



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1984

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PEOPLE URGED TO EXPRESS VIEWS ON DRAFT AGREEMENT
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, TODAY (WEDNESDAY) URGED THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG TO PUT FORWARD THEIR VIEWS ON THE SINO-BRITISH DRAFT AGREEMENT, BOTH ON ITS GENERAL ACCEPTABILITY AND ON ITS PROVISIONS.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE NEW SUPREME COURT BUILDING, SIR EDWARD SAID THAT AS THE SECRETARY OF STATE HAD RECENTLY EMPHASISED IN THE UK PARLIAMENT, IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT THE PEOPLE DID SO FOR TWO REASONS.

FIRST, MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT WILL NEED TO KNOW THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE AGREEMENT AS A WHOLE IS ACCEPTABLE TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG WHEN IT IS DEBATED IN EARLY DECEMBER.

SECOND, ALTHOUGH THE AGREEMENT CANNOT BE AMENDED, THE VIEWS ON ALL PARTS OF IT WILL BE OF THE GREATEST VALUE IN THE CONTINUING DISCUSSION WITH THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT, PARTICULARLY IN THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP.

+NOT ONLY INDIVIDUALS, BUT THOSE ORGANISATIONS WHICH REPRESENT SUBSTANTIAL BODIES OF OPINION IN THE MANY DIFFERENT SECTORS OF OUR SOCIETY SHOULD RESPOND TO THAT CALL,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE NEW SUPREME COURT BUILDING WAS ALSO THE TEMPORARY HOME OF THE ASSESSMENT OFFICE, WHICH IS CHARGED WITH THE TASK OF ASSESSING THE ACCEPTABILITY OF THE AGREEMENT.

HE SAID THAT THE SIZE OF THE BUILDING, ITS CENTRAL POSITION AND THE SUBSTANTIAL RESOURCES INVESTED IN IT +TESTIFY TO THE GOVERNMENT'S RECOGNITION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE RULE OF LAW IN OUR COMMUNITY; AND OF THE NEED TO HOUSE OUR COURTS WITH DIGNITY.+

+THAT RULE SECURES SOCIETY AGAINST UPHEAVAL AND DISORDER, AND THE EXERCISE OF ARBITRARY POWER.

+OUR JUDICIARY ACTS AS ONE OF THE GUARDIANS OF THE RIGHTS OF THE INDIVIDUAL. THE JUDGES OF THE SUPREME COURT, DISPENSING JUSTICE IMPARTIALLY, ENSURE THAT ALL ARE EQUAL BEFORE THE LAW AND THAT NONE ARE ABOVE IT,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

HONG KONG'S JUDICIARY HAD EARNED A WELL JUSTIFIED REPUTATION FOR INTEGRITY AND DESPATCH IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES. THE COURTS WERE HELD IN HIGH REGARD BOTH BY THE TERRITORY'S OWN COMMUNITY AND INTERNATIONALLY.

+AS HONG KONG HAS PROSPERED AND DEVELOPED INTO A COMPLEX COMMERCIAL, FINANCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL CENTRE, SO THE LEGAL SYSTEM HAS GROWN IN SIZE TO MATCH THE DEMANDS THAT BUSINESS HAS IMPOSED.

/+THE SPEED

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+THE SPEED AND COMPETENCE WITH WHICH A WIDE RANGE OF DIFFICULT PROBLEMS ARE DEALT WITH BY OUR COURTS AND THE AUTHORITY OF THE JUDGEMENTS HANDED DOWN HAVE BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN ENCOURAGING INVESTMENT IN THIS TERRITORY,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

BUT HE ADDED THAT THE LEGAL SYSTEM MUST DEVELOP AND REFORM ITSELF TO MEET THE CHANGING NEEDS OF THE DYNAMIC SOCIETY THAT IT SERVED.

+PROCEDURES AND PRACTICES WHICH HAVE BECOME HALLOWED WITH TIME CAN ALL TOO EASILY BECOME ENDS IN THEMSELVES.

