



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FRIDAY, MAY 26, 1989

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BUSINESS COMMUNITY URGED TO HELP SAVE THE ENVIRONMENT
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THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY IN HONG KONG WAS URGED TODAY (FRIDAY) TO MAKE ITS OWN CONTRIBUTION TO SAVE HONG KONG'S ENVIRONMENT BY ADOPTING THE CONCEPT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AUDITING.

SPEAKING AT A ROTARY CLUB LUNCHEON MEETING, DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, DR STUART REED, ALSO CALLED ON THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO SPONSOR THE PREPARATION OF MANUALS ON ENVIRONMENTAL AUDITING AIMED AT SPECIFIC TYPES OF BUSINESS ACTIVITY.

"ENVIRONMENTAL AUDITING CAN NOT ONLY HELP SAFEGUARD OUR ENVIRONMENT, IT CAN HAVE THE SIDE EFFECT OF SAVING MONEY AND VALUABLE SENIOR MANAGEMENT TIME," DR REED SAID.

"IT IS A MANAGEMENT TOOL COMPRISING A SYSTEMATIC, DOCUMENTED, PERIODIC AND OBJECTIVE EVALUATION OF HOW WELL THE ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANISATION IN A COMPANY AND ITS EQUIPMENT AND PROCEDURES ARE PERFORMING," DR REED EXPLAINED.

"IT ISN'T THE SAME AS THE DAY TO DAY LINE MANAGEMENT TASK OF ENSURING, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT LIQUID EFFLUENTS ARE MEETING THE STATUTORY EFFLUENT STANDARDS OR THAT CHIMNEYS ARE NOT SMOKING," HE SAID.

"IT IS RATHER A QUESTION OF STEPPING BACK, PERHAPS ONCE EVERY 12 MONTHS, AND REVIEWING A COMPANY'S ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND ITS OVERALL PERFORMANCE IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS IN RELATION TO THIS POLICY, AND THEN FOLLOWING-UP TO ENSURE THAT WHATEVER EXECUTIVE ACTION IS REQUIRED IS TAKEN."

THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUDITING CONCEPT, WHICH HAS BEEN DEVELOPED IN EUROPE, WAS FORMALLY ADOPTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AT ITS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING IN NOVEMBER LAST YEAR. IT HAS BEEN SO FAR APPLIED MOSTLY TO THE OPERATIONS OF LARGE AND MEDIUM-SIZED COMPANIES.

"TO ADOPT THIS CONCEPT IN HONG KONG," DR REED SAID, "WE WILL HAVE TO SPELLOUT IN A SERIES OF MANUALS IN STRAIGHT FORWARD AND VERY CLEAR TERMS HOW IT CAN BE APPLIED TO SPECIFIC SECTORS OF INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS.

"I BELIEVE THAT THE AVAILABILITY OF MANUALS THAT SET OUT, STEP BY STEP, THE SIMPLE PROCEDURES INVOLVED IN ENVIRONMENTAL AUDITING, WOULD PROVIDE A FRAMEWORK AND BASIS TO GUIDE AT LEAST SOME COMPANIES AND PEOPLE TOWARDS THE CONTRIBUTION THEY THEMSELVES CAN MAKE TO SAVING HONG KONG'S ENVIRONMENT.

HE APPEALED TO MAJOR HONGS AND INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL GROUPINGS FOR SPONSORSHIP FOR THE PREPARATION OF ONE OR MORE OF THESE MANUALS.

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"WE ARE TALKING ABOUT A SPONSORSHIP COST FOR PREPARING THESE MANUALS OF ONLY A MATTER OF SEVERAL TENS OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS OR, AT MOST, A FEW HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR THE MORE COMPLICATED CASES," HE SAID.

DR REED SUGGESTED ALSO THAT COMPANIES WITH SOME EXPERTISE IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD OFFER A FIXED-PRICE SERVICE PACKAGE TO PROVIDE AN ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT FOR OTHER COMPANIES, IN MUCH THE SAME WAY AS FOR FINANCIAL AUDITS.

"I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE APPLICATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUDITING CONCEPT COULD MAKE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO AVING OUR ENVIRONMENT," HE SAID.

"IT WOULD, AMONG OTHER THINGS, INVOLVE INDIVIDUALS IN OUR COMMUNITY IN A CONSTRUCTIVE WAY AND THEREBY HELP TO PROVIDE THE ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS THAT IS A PRECURSOR OF OUR HAVING A HEALTHY AND PLEASANT ENVIRONMENT IN HONG KONG IN THE FUTURE."

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FIGHT AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS SUCCESSFUL
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THE INCIDENCE TO TUBERCULOSIS IN HONG KONG CONTINUED TO FALL LAST YEAR, MARKING ANOTHER YEAR OF SUCCESS IN THE EFFORT TO CONTROL TUBERCULOSIS AND OTHER THORACIC DISEASES, THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH, DR S.H. LEE, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

HE WAS SPEAKING FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HIS CAPACITY AS PRESIDENT OF THE HONG KONG TUBERCULOSIS, CHEST AND HEART DISEASES ASSOCIATION AT ITS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

DURING 1988, DR LEE SAID, A TOTAL OF 7,021 NEW CASES WERE NOTIFIED, RESULTING IN A DROP IN THE NOTIFICATION RATE FROM 129.5 TO 123.6 PER 100,000 POPULATION. THE DEATH RATE WAS SIMILARLY DECLINING FROM 7.2 TO 6.8 PER 100,000 POPULATION, WITH ONLY 388 DEATHS RECORDED.

