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HK ECONOMY POISED TO RECOVER

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THE HONG KONG ECONOMY IS WELL POISED TO RECOVER, IF IT IS NOT ALREADY ON THE WAY TO A RECOVERY, THE SECRETARY FOR MONETARY AFFAIRS, MR DOUGLAS BLYE, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE 16TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK IN MANILA, MR BLYE SAID EXPORT ORDERS HAD SHOWN SIGNS OF PICKING UP AND THERE WAS A REVIVAL OF CONFIDENCE AMONG MANUFACTURERS.

+IT IS VERY ENCOURAGING THAT EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES, HONG KONG'S LARGEST MARKET, WERE IN REAL TERMS ABOUT NINE PER CENT HIGHER IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR, COMPARED WITH THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1982.

+THE SHARP DOWNWARD ADJUSTMENT SEEN RECENTLY IN PROPERTY AND LAND PRICES WHICH, AMONG OTHER THINGS, HAS CREATED DIFFICULTIES FOR A HANDFUL OF DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES APPEARS TO HAVE STABILISED.

+AND DESPITE EVENTS CONNECTED WITH THESE COMPANIES, HONG KONG HAS CONTINUED TO EXPAND AS AN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRE,+ HE SAID.

ON THE RECENT PERFORMANCE OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR, MR BLYE SAID PART OF THE WEAKNESS IN ITS EXCHANGE RATE RESULTED FROM HIGHER LEVELS OF IMPORTS OF RAW MATERIALS.

+AS THESE ARE CONVERTED INTO GOODS FOR EXPORTS, THE FLOW OF FOREIGN CURRENCY EARNINGS WILL INCREASE AND THIS WILL HAVE A FAVOURABLE EFFECT ON THE EXCHANGE RATE.+

HOWEVER, MR BLYE SAID A MODERATE DEGREE OF GOVERNMENT BORROWING MIGHT BE NECESSARY IF THE PRESENT DIFFICULTIES IN OUR PUBLIC FINANCES LOOKED LIKE CONTINUING BEYOND 1983-84 ON ANY SUBSTANTIAL SCALE.

THIS WAS BECAUSE IT WOULD NOT BE PRUDENT TO CONTINUE TO DRAW DOWN HONG KONG'S RESERVES AT A RATE OF OVER $3 BILLION A YEAR TO COVER ANY DEFICIT IN THE GOVERNMENT'S ACCOUNTS, HE SAID.

IN DRAWING DOWN THE RESERVES TO MEET THE EXPECTED DEFICITS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEARS 1982-83 AND 1983-84, HONG KONG'S FREE FISCAL RESERVES (AFTER PROVIDING FOR CONTINGENCIES) WOULD BE REDUCED TO ABOUT $8.6 BILLION AT THE END OF MARCH 1984, HE SAID.

MR BLYE SAID THAT IN CONSIDERING WHETHER TO BORROW, THE GOVERNMENT WOULD, HOWEVER, BE CONSTRAINED BY ITS SELF-IMPOSED BUDGETARY GUIDELINES, WHICH REQUIRED IT ALWAYS TO MAINTAIN A CONSIDERABLE SURPLUS ON RECURRENT ACCOUNT FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINANCING A SUBSTANTIAL PROPORTION OF EXPENDITURE ON THE CAPITAL ACCOUNT.

+WE SHALL FURTHER ENSURE THAT BORROWING WILL BE VIGOROUSLY CONTROLLED AND IN ANY CASE ONLY BE FOR THE PURPOSE OF PRODUCTIVE CAPITAL INVESTMENT.+

/NOTING THAT .....

NOTING THAT IT WAS TOO EARLY TO CONSIDER BORROWING SOURCES, MR BLYE SAID ONE OBVIOUS POSSIBILITY WAS FOR HONG KONG TO INVOKE ITS BORROWING RIGHTS WITH THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, WHICH HAD NOT BEEN USED SINCE 1980.

MR BLYE NOTED THAT THERE HAD RECENTLY BEEN EXCESSIVE COMMENT ABOUT THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG, MUCH OF IT +MISLEADING+ AND SOME +MISCHIEVOUS+.

+THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS THAT THERE IS A COMMON AIM BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND OF THE UNITED KINGDOM IN MAINTAINING THE STABILITY AND PROSPERITY OF HONG KONG.

+THIS COMMON AIM, WHEN SET AGAINST EXPERIENCE IN THE PAST DECADE OF AN AVERAGE ANNUAL GROWTH RATE IN REAL TERMS OF PER CAPITA GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT OF SEVEN PER CENT, AND THE LACK OF ANY PERSISTENT DOMESTIC INFLATION AND UNEMPLOYMENT, CLEARLY POINTS TO A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR HONG KONG,+ HE SAID.

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CHIEF SECRETARY VISITS CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT

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INCREASING DEMAND FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC STATISTICS FROM BOTH THE PUBLIC AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR FOR PLANNING AND RESEARCH HAD BEEN EVIDENT OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS, SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, WAS TOLD WHEN HE VISITED THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY).

THIS CAME AS NO SURPRISE TO SIR PHILIP AS HE HIMSELF ATTACHES CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE TO THE ROLE OF STATISTICS IN THE PLANNING OF HONG KONG'S SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS.

+THE DEPARTMENT'S CONSISTENTLY THOROUGH APPROACH IS A TRUE MEASURE OF THE HIGH PROFESSIONALISM OF ITS STAFF,+ SIR PHILIP SAID.

IN TERMS OF QUALITY, ITS MANY PURPOSE-BUILT SURVEYS WERE ON A PAR WITH THOSE BEING CONDUCTED IN SOME OF THE MOST ADVANCED COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD, REFLECTING HONG KONG'S GROWING SOPHISTICATION IN YET ANOTHER FIELD, HE ADDED.

