



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1977

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CONVERSION OF PUBLIC CARS INTO TAXIS TO BEGIN FROM
NOVEMBER
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT IT WILL START CONVERTING PUBLIC (HIRE) CARS INTO URBAN TAXIS OR PRIVATE CARS WITH A HIRE CAR PERMIT AS FROM NOVEMBER 1, 1977 WHEN NO PUBLIC CAR LICENCES WILL BE FURTHER RENEWED.

THE CONVERSION WILL BEGIN WITH THOSE PUBLIC CARS WITH LICENCES EXPIRING IN NOVEMBER.

UNDER THE CONVERSION SCHEME ABOUT 200 VEHICLES WILL BE CONVERTED EACH MONTH AND THE PRIORITY FOR CONVERSION WILL BE BASED ON THE EXPIRY DATES OF THE CURRENT PUBLIC CAR LICENCES. IT IS EXPECTED THAT MOST OF THE CONVERSIONS WILL BE COMPLETED IN SIX TO SEVEN MONTHS.

A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THERE WERE 1,329 REGISTERED PUBLIC CARS AT PRESENT, AND PROVIDED THAT THEIR OWNERS PAID A PREMIUM OF \$75,000 FOR THE RE-REGISTRATION OF EACH VEHICLE AFTER COMPLETING THE NECESSARY FORMALITIES, THESE WOULD BE CONVERTED INTO URBAN TAXIS.

THE PREMIUM COULD EITHER BE PAID IN ONE LUMP SUM AT THE TIME OF CONVERSION OR IN TWO INSTALMENTS -- \$50,000 DOWN PAYMENT AT THE TIME OF CONVERSION AND THE BALANCE OF \$25,000 IN 12 MONTHS AT THE FIRST ANNUAL RENEWAL OF THE VEHICLE LICENCE. IF THE BALANCE WAS NOT PAID, THE TAXI LICENCE WOULD NOT BE RENEWED.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT BECAUSE THE RELEVANT NEW LEGISLATION WOULD NOT COME INTO OPERATION UNTIL NOVEMBER 1, IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO CONTINUE TO RENEW THOSE PUBLIC CAR LICENCES WHICH EXPIRE AT THE END OF OCTOBER.

THE CONVERSION SCHEME INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING FEATURES:

- * ONCE AN OPTION IS EXERCISED FOR CONVERSION OF A VEHICLE INTO EITHER AN URBAN TAXI OR PRIVATE CAR WITH A HIRE CAR PERMIT, THE OPTION WILL BE IRREVOCABLE.
- * ALL PUBLIC CARS WILL BE SUBJECT TO A RECLASSIFICATION INSPECTION CONDUCTED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT PRIOR TO THE CONVERSION.

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- * IF A PUBLIC CAR IS REPLACED BY A NEW VEHICLE FOR CONVERSION PURPOSE, THE REPLACEMENT VEHICLE WILL REQUIRE ONLY ONE PRE-REGISTRATION INSPECTION. HOWEVER, UNDER THE RELEVANT REGULATION ITS OWNER HAS TO COMPLETE TWO SEPARATE APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION IN RESPECT OF THE VEHICLE AT THE SAME TIME, I.E. FIRST AS A PUBLIC CAR AND THEN AS AN URBAN TAXI. ACCORDINGLY, HE HAS TO PAY THE FIRST REGISTRATION TAX ON THE VEHICLE AT THE RATE FOR A PUBLIC CAR AND DOUBLE REGISTRATION FEES. THIS IS BECAUSE UNDER THE NEW SECTION 4A(1) OF THE ROAD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE, CAP. 220 ONLY A REGISTERED PUBLIC CAR MAY BE RE-REGISTERED AS A TAXI ON APPLICATION.
- * UPON RE-REGISTRATION OF AN EXISTING PUBLIC CAR AS AN URBAN TAXI, A NEW REGISTRATION MARK WILL BE ASSIGNED TO THE VEHICLE AND A NEW REGISTRATION BOOK ISSUED AGAINST THE SURRENDER OF THE OLD REGISTRATION BOOK AND LICENCE DISC (IF THIS IS VALID) FOR CANCELLATION. AN APPLICATION FOR THE RETENTION OF THE EXISTING VEHICLE REGISTRATION MARK WILL BE PROCESSED IN THE USUAL WAY SUBJECT TO PAYMENT OF THE PRESCRIBED FEES.
- * THE OWNERSHIP OF AN URBAN TAXI CONVERTED FROM A PUBLIC CAR UNDER THIS SCHEME MAY BE TRANSFERRED AFTER COMPLETION OF THE USUAL FORMALITIES, BUT RE-LICENSING OF THE TAXI AT THE END OF THE FIRST YEAR IS SUBJECT TO PAYMENT BY THE NEW REGISTERED OWNER AT THAT TIME OF THE OUTSTANDING SECOND PREMIUM INSTALMENT OF \$25,000 APART FROM THE NORMAL RE-LICENSING REQUIREMENTS.

