



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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HIGH COST OF MAINTAINING VIETNAMESE REFUGEES

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MAINTAINING VIETNAMESE REFUGEES ON THEIR PRESENT POPULATION LEVEL IS PROJECTED TO COST \$114 MILLION FOR THIS YEAR, THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, THE HON DAVID JEAFFRESON, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES IS EXPECTED TO CONTRIBUTE SOME \$20 MILLION TO THIS EXPENDITURE, MR JEAFFRESON SAID IN REPLY TO A QUESTION BY THE HON LYDIA DUNN.

HE AGREED THAT THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE VIETNAMESE REFUGEES INVOLVED HIGH COST.

FROM DECEMBER 1978 TO JULY 2, 1982 WHEN CLOSED CENTRES WERE INTRODUCED, THE GOVERNMENT SPENT \$272 MILLION ON MAINTAINING VIETNAMESE REFUGEES WHILE THE UNHCR SPENT \$113 MILLION AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES A FURTHER \$42 MILLION, MR JEAFFRESON REPORTED.

FROM JULY 2, 1982 TO JANUARY 31 THIS YEAR, THE COST WAS \$63 MILLION TO THE GOVERNMENT, \$13 MILLION TO THE UNHCR AND \$4 MILLION TO VOLUNTARY AGENCIES.

UNRULY BEHAVIOUR ADDED TO THE PROBLEM OF LOOKING AFTER THE REFUGEES, HE SAID.

HE EXPLAINED THAT UNDER THE CLOSED CENTRE RULES, THE SUPERINTENDENT OF A CLOSED CENTRE MAY ORDER A DETAINEE WHO COMMITS ANY ACT AGAINST DISCIPLINE TO BE PUNISHED BY EITHER OR BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING:

* SEPARATE CONFINEMENT FOR UP TO 28 DAYS.

* FORFEITURE OF THE LIMITED PRIVILEGES AVAILABLE, SUCH AS ACCESS TO BOOKS, NEWSPAPERS AND SPORTING FACILITIES, FOR UP TO THREE MONTHS.

IN ADDITION, THE IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE EMPOWERS THE COMMISSIONER FOR CORRECTIONAL SERVICES TO TRANSFER A DETAINEE FROM ONE CLOSED CENTRE TO ANOTHER IN THE INTEREST OF LAW AND ORDER IN THE CENTRES, MR JEAFFRESON SAID.

HE ALSO REPORTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT STEPPED UP ITS NORMAL SECURITY PRECAUTIONS IN THE CHI MA WAN AND HEI LING CHAU CLOSED CENTRES FOR A FEW DAYS AT THE END OF LAST MONTH, INCLUDING APRIL 30, THE ANNIVERSARY DAY OF THE FALL OF SAIGON.

BUT HE NOTED THAT THE ANNIVERSARY PASSED WITHOUT INCIDENT.

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COMPUTER DATA PROTECTION TO BE STUDIED
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IT IS NOW OPPORTUNE TO FORM AN AD HOC WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE IN DETAIL WHETHER LEGISLATION IS REQUIRED IN HONG KONG TO PROTECT PERSONAL DATA STORED IN COMPUTERS, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, THE HON SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

THE GROUP WOULD BE CHAIRED BY THE DIRECTOR, COUNCILS AND ADMINISTRATION BRANCH, SIR PHILIP SAID, IN REPLY TO A QUESTION BY THE HON CHEUNG YAN-LUNG ON THE ISSUE OF CONFIDENTIALITY OF COMPUTER DATA.

THIS ISSUE WAS OF IMPORTANCE AND CONCERN TO ALL WHO HAD PERSONAL DATA STORED IN COMPUTERS, SIR PHILIP SAID.

+BUT IT RELATES TO A PROBLEM WHICH IS NOT EASY TO RESOLVE, GIVEN THE NEED TO BALANCE, ON THE ONE HAND, WHAT IS, THESE DAYS A CLEAR NEED FOR ELECTRONIC DATA PROCESSING AND, ON THE OTHER, THE RIGHTS OF THE INDIVIDUAL TO PROTECTION AGAINST THE UNWARRANTED DISCLOSURE OF HIS AFFAIRS TO OTHERS.

+NEVERTHELESS, THE POLITICAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL DIFFICULTIES NOTWITHSTANDING, SEVERAL COUNTRIES NOW HAVE DATA PROTECTION LEGISLATION IN FORCE WHILE OTHERS ARE CONTEMPLATING DOING SO- AND THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN MONITORING EXPERIENCE ELSEWHERE, PARTICULARLY IN BRITAIN WHERE A DATA PROTECTION BILL IS UNDER DISCUSSION,+ SIR PHILIP SAID.

THE DECISION TO SET UP A WORKING GROUP WAS THE RESULT OF THIS MONITORING ACTIVITY, HE EXPLAINED.

HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE FINDINGS OF THE WORKING GROUP WOULD ENABLE THE GOVERNMENT TO TAKE A VIEW ON WHETHER LEGISLATION WAS REQUIRED AND WHAT IT SHOULD CONTAIN.

SIR PHILIP DISCLOSED THAT THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION INTENDED TO SET UP A SUB-COMMITTEE TO LOOK AT THE BROADER LEGAL ISSUES OF PRIVACY PROTECTION GENERALLY.

THIS WOULD INCLUDE THE PROTECTION NOT ONLY OF PERSONAL COMPUTER DATA BUT ALSO OF OTHER FORMS OF INTERFERENCE WITH PRIVACY OF A WIDE VARIETY, HE ADDED.

+NEEDLESS TO SAY, THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP WILL SEEK TO DEVELOP A CLOSE LIAISON WITH THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION'S SUB-COMMITTEE,+ SIR PHILIP SAID.

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CONVERSION OF SUPREME COURT BUILDING PLANNED
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THE CHIEF SECRETARY, THE HON SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE SAID TODAY THAT WORK COULD START IN MID-1984 ON THE CONVERSION OF THE OLD SUPREME COURT BUILDING FOR USE AS A LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER AND ASSOCIATED PURPOSES.

REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY THE HON LO TAK-SHING, SIR PHILIP ALSO SAID THAT THE NEW CHAMBER COULD BE READY FOR USE IN THE LATTER HALF OF 1985.

