DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SHA TIN LAND TO BE RESUMED FOR KCR DEPOT

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THE GOVERNMENT WILL RESUME 2 352 SQUARE METRES OF PRIVATE AGRICULTURAL AND BUILDING LAND IN SHA TIN TO BUILD AN +ELECTRIFICATION MULTIPLE UNIT DEPOT+ AS PART OF THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY MODERNISATION SCHEME.

THE DEPOT, WITH AN ASSOCIATED MULTI-TRACK RAILWAY SYSTEM, WILL BE CONSTRUCTED TO THE NORTH OF SHA TIN RACE COURSE AT HO TUNG LAU AND LOK LO HA.

INCLUDED IN THE PROJECT IS AN ELEVATED PODIUM WITH A 27 000 SQUARE METRE DECK ABOVE THE DEPOT.

THE UPPER LEVELS OF THE PODIUM WILL BE DEVELOPED INTO A LARGE-SCALE COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX, COMPRISING TWO LEVELS OF CAR PARKING, ONE LEVEL OF OPEN SPACE AND SHOPPING FACILITIES, AS WELL AS RESIDENTIAL BLOCKS OVERLOOKING THE RACE COURSE.

COMPENSATION FOR RESUMPTION AND CLEARANCE IS ESTIMATED AT $2.39 MILLION.

THE CLEARANCE WILL INVOLVE THREE BLOCKS OF KCR STAFF QUARTERS OCCUPIED BY 38 FAMILIES. THEY WILL BE OFFERED TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION AT WO CHE ESTATE UNTIL NEW KCR QUARTERS ARE AVAILABLE.

OTHER TEMPORARY DOMESTIC STRUCTURES AND SHOPS WILL ALSO BE CLEARED.

ENGINEERING WORK WILL COMMENCE IN MARCH NEXT YEAR AND WILL BE COMPLETED IN ABOUT TWO YEARS.

THE RESUMPTION IS NOTIFIED IN TODAY'S GOVERNMENT GAZETTE. ALSO PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY IS A NOTICE OF RESUMPTION AT SHEUNG SHUI OF 7 135.3 SQUARE METRES OF PRIVATE AGRICULTURAL LAND FOR SITE FORMATION AND ROADWORKS FOR A NEW SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT AS PART OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF SHEK WU HUI.

A TOTAL OF $4.76 MILLION WILL BE PAID IN COMPENSATION FOR RESUMPTION AND CLEARANCE.

WORK ON THE LAND ALREADY RESUMED WILL BEGIN LATER THIS MONTH, WHILE ENGINEERING WORK ON THE ADDITIONAL AREA WILL BEGIN NEXT MARCH AND TAKE ABOUT 18 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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NEW FIRE BOAT TO BE CONSTRUCTED
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TENDERS ARE BEING INVITED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 34-METRE FIRE BOAT TO PROVIDE QUICK AND EFFECTIVE RESPONSE TO MARINE AND COASTAL INCIDENTS IN TSUEN WAN, KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE FIRE SERVICES SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THE NEW FIRE BOAT WITH A SPEED OF 13 KNOTS CAN REACH THE FURTHEREST POINT IN THE AREA IN ABOUT 10 MINUTES.

IT WILL BE EQUIPPED WITH AN ELEVATED PLATFORM WITH A WORKING HEIGHT OF 24 METRES FROM SEA LEVEL TO THE HIGHEST POINT OF THE SNORKELS AT FULL OPERATION.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE HYDRAULIC PLATFORM WILL PROVIDE SUFFICIENT HEIGHT FROM WHICH WATER AND FOAM JETS CAN BE DIRECTED AT THE FIRE WITH THE NECESSARY EFFECTIVE STRIKING POWER, PARTICULARLY IN COMBATTING FIRES ON LARGE CONTAINER SHIPS.

THE BOAT WILL HAVE THREE SETS OF TWO-STAGE CENTRIFUGAL PUMPS, TWO OF WHICH ARE TO BE DRIVEN BY THE VESSEL'S MAIN ENGINES AND THE OTHER BY AN INDEPENDENT DIESEL ENGINE. THIS WILL PERMIT PUMPING AND MANOEUVRING TO BE CARRIED OUT SIMULTANEOUSLY.

THE BOAT WILL HAVE A PUMPING CAPACITY OF 8 000 GALLONS PER MINUTE AND FOAM COMPOUND CAPACITY OF NO LESS THAN 17 000 LITRES.

+AN ADDITIONAL FIRE BOAT IS NEEDED TO SUPPLEMENT THE EXISTING FLEET TO COPE WITH THE INCREASING MARINE AND LAND BASED INDUSTRIAL RISKS AT TSING YI, KWAI CHUNG AND TSUEN WAN,+ SAID THE SPOKESMAN.

