



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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GOOD PROGRESS IN NEW AIRPORT PROJECT: STI

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THE GOVERNMENT IS MAKING GOOD PROGRESS IN THE NEW AIRPORT PROJECT WHICH HAS ATTRACTED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR JOHN CHAN, SAID IN TOKYO TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE "HONG KONG: BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE" SEMINAR IN THE JAPANESE CAPITAL, MR CHAN SAID A CONSULTANCY FOR THE MASTER PLAN DESIGN SHOULD BE AWARDED BY THE SECOND QUARTER OF THIS YEAR.

"THE FIRST CONTRACT FOR PREPARATION OF THE WORKS SITE SHOULD START EARLY IN 1991 AND WE WOULD HOPE TO CALL TENDERS FOR THE MAIN CONTRACT FOR THE RECLAMATION WORKS BY THE MIDDLE OF 1991 WITH WORK STARTING EARLY IN 1992," HE SAID.

MR CHAN SAID LEGISLATION WAS BEING DRAFTED TO ESTABLISH A PROVISIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY TO OVERSEE CONSTRUCTION OF THE AIRPORT.

"WE ARE ALSO IN THE PROCESS OF RECRUITING A CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR THIS PROJECT.

"AND WE SHALL BE CONSIDERING IN DETAIL, OVER THE NEXT 12 TO 18 MONTHS, THE QUESTION OF FUNDING, INCLUDING PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION," HE SAID.

AS REGARDS THE PORT, MR CHAN SAID THAT TO CATER FOR THE ESTIMATED EXPANSION IN DEMAND FOR HONG KONG'S PORT SERVICES, THE GOVERNMENT HAD PUT THE FIRST PRIORITY ON BUILDING THE NEXT CONTAINER TERMINAL - TERMINAL NO. 8 - ON RECLAIMED LAND AT STONECUTTERS ISLAND.

"TO CO-ORDINATE THE NEEDS AND INTERESTS OF ALL ITS DIFFERENT USERS, WE SHALL SHORTLY BE SETTING UP A PORT DEVELOPMENT BOARD TO ADVISE ON THE DETAILED PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF THE PORT EXPANSION," HE SAID.

MR CHAN SAID THAT ALTHOUGH IT WAS IN THE NATURE OF THINGS THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD TO PROVIDE MOST OF THIS PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE, THERE HAD BEEN MANY SUCCESSFUL EXAMPLES IN HONG KONG OF PRIVATE SECTOR INVOLVEMENT IN INFRASTRUCTURAL PROJECTS.

"WE THEREFORE WELCOME ANY LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES WHICH ARE INTERESTED TO PARTICIPATE IN SOME OF THESE PADS (PORT AND AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY) DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS," HE SAID.

APART FROM IMPROVING THE ROAD NETWORK AND PORT AND AIRPORT FACILITIES, MR CHAN SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD ALSO BEEN PROVIDING INFRASTRUCTURAL SUPPORT TO HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN OTHER FORMS.

/HE SAID .....

HE SAID LAND HAD BEEN EARMARKED FOR A THIRD INDUSTRIAL ESTATE TO BE ESTABLISHED AT TSEUNG KWAN O.

"THE NEW ESTATE IS DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY FOR MANUFACTURING OPERATIONS INVOLVING ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES. IT IS EXPECTED TO BE READY IN 1993," HE SAID.

MR CHAN ADDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS PLANNING TO ESTABLISH A TECHNOLOGY CENTRE IN HONG KONG TO PROVIDE FACILITIES FOR NEW AND SMALL-SCALE HIGH TECHNOLOGY COMPANIES UNTIL THEY COULD STAND ON THEIR OWN FEET.

"MEANWHILE, A SERIES OF SERVICES SUCH AS PRODUCTIVITY ENHANCEMENT, QUALITY IMPROVEMENT AND PRODUCT DESIGN SERVICES WILL CONTINUE TO BE PROVIDED BY BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND OTHER RELEVANT ORGANISATIONS SO AS TO STRENGTHEN OUR MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES," HE SAID.

MR CHAN SAID THE FORMULATION OF SUCH MASSIVE PLANS AS PADS FOR INFRASTRUCTURAL FACILITIES WAS IN FACT A MANIFESTATION OF THE GOVERNMENT'S PHILOSOPHY OF PROVIDING THE RIGHT ENVIRONMENT FOR BUSINESS TO SUCCEED, OF RELYING ON THE FORCES OF FREE ENTERPRISE AND OF CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN THE PROVISION OF THE TERRITORY'S KEY INFRASTRUCTURE.

LOOKING INTO THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE, MR CHAN SAID HONG KONG'S TRADE AND INDUSTRY WOULD BE FACED WITH SUCH PROBLEMS AS THE SLACKENING OF THE WORLD ECONOMY, THE INCREASINGLY INTENSE COMPETITION FROM NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES, THE SLOWDOWN IN THE GROWTH OF HONG KONG'S TRADE WITH CHINA AND THE RISING PROTECTIONIST PRESSURES IN ITS TRADITIONAL WESTERN MARKETS.

"HOWEVER, WE STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT THESE INFRASTRUCTURAL PROJECTS WILL EQUIP HONG KONG WITH NEW AND EFFECTIVE TOOLS IN TERMS OF AN IMPROVED TRADING ENVIRONMENT AND INCREASED INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES.

"THESE, TOGETHER WITH THE USUAL RESILIENCE AND ENTERPRISING SPIRIT OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG, WILL ENABLE US TO STRIVE THROUGH SUCH DIFFICULTIES AND CONTINUE TO ACHIEVE RESULTS," HE SAID.