+THEY MUST, WHEREVER NECESSARY, BE ADAPTED TO COPE WITH THE SOPHISTICATION OF MODERN CRIMINALS, THE INCREASING COMPLEXITY OF CIVIL DISPUTES, THE VAST GROWTH IN RELEVANT DOCUMENTATION AND THE SPREAD OF TRANSACTIONS INTO OVERSEAS JURISDICTIONS,+ HE SAID.

SIR EDWARD EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT THOSE MOST CLOSELY ENGAGED IN THE LEGAL SYSTEM WOULD PLAY THEIR PART IN KEEPING THE PROCESSES OF LAW UNDER CONSTANT REVIEW.

ON THE STATUTE LAW, HE SAID IT WAS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE LEGISLATURES THAT ITS CONTENT KEPT PACE WITH THE NEEDS AND ATTITUDES OF HONG KONG'S FAST DEVELOPING AND UNIQUE SOCIETY.

+THIS IS A TASK THEY HAVE PERFORMED CONSCIENTIOUSLY OVER THE YEARS. OUR PROPOSALS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT WILL GIVE ADDED WEIGHT TO THE AUTHORITY OF THEIR LEGISLATION IN THE FUTURE,+ HE SAID.

SIR EDWARD SAID IT WAS A TIMELY COINCIDENCE THAT THE NEW BUILDING CAME INTO COMMISSION AT THE TIME OF THE INITIALLING OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT WHICH PROVIDES THAT THE FUNDAMENTALS OF THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM WHICH HAVE SERVED HONG KONG WELL WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED.

+THE CITIZENS OF HONG KONG CAN THEREFORE BE CONFIDENT NOT ONLY THAT THE MAIN BODY OF LAW WILL CONTINUE IN FORCE AFTER 1997 BUT THAT THE LAW WILL CONTINUE TO BE ADMINISTERED IMPARTIALLY AND THAT THE COURTS WILL CONTINUE TO PROTECT THOSE RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS WHICH ARE PRESENTLY ENJOYED IN HONG KONG,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

IN HIS SPEECH, THE CHIEF JUSTICE, SIR DENYS ROBERTS, OUTLINED THE BIRTH OF THE NEW BUILDING.

IN 1975, WHEN SIR DENYS WAS CHIEF SECRETARY, HE APPOINTED A COMMITTEE TO ENQUIRE INTO THE NEED FOR A NEW SUPREME COURT BUILDING AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO WHAT IT SHOULD CONTAIN.

THE COMMITTEE DECIDED A NEW BUILDING WAS IMPERATIVE. A NUMBER OF SITES HAD BEEN CONSIDERED BUT WERE FOUND TO BE UNSUITABLE. THE PRESENT SITE WAS FINALLY ACCEPTED.

/SIR DENYS

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SIR DENYS SAID, +THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THE PROVISION OF 30 COURTS, ON THE BASIS OF THE EXPANSION OF WORK WHICH WAS PROJECTED IN THE MID-1970'S. BY 1980, HOWEVER, SHORTLY BEFORE CONSTRUCTION WORK BEGAN, IT SEEMED LIKELY THAT THIS WOULD NOT BE SUFFICIENT FOR MORE THAN A FEW YEARS, AND THE NUMBER HAS BEEN INCREASED TO 36.+

HE POINTED OUT THE NEW BUILDING WAS 50 PER CENT MORE THAN WHAT THE JUDICIARY NEEDED.

BUT HE PREDICTED THAT HE AND THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, IN YEARS TO COME, WOULD BE +ACCUSED OF SMALL-MINDEDNESS, PENNY PINCHING AND LACK OF FORESIGHT IN NOT HAVING CONSTRUCTED A BUILDING WHICH WOULD TAKE A HUNDRED COURTS.+

ON THE EXTERIOR OF THE BUILDING, HE SAID IT WAS DESIGNED ON THE +INVERTED MATCH BOX' PRINCIPLE DUE TO LAND SHORTAGE.

