



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1986

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PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR JANUARY
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THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN JANUARY 1986, AT \$10 530 MILLION, WAS LOWER BY SIX PER CENT OR \$636 MILLION THAN IN THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR, ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES PUBLISHED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS ALSO DECLINED, BY FOUR PER CENT OR \$395 MILLION, TO \$8 563 MILLION. THUS, TAKING DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TOGETHER, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS, AT \$19 093 MILLION, WAS FIVE PER CENT OR \$1 031 MILLION LOWER THAN A YEAR EARLIER.

THE VALUE OF IMPORTS WAS \$18 806 MILLION, REPRESENTING A DECLINE OF TWO PER CENT OR \$313 MILLION OVER THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR.

AS THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS WAS GREATER THAN THAT OF IMPORTS, IN JANUARY 1986 THE VISIBLE TRADE ACCOUNT RECORDED A SURPLUS OF \$287 MILLION, WHICH WAS EQUIVALENT TO 1.5 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, COMPARED WITH 5.3 PER CENT IN JANUARY 1985.

PUTTING THE MONTH'S TRADE FIGURES INTO CONTEXT, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT COMPARING THE 12 MONTHS ENDING JANUARY 1986 WITH THE 12 MONTHS ENDING JANUARY 1985, OVERALL TRADE VALUE GREW BY THREE PER CENT. FURTHER, THE GROWTH RATE OF THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS, AT FOUR PER CENT, WAS FASTER THAN THAT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, AT TWO PER CENT.

A VISIBLE SURPLUS, EQUIVALENT TO 1.3 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, WAS RECORDED FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDING JANUARY 1986, COMPARED WITH A VISIBLE TRADE GAP (THAT IS, THE PROPORTION OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS NOT COVERED BY TOTAL EXPORTS) OF 0.8 PER CENT IN THE PREVIOUS TWELVE-MONTH PERIOD.

COMMENTING ON THESE COMPARATIVE FIGURES, A GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE DECLINE IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN JANUARY 1986 (COMPARED WITH JANUARY 1985 AND PARTICULARLY WITH DECEMBER 1985) WAS INFLUENCED BY THE RUSH SHIPMENT BY MANUFACTURERS TOWARDS THE END OF LAST YEAR, TO FULFILL HIGHER QUOTA UTILISATION RATES FOR RESTRAINED TEXTILE ITEMS AND TO SECURE PAYMENTS BEFORE THE CHINESE NEW YEAR, WHICH FELL IN EARLY FEBRUARY 1986.

BECAUSE OF THIS, THE PERFORMANCE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED FOR THE 3-MONTH PERIOD OF NOVEMBER 1985 TO JANUARY 1986.

OVER THIS PERIOD THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS DECLINED BY ONLY ONE PER CENT COMPARED WITH A YEAR AGO. THIS REPRESENTED A SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT COMPARED WITH THE FALL OF 12 PER CENT FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDING OCTOBER 1985.

/THE FOLLOWING

THE FOLLOWING TABLE PRESENTS THE PROVISIONAL MERCHANDISE
TRADE FIGURES FOR JANUARY 1986 -

MERCHANDISE:	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	: \$10 530 MILLION
	RE-EXPORTS	: \$ 8 563 MILLION
	TOTAL EXPORTS	: \$19 093 MILLION
	IMPORTS	: \$18 806 MILLION
	TRADE BALANCE	: \$ 287 MILLION (IN SURPLUS)

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

<u>LATEST 3 MONTHS</u>	NOVEMBER 1985 TO JANUARY 1986	NOVEMBER 1984 TO JANUARY 1985	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	34 305	34 740	- 435	- 1.3
RE-EXPORTS	26 752	25 985	+ 767	+ 3.0
TOTAL EXPORTS	61 057	60 725	+ 332	+ 0.5
IMPORTS	61 303	59 796	+ 1 507	+ 2.5
TRADE BALANCE	- 246	+ 929	- 1 175	
<u>SAME MONTH LAST YEAR</u>	JANUARY 1986	JANUARY 1985	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	10 530 (55.2%)	11 166 (55.5%)	- 636	- 5.7
RE-EXPORTS	8 563	8 958	- 395	- 4.4
TOTAL EXPORTS	19 093	20 124	- 1 031	- 5.1
IMPORTS	18 806	19 119	- 313	- 1.6
TRADE BALANCE	+ 287	+ 1 005	- 718	
<u>LAST MONTH</u>	JANUARY 1986	DECEMBER 1985	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	10 530 (55.2%)	12 325 (56.6%)	- 1 795	- 14.6
RE-EXPORTS	8 563	9 465	- 902	- 9.5
TOTAL EXPORTS	19 093	21 790	- 2 697	- 12.4
IMPORTS	18 806	22 180	- 3 374	- 15.2
TRADE BALANCE	+ 287	- 390	+ 677	

