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CONTENTS PAGE NO.

CS MEETS HK REPRESENTATIVES IN WASHINGTON 1
HK PROJECTS FOR COMMONWEALTH AWARD SCHEME 2
LABOUR LAW OFFENCES DROP AS FINES GO UP 3
CALL FOR MORE UC FACILITIES IN MONG KOK 4
RESIDENTS URGED TO SUPPORT RC ELECTIONS 5
ANNUAL CONCERT FOR SOUTHERN DISTRICT CHOIRS 5
CONCERT BY MUSIC OFFICE TRAINEES 6
APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR ADULT EDUCATION AIDS 7
BOARD TO DISCUSS HOUSING PROJECTS 8
NT STUDENTS POTTED PLANT COMPETITION 9
INDOOR GAMES HALL FOR MONG KOK 10
BOARD TO DISCUSS ANIMAL WASTE CONTROL 10
PUBLICITY MOUNTED TO PROMOTE UC ELECTIONS 11
BALLOONS TO PROMOTE ELECTIONS 12
TAXI CONVERSION TABLES READY FOR COLLECTION 13
LADY AKERS-JONES STARTS OFF WALK 13
DAY OF FUN FOR EMSD STAFF 14
ADULT EDUCATION SECTION ON THE MOVE 14
SIR DAVID RETURNING TO HK 14
KIOSK TENDER SOUGHT 15

CS MEETS HK REPRESENTATIVES IN WASHINGTON

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MORE THAN 30 OF HONG KONG'S REPRESENTATIVES FROM BOTH GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR GATHERED IN WASHINGTON, D.C. YESTERDAY (SATURDAY) TO CO-ORDINATE THEIR EFFORTS IN PUTTING OVER THE HONG KONG STORY IN NORTH AMERICA.

THEY WERE TOLD BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CONFERENCE, THE CHIEF SECRETARY SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, THAT THEY SHARED A COMMON OBJECTIVE - THE PROMOTION OF HONG KONG AS A STABLE AND VIABLE ENVIRONMENT FOR TRADE, INVESTMENT AND TOURISM, WITH A LONG FUTURE.

+WE ARE HERE TODAY TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION AND IDEAS AND TO WORK OUT A JOINT APPROACH TO PROMOTE HONG KONG IN OUR VARIOUS WAYS,+ SIR DAVID SAID.

THE CONFERENCE INCLUDED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, CATHAY PACIFIC AIRWAYS, THE TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AND THE HONG KONG TOURIST ASSOCIATION. MEMBERS OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON AND THE INDUSTRIAL PROMOTION OFFICES IN NEW YORK AND SAN FRANCISCO ALSO PARTICIPATED.

AMONG THOSE PRESENT FROM HONG KONG WERE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS SIR S.Y. CHUNG, Q.W. LEE AND ALLEN LEE; THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, JACK TANG; THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CHINESE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION, LAWRENCE CHU ; AND THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, ERIC HO.

OPENING THE CONFERENCE, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES SAID HE WOULD DESCRIBE AS BEST HE COULD THE MOOD IN HONG KONG AND THE PROGRESS AND PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE THAT WAS TAKING PLACE.

HE OUTLINED DEVELOPMENTS IN HONG KONG BOTH IN THE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTORS, AND WENT ON TO DESCRIBE HONG KONG'S GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH THE REST OF CHINA.

MOVING ON TO GOVERNMENT PLANS FOR NORTH AMERICA, SIR DAVID SAID THERE WERE PROPOSALS TO OPEN AN OFFICE ON THE WEST COAST OF THE UNITED STATES, AND TO STRENGTHEN THE WASHINGTON OFFICE.

SIR DAVID SAID THAT THE CORE OF HONG KONG'S MESSAGE TO NORTH AMERICA HAD TO BE THE HARD FACTS OF THE AGREEMENT ON THE TERRITORY'S FUTURE.

+OUR REPRESENTATIVES MUST BE FAMILIAR WITH THE DETAILS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION TO REASSURE AND GAIN THE CONFIDENCE OF OUR TRADING PARTNERS AND INVESTORS,+ HE SAID.

+WE NOW HAVE A REFERENCE POINT FOR OUR FUTURE, AND WE MUST LET PEOPLE OVERSEAS KNOW IT,+ HE ADDED.

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HK PROJECTS FOR COMMONWEALTH AWARD SCHEME

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TWO PROJECTS HAVE BEEN SELECTED TO REPRESENT HONG KONG IN THE COMMONWEALTH YOUTH SERVICE AWARDS SCHEME WHICH WAS LAUNCHED TO MARK THE 1985 INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR.

