



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SUNDAY, MAY 5, 1991

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23 PER CENT TURNOUT RATE FOR MC ELECTIONS

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THE VOTER TURNOUT FOR THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS ON SUNDAY WAS 392,496, REPRESENTING 23 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ELECTORS.

IN THE URBAN COUNCIL AREA, 214,544 PEOPLE OR 20.86 PER CENT OF THE ELECTORATE CAST THEIR BALLOTS, WHILE 177,952 PEOPLE OR 26.33 PER CENT OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL ELECTORS VOTED.

SAI KUNG DISTRICT, IN THE REGIONAL COUNCIL AREA, HAD THE HIGHEST TURNOUT RATE WITH 31.02 PER CENT, OR 10,847 ELECTORS, HAVING CAST THEIR BALLOTS.

THE WONG TAI SIN SOUTH CONSTITUENCY HAD THE HIGHEST VOTER TURNOUT RATE IN THE URBAN COUNCIL AREA WITH 28.48 PER CENT OF THE ELECTORATE, OR 17,875 VOTERS, TURNING OUT TO VOTE.

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CHIEF SECRETARY URGES ELECTORS TO VOTE

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THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID FORD, TODAY (SUNDAY) URGED VOTERS TO COME OUT AND CAST THEIR BALLOTS IN THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS AS THE ELECTIONS ARE IMPORTANT.

"THE URBAN COUNCIL AND THE REGIONAL COUNCIL SPEND OVER \$5 BILLION EVERY YEAR ON SERVICES FOR THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG," SIR DAVID SAID, AFTER CASTING HIS BALLOT THIS MORNING.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER HE AND LADY FORD CAST THEIR VOTES, THE CHIEF SECRETARY SAID THE TWO COUNCILS SPEND TO BUILD RECREATION BUILDINGS AND CULTURAL BUILDINGS, AND PROVIDE AMONG OTHER THINGS, ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES WHICH ARE VERY IMPORTANT TO EVERYBODY.

"SO, IT IS AN IMPORTANT ELECTION. IT IS OUR CHANCE TO INFLUENCE THE PEOPLE WHO WILL BE MAKING THOSE DECISIONS, SPENDING TAXPAYERS' MONEY AND I URGE EVERYBODY TO COME OUT AND VOTE TODAY," SIR DAVID SAID.

THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR PETER TSAO, ALSO URGED ELECTORS TO COME OUT AND VOTE IN THE ELECTIONS.

HE REMINDED ELECTORS THAT IF THEY HAD LOST OR NOT RECEIVED THEIR POLLING CARDS, THEY COULD STILL VOTE AS LONG AS THEY BRING ALONG THEIR IDENTITY CARDS.

"IF THEY HAVE VOTED IN THE DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS IN MARCH, THEY HAVE ALREADY REGISTERED AS A VOTER AND THERE IS NO NEED TO WORRY ABOUT REGISTRATION BECAUSE THEY ARE REGISTERED," HE SAID.

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"THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS HAVE TRADITIONALLY ATTRACTED DIFFERENT RATE FROM THE OTHER ELECTION CYCLES AND I WOULDN'T WANT TO FORECAST THE OUTCOME," MR TSAO ADDED.

THE SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE, MR BARRIE WIGGHAM, SAID HE HOPED THAT AS MANY CIVIL SERVANTS AS POSSIBLE WOULD COME OUT AND VOTE.

"AS MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY I HOPE THEY WILL SHOW THEIR INTEREST IN THE COMMUNITY AND THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR SYSTEMS," MR WIGGHAM ADDED.

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ENCOURAGING START FOR ELECTIONS

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THERE IS AN ENCOURAGING VOTER TURNOUT IN THE FIRST THREE HOURS OF MUNICIPAL COUNCIL POLLING THIS MORNING, THE SECRETARY FOR CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS, MR MICHAEL SUEN, SAID.

SPEAKING AT A PRESS BRIEFING THIS MORNING, MR SUEN SAID THERE WAS AN INCREASE, BOTH IN THE NUMBER OF VOTERS AND IN THE PERCENTAGE, AS COMPARED WITH THAT OF THE LAST MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS IN 1989.

HE SAID SOME 44,658 PEOPLE TURNED OUT TO VOTE IN THE FIRST THREE HOURS OF VOTING THIS MORNING, REPRESENTING 2.62 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VOTERS. THE PERCENTAGE IN THE LAST MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS WAS 2.3 PER CENT.

