



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SUNDAY, APRIL 29, 1990

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STATISTICAL KNOWLEDGE ESSENTIAL TO MEET
CHANGING ECONOMIC, SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

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THE STATISTICS PROJECT COMPETITION FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS SERVES TO PROMOTE EDUCATIONAL STUDIES AND TO FOSTER CIVIC AWARENESS AMONG PARTICIPANTS, THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR Y.T. LI, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

HE SAID IT ALSO OFFERS ALL PARTICIPANTS THE VALUABLE OPPORTUNITY TO APPLY STATISTICAL KNOWLEDGE ACQUIRED IN SCHOOLS TO REAL WORLD ISSUES FACING HONG KONG DAILY.

SPEAKING AT THE PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE 1989-90 STATISTICAL PROJECT COMPETITION ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG STATISTICAL SOCIETY, MR LI NOTED THAT OUR SOCIETY HAS EXPERIENCED CONTINUOUS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WHICH HAS GENERATED A FAIR SHARE OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS THAT NEED TO BE TACKLED.

"IT IS THEREFORE IMPORTANT, AND INDEED FUNDAMENTAL, FOR ALL OF US TO UNDERSTAND AND CARE FOR OUR SOCIETY AND ENSURE THE PARALLEL ADVANCEMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE HAND-IN-HAND WITH ECONOMIC GROWTH.

"AND, IT IS MOST DESIRABLE THAT THIS CIVIC AWARENESS IS INCULCATED IN THE MINDS OF OUR YOUNGER GENERATION AT AS EARLY A STAGE AS POSSIBLE, PREFERABLY DURING THEIR SECONDARY EDUCATION."

MR LI SAID HONG KONG, LIKE MOST OTHER DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, IS FACING TRYING CHANGES IN VARIOUS ASPECTS OF ITS ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, POLITICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT.

"IT IS MORE IMPORTANT NOW THAN EVER BEFORE FOR TOP GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AS WELL AS CORPORATE MANAGERS TO CONTINUOUSLY MONITOR THESE CHANGES, TO FORECAST PROBABLE FUTURES, TO DEVELOP STRATEGIES AND TO STEER THEIR ORGANISATIONS THROUGH THESE CHANGES IN FULFILMENT OF STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES," HE SAID.

"APPLICATION OF STATISTICAL KNOWLEDGE PLAYS A CRUCIAL ROLE IN THIS ONGOING PROCESS IN COLLECTING INFORMATION, FORMULATING FUTURE SCENARIOS, DEVELOPING AND TESTING ALTERNATIVE STRATEGIES, THEIR CONTINUOUS MONITORING, FINE TUNING AND FINAL EVALUATION.

"THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ADVANCEMENT OF OUR SOCIETY DEPENDS A LOT ON HOW WELL WE PREPARE FOR AND ADAPT OURSELVES TO THE CHANGING ENVIRONMENT WHICH IN TURN DEPENDS, AMONG OTHER THINGS, ON THE EFFECTIVE APPLICATION OF STATISTICAL KNOWLEDGE."

ALSO OFFICIATING AT THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY WERE THE COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS, MR BENJAMIN MOK, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG STATISTICAL SOCIETY, DR SHEN SHIR-MING.

MORE THAN 300 SECONDARY 3 TO 7 STUDENTS FROM 26 SCHOOLS TOOK PART IN THE COMPETITION, SPONSORED BY LONGMAN.

/THE COMPETITION

THE COMPETITION WAS DIVIDED INTO JUNIOR AND SENIOR SECTIONS.

THE FIRST PRIZE OF \$3,000 EACH WENT TO ST STEPHEN'S GIRLS' COLLEGE (JUNIOR) AND WONG TAI SHAN MEMORIAL COLLEGE (SENIOR). WINNERS OF THE SECOND AND THIRD PRIZES WERE EACH AWARDED \$2,000 AND \$1,000 RESPECTIVELY.

IN ADDITION, THE WINNING TEAMS WERE ALL AWARDED A COPY OF THE STATISTICAL SOFTWARE PACKAGE "SPSS/PC + STUDENTWARE".

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REORGANISATION TO STREAMLINE DRAINAGE OPERATIONS
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THE OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE BRANCH OF THE DRAINAGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL BE REORGANISED FROM TUESDAY, MAY 1 TO STREAMLINE THE DEPLOYMENT OF STAFF RESOURCES ON GEOGRAPHICAL BASIS.

THE BRANCH IS NOW TAKING CARE OF THE DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE OF ALL DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE SYSTEMS IN THE TERRITORY, INCLUDING THE CONNECTION OF NEW DISCHARGES AND THE RECONNECTION OF OLD DRAINS INTO THE EXISTING SYSTEMS.

WITH THE REORGANISATION, THE EXISTING THREE DIVISIONS OF THE BRANCH - URBAN DIVISION, NEW TERRITORIES DIVISION AND SPECIAL PROJECTS DIVISION - WILL BE REPLACED BY THREE NEW DIVISIONS WITH REDEFINED SERVICE BOUNDARIES.

