



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

TUESDAY, MAY 22, 1979

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TUESDAY, MAY 22, 1979

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## MID-LEVELS BUILDING RESTRICTIONS

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THE GOVERNMENT IS TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION TO RESTRICT TEMPORARILY THE APPROVAL OF BUILDING PROJECTS IN SPECIFIED AREAS OF THE MID-LEVELS.

ANNOUNCING THIS DECISION TODAY (TUESDAY) A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT IT HAD BEEN MADE FOLLOWING A RECOMMENDATION BY THE GEOTECHNICAL CONTROL OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT WHICH HAS BEEN EXAMINING THE PROBLEMS CAUSED BY CUT, ARTIFICIAL AND NATURAL SLOPES IN THE MID-LEVELS AREA.

THE GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT THE SOLE PURPOSE OF THE TEMPORARY BAN ON FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS IS TO MAINTAIN THE PRESENT SAFETY OF THE AREA.

+FURTHERMORE, OUR CONCERN IS NOT THE EFFECT OF A SINGLE EXCAVATION AT AN INDIVIDUAL SITE, BUT THE CUMULATIVE EFFECT OF A LARGE NUMBER OF FURTHER EXCAVATIONS,+ HE SAID.

COMMENTING ON THE RECOMMENDATION, THE GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT SOME OF THE HIGHER SLOPES IN THE MID-LEVELS AREA ARE COLLUVIUM, THAT IS EARTH WHICH HAS MOVED DOWN A SLOPE OVER THE CENTURIES.

+SUCH AREAS COULD BE VULNERABLE TO LANDSLIDES, WHERE THE STABILITY OF THE COLLUVIUM IS DISTURBED BY EXCAVATION WORKS,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

+ALTHOUGH IT IS POSSIBLE TO DEVELOP INDIVIDUAL SITES WITHOUT RISK TO THE STABILITY OF SURROUNDING AREAS, A CAREFUL EXAMINATION WOULD BE REQUIRED IN EVERY CASE.

BY THE END OF 1981, THE RESULT OF THE CURRENT STUDIES WILL PROVIDE THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR ASSESSING WHETHER CONSTRAINTS NEED BE PLACED ON FUTURE CONSTRUCTION IN THIS AREA.

THE GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT 27 PROPOSALS FOR DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN THE RESTRICTED AREA OF THE MID-LEVELS WERE ALREADY BEING PROCESSED. +THE GEOTECHNICAL CONTROL OFFICE HAS ADVISED THAT THIS LIMITED NUMBER OF DEVELOPMENTS CAN BE FURTHER PROCESSED SO THAT, SUBJECT TO A DETAILED AND CAREFUL EXAMINATION OF THE EXCAVATIONS PROPOSED, WORK ON THESE BUILDING SITES MAY PROCEED WITH SAFETY,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+BUT FOR THE TIME BEING NO FURTHER APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER 12 NOON ON TUESDAY 22ND MAY 1979 (THE TIME OF THE DECISION BY THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL) WILL BE CONSIDERED,+ HE ADDED.

LEGISLATION TO IMPOSE A TEMPORARY BAN ON THE APPROVAL OF BUILDING PLANS AND CONSENTS TO START WORK IN AREAS SPECIFIED WILL BE INTRODUCED SHORTLY. PRIOR TO THE PUBLICATION OF THE BILL, LETTERS WILL BE SENT TO EACH OF THE 27 DEVELOPERS WHO HAVE SUBMITTED DEVELOPMENT PLANS EXPLAINING THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION AND HOW HIS PROPOSAL WILL BE AFFECTED BY IT.

/THE GEOTECHNICAL .....

THE GEOTECHNICAL CONTROL OFFICE IS ALREADY CARRYING OUT A SURVEY OF THE WHOLE TERRITORY TO IDENTIFY ANY OTHER AREAS WHERE THERE ARE STEEP COLLUVIUM HILLSIDES. THE PRELIMINARY STUDY IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF THIS YEAR. IF AT ANY TIME IN THE COURSE OF THE STUDY, OTHER AREAS ARE DISCOVERED WHICH MAY BE AT RISK IF FURTHER EXTENSIVE EXCAVATIONS ARE UNDERTAKEN IN THEM, THE NEED TO IMPOSE SPECIAL BUILDING RESTRICTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED IMMEDIATELY.

