



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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ADDITIONAL STEPS TAKEN TO IMPROVE SAFETY AT STATION
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THE NEED TO TAKE CARE WHEN BOARDING OR ALIGHTING AT ALL STATIONS, ESPECIALLY IN CROWDED CONDITIONS, FORMED PART OF THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY CORPORATION'S GENERAL EDUCATIONAL PUBLICITY AIMED AT SCHOOL CHILDREN AND PARENTS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN, THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, THE HON IAN MACPHERSON, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY THE HON S.L. CHEN IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR MACPHERSON SAID IT HAD BEEN THE CORPORATION'S PRACTICE SINCE THE UNIVERSITY STATION OPENED IN 1983 TO MAKE FREQUENT ANNOUNCEMENTS IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE, BOTH ON THE TRAINS AS THEY APPROACHED THE STATION AND ON THE PLATFORMS TO MAKE SURE THAT PASSENGERS WERE MINDFUL OF THE GAP AND TO TAKE CARE WHEN BOARDING OR ALIGHTING FROM TRAINS.

+BECAUSE OF THE PHYSICAL CONSTRAINTS OF THE SITE, UNIVERSITY STATION IS BUILT ON A CURVE IN THE RAILWAY LINE AND THERE IS A WIDER GAP BETWEEN THE PLATFORMS AND THE TRAINS THAN AT STATIONS WHERE THE TRACKS AND PLATFORMS ARE STRAIGHT,+ HE SAID.

+THE WIDTH OF THE GAP ALONG THE WHOLE LENGTH OF THE PLATFORMS IS HOWEVER WITHIN INTERNATIONAL SAFETY LIMITS AND THE STATION HAS BEEN PASSED AS SAFE FOR PUBLIC USE BY THE RAILWAY INSPECTOR,+ HE ADDED.

MR MACPHERSON SAID THAT, AS A SUPPLEMENTARY MEASURE, THE CORPORATION WAS ARRANGING TO PLACE WARNING NOTICES AT STRATEGIC LOCATIONS AT THE STATION AND SPECIAL POSTERS ON TRAINS.

+IT WILL ALSO ARRANGE FOR AN ADDITIONAL SUPERVISOR TO BE ON THE PLATFORMS AT ALL TIMES,+ HE SAID.

+A FURTHER POSSIBILITY BEING EXAMINED IS TO HAVE SPECIAL LIGHTING UNDER THE PLATFORMS TO MAKE SURE THE GAP IS CLEARLY VISIBLE AFTER DARK,+ HE ADDED.

MR MACPHERSON ASSURED THE COUNCIL THAT THE KCR CORPORATION WOULD DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO ENSURE THERE WERE NO FURTHER ACCIDENTS.

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NO PLANS YET FOR FINAL APPEALS COURT
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THERE ARE NO PLANS YET FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COURT OF FINAL APPEAL IN HONG KONG, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE HON MICHAEL THOMAS, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

+IT IS BOUND TO TAKE SOME TIME TO EXAMINE THE IMPLICATIONS AND TO IDENTIFY THE VARIOUS OPTIONS WHICH ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JOINT DECLARATION,+ MR THOMAS SAID WHEN REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY THE HON CHEUNG YAN-LUNG.

/MR THOMAS

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MR THOMAS SAID HE HAD INDICATED IN A DEBATE JUST ONE YEAR AGO IN THE COUNCIL THAT IT WAS DESIRABLE THAT A COURT OF FINAL APPEAL SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED IN HONG KONG WELL BEFORE 1997 IN ORDER TO ENSURE A SMOOTH TRANSITION.

+AS I SAID THEN, THE COURT OUGHT TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY, WELL BEFORE 1997, TO BUILD A REPUTATION FOR AUTHORITATIVE JUDGMENTS AND EARN THE CONFIDENCE OF HONG KONG PEOPLE AND THE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COMMUNITY,+ HE SAID.

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FUNDS ENOUGH TO MAINTAIN SERVICES
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THE PROVISION OF \$420 MILLION IN THE SOCIAL WELFARE SUBVENTIONS HEAD FOR THE PRESENT FINANCIAL YEAR IS SUFFICIENT TO MAINTAIN THE EXISTING SERVICES OPERATED BY THE SUBVENTED WELFARE AGENCIES, THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, THE HON JOHN CHAMBERS, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY THE HON HUI YIN-FAT, MR CHAMBERS SAID SUFFICIENT FUNDS WERE ALSO AVAILABLE TO MEET THE SALARY ADJUSTMENT FOR SUBVENTED WELFARE AGENCIES STAFF, ALTHOUGH IT MIGHT BE NECESSARY TO SEEK SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISION TO COVER THIS REQUIREMENT AT A LATER STAGE IN THE FINANCIAL YEAR.

MR CHAMBERS SAID THE FIVE YEAR PLAN FOR SOCIAL WELFARE DEVELOPMENT IDENTIFIED 64 NEW PROJECTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION THIS YEAR AND FUNDS WERE AVAILABLE FOR ALLOCATION TO 51 OF THESE PROJECTS, AND THIS REPRESENTED ALL THE PROJECTS WHICH WERE LIKELY TO BE READY TO COME INTO OPERATION BEFORE THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR.

+THE FIVE YEAR PLAN REVIEW ALSO IDENTIFIED A NUMBER OF IMPROVEMENTS TO THE QUALITY OF EXISTING SERVICES.

+IN VIEW OF THE LIMITED FUNDS AVAILABLE IT WAS DECIDED, ON THE ADVICE OF THE SUBVENTIONS AND LOTTERIES FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE, TO ACCORD PRIORITY TO THE NEW PROJECTS I HAVE MENTIONED, AND I FEAR THAT IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE TO IMPLEMENT THESE IMPROVEMENTS THIS YEAR,+ HE SAID.

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CONCRETE DETERIORATION PROBLEM NOT SERIOUS
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THE PROBLEM OF CONCRETE DETERIORATION IN HONG KONG WAS NOT SERIOUS ALTHOUGH IT WAS GROWING, THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, THE HON NICKY CHAN, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

ANSWERING A QUESTION BY THE HON LYDIA DUNN IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR CHAN SAID THAT BECAUSE OF A REGULAR MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME THE SITUATION WAS BETTER IN GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS THAN IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

DURING THE PAST TWO DECADES THERE HAD BEEN NO CASES OF DEFECTIVE CONCRETE CAUSING A PUBLIC SECTOR BUILDING TO BE IN A STATE OF IMMINENT FAILURE.

+IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR,+ HE SAID, +OVER THE PAST TWO DECADES, 31 BUILDINGS HAVE BEEN DEMOLISHED BECAUSE OF SERIOUSLY DEFECTIVE CONCRETE. THIS REPRESENTS ABOUT 0.12 PER CENT OF ALL CONCRETE-FRAMED BUILDINGS IN THE TERRITORY.+

HE ADDED THAT BOTH PREVENTIVE AND REMEDIAL MEASURES WERE TAKEN TO OVERCOME THE PROBLEM OF CONCRETE DETERIORATION.

THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE REQUIRED ALL CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS TO COMPLY WITH STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS AND CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN, CHEMICAL COMPOSITION AND RESULTS OF TESTS ON STEEL REINFORCEMENT HAD TO BE SUBMITTED BEFORE CONSTRUCTION.

DURING CONSTRUCTION TEST REPORTS ON CONCRETE HAD TO BE SUBMITTED AND BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE STAFF MADE REGULAR SITE INSPECTIONS.

MR CHAN SAID THAT AFTER BUILDINGS WERE COMPLETED PLANNED SURVEYS WERE CONDUCTED BY BOO STAFF WHO ALSO RESPONDED TO REPORTS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

REPAIR ORDERS WERE SERVED ON OWNERS WHEN BUILDINGS REQUIRED ATTENTION AND IF THESE WERE NOT COMPLIED WITH DIRECT ACTION WAS TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT, HE ADDED.

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SQUATTER CLEARANCE A SOLUTION TO ILLEGAL TAPPING
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THE LONG-TERM SOLUTION TO ELIMINATING ILLEGAL TAPPING OF WATER SUPPLY AND ELECTRICITY IN SQUATTER AREAS LAY IN THE CLEARANCE OF THESE AREAS AND PLANS TO CLEAR AND REHOUSE ALL SQUATTERS IN THE URBAN AREAS WITHIN FIVE TO 10 YEARS HAVE ALREADY STARTED, THE SECRETARY FOR HOUSING, THE HON Y.L. PANG, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY DR THE HON CONRAD LAM, HE SAID THAT THE PROBLEM OF ILLEGAL TAPPING OF WATER SUPPLY IN SQUATTER AREAS EXISTED MAINLY WHERE STANDPIPE WATER SUPPLY WAS AVAILABLE AND +THE OBVIOUS SOLUTION+ WAS THEREFORE TO PROVIDE A METERED CONNECTION.

+TO THIS END, WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT'S CURRENT PROGRAMME TO PROVIDE METERED SUPPLY TO 740 SQUATTER AREAS AND NEW TERRITORIES VILLAGES IS SCHEDULED TO BE COMPLETED IN ABOUT THREE YEARS' TIME,+ MR PANG SAID.

+IN PARALLEL TO THIS, UNDER THE SQUATTER AREAS IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME, HOUSING DEPARTMENT IS AT PRESENT CARRYING OUT 11 SIMILAR PROJECTS IN SQUATTER AREAS, WITH A FURTHER 45 PROJECTS PLANNED OVER THE NEXT THREE YEARS.

+WITH THE COMPLETION OF ALL THESE PROJECTS, THE MAJORITY OF SQUATTER AREAS IN THE TERRITORY WILL HAVE A METERED SUPPLY, AND WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT THE PROBLEM OF ILLEGAL TAPPING OF WATER WOULD NO LONGER ARISE,+ HE ADDED.

TURNING TO THE PROBLEM OF ILLEGAL TAPPING OF ELECTRICITY IN SQUATTER AREAS, MR PANG SAID THE PROBLEM EXISTED MAINLY WHERE A LEGAL SUPPLY WAS AVAILABLE AND WAS MOST SERIOUS IN WONG TAI SIN AND KWUN TONG.

MR PANG NOTED THAT THE PROBLEM WAS BEING TACKLED ON TWO FRONTS - ENFORCEMENT AND EDUCATION.

ON THE ENFORCEMENT FRONT, THE POLICE, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE POWER COMPANY, CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT HAD STEPPED UP ACTION AGAINST SUCH ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES. SINCE JANUARY THIS YEAR, 236 PERSONS INVOLVED IN ILLEGAL TAPPING OF ELECTRICITY HAD BEEN ARRESTED.

ON THE EDUCATION FRONT, THE DEPARTMENTS AND THE DISTRICT BOARDS CONCERNED HAD INTENSIFIED THEIR EFFORTS TO EDUCATE RESIDENTS ABOUT THE DANGERS OF TAPPING ELECTRICITY ILLEGALLY AND ADVISE THEM TO APPLY FOR A LEGAL CONNECTION.

MR PANG SAID THAT THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE WAS ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT THE TRIAD INVOLVEMENT IN THE ILLEGAL SUPPLIES OF WATER AND ELECTRICITY IN SQUATTER AREAS.

+A WORKING GROUP ON 'GANGS' UNDER THE COMMITTEE HAD STUDIED THE PROBLEMS AND ITS RECOMMENDATIONS ARE BEING CONSIDERED BY THE DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED,+ HE ADDED.

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'BROAD AND BALANCED' EDUCATION FOR PUPILS STRESSED
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HONG KONG'S EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM AIMS TO PROVIDE A BROAD AND BALANCED EDUCATION FOR ALL PUPILS, THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, THE HON NEIL HENDERSON, SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION BY THE HON MARTIN LEE ON THE POLICY OR PROGRAMME RELATING TO THE TEACHING OF +SPECIALLY GIFTED+ CHILDREN, MR HENDERSON SAID THAT UNDER CURRENT POLICY THERE WAS NO SPECIFIC PROGRAMME OR INSTITUTION PROVIDED TO CATER FOR INTELLECTUALLY GIFTED CHILDREN.

MOST EXPERIENCED TEACHERS SHOULD BE ABLE TO RECOGNISE SUCH A CHILD AND COULD PROVIDE THE LEVEL OF WORK TO DEVELOP THAT CHILD'S POTENTIAL IF NECESSARY AND ALSO SPECIALIST ADVICE WAS AVAILABLE FROM THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IF NEEDED, HE SAID.

