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GOVERNOR INAUGURATES NEW TAP MUN POWER SCHEME
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, TODAY PRAISED THE CHINA LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY FOR ITS OUTSTANDING RECORD IN BRINGING ELECTRICITY TO THE RURAL AREAS.

THE RESULT IS THAT MOST VILLAGES - HOWEVER SMALL OR REMOTE - NOW HAVE A POWER SUPPLY, SIR MURRAY SAID.

SPEAKING AT A CEREMONY TO MARK THE INAUGURATION OF THE POWER COMPANY'S NEWEST POWER SCHEME AT TAP MUN, SIR MURRAY SAID +THIS IS A REMARKABLE ACT OF PUBLIC SERVICE, SINCE THERE IS LITTLE OR NO ECONOMIC RETURN TO THE COMPANY FROM MANY OF ITS RURAL ELECTRIFICATION SCHEMES.+

THE $1.4 MILLION SCHEME WILL SERVE FIVE VILLAGES IN SAI KUNG NORTH AND ON TAP MUN, THE REMOTE ISLAND OFF THE NORTH-EAST OF SAI KUNG PENINSULA WHICH IS THE HOME BASE FOR THE MIRS BAY FISHING FLEET.

SIR MURRAY SAID VILLAGE LIGHTING IS A COMPLEMENTARY PROGRAMME, PART OF GOVERNMENT'S POLICY OF MAKING GOOD DEFICIENCIES IN RURAL AREAS.

+THIS, TOO, IS A SCHEME THAT RELIES UPON THE CO-OPERATION AND GOODWILL OF CHINA LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY.+

MOST OF THE ISLAND'S POPULATION OF 2,500 TURNED OUT TODAY TO SEE SIR MURRAY OFFICIALLY +SWITCH-ON+ THE COMPANY'S LATEST RURAL ELECTRIFICATION SCHEME WHICH WAS MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH THE CO-OPERATION OF THE ARMY, THE AIR FORCE AND THE AUXILIARY AIR FORCE IN BRINGING IN MORE THAN 130 TONS OF PLANT AND MACHINERY TO 175 DIFFERENT LOCATIONS IN 284 HELICOPTER FLIGHTS.

+THESE FIGURES SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES,+ SIR MURRAY SAID.

THE GOVERNOR PAID TRIBUTE TO ALL THOSE INVOLVED. HE SAID: +IT WAS LESS THAN 18 MONTHS AGO THAT THIS WAS FIRST DISCUSSED, AND IT IS A TRIBUTE TO THE GOODWILL, FINE PLANNING AND THE ABILITY OF ALL THOSE INVOLVED THAT WE ARE HERE TODAY FOR THE OPENING CEREMONY.+

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CHINA LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY, SIR LAWRENCE KADOORIE, WHO ALSO SPOKE AT THE OPENING, SAID THE CEREMONY MARKED ANOTHER MILESTONE IN CHINA LIGHT'S RURAL ELECTRIFICATION SCHEME, WHICH HAD AS ITS OBJECTIVE THE PROVISION OF ELECTRICITY TO ISOLATED COMMUNITIES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

+SINCE THE INCEPTION OF THE SCHEME IN 1961, SOME 650 VILLAGES, REPRESENTING 47,000 FAMILIES HAVE RECEIVED SUPPLY,+ HE SAID.

/SIR LAWRENCE .....

SIR LAWRENCE SAID FEW PEOPLE REALISED THE PLANNING, EFFORT AND HARD WORK PUT IN BY SO MANY WHICH PRECEDED THE SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY.

HE THANKED THE TAI PO AND SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICES, THE ARMY, THE AIR FORCE, THE ROYAL AUXILIARY AIR FORCE AND ALL CONCERNED FOR THE READY ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO MAKE THE SCHEME A REALITY.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH AT TODAY'S +SWITCHING-ON+ CEREMONY OF THE RURAL ELECTRIFICATION SCHEME AT TAP MUN:-

+IT WAS LESS THAN EIGHTEEN MONTHS AGO THAT THIS SCHEME WAS FIRST DISCUSSED, AND IT IS A TRIBUTE TO THE GOODWILL, FINE PLANNING AND THE ABILITY OF ALL THOSE INVOLVED THAT WE ARE HERE TODAY FOR THE OPENING CEREMONY.