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TEACHERS ASSURED OF JOBS  
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SURPLUS GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEED HAVE NO FEARS FOR THE FUTURE, THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR. KENNETH TOPLEY TOLD THE GOVERNMENT SCHOOL NON-GRADUATE TEACHERS' UNION AT A MEETING TODAY (TUESDAY).

+THE CIVIL SERVICE HAS SUFFICIENT SUITABLE VACANCIES AND THEY NEED NOT BE OUT OF A JOB,+ MR. TOPLEY SAID.

+THERE ARE STILL OPENINGS FOR TEACHERS AS STUDENT GUIDANCE OFFICERS AND, WHEN THOSE ARE FILLED, TEACHERS WHO MAY STILL BE SURPLUS TO OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS IN GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOLS CAN BE ASSURED OF JOBS IN THE CIVIL SERVICE AS CLERICAL OFFICERS,+ HE ADDED.

OUTLINING THIS FURTHER OPTION FOR GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS, MR. TOPLEY SAID THAT THE SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE HAD CONFIRMED THAT TEACHERS WHO WISHED COULD TAKE SECONDMENT TO THE CLERICAL SERVICE, CARRYING THEIR PERSONAL SALARY SCALES WITH THEM AND THE RIGHT TO RETURN TO TEACHING IF AND WHEN THEIR SERVICES WERE REQUIRED AGAIN IN SCHOOLS. OR THEY MIGHT FIND FRESH CAREERS IN THE CLERICAL SERVICE.

+THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT THESE GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS ARE CIVIL SERVANTS AND WE ARE ASSURING THEM JOBS IF THEY WANT THEM,+ MR. TOPLEY SAID.

IN JULY 1977 IT WAS ESTIMATED THAT SOME 1,100 GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS MIGHT BE SURPLUS TO OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS BY SEPTEMBER 1980. TEACHERS IN THIS CATEGORY WERE URGED TO AVAIL THEMSELVES OF OPPORTUNITIES IN OTHER EXPANDING AREAS OF EDUCATION AND GOVERNMENT SERVICE OR TO TAKE VOLUNTARY RETIREMENT WITH ADDITIONAL BENEFITS. 713 HAVE DONE SO OR ARE IN THE PROCESS OF TRANSFERRING. OF THE 387 TEACHERS REMAINING IN THE ESTIMATED SURPLUS, A RECENT REVIEW HAS ESTABLISHED THAT JUST UNDER 100 NEEDLECRAFT AND HANDWORK TEACHERS WILL BE DIRECTLY CONCERNED BY SEPTEMBER 1980. A RECENT UPTURN IN ENROLMENT IN GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND DEMANDS FOR TEACHERS OF ENGLISH, MUSIC AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION (NORMALLY SHORTAGE AREAS) SHOULD ASSURE OTHERS OF CONTINUED EMPLOYMENT IN SCHOOLS.

+TEACHERS OF NEEDLECRAFT AND HANDWORK, FOR WHOM THERE IS LESS DEMAND, SHOULD NOW COME FORWARD FOR VACANCIES IN THE RECENTLY ESTABLISHED STUDENT GUIDANCE OFFICER SCHEME WHERE THERE ARE MORE THAN ENOUGH JOBS FOR THEM,+ MR. TOPLEY SAID.

+AND IF THEY ARE NOT SUITED TO THE STUDENT GUIDANCE OFFICER SCHEME, THESE TEACHERS CAN BE ASSURED THAT THEY WILL ALWAYS HAVE JOBS AS CIVIL SERVANTS,+ HE ADDED.