THE TWO PROJECTS, ENTITLED +THE ELDERLY PROJECT - HEALTH CARE FOR HOME BOUND ELDERLY PEOPLE+ AND +WALK FOR LOVE - FUND RAISING CAMPAIGN FOR PEOPLE OF ETHIOPIA+, REFLECT FINE EXAMPLES OF EFFECTIVE TEAMWORK BY ENTHUSIASTIC YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE KEEN NOT ONLY TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY IN WHICH THEY LIVE BUT TO SHOW CONCERN ABOUT PEOPLES' SUFFERING IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

THE FIRST PROJECT WAS ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG RED CROSS YOUTH AND WELFARE KOWLOON DIVISIONAL HEADQUARTERS AND THE OTHER BY THE LAI TAK YOUTH CENTRE.

+BOTH PROJECTS HAD CONTRIBUTED MUCH TOWARDS IMPROVING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES, AND CREATED A DEEP SENSE OF CARING AMONG THE COMMUNITY,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION SAID.

THE AWARDS SCHEME, INITIATED BY THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH YOUTH PROGRAMME IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, OFFERS UP TO FIVE AWARDS ANNUALLY WITH NOT MORE THAN TWO AWARDS BEING MADE TO COUNTRIES IN ANY ONE REGION.

THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CO-ORDINATING THE NOMINATIONS IN HONG KONG.

+THE AWARDS SCHEME WAS DESIGNED TO RECOGNISE AND REWARD THE CONTRIBUTION MADE BY YOUNG PEOPLE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR SOCIETIES= FOSTER CO-OPERATION, EXCHANGE OF IDEAS AND EXPERIENCE AMONG COMMONWEALTH YOUTHS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE AWARDS WILL BE IN THE FORM OF OVERSEAS STUDY TOURS FOR UP TO TWO MEMBERS OF AWARD WINNING TEAMS= AS WELL AS PERSONAL MEMENTOES SUCH AS MEDALLIONS TO ALL TEAM MEMBERS.

+THE TWO PROJECTS SELECTED TO REPRESENT HONG KONG IN THE SCHEME HAVE DEMONSTRATED YOUTH ABILITY IN CO-OPERATING, PLANNING AND EXECUTION= ACCEPTING RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THEIR WORK UNDER AN AGREED PLAN= PROVIDING ADVENTUROUS INNOVATIONS TO ACHIEVE THEIR OBJECTIVES= AND EVALUATING AND ALLOWING FOR FLEXIBILITY IN THE PROJECT AS IT PROCEEDS,+ HE SAID.

APART FROM THAT, THE PROJECTS HAVE ALSO REFLECTED AND RESPONDED TO LOCAL NEEDS, THUS CONTRIBUTING SOLUTIONS TO A TERRITORY-WIDE PROBLEM.

BOTH PROJECTS WERE NOMINATED BY THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICES AND ASSESSED BY A SELECTION BOARD AT THE END OF LAST MONTH FOR SUBMISSION TO THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

A GROUP OF MEMBERS DRAWN FROM THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT WILL SERVE AS AN INTERNATIONAL ASSESSMENT PANEL AND THE AWARDS WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN MAY.

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LABOUR LAW OFFENCES DROP AS FINES GO UP

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THE NUMBER OF LABOUR LAW OFFENCES HAD DROPPED CONSIDERABLY IN 1985 AS A RESULT OF STEPPED-UP ENFORCEMENT AND HEAVIER AVERAGE FINES IMPOSED BY THE COURTS, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE DEPARTMENT'S PROSECUTIONS DIVISION TOOK OUT 1 741 PROSECUTIONS LAST YEAR FOR BREACHES OF SAFETY REGULATIONS, RESULTING IN A TOTAL FINE OF $4 523 450 IMPOSED ON THOSE CONVICTED.

THE FIGURES COMPARED WITH 3 028 CASES AND A TOTAL FINE OF $4 934 100 IN 1984, HE SAID.

THE DEPARTMENT ALSO TOOK OUT 1 828 PROSECUTIONS AGAINST EMPLOYERS FOR BREACHES OF THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE, THE WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS (INDUSTRY) REGULATIONS, THE EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN REGULATIONS, THE EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION ORDINANCE, THE EMPLOYMENT AGENCY REGULATIONS AND PART IVB OF THE IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE.

THESE CASES RESULTED IN FINES TOTALLING $1 863 990, COMPARED WITH 3 938 CASES IN 1984 AND $2 717 150 IN FINES.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE LEVEL OF FINES FOR FACTORY SAFETY CASES LAST YEAR HAD SHOWN AN INCREASE OF 47.4 PER CENT OVER THAT OF 1984.

FOR CONSTRUCTION SITE SAFETY CASES, THE INCREASE IN THE LEVEL OF FINES WAS 74.1 PER CENT OVER THE YEAR 1984.

