



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES  
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 5-8428777

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CJ SPEAKS ON JUDICIARY RECRUITMENT

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FOR MANY MORE YEARS AND AS A MATTER OF PRACTICALITY, HONG KONG WILL CONTINUE TO RELY ON EXPATRIATES OF HIGH STANDARD AT ALL LEVELS OF THE COURTS, THOUGH AS TIME PASSES THERE WILL BE MORE LOCAL OFFICERS AND CONSEQUENTLY A REDUCTION OF OUR NEED FOR OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE, THE CHIEF JUSTICE, SIR TI LIANG YANG, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

AS A LONG TERM OBJECTIVE, IT IS BOTH NECESSARY AND DESIRABLE THAT ALL HOLDERS OF JUDICIAL OFFICE SHOULD EVENTUALLY BE LOCAL PEOPLE.

HOWEVER, AS LONG AS WE STILL HAVE EXPATRIATES WITHIN OUR RANKS THEY SHOULD BE TREATED FAIRLY AND NOT DISCRIMINATED AGAINST; THEY ARE ENTITLED TO A FAIR CHANCE TO COMPETE WITH THEIR LOCAL COLLEAGUES ON MERITS, SIR TI LIANG SAID IN HIS ADDRESS AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 1989 LEGAL YEAR HELD AT THE CITY HALL.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE SAID THAT TO HIM, MERIT WAS ALL IMPORTANT AND IT WAS FOR THIS REASON THAT HE ALWAYS AVOIDED USING THE MUCH HACKNEYED WORD "LOCALISATION", WHICH TO HIM IMPLIED EMPLOYING OR ELEVATING A LOCAL PERSON SIMPLY BECAUSE HE WAS CHINESE.

"MUCH HAS BEEN SAID IN RECENT MONTHS ABOUT THE RECRUITMENT OF LOCALS INTO THE JUDICIARY. IT IS THEREFORE APPROPRIATE THAT I SHOULD STATE IN BROAD TERMS WHAT MY OWN VIEWS ARE ON THE SUBJECT," HE SAID.

"BY LOCALS, I MEAN THOSE WHO ARE IN THE MAIN PEOPLE OF CHINESE RACE (BUT CERTAINLY NOT EXCLUSIVELY SO) WHO REGARD HONG KONG AS THEIR PERMANENT HOME. THE TERM THEREFORE INCLUDES BOTH CHINESE AND NON-CHINESE, BUT EXCLUDES THOSE OF THE CHINESE RACE WHO MAKE THEIR HOME ELSEWHERE.

"THIS DESCRIPTION IS BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THOSE WHO CALL HONG KONG THEIR HOME HAVE, GENERALLY SPEAKING, A SPECIAL SENSE OF COMMITMENT TO THIS CITY, A DEEPER KNOWLEDGE OF LOCAL CONDITIONS, AND A WARMER SYMPATHY WITH OUR ASPIRATIONS. THE ABILITY TO SPEAK, READ AND WRITE CHINESE IS OF COURSE A MAJOR ADVANTAGE."

SIR TI LIANG EMPHASISED THAT WHILE IT WAS PROPER TO GIVE FIRST PRIORITY TO LOCALS OF ABILITY AND INTEGRITY WHEN RECRUITING, HE WAS SURE THAT ONCE INSIDE THE JUDICIARY, BOTH LOCALS AND EXPATRIATES SHOULD BE TREATED EQUALLY, PARTICULARLY IN TERMS OF CAREER ADVANCEMENT, WITH FAVOURABLE CONSIDERATION BEING GIVEN FOR A KNOWLEDGE OF THE CHINESE LANGUAGE.

"EXPATRIATE OFFICERS, WHETHER ON CONTRACT OR ON THE PENSIONABLE ESTABLISHMENT MUST HAVE THE ASSURANCE THAT THEIR BENEFITS AND ASPIRATIONS ARE PROTECTED IN THE INTEREST OF COMMUNITY," HE SAID.

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ON THE PERCENTAGE OF LOCALS IN THE JUDICIARY, THE CHIEF JUSTICE SAW DIFFICULTY IN CONCURRING WITH THE ESTIMATE ONCE MADE THAT THE JUDICIARY WOULD BE "50 PER CENT LOCALISED" IN 10 YEARS AND THAT THE TARGET WAS ATTAINABLE BECAUSE THEY WERE ALREADY ABOUT 35 PER CENT LOCALISED.

"ALL THAT CAN BE SAID IS THAT WE SHALL CONTINUE TO TRY OUR UTMOST TO ATTRACT LOCAL LAWYERS AND BE RECEPTIVE TO NEW IDEAS WHICH WOULD HELP US IN OUR ENDEAVOUR.

"IF WE HAVE TO TALK OF PERCENTAGE AT ALL, THEN THE SAME PERCENTAGE MUST EVENTUALLY BE APPLIED MORE OR LESS ACROSS THE BOARD, TO EACH AND EVERY LEVEL OF THE COURTS.

"HAVING REGARD TO THE RELATIVE YOUTH OF THE BARRISTERS AND SOLICITORS IN HONG KONG, HOWEVER, THE EARLY YEARS WILL SEE A PREPONDERANCE OF RECRUITS TO THE MAGISTRATES' COURTS RATHER THAN THE DISTRICT COURT AND ABOVE," HE SAID.

SIR TI LIANG POINTED OUT THAT AT PRESENT THERE ARE SOME 21 LOCAL MAGISTRATES OUT OF A TOTAL OF 64, 10 OF THEM BEING SPECIAL MAGISTRATES WHO ARE NOT LEGALLY QUALIFIED. OF 36 DISTRICT JUDGES ONLY 11 ARE EMPLOYED ON LOCAL TERMS; OF THE 30 SUPREME COURT JUDGES, ONLY FOUR ARE LOCALS INCLUDING THE CHIEF JUSTICE.

"BUT WE ARE NOT IN A PERCENTAGE GAME. THE STANDING AND AUTHORITY OF THE JUDICIARY MUST NOT BE ALTERED OR DIMINISHED BY ANY SLAVISH ADHERENCE TO QUOTAS," HE SAID.

IN THIS CONNECTION, THE CHIEF JUSTICE MENTIONED A NUMBER OF MEASURES AND CONSIDERATIONS TAKEN BY THE JUDICIARY TO ATTRACT MORE LOCAL LAWYERS TO WORK IN THE JUDICIARY:

- (I) AS PART OF THE SEPARATION OF THE JUDICIARY FROM THE CIVIL SERVICE, THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE HAS BEEN APPOINTED.

THIS COMMITTEE NOW CONSIDERS PROPOSALS FOR THE JUDICIARY IN ISOLATION FROM THE CIVIL SERVICE AS A WHOLE, AND MAY APPLY DIFFERENT CRITERIA IN REACHING ITS CONCLUSIONS. THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIARY FROM THE GOVERNMENT IS THEREBY EMPHASISED.

THE COMMITTEE WILL BE ASKED TO CONSIDER, INTER ALIA --

- (A) THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SO-CALLED "CASH FOR PERKS"; AND
- (B) THE ELIMINATION OF THE LAST VESTIGE IN THE DIFFERENCE IN TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT BETWEEN LOCALS AND EXPATRIATES, NAMELY, LEAVE TERMS.

/(II) THE PERMANENT .....

- (II) THE PERMANENT MAGISTRATES HAVE BEEN UPGRADED AND AWARDED A SALARY INCREASE. THIS NOT ONLY REFLECTS THEIR INCREASED RESPONSIBILITIES, BUT SHOULD ALSO ENCOURAGE THE RECRUITING OF LOCAL PEOPLE TO THAT POSITION.
- (III) THOSE SUITABLE FOR JUDICIAL OFFICE, PARTICULARLY AT HIGHER LEVELS, WILL INEVITABLY BE MATURE BOTH IN TEMPERAMENT AND YEARS. UNDER PRESENT GOVERNMENT PENSION REGULATIONS A PRACTISING LAWYER, PERHAPS TAKING JUDICIAL OFFICE IN HIS LATE 40'S, IS NOT EVEN ELIGIBLE TO JOIN THE PENSION SCHEME. THIS MAY DETER HIM FROM MAKING THE TRANSFER.

THE NEW PENSION SCHEME FOR THE JUDICIARY MAKES SPECIAL PROVISION FOR THESE LAWYERS AND PROPOSES AN EARNING RATE FROM AGE 50 ONWARDS WHEREBY EACH MONTH'S ACTUAL SERVICE WILL COUNT AS 2 MONTHS' PENSIONABLE SERVICE.