THE NAMES OF THE NEW DIVISIONS AND THEIR SERVICE BOUNDARIES ARE:

NAME OF DIVISION -----	BOUNDARY -----
HONG KONG AND ISLAND DIVISION	HONG KONG ISLAND AND ISLANDS DISTRICT
MAINLAND SOUTH DIVISION	KOWLOON PENINSULA, TSUEN WAN, KWAI TSING, SHA TIN, TSEUNG KWAN O AND SAI KUNG
MAINLAND NORTH DIVISION	NORTH OF TSUEN WAN AND SHA TIN, INCLUDING TAI PO, FANLING AND SHEUNG SHUI

APART FROM UNDERTAKING OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE WORKS IN THE RESPECTIVE DISTRICTS, THE THREE DIVISIONS WILL ALSO HANDLE DRAINAGE AND SEWER BLOCKAGE COMPLAINTS AND CARRY OUT CLEARANCE WORKS TO BLOCKED PUBLIC DRAINS AND SEWERS.

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THEY ARE ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING FLOOD CONTROL STRATEGY AND PREVENTIVE PROGRAMMES FOR THE WHOLE TERRITORY.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO MAKE DRAINAGE COMPLAINTS OR REPORT FLOODINGS TO THE DIVISIONS SHOULD TELEPHONE 805 6344 (HONG KONG AND ISLAND), 300 1447 (MAINLAND SOUTH), 300 1444 (MAINLAND NORTH) BETWEEN 8 AM AND 10 PM, AND 848 1111 TO ALL DIVISIONS AFTER 10 PM.

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FLYOVER TO BE BUILT ACROSS POK FU LAM ROAD

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THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT PROPOSES TO CONSTRUCT A GRADE-SEPARATED ACCESS ACROSS POK FU LAM ROAD TO IMPROVE THE TRAFFIC FLOW IN THE AREA.

THE PROPOSED WORKS INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 120-METRE LONG SINGLE TWO-LANE FLYOVER ACROSS POK FU LAM ROAD TO CONNECT ITS EASTBOUND LANE WITH THE WEST PORTION OF THE MAIN CAMPUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

A SECTION OF POK FU LAM ROAD FROM LADY HO TUNG HALL TO CHIU SHEUNG SCHOOL WILL BE WIDENED TO SINGLE FOUR-LANE CARRIAGEWAY.

THE EXISTING POK FU LAM ROAD FROM HOK SZ TERRACE TO CHIU SHEUNG SCHOOL WILL BE RESURFACED AND RECONSTRUCTED.

THE EXISTING ACCESS TO THE PUMPING STATION OF THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT WILL BE CLOSED. AN ALTERNATIVE ROUTE WILL BE PROVIDED VIA THE PROPOSED GRADE-SEPARATED ACCESS.

THE PLAN AND SCHEME OF THE PROPOSED WORKS CAN BE SEEN AT THE FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT OFFICES:

- * CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY, HONG KONG;
- * HONG KONG WEST DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, 19TH FLOOR, SOUTHORN CENTRE, 130 HENESSY ROAD, WAN CHAI; AND
- * CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, GROUND FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, HONG KONG.

THOSE WHO WISH TO OBJECT TO THE PROPOSED WORKS SHOULD WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG NOT LATER THAN JUNE 26 THIS YEAR.

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TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE TO BE BUILT AT LOK FU

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THE GOVERNMENT PLANS TO BUILD A TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE AT THE NORTHEASTERN SIDE OF THE LOK FU SHOPPING CENTRE II NOW BEING CONSTRUCTED.

THE PROPOSED WORKS ARE CONNECTED WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SHOPPING CENTRE IN THE PHASE 2B REDEVELOPMENT OF LOK FU ESTATE.

TO PROVIDE AN INGRESS AND EGRESS ROUTE TO THE NEW TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE, A SECTION OF THE EXISTING FU MEI STREET EAST NEAR ITS JUNCTION WITH WANG TAU HOM EAST ROAD WILL HAVE TO BE CLOSED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW ROAD.

CONSTRUCTION OF THE ABOVE PROPOSED WORKS WILL START AT THE END OF THIS YEAR AND BE COMPLETED IN THE MIDDLE OF 1991.

A NOTICE ON THE PROPOSED WORKS WAS PUBLISHED IN THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE GAZETTE.

THE PLAN AND SCHEME OF THESE WORKS MAY BE INSPECTED AT THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:

- * CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY, HONG KONG;
- * KOWLOON EAST DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, YAU MA TEI CARPARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON; AND
- * WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICE, LOK FU SUB-OFFICE, UNITS NO. T51-T53, THIRD FLOOR, LOK FU SHOPPING CENTRE, KOWLOON.

ANY PERSON WHO WISHES TO OBJECT TO THE PROPOSED WORKS SHOULD WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG NOT LATER THAN JUNE 11 THIS YEAR.

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DB COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS BUS SERVICES IN EASTERN

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THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS THE FRANCHISED BUS SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT AT A MEETING ON TUESDAY (MAY 1).

THE ACTING TRAFFIC MANAGER OF CHINA MOTOR BUS COMPANY, MR DEREK NICHOLLS, WILL ATTEND THE MEETING TO ANSWER MEMBERS' QUERIES.

/REPRESENTATIVES FROM

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REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT WILL BRIEF MEMBERS ON A REVISED PROGRAMME OF RECONSTRUCTION WORKS ON KING'S ROAD AND RELATED TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT MEASURES.

