



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1985

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BASIC LAW DRAFTING, 1987 REVIEW ON PARALLEL COURSE
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THE DRAFTING OF THE BASIC LAW AND THE WORK OF THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE IN HONG KONG WILL BE PROCEEDING AT THE SAME TIME AS THE GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS THE 1987 REVIEW OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SIR DAVID WAS REPLYING TO A QUESTION FROM A REPORTER ON RECENT REMARKS MADE BY MR JI PENGFEI.

HE SAID HE HAD NOT READ THE DETAILED REPORT OF WHAT MR JI SAID BUT HE THOUGHT WE ALL KNEW THAT THESE THINGS WOULD BE GOING ALONG AT THE SAME TIME - +THEY ARE GOING ALONG IN PARALLEL+.

ASKED WHETHER HE THOUGHT THE REMARKS MADE BY MR JI WERE AN INDICATION OF DISTRUST IN THE WAY THE GOVERNMENT WAS HANDLING POLITICAL REFORMS, SIR DAVID SAID THAT HE WOULDN'T THINK SO AT ALL.

+I THINK MR JI HAS VOICED VIEWS WHICH ARE HELD VERY WIDELY THAT WE SHOULDN'T GO TOO HASTILY, WE SHOULDN'T REFORM TOO HASTILY IN HONG KONG BUT WE NEED TO PROCEED CAREFULLY AND GRADUALLY AND THINK OUT EVERY STEP QUITE CAREFULLY.

+THAT'S WHAT HE WAS SAYING - HE WAS MERELY REITERATING WHAT MR XU HAS SAID IN HONG KONG, WHAT THE GOVERNOR HAS SAID IN HONG KONG AND WHAT I THINK THE VAST MAJORITY OF PEOPLE IN HONG KONG HAVE SAID - THAT WE MUST PROCEED STEADILY AND CAUTIOUSLY AND WITH CERTAINTY.+

SIR DAVID HAD EARLIER OFFICIATED AT THE OPENING OF THE 1985 HONG KONG TRADE FAIR AT THE HONG KONG EXHIBITION CENTRE IN WAN CHAI.

ASKED WHETHER HE WAS SATISFIED WITH THE WAYS IN WHICH HONG KONG WAS TRYING TO COUNTER TRADE PROTECTIONISM IN THE UNITED STATES, THE CHIEF SECRETARY SAID HE THOUGHT THE GOVERNMENT HAD DONE A LOT IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS.

+WE HAVE MADE A TREMENDOUS EFFORT IN WASHINGTON THROUGH OUR LOBBYISTS AND THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF OUR NEW YORK OFFICE AND THE WASHINGTON OFFICE TO PUT OUR CASE ACROSS IN WASHINGTON.

+AND THIS HAS BEEN SUPPORTED BY GROUPS IN HONG KONG, AND PARTICULARLY THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN HONG KONG.

+SO I THINK IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS WE HAVE REALLY, YOU MIGHT SAY, 'GOT OUR ACT TOGETHER' ON THIS PARTICULAR POINT. AND ONE DOESN'T WISH TO ATTRIBUTE THE PRESENT STAGE OF PLAY WITH REGARD TO THE THURMOND/JENKINS BILL TO THAT ACTIVITY BUT I AM SURE IT HAS PLAYED ITS PART,+ HE SAID.

ASKED WHETHER THE URBAN COUNCIL AND THE REGIONAL COUNCIL WOULD COME UNDER THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, SIR DAVID REITERATED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS EXAMINING THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SECRETARY FOR MUNICIPAL SERVICES AS WELL AS THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL AND THE URBAN COUNCIL TO THE SECRETARIAT.

/+THAT IS

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+THAT IS ALL I CAN SAY AT THIS TIME,+ HE SAID. +NO DECISIONS HAVE BEEN MADE ABOUT THIS AT ALL AND IT IS STILL IN A VERY PRELIMINARY STAGE OF CONSIDERATION.+

+I THINK WE MUST LOOK AT THE WHOLE RANGE OF PROPOSALS AND, AS I SAID, THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE TWO COUNCILS - THE REGIONAL COUNCIL AND THE URBAN COUNCIL - TO THE SECRETARIAT TO MY OFFICE.+

ASKED ABOUT THE FUTURE OF SECURITY BRANCH FILES ON INDIVIDUALS AND POLITICAL GROUPS AFTER THE BRITISH GAVE UP SOVEREIGNTY, SIR DAVID SAID THAT NO DECISION HAD YET BEEN MADE.

+IT IS NOW 1985 AND WE ARE STILL 12 YEARS AWAY FROM 1997,+ HE SAID.

ASKED WHETHER THERE WAS A POSSIBILITY THAT THE FILES WOULD BE LEFT HERE, SIR DAVID SAID HE THOUGHT THAT KIND OF INFORMATION REALLY BELONGED TO THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION.

+AS IT WERE, IT'S PART OF OUR ADMINISTRATION AND PART OF OUR INFORMATION,+ HE ADDED.

