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DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES FOR JLG MEMBERS

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THE GOVERNMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) PUBLISHED A BILL WHICH SEEKS TO GRANT CERTAIN DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES IN HONG KONG TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP.

THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES (JOINT LIAISON GROUP) BILL SEEKS LEGAL PROVISIONS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PARAGRAPH 10 OF ANNEX II OF THE JOINT DECLARATION, PART OF WHICH READS +MEMBERS OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP SHALL ENJOY DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES AS APPROPRIATE WHEN IN THE THREE LOCATIONS+.

THE BILL WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON APRIL 17 AND IS EXPECTED TO COMPLETE ITS PASSAGE THROUGH LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON MAY 1.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE BILL CAN BE SENT TO UMELCO AT SWIRE HOUSE, 12TH FLOOR, CHATER ROAD, OR TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG.

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REGISTRATION OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTORS

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REGISTRATION OF ELECTORS FOR THE FIRST EVER LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS WILL BEGIN ON MONDAY (APRIL 15) AND LAST UNTIL MAY 6.

ANNOUNCING THIS AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY, THE PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY (GENERAL), ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND INFORMATION BRANCH, MR L.R. MACCULLOCH CALLED ON ALL THOSE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE IN THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE AND FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES TO REGISTER FOR THE ELECTIONS TO BE HELD IN SEPTEMBER.

+THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THAT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SEATS ARE TO BE FILLED BY ELECTION, AND IS ANOTHER SIGNIFICANT STEP TOWARDS A MORE REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT IN HONG KONG. TO REGISTER AS AN ELECTOR FOR THIS MAJOR EVENT IS A PRIVILEGE WHICH NO RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION OR INDIVIDUAL SHOULD LIGHTLY GIVE UP,+ HE SAID.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE WERE MR L.S. LEE, PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY (ELECTORAL SERVICES) AND THE REGISTRATION OFFICER, MR LAI KWAN-TAT.

/MR LEE .....

MR LEE POINTED OUT THAT REGISTRATION IS QUITE SIMPLE. +ALL AN INDIVIDUAL HAS TO DO IS TO FILL IN HIS NAME, IDENTITY CARD NUMBER, HOME ADDRESS, BUSINESS ADDRESS, AN INDICATION OF WHETHER OR NOT HE IS A REGISTERED ELECTOR FOR THE URBAN COUNCIL AND DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS, AND THE FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCY AND MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATION. AN ORGANISATION WILL, AMONG OTHER THINGS, BE REQUIRED TO APPOINT AN AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVE. THE REGISTRATION FORM IS COMPLETE WITH A RETURN ADDRESS AND IS POSTAGE FREE FOR DELIVERY,+ HE SAID.

+A PROVISIONAL REGISTER WILL BE COMPILED FOR PUBLICATION AND PUBLIC INSPECTION ON JUNE 21. ANY OBJECTIONS SHOULD BE FILED IN BY JULY 1. LATE APPLICATION, IF ANY, MAY ALSO BE MADE DURING THIS PERIOD,+ MR LEE ADDED.

THE ELECTORAL ROLL FOR THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS WILL BE A NEW ROLL, SEPARATE FROM THE GENERAL ELECTORAL ROLL WHICH CONTAINS 1.4 MILLION ELECTORS FOR DISTRICT BOARD AND URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

IN CONTRAST, THE NEW ROLL IS EXPECTED TO CONTAIN NO MORE THAN 80 000 ENTRIES. SEPARATED INTO TWO PARTS, THIS ELECTORAL ROLL WILL CONTAIN PARTICULARS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE CONSTITUENCIES AND MEMBERS OF THE NINE FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES.

AS STIPULATED IN THE WHITE PAPER ON REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT AND REPEATED IN THE FIRST SCHEDULE TO THE NEW LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL (ELECTORAL PROVISIONS) ORDINANCE, THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE IS COMPOSED OF ALL MEMBERS OF THE URBAN COUNCIL, THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL AND THE DISTRICT BOARDS.

