



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 1986

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FLAT SALES SHOW FURTHER INCREASE

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THE NUMBER OF SALE AGREEMENTS OF FLATS REGISTERED IN 1985-86 ROSE TO 53 853, AN INCREASE OF 67.9 PER CENT OVER THE FIGURE FOR 1984-85. THE REGISTRAR GENERAL, MR NOEL GLEESON, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

THE TOTAL VALUE OF CONSIDERATIONS IN SALE AGREEMENTS OF FLATS INCREASED BY 96.4 PER CENT FROM \$17.141 BILLION TO \$33.665 BILLION.

DURING THE YEAR, 75 902 ASSIGNMENTS OF FLATS WERE REGISTERED, COMPARED WITH 54 717 IN 1984-85.

OF THESE, A TOTAL OF 7 268 ASSIGNMENTS WERE COMPLETED BY HIS DEPARTMENT ON BEHALF OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY UNDER THE GOVERNMENT'S HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME, COMPARED WITH 9 601.

THE TOTAL VALUE OF CONSIDERATIONS IN ASSIGNMENT OF FLATS INCREASED BY 44.2 PER CENT FROM \$23.117 BILLION TO \$33.327 BILLION.

THERE WERE 661 ASSIGNMENTS OF LOTS AND SECTIONS OF LOTS, 55.9 PER CENT MORE THAN IN 1984-85. THE TOTAL VALUE OF CONSIDERATIONS IN ASSIGNMENTS OF LOTS AND SECTIONS INCREASED BY 975.8 PER CENT FROM \$2.536 BILLION IN 1984-85 TO \$27.283 BILLION IN 1985-86.

SIXTY BUILDING MORTGAGES AND 68 650 OTHER MORTGAGES WERE REGISTERED, UP FROM 33 AND 45 409 RESPECTIVELY IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR. THE TOTAL AMOUNT SECURED UNDER BUILDING MORTGAGES REGISTERED DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR ROSE BY 435.9 PER CENT, FROM \$0.226 BILLION TO \$1.209 BILLION.

THE AMOUNT SECURED UNDER MORTGAGES OTHER THAN BUILDING MORTGAGES ALSO ROSE BY 79.8 PER CENT FROM \$15.206 BILLION TO \$27.341 BILLION.

REPAYMENTS UNDER MORTGAGES OF ALL KINDS, AS EVIDENCED BY DISCHARGES AND RECEIPTS, WERE UP BY 62.4 PER CENT, FROM \$15.227 BILLION TO \$24.722 BILLION.

SEARCHES IN THE LAND OFFICE BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC REACHED AN ALL-TIME HIGH OF 1 051 016, UP BY 40.6 PER CENT.

COMMENTING ON THESE FIGURES, MR GLEESON SAID THEY REFLECTED A CONTINUING AND VERY SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN ACTIVITY IN THE PROPERTY MARKET, PARTICULARLY IN SMALL AND MEDIUM SIZED FLATS.

+THE FIGURES FOR SALE AGREEMENTS OF FLATS, BOTH AS TO THE VALUE OF SALES AND THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF CONSIDERATIONS, WERE A RELIABLE INDICATION OF THIS, AND, GENERALLY SPEAKING, UNITS IN NEW DEVELOPMENTS WERE SELLING WELL,+ HE SAID.

/THE INCREASE

THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF ASSIGNMENTS OF LOTS AND SECTIONS OF LOTS WAS ALSO SIGNIFICANT, BUT THE FIGURES FOR CONSIDERATIONS IN SUCH ASSIGNMENTS WAS NOT SO RELIABLE SINCE A FEW VERY LARGE TRANSACTIONS COULD DISTORT THE OVERALL PICTURE.

NEARLY ALL FIGURES WERE STILL ON THE INCREASE AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR AND DID NOT INCLUDE THE NEW TERRITORIES, HOWEVER, WHERE HIS DEPARTMENT WAS STILL IN THE PROCESS OF TAKING OVER THE DISTRICT LAND REGISTRIES.

MR GLEESON SAID THAT AN INTERESTING ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL INDICATOR WAS THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF REGISTERED PROPERTY OWNERS IN HONG KONG NOW STOOD AT 846 169, AN INCREASE OF 78 762 OR 10.3 PER CENT OVER THE FIGURE AT THE END OF 1984-85 WHICH ITSELF WAS AN INCREASE OF 7.9 PER CENT OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

THE NUMBER OF GOVERNMENT LAND GRANTS AND MODIFICATIONS OF GOVERNMENT LEASE CONDITIONS COMPLETED LAST YEAR DROPPED FROM 272 IN 1984-85 TO 268, WHILE THE TOTAL PREMIUM INVOLVED ROSE BY 67.4 PER CENT FROM \$2.314 BILLION TO \$3.874 BILLION.