ALSO, MEMBERS WILL STUDY A PROPOSAL TO CONVERT THE JUNCTION OF TAI HANG ROAD AND LAI TAK CHUEN ROAD INTO A PUBLIC LIGHT BUS WAITING AREA.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD'S TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY (MAY 1) IN THE DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, FIRST FLOOR, 880-886 KING'S ROAD.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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STREET LIGHTS ON DB COMMITTEE AGENDA

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MEMBERS OF THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD'S SQUATTER AREAS COMMITTEE WILL BE BRIEFED ON THE INSTALLATION OF STREET LIGHTS ALONG THE FOOTPATH LINKING NGAU CHI WAN VILLAGE TO WING TING ROAD AT ITS MEETING ON TUESDAY (MAY 1).

MEMBERS WILL CONSIDER FOUR APPLICATIONS FOR DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS AMOUNTING TO \$36,500.

THE FUNDS WILL BE USED FOR CLEARING RUBBISH AND SILT IN A STREAM AT DIAMOND NEW VILLAGE, PRINTING STICKERS AND DISTRIBUTING GARBAGE BAGS TO REMIND RESIDENTS AND DYEING FACTORY WORKERS IN THE VILLAGE NOT TO DUMP RUBBISH INTO THE STREAM, AND REPAIRING FOOTPATHS AT TSUI WAH ROAD AND CHING STREET.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE PROGRESS REPORTS ON MINOR WORKS PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN BY THE COMMITTEE, AND ON CASES OF LANDSLIPS, MUDSLIPS, STRUCTURAL FAILURE, FIRE AND OTHER NATURAL DISASTERS IN SQUATTER AREAS IN THE DISTRICT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD'S SQUATTER AREAS COMMITTEE TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY (MAY 1) 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 STUDY PROGRESS REPORT

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THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD'S TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE WILL STUDY A PROGRESS REPORT ON VARIOUS TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT ISSUES IN THE DISTRICT AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (MONDAY).

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS A PROPOSAL TO SET UP A WORKING GROUP TO MONITOR THE DISTRICT'S BUS SERVICES.

AN INFORMATION PAPER ON IMPROVEMENTS TO ROAD SAFETY ALONG LEE NAM ROAD WILL BE TABLED.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD'S TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE TO BE HELD TOMORROW (MONDAY) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM, SECOND FLOOR, MEI FUNG COURT, 7-11 NAM NING STREET, ABERDEEN CENTRE.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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FITNESS CLASSES POPULAR AMONG THE ELDERLY

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HONG KONG'S OLD PEOPLE ARE AS EAGER AND ENTHUSIASTIC IN KEEPING FIT AS THEIR YOUNGER COUNTERPARTS, JUDGING FROM THE RESPONSE TO FITNESS CLASSES ORGANISED FOR THE ELDERLY IN KOWLOON CITY.

MORE THAN 70 SENIOR RESIDENTS IN THE DISTRICT ATTENDED THE TWO FITNESS CLASSES HELD THIS MONTH AND A FURTHER 650 ARE EXPECTED TO FILL CLASSES UNTIL MARCH NEXT YEAR.

EACH CLASS CONSISTS OF 12 TO 14 ONE-HOUR SESSIONS DURING WHICH THE ELDERLY LEARN HOW TO EXERCISE ACCORDING TO THEIR NEEDS AND ABILITIES UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF TRAINED INSTRUCTORS.

THE PROJECT IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR THE WELFARE AND RECREATION OF THE ELDERLY, THE URBAN COUNCIL AND THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE, WITH SPONSORSHIP FROM THE DISTRICT BOARD.

TWO CLASSES WILL BE HELD EACH MONTH AT THE TO KWA WAN FITNESS CENTRE. LOCAL RESIDENTS AGED OVER 55 CAN ATTEND THE CLASSES WHICH ARE FREE OF CHARGE.

ENROLMENT FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE TO KWA WAN FITNESS CENTRE, 10TH FLOOR, TO KWA WAN MARKET AND GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 165 MA TAU WEI ROAD.

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1,388 PEOPLE ARRESTED IN 4,832 RAIDS IN MARCH
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POLICE CONTINUED THEIR THREE-PRONGED ENFORCEMENT ACTION AGAINST DRUGS, ILLEGAL GAMBLING AND VICE ACTIVITIES LAST MONTH, RESULTING IN THE ARREST OF 1,388 PEOPLE IN 4,832 RAIDS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY.

A POLICE SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) THAT DURING THE MONTH, 204 PEOPLE WERE ARRESTED IN 414 RAIDS ON HONG KONG ISLAND, 908 PEOPLE WERE ARRESTED IN 4,095 RAIDS IN KOWLOON AND 267 PEOPLE WERE ARRESTED IN 310 RAIDS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

IN ADDITION, NARCOTICS BUREAU OFFICERS ARRESTED NINE PEOPLE IN 13 OPERATIONS.

IN THEIR SUSTAINED EFFORTS AGAINST VICE ACTIVITIES, POLICE ARRESTED 116 PEOPLE IN 3,956 RAIDS AND SEIZED 1,712 PORNOGRAPHIC VIDEO TAPES AND 494 OBJECTIONABLE MAGAZINES.

ON THE ANTI-GAMBLING FRONT, POLICE CONDUCTED 117 RAIDS AND ARRESTED 642 PEOPLE, SEIZING \$250,000 IN TABLE MONEY AND BETTING SLIPS WORTH ABOUT \$1.6 MILLION.

POLICE ALSO CARRIED OUT 759 RAIDS AND ARRESTED 630 PEOPLE IN THEIR FIGHT AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKING IN MARCH. THE DRUGS SEIZED INCLUDED 7.4 KILOGRAMS OF NO. 3 HEROIN, 927 GRAMS OF OPIUM, 127 GRAMS OF CANNABIS AND SIX KILOGRAMS OF CANNABIS RESIN.