THE GOVERNMENT SCHOOL NON-GRADUATE TEACHERS' UNION WAS TOLD THAT OPTIONS FOR AFFECTED GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS WOULD REMAIN OPEN UNTIL AUGUST 31, 1980. THE UNION HAS HAD A SERIES OF MEETINGS WITH THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION TO DISCUSS THE QUESTION, AND HAS BEEN ASSURED ON MANY OCCASIONS THAT WITH THE CONTINUED COOPERATION OF ALL CONCERNED THE PROBLEM OF SURPLUS GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS CAN BE RESOLVED IN A REASONABLE WAY.

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10,000 TOP-QUALITY HOMES BEING BUILT IN THE NEW TERRITORIES  
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THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR. DAVID AKERS-JONES, TODAY (TUESDAY) FORECAST A LARGE MOVEMENT OF MANAGEMENT AND PROFESSIONAL-LEVEL PEOPLE FROM THE URBAN AREAS TO NEW PRIVATE TOP-QUALITY HOUSING UNDER DEVELOPMENT IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

HE SAID THAT 10,000 HIGH-GRADE HOUSING UNITS, RANGING FROM LUXURY APARTMENTS IN MEDIUM AND HIGH DENSITY BLOCKS TO DUPLEXES AND TOWN HOUSES, WOULD COME ON THE MARKET IN THE NEW TERRITORIES OVER THE NEXT FOUR YEARS.

THESE HOUSES, HE POINTED OUT, WERE BEING BUILT TO MEET THE INCREASING DEMANDS FOR LUXURY AND HIGH-QUALITY HOUSING IN HONG KONG, AND TO MATCH THE GROWTH IN POPULATION IN THE SIX NEW TOWNS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES.

HE ASSURED THOSE CONTEMPLATING THE MOVE THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD BE PROVIDING SCHOOLS, BOTH PRIMARY AND SECONDARY, IN THE NEW AREAS -- THE QUALITY OF WHICH WOULD BE EVERY BIT AS GOOD AS HONG KONG OR KOWLOON.

MR. AKERS-JONES TOLD A DINNER MEETING OF THE LIONS CLUB OF KOWLOON CENTRAL THAT WHILE THE MAIN THRUST OF THE GOVERNMENT'S DEVELOPMENT IN THE NEW TOWNS WAS ON PUBLIC HOUSING, THIS WAS BALANCED BY A WIDE RANGE OF PRIVATE HOUSING PROJECTS COVERING A SPECTRUM FROM HIGH-GRADE TOWN HOUSES IN THE HILLS OVERLOOKING SHA TIN AND TUEN MUN TO MEDIUM-SIZED FLATS IN ESTATES ALONG THE LINES OF MEI FOO SUN CHUEN.

+THERE WILL BE HOME OWNERSHIP FLATS AND APARTMENT BLOCKS WITH SWIMMING POOLS AND TENNIS COURTS SIMILAR TO THOSE AT WORLD WIDE GARDENS ON THE WAY TO SHA TIN,+ HE SAID.

/IN ADDITION, .....

IN ADDITION, GARDEN SUBURBS MORE FAMILIAR TO ENGLAND THAN HONG KONG ARE BEING BUILT IN YUEN LONG AND TAI PO AND CONSTRUCTION OF A HOUSING-MARINA COMPLEX IN SAI KUNG HAS STARTED WHICH WILL EVENTUALLY PROVIDE 400 THREE-STOREY HOME UNITS.

MR. AKERS-JONES OUTLINED A LONG LIST OF PRIVATE HOUSING PROJECTS TAKING PLACE INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE NEW TOWNS IN THE SIX DISTRICTS OVER THE NEXT FOUR YEARS, WHICH INCLUDE :

