



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1990

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FRAMEWORK AND TIMETABLE FOR GRADUAL, STEADY DEVELOPMENT

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THE PACE OF DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT WHICH HAS BEEN SET OUT IN THE FINAL DRAFT OF THE BASIC LAW MAY FALL SHORT OF THE MORE OPTIMISTIC EXPECTATIONS IN HONG KONG AND ELSEWHERE, BUT HONG KONG NOW HAS A FRAMEWORK AND A FIRM TIMETABLE FOR GRADUAL AND STEADY DEVELOPMENT TOWARDS A FULLY DEMOCRATIC LEGISLATURE, THE SECRETARY FOR GENERAL DUTIES, MR BARRIE WIGGHAM, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

SPEAKING AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE HONG KONG AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION IN SYDNEY, MR WIGGHAM SAID THE BASIC LAW WOULD SPELL OUT, IN A CHINESE LAW, ALL THE GUARANTEES FOR THE HIGH DEGREE OF AUTONOMY PROMISED IN THE JOINT DECLARATION.

"IT WILL BE THE FOUNDATION FOR HONG KONG'S CONTINUED STABILITY AND PROSPERITY. BY FAR THE GREATER PART OF THE DRAFT REFLECTS THE PROVISION IN THE JOINT DECLARATION, MANY ARTICLES ACTUALLY WORD FOR WORD," HE SAID.

HOWEVER, HE POINTED OUT THAT THIS FACT HAD RECENTLY BEEN OVERSHADOWED BY WHAT BECAME THE MOST CONTROVERSIAL ISSUE TO ARISE THROUGHOUT THE DRAFTING PROCESS --- HONG KONG'S FUTURE POLITICAL SYSTEM.

MR WIGGHAM NOTED THAT THE BASIC LAW ITSELF, IN ARTICLE 67, STIPULATED THAT THE ULTIMATE AIM "SHALL BE THE SELECTION OF ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL THROUGH GENERAL ELECTION".

HE SAID TO ENSURE THE MAXIMUM DEGREE OF CONTINUITY, THE LEGISLATURE ELECTED IN HONG KONG UNDER THE BRITISH ADMINISTRATION IN 1995, WOULD BE ABLE TO STRADDLE THE TRANSFER OF SOVEREIGNTY AND SERVE UNTIL 1999.

"THAT IS, IT WILL CONTINUE TO SERVE FOR TWO YEARS AFTER THE REVERSION OF SOVEREIGNTY AND PROVIDE WHAT SOME PEOPLE HAVE REFERRED TO AS A THROUGH TRAIN," HE SAID.

TURNING TO THE QUESTION OF THE BRAIN DRAIN, MR WIGGHAM SAID IT WAS TRUE THAT THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE LEAVING HONG KONG WAS RUNNING AT A HIGHER RATE NOW THAN IN THE EARLY 1980'S --- SOMETHING OVER 50,000 A YEAR COMPARED WITH A PREVIOUS AVERAGE OF 20,000.

NOTING THAT WHILE SUCH STATISTICS HAD BEEN CAPTURING THE HEADLINES, MR WIGGHAM SAID WHAT ELSE HAD BEEN GOING ON WAS OFTEN OVERLOOKED, SUCH AS THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN HONG KONG WITH DEGREE LEVEL ATTAINMENT HAD INCREASED FROM JUST UNDER 150,000 TO MORE THAN 200,000, BETWEEN 1985 AND 1989.

"THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN PROFESSIONAL, TECHNICAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND MANAGERIAL CATEGORY OF THE WORKFORCE HAS GROWN IN THE SAME PERIOD FROM 260,000 TO 310,000," HE ADDED.

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"SO, DESPITE THE EMIGRATION LOSSES, HONG KONG NOW HAS MORE WELL-EDUCATED, WELL QUALIFIED PEOPLE THAN EVER BEFORE," HE SAID.

MR WIGGHAM POINTED OUT THAT AUSTRALIA TODAY WAS THE FIFTH LARGEST FOREIGN INVESTOR IN HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY, AND THAT A LOT OF AUSTRALIAN FIRMS AND INDIVIDUALS HAD INVESTED THEIR MONEY IN THE TERRITORY'S FUTURE.

"TRADE BETWEEN HONG KONG AND AUSTRALIA IN 1989 WAS WORTH AROUND US\$2 BILLION. AUSTRALIA IS THE NINTH LARGEST MARKET FOR HONG KONG RE-EXPORTS, THE 10TH LARGEST MARKET FOR HONG KONG DOMESTIC EXPORTS, AND THE 14TH LARGEST SOURCE OF HONG KONG IMPORTS," HE SAID.

"TOTAL TRADE BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND HONG KONG HAS INCREASED 13 PER CENT PER ANNUM OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

"HONG KONG'S PER CAPITA IMPORTS FROM AUSTRALIA ARE CALCULATED AT AUD 243 COMPARED WITH 74 FOR JAPAN, 18 FOR THE EEC AND 15 FOR THE UNITED STATES," HE ADDED.