AS FOR CASES UNDER THE WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS (INDUSTRY) REGULATIONS AND THE EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN REGULATIONS, THE LEVEL OF FINES WAS 44 PER CENT OVER THAT OF 1984.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE INCREASES IN THE LEVEL OF FINES MIGHT HAVE A DETERRENT EFFECT WHICH PARTLY EXPLAINED THAT DECREASE IN THE NUMBER OF PROSECUTIONS BY THE DEPARTMENT.

OTHER FACTORS WHICH CONTRIBUTED TO THE DECREASE IN THE NUMBER OF OFFENCES WERE THE STEPPED-UP ENFORCEMENT ACTION AND THE INTRODUCTION OF REVISED PROSECUTION GUIDELINES BY THE DEPARTMENT.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE DEPARTMENT'S PROSECUTIONS DIVISION, WITH THE HELP OF THE OPERATIONAL DIVISIONS, HAD BEEN CONCENTRATING ITS EFFORTS ON BRINGING THE MORE SERIOUS AND PERSISTENT OFFENDERS TO JUSTICE.

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CALL FOR MORE UC FACILITIES IN MONG KOK

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THE URBAN COUNCIL WOULD BE CARRYING OUT AN EXTENSIVE CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMME IN MONG KOK TO IMPROVE AMENITIES AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES IN THE DISTRICT, MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICER, MRS BRENDA FUNG, SAID.

SPEAKING AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE DISTRICT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT CAMPAIGN TODAY (SUNDAY), SHE SAID THE COUNCIL HAD MADE GREAT EFFORTS TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY FACILITIES FOR RESIDENTS.

SOME OF THE MAJOR WORKS UNDER CONSTRUCTION INCLUDE A MARKET COMPLEX AT FA YUEN STREET, A SECOND INDOOR GAMES HALL AT BOUNDARY STREET, A LANDSCAPED SITTING-OUT AREA AT THE JUNCTION OF NATHAN ROAD AND BOUNDARY STREET, AND AN OFF-STREET REFUSE COLLECTION POINT AT SAI YEE STREET.

WORK ON A TEMPORARY MARKET AT FUK TSUN STREET WILL START IN NOVEMBER. +IT WILL PROVIDE MUCH-NEEDED MARKET FACILITIES FOR RESIDENTS IN TAI KOK TSUI,+ MRS FUNG SAID.

+IN ORDER TO STRIVE FOR BETTER URBAN COUNCIL SERVICES AND FACILITIES FOR OUR DISTRICT, IT IS NECESSARY TO SELECT SOMEONE THAT CAN TRULY REPRESENT MONG KOK RESIDENTS' INTERESTS IN THE COUNCIL,+ SHE ADDED.

+THEREFORE I APPEAL TO ALL REGISTERED ELECTORS TO COME OUT AND VOTE IN THE URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS ON MARCH 6,+ SHE CONTINUED.

MRS FUNG NOTED THAT WITH THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE COMMUNITY, PEOPLE HAVE BECOME MORE CONCERNED ABOUT THEIR LIVING AND WORKING ENVIRONMENT.

IN RESPONSE, THE MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD INITIATED THE DISTRICT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT CAMPAIGN TO ENHANCE RESIDENTS' AWARENESS OF ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANLINESS AND TO IMPROVE BUILDING MANAGEMENT.

TWELVE ACTIVITIES WERE ORGANISED DURING THE CAMPAIGN INCLUDING TRAINING COURSES ON BUILDING MANAGEMENT, HOME BEAUTIFICATION, STREET, BUILDING AND MARKET STALLS CLEAN-UP COMPETITIONS, AS WELL AS A SCHEME TO HELP REMOVE ABANDONED SIGNBOARDS.

ALSO OFFICIATING AT TODAY'S CEREMONY WERE URBAN COUNCILLOR, DR RONALD LEUNG, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE, MR CLEMENT TAO.

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RESIDENTS URGED TO SUPPORT RC ELECTIONS

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TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICER, MR THOMAS CHAN TODAY (SUNDAY) URGED LOCAL RESIDENTS TO SUPPORT THE REIONAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS ON MARCH 6 AS IT WOULD BE A STEP TOWARDS REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT.

SPEAKING AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE FIRST TAI PO FESTIVAL AND LANTERN CARNIVAL AT THE TAI PO PLAYGROUND, MR CHAN SAID THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME THAT PEOPLE TOOK PART IN A DISTRICT-WIDE ELECTION TO CHOOSE SOMEONE TO REPRESENT THEM IN THE WHOLE REGION.