/LAST 12 MONTHS

LAST 12 MONTHS	FEBRUARY 1985 TO JANUARY 1986	FEBRUARY 1984 TO JANUARY 1985	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	129 246	138 311	- 9 065	- 6.6
RE-EXPORTS	104 875	86 487	+18 388	+21.3
TOTAL EXPORTS	234 121	224 798	+ 9 323	+ 4.1
IMPORTS	231 107	226 590	+ 4 517	+ 2.0
TRADE BALANCE	+ 3 014	- 1 792	+ 4 806	

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SENIOR DIRECTORATE APPOINTMENTS * * * * *

THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) ANOTHER SERIES OF FORTHCOMING SENIOR DIRECTORATE MOVEMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS AS FOLLOWS:

MR NEIL HENDERSON, THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, WILL BE RETIRING IN AUGUST OR SEPTEMBER 1986 AFTER 33 YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE=

MR RON BRIDGE, THE PRESENT COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, WILL TAKE OVER FROM MR HENDERSON AS SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER=

MR TONY HAMMOND, THE DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL SERVICES, WILL REPLACE MR BRIDGE AS COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR= AND

MR MICHAEL SUEN MING-YEUNG, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL SERVICES, WILL BECOME DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL SERVICES.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

MR J.N. HENDERSON OBE, JP. AGED 56. AFTER SERVING IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE IN KENYA FOR NINE YEARS MR HENDERSON JOINED THE HONG KONG CIVIL SERVICE AS AN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER IN 1962. HE INITIALLY WORKED MAINLY IN THE FINANCE AND ESTABLISHMENT BRANCHES. HE THEN SERVED IN THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, FIRST AS DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FROM 1973 TO 1978 AND THEN AS COMMISSIONER FROM 1978 TO 1983. MR HENDERSON WILL HAVE BEEN SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER FOR THREE YEARS ON HIS RETIREMENT AND WAS PROMOTED TO HIS SUBSTANTIVE RANK OF SECRETARY, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT IN 1984.

/MR R.G.B. BRIDGE

MR R.G.B. BRIDGE OBE, JP. AGED 53. MR BRIDGE JOINED THE CIVIL SERVICE IN 1957 AND HAS HAD EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE IN THE (THEN) RESETTLEMENT DEPARTMENT, LANDS BRANCH, AND ESTABLISHMENT BRANCH. HE HAS ALSO BEEN DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, AND DEPUTY SECRETARY AND ACTING SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE. FROM 1978 TO 1983 MR BRIDGE WAS DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION, AND SINCE THEN HE HAS BEEN THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR. HE WAS PROMOTED TO HIS PRESENT RANK OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER STAFF GRADE A IN 1983.

MR J.C.A. HAMMOND JP. AGED 52. AFTER SIX YEARS SERVICE IN NYASALAND (AS IT THEN WAS), MR HAMMOND JOINED THE HONG KONG CIVIL SERVICE AS AN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER IN 1964. HE HAS SERVED EXTENSIVELY IN THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT IN THE COUNCILS BRANCH AND CIVIL SERVICE BRANCH. HE WAS DIRECTOR, COUNCILS AND ADMINISTRATION BRANCH FROM 1982 TO 1985 AND WAS THE FIRST DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL SERVICES ON THE CREATION OF THE DEPARTMENT IN APRIL 1985. MR HAMMOND ALSO HAS PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE IN THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, WHERE HE WAS DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BETWEEN 1978 AND 1982. HE WAS PROMOTED TO HIS PRESENT RANK OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER STAFF GRADE A IN 1985.

MR M. SUEN MING-YEUNG JP. AGED 41. MR SUEN JOINED THE CIVIL SERVICE AS AN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER IN 1966. HE HAS SERVED IN A NUMBER OF DEPARTMENTS AND BRANCHES INCLUDING PERIODS AS AN ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER AND DISTRICT OFFICER IN THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, AS AN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER IN THE RESETTLEMENT DEPARTMENT, AND AS A PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY IN THE ENVIRONMENT BRANCH. MORE RECENTLY HE HAS ALSO SERVED AS DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT (1981-3), DIRECTOR, CITY SERVICES IN THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT (1983-5), AND BECAME DEPUTY DIRECTOR, REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT ON THE DEPARTMENT'S CREATION IN APRIL 1985. HE WAS PROMOTED TO HIS PRESENT RANK OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER STAFF GRADE B IN 1981.

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THOUSANDS MOBILISED FOR ELECTIONS * * * *

THE GOVERNMENT WILL MOBILISE NEARLY 4 000 PEOPLE, INCLUDING MEMBERS OF THE CIVIL AID SERVICES, FOR THE URBAN COUNCIL AND REGIONAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS ON MARCH 6.

