



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1985

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LEGCO TO DEBATE 'BRITISH NATIONAL (OVERSEAS)' TITLE

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FOUR UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS WILL BE EXPRESSING THEIR VIEWS ON +THE PROPOSED TITLE OF BRITISH NATIONAL (OVERSEAS)+ IN AN ADJOURNMENT DEBATE IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TOMORROW.

EARLIER, UNOFFICIALS WILL BE ASKING 13 QUESTIONS DEALING WITH VARIOUS MATTERS, INCLUDING ELECTION LEGISLATION FOR FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES, THE TAC WORKING GROUP'S REPORT ON CMB MAINTENANCE, VIETNAMESE REFUGEES, AND CHILDREN HELD BACK FROM SCHOOL.

OTHER MATTERS WILL INCLUDE A MOTION BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, ON AMENDMENTS TO THE STANDING ORDERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO FACILITATE PUBLIC SITTINGS, AND A STATEMENT BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, SIR JOHN BREMRIDGE, ON CHANGES TO THE APPROVED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE.

THERE WILL ALSO BE TWO NEW BILLS -- THE PENSIONS (SPECIAL PROVISIONS) (CUSTOMS OFFICERS) BILL 1985, AND THE INLAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1985.

DEBATE WILL RESUME ON THE INLAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1984, THE INSURANCE COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1985, AND THE MONEY CHANGERS (DISCLOSURE OF RATES, CHARGES AND COMMISSIONS) BILL 1984, PRIOR TO COMMITTEE STAGE AND FINAL READING.

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COUNCIL ACCEPTS OFFER TO DISCUSS FINANCES

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THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE URBAN COUNCIL TODAY DECIDED THAT THE COUNCIL SHOULD IMMEDIATELY ACCEPT AN OFFER BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY TO TAKE PART IN A JOINT WORKING PARTY WITH THE GOVERNMENT ON THE COUNCIL'S FUTURE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

THESE NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE CARRIED OUT FROM THE COUNCIL'S SIDE BY REPRESENTATIVES OF BOTH APPOINTED AND ELECTED MEMBERS.

+A JOINT MEETING OF THE COUNCIL'S FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION SELECT COMMITTEES IS TO BE HELD SHORTLY TO RECOMMEND WHAT APPROACH THE COUNCIL SHOULD TAKE IN ITS NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT,+ SAID A COUNCIL SPOKESMAN TODAY.

+AT THE SAME TIME THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS PREPARING A DETAILED REPORT ON THE COUNCIL'S LIKELY FINANCIAL SITUATION IN THE COMING YEARS.

/+THE JOINT

+THE JOINT MEETING OF THE TWO COMMITTEES WILL REPORT BACK TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE, WHICH WILL THEN DECIDE ON THE NEXT STEP IN THE COUNCIL'S APPROACH TO THE GOVERNMENT.+

AT TODAY'S MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE IT WAS STRESSED THAT THE KEY TO THE COUNCIL'S NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT WAS TO SEEK AMENDMENTS TO THE 12-YEAR-OLD MEMORANDUM OF ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS WHERE CHANGES ARE SEEN AS NECESSARY.

COUNCILLORS NOW BELIEVED THAT THE MAA MUST BE ALTERED AND AMENDED TO KEEP IN STEP WITH THE MANY CHANGES THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN HONG KONG SINCE THE MAA WENT INTO FORCE ON APRIL 1, 1973, FROM WHICH TIME THE COUNCIL WAS GIVEN FINANCIAL AUTONOMY.

THE COUNCIL'S SPOKESMAN REPEATED THE ASSURANCE GIVEN RECENTLY BY COUNCIL CHAIRMAN, MR HILTON CHEONG-LEEN, THAT THE COUNCIL WILL NOT BE ASKING FOR ANY INCREASE IN ITS SHARE OF THE RATE FOR THE COMING 1985/86 FINANCIAL YEAR.

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SHARP RISE IN ACTIONS AGAINST COMPANIES * * * *

THERE WAS A SHARP RISE IN THE NUMBER OF PROSECUTIONS BROUGHT BY THE REGISTRAR OF COMPANIES LAST YEAR AGAINST COMPANIES AND THEIR DIRECTORS FOR BREACHES OF THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE, MAINLY FOR FAILURE TO FILE ANNUAL RETURNS WITH ACCOUNTS.

THE REGISTRAR GENERAL, MR NOEL GLEESON, REPORTING THIS IN A GENERAL REVIEW OF THE COMPANIES REGISTRY'S WORK FOR THE YEAR, SAID TODAY THAT 441 SUMMONSES WERE ISSUED IN 1984, COMPARED WITH 17 DURING 1983.

OF THESE, 142 RESULTED IN CONVICTIONS COMPARED WITH 11 IN 1983, AND 239 REMAINED TO BE HEARD BY THE COURTS, AGAINST SIX IN 1983.

SIXTY SUMMONSES WERE WITHDRAWN.

FINES IMPOSED CAME TO \$114 250, AGAINST \$16 000 IN 1983.

