



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 1978

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SECRETARY OF STATE FOR SOCIAL SERVICES PRAISES
H.K.'S MEDICAL SERVICES
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THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR SOCIAL SERVICES, THE RT. HON. DAVID ENNALS, HAS DESCRIBED AS +FANTASTIC+ THE PROGRESS BEING MADE IN HONG KONG'S MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES IN THE FACE OF THE RAPID INCREASE IN POPULATION IN A RELATIVELY SMALL CONCENTRATED AREA.

+I AM VERY MUCH ENCOURAGED TO SEE THE TREMENDOUS DEVELOPMENT IN THE PROVISION OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH CARE FOR SUCH A HIGH DENSITY OF POPULATION,+ HE SAID.

MR. ENNALS MADE THE REMARK THIS MORNING AT THE END OF AN EXTENSIVE TOUR OF THE QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL, ONE OF THE LARGEST ACUTE GENERAL HOSPITALS IN THE FAR EAST, AFTER AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH THE DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, DR. K.L. THONG.

HE SAID HE WAS IMPRESSED WITH THE MEDICAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME PLAN THAT IS BEING IMPLEMENTED, WHICH WOULD SEE AN ADDITIONAL 5,000 BEDS IN THREE NEW MAJOR HOSPITALS WITHIN THE NEXT SEVEN YEARS.

MR. ENNALS SAID HE WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASED TO LEARN OF THE CLOSE CO-OPERATION BETWEEN BRITAIN AND HONG KONG IN THE FIELD OF MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH.

HE SAW MANY OTHER AREAS WHERE CO-OPERATIVE EFFORTS COULD BE FURTHER EXTENDED, SUCH AS THE SUPPLY OF BRITISH MANUFACTURED MODERN MEDICAL EQUIPMENT TO HONG KONG.

DURING HIS TOUR OF THE HOSPITAL, MR. ENNALS SHOWED A KEEN INTEREST IN A NEW \$2 MILLION LINEAR ACCELERATOR, RECENTLY INSTALLED AT THE HOSPITAL'S INSTITUTE OF RADIOLOGY, WHICH IS A HIGHLY SOPHISTICATED X-RAY MACHINE FOR THE TREATMENT OF CANCER PATIENTS.

HE SAID HE WAS ENCOURAGED TO SEE THE HIGH STANDARD OF MEDICAL CARE PROVIDED BY THE INSTITUTE, BOTH IN TERMS OF PROFESSIONAL SKILL AND ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY.

MR. ENNALS ALSO SPENT SOME TIME IN THE SCHOOL OF GENERAL NURSING RUN BY THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT, WHERE HE SAW THE COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING PROGRAMMES FOR GENERAL NURSES.

HE SAID HE WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASED TO KNOW THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE NURSES CHOSE TO REMAIN IN PUBLIC SERVICE AFTER COMPLETING THEIR TRAINING COURSES.

MR. ENNALS ENDED HIS TOUR OF THE HOSPITAL WITH A VISIT TO THE CASUALTY DEPARTMENT, WHICH DAILY HANDLES ALMOST AS MANY CASUALTY CASES AS IN ALL OTHER HOSPITALS COMBINED. HE SAID HE WAS EXTREMELY IMPRESSED WITH THE HIGH STANDARD OF CASUALTY SERVICE PROVIDED BY THE HOSPITAL STAFF.

ALSO TAKING PART IN THE HOSPITAL TOUR WERE A LABOUR MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, MR. RODERICK MACFARQUHAR AND MR. ENNALS'S PRIVATE SECRETARY, MR. JOHN RODGERS.

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SECRETARY OF STATE FOR SOCIAL SERVICES TOURS SHA TIN NEW TOWN
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THE VISITING SECRETARY OF STATE FOR SOCIAL SERVICES, THE RT. HON. DAVID ENNALS, THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON WENT ON A TOUR OF SHA TIN NEW TOWN AND SHOWED A KEEN INTEREST IN ONE OF ITS MAJOR PROJECTS -- THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 1,400-BED TEACHING HOSPITAL.

MR. ENNALS WAS TOLD BY THE GOVERNMENT ARCHITECT, MR. EDWIN WONG, THAT THE GOVERNMENT HOPED TO HAVE THE HOSPITAL -- WHICH WILL BE A FACULTY OF THE NEARBY CHINESE UNIVERSITY -- OPERATIONAL WITHIN THREE-AND-A-HALF YEARS.