IN TERMS OF NUMBER, THE TURNOUT RATE HAD INCREASED CONSIDERABLY, MR SUEN SAID, NOTING THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER LAST TIME WAS ONLY 27,767.

HE ATTRIBUTED IT TO THE FACT THAT MOST OF THE CONSTITUENCIES THIS TIME HAD TO BE CONTESTED.

THE SECRETARY SAID HE WAS SATISFIED WITH THE TURNOUT RATE SO FAR AS COMPARED WITH THE RATE IN THE PREVIOUS MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

HE SAID THIS WAS A CHANCE FOR VOTERS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS AND TO ELECT THOSE WHO COULD REPRESENT THEM IN THE COUNCILS.

MR SUEN SAID HE DID NOT BELIEVED THERE WAS A POLITICAL APARTHY AMONG THE LOCAL POPULATION.

"AS WE HAVE SEEN IN THE DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS WHICH TOOK PLACE IN MARCH THIS YEAR, THERE WAS A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE TURNING OUT TO VOTE, ELECTING THEIR REPRESENTATIVES TO SIT ON THE DISTRICT BOARD TO SPEAK ON THEIR BEHALF," HE SAID.

/HE ADDED

HE ADDED THAT THE DB ELECTIONS COMPARED FAVOURABLY WITH THE TURNOUT RATE FOR OTHER DEMOCRACIES.

ON THE PURPOSE OF HOLDING THE ELECTIONS ON A SUNDAY, MR SUEN SAID THIS WAS TO FACILITATE PEOPLE TO COME OUT AND VOTE.

"AS A HOLIDAY, THEY CAN PICK AND CHOOSE THEIR TIME IN TAKING PART IN THIS PROCESS, THEY DON'T HAVE TO CONFINE THEMSELVES TO THE NON-WORKING HOURS OF THE DAY. THAT IS THE WHOLE PURPOSE OF IT," HE NOTED.

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MORE PEOPLE URGED TO GO TO THE POLLS

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THE SECRETARY FOR CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS, MR MICHAEL SUEN, THIS (SUNDAY) AFTERNOON URGED MORE PEOPLE TO GO TO THE POLLING BOOTHS TO MAKE THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS A GREATER SUCCESS.

SPEAKING AT HIS SECOND PRESS BRIEFING ON THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS, MR SUEN SAID SOME 202,862 PEOPLE VOTED IN THE FIRST NINE HOURS OF POLLING, REPRESENTING 11.9 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL VOTER POPULATION.

HE SAID THIS COMPARED FAVOURABLY WITH 75,696 PEOPLE OR 6.3 PER CENT WHO VOTED DURING THE SAME PERIOD IN THE LAST MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS IN 1989.

"DOING A STRAIGHT COMPARISON, WE SHOULD BE RATHER PLEASED WITH OURSELVES.

"BUT I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD BE COMPLACENT. I THINK THERE IS STILL A LOT TO BE DONE," MR SUEN SAID.

THE SECRETARY TOOK THIS OPPORTUNITY TO APPEAL TO ALL ELIGIBLE VOTERS WHO DID NOT VOTE TO COME AND VOTE IN ORDER TO "MAKE THE FINAL TURNOUT RATE A GREATER SUCCESS".

MR SUEN SAID THE ELECTION TREND SO FAR FOLLOWED FAIRLY CLOSELY THE TREND THE GOVERNMENT HAD OBSERVED FOR THE DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS IN MARCH.

"OF COURSE, THE NEXT HOUR IS GOING TO BE CRUCIAL, BECAUSE ACCORDING TO THE TREND IN MARCH, WE SHOULD REALLY BE SEEING AN UP-SWING IN THE TURNOUT RATE. IF THAT MATERIALISES, THEN OF COURSE WE FOLLOW VERY CLOSELY THE PATTERN THAT WAS SET FOR SUNDAY VOTING AT THE LAST DB ELECTIONS.

"BUT OF COURSE, THE SUNDAY ELECTIONS WAS ONLY DONE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MARCH AND THE PATTERN WE HAVE SEEN, I DON'T THINK WE CAN TAKE IT AS FIXED," HE NOTED.

HE ALSO HOPED THAT PEOPLE WOULD BE MORE ACCUSTOMED TO VOTING IN THE FIRST DIRECT ELECTIONS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN SEPTEMBER.