THE URBAN COUNCIL AND PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL WILL EACH FORM A SPECIAL CONSTITUENCY WHILE THE DISTRICT BOARDS HAVE BEEN GROUPED INTO TEN DISTRICT BOARD CONSTITUENCIES. EACH CONSTITUENCY WILL RETURN ONE ELECTED MEMBER TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THERE IS A TOTAL OF NINE FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES DIVIDED UP INTO 11 DIVISIONS, WITH THE COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES EACH HAVING TWO DIVISIONS. APART FROM THE LABOUR FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCY WHICH WILL RETURN TWO ELECTED MEMBERS, EACH OF THE OTHER FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCY (OR DIVISION) WILL RETURN ONE ELECTED MEMBER, MAKING A TOTAL OF 12.

MR MACCULLOCH EXPLAINED THAT THE FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES COULD BE BROADLY CATEGORISED AS ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL CONSTITUENCIES. THEY ARE MADE UP OF VOTING MEMBERS OF MAJOR LOCAL ORGANISATIONS, INSTITUTIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS AS WELL AS INDIVIDUALS IN REPRESENTATIVE PROFESSIONS, HE SAID.

/FOR AN .....

FOR AN ORGANISATION OR INSTITUTION TO REGISTER AS AN ELECTOR, EACH MUST APPOINT AN AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE PURPOSE OF CASTING A VOTE ON ITS BEHALF. THE PERSON APPOINTED SHOULD HAVE ATTAINED THE AGE OF 21 YEARS AND MUST NOT BE REGISTERED, IN HIS OWN RIGHT, AS AN ELECTOR IN THE SAME CONSTITUENCY AS THE ORGANISATION HE IS REPRESENTING. AN AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVE WILL ALSO NOT BE ALLOWED TO REPRESENT MORE THAN ONE ELECTOR.

AN ELECTOR WHO IS AN INDIVIDUAL SHOULD ALREADY BE A REGISTERED ELECTOR OR, FOR 1985 ONLY, BE ENTITLED TO BE REGISTERED AS AN ELECTOR ON THE GENERAL ELECTORAL ROLL, THAT IS, UNDER THE ELECTORAL PROVISIONS ORDINANCE FOR THE URBAN COUNCIL AND DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS. THE BASIC QUALIFICATIONS ARE:-

(A) HOLDING A HONG KONG ID CARD

(B) HAVING ORDINARILY RESIDED IN HONG KONG FOR THE 7 YEARS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE DATE OF APPLICATION OR BE A HONG KONG BELONGER WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE

(C) HAVING ATTAINED THE AGE OF 21 YEARS.

NO ELECTOR, WHETHER AN INDIVIDUAL OR AN ORGANISATION, MAY BE REGISTERED IN MORE THAN ONE FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCY OR ELECTORAL DIVISION. IF THE ELECTOR IS ELIGIBLE FOR REGISTRATION IN MORE THAN ONE, THE CONSTITUENCY OPTED FOR MUST BE STATED ON THE REGISTRATION FORM.

MR MACCULLOCH NOTED THAT THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE ELECTIONS WOULD BE ADMINISTERED BY THE GOVERNMENT. THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL DIVISION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND INFORMATION BRANCH HAS ARRANGED FOR REGISTRATION FORMS TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE TWO COUNCILS AND THE DISTRICT BOARDS THROUGH THE SECRETARIATS OF THESE BODIES, HE SAID.

APPLICATION FORMS FOR REGISTRATION IN A FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCY ARE BEING DISTRIBUTED THROUGH THE REPRESENTATIVE ORGANISATIONS AND, IN THE CASE OF TEACHERS, TO SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES. APPLICATION FORMS CAN ALSO BE OBTAINED FROM ALL DISTRICT OFFICES AND FROM THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL DIVISION AT HARBOUR CENTRE IN WAN CHAI, HE ADDED.

TO FACILITATE BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS, THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL DIVISION HAS ALSO PRODUCED A PAMPHLET ENTITLED +A GUIDE TO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS 1985+. COPIES OF THE GUIDE CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE SAME DISTRIBUTION POINTS AS THE APPLICATION FORMS.