THE HOSPITAL WILL HAVE A LARGE THREE-STOREY PODIUM ON WHICH THERE WILL BE ANOTHER 12-STOREY BUILDING. IT WILL ALSO HAVE ACCOMMODATION AND FACILITIES FOR 2,400 STAFF MEMBERS.

MR. ENNALS STARTED HIS TOUR OF SHA TIN AFTER LUNCH WITH THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR. JOHN TODD, THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR. GERRY HIGGINSON, THE PWD'S SHA TIN PROJECT MANAGER, MR. JOHN DON, AND OTHER SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND LOCAL COMMUNITY LEADERS.

ACCOMPANYING MR. ENNALS WERE MRS. ENNALS AND A LABOUR MP, MR. RODERICK MACFARQUHAR.

AFTER LUNCH, THE OFFICIAL PARTY WENT TO THE SHA TIN WEI LOOKOUT FOR A BRIEFING ON THE DEVELOPMENTS THAT WILL TRANSFORM SHA TIN INTO A MODERN TOWN OF HALF A MILLION PEOPLE BY THE MID-80'S.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR HOUSING, MR. DONALD LIAO, MR. ENNALS SAW THE LEK YUEN COMMERCIAL COMPLEX AND THE MARKETING AREAS. HE ENDED THE VISIT BY DROPPING IN ON A WO CHE HOUSING ESTATE RESIDENT, MR. WONG SHUI-LUN, WHO LIVES WITH HIS SON AND HIS FAMILY.

LATER MR. ENNALS AND HIS PARTY WENT TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY HEADQUARTERS AT HO MAN TIN FOR A BRIEFING ON THE GOVERNMENT'S 10-YEAR HOUSING PROGRAMME.

THEY WERE MET THERE BY THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE.

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U.K. SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES
AND MP VISIT BOYS' TRAINING CENTRE
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THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR SOCIAL SERVICES, THE RT. HON. DAVID ENNALS, AND A LABOUR MP, MR. RODERICK MACFARQUHAR, THIS MORNING VISITED THE CHAK YAN CENTRE IN KOWLOON TONG, A PRE-VOCATIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR BOYS.

THE CENTRE RUN BY THE SOCIETY OF BOYS' CENTRES IS A GOVERNMENT-SUBVENTED RESIDENTIAL INSTITUTION WHICH PROVIDES CARE, GUIDANCE AND PRE-VOCATIONAL TRAINING TO BOYS WITH BEHAVIOUR OR FAMILY PROBLEMS. THE BOYS ARE PLACED UNDER SUPERVISION BY COURT ORDER OR THOSE IN NEED OF CARE AND PROTECTION.

ON THEIR ARRIVAL, MR. ENNALS AND MR. MACFARQUHAR WERE BRIEFED ON THE WORK OF THE CENTRE.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. JIMMY SWEETMAN= CHAIRMAN OF THE SOCIETY, MR. CHARLES YEUNG= SENIOR SUPERINTENDENT OF THE SOCIETY, MR. WILSON CHEUNG= AND THE CENTRE'S SUPERINTENDENT, MR. STEPHEN CHENG, THEY THEN WENT ON A TOUR OF THE CENTRE AND WATCHED THE BOYS UNDERGOING TRAINING IN AIR-CONDITIONING, METAL WORK, ELECTRICAL WORK AND CARPENTRY.

WITH A CAPACITY OF 160, THE CENTRE OFFERS TWO TO EIGHT YEARS OF RESIDENTIAL CARE AND TRAINING TO BOYS DEPENDING MAINLY ON THE NEED OF INDIVIDUAL CASES.

A SPECIAL PRIMARY SCHOOL IS ATTACHED TO THE CENTRE TO PROVIDE PRE-VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND NORMAL SCHOOLING.

THE CENTRE ALSO HELPS THE BOYS TO PLAN THEIR FUTURE ACCORDING TO THEIR ABILITY.

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MRS. ENNALS VISITS GURKHA SCHOOL AND EXPERIMENTAL FARM

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THE WIFE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR SOCIAL SERVICES MRS. JEAN ENNALS, THIS MORNING VISITED THE GURKHA HIGH SCHOOL IN SEK KONG AND THE KADOORIE EXPERIMENTAL AND EXTENSION FARM AND BOTANIC GARDENS IN TAI MO SHAN.