MR GLEESON SAID THAT IN THE CASE OF PUBLIC LISTED COMPANIES, FAILURE TO FILE ANNUAL RETURNS IN THE COMPANIES REGISTRY WAS REGARDED AS BEING PARTICULARLY SERIOUS. HE EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT SOME OF THE PENALTIES PRESCRIBED UNDER THE ORDINANCE, IN PARTICULAR UNDER SECTION 122, FOR FAILURE TO LAY THE PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS BEFORE THE COMPANY IN GENERAL MEETING, WERE TOO LOW TO SERVE AS A DETERRENT UNLESS THE MAXIMUM FINE OR A PRISON SENTENCE WAS IMPOSED. +THIS WOULD BE RARE,+ HE ADDED.

/HE SAID

HE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH MANY INCREASES IN MAXIMUM FINES HAD ALREADY BEEN INTRODUCED BY THE COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1984, THE PRESENT LEVEL OF ALL PENALTIES UNDER THE ORDINANCE WAS AGAIN UNDER REVIEW AND IT WAS EXPECTED THAT THE MATTER WOULD BE PLACED BEFORE THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMPANY LAW REFORM LATER IN THE YEAR.

MR GLEESON EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT THAT THE MEDIA, PARTICULARLY FINANCIAL COMMENTATORS, HAD NOT SHOWN MORE INTEREST IN THE PROSECUTIONS THAT HAD BEEN TAKEN.

THIS, HE SAID, WAS A PITY BECAUSE FAILURE OF A PUBLIC LISTED COMPANY TO LAY ITS ACCOUNTS BEFORE THE COMPANY IN GENERAL MEETING AND FILE ITS ANNUAL RETURNS WAS FREQUENTLY +A RED LIGHT THAT WAS OF DIRECT INTEREST TO AND SHOULD NOT BE OVERLOOKED BY COMMENTATORS, FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND INVESTORS ALIKE.+

MR GLEESON SAID THAT THE COMPANIES THEMSELVES, HOWEVER, TOOK THE MATTER MORE SERIOUSLY, AS WAS SHOWN BY THEIR INCREASING TENDENCY TO DEFEND SUCH PROSECUTIONS IN THE COURTS.

+IN MY VIEW, PUBLICITY IS A GREATER DETERRENT THAN MOST OF THE FINES THAT ARE NOW AVAILABLE UNDER THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE,+ HE SAID.

REPORTING INCREASED ACTIVITY IN SOME AREAS AND DECREASED ACTIVITY IN OTHERS, MR GLEESON SAID THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF COMPANIES REGISTERED UNDER THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE INCREASED BY 10 PER CENT FROM 118 680 TO 130 712. THE NUMBER OF NEW COMPANIES REGISTERED DURING THE YEAR INCREASED BY 16 PER CENT, FROM 11 558 TO 13 434.

AS FOR FOREIGN COMPANIES, THE TOTAL NUMBER OPERATING IN HONG KONG AT THE END OF THE YEAR WAS 2 005, SEVEN PER CENT MORE THAN THE PREVIOUS YEAR'S FIGURE OF 1 872.

HOWEVER, DURING THE YEAR, 215 NEW FOREIGN COMPANIES WERE REGISTERED, BUT THIS FIGURE WAS 16 PER CENT LESS THAN THE NUMBER FOR 1983.

EXISTING COMPANIES INCREASED THEIR NOMINAL CAPITAL BY \$13 141 MILLION, A TWO PER CENT INCREASE OVER THE 1983 FIGURE OF \$12 928 MILLION, WHILE THE NOMINAL CAPITAL OF NEW COMPANIES INCORPORATED DURING THE YEAR DECREASED BY SIX PER CENT, FROM \$3 469 MILLION TO \$3 277 MILLION.

MR GLEESON REPORTED THAT THE TOTAL AMOUNT SECURED BY CHARGES REGISTERED ON THE ASSETS OF COMPANIES DECREASED BY 41 PER CENT FROM \$51 921 MILLION TO \$30 495 MILLION, WHILE THE AMOUNT REPAID ON CHARGES, AS EVIDENCED BY CERTIFICATES OF SATISFACTION, INCREASED BY 55 PER CENT FROM \$9 356 MILLION TO \$14 513 MILLION.

DURING THE YEAR, HE SAID, A TOTAL OF 90 PROSPECTUSES OF NEW PUBLIC COMPANIES, INCLUDING 50 IN RESPECT OF MUTUAL FUNDS, WERE APPROVED AS AGAINST 35 PROSPECTUSES, INCLUDING 11 IN RESPECT OF MUTUAL FUNDS, DURING THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

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POLICE PLAN NEW TRAINING SCHEMES
* * *

A SERIES OF TRAINING AND RETRAINING PROGRAMME IS BEING DEVELOPED TO MAINTAIN THE HIGH DEGREE OF PROFESSIONALISM OF MARINE POLICE OFFICERS.

THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, MR ROY HENRY, SAID THIS TODAY (TUESDAY) AT THE COMMISSIONING OF THREE POLICE LAUNCHES IN JOSS HOUSE BAY, SAI KUNG.

POLICE LAUNCHES 70, 71 AND 72 -- KING LAI, KING YEE AND KING LIM -- ARE THE FIRST OF THE 15 DAMEN POLICE PATROL CRAFT TO BE BROUGHT INTO SERVICE IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS AT A COST OF \$8.2 MILLION EACH.

