DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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GROUPS URGED TO SUPPORT BOARD

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DISTRICT ORGANISATIONS WERE URGED TODAY TO SUPPORT THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD SO THAT IT MAY BETTER CARRY OUT ITS ROLE.

ALTHOUGH THE DISTRICT BOARD WAS THE FOCUS OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, IT WAS NOT THE ONLY ORGAN IN THE WHOLE CONCEPT, THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR LAM KAM-KWONG, SAID.

THERE WERE OTHER DISTRICT ORGANISATIONS, WITH DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS AND OBJECTIVES, DIVERGING FROM THE DISTRICT BOARD - SUCH AS MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, AREA COMMITTEES, OWNERS CORPORATIONS, VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, SCHOOLS, AND CLANSMEN'S AND KAIFONG ASSOCIATIONS, HE SAID.

MR LAM STRESSED THE NEED FOR CLOSER INTERGRATION AMONG THESE VARIOUS ORGANISATIONS.

THESE ORGANISATIONS, HE SAID, FORMED THE BACKBONE OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, BY TRANSMITTING PEOPLES' VIEWS TO THE DISTRICT BOARD AND THE ADMINISTRATION.

MR LAM WAS SPEAKING ON THE ROLE OF AREA COMMITTEES IN THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION MACHINERY, AT A SEMINAR ORGANISED BY AREA COMMITTEES IN WAN CHAI.

AREA COMMITTEES, HE SAID, WOULD BE PLAYING A VITAL ROLE IN LINKING THE DISTRICT BOARD AND MAC'S AND OC'S.

TOGETHER WITH OTHER LOCAL ORGANISATIONS, THE AREA COMMITTEES HAD LONG BECOME AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE COMMUNITY BUILDING MACHINERY, HE SAID.

+AREA COMMITTEES THEMSELVES ARE FORMAL AREA-BASED CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES AND PROVIDE A DIRECT CHANNEL FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE MANAGEMENT OF DISTRICT AFFAIRS.

+THE AREA COMMITTEES IN WAN CHAI ACTUALLY COMPRISE A REPRESENTATIVE CROSS-SECTION OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY, WITH MEMBERS COMING FROM A WIDE RANGE OF OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUNDS WITH PROVEN COMMUNITY SERVICE RECORD AND PERSONAL QUALITIES.

+THEY INCLUDE SOCIAL WORKERS, HAWKERS, SCHOOL PRINCIPALS, BUSINESSMEN, EXECUTIVES AND WHITE COLLAR WORKERS, PROFESSIONALS AND EVEN HOUSEWIVES.

+THEY ARE WELL QUALIFIED TO PARTICIPATE IN LOCAL ADMINISTRATION,+ HE SAID.

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BUSINESS, FINANCE SERVICES SURVEYED

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THERE WERE 2 263 FINANCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS OPERATING DURING THE WHOLE OR PART OF 1982, OR SIX PER CENT LESS THAN THE 1980 FIGURE.

BUT THEIR TOTAL RECEIPTS AND OTHER INCOME IN THAT YEAR INCREASED BY 25 PER CENT TO $12 142 MILLION OVER THE 1980 FIGURE.

THESE ARE AMONG SOME OF THE SUMMARY STATISTICS COMPILED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT IN A 1982 SURVEY OF STORAGE, COMMUNICATIONS, FINANCING, INSURANCE AND BUSINESS SERVICES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT EXPLAINED TODAY THAT THE SURVEY WAS UNDERTAKEN BETWEEN MAY 1983 AND JANUARY 1984.

THE 1982 SURVEY WAS THE FIRST ANNUAL FOLLOW-UP SURVEY SINCE THE 1980 BENCHMARK CENSUS, AND WAS CONDUCTED TO ASCERTAIN THE STRUCTURE AND OPERATING CHARACTERISTICS OF THE FIVE SERVICES SECTORS, AND TO UPDATE ESTIMATES OF THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT OF HONG KONG, HE SAID.

DATA COLLECTED IN THE SURVEY INCLUDED TYPE OF OWNERSHIP, NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED, COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES, OPERATING EXPENSES, BUSINESS RECEIPTS AND OTHER INCOME, AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.