"SO AUSTRALIA IS IMPORTANT TO HONG KONG AND PERHAPS INCREASINGLY, HONG KONG IS SEEN AS IMPORTANT TO AUSTRALIA," MR WIGGHAM SAID.

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METROPLAN : FLEXIBLE AND OPEN

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THE FINAL METROPLAN WILL NEED TO KEEP OPEN A RANGE OF LOCATIONAL OPTIONS FOR KEY COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES TO LET MARKET FORCES IN THIS VERY OPEN ECONOMY HAVE WIDE CHOICE, THE SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS, MR GRAHAM BARNES, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

MR BARNES ALSO SAID HE RECOGNISED THE NEED FOR FIRMER LAND RESERVATIONS FOR OTHER ESSENTIAL COMMUNITY USES.

SPEAKING AT A LUNCH MEETING OF THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES, THE SECRETARY SAID BEARING IN MIND THE NEED FOR A REASONABLE DEGREE OF FLEXIBILITY, METROPLAN WOULD BE USED ON AN ADMINISTRATIVE BASIS, LEAVING STATUTORY PLANS TO BE FORMULATED AT A MORE LOCAL DISTRICT PLANNING LEVEL.

HE SAID THERE WERE A NUMBER OF PRINCIPAL COMPONENTS OF THE METROPLAN.

THE FIRST COMPONENT WAS A STRATEGIC LAND-USE TRANSPORT PLAN. MR BARNES ANTICIPATED THE NEED TO BUILD TWO MAJOR IN-TOWN AIRPORT TERMINALS AT WEST KOWLOON AND CENTRAL AS CONNECTION OF THE NEW AIRPORT TRANSPORT NETWORK WITH THE METRO TRANSPORT NETWORK.

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THE SECOND IMPORTANT COMPONENT WAS A STATEMENT OF STANDARDS AND PRINCIPLES FOR URBAN PLANNING AND DESIGN.

BY ADOPTING HIGHER ENVIRONMENTAL AND URBAN PLANNING STANDARDS ON REPLANNING, SUCH AS MORE PARKS, MORE TREES, WIDER STREETS, MORE PEDESTRIANISATION SCHEMES AND LOWER BUILDING DENSITIES, MR BARNES SAID IMPROVEMENT COULD AND WOULD COME ABOUT IN TIME.

THE THIRD COMPONENT WAS A LANDSCAPE STRATEGY.

"THIS IS TO ENSURE THAT WE CONSERVE OUR REMAINING TREES, WOODLANDS, SPECIAL VIEWS AND VISTAS AND THAT THEY DO NOT ALL GET SACRIFICED FOR PROFIT OR MERE NEGLECT.

"WE HAVE NEVER HAD SUCH A PLAN BEFORE," HE SAID.

THE FOURTH WAS A BROAD WORKS PROGRAMME FOR THE MAIN INFRASTRUCTURE.

THE FIFTH WOULD BE THE INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN.

APART FROM INVOLVING MAJOR ENGINEERING WORKS, URBAN REDEVELOPMENT WAS MUCH MORE COMPLEX INVOLVING PLANNING, SOCIAL ENGINEERING, NEGOTIATION WITH THE COMMUNITY AND WITH PRIVATE OWNERS AND COMPROMISE OF CONFLICTING INTERESTS.

"INSTITUTIONAL ORGANISATION FOR ITS REALISATION MUST BE BASED ON THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT RATHER THAN ON ONE OF THE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENTS OF THE GOVERNMENT," MR BARNES SAID.

THE LAST MAIN ELEMENT WAS THAT DETAILED PLANNING MUST BE SPLIT DOWN AND DONE IN SMALLER AREAS AND BY DIFFERENT TEAMS, HE SAID.

"SO THE METROPLAN IS DIVIDED INTO SEVEN SUB-REGIONS AND THE STRATEGIC ELEMENTS OF THE OVERALL PLAN AND THE STANDARDS ADOPTED BECOME THE BRIEF FOR MORE DETAILED PLANNING OF THE SUB-REGIONS BY THE DISTRICT PLANNING TEAMS," HE SAID.

REFERRING TO THE THREE OPTIONS LISTED IN THE SECOND PUBLIC CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT "METROPLAN : INITIAL OPTIONS", MR BARNES SAID THEY DIFFERED SIGNIFICANTLY IN TERMS OF THE SCALE OF REDEVELOPMENT AND IN TERMS OF THE SCALE AND LOCATION OF AREAS PLANNED FOR MAIN BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES.

"THE PRINCIPAL DIFFERENCES ARE IN RESPECT OF THE EXTENT TO WHICH GROWTH SHOULD BE CENTRALISED ON THE ONE HAND OR DISPERSED BOTH WITHIN AND OUT WITH METRO ON THE OTHER," HE SAID.

MR BARNES SAID IT WAS NOT THE INTENTION SIMPLY TO CHOOSE ONE OUT OF THE THREE OPTIONS LISTED.

"RATHER, WE EXPECT TO IDENTIFY THE BEST PARTS OF EACH AND CARRY THESE IDEAS FORWARD TO THE NEXT STAGE OF PLAN FORMULATION," HE SAID.