WITH THE FORTHCOMING ABOLITION OF PUBLIC CARS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, THERE WOULD STILL BE A NEED FOR SALOON CARS ON A CONTRACT HIRE BASIS IN ORDER TO MEET SERVICES PROVIDED BY HOTELS AND TOURIST AGENTS TO THEIR CLIENTS OR THE PRESENT ILLEGAL 'PAK PAI' FOR PERSONALISED TRANSPORT BETWEEN HOMES, OFFICES AND SCHOOLS.

FOR THIS TYPE OF SERVICES THE HIRE CAR PERMITS WOULD BE ISSUED INITIALLY ONLY TO OPERATORS OF PUBLIC CARS, WHO OPT TO CONVERT THEIR VEHICLES AS PRIVATE CARS WITH A HIRE CAR PERMIT WHICH COSTS \$500 FOR ONE YEAR OR \$175 FOR A PERIOD OF FOUR MONTHS.

THE SPOKESMAN WARNED THAT IT WOULD BE ILLEGAL FOR SUCH VEHICLES TO STAND OR PLY FOR HIRE OR REWARD, AND AN OFFENDER WOULD FACE STRINGENT SANCTIONS INVOLVING THE IMPOUNDING OF THE VEHICLE AND SUSPENSION OF ITS LICENCE.

THE SPOKESMAN INDICATED THAT THE OWNERS OF REGISTERED PUBLIC CARS WOULD BE NOTIFIED INDIVIDUALLY BY POST OF THE DETAILS OF THE CONVERSION SCHEME.

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NEW GOVERNMENT SCHEME TO TRAIN AND
PROMOTE YOUNG MUSICIANS
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A NEW OFFICE HAS BEEN SET UP IN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT FOR PLANNING AND CO-ORDINATING MUSIC TRAINING FOR YOUNG PERSONS IN HONG KONG.

THE OFFICE WILL BE HEADED BY MR. GORDON SIU, WHO HAS BEEN APPOINTED MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR. +WE HAVE MANY TALENTED YOUNG PERSONS IN HONG KONG+, SAID MR. SIU TODAY. +WITH PROPER TRAINING, THEY WILL BECOME GOOD MUSICIANS AND THEIR MUSIC WILL BRING JOY TO MANY+.

TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED AT DIFFERENT LEVELS - ELEMENTARY, INTERMEDIATE AND ADVANCED. YOUNG PERSONS' ORCHESTRAS WILL BE FORMED AND THEY WILL GIVE PERFORMANCES IN THE VARIOUS DISTRICTS.

MR. SIU, A SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, HAS BEEN IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE FOR 11 YEARS. HE HAS WORKED IN A NUMBER OF DEPARTMENTS, INCLUDING THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT. HOLDER OF A MASTER'S DEGREE IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, HE WAS A FORMER LEADER OF THE HONG KONG YOUTH ORCHESTRA AND MEMBER OF THE HONG KONG PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA. HE IS A LICENTIATE OF THE ROYAL SCHOOLS OF MUSIC.