SIGNIFICANT GOVERNMENT LAND TRANSACTIONS COMPLETED DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR, INCLUDING THOSE COMPLETED PRIOR TO THE INTRODUCTION OF THE 50-HECTARE LIMIT BY ANNEX III TO THE JOINT DECLARATION ON MAY 27, 1985 INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- (1) THE SALE BY PUBLIC TENDER OF A 7.292-HECTARE SITE IN AREA 75, SHA TIN, TO WILLOWGARTH COMPANY LIMITED AT A PREMIUM OF \$300 000 000 FOR DEVELOPMENT UNDER THE HOME OWNERSHIP (PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION) SCHEME.
- (2) THE SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION OF A 1.069-HECTARE SITE AT QUEENSWAY TO KORNHILL DEVELOPMENT LIMITED (SWIRE GROUP) AT A PREMIUM OF \$703 000 000 FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES.
- (3) THE GRANT OF A 11.448-HECTARE SITE AT YAU YAT TSUEN TO CITY POLYTECHNIC OF HONG KONG AT NIL PREMIUM FOR THE PURPOSES OF A POLYTECHNIC.
- (4) THE GRANT OF A 6.663-HECTARE SITE AT TSING YI AT NIL PREMIUM TO THE HONG KONG HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR DEVELOPMENT UNDER THE HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME.
- (5) THE GRANT OF A 69.391-HECTARE SITE AT TAP SHEK KOK, TUEN MUN, TO KOWLOON ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED AT A PREMIUM OF \$89 522 000 FOR THE PURPOSES OF AN ELECTRICITY GENERATING STATION AND BULK OIL, COAL AND PULVERISED FLY ASH STORAGE.

/((6) THE GRANT

- (6) THE GRANT OF A 2.434-HECTARE SITE AT CHEUNG SHA WAN TO CHINA RESOURCES (HOLDINGS) COMPANY LIMITED AT A PREMIUM OF \$64 000 000 FOR THE PURPOSES OF A CARGO HANDLING PIER AND GODOWN FACILITIES.
- (7) THE SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION OF A 0.6449-HECTARE SITE AT CANTON ROAD TO SCILLA LIMITED AT A PREMIUM OF \$636 000 000 FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES.

DURING THE SAME PERIOD, SURRENDERS AND RESUMPTION OF LAND (EXCLUDING THE NEW TERRITORIES) DROPPED BY 27.6 PER CENT FROM 163 TO 118, WITH THE AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION DECREASING BY 68.2 PER CENT FROM \$137.6 MILLION TO \$43.6 MILLION.

MR GLEESON SAID THE WHOLE OF THE LAND OFFICE IN CENTRAL WOULD MOVE TO THE NEW GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN QUEENSWAY IN THE SECOND HALF OF 1986.

+AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THEREAFTER COMPUTERISATION OF LAND OFFICE RECORDS WOULD COMMENCE AND FULL CONVERSION IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED DURING THE SECOND HALF OF 1988,+ HE ADDED.

OF THE EIGHT NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICT LAND REGISTRIES, FIVE HAD NOW BEEN TAKEN OVER BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT. IT IS INTENDED THE DEPARTMENT WOULD TAKE OVER THE REMAINDER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, MR GLEESON SAID.

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MANUFACTURING ORDERS-ON-HAND SHOW INCREASE * * * *

THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND (IN TERMS OF MONTHS) IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR INCREASED IN FEBRUARY 1986 COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS MONTH, ACCORDING TO THE RESULTS OF A SURVEY RELEASED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN ORDERS-ON-HAND WERE REPORTED BY THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS AND ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES, WHILE THE WEARING APPAREL INDUSTRY RECORDED A SLIGHT INCREASE. THE ORDER POSITIONS IN OTHER MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES SHOWED LITTLE CHANGE.

COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS MONTH, EMPLOYMENT IN MOST MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES FELL AS SOME WORKERS LEFT THEIR JOBS AROUND THE CHINESE NEW YEAR.

SUBSTANTIAL DECREASES IN PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS WERE REPORTED BY ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES AS MANY FIRMS HAD DISTRIBUTED YEAR-END BONUSES AND DOUBLE PAY IN JANUARY.

THE NUMBER OF OPERATIVES EMPLOYED BY CONSTRUCTION FIRMS DROPPED. HOWEVER, THERE WAS AN INCREASE IN PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR AS SOME FIRMS ISSUED YEAR-END BONUSES IN FEBRUARY.

BOTH PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN THE SERVICES SECTORS DECREASED SIGNIFICANTLY DUE TO THE PAYMENT OF BONUSES IN JANUARY.

THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS FOR THE LAST THREE MONTHS ARE SHOWN IN THE TABLES BELOW.

THE SURVEY COVERED A PANEL OF THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURING COMPANIES AND THE 50 LARGEST COMPANIES IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND SELECTED SERVICES SECTORS CHOSEN BY REFERENCE TO THEIR EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH 1983.

AS THE SAMPLE WAS NOT DRAWN ON A RANDOM BASIS, THE DEPARTMENT CAUTIONED THAT RESULTS ON MAGNITUDE OF CHANGE MIGHT NOT REFLECT THE EXPERIENCE OF THE ECONOMY AS A WHOLE, ALTHOUGH THEY SHOULD GIVE A USEFUL INDICATION OF THE DIRECTION ON CHANGE FOR A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ECONOMY IN THE SHORT TERM.

THE SURVEY REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 1986 IS ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, AND THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER, KAI TAK COMMERCIAL BUILDING, AT \$1.50 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE MADE TO THE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION STATISTICS SECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT AT 3-7212854.