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THREE-TIER INTRUDER ALARM POLICE RESPONSE SYSTEM HELPS SAVE MANPOWER
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INITIAL OPERATIONAL RESULTS OF A THREE-TIER INTRUDER ALARM POLICE RESPONSE SYSTEM HAVE REVEALED SUCCESS IN SAVING PREVIOUS FORCE MANPOWER FOR MORE URGENT AND GENUINE LAW AND ORDER TASKS.

THE FIRST SET OF STATISTICS PRODUCED SINCE THE NEW SCHEME WAS INTRODUCED IN SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR DEMONSTRATED THAT HUNDREDS OF POLICE MAN-HOURS COULD BE PRESERVED ON AN AVERAGE WEEK UNDER THE PHASED RESPONSE SYSTEM.

AND THE MANPOWER SAVING, WHICH IS PARTICULARLY ESSENTIAL WITH THE CURRENT TIGHT LABOUR MARKET AFFECTING THE FORCE AS WELL, IS EXPECTED TO BE FURTHER ENHANCED WITH HEIGHTENED AWARENESS IN THE NEED FOR GOOD INTRUDER ALARM MAINTENANCE AS THE SCHEME CONTINUES.

ACCORDING TO THE STAFF INSPECTOR, INTRUDER ALARM INSPECTION UNIT OF THE CRIME PREVENTION BUREAU, MR JULIAN HARRON, THE UNIT REGISTERED 898 FALSE CALLS FROM LEVEL 2 SYSTEMS AND 471 FALSE CALLS FROM LEVEL 3 SYSTEMS IN THE SIX WEEKS FROM MID-FEBRUARY TO THE END OF MARCH.

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IN OPERATIONAL TERMS, THIS MEANT 898 EMERGENCY UNIT TRIPS WERE SPARED AND NO SPECIFIC POLICE OFFICERS HAD TO BE DIVERTED FROM THEIR DUTIES IN 471 OTHER OCCASIONS, MR HARRON SAID.

THE PHASED RESPONSE SYSTEM WORKS BY GRADING INTO THREE CATEGORIES ALARM SYSTEMS INSTALLED IN PREMISES WHICH WILL ENTAIL DIFFERENT LEVELS OF POLICE ACTION BASED ON THE NUMBER OF FALSE CALLS THEY HAVE EFFECTED OVER A PERIOD OF TIME.

PREMISES WITH RELIABLE ALARM SYSTEMS, WHICH ARE PUT UNDER LEVEL 1 RESPONSE, WILL BE GIVEN FULL EMERGENCY POLICE ATTENTION IN THE FORM OF THOROUGH CHECKS FOR POSSIBLE FORCED ENTRY OR DAMAGE AND POLICE OFFICERS WILL REMAIN FOR A MAXIMUM OF ONE HOUR AWAITING THE ARRIVAL OF THE SYSTEM KEYHOLDERS.

ALARM SYSTEMS WHICH HAVE REGISTERED THREE OR MORE FALSE CALLS IN A SINGLE MONTH OR FIVE OR MORE FALSE CALLS IN A CONTINUOUS PERIOD OF SIX MONTH WILL BE PLACED UNDER RESPONSE LEVEL 2. ALARM CALLS FROM THESE SYSTEMS WILL RECEIVE NO EMERGENCY UNIT ATTENDANCE AND OFFICERS, HAVING SUBSEQUENTLY FOUND NO SIGN OF FORCED ENTRY, WILL LEAVE THE PREMISES IMMEDIATELY.

NO SPECIFIC POLICE OFFICERS WILL BE DIVERTED TO ATTEND ALARM CALLS EMANATING FROM PREMISES CLASSIFIED AS LEVEL 3 AND ONLY BEAT PATROL POLICEMEN IN THE AREAS WILL BE INFORMED.

AS SUCH CALLS RECEIVE NO PRIORITY OVER OTHER POLICE DUTIES, BEAT POLICEMEN WOULD CHECK FOR POSSIBLE FORCED ENTRY ONLY WHEN THEY ARE FREE OF OTHER DUTIES, THERE WILL ALSO BE NO WAITING FOR KEYHOLDERS TO TURN OUT.

ANY ALARM INSTALLATIONS CAUSING FIVE FALSE CALLS OR MORE IN A SINGLE MONTH OR 10 OR MORE SUCH CALLS IN A SIX-MONTH PERIOD WILL BE TREATED AS LEVEL 3 SYSTEM.

MR HARRON SAID THAT SINCE THE NEW RESPONSE SYSTEM CAME INTO EFFECT, THE UNIT HAD IDENTIFIED 1,296 LEVEL 2 ALARM SYSTEMS AND 327 LEVEL 3 SYSTEMS BY THE END OF FEBRUARY.

AT THE SAME TIME, 36 SYSTEMS HAD BEEN REINSTATED ONTO LEVEL ONE ALERT AFTER IMPROVEMENT HAD BEEN SHOWN TO THE CRIME PREVENTION BUREAU ON THEIR RELIABILITY.

MR HARRON EXPLAINED THAT THE NEW RESPONSE SYSTEM WAS PUT IN PLACE IN THE LIGHT OF THE WORSENING RATE OF FALSE CALLS OVER THE YEARS AND SYSTEM OWNERS' FAILURE TO TAKE ACTION TO IMPROVE THE RELIABILITY OF THEIR SYSTEMS.

