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NEW REGULATIONS FOR SHIPMENT OF DANGEROUS GOODS BY AIR

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A SET OF NEW, INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNISED REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE AIR-FREIGHTING OF DANGEROUS GOODS WILL BE INTRODUCED IN HONG KONG IN THE MIDDLE OF NEXT YEAR.

THE REGULATIONS SPECIFY ITEMS OF DANGEROUS GOODS WHICH MAY OR MAY NOT BE CARRIED, EITHER AS CARGO OR PASSENGER BAGGAGE, THE MAXIMUM QUANTITY OF ANY PARTICULAR ITEM WHICH MAY BE CARRIED, HOW THEY MUST BE PACKED AND LABELLED, AND WHETHER THEY MAY BE CARRIED IN PASSENGER OR CARGO AIRCRAFT.

SPEAKING TODAY (THURSDAY) AT A SEMINAR ORGANISED BY THE SHIPPERS COUNCIL AND THE ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG AIR FREIGHT AGENTS, MR J.B. BEARDS, ACTING SENIOR OPERATIONS OFFICER (AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS) OF THE AVIATION SAFETY DIVISION, CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT, EXPLAINED THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE NEW REGULATIONS TO THE LOCAL AIR FREIGHT INDUSTRY AND THE NEED FOR INTRODUCING THE NEW REQUIREMENTS.

+THE CARRIAGE BY AIR OF COMMODITIES WITH UNDESIRABLE PROPERTIES, FOR EXAMPLE, INFLAMMABLE, CORROSIVE, POISONOUS, RADIOACTIVE ETC. HAS BEEN CONTROLLED, UP TO NOW, BY REGULATIONS PRODUCED BY THE INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION (IATA),+ MR BEARDS SAID.

+THESE REGULATIONS IN THEMSELVES ARE MORE THAN ADEQUATE TO ALLOW THESE COMMODITIES TO BE CARRIED SAFELY, BUT THE PROBLEM HAS BEEN THAT THEY ARE NOT UNIVERSALLY APPLIED AND IN SOME CASES ARE EITHER NOT RECOGNISED BY THE GOVERNMENTS OF SOME COUNTRIES OR IN OTHER CASES CLASH WITH NATIONAL REGULATIONS, AS IN THE UNITED STATES, WHERE THE CARRIAGE OF DANGEROUS GOODS IS REGULATED BY CODE 49 OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS,+ HE CONTINUED.

THIS SITUATION LED TO THE CONCLUSION THAT A SET OF INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNISED REGULATIONS TO CONTROL THE CARRIAGE OF DANGEROUS GOODS BY AIR HAD TO BE WORKED OUT.

MR BEARDS SAID THAT THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANISATION (ICAO) THEN SET UP A WORKING GROUP IN 1976 TO IRON OUT THE REQUIRED REGULATIONS.

+THE RESULT OF THEIR EFFORT IS THE PUBLICATION OF THE NEW REGULATIONS CONTAINED IN ICAO ANNEX 18 - 'THE SAFE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS BY AIR',+ HE SAID.

THE REGULATIONS LAY DOWN COMPREHENSIVE RULES GOVERNING THE SHIPMENT BY AIR OF DANGEROUS GOODS, CATEGORISATION AND RESTRICTIONS, AS WELL AS PACKAGING AND LABELLING. THESE WILL BE IMPLEMENTED WORLDWIDE NEXT YEAR.

+THE REGULATIONS ALSO PLACE RESPONSIBILITIES UPON SHIPPERS, CARGO AGENTS AND AIRLINES TO ENSURE THAT THEY ARE STRICTLY FOLLOWED,+ MR BEARDS ADDED.

THE REGULATIONS ALSO REQUIRE THAT THE STAFF OF THESE ORGANISATIONS ARE PROPERLY TRAINED TO HANDLE SUCH SHIPMENTS.