A. ORDERS-ON-HAND IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

INDUSTRY	(% CHANGE OVER THE PRECEDING MONTH)			ORDERS-ON-HAND (IN TERMS OF MONTHS) FOR FEBRUARY 1986
	DEC. 1985	JAN. 1986	FEB. 1986	
WEARING APPAREL, EXCEPT FOOTWEAR	2	1	1	4.50
TEXTILES, EXCEPT WEARING APPAREL	3	-1	*	2.44
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	2	2	*	3.88
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	*	-1	6	3.33
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	1	*	4	5.06
OTHERS	*	*	*	4.41
<u>ALL ABOVE INDUSTRIES</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4.28</u>

/B. EMPLOYMENT

B. EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS

INDUSTRY/ SERVICES	PERSONS ENGAGED BY THE COMPANIES SURVEYED			PER CAPITA EARNINGS			PER CAPITA EARNINGS FOR FEBRUARY 1986 HK\$
	(% CHANGE OVER THE PRECEDING MONTH)						
	DEC. 1985	JAN. 1986	FEB. 1986	DEC. 1985	JAN. 1986	FEB. 1986	
MANUFACTURING	-1	*	-1	8	39	-28	3 323
FOOD AND DRINKS	*	*	*	13	49	-42	3 561
WEARING APPAREL, EXCEPT FOOTWEAR	*	-2	-2	8	30	-28	2 640
TEXTILES, EXCEPT WEARING APPAREL	*	*	-1	14	42	-34	3 411
	-1	*	-3	6	72	-29	3 347
PLASTIC PRODUCTS FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	*	*	-3	1	22	-7	3 597
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	-2	1	-1	6	46	-32	3 040
OTHERS	*	*	-1	5	30	-20	4 747
**	*	-1	-2	4	17	2	5 480
CONSTRUCTION	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SERVICES	*	-1	*	37	20	-34	5 771
BANKS	*	*	*	71	-7	-35	5 135
HOTELS	*	-1	-2	43	99	-58	4 195
PUBLIC UTILITIES	*	-1	*	19	38	-38	5 541
OTHERS	*	*	*	36	3	-16	7 670

* CHANGES WITHIN +/-0.5%

** PERSONS ENGAGED COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY; SITE WORKERS
EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS NOT INCLUDED.

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ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN BEGINS

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PEOPLE MUST PERSEVERE WITH EFFORTS TO COMBAT DRUG ABUSE AS IT REMAINS ONE OF THE TERRITORY'S MAJOR SOCIAL PROBLEMS, THE COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR GORDON MORTIMER, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

+THE PREVENTION OF DRUG ABUSE CANNOT BE THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE GOVERNMENT. THE WHOLE COMMUNITY MUST PLAY ITS PART,+ HE SAID.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE +TSUEN WAN DISTRICT ANTI-NARCOTICS CARNIVAL+, MR MORTIMER EXPLAINED THAT THE ANTI-DRUG MESSAGE HAD TO BE DRIVEN HOME AT ALL LEVELS, INCLUDING DISTRICT AND TERRITORY-WIDE.

+AS LONG AS THE PROBLEM REMAINS, THERE WILL BE A DANGER THAT TSUEN WAN AND ITS RESIDENTS, AND ESPECIALLY THE YOUNGER ONES, WILL BE AFFECTED OR AT RISK.+

HE NOTED THAT SINCE 1973 THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS (ACAN) HAD BEEN ORGANISING DISTRICT CAMPAIGNS, WHICH INVOLVED DISTRICT LEADERS AND RESIDENTS IN ORGANISING LOCAL EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES.

+IN DOING SO, THE LOCAL COMMUNITY ACQUIRES A GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF THE DRUG ABUSE PROBLEM.+

MR MORTIMER SAID THAT NOT ALL DRUG ABUSERS WERE UNDERGOING TREATMENT ALTHOUGH VARIOUS FORMS OF TREATMENT WERE READILY AVAILABLE.

+THEREFORE, THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVES OF THE ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN FOR 1986-87 ARE TO INFORM THEM OF THE VOLUNTARY TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION FACILITIES AVAILABLE AND TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO COME FORWARD FOR TREATMENT,+ HE SAID.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD, MR CHAU HOW-CHEN, SAID THAT DRUG ABUSE WAS NOT A SERIOUS PROBLEM IN TSUEN WAN DISTRICT, BUT THE AUTHORITIES NEVERTHELESS WANTED THE PUBLIC TO BE VIGILANT.

+THEREFORE, TODAY'S MUSIC CARNIVAL IS ORGANISED TO COMPLEMENT THE ANTI-NARCOTICS SLOGAN THAT 'DRUGS WILL RUIN YOUR WHOLE LIFE',+ HE ADDED.

THE EVENT WAS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY ACAN, RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG (RTHK), AND CO-ORGANISED BY THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD AND TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE. IT MARKED THE BEGINNING OF INTENSIVE ANTI-NARCOTICS PREVENTIVE EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY PROGRAMMES FOR 1986-87.

/OTHER DISTRICT

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OTHER DISTRICT CAMPAIGNS WILL BE LAUNCHED IN EASTERN, KWUN TONG, YAU MA TEI AND MONG KOK.