"OUR OBJECTIVE IS TO ENSURE THAT EVERY TIME WE GO OUT, IT WILL BE IN RESPONSE TO A GENUINE CALL," MR HARRON SAID.

POLICE STATISTICS SHOW THAT THE NUMBER OF FALSE ALARM CALLS SINCE 1984 HAD PERSISTENTLY ACCOUNTED FOR OVER 99.5 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CALLS, PRECIPITATING A HUGE WASTE OF POLICE MANPOWER.

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AND THE RATE OF FALSE CALLS PEAKED AT 99.9 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CALLS IN 1989.

ACCORDING TO MR HARRON, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ALARM CALLS STOOD AT 21,577 IN 1984 WITH ONLY 135 OF THEM TURNING OUT TO BE GENUINE. IN 1986, THE SAME SET OF FIGURES STOOD AT 30,202 AND 190 RESPECTIVELY WHILE IN 1989, THE RESPECTIVE FIGURES WERE 47,423 AND 87.

HE SAID ONE COULD EASILY IMAGINE, IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PHASED RESPONSE SYSTEM, THE AMOUNT OF POLICE MANPOWER SPENT ON ATTENDING ALARM CALLS.

PREVIOUSLY, EVERY ALARM CALL, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER IT WAS GENUINE AND FALSE, WOULD BE ATTENDED BY AN EMERGENCY UNIT TEAM AND OFFICERS WOULD WAIT FOR THE ARRIVAL OF THE KEYHOLDERS, WHICH COULD BE HOURS LATER.

THE SUCCESS OF SUCH A PHASED RESPONSE SCHEME WOULD NOT ONLY REDUCE THE WORKLOAD OF POLICE OFFICERS BY ELIMINATING FALSE ALARM CALLS BUT ALSO ENHANCE THEIR ALERTNESS WHENEVER THEY GO OUT AND ATTEND AN ALARM CALL, ACCORDING TO MR HARRON.

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"ROBOTCOP" WELL-LIKED BY CHILDREN

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THOUSANDS OF PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN, THEIR PARENTS AND THEIR TEACHERS HAVE VOTED FIVE-FOOT-TWO "ROBOTCOP" ONE OF THE MOST WELL-LIKED POLICEMEN IN THE TERRITORY.

SINCE ARRIVING IN HONG KONG A YEAR AGO THE POPULARITY OF THIS 180-POUND ANIMATED ROBOT HAS GROWN AND CAN BE REFLECTED IN THE BUSY APPOINTMENT SCHEDULE - AT LEAST FOUR VISITS A WEEK TO SCHOOLS.

BUT THE LABORIOUS LINE-UP OF ENGAGEMENTS HAS GOT HIS MINDERS WORRYING ABOUT THE PHYSICAL HEALTH OF THE ANTI-CRIME PREACHING POLICEMAN.

"SO FAR WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO COMMISSION ANYONE TO SHOULDER THE REGULAR MAINTENANCE OF THE U.S.-MADE "ROBOTCOP", WOMAN SENIOR INSPECTOR OF THE POLICE CRIME PREVENTION BUREAU, MRS BEATRICE TANG, SAID.

"WE NOW HAVE TO RELY A LOT ON OUR COLLEAGUES FROM THE INTRUDER ALARMS INSPECTION UNIT WHO RENDER EMERGENCY REPAIR SERVICE WHENEVER THERE IS A BREAKDOWN," EXPLAINED MRS TANG, WHO IS THE OFFICER-IN-CHARGE OF THE "ROBOTCOP" MISSION.

/"HIS 'WALKING

"HIS 'WALKING LEGS' HAD TO BE REPLACED SOMETIME AGO WHEN THE MOTOR WORE OUT. NOW WE ARE HOPING THAT AN AIR-CONDITIONED VEHICLE WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO TRANSPORT HIM FROM THE OFFICE TO SCHOOLS TO AVOID FURTHER BREAKDOWNS OF HIS ELECTRONIC PARTS DUE TO INTENSE SUMMER HEAT," SHE ADDED.

TO MISS CHUNG SUI-YEE, THE PRINCIPAL OF CHAN SUI KI (LA SALLE) PRIMARY SCHOOL, THE "ROBOTCOP" SCHEME IS UNDOUBTEDLY A GREAT SUCCESS.

RECOUNTING THE INTRODUCTION OF "ROBOTCOP" TO HONG KONG, MRS TANG SAID THE IDEA OF PURCHASING THE ANIMATED ROBOT FOR SPREADING THE CRIME PREVENTION MESSAGE WAS ORIGINATED BY MR JOHN NORMAN, STAFF OFFICER OF THE CRIME PREVENTION BUREAU.

HE CAME ACROSS SUCH A ROBOT AT AN EXHIBITION WHILE ATTENDING A CRIME PREVENTION CONFERENCE IN CANADA IN 1987.

AFTER SECURING FUNDING, THE MACHINE EVENTUALLY ARRIVED ON DECEMBER 1, 1988 FROM ITS "HOMELAND" IN TEXAS.

A "ROBOTCOP" TEAM COMPRISING MRS TANG, TWO STATION SERGEANTS, A SERGEANT AND A POLICE CONSTABLE WAS SET UP BY THE BUREAU TO LAUNCH THE "ROBOTCOP" SCHEME WHICH CELEBRATED ITS FIRST ANNIVERSARY RECENTLY.