HE SAID, +WITHIN THE CONSTRAINTS IMPOSED UPON HIM, I BELIEVE THAT THE ARCHITECT, WHO HAS BEEN SPLENDIDLY SUPPORTED BY THE CONTRACTORS, HAS PRODUCED A HANDSOME BUILDING, EVEN IF IT LACKS THE ECCENTRIC GRANDEUR OF ITS PREDECESSOR.+

AS FOR THE INTERIOR, HE SAID ALL THOSE WORKING OR APPEARING IN THE BUILDING AS PARTIES OR WITNESSES WOULD FIND IT COMFORTABLE AND CONVENIENT AS MUCH CARE HAD BEEN TAKEN TO ENSURE THEIR NEEDS WOULD BE MET.

THE LAYOUT OF THE COURTROOMS HAD BEEN DECIDED AFTER FULL CONSULTATION WITH THE JUDGES AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE BAR AND LAW SOCIETY, WHO WERE INVITED TO OFFER THEIR COMMENTS ON A MODEL COURTROOM WHICH WAS FABRICATED FOR THIS PURPOSE A YEAR AGO.

COMPARED WITH THE COURTROOMS IN THE OLD SUPREME COURT BUILDING AT JACKSON ROAD, THE NEW ONES HAD BEEN CONSIDERABLY IMPROVED IN TERMS OF LIGHTING, ACOUSTICS AND COMFORT, HE SAID.

ON THE PROVISION FOR THE BAR, SIR DENYS SAID, +IN MANY IMPORTANT RESPECTS, THE PERFORMANCE OF JUDGES IS CONDITIONED BY THE ABILITY AND CHARACTER OF THE BAR. IT IS THUS IN THE INTERESTS OF THE JUDICIARY THAT WE SHOULD DO WHATEVER WE CAN TO FOSTER THE INTERESTS OF THE BAR; AND THE FACILITIES WHICH ARE AVAILABLE TO IT IN THIS BUILDING ARE A RECOGNITION OF ITS IMPORTANCE.+

BESIDES A SPACIOUS ROBING ROOM WITH SEPARATE CHANGING FACILITIES FOR MEN AND WOMEN, A LARGE AREA HAD BEEN SET ASIDE FOR THE USE OF THE BAR WHICH HAD ESTABLISHED A LIBRARY AND SECRETARIAT.

SIR DENYS THANKED ALL THOSE WHO HAD INVOLVED IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND PREPARATION OF THE NEW BUILDING.

AFTER THE SPEECHES, SIR EDWARD UNVEILED A COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE.

/ACCOMPANIED BY

ACCOMPANIED BY THE CHIEF JUSTICE; THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, MR NICKY CHAN; THE REGISTRAR SUPREME COURT, MR NICHOLAS BARNETT, AND MRS BARNETT, SIR EDWARD AND LADY YOUDE TOURED THE NEW BUILDING.

LOCATED IN QUEENSWAY, THE 22-STOREY NEW SUPREME COURT COMPRISES A SIX-STOREY PODIUM AND A 16-STOREY TOWER BLOCK. IT PROVIDES A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF 55 800 SQUARE METRES HOUSING 36 COURTROOMS, JUDGES' CHAMBERS, A LIBRARY, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES AND REGISTRIES OF THE SUPREME COURT. IT ALSO CONTAINS A HOLDING UNIT FOR THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, A SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT OFFICE, A PRESS ROOM AND A CAR PARK.

ITS SITE FORMATION BEGAN IN SEPTEMBER 1980, AND THE BUILDING WAS COMPLETED IN JULY 1984 AT A COST OF ABOUT \$218 MILLION.

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SIR EDWARD CONVEYS CONDOLENCES ON MRS GANDHI'S DEATH
* * * *

THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, TODAY EXPRESSED HIS DEEP SENSE OF SHOCK ON HEARING THE NEWS OF THE DEATH OF MRS INDIRA GANDHI. ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF HONG KONG, SIR EDWARD CONVEYED CONDOLENCES TO THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF INDIA.