HE SAID THAT SINCE THE PROPOSAL WAS LAST MENTIONED BY HIM ON NOVEMBER 11, 1982, THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS HAD ARRANGED FOR PRELIMINARY STUDIES TO BE CARRIED OUT WHICH CONFIRMED THAT THE BUILDING WAS STILL STRUCTURALLY SOUND AND THAT THE CONVERSION COULD BE CARRIED OUT IN A WAY WHICH WOULD RETAIN THE UNIQUE CHARACTER OF THE BUILDING WHILE ADAPTING IT EFFECTIVELY TO ITS PROPOSED NEW ROLE.

+IN ADDITION, ILLUSTRATIVE PLANS AND A PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF ACCOMMODATION FOR THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER, THE UMEICO OFFICE AND COMMON ROOMS AND OFFICE ACCOMMODATION FOR SUPPORTING STAFF, HAVE BEEN DRAWN UP ON WHICH THE ADVICE OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WILL BE SOUGHT VERY SHORTLY,+ SIR PHILIP SAID.

+THEREAFTER THE ASSISTANCE OF UNOFFICIALS WILL BE SOUGHT TO DEVELOP THE OUTLINE PLANS INTO A DETAILED SCHEME SO THAT IT MAY BE COSTED AND SUBSEQUENTLY WRITTEN UP AS A SUBMISSION TO FINANCE COMMITTEE,+ HE ADDED.

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DEPARTURE TAX TO BRING IN \$230 MILLION
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THE PRESENT \$20 PASSENGER SERVICE CHARGE WOULD NOT BE REPLACED BY THE PROPOSED DEPARTURE TAX OF \$100 IF MATCHING REVENUE COULD BE FAIRLY SECURED FROM OTHER SOURCES, THE ACTING FINANCIAL SECRETARY, THE HON DOUGLAS BLYE, SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

MR BLYE WAS REAFFIRMING THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S EARLIER REMARKS ON THE SUBJECT, AS HE MOVED THE AIR PASSENGER DEPARTURE TAX BILL 1983 THROUGH THE SECOND READING.

IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE BILL, IF ENACTED, WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON JUNE 1 THIS YEAR.

AS ESTIMATED RECENTLY BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, THE HON JOHN BREMRIDGE, THE ADDITIONAL YIELD TO REVENUE, AFTER ALLOWING FOR THE ABOLITION OF THE PASSENGER SERVICE CHARGE, WOULD BE SOME \$230 MILLION IN THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR, MR BLYE SAID.

HE RECALLED THAT AT THE SECOND READING OF THE APPROPRIATION BILL 1983 ON FEBRUARY 23, MR BREMRIDGE POINTED OUT THAT THE DEPARTURE TAX WAS ONE OF 11 PROPOSALS FOR INCREASING REVENUE.

/ON THAT

ON THAT OCCASION, THREE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE INTRODUCTION OF SUCH A TAX, QUESTIONED THE LEVEL OF THE INCREASE OR SUGGESTED THAT THE BURDEN MIGHT BE MORE WIDELY SPREAD, MR BLYE RECALLED.

SIMILAR REPRESENTATIONS WERE MADE BY TRAVEL AGENTS, AIRLINES AND SOME SECTORS OF THE TOURISM INDUSTRY.

DUE ACCOUNT HAD BEEN TAKEN OF ALL THESE AND OTHER POINTS AND MR BREMRIDGE HAD DEALT CAREFULLY AND COMPREHENSIVELY WITH THEM IN CONCLUDING THE DEBATE ON THE APPROPRIATION BILL, MR BLYE SAID.

AT THE END OF THE DEBATE, COUNCIL MEMBERS BROADLY ACCEPTED THAT THE NEW TAX MEASURE WAS NECESSARY, HE ADDED.

UNDER THE BILL, PASSENGERS UNDER 12 YEARS OF AGE WILL PAY \$50 AND THOSE UNDER TWO YEARS OF AGE WILL BE EXEMPTED FROM THE TAX.

AMONG OTHER CLAUSES OF THE BILL, ONE CLAUSE PLACES THE DUTY OF COLLECTING THE TAX ON THE OPERATORS OF THE AIRCRAFT ON WHICH THE PASSENGER DEPARTS.

DEBATE ON THE BILL WAS ADJOURNED TILL MAY 25.

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POLICY ON FUEL PRICES EXPLAINED

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IT IS NOT THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY TO USE LEGISLATIVE PROVISION TO CONTROL THE PRICE OF PETROL AND FUEL OILS IN NORMAL MARKET CONDITIONS, THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, THE HON PIERS JACOBS SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

MR JACOBS WAS REPLYING TO THE HON MARIA TAM, WHO HAD ASKED WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT HAD ANY POWERS OF CONTROL OVER PRICING LEVELS FOR THESE COMMODITIES.

MR JACOBS SAID UNDER SECTION 6 OF THE OIL (CONSERVATION AND CONTROL) ORDINANCE, THE GOVERNMENT HAD THE POWER TO CONTROL THE PRICE OF PETROL AND FUEL OILS WHERE CIRCUMSTANCES SO DICTATED.

THE SECTION EMPOWERED THE DIRECTOR OF OIL SUPPLIES TO GIVE DIRECTIONS REGULATING THE PRICE AT WHICH OIL MIGHT BE SUPPLIED OR SOLD.

+IT IS NOT, HOWEVER, THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY TO MAKE USE OF THIS PARTICULAR PROVISION IN NORMAL MARKET CONDITIONS.

+THIS IS BECAUSE WE DO NOT BELIEVE IN INTERVENTION IN THE OPERATION OF A FREE MARKET UNLESS THE GOODS OR SERVICES IN QUESTION ARE PROVIDED UNDER CONDITIONS WHERE MARKET FORCES ARE NOT FREE TO OPERATE — THAT IS TO SAY WHERE THERE IS A MONOPOLY OR WHERE THE RIGHT TO SUPPLY GOODS OR SERVICES IS RESTRICTED TO HOLDERS OF A FRANCHISE.

+IN THE CASE OF OIL PRODUCTS, THERE IS NO MONOPOLY, AND THE PRODUCTS ARE NOT SOLD UNDER THE TERMS OF A FRANCHISE,+ HE SAID.