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BAN ON IMPORTS FROM ARGENTINA

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A MINOR AMENDMENT TO THE IMPORT PROHIBITION (ARGENTINA) (NO. 2) REGULATIONS 1982, TO BE GAZETTED TOMORROW (FRIDAY), GIVES THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE DISCRETION TO AUTHORISE THE IMPORT OF ARTICLES FROM ARGENTINA IN EXCEPTIONAL CASES WHERE HE IS SATISFIED THAT THIS WOULD NOT CONTRAVENE THE INTENTION OF THE REGULATIONS.

EXPERIENCE HAS INDICATED THAT THE ORIGINAL REGULATIONS WERE UNNECESSARILY RESTRICTIVE IN OMITTING TO PROVIDE ANY SUCH MEASURE OF DISCRETION, WHICH WOULD NORMALLY BE INCLUDED IN THIS SORT OF PROHIBITION.

THE AMENDMENT TO BE GAZETTED TOMORROW SIMPLY RECTIFIES THIS OMISSION.

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HONG KONG - CANADA TEXTILES CONSULTATIONS

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CONSULTATIONS WILL BEGIN TOMORROW (FRIDAY) BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CANADA REGARDING HONG KONG'S EXPORTS OF CLOTHING TO CANADA IN 1983.

THE CANADIAN DELEGATION WILL BE LED BY MR CAMPBELL STUART, ASSISTANT UNDER-SECRETARY, SPECIAL TRADE RELATIONS OFFICE. THE HONG KONG DELEGATION WILL BE LED BY MR M.D. CARTLAND, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF TRADE (NORTH AMERICA AND MULTILATERAL).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRADE DEPARTMENT SAID THESE CONSULTATIONS HAVE BEEN REQUESTED BY THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT IN CONNECTION WITH PROBLEMS CLAIMED TO BE CURRENTLY AFFECTING THE DOMESTIC GARMENT INDUSTRY IN CANADA.

UNDER THE TERMS OF THE HONG KONG/CANADA TEXTILES AGREEMENT, 1982-86, EITHER GOVERNMENT HAS THE RIGHT TO REQUEST CONSULTATIONS ON ANY MATTER ARISING FROM THE IMPLEMENTATION OR OPERATION OF THE AGREEMENT, HE ADDED.

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INSURANCE FIRM'S AUTHORISATION TO BE REVOKED

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THE REGISTRAR OF COMPANIES HAS INFORMED UNITED OVERSEAS INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED, A COMPANY INCORPORATED IN HONG KONG, THAT ITS AUTHORISATION FOR CARRYING ON FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE BUSINESS IN HONG KONG WILL BE WITHDRAWN TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

A NOTICE TO THIS EFFECT WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TOMORROW.

THE ACTION IS BEING TAKEN UNDER SECTION 3A(5) OF THE FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANIES DEPOSIT ORDINANCE (AS AMENDED BY THE FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANIES DEPOSIT (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1981), WHICH EMPOWERS THE REGISTRAR OF COMPANIES TO REVOKE SUCH AUTHORISATION WHERE IT APPEARS TO HIM THAT A COMPANY CARRYING ON FIRE OR MARINE INSURANCE BUSINESS IN HONG KONG HAS CEASED TO MAINTAIN AN EXCESS OF ASSETS OVER LIABILITIES OF AT LEAST $2 MILLION.

THE EFFECT OF THE REVOCATION WILL BE THAT UNITED OVERSEAS INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO CARRY ON FIRE OR MARINE INSURANCE BUSINESS AS FROM THE SAID DATE.

AS TO THE EFFECT OF THIS ON EXISTING INSURANCE POLICIES, THE REGISTRAR OF COMPANIES HAS POINTED OUT THAT THIS ORDINANCE SPECIFICALLY PROVIDES THAT THE REVOCATION OF THE COMPANY'S AUTHORISATION WILL NOT OF ITSELF INVALIDATE ANY TRANSACTION ENTERED INTO PRIOR TO SUCH REVOCATION I.E. IN THIS CASE DECEMBER 17, 1982.

