DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

FRIDAY, MAY 30, 1980

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INSTANT PAYMENT FOR INDUSTRIAL LAND

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PURCHASERS OF INDUSTRIAL SITES SOLD AFTER THE BEGINNING OF JANUARY NEXT YEAR WILL NO LONGER BE ABLE TO PAY THE PREMIUM BY INSTALMENTS.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT AT PRESENT, BUYERS OF INDUSTRIAL LAND WITH A VALUE OF MORE THAN $1 MILLION COULD PAY THE PREMIUM BY 10 ANNUAL INSTALMENTS AT FIVE PER CENT INTEREST.

FROM JULY 22 THIS YEAR THE DOWNPAYMENT WOULD BE INCREASED FROM 10 PER CENT TO 40 PER CENT OF THE SALE PRICE.

FROM JANUARY 1, 1981, THIS FACILITY WOULD BE WITHDRAWN, AND PURCHASERS WOULD HAVE TO PAY THE FULL PRICE OF THE LAND WITHIN ONE CALENDAR MONTH OF THE DATE OF TRANSACTION.

ALSO TO BE TERMINATED WITH EFFECT FROM JULY 1980 IS THE OPTION, AT PRESENT AVAILABLE FOR INDUSTRIAL LAND IN THE URBAN AREA, OF PAYMENT OF PREMIUM BY FOUR EQUAL INSTALMENTS WITHOUT INTEREST WITHIN TWO YEARS.

EXCEPT WHERE THE GOVERNMENT WAS ALREADY COMMITTED BY NEGOTIATIONS, INSTALMENTS WOULD, WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT, NO LONGER BE ACCEPTED FOR MODIFICATION PREMIA IN RESPECT OF INDUSTRIAL LAND.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED: +INDUSTRIAL LAND IS NOWADAYS PURCHASED MAINLY BY REAL ESTATE DEVELOPERS FOR DEVELOPMENT INTO GENERAL MULTI-STOREY FACTORY BUILDINGS, RATHER THAN BY INDUSTRIALISTS WISHING TO BUILD PURPOSE-DESIGNED FACTORIES FOR THEIR OWN USE.

+THE ORIGINAL INTENTION OF THE INSTALMENT SCHEME, INTRODUCED IN 1955 TO PROVIDE A FORM OF SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO INDUSTRY, IS, THEREFORE, NO LONGER GENERALLY APPLICABLE. THERE IS, FURTHEMORE, NO EVIDENCE THAT PROPERTY DEVELOPERS ARE HAVING DIFFICULTIES IN OBTAINING FINANCE TO PURCHASE AND DEVELOP INDUSTRIAL LAND.

+INDUSTRIALISTS NORMALLY EITHER PAY FOR THEIR PREMISES IN A LUMPSUM OR MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR PAYING INSTALMENTS THROUGH THE BANKING SYSTEM IN THE NORMAL WAY, AND THE ABOLITION OF THE INSTALMENT SYSTEM WOULD, THEREFORE, BE UNLIKELY TO AFFECT THEM.+

THE FACILITY FOR PAYMENT OF PREMIA BY INSTALMENTS FOR SALES AND MODIFICATIONS OF NON-INDUSTRIAL LAND FOR RESIDENTIAL OR COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES WAS TERMINATED IN DECEMBER LAST YEAR.

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CONTRACT SIGNED FOR ISLAND CORRIDOR PROJECT

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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TODAY LET ANOTHER PRELIMINARY CONTRACT FOR THE ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR, STAGE I, LINKING CAUSEWAY BAY WITH NORTH POINT.

THE CONTRACT, WORTH MORE THAN $15.8 MILLION, IS FOR THE RECLAMATION OF ABOUT THREE HECTARES OF LAND BETWEEN WATSON ROAD AND OIL STREET.

IT WAS SIGNED THIS MORNING BY MR K.C. YEUNG, CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE CONSULTANTS MANAGEMENT DIVISION OF THE PWD'S HIGHWAYS OFFICE AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF HARBOUR ENGINEERING COMPANY LIMITED.

SPEAKING AT THE CONTRACT SIGNING CEREMONY, MR YEUNG SAID TENDERS FOR THE MAIN CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT OF THE ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR PROJECT, STAGE I, WAS EXPECTED TO BE CALLED LATER THIS YEAR.

