



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1989

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1989

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WE CAN BE PROUD OF OUR PROGRESS : GOVERNOR

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FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE NEW YEAR MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON:

"THE START OF A NEW DECADE IS A GOOD TIME TO LOOK BACK AT WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED IN THE 1980s AND TO LOOK FORWARD TO THE CHALLENGES OF THE DECADE AHEAD.

"WE CAN BE PROUD OF THE PROGRESS WE HAVE MADE IN THE 1980s. OUR HOUSING, EDUCATION AND TRANSPORT SERVICES HAVE BEEN IMPROVED ENORMOUSLY. OUR STANDARD OF LIVING HAS RISEN TO A LEVEL THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN UNIMAGINABLE TEN YEARS AGO. THERE IS A STRONGER SENSE OF COMMUNITY AND A GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF THE THINGS WHICH MAKE HONG KONG THE UNIQUE SOCIETY IT IS.

"THE PAST DECADE, AND PARTICULARLY THIS PAST YEAR, HAVE ALSO SEEN CHANGES TO THE POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH WE LIVE. THESE HAVE CREATED NEW CHALLENGES FOR US TO FACE AND NEW DIFFICULTIES FOR US TO OVERCOME.

"WE HAVE ALREADY STARTED TO PREPARE FOR THE 1990s - AND INDEED WELL BEYOND, INTO THE NEXT CENTURY. BY PLANNING TO EXPAND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES WE ARE LOOKING TO BUILD UP THE NEW GENERATIONS THAT HONG KONG MUST RELY ON FOR THE FUTURE. WE MUST ALSO MAKE SURE THAT HONG KONG HAS ALL THE FACILITIES IT NEEDS TO CONTINUE TO BE A LEADING INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR TRADE, COMMERCE AND FINANCE. THAT IS WHERE THE PLANS FOR A NEW AIRPORT, AND GREATLY EXPANDED PORT, FIT IN. AND BY MAKING GREATER EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT, WE ARE DETERMINED TO ENSURE THAT HONG KONG REMAINS A PLACE WORTH LIVING IN.

"BUT, ABOVE ALL, AS WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE 1990s AND THE CHANGES THAT LIE AHEAD, WE MUST BUILD ON OUR SENSE OF BEING A COMMUNITY. MUCH OF OUR FUTURE LIES IN OUR OWN HANDS. WE MUST USE THE ENERGY THAT HAS MADE HONG KONG PROSPEROUS TO PRESERVE OUR VERY SPECIAL SOCIETY AND TO MAKE HONG KONG AN EVEN BETTER PLACE IN WHICH TO LIVE AND WORK.

"AT THE START OF THE NEW DECADE MY FAMILY JOINS ME IN WISHING ALL THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG A HAPPY, HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS 1990."

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SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT FOR DISABLED BEING TESTED

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THE GOVERNMENT IS EXPERIMENTING AND STUDYING THE FEASIBILITY OF SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT FOR THE DISABLED TO WIDEN THEIR EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS ELIZABETH WONG, SAID THIS (SUNDAY) AFTERNOON.

SPEAKING AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATION OF THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF THE BLIND AT THE CHATER ROAD PEDESTRIAN PRECINCT IN CENTRAL, MRS WONG SAID ONE OF THE SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT MODELS NOW BEING TRIED OUT WAS THE MOBILE CLEANSING CREW.

"SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT IS AN ALTERNATIVE TO OPEN EMPLOYMENT BY WHICH DISABLED PERSONS CAN EARN THEIR OWN LIVING AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE SOCIETY," SHE SAID.

MRS WONG POINTED OUT THAT VARIOUS SERVICES AND FACILITIES WERE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST THE DISABLED IN GETTING A JOB.

"WHILE THE SELECTIVE PLACEMENT DIVISION OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT ASSISTS IN OBTAINING OPEN EMPLOYMENT FOR THE DISABLED, THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINING DEPARTMENT PROVIDES PRE-VOCATIONAL TRAINING FOR THEM.

"BESIDES, DAY ACTIVITY CENTRES AND SHELTERED WORKSHOPS ARE RUN BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES TO CATER TO THOSE WHO ARE UNABLE TO ENTER INTO OPEN EMPLOYMENT," SHE SAID.

"AT PRESENT, THERE ARE ABOUT 1,300 GOVERNMENT-AIDED PLACES AT DAY ACTIVITY CENTRES AND AROUND 3,200 AT SHELTERED WORKSHOPS," MRS WONG ADDED.

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RENAMING OF TUEN MUN VILLAGE

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THE RENAMING OF TSING SHAN KEUK CHUEN IN TUEN MUN TO TUEN MUN KAU HUI WILL TAKE EFFECT TOMORROW (MONDAY).

A TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID THE RENAMING HAS BEEN REQUESTED BY RESIDENTS OF THE VILLAGE, IN ORDER TO REFLECT ITS HISTORICAL BACKGROUND.

THE VILLAGE WAS FOUNDED AROUND 1945 AND HAS PRESENT POPULATION OF ABOUT 1,000, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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CHARITY ACTIVITY IN TSEUNG KWAN O

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MORE THAN 1,000 CHILDREN AND OLDER RESIDENTS OF TSEUNG KWAN O ENJOYED A "JOY AND CONCERN CIVIC DAY" TODAY (SUNDAY).

ORGANISED BY THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT CIVIC EDUCATION PROMOTION COMMITTEE WITH THE SPONSORSHIP OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD, THE ACTIVITY WAS AIMED AT RAISING FUNDS FOR HAVEN OF HOPE HOSPITAL TO PROVIDE SERVICES FOR TERMINALLY ILL PATIENTS.

