



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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GUANGDONG VISIT EXTREMELY USEFUL FOR FUTURE DECISIONS

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THE VISIT TO GUANGDONG BY NINE SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND THE DISCUSSIONS THEY HAD WITH THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES WILL BE EXTREMELY USEFUL FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO MAKE CORRECT DECISIONS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG'S AIRPORT AND PORT, THE SPECIAL ADVISER TO THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AT THE CHINA FERRY TERMINAL AT CENTRAL, SIR DAVID SAID THEY WERE ABLE TO GET FROM DISCUSSIONS WITH CHINESE OFFICIALS IN CANTON AN INDICATION OF THE RATE OF THE ECONOMIC EXPANSION AND GROWTH THERE WHICH HAD A VITAL BEARING ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FACILITIES IN HONG KONG.

"BECAUSE AFTER ALL, IN GUANGDONG THERE ARE 63 MILLION PEOPLE AND GUANGDONG IS IN THE PROCESS OF RAPID ECONOMIC EXPANSION," HE SAID.

FURTHERMORE, HE ADDED, THE PROVINCES SURROUNDING GUANGDONG ALSO FED THEIR GOODS DOWN THROUGH GUANGDONG TO HONG KONG AND THIS PUT AN ENORMOUS AMOUNT OF PRESSURE ON HONG KONG FACILITIES.

NOTING THAT THE RATE OF GROWTH IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PORT IN HONG KONG HAD BEEN IN DOUBLE FIGURES IN EVERY DEPARTMENT FOR THE PAST SIX MONTHS AND THAT THE GROWTH RATE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AIRPORT HAD EXCEEDED THOSE IN THE PAST FEW YEARS, SIR DAVID SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE VERY MAJOR DECISIONS TO TAKE IN THE NEXT YEAR OR TWO ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AIRPORT AND PORT, PARTICULARLY THE LATTER.

"AND WE NEED THE BEST DATA WE CAN GET IN ORDER TO MAKE THOSE DECISIONS ACCURATELY AND ECONOMICALLY EFFECTIVE.

"SO THIS VISIT THIS TIME AND THESE DISCUSSIONS WE HAD WILL BE EXTREMELY USEFUL TO US IN ENABLING US TO MAKE CORRECT DECISIONS," HE NOTED.

SIR DAVID ALSO SAID THAT AS A RESULT OF THE CONTACTS THEY HAD ESTABLISHED THIS TIME THEY HAD LAID THE FOUNDATION FOR FURTHER MEETINGS WITH THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES.

"ALTHOUGH WE HAVEN'T ARRANGED ANY SPECIFIC MEETINGS, WE'VE ARRANGED THE BASIS FOR FURTHER MEETINGS DIRECTLY BETWEEN PORT OFFICIALS IN HONG KONG AND PORT OFFICIALS IN CHINA, AIRPORT TO AIRPORT, AND LAND TRANSPORT TO LAND TRANSPORT," HE SAID.

AS REGARDS THE PROPOSED AIRPORT AT SHENZHEN, SIR DAVID SAID THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES HAD CONFIRMED THAT A DECISION HAD BEEN MADE BY THE STATE COUNCIL THAT AN AIRPORT WOULD BE BUILT IN SHENZHEN.

MANY SITES HAD BEEN EVALUATED, BUT THE ONE MOST FAVOURED WAS THE ONE AT BAISHIZHOU, HE SAID.

/"BUT BEFORE

"BUT BEFORE ANY DECISION IS TAKEN TO GO AHEAD WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AIRPORT AT THAT SITE, A FURTHER EVALUATION OF THE SITE IS NOW UNDERWAY, AND THAT WILL BE A DETAILED EVALUATION, TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION ALL POSSIBLE ASPECTS OF THE SITE, THE ENVIRONMENT, THE FLIGHT PATH AND SO ON," HE ADDED.

SIR DAVID SAID THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES ALSO CONFIRMED THAT THERE WAS A PLAN TO BUILD A SMALL PORT IN THE EAST IN YANTIAN IN MIRS BAY TO ENABLE SHIPS BETWEEN THREE TO FIVE THOUSAND TONNES TO BERTH, MAINLY FOR THE IMPORTATION OF CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND FOR THE LONGER-TERM DEVELOPMENT OF THE AREA.

ASKED IF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT'S DECISION ON A NEW AIRPORT WOULD AFFECT THE CHINESE PLAN FOR AN AIRPORT IN SHENZHEN, SIR DAVID SAID HE DID NOT THINK SO BECAUSE THE SHENZHEN AIRPORT WAS DESIGNED TO BE A DOMESTIC ONE.