"THESE LAUNCHES FEATURE IN NO SMALL WAY IN OUR DETERMINATION TO UPDATE THE POLICE FLEET AND IT WILL HOPEFULLY NOT BE LONG BEFORE THE ANTIQUATED WORKING CONDITIONS TO WHICH SOME OFFICERS HAVE BECOME ACCUSTOMED ARE A THING OF THE PAST," MR HENRY SAID.

"THEY ARE EQUIPPED WITH MODERN AND SOPHISTICATED TECHNOLOGY WHICH WILL ENABLE US TO PROVIDE A BETTER SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY WHICH IS COMPATIBLE WITH MODERN DAY NEEDS."

HE ADDED THAT NEW TECHNOLOGY REQUIRED CONSTANT TRAINING AND PRACTICE IN THE USE OF IT.

PRAISING THE MARINE REGION FOR ITS TREMENDOUS PROGRESS IN THE PAST DECADE, MR HENRY SAID THE OFFICERS MAY ALL JUSTIFIABLY FEEL PROUD OF THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS.

HE WAS CONVINCED THAT THE THREE NEW LAUNCHES WILL ALSO FEATURE PROMINENTLY IN THE ANNALS AND SUCCESSES OF THE MARINE REGION.

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ELECTION CANDIDATES TO MEET PRESS
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ELECTION CANDIDATES FROM VARIOUS DISTRICTS WILL BE MEETING THE PRESS AT DIFFERENT TIMES TOMORROW AND ON THURSDAY.

CANDIDATES IN YAU MA TEI AND MONG KOK DISTRICTS WILL BE INTRODUCED TO THE MEDIA AT TWO PRESS CONFERENCES, TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AND ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 7).

THE 17 CANDIDATES IN YAU MA TEI DISTRICT WILL MEET THE PRESS AT 11 AM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT OFFICE ON THE 2ND FLOOR OF HOP FAT COMMERCIAL CENTRE, 490 NATHAN ROAD.

/THE 22

THE 22 CANDIDATES IN MONG KOK WILL HOLD THEIR PRESS CONFERENCE AT 11 AM ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 7) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICE ON THE 1ST FLOOR OF TUNG PING BUILDING AT 157 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD.

AND, CANDIDATES IN TAI PO AND SAI KUNG DISTRICTS WILL MEET THE PRESS ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 7) TO INTRODUCE THEIR PLATFORMS AND ANSWER QUESTIONS.

THE 12 CANDIDATES VYING FOR THE FIVE SINGLE SEATS IN SAI KUNG WILL MEET THE PRESS AT 10.30 AM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE ON THE 2ND FLOOR OF THE SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING IN SAI KUNG TOWN.

THE 17 CANDIDATES CONTESTING THE SEVEN SEATS IN TAI PO DISTRICT WILL HOLD THEIR +MEET THE PRESS+ SESSION AT 2.30 PM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT ON THE 3RD FLOOR OF THE TAI PO COMMERCIAL CENTRE, 152-172 KWONG FUK ROAD, TAI PO MARKET.

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DB CANDIDATES TO MEET PUBLIC

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SIX FORUMS WILL BE HELD BETWEEN FEBRUARY 8 AND 28 TO INTRODUCE CANDIDATES CONTESTING SEATS ON THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD IN THE ELECTION ON MARCH 7.

THE FORUMS WILL PROVIDE CANDIDATES WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT THEIR PLATFORMS AND ANSWER ENQUIRIES FROM THE PUBLIC.

ORIGINALLY 42 CANDIDATES WERE CONTESTING THE 18 ELECTED SEATS IN THE ELECTIONS. HOWEVER, AS THREE SEATS - ONE IN SHAU KEI WAN HILLSIDE AND TWO IN QUARRY BAY SOUTH - ARE NOW UNCONTESTED, ONLY 39 CANDIDATES ARE COMPETING FOR THE REMAINING 15 SEATS.

THE DATES, TIMES AND VENUES OF THE OPEN FORUMS ARE AS FOLLOWS:-

<u>DATE/TIME</u>	<u>CONSTITUENCIES</u>	<u>VENUES</u>
FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 8) 7.30 PM	NORTH POINT WEST	ASSEMBLY HALL OF NORTH POINT ESTATE (NEAR THE WEST WING OF NORTH POINT FERRY PIER)
SATURDAY (FEBRUARY 9) 2.30 PM	NORTH POINT EAST	MANSION STREET YOUTH CENTRE (NEAR MODEL ESTATE, ENTRANCE AT MODEL LANE)

THURSDAY
(FEBRUARY 14)
7.30 PM

CHAI WAN NORTH,
SOUTH AND WEST

CHAI WAN COMMUNITY ..
CENTRE, 230, CHAI WAN
ROAD

SATURDAY
(FEBRUARY 16)
2.30 PM

CAUSEWAY BAY SOUTH
AND CAUSEWAY BAY
NORTH

CLEMENTI MIDDLE SCHOOL,
30, FORTRESS HILL ROAD

WEDNESDAY
(FEBRUARY 27)
7.30 PM

A KUNG NGAM AND
SAI WAN HO

HONG KONG CHINESE
WOMEN'S CLUB HIDE TJO
YOENG PRIMARY SCHOOL,
61, SAI WAN HO STREET

THURSDAY
(FEBRUARY 28)
7.30 PM

QUARRY BAY NORTH

SCHOOL HALL OF
ST JOHN'S CO-
EDUCATIONAL COLLEGE,
TAI KOO SHING,
QUARRY BAY.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE FORUMS.

