



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

FRIDAY, MAY 7, 1982

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NEW INSURANCE LEGISLATION

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COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSALS RELATING TO THE STANDARDS OF THE INSURANCE BUSINESS IN HONG KONG WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AT ITS NEXT MEETING ON MAY 19.

THE PROVISIONS ARE CONTAINED IN THE INSURANCE COMPANIES BILL 1982 WHICH IS PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY.

COMMENTING ON THE PROPOSALS THE REGISTRAR GENERAL, MR PIERS JACOBS, SAID: +IF ENACTED THE BILL SHOULD ENHANCE THE STATUS OF HONG KONG AS A MAJOR INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE CENTRE AND AT THE SAME TIME GIVE GREATER PROTECTION TO POLICYHOLDERS.+

AT PRESENT ONLY LIFE, FIRE, MARINE AND MOTOR VEHICLE INSURANCE BUSINESS IS REGULATED IN HONG KONG- THE NEW BILL PROPOSES THAT REGULATION BE EXTENDED TO ALL CLASSES OF BUSINESS.

UNDER THE BILL ALL INSURERS WILL REQUIRE AUTHORISATION AND WILL HAVE TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THEY ARE WELL MANAGED AND FINANCIALLY SOUND.

THE MINIMUM CAPITAL REQUIREMENTS WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED AT \$5 MILLION, EXCEPT FOR COMPANIES WRITING BOTH LIFE AND GENERAL BUSINESS AND THOSE WRITING 'STATUTORY BUSINESS' (STATUTORY BUSINESS MEANS THOSE CLASSES OF INSURANCE WHERE THE LAW REQUIRES A PERSON TO EFFECT COVER, SUCH AS MOTOR VEHICLE (THIRD PARTY RISK) INSURANCE). FOR THESE COMPANIES THE MINIMUM CAPITAL REQUIREMENTS WILL BE INCREASED TO \$10 MILLION.

IN ADDITION TO THE CAPITAL REQUIREMENT COMPANIES MUST MAINTAIN A SOLVENCY MARGIN, THAT IS THE AMOUNT BY WHICH A COMPANY'S ASSETS EXCEED ITS LIABILITIES. IN RESPECT OF THEIR LIFE INSURANCE BUSINESS, COMPANIES MUST POSSESS A SOLVENCY MARGIN OF AT LEAST \$2 MILLION AT PRESENT. IT IS PROPOSED NOW THAT THIS FIXED MARGIN SHOULD BE RETAINED FOR LONG-TERM BUSINESS, BUT FOR GENERAL BUSINESS THE SOLVENCY MARGIN SHOULD VARY ACCORDING TO THE AMOUNT OF PREMIUM INCOME, SUBJECT TO A MINIMUM OF \$2 MILLION AS AT PRESENT OR \$4 MILLION IF STATUTORY BUSINESS IS WRITTEN. +FOR MANY COMPANIES,+ MR JACOBS SAID, +THE FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS WILL BE MUCH MORE STRINGENT THAN AT PRESENT, BUT THEY WILL BE MORE IN LINE WITH INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS.+

INTRODUCED FOR THE FIRST TIME ARE PROPOSALS THAT ALL DIRECTORS, CONTROLLERS AND MAIN AGENTS SHOULD BE REGARDED AS FIT AND PROPER.

TO ENSURE THAT FINANCIAL STANDARDS ARE MAINTAINED INSURERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT MORE DETAILED ACCOUNTS THAN AT PRESENT. THE CONTENTS ARE LAID DOWN, BUT INSURERS WILL HAVE A GREAT DEAL OF FLEXIBILITY IN PRESENTATION.

/WHERE FINANCIAL

WHERE FINANCIAL STANDARDS ARE NOT MET OR CONTROL PASSES INTO THE HANDS OF UNFIT PERSONS, THERE ARE EXTENSIVE POWERS WHICH WILL ENABLE THE INSURANCE AUTHORITY TO TAKE APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO PROTECT THE INTERESTS OF POLICYHOLDERS. IN EXTREME CASES AN INSURER'S PREMIUM INCOME CAN BE LIMITED, THE POWER TO WRITE NEW BUSINESS WITHDRAWN OR INDIVIDUALS CAN BE MADE PERSONALLY LIABLE FOR OFFENCES COMMITTED BY THEIR COMPANIES.