HE RECOMMENDS, HOWEVER, THAT POLICYHOLDERS SHOULD SEEK THEIR OWN PROFESSIONAL ADVICE ON THE EFFECT OF THIS ACTION ON THEIR INSURANCE POLICIES.

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PRESS CONFERENCE ON TRAVEL AGENTS

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

A PRESS CONFERENCE TO ANNOUNCE DETAILS OF THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION WITH REGARD TO TRAVEL AGENTS WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT 12 NOON IN THE GIS THEATRE, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, 5TH FLOOR, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG.

IT WILL BE CHAIRED BY THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MR K.Y. YEUNG.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

INAUGURATION OF YIN NGAI SOCIETIES

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LADY YOUDE WILL OFFICIATE AT A JOINT INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF FIVE YIN NGAI SOCIETIES AT PAK TIN COMMUNITY CENTRE, PAK TIN ESTATE, SHAM SHUI PO, AT 11 AM ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 18).

THEY ARE THE ON TING/YAU OI, TAI YUEN, SHUI PIN WAI, OI MAN AND PAK TIN ESTATES YIN NGAI SOCIETIES.

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE INAUGURATION. A 14-SEATER GOVERNMENT VAN WILL BE AVAILABLE TO THE PRESS AND LEAVE KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER AT 10.15 AM FOR THE CEREMONY.

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NEW PRISON 'COMES AT RIGHT TIME'

THE NEW, MINIMUM-SECURITY TUNG TAU CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION IN STANLEY CAME +AT A MOST APPROPRIATE TIME+, WHEN THERE WAS AN INCREASE IN THE PRISON POPULATION, THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, MR THOMAS GARNER, SAID TODAY.

HE WAS SPEAKING AT A FORMAL CEREMONY MARKING THE HANDING OVER OF THE INSTITUTION TO THE DEPARTMENT BY THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT ARCHITECT, MR JOSEPH LEI.

MR GARNER EXPLAINED THAT THERE HAD BEEN A DECREASE IN THE AVERAGE DAILY PRISON POPULATION UNTIL 1979. AFTER THAT, THE AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION BEGAN TO INCREASE BY JUST OVER SIX PER CENT IN 1980 AND AGAIN IN 1981.

HOWEVER, THIS YEAR, AND PARTICULARLY DURING THE PAST SIX MONTHS, THERE HAS BEEN A TEN-PER CENT INCREASE IN THE AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION, HE SAID.

ALSO AT THE CEREMONY, IN WHICH THE KEY TO THE MAIN GATE OF THE INSTITUTION WAS HANDED TO MR GARNER, WERE THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THAILAND'S DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, MR DHAVEE CHOOSUP, AND FOUR OF HIS SENIOR OFFICERS, WHO HAD COME SPECIALLY FOR THE OCCASION.

THE NEW INSTITUTION, WHICH IS ADJACENT TO STANLEY PRISON, IS A MINIMUM-SECURITY PRISON FOR MALE FIRST OFFENDERS AND HAS ACCOMMODATION FOR 240 PRISONERS.

IT CONSISTS OF A SINGLE SIX-STOREY STRUCTURE WITH FULL SUPPORTING FACILITIES, INCLUDING KITCHEN, DINING ROOM, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRY AND A CHAPEL.

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THE BASIS OF THE PROGRAMME AT THE INSTITUTION IS AN ORDERLY AND REGULAR LABOUR ORIENTATED ROUTINE. MANY OF THE PRISONERS LEAVE THE INSTITUTION DAILY TO CLEAN AND SERVICE THE SURROUNDING AREA AND PARTICIPATE IN OTHER COMMUNITY PROJECTS.

THE INSTITUTION IS HEADED BY A SUPERINTENDENT, ASSISTED BY A CHIEF OFFICER AND OTHER STAFF, INCLUDING TRADE INSTRUCTORS.

