



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1986

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1986

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LOCALISATION AT 'SENSIBLE AND EVEN PACE'

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THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS NOT RUSHING INTO LOCALISATION AND WOULD ACHIEVE LOCALISATION OBJECTIVES AT A +SENSIBLE AND EVEN PACE+.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER OPENING THE HONG KONG BAPTIST COLLEGE HISTORY EXHIBITION AT THE LANDMARK, SIR DAVID SAID THE FIGURES WHICH LAY BEHIND THE STATEMENT HE MADE IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL LAST WEEK SHOWED THE MEASURED PACE WITH WHICH THE GOVERNMENT WAS PROCEEDING WITH LOCALISATION.

+LOCALISATION IS BEING ACHIEVED AND IT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED AND IT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED OVER A VERY CONSIDERABLE PERIOD OF TIME,+ HE SAID.

HE REFUTED SUGGESTIONS THAT THERE WAS A GROWING ROW BETWEEN THE LOCAL SENIOR CIVIL SERVANTS AND THEIR EXPATRIATE COUNTERPARTS.

ASKED WHY THE GOVERNMENT DID NOT APPOINT A LOCAL CHINESE AS THE NEXT CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID SAID: +ALTHOUGH WE HAVE A PROCESS OF LOCALISATION WE ALSO PROMOTE ON MERIT AND NOT ON RACE, AS I SAID BEFORE. AND DAVID FORD, BY VIRTUE OF HIS EXPERIENCE AND AGE, HAS NOW REACHED THE POINT AT WHICH HE CAN TAKE OVER FROM ME NEXT YEAR.+

THE CHIEF SECRETARY DECLINED TO COMMENT ON A REPORT THAT THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DONALD LIAO, WAS THE MOST LIKELY CANDIDATE TO TAKE OVER FROM MR ERIC HO ON THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT LIAISON GROUP.

+I CANNOT SPECULATE ON THAT,+ HE SAID.

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32 000 FIRST DEGREE PLACES PLANNED BY MID-1990'S

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WITH THE PLANNED EXPANSION OF THE EXISTING HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE THIRD UNIVERSITY, THE GOVERNMENT'S TARGET IS TO DOUBLE FIRST DEGREE PLACE PROVISION TO SOME 32 000 PLACES BY THE MID-1990'S, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE HONG KONG BAPTIST COLLEGE HISTORY EXHIBITION, SIR DAVID PRAISED THE COLLEGE FOR GIVING GOOD EDUCATION TO THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF HONG KONG OVER THE PAST 30 YEARS.

/+THROUGH THE

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+THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF THE STAFF AND THE MANAGEMENT, THE COLLEGE HAS EARNED THE RESPECT AND RECOGNITION OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG AND A WIDER COMMUNITY THROUGHOUT THE WORLD,+ HE SAID.

SIR DAVID RECALLED THAT THE COLLEGE BEGAN IN SEPTEMBER 1956 BY OFFERING POST-SECONDARY DIPLOMA COURSES TO ABOUT 150 STUDENTS IN A TEMPORARY CAMPUS AT PUI CHING MIDDLE SCHOOL.

+NOW THE COLLEGE HAS OVER 2 000 STUDENTS AMONG WHOM 210 ARE FOLLOWING DEGREE PROGRAMMES, INTRODUCED THIS YEAR,+ HE SAID.

SIR DAVID WENT ON: +THERE IS NO DOUBT THE YEARS AHEAD ARE YEARS OF CHALLENGE AND THE GREATEST CHALLENGE OF ALL IS TO OUR ECONOMY FOR WITHOUT AN EXPANDING ECONOMY WE SHALL NOT BE ABLE TO AFFORD THE EXTRA COST OF IMPROVED SOCIAL, MEDICAL AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES AND THE ROADS, TUNNELS AND RAILWAYS WE SHALL NEED IN THE NINETIES.

+INVESTMENT IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF ALL KINDS IS WHERE THIS EXPANDING ECONOMY MUST START.

+WE MUST HAVE THE RIGHT EDUCATION; AN INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION; AND AN EDUCATION IN THE SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE NEEDED TO SERVE THE ECONOMY.+

THE EXHIBITION HAS BEEN STAGED TO MARK THE COLLEGE'S 30TH BIRTHDAY.

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MONETARY STATISTICS FOR SEPTEMBER RELEASED

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BOTH HONG KONG DOLLAR AND FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS GREW IN SEPTEMBER, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS PUBLISHED BY THE MONETARY AFFAIRS BRANCH TODAY. THE GROWTH RATE OF HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS (INCLUDING SWAP DEPOSITS) WAS ROUGHLY THE SAME AS THAT FOR FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS.

HONG KONG DOLLAR M1 (THE NARROWEST DEFINITION OF MONEY SUPPLY) INCREASED marginally, AFTER A RAPID INCREASE IN THE PREVIOUS MONTH. HONG KONG DOLLAR M2 AND M3 CONTINUED TO RECORD STEADY GROWTH.

GROWTH IN TOTAL LOANS AND ADVANCES PICKED UP IN SEPTEMBER. LOANS TO FINANCE HONG KONG'S TRADE INCREASED AFTER THE FALL IN AUGUST. OTHER LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG ALSO REGISTERED A HIGHER GROWTH RATE THAN THE PREVIOUS MONTHS.

TABLE 1 SETS OUT SUMMARY FIGURES FOR SEPTEMBER 1986 AND COMPARISONS WITH EARLIER MONTHS. TABLE 2 SETS OUT FIGURES FROM THE QUARTERLY ANALYSIS OF LOANS AND ADVANCES FOR USE IN HONG KONG BY SECTOR.

DEPOSITS

IN SEPTEMBER, HONG KONG DOLLAR DEMAND DEPOSITS FELL BY 0.9 PER CENT AFTER A RAPID INCREASE OF 9.7 PER CENT IN AUGUST. SAVINGS AND TIME DEPOSITS, HOWEVER, RECORDED INCREASES OF 2.9 PER CENT AND 1.8 PER CENT. TOTAL HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS GREW BY 1.9 PER CENT AFTER AN INCREASE OF 1.0 PER CENT IN AUGUST. OVER THE YEAR (THE 12 MONTHS TO THE END OF SEPTEMBER), THESE GREW BY 11.4 PER CENT.

FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS GREW BY 2.4 PER CENT IN SEPTEMBER AND 35.7 PER CENT OVER THE YEAR.

FOREIGN CURRENCY SWAP DEPOSITS INCREASED BY 3.8 PER CENT IN SEPTEMBER. ADJUSTED TO INCLUDE THESE DEPOSITS, HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS GREW BY 2.1 PER CENT IN SEPTEMBER AND BY 13.1 PER CENT OVER THE YEAR; ADJUSTED FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS GREW BY 2.2 PER CENT IN SEPTEMBER AND BY 36.7 PER CENT OVER THE YEAR.

