DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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DUCHESS ENDS SIX-DAY VISIT

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HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUCHESS OF KENT LEFT FOR LONDON THIS (TUESDAY) EVENING AFTER A SIX-DAY VISIT TO HONG KONG.

EARLIER IN THE DAY, SHE HAD VISITED THE ACADEMY FOR PERFORMING ARTS.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF THE ACADEMY, MR ALEX WU AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE ACADEMY, DR BASIL DEANE, THE DUCHESS SAW A DANCE CLASS BEING CONDUCTED, AND A PERFORMANCE OF CHINESE DANCE.

SHE ALSO TALKED TO SOME OF THE STAFF AND STUDENTS BEFORE WATCHING STUDENTS IN THEIR MUSIC, DRAMA AND TECHNICAL ARTS CLASSES.

THE DUCHESS LATER WENT TO HMS TAMAR, WHERE SHE WAS RECEIVED BY THE COMMANDER BRITISH FORCES, MAJOR-GENERAL ANTHONY BOAM.

SHE SPENT TWO HOURS TOURING THE JOINT SERVICES SENIOR RANKS MESS, AND THE JOINT COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE, AND MET WITH SERVICEMEN AND SERVICEWOMEN.

THE DUCHESS IS COLONEL-IN-CHIEF OF THE ARMY CATERING CORPS AND CONTROLLER COMMANDANT OF THE WOMEN'S ROYAL ARMY CORPS.

SEEING THE DUCHESS OFF AT THE AIRPORT WERE THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, AND LADY YOUDE; THE SENIOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, SIR SZE-YUEN CHUNG AND THE SENIOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MISS LYDIA DUNN.

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NEW DIRECTORATE APPOINTMENTS ANNOUNCED

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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY A FURTHER SERIES OF SENIOR DIRECTORATE MOVEMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS. THEY ARE AS FOLLOWS:-

MR JOHN TODD, CURRENTLY DIRECTOR OF LANDS, IS TO BE APPOINTED SECRETARY FOR HOUSING IN APRIL.

MR FREDDIE PANG YUK-LING, WHO HAS ACTED AS SECRETARY FOR HOUSING IN ADDITION TO HIS SUBSTANTIVE DUTIES AS DIRECTOR OF HOUSING SINCE AUGUST 1985, WILL CONTINUE TO BE THE DIRECTOR OF HOUSING.

/DR JOHN .....

DR JOHN RIDDELL-SWAN WILL BE RETIRING FROM THE CIVIL SERVICE IN MARCH THIS YEAR. DR RIDDELL-SWAN HAS BEEN DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES SINCE FEBRUARY 1980.

DR LAWRENCE LEE HAY-YUE WILL SUCCEED DR RIDDELL-SWAN AS DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES. DR LEE IS CURRENTLY DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES.

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES ON THESE OFFICERS FOLLOW:

MR J.F. TODD, CVO, OBE, JP

AGED 56. MR TODD JOINED THE HONG KONG CIVIL SERVICE IN MAY 1976 AS AN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER STAFF GRADE C, AFTER HAVING SERVED FOR SOME 19 YEARS IN OTHER DEPENDENT TERRITORIES AND A TWO YEAR SECONDMENT TO THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE. HE SERVED INITIALLY AS DISTRICT OFFICER TSUEN WAN, THEN WAS DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES FROM 1977 TO 1980, AND DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT FROM 1980 TO 1981. HE BECAME THE FIRST DIRECTOR OF LANDS, ON THE CREATION OF THE DEPARTMENT IN APRIL 1982.

MR FREDDIE PANG YUK-LING, ISO, JP

AGED 55. MR PANG JOINED THE CIVIL SERVICE IN OCTOBER 1956 AS AN APPRENTICE ARCHITECT IN THE (THEN) PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT. HE WAS APPOINTED ON TRANSFER AS CHIEF ARCHITECT IN THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT IN MARCH 1974 AND PROMOTED TO BE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF HOUSING (CONSTRUCTION) IN MARCH 1981. HE WAS AGAIN PROMOTED TO BE THE DIRECTOR OF HOUSING IN FEBRUARY 1985.

DR JOHN RIDDELL-SWAN, OBE, JP

AGED 59. DR RIDDELL-SWAN FIRST JOINED THE HONG KONG CIVIL SERVICE IN MAY 1956 AS A VETERINARY OFFICER IN THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT. HE BECAME ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES IN OCTOBER 1964, AND WAS FURTHER PROMOTED TO DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES IN MAY 1971 AND TO HIS PRESENT RANK OF DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES IN FEBRUARY 1980. HE WILL HAVE COMPLETED 29 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT ON HIS RETIREMENT IN MARCH THIS YEAR.

DR LAWRENCE LEE HAY-YUE, JP

AGED 48. DR LEE JOINED THE CIVIL SERVICE IN JUNE 1963 AS AN ASSISTANT PEST CONTROLLER OFFICER. HE WAS PROMOTED TO ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES IN FEBRUARY 1980 AND TO HIS PRESENT RANK OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES IN JULY 1983.

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NEARLY $1 BILLION MORE SOUGHT FOR PUBLIC RENTAL HOUSING

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THE FINANCE COMMITTEE WILL BE ASKED TOMORROW TO APPROVE AN ADDITIONAL SUM OF $976 MILLION FROM THE DEVELOPMENT LOAN FUND FOR THE HOUSING AUTHORITY'S PUBLIC RENTAL PROJECTS FOR THE FOUR YEARS FROM 1986-87 TO 1989-90.

THIS WILL ENABLE THE AUTHORITY TO DRAW UP TO $3 194 MILLION FOR ITS PROJECTS FOR THE PERIOD, AND WILL INCLUDE $622.7 MILLION TO BE SPENT ON REDEVELOPMENT OF STRUCTURALLY DEFECTIVE PUBLIC HOUSING BLOCKS.