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LEGCO TO DEBATE FUTURE POLITICAL SYSTEM

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TWO MEMBERS' MOTIONS, ON THE FUTURE POLITICAL SYSTEM IN HONG KONG, ARE LISTED FOR DEBATE IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

ONE WILL BE MOVED BY THE SENIOR MEMBER, THE HON ALLEN LEE, AND THE OTHER BY THE HON JAMES MCGREGOR.

SEVENTEEN MEMBERS ARE LISTED TO SPEAK TOMORROW, AND 16 WHEN THE DEBATE CONTINUES ON THURSDAY (MARCH 1).

MR LEE'S MOTION READS: "THAT THIS COUNCIL EXPRESSES DISAPPOINTMENT THAT THE OMELCO CONSENSUS HAS NOT BEEN ADOPTED IN THE FORMULATION OF THE FUTURE POLITICAL MODEL BUT URGES THE COMMUNITY, IN THE INTEREST OF HONG KONG, TO BE UNITED IN ITS EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A SUCCESSFUL DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM."

MR MCGREGOR'S MOTION IS: "THAT THIS COUNCIL DEPLORES THE EXTREMELY UNDEMOCRATIC POLITICAL MODEL PROPOSED FOR THE BASIC LAW AT THE RECENT MEETING OF THE BASIC LAW DRAFTING COMMITTEE AND URGES THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT TO RECOGNISE THE IMPORTANCE OF PRESERVING THE CONFIDENCE OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG IN THEIR FUTURE AFTER 1997 BY ACCEPTING A MORE DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL MODEL FOR THE BASIC LAW BASED UPON THE OMELCO CONSENSUS WHICH RECOMMENDS A FULLY ELECTED LEGISLATURE BY THE YEAR 2003, REFLECTING THE EXPRESSED WISHES OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG; AND URGES THE ADMINISTRATION IN HONG KONG TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION PROVIDING FOR NO LESS THAN 50 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SEATS TO BE DIRECTLY ELECTED BY 1995."

IN OTHER BUSINESS, MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL WILL ASK A TOTAL OF FOUR QUESTIONS AND CONSIDER TWO BILLS.

THE BILLS ARE THE PROTECTION OF NON-GOVERNMENT CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990 AND THE LIMITATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990, WHICH WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS.

IN ADDITION, THE HON HO SAI-CHU WILL SPEAK ON THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH COUNCIL ACTIVITIES REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR JULY 1988 TO MARCH 1989.

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GOVERNMENT HOUSE GARDENS OPEN TO PUBLIC

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THE GARDENS OF GOVERNMENT HOUSE WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON SUNDAY (MARCH 4) FROM 10 AM TO 5 PM TO ENABLE RESIDENTS TO SEE THE AZALEAS IN BLOOM.

THE OPEN DAY HAS BEEN AN ANNUAL EVENT SINCE 1968.

PEOPLE WISHING TO VISIT THE GARDENS OF GOVERNMENT HOUSE ARE REQUESTED TO ENTER BY THE MAIN GATE AND LEAVE BY THE SIDE GATES SO THAT ALL CAN ENJOY THE FLOWERS WITHOUT CAUSING INCONVENIENCE TO OTHERS.

THEY ARE ALSO REMINDED THAT ONLY THE GARDENS WILL BE OPEN AND THEY SHOULD NOT ENTER THE HOUSE ITSELF.

SCOUTS AND POLICEMEN WILL BE PRESENT AND VISITORS ARE ASKED TO CO-OPERATE WITH THEM TO AVOID OVERCROWDING.

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CONTRACT FOR SERVICING GOVT VESSELS SIGNED

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THE FIRST TERM CONTRACT FOR SERVICING GOVERNMENT VESSELS BY A PRIVATE SHIPYARD WAS SIGNED TODAY (TUESDAY), A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MARINE DEPARTMENT SAID.

THE \$5 MILLION ONE-YEAR TERM CONTRACT FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF 18 FIBRE-GLASS HULL GOVERNMENT LAUNCHES HAS BEEN AWARDED TO CHEOY LEE SHIPYARDS LIMITED.

"THE DEAL WILL NOT ONLY IMPROVE THE AVAILABILITY OF THE 18 FIBRE-GLASS HARBOUR LAUNCHES BUT WILL ALSO HELP RELIEVE THE WORKLOAD AND CONGESTION AT THE GOVERNMENT DOCKYARD, THEREBY IMPROVING THE AVAILABILITY OF THE WHOLE GOVERNMENT FLEET," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THE CONTRACT COVERS HARBOUR LAUNCHES USED BY SEVERAL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS INCLUDING THE IMMIGRATION, CUSTOMS AND EXCISE, AND MARINE DEPARTMENTS.

"THE CONTRACT COST COVERS ALL SCHEDULED AND EMERGENCY REPAIRS INCLUDING THE SUPPLY OF MATERIALS AND SPARE PARTS," HE ADDED.