+IT IS IMPOSSIBLE ON THESE OCCASIONS TO PAY DUE TRIBUTE TO ALL, BUT I MUST SINGLE OUT THOSE INVOLVED IN THE LOGISTICS OF THIS OPERATION. THE CHINA LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF THE ARMY, THE AIR FORCE AND THE AUXILIARY AIR FORCE BROUGHT IN MORE THAN 130 TONS OF PLANT AND MACHINERY TO 175 DIFFERENT LOCATIONS IN 284 HELICOPTER FLIGHTS. THESE FIGURES SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES.

+THE POWER COMPANY HAS AN OUTSTANDING RECORD IN BRINGING ELECTRICITY TO THE RURAL AREAS, AND MOST VILLAGES HOWEVER SMALL OR REMOTE NOW HAVE A SUPPLY. THIS IS A REMARKABLE ACT OF PUBLIC SERVICE, SINCE THERE IS LITTLE OR NO ECONOMIC RETURN TO THE COMPANY FROM MANY OF ITS RURAL ELECTRIFICATION SCHEMES. VILLAGE LIGHTING IS A COMPLEMENTARY PROGRAMME, PART OF GOVERNMENT'S POLICY OF MAKING GOOD DEFICIENCIES IN RURAL AREAS. THIS, TOO, IS A SCHEME THAT RELIES UPON THE CO-OPERATION AND GOODWILL OF CHINA LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY.

+IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE NOW TO DECLARE THIS SCHEME OPEN, AND TO SWITCH ON THE SUPPLY.+

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FIELD STUDIES CENTRE FOR STUDENTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

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A FIELD STUDIES CENTRE DESIGNED TO HELP STUDENTS IN THEIR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES IS BEING BUILT AT THE SAI KUNG OUTDOOR RECREATION CENTRE, MR. ARTHUR BROWN, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (SPECIAL DUTIES) SAID TODAY.

IN HIS OPENING ADDRESS AT THE SEMINAR ON +CLEAN AIR AND LICHENS+ SURVEY ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT FOR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS, MR. BROWN SAID THE CENTRE WOULD PROVIDE FACILITIES FOR PUPILS TO DO THE FIELD WORK THAT IS REQUIRED IN MODERN BIOLOGY AND GEOGRAPHY.

+IF EVERYTHING GOES AS PLANNED THIS FIELD STUDIES CENTRE WILL BE READY FOR USE BY SCHOOL GROUPS EARLY NEXT YEAR,+ HE ADDED.

+THE SURROUNDING OF THE CENTRE OFFERS EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR FIELD STUDIES, WITH A VARIETY OF HABITATS.

COMMENTING ON THE TERRITORY-WIDE +CLEAN AIR AND LICHENS+ SURVEY, MR. BROWN SAID IT WAS AN EXCELLENT WAY TO INVOLVE SCHOOL CHILDREN IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES, AND WOULD FULFIL A NUMBER OF AIMS ESSENTIAL FOR THE ORGANISATION AND CONDUCT OF ACTIVITIES CONNECTED WITH ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION.

+IT WILL INTEREST CHILDREN IN THEIR OWN ENVIRONMENT AND HELP THEM FIND OUT SOMETHING ABOUT IT. IT WILL GIVE CHILDREN A POSITIVE INTEREST IN PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT,+ HE SAID.

MR. BROWN NOTED THAT THE SURVEY WOULD ALSO ENCOURAGE SOCIAL AWARENESS AND GIVE STUDENTS FIRST HAND INFORMATION WHICH COULD BE FED INTO A CENTRAL POOL FOR PRACTICAL AND USEFUL PURPOSES.

MRS. LOUISE MOK, THE DEPUTY CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS WHO IS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SEMINAR SAID IN HER OPENING REMARKS THAT THE SURVEY WOULD BE VERY POPULAR WITH SCHOOL CHILDREN.

IT WOULD ALSO LEAD TO AN INCREASING AWARENESS OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS AMONG THE GENERAL PUBLIC, SHE SAID.

+IN HONG KONG, EDUCATIONAL INTEREST IN THE ENVIRONMENT, FROM BOTH INTRA-CURRICULAR AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR POINTS OF VIEW, THOUGH COMPARATIVELY NEW, HAS BEEN EXTREMELY KEEN AND HAS BEEN GATHERING MOMENTUM BOTH WITHIN THE SCHOOLS AND OUTSIDE DURING THE LAST DECADE,+ MRS. MOK ADDED.