DEPOSITS (ALL CURRENCIES) WITH BANKS INCREASED BY 3.6 PER CENT IN SEPTEMBER WHILE THOSE WITH DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES FELL BY 5.8 PER CENT. OVER THE YEAR, THE FORMER GREW BY 31.6 PER CENT WHILE THE LATTER FELL BY 8.9 PER CENT.

HONG KONG DOLLAR MONEY SUPPLY

HONG KONG DOLLAR MONEY SUPPLY M1 INCREASED BY 0.2 PER CENT IN SEPTEMBER, AFTER A RAPID INCREASE OF 7.2 PER CENT IN AUGUST. HK\$M2 AND HK\$M3, ON THE OTHER HAND, GREW FASTER BY 2.4 PER CENT AND 1.9 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY. OVER THE YEAR, HK\$M1 GREW BY 10.3 PER CENT, HK\$M2 BY 16.6 PER CENT AND HK\$M3 BY 12.1 PER CENT

TOTAL MONEY SUPPLY

TOTAL MONEY SUPPLY M1 FELL BY 1.4 PER CENT IN SEPTEMBER, AFTER HAVING INCREASED BY 6.8 PER CENT IN AUGUST. TOTAL M2 AND TOTAL M3 GREW BY 3.6 PER CENT AND 2.2 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY. OVER THE YEAR, TOTAL M1 INCREASED BY 9.2 PER CENT, TOTAL M2 BY 30.4 PER CENT AND TOTAL M3 BY 23.4 PER CENT.

LOANS AND ADVANCES

LOANS AND ADVANCES EXTENDED BY BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES GREW FASTER IN SEPTEMBER, BY 2.6 PER CENT AFTER AN INCREASE OF 2.3 PER CENT IN JULY AND 0.5 PER CENT IN AUGUST. OVER THE 12 MONTHS, THEY GREW BY 14.0 PER CENT.

LOANS DENOMINATED IN HONG KONG DOLLARS GREW SLOWER AT 0.6 PER CENT WHILE LOANS DENOMINATED IN FOREIGN CURRENCIES GREW BY 4.5 PER CENT IN SEPTEMBER. OVER THE YEAR, THE FORMER GREW BY 8.4 PER CENT WHILE THE LATTER GREW BY 19.7 PER CENT.

WITHIN THE TOTAL, LOANS TO FINANCE THE VISIBLE TRADE OF HONG KONG ROSE BY 1.6 PER CENT AFTER A DECREASE OF 3.3 PER CENT IN AUGUST; OVER THE YEAR THEY GREW BY 12.9 PER CENT. OTHER LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG INCREASED FASTER THIS MONTH BY 2.6 PER CENT AFTER INCREASES OF 1.7 PER CENT IN JULY AND 1.6 PER CENT IN AUGUST; OVER THE YEAR, THEY GREW BY 12.0 PER CENT.

QUARTERLY ANALYSIS OF LOANS AND ADVANCES FOR USE IN HONG KONG BY SECTOR

IN THE THIRD QUARTER, LOANS AND ADVANCES EXTENDED TO THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR ROSE BY 6.6 PER CENT AFTER AN INCREASE OF 5.2 PER CENT IN THE SECOND QUARTER. OVER THE YEAR, THESE LOANS GREW BY 16.4 PER CENT. LOANS TO THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADES INCREASED BY 9.9 PER CENT, FOLLOWING A DECREASE OF 2.7 PER CENT IN THE SECOND QUARTER. OVER THE YEAR, THESE LOANS GREW BY 22.0 PER CENT.

LOANS TO THE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION SECTOR ROSE BY 3.2 PER CENT AFTER FALLING FOR SEVEN CONSECUTIVE QUARTERS. LOANS TO INDIVIDUALS FOR THE PURCHASE OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY (OTHER THAN FLATS IN THE HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME) ALSO ROSE FASTER, BY 11.6 PER CENT AFTER AN INCREASE OF 4.3 PER CENT IN THE FIRST QUARTER AND 8.6 PER CENT IN THE SECOND QUARTER, REFLECTING THE CONTINUED GROWTH IN ACTIVITIES IN THE PROPERTY MARKET. OVER THE 12 MONTHS, THESE LOANS GREW BY 32.9 PER CENT.

NUMBER OF REPORTING INSTITUTIONS

THE NUMBER OF REPORTING LICENSED BANKS AND LICENSED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES REMAINED UNCHANGED AT 149 AND 37 RESPECTIVELY. THE NUMBER OF REPORTING REGISTERED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES DECREASED BY 2 TO 259.

TABLE 1 : MONETARY STATISTICS - SEPTEMBER 1986

	Sep 1986	Earlier months (% change to September 1986)		
		Aug 1986	Jun 1986	Sep 1985
(HK\$mn)				
Money Supply				
M1 - HK\$	45,603	45,521 (0.2 %)	42,854 (6.4 %)	41,363 (10.3 %)
Foreign currency	4,293	5,109 (-16.0 %)	4,167 (3.0 %)	4,316 (-0.5 %)
Total	49,896	50,630 (-1.4 %)	47,021 (6.1 %)	45,679 (9.2 %)
M2 - HK\$	218,419	213,211 (2.4 %)	206,836 (5.6 %)	187,396 (16.6 %)
Foreign currency	259,447	248,122 (4.6 %)	229,438 (13.1 %)	178,975 (45.0 %)
Total	477,866	461,332 (3.6 %)	436,274 (9.5 %)	366,371 (30.4 %)
M3 - HK\$	253,152	248,329 (1.9 %)	242,432 (4.4 %)	225,785 (12.1 %)
Foreign currency	301,587	294,419 (2.4 %)	276,731 (9.0 %)	223,756 (34.8 %)
Total	554,739	542,747 (2.2 %)	519,164 (6.9 %)	449,541 (23.4 %)
Deposits				
Demand deposits	31,445	32,511 (-3.3 %)	29,772 (5.6 %)	29,074 (8.2 %)
Savings deposits	113,219	110,225 (2.7 %)	104,471 (8.4 %)	96,407 (17.4 %)
Time deposits with banks	307,873	294,072 (4.7 %)	278,543 (10.5 %)	218,457 (40.9 %)
Time deposits with dtcs	72,989	77,511 (-5.8 %)	79,165 (-7.8 %)	80,161 (-8.9 %)
All HK\$ deposits	229,292	225,035 (1.9 %)	220,409 (4.0 %)	205,857 (11.4 %)
All foreign currency deposits	296,235	289,285 (2.4 %)	271,542 (9.1 %)	218,243 (35.7 %)
Total	525,527	514,320 (2.2 %)	491,951 (6.8 %)	424,100 (23.9 %)
Loans and advances				
To finance H.K.'s visible trade	34,400	33,871 (1.6 %)	33,882 (1.5 %)	30,459 (12.9 %)
To finance merchandising trade not touching H.K.	6,857	4,538 (51.1 %)	4,961 (38.2 %)	4,917 (39.5 %)
Other loans for use in H.K.	262,058	255,391 (2.6 %)	247,037 (6.1 %)	233,882 (12.0 %)
Other loans for use outside H.K.	163,608	161,324 (1.4 %)	159,185 (2.8 %)	146,570 (11.6 %)
Other loans where the place of use is not known	29,192	28,523 (2.3 %)	25,467 (14.6 %)	19,475 (49.9 %)
All loans in HK\$	239,165	237,757 (0.6 %)	233,975 (2.2 %)	220,692 (8.4 %)
All loans in foreign currencies	256,949	245,890 (4.5 %)	236,556 (8.6 %)	214,611 (19.7 %)
Total	496,114	483,647 (2.6 %)	470,531 (5.4 %)	435,303 (14.0 %)

/TABLE 2

TABLE 2 : QUARTERLY ANALYSIS OF LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG BY SECTOR - SEPTEMBER 1986

	(HK\$mn)			
	Sep 1986	Earlier quarters (% change to September 1986)		
	-----	Jun 1986	Mar 1986	Sep 1985
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Manufacturing	23,773	22,294 (6.6 %)	21,191 (12.2 %)	20,419 (16.4 %)
Transport and transport equipment	19,428	19,988 (-2.8 %)	20,438 (-4.9 %)	22,267 (-12.7 %)
Building, construction and property development	37,635	36,466 (3.2 %)	37,944 (-0.8 %)	43,712 (-13.9 %)
Wholesale and retail trade	34,708	31,577 (9.9 %)	32,460 (6.9 %)	28,444 (22.0 %)
Financial concerns*	22,424	21,113 (6.2 %)	19,619 (14.3 %)	17,805 (25.9 %)
Individuals:				
to purchase flats in the Home Ownership Scheme and Private Sector Participation Scheme	6,309	6,030 (4.6 %)	5,959 (5.9 %)	5,713 (10.4 %)
to purchase other residential property	39,835	35,699 (11.6 %)	32,875 (21.2 %)	29,973 (32.9 %)
other purposes	26,194	24,489 (7.0 %)	23,373 (12.1 %)	21,918 (19.5 %)
Others	51,752	49,380 (4.8 %)	46,797 (10.6 %)	43,631 (18.6 %)
Total	262,058	247,037 (6.1 %)	240,655 (8.9 %)	233,882 (12.0 %)

* This excludes funds advanced to banks and deposit-taking companies

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LEGCO MEMBERS TO DEBATE ON GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS
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A TWO-DAY DEBATE ON THE MOTION OF THANKS FOR THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS, TO BE MOVED BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY, THE HON SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, WILL BEGIN IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

SENIOR MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, THE HON LYDIA DUNN, WILL START THE DEBATE, TO BE FOLLOWED BY OTHER MEMBERS OVER THE NEXT TWO DAYS.

MISS DUNN WILL BE FOLLOWED BY THE HON MARIA TAM, THE HON MARTIN LEE, THE HON SZETO WAH, THE HON TAM YIU-CHUNG, THE HON STEPHEN CHEONG, THE HON CHEUNG YAN-LUNG, THE HON RITA FAN, THE HON HILTON CHEONG-LEEN, THE HON HO SAI-CHU, DR THE HON CONRAD LAM, THE HON LEE YU-TAI, THE HON HELMUT SOHMEN AND THE HON ANDREW WONG.

THEY WILL BE SPEAKING ON THE STRUCTURE AND MACHINERY OF GOVERNMENT, THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE.

TOUCHING ON THE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL SITUATION WILL BE THE HON WONG PO-YAN, THE HON DAVID LI, THE HON ALLEN LEE, THE HON PETER POON, THE HON JACKIE CHAN AND THE HON NGAI SHIU-KIT.

THE HON LAU WONG-FAT WILL CONCENTRATE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE.

ON THURSDAY, ANOTHER SEVEN MEMBERS WILL CONTINUE TO SPEAK ON THE TOPIC OF INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT, THEY ARE THE HON HU FA-KUANG, DR THE HON HENRIETTA IP, THE HON CHAN YING-LUN, THE HON CHENG HON-KWAN, THE HON RICHARD LAI, THE HON POON CHI-FAI AND THE HON TAI CHIN-WAH.

EIGHT MEMBERS WILL TOUCH ON EDUCATION, HEALTH AND SOCIAL PROGRAMMES. THEY INCLUDE THE HON CHAN KAM-CHUEN, THE HON SELINA CHOW, DR THE HON CHIU HIN-KWONG, THE HON HUI YIN-FAT, THE HON LIU LIT-FOR, THE HON POON CHUNG-KWONG, THE HON ROSANNA TAM AND DR THE HON DANIEL TSE.

ELABORATING ON LAW, ORDER AND SECURITY WILL BE THE HON CHEN SHOU-LUM, THE HON PETER C. WONG, DR THE HON HO KAM-FAI, THE HON J.J. SWAINE, THE HON YEUNG PO-KWAN AND THE HON CHUNG PUI-LAM.

THE SPEECHES WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE ON RTHK'S CHINESE AND ENGLISH SERVICES RADIO 1 AND 3.

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CISAP PROVIDING SOUND BASE FOR SAFETY COUNCIL
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ALTHOUGH HONG KONG DOES NOT HAVE A STATUTORY SAFETY COUNCIL AT PRESENT, IT DOES HAVE A STRONG TRIPARTITE MOVEMENT IN THE PROMOTION OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY, A LABOUR DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

HE SAID THE MOVEMENT, LED BY THE COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AND ACCIDENT PREVENTION (CISAP) AND ITS SIX INDUSTRY-BASED SUB-COMMITTEES, WAS GAINING MOMENTUM IN RECENT YEARS.

THE SPOKESMAN WAS COMMENTING ON CRITICISMS IN THE MEDIA OVER THE DELAY IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY COUNCIL IN HONG KONG.

HE SAID HE AGREED THAT A STATUTORY SAFETY COUNCIL WOULD PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE PROMOTION OF INDUSTRIAL SAFETY BY PROVIDING ADVICE TO THOSE CONCERNED AND HELPING TO RAISE SAFETY STANDARDS, KNOWLEDGE AND AWARENESS IN VARIOUS INDUSTRIES AND TRADES.

+BUT THIS ROLE IS CURRENTLY BEING FILLED BY CISAP AND ITS SUB-COMMITTEES,+ HE SAID.

ESTABLISHED IN 1978 UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD TO FOSTER A VOLUNTARY SAFETY MOVEMENT, CISAP IS MADE UP OF SIX UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS FROM THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD, SIX REPRESENTATIVES FROM INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATIONS, FOUR SAFETY PROFESSIONALS, FOUR REPRESENTATIVES FROM ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS AND THE CHAIRMEN FROM THE SIX INDUSTRY-BASED SAFETY SUB-COMMITTEES.

THROUGHOUT THE YEARS, IT HAS BEEN ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN PROMOTING INDUSTRIAL SAFETY THROUGH A VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES.

THESE INCLUDED THE ISSUE OF CODES OF PRACTICE PREPARED BY THE VARIOUS SUB-COMMITTEES AND THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, PLANNING AND ORGANISING INDUSTRIAL SAFETY PROMOTIONAL EXHIBITIONS AND SEMINARS, ADVISING ON THE ANNUAL PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN PROPOSALS, ESTABLISHING A FORUM FOR THE INTERCHANGE OF IDEAS ON PRACTICAL METHODS OF MEETING STATUTORY SAFETY STANDARDS, AND RECOMMENDING THE BEST MEANS OF PROVIDING A TECHNICAL INFORMATION SERVICE FOR MATTERS OF INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AND HEALTH.

+THROUGH CISAP AND ITS INDUSTRY-BASED SUB-COMMITTEES, AN EXCELLENT WORKING RELATIONSHIP HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED BETWEEN THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT AND THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR, EMPLOYERS ASSOCIATIONS AND WORKERS UNIONS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

/+THIS GROWING

+THIS GROWING INTEREST AND COMMITMENT OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO THE CAUSE OF INDUSTRIAL SAFETY HAVE ALSO ACCOUNTED FOR THE INCREASED VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION AS WELL AS SPONSORSHIP OF PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES.+

HE REITERATED THAT THE INTENTION OF SETTING UP CISAP WAS TO ENABLE IT TO EVOLVE IN TIME INTO A STATUTORY BODY WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROMOTING OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH.

FROM EXPERIENCE IN THE PAST YEARS, CISAP HAS INDEED PROVIDED A GOOD OPPORTUNITY AND A SOUND BASE FOR THE EVENTUAL ESTABLISHMENT OF SUCH A STATUTORY BODY.

AT PRESENT, THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT IS PREPARING A DISCUSSION PAPER ON THE ISSUE WHICH WOULD BE FORWARDED TO THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD FOR DISCUSSION IN EARLY DECEMBER.

+IT IS HOPED THAT A COUNCIL FOR OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH WILL BE FORMED ONCE A CONSENSUS COULD BE REACHED ON FINANCING,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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CONSULTANTS APPOINTED TO AID CHIEF EXECUTIVE SEARCH

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THE BOARD OF THE PROVISIONAL LAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (LDC) HAS APPOINTED SPENCER STUART AS EXECUTIVE SEARCH CONSULTANTS TO ASSIST IT IN THE IDENTIFICATION AND RECRUITMENT OF A CHIEF EXECUTIVE.

SPENCER STUART IS ONE OF THE LEADING INTERNATIONAL GROUPS WORKING IN THE AREA OF SENIOR EXECUTIVE SEARCH AND RECRUITMENT. THE COMPANY HAS BEEN REPRESENTED IN HONG KONG SINCE 1976 AND HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN RECRUITING SENIOR EXECUTIVES FOR A NUMBER OF PROMINENT LOCAL AND OVERSEAS FIRMS.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD, MR GRAHAM BARNES, SAID THE EMPLOYMENT OF SPENCER STUART WAS DECIDED ONLY AFTER A NUMBER OF AGENCIES HAD BEEN CONSIDERED.

THE APPOINTMENT OF A CHIEF EXECUTIVE FOR THE LDC WOULD MARK A SIGNIFICANT AND IMPORTANT MILESTONE IN THE FORMATION OF THE CORPORATION. HE WOULD BE EXPECTED TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CORPORATION AS WELL AS FOR ITS DAY-TO-DAY OPERATION.

/MR BARNES

MR BARNES POINTED OUT THAT THE IDEAL CANDIDATE WAS LIKELY TO HAVE A BACKGROUND AS A SENIOR EXECUTIVE IN A MAJOR COMMERCIAL ORGANISATION WITH KNOWLEDGE OF HONG KONG. HE MUST BE A CREATIVE AND EXPERIENCED EXECUTIVE, ABLE TO LEAD AND MANAGE A TEAM OF HIGHLY QUALIFIED PROFESSIONAL AND SUPPORT STAFF.

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE WOULD BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF THE CORPORATION AS WELL AS BEING RESPONSIBLE FOR RAISING FINANCE AND IMPLEMENTING DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AIMS OF THE CORPORATION.

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PRE-1981 PRIVATE CARS MUST BE TESTED
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PRIVATE CARS MANUFACTURED BEFORE 1981 WHICH REQUIRE A NEW LICENCE COMMENCING ON OR AFTER APRIL 1 NEXT YEAR MUST PASS A ROADWORTHINESS TEST PRIOR TO LICENCE RENEWAL, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY).

THIS MEANS THAT OWNERS OF PRE-1981 PRIVATE CARS MUST FIRST OBTAIN A CERTIFICATE OF ROADWORTHINESS FROM A GOVERNMENT-DESIGNATED CAR TESTING CENTRE BEFORE THE LICENCE OF THEIR VEHICLES CAN BE RENEWED BY THE LICENSING OFFICE. THERE ARE 17 DESIGNATED CAR TESTING CENTRES ON BOTH SIDES OF THE HARBOUR.

THE REQUIREMENT FOR SIX-YEAR OLD PRIVATE CARS TO BE INSPECTED UNDER THE PRIVATE CAR INSPECTION SCHEME CAME INTO EFFECT ON JANUARY 2 THIS YEAR, STARTING WITH PRE-1980 CARS. UP TO SEPTEMBER, 17 756 VEHICLES HAD BEEN INSPECTED, WITH ABOUT 8 840 CARS PASSING THE ROADWORTHINESS TEST ON FIRST INSPECTION.

+WITH THE APPROACH OF 1987, IT IS ONLY NATURAL THAT PRE-1981 CARS SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE INSPECTION SCHEME,+ A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE EXPLAINED THAT THE CERTIFICATE OF ROADWORTHINESS FOR ANY PRIVATE CAR WHICH HAS PASSED THE TEST MUST BE PRESENTED TO THE DEPARTMENT WITHIN FOUR MONTHS OF THE ISSUE DATE FOR RELICENSING A VEHICLE, OTHERWISE ITS VALIDITY WILL LAPSE.

+IN OTHER WORDS, A CAR WHOSE LICENCE EXPIRES IN MARCH 1987 MAY BE PRESENTED FOR INSPECTION FROM DECEMBER ONWARDS, AND ONE WHOSE LICENCE EXPIRES IN APRIL FROM JANUARY ONWARDS, AND SO FORTH,+ HE SAID.

/HE STRESSED

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HE STRESSED THAT CAR OWNERS SHOULD HAVE THEIR VEHICLES CHECKED AND REPAIRED BEFORE THE INSPECTION APPOINTMENT WITH CAR TESTING CENTRES SO AS TO AVIOD UNNECESSARY INCONVENIENCE.

THE EXAMINATION FEE FOR CAR INSPECTION IS \$160 AND A RE-CHECK FEE OF \$50 IS CHARGED WHEN DEFECTS FOUND IN THE ORIGINAL INSPECTION ARE REMEDIED AND EXAMINED WITHIN 14 DAYS. IN CASES OF SPECIFIED MINOR FAULTS, THE RE-CHECK IS FREE OF CHARGE.

SHOULD A CAR OWNER DISAGREE WITH THE RESULT OF A TEST, HE CAN APPEAL TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR A FRESH, INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION.

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BUILDING IMPROVEMENT SCHEME ACHIEVES RESULTS

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A MULTI-STOREY BUILDING MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT SCHEME IN YAU MA TEI HAS ACHIEVED SATISFACTORY RESULTS WITH MORE THAN ONE-THIRD OF ABOUT 30 PROBLEM BUILDINGS IDENTIFIED AS MAKING PROGRESS, THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR AUGUSTINE CHENG, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

HE SINGLED OUT IN PARTICULAR OWNERS OF BOOMAN HOUSE IN JORDAN ROAD FOR COMMENDATION FOR THEIR EFFORTS TO RECTIFY DEFECTS ON THEIR BUILDINGS.

THE 14-STOREY BOOMAN HOUSE IN JORDAN ROAD WAS BUILT IN 1961 AND HAD DEVELOPED CRACKS AND SPALLINGS OVER THE YEARS DUE TO POOR MAINTENANCE. IT HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED BY THE DISTRICT'S BUILDING MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATION TEAM (BMCT) AS ONE OF THE FIRST 30 TARGET BUILDINGS FOR IMPROVEMENTS SINCE THE TEAM WAS SET UP IN MAY LAST YEAR.

THE OWNERS CORPORATION OF THE BUILDING HAS RECENTLY ENTERED INTO A \$600 000 CONTRACT WITH A REGISTERED CONTRACTOR FOR MAJOR RENOVATION WORKS AFTER SEEKING ADVICE FROM THE TEAM.

+GIVEN THAT BUILDING MANAGEMENT IS A LONG-STANDING PROBLEM IN THE DISTRICT, IT IS INDEED ENCOURAGING TO KNOW THAT BUILDING OWNERS ARE WILLING TO TAKE UP THE RESPONSIBILITY OF KEEPING THEIR BUILDINGS IN GOOD SHAPE,+ MR CHENG SAID.

HE NOTED THAT WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE TEAM THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE BUILDING CONDUCTED MEETINGS WITH OWNERS WHO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED IN IDENTIFYING NECESSARY REPAIR ITEMS AND SUBSEQUENTLY SELECTING TENDER.

/+THE FINAL

+THE FINAL SIGNING OF THE CONTRACT IS A REFLECTION OF THEIR CO-OPERATION AND THE IMPORTANCE THAT OWNERS HAVE ATTACHED TO THEIR OWN LIVING ENVIRONMENT,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID ONE OF THE PRIMARY AIMS OF THE BMCT WAS TO STIMULATE SELF-HELP PROGRAMMES AMONG OWNERS AND TENANTS IN BUILDING MANAGEMENT.

WHILE OWNERS CORPORATIONS WERE EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT BODIES IN PRIVATE BUILDINGS, THEIR EFFECTIVENESS WAS OFTEN HAMPERED BY A WIDE RANGE OF PROBLEMS, HE SAID.

THE MORE COMMON ONES WERE THE APATHETIC ATTITUDE OF INDIVIDUAL OWNERS IN BUILDING MANAGEMENT AND THE DIFFICULTY IN COLLECTING MANAGEMENT FEES OR CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS MAINTENANCE COST.

TO TACKLE THESE PROBLEMS, MR CHENG CALLED ON BUILDING OWNERS TO BE MORE FAR-SIGHTED AND TO GET MORE INVOLVED IN BUILDING MANAGEMENT.

HE SUGGESTED THAT THE CO-OWNERS OF A BUILDING SHOULD CONSIDER SETTING UP A MAINTENANCE FUND TO PROVIDE THE FINANCIAL BASIS FOR MAJOR MAINTENANCE WORKS IN THE LONG RUN.

+PROPER AND REGULAR MAINTENANCE HAS IMPORTANT BEARING ON THE PHYSICAL STATE AS WELL AS THE MARKET VALUE OF THEIR BUILDING,+ HE SAID.

MR CHENG SAID OF THE 30 TARGET BUILDINGS IDENTIFIED BY THE BMCT LAST YEAR FOR IMPROVEMENT ACTIONS, 11 HAD ACHIEVED SATISFACTORY PROGRESS.

ANOTHER 15 BUILDINGS, HE SAID, HAD RECENTLY BEEN INSPECTED BY THE TEAM AND WERE INCLUDED IN THE TARGET LIST AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE DISTRICT BUILDING MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE AND THE DISTRICT BOARD.

+OTHER BUILDING OWNERS OR BUILDING MANAGEMENT BODIES IN THE DISTRICT ARE ALSO WELCOME TO SEEK ADVICE FROM THE BMCT ON MATTERS RELATING TO BUILDING MANAGEMENT,+ MR CHENG SAID.

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LARGER NUMBER OF DOGS BEING INOCULATED
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GREATER PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANCE TO BRING RABIES UNDER CONTROL HAS RESULTED IN MORE DOGS BEING INOCULATED AND MORE REPORTS OF STRAY DOGS BEING MADE TO THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S SENIOR VETERINARY OFFICER, DR NORMAN CHENG, TODAY (TUESDAY) WHEN HE GAVE DETAILS OF A DISTRICT ANTI-RABIES DRIVE TO BE CARRIED OUT IN YUEN LONG AND TAI PO THIS MONTH.

DR CHENG SAID THAT IN SEPTEMBER ALONE STAFF OF THE DOG CONTROL UNIT HAD INOCULATED 4 830 DOGS, WHICH REPRESENTED AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 60 PER CENT OVER THE AVERAGE MONTHLY INOCULATION FIGURE OF 3 000.

+THIS BROUGHT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF INOCULATIONS FOR THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF THE YEAR TO 28 600, ALREADY EXCEEDING LAST YEAR'S FIGURE OF 28 100,+ HE SAID.

IN ADDITION, HE SAID, OVER 10 630 STRAY DOGS WERE ROUNDED UP IN THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF THE YEAR.

THIS WAS A GOOD SIGN OF PUBLIC VIGILANCE AGAINST RABIES AND THAT THE DEPARTMENT WOULD CONTINUE WITH ITS STRINGENT CONTROL MEASURES TO PREVENT A RESURGENCE OF THE DISEASE.

THESE MEASURES INCLUDE QUARANTINE OF IMPORTED DOGS AND CATS, OBSERVATION OF BITER ANIMALS, STRAY DOG CONTROL AND MOBILE INOCULATION SERVICES TO RURAL VILLAGES.

THE YUEN LONG VILLAGES TO BE VISITED INCLUDE KIU TAU WAI, TIN SHUI WAI, MONG TSENG TSUEN, TONG FONG TSUEN, FUNG KA WAI, WING NING TSUEN, SHA KUI TSUEN AND TAN KWAI TSUEN.

THE TAI PO VILLAGES ARE YUE KOK, YUE KOK TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA, NAM HANG, OLD MARKET, CHUK HANG, YING PUN HA, TAI PO TAU, KAM SHAN, PUN CHUN YUEN, LIN AU, WAN TAU TONG, PUN CHUNG, SAN PUN CHUNG AND PAK KIU TSAI.

DOG OWNERS IN THESE VILLAGES SHOULD MAKE FULL USE OF THE MOBILE SERVICES TO HAVE THEIR PETS INOCULATED AND LICENSED.

+ANY PERSON WHO KEEPS A DOG OVER FIVE MONTHS' OLD WHICH IS NOT INOCULATED AGAINST RABIES, OR WHO LETS HIS DOG STRAY, IS LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$5 000 AND SIX MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT,+ DR CHENG POINTED OUT.

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\$100 000 PROJECT TO IMPROVE SEWERAGE IN HUNG HOM
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MEMBERS OF THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE WILL MEET ON THURSDAY (NOVEMBER 6) TO DISCUSS A PROPOSED \$100 000 PROJECT TO IMPROVE SEWERAGE IN HUNG HOM.

THE SEWERAGE PROBLEM HAS BEEN SUBJECTS OF COMPLAINTS BY RESIDENTS IN THE AREA. INVESTIGATIONS BY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS FOUND THAT THE PROBLEM WAS MAINLY DUE TO THE SERIOUS BLOCKAGE OF SEWERS ALONG WING KWONG STREET, HUNG FOOK STREET AND OTHER STREETS IN THE VICINITY.

A THOROUGH CLEANSING OPERATION IS REQUIRED TO ARREST AND PREVENT THE PROBLEM FROM SURFACING AGAIN.

MEMBERS WILL BE ASKED TO ENDORSE THE PROJECT WHICH WILL TAKE TWO TO THREE MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

A REPORT ON THE WORKING GROUP OF PRIVATE LANES WILL ALSO BE TABLED IN THE MEETING.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE A JOINT DEPARTMENT TIDYING-UP EXERCISE AT CLEARED BACK LANES AND THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING TO BEGIN AT 2.15 PM ON THURSDAY IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE AT 141 KAU PUI LUNG ROAD, TO KWA WAN. THERE WILL NOT BE ANY SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION SERVICE AT THE MEETING.

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CENTRAL-WESTERN DISTRICT FESTIVAL BEGINS TOMORROW
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AN EYE-DOTTING CEREMONY OF A 50-METRE-LONG DRAGON AND TWO LIONS AT EDINBURGH PLACE AND A VARIETY SHOW AT THE CITY HALL CONCERT HALL TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) WILL MARK THE GRAND OPENING OF THE SECOND CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT FESTIVAL.

SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DONALD LIAO, WILL PERFORM THE EYE-DOTTING CEREMONY AND OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE VARIETY SHOW AT 7.30 PM.

/THE VARIETY

THE VARIETY SHOW WILL FEATURE A STRINGS ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCE, BALLET, CHOIR SINGING, BAND MUSIC, ORIENTAL FOLK DANCE AND SONGS BY POPULAR SINGERS.

THE THREE-HOUR PROGRAMME ON OPENING NIGHT WILL ONLY BE A CURTAIN-RAISER FOR THE THREE-WEEK DISTRICT FESTIVAL. THERE WILL BE 30 OTHER EVENTS WHICH LAST UNTIL NOVEMBER 30 TO CATER TO THE INTERESTS OF DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS.

RESIDENTS ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EVENTS. ADMISSION TO MOST EVENTS WILL BE FREE. DETAILS OF THE PROGRAMMES ARE LISTED IN A LEAFLET AVAILABLE AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS SUB-OFFICES.

TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES CAN ALSO BE MADE ON 5-8523002; 5-8170196 OR 5-220031.

EVENTS ARRANGED DURING THE FIRST SEVEN DAYS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

<u>DATE/TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>VENUE</u>
NOVEMBER 6 (THURSDAY) 8 PM	CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT YOUTH CHOIR AND CHILDREN'S CHOIR ANNUAL CONCERT	CITY HALL THEATRE
NOVEMBER 8 (SATURDAY) 2 PM	CARNIVAL FOR THE ELDERLY	KING GEORGE V MEMORIAL PARK, EASTERN STREET
2 PM	STUDENT CALLIGRAPHY COMPETITION	PUI YING MIDDLE SCHOOL, BABINGTON PATH
2 PM	PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION	CHIU CHOW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, 85 DES VOEUX ROAD WEST
1 PM TO 6 PM	OPEN DAY OF UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG	UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
NOVEMBER 9 (SUNDAY) 9.30 AM	CONCERN FOR THE ELDERLY DRAWING COMPETITION	CHUN SING STREET TEMPORARY CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND

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9 AM	CHILDREN DRAWING COMPETITION	ZOOLOGICAL AND BOTANICAL GARDENS
2 PM	LIGHT OF PEACE CARNIVAL	BLAKE GARDEN, PO HING FONG
10 AM TO 6 PM	OPEN DAY OF UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG	UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
NOVEMBER 10 (MONDAY) 7.30 PM	BANQUET FOR THE ELDERLY	CHINESE RESTAURANT, CITY HALL
NOVEMBER 11-15	SURVEY ON PASTIME OF WHITE COLLAR WORKERS	

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE SECOND CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT FESTIVAL AT 7.30 PM TOMORROW AT EDINBURGH PLACE AND THE CITY HALL CONCERT HALL.

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DB TO DISCUSS TRAGIC FACTORY INCIDENT
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MEMBERS OF THE KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS THE TRAGIC INCIDENT AT THE CIPEL MARCO FACTORY IN KWAI CHUNG DURING THEIR MEETING ON THURSDAY (NOVEMBER 6) AFTERNOON. THIRTEEN WORKERS HAVE SO FAR DIED FOLLOWING AN EXPLOSION AT THE FACTORY.

THEY WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE GOVERNOR'S ANNUAL POLICY SPEECH WHICH WAS DELIVERED AT THE OPENING SESSION OF THE CURRENT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SESSION.

BOARD MEMBER, MR LI CHI-FAI, WILL MOVE A MOTION TO REQUEST REGULAR PROGRESS REPORTS ON THE TSING YI NORTH BRIDGE AT FUTURE DISTRICT BOARD MEETINGS UNTIL THE BRIDGE IS COMPLETED.

/QUESTIONS ON

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QUESTIONS ON THE MANAGEMENT OF COMMUNITY HALLS, THE USE OF CULTURAL AND RECREATION FACILITIES IN THE DISTRICT, THE STORAGE OF DANGEROUS GOODS IN FACTORY PREMISES AND THE FOLLOW-UP SERVICES FOR EX-MENTAL PATIENTS WILL BE RAISED AT THE MEETING.

AT THE MEETING, BOARD MEMBERS WILL BE BRIEFED ON THE UPPER KWAI CHUNG ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT STUDY REPORT, ANTI-CHOLERA OPERATION IN KWAI CHUNG AND THE PROGRESS OF THE EXTENDED REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME IN THE DISTRICT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING AT 2.30 PM ON THURSDAY IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICE, 10TH FLOOR, KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICE (NEXT TO KWAI HING MTR STATION), 166-174 HING FONG ROAD, KWAI CHUNG.

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TAI PO DB MEMBERS SEE HOW KCR OPERATES
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MEMBERS OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD AND TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE THIS (TUESDAY) MORNING VISITED THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY CORPORATION TO GET A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF ITS OPERATIONS.

LED BY THE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, DR STEPHEN TANG, THE PARTY FIRST WENT TO THE CONTROL CENTRE AT KOWLOON STATION AT HUNG HOM TO LOOK AT HOW TRAIN SERVICES WERE RUN.

THEY LATER BOARDED A SPECIAL TRAIN FOR THE CORPORATION'S HO TUNG LAU WORKSHOPS WHERE THEY WERE RECEIVED BY THE ENGINEER DIRECTOR, MR CLEMENT CHIU, AND WERE BRIEFED ON THE MAINTENANCE OF TRAINS.

THE MEMBERS NEXT WENT TO THE RACECOURSE STATION AND WERE THEN TAKEN TO KCR HOUSE AT SHA TIN WHERE THEY WERE MET BY THE MANAGING DIRECTOR, MR PETER QUICK.

AFTER A SLIDE SHOW, MR QUICK BRIEFED THEM ON THE MANAGEMENT OF THE CORPORATION.

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MEDICAL, MAXICAB CONCESSIONS FOR ELDERLY

SENIOR CITIZENS OF EASTERN DISTRICT WILL BENEFIT FROM CONCESSIONS IN BOTH MEDICAL EXPENSES AND MAXICAB FARES BY JOINING TWO SCHEMES FOR THE ELDERLY LAUNCHED BY THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD THIS MONTH.

ANNOUNCING DETAILS OF THE TWO SCHEMES TODAY (TUESDAY), THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT MEDICAL SERVICE WORKING GROUP, MR SHUM CHI-KIN, SAID THAT WHEN THE MEDICAL SERVICE SCHEME WAS FIRST INTRODUCED IN THE DISTRICT IN 1983, APPLICANTS HAD TO OBTAIN INTRODUCTORY LETTERS EACH TIME THEY CONSULTED A DOCTOR.

IN ORDER TO SIMPLIFY THE PROCEDURE, APPLICANTS UNDER THE NEW SCHEME WOULD BE ISSUED WITH REUSABLE +MEDICAL CARDS+ FOR THEM TO SEEK TREATMENT FROM DOCTORS WHO HAD JOINED THE SCHEME, MR SHUM SAID.

ALL EASTERN DISTRICT RESIDENTS AGED 60 AND OVER OR RECEIVING WELFARE ALLOWANCES FROM THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT WERE ELIGIBLE FOR JOINING THE SCHEME, HE ADDED.

MR SHUM SAID THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD HAD BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN GETTING 35 REGISTERED MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS IN THE DISTRICT TO PARTICIPATE.

MEANWHILE, AT THE DISTRICT BOARD'S REQUEST, MAXICAB OPERATORS PLYING ROUTES IN THE DISTRICT HAVE AGREED TO GIVE A FARE CONCESSION TO ELDERLY PEOPLE LIVING IN EASTERN. THE SCHEME WILL OPERATE ON A TRIAL BASIS FOR SIX MONTHS.

AS AGREED WITH MAXICAB OPERATORS, SENIOR RESIDENTS AGED 60 OR OVER COULD ENJOY A CONCESSION OF 50 CENTS ON PRODUCTION OF A +PREFERENTIAL CARD+ ISSUED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD, MR SHUM SAID.

AT PRESENT, EIGHT MAXICAB ROUTES WERE INVOLVED IN THE SCHEME. A SPECIAL LABEL WOULD BE DISPLAYED ON THE MAXICABS FOR EASY IDENTIFICATION.

MR SHUM THANKED MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP FOR THEIR EFFORTS IN PERSUADING MAXICAB OPERATORS TO JOIN THE SCHEME.

APPLICATION FORMS FOR BOTH SCHEMES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, ITS SUB-OFFICES AND VARIOUS VOLUNTARY AGENCIES IN THE DISTRICT.

MACHINE TO ISSUE POSTAGE LABELS
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AN ELECTRONIC POSTAGE LABEL ISSUING MACHINE WILL BE INTRODUCED IN HONG KONG ON A TRIAL BASIS IN DECEMBER.

+LOCATED IN THE GENERAL POST OFFICE, THE MACHINE WILL ACCEPT HONG KONG COINS IN ALL DENOMINATIONS FROM 10 CENTS TO FIVE DOLLARS AND ISSUE POSTAGE LABELS WITH FIXED VALUES OF 10 CENTS, 50 CENTS, \$1.30 AND \$1.70,+ A POST OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

+THE VALUES ARE SELECTED BY PUSHING APPROPRIATE BUTTONS ON THE FACIA OF THE MACHINE,+ HE ADDED.

ELECTRONIC POSTAGE LABEL ISSUING MACHINES ARE NOW IN OPERATION IN MANY COUNTRIES PROVIDING A FLEXIBLE ARRANGEMENT FOR THE PAYMENT OF POSTAGE WITHOUT THE NEED TO QUEUE FOR STAMPS AT POST OFFICE COUNTERS.

+IF THE MACHINE PERFORMS SATISFACTORILY DURING ITS TRIAL, IT WILL BECOME A PERMANENT FIXTURE AND ADDITIONAL MACHINES WILL BE PROVIDED AT OTHER POST OFFICES,+ HE SAID.

+FIRST DAY COVERS WILL BE ISSUED TO COMMEMORATE THE INTRODUCTION IN HONG KONG OF THE POSTAGE LABELS.+

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SITTING-OUT AREA TO BE BUILT
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THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR BUILDING A SITTING-OUT AREA AT SHAM SHUI PO.

OCCUPYING A 1 000-SQUARE-METRE SITE BETWEEN LAI CHI KOK ROAD AND TAI NAM STREET, IT WILL COMPRISE PAVILIONS, WOODEN ARBOURS, COVERED WALKWAYS AND PLANTERS.

A CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA WITH PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT WILL BE INCLUDED.

CONSTRUCTION WORK IS EXPECTED TO START EARLY NEXT YEAR AND BE COMPLETED IN SIX MONTHS.

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MASTER CLASSES BY RENOWNED MUSICIANS
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A SERIES OF MASTER CLASSES AND LECTURE DEMONSTRATIONS ON ER-HU, BAN-HU, SHENG AND SUO-NA WILL BE ORGANISED BY THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES BRANCH'S MUSIC OFFICE TO ADD COLOUR TO THE 1986 HONG KONG YOUTH CHINESE MUSIC FESTIVAL WHICH STARTED LAST SATURDAY.