ACCOMPANIED BY MR COLIN GREENFIELD, THE COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS, SIR PHILIP TOURED TWO OF THE DEPARTMENT'S THREE OFFICE LOCATIONS, ONE AT PERMANENT COMFORT BUILDING AND THE OTHER AT KAI TAK COMMERCIAL BUILDING, SHEUNG WAN.

DURING THE TOUR, SIR PHILIP WAS INTRODUCED TO A PLAN REGARDING THE REVISED APPROACH TO ANNUAL ECONOMIC SURVEYS.

UNDER THE REVISED PROGRAMME, MANPOWER SAVINGS CAN BE ACHIEVED, A MORE EVEN WORKLOAD ESTABLISHED, TIMING FOR THE AVAILABILITY OF DATA IMPROVED, AND REPORTING BURDEN ON RESPONDENTS MINIMISED.

THIS, EXPLAINED MR GREENFIELD, WAS PARTICULARLY NECESSARY IN ORDER TO MEET INCREASING DEMANDS ON THE RESOURCES OF THE DEPARTMENT.

/SIR PHILIP .....

SIR PHILIP SHOWED GREAT INTEREST IN THE POPULATION CENSUS WHICH WAS CARRIED OUT IN 1981 AND THE ONGOING SERIES OF GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS.

HE WAS TOLD THAT A BY-CENSUS WAS BEING PLANNED FOR 1986.

BEFORE CONCLUDING HIS TOUR, SIR PHILIP MET STAFF FROM ALL BRANCHES OF THE DEPARTMENT AND DISCUSSED THEIR WORK WITH THEM.

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GEOLOGICAL SURVEY ON HONG KONG

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THE GEOTECHNICAL CONTROL OFFICE OF THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT HAS RECENTLY STARTED A NEW GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF HONG KONG WHICH WILL PROVIDE BASIC GEOLOGICAL INFORMATION OF COMPARABLE QUALITY TO THAT AVAILABLE IN THE MOST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD.

REVEALING THIS TODAY (THURSDAY), THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEER, DR EDWARD BRAND, SAID THAT GOOD GEOLOGICAL INFORMATION WAS FUNDAMENTAL TO A WHOLE RANGE OF ACTIVITIES CONCERNED WITH LAND DEVELOPMENT, LAND USE PLANNING AND LAND MANAGEMENT.

+IT IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT IN PROVIDING ESSENTIAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE GROUND CONDITIONS FOR ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE BUILDING AND CIVIL ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES, INCLUDING DRAINAGE, WATER SUPPLY, SITE FORMATION WORKS, RECLAMATION AND QUARRYING,+ HE SAID.

THE EXISTING GEOLOGICAL MAP OF THE TERRITORY WAS COMPILED BETWEEN 1967 AND 1971 BY GEOLOGISTS FROM THE INSTITUTE OF GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES, WHICH IS THE NATIONAL GEOLOGICAL SURVEY BODY OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

+THE SCALE OF THIS MAP IS 1:50 000, WHICH IS NOW TOO SMALL TO SHOW ACCURATELY ALL THE IMPORTANT GEOLOGICAL FEATURES AND DETAIL REQUIRED FOR THE PRESENT DAY NEEDS OF HONG KONG,+ DR BRAND SAID.

+THE MAP IS ALSO WELL OUT OF DATE, PARTICULARLY BECAUSE OF THE MASSIVE AMOUNT OF LAND DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION THAT HAS TAKEN PLACE IN THE LAST 15 YEARS.+

THE NEW GEOLOGICAL SURVEY WILL AIM TO PRODUCE A SERIES OF COLOURED GEOLOGICAL MAPS DEPICTING BOTH THE BEDROCK AND THE SUPERFICIAL MATERIALS WHICH OVERLIE THE BEDROCK AT A SCALE OF 1:20 000. THE TERRITORY WILL BE DIVIDED INTO 14 AREAS FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS MAPPING, BASED ON THE POPULAR LANDS DEPARTMENT TOPOGRAPHIC MAP SERIES, AND EACH SET OF NEW GEOLOGICAL MAPS WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PUBLISHED REPORT DESCRIBING IN DETAIL THE GEOLOGY OF THE AREA.

+THE SURVEY WILL BE CARRIED OUT PRIMARILY BY INTENSIVE FIELD MAPPING SUPPLEMENTED BY AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH INTERPRETATION. AS PART OF THE SURVEY, A LARGE NUMBER OF GEOLOGICAL ROCK SPECIMENS WILL BE COLLECTED AND CATALOGUED,+ DR BRAND SAID.

/+SOME DRILLING .....

+SOME DRILLING WILL ALSO BE CARRIED OUT WHERE IT IS NECESSARY TO OBTAIN SUBSURFACE GEOLOGICAL INFORMATION, BUT CONSIDERABLE RELIANCE WILL BE PLACED UPON AN EXAMINATION OF THE RECORDS OF HOLES DRILLED PREVIOUSLY FOR CONSTRUCTION PURPOSES.+

SELECTED ADVANCED SPECIALIST GEOLOGICAL LABORATORY ANALYSIS WILL ALSO BE UNDERTAKEN TO ESTABLISH THE AGE, COMPOSITION AND PROPERTIES OF THE MAPPED ROCKS AND SOILS. ALL THE INFORMATION COLLECTED WILL BECOME PART OF A GEOLOGICAL DATA BANK WHICH HAS BEEN SET UP RECENTLY.

THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED GEOLOGICAL SURVEY SECTION WITHIN THE GEOTECHNICAL CONTROL OFFICE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE REMAPPING PROGRAMME.

+IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT THE WORK CONFORMS TO THE HIGHEST INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS, INITIAL ASSISTANCE HAS BEEN OBTAINED UNDER CONTRACT FROM THE INSTITUTE OF GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM,+ DR BRAND SAID.

+THIS INSTITUTE WILL CONTINUE TO ASSIST AT A DECREASING RATE UNTIL 1985, BY WHICH TIME ALL ASPECTS OF THE PROGRAMME WILL BE TAKEN OVER BY THE PROFESSIONAL STAFF OF THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY SECTION.+

IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THE REMAPPING OF THE ENTIRE TERRITORY WILL TAKE ABOUT EIGHT YEARS TO COMPLETE. THROUGHOUT THIS PERIOD, AS MAPS AND MEMOIRS ARE COMPLETED AND PRODUCED THEY WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR SALE TO THE PUBLIC.

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MPS SEE WELFARE SERVICES

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TWO VISITING MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT, THE RT. HON MARK CARLISLE AND MR TONY DURANT, AND THEIR WIVES, TODAY (THURSDAY) SAW SOME OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES PROVIDED IN HONG KONG.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR JOHN CHAMBERS, THEY VISITED THE HENRY G. LEONG YAU MA TEI COMMUNITY CENTRE, WHICH OFFERS DIVERSIFIED SERVICES TO THE LOCAL RESIDENTS.

THE VISITORS WERE BRIEFED BY THE WARDEN, MISS MAY CHUNG, ON THE SERVICE UNITS RUN BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES.

THEY THEN TOURED THE UNITS, WHICH INCLUDED A DAY NURSERY, A SOCIAL CENTRE FOR THE ELDERLY, A SOCIAL AND RECREATIONAL CLUB FOR FORMER MENTAL PATIENTS, A KAIFONG WELFARE OFFICE AND AN OUTREACHING SOCIAL WORK TEAM FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

THE PARTY THEN WENT TO THE MA TAU WAI GIRLS' HOME IN HO MAN TIN, WHICH SERVES AS A COMBINED REMAND AND PROBATION HOME AND PLACE OF REFUGE FOR YOUNG GIRLS.

THE SUPERINTENDENT, MRS Y.L. SHUM, GAVE THE VISITORS A BRIEFING ON THE HOME'S FUNCTIONS AND ORGANISATION BEFORE TAKING THEM TO SEE THE RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES AND THE GIRLS UNDER TRAINING.

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TWO VISITING MPS VISIT SHA TIN NEW TOWN
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TWO CONSERVATIVE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT FROM BRITAIN TODAY (THURSDAY) VISITED THE FAST-GROWING SHA TIN NEW TOWN AND SAW AT FIRST HAND THE DRAMATIC DEVELOPMENTS IN PUBLIC HOUSING AND OTHER FACILITIES THERE.

ACCOMPANIED BY SENIOR HOUSING OFFICIALS, MR MARK CARLISLE AND MR TONY DURANT TOURED THE HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME FLATS AT SUI WO COURT AND MEI LAM RENTAL ESTATE. THEY WERE VERY IMPRESSED WITH THE WIDE RANGE OF COMMERCIAL AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES THERE.

+YOU HAVE PROVIDED ENOUGH AMENITIES, SECURITY MEASURES AS WELL AS PLAY AREAS FOR CHILDREN ON PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES,+ SAID MR DURANT DURING THE VISIT.

FROM A VANTAGE POINT AT SUI WO COURT, THEY WERE SHOWN THE VARIOUS PUBLIC HOUSING PROJECTS WHICH WERE EITHER COMPLETED OR UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN THE NEW TOWN.

EARLIER DURING A VISIT TO THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, THE MPS WERE BRIEFED ON THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION SYSTEM AND NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENTS BY THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR NEW TERRITORIES, MR HAIDER BARMA.

THEY LATER WENT TO A LOOKOUT POINT IN SHA TIN AND HAD A PANORAMIC VIEW OF THE NEW TOWN WHERE THE POPULATION IS EXPECTED TO REACH HALF A MILLION IN ABOUT 10 YEARS' TIME.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MPS TO HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE
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VISITING CONSERVATIVE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT, MR MARK CARLISLE AND MR TONY DURANT, WILL GIVE A PRESS CONFERENCE ON SATURDAY (MAY 7) AT 11.30 AM IN THE GIS THEATRE, FIFTH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE.

MR CARLISLE AND MR DURANT CAME TO HONG KONG A WEEK AGO. DURING THEIR VISIT THEY MET MANY SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WHO GAVE THEM AN INSIGHT INTO HONG KONG.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BRIEF BIOGRAPHIES OF MR CARLISLE AND MR DURANT:

THE RT HON MARK CARLISLE, QC, MP (CONSERVATIVE)

MR MARK CARLISLE, CONSERVATIVE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR CHESHIRE, RUNCORN DIVISION, WAS THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EDUCATION AND SCIENCE FROM 1979 TO 1981.

MR CARLISLE WAS BORN IN 1929 AND EDUCATED AT RADLEY AND MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY. HE SERVED AS 2ND LIEUTENANT IN THE ROYAL ARMY EDUCATION CORPS FROM 1948 TO 1950.

MR CARLISLE WAS CALLED TO THE BAR BY GRAY'S INN AND PRACTISED IN MANCHESTER FROM 1954. HE WAS A MEMBER OF BAR COUNCIL FROM 1966 TO 1970 AND BECAME QUEEN'S COUNSEL IN 1971. HE WAS THE JOINT HON SECRETARY OF THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY HOME AFFAIRS COMMITTEE FROM 1966 TO 1969 AND WAS A MEMBER OF THE HOME OFFICE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE PENAL SYSTEM FROM 1966 TO 1970.