THIS SCHEME IS INTENDED TO OFFER AN INDUCEMENT TO SENIOR PRACTITIONERS WITH JUDICIAL AMBITIONS, BUT REMAIN DOUBTFUL OF THEIR SECURITY ON RETIREMENT.

- (IV) SIGNIFICANT NUMBERS OF LOCAL BARRISTERS AND SOLICITORS NOW SIT EVERY YEAR AS TEMPORARY MAGISTRATES. IF THEY ARE CONSIDERING APPLYING TO JOIN THE JUDICIARY PERMANENTLY, THIS ENABLES BOTH PARTIES TO ASSESS THEIR SUITABILITY AND LIKING FOR THE JOB. EVEN IF THEY DO NOT SEEK PERMANENT APPOINTMENT, THEIR PERIOD ON THE BENCH LEAVES THEM WITH A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF A MAGISTRATE'S PROBLEMS AND CONTRIBUTES TO A HEALTHY DIALOGUE BETWEEN BENCH AND PROFESSION.
- (V) IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE CHINESE LANGUAGES BE USED MORE WIDELY IN LEGAL PROCEEDINGS. THIS APPLIES TO ALL COURTS, BUT PARTICULARLY TO THE MAGISTRACY WHICH DEALS WITH BY FAR THE GREATEST NUMBER OF HONG KONG'S CITIZENS.

THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FORMER CHIEF JUSTICE'S WORKING PARTY ON THIS SUBJECT HAVE BEEN WELL RECEIVED, AND THEIR PRACTICAL APPLICATION IS BEING STUDIED. IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE PROPOSALS WILL BE EXPENSIVE AND DIFFICULT, BUT THEY FORM AN IMPORTANT PART OF HONG KONG'S FUTURE DEVELOPMENT.

BEFORE SIR TI LIANG CONCLUDED HIS ADDRESS, HE PAID TRIBUTE TO MR JUSTICE GARCIA WHO WOULD BE LEAVING THEM AFTER 28.5 YEARS WITH THE JUDICIARY.

"HE IS A FIRM JUDGE WHO KNOWS HONG KONG WELL, AND WE SHALL MISS HIM.

/"BUT THIS .....

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"BUT THIS CITY WILL CONTINUE TO BENEFIT FROM HIS PUBLIC - MINDEDNESS AS A COMMISSIONER FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINTS. WE WISH HIM WELL IN THIS IMPORTANT POST," HE SAID.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE SAID THAT BY ANY STANDARDS, HONG KONG MAY JUSTIFIABLY BE PROUD OF THE JUDICIARY WHICH HE HAD THE GREAT HONOUR TO HEAD.

"WE ARE FORTUNATE TO HAVE A JUDICIARY WHOSE COMPETENCE, INTEGRITY AND EFFICIENCY HAVE, OVER MANY DECADES, EARNED THE RESPECT AND CONFIDENCE NOT ONLY OF HONG KONG RESIDENTS BUT ALSO OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS WORLD."

HE SAID THAT THOSE WHO HAD FALLEN SHORT OF THE HIGH STANDARDS THAT THEY SET FOR THEMSELVES AND WERE EXPECTED OF THEM, WERE BUT EXCEPTIONS.

HE EMPHASISED THAT IN THE DISCHARGE OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITY SOME 153 JUDICIAL OFFICERS ALL DID THEIR WORK CONSCIENTIOUSLY AND QUIETLY, LARGELY UNNOTICED BY THE PUBLIC AND UNREPORTED BY THE PRESS.

"I NEED MAKE NO APOLOGY FOR SELF-CONGRATULATION, BECAUSE IT IS ONLY RIGHT THAT CREDIT BE GIVEN WHERE IT IS DUE."

AT THE END OF HIS ADDRESS, THE CHIEF JUSTICE EXPRESSED HIS MOST SINCERE GRATITUDE TO ALL THE JUDGES AND MAGISTRATES, TO THE REGISTRARS AND THE MASTERS, TO ALL THE PRESIDING OFFICERS AND CORONERS, AND TO ALL THE SUPPORTING STAFF IN THE JUDICIARY.

ALSO SPEAKING AT THE CEREMONY WERE THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, MR JEREMY MATHEWS; THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG BAR ASSOCIATION, MR ROBERT TANG; AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE LAW SOCIETY OF HONG KONG, MR SIMON IP.

THE CEREMONIAL OPENING OF THE LEGAL YEAR ORGANISED BY THE JUDICIARY WAS WELL ATTENDED BY JUDGES, MEMBERS OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION, HEADS OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER DIGNITARIES.

IT BEGAN WITH A CHURCH SERVICE AT ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH AT 4 PM, AT WHICH THE BISHOP OF HONG KONG, CARDINAL JOHN BAPTIST WU, OFFICIATED.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE INSPECTED A GUARD OF HONOUR PROVIDED BY THE DRAGON COMPANY OF THE HONG KONG MILITARY SERVICE CORPS WITH MUSIC BY THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S ROYAL REGIMENT AT EDINBURGH PLACE LATER IN THE AFTERNOON.

THE INSPECTION WAS FOLLOWED BY ADDRESSES IN THE CONCERT HALL OF CITY HALL WHICH FINISHED AT ABOUT 6 PM.

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AG OUTLINES LEGAL AGENDA FOR 1989

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THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, MR JEREMY MATHEWS, TODAY (MONDAY) SET OUT AN AGENDA OF REFORMS FOR A BETTER LEGAL SYSTEM IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

IN A WIDE-RANGING SPEECH AT THE OPENING OF THE 1989 LEGAL YEAR HELD AT THE CITY HALL, MR MATHEWS SAID: "WE ENTER 1989 WITH A FULL AGENDA, RECOGNISING THE NEED TO PRESERVE ALL THAT IS GOOD IN OUR LEGAL SYSTEM BUT KEENLY AWARE OF THE NEED TO INTRODUCE CHANGE WHERE NOT TO CHANGE WOULD RESULT IN THE LAW FAILING IN ITS SOCIAL PURPOSE OF SERVING THE COMMUNITY."

AT THE TOP OF HIS LIST FOR REFORM WAS THE NEED TO MAKE THE LEGAL SYSTEM MORE ACCESSIBLE TO THE COMMUNITY WHICH, HE BELIEVED, WOULD STRENGTHEN CONFIDENCE IN IT.

"GREATER USE OF CHINESE IN AT LEAST ALL COURTS OF FIRST INSTANCE MUST BE ACHIEVED IF ACCESS TO THE COURTS IS TO BE MADE EASIER FOR THE BULK OF THE COMMUNITY," HE SAID.

IT WAS IN RECOGNITION OF THIS NECESSITY THAT THE CHIEF JUSTICE HAD CONVENED A WORKING PARTY ON THE GREATER USE OF THE CHINESE LANGUAGE IN COURTS AND COURT PROCEEDINGS.

"BUT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORKING PARTY'S RECOMMENDATIONS WILL NOT BE WITHOUT DIFFICULTY," MR MATHEWS SAID.

"IT WILL REQUIRE RESOURCES BOTH HUMAN AND FINANCIAL AND CANNOT BE ACHIEVED OVERNIGHT."

ANOTHER VITAL STEP IN MAKING THE LAW ACCESSIBLE TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG WAS THE PRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION IN CHINESE, HE SAID.

REPORTING ON PROGRESS IN THIS AREA, MR MATHEWS SAID THAT, SHORTLY, ALL NEW LEGISLATION WOULD BE ENACTED IN BOTH CHINESE AND ENGLISH WITH BOTH TEXTS BEING EQUALLY AUTHENTIC.

IN PARALLEL WITH THIS, HIS CHAMBER'S LAW DRAFTING DIVISION WOULD ALSO BE PRODUCING AUTHENTIC CHINESE TEXTS OF HONG KONG'S VAST BODY OF EXISTING LEGISLATION.

"THE TASK WILL TAKE SOME YEARS TO COMPLETE, BUT, LIKE THE PROMOTION OF GREATER USE OF CHINESE IN THE COURTS, IT WILL OFFER US ALL A CHALLENGE AND A VISION OF A BETTER SYSTEM," HE SAID.

IN THE CHANGE TO BILINGUALISM, THE DEVELOPMENT OF LEGAL EDUCATION WAS GATHERING MOMENTUM, MR MATHEWS SAID.

TRAINING NEEDS IN LINGUISTIC ABILITIES WERE BEING PROVIDED AT THE TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS FOR HONG KONG'S FUTURE LAWYERS.