AN INSURANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE WILL BE APPOINTED UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE TO GIVE GENERAL INSURANCE ADVICE TO THE GOVERNMENT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ORDINANCE AND ON INSURANCE MATTERS GENERALLY.

MR JACOBS SAID HE ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THIS. +THE COMMITTEE,+ HE SAID, +SHOULD ENSURE THAT SUPERVISION DEVELOPS IN A MANNER COMPATIBLE WITH THE INTERESTS OF THE POLICYHOLDERS, THE MARKET GENERALLY AND HONG KONG.+

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TAI PO DRAGON BOAT RACE * * * *

PEOPLE WISHING TO COMPETE IN THE ANNUAL TAI PO DRAGON BOAT RACE NOW HAVE ONLY ONE MORE WEEK TO APPLY BEFORE THE DEADLINE ON MAY 15.

THE TRADITIONAL RACE, TO BE HELD ON JUNE 25, WILL TAKE PLACE AT SHUEN WAN HOI ALONG THE MAIN DAM OF PLOVER COVE RESERVOIR OVER A DISTANCE OF 1 000 METRES.

LIKE LAST YEAR, THE NUMBER OF COMPETING TEAMS WILL BE LIMITED TO 50. EACH TEAM WILL CONSIST OF 27 MEMBERS, COMPRISING 24 OARSMEN, A DRUMMER, A GONG BEATER AND THE COXSWAIN.

THERE WILL BE FIVE HEATS IN THE MORNING. THE WINNER AND RUNNER-UP TEAMS IN EACH HEAT WILL COMPETE IN THE FINAL RACE IN THE AFTERNOON.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE TAI PO RURAL COMMITTEE OFFICE, AND SHOULD BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED BEFORE THE CLOSING DATE, TOGETHER WITH A DEPOSIT OF \$500 AND AN ENTRY FEE OF \$200.

FUNDED BY THE LOCAL DISTRICT BOARD, THE RACE IS BEING ORGANISED BY A COMMITTEE COMPRISING REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICE, RURAL COMMITTEE, SPORTS ASSOCIATION AND OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

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GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE COMMUNICATION

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE IS IMPORTANT PARTICULARLY IN HONG KONG WHERE THE PROCESS OF GOVERNMENT IS BASICALLY BY CONSENSUS AND CONSULTATION, THE PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR MAYER NG SAID TODAY.

SPEAKING AT A MEETING OF THE LIONS CLUB OF HONG KONG CENTRAL, MR NG SAID GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WERE SOMETIMES ACCUSED OF IGNORING PUBLIC OPINION BECAUSE THEY THOUGHT THEY KNEW BETTER.

+ I WOULD NOT SAY THAT THERE IS NOT ANY SUCH PEOPLE IN AN ORGANISATION AS BIG AS THE GOVERNMENT. BUT ONLY FOOLS CAN AFFORD TO IGNORE PUBLIC OPINION WHEN AT LAST IT DOES EXPRESS ITSELF. IN MOST CASES, WHAT IS IGNORED THEREFORE IS PERHAPS AN OPINION PRESENTED IN PUBLIC WHICH IS OFTEN CONFUSED WITH PUBLIC OPINION, DELIBERATELY OR INADVERTENTLY BY SOME PEOPLE,+ HE SAID.

MR NG LISTED 14 CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PUBLIC. THEY ARE :

- * ADVISORY BOARDS AND COMMITTEES INCLUDING THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS;
- * INFORMAL CONTACTS WITH INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS THROUGH LOCAL DISTRICT OFFICES;
- * PETITIONS BY INDIVIDUALS OR ORGANISATIONS TO OFFICIALS OR THEIR OFFICES;
- * PUBLIC STATEMENTS;
- * COMMISSIONS OF ENQUIRY;
- * UMELCO;
- * DISTRICT BOARDS;
- * DIRECT CONTACT WITH GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS;
- * LETTERS TO THE EDITORS;
- * RADIO PHONE-IN PROGRAMMES;
- * PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAMMES ON TV AND RADIO;
- * GREEN PAPERS ON PUBLIC POLICY;
- * INTEREST GROUPS; AND
- * SCIENTIFICALLY ORGANISED PUBLIC OPINION SURVEYS.