THESE RATES MIGHT IN FACT BE LOWER IF ADJUSTMENT WAS MADE WITH THE INCREASING POPULATION, HE ADDED.

DESPITE THIS, DR LEE SAID, THERE WAS NO ROOM FOR COMPLACENCY.

"BY COMPARING WITH THE SITUATION IN THE TECHNICALLY ADVANCED COUNTRIES, THE INCIDENCE AND MORTALITY RATES OF TUBERCULOSIS IN HONG KONG ARE STILL HIGH," HE SAID. "ALL THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL PROGRAMMES, THEREFORE, MUST BE ACTIVELY MAINTAINED."

TURNING TO LUNG CANCER, DR LEE SAID THAT LAST YEAR WAS THE FIRST YEAR TO SEE A REDUCTION IN LUNG CANCER DEATHS, FROM 2,465 IN 1987 TO 2,354 IN 1988.

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THIS IS A GOOD SIGN TO SHOW THE RESULT OF THE EFFORT TO COMBAT CIGARETTE SMOKING, HE ADDED.

ON OCCUPATIONAL LUNG DISEASES, DR LEE SAID THAT 198 CASES OF SILICOSIS AND THREE CASES OF ASBESTOSIS WERE REPORTED AND COMPENSATED LAST YEAR.

THIS BRINGS TO 3,365 THE NUMBER OF PNEUMOCONIOSIS CASES COMPENSATED SINCE THE INCEPTION OF THE COMPENSATION ORDINANCE IN JANUARY 1981.

DR LEE SAID THAT THE PNEUMOCONIOSIS COMPENSATION FUND BOARD HAS ALLOCATED \$1 MILLION FOR A RESEARCH PROJECT CENTRED ON PREVENTION AND CONTROL ASPECTS.

WITH REGARD TO HEART DISEASE, THE SECOND LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH IN THE TERRITORY, HE SAID IT CLAIMED THE LIVES OF 4,599 PEOPLE LAST YEAR COMPARED WITH 4,515 IN 1987.

HE PRAISED THE CARDIAC MEDICAL AND SURGICAL TEAMS AT THE GRANTHAM HOSPITAL FOR THEIR GOOD WORK IN DEALING WITH ALL KINDS OF CARDIAC PROBLEMS. A TOTAL OF 865 CARDIAC OPERATIONS WERE PERFORMED LAST YEAR WITH A HIGH SUCCESS RATE.

REFERRING TO THE NEW RUTTONJEE HOSPITAL NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION, DR LEE SAID IT MARKED AN IMPORTANT MILESTONE IN THE HISTORY OF THE ASSOCIATION IN SUPPORTING THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF MEDICAL SERVICES TO MEET THE CHANGING NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY.

ON COMPLETION, THE HOSPITAL WILL HAVE 614 BEDS WITH A FULL RANGE OF GENERAL HOSPITAL SERVICES AND SUPPORTING FACILITIES.

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GARDEN ROAD PRIME SITE FOR SALE BY TENDER

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THE GOVERNMENT IS OFFERING A SITE AT GARDEN ROAD FOR SALE BY TENDER WITH AN OBJECTIVE THAT UNDER SPECIFIC DEVELOPMENT CRITERIA IT COULD BE TURNED INTO A PRESTIGIOUS DEVELOPMENT UNIQUE IN THE AREA.

LOCATED BETWEEN THE BANK OF CHINA AND MURRAY BUILDING, THE SITE IS REGARDED AS THE LAST PRIME SITE IN THE CENTRAL AVAILABLE FOR SALE FOR MANY YEARS TO COME.

THE 8,546-SQUARE-METRE SITE, KNOWN AS INLAND LOT NO. 8888, IS RESTRICTED TO NON-INDUSTRIAL (EXCLUDING GODOWN AND RESIDENTIAL BUT INCLUDING HOTEL AND SERVICE APARTMENTS) PURPOSES PLUS A 500-SPACE PUBLIC CARPARK.

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ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (FRIDAY), THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICER, HONG KONG WEST, MR THOMAS HO, NOTED THAT THE SITE IS INTENDED TO BE DEVELOPED INTO A FOCAL POINT LINKING THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT TO THE WEST OF GARDEN ROAD WITH HONG KONG PARK NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND QUEENSWAY TO THE EAST OF COTTON TREE DRIVE.

MR HO SAID THAT IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THE ABOVE OBJECTIVES, THE GOVERNMENT WOULD WISH TO SEE THAT THE FOLLOWING SPECIFIC DEVELOPMENT CRITERIA COULD BE INCORPORATED INTO THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT.