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WAGE INDEXES FOR SEPTEMBER PUBLISHED

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THE OVERALL NOMINAL WAGE INDEX FOR SEPTEMBER 1989, AT 186.7, INCREASED BY 13.4 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER 1988 AND BY 2.2 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH JUNE 1989, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS PUBLISHED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

A COMPARISON OF THE SEPTEMBER 1989 AND SEPTEMBER 1988 INDEXES SHOWS THAT THE NOMINAL WAGE INDEX FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR INCREASED BY 12.1 PER CENT; FOR THE WHOLESALE/RETAIL, IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR BY 13.4 PER CENT; FOR THE TRANSPORT SERVICES SECTOR BY 18.1 PER CENT; FOR THE BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR BY 19.0 PER CENT; AND FOR THE PERSONAL SERVICES SECTOR BY 22.2 PER CENT.

A COMPARISON OF THE SEPTEMBER 1989 AND JUNE 1989 INDEXES SHOWS THAT THE NOMINAL WAGE INDEX FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR INCREASED BY 1.7 PER CENT; FOR THE WHOLESALE/RETAIL, IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR BY 2.0 PER CENT; FOR THE TRANSPORT SERVICES SECTOR BY 6.4 PER CENT; FOR THE BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR BY 3.5 PER CENT; AND FOR THE PERSONAL SERVICES SECTOR BY 3.6 PER CENT.

THE NOMINAL WAGE INDEXES FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 1988 TO SEPTEMBER 1989 FOR SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS ARE GIVEN IN TABLE 1. DETAILED BREAKDOWNS FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR ARE GIVEN IN TABLE 2.

THE OVERALL REAL WAGE INDEX, AT 112.4 IN SEPTEMBER 1989, WAS 2.9 PER CENT HIGHER THAN THAT IN SEPTEMBER 1988 AND 0.1 PER CENT HIGHER THAN THAT IN JUNE 1989.

THE REAL WAGE INDEXES FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 1988 TO SEPTEMBER 1989 FOR SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS ARE GIVEN IN TABLE 3.

THESE NOMINAL AND REAL WAGE INDEXES ARE DERIVED FROM THE SURVEY OF WAGES, SALARIES AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CONDUCTED EACH QUARTER BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, COVERING BOTH MANUAL AND NON-MANUAL WORKERS (EXCLUDING WORKERS AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROFESSIONAL LEVELS) IN SELECTED INDUSTRIES IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, THE WHOLESALE/RETAIL, IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR, THE TRANSPORT SERVICES SECTOR, THE BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR AND THE PERSONAL SERVICES SECTOR.

SUCH INDEXES MEASURE CHANGES IN WAGE RATES BY HOLDING THE STRUCTURAL PATTERN OF THE LABOUR FORCE WITH RESPECT TO INDUSTRY, OCCUPATION, SEX AND MODE OF PAYMENT THE SAME AS THAT OF MARCH 1982, WHICH IS THE BASE PERIOD OF THE WAGE INDEXES.

/WHILE THE .....

WHILE THE NOMINAL WAGE INDEX MEASURES CHANGES IN WAGE RATES IN MONEY TERMS, THE REAL WAGE INDEX, WHICH IS OBTAINED BY DEFLATING THE NOMINAL WAGE INDEX BY THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A), MEASURES CHANGES IN THE PURCHASING POWER OF THE WAGES RECEIVED.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT DREW ATTENTION TO THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE WAGE INDEXES AND THE INDEXES OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED WHICH ARE ALSO PUBLISHED AT QUARTERLY INTERVALS.

HE POINTED OUT THAT WHILE WAGE RATES PROVIDE A MEASURE OF THE UNIT PRICE OF LABOUR, PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED IS A MEASURE OF PER CAPITA EARNINGS.

WAGE RATES REPRESENT THE AMOUNT OF REMUNERATION FOR NORMAL HOURS OF WORK, AND ARE DEFINED TO INCLUDE BASIC WAGES AND SALARIES, COST-OF-LIVING ALLOWANCE, MEAL BENEFITS, COMMISSION AND TIPS, GOOD ATTENDANCE BONUS AND NIGHT SHIFT ALLOWANCE.

IN ADDITION, YEAR-END BONUS AND OTHER GUARANTEED AND REGULAR BONUSES AND ALLOWANCES THAT ARE PAID LESS FREQUENTLY THAN MONTHLY, ARE CONVERTED TO AN EQUIVALENT MONTHLY RATE WHEN COMPILING THE WAGE RATE INDEXES.

TOTAL PAYROLL, ON THE OTHER HAND, IS THE AMOUNT OF DIRECT CASH PAYMENTS THAT EMPLOYEES RECEIVE FROM EMPLOYERS. APART FROM THE ABOVE MENTIONED CASH RECEIPTS, IT ALSO INCLUDES OVERTIME PAY AND OTHER NON-GUARANTEED AND IRREGULAR BONUSES AND ALLOWANCES.

HENCE, STATISTICS ON PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED TEND TO BE SENSITIVE TO CHANGES IN THE NUMBER OF HOURS ACTUALLY WORKED, THE TIMING OF THE PAYMENT OF BONUSES AND BACK-PAY, AND THE COMPOSITION OF THE LABOUR FORCE.

AS A RESULT, MOVEMENTS IN WAGE RATES DO NOT NECESSARILY CONFORM WITH THOSE IN PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED.

THE SURVEY FINDINGS ARE PUBLISHED IN A REPORT OF WAGES, SALARIES AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS STATISTICS VOL. 1, SEPTEMBER 1989 WHICH WILL BE ON SALE SHORTLY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL.

THE VOL. II ISSUE OF THE REPORT CONTAINING DETAILED OCCUPATIONAL STATISTICS, SUCH AS WAGE RATES, NUMBER OF NORMAL HOURS OF WORK AND NUMBER OF STANDARD WORKING DAYS IS EXPECTED TO BE AVAILABLE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE IN MID-FEBRUARY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE WAGE INDEXES MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE WAGES AND LABOUR COSTS STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL. 8234744 OR 8234747.