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+MEET PUBLIC+ SERVICE EXTENDED

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THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD WILL EXTEND ITS +MEET-THE-PUBLIC+ SERVICE BY INTRODUCING EVENING SESSIONS EVERY MONDAY FROM FEBRUARY 11.

THE EVENING SESSIONS WILL RUN FOR TWO HOURS FROM 6.30 PM. AT PRESENT, THE SERVICE IS MAINTAINED BETWEEN 2.30 PM AND 4.30 PM EVERY MONDAY.

DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR KEVIN HO, SAID EXTRA SESSIONS WERE BEING PROVIDED SO THAT RESIDENTS WHO RETURNED FROM WORK IN THE EVENINGS COULD MEET DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS TO EXPRESS VIEWS AND SUGGESTIONS ON LOCAL MATTERS.

FROM THIS MONTH, MR HO SAID, THE SESSION WOULD BE HELD IN THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT, SECOND FLOOR, SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES, MAN NIN STREET, SAI KUNG TOWN.

/PREVIOUSLY THE

PREVIOUSLY THE SESSIONS WERE HELD ALTERNATIVELY IN THE DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT, THE HANG HAU RURAL COMMITTEE AND THE RENNIE'S MILL SERVICE CENTRE.

MR HO SAID THE DIFFERENT VENUES AND DATES COULD BE CONFUSING TO RESIDENTS.

RESIDENTS WHO WANT TO ATTEND ANY SESSIONS SHOULD MAKE AN APPOINTMENT BY TELEPHONING MR ROBERT LAI AT 3-2813087.

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KUK HELPS NEW TOWN GROWTH
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NEW TOWNS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES HAD DEVELOPED WITHOUT SERIOUS CONFLICT, THANKS TO THE EFFORTS OF THE HEUNG YEE KUK AND RURAL COMMITTEES, THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID THIS (TUESDAY) EVENING.

ADDRESSING A DINNER RECEPTION GIVEN BY THE KUK IN HIS HONOUR, MR AKERS-JONES SAID HE HAD KNOWN THE KUK FOR 25 YEARS, MORE THAN ONE QUARTER OF THE WHOLE LIFE OF THE NEW TERRITORIES AND NEARLY HALF THE LIFE OF THE KUK.

IN THE 25 YEARS, MR AKERS-JONES SAID, THE NT HAD GONE THROUGH GREAT CHANGE FROM A RURAL AND AGRICULTURAL AREA TO A PLACE OF MANY GREAT NEW TOWNS.

+AND THIS HAS BEEN ACHIEVED WITHOUT SERIOUS CONFLICT AS A RESULT OF THE WAY HEUNG YEE KUK AND RURAL COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SIT DOWN AND WORK TOGETHER WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ON THE POLICIES AND PLANS FOR THE AREA.

+OF COURSE THERE HAVE BEEN MOMENTS OF HARD BARGAINING BUT THE RESULTS ARE THERE FOR ALL TO SEE. THEY NEVER FAIL TO AMAZE OUR MANY VISITORS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES FACED WITH SIMILAR PROBLEMS,+ HE SAID.

DEVELOPMENT HAD NOT STOPPED, MR AKERS-JONES SAID, AND BY THE END OF THIS CENTURY MOST OF THE FLAT LANDS OF THE NT WOULD HAVE BEEN URBANISED.

+WE HAVE A CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITY TO SEE THAT THIS IS ACHIEVED IN HARMONY AND THAT THE RESULTS ARE HARMONIOUS,+ HE SAID.

MR AKERS-JONES POINTED OUT THAT THE SINO-BRITISH AGREEMENT WOULD PROVIDE FOR THE RENEWAL OF THE NT LAND LEASES FOR A FURTHER 50 YEARS AFTER 1997, AND THE SPECIAL POSITION OF RURAL LAND HOLDINGS HAD BEEN RECOGNISED.

+WE CAN GO ON BUILDING IN CONFIDENCE AND INVESTORS AND PURCHASERS OF PROPERTY IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WILL KNOW THAT THEIR INVESTMENTS ARE PROTECTED AND SECURE,+ HE ADDED.

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WOMEN'S GROUP MORE ACTIVE
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THE YIN NGAI SOCIETY MOVEMENT, A WOMEN'S ORGANISATION, WAS GATHERING MOMENTUM AND A SENSE OF BELONGING AND PRIDE HAD EMERGED SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT, THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES SAID TODAY.

+THIS YEAR, THE ORGANISATION WILL MOVE INTO A NEW PHASE WITH THE FORMATION OF A CENTRAL COUNCIL TO CO-ORDINATE ACTIVITIES FOR ALL YIN NGAI SOCIETIES AND TO FACILITATE COMMUNICATION WITH OTHER WOMEN'S ORGANISATIONS IN HONG KONG,+ HE SAID.