+THE REGIONAL COUNCIL WILL PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS, PUBLIC HEALTH, RECREATION AND CULTURE FACILITIES FOR PEOPLE LIVING IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, THEREFORE RESIDENTS SHOULD SUPPORT THE ELECTIONS AND VOTE ON MARCH 6,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID THE AIMS OF ORGANISING THE FIRST TAI PO FESTIVAL WERE TO PROMOTE THE RESIDENTS' SENSE OF BELONGING AND DISTRICT IDENTITY.

THE CARNIVAL FEATURED PERFORMANCES BY LOCAL SINGERS AND BANDS, DANCES, MAGIC AND ACROBATIC SHOWS AND KUNG FU DEMONSTRATIONS.

IT WAS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE FIRST TAI PO FESTIVAL CENTRAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, THE FRINGE CLUB AND SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD.

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ANNUAL CONCERT FOR SOUTHERN DISTRICT CHOIRS

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SOUTHERN DISTRICT'S YOUTH CHOIR AND CHILDREN'S CHOIR WILL HOLD THEIR THIRD ANNUAL CONCERT ON SATURDAY (MARCH 1) AT 8 PM IN THE SHOUSON THEATRE AT THE HONG KONG ARTS CENTRE.

THE CONCERT IS ORGANISED BY THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT ARTS AND CULTURE ASSOCIATION AND SPONSORED BY THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EVENING INCLUDE 39 CHINESE AND WESTERN FOLK, CLASSICAL, ROCK'N ROLL AND POPULAR SONGS PERFORMED IN SOLO, GROUP OR MIXED CHORUS. TWENTY MEMBERS OF THE CHILDREN'S CHOIR WILL PRESENT A CHINESE FOLK DANCE TO CELEBRATE A PROSPEROUS YEAR.

THE TWO CHOIRS, WITH A MEMBERSHIP OF ABOUT 200, WERE FORMED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE DISTRICT BOARD WITH SUPPORT FROM THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE, THE MUSIC OFFICE AND LOCAL BODIES.

/THEY HAVE .....

THEY HAVE WEEKLY PRACTICES AND THE YOUTH CHOIR HAD FORMED ITS OWN ROCK BAND WHILE THE CHILDREN'S CHOIR RECENTLY SET UP AN INSTRUMENTAL SECTION.

+THE YOUTH CHOIR HAS HOSTED SIX CONCERTS OF ITS OWN, AND BOTH CHOIRS HAVE MADE A NUMBER OF GUEST PERFORMANCES AT JOINT DISTRICT FUNCTIONS, LOCAL CAMPAIGN VARIETY SHOWS AND TV PROGRAMMES,+ A DISTRICT OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID.

TICKETS AT $10 AND $15 EACH ARE AVAILABLE AT THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE, NO. 7-11, NAM NING STREET, GROUND FLOOR, MEI FUNG COURT, ABERDEEN CENTRE.

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CONCERT BY MUSIC OFFICE TRAINEES

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THE MUSIC OFFICE IS UNIQUE IN THE SENSE THAT AS ONE ORGANISATION IT CURRENTLY PROVIDES INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC TRAINING FOR 3 000 ODD TRAINEES IN NO LESS THAN 30 DIFFERENT WESTERN AND CHINESE MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, MR MICHAEL RYAN, THE PRINCIPAL LECTURER OF MUSIC AT THE NORTHCOTE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

+I KNOW OF NO OTHER INSTITUTION IN HONG KONG THAT PROVIDES MUSIC TRAINING IN SUCH A MAGNITUDE,+ HE ADDED.

MR RYAN WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE MUSIC OFFICE STUDENTS CONCERT (HONG KONG REGION) HELD AT THE ST. PAUL'S CONVENT SCHOOL IN CAUSEWAY BAY.

MR RYAN SAID THE MUSIC OFFICE'S OBJECTIVES, WHICH ARE TO PROVIDE INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC TRAINING TO UP TO 5 000 YOUNG PEOPLE AND TO PROMOTE AN INTEREST IN MUSIC, PARTICULARLY AMONG THE YOUNG, ARE PRACTICAL AND REALISTIC.

+I UNDERSTAND THAT THE MUSIC OFFICE IS STAFFED BY A GROUP OF PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS WHO ARE KEENLY COMMITTED TO THEIR WORK AND THAT ONE HAS TO GO THROUGH AWFULLY KEEN COMPETITIONS TO BECOME A TRAINEE OF THE INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC TRAINING SCHEME,+ HE SAID.

WHILE URGING THE MUSIC OFFICE'S TRAINEES TO MAKE THE MOST OF THEIR TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES, MR RYAN SAID TO SUCCEED IN MUSIC TRAINING, ONE MUST EXERCISE GOOD SELF-DISCIPLINE IN THE APPROACH TO HIS TRAINING AS MUSIC TRAINING CALLS FOR PRACTICE AND PRACTICE IS HARD WORK.

