



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1989

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
CSD WILL CONTINUE COMBINED APPROACH IN CORRECTIONAL WORK	1
COMMERCIAL POTENTIAL AT TERMINALS WILL BE STUDIED	2
JOINT ANTI-ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION OPERATION MOUNTED	2
NEW SERVICE FOR FOOD EXPORT PRODUCTS	4
BUDGET SITTINGS RE-SCHEDULED	4
NT ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS VISIT REMOTE VILLAGES	5
FSD CONTROL STAFF HAVE IMPORTANT ROLE	6
1989 BUDGET LEGISLATION GAZETTED	6
CHANGE OF TITLE OF R & V SURVEYOR GRADE	8
AUSTRALIAN BANK GRANTED LICENCE	9
INCREASES IN SOCIAL SECURITY PAYMENTS	9
CHAIRMAN OF WAGES PROTECTION BOARD APPOINTED	11
AMENDMENTS TO TWO DRAFT OZP'S ANNOUNCED	11
HOKLAS REACHES A STAGE OF COMPETENCE, MATURITY	13
GOOD START TO TREE PLANTING SCHEME	14
WORK TO ALLEVIATE EFFECTS OF FLOODING IN YUEN LONG	15
ANTI-MOSQUITO EDUCATION CAMPAIGN STARTS TOMORROW	16
CANOPY TO BE BUILT ALONG PIER ROAD IN CENTRAL	17
LONG-SERVING IMMIGRATION STAFF HONOURED	18
CLINIC TO BE BUILT IN JUNK BAY	18
RE-GROUPING OF LABOUR RELATIONS OFFICES	19
SAI YING PUN PRE-WAR BUILDINGS DECLARED DANGEROUS	19
CHILDREN'S DAY FESTIVITIES IN TUEN MUN	20
ID CARD REMINDER FOR WOMEN BORN IN 1954-56	21
BOARDING, ALIGHTING RESTRICTIONS TO BE LIFTED	22
TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF ABERDEEN STREET	22
TRAM SERVICE BETWEEN KENNEDY TOWN - WESTERN MARKET	23

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1989

- 1 -

CSD WILL CONTINUE COMBINED APPROACH IN CORRECTIONAL WORK

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THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE TO PURSUE ITS PRIMARY ROLE IN CORRECTIONS BASED ON THE PROVEN SUCCESSES OF COMBINING A SCIENTIFIC APPROACH WITH FIRM DISCIPLINE AND HUMANE TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS, THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, MR CHAN WA-SHEK, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING AT A CORRECTIONAL STAFF PARADE AT THE STAFF TRAINING INSTITUTE IN STANLEY, MR CHAN ALSO SAID THAT IN THE OPERATION OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES INDUSTRIES, THE DEPARTMENT WAS TAKING A CLOSE LOOK AT POSSIBILITIES OUTSIDE THE PUBLIC SECTOR MARKET IN THE HOPE OF BRINGING ABOUT FUNDAMENTAL INCREASES IN PRODUCTIVITY.

THE COMMISSIONER POINTED OUT THAT AS A NECESSARY PART OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE, CORRECTIONAL WORK WAS A JOB WHICH MUST BE DONE.

"OVER THE YEARS, OUR PENAL INSTITUTIONS HAVE CONTINUED TO ADMIT AND TREAT SUBSTANTIAL NUMBERS OF OFFENDERS OF ALL KINDS. THIS IS SO DESPITE THE WIDELY ACCEPTED PRINCIPLE OF USING CUSTODIAL SENTENCES AS A LAST RESORT," HE SAID.

MR CHAN SAID THE ARRIVAL OF BOAT PEOPLE AND ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS IN HONG KONG HAD ALSO ADDED NEW DIMENSIONS AND COMPLEXITIES TO THE DEPARTMENT'S WORK.

TURNING TO THE WORK OF THE CORRECTIONAL OFFICER, MR CHAN REMARKED THAT THIS WORK WAS LITTLE KNOWN TO THE MAN IN THE STREET, AND SELDOM WAS THE CORRECTIONAL OFFICER HELD IN THE SAME REGARD AS OTHER PUBLIC SERVANTS WHOSE SERVICES COULD BE SEEN AND THEREFORE MORE READILY APPRECIATED BY THE PUBLIC.

THE COMMISSIONER TOLD THE STAFF ON PARADE THAT THEY HAD TO REALISE THAT THEY WERE WORKING THROUGH A PERIOD OF STRAIN AND VOLATILITY.

"IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT OUR STAFF ALWAYS MAINTAIN A HIGH DEGREE OF VIGILANCE AND BE MINDFUL TO ACT WITHIN THE LAW IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES," MR CHAN SAID.

AT THE CEREMONY, THE COMMISSIONER PRESENTED CLASPS TO THE COLONIAL PRISON SERVICE MEDAL TO 22 VETERAN STAFF WHO HAD GIVEN EXEMPLARY SERVICE.

THE PARADE ALSO MARKED THE PASSING-OUT OF 53 RECRUIT ASSISTANT OFFICERS WHO HAD COMPLETED SIX MONTHS OF BASIC TRAINING AT THE STAFF TRAINING INSTITUTE.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1989

- 2 -

COMMERCIAL POTENTIAL AT TERMINALS WILL BE STUDIED

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THE MARINE DEPARTMENT HAS APPOINTED THE FIRM OF BLEWETT DODD CHUNG LEE LTD TO UNDERTAKE A CONSULTANCY STUDY ON THE COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES AND POTENTIAL AT THE CHINA AND MACAU FERRY TERMINALS.

A CONTRACT FOR THE \$740,000 STUDY WAS SIGNED THIS (FRIDAY) MORNING BY THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF MARINE (PORT SERVICES), MR DAVID HUNT, AND THE FIRM'S MANAGING DIRECTOR, MR ALFRED CHING.

UNDER THE CONTRACT, THE CONSULTANT FIRM IS REQUIRED TO SUBMIT A REPORT OF ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT WITHIN FOUR WORKING MONTHS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MARINE DEPARTMENT SAID THAT THE CONSULTANT WAS ASKED TO IDENTIFY THE MAXIMUM COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES AND POTENTIAL AT THE CHINA AND MACAU FERRY TERMINALS.

"THE CONSULTANT IS ALSO REQUIRED TO RECOMMEND, IF NECESSARY, AN EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT ORGANISATION FOR SUCH COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES," HE ADDED.

THE OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, WAS TO MAXIMISE THE COMMERCIAL POTENTIAL AT THE CHINA AND MACAU FERRY TERMINALS SO AS TO PROVIDE A RETURN OF REVENUE FROM COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES.

THIS WOULD ENABLE THE DEPARTMENT TO MEET THE RUNNING COSTS OF THESE TERMINALS WITHOUT RELYING WHOLELY ON PASSENGER EMBARKATION AND BERTHING FEES.

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JOINT ANTI-ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION OPERATION MOUNTED

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A TERRITORY-WIDE ANTI-ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION OPERATION JOINTLY MOUNTED BY THE POLICE, AND THE LABOUR AND IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENTS YESTERDAY (THURSDAY) HAS RESULTED IN THE ARRESTS OF 44 PERSONS.

THE OPERATION WAS PART OF THE GOVERNMENT'S CONTINUOUS EFFORT TO FLUSH OUT ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

OF THE ARRESTED PERSONS, 10 WERE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS CAUGHT AT THE BORDER. THEY HAVE BEEN SENT TO SAN UK LING FOR REPATRIATION.

THE REMAINING 34 HAVE BEEN REFERRED TO THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT AND THE POLICE FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATION. THOSE FOUND TO BE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS WILL BE REPATRIATED.