THIS FIGURE DOES NOT INCLUDE THE HUNDREDS OF POLICE OFFICERS WHO WILL BE ON DUTY AT THE 302 POLLING STATIONS AND 19 COUNTING CENTRES THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

/ELECTION OFFICIALS

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ELECTION OFFICIALS WHO WILL MAN THE POLLING STATIONS AND COUNTING CENTRES HAVE BEEN BRIEFED ON THEIR DUTIES, PROCEDURES AND OTHER ASPECTS OF THE ELECTIONS.

OFFICIALS FROM THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL DIVISION SPENT TWO DAYS BRIEFING THE 302 PRESIDING OFFICERS, ABOUT 600 ASSISTANT PRESIDING OFFICERS AND MORE THAN 1 000 POLLING OFFICERS AND COUNTING SUPERVISORS AT THE CITY HALL YESTERDAY AND TODAY (TUESDAY).

+A MAKESHIFT POLLING STATION WAS ERECTED AT THE CITY HALL'S CONCERT HALL YESTERDAY (MONDAY) TO GIVE PRESIDING OFFICERS AND THEIR ASSISTANTS SOME IDEA OF THE PROCEDURES IN HANDLING THE VOTING INSIDE THE RESTRICTED AREA,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+IT WAS ALSO AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE 19 RETURNING OFFICERS WHO ARE ALL DISTRICT OFFICERS TO MEET THEIR STAFF FOR THE ELECTIONS,+ HE ADDED.

THE PRESIDING OFFICERS AND THEIR ASSISTANTS WERE TOLD THAT ELECTORS WERE NOT ALLOWED TO SPEAK TO ANYONE OTHER THAN ELECTION OFFICIALS INSIDE THE POLLING STATIONS AS BALLOTING IS SECRET.

THEY WERE ALSO TOLD TO GIVE ASSISTANCE TO HANDICAPPED AND BLIND ELECTORS.

THE POLLING STATIONS WILL BE OPENED FROM 7.30 IN THE MORNING UNTIL 10.30 AT NIGHT ON MARCH 6 (THURSDAY).

ALL POLLING AND COUNTING STAFF HAVE TAKEN THE OATH OF SECRECY FOR THE ELECTIONS.

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SIR WILLIAM LOOKS AT HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS *****

THE DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE, SIR WILLIAM HARDING, TODAY (TUESDAY) SAW VARIOUS ASPECTS OF HOUSING AND RELATED DEVELOPMENTS.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR BARRIE WIGGHAM, SIR WILLIAM SPENT THE AFTERNOON VISITING SQUATTER AREAS, OLD HOUSING ESTATES AND SOME NEWLY-BUILT HOUSING BLOCKS IN WONG TAI SIN.

HE FIRST VISITED THE DIAMOND HILL SQUATTER AREA WHERE ABOUT 40 000 PEOPLE LIVE IN 7 000 HUTS.

/DURING A

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DURING A WALK THROUGH THE AREA WITH THE DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR MICHAEL CHENG, AND THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE DISTRICT'S SQUATTER AREA COMMITTEE, MRS LEE YUK-SIN, HE WAS BRIEFED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR NICHOLAS YEK, ON CONDITIONS IN THE AREA.

SIR WILLIAM WAS TOLD THAT THE SITUATION HAD IMPROVED IN RECENT YEARS WITH BETTER WATER SUPPLIES, THE CONSTRUCTION OF FIRE BREAKS AND DRAINS, THE INSTALLATION OF TOILETS AND REFUSE COLLECTION POINTS AND THE RESURFACING OF FOOTPATHS.

HOWEVER, A LAYOUT PLAN HAD BEEN PREPARED FOR A COMPREHENSIVE REDEVELOPMENT OF THE AREA AND IT WAS EXPECTED THAT ALL SQUATTERS WOULD BE REHOUSED BY THE EARLY 1990'S.

THE PLAN INCLUDES THE CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES, COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND APPROACH ROADS TO THE PROPOSED TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL WHICH WILL BE A MAJOR ROAD LINK BETWEEN SHA TIN AND KOWLOON.

THE PARTY THEN TOURED THE MARK I AND II OLD STYLE BLOCKS AT LOK FU ESTATE BEFORE PROCEEDING TO THE ROOF OF A NEWLY CONSTRUCTED BUILDING IN LOK FU CENTRE FOR A BRIEFING ON REDEVELOPMENT OF KOWLOON CENTRAL ESTATES BY A SENIOR ARCHITECT OF THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT.

THE REDEVELOPMENT PLAN, WHICH BEGAN IN 1979, INCLUDES LOWER WONG TAI SIN, TUNG TAU, WANG TAU HOM AND LOK FU, WHICH COLLECTIVELY HAS A POPULATION OF 116 700 AND COMPRISES OLD STYLE BLOCKS CONSTRUCTED BETWEEN 1958 AND 1964.

SIR WILLIAM WAS TOLD THAT ALL THE MARK I AND II BLOCKS WOULD BE CLEARED BY 1990 AND THE \$2 000 MILLION REDEVELOPMENT SCHEME WOULD BE THE LARGEST AND MOST AMBITIOUS PROJECT OF ITS KIND IN THE WORLD.