ASKED WHETHER IT WAS LIKELY THAT THESE FILES WOULD BE DESTROYED OR TAKEN AWAY TO LONDON, SIR DAVID SAID: +I DON'T THINK I'D LIKE TO COMMENT ON THAT BUT I SHOULD THINK THEY WILL BE TAKEN AWAY TO LONDON.+

ON THE CAUSE OF THE ATTACK ON DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER MR NG MING-YUM, HE SAID THE POLICE WERE STILL CONTINUING THEIR INVESTIGATIONS.

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SIR EDWARD TO TOUR WONG TAI SIN
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, WILL PAY A VISIT TO WONG TAI SIN ON WEDNESDAY (OCTOBER 23) TO SEE DEVELOPMENT IN THE DISTRICT.

HE WILL TOUR LOK FU ESTATE AND WANG TAU HOM ESTATE TO SEE THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE TWO DENSELY POPULATED ESTATES.

HIS TRIP WILL END WITH A VISIT TO WONG TAI SIN TEMPLE WHERE HE WILL ALSO MEET DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE GOVERNOR WILL ARRIVE AT LOK FU ESTATE OFFICE AT BLOCK 13, LOK FU ESTATE AT 2.50 PM. A COACH AM5895 WILL LEAVE THE CGO CARPARK IN CENTRAL AT 1.45 PM TO TAKE MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES TO LOK FU.

GIS OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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SIR PETER AND SIR PAUL ARRIVING THIS WEEK
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TWO CONSERVATIVE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT, SIR PAUL BRYAN AND SIR PETER BLAKER, WILL BE ARRIVING IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS FOR A VISIT.

SIR PAUL AND LADY BRYAN ARE EXPECTED TO FLY IN FROM LONDON ON FLIGHT CX 200, ETA 9 AM, ON WEDNESDAY (OCTOBER 23), AND SIR PETER, WHO IS ALSO CHAIRMAN OF THE BRITISH HONG KONG PARLIAMENTARY GROUP, WILL ARRIVE FROM CHINA WITH LADY BLAKER ON THURSDAY (OCTOBER 24).

SIR PAUL AND SIR PETER WILL ATTEND THE INAUGURATION OF THE NEW LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BUILDING AND THE OPENING OF THE 1985-86 SESSION ON OCTOBER 30 (WEDNESDAY).

SIR PAUL AND SIR PETER WILL ALSO BE MEETING A WIDE CROSS-SECTION OF THE HONG KONG COMMUNITY, INCLUDING LOCAL BUSINESSMEN, DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AND UMELCO MEMBERS.

AND THEY WILL BE ATTENDING BRIEFINGS BY SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND THE SENIOR BRITISH TRADE COMMISSIONER, MR CHRISTIAN ADAMS, ON THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE TERRITORY.

ARRANGEMENTS WILL ALSO BE MADE FOR THE TWO MP'S TO VISIT THE NEW STOCK EXCHANGE, THE CONTAINER TERMINAL, CASTLE PEAK POWER PLANT, THE ACADEMY FOR PERFORMING ARTS, THE EASTERN DISTRICT AND SHA TIN NEW TOWN.

THE VISITORS ARE DUE TO LEAVE HONG KONG ON OCTOBER 31.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WISHING TO COVER SIR PAUL'S ARRIVAL SHOULD ASSEMBLE IN THE AIRPORT PRESS ROOM ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE AIRPORT TERMINAL BUILDING ON WEDNESDAY (OCTOBER 23) BY 8.10 AM. GIS OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

DETAILS OF PRESS ARRANGEMENT TO COVER SIR PETER'S ARRIVAL WILL BE ANNOUNCED LATER.

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HK'S LAND SUPPLY ADEQUATE FOR FUTURE NEEDS

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THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, MR JOHN TODD, SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THAT HONG KONG HAD FINALLY GOT AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF LAND.

SPEAKING AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF VICTORIA, MR TODD SAID LAND SHORTAGE HAD BEEN HONG KONG'S NORMAL SITUATION FOR MANY YEARS. IF ANYONE HAD BEEN ASKED 10 OR EVEN FIVE YEARS AGO IF THE SITUATION WOULD CHANGE THE ANSWER WOULD HAVE BEEN +NO+.

+HOWEVER,+ HE CONTINUED, +IT HAS CHANGED WITH THE BUILDING OF THE NEW TOWN PROGRAMMES. IT SEEMS THAT HONG KONG HAS AT LAST REACHED THE STAGE WHERE IT HAS AN ADEQUATE, I DO NOT SAY AN ABUNDANT, SUPPLY OF LAND.

+A POSITION IN WHICH THE PRESENT AND FORESEEN SUPPLY OF LAND IS GOOD GIVES US AN OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW OUR POSITION AND TO HAVE A CHANCE TO CREATE A LAND DISPOSAL PROGRAMME BETTER ABLE TO RESPOND TO DEMAND.

+THE PRESENT INDICATIONS ARE THAT WE SHALL HAVE ENOUGH LAND TO MEET OUR OVERALL REQUIREMENTS IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE AND PERHAPS TO HAVE SOME LAND IN HAND TO MEET FUTURE NEEDS,+ SAID MR TODD.