SPEAKING AT THE PO LEUNG KUK DIRECTORS' LUNCHEON MEETING, MR AKERS-JONES SAID: +THE STRENGTH OF THE YIN NGAI, WHICH SYMBOLISES TRADITIONAL VIRTUE, DETERMINATION AND DRIVE, LIES AMONG THE PEOPLE AND ITS DOWN-TO-EARTH APPROACH IN IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR MANY THOUSANDS OF HOUSEWIVES.

+SINCE THE INAUGURATION OF THE FIRST YIN NGAI IN 1981, THE NUMBER HAS INCREASED TO A TOTAL OF 24 WITH A MEMBERSHIP OF MORE THAN 3 000, AND MORE SOCIETIES ARE IN THE PIPELINE,+ MR AKERS-JONES SAID.

HE SAID THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN HONG KONG HAD CHANGED CONSPICUOUSLY OVER THE PAST 10 YEARS, AS SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONTINUED TO BE IMPROVED.

+WE HAVE COMPRESSED DEVELOPMENTS THAT HAVE TAKEN MANY TENS OF YEARS TO MATURE IN OTHER COUNTRIES INTO A DECADE IN HONG KONG,+ HE SAID.

+THE INTRODUCTION OF PRIMARY EDUCATION FOR ALL CHILDREN IN 1971 WAS AN IMPORTANT MILESTONE IN THE PROCESS OF THE CHANGING ROLE OF WOMEN IN HONG KONG, BECAUSE, FROM THEN ON, EVERY GIRL WENT TO SCHOOL.

+EVERY GIRL HAS A SECONDARY EDUCATION AND MANY AFTER COMPLETING THEIR YEARS IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS GO ON TO OUR TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS, AND OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF 9 800 STUDYING FOR A FIRST DEGREE AT OUR UNIVERSITIES, 3 500 ARE GIRLS,+ HE SAID.

MR AKERS-JONES SAID THAT EVEN THE ROLE OF HOUSEWIVES HAD CHANGED OVER THE PAST 15 YEARS, AS MODERN LIVING, WITH ITS MANY NEW DEVICES AND FACILITIES, HAD BECOME A COMMON FEATURE OF MOST FAMILIES BRINGING ABOUT A PROFOUND EFFECT ON FAMILY LIFE.

+THERE ARE 1.7 MILLION PEOPLE IN HONG KONG OVER THE AGE OF 20 WITH A LIFE EXPECTANCY OF 78, LONGER THAN MANY COUNTRIES IN THE WESTERN WORLD,+ HE SAID.

+DIET, HEALTH-CARE, AN INCREASING INTEREST IN PHYSICAL FITNESS AND RECREATION HAVE NOT ONLY GIVEN AN ADDED ZEST TO LIFE BUT HAVE INCREASED THE HOPE OF LIVING A LONG LIFE,+ HE ADDED.

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1985

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BUILDING DECLARED DANGEROUS

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY TODAY DECLARED NO. 282 QUEEN'S ROAD WEST TO BE IN A DANGEROUS CONDITION.

IN A STATEMENT ISSUED THIS (TUESDAY) MORNING THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING SURVEYOR SAID THAT THIS THREE STOREY PRE-WAR BUILDING WAS GENERALLY CONSTRUCTED WITH TIMBER FLOORS AND TIMBER PITCHED ROOF ON LOAD-BEARING BRICK WALLS.

HE SAID RECENT INSPECTIONS HAD FOUND THE LOAD-BEARING WALLS DEFECTIVE WITH FRACTURES OCCURRING IN MANY PLACES, THE MOST SIGNIFICANT ONES SHOWING MOVEMENT OF THE BUILDING BEING THE FRESH DIAGONAL CRACKS ON THE VERANDAH WALL ADJOINING NO. 280 QUEEN'S ROAD WEST ON FIRST AND SECOND FLOORS, AND THE OPEN JOINT ON THE WALLS SEPARATING NO. 282 FROM 284 QUEEN'S ROAD WEST AT THE REAR.

A NUMBER OF STRUCTURAL TIMBERS WERE DECAYED AND DEFECTIVE. THE AGE, THE OVERALL POOR CONDITION OF THE BUILDING AND ITS APPARENT RECENT MOVEMENT OF THE VERANDAH HAD LED TO THE CONCLUSION THAT THERE WAS A RISK OF A COLLAPSE. IT WAS THEREFORE NECESSARY TO CLOSE AND DEMOLISH THIS BUILDING.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER IN VICTORIA DISTRICT COURT AT 9.30 AM ON MARCH 5, WAS POSTED TODAY.

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UN AGENCY CHIEF VISITS ROYAL OBSERVATORY

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CO-ORDINATION OF INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA TO IMPROVE TYPHOON WARNING SERVICES WAS AMONG THE MATTERS DISCUSSED YESTERDAY (MONDAY) BETWEEN THE DIRECTOR OF THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY, MR PATRICK SHAM, AND THE VISITING SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANISATION, DR G.O.P. OBASI, AND THE WMO REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR ASIA AND THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC, MR K. RAJENDRAM.