/EARLIER, THE .....

EARLIER, THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR, MRS DORIS HO, SAID THAT THE CONCERT WAS AN IMPORTANT OCCASION FOR THE TRAINEES OF THE HONG KONG REGION AS IT PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THEM NOT ONLY TO PERFORM BEFORE AN AUDIENCE BUT ALSO TO DEMONSTRATE TO THEIR PARENTS AND TEACHERS WHAT THEY HAD LEARNT IN THE PAST YEAR.

SHE BELIEVED MANY OF THEM WOULD BE PROUD OF THEIR PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS AND THEY WERE EXCELLENT EXAMPLES FOR OTHERS TO FOLLOW.

MRS HO THANKED SCHOOL PRINCIPALS, MUSIC TEACHERS AND PARENTS FOR THEIR SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT WITHOUT WHICH, SHE SAID, THE MUSIC OFFICE'S INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC TRAINING SCHEME WOULD NOT HAVE ACQUIRED THE VERY SATISFACTORY RESULT AS IT HAS TODAY.

THE MUSIC OFFICE'S ISLAND YOUTH CHINESE ORCHESTRA, ISLAND YOUTH SYMPHONIC BAND AND SOME TRAINEES PERFORMED AT THE CONCERT.

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APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR ADULT EDUCATION AIDS

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NON-PROFIT-MAKING VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS ARE INVITED TO APPLY FOR GOVERNMENT SUBVENTION IN THE 1986-87 SESSION FOR THE OPERATION OF ADULT EDUCATION COURSES AND ACTIVITIES UNDER THE SUBVENTION SCHEME.

THE SUBVENTION SCHEME, WHICH WILL BE IN ITS SEVENTH YEAR OF OPERATION BY SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR, IS TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO INTERESTED VOLUNTARY AGENCIES SO THAT THEY CAN COMPLEMENT AND SUPPLEMENT GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES IN THE ADULT EDUCATION FIELD.

THE SCHEME WILL SPONSOR COURSES DESIGNED TO IMPROVE BASIC LITERACY IN CHINESE; GENERAL EDUCATION FOR PARTICULAR GROUPS, SUCH AS FACTORY WORKERS AND FISHERFOLK; RE-ORIENTATION AND CANTONESE LANGUAGE COURSES FOR NEWCOMERS TO HONG KONG FROM OTHER PARTS OF ASIA; SOCIAL AND MORAL EDUCATION, AND LABOUR EDUCATION INCLUDING LEGAL KNOWLEDGE.

IT ALSO APPLIED TO PRE-VOCATIONAL TRAINING ; SPECIAL EDUCATION FOR PHYSICALLY OR MENTALLY HANDICAPPED ADULTS ; CAREERS EDUCATION, PRE-RETIREMENT AND RETIREMENT EDUCATION; ADULT EDUCATION COURSES AND ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED ON AN EXPERIMENTAL BASIS; JOB ORIENTED COURSES AND ACTIVITIES IN GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS NOT COVERED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S SERVICES.

/THE SUBVENTION .....

THE SUBVENTION WILL COVER THE COST OF TEACHING AND CLERICAL STAFF AND SALARY FOR CENTRE ADMINISTRATORS; THE COST OF BASIC TEACHING AND OFFICE EQUIPMENT, HIRE CHARGES FOR ACCOMMODATION AT EXISTING GOVERNMENT RATE; AND A SUM OF $500 PER QUARTER TO COVER THE COST OF TELEPHONE, WATER AND ELECTRICITY CHARGES ON A SHARING BASIS.

APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED EITHER IN PERSON OR BY POST FROM THE ADULT EDUCATION SECTION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, LEE GARDENS, FIFTH FLOOR, 33-37 HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY.

COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS SHOULD REACH THE ADULT EDUCATION SECTION NOT LATER THAN APRIL 30.

FURTHER ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE BY CALLING MR H.H. WOO AT 5-8392304 OR MRS T.M. DAI ON 5-8392303 DURING OFFICE HOURS.

DURING THE CURRENT SESSION, FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TOTALLING $3.5 MILLION IS BEING PROVIDED TO 47 VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS FOR RUNNING 102 PROJECTS WHICH BENEFIT SOME 10 000 ADULTS.

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BOARD TO DISCUSS HOUSING PROJECTS

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TWO HOUSING PROJECTS WILL BE ON THE AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION AT THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TOMORROW (MONDAY) AFTERNOON.