IN ADDITION, MR HENDERSON SAID, SCHOOLS AT ALL LEVELS WERE ENCOURAGED TO DEVELOP A VARIED PROGRAMME OF EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THOSE PUPILS WHOSE TALENTS COULD MORE READILY BE DEVELOPED THROUGH SPECIALLY ORGANISED INTEREST GROUPS SUCH AS MATHEMATICS, SCIENCE AND SOCIAL STUDIES CLUBS.

+I SHOULD ADD PERHAPS THAT WHERE THE ARTISTICALLY GIFTED ARE CONCERNED THE ADVENT OF THE ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS WILL PROVIDE A MOST ENCOURAGING ENVIRONMENT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR TALENTS,+ HE SAID.

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NEW FILM CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM BY MID-1986
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A NEW FILM CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM COULD BE INTRODUCED BY MID-1986 IF THE RELEVANT PROPOSAL BECAME LAW, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, THE HON SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

REPLYING TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON PAULINE NG ABOUT THE GOVERNMENT'S CONSIDERATION OF THE FILM CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM, SIR DAVID SAID THE PROPOSAL WAS EXPECTED TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL IN ABOUT A MONTH.

+ASSUMING APPROVAL, A DRAFT BILL WILL BE GAZETTED FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION AND COMMENT, AND FOR EXAMINATION BY THIS COUNCIL,+ SIR DAVID SAID.

+AS REGARDS ENFORCEMENT, IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE ONUS BE PLACED ON CINEMA OPERATORS TO ENSURE THAT ONLY PERSONS AGED 18 OR ABOVE WOULD BE ADMITTED TO CERTAIN FILMS,+ HE SAID.

/THE FILM

THE FILM CENSORSHIP AUTHORITY WOULD MAKE SPOT CHECKS ON CINEMAS SHOWING SUCH FILMS.

+THE LEVEL AT WHICH CENSORSHIP STANDARDS ARE EVENTUALLY SET WILL DEPEND ON THE FINDINGS OF AN INDEPENDENTLY CONDUCTED PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY,+ HE ADDED.

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BORDER MEASURES CUTTING DOWN EVADERS
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THERE IS NO SIGN YET OF ANY COMPARABLE INCREASE IN THE NUMBERS OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS SURFACING IN HONG KONG, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE HON MICHAEL THOMAS, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION BY DR THE HON HO KAM-FAI, MR THOMAS SAID THE NUMBER OF DAILY ARRESTS MADE AT THE BORDER THIS YEAR SO FAR WAS ABOUT A THIRD HIGHER THAN IN THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

+HOWEVER, AND THIS IS AN ENCOURAGING SIGN, THERE ARE GROUNDS FOR BELIEVING THAT THE SECURITY FORCES USING MORE SOPHISTICATED EQUIPMENT ARE NOW CATCHING AT THE BORDER A HIGHER PROPORTION OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS THAN BEFORE,+ MR THOMAS SAID.

AS FOR ADDITIONAL MEASURES, MR THOMAS SAID WE COULD DO NO MORE THAN MAINTAIN OUR VIGILANCE AND KEEP UP OUR GUARD.

+WE SHALL CONTINUE TO DISCUSS THIS PROBLEM THROUGH THE VARIOUS CROSS BORDER CHANNELS AVAILABLE TO US. AND WE SHALL CONTINUE TO SPREAD THE WORD TO ANYONE WHO SEEKS TO ENTER HONG KONG ILLEGALLY THAT THE CHANCES OF EVADING CAPTURE ARE VERY SLIM INDEED,+ HE SAID.

MR THOMAS SAID THE REASONS FOR THE RECENT INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS CAUGHT AT THE BORDER WERE DIFFICULT TO SPECIFY AND THERE WERE SEASONAL FLUCTUATIONS IN THE NUMBER OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS WHO ATTEMPTED TO ENTER HONG KONG DUE TO WEATHER, THE HARVEST AND SO ON.

MR THOMAS POINTED OUT THAT RUMOURS CIRCULATING ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE BORDER THAT THE INTRODUCTION OF A NEW IDENTITY CARD WOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY A GENERAL AMNESTY FOR ANY ILLEGAL RESIDENTS IN HONG KONG MIGHT BE ONE REASON FOR THE INCREASE.

+THIS IS COMPLETELY UNTRUE,+ MR THOMAS SAID. +RUMOURS SUCH AS THIS ARE SPREAD BY THOSE WHO SEEK TO PROFIT FROM THE MISFORTUNE OF WOULD-BE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS. THERE WILL BE NO AMNESTY FOR ANY FOUND TO HAVE ENTERED HONG KONG ILLEGALLY.+

/THERE WAS

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THERE WAS ALSO A BELIEF THAT THE RECENT ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE REDUCTION OF THE BRITISH GARRISON BY ONE BATTALION HAD RESULTED IN A REDUCTION IN THE SECURITY FORCES DEPLOYED AT THE BORDER.

MR THOMAS STRESSED THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO REDUCTION IN THE SECURITY FORCES AT THE BORDER AND THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE 2/7 GURKHA RIFLES NEXT YEAR WOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY INCREASED PERIODS OF BORDER DUTY FOR OTHER BATTALIONS.

+THERE WILL BE NO REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF SECURITY PERSONNEL PATROLLING THE BORDER AND NO LOSS OF EFFECTIVENESS,+ HE SAID.

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HANG LUNG BANK BEING VALUED
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A FIRST CLASS CONSULTANT HAS BEEN ENGAGED TO VALUE THE HANG LUNG BANK AND TO ADVISE THE GOVERNMENT ON THE FORM AND THE TIMING OF A DEVESTITURE, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, THE HON SIR JOHN BREMRIDGE, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

ANSWERING THE HON DAVID K.P. LI, SIR JOHN SAID A REPORT ON THE BANK WAS EXPECTED IN ABOUT A MONTH'S TIME.

+THE ACTUAL FORM AND TIMING OF THE SALE WILL TAKE ACCOUNT OF THAT REPORT, THE PUBLIC INTEREST AND THE INTEREST OF THE BANK'S STAFF AND CUSTOMERS,+ HE SAID, ADDING THAT HE WOULD WISH TO CONSULT THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL BEFORE MAKING A FINAL DECISION.