SINCE ITS ARRIVAL, "ROBOTCOP" HAS VISITED OVER 150 PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND ATTENDED MORE THAN 20 PUBLIC FUNCTIONS SUCH AS FIGHT CRIME CARNIVALS AND FAMILY DAYS.

SO FAR AS IS KNOWN THE ROBOT, WHICH COST ABOUT \$200,000 (FREIGHT COSTS INCLUDED), IS THE FIRST EDUCATIONAL ANIMATED ROBOTIC SYSTEM TO BE INTRODUCED ANYWHERE OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES.

"OUR TARGET AUDIENCE ARE PRIMARY TWO TO FOUR KIDDIES WHO ARE OLD ENOUGH TO UNDERSTAND WHAT WE ARE TRYING TO CONVEY, BUT NOT SOPHISTICATED ENOUGH TO UNVEIL THE GIMMICKS BEHIND THE SYSTEMS," SHE EXPLAINED.

"THE CHILDREN ARE USUALLY AMUSED BY THE BUILT-IN CAMCORDER AND COLOUR TV THROUGH WHICH THEY CAN SEE THEMSELVES ON THE SCREEN. THEY ALSO PAY FULL ATTENTION TO THE ANTI-SHOPTHEFT FILM PLAYED ON THE VHS PLAYER."

GIVING AWAY SOME OF THE SECRETS BEHIND "ROBOTCOP" MRS TANG EXPLAINED THAT IT TAKES AT LEAST THREE PERSONS TO MAKE IT "LIVE".

"I AM THE HOST THROUGHOUT THE SHOW ASKING THE KIDDIES QUESTIONS AND ENCOURAGING THEM TO CONVERSE AND INTERACT WITH THE "ROBOTCOP" WHILE ONE OF MY COLLEAGUES MANIPULATES THE MOVEMENTS WITH A REMOTE CONTROL DEVICE.

"THAT'S THE MAGIC BEHIND THE NODDING OF THE HEAD, SHAKING HANDS OR HANDING OUT OF LEAFLETS.

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"ANOTHER COLLEAGUE, EQUIPPED WITH A WIRELESS HEADPHONE, IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE VOICE, AND IT IS HE THAT ACTUALLY TALKS TO THE KIDDIES.

"BOTH OF THEM HAVE TO BE KEPT OUT OF SIGHT OTHERWISE THE ROBOT LOSES ITS ATTRACTIVENESS."

REVIEWING THE CONTRIBUTION OF "ROBOTCOP", MRS TANG CONTINUED, "WE ARE VERY WELL LIKED BY ALL THE SCHOOLS WE HAVE APPROACHED AND NEVER ONCE HAVE WE BEEN TURNED DOWN.

"THE SCHOOLS EITHER CONTACT US DIRECT IN RESPONSE TO OUR PUBLICITY DRIVE OR WE APPROACH THE SCHOOLS AT THE REQUEST OF THE CHILDREN THEMSELVES WHO HAVE MET "ROBOTCOP" AT PUBLIC FUNCTIONS. OTHER SCHOOLS MAY BE REFERRED TO US THROUGH THE DISTRICT SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICERS."

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COMIC BOOKLET TO SPREAD FIGHT CRIME MESSAGE
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THIS YEAR'S FIGHT CRIME PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN STARTED WITH THE LAUNCHING OF A COMIC BOOKLET TODAY (SUNDAY).

FIRST COPIES OF THE FIGHT CRIME COMIC BOOKLET NO. 2, A JOINT PUBLICATION BY THE POLICE PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH AND THE DENON STUDIO, WERE DISTRIBUTED AT A PUBLIC FUNCTION HOSTED BY THE "ROBOTCOP" AND PRESENTERS FROM THE JUNIOR POLICE CALL TV PROGRAMME.

THE EXERCISE ATTRACTED THOUSANDS OF YOUNG COMIC BOOK FANS WHO WERE ALSO DELIGHTED TO HAVE A CHANCE TO SEE THE FRIENDLY "ROBOTCOP" IN ACTION.

MORE THAN 10,000 COPIES OF THE BOOKLET AND MATCHING BOOKMARKS WERE DISTRIBUTED BETWEEN 2 PM AND 4 PM TODAY, A POLICE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE SAID THE 32-PAGE CHINESE COMIC BOOKLET, TARGETTED AT YOUNGSTERS AGED 10 TO 14, WOULD BE AVAILABLE, FREE OF CHARGE, AT ALL DISTRICT OFFICES AND DISTRICT POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICES FROM TOMORROW.

"APART FROM PROVIDING INTERESTING AND HEALTHY READING MATERIAL FOR THE YOUNG, THE COMIC BOOK CARRIES AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE THAT UNRULY BEHAVIOUR CAN EASILY LEAD TO CRIMINAL ACTS.

"CRIMINAL OFFENCES RUIN LIVES, AND IT IS OUR INTENTION TO WARN YOUNG PEOPLE OF SUCH DANGER IN HOOLIGANISM," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT A NEW TELEVISION API (ANNOUNCEMENT IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST) ON THE SAME THEME HAS BEEN PRODUCED AND IS CURRENTLY BEING SCREENED ON BOTH TV STATIONS.