MR. SIU WILL WORK WITH A MUSIC CONSULTANT, MR. DAVID STONE, WHO IS A DISTINGUISHED VIOLINIST AND CONDUCTOR. MR. STONE HAS VISITED HONG KONG ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS AS AN EXAMINER FOR THE ROYAL SCHOOLS OF MUSIC.

WORKING IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH OTHER CULTURAL ORGANISATIONS IN HONG KONG, THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE WILL BE ON THE NINTH FLOOR OF THE ARTS CENTRE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

A PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AT 2.30 P.M. TOMORROW (TUESDAY) AT THE G.I.S. THEATRE, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, 5TH FLOOR, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, DURING WHICH THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR WILL GIVE DETAILS OF THE TRAINING SCHEME. HE WILL ALSO BE PLEASED TO ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM PRESS REPRESENTATIVES.

THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR. KENNETH TOPLEY, AND THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS), MR. ARTHUR BROWN, WILL ALSO BE PRESENT.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

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EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM TO MEET PRESENT DAY REQUIREMENTS

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HONG KONG'S EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM IS BEING MOULDED TO MEET PRESENT DAY REQUIREMENTS OF WHICH ECONOMIC NEEDS AND RISING SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ASPIRATIONS ARE PROBABLY THE MOST SIGNIFICANT, THE SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES, MR. ERIC HO SAID THIS MORNING.

+IT IS THEREFORE MY VIEW THAT IN MOVING TOWARDS A MORE QUALITATIVE FORM OF EDUCATION WE MUST AIM TO PRODUCE THE KIND OF CREATIVE AND IMAGINATIVE PERSON WHO WILL NOT ONLY BE ABLE TO MEET THE ECONOMIC NEEDS OF SOCIETY BUT WILL, AND THIS SEEMS TO BE THE MOST IMPORTANT FACTOR, BE ABLE TO COPE WITH SUCH AN ACCELERATED PACE OF CHANGE,+ MR. HO SAID AT THE OPENING OF THE EXHIBITION OF PUPILS' WORK IN DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY AT THE KOWLOON RAILWAY STATION AT HUNG HOM.

HONG KONG'S SURVIVAL, HE SAID, VERY MUCH DEPENDED ON ITS ECONOMIC SUCCESS.

+AND TO BE SUCCESSFUL WE MUST ENSURE THAT WE HAVE AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF INTELLECTUAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ABILITY IN THE FIELD OF DESIGN, MANUFACTURE, ORGANISATION AND ADMINISTRATION IN ORDER TO COMPETE IN THE MODERN WORLD,+ MR. HO SAID.

HE BELIEVED THAT THE NEW SUBJECT, DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY, WHICH THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN DEVELOPING OVER THE LAST THREE YEARS, WOULD CONTRIBUTE A GREAT DEAL TOWARDS PRODUCING CREATIVE AND IMAGINATIVE PUPILS WHO COULD COPE WITH AN ACCELERATED PACE OF CHANGE.

MR. HO POINTED OUT THAT THE SUBJECT WAS DESIGNED TO MAKE STUDENTS THINK AND PLAN WHILE AT THE SAME TIME GIVING THEM SUFFICIENT MANUAL DEXTERITY TO PRODUCE THE FRUITS OF THEIR PLANNING IN CONCRETE FORM.

+IT EMPHASISES PROBLEM SOLVING, THE NATURE OF MATERIALS AND THE APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY TO MEET DIFFERENT SITUATIONS AND MATERIALS.

+SO FAR THIS NEW SUBJECT HAS BEEN INTRODUCED INTO 42 SECONDARY SCHOOLS. WOODWORK AND METAL-WORK OF OLD, WHICH USED TO BE THE STANDARD PRACTICAL SUBJECTS IN OUR SCHOOLS ARE ON THE WAY OUT,+ MR. HO SAID.

MORE THAN 100 TEACHERS HAVE BEEN RE-TRAINED THROUGH IN-SERVICE TRAINING COURSES TO TEACH THE SUBJECT.