"THESE INCLUDE A COMPLETE SEGREGATION OF VEHICULAR TRAFFIC FROM PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC AND A ROOF GARDEN ON A PODIUM TO BE DESIGNED WITH OCCASIONAL SHOPPING FACILITIES WHICH WILL BE OPENED TO THE PUBLIC 24 HOURS," HE SAID.

"THE HEIGHT OF THE BUILDING IS ALSO TO BE RESTRICTED AT 220 METRES P.D. (ABOVE HONG KONG PRINCIPAL DATUM) AND THE ROOF PROFILE TO BLEND IN WELL WITH ADJACENT DEVELOPMENTS.

"IN ADDITION, THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER FOR THE SITE WILL ALSO BE REQUIRED TO BUILD A 500-SPACE PUBLIC CARPARK, AND A NEW VEHICULAR TUNNEL LINKING THE LOT WITH GARDEN ROAD MULTI-STOREY CARPARK," HE ADDED.

UPON COMPLETION, MOTORISTS USING THE GARDEN ROAD MULTI-STOREY CARPARK WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE THEIR EXIT ONTO COTTON TREE DRIVE AND THE QUEENSWAY FLYOVER VIA THIS LOT.

LIKewise, MOTORISTS USING THE PUBLIC CARPARK IN THIS LOT WILL BE ALLOWED TO MAKE THEIR EXIT ONTO QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL VIA THE GARDEN ROAD MULTI-STOREY CARPARK.

TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVE OF SEGREGATION OF VEHICULAR AND PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC, A FOOTBRIDGE NETWORK AND A PEDESTRIAN SYSTEM CONNECTING THE LOT WITH HONG KONG PARK, NORTHERN PAVEMENT OF GARDEN ROAD, BANK OF CHINA, PEAK TRAM TERMINUS AND MURRAY BUILDING WILL HAVE TO BE BUILT, MAINTAINED AND MANAGED BY THE PURCHASER.

SERVICE VEHICLES SEEKING ACCESS TO THE LOT WILL BE DIRECTED TO PASS THROUGH THE BANK OF CHINA SITE VIA AN INTERNAL ACCESS NOW BEING CONSTRUCTED BY THE BANK.

ACCORDING TO THE BUILDING COVENANT, THE DEVELOPER HAS TO COMPLETE A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 66,000 SQUARE METRES BEFORE JUNE 30, 1994.

THE PUBLIC CARPARK WILL NEED TO BE COMPLETEED AND BROUGHT INTO OPERATION BEFORE JUNE 30, 1992, TWO YEARS AHEAD OF THE DATE BY WHICH THE WHOLE DEVELOPMENT IS REQUIRED TO BE COMPLETED.

MR HO NOTED THAT TENDERERS WISHING TO BID FOR THE SITE WILL, IN ADDITION TO THE PREMIUM BIDDING, HAVE TO SUBMIT A PRELIMINARY DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT SHOWING HOW BEST THE ABOVE SPECIFIC DEVELOPMENT CRITERIA ARE TO BE ACHIEVED.

/THE DEADLINE

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THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING TENDERS IS NOON ON JULY 21 THIS YEAR.

TENDER FORMS, TENDER NOTICES AND CONDITIONS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM, AND TENDER PLAN INSPECTED AT, THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG, AND THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES KOWLOON, YAU MA TEI CARPARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON.

TENDER DOCUMENTS WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE AT ALL THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

FURTHER DETAILS ABOUT THE TENDER AND SPECIAL CONDITIONS RELATING TO THE CONDITIONS FOR SALE CAN BE OBTAINED BY CONTACTING MR THOMAS HO, THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICERS, HONG KONG WEST, ON 5-8351633.

ENQUIRIES CONCERNING SPECIFIC DESIGN ASPECTS SUCH AS THE ROOF PROFILE TREATMENT, DESIGN OF THE PODIUM ROOF GARDEN AND SO ON CAN BE DIRECTED TO THE CENTRAL INFORMATION UNIT OF THE TOWN PLANNING OFFICE ON 5-8482402.

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HK WILL HAVE TO DEVELOP INFRASTRUCTURE

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HONG KONG, WHICH IS EXPECTED TO BECOME A MAJOR CENTRE SERVING SOUTH CHINA, WILL HAVE TO TAKE STEPS TO ENSURE THAT IT CAN MEET THE DEMANDS THAT WILL BE PLACED UPON ITS ECONOMY.

THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER (DESIGNATE), MR K.Y. YEUNG, SAID THIS IN SYDNEY TODAY (FRIDAY) WHEN HE ADDRESSED THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF PRIVATE BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS, ORGANISED BY THE COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF AUSTRALIA.

MR YEUNG SAID THAT IN MANY RESPECTS HONG KONG WAS ALREADY BECOMING A MAJOR CENTRE SERVING SOUTH CHINA IN TERMS OF MANUFACTURING AND RELATED ACTIVITIES.

BY ALL ACCOUNTS, HE SAID, HONG KONG HAD BECOME THE LARGEST SOURCE OF REALISED MANUFACTURING INVESTMENT IN CHINA, PARTICULARLY IN GUANGDONG PROVINCE.

