



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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CONTENTS

PAGE NO.

FAMILY PLANNING GAINING WIDER ACCEPTANCE	1
HOSTELS FOR SINGLE PERSONS SPACIOUS AND OF GOOD STANDARD ...	3
FITNESS DRILL FOR CHEUNG CHAU ISLANDERS	4
SUBSIDY FOR YOUTH PROJECTS	5
ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN IN WAN CHAI	6
SAI KUNG MARKET STALLS	7
FACILITIES FOR MORNING JOGGERS IN SAI KUNG	7
SPORTS DAY IN KOWLOON CITY	8
ANOTHER SWIMMING POOL FOR TUEN MUN	9
MORE SPORT FACILITIES	9

SUNDAY, MAY 29, 1983

- 1 -

FAMILY PLANNING GAINING WIDER ACCEPTANCE

FAMILY PLANNING IS MORE THAN JUST TEACHING PEOPLE METHODS OF BIRTH CONTROL, SAID DR BETTY EO-YANG, PRINCIPAL MEDICAL AND HEALTH OFFICER (FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES).

SHE STRESSED THAT IMPROVEMENT IN FAMILY HEALTH, ESPECIALLY IN THAT OF THE MOTHERS AND THE CHILDREN, WAS A PREREQUISITE.

PARENTS WOULD ACCEPT FAMILY PLANNING MORE READILY WHEN FOETAL AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES WERE REDUCED, SHE SAID.

IN THIS FIELD, HONG KONG HAS MADE GREAT STRIDES -- AN ACHIEVEMENT THAT HAS MODIFIED THE TRADITIONAL CHINESE THINKING OF HAVING A LARGE FAMILY.

+OUR INFANT MORTALITY RATE LAST YEAR WAS 9.9 PER 1 000 BABIES BORN, THE LOWEST IN THE FAR EAST WHILE THE MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE AT 0.01 PER 1 000 WAS THE SECOND LOWEST IN THE REGION,+ SHE POINTED OUT.

HONG KONG'S EXTENSIVE HEALTH CARE FOR CHILDREN AS WELL AS ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL HEALTH SERVICES BEING PROVIDED BY HOSPITALS AND VARIOUS MATERNITY AND CHILD HEALTH (MCH) CENTRES WERE AMONG THE BEST IN THE WORLD, DR EO-YANG SAID.

THESE SERVICES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT HONG KONG'S 45 GOVERNMENT FAMILY PLANNING CLINICS THOUGH THEIR MAIN SERVICE IS TO PROVIDE COUNSELLING ON BIRTH CONTROL. THREE OF THEM ARE ATTACHED TO THE TSAN YUK, QUEEN ELIZABETH AND PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITALS AND THE REST ARE OPERATED BY THE GOVERNMENT'S MCH CENTRES THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY.

DR EO-YANG DESCRIBED THE FAMILY PLANNING SERVICE AND THE MCH CENTRES AS A +PACKAGE DEAL+.

+THERE IS A DIRECT RELATIONSHIP AS THEY ARE BOTH CONCERNED WITH THE PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL QUALITY OF FAMILY LIFE,+ SHE EXPLAINED.

THROUGH FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES, MORE PARENTS NOWADAYS ARE ALSO MADE TO REALISE THAT A SMALL FAMILY OFTEN MEANS BETTER EDUCATIONAL AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE CHILDREN.

+WITH OUR GUIDANCE AND COUNSELLING, EVEN FISHERMEN WHO HAVE TRADITIONALLY CONSIDERED CHILDREN AS SO MANY ADDITIONAL FREE HELPING HANDS, ARE BEGINNING TO SEE THE ADVANTAGES OF HAVING A SMALL FAMILY,+ DR EO-YANG POINTED OUT.

THE GROWING MECHANISATION OF HONG KONG'S FISHING FLEET ALSO HELPED.

OVERALL, THE FAMILY PLANNING MESSAGES HAD TAKEN HOLD IN HONG KONG, AS INDICATED BY THE STEADILY DECLINING BIRTH RATE, SHE SAID.

/LAST YEAR,

LAST YEAR, THE RATE WAS 16.4 PER 1 000, COMPARED WITH 19.2 IN 1972 AND 33.9 IN 1962.

ACCORDING TO THE LATEST POPULATION CENSUS CONDUCTED IN 1981, THE AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE HAD DECREASED FROM 4.5 MEMBERS IN 1971 TO 3.9 BY 1981.

+IN FACT, OUR WORK IN FAMILY PLANNING COMPARES VERY WELL WITH THAT BEING DONE IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. OUR SERVICES ARE PROVIDED BY QUALIFIED NURSES AND MEDICAL OFFICERS AND THE STATISTICS REFLECT OUR ACHIEVEMENT AND HIGH SERVICE STANDARDS,+ DR EO-YANG SAID.

LAST YEAR, OVER 92 PER CENT OF NEWBORN BABIES ATTENDED THE MCH CENTRES, COMPARED WITH ONLY 24 PER CENT IN 1960, WHILE SOME 370 000 ATTENDANCES WERE RECORDED AT THE FAMILY PLANNING CLINICS.

+FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF THE PUBLIC, ESPECIALLY THE WORKING MOTHERS, THREE OF OUR FAMILY PLANNING CLINICS HAVE EXTENDED THEIR WORK HOURS BY STAYING OPEN AT LUNCH TIME SINCE MARCH THIS YEAR.

+AND PLANS ARE IN HAND TO SET UP EIGHT MORE SUCH CLINICS IN THE 1980'S,+ DR EO-YANG SAID.

+PEOPLE CALLING ON A FAMILY PLANNING CLINIC OR AN MCH CENTRE USUALLY ASK NOT ONLY FOR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE BUT ALSO FOR COUNSELLING ON FAMILY PLANNING AND RELATED QUESTIONS,+ SHE SAID.

AMONG THE ISSUES REGULARLY DEALT WITH BY SUCH CLINICS AND CENTRES ARE THE SPACING OF CHILD BIRTHS, MARITAL CONSULTATIONS AND VARIOUS METHODS OF BIRTH CONTROL.

DR EO-YANG SAID THAT BECAUSE OF THE DELICACY OF CERTAIN PROBLEMS, MANY OF THE PROFESSIONAL STAFF AT THE MCH CENTRES HAD BEEN SPECIALLY TRAINED FOR THE JOB.

+THEY ARE MULTI-PURPOSE NURSES WHO HAVE COMPLETED FIVE YEARS OF TRAINING, MADE UP OF THREE YEARS IN GENERAL NURSING, ONE YEAR IN MIDWIFERY AND ANOTHER YEAR IN PUBLIC HEALTH,+ SHE SAID.

THIS EXTENSIVE TRAINING ALSO COVERS INTERVIEWING AND COUNSELLING TECHNIQUES, PUBLIC LECTURES AND FINESSE IN HANDLING DELICATE PROBLEMS, AMONG OTHER SKILLS.

DR EO-YANG ALSO PAID TRIBUTE TO THE FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION, A VOLUNTARY AGENCY AND A PIONEER IN PROVIDING FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES.

GOVERNMENT SUBVENTION FOR THE ASSOCIATION INCREASED STEADILY, FROM \$110 000 IN 1958 TO MORE THAN \$3.5 MILLION LAST YEAR.

NOW THAT THE GOVERNMENT-OPERATED FAMILY PLANNING CLINICS HAVE BEEN IN OPERATION FOR A DECADE, THE ASSOCIATION IS PLACING ITS EMPHASIS ON SUCH OTHER AREAS AS EDUCATION, RESERACH, INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS.

HOSTELS FOR SINGLE PERSONS SPACIOUS AND OF GOOD STANDARD
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A SENIOR HOUSING DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL TODAY DISMISSED AS +UNFOUNDED AND ABSOLUTELY LUDICROUS+ CRITICISMS OVER THE LIVING CONDITIONS OF HOSTEL ACCOMMODATION FOR SINGLE PERSONS.

+THE HOSTELS ARE OF VERY GOOD STANDARD WITH PEACEFUL SURROUNDINGS AND PROVIDE EVEN MORE SPACE PER PERSON THAN IN A TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA,+ SAID MR MIKE SMITH, DEPUTY DIRECTOR (OPERATIONS).

HE SAID HE DOUBTED VERY MUCH IF THE PEOPLE PROTESTING OR THOSE OUTSIDERS WHO WERE ORCHESTRATING THE PROTEST HAD ACTUALLY SEEN THE PLACE.

+HOWEVER, THEIR CLAIMS THAT THE HOSTELS ARE LIKE A 'DOG KENNEL', 'PRISON' OR 'CONCENTRATION CAMP' ARE LAUGHABLE.

+EACH HOSTEL BAY FOR SIX OR EIGHT PERSONS IS SELF-CONTAINED. THERE ARE FREE WATER AND ELECTRICITY SUPPLY, BEDS, LOCKERS AND CEILING FANS, PLUS COOKING, WASHING AND SHOWER FACILITIES.

+THE SIX-PERSON BAY, FOR EXAMPLE, HAS AN AREA OF 200 SQ. FT. PLUS A KITCHEN AND SHOWER ROOM, WHILE THE AREA OUTSIDE GIVES PLENTY OF SPACE FOR LEISURE ACTIVITIES.

+THE MAXIMUM MONTHLY RENT IS ONLY \$80 PER PERSON WHICH IS VERY LOW INDEED.+

MR SMITH SAID THE EXISTING REHOUSING POLICY FOR ABLE-BODIED SINGLE PERSONS AND TWO-MEMBER FAMILIES WAS REASONABLE HAVING REGARD TO THE OVERALL PUBLIC HOUSING NEEDS.

+WHILE THE PUBLIC HOUSING PROGRAMME IS EVER EXPANDING WITH ITS CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AMOUNTING TO AS MUCH AS ONE-THIRD OF THE GOVERNMENT'S OVERALL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, THESE RESOURCES ARE NOT UNLIMITED.

+THE HOUSING AUTHORITY HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE THAT THE AVAILABLE RESOURCES ARE MOST FAIRLY AND ECONOMICALLY UTILISED.

+WE MUST THEREFORE NOT ONLY LOOK AT INDIVIDUAL GROUPS, BUT RATHER AT THE OVERALL SITUATION, TAKING ALSO INTO ACCOUNT THE GREATER NEED OF LARGER FAMILIES, FOR EXAMPLE MARRIED COUPLES WITH CHILDREN.+

UNDER THE EXISTING POLICY, ONLY SINGLE PERSONS OR TWO-MEMBER FAMILIES WHO ARE COMPASSIONATE CASES OR WHO ARE OLD OR HAVE AN AGED BUT CLOSELY-RELATED FAMILY MEMBER, ARE GIVEN PERMANENT PUBLIC HOUSING.

+SUCH CASES ARE QUITE DIFFERENT FROM THOSE ABLE-BODIED SINGLE PERSONS OR TWO-PERSON FAMILIES WHO ARE CAPABLE OF LOOKING AFTER THEMSELVES,+ MR SMITH SAID.

/+IF THEY

+IF THEY DO THIS, THEY ARE GIVEN THE OPTION OF A REASONABLE CASH ALLOWANCE — \$4 500 FOR EACH ELIGIBLE ABLE-BODIED SINGLE PERSON OR \$9 000 FOR A TWO-PERSON FAMILY — WHICH SHOULD ENABLE THEM TO RENT SUITABLE ACCOMMODATION OF THEIR OWN CHOICE IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

+SHOULD THEY WISH TO BE REHOUSED INSTEAD OF ACCEPTING THE ALLOWANCE, ABLE-BODIED SINGLE PERSONS ARE OFFERED HOSTEL ACCOMMODATION, AND TWO-PERSON FAMILIES ARE ALLOCATED TEMPORARY HOUSING.+

FITNESS DRILL FOR CHEUNG CHAU ISLANDERS

THE PROVISION OF MORE RECREATIONAL AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES FOR RESIDENTS IN THE ISLANDS DISTRICT WOULD HELP ENRICH THEIR SIMPLE RUSTIC LIVES AND OFFER MORE VENUES FOR RELAXATION, THE ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICER, MR WILLIAM YAP, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE PRIZE-PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE +FUN SPORTS DAY+ HELD AT CHEUNG CHAU SPORTS GROUND, MR YAP SAID THAT SEVEN SIMILAR SPORTS DAYS WOULD ALSO BE HELD AT DIFFERENT VENUES FOR OTHER ISLANDERS LATER THIS YEAR.

TODAY'S EVENT MARKED THE START OF A DISTRICT-WIDE SPORTS PROGRAMME — +VITALITY FOR ALL ISLANDERS+ — AIMED AT PROMOTING SPORTS ACTIVITIES, AS WELL AS CULTIVATING A SENSE OF TOGETHERNESS AMONG RESIDENTS IN THE DISTRICT.

CHEUNG CHAU ISLANDERS, YOUNG AND OLD ALIKE, HAD A DAY OF FUN AND ACTIVITIES AS THEY TOOK PART IN THE VARIOUS GAMES AND TELEMATCHES ORGANISED FOR THE OCCASION.

THEY MOVED THEIR LIMBS AND SWUNG THEIR BODIES, IN UNISON WITH TVB ARTISTS AND THE STATION'S MODELS OF FITNESS — MR VITALITY AND MISS VITALITY — TO THE RHYTHM OF THE FITNESS EXERCISE DRILL.

EARLIER IN THE MORNING, THEY SAW SOME 200 PLAYERS REPRESENTING THE EIGHT RURAL AREAS — CHEUNG CHAU, TAI O, PENG CHAU, SOUTH LANTAU, NORTH LAMMA, MUI WO, SOUTH LAMMA AND TUNG CHUNG — ENGAGE IN SOCCER, BASKETBALL AND TABLE TENNIS COMPETITIONS.

THE COMPETITIONS STARTED OFF THE LEAGUE MATCHES WHICH WILL BE COMPLETED IN MARCH NEXT YEAR.

MR YAP SAID THAT WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE EIGHT RURAL COMMITTEES AND OTHER LOCAL ORGANISATIONS, MORE SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES WILL BE ORGANISED FOR RESIDENTS IN THE ISLANDS DISTRICT.

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SPONSORED BY THE ISLANDS DISTRICT BOARD, THE +VITALITY FOR ALL ISLANDERS+ PROGRAMME WAS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE, THE RECREATION AND SPORTS SERVICE, THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT, AND THE ISLANDS DISTRICT SPORTS ASSOCIATION.

ALSO OFFICIATING AT TODAY'S PRIZE-PRESENTATION CEREMONY WERE THE SENIOR RECREATION AND SPORT OFFICER (NEW TERRITORIES EAST), MR TAM PAK-HANG, THE URBAN SERVICES OFFICER (ISLANDS), MR IP KI-TIT, AND OTHER LOCAL LEADERS.

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SUBSIDY FOR YOUTH PROJECTS

THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT IS INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS FROM YOUTH GROUPS PLANNING INNOVATIVE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS UNDER A YOUTH SCHEME.

THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH SCHEME, INTRODUCED IN 1974, AIMS TO ENCOURAGE YOUNG PEOPLE TO DEVELOP THEIR POTENTIALS IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES.

+ANY GROUP WITH SEVEN OR MORE MEMBERS AGED BETWEEN 15 AND 25, WHICH IS SPONSORED BY A SCHOOL, YOUTH AGENCY OR BUSINESS ORGANISATION, MAY APPLY FOR SUBSIDY,+ A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

+GROUPS WITHOUT SPONSORS MAY ALSO APPLY IF THEY ARE APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICERS (CYOS).+

APPLICATION FORMS AND EXPLANATORY LEAFLETS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE CYOS AND DETAILED PROJECT PROPOSALS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THEM BY JUNE 15, 1983.

+EACH PROJECT WILL BE ASSESSED FOR ITS YOUTH INVOLVEMENT, COMMUNITY BENEFITS, FEASIBILITY, OPTIMUM USE OF RESOURCES AND INNOVATION,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE MAXIMUM GRANT FOR EACH APPROVED PROJECT IS \$4 000.

DURING THE LAST FINANCIAL YEAR, \$210 000 WAS GRANTED UNDER THE SCHEME TO SUBSIDISE 93 PROJECTS, BRINGING THE TOTAL SUBSIDY TO OVER \$1.2 MILLION SINCE 1974.

PREVIOUS PROJECTS, INVOLVING MORE THAN 26 000 YOUNG PARTICIPANTS AND BENEFITING OVER ONE MILLION PEOPLE, INCLUDED SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY AND THE DISABLED, RECREATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES, MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT.

SUNDAY, MAY 29, 1983

- 6 -

ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN IN WAN CHAI
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THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE IS ORGANISING A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES TO DRIVE HOME THE ANTI-NARCOTICS MESSAGE TO PEOPLE WHO LIVE, WORK OR STUDY IN THE DISTRICT.

+PREVENTIVE EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY ARE ESSENTIAL TO ERADICATE THE PROBLEMS OF DRUG ABUSE AND THE DANGER IMPOSED ON OUR COMMUNITY, PARTICULARLY THE YOUTHS,+ THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MR FRANCIS HO, SAID TODAY.

+AND IT IS HOPED THAT THE MESSAGE WILL BE WIDELY SPREAD THROUGH THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN THE DISTRICT'S COMMUNITY PROJECTS,+ HE ADDED.

A CAMPAIGN, SPONSORED BY VARIOUS LIONS CLUBS, IS BEING JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE, ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS AND THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE, WHICH CONSISTS OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM AREA COMMITTEES AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND IS CHAIRED BY A DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER, MRS ADA CHUNG.

THERE WILL BE TWO VARIETY SHOWS TO MARK THE OPENING AND CLOSING OF THE CAMPAIGN IN THE EVENINGS OF JUNE 5 AND JUNE 11 AT THE SOUTHORN PLAYGROUND.

OTHER PROGRAMMES, JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE SIX LOCAL AREA COMMITTEES, WILL INCLUDE AN ANTI-NARCOTICS EXHIBITION, A SEMINAR, A YOUTH CAMP, FILM AND TALENT SHOWS, DRAMA APPRECIATION, AND VISITS TO THE NARCOTICS MUSEUM AT THE POLICE HEADQUARTERS ON ARSENAL STREET, WAN CHAI.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY AT 7.30 PM ON SUNDAY (JUNE 5) AT THE SOUTHORN PLAYGROUND.

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SAI KUNG MARKET STALLS

TWENTY-SIX STALLS AT THE NEWLY-OPENED TUI MIN HOI MARKET IN SAI KUNG WILL BE PUT UP FOR BIDDING ON FRIDAY (JUNE 3).

THE BIDDING WILL START AT 10 AM AT THE SAI KUNG RURAL COMMITTEE'S OFFICE AT NO. 1, PO TUNG ROAD, SAI KUNG, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID.

THE TUI MIN HOI MARKET HAS BEEN OPENED TO THE PUBLIC SINCE MARCH 1, AND IS THE FIRST MODERN MARKET IN THE NEW TOWN.

EIGHT STALLS TAKEN UP BY OPERATORS UNDER A PREVIOUS RESTRICTED BIDDING HAVE STARTED BUSINESS.

THE 26 STALLS COMPRISE THREE MEAT, THREE FISH, 13 WET GOODS AND SEVEN DRY GOODS STALLS.

THE UPSET MONTHLY RENTALS RANGE FROM \$360 TO \$850.

SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS MAY START BUSINESS ON JULY 1 ON A THREE-YEAR CONTRACT AND MUST PAY THE RENTAL QUARTERLY.

BIDDERS SHOULD BRING ALONG THEIR IDENTITY CARDS AND FIVE PHOTOGRAPHS.

FURTHER ENQUIRIES MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE SAI KUNG URBAN SERVICES OFFICE ON TELEPHONE 3-2813707.

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FACILITIES FOR MORNING JOGGERS IN SAI KUNG

JOGGING AND PHYSICAL EXERCISE ENTHUSIASTS CAN MAKE USE OF THE RUNNING TRACK OF THE SAI KUNG TANG SHIU KIN SPORTS GROUND EARLY IN THE MORNING, STARTING FROM WEDNESDAY (JUNE 1).

APART FROM LANE ONE, ALL THE OTHER FIVE LANES OF THE 400-METRE RUNNING TRACK WILL BE OPEN FROM 7 AM TO 9 AM FREE OF CHARGE, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY.

THIS NEW ARRANGEMENT IS TO GIVE LOCAL RESIDENTS A PROPER VENUE FOR JOGGING AND FITNESS EXERCISES, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THOSE WISHING TO USE THE FACILITIES SHOULD REGISTER THEIR NAMES AT THE ENTRANCE OF THE SPORTS GROUND.

ONLY RUBBER SHOES ARE ALLOWED AND ATHLETES MAY NOT ENTER THE GRASS SOCCER PITCH.

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SPORTS DAY IN KOWLOON CITY

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CHAMPIONS OF THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT TABLE-TENNIS AND BADMINTON COMPETITIONS HELD AT THE SHA TIN JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE TODAY (SUNDAY) WILL REPRESENT THE DISTRICT IN TERRITORY-WIDE TOURNAMENTS.

THE COMPETITIONS WERE DIVIDED INTO A MALE YOUTH SECTION, OPEN SECTION FOR MALES OVER 16 AND A FEMALE OPEN SECTION WITH 250 PLAYERS COMING FROM THE EIGHT AREA COMMITTEES (ACS) OF KOWLOON TONG/MA TAU WAI, KOWLOON CITY/SAI TAU, HO MAN TIN NORTH, HO MAN TIN SOUTH, TO KWA WAN NORTH, TO KWA WAN SOUTH, HUNG HOM NORTH AND HUNG HOM SOUTH.

+THE EVENTS WILL HELP SELECT GOOD TABLE-TENNIS AND BADMINTON PLAYERS TO REPRESENT KOWLOON CITY IN INTER-DISTRICT MATCHES LATER,+ SAID THE CHAIRMAN OF THE KC DISTRICT RECREATION AND SPORTS COUNCIL, MR TANG TAI-CHUEN.

THE COUNCIL, FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE KC DISTRICT YOUTH SERVICES COUNCIL, HAS BEEN REORGANISED WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE THIS YEAR TO INCLUDE THE CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN OF ALL ACS.

MR TANG NOTED THAT THE ACS, BEING DECENTRALISED AT THE GRASS-ROOTS LEVEL, WOULD ENABLE A MORE EFFECTIVE MOBILISATION OF RESIDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN VARIOUS FUNCTIONS ORGANISED BY THE COUNCIL.

THE TABLE-TENNIS COMPETITION FOLLOWED A SERIES OF CONTESTS ORGANISED BY THE ACS FROM APRIL 16 TO MAY 8 AND THE BADMINTON COMPETITION WAS HELD ON A KNOCK-OUT BASIS.