THE TSUEN WAN CARNIVAL, HELD AT THE SHA TSUI ROAD PLAYGROUND, INCLUDED ANTI-NARCOTICS DISPLAYS, A DEMONSTRATION OF SKILLS BY THE ANTI-NARCOTICS DOG UNIT OF THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT, GAMES STALLS, A GIANT INFLATABLE ELEPHANT FOR CHILDREN, AND A CONCERT PRODUCED AND BROADCAST LIVE BY RTHK.

AN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF BROADCASTING, MR SIMON LUN, AND THE DISTRICT OFFICER FOR TSUEN WAN, MR ANGUS MIU, WERE AMONG THE GUESTS.

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HK STAND FOR UK ELECTRONICS EXHIBITION * * * *

HONG KONG WILL BE PARTICIPATING AGAIN IN THIS YEAR'S +BRITISH ELECTRONICS WEEK+ EXHIBITION AT THE OLYMPIA, LONDON, FROM APRIL 29 TO MAY 1.

THE EXHIBITION, THE SECOND LARGEST ELECTRONICS SHOW IN EUROPE, WILL HAVE MORE THAN 1 100 STANDS REPRESENTING COMPANIES BOTH IN THE UK AND ABROAD.

THE +BRITISH ELECTRONICS WEEK+ WILL COMPRISE FOUR MAIN PARTS - NAMELY THE ELECTRONICS/ECIF SHOW, CIRCUIT TECHNOLOGY, ELECTRONIC PRODUCT DESIGN AND FIBRE OPTICS.

HONG KONG IS PARTICIPATING FOR THE SECOND TIME IN THE ALL-ELECTRONICS/ECIF SHOW, THE CORNERSTONE OF THE EXHIBITION, WHICH IS ALREADY IN ITS 11TH YEAR.

+WE ARE GLAD TO BE INVOLVED IN THE EXHIBITION. WE ANTICIPATE THAT THIS WILL LEAD TO AN INCREASE IN INTEREST AMONG OVERSEAS MANUFACTURERS AND IN TURN ENCOURAGE MORE INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG,+ THE PRINCIPAL CONSULTANT (INDUSTRIAL PROMOTION) OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICE IN LONDON, MR DONALD FLETCHER, SAID.

MR FLETCHER POINTED OUT THAT THE ALL-ELECTRONICS/ECIF SHOW IS GENERALLY DEDICATED TO ELECTRONICS COMPONENTS AND ASSEMBLY.

+HOWEVER, OUR STAND WILL BE DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHERS AS OUR MAIN OBJECTIVE IS TO CULTIVATE AND DEVELOP NEW INVESTMENT POTENTIAL RATHER THAN INTRODUCING FINISHED PRODUCTS.

+VISITORS TO OUR STAND WILL BE INTRODUCED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG'S ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY THROUGH A VIDEO PRESENTATION AND THE MANY PAMPHLETS WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE.+

/MR FLETCHER

MR FLETCHER AND PRINCIPAL CONSULTANT (INDUSTRIAL PROMOTION) IN HONG KONG, MAJOR C.G. BERNARD, WILL BE PRESENT TO DEAL WITH ENQUIRIES FROM INTERESTED PARTIES.

+THE STAND RECEIVED SEVERAL HUNDRED VISITORS LAST YEAR AND MEANINGFUL DISCUSSIONS TOOK PLACE WITH AROUND 50 OF THEM IN CONNECTION WITH BUSINESS AND MANUFACTURING OPPORTUNITIES IN HONG KONG. THEY SHOWED KEEN INTEREST AND WE ARE EXPECTING A BETTER RESPONSE THIS YEAR,+ MR FLETCHER SAID.

THE ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY HAS BEEN EXPANDED RAPIDLY IN RECENT YEARS AND IS HONG KONG'S SECOND LARGEST EXPORT EARNER, ACCOUNTING FOR 23.9 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS. IT PRODUCED A WIDE RANGE OF SOPHISTICATED AND HIGH QUALITY PRODUCTS AND COMPONENTS WHICH PUT HONG KONG IN A SIGNIFICANT POSITION IN THE WORLD'S ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY.

THE UK IS THE FOURTH LARGEST MARKET FOR HONG KONG'S ELECTRONICS PRODUCTS. THE DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF ELECTRONICS PRODUCTS TO THE UK DURING 1985 AMOUNTED TO \$1 392 MILLION.

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BOARD TO DISCUSS OUTLINE ZONING PLAN

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THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD WILL MEET TOMORROW (MONDAY) AFTERNOON TO DISCUSS THE DRAFT NGAU TAU KOK AND KOWLOON BAY OUTLINE ZONING PLAN.

THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF THE PLAN IS TO BRING THE 421-HECTARE AREA UNDER STATUTORY PLANNING CONTROLS AND TO REINFORCE EXISTING DEVELOPMENT CONTROL POWERS UNDER THE LEASE CONDITIONS AND THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE.

THE PLAN IS ALSO TO ENSURE THAT THERE IS A REASONABLE BALANCE BETWEEN THE POPULATION IN THE AREA AND THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES AND SERVICES.

WITH A POPULATION OF ABOUT 230 000, THE AREA COVERS PING SHEK AND KAI YIP, NGAU TAU KOK EAST AND WEST, KWUN TONG TOWN CENTRE, THE INDUSTRIAL AREA, AND SHUN LEE AND SHUN ON.