WORK ON CLEARING THE 26 BLOCKS UNDER THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT'S EXTENDED REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME HAS ALREADY BEGUN AND WILL EXTEND TILL JULY 1989. A TOTAL OF 14 519 NEW FLATS WILL BE BUILT, ON THE CLEARED AREAS OVER THIS PERIOD, AND THIS WILL BE IN ADDITION TO THE 30 000-PLUS RENTAL FLATS THAT WILL BE BUILT EACH YEAR.

THE $3 194 MILLION WILL ENABLE THE AUTHORITY TO ACHIEVE THE GOVERNMENT'S AIM OF MAINTAINING AN OVERALL ANNUAL PRODUCTION OF AT LEAST 40 000 FLATS, INCLUDING THOSE BUILT BY THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT FOR THE GOVERNMENT'S HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME, AND THOSE BUILT BY PRIVATE DEVELOPERS FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION SCHEME.

THE LATEST REQUEST WILL BRING TO $14 241 MILLION THE AMOUNT OF LOANS MADE BY THE DEVELOPMENT LOAN FUND FOR HOUSING AUTHORITY RENTAL PROJECTS SINCE JUNE 1977.

ANOTHER REQUEST BEFORE THE FINANCE COMMITTEE WILL BE FOR $256 876 000 AS SUPPLEMENTARY EDUCATION PROVISION LARGELY FOR MEETING INCREASES IN STAFF SALARIES OF ORGANISATIONS SUBVENTED ON A DEFICIENCY GRANT BASIS, SUCH AS AIDED SCHOOLS, IN LINE WITH THE REVISED CIVIL SERVICE PAY SCALES WHICH CAME INTO EFFECT FROM APRIL 1 LAST YEAR.

OTHER SUMS SOUGHT ARE:

* $66 494 000 FOR ADJUSTMENTS TO PAY SCALES IN A NUMBER OF SUBVENTED MEDICAL ORGANISATIONS;

* $51 860 000 TO MEET SOCIAL WELFARE COSTS FOR THE INCREASED CASELOAD UNDER THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SCHEME;

* $33 533 000 FOR SALARY ADJUSTMENTS IN SUBVENTED SOCIAL WELFARE ORGANISATIONS;

* $8 129 000 AS SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISION FOR THE CITY POLYTECHNIC;

/* $25 480 000 .....

* $25 480 000 TO MEET THE SHORTFALL IN THE COST OF MAIL CONVEYANCE, PARTICULARLY BY AIR;

* $26 500 000 TO MEET THE INCREASE IN THE PRICE OF WATER FROM CHINA;

* $10 896 000 TO MEET GENERAL EXPENSES OF THE CIVIL SERVICE, AND

* $141 556 000 FOR PAYMENT OF CIVIL SERVICE PENSIONS, RETIRING ALLOWANCES AND GRATUITIES.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO BE ASKED TO APPROVE A NEW BASIS FOR CALCULATING EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES TO RED WORM FARMERS, NEW RATES OF EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE PAYABLE TO OPERATORS OF RED WORM FARMS AFFECTED BY CLEARANCES, AND TO WAIVE THE CURRENT MAXIMUM COMPENSATION OF $50 000 A FARM.

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CONTROL OF PRIVATE BILLIARD CLUBS URGED

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THE ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL TODAY EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT PRIVATE BILLIARD CLUBS IN THE NON-URBAN AREAS SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO CONTROL.

HOWEVER, CLUBS WITH FIVE BILLIARD TABLES OR LESS, AND WHICH ARE CONSIDERED TO BE NON-PROFIT MAKING, SHOULD BE EXEMPTED.

SPEAKING AT THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (HEADQUARTERS) OF THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, MR GEOFFREY ORR, SAID THAT THERE ARE AT PRESENT, 20 LICENSED PUBLIC BILLIARD SALOONS IN THE NON-URBAN AREAS PROVIDING A TOTAL OF 331 TABLES.

+IN THE PAST TWO YEARS OR SO THERE HAS BEEN, THROUGHOUT HONG KONG, A RAPID GROWTH OF BILLIARD ESTABLISHMENTS UNDER THE NAME OF PRIVATE CLUBS,+ HE SAID.

+ALTHOUGH THESE CLUBS SERVE ONLY THEIR MEMBERS OR GUESTS OF MEMBERS, THE GENERAL PUBLIC IS NOT MATERIALLY BARRED FROM USING THE FACILITIES, AS MEMBERSHIP IS EASILY OBTAINABLE AT A NOMINAL FEE.+

A SURVEY CONDUCTED IN AUGUST LAST YEAR SHOWED THERE WERE 39 BILLIARD CLUBS IN THE NON-URBAN AREAS PROVIDING 454 TABLES.

THE EXISTENCE AND RAPID GROWTH OF THESE PRIVATE BILLIARD CLUBS, MR ORR SAID, HAVE RESULTED IN AN INEQUITABLE SITUATION.

/+AT PRESENT, ...

+AT PRESENT, PUBLIC BILLIARD SALOONS PAY A LICENCE FEE OF $1 440 PER TABLE PER YEAR AND ARE SUBJECT TO STRINGENT LICENSING CONDITIONS, SUCH AS OPERATING HOURS AND MAINTENANCE OF SEPARATE ACCESS IF SITUATED IN A MIXED-USERS BUILDING,+ HE SAID.

+PRIVATE CLUBS, ON THE OTHER HAND, PAY NO LICENCE FEES AND NOT SUBJECT TO CONTROL AS FAR AS THEIR OPERATIONS ARE CONCERNED.+

AT THE MEETING, THE COMMITTEE ACCEPTED A RECOMMENDATION BY THE RSD TO ABOLISH THE LICENCE FOR THE SETTING UP OF A SLAUGHTERHOUSE, AND ALTER THE BASIS FOR THE DETERMINATION OF FEES FOR A LICENCE TO OPERATE A SLAUGHTERHOUSE.

THE FEE FOR THE FORMER LICENCE, WHICH IS ISSUED ON ONE-OFF BASIS TO COVER THE PREPARATORY PERIOD OF A SLAUGHTERHOUSE, IS $1 200 FOR 24 MONTHS AND THE FEE FOR THE LATTER, WHICH IS ANNUALLY RENEWABLE, IS $2 500 FOR 12 MONTHS.