+CONTAINER VESSELS VISITING HONG KONG ARE AMONGST THE LARGEST BUILT AND ABOUT 30 PER CENT OF A TOTAL OF 900 SHIPS CALLING AT THE PORT EVERY MONTH USED THE KWAI CHUNG CONTAINER TERMINAL.+

+IT IS NECESSARY FOR THE DEPARTMENT TO STRENGTHEN ITS FIRE FIGHTING CAPABILITY IN THE AREA,+ HE ADDED.

THE NEW FIRE BOAT WILL BE MANNED BY 12 FIRE SERVICES PERSONNEL. CONSTRUCTION OF THE BOAT IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN APRIL NEXT YEAR.

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TEXTILE AGREEMENT WITH AUSTRIA REACHED

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FOLLOWING CONSULTATIONS IN GENEVA BETWEEN HONG KONG AND AUSTRIAN DELEGATIONS, AGREEMENT WAS REACHED YESTERDAY (THURSDAY) ON THREE ITEMS OF TEXTILE PRODUCTS EXPORTED TO AUSTRIA.

TWO ITEMS, WOVEN SHIRTS AND BLOUSES, ARE CURRENTLY SUBJECT TO RESTRAINT, BUT AGREEMENT HAS BEEN RENEWED FOR ANOTHER YEAR FROM FEBRUARY 1, 1980.

THE THIRD ITEM, WOVEN TROUSERS, WAS PREVIOUSLY ONLY SUBJECT TO EXPORT AUTHORISATION BUT WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT IT IS NOW SUBJECT TO RESTRAINT.

AT ITS MEETING TODAY THE TEXTILE ADVISORY BOARD EXAMINED AND ENDORSED THE AGREEMENT, THE DETAILS OF WHICH AND THE RULES FOR IMPLEMENTATION WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

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39 COMMENDED FOR BRAVERY IN SEA RESCUE

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THIRTY-NINE PUBLIC-SPIRITED PEOPLE WERE COMMENDED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE, MR. MALCOLM ALEXANDER FOR THEIR BRAVERY IN SAVING LIFE AT SEA IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS.

OF THE RECIPIENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE'S COMMENDATION, TWO ARE SAILORS OF YAUMATI FERRY COMPANY WHO EACH HAVE TWO RECORDS OF RESCUING PEOPLE LAST YEAR.

THE OTHER RECIPIENTS INCLUDE EIGHT POLICE OFFICERS. OF THESE, FOUR WERE OFF-DUTY WHEN THEY SAVED A YOUTH FROM THE ROUGH SEA AT SHEK O ON AUGUST 25 WHEN BOTH THE RED FLAG AND TYPHOON SIGNAL WERE UP AND THE SEA WAS BUFFETED BY STRONG WINDS AND IMMERSED IN DARKNESS.

THE DIRECTOR'S COMMENDATION ALSO WENT TO SEVEN MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, 18 OTHER CREW MEMBERS OF THE HONG KONG AND YAUMATI FERRY COMPANY, AND FOUR CREW MEMBERS OF THE STAR FERRY COMPANY.

SPEAKING AT THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY AT THE MARINE DEPARTMENT, MR. ALEXANDER PAID TRIBUTE TO THE RECIPIENTS AND SAID THEIR ACTIONS INDICATED NOT ONLY GREAT COURAGE, BUT ALSO PUBLIC SPIRITEDNESS OF A VERY HIGH ORDER, AND CONCERN FOR THOSE IN TROUBLE.

+THEY DID WHAT WAS NECESSARY DESPITE THE PERSONAL RISK INVOLVED,+ MR. ALEXANDER SAID.

HE NOTED THAT ALL THE RESCUERS, WITHOUT EXCEPTION, ACTED SPONTANEOUSLY WHEN THE INCIDENTS IN WHICH THEY WERE INVOLVED OCCURRED, AND +AS THEY PLUNGED INTO THE WATER, THERE CAN HAVE BEEN ONLY ONE THOUGHT UPPERMOST IN THEIR MINDS — TO SAVE THE LIVES OF THOSE IN DISTRESS.+

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WORK ON ACCESS TO SPORTS CENTRE BEGINS SOON

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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) AWARDED A CONTRACT WORTH MORE THAN $7.8 MILLION FOR WORK ON ACCESS TO SHA TIN'S JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE AND THE SHA TIN RACE COURSE.

THE CONTRACT, AWARDED TO GAMMON (HK), ALSO INCLUDES THE DREDGING OF THE SHING MUN RIVER.

THE WORK HAS BEEN DESIGNED, AND CONSTRUCTION WILL BE SUPERVISED BY MESSRS. MAUNSELL CONSULTANTS ASIA, CONSULTING ENGINEERS FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

ACCESS TO THE SPORTS CENTRE AND THE RACE COURSE WILL BE BY A BRIDGE ACROSS THE FO TAN NULLAH. AS THE PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO THE JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE IS LIMITED, THE BRIDGE WILL PROVIDE AN IMPORTANT PEDESTRIAN LINK AS WELL AS VEHICULAR ACCESS.