THE 2 263 FINANCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS OPERATING DURING 1982, INCLUDED BILL DISCOUNTING COMPANIES, CREDIT INSTITUTIONS, FINANCE LEASING, LOAN AND MORTGAGE COMPANIES, PAWNSHOPS, INVESTMENT AND HOLDING COMPANIES, SECURITY, COMMODITY-AND GOLD BULLION BROKERS AND DEALERS, MONEY CHANGERS AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE BROKERS AND DEALERS, BUT EXCLUDED BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES.

THEY EMPLOYED A WORKFORCE OF 18 587 PERSONS (AN INCREASE OF 6 PER CENT OVER THE 1980 FIGURE).

THEIR TOTAL BUSINESS RECEIPTS AND OTHER INCOME INCREASED BY 25 PER CENT TO $12 142 MILLION.

ON THE OTHER HAND, $1 185 MILLION WAS SPENT ON COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES AND $4 190 MILLION ON OPERATING EXPENSES, REPRESENTING INCREASES OF 63 PER CENT AND 83 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY OVER 1980.

THE FIRMS' VALUE ADDED AMOUNTED TO $2 693 MILLION (AN INCREASE OF 54 PER CENT).

IN THE BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR, 3 120 ESTABLISHMENTS COMPRISING LEGAL, ACCOUNTING, AUDITING AND DATA PROCESSING FIRMS; BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND CONSULTING, ADVERTISING, DESIGNING, SECRETARIAL AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES; AND MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT RENTAL COMPANIES, WERE IN OPERATION DURING 1982 (AN INCREASE OF 21 PER CENT OVER 1980).

THE SECTOR'S TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED ALSO INCREASED BY 28 PER CENT TO 35 520 PERSONS.

/COMPENSATION OF .....

COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES AMOUNTED TO $1 710 MILLION AND OPERATING EXPENSES TO $3 452 MILLION, REPRESENTING INCREASES OF 75 PER CENT AND 90 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY OVER 1980. THEIR TOTAL BUSINESS RECEIPTS AND OTHER INCOME INCREASED BY 80 PER CENT, AMOUNTING TO $6 966 MILLION. IN 1982, THE SECTOR CONTRIBUTED $2 993 MILLION TO THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT OF HONG KONG IN TERMS OF VALUE ADDED, AN INCREASE OF 45 PER CENT OVER 1980.

IN THE COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR, THERE WERE 93 ESTABLISHMENTS IN OPERATION IN 1982, INCLUDING TELEPHONE, TELEGRAPH, COURIER, RADIO PAGING AND OTHER TELE-COMMUNICATION COMPANIES.

THIS REPRESENTED AN INCREASE OF 55 PER CENT OVER 1980. THESE ESTABLISHMENTS EMPLOYED A WORKFORCE OF 19 450 PERSONS (AN INCREASE OF 21 PER CENT OVER 1980) AND GENERATED $4 514 MILLION (AN INCREASE OF 60 PER CENT) OF BUSINESS RECEIPTS AND OTHER INCOME. SOME $1 118 MILLION WERE SPENT ON COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES AND $1 727 MILLION ON OPERATING EXPENSES, REPRESENTING INCREASES OF 73 PER CENT AND 60 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY OVER 1980.

THIS SECTOR'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT OF HONG KONG IN TERMS OF VALUE ADDED WAS ESTIMATED TO BE $2 770 MILLION (AN INCREASE OF 60 PER CENT).

IN 1982, 859 INSURANCE COMPANIES, COMPRISING GENERAL AND LIFE INSURERS, INSURANCE AGENTS AND OTHER RELATED SERVICES, WERE IN OPERATION (AN INCREASE OF 35 PER CENT OVER 1980). THIS SECTOR, WITH A WORKFORCE OF 8 735 PERSONS (AN INCREASE OF 20 PER CENT), GENERATED $5 247 MILLION OF BUSINESS RECEIPTS AND OTHER INCOME (AN INCREASE OF 51 PER CENT), BUT SPENT $484 MILLION ON COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES (AN INCREASE OF 44 PER CENT) AND $472 MILLION ON OPERATING EXPENSES (AN INCREASE OF 87 PER CENT).