THE FIRST IS A PROPOSAL TO DEVELOP AN AREA ADJACENT TO SHUN TIN ESTATE FOR PUBLIC HOUSING AS A SUPPLEMENTARY SITE TO ACCOMMODATE RESIDENTS AFFECTED BY THE EXTENDED RE-DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME.

THE 1.5-HECTARE SITE TO THE NORTH-EAST OF SHUN TIN ESTATE IS BEHIND THE BUS TERMINUS ON SHUN ON ROAD, AND HAS BEEN RESERVED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF TWO INTERLOCKING SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

ANOTHER PROJECT IS THE FOURTH TO SEVENTH PHASES OF THE RE-DEVELOPMENT OF KWUN TONG (TSUI PING ROAD) ESTATE TO PROVIDE ABOUT 7 000 PUBLIC HOUSING UNITS AND 1 600 HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME FLATS.

KWUN TONG (TSUI PING ROAD) ESTATE ORIGINALLY COMPRISED 24 MARK I BLOCKS BUILT BETWEEN 1959 AND 1961.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (PLANNING), MR R.A. CROSBY, CHIEF ENGINEER, MR EDWARD YIM, AND SENIOR PLANNING OFFICER, MISS MARY SEDDON, OF THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT WILL ATTEND THE MEETING TO INTRODUCE THE PROJECTS TO THE BOARD.

/AT TOMORROW'S .....

AT TOMORROW'S MEETING, BOARD MEMBERS WILL ALSO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THE REPORT OF THE BROADCASTING REVIEW BOARD.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE A LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD, MR LAU WONG-FAT, ON THE SETTING UP OF A THIRD UNIVERSITY IN HONG KONG, REPORTS FROM CHAIRMEN OF THE BOARD'S COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS, AND A REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF KWUN TONG DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD MEETING AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (MONDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICES BUILDING IN TUNG YAN STREET.

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NT STUDENTS POTTED PLANT COMPETITION

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THE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL, MR NATHAN MA, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE PRIZE GIVING CEREMONY OF THE 1986 NEW TERRITORIES STUDENTS POTTED PLANT COMPETITION ON FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 28).

A THREE-DAY EXHIBITION ON ALL ENTRIES WILL BE HELD IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE PRIZE GIVING CEREMONY AT THE CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRE, LUK YEUNG SUN TSUEN, TSUEN WAN.

THE COMPETITION AND EXHIBITION, JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, ARE AIMED AT PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT POTTED PLANTS AS WELL AS AROUSING THEIR AWARENESS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF BEAUTIFYING THE ENVIRONMENT THROUGH VEGETATION.

THE COMPETITION HAS ATTRACTED SOME 800 ENTRIES SUBMITTED BY 75 SECONDARY AND PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

THERE ARE NINE COMPETITION CATEGORIES FOR BOTH SECONDARY AND PRIMARY SCHOOL SECTIONS INCLUDING AFRICAN VIOLETS, ANNUALS, CACTI, CHRYSANTHEMUMS, FERNS, FOLIAGE PLANTS, SUCCULENT PLANTS, HANGING BASKETS PLANTS AND BULBOUS PLANTS.

/BOOK COUPONS .....

BOOK COUPONS WILL BE AWARDED TO THE FIRST THREE WINNERS AND 10 MERIT PRIZES FOR EACH CATEGORY.

ALSO PRESENT IN THE PRIZE GIVING CEREMONY WILL BE THE DEPUTY REGIONAL SECRETARY (NEW TERRITORIES), MR PETER NG= THE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF NEW TERRITORIES HEUNG YEE KUK, MR TSANG LIN, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR SO FAI-CHO, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB, MRS RUBY LAU.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE 1986 NT STUDENTS POTTED PLANT COMPETITION AND EXHIBITION AT THE CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRE, LUK YEUNG SUN TSUEN, TSUEN WAN, ON FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 28) AT 3 PM.

OFFICIAL TRANSPORT FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WILL LEAVE THE KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER AT 2.15 PM. INFORMATION OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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INDOOR GAMES HALL FOR MONG KOK

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AN ADDITIONAL INDOOR GAMES HALL AT BOUNDARY STREET IN MONG KOK IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF THE YEAR.

FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED AT THE GAMES HALL, WHICH IS PARTLY BUILT, INCLUDE FOUR SQUASH COURTS WITH VIEWING GALLERY, A FITNESS AND GAMES ROOM, CHANGING ROOMS AND OFFICES.

THIS GAMES HALL WILL SUPPLEMENT THE EXISTING FACILITIES OF THE BOUNDARY STREET INDOOR GAMES HALL WHICH IS ADJACENT TO IT.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN MAY AND TAKE SEVEN MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS NOW CALLING FOR TENDERS FOR THE WORK.