MR CARLISLE BECAME UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE, HOME DEPARTMENT FROM 1970 TO 1972 AND WAS APPOINTED MINISTER OF STATE, HOME OFFICE FROM 1972 TO 1974. BETWEEN 1975 AND 1979, HE WAS A MEMBER OF THE BBC ADVISORY COUNCIL. IN 1979, HE WAS MADE A PRIVY COUNCILLOR.

MR CARLISLE IS MARRIED.

MR TONY DURANT, MP (CONSERVATIVE)

MR TONY DURANT, CONSERVATIVE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR READING NORTH, IS THE CHAIRMAN OF BOTH THE CONSERVATIVE NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT, AND THE BACK BENCH CONSERVATIVE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT.

MR DURANT IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSIONER SELECT COMMITTEE, THE COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION BRITISH BRANCH EXECUTIVE, AND THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE.

/MR DURANT .....

MR DURANT WAS BORN IN 1928 AND EDUCATED AT BRYANSTON, DORSET. HE WAS A CONSERVATIVE AGENT FROM 1952 TO 1962, AND WAS THE NATIONAL ORGANISER OF YOUNG CONSERVATIVE FROM 1962 TO 1967. HE BECAME A MEMBER OF THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL FROM 1968 TO 1974 AND WAS THE SECRETARY OF THE CONSERVATIVE CANDIDATES ASSOCIATION FROM 1972 TO 1974. HE HAS BEEN THE SECRETARY AND DIRECTOR OF AUDIO VISUAL AID CO. SINCE 1970.

MR DURANT IS MARRIED.

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PUBLIC TRANSPORT PRIORITY MEASURES ACHIEVE THEIR AIM

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BUS JOURNEY TIMES AT MANY LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY HAVE BEEN IMPROVED SIGNIFICANTLY AS A RESULT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PUBLIC TRANSPORT PRIORITY SCHEMES.

THIS WAS REVEALED IN A REPORT PUBLISHED RECENTLY BY MOTT, HAY AND ANDERSON FAR EAST, A CONSULTANT FIRM, TO EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PUBLIC TRANSPORT PRIORITY SCHEMES THAT WERE INTRODUCED.

THE COMPANY WAS APPOINTED IN MARCH 1981 IN A JOINT EFFORT WITH THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT TO EXAMINE 52 PROBLEM AREAS IDENTIFIED BY THE TWO MAJOR BUS COMPANIES WHERE OPERATION OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT WAS SERIOUSLY AFFECTED DUE TO TRAFFIC CONGESTION.

OF THESE AREAS, 32 WERE LOCATED ON THE MAINLAND AND 20 ON HONG KONG ISLAND.

IN MANY OF THESE AREAS, THERE IS FREQUENTLY A CONSIDERABLE LACK OF ALTERNATIVE ROUTES AND ROAD CAPACITY, AND CONSEQUENTLY THE EMPHASIS WAS PLACED ON MAXIMISING THE SCOPE OF TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT TO EFFECT THE NECESSARY IMPROVEMENT FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORT.

AS A RESULT, A NUMBER OF AREAS TO BE STUDIED WERE GROUPED TOGETHER DUE TO THEIR PROXIMITY TO ONE ANOTHER AND THE OBVIOUS INTER-RELATIONSHIP OF THE AREAS.

THIS RESULTED IN THE DETAILED DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF 17 PUBLIC TRANSPORT PRIORITY SCHEMES ON THE MAINLAND AND SEVEN ON THE ISLAND WITHIN A 21-MONTH PERIOD.

IN SUMMING UP, THE REPORT SAID, +THE SAVINGS IN BUS PASSENGER HOURS ARE IN EXCESS OF 12 MILLION PER ANNUM AND THE BENEFITS ARE CALCULATED TO BE OVER HK$100 MILLION PER ANNUM.+

IN INTRODUCING THE SCHEMES, DIFFERENT TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES HAVE BEEN EMPLOYED TO SUIT DIFFERENT TRAFFIC CONDITIONS SO AS TO ENSURE ALL ROAD USERS BENEFITED FROM THE MEASURES ADOPTED.

/FOR EXAMPLE, ...

FOR EXAMPLE, THE HUNG HOM-TO KWA WAN AND KING'S ROAD SCHEMES FEATURE MOST OF THE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES WHICH INCLUDE A GYRATORY SYSTEM, CLEARWAY RESTRICTIONS, RE-ROUTING OF SIDE STREET TRAFFIC, RATIONALISATION OF BUS STOPS, TRAFFIC SIGNAL CO-ORDINATION, +WITH-FLOW+ BUS LANES, +CONTRA-FLOW+ BUS LANES AND BUS-ONLY STREET.

ANOTHER TECHNIQUE USED FOR EXAMPLE IN THE POK FU LAM ROAD SCHEME WAS THE +OFF-SETTING+ OF A CENTRE LINE TO ALLOW AN EXTRA LANE FOR BUSES. THIS HAS RESULTED IN A SAVING OF APPROXIMATELY 11 MINUTES PER BUS ON THEIR AVERAGE JOURNEY TIME.

BUS JOURNEY TIMES HAVE BEEN REDUCED IN GLOUCESTER ROAD BY WIDENING THE CARRIAGEWAY TO PROVIDE A 24-HOUR BUS LANE.