"THE AUTHORITIES IN CHINA POINTED OUT TO US THAT THE AMOUNT OF PASSENGERS TRAVELLING BETWEEN SHENZHEN NOW AND THE CAPITAL, PEKING, AND OTHER CITIES IN CHINA IS ALREADY VERY GREAT. THIS WOULD BE A DOMESTIC AIRPORT TO CATER FOR AND COPE WITH THAT DEMAND WHICH ALREADY EXISTS," HE SAID.

ON WHETHER THE SHENZHEN AIRPORT WOULD AFFECT HONG KONG'S PLAN FOR AN AIRPORT, SIR DAVID SAID CLEARLY IT WOULD HAVE TO BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION.

"BUT IF IT IS, AS IS REPORTED TO BE, A DOMESTIC AIRPORT, IT IS VERY IMPORTANT FOR HONG KONG THAT WE HAVE OUR OWN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. AND WE ARE PLANNING AND PROCESSING ON THAT BASIS OF KEEPING A FULLY INTERNATIONAL FIRST-CLASS AIRPORT IN HONG KONG," HE SAID.

ASKED IF THE DECISION ON THE SHENZHEN AIRPORT WOULD DELAY HONG KONG'S PLAN FOR THE AIRPORT, SIR DAVID SAID IT MIGHT IF THE SHENZHEN AIRPORT WOULD SIPHON OFF SOME OF THE TRAFFIC FROM KAI TAK.

"THEN IT MIGHT POSSIBLY ENABLE THE LIFE OF KAI TAK TO BE EXTENDED, BUT THAT SORT OF DATA IS VERY IMPORTANT FOR US TO KNOW AND PUT INTO OUR PLANNING PROCESS."

ON THE LIKELIHOOD THAT SHENZHEN AIRPORT WAS GOING TO SIPHON OFF SOME OF THE PASSENGER TRAFFIC FROM KAI TAK, SIR DAVID SAID IT WAS DIFFICULT TO SAY AT THIS STAGE.

ASKED IF THE CHINESE OFFICIALS HAD GIVEN HIM ANY SPECIFIC DATA IN TERMS OF THEIR GROWTH PROJECTION, SIR DAVID SAID HE WAS TOLD THAT IT WAS SOMETHING IN THE ORDER OF NINE PER CENT.

"BUT THAT'S A VERY APPROXIMATE FIGURE, NINE PER CENT GROWTH FROM 63 MILLION PEOPLE. IT'S NOT NINE PER CENT GROWTH ON THE HONG KONG FIGURE. IT'S NINE PER CENT GROWTH ON THEIR FIGURE, AND THAT FOR HONG KONG, IN TERMS OF THROUGH-PUT THROUGH HONG KONG, REPRESENTS A VERY LARGE FIGURE INDEED," HE SAID.

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HONG KONG JOINS OZONOSPHERE PROTECTION CONVENTION

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HONG KONG HAS BECOME A MEMBER OF THE VIENNA CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE OZONE LAYER - A WIDE BELT OF TRIATOMIC OXYGEN GASES WHICH ABSORB HARMFUL ULTRAVIOLET RAYS FROM THE SUN SOME 25 KILOMETRES ABOVE EARTH'S SURFACE.

THE CONVENTION PROVIDES FOR INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN RESEARCH, MONITORING AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE TO HELP ESTABLISH THE PRECISE IMPACT OF THE DEPLETION OF THE OZONE LAYER. IT ALSO PROVIDES A FRAMEWORK FOR FUTURE REGULATORY MEASURES.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE SURFACE OF THE EARTH IS PROTECTED FROM THE HARMFUL ULTRAVIOLET RAYS OF THE SUN BY THE TOP LAYERS OF THE ATMOSPHERE (THE OZONOSPHERE).

HOWEVER, IT IS BELIEVED THAT CHLOROFLUOROCARBONS - SUCH AS THOSE USED IN AEROSOL SPRAY PRODUCTS - AND EXHAUST GASES FROM SUPERSONIC AIRCRAFT FLYING ABOVE THE EARTH COULD DIMINISH THE THICKNESS OF THE OZONE LAYER, THUS EXPOSING PEOPLE TO MORE INTENSE ULTRAVIOLET RADIATION AT GROUND LEVEL AS WELL AS CREATING ADVERSE EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE.

HONG KONG WAS INCLUDED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM'S FORMAL RATIFICATION TO THE CONVENTION ON MAY 15, 1987.