DURING RECENT YEARS, A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER OF NEW BLOCKS HAVE ALREADY BEEN BUILT AND SIR WILLIAM NOTED THE MARKEDLY IMPROVED FACILITIES WHEN HE VISITED A FAMILY IN ONE OF THE NEW BUILDINGS.

DURING HIS FOUR-DAY VISIT TO HONG KONG, SIR WILLIAM WOULD ALSO HOLD DISCUSSIONS WITH VARIOUS GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS.

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CMB RECEPTIVE TO CONSULTANT'S REPORT
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THE CHINA MOTOR BUS COMPANY (CMB) HAS SUBMITTED THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ORGANISATION AND METHOD CONSULTANT REPORT TO THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT AND THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE, AND IN ITS COMMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS, CMB HAS SHOWN A POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REPORT.

THIS WAS REVEALED IN THE NINTH PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REPORT OF THE TAC WORKING GROUP ON CMB MAINTENANCE DISCUSSED AT A TAC MEETING TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE ORGANISATION AND METHOD CONSULTANT WAS COMMISSIONED BY CMB WITH THE AIM OF PUTTING THE COMPANY'S ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT IN GOOD ORDER.

MEMBERS NOTED THAT THE REPORT MAINLY COVERED THE AREAS OF TRAINING AND RECRUITMENT, WORKSHOP PRACTICES AND HOUSEKEEPING, MAINTENANCE SYSTEM, SUPERVISION AND SPAN OF CONTROL, AND DOCUMENTATION AND RECORDS.

THE COMMITTEE FELT THAT CMB SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO STEP UP ITS EFFORTS IN IMPLEMENTING THE REPORT AS THIS WOULD IMPROVE THE OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE COMPANY'S ENGINEERING AND MAINTENANCE WORKS.

THE NEW ENGINEERING MANAGER OF CMB, WHO ASSUMED DUTY IN MID-JANUARY, HAD SETTLED IN WELL AND MEMBERS HOPED THAT WITH HIS INITIATIVE AND EXPERIENCE, THE ORGANISATION AND METHOD REPORT WOULD HELP CMB ESTABLISH AN ENGINEERING AND MAINTENANCE SYSTEM THAT WOULD ENABLE THE COMPANY TO MEET THE DEMANDS OF RUNNING A LARGE BUS FLEET AT AN ACCEPTABLE STANDARD IN A RAPIDLY CHANGING ENVIRONMENT IN FUTURE.

MEMBERS ALSO NOTED CMB'S CONTINUED GOOD PROGRESS IN THE FIELD OF STAFF TRAINING. AS FOR SAFETY STANDARDS, THE AVERAGE RATE OF 0.5 SAFETY DEFECT FOUND ON EACH CMB BUS SPOT CHECKED WAS SUSTAINED.

THE TREND OF IMPROVEMENT IN THE RATE OF BUS BREAKDOWNS WAS ALSO SIGNIFICANT. IN DECEMBER, THE NUMBER OF BREAKDOWNS TOWED IN WAS ALMOST HALF OF THE FIGURE IN JANUARY LAST YEAR, SHOWING IMPROVEMENT IN THE LEVEL OF PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE ACHIEVED DURING 1985.

NEVERTHELESS, MEMBERS EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT ALTHOUGH CMB HAD MADE SOME PROGRESS IN WITHDRAWING OLD BUSES, THIS WAS NOT BEING CARRIED OUT SYSTEMATICALLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH A WELL-DESIGNED PROGRAMME. AS THIS WOULD AFFECT CMB'S EFFICIENCY IN DEPLOYING ITS FLEET, THE TAC HOPED THE COMPANY WOULD DRAW UP A PROPER BUS WITHDRAWAL PROGRAMME SOON.

NEW SYSTEM IMPROVES AIR MONITORING WORK

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THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY NOW HAS IN OPERATION A NEW SYSTEM WHICH HAS GREATLY INCREASED ITS ABILITY TO INVESTIGATE AIR QUALITY PROBLEMS IN THE TERRITORY.

THE NEW +ENVIRONMENTAL TELEMETRY SYSTEM+, THE FIRST IN HONG KONG, AND ONE OF THE MOST ADVANCED SYSTEMS IN THE WORLD, ENABLES THE EPA TO RETRIEVE AND ANALYSE INSTANTLY AIR QUALITY DATA FROM ANY OF ITS MONITORING STATIONS IN THE TERRITORY.

GIVING DETAILS OF THE NEW SYSTEM TODAY (TUESDAY), THE SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICER IN CHARGE OF THE EPA'S AIR MONITORING NETWORK, MR JONATHAN BOWER, SAID THAT INFORMATION ON A COMPREHENSIVE RANGE OF AIR POLLUTANTS IS RAPIDLY RELAYED VIA PHONE LINE FROM THE EXISTING STATIONS AT JUNK BAY, CENTRAL-WESTERN, TSIM SHA TSUI, CAUSEWAY BAY, SHAM SHUI PO AND KWUN TONG.