ACCOMPANIED BY LADY MACLEHOSE, MRS. ENNALS WAS WELCOMED ON ARRIVAL AT THE SCHOOL BY ITS HEADMASTER, MR. RAJENDRA RAI- THE ACTING COMMANDANT OF THE TRAINING DEPOT, BRIGADE OF GURKHA, MAJOR MANIPRASAD RAI AND THE REPRESENTATIVE FROM BRITISH FORCES HEAD-QUARTERS, CAPTAIN C.J. MARTINDILL.

DURING THE HOUR-LONG TOUR OF THE SCHOOL, MRS. ENNALS SAW STUDENTS ATTENDING CLASSES IN SCIENCE, SEWING, WOODWORK AND DOMESTIC SCIENCE. THE VISITORS ALSO SAW A GURKHA TRADITIONAL DANCE BY THE STUDENTS AT THE SCHOOL HALL.

MRS. ENNALS WAS TOLD THAT THE SCHOOL, WHICH WAS OPENED IN 1970, IS CURRENTLY PROVIDING FULL-DAY SECONDARY EDUCATION TO 265 CHILDREN OF GURKHA SOLDIERS, PRIESTS AND TEACHERS.

IN ADDITION TO GENERAL EDUCATION, THE SCHOOL ALSO PROVIDES VOCATIONAL COURSES TO STUDENTS, SUCH AS THOSE ON AGRICULTURE, POULTRY, WOODWORK AND METALWORK.

MRS. ENNALS AND LADY MACLEHOSE NEXT WENT TO THE NEARBY KADOORIE EXPERIMENTAL AND EXTENSION FARM AND BOTANIC GARDENS WHERE AGRICULTURAL COURSES ARE PROVIDED TO GURKHA SOLDIERS.

THE VISITORS TOURED THE FARM AND SAW GURKHA SOLDIERS TAKING COURSE IN PIG-KEEPING.

THE FARM RUN BY THE KADOORIE AGRICULTURAL AID ASSOCIATION HAS PROVIDED AGRICULTURAL COURSES TO 3,000 GURKHA SOLDIERS SINCE 1968.

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P.W.D. ROAD PROJECTS WORTH \$1,900 MILLION UNDERWAY
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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IS AT PRESENT WORKING ON 48 ROAD PROJECTS OF VARYING NATURE, WORTH A TOTAL OF \$1,900 MILLION.

THIS WAS REVEALED TODAY BY THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT HIGHWAY ENGINEER, MR. CHAN NAI-KEONG.

MR. CHAN SAID EVERYTHING POSSIBLE WAS BEING DONE TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY.

+AT THIS VERY MOMENT, WE HAVE CONTRACTS IN HAND FOR SOME 48 ROAD PROJECTS WITH A TOTAL VALUE OF ABOUT \$1,900 MILLION.

+THE AMOUNT OF CAPITAL EXPENDITURE ON ROADS FOR LAST FINANCIAL YEAR WAS JUST OVER \$300 MILLION AND THE ESTIMATED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE ON ROADS FOR 1978/79 IS ABOUT \$450 MILLION.+ MR. CHAN SAID.

HE OUTLINED MAJOR PROJECTS NOW UNDERWAY ON HONG KONG ISLAND, IN KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES.

+ON HONG KONG ISLAND, MAJOR PROJECTS INCLUDE ABERDEEN TUNNEL AND ITS APPROACH ROAD SYSTEM AT BOTH ENDS, THE \$260 MILLION NEW COASTAL ROUTE FROM VICTORIA PARK TO NORTH POINT, IMPROVEMENTS OF THE POKFULAM ROAD, AND A SOON-TO-START ELEVATED ROAD LINKING POKFULAM ROAD WITH THE WATERFRONT VIA HILL ROAD,+ MR. CHAN SAID.

+TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FLYOVER AT WONG NEI CHONG GAP ROAD/TAI HANG ROAD/STUBBS ROAD ROUNDABOUT HAVE BEEN CALLED AND WE ARE GEARED TO START WORK IN AUGUST THIS YEAR.+

ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE ISLAND, A BRIDGE TOGETHER WITH AN APPROACH ROAD SYSTEM IS BEING CONSTRUCTED TO LINK AP LEI CHAU WITH ABERDEEN.