GIVING FIGURES TO ILLUSTRATE THE LAND POSITION, MR TODD SAID THAT THE PRESENT PUBLIC RENTAL HOUSING PROGRAMME CALLED FOR 26 200 FLATS A YEAR ON NEW LAND AND 3 800 THROUGH REDEVELOPMENT. UP TO 1990 THE LAND NEEDED WAS ALREADY INCLUDED IN PLANNED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES AND RECENT DECISIONS ON FUTURE DEVELOPMENT SHOULD ENSURE THAT THE NECESSARY SUPPLY CONTINUED AFTER THAT DATE.

HE ADDED THAT NEW LAND WOULD ALSO BE NEEDED FOR SOME 16 000 FLATS TO BE BUILT BY THE PRIVATE SECTOR. THE PRESENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES SHOULD SUPPLY THIS NEED AND INDEED CREATE A SURPLUS.

MR TODD WARNED: +THERE MUST BE SOME CONCERN THAT THIS SURPLUS COULD LEAD DEVELOPERS TO CONCENTRATE ON FLAT PRODUCTION IN THE URBAN AREA TO THE NEGLECT OF THE NEW TERRITORIES.

+THIS COULD BE UNFORTUNATE AS IT COULD LEAD TO AN IMBALANCE IN THE COMMUNITIES IN THE NEW TOWNS.+

ON THE QUESTION OF INDUSTRIAL LAND MR TODD SAID CHEAP LAND EXISTED IN THE NEW TOWNS BUT WAS NOT FAVOURED BY INDUSTRIALISTS WHO LIKED TO REMAIN NEAR THE URBAN AREAS WITH THEIR SERVICES, LABOUR POOLS AND GOOD COMMUNICATIONS.

THE GOVERNMENT'S PROBLEM WAS THAT IF IT KEPT CREATING LAND IN THESE FAVOURED AREAS THE NEW TOWN INDUSTRIAL ZONES WOULD NOT BE DEVELOPED FOR MANY YEARS AND THE ORIGINAL AIM OF BALANCED DEVELOPMENT WOULD NOT BE REACHED. HOWEVER, IF IT DID NOT SUPPLY LAND IN THESE URBAN AREAS INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION MIGHT BE INHIBITED.

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GIVING HIS OWN VIEW OF THE OUTCOME TO THIS PROBLEM. MR TODD SAID: +MUCH OF THE TRADITIONAL INDUSTRY WILL REMAIN CENTRALISED IN THE URBAN AREAS BUT AS THE NEW TOWNS GROW WE WILL SEE NEW LIGHT INDUSTRIES BUILD UP TO UTILISE THE POOL OF LABOUR IN THESE AREAS.

+AT PRESENT WE ARE IN A POSITION TO REPLY FLEXIBLY TO NEEDS AND THE MAIN THING IS TO ENSURE THAT WE CAN MAINTAIN THAT POSITION.+

MR TODD SAID THAT BESIDES SUPPLYING NEW LAND IT WAS ALSO NECESSARY TO REDEVELOP EXISTING AREAS AND IT WAS TO THIS END THAT THE IDEA OF THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION HAD BEEN CONCEIVED.

+THE PROPOSAL HAS ITS CRITICS,+ HE CONCEDED, +THERE ARE THOSE WHO SAY IT IS TOO LATE AND THE MARKET IS RISING. THERE ARE THOSE WHO SAY IT WILL DISRUPT EXISTING COMMUNITIES AND CAUSE PROBLEMS FOR THE OLDER AND THE POORER TENANTS. THERE ARE THOSE WHO SAY THAT IT WILL BE UNFAIR TO EXISTING OWNERS AND THOSE WHO SAY THAT THE ONLY PEOPLE TO BENEFIT WILL BE THE DEVELOPERS.+

SOME OF THESE POINTS HAD MERIT, HE ADMITTED, BUT WENT ON: +I THINK THAT THESE POINTS CAN BE MET AND THAT A SCHEME CAN BE PUT TOGETHER WHICH WILL BE ACCEPTABLE NOT ONLY TO THE GOVERNMENT AND TO DEVELOPERS BUT ALSO, AND THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT, ONE WHICH WILL ATTRACT PUBLIC SUPPORT.+

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HK TO CONTINUE ANTI-PROTECTIONIST STAND
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HONG KONG WILL CONTINUE TO SPEAK OUT AGAINST PROTECTIONISM AND TO ADVOCATE AND PRACTISE FREE TRADE, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

HONG KONG, HE SAID, REGULATED BUT DID NOT INTERFERE WITH THE FLOW OF TRADE AND HONG KONG'S INDUSTRIES WERE NOT PROTECTED FROM COMPETITION.

+NEITHER DO THEY RECEIVE HANDOUTS FROM THE PUBLIC PURSE= PEOPLE PAY DIRECTLY FOR THE SERVICES THEY RECEIVE AND AS A RESULT OUR LEVEL OF TAXATION IS LOW AND THE INCENTIVE TO INVEST IS HIGH.+

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE 1985 HONG KONG TRADE FAIR AT THE HONG KONG EXHIBITION CENTRE, SIR DAVID SAID: +THIS IS THE HONG KONG PHILOSOPHY. IF EVIDENCE IS NEEDED OF THE SUCCESS OF THESE PHILOSOPHIES, YOU CAN SEE IT AROUND YOU.