WORK ON THE PROJECT STARTED IN JANUARY 1981 AND WAS COMPLETED LAST MONTH.

A UNIQUE FEATURE OF THE PROJECT WAS THE INCORPORATION OF THE GENERAL STORES FOR THE DEPARTMENT IN A SEPARATE PART OF THE BUILDING.

ANOTHER FEATURE IS THE COMPLETION OF OVER 100 ADDITIONAL UNITS OF STAFF QUARTERS OF VARIOUS GRADES BUILT CLOSE TO THE INSTITUTION.

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'LAI SEE' FOR NEEDY

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LOCAL PHILANTHROPISTS SIR SHIU-KIN TANG AND MR HO TIM THIS AFTERNOON DISTRIBUTED $100 NEW YEAR RED PACKETS TO ABOUT 300 WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN AND ON PUBLIC ASSISTANCE, AT A CEREMONY AT TUNG WAH HOSPITAL.

THE CEREMONY MARKED THE START OF DISTRIBUTIONS OF $829 000 ALLOCATED BY THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE TANG SHIU-KIN/HO TIM CHARITABLE FUND AS +LAI SEE+ TO NEEDY INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES.

BENEFITING FROM THE DISTRIBUTIONS WILL BE 2 347 WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN AND ON PUBLIC ASSISTANCE, 5 380 RESIDENTS OF HOMES AND HOSTELS FOR OLD PEOPLE AND 482 ELDERLY PATIENTS OF THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS.

HELPING SIR SHIU-KIN AND MR HO TIM DISTRIBUTE THE RED PACKETS WERE THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR SELWYN ALLEYNE, THE TRUSTEE OF THE FUND, AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

ALSO HELPING WERE MISS MONA FONG AND TELEVISION ACTRESS MISS LEE SEE-KI.

SPEAKING AT TODAY'S CEREMONY, MR CHARLES C.K. LUI, ADVISER TO THE FUND, SAID THAT THIS YEAR'S ALLOCATION WAS $140 000 MORE THAN LAST YEAR'S AND THAT 1 400 MORE PEOPLE BENEFITED FROM IT.

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TSIM SHA TSUI LIT UP FOR FESTIVAL

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TENS OF THOUSANDS OF COLOURFUL BULBS LIT UP THE SKY OVER TSIM SHA TSUI FROM SIX O'CLOCK THIS (THURSDAY) EVENING WHEN THE URBAN COUNCIL CHAIRMAN, MR HILTON CHEONG-LEEN, SWITCHED ON THE FESTIVE LIGHTING DECORATION IN THE AREA.

THE CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR LIGHTING DISPLAY COVERS A WIDE AREA -- ALONG THE WHOLE OF MODY ROAD FROM CHATHAM ROAD TO SCIENCE MUSEUM ROAD, MODY LANE AND THE NORTH SIDE OF SALISBURY ROAD BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH CHATHAM ROAD AND SCIENCE MUSEUM ROAD.

THE SWITCH-ON CEREMONY WAS PERFORMED BY MR CHEONG-LEEN ON THE FOOTBRIDGE BETWEEN TSIM SHA TSUI CENTRE AND ROYAL GARDEN HOTEL.

THE SEASONAL DECORATIONS WILL BE PUT UP FOR OVER 40 DAYS UNTIL AFTER THE LUNAR NEW YEAR, AND ARE FINANCED BY THE EAST TSIM SHA TSUI PROPERTY DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION LIMITED, AT A COST OF $320 000.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT OFFICE POINTED OUT THAT THE AREA WAS LARGELY SURROUNDED BY BUILDINGS WITH REFLECTIVE MIRROR GLASS, GREATLY ENHANCING THE EFFECT OF THE COLOURFUL LIGHTING.

IN ADDITION, HE SAID, ENTERTAINMENT ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS DURING THE FESTIVE PERIOD.