/"TO MAKE

"TO MAKE THE COMIC BOOK MORE INTERESTING, WE HAVE ALSO ORGANISED A QUIZ COMPETITION FOR THE YOUNG READERS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"AN ENTRY FORM TOGETHER WITH QUESTIONS ON FIGHT CRIME IS PRINTED ON THE BACK COVER OF THE BOOKLET. YOUNG READERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO TAKE PART IN THE COMPETITION BY SENDING IN THE CORRECT ANSWERS.

THE DEADLINE FOR THE COMPETITION IS MAY 31. A GRAND LUCKY DRAW WILL BE HELD IN EARLY JUNE TO DECIDE ON 130 WINNERS.

WINNERS WILL BE AWARDED ATTRACTIVE PRIZES DONATED BY THE OCEAN PARK AND THE DENON STUDIO. THEY ARE:

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| 10 FIRST PRIZES: | EACH WILL RECEIVE TWO TICKETS TO THE OCEAN PARK MIDDLE KINGDOM AND A DENON COMIC COUPON WORTH A TOTAL OF \$330. |
| 10 SECOND PRIZES: | EACH WILL RECEIVE TWO TICKETS TO THE OCEAN PARK AND A DENON COMIC COUPON WORTH A TOTAL OF \$290. |
| 10 THIRD PRIZES: | EACH WILL RECEIVE TWO TICKETS TO THE OCEAN PARK WATER WORLD AND A DENON COMIC COUPON WORTH A TOTAL OF \$150. |
| 100 CONSOLATION PRIZES: | EACH WILL RECEIVE A \$50 DENON COMIC COUPON. |

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COURSES FOR TEACHERS OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

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TWO IN-SERVICE SPECIAL EDUCATION COURSES WILL BE OFFERED IN 1990-91 FOR TEACHERS WISHING TO TEACH CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS.

THE TWO-YEAR COURSES COMPRISE 16 WEEKS OF FULL-TIME STUDY AT SIR ROBERT BLACK COLLEGE OF EDUCATION (SRBCE) AND ITS SHA TIN ANNEXE, FOLLOWED BY 18 MONTHS OF SUPERVISED PRACTICAL TEACHING IN THE PARTICIPANTS' OWN SCHOOLS.

THERE WILL ALSO BE TUTORIALS, SEMINARS AND DISCUSSIONS DURING THIS PRACTICAL SESSION.

THE CURRICULUM OF THE COURSES WILL COVER ESSENTIAL AREAS OF SPECIAL EDUCATION, INCLUDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION IN HONG KONG, UNDERSTANDING AND THE ASSESSMENT OF CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS, SPECIAL EDUCATION CURRICULA AND TEACHING APPROACH AND MANAGEMENT OF BEHAVIOUR.

/PARTICIPANTS WILL

PARTICIPANTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO SPECIALISE IN THE EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OF THE CHILDREN THEY ARE OR WILL BE TEACHING.

ON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE COURSE, PARTICIPANTS WILL BE AWARDED A SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER'S CERTIFICATE AND A SPECIAL ALLOWANCE.

QUALIFIED NON-GRADUATE TEACHERS WITH RECOGNISED INITIAL TEACHERS TRAINING QUALIFICATION AND THOSE CURRENTLY TEACHING OR SELECTED TO TEACH IN SPECIAL SCHOOLS OR SPECIAL EDUCATION CLASSES ARE INVITED TO APPLY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID THAT TEACHERS ADMITTED TO THE COURSES WILL BE RELEASED FROM NORMAL SCHOOL DUTIES DURING TRAINING.

SUPERVISORS OR HEADS OF SCHOOL MAY APPOINT SUPPLY TEACHERS ON A MONTH-TO-MONTH BASIS TO REPLACE THE TEACHERS UNDERGOING TRAINING.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AT LEE GARDENS, HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY AND ITS SUB-OFFICE AT THE KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, OR FROM THE SIR ROBERT BLACK COLLEGE OF EDUCATION.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS MAY 31.

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CALL TO HEED ELECTRICAL SAFETY

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FACTORY PROPRIETORS ARE REQUIRED BY LAW TO ENSURE THE SAFE USE OF ALL ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES BY THEIR WORKERS.

IN A RECENT COURT CASE, THE PROPRIETOR OF A BLEACHING AND DYEING FACTORY WAS FINED \$5,000 BY A FANLING MAGISTRATE FOR FAILING TO TAKE ADEQUATE PRECAUTION AGAINST ELECTRICAL HAZARDS, RESULTING IN THE DEATH OF A WORKER.

THE WORKER WAS ELECTROCUTED WHILE OPERATING A HYDROEXTRACTOR WITHOUT AN EARTHED METAL CASING.

UNDER THE FACTORY AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS (ELECTRICITY) REGULATIONS, IT IS THE DUTY OF A PROPRIETOR TO TAKE SUITABLE MEANS TO PREVENT ANY METAL WORK FROM BECOMING LIVE IN CASE OF POWER LEAKAGE.

OFFENDERS ARE LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$30,000.

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SUNDAY, APRIL 29, 1990

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VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT FOR PROBATIONERS SCHEME

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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT TODAY (SUNDAY) REMINDED PEOPLE INTERESTED TO ASSIST IN THE REHABILITATION OF OFFENDERS TO SUBMIT THEIR APPLICATION FOR JOINING THE VOLUNTEER SCHEME FOR PROBATIONERS.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO MAY 19.

THE SCHEME WAS SET UP IN 1976 TO PROMOTE PUBLIC AWARENESS AND PARTICIPATION IN HELPING OFFENDERS.