+HONG KONG'S SUCCESS IS THE REAL REPLY TO NARROW-MINDED FORCES OF PROTECTIONISM WHOSE ONLY EFFECT IN THE LONG TERM WILL BE FURTHER DAMAGE TO THE ECONOMIES OF THE 'PROTECTORS'.+

/SIR DAVID

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SIR DAVID SAID THAT THE POLICIES THAT HAD POWERED HONG KONG'S PROSPERITY WERE AN EXAMPLE TO THE WORLD. IT RANKED 15TH IN THE WORLD IN EXPORTS AND 16TH IN IMPORTS. TRADE WAS A VITAL COMPONENT TO HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC GROWTH.

HONG KONG'S TRADING PATTERNS, SIR DAVID SAID, WERE CHANGING AND IT HAD TO LOOK OUTWARD TO THE WORLD AND INWARD TO CHINA.

+OUR IMPORTANCE AS AN EXPORTER AND AN ENTREPOT IS ILLUSTRATED BY THE FACT THAT MORE THAN 1 000 OCEAN-GOING SHIPS VISIT HONG KONG EVERY MONTH.

+AND THIS IMPORTANCE IS GROWING AS INVESTORS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS REALISE THE TRUE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE AGREEMENT ABOUT THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG,+ HE SAID.

TURNING TO THE TRADE FAIR, SIR DAVID SAID THE PARTICIPATION OF SO MANY LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES WAS A VERY WELCOME INDICATION OF HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC HEALTH AND THE HONG KONG TRADE FAIR GROUP AND ITS SPONSORS DESERVED TO BE CONGRATULATED AND THANKED.

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INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT SETTING UP NEW YORK OFFICE * * * *

A SECOND NORTH AMERICAN OFFICE TO PROMOTE INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG WILL SOON BE IN OPERATION.

THE NEW OFFICE OF THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT IS BEING SET UP IN NEW YORK AND IT WILL COMPLEMENT THE INVESTMENT PROMOTION WORK BEING CARRIED OUT BY THE DEPARTMENT'S SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE, THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR JOHN YAXLEY SAID TODAY.

IT WILL BRING THE NUMBER OF OVERSEAS INVESTMENT PROMOTION OFFICES UP TO FIVE - THE OTHERS ARE IN TOKYO, LONDON AND STUTTGART.

THE NEW YORK OFFICE WILL BE HEADED BY MR PAULUS CHAN, WHO IS ALREADY IN THE CITY FINALISING ARRANGEMENTS FOR ACCOMMODATION AND STAFFING. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE OFFICE WILL BEGIN OPERATING IN NOVEMBER AND THE OFFICIAL OPENING IS PLANNED FOR FEBRUARY 1986.

+OVERSEAS INVESTMENT BRINGS BENEFITS TO HONG KONG BOTH DIRECTLY AND INDIRECTLY THROUGH THE INTRODUCTION OF NEW TECHNOLOGY AND THE UPGRADING OF OUR MANUFACTURING BASE,+ SAID MR YAXLEY.

+THE UNITED STATES IS THE LARGEST SINGLE SOURCE OF OVERSEAS INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG INDUSTRY AND THIS NEW OFFICE WILL HELP US TO FURTHER IMPROVE OUR SERVICE TO UNITED STATES AND CANADIAN COMPANIES THINKING ABOUT SETTING UP IN THE TERRITORY.+

OVER THE LAST TWO-AND-A-HALF YEAR ABOUT 80 NEW MANUFACTURING VENTURES HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED IN HONG KONG BY OVERSEAS INVESTORS.

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U.S. MAKES FOURTH EA CALL
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THE TRADE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT MADE AN EXPORT AUTHORISATION (EA) CALL ON CATEGORY 361 (COTTON SHEETS) TODAY (MONDAY).

THIS IS THE FOURTH EA CALL MADE BY THE UNITED STATES SO FAR THIS YEAR.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE HONG KONG-U.S. BILATERAL TEXTILE AGREEMENT, THE DEPARTMENT HAS SUSPENDED THE ISSUE OF FURTHER EA'S IN THIS CATEGORY WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT PENDING CONSULTATIONS WITH THE U.S. AUTHORITIES.

EXPORT AUTHORISATIONS COVERING A TOTAL OF 738 175 PIECES HAD BEEN ISSUED IN 1985 AT THE TIME OF CALL, AND THERE WAS NO OUTSTANDING EA APPLICATION.

THE DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE TO APPROVE AND ISSUE EXPORT LICENCES FOR THIS CATEGORY AGAINST VALID EXPORT AUTHORISATIONS APPROVED PRIOR TO THE SUSPENSION.

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SURVEY SHOWS PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR GREEN PAPER ON HOUSING SUBSIDY
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SEVENTY-ONE PER CENT OF THE PUBLIC SUPPORT THE PRINCIPLE OF REDUCING HOUSING SUBSIDY TO PUBLIC HOUSING TENANTS WHO HAVE IMPROVED THEIR FINANCIAL SITUATION.

THIS WAS THE RESULT OF AN INDEPENDENT SURVEY, CONDUCTED BY A PRIVATE FIRM, COMMISSIONED BY THE HOUSING AUTHORITY.