HE SAID: +IT CONSISTS OF BUILDING A TWO-KILOMETRE ELEVATED ROAD ALONG THE COAST BETWEEN CAUSEWAY BAY AND HEALTHY STREET WEST IN NORTH POINT.

+THE ELEVATED ROAD WILL BE A DUAL FOUR-LANE CARRIAGEWAY OVER TWO THIRDS OF ITS LENGTH AND DUAL THREE-LANE CARRIAGEWAY OVER THE REMAINING SECTION.+

+THE NEW ROAD WILL HAVE A CAPACITY OF 10 000 VEHICLES PER HOUR, ABOUT THREE TIMES OF KING'S ROAD,+ HE ADDED.

SO FAR, A TOTAL OF FOUR REPROVISIONING WORK CONTRACTS, WORTH MORE THAN $55 MILLION, HAVE EITHER BEEN COMPLETED OR ARE IN HAND.

THEY INCLUDE THE RECLAMATION OF THE NORTH-EASTERN CORNER OF THE CAUSEWAY BAY TYPHOON SHELTER, A NEW VEHICULAR FERRY PIER, ADVANCE FOUNDATION WORKS OFF NORTH POINT BUS TERMINUS AND A BREAKWATER OFF KELLETT ISLAND.

REFERRING TO THE PRESENT CONTRACT, MR YEUNG SAID THAT WORK WOULD START NEXT WEEK AND WOULD TAKE ABOUT 18 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

A SECTION OF THE ELEVATED ROAD UNDER STAGE I OF THE PROJECT WILL BE BUILT OVER THE RECLAMATION.

MR YEUNG ADDED THAT THE RECLAMATION WILL ALSO PROVIDE FACILITIES TO COMPENSATE FOR THE LOSS OF WATER FRONTAGE AND SEA ACCESS TO WATERFRONT LOTS.

THE WORK ON THE CONTRACT HAS BEEN DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTION WILL BE SUPERVISED BY MAUNSELL CONSULTANTS ASIA FOR PWD'S HIGHWAYS OFFICE.

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JOIN VOICES TOGETHER, SAYS TICD DIRECTOR

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THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS, MR BILL DORWARD, TODAY URGED THAT HONG KONG'S TEXTILE AND GARMENT MANUFACTURERS AND EXPORTERS SHOULD LET THEIR VIEWS BE HEARD ON THE EFFECT ON THEIR TRADE OF OTHER GOVERNMENTS' POLICIES.

REFERRING TO MISS LYDIA DUNN'S +SPIRITED PRESENTATION OF YOUR SIDE OF THE STORY+ TO AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TEXTILES IN BRUSSELS YESTERDAY, MR DORWARD SAID: +I AM NOT ADVOCATING A STREAM OF COMPLAINT AND CONTENTION, BUT RATHER A CANDID APPRECIATION OF WHAT GOVERNMENT POLICIES AROUND THE WORLD HAVE DONE AND ARE DOING TO YOUR TRADE.+

OPENING THE NEW OFFICES OF THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG GARMENT MANUFACTURERS, MR DORWARD CONTINUED: +WE VERY OFTEN READ THE WELL PUBLICISED VIEWS OF AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN INDUSTRIALISTS AND ASSOCIATIONS. THEY PRODUCE SPEECHES AND GLOSSY PUBLICATIONS WHICH GET WIDE COVERAGE. IN CONTRAST THE HONG KONG TRADE AND INDUSTRY, BY AND LARGE, GETS ON WITH THE BUSINESS OF BUSINESS, AND LEAVES THE POLICY STATEMENTS TO THE OFFICIALS.

+I UNDERSTAND YOUR NATURAL INCLINATION TO DO SO, ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU WORK SO HARD AND EFFECTIVELY TO MANUFACTURE AND SELL YOUR PRODUCTS. BUT I SUGGEST THAT IT WOULD BE NO BAD THING IF THE WORLD HEARD FROM YOU A BIT MORE OFTEN.+

HE SAID THAT MISS DUNN HAD MADE A PLEA FOR A FACTUAL EXAMINATION OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF THESE GOVERNMENTS' POLICIES AND AS PREREQUISITE TO DISCUSSION OF FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS.