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TWO BILLS ON LAND TRANSACTIONS GAZETTED

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TWO AMENDMENT BILLS ARE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY SEEKING TO PROVIDE FOR SEPARATE ACCOUNTING AND AUDITING OF PREMIUM INCOME TO BE OBTAINED FROM LAND TRANSACTIONS.

THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS WILL HELP TO IMPLEMENT THE ARRANGEMENT FOR SHARING SUCH INCOME SET OUT IN THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION.

UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE PUBLIC FINANCE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1985, SUCH PREMIUM INCOME COULD BE PAID DIRECTLY INTO THE CAPITAL WORKS RESERVE FUND INSTEAD OF BEING PASSED THROUGH THE GENERAL REVENUE ACCOUNT.

THE AUDIT (AMENDMENT) BILL 1985 PROVIDES FOR ANNUAL ACCOUNTS OF THE FUND TO BE GIVEN TO THE DIRECTOR OF AUDIT FOR HIS EXAMINATION AND AUDITING AND FOR A SUBSEQUENT REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR.

THE TWO BILLS WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON APRIL 17 AND ARE EXPECTED TO RECEIVE THEIR THIRD READING ON MAY 1.

PUBLIC COMMENTS MAY BE SENT TO UMELCO, AT SWIRE HOUSE, 12TH FLOOR, CHATER ROAD, OR TO THE DEPUTY FINANCIAL SECRETARY, AT THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG.

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PROPOSAL FOR MORE UNOFFICIALS ON INDUSTRIAL BOARD

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THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY) PUBLISHED THE HONG KONG INDUSTRIAL ESTATES CORPORATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1985 WHICH IS TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THE BILL PROVIDES FOR AN INCREASE IN THE SIZE OF THE CORPORATION'S BOARD BY ONE, AND WILL PERMIT ITS ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP TO CONSIST OF UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS, IF DESIRED BY THE GOVERNOR.

IT ALSO MAKES CLEAR THAT A PUBLIC OFFICER MAY BE APPOINTED AS CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE CORPORATION.

IF THE BILL IS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, IT IS ENVISAGED THAT THE CORPORATION WILL APPOINT DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY AS CHIEF EXECUTIVE WHEN THE PRESENT INCUMBENT, MR VIC MILLER, RETIRES ON MAY 31. THIS WILL BE IN ADDITION TO HIS NORMAL DUTIES AS DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY.

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CHEUNG SHA WAN ZONING PLAN AMENDED

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AN AMENDMENT TO THE DRAFT OUTLINE ZONING PLAN FOR CHEUNG SHA WAN IS PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S (FRIDAY) GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

THE AMENDMENT, APPROVED BY THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD, IS TO RECLASSIFY THE WESTERN PART OF THE SITE AT THE JUNCTION OF LAI CHI KOK ROAD AND CHEUNG SHUN STREET FROM 'GOVERNMENT/ INSTITUTION/COMMUNITY' TO 'OTHER SPECIFIED USES'.

THE SITE WILL BE DEVELOPED INTO A MODERN FUNERAL PARLOUR TO MEET THE FUTURE NEEDS OF FUNERAL SERVICES IN SOUTH AND WEST KOWLOON.

THE AMENDED PLAN MAY BE INSPECTED AT SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE, 37-39 TONKIN STREET, KOWLOON= PUBLIC ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICE, WEST WING ENTRANCE, AND THE TOWN PLANNING DIVISION, 4TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG.

ANY PERSON AFFECTED BY THE AMENDMENT MAY SUBMIT HIS OBJECTION IN WRITING ON OR BEFORE MAY 2, 1985 TO THE SECRETARY, TOWN PLANNING BOARD, C/O LANDS DEPARTMENT, 4TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG.

COPIES OF THE DRAFT AMENDMENT PLAN ARE AVAILABLE AT THE MAP AND PLAN SALES SECTION, LANDS DEPARTMENT, 5TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, AND KOWLOON MAP AND PLAN SALES SECTION, 382 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON AT $10 EACH UNCOLOURED AND $60 EACH COLOURED.

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ROAD UPGRADING SCHEME PROPOSED

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THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO UPGRADE NIM WAN ROAD IN TUEN MUN BY REALIGNING AND RESURFACING THE SECTION OF ROAD BETWEEN TAI SHUI HANG AND TSANG TSUI.