CONDUCTED FROM AUGUST TO OCTOBER, THE SURVEY WAS BASED ON A REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLE OF 1 509 ADULTS RANDOMLY SELECTED AND SUCCESSFULLY INTERVIEWED. RESPONSE RATE WAS 87 PER CENT.

THE SAMPLE COVERED ADULTS IN VARIOUS DISTRICTS OF THE TERRITORY, IN DIFFERENT HOUSING TYPES, WITH DIFFERENT INCOMES, EDUCATION ATTAINMENT AND OTHER SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS.

AND THE RESULTS SHOWED THAT SUPPORT FROM RESIDENTS IN PRIVATE HOUSING WAS OVERWHELMING AT 81 PER CENT, CLOSELY FOLLOWED BY 72 PER CENT OF RESIDENTS IN PRIVATE TEMPORARY HOUSING (E.G. SQUATTERS) WHO STRONGLY AGREED OR AGREED TO THE PRINCIPLE.

IT IS WORTHY OF NOTE THAT THE MAJORITY (55 PER CENT) OF PUBLIC RENTAL HOUSING TENANTS ALSO SUPPORTED THE PRINCIPLE OF THE GREEN PAPER, COMPARED WITH 78 PER CENT OF RESIDENTS IN HOME OWNERSHIP COURTS, TEMPORARY HOUSING AND COTTAGE AREAS.

/SUPPORT OF

SUPPORT OF THE PRINCIPLE FROM PEOPLE WITH DIFFERENT EDUCATION ATTAINMENTS ARE:

- * 66 PER CENT OF THOSE WITH PRIMARY EDUCATION OR BELOW;
- * 72 PER CENT OF THOSE WITH SECONDARY EDUCATION;
- * 78 PER CENT OF THOSE WITH MATRICULATION-POST SECONDARY EDUCATION;
- * 85 PER CENT OF THOSE WITH TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL TRAINING, AND
- * 94 PER CENT OF THOSE WITH UNIVERSITY-PROFESSIONAL TRAINING.

ANALYSED BY AGE GROUP, THE MAJORITY SUPPORT OF THE PRINCIPLE IS:

- * 70 PER CENT OF THOSE AGED 21 - 29;
- * 76 PER CENT OF THOSE AGED 30 - 39;
- * 75 PER CENT OF THOSE AGED 40 - 49;
- * 63 PER CENT OF THOSE AGED 50 - 59, AND
- * 64 PER CENT OF THOSE AGED 60 AND OVER.

THE SURVEY ALSO REVEALED THAT 60 PER CENT OF THE PUBLIC AGREED TO THE +NO EVICTION+ APPROACH ADVOCATED BY THE HOUSING AUTHORITY.

REDUCTION OF HOUSING SUBSIDY FOR PUBLIC HOUSING TENANTS WHO HAVE IMPROVED THEIR FINANCIAL SITUATION RECEIVED FAR MORE PUBLIC SUPPORT THAN EVICTION.

ON THE SUGGESTIONS IN THE GREEN PAPER, 78 PER CENT STRONGLY AGREED OR AGREED TO THE PROPOSAL OF ASKING PUBLIC HOUSING TENANTS TO PAY A HIGHER RENT AT THE EXPIRY OF THE INITIAL PERIOD OF 10 YEARS' RESIDENCE UNLESS THEY COULD PROVE THEIR HOUSEHOLD INCOME DID NOT EXCEED THE SUBSIDY INCOME LIMIT.

THE STATISTICS SHOWED THAT EVEN AMONG PUBLIC RENTAL RESIDENTS, 67 PER CENT OF THEM AGREED TO THIS FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE.

ON THE SUBSIDY INCOME LIMIT (SIL) 55 PER CENT OF THE PUBLIC THOUGHT THAT THE PROPOSED SIL WAS ABOUT RIGHT AND 41 PER CENT TOO HARSH.

OF THE 41 PER CENT, 17 PER CENT SUGGESTED 1.8 TO 1.9 TIMES, 12 PER CENT 1.6 TO 1.7 TIMES AND 11 PER CENT SUGGESTED 2.0 TO 2.1 TIMES.

ON INCOME CALCULATION, 71 PER CENT OF THE PUBLIC CONSIDERED AS MORE APPROPRIATE THE OPTION TO INCLUDE ALL INCOME FROM EMPLOYMENT AND INVESTMENTS BUT LEAVING OUT THE VALUE OF ASSETS. EIGHTEEN PER CENT CONSIDERED AS MORE APPROPRIATE THE OPTION OF INCLUDING FIVE PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF ASSETS AS WELL.

ON COUNTING INCOME FROM EARNERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD, 73 PER CENT CONSIDERED AS MORE APPROPRIATE THE METHOD SUGGESTED IN THE GREEN PAPER - FULL INCOME OF TENANT AND SPOUSE, BUT 60 PER CENT OF OTHER EARNERS - THAN COUNTING THE FULL INCOME FROM ALL EARNERS AS ADOPTED FOR THE WAITING LIST APPLICANTS.

OVER 80 PER CENT AGREED THAT THE ONUS OF PROOF OF ELIGIBILITY TO PAY THE OLD RENT RESTED WITH THE RESIDENT AND TO PENALTY FOR SUBMITTING FALSE INFORMATION.