+I BELIEVE THAT YOUR FEDERATION AND THE OTHER ASSOCIATIONS IN THE HONG KONG TEXTILE AND GARMENT INDUSTRIES COULD CONTRIBUTE SUBSTANTIALLY TO SUCH AN EFFORT.+

MR DORWARD REFERRED TO AN ELEGANTLY PRODUCED AND WELL PRESENTED STATEMENT OF THE VIEWS OF THE BRITISH TEXTILE CONFEDERATION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN TEXTILES IN THE 1980'S.

+I SUGGEST THAT THIS FEDERATION COOPERATES WITH OTHER INTERESTED BODIES IN HONG KONG TO PRODUCE SOMETHING OF THE KIND GIVING YOUR VIEWS. IT WOULD GIVE A COUNTERBALANCE TO THE STATEMENT BY THOSE WHO TAKE A DIFFERENT STANCE= AND WHOSE OPINIONS ARE SO OFTEN WIDELY REPORTED.+

/HE SAID .....

HE SAID THAT CLOTHING WAS THE LARGEST SECTOR OF HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY. MORE THAN 8 700 ESTABLISHMENTS EMPLOYED OVER 260 000 WORKERS -- 30 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL WORKFORCE IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

IN TRADE TERMS AND DESPITE QUOTA RESTRICTIONS, CLOTHING EXPORTS AMOUNTED TO HK$19 400 MILLION IN 1979 REPRESENTING NEARLY 35 PER CENT OF OUR TOTAL DOMESTIC EXPORT, HE SAID.

+I DO NOT SUBSCRIBE TO THE VIEW THAT THIS IS AN UNHEALTHY SITUATION AND THAT WE SHOULD THEREFORE DIVERSIFY OUT OF THE GARMENT INDUSTRY.

+I BELIEVE THE BEST FORM OF DIVERSIFICATION FOR THE FUTURE WELL-BEING OF HONG KONG'S TRADE WILL BE FOR OTHER INDUSTRIES TO DEMONSTRATE THE DYNAMISM AND VERSATILITY OF THE GARMENT SECTOR AND STRIVE TO KEEP UP WITH IT,+ SAID MR DORWARD.

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AIRCRAFT AIRPORT CHARGES TO GO UP IN JULY

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INCREASES IN LANDING AND PARKING CHARGES FOR AIRLINES USING HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED ON JULY 1.

THE PERCENTAGE RISE, VARYING WITH THE MAXIMUM AUTHORIZED WEIGHT OF INDIVIDUAL AIRCRAFT, WILL BE 15 PER CENT OR LESS.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE ADULT PASSENGER SERVICE CHARGE WILL BE INCREASED FROM $15 TO $20. THE SERVICE CHARGE FOR CHILDREN WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED AT $5.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT SAID THAT THE INCREASES WERE MEANT TO COVER HIGHER STAFF AND OPERATIONAL COSTS AS WELL AS TO MEET PART OF THE AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT EXPENSES.

THE CURRENT RATE OF CHARGES FOR LANDING AND PARKING HAVE REMAINED UNCHANGED SINCE 1975, AND FOR PASSENGER SERVICES SINCE 1974.

+THE INCREASES WERE CONFIRMED AFTER LENGTHY DISCUSSIONS AND CONSULTATIONS WITH AIRLINES AND INVOLVED PARTIES+, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE REVISED CHARGES FOR THE LANDING OF AIRCRAFT AT KAI TAK AIRPORT WILL RANGE FROM $8 FOR EACH 500 KILOGRAMS FOR SMALLER PLANES OF NOT MORE THAN 50 000 KILOGRAMS IN WEIGHT, TO $1 850 FOR THE FIRST 100 000 KILOGRAMS PLUS $13 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL 500 KILOGRAMS FOR LARGER AIR CARRIERS OF OVER 100 000 KILOGRAMS IN WEIGHT.

THESE CHARGES INCLUDE ONE-AND-ONE-HALF HOURS OF FREE PARKING AT THE AIRPORT FOR PASSENGER AIRCRAFT AND THREE HOURS FOR ALL-CARGO AIRCRAFT IMMEDIATELY AFTER THEIR LANDING.

THEREAFTER, PARKING CHARGES WILL BE LEVIED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE WEIGHT OF THE AIRCRAFT.