THESE CLASSES AND DEMONSTRATIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED BY RENOWNED MUSICIANS, MR LIU CHONG-ZENG AND MR CAO JIAN-GUO, AT VARIOUS MUSIC CENTRES OF THE MUSIC OFFICE.

A MASTER CLASS ON ER-HU AND ANOTHER ON SUO-NA WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AT 4.30 PM AT THE MONG KOK MUSIC CENTRE AND THE TSUEN WAN MUSIC CENTRE WHILE A LECTURE DEMONSTRATION ON +SKILLS IN PLAYING BAN-HU+ WILL BE STAGED AT THE TSUEN WAN MUSIC CENTRE AT 7.30 PM.

LECTURE DEMONSTRATIONS ON SUO-NA AND ER-HU WILL ALSO BE ORGANISED ON THURSDAY (NOVEMBER 6) AT THE HONG KONG MUSIC CENTRE AND ON FRIDAY AT THE MONG KOK MUSIC CENTRE AT 7.30 PM.

ADMISSION IS FREE. FOR ENQUIRIES, CALL 5-458791 OR 0-4928127.

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MEET-THE-MEDIA SESSION
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TWO MUSICIANS FROM CHINA, MR CAO JIAN-GUO AND MR LIU CHONG-ZENG, CURRENTLY TAKING PART IN THE 1986 HONG KONG YOUTH CHINESE MUSIC FESTIVAL, WILL MEET THE MEDIA TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AT 3 PM AT THE MONG KOK MUSIC CENTRE, FIRST FLOOR, CAMBRIDGE COURT, 84 WATERLOO ROAD, KOWLOON (ABOVE THE SHANGHAI COMMERCIAL BANK LTD.)

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

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NEW ROADS OPENING IN HUNG HOM
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A NUMBER OF NEW ROADS IN HUNG HOM WILL BE OPENED TO TRAFFIC FROM 3 PM ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 7) TO FACILITATE BETTER TRAFFIC FLOW IN THE AREA.

THESE ARE: PO LOI STREET CONNECTING DOCK STREET - BAKER STREET AND HUNG HOM WAN STREET- HUNG HOM WAN STREET CONNECTING PO LOI STREET AND HUNG HOM FERRY CONCOURSE- AND WINSLOW STREET UNDERPASS CONNECTING WINSLOW STREET AND CHATHAM ROAD NORTH NORTHBOUND.

AS A RESULT OF THE ROAD OPENING, MOTORISTS TRAVELLING ON MA TAU WAI ROAD SOUTHBOUND HEADING FOR KOWLOON KCR STATION OR HUNG HOM FERRY CONCOURSE CAN USE WUHU STREET, DOCK STREET, PO LOI STREET AND HUNG HOM WAN STREET.

MOTORISTS IN HUNG HOM AREA CAN USE WINSLOW STREET UNDERPASS AND CHATHAM ROAD NORTH TO GO TO EAST KOWLOON.

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GREEN MINIBUS FARE ADJUSTED
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THE FARE FOR THE FULL JOURNEY OPERATED BY THE OVER-NIGHT GREEN MINIBUS ROUTE 18S WILL BE REVISED FROM THE EXISTING \$6 TO \$7 WITH EFFECT FROM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE FULL JOURNEY RUNS FROM MONGKOK MTR STATION TO SHEK WU HUI.

MEANWHILE, FARE FOR THE ADDITIONAL TRIPS FROM MONGKOK MTR STATION TO TAI PO OPERATED ON THIS ROUTE BETWEEN MIDNIGHT AND 4.30 AM WILL REMAIN AT \$6.

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RESTRICTED ZONES TO BE LIFTED
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THE FOLLOWING RESTRICTED ZONES ON WATERLOO ROAD AND PRINCE EDWARD ROAD WEST WILL BE LIFTED FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 7):

- * THE NORTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF WATERLOO ROAD BETWEEN A POINT ABOUT 73 METRES NORTH OF ITS JUNCTION WITH SOARES AVENUE AND A POINT ABOUT 50 METRES SOUTH OF ITS JUNCTION WITH ARGYLE STREET;
- * THE SOUTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF WATERLOO ROAD BETWEEN A POINT ABOUT 110 METRES SOUTH OF ITS JUNCTION WITH ARGYLE STREET AND A POINT ABOUT 105 METRES NORTH OF ITS JUNCTION WITH PUI CHING ROAD;
- * THE NORTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF WATERLOO ROAD BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH PRINCE EDWARD ROAD WEST AND A POINT ABOUT 135 METRES SOUTH OF THE SAME JUNCTION; AND
- * THE WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF PRINCE EDWARD ROAD WEST BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH WATERLOO ROAD AND A POINT ABOUT 78 METRES WEST OF THE SAME JUNCTION.

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TRAFFIC DIVERSION IN TAI KOK TSUI
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CERTAIN STREETS IN TAI KOK TSUI WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 7) BECAUSE OF WORK ON THE WEST KOWLOON CORRIDOR.

DETAILS ARE:

- * FIR STREET BETWEEN BEDFORD ROAD AND LARCH STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM ONE-WAY NORTHEAST BOUND TO ONE-WAY SOUTHWEST BOUND.
- * LARCH STREET BETWEEN TONG MEI ROAD AND FIR STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM ONE-WAY NORTHWEST BOUND TO ONE-WAY SOUTHEAST BOUND TOWARDS TONG MEI ROAD.

THE MEASURES WILL BE IN EFFECT FOR ABOUT 20 WEEKS.

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PROHIBITED ZONES IN HUNG HOM
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FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 7), CERTAIN SECTIONS OF ROADS IN HUNG HOM WILL BE UNDER THE FOLLOWING RESTRICTIONS 24 HOURS DAILY:

- * THE SLIP ROAD LEADING FROM HUNG HOM WAN STREET TO CHEONG WAN ROAD FLYOVER WILL BE DESIGNATED A PUBLIC LIGHT BUS PROHIBITED ZONE. NO PLB'S WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE RESTRICTED AREA.
- * THE ACCESS ROAD LEADING TO THE TAXI STAND AT THE HUNG HOM FERRY PIER CONCOURSE WILL BE DESIGNATED A PROHIBITED ZONE. NO VEHICLE OTHER THAN TAXIS WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE RESTRICTED ZONE.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE HUNG HOM FERRY BUS TERMINUS WILL BE DESIGNATED A PROHIBITED ZONE. NO VEHICLE OTHER THAN FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE BUS TERMINUS.

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TRAFFIC REROUTINGS IN TUEN MUN
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TAI HING STREET IN TUEN MUN WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 7) TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW IN TAI HING ESTATE.

THE EXISTING ONE-WAY WESTBOUND ROUTING OF TAI FONG STREET SECTION BETWEEN TSUN WEN ROAD AND TAI HING STREET WILL REMAIN.

VEHICLES HEADING FOR TAI HING ESTATE SHOULD USE THE TAI FONG STREET-TSUN WEN ROAD JUNCTION.

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