ON KOWLOON SIDE, HE SAID, WORK WAS IN PROGRESS TO PROVIDE A MUCH IMPROVED ROUTE LINKING HUNG HOM WITH KWUN TONG VIA A TUNNEL UNDER THE AIRPORT RUNWAY.

IN THE WEST KOWLOON CORRIDOR, THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE ROUTE ALONG THE TYPHOON SHELTER TO LAI CHI KOK IS CONTINUING WITH A \$37 MILLION CONTRACT FOR AN ELEVATED SECTION AT TAI KOK TSUI.

MR. CHAN SAID: +FOR THE CENTRAL SPINE ROUTE, WORK HAS STARTED ON A FLYOVER AT THE JUNCTION OF WATERLOO ROAD AND CORNWALL STREET.

+FURTHER SOUTH ALONG THIS ROUTE, OUR ENGINEERS HAVE BEEN WORKING ON AN INTRICATE SCHEME TO WIDEN THE PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD FLYOVER FROM THREE LANES TO FOUR WITHOUT CAUSING UNACCEPTABLE TRAFFIC CONGESTION WHILE WORK IS IN PROGRESS.+

IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, HE SAID, TENDERS HAD BEEN CALLED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE THREE-LANE SECOND CARRIAGEWAY OF TUEN MUN ROAD AND WORK WOULD START IN JULY THIS YEAR.

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THE OTHER ROAD PROJECT IN THE NEW TERRITORIES OF COMPARABLE MAGNITUDE IS THE SHA TIN-TAI PO COASTAL ROAD.

+THIS PROJECT IS IN THE FINAL STAGE OF DETAIL PLANNING AND WE HAVE PROGRAMMED FOR THE CALLING OF TENDERS FOR ITS CONSTRUCTION AT THE END OF THIS YEAR,+ HE SAID.

+IN THE NORTHERN PART OF THE NEW TERRITORIES, THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE CIRCULAR ROUTE IS BEING IMPLEMENTED PROGRESSIVELY. IN PARTICULAR, WE PLAN TO START WORK ON THE SECTION BETWEEN YUEN LONG AND AU TAU EARLY NEXT YEAR FOR COMPLETION IN 1980.+

HOWEVER, THE MOST SIGNIFICANT ROAD PROJECT AS FAR AS TSUEN WAN IS CONCERNED IS THE NEW ROAD FROM KWAI CHUNG ROAD ACROSS KWAI CHUNG TO TEXACO ROAD AND THENCE ACROSS TSUEN WAN BAY TO LINK UP WITH TUEN MUN ROAD.

WORK ON THE FIRST SECTION OF THE ROAD, KNOWN AS TSUEN WAN BY-PASS, BETWEEN KWAI CHUNG ROAD AND TEXACO ROAD, HAS BEEN PROGRESSING SATISFACTORILY AND SHOULD BE FINISHED IN LATE 1980.

AT THAT TIME, MUCH OF THE TSUEN WAN BOUND TRAFFIC CAN MAKE USE OF THIS ROAD THUS BY-PASSING KWAI CHUNG ROAD THROUGH THE INDUSTRIAL AREA.

MR. CHAN SAID THAT HONG KONG HAD A VERY DIFFICULT NATURAL TOPOGRAPHY AS FAR AS THE ROAD ENGINEER WAS CONCERNED.

+THIS DIFFICULTY IS COMPOUNDED BY THE INTENSITY OF BUILDING DEVELOPMENT. TAKEN TOGETHER, THESE LEAVE LITTLE SCOPE FOR ROAD IMPROVEMENTS,+ HE SAID.

+ON THE OTHER HAND, TRAFFIC DEMAND HAS BEEN INCREASING AT AN EXPONENTIAL RATE.

+IN 1960, HONG KONG HAD ONLY 40,000 VEHICLES, NOW VEHICLE REGISTRATION STANDS AT OVER 200,000, A FIVE-FOLD INCREASE.