THE CONSTRUCTION OF A +BUS GATE+ FOR THE KWAI CHUNG ROAD SCHEME HAS MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR BUSES ONLY TO CROSS A ROAD WITH FAST MOVING TRAFFIC IN ORDER TO GAIN ACCESS TO A MTR STATION AND HAS RESULTED IN REDUCING THE BUS JOURNEY TIME BETWEEN CASTLE PEAK ROAD AND KWAI FONG MTR STATION BY 2-1/2 MINUTES DURING THE MORNING AND THREE MINUTES DURING THE EVENING PEAK PERIOD.

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INTELPOST SERVICE TO FRANCE AND WEST GERMANY

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THE POSTMASTER GENERAL ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT THE INTELPOST SERVICE WILL BE EXTENDED TO FRANCE AND WEST GERMANY ON MAY 9.

HE SAID INTELPOST, WHICH IS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE TO THE UNITED KINGDOM AND USA, PROVIDES FOR HIGH SPEED FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION OF DOCUMENTS, DRAWINGS AND PERSONAL MESSAGES.

DELIVERY CAN BE ACHIEVED IN A MATTER OF HOURS TO DESTINATIONS WHERE SPECIAL MESSENGER DELIVERY SERVICE IS AVAILABLE OR THROUGH THE PICK-UP SERVICE AT DESIGNATED INTELPOST OFFICES.

SINCE THE LAUNCHING OF INTELPOST ON DECEMBER 6 LAST YEAR, THE RESPONE FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HAS BEEN VERY ENCOURAGING AND THE EXTENSION OF FACILITIES TO FRANCE AND WEST GERMANY WILL PROVIDE A WELCOMED ADDITION TO THE RANGE OF DESTINATIONS AVAILABLE, HE SAID.

THE CHARGES FOR THE SERVICES TO FRANCE AND WEST GERMANY WILL BE:

* FOR THE FIRST SIDE OF AN A4 SHEET OF PAPER - $65
* FOR EACH SUBSEQUENT A4 SIDE SENT TO THE SAME ADDRESSEE AT THE SAME TIME - $30

CUSTOMERS WISHING TO MAKE USE OF THE SERVICE MAY POST THEIR DOCUMENTS AT EITHER THE GENERAL POST OFFICE IN THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OR THE TSIM SHA TSUI POST OFFICE AT 10 MIDDLE ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI.

FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE SERVICE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE INTELPOST REPRESENTATIVE ON TELEPHONE 5-2671148.

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1982 SURVEY OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT IS NOW CONDUCTING A SURVEY OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION TO COLLECT DATA FOR THE YEAR 1982.

THE SURVEY IS A FOLLOW-UP TO A SIMILAR ENQUIRY CONDUCTED FOR 1981, AND REPRESENTS PART OF A CONTINUOUS PROGRAMME TO COLLECT ECONOMIC STATISTICS ON THE STRUCTURE AND PERFORMANCE OF THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR.

THE AIM OF THE SURVEY IS TO OBTAIN INFORMATION REQUIRED BY BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE ENTERPRISE IN ARRIVING AT DECISIONS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE SPHERES.

THE DATA TO BE COLLECTED WILL FACILITATE UPDATING ESTIMATES OF THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT OF HONG KONG, REVIEWING CHANGES IN THE LEVEL OF OUTPUT AND TYPE OF GOODS MANUFACTURED, AND MAKING INTER-INDUSTRY COMPARISONS.

SOME 8 000 ESTABLISHMENTS WILL BE ENUMERATED IN THE SECTORS OF MINING AND QUARRYING, MANUFACTURING, AND ELECTRICITY, GAS AND WATER.

ALL INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS ENGAGING 100 OR MORE PERSONS ARE INCLUDED, WHILST A SAMPLE IS RANDOMLY SELECTED FOR ESTABLISHMENTS ENGAGING FEWER THAN 100 PERSONS.

INFORMATION SOUGHT IN THE SURVEY INCLUDES TYPE OF OWNERSHIP, FLOOR AREA, EMPLOYMENT, MAN-HOURS WORKED, COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES (I.E. WAGES, SALARIES AND OTHER EMPLOYEE BENEFITS), CONTRACT AND COMMISSION WORK, PURCHASES OF MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES, OPERATING EXPENSES, SALES AND WORK DONE, OTHER RECEIPTS, STOCKS AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.

THE SURVEY IS BEING CONDUCTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS (ANNUAL SURVEY OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION) ORDER 1981, WHICH WAS MADE UNDER THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS ORDINANCE (CHAPTER 316 OF THE LAWS OF HONG KONG) AND ISSUED AS LEGAL NOTICE NO. 18 IN THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT GAZETTE OF JANUARY 30, 1981.

SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRES HAVE BEEN SENT BY RECORDED DELIVERY TO THE ESTABLISHMENTS CONCERNED.

MANAGEMENTS ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE AND RETURN THEM TO THE DEPARTMENT PROMPTLY.

UPON REQUEST, OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT MAY VISIT ESTABLISHMENTS AND ASSIST IN COMPLETING THE QUESTIONNAIRE.

THE COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS APPEALED TO MANAGEMENTS TO RETURN THE COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRES PROMPTLY AND TO CO-OPERATE WITH OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT, WHO WILL BE CARRYING GOVERNMENT IDENTITY CARDS.

HE EMPHASIZED THAT INFORMATION RELATING TO INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS WILL BE TREATED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND WILL ONLY BE USED IN AN AGGREGATE FORM FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES.

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CONSTRUCTION OF SHA TIN TOWN PARK

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THE SHA TIN NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY) AWARDED A CONTRACT TO SHIU TAI AND CO. LTD. FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF SHA TIN'S TOWN PARK.

THE CONTRACT, WORTH ABOUT $50 MILLION, WAS SIGNED THIS AFTERNOON BY MR KEITH AUSTIN, ACTING PROJECT MANAGER OF THE SHA TIN NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COMPANY.