ACCORDING TO THE SURVEY RESULTS, 196 STORAGE ESTABLISHMENTS WERE IN OPERATION FOR THE WHOLE OR PART OF 1982, REPRESENTING A DECREASE OF 8 PER CENT OVER THE 1980 FIGURE. THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED BY THE SECTOR ALSO DECREASED BY 2 PER CENT TO 4 243 PERSONS. THESE ESTABLISHMENTS GENERATED $824 MILLION OF BUSINESS RECEIPTS AND OTHER INCOME (AN INCREASE OF 17 PER CENT OVER 1980). THEY SPENT $151 MILLION ON COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES (AN INCREASE OF 22 PER CENT) AND $484 MILLION ON OPERATING EXPENSES (AN INCREASE OF 31 PER CENT). THE SECTOR CONTRIBUTED $408 MILLION (AN INCREASE OF 9 PER CENT) TO THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT OF HONG KONG, MEASURED IN TERMS OF VALUE ADDED.

AS REGARDS GOVERNMENT/SEMI-GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ESTABLISHMENTS PROVIDING INSURANCE AND COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES REMAINED UNCHANGED, AT 2, IN 1982. THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED, HOWEVER, INCREASED TO 4 322 (AN INCREASE OF 23 PER CENT OVER 1980). TOTAL SPENDING ON COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES AMOUNTED TO $276 MILLION (AN INCREASE OF 62 PER CENT), WHILE THAT ON OPERATING EXPENSES TO $296 MILLION (AN INCREASE OF 47 PER CENT). BUSINESS RECEIPTS AND OTHER INCOME ALSO ROSE TO $676 MILLION (AN INCREASE OF 51 PER CENT).

/THE ATTACHED .....

THE ATTACHED TABLE COMPARES SOME SELECTED PRINCIPAL STATISTICS BY SECTOR BETWEEN 1980 AND 1982.

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT IS NOW IN THE PROCESS OF PREPARING A REPORT ON THE 1982 SURVEY, WHICH WILL CONTAIN A MORE DETAILED ANALYSIS OF THE RESULTS BY SERVICES GROUP/SECTOR AND A DESCRIPTION OF THE SURVEY METHODOLOGY.

ENQUIRIES ON THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE TRANSPORT AND SERVICES STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TELEPHONE NO. 3-661070).

COMPARISON OF SELECTED PRINCIPAL STATISTICS FOR ALL ESTABLISHMENTS BETWEEN 1980 AND 1982

SECTOR		NO. OF ESTAB-LISHMENTS	NO. OF PERSONS ENGAGED	NO. OF EMPLOYEES	COMPEN-SATION OF EMPLOYEES
					$'000
STORAGE	1980	213	4 340	4 301	122 963
	1982	196	4 243	4 238	150 549
	% CHANGE	- 8	- 2	- 1	+22
COMMUNICATIONS	1980	60	16 092	16 073	644 649
	1982	93	19 450	19 436	1 118 404
	% CHANGE	+55	+21	+21	+73
FINANCING	1980	2 407	17 544	15 901	724 779
	1982	2 263	18 587	17 473	1 184 789
	% CHANGE	- 6	+ 6	+10	+63
BUSINESS SERVICES	1980	2 575	27 844	25 638	979 036
	1982	3 120	35 520	32 849	1 709 644
	% CHANGE	+21	+28	+28	+75
INSURANCE	1980	634	7 266	6 999	335 484
	1982	859	8 735	8 441	484 419
	% CHANGE	+35	+20	+21	+44
GOVERNMENT/ SEMI-GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS 2	1980	2	3 503	3 503	170 620
	1982	2	4 322	4 322	276 154
	% CHANGE	0	+23	+23	+62

/SECTOR .....

SECTOR		OPERATING EXPENSES	BUSINESS RECEIPTS AND OTHER INCOME	VALUE 1 ADDED
		$'000	$'000	$'000
STORAGE	1980	370 809	705 071	374 198
	1982	484 307	824 326	407 590
	% CHANGE	+31	+17	+ 9
COMMUNICATIONS	1980	1 077 054	2 818 087	1 731 699
	1982	1 726 728	4 513 616	2 769 925
	% CHANGE	+60	+60	+60
FINANCING	1980	2 285 099	9 709 868	1 745 785
	1982	4 190 021	12 141 559	2 693 355
	% CHANGE	+83	+25	+54
BUSINESS SERVICES	1980	1 814 767	3 878 885	2 058 347
	1982	3 452 127	6 966 283	2 992 983
	% CHANGE	+90	+80	+45
INSURANCE	1980	251 591	3 472 699	--
	1982	471 528	5 246 577	--
	% CHANGE	+87	+51	--
GOVERNMENT/ SEMI-GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS 2	1980	201 388	449 270	--
	1982	296 219	676 264	--
	% CHANGE	+47	+51	--

NOTES: (1) VALUE ADDED WAS NOT COMPILED FOR THE INSURANCE SECTOR AND GOVERNMENT/SEMI-GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(2) GOVERNMENT/SEMI-GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS COMPRISED THE POST OFFICE AND THE HONG KONG EXPORT CREDIT INSURANCE CORPORATION.