ON THE ABOLITION OF THE LICENCE FOR THE SETTING UP OF A SLAUGHTERHOUSE, MR ORR SAID THAT NO SUCH LICENCE WAS AT PRESENT IN FORCE AS NO PRIVATE SLAUGHTERHOUSES WERE BEING BUILT.

AND THE REQUIREMENT FOR SUCH A LICENCE DID NOT ADD TO THE DEPARTMENT'S POWERS TO CONTROL THE PROVISION OF SLAUGHTERING FACILITIES.

REFERRING TO THE LICENCE FEE FOR OPERATING A SLAUGHTERHOUSE, MR ORR SAID A COSTING EXERCISE HAD BEEN CONDUCTED LAST YEAR.

+THE RESULTS SHOWED A DEFICIT OF $355 969 IN 1983-84. THE ESTIMATED DEFICITS FOR 1984-85 AND 1985-86 ARE $742 149 AND $836 806 RESPECTIVELY. IN PERCENTAGE TERMS, THE SUBSIDY LEVELS FOR THESE THREE YEARS WOULD BE 97.9, 98.8 AND 99 RESPECTIVELY,+ HE ADDED.

+IN VIEW OF THE RECORDED AND ESTIMATED DEFICIT, IT IS NECESSARY TO ADJUST THE LEVEL OF FEES FOR SLAUGHTERHOUSE LICENCES.+

WHILE LICENCE FEES SHOULD NOT BE SET WITH A VIEW TO RECOVERING THE FULL COST OF ADMINISTERING THE LICENSING SYSTEM, MR ORR SAID, THE AIM SHOULD BE TO REDUCE THE LEVEL OF SUBSIDY AS FAR AS POSSIBLE.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED, THEREFORE, LICENCE FEES FOR OPERATING SLAUGHTERHOUSES SHOULD BE PAYABLE ACCORDING TO A GRADUATED SCALE, HAVING REFERENCE TO THE DESIGNED THROUGHPUT CAPACITY OF THE SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

MR ORR SAID THAT IF THE NEW FEE STRUCTURE IS APPROVED, ITS EFFECT ON THE INCREASE IN MEAT PRICE WOULD ONLY BE MINIMAL. BUT IT WOULD REDUCE THE SUBSIDY LEVEL IN RESPECT OF SLAUGHTERHOUSE LICENSING IN 1986-87 TO 94.3 PER CENT.

/MEMBERS OF .....

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ALSO DISCUSSED A CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT PREPARED BY A WORKING PARTY OF THE URBAN COUNCIL'S MARKETS AND STREET TRADERS SELECT COMMITTEE ON HAWKER CONTROL AND EXAMINED THE RELEVANCE OF THE WORKING PARTY'S RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE NON-URBAN AREAS.

THEIR VIEWS WOULD BE CONVEYED TO THE URBAN COUNCIL AND, WHERE APPROPRIATE, WOULD BE FOLLOWED UP BY THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

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LAW REFORM COMMISSION APPOINTS SUB-COMMITTEE

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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION HAD RECENTLY APPOINTED A SUB-COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER THE LAW CONCERNING THE COMPETENCE AND COMPELLABILITY OF SPOUSES TO GIVE EVIDENCE IN CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS.

UNDER THE EXISTING LAW, A WIFE, FOR EXAMPLE, IS NOT ALLOWED TO GIVE EVIDENCE AGAINST HER HUSBAND AT HIS TRIAL FOR A CRIMINAL OFFENCE, SAVE IN CERTAIN EXCEPTIONAL CASES, NOR CAN SHE BE COMPELLED TO GIVE EVIDENCE IN HIS DEFENCE.

IN RECENT YEARS REFORMS HAVING THE EFFECT OF MAKING SPOUSES ABLE (AND, IN SOME CASES, COMPELLABLE) TO GIVE EVIDENCE AGAINST EACH OTHER IN CRIMINAL CASES, AND COMPELLABLE TO GIVE EVIDENCE ON EACH OTHER'S BEHALF HAVE BEEN PROPOSED IN CANADA AND AUSTRALIA, AND ENACTED IN ENGLAND. THE SUB-COMMITTEE WILL BE SEEKING PUBLIC VIEWS ON WHETHER SIMILAR REFORMS SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN HONG KONG.

THE SUB-COMMITTEE, UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF COMMISSION MEMBER, DR BYRON S J WENG OF THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, INCLUDES AN URBAN COUNCILLOR, MR LEE CHIK-YUET; A BARRISTER, MISS FI-LAN CHUA; LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBER, MRS ROSANNA TAM; UNIVERSITY LECTURER, MS ANNE HUGHES; AND DEPUTY CROWN PROSECUTOR, MR ANDREW HODGE.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THE SUBJECT ARE INVITED TO CONTACT OR WRITE TO THE SUB-COMMITTEE SECRETARY:

MR MICHAEL F RUTTER
LAW REFORM COMMISSION
FOURTH FLOOR, QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES
66 QUEENSWAY
HONG KONG

TEL : 5-8622166

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$633M SPENT TO DEVELOP YUEN LONG

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS SPENT ABOUT $633 MILLION ON ENGINEERING WORKS AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES IN YUEN LONG DISTRICT UP TO MARCH 1985.

THE FIGURE IS QUOTED IN THE 1985 EDITION OF THE +YUEN LONG NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME+ WHICH WILL BE TABLED AT THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD MEETING ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 6).

THE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME IS REVISED ANNUALLY, AND INCLUDES PROJECTIONS FOR SEVERAL YEARS AHEAD WITH THE MAIN EMPHASIS ON THE FOLLOWING YEAR. THE PROPOSALS ARE GROUPED UNDER YUEN LONG NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT, LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SYSTEM, TIN SHUI WAI DEVELOPMENT AND NORTH WESTERN NEW TERRITORIES.

ACCORDING TO THE PROGRAMME, THE TOTAL COST OF ENGINEERING WORKS AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES, EXCLUDING PUBLIC HOUSING BUILT BY THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT AND LAND ACQUISITION IN THE DISTRICT, WAS CURRENTLY ESTIMATED AT ABOUT $6 800 MILLION.