IN THE PERIOD 1979 TO 1988, THE VALUE OF REALISED DIRECT INVESTMENT IN CHINA CAME TO US\$10.9 BILLION, 40 PER CENT OF WHICH WAS ACCOUNTED FOR BY THE SEVERAL THOUSAND JOINT VENTURE FACTORIES IN GUANGDONG.

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"JUST AS GUANGDONG NOW FINDS IT ECONOMICALLY SENSIBLE TO BE SUPPLIED FROM HONG KONG WITH SUCH PHYSICAL SERVICES AS TRANSPORT, AND PROFESSIONAL, FINANCIAL AND TRADING SERVICES BECAUSE THE PROVINCE HAS A LONG WAY TO CATCH UP IN TERMS OF INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT, SO I EXPECT GUANGDONG WILL INCREASINGLY RECOGNISE HONG KONG AS A BASE FOR THE SUPPLY OF PARTS AND COMPONENTS, OF DESIGN AND PRODUCTION EXPERTISE, AND OF INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY," MR YEUNG SAID.

HE PREDICTED THAT WHEN HONG KONG'S ECONOMY MATURED, ITS MANUFACTURING WOULD MAINTAIN ROUGHLY THE CURRENT SHARE OF GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT BUT SHIFT OVER TIME TOWARDS MUCH HIGHER QUALITY FINISHED PRODUCTS AND TOWARDS INCREASED LINKAGE INDUSTRY PRODUCTION.

HE ALSO SAID HE COULD FORESEE THAT HONG KONG WOULD EVOLVE INTO A MAJOR FINANCIAL CENTRE FOR ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH CHINA.

"SO LONG AS LOCAL BANKERS ACCEPT THAT THEIR PROPER ROLE IS REGIONAL RATHER THAN GLOBAL, CONSIDERABLE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROFITABLE BUSINESS WILL CONTINUE TO EXIST," MR YEUNG SAID.

IT HAD BEEN SUGGESTED BY MANY BANKING SOURCES THAT CHINA WOULD NEED AS MUCH AS US\$200 BILLION TO ACHIEVE ITS MINIMUM TARGETS UNDER ITS MODERNISATION PROGRAMMES.

MR YEUNG SAID HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE OPENING UP OF CHINA WOULD CREATE OPPORTUNITIES THAT HONG KONG WOULD BE ABLE TO EXPLOIT, IN TERMS OF INVESTMENT CAPITAL, LOAN SYNDICATION AND FINANCING OF OTHER FORMS OF DEBT INCURRED BY CHINA FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS MODERNISATION PROGRAMMES.

HE BELIEVED THESE LIKELY DEVELOPMENTS, IN ALL OF WHICH HONG KONG SEEMED SET TO EXERCISE A DEGREE OF LEADERSHIP, CLEARLY MEANT THAT HONG KONG WOULD HAVE TO TAKE STEPS TO ENSURE THAT IT COULD MEET THE DEMANDS THAT WOULD BE PLACED UPON ITS ECONOMY.

IN TERMS OF HARD INFRASTRUCTURE, MR YEUNG FELT HONG KONG WOULD NEED TO EXPAND ITS PORT, CONTAINER HANDLING AND AIRPORT FACILITIES AND TO IMPROVE ITS ROAD NETWORK, INCLUDING THE BORDER LINKS WITH CHINA.

"WE WILL NEED TO ENSURE THAT MORE INDUSTRIAL LAND IS CREATED TO CATER FOR WHAT IS BEGINNING TO EMERGE IN MANUFACTURING AS A NEW GENERATION OF PRODUCTION, TYPICALLY DOMINATED BY INNOVATIVE DESIGN AND MECHANISED PRODUCTION AS OPPOSED TO LABOUR INTENSIVE ASSEMBLY.

"MORE IMPORTANTLY, THE SHIFT TOWARDS HIGHER SKILLS AND TECHNOLOGY IN MANUFACTURING SUPPORT, WHEN TAKEN TOGETHER WITH THE CONTINUING SHIFT INTO THE SERVICE INDUSTRIES, WILL CREATE STRONGER DEMANDS FOR INCREASED SPENDING IN EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING," HE SAID.

MR YEUNG ADDED THAT THE CONTINUING CHALLENGE WAS TO FIND THE SERVICES TO FUND THIS EXPANSION, AND TO ENSURE THAT THE USES TO WHICH THESE RESOURCES WERE PUT REFLECTED THE CHANGES THAT WERE TAKING PLACE IN THE ECONOMY.

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FIRST ROADWORKS CONTRACT FOR TIN SHUI WAI AWARDED

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THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) AWARDED THE FIRST ROADWORKS CONTRACT FOR THE TIN SHUI WAI NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME.

THE \$109 MILLION CONTRACT, SIGNED BY THE DIRECTOR OF TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT, DR NIP KAM-FAN, AND THE CONTRACTOR, INVOLVES THE CONSTRUCTION OF ABOUT 600 METRES OF A DUAL TWO-LANE ROAD AND ABOUT 500 METRES OF A SINGLE TWO-LANE ROAD BETWEEN PING SHAN AND HA TSUEN.