CRIMES WITHIN THE FAMILY DUE TO MANY REASONS
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CRIMES COMMITTED WITHIN THE FAMILY MAY BE DUE TO A WIDE VARIETY OF REASONS, ACCORDING TO THE EXPERIENCE OF THE FAMILY SERVICES CENTRES OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

THESE REASONS RANGE +FROM PERSONALITY PROBLEMS, FINANCIAL WORRIES, COMMUNICATION DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN PARENTS AND CHILDREN, AND DRUG ADDICTION TO INDULGENCE IN ALCOHOL, MENTAL DISTURBANCE AND MARITAL DISCORD,+ THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR JOHN CHAMBERS, SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

REPLYING TO QUESTIONS BY MRS SELINA CHOW, HE SAID THAT THE FORMAT IN WHICH CRIME STATISTICS WERE KEPT BY THE POLICE DID NOT ALWAYS ENABLE ONE TO IDENTIFY WHICH CRIMES WERE COMMITTED WITHIN THE FAMILY.

HOWEVER, IN CERTAIN MAJOR CATEGORIES IT WAS POSSIBLE TO MAKE REASONABLE ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT THE NUMBER OF OFFENCES WHICH FELL WITHIN THIS DEFINITION, HE SAID.

ONE OF THE CLASSIFICATIONS OF HOMICIDE CASES WAS +FAMILY AFFAIRS INCLUDING DISPUTES.+ IN 1982, OF THE 93 HOMICIDE CASES REPORTED TO THE POLICE, SEVEN WERE IN THIS CATEGORY, REPRESENTING 7.5 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL.

IN 1981, THE CORRESPONDING FIGURES WERE SIX OR 5.7 PER CENT OF A TOTAL OF 105 HOMICIDE CASES.

SO FAR AS SERIOUS ASSAULTS WERE CONCERNED, IN 1982, OUT OF A TOTAL OF 7 265 CASES, 513 OR 7.1 PER CENT WERE CLASSIFIED AS BEING DUE TO DISPUTES OF A DOMESTIC NATURE.

THIS COMPARED WITH 457 OR 7.3 PER CENT OUT OF A TOTAL OF 6 231 SUCH CASES IN 1981.

CASES INVOLVING CRUELTY TO CHILDREN TOTALLED 51 IN 1981 AND 59 IN 1982.

+THESE FIGURES DO NOT INDICATE ANY SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN CRIME WITHIN THE FAMILY, PARTICULARLY IF THE STATISTICS FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1983 ARE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT,+ MR CHAMBERS SAID.

THESE SHOW THAT ONE HOMICIDE, 99 SERIOUS ASSAULTS AND SEVEN CASES INVOLVING CRUELTY TO CHILDREN CAN BE SAID TO FALL WITHIN THIS CATEGORY.

MR CHAMBERS SAID THAT NO SPECIFIC INVESTIGATION OF THE CAUSES OF CRIMES WITHIN THE FAMILY AS SUCH HAD BEEN CARRIED OUT, BUT HE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE POLICE FORCE ANALYSED CRIME STATISTICS BY GROUPS IF THERE WAS REASON TO SUSPECT A TREND.

+NO PARTICULAR TREND IS DISCERNIBLE IN THE STATISTICS I HAVE JUST GIVEN,+ HE SAID.

/HE SAID

HE SAID THE MAIN OBJECT OF ALL OUR FAMILY WELFARE ACTIVITIES WAS TO MAINTAIN HARMONY WITHIN THE FAMILY AND TO PRESERVE AND STRENGTHEN THE FAMILY AS A UNIT.

+IN ADDITION, CASH ASSISTANCE IN THE FORM OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCES, AND A RANGE OF DIRECT SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE TO MEET THE NEEDS OF SPECIFIC VULNERABLE GROUPS AND TO RELIEVE THE PRESSURES ON FAMILIES IN COPING WITH THEIR PROBLEMS,+ HE SAID.

MR CHAMBERS SAID ONE SPECIFIC AREA WHICH HAD BEEN THE CAUSE OF PUBLIC CONCERN RECENTLY WAS THAT OF EX-MENTAL PATIENTS.

A WORKING GROUP HAS BEEN APPOINTED TO REVIEW THE PREVALENCE OF CRIMINAL VIOLENCE AMONG EX-MENTAL PATIENTS AS WELL AS EXISTING AFTERCARE SERVICES, AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS.

+THIS WORKING PARTY IS EXPECTED TO REPORT SHORTLY,+ HE SAID.

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PARKING MEASURES OUTLINED

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS BOTH SHORT AND LONG TERM MEASURES TO PROVIDE MORE PARKING FACILITIES FOR COMMERCIAL VEHICLES, THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, THE HON ALAN SCOTT SAID TODAY.

HE WAS REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY THE HON S.L. CHEN IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

MR SCOTT SAID THE SHORT TERM MEASURES INCLUDE IDENTIFYING AND ALLOCATING MORE SITES FOR OFF-STREET TEMPORARY OPEN AIR LORRY PARKS IN INDUSTRIAL AREAS.

FOR INSTANCE, HE SAID, 600 MORE SPACES FOR TRAILERS AND CONTAINERS HAVE BEEN PROVIDED IN THE TSUEN WAN/KWAI CHUNG AREA IN THE LAST SIX MONTHS- NEW LORRY PARKS ARE PLANNED ON THE SHAM SHUI PO RECLAMATION, IN HING WA STREET, AT THE TAI HOM FIRE SITE AND KO CHIU ROAD. AND MORE ON-STREET SPACES IN INDUSTRIAL AREAS ARE BEING REDESIGNATED FOR LORRY PARKING ONLY.

FOR THE LONGER TERM, MR SCOTT SAID, DEVELOPERS OF ALL NEW INDUSTRIAL ESTATES ARE REQUIRED TO MAKE PROVISION FOR GOODS VEHICLE PARKING.

PARKING STANDARDS FOR COMMERCIAL VEHICLES ARE UNDER REVIEW (THE REVIEW OF RESIDENTIAL PARKING STANDARDS HAVING BEEN COMPLETED).

PARKING FOR COMMERCIAL VEHICLES IS PROVIDED ON THE GROUND FLOORS OF SOME MULTI-STOREY CAR PARKS BUT A MULTI-STOREY PARK FOR THE USE OF GOODS VEHICLES ONLY IS COMMERCIALY NOT VIABLE, HE SAID.

+THE MATTER OF GOODS VEHICLE PARKING IS INCLUDED IN THE BRIEF OF COMPREHENSIVE STUDY INTO THE ECONOMIC AND TRANSPORT ASPECTS OF THE TRUCKING INDUSTRY, TO WHICH I HAVE REFERRED RECENTLY IN THIS COUNCIL,+ MR SCOTT SAID.

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PENSIONS ADJUSTED
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THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY APPROVED MOTIONS TO INCREASE BY NINE PER CENT PENSIONS IN PAYMENT ON APRIL 1, 1983. THE INCREASE IS ESTIMATED TO COST \$37.8 MILLION FOR A FULL YEAR.

