



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 1986

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PAY CLAIM FROM NON-DIRECTORATE STAFF
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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) ITS DECISION TO GO AHEAD WITH THE SPECIAL PAY ADJUSTMENT OF 2.7 PER CENT WITH RETROSPECTIVE EFFECT FROM JANUARY 1, 1986 TO ALL NON-DIRECTORATE STAFF.

A REQUEST FOR THE NECESSARY FUNDS TO IMPLEMENT THIS SPECIAL ADJUSTMENT, INVOLVING \$122 MILLION FOR THE REST OF THIS FINANCIAL YEAR, WILL BE PUT TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON MARCH 26. REVISED SALARIES WILL BE PAID AT THE END OF APRIL.

COMMENTING ON THE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION THE SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE, MR DAVID FORD, SAID, +THE REACTIONS OF THE THREE CENTRAL CONSULTATIVE COUNCILS AS WELL AS THE REQUEST MADE BY THE 17-MEMBER DELEGATION OF THE JOINT CONFERENCE OF CIVIL SERVICE UNIONS YESTERDAY WERE CONSIDERED BY THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL TODAY.

+NO NEW FACTS WERE PRODUCED BY THE STAFF WHICH WOULD JUSTIFY A FURTHER IMPROVEMENT TO THE OFFER MADE BY THE GOVERNMENT ON FEBRUARY 4. IT WAS THEREFORE DECIDED THAT THE AWARD OF 2.7 PER CENT BACKDATED TO JANUARY 1 SHOULD NOT BE VARIED.

+I MUST STRESS AGAIN THAT THIS IS AN INTERIM MEASURE PENDING THE OUTCOME OF THE PAY LEVEL SURVEY FOR NON-DIRECTORATE STAFF IN THE COMING FINANCIAL YEAR.

+IN REACHING THIS DECISION THE GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN FULL ACCOUNT OF THE REPORT BY THE STANDING COMMISSION, STAFF REACTIONS AND THE PUBLIC INTEREST AS A WHOLE.+

MR FORD RECALLED THAT THE FINDINGS OF THE STANDING COMMISSION ON CIVIL SERVICE SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE LAST DECEMBER CONCLUDED THAT CIVIL SERVICE NON-DIRECTORATE SALARIES HAD LAGGED SLIGHTLY BEHIND THE PRIVATE SECTOR AT THE NON-DIRECTORATE LEVEL.

THE ESTIMATED DIFFERENCES WERE 2.7 PER CENT FOR THE UPPER PAY BAND, 0.36 PER CENT FOR THE MIDDLE PAY BAND AND 0.32 PER CENT FOR THE LOWER PAY BAND.

IN THE LIGHT OF THE STANDING COMMISSION'S ADVICE AND HAVING TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT THE STAFF REACTIONS, THE GOVERNMENT MADE AN OFFER OF A TWO PER CENT ACROSS THE BOARD ADJUSTMENT WITH EFFECT FROM JANUARY 1, 1986. THIS WAS A PACKAGE SIX TIMES BETTER THAN THE STANDING COMMISSION'S FINDINGS IN TERMS OF VALUE TO OVER 94 PER CENT OF STAFF.

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IN THE LIGHT OF FURTHER REPRESENTATIONS MADE BY STAFF, THE GOVERNMENT RECONSIDERED THE POSITION AND MADE A FINAL OFFER OF 2.7 PER CENT WITH EFFECT FROM JANUARY 1, 1986.

+THIS PACKAGE IS FAIR AND REASONABLE AS AN INTERIM MEASURE PENDING THE OUTCOME OF THE PAY LEVEL SURVEY FOR NON-DIRECTORATE STAFF,+ MR FORD ADDED.

+IT IS EIGHT TIMES BETTER THAN THE STANDING COMMISSION'S FINDINGS FOR THE MAJORITY OF STAFF, AND IS A GENUINE EFFORT ON THE PART OF THE GOVERNMENT TO REACH A COMPROMISE ON THIS ISSUE.

+IN TERMS OF COST IT REPRESENTS ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE OF \$485 MILLION IN A FULL FINANCIAL YEAR. SINCE THE FINDINGS OF THE STANDING COMMISSION WERE SUBMITTED, THE GOVERNMENT HAS TWICE RESPONDED TO STAFF REPRESENTATIONS.

+ANY FURTHER INCREASED OFFER NOW WOULD BE A MAJOR AND UNACCEPTABLE DEPARTURE FROM THE STANDING COMMISSION'S FINDINGS AND COULD JEOPARDISE THE PRINCIPLES OF THE PAY ADJUSTMENT SYSTEM WHICH HAVE SERVED STAFF AND MANAGEMENT WELL OVER THE YEARS.+

MEANWHILE, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN INDICATED THAT PROCEDURES FOR THE ANNUAL PAY ADJUSTMENT EXERCISE TAKING EFFECT ON APRIL 1 WILL COMMENCE IN THE NEAR FUTURE. THE RECENT FINDINGS OF THE PAY TREND SURVEY OF PRIVATE SECTOR COMPANIES, WHICH ARE IN THE RANGE OF SIX TO SEVEN PER CENT, WILL FORM THE BASIS FOR THE ANNUAL PAY AWARD DUE ON APRIL 1 AND REVISED SALARIES CALCULATED ON A LARGER BASE BECAUSE OF THE SPECIAL PAY ADJUSTMENT ON JANUARY 1 WILL BE PAID IN MAY.

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NINE BILLS, 18 QUESTIONS FOR LEGCO
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NINE BILLS, 18 QUESTIONS AND TWO MOTIONS WILL BE AMONG MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

OF THE NINE BILLS, THE FOLLOWING FOUR WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS, PRIOR TO ADJOURNMENT:

- * DRUG ADDICTION TREATMENT CENTRES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1986;
- * INTERPRETATION AND GENERAL CLAUSES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1986;
- * SMALL CLAIMS TRIBUNAL (AMENDMENT) BILL 1986; AND
- * THEFT (AMENDMENT) BILL 1986.