TABLE 1 : NOMINAL WAGE INDEXES BY SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS

SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS	INDEXES (MARCH 1982 = 100)					% CHANGE
	SEPT. 1988	DEC. 1988	MAR. 1989	JUN. 1989	SEPT. 1989	SEPT. 89/ SEPT. 88
MANUFACTURING	161.1	161.9	171.3	177.6	180.6	+12.1
WHOLESALE/RETAIL, IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	159.6	164.4	174.8	177.5	181.0	+13.4
TRANSPORT SERVICES	188.2	190.4	199.9	208.9	222.3	+18.1
BUSINESS SERVICES	182.3	185.4	201.7	209.6	217.0	+19.0
PERSONAL SERVICES	171.3	178.7	194.8	202.2	209.4	+22.2
ALL SECTORS ABOVE	164.7	166.6	176.7	182.7	186.7	+13.4

TABLE 2 : NOMINAL WAGE INDEXES FOR MAJOR INDUSTRIES IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR

SELECTED MAJOR INDUSTRIES	INDEXES (MARCH 1982 = 100)					% CHANGE
	SEPT. 1988	DEC. 1988	MAR. 1989	JUN. 1989	SEPT. 1989	SEPT. 89/ SEPT. 88
GARMENTS	139.7	140.0	144.2	149.9	153.1	+9.6
GLOVES	169.3	170.1	189.1	192.8	192.2	+13.5
HANDBAGS	151.4	151.1	162.2	174.3	180.5	+19.2
COTTON SPINNING/ WEAVING	174.7	175.0	190.3	191.7	193.0	+10.5

/KNITTING 152.9 .....

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KNITTING	152.9	153.8	161.6	167.8	168.3	+10.1
BLEACHING AND DYEING	181.9	182.4	189.6	197.1	200.6	+10.3
PRINTING	186.7	190.9	203.5	218.0	222.9	+19.4
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	159.9	160.4	165.2	170.4	170.5	+ 6.6
METAL PRODUCTS	170.4	174.8	182.7	192.1	193.9	+13.8
ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES	186.7	189.4	208.0	220.9	227.7	+22.0
ELECTRONICS	183.9	183.9	202.8	205.8	210.6	+14.5
WATCHES AND CLOCKS	191.0	190.9	215.3	219.4	224.6	+17.6
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MANUFACTURING	161.1	161.9	171.3	177.6	180.6	+12.1
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TABLE 3 : REAL WAGE INDEXES BY SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS

SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS	INDEXES (MARCH 1982 = 100)					% CHANGE
	SEPT. 1988	DEC. 1988	MAR. 1989	JUN. 1989	SEPT. 1989	SEPT. 89/ SEPT. 88
MANUFACTURING	106.8	106.2	109.1	109.2	108.7	+ 1.8
WHOLESALE/RETAIL, IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	105.8	107.9	111.3	109.1	108.9	+ 2.9
TRANSPORT SERVICES	124.7	124.9	127.2	128.4	133.8	+ 7.3
BUSINESS SERVICES	120.8	121.7	128.4	128.8	130.6	+ 8.1
PERSONAL SERVICES	113.5	117.3	124.0	124.3	126.1	+11.1
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ALL SECTORS ABOVE	109.2	109.3	112.5	112.3	112.4	+ 2.9
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CHANNELS FOR TRANSPORT CUSTOMER RELATIONS CALLED FOR

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THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, MR GORDON SIU, TODAY (WEDNESDAY) URGED ALL PUBLIC TRANSPORT COMPANIES TO CONSIDER ESTABLISHING A VARIETY OF CHANNELS, FORMAL OR INFORMAL, FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPROVING DIALOGUE WITH USERS AND FOR ENHANCING CUSTOMER RELATIONS.

MR SIU WAS ADDRESSING THE CLEAN FERRIES AND PIER CAMPAIGN ORGANISED BY THE HONGKONG AND YAUMATI FERRY CO. LTD.

HE SAID IN MANY RESPECTS, PUBLIC TRANSPORT OPERATORS IN HONG KONG FACED THE SAME CHALLENGES AS ANY PRIVATE COMPANY IN THAT THEY MUST MAINTAIN A FINANCIALLY VIABLE SERVICE, SEEK NEW MARKETS AND CATER FOR THE NEEDS AND ASPIRATIONS OF THEIR CUSTOMERS.

"WHEN IT COMES TO IDEAS AND INSPIRATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT, WHO SHOULD THEY LISTEN TO? EXPERTS IN THE FIELD? CERTAINLY. THE GOVERNMENT, AS THE REGULATOR? DEFINITELY.

"BUT I WOULD SUBMIT THAT THEY SHOULD LISTEN TO ONE MORE VOICE - THAT OF THEIR CUSTOMERS.

"AFTER ALL, THESE ARE THE PEOPLE WHO USE THE SERVICES MOST FREQUENTLY," HE SAID.

MR SIU ALSO PAID TRIBUTE TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE ISLANDS DISTRICT BOARD AND ITS TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE AND THE MANAGEMENT AND STAFF OF THE FERRY COMPANY FOR WORKING TOGETHER TO SEEK FURTHER IMPROVEMENT TO DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF FERRY SERVICES.

"I EXPECT TO SEE MORE RESULTS FROM WHICH FERRY PASSENGERS WILL BENEFIT.

"I ALSO HOPE THAT THIS CO-OPERATIVE EFFORT BETWEEN THE COMPANY AND ITS CUSTOMERS TO SEEK IMPROVEMENT TO SERVICES WILL BECOME A MODEL FOR OTHER PUBLIC TRANSPORT COMPANIES," MR SIU ADDED.

