



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 1982

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PLAN FOR LEGAL AID TO COVER APPEALS TO PRIVY COUNCIL

THE LEGAL AID SCHEMES WILL BE EXPANDED TO COVER APPEALS TO THE PRIVY COUNCIL UNDER AN AMENDMENT BILL PUBLISHED TODAY.

IF THIS LEGAL AID (AMENDMENT) BILL 1982 RECEIVES THE APPROVAL OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, LITIGANTS IN CIVIL PROCEEDINGS MAY BE GIVEN LEGAL AID TO APPEAL, APPLY FOR LEAVE TO APPEAL, AND TO OPPOSE SUCH APPEALS OR APPLICATIONS.

ANOTHER LEGISLATIVE CHANGE WILL BE PROPOSED, IF THE BILL IS PASSED, TO EXTEND LEGAL AID TO SIMILAR APPEALS IN CRIMINAL CASES.

A LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT THE CHIEF JUSTICE, ATTORNEY GENERAL, HONG KONG BAR ASSOCIATION AND THE LAW SOCIETY OF HONG KONG HAD GIVEN THEIR STRONG SUPPORT TO THESE LATEST PROPOSALS TO IMPROVE THE LEGAL AID SCHEME.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT UNDER THE PROPOSED NEW SCHEME AID WOULD BE GIVEN ONLY WHERE AN APPLICANT CAME WITHIN THE LEGAL AID MEANS TEST LIMITS. IN ADDITION THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AID WOULD NEED TO BE SATISFIED BEFORE GRANTING LEGAL AID THAT THERE EXISTED IN LAW REASONABLE GROUNDS FOR APPEALING OR FOR OPPOSING AN APPEAL OR APPLICATION FOR LEAVE TO APPEAL, AS THE CASE MIGHT BE.

HE ADDED THAT, IN LINE WITH PAST DECISIONS OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL ON APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE TO APPEAL AND APPEALS, IT WAS ONLY APPROPRIATE TO APPEAL TO THAT BODY IN EXCEPTIONAL CASES OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE OR GRAVITY WHERE SERIOUS INJUSTICE MIGHT OTHERWISE RESULT. LEGAL AID WOULD ONLY THEREFORE BE GIVEN FOR SUCH APPLICATIONS AND APPEALS MEETING THIS CRITERION.

A THREE-MEMBER COMMITTEE OF REVIEW CHAIRED BY THE REGISTRAR OF THE SUPREME COURT AND ASSISTED BY A SENIOR BARRISTER AND A SENIOR SOLICITOR WILL HEAR APPEALS FROM APPLICANTS OR AIDED PERSONS WHO WISH TO DISPUTE THE DECISIONS OF THE DIRECTOR IN RELATION TO THE REFUSAL OF LEGAL AID IN PRIVY COUNCIL MATTERS.

IF THE BILL IS ENACTED, REGULATIONS WILL BE INTRODUCED AT THE SAME TIME TO ENABLE THE DIRECTOR TO DETERMINE THE APPROPRIATE FEES TO BE PAID TO COUNSEL OR SOLICITORS FOR THEIR WRITTEN OPINIONS, CERTIFICATES OR REPORTS ON THE MERITS OF APPLICATIONS FOR LEGAL AID.

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POSTAGE RATE INCREASE

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THE POST OFFICE ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT BECAUSE OF RISING COSTS, POSTAGE RATES FOR INLAND LETTER AND PRINTED PAPER SERVICES WILL BE INCREASED FROM JULY 1 THIS YEAR.

THE NEW RATES FOR BOTH CATEGORIES OF INLAND MAILS WILL BE 30 CENTS AT THE BASIC WEIGHT LEVELS, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 10 CENTS.

AT THE UPPER WEIGHT LEVELS, THE INCREASES WILL BE COMPARATIVELY LESS. FOR LETTERS AND POSTCARDS WEIGHING ONE KILOGRAM, FOR EXAMPLE, THE NEW RATE WILL BE \$5 INSTEAD OF \$4, AND FOR PRINTED PAPERS OF THE SAME WEIGHT \$2 AS AGAINST THE EXISTING RATE OF \$1.70.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE POST OFFICE POINTED OUT THAT CURRENT INLAND LETTER RATES HAD REMAINED UNCHANGED SINCE 1975, AND THOSE FOR PRINTED PAPER ITEMS SINCE 1978.

THE HIGHER RATES WERE FORESHADOWED IN THE BUDGET LAST YEAR WHEN THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY REFERRED TO MARKED LOSSES ON THE INLAND SERVICE AND WARNED THAT THE RATES COULD NOT REMAIN AT THEIR CURRENT LEVELS MUCH LONGER.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE NEW RATES WOULD STILL BE RELATIVELY CHEAPER COMPARED WITH THOSE IN SOME COUNTRIES IN THE REGION.

MOREOVER, HE SAID, A REBATE SCHEME WOULD BE INTRODUCED WHICH WILL BRING SOME RELIEF TO POSTERS OF BULK QUANTITIES OF PRINTED PAPER ITEMS.

UNDER THE SCHEME, ANYONE POSTING 3 000 OR MORE PRINTED PAPER ITEMS AT ANY ONE TIME WILL ENJOY A DISCOUNT OF 10 PER CENT ON THE TOTAL POSTAGE PAID IN RETURN FOR A DEGREE OF PRE-SORTING BY THE SENDER.

ALSO FROM JULY 1, THE CHARGES FOR THE RE-DIRECTION OF MAIL SERVICE WILL ALSO BE REVISED TO COVER THE INCREASED COST OF OPERATING THIS SERVICE.

NO CHANGE WILL BE MADE IN THE CHARGE (\$60) WHICH A PRIVATE USER OF THE SERVICE HAS TO PAY, BUT BUSINESSES, WHICH ARE THE MAIN USERS OF THE SERVICE, WILL HAVE TO PAY \$120 FOR EACH 12-MONTH PERIOD AFTER THE EXPIRY OF THE FIRST THREE-MONTH FREE PERIOD.