AND 71 PER CENT OF THE PUBLIC REGARDED THE SUGGESTED LENGTH OF REVIEW - 10 YEARS - TO BE APPROPRIATE AND THIS OPINION WAS HELD COMMONLY BY ABOUT THE SAME PROPORTION OF PEOPLE ACROSS DIFFERENT HOUSING TYPES.

ALSO, THE PROPOSED IDEA OF ASKING THOSE WHO HAVE COME THROUGH THE FIRST REVIEW TO RE-DECLARE THEIR INCOME AT REGULAR INTERVALS WAS SUPPORTED BY 77 PER CENT OF THE PUBLIC.

THE INTERVAL OF TWO YEARS WAS CONSIDERED ABOUT RIGHT BY 61 PER CENT AND TOO SHORT BY 34 PER CENT. EIGHTEEN PER CENT OF THE 34 PER CENT WHO SAID IT WAS TOO SHORT SUGGESTED FIVE YEARS, 13 PER CENT SUGGESTED THREE TO FOUR YEARS AND THE SMALL REMAINDER HELD VERY DIVERSE VIEWS.

FORTY-THREE PER CENT OF THE PUBLIC FAVOURED TWICE THE NET RENT FOR TENANTS WHOSE HOUSEHOLD INCOMES EXCEEDED THE SIL AND WHO HAVE LIVED 10 YEARS OR MORE IN PUBLIC RENTAL HOUSING.

OF THE 54 PER CENT WHO WERE AGAINST, 17 PER CENT SUGGESTED 1.5 TIMES, 12 PER CENT 1.3 TIMES, 12 PER CENT 1.2 TIMES, FOUR PER CENT 1.4 TIMES, FOUR PER CENT 1.1 TIMES AND THE REMAINING EIGHT PER CENT HELD DIVERSE VIEWS.

IN RESPONSE TO THE SUPPOSITION THAT A TENANT WAS ASKED TO PAY TWICE THE NET RENT:

- * 40 PER CENT OF THE TENANTS SAID THEY WILL PAY WHAT WAS DEMANDED;
- * 23 PER CENT WILL BUY HOME OWNERSHIP FLATS, AND
- * 5 PER CENT WILL MOVE TO PRIVATE HOUSING.

THE SURVEY ALSO SHOWED THAT 93 PER CENT OF THE PUBLIC AGREED TO APPEAL PROCEDURES AND PERMISSION TO APPLY TO PAY LOWER RENT BY HOUSEHOLDS WHOSE INCOME SUBSEQUENTLY FELL BELOW THE WAITING LIST INCOME LIMIT.

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ON FURTHER INCENTIVES TO ENCOURAGE BUYING HOME OWNERSHIP FLATS, 51 PER CENT OF THE PUBLIC CONSIDERED THAT THOSE AFFECTED BY THE GREEN PAPER SUGGESTIONS SHOULD RECEIVE THE SAME TREATMENT AS OTHER GREEN FORM BUYERS AND 43 PER CENT FAVOURED FURTHER INCENTIVES.

WHILE ONLY 31 PER CENT OF PRIVATE HOUSING RESIDENTS FAVOURED FURTHER INCENTIVES, 61 PER CENT OF PUBLIC RENTAL TENANTS SAID THAT FURTHER INCENTIVES SHOULD BE GIVEN TO ENCOURAGE HOUSEHOLDS WHO WOULD BE ASKED TO PAY HIGHER RENT TO BUY HOME OWNERSHIP FLATS.

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SEWAGE DISPOSAL PLANT FOR TSING YI
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A SEWAGE DISPOSAL PLANT IS TO BE BUILT TO SERVE TSING YI AND TO MAINTAIN ACCEPTABLE WATER QUALITY IN RAMBLER CHANNEL.

THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR STAGE I OF THE PROJECT WHICH WILL INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A PUMPING STATION, A SCREEN CHAMBER, AERATED GRIT CHANNELS, ANCILLARY FACILITIES AND A 400-METRE TWIN SUBMARINE PIPELINE.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN JANUARY 1986 AND TAKE ABOUT 24 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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LIQUOR LICENSING BOARD TO DECIDE ON THREE APPLICATIONS
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THE URBAN COUNCIL'S LIQUOR LICENSING BOARD WILL DECIDE ON THREE APPLICATIONS BY THE POLICE FOR REVOCATION OF LIQUOR LICENCES AT ITS MONTHLY OPEN MEETING ON WEDNESDAY (OCTOBER 23).

IN ONE CASE, THE POLICE CLAIM THAT THE LICENSEE OF THE CHINA NIGHT CLUB IN KIMBERLEY ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI, WAS NOT PRESENT ON THE LICENSED PREMISES ON 19 OCCASIONS, AND THAT UNDER-AGED GIRLS WERE FOUND TO BE EMPLOYED THERE.

IN THE TWO OTHER CASES, THE POLICE CONSIDER THAT THE LICENSEES OF SUI SHA YA JAPANESE RESTAURANT IN CHATHAM ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI AND THE DEWEY DISCO AND PUB FIFTH AVENUE IN HENNESSY ROAD, WAN CHAI, HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO MAINTAIN ORDER ON THEIR PREMISES WHERE SEVERAL ASSAULT CASES HAD OCCURRED.