/A GOVERNMENT

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1989

- 3 -

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN REITERATED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT THERE WAS NO QUESTION OF ANY AMNESTY FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

"OUR LATEST OPERATION SHOULD DRIVE HOME THE POINT THAT THERE WILL BE NO CHANGE TO THIS POLICY. ANYONE FOOLISH ENOUGH TO BELIEVE OTHERWISE IS ONLY CHEATING HIMSELF," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT APART FROM CONTINUOUS CHECKS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY, THERE WAS NO LET-UP IN ANTI-ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION EFFORTS AT THE BORDER.

"A HIGH STATE OF VIGILANCE WILL CONTINUE TO BE MAINTAINED BY THE POLICE AND THE SECURITY FORCES BOTH AT THE LAND AND SEA BORDERS," HE SAID.

DURING THE JOINT OPERATION, WHICH BEGAN AT 5 AM YESTERDAY AND ENDED THIS MORNING, THE POLICE HAD STEPPED UP THEIR IDENTIFICATION SPOT CHECKS IN PUBLIC PLACES AND CARRIED OUT CHECKS AT SUSPICIOUS LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY.

AS A RESULT, A TOTAL OF 30,007 PERSONS, 4,925 VEHICLES AND 994 VESSELS WERE STOPPED FOR IDENTIFICATION CHECKS.

TWENTY-ONE PERSONS WERE SUMMONED AND 11 PERSONS CHARGED FOR FAILING TO PRODUCE PROPER PROOF OF IDENTITY. A FURTHER 254 PERSONS WERE WARNED IN RESPECT OF THIS OFFENCE, WHICH CARRIES A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$1,000.

ON THE LABOUR FRONT, INSPECTORS OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT VISITED 2,684 ESTABLISHMENTS TO WEED OUT ANY ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS WHO MAY BE WORKING, AND TO CHECK THAT EMPLOYERS FULFIL THEIR LEGAL OBLIGATION OF KEEPING PROPER RECORDS OF THEIR EMPLOYEES.

A TOTAL OF SIX PERSONS IN FOUR ESTABLISHMENTS WERE FOUND WITHOUT PROPER PROOF OF IDENTITY AND HAVE BEEN REFERRED TO THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATION.

ANOTHER 12 ESTABLISHMENTS WERE FOUND NOT TO POSSESS FOR INSPECTION A RECORD OF EMPLOYEES.

THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED EMPLOYERS THAT THEY COULD BE FINED UP TO \$50,000 AND JAILED FOR UP TO A YEAR IF THEY WERE FOUND TO BE EMPLOYING ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

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NEW SERVICE FOR FOOD EXPORT PRODUCTS

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THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT WILL INTRODUCE A NEW VETERINARY HEALTH CERTIFICATION SERVICE TOMORROW (SATURDAY) TO FACILITATE EXPORTS OF FOOD CONTAINING ANIMAL OR POULTRY PRODUCTS.

THE NEW SERVICE, WHICH COVERS THE INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION OF SUCH FOOD CONSIGNMENTS, WILL BE PROVIDED ON A FEE-CHARGING BASIS.

THE INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION SERVICE FEE FOR A HEALTH CERTIFICATE IN RESPECT OF EACH CONSIGNMENT INSPECTED WILL BE \$3,120.

ANNOUNCING THE NEW SERVICE, THE DEPARTMENT'S SENIOR VETERINARY OFFICER, DR NORMAN CHENG, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT LOCAL FOOD MANUFACTURERS HAVE EXPERIENCED DIFFICULTY IN THE PAST IN EXPORTING THEIR PRODUCTS TO MANY DEVELOPED COUNTRIES WHICH INSIST ON SUCH PRODUCTS BEING INSPECTED AND CERTIFIED BY A GOVERNMENT VETERINARY OFFICER.

"IT IS HOPED THAT THE NEW SERVICE WILL HELP MANUFACTURERS OVERCOME THEIR DIFFICULTIES, THEREBY CONTRIBUTING TO THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG'S FOOD EXPORTS," HE SAID.

DR CHENG SAID THAT, AT PRESENT, THERE WERE SOME 20 KNOWN MANUFACTURERS WHO HAD INDICATED A NEED FOR SUCH SERVICE. THEY INCLUDE EXPORTERS OF MOONCAKES, EGG NOODLES, EGG ROLLS, OTHER DIM SUM PRODUCTS AND PROCESSED MEATS.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE NEW SERVICE CAN BE MADE BY CONTACTING THE DEPARTMENT'S HEALTH CERTIFICATION SECTION ON 3-7332276.

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BUDGET SITTINGS RE-SCHEDULED

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THE SECOND BUDGET SITTINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL HAVE BEEN RE-SCHEDULED TO APRIL 26 AND 27, BECAUSE OF THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE HEARINGS TO BE HELD IN HONG KONG.

THE SITTINGS WERE ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 19 AND 20, BUT AS THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE HEARINGS WILL TAKE PLACE DURING THE SAME WEEK, IT WAS DECIDED THAT THE SITTINGS SHOULD BE RE-SCHEDULED.

THE REVISED TIMETABLE FOR LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SITTINGS IN APRIL AND MAY WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

/WEDNESDAY

- 5 -

WEDNESDAY	APRIL 12	REGULAR SITTING
WEDNESDAY	APRIL 19	REGULAR SITTING
WEDNESDAY	APRIL 26) 2ND BUDGET SITTING
THURSDAY	APRIL 27) (MEMBERS OTHER THAN
) OFFICIALS SPEAK)
WEDNESDAY	MAY 3	REGULAR SITTING
WEDNESDAY	MAY 10	3RD BUDGET SITTING
		(OFFICIALS SPEAK)
WEDNESDAY	MAY 17	REGULAR SITTING
		(4TH BUDGET SITTING:
		COMMITTEE STAGE AND
		3RD READING OF
		APPROPRIATION BILL)
WEDNESDAY	MAY 24	REGULAR SITTING
WEDNESDAY	MAY 31	REGULAR SITTING

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NT ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS VISIT REMOTE VILLAGES

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THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR ADOLF HSU, AND THE DEPUTY REGIONAL SECRETARY, MR LEO KWAN, TODAY (FRIDAY) VISITED THE EASTERN PART OF SAI KUNG NORTH TO SEE FOR THEMSELVES THE WAY OF LIFE IN REMOTE VILLAGES.

ON ARRIVAL AT WONG SHEK PIER, THEY WERE GREETED BY THE TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICER, MR JOHN BURRETT; THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SAI KUNG NORTH RURAL COMMITTEE, MR TANG KWONG-WING; THE VICE-CHAIRMAN, MR WONG CHUN-WAI AND MR SHEK WING-TONG; AND A TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER, MR HO TAI-WAI.

THEY BOARDED A VESSEL TO TRAVEL TO SHUM WAN WHERE MR BURRETT BRIEFED THE PARTY ON THE MARICULTURE ZONE THERE.

THE PARTY THEN PROCEEDED TO KO LAU WAN AND TOURED THE VILLAGE.

ON TAP MUN CHAU, THE PARTY CALLED AT THE TAP MUN NEW FISHERMEN'S VILLAGE TO GET A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF LIFE IN THE VILLAGE.