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4 SURVEY OF VACANCIES AT BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION SITES

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THE TOTAL NUMBER OF MANUAL WORKERS ENGAGED AT BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION SITES IN SEPTEMBER 1989 WAS 67,544 AND THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VACANCIES WAS 4,054, ACCORDING TO A SURVEY OF VACANCIES AT CONSTRUCTION SITES CONDUCTED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

RESULTS OF THE SURVEY, WHICH COVERED SOME 409 PUBLIC SECTOR SITES AND 906 PRIVATE SECTOR SITES ACTIVE IN SEPTEMBER 1989, WERE PUBLISHED TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

/THE VACANCY .....

THE VACANCY RATE, WHICH IS THE NUMBER OF VACANCIES EXPRESSED AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE SUM TOTAL OF THE NUMBER OF MANUAL WORKERS ENGAGED AND THE NUMBER OF VACANCIES, WAS 5.7 PER CENT IN SEPTEMBER 1989.

OF THE 4,054 VACANCIES REPORTED FROM THE SITES ENUMERATED, 3,317 WERE FOUND IN PUBLIC SECTOR SITES AND 737 IN PRIVATE SECTOR SITES.

THE VACANCY RATES FOR THE PUBLIC SECTOR AND PRIVATE SECTOR SITES WERE RESPECTIVELY 10.9 PER CENT AND 1.8 PER CENT.

A SUMMARY OF THE SURVEY FINDINGS IS GIVEN IN THE TABLE BELOW:-

	PUBLIC SECTOR SITES -----	PRIVATE SECTOR SITES -----	TOTAL -----
NUMBER OF ACTIVE SITES	409	906	1,315
NUMBER OF MANUAL WORKERS	27,167	40,377	67,544
AVERAGE NUMBER OF WORKERS PER SITE	66.4	44.6	51.4
NUMBER OF VACANCIES	3,317	737	4,054
AVERAGE NUMBER OF VACANCIES PER SITE	8.1	0.8	3.1
VACANCY RATE (PER CENT)	10.9	1.8	5.7

WHEN COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER 1988, THERE WERE DECREASES IN BOTH THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VACANCIES AND THE VACANCY RATE. IN SEPTEMBER 1988, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VACANCIES WAS 7,600 AND THE VACANCY RATE WAS 9.4 PER CENT.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT POINTED OUT THAT BECAUSE OF THE DIFFICULTIES IN DEFINING AND OBTAINING ACCURATE INFORMATION ON THE NUMBER OF VACANCIES AT CONSTRUCTION SITES, READERS ARE ADVISED TO TAKE DUE NOTE OF THE DEFINITION OF VACANCY ADOPTED AND THE LIMITATIONS OF THE SURVEY WHEN INTERPRETING THE SURVEY RESULTS.

IN THE SURVEY, VACANCIES REFER TO THOSE UNFILLED, IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE JOB OPENINGS FOR WHICH ACTIVE STEPS ARE BEING TAKEN TO RECRUIT THE WORKERS. THIS DEFINITION IS CONSISTENT WITH THAT ADOPTED IN OTHER SURVEYS CONDUCTED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

HOWEVER, IT IS BELIEVED THAT THERE ARE SUBSTANTIAL SUBSTITUTION AND RE-SCHEDULING POSSIBILITIES IN THE EMPLOYMENT OF WORKERS AT CONSTRUCTION SITES, IN RESPONSE TO CHANGES IN LABOUR SUPPLY AND WORK REQUIREMENTS.

/CONSEQUENTLY THE .....

CONSEQUENTLY THE CONCEPT OF VACANCIES TAKES ON A MUCH LOOSER SENSE AS FAR AS BUILDING CONTRACTORS ARE CONCERNED.

THIS ALSO HAS THE CONSEQUENCE THAT VACANCY DATA SUPPLIED BY CONTRACTORS OR SUB-CONTRACTORS ARE LIKELY TO BE SUBJECT TO RELATIVELY LARGE VARIATION IN REPORTING BEHAVIOUR.

AMONG THE SITES SURVEYED IN SEPTEMBER 1989, SOME WERE FOUND TO HAVE NO VACANCIES AT THE TIME OF THE SURVEY. IT IS DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE WHETHER IN THESE SITES THE CONTRACTORS WERE ABLE TO FILL ALL VACANCIES OR THEY HAD IN FACT DELAYED THE PROJECTS INSTEAD.

DETAILS OF THE SURVEY FINDINGS, TOGETHER WITH A DESCRIPTION OF THE METHODOLOGY, ARE PUBLISHED IN A "REPORT OF VACANCIES AT CONSTRUCTION SITES". COPIES OF THIS REPORT ARE AVAILABLE AT \$7 PER COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GPO BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL. 8234758 OR 8234753.

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#### CASTLE PEAK FISH MARKET STAMPS OUT MALPRACTICES

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STRINGENT MEASURES INTRODUCED BY THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION (FMO) TO CURB MALPRACTICES IN FISH MARKETING ACTIVITIES WILL SOON BE EXTENDED TO THE CASTLE PEAK WHOLESALE FISH MARKET.

WHEN THE CASTLE PEAK FISH MARKET RESUMES BUSINESS ON FEBRUARY 3 AFTER THE LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS, FISH BUYERS WILL BE STRICTLY FORBIDDEN FROM LABELLING THE FISH BEFORE TRANSACTION.

MOREOVER, THE SORTING FLOOR OF THE MARKET WILL BE STRICTLY RESTRICTED TO FISHERMEN, THEIR AGENTS AND EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE BEEN ISSUED WITH PERMITS. FISH BUYERS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO GO IN.

IN ENFORCING THESE MEASURES, THE CASTLE PEAK FISH MARKET AUTHORITIES WILL BE BACKED UP BY THE POLICE.

"THE MOVE IS AIMED AT IMPROVING MARKET ORDER, PREVENTING MANIPULATION OF FISH PRICES AND ENSURING THAT BUYERS CAN TAKE PART IN A FAIR TRANSACTION OF THE FISH CATCHES," THE ACTING ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (FISHERIES) OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT (AFD), MR CHAN KIN-WING, EXPLAINED.