AT THURSDAY'S MEETING, AMONG THE VARIOUS PROGRESS REPORTS TO BE SUBMITTED FOR FULL BOARD ENDORSEMENT, WILL BE A WHITE PAPER ON THE DRAFT HONG KONG (BRITISH NATIONALITY) ORDER 1986, WHICH HAS BEEN PREPARED BY A WORKING GROUP SET UP AFTER A DEBATE ON THE ISSUE LAST DECEMBER.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE RECENTLY-PUBLISHED CONSULTATIVE PAPER ON THE CONTROL OF POLLUTION CAUSED BY ANIMAL WASTE PREPARED BY THE HEALTH AND WELFARE BRANCH OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT.

AS YUEN LONG HAS ONE OF THE LARGEST COMMUNITIES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, MEMBERS WILL GIVE SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THE CONSEQUENCES OF UNCONTROLLED DISCHARGE OF ANIMAL WASTE, THE OPTIONS FOR IMPROVED CONTROLS AND THEIR ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE DISCUSSIONS ON THE MARINE BORROW AREA IN DEEP BAY, THE PROPOSED VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT SCHEME FOR HA TSUEN AND CHANNEL IMPROVEMENTS NEAR TIN SHUI WAI AND THE REBUILDING OF SURVEYED DOMESTIC STRUCTURES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO BE NOTIFIED OF A YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD SPECIAL MEETING ON MARCH 3 TO ELECT A REPRESENTATIVE MEMBER TO THE REGIONAL COUNCIL.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD MEETING, TO BE HELD FROM 9.30 AM NEXT THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 6) ON 13TH FLOOR, YUEN LONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 2 KIU LOK SQUARE, YUEN LONG.

A GOVERNMENT VEHICLE WILL LEAVE KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER AT 8 AM SHARP TO TAKE PRESS MEMBERS TO YUEN LONG.

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FOUR NEW BILLS FOR LEGCO

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FOUR BILLS, THREE SEEKING TO FACILITATE THE EFFECTIVE OPERATION OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL WHEN IT COMES INTO BEING ON APRIL 1, WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THEY ARE THE REGIONAL COUNCIL (AMENDMENT) BILL 1986, THE URBAN COUNCIL (AMENDMENT) BILL 1986, THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND URBAN SERVICES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1986, AND THE HONG KONG ARTS CENTRE BILL 1986.

IN ADDITION, DEBATE WILL RESUME ON THREE BILLS - THE FIRE SERVICES (AMENDMENT)(NO. 2) BILL 1985, THE LABOUR TRIBUNAL (AMENDMENT) BILL 1986 AND THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY (LAND RESUMPTION AND RELATED PROVISIONS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1986.

OTHER BUSINESS WILL INCLUDE REPLIES BY OFFICIALS TO 16 QUESTIONS BY UNOFFICIALS AND A STATEMENT BY THE HON S.L. CHEN ON THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 8.

THERE WILL ALSO BE A MOTION BY THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, THE HON NEIL HENDERSON, FOR APPROVAL OF REGULATIONS CONTROLLING THE USE OF ASBESTOS IN FACTORIES.

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SHIPPING, PORT, CARGO STATISTICS RELEASED

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IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1985, 3 341 SHIPS WITH A TOTAL CAPACITY OF 19.6 MILLION NRT (NET REGISTERED TONNAGE) ARRIVED IN HONG KONG, AN INCREASE OF 404 IN NUMBER AND OF 13 PER CENT IN CAPACITY OVER THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1984.

THESE FIGURES ARE CONTAINED IN THE +HONG KONG SHIPPING STATISTICS+ REPORT PUBLISHED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF CARGO DISCHARGED IN HONG KONG FROM INCOMING SHIPS INCREASED BY 14 PER CENT. WHEN ANALYSED BY SHIP TYPE, NOTABLE INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE NUMBER OF CONTAINER VESSELS (+190), DRY BULK CARRIERS (+67), CONVENTIONAL CARGO VESSELS (+44) AND ROLL-ON/ROLL-OFF VESSELS (+41), WHILE THE NUMBER OF OIL TANKERS DROPPED (-6). INCREASES WERE NOTED FOR SHIPS REGISTERED IN CHINA (+147), PANAMA (+105), THE PHILIPPINES (+37) AND JAPAN (+22), BUT THERE WAS A DECLINE FOR SINGAPOREAN SHIPS (-13). THE NUMBER OF SHIPS WITH CAPACITY UNDER 10 000 DWT INCREASED (+316).

/THERE WERE .....

THERE WERE 3 332 OUTGOING SHIPS, WITH A TOTAL CAPACITY OF 19.5 MILLION NRT, AN INCREASE OF 382 IN NUMBER AND OF 12 PER CENT IN CAPACITY OVER THE SAME QUARTER IN 1984. THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF CARGO LOADED IN HONG KONG ONTO OUTGOING SHIPS ROSE BY 14 PER CENT. ABOUT 66 PER CENT OF THE DEPARTING SHIPS STAYED IN HONG KONG FOR LESS THAN TWO DAYS.

OF THE CARGO DISCHARGED FROM INCOMING SHIPS, 86 PER CENT IN TERMS OF TONNAGE WAS IMPORTS AND 14 PER CENT WAS FOR TRANSHIPMENT. OF THE CARGO LOADED ONTO OUTGOING SHIPS, 56 PER CENT WAS EXPORTS (INCLUDING RE-EXPORTS) AND 44 PER CENT WAS FOR TRANSHIPMENT.

THE MAJOR COUNTRIES OF LOADING FOR SEABORNE IMPORTS IN TONNAGE TERMS WERE JAPAN (17%), SINGAPORE (15%), THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA (12%) AND CHINA (9%), WHILE THE MAJOR COUNTRIES OF DISCHARGE FOR SEABORNE EXPORTS WERE THE U.S. (21%), CHINA (19%), TAIWAN (11%) AND JAPAN (5%).

TRANSHIPMENT CARGO WAS MAINLY LOADED IN THE U.S. (27%) AND CHINA (24%), AND TRANSHIPPED TO CHINA (28%) AND THE U.S. (13%).