IN ADDITION TO THESE OPEN CHANNELS, SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ALSO MADE IT A POINT TO MEET PEOPLE FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE REGULARLY AND BETWEEN THEM AND OVER THE YEARS, THEY MUST HAVE SPOKEN TO TENS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE IN AN INFORMAL AND COMPLETELY FRANK ATMOSPHERE, MR NG SAID.

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PRIVATE SCHOOLS THANKED FOR SUPPORT

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THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR COLVYN HAYE, TODAY (FRIDAY) THANKED SUPERVISORS AND PRINCIPALS OF PRIVATE SCHOOLS FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF A GOVERNMENT STANDING COMMITTEE WHICH IS MONITORING DISCIPLINARY PROBLEMS IN SCHOOLS.

SPEAKING AT THE ANNUAL DINNER OF THE HONG KONG PRIVATE ANGLO-CHINESE SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION, MR HAYE SAID HEADS OF PRIVATE SCHOOLS HAD BEEN VERY HELPFUL AND FRANK IN FURNISHING INFORMATION CONCERNING DISCIPLINARY PROBLEMS IN SCHOOLS.

THE DIRECTOR ASSURED PRIVATE SCHOOL OPERATORS THAT WHAT THEY HAD REPORTED TO THE COMMITTEE WOULD BE TREATED IN THE STRICTEST CONFIDENCE AND WOULD NOT BE USED AGAINST THE SCHOOLS CONCERNED.

+WHAT WE NEED IS A COMPLETELY TRUTHFUL PICTURE OF WHAT IS GOING ON IN OUR SCHOOLS SO THAT WE CAN DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE VERY REAL PROBLEMS FACED IN THE CLASSROOMS,+ HE SAID.

TO HELP THE GOVERNMENT TO MEET DISCIPLINARY TROUBLES, MR HAYE SUGGESTED PRIVATE SCHOOL HEADS PUT DETAILED QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE PROBLEM TO THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SO THAT THE ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS MIGHT BE INCORPORATED IN A HANDBOOK OF SUGGESTIONS FOR MORAL EDUCATION.

HE ALSO INVITED OTHER PARTIES CONCERNED, INCLUDING TEACHERS, PARENTS, PUPILS, UNIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS, TO WRITE TO HIM IN CONFIDENCE, DESCRIBING THEIR PROBLEMS AND ASKING QUESTIONS OR MAKING SUGGESTIONS AS TO WHAT MIGHT BE INCORPORATED IN THE PROPOSED HANDBOOK.

+WE STILL BELIEVED THAT MORAL EDUCATION OUGHT TO PERMEATE THE ENTIRE SCHOOL CURRICULUM AND THAT IT SHOULD BE TAUGHT.

+BUT THIS IS NOT TO SAY THAT PRACTICAL ADVICE AND GUIDANCE IS NOT NECESSARY, AND WITH THE HELP OF THE PRIVATE SCHOOLS THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO DO SOMETHING IN THIS AREA,+ MR HAYE NOTED.

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SCHOLARSHIPS FOR TALENTED MUSICIANS AND DANCERS

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OPPORTUNITIES ARE NOW OPEN FOR YOUNG TALENTED MUSICIANS AND DANCERS TO APPLY FOR THE 1982/83 HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB MUSIC FUND SCHOLARSHIPS.

SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL BE ABLE TO ATTEND A THREE-YEAR FULL-TIME COURSE AT THE CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC OR THE HONG KONG ACADEMY OF BALLET.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MUSIC FUND POINTED OUT THAT THE SCHOLARSHIPS WILL COVER TUITION FEES, BOOK ALLOWANCE AND EXAMINATION FEES. A MONTHLY SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE OF \$1 000 MAY ALSO BE GRANTED ON INDIVIDUAL MERIT.

+FOR EXCEPTIONALLY TALENTED CANDIDATES,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID, +OVERSEAS SCHOLARSHIPS MAY BE CONSIDERED.+

IN PREVIOUS YEARS, THE MUSIC FUND HAS ENABLED SCHOLARS TO ATTEND THE MENUHIN ACADEMY IN SWITZERLAND, THE NATIONAL CENTRE FOR ORCHESTRAL STUDIES IN LONDON, THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC, THE GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND DRAMA AND THE ROYAL BALLET SCHOOL.