/IN ADDITION, .....

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IN ADDITION, THE LAW SOCIETY LAST YEAR FORMED A WORKING PARTY TO CONSIDER THE NECESSITY AND FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A COURSE ON THE USE OF CHINESE IN LAW FOR LEGAL PRACTITIONERS.

"THE INCREASED DIVERSITY OF LEGAL EDUCATION IN CHINESE IS HEALTHY AND ENCOURAGING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A BILINGUAL LEGAL SYSTEM," HE SAID.

ON THE DEPARTMENT'S LOCALISATION POLICY, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SAID: "THE OVERALL PHILOSOPHY IS TO CREATE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH LOCAL LAWYERS WILL BE ENCOURAGED, BY FAIRLY EARLY PROMOTION AND THE REALISTIC PROSPECT OF LONG-TERM CAREERS, TO STAY IN GOVERNMENT LEGAL SERVICE."

THE DEPARTMENT WAS NOW PUTTING INTO OPERATION ITS "DOUBLE-LADDER" PROMOTION SCHEME FOR LOCAL CROWN COUNSEL AIMED AT GIVING THOSE COUNSEL WITH ABILITY AND POTENTIAL THE GREATER BENEFITS AND HIGHER SALARY OF SENIOR CROWN COUNSEL.

THE NEXT STAGE OF THE EXERCISE WAS TO CONSIDER LOCALISATION MEASURES FOR THE DIRECTORATE RANKS.

MR MATHEWS SAID THAT WHILE THERE WAS A CLEAR NEED FOR DETERMINED MEASURES TOWARDS INCREASED LOCALISATION, CARE MUST BE TAKEN NOT TO DRIVE AWAY DEDICATED AND EXPERIENCED EXPATRIATES WHOSE SERVICES WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR MANY YEARS TO COME.

THE NEXT STAGE OF THE LOCALISATION EXERCISE WOULD ALSO BE CONSIDERING HOW THESE KEY EXPATRIATES MIGHT BE RETAINED.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SAID ANOTHER MAJOR TASK FACING HIS CHAMBERS AND, IN PARTICULAR, THE LAW DRAFTING DIVISION, WAS THE REPLACEMENT OF THOSE UNITED KINGDOM STATUTES WHICH APPLIED TO HONG KONG, AND FOR WHICH THERE WOULD BE A CONTINUING NEED AFTER 1997, WITH HONG KONG LEGISLATION.

PARTICULAR AREAS WHICH NEEDED TO BE TACKLED WERE IN THE FIELDS OF MERCHANT SHIPPING, CIVIL AVIATION, COPYRIGHT AND PATENTS.

MR MATHEWS SAID THE PROCESS OF REPLACEMENT OF LAWS HAD ALREADY STARTED. THE SUPREME COURT (AMENDMENT) BILL ON ADMIRALTY JURISDICTION WOULD BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON JANUARY 11.

THE ENORMOUS TASK OF LOCALISING SHIPPING LAW WAS WELL ADVANCED AND WORK ON THE OTHER IMPORTANT SUBJECTS WAS ALSO MAKING GOOD PROGRESS, HE SAID.

TURNING TO THE PROSECUTION OF CRIME, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SAID THAT WHILE THIS WAS A MAJOR AREA OF WORK IN HIS CHAMBERS, MUCH OF THIS WAS BRIEFED OUT IN THE DISTRICT COURT AND THE MAGISTRACY TO LAWYERS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

/"AT PRESENT, .....

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"AT PRESENT, SUCH BRIEFING OUT IS LIMITED TO THOSE CASES WHERE MANPOWER IS SHORT AND WHERE OTHERWISE THE CASE DEMONSTRATES A NEED FOR OUTSIDE SERVICES," HE SAID.

IN 1987, 833 CASES WERE UNDERTAKEN BY THE BAR, RISING TO 1,248 LAST YEAR.

IN ADDITION, COUNSEL WERE BRIEFED ON A DAILY BASIS IN THE MAGISTRACIES FOR 1,900 DAYS IN 1987 AND 3,703 LAST YEAR.

"THERE MAY BE JUSTIFICATION FOR GOING BEYOND THE LIMITS OF STRICT NEED," MR MATHEWS SAID.

"IT IS BY NO MEANS NECESSARY NOR DESIRABLE THAT THE PROSECUTION OF CRIME AND THE PROTECTION OF THE PUBLIC INTEREST SHOULD ALWAYS BE IN THE HANDS OF LAWYERS IN GOVERNMENT SERVICE.

"I BELIEVE THAT A CASE CAN BE MADE, IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST, FOR SOME CASES TO BE BRIEFED OUT BEYOND THE BOUNDARY OF STRICT NEED."

HOWEVER, HE SAID, THIS MUST BE BALANCED AGAINST THE NEED TO MAINTAIN PROSECUTING SKILLS WITHIN CHAMBERS.

ALSO, THERE WERE MANY TASKS THAT GOVERNMENT LAWYERS PERFORMED FOR WHICH THERE WAS LITTLE OR NO EQUIVALENT IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND THERE WERE MATTERS WHICH COULD NOT BE BRIEFED OUT.

MOREOVER, WORK AT ALL LEVELS MUST BE DONE IN-HOUSE TO PROVIDE EXPERIENCE FOR NEWLY QUALIFIED LAWYERS JOINING THE CHAMBERS.

ON MANPOWER, MR MATHEWS SAID CONCERN HAD BEEN EXPRESSED THAT THERE WAS A NEED FOR MORE LAWYERS IN HONG KONG.

HE SAID THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON LEGAL EDUCATION, WITH THE HELP OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, WAS CURRENTLY CONDUCTING A SURVEY OF THE PROFESSION AS A WHOLE.

IT WAS HOPED THE SURVEY COULD BE COMPLETED IN APRIL. "THIS WILL ASSIST GREATLY IN DETERMINING THE SIZE AND STRUCTURE OF FUTURE LEGAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS AT BOTH GRADUATE AND POST-GRADUATE LEVEL," HE SAID.

TURNING TO THE AREA OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE, MR MATHEWS SAID HONG KONG HAD NOT MOVED WITH THE TIMES AND THERE MUST BE CHANGE.

FORMS, PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES LAID DOWN IN 19TH CENTURY ENGLAND WERE STILL BEING RELIED ON ALTHOUGH SOME OF THESE PROVISIONS WERE OBSCURE AND OTHERS WERE QUITE IRRELEVANT TO MODERN NEEDS, HE SAID.

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A WORKING PARTY COMPRISING REPRESENTATIVES OF THE JUDICIARY AND HIS CHAMBERS HAD BEEN WORKING TOWARDS REFORM IN THIS AREA.

THE GROUP HAD PRODUCED A REPORT RECOMMENDING THE ABOLITION OF THE ANCIENT DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN FELONIES AND MISDEMEANOURS, A PROPOSAL ENDORSED BY THE BAR ASSOCIATION AND THE LAW SOCIETY.

MR MATHEWS SAID HE EXPECTED TO SEE LEGISLATION TO IMPLEMENT THIS PROPOSAL INTRODUCED IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

THE SAME WORKING PARTY WAS ALSO LOOKING AT THE MAGISTRATES ORDINANCE WITH A VIEW TO ESTABLISHING A NEW MAGISTRATES COURT AND SIMPLIFYING AND MODERNISING PROCEDURES.

HE SAID THE LAW SOCIETY, THE BAR ASSOCIATION AND THE FACULTY OF LAW AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG WERE BEING CONSULTED ON A NEW AND SIMPLE PROCEDURE FOR THE COMMENCEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS TO REPLACE THE EIGHT EXISTING PROCEDURES.

ON THE WORK OF THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION, MR MATHEWS SAID THREE TOPICS WERE REFERRED TO THE COMMISSION FOR CONSIDERATION LAST YEAR.

TWO WERE CONCERNED DIRECTLY WITH FREEDOM OF THE INDIVIDUAL AND THE POWERS THE LAW GAVE TO POLICE OFFICERS AND OTHER PUBLIC OFFICERS THAT AFFECTED THAT FREEDOM.

THESE CONCERNED THE OFFENCE OF LOITERING AND THE LAWS RELATING TO POWERS OF STOP, SEARCH, SEIZURE, ARREST AND DETENTION.

HE SAID HE EXPECTED THE REPORT ON LOITERING TO BE PUBLISHED TOWARDS THE END OF THIS YEAR AND THE REPORT OF POWERS OF ARREST TO BE COMPLETED ABOUT THE END OF NEXT YEAR.