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CONSULTANTS REPORT ON TSING YI
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THE GOVERNMENT IS SATISFIED THAT EVERYTHING POSSIBLE HAS BEEN DONE TO REDUCE TO AN ACCEPTABLE LEVEL THE POTENTIAL RISK POSED BY THE MOBIL'S OIL INSTALLATION TO THE MAYFAIR GARDENS HOUSING COMPLEX ON TSING YI ISLAND.

THIS FOLLOWS A REVIEW, AT THE REQUEST OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, OF THE EFFECTS OF ADDITIONAL SAFETY MEASURES IMPLEMENTED BY MOBIL ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE GAS ADVISER AND THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

AT ITS MEETING YESTERDAY (TUESDAY) TO CONSIDER THE LATEST POSITION, THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ACCEPTED THAT THE RISK HAD BEEN REDUCED AND THAT THERE WAS NO NEED TO REMOVE THE OIL INSTALLATION.

/COMMENTING ON

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COMMENTING ON THE DECISION, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT A GREAT DEAL HAD ALREADY BEEN DONE TO ENHANCE SAFETY MEASURES AT THE PLANT SINCE CONSULTANTS HAD ASSESSED THE RISK FACTOR AT MAYFAIR GARDENS AS BEING ON THE BORDERLINE OF ACCEPTABILITY.

THE FURTHER SAFEGUARDS ALREADY INTRODUCED OR BEING IMPLEMENTED WERE MAINLY OF A TECHNICAL NATURE, RANGING FROM THE INSTALLATION OF ADDITIONAL WATER DRENCHING SYSTEMS TO MORE EFFICIENT COMMUNICATION WITH TANKERS DISCHARGING PRODUCTS AT THE MOBIL PIER.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE PLANT WAS REGULARLY INSPECTED BY THE GAS ADVISER'S OFFICE AND THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO ENSURE STANDARDS WERE BEING MAINTAINED AND LICENCE CONDITIONS ADHERED TO.

HE SAID THE IMPROVEMENTS MADE AT THE PLANT WOULD BE WRITTEN INTO THE CONDITIONS OF LICENCES ISSUED UNDER THE DANGEROUS GOODS ORDINANCE.

+MOREOVER, AS TECHNOLOGY IMPROVES, SO WILL FRESH IMPROVEMENTS BE MADE AT THE PLANT.+

THE ADDITIONAL SAFEGUARDS FOLLOW A REVIEW BY A SPECIAL WORKING GROUP FORMED LAST JUNE, AT THE REQUEST OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, TO CONSIDER WHAT COMBINATION OF MEASURES COULD BE TAKEN TO REDUCE THE RISK FACTOR AT MAYFAIR GARDENS.

THE GROUP FIRST REPORTED TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ON SEPTEMBER 15. THE COUNCIL THEN RULED THAT THE PHASE 3 DEVELOPMENT OF MAYFAIR GARDENS, WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN CLOSEST TO THE OIL INSTALLATION, SHOULD NOT PROCEED AND THAT AN ALTERNATIVE SITE SHOULD BE PROVIDED ELSEWHERE FOR THIS PARTICULAR DEVELOPMENT.

SINCE THEN, THE ADDITIONAL SAFETY MEASURES IMPLEMENTED BY THE COMPANY HAVE BEEN EXAMINED BY THE GOVERNMENT'S CONSULTANTS TOGETHER WITH THE VIEWS SUBMITTED BY MOBIL.

+THE CONSULTANTS ADVISED THAT THE ADDITIONAL SAFEGUARDS, COUPLED WITH THE RELOCATIONS OF THE PHASE 3 DEVELOPMENT OF MAYFAIR GARDENS, HAD REDUCED THE RISK,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE ADDED THAT THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD WOULD BE INFORMED OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL'S DECISION AT THE BOARD'S REGULAR MEETING ON NOVEMBER 6.