THE SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT THE AVERAGE AMOUNT OF MAIL RE-DIRECTED FROM A BUSINESS ADDRESS IS MORE THAN DOUBLE THAT FROM A RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.

/FOLLOWING IS

FOLLOWING IS A COMPARATIVE TABLE LISTING THE NEW RATES:

<u>WEIGHT NOT OVER</u>	<u>LETTERS AND POSTCARDS</u>		<u>PRINTED PAPERS</u>	
	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>REVISED</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>REVISED</u>
30 G	20 CENTS	30 CENTS	20 CENTS	30 CENTS
50 G	40 CENTS	60 CENTS	20 CENTS	30 CENTS
100 G	50 CENTS	80 CENTS	30 CENTS	50 CENTS
250 G	\$1.00	\$1.30	50 CENTS	80 CENTS
500 G	\$2.00	\$2.50	\$1.00	\$1.30
1 KG	\$4.00	\$5.00	\$1.70	\$2.00
2 KG	\$6.00	\$7.50	-	-

RE-DIRECTION OF MAIL SERVICE

	<u>BUSINESS USERS</u>	<u>PRIVATE USERS</u>
FOR THE FIRST 3 MONTHS	FREE	FREE
FOR EACH SUCCEEDING PERIOD OF TWELVE MONTHS	\$120	\$60

DEFINITION OF BUSINESS ADDRESS:

A BUSINESS ADDRESSEE IS REGARDED AS AN APPLICANT FOR RE-DIRECTION OF MAIL FROM AN ADDRESS, OR FROM A PRIVATE BOX OR BAG SERVICE ASSOCIATED WITH AN ADDRESS, AT WHICH BUSINESS IS CARRIED ON FOR A PROFIT.

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POLICE FORCE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1982

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A BILL TO AMEND THE POLICE FORCE ORDINANCE WITH REGARD TO DISCIPLINARY MATTERS IS PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY.

THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION IS TO IMPROVE AND SIMPLIFY THE LAW GOVERNING THE DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES AND AWARDS OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE. IT ALSO SEEKS TO BRING THESE PROCEDURES AND AWARDS WITH REGARD TO INSPECTORS AND JUNIOR POLICE OFFICERS MORE CLOSELY INTO LINE AND TO RENDER THEM MORE CONSISTENT WITH THOSE APPLICABLE TO THE REST OF THE CIVIL SERVICE.

THE POLICE FORCE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1982 IS THE RESULT OF A REVIEW OF THE ORDINANCE AND THE POLICE (DISCIPLINE) REGULATIONS INITIATED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE. IT TOOK INTO ACCOUNT VARIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE AND THE UMELCO POLICE GROUP, IN PARTICULAR THE LATTER'S RECOMMENDATION TO THE GOVERNOR IN 1980 THAT A MEANS OF ENFORCING THE RETIREMENT OF OFFICERS FOUND TO BE MANIFESTLY UNFIT TO CONTINUE TO SERVE IN THE FORCE SHOULD BE PROVIDED.

THE EXISTING POLICE (DISCIPLINE) REGULATIONS WERE MADE IN 1977.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE IN ADMINISTERING POLICE DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES HAD INDICATED THAT THERE WERE A NUMBER OF AREAS WHERE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE LAW WERE REQUIRED, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO THE IMPOSITION OF PUNISHMENTS AND THE APPEAL PROCESS.

WHERE A POLICE OFFICER IS CONVICTED OF AN OFFENCE NOT PUNISHABLE BY IMPRISONMENT, OR IS FOUND GUILTY WITHOUT A CONVICTION BEING RECORDED, IT IS NECESSARY AT PRESENT FOR A FURTHER CHARGE TO BE BROUGHT UNDER THE REGULATIONS BEFORE DISCIPLINARY ACTION CAN BE TAKEN.

AS THIS PROCEDURE IS UNNECESSARILY CUMBERSOME AND REPETITIVE, THE BILL SEEKS TO PERMIT A DISCIPLINARY PUNISHMENT TO BE AWARDED WITHOUT FURTHER PROCEEDINGS WHERE A CRIMINAL CHARGE HAS BEEN PROVED BY THE COURT, WHETHER A CONVICTION IS RECORDED OR NOT.

THIS PROVISION IS ALREADY INCLUDED IN COLONIAL REGULATIONS.

CONVICTED POLICE OFFICERS CAN BE DISCIPLINED IN A VARIETY OF WAYS AT PRESENT, RANGING FROM MINOR PUNISHMENTS TO DISMISSAL. IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE INTERMEDIARY PUNISHMENT OF COMPULSORY RETIREMENT, WITH OR WITHOUT A REDUCTION OF TERMINAL BENEFITS, BE INTRODUCED TO GIVE THE AUTHORITIES GREATER FLEXIBILITY IN DEALING WITH INDIVIDUAL CASES. THIS POWER WAS RECENTLY ADDED TO THE FIRE SERVICES ORDINANCE.

/ANOTHER PROPOSED

ANOTHER PROPOSED AMENDMENT WHICH WILL BRING THE POLICE INTO LINE WITH OTHER DISCIPLINED SERVICES PROVIDES THAT A POLICE OFFICER AGAINST WHOM A CRIMINAL CHARGE FOR ANY OFFENCE OUTSIDE HONG KONG IS PROVED WILL BE TREATED IN THE SAME WAY AS IF IT WERE PROVED IN HONG KONG. THIS PROVISION ALREADY EXISTS IN THE PRISONS ORDINANCE AND THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICE ORDINANCE.

AT PRESENT A NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER OR CONSTABLE MAY RESIGN FROM THE FORCE BY GIVING ONE MONTH'S NOTICE OR PAYING ONE MONTH'S SALARY IN LIEU OF NOTICE. AN INSPECTOR MAY RESIGN BY GIVING THREE MONTHS' NOTICE OR PAYING ONE MONTH'S SALARY IN LIEU.

IT IS PROPOSED IN THE BILL THAT THE COMMISSIONER SHOULD BE GIVEN THE DISCRETION TO WAIVE OR REDUCE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR AN INSPECTOR OR JUNIOR POLICE OFFICER TO SERVE OUT A PERIOD OF NOTICE OR PAY A FULL MONTH'S SALARY.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID AN OFFICER COULD BE RELEASED AT ONCE ON COMPASSIONATE GROUNDS OR WHERE REQUIRING HIM TO SERVE OUT HIS PERIOD OF NOTICE WOULD SERVE NO USEFUL PURPOSE, SUCH AS IN THE CASE OF AN OFFICER WHO HAD NOT COMPLETED BASIC TRAINING.

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HOLIDAY WATER HOURS

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WATER RESTRICTIONS WILL BE RELAXED DURING THE LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS, A PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN REMINDED THE PUBLIC TODAY.

+TAPS WILL BE TURNED ON FROM 6 AM ON SUNDAY, WHICH IS LUNAR NEW YEAR'S EVE, TO 10 AM ON THURSDAY (JANUARY 28), + THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT WATER ENGINEER, MR TOM TOMLINSON SAID TODAY.

HE SAID THIS WAS POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF THE ALMOST 20 PER CENT SAVING IN WATER BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE RESTRICTIONS.

HOWEVER, HE WISHED TO STRESS THE CONTINUING NEED TO SAVE WATER.

+THERE IS STILL SOME TIME TO GO BEFORE THE WET SEASON, AND EVEN THEN WE SHOULD NOT BE OVER-OPTIMISTIC BECAUSE THERE IS NO GUARANTEE OF PLENTIFUL RAINFALL, + HE SAID.

MR TOMLINSON REITERATED EARLIER APPEALS FOR MAXIMUM ECONOMY IN THE USE OF WATER.

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CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES FOR DECEMBER 1981

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY PUBLISHED THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES FOR DECEMBER 1981.

THE NEW CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) AND THE NEW CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (B) FOR DECEMBER 1981 WERE BOTH 123. IN COMPARISON WITH THOSE OF THE PRECEDING MONTH, THE NEW C.P.I.(A) DECREASED BY 1 POINT OR 0.8 PER CENT AND THE NEW C.P.I.(B) REMAINED UNCHANGED. WHEN COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING MONTH IN 1980, BOTH THE NEW C.P.I.(A) AND C.P.I.(B) INCREASED BY 15 POINTS OR 13.9 PER CENT EACH.

DURING DECEMBER LAST YEAR, DECREASES IN PRICES OF FRESH VEGETABLES AND IN ELECTRICITY CHARGES WERE OFFSET TO AN EXTENT BY INCREASES IN OTHER COMMODITY PRICES AND SERVICE CHARGES.

THE NEW C.P.I.(A) AND C.P.I.(B) ARE BASED ON THE EXPENDITURE PATTERNS OF 50 PER CENT AND 30 PER CENT, RESPECTIVELY, OF URBAN HOUSEHOLDS IN HONG KONG, WHICH WERE DERIVED FROM THE 1979/80 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY.

AT THAT TIME, THE NEW C.P.I.(A) REFERRED TO HOUSEHOLD SPENDING BETWEEN \$1 000 AND \$3 499 A MONTH AND THE NEW C.P.I.(B) TO HOUSEHOLDS SPENDING BETWEEN \$3 500 AND \$6 499 A MONTH.

THE INDEXES FOR DECEMBER 1981 IN RESPECT OF THE NINE COMMODITY/SERVICE SECTIONS IN THE TWO CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES ARE GIVEN BELOW, TOGETHER WITH THOSE FOR NOVEMBER 1981 AND DECEMBER 1980.

(OCTOBER 1979 TO SEPTEMBER 1980 AVERAGE = 100)

SECTION	NEW C.P.I.(A)			NEW C.P.I.(B)		
	DEC. 80	NOV. 81	DEC. 81	DEC. 80	NOV. 81	DEC.81
FOODSTUFFS	108	126	124	108	126	124
HOUSING	106	119	119	105	119	119
FUEL AND LIGHT	113	135	131	113	136	131
ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO (FOR HOME CONSUMPTION)	104	117	118	104	117	117
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	110	124	124	109	125	125

/DURABLE GOODS

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DURABLE GOODS	102	108	108	103	110	110
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS	106	119	119	107	116	116
TRANSPORT AND VEHICLES	114	135	135	113	131	133
SERVICES	110	125	127	110	124	126
ALL ITEMS	108	124	123	108	123	123

THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS DECREASED BY TWO POINTS IN BOTH THE NEW C.P.I.(A) AND C.P.I.(B). DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF FRESH VEGETABLES AND FRESH-WATER FISH.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF AERATED WATER AND OF MEALS BOUGHT IN RESTAURANTS WENT UP. THE EFFECT OF MOVEMENTS IN THE RETAIL PRICES OF OTHER FOOD ITEMS ON THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS WERE INSIGNIFICANT.

THE INDEX FOR FUEL AND LIGHT DECREASED BY FOUR POINTS IN THE NEW C.P.I.(A) AND BY FIVE POINTS IN THE NEW C.P.I.(B) AS A RESULT OF LOWER CHARGES FOR ELECTRICITY.

THE TWO-POINT RISE IN THE INDEX FOR TRANSPORT AND VEHICLES IN THE NEW C.P.I.(B) WAS ATTRIBUTABLE TO HIGHER FEES CHARGED BY DRIVING INSTRUCTORS.

THE INDEX FOR SERVICES INCREASED BY TWO POINTS IN BOTH THE NEW C.P.I.(A) AND C.P.I.(B) BECAUSE OF HIGHER ADMISSION CHARGES FOR CINEMA ENTERTAINMENT AND HIGHER CHARGES FOR PACKAGE TOURS.

PRICE MOVEMENTS IN OTHER SECTIONS WERE INSIGNIFICANT.

DETAILS OF THESE PRICE MOVEMENTS ARE GIVEN IN THE +CONSUMER PRICE INDEX REPORT+ FOR DECEMBER 1981, WHICH IS NOW AVAILABLE AT \$2 PER COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, CONNAUGHT PLACE, HONG KONG.

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE

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A SECTION OF KENNEDY TOWN PRAYA ROAD NEAR SANDS STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC BETWEEN 12.30 AM AND 5.30 AM ON SUNDAY (JANUARY 24) FOR DEMOLITION OF A STEEL CRANE.

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DCA TO ATTEND UK/JAPAN AIR SERVICES TALKS

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THE DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION, MR B.D. KEEP WILL REPRESENT HONG KONG IN THE UK/JAPAN AIR SERVICES TALKS TO BE HELD IN TOKYO LATER THIS MONTH. ALSO ATTENDING THE NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE MR N. LATHAM, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, AIR SERVICES.

THE TALKS, THE SECOND IN THE SERIES, WILL BE HELD FOR FOUR DAYS FROM TUESDAY (JANUARY 26).

DISCUSSIONS WILL CENTRE ON NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR BRITISH AIRWAYS' ON TRUNK SERVICES AND RIGHTS FOR BOTH CATHAY PACIFIC AND LAKER AIRWAYS TO OPERATE A TRANS-PACIFIC SERVICE FROM HONG KONG VIA TOKYO.

CATHAY PACIFIC AIRWAYS PLANS TO OPERATE A B-747 SERVICE THREE TIMES WEEKLY ON THE ROUTE HONG KONG-TOKYO-VANCOUVER-SEATTLE-TOKYO-HONG KONG AND LAKER A DAILY DC-10 SERVICE ON THE ROUTE HONG KONG-TOKYO-HONOLULU-SAN FRANCISCO-LOS ANGELES.

SUBJECT TO GRANTING OF THE RIGHTS, CPA COULD START A TRANS-PACIFIC SERVICE IN ABOUT AUGUST.

BEFORE ATTENDING THE AIR SERVICES NEGOTIATIONS, MR KEEP WILL ATTEND THE AIRPORT OPERATORS COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING IN LONG BOAT KEY, FLORIDA.

HE WILL ALSO VISIT TWO MAJOR AIRPORTS IN THE UNITED STATES IN CONNECTION WITH PLANNING A REPLACEMENT AIRPORT FOR HONG KONG. ONE IS ATLANTA AIRPORT WHERE A NEW PASSENGER TERMINAL WAS RECENTLY OPENED AND THE OTHER IS TAMPA AIRPORT WHERE THE TERMINAL HAS A VERY ADVANCED PEOPLE-MOVER SYSTEM.

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EARLY ROCK CARVINGS DECLARED AS MONUMENT

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THE GOVERNMENT WILL PRESERVE THE ROCK CARVINGS ON CHEUNG CHAU WHICH ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN MADE BY EARLY PRE-HISTORIC INHABITANTS OF HONG KONG.

THE CARVINGS ARE LOCATED PARTLY ON PRIVATE LAND ON VERTICAL ROCK SURFACES OVERLOOKING TUNG WAN. THEY ARE GAZETTED AS A MONUMENT UNDER THE ANTIQUITIES AND MONUMENTS ORDINANCE TODAY.

ROCK CARVINGS ARE REGARDED AS AN EXPRESSION OF EARLY MAN'S MYSTICAL AND RELIGIOUS BELIEFS. THOSE ON CHEUNG CHAU SHOW GEOMETRIC PATTERNS WITH SOME ANIMAL FORMS AND COULD HAVE BEEN MADE FOR RITUALISTIC PURPOSES, PROBABLY DURING HONG KONG'S BRONZE AGE ABOUT 2 500 YEARS AGO.

THEY ARE ALSO FOUND ELSEWHERE IN HONG KONG AND THOSE ON PO TOI, KAU SAI CHAU, TUNG LUNG ISLAND AND AT BIG WAVE BAY (HONG KONG ISLAND), AND SHEK PIK (LANTAU) HAVE ALREADY BEEN DECLARED MONUMENTS.

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COMMERCIAL SUPPORT FOR FIGHT YOUTH CRIME DRAMA COMPETITION
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ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION SERVICES, MR PETER MOSS TODAY (FRIDAY) RECEIVED A CHEQUE FOR \$34 180 FROM THE SHELL CO., HONG KONG LTD. IN SUPPORT OF THE FIGHT YOUTH CRIME INTER-SCHOOL DRAMA COMPETITION.

THE COMPETITION, OPEN TO ALL SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS, IS ORGANISED BY THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES AS PART OF THE CURRENT FIGHT CRIME CAMPAIGN.

PRESENTING THE CHEQUE WAS THE PERSONNEL MANAGER OF THE SHELL CO. MR J.F. MAASSEN, WHO SAID THAT HIS COMPANY WAS SPONSORING THE DRAMA COMPETITION AS A COMMUNITY SERVICE.

+HONG KONG'S YOUTH HAS ALWAYS BEEN OUR CONCERN AND WE ARE VERY GLAD TO LEND OUR SUPPORT TO THE FIGHT CRIME CAMPAIGN AND TO PROMOTE HEALTHY ACTIVITIES FOR THE YOUTH,+ SAID MR MAASSEN.

FIFTY-TWO SCHOOLS ENTERED THE COMPETITION AND EACH SUBMITTED A 25-MINUTE SCRIPT. FIFTEEN SCHOOLS WERE SELECTED TO ENTER THE SEMI-FINALS SCHEDULED TO BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 6, 14 AND 20 AT THE SCHOOL HALLS OF QUEEN'S COLLEGE, QUEEN ELIZABETH SCHOOL AND TSUEN WAN PUBLIC HO CHUEN YIU MEMORIAL SCHOOL RESPECTIVELY.

MR CHAN YAU-HOW, MISS JANE LAI, MR YUEN LAP-FUN, MR CHEUNG KING, MISS MOK FUNG-YEE, MR CHU SHUI-TONG, MR FUNG LUK-TAK AND MR HARDY CHOI, THE EIGHT DRAMA EXPERTS WHO TOOK PART IN THE SCRIPT-SCREENING, WILL ADJUDICATE AT THE SEMI-FINALS.

TOGETHER WITH MRS FUNG MOK YAN-LAN AND MR JAMES MARK, ADVISERS TO THIS COMPETITION, THEY WILL SELECT THE BEST FIVE TEAMS TO COMPETE AT THE FINAL CONTEST TO BE HELD AT THE CITY HALL THEATRE ON MARCH 13.

AT THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY, REPRESENTATIVES FROM PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS EACH RECEIVED A BOOK COUPON OF \$100 FROM MR MOSS, WHILE THE 15 WINNING TEAMS EACH RECEIVED A CHEQUE FOR \$1 500 FROM MR MAASSEN AS PRODUCTION ALLOWANCE FOR THE SEMI-FINALS.

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KOWLOON CITY BOARD MEMBERS CHECK ON PROBLEM AREAS
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KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS TODAY (FRIDAY) TOURED VARIOUS AREAS IN THE DISTRICT TO KEEP UP WITH THE LATEST PROBLEMS IN KOWLOON CITY.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE CITY DISTRICT COMMISSIONER FOR KOWLOON CITY, MR LEE LAP-SUN AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, THE MEMBERS PAID SPECIAL ATTENTION TO CERTAIN KNOWN BLACKSPOTS IN THE AREA.

PROBLEMS POSED BY PRIVATE STREETS WERE AMONG THE MATTERS TO WHICH THEY PAID SPECIAL INTEREST.

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IN THEIR TOUR OF 13 PRIVATE STREETS IN TO KWA WAN, THEY OBSERVED THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO SUCH PROBLEMS AS ILLEGAL CONSTRUCTION, UNLAWFUL STREET OBSTRUCTION CAUSED BY STALLS, ABANDONED VEHICLES AND OTHER DISCARDED ITEMS WHICH INCONVENIENCED AND DISTURBED THE RESIDENTS' LIVES.

OTHER MATTERS OF CONCERN TO THE BOARD WERE SUCH THINGS AS ON-STREET CAR REPAIRS — A PECULIAR FEATURE OF THE DISTRICT — WHICH BLOCKED PUBLIC PLACES AND OCCUPIED MUCH OF THE ALREADY-LIMITED METERED PARKING SPACES.

EARLIER ON, THE DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WERE BRIEFED ON MAJOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS IN THE DISTRICT, INCLUDING THE SETTING UP OF A PROPER LITTER-BIN CENTRE IN MODEL VILLAGE SQUATTER AREA TO IMPROVE SANITARY CONDITIONS AND THE UTILISATION OF PART OF LAI CHI YUEN SQUATTER AREA AS A SITTING-OUT AREA FOR PUBLIC USE.

THEY ALSO STOPPED AT THE FLOWER MARKET IN BOUNDARY STREET FOR A CLOSE LOOK AT THE TRAFFIC SITUATION.

THE DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WERE ALSO TOLD THAT A 'CLEAN FOR CHARITY' CAMPAIGN WILL BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 21 AT THE TO KWA WAN RECLAMATION AREA.

LOCAL COMMUNITY LEADERS AND RESIDENTS WILL BE MOBILISED TO CLEAR UP DEBRIS AND RUBBISH DUMPED BY IRRESPONSIBLE CONTRACTORS IN THE RECLAIMED SITE, AS PART OF AN OVERALL ATTEMPT TO IMPROVE ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS IN KOWLOON CITY.

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WORK STARTING ON ANOTHER KCR STATION

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WORK ON YET ANOTHER STATION OF THE KOWLOON CANTON RAILWAY WILL START SOON AS PART OF THE KCR MODERNISATION AND ELECTRIFICATION PROGRAMME.

THE RAILWAY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) AWARDED A \$42-MILLION CONTRACT TO SANG LEE CONSTRUCTION CO. LTD. FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW FANLING STATION.

THE CONTRACT WAS SIGNED THIS AFTERNOON BY MR LEUNG MIN-SUN, ACTING GOVERNMENT ENGINEER OF THE RAILWAY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, AND MR H.W. TSANG AND MR Y.M. LAU OF SANG LEE CONSTRUCTION CO. LTD.

WORK ON THE CONTRACT WILL INVOLVE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW STATION BUILDING, PLATFORMS AND PLATFORM CANOPIES, A KCR BARRACK AND THE EXTERNAL FORECOURT.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START NEXT MONTH AND TAKE ABOUT 16 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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FACTORIES URGED TO TAKE FIRE PRECAUTIONS
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FACTORY PROPRIETORS SHOULD TAKE BASIC FIRE PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES BEFORE CLOSING THEIR FACTORIES FOR THE LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS.

IN MAKING THE APPEAL TODAY (FRIDAY), A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT POINTED OUT THAT THERE HAD BEEN OCCASIONS WHEN FIRES BROKE OUT IN FACTORIES AFTER WORK OR DURING HOLIDAYS.