SHE NOTED THAT OVER THE YEARS, THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, WITH THE HELP OF THE TWO UNIVERSITIES, OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, COMMERCIAL CONCERNS AND VARIOUS VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, HAD MADE SUCCESSFUL ATTEMPTS TO LAUNCH A SERIES OF HONG KONG ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEYS.

+I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT THE SURVEY WORK TO BE CARRIED OUT BY SCHOOL GROUPS WILL BE OF A PIONEERING NATURE, CHALLENGING AND UNPRECEDENTED,+ SHE SAID.

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KOWLOON HILLS FITNESS TRAIL OPENS

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THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT HAS OPENED A FITNESS TRAIL IN THE LION ROCK COUNTRY PARK -- THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN HONG KONG -- FOR USE BY VISITORS AND MORNING WALKERS.

KNOWN AS THE KOWLOON HILLS FITNESS TRAIL, THE 6,000-FT PATH IS EQUIPPED WITH 13 SETS OF GYMNASTIC EQUIPMENT WHICH ARE DESIGNED FOR PEOPLE OF VARIOUS AGES.

MRS. MADELEINE TANG, A MEMBER OF THE COUNTRY PARKS BOARD, WILL OFFICIALLY OPEN THE FITNESS TRAIL ON TUESDAY (OCTOBER 17).

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND A REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE KOWLOON HILLS FITNESS TRAIL IN THE LION ROCK COUNTRY PARK AT 10.30 A.M. ON TUESDAY (OCTOBER 17). PRESS TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED. A GOVERNMENT VAN FROM THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT WILL LEAVE THE KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER AT 9.15 A.M. SHARP. FOR THOSE WISHING TO MAKE THEIR OWN WAY TO THE LION ROCK COUNTRY PARK, LIMITED PARKING SPACE IS AVAILABLE AT THE KOWLOON HILLS MANAGEMENT CENTRE NEAR THE 4-1/2-MILESTONE, TAI PO ROAD, KOWLOON.

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A WARMER AND DRIER SEPTEMBER

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THE WEATHER IN SEPTEMBER WAS WARMER AND DRIER THAN USUAL WITH THE TOTAL RAINFALL FOR THE MONTH AMOUNTING TO ABOUT 272 MM WHICH IS 18 PER CENT BELOW NORMAL, ACCORDING TO THE MONTHLY WEATHER SUMMARY ISSUED BY THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY TODAY.

THE ACCUMULATED RAINFALL FROM THE BEGINNING OF 1978 UP TO THE END OF SEPTEMBER STOOD AT 2,020.5 MM COMPARED WITH THE NORMAL FIGURE OF 2,075.1 MM FOR THE SAME PERIOD.

DURING THE MONTH A TOTAL OF SEVEN TROPICAL CYCLONES DEVELOPED OVER THE WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC AND THE SOUTH CHINA SEA. FOR TWO OF THEM -- SEVERE TROPICAL STORM KIT AND TYPHOON LOLA -- TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNING SIGNALS WERE HOISTED IN HONG KONG.

APART FROM SOME THUNDERSTORMS ON THE NIGHT OF SEPTEMBER 7, THE FIRST NINE DAYS OF THE MONTH WERE MAINLY FINE AND HOT. A WEAK COLD FRONT PASSED HONG KONG EARLY ON SEPTEMBER 10 AND THERE WERE SOME THUNDERSTORMS AND FRESHENING NORTHERLY WINDS.

WEATHER IN THE FOLLOWING EIGHT DAYS WERE AGAIN FINE AND HOT WITH THE TEMPERATURE RISING TO A MAXIMUM OF 33.3 DEGREES ON SEPTEMBER 15, THE HIGHEST RECORDED IN THE MONTH.

ANOTHER COLD FRONT PASSED HONG KONG EARLY ON SEPTEMBER 19 AND FRESH WINDS WERE EXPERIENCED OFF SHORE AND ON HILL TOPS. DUE TO THE NORTHEAST MONSOON OVER THE NORTHERN PART OF SOUTH CHINA SEA, WINDS IN HONG KONG REMAINED FRESH EASTERLY WITH ASSOCIATED SCATTERED SHOWERS AND SOME ISOLATED THUNDERSTORMS IN THE NEXT TWO DAYS.