THEY ALSO VISITED INTERESTING SITES ON THE ISLAND, INCLUDING KING LAM SCHOOL - THE ONLY PRIMARY SCHOOL IN TAP MUN, A FOOTBALL PITCH ON THE TOP OF A HILL, A TIN HAU TEMPLE BUILT MORE THAN 200 YEARS AGO, AND THE OLD MARKET.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1989

- 6 -

FSD CONTROL STAFF HAVE IMPORTANT ROLE
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THE WORK OF THE FIRE SERVICES CONTROL STAFF IS EQUALLY AS IMPORTANT AS THAT OF THEIR OPERATIONAL COUNTERPARTS, THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER (HEADQUARTERS), MR RAY JOHNSTON, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING AT A PASSING OUT PARADE OF A SQUAD OF FIVE SENIOR FIREMEN/SENIOR FIREWOMEN (CONTROL), MR JOHNSTON SAID THE CONTROL STAFF REPRESENTED THE FIRST CONTACT WITH THE PUBLIC IN RECEIVING CALLS FOR HELP IN FIRES OR OTHER CALAMITIES, OR FOR AMBULANCE SERVICES.

"YOUR ACCURACY AND PROFICIENCY IN COMMUNICATIONS, DECISION MAKING AND THE SUBSEQUENT MOBILISING OF RESOURCES ARE SOME OF THE ESSENTIAL FACTORS THROUGH WHICH THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT CAN PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC," HE SAID.

AFTER REVIEWING THE PARADE, MR JOHNSTON PRESENTED THE BEST RECRUIT AWARD TO SENIOR FIREMAN TSE POK-CHUNG.

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1989 BUDGET LEGISLATION GAZETTED
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THE GOVERNMENT HAS PROPOSED THAT FIVE ORDINANCES BE AMENDED TO IMPLEMENT CERTAIN OF THE REVENUE RAISING PROPOSALS, AND TAXATION CONCESSIONS, ANNOUNCED BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY IN HIS BUDGET SPEECH ON MARCH 1 THIS YEAR.

AMENDMENTS TO THE BANKING ORDINANCE, THE BUSINESS REGISTRATION ORDINANCE, THE DUTIABLE COMMODITIES ORDINANCE, THE ROAD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE AND THE INLAND REVENUE ORDINANCE WERE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE AMENDMENTS TO THE BANKING ORDINANCE PROVIDE FOR A 15 PER CENT INCREASE IN DEPOSIT TAKING COMPANY FEES FROM APRIL 1, 1989.

THE BUSINESS REGISTRATION FEE IS INCREASED FROM \$550 TO \$630 FROM APRIL 1, 1989 UNDER THE AMENDMENTS PROPOSED TO THE BUSINESS REGISTRATION ORDINANCE.

THE DUTIABLE COMMODITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989 PROVIDES FROM MARCH 1, 1989 FOR A REVISION IN THE DUTY PAYABLE ON BEER, A REDUCTION IN THE DUTY PAYABLE ON BRANDY AND AN INCREASE IN THE DUTY PAYABLE ON ALL OTHER TYPES OF LIQUOR, INCLUDING INDUSTRIAL ALCOHOL, AND ON TOBACCO AND HYDROCARBON OILS.

/THE BILL

THE BILL ALSO CHANGES THE METHOD BY WHICH DUTY IS ASSESSED ON BEER TO ONE UNDER WHICH DUTY IS ASSESSED ON THE VOLUME OF BEER RELEASED FOR LOCAL SALE.

THE AMENDMENTS TO THE ROAD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE PROVIDE FOR AN EIGHT PER CENT INCREASE IN THE ANNUAL LICENCE FEES FOR MOTOR VEHICLES AS WELL AS THE FEES FOR DRIVING LICENCES, PERMITS AND DRIVING TESTS.

UNDER THE AMENDMENTS PROPOSED TO THE INLAND REVENUE ORDINANCE, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY HAS PROVIDED FOR FIVE CONCESSIONS IN THE AREA OF PERSONAL TAXATION, TWO CONCESSIONS IN THE AREA OF BUSINESS PROFITS TAX, ONE CONCESSION IN THE AREA OF PROPERTY TAX, AND FOR THE COMPLETE ABOLITION OF INTEREST TAX.

THE PERSONAL, PROFITS AND PROPERTY TAX CONCESSIONS WILL APPLY TO PROVISIONAL AND FINAL ASSESSMENTS FOR THE YEAR OF ASSESSMENT COMMENCING APRIL 1, 1989, AND ALSO, WHERE APPROPRIATE, TO 1989-90 PERSONAL ASSESSMENTS. THE ABOLITION OF INTEREST TAX IS EFFECTIVE FROM YEAR OF ASSESSMENT COMMENCING APRIL 1, 1989.

THE TAX CONCESSIONS INCLUDE A REDUCTION IN THE STANDARD RATE FROM 15.5 TO 15 PER CENT AND A REDUCTION FROM 17 TO 16.5 PER CENT IN THE RATE OF PROFITS TAX PAYABLE BY CORPORATIONS.

IN ADDITION, IT IS PROPOSED TO REVISE CERTAIN PERSONAL TAXATION ALLOWANCES, INTRODUCE A "SINGLE PARENT" ALLOWANCE, AND INCREASE THE INITIAL ALLOWANCE FOR EXPENDITURE INCURRED ON QUALIFYING MACHINERY AND PLANT.

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THE REVENUE RAISING PROPOSALS WILL PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL \$409 MILLION IN 1989-90. THE COST TO THE REVENUE OF THE TAXATION CONCESSIONS PROPOSED IS ESTIMATED TO BE \$1,100 MILLION IN 1989-90, AND \$1,735 MILLION IN A FULL YEAR.

THE AMENDMENT BILLS ARE EXPECTED TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON APRIL 12.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO COMMENT ON THE AMENDMENTS CAN WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR THE TREASURY, FINANCE BRANCH, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, FOURTH FLOOR, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (EAST WING), LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG, OR TO OMELCO, 8 JACKSON ROAD, HONG KONG.

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1989

- 8 -

CHANGE OF TITLE OF R & V SURVEYOR GRADE
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A DECLARATION WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCING A CHANGE OF TITLE OF THE RATING AND VALUATION SURVEYOR GRADE WITH EFFECT FROM APRIL 1 THIS YEAR.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT EXPLAINED THAT THE RATING AND VALUATION SURVEYOR GRADE WAS CREATED OVER 40 YEARS AGO WHEN THE DEPARTMENT WAS FORMED AND THE TITLE OF RATING AND VALUATION SURVEYOR THEN REFLECTED THE MAIN DUTIES OF THE GRADE IN THE VALUATION OF PROPERTIES FOR RATING PURPOSES.

OVER THE INTERVENING YEARS THE DEPARTMENT'S WORK HAS EXPANDED SIGNIFICANTLY INTO OTHER AREAS. THESE INCLUDE PROVIDING PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SERVICES AND VALUATION ADVICE TO OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, AND RATING NOW CONSTITUTES ONLY ONE ASPECT OF THE WORK UNDERTAKEN BY THE RATING AND VALUATION SURVEYOR GRADE.

IN ORDER TO REFLECT THEIR CURRENT DUTIES MORE ACCURATELY, THE VARIOUS RANKS OF THE RATING AND VALUATION SURVEYOR GRADE HAVE NOW BEEN RETITLED AS FOLLOWS:

PREVIOUS TITLE -----	REVISED TITLE -----
PRINCIPAL RATING AND VALUATION SURVEYOR	PRINCIPAL VALUATION SURVEYOR
SENIOR RATING AND VALUATION SURVEYOR	SENIOR VALUATION SURVEYOR
RATING AND VALUATION SURVEYOR	VALUATION SURVEYOR
ASSISTANT RATING AND VALUATION SURVEYOR	ASSISTANT VALUATION SURVEYOR
STUDENT RATING AND VALUATION SURVEYOR	STUDENT VALUATION SURVEYOR

HOWEVER, THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE NAME OF THE DEPARTMENT WOULD NOT BE AFFECTED AND WOULD REMAIN AS THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT.