COMPARING THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1985 WITH THE SAME QUARTER IN 1984, INCREASES IN TONNAGE WERE NOTED FOR IMPORTS FROM THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA (+47%), AUSTRALIA (+33%), THE U.S. (+26%), TAIWAN (+25%) AND JAPAN (+4%), BUT DECLINES WERE RECORDED FOR IMPORTS FROM CHINA (-22%) AND SINGAPORE (-14%). AS A WHOLE, THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF IMPORTS ROSE BY 9%. AMONG THE PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES, INCREASES IN CARGO TONNAGE WERE RECORDED IN THE IMPORTS OF COAL, COKE AND BRIQUETTES (+40%) AND IRON AND STEEL (+12%). HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE NOTED FOR IMPORTS OF PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS (-8%), AND CEMENT AND CEMENT CLINKER (-4%).

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE TONNAGE OF TOTAL SEABORNE EXPORTS INCREASED BY 5%. INCREASES IN TONNAGE WERE RECORDED FOR SEABORNE EXPORTS TO CHINA (+42%), AND JAPAN (+13%), BUT SLIGHT DECREASES WERE NOTED FOR THOSE TO THE U.S. (-3%) AND TAIWAN (-2%). AMONG THE PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES, INCREASES WERE NOTED FOR EXPORTS OF INORGANIC CHEMICALS (+301%), METALLIFEROUS ORES AND METAL SCRAP (+73%), VEGETABLES AND FRUIT (+28%), AND PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS (+28%). HOWEVER, A DECLINE WAS RECORDED FOR THE EXPORTS OF TOYS (-2%).

SHIPPING STATISTICS ARE COMPILED PRIMARILY FROM GENERAL DECLARATIONS SUBMITTED TO THE MARINE DEPARTMENT BY SHIPOWNERS OR AUTHORISED SHIPPING AGENTS, AND COVER ALL OCEAN-GOING VESSELS ENTERING AND LEAVING HONG KONG, EXCLUDING YACHTS AND PLEASURE CRAFT. PORT AND CARGO STATISTICS ARE COMPILED FROM OCEAN CARGO MANIFESTS SUPPLIED BY SHIPPING COMPANIES OR AGENTS TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT. BECAUSE OF RESOURCE CONSTRAINTS, A SAMPLE OF ALL CONSIGNMENTS LISTED IN THE MANIFESTS IS USED FOR COMPILING THE STATISTICS. THE SAMPLING METHOD IS DESCRIBED IN THE EXPLANATORY NOTES OF THE REPORT.

/MORE DETAILS .....

MORE DETAILS ON SHIPPING, PORT AND CARGO STATISTICS FOR THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1985 ARE CONTAINED IN THE +HONG KONG SHIPPING STATISTICS+ REPORT FOR JULY TO SEPTEMBER 1985, WHICH IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, AT $12.00 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ON STATISTICS PROVIDED IN THE REPORT MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE SHIPPING STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, AT TELEPHONE NUMBERS 5-452701 AND 5-455422.

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SPECIAL FUND TO HELP DISABLED ATHLETES

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS RECENTLY SET UP A SPECIAL FUND TO FOSTER THE DEVELOPMENT OF SPORTS FOR THE DEAF, THE PHYSICALLY AND THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE COUNCIL FOR RECREATION AND SPORT TODAY (TUESDAY) INVITED SUCH ATHLETES IN NEED OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO APPLY FOR GRANTS FROM THE SPORTS AID FOR THE DISABLED FUND, ADDING THAT ELIGIBILITY FOR ASSISTANCE WOULD BE BASED ON INDIVIDUAL NEEDS AND MERITS.

HE SAID THE DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS WOULD BE MADE FROM THE INVESTMENT INCOME OF A $1.5 MILLION DONATION WHICH WAS CONVERTED FROM THE GOVERNMENT'S ORIGINAL PROVISION TOWARDS THE 1982 FAR EAST AND SOUTH PACIFIC GAMES (FESPIC) HELD IN HONG KONG FOR DISABLED ATHLETES FROM OVER 20 COUNTRIES IN THE REGION.

THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE OF THE GAMES RETURNED THE SUM TO THE GOVERNMENT IN 1984 AS CONSIDERABLE SURPLUS WAS REALISED AND REQUESTED THAT THE SUM SHOULD BE USED FOR SETTING UP A FUND FOR THE PROMOTION OF SPORT FOR THE DISABLED, THE SPOKESMAN NOTED.

THE FUND IS PRIMARILY INTENDED TO ASSIST ATHLETES IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

* TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO ENABLE DISABLED SPORTSMEN AND WOMEN TO TAKE PART IN INTERNATIONAL SPORTS EVENTS AND TO PROVIDE ALLOWANCE FOR THOSE WHO RECEIVE NO WAGES FROM EMPLOYERS DURING SUCH PARTICIPATION;

* TO ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL RECREATION AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT'S OBJECTIVES IN REHABILITATION;

* TO PROVIDE TRANSPORT SUBSIDY TO ASSIST THE DISABLED IN PRE-COMPETITION TRAINING IN INTERNATIONAL SPORTS EVENTS AND

* TO PROVIDE TRAINING OF COACHES AND OFFICIALS FOR DISABLED SPORTS.

/APPLICATIONS WILL .....

APPLICATIONS WILL BE VETTED BY THE SECRETARIAT OF THE COUNCIL FOR RECREATION AND SPORT AND REFERRED TO AN APPROPRIATE SUPPORTING ASSOCIATION, EITHER THE SPORTS ASSOCIATION FOR THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED (SAP), THE HONG KONG SPORTS ASSOCIATION FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED (SAM) OR THE HONG KONG SPORTS ASSOCIATION FOR THE DEAF (SAD) FOR RECOMMENDATION.

THE AMOUNT OF SUBSIDY WILL BE DECIDED BY THE SPORTS AID FOR THE DISABLED COMMITTEE AFTER HAVING CONSIDERED THE APPLICANT'S INDIVIDUAL NEEDS AND THE POTENTIAL FOR DEVELOPMENT.