"THE VOLUNTEERS ARE EXPECTED TO ASSIST PROBATIONERS IN ACTIVITIES WHICH REQUIRE NO PROFESSIONAL SKILLS," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

"THE RANGE OF SERVICES INCLUDES HELPING PROBATIONERS WHO HAVE PROBLEMS WITH SCHOOL WORK, GUIDING THEM IN THE PROPER USE OF LEISURE TIME AND DIRECTING THEIR INTEREST INTO WHOLESOME SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES, PROVIDING FRIENDSHIP ESPECIALLY TO PROBATIONERS WITHOUT FAMILY SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE, AS WELL AS SHARING WITH THEM PRACTICAL KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE."

THE VOLUNTEERS SHOULD PREFERABLY BE AGED 21 OR ABOVE, OF SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION LEVEL, MATURE IN PERSONALITY AND WILLING TO MAKE FRIENDS WITH LAW OFFENDERS.

THEY SHOULD ALSO BE WILLING TO SACRIFICE THEIR LEISURE TIME TO SERVE OTHERS WITHOUT MONETARY REWARD.

"NEWLY RECRUITED VOLUNTEERS WILL BE GIVEN A TRAINING AND ORIENTATION COURSE BEFORE STARTING THEIR SERVICES," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THEY WILL NOT HAVE TO TAKE OVER THE LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF PROBATION OFFICERS," HE ADDED.

NOTING THAT THE PERIOD OF SERVICE IS NORMALLY SIX MONTHS SUBJECT TO EXTENSION, THE SPOKESMAN SAID A VOLUNTEER WHO SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED THE SIX-MONTH ASSIGNMENT WOULD BE AWARDED A CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION AT AN ANNUAL CERTIFICATE PRESENTATION CEREMONY.

FORMER PARTICIPANTS OF THE SCHEME ARE WELCOMED TO APPLY AGAIN.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT PROBATION OFFICES ATTACHED TO MAGISTRACIES AND THE CENTRE FOR THE VOLUNTEER SCHEME FOR PROBATIONERS ON THE 19TH FLOOR, WORLD TRADE CENTRE, 280 GLOUCESTER ROAD, CAUSEWAY BAY.

COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE VSP CENTRE BY MAY 19.

FURTHER ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SCHEME CAN BE MADE TO MISS CHENG WING-SEUNG ON TEL. 895 4190.

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SUNDAY, APRIL 29, 1990

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WATER CUT IN KOWLOON EAST

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FLUSHING WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN KOWLOON EAST WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 9 AM TO 5 PM ON TUESDAY (MAY 1) TO FACILITATE WATER WORKS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT ALL PREMISES AT SAN PO KONG INDUSTRIAL AREA, NGAU CHI WAN, PING SHEK, CHOI HUNG, KWUN TONG ROAD FROM CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD TO CHOI WAN ROAD, KAI YIP ESTATE, CHOI WAN ESTATE, FUNG SHING STREET, PING TING ROAD AND HAMMER HILL ROAD.

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TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES IN LOK FU

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A PEDESTRIAN DECK ACROSS WANG TAU HOM EAST ROAD IN LOK FU, THE SECTION OF WANG TAU HOM EAST ROAD BETWEEN WANG TAU HOM SOUTH ROAD AND JUNCTION ROAD, AND FU MEI STREET EAST WILL BE TEMPORARILY CLOSED FROM 1 AM TO 5 AM DAILY FROM TUESDAY TO THURSDAY (MAY 1 TO 3).

DURING THE ROAD CLOSURE PERIODS, MOTORISTS ON JUNCTION ROAD NORTHBOUND HEADING FOR WANG TAU HOM SOUTH ROAD ARE ADVISED TO TRAVEL VIA HENG LAM STREET, FUNG MO STREET, FU MEI STREET AND WANG TAU HOM EAST ROAD.

MOTORISTS ON JUNCTION ROAD EASTBOUND HEADING FOR WANG TAU HOM SOUTH ROAD ARE ADVISED TO TRAVEL VIA CHUK YUEN ROAD, FU MEI STREET, FU KEUNG STREET, WANG TAU HOM CENTRAL ROAD AND WANG TAU HOM EAST ROAD.

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TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS ON GASCOIGNE ROAD

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT TO FACILITATE CONSTRUCTION WORK, THE EASTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF GASCOIGNE ROAD FLYOVER IN YAU MA TEI WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL VEHICLES FROM 12.01 AM TO 6 AM ON TUESDAY (MAY 1) AND MAY 9.

THE RIGHT-TURN MOVEMENT OF VEHICLES ON GASCOIGNE ROAD WESTBOUND ONTO WYLIE ROAD NORTHBOUND WILL BE TEMPORARILY BANNED FROM 12.01 AM TO 6 AM ON MAY 1, 8 AND 9.

MOTORISTS ON FERRY STREET SOUTHBOUND ARE ADVISED TO TRAVEL VIA JORDAN ROAD EASTBOUND ONTO GASCOIGNE ROAD EASTBOUND.

MOTORISTS ON GASCOIGNE ROAD WESTBOUND ARE ADVISED TO U-TURN AT THE JUNCTION WITH JORDAN ROAD ONTO GASCOIGNE ROAD EASTBOUND AND THEN ONTO WYLIE ROAD NORTHBOUND.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC AIDS WILL BE PROVIDED TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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