UPON COMPLETION, THE ROADS WILL ALSO PROVIDE IMPROVED ACCESS FOR VILLAGERS OF THE TWO RURAL AREAS IN YUEN LONG BY REPLACING A SECTION OF THE EXISTING PING HA ROAD.

WORKS ON THE CONTRACT WILL BE MANAGED BY TIN SHUI WAI/YUEN LONG DEVELOPMENT OFFICE AND SUPERVISED BY BINNIE CONSULTANTS LIMITED.

THEY WILL BEGIN BY END OF THIS MONTH AND BE SCHEDULED TO BE COMPLETED IN EARLY 1991.

THE CONTRACTOR IS ALSO REQUIRED TO UNDERTAKE WORK ON THE FORMATION OF A SECTION OF LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT RESERVE ALONGSIDE PART OF THE ROAD FOR THE FUTURE EXTENSION OF THE RAIL SYSTEM TO THE NEW TOWN FROM CASTLE PEAK ROAD.

ALSO INCLUDED UNDER THE CONTRACT IS THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 1,200-METRE TRUNK SEWER AS PART OF THE NORTHWEST NEW TERRITORIES SEWERAGE SCHEME.

THE SEWER, TO BE CONNECTED WITH THE PROPOSED HA TSUEN SEWAGE PUMPING STATION, WILL TAKE SEWAGE FROM THE NEW TOWN AND NEARBY AREAS.

THE LAND IN TIN SHUI WAI, ORIGINALLY COMPRISED MAINLY OF FISHPONDS, IS BEING FORMED BY USING SOME 20 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF DREDGED MARINE SAND FROM OUTER DEEP BAY. TO DATE, SOME 65 HECTARES OF LAND HAS BEEN FORMED.

THE PILING WORK FOR THE FIRST PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE BEGAN IN MARCH AND WORK FOR THE SECOND ESTATE AND THE FIRST PRIVATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT WILL GET UNDERWAY SHORTLY.

BY THE END OF 1991, THE FIRST RESIDNETS ARE EXPECTED TO MOVE INTO THE NEW TOWN, WHICH IS DESIGNED FOR A POPULATION OF ABOUT 135,000.

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GRADUATING FIRE SERVICES STAFF GIVEN ADVICE

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NEW MEMBERS OF THE FIRE SERVICES WERE TODAY (FRIDAY) REMINDED THAT THEY SHOULD DO THEIR UTMOST TO SAFEGUARD THE GOOD REPUTATION OF THE DEPARTMENT.

ADDRESSING A PASSING OUT PARADE OF 30 AMBULANCEMEN AND 18 FIREMEN, THE ASSISTANT CHIEF AMBULANCE OFFICER, MR CHENG KWONG-TAK, SAID: "YOU HAVE ENTERED A SERVICE WITH A FIRST CLASS REPUTATION, BOTH IN HONG KONG AND ABROAD.

"SO REMEMBER THAT YOU EACH REPRESENT THIS SERVICE WHEREVER YOU GO AND WHATEVER YOU DO AND THE SERVICE SHALL BE JUDGED BY YOUR WORDS AND ACTIONS."

MR CHENG ALSO URGED THE GRADUATING RECRUITS TO SHOW COMPASSION IN THEIR DAILY WORK AS MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC NEEDED THEIR HELP MOST AT TIMES WHEN THEY WERE IN DISTRESS.

AFTER REVIEWING THE PARADE, MR CHENG PRESENTED THE BEST RECRUIT AWARDS TO FIREMAN MO CHI-WING AND AMBULANCEMAN LAI CHI-WAI.

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LEGISLATION SOUGHT TO SPEED UP APPEAL PROCEDURES FOR VBP

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AN AMENDMENT BILL SEEKING TO GIVE LEGISLATIVE EFFECT TO PROPOSALS TO SPEED UP APPEAL PROCEDURES FOR VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE (VBP) WAS PUBLISHED TODAY (FRIDAY) IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

THE IMMIGRATION (AMENDMENT) (NO.2) BILL 1989 WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL NEXT WEDNESDAY.

IT PROVIDES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF REVIEW BOARDS TO CONSIDER APPEALS FROM THOSE VBP WHO ARE REFUSED REFUGEE STATUS. AT PRESENT, THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL DEALS WITH SUCH APPEALS.

UNDER PROPOSED AMENDMENTS, THE INDIVIDUAL CONCERNED IS GIVEN 28 DAYS TO OBJECT TO A NOTICE OF REFUSAL TO GRANT REFUGEE STATUS.

THE REFUGEE STATUS REVIEW BOARDS WILL CONSIDER APPEAL CASES IN PRIVATE AND WILL CONFIRM OR REVERSE THE FIRST-INSTANCE DECISION AS IT THINKS FIT WITHOUT A REQUIREMENT TO ASSIGN REASONS FOR ITS DECISION, WHICH WILL BE FINAL.

LEGAL REPRESENTATION WILL NOT BE ALLOWED AT THE BEARING BY A BOARD BUT THE APPLICANT WILL BE ASSISTED IN PREPARING HIS CASE BY HIS LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE.