THE MAJOR ATTRACTION WILL BE TWO VARIETY SHOWS BY COMMERCIAL RADIO AND THE DISTRICT BOARD, FEATURING TOP SHOW BUSINESS NAMES FOR CHRISTMAS EVE AND NEW YEAR EVE.

EACH SHOW WILL LAST FOR THREE HOURS STARTING AT 9.30 PM AT PIAZZA IN EAST TSIM SHA TSUI.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT SOME ROADS IN EAST TSIM SHA TSUI WOULD BE RESTRICTED TO PEDESTRIAN USE ONLY DURING THE HOLIDAY PERIOD, IN ANTICIPATION OF LARGE CROWDS.

+FURTHERMORE, ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO EXTEND PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES TO COPE WITH THE EXPECTED DEMAND,+ HE SAID.

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ACAN YOUTH VOLUNTEERS ORGANISE ANTI-DRUGS CAMP

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THE YOUTH VOLUNTEER GROUP OF THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS WILL HOLD AN ANTI-DRUGS +TRAINING+ CAMP FOR 150 YOUNG PEOPLE ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 18) IN THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE SAI KUNG OUTDOOR RECREATION CENTRE.

THE TWO-DAY CAMP IS ORGANISED BY ACAN YOUTH VOLUNTEER, UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE NARCOTICS DIVISION, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, WITH THE AIM OF HEIGHTENING THE AWARENESS OF YOUTHS OF THE DANGERS OF EXPERIMENTING WITH DRUGS.

PARTICIPANTS WILL BE MAINLY WORKING YOUTHS FROM FACTORIES DOING SEMI-SKILLED OR UNSKILLED JOBS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NARCOTICS DIVISION SAID THE SELECTION OF THE PARTICIPANTS WAS BASED ON THE PROFILE OF A POTENTIAL ADDICT AS DERIVED FROM DATA IN THE CENTRAL REGISTRY OF DRUG ABUSERS.

AT THE CAMP, THE ACAN VOLUNTEERS WILL ORGANISE QUIZ EVENTS, GAMES, PLAYS, A SLIDE SHOW AND DISCUSSIONS.

THE COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR GORDON MORTIMER, WILL VISIT THE YOUTHS IN THE CAMP ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 19) AND PRESENT PRIZES TO THE WINNERS OF VARIOUS ACTIVITIES.

THE ACAN YOUTH VOLUNTEERS WERE FIRST RECRUITED IN JULY 1981 AND AGAIN IN MARCH THIS YEAR. THERE ARE NOW SOME 40 VOLUNTEERS COMPRISING TEACHERS, STUDENTS, CLERKS, NURSES AND TECHNICIANS -- ALL HIGHLY MOTIVATED AND ENTHUSIASTIC YOUNG INDIVIDUALS.

SINCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE YOUTH VOLUNTEERS, OVER 30 ANTI-DRUG EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY ACTIVITIES WERE ORGANISED BY THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS WITH THEIR ASSISTANCE.

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IMMIGRATION OFFICERS TOLD TO BE GOODWILL ENVOYS TO VISITORS

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IMMIGRATION OFFICERS WERE URGED TODAY TO SERVE AS GOODWILL AMBASSADORS TO OVERSEAS VISITORS, WHO CONTRIBUTE TO HONG KONG'S PROSPERITY.

LAST YEAR, THESE VISITORS BROUGHT IN MORE THAN EIGHT BILLION DOLLARS, AND, DESPITE THE WORLD-WIDE RECESSION, THEY BROUGHT IN SOME FOUR BILLION FROM JANUARY TO JUNE THIS YEAR, MR ROGER LOBO, SENIOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, TOLD 110 NEW IMMIGRATION RECRUITS.

HE WAS SPEAKING AT A PASSING OUT PARADE OF 63 ASSISTANT IMMIGRATION OFFICERS, AND 47 IMMIGRATION ASSISTANTS.

+FOR THESE VISITORS, YOU ARE USUALLY THE FIRST HONG KONG OFFICIALS WHOM THEY WILL MEET. I URGE YOU TO BE OUR AMBASSADORS OF GOODWILL AND MAKE THEM FEEL THAT THEY ARE REALLY WELCOME,+ MR LOBO SAID.