/DEBATE WILL

DEBATE WILL RESUME ON THE FOLLOWING FIVE BILLS PRIOR TO COMMITTEE STAGE AND THIRD READINGS:

- * INLAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1986;
- * REGIONAL COUNCIL (AMENDMENT) BILL 1986;
- * URBAN COUNCIL (AMENDMENT) BILL 1986;
- * PUBLIC HEALTH AND URBAN SERVICES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1986;
AND
- * HONG KONG ARTS CENTRE BILL 1986.

TWO MOTIONS WILL ALSO BE INTRODUCED. ONE, SEEKING AUTHORITY FOR AN ADVANCE OF A SUM MONEY FROM GENERAL REVENUE FOR EXPENDITURE FOR THE NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR, WILL BE MOVED BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY.

THE OTHER, SEEKING APPROVAL OF THE IMPORT AND EXPORT (REGISTRATION) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1986, MADE BY THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL IN JANUARY THIS YEAR, WILL BE MOVED BY THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

IN ADDITION, THERE WILL BE TWO STATEMENTS MADE BY UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS -- ONE BY THE HON S.L. CHEN, ON THE CITY POLYTECHNIC OF HONG KONG REPORT WITH FINANCIAL REPORT - JANUARY 1984 - JUNE 1985, AND THE OTHER BY THE HON WONG PO-YAN, ON THE HONG KONG BAPTIST COLLEGE - ANNUAL REPORT 1984-85 WITH STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1985.

BOTH DOCUMENTS WILL BE TABLED.

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ADDITIONAL FUNDS SOUGHT FOR SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCES
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THE FINANCE COMMITTEE WILL BE ASKED TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) TO APPROVE A SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISION OF \$5 910 000 TO MEET INCREASED EXPENDITURE ON SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCES.

IN JANUARY THIS YEAR, THE CASELOAD FOR OLD AGE ALLOWANCE STOOD AT 228 695 AND DISABILITY ALLOWANCE CASES AT 47 620, COMPARED WITH 216 067 CASES OF OLD AGE ALLOWANCE AND 4 224 DISABILITY ALLOWANCE CASES IN APRIL LAST YEAR.

THE LATEST REQUEST WILL BRING THE PROVISION OF \$906 600 000 TO \$912 510 000 TO MEET THE INCREASED EXPENDITURE.

/ANOTHER REQUEST

ANOTHER REQUEST FOR APPROVAL BEFORE THE FINANCE COMMITTEE WILL BE A PROPOSAL TO ENABLE ALL CIVIL SERVANTS ENTITLED TO NON-DEPARTMENTAL QUARTERS TO RETAIN SUCH QUARTERS DURING THEIR OVERSEAS LEAVE. THE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO BE ASKED TO ACCEPT THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS, ESTIMATED AT ABOUT \$2.8 MILLION IN ANNUALLY RECURRENT EXPENDITURE, TO BE OFFSET BY ANNUAL SAVINGS OF \$3.7 MILLION IN HOTEL BILLS AND HOTEL SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE.

OTHER SUMS SOUGHT ARE:

- * \$24 472 000 TO REIMBURSE THE HOUSING AUTHORITY EXPENDITURE INCURRED BY THE AUTHORITY ON GOVERNMENT-FUNDED ACTIVITIES DURING 1984-85;
- * \$1 896 000 AS SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISION FOR THE HONG KONG RED CROSS BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE;
- * \$6 630 000 AS SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISION FOR THE POST OFFICE;
- * \$1 923 000 TO MEET THE SHORTFALL IN SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES FOR SECONDED STAFF AND DIRECTLY-ENGAGED STAFF;
- * \$100 000 000 FOR A ONE-OFF GRANT TO THE REGIONAL COUNCIL;
- * \$210 000 000 FOR THE CREATION OF A NEW CAPITAL ACCOUNT SUBHEAD PAYMENT IN RESPECT OF TREGUNTER/QUEEN'S GARDENS JUDGEMENT'.

THE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO BE ASKED TO APPROVE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ESTABLISHMENT SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE REORGANISATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY.

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LUNCH PARTY FOR CHINESE JLG TEAM
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SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BRITISH TEAM OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP, DR DAVID WILSON, WILL HOST A LUNCH PARTY FOR MEMBERS OF THE CHINESE TEAM ON THURSDAY (MARCH 13).

THE PARTY WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE HONG KONG ROOM OF THE HILTON HOTEL AT 1.15 PM AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE BRITISH TEAM WILL ALSO ATTEND.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

A FIVE-MINUTE PHOTO CALL WILL BE ARRANGED FOR ACCREDITED MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES BEFORE THE LUNCH PARTY BEGINS.

/MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES

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MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES NOMINATED TO COVER THIS FUNCTION ARE REQUIRED TO SEND IN THEIR NAMES AND IDENTITY CARD NUMBERS TO THE DUTY OFFICER OF GIS BEFORE NOON TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

EDITORS SHOULD NOTE THAT THEIR REPRESENTATIVE NOMINATED MUST BE THE ONE ACTUALLY COVERING THE EVENT. THE NAME AND IDENTITY CARD NUMBER OF EACH MEDIA REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE CHECKED BEFORE THE FUNCTION, AND ANYONE WHO HAS NOT BEEN NOMINATED FOR THE PARTICULAR FUNCTION WILL NOT BE GIVEN ACCESS TO OFFICIAL MEDIA POSITION.

LAPEL BADGES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED ON THE SPOT AGAINST PRODUCTION OF BEARER'S PROOF OF IDENTITY AND AUTHORISATION FROM THE MEDIA ORGANISATION CONCERNED.

YOU ARE ALSO ADVISED THAT ALL MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES COVERING THIS FUNCTION WILL BE REQUIRED TO GO THROUGH SECURITY CHECKS.

ACCREDITED PRESS MEMBERS SHOULD ASSEMBLE OUTSIDE THE HONG KONG ROOM, HILTON HOTEL, AT 12.30 PM ON THURSDAY (MARCH 13) WHEN THEY WILL BE ESCORTED TO PRESS POSITION BY GIS OFFICERS.