THE TOWN PARK, THE FIRST OF ITS KIND, WILL FORM A MAJOR ELEMENT IN THE OPEN SPACES TO BE PROVIDED IN THE NEW TOWN AND WILL OCCUPY A TEN-HECTARE SITE ALONG THE NORTHERN BANK OF THE SHING MUN RIVER.

+IT WILL BE CONVENIENTLY LOCATED IN THE HEART OF THE TOWN, BETWEEN THE TOWN CENTRE BUILDINGS NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND THE RIVER,+ MR AUSTIN SAID.

+THE MAJOR FEATURE OF THE PARK WILL BE A PAVED PLAZA PROVIDING A SETTING FOR THE FUTURE NEW TOWN CULTURAL COMPLEX, WITH FOUNTAINS, AN OPEN-AIR BANDSTAND THEATRE AREA WHICH WILL BE COVERED BY A COLOURFUL AWNING, AND WIDE-SPREAD FLOWERING TREES TO PROVIDE SHADE,+ HE ADDED.

A CONTINUOUS PROMENADE AND CYCLE TRACK WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED ALONG THE 800-METRE RIVER FRONTAGE, SHADED WITH BANYAN TREES.

+THIS WILL FORM PART OF AN EXTENSIVE PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLE TRACK SYSTEM THROUGHOUT THE TOWN. THERE WILL BE STEPS AND RAMPS FOR PEDESTRIAN ACCESS UP TO THE HIGHER LEVEL OF THE PARK, AND TO CAFES AND TEA TERRACES OVERLOOKING THE RIVER,+ MR AUSTIN SAID.

OTHER FEATURES OF THE PARK WILL INCLUDE A LARGE ARTIFICIAL HILL AND WATERFALL, A TROPICAL GARDEN, ADVENTURE PLAY AREAS, POOLS, PONDS AND FOUNTAINS, PAVILIONS AND EXTENSIVE TREE AND SHRUB PLANTING AREAS.

WORK ON THE CONTRACT WILL START LATER THIS MONTH AND TAKE ABOUT 20 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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TUEN MUN TO HOLD DB MEETING TOMORROW

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A PROPOSAL TO CONVERT THE BOWRING ARMY CAMP IN TUEN MUN INTO A TEMPORARY REFUGEE CLOSED CENTRE WILL BE DISCUSSED AT THE LOCAL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MR CLINTON LEEKS, WILL EXPLAIN DETAILS OF THE PROPOSAL.

AT THE MEETING, MEMBERS WILL ALSO BE BRIEFED ON THE RECENTLY INTRODUCED LICENSING AND CONTROL MEASURES ON DWELLING VESSELS IN TYPHOON SHELTERS.

/THEY WILL .....

THEY WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE FIFTH REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON PROVISION OF FACILITIES IN TUEN MUN TEMPORARY HOUSING AREAS, AND PROPOSED INTERIM MEASURES TO SOLVE THE SHORTAGE OF PARKING FACILITIES IN THE DISTRICT.

OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION WILL INCLUDE SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT OF SQUATTER AREAS, PROPOSED TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT IMPROVEMENTS, AND REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND OTHER SUB-COMMITTEES.

SEATS WILL BE RESERVED FOR THE PUBLIC ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST -SERVED BASIS, AND PEOPLE WISHING TO ATTEND SHOULD TELEPHONE THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT AT 0-843801.

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+MEI FA+ PROJECT HELPED BY HEAVY RAINS

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THE RECENT HEAVY RAINS, WHILE DISMAYING TO FOOTBALLERS AND RACEGOERS, HAVE PROVED TO BE A BOUNTY TO THE ORGANISERS OF LAST YEAR'S 'MEI FA' (BEAUTIFICATION) PLANTING PROJECT.

A CITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE WET WEATHER HAD CONTRIBUTED TO THE HIGH SURVIVAL RATE OF THE MORE THAN 2.5 MILLION TREES, SHRUBS, CLIMBERS AND FLOWERS PLANTED DURING THE MEI-FA PHASE. LESS THAN FIVE PER CENT DID NOT MAKE IT THROUGH THE WINTER.

+A WET WINTER IS PRECISELY WHAT THE YOUNG PLANTS NEED FOR THEIR FIRST YEAR IN THE GROUND,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

DURING THE MEI-FA PHASE, THE URBAN COUNCIL HAD PLANTED 26 500 TREES, 32 000 BAMBOOS, 160 000 SHRUBS, 4 250 CLIMBERS, 76 000 GROUND COVER PLANTS AND 200 000 FLOWERING ANNUALS IN THE URBAN AREAS.

+OF THESE, MOST HAVE SURVIVED AND ARE GOING STRONG,+ HE SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT DUE TO THE ASSISTANCE GIVEN BY SCHOOLS AND DISTRICT BOARDS, THE ACTUAL NUMBER PLANTED HAD EXCEEDED THE U.C.'S ORIGINAL TARGET BY MORE THAN 50 PER CENT.

THE COUNCIL'S TARGET THIS YEAR IS TO PLANT 30 000 TREES, 165 000 SHRUBS, 8 500 CLIMBERS, 110 000 GROUND COVER PLANTS, 6 000 BAMBOOS AND 220 000 FLOWERING ANNUALS.

THE WET WINTER HAS ALSO HELPED THE U.C. TO GET A HEAD START ON THE 1983 PLANTING SEASON. BY THE END OF MARCH, MORE THAN 123 000 PLANTS HAD ALREADY BEEN PLANTED.

LIKE LAST YEAR, VIRTUALLY ALL THE PLANTS ARE COMING FROM THE U.C.'S 10 NURSERIES.