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NEW CONDITIONS FOR TRANSPORTING LONG AND WIDE LOADS

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GOODS VEHICLE OPERATORS WILL HAVE TO COMPLY WITH NEW RULES IN THE TRANSPORTATION OF LONG LOADS AND WIDE LOADS FROM MARCH 1 NEXT YEAR.

"THE NEW CONDITIONS TO BE IMPOSED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT FOR ISSUING A LONG LOAD OR WIDE LOAD PERMIT ARE AIMED AT REDUCING THE HAZARD POSED BY THESE LOADS TO OTHER ROAD USERS DURING TRANSPORTATION. THE TRUCKING INDUSTRY IS NOW GIVEN SEVEN MONTHS TO ADAPT THEMSELVES TO THE CHANGES," A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TRAFFIC CONTROL) REGULATIONS STIPULATE THAT A LONG LOAD PERMIT IS REQUIRED FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF ANY LOAD WHICH PROTRUDES MORE THAN 1.5 METRES BEYOND THE FOREMOST PART OR MORE THAN 1.4 METRES BEHIND THE REARMOST PART OF THE CONVEYANCE VEHICLE.

IN ADDITION, A WIDE LOAD PERMIT IS REQUIRED FOR THE CARRIAGE OF ANY LOAD WHICH EXCEEDS 2.5 METRES IN WIDTH.

/UNDER THE

UNDER THE NEW PERMIT CONDITIONS, A LONG LOAD OR WIDE LOAD PERMIT WILL ONLY BE ISSUED TO THE REGISTERED OWNER OF A MEDIUM OR HEAVY GOODS VEHICLE WHOSE OVERALL LENGTH IS AT LEAST 9.1 METRES.

IN THE CASE OF LOADS WHICH OVERHANG MORE THAN TWO METRES TO THE FRONT OR MORE THAN THREE METRES TO THE REAR OF THE VEHICLE, THE LENGTH OF THE CONVEYANCE VEHICLE MUST AT LEAST BE 10 METRES.

ESCORT VEHICLES TO THE FRONT AND REAR OF THE LOAD-CARRYING VEHICLE IS ALSO MADE MANDATORY. AN ESCORT VEHICLE MUST BE EQUIPPED WITH AN AMBER FLASHING LIGHT AND MUST DISPLAY IN A PROMINENT POSITION EITHER A "LONG LOAD" OR "WIDE LOAD" SIGN, DEPENDING ON THE LOAD ESCORTED, TO WARN OTHER MOTORISTS.

"TO ENSURE THAT THE 'LONG LOAD' OR 'WIDE LOAD' SIGNS ARE CLEARLY VISIBLE TO OTHER ROAD USERS, THE SIGN ON THE FRONT ESCORT VEHICLE MUST BE DISPLAYED TO THE FRONT FACING ONCOMING VEHICLES WHILE THAT ON THE REAR ESCORT VEHICLE SHOULD BE DISPLAYED TO THE REAR FACING TRAFFIC TRAILING BEHIND.

"ALTERNATIVELY, THE SIGNS MAY BE MOUNTED ON THE ROOF OF THE ESCORT VEHICLES AND IN THAT CASE, THE SIGNS MAY BE DOUBLE-SIDED," THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED.

HE ADDED THAT THE DESIGN, COLOUR AND DIMENSIONS OF THE "LONG LOAD" AND "WIDE LOAD" SIGNS MUST COMPLY WITH THE STANDARDS LAID DOWN IN THE PERMIT CONDITIONS.

MOREOVER, THE FITTING OF FLASHING AMBER LIGHTS ON ESCORT VEHICLES SHOULD BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ROAD TRAFFIC (CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF VEHICLES) REGULATIONS. APPROVAL FROM THE DEPARTMENT'S MOTOR VEHICLE EXAMINATION DIVISION HAS FIRST TO BE SOUGHT BEFORE THESE LIGHTS ARE FITTED.

"PAST RECORDS SHOW THAT MOST LONG LOADS INVOLVED IN ACCIDENTS DURING TRANSPORTATION WERE STEEL REINFORCING RODS AND WITH THE NEW ESCORT AND SIGNING REQUIREMENTS, OTHER ROAD USERS WILL NOW BE GIVEN SUFFICIENT WARNING NOT TO COME TOO CLOSE TO THE LOAD CARRYING VEHICLES," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN FURTHER STRESSED THAT EVEN WITH A LONG LOAD OR WIDE LOAD PERMIT, THE HEIGHT OF ANY LOAD WHEN PLACED ON THE GOODS VEHICLE MUST NOT EXCEED 4.6 METRES ABOVE THE GROUND.