DURING THE VISIT, DR OBASI SAW THE TECHNICAL FACILITIES AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY HEADQUARTERS, AND EXPRESSED GREAT INTEREST IN THE LOCAL STATION NETWORKS SUPPLYING UP-TO-THE-MINUTE DATA TO THE CENTRAL FORECASTING OFFICE AND THE IN-HOUSE TRAINING PROGRAMME OF THE OBSERVATORY.

DR OBASI ALSO MET PROFESSOR TAO SHIYAN AND PROFESSOR DING YIHUA, EMINENT METEOROLOGISTS FROM THE INSTITUTE OF ATMOSPHERIC PHYSICS, ACADEMIA SINICA, WHO ARE CURRENTLY CONDUCTING A ONE-MONTH LECTURE SERIES ON HEAVY RAIN AND TROPICAL CYCLONE FOR THE STAFF OF THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY.

/DR OBASI

DR OBASI AND MR RAJENDRAM ARE ON THEIR WAY TO CHINA.

HONG KONG HAS BEEN A MEMBER OF THE WMO, A SPECIALISED AGENCY OF THE UNITED NATIONS, SINCE 1948. IT HAS, THROUGH THE YEARS, ACTIVELY TAKEN PART IN VARIOUS WMO PROGRAMMES ON AERONAUTICAL METEOROLOGY, MARINE METEOROLOGY, HYDROMETEOROLOGY AND CLIMATOLOGY, AS WELL AS IN THE RELATED AREAS OF TELECOMMUNICATION, TYPHOON WARNING SERVICES AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION RESEARCH.

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CHINESE GROUP VISITS SHA TIN

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SIXTY MEMBERS OF VARIOUS ORGANISATIONS FROM 14 CHINESE COASTAL CITIES TODAY (TUESDAY) VISITED SHA TIN NEW TOWN TO SEE DEVELOPMENTS THERE.

THEY ARE IN HONG KONG ON A TRAINING COURSE ON FOREIGN ECONOMIC AND TRADE MATTERS.

ON ARRIVAL FIRST AT THE LION PAVILION FOR A PANORAMIC VIEW OF THE NEW TOWN, THEY WERE MET BY THE ACTING PROJECT MANAGER OF SHA TIN, MR KEITH AUSTIN, AND WERE BRIEFED ON THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE AREA.

AFTERWARDS, THEY WERE TAKEN ON A TOUR OF FO TAN INDUSTRIAL AREA AND SHA TIN TOWN CENTRE, TO SEE THE INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENTS THERE.

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INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION INDEX EXPLAINED

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A SPECIAL REVIEW ARTICLE ENTITLED, +INTRODUCING THE QUARTERLY INDEX OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION+ APPEARS IN THE NOVEMBER 1984 ISSUE OF THE HONG KONG MONTHLY DIGEST OF STATISTICS, NOW ON SALE.

THE ARTICLE DESCRIBES THE CONCEPTUAL BACKGROUND OF THE INDEX OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION IN HONG KONG, THE METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION, THE PRINCIPLES OF INDEX COMPUTATION, AND THE MAJOR FEATURES OF THE DATA FROM THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1982 TO THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1984.

SINCE 1977, THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN PUBLISHING QUARTERLY INDEXES OF TEXTILE PRODUCTION, COVERING ONLY THE SPINNING AND WEAVING INDUSTRIES BASED ON THE QUARTERLY TEXTILE PRODUCTION SURVEY. A REPORT ON TEXTILE PRODUCTION STATISTICS IS ISSUED QUARTERLY.

IN 1982, A NEW QUARTERLY SURVEY OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION WAS INITIATED WITH THE PURPOSE OF PRODUCING AN INDEX OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION FOR THE WHOLE MANUFACTURING SECTOR. THIS QUARTERLY INDEX IS INTENDED TO PROVIDE AN INDICATOR OF CURRENT OUTPUT LEVELS AND TRENDS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.

THE INDEX SUPPLEMENTS STATISTICS OBTAINED FROM THE ANNUAL SURVEY OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION, WHICH ARE MORE DETAILED AND SUPPLY INFORMATION ON COST STRUCTURES AND OPERATING CHARACTERISTICS OF INDUSTRIES IN ADDITION TO THEIR OUTPUT LEVELS.

THE ARTICLE IS INTENDED TO SERVE AS AN INTRODUCTION TO READERS WHO MAY THEN REFER TO THE INDEX PERIODICALLY.

IT ALSO PROVIDES FURTHER METHODOLOGICAL DETAILS OF INTEREST TO THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY BEEN REFERRING TO THE REPORT ON THE QUARTERLY INDEX OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION.

THE NOVEMBER ISSUE OF THE HONG KONG MONTHLY DIGEST OF STATISTICS IS ON SALE AT \$25 A COPY FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE. IT IS ALSO OBTAINABLE FROM THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER, KAI TAK COMMERCIAL BUILDING, 317 DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL.

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THREEFOLD RISE OF EDP STUDENTS PLANNED

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FULL-TIME PROVISIONS FOR THE TRAINING OF ELECTRONIC DATA PROCESSING PERSONNEL WILL BE INCREASED BY NEARLY THREEFOLD TO MEET DEMAND.