/+AND WE .....

+AND WE ARE MODERNISING THE NURSERIES WITH THE AIM OF DOUBLING THEIR 1982 OUTPUT BY 1986,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE U.C. ALSO PLANS TO CONSTRUCT 250 NEW CONCRETE FLOWER TROUGHS ALONG STREETS AND BENEATH FLYOVERS IN THE URBAN AREAS. 310 WERE BUILT LAST YEAR.

WITH THESE ADDITIONAL FLOWER BEDS, THE U.C. HOPES TO BEAUTIFY 18 PREVIOUSLY NEGLECTED ROADSIDE AREAS.

THE TERRITORY-WIDE TARGET FOR THE TWO-YEAR MEI-FA PHASE IS 5.2 MILLION NEW TREES, SHRUBS, CLIMBERS AND FLOWERS.

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TENDERS FOR TENANCY OF CROWN LAND

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THE LANDS DEPARTMENT IS NOW INVITING TENDERS FOR THE SHORT TERM TENANCIES OF TWO PIECES OF CROWN LAND.

THE FIRST SITE, SITUATED AT KOWLOON BAY RECLAMATION, IS FOR CONCRETE BATCHING AND CEMENT HANDLING PURPOSE. IT HAS AN AREA OF ABOUT 2 150 SQUARE METRES.

THE TENANCY FOR THIS SITE IS FOR THREE YEARS AND THEREAFTER QUARTERLY.

THE OTHER SITE IS IN YUEN LONG SOUTH OF CHUNG SING PRIMARY SCHOOL.

THE AREA OF THE SITE MEASURES ABOUT 2 019 SQUARE METRES AND IS FOR FEE PAYING PUBLIC CAR PARK.

THE TENANCY FOR THIS SITE IS FOR SIX MONTHS AND THEREAFTER MONTHLY.

THE DEADLINE FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF TENDERS FOR THE ABOVE TWO SITES IS 12 NOON ON MAY 20, 1983.

TENDER FORMS, NOTICES AND CONDITIONS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM, AND TENDER PLANS INSPECTED AT THE LANDS DEPARTMENT, SURVEY DIVISION, MURRAY BUILDING, 5TH FLOOR, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG; AND DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE (KOWLOON EAST), KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 9TH FLOOR, 405 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON FOR THE KOWLOON BAY SITE, AND DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE (KOWLOON WEST), KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 10TH FLOOR, 405 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON; AND AT YUEN LONG DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE FOR THE YUEN LONG SITE.

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TALK ON BANK LOANS FOR SMALL MANUFACTURERS

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ABOUT 50 MANUFACTURERS IN WONG TAI SIN HAVE BEEN INVITED TO A SEMINAR TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON WHEN THREE BANKING EXECUTIVES WILL TALK ON THE PROCEDURES IN APPLYING FOR LOANS.

ENTITLED +CREDIT LINE FOR SMALL MANUFACTURERS+, THE TALK IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE SAN PO KONG INDUSTRIAL AREA COMMITTEE.

+WITH THE RECENT INTRODUCTION OF A LOAN SCHEME FOR SMALL MANUFACTURERS IN THE BANKING FIELD, A TALK ON THE SUBJECT WOULD BE OF INTEREST TO THE DISTRICT'S MANUFACTURERS,+ SAID THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MR PAUL WONG.

THE BANK EXECUTIVES GIVING THE TALKS ARE ALL FROM THE HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION AND WILL EACH SPEAK FOR 10 MINUTES, TO BE FOLLOWED BY A QUESTION-AND-ANSWER SESSION.

THE SEMINAR WILL BE HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICE STARTING AT 2.30 PM.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

REPORT OF EDUCATION EXPERTS AVAILABLE

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COPIES OF THE REPORT OF THE PANEL OF VISITORS CONDUCTING THE OVERALL REVIEW OF EDUCATION, IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE, WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION FROM THE PRESS ROOM, GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, 6TH FLOOR AT 9 AM TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

MR KENNETH TOPLEY, SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER; AND MR PAUL LEUNG, PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER; WILL MEET THE PRESS AT 4 PM TOMORROW TO OUTLINE THE MAJOR ISSUES CONTAINED IN THE REPORT.

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND YOUR REPRESENTATIVES TO ATTEND THE PRESS CONFERENCE WHICH WILL BE HELD AT THE THEATRE, GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, 5TH FLOOR, HONG KONG.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

CRIME STATISTICS REVIEW
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THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, CRIME, MR BRIAN WEBSTER, WILL REVIEW THE CRIME STATISTICS FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1983 IN A PRESS CONFERENCE TO BE HELD AT 10 AM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) IN THE POLICE PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH AT 24-34 HENNESSY ROAD, TAI SANG COMMERCIAL BUILDING, 4TH FLOOR, WAN CHAI.

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

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APPLICATION INVITED FOR SCHOOL HIRE CAR PERMITS
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL INVITE APPLICATIONS FOR 230 SCHOOL HIRE CAR PERMITS TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID PRIVATE CAR OWNERS WHOSE VEHICLES ARE LICENSED TO CARRY SEVEN PASSENGERS ARE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY.

HOWEVER, HOLDERS OF SCHOOL HIRE CAR PERMITS OR THOSE WHO HAD GIVEN UP THEIR SCHOOL HIRE CAR PERMITS IN EXCHANGE FOR PRIVATE LIGHT BUS LICENCES FOR SCHOOL SERVICE WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

THE APPLICANT SHOULD PRODUCE, AMONG OTHER DOCUMENTS, EVIDENCE FROM THE PRINCIPAL OF EACH SCHOOL CERTIFYING THAT THE PROPOSED SCHOOL HIRE CAR SERVICE SPECIFIED IN THE APPLICATION IS REQUIRED.