/MR CHAN .....

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MR CHAN SAID AN INTER-DEPARTMENTAL WORKING GROUP COMPRISING REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE (TUEN MUN), THE TUEN MUN DIVISION OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE AND THE AFD WAS SET UP IN OCTOBER LAST YEAR TO MAKE PLANS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE NEW CONTROLS IN THE MARKET.

FISHERMEN AND THEIR AGENTS AS WELL AS BUYERS' ASSOCIATIONS IN CASTLE PEAK WERE CONSULTED ON THE ISSUE IN DECEMBER AND THE NEW MEASURES WERE SUPPORTED.

SINCE JULY 1988, THE FMO, ON RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE'S WORKING GROUP ON GANGS, HAS BEEN TAKING POSITIVE STEPS TO STAMP OUT MALPRACTICES BY TRIAD ELEMENTS ON THE SORTING FLOOR OF THE FISH MARKETS. SUCH MALPRACTICES OFTEN RESULT IN GOOD-QUALITY FISH BEING PRE-SELECTED, MARKED AND MANIPULATED THROUGH THE SALE PROCESS.

"STRINGENT CONTROLS ARE ALREADY IN FORCE IN THE CHEUNG SHA WAN, ABERDEEN, SHAU KEI WAN AND TAI PO WHOLESALE FISH MARKETS AND THE RESULTS HAVE BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL," MR CHAN SAID.

"IN THE SHAU KEI WAN FISH MARKET, THE AVERAGE PRICE OF FISH FETCHED AT AUCTIONS HAD GONE UP BY NEARLY 50 PER CENT AND THE VOLUME OF FISH TRADED HAD INCREASED BY 23 PER CENT SINCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW MEASURES IN AUGUST LAST YEAR. THIS SHOWS THAT THE MEASURES ARE EFFECTIVE IN ENSURING A FAIR PRICE FOR THE FISH," MR CHAN NOTED.

THE CASTLE PEAK FISH MARKET, THE THIRD BIGGEST WHOLESALE MARKET UNDER THE FMO, USUALLY ATTRACTS SOME 300 FISHERMEN, AGENTS AND BUYERS, AND ABOUT 40 TONNES OF FISH ARE TRADED DAILY.

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#### MORE HOMES FOR ELDERLY IN WAN CHAI

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A HOSTEL FOR THE ELDERLY IS LIKELY TO BE INCLUDED IN A COMPOSITE BLOCK TO BE BUILT AS PART OF THE LI CHIT STREET RE-DEVELOPMENT PLAN, THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR PETER MANN, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

SPEAKING AFTER DISTRIBUTING "LAI SEE" PACKETS TO SENIOR CITIZENS AT A CHARITY DRIVE ORGANISED BY A LOCAL MEDIA GROUP, MR MANN SAID EFFORTS WERE BEING MADE TO COPE WITH THE ANTICIPATED INCREASE IN THE NUMBERS OF ELDERLY PEOPLE IN WAN CHAI IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

"AS A FIRST STEP, A SURVEY ON THE NEEDS OF THE ELDERLY AND EXISTING FACILITIES HAS BEEN COMMISSIONED, THE RESULT OF WHICH WILL BE KNOWN IN TWO TO THREE MONTHS' TIME," HE SAID.

/"BASED ON .....

"BASED ON THE FINDINGS OF THE SURVEY, WE WILL REVIEW THE CURRENT LEVEL OF ELDERLY SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT, AND LOOK INTO WAYS TO IMPROVE ELDERLY WELFARE," HE ADDED.

ACCORDING TO MR MANN, THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE AGED 60 AND ABOVE IN WAN CHAI WOULD INCREASE TO 35,000 IN THE EARLY 1990S, WHICH WOULD REPRESENT 18 PER CENT OF THE DISTRICT POPULATION AND THE HIGHEST PROPORTION OF THE ELDERLY POPULATION OF ALL DISTRICTS IN THE TERRITORY.

HE BELIEVED THE DEMAND FOR ACCOMMODATION FOR THE AGED WOULD GROW AS A RESULT.

AT PRESENT, HE SAID, THERE WAS A TREND FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO MOVE OUT OF THE DISTRICT WHEN THEY SET UP THEIR OWN FAMILIES, LEAVING THEIR OLD FOLK BEHIND.

THE GOVERNMENT WAS LOOKING AT VARIOUS WAYS TO MEET THIS DEMAND FOR ELDERLY HOUSING, INCLUDING THE LEASING OF PRIVATE APARTMENTS, MR MANN SAID.

HE HOPED THE LI CHIT STREET RE-DEVELOPMENT PROJECT WOULD HELP TO ADDRESS THE DEMAND.

THE CHARITY DRIVE TODAY WAS HELD IN ASSOCIATION WITH AN INFORMATION DAY FOR THE ELDERLY ORGANISED BY THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE.

SLIDE SHOWS WERE PRESENTED AND INFORMATION PAMPHLETS ON THE RANGE OF FACILITIES AND SERVICES AVAILABLE TO SENIOR CITIZENS IN WAN CHAI WERE DISTRIBUTED TO 900 ELDERLY PARTICIPANTS IN THE FUNCTION.

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'PAI LAU' TO CELEBRATE YEAR OF HORSE  
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KWUN TONG TOWN CENTRE WAS LIT UP THIS (WEDNESDAY) EVENING TO CELEBRATE THE YEAR OF THE HORSE WHEN MORE THAN 2,000 LIGHT BULBS ON A "PAI LAU" OUTSIDE THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE IN TUNG YAN STREET WERE SWITCHED ON.