SIGNING THE CONTRACT WERE THE GENERAL MANAGER, GOVERNMENT DOCKYARD, MR PATRICK P.F. CHUN, AND THE DIRECTOR OF CHEOY LEE SHIPYARDS, MR LO SHU-YANG.

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ONE MORE AIDS CASE CONFIRMED

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THE TOTAL NUMBER OF AIDS (ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME) CASES HAS RISEN TO 33 WITH THE CONFIRMATION OF ONE MORE CASE, THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE VICTIM, WHO ACQUIRED THE DISEASE SEXUALLY, HAD BEEN PREVIOUSLY FOUND TO BE POSITIVE FOR THE HIV ANTIBODY TEST. HE DIED IN A FALL FROM HEIGHT.

OF THE 33 AIDS CASES, 19 PATIENTS HAD PASSED AWAY WHILE THE OTHER 14 ARE RECEIVING COUNSELLING AND TREATMENT.

RELEASING THE MONTHLY STATISTICS ON THE AIDS SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMME, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY, ONE MORE MAN WAS FOUND TO BE POSITIVE FOR THE HIV ANTIBODY TEST, BRINGING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CARRIERS TO 172. HE ACQUIRED THE INFECTION SEXUALLY.

OF THE 172 CARRIERS, 55 WERE HAEMOPHILIACS, ONE WAS AN INTRAVENOUS DRUG ABUSER, 19 WERE PERSONS WHO ATTENDED SOCIAL HYGIENE CLINICS, 57 WERE PATIENTS FROM GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS AND CLINICS, AND 40 WERE REFERRALS FROM PRIVATE DOCTORS AND SUBVENTED ORGANISATIONS.

UNDER THE AIDS SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMME STARTED BY THE GOVERNMENT IN 1985, A TOTAL OF 150,187 BLOOD SPECIMENS HAVE BEEN TESTED FOR THE AIDS VIRUS.

MEANWHILE, THE HONG KONG RED CROSS BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE HAS ALSO SCREENED ALL BLOOD DONORS FOR AIDS.

UP TO LAST MONTH, 670,149 UNITS OF BLOOD HAD BEEN TESTED AND 10 WERE FOUND POSITIVE.

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/AIDS VIRUS

愛滋病 抗體 檢驗
AIDS Virus (HIV) Antibody Testing
病毒學 衛生署
Virus Unit, Department of Health

	Apr 85 - Dec 89		January 90		Total	
	檢驗次數 No. tested*	陽性次數 No. +ve	檢驗次數 No. tested*	陽性次數 No. +ve	檢驗次數 No. tested*	陽性次數 No. +ve
經由政府醫院及診所介紹 Referrals from Govt. hospitals and clinics	9 683	57	196	0	9 879	57
經由私家醫生及輔助醫院介紹 Referrals from private practitioners and subvented hospitals	1 862	40	26	0	1 888	40
到社會衛生診所求診人數 Attendances at social hygiene clinics	131 345	18	1 910	1	133 255	19
血友病患者 Haemophiliacs	411	55	4	0	415	55
濫用注射藥物者 IV drug abusers	3 851	1	42	0	3 893	1
經由家庭計劃指導會介紹 Referrals from Family Planning Association	201	0	1	0	202	0
健康護理人員 Health care personnel	647	0	8	0	655	0
總數 Total	148 000	171	2 187	1	150 187	172

此月驗過樣本較多，並非人數，因某些個別人士之檢驗乃
 * This indicates the number of specimens and not persons as tests are repeated for certain individuals.

	Aug 85 - Dec 89		January 90		Total	
	檢驗 No. tested	陽性 No. +ve	檢驗 No. tested	陽性 No. +ve	檢驗 No. tested	陽性 No. +ve
香港紅十字會輸血服務 Hong Kong Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service	658 574	10	11 575	0	670 149	10

Department of Health
February 1990

OLD AGE ALLOWANCE EXTENDED TO 66-YEAR OLD GROUP

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THE QUALIFYING AGE FOR NORMAL OLD AGE ALLOWANCE WILL BE FURTHER LOWERED TO 66 STARTING FROM APRIL THIS YEAR, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

THIS IS THE THIRD STAGE OF THE EXTENSION OF NORMAL OLD AGE ALLOWANCE TO PERSONS AGED FROM 65 TO 69. BY APRIL 1991, ALL ELDERLY AGED 65 OR ABOVE WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE ALLOWANCE.

SOCIAL WORKERS WILL PUBLICISE THE LOWERING OF THE AGE LIMIT TO THE ELDERLY IN HOSTELS, HOMES AND CENTRES. GROUP APPLICATIONS FROM THEM WILL BE ENCOURAGED TO SAVE THEIR TIME AND EFFORT IN APPROACHING THE DEPARTMENT'S FIELD UNIT OFFICES.

THE FIELD UNIT OFFICES WILL ALSO ACCEPT PROVISIONAL APPLICATIONS FROM INDIVIDUALS STARTING FROM THURSDAY, MARCH 1. DETAILS CAN BE OBTAINED BY CALLING THE DEPARTMENT'S HOTLINE 3432255.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID IN VIEW OF THE ANTICIPATED SUDDEN INCREASE IN APPLICATIONS, WHICH WOULD REQUIRE TIME TO PROCESS, THERE WOULD BE SOME DELAY IN PAYMENT.