AS TO THE OVERSEAS TRUST BANK AND ITS SUBSIDIARY, THE HONG KONG INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL BANK, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY SAID THAT NO PLANS HAD YET BEEN MADE. +BUT IT IS THE GOVERNMENT'S WISH ALSO TO RETURN THESE BANKS TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR AS SOON AS COMMONSENSE INDICATES IS POSSIBLE.+

+A DECISION ON OTB SEEMS UNLIKELY FOR ABOUT TWO YEARS. IT MAY WELL PROVE POSSIBLE TO MOVE MORE QUICKLY WITH HICB, BUT THERE ARE INTERCONNECTED AND OTHER PROBLEMS,+ SIR JOHN SAID.

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INTERIM MEASURES TO TACKLE POLLUTION
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THE GOVERNMENT IS CONSIDERING INTERIM MEASURES TO TACKLE THE AIR POLLUTION PROBLEMS CAUSED BY THE LAI CHI KOK INCINERATORS BY INSTALLING ELECTROSTATIC PRECIPITATORS, THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, THE HON JOHN CHAMBERS, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

ANSWERING A QUESTION BY THE HON CHUNG PUI-LAM, MR CHAMBERS SAID THERE WAS ALREADY AN ITEM IN CATEGORY AB OF THE PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME FOR THE INSTALLATION OF SUCH PRECIPITATORS WHICH WOULD REMOVE MOST OF THE DUST AND GRIT WHICH FORMED THE MAJOR PART OF POLLUTION CAUSED BY THE INCINERATORS.

MR CHAMBERS SAID THESE ELECTROSTATIC PRECIPITATORS WERE EXPENSIVE, ESTIMATED TO COST \$130 MILLION.

+THE QUESTION OF WHETHER INTERIM MEASURES INVOLVING COSTS OF THIS MAGNITUDE CAN BE JUSTIFIED HAS BEEN EXTENSIVELY DISCUSSED WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT AND I EXPECT AN EARLY DECISION AS TO WHETHER THE UPGRADING OF THE PROJECT SHOULD BE PROPOSED TO THE PUBLIC WORKS SUB-COMMITTEE.

+IF IT IS DECIDED TO GO AHEAD WITH THE PRECIPITATORS WORK SHOULD START IN THE 1986/87 FINANCIAL YEAR AND SOME IMPROVEMENT WOULD BE ACHIEVED ALMOST IMMEDIATELY AS THE FIRST OF THE TWO PLANTS WOULD BE CLOSED DOWN FOR THE INSTALLATION WORK TO BEGIN. THE WORK SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY 1990,+ MR CHAMBERS SAID.

+ON THE OTHER HAND,+ HE SAID, +A DECISION NOT TO INSTALL PRECIPITATORS AND TO RELY ON TRANSFER STATIONS WOULD MEAN THAT THE INCINERATORS COULD NOT BE CLOSED DOWN UNTIL 1989 AT THE EARLIEST, ALTHOUGH SOME IMPROVEMENT MIGHT BE EFFECTED BEFORE THEN BY THE USE OF BARGES TO TRANSPORT REFUSE TO THE CONTROLLED TIPS.+

MR CHAMBERS SAID THAT IN THE LONGER TERM THE MOST EFFECTIVE SOLUTION WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY BE THE PHASING OUT OF THE INCINERATORS AND THE CENTRALISATION OF DOMESTIC REFUSE IN ONE OR MORE STRATEGICALLY LOCATED +TRANSFER STATIONS+ FROM WHICH IT WOULD BE TRANSPORTED IN LARGE VEHICLES TO THE CONTROLLED TIPS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

+AT PRESENT IT IS DIFFICULT TO SAY WHEN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THESE NEW METHODS WILL HAVE REACHED A STAGE AT WHICH THE INCINERATORS CAN BE CLOSED DOWN PERMANENTLY,+ HE SAID.

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RESOURCES DEPLOYED TO PROMOTE CIVIC EDUCATION

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THE GOVERNMENT AND DISTRICT BOARDS HAVE ALLOCATED FUNDS TO ORGANISE PUBLICITY CAMPAIGNS TO PROMOTE CIVIC AWARENESS AND RESPONSIBILITY AT ALL LEVELS, SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, THE HON DONALD LIAO, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON SZETO WAH ON THE FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR THE PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION, MR LIAO SAID EXISTING RESOURCES HAVE ALREADY BEEN DEPLOYED TO PROMOTE CIVIC EDUCATION.

+FOR INSTANCE, IN EDUCATION, RESOURCES HAVE BEEN DEPLOYED IN STAFF TRAINING AND PRODUCTION OF RELEVANT TEACHING MODULES AND EDUCATION TELEVISION PROGRAMME ON CIVIC EDUCATION,+ HE SAID.

+ALL THESE DEVELOPMENTS AND FUTURE EFFORTS WILL OBVIOUSLY REQUIRE ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND NECESSARY FUNDS ARE ALREADY BEING SOUGHT IN THE 1986-87 ESTIMATES,+ HE ADDED.

MR LIAO SAID THAT PROMOTING CIVIC EDUCATION WAS A CONTINUOUS EXERCISE.

+IN STEPPING UP OUR EFFORTS NOW WITH A VIEW TO REAPING EVEN MORE POSITIVE RESULTS IN FUTURE, SUPPORT FROM ALL SECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY IS NEEDED,+ HE SAID.

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NO PLANS TO FILL SCIENTIST POST

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THERE ARE NO IMMEDIATE PLANS TO FILL THE POST OF GOVERNMENT SCIENTIST, PENDING A FRESH LOOK AT THE NEED FOR SUCH AN APPOINTMENT, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, THE HON SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY PROF THE HON C.K. POON IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, SIR DAVID SAID THAT +THE REVIEW WILL COVER AN EXAMINATION OF THE FUNDAMENTAL ROLE OF THE GOVERNMENT SCIENTIST IN RELATION TO THE WORK OF OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS WITH RESPONSIBILITIES IN THIS AREA, SUCH AS THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT, THE GOVERNMENT LABORATORY, THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY.+

+A FURTHER CONSIDERATION IS WHETHER A SINGLE INDIVIDUAL WILL BE ABLE TO PROVIDE ADVICE ON THE MANY DISCIPLINES OF SCIENCE WHICH ARE OF A HIGHLY SPECIALISED NATURE, OR WHETHER WE SHOULD RELY ON CONSULTANTS FOR A BROADER FIELD OF ADVICE,+ HE ADDED.