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HONG KONG ANNUAL REPORT 1986 ON SALE
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HONG KONG 1986, THE OFFICIAL YEARBOOK OF HONG KONG, WHICH PROVIDES A RECORD OF ACTIVITIES, ACHIEVEMENTS AND EVENTS IN THE TERRITORY IN 1985, IS NOW AVAILABLE. FULL OF FACTS AND FIGURES, IT IS ALSO LAVISHLY ILLUSTRATED.

THE NEW-LOOK YEARBOOK, WITH A LAMINATED HARD-BACK COVER, IS AVAILABLE IN CHINESE AND ENGLISH EDITIONS FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, LEADING BOOKSHOPS, AND DISTRICT OFFICES. THE PRICE REMAINS AT \$32.

HONG KONG 1986 HAS 283 PAGES OF TEXT AS WELL AS A WIDE-RANGING SERIES OF APPENDICES PROVIDING USEFUL STATISTICAL INFORMATION.

THE FIRST OF THE 22 CHAPTERS PUTS INTO PERSPECTIVE THE KEY POSITION THAT HONG KONG HAS ATTAINED AS A LEADING INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL AND MANUFACTURING CENTRE. THIS CHAPTER ALSO EXAMINES THE VARIOUS FACTORS THAT HAVE MADE THIS POSSIBLE, ESPECIALLY THE PROVISION OF EXCELLENT COMMUNICATIONS WHICH ENABLE THE TERRITORY TO KEEP IN INSTANT TOUCH WITH THE REST OF THE WORLD. IT DESCRIBES VIVIDLY HOW HONG KONG HAS PROVED WRONG THE EARLY BRITISH OFFICIAL WHO MAINTAINED THAT A SHILLING SPENT ON HONG KONG WAS A SHILLING WASTED.

/OTHER CHAPTERS

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OTHER CHAPTERS PROVIDE A DETAILED ACCOUNT OF PROGRESS IN SUCH FIELDS AS EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE, MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, HOUSING, TRANSPORT, INDUSTRY, AND PUBLIC ORDER.

THE SUBJECTS COVERED IN THE 10 SECTIONS OF COLOUR PICTURES RANGE FROM DEVELOPMENTS IN TRANSPORT TO THE WATCHES AND CLOCKS INDUSTRY, IN WHICH HONG KONG LEADS THE WORLD IN EXPORTS. ONE SECTION ILLUSTRATES HOW STATUE SQUARE HAS CHANGED OVER THE YEARS, AND ANOTHER IS DEVOTED TO FLOWERS.

THE YEARBOOK IS PRODUCED BY THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES, ASSISTED BY THE CHINESE LANGUAGE DIVISION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND INFORMATION BRANCH, AND IS PRINTED BY THE GOVERNMENT PRINTER.

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CHEONG-LEEN TO STEP DOWN AFTER FIVE YEARS
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MR HILTON CHEONG-LEEN TODAY ANNOUNCED HE WOULD NOT SEEK RE-ELECTION AS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE URBAN COUNCIL AFTER FIVE YEARS IN THE TOP POST.

IN A STATEMENT AT THE COUNCIL'S MONTHLY MEETING THIS AFTERNOON, MR CHEONG-LEEN SAID HE WOULD, HOWEVER, CONTINUE TO SERVE THE COUNCIL AS A BACK-BENCHER AFTER HAVING BEEN RE-ELECTED LAST THURSDAY FOR ANOTHER THREE-YEAR TERM.

MR CHEONG-LEEN, WHO HAS BEEN AN ELECTED URBAN COUNCILLOR SINCE 1957, SAID: +ALREADY ONE YEAR AGO I HAD INTIMATED TO A FEW SENIOR COLLEAGUES THAT I WAS CONSIDERING NOT TO SEEK RE-ELECTION AS CUC IN 1986. THIS VIEW WAS FURTHER REINFORCED WHEN I WAS ELECTED LATER IN THE YEAR TO LEGCO THROUGH THE URBCO ELECTORAL COLLEGE.

+I HAVE ENJOYED EVERY DAY OF MY FIVE YEARS AS CUC. IN MY FIRST YEAR OF OFFICE URBCO'S BUDGET FOR 1981 YEAR WAS \$919.8 MILLION WITH CAPITAL WORKS STANDING AT \$145.8 MILLION. FOR THIS YEAR, COMMENCING APRIL 1, 1986, COUNCIL'S BUDGET WILL BE \$2 059.6 MILLION, WITH AN ESTIMATED SURPLUS OF \$26.0 MILLION, AND CAPITAL WORKS STANDING AT \$302.9 MILLION. THIS WILL BE THE FIRST TIME IN COUNCIL'S HISTORY THAT OUR BUDGET WILL EXCEED \$2 BILLION.

+THE INCREASE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND CAPITAL WORK FIGURES BETWEEN 1981 AND 1986 REPRESENT AN INCREASE OF 124% AND 108% RESPECTIVELY.

/+WE CAN

+WE CAN FURTHERMORE LOOK FORWARD TO THE COMPLETION BY THE NEXT THREE TO FOUR YEARS OF THE CULTURAL CENTRE IN TSIM SHA TSUI, THE MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND ALSO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE KOWLOON BARRACKS AREA WITH THE HELP OF THE JOCKEY CLUB. WE HAVE ALSO ABSORBED MUCH OF THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE FORMER RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT SINCE LAST YEAR.

+I SHALL VERY MUCH MISS MY TENURE AS CUC, BUT NEVERTHELESS I SHALL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO REMAIN IN THIS COUNCIL FOR ANOTHER FEW YEARS AND TO GIVE MY SUPPORT AS A BACK-BENCHER TO WHOEVER IS ELECTED AS MY SUCCESSOR IN JUST A FEW WEEKS FROM NOW.+

ON BEHALF OF ALL COUNCILLORS, MR CHEONG-LEEN BADE FAREWELL TO FIVE OUTGOING COUNCIL MEMBERS -- MR BROOK BERNACCHI, DR DENNY HUANG, MR EDMUND CHOW, MISS MARIA TAM AND MR AUGUSTINE CHUNG, AND PAID TRIBUTE TO THEIR LONG, LOYAL AND DEDICATED SERVICE.