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NEW RESERVOIR AT JORDAN VALLEY

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A SALT WATER SERVICE RESERVOIR IS TO BE BUILT AT JORDAN VALLEY, KWUN TONG.

IT WILL REPLACE AN EXISTING RESERVOIR IN THE AREA WHICH IS TO MAKE WAY FOR THE JORDAN VALLEY CONTROLLED TIP.

TENDERS ARE BEING INVITED BY THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT.

/THE SERVICE .....

THE SERVICE RESERVOIR, WITH A STORAGE CAPACITY OF 7 500 CUBIC METRES, WILL BE CONSTRUCTED OF REINFORCED CONCRETE.

IT WILL PROVIDE PART OF THE FLUSHING WATER SYSTEM FOR NGAU TAU KOK AND KOWLOON BAY AREA.

THE SALT WATER WILL BE DRAWN BY THE SHUM WAN SHAN SALT WATER PUMPING STATION.

THE CONTRACT ALSO INCLUDES LAYING 330 METRES OF SALT WATER MAINS FROM THE PUMPING STATION TO THE SERVICE RESERVOIR.

WORK WILL START IN AUGUST AND TAKE 16 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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BOOK MARKS CENTENARY OF ROYAL OBSERVATORY

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THE HISTORY AND WORK OF THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY IN HONG KONG ARE OUTLINED IN A BOOK WHICH HAS BEEN PUBLISHED TO MARK THE OBSERVATORY'S CENTENARY.

THE BOOK -- +FROM TIME BALL TO ATOMIC CLOCK+ -- BY ANTHONY DYSON OF INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT, TRACES THE GENERAL HISTORY OF METEOROLOGY AS A SCIENCE, PARTICULARLY IN CHINA, WHERE MUCH EARLY WORK WAS DONE AND IMPORTANT DISCOVERIES MADE.

THE INITIAL SUGGESTION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN OBSERVATORY IN HONG KONG WAS MADE IN 1879 AND BY THE SUMMER OF 1883 TWO MEN -- DR WILLIAM DOBERCK, THE GOVERNMENT ASTRONOMER, AND HIS ASSISTANT, FREDERICK FIGG -- HAD ARRIVED IN HONG KONG. THEY FORMALLY BEGAN WORK ON JANUARY 1, 1884.

THE EARLY YEARS OF THE OBSERVATORY WERE OFTEN DIFFICULT, WITH DOBERCK COMPLAINING ABOUT THE LEVEL OF STAFF HE BELIEVED NECESSARY FOR THE EFFICIENT OPERATION OF THE OBSERVATORY.

ONE OF THE EARLIEST PROJECTS, A STORM WARNING SYSTEM, PROVED INEFFECTIVE WHEN THE WARNING SIGNALS WERE BLOWN DOWN BY THE VERY WINDS THEY WERE MEANT TO INDICATE. A TIME SERVICE FOR MARINERS WAS ESTABLISHED IN TSIM SHA TSUI, WHERE A LARGE TIME BALL WAS DROPPED EACH DAY AT 1 PM. THE TIME BALL -- LATER MOVED TO SIGNAL HILL -- WAS USED UNTIL 1933.

MORE RECENTLY, THE OBSERVATORY TIME SERVICE HAS BEEN SUPPLIED BY AN ATOMIC CLOCK.

THE PUBLICATION, WITH SIX PICTORIAL SECTIONS AND MANY ILLUSTRATIONS, PROVIDES INFORMATION ON TYPHOONS, THE JAPANESE OCCUPATION OF HONG KONG AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE OBSERVATORY'S MODERN SCIENTIFIC SERVICES.