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/9

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1989

- 9 -

AUSTRALIAN BANK GRANTED LICENCE
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THE STATE BANK OF VICTORIA HAS BEEN GRANTED A BANKING LICENCE TO CONDUCT BUSINESS IN HONG KONG, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE STATE BANK OF VICTORIA IS THE FIFTH LARGEST BANK IN AUSTRALIA. IT HAS OPERATED A REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE AND A REGISTERED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANY IN HONG KONG SINCE MARCH 1987.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID AUSTRALIA RANKED TENTH AMONG HONG KONG'S PRINCIPAL TRADING PARTNERS IN 1987.

"IT WOULD BE BENEFICIAL FOR AUSTRALIA TO HAVE APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATION IN THE HONG KONG BANKING SECTOR, GIVEN THE IMPORTANCE OF THE TRADING LINK BETWEEN THE TWO PLACES," HE SAID.

HE ADDED THAT THE CONTINUING INTEREST OF FOREIGN BANKS IN ENTERING THE LOCAL MARKET REFLECTED HONG KONG'S ROLE AS A MAJOR INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRE.

THE GRANTING OF THE LICENCE BRINGS THE TOTAL NUMBER OF LICENSED BANKS TO 162, OF WHICH 127 ARE INCORPORATED OUTSIDE HONG KONG. THIS IS THE SECOND BANKING LICENCE GRANTED THIS YEAR.

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INCREASES IN SOCIAL SECURITY PAYMENTS
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PUBLIC ASSISTANCE (PA) AND OLD AGE ALLOWANCE (OAA) PAYMENTS WILL BE INCREASED BY 11 PER CENT STARTING TOMORROW (APRIL 1), A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

DETAILS OF THE NEW PA PAYMENT RATES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

BASIC SCALE RATES PER MONTH

FAMILY SIZE	CURRENT SCALE (\$)	NEW SCALE (\$)
SINGLE PERSON	560	620
FAMILY:		
1ST ELIGIBLE MEMBER	420	465
2ND ELIGIBLE MEMBER	420	465
3RD ELIGIBLE MEMBER	410	455
4TH ELIGIBLE MEMBER	410	455

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- 10 -

5TH AND EACH ADDITIONAL
ELIGIBLE MEMBER

400

445

CORRESPONDINGLY, OTHER SUPPLEMENTARY PAYMENTS UNDER THE SCHEME WILL ALSO BE INCREASED.

THE OLD AGE ALLOWANCE SUPPLEMENT PER MONTH FOR THOSE AGED BELOW 70 WILL BE INCREASED FROM \$280 TO \$310 WHILE THOSE AGED 70 OR ABOVE WILL HAVE AN INCREASE FROM \$320 TO \$355.

THE DISABILITY SUPPLEMENT WILL LIKewise BE INCREASED TO \$310, REPLACING THE EXISTING RATE OF \$280.

THE NEW ANNUAL LONG TERM SUPPLEMENT WILL BE \$790 FOR A SINGLE PERSON; \$1,580 FOR A FAMILY WITH TWO TO FOUR ELIGIBLE MEMBERS AND \$2,370 FOR A FAMILY WITH FIVE OR MORE ELIGIBLE MEMBERS, AS COMPARED WITH THE EXISTING RATES OF \$710, \$1,420 AND \$2,130.

"THE ADJUSTMENTS WILL HELP RESTORE THE PURCHASING POWER OF PA PAYMENT, WHICH WAS LAST REVISED 10 PER CENT UPWARDS IN APRIL 1988," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

MEANWHILE, APART FROM THE INCREASE IN PAYMENT, THE ELIGIBILITY FOR THE OAA WILL BE FURTHER LOWERED TO COVER PERSONS AGED 67.

STARTING TOMORROW, THE NEW RATE FOR THOSE AGED 70 AND ABOVE WILL BE INCREASED TO \$355 PER MONTH FROM \$320 WHILE THE RATE FOR THE 67-69 AGE GROUPS WILL BE \$310 PER MONTH INSTEAD OF \$280.

TO QUALIFY, THE APPLICANT MUST HAVE RESIDED IN HONG KONG CONTINUOUSLY FOR AT LEAST FIVE YEARS SINCE REACHING THE AGE OF 62.

IN ADDITION, THE PERSON IS EXPECTED TO MAKE A SIMPLE INCOME DECLARATION.

SINGLE PERSONS WILL BE ENTITLED TO THE ALLOWANCE PROVIDED THEIR INCOME IS NOT MORE THAN \$1,800 PER MONTH AND THEY HAVE ASSETS WORTH NOT MORE THAN \$100,000. THE LIMITS FOR A MARRIED COUPLE ARE A MONTHLY INCOME OF \$3,000 AND ASSETS WORTH \$150,000.

"APPLICATIONS CAN BE MADE IN PERSON OR IN WRITING TO THE SOCIAL SECURITY FIELD UNITS OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT. HOWEVER, ELDERLY PERSONS WHO FIND IT DIFFICULT TO VISIT THE FIELD UNITS IN PERSON CAN APPOINT SOMEONE TO APPLY ON THEIR BEHALF," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"APPLICANTS OR APPOINTEES SHOULD BRING ALONG WITH THEM TO THE FIELD UNIT THE APPLICANT'S HONG KONG IDENTITY CARD AND TRAVEL DOCUMENTS.

"THEY WILL THEN BE GIVEN AN APPOINTMENT TO COME BACK ON A SPECIFIED DATE FOR COMPLETION OF THE APPLICATION PROCESS."

THE DEPARTMENT'S FIELD UNITS WERE PROCESSING SOME 5,500 INITIAL APPLICATIONS RECEIVED SINCE MARCH 1 WHEN ACCEPTANCE BEGAN, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1989

- 11 -

CHAIRMAN OF WAGES PROTECTION BOARD APPOINTED
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THE GOVERNMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED THE APPOINTMENT OF A LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, MR CHUNG PUI-LAM, TO SUCCEED MR CHAN KAM-CHUEN AS CHAIRMAN OF THE PROTECTION OF WAGES ON INSOLVENCY FUND BOARD WITH EFFECT FROM APRIL 1 THIS YEAR.

MR CHAN, WHOSE TERM OF OFFICE EXPIRES TODAY (FRIDAY), HAS BEEN CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD SINCE 1985.

A NOTICE OF THE APPOINTMENT OF MR CHUNG AND SIX OTHER REPRESENTATIVES OF EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES TO THE BOARD FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY.

MEMBERS REPRESENTING EMPLOYERS ARE MR A.R. HAMILTON, MR HO SAI-CHU AND MR NICOLAS YEUNG SHU-YAN, WHILE THOSE REPRESENTING EMPLOYEES ARE MR CHEUNG WOOD-LUN, MISS LI FUNG-YING AND MR TAM YIU-CHUNG.

EXCEPT FOR MR HAMILTON, THE APPOINTEES ARE CURRENT MEMBERS OF THE BOARD.

OTHER MEMBERS ON THE BOARD ARE THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AID AND THE REGISTRAR GENERAL, OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVES.

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AMENDMENTS TO TWO DRAFT OZP'S ANNOUNCED
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THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT HO MAN TIN OUTLINE ZONING PLAN AND THE DRAFT SHOUSON HILL AND REPULSE BAY OUTLINE ZONING PLAN.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE BOARD SAID THE MAJOR AMENDMENT TO THE DRAFT HO MAN TIN OUTLINE ZONING PLAN IS THE RE-ZONING OF THE SITE LOCATED AT THE JUNCTION OF FAT KWONG STREET, SHEUNG LOK STREET AND SHEUNG FOO STREET.