"HOWEVER, SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE MADE TO ENSURE THAT PAYMENT CAN BE MADE IN THREE TO FOUR MONTHS AFTER RECEIVING AN APPLICATION," HE SAID.

"ALSO, PAYMENT WILL BE BACKDATED TO THE DATE OF ELIGIBILITY," HE ADDED.

AT PRESENT, THE NORMAL OLD AGE ALLOWANCE FOR PERSONS AGED FROM 67 TO 69 IS \$310 PER MONTH WHILE THE ALLOWANCE FOR THOSE AGED 70 OR ABOVE IS \$355. THIS SCALE WILL BE REVIEWED IN APRIL.

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT ABOUT 22,000 PEOPLE IN THE 66-YEARS OLD AGE GROUP WILL BENEFIT FROM THE EXTENSION AND THE ANNUAL EXPENDITURE WILL BE \$82 MILLION.

"APART FROM LOWERING THE QUALIFYING AGE, THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA REMAIN UNCHANGED," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"TO BE ELIGIBLE, THE APPLICANT MUST HAVE LIVED IN HONG KONG CONTINUOUSLY FOR AT LEAST FIVE YEARS PRIOR TO THE QUALIFYING AGE. HE IS ALSO EXPECTED TO MAKE A DECLARATION OF RESOURCES WHEN APPLYING FOR THE ALLOWANCE."

A SINGLE PERSON WILL BE ENTITLED TO THE ALLOWANCE PROVIDED THAT HIS INCOME DOES NOT EXCEED \$1,800 PER MONTH AND THAT HE HAS ASSETS WORTH NOT MORE THAN \$100,000. THE LIMITS FOR A COUPLE ARE \$3,000 AND \$150,000 RESPECTIVELY.

PERSONAL JEWELLERY, A FAMILY CAR, SELF-OCCUPIED PROPERTY, CONTRIBUTIONS FROM RELATIVES AND FRIENDS AND PAYMENTS FROM CHARITABLE FUNDS ARE DISREGARDED IN THE CALCULATION OF INCOME AND ASSETS.

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CRECHE FINED FOR VIOLATING CHILD CARE CENTRES REGULATIONS

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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) REMINDED OPERATORS OF CHILD CARE CENTRES TO OBSERVE THE CHILD CARE CENTRES ORDINANCE AND REGULATIONS TO LOOK AFTER THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN UNDER THEIR CARE.

THE ADVICE WAS GIVEN AFTER THE OPERATORS AND SUPERVISOR OF A PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL CRECHE IN WAN CHAI, THE HAPPY BABIES CENTRE, WERE FINED A TOTAL OF \$3,750 AT THE CENTRAL MAGISTRACY FOR VIOLATING THE REGULATIONS.

THEY WERE CHARGED FOR FAILING TO MAINTAIN THE CENTRE IN A SAFE, CLEAN AND SANITARY CONDITION; TO KEEP THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF STAFF REQUIRED; TO MAINTAIN A PROPER RECORD OF ATTENDANCE OF CHILDREN; AND TO INFORM THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE OF THE CHANGE IN STAFF.

A SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT STAFF OF THE CHILD CARE CENTRES ADVISORY INSPECTORATE (CCCAI) PAY REGULAR VISITS TO ALL CHILD CARE CENTRES IN HONG KONG WITH A VIEW TO WORKING HAND IN HAND WITH THEM IN THE MAINTENANCE AND BETTERMENT OF PRE-SCHOOL CHILD CARE SERVICE.

"DURING VISITS MADE BY CCCAI INSPECTORS TO THE HAPPY BABIES CENTRE ON JANUARY 8, AND ON FEBRUARY 9 AND 10, IT WAS SUSPECTED THAT THE CENTRE HAD VIOLATED THE REGULATIONS.

"HENCE, LEGAL ACTION WAS TAKEN AGAINST THE CENTRE," HE SAID.

THE CENTRE HAD BEEN FINED TWICE PREVIOUSLY, IN 1981 AND 1989, FOR CONTRAVENING THE CHILD CARE CENTRES REGULATIONS, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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BLANKETS FOR STREET SLEEPERS IN URBAN AREAS

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A TOTAL OF 303 BLANKETS AND SLEEPING BAGS WERE DISTRIBUTED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT TO 283 STREET SLEEPERS IN THE URBAN AREA LAST (MONDAY) NIGHT.

OF THESE, 119 BLANKETS WERE DISTRIBUTED TO 107 STREET SLEEPERS ON HONG KONG ISLAND, 30 WERE DISTRIBUTED TO 27 BENEFICIARIES IN EAST KOWLOON AND 154 (INCLUDING 14 SLEEPING BAGS) WERE DISTRIBUTED TO 149 BENEFICIARIES IN WEST KOWLOON.

A TOTAL OF 119 FIELD STAFF WERE MOBILISED IN THE OPERATION.

THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR MICHAEL CARTLAND, ALSO JOINED THE OPERATION TO GAIN FIRST-HAND INFORMATION ON STREET SLEEPERS.

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GOLDEN SOUVENIR FOR CENTENARIAN IN TUEN MUN
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A CENTENARIAN, MR CHAN TSUNG, WAS PRESENTED A GOLD MEDAL BY THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT RESPECT FOR THE AGED ASSOCIATION FOR BEING THE OLDEST OF THE 1,700 PARTICIPANTS IN THE DISTRICT'S CHINESE NEW YEAR FEAST FOR THE AGED THIS (TUESDAY) EVENING.

THE GOLD MEDAL FOR THE OLDEST WOMAN PARTICIPANT WAS PRESENTED TO MADAM TAM LAI-CHING, AGED 93. TWENTY OTHER OLD PEOPLE EACH RECEIVED A SOUVENIR.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ASSOCIATION, MR WONG SHUE, SAID THE ANNUAL BANQUET WAS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE ASSOCIATION'S ACTIVITIES.

"THROUGH VARIOUS ACTIVITIES, WE HOPE TO PROMOTE RESPECT FOR THE ELDERLY PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY," MR WONG SAID.

MANY OF THOSE ATTENDING CAME FROM 12 DISTRICT ORGANISATIONS AND CENTRES FOR THE AGED.

OFFICIATING GUESTS AT THE FUNCTION INCLUDED THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR JOHN WAN; LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, MR LAU WONG-FAT; AND DISTRICT SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER, MR STEPHEN CHAU.

THE BANQUET WAS ORGANISED BY THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT RESPECT FOR THE AGED ASSOCIATION, WITH SPONSORSHIP FROM THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD.

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FEAST FOR ELDERLY IN NORTH DISTRICT
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ABOUT 1,200 ELDERLY RESIDENTS OF NORTH DISTRICT, ALL AGED ABOVE 65, WILL BE TREATED TO A FEAST TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AFTERNOON.

SPONSORED BY THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD, THE FEAST HAS BEEN ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT'S CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR ELDERLY ACTIVITIES AS A TOKEN OF RESPECT TO SENIOR RESIDENTS IN THE DISTRICT.

THERE WILL BE PERFORMANCES OF CANTONESE OPERA SONGS AND POPULAR MANDARIN RENDITIONS AS WELL AS A LUCKY DRAW. PARTICIPANTS WILL ALSO RECEIVE FREE GIFTS.

/AMONG THOSE

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AMONG THOSE OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE THE NORTH DISTRICT OFFICER, MR WILLIAM HUI; DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR RAYMOND PANG; FRONTIER POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDER, MR MICHAEL WATSON; AND THE DISTRICT SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER, MRS LESLIE HUNG.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE NORTH DISTRICT FEAST FOR THE ELDERLY, WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 4 PM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) IN THE CHOI WAH PALACE RESTAURANT, CHEUNG WAH ESTATE, FANLING.

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FIRST SEMINAR FOR ELDERLY VOLUNTEERS IN COMMUNITY WORK

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THREE HUNDRED ELDERLY VOLUNTEER WORKERS FROM CENTRAL AND WESTERN WILL SHARE EXPERIENCES IN COMMUNITY WORK AT A SEMINAR IN SHEUNG WAN ON THURSDAY (MARCH 1).

IT WILL BE THE FIRST PUBLIC FORUM ORGANISED ON A DISTRICT LEVEL FOR ELDERLY VOLUNTEER HELPERS.

THE SEMINAR, TO BE HELD AT THE HOTEL VICTORIA, IS ALSO AIMED AT ENCOURAGING MORE SENIOR CITIZENS TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY.

"WE HAVE BEEN TRYING TO INCREASE SENIOR WORKERS' KNOWLEDGE AND TECHNIQUES BY PROVIDING THEM WITH MORE FIELD WORK FOR DIFFERENT TARGET GROUPS," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ORGANISERS SAID.

"THESE ENDEAVOURS WILL ALSO ENHANCE THEIR CONFIDENCE."

THE SEMINAR WILL OPEN WITH TWO GUESTS SPEAKING ON VARIOUS ASPECTS OF VOLUNTARY WORK. THEY ARE A PRINCIPAL LECTURER OF THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC'S DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED SOCIAL SCIENCES, MRS CARRIE CHAN, AND THE OFFICER-IN-CHARGE OF THE YUEN YUEN HOME FOR THE AGED, MR LEUNG WING-YEE.

THE PARTICIPANTS WILL THEN TAKE PART IN GROUP DISCUSSIONS, AND WILL BE BRIEFED ON THEIR SERVICE PROGRAMMES FOR NEXT MONTH.

AMONG THOSE OFFICIATING AT A SOUVENIR PRESENTATION CEREMONY TO BE HELD AS PART OF THE SEMINAR WILL BE THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR STEPHEN FISHER, THE HONG KONG REGIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER, MR KWOK NAI-SIK, AND TWO DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS, MR LIU LIT-FOR AND MR CHANG YAU-HUNG.