THE NUMBER OF PLACES FOR STUDENTS RECEIVING EDP TRAINING IN SIX FULL-TIME EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS WILL BE INCREASED TO 3 600 IN THE 1988-89 ACADEMIC YEAR FROM 1 300 IN 1983-84, ACCORDING TO THE FINDINGS OF THE FIRST SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON ELECTRONIC DATA PROCESSING OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL IN 1983.

THE SIX FULL-TIME EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS ARE THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY, CHU HAI COLLEGE, HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, LEE WAI LEE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE AND LINGNAN COLLEGE.

THE SURVEY ALSO ESTIMATED THAT THE NUMBER OF GRADUATES WOULD INCREASE IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS FROM 343 IN 1983-84 TO -- 505, 529, 811, 1 084 AND 1 170.

+BASED ON THIS PROJECTED ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN OF THE FULL-TIME EDP EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS, THE COMMITTEE IS OF THE OPINION THAT BY 1989 THE SUPPLY OF TRAINED EDP GRADUATES WILL EASE THE MANPOWER SHORTAGE IN THIS FIELD,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE COMMITTEE SAID.

A SEPARATE MANPOWER SURVEY REPORT ON THE EDP PROFESSION IN 1983, HAS FORECAST THAT THE DEMAND FOR THE EDP PERSONNEL IN 1989 WOULD BE ABOUT 1 200.

THE SURVEY ALSO REVEALED THAT THERE WERE SOME 35 000 PART-TIME STUDENTS ATTENDING BASIC ELEMENTARY AND POST-QUALIFICATION COMPUTING TRAINING COURSES OFFERED BY POST-SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, TECHNICAL INSTITUTES, COMPUTER SUPPLIERS AND OTHER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES.

ABOUT 70 PER CENT OF THESE STUDENTS ARE INVOLVED IN BASIC ELEMENTARY TRAINING ONLY, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+THE COMMITTEE ALSO FEELS THAT THERE IS A LACK OF SYSTEMATIC APPROACH TO THE PROVISION OF COURSES FOR POST-QUALIFICATION TRAINING,+ HE SAID.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED A SYLLABUS FOR THE A-LEVEL PAPER IN COMPUTING STUDIES SET BY THE HONG KONG EXAMINATION AUTHORITY AND CURRICULA FOR PRE-ENTRY AND POST-ENTRY COURSES TO BE ADOPTED BY EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING INSTITUTIONS.

THE REPORT ON THE 1983 SURVEY OF ESTABLISHMENTS OFFERING TRAINING IN ELECTRONIC DATA PROCESSING IS NOW ON SALE AT GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT \$19.50 A COPY.

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FREE CONCERTS IN SUPPORT OF YOUTH YEAR
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THE HONG KONG YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA (A) WILL PRESENT TWO FREE CONCERTS IN SUPPORT OF THE 1985 INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR.

THE FIRST CONCERT, WHICH IS ONE OF THE PROGRAMMES OF THE 7TH TSUEN WAN ARTS FESTIVAL, WILL BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 13 AT 8 PM IN THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL.

CONDUCTED BY MR MIRAN KOJIAN OF THE HONG KONG PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA, THE CONCERT WILL FEATURE VIVALDI'S CONCERTO FOR TWO VIOLINS, STRING ORCHESTRA AND CEMBALO IN C MINOR, OP. 21 NO. 2; THE NUTCRACKER SUITE, OP. 71 BY TCHAIKOVSKY; TCHEREPNIN'S FANFARE FOR BRASS ENSEMBLE AND PERCUSSION; AND HINDEMITH'S SYMPHONIC METAMORPHOSES OF THEME BY CARL MARIA VON WEBER.

THE SECOND CONCERT, JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE MUSIC OFFICE AND THE FESTIVAL FRINGE, WILL BE HELD AT 8 PM IN THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY HALL ON FEBRUARY 16.

ADMISSION TO BOTH CONCERTS IS FREE. COUPONS ARE OBTAINABLE FROM ALL MUSIC CENTRES OF THE MUSIC OFFICE. COUPONS FOR THE CONCERT IN TSUEN WAN ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL. FOR ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CALL 0-428127.

THE ORCHESTRA IS TRAINED BY THE MUSIC OFFICE OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT.

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1935

- 13 -

SEAWALL TO BE BUILT

A 400-METRE SEAWALL WILL BE BUILT AND ABOUT 13.5 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED WILL BE RECLAIMED AT SIU CHAI WAN BAY, EAST OF CHAI WAN.

A CONTRACT FOR THE \$22 MILLION PROJECT WAS AWARDED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE CIVIL ENGINEERING OFFICE OF THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

THE RECLAIMED LAND WILL BE USED FOR COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES AND FOR COMMUNITY FACILITIES.

THE PROJECT FORMS THE FIRST STAGE OF THE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR SIU CHAI WAN.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START LATER THIS MONTH AND TAKE ABOUT 24 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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MORE TOLL BOOTHS FOR TUNNEL

WORK HAS STARTED ON BUILDING THREE MORE TOLL BOOTHS AT THE LION ROCK TUNNEL.