"THE PROVISIONAL CODE OF PRACTICE FOR THE LOADING OF VEHICLES RECENTLY PUBLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT CONTAINS A FULL CHAPTER ON THE PROPER WAY TO DEAL WITH LONG AND WIDE LOADS," HE POINTED OUT.

APPLICATIONS FOR THE LONG LOAD OR WIDE LOAD PERMIT SHOULD BE MADE TO THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT'S LICENSING OFFICES WHILE ENQUIRIES ON THE NEW REQUIREMENTS CAN BE MADE ON 5-262982 OR 3-7714306.

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES FOR SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL CONSIDERED

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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS CONSIDERING TO INTRODUCE A NEW SUBJECT, "ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES", TO BROADEN THE SENIOR SECONDARY CURRICULUM IN SCHOOLS, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR DAVID LAN, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 20TH JOINT SCHOOLS SCIENCE EXHIBITION AT THE HONG KONG EXHIBITION CENTRE, MR LAN SAID THE NEW SUBJECT WAS INTRODUCED IN RECOGNITION OF THE NEED FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND POLLUTION CONTROL IN THE TERRITORY-WIDE ENVIRONMENT.

"IT WILL GIVE STUDENTS AN OPPORTUNITY TO GAIN UNDERSTANDING OF THEIR ENVIRONMENT AND TO EXAMINE PROBLEMS AFFECTING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT ARISING FROM THE USE AND ABUSE OF RESOURCES," MR LAN SAID.

THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WOULD SEND OUT QUESTIONNAIRES TO SCHOOLS IN THE COMING SCHOOL YEAR TO COLLECT OPINION ON WHETHER THIS NEW SUBJECT SHOULD BE O-LEVEL EQUIVALENT, MR LAN ADDED.

ON THE NUCLEAR ENERGY EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS, MR LAN SAID TWO TEACHING PACKAGES HAD BEEN PRODUCED - THE "ENERGY AND MAN" TO SUPPORT THE INTEGRATED SCIENCE CURRICULUM AND THE "ELECTRICITY FROM URANIUM" TO SUPPORT THE PHYSICS CURRICULUM - AS PART OF THE GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAMMES FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL PUPILS.

"THE PACKAGES ARE AVAILABLE TO SCHOOLS ON LOAN FROM THE VISUAL EDUCATION SECTION AND CAN BE DUPLICATED IN THE MEDIA PRODUCTION SERVICES UNIT OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT," MR LAN ADDED.

TWO TELEVISION PROGRAMMES ENTITLED "ENERGY RESOURCES" AND "NUCLEAR ENERGY" WERE ALSO PRODUCED AND HAD BEEN TRANSMITTED TO SCHOOLS THROUGH THE EDUCATION TELEVISION SERVICE SINCE NOVEMBER LAST YEAR, MR LAN SAID.

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'YOUTH AMBASSADORS' BRING MESSAGE OF CARE TO ELDERLY

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VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES ARE ORGANISING RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SETTING UP COMMUNITY FACILITIES TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE ELDERLY, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS ELIZABETH WONG, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

SHE ADDED THAT THESE ORGANISATIONS WERE MAKING CONTRIBUTIONS IN DIFFERENT FORMS, EITHER IN MONEY OR MANPOWER TERMS, BUT ALL TOWARDS THE SAME CAUSE OF BETTERING THE WELFARE OF THE ELDERLY.

/MRS WONG

MRS WONG WAS SPEAKING AT THE CEREMONY TO MARK THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S CENTRALISED YOUTH PROGRAMME - "CONCERN VISITS TO ELDERLY SINGLE PERSONS".

"THERE ARE TWO SPECIAL FEATURES ABOUT OUR PROGRAMME.

"FIRSTLY, OUR TARGET CLIENTELE ARE THE ELDERLY SINGLE PERSONS.

"SECONDLY, NEARLY A THOUSAND VOLUNTEERS COMING FROM THE YOUTH UNITS OF OUR 13 DISTRICT OFFICES ARE BEING MOBILISED TO SHOW THE COMMUNITY'S CARE AND CONCERN TOWARDS THE ELDERLY," SHE SAID.

TURNING TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF YOUTH WORK IN HONG KONG, MRS WONG SAID THAT YOUNG PEOPLE IN HONG KONG WERE SUBJECT TO MATERIALISTIC TEMPTATION AND THE CONFLICT BETWEEN EASTERN AND WESTERN CULTURES.

