DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1981

CONTENTS PAGE NO.

PROPOSAL TO LIMIT HIRE CARS 1

MTR ISLAND LINE PROPOSAL 1

FISH CATCH UP DESPITE OIL HIKE 2

PATIENTS PLAY UP NEW YEAR 3

30 FAMILIES TO SPEND HOLIDAYS IN CAMP 3

PROPOSAL TO LIMIT HIRE CARS

* * *

THE ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) BILL 1981, WHICH LIMITS THE NUMBER OF CONTRACT HIRE CAR PERMITS TO BE ISSUED, WAS PUBLISHED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

THE BILL ALSO ENABLES TRANSPORT TRIBUNALS TO REVIEW DECISIONS BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT TO CANCEL PERMITS. THE TRIBUNAL WILL ALSO BE ABLE TO REVIEW CASES IN WHICH THE COMMISSIONER HAS REFUSED TO ISSUE PERMITS.

A THIRD PROVISION ALLOWS THAT WHERE ANY REGULATION IS MADE UNDER THE ROAD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE DEALING WITH THE GRANTING OF HIRE CAR PERMITS THE COMMISSIONER MAY, IN HIS DISCRETION :

* GIVE PRIORITY TO ANY PERSON OR CLASS OF PERSONS=

* DETERMINE BY LOT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED= AND

* LIMIT THE NUMBER OF PERMITS WHICH MAY BE GRANTED TO ANY PERSON OR CLASS OF PERSONS.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE AMENDING BILL, IF PASSED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, WOULD ENABLE REGULATIONS TO BE MADE INCORPORATING THESE THREE PROVISIONS.

----o----

MTR ISLAND LINE PROPOSAL

* * * *

A BILL TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE ISLAND LINE WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL NEXT WEDNESDAY.

THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY (LAND RESUMPTION AND RELATED PROVISIONS)(AMENDMENT) BILL 1981 IS PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

IT SEEKS TO ENLARGE GEOGRAPHICALLY THE SCOPE OF THE PRINCIPAL ORDINANCE BY INCLUDING THE SECTION OF THE MTR BETWEEN WESTERN MARKET AND CHAI WAN.

THE ORDINANCE PROVIDES FOR ACTION TO BE TAKEN ON LAND ACQUISITION AND COMPENSATION CLAIMS ARISING FROM THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE RAILWAY.

IT IS A REQUIREMENT OF THE ORDINANCE THAT ANY LAND RESUMPTION BE PRECEDED BY THE EXHIBITION OF A RAILWAY AREA PLAN.

TO MEET THIS REQUIREMENT WITHIN THE OVERALL TIMETABLE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE ISLAND LINE, THE PLAN MUST BE EXHIBITED BY THE END OF THIS MONTH.

FOR THIS REASON IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE BILL BE TAKEN THROUGH THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN ONE SITTING.

----o----

/2 .....

FISH CATCH UP DESPITE OIL HIKE

* * * *

PRODUCTIVITY BY THE LOCAL FISHING FLEET INCREASED BY ABOUT THREE PER CENT LAST YEAR DESPITE A TRYING TIME FOR THE FISHERMEN DUE TO INCREASED FUEL OIL COSTS.

STATING THIS TODAY (WEDNESDAY) AT THE ANNUAL PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY AT THE ABERDEEN WHOLESALE FISH MARKET, ACTING DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DR C.T. WONG SAID: +THE YEAR ABOUT TO PASS HAS BEEN A TIME OF TRIAL AND TRIBULATION FOR THE LOCAL FISHING FLEET.+

THE HIGH PRICE OF FUEL OIL CONTINUED TO GIVE THE LOCAL FISHERMEN A HARD TIME DURING THE YEAR, HE SAID.

DR WONG SAID: +DUE TO YOUR HARD WORK AND ADAPTABILITY, HOWEVER, THE PRODUCTIVITY OF THE LOCAL FLEET INCREASED BY ABOUT THREE PER CENT ALTHOUGH LANDINGS SOLD THROUGH THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION DURING 1980 DECLINED BY APPROXIMATELY SEVEN PER CENT COMPARED WITH 1979.+

NEVERTHELESS, THE AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED THROUGH THE F.M.O. ROSE BY JUST UNDER $47 PER PICUL OR 17 PER CENT TO HELP OFFSET THE INCREASED COSTS.

DR WONG URGED FISHERMEN TO ADOPT ALL MEASURES POSSIBLE TO INCREASE EFFICIENCY AND PRODUCTIVITY IN ORDER TO OFFSET INCREASED EXPENDITURE.

REGARDING ASSISTANCE TO FISHERMEN, DR WONG SAID THE ISSUE OF LOANS FROM THE VARIOUS FUNDS ADMINISTERED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN SPEEDED UP AND REPAYMENT TERMS EASED.

+THE DEPARTMENT IS ALSO EXPANDING THE RANGE OF ITS TRAINING CLASSES FOR YOUR BENEFIT AND IN OCTOBER 1980 COMMISSIONED A NEW FISHERIES RESEARCH VESSEL, THE 'TAI SHUN',+ HE SAID.

THE 'TAI SHUN', WHICH REPLACED THE 28-YEAR-OLD 'CAPE ST. MARY', WILL CARRY OUT EXPLORATORY FISHING IN AN ATTEMPT TO OPEN UP NEW FISHING GROUNDS AND NEW RESOURCES. THE INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE MADE KNOWN TO THE FISHERMEN.

+THE NEW VESSEL IS A FURTHER EXAMPLE OF THE DEPARTMENT'S DETERMINATION TO FOSTER THE GROWTH OF THE LOCAL FISHING INDUSTRY,+ DR WONG SAID.

DURING THE CEREMONY, DR WONG PRESENTED PRIZES AND CERTIFICATES TO NINE FISHERMEN WHO SAVED THE LIVES OF 22 PEOPLE IN SEVEN ACCIDENTS AT SEA DURING THE YEAR.

MRS WONG PRESENTED PRIZES AND CERTIFICATES TO 24 CHAMPION FISHERMEN.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/3 .....

PATIENTS PLAY UP NEW YEAR

* * * *

MORE THAN 300 PATIENTS OF LAI CHI KOK HOSPITAL AND THEIR RELATIVES WILL HAVE A DAY OF FUN DURING THE LUNAR NEW YEAR.

THE CHINESE NEW YEAR FUN DAY WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY (FEBRUARY 8) IN THE HOSPITAL'S OPEN SPACE.

THE FUNCTION IS ORGANISED BY THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT WITH THE COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICER AND YOUTH CENTRE OF SHAM SHUI PO.

THERE WILL BE A WIDE VARIETY OF GROUP GAMES AND STALLS RUN AND PARTICIPATED BY THE PATIENTS.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DAY WILL INCLUDE A LION DANCE AND A DEMONSTRATION OF CHINESE MARTIAL ART, WITH SOME OF THE PATIENTS TAKING PART.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID: +THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THAT LAI CHI KOK HOSPITAL HAS EVER HELD A FUNCTION OF SUCH NATURE ON SUCH A LARGE SCALE.+

THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF THE EVENT IS TO BUILD UP THE CONFIDENCE OF PATIENTS AND HELP PROMOTE UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN PATIENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

- - - - o - - - -

30 FAMILIES TO SPEND HOLIDAYS IN CAMP

* * * *

ABOUT 200 PEOPLE FROM 30 FAMILIES RESIDENT IN NORTH DISTRICT, NEW TERRITORIES, WILL SPEND PART OF THEIR LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS IN WU KAI SHA YOUTH CAMP.

THE CAMP, ORGANISED BY NORTH DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS AND THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE, WILL BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 10 AND 11.

APPLICATIONS WERE MADE ON A FAMILY BASIS. THE LARGEST FAMILY ENROLLED HAS 11 MEMBERS WITH THE ELDEST BEING AN 80-YEAR-OLD WOMAN.

ACTIVITIES DESIGNED TO SHOW THE IMPORTANCE OF CO-OPERATION AMONG FAMILY UNITS WILL INCLUDE ARCHERY, BALL GAMES, KITE FLYING, HIKING, A BARBECUE AND A VARIETY SHOW.

PAMPHLETS CONTAINING FIGHT CRIME AND ANTI-NARCOTIC MESSAGES WILL ALSO BE DISTRIBUTED TO ALL PARTICIPANTS.

EACH PERSON ATTENDING HAS TO PAY $12. NORTH DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE AND ACAN HAVE PROVIDED $6 500 TO SUBSIDISE THE CAMP.

IT IS AMONG A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES BEING ORGANISED IN THE DISTRICT TO ENCOURAGE RESIDENTS TO TAKE PART IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME.

OTHER ACTIVITIES INCLUDE A POSTER DESIGN COMPETITION, A WATER CARNIVAL, A CROSSWORD PUZZLE CONTEST, A TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT, VARIETY SHOWS AND EXHIBITIONS.

- - - - o - - - -