ERECTED AT A COST OF \$150,000 BY THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD, THE 216-SQUARE-METRE "PAI LAU" FEATURES A DRAGON AND A HORSE AS WELL AS THE CHINESE CHARACTER FOR "FORTUNE" TO WISH RESIDENTS A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

SPEAKING AT THE SWITCHING-ON CEREMONY, THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR CHRIS WAN, SAID THAT THE "PAI LAU" WOULD BE LIT UP IN THE EVENINGS TO SYMBOLISE HONG KONG'S BRIGHT FUTURE.

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THE SWITCHING-ON CEREMONY IS PART OF THE LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD.

OTHER ACTIVITIES INCLUDE THE DISTRIBUTION OF SPRING SCROLLS AND LAISSE PACKETS TO LOCAL RESIDENTS.

"APART FROM ADDING A MORE FESTIVE ATMOSPHERE TO THE DISTRICT, THESE ACTIVITIES AIM AT FOSTERING A SENSE OF BELONGING AMONG RESIDENTS," MR WAN SAID.

HE ALSO URGED RESIDENTS TO TAKE AN ACTIVE PART IN DISTRICT AFFAIRS FOR THE WELL-BEING OF THE COMMUNITY.

ALSO ATTENDING THE CEREMONY WERE THE DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR LAM HANG-FAI, AND SOME OTHER BOARD MEMBERS.

THE "PAI LAU" WILL BE LIT UP BETWEEN 6 PM AND MIDNIGHT FROM TODAY UNTIL FEBRUARY 13.

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#### BLANKETS FOR STREET SLEEPERS

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A TOTAL OF 451 BLANKETS AND SLEEPING BAGS WERE DISTRIBUTED TO STREET SLEEPERS BY 164 FIELD STAFF OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT IN AN OPERATION LAST (TUESDAY) NIGHT.

THE BLANKETS AND SLEEPING BAGS WERE GIVEN TO 137 STREET SLEEPERS ON HONG KONG ISLAND, 45 IN EAST KOWLOON, 172 IN WEST KOWLOON, 30 IN NEW TERRITORIES EAST AND SEVEN IN NEW TERRITORIES WEST.

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#### LANGUAGE LABORATORY OPENS AT CSD INSTITUTION

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THE LANGUAGE LABORATORY IN PIK UK CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION REPRESENTS A BREAKTHROUGH IN THE EDUCATIONAL PROVISION OF THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, A STEWARD OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB, SIR OSWALD CHEUNG, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) AT THE OPENING OF THE LABORATORY.

"THE LANGUAGE LABORATORY IS AN INVALUABLE AID IN THE LEARNING OF LANGUAGES WHICH IS PARTICULARLY RELEVANT TO THE DEMANDS IN HONG KONG.

/"I KNOW .....

"I KNOW THE TEACHING STAFF WILL MAKE VERY GOOD USE OF THIS FACILITY IN PREPARING CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS," SIR OSWALD SAID.

THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB GRANTED \$137,000 TO THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT FOR SETTING UP THE LANGUAGE LABORATORY AT THE INSTITUTION.

THE LABORATORY HAS A CAPACITY FOR 24 INMATES AT A TIME. IT WILL BE OPEN EVEN AFTER SCHOOL AND ON HOLIDAYS, APART FROM NORMAL TRAINING SESSIONS, IN ORDER TO LET HARD-WORKING INMATES TO MAKE FULL USE OF THEIR SPARE TIME.

AFTER UNVEILING A PLAQUE TO MARK THE OPENING OF THE LABORATORY, SIR OSWALD PRESENTED CERTIFICATES TO 18 INMATES WHO HAVE PASSED PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS IN THE HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION, THE LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY CERTIFICATES, AND THE PITMAN EXAMINATION.

"THESE YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE PERFORMED EXCEEDINGLY WELL. THEIR ACHIEVEMENT WILL NO DOUBT BRING ABOUT FURTHER FULFILMENT IN LIFE ON THEIR SUBSEQUENT RETURN TO THE COMMUNITY," SIR OSWALD SAID.

"THERE WILL BE NUMEROUS OBSTACLES ALONG THE ROAD TO REHABILITATION. TO OVERCOME THEM WILL REQUIRE NOT ONLY YOUR DETERMINATION BUT ALSO THE VITAL ASSISTANCE OF MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY," HE ALSO TOLD THE INMATES.

DURING THE SECOND HALF OF LAST YEAR, 31 INMATES OF THE INSTITUTION SAT FOR A TOTAL OF 91 PAPERS IN THE VARIOUS PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS AND OBTAINED 17 CREDITS AND 62 PASSES.

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#### SOUTHERN DB TO GIVE VIEWS ON WELFARE

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MEMBERS OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD WILL EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AT A MEETING TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

THEIR OPINIONS WILL THEN BE SUBMITTED TO THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, WHICH IS CONSULTING DISTRICT BOARDS ON THE FORMULATION OF A WHITE PAPER ON SOCIAL WELFARE IN THE 90'S AND BEYOND.

THE BOARD WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE COMPOSITION, MEMBERSHIP, ELECTION OF CHAIRMEN, AND APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED MEMBERS FOR ITS VARIOUS COMMITTEES FOR THE YEAR 1990-91.

/A PROPOSED .....

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A PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS OF THE BOARD AND ITS COMMITTEES FOR 1990-91 WILL BE TABLED FOR ENDORSEMENT.

QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE CHINA MOTOR BUS COMPANY'S APPLICATION FOR FARES INCREASES, AND THE TOLL INCREASE FOR THE ABERDEEN TUNNEL WILL BE RAISED DURING THE MEETING.

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS INCLUDE REPORTS BY THE DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND THE BOARD'S COMMITTEES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD TOMORROW (THURSDAY) AT THE BOARD'S CONFERENCE ROOM, SECOND FLOOR, MEI FUNG COURT, 7-11 NAM NING STREET, ABERDEEN CENTRE.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES DURING HOLIDAYS

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES WILL BE EXTENDED ON LUNAR NEW YEAR'S EVE (FRIDAY) UNTIL EARLY THE NEXT MORNING.