/THE BOARD

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THE BOARD WILL ALSO CONSIDER APPLICATIONS FOR LIQUOR LICENCES FROM THE LYCHEE VILLAGE RESTAURANT IN CAMERON ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI THE HONG KONG TELEPHONE COMPANY'S LAI CHI KOK II ENGINEERING CENTRE STAFF CANTEEN IN LAI CHI KOK, KOWLOON THE CLUB EMA IN MODY ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI AND THE HONG KONG ELECTRIC GROUP SPORTS CLUB IN AP LEI CHAU, HONG KONG.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD, MR PETER C.K. CHAN, WILL MAKE A STATEMENT ON THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING COMPLAINTS AGAINST RIP-OFF BARS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND A REPORTER AND/OR PHOTOGRAPHER TO COVER THE MEETING WHICH WILL START AT 8.30 A.M. ON WEDNESDAY AT THE URBAN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, EDINBURGH PLACE.

MAXIMUM FINE FOR UNHYGIENIC SOFT DRINK
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THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT TODAY CALLED ON ALL FOOD MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS TO FOLLOW STRICT HYGIENE RULES IN BOTTLING DRINKS FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.

THIS FOLLOWED THE RECENT CONVICTION OF A SOFT DRINK MANUFACTURER WHO WAS FINED THE MAXIMUM \$2 000 FOR SELLING UNHYGIENIC DRINKS.

A SOFT DRINK PURCHASED AT A KWAI CHUNG CANTEEN IN AUGUST LAST YEAR WAS FOUND TO CONTAIN SOME MINUTE SOLIDS WHICH WAS LATER PROVED TO BE OOTHECAE -- EGGS OF COCKROACHES.

THE DEFENDANT HAS SIMILAR PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS.

OPERATION AGAINST COUNTRY PARK FIRES
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THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT IS MOUNTING AN ALL-OUT OPERATION TO PROTECT COUNTRY PARKS FROM THE POSSIBLE OUTBREAK OF FIRE TOMORROW (TUESDAY), CHUNG YEUNG FESTIVAL DAY.

THE DEPARTMENT'S FIRE CREW WILL BE ASSISTED, FOR THE FIRST TIME, BY 80 CIVIL AID SERVICES PERSONNEL AND 20 COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB MEMBERS IN FIRE WATCH DUTIES.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1985

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SPECIAL MEETING TO DISCUSS GREEN PAPER
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SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THE GREEN PAPER ON HOUSING SUBSIDY TO TENANTS OF PUBLIC HOUSING AT A SPECIAL MEETING ON WEDNESDAY (OCTOBER 23) MORNING.

SENIOR HOUSING MANAGER OF THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT, MR CHEN YU-CHENG, WILL ATTEND THE MEETING TO HELP BOARD MEMBERS IN THEIR DISCUSSION.

AT THE MEETING, FOUR MEMBERS - MR CHOY KAN-PUI, MR CHAN HON-YING, MR NG KING-SING AND MR LAM HUNG-CHIU - WILL PRESENT PAPERS ON RESIDENTS' VIEWS FROM THE TIN SUM, SHA KOK, CHE KUNG MIU AND YUEN WO AREAS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SPECIAL MEETING ON THE GREEN PAPER ON HOUSING SUBSIDY TO TENANTS OF PUBLIC HOUSING TO BE HELD AT 9.30 AM ON WEDNESDAY (OCTOBER 23) IN THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM, SIXTH FLOOR, KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN STATION.

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DETAILS ON NEW TRAFFIC SCHEME
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THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE WILL HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE ON WEDNESDAY (OCTOBER 23) TO ANNOUNCE THE OPENING OF A FLYOVER IN ABERDEEN TOWN CENTRE ON FRIDAY (OCTOBER 25) AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SCHEME IN ABERDEEN.

ATTENDING THE PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR EDDIE CHAN; SENIOR TRANSPORT OFFICER, MR STEPHEN IP, AND CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT BOARD'S TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE, MR KWOK WAI-MING.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRESS CONFERENCE WHICH WILL BE HELD AT 4 PM IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, SECOND FLOOR, MEI FUNG COURT, ABERDEEN CENTRE.

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1985

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COMMITTEE MEETINGS OPEN TO PUBLIC

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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND MEETINGS OF THE FOUR COMMITTEES OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD.

THE MEETINGS ARE HELD IN THE DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE EIGHTH FLOOR OF TUNG WAH MANSION AT 201 HENNESSY ROAD, WAN CHAI.

THOSE WISHING TO ATTEND THE COMMITTEE MEETINGS SHOULD CONTACT THE DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT ON 5-8921239 TO MAKE RESERVATIONS.

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF THE DATES AND TIME OF THE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

- * ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE, OCTOBER 23 (4 PM)
- * COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE, OCTOBER 29 (4 PM)
- * CULTURE AND RECREATION COMMITTEE, NOVEMBER 12 (4 PM)
- * TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE, NOVEMBER 18 (4 PM)

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE ABOVE MEETINGS.