THE NEW BRIDGE WILL BE A SINGLE 32-METRE-SPAN OF PRESTRESSED CONCRETE AND WILL SERVE AS AN IMPORTANT LINK BETWEEN THE SPORTS CENTRE AND THE NEW TOWN CENTRE.

THE SHING MUN RIVER DREDGING WILL BE FROM THE RIVER'S CONFLUENCE WITH THE FO TAN NULLAH TO THE KOWLOON CANTON RAILWAY BRIDGE AT TAI WAI.

A PWD SPOKESMAN SAID: +AT PRESENT THIS SECTION OF RIVER IS UNPLEASANT AT LOW TIDE.

+BUT WHEN DREDGING IS COMPLETED THERE WILL BE A CONTINUOUS COVER OF WATER, EVEN AT LOW TIDE. AT LOWER STRETCHES OF THE RIVER THE WATER IS EXPECTED TO BE AS MUCH AS FOUR METRES DEEP.

+AT HIGH TIDE, WATER IN THE AREA IN FRONT OF THE TOWN CENTRE IS EXPECTED TO BE TWO TO THREE METRES DEEP, WHILE AT THE RIVER MOUTH IT IS EXPECTED TO BE AS DEEP AS SIX METRES,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE RIVER IS PLANNED TO BE 180 METRES WIDE AS IT FLOWS PAST THE TOWN CENTRE AND 450 METRES AT THE MOUTH WHERE IT FLOWS INTO TOLO HARBOUR.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID AS THE SHING MUN RIVER IS A VITAL ELEMENT IN SHA TIN NEW TOWN PLANNING, IT IS INTENDED TO MAKE FULL USE OF ITS POTENTIAL AS A MAJOR SOURCE OF RECREATIONAL FACILITIES.

+A SERIES OF CYCLE PATHS WILL FOLLOW THE RIVER BANK MUCH OF THE WAY TO BE ACCOMPANIED BY PROMENADES AND REST AREAS FOR PEDESTRIANS. SMALL BOATS ARE ALSO EXPECTED TO BE AVAILABLE FOR HIRE, A FEATURE IN ERSTWHILE SHA TIN WHICH IS BEING REVIVED,+ HE ADDED.

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DSW STRESSES NEED OF LOVE AND CARE FOR OLD PEOPLE

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THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, TODAY (FRIDAY) EMPHASISED THE IMPORTANCE OF FILIAL LOVE AND CARE FOR THE ELDERLY WHICH IS SOMETIMES MORE ESSENTIAL THAN MATERIAL SUPPORT.

SPEAKING AT THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY AND GRADUATION CEREMONY OF HO LAP COLLEGE RUN BY SIK SIK YUEN, A VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION, MR. LEE SAID OLD PEOPLE WANT TO BE UNDERSTOOD AND RESPECTED OUT OF SPIRITUAL NEEDS.

HE SAID GENERATION GAP MAINLY ARISES OUT OF IDEOLOGICAL DISCORD BETWEEN THE YOUNG AND THE OLD.

THEY OFTEN COME INTO CONFLICTS WHEN BOTH LACK UNDERSTANDING OF EACH OTHER AND TAKE THEIR OWN DOGMATIC VIEWS, HE SAID.

MR. LEE CALLED FOR MUTUAL RESPECT AND ACCEPTANCE AND SAID THE YOUNG AND OLD SHOULD BENEFIT FROM EACH OTHER'S WAY OF THINKING AND EXPERIENCE.

OVER THE YEARS, HE SAID, THE GOVERNMENT HAS DEVELOPED SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY, WHICH INCLUDE THE LOWERING OF QUALIFYING AGE AND INCREASED PAYMENT RATES FOR OLD AGE ALLOWANCE, THE EXPANSION OF MEDICAL AND INSTITUTIONAL CARE AND SOCIAL CENTRES FOR OLD PEOPLE, AND THE PROVISION OF PUBLIC HOUSING UNITS FOR UNRELATED ELDERLY INDIVIDUALS.

THE RECENT OLD PEOPLE'S FESTIVAL JOINTLY ORGAINSED BY THE VOLUNTARY WELFARE SECTOR AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS HAS ALSO AROUSED WIDE PUBLIC CONCERN ON THE NEED OF CARE AND RESPECT FOR OLD PEOPLE, HE SAID.

MR. LEE PRAISED SIK SIK YUEN FOR ITS ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE VARIOUS FIELDS OF SOCIAL SERVICES.