THIS IS RE-ZONED FROM "GOVERNMENT/INSTITUTION/COMMUNITY" TO "RESIDENTIAL (GROUP A)" FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME BY THE HOUSING AUTHORITY.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT SITES ALONG THE SOUTHWESTERN SIDE OF WATERLOO ROAD IS RE-ZONED FROM "RESIDENTIAL (GROUP B)" TO "RESIDENTIAL (GROUP A)" TO REFLECT THE CHANGING CHARACTER OF THE AREA.

/OPPORTUNITY IS

OPPORTUNITY IS ALSO TAKEN TO INCORPORATE THE RESTRICTIONS OF SPECIAL CONTROL AREAS NOS. K6/1 AND K7/1 INTO THE PLAN AND THE INTRODUCTION OF A SUB-AREA OF "RESIDENTIAL (GROUP B) 1" FOR THE HO MAN TIN STREET AREA.

FURTHERMORE, A TRIANGULAR SHAPED SITE LOCATED TO THE SOUTH OF SHEUNG LOK STREET IS RE-ZONED FROM "GOVERNMENT/INSTITUTION/COMMUNITY" TO "OPEN SPACE" TO PROVIDE MORE OPEN SPACE IN THE DISTRICT.

THERE ARE SOME OTHER MINOR AMENDMENTS TO THE ZONING OF SERVICE RESERVOIRS AND OPEN SPACE TO RATIONALISE THE LAND USE ZONING AND TO INDICATE CLEARLY THE PREDOMINANT USE OF LAND AND TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE TOPOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SITES.

THE SERVICE RESERVOIRS ARE NOW ZONED "GOVERNMENT/INSTITUTION/COMMUNITY" INSTEAD OF "OPEN SPACE" AND SOME "OPEN SPACE" ON THE STEEPER SLOPES WHICH ARE NOT SUITABLE FOR OPEN SPACE DEVELOPMENT ARE RE-ZONED "GREEN BELT".

AS FOR THE DRAFT SHOUSON HILL AND REPULSE BAY OUTLINE ZONING PLAN, THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS ARE NOW MADE IN THE AMENDED DRAFT OUTLINE ZONING PLAN:

- (A) TO ALLOW MINOR RELAXATION OF SITE COVERAGE AND PLOT RATIO RESTRICTIONS SET OUT IN "RESIDENTIAL (GROUP B)" ZONE TO BE CONSIDERED ON INDIVIDUAL MERITS OF THE DEVELOPMENT/RE-DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL BY THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD IN ORDER TO PERMIT MORE FLEXIBILITY IN DESIGN;
- (B) TO EXCLUDE ANCILLARY RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND CARETAKER'S OFFICE AND ACCOMMODATION FROM PLOT RATIO AND SITE COVERAGE CALCULATIONS IN THE "RESIDENTIAL (GROUP B)" AND "RESIDENTIAL (GROUP C)" ZONES TO ALLOW ADDITIONAL FLEXIBILITY WITHIN THE SET RESTRICTIONS;
- (C) TO PERMIT MOTOR REPAIR GARAGE AND CARPARK USES TO BE CONSIDERED UPON APPLICATION BY THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD ON THE "OTHER SPECIAL USES" ZONE ANNOTATED "PETROL FILLING STATION".

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD SAID THESE AMENDMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE AS A RESULT OF MEETING TWO OBJECTIONS PREVIOUSLY LODGED WHEN THE DRAFT SHOUSON HILL AND REPULSE BAY OUTLINE ZONING PLAN WAS GAZETTED IN SEPTEMBER 1987.

THE AMENDMENT PLANS MAY BE INSPECTED AT THE FOLLOWING ADDRESSES:

- DISTRICT OFFICE (SOUTHERN),
SHOP 25, GROUND FLOOR, MEI FUNG COURT,
ABERDEEN, HONG KONG.
- THE TOWN PLANNING OFFICE, BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT,
FOURTH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1989

- 13 -

- PUBLIC ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING ENTRANCE, HONG KONG.
- KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE, 141-143 KAU PUI LUNG ROAD, FIRST FLOOR, KOWLOON.

ANY PERSON AFFECTED BY THE AMENDMENTS OF THE DRAFT HO MAN TIN OUTLINE ZONING PLAN SHOULD SUBMIT HIS OBJECTION IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY, TOWN PLANNING BOARD, C/O BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, FOURTH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, NOT LATER THAN APRIL 21 THIS YEAR.

ANY PERSON AFFECTED BY THE AMENDMENT OF THE DRAFT SHOUSON HILL AND REPULSE BAY OUTLINE ZONING PLAN MAY SUBMIT HIS OBJECTION IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD, C/O BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, FOURTH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, BY APRIL 14.

COPIES OF THE AMENDMENT PLAN ARE AVAILABLE AT THE MAP SALES COUNTER, BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG; OR 382 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON AT \$10 PER UNCOLOURED COPY AND \$60 PER COLOURED COPY.

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HOKLAS REACHES A STAGE OF COMPETENCE, MATURITY

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A MUTUAL RECOGNITION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE HONG KONG LABORATORY ACCREDITATION SCHEME (HOKLAS) AND THE NATIONAL MEASUREMENT ACCREDITATION SERVICE (NAMAS) OF THE UNITED KINGDOM WAS SIGNED TODAY (FRIDAY).

FOLLOWING THE SIGNING OF THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU), ENDORSED TEST CERTIFICATES ISSUED BY ACCREDITED LABORATORIES AND ACCOMPANYING EXPORTED GOODS WILL BE ACCEPTED IN EACH OTHERS'S TERRITORIES WITHOUT FURTHER TESTING.

"IT INDICATES THAT THE TECHNICAL SUPPORT SERVICES FOR INDUSTRY ESTABLISHED BY THE GOVERNMENT HAVE REACHED A STAGE OF COMPETENCE AND MATURITY WHICH HAS FACILITATED INTERNATIONAL ACCEPTANCE," SAID THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR K.Y. YEUNG, WHO REPRESENTED THE GOVERNMENT AT THE MOU SIGNING CEREMONY.

THERE ARE AT PRESENT ONLY SEVEN BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WORLDWIDE AS BETWEEN NATIONAL LABORATORY ACCREDITATION SCHEMES. THE MOU SIGNED TODAY IS THE EIGHTH.

PRIOR TO AGREEMENT ON THIS MOU, EXPORTS BY HONG KONG MANUFACTURERS TO THE UK MARKET WERE SUBJECT TO TESTING IN UK LABORATORIES, OFTEN AFTER INITIAL TESTS HAD ALREADY BEEN PERFORMED IN HONG KONG.

/SUCH GOODS,

SUCH GOODS, ACCORDING TO MR YEUNG, MIGHT BE LIABLE FOR RETURN TO HONG KONG IF THE UK LABORATORY TEST RESULTS PROVED TO BE UNSATISFACTORY.

"THE ONUS IS NOW ON OUR MANUFACTURERS TO USE HOKLAS ACCREDITED LABORATORIES AND FOR THOSE LABORATORIES TO PROVIDE RELIABLE TEST RESULTS WHICH WILL BE ACCEPTED ON FACE VALUE BY NAMAS, UK'S LABORATORY TESTING AUTHORITY," HE SAID.

HOKLAS WAS LAUNCHED IN MAY 1985. AT PRESENT, THERE ARE 20 ACCREDITED LOCAL LABORATORIES, PERFORMING A WIDE RANGE OF TESTING.