TO COPE WITH FESTIVE CROWDS FLOCKING TO FLOWER FAIRS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE TERRITORY, THE TRAMS AND THE MTR WILL RUN ALL NIGHT.

THE STAR FERRY SERVICE BETWEEN EDINBURGH PLACE AND KOWLOON POINT WILL BE EXTENDED TO 3 AM AND THE PEAK TRAM SERVICE WILL ALSO BE EXTENDED IF NECESSARY.

SUPPLEMENTARY HYF PASSENGER FERRY SERVICES FROM CENTRAL TO MUI WO (VIA PENG CHAU) AND FROM CENTRAL TO CHEUNG CHAU (VIA YUNG SHUE WAN, LAMMA ISLAND) WILL BE OPERATED AT 12.30 AM ON NEW YEAR'S DAY.

SAILINGS ON NEW YEAR'S DAY (SATURDAY) AND SUNDAY FROM MA LIU SHUI AT 11.15 AM AND FROM PING CHAU AT 1.10 PM WILL BE SUSPENDED.

ALSO OPERATING OVERNIGHT WILL BE KMB ROUTES 6, 26, 80M, 82M AND 85K AND KOWLOON GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES 18, 33M AND 37M.

/DURING THE .....

DURING THE EXTENDED OPERATING PERIOD, KMB ROUTE 80M WILL BE RE-ROUTED TO OPERATE BETWEEN KOWLOON TONG MTR STATION AND WO CHE AND KMB ROUTE 82M WILL BE EXTENDED TO KWONG YUEN AND TERMINATE AT YUEN CHAU KOK.

THE LAST KCR TRAIN BOUND FOR SHEUNG SHUI WILL DEPART FROM KOWLOON STATION AT 2 AM ON SATURDAY.

ALL LRT SERVICES WILL BE EXTENDED TO 2.30 AM ON NEW YEAR'S DAY. LRT FEEDER BUS ROUTES 521, 559 AND 670 WILL BE EXTENDED TO 1 AM.

AS MANY PEOPLE ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND THE FLOWER FAIR AT VICTORIA PARK, SPECIAL CROSS-HARBOUR BUSES ON ROUTES 111S (CAUSEWAY BAY TO CHOI HUNG) AND ROUTE 112S (CAUSEWAY BAY TO MONG KOK) WILL BE IN SERVICE FROM HALF AN HOUR AFTER MIDNIGHT TO 5.50 AM AND 5.16 AM RESPECTIVELY.

SPECIAL CROSS-HARBOUR SERVICE WITH INCREASED FREQUENCY WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED ON ROUTE 121 AND 122.

MOREOVER, CROSS-HARBOUR ROUTES 112 AND 116 WILL OPERATE SUPPLEMENTARY JOURNEYS LINKING CAUSEWAY BAY WITH MONG KOK AND CHOI HUNG RESPECTIVELY FROM 8 PM TO MIDNIGHT.

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTARY BUS SERVICE ON ROUTES 101, 102, 106, 107 AND 170 WILL BE OPERATED ON NEW YEAR'S DAY (JANUARY 27), JANUARY 28 AND 29.

CMB WILL ALSO RUN FOUR SPECIAL ROUTES TO VICTORIA PARK. OF THESE, ROUTE 86 PLYING BETWEEN CHAI WAN EAST AND CAUSEWAY ROAD WILL OPERATE FROM 8 PM TO MIDNIGHT. ROUTES 304, 308 AND 392 LINKING CAUSEWAY ROAD WITH WAH FU, CHAI WAN EAST, AND AP LEI CHAU ESTATE RESPECTIVELY, WILL OPERATE BETWEEN MIDNIGHT AND 5 AM.

FROM 7 PM, CMB ROUTE 5B WILL BE EXTENDED TO CAUSEWAY ROAD OUTSIDE VICTORIA PARK. ROUTES 2, 10, 11, 11A, 19, 23A, 23B, 25, 26, 81, 72, 76, 92 AND 96; AND CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL BUS ROUTES 102, 103, 106, 107 AND 108 WILL BE DIVERTED TO AVOID CLOSED ROADS.

MEANWHILE, MANY BUS SERVICES ON BOTH SIDES OF THE HARBOUR WILL FINISH LATER THAN USUAL.

THESE INCLUDE CMB ROUTES 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 19, 20, 21, 23, 25, 37, 38, 40, 47, 48, 70, 71, 73, 81, 83, 90, 92, 95, 97 AND 98 AND CROSS-HARBOUR ROUTES 102 AND 106 WHICH WILL CEASE OPERATING ABOUT AN HOUR LATER THAN ON NORMAL SUNDAYS.

SERVICES ON MORE THAN 40 KMB ROUTES WILL BE EXTENDED BY AN HOUR. THEY ARE ROUTES 1, 2A, 3C, 6B, 14, 16, 24K, 28, 31M, 32, 32B, 33, 34, 34B, 34M, 35, 36, 36A, 36M, 37, 37M, 38A, 39A, 39M, 41A, 41M, 43, 43C, 43M, 44, 44M, 46, 46A, 58M, 59M, 60M, 66M, 67M, 68M, 71S, 72X, 81C, 83K, 85 AND 85A, 86, 88K AND 238M.

/OTHER ROUTES .....

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OTHER ROUTES 1A, 2, 5C, 6C, 11, 15, 27K, 29M, 31, 43B, 80K, 81K, 89, 89A, 89C, 95M AND 211 WILL FINISH AN HOUR-AND-A-HALF AFTER NORMAL SERVICE SCHEDULES.

GREEN MINIBUS SERVICES IN THE TERRITORY WILL ALSO OPERATE WELL INTO THE EARLY HOURS OF NEW YEAR'S DAY.