MOVING THE MOTIONS, THE SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE, THE HON MARTIN ROWLANDS, SAID IT WAS THE GOVERNMENT'S DECLARED POLICY TO MAINTAIN THE ORIGINAL PURCHASING POWER OF CIVIL SERVICE PENSIONS, INCLUDING PENSIONS PAYABLE UNDER THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS PENSION SCHEME AND UNDER THE WIDOWS' AND CHILDREN'S PENSION SCHEME.

HE SAID THIS WAS ACHIEVED BY PERIODIC PENSION ADJUSTMENTS TO REFLECT CHANGES IN THE COST OF LIVING.

DURING THE LATEST REVIEW PERIOD FROM APRIL 1, 1982 TO MARCH 31, 1983, HE SAID, THE MOVING ANNUAL AVERAGE OF THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) ROSE BY 11.6 POINTS OR 9.55 PER CENT.

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EXEMPTION FOR DISABLED DRIVERS WELCOMED
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THE PROPOSAL TO EXEMPT DISABLED DRIVERS FROM PAYING FIRST REGISTRATION TAX UNDER THE MOTOR VEHICLES (FIRST REGISTRATION TAX)(AMENDMENT) BILL 1983, WAS WELCOMED BY DR THE HON HARRY FANG, UNOFFICIAL MEMBER, AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING TODAY.

SPEAKING IN SUPPORT OF THE MOTION, DR FANG POINTED OUT THAT SOME 400 DISABLED PERSONS WOULD BENEFIT FROM THE MEASURE.

HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT MANY MORE DISABLED PEOPLE IN HONG KONG WERE STILL HAVING PROBLEMS +IN THEIR DAILY JOURNEYS TO SCHOOLS, TO WORK, AND TO OTHER SOCIAL EVENTS+.

SOME MORE COMPREHENSIVE ARRANGEMENTS WERE NEEDED, DR FANG SAID.

BUT HE WAS GLAD TO REPORT FROM HIS WORK WITH THE REHABILITATION DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE THAT, AS A FIRST STEP, A SURVEY ON THE SPECIAL TRANSPORT NEEDS OF THE DISABLED HAD BEEN PLANNED, HE SAID.

+I AM SURE IT WILL BE FOLLOWED BY SPEEDY REMEDIAL ACTIONS IF AND WHEN SHORTFALLS IN PROVISIONS WERE IDENTIFIED,+ DR FANG SAID.

HE WAS ALSO GLAD TO NOTE THAT THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, THE HON KEN TOPLEY, IN MOVING THE SECOND READING OF THE BILL ON APRIL 27, QUOTED FROM THE REHABILITATION INTERNATIONAL'S CHARTER FOR THE 80'S, +TO REAFFIRM GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT IN THE INTEGRATION OF DISABLED PEOPLE INTO THE COMMUNITY,+ DR FANG SAID.

+THIS GOES TO SHOW THAT HONG KONG IS, AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE, EVEN BY WORLD STANDARDS, A CARING SOCIETY,+ HE CONCLUDED.

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IMPORTANT LEGAL PRINCIPLE
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IT WAS AN IMPORTANT PRINCIPLE OF OUR LEGAL SYSTEM THAT A PERSON ACCUSED OF MURDER SHOULD BE GIVEN ALL REASONABLE OPPORTUNITY, IF NECESSARY AT PUBLIC EXPENSE, TO ENSURE THAT HIS CONVICTION WAS NOT THE RESULT OF ANY MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE HON JOHN GRIFFITHS SAID TODAY.

THIS WAS BECAUSE OF THE SERIOUSNESS OF CONVICTION AND SENTENCE FOR MURDER, HE SAID, IN REPLY TO A QUESTION BY THE HON T.S. LO.

MR GRIFFITHS SAID, + THOSE ADVISING APPELLANTS ARE UNDER A LEGAL AND PROFESSIONAL DUTY TO PUT FORWARD ONLY GROUNDS OF APPEAL WHICH THEY CONSIDER AFFORD SOME REAL CHANCE OF SUCCESS AND UNDER THE RULE OF LAW WHICH OPERATES IN HONG KONG IT IS THE COURT OF APPEAL ALONE WHICH MAY DETERMINE SUCH AN APPEAL AS 'HOPELESS'.+

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+LOAN SHARKING+ DECLINES
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THE PENALTIES DESCRIBED UNDER THE MONEY LENDERS ORDINANCE APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN EFFECTIVE IN DETERRING +LOAN SHARKING+, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE HON JOHN GRIFFITHS TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY THE HON ANDREW SO, MR GRIFFITHS SAID THAT PRIOR TO THE PASSING OF THE ORDINANCE IN DECEMBER 1980, +LOAN SHARKING+ WAS FREQUENTLY CONNECTED WITH TRIAD ACTIVITY.

+THE INCIDENCE OF THIS HAS SHOWN A MARKED DECREASE, + HE SAID.

FURTHERMORE, HE SAID, PRIOR TO THE PASSING OF THE ORDINANCE THERE WAS MUCH CONCERN AND MANY COMPLAINTS VOICED BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC AS TO LOAN SHARKING.

+SINCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ORDINANCE SUCH CONCERN AND COMPLAINTS HAVE DECREASED SIGNIFICANTLY, + MR GRIFFITHS SAID.

SPEAKING OF THE 32 PROSECUTIONS REFERRED TO BY MR SO, HE SAID 25 RESULTED IN CONVICTIONS AND SEVEN IN ACQUITTALS.

+FOR THOSE WHO WERE CONVICTED, SENTENCES RANGED FROM BEING BOUND OVER TO FINES OF UP TO \$20 000 PER OFFENCE AND SUSPENDED SENTENCES, + HE ADDED.

+SINCE THAT TIME, 37 FURTHER INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN PROSECUTED. SEVEN PERSONS HAVE BEEN CONVICTED, FIVE ACQUITTED AND THE REMAINDER ARE AWAITING TRIAL.

+IN AT LEAST ONE CASE A PRISON SENTENCE HAS BEEN IMPOSED, + MR GRIFFITHS SAID.

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TAVA SCHEME SATISFACTORY

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APPLICATIONS FOR TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS ASSISTANCE (TAVA) HAVE SHOWN A STEADY INCREASE EACH YEAR SINCE THE SCHEME WAS INTRODUCED IN MAY 1979, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR JOHN CHAMBERS, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

HE EXPECTED THE TREND TO CONTINUE WITH THE RELAXATION OF THE SEVEN-DAY SICK LEAVE RULE AND SUSTAINED PUBLICITY.