THE PROPOSED SCHEME, WHICH INCLUDES THE CONSTRUCTION OF ANCILLARY WORKS LIKE FOOTWAYS, BRIDGES AND PASSING PLACES, WILL FORM PART OF THE BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION'S RELAY STATION DEVELOPMENT AT TSANG TSUI.

IT WILL ALSO PROVIDE A BETTER ACCESS TO RESIDENTS OF NEARBY AREAS SUCH AS TAI SHUI HANG, NIM WAN AND TSANG TSUI.

/A NOTICE .....

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

RELATED PLANS AND NOTICE OF THE SCHEME CAN BE INSPECTED AT THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY OR AT THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE AND THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE, TUEN MUN BUILDING, CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TUEN MUN, DURING OFFICE HOURS.

OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSAL SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS NOT LATER THAN JUNE 11.

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AREA COMMITTEES PROVIDE VITAL DISTRICT LINKS

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AREA COMMITTEES HAVE EVOLVED TO BECOME AN IMPORTANT BRIDGE BETWEEN THE DISTRICT BOARD, THE MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND OWNERS' INCORPORATIONS, THE DEPUTY REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR ALBERT LAM, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

MR LAM WAS SPEAKING AT THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF THE TEN AREA COMMITTEES IN SHAM SHUI PO AT THE LAI KOK COMMUNITY HALL.

+WHEN THEY WERE INSTITUTED IN 1972, THE AREA COMMITTEES WERE ONLY GEARED TO HELPING THE GOVERNMENT TO LAUNCH COMMUNITY-RELATED ACTIVITIES SUCH AS THE KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN AND THE FIGHT CRIME CAMPAIGNS.

+HOWEVER, FOLLOWING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DISTRICT BOARDS IN 1981; THESE AREA COMMITTEES HAVE HAD THEIR TERMS OF REFERENCE REVISED TO TIE IN WITH THE DISTRICT BOARD'S WORK IN THE AREA OF CONSULTATION, COMMUNITY BUILDING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT,+ MR LAM SAID.

MR LAM ALSO SAID THAT THE NEW DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS IN SHAM SHUI PO HAD BEEN INVITED TO JOIN THE AREA COMMITTEES, WHICH WOULD HELP THEM KEEP ABREAST OF THE LATEST DEVELOPMENT AND PROBLEMS OF THEIR RESPECTIVE SUB-DISTRICTS.

+THIS ARRANGEMENT ENABLES DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS TO PROMPTLY RELAY THE BOARD'S DECISIONS AND RESOLUTIONS TO THE AREAS, AND VICE VERSA; TO BRING FORWARD ANY AREA PROBLEM TO THE DISTRICT BOARD CONFERENCE TABLE AT THE FIRST OPPORTUNITY,+ MR LAM SAID.

HE NOTED THAT OUT OF THE 27 INCUMBENT DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS, 15 ELECTED AND EIGHT APPOINTED MEMBERS WERE EITHER SERVING OR HAD SERVED IN THE AREA COMMITTEES.

/+THIS ACCOUNTS .....

+THIS ACCOUNTS FOR A HIGH RATE OF 85 PER CENT WHICH SPEAKS FOR ITSELF WHAT IMPORTANT ROLE THE AREA COMMITTEES ARE PLAYING ON THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD.

+WITH THE GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE AND DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION BEING FURTHER DEVELOPED, I TRUST THE AREA COMMITTEES WILL FACE A MUCH BUSIER AND MORE DEMANDING TASK IN THE DAYS TO COME,+ MR LAM SAID.

ALSO ADDRESSING THE GATHERING THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR SYLVESTER TSE SAID THIS YEAR THE AREA COMMITTEES WOULD AIM AT STRENGTHENING TIES WITH THE DISTRICT'S 220 MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND 180 OWNERS' INCORPORATIONS.

THIS YEAR THERE ARE A TOTAL OF 199 REPRESENTATIVES FROM A SPECTRUM OF THE COMMUNITY APPOINTED IN TEN AREA COMMITTEES IN SHAM SHUI PO.