THE INFORMATION IS THEN PROCESSED AND DISPLAYED AT A COMPUTERISED TELEMETRY CONTROL CENTRE, SPECIALLY INSTALLED IN THE EPA CENTRAL LABORATORIES.

THE OVERALL SYSTEM WAS DEVELOPED BY A JAPANESE COMPANY IN COLLABORATION WITH THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY.

ITS ADVANCED DESIGN INCORPORATES THE LATEST IN MICROCOMPUTER AND DATA COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY.

ALTHOUGH IT COST LESS THAN \$1 MILLION TO DEVELOP AND INSTALL, THE LOCAL SYSTEM HAS A NUMBER OF INNOVATIVE FEATURES WHICH ENABLE IT TO OUT-PERFORM SIMILAR BUT COSTLIER INSTALLATIONS IN USE ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD.

MR BOWER EXPLAINED THAT THE TELEMETRY SYSTEM WILL CONSIDERABLY STREAMLINE THE OPERATION OF THE EPA'S AIR MONITORING NETWORK.

IT WILL ALSO ENABLE THE AGENCY TO RESPOND RAPIDLY AND FLEXIBLY TO AIR QUALITY PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED IN HONG KONG.

HE ADDED THAT IN THE FUTURE, IT WILL ALSO MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR THE EPA TO DEVELOP A CONTINUOUS AIR QUALITY INDEXING, REPORTING AND FORECASTING SERVICE.

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VARIETY SHOW STRESSES HOME SAFETY
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EASTERN DISTRICT RESIDENTS HAVE BEEN URGED TO HELP IMPROVE THEIR ENVIRONMENT AND TO TAKE MORE CARE WHILE DOING THEIR DOMESTIC CHORES TO AVOID ACCIDENTS THAT COULD PUT THEIR NEIGHBOURS AT RISK.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE +HOME SAFETY VARIETY SHOW+, THE ASSISTANT EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR VINCENT LEUNG, SAID THAT SINCE THE FORMATION OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT BUILDING MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATING TEAM IN MAY LAST YEAR, MUCH HAD BEEN DONE TO IMPROVE BUILDING MANAGEMENT AND TO EDUCATE RESIDENTS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF HOME SAFETY.

+WITH CO-OPERATION AND ASSISTANCE FROM LOCAL OWNERS' INCORPORATIONS AND MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, THE BMCT INSPECTED 30 PROBLEMATIC MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS IN NORTH POINT DURING THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF ITS WORK,+ MR LEUNG SAID.

+THE OVERALL ENVIRONMENT OF THESE BUILDINGS HAS IMPROVED AND THE TEAM PLAN TO EXPAND THEIR WORK IN SHAU KEI WAN AND CHAI WAN.+

HE ALSO PRAISED MEMBERS OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT FEDERATION OF MULTI-STOREY BUILDING ORGANISATIONS FOR THEIR ENTHUSIASM AND HARD WORK IN IMPROVING THE MANAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENT OF MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS.

A HOME SAFETY TALK, INTRODUCING THE SAFE USE OF DIFFERENT KINDS OF DOMESTIC LIQUID PETROLEUM GAS AND COOKING STOVES, AND VARIOUS SAFETY MEASURES TO PREVENT FIRE AT HOME, WAS INCLUDED IN TONIGHT'S VARIETY SHOW.

THE TALKS WERE GIVEN BY MR HO KWONG-WAI, THE GAS ADVISER FROM THE ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, AND MR LI CHUN-FAT, SENIOR STATION OFFICER OF THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY THE VARIETY SHOW WHICH FEATURED SINGING AND DANCING PERFORMANCES, ACROBATIC AND MAGIC SHOWS.

THE +HOME SAFETY VARIETY SHOW+ WAS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE EASTERN DISTRICT FEDERATION OF MULTI-STOREY BUILDING ORGANISATIONS, AND SPONSORED BY THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD.

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GRANTS FOR SPORTS-RELATED PROJECTS AVAILABLE
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ORGANISATIONS WISHING TO INITIATE NON-CAPITAL WORKS PROJECTS IN CONNECTION WITH RECREATIONAL, SPORTING, CULTURAL AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES ARE INVITED TO APPLY FOR GRANTS FROM THE SIR DAVID TRENCH FUND FOR RECREATION.

THE FUND, ADMINISTERED BY THE COUNCIL FOR RECREATION AND SPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES BRANCH, HAS BEEN ALLOCATED \$2.5 MILLION THIS FINANCIAL YEAR (1985-86) AND SO FAR 91 ORGANISATIONS HAVE BEEN GRANTED \$1.58 MILLION IN AID FOR 154 PROJECTS.