HE SAID A GOOD EXAMPLE IS THE COMPLETION OF ITS CARE AND ATTENTION HOME FOR THE ELDERLY IN SAI KUNG, NEW TERRITORIES, WHICH, ALTHOUGH NOT OFFICIALLY OPENED, ALREADY CAME INTO OPERATION EARLIER THIS YEAR CARING FOR 100 OLD PEOPLE.

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CHANCES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO PARTICIPATE
IN MANAGEMENT OF AFFAIRS BEING OPENED UP
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THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONER NORTHWESTERN NEW TERRITORIES, MR. JAMES SWEETMAN, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) IT WAS GOVERNMENT'S AIM THAT IN THE LONG RUN MORE OPPORTUNITIES WOULD BE OPENED FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO ACTUALLY PARTICIPATE IN THE MANAGEMENT OF AFFAIRS THAT CONCERNED THEM.

HE HOPED THAT A NEW COMMUNITY AND INDOOR SPORTS CENTRE TO BE BUILT IN TUEN MUN SOON WOULD BE A VENUE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR INITIATIVE THROUGH ASSISTING IN THE RUNNING OF THE CENTRE.

ADDRESSING STUDENTS AT THE JOINT SPEECH DAY OF MADAM LAU KAM LUNG SECONDARY SCHOOL AND NEI MING INSTITUTE, MR. SWEETMAN SAID: +ALL OF YOU MUST HAVE PARTICIPATED, IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, IN SPORTS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND HAVE NO DOUBT ACQUIRED VALUABLE ATTITUDES TO LIFE FROM THE EXPERIENCES.

+THIS IS INDEED THE RATIONALE BEHIND GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO STEP OUT FROM THE CLASSROOM INTO THE WORLD OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL.

+WE HOPE THAT THROUGH ACTUAL PARTICIPATION YOU WILL FORMULATE OPINIONS OF THE NEEDS OF THE SOCIETY AND BECOME MORE AWARE OF THE PEOPLE AND EVENTS AROUND YOU.+

HOWEVER, HE ADVISED STUDENTS NOT TO STOP THERE.

+WE HAVE TRIED AND ARE STILL TRYING TO ENCOURAGE YOU TO MAKE ONE AND MANY MORE STEPS FORWARD TO BRING YOUR OPINIONS, VIEWS AND CRITICISMS TO OUR ATTENTION,+ MR. SWEETMAN SAID.

HE NOTED THAT STAFF AND STUDENTS OF BOTH SCHOOLS HAD ALWAYS BEEN ENERGETIC IN COMMUNITY AND CHARITABLE PROJECTS AND RECALLED THAT IT WAS THE NEI MING INSTITUTE WHICH HAD RAISED THE LARGEST AMOUNT OF MONEY IN A FUND-RAISING WALK FOR THE SHA TIN SPORTS CENTRE A FEW YEARS AGO.

+THIS IS A TRUE MANIFESTATION OF THE SUCCESS OF BUDDHIST EDUCATION,+ MR. SWEETMAN SAID.

+THE SCHOOLS TRULY LIVE UP TO THE IDEAL AND SPIRIT FOR WHICH THEY WERE FOUNDED.+

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AIRPORT SHOP FOR RENT

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THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE TENANCY OF A SHOP SPACE IN THE EXTENDED ARRIVALS HALL OF THE PASSENGER TERMINAL, HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, FOR THE SALE OF TOBACCO, CIGARETTES AND CONFECTIONARY.

THE TENANCY WILL BE FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS COMMENCING IN FEBRUARY, 1980.

TENDERS MUST BE PLACED IN THE PWD TENDER BOX ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD BEFORE NOON ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28. EACH TENDER MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A RECEIPT SHOWING THAT THE TENDERER HAS DEPOSITED WITH THE TREASURY A SUM OF $10 000 AS A PLEDGE OF HIS BONA FIDES.

TENDER FORMS AND FURTHER PARTICULARS ARE OBTAINABLE AT THE DEPARTMENT'S HEADQUARTERS, NEW RODNEY BLOCK, QUEENSWAY, OR AT THE AIRPORT.

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SPECIAL TRAINS FOR SUNDAY RACE MEETING

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THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY WILL OPERATE THREE SPECIAL PASSENGER TRAINS TO SHA TIN RACECOURSE STATION THIS SUNDAY (DECEMBER 9) FOR THE RACE MEETING.

THE THREE NON-STOP TRAINS WILL LEAVE KOWLOON STATION AT HUNG HOM AT 12.32 PM, 12.53 PM AND 1.14 PM.

ON THE RETURN JOURNEY TO KOWLOON, THERE WILL ALSO BE THREE SPECIAL TRAINS DEPARTING AT 5.47 PM, 6.03 PM AND 6.39 PM.

THE SPECIAL TRAINS TO PENFOLD GARDEN WILL BE CANCELLED ON THAT DAY.

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