AS FROM 6 PM ON NEW YEAR'S EVE, KMB ROUTE A2 WILL BE DIVERTED TO COVER PART OF THE ROUTINGS OF ROUTE A3 BY OPERATING VIA GLOUCESTER ROAD ON JOURNEYS TO MACAU FERRY.

DURING THE EXTENDED OPERATING PERIOD ON NEW YEAR'S DAY, ROUTE 95M WILL BE EXTENDED FROM TSUI LAM TO PO LAM; AND ROUTE 26 ON JOURNEYS BETWEEN TSIM SHA TSUI EAST AND SHUN TIN WILL BE RE-ROUTED TO AVOID CLOSED ROADS.

IN SOME CASES, GREEN MINIBUSES WILL CHARGE A FLAT FARE DURING THE EXTENDED OPERATING HOURS.

PASSENGERS SHOULD ALSO WATCH OUT FOR THE BUS AND GREEN MINIBUS ROUTE DIVERSION AND SUSPENSION OF CERTAIN BUS AND TRAM STOPS IN CAUSEWAY BAY.

DURING THE HOLIDAYS, SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTARY SERVICES WILL BE PROVIDED ON KMB ROUTES 1A, 2A, 38, 43B, 44, 59A, 59X, 60X, 60M, 61X, 66M, 67M, 68, 68A, 68X, 70X, 71S, 72K, 73X, 74X, 75X, 80K, 80M, 81K, 82M, 85K, 89, 89A AND 93A. ROUTES 89R, 93R, 95R AND 291R WILL SUSPEND SERVICES.

KMB ROUTE A3 WILL STOP FROM 6 PM ON NEW YEAR'S EVE, WHILE 288S WILL STOP FROM 12.20 AM TO 5 AM ON NEW YEAR'S DAY.

TO COPE WITH WORSHIPPERS GOING TO CHE KUNG TEMPLE ON JANUARY 29, ADDITIONAL TRAINS WILL RUN BETWEEN KOWLOON AND SHA TIN.

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CERTAIN MARINE DEPT OFFICES TO REMAIN OPEN

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A MARINE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT DURING THE LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS FROM JANUARY 26 TO 29, MOST OF THE DEPARTMENT'S OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED, WITH A FEW EXCEPTIONS.

THOSE OFFICES WHICH WILL REMAIN OPEN DURING THE HOLIDAYS ARE:

\* THE MACAU FERRY TERMINAL (CENTRAL) WHICH WILL REMAIN OPEN CONTINUOUSLY;

/\* THE CHINA .....

- \* THE CHINA FERRY TERMINAL (TSIM SHA TSUI) WHICH WILL BE OPEN AS USUAL FROM 6 AM TO 10 PM DAILY;
- \* THE PUBLIC CARGO WORKING AREAS AT WAN CHAI, YAU MA TEI, KWUN TONG, TSUEN WAN, WESTERN DISTRICT, RAMBLER CHANNEL, CHAI WAN, SHAM SHUI PO, SHEUNG WAN, CHA KWO LING AND THE PUBLIC WATERFRONTS AT YAU MA TEI, KOWLOON BAY AND TUEN MUN, WHICH WILL BE CLOSED FROM 5 PM ON JANUARY 26 AND WILL OPEN FOR NORMAL OPERATION AT NOON ON JANUARY 29.
- \* THE VESSEL TRAFFIC CENTRE WHICH WILL REMAIN OPEN CONTINUOUSLY;
- \* THE VICTORIA MARINE OFFICE AT ROOM 314, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL WHICH WILL BE OPEN FROM 9 AM TO 11 AM ON JANUARY 26 AND JANUARY 28 FOR ENTRY AND OUTWARD CLEARANCE ONLY.
- \* PORT FORMALITIES AND DANGEROUS - GOODS OFFICE AT ROOM 318, HARBOUR BUILDING WHICH WILL BE OPEN FROM 9 AM TO 11 AM ON JANUARY 26 AND JANUARY 28.

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CUSTOMS OFFICERS PROMOTED

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A TOTAL OF 212 OFFICERS OF THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT WERE PROMOTED TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

FIFTY-SIX SENIOR CUSTOMS OFFICERS WERE PROMOTED TO CHIEF CUSTOMS OFFICER AND 156 CUSTOMS OFFICERS WERE PROMOTED TO SENIOR CUSTOMS OFFICER.

THIS WAS THE FIRST BATCH OF OFFICERS OF THE CUSTOMS OFFICER GRADES TO BE PROMOTED SINCE THE REORGANISATION OF THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT ON AUGUST 1 LAST YEAR.

IN A CEREMONY HELD AT THE DEPARTMENT'S SENIOR OFFICERS' MESS, THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE, MR PATRICK WILLIAMSON, PRESENTED PROMOTION LETTERS TO THE OFFICERS.

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TRAFFIC PLANS FOR FAIR AT CHEUNG SHA WAN PLAYGROUND

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN SHAM SHUI PO TO FACILITATE VEHICULAR AND PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC DURING THE LUNAR NEW YEAR FAIR AT CHEUNG SHA WAN PLAYGROUND.

THE SECTION OF FAT TSEUNG STREET BETWEEN CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD AND LAI CHI KOK ROAD WILL BE CLOSED EXCEPT FOR FRANCHISED BUSES AND VEHICLES LOADING AND UNLOADING LUNAR NEW YEAR FAIR ARTICLES FROM 8 AM ON FRIDAY (JANUARY 26) TO 6 AM ON SATURDAY (JANUARY 27).

BUS STOPS AT CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD WESTBOUND OUTSIDE CHEUNG SHA WAN PLAYGROUND WILL BE TEMPORARILY RESITED TO A POINT ABOUT 120 METRES WESTWARD FROM 8 AM ON FRIDAY (JANUARY 26) TO 6 AM ON SATURDAY (JANUARY 27).

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT IