



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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POSITIVE PROGRESS IN VARIOUS AREAS OF URUGUAY ROUND

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ALTHOUGH THE OUTLOOK APPEARS UNCERTAIN FOR THE MOMENT, THERE HAS BEEN POSITIVE PROGRESS IN VARIOUS AREAS OF THE URUGUAY ROUND OF MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS.

SPEAKING AT THE ANNUAL DINNER OF THE TEXTILE INSTITUTE THIS (FRIDAY) EVENING, THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR JOHN CHAN, SAID SUCH AREAS INCLUDED, NOTABLY, TEXTILES AND CLOTHING, BUT ALSO RULES OF ORIGIN; TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO TRADE; IMPORT LICENSING; CUSTOMS VALUATION; AND TRADE IN SERVICES.

"AS ONE WOULD EXPECT, HONG KONG HAS PLAYED AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS ON ALL OF THESE ISSUES, PARTICULARLY ON TEXTILES AND CLOTHING," MR CHAN SAID.

WORLD TRADE IN TEXTILES AND CLOTHING HAD BEEN GOVERNED BY A FRAMEWORK PERMITTING DISCRIMINATORY QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS, FROM THE SO-CALLED SHORT-TERM ARRANGEMENT REGARDING INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN COTTON TEXTILES IN 1961, THE LONG-TERM ARRANGEMENT IN 1962 TO THE MULTI-FIBRE ARRANGEMENT, OR FMA, IN 1974, HE SAID.

IT WAS NEVER A WELCOME ARRANGEMENT FOR HONG KONG FROM THE START, AND CERTAINLY NOT ONE WHICH COULD BE REGARDED AS BEING COMPATIBLE WITH THE SPIRIT OF THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE.

MR CHAN SAID THE URUGUAY ROUND, WITH ITS PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF NEGOTIATING THE REMOVAL OR REDUCTION OF EXISTING TRADE BARRIERS, PRESENTED A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR ENDING THE MFA AND FOR INTEGRATING THE TEXTILES AND CLOTHING SECTOR INTO THE GATT.

"INDEED, ONE OF THE OBJECTIVES OF THE URUGUAY ROUND, AGREED BY MINISTERS AT PUNTA DEL ESTE FOUR YEARS AGO, IS TO SET DOWN ARRANGEMENTS FOR RETURNING THE TEXTILES AND CLOTHING SECTOR TO GATT RULES AND DISCIPLINES AFTER THE EXPIRY OF THE MFA NEXT YEAR," HE SAID.

HE SAID NEGOTIATIONS IN GENEVA AFTER THE SUMMER BREAK THIS YEAR SAW THE EMERGENCE OF A CONSENSUS TO ADOPT THE EXISTING MFA RESTRICTIONS AS THE STARTING POINT FOR THE INTEGRATION PROCESS AND THE GOAL WAS TO PHASE OUT THESE RESTRICTIONS OVER AN AGREED TIME SPAN.

"THE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE UP TO NOW ARE POINTING TO A POST-MFA ARRANGEMENT BASED ON A TRANSITION PERIOD OF ABOUT 10 YEARS, DIVIDED INTO, SAY, THREE STAGES, WITH EACH STAGE MARKING THE RETURN OF CERTAIN PRODUCTS TO THE GATT," HE SAID.

MR CHAN SAID THAT, AS PARTICIPANTS ENTERED INTO THE MINISTERIAL-LEVEL MEETING IN BRUSSELS EARLY THIS MONTH, A SMALL GROUP OF KEY IMPORTING AND EXPORTING PARTICIPANTS, INCLUDING HONG KONG, WAS COMMITTED TO WORKING OUT AN AGREEMENT ALONG THESE LINES.

HOWEVER, HE SAID, SOME PARTICIPANTS WERE LESS WILLING TO REACH AGREEMENT ON TEXTILES AND CLOTHING AHEAD OF A RESOLUTION OF MAJOR DIFFICULTIES IN THE AREA OF AGRICULTURE IN WHICH THEY HAD HIGH STAKES.

/"THE CONTINUED .....

"THE CONTINUED STALEMATE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS ON AGRICULTURE THUS RESULTED IN RATHER SLUGGISH PROGRESS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS ON TEXTILES AND CLOTHING.

"NEVERTHELESS, THE SMALL GROUP WAS ABLE TO CLEAN UP PARTS OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT WHICH HAD EARLIER BEEN DRAWN UP IN GENEVA; AND IT WAS AGREED THAT THE WORK DONE IN BRUSSELS WOULD BE PRESERVED ON AN INFORMAL BASIS FOR FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS," HE SAID.

MR CHAN SAID HE BELIEVED AN AGREEMENT COULD BE REACHED IN THE END, AND THAT A MORE LIBERAL TRADING ENVIRONMENT SHOULD EMERGE FOR THE FUTURE WORLD TRADE IN TEXTILES AND CLOTHING THROUGH INTEGRATION OF THE MFA INTO THE GATT.

"IT IS IMPORTANT FOR ALL PARTIES TO THE EVENTUAL AGREEMENT TO MAINTAIN STRONG POLITICAL COURAGE, TO GIVE DUE RECOGNITION TO THE FREE PLAY OF MARKET FORCES AND TO STAND FIRM AGAINST PRESSURES THAT WILL BE BOUND TO ARISE FROM TIME TO TIME TO RELAPSE INTO PROTECTIONIST PRACTICES," HE SAID.

TAKING THE URUGUAY ROUND AS A WHOLE, MR CHAN SAID, THE CONTRACTING PARTIES OF THE GATT STILL HAD A DAUNTING TASK AHEAD OF THEM, AND IT WOULD TAKE A GREAT DEAL OF POLITICAL WILL AND COURAGE TO BREAK THE LOG-JAM.

"RELATIVELY BETTER PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN THE SPECIFIC AREA OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING, BUT WE ARE BY NO MEANS HOME AND DRY.

"I AM HOWEVER ENCOURAGED BY THE COMMITMENT OF ALL PARTICIPANTS TO RETURN THE TEXTILES AND CLOTHING SECTOR TO THE GATT.

"I BELIEVE THAT A SATISFACTORY AGREEMENT IS ENTIRELY POSSIBLE, AND I HOPE THAT IT WILL BE CONCLUDED SOON," HE SAID.

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#### PLANS AFOOT TO DESIGN MEDICAL INSURANCE SCHEME

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THE GOVERNMENT WILL SHORTLY BEGIN TO EVALUATE MEDICAL INSURANCE SCHEMES IN OTHER COUNTRIES AND DESIGN A SCHEME THAT WILL BEST SUIT HONG KONG'S NEEDS, THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MRS ELIZABETH WONG, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

"THE WAY TO PROVIDE CHOICE OF HOSPITAL SERVICES TO THE INDIVIDUAL, TO SPREAD COSTS IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR AND TO MAKE PRIVATE HOSPITALS MORE AFFORDABLE LIES IN SOME FORM OF MEDICAL INSURANCE," MRS WONG TOLD A LUNCHEON MEETING OF ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG NORTHEAST.

SHE NOTED THAT MOST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES ALREADY FINANCED THEIR MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES IN THIS WAY. INTRODUCING SOME SIMILAR SCHEME IN HONG KONG WOULD HAVE MANY ADVANTAGES.

/"WE WILL .....

"WE WILL SEEK TO STRENGTHEN THE ROLE OF PRIVATE ENTERPRISE AND BRING THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS CLOSER TOGETHER THROUGH SOME INSURANCE SCHEME.

"MARKET FORCES WILL THEN ENCOURAGE COMPETITION TO OFFER A HIGHER QUALITY SERVICE FOR CONSUMERS AND BETTER CHOICE TOO, AT A PRICE THEY CAN AFFORD," SHE SAID.

SHE ADDED THAT IF THE 1970'S WERE A TIME OF INNOVATION AND THE 1980'S OF EXPANSION, THEN THE 1990'S WOULD SEE AN ENHANCEMENT IN QUALITY, RATHER THAN INCREASE IN QUANTITY, OF SERVICES.

THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY, LAUNCHED EARLIER THIS MONTH, WOULD BE TAKING OVER THE MANAGEMENT AND OPERATION OF ALL PUBLIC HOSPITALS SOME TIME NEXT YEAR. GIVEN FINANCIAL AUTONOMY AND GREATER OPERATIONAL FLEXIBILITY, THE AUTHORITY COULD SET A NEW SCENE FOR HIGHER EFFICIENCY AND BETTER PATIENT CARE, SHE SAID.

HOWEVER, SO LONG AS PUBLIC HOSPITALS CONTINUED TO BE FUNDED DIRECTLY BY TAXPAYER, THERE WOULD BE A LIMIT TO THE EXTENT TO WHICH PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES OR HOSPITALS COULD FULLY TAILOR SERVICES TO INDIVIDUAL NEEDS.

"THE ULTIMATE CHOICE FOR PATIENTS, THEREFORE, HAS TO BE NOT JUST THE SIZE OF ROOM OR CHOICE OF MENU IN A PUBLIC HOSPITAL, BUT THE ALTERNATIVE OF A PRIVATE HOSPITAL BED WITH GREATER PERSONAL COMFORT," SHE SAID.

PRIVATE HOSPITALS HAD THE POTENTIAL TO PLAY A FAR GREATER ROLE IN THE PROVISION OF SERVICES TO OUR COMMUNITY IF ONLY THEY COULD BE MADE MORE ACCESSIBLE TO PATIENTS. AND THE WAY TO ACHIEVE THIS WAS BY SOME FORM OF MEDICAL INSURANCE, SHE SAID.

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11 APPLICATIONS FOR PREQUALIFICATION TO  
TENDER FOR BRIDGE PROJECTS

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IN RESPONSE TO PRESS ENQUIRIES, A HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT A TOTAL OF 11 APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM LOCAL AND OVERSEAS CONTRACTORS FOR PREQUALIFICATION TO TENDER FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE TWO MAIN BRIDGES OF THE LANTAU FIXED CROSSING PROJECT.

THE RESPONSE WAS VERY ENCOURAGING AS THERE WERE ONLY A LIMITED NUMBER OF CONTRACTORS WORLDWIDE WITH THE NECESSARY SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED TO UNDERTAKE THE CONSTRUCTION OF BRIDGES OF THIS SIZE, HE SAID.

THE PREQUALIFICATION EXERCISE INVOLVED TWO CONTRACTS -- THE CONSTRUCTION OF TSING MA BRIDGE, AND THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE KAP SHUI MUN BRIDGE INCLUDING THE LINKING VIADUCTS ON MA WAN ISLAND.

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EXCHANGE FUND BILLS TENDERS TO BE HELD ON MONDAY

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DUE TO THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS ON TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 25 AND 26), THE NEXT TENDER OF EXCHANGE FUND BILLS WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY (DECEMBER 24) FOR ISSUE ON THURSDAY (DECEMBER 27), A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

"TWO ISSUES OF BILLS WILL BE ON OFFER NEXT MONDAY - Q042 AND H005.

"AS THE ISSUE DAY WILL BE ONE DAY LATER THAN USUAL, THESE BILLS WILL MATURE IN 90 DAYS AND 181 DAYS ON MARCH 27, 1991 AND JUNE 26, 1991 RESPECTIVELY," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THE ISSUE SIZES WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED AT HK\$400 MILLION FOR 90-DAYS BILLS AND HK\$200 MILLION FOR 181-DAY BILLS," HE ADDED.

THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED RECOGNISED DEALERS AND MARKET MAKERS THAT BIDS FOR THE BILLS SHOULD BE DELIVERED TO THE MONETARY AFFAIRS BRANCH IN THE USUAL WAY BEFORE 10.30 AM ON MONDAY (DECEMBER 24).

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> LEGISLATION TO LICENSE HOTELS AND GUESTHOUSES

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THE HOTEL ACCOMMODATION BILL 1990, WHICH REQUIRES ALL HOTELS, GUESTHOUSES AND SIMILAR ACCOMMODATIONS TO BE LICENSED ON A YEARLY BASIS, WAS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE BILL HAS BEEN SPECIFICALLY TAILORED TO ENABLE THE GOVERNMENT TO DEAL WITH FIRE AND STRUCTURAL SAFETY AS WELL AS HEALTH AND HYGIENE MATTERS IN THESE ESTABLISHMENTS.

IT WILL ALSO ALLOW THE GOVERNMENT TO KEEP A COMPREHENSIVE REGISTER OF ALL SUCH ESTABLISHMENTS, AND TO IMPOSE NECESSARY REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR THEIR OPERATION.

ANOTHER INTEGRAL PART OF THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE IS THE SETTING UP OF A SPECIALISED APPEALS BOARD.

THE BILL IS DUE TO HAVE ITS FIRST READING IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON JANUARY 9 NEXT YEAR.

THE LICENSING AUTHORITY - HOTEL ACCOMMODATION AUTHORITY - WILL BE THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS.

PHASE 1 OF THE LICENSING SCHEME WILL COVER GUESTHOUSES PATRONISED BY BUDGET TOURISTS AND SITUATED IN HIGH-RISE BUILDINGS, AND HOTELS, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION SAID.

OTHER TYPES OF ACCOMMODATION WILL BE LICENSED IN SUBSEQUENT PHASES.

HOWEVER, INITIALLY ALL TYPES OF HOTEL ACCOMMODATION ARE REQUIRED TO NOTIFY THE AUTHORITY WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE DAY THE AUTHORITY COMMENCES OPERATION TO OBTAIN A CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION.

ESTABLISHMENTS THAT ARE UNDER PHASE 1 CONTROL WILL BE GIVEN A DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR A LICENCE WHEN RECEIVING THE CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION.

BOTH THE CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION AND LICENCE HAVE TO BE RENEWED ANNUALLY.

A FEE OF \$500 WILL BE PAYABLE ON THE ISSUE/RENEWAL OF A CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION. THE FEE FOR A LICENCE WILL DEPEND ON THE NUMBER OF ROOMS OF THE PREMISES BUT WILL NOT EXCEED \$20,000 PER ANNUM.

A TELEPHONE HOTLINE, 881 7034, HAS BEEN SET UP TO HANDLE ENQUIRIES FROM OPERATORS AND A PAMPHLET WILL SOON BE PUBLISHED.

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#### TRADING OF SNAKES AND CORALS BROUGHT UNDER LICENSING CONTROL

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THE PUBLIC, ESPECIALLY TRADERS IN LIVE SNAKES, SNAKE PRODUCTS AND CORALS ARE REMINDED THAT THE IMPORT AND EXPORT OF THREE SNAKE SPECIES AND ALL STONY CORALS HAVE NOW COME UNDER STRICT LICENSING CONTROL.

THE NEW IMPORT AND EXPORT CONTROL MEASURE RESULTS FROM THE ANIMALS AND PLANTS (PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES) ORDINANCE (REPLACEMENT OF SCHEDULES AND EXEMPTION) ORDER 1990, WHICH IS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY) AND WHICH TAKES IMMEDIATE EFFECT.

AN AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT (AFD) SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THE CONTROL MEASURE, WHICH IS AIMED AT PREVENTING OVER-EXPLOITATION OF THE SNAKE AND CORAL SPECIES, WILL BRING LOCAL LEGISLATION IN LINE WITH REQUIREMENT STIPULATED BY THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA (CITES).

THE THREE SPECIES OF SNAKE ARE THE ORIENTAL RAT SNAKE, THE ASIATIC COBRA AND THE KING COBRA. THESE SNAKES ARE CONSUMED AS FOOD IN HONG KONG AND THEIR SKINS USED AS LEATHER.

THE STONY CORALS ARE OFTEN USED IN AQUARIA AND FOR DECORATIVE PURPOSES. COMMON EXAMPLES ARE THE STAGHORN CORALS, BLUE CORALS AND BRAIN CORALS.

/APART FROM .....

APART FROM SNAKES AND CORALS, IMPORT AND EXPORT OF OTHER SPECIES, INCLUDING THE CHINESE CROCODILE LIZARD AND THE SLOTH BEAR, HAVE ALSO COME UNDER LICENSING CONTROL BUT THEY ARE NOT WIDELY TRADED IN HONG KONG.

"IT IS NOW AN OFFENCE TO IMPORT OR EXPORT THE SCHEDULED SPECIMENS, SUCH AS SNAKES OR THEIR PARTS AND DERIVATIVES, AND CORALS OR THEIR SKELETONS, EXCEPT UNDER AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH A LICENCE ISSUED BY AFD IN ADVANCE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"OFFENDERS ARE LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$25,000 FOR THE FIRST OFFENCE AND \$50,000 PLUS SIX MONTHS' JAIL SENTENCE FOR A REPEATED OFFENCE IN ADDITION TO THE MANDATORY FORFEITURE OF THE SPECIMENS."

APPLICATIONS FOR THE IMPORT AND EXPORT LICENCES SHOULD BE MADE TO THE DEPARTMENT'S FAUNA CONSERVATION SECTION AND ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED WITH DOCUMENTARY PROOF THAT THE SPECIMENS TO BE TRADED ARE DERIVED FROM LEGAL AND CITES APPROVED SOURCES.

THE LICENCE FEES FOR IMPORTING SCHEDULED LIVE ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PARTS ARE \$300 AND \$50 RESPECTIVELY WHILE THE LICENCE FEE FOR EXPORTING SCHEDULED SPECIMENS IS \$50.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL. 733 2144 OR 733 2124.

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#### NEW PERMIT CONDITIONS FOR VILLAGE VEHICLES

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THE PERMIT CONDITIONS FOR VILLAGE VEHICLES OPERATING IN THE ISLANDS DISTRICT WILL BE REVISED FROM JANUARY 1 NEXT YEAR TO ENSURE BETTER CONTROL AND SAFETY OF BOTH VEHICLE OPERATORS AND PEDESTRIANS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT ALL PERMIT HOLDERS OF VILLAGE VEHICLES SHOULD ADHERE TO THE REVISED PERMIT CONDITIONS UPON THE NEXT RENEWAL OF THEIR PERMITS AFTER JANUARY 1, 1991.

THE REVISED CONDITIONS FOLLOWED THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKING GROUP FORMED BY THE ISLANDS DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE ON THE REVIEW OF VILLAGE VEHICLE OPERATION.

AN INTER-DEPARTMENTAL WORKING GROUP HAS BEEN SET UP IN DECEMBER 1989 TO DISCUSS AND REVIEW ALL RELEVANT MATTERS IN CONNECTION WITH VILLAGE VEHICLE OPERATION.

IN ORDER TO CONTROL EXCESSIVE SPEED, ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT HAVE TO BE FITTED UNDER THE REVISED CONDITIONS TO VILLAGE VEHICLES BESIDES THE BRAKING SYSTEM, WARNING INSTRUMENT AND SILENCER.

THESE ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE THE FITTING OF ONLY ONE FORWARD AND ONE BACKWARD GEAR AND MUST NOT HAVE ANY SYSTEM FOR VARYING THE TRANSMISSION RATIO TO PROVIDE HIGHER SPEED CAPACITY.

/THE ENGINE .....

THE ENGINE CYLINDER CAPACITY OF A VILLAGE VEHICLE SHOULD NOT EXCEED 300 CC. EXISTING PERMIT HOLDERS WILL BE GIVEN A ONE-YEAR GRACE PERIOD FROM JANUARY 1 NEXT YEAR TO CHANGE THEIR ENGINE CAPACITY.

NO OVERHANGING LOAD EXCEEDING ONE METRE TO THE FRONT OR TO THE REAR OF A VILLAGE VEHICLE SHALL BE CARRIED UNLESS WRITTEN APPROVAL IS OBTAINED FROM THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT.

FOR OVERHANGING LOAD A RED FLAG SHALL BE DISPLAYED AT THE REAR EXTREMITY OF THE LOAD DURING THE DAYTIME. DURING HOURS OF DARKNESS AND IN CONDITIONS OF POOR VISIBILITY, A WHITE LIGHT SHOWING AHEAD SHALL BE AFFIXED TO THE FRONT EXTREMITY OF THE LOAD IN SITUATIONS WHERE SUCH A LOAD OVERHANGS THE FRONT OF THE VEHICLE AND A RED LIGHT SHALL SHOW TO THE REAR AT THE REAR EXTREMITY OF THE LOAD.

ALL LOAD SHALL BE PROPERLY SECURED TO THE VILLAGE VEHICLE TO PREVENT IT FROM FALLING AND NO PORTION OF THE LOAD SHALL TOUCH THE ROAD.

EACH VILLAGE VEHICLE OPERATOR IS REQUIRED TO SUBMIT A FRESH APPLICATION EVERY TIME THE VILLAGE VEHICLE PERMIT IS DUE FOR RENEWAL.

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SHALL CHECK AGAINST ANY WARNINGS AND OFFENCES COMMITTED BY THE APPLICANTS BEFORE GRANTING THE PERMIT. THE PERMIT CAN BE RENEWED TWO MONTHS IN ADVANCE.

TO FACILITATE ENFORCEMENT BY THE POLICE, ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING THE LOCATION OF PARKING WHEN THE VILLAGE VEHICLE IS NOT BEING USED OR DRIVEN IS ADDED TO THE PERMIT WHICH SHALL BE CARRIED WITH THE VILLAGE VEHICLE.

NO VILLAGE VEHICLE SHALL BE USED TO CONVEY DANGEROUS GOODS IN EXCESS OF THE EXEMPTED QUANTITY AS PRESCRIBED IN THE DANGEROUS GOODS (GENERAL) REGULATION, UNLESS WRITTEN APPROVAL FROM THE DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES IS OBTAINED.

THE EXISTING EXEMPT QUANTITY IS 50 KILOGRAMS AND 20 LITRES OF LPG (LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS) AND KEROSENE RESPECTIVELY.

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#### RE-APPOINTMENT OF EDUCATION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS

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THE GOVERNMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIRMAN AND EIGHT MEMBERS OF THE EDUCATION COMMISSION FOR ANOTHER ONE-YEAR TERM COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 1991.

THEY ARE MRS RITA FAN HSU LAI-TAI, WHO HAS BEEN RE-APPOINTED CHAIRMAN, AND MEMBERS MRS SELINA CHOW LIANG SUK-YEE, MR HO SAI-CHU, MR SZETO WAH, MR DAVID CHEUNG CHI-KONG, DR KATHLEEN ESTHER BARKER, MRS ANGELA CHEUNG WONG WAN-YIU, DR PAUL J.T. MORRIS AND MR TSIM TAK-LUNG.

/OTHER MEMBERS .....

OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION WILL CONTINUE TO SERVE IN THEIR EX-OFFICIO CAPACITY.

THEY ARE THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, MR K.Y. YEUNG; CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, MR TIMOTHY HA WING-HO; CHAIRMAN OF THE UNIVERSITY AND POLYTECHNIC GRANTS COMMITTEE, MR ANDREW LI KWOK-NANG; CHAIRMAN OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL, MR STEPHEN CHEONG KAM-CHUEN; AND THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR Y.T. LI.

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NEW LAB MEMBERS APPOINTED

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THE GOVERNMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED THE APPOINTMENT OF 12 EMPLOYERS' AND EMPLOYEES' REPRESENTATIVES TO THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD (LAB) FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM STARTING JANUARY 1, 1991.

A LIST OF NEW LAB MEMBERS WAS PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE.

THEY INCLUDE:

EMPLOYEES' REPRESENTATIVES ELECTED BY REGISTERED EMPLOYEES TRADE UNIONS ON NOVEMBER 10 THIS YEAR -

- \* MR CHEUNG KWOK-BUI, FELIX
- \* MS LI FUNG-YING
- \* MR LEUNG TSZ-LEUNG
- \* MR CHU MING
- \* MR LEUNG FU-WAH

EMPLOYERS' REPRESENTATIVES NOMINATED BY EMPLOYERS ASSOCIATIONS -

- \* MR A.R. HAMILTON (EMPLOYERS' FEDERATION OF HONG KONG)
- \* MR R.A. ZALA (HONG KONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE)
- \* MR HENRY TANG (FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES)
- \* DR LUI MING-WAH (CHINESE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG)
- \* MR HO SAI-CHU (CHINESE GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE)

APPOINTED MEMBERS:

- \* MR CHEUNG WOOD-LUN, REPRESENTING EMPLOYEES
- \* MR CHAN SUI-KAU, REPRESENTING EMPLOYERS

/MR CHEUNG .....

MR CHEUNG KWOK-BUI, MR LEUNG TSZ-LEUNG, MR CHU MING, MR LEUNG FU-WAH AND MR R.A. ZALA ARE NEWLY APPOINTED TO THE BOARD, WHILE THE OTHERS ARE ALL EXISTING MEMBERS.

THE LAB IS A NON-STATUTORY BODY WHICH ADVISES THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR ON LABOUR MATTERS INCLUDING LEGISLATION AND THE APPLICATION OF INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONVENTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS, WITH THE COMMISSIONER OR HIS DEPUTY AS EX-OFFICIO CHAIRMAN.

THE NEW BOARD WILL HOLD ITS FIRST MEETING IN JANUARY.

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FURNACES ALTERATIONS REQUIREMENTS REINSTATED  
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THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS APPROVED AMENDMENTS TO THE AIR POLLUTION CONTROL (FURNACES, OVENS AND CHIMNEYS) (INSTALLATION AND ALTERATION) REGULATIONS TO REINSTATE A REQUIREMENT FOR ALTERATION WORKS TO FURNACES OR BOILERS TO RECEIVE PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

THE AIR POLLUTION CONTROL (FURNACES, OVENS AND CHIMNEYS) (INSTALLATION AND ALTERATION) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1990 WERE GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY) AND CAME INTO IMMEDIATE EFFECT.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT IN ORDER TO TIE IN WITH THE AIR POLLUTION CONTROL (FUEL RESTRICTION) REGULATIONS 1990, MINOR CONVERSION WORK ON FURNACES OR BOILERS FOR THE CHANGE TO LOW SULPHUR CONTENT FUEL WAS EXEMPTED FROM THE INSTALLATION AND ALTERATION REGULATIONS.

REGULATION 3(1A) WAS ADDED TO THE AIR POLLUTION CONTROL (FURNACES, OVENS AND CHIMNEYS) (INSTALLATION AND ALTERATION) REGULATIONS IN JANUARY THIS YEAR TO THIS EFFECT.

"AS THE CHANGE TO LOW SULPHUR CONTENT FUEL HAS NOW BEEN SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENTED, THERE REMAINS NO FURTHER NEED FOR THIS ESSENTIALLY INTERIM EXEMPTION TO CONTINUE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THEREFORE, REGULATION 3(1A) WAS REPEALED UNDER THE AMENDED REGULATIONS AND PRIOR REQUIREMENT REINSTATED, HE ADDED.

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THREE INSHORE PROJECTS FOR THE NT

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THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO PROCEED WITH THREE PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS INVOLVING VARIOUS FORESHORE AND SEABED AREAS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

IN TUEN MUN, CONSTRUCTION WORK OF A NUMBER OF JETTIES WITHIN AN AREA OF ABOUT 9,450 SQUARE METRES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED ON THE SOUTHERN SIDE OF LOK ON PAI WILL START NEXT YEAR.

UPON COMPLETION BY EARLY 1992, THE JETTIES WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL BERTHING FACILITIES AT SUFFICIENT WATER DEPTH FOR THE LOADING, UNLOADING AND TRANSPORTATION OF CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT TO AND FROM LANTAU IN CONNECTION WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW AIRPORT AND RELATED PROJECTS.

THE JETTIES WILL BE IN USE UNTIL 1996-97, BEFORE ROAD ACCESS TO LANTAU IS AVAILABLE.

ALSO IN TUEN MUN, WORK ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN INVERTED SIPHON WITHIN AN AREA OF ABOUT 4,750 SQUARE METRES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED UNDER A NULLAH BETWEEN AREAS 16 AND 18 WILL START IN JUNE NEXT YEAR.

THE SIPHON WILL FORM PART OF THE PROPOSED TRUNK SEWER WHICH WILL SERVE THE FUTURE POPULATION IN THE EASTERN EXTENSION AREA OF THE NEW TOWN.

IN ANOTHER PROJECT, THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO RECLAIM ABOUT 19.95 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED SITUATED IN AN AREA NEAR CHOK KO WAN, EAST LANTAU ISLAND.

THE RECLAMATION IS TO PROVIDE LAND FOR TEMPORARY STOCKPILING OF EXCAVATED MATERIAL FROM AN ADJACENT BORROW AREA AND FOR MOORING BARGES FOR LOADING AND TRANSPORTATION OF EXCAVATED MATERIAL TO OTHER GOVERNMENT RECLAMATION PROJECTS IN THE TERRITORY.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREAS AFFECTED BY THESE PROJECTS IS DESCRIBED IN SEPARATE NOTICES PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HIS INTEREST, RIGHT OR BASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED WILL BE INJURIOUSLY AFFECTED BY THE UNDERTAKINGS MAY DELIVER TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS A WRITTEN CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION.

THE DEADLINES FOR SUBMITTING CLAIMS FOR COMPENSATION ARE FEBRUARY 20, 1991 FOR THE JETTIES AND THE SIPHON PROJECTS IN TUEN MUN, AND DECEMBER 20, 1991 FOR THE RECLAMATION PROJECT ON LANTAU.

THE THREE NOTICES TOGETHER WITH THEIR RELATED PLANS CAN BE SEEN AT THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG (WHERE COPIES CAN BE PURCHASED ON ORDER), AND AT THE RESPECTIVE DISTRICT OFFICES.

ROAD WORKS PROPOSED FOR TIN SHUI WAI DEVELOPMENT

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THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PROPOSES TO CONSTRUCT NEW ROADS, CARPARKING SPACES, FOOTPATHS AND CYCLE TRACKS, AND TO WIDEN A SECTION OF THE EXISTING LAU FAU SHAN ROAD AS PART OF TIN SHUI WAI DEVELOPMENT.

EXISTING ACCESSES WILL BE MAINTAINED THROUGHOUT THE CONSTRUCTION PERIOD.

ON COMPLETION OF THE WORKS, AN EXISTING ACCESS TO SHA KONG WAI WILL BE DIVERTED TO THE NEW ROADS, AND TWO EXISTING ACCESSES AT THEIR JUNCTIONS WITH LAU FAU SHAN ROAD AND THE NEW ROAD EMBANKMENT RESPECTIVELY WILL BE CLOSED.

A NOTICE CONTAINING DETAILS OF THE PROPOSAL IS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY) AND CAN ALSO BE SEEN ON NOTICE BOARDS NEAR THE SITE OF THE PROPOSED WORKS.

THE PLAN AND SCHEME OF THE PROPOSED WORKS MAY BE INSPECTED AT THE FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT OFFICES:

- \* CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY, HONG KONG;
- \* YUEN LONG DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, YUEN LONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND TAI KIU MARKET, NINTH TO 11TH FLOORS, 2 KIU LOK SQUARE, YUEN LONG;
- \* YUEN LONG DISTRICT OFFICE, YUEN LONG DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICES BUILDING, 269 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, YUEN LONG.

ANY PERSON WHO OBJECTS TO THE PROPOSED WORKS SHOULD WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG NOT LATER THAN FEBRUARY 19 NEXT YEAR.

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OFFICE ASSISTANT AWARDED ISM

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AN OFFICE ASSISTANT OF THE GOVERNMENT WHO CHALKED UP MORE THAN 41 YEARS' SERVICE HAS BEEN AWARDED THE IMPERIAL SERVICE MEDAL (ISM), IT WAS ANNOUNCED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

MR TAM SO, 60, JOINED THE GOVERNMENT AS MESSENGER IN SEPTEMBER 1948 IN THE FORMER PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

HIS LAST POSTING BEFORE RETIREMENT IN AUGUST THIS YEAR WAS IN THE PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS BRANCH.

/DURING HIS .....

DURING HIS CAREER WITH THE GOVERNMENT, MR TAM WAS REGARDED AS AN EXCEPTIONALLY DILIGENT AND LOYAL OFFICER AND A PERSON OF INTEGRITY.

COMMENTING ON MR TAM'S AWARD, THE SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS, MR GRAHAM BARNES, SAID: "WE ARE ALL VERY HAPPY ABOUT MR TAM'S ISM.

"HE LOOKED AFTER US ALL VERY WELL AND WAS A REAL MEMBER OF THE TEAM."

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FIRING PRACTICE IN JANUARY  
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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE HA TSUEN/CASTLE PEAK RANGE ON 21 DAYS NEXT MONTH.

THE PUBLIC IS WARNED NOT TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN RED FLAGS ARE HOISTED.

FOLLOWING ARE THE DATES AND TIMES THAT FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE:

DATE	TIME
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JANUARY 2 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JANUARY 3 (THURSDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JANUARY 4 (FRIDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JANUARY 5 (SATURDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JANUARY 7 (MONDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JANUARY 8 (TUESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JANUARY 11 (FRIDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JANUARY 14 (MONDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JANUARY 15 (TUESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JANUARY 16 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JANUARY 17 (THURSDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JANUARY 18 (FRIDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JANUARY 21 (MONDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JANUARY 22 (TUESDAY)	8.30 AM - 6 PM
JANUARY 23 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JANUARY 24 (THURSDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JANUARY 25 (FRIDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JANUARY 28 (MONDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JANUARY 29 (TUESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JANUARY 30 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 AM - 11.59 PM
JANUARY 31 (THURSDAY)	MIDNIGHT - 5 PM

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THREE GOVT LOTS FOR SALE BY AUCTION  
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THREE LOTS OF GOVERNMENT LAND WILL BE OFFERED FOR SALE BY THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT AT A PUBLIC AUCTION TO BE HELD ON JANUARY 18 AT THE CITY HALL THEATRE.

THE AUCTION WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

THE FIRST LOT, LOCATED AT ORMSBY STREET, TAI HANG, MEASURES ABOUT 160 SQUARE METRES.

IT IS FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL, EXCLUDING GODOWN, HOTEL AND SERVICE APARTMENTS, PURPOSES.

ACCORDING TO THE BUILDING COVENANT, A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 768 SQUARE METRES HAS TO BE COMPLETED ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 17, 1994.

THE SECOND LOT IS A 12,090-SQUARE-METRE PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL SITE LOCATED IN AREA 6, MA WO, TAI PO.

THE BUILDING COVENANT STIPULATES THAT A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 23,940 SQUARE METRES HAS TO BE COMPLETED ON OR BEFORE MARCH 31, 1995.

THE THIRD LOT IS AT THE JUNCTION OF KWOK SHUI ROAD AND CHEUNG WING ROAD, TSUEN WAN, AND HAS AN AREA OF ABOUT 15,030 SQUARE METRES.

IT IS FOR INDUSTRIAL AND/OR GODOWN PURPOSES.

THE DEVELOPER HAS TO COMPLETE A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 29,500 SQUARE METRES ON OR BEFORE MARCH 31, 1995.