LAST YEAR, DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY WAS EXAMINED FOR THE FIRST TIME AT THE HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION LEVEL.

/MR. HO

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MR. HO ADDED: +WE NOW HAVE A STEADY FLOW OF NEWLY TRAINED TEACHERS COMING FROM THE TECHNICAL TEACHERS COLLEGE AS WELL AS A TEAM OF ADVISERS TO ASSIST, MONITOR AND EVALUATE PROGRESS IN THE SCHOOLS ADOPTING THE NEW APPROACH.+

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL VOTED THE NECESSARY FUNDS IN JULY THIS YEAR FOR INTRODUCING THE NEW FORM 1-3 CURRICULUM IN ALL SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR, INCLUDING RECURRENT GRANTS FOR ALL SCHOOLS WHERE PRACTICAL AND TECHNICAL SUBJECTS ARE TAUGHT, AND CAPITAL GRANTS FOR FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT AND FOR THOSE SCHOOLS WHERE CONVERSION WORK WILL BE REQUIRED BEFORE THESE SUBJECTS CAN BE TAUGHT.

MR. HO SAID THAT THE EXHIBITION WAS THEREFORE PARTLY AIMED AT CONVINCING SCHOOLS AND PARENTS AND THE PUBLIC AT LARGE THAT A DEVELOPMENT OF THIS KIND WAS WORTH THE EFFORT THAT NEEDED TO BE PUT INTO IT.

+I AM CONVINCED THAT WE ARE ON THE RIGHT LINES IN WHAT WE ARE ATTEMPTING HERE AND I SINCERELY BELIEVE THAT A MAJOR STEP FORWARD HAS BEEN MADE IN IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION IN HONG KONG,+ HE SAID.

THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WAS ALSO PRESSING FORWARD IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT IN SCHOOLS OF ART AND DESIGN AND HOME ECONOMICS -- THE OTHER TWO OF A THREE-SUBJECT SPEARHEAD AIMED AT IMPROVING PRACTICAL AND TECHNICAL STUDIES.

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CO-OPERATIVE EFFORT IN SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK STRESSED

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SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK SHOULD BE THE CO-OPERATIVE EFFORT OF DIFFERENT PROFESSIONS, EACH CONTRIBUTING ITS PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE IN ORDER TO HELP SCHOOL CHILDREN DERIVE THE GREATEST BENEFIT FROM EDUCATION, AND TO PREPARE THEM FOR FUTURE ADULT RESPONSIBILITIES, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (PROFESSIONAL), MR. HO NGA-MING SAID THIS AFTERNOON.

HE WAS SPEAKING AT A MEETING OF 85 HEADS OF PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS, 17 FULL-TIME SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS ON THE STAFF OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT AND A NUMBER OF EDUCATION DEPARTMENT STAFF INVOLVED IN THE SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK SERVICE.

MR. HO SAID THE SERVICE WAS DESIGNED TO PREVENT PUPILS FROM BECOMING ANTI-SOCIAL OR DELINQUENT AND TO HELP SOLVE PROBLEMS RELATING TO THEIR BEHAVIOUR OR FAMILY RELATIONSHIP, THUS IMPROVING THEIR BEHAVIOUR AND PERFORMANCE IN AND OUT OF SCHOOL.

THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR POINTED OUT THAT SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN NOVEMBER 1974, THE SERVICE HAD EXPANDED STEADILY. IT COVERED 17 PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS. WITH FULL SUPPORT FROM THE GOVERNMENT, THE SCHEME HAS EXPANDED DRAMATICALLY IN THE CURRENT ACADEMIC YEAR TO COVER 85 SCHOOLS - 53 PRIMARY AND 32 SECONDARY - WITH A TOTAL ENROLMENT OF 68,300. OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS, 25 ARE ON HONG KONG ISLAND, 45 IN KOWLOON AND 15 IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