MR TANG SAID THE COUNCIL WOULD HOLD OTHER LARGE SCALE FUNCTIONS THIS YEAR LIKE ATHLETIC MEET AND SWIMMING GALA AND TRAINING SCHEMES FOR COMPETITIVE SWIMMING, SEA TRAINING AND OUTSTANDING SPORTSMEN IN KOWLOON CITY.

+I HOPE THESE ACTIVITIES WILL PROMOTE BETTER UNDERSTANDING AND A SENSE OF BELONGING AMONG LOCALS WHO, THOUGH LIVING IN THE SAME DISTRICT, OFTEN HAVE LITTLE TIME TO GET TOGETHER IN DISTRICT AFFAIRS.+

JOINTLY FINANCED BY THE COUNCIL, DISTRICT OFFICE, AND RECREATION AND SPORTS SERVICE, TODAY'S COMPETITIONS WERE OPENED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR LEE LAP-SUN, CHIEF RECREATION AND SPORT OFFICER, MR RAYMOND CHAN, AND MR TANG.

ANOTHER SWIMMING POOL FOR TUEN MUN
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THE YAN OI TONG IS TO MAKE ANOTHER CONTRIBUTION TO TUEN MUN BY BUILDING A SECOND SWIMMING POOL WITH FUNDS PROVIDED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB.

THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF THE HONG KONG GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION, MRS JANE AKERS-JONES, REVEALED THIS TODAY (SUNDAY) AT THE OPENING OF THE FIRST SWIMMING POOL IN THE NEW TOWN AT THE YAN OI TONG COMMUNITY AND INDOOR SPORTS CENTRE.

LOCATED IN THE TOWN CENTRE, THE 25-METRE HEATED POOL HAS FIVE LANES AND ROOM ENOUGH FOR 125 SWIMMERS.

IT WILL BE OPEN DAILY FROM 7 AM TO 11 PM AND ADMISSION FEES WILL RANGE FROM \$2 FOR CHILDREN TO \$5 FOR ADULTS.

+MR CHAN YAT-SUN AND MR CHAN CHUNG-HANG, WITH THEIR ROOTS IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY, HAVE DONATED \$1 MILLION TOWARDS THE COST OF BUILDING THE SPORTS CENTRE, AND THE POOL IS NAMED IN HONOUR OF THEIR FATHER CHAN MAN-TAT, + MRS AKERS-JONES SAID.

THE 4 300-SQUARE-METRE SPORTS CENTRE, WHEN READY IN NOVEMBER, WILL PROVIDE SUCH FACILITIES AS CHILD CARE AND ELDERLY SERVICES CENTRES, READING ROOMS, A MULTI-PURPOSE SPORTS HALL, A ROLLER-SKATING RINK, SQUASH COURTS, A GYMNASIUM, A SAUNA ROOM, A BALLET STUDIO, SHOPS AND RESTAURANTS.

TODAY'S OPENING CEREMONY WAS FOLLOWED BY SWIMMING DEMONSTRATIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE HONG KONG LIFE GUARD CLUB AND A SWIMMING RELAY RACE BETWEEN LOCAL ORGANISATIONS AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

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MORE SPORT FACILITIES
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THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE BUILDING OF AN INDOOR RECREATIONAL CENTRE AT HAPPY VALLEY TO PROVIDE MORE SPORT FACILITIES FOR RESIDENTS IN THE AREA.

THE CENTRE WILL OCCUPY AN AREA OF ABOUT 1 830 SQUARE METRES UNDERNEATH THE CANAL ROAD FLYOVER OPPOSITE THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB RACE COURSE.

FACILITIES AT THE CENTRE WILL INCLUDE A VOLLEYBALL-CUM-BASKETBALL COURT, BADMINTON AND TENNIS COURTS.

THERE WILL ALSO BE A CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA PLUS FLOWER BEDS AND PLANTING AROUND THE CENTRE.

WORK ON THE PROJECT WILL START IN JULY AND IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED TOWARDS THE END OF THE YEAR.

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