FULL PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM, AND SALE PLANS INSPECTED AT THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:

- \* THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, CENTRAL;
- \* THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (WEST WING), GROUND FLOOR, HONG KONG; AND
- \* THE KOWLOON DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES, YAU MA TEI CARPARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON.

CONDITIONS OF SALE WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE AT VARIOUS DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

40 EVENTS FOR TSUEN WAN ARTS FESTIVAL  
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A PROGRAMME OF OVER 40 EVENTS HAS BEEN DRAWN UP FOR THE 13TH TSUEN WAN ARTS FESTIVAL FROM JANUARY 25 TO MARCH 2.

THIS WAS ANNOUNCED AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR RAYMOND YOUNG, WHO SAID THE FESTIVAL WAS AN IMPORTANT ANNUAL CULTURAL EVENT WELL SUPPORTED BY THE PUBLIC.

"THE FESTIVAL'S OBJECTIVE IS TO PROMOTE VARIOUS FORMS OF PERFORMING ARTS AND TO ENCOURAGE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION BY CULTURAL ORGANISATIONS IN THE DISTRICT," MR YOUNG SAID.

HE SAID THE ORIENTAL SONG AND DANCE COMPANY FROM CHINA WOULD PERFORM IN THE OPENING SHOW OF THE FESTIVAL.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FESTIVAL'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, MR CHEUNG CHUNG-YAN, SAID HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS YEAR'S PROGRAMME WOULD BE PERFORMANCES BY THE CHOR FUNG MING CANTONESE OPERA TROUPE, THE FUJIAN YOUTH ACROBATICS TROUPE AND FOSHAN TRADITIONAL ART TROUPE.

"OTHER EVENTS WILL INCLUDE A DRAMA BY THE HONG KONG MOVIE AND TV THEATRICAL SOCIETY, A HAKKA FOLK SONG CONCERT, MIME PERFORMANCE AND FILM SHOWS," MR CHEUNG SAID.

THE FESTIVAL IS ORGANISED BY THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD, DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE DISTRICT'S CULTURE AND RECREATION CO-ORDINATING ASSOCIATION.

THE ESTIMATED COST OF ABOUT \$2.5 MILLION WILL BE FUNDED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD, THE REGIONAL COUNCIL AND LOCAL SPONSORSHIP.

PROGRAMME LEAFLETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRES OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE.

RESIDENTS WISHING TO ATTEND THE SHOWS ARE ADVISED TO BOOK EARLY FOR THEIR TICKETS AT THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL AND THE URBIX OUTLETS.

TELEPHONE RESERVATIONS CAN BE MADE ON 734 9009 AND ENQUIRIES ON 414 0144 OR 414 9662.

CLOSURE OF LUNG SHING PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE IN KOWLOON CITY  
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THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE'S LUNG SHING PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE AT 68-74 JUNCTION ROAD, WILL BE CLOSED FROM MONDAY (DECEMBER 24).

KOWLOON CITY RESIDENTS SEEKING SERVICES MAY APPROACH THE DISTRICT OFFICE'S MAIN OFFICE PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE ON GROUND FLOOR, 141-143 KAU PUI LUNG ROAD, TO KWA WAN OR ITS HUNG HOM SUB-OFFICE PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE ON GROUND FLOOR, SITE 5, WHAMPOA GARDEN.

TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES CAN ALSO BE MADE DURING OFFICE HOURS ON 711 3731 OR 363 9449.

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YAU TSIM CARNIVAL TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS  
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A CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL WILL BE HELD AT THE URBAN COUNCIL CENTENARY GARDEN, TSIM SHA TSUI EAST, FROM 2 PM TO 9.30 PM ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 23).

THE CARNIVAL IS ALSO ORGANISED AS PART OF THE CURRENT YAU TSIM DISTRICT FESTIVAL.

MORE THAN 14,000 FREE TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICE AT 15 MIDDLE ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI.

LOCAL AREA COMMITTEES AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES WILL SET UP 14 GAME STALLS WHILE THE CIVIL AID SERVICES, CONSUMER COUNCIL, HONG KONG COUNCIL ON SMOKING AND HEALTH (COSH) AND INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION WILL MOUNT DISPLAY BOARDS TO INTRODUCE THEIR FACILITIES AND SERVICES.

THERE WILL ALSO BE A VARIETY SHOW COMPRISING CHILDREN'S BALLET, CHINESE ORCHESTRAL MUSIC, ORIENTAL DANCE, POP SONGS, AND TAEKWANDO AND KARATE DEMONSTRATIONS. A CONCERT BY POPULAR SINGERS WILL BEGIN AT 7 PM.

OFFICIATING AT THE CARNIVAL'S OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS ANNIE TANG; DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR YIP WAH; POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDER, MR PETER FERRY; CHAIRMAN OF TSIM SHA TSUI EAST PROPERTY DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION, MR LUI CHI-WO; AND VICE-CHAIRMAN OF COSH, DR RUDY KHOO.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE YAU TSIM CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL TO BE HELD AT THE URBAN COUNCIL CENTENARY GARDEN, TSIM SHA TSUI EAST, ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 23). IT WILL START AT 2 PM.

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