- ISLANDS : 450 HOUSES AT CHEUNG SHA= SEVERAL THOUSAND AT THE LANTAU RESORT AT DISCOVERY BAY, TAI LONG WAN AND SEA RANCH= AND ANOTHER 600 ON CHEUNG CHAU, PENG CHAU AND LAMMA ISLANDS.
- SAI KUNG : 1,000 HOUSES, INCLUDING THE 400 AT THE HO CHUNG MARINA.
- TAI PO : OVER 1,000 HOUSES, WITH EASY ACCESS TO THE SEA AND THE COUNTRY PARKS AND AN ELECTRIC TRAIN SERVICE CONNECTED WITH THE MTR AT KOWLOON TONG IN THREE YEARS' TIME.
- YUEN LONG : 5,000 HOUSES IN THE FAIRVIEW GARDEN SUBURB DEVELOPMENT AND ANOTHER 1,000 HOUSES IN OTHER SMALL RESIDENTIAL LAYOUTS IN THE DISTRICT.
- TUEN MUN : ABOUT 1,250 FLATS TO BALANCE THE 70 PER CENT OF THE POPULATION IN PUBLIC HOUSING BEING BUILT IN THE NEW TOWN.
- SHA TIN : SOME 125 TOWN HOUSES IN THE HILLS ABOVE THE RACE COURSE AND OVER 500 OTHER HIGH-GRADE HOUSING UNITS.

+THE GOVERNMENT IS ENSURING THAT VERY LARGE AREAS OF LAND IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE FOR HIGH-GRADE HOUSING, A MIXTURE OF FLATS IN HIGH AND MEDIUM DENSITY APARTMENT BLOCKS AND INDIVIDUAL AND DUPLEX-STYLE HOUSING THAT PROVIDE A FAIR DEGREE OF INTERNAL LIVING SPACE AND A GENERAL ENVIRONMENT THAT WILL OFFER AN ATTRACTIVE ALTERNATIVE TO LIFE IN THE MID-LEVELS,+ MR. AKERS-JONES SAID.

+OF COURSE, THE SHORTAGE OF LAND, AND THE UNPREDICTABILITY OF POPULATION FIGURES, MEANS THAT MOST PEOPLE WILL CONTINUE TO LIVE IN HIGH-RISE BUILDINGS.

+BUT THE VERY SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF TWO AND THREE-STOREY HOUSING PROJECTS NOW BEING UNDERTAKEN OR IN PLANNING FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES MEANS THAT A FAR GREATER NUMBER THAN BEFORE WILL ENJOY LIFE CLOSER TO THE GROUND,+ HE ADDED.

/HE SAID .....

HE SAID THAT THE PRESENT POPULATION OF THE NEW TOWNS WAS ESTIMATED AT NOT MORE THAN A MILLION BUT THIS FIGURE WOULD HAVE DOUBLED IN THE NEXT FOUR YEARS.

+THE FIGURES I HAVE GIVEN YOU ARE AN INDICATION THAT WE ARE TRYING TO CREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR MANAGERS, EXECUTIVES AND SUPERVISORS TO FIND HOMES NEAR THEIR WORK.

+I AM SURE WHEN THEY HAVE MADE THE BREAK THAT YOUNG COUPLES WILL FIND AN UNEXPECTED PLEASURE IN LIVING IN A LESS CROWDED ENVIRONMENT CLOSE TO THE HILLS AND THE SEA AND OVER THE NEXT FOUR YEARS THERE SHOULD BE SEVERAL THOUSAND OPPORTUNITIES TO DO SO,+  
MR. AKERS-JONES SAID.

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SIX QUESTIONS TO BE RAISED IN LEGCO TOMORROW  
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THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL RAISE SIX QUESTIONS OF PUBLIC INTEREST AT TOMORROW'S (WEDNESDAY) COUNCIL MEETING.

THE HON. HILTON CHEONG-LEEN WILL ASK THE GOVERNMENT WHAT OTHER ACTION, APART FROM PARTICIPATING IN DISCUSSIONS ON SETTING UP AN ISLAND IN SOUTHEAST ASIA FOR ACCEPTING REFUGEES IN TRANSIT FROM VIETNAM, HAS IT TAKEN IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO TACKLE THE REFUGEE PROBLEM.

HE WILL ALSO ASK THE GOVERNMENT TO STATE ITS PLANS TO RECRUIT, TRAIN AND UTILISE A SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF STAFF TO IMPLEMENT ALL THE PROGRAMMES IN THE WHITE PAPER ON +SOCIAL WELFARE INTO THE 1980'S.+

THE HON. LYDIA DUNN WILL ASK IF THE GOVERNMENT, IN VIEW OF THE APPROACH OF THE WET SEASON, HAS ADEQUATELY IDENTIFIED THE AREAS AND BUILDINGS WHICH MIGHT BE VULNERABLE TO LANDSLIPS AND FLOODINGS.