A COUNCIL SPOKESMAN TODAY (TUESDAY) REMINDED LOCAL ORGANISATIONS, PARTICULARLY NEW AGENCIES NOT AWARE OF THE FUND, THAT THEY COULD STILL APPLY BEFORE THE END OF THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE FUND WAS TO ENCOURAGE PROJECTS WHICH PROMOTED PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, PURPOSEFUL USE OF LEISURE, AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT, ESPECIALLY OF YOUNG PEOPLE.

HE SAID THAT PROJECTS SHOULD BE ABLE TO PROVIDE THE PUBLIC WITH CONSTRUCTIVE AND LONG-TERM BENEFITS.

+THEY SHOULD ALSO BE SPECIFIC AND ALLOCATIONS WILL BE MADE FOR EACH ITEM ON A ONE-OFF BASIS,+ HE ADDED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID PRIORITY WOULD BE GIVEN TO ORGANISATIONS WHICH HAD NO ACCESS TO OTHER FUNDING RESOURCES.

REQUESTS FOR RECREATIONAL AND SPORTS EQUIPMENT OR AUDIO-VISUAL EQUIPMENT AND THE LIKE WOULD USUALLY BE CONSIDERED, HE SAID.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE SECRETARIAT, COUNCIL FOR RECREATION AND SPORT ON THE 11TH FLOOR, WING ON CENTRE, 111 CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG.

APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE COMPLETED IN DUPLICATE AND RETURNED TO THE SAME ADDRESS.

FURTHER ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 5-458511.

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GOVERNOR TO VISIT KWAI CHUNG, TSING YI

THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, WILL VISIT THE KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI DISTRICT ON FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 28) TO LOOK AT VARIOUS FACILITIES PROVIDED BY THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT. TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED. A PRESS COACH WILL LEAVE THE KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER, TSIM SHA TSUI, BY 3 PM.

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UC CANDIDATES FORUM FOR MONG KOK

AN OPEN FORUM WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) BY THE FOUR CANDIDATES CONTESTING THE MONG KOK CONSTITUENCY IN THE URBAN COUNCIL ELECTION ON MARCH 6.

THE CANDIDATES, MR SHAM TAK-ON, MR CHAN KWOK-MING, MR EDMUND CHOW WAI-HUNG AND MR CHOW HING-CHUEN, WILL INTRODUCE THEIR ELECTION PLATFORMS AND ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR.

ORGANISED BY THE MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICE, THE FORUM WILL BE MODERATED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MRS BRENDA FUNG.

THE PUBLIC IS WELCOME TO ATTEND THE FORUM TO BE HELD AT 8 PM IN THE T. S. LO HALL, HONG KONG PLAYGROUND ASSOCIATION, QUEEN ELIZABETH II YOUTH CENTRE, AT 10 YIM PO FONG STREET.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

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YAU MA TEI FORUM FOR UC CANDIDATES
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CANDIDATES STANDING FOR THE URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS IN THE YAU MA TEI CONSTITUENCY WILL HOLD THEIR FORUM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) EVENING AT THE HENRY G. LEONG COMMUNITY CENTRE.

THE THREE CANDIDATES ARE MR NG KIN-SUN, MR KWAN LIM-HO AND MR LAI WING-TAK.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, MR ANDREW W.F. WONG, WILL BE THE MODERATOR AT THE FORUM.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE FORUM AT 7.45 PM, AT 60 PUBLIC SQUARE STREET, HENRY G. LEONG COMMUNITY CENTRE.

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MP TO MEET PRESS
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CONSERVATIVE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, MR MICHAEL GRYLLS, WILL GIVE A PRESS CONFERENCE TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AT 9.30 AM IN THE GIS PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM, FIFTH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, CENTRAL.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1986

- 13 -

CLOSURE ORDER SOUGHT
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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS SEEKING THE CLOSURE OF TWO ILLEGAL STRUCTURES AT FLAT B, FIFTH FLOOR, 97 HAU WONG ROAD, KOWLOON CITY, AND ON THE ROOF OVER THE FLAT SO THAT THE STRUCTURES CAN BE DEMOLISHED.

THIS FOLLOWS THE OWNERS' FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH AN ORDER ISSUED UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE IN DECEMBER, 1982 REQUIRING DEMOLITION OF THE ILLEGAL STRUCTURES.

A NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER FROM THE KOWLOON DISTRICT COURT AT 9.30 AM ON MARCH 25 WAS POSTED ON THE STRUCTURES TODAY (TUESDAY).

DEMOLITION WORK WILL BE CARRIED OUT IMMEDIATELY THE CLOSURE ORDER IS GRANTED.

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SEMINAR ON EFFECTIVENESS OF RETRAINING COURSES
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MORE THAN 100 PRIMARY SCHOOL HEADS WILL ATTEND A SEMINAR ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF RETRAINING COURSES FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS ON SATURDAY (MARCH 1).