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CLEAN-UP OPERATIONS BEGIN

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BLOCK-TO-BLOCK CLEAN-UP OPERATIONS, ORGANISED BY THE JOINT URBAN COUNCIL/REGIONAL COUNCIL KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN STEERING COMMITTEE, ARE BEING CARRIED OUT IN VARIOUS DISTRICTS TO PROMOTE NEIGHBOURHOOD CLEANLINESS.

THE TERRITORY-WIDE CLEAN-UP, WHICH WILL CONTINUE UNTIL JULY, IS ONE OF THE MAJOR OPERATIONAL PHASES OF THE KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN AND IS CO-ORDINATED BY THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT, REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT.

"WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE CLEANSING STAFF, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE URGED TO HELP CLEAN UP STREETS, LANES, ALLEYS, CANOPIES AND COMMON PARTS OF MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE STEERING COMMITTEE SAID.

TO FACILITATE CLEANSING WORK, ADDITIONAL REFUSE COLLECTION POINTS ARE SET UP FOR RESIDENTS TO DISPOSE REFUSE AND JUNK.

DISTRICT HEALTH INSPECTORS ARE ALSO DEPLOYED TO INSPECT BUILDINGS, MAKE ANTI-LITTER PATROLS, ENFORCE CLEANSING AND HYGIENE LAWS, AND TO GIVE ADVICE ON ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE PROBLEMS IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES.

"THEY WILL ALSO PARTICIPATE IN CLEAN-UP ACTIVITIES INITIATED BY LOCAL COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE CALLED ON RESIDENTS TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO HELP MAINTAIN A CLEAN LIVING ENVIRONMENT.

RESIDENTS COULD CONTACT THEIR RESPECTIVE DISTRICT CLEANSING OFFICES FOR DETAILS OF THE CLEAN-UP OPERATIONS, HE ADDED.

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BIG CLEAN-UP IN EASTERN BEGINS ON SUNDAY

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EASTERN DISTRICT WILL TAKE ON A NEW LOOK WITH THE LAUNCHING ON SUNDAY (MAY 28) OF A MASSIVE BLOCK-TO-BLOCK CLEAN-UP OPERATION WHICH WILL CONTINUE UNTIL JULY 10.

EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL TAKE THE LEAD IN CLEANING UP CHUN YEUNG STREET, A POPULAR MARKET PLACE IN NORTH POINT.

THE OPERATION IS ONE OF THE ACTIVITIES JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD, THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE URBAN COUNCIL TO SUPPORT THE 1989-90 TERRITORY-WIDE KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN.

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DURING THE OPERATION, THE HONG KONG EAST OFFICE OF THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL MOBILISE STAFF TO CLEAN UP PRIVATE AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS, HAWKER AREAS, AND RECREATIONAL GROUNDS IN MAJOR AREAS IN THE DISTRICT.

OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS CHANG KING-YOU; URBAN COUNCILLOR, MISS CHRISTINA TING; SENIOR SUPERINTENDENT (HK EAST) OF THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT, MR WONG SHIU-KWONG; AND CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE, MRS BETTY YUNG.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT BLOCK-TO-BLOCK CLEAN-UP OPERATION ON SUNDAY (MAY 28) AT THE JUNCTION OF CHUN YEUNG STREET AND TONG SHUI ROAD IN NORTH POINT. THE CEREMONY WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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HOME SAFETY EXHIBITION AT CHUK YUEN ESTATE

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A MOBILE EXHIBITION TO DISSEMINATE HOME SAFETY MESSAGES WILL BE STAGED AT THE SHOPPING CENTRE OF CHUK YUEN (SOUTH) ESTATE IN WONG TAI SIN ON SUNDAY (MAY 28), FROM 11 AM TO 4 PM.

THE THEME OF THE EXHIBITION IS "HOW TO KEEP YOUR KITCHEN SAFE".

"THE EXHIBITION, IN THE FORM OF A MOCK KITCHEN, AIMS AT ALERTING THE PUBLIC TO THE POTENTIAL DANGERS IN THIS AREA OF THE HOME," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HOME SAFETY CAMPAIGN PUBLICITY COMMITTEE SAID.

A NEW BOOKLET, "SAFETY BEGINS AT HOME", WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO VISITORS AT THE VENUE.

"THE BOOKLET NOT ONLY OUTLINES THE MOST COMMON HAZARDS IN THE HOME BUT ALSO PROVIDES GUIDELINES ON HOW TO AVOID MISHAPS ARISING THROUGH THE USE OF GAS, ELECTRICITY, MICROWAVES, WATER, CHEMICALS AND MEDICINE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"IT ALSO GIVES ADVICE ON FIRST AID KNOWLEDGE AND THE CONTENT OF A FIRST AID BOX," HE ADDED.

CHUK YUEN (SOUTH) ESTATE IS THE LAST STOP FOR THE MOBILE EXHIBITION WHICH HAS VISITED EIGHT PUBLIC ESTATES ON CONSECUTIVE SUNDAYS SINCE MARCH.

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AMENDMENTS TO DRAFT FANLING/SHEUNG SHUI OZP

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT FANLING/SHEUNG SHUI OUTLINE ZONING PLAN HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED BY THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE BOARD SAID THE AMENDMENTS MAINLY INCLUDED TWO ITEMS: A AND B.

