRING OFFICERS INCLUDED COMMUNICATIONS CONTROLLERS, ARTISANS, MOTOR DRIVERS AND WORKMEN.

AMONG THEM, THREE OFFICERS HAD SERVED MORE THAN 39 YEARS WHILE MOST OF THE OTHERS HAD AT LEAST 25 YEARS OF SERVICE.

SPORTS TROPHIES WERE ALSO AWARDED AT THE CEREMONY TO WINNERS OF DEPARTMENTAL SPORTS COMPETITIONS.

ONE MORE WEEK FOR EMPLOYER'S RETURNS
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EMPLOYERS ARE REMINDED TODAY (TUESDAY) TO SUBMIT THE COMPLETED EMPLOYER'S RETURN OF REMUNERATION AND PENSIONS TO THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT BEFORE THE END OF THE MONTH.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR INLAND REVENUE, MR A.K. GILL, SAID THAT MORE THAN 72 000 RETURNS FOR 1986-87 HAD BEEN ISSUED TO EMPLOYERS ON APRIL 1, 1987.

+FAILURE TO SUBMIT COMPLETED RETURNS BEFORE APRIL 30 IS AN OFFENCE AND MAY RESULT IN THE IMPOSITION OF PENALTIES,+ HE SAID.

+MAKING AN INCORRECT OR FALSE RETURN WITH A FRAUDULENT INTENT TO EVADE TAX, OR TO ASSIST ANY OTHER PERSON TO DO SO, IS ALSO AN OFFENCE. ON CONVICTION, AN OFFENDER SHALL BE LIABLE TO HEAVY PENALTY, THE MAXIMUM BEING IMPRISONMENT FOR THREE YEARS AND A FURTHER FINE OF TREBLE THE AMOUNT OF TAX UNDERCHARGED. THE COURT OF APPEAL OF THE HIGH COURT HAS RECENTLY WARNED THAT, ON CONVICTION, THE DEFENDANT SHALL BE LIABLE TO IMMEDIATE CUSTODIAL SENTENCE.

+IT IS THE EMPLOYER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO GIVE NOTICE IN WRITING OF THE COMMENCEMENT OR CESSATION OF ANY EMPLOYMENT, OR THE DEPARTURE FROM HONG KONG, OF ANY EMPLOYEE, WHO IS OR IS LIKELY TO BE CHARGEABLE TO SALARIES TAX,+ HE ADDED.

MR GILL REITERATED THAT UNDER THE INLAND REVENUE ORDINANCE, ANYONE WHO FAILED TO COMPLY WITH THE ABOVE REQUIREMENTS WAS LIABLE TO HEAVY PENALTIES.

ANY EMPLOYER WHO HAS NOT YET RECEIVED THE RETURNS FORMS OR WHO HAS ANY ENQUIRY ARE ADVISED TO TELEPHONE 5-8942030 OR WRITE TO G.P.O. BOX 132, HONG KONG.

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INTERMEDIATE COURSE ON PUTONGHUA FOR JOURNALISTS
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THE JOURNALISM TRAINING BOARD OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL IS INVITING JOURNALISTS TO APPLY FOR A COURSE ON INTERMEDIATE PUTONGHUA.

THE 48-HOUR COURSE IS CONDUCTED BY THE CITY POLYTECHNIC OF HONG KONG AND WILL RUN FROM JUNE 8 TO JULY 15 EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY MORNING.

COURSE FEE IS \$1 450. BUT UNDER THE BOARD'S SUBSIDISED TRAINING SCHEME, A COURSE PARTICIPANT PAYS \$150 ONLY.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION IS MAY 22.

ENQUIRIES ON COURSE DETAILS AND APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE SECRETARY OF THE BOARD ON 5-8932341 EXT. 283.

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BONSAI SHOW IN TUEN MUN
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THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TUEN MUN 1987 BONSAI SHOW WORKING COMMITTEE, THE REV HAU PO-WOON WILL GIVE A PRESS CONFERENCE AT 11 AM ON THURSDAY (APRIL 23) IN THE WAN SHUI TONG IN CHING CHUNG KOON TO ANNOUNCE DETAILS OF THE EXHIBITION.

ALSO ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE WILL BE THE CO-ORDINATOR OF THE COMMITTEE, MR HO HUI-WING, AND THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER (TUEN MUN), MR EDWARD YAU.

THE ANNUAL EXHIBITION, WHICH FEATURES HUNDREDS OF RARE AND EXOTIC POTTED AND FLOWER PLANTS, IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE TAOIST CHING CHUNG KOON MONASTERY, THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE AND VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, AND SPONSORED BY THE HONG KONG TOURISTS ASSOCIATION, YAU MA TEI FERRY CO LTD, AND KOWLOON MOTOR BUS CO LTD.

IT WILL BE HELD IN THE MONASTERY FROM APRIL 25 TO MAY 4.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CONFERENCE.

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LAND AND BUILDING COMMITTEE MEETING
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THE CHAIRMAN OF THE LAND AND BUILDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE, MR CHENG HON-KWAN, WILL HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE ON THURSDAY (APRIL 23) AT 2.30 PM AT THE GIS PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM, FIFTH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, TO BRIEF THE MEDIA ON THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MORNING.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

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NIGHT CLOSURE OF PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD FLYOVER

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THE PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD FLYOVER WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AND APRIL 23 FROM 10 PM TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR RECONSTRUCTION.

DURING THE CLOSURE, VEHICLES ON WATERLOO ROAD SOUTHBOUND HEADING FOR PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD SOUTHBOUND WILL BE DIVERTED VIA GROUND LEVEL WATERLOO ROAD AND PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD.

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WATER CUT IN TSIM SHA TSUI AND LANTAU

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN TSIM SHA TSUI AND LANTAU ISLAND WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR SEVERAL HOURS BETWEEN THURSDAY (APRIL 23) AND FRIDAY FOR MAINS WORK.

IN TSIM SHA TSUI, SUPPLY WILL BE SUSPENDED AT 11 PM ON THURSDAY TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT AREA BOUNDED BY NATHAN ROAD, PEKING ROAD, HAIPHONG ROAD, AUSTIN ROAD, AND CANTON ROAD, INCLUDING LOCK ROAD, ASHLEY ROAD, HANKOW ROAD, KOWLOON PARK DRIVE AND ICHANG STREET.

ON LANTAU ISLAND, SUPPLY WILL BE STOPPED FROM 8 AM TO 5 PM ON THURSDAY.

AFFECTED PREMISES INCLUDE SHUI HAU VILLAGE, TONG FUK CENTRE, MA PO PING PRISON AND TONG FUK VILLAGE IN TONG FUK; ALL PREMISES IN CHEUNG SHA EXCLUDING SOUTH LANTAU HOSPITAL; ALL PREMISES IN PUI O INCLUDING LO UK TSUEN, PUI O SUN TSUEN, PUI O KAU TSUEN AND HAM TIN AND SHEK PIK PRISON.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (TUESDAY) STOOD AT 52 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 304.989 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 257.429 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 43.9 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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