MR CHEONG-LEEN ALSO EXTENDED A HEARTY WELCOME TO THE FIVE NEW COUNCILLORS WHOSE TERMS WILL BEGIN ON APRIL 1, MR CHAN KWOK-MING, MS CHEUNG WAI-PING, MR CHOW WAI-KEUNG, MS FOK PUI-YEE AND MR MAN SAI-CHEONG. HE HOPED THAT THEY WOULD JOIN HANDS WITH COUNCIL MEMBERS IN PERFORMING COUNCIL WORK AND SERVING THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG.

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SERVICES FOR ELDERLY TO CONTINUE GROWING
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IN THE FACE OF A GROWING ELDERLY POPULATION, THE GOVERNMENT HAS GIVEN GREATER EMPHASIS IN RECENT YEARS TO DEVELOP A WIDE RANGE OF SERVICES FOR OLD PEOPLE, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS ANSON CHAN, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE ZONTA CLUB OF NEW TERRITORIES, SHE POINTED OUT THAT THE ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PEOPLE AGED 60 AND OVER IN 1984 WAS 594 800, AND THAT THIS WAS EXPECTED TO INCREASE TO 688 800 BY 1988 AND 737 100 BY 1990.

WHILE LISTING THE VARIOUS FORMS OF ASSISTANCE FOR THE AGED, SHE NOTED THAT IT WAS THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY TO ENCOURAGE THE ELDERLY TO REMAIN IN THE COMMUNITY FOR AS LONG AS POSSIBLE, AND TO PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES WITH ELDERLY MEMBERS AT HOME.

IN FINANCIAL TERMS, A SINGLE ELDERLY PERSON WITHOUT ANY MEANS OF SUPPORT COULD RECEIVE A MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF \$1 041 IN PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PER MONTH COMPRISING \$510 FOR THE BASIC RATE, \$276 FOR RENT AND \$255 FOR OLD AGE SUPPLEMENT.

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+SIXTY-THREE PER CENT OF OUR TOTAL PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CASELOAD OF ABOUT 62 000 ARE OLD PEOPLE,+ MRS CHAN SAID.

ELDERLY PEOPLE OVER THE AGE OF 70 ARE ELIGIBLE FOR AN OLD AGE ALLOWANCE OF \$255 WHICH IS NON-MEANS-TESTED, AND AT PRESENT 86 PER CENT OF THE ELIGIBLE AGE GROUP ARE RECEIVING THIS ALLOWANCE.

+IN 1986-87, WE EXPECT 236 400 RECIPIENTS AND TOTAL PAYMENT OF \$676.4 MILLION FOR THE YEAR,+ MRS CHAN SAID.

OLD PEOPLE STAYING AT HOME COULD RECEIVE GOVERNMENT OR SUBVENTED ASSISTANCE IN THE FORMS OF FAMILY COUNSELLING SERVICE, ACCOMMODATION ASSISTANCE AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES INCLUDING HOME HELP AND DAY-CARE SERVICES.

HOME HELP INCLUDED SERVICES SUCH AS MEAL DELIVERY, PERSONAL HYGIENE, HOUSEHOLD WORK AND ESCORTING.

DAY-CARE SERVICES CONSISTED OF THE PROVISION OF SOCIAL CENTRES, MULTI-SERVICE CENTRES AND DAY-CARE CENTRES IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD OR IN THE DISTRICT WHERE THE ELDERLY PERSON LIVED.

FURTHER ASSISTANCE FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE WHO COULD TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES INCLUDED PRIORITY SCHEME FOR ALLOCATION OF PUBLIC HOUSING UNITS, SINGLETON UNITS AND SHARED FLATS IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES AND COMPASSIONATE REHOUSING.

+UNDER THE PRIORITY SCHEME FOR ALLOCATION OF PUBLIC HOUSING UNITS FOR APPLICANTS WITH ELDERLY MEMBERS, THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT GIVES FIRST CONSIDERATION TO PUBLIC HOUSING APPLICANTS WITH FAMILY MEMBERS AGED 60 AND OVER.

+THESE FAMILIES ARE USUALLY ALLOCATED PUBLIC HOUSING UNITS A YEAR AHEAD OF OTHER APPLICANTS,+ MRS CHAN SAID.

ALTHOUGH FAMILIES WERE ENCOURAGED TO TAKE CARE OF ELDERLY MEMBERS, MRS CHAN SAID IT WAS ACCEPTED THAT THERE WERE OLD PEOPLE WHO FOR HEALTH, SOCIAL OR OTHER REASONS COULD NOT CONTINUE TO LIVE WITH THEIR FAMILIES OR ON THEIR OWN, AND WERE IN NEED OF ACCOMMODATION AND SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE GOVERNMENT AND WELFARE AGENCIES.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICE FOR THE ELDERLY COULD BE CLASSIFIED INTO SHELTERED HOUSING, HOSTEL, HOME FOR THE AGED, AND CARE AND ATTENTION HOMES.

THERE WERE TWO SHELTERED HOUSING SCHEMES RUN BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT IN SHA TIN AND WAN CHAI, AND TWO SCHEMES RUN BY THE HONG KONG HOUSING SOCIETY AT CHO YIU CHUEN AND JAT MIN CHUEN.

/IN JULY

IN JULY 1985 THE HOUSING AUTHORITY DECIDED THAT THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT WOULD RESERVE PREMISES FOR A SHELTERED HOUSING UNIT IN EVERY NEW PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE WITH OVER 3 000 FLATS.

EACH UNIT WOULD HAVE A CAPACITY OF 100 TO 150 PLACES AND THE FIRST OF THESE UNITS WAS SCHEDULED TO BE AVAILABLE IN THE 1986-87 FINANCIAL YEAR, MRS CHAN SAID.

HOSTELS CATERED TO THE ELDERLY IN NEED OF SUPPORT, SECURITY AND SOME SUPERVISION, AND USUALLY PROVIDED A SELF-CARE SECTION AND A MEAL SECTION FOR RESIDENTS WHO COULD NOT COPE WITH COOKING.

ELDERLY PEOPLE IN NEED OF A GREATER DEGREE OF CARE COULD BE ADMITTED TO HOMES FOR THE AGED, CARE AND ATTENTION HOMES OR INFIRMARIES.