PROPER GUIDANCE WAS THEREFORE NEEDED TO PREVENT THEM FROM GOING ASTRAY, SHE SAID.

"THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR, ARE WORKING THROUGH YOUTH CENTRES, SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK, OUTREACHING SOCIAL WORK, FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION, COUNSELLING AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES TO COVER AREAS NOT CATERED FOR IN OUR EDUCATION SYSTEM," SHE SAID.

"WE HELP YOUNG PEOPLE DEVELOP THEIR SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY, INDEPENDENCE, CONFIDENCE, MORAL VIRTUES AND WILLINGNESS TO HELP OTHERS.

"AT THE SAME TIME, WE ENSURE THAT THEIR ENERGY IS DIVERTED TO MEANINGFUL PURSUITS THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN VARIOUS ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE PROGRAMMES," SHE ADDED.

THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN THESE FUNCTIONS, SHE SAID YOUNG PEOPLE COULD BUILD UP FRIENDSHIP, EXCHANGE EXPERIENCE, LEARN ABOUT THEIR OWNSelves AND THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES TOWARDS SOCIETY AND ULTIMATELY, HELP BUILD A SOCIETY FULL OF CARE, LOVE AND HOPE.

"THE CONCERN VISITS PROGRAMME IS A POSITIVE INITIATIVE TO ENABLE YOUNG PEOPLE TO UNDERSTAND MORE ABOUT THE LIVING CONDITIONS AND THE SOCIAL NEEDS OF THE ELDERLY, SO AS TO BRING TO THEM THE MESSAGE OF CARE AND TO HELP MAKE HONG KONG INTO A MORE LOVING AND CARING SOCIETY," SHE SAID.

THE FIRST ROUND OF VISITS TO THE ELDERLY RESIDENTS OF PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES IN WONG TAI SIN FOLLOWED THE CEREMONY AT THE WONG TAI SIN COMMUNITY CENTRE WHERE SOME 200 VOLUNTEER REPRESENTATIVES WERE PRESENTED WITH BANNERS TO MARK THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE PROGRAMME.

ALSO PRESENT TO SHOW SUPPORT WERE A PIONEER IN VOLUNTEER SERVICE, MISS DOROTHY LEE; MRS HONG KONG, MRS ALICE PONG; AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE HONG KONG SHUMEI CHURCH OF DIVINE GUIDANCE, A DONOR TOWARDS THE PROJECT, MR SO KAM-MING.

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COXSWAIN'S CERTIFICATE SUSPENDED

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THE COXSWAIN IN CHARGE OF A SPEEDBOAT WHICH WAS INVOLVED IN AN ACCIDENT IN SAI KUNG LAST YEAR HAS HAD HIS LOCAL CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY AS MASTER OF A VESSEL UP TO 60 TONS SUSPENDED FOR A PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS BY THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE.

THE COXSWAIN WAS ALSO PROSECUTED FOR ENDANGERING LIFE CONTRARY TO SECTION 72 OF THE SHIPPING AND PORT CONTROL ORDINANCE AND WAS FINED \$2,000.

THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE, UNDER SECTION 30 OF THE SHIPPING AND PORT CONTROL ORDINANCE, INSTITUTED INQUIRY INTO THE ACCIDENT WHICH OCCURRED ON SEPTEMBER 14, LAST YEAR WHEN THE SPEEDBOAT TOWING A WATER SKIER AT HIGH SPEED COLLIDED WITH A PLEASURE JUNK ANCHORED AT SHEUNG SZE WAN, SAI KUNG.

IT WAS FOUND THAT AT THE TIME OF COLLISION, WEATHER AND SEA CONDITIONS WERE GOOD AND THERE WERE NO OTHER CRAFT IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA. SEVERAL PERSONS WERE SWIMMING IN THE VICINITY OF THE ANCHORED JUNK.

THE SPEEDBOAT, MANNED BY THE COXSWAIN AND A MEMBER OF THE CREW SITTING ON THE BOW WATCHING THE SKIER, STRUCK THE STERN OF THE JUNK AT HIGH SPEED. AS A RESULT, THEY WERE BOTH INJURED AND THE PLEASURE JUNK WAS SERIOUSLY DAMAGED.

INVESTIGATIONS SHOWED THAT THE COXSWAIN OF THE SPEEDBOAT FAILED TO OBSERVE THE INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS FOR PREVENTING COLLISIONS AT SEA BY ALLOWING THE SPEEDBOAT AT AN UNSAFE SPEED AND BY FAILING TO KEEP A PROPER LOOKOUT.