+MANY OF THESE FIRES WERE MAINLY THE RESULT OF NEGLIGENCE OR THE LACK OF BASIC FIRE-PRECAUTION MEASURES. BEFORE CLOSING THEIR FACTORIES FOR THE HOLIDAYS, PROPRIETORS SHOULD TAKE EVERY POSSIBLE MEASURE TO MINIMISE THE RISK OF FIRE,+ HE ADDED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT SOME FIRE-PRECAUTION MEASURES WERE JUST MATTERS OF COMMON SENSE.

+FOR EXAMPLE,+ HE EXPLAINED,+A LIGHTED CIGARETTE BUTT DISCARDED ON THE FLOOR COULD POSE A FIRE RISK- THEREFORE IT IS ESSENTIAL FOR WORKERS, SUPERVISORS OR EMPLOYERS TO MAKE SURE THAT NO CIGARETTE BUTTS ARE LEFT BURNING BEFORE LEAVING THEIR PLACES OF WORK FOR LONG PERIODS.

+IT IS EQUALLY IMPORTANT TO ENSURE THAT NO MACHINES ARE LEFT RUNNING AND THAT THE MAIN POWER SWITCHES ARE SHUT OFF DURING THE HOLIDAYS.

+ALL FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS OR MATERIALS SHOULD BE PROPERLY STORED AND DANGEROUS GOODS SHOULD BE KEPT IN DANGEROUS GOODS STORES.+

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BUILDING TO BE RESUMED FOR MTR
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A THREE-STOREY PRE-WAR BUILDING AT NO. 70 SHAU KEI WAN ROAD WILL BE RESUMED UNDER THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY (LAND RESUMPTION AND RELATED PROVISIONS) ORDINANCE.

THE SITE IS REQUIRED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A MAJOR TRACTION SUB-STATION AND A VENTILATION SHAFT FOR THE MTR ISLAND LINE AT THE JUNCTION OF SHAU KEI WAN ROAD AND TAI LOK STREET.

THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE BUILDING IS USED AS A SHOP AND THE UPPER FLOORS ARE USED FOR RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES.

A TOTAL OF 18 PEOPLE WILL BE AFFECTED.

THEY WILL BE OFFERED REHOUSING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT'S POLICY AND STATUTORY COMPENSATION WILL BE PAID TO THOSE WHO ARE ELIGIBLE.

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CROWN LAND CONTRACTOR FOR TSUEN WAN
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THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE IS SEEKING ITS OWN CONTRACTOR TO CARRY OUT ALL LOCAL CROWN LAND CONTROL WORK.

UNTIL NOW THIS TYPE OF WORK HAS BEEN DONE BY SEVERAL DIFFERENT CONTRACTORS.

TENDERS ARE INVITED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY) FOR THE DEMOLITION OF BUILDINGS AND THE CLEARANCE AND MAINTENANCE OF CROWN LAND FOR THE PERIOD APRIL 1, 1982 - MARCH 31, 1983.

THE DISTRICT OFFICE HAS HAD TO RELY ON THIS TYPE OF WORK BEING CARRIED OUT BY CONTRACTORS EITHER APPOINTED BY THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION OR BY OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

+WITH OUR OWN CONTRACTOR, WE WILL BE ABLE TO GET JOBS DONE MUCH QUICKER, EXECUTE LAND CONTROL WORK MORE EFFICIENTLY AND AVOID THE NEED TO CALL FOR TENDERS FOR EACH AND EVERY JOB,+ A DISTRICT OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID.

TENDERS SHOULD BE PLACED IN THE TENDER BOX AT THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT BEFORE NOON ON MARCH 5.

TENDER FORMS AND FURTHER DETAILS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE GENERAL REGISTRY OF TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF FOU WAH CENTRE, 210, CASTLE PEAK ROAD.

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT PROVISION UNDER THE CROWN LAND VOTE WILL BE ABOUT \$250 000 FOR TSUEN WAN ALONE FOR NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR.

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EIGHT CLINICS OPEN WEDNESDAY MORNING
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EIGHT GOVERNMENT OUT-PATIENT CLINICS WILL BE OPEN ON WEDNESDAY (JANUARY 27) FROM 9 AM TO 1 PM.

THEY ARE: VIOLET PEEL POLYCLINIC AND SHAU KEI WAN JOCKEY CLUB CLINIC IN HONG KONG, KWUN TONG JOCKEY CLUB HEALTH CENTRE, ROBERT BLACK HEALTH CENTRE AND YAU MA TEI JOCKEY CLUB POLYCLINIC IN KOWLOON, AND LADY TRENCH POLYCLINIC, TSUEN WAN, YUEN LONG JOCKEY CLUB HEALTH CENTRE AND SHEK WU HUI JOCKEY CLUB CLINIC IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

OTHER GOVERNMENT OUT-PATIENT CLINICS AND EVENING CLINICS WILL BE CLOSED DURING THE LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS FROM MONDAY TO WEDNESDAY (JANUARY 27).

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SHA TIN LUNAR NEW YEAR FAIR OPENS

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THE OPENING OF THE SHA TIN LUNAR NEW YEAR FAIR WILL SAVE LOCAL RESIDENTS FROM HAVING TO TRAVEL LONG DISTANCES TO BUY FLOWERS AND OTHER GOODS.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (SOUTH REGION) OF NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES, MR JAMES WILSON, WHEN OFFICIATING TODAY AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE FAIR AT THE CAR PARK OF SHA TIN RACE COURSE.

IT WAS THE FIRST FAIR HELD IN THE DISTRICT, AND THERE WERE 82 STALLS, 44 FOR WET GOODS AND 38 FOR DRY GOODS, HE SAID.

TRADERS RESPONSE TO THE FAIR DURING THE PUBLIC AUCTION OF STALLS WAS VERY ENCOURAGING, HE SAID.

MR WILSON SAID THE FAIR WOULD BE ORGANISED ON A LARGER AND BETTER EQUIPPED SCALE NEXT YEAR.