CANDIDATES APPLYING FOR ADVANCED ORCHESTRAL INSTRUMENTAL STUDIES SHOULD NOT BE OVER THE AGE OF 23 ON SEPTEMBER 1, 1982 AND SHOULD HAVE ACHIEVED A MERIT IN GRADE VIII OF THE ROYAL SCHOOLS OF MUSIC EXAMINATIONS OR EQUIVALENT. PREFERENCE WILL BE GIVEN TO THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY REACHED DIPLOMA STANDARD.

AS FOR DANCE/BALLET SCHOLARSHIPS, CANDIDATES SHOULD BE AT LEAST 15 YEARS OLD ON SEPTEMBER 1, 1982 AND HAVE PASSED OR ARE WORKING FOR THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF DANCING EXAMINATION.

ALL APPLICANTS SHOULD HAVE AT LEAST ONE YEAR'S RESIDENCE IN HONG KONG AND THEY WILL BE AUDITIONED/INTERVIEWED IN LATE MAY (FOR MUSIC) AND JUNE (FOR DANCE/BALLET). SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE UP THEIR SCHOLARSHIPS IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR.

APPLICATION FORMS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB MUSIC FUND OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, 3/F., 11 ICE HOUSE STREET AND THE MUSIC OFFICE HEADQUARTERS, 9/F., HONG KONG ART CENTRE.

COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB MUSIC FUND OFFICE BY THE CANDIDATE PERSONALLY.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR ADVANCED ORCHESTRAL INSTRUMENTAL STUDIES IS MONDAY, MAY 17, 1982 AND FOR DANCE/BALLET IS MONDAY, JUNE 7, 1982.

FURTHER DETAILS CAN BE OBTAINED ON 5-951859.

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IMPORTANCE OF TREE-PLANTING STRESSED
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THE HOPE THAT TREE-PLANTING BY THE PUBLIC WILL BECOME A REGULAR YEARLY EVENT, AS WAS DONE IN THE 1970'S, WAS EXPRESSED TODAY BY THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, MR JOHN RIDDELL-SWAN.

RECALLING THAT THE FIRST COMMUNITY TREE-PLANTING DAY ORGANISED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, WAS HELD IN SHING MUN IN 1957, MR RIDDELL-SWAN SAID THE EVENT WAS THEN CONTINUED REGULARLY EVERY YEAR UNTIL THE MIDDLE OF THE 1970'S.

+IT IS SOME YEARS SINCE THE LAST TREE PLANTING DAY WAS HELD AND I THINK THAT, NOW WHEN WE ARE ALL TRYING TO MAKE HONG KONG CLEANER AND GREENER, IT IS MOST APPROPRIATE AND TIMELY THAT THE EVENT SHOULD BE REVIVED,+ HE SAID.

+PLANTING OF TREES IS VERY IMPORTANT FOR HONG KONG IF WE ARE TO KEEP THE TERRITORY FRESH AND GREEN AND IF WE ARE TO MAKE AMENDS IN THE AREAS DISFIGURED BY DEVELOPMENT.+

ON SUNDAY (MAY 9), TREE SEEDLINGS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC FOR PLANTING IN SIX COUNTRY PARKS BETWEEN 9 AM AND 3 PM.

THE LOCATIONS ARE AT THE SUMMIT OF ROUTE TWISK BY THE TAI LAM COUNTRY PARK IN TSUEN WAN, THE CLEARWATER BAY COUNTRY PARK NEAR THE TAI AU MUN PUBLIC CARPARK, THE WEST SAI KUNG COUNTRY PARK NEAR THE PAK TAM CHUNG CARPARK, THE PAT SIN LENG COUNTRY PARK NEAR BRIDE'S POOL, THE SOUTH LANTAU ISLAND COUNTRY PARK NEAR THE NAM SHAN CAMPSITE, AND THE QUARRY BAY COUNTRY PARK MANAGEMENT CENTRE ON HONG KONG ISLAND.

INFORMATION AND MAPS OF THE EXACT LOCATIONS WILL BE FOUND NEAR THE SEEDLING DISTRIBUTION POINTS.

MR RIDDELL-SWAN EXPLAINED THAT IN HONG KONG MOST OF THE TREES HAD BEEN PLANTED AND MANY HAD THEIR ORIGINS THROUGH PLANTING PROGRAMME OR IN DEPARTMENTAL NURSERIES.