THEY RANGE FROM $15 FOR THE FIRST HALF-HOUR, $15 FOR THE SECOND HALF-HOUR, $12 FOR THE FOLLOWING HOUR AND $12 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL HOUR FOR SMALL AIRCRAFT OF LESS THAN 2.5 TONNES, TO $144 FOR THE FIRST HALF-HOUR, $144 FOR THE SECOND HALF-HOUR, $230 FOR THE FOLLOWING HOUR AND $73 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL HOUR FOR LARGE CARRIERS OVER 280 TONNES.

THE NEW METHOD OF CHARGING FOR THE FIRST HOUR OF PARKING ON THE BASIS OF A FEE FOR EACH OF TWO HALF-HOUR PERIODS HAS BEEN INSTITUTED AFTER COMPLAINTS BY THE IATA USER CHARGES COMMITTEE THAT AN AIRLINE WHOSE AIRCRAFT STAYED ONLY A FEW MINUTES OVER THE FREE PARKING PERIOD HAD TO PAY THE $288 FEE FOR A FULL HOUR'S FURTHER PARKING.

THE PEAK PERIOD SURCHARGE OF $500 FOR EACH LANDING OR TAKE-OFF OF AIRCRAFT AT KAI TAK BETWEEN 1 PM AND 6 PM DAILY AND THE EN-ROUTE NAVIGATION CHARGE OF BETWEEN $1 350 AND $1 730 FOR EACH OVERFLIGHT, DEPENDING ON THE WEIGHT OF THE AIRCRAFT, WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED.

THE IATA USER CHARGES COMMITTEE HAS ALSO BEEN ADVISED THAT A SIMILAR INCREASE OF THE ORDER OF 15 PER CENT IN AIRCRAFT LANDING AND PARKING FEES WILL BE MADE IN MID-1981. THE INCREASES IN AIRCRAFT LANDING AND PARKING FEES WILL THUS BE MADE IN TWO STAGES IN ORDER TO MITIGATE THE EFFECTS OF THE DESIRED INCREASE ON AIRLINES WHO ARE CURRENTLY IN SOME FINANCIAL DIFFICULTY BECAUSE OF STEEP RISES IN THE COST OF FUEL OVER THE PAST TWELVE MONTHS.

A REVIEW OF LANDING AND PARKING FEES WILL BE MADE IN LATE 1981 TO DETERMINE THE APPROPRIATE LEVELS OF CHARGES FOR 1982 AND BEYOND.

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MP'S MEET THE PRESS

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THE TWO CONSERVATIVE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AT PRESENT VISITING HONG KONG, DR KEITH HAMPSON AND MR DAVID HUNT, WILL HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE ON MONDAY (JUNE 2) BEFORE DEPARTING FOR LONDON THAT EVENING.

THE PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD IN THE GIS THEATRE ON THE 5TH FLOOR OF BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG, AT 4.30 PM.

RADIO AND TELEVISION CREWS ARE REQUESTED TO ARRIVE EARLY SO THAT THEY WILL HAVE AMPLE TIME TO SET UP THEIR EQUIPMENT.

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SOUTH LANTAU ZONING PLAN PUBLISHED

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THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD TODAY PUBLISHED A DRAFT OUTLINE ZONING PLAN FOR THE MAIN COASTAL STRIP OF SOUTH LANTAU.

THE PLAN COVERS ABOUT 2 449 HECTARES AND COMPRISES THE WHOLE OF THE COASTAL PART OF LANTAU ISLAND SOUTH OF THE EXISTING WATER CATCHMENT.

THE PURPOSE OF THE PLAN IS TO PROVIDE A STATUTORY LAND USE PATTERN AND MAJOR ROAD FRAMEWORK WITHIN WHICH THE USE AND DEVELOPMENT OF LAND MAY BE LEGALLY CONTROLLED.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD SAID THAT UNDER THE DRAFT PLAN THE SOUTH LANTAU COAST WOULD BE MAINLY DEVELOPED FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES.

MORE THAN 2 037 HECTARES ARE ZONED FOR GREEN BELT, INCLUDING ABOUT 1 565 HECTARES OF GAZETTED COUNTRY PARK.

HE SAID PREDOMINANT ZONING OF THE COASTAL STRIP AS GREEN BELT WAS AIMED TOWARDS GREATER USE OF THE AREA FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES.