ORGANISED BY THE GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, THE SEMINAR WILL BE HELD AT ITS ANNEXE AT ARGYLE CENTRE, STAGE ONE, 688 NATHAN ROAD, 19TH FLOOR, MONG KOK.

THE COLLEGE ANNUALLY RUNS FOUR FULL-TIME RETRAINING COURSES FOR PRIMARY TEACHERS WITH MORE THAN FIVE YEARS' TEACHING EXPERIENCE.

THE EIGHT-WEEK COURSES AIM TO ACQUAINT SERVING TEACHERS WITH MODERN METHODS AND APPROACHES IN TEACHING IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS, TO PROMOTE BETTER UNDERSTANDING IN THE USE OF RESOURCES AND NEW CONCEPTS IN CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT.

THE EMPHASIS IS ON THE PRACTICAL SIDE AND IS DESIGNED TO HELP TEACHERS DEVELOP MODERN METHODS IN PROGRAMMED LEARNING, TEAM TEACHING, REMEDIAL TEACHING, MIXED ABILITY GROUPING AND THE ACTIVITY APPROACH.

AT THE SEMINAR, SCHOOL HEADS CAN GIVE THEIR VIEWS ON RETRAINING COURSES FOR THEIR TEACHERS AND PROBLEMS ARISING FROM THE COURSES, AND ON HOW TO ADOPT AND IMPLEMENT THE ACTIVITY APPROACH IN SCHOOLS.

PRINCIPAL OF THE GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, MR PUN WANG-KEUNG, AND VICE-PRINCIPAL OF THE COLLEGE, MR FOK PO-NAM, WILL ADDRESS THE GATHERING AT THE OPENING AND CONCLUSION OF THE COURSE.

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PRIZES FOR 'SAFETY AWARD SCHEME' WINNERS
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WINNERS OF THE THIRD ANNUAL CONSTRUCTION SAFETY AWARD SCHEME WILL RECEIVE THEIR PRIZES AT A CEREMONY ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 27).

MR CHAN NAI-KEONG, SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, MR TAM YIU-CHUNG, MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD, AND MR RON BRIDGE, COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR WILL OFFICIATE AT THE CEREMONY.

THE SAFETY AWARD SCHEME IS AN ANNUAL COMPETITION ORGANISED BY THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY SAFETY SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD FOR WORKERS AND CONTRACTORS IN THE INDUSTRY.

THE 1985-86 +SAFETY WORKER+ AWARD WAS WON BY MR CHUNG SHUN-PING OF GAMMON (HONG KONG) LTD, THE +SAFETY SITE+ AWARD WENT TO THE CASTLE PEAK POWER STATION 'B' C2 SITE OF THE KUMAGAI GUMI (HONG KONG) LTD, AND THE +SAFETY CROSSWORD PUZZLE+ AWARD WAS WON BY MR CHAN TAK-CHEUNG.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRESENTATION, WHICH STARTS AT 4 PM ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 27), AT THE 'RAFFLES' IN THE BANK OF AMERICA TOWER, CENTRAL.

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COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS ANTI-MOSQUITO DRIVE
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AN ANTI-MOSQUITO CAMPAIGN AND THE PROVISION OF A NEW PUBLIC LIBRARY WILL BE AMONG THE SUBJECTS TO BE DISCUSSED IN A MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT COMMITTEE OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL.

THE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO EXAMINE THE RANGE OF LEISURE ACTIVITIES TO BE ORGANISED BY THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IN THE DISTRICT FROM MARCH TO JUNE, AND DECIDE ON THE NAMING OF THREE NEW PUBLIC PLEASURE GROUNDS SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION IN MAY.

THE MEETING WILL START AT 3 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK AND GOVERNMENT OFFICE BUILDING, 2ND FLOOR, 174-208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN, NEW TERRITORIES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING.

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1986

- 15 -

DANCE CONTEST WINNERS TO PERFORM TOMORROW

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DANCE FANS WILL BE ABLE TO ENJOY THE PERFORMANCES OF 17 WINNING DANCING GROUPS OF THE 15TH OPEN DANCE CONTEST AT THE CITY HALL TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) EVENING.

DURING THE TWO-HOUR SPECIAL, WINNERS WILL PERFORM VARIOUS TYPES OF DANCES INCLUDING WESTERN AND ORIENTAL, CLASSICAL AND MODERN, AND CHILDREN'S DANCES.

THE DANCING GROUPS, SELECTED FROM 119 PARTICIPATING TEAMS OF THE FIVE-DAY CONTEST HELD IN DECEMBER WILL BE PRESENTED THEIR PRIZES BEFORE THE PERFORMANCE.

THE 15TH OPEN DANCE CONTEST WAS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT CULTURE AND RECREATION PROMOTION ASSOCIATION AND KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE, AND CO-ORGANISED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL.