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VEGETABLE PRODUCTION ON THE RISE

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LOCAL FARMERS PRODUCED 159 000 TONNES OF VEGETABLES LAST YEAR, UP BY ABOUT FOUR PER CENT COMPARED WITH 1983, THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR JOHN RIDDELL-SWAN, SAID TODAY.

SPEAKING AT THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF THE 33RD TERM COMMITTEE OF THE FEDERATION OF VEGETABLE MARKETING CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES, HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT PRICES OF VEGETABLE REMAINED LOW, PARTICULARLY IN THE LATER HALF OF 1984, AND THE AVERAGE PRICE WAS 23 PER CENT DOWN COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

+THE FACTORS INFLUENCING THE PRICES OF VEGETABLES ARE NUMEROUS, MANY OF WHICH ARE BEYOND OUR CONTROL,+ HE SAID. DR RIDDELL-SWAN ADDED THAT THE DEPARTMENT WOULD DO ITS BEST TO HELP LOCAL FARMERS TO REMAIN COMPETITIVE.

+IN FACT, MORE THAN 10 000 ENQUIRIES FROM FARMERS SEEKING HELP ON ALL SORTS OF PROBLEMS HAVE BEEN DEALT WITH SATISFACTORILY.

+IN ADDITION, 1 369 LOANS AMOUNTING TO $18.1 MILLION HAVE BEEN MADE TO FARMERS FOR PRODUCTION PURPOSES FROM VARIOUS LOCAL FUNDS ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT,+ HE SAID.

/DR RIDDELL-SWAN .....

DR RIDDELL-SWAN SAID THAT THE AMOUNT OF VEGETABLES MARKETED THROUGH THE VEGETABLE MARKETING ORGANISATION (VMO) LAST YEAR INCREASED BY 37 PER CENT TO ALMOST 140 000 TONNES AND OF THIS, 37 000 TONNES OR MORE THAN 55 PER CENT OF ALL THE LOCAL VEGETABLES MARKETED THROUGH THE VMO CAME FROM VEGETABLE MARKETING CO-OPERATIVES.

HE SAID THAT IN VIEW OF THE SUCCESS OF THE FARMERS' STUDY VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES LAST YEAR, A SIMILAR VISIT WAS BEING ARRANGED THIS YEAR TO ENABLE MORE VEGETABLE FARMERS TO BENEFIT FROM SUCH EXPERIENCE.

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HOME OWNERSHIP FLATS SOLD OUT

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THE SALES BOOKS FOR THE THREE PROJECTS IN HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME PHASE VIIA CLOSED TODAY, WITH ALL 3 776 FLATS SNAPPED UP BY ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS.

+AMONG THE FLATS SOLD, 3 248 FLATS ARE ON THE TRIDENT BLOCKS AT FUNG SHING COURT IN SHA TIN AND CHING SHING COURT IN TSING YI, WHILE 528 FLATS ARE ON A TOWER BLOCK AT THE SECOND PHASE OF CHOI PO COURT IN SHEUNG SHUI,+ SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HOUSING AUTHORITY TODAY.

+THEY HAVE ALL PROVED TO BE EXTREMELY POPULAR WITH HOME-PURCHASERS SINCE THE COMMENCEMENT OF SALES IN FEBRUARY,+ HE ADDED.

THE FLATS ARE PRICED FROM $96 600 TO $186 200 AND HAVE GROSS AREAS BETWEEN 41.9 AND 64.5 SQUARE METRES.

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DB MEMBERS ATTEND ORIENTATION SEMINAR

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A TOTAL OF 24 MEMBERS OF THE NEW TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD TODAY (FRIDAY) ATTENDED A SEMINAR TO FAMILIARISE THEMSELVES WITH THE WORK AND FUNCTIONS OF GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN THE DISTRICT.

THE ONE-DAY ORIENTATION SEMINAR, WAS ALSO AN INFORMAL MEETING FOR BOARD MEMBERS TO GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER.

/OFFICIALS FROM .....

OFFICIALS FROM TEN DIFFERENT DEPARTMENTS BRIEFED BOARD MEMBERS ON THE VARIOUS SERVICES PROVIDED BY THEIR OFFICES AND THEIR FUTURE PLANS FOR TUEN MUN.

TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR RICKY FUNG, BRIEFED THE MEMBERS ON THE WORK OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE SIX FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEES UNDER THE DISTRICT BOARD.

THE PROCEDURES FOR THE ELECTIONS OF THE DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN AND ITS REPRESENTATIVE TO THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL WERE ALSO DISCUSSED BY BOARD MEMBERS.

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ELECTION OF DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMEN

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MR CHAU HOW-CHEN WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD AT A MEETING HELD THIS AFTERNOON.

IN CENTRAL AND WESTERN, MR VINCENT KO, WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT BOARD.

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SKILLS CONTEST FOR DISABLED PEOPLE

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DISABLED PEOPLE ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN AN OCCUPATIONAL SKILLS CONTEST WHICH OFFERS WINNERS A CHANCE TO COMPETE IN THE INTERNATIONAL ABILYMPIC TO BE HELD IN COLUMBIA.

THE CONTEST, THE SECOND ABILYMPIC IN HONG KONG, IS ORGANISED BY THE JOINT COUNCIL FOR THE PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY DISABLED (REHABILITATION DIVISION, HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE) WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT.

THE PURPOSE OF ORGANISING THIS EVENT IS TO DEMONSTRATE TO EMPLOYERS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC THE CAPABILITIES OF DISABLED PEOPLE IN VARIOUS OCCUPATIONAL SKILLS.

THE OPPORTUNITY IS ALSO TAKEN TO PROMOTE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISABLED PEOPLE AND TO HELP THEM DEVELOP OCCUPATIONAL SKILLS.

/THE CONTEST .....

THE CONTEST WILL BE HELD AT THE INDUSTRIAL CENTRE OF THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC FROM JULY 19 TO JULY 21. IT IS OPEN TO ALL BLIND, DEAF, AND PHYSICALLY OR MENTALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS.

CONTEST EVENTS RANGE FROM DRESSMAKING, WATCH REPAIR, TYPING, WOODCARVING AND BILLBOARD ADVERTISING, TO COMPUTER-PROGRAMMING.

ALL PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE A CITATION. WINNERS IN EACH CONTEST EVENT WILL BE AWARDED A TROPHY. THEY MAY ALSO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL ABILYMPIC TO BE HELD IN BOGOTA, COLUMBIA IN OCTOBER THIS YEAR.

ENTRY FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL DISTRICT OFFICES AND SHOULD BE RETURNED BY APRIL 25. ENQUIRIES CAN BE DIRECTED TO THE SECRETARY OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE OF THE SECOND HONG KONG ABILYMPIC AT 3-670071 EXT. 220.

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FIRST MANUAL OF JOB SPECIFICATION PUBLISHED

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THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL HAS PUBLISHED THE FIRST MANUAL OF SPECIFICATION FOR PRINCIPAL JOBS IN THE SECTORS OF SEA FREIGHT, AIR FREIGHT CARRIERS, FORWARDING AGENTS, TRUCKING, WAREHOUSING AND CARGO HANDLING TERMINALS.

IN THE MANUAL, THE TRANSPORT AND PHYSICAL DISTRIBUTION TRAINING BOARD OF THE COUNCIL HAS RECOMMENDED SPECIFICATIONS WHICH LAID DOWN THE SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING REQUIRED FOR 49 PRINCIPAL JOBS AT MANAGERIAL, SUPERVISORY, CLERICAL AND OPERATIVE LEVELS OF THE INDUSTRY.

THE PURPOSE OF THE MANUAL IS TO ESTABLISH ADEQUATE AND UNIFORM SPECIFICATION OF SKILLS FOR PRINCIPAL JOBS IN THE INDUSTRY.

TRAINING INSTITUTIONS AND EMPLOYERS CAN ALSO FOLLOW THE MANUAL IN DRAWING UP TRAINING PROGRAMMES FOR TRAINEES AND EMPLOYEES.

THE MANUAL IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE AT $16.50 A COPY.

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HOUSING AUTHORITY BIDS FAREWELL TO EIGHT MEMBERS

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THE HOUSING AUTHORITY TODAY BADE FAREWELL TO EIGHT MEMBERS WHO HAD RETIRED AFTER MANY YEARS OF VALUABLE SERVICES.