HE WAS ALSO CONSIDERED TO HAVE ENDANGERED LIFE AT SEA BY OPERATING HIS CRAFT AT HIGH SPEED IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO SWIMMERS AND ANCHORED VESSELS.

HAVING CAREFULLY CONSIDERED THE FINDINGS OF THE INQUIRY, THE GRAVITY OF THE OFFENCE, THE RISKS TO LIFE AND PROPERTY, AND THE NEED TO PROTECT SAFETY OF LIFE IN THE OPERATION OF HIGH SPEED PLEASURE VESSELS, AS WELL AS THE REPRESENTATIONS MADE ON BEHALF OF THE COXSWAIN, AND HIS FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS FOR PREVENTING COLLISIONS AT SEA, THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE DECIDED TO SUSPEND THE COXSWAIN'S CERTIFICATE FOR SIX MONTHS.

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SOUTHERN RESIDENTS URGED TO REGISTER AS VOTERS

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RESIDENTS OF SOUTHERN DISTRICT WHO ARE ELIGIBLE BUT HAVE NOT YET REGISTERED AS ELECTORS ARE BEING URGED TO DO SO BY THE END OF SEPTEMBER SO THEY WILL BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN NEXT YEAR'S DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR SIMON LORD, MADE THE APPEAL DURING A BOAT-TO-BOAT REGISTRATION VISIT TO BOAT DWELLERS IN ABERDEEN HARBOUR TODAY (SUNDAY).

THE VISIT MARKED THE LAUNCHING OF THE DISTRICT'S VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE, WHICH WOULD RUN UNTIL THE END OF SEPTEMBER.

MR LORD SAID: "TO BECOME AN ELECTOR IS A CIVIC RIGHT AND RESPONSIBILITY AND ELIGIBLE RESIDENTS SHOULD EXERCISE THESE RIGHTS AND REGISTER NOW."

TO PROMOTE VOTER REGISTRATION, THE DISTRICT OFFICE WILL ALSO CONDUCT DOOR-TO-DOOR VISITS TO A LARGE NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS IN THE DISTRICT.

AN APPEAL LETTER TOGETHER WITH REGISTRATION FORM WILL BE SENT TO HOUSEHOLDS NOT COVERED BY REGISTRATION VISITS.

"APART FROM RESIDENTIAL UNITS, THE DISTRICT OFFICE STAFF WILL ALSO VISIT FACTORIES WHICH HAVE A WORKFORCE OF MORE THAN 200," HE SAID.

EXTENSIVE PUBLICITY WILL BE MOUNTED DURING THE TWO-MONTH REGISTRATION EXERCISE, INCLUDING THE DISPLAY OF POSTERS, BANNERS AND LAMP-POLE FLAGS CARRYING THE REGISTRATION MESSAGE, TOURS BY BROADCASTING VAN AND DISTRIBUTION OF GIVE-AWAY ITEMS.

OUT OF THE 238,000 POPULATION IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT, THE POTENTIAL ELECTORATE IS 141,000 OF WHICH ABOUT HALF ARE ALREADY REGISTERED VOTERS.

REGISTRATION FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS BRANCH SUB-OFFICES IN STANLEY AND WAH FU.

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SHAM SHUI PO LAUNCHES VOTER REGISTRATION CAMPAIGN

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SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT WILL LAUNCH ITS VOTER REGISTRATION CAMPAIGN TOMORROW (MONDAY) WITH A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES TO ENCOURAGE ELIGIBLE RESIDENTS TO REGISTER AS VOTERS DURING THE TWO-MONTH EXERCISE.

BANNERS, BUNTINGS AND POSTERS WOULD BE PUT UP THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT TO PROMOTE THE EXERCISE, WHILE DISPLAY WINDOWS AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS SUB-OFFICES WILL BE REDECORATED TO DRIVE HOME THE MESSAGE.

A SPOKESMAN OF SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE SAID THAT HOME AND FACTORY VISITS WOULD BE CARRIED OUT TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR PEOPLE TO REGISTER AS VOTERS.

"TEMPORARY VOTER REGISTRATION POINTS WILL BE SET UP AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN THE DISTRICT TO MAKE IT MORE CONVENIENT FOR RESIDENTS," HE SAID.

"BOOKLETS AND PAMPHLETS WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE, SUB-OFFICES AND THE TEMPORARY VOTER REGISTRATION POINTS SO THAT RESIDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE FUNCTIONS OF DISTRICT BOARD AND THE CONCEPT OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT," HE ADDED.