AT PRESENT ALL CARE AND ATTENTION HOMES WERE PURPOSE-BUILT, BUT THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT WAS NOW OFFERING PREMISES IN NEW PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES FOR HOMES FOR THE AGED, EACH ATTACHED WITH A CARE AND ATTENTION UNIT.

+THE FIRST OF THESE HOMES AND CARE AND ATTENTION UNITS IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN OPERATION IN THE FINANCIAL YEAR OF 1987-88,+ MRS CHAN SAID.

ALL SUCH RESIDENTIAL SERVICES WERE FEE-CHARGING THOUGH ON A HEAVILY SUBSIDISED BASIS, SO THAT NO ELDERLY PEOPLE WOULD BE BARRED FROM ADMISSION ON FINANCIAL GROUNDS.

GIVEN A GROWING ELDERLY POPULATION, IT WAS NOT DIFFICULT TO APPRECIATE WHY IN RECENT YEARS SO MUCH EMPHASIS HAD BEEN GIVEN TO DEVELOPING THIS WIDE RANGE OF SERVICES AND OPTIONS FOR OLD PEOPLE, SHE SAID.

+THIS EMPHASIS WILL CONTINUE BUT IT CANNOT BE OVER-EMPHASISED THAT THE OLD AMONG US IS A RESPONSIBILITY THAT FAMILIES AND SOCIETY AT LARGE MUST SHARE.

+GOVERNMENT ALONE CANNOT HOPE TO MEET THIS CHALLENGE,+ SHE ADDED.

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LEARNING MORE ABOUT METRICATION OF WEATHER SERVICES

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FURTHER PUBLICITY ON THE USE OF METRIC UNITS FOR THE PUBLIC WEATHER SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY WILL START TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY). A SERIES OF SPECIALLY PREPARED ANNOUNCEMENTS OF PUBLIC INTEREST (API) ON THE USE OF METRIC UNITS IN THE TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNING SERVICE WILL BE BROADCAST BY TELEVISION AND RADIO STATIONS.

THE FIRST TWO IN THE API SERIES WILL INTRODUCE THE METRIC UNITS OF DISTANCE AND SPEED OF MOVEMENT OF TROPICAL CYCLONE SYSTEMS. KILOMETRES (KM) WILL BE USED IN TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNING BULLETINS IN RELATING THE DISTANCE OF A TROPICAL CYCLONE TO A PLACE AND KILOMETRES PER HOUR (KM/H) TO INDICATE THE SPEED OF MOVEMENT OF TROPICAL CYCLONE.

THE STAND BY SIGNAL NO. 1, FOR EXAMPLE, MEANS A TROPICAL CYCLONE IS CENTRED WITHIN 800 KILOMETRES OF HONG KONG AND MAY LATER AFFECT US. AS A RULE OF THUMB, A TROPICAL CYCLONE TRAVELLING AT 30 KM/H IS A FAST MOVING TROPICAL CYCLONE WHILE A MOVEMENT SPEED OF 10 KM/H WOULD IMPLY A SLOWLY MOVING TROPICAL CYCLONE.

THE THIRD API INTRODUCES THE CLASSIFICATION OF WIND SPEEDS IN KILOMETRES PER HOUR. LIGHT WINDS ARE 2 TO 12 KM/H, MODERATE 13 TO 30 KM/H, FRESH 31 TO 40 KM/H AND STRONG 41 TO 62 KM/H.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY SAID THAT PUBLICITY ON THE METRICATION OF THE PUBLIC WEATHER SERVICES WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNINGS WAS LAUNCHED AT THIS TIME OF THE YEAR TO FAMILIARISE THE PUBLIC WITH THE USE OF METRIC UNITS IN TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNING BULLETINS BEFORE THE APPROACH OF THE TYPHOON SEASON.

LEAFLETS CONTAINING INFORMATION ON THE METRIC UNITS USED ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY OR ANY DISTRICT OFFICE.

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CENTRAL ALLOCATION OF PRIMARY ONE PLACES

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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT CHILDREN WHO FAILED TO SECURE A DISCRETIONARY PRIMARY ONE PLACE AT PUBLIC SECTOR SCHOOLS TO WHICH THEY APPLIED LAST SEPTEMBER WILL BE CENTRALLY ALLOCATED A PLACE IN A GOVERNMENT OR AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL.

PARENTS OF THESE CHILDREN WILL RECEIVE A LETTER FROM THE DEPARTMENT'S PRIMARY ONE ADMISSION UNIT ON HOW TO COLLECT FROM SPECIFIED CENTRES A +CHOICE OF SCHOOLS+ PRO-FORMA BETWEEN SUNDAY (MARCH 16) AND NEXT WEDNESDAY (MARCH 19) FROM 9 AM TO 4 PM.

/PARENTS WILL

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PARENTS WILL ALSO RECEIVE FOR THEIR INFORMATION A LIST OF ALL GOVERNMENT AND AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS LOCATED IN THEIR OWN DISTRICT.

COMPLETED FORMS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE SAME CENTRE WITHIN THE SPECIFIED PERIOD, A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

PARENTS WHO HAVE NOT RECEIVED THE LETTER BY SUNDAY (MARCH 16) SHOULD CONTACT THE PRIMARY ONE ADMISSION UNIT ON 5-724383 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

DUE TO THE UNEVEN DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLIC SECTOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS, PARENTS SHOULD NOTE THAT A NUMBER OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS WHICH DO NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT PLACES HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED PLACES FROM SCHOOLS IN NEIGHBOURING DISTRICTS TO MAKE GOOD THE SHORTFALL.

HOWEVER, THE SPOKESMAN ASSURED THAT WHEREVER POSSIBLE CHILDREN WOULD BE ALLOCATED TO A SCHOOL NEAR THEIR HOME.