MEANWHILE, THE GOVERNMENT IS CONSIDERING THOSE OF THE CONSULTANTS' RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HAVE TERRITORY-WIDE IMPLICATIONS. ALL EXISTING AND FUTURE POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS INSTALLATIONS, INCLUDING THE MOBIL PLANT, WILL BE EXAMINED IN THE LIGHT OF THESE OVERALL RECOMMENDATIONS.

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\$212-MILLION BUILDING CONTRACT AWARDED
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THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TODAY (WEDNESDAY) AWARDED A \$212 MILLION CONTRACT TO SHUI ON BUILDING CONTRACTORS LTD, FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 30-STOREY COURTS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICE BUILDING ON THE WANCHAI RECLAMATION, HARBOUR ROAD.

THE CONTRACT WAS SIGNED BY THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF BUILDING DEVELOPMENT, MR JOSE LEI, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SHUI ON GROUP, MR VINCENT LO.

THE BLOCK WILL BE BUILT ON A SITE OF 3 816 SQUARE METRES AS PART OF THE HARBOUR ROAD GOVERNMENT COMPLEX.

THE LOWER 14 FLOORS, WITH A TOTAL FLOOR AREA OF 30 000 SQUARE METRES, WILL PROVIDE SPACE FOR 16 DISTRICT COURTS, 12 MAGISTRATE COURTS, TWO JUVENILE COURTS, FOUR SMALL CLAIMS TRIBUNALS, FOUR LABOUR TRIBUNALS, AND ONE LANDS TRIBUNAL.

THE REMAINING FLOORS, WITH A TOTAL AREA OF 27 000 SQUARE METRES, WILL BE FOR USE AS GOVERNMENT OFFICES.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN THE MIDDLE OF NEXT MONTH AND BE COMPLETED IN TWO YEARS' TIME.

THE HARBOUR ROAD GOVERNMENT COMPLEX COVERS A 16 000-SQUARE-METRE SITE.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMPLEX - INCLUDING A FIRE STATION, TWO 49-STOREY OFFICE TOWER BLOCKS, A LANDSCAPED OPEN PLAZA, AND A TWO-LEVEL BASEMENT FOR GOVERNMENT VEHICLE PARKING - WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN STAGES.

FOUNDATION WORK FOR THE ENTIRE SITE HAS BEEN DONE AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE TWO-LEVEL BASEMENT IS NEARING COMPLETION.

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MORE APPLICATIONS FOR RICHLAND GARDENS POUR IN
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THE HOME OWNERSHIP CENTRE IN HO MAN TIN RECEIVED ANOTHER 2 500 APPLICATIONS TODAY -- THE FIRST DAY OF THE EXTENDED APPLICATION PERIOD FOR THE 4 272 RICHLAND GARDENS FLATS NOW ON SALE UNDER PHASE VIB OF THE HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME.

+BY NOW 16 500 APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FOR THE HOUSING PROJECT IN KOWLOON BAY,+ SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HOUSING AUTHORITY.

/HE SAID

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HE SAID THE ADDITIONAL OFFER OF SIX MORE BLOCKS WOULD GIVE HOME-SEEKERS A BETTER CHANCE TO ACQUIRE A FLAT ON THE ESTATE.

+BUT IF THERE IS STILL A GREAT DEMAND FOR THE FLATS, THE REMAINING SIX BLOCKS IN THE ESTATE MAY ALSO BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR SELECTION BY PHASE VIB ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS,+ HE ADDED.

+THE HOME OWNERSHIP CENTRE ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF OI MAN COMMERCIAL CENTRE WILL REMAIN OPEN UNTIL 7 PM ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 2) TO RECEIVE LAST-MINUTE APPLICATIONS.+

APPLICATIONS WILL CLOSE ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 2), TO BE FOLLOWED BY A PUBLIC BALLOT NEXT MONTH TO DECIDE SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS.

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CLEARANCE CARRIED OUT SMOOTHLY
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THE SECOND PHASE OF THE TIN SHUI WAI CLEARANCE AT PAK SHA TSAI WAS CARRIED OUT SMOOTHLY TODAY WHEN ABOUT 160 VACATED STRUCTURES WERE DEMOLISHED BY HOUSING DEPARTMENT STAFF.