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DOUBLING OF MONETARY LIMIT OF CHIT-FUNDS PROPOSED
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THE MONETARY LIMIT IMPOSED ON PRIVATE CHIT-FUNDS AND FINES FOR CERTAIN OFFENCES UNDER THE PRINCIPAL ORDINANCE SHOULD BE INCREASED IN LINE WITH INFLATION, FROM \$10 000 TO \$20 000, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, THE HON SIR JOHN BREMRIDGE, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

MOVING THE SECOND READING OF THE CHIT-FUND BUSINESSES (PROHIBITION) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1985 IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, HE SAID THAT TO SIMPLIFY THE PROCEDURE FOR AMENDING THE MONETARY LIMIT IN FUTURE, HE FURTHER PROPOSED THAT THE LIMIT BE CHANGED BY RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL.

SIR JOHN SAID THE OPERATION OF COMMERCIAL CHIT-FUND COMPANIES WAS BANNED BY THE CHIT-FUND BUSINESSES (PROHIBITION) ORDINANCE 1972, BUT, +GIVEN THE LONG TRADITION AND POPULARITY OF PRIVATE CHIT-FUNDS, THEY WERE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE TO BE LAWFULLY OPERATED PROVIDED THEY MEET FOUR CONDITIONS.+

THESE CONDITIONS WERE THAT THERE WERE NOT MORE THAN 30 PARTICIPANTS; THE OPERATOR WAS NOT OPERATING ANOTHER CHIT-FUND; THE COMMON FUND PUT UP FOR SALE OR PAYMENT TO THE PARTICIPANTS DID NOT EXCEED \$10 000; AND NO BENEFIT ACCRUED TO THE OPERATOR OTHER THAN A RIGHT TO RECEIVE THE FIRST SUBSCRIPTION FREE OF INTEREST.

+THESE LEGITIMATE PRIVATE CHIT-FUNDS HAVE BEEN RELATIVELY WELL REGULATED SINCE THE ENACTMENT OF THE ORDINANCE.

+BUT IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE LAW REMAINS REALISTIC AND WORKABLE AS IT WAS WHEN ENACTED, IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE MONETARY LIMIT ON THE COMMON FUND BE INCREASED IN LINE WITH INFLATION, FROM \$10 000 TO \$20 000,+ SIR JOHN SAID.

THE OTHER CONDITIONS WOULD HOWEVER REMAIN UNCHANGED.

THE BILL, SIR JOHN SAID, ALSO PROPOSED TO RAISE FINES FOR CERTAIN OFFENCES UNDER THE PRINCIPAL ORDINANCE FROM \$10 000 TO \$20 000.

HE ADDED THAT PROVISIONS DEALING WITH TIME-EXPIRED TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS WOULD BE REPEALED.

DEBATE ON THE BILL WAS ADJOURNED.

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BILL WILL REMOVE DOUBT IN MATRIMONIAL CAUSES RULES

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A BILL AIMED AT REMOVING A DOUBT IN THE MATRIMONIAL CAUSES (AMENDMENT) RULES 1982 WAS INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

MOVING THE SECOND READING OF THE MATRIMONIAL CAUSES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1985, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE HON MICHAEL THOMAS, SAID THE MATRIMONIAL CAUSES RULES DEALT WITH PROCEEDINGS NOT ONLY UNDER THE MATRIMONIAL CAUSES ORDINANCE BUT ALSO UNDER THE MATRIMONIAL PROCEEDINGS AND PROPERTY ORDINANCE.

HE SAID IN 1982 THE CHIEF JUSTICE MADE THE MATRIMONIAL CAUSES (AMENDMENT) RULES 1982.

+THESE RULES WERE STATED TO BE MADE IN EXERCISE OF HIS POWERS UNDER THE MATRIMONIAL CAUSES ORDINANCE. DOUBT HAS ARISEN WHETHER THE CHIEF JUSTICE WAS ALSO EXERCISING HIS POWER UNDER THE MATRIMONIAL PROCEEDINGS AND PROPERTY ORDINANCE.+

MR THOMAS EXPLAINED THAT +THE PURPOSE OF THIS MINOR BILL IS TO REMOVE THAT DOUBT, AND TO DECLARE THAT THE MATRIMONIAL CAUSES (AMENDMENT) RULES 1982 WERE MADE BY THE CHIEF JUSTICE USING HIS POWERS UNDER BOTH SECTION 54 OF THE MATRIMONIAL CAUSES ORDINANCE AND SECTION 32 OF THE MATRIMONIAL PROCEEDINGS AND PROPERTY ORDINANCE.+

DEBATE ON THE BILL WAS ADJOURNED.

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BILL PROPOSES WIDER POWERS OF DELEGATION

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A BILL AMENDING THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE BY GIVING THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDING DEVELOPMENT THE RIGHT TO DELEGATE HIS POWERS AS BUILDING AUTHORITY TO ANY PUBLIC OFFICER WAS INTRODUCED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

MOVING THE SECOND READING OF THE BUILDINGS (AMENDMENT) (NO 2) BILL 1985, THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, THE HON NICKY CHAN, SAID THAT IT WOULD CLEAR UP ANOMALIES IN THE POWER OF DELEGATION CAUSED BY THE DEFEDERALISATION OF THE FORMER PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

MR CHAN SAID THAT UNDER SECTION 2 (2) OF THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS WAS EMPOWERED TO DELEGATE ANY DUTIES IMPOSED ON OR POWERS GRANTED TO THE BUILDING AUTHORITY TO ANY OFFICER OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

/PRIOR TO

PRIOR TO DEFEDERALISATION, POWERS UNDER CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE AND REGULATIONS HAD BEEN DELEGATED TO OFFICERS OF THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE.

+ALL THESE DELEGATIONS INCLUDE THE RECOVERY OF COSTS OF WORK CARRIED OUT BY THE BUILDING AUTHORITY. AS THESE OFFICERS ARE NOW WITHIN THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, THE CURRENT DELEGATION WHICH SHOULD BE RESTRICTED TO THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS NO LONGER VALID,+ HE SAID.

+IN ADDITION, SOME PROJECT MANAGERS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT HAVE BEEN DELEGATED WITH POWERS TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE BUILDING AUTHORITY,+ HE ADDED.

THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS SAID THAT THE ASSISTANCE OF OTHER DEPARTMENTS WAS STILL REQUIRED FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE.