+SOUTH LANTAU IN ITS NATURAL SCENIC SETTING OFFERS GREAT POTENTIAL FOR ADDITIONAL OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES TO MEET THE GROWING NEEDS OF LOCAL RESIDENTS AND HOLIDAY-MAKERS FROM THE CROWDED URBAN AREAS,+ HE EXPLAINED.

IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE CHARACTER OF THE SHORELINE, TO SAFEGUARD THE BEACHES AND THEIR IMMEDIATE HINTERLAND AND TO PREVENT RIBBON DEVELOPMENT IN A HAPHAZARD MANNER ALONG THE MAIN ROAD, SOME 140 HECTARES HAVE BEEN ZONED AS COASTAL PROTECTION AREA, HE SAID.

+THIS AREA IS RELATIVELY ACCESSIBLE AND CAN ALLOW FOR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF HIGH INTENSITY USE, SUCH AS PLAYGROUND OR PLAYING FIELD, PROMENADE, PARK AND GARDEN,+ HE ADDED.

OF THE REMAINING AREA COVERED BY THE PLAN, 44.6 HECTARES HAVE BEEN ZONED FOR LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL USE, 91.5 HECTARES FOR VILLAGE TYPE DEVELOPMENT AND 99 HECTARES FOR GOVERNMENT, INSTITUTION AND COMMUNITY PURPOSES.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE PRESENT POPULATION OF THE PLANNING AREA WAS ABOUT 7 000, CONCENTRATED MAINLY IN THE VILLAGES AT PUI O, CHEUNG SHA AND TONG FUK.

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THE POPULATION UPON FULL DEVELOPMENT WILL BE 13 300, COMPRISING 11 000 IN VILLAGE TYPE AND 2 250 IN OTHER RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT.

/COPIES OF .....

COPIES OF THE DRAFT PLAN INCLUDING NOTES ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION AT THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (CENTRAL AND WESTERN) ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING ENTRANCE= THE DISTRICT OFFICE (ISLANDS), INTERNATIONAL BUILDING, FOURTH FLOOR, 141 DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL AND THE TOWN PLANNING OFFICE, 17TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG.

UNDER A NOTICE PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GOVERNMENT GAZETTE, ANY PERSON AFFECTED BY THE DRAFT PLAN MAY SUBMIT WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD, C/O PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG BEFORE JULY 29.

COPIES OF THE DRAFT PLAN ARE AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE, 19TH FLOOR, ALSO IN MURRAY BUILDING.

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TECHNICAL INSTITUTES MUST HAVE INDUSTRY'S HELP

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TECHNICAL INSTITUTES REQUIRE THE CO-OPERATION OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE TO ENSURE THAT STUDENTS RECEIVE THE ESSENTIAL UP-TO-DATE PRACTICAL CONTENT OF THEIR TRAINING, SIR YUET-KEUNG KAN SAID TODAY.

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF LEE WAI LEE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE IN KOWLOON TONG, THE FIFTH TECHNICAL INSTITUTE RUN BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

SIR YUET-KEUNG SAID THAT MODERN TECHNOLOGY WAS ADVANCING RAPIDLY AND IT WAS THE TASK OF TECHNICAL INSTITUTES TO PREPARE THE TECHNICIANS AND CRAFTSMEN WHO WOULD BE HANDLING ALL MODERN SOPHISTICATED EQUIPMENT.

+THE TASK CANNOT BE COMPLETED BY THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES ENTIRELY WITHIN THEIR OWN RESOURCES. EXPERIENCE IN THE WORKING ENVIRONMENT IS A NECESSARY PART OF THE TRAINING PROCESS, AND THIS IS WHERE INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE COME INTO THE EDUCATION PICTURE,+ HE SAID.

AT PRESENT MORE THAN THREE-QUARTERS OF ALL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE STUDENTS ARE UNDERGOING PART-TIME COURSES WITH A LARGE PART OF THEIR WEEK SPENT IN INDUSTRY.

COLLABORATION WITH INDUSTRY IS NOT RESTRICTED TO STUDENT LEVEL, AND SIR YUET-KEUNG SAID: +EVERY YEAR A NUMBER OF TECHNICAL INSTITUTE STAFF RETURN TO INDUSTRY FOR PERIODS OF TWO TO FOUR WEEKS, USUALLY IN THE SUMMER MONTHS TO UP-DATE THEIR KNOWLEGDE OF INDUSTRIAL PROCESSES.+

SPEAKING ON THE NEEDS OF STUDENTS, HE SAID IN THE PRESENT DAY STUDENTS HAVE MORE FREEDOM OF CHOICE AND A FORM 3 STUDENT WOULD BE ABLE TO STATE HIS CHOICE IN THE POST FORM 3 ALLOCATION SYSTEM WITH EXPECTATION OF GETTING WHAT HE WANTS.

+THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES WILL BE PART OF THE SYSTEM OF ALLOCATION AND THEY PROVIDE CRAFT COURSES AS A WORTHWHILE ALTERNATIVE TO A FORM 4 PLACE IN A SECONDARY SCHOOL,+ SIR YUET-KEUNG SAID.

/SURVEYS CONDUCTED .....

SURVEYS CONDUCTED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SHOWED THAT MANY GRADUATES PROGRESS TO WELL-PAID JOBS IN THEIR CHOICE OF CAREER, HE SAID.

ALSO SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY, THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR KENNETH TOPLEY SAID TECHNICAL EDUCATION WOULD BE FURTHER DEVELOPED WITH PLANS TO BUILD TWO NEW TECHNICAL INSTITUTES.

THE FIRST IS LOCATED AT TUEN MUN AND IS SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION IN 1984, HE SAID.

THE TECHNCIAL INSTITUTES HAVE RECENTLY EMBARKED ON AN UPDATING OF ALL CRAFT LEVEL COURSES. +THIS WHOLE PROCESS OF RE-EXAMINING OUR CRAFT SYLLABUSES AND MAKING THEM MORE UP-TO-DATE AND SUITABLE FOR HONG KONG WILL TAKE ONE OR TWO YEARS TO COMPLETE,+ HE ADDED.

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JOINT HELP FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED

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JOINT EFFORTS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR ARE NEEDED TO ENABLE EXPANSION OF DAY CARE CENTRES AND RESIDENTIAL HOMES FOR THE SEVERELY MENTALLY HANDICAPPED.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES, MR ERIC HO, WHEN HE OPENED HING WAH ADULT TRAINING CENTRE TODAY.

THE NEW CENTRE IS RUN BY THE SOCIETY OF HOMES FOR THE HANDICAPPED, ONE OF HONG KONG'S +VERY DEVOTED AND ENTHUSIASTIC VOLUNTARY AGENCIES,+ HE SAID.

MR HO SAID THE NEED TO PROVIDE CARE SERVICES FOR THE SEVERELY MENTALLY HANDICAPPED HAD LONG BEEN FELT, BUT UNTIL RECENTLY ONLY VERY LIMITED FACILITIES FOR THIS GROUP HAD BEEN AVAILABLE.

+DAY AND RESIDENTIAL CARE FOR THE SEVERELY MENTALLY HANDICAPPED AGED 16 AND OVER IS ONE OF THE SERVICE AREAS WHERE LARGE SHORTFALLS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED IN THE REHABILITATION PROGRAMME PLAN,+ HE SAID.

+BECAUSE OF THIS IT WAS PROPOSED IN THE 1979 REVIEW OF THE REHABILITATION PROGRAMME PLAN THAT DAY CARE CENTRES AND RESIDENTIAL HOMES CATERING FOR THIS PARTICULAR GROUP SHOULD BE GREATLY EXPANDED.+

HE SAID THIS WAS SO IN ORDER THAT THE ESTIMATED DEMAND FOR RESIDENTIAL CARE WOULD BE MET AND THE SHORTFALL OF DAY CARE PLACES SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED BY 1986.

+FURTHER EXPANSION WILL HINGE ON SUITABLE PREMISES AND SPONSORING BODIES BEING AVAILABLE.

+JOINT EFFORTS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR WILL BE NECESSARY TO ENABLE FURTHER EXPANSION TO TAKE PLACE,+ HE ADDED.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR OPEN STORAGE SITES

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TENDERS ARE BEING INVITED FOR SHORT TERM TENANCIES FOR THREE SITES WITH A TOTAL AREA OF 16 100 SQUARE METRES FOR OPEN STORAGE PURPOSES IN TUEN MUN NEW TOWN.

TWO OF THE SITES ARE SITUATED AT THE SOUTHWESTERN SIDE OF THE NEW TOWN WHICH IS SERVED BY LUNG MUN ROAD.