+FROM TIME BALL TO ATOMIC CLOCK+, IS AVAILABLE AT $34 FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, G.P.O. BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL; ROYAL OBSERVATORY, NATHAN ROAD, DISTRICT OFFICES AND LEADING BOOKSHOPS.

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MAY BUILDING PLAN APPROVALS RISE

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THE NUMBER OF BUILDING PLANS APPROVED BY THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE IN MAY INCREASED BY MORE THAN 50 PER CENT OVER THE NUMBER FOR PREVIOUS MONTH.

OF THE 48 PLANS APPROVED, 23 WERE FOR APARTMENT OR APARTMENT-COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENTS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE SAID THE 48 APPROVALS WERE THE HIGHEST SO FAR THIS YEAR AND BROUGHT THE NUMBER TO 169.

HE SAID HALF THE APARTMENT DEVELOPMENTS WERE ON HONG KONG ISLAND, AND INCLUDED ONE OF 30 STOREYS IN ROBINSON ROAD. IN THE NEW TERRITORIES APPROVAL WAS GIVEN TO BUILD TWO 30-STOREY BLOCKS AT TAI PO, FOUR 37 AND 38-STOREY BLOCKS ON TSING YI ISLAND AND FIVE 32-STOREY BLOCKS AT TSUEN WAN.

PLANS APPROVED ALSO INCLUDED A 13-STOREY FACTORY BUILDING AT CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD, KOWLOON, AND A 10-STOREY FACTORY BLOCK AT YUEN LONG FOR LAI SUN GARMENT COMPANY LIMITED.

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS OF INTEREST APPROVED DURING THE MONTH INCLUDED A 17-STOREY EXTENSION TO THE CARITAS MEDICAL CENTRE IN KOWLOON, A PETROL STATION AT SHA TIN, AND A CHAPEL FOR THE CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE CHURCH UNION HONG KONG LIMITED ON CHEUNG CHAU.

IN MAY, THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE GAVE CONSENT TO WORK STARTING ON 42 PROJECTS, INCLUDING 17 APARTMENT PROJECTS OF WHICH 10 WERE ON HONG KONG ISLAND, AND SIX COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENTS.

CONSENT WAS ALSO GIVEN TO WORK STARTING ON A SCHOOL HALL COMPLEX FOR ST. FRANCIS CANOSSIAN COLLEGE, A STAFF QUARTERS BUILDING FOR ST. STEPHENS COLLEGE, A FACTORY BUILDING AT FO TAN, SHA TIN, A SWIMMING POOL AT KOWLOON BAY, A SLAUGHTER HOUSE AT YUEN LONG, AND A 78-STALL MARKET BUILDING OVER TSUEN WAN MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION STATION.

THE TOTAL COST OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED IN MAY WAS MORE THAN $684 MILLION, COMPARED WITH ABOUT $483 MILLION THE PREVIOUS MONTH. NEARLY $13 MILLION WAS SPENT ON STRUCTURAL ALTERATIONS TO EXISTING BUILDINGS.

A TOTAL OF 52 COMPLETED BUILDINGS WERE ISSUED WITH OCCUPATION CERTIFICATES DURING THE MONTH, WHILE DEMOLITION ORDERS WERE ISSUED IN RESPECT OF NINE BUILDINGS.

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LECTURES ON PHOTOGRAPHY FOR ART TEACHERS

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TWO VISITING PROFESSORS FROM THE UNITED STATES WILL GIVE LECTURES ON PHOTOGRAPHY TO SECONDARY SCHOOL ART TEACHERS.

THE LECTURES WILL BE HELD BETWEEN 10 AM AND 12 NOON ON JUNE 30 AT THE GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, GASCOIGNE ROAD, KOWLOON.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM LARSON WILL SPEAK ON +A SURVEY OF CONTEMPORARY COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHY+ AND PROFESSOR ROBERT HEINECKEN, ON +MIXED-MEDIA PHOTOGRAPHY+.

THE LECTURES, TO BE CONDUCTED IN ENGLISH, IS BEING JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG ARTS CENTRE AND THE CULTURAL CRAFTS CENTRE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S ADVISORY INSPECTORATE.

ADMISSION TO THE LECTURES IS FREE.

TO FACILITATE PLANNING, TEACHERS WHO WISH TO ATTEND THE LECTURES SHOULD APPLY THROUGH THE HEADS OF THEIR SCHOOLS TO THE INSPECTOR (ART), CULTURAL CRAFTS CENTRE, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, 4 PAK FUK ROAD, 5/F, HONG KONG, AT THEIR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE.