THE REV. THE HON. JOYCE M. BENNETT WILL ASK THE GOVERNMENT HOW MANY VOLUNTARY AGENCIES ARE TO RECEIVE 30 TO 50 PER CENT LESS THAN THE SUBSIDY THEY APPLIED FOR IN 1979-80 AND THE REASONS FOR THE CUT BACK.

OTHER QUESTIONS TO BE RAISED WILL INCLUDE MEASURES OF CONTROL BEING USED TO ENSURE THAT CHINESE PATENT MEDICINES DO NOT CONTAIN ANY SUBSTANCE LISTED IN THE SCHEDULES TO THE PHARMACY AND POISONS REGULATIONS, AND MEASURES TAKEN TO FIND HOMES FOR VAGRANT AND UNTIDY STREET-SLEEPERS, AND TO DISCOURAGE THEM FROM TAKING TO THE STREETS AGAIN.

DURING THE MEETING, ONE BILL --- THE REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, DEATHS AND ADOPTION (MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS) BILL 1979 --- WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS.

THREE OTHER BILLS INCLUDING THE CRIMES (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1979 WILL HAVE THEIR SECOND AND THIRD READINGS.

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### SHORT-TERM TENANCY TENDERS

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THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS BY WAY OF ANNUAL RENTAL FOR A SHORT-TERM TENANCY OF A PIECE OF CROWN LAND AT WAI YIP STREET, KWUN TONG, KOWLOON.

THE SITE, MEASURING ABOUT 2,600 SQUARE METRES, IS FOR STORAGE PURPOSES, INCLUDING VEHICLES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THE TENANCY WAS FOR AN INITIAL PERIOD OF TWO YEARS AND THEREAFTER QUARTERLY.

TENDER FORMS, TENDER NOTICE AND CONDITIONS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM, AND TENDER PLAN INSPECTED AT, THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE, MURRAY BUILDING, 19TH FLOOR, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG, AND AT THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 405, NATHAN ROAD, 10TH FLOOR, KOWLOON.

CLOSING DATE FOR ACCEPTANCE OF TENDERS IS NOON ON JUNE 8.

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### NEW LEAFLET ON LEGAL AID

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A NEW LEAFLET ADVISING MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ON HOW TO APPLY FOR LEGAL AID IN CIVIL ACTIONS IS NOW AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE AT VARIOUS OUTLETS.

IT HAS BEEN PUBLISHED IN SEPARATE ENGLISH AND CHINESE VERSIONS BY THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES WHICH HAS PRODUCED LEAFLETS ON MORE THAN 30 SUBJECTS TO HELP PEOPLE IN THEIR DEALINGS WITH GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

THE LEAFLETS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM PUBLIC ENQUIRY COUNTERS AT CITY DISTRICT OFFICES AND DISTRICT OFFICES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, THE MARKETING OFFICE OF G.I.S. ON THE SIXTH FLOOR OF THE FIRE BRIGADE BUILDING AT 46 CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL, AND RELEVANT GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

FURTHER LEAFLETS ON OTHER ASPECTS OF LEGAL AID ARE NOW BEING PLANNED AND FUTURE SUBJECTS ALSO INCLUDE HOW TO APPLY FOR A LICENCE TO HOLD A PUBLIC MEETING OR PROCESSION.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT DEMAND FOR THE LEAFLETS HAS GROWN RAPIDLY SINCE THEY WERE FIRST INTRODUCED.

FOR INSTANCE, THE PRINT ORDER FOR THE LEAFLET ON +HOW TO APPLY FOR A CERTIFICATE OF IDENTITY AND A RE-ENTRY PERMIT+ HAS BEEN INCREASED THIS YEAR FROM 13,000 TO 130,000 COPIES.

+IT IS EVIDENT THAT THE LEAFLETS ARE VERY POPULAR AND USEFUL TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

/+WE HOPE .....