+HONG KONG HAS JUST OVER 1,000 KILOMETRES OF ROADS AND A VEHICLE DENSITY OF ABOUT 200 VEHICLES PER KILOMETRE, MAKING IT ONE OF THE HIGHEST IN THE WORLD.+

TO INCREASE THE CAPACITY OF THE ROAD SYSTEM TO MEET EVER INCREASING DEMANDS, MR. CHAN SAID, THE P.W.D. HAD A TEAM OF SOME 200 PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS SUPPORTED BY A LARGE NUMBER OF TECHNICIANS WHO WERE ENGAGED FULL TIME IN THE TASK OF ADMINISTERING AND MAINTAINING THE ROAD SYSTEM, PLANNING AND DESIGNING NEW ROADS AND ROAD IMPROVEMENTS AND, FINALLY, SURVEYING ROAD CONSTRUCTION.

BECAUSE OF THE SIZE OF THE DEMAND, AND CONSEQUENTLY THE MAGNITUDE OF THE HIGHWAY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME, HE SAID, THIS TEAM THOUGH QUITE LARGE BY ITSELF, HAD TO BE SUPPLEMENTED TO A GREAT EXTENT, BY THE SERVICES OF CONSULTING ENGINEERS.

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EIGHT GOVERNMENT PROMOTIONS ANNOUNCED
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THE GOVERNMENT TODAY ANNOUNCED THE PROMOTIONS OF EIGHT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS TO THE RANK OF SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER.

THE PROMOTIONS OF THE EIGHT, WHO HOLD POSITIONS IN VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, ARE BACKDATED TO APRIL 1 THIS YEAR. SIX OF THOSE NEWLY PROMOTED ARE LOCAL. THOSE PROMOTED ARE:

MR. MAYER NG, PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY
(STAFF RELATIONS)

MISS CHRISTINE CHOW, CITY DISTRICT OFFICER
(EASTERN)

MR. DAVID TSUI, DISTRICT OFFICER (TSUEN WAN)

MR. IAN STRACHAN, PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY
(SOCIAL SERVICES)

MR. NICHOLAS NG, ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES

MR. RAFAEL HUI, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF ICAC

MR. FRED TING, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS

MR. REGINALD POLE-EVANS, PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY
(ECONOMIC SERVICES)

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SHA TIN'S MA NIU AREA LAYOUT PLAN APPROVED
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THE GOVERNMENT HAS APPROVED A LAYOUT PLAN FOR THE MA NIU AREA OF SHA TIN NEW TOWN NEAR THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

THE AREA, IN THE NORTHERN PART OF THE SHA TIN NEW TOWN, OVERLOOKS THE TOLO HARBOUR AND SHA TIN HOI AND PROVIDES SOME OF THE BEST VIEWS IN THE TERRITORY.

THIS PARTICULAR LAND -- EXPECTED TO BE OF GREAT INTEREST TO PRIVATE DEVELOPERS -- WAS ONE OF THE FOUR SOFT-FILL LARGE BORROW AREAS DEVELOPED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB IN CONNECTION WITH THE RECLAMATION WORK FOR THE SHA TIN RACE COURSE.

AT PRESENT, P.W.D.'S NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS CARRYING OUT ENGINEERING WORKS IN THE AREA TO BUILD ROADS, AND TO PROVIDE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE FACILITIES.

THESE WORKS WILL ENABLE VERY ATTRACTIVE, LOW-DENSITY HIGH-QUALITY HOUSING SITES TO BE PROVIDED FOR PRIVATE DEVELOPERS AND YIELD SOME 14 HECTARES OF LAND FOR RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES.

THE LAND WILL PROVIDE AT LEAST 40 LOTS OF VARIOUS SIZES TO HOUSE ABOUT 1,400 PEOPLE. MAINLY DETACHED COTTAGES OR LOW-RISE BUILDINGS UP TO TWO STOREYS ARE EXPECTED TO BE BUILT.

AREAS HAVE ALSO BEEN RESERVED FOR POSSIBLE SUPERMARKETS AND STORES, KINDERGARTENS, CHURCHES, INSTITUTIONS, WELFARE ORGANISATIONS, POLICE POST, AND SO ON.

A PUBLIC LOOK-OUT AREA HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AT THE EXTREME EASTERN PART OF THE AREA FROM WHICH SOME OF THE BEST VIEWS COULD BE OBTAINED.