THE WEATHER IMPROVED ON SEPTEMBER 22. HOWEVER, SHOWERS BEGAN TO SET IN THE FOLLOWING EVENING AS SEVERE TROPICAL STORM KIT MOVED ACROSS THE SOUTH CHINA SEA. FREQUENT SHOWERS WITH OCCASIONAL THUNDERSTORMS WERE EXPERIENCED FROM SEPTEMBER 24 UNTIL THE MORNING OF SEPTEMBER 26, WHEN THE HEAVIEST DOWNPOUR FOR THE MONTH OCCURRED WITH 30.8 MM OF RAINFALL RECORDED AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY BETWEEN 4 A.M. AND 5 A.M.

STRONG WINDS WERE EXPERIENCED OFF SHORE ON SEPTEMBER 24 AND PERSISTED UNTIL THE FOLLOWING MORNING. HOWEVER, WINDS IN URBAN AREAS REMAINED MODERATE OR FRESH.

THE WEATHER WAS MAINLY FINE ON SEPTEMBER 27 AND 28. WHEN TYPHOON LOLA MOVED ACROSS THE SOUTH CHINA SEA TOWARDS HAINAN ISLAND, THE WEATHER TURNED CLOUDY WITH SCATTERED SHOWERS ON SEPTEMBER 29.

THE SHOWERS BECAME HEAVY AND SQUALLY THE FOLLOWING DAY, WHEN CONDITIONS BECAME COOLER AND TEMPERATURE DROPPED TO A MINIMUM OF 23.4 DEGREES, THE LOWEST RECORDED IN THE MONTH.

DURING THE MONTH ONE AIRCRAFT WAS DIVERTED FROM HONG KONG DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS ASSOCIATED WITH TYPHOON LOLA. A FIRE DANGER WARNING WAS EFFECTIVE ON SEPTEMBER 23 AND 24 AND THUNDERSTORM WARNINGS WERE ISSUED ON NINE DAYS OF THE MONTH.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN NEW STREET AND PO YAN STREET IN SHEUNG WAN FROM 10 A.M. ON MONDAY (OCTOBER 16) FOR ABOUT FOUR MONTHS TO FACILITATE ROAD WORK IN HOLLYWOOD ROAD.

UNDER THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS, THE SECTION OF PO YAN STREET BETWEEN NEW STREET AND HOLLYWOOD ROAD WILL BE ROUTED ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND, AND NEW STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM ONE-WAY WESTBOUND TO ONE-WAY EASTBOUND.

MEANWHILE, A TEMPORARY +NO RIGHT TURN+ RESTRICTION WILL BE INTRODUCED AT THE JUNCTION OF TAI KOK TSUI ROAD AND ANCHOR STREET IN TAI KOK TSUI FROM 10 A.M. ON TUESDAY (OCTOBER 17) FOR ABOUT TWO MONTHS TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE WEST KOWLOON CORRIDOR.

NORTHBOUND MOTORISTS TRAVELLING ALONG TAI KOK TSUI ROAD WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM MAKING RIGHT TURN INTO ANCHOR STREET DURING THIS PERIOD. THEY ARE ADVISED TO MAKE USE OF THE ALTERNATIVE ACCESS VIA THE NEW LINK ROAD OPPOSITE POK MAN STREET TO REACH BEECH STREET AND ANCHOR STREET.

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

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WATER CUT
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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN CHAI WAN WILL BE STOPPED FOR SEVEN HOURS FROM 11 P.M. ON MONDAY (OCTOBER 16) TO FACILITATE LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE AREA TO BE AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY 399 CHAI WAN ROAD, 8-12 ON YIP STREET, 1-9 SUN YIP STREET INCLUDING CHINA MOTOR BUS DEPOT AND CHAI WAN RESITE AREA.

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FIRING PRACTICE

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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE AT CASTLE PEAK RANGE ON FIVE DAYS NEXT WEEK.

THE PUBLIC ARE REMINDED THAT IT IS DANGEROUS TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN THE RED FLAGS ARE FLYING DURING THE TIME OF FIRING PRACTICE.

THE PRACTICE TIMES ARE:

DATE	HOURS
OCTOBER 16 (MONDAY)	8 A.M. -- 6 P.M.
OCTOBER 17 (TUESDAY)	8 A.M. -- 11 P.M.
OCTOBER 18 (WEDNESDAY)	8 A.M. -- 6 P.M.
OCTOBER 19 (THURSDAY)	8 A.M. -- 11 P.M.
OCTOBER 20 (FRIDAY)	8 A.M. -- 6 P.M.

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