OFFICIATING AT THE PRIZE-PRESENTATION CEREMONY WILL BE THE DEPUTY REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR T.H. CHAU KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR KEVIN MAK LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, MR POON CHI-FAI CHIEF MANAGER (LEISURE SERVICES) KOWLOON EAST, MR JOHNNY WOO AND THE FOUNDING PRESIDENT OF KTDCRPA, MRS FANCY NG.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE 15TH OPEN DANCE CONTEST PRIZE-PRESENTATION CEREMONY AND WINNERS' PERFORMANCE AT 7.30 PM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) IN THE CONCERT HALL OF THE CITY HALL.

ARTS FESTIVAL SOUVENIR BOOKS ON SALE

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COPIES OF A SOUVENIR BOOK ON THE TSUEN KWAI ARTS FESTIVAL 1986 ARE NOW OBTAINABLE AT \$10 EACH.

PUBLISHED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE FESTIVAL, THE ENGLISH-CHINESE PUBLICATION ALSO PROBES INTO VARIOUS INTERESTING ASPECTS OF THE LOCAL CULTURAL SCENE.

IT COMPRISES 88 PAGES AND IS WELL-ILLUSTRATED WITH COLOUR PICTURES.

THE BOOKS ARE ON SALE AT THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL BOX OFFICE, GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE AND HONG KONG ARTS CENTRE.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1986

- 16 -

LAND AUCTION
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A WATERLOO ROAD SITE MEASURING 1 635 SQUARE METRES WILL BE AUCTIONED AT THE CITY HALL THEATRE TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AT 2.30 PM.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE AUCTION.

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CROSS-COUNTRY RACE IN NORTH DISTRICT
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ABOUT 400 RUNNERS WILL COMPETE IN A CROSS-COUNTRY RACE IN NORTH DISTRICT ON SUNDAY (MARCH 2) AS PART OF THE ACTIVITIES TO CELEBRATE THE LUNAR NEW YEAR IN THE DISTRICT.

THE RACE IS DIVIDED INTO WOMEN'S AND MEN'S SECTIONS, WITH WOMEN PARTICIPANTS RUNNING EIGHT-KILOMETRES AND THE MEN'S ROUTE COVERING TEN KILOMETRES.

THE WOMEN WILL START THE RACE AT 3.15 PM AT PING CHE ROAD WHILE THE MEN WILL START 15 MINUTES LATER FROM THE SING PING PUBLIC SCHOOL IN TA KWU LING. THEY WILL ALL FINISH AT SHEK WU HUI PLAYGROUND IN SHEUNG SHUI.

SPONSORED BY THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD, THE RACE IS ORGANISED BY THE SHEUNG SHUI SPORTS ASSOCIATION. THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR IAN WOTHERSPOON, WILL PRESENT PRIZES TO WINNERS AT A CEREMONY AT 4.45 PM.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE RACE AND THE PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY.

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1986

- 17 -

SEARCH FOR ILLEGAL GOODS

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A SERIES OF CHECKS WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN KOWLOON EAST, INCLUDING LAM TIN ESTATE, FOR ILLEGAL AND EXCESSIVE STORAGE OF DANGEROUS GOODS BY OFFICERS OF THE EAST DIVISION OF KOWLOON FIRE COMMAND AND KOWLOON REGIONAL OFFICE OF FIRE PROTECTION BUREAU TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPERATION. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE YAU TONG FIRE STATION IN KO FAI ROAD BEFORE 9.30 AM TOMORROW.

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FANLING, TUEN MUN TRAFFIC CHANGES

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SHA TAU KOK ROAD IN FANLING BETWEEN KWAN TEI AND PING CHE ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 11.30 PM ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 27) TO 3.30 AM THE NEXT DAY TO FACILITATE ROAD IMPROVEMENT WORKS IN THE AREA.

DURING THE CLOSURE, TRAFFIC WILL BE DIVERTED TO SHA TAU KOK ROAD, LUK KENG ROAD, BRIDE'S POOL ROAD AND TING KOK ROAD.

THE SAME MEASURE WILL BE REPEATED FROM 11.30 PM ON FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 28) TO 3.30 AM THE NEXT DAY.

MEANWHILE, FROM 10 AM ON FEBRUARY 28, CASTLE PEAK ROAD IN TUEN MUN, FROM A POINT ABOUT 140 METRES NORTH OF ITS JUNCTION WITH THE NORTHERN END OF ROAD D9 TO A POINT ABOUT 740 METRES NORTH OF THE SAME JUNCTION, WILL BE DESIGNATED A 24-HOUR DAILY RESTRICTED ZONE.

NO VEHICLES OTHER THAN FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS WITHIN THE RESTRICTED AREA.

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EDINBURGH PLACE TEMPORARY CLOSURE

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EDINBURGH PLACE WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC BETWEEN 6.30 AM AND 9 AM ON FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 28) TO FACILITATE THE LAUNCHING CEREMONY FOR THE +COMMUNITY CHEST TAXI WEEK+ FUND-RAISING CAMPAIGN.

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