ONE OF THE NEW BOOTHS, SERVING NEW TERRITORIES-BOUND TRAFFIC WILL BE COMPLETED BY ABOUT THE MIDDLE OF THIS YEAR, AND THE OTHER TWO, SERVING KOWLOON-BOUND TRAFFIC, BY THE END OF THE YEAR.

AS AN INTERIM MEASURE, A TEMPORARY BOOTH FOR KOWLOON-BOUND TRAFFIC WILL BE PUT UP BEFORE THE LUNAR NEW YEAR.

IN ADDITION, +EXACT TOLL+ BOOTHS WILL BE INTRODUCED.

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URBAN CLEARWAY IN SHAU KEI WAN

FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 8), THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS OF FACTORY STREET IN SHAU KEI WAN WILL BE DESIGNATED URBAN CLEARWAYS:

- * THE NORTHERN KERBSIDE LANE FROM ALDRICH STREET TO EIGHT METRES WEST OF TAI TAK STREET.
- * THE SOUTHERN KERBSIDE LANE BETWEEN TAI TAK STREET AND ALDRICH STREET.

WITHIN THE RESTRICTED ZONES, NO VEHICLES OTHER THAN FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS BETWEEN 7 AM AND MIDNIGHT DAILY.

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1985

- 14 -

TUEN MUN ROAD MORNING CLOSURE
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THE YUEN LONG BOUND SECTION OF TUEN MUN ROAD BETWEEN ROAD D8 AND ROAD D9 ROUNDABOUT WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC BETWEEN 12.30 AM AND 3.30 AM ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY (FEBRUARY 8 AND 9) TO FACILITATE CONSTRUCTION WORK.

DURING CLOSURE, GENERAL TRAFFIC AND KMB ROUTES 68 AND 68M HEADING FOR YUEN LONG WILL BE DIVERTED VIA ROAD D8, TUEN MUN HEUNG SZE WUI ROAD, ROAD D2N, ROAD D9 AND PROCEED ONTO CASTLE PEAK ROAD (SAN HUI SECTION) FOR THE REST OF THE JOURNEY.

FROM MONDAY (FEBRUARY 11) TO WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 13), THE KOWLOON BOUND SECTION OF TUEN MUN ROAD, BETWEEN PUI TO ROAD AND SIU LAM INTERCHANGE, WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC BETWEEN 10.30 PM AND 5 AM THE FOLLOWING MORNING.

DURING THE CLOSURE, GENERAL TRAFFIC HEADING FOR TSUEN WAN OR KOWLOON WILL BE DIVERTED TO USE CASTLE PEAK ROAD.

KMB ROUTES 57M, 59A, 59M, 59S, 60, 60M, 66, 66M, 67M, 68 AND 68M WILL BE DIVERTED TO OPERATE VIA CASTLE PEAK ROAD.

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NOTE TO TV NEWS EDITORS:

PLEASE BROADCAST THE ABOVE TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN YOUR MORNING TRAFFIC BULLETINS.

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RESTRICTED ZONE IN FANLING
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FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 8), ROAD D5 BETWEEN ROAD L2 AND FAN LENG WAI IN FANLING WILL BE DESIGNATED RESTRICTED ZONE.

THE RESTRICTED ZONE WILL BE IN FORCE FROM 7 AM TO 10 AM AND 4 PM TO 7 PM DAILY.

WITHIN THE RESTRICTED ZONE, DRIVERS OF ALL MOTOR VEHICLES EXCEPT THOSE WITH PERMITS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM PICKING UP OR SETTING DOWN PASSENGERS OR LOADING OR UNLOADING GOODS.

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NOTE TO TV NEWS EDITORS:

PLEASE BROADCAST THE ABOVE TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN YOUR MORNING TRAFFIC BULLETINS.

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1985

- 15 -

TAPS OFF IN TAI PO
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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN TAI PO WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 8 PM ON FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 8) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR WATER MAINS WORK.

THE AREA ALONG TAI PO ROAD FROM WONG YI AU TO TAI PO KAU WILL BE AFFECTED INCLUDING WONG YI AU, MEI WOON SAN TSUEN, YIN TSZ LANE, TAI PO KAU, TAI PO KAU SAN WAI, LOOKOUT LANE, ST. CHRISTOPHER'S HOME AND STRAFFORD HOUSE.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR REFRESHMENT KIOSK
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TENDERS ARE BEING INVITED FOR THE OPERATION OF A REFRESHMENT KIOSK AT HING FONG ROAD PLAYGROUND IN KWAI CHUNG.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER WOULD BE GIVEN A THREE-YEAR CONTRACT STARTING APRIL 1.

TENDER FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE KWAI CHUNG URBAN SERVICES OFFICE, 9TH FLOOR, KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 166-174 HING FONG ROAD, KWAI CHUNG, AND MUST BE RETURNED BY 9 AM ON MARCH 1.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE AT THE KWAI CHUNG URBAN SERVICES OFFICE OR BY TELEPHONE 0-209204.

THE HING FONG ROAD PLAYGROUND IS A MULTI-PURPOSE RECREATION AND AMENITY VENUE. FACILITIES AT THE PLAYGROUND INCLUDE TWO MINI-SOCCER PITCHES, A CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND AND A LANDSCAPED GARDEN.

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