THE CENTRAL ALLOCATION IS SOLELY BASED ON PARENTS' CHOICES WITH NO REFERENCE TO THE POINTS SYSTEM, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

A RANDOMISATION METHOD WILL BE USED TO ENSURE FAIRNESS TO ALL APPLICANTS WHEN A SCHOOL IS OVERSUBSCRIBED, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

PARENTS WHO HAVE RECENTLY MOVED HOUSE OR ARE ABOUT TO MOVE TO ANOTHER DISTRICT ARE REQUIRED TO KEEP THE PRIMARY ONE ADMISSION UNIT INFORMED SO THAT ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE TO ALLOCATE A PLACE TO THEIR CHILDREN IN THEIR NEW HOME DISTRICT.

RESULTS OF THE CENTRAL ALLOCATION OF PLACES WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN JUNE, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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LOOK-AND-LEARN VISIT TO TAI PO INDUSTRIAL ESTATE
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MEMBERS OF THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY COMMITTEE OF THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD TODAY (TUESDAY) VISITED THE TAI PO INDUSTRIAL ESTATE AS PART OF THE COMMITTEE'S CONTINUOUS EFFORT TO PROMOTE COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE DISTRICT.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE, MR TAI CHIN-WAH SAID, +WE ARE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN LEARNING ABOUT THE DEVELOPMENT AND SUCCESS OF THE TAI PO INDUSTRIAL ESTATE AS WE ALSO HAVE AN INDUSTRIAL ESTATE IN YUEN LONG, OFFERING THE SAME FACILITIES AND SAME INCENTIVES FOR INVESTMENT.

/+WE ANTICIPATE

+WE ANTICIPATE THAT AS THE TAI PO INDUSTRIAL ESTATE REACHES ITS FULL CAPACITY LATER THIS YEAR, THE INDUSTRIAL LAND AVAILABLE IN THE YUEN LONG INDUSTRIAL ESTATE WILL QUICKLY BE TAKEN UP,+ HE SAID.

+OUR VISIT TODAY, APART FROM ENABLING US TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH OFFICIALS OF THE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE CORPORATION, ALSO ALLOWS OUR MEMBERS TO STUDY ON-THE-SPOT THE SUCCESS OF OUR COUNTERPART. THIS WILL HELP US FORMULATE OUR FUTURE STRATEGY IN ENCOURAGING INDUSTRIALISTS TO ESTABLISH A BASE IN YUEN LONG.

+IT IS ENCOURAGING TO LEARN FROM THE CORPORATION THAT THE NUMBER OF ENQUIRIES FROM BOTH LOCAL AND OVERSEAS INDUSTRIALISTS ABOUT THE YUEN LONG INDUSTRIAL ESTATE HAS BEEN PICKING UP.+

MR TAI WAS CONFIDENT THAT WITH SO MANY MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS COMING UP IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS, THE YUEN LONG INDUSTRIAL ESTATE WOULD SOON BECOME A POPULAR INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT HEADLAND.

CITING EXAMPLES, HE SAID THE MOST PROMISING DEVELOPMENT WOULD BE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SYSTEM WHICH WOULD GREATLY IMPROVE THE TRANSPORTATION BETWEEN YUEN LONG AND TUEN MUN.

THE OTHER LARGE PROJECT WAS THE CONSTRUCTION OF HONG KONG'S THIRD CROSS-BORDER HIGHWAY AT LOK MA CHAU WHICH WOULD LINK UP WITH THE NEW TERRITORIES CIRCULAR ROAD, PROVIDING A FAST ACCESS TO CHINA UPON ITS COMPLETION IN 1988.

+THE IMPROVED COMMUNICATION NETWORK WILL GREATLY ENHANCE YUEN LONG'S STRATEGIC POSITION AS A COMMERCIAL CENTRE OR SERVICE SUPPORT BASE FOR ESTABLISHING BORDER TRADE OPERATIONS.+

MOREOVER, THESE MAJOR TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS ARE BEING MATCHED BY NEW HOUSING PLANS.

THE LONG PING ESTATE WHICH IS VIRTUALLY NEXT TO THE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE IS NEARING COMPLETION. THE FIRST INTAKE OF POPULATION WILL COMMENCE IN ABOUT TWO MONTHS AND BY 1987, IT WILL HOUSE 40 000 PEOPLE. IN THE 1990'S, COUPLED WITH THE POPULATION OF THE TIN SHUI WAI NEW TOWN, YUEN LONG WILL HAVE AN AMPLE SUPPLY INDUSTRIAL WORKFORCE.

DURING TODAY'S VISIT, BOARD MEMBERS WERE BRIEFED BY THE CORPORATION'S MANAGER, MR FRANCIS LEUNG, AFTER WHICH THEY TOURED A FACTORY IN THE ESTATE WHICH MANUFACTURES ALUMINIUM BEVERAGE CANS, AND THE TAI PO SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT.

CLEARANCE OPERATION IN CAUSEWAY BAY
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FORTY-TWO ILLEGAL STRUCTURES AT THE REAR LANE OF 36-66 JARDINE'S BAZAAR IN CAUSEWAY BAY ARE BEING REMOVED IN A CLEARANCE OPERATION WHICH BEGAN TODAY (TUESDAY).

TWENTY-EIGHT OF THE STRUCTURES WERE USED FOR STORAGE, WHILE 12 WERE DOMESTIC UNITS AND TWO FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES.

OF THE 31 PEOPLE AFFECTED, 12 WERE RE-HOUSED EITHER IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES OR TEMPORARY HOUSING AREAS, WHILE 19 PEOPLE WERE FOUND TO BE INELIGIBLE FOR RE-HOUSING.

TODAY'S OPERATION, JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE, LANDS DEPARTMENT, URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT, FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE POLICE, IS ONE OF A SERIES OF CLEARANCE EXERCISES CARRIED OUT IN THE DISTRICT TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT. IT IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN A FEW DAYS' TIME.

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KOWLOON RAILWAY STATION PODIUM TO BE EXTENDED
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WORK ON EXTENDING THE EXISTING PODIUM AT KOWLOON RAILWAY STATION WILL START BEFORE THE END OF THE MONTH.

A \$49.5 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE PROJECT WAS RECENTLY AWARDED BY THE RAILWAY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE. WORK WILL INCLUDE CONSTRUCTION OF A STEEL AND CONCRETE PODIUM WITH ASSOCIATED ROAD AND DRAINAGE WORK.