/THE SEMINAR

- 12 -

THE SEMINAR AND THE SERVICE PROGRAMMES IN MARCH HAVE BEEN JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE CENTRAL, WESTERN AND ISLANDS DISTRICT REHABILITATION AND ELDERLY SERVICES COMMITTEE AND THE DISTRICT BOARD, WITH SPONSORSHIP FROM THE THIRD DISTRICT FESTIVAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN ELDERLY VOLUNTEERS' SEMINAR WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 10 AM ON THURSDAY (MARCH 1) IN THE VICTORIA BALLROOM, THIRD FLOOR, HOTEL VICTORIA, 200 CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL. THE DISTRICT INFORMATION OFFICER WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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SEMINAR ON PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION AMONG YOUTH

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THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION, DR DANIEL TSE, WILL SPEAK ON HOW TO PROMOTE CIVIC EDUCATION AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE IN A SEMINAR ON THURSDAY (MARCH 1).

THE EVENT, ORGANISED BY THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE, IS AIMED AT ENHANCING THE AWARENESS OF YOUTH IN THE DISTRICT ON CIVIC RESPONSIBILITIES.

PARTICIPANTS WILL INCLUDE PRINCIPALS OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND MEMBERS OF YOUTH ORGANISATIONS AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES.

THE SEMINAR WILL BEGIN AT 5.30 PM IN THE JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE IN FO TAN, SHA TIN. IT WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A BUFFET DINNER DURING WHICH PARTICIPANTS MAY SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCES ON THE MATTER.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SEMINAR ON THE PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION AMONG YOUTH ORGANISED BY THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE ON THURSDAY (MARCH 1) AT THE JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE, FO TAN, SHA TIN. THE SEMINAR WILL BEGIN AT 5.30 PM.

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1990

- 13 -

TRANSPORT SURVEY ON DB COMMITTEE AGENDA

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THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD WILL CONSIDER THE FINDINGS OF A SURVEY ON PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT AT A MEETING ON THURSDAY (MARCH 1).

THE SURVEY, CONDUCTED IN NOVEMBER LAST YEAR, HAS EXAMINED THE LEVEL OF SERVICES OF TWO NEW EASTERN HARBOUR CROSSING BUS ROUTES, GREEN MINIBUSES, TRAMS AND 11 PROBLEMATIC BUS ROUTES IDENTIFIED IN THE 1988 SURVEY.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE FARE INCREASE APPLICATION BY CHINA MOTOR BUS COMPANY.

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS INCLUDE BUS ROUTES RUNNING ALONG HONG ON STREET IN KORNHILL AND TRAFFIC CONDITIONS AT THE JUNCTION OF HONG YUE STREET AND GREIG ROAD.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD'S TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY (MARCH 1) IN THE DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, FIRST FLOOR, 880-886 KING'S ROAD.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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DB COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS IMPROVEMENT SCHEME

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THE MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS THE MONG KOK WEST IMPROVEMENT SCHEME RECOMMENDED IN THE NORTH WEST KOWLOON TRAFFIC STUDY AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE SCHEME AIMS TO REDUCE TRAFFIC CONGESTION AND FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF STAGE IV PHASE I OF THE WEST KOWLOON CORRIDOR.

MEMBERS WILL GIVE THEIR VIEWS ON THE PROPOSED MINOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE DISTRICT BOARD IN 1990-91.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE TO BE HELD TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) IN THE DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, FIRST FLOOR, 157 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD, KOWLOON.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1990

- 14 -

DB COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER DISTRICT PAPER SUBSIDIES

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THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING AND SERVICES COMMITTEE WILL CONSIDER SUBSIDIES FOR THE DISTRICT NEWSPAPER IN THE NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR AT ITS MEETING ON THURSDAY (MARCH 1).

A MEMBER IS EXPECTED TO REPORT ON ISSUES RELATING TO THE DISTRICT'S ELDERLY SERVICE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING AND SERVICES COMMITTEE WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM ON THURSDAY (MARCH 1) IN ROOM 1416, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL.

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WATER SUPPLIES REGIONAL DEPOT ON MOVE

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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT'S HONG KONG AND ISLANDS REGIONAL DEPOT, AT PRESENT LOCATED IN BULLOCK LANE, WAN CHAI, WILL MOVE TO NORTH POINT TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE NEW DEPOT AT 611 KING'S ROAD IS ACCESSIBLE FROM EITHER THE NORTH POINT OR THE QUARRY BAY MTR STATION.

IT WILL CONTINUE TO UNDERTAKE THE DAY-TO-DAY OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS AND TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL SERVICES TO THE CONSUMERS ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND THE OUTLYING ISLANDS.

THE TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF THE DEPOT'S TECHNICAL COMPLAINTS CENTRE ARE 8802500 (FROM MIDNIGHT TO 8 AM) AND 8110788 (FROM 8 AM TO MIDNIGHT).