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BOARD TO DISCUSS ANIMAL WASTE CONTROL

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TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON CONTROL ON ANIMAL WASTES AT THEIR MEETING ON TUESDAY (FEBRUARY 25).

THEY WILL ALSO BE BRIEFED ON THE TAI PO NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME.

/BOARD MEMBERS, ...

BOARD MEMBERS, DR STEPHEN TANG, WHO IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE NEW TERRITORIES EAST INTER-DISTRICT WORKING GROUP ON LION ROCK TUNNEL CONGESTION PROBLEM, WILL REPORT ON THE PROGRESS OF THE WORKING GROUP.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD MEETING AT 9.30 AM ON TUESDAY IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT, THIRD FLOOR, TAI PO COMMERCIAL CENTRE, 152-172, KWONG FUK ROAD, TAI PO MARKET.

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PUBLICITY MOUNTED TO PROMOTE UC ELECTIONS

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THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE HAS ORGANISED A SERIES OF PUBLICITY PROGRAMMES TO PROMOTE THE URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS ON MARCH 6.

THE PROGRAMMES WERE LAUNCHED IN MID-JANUARY WITH COLOURFUL WINDOW DISPLAYS URGING REGISTERED ELECTORS TO CAST THEIR BALLOTS.

COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHS INTRODUCING URBAN COUNCIL FACILITIES IN THE DISTRICT HAVE ALSO BEEN PUT UP AT THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE IN KAU PUI LUNG ROAD AND ITS SUB-OFFICES IN HO MAN TIN ESTATE AND HUNG HOM.

COLOURFUL POSTERS AND BANNERS HAVE BEEN PUT UP AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS INCLUDING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HOUSING ESTATES.

A TOTAL OF 120 000 COPIES OF A FOUR-PAGE SPECIAL ELECTION SUPPLEMENT HAVE BEEN PRINTED GIVING A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE CANDIDATES' PLATFORMS, VOTING PROCEDURES, ADDRESSES OF POLLING STATIONS AND THE STRUCTURE AND WORK OF THE URBAN COUNCIL.

MORE THAN 107 700 COPIES OF THE SUPPLEMENT HAVE BEEN SENT TO REGISTERED ELECTORS AND THE REMAINDER WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO RESIDENTS IN THE DISTRICT.

TWO FORUMS HAVE BEEN ARRANGED FOR CANDIDATES TO MEET THE PUBLIC AND ANSWER QUESTIONS AT OI MAN ESTATE AND THE TO KWA WAN VOLLEY BALL PLAYGROUND ON MARCH 2.

THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE HAS ALSO ARRANGED A PUBLICITY BUS AND TWO VEHICLES TO TOUR MAJOR PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES, BUSY STREETS, MARKET PLACES, COMMERCIAL AND SHOPPING CENTRES AND OTHER PROMINENT AREAS ON MARCH 5 AND 6.

/LION DANCES .....

LION DANCES AND STREET PERFORMANCES WILL BE STAGED ABOARD THE PUBLICITY BUS DURING THE TWO DAYS.

OTHER PUBLICITY ACTIVITIES INCLUDE AN APPEAL LETTER BY DISTRICT OFFICER, MR GORDON JONES TO REPRESENTATIVES OF LOCAL AREA COMMITTEES, OWNERS INCORPORATIONS, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS URGING THEM TO SUPPORT THE ELECTIONS BY ENCOURAGING THEIR FRIENDS, RESIDENTS AND RELATIVES TO VOTE.

APPEAL LETTERS FROM MR JONES WILL ALSO BE SENT TO ENGLISH SPEAKING VOTERS IN THE DISTRICT.

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BALLOONS TO PROMOTE ELECTIONS

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MR C.M. LEUNG, PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY (GENERAL), DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE LAUNCHING OF A NUMBER OF HOT-AIR BALLOONS AT SAI KUNG ON A FULL FLIGHT OVER THE NEW TERRITORIES AT 8 AM TOMORROW (MONDAY).

THE FLIGHT, WHICH IS SPONSORED BY THE HONG KONG BALLOON AND AIRSHIP CLUB AND TELEVISION BROADCAST LIMITED, IS TO PUBLICISE THE FORTHCOMING REGIONAL COUNCIL AND URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

AS THE LAUNCH LOCATION IS DIFFICULT TO DEFINE, TRANSPORT WILL DEPART FROM THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES CAR PARK AT 7 AM SHARP ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 24).

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE FLIGHT WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE WEATHER SITUATION.

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TAXI CONVERSION TABLES READY FOR COLLECTION

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CONVERSION TABLES SHOWING EXISTING NEW TERRITORIES AND LANTAU TAXI FARES AS AGAINST THE NEW FARE SCALE DUE TO COME INTO EFFECT ON MARCH 1 WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION BY TAXI OPERATORS FROM WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 26), THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED.