ON COMPLETION IN APRIL 1988, THE AREA OF THE PODIUM WILL BE INCREASED BY ONE HECTARE TO ABOUT 6.5 HECTARES.

THIS IS THE FINAL STAGE OF A DEVELOPMENT PLAN TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL AREA TO THE PODIUM TO ENHANCE TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE FACILITIES AT THE STATION.

THE FIRST STAGE OF THE PLAN, WHICH INCLUDED CONSTRUCTING THE FOUNDATIONS FOR THE EXTENSION AND RELAYING 1 600 METRES OF TRACK AT THE STATION'S GOODS YARD, WAS COMPLETED EARLY THIS YEAR.

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IMPROVEMENT TO PENG CHAU WATER SUPPLY
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A LARGER PIPELINE WILL BE LAID TO IMPROVE THE SUPPLY OF FRESH WATER TO PENG CHAU ISLAND.

THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE LAYING OF A 1 700-METRE SUBMARINE PIPE CONNECTING THE JUNCTION CHAMBER OFF SUNSHINE ISLAND TO PENG CHAU.

THE PIPE WHICH WILL BE 300 MM IN DIAMETER IS TO REPLACE THE PRESENT ONE WHICH IS TOO SMALL TO CATER FOR GROWING DEMAND.

WHEN WORK STARTS IN JULY, THE ISLAND'S POPULATION WILL RECEIVE WATER FROM SILVERMINE BAY THROUGH ANOTHER SUBMARINE PIPELINE.

THE SCHEME IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN NINE MONTHS.

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APPROVAL GIVEN FOR OVERSEAS TRAINING
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THE ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL TODAY (TUESDAY) GAVE APPROVAL FOR TWO SERVING OFFICERS TO ATTEND SPECIALIST COURSES ON PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES OVERSEAS IN 1986-87.

THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAD PROPOSED SENDING AN ASSISTANT PEST CONTROL OFFICER TO ATTEND A 13-WEEK ATTACHMENT TRAINING WITH THE CENTRE FOR DISEASE CONTROL IN THE UNITED STATES AND A HEALTH INSPECTORATE OFFICER TO ATTEND THE DIPLOMA COURSE IN HEALTH EDUCATION AT THE LEEDS POLYTECHNIC IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

SPEAKING AT THE COMMITTEE MEETING, THE PRINCIPAL OF THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S TRAINING SCHOOL, MR ALBERT WONG, SAID ONE OF THE OBJECTIVES OF THE ATTACHMENT TRAINING WITH THE CENTRE FOR DISEASE CONTROL IS TO GIVE THE OFFICER THE NECESSARY EXPOSURE TO VARIOUS RELEVANT DISCIPLINES, PARTICULARLY IN RESEARCH TECHNIQUE AND ORGANISATION OF OPERATIONAL STRATEGY.

+THE PURPOSE OF THE DIPLOMA COURSE IN HEALTH EDUCATION AT THE LEEDS POLYTECHNIC,+ HE ADDED, +IS TO BUILD UP A NUCLEUS OF STAFF WITH SPECIALISED KNOWLEDGE IN HEALTH EDUCATION TO TAKE UP THE SPECIALIST RESPONSIBILITIES AND FUNCTIONS IN THE HEALTH EDUCATION SECTION OF THE RSD.+

/THE COMMITTEE

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THE COMMITTEE ALSO GAVE ITS CONSENT TO SENDING A DEPARTMENTAL OFFICER TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN TO BE HELD AT TORQUAY, DEVON, FROM JULY 8 TO 10.

+AS THE RSD HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR DISPOSAL OF THE DEAD IN THE TERRITORY AND FOR PROMOTING CREMATION, IT WILL BENEFIT BY SENDING A DELEGATE TO THE CONFERENCE, + THE RSD'S ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE), MR LI TIN-MING, SAID.

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AUCTION OF SPECIAL CAR NUMBERS ON SATURDAY
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL HOLD ANOTHER AUCTION OF SPECIAL CAR REGISTRATION NUMBERS ON SATURDAY (MARCH 15) AT 10 AM IN THE CITY HALL RECITAL HALL.

A TOTAL OF 35 SPECIAL CAR NUMBERS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR BIDDING. THEY ARE :

DG 882	DH1338	AZ5188	DH6686	DH3288
DH 336	DH2118	DG7832	BE 897	DH 590
DG8676	AW 36	AL1300	625	DH 880
BK 4	DH3228	DH 3	AF6126	CF2323
DH1222	DH8798	CC3882	DH2270	DJ8876
DH2373	CT2000	BL 278	CF8668	AZ 21
DF 3	DH 328	BC 43	DH 128	DJ1396

BIDDERS MUST PAY IN CASH OR BY CHEQUE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE BIDDING AND A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN REMINDED BIDDERS THAT THE VEHICLE REGISTRATION NUMBER WOULD BE ASSIGNED ONLY TO A VEHICLE REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF AUCTION.

PROCEEDS OF THE AUCTION WILL AS USUAL GO TO THE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES FUND.

THE COMING AUCTION WILL BE THE 103RD ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT SINCE MAY 1973.

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TIN HAU TEMPLE GARDEN TO OPEN

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RESIDENTS IN TSUEN WAN WILL HAVE ANOTHER RECREATION FACILITY TO ENJOY WITH THE OPENING OF THE TSUEN WAN TIN HAU TEMPLE GARDEN TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

A CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT 4 PM AT WAI TSUEN ROAD, (NEAR LUK YEUNG SUN CHUEN AND THE JUNCTION OF MIU KONG STREET) TO MARK ITS OPENING.

AMONG THOSE PRESENT WILL BE THE DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL SERVICES, MR TONY HAMMOND, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT COMMITTEE OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL, MR CHAN LAU-FONG, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD, MR CHAU HOW-CHEN.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

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OPENING HOURS OF STUDY ROOMS EXTENDED

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THE STUDY ROOMS OF THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S PUBLIC LIBRARIES WILL EXTEND OPENING HOURS BETWEEN APRIL 1 AND JUNE 30 TO FACILITATE STUDENTS PREPARING FOR EXAMINATIONS.