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174 SCHOOLS, ENTER MATHEMATICS OLYMPIAD

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TEAMS FROM 174 SCHOOLS WILL BE TAKING PART IN THE THIRD HONG KONG MATHEMATICS OLYMPIAD FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS.

THE COMPETITION IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE MATHEMATICS SECTION OF THE ADVISORY INSPECTORATE, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT OF NORTHCOTE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION.

EACH TEAM WILL CONSIST OF FOUR STUDENTS UP TO FROM 4 STANDARD.

HEATS WILL BE HELD ON A SATURDAY MORNING IN DECEMBER AND THE 40 TEAMS WITH THE HIGHEST SCORES WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE FINALS WHICH WILL BE HELD SOMETIME IN JANUARY OR FEBRUARY NEXT YEAR AT THE NORTHCOTE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION.

THE THREE TEAMS ACHIEVING THE HIGHEST SCORES IN THE FINAL WILL RECEIVE TROPHIES AND PRIZES.

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1985

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MA CHAI HANG SERVICE RESERVOIR PLANNED
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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FRESH WATER SERVICE RESERVOIR AT YAN YEE VILLAGE IN MA CHAI HANG, KOWLOON.

WITH A CAPACITY OF 11 000 CUBIC METRES, THE RESERVOIR WILL MEET DEMAND FROM NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS IN MA CHAI HANG AND CHUK YUEN.

WORK ON THE PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO START IN JANUARY 1986 AND BE COMPLETED IN 17 MONTHS.

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SPEED LIMIT ON NEW CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD
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SPEED LIMITS WILL BE INTRODUCED FROM 10 AM ON THURSDAY (OCTOBER 24) ON THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS OF NEW CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD:

- * 70 KILOMETRES PER HOUR SPEED LIMIT WILL BE IMPOSED ON NEW CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD BETWEEN ITS EASTERN JUNCTION WITH CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD AND A POINT ABOUT 220 METRES NORTH OF ITS JUNCTION WITH LEE ON ROAD.
- * A SPEED LIMIT OF 50 KILOMETRES PER HOUR WILL BE IMPOSED ON NEW CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH LEE ON ROAD AND A POINT ABOUT 220 METRES NORTH OF THE SAME JUNCTION.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE SPEED LIMIT OF 40 MILES PER HOUR PRESENTLY IMPOSED ON THE ABOVE SECTIONS OF NEW CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD WILL BE CANCELLED.

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IEC WESTBOUND CLOSED FOR NIGHT WORK
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TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FLYOVER LINKING KORNHILL AND THE ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR, THE WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF THE ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR BETWEEN SHAU KEI WAN AND TAIKOO SHING WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 10 PM ON THURSDAY (OCTOBER 24) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY.

DURING THE CLOSURE, WESTBOUND VEHICLES FROM SHAU KEI WAN HEADING FOR THE ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR WILL BE DIVERTED TO USE SHAU KEI WAN ROAD, TAIKOO SHING ROAD, TAI FUNG AVENUE AND TAIKOO WAN ROAD.

THE SAME MEASURE WILL BE REPEATED ON OCTOBER 25 FROM 10 PM TO 6 AM THE NEXT DAY.

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1985

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TUEN MUN ROAD CLOSURE
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TO FACILITATE ROAD RESURFACING WORK, THE TRAFFIC LANES OF TUEN MUN ROAD BETWEEN SIU LAM INTERCHANGE AND CHI LOK FA YUEN WILL BE CLOSED FROM 10 AM ON WEDNESDAY (OCTOBER 23), FOR ABOUT FOUR MONTHS.

THE ROAD WORK WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN STAGES. DURING THIS PERIOD, ONLY ONE TRAFFIC LANE WILL BE AVAILABLE. MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED TO USE CASTLE PEAK ROAD VIA SIU LAM INTERCHANGE TO AVOID POSSIBLE DELAYS.

TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FOOTBRIDGE, TUEN MUN ROAD BETWEEN SIU LAM INTERCHANGE AND ROAD D8 WILL BE CLOSED. ON OCTOBER 23 AND 24 (WEDNESDAY - THURSDAY), THE TUEN MUN BOUND CARRIAGEWAY WILL BE CLOSED FROM 11.30 PM TO 5 AM, AND ON OCTOBER 25 AND 26 (FRIDAY - SATURDAY), THE TSUEN WAN BOUND CARRIAGEWAY WILL BE CLOSED ON THE SAME HOURS.

MOTORISTS WILL BE DIVERTED TO USE CASTLE PEAK ROAD.

KMB ROUTES 57M, 59A, 59M, 60, 60M, 66, 66M, 67M, 68 AND 68M WILL BE DIVERTED TO OPERATE VIA CASTLE PEAK ROAD.

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MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
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THE URBAN COUNCIL'S KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN COMMITTEE, CHAIRED BY MR WALTER SULKE, WILL HOLD ITS FIRST PUBLIC MEETING ON THURSDAY (OCTOBER 24).

THE COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS SIX PAPERS, DEALING WITH PUBLICITY AND CLEANSING SCHEMES.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 8.30 AM AT ROOM 2, 4TH FLOOR, URBAN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, EDINBURGH PLACE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE
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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 77.9 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 456.796 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 488.775 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 83.4 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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