THE CENTRE WILL CONTINUE TO OPERATE 24 HOURS DAILY. IT WILL RECEIVE NOTICE/COMPLAINTS OF TECHNICAL FAULTS IN THE WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS SUCH AS WATER MAIN BURST AND WEAK WATER PRESSURE AT THE CONSUMER END.

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1990

- 15 -

34 ILLEGAL STRUCTURES IN TSIM SHA TSUI CLEARED

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THIRTY-FOUR ILLEGAL STRUCTURES IN TSIM SHA TSUI WERE PULLED DOWN TODAY (TUESDAY) TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT OF THE DISTRICT.

THE STRUCTURES WERE IN THE BACKLANES BOUNDED BY HAIPHONG ROAD, HANKOW ROAD, ICHANG STREET, ASHLEY ROAD AND PEKING ROAD.

FOUR OF THEM WERE USED AS SHOPS, ONE AS A DOMESTIC UNIT AND THE OTHERS AS CANOPIES OR FOR STORAGE PURPOSES.

EX-GRATIA PAYMENTS TOTTALLING \$145,000 HAVE BEEN MADE TO ELIGIBLE SHOP OWNERS, AND A MAN AFFECTED BY THE CLEARANCE HAS BEEN REHOUSED IN TUEN MUN TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA.

THE CLEARANCE OPERATION WAS CO-ORDINATED BY THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICE, INVOLVING ALSO STAFF FROM THE HOUSING, BUILDINGS AND LANDS, URBAN SERVICES, SOCIAL WELFARE AND HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENTS AS WELL AS THE POLICE.

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ILLEGAL STRUCTURE IN WESTERN TO BE CLOSED

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS SEEKING TO CLOSE AN ILLEGAL STRUCTURE IN WESTERN DISTRICT SO THAT IT CAN BE DEMOLISHED WITHOUT DANGER TO THE OCCUPIERS OR TO THE PUBLIC.

THE STRUCTURE IS ON THE ROOF OVER FIFTH FLOOR, REAR PORTION, 30 HILL ROAD.

THE CLOSURE IS PART OF AN EXERCISE TO ENFORCE AN ORDER ISSUED UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE ON APRIL 20 LAST YEAR REQUIRING THE DEMOLITION OF THE STRUCTURE.

A NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER FROM THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT ON JUNE 26 THIS YEAR WAS POSTED ON A CONSPICUOUS PART OF THE BUILDING TODAY (TUESDAY).

IT IS EXPECTED THAT DEMOLITION WORK WILL BE CARRIED OUT ONCE THE CLOSURE ORDER IS OBTAINED.

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/16

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1990

- 16 -

TENDER FOR NEW MINIBUS ROUTES CLOSES ON MARCH 6

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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO ARE INTERESTED IN OPERATING THE 15 NEW GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES ARE REMINDED TO SUBMIT THEIR APPLICATIONS ON OR BEFORE NEXT TUESDAY (MARCH 6).

"ABOUT 200 APPLICATION FORMS HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED SINCE APPLICATIONS WERE INVITED ON FEBRUARY 16," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

A SELECTION BOARD COMPRISING A NON-GOVERNMENT MEMBER OF THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND OFFICIALS FROM THE TRANSPORT AND OTHER RELEVANT GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS WILL MEET AND SELECT THE APPLICANTS ON THE BASIS OF THE ESTABLISHED CRITERIA LAID DOWN BY THE BOARD.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THESE CRITERIA INCLUDE EXPERIENCE OF THE APPLICANT IN TRANSPORT SERVICE, FINANCIAL RESOURCES, MANAGEMENT RIGHT OVER THE VEHICLES, THE MAINTENANCE RECORD OF THE VEHICLES AS WELL AS THE QUALITY OF HIS VEHICLES TO BE DEPLOYED INCLUDING THE AVAILABILITY OF AIR-CONDITIONING.

IF THE APPLICANT IS IN OR INTENDS TO ENTER INTO PARTNERSHIP WITH ONE OR MORE PERSONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF OPERATING THE GREEN MINIBUS SERVICES, IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT A COMPANY BE FORMED UNDER THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE AND THE APPLICATION BE MADE IN THE NAME OF THE COMPANY.

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KMB ROUTE 202 TO BE CANCELLED

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT THE SERVICE OF KMB CIRCULAR ROUTE 202 TRAVELLING BETWEEN CHINA FERRY TERMINAL AND TSIM SHA TSUI WILL BE CANCELLED FROM THURSDAY (MARCH 1) DUE TO LOW PATRONAGE.

PASSENGERS TRAVELLING TO AND FROM THE FERRY TERMINAL MAY CONTINUE TO USE KMB ROUTES 3C, 12, 14 AND 238X.

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GOODS VEHICLE RESTRICTION IN KOWLOON BAY

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM ON THURSDAY (MARCH 1), GOODS VEHICLES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO USE THE LOADING AREA AT THE TRANSPORT TERMINUS AT TELFORD GARDENS, KOWLOON BAY TO LOAD AND UNLOAD GOODS.

HOWEVER, OTHER VEHICLES CAN STILL STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS WITHIN THE LOADING AREA.

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