+DESPITE A REGRETTABLY HIGH PROPORTION DAMAGED BY HILL FIRES, THERE ARE NOW PROBABLY MORE TREES IN THE COUNTRYSIDE OF HONG KONG THAN AT ANY TIME SINCE THE TURN OF THE CENTURY,+ HE SAID.

THIS SEASON ALONE, THE DEPARTMENT HAD ALREADY PLANTED MORE THAN 250 000 TREES, MOSTLY IN COUNTRY PARKS.

IN ADDITION, LARGE NUMBERS OF SEEDLINGS WERE BEING PRODUCED IN THE DEPARTMENT'S NURSERIES TO HELP MEET THE NEEDS OF OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS, HE SAID.

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YOUTH IS A FEELING NOT AN AGE
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ABOUT 300 ELDERLY PEOPLE AT TAI O ARE TO BENEFIT FROM A FREE MEDICAL CHECK-UP SERVICE OFFERED BY SEVERAL VOLUNTEER DOCTORS AND MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS UNDER A +GERIATRIC HEALTH PROJECT+ BEGINNING ON SUNDAY (MAY 9).

JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE PENINSULA JAYCEES AND THE ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICE, THE PROJECT AIMS AT IMPRESSING UPON THE OLD PEOPLE THAT +YOUTH IS A FEELING NOT AN AGE+.

FOUR DOCTORS AND TWO CHIROPRACTORS WHO ARE JAYCEE MEMBERS, AND SOME NURSES WILL CARRY OUT GENERAL MEDICAL SCREENING FOR THE OLD PEOPLE IN THE OFFICE OF THE TAI O RURAL COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY AND FOLLOWING WEEKENDS.

ADVICE WILL BE GIVEN TO THE ELDERLY AFTER THE MEDICAL CHECK-UP WHICH WILL INCLUDE EYE, DENTAL, BLOOD PRESSURE AND SPINAL EXAMINATION.

A TEAM OF SEVEN REGISTERED NURSES HAD CONDUCTED A SURVEY LAST MONTH AT TAI O TO COLLECT INFORMATION ON THE HEALTH CONDITION OF THE OLD PEOPLE THERE.

A GERIATRIC HEALTH EXHIBITION WILL ALSO BE HELD ON SUNDAY IN THE RURAL COMMITTEE OFFICE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING OF THE GERIATRIC HEALTH PROJECT BY THE ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICER, MR RICKY FUNG, AT 11 AM ON SUNDAY (MAY 9) AT THE TAI O RURAL COMMITTEE.

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES MAY TAKE THE MARINE LAUNCH, CLEMENTI, WHICH WILL LEAVE THE MARINE DEPARTMENT PIER NEXT TO THE OUTLYING ISLAND FERRY PIER, ON CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL, AT 9 AM FOR LANTAU.

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SECTION OF SCAVENGING LANE TO BE RESUMED
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A PORTION OF AN EXISTING SCAVENGING LANE IMMEDIATELY TO THE WEST OF LI PO CHUN CHAMBERS IN CENTRAL, WILL BE REQUIRED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE DIAPHRAGM WALL OF THE SHEUNG WAN STATION CONCOURSE OF THE MTR ISLAND LINE.

A RAILWAY AREA PLAN SHOWING THE AREA IN WHICH LAND MAY BE RESUMED OR EASEMENTS CREATED FOR THIS PURPOSE AS WELL AS PROPERTIES WHICH MAY BE AFFECTED HAS NOW BEEN DEPOSITED WITH THE LAND OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT BY THE DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY (LAND RESUMPTION AND RELATED PROVISIONS) ORDINANCE.

THE PLAN SHOWS LAND ADDITIONAL TO THAT SHOWN ON RAILWAY AREA PLAN NO. 12, FOR THE SECTION OF THE ISLAND LINE BETWEEN SHEUNG WAN AND VICTORIA PARK, WHICH WAS GAZETTED ON MARCH 13, 1981.

COPIES OF THE PLAN MAY BE INSPECTED FREE OF CHARGE DURING OFFICE HOURS AT THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (CENTRAL AND WESTERN) ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, GROUND FLOOR, HONG KONG, AND THE LANDS DEPARTMENT OFFICES, MURRAY BUILDING (5TH FLOOR), GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG, OR AT ANY CITY DISTRICT OFFICE.