ACCORDING TO THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (QUALITY SERVICES) OF INDUSTRY, MR ERNEST EVANS, BY THIS TIME NEXT YEAR THE NUMBER OF ACCREDITED LABORATORIES IN THE TERRITORY SHOULD BE OVER 30.

HE EMPHASISED THAT LABORATORIES WERE ACCREDITED ONLY AFTER A METICULOUS ASSESSMENT PROCESS. LABORATORIES THAT WERE UNABLE TO COMPLY WITH HOKLAS CRITERIA WERE NOT ACCREDITED.

THOSE THAT WERE ACCREDITED AND SUBSEQUENTLY FAILED TO MEET THEIR OBLIGATIONS WERE SUSPENDED FROM THE SCHEME, HE ADDED.

MR EVANS SAID HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT HONG KONG NOW HAD AVAILABLE A MATURE QUALITY SERVICE BUILT ON OVERALL COMPETENCE AND THE INTEGRITY OF TESTING.

BESIDES MR YEUNG, OTHER SIGNATORIES OF THE HONG KONG/UNITED KINGDOM BILATERAL AGREEMENT INCLUDED DR PAUL DEAN, DIRECTOR OF THE UK NATIONAL PHYSICAL LABORATORY, WHO REPRESENTED THE UK GOVERNMENT, MR EVANS AND MR JOHN SUMMERFIELD, HEAD OF NAMAS.

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GOOD START TO TREE PLANTING SCHEME

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PUBLIC RESPONSE TO THIS YEAR'S COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING SCHEME HAS BEEN SO OVERWHELMING THAT IN THE EASTER HOLIDAY PERIOD ALONE, MORE THAN 6,590 PEOPLE PARTICIPATED IN PLANTING 7,690 TREES.

OF THESE PEOPLE, 3,620 WERE IN GROUPS.

ANOTHER 110 GROUPS, TOTALLING 9,000 PEOPLE, WHO HAVE REGISTERED WITH THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, WILL PLANT TREES IN THE COMING WEEKS.

THE COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING SCHEME IS ORGANISED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT FOR THE 32ND CONSECUTIVE YEAR.

THE 1989 SCHEME BEGAN ON MARCH 24 AND TREE PLANTING DAYS WILL BE HELD ON EVERY SUNDAY AND PUBLIC HOLIDAY UNTIL THE END OF APRIL.

/COMMENTING ON

COMMENTING ON THE GOOD TURNOUT, THE DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (CONSERVATION AND COUNTRY PARKS), MR K. C. IU, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) : "THE RESPONSE IS A GOOD REFLECTION OF THE GROWING PUBLIC CONCERN FOR THE CONSERVATION OF COUNTRYSIDE ENVIRONMENT AND THE ACCEPTANCE BY THE PUBLIC AT LARGE IN SHOULDERING THE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY OF HELPING TO KEEP THE COUNTRY PARKS CLEAN AND GREEN.

"WE WELCOME THE SUPPORT OF THE INDIVIDUALS AND THEIR FAMILIES, AND THE PARTICIPATION BY SCHOOLS AND ORGANISED GROUPS IS EVEN MORE ENCOURAGING."

HE SAID THAT IT WAS A GOOD START AND FITTED IN VERY WELL WITH THE THEME OF THIS YEAR'S SCHEME.

"GROUP PARTICIPATION ALSO PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY TO PROMOTE GOOD HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS. I HOPE MORE PEOPLE WILL COME FORWARD IN GROUPS ON SUNDAYS AND IN THE TREE PLANTING DAYS AHEAD TO GIVE THEIR SUPPORT," MR IU SAID.

THE EIGHT DESIGNATED PLANTING SITES ARE TAI MO SHAN, TAI MEI TUK, MUI WO, POK FU LAM, QUARRY BAY, PAK TAM CHUNG, CLEAR WATER BAY AND TAI TONG.

COUNTRY PARK STAFF WILL BE ON DUTY FROM 9 AM TO 4 PM TO PROVIDE FREE TREE SEEDLINGS, TOOLS AND ANY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE REQUIRED.

APART FROM THE TREE PLANTING ACTIVITIES FOR THE PUBLIC, ARRANGEMENTS CAN ALSO BE MADE FOR SCHOOL AND ORGANISED GROUPS TO TAKE PART IN THE TREE PLANTING PROGRAMME ON WEEKDAYS BY TELEPHONING THE DEPARTMENT'S CONSERVATION EDUCATION UNIT ON 3-7332121 FOR ADVANCE BOOKINGS.

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WORK TO ALLEVIATE EFFECTS OF FLOODING IN YUEN LONG

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THE GOVERNMENT IS INTENDING TO BUILD A NAVIGATION CHANNEL, FLOODWAY AND CONCRETE NULLAH WITHIN AN AREA OF APPROXIMATELY 98 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED AT INNER DEEP BAY AND SHAN PUI RIVER.

THE WORK IS PART OF A MAIN DRAINAGE CHANNELS PROGRAMME TO ALLEVIATE THE EFFECTS OF FLOODING IN YUEN LONG AREAS.

THE WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN MID-1990 AND BE COMPLETED IN LATE 1993.

THE EXTENT OF THE AFFECTED AREA WAS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

/THE NOTICE,

THE NOTICE, TOGETHER WITH ITS RELATED PLAN, CAN BE SEEN ON NOTICE BOARDS POSTED NEAR THE SITE.

THE PLAN CAN ALSO BE SEEN AT THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG (WHERE COPIES CAN BE PURCHASED ON ORDER), AND AT THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT OFFICE, YUEN LONG DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICES BUILDING, 269 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, YUEN LONG.

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HE HAS AN INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED MAY SUBMIT A WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS BY MAY 30 THIS YEAR.

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ANTI-MOSQUITO EDUCATION CAMPAIGN STARTS TOMORROW
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PHASE ONE OF THE ANNUAL TERRITORY-WIDE ANTI-MOSQUITO EDUCATION CAMPAIGN WILL BE LAUNCHED TOMORROW (SATURDAY) BY THE HEALTH EDUCATION UNIT OF THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES BRANCH.

AS PART OF THE CAMPAIGN'S SERVICE, A 24-HOUR TELEPHONE HOTLINE (3-7230013) WILL ALSO BEGIN OPERATION TOMORROW TO PROVIDE ADVICE ON MOSQUITO PREVENTION WITH THE APPROACH OF THE HOT AND HUMID WEATHER.

PLACING EMPHASIS ON THE MESSAGE OF "NO STAGNANT WATER, NO MOSQUITO BREEDING", THE UNIT'S SENIOR HEALTH INSPECTOR, MR TUNG CHAN-LONG, SUGGESTED THAT THE FOLLOWING PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES BE TAKEN TO MINIMISE THE CHANCE OF MOSQUITO BREEDING:

- * TO KEEP ALL TINS, BOTTLES, RECEPTACLES AND OUTER TYRES AWAY FROM OPEN SPACES SUCH AS ROOFS, YARDS AND CANOPIES, AND TO TURN UPSIDE DOWN ALL LARGE RECEPTACLES WHICH CANNOT BE MOVED READILY;
- * TO COVER WATER STORAGE TANKS AND ENSURE THAT THEY ARE IN GOOD REPAIR;
- * TO ENSURE THAT DRAINAGE IS IN ORDER; AND
- * TO RENEW WATER IN VASES AT LEAST ONCE WEEKLY AND TO MAKE SURE THAT NO WATER ACCUMULATES IN TRAYS OF FLOWER POTS FOR MORE THAN SEVEN DAYS.