ENQUIRIES MAY BE MADE TO THE CENTRE ON 5-621006.

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PLAYGROUND TO BE REDEVELOPED

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PART OF THE FORMER KAI TAK AMUSEMENT PARK SITE IS INCLUDED IN THE FIRST STAGE OF REDEVELOPMENT OF CHOI HUNG ROAD PLAYGROUND.

THE 9 000-SQUARE-METRE SITE, BETWEEN CHOI HUNG ROAD AND SHEUNG HEI STREET, WILL BE CONVERTED INTO TWO MINI-SOCCER PITCHES, A 450-METRE-LONG JOGGING TRACK AND GARDEN AREAS FEATURING A CHINESE PAVILION WHICH WILL BE BUILT ON A RAISED PLATFORM.

THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE PROJECT, WORK ON WHICH IS EXPECTED TO START IN AUGUST THIS YEAR AND TAKE EIGHT MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

AT A LATER STAGE OF REDEVELOPMENT OF THE PLAYGROUND, A FOUR-STOREY BLOCK TO HOUSE ABOUT 80 COOKED-FOOD STALLS AND AN INDOOR GAMES HALL, A COVERED BADMINTON COURT AND A CHILDREN'S LIBRARY WILL BE BUILT.

TENNIS, BASKETBALL AND HANDBALL COURTS WILL ALSO BE INCLUDED IN THE REDEVELOPMENT SCHEME.

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TENDERS INVITED TO RUN SOUVENIR KIOSK

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THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS TO OPERATE A SOUVENIR KIOSK AT CASTLE PEAK BEACH IN TUEN MUN.

THE BEACH IS PARTICULARLY POPULAR WITH TOURISTS, AN NTSD SPOKESMAN SAID.

ROWING FACILITIES AND BARBECUE PITS ARE ALSO PROVIDED AT THE BEACH.

THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER MAY START BUSINESS ON OCTOBER 1 ON A TWO-YEAR CONTRACT.

TENDER FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE NTSD HEADQUARTERS ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF SWIRE AND MACLAINE HOUSE (AUSTIN CENTRE), 19-23 AUSTIN AVENUE, KOWLOON, OR THE TUEN MUN URBAN SERVICES OFFICE ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF +TOP COURT+, 60-70 TAK CHING COURT, TUEN MUN.

COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE PLACED IN THE TENDER BOX LOCATED AT THE NTSD HEADQUARTERS BEFORE 9 AM ON JULY 20 (FRIDAY), THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

ENQUIRIES MAY BE MADE WITH THE TUEN MUN URBAN SERVICES OFFICE ON TELEPHONE 0-820800, EXTENSION 301.

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CLEANING EQUIPMENT FOR MARKET COMPLEX

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GONDOLA EQUIPMENT WILL BE USED TO CLEAN THE EXTERNAL WALLS OF ABERDEEN MARKET COMPLEX.

CONTRACTORS ARE BEING INVITED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE TO APPLY FOR INCLUSION ON A PREQUALIFICATION LIST TO SUPPLY AND INSTALL THE EQUIPMENT.

THEY MUST HAVE HAD PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE OF INSTALLING SIMILAR EQUIPMENT IN OTHER BUILDINGS IN HONG KONG TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT AND THE BUILDING OWNERS.

THEY WILL ALSO BE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE A COMPLETE LIST OF THE WORK CARRIED OUT WITH FULL DETAILS OF THE INSTALLATIONS.

ABERDEEN MARKET COMPLEX WAS COMPLETED IN JULY LAST YEAR.

IT IS A MULTI-FUNCTIONAL BUILDING, PROVIDING MODERN MARKET, RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL FACILITIES UNDER ONE ROOF.

BESIDES THE MARKET, THE EIGHT-STOREY BUILDING INCLUDES A DISTRICT LIBRARY, A CULTURAL CENTRE, AN INDOOR GAMES HALL, AS WELL AS OFFICE ACCOMMODATION.

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SEWERAGE WORK AT RAILWAY WORKSHOPS

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IMPROVEMENT WORK WILL BE CARRIED OUT SOON ON THE SEWERAGE AND FIRE SERVICE SYSTEMS OF KOWLOON CANTON RAILWAY WORKSHOPS AND DEPOT AT HO TUNG LAU, SHA TIN.