HIRE CAR PERMITS WILL NOT BE TRANSFERABLE. THE ANNUAL FEE WILL BE $500 AND $175 FOR A PERIOD OF FOUR MONTHS.

THE VEHICLES HAVE TO PASS AN EXAMINATION EVERY YEAR BEFORE THE PERMITS CAN BE RENEWED, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

VEHICLE REGISTRATION DOCUMENT (ORIGINAL OR CERTIFIED COPY) OR OTHER WRITTEN PROOFS OF VEHICLE OWNERSHIP MUST BE PRODUCED FOR THE COLLECTION OF APPLICATION FORMS FROM TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT'S PUBLIC VEHICLES SECTION, MEZZANINE FLOOR, MURRAY ROAD CAR PARK, HONG KONG OR AT ITS KOWLOON OFFICE AT PARK-IN COMMERCIAL CENTRE, 56 DUNDAS STREET, KOWLOON.

COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED EITHER IN PERSON OR BY REGISTERED POST TO EITHER OF THESE OFFICES.

ENQUIRIES MAY BE MADE BY CALLING 5-256527 OR 3-329294.

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ANTI-NARCOTICS MESSAGE FOR CENTRAL AND WESTERN YOUTHS

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A HUGE MURAL, CARRYING AN ANTI-NARCOTICS MESSAGE, WILL BE UNVEILED ON SUNDAY (MAY 8) AT SHEUNG WAN TO MARK THE OPENING OF A TELEMATCH — ONE OF THE MANY ACTIVITIES OF THE TWO-WEEK LONG CENTRAL AND WESTERN ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN.

MEASURING 3.6 METRES BY 7.2 METRES, THE MURAL IS A JOINT EFFORT OF STUDENTS FROM NINE LOCAL SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

IT WILL LATER BE ERECTED AT THE OPEN SPACE OPPOSITE THE UNIVERSAL HOUSE IN CENTRAL FOR THREE WEEKS TO WARN THE GENERAL PUBLIC AGAINST THE DANGER OF DRUG-TAKING.

TWELVE TEAMS FROM LOCAL SCHOOLS AND YOUTH AND VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATIONS WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE TELEMATCH TO BE HELD AT THE PO HING FONG BLAKE GARDEN, BEGINNING AT 2 PM.

OTHER PROGRAMMES, TO BE HELD AT THE GARDEN IN THE SAME AFTERNOON, WILL INCLUDE AN EXHIBITION ON +WAR AGAINST DRUGS+, A CHILDREN PAINTING GALLERY, A KUNG FU PERFORMANCE, A DRAWING COMPETITION AND A LUCKY DRAW.

FREE ENTRY TICKETS WITH LUCKY DRAW COUPONS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE KENNEDY TOWN SUB-OFFICE OF THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, THE Y.M.C.A. AT BRIDGES STREET AND KWUN LUNG LAU Y.W.C.A.

JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN ORGANISING COMMITTEE, THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS, THE CAMPAIGN, BEGINNING ON MAY 1, IS AIMED AT YOUNG PEOPLE BETWEEN 15 AND 24 YEARS OF AGE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE UNVEILLING CEREMONY OF THE MURAL AND THE TELEMATCH TO BE HELD AT 2 PM ON SUNDAY (MAY 8) AT THE PO HING FONG BLAKE GARDEN, SHEUNG WAN.

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COURSE ON NEW CYCLING SPORT

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OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE FOR EXPERIENCED CYCLISTS TO TRY THEIR HANDS AT A NEW SPORT KNOWN AS CYCLE BALL.

THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE (RSS) OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT AND THE HONG KONG CYCLING ASSOCIATION ARE JOINTLY ORGANISING A CYCLE BALL TRAINING COURSE STARTING FROM MAY 21.

THE COURSE, CONSISTING OF 10 SESSIONS, WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS FROM 2.30 PM TO 4.30 PM.

MALE CYCLISTS AT THE AGE OF 14 OR ABOVE AND WITH GOOD CYCLING SKILL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN THE COURSE.

+THIS IS AN EXCITING AND CHALLENGING SPORT WHICH REQUIRES QUICK REACTION AND CO-OPERATION WITH TEAM MEMBERS,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE RSS SAID.

+THERE WILL BE A DEMONSTRATION IN ADVANCE OF THE COURSE TO HELP INTRODUCE THE GAME,+ HE ADDED.

THE DEMONSTRATION WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY (MAY 8), STARTING AT 1.45 PM, AT SOUTHORN PLAYGROUND, WAN CHAI. ADMISSION IS FREE.

THE COURSE WILL TAKE PLACE AT KEI CHI MIDDLE SCHOOL, KWUN TONG. THE FEE IS $20 PER PARTICIPANT.

BICYCLES AND BALLS WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE ORGANISERS.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE RSS HEADOFFICE AND ANY OF ITS 19 DISTRICT OFFICES.

FURTHER DETAILS MAY BE OBTAINED BY DIALLING 5-458511, 5-733861 OR 5-891587.

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WATER CUT

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN CAUSEWAY BAY WILL BE CUT OFF FOR SEVEN HOURS FROM 11 PM ON MAY 9 (MONDAY) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY TO FACILITATE A LEAKAGE TEST.

THE AREA TO BE AFFECTED WILL BE BOUNDED BY PERCIVAL STREET, LEIGHTON ROAD, LEE GARDEN ROAD AND HENNESSY ROAD, INCLUDING HOUSES NO.482 HENNESSY ROAD AND NOS.1 AND 3 JARDINE'S CRESCENT.

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