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FS-DESIGNATE VISITS ED

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THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY-DESIGNATE, MR PIERS JACOBS THIS (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON VISITED THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS AS PART OF HIS FAMILIARISATION TOUR BEFORE TAKING UP HIS NEW JOB.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR MICHAEL LEUNG, MR JACOBS VISITED SEVERAL DIVISIONS AT THE HEADQUARTERS AND WAS BRIEFED ON THE RANGE OF SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT, THE SCHOOL BUILDING PROGRAMME, NEW ACTIVITIES IN THE YEARS AHEAD AND EXPENDITURE PATTERN ON EDUCATION.

HE WOUND UP THE VISIT WITH A GENERAL DISCUSSION WITH SENIOR OFFICERS.

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PREFERENTIAL SCHEME FOR ELDERLY

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A YEAR-LONG PREFERENTIAL SCHEME FOR THE ELDERLY WILL BE LAUNCHED FROM APRIL 1 IN TSUEN WAN, AS PART OF THE DISTRICT BOARD'S SERVICES FOR THE AGED.

THE SCHEME, ORGANISED BY THE SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD, AIMS TO PROVIDE CONCESSIONARY MEDICAL TREATMENT AND OTHER FACILITIES FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE 65 YEARS OLD OR ABOVE.

ELDERLY PEOPLE WITH THE QUALIFYING AGE REQUIREMENT WHO LIVE OR WORK IN TSUEN WAN MAY APPLY.

/SERVICES UNDER .....

SERVICES UNDER THE SCHEME INCLUDE CONCESSIONARY MEDICAL AND DENTAL CONSULTATION FEES, HALF PRICE FARES FOR CERTAIN PUBLIC LIGHT BUS ROUTES, DISCOUNTS FOR SHOPPING IN DEPARTMENT STORES AND PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT IN CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY THE REGIONAL COUNCIL.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD, MR CHAN YUEN-SUM WILL CHAIR A PRESS CONFERENCE AT 11 AM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) TO ANNOUNCE DETAILS OF THE SCHEME. THE PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE ON THE FIRST FLOOR, TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK BUILDING AT 174-208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD IN TSUEN WAN.

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

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POSTER DESIGN CONTEST RESULTS ANNOUNCED

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A STUDENT FROM THE LEE WAI LEE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE AND ONE FROM THE CCC ROTARY PREVOCATIONAL SCHOOL HAVE WON TOP HONOURS IN THE 18TH ANNUAL INDUSTRIAL SAFETY POSTER DESIGN COMPETITION ORGANISED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

THE WINNING ENTRIES WERE SELECTED BY A PANEL OF JUDGES FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF DESIGN OF THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, THE CULTURAL CRAFTS CENTRE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, THE DESIGN DEPARTMENT OF LEE WAI LEE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, THE CREATIVE SUB-DIVISION OF THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

MORE THAN 500 ENTRIES FROM 46 SCHOOLS WERE ENTERED FOR THE COMPETITION, WHICH WAS DIVIDED INTO TWO SECTIONS - 'A' SECTION FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND TECHNICAL SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND 'B' SECTION FOR POST-SECONDARY COLLEGES AND VOCATIONAL INSTITUTES.

IN SECTION 'A' THE FIRST PRIZE OF A CASH COUPON OF $1 500 WILL BE AWARDED TO CHEUNG CHI-WING OF CCC ROTARY PREVOCATIONAL SCHOOL, WHILE THE 'B' SECTION FIRST PRIZE, A CASH COUPON OF $3 000, WILL BE AWARDED TO CHAN KWOK-CHU OF LEE WAI LEE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE.

IN ADDITION, 10 ENTRIES FROM EACH SECTION WILL BE AWARDED WITH CONSOLATION PRIZES OF CASH COUPONS OF $300 AND $600 RESPECTIVELY.

/THE PRIZES .....

THE PRIZES WILL BE PRESENTED BY MR TAM YIU-CHUNG, A MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD, AT A CEREMONY IN THE NEW WORLD PLAZA, TSIM SHA TSUI, AT 3 PM ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28.

WINNERS WILL BE NOTIFIED BY LETTER OF THE RESULTS.

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LICENSING OFFICES TO ADOPT QUOTA SYSTEM

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL INTRODUCE A QUOTA SYSTEM AT ITS FOUR LICENSING OFFICES ON BUSY DAYS TO COPE WITH THE LARGE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS, ESPECIALLY DURING THE BEGINNING AND END OF EACH MONTH.

+UNDER THE SYSTEM, LICENCE AND PERMIT APPLICANTS WILL BE GIVEN AN APPOINTMENT DISC ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS IN THE LICENSING OFFICES BEFORE THE APPLICATION IS PROCESSED,+ A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE SYSTEM, WHICH TRIED OUT LAST YEAR, HAD PROVED TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN REDUCING WAITING TIME AT BUSY PERIODS AND ENCOURAGING APPLICANTS TO MAKE FULL USE OF THE LESS BUSY DAYS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE MONTH, HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED APPLICANTS THAT DRIVING AND VEHICLE LICENCE APPLICATIONS MAY ALSO BE MADE BY REGISTERED POST, ENCLOSING THE RELEVANT FORMS, SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND APPROPRIATE FEES, TO P.O. BOX 69511, KWUN TONG POST OFFICE.

HE ADDED THAT VEHICLE AND DRIVING LICENCES COULD BE RENEWED AT ANY TIME DURING THE FOUR MONTHS BEFORE THE LICENCE EXPIRED.

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VILLAGE HOUSE TO BE CONVERTED INTO FOLK MUSEUM

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WORK TO CONVERT A FAMOUS 200-YEAR-OLD VILLAGE HOUSE IN SAI LAU KOK ROAD, TSUEN WAN, INTO A FOLK MUSEUM WILL START AFTER CHINESE NEW YEAR.

THE VILLAGE HOUSE, KNOWN AS SAM TUNG UK, HAS BEEN PRESERVED AS A HISTORICAL LANDMARK IN THE NEW TOWN AND WAS DECLARED A MONUMENT BY THE GOVERNMENT IN 1981.