ALL STUDENTS WHO ARE REGISTERED MEMBERS OF THESE LIBRARIES ARE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY TO USE THE STUDY ROOMS, A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE STUDY ROOMS WILL OPEN ON A TRI-SESSIONAL BASIS, FROM 7.30 AM TO 1.30 PM- 1.45 PM TO 4.15 PM AND 4.30 PM TO 8.30 PM SEVEN DAYS A WEEK INCLUDING PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE OBTAINABLE FROM SOUTH KWAI CHUNG, NORTH KWAI CHUNG, TSUEN WAN, YUEN LONG AND SAI KUNG PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

THE THREE-MONTH OPENING PERIOD WILL BE DIVIDED INTO THREE PHASES - APRIL 1 TO MAY 10, MAY 11 TO MAY 31 AND JUNE 1 TO JUNE 30.

THOSE WISHING TO APPLY FOR THE FIRST TWO PHASES SHOULD RETURN THEIR APPLICATIONS BEFORE SATURDAY (MARCH 15) WHILE THE DEADLINE FOR APPLYING THE THIRD PHASE IS MAY 17.

/APPLICATION OF

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APPLICATION OF SEATS WILL BE DECIDED BY BALLOT IF APPLICATIONS EXCEED THE NUMBER OF SEATS IN THE LIBRARY.

NAMES OF SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS WILL BE POSTED ON THE NOTICE BOARDS OF THE FIVE LIBRARIES A WEEK AFTER THE CLOSING DATES. ADMISSION CARDS WILL BE ISSUED TO THEM LATER.

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BOARD MEMBERS IN CONSULTATIVE CONFERENCE
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TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL MEET REPRESENTATIVES OF VARIOUS LOCAL ORGANISATIONS AT A CONSULTATIVE CONFERENCE ON THURSDAY (MARCH 13) EVENING.

MEMBERS OF RURAL COMMITTEES, AREA COMMITTEES AND MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES WILL ATTEND THE CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN THE CULTURAL ACTIVITIES HALL OF THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL AT 8 PM.

IT IS PART OF A SERIES OF SUCH MEETINGS ORGANISED BY THE BOARD WITH DIFFERENT SECTORS OF RESIDENTS IN THE DISTRICT TO STRENGTHEN MUTUAL COMMUNICATION AND UNDERSTANDING.

THE BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR CHAU HOW-CHEN, WILL REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE BOARD AND ITS COMMITTEES.

THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, DR JAMES HAYES, WILL ATTEND THE CONFERENCE AND PRESENT CERTIFICATES TO THOSE WHO HAVE ASSISTED THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND DISTRICT BOARD IN ORGANISING ACTIVITIES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE CONSULTATIVE CONFERENCE AND THE PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES AT 8 PM ON THURSDAY AT THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL.

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NT BATHING SHEDS FOR LEASE
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NINE BATHING SHEDS ALONG THE WESTERN COAST OF THE NEW TERRITORIES ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR LEASE FROM APRIL 21 TO MARCH 31, 1988.

SEVEN SHEDS ARE AT APPROACH BEACH, ONE IS AT LIDO BEACH AND THE OTHER AT OLD CAFETERIA BEACH, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID.

THEY WILL BE LEASED BY PUBLIC BALLOT IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE RSD'S TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE AT 10 AM ON APRIL 11.

THE ANNUAL PERMIT FEE FOR THE SHEDS RANGES FROM \$2 500 TO \$3 000. ONLY REGISTERED COMPANIES, CLUBS AND ASSOCIATIONS WILL BE ALLOWED TO TAKE PART IN THE BALLOT.

APPLICATION FORMS, AT \$50 EACH, MAY BE OBTAINED FROM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) UNTIL MARCH 26 AT THE ACCOUNTS OFFICE OF THE RSD, 5TH FLOOR, GOLDEN GATE COMMERCIAL BUILDING, 136-138 AUSTIN ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI.

COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED EITHER IN PERSON OR BY POST TO THE RSD'S TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR, FAR EAST BANK BUILDING, 135 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN, BEFORE 1 PM ON APRIL 8 (TUESDAY). LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

ENQUIRERS MAY CALL 0-444281 EXT. 431 FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

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QUIZ COMPETITION FOR FIREMEN
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THE HONG KONG COMMAND OF THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) HELD A QUIZ COMPETITION TO PROMOTE PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND COMMON SENSE AMONG MEMBERS OF THE COMMAND.

FOUR DIVISIONS, INCLUDING EAST, WEST, CENTRAL AND OFFSHORE ISLANDS AND MARINE COMPETED IN THE ANNUAL EVENT, HELD FOR THE SECOND TIMES SINCE LAST YEAR.

CENTRAL SCORED THE HIGHEST MARK AND TOOK THE WINNERS' TROPHY. THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER OF HONG KONG COMMAND, MR BRIAN FENDER, PRESENTED PRIZES AFTER THE COMPETITION AT HARBOUR ROAD FIRE STATION, WHICH WAS ALSO ATTENDED BY THE DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES, MR ROBERT HOLMES, AND SENIOR FIRE OFFICERS.

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MEET THE MEDIA
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THE DIRECTOR OF CIVIL SERVICE TRAINING, MR A.R.B. KITCHELL, WILL MEET THE MEDIA ON THURSDAY (MARCH 13) AT 2.30 PM IN THE GIS PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM, FIFTH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, CENTRAL.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

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PROHIBITED ZONE AND PARKING SPACE SUSPENSION
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TO FACILITATE ROAD WORKS, VEHICLES EXCEEDING 5.5 TONNES GROSS, EXCEPT THOSE FOR LOCAL ACCESS, WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE SECTION OF MAN WA LANE BETWEEN CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL AND DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (MARCH 14) FOR ABOUT FIVE WEEKS.

MEANWHILE, FROM 8 AM ON FRIDAY (MARCH 14) TO MIDNIGHT OF MARCH 28, CAR-PARKING SPACES NO. 5, 6 AND 7 AT THE MURRAY BARRACKS CAR PARK WILL BE SUSPENDED TO FACILITATE DRAINAGE DIVERSION WORKS THERE.

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