THE THIRD REFERENCE TO THE COMMISSION AROSE FROM A RECOMMENDATION CONTAINED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL'S SELECT COMMITTEE REPORT ON COMPLEX COMMERCIAL CRIMES.

THE COMMISSION WOULD CONSIDER WHETHER HONG KONG SHOULD HAVE A SUBSTANTIVE OFFENCE OF FRAUD AS EXISTED IN CERTAIN COMMON LAW JURISDICTIONS.

A SUB-COMMITTEE WAS AT WORK ON THIS TOPIC AND WAS EXPECTED TO PRESENT ITS REPORT TO THE COMMISSION THIS YEAR.

MR MATHEWS ADDED THAT LATER THIS YEAR HE EXPECTED THE COMMISSION WOULD BE ASKED TO CONSIDER, AMONG OTHER MATTERS, THE CODIFICATION OF THE GENERAL PART OF THE CRIMINAL LAW.

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GOVERNOR PRAISES ROLE OF HK INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

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THE SPECTACULAR GROWTH OF THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL HAS PARALLELED, AND SUPPORTED, THE GROWTH OF HONG KONG ITSELF DURING THE PAST TWO DECADES, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SIR DAVID WAS SPEAKING AT THE DEDICATION CEREMONY OF THE NEW EXTENSION OF THE SCHOOL - AN EXTENSION WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS SYMBOLISING THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY'S CONFIDENCE IN THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG.

"AS OUR ECONOMY HAS DEVELOPED, SO THE NUMBER OF COMPANIES AND INDIVIDUALS COMING HERE HAS INCREASED," THE GOVERNOR SAID.

"WE WELCOME THIS. AND, AS HONG KONG MOVES TOWARDS THE NEXT CENTURY AND ITS NEW STATUS, IT WILL CONTINUE TO NEED AND, I AM SURE, TO WELCOME OVERSEAS PARTICIPATION IN ITS ECONOMY AND IN ITS COMMUNITY."

SIR DAVID NOTED THAT SUITABLE SCHOOLING WAS AN IMPORTANT FACTOR FOR FAMILIES PLANNING TO MOVE TO HONG KONG.

"THERE WILL BE A CONTINUING NEED FOR SCHOOLS, LIKE THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, WHICH PROVIDE AN EDUCATION SYSTEM DIFFERENT FROM THE HONG KONG ONE," HE SAID.

"THEY MAKE AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO OUR DYNAMIC AND DIVERSE COMMUNITY."

SIR DAVID SAID IT WAS NOW 25 YEARS SINCE A FAR-SIGHTED GROUP IN THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY TOOK THE BOLD STEP OF PLANNING A SCHOOL IN HONG KONG TO PROVIDE HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION ON AMERICAN LINES.

FROM THE START THE PROJECT HAD THE SUPPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT, WHICH HAD PROVIDED THE INITIAL SITE IN REPULSE BAY, AND SUBSEQUENTLY TWO MORE SITES INCLUDING THE ONE ON WHICH THE NEW CAMPUS HAD BEEN BUILT.

"HAVING STARTED WITH ONLY 185 STUDENTS IN 1966, WITH THESE NEW BUILDINGS THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL WILL NOW HAVE A TOTAL CAPACITY OF OVER 2,000 PLACES," HE SAID.

IN PLAYING TRIBUTE TO THE WORK OF THE SCHOOL'S BOARD AND STAFF, THE GOVERNOR SAID THAT THOUGH THE SCHOOL ADOPTED AN AMERICAN CURRICULUM IT HAD AN IMPRESSIVELY INTERNATIONAL OUTLOOK.

"SOME 40 COUNTRIES ARE REPRESENTED IN THE STUDENT BODY, ABOUT 40 PER CENT OF STUDENTS ARE NOT UNITED STATES NATIONALS. ONE STUDENT IN 10 IS FROM A HONG KONG FAMILY," SIR DAVID SAID.

"IT IS CLEAR THAT THOSE WHO STUDY HERE WILL GAIN INVALUABLE, AND PRACTICAL, EXPERIENCE IN INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION.

"THAT CAN ONLY BE GOOD FOR THEM AND FOR HONG KONG."

LORD GLENARTHUR VISITS HK CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE

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THE MINISTER OF STATE AT THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR HONG KONG, LORD GLENARTHUR, TODAY (MONDAY) VISITED THE TERRITORY'S NEWEST LANDMARK, THE HONG KONG CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE OF THE TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL.

HE WAS MET ON ARRIVAL AT THE MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR COMPLEX BY THE TDC CHAIRMAN, DAME LYDIA DUNN.

LORD GLENARTHUR WAS BRIEFED ON THE NUMEROUS FACILITIES AND SERVICES PROVIDED IN THE CENTRE WHICH INCLUDE A TOTAL OF 18,000 SQUARE METRES OF EXHIBITION SPACE IN TWO HALLS, THE MAIN CONVENTION HALL ACCOMMODATING UP TO 2,600 DELEGATES, AND NUMEROUS MEETING ROOMS AND PRE-FUNCTION AREAS.

THERE ARE ALSO TWO THEATRES EQUIPPED WITH ADVANCED AUDIO-VISUAL EQUIPMENT, RESTAURANTS AND VARIOUS OTHER SERVICES.

THE COMPLEX WILL ALSO HOUSE TWO MAJOR HOTELS WITH NEARLY 1,500 ROOMS WHEN FULLY COMPLETED.

LORD GLENARTHUR LATER TOURED THE CENTRE AND SAW ITS VARIOUS FACILITIES.

BEFORE DEPARTURE, HE TOLD REPORTERS THAT HE FOUND THE FACILITIES OF THE CENTRE MOST IMPRESSIVE AND TRULY MAGNIFICENT. HE PAID TRIBUTE TO ALL THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN THE BUILDING OF THE CENTRE.

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CO-OPERATION NECESSARY IN REGULATING FINANCIAL MARKETS

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THE GOVERNMENT NEEDS THE CO-OPERATION OF PEOPLE IN THE MARKET PLACE IF HONG KONG'S FINANCIAL MARKETS ARE TO CONTINUE TO THRIVE, THE SECRETARY FOR MONETARY AFFAIRS, MR DAVID NENDICK, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE "FINANCE IN PRACTICE" SEMINAR ORGANISED BY THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STUDENTS IN ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AT THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

MR NENDICK STRESSED THAT IN PREPARING FOR THE SETTING UP OF THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION (SFC), THE GOVERNMENT HAD MADE EVERY EFFORT TO STRIKE THE RIGHT BALANCE.

/ "WE ARE .....

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"WE ARE FULLY CONSCIOUS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF STRIKING THE RIGHT BALANCE BETWEEN THE AVAILABILITY OF ADEQUATE POWERS TO COMBAT FRAUD AND MARKET ABUSES AND THE NEED TO PRESERVE CIVIL LIBERTIES; AND BETWEEN ENCOURAGING THE GROWTH OF MARKETS AND ENSURING THAT THEY DO NOT GET OUT OF CONTROL," HE SAID.

"A DRAFT BILL ESTABLISHING THE COMMISSION'S CONSTITUTION, FUNCTIONS, DUTIES AND POWERS HAS NOW BEEN FINALISED AND THE ADVICE OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IS TO BE SOUGHT SHORTLY."

MR NENDICK SAID THAT VARIOUS MARKET ORGANISATIONS, PROFESSIONAL BODIES AND ADVISORY COMMITTEES HAD BEEN CONSULTED AND THEIR VIEWS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN FINALISING THE BILL.

"UNFORTUNATELY, SOME PEOPLE BELIEVED, WRONGLY, THAT GOVERNMENT HAD ALREADY MADE UP ITS MIND ON THE MAJOR ISSUES AND THAT CONSULTATION WAS THEREFORE A MERE SHAM," HE SAID.

"LET ME ONCE AGAIN STRESS THAT THE CONSULTATION PROCESS HAS BEEN A GENUINE ONE AND THAT SIGNIFICANT MODIFICATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE TO A NUMBER OF PROPOSALS, IN PARTICULAR WHERE THE POWERS SOUGHT FOR THE NEW COMMISSION WERE PERCEIVED AS TOO DRACONIAN."

ON THE COMMISSION'S FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS, MR NENDICK POINTED OUT THAT IN DRAWING UP THE PROPOSALS THE GOVERNMENT HAD KEPT TWO PRINCIPLES FIRMLY IN MIND.

"FIRST, THAT OVER THE LONGER TERM MOST OF THE FUNDING SHOULD COME FROM THE MARKET BUT WITH A CONTINUING CONTRIBUTION FROM GOVERNMENT - THIS IS IN LINE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECURITIES REVIEW COMMITTEE," HE SAID.

"SECONDLY, THAT OVERALL TRANSACTION COSTS, WHICH DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY WILL FALL TO BE MET BY INVESTORS, SHOULD NOT RESULT IN HONG KONG'S MARKETS BECOMING UNCOMPETITIVE WITH THOSE IN OTHER MAJOR CENTRES BOTH IN THE REGION AND WORLDWIDE."

THE COMMISSION'S ANNUAL BUDGET WOULD NEED TO BE APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR, AFTER SCRUTINY BY THE ADMINISTRATION, AND THE DIRECTOR OF AUDIT WOULD HAVE ACCESS TO THE COMMISSION'S BOOKS WHENEVER HE SO REQUIRED, HE EXPLAINED.

"THE COMMISSION WILL ALSO HAVE TO SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT AND THIS, TOGETHER WITH ITS ANNUAL ACCOUNTS, WILL BE TABLED AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL," MR NENDICK SAID.

"FINANCE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO NEED TO APPROVE EACH YEAR THE PROPOSED GRANT FROM GOVERNMENT."

/"TAKING ALL .....

"TAKING ALL THESE FACTORS INTO ACCOUNT, I BELIEVE THAT THERE WILL BE ADEQUATE PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY AND THAT FEARS THAT THE COMMISSION WILL, IN EFFECT, BE ABLE TO DETERMINE ITS OWN LEVEL OF EXPENDITURE AND THUS BE TEMPTED TO EMPIRE-BUILD OR INDULGE IN OVER-REGULATION WILL PROVE UNFOUNDED.

"IF EVERYTHING GOES WELL, AS I HOPE IT WILL, THE BILL WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN A FEW WEEKS TIME AND WE CAN EXPECT THE NEW COMMISSION TO BE FULLY OPERATIONAL IN THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR."

MR NENDICK ALSO TOUCHED ON THE PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECURITIES REVIEW COMMITTEE (SRC).

HE NOTED THAT THE STOCK EXCHANGE, TO ITS GREAT CREDIT, PROMPTLY ACCEPTED THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE SRC REPORT AND TOOK THE INITIATIVE IN AMENDING ITS CONSTITUTION.

AS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW CENTRAL CLEARING AND SETTLEMENT SYSTEM TO REPLACE THE EXISTING SYSTEM FOR STOCK TRANSACTIONS, MR NENDICK SAID THE STOCK EXCHANGE AND OTHER PARTIES INVOLVED WERE NOW ACTIVELY WORKING ON THE DETAILED DESIGN OF THE NEW SYSTEM.

"WITH REGARD TO THE FUTURES EXCHANGE, I AM GLAD TO SAY THAT ACTIVE STEPS ARE BEING TAKEN BY THE EXCHANGE TO AMEND ITS CONSTITUTION," HE SAID.

HE SAID THE EXCHANGE WAS ALSO IN AN ADVANCED STAGE OF IMPLEMENTING A NEW CLEARING AND RISK MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IN LINE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE SRC.

"IT MAY BE NOTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS LEFT THE INITIATIVE FOR THIS TO THE FUTURES EXCHANGE ITSELF," HE SAID.

"I SEE THIS AS RIGHT AND PROPER, FOR A FUTURES MARKET CAN ONLY CONTINUE IN HONG KONG IF THERE ARE THOSE PREPARED OVER THE LONG TERM TO COMMIT CAPITAL TO THE MARKET ADEQUATE TO SUPPORT THE RISKS INVOLVED."

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HONG KONG/BRUNEI AIR SERVICES AGREEMENT SIGNED

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AN AIR SERVICES AGREEMENT (ASA) BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF HONG KONG AND THE GOVERNMENT OF BRUNEI WAS SIGNED IN HONG KONG TODAY (MONDAY).

THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MRS ANSON CHAN, SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT OF HONG KONG UNDER THE AUTHORISATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM GOVERNMENT AND THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS, YANG BERBAHAGIA DATO SERI LAILA JASA AWANG HAJI ZAKARIA BIN DATU MAHAWANGSA HAJI SULAIMAN, SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT OF BRUNEI.

SIGNATURE OF THE ASA FOLLOWS DISCUSSION DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS BETWEEN UK AND BRUNEIAN DELEGATIONS AT WHICH PROVISIONAL AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON THE TEXT.

HONG KONG REPRESENTATIVES WERE INCLUDED IN THE UK DELEGATION AT THOSE TALKS.

THE HONG KONG/BRUNEI ASA IS THE FOURTH SUCH AGREEMENT DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION IN MIND.

THE ASA, WHICH PROVIDES FOR SCHEDULED SERVICES BY THE DESIGNATED AIRLINES OF THE TWO SIDES, ENTERS INTO FORCE UPON SIGNATURE.

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SEVERAL GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS ANNOUNCED

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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY (MONDAY) THAT MR PETER NG WILL TAKE OVER AS COMMISSIONER FOR TELEVISION AND ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING FROM WEDNESDAY (JANUARY 11).

MR NG PREVIOUSLY HELD THE POST OF DEPUTY REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION.

MR DARWIN CHEN WILL TAKE UP A NEW POST OF DEPUTY SECRETARY IN THE GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT WITH EFFECT FROM THE SAME DAY.

MEANWHILE, MR LEO KWAN HAS TAKEN UP THE OFFICE OF DEPUTY REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION TODAY (MONDAY) TO SUCCEED MR PETER NG.

/IN NOVEMBER 1987, .....

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IN NOVEMBER 1987, MR KWAN WAS APPOINTED DEPUTY REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES (SPECIAL DUTIES) RESPONSIBLE FOR CO-ORDINATING ALL GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL SCHEME.

IN HIS NEW OFFICE, MR KWAN WILL CONTINUE TO CHAIR THE LIVESTOCK WASTE DISPOSAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE WHICH SERVES AS A FORMAL COMMUNICATION CHANNEL BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND LIVESTOCK FARMERS.

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MARINE DEPARTMENT TO INVESTIGATE SHIP FIRE

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THE MARINE DEPARTMENT WILL INVESTIGATE THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE FIRE WHICH BROKE OUT ON BOARD THE "LAVIA" ON SATURDAY (JANUARY 7) EVENING.

THE INVESTIGATION WAS ORDERED BY THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE, MR DERICK HALL, FOLLOWING AN INSPECTION VISIT WITH SENIOR MARINE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS TO THE 12,000-TONNE PASSENGER VESSEL OFF KAU YI CHAU THIS (MONDAY) MORNING.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID AN INVESTIGATION WAS NECESSARY IN VIEW OF THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE FIRE WHICH THREATENED THE SAFETY OF THE PORT.

"ACTION WILL BE TAKEN SHOULD ANY IRREGULARITIES BE FOUND IN CONNECTION WITH THE FIRE," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE DEPARTMENT'S PORT COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE WAS INFORMED OF THE FIRE ON BOARD THE PANAMANIAN-REGISTERED VESSEL AT ABOUT 6 PM ON SATURDAY (JANUARY 7). THE CENTRE IMMEDIATELY INFORMED THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

OWING TO THE THREAT TO THE SAFETY OF THE PORT POSED BY THE FIRE, THE MARINE DEPARTMENT DECIDED TO BEACH THE VESSEL OFF KAU YI CHAU LATER IN THE EVENING, THE SPOKEMAN SAID.

THE DEPARTMENT SUBSEQUENTLY MADE ALL THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS AND THE VESSEL WAS SUCCESSFULLY BEACHED ON A SHALLOW PATCH OFF KAU YI CHAU THE SAME EVENING TO FACILITATE FIRE-FIGHTING OPERATIONS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE VESSEL HAD BEEN LAID UP IN HONG KONG FOR REPAIR AND RENOVATION WORK SINCE OCTOBER 1982.

REGULAR INSPECTIONS, AT AN INTERVAL OF ONCE OR TWICE A MONTH, WERE CARRIED OUT BY THE MARINE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY SECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT.