/THE MUSEUM, ...

THE MUSEUM, WHEN COMPLETED EARLY NEXT YEAR, WILL HAVE FOUR HOUSES ILLUSTRATING THE FOUR SEASONS; A FURNISHED ROOM TO RE-CREATE TYPICAL EARLY VILLAGE LIFE; AREAS FOR DISPLAYING TRADITIONAL COSTUME, AGRICULTURAL, RELIGIOUS AND FESTIVAL ITEMS; AND A SMALL EXHIBITION HALL.

SURROUNDING THE MUSEUM WILL BE A LARGE OPEN SPACE WITH A KIOSK, A POND, ARBOURS AND BENCHES.

THE SITE AREA, COVERING ABOUT 8 600 SQUARE METRES, WILL BE LANDSCAPED.

A $9.7 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE PROJECT HAS BEEN AWARDED BY THE TSUEN WAN NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

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LAI-SEE PACKETS WITH A MESSAGE

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ABOUT 120 000 LAI-SEE PACKETS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO RESIDENTS IN SHAM SHUI PO ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND SUB-OFFICE COUNTERS FROM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

APART FROM TRADITIONAL LUNAR NEW YEAR GREETINGS, THE RED PACKETS CARRY AN APPEAL TO RESIDENTS TO VOTE IN THE MARCH 6 URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

IN SHAM SHUI PO, FOUR CANDIDATES ARE CONTESTING TWO URBAN COUNCIL SEATS IN THE SHAM SHUI PO EAST AND SHAM SHUI PO WEST CONSTITUENCIES. A TOTAL OF 110 000 PEOPLE ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON POLLING DAY.

OTHER PUBLICITY INCLUDE A SUPPLEMENT, BANNERS AND BUNTINGS, POSTERS AND DISPLAYS.

LATER THIS MONTH, BROADCAST VANS WILL TOUR THE DISTRICT TO PROMOTE THE ELECTIONS.

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SHA TIN LIGHTS UP FOR NEW YEAR

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SHA TIN TOWN CENTRE WILL BE ADORNED WITH DECORATIVE LIGHTS ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 6) EVENING TO CELEBRATE THE LUNAR NEW YEAR.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY (DESIGNATE), MR PIERS JACOBS WILL OFFICIATE AT THE LUNAR NEW YEAR FESTIVE LIGHTS SWITCHING-ON CEREMONY AT THE SAND MARTIN BRIDGE.

/A SPECTACULAR .....

A SPECTACULAR LION DANCE, PERFORMED BY THE DISTRICT'S JUNIOR POLICE CALL MEMBERS, WILL FOLLOW.

ALSO ATTENDING THE CEREMONY WILL BE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR NG CHAN-LAM; DISTRICT OFFICER, MR LAM WOON-KWONG; CHAIRMAN OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE ON THE FESTIVE LIGHTING IN SHA TIN, MR LAM HUNG-CHIU; OTHER BOARD MEMBERS, AND THE CHAIRMEN OF AREA COMMITTEES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE SWITCHING-ON CEREMONY AT 6.30 PM ON THE SAND MARTIN BRIDGE (NEAR THE TOWN CENTRE) ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 6).

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MEET THE MEDIA

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THE DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINING, MR MORRIS MORGAN, WILL MEET THE MEDIA ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 6) AT 2 PM IN THE GIS PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM, FIFTH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, CENTRAL.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

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YOUTH AMBASSADORS OFF TO JAPAN

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TEN YOUTHS FROM TSUEN WAN SELECTED AS AMBASSADORS UNDER THE DISTRICT'S INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR AMBASSADORS SCHEME WILL LEAVE FOR JAPAN TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AFTERNOON.

DURING THEIR WEEK-LONG STUDY TOUR, THEY WILL VISIT JAPANESE YOUTHS AT KYOTO, YOKOHAMA AND TOKYO AND STAY WITH FAMILIES TO LEARN ABOUT THE JAPANESE CULTURE AND WAY OF LIFE.

/THEY WILL .....

THEY WILL RETURN ON FEBRUARY 12.

THE YOUTH AMBASSADORS WILL BE SEEN OFF AT THE AIRPORT BY THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT COMMISSIONER, MR CHAN SUI-JEUNG, DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ANGUS MIU, AND MEMBERS OF THE 1985 TSUEN WAN DISTRICT IYY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE DEPARTURE OF THE GROUP. THEY WILL MEET MEMBERS OF THE PRESS IN THE PRESS ROOM ON THE GROUND FLOOR AT THE AIRPORT AT 2.30 PM. THEY WILL DEPART ON FLIGHT CX 502 AT 4 PM.

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TAI PO CANDIDATES TO APPEAR IN FORUMS

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THE TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICE HAS ORGANISED THREE FORUMS TO INTRODUCE TO THE PUBLIC SEVERAL CANDIDATES WHO WILL TAKE PART IN THE FORTHCOMING REGIONAL COUNCIL ELECTION.

THE FIVE CANDIDATES VYING FOR THE ONLY SEAT IN THE TAI PO CONSTITUENCY WILL PRESENT THEIR ELECTORAL PLATFORMS AND ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC.

THE FIRST FORUM WILL BE HELD AT 8.30 PM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AT THE TAI YUEN COMMUNITY HALL.

THE SECOND FORUM WILL BE HELD AT 10 AM ON FEBRUARY 23 IN THE TAI PO COMMUNITY CENTRE WHILE THE THIRD ONE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE KWONG FUK COMMUNITY HALL AT 8.30 PM ON FEBRUARY 28.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, MR ANDREW WONG, WILL BE THE MODERATOR.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE FORUMS.

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TUEN MUN CANDIDATES TO MEET PRESS

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THE FOUR CANDIDATES STANDING FOR ELECTION IN TUEN MUN CONSTITUENCY OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL WILL MEET THE PRESS AT THE ON TING AND YAU OI COMMUNITY CENTRE IN ON TING ESTATE, TUEN MUN, AT 11 AM ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 6).

THE CANDIDATES WILL PRESENT THEIR PLATFORMS AND ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS AT THE SESSION. DISTRICT OFFICER, MR STEPHEN SELBY WILL PRESIDE.