+VERY OFTEN IN SCHOOLS WE HAVE CHILDREN WITH VARIOUS PROBLEMS. BROADLY SPEAKING, THESE PROBLEMS ARE EITHER ACADEMIC OR BEHAVIOURAL THOUGH BOTH TYPES OF PROBLEM ARE VERY OFTEN INTERRELATED,+ MR. HO SAID. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT ACADEMIC PROBLEMS COULD BE CAUSED BY MANY FACTORS SUCH AS LACK OF MOTIVATION TO LEARN AND NO SUPERVISION AT HOME. THEY COULD ALSO BE CAUSED BY UNSUITABLE TEACHING METHODS, TEACHING MATERIAL WHICH WAS INAPPROPRIATE OR TOO DIFFICULT, OR OTHER EXTRANEIOUS FACTORS.

BEHAVIOURAL PROBLEMS COULD BE CAUSED BY POOR PARENTAL HANDLING, A DETRIMENTAL ENVIRONMENT, BAD COMPANIONS, FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES, FAVOURITISM AT HOME AND MANY OTHER ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL FACTORS.

MR. HO ADDED: +TEACHERS, BY VIRTUE OF THEIR TRAINING AND DAY-TO-DAY CONTACT WITH PUPILS, ARE EXPECTED TO DEAL WITH ALL PROBLEMS INITIALLY.

+THEY CAN MAKE THEIR TEACHING MATERIAL MORE MEANINGFUL, RELEVANT AND INTERESTING, AND AN UNDERSTANDING AND SYMPATHETIC TEACHER CAN DO MUCH TO IMPROVE THE BEHAVIOUR OF THE PUPILS.+

BUT IT WAS SOMETIMES IMPOSSIBLE FOR TEACHERS TO SOLVE SOME OF THE PUPILS' PROBLEMS, ESPECIALLY THOSE RELATING TO FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS, FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES AND OTHER SOCIAL PROBLEMS.

/IN HER SPEECH,

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IN HER SPEECH, THE SENIOR PRINCIPAL SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER, MRS. EVELYN DOE STRESSED THAT WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF TEACHERS, THE SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER COULD BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN HOME AND SCHOOL AND INTERPRET EACH TO THE OTHER.

MRS. DOE SAID: +THE SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS WILL VISIT THE PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS WEEKLY TO ESTABLISH CONTACT WITH THE STAFF AND PUPILS.

+THEY USE THEIR KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND RESOURCES TO DEAL WITH THE PUPILS' PROBLEMS AND ARE PARTICULARLY HELPFUL IN DEALING WITH THOSE RELATING TO FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS WHICH OFTEN NECESSITATE HOME VISIT.+

FOR THE REALLY DIFFICULT PROBLEMS - ACADEMIC, BEHAVIOURAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL OR ORGANIC - THE SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS AND TEACHERS COULD ALWAYS RELY ON THE SERVICES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

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COMMISSION OF INQUIRY TO START ON SEPTEMBER 27

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THE COMMISSION APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL TO INQUIRE INTO EVENTS WHICH OCCURRED IN THE COURSE OF A LIVE TELEVISION BROADCAST BY TVB LTD. AT SEK KONG ON JULY 1, 1977 IS EXPECTED TO HOLD ITS FIRST HEARING ON SEPTEMBER 27. THE VENUE FOR THE HEARING WILL BE ANNOUNCED LATER.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO GIVE EVIDENCE BEFORE THE COMMISSION ARE REQUESTED TO SUBMIT A SUMMARY OF THE EVIDENCE IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY TO THE COMMISSION AT ROOM 343, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (EAST WING), LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG, ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 24.

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FURTHER TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENTS TO STUBBS ROAD ROUNDABOUT
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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT WILL BEGIN WORK SHORTLY ON FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS TO THE JUNCTION OF STUBBS ROAD, TAI HANG ROAD AND WONG NAI CHUNG GAP ROAD IN AN EFFORT TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC CONDITIONS AT THE STUBBS ROAD ROUNDABOUT.