"I THINK WE ARE NOT TOO UNREASONABLE TO EXPECT HIGHER TURNOUT RATE FOR THE COMING DIRECT ELECTIONS FOR LEGCO IN SEPTEMBER," MR SUEN SAID.

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DIRECTOR OF URBAN SERVICES URGES THE PUBLIC TO VOTE

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THE DIRECTOR OF URBAN SERVICES, MR JAMES SO, TODAY (SUNDAY) SET A GOOD EXAMPLE FOR HIS 16,300 STAFF IN THE DEPARTMENT BY EXERCISING HIS CIVIC RIGHT AS A REGISTERED ELECTOR AND CASTING HIS VOTE IN HIS CONSTITUENCY IN TAI WAI, SHA TIN.

"THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS ARE IMPORTANT PARTS OF THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS IN HONG KONG AND ARE ESSENTIAL IN ENSURING THE CONTINUING PROSPERITY AND STABILITY OF THE TERRITORY.

"THE SUCCESS OF THE PROCESS DEPENDS ENTIRELY ON PUBLIC SUPPORT AND I WOULD THEREFORE URGE EVERYONE TO FULFIL HIS OBLIGATION AND TAKE PART IN THE ELECTIONS TODAY," SAID MR SO AFTER CASTING HIS VOTE AT THE TAI WAI POLLING STATION.

"AS THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE URBAN COUNCIL, I KNOW HOW IMPORTANT IT IS FOR THE RIGHT PEOPLE TO BE ELECTED AS COUNCILLORS.

"AND GOOD COUNCILLORS ARE VITAL PARTS IN THE FORMULATION OF SOUND POLICIES TO BETTER SERVE THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG," MR SO ADDED.

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BALLOON EXTRAVAGANZAS TO ADD COLOUR TO MC ELECTIONS

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THE TWO MUNICIPAL COUNCIL CHAIRMEN TODAY (SUNDAY) URGED THE PUBLIC TO PLAY THEIR PART IN THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS AND CAST THEIR VOTES IN TODAY'S MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

OFFICIATING AT TODAY'S BALLOON EXTRAVAGANZA HELD OUTSIDE SHA TIN TOWN HALL TO PROMOTE THE ELECTIONS, THE REGIONAL COUNCIL CHAIRMAN, MR CHEUNG YAN-LUNG, REITERATED THAT REGIONAL COUNCILLORS ARE COMMITTED TO PROVIDING THE PUBLIC WITH A WELL BALANCED PROGRAMME OF MUNICIPAL SERVICES.

"HOWEVER, IT IS ONLY WITH THE SUPPORT AND THE PARTICIPATION OF THE PUBLIC THAT THEY COULD ACHIEVE THEIR OBJECTIVES AND IMPLEMENT THEIR IDEAS," HE SAID.

"WE ALL WANT TO LIVE IN A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT AND TO ENJOY A WIDE RANGE OF CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES. WE SHOULD CONTINUE TO VOTE FOR THE BEST CANDIDATES WHO COULD REPRESENT AND UNDERSTAND OUR NEEDS SO AS TO BUILD A BETTER FUTURE FOR US," MR CHEUNG ADDED.

SPEAKING AT THE OTHER BALLOON EXTRAVAGANZA HELD OUTSIDE HONG KONG CITY HALL, THE URBAN COUNCIL CHAIRMAN, MR GERRY FORSGATE, SAID THE COUNCIL SERVES AN URBAN POPULATION OF 3.5 MILLION AND IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CITY'S PUBLIC HEALTH, ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE, LEISURE AND RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL SERVICES.

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"IN THE YEARS AHEAD, THE COUNCIL WILL CONTINUE TO UPGRADE THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN HONG KONG, AND TO ENABLE THE COUNCIL TO SERVE YOU BETTER, IT NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT IN ELECTING SUITABLE PEOPLE AS COUNCILLORS," HE SAID.

BOTH EXTRAVAGANZAS, SET AGAINST TWO 20-FOOT-IN-DIAMETER BALLOON SCUPLTURES OF THE VOTE '91 LOGO, WERE HERALDED OFF WITH THE SOUNDS OF MARCHING BANDS.

AT THE CEREMONIES, STRINGS OF GIANT BALLOON BOUQUETS WITH VOTE '91 STREAMERS ROSE ABOVE THE LOW BLOCK OF CITY HALL AND SHA TIN TOWN HALL.

THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY BALLOON LION DANCES, THE FIRST-EVER IN HONG KONG.