ITEM A REFERS TO AN AMENDMENT FROM 'RESIDENTIAL (GROUP C)1' TO 'RESIDENTIAL (GROUP C)2' IN AN AREA AT PAK FUK TSUEN IN AREA 39, FANLING.

IN THE 'RESIDENTIAL (GROUP C)' ZONE, THE RESTRICTIONS IN RESPECT OF SUB-AREA 'R(C)2' ARE AMENDED FROM 'MAXIMUM PLOT RATIO OF 0.8 AND MAXIMUM HEIGHT OF 8 RESIDENTIAL STOREYS OVER ONE-STOREY CARPORT' TO 'MAXIMUM PLOT RATIO OF 1.5 AND MAXIMUM HEIGHT OF 12 STOREYS INCLUDING CARPORT'.

ITEM B RELATES TO A REZONING OF A SITE AT THE NORTH-EASTERN PART OF ON LOK TSUEN IN AREA 25, FANLING FROM 'GOVERNMENT/INSTITUTION/COMMUNITY' TO 'INDUSTRIAL' USE.

THE ABOVE AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT PLAN MAY BE INSPECTED AT THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:

- TOWN PLANNING OFFICE, BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 4/F., MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG;
- PUBLIC ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING ENTRANCE, HONG KONG; AND
- NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE, JOCKEY CLUB ROAD, FANLING ROUNDABOUT, FANLING, NEW TERRITORIES.

ANY PERSON AFFECTED BY ITEM A OF THE AMENDMENTS MAY SUBMIT HIS OBJECTION IN WRITING BY JUNE 9, 1989 AND BY JUNE 16, 1989 FOR ITEM B TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TOWN PLANNINGBOARD, C/O BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 4/F., MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG.

COPIES OF THE AMENDMENT PLAN ARE AVAILABLE AT THE MAP AND PLAN SALES SECTION, SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14/F., MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD; AND THE KOWLOON MAP AND PLAN SALES SECTION, 382 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

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DEADLINE FOR TYPHOON RELIEF APPLICATIONS

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THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) ADVISED FARMERS WHO SUFFERED HEAVY LOSSES AS A RESULT OF TYPHOON BRENDA THAT APPLICATIONS FOR EMERGENCY RELIEF GRANTS WOULD CLOSE AT 5 PM ON WEDNESDAY (MAY 31).

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT GENUINE FULL-TIME FARMERS WHO SUFFERED EXTENSIVE DAMAGES AND WERE IN NEED OF THE GRANT TO RELIEVE THEIR FINANCIAL DISTRESS WOULD BE CONSIDERED FOR A RELIEF GRANT UP TO A MAXIMUM OF \$1,520 FROM THE EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND.

HE ADVISED THOSE AFFECTED CROP, LIVESTOCK AND POND FISH FARMERS TO MAKE THEIR APPLICATIONS PERSONALLY AND PROVIDE DETAILS OF THEIR LOSSES TO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING FISHERIES AND AGRICULTURAL OFFICES IF THEY HAD NOT ALREADY DONE SO:

- * AU TAU FISHERIES OFFICE,
AU TAU, YUEN LONG.
- * YUEN LONG DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL OFFICE,
TAI KIU MARKET,
YUEN LONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES,
YUEN LONG.
- * TAI PO DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL OFFICE,
TAI PO GOVERNMENT OFFICES,
TING KOK ROAD,
TAI PO.
- * KO PO AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION OFFICE,
KO PO, FANLING.
- * SAI KUNG AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION OFFICE,
HO CHUNG, SAI KUNG.
- * MUI WO AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION OFFICE,
SILVER MINE BAY, MUI WO.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT SINCE THE START OF THE OPERATION ON MONDAY, 899 FARMERS HAD APPLIED TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR EMERGENCY RELIEF GRANTS.

OF THE APPLICANTS ALREADY REGISTERED SO FAR, 732 WERE CROP AND LIVESTOCK FARMERS WHILE THE REMAINING 167 WERE POND FISH FARMERS.

"AFTER INITIAL REGISTRATION, EACH CASE WILL BE INVESTIGATED, CHECKED AND ASSESSED. AND ONLY THOSE WHO MEET WITH THE EMERGENCY RELIEF CRITERIA WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR THE PAYMENT OF A RELIEF GRANT OF WHICH THE AMOUNT WILL BE BASED ON THE REHABILITATION COST REQUIRED IN EACH CASE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

/"AFTER CHECKING

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"AFTER CHECKING AND ASSESSMENT, APPLICANTS WHOSE CASES ARE FOUND JUSTIFIED WILL BE NOTIFIED FOR THE COLLECTION OF THEIR GRANTS IN DUE COURSE. AND THOSE UNSUCCESSFUL WILL ALSO BE INFORMED," HE ADDED.

TYPHOON BRENDA CAUSED FLOODING OF SOME 130 HECTARES OF FISH PONDS WITH LOSSES ESTIMATED AT \$2.8 MILLION.