THE FOUR CANDIDATES VYING FOR SEATS IN TUEN MUN EAST AND TUEN MUN WEST CONSTITUENCIES ARE MR SO SHIU-SHING, MR TSANG KWONG-YUEN, MR NG MING-YUM, AND MADAM WAN SHUI-LING.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD ARRIVE AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 10.45 AM SHARP.

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DB MEMBERS TO INSPECT ENVIRONMENTAL BLACKSPOTS

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NORTH DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL INSPECT SOME RIVERS TO SEE THE EFFECTS OF POLLUTION ON WATER COURSES ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 6). THE VISIT IS TO PREPARE MEMBERS FOR THEIR DISCUSSION ON THE PROPOSED MEASURES OVER ANIMAL WASTE AT THEIR NEXT BOARD MEETING.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE TOUR. A GOVERNMENT VAN WILL LEAVE THE NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE AT JOCKEY CLUB ROAD, FANLING ROUNDABOUT AT 2.15 PM.

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/18 .....

HENRY MOORE POSTER EXHIBITION

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THIRTY POSTERS USED TO PROMOTE THE PAST EXHIBITIONS OF SCULPTOR HENRY MOORE WILL BE ON DISPLAY IN THE SOUTH KWAI CHUNG PUBLIC LIBRARY FROM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) TO FEBRUARY 25.

THE EXHIBITION IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE BRITISH COUNCIL.

ADMISSION WILL BE FREE.

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RSD MUSEUMS TO CLOSE ON HOLIDAYS

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THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THE HONG KONG RAILWAY MUSEUM AT THE OLD TAI PO MARKET STATION AND THE SHEUNG YIU FOLK MUSEUM IN SAI KUNG WILL BE CLOSED DURING THE LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS FROM FEBRUARY 9 TO 11.

THE MUSEUMS WILL RE-OPEN ON FEBRUARY 12. ADMISSION IS FREE.

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TSUEN WAN TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS

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A NUMBER OF TRAFFIC CHANGES WILL BE INTRODUCED IN TSUEN WAN FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 7).

THE DETAILS ARE:

* SHEK WAI KOK ROAD BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH TEXACO ROAD NORTH AND THE ESTATE ACCESS ROAD WEST OF SHEK LAN HOUSE WILL BE CONVERTED TO ONE-WAY WESTBOUND. TRAFFIC ON TEXACO ROAD SOUTHBOUND HEADING FOR SHEK WAI KOK ESTATE WILL BE DIVERTED VIA TSUEN KAM INTERCHANGE, WAI TSUEN ROAD, MIU KONG STREET, SHING MUN ROAD, TEXACO ROAD NORTH AND SHEK WAI KOK ROAD UNDERPASS.

* SHEK WAI KOK ROAD BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH CHEUNG PEI SHAN ROAD AND A POINT 110 METRES EAST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH TEXACO ROAD NORTH WILL BE DESIGNATED A RESTRICTED ZONE FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY. NO VEHICLES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS WITHIN THE AREA.

/* TSUEN WAN .....

* TSUEN WAN MARKET STREET BETWEEN YAN CHAI STREET AND CHUNG ON STREET WILL BE MADE A PUBLIC LIGHT BUS PROHIBITED ZONE. NO PLBS WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE AREA.

ALSO FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY, THE FOLLOWING TWO SECTIONS OF WAI KEK STREET, KWAI CHUNG WILL BE MADE A 24-HOUR DAILY TAXI RESTRICTED ZONE:

* WAI KEK STREET NORTHBOUND BETWEEN TAI LOONG STREET AND SHEK LI STREET; AND

* WAI KEK STREET SOUTHBOUND BETWEEN SHEK LI STREET AND SHEK PAI STREET.

NO TAXIS WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS WITHIN THE RESTRICTED AREAS.

ALSO, FROM 12 MIDNIGHT ON THURSDAY TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY, TUNG CHAU STREET SECTION BETWEEN WALNUT STREET AND MAPLE STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC TO FACILITATE THE INSTALLATION OF EQUIPMENT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE WEST KOWLOON CORRIDOR.

VEHICLES TRAVELLING ALONG TUNG CHAU STREET HEADING FOR TAI KOK TSUI ROAD SOUTHBOUND WILL BE DIVERTED VIA WALNUT STREET AND FUK TSUN STREET.

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YAU MA TEI TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS

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SPECIAL TRAFFIC MEASURES WILL BE INTRODUCED IN THE VICINITY OF YAU MA TEI FRUIT MARKET FROM 2 PM ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 6) TO 6 PM ON SATURDAY TO COPE WITH THE LARGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE EXPECTED TO VISIT THE MARKET.

THE DETAILS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

* RECLAMATION STREET NORTHBOUND BETWEEN THE UN-NAMED ROAD SOUTH OF SHEK LUNG STREET AND WATERLOO ROAD, AND WATERLOO ROAD WESTBOUND BETWEEN RECLAMATION STREET AND FERRY STREET WILL BE REDUCED FROM THREE-LANE TO TWO-LANE TRAFFIC.

* THE UN-NAMED ROAD SOUTH OF SHEK LUNG STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM TWO-WAY TO ONE-WAY WESTBOUND.

* CHING PING STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND.

* LEFT-TURN FROM RECLAMATION STREET NORTHBOUND TO TUNG KUN STREET WESTBOUND WILL BE BANNED.

/* SHEK LUNG .....

* SHEK LUNG STREET BETWEEN RECLAMATION STREET AND SHANGHAI STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC AND CONVERTED INTO A PEDESTRIAN PRECINCT.

* THE METERED PARKING SPACES IN CANTON ROAD BETWEEN PUBLIC SQUARE STREET AND THE UN-NAMED ROAD SOUTH OF SHEK LUNG STREET WILL BE SUSPENDED.

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SALT WATER CUT

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SALT WATER SUPPLY TO ALL PREMISES ON RENFREW ROAD IN KOWLOON CITY WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 9 AM TO 4 PM ON FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 7) FOR WATER MAINS WORK.

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