TAXI OPERATORS WILL BE ABLE TO COLLECT SUCH TABLES AT ALL LICENSING OFFICES OF THE DEPARTMENT AND PUBLIC ENQUIRIES COUNTERS OF THE TAI PO, NORTH, TUEN MUN, YUEN LONG, SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICES AND THE MUI WO SUB-OFFICE OF THE ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICE.

THE TABLES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT'S PUBLIC VEHICLES SECTION, ROOM 906-909, HUTCHISON HOUSE, 10 HARCOURT ROAD, HONG KONG.

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN REMINDED TAXI OPERATORS TO BRING ALONG THEIR TAXI REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS WHEN COLLECTING THEIR CONVERSION TABLES AND ADVISED THEM TO DISPLAY THE TABLES IN THEIR VEHICLES BEFORE THE METERS ARE RECALIBRATED.

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LADY AKERS-JONES STARTS OFF WALK

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LADY AKERS-JONES TOOK THE LEAD IN A WALKATHON FOR THE DISABLED AT THE VICTORIA GAP CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND AT THE PEAK THIS (SUNDAY) MORNING.

ABOUT 400 PEOPLE INCLUDING THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED, MENTALLY HANDICAPPED, THE BLIND, THE DEAF, REHABILITANTS AS WELL AS THE ABLE-BODIED TOOK PART IN THE LUNAR NEW YEAR FAMILY WALK, ORGANISED BY THE RECREATION AND SPORTS SERVICE DIVISION OF THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES BRANCH.

THE EVENT WAS AIMED AT PROMOTING MUTUAL HELP AND CO-OPERATION IN FAMILIES WITH DISABLED MEMBERS.

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DAY OF FUN FOR EMSD STAFF

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THE GOVERNMENT WORKSHOP AT CAROLINE HILL ROAD TODAY (SUNDAY) BECAME A RECREATION AND FUN GROUND FOR MORE THAN 1 500 STAFF OF THE ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THEIR CHILDREN.

THEY WERE ENTERTAINED WITH VARIETY SHOWS, GAMES, COMPETITIONS AND A LUCKY DRAW.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE FUN FAIR, ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S STAFF CLUB, WAS A CAMEL BORROWED FROM THE BRITISH FORCES.

SENIOR OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT ALSO JOINED IN THE FUN AND LATER PRESENTED PRIZES AND SOUVENIRS.

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ADULT EDUCATION SECTION ON THE MOVE

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THE ADULT EDUCATION SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HAS MOVED BACK TO THE DEPARTMENT'S HEADQUARTERS AT LEE GARDENS, FIFTH FLOOR, 33-37 HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY, AND WILL BE IN OPERATION FROM TOMORROW (MONDAY).

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE ADVISED TO DIRECT ENQUIRIES REGARDING COURSES AND SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE ADULT EDUCATION SECTION TO THE NEW ADDRESS.

THE NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER IS 5-8392309.

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SIR DAVID RETURNING TO HK

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THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, WILL RETURN TO HONG KONG TOMORROW (FEBRUARY 24), AFTER A DUTY VISIT TO NORTH AMERICA.

HE WILL BE ARRIVING ON FLIGHT SQ1, ETA 9 AM.

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KIOSK TENDER SOUGHT

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THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS TO OPERATE A REFRESHMENT KIOSK IN THE CHE KUNG MIU ROAD PLAYGROUND IN SHA TIN.

ADJACENT TO HIN KENG ESTATE, THE 2.2-HECTARE PLAYGROUND IS A MULTI-PURPOSE RECREATION FACILITY FOR SHA TIN RESIDENTS, AN RSD SPOKESMAN SAID.

CONSTRUCTION OF THE PLAYGROUND, COSTING ABOUT $3.6 MILLION, IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED LATER THIS YEAR.

DESIGNED AND BUILT BY THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, THE PLAYGROUND WILL BE MANAGED BY THE RSD ON COMPLETION.

TENDER FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE RSD'S SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE ON LEVEL 4, KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN STATION, NEW TERRITORIES.

COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE DEPOSITED INTO THE TENDER BOX AT THE RSD HEADQUARTERS ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF SWIRE AND MACLAINE HOUSE, 19-23 AUSTIN AVENUE, TSIM SHA TSUI, BEFORE 9 AM ON MARCH 7.

THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER WILL BE GRANTED A THREE-YEAR CONTRACT WHICH COMES INTO EFFECT ON MAY 1 THIS YEAR.

INTERESTED PARTIES MAY TELEPHONE 0-6065720 FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

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