THE PROGRAMME INCLUDED CHARITY SALES, GAMES STALLS AND CHILDREN'S GAMES.

OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY WERE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR FREDERICK TONG; CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE JUNK BAY MEDICAL RELIEF COUNCIL, DR ANTONY LEUNG; AND REGIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER (EAST KOWLOON) OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, MR LOK MAN-PAN.

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FEE REDUCTION SCHEME FOR THE ELDERLY

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THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD'S SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS A PROGRESS REPORT ON THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION OF THE FEE REDUCTION SCHEME FOR THE ELDERLY AT ITS MEETING ON TUESDAY (JANUARY 2).

A "SPECIAL OFFER DAY FOR THE ELDERLY" UNDER THE SCHEME WILL BE HELD IN THE DISTRICT ON JANUARY 14.

IN ADDITION, MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS THE REPORTS ON THE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROJECT FOR THE YOUTH COMPETITION AND THE WONG TAI SIN/SAI KUNG DISTRICT ELDERLY SERVICES FESTIVAL 89.

A WRITTEN REPLY FROM THE DIRECTOR OF HOSPITAL SERVICES ON THE PLANNED HOSPITAL PROJECT IN DIAMOND HILL WILL BE TABLED FOR MEMBERS' INFORMATION.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD'S SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY (JANUARY 2) IN THE DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, FOURTH FLOOR, SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, KING FUK STREET.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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DB COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS SOCIAL WELFARE

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THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD'S HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS A PAPER PREPARED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT ON THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES IN HONG KONG AT THE COMMITTEE'S MEETING ON TUESDAY (JANUARY 2).

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS A REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY.

MEANWHILE, A MEMBER WILL ASK ABOUT THE DETAILS OF A COMMUNITY/YOUTH CENTRE TO BE DEVELOPED IN SHA TIN PLAZA.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE PROGRESS REPORTS BY THE COMMITTEE'S WORKING GROUPS AND THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD'S HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY (JANUARY 2) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE SIXTH FLOOR, KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN STATION.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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OZP REFERRED BACK FOR FURTHER AMENDMENT

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THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL HAS REFERRED THE DRAFT PLAN FOR CHA KWO LING, YAU TONG AND LEI YUE MUN BACK TO THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION AND AMENDMENT.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE BOARD SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) THAT THIS OUTLINE ZONING PLAN WAS STILL SUBJECT TO REVISION AND, THEREFORE, NOT READY FOR APPROVAL AT THE PRESENT STAGE.

FUTURE AMENDMENTS TO THE PLAN WILL LIKELY INCLUDE GENERAL REVISION OF THE LAND USE PROPOSALS FOR THE YAU TONG AREA, WHICH ARE BEING FORMULATED UNDER THE METROPLAN STUDY.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT SHOULD THE PLAN BE AMENDED IN FUTURE, THE AMENDMENTS WOULD BE EXHIBITED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION AND OBJECTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE TOWN PLANNING ORDINANCE.

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REMOVAL OF IMMIGRATION HEADQUARTERS

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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS IN TSIM SHA TSUI WILL MOVE TO WANCHAI TOWER II, 7 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI, WITH EFFECT FROM JANUARY 22.

"THE EXISTING HEADQUARTERS WILL BE CLOSED AS FROM JANUARY 19 TO FACILITATE REMOVAL," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

EFFECTIVE FROM JANUARY 22, THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS OFFICE ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF PROVIDENT CENTRE, NORTH POINT AND THE HONG KONG ISLAND OFFICE ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF HARBOUR BUILDING, CENTRAL, WILL ALSO BE REPROVISIONED TO THE NEW HEADQUARTERS.

THE NEW IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS WILL BE EASILY ACCESSIBLE FROM THE WAN CHAI MTR STATION. IT OCCUPIES 25 FLOORS OF WANCHAI TOWER II, OF WHICH EIGHT LOWER PUBLIC FLOORS ARE USED TO PROCESS APPLICATIONS FOR VARIOUS IMMIGRATION FACILITIES.

THE INFORMATION OFFICE, WHICH PROVIDES INFORMATION SERVICES AND APPLICATION FORMS TO THE PUBLIC, IS SITUATED ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE BUILDING.

THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY TELEPHONE NUMBER AT THE NEW HEADQUARTERS IS 8246111.

RECORDED ANSWERS WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR STRAIGHT-FORWARD ENQUIRIES WHILE MORE DETAILED ANSWERS WILL CONTINUE TO BE PROVIDED BY EXPERIENCED IMMIGRATION STAFF.

"DURING THE CLOSURE OF THE EXISTING HEADQUARTERS ON JANUARY 19 AND 20, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC REQUIRING URGENT IMMIGRATION FACILITIES MAY APPROACH OUR OTHER IMMIGRATION OFFICES FOR ASSISTANCE," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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URBAN CLEARWAY IN MONG KOK

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM ON TUESDAY (JANUARY 2), THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS OF PORTLAND STREET WILL BE DESIGNATED URBAN CLEARWAYS FROM 7 AM TO MIDNIGHT DAILY FOR THREE WEEKS:

- THE EASTERN KERBSIDE LANE OF PORTLAND STREET BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH PRINCE EDWARD ROAD WEST TO A POINT ABOUT 40 METRES NORTH OF THE SAME JUNCTION; AND
- THE WESTERN KERBSIDE LANE OF PORTLAND STREET BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH PRINCE EDWARD ROAD WEST TO A POINT ABOUT 20 METRES NORTH OF THE SAME JUNCTION.

ALL MOTOR VEHICLES EXCEPT THOSE WITH PERMITS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM STOPPING FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS THERE.

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