AT A LUNCHEON MEETING, CHAIRMAN OF THE AUTHORITY, MR DAVID FORD, ALSO WELCOMED SEVEN MEMBERS NEWLY APPOINTED TO THE AUTHORITY AND ITS COMMITTEES.

MR FORD PAID TRIBUTE TO THE RETIRED MEMBERS FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS PUBLIC HOUSING.

+WE SHOULD NOT OVERLOOK THE FACT THAT OUR HOUSING PROGRAMME HAS BEEN WIDELY RECOGNISED AS ONE OF THE FACTORS WHICH HAS HELPED STABILITY AND SOCIAL MOBILITY IN HONG KONG AND HAS HELPED IT FLOURISH.

+ALL RETIRED MEMBERS, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN WITH US FOR A LONG TIME, CAN BE JUSTIFIABLY PROUD OF THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO THE BIGGEST SOCIAL UNDERTAKING AND SUCCESS STORY OF HONG KONG.+

THE RETIRED MEMBERS ARE MR HILTON CHEONG-LEEN, MR GERALD FORSGATE, MRS ELSIE ELLIOTT, MR KENNETH T.C. LO, MR BROOK BERNACCHI, MR ALAN KWAN, MRS LEE KONG WAI-MUI AND MR DENIS S.T. WONG.

THE RETIRED MEMBERS WERE PRESENTED WITH SOUVENIRS BY MR FORD TO COMMEMORATE THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE AUTHORITY.

MANY OF THEM HAD SERVED THE HOUSING AUTHORITY AND ITS COMMITTEES FOR MORE THAN 20 YEARS AND HAD CONTRIBUTED SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE AUTHORITY'S PHENOMENAL GROWTH AND SUCCESS.

WELCOMING THE NEW MEMBERS, MR FORD SAID THE AUTHORITY NEEDED THEIR ADVICE AND CRITICISM IN ORDER TO FORMULATE BALANCED AND VIABLE HOUSING POLICIES TO MEET THE CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE 1990'S.

THE NEW MEMBERS ARE MR CARLOS CHEUNG, MR NORMAN LEUNG, MR THOMAS KWOK, MISS LEUNG WAI-TUNG, MR CHEUNG KIN-CHUNG, MR PAO PING-WING AND MR FUNG KIN-KEE.

+WITH THE EXPERIENCE, WISDOM AND CONTACTS OF MEMBERS, BOTH OLD AND NEW, I AM CONFIDENT OUR CHALLENGES WILL BE MET WITH RESOLUTION AND SUCCESS AS IN THE PAST,+ MR FORD SAID.

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CIVIC EDUCATION SEMINAR FOR SCHOOL HEADS

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MORE THAN 600 PRIMARY SCHOOL HEADS TODAY (FRIDAY) ATTENDED A ONE-DAY SEMINAR ON CIVIC EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

THE SEMINAR WAS HELD SIMULTANEOUSLY IN THREE VENUES ON HONG KONG ISLAND, KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES.

PROGRAMME OF THE SEMINAR INCLUDED TALKS BY GUEST SPEAKERS, GROUP DISCUSSION AND PLENARY SESSION.

THE SEMINAR ON HONG KONG ISLAND WAS HELD AT TANG SHIU KIN VICTORIA TECHNICAL SCHOOL, OI KWAN ROAD, WAN CHAI AND THE GUEST SPEAKERS WERE MR PAUL YIN, EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER AND MR FUNG KAM-PANG, HEADMASTER.

THE SEMINAR IN KOWLOON WAS HELD AT GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, GASCOIGNE ROAD AND THE GUEST SPEAKERS WERE MR CHENG TAK-KIN, HEADMASTER AND MRS TAI LAM SAU-MUI, HEADMISTRESS.

THE SEMINAR IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WAS HELD AT KIANGSU CHEKIANG COLLEGE, WO CHE ESTATE, SHA TIN AND THE GUEST SPEAKERS WERE MR LUI HAK-NING, HEADMASTER AND MR LYON LEE, KWAI CHUNG DISTRICT MEMBER.