HE ALSO URGED BUILDING CONTRACTORS TO INSPECT FREQUENTLY THEIR SITES AND TO REMOVE ALL STAGNANT WATER, OR TO SPRAY AT LEAST ONCE WEEKLY, A LAYER OF LIGHT DIESEL ON THE SURFACE OF WATER WHICH COULD NOT BE DISPERSED.

"DISTRICT HEALTH STAFF OF BOTH THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT ARE ALWAYS WILLING TO OFFER ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE," HE ADDED.

STAFF OF THE UNIT WILL ALSO SEND LETTERS WITH SUPPORTING PUBLICITY MATERIALS TO BUILDING CONTRACTORS, OWNERS CORPORATIONS, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND MANAGEMENT OFFICES OF LARGE PRIVATE HOUSING ESTATES APPEALING FOR CO-OPERATION.

"TO AROUSE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE MESSAGE, ANTI-MOSQUITO POSTERS AND LEAFLETS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO SCHOOLS AND DISTRICT OFFICES OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION FOR DISPLAY," MR TUNG SAID.

"THE MESSAGE WILL ALSO BE BROADCAST IN VARIOUS DISTRICTS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY," HE SAID.

UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES ORDINANCE, ANYONE WHO ALLOWS MOSQUITO BREEDING ON PREMISES IS LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$10,000.

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CANOPY TO BE BUILT ALONG PIER ROAD IN CENTRAL

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PIER ROAD IN CENTRAL WILL BE GIVEN A NEW LOOK WITH THE PROVISION OF AN ARTISTIC CANOPY AND A COLOURED PAVEMENT.

THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT WILL BUILD A CANOPY ALONG THE PEDESTRIAN WALKWAY ON A SECTION OF THE ROAD BETWEEN THE VEHICULAR FERRY PIER AND GOVERNMENT PIERS.

THE STEEL FRAMED CANOPY, WITH A LIGHTWEIGHT ROOF COVER, WILL PROVIDE SHELTER TO PASSENGERS WAITING OUTSIDE THE FERRY PIERS.

THE DEPARTMENT WILL ALSO REINSTATE THE WALKWAY WITH COLOURED GRANITE TILES OF AN INTERESTING PATTERN.

WORKS WILL START IN JUNE AND TAKE 15 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

A NOTICE INVITING TENDERS FOR THE WORKS WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

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FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1989

- 18 -

LONG-SERVING IMMIGRATION STAFF HONOURED

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THIRTY-TWO MEMBERS OF THE IMMIGRATION SERVICE WERE AWARDED LONG SERVICE INSIGNIA BY THE DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION, MR ALAN CARTER, IN A PRESENTATION CEREMONY HELD AT THE IMMIGRATION HEADQUARTERS TODAY (FRIDAY).

FIRST CLASPS, SIGNIFYING 25 YEARS OF SERVICE, WERE PRESENTED TO AN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, MR STEVEN KUO KET-CHEN, AND NINE OTHER OFFICERS.

ANOTHER 22 OFFICERS, COMPRISING 12 SENIOR IMMIGRATION OFFICERS, NINE IMMIGRATION OFFICERS AND ONE ASSISTANT IMMIGRATION OFFICER, RECEIVED THE HONG KONG DISCIPLINED SERVICES MEDAL.

MR CARTER SAID THE AWARD OF THE HONG KONG DISCIPLINED SERVICES MEDAL HONOURED THOSE WHO HAD RENDERED LONG AND MERITORIOUS SERVICE.

HE CONGRATULATED ALL RECIPIENTS AND THANKED THEM FOR THEIR MANY YEARS OF LOYALTY AND DEDICATION TO THE IMMIGRATION SERVICE.

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CLINIC TO BE BUILT IN JUNK BAY

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A JOCKEY CLUB CLINIC PROVIDING CHILD AND MATERNAL CARE AS WELL AS OUTPATIENT SERVICE WILL BE BUILT IN JUNK BAY TO SERVE THE NEW TOWN RESIDENTS FROM NEXT YEAR.

A \$9.47 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE PROJECT HAS BEEN AWARDED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

CONSTRUCTION WORK ON THE CLINIC WILL START NEXT MONTH AND TAKE 14 MONTHS TO COMPLETE. IT WILL THEN BE HANDED OVER TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH WHICH WILL OPERATE THE FACILITY.

THE SINGLE STOREY CLINIC, FUNDED PARTLY BY A DONATION FROM THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB, WILL BE LOCATED AT AREA 22 OF JUNK BAY.

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/19

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1989

- 19 -

RE-GROUPING OF LABOUR RELATIONS OFFICES

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LABOUR RELATIONS MATTERS IN HO MAN TIN AND HUNG HOM WILL BE HANDLED FROM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) BY THE KOWLOON EAST OFFICE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE, INSTEAD OF THE KOWLOON SOUTH OFFICE.

THE KOWLOON EAST OFFICE IS LOCATED IN THE SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES AT 692 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD EAST. TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 3-205638.

THE LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE, WHICH ADMINISTERS THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE, IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTAINING HARMONIOUS LABOUR RELATIONS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES CAN SEEK ADVICE FROM THE SERVICE ON THEIR RESPECTIVE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE ORDINANCE. WHEN LABOUR DISPUTES ARISE, THE SERVICE WILL ASSIST THE PARTIES INVOLVED TO COME TO AMICABLE TERMS OF SETTLEMENT.

OTHER AREAS COVERED BY THE KOWLOON EAST OFFICE INCLUDE TO KWA WAN, MA TAU KOK, KOWLOON CITY, KOWLOON TONG, WONG TAI SIN, SAN PO KONG, TSZ WAN SHAN, DIAMOND HILL AND NGAU CHI WAN.

AFTER THE RE-ARRANGEMENT, THE KOWLOON SOUTH OFFICE WILL PROVIDE SERVICE TO ESTABLISHMENTS IN TSIM SHA TSUI, YAU MA TEI, MONG KOK AND KING'S PARK.

THE OFFICE IS LOCATED ON THE 18TH FLOOR OF PARK-IN COMMERCIAL CENTRE AT 56 DUNDAS STREET, MONG KOK. TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 3-7719454.

THE PRESENT SERVICING BOUNDARIES OF OTHER BRANCH OFFICES OF THE SERVICE WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED.

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SAI YING PUN PRE-WAR BUILDINGS DECLARED DANGEROUS

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY HAS DECLARED NOS. 6, 8 AND 10 CHUNG CHING STREET, SAI YING PUN, TO BE IN A DANGEROUS CONDITION AND NOS. 12 AND 14 LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS.

IN A STATEMENT ISSUED TODAY (FRIDAY), THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING SURVEYOR SAID THESE THREE-STOREY PRE-WAR BUILDINGS WERE CONSTRUCTED OF TIMBER UPPER FLOORS AND ROOFS ON LOAD-BEARING BRICK WALLS.

/GENERALLY, THE

GENERALLY, THE BRICKWORK IN THE WALLS WAS BADLY ERODED WITH SOFT MORTAR JOINTS.

NUMEROUS CRACKS WERE FOUND AT THE PARTY WALLS, REAR MAIN WALLS AND THE FRONT MAIN WALLS, PARTICULARLY ABOVE DOOR AND WINDOW OPENINGS AS MANY OF THE TIMBER LINTELS WERE ROTTEN AND IN DANGER OF COLLAPSE, HE SAID.

THE LINTEL ABOVE THE DOOR OPENING TO GROUND FLOOR KITCHEN OF NO. 6 HAD ALREADY COLLAPSED, CAUSING PARTIAL COLLAPSE OF THE BRICK WALL ABOVE.