SINCE THE PROSPECTIVE RESIDENTS IN THIS AREA ARE MOST LIKELY TO OWN PRIVATE CARS, AND THE TERRAIN IS HILLY, PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN THE AREA IS LIKELY TO BE LIMITED TO FRANCHISED MAXI-CAB SERVICES. A BUS TERMINUS HAS BEEN PROVIDED FOR IN THE EASTERN PART OF THE AREA.

MOST OF THE SLOPES IN THIS AREA HAVE ALREADY BEEN TURFED AND DEVELOPERS WILL BE EXPECTED TO TREAT CUTTING AND FILLED SLOPES WITH APPROPRIATE PLANTING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MASTER LANDSCAPE PLAN FOR SHA TIN NEW TOWN.

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COMMUNITY BUILDING IN THE NEW TERRITORIES

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THE SUCCESS OF COMMUNITY BUILDING IN THE NEW TERRITORIES NEEDS CLOSE CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PUBLIC, THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR. JOHN TODD, SAID TODAY.

ADDRESSING THE CASTLE PEAK LION'S CLUE, MR. TODD SAID COMMUNITY BUILDING CAN BE DIVIDED INTO THREE MAIN TARGET AREAS.

+THE FIRST OF THESE IS THE PROMOTION OF A SENSE OF SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND A SENSE OF BELONGING TO THE COMMUNITY,+ HE SAID.

THIS, HE SAID, COULD BEST BE FOSTERED THROUGH ESTABLISHING AND ENCOURAGING CITIZENS' ORGANISATIONS AT THE NEIGHBOURHOOD AND DISTRICT LEVELS, INCLUDING RURAL COMMITTEES, KAIFONG ASSOCIATIONS, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, CLANSMAN ASSOCIATIONS, COMMUNITY SERVICE GROUPS AND OTHER VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS.

+THROUGH THESE ORGANISATIONS, EFFORTS CAN BE MADE TO ASSIST AND ENCOURAGE RESIDENTS TO DEVELOP SOCIAL CONCERN AND AWARENESS OF MUTUAL PROBLEMS,+ HE SAID.

MR. TODD SAID THE SECOND MAJOR TASK WAS TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN REGULAR CONTACTS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY.

THE DISTRICT OFFICERS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES ARE EXPANDING THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE IN ALL MAJOR SETTLEMENTS TO HELP EXPLAIN GOVERNMENT POLICIES TO THE LOCAL PEOPLE AND TO HELP THEM WITH PROBLEMS WHICH THEY FIND IN THEIR DAILY LIVES.

REPRESENTATIVES FROM LOCAL ORGANISATIONS MENTIONED EARLIER HELP TO KEEP THEIR MEMBERS INFORMED OF MAJOR GOVERNMENT POLICIES AND DECISIONS AND TO KEEP GOVERNMENT INFORMED OF THE VIEWS OF THEIR MEMBERS, HE SAID.

+TRADITIONAL BODIES SUCH AS THE RURAL COMMITTEES AND THE NEW TERRITORIES HEUNG YEE KUK AND NEW BODIES SUCH AS THE DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARDS ALSO PROVIDE DIRECT CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE -- LOCAL RESIDENTS OR NEWCOMERS ALIKE.

+THESE ALSO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES TO DISCUSS POLICY ISSUES AND ENABLE DECISION MAKERS IN THE GOVERNMENT TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT PUBLIC OPINION WHEN DECIDING ON NEW POLICIES,+ SAID MR. TODD.

HE ADDED THAT CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IS STILL RELATIVELY NEW IN THE NEW TERRITORIES BUT WAS WELCOMED BY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS. +IT MAKES IT POSSIBLE FOR THEM TO TAKE LOCAL OPINION INTO ACCOUNT WHEN DECIDING THEIR POLICIES AND PUTTING THEM INTO OPERATION.+

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THE THIRD MAJOR AIM, HE SAID, WAS TO AROUSE PUBLIC INTEREST IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS. +A SENSE OF CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY CAN ALSO BE PROMOTED THROUGH HONG KONG WIDE CAMPAIGNS AND PROGRAMMES SUCH AS THE FIGHT CRIME AND KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGNS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS LIKE THE ANNUAL SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME PARTICULARLY WHEN LOCAL RESIDENTS ARE INVITED TO HELP WITH THE ORGANISATION OF THESE ACTIVITIES.