THE TYPHOON ALSO CAUSED FLOODING TO 250 HECTARES OF FARMLAND IN YUEN LONG AND EASTERN NEW TERRITORIES. LIVESTOCK LOSSES INCLUDED SOME 66,000 CHICKENS, 6,000 DUCKS, 1,300 PAIRS OF PIGEONS, AND 1,000 PIGS.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK LOSSES WERE ESTIMATED AT \$6 MILLION.

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DEADLINE FOR LRT ACCIDENT VICTIMS TO APPLY FOR TAVA

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VICTIMS OF ACCIDENTS INVOLVING LIGHT RAIL VEHICLES SINCE MARCH 1 LAST YEAR WHO WISH TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS ASSISTANCE (TAVA) SCHEME ARE REMINDED THAT THEIR APPLICATIONS SHOULD REACH THE TAVA SECTION OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT BY SEPTEMBER 1 THIS YEAR.

THE SENIOR SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICER, TAVA, MISS HELEN LEE, NOTED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT AT A RECENT MEETING THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL HAD PASSED AN AMENDMENT CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATIVE DOCUMENT GOVERNING THE OPERATION, AND ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR ASSISTANCE, OF THE TAVA SCHEME.

UNDER THE AMENDMENT, PEOPLE CLAIMING ASSISTANCE ARISING FROM ACCIDENTS ON THE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SINCE MARCH 1 LAST YEAR ARE NOT SUBJECT TO THE RULE THAT APPLICATIONS MUST BE MADE WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF THE ACCIDENT.

"THIS AMENDMENT WILL EXPIRE ON SEPTEMBER 1, 1989, WHICH WILL GIVE THE INJURED PERSONS CONCERNED OR THEIR DEPENDANTS MORE THAN THREE MONTHS WITHIN WHICH TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION.

"THE RELAXATION OF THIS RULE WILL ONLY APPLY TO ACCIDENTS INVOLVING A LRT VEHICLE AND NOT TO ACCIDENTS INVOLVING ANY OTHER CLASS OF VEHICLE," MISS LEE SAID.

APPLICATIONS CAN BE MADE EITHER IN PERSON OR THROUGH THE POST.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION SECTIONS OF THE POLICE DISTRICT TRAFFIC FORMATIONS, DISTRICT OFFICES OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, OR AT THE TAVA SECTION, SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, AT 15 WATSON ROAD, VICTORIA CENTRE, FIRST FLOOR, CAUSEWAY BAY.

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EXHIBITION ON WATER POLLUTION IN TSUEN WAN

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A PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION ON "WATER POLLUTION IN TSUEN WAN" WILL BE HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AFTERNOON.

ON DISPLAY WILL BE 40 WINNING ENTRIES OF A PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION ORGANISED BY THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD'S WORKING GROUP ON POLLUTION PROBLEMS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENHANCING PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE PROBLEM.

OFFICIATING AT THE PRIZE-PRESENTATION CEREMONY TOMORROW WILL BE THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR CHAU HOW-CHEN; THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS SANDY HO; AND THE CONVENER OF THE WORKING GROUP ON POLLUTION PROBLEMS IN TSUEN WAN, DR RICHARD LAI.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION TOMORROW (SATURDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE, FIRST FLOOR, TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK BUILDING, TSUEN WAN.

THE EXHIBITION WILL BEGIN AT 1 PM AND THE PRIZE-PRESENTATION CEREMONY WILL TAKE PLACE AT 2.30 PM.

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LAND IN TAI PO TO BE RESUMED

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THE GOVERNMENT IS TO RESUME LAND IN TAI PO FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF FOUR PYLONS AS PART OF THE TAI PO TO BORDER SECTION OF THE 400 KV OVERHEAD POWER TRANSMISSION NETWORK.

THE LAND TO BE RESUMED COMPRISES 12 PRIVATE AGRICULTURAL LOTS AND ONE OTHER LOT WITH A TOTAL AREA OF 5,458.1 SQUARE METRES OF AGRICULTURAL LAND.

A NOTICE ON THE RESUMPTION WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE LOTS WILL REVERT TO THE GOVERNMENT ON THE EXPIRY OF THREE MONTHS AFTER THE POSTING OF THE NOTICE ON THE LOTS.

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SHUEN WAN LANDFILL EXTENSION PROPOSED

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THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO RECLAIM 25.2 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED AT TOLO HARBOUR TO FORM AN EXTENSION OF THE SHUEN WAN LANDFILL AT TAI PO.

THE FORMED LANDFILL EXTENSION WILL PROVIDE SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL FACILITIES FOR THE NORTHEAST NEW TERRITORIES.

THE AREA AFFECTED BY THE PROPOSED RECLAMATION WAS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HE HAS AN INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEABED MAY SUBMIT A WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS BEFORE JULY 25.

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CLOSURE OF JAT'S INCLINE IN TSZ WAN SHAN

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT JAT'S INCLINE HAS BEEN CLOSED FOR TWO WEEKS FROM 10 AM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE REMOVAL OF OVER-HANGING BOULDERS.

DURING THE CLOSURE, FEI NGO SHAN ROAD BETWEEN SHATIN PASS ROAD AND CUSTOMS PASS WILL BE RE-ROUTED FOR ONE-WAY DOWNHILL TRAFFIC.

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