ABOUT 25 FAMILIES WHO HAVE SIGNED UP FOR TENANCY IN PRIVATE FLATS WERE GIVEN A GRACE PERIOD UNTIL NOVEMBER 11 TO MOVE OUT, ALLOWING THEM MORE TIME TO CLEAR THEIR FISH PONDS AND WIND UP THEIR BUSINESSES.

THIS WAS AGREED AT A LAST-MINUTE MEETING TODAY BETWEEN OFFICIALS FROM VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND SIX REPRESENTATIVES OF THE VILLAGERS WHO PROMISED TO THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR JAMES WILSON, THAT THE REMAINING VILLAGERS WILL MOVE OUT BY THAT DATE WHICH IS THE FINAL DAY FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO HAND OVER THE SITE TO THE CONTRACTOR FOR DEVELOPMENT.

TIN SHUI WAI WILL BE EVENTUALLY DEVELOPED INTO A NEW TOWN FOR 135 000 PEOPLE LIVING IN BOTH PRIVATE AND PUBLIC HOUSING.

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TRAINING IMPROVES JOB PROSPECTS
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TRAINING AT THE SEAMEN'S TRAINING TEMPORARY CENTRE AT LITTLE SAI WAN HAD BEEN HELPFUL IN IMPROVING THE EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS OF LOCAL SEAMEN, MR FRANK CHAO, CHAIRMAN OF THE MERCHANT NAVY TRAINING BOARD OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

RECENT FIGURES RELEASED BY THE MARINE DEPARTMENT SHOW THAT THE DROP IN THE EMPLOYMENT OF HONG KONG SEAMEN HAD LEVELLED OFF AND THERE WERE SIGNS THEIR EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS WOULD IMPROVE NEXT YEAR, MR CHAO SAID.

FOR SEVERAL YEARS LOCAL SEAMEN HAD SUFFERED FROM KEEN COMPETITION FOR JOBS FROM MEN IN NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE MERCHANT SHIPPING REGULATIONS AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS SEMINAR, MR CHAO SAID THE IMPROVED SITUATION WAS PARTLY DUE TO THE TRAINING OFFERED AT THE TEMPORARY CENTRE.

THE TRAINING BOARD BELIEVED THAT TRAINING AT THE CENTRE WOULD UPGRADE THE QUALITY OF HONG KONG SEAMEN AND IMPROVE THEIR COMPETITIVENESS, HE ADDED.

THE CENTRE WAS ESTABLISHED TO ENABLE LOCAL SEAMEN TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANISATION'S CONVENTION ON THE STANDARDS OF TRAINING, CERTIFICATION AND WATCHKEEPING FOR SEAFARERS, WHICH STIPULATES THAT A SEAMAN MUST OBTAIN A CERTIFICATE QUALIFYING HIM TO TAKE UP NAVIGATIONAL AND WATCHKEEPING DUTIES ON BOARD SHIPS.

ABOUT 500 SEAMEN HAVE COMPLETED TRAINING AT THE CENTRE SINCE ITS OPENING IN FEBRUARY THIS YEAR.

NEARLY ALL OF THEM HAVE OBTAINED CERTIFICATES ISSUED BY THE MARINE DEPARTMENT, AND THE REST WILL GET THEIRS AFTER GAINING THE NECESSARY SEAFARING EXPERIENCE.

MR CHAO URGED EMPLOYERS AND EXECUTIVES OF SHIPPING COMPANIES TO SEND THEIR CREWS FOR TRAINING AT THE CENTRE.

MR CHAO PLEDGED THE SHIPPING INDUSTRY'S SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSAL OF ESTABLISHING A PERMANENT TRAINING CENTRE SO THAT COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR NEW ENTRANTS TO THE SEAFARING PROFESSION.

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SEMINAR ON CIVIC EDUCATION
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HEADS OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND A ONE-DAY SEMINAR ON +CIVIC EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS+ TO BE HELD ON DECEMBER 7 AT GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION IN KOWLOON.