+TO MAKE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION POSSIBLE IT IS NECESSARY TO PROVIDE FACILITIES SUCH AS COMMUNITY CENTRES, RURAL COMMITTEE OFFICES, VILLAGE OFFICES, YOUTH CENTRES, COMMUNITY HALLS AND TOWN HALLS, STADIA, MULTI-PURPOSE GAMES HALLS AND ESTATE WELFARE CENTRES,+ MR. TODD SAID.

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PLB'S HAVE IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN TRANSPORT NETWORK
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A SENIOR OFFICER OF THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT TODAY EMPHASISED THAT PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES HAVE AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN HONG KONG'S TRANSPORT NETWORK.

MR. RICHARD MEAKIN, CHIEF TRANSPORT OFFICER, SAID THAT PLB'S WERE PARTICULARLY ESSENTIAL ON THOSE ROUTES WHERE DEMAND COULD NOT BE COMPLETELY SATISFIED BY LARGE BUSES, PERHAPS BECAUSE OF LOW DEMAND, HEAVY RUSH-HOUR DEMAND OR DIFFICULT ROAD CONDITIONS.

HE REJECTED RECENT ALLEGATIONS FROM THE PLB TRADE THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY ON PLB'S WAS ENTIRELY ONE OF RESTRAINT AND THAT POSITIVE MEASURES WERE NOT TAKEN TO ENSURE THAT PLB OPERATIONS WERE VIABLE.

MR. MEAKIN SAID THAT GOVERNMENT WAS CONTINUING TO PROVIDE TERMINALS EXCLUSIVELY RESERVED FOR PLB'S IN NEW DEVELOPMENT AREAS SUCH AS THE MAJOR PLB TERMINI RECENTLY COMPLETED AT OCEAN PARK, THE SHA TIN RACE COURSE WHICH WILL ACCOMMODATE OVER 500 PLB'S, AND THE SHAM SHUI PO FERRY CONCOURSE WHICH WILL BE OPENED ON JUNE 16.

MR. MEAKIN SAID THAT ANOTHER POSITIVE STEP TO IMPROVE THE PLB TRADE WAS THE INTRODUCTION OF MAXICAB SERVICES. HE POINTED OUT THAT THERE WERE NOW EIGHT MAXICAB ROUTES ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND THAT APPLICATIONS WERE RECENTLY CALLED FOR ANOTHER 11 MAXICAB ROUTES.

HE SAID THAT INITIALLY ABOUT 30 NEW MAXICAB ROUTES WERE BEING PLANNED FOR HONG KONG, AND ABOUT 30 FOR KOWLOON.

WHEN THE MAXICAB PROGRAMME FOR BOTH HONG KONG AND KOWLOON IS COMPLETED THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT INTENDS TO INTRODUCE ABOUT 60 MAXICAB ROUTES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

/MR. MEAKIN

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MR. MEAKIN SAID THAT THE MAXICAB SERVICES ON HONG KONG ISLAND HAVE PROVED VERY SUCCESSFUL BOTH FOR THE OPERATORS AND PASSENGERS.

AS FOR THE FUTURE, MR. MEAKIN, POINTED OUT THAT A NUMBER OF THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY STATIONS NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION WOULD ALSO HAVE PLB TERMINI.

HE SAID: +IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE MTR TRAINS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO DELIVER ALL THE PASSENGERS TO THEIR DOORSTEPS. THIS WILL BE THE JOB FOR THE PLB'S WHICH WILL BE PROVIDING 'FEEDER' SERVICES TO AND FROM MTR STATIONS+.

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KCR TO OPERATE EXTRA TRAINS ON TUEN NG FESTIVAL
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THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY WILL OPERATE NINE ADDITIONAL TRAINS ON TUEN NG FESTIVAL DAY (JUNE 10) TO FACILITATE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ATTENDING THE DRAGON BOAT RACES TO BE HELD AT YUEN CHAU TSAI IN TAI PO.

THERE WILL BE FIVE SPECIAL UP TRAINS -- TWO IN THE MORNING AND THREE IN THE AFTERNOON -- WHICH WILL LEAVE KOWLOON STATION AT 7.45 A.M., 8.46 A.M., 1.35 P.M., 3.47 P.M. AND 6.33 P.M. THE FIRST TWO WILL NOT STOP FOR PASSENGERS AT MONG KOK STATION BUT WILL STOP AT ALL OTHER STATIONS.