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+WE HOPE MORE PEOPLE WILL MAKE A POINT OF OBTAINING THESE LEAFLETS IF THEY ARE NOT SURE OF GOVERNMENT PROCEDURES AS IT COULD SAVE THEM A LOT OF TIME AND TROUBLE.

+IT ALSO HELPS DEPARTMENTS DEAL WITH APPLICATIONS MORE EFFICIENTLY IF A PERSON KNOWS WHAT PARTICULARS HE IS REQUIRED TO PRODUCE.+

ALTHOUGH MOST OF THE LEAFLETS ARE PRINTED IN CHINESE, THERE ARE SEVERAL WHICH ARE ALSO AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH. THESE ARE: +HOW TO APPLY FOR A DRIVING LICENCE,+ +HOW TO REGISTER AND LICENSE A VEHICLE,+ +HOW TO REGISTER A BIRTH,+ +HOW TO REGISTER A MARRIAGE,+ +HOW TO APPLY FOR BUSINESS REGISTRATION+ AND +HOW TO APPLY FOR LEGAL AID IN CIVIL ACTIONS.+

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#### BUSIEST DAY ON RECORD FOR AMBULANCE COMMAND \* \* \* \* \*

THE AMBULANCE COMMAND OF THE FIRE SERVICES EXPERIENCED ITS BUSIEST DAY ON RECORD -- ANSWERING AN AVERAGE OF ONE CALL EVERY 2.28 MINUTES DURING THE PAST 24 HOURS.

UP TO 7 A.M. TODAY (TUESDAY), THE COMMAND RESPONDED TO 632 CALLS FOR VARIOUS SERVICES. OF THESE, 490 WERE EMERGENCIES AND 142 NON-EMERGENCY CASES.

COMMENTING ON THE RECORD NUMBER OF CALLS DEALT WITH IN A SINGLE DAY, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE FIRE SERVICES SAID: +THE DEMAND FOR AMBULANCE SERVICE IS ON THE INCREASE EVERY YEAR.+

HE ATTRIBUTED THIS TO THE GREATER PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE BENEFITS OF USING THE SERVICES, INCREASE IN POPULATION AND RISES IN ROAD ACCIDENTS.

+IN 1978, THE COMMAND RESPONDED TO AN AVERAGE OF 476 EMERGENCY AND NON-EMERGENCY CALLS EACH DAY,+ HE ADDED.

LAST YEAR, THE AMBULANCE COMMAND ANSWERED 173,816 CALLS AND CARRIED 224,337 PATIENTS.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT 81 PER CENT (139,885) OF THESE CALLS WERE EMERGENCIES.

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#### COMMUNITY CENTRE TO CELEBRATE 18TH ANNIVERSARY \* \* \* \* \*

THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S WESTERN DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE IS TO CELEBRATE ITS 18TH ANNIVERSARY WITH A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES STARTING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE ANNIVERSARY WILL BE CELEBRATED IN THE AFTERNOON WITH PERFORMANCES INCLUDING LION DANCE, FOLK SONGS AND FOLK DANCES.

LONG SERVICE CERTIFICATES AND PRIZES WILL ALSO BE PRESENTED TO VOLUNTEERS AND WINNERS OF A +MOTHER'S DAY+ COLOURING CONTEST.

OFFICIATING WILL BE THE DEPARTMENT'S DISTRICT SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER (CENTRAL, WESTERN AND ISLANDS), MRS. ROSE GOODSTADT- CITY DISTRICT OFFICER (CENTRAL AND WESTERN), MR. RICKY FUNG, AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE HONG KONG FAMILY WELFARE SOCIETY, MRS. CHOY POON SIU FUN.

A FIVE-DAY PUBLIC EXHIBITION WILL BE STAGED AT THE CENTRE FROM TOMORROW EXPLAINING THE OBJECTIVES AND WORK OF THE VARIOUS WELFARE AGENCIES OPERATING IN COMMUNITY CENTRES.

THE CLIMAX OF THE CELEBRATION PROGRAMMES WILL BE A YOUTH ATHLETIC COMPETITION TO BE HELD ON SUNDAY FROM 2 P.M. TO 5 P.M. AT KING GEORGE V PARK IN SAI YING PUN.