SENIOR TOWN PLANNER, MR TERRY ARTHUR, AND ASSISTANT TOWN PLANNER, MISS GERTRUDE KWAN, OF THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT WILL ATTEND THE MEETING TO ASSIST IN THE DISCUSSION.

/BOARD MEMBERS

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BOARD MEMBERS WILL ALSO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THE CONSULTATION PAPER ON CONTROL OF PUBLIC BILLIARD SALOONS AND PRIVATE BILLIARD CLUBS. ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT, DR P.H. HASE, WILL ATTEND THE MEETING.

AT TOMORROW'S MEETING, MEMBERS WILL NOTE THE NEW YEARLY PROGRAMME OF THE MAJOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE EXERCISE, +OPERATION FAR FLING+.

THEY WILL ALSO DISCUSS WORK PLANS OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1986-87.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE REPORTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD'S COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS AND FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD MEETING HELD AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICES BUILDING IN TUNG YAN STREET.

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PUBLIC URGED TO BE WARY OF UNCLEAN FOOD
* * *

WITH THE APPROACH OF THE SUMMER SEASON, THE PUBLIC SHOULD TAKE PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES AGAINST GASTRO-INTESTINAL DISEASES ASSOCIATED WITH UNCLEAN AND UNWHOLESOME FOOD AND WATER.

MAKING THE APPEAL, THE HYGIENE ADVISER OF THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES BRANCH, DR RON PERRY, WARNED THE PUBLIC TO BE ON GUARD AGAINST FOOD POISONING AND DISEASES SUCH AS CHOLERA, DYSENTERY, TYPHOID AND VIRAL HEPATITIS.

+MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY SHOULD OBSERVE PROPER PRACTICES TO ENSURE THE FOOD THEY CONSUME IS HYGIENIC AND FREE FROM CONTAMINATION AND DETERIORATION,+ DR PERRY SAID.

HE SAID THE PUBLIC SHOULD REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING WHEN EATING AT HOME:

* MAINTAIN A CLEAN KITCHEN;

* CLEAN HANDS BEFORE PREPARING FOOD;

/* USE WHOLESOME

- * USE WHOLESOME FOOD AND WATER;
- * USE CLEAN COOKING UTENSILS;
- * STORE ALL PERISHABLE FOOD NOT FOR IMMEDIATE CONSUMPTION IN REFRIGERATOR. COOKED FOOD STORED IN REFRIGERATOR SHOULD BE SEPARATED FROM RAW FOOD ITEMS;
- * DO NOT THAW FROZEN FOOD UNTIL IT IS NEEDED;
- * NEVER USE A CHOPPING BLOCK AND KNIFE FOR CUTTING COOKED FOOD IMMEDIATELY AFTER THEY HAVE BEEN USED FOR CUTTING RAW FOOD, PARTICULARLY MEAT OR POULTRY;
- * COOK FOOD, ESPECIALLY MEAT, THOROUGHLY BEFORE CONSUMPTION;
- * EAT COOKED FOOD WHILE IT IS STILL HOT. DON'T LEAVE IT EXPOSED FOR A LONG PERIOD OF TIME;
- * FOOD TO BE KEPT OVER-NIGHT SHOULD BE PUT IN A REFRIGERATOR. RECOOK LEFTOVERS THOROUGHLY BEFORE EATING, AND
- * ALL GARBAGE AND WASTE SHOULD BE PUT INTO A COVERED CONTAINER PENDING DISPOSAL.

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PARENTS WARNED OF FIRE DANGER
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THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAS URGED PARENTS NOT TO LEAVE THEIR CHILDREN UNATTENDED AT HOME BEHIND LOCKED DOORS.

THE APPEAL FOLLOWED AN INCIDENT ON SUNDAY, APRIL 13, IN SHUN LEE ESTATE, KWUN TONG, IN WHICH A FIRE BROKE OUT IN A FLAT WHERE A GIRL OF SIX WAS LEFT LOCKED IN WHILE ALL ADULTS WERE OUT. FIREMEN RESCUED THE GIRL AFTER FORCING THEIR WAY INTO THE PREMISES.

+LOCKED DOORS WOULD DELAY OUR ENTRY TO THE SCENE OF A FIRE AT A TIME WHEN LIFE OR DEATH WOULD HINGE ON SECONDS GAINED OR LOST, + A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

ABOUT 50 PER CENT OF ALL FIRE VICTIMS ARE KILLED BY FIRES IN THEIR OWN HOMES, THE SPOKESMAN NOTED.

PARENTS SHOULD THEREFORE ALSO TAKE CARE AND EDUCATE THEIR CHILDREN ON THE DANGERS WHEN THEY ARE OLD ENOUGH TO UNDERSTAND THEM.

/+LITTLE CHILDREN'S

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+LITTLE CHILDREN'S NATURAL CURIOSITY CAN LEAD TO TROUBLE WHEN MATCHES OR LIGHTERS ARE LEFT WITHIN REACH. AS CHILDREN GROW UP, TEACH THEM ABOUT FIRE PREVENTION. BUT, UNTIL THEY ARE OLD ENOUGH, KEEP MATCHES AND LIGHTERS OUT OF SIGHT,+ HE ADVISED.

+IN FACT, EVERY HOME FIRE REPRESENTS A FAILURE TO CORRECT HAZARDS AND A FAILURE TO TAKE PRECAUTIONS,+ HE ADDED.