FURTHERMORE, MANY OF THE TIMBER FLOOR JOISTS IN NOS. 6, 8 AND 10 WERE DEFECTIVE, BEING SPLIT AND ROTTEN.

OWING TO THE AGE AND THE ADVANCED STAGE OF DILAPIDATION, NOS. 6, 8 AND 10 WERE CONSIDERED TO BE BEYOND REASONABLE REPAIR. IT WAS THEREFORE NECESSARY TO CLOSE THEM FOR DEMOLITION.

IT WAS CONSIDERED THAT NOS. 12 AND 14, WHICH WERE OF SIMILAR CONSTRUCTION AND CONDITION TO NOS. 6, 8 AND 10, SHOULD ALSO BE CLOSED AND DEMOLISHED.

THEY WERE LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS AS IT WAS UNLIKELY THAT THEY COULD SAFELY WITHSTAND THE EFFECTS OF DEMOLITION OF NOS. 6, 8 AND 10.

NOTICES OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR CLOSURE ORDERS IN HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT AT 9.30 AM ON JUNE 30 THIS YEAR WERE POSTED IN THE BUILDINGS TODAY.

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CHILDREN'S DAY FESTIVITIES IN TUEN MUN
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TWO CARNIVALS WILL BE HELD IN EARLY APRIL IN TUEN MUN DISTRICT TO CELEBRATE "CHILDREN'S DAY".

THE FIRST, TO BE HELD BETWEEN 1.30 PM AND 5 PM ON SUNDAY (APRIL 2), WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE OPEN SPACE FACING THE SHUN TAK FRATERNAL ASSOCIATION WU SIU KUI PRIMARY SCHOOL IN ON TING ESTATE.

THE CARNIVAL HAS BEEN ORGANISED BY THE ON TING ESTATE ACTIVITIES ORGANISING COMMITTEE. IT WILL FEATURE GAME STALLS, A PAINTING COMPETITION AND VARIETY SHOWS.

ON APRIL 9 (SUNDAY), FROM 2 PM TO 5 PM, THE SAM SHING ESTATE CHILDREN'S DAY WILL BE STAGED IN THE BASKETBALL COURT NEXT TO THE SALVATION ARMY LAU NG YING PRIMARY SCHOOL.

PROGRAMMES OF THE DAY INCLUDE GAMES STALLS, ACROBATIC SHOW AND SINGING PERFORMANCES.

BOTH EVENTS ARE SPONSORED BY THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD AND ADMISSION IS FREE.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1989

- 21 -

ID CARD REMINDER FOR WOMEN BORN IN 1954-56
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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) REMINDED WOMEN BORN IN 1954, 1955 OR 1956 TO APPLY FOR NEW IDENTITY CARDS BEFORE MAY 6, 1989.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT SAID: "TO AVOID THE LAST-MINUTE RUSH, WOMEN OF THIS AGE GROUP WHO HAVE NOT YET APPLIED FOR A NEW ID CARD SHOULD COME FORWARD WITHOUT DELAY.

"FAILURE TO APPLY FOR A NEW ID CARD WITHIN THE SPECIFIED PERIOD IS AN OFFENCE LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$3,000."

APPLICANTS CAN GO TO ANY ONE OF THE EIGHT NEW IDENTITY CARD ISSUE OFFICES TO RENEW THEIR IDENTITY CARDS.

THESE OFFICES ARE OPEN FROM 8 AM TO 9.30 PM DAILY, EXCEPT SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

"THE ISSUE OFFICES ARE VERY CROWDED IN THE EVENINGS. TO AVOID HAVING TO QUEUE UP FOR A LONG TIME AT THE ISSUE OFFICES OR TO COME BACK ON ANOTHER DAY, APPLICANTS ARE ADVISED TO GO TO THESE OFFICES IN THE MORNINGS AND THE AFTERNOONS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THEY MAY MAKE USE OF THE PHONE-IN SERVICE TO ARRANGE FOR AN APPOINTMENT BY CALLING THE OFFICE OF THEIR CHOICE.

THE ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF THE ISSUE OFFICES ARE:

HONG KONG : BASEMENT, 151 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI.
TEL. NO.: 5-747070

EAST KOWLOON : AMOY PLAZA, SECOND FLOOR, 77 NGAU TAU KOK ROAD.
TEL. NO.: 3-7553679

WEST KOWLOON : CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, SECOND FLOOR, 393
CANTON ROAD, YAU MA TEI.
TEL. NO.: 3-7232424

TSUEN WAN : EAST ASIA COMMERCIAL CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, 29-37
TSUEN FU STREET.
TEL. NO.: 0-4981259

SHA TIN : SHOP 8A, SECOND FLOOR, CHANWAY SHOPPING CENTRE,
11-17, SHA TIN CENTRE STREET, SHA TIN.
TEL. NO.: 0-6059108

YUEN LONG : HOP YICK CENTRE, SECOND FLOOR, 31 HOP YICK ROAD.
TEL. NO.: 0-4771543

/TUEN MUN :

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1989

- 22 -

TUEN MUN : CHI LOK COMMERCIAL CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, CHI LOK FA
YUEN.
TEL. NO.: 0-4580862

SHEUNG SHUI : TSUEN WO TAI LAU, GROUND FLOOR, 82-84 SAN FUNG
AVENUE, SHEK WU HUI.
TEL. NO.: 0-6727191

THE SPOKESMAN REITERATED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO AMNESTY FOR
ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

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BOARDING, ALIGHTING RESTRICTIONS TO BE LIFTED
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT THE EXISTING BOARDING
AND ALIGHTING RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED ON KMB BUSES OPERATING IN PART OF
THE NORTHWEST TRANSIT SERVICE AREA IN YUEN LONG WILL BE LIFTED FROM
SUNDAY (APRIL 2).

THE BUSES ON ROUTES 54 (YUEN LONG WEST - SHEUNG TSUEN), 64K
(YUEN LONG WEST - TAI PO KCR STATION), 76K (YUEN LONG WEST - SHEUNG
SHUI) AND 77K (YUEN LONG WEST - CHEUNG WAH) WILL BE ALLOWED TO PICK
UP AND SET DOWN PASSENGERS IN CASTLE PEAK ROAD (YUEN LONG) BETWEEN
THE YUEN LONG LRT TERMINUS AND AU TAU ROUNDABOUT.

NOTICES WILL BE DISPLAYED IN THE KMB BUSES AND AT THE BUS
STOPS TO ADVISE PASSENGERS OF THE NEW ARRANGEMENT.

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF ABERDEEN STREET
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT FROM 6 AM ON MONDAY
(APRIL 3) TO 6 AM ON APRIL 17, ABERDEEN STREET IN THE MID-LEVELS
BETWEEN CAINE ROAD AND STAUNTON STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FOR
DRAINAGE WORKS.

DURING THE CLOSURE, MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED TO USE OLD BAILEY
STREET FOR ACCESS TO STAUNTON STREET.

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/23

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1989

- 23 -

TRAM SERVICE BETWEEN KENNEDY TOWN - WESTERN MARKET
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT A TRAM SERVICE RUNNING BETWEEN KENNEDY TOWN AND WESTERN MARKET WILL BE INTRODUCED FROM MONDAY (APRIL 3) TO CATER FOR THE PASSENGER DEMAND IN THE WESTERN DISTRICT DURING PEAK HOURS.

THE NEW SERVICE, TO BE ON TRIAL FOR FOUR WEEKS, WILL OPERATE FROM MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS DURING THE MORNING AND EVENING PEAK PERIODS AT AN INTERVAL OF 11 MINUTES.

NOTICES OF THE SCHEDULE OF SERVICE WILL BE DISPLAYED AT TRAM STOPS.

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