THEY MEASURE 5 500 SQUARE METRES AND 6 300 SQUARE METRES AND ARE FOR OPEN STORAGE WHICH MAY INCLUDE CARS.

THE TENANCY FOR THE SMALLER SITE IS FOR TWO YEARS CERTAIN AND QUARTERLY THEREAFTER, WHILE THE TENANCY FOR THE OTHER SITE IS FOR ONE YEAR AND NON-RENEWABLE.

THE TENANCY FOR THE THIRD SITE MEASURING 4 300 SQUARE METRES IS FOR ONE YEAR CERTAIN AND QUARTERLY THEREAFTER. SITUATED NEAR TSENG TAU HA TSUEN, IT IS FOR OPEN STORAGE OF NEW MOTOR VEHICLES.

A NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION SPOKESMAN SAID CONTAINERS AND DANGEROUS GOODS WERE NOT PERMITTED ON THE SITES. SUCCESSFUL TENDERERS WOULD BE ABLE TO BUILD A WATCHMAN'S STRUCTURE ON EACH SITE.

A YEAR'S RENT WILL BE PAYABLE IN ADVANCE ON ALL THE SITES, DETAILS OF WHICH ARE PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE PLACED IN THE TENDER BOX IN THE RECEPTION LOBBY OF THE NEW TERRITORIES HEADQUARTERS ON THE FIFTH FLOOR OF THE HONG KONG HOUSING AUTHORITY HEADQUARTERS BUILDING, PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD, KOWLOON, BEFORE 12 NOON ON JUNE 13. THEY SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY CHEQUES EQUIVALENT TO SIX MONTHS RENT TENDERED.

DETAILS OF THE TENDERS AND TENDER FORMS ARE AVAILABLE NOW FROM THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION HEADQUARTERS AND DISTRICT OFFICES OF ISLANDS, SAI KUNG, SHA TIN, TAI PO, NORTH, TSUEN WAN, TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG.

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TRADE DIRECTOR RETITLED

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THE TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT HAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE TITLE OF THE HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE, MR PETER TSAO, HAS BEEN CHANGED TO COMMISSIONER OF TRADE.

THIS BRINGS THE TITLE INTO LINE WITH THOSE OF THE OTHER TWO TICD DEPARTMENTS — INDUSTRY, CUSTOMS AND CONTROLS — WHICH ARE ALSO HEADED BY COMMISSIONERS.

TRAFFIC RESTRICTIONS

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PUBLIC LIGHT BUS AND URBAN CLEARWAY RESTRICTIONS WILL BE IMPOSED ON THE NORTHBOUND SECTION OF SMITHFIELD BETWEEN BELCHER'S STREET AND FORBES STREET IN KENNEDY TOWN FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY (JUNE 2).

WITHIN THE CLEARWAY, PLB'S WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS FROM 7 AM TO 12 MIDNIGHT DAILY.

THE SAME RESTRICTION WILL BE APPLIED TO OTHER VEHICLES FROM 7 AM TO 10 AM AND FROM 4 PM TO 7 PM EACH DAY. THEY ARE BESIDES NOT ALLOWED TO STOP TO LOAD OR UNLOAD GOODS WITHIN THESE PERIODS.

ALSO FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY, ALL MOTOR VEHICLES, UNLESS AUTHORIZED IN WRITING, WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM ENTERING THE GAP OF THE TRAFFIC ISLAND AT THE WESTERN LAY-BY OF KCR HUNG HOM STATION.

TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP AT THESE PLACES TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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FIRING PRACTICE

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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE BASALT ISLAND RANGE NEXT MONTH FROM JUNE 18 TO 20 BETWEEN 8 AM AND 12 NOON EACH DAY.

THIS NEW FIRING RANGE WAS OPENED THIS WEEK AND INCORPORATES BASALT ISLAND AND THE OPEN SEA TO THE EAST OF IT.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE ALSO REMINDED THAT FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE HA TSUEN-CASTLE PEAK RANGE NEXT WEEK FROM MONDAY TO WEDNESDAY (JUNE 2 TO 4) BETWEEN 8 AM AND 5 PM.

THEY ARE WARNED NOT TO ENTER THESE AREAS DURING TIMES OF PRACTICE WHEN RED FLAGS ARE FLYING.

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