GUEST SPEAKERS AND PANELISTS WILL BE MRS RITA FAN FROM THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, MR ANDREW WONG FROM THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG AND MR NATHAN MA FROM THE YUEN LONG LUTHERAN MIDDLE SCHOOL.

THERE WILL BE GROUP DISCUSSIONS, PLENARY SESSIONS AND AN OPEN FORUM. SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION WILL BE PROVIDED.

QUESTIONS TO BE RAISED AT THE GROUP DISCUSSIONS INCLUDE INTERPRETATION OF +CIVIC EDUCATION+, ITS PROMOTION THROUGH A FORMAL OR INFORMAL CURRICULUM AND THE GENERAL ETHOS OF THE SCHOOLS, THE KIND OF SUPPORT THAT CAN BE GIVEN BY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS THAT THE GROUP COULD MAKE.

SCHOOL HEADS WHO WISH TO ATTEND THE SEMINAR ARE REQUESTED TO INFORM THE SCHOOLS DIVISION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT BEFORE NOVEMBER 14 (WEDNESDAY).

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FLAT AND ILLEGAL STRUCTURE TO BE CLOSED
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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY TODAY (WEDNESDAY) DECLARED THAT A FLAT AND AN ILLEGAL STRUCTURE IN TSZ WAN SHAN SHOULD BE CLOSED.

THEY ARE: FLAT C ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF CHE WAH BUILDING ON 145 - 157 PO KONG VILLAGE ROAD AND 18 YUK WAH CRESCENT AND THE ILLEGAL STRUCTURE ON THE ROOF NEXT TO THE FLAT.

THE CLOSURE IS TO ENABLE DEMOLITION WORK ON THE STRUCTURE TO BE CARRIED OUT WITHOUT DANGER TO THE OCCUPIERS OR THE PUBLIC.

A RECENT INSPECTION SHOWED THAT AN ORDER REQUIRING DEMOLITION OF THE STRUCTURE HAD NOT BEEN COMPLIED WITH.

A NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER IN THE KOWLOON DISTRICT COURT AT 9.30 AM ON NOVEMBER 28 WAS POSTED TODAY.

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STANLEY FAIR ON SATURDAY

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THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL HOLD ITS ANNUAL AUTUMN FAIR ON THE FOOTBALL FIELD NEXT TO STANLEY PRISON THIS SATURDAY (NOVEMBER 3) BETWEEN 12 NOON AND 5 PM.

MRS LAURA FANG, WIFE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR DR HARRY FANG, HAS BEEN INVITED TO OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE FAIR.

THERE WILL BE OVER 30 STALLS SELLING A WIDE SELECTION OF PRODUCTS MADE BY PRISONERS.

THE PRODUCTS INCLUDE STUFFED TOYS, TOY HOUSES, RATTAN FURNITURE, AND WOODEN FURNITURE AS WELL AS MANY DELICACIES. IN ADDITION, THERE WILL BE SNACK, REFRESHMENT AND GAME STALLS.

A SERIES OF ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMMES HAVE ALSO BEEN ARRANGED FOR VISITORS.

THESE INCLUDE PERFORMANCES BY THE TAI TAM GIRLS' PIPERS AND PRECISION MARCHING TEAM, MARCHING DISPLAY BY THE CAPE COLLINSON MARCHING BAND, AS WELL AS A MOTORCYCLE DEMONSTRATION BY THE 29 SQUADRON ROYAL CORPS OF TRANSPORT.

THE FAIR, A CHARITABLE EVENT, IS ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S SPORTS ASSOCIATION, AND ALL THE PROCEEDS WILL BE DONATED TO CHARITIES, AS WELL AS THE DEPARTMENT'S WELFARE FUNDS.

ADMISSION IS FREE AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOMED TO ATTEND.

AS PARKING SPACE IS LIMITED, VISITORS ARE ADVISED THAT BUS ROUTE NOS. 6 AND 260 (FROM CENTRAL), 73 (FROM WAH FU ESTATE), 63 (FROM NORTH POINT) AND 14 (FROM SAI WAN HO) ARE CONVENIENT WAYS OF GETTING TO THE FAIR.