HE ALSO REMINDED THEM THAT IN DEALING WITH HONG KONG RESIDENTS DEPARTING FOR OTHER PLACES OR RETURNING FROM OVERSEAS TRIPS, THEY SHOULD PERFORM THEIR DUTIES CAREFULLY AND ALSO +WITH A SMILE+.

HOWEVER, AS LAW-ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS, THEY SOMETIMES WOULD +HAVE TO SAY 'NO' FIRMLY, ALBEIT COURTEOUSLY+, HE TOLD THEM.

MR LOBO SAID THE NATURE OF IMMIGRATION WORK HAD BECOME MUCH MORE COMPLEX THAN BEFORE. OFFICERS WOULD BE CALLED UPON TO HANDLE A WIDE RANGE OF DUTIES FROM THE ISSUE OF TRAVEL DOCUMENTS TO THE REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES, FROM THE EXAMINATION OF PASSENGERS TO FIELD INVESTIGATIONS.

+THE IDENTITY CARD RE-ISSUE PROJECT DUE TO START IN THE MIDDLE OF NEXT YEAR WILL PLACE FURTHER RESPONSIBILITIES ON YOUR SERVICE,+ HE SAID.

MR LOBO SAID THE NEW RECRUITS, WHO HAD JUST COMPLETED THREE MONTHS INTENSIVE TRAINING, HAD A CHALLENGING AND REWARDING CAREER AHEAD OF THEM.

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SOUTHERN D.B. TO HOLD SECOND MEETING

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DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND THE PROVISION OF SERVICES AND FACILITIES IN SOUTHERN DISTRICT WILL BE DISCUSSED AT THE SECOND MEETING OF THE LOCAL DISTRICT BOARD TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE PROPOSALS ARE CONTAINED IN A 91-PAGE REPORT ON SOUTHERN DISTRICT STRATEGY WHICH OUTLINES SUCH ITEMS AS PUBLIC HOUSING, EDUCATION, MEDICAL AND HEALTH, ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS, DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AND OTHER PROGRAMMES.

AT THE MEETING, BOARD MEMBERS WILL BE BRIEFED ON ANOTHER REPORT CONCERNING A SEMINAR WITH STUDENTS ON DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION.

OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION WILL INCLUDE THE APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED MEMBERS TO COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD AND ARRANGEMENTS OF FAMILIARISATION TOURS FOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD MEETING AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO BE HELD AT THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, 7-11 NAM NING STREET, MEI FUNG COURT, SECOND FLOOR, ABERDEEN.

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TRAINING COURSES FOR TRADE AND WORKSHOP INSTRUCTORS

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TRADE INSTRUCTORS AND WORKSHOP SUPERVISORS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND A PART-TIME DAY-RELEASE COURSE IN INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNIQUES TO BE RUN BY THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE IN LATE FEBRUARY NEXT YEAR.

THE COURSE, WITH EMPHASIS ON THE METHODS OF INSTRUCTION, WILL GIVE THE INSTRUCTORS AND SUPERVISORS AN OPPORTUNITY TO OBTAIN THE NECESSARY TRAINING FOR CARRYING OUT THEIR DAY TO DAY DUTIES.

EXPERIENCED WORKERS WHO WILL TAKE UP INSTRUCTION DUTIES MAY ALSO APPLY FOR THE COURSE.

THE COURSE WILL BE CONDUCTED IN CANTONESE. PARTICIPANTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND CLASSES FOR ONE DAY A WEEK FOR 15 WEEKS. THE COURSE FEE IS $100.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE OBTAINABLE FROM THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE, 373 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, HONG KONG AND SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE COLLEGE BY JANUARY 8.