THE VESSEL WAS LAST INSPECTED ON DECEMBER 30 LAST YEAR AND THE WORK WAS FOUND IN COMPLIANCE WITH MARINE DEPARTMENT REQUIREMENTS, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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POLICE TALK ON TRIAD EXTORTION AND CRIME PREVENTION

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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE URGED TO REPORT TO THE POLICE PROMPTLY OR CALL THE '999' DIRECT WHEN APPROACHED BY UNRULY OR TRIAD ELEMENTS FOR MONEY, ESPECIALLY DURING THE FORTHCOMING FESTIVE SEASON.

THE APPEAL WAS MADE TODAY (MONDAY) BY SENIOR INSPECTOR HONG SHING OF THE ANTI-TRIAD SECTION, KOWLOON CITY POLICE DISTRICT, DURING A TALK ON TRIAD EXTORTION AND CRIME PREVENTION WHICH WAS ATTENDED BY ABOUT 100 SHOP OPERATORS FROM WHAMPOA GARDEN.

ORGANISED BY THE KOWLOON CITY POLICE DIVISION AND THE WHAMPOA GARDEN ESTATE MANAGEMENT, THE TALK WAS HELD IN THE LIGHT OF SEVERAL COMPLAINTS RECEIVED RECENTLY BY THE POLICE CONCERNING SHOP THEFT AND EXTORTION.

SENIOR INSPECTOR HONG POINTED OUT THAT ILLICIT ACTIVITIES BY THE LOCAL 'SUN YEE ON' TRIADS MAINLY CENTRED AROUND ILLEGAL QUEUEING FOR FLATS ON SALE, AND EXTORTION FROM SHOP OPERATORS FROM WHAMPOA GARDEN THROUGH DIFFERENT DEVIOUS MEANS.

"UNRULY ELEMENTS, WHO CLAIMED TO BE TRIAD MEMBERS, OFTEN APPROACH SHOP OPERATORS FOR PROTECTION FEES," MR HONG SAID, "AND THOSE WHO FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THEIR DEMANDS WILL BE INTIMIDATED."

ANOTHER POPULAR METHOD USED BY TRIADS, MR HONG ADDED, WAS TO FORCE SHOP OPERATORS TO PURCHASE AT A HIGH PRICE PLANTS, SUCH AS TANGERINES, DURING THE FESTIVE SEASON.

"USUALLY THE TRIADS WILL PLACE A POT OF TANGERINES OUTSIDE THE SHOP, AND COME BACK A FEW DAYS LATER TO ASK FOR MONEY RANGING FROM \$200 TO \$500. FAILURE TO PAY UP WILL ALSO RESULT IN INTIMIDATION."

"UNLESS THE PUBLIC COME FORWARD AND REPORT TO THE POLICE, THERE IS LITTLE THAT WE COULD DO TO STOP THE MALPRACTICE," SAID MR HONG WHILE CITING A RECENT SUCCESSFUL CASE IN WHICH A MAN WAS SUBSEQUENTLY ARRESTED AND FINED \$1,500 BY THE COURT FOR BLACKMAILING A MEDICINE SHOP OPERATOR.

MR HONG ALSO URGED SHOP OPERATORS TO TAKE HEED OF A NOVICE MEANS USED BY TRIADS IN EXTORTION - THROUGH THE SALE OF BANQUET TICKETS.

"THE TRIAD WILL FIRST MAKE BOOKINGS FOR SPRING GATHERINGS FROM A LOCAL RESTAURANT, AND THEN SELL THE TICKETS AT EXORBITANT PRICE."

HE REITERATED THAT PUBLIC CO-OPERATION WAS MOST ESSENTIAL IN THE SUCCESSFUL DETECTION OF BLACKMAILS AND INTIMIDATIONS.

MEANWHILE, ADVICE ON CRIME PREVENTION, PARTICULARLY FOR SHOP OPERATORS, WERE ALSO GIVEN DURING THE TALK BY STATION SERGEANT AU WING-LIN OF THE CRIME PREVENTION BUREAU.

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TRAINING COURSE FOR PRIVATE ELDERLY HOME HEALTH WORKERS STARTS  
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A TRAINING COURSE SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR HEALTH WORKERS WORKING IN PRIVATE HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY COMMENCED TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE (FAMILY WELFARE), MR ALFRED CHUI WING-MAN, SAID THE TRAINING SECTION OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN ORGANISING REGULAR TRAINING COURSES FOR PERSONNEL ENGAGED IN SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY IN BOTH THE SUBVENTED AND PRIVATE SECTORS.

"THE COURSES ARE DESIGNED TO MEET THE VARIOUS NEEDS OF THE STAFF CONCERNED, AND ARE WELL PATRONISED," MR CHUI SAID.

"HOWEVER, THE NATURE AND TRAINING OF THIS PARTICULAR COURSE ARE DIFFERENT FROM THE PREVIOUS ONES AS ALL THE PARTICIPANTS HAVE RECEIVED RELEVANT TRAINING OUTSIDE HONG KONG, AND MOST OF THEM ARE WORKING IN PRIVATE HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY," MR CHUI SAID.

ALSO ATTENDING THE OPENING CEREMONY THIS MORNING WERE THE PRESIDENT OF THE HONG KONG NURSES ASSOCIATION AND HONG KONG COLLEGE OF NURSING, MISS PAULA CHOY; CHAIRMAN OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE HONG KONG NURSES ASSOCIATION AND HONG KONG COLLEGE OF NURSING, MISS SUSIE LUM SHUN-SUI; AND COURSE CO-ORDINATOR, MISS SUEN SUK-BING.

JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, THE PART-TIME DAY RELEASE COURSE AIMS AT IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF SERVICE GIVEN BY PERSONNEL SERVING IN PRIVATE HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY.

DURING THE NEXT THREE MONTHS, PARTICIPANTS WILL LEARN THE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS IN LOOKING AFTER THE ELDERLY, THE PSYCHOLOGICAL AND PHYSICAL CHANGES OF THE ELDERLY, INTER-PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP AND THE BASIC PRINCIPLES IN RUNNING A HOME FOR THE ELDERLY.

THE PARTICIPANTS WOULD BE AWARDED A CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE ON COMPLETION OF THE COURSE AND PASSING AN EXAMINATION.

MEANWHILE, THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT HAS ISSUED THE FIRST BATCH OF REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES TO THREE PRIVATE HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY WHICH HAVE MET THE REGISTRATION STANDARDS.

MORE CERTIFICATES WILL BE ISSUED TO OPERATORS WHOSE APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN PROCESSED AND HAVE REACHED THE REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS.

OPERATORS OF PRIVATE HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY WHO WISH TO JOIN THE VOLUNTARY REGISTRATION SCHEME CAN WRITE TO THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S REGISTRATION OFFICE OF PRIVATE HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY ON THE 21ST FLOOR, WORLD TRADE CENTRE, 280 GLOUCESTER ROAD, HONG KONG OR TELEPHONE 5-773942.

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DIAMOND HILL CLEARANCE ON DB AGENDA

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MEMBERS OF THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD WILL BE INFORMED AT THEIR MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY) OF THE LATEST DEVELOPMENT IN THE PHASE III DIAMOND HILL CLEARANCE PROGRAMME FOR TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL.

THE PHASE III CLEARANCE IS SCHEDULED TO BE CARRIED OUT IN THREE OPERATIONS ON JANUARY 18, 19 AND 25 RESPECTIVELY.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE HOUSING AUTHORITY'S EARLIER DECISION NOT TO OPEN URBAN TRANSIT CENTRES AS TEMPORARY SHELTERS FOR SQUATTER FIRE VICTIMS AND REHOUSING ARRANGEMENTS FOR FIRE VICTIMS IN SQUATTER AREAS WHERE CLEARANCE HAS BEEN CANCELLED.

THEY WILL DISCUSS A PROPOSAL MADE BY A DB MEMBER, MR NG NGOK-SHING, THAT UNISESSIONAL PRIMARY SCHOOLING SHOULD BE PROMOTED IN WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT.

IN ADDITION, MEMBERS WILL CONSIDER A REPLY FROM THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT ON THE TAXI FARE INCREASE ISSUE AND SOME TAXI DRIVERS' MALPRACTICE OF REFUSING PASSENGERS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE FUNG MING HALL OF THE SIK SIK YUEN IN WONG TAI SIN TEMPLE. IT WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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COMMUNITY FACILITIES ON NORTH DB COMMITTEE AGENDA

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MEMBERS OF THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE WILL MEET TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO CONSIDER VARIOUS PROPOSED COMMUNITY FACILITIES AS PART OF THE DISTRICT'S DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME.