SOME 30 CELEBRITIES, INCLUDING A FASHION DESIGNER, AN ATHLETE, SINGERS, ACTORS/ACTRESSES, DISC JOCKEYS AND CONTESTANTS FOR THE MISS HONG KONG BEAUTY PAGEANT PARTICIPATED IN THE TWO FUNCTIONS TO HELP PUBLICISE THE VOTE '91 MESSAGE.

AFTER THE FUNCTIONS, TWO OPEN DECK BUSES, CARRYING LION DANCERS AND THE CELEBRITIES, TOURED AROUND THE TERRITORY TO ENCOURAGE THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG TO EXERCISE THEIR RIGHT TO VOTE.

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HK OFFICIALS TO ATTEND ITCB COUNCIL MEETING IN BALI
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A DELEGATION OF TRADE OFFICIALS LED BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRADE, MR T.H. CHAU, HAS LEFT HONG KONG FOR BALI TO ATTEND THE FOURTEENTH COUNCIL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL TEXTILES AND CLOTHING BUREAU (ITCB).

THE COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD FROM TOMORROW (MONDAY) UNTIL THE END OF THIS WEEK.

THE ITCB, THE GENEVA-BASED ORGANISATION OF TEXTILES-EXPORTING DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES, PROVIDES THE FORUM FOR ITS 22 MEMBERS, INCLUDING HONG KONG, TO EXCHANGE VIEWS AND CO-ORDINATE ACTIONS ON MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS AFFECTING INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN TEXTILES AND CLOTHING.

"THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THE BALI MEETING IS TO DISCUSS AND FORMULATE THE ITCB'S POSITION ON THE FUTURE OF THE MULTI-FIBRE ARRANGEMENT (MFA) WHICH WILL BE ON THE AGENDA OF THE TEXTILES COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULED FOR MAY 16 IN GENEVA," A TRADE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE TEXTILES COMMITTEE, CHARGED BY THE MFA WITH REVIEWING THE OPERATION AND CONSIDERING THE FUTURE OF THE ARRANGEMENT, HAS AS ITS MEMBERS ALL PARTICIPANTS OF THE MFA.

"A MULTILATERAL DIALOGUE ON THE FUTURE OF THE MFA IS NECESSARY IN VIEW OF THE EXPIRY OF THE ARRANGEMENT AT THE END OF JULY THIS YEAR," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

OTHER MEMBERS OF THE HONG KONG DELEGATION ARE DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRADE, MR ROBERT FOOTMAN, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRADE, MR PATRICK LAU AND DEPUTY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE HONG KONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE IN GENEVA, MR ANDREW WONG.

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TREE PLANTING VITAL TO NATURE CONSERVATION

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IT IS ONLY WHEN MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY ARE AWARE OF THE VALUE OF TREES THAT EFFORTS WILL BE MADE TO CONSERVE THEM.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE, WHEN HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE ROTARY TREE PLANTING DAY AT HOI HA IN SAI KUNG COUNTRY PARK THIS (SUNDAY) MORNING.

DR LEE SAID: "TREES ARE IMPORTANT TO OUR COMMUNITY. APART FROM PROVIDING AN ATTRACTIVE GREEN CANOPY TO OUR COUNTRYSIDE, THEY ARE ESSENTIAL ESPECIALLY IN STOPPING SOIL EROSION AND IN AFFORDING NATURAL HABITATS FOR A VARIETY OF OUR WILDLIFE."

TODAY'S PLANTING ACTIVITY WAS ORGANISED BY ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 345 TO KICK OFF ITS THREE-YEAR "PRESERVE PLANET EARTH" PROJECT IN HONG KONG. THE PROJECT IS LAUNCHED BY ROTARY INTERNATIONAL WORLDWIDE TO HELP THE EARTH FROM DECAYING.

DR LEE COMMENDED THE ROTARIANS FOR THEIR SUPPORT IN NATURE CONSERVATION AND FOR MOBILISING THEIR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS TO TAKE PART IN TREE PLANTING.

IN ADDITION, HE THANKED THE ROTARY CLUBS FOR THEIR GENEROUS SPONSORSHIP OF \$50,000 FOR THE PUBLICATION OF COUNTRY PARK LEAFLETS TO PROMULGATE THE COUNTRYSIDE CONSERVATION MESSAGE.

ALSO OFFICIATING AT TODAY'S FUNCTION WERE THE VICE-CHANCELLOR OF THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, PROFESSOR CHARLES KAO, AND THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR OF ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 345, MR ARTHUR AU.

PROFESSOR KAO POINTED OUT THAT TREE PLANTING WAS A VITAL STEP IN REFORESTATION AND A FUNDAMENTAL STEP IN PRESERVING THE NATURAL BALANCE OF LIFE ON EARTH.

TREES COULD PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN RESOLVING PROBLEMS SUCH AS DEPLETION OF THE OZONE LAYER, ACID RAIN AND THE GRADUAL WARMING OF OUR CLIMATE THROUGH A GREEN HOUSE EFFECT, WHICH WERE CAUSED BY EXCESSIVE GENERATION OF CARBON DIOXIDE AND OTHER GASES, PROFESSOR KAO ADDED.

"TREE PLANTING TRADITIONALLY CONNOTES FAITH IN THE FUTURE. CREDIT SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE ROTARIANS WHO HAVE ORGANISED THIS EVENT. YOU ARE URGING US TO BELIEVE IN THE FUTURE AND THIS IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT FOR ALL OF US IN HONG KONG," HE SAID.

MR ARTHUR AU SAID THE TREE PLANTING ACTIVITY TODAY STARTED OFF THE ROTARIANS' DETERMINATION TO PRESERVE THE PLANET EARTH AND BE THE GUARDIAN OF OUR HABITAT.

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ED TO LAUNCH PLACEMENT SERVICE FOR TEACHERS

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THE PLACEMENT SERVICE UNIT OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL AGAIN LAUNCH FROM TOMORROW (MONDAY) AN ANNUAL EXERCISE TO ASSIST ELIGIBLE REDUNDANT TEACHERS IN AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS TO OBTAIN NEW TEACHING POSTS.

FIRST INTRODUCED IN 1975, THE PLACEMENT SERVICE AIMS TO HELP REDUNDANT TEACHERS IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS SEEK EMPLOYMENT AS A RESULT OF THE DROP IN SCHOOL ENROLMENT IN SOME PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND A SHIFT OF POPULATION FROM URBAN AREAS TO NEW TOWNS.

THE UNIT HAS HELPED ABOUT 6,000 SUCH TEACHERS IN SECURING TEACHING POSTS OVER THE PAST YEARS.

"WE WILL BE GIVING THESE TEACHERS FULL ASSISTANCE AGAIN THIS YEAR. OUR 100 PER CENT SUCCESS RATE OVER THE PAST YEARS OWES MUCH TO THE SUPPORT AND CO-OPERATION OF SCHOOL HEADS AND THE SCHOOL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES FOR WHICH THE DEPARTMENT IS MOST GRATEFUL," SAID SENIOR EDUCATION OFFICER, MR LIU TSO-TIM, WHO HEADS THE PLACEMENT SERVICE UNIT THIS YEAR.

THE UNIT, STAFFED BY A TEAM OF FOUR OFFICERS FROM THE SCHOOLS DIVISION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, IS LOCATED IN ROOM 703, SEVENTH FLOOR, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 405 NATHAN ROAD.

REDUNDANT TEACHERS ARE REQUESTED TO REGISTER WITH THE UNIT BETWEEN MAY 17 - 24 (9 AM - 12.45 PM AND 2.15 PM - 4.45 PM).

THE SCHEDULE OF REGISTRATION IS AS FOLLOWS:

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| MAY 17 (FRIDAY) | FOR TEACHERS ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND IN THE NEW TERRITORIES (SAI KUNG AND ISLANDS) |
| MAY 20 (MONDAY) | FOR TEACHERS IN KOWLOON (KWUN TONG AND YAU TSIM) |
| MAY 21 (TUESDAY) | FOR TEACHERS IN KOWLOON (WONG TAI SIN, MONG KOK, SHAM SHUI PO AND KOWLOON CITY) |

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MAY 22 (WEDNESDAY) FOR TEACHERS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES
(TAI PO, NORTH AND TSUEN WAN)

MAY 23 (THURSDAY) FOR TEACHERS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES
(KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI)

MAY 24 (FRIDAY) FOR TEACHERS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES
(TUEN MUN, YUEN LONG AND SHA TIN)

ENQUIRIES CONCERNING REGISTRATION MATTERS MAY BE MADE ON TEL
780 0354, 780 0452, 780 0523 AND 780 0528 DURING OFFICE HOURS.

MR LIU SAID TEACHERS CONCERNED WOULD BE INFORMED BY LETTER OF
THEIR REDUNDANCY UNDER THE AGREED PRINCIPLE OF "LAST IN, FIRST OUT"
AND IT IS IMPORTANT, HE STRESSED, THAT THEY SHOULD REGISTER WITH THE
UNIT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ABOVE SCHEDULE FOR PLACEMENT TO TEACH IN
AN AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR.

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COURSES FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION OFFERED

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TWO IN-SERVICE SPECIAL EDUCATION COURSES FOR TEACHERS WISHING
TO TEACH CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS WILL BE OFFERED IN
1991-92.

THESE COURSES WILL EACH LAST FOR TWO YEARS AND COMPRISE 16
WEEKS OF FULL-TIME STUDY AT THE SIR ROBERT BLACK COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
AND ITS SHA TIN ANNEXE, AND TO BE FOLLOWED BY 18 MONTHS OF SUPERVISED
PRACTICAL TEACHING IN THE PARTICIPANTS' OWN SCHOOLS.

THERE WILL ALSO BE TUTORIALS, SEMINARS AND DISCUSSIONS.

THE CURRICULUM WILL COVER ESSENTIAL AREAS OF SPECIAL EDUCATION
INCLUDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION IN HONG KONG,
UNDERSTANDING AND THE ASSESSMENT OF CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL
NEEDS, SPECIAL EDUCATION CURRICULA, TEACHING APPROACH, AND THE
MANAGEMENT OF BEHAVIOUR.

PARTICIPANTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO SPECIALISE IN THE EDUCATIONAL
NEEDS OF THE CHILDREN THEY ARE OR WILL BE TEACHING.

ON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE COURSE, PARTICIPANTS WILL BE
AWARDED A SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER'S CERTIFICATE AND A SPECIAL
ALLOWANCE.

QUALIFIED NON-GRADUATE TEACHERS WITH RECOGNISED INITIAL
TEACHER TRAINING QUALIFICATION AND THOSE CURRENTLY TEACHING OR
SELECTED TO TEACH IN SPECIAL SCHOOLS OR SPECIAL EDUCATION CLASSES ARE
INVITED TO APPLY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID TEACHERS
ADMITTED TO THE COURSES WILL BE RELEASED FROM NORMAL SCHOOL DUTIES
DURING TRAINING.

/SUPERVISORS OR

SUPERVISORS OR HEADS OF SCHOOL MAY APPOINT SUPPLY TEACHERS ON A MONTH-TO-MONTH BASIS TO REPLACE THE TEACHERS UNDERGOING TRAINING.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AT LEE GARDENS, HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY AND ITS SUB-OFFICE AT THE KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, OR FROM THE SIR ROBERT BLACK COLLEGE OF EDUCATION.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATION IS JUNE 7.

AT PRESENT, OVER 250 TEACHERS ARE UNDERGOING THE COURSE.

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A TSIM SHA TSUI LANDMARK TO BE RESTORED

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A 90-YEAR-OLD BUILDING IN TSIM SHA TSUI WILL HAVE A FACELIFT AND ACCOMMODATE THE OFFICE OF THE ANTIQUITIES AND MONUMENTS OFFICE OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE BRANCH.

THE RESTORATION WORK WILL SOON BE CARRIED OUT BY THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, WITH A PRICE-TAG OF \$4.9 MILLION.

THE RED-BRICK BUILDING FACING THE KOWLOON PARK HAS LONG BEEN A LANDMARK IN NATHAN ROAD - THE GOLDEN MILE OF HONG KONG.

BURIED AMONG SKYSCRAPERS IN THE AREA, IT WAS USED AS THE PREMISES OF THE TSIM SHA TSUI KAIFONG ASSOCIATION SINCE 1946.

THE BUILDING WAS ORIGINALLY USED AS A SCHOOL AND THE CONSTRUCTION COSTS WERE MET BY A DONATION FROM A WELL-KNOWN RESIDENT, SIR ROBERT HOTUNG.

THIS SMALL BRITISH SCHOOL WAS OPENED BY THE THEN ADMINISTRATOR OF THE TERRITORY, MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM GASCOIGN, IN 1902.

WITH 39 PUPILS AND THREE STAFF RIGHT AT THE START, THE SMALL SCHOOL HAD DEVELOPED INTO THE PRESENT KING GEORGE V SCHOOL AND KOWLOON JUNIOR SCHOOL.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID AFTER THE RESTORATION WORK, THERE WOULD BE A CONSERVATION WORKSHOP, A LIBRARY AND AN OFFICE.