SERVICES AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE HAVE DEVELOPED RAPIDLY OVER THE PAST YEARS. IN ADDITION TO FAMILY AND REHABILITATION SERVICES, THEY NOW INCLUDE STUDY ROOMS, PRIMARY STUDENT GUIDANCE SERVICE, COMMUNITY WORK, CLUB AND SELF-PROGRAMMING GROUPS AS WELL AS CULTURAL ACTIVITIES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE 18TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S WESTERN DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE. IT WILL TAKE PLACE TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AT 3.30 P.M. AT THE CENTRE AT WESTERN STREET, SAI YING PUN.

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PRIZES FOR WINNERS OF GARDENING COMPETITION

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A PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY AND A SEMINAR ON GARDENING WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY TO MARK THE CONCLUSION OF A VEGETABLE PLANTING COMPETITION AMONG STUDENTS OF GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

TWENTY-FIVE SCHOOLS TOOK PART IN THE GROWING OF SWEET CORN, TOMATO AND WHITE CABBAGE.

THE HENNESSY ROAD GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL (A.M.) WON FIRST PRIZE, KWUN TONG GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL (A.M.) CAME SECOND, AND POK FU LAM GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL THIRD.

PRIZES WILL ALSO BE AWARDED TO PARTICIPANTS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED BY THE JUDGES AND WINNERS OF INDIVIDUAL GROUPS.

THE CONTEST IS PART OF THE JOINT GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOLS EXHIBITION HELD IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH THIS YEAR ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, THE UNION OF GOVERNMENT SCHOOL HEADMASTERS AND HEADMISTRESSES AND THE GOVERNMENT SCHOOL NON-GRADUATE TEACHERS UNION.

+VEGETABLE PLANTING OF THIS KIND IS AN IDEAL EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY BECAUSE IT PROVIDES THE PARTICIPANTS WITH THE CHALLENGE OF FAIRLY STRENUOUS AND CONSTRUCTIVE WORK AS WELL AS THE OPPORTUNITY OF LEARNING SOME NEW SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE COMPETITION ALSO SERVED THE PURPOSE OF MAKING EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED IN GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOLS BETTER KNOWN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC, HE ADDED.

DURING THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY WHICH WILL BE HELD AT 10 A.M. AT THE SIR ELLIS KADOORIE GOVERNMENT SCHOOL, MR. K.K. LAI OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S ADVISORY INSPECTORATE AND CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOLS EXHIBITION'S GARDENING SUB-COMMITTEE WILL GIVE AN OPENING ADDRESS.

MRS. LOUISE MOK, DEPUTY CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS, WILL ADDRESS THE GATHERING AND PRESENT THE PRIZES.

THE CHIEF JUDGE OF THE COMPETITION, MR. C.S. PAO, HORTICULTURIST OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT WILL THEN PRESENT HIS REPORT.

HE WILL ALSO CONDUCT A SEMINAR ON WAYS AND MEANS OF ORGANISING FURTHER VEGETABLE PLANTING ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN IN GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOLS WHERE FACILITIES FOR GARDENING ARE LIMITED.

THE CEREMONY IS SPONSORED BY THE GOVERNMENT SCHOOL NON-GRADUATE TEACHERS UNION.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY OF THE VEGETABLE PLANTING COMPETITION. IT WILL BE HELD THIS SATURDAY AT 10 A.M. IN THE SIR ELLIS KADOORIE GOVERNMENT SCHOOL, EASTERN HOSPITAL ROAD, SO KON PO, CAUSEWAY BAY, HONG KONG.

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WATER CUT  
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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN SHAU KEI WAN WILL BE SUSPENDED FOR SEVEN HOURS FROM 11 P.M. ON THURSDAY TO 6 A.M. THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR NIGHT LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE AREA AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY ALDRICH STREET TO SUN SING STREET AND SHAU KEI WAN ROAD TO THE SEAFRONT INCLUDING FU TAU WAT VILLAGE, TSIN SHUI MA TAU VILLAGE AND ALDRICH VILLAGE.

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