THEY WILL EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS, IN PARTICULAR, ON THOSE PROJECTS WHICH ARE DUE TO BE UNDERTAKEN WITHIN THE 1989-90 FINANCIAL YEAR.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO CONSIDER CONSTRUCTING A FOOTBRIDGE AT SING PING SUN TSUEN IN TA KWU LING AND IMPROVING A VAN TRACK AT ON PO VILLAGE IN SHEUNG SHUI.

/OTHER ITEMS .....

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OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE SITUATION REPORTS ON LOCAL PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS, AND MINOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT AND SQUATTER AREA IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AS WELL AS THE VILLAGE LIGHTING PROGRAMME.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE TO BEGIN AT 9.30 AM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE, JOCKEY CLUB ROAD, FANLING.

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KWAI TSING DB COMMITTEE TO MEET TOMORROW

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A WORKING GROUP UNDER KWAI TSING DISTRICT BOARD'S ARTS AND CULTURE COMMITTEE WILL REPORT THE PROGRESS OF THEIR LOBBYING TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR SETTING UP A CIVIC CENTRE IN THE DISTRICT AT THE COMMITTEE'S MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

OTHER WORKING GROUPS OF THE COMMITTEE WILL REPORT ON THE PROGRESS OF THE DISTRICT'S SECOND ARTS FESTIVAL AND THE LUNAR NEW YEAR LANTERN FESTIVAL.

THE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO DRAW UP THE CRITERIA FOR GRANTING DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS FOR ORGANISING ARTS ACTIVITIES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT BOARD'S ARTS AND CULTURE COMMITTEE WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 2.15 PM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM, 10TH FLOOR, KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, KWAI CHUNG.

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NEW PARKING METERS TO BE TESTED IN WAN CHAI

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THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS AT A MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY) A PAPER PREPARED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ON A FIELD TEST OF ELECTRONIC PARKING METERS TO BE CONDUCTED IN THE DISTRICT EARLY THIS YEAR.

THE NEW METERS, WHICH ARE POWERED BY BATTERIES LASTING ABOUT A YEAR, WILL BE INSTALLED IN LOCKHART ROAD FOR 12 MONTHS TO TEST WHETHER THEY ARE SUITABLE TO THE LOCAL OPERATING ENVIRONMENT.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS A WRITTEN QUESTION ON THE TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS ALONG GLOUCESTER ROAD EASTBOUND NEAR CHINA RESOURCES BUILDING.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD'S TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE TO BE HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE, EIGHTH FLOOR, TUNG WAH MANSION, 201 HENNESSY ROAD, BEGINNING AT 4 PM TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

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AMUSEMENT GAMES CENTRES ON AGENDA

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MEMBERS OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD'S RECREATION, SPORTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE WILL EXPRESS VIEWS ON THE POLICY AND CRITERIA FOR GRANTING LICENCES FOR AMUSEMENT GAMES CENTRES AT A MEETING ON WEDNESDAY (JANUARY 11).

MEMBERS WILL ALSO GIVE VIEWS ON PROJECTS TO PROVIDE RECREATION, SPORTS AND CULTURAL FACILITIES UNDER THE TAI PO NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME.

IN ADDITION, REPORTS ON COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES PLANNED BY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS FOR TAI PO THIS MONTH AND NEXT MONTH WILL BE TABLED FOR COMMENT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING TO BE HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF TAI PO COMMERCIAL CENTRE, 152 KWONG FUK ROAD ON WEDNESDAY. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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DB WORKING GROUP TO DISCUSS STOPPAGE OF IRRIGATION SUPPLY

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THE WORKING GROUP ON AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD WILL MEET ON WEDNESDAY (JANUARY 11) TO DISCUSS THE DISCONNECTION OF THE IRRIGATION SUPPLY TO WAI TAU, LAM TSUEN.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO CONTINUE TO DISCUSS IMPROVEMENT TO THE FACILITIES OF MARICULTURE ZONES IN TAI PO AND THE PROPOSED DESIGNATION OF A NEW MARICULTURE ZONE IN THE DISTRICT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD'S AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES WORKING GROUP TO BE HELD IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF TAI PO COMMERCIAL CENTRE, 152 KWONG FUK ROAD ON WEDNESDAY (JANUARY 11). THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 10 AM.

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SECOND TAI PO FESTIVAL TO OPEN ON SATURDAY

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THE SECOND TAI PO FESTIVAL WILL BEGIN ON SATURDAY (JANUARY 14) WITH A SWITCHING-ON CEREMONY OF FESTIVE LIGHTING ON KWONG FUK BRIDGE.

THIS YEAR'S FESTIVAL, WITH NEARLY 60 COLOURFUL AND ENTERTAINING ACTIVITIES, WILL LAST UNTIL FEBRUARY 20.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SECOND TAI PO FESTIVAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, MR HO YUNG-SANG, SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THAT THE TRIENNIAL EVENT WAS AIMED AT FOSTERING A SENSE OF BELONGING AMONG TAI PO RESIDENTS AND CULTIVATING A FESTIVE ATMOSPHERE IN THE DISTRICT DURING THE LUNAR NEW YEAR PERIOD.

THE FESTIVAL WOULD ALSO HELP PROMOTE THE IDENTITY OF TAI PO, HE ADDED.

"DURING THE FESTIVAL, ACTIVITIES WILL BE HELD THROUGHOUT TAI PO AND SAI KUNG NORTH TO ALLOW AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE JOIN IN," MR HO POINTED OUT.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FESTIVAL INCLUDE THE SWITCHING-ON CEREMONY ON KWONG FUK BRIDGE ON SATURDAY TO MARK THE FESTIVAL'S OPENING, A BANQUET FOR ABOUT 1,400 ELDERLY PEOPLE AND A PERFORMANCE BY AN ARTS TROUPE FROM JIANGSU.

/OTHER ACTIVITIES .....

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OTHER ACTIVITIES INCLUDE SPORTS COMPETITIONS, MUSIC AND CULTURAL PERFORMANCES, TRADITIONAL ACTIVITIES TO CELEBRATE THE LUNAR NEW YEAR, DRAWING AND COLOURING CONTESTS FOR CHILDREN, AND A PHOTOGRAPH COMPETITION AND EXHIBITION.

THERE WILL ALSO BE GALA AND CARNIVAL EVENTS TO BE STAGED IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES AND VILLAGES.

THE SECOND TAI PO FESTIVAL IS ORGANISED BY THE SECOND TAI PO FESTIVAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE AND CO-SPONSORED BY THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD AND THE REGIONAL COUNCIL.

THE ESTIMATED COST FOR THE FESTIVAL IS ABOUT \$800,000, OF WHICH \$250,000 WILL BE SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD, \$160,000 BY THE REGIONAL COUNCIL AND THE REST DONATED BY PRIVATE FIRMS, LOCAL BODIES AND INDIVIDUALS.

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SINGING CONTEST OPEN TO YAU TSIM RESIDENTS

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YAU TSIM DISTRICT RESIDENTS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN SINGING ARE INVITED TO TAKE PART IN A CONTEST BEING ORGANISED BY THE YAU MA TEI AND TSIM SHA TSUI CULTURE AND ARTS ASSOCIATION.

SPONSORED BY THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT BOARD AND THE URBAN COUNCIL, THE CONTEST AIMS AT PROMOTING RESIDENTS' INTEREST IN MUSIC AND IDENTIFYING SINGING TALENTS IN THE DISTRICT.

THE CONTEST IS DIVIDED INTO POPULAR AND CLASSICAL SECTIONS. THE FIRST ROUND OF THE CONTEST WILL BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 25 AND THE FINAL ON MARCH 18 AT THE HENRY G. LEONG YAU MA TEI COMMUNITY CENTRE.

BOTH SOLOISTS AND GROUPS ARE WELCOME TO TAKE PART. EACH SECTION WILL HAVE THREE WINNERS WHO WILL RECEIVE CASH COUPONS OF \$800, \$500 AND \$300 RESPECTIVELY.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICE AT 490 NATHAN ROAD. THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING APPLICATIONS IS JANUARY 31.

FURTHER ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 3-323791 OR 3-322716.

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CAKE MAKING COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S HOME ECONOMICS SECTION WILL HOLD A CAKE MAKING COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN AT THE CULTURAL CRAFTS CENTRE AT 4 PAK FUK ROAD, NORTH POINT, ON THURSDAY (JANUARY 12) AFTERNOON.