VOTER REGISTRATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE, ITS SUB-OFFICES, COMMUNITY CENTRES AND HALLS, AS WELL AS VARIOUS SUPERMARKETS, BANKS, RESTAURANTS AND SHOPS IN THE DISTRICT.

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TAI PO RECREATIONAL FACILITIES TO BE IMPROVED

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RECREATIONAL AND LEISURE FACILITIES IN TAI PO NEW TOWN WILL SOON BE ENHANCED AS CONSTRUCTION OF A PARK AND FIVE DISTRICT OPEN SPACES BEGINS ON AUGUST 18.

A TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID AN \$18.94 MILLION CONTRACT HAD RECENTLY BEEN SIGNED FOR THE PROJECTS.

THE PARK, MEASURING 12,500 SQUARE METRES, WILL BE CONSTRUCTED AT THE JUNCTION OF TING KOK AND TAI WO ROADS. FACILITIES WILL INCLUDE PLAY AND SITTING-OUT AREAS, ROCK GARDENS, PARK GARDENS, PALM TREES, A BASKETBALL COURT, A PAVILION AND A SUNDIAL.

/TAKING NINE

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TAKING NINE MONTHS TO COMPLETE, THE PARK WILL BE LOCATED ONLY A SHORT DISTANCE FROM TAI PO TOWN SQUARE, WHICH IS STILL UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND SCHEDULED TO OPEN IN OCTOBER.

THE FIVE OPEN SPACES, TOTALLING ABOUT 29,000 SQUARE METRES IN AREA, WILL BE BUILT AT WAN TAU KOK LANE, WAN TAU STREET, WEST OF NAM WAN ROAD, NEAR PO HEUNG BRIDGE AND NEXT TO WONG SIU CHING CLINIC.

THE OPEN SPACE AT WAN TAU KOK LANE WILL BE EQUIPPED WITH THREE TENNIS COURTS, A FIVE-A-SIDE SOCCER PITCH, PUBLIC TOILETS, CHANGING ROOMS AND GARDEN AREAS, WHILE THE OTHERS WILL HAVE GARDENS AND PLAY AND SITTING-OUT AREAS. ADDITIONALLY, A JOGGING TRACK WILL BE BUILT IN THE OPEN SPACE WEST OF NAM WAN ROAD.

ALL WORK ON THE OPEN SPACES, INCLUDING LANDSCAPING WORK, WILL BE COMPLETED IN ABOUT 15 MONTHS.

BOTH THE PARK AND THE DISTRICT OPEN SPACES WOULD BE HANDED OVER TO THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT FOR MANAGEMENT.

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PUMPING STATION TO BE EXTENDED

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THE FRESH WATER PUMPING STATION AT STANLEY MOUND IS TO BE EXTENDED TO IMPROVE SUPPLY IN THE VICINITY.

BESIDES BUILDING THE EXTENSION NEXT TO THE EXISTING PUMPING STATION AT STANLEY GAP ROAD THE PROJECT ALSO INCLUDES ASSOCIATED MAINS LAYING WORK.

THE NEW STATION EXTENSION WILL BE SEPARATE BUILDING TO BE CONSTRUCTED WITHIN THE COMPOUND OF THE EXISTING STATION.

IT WILL BE A SINGLE STOREY BUILDING WITH AN AREA OF ABOUT 22 METRES BY SIX METRES WITH THREE PUMP BAYS.

INITIALLY, TWO PUMPS EACH WITH A CAPACITY OF 6,000 CUBIC METRES PER DAY WILL BE INSTALLED. THE THIRD PUMP BAY IS INTENDED FOR ACCOMMODATING AN ADDITIONAL PUMPSET OF THE SAME CAPACITY TO MEET FUTURE DEMAND.

THE NEW PUMPING STATION IS REQUIRED TO COPE WITH INCREASED DEMAND GENERATED BY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE TAI TAM, STANLEY AND REPULSE BAY AREAS.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN OCTOBER AND TAKE ABOUT 10 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS BY NOON ON AUGUST 14.

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 1987

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DB MEMBERS COLLECT VIEWS ON GREEN PAPER

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SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL MAKE DOOR TO DOOR VISITS BETWEEN AUGUST 10 AND SEPTEMBER 4 TO GATHER RESIDENTS' VIEWS ON THE GREEN PAPER ON THE 1987 REVIEW OF DEVELOPMENTS IN REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT.

ORGANISED BY A WORKING GROUP, THE VISITS WILL COVER THE AREAS OF SAI KUNG TOWN, HANG HAU AND RENNIE'S MILL.