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SUMMER AQUATIC TRAINING COURSES OFFERED
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THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT IS TO LAUNCH A SIX-MONTH SUMMER AQUATICS PROGRAMME BEGINNING FROM THE MIDDLE OF THIS MONTH.

THE PROGRAMME, ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE (RSS) IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE URBAN COUNCIL, OFFERS TRAINING COURSES IN AQUATIC EVENTS AT NOMINAL FEES.

THE COURSES ARE: ELEMENTARY SNORKELLING, INTERMEDIATE AND ELEMENTARY SYNCHRONISED SWIMMING, SWIMMING CLINIC, LIFE SAVING (BRONZE MEDALLION), LIFE SAVING (AWARD OF MERIT), AND ELEMENTARY AND INTERMEDIATE DIVING.

THEY WILL BE HELD IN URBAN COUNCIL SWIMMING POOLS.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FROM THE FOLLOWING 10 RSS OFFICES: EASTERN (NORTH POINT), WAN CHAI, CENTRAL AND WESTERN AND SOUTHERN OFFICES ON HONG KONG ISLAND- AND KWUN TONG, WONG TAI SIN, KOWLOON CITY, SHAM SHUI PO, MONG KOK AND YAU MA TEI OFFICES IN KOWLOON.

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CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS COMPLETE P.E. INSTRUCTOR COURSE
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THIRTEEN CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS WHO RECENTLY COMPLETED A THREE-MONTH, IN-SERVICE PHYSICAL EDUCATION INSTRUCTOR TRAINING COURSE AND PASSED AN EXAMINATION WERE TODAY (FRIDAY) AWARDED WITH CERTIFICATES.

AT A CEREMONY HELD AT THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S STAFF TRAINING INSTITUTE IN STANLEY, CAPTAIN T. CARR, MASTER-AT-ARMS OF THE ARMY PHYSICAL TRAINING CORPS, PRESENTED THE CERTIFICATES TO THE OFFICERS.

THE RECIPIENTS, COMPRISING ONE OFFICER AND 12 ASSISTANT OFFICERS, HAD SPENT THE 12 WEEKS BETWEEN FEBRUARY 8 AND MAY 1 UNDERGOING RECREATIONAL MANAGEMENT TRAINING, INCLUDING A CONDENSED LEADERSHIP-TRAINING COURSE.

THE OFFICERS WILL BE POSTED TO VARIOUS PENAL INSTITUTIONS.

OVER 100 CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS HAVE COMPLETED SIMILAR TRAINING.

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CONTRACT SIGNED FOR NEW TUEN MUN ROAD
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A \$36.5 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW ROAD ACROSS THE NULLAH IN THE CENTRAL PART OF TUEN MUN NEW TOWN, WAS AWARDED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE TUEN MUN NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO THE EXPRESS TRANSPORT AND BUILDING CONTRACTORS LTD.

THE ROAD, WHICH FORMS PART OF THE NEW TOWN ROAD NETWORK, WILL PROVIDE ACCESS TO ON TING, YAU OI AND BUTTERFLY ESTATES AND CASTLE PEAK POWER STATION.

WORK ON THE CONTRACT INCLUDES THE CONSTRUCTION OF ABOUT ONE KILOMETRE OF TWO-WAY SINGLE CARRIAGEWAY ROAD TOGETHER WITH A 100-METRE LONG THREE-SPAN BRIDGE ACROSS THE NULLAH, A PEDESTRIAN SUBWAY AT THE EASTERN END OF THE BRIDGE AND A COMBINED PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLIST SUBWAY AT THE OTHER END.

WORK WILL START LATER THIS MONTH AND IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF 1983.

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BIG CLEAN UP IN SQUATTER AREAS

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THE WORKING WEEK FROM MAY 3 TO MAY 7 SAW FRENZIED ACTIVITY ON THE SQUATTER CLEANSING FRONT.

TWENTY-FIVE SQUATTER SETTLEMENTS WERE CLEARED OF RUBBISH IN THE FIVE DAYS, AS A RESULT OF THE HARD WORK OF URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S CLEANSING SQUADS.