LAST YEAR, A TOTAL OF 3 114 FIRES OCCURRED IN PRIVATE DOMESTIC FLATS AND PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES, COMPARED WITH 2 967 IN 1984.

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113 CLAIMS FOR LONG SERVICE PAYMENT * * * *

THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAD RECEIVED 113 CLAIMS FROM WORKERS FOR LONG SERVICE PAYMENT IN THE FIRST THREE MONTHS SINCE THE LEGISLATION ON THE SCHEME CAME INTO EFFECT IN JANUARY THIS YEAR.

THIS WAS 2.1 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ALL CLAIMS HANDLED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE, CHIEF LABOUR OFFICER, MR CHOW TUNG-SHAN, SAID.

MR CHOW, WHO HEADS THE LABOUR RELATIONS DIVISION, REMINDED EMPLOYERS THAT EMPLOYEES WHO WERE REQUIRED TO RETIRE WERE ENTITLED TO LONG SERVICE PAYMENTS CALCULATED ACCORDING TO THEIR YEARS OF SERVICE.

EMPLOYEES WHO RESIGNED ON THEIR OWN ACCORD WERE, HOWEVER, NOT ENTITLED TO SUCH PAYMENTS.

+LONG SERVICE PAYMENT IS AT PRESENT NOT A PROBLEM FOR EMPLOYERS. BUT IT WILL BECOME ONE IN FIVE TO 10 YEARS' TIME IF EMPLOYERS DO NOT START MAKING FINANCIAL PROVISIONS FOR IT,+ HE SAID.

MR CHOW SAID EMPLOYERS SHOULD TAKE THE ACCUMULATED SERVICE OF AN EMPLOYEE AS A PART OF THE LABOUR COST AND TREAT IT AS A DEFERRED LIABILITY.

+THE BEST WAY IS FOR EMPLOYERS TO SET UP A CONTRIBUTORY PROVIDENT FUND SCHEME.

+EMPLOYERS WILL BENEFIT FROM A PROVIDENT FUND SCHEME BECAUSE IT WILL RELIEVE THEM FROM THE BURDEN OF THE GROWING LIABILITY OF THE LONG SERVICE PAYMENT, AND SEVERANCE PAY.+

/MR CHOW

MR CHOW SAID A PROVIDENT FUND SCHEME WOULD ALSO PROVIDE EMPLOYEES WITH ADDED PROTECTION TO THEIR PAST YEARS OF SERVICE AND THUS INJECT A SENSE OF BELONGING AMONG STAFF.

HE ADVISED EMPLOYERS WHO WISHED TO SET UP PROVIDENT FUND SCHEMES TO APPROACH THE BANKS AND INSURANCE COMPANIES WHICH OFFERED THIS KIND OF SERVICE, OR CONTACT THE PROMOTION UNIT OF THE LABOUR RELATIONS DIVISION AT 12TH FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL.

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LANDSCAPING FOR A BETTER ENVIRONMENT
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THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS TO LANDSCAPE 12 HECTARES OF ROADS IN TUEN MUN IN A PROJECT TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT FOR THE TOWN'S RESIDENTS.

THE DEPARTMENT'S NEW TERRITORIES NORTH WEST DEVELOPMENT OFFICE IS CALLING TENDERS FOR BOTH HARD AND SOFT LANDSCAPING OF CENTRAL ROAD RESERVES, VERGES AND ROADSIDE OPEN SPACES ON TUEN MUN, WONG CHU, PUI TO, TSING WUN, CASTLE PEAK AND LUNG MUN ROADS.

TREES AND SHRUBS WILL BE PLANTED ON EMBANKMENTS AND ALONG ROADS TO SCREEN THEM FROM ADJACENT RESIDENTIAL AREAS. SHADED SITTING-OUT AREAS AND LANDSCAPED FOOTWAYS ARE INCLUDED IN THE PROJECT.

PARTICULAR ATTENTION WILL BE GIVEN TO IMPROVING THE AREA FRONTING CASTLE PEAK ROAD FROM CHI LOK FA YUEN TO THE WONG KA WAI MONASTERY.

THE OPEN SPACE AND AMENITY AREAS ADJACENT TO YAN OI TONG CIRCUIT AND THE NEW REFUSE COLLECTION POINT AND CAR PARK AT KAI FAT PATH BENEATH THE PUI TO ROAD FLYOVER ACROSS TUEN MUN ROAD ARE ALSO TO BE LANDSCAPED.

NEW RAISED PLANTERS WILL BE ADDED AND THE EXISTING DEACON CHIU PARK ON PUI TO ROAD WILL BE REFURBISHED.

IT IS ALSO PROPOSED TO PAVE AN AREA FOR INFORMAL GAMES UNDER THE ELEVATED PORTION OF WONG CHU ROAD FRONTING ON TING ESTATE.

THE CONTRACT IS DUE TO START IN JULY AND TAKE 18 MONTHS TO COMPLETE. THE AREA AT KAI FAT PATH WILL BE COMPLETED BY NOVEMBER, 1986, AS A RESULT OF REQUESTS FROM THE DISTRICT BOARD TO COMPLETE THE CAR PARK AND SCREEN THE REFUSE COLLECTION POINT WITHOUT DELAY.

SIMILARLY, THE CONSTRUCTION OF PLANTERS AND PAVING ALONG CASTLE PEAK ROAD AND AT PUI TO ROAD AND YAN OI TONG CIRCUIT WILL BE SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION BY MARCH, 1987.

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EXTENSIVE AREAS OF RECLAMATION PROPOSED
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THREE AREAS OF FORESHORE AND SEA-BED TOTALLING MORE THAN 54 HECTARES ARE TO BE RECLAIMED.

ACCORDING TO THE LATEST GAZETTE THE LARGEST AREA OF 50.5 HECTARES IS EAST OF TSANG TSUI, TUEN MUN.

IT HAS BEEN MADE AVAILABLE TO THE CASTLE PEAK POWER COMPANY FOR DISPOSAL OF PULVERISED ASH FROM THE TAP SHEK KOK POWER STATION.

THIS IS THE SECOND AND FINAL PHASE OF THE PROJECT, OF WHICH THE FIRST PHASE OF 21.5 HECTARES WAS GAZETTED ON DECEMBER 21, 1984.

THE ASH WILL BE ENCLOSED WITHIN SEA WALLS TO BE BUILT BEFORE DUMPING STARTS. THESE ARE EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED WITHIN TWO YEARS.

THE SECOND AREA, COMPRISING 1.9 HECTARES AT AP LEI CHAU, IS TO BE RECLAIMED TO PROVIDE LAND FOR BOAT BUILDING AND REPAIRING YARDS.

THE RECLAIMED LAND WILL BE ALLOCATED MOSTLY TO BOATYARD OPERATORS AFFECTED BY THE PROPOSED AP LEI CHAU NORTH RECLAMATION.

A THIRD AREA, OF 1.77 HECTARES AT WOK TAI WAN BAY, NORTH WEST TSING YI, WILL PROVIDE LAND FOR BARGE LOADING AND STOCK-PILING IN CONNECTION WITH THE TSING YI BORROW AREA WHICH WILL PROVIDE FILL FOR THE KWAI CHUNG LOT NO. 6 RECLAMATION.

PLANS OF ALL THREE AREAS CAN BE INSPECTED AT THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT SURVEY OFFICE, FIFTH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG.

ANY OBJECTION TO THE PROPOSALS SHOULD BE SENT IN WRITING TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

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JAPANESE SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED TO STUDENTS
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TWO JAPANESE GOVERNMENT (MONBUSHO) SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AGAIN BEING OFFERED TO LOCAL STUDENTS FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES IN SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES AS WELL AS NATURAL SCIENCES IN JAPAN.

THE AWARDS UNDER THE MONBUSHO SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME 1987 ARE NORMALLY TENABLE FOR FIVE YEARS, FROM APRIL NEXT YEAR TO MARCH 1992, AND APPLICATIONS ARE NOW INVITED.

/THE SCHOLARSHIPS

THE SCHOLARSHIPS WILL COVER TUITION, ACCOMMODATION, LIVING EXPENSES AND RETURN PASSAGE.

APPLICATIONS NEED NOT HAVE ANY PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE OF JAPANESE, BUT THEY MUST BE WILLING TO RECEIVE UNIVERSITY EDUCATION IN THE MEDIUM OF JAPANESE.

SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL BE ENROLLED AT THE JAPANESE LANGUAGE SCHOOL ATTACHED TO THE TOKYO UNIVERSITY OF FOREIGN STUDIES AND WILL BE GIVEN A ONE-YEAR COURSE ON THE JAPANESE LANGUAGE AND SUCH OTHER SUBJECTS AS ARE NECESSARY TO PREPARE THEM FOR THE BACHELOR'S DEGREE COURSE IN A JAPANESE UNIVERSITY.

APPLICANTS MUST BE OVER 17 AND UNDER 22 YEARS OF AGE ON APRIL 1 NEXT YEAR AND HAVE ACADEMICALLY COMPLETED UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG OR CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS OR POSSESS HIGHER QUALIFICATIONS.

THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED IN TWO RELEVANT SUBJECTS AT THE ADVANCED LEVEL AND IN THREE RELEVANT SUBJECTS AT THE ORDINARY LEVEL, OR IN THREE RELEVANT SUBJECTS AT THE ADVANCED LEVEL AND IN ONE RELEVANT SUBJECT AT THE ORDINARY LEVEL IN THE BRITISH GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION ARE ALSO ELIGIBLE TO APPLY.

APPLICATION FORMS AND FURTHER INFORMATION ARE OBTAINABLE FROM THE OVERSEAS STUDENTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS SECTION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, LEE GARDENS, 5TH FLOOR, HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY.

COMPLETED FORMS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE SAME OFFICE BEFORE JULY 28.

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\$9 MILLION ROCKERY GARDEN NEARING COMPLETION IN WAN CHAI
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THE COMMERCIAL AREA ON THE WAN CHAI RECLAMATION IS TAKING ON A NEW LOOK WITH A BEAUTIFULLY LANDSCAPED ROCKERY GARDEN ALMOST READY IN ITS MIDST - THANKS TO THE URBAN COUNCIL.

WORKMEN ARE GIVING FINAL TOUCHES TO THE COUNCIL'S \$9 MILLION PROJECT IN HARBOUR ROAD WHICH FEATURES ARTISTIC ROCK AND EARTH MOUNDS ON A 3 900 SQUARE-METRE SITE.

+ON COMPLETION BY THE END OF THIS MONTH, IT WILL PROVIDE A WELCOME LEISURE PLACE FOR RESIDENTS AS WELL AS OFFICE WORKERS IN THE AREA,+ SAID A COUNCIL SPOKESMAN TODAY.

HE SAID THE LARGE GARDEN HAD BEEN CAREFULLY DESIGNED TO GIVE NATURAL AND SCENIC VIEWS AS WELL AS A SOOTHING AND COMFORTABLE ENVIRONMENT.

/+AMONG ITS

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+AMONG ITS FEATURES ARE A WATER POND, A ROCK MOUND AND AN EARTH MOUND IN THE CENTRE, WITH A FUTURISTIC-LOOKING PAVILION ON ONE SIDE OF THE POND,+ HE SAID.

+THERE IS A CIRCULAR PATH WITH AN ARCHED BRIDGE AS WELL AS A MAIN PATH WHICH LINKS UP THE TWO ENTRANCES TO THE GARDEN.

+IN ADDITION, THE GARDEN HAS A SEMI-COVERED AREA FOR SEATING AND DISPLAY OF PLANTS. THE BOUNDARY OF THE GARDEN IS ALSO COVERED BY PLANTS.+

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500 ENJOY VARIETY SHOW WITH THE DISABLED
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ABOUT 500 PEOPLE ENJOYED A VARIETY SHOW HELD IN WAN CHAI THIS (SUNDAY) AFTERNOON AS PART OF THE FESTIVAL OF ARTS WITH THE DISABLED.

THE AUDIENCE OF DISABLED AND ABLE-BODIED PEOPLE WAS TREATED TO SINGING, DANCING AND DRAMA BY BOTH DISABLED AND ABLE-BODIED PERFORMERS FROM VARIOUS ORGANISATIONS IN THE DISTRICT.

THE SHOW WAS HELD AT THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE. SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY, WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICER MR ROGER GARCIA NOTED THAT MANY INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT OFFERED REHABILITATION SERVICES TO DISABLED PERSONS AND, HE SAID, THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS WERE MUCH APPRECIATED.

THE JOINT PERFORMANCES BY DISABLED AND ABLE-BODIED PEOPLE IN THE VARIETY SHOW DEMONSTRATED THAT THEY COULD WORK TOGETHER AND COMMUNICATE THROUGH PARTICIPATION, MR GARCIA ADDED.

IT WAS ALSO HOPED THAT THROUGH SUCH ACTIVITIES, THE PUBLIC WOULD HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE DISABLED.

THE SHOW WAS ORGANISED BY THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD. OTHER GUESTS WERE DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MRS PEGGY LAM= CHAIRMAN OF THE VARIETY SHOW WORKING GROUP, MR TERENCE TENG= AND ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS DONNA WONG.

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FUNDS FOR KWUN TONG YOUTH ACTIVITIES
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ORGANISATIONS IN KWUN TONG CAN NOW APPLY FOR FUNDS TO ORGANISE YOUTH ACTIVITIES FOR THE SUMMER VACATION.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, MADAM YEUNG KAM-CHUN, SAID: +ORGANISATIONS PLANNING ACTIVITIES WHICH EMBODY THE CENTRAL THEME OF THIS YEAR'S SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME, OF 'CARING FOR OUR SOCIETY AND KNOWING HONG KONG', ARE WELCOME TO APPLY TO THE COMMITTEE FOR SPONSORSHIP.

+THE ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE PROVIDED MAINLY FOR LOCAL YOUNG PEOPLE BETWEEN THE AGES OF SIX AND 24.+

THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB HAS ALLOCATED \$346 000 TO KWUN TONG'S SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME.

THE CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE HAS DECIDED TO ALLOCATE 60 PER CENT OF THE FUNDS TO YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS, 30 PER CENT TO RECREATIONAL, LEISURE AND ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMMES, AND THE REST TO PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES.

+WE WANT TO ENCOURAGE MORE PROJECTS WHICH AIM AT YOUNG PEOPLE LIVING IN SQUATTER AREAS AND TEMPORARY HOUSING AREAS, OR THOSE SOUGHT OUT BY OUTREACH TEAMS,+ MADAM YEUNG ADDED.

APPLICATION FORMS HAVE BEEN SENT TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS. THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION IS APRIL 30.

ORGANISATIONS WHICH HAVE NOT YET OBTAINED AN APPLICATION FORM, OR WANT MORE DETAILS, SHOULD CALL THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE ON 3-416315 (EXT 391).

LAST SUMMER, MORE THAN 100 000 YOUNG PEOPLE PARTICIPATED IN 400 ACTIVITIES SPONSORED BY THE CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE.

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ROAD CLOSURE IN CAUSEWAY BAY
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TO FACILITATE DRAINAGE WORKS, THE EXIT ROAD LEADING FROM THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL TO CAUSEWAY BAY WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC DAILY BETWEEN 1 AM AND 6 AM ON APRIL 23, 24 AND 25.

DURING THE CLOSURE, VEHICLES FROM THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL HEADING FOR CAUSEWAY BAY WILL BE DIVERTED TO THE EXIT ROAD LEADING TO HAPPY VALLEY AND CANAL ROAD FLYOVER.

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