HE ALSO THANKED THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB FOR MAKING AVAILABLE THE VENUE FOR THE FAIR.

MR WILSON PERFORMED THE RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY AT THE FAIR SITE, TOGETHER WITH THE CLERK OF THE COURSE OF SHA TIN RACE COURSE, MR J.N. MCCAFFREY, THE CHAIRMAN OF SHA TIN RURAL COMMITTEE, MR WAI HON-LEUNG, AND THE DISTRICT OFFICER OF SHA TIN, DR PATRICK HASE.

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SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHE KUNG FESTIVAL

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SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING MADE IN SHA TIN ON WEDNESDAY - THE THIRD DAY OF THE LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAY - WHEN LARGE CROWDS ARE EXPECTED TO VISIT THE CHE KUNG TEMPLE TO PRAY FOR GOOD LUCK AND GOOD FORTUNE.

THESE INCLUDE A ONE-WAY CIRCUIT, WHICH ALL WORSHIPPERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO USE, EXTRA BUSES AND SPECIAL PUBLIC LIGHT BUS (PLB) AND TAXI STANDS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE SAID THE ONE-WAY CIRCUIT WOULD BE WELL MARKED WITH SIGN POSTS AND POLICE OFFICERS WOULD BE PRESENT TO ASSIST VISITORS.

THERE WILL BE TWO POINTS OF ENTRY TO THE CIRCUIT, ONE AT SHING HO ROAD, TAI WAI, WHERE THE PLB AND TAXI STANDS WILL BE LOCATED, AND THE OTHER FOR BUS USERS IN LION ROCK TUNNEL ROAD NEAR THE KOWLOON MOTOR BUS COMPANY (KMB) DEPOT. BUS USERS ALIGHTING IN TAI PO ROAD SHOULD ENTER THE CIRCUIT AT SHING HO ROAD.

+PROGRESS TO AND FROM THE TEMPLE WILL BE EASIER AS A RESULT OF USING THE CIRCUIT,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID. HE APPEALED FOR CO-OPERATION BY ALL WORSHIPPERS.

/THE SPOKESMAN

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THE SPOKESMAN SAID KMB WOULD LAY ON EXTRA SERVICES ON A TOTAL OF 13 ROUTES AS FOLLOWS:

(A) VIA LION ROCK TUNNEL ROAD:

- * ROUTE 70 - JORDAN ROAD TO TAI PO=
- * ROUTE 70M - KOWLOON TONG MTR STATION TO
WO CHE ESTATE=
- * ROUTE 85 - KOWLOON CITY FERRY PIER TO
TAI WAI=
- * ROUTE 87 - TAI KOK TSUI FERRY PIER TO
LEK YUEN SAN TSUEN= AND
- * ROUTE 89 - KWUN TONG (YUE MAN SQUARE) TO
LEK YUEN SAN TSUEN.

(B) VIA TAI PO ROAD:

- * ROUTE 48 - TSUEN WAN FERRY PIER TO SHA TIN
MARKET=
- * ROUTE 71 - JORDAN ROAD FERRY PIER TO SHA TIN
MARKET=
- * ROUTE 72 - TAI KOK TSUI FERRY PIER TO TAI PO
MARKET=
- * ROUTE 72A - TAI PO INDUSTRIAL ESTATE TO TAI WAI=
- * ROUTE 85 - TAI WAI TO KOWLOON CITY FERRY PIER=
- * ROUTE 86 - CHEUNG SHA WAN TO WO CHE=
- * ROUTE 88A - HIN TIN TO SHA TIN MARKET= AND
- * ROUTE 88B - HO TUNG LAU TO TAI WAI.

WORSHIPPERS RETURNING TO KOWLOON AFTERWARDS SHOULD HEAD FOR THE BUS STOP NEAR THE KMB DEPOT.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID IT WOULD BE ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO FIND SPACE TO PARK PRIVATE CARS ANYWHERE IN THE VICINITY OF THE TEMPLE AND URGED ALL WORSHIPPERS TO MAKE USE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT WHICH WOULD BE ADEQUATE FOR THE OCCASION.

HE ALSO SAID ANYONE VISITING OTHER AREAS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES ON JANUARY 27 SHOULD GO VIA TAI PO ROAD.

THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT ASKED ALL VISITORS TO BE CAREFUL WHEN BURNING JOSS STICKS AS THE FIRE RISK WAS NOW +VERY HIGH+ BECAUSE OF THE DRY WEATHER, AND THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT ADVISED HAWKERS NOT TO SELL HYDROGEN-FILLED BALLOONS AS THERE WAS A DANGER OF EXPLOSION.

AND A POLICE SPOKESMAN WARNED WORSHIPPERS TO BE ALERT AGAINST PICK-POCKETS.

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TRAINING COURSE FOR KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS
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THE GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL RUN A TWO-YEAR, PART-TIME IN-SERVICE COURSE IN SEPTEMBER FOR PROFESSIONALLY UNTRAINED KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS.

APPLICANTS MUST BE CURRENTLY FULL-TIME PERMITTED TEACHERS WITH A MINIMUM OF TWO YEARS' TEACHING EXPERIENCE IN A REGISTERED KINDERGARTEN AND HAVE REACHED 18 YEARS OF AGE BY SEPTEMBER 1, 1982. THEY SHOULD HAVE ATTAINED GRADE E OR ABOVE IN AT LEAST TWO SUBJECTS, ONE OF THEM, PREFERABLY, CHINESE IN THE HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION, OR ITS EQUIVALENT.

THE CURRICULUM WILL INCLUDE PROFESSIONAL, CURRICULUM AND GENERAL STUDIES PRESENTED THROUGH LECTURES, TUTORIALS, VISITS, AND WORKSHOPS, AND THERE WILL BE SUPERVISED PRACTICAL TEACHING.

STUDENTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND TWO THREE-HOUR SESSIONS A WEEK ON MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS, IN EITHER THE MORNING OR AFTERNOON.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID, +THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION ON THE COURSE WILL BE CHINESE AND NO TUITION FEES ARE PAYABLE.+

STUDENTS WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE THE COURSE WILL BE AWARDED THE STATUS OF 'QUALIFIED KINDERGARTEN TEACHER' AND WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR ADMISSION TO THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S REGISTER OF TEACHERS, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

APPLICATION FORMS WITH GUIDANCE NOTES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AT LEE GARDENS, 3/F, HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY, HONG KONG AND GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AT 42, GASCOIGNE ROAD, KOWLOON.

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY ONE PHOTO-COPY OF EVERY TEACHING PERMIT AND EVERY CERTIFICATE RELATING TO THE APPLICANT'S ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS AND PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS.

+COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY MESSENGER TO THE JOINT SELECTION BOARD C/O GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION ON OR BEFORE FEBRUARY 27,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

APPLICATIONS FORWARDED BY POST, OR LATE OR INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED. RESULTS OF APPLICATIONS WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN EARLY JULY.

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PIER ROAD CLOSED ON SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS

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A SECTION OF PIER ROAD NEAR JUBILEE STREET FERRY PIER IN CENTRAL WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC BETWEEN 7.30 AM AND 12 NOON ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS STARTING FROM SUNDAY (JANUARY 24) TO PROVIDE MORE SPACE FOR PASSENGERS.

DURING THE CLOSURE, VEHICLES FROM THE JUBILEE STREET VEHICULAR FERRY PIER WILL BE DIVERTED VIA HARBOUR VIEW STREET.

ALSO ON SUNDAY, THE ROUTE FOR HONG KONG PLB MAXICAB NO. 23 WILL BE EXTENDED TO SERVE RESIDENTS IN WAH FU ESTATE.

AT PRESENT, THE MAXICAB OPERATES BETWEEN HOLLAND STREET IN KENNEDY TOWN AND POK FU LAM.

AS FROM JANUARY 24, THE ROUTE WILL BE EXTENDED TO WAH FU ESTATE VIA POK FU LAM ROAD.

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FIREMEN COMPETE IN SOCCER MATCH

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THE TRADITIONAL FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT +FAT CHOY CUP+ SOCCER MATCH WAS PLAYED BETWEEN THE HONG KONG AND KOWLOON TEAMS AT KAI TAK SPORTS GROUND TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES, MR ROBERT HOLMES, OFFICIATED AT THE KICK-OFF CEREMONY.

THE EVENT IS ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG FIRE SERVICES SPORTS AND WELFARE CLUB.

THE KOWLOON TEAM WAS REPRESENTED BY OFFICERS AND MEN OF KOWLOON, NEW TERRITORIES AND AMBULANCE COMMANDS WHILE THE HONG KONG TEAM CONSISTED OF PLAYERS FROM HONG KONG COMMAND, FIRE SERVICES HEADQUARTERS AND FIRE PROTECTION BUREAU.

HIGHLIGHT OF THE DAY'S EVENT WAS THE PARTICIPATION BY ALL SENIOR COMMANDERS IN THE LAST TEN MINUTES OF THE MATCH, WHICH ENDED IN A ONE-NIL WIN FOR THE HONG KONG TEAM.

MR HOLMES LATER PRESENTED THE FAT CHOY CUP TO THE WINNING TEAM AT THE FIRE SERVICES CLUB.

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RETIREMENT SOUVENIR FOR PWD ENGINEER
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MR FONG CHUN-NAM, PROJECT MANAGER OF TSUEN WAN NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT WILL PROCEED ON PRE-RETIREMENT LEAVE TODAY AFTER 27 YEARS SERVICE WITH THE DEPARTMENT.

TO MARK HIS RETIREMENT, MR DAVID MCDONALD, SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, TODAY PRESENTED MR FONG WITH A SOUVENIR ON BEHALF OF HIS FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES.

MR FONG JOINED THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT JUST BEFORE CHRISTMAS, 1954, AS AN APPRENTICE ENGINEER IN THE WATER WORKS OFFICE. HE BECAME ASSISTANT ENGINEER IN JUNE 1957 WHEN HE WAS POSTED TO PORT WORKS, AND AN ENGINEER IN JANUARY 1960.

IN 1964, HE WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE ROADS AND DRAINAGE OFFICE AND RECEIVED A NUMBER OF PROMOTIONS, ATTAINING THE POST OF PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT ENGINEER IN JUNE 1980.

FOR MOST OF THIS TIME, MR FONG SERVED IN THE CIVIL ENGINEERING AND HIGHWAYS OFFICES BUT IN JANUARY 1979 HE MOVED TO THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO BECOME PROJECT MANAGER OF THE SHA TIN NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT.

HE SUBSEQUENTLY WENT BACK FOR A BRIEF SPELL AS HEAD OF THE CIVIL ENGINEERING OFFICE, THEN RETURNED TO NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IN APRIL 1980 AS PROJECT MANAGER OF THE TSUEN WAN NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT.

IN 1978 HE WAS APPOINTED AN OFFICIAL JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.

ADDRESSING THE GATHERING, MR MCDONALD SAID, +THROUGHOUT HIS CAREER, MR FONG HAS DISPLAYED HIGH STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL INTEGRITY, SKILL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ABILITY.

+THE COMPLICATED, AND NOTABLY SUCCESSFUL KOWLOON CITY INTERCHANGE IS A CONCRETE EXAMPLE OF THESE QUALITIES PUT TO GOOD USE.+

MR MCDONALD SAID THAT MR FONG'S EARLY RETIREMENT WAS A LOSS TO THE DEPARTMENT AND HE WOULD BE GREATLY MISSED.

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