THE BIGGEST PUSH WAS IN THE SPRAWLING SQUATTER AREAS OF KWUN TONG AND WONG TAI SIN, EACH INVOLVING FIVE VILLAGES.

BUT THE SMALLER SQUATTER AREAS WERE NOT NEGLECTED EITHER; TWO VILLAGES IN SHAM SHUI PO AND TWO IN WESTERN WERE CLEANED.

IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT WHERE SQUATTER COMMUNITIES ARE SMALL AND WIDELY DISPERSED, SEVEN SETTLEMENTS WERE CLEANED WHILE IN EASTERN, FOUR VILLAGES WERE BLITZED.

THE SQUATTER CLEANSING PHASE OF THE CLEAN HONG KONG CAMPAIGN IS ENTERING ITS THIRD WEEK AND WHEN THIS PHASE ENDS, ALL OF HONG KONG'S SQUATTER SETTLEMENTS WILL HAVE BEEN CLEANED.

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TEMPORARY CURTAILMENT OF TRAM SERVICES

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TRAM SERVICES, EXCEPT THOSE BETWEEN SHAU KEI WAN AND HAPPY VALLEY, WILL BE CURTAILED THIS SATURDAY (MAY 8) FOR MTR CONSTRUCTION WORKS.

THE LAST DEPARTURES WILL BE ABOUT ONE HOUR EARLIER THAN USUAL, THAT IS: FROM SHAU KEI WAN TO WESTERN MARKET AT 10.48 PM; FROM NORTH POINT TO WHITTY STREET AT 10.42 PM; FROM NORTH POINT TO WESTERN MARKET AT 11.01 PM; FROM HAPPY VALLEY TO KENNEDY TOWN AT 10.41 PM; FROM HAPPY VALLEY TO WHITTY STREET AT 10.52 PM; FROM HAPPY VALLEY TO WESTERN MARKET AT 11.08 PM; FROM KENNEDY TOWN TO HAPPY VALLEY AT 11.16 PM; FROM WHITTY STREET TO NORTH POINT AT 11.19 PM; FROM WHITTY STREET TO HAPPY VALLEY AT 11.20 PM; AND FROM WESTERN MARKET TO SHAU KEI WAN, NORTH POINT AND HAPPY VALLEY ALL AT 11.28 PM.

STARTING FROM 10.48 PM SPECIAL TRAM SERVICES WILL BE OPERATED FROM SHAU KEI WAN TO TERMINATE AT THE CHINESE METHODIST CHURCH AT JOHNSTON ROAD.

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NEW TEXTILE AGREEMENT WITH FINLAND

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THE TRADE INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT, FOLLOWING CONSULTATIONS HELD IN HONG KONG FROM MAY 3 TO 6, A NEW TEXTILE AGREEMENT WAS REACHED BETWEEN FINLAND AND HONG KONG TO TAKE EFFECT FROM AUGUST 1, UPON THE EXPIRY OF THE CURRENT AGREEMENT.

THE NEW AGREEMENT, VALID FOR TWO YEARS, COVERS THE SAME PRODUCTS AS IN THE CURRENT AGREEMENT. THE TERMS ARE ALSO BROADLY SIMILAR.

DETAILS OF THE AGREEMENT AND THE CONTROL ARRANGEMENTS TO IMPLEMENT IT WILL BE ANNOUNCED BY THE DEPARTMENT AFTER RATIFICATION BY BOTH GOVERNMENTS.

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NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS

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THE SECTION OF DES VOEUX ROAD IN CENTRAL BETWEEN GILMAN STREET AND CLEVERLY STREET WILL BE DESIGNATED AS AN URBAN CLEARWAY FROM 10 AM ON SUNDAY (MAY 9).

ALL VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES, WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS WITHIN THIS SECTION BETWEEN 7 AM AND 7 PM DAILY.

MEANWHILE, VEHICLES TRAVELLING WESTBOUND ALONG POK FU LAM ROAD WILL BE FORBIDDEN TO TURN RIGHT INTO THE ACCESS ROAD OF BELCHER GARDENS FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY (MAY 10) TO FACILITATE ROAD WORKS.

IN KOWLOON, PARKING SPACES IN HO MAN TIN STREET BETWEEN WATERLOO ROAD AND HO MAN TIN HILL ROAD WILL BE METERED FROM 8 AM ON MONDAY.

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