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APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR 'KAITO' LICENCES

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ONCE AGAIN INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR 'KAITO' SERVICE LICENCES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT THIS IS A FURTHER OPPORTUNITY FOR THOSE OPERATORS WHO DID NOT APPLY IN AUGUST.

HE STRESSED THAT WITH EFFECT FROM APRIL 1, 1983, OPERATORS WITHOUT A SERVICE LICENCE WILL BE LIABLE TO A FINE OF $100 000.

THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THE EXERCISE IS TO MAKE IT EASIER FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO REGULATE THESE SERVICES.

SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL BE GRANTED A ONE-YEAR SERVICE LICENCE AT A FEE OF $50.

THE OPERATORS WILL THEN BE REQUIRED TO PERIODICALLY INFORM THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT DETAILS OF THEIR SERVICES.

ANOTHER CONDITION IS THAT SCHEDULE OF SERVICES AND FARES MUST BE DISPLAYED ON THE VESSELS, HE ADDED.

FULL DETAILS OF THE CONDITIONS WILL BE SPECIFIED IN THE +NOTES FOR GUIDANCE+ ATTACHED TO THE APPLICATION FORMS.

THESE FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS IN WAN CHAI, ITS KOWLOON AND NEW TERRITORIES REGIONAL OFFICE IN MONG KOK, MARINE DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS IN CENTRAL AND VARIOUS DISTRICT MARINE OFFICES IN ABERDEEN, CHEUNG CHAU, SAI KUNG, SHAU KEI WAN, TAI PO, TUEN MUN AND YAU MA TEI AND ALL NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICT OFFICES.

COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED EITHER IN PERSON OR BY REGISTERED POST TO REACH THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS BY 5 PM ON JANUARY 21, 1983.

LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

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TWO PIECES OF CROWN LAND SOLD

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THE LANDS DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY) SOLD TWO PIECES OF CROWN LAND IN SHA TIN NEW TOWN AT AN AUCTION HELD IN THE EXCELSIOR HOTEL.

THE FIRST SITE, OF ABOUT 2 870 SQUARE METRES, IS FOR INDUSTRIAL AND GODOWN PURPOSES.

IT WAS SOLD TO REXTON LIMITED FOR $4.8 MILLION, OR $1 672.47 PER SQUARE METRE.

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THE SECOND LOT, WHICH IS FOR PUBLIC LORRY PARK AND GODOWN PURPOSES, HAS AN AREA OF ABOUT 3 956 SQUARE METRES.

IT WAS SOLD TO WADHAM INVESTMENT LIMITED FOR $5.6 MILLION, OR $1 415.57 PER SQUARE METRE.

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REMINDER ON FLOATING HOLIDAYS

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EMPLOYERS WERE REMINDED TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT FROM NEXT YEAR, EMPLOYEES COVERED BY THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE WILL BE ENTITLED TO AN ADDITIONAL FLOATING HOLIDAY.

THE ADDITIONAL HOLIDAY WILL BRING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF STATUTORY HOLIDAYS IN A YEAR FOR SUCH EMPLOYEES TO 11.

THE ORDINANCE APPLIES TO ALL MANUAL EMPLOYEES AND THOSE NON-MANUAL EMPLOYEES EARNING NOT MORE THAN $7 500 A MONTH.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT POINTED OUT THAT THE ADDITIONAL FLOATING HOLIDAY IS PROVIDED FOR BY THE EMPLOYMENT (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1982 WHICH WILL COME INTO OPERATION ON JANUARY 1.

THE ORDINANCE, HE ADDED, ALSO PROVIDES FOR THE WAY OF TAKING FLOATING HOLIDAYS.

EMPLOYERS HAVE TO FIX THE DATES OF THE FLOATING HOLIDAYS IN 1983 AND INFORM THEIR EMPLOYEES BY A NOTICE POSTED AT A CONSPICUOUS PLACE BEFORE THE END OF 1982.