HE SAID THE OLD ASSEMBLY HALL WOULD BE CONVERTED INTO AN EXHIBITION HALL FOR AUDIO/VISUAL DISPLAYS ON ASPECTS OF CONSERVATION IN THE TERRITORY.

MEANWHILE, A TWO-STORY EXTENSION TO THE BUILDING WILL BE DEMOLISHED. EXTENSIVE REPAIRS AND REFURBISHMENT WILL BE CARRIED OUT AND A NEW AIR-CONDITIONING SYSTEM WILL BE INSTALLED TO REPLACE THE WINDOW UNITS.

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THE SPOKESMAN SAID ALTERATIONS TO THE ORIGINAL 1902 STRUCTURE WILL BE KEPT TO A MINIMUM. THERE WOULD ONLY BE A MINOR TOUCH-UP IN THE ASSEMBLY HALL AND THE HEADMASTER'S STUDY TO RETAIN THE OLD-DAY CHARMS OF THE SCHOOL.

THE RESTORATION AND THE FITTING-OUT WORKS ARE EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF THE YEAR.

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50 NEW BUILDING PLANS APPROVED IN JANUARY
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THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE OF THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT APPROVED A TOTAL OF 50 NEW BUILDING PLANS IN JANUARY.

OF THE PLANS, 18 WERE FOR HONG KONG ISLAND, 15 FOR KOWLOON AND 17 FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE APPROVED PLANS INCLUDED 26 FOR APARTMENT, APARTMENT/COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS, EIGHT FOR COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND TWO FOR WORKSHOP AND INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES.

DURING THE MONTH, THE OFFICE GAVE CONSENT FOR WORK TO START ON 55 PROJECTS, INVOLVING 104,732.5 SQUARE METRES OF USABLE DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA AND 155,017.2 SQUARE METRES OF USABLE NON-DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA.

THE TOTAL DECLARED COST OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED DURING THE MONTH WAS ABOUT \$2,474 MILLION. USABLE FLOOR AREAS FOR DOMESTIC AND NON-DOMESTIC USES WERE ABOUT 131,368.8 SQUARE METRES AND ABOUT 174,977.7 SQUARE METRES RESPECTIVELY.

ALSO DURING THE MONTH, THE OFFICE ISSUED 49 OCCUPATION PERMITS; 19 FOR HONG KONG ISLAND, 10 FOR KOWLOON AND 20 FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES.

IN ADDITION, 37 DEMOLITION CONSENTS AFFECTING 73 BUILDINGS WERE ISSUED.

THE CONTROL AND ENFORCEMENT DIVISION RECEIVED 741 COMPLAINTS ON ILLEGAL BUILDING WORKS, CARRIED OUT 1,196 INSPECTIONS AND ISSUED 140 REMOVAL ORDERS.

THE DANGEROUS BUILDINGS SECTION INSPECTED 618 BUILDINGS AND NO EMERGENCY CLOSURES WERE REQUIRED.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR ROAD WORKS IN TSUEN WAN

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THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT'S TSUEN WAN DEVELOPMENT OFFICE IS INVITING TENDERS FOR A ROAD WORK AND RECLAMATION PROJECT AS PART OF THE CONTINUING PROGRAMME FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF TSUEN WAN NEW TOWN.

THE CONTRACT COMPRISES THE EXTENSION OF TAM KON SHAN ROAD (ROAD TY18) AND RECLAMATION ALONG THE NORTH COAST OF TSING YI ISLAND FOR THE RELOCATION OF EXISTING SHIPYARDS IN NORTH TSING YI.

THE WORKS ARE PROGRAMMED TO BEGIN IN JULY AND WILL TAKE ABOUT 17 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE DEADLINE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF TENDERS IS NOON ON MAY 24.

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14 FLUSHING WATER CUT IN TSUEN WAN AND KWAI CHUNG

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FLUSHING WATER SUPPLY TO TSUEN WAN AND KWAI CHUNG WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 9.30 AM TO 4 PM ON TUESDAY (MAY 7) TO FACILITATE MAINTENANCE WORKS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT TSUEN WAN, KWAI CHUNG INCLUDING SHEUNG KWAI CHUNG, HA KWAI CHUNG AND CONTAINER TERMINALS.

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