THE COMPETITION, ENTITLED "FAMILY CELEBRATION", AIMS TO PROMOTE STUDENTS' AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF HARMONY IN FAMILY LIFE AND TO DEVELOP THEIR CREATIVE SKILLS IN FANCY CAKE DECORATION.

MORE THAN 150 GOVERNMENT AND AIDED SECONDARY SCHOOLS, PREVOCATIONAL SCHOOLS AND SPECIAL SCHOOLS TOOK PART IN THE HEATS OF THE COMPETITION HELD LAST MONTH.

ABOUT 50 ENTRIES HAVE BEEN SELECTED FOR FINAL JUDGING BY A PANEL OF ADJUDICATORS AT THE CULTURAL CRAFTS CENTRE ON THURSDAY STARTING 2 PM.

THE DEPUTY CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, MRS KONG LI CHI-HO, WILL PRESENT PRIZES TO WINNERS AT A CEREMONY AT ABOUT 3 PM ON THE SAME DAY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT TO BEGIN AT 2 PM ON THURSDAY (JANUARY 12) AT THE CULTURAL CRAFTS CENTRE, 4 PAK FUK ROAD, NORTH POINT, HONG KONG.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 39.1 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 229.447 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 343.847 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 58.7 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 1989

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BUS SERVICE ARRANGEMENTS IN WONG TAI SIN

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION WORKS OF THE APPROACH ROADS TO TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL, CHOI HUNG BUS TERMINUS WILL BE RELOCATED TO A TEMPORARY TERMINUS ON CHOI HUNG ROAD OUTSIDE BLACKDOWN BARRACKS FROM THURSDAY (JANUARY 12).

AS A RESULT, THE EXISTING SEVEN BUS ROUTES TERMINATING AT CHOI HUNG BUS TERMINUS WILL BE RE-ROUTED.

ROUTES 5, 13 AND 113 WILL TRAVEL VIA CHOI HUNG ROAD, CHOI HUNG ROUNDABOUT, CHOI HUNG ROAD AND CHOI HUNG TEMPORARY BUS TERMINUS ON JOURNEYS TO CHOI HUNG.

AT THE SAME TIME, ROUTE 113 WILL TRAVEL VIA CHOI HUNG TEMPORARY BUS TERMINUS, CHOI HUNG ROAD, HAMMER HILL ROAD AND LUNG CHEUNG ROAD ON JOURNEYS TO WEST POINT.

ROUTES 90, 91, 92 AND 93R ON JOURNEYS TO AND FROM CHOI HUNG WILL ALSO BE DIVERTED VIA HAMMER HILL ROAD, CHOI HUNG ROAD AND CHOI HUNG TEMPORARY BUS TERMINUS.

THE EXISTING SIX PASSING BUS ROUTES AT CHOI HUNG BUS TERMINUS WILL ALSO BE RE-ROUTED.

ROUTES 3D AND 3M WILL TRAVEL VIA HAMMER HILL ROAD, CHOI HUNG ROAD, CHOI HUNG TEMPORARY BUS TERMINUS, CHOI HUNG ROAD AND HAMMER HILL ROAD ON JOURNEYS TO TSZ WAN SHAN (NORTH).

AT THE SAME TIME, ROUTE 3M WILL BE DIVERTED VIA HAMMER HILL ROAD AND CHOI HUNG ROAD ON JOURNEYS TO DIAMOND HILL MTR STATION.

IN ADDITION, ROUTE 9 WILL TRAVEL VIA HAMMER HILL ROAD AND CHOI HUNG ROAD ON JOURNEYS TO STAR FERRY WHILE ROUTE 29M WILL TRAVEL VIA PRINCE EDWARD ROAD EAST AND CLEARWATER BAY ROAD ON JOURNEYS TO SHUN LEE.

ROUTE 121 WILL TRAVEL VIA LUNG CHEUNG ROAD, HAMMER HILL ROAD AND CHOI HUNG ROAD ON JOURNEYS TO CENTRAL.

ON THE OTHER HAND, SHA TIN RACE COURSE RECREATION ROUTE 889 WILL TRAVEL VIA HAMMER HILL ROAD AND CHOI HUNG ROAD ON JOURNEYS TO SHA TIN RACE COURSE.

NOTICES WILL BE PUT UP AT CHOI HUNG BUS TERMINUS AND AFFECTED BUS STOPS TO INFORM BUS PASSENGERS OF THE ARRANGEMENTS.

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MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 1989

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HUNG MUI KUK ROAD CLOSED TO TRAFFIC  
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TO FACILITATE ROAD MAINTENANCE WORK, HUNG MUI KUK ROAD WESTBOUND NEAR CHUNG PAK ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

FROM 10.30 AM TOMORROW TO 5 PM ON FEBRUARY 2, THE WESTBOUND SECTION OF THE SLOW LANE FROM A POINT ABOUT 50 METRES WEST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH CHUNG PAK ROAD TO A POINT ABOUT 50 METRES EAST OF THE SAME JUNCTION WILL BE CLOSED.

DURING THE CLOSURE, THE BUS STOP ON HUNG MUI KUK ROAD WEST OF CHUNG PAK ROAD WILL BE SUSPENDED.

A TEMPORARY BUS STOP FOR KMB ROUTES NOS. 89B, 81M, 85, 86C, 87A AND 170 WILL BE PROVIDED ON HUNG MUI KUK ROAD AT A POINT ABOUT 70 METRES WEST OF CHUNG PAK ROAD.

AS CONGESTION IS ANTICIPATED DURING THE LANE CLOSURE, MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED TO AVOID USING THIS SECTION OF HUNG MUI KUK ROAD. APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC AIDS WILL BE PROVIDED TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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TAI CHUNG KIU ROAD CLOSED TO TRAFFIC  
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TO FACILITATE ROAD WORKS, A SECTION OF THE KERBSIDE LANE OF THE SOUTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF TAI CHUNG KIU ROAD BETWEEN SHA KOK STREET AND LION ROCK TUNNEL ROAD WILL BE CLOSED FROM 8 AM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO 6 PM ON FEBRUARY 2.

DURING THE PERIOD OF LANE CLOSURE, THE BUS STOPS ALONG THIS ROAD SECTION WILL BE SUSPENDED.

A TEMPORARY BUS STOP FOR KMB ROUTES NOS. 48, 85A AND 82M WILL BE PROVIDED ON SHA KOK STREET OUTSIDE TSANG TAI UK RECREATION GROUND.

MOTORISTS ARE URGED TO DRIVE WITH CARE AND PATIENCE. APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC AIDS WILL BE PROVIDED TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 1989

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RIGHT-TURN BAN, BUS LANE DESIGNATED

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT FROM 10 AM ON THURSDAY (JANUARY 12), VEHICLES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO TURN RIGHT FROM WAI YIP STREET EASTBOUND TO KWUN TONG FERRY CONCOURSE.

MOTORISTS FROM HOI YUEN ROAD SOUTHBOUND HEADING FOR KWUN TONG FERRY CONCOURSE WILL BE DIVERTED VIA THE KWUN TONG FERRY CONCOURSE ACCESS ROAD BETWEEN HOI YUEN ROAD/WAI YIP STREET ROUNDABOUT AND KWUN TONG FERRY CONCOURSE.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE OFF-SIDE LANE AT THE ENTRY TO THE SLIP ROAD LINKING WESTBOUND LUNG CHEUNG ROAD AND NORTHBOUND WATERLOO ROAD WILL BE DESIGNATED A BUS LANE. NO VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE BUS LANE.

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INTERRUPTION OF WATER SUPPLY TO THREE AREAS

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SALT WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN SAN PO KONG WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 10 PM ON WEDNESDAY (JANUARY 11) TO 7 AM THE NEXT DAY.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT AN AREA BOUNDED BY CHOI HUNG ROAD, SZE MEI STREET AND PRINCE EDWARD ROAD EAST.

FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO BLOCKS 4-32, TSZ LOK ESTATE, TSZ WAN SHAN, WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 11 PM ON THURSDAY (JANUARY 12) TO 7 AM THE NEXT DAY.

ALSO ON THURSDAY, SALT WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN CENTRAL WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 9 AM TO 4 PM.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY ICE HOUSE STREET, GLENEALY, CAINE ROAD, BONHAM ROAD, POK FU LAM ROAD, SANDS STREET, KENNEDY TOWN PRAYA, CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST AND CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL.

ALL THREE SUSPENSIONS OF SUPPLY ARE NECESSARY BECAUSE OF WATER WORKS.

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