IF AN EMPLOYER HAS NOT FIXED ONE OR BOTH OF THE FLOATING HOLIDAYS, THEN SUCH DAY OR DAYS WILL, AT THE REQUEST OF EMPLOYEES, BE ADDED TO THEIR PAID ANNUAL LEAVE.

WHERE THE EMPLOYER HAS NOT FIXED THE FLOATING HOLIDAYS AND EMPLOYEES HAVE NOT REQUESTED THAT THEY BE ADDED TO THEIR PAID ANNUAL LEAVE, THE EMPLOYEES SHOULD BE GIVEN A HOLIDAY ON THE MONDAY IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SECOND SATURDAY IN JUNE AND ON THE LAST MONDAY IN AUGUST.

IF A STATUTORY HOLIDAY HAPPENS TO FALL ON EITHER OF THESE TWO MONDAYS, THEN THE EMPLOYEES SHOULD BE GIVEN A HOLIDAY ON THE FOLLOWING DAY.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE AMENDMENT ORDINANCE ALSO PROVIDES EMPLOYEES WITH SAFEGUARD AGAINST LOSING A STATUTORY HOLIDAY IF THE HOLIDAY HAPPENS TO FALL ON A SUNDAY OR A REST DAY.

THEREFORE, IF LUNAR NEW YEAR'S DAY OR THE SECOND OR THIRD DAY OF LUNAR NEW YEAR FALLS ON A SUNDAY, THEN THE LUNAR NEW YEAR EVE SHOULD BE A STATUTORY HOLIDAY.

FURTHERMORE, IF A STATUTORY HOLIDAY OR AN ALTERNATIVE HOLIDAY OR A SUBSTITUTED HOLIDAY FALLS ON A REST DAY, THEN THE EMPLOYEE SHOULD BE GRANTED A HOLIDAY ON THE NEXT DAY, HE SAID.

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CLEAN-UP CONTEST IN TAI PO MARKETS

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MORE THAN 500 STALL HOLDERS IN TAI PO TOOK PART IN A THREE-DAY CAMPAIGN TO CLEAN UP THEIR MARKETS.

THEY WERE TRADERS OF TAI PO GOVERNMENT MARKET, KUK TENG MARKET, CHE PING HAWKER BAZAAR AND PO YICK HAWKER BAZAAR.

COINCIDING WITH THE CAMPAIGN WHICH ENDED TODAY, A MARKET STALL CLEANLINESS COMPETITION WAS HELD AMONG TRADERS AT TAI PO GOVERNMENT MARKET AND KUK TENG MARKET.

BOTH THE CAMPAIGN AND THE CONTEST WERE ORGANISED BY THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND CO-SPONSORED BY THE TAI PO RURAL COMMITTEE AND VARIOUS HAWKERS ASSOCIATIONS IN TAI PO.

RESULTS OF THE COMPETITION WERE ASSESSED BY A PANEL OF ADJUDICATORS CONSISTING OF THE URBAN SERVICES OFFICER OF TAI PO, MR NG YING-NEEN, RURAL COMMUNITY LEADERS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF TRADERS ASSOCIATIONS.

THE CHAIRMAN OF TAI PO RURAL COMMITTEE, MR CHEUNG WAI-LAM, PRESIDED OVER A PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY HELD AT TAI PO GOVERNMENT MARKET TODAY.

SOUVENIRS WERE PRESENTED TO NINE TRADERS WITH THE CLEANEST STALLS.

MR CHEUNG URGED THE WINNERS TO KEEP UP THEIR HIGH STANDARD OF ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE.

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NGONG PING ACCESS ROAD

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THE ACCESS ROAD TO NGONG PING ON LANTAU ISLAND WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL GOODS VEHICLES EVERY WEEKEND BETWEEN 12 NOON ON SATURDAY AND 12 MIDNIGHT ON SUNDAY, STARTING FROM DECEMBER 18.

THIS ARRANGEMENT WILL ALSO COME INTO EFFECT ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS WITH THE CLOSURE TAKING EFFECT FROM NOON ON THE DAY BEFORE.

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