VISITORS ARE REMINDED THAT NO ONE WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE FAIR UNTIL AFTER IT HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY OPENED AT 12 NOON.

+ITEMS ON SALE ARE VERY REASONABLY PRICED AND DISCERNING BUYERS ARE ADVISED TO ARRIVE EARLY AS THE FAIR WILL CLOSE AT 5 PM,+ A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

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CRIME PREVENTION CAMPAIGN IN YAU MA TEI

YAU MA TEI DISTRICT WILL LAUNCH A MONTH-LONG CRIME PREVENTION CAMPAIGN TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

THE CAMPAIGN, ORGANISED BY THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE AND THE CRIME PREVENTION WORKING GROUP, AIMS TO PROMOTE CRIME PREVENTION THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT.

+THROUGH A SERIES OF EDUCATIONAL AND INTERESTING ACTIVITIES WE HOPE TO ENHANCE RESIDENTS' AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF CRIME PREVENTION,+ SAID THE CHAIRMAN OF THE WORKING GROUP, MR YIP WAH.

+PEOPLE SHOULD PROTECT THEMSELVES AGAINST CRIME BY ADOPTING VARIOUS SECURITY MEASURES AND THEY SHOULD SUPPORT THE POLICE BY REPORTING CRIME,+ HE SAID.

THERE WILL BE THREE QUIZ COMPETITIONS DESIGNED TO ENHANCE CRIME PREVENTION KNOWLEDGE AMONG SCHOOL CHILDREN, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, OWNERS CORPORATION MEMBERS AND LOCAL RESIDENTS.

WINNERS OF THE COMPETITIONS, WHICH START TOMORROW, WILL BE AWARDED PRIZES AT A CEREMONY TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 24 IN THE HENRY G. LEONG COMMUNITY CENTRE AT PUBLIC SQUARE STREET.

THERE WILL ALSO BE A COMPETITION FOR THE MOST SECURITY CONSCIOUS BUILDING AND A CONTEST FOR THE MOST ACTIVE MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE AND OWNERS CORPORATION.

OTHER ACTIVITIES INCLUDE AN EXHIBITION, A CRIME PREVENTION SEMINAR AND A VISIT TO THE IDENTIFICATION BUREAU AND CRIME PREVENTION UNITS OF THE POLICE FORCE.

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FANLING ANTI-CRIME VARIETY SHOW

A VARIETY SHOW WITH A +FIGHT CRIME AND DRUGS+ MESSAGE WILL BE HELD AT THE CHEUNG WAH ESTATE IN FANLING ON SATURDAY (NOVEMBER 3) EVENING.

THE SHOW, STARTING AT 7 PM, WILL FEATURE POPULAR SONGS, DANCES AND A DRAMA PERFORMANCE.

IT IS PART OF A YEAR-LONG CAMPAIGN ORGANISED BY THE FANLING FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE AND SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD.

THE CAMPAIGN, DESIGNED TO EDUCATE RESIDENTS IN THE DISTRICT ON THE IMPORTANCE OF CURBING CRIME, INCLUDES SHOWS, SEMINARS, YOUTH CAMPS, EXHIBITIONS AND A SLOGAN COMPETITION.

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1984

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RESTRICTED ZONE IN TUEN MUN
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FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 2), PUI TO ROAD BETWEEN TSING WUN ROAD AND TUEN MUN HEUNG SZE WUI ROAD IN TUEN MUN WILL BE MADE A RESTRICTED ZONE FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY.

WITHIN THE ZONE, DRIVERS OF 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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TRAFFIC CHANGE
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FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 2), THE SECTION OF PO YICK STREET IN TAI PO BETWEEN KWONG FUK ROAD AND ON FU ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY WESTBOUND TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC.

MOTORISTS WISHING TO PROCEED TO PO YICK STREET ARE ADVISED TO USE ON FU ROAD.

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