FOUR DOWN TRAINS HAVE ALSO BEEN ARRANGED. THEY WILL LEAVE TAI PO MARKET STATION AT 9.44 A.M., 2.40 P.M., 5.10 P.M. AND 7.56 P.M.

FURTHER TRAINS WILL ALSO BE RUN IN THE LATE EVENING IF NEEDED.

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COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB ORIGINAL SONG COMPETITION
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STUDENTS FROM FIVE SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND SIX PRIMARY SCHOOLS WILL TAKE PART IN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB (CYC) ORIGINAL SONG COMPETITION TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY (JUNE 3) AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH SCHOOL HALL, KOWLOON.

THE AIM OF THE COMPETITION IS TO SELECT A THEME SONG FOR THE CYC MOVEMENT WHICH NOW HAS A TOTAL MEMBERSHIP OF 15,824.

A CASH PRIZE OF \$2,000 AND AN AMPLIFIER SET DONATED BY THE TOM LEE PIANO COMPANY LTD. WILL BE AWARDED TO THE SCHOOL ENTERING THE BEST SONG. THERE WILL ALSO BE TWO PRIZES OF \$1,000 EACH FOR THE BEST PERFORMANCE IN THE PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL SECTIONS.

THE ADJUDICATORS ARE MR. GORDON SIU, MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR OF EDUCATION DEPARTMENT= MRS. T.K. MA, ACTING SENIOR INSPECTOR (MUSIC) EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND MRS. DIANA LEE, LECTURER (MUSIC) NORTHCOTE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION.

PRIZES WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE WINNING SCHOOLS BY THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS) AND CHAIRMAN OF THE CYC COMMITTEE, MR. A.G. BROWN= MR. NG YIN-NAM, DISTRICT GOVERNOR, LIONS INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 303 AND MR. GORDON SIU AFTER THE COMPETITION.

THE SECONDARY SCHOOLS WHICH HAVE ENTERED THE COMPETITION ARE THE PRECIOUS BLOOD GIRLS' MIDDLE SCHOOL, THE WONG SHIU CHI MIDDLE SCHOOL, THE NEW TERRITORIES HEUNG YEE KUK YUEN LONG DISTRICT SECONDARY SCHOOL, THE DON BOSCO TECHNICAL SCHOOL AND THE KENNEDY TOWN GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL.

THE SIX PRIMARY SCHOOLS WHICH ARE TAKING PART IN THE CONTEST ARE THE ST. MATTHEW'S LUTHERAN A.M. SCHOOL, APLICHAU BAPTIST PRIMARY SCHOOL, TWGH YIU DAK CHI MEMORIAL PRIMARY P.M. SCHOOL, KEI TSUN PRIMARY A.M. SCHOOL, SALESIAN SCHOOL (PRIMARY) AND TANG SHIU KIN PRIMARY A.M. SCHOOL.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB ORIGINAL SONG COMPETITION AND PRIZE PRESENTATION ON SATURDAY (JUNE 3) BEGINNING AT 10 A.M. AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH SCHOOL HALL, SAI YEE STREET, MONG KOK.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 1978

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN WAN CHAI AND SAIGON STREET
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT FROM 10 A.M. ON SATURDAY (JUNE 3), THE JUNCTION OF MORRISON HILL ROAD AND WAN CHAI ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL VEHICLES FOR ABOUT FOUR WEEKS TO FACILITATE ROAD RECONSTRUCTION.

DURING THIS PERIOD WAN CHAI ROAD BETWEEN MORRISON HILL ROAD AND BOWRINGTON ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED TWO WAY.

VEHICLES WISHING TO GO TO WAN CHAI ROAD ARE ADVISED TO PROCEED VIA CANAL ROAD WEST, CHEUNG WOO LANE, AND BOWRINGTON ROAD.

MEANWHILE, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT FROM 10 A.M. ON SATURDAY, PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM STOPPING TO PICK UP OR SET DOWN PASSENGERS IN SAIGON STREET BETWEEN NATHAN ROAD AND CHI WO STREET DURING THE HOURS 7 A.M. TO MIDNIGHT DAILY.

THE ARRANGEMENT IS INTENDED TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC CONDITIONS IN SAIGON STREET.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP IN THESE AREAS TO ASSIST MOTORISTS.

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