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION BY DR HO KAM-FAI IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR CHAMBERS SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS SATISFIED WITH THE OPERATION OF THE SCHEME.

DR HO HAD SAID THAT APPLICATIONS FOR ASSISTANCE WERE RECEIVED FROM ONLY 58 PER CENT OF THE VICTIMS WHO SUSTAINED SERIOUS INJURIES IN TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS DURING 1981/82.

MR CHAMBERS EXPLAINED THAT ONE OF THE MAIN REASONS FOR THE APPARENTLY LOW PERCENTAGE OF VICTIMS WHO SUSTAINED SERIOUS INJURIES AND WHO SUBSEQUENTLY APPLIED FOR HELP, WAS THE DEFINITION +SERIOUS INJURIES,+ WHICH INCLUDED ALL THOSE DETAINED IN HOSPITAL FOR 12 HOURS OR MORE.

+TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR HELP FROM THE SCHEME,+ HE SAID, +AN ACCIDENT VICTIM MUST HAVE LOST HIS EARNING CAPACITY FOR AT LEAST SEVEN DAYS IF THE ACCIDENT OCCURRED BEFORE JANUARY 6, 1982 OR THREE DAYS IF IT HAPPENED AFTER THAT DATE.+

A STUDY OF TAVA SCHEME CASES IN 1980/81 INDICATED THAT 46.7 PER CENT OF THE VICTIMS WHO WERE CLASSIFIED AS HAVING RECEIVED SERIOUS INJURIES, BUT WHO DID NOT APPLY FOR ASSISTANCE UNDER THE SCHEME WERE IN FACT NOT ELIGIBLE UNDER THE SEVEN-DAY RULE IN FORCE AT THAT TIME.

+IF WE ASSUME THAT A SIMILAR SITUATION OBTAINED IN 1981/82 AND ADJUST THE 58 PER CENT QUOTED BY DR HO SO AS TO ELIMINATE THE INELIGIBLE CASES WE ARRIVE AT A TAKE-UP RATE OF 72 PER CENT WHICH IS A CONSIDERABLE IMPROVEMENT,+ HE ADDED.

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HEALTH WARNING ABOUT CIGARETTES

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THE GOVERNMENT MAY CONSIDER REQUIRING VERBAL HEALTH WARNINGS IN CIGARETTE ADVERTISEMENTS ON TELEVISION AND CINEMA SCREENS, THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, THE HON DENIS BRAY, SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION BY THE HON PETER WONG, MR BRAY SAID THIS REQUIREMENT MIGHT BE CONSIDERED WHEN TELEVISION ADVERTISING ON SMOKING IS REVIEWED IN ABOUT TWO YEARS.

BUT HE ADDED, +I SHOULD SAY THAT THERE APPEAR TO BE CONSIDERABLE PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES IN GETTING A VERBAL WARNING INCLUDED WITHIN THE TIME SPAN OF THESE VERY SHORT ADVERTISEMENTS.+

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 1983

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SEWAGE TREATMENT PROVIDED
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THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, MR DAVID MCDONALD, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY THAT NEW PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT IN NEW TOWNS WILL BE CONNECTED TO THE COMPREHENSIVE SEWERAGE SYSTEMS WHICH HAVE BEEN OR ARE BEING INSTALLED AND THE EFFLUENT WILL BE TREATED BY THE SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITIES PROVIDED.

REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY THE HON DR HENRIETTA IP, HE SAID +IN OLDER ESTABLISHED AREAS WITHIN NEW TOWN BOUNDARIES AND ALSO IN AREAS OUTSIDE THE NEW TOWNS WHERE EXISTING DEVELOPMENTS ARE NOT AT PRESENT CONNECTED TO TREATMENT WORKS, IT IS INTENDED THAT WHEREVER IT IS PHYSICALLY PRACTICABLE THEY WILL BE SO CONNECTED AS THE SEWERAGE SYSTEMS ARE EXPANDED.

+IN THE INTERIM, HOWEVER, DEVELOPERS OF NEW PRIVATE BUILDINGS ARE REQUIRED, AS A CONDITION OR MODIFICATION OF THEIR LEASE, TO THEMSELVES PROVIDE EITHER A TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT TREATMENT OR DISPOSAL FACILITY.+

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USE OF +UNLEADED+ PETROL
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ABOUT 40 PER CENT OF ALL PETROL-DRIVEN CARS NOW REGISTERED COULD BE OPERATED ON, OR COULD BE MADE WITH MINOR ADAPTATION TO OPERATE ON WHAT IS REFERRED TO AS UNLEADED PETROL, THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, THE HON HENRY CHING, SAID TODAY.

+THAT REPRESENTS RATHER LESS THAN 90 000 CARS,+ HE ADDED.

HE WAS REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY DR THE HON HENRIETTA IP AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 1983

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AIRPORT EXIT SPEED LIMIT TO BE REVIEWED
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THE 30 MPH SPEED LIMIT AT THE EASTERN EXIT OF THE KAI TAK AIRPORT TUNNEL WILL BE REVIEWED IN OCTOBER THIS YEAR, THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, THE HON ALAN SCOTT, SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY REV THE HON JOYCE BENNETT, MR SCOTT EXPLAINED THAT WHEN A STRETCH OF A MAJOR NEW ROADWAY IS OPENED, IT IS, ON ROAD SAFETY GROUNDS, THE PRACTICE TO IMPOSE A SPEED LIMIT OF 30 MPH FOR A PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS WHILE DRIVERS BECOME FAMILIAR WITH IT AND ITS INTERSECTIONS.

AFTER THE PERIOD, A REVIEW INCLUDING A SURVEY OF DRIVING BEHAVIOUR, IS UNDERTAKEN AND THE SPEED LIMIT, IF APPROPRIATE, IS INCREASED, HE ADDED.

AS THE SECTION OF THE AIRPORT TUNNEL ROAD NETWORK WAS OPENED LAST APRIL, THE SPEED LIMIT THERE WOULD BE REVIEWED IN OCTOBER, MR SCOTT SAID.

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SIX BILLS PASSED
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SIX BILLS WERE PASSED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THEY ARE: BETTING DUTY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1983, COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1983, ROAD TRAFFIC (DRIVING LICENCES) REGULATIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1983, ROAD TRAFFIC (REGISTRATION AND LICENSING OF VEHICLES) REGULATIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1983, MOTOR VEHICLES (FIRST REGISTRATION TAX) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1983, AND LEGAL AID (AMENDMENT) BILL 1983.

ANOTHER BILL, THE AIR PASSENGER DEPARTURE TAX BILL 1983, WAS READ A SECOND TIME, AND DEBATE ON IT WAS ADJOURNED TILL THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING ON MAY 25.

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 1983

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GOVERNOR TO OPEN GEMS OF CHINESE ART EXHIBITION
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AN EXHIBITION WHICH IS SAID TO MARK A NEW IMPORTANT TURN IN THE HISTORY OF CULTURAL EXCHANGES BETWEEN EAST AND WEST, WILL BE HELD AT THE HONG KONG MUSEUM OF ART IN THE CITY HALL HIGH BLOCK FOR THREE MONTHS, STARTING FROM NEXT WEEK.

THE EXHIBITION, +GEMS OF CHINESE ART FROM THE ASIAN ART MUSEUM OF SAN FRANCISCO, THE AVERY BRUNDAGE COLLECTION+, WILL BE OFFICIALLY OPENED BY THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, ON MONDAY (MAY 16) AFTERNOON.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE URBAN COUNCIL, MR HILTON CHEONG-LEEN, AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE ASIAN ART MUSEUM OF SAN FRANCISCO, MR YVON D'ARGENCE, WILL ALSO ATTEND THE CEREMONY AND ADDRESS THE GATHERING.

THE EXHIBITION IS JOINTLY PRESENTED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL AND THE ASIAN ART MUSEUM OF SAN FRANCISCO, AND CO-SPONSORED BY THE AMERICAN CONSULATE-GENERAL IN HONG KONG IN COMMEMORATION OF THE URBAN COUNCIL'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY.

THE ASIAN ART MUSEUM OF SAN FRANCISCO WAS BORN FROM THE PASSION, VISION AND GENEROSITY OF AVERY BRUNDAGE, A CHICAGO FINANCIER WHO WAS PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE FOR 20 YEARS AND ONE OF THE GREATEST COLLECTORS OF ALL TIME.

IT HOUSES ABOUT 10 000 OBJECTS, HALF OF WHICH ARE OF CHINESE ORIGIN.

SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS OF THE COLLECTION HAVE BEEN ORGANISED FOR THE UNITED STATES, JAPAN AND MEXICO, BUT THE FORTHCOMING EXHIBITION IN HONG KONG IS THE FIRST TIME THAT A SELECTION OF THE CHINESE TREASURES TRAVELS ALL THE WAY TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE PACIFIC.

A TOTAL OF 135 ITEMS OF CHINESE ART HAVE BEEN SELECTED FOR EXHIBITION IN HONG KONG.

THEY INCLUDE CERAMICS, JADE CARVINGS, STONE SCULPTURE, ANCIENT BRONZES, LACQUER WARES, PAINTING AND CALLIGRAPHY, AS WELL AS OTHER FORMS OF CHINESE ART REPRESENTING THE NUCLEUS OF CHINESE CULTURE OVER A PERIOD OF FIVE THOUSAND YEARS FROM THE NEOLITHIC PERIOD TO THE END OF THE QING DYNASTY.

EACH OF THE ITEMS ON DISPLAY IS A MASTERPIECE OF ITS OWN RIGHT.

PARTICULARLY NOTEWORTHY ARE THE SERIES OF HAN AND WEI TOMB MODELS AND FIGURINES, TANG THREE-COLOUR WARES, SONG MONOCHROMES, AS WELL AS MING AND QING BLUE-AND-WHITE AND ENAMELED PORCELAINS.

/IN ADDITION,

IN ADDITION, MASTERPIECES MADE OF CLOISONNE, IVORY, RHINOCEROS' HORN AND TEXTILE WILL ALSO BE PUT ON DISPLAY.

THE EXHIBITION WILL BE HELD FROM MAY 17 TO AUGUST 7 BETWEEN 10 AM AND 6 PM ON WEEKDAYS (EXCEPT THURSDAYS) AND BETWEEN 1 PM AND 6 PM ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, WILL OFFICIALLY OPEN THE EXHIBITION AT THE MUSEUM GALLERY, 11TH FLOOR, CITY HALL HIGH BLOCK, AT 4.30 PM ON MONDAY (MAY 16).

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT. PRESS REPORTERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS ARE REQUESTED TO BE IN POSITION BY 4 PM AT THE LATEST.

THERE WILL BE TWO STATIC PRESS POSITIONS FOR THE OPENING CEREMONY (SEE SKETCH BEING TRANSMITTED BY FACSIMILE). IN VIEW OF THE LARGE NUMBER OF GUESTS ATTENDING AND THE LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE IN THE GALLERY, MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO MOVE FROM ONE POSITION TO ANOTHER. BUT AFTER THE RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY BY THE GOVERNOR, REPORTERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS IN PRESS POSITION A WILL BE TAKEN TO ANOTHER PRESS POSITION ON THE 10TH FLOOR WHERE SIR EDWARD AND LADY YOUDE WILL LATER INSPECT SOME OF THE EXHIBITS ON DISPLAY.

ARRANGEMENTS HAVE ALSO BEEN MADE FOR MR YVON D'ARGENCE, DIRECTOR AND CHIEF CURATOR OF THE ASIAN ART MUSEUM OF SAN FRANCISCO TO MEET THE PRESS AT A PREVIEW TO BE HELD AT THE MUSEUM GALLERY AT 10.30 AM ON MONDAY (MAY 16). MR D'ARGENCE WILL BE SPEAKING IN ENGLISH AND MANDARIN. OFFICERS FROM THE PUBLIC INFORMATION UNIT OF THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST THE PRESS.

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PUBLIC VIEWS ON EDUCATION SOUGHT
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THE GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO CONSULT PUBLIC OPINION ON THE REPORT OF THE PANEL CONDUCTING THE OVERALL REVIEW OF EDUCATION, BECAUSE THE PROPOSALS COULD BRING ABOUT VAST CHANGES, MR KEN TOPLEY, SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THIS WAS, HE SAID, A POSITIVE DECISION BY THE GOVERNMENT TO SEEK THE VIEWS OF THE PUBLIC BEFORE DECIDING ON THE REPORT'S RECOMMENDATIONS.

SPEAKING AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG ISLAND EAST, MR TOPLEY NOTED THAT THE REPORT CONTAINED MANY SUGGESTIONS, BUT URGED THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG TO DECIDE ON THEIR OWN PRIORITIES.