THE RAILWAY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE PROJECT.

UNDER THE CONTRACT, FOUL SEWERS WILL BE LAID AND A PUMP CHAMBER BUILT.

TWO STEEL WATER TANKS WILL BE CONSTRUCTED, TOGETHER WITH ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES WORK TO IMPROVE THE FIRE SERVICES SYSTEM.

WORK ON THE PROJECT WILL START IN AUGUST AND BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF THE YEAR.

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TWO MORE TREE PLANTING DAYS

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TWO TREE PLANTING DAYS WILL BE HELD AT SAI KUNG AND TAI PO NEXT WEEK, ORGANISED BY THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

ON TUESDAY (JUNE 26), LOCAL COMMUNITY LEADERS AND 100 STUDENTS IN SAI KUNG WILL ASSEMBLE AT THE TAI AU MUN PUBLIC CARPARK TO LAUNCH THE SAI KUNG TREE PLANTING DAY, AND PLANT SOME 50 YOUNG TREES.

THE CHAIRMAN OF MEI FA WORKING GROUP OF CLEAN HONG KONG NEW TERRITORIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE, MR WAN HON-CHEUNG, THE DISTRICT OFFICER OF SAI KUNG, MR CHAN SUI-JEUNG AND THE URBAN SERVICES OFFICER OF SAI KUNG, MR CHIN YIU-CHEUNG, WILL JOINTLY OFFICIATE AT THE EVENT.

ON THURSDAY (JUNE 28), A TREE PLANTING DAY WILL BE HELD IN THE TIN HAU TEMPLE FUNG SHUI SQUARE, AT TING KOK ROAD, TAI PO.

ABOUT 100 STUDENTS AND DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL PLANT 300 YOUNG PALM AND BAMBOO TREES IN THE SQUARE.

ALSO TAKING PART IN THE EVENT WILL BE THE DISTRICT OFFICER OF TAI PO, MR CHAN CHUN-YUEN, THE PROJECT MANAGER (TAI PO AND FANLING), MR ROBERT HANNA, THE URBAN SERVICES OFFICER OF TAI PO, MR PONG KIN-HONG, THE CHAIRMAN OF TAI PO RURAL COMMITTEE, MR CHEUNG WAI-LAM AND THE CHAIRMAN OF SAI KUNG NORTH RURAL COMMITTEE, MR LAM PAK-PING.

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PLB TERMINUS CLOSED

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FROM 10 AM ON TUESDAY (JUNE 26), THE PUBLIC LIGHT BUS TERMINUS OUTSIDE THE HYF VEHICULAR FERRY PIER IN CENTRAL WILL BE PERMANENTLY CLOSED FOR WORK IN CONNECTION WITH THE EXCHANGE SQUARE DEVELOPMENTS.

AFTER THE CLOSURE, PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES AND PASSENGERS MAY USE THE NEW PLB TERMINUS AT THE JUNCTION OF HARBOUR VIEW STREET WITH CONNAUGHT PLACE, ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE EXCHANGE SQUARE BUILDING.

PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES ON CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL EASTBOUND HEADING FOR THE NEW PLB TERMINUS SHOULD PROCEED VIA CONNAUGHT PLACE NORTHBOUND.

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TRAFFIC BAN LIFTED

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THE EXISTING MEASURE, PROHIBITING ALL VEHICLES ON DRAKE STREET WESTBOUND FROM TURNING LEFT INTO TAMAR STREET SOUTHBOUND, WILL TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED TO FACILITATE ROAD WORKS AT QUEENSWAY.

THE SUSPENSION WILL BE FROM 10 AM ON TUESDAY (JUNE 26) TO 10 AM ON JULY 22.

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TRAFFIC MEASURE IN TSIM SHA TSUI

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FROM 10 AM ON TUESDAY (JUNE 26), MOTORISTS WILL BE ALLOWED TO TURN RIGHT FROM PEKING ROAD EASTBOUND INTO KOWLOON PARK DRIVE SOUTHBOUND.

THE MEASURE IS TO PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL EXIT ROUTE FOR SOUTHBOUND TRAFFIC ON CANTON ROAD HEADING FOR SALISBURY ROAD AND NATHAN ROAD.

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