THE WORK INVOLVES THE WIDENING OF A SECTION OF TAI HANG ROAD AND THE UPPER SECTIONS OF STUBBS ROAD ADJACENT TO THE ROUNDABOUT SO AS TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL LANES ON THESE TWO SECTIONS OF ROADS.

THE CONTRACT FOR THE PROJECT, COSTING ABOUT \$380,000, HAS BEEN AWARDED TO WAN YU AND CO. LTD. AND WAS FORMALLY SIGNED IN THE P.W.D.'S HIGHWAYS OFFICE TODAY.

MR. HO KWOK-YU, ACTING CHIEF P.W.D. ENGINEER, SAID THAT WORK ON THE PROJECT WOULD BEGIN NEXT WEEK AND WOULD TAKE ABOUT THREE MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

+ON COMPLETION, VEHICLES TRAVELLING DOWN STUBBS ROAD FROM THE UPPER SECTION CAN FILTER TO THE LOWER SECTION WITHOUT CAUSING SERIOUS INTERRUPTION TO THE TRAFFIC MOVEMENT AT THE ROUNDABOUT,+ HE SAID.

+SIMILARLY, THE ADDITIONAL NORTH-BOUND LANE IN TAI HANG ROAD WILL ENABLE VEHICLES TO FILTER FROM TAI HANG ROAD TO WONG NAI CHUNG GAP ROAD.+

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ANNUAL CAMP FOR DISABLED CHILDREN
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MORE THAN 400 DISABLED CHILDREN UNDER THE CARE OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT WILL PARTICIPATE IN A THREE-DAY CAMP AT THE WU KAI SHA YOUTH VILLAGE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE CAMP IS AN ANNUAL EVENT ORGANISED BY THE REHABILITATION DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT AND STARTS FROM TOMORROW (TUESDAY). IT PROVIDES THE DISABLED CHILDREN WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN SPORTS, GAMES AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES AND TO GAIN EXPERIENCE IN OUTDOOR LIFE.

THE RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR THE 359 MENTALLY RETARDED, 48 DEAF AND FIVE PHYSICALLY DISABLED CHILDREN INCLUDE TALENT SHOWS, GROUP GAMES, HIKING, SWIMMING, BALL GAMES AND BARBECUE PARTIES.

THE CHILDREN WILL BE LOOKED AFTER BY ABOUT 80 STAFF FROM 13 REHABILITATION INSTITUTIONS AND CENTRES WHO ARE ORGANISING THE CAMP.

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF FLEMING ROAD

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE WESTERN SECTION OF FLEMING ROAD BETWEEN LOCKHART ROAD AND GLOUCESTER ROAD WOULD BE CLOSED TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC WITH EFFECT FROM 10 A.M. ON WEDNESDAY (SEPTEMBER 21) FOR TWO DAYS TO FACILITATE ROAD WORKS. AT THE SAME TIME, THE SECTION OF JAFFE ROAD BETWEEN O'BRIEN ROAD AND FLEMING ROAD WOULD BE RE-ROUTED TWO-WAY.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

FIREMEN TO HOLD SWIMMING GALA

THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL HOLD ITS 22ND ANNUAL SWIMMING GALA AT THE VICTORIA PARK SWIMMING POOL, CAUSEWAY BAY, ON WEDNESDAY (SEPTEMBER 21).

THE GALA WILL HAVE A TOTAL OF 20 EVENTS, INCLUDING A WATERPOLO DISPLAY BY THE EASTERN WATERPOLO TEAM AND THE FIRE SERVICES OWN WATERPOLO TEAM.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DAY'S PROGRAMME WILL BE A 50-METRE, FREE-STYLE INVITATION RELAY IN WHICH REPRESENTATIVES FROM MORE THAN TEN GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS WILL TAKE PART.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE SWIMMING GALA WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE BETWEEN 1 P.M. AND 4 P.M. AT THE VICTORIA PARK SWIMMING POOL.

PRIZES WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE WINNERS AFTER EACH EVENT.

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