+THEREFORE I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY ONCE AGAIN TO ASK EVERYONE WHO HAS AN INTEREST IN HONG KONG'S EDUCATION SYSTEM, AT WHATEVER LEVEL AND WHETHER PERSONAL OR PROFESSIONAL, TO READ THE REPORT AND LET ME HAVE THEIR VIEWS,+ MR TOPLEY SAID.

THE REPORT SAYS THAT EDUCATION IN HONG KONG IS OVER-ADMINISTERED AND UNDER-PLANNED.

MR TOPLEY SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THERE MIGHT WELL BE AREAS WHERE RELAXATION OF DETAILED ADMINISTRATION CONTROL WAS POSSIBLE, THE PRINCIPLES OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY WERE ALSO IMPORTANT.

+IT IS GOOD TO ADMINISTER WITH A LIGHT HAND, BUT WE HAVE TO FACE THE FACT THAT THINGS WILL GO WRONG OCCASIONALLY AND ONE THEN GETS A SHARP REMINDER OF ONE'S RESPONSIBILITIES FROM THE PUBLIC,+ HE ADDED.

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POLL DAY IN QUARRY BAY TOMORROW
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REGISTERED VOTERS IN QUARRY BAY ARE URGED TO TURN OUT FOR TOMORROW'S EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD BY-ELECTION.

THE LAST-MINUTE APPEAL CAME FROM THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, WHO SAID THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD HAD ALREADY A TRACK RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT AND THE BY-ELECTION FOR THE QUARRY BAY CONSTITUENCY CAUSED BY THE ELECTION OF MR KWAN LIM-HO TO THE URBAN COUNCIL WAS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE ELECTORAL PROCESS.

+THE GROWING POPULATION OF QUARRY BAY HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO CHOOSE A CANDIDATE TO REFLECT THEIR NEEDS AND WISHES ON THE DISTRICT BOARD AND I HOPE THE 22 000 REGISTERED ELECTORS OF QUARRY BAY WILL EXERCISE THEIR RIGHT BY COMING OUT TO VOTE,+ HE SAID.

+EVERY SINGLE VOTE WILL COUNT.

+VOTING IS SIMPLE. AN ELECTOR ONLY NEEDS TO BRING ALONG HIS IDENTITY CARD AND GO TO THE POLLING STATION SPECIFIED ON THE POLL CARD AT ANY TIME BETWEEN 7 AM AND 10 PM TOMORROW,+ MR AKERS-JONES SAID.

POLLING STATIONS WILL BE SET UP AT THE TAIKOO PRIMARY SCHOOL AND THE HONG KONG CHINESE WOMEN'S CLUB COLLEGE.

COUNTING OF VOTES WILL TAKE PLACE SHORTLY AFTER 10 PM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

A PRESS CENTRE WILL BE OPEN IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE AT 884-886, KING'S ROAD, 1ST FLOOR, FROM 7 AM UNTIL THE COUNTING OF VOTES IS OVER TO FACILITATE PRESS COVERAGE OF TOMORROW'S BY-ELECTION. CNTA INFORMATION OFFICERS WILL HANDLE ALL PRESS ENQUIRIES AT 5-630181. MEMBERS OF THE PRESS ARE ALSO WELCOME TO COVER THE COUNTING OF VOTES. RESULTS OF THE ELECTION WILL BE TRANSMITTED THROUGH THE GIS FACSIMILE NETWORK AS SOON AS THEY ARE AVAILABLE.

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\$70-MILLION UC COMPLEX BEING BUILT
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IF ALL GOES WELL, RESIDENTS LIVING IN THE EASTERN PART OF WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT WILL HAVE A MULTI-PURPOSE COMPLEX OF THEIR OWN IN ABOUT THREE YEARS.

IT WILL PROVIDE NOT ONLY RETAIL MARKETING FACILITIES AND A COOKED FOOD CENTRE, BUT ALSO A VARIETY OF AMENITIES FOR INDOOR SPORTS ACTIVITIES AS WELL AS CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL PURSUITS.

SPEAKING AT THE FOUNDATION STONE-LAYING CEREMONY OF THE URBAN COUNCIL NGAU CHI WAN COMPLEX TODAY (WEDNESDAY), THE DIRECTOR OF URBAN SERVICES, MR BRIAN WILSON, SAID THE COMPLEX WILL BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF 1985 AT A COST OF SOME \$70 MILLION.

PILING WORK ON THE SUBSTRUCTURE OF THE PROJECT HAS BEEN COMPLETED AND CONSTRUCTION ON THE GROUND AND FIRST FLOORS IS DUE TO START IN NOVEMBER THIS YEAR TO ENABLE THE MARKET TO BE OPENED BY THE END OF 1984, HE SAID.

+WHEN THE MARKET IS OPENED, IT WILL ACCOMMODATE ALL THE SURVEYED AND ELIGIBLE ON-ROAD HAWKERS IN THE VICINITY,+
MR WILSON SAID.

+THIS SHOULD MAKE A TREMENDOUS DIFFERENCE IN CLEARING OBSTRUCTIONS AND IMPROVING ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE.+

MR WILSON TOLD THE GATHERING THAT THE URBAN COUNCIL HAS PLANS FOR SIMILAR NEW MARKETS THROUGHOUT THE URBAN AREAS.

THE SPEED WITH WHICH THESE PROJECTS CAN BE COMPLETED DEPENDS ON THE PACE OF BUILDING AND THE AVAILABILITY OF THE NECESSARY FUND.

+WITH ANY LUCK, THE FACE OF HONG KONG SHOULD BE SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVED LONG BEFORE THE END OF THIS DECADE,+
HE ADDED.

EARLIER IN HIS WELCOMING SPEECH, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE URBAN COUNCIL, MR HILTON CHEONG-LEEN, STATED THAT THE BUILDING OF THE COMPLEX SERVES AS ANOTHER PROOF THAT THE COUNCIL IS DETERMINED TO MAKE HONG KONG A BETTER AND HEALTHIER PLACE TO LIVE IN.

HE PLEDGED THAT THE COUNCIL IS PRESSING AHEAD WITH ITS EXTENSIVE ON-GOING MARKET BUILDING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME THROUGHOUT THE URBAN AREAS SO AS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY.

HE ALSO PAID TRIBUTE TO MR WILSON FOR HAVING BEEN +THE DRIVING FORCE BEHIND THE MAXIMUM UTILISATION OF PRECIOUS LAND SOURCES+ DURING HIS YEARS AS THE DIRECTOR OF URBAN SERVICES.

THE URBAN COUNCIL NGAU CHI WAN COMPLEX IS IDEALLY SITED OVER THE TOP OF THE CHOI HUNG MTR STATION.

/BUILT ON

BUILT ON A 5 000 SQUARE-METRE SITE, IT WILL SERVE THE EASTERN PART OF WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT INCLUDING CHOI HUNG, PING SHEK AND FU SHAN ESTATES AND THE HAMMER HILL HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME WITH A COMBINED POPULATION OF ABOUT 80 000.

RAMPS WILL BE CONSTRUCTED TO ALLOW THE DISABLED TO ENTER THE MARKET. A PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE WILL ALSO BE BUILT AS PART OF THE COMPLEX TO CONNECT THE PING SHEK ESTATE AND THE MARKET AT THE FIRST FLOOR LEVEL.

AN INDOOR GAMES HALL WILL BE ON THE FIRST FLOOR WHILE OTHER CULTURAL FACILITIES, INCLUDING A 460-SEATER AUDITORIUM, AN EXHIBITION AND REHEARSAL HALL, A DISTRICT LIBRARY AND THE KOWLOON EAST REGIONAL OFFICE OF THE CITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT, WILL TAKE UP THE REST OF THE SEVEN-STOREY COMPLEX.

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BOARD MEMBERS TO DISCUSS LANDLORD AND TENANT BILL

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THE LANDLORD AND TENANT (CONSOLIDATION) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1983, WHICH CONTAINS PROPOSED AMENDMENTS CONCERNING DOMESTIC TENANCIES OF POST-WAR BUILDINGS, WILL BE ONE OF THE TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION AT THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

THE BILL WAS INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON APRIL 27 FOR ITS FIRST AND SECOND READING. DEBATE ON THE BILL WILL BE RESUMED ON MAY 25.

AT THE MEETING, THERE WILL ALSO BE A BRIEFING FOR MEMBERS ON THE LIAISON WORK OF THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION IN THE DISTRICT, BY A REPRESENTATIVE, MR MICHAEL TONG.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA WILL INCLUDE THE INSTALLATION OF SEVEN INFORMATION BOARDS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS TO PUBLICISE THE BOARD'S ACTIVITIES, AND PROGRESS REPORTS OF THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT, ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT AND COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEES.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO ARE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING THE MEETING CAN CONTACT THE BOARD'S SECRETARY AT 5-450868 FOR SEATING ARRANGEMENTS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD AT 4 PM TOMORROW (THURSDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE, THIRD FLOOR, WILLIE BUILDING, 222-224 DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG.

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WORKSHOPS FOR SENIOR CORRECTIONAL SERVICES STAFF
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THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAS ORGANISED A SERIES OF SIX, ONE-DAY WORKSHOPS FOR ALL SENIOR OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT ON THE UNITED NATIONS STANDARD MINIMUM RULES FOR THE TREATMENT OF PRISONERS.

THE FIRST ONE OF THE SERIES WAS CONDUCTED TODAY BY THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, MR TOM GARNER AT THE DEPARTMENT'S STAFF TRAINING INSTITUTE IN STANLEY.

PAPERS PREPARED BY THE COMMISSIONER, DEALING WITH SUCH MATTERS AS MANAGEMENT OF INSTITUTIONS, CLASSIFICATION AND CATEGORISATION OF PRISONERS, AFTERCARE, AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINING WERE DISCUSSED AT THE SESSION.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE COURSE IS INTENDED TO BROADEN THE OUTLOOK OF THE OFFICERS AND HELP THEM TO EXAMINE MORE CRITICALLY THEIR ACCOUNTABILITY FOR IMPLEMENTING THE AIMS AND OBJECTS OF THE DEPARTMENT.

IT WOULD ALSO FURTHER DEVELOP INDIVIDUAL OFFICERS' PROFESSIONAL SKILLS. HE ADDED.

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SOFTBALL INSTRUCTORS' TRAINING COURSE
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EXPERIENCED SOFTBALL PLAYERS WHO ARE 18 YEARS OF AGE OR ABOVE, ARE INVITED TO ENROL IN A SOFTBALL INSTRUCTORS' TRAINING COURSE STARTING FROM MAY 17.

THE COURSE IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE (RSS) OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT AND THE HONG KONG SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION.

CONSISTING OF EIGHT THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL LESSONS, THE COURSE WILL BE HELD AT THREE DIFFERENT VENUES, THE HONG KONG FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION, SHEK KIP MEI RESERVOIR PLAYGROUND AND HONG KONG SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION PLAYGROUND.

PARTICIPANTS WHO COMPLETE THE COURSE ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE UP COACHING AS ASSISTANT INSTRUCTORS FOR AN ELEMENTARY SOFTBALL TRAINING COURSE TO BE HELD FROM JULY TO AUGUST.

CERTIFICATE WILL BE AWARDED FOR SATISFACTORY PERFORMANCE.

THERE ARE 40 VACANCIES FOR THE COURSE AND THE FEE IS \$20.

APPLICATION FORMS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM RSS HEAD OFFICE ON 11TH FLOOR, WING ON CENTRE, CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG AND ANY OF ITS 19 OFFICES.

FOR ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CALL 5-458511.

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 1983

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PROJECT TO INCREASE WATER SUPPLY

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A CONTRACT WORTH MORE THAN \$3 MILLION WAS AWARDED TODAY BY THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT FOR THE LAYING OF ABOUT 3 100 METRES OF FRESH WATER MAINS IN FANLING - SHEK WU HUI NEW TOWN.

THE CONTRACT WAS SIGNED THIS MORNING BY MR LEE GUN-CHEUNG, CHIEF ENGINEER (CONSTRUCTION) OF THE DEPARTMENT AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF WO HING CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LTD., THE CONTRACTOR.

THE MAINS FORM PART OF A PROJECT TO INCREASE THE CAPACITY OF THE EXISTING WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM TO THE NEW TOWN AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES.

WORK ON THE CONTRACT WILL START NEXT WEEK AND WILL TAKE ABOUT 16 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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CLOSURE OF HAPPY VALLEY FLYOVER

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THE FLYOVER AT THE JUNCTION OF WONG NAI CHUNG GAP ROAD AND STUBBS ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 8 PM ON SATURDAY TO 7 AM ON MONDAY (MAY 16) FOR ROAD WORKS.

TRAFFIC WILL BE DIVERTED AT GROUND LEVEL ROADS.

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