THE AIM OF THE WORKING GROUP IS TO PLAN AND ORGANISE ACTIVITIES TO COLLECT PEOPLE'S OPINIONS ON THE GREEN PAPER AND REFLECT THEM TO THE SURVEY OFFICE.

THE WORKING GROUP HAS PREPARED AND PRINTED A SET OF BILINGUAL QUESTIONNAIRES ON THE GREEN PAPER WHICH WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO RESIDENTS DURING THE VISITS.

MEANWHILE, A SEMINAR ON THE GREEN PAPER WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY (AUGUST 9) AT THE SAI KUNG TOWN HALL.

THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS BETTY CHING, AND DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR WILLIAM WAN, WILL BRIEF REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE RURAL COMMITTEES, VILLAGES, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, OWNERS CORPORATIONS AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS ON THE GREEN PAPER.

AFTER THE BRIEFING, THESE REPRESENTATIVES WILL HELP DISTRIBUTE THE QUESTIONNAIRES AMONG THEIR RESPECTIVE VILLAGES AND ORGANISATIONS.

THE DEADLINE FOR THE RETURN OF COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRES IS SEPTEMBER 22 AND THEY SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE WHICH WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE SURVEY OFFICE AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER.

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TSIM SHA TSUI TRAFFIC STUDY TO BE DISCUSSED

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THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE OF THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT BOARD WILL HOLD A SPECIAL MEETING TOMORROW (MONDAY) TO DISCUSS THE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TSIM SHA TSUI TRAFFIC STUDY.

THE STUDY, TO IDENTIFY AND ASSESS TRAFFIC PROBLEMS IN THE AREA AND TO RECOMMEND SOLUTIONS, WAS CARRIED OUT BY TWO CONSULTANT FIRMS COMMISSIONED BY THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT.

/A SENIOR

A SENIOR ENGINEER OF THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT, MR J.A. O'DELL, A TRAFFIC ENGINEER OF THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, MR WAN MAN-LEUNG, AND THE CONSULTANT ENGINEERS WILL BE PRESENT TO EXPLAIN DETAILS OF THE STUDY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (MONDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF YAU MA TEI DISTRICT OFFICE, SECOND FLOOR, 490 NATHAN ROAD.

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WINNERS OF CONTAINER INDUSTRY SAFETY CAMPAIGN ANNOUNCED

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WINNERS OF THE "CONTAINER COMPANIES SAFETY AWARD" AND THE "SPREADER DESIGN" COMPETITIONS ARE TO RECEIVE THEIR AWARDS FROM AN ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR MAK SAI-YIU, TOMORROW (MONDAY).

THE COMPETITIONS FORMED PART OF THE YEAR-LONG SAFETY CAMPAIGN ORGANISED BY THE CENTRAL CONTAINER HANDLING SAFETY COMMITTEE TO PROMOTE SAFETY AND HEALTH OF WORKERS IN THE CONTAINER INDUSTRY.

THE FIRST AND SECOND PRIZES IN THE CONTAINER COMPANIES SAFETY AWARD COMPETITION WENT TO THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL TERMINALS LIMITED AND THE FAT KEE STEVEDORES LIMITED WHICH RECORDED THE LOWEST ACCIDENT RATE BETWEEN JUNE LAST YEAR AND MAY THIS YEAR.

THE WINNER OF THE SPREADER DESIGN COMPETITION WAS MR SVEN-OLOF LUNDGERN OF AUSTRALIA, AND THE FIRST RUNNER-UP WAS MR K.K. LO OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL AND MARINE ENGINEERING, HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC.

THE PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL TERMINALS LTD., BERTH 4, KWAI CHUNG.

THE CENTRAL CARGO HANDLING SAFETY COMMITTEE, FORMED IN 1975, IS MADE UP OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE MANAGEMENT OF LOCAL CONTAINER TERMINALS AND DEPOTS, CONTAINER REPAIRERS AND THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 1987

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CLOSURE OF CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL EXIT ROAD

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TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FOOTBRIDGE, THE EXIT ROAD LEADING FROM CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL TO CAUSEWAY BAY WILL BE CLOSED DAILY BETWEEN 1 AM AND 6 AM FROM TUESDAY (AUGUST 4) TO THURSDAY (AUGUST 6).

DURING THE CLOSURE, VEHICLES LEAVING THE TUNNEL WILL BE DIVERTED VIA NORTH POINT EXIT ROAD, GLOUCESTER ROAD AND THE FLYOVER TO CAUSEWAY BAY.

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