A SIMILAR SEMINAR FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL HEADS WAS HELD IN DECEMBER LAST YEAR.

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ORPHANS RECEIVE CARE, ASSISTANCE FROM SWD

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SEVEN ORPHANS IN YUEN LONG HAVE BEEN RECEIVING CARE AND ASSISTANCE FROM STAFF OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SINCE THE DEATH OF THEIR PARENTS IN A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT IN FEBRUARY.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TOTALLING MORE THAN $79 000 FROM THE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS ASSISTANCE SCHEME AND THE TANG SHIU KIN/ HO TIM CHARITABLE FUND WAS GIVEN TO THE CHILDREN A FEW DAYS AFTER THE TRAGEDY.

SOCIAL WORKERS FROM THE YUEN LONG FAMILY SERVICES CENTRE HAVE MAINTAINED CONTACTS WITH THE CHILDREN AND THEIR RELATIVES SINCE THE ACCIDENT.

FIVE OF THE CHILDREN, AGED BETWEEN EIGHT AND 15 YEARS OLD, HAVE BEEN MADE WARDS OF THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE.

OTHER SERVICES FOR THE SEVEN CHILDREN INCLUDED REFERRALS FOR TUITION, HOME HELP SERVICE, COUNSELLING AND FINANCE MANAGEMENT.

MEANWHILE, READERS OF A CHINESE NEWSPAPER HAVE RAISED SOME $300 000 FOR THE WELFARE OF THE ORPHANS. THE MONEY HAS BEEN ENTRUSTED TO THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

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SCHEME PARTICIPANTS REMINDED OF DEADLINE

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THE CLEAN AND GREEN SCHEME WORKING GROUP TODAY (FRIDAY) REMINDED THOSE WHO ARE ELIGIBLE TO TAKE PART IN STAGE II OF THE SCHEME THAT SUNDAY (APRIL 14) IS THEIR LAST CHANCE TO DO SO.

THEY WILL BE REQUIRED TO PLANT A TREE IN ANY ONE OF THE SIX DESIGNATED COUNTRY PARKS IN QUARRY BAY, POK FU LAM, TWISK, BRIDE'S POOL, PAK TAM CHUNG AND NAM SHAN BETWEEN 9 AM AND 4 PM ON THAT DAY.

ON ARRIVAL AT THE REPORTING POST, EACH PARTICIPANT WILL BE GIVEN A SEEDLING AND A SET OF PLANTING EQUIPMENT.

AT THE SAME TIME, THEIR PASS CARDS WILL BE STAMPED BY THE STAFF AT THE REPORTING POSTS AS EVIDENCE OF THEIR PARTICIPATION.

ON COMPLETION OF THE TREE-PLANTING STAGE, THE PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ENTITLED TO TAKE PART IN A LUCKY DRAW DURING WHICH 250 PEOPLE WILL BE SELECTED FOR A FREE PICNIC AT CHEUNG SHEUNG IN SAI KUNG ON APRIL 28.

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TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE

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FROM 12.01 AM ON MONDAY (APRIL 15), THE ACCESS ROADS LEADING FROM TELFORD GARDENS TO WAI YIP STREET WILL BE CLOSED FOR SEVEN DAYS TO FACILITATE ROAD WORKS.

DURING THE CLOSURE, VEHICLES LEAVING TELFORD GARDENS WILL BE DIVERTED VIA THE ACCESS RAMP LEADING TO TAI YIP STREET. KMB ROUTE 5D ON JOURNEYS TO HUNG HOM FERRY WILL BE DIVERTED TO OPERATE VIA SIU YIP STREET, WAI YIP STREET, LAI YIP STREET AND KWUN TONG ROAD BEFORE RESUMING ITS ORIGINAL ROUTE.

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WATER CUT

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN CENTRAL DISTRICT WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR SEVEN HOURS FROM 11 PM ON MONDAY (APRIL 15) FOR LEAKAGE TEST.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY CAINE ROAD, LADDER STREET, PO HING FONG, KUI IN FONG, TAI PING SHAN STREET, BRIDGES STREET, STAUNTON STREET AND ABERDEEN STREET, INCLUDING U LAM TERRACE AND HOLLYWOOD ROAD POLICE QUARTERS.

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