THE DEFICIENCY IN THE POWER OF THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDING DEVELOPMENT TO DELEGATE OUTSIDE THE DEPARTMENT THEREFORE NEEDED TO BE RECTIFIED, HE ADDED.

MR CHAN SAID THAT CLAUSE 2 OF THE BILL AMENDED SECTION 2 (2) OF THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE TO PERMIT THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDING DEVELOPMENT TO DELEGATE TO ANY PUBLIC OFFICER, WHILE CLAUSE 3 OF THE BILL VALIDATED THE DELEGATIONS MADE TO PUBLIC OFFICERS OTHER THAN THOSE IN THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

DEBATE ON THE BILL WAS ADJOURNED.

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QUEEN REAFFIRMS OBLIGATIONS TO HK
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IN HER SPEECH AT THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT TODAY (WEDNESDAY), HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, REAFFIRMED THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO DISCHARGE THEIR OBLIGATIONS TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG.

AT THE CEREMONY TO MARK THE OPENING OF THE NEW SESSION OF PARLIAMENT, ATTENDED BY BOTH LORDS AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, HER MAJESTY REFERRED TO HONG KONG VERY EARLY IN HER SPEECH WHICH OUTLINED THE GOVERNMENT'S MAIN PROPOSALS FOR THE PARLIAMENTARY SESSION 1985/86.

HER MAJESTY SAID: +WHILE HONOURING THEIR UNDERTAKINGS TO THE PEOPLE OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS, MY GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO SEEK MORE NORMAL RELATIONS WITH ARGENTINA.

+THEY WILL ALSO CONTINUE TO DISCHARGE THEIR OBLIGATIONS TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG= AND WILL PROPOSE PROVISIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE NATIONALITY ARRANGEMENTS ARISING FROM THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION.+

HER MAJESTY ALSO SAID SHE LOOKED FORWARD TO PAYING A STATE VISIT TO CHINA AND VISITING HONG KONG IN OCTOBER.

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NO EASY RIDE IN CIVIL SERVICE, SAYS LIAO
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THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DONALD LIAO, TOLD YOUNG PEOPLE TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT A CAREER IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE OF HONG KONG WOULD BE A CHALLENGING AND REWARDING EXPERIENCE.

+THE CONTINUITY OF EXPERTISE AND DEDICATION TO PUBLIC SERVICE ARE THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS FOR DEVELOPING OUR REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT,+ MR LIAO SAID.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE CIVIL SERVICE CAREERS EXHIBITION 1985, MR LIAO SAID A CAREER IN THE CIVIL SERVICE CATERED TO THOSE WHO WISHED TO EMBARK ON A VOYAGE WHICH HAD NO PRECEDENT IN THE HISTORY OF POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT.

+THIS WILL BE NO TIME FOR THE FAINT-HEARTED, OR THE GRADUATE LOOKING FOR AN EASY RIDE,+ HE SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE CALL FOR NEW BLOOD TO JOIN THE CIVIL SERVICE EVERY YEAR WAS NOT JUST A ROUTINE EXERCISE.

+IT IS A CALL FOR THOSE WHO ARE INTERESTED IN DEVOTING A LIFE-LONG CAREER TO A UNIQUE SERVICE.

/+THIS IS

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+THIS IS A SERVICE WHICH REQUIRES DIFFERENT SKILLS AND EXPERTISE FROM INDIVIDUALS WITH THE RELEVANT TRAINING AND EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND,+ HE ADDED.

+HAVING JOINED THE CIVIL SERVICE, INDIVIDUALS ARE EXPECTED TO WORK TOGETHER TO FOSTER THE COMMON GOAL OF MAINTAINING AN EFFECTIVE AND RESPONSIVE GOVERNMENT, SENSITIVE TO THE EVER-GROWING AND CHANGING NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY.+

THEREFORE, MR LIAO SAID, THE EXHIBITION WAS IMPORTANT TO YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN WHO WERE ABOUT TO DECIDE UPON THEIR CAREERS.

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SIR DAVID TO VISIT TUEN MUN
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THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, WILL OFFICIALLY OPEN THE NEW GOVERNMENT OFFICE COMPLEX IN TUEN MUN TOMORROW (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON.

AS PART OF HIS PROGRAMME, SIR DAVID WILL FIRST ARRIVE AT THE ROOF-TOP OF HING PING HOUSE, TAI HING ESTATE, FOR A PANORAMIC VIEW OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE NORTHERN PART OF THE NEW TOWN.

LATER, HE WILL TOUR THE NEWLY-OPENED TUEN MUN TOWN PARK BEFORE OPENING THE NEW GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING IN TUEN HI ROAD.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES COVERING THE VISIT ARE REQUESTED TO ASSEMBLE AT THE CGO CARPARK, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, BEFORE 1 PM TOMORROW (THURSDAY) WHERE A 40-SEAT COACH WILL TAKE THEM TO TUEN MUN.

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RSD SERVICES IN YUEN LONG OUTLINED
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THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAS ASSIGNED A WORK FORCE OF OVER 870 TO PROVIDE A WIDE RANGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE SERVICES IN THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT.

SPEAKING AT THE FIRST MEETING OF THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT COMMITTEE OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL, THE DISTRICT HYGIENE SUPERINTENDENT, MR CHAN KING-KAI, SAID THE FIGURE INCLUDED 626 STAFF AND A FLEET OF 16 SPECIALISED VEHICLES RESPONSIBLE FOR THE REMOVAL OF 120 TONNES OF REFUSE AND JUNK DAILY.

+THE ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE COVERS PUBLIC CLEANSING, DISTRICT HYGIENE WORK AND MANAGEMENT OF HAWKERS AND MARKETS. PUBLIC CLEANSING INVOLVES STREET SWEEPING, STREET WASHING, CLEANSING OF ROAD GULLIES, DESLUDGING OF SEPTIC TANKS, PROVISION AND MANAGEMENT OF 219 REFUSE COLLECTION POINTS AND 215 PUBLIC TOILETS AND BATHHOUSES AND DOG TOILETS,+ MR CHAN SAID.

DISTRICT HYGIENE WORK, UNDERTAKEN BY THE DEPARTMENT'S HEALTH INSPECTORATE, INVOLVES THE REGULAR INSPECTION AND CONTROL OF 604 LICENSED PREMISES, DETECTION AND ABATEMENT OF SANITARY NUISANCES, RODENT AND PEST CONTROL, WATER HYGIENE FOR DRINKING AND SWIMMING SAFETY (INCLUDING SAMPLING FOR CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS), FOOD HYGIENE, AND ENFORCEMENT ACTION AGAINST UNLICENSED BUSINESS.

+HEALTH INSPECTORS ALSO UNDERTAKE WORK IN THE PREVENTION AND INVESTIGATION OF FOOD POISONING AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND THE MAINTENANCE OF SANITATION IN BUILDINGS AND CONSTRUCTION SITES. THEY ARE ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR RAIDING ILLEGAL SLAUGHTERHOUSES, ARRESTING OFFENDERS AND SEIZING ILLEGALLY SLAUGHTERED ANIMAL CARCASSES,+ HE SAID.

MEANWHILE, SIX GENERAL DUTIES TEAMS ARE ASSIGNED TO THE HAWKER BLACK SPOTS FOR STATIC CONTROL AND RAIDING DUTIES WHILE SIX PUBLIC MARKETS, INCLUDING THREE COOKED FOOD MARKETS, AND THREE HAWKER BAZAARS ARE MANAGED BY A SEPARATE STREAM OF STAFF.

SPEAKING ON THE PROVISION OF RECREATION, SPORTS AND AMENITIES SERVICES, THE DISTRICT LEISURE MANAGER (YUEN LONG), MR LAM TIN-KEE, SAID THESE COVERED THE OVERALL MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC PLEASURE GROUNDS, THE ONLY GAZETTED STADIUM IN THE NON-URBAN AREAS AND PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS, AND THE UPKEEP OF ANCILLARY FACILITIES.

+THE RSD INITIATES AND DEVELOPS RECREATIONAL AND SPORTS PROGRAMMES FOR ALL AGE GROUPS AND ASSISTS THE COMMUNITY TO MAKE MAXIMUM USE OF LEISURE FACILITIES IN THE DISTRICT,+ MR LAM SAID.

HE REPORTED THAT FROM APRIL TO SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR, 117 PROJECTS WERE ORGANISED AT A COST OF \$218 980, INVOLVING ALTOGETHER 7 661 PARTICIPANTS. MANY OF THESE PROJECTS WERE JOINTLY ORGANISED WITH LOCAL SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS, VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, AND THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD.

/THE COMMITTEE

THE COMMITTEE WAS ALSO TOLD THAT CULTURAL ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT CENTRED MAINLY AROUND THE LUT SAU HALL AND THE YUEN LONG PUBLIC LIBRARY. THE LUT SAU HALL SERVES A DUAL FUNCTION AS A SCHOOL HALL OF THE CHIU LUT SAU MEMORIAL SECONDARY SCHOOL AS WELL AS A DESIGNATED CIVIC CENTRE. THE YUEN LONG PUBLIC LIBRARY, WHICH CARRIES A STOCK OF 97 519 BOOKS AND 2 814 ITEMS OF AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIALS, OFFERS MANY POPULAR EXTENSION ACTIVITIES.

FROM JUNE TO AUGUST 1985, 8 985 PEOPLE PARTICIPATED IN LIBRARY EXTENSION ACTIVITIES WHICH RANGE FROM STORY-TELLING TO INTEREST CLUBS, BOOK EXHIBITIONS, SUBJECT TALKS, MINI CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS, MUSIC APPRECIATION AND FILM SHOWS.

AT THE LUT SAU HALL, A WIDE RANGE OF CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS ARE HELD. THESE INCLUDE CHINESE OPERAS, DRAMAS, VARIETY SHOWS, DANCE AND ORCHESTRAL CONCERTS. FREE ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMMES SUCH AS CANTONESE OPERAS, VARIETY SHOWS, POP CONCERTS, PUPPET SHOWS, ARE REGULARLY ARRANGED IN 13 OUTDOOR VENUES.

ON AVERAGE, THREE PROGRAMMES ARE PRESENTED EACH MONTH IN YUEN LONG, ATTRACTING AN AUDIENCE OF 100 TO 400 EACH TIME.

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THERAPEUTIC EQUIPMENT BOOST FOR STUDENTS

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STUDENTS OF THE SHA TIN PUBLIC SCHOOL IN TAI WAI WILL BE GIVEN A BOOST IN THEIR LESSONS WITH A NEW SET OF EQUIPMENT FOR LANGUAGE TEACHING PURPOSES.

THESE EQUIPMENT INCLUDE A VISUAL-SPEECH-FEELING INDICATOR, A LANGUAGE MASTER, LEARNING-TO-HEAR TEACHING MATERIAL, A PORTAGE FOR MENTALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME, A PEABODY LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT KIT AND A TAPE RECORDER.

THE EQUIPMENT, COSTING ABOUT \$20 000, WILL BE USED IN THE SCHOOL'S SPEECH ROOM WHICH IS NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION FOR THE MILDLY MENTALLY HANDICAPPED.

FUNDS FOR THE THERAPEUTIC EQUIPMENT WILL COME FROM THE SALE OF TWO GIANT SAUSAGES FOR CHARITY DURING THE 1985 YAOHAN GERMAN FOOD FESTIVAL AT THE NEW TOWN PLAZA.

THE ACTING DISTRICT OFFICER OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE, MR JONATHAN NG, WILL OFFICIATE AT A RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY OF THE GERMAN FOOD FORTNIGHT TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

/OTHERS OFFICIATING

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OTHERS OFFICIATING INCLUDE THE DEPUTY GERMAN COUNSUL GENERAL, MR HERBERT KAMPS, THE MANAGING DIRECTOR OF GERMAN AGRICULTURAL MARKETING BOARD, MR J. STEIL, AND THE DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR OF YAOHAN DEPARTMENT STORE (HONG KONG) LIMITED, MR H. TOKUHISA.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY OF THE 1985 YAOHAN GERMAN FOOD FESTIVAL TO BE HELD AT 11 AM TOMORROW (THURSDAY) AT THE SUPERMARKET AND FOOD ARCADE OF THE YAOHAN DEPARTMENT STORE AT LEVEL 1 OF THE NEW TOWN PLAZA IN SHA TIN.

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TRANSPORT CHANGES FOR SHA TIN RACE MEETINGS

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT TODAY ANNOUNCED SPECIAL TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS TO BE IMPLEMENTED FOR SHA TIN RACE MEETINGS, THE FIRST OF WHICH WILL BE ON THIS SATURDAY (NOVEMBER 9).

SPECIAL DIRECT KCR TRAIN SERVICES TO SHA TIN RACE COURSE WILL BE RESUMED FROM NOVEMBER 9. DURING DAY RACE MEETINGS AT SHA TIN, THERE WILL BE 27 DEPARTURES FROM KOWLOON STATION AND 10 DEPARTURES FROM SHEUNG SHUI, STARTING FROM 11.07 AM AND 11.41 AM RESPECTIVELY. THERE WILL BE 25 DEPARTURES FROM SHA TIN RACE COURSE TO KOWLOON STATION BETWEEN 4.15 PM AND 7.19 PM.

DURING NIGHT RACES, THE NUMBER OF DEPARTURES WILL BE 18 FROM KOWLOON AND NINE FROM SHEUNG SHUI, STARTING FROM 6.05 PM AND 6.08 PM RESPECTIVELY. AFTER THE RACES, THERE WILL BE 17 DEPARTURES FROM THE RACE COURSE TO KOWLOON BETWEEN 9.37 PM AND 11.38 PM. PASSENGERS HEADING FOR STATIONS NORTH OF RACE COURSE STATION WILL HAVE TO CHANGE FOR NORTH-BOUND TRAINS AT SHA TIN STATION.

THE RACE COURSE SPECIAL BUS SERVICES TO AND FROM SHA TIN RACE COURSE -- ROUTE 848 FROM TSUEN WAN FERRY, ROUTE 872 FROM TAI PO MARKET, ROUTE 887 FROM TAI KOK TSUI FERRY, ROUTE 888 FROM SHA TIN MARKET, ROUTE 889 FROM KWUN TONG FERRY AND ROUTE 891 FROM KOWLOON CITY FERRY -- WILL ALSO BE REINTRODUCED ON THE SAME DAY. THE CROSS HARBOUR RACE COURSE BUS SERVICES -- ROUTE 881 TO KENNEDY TOWN, ROUTE 882 TO CHAI WAN (EAST) AND ROUTE 884 TO ABERDEEN -- WILL BE OPERATED ONLY FOR THE HOMEBOUND JOURNEYS FROM THE RACE COURSE.

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WITH THE COMPLETION OF GRANDSTAND II, ENTRANCE ARRANGEMENTS FOR DIFFERENT TRANSPORT MODES WILL BE SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT FROM THOSE OF LAST RACE SECTION.

FRANCHISED BUSES AND PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES COMING FROM KOWLOON HAVE TO MAKE USE OF THE FLYOVER ON TAI PO ROAD NEAR FO TAN KCR DEPOT. THOSE COMING FROM TAI PO HAVE TO USE THE SLIP ROAD OFF TAI PO ROAD OPPOSITE THE RACE COURSE RAILWAY STATION TO ENTER THE RACE COURSE.

NEW TERRITORIES TAXIS AND PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES ARE PROHIBITED TO USE THE RAMP OFF TAI PO ROAD AND THE ACCESS ROAD OFF TOLO HIGHWAY (KOWLOON-BOUND CARRIAGEWAY) BOTH LEADING TO THE MEMBERS' MAIN ENTRANCE TO THE GRANDSTANDS.

NEW TERRITORIES TAXIS SHOULD USE THE SLIP ROAD OFF TAI PO ROAD OPPOSITE THE RACE COURSE RAILWAY STATION AT ALL TIMES TO ARRIVE AT THE NEW TERRITORIES TAXI STAND.

IN PARTICULAR, URBAN TAXI DRIVERS ARE ADVISED THAT ACCESS TO THE BUS AND PUBLIC LIGHT BUS TERMINI ARE PROHIBITED FROM THIS RACE SEASON ONWARD AND THAT THEY HAVE TO USE THE RAMP OFF TAI PO ROAD OR THE ACCESS ROAD OFF TOLO HIGHWAY (KOWLOON-BOUND CARRIAGEWAY) TO ARRIVE AT THE NEW URBAN TAXI STANDS UNDER GRANDSTAND II.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS ARE ERECTED AT APPROPRIATE LOCATIONS TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE ADVISED NOT TO USE THEIR PRIVATE CARS BUT TO USE PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES TO GO TO THE SHA TIN RACE COURSE AS PARKING SPACES AVAILABLE IN THE VICINITY ARE EXTREMELY LIMITED. VEHICLES PARKED ILLEGALLY ON THE ROAD OR PAVEMENT MAY BE TOWED AWAY WITHOUT WARNING.

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TRACK AND FIELD MEETING
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THE ACTING DISTRICT OFFICER OF SHA TIN, MR JONATHAN NG, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE PRIZE-PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE EIGHTH TRACK MEET OF THE NEW TERRITORIES SCHOOLS SPORTS ASSOCIATION TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

OTHER GUESTS INCLUDE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD, MR NG CHAN-LAM, LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, MR ANDREW WONG, A MEMBER OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL, MR LAU HON-KIT, SENIOR EDUCATION OFFICER, MR KWAN TING-FAI, AND THE HONORARY PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION, MR TSUI FONG-CHING.

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ABOUT 2 000 COMPETITORS FROM 40 PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN SHA TIN ARE TAKING PART IN THE TWO-DAY TRACK AND FIELD MEET WHICH STARTED TODAY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY TO BE HELD AT 4 PM TOMORROW (THURSDAY) AT THE SHA TIN SPORTS GROUND IN YUEN WO ROAD, SHA TIN.

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MONMOUTH PATH, EDINBURGH PLACE CLOSURE
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MONMOUTH PATH, BETWEEN WING FUNG STREET WEST AND QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, IN WAN CHAI WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 6 PM ON SATURDAY (NOVEMBER 9) TO 6 PM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR ROAD WORK.

DURING THE CLOSURE, WING FUNG STREET BETWEEN WING FUNG STREET WEST AND QUEEN'S ROAD EAST WILL BE RE-ROUTED TWO-WAYS. VEHICLES ON MONMOUTH PATH HEADING FOR QUEEN'S ROAD EAST WILL BE DIVERTED TO WING FUNG STREET WEST AND WING FUNG STREET.

ALSO ON THE SAME DAY, EDINBURGH PLACE NORTH IN CENTRAL WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 6 AM TO 7 PM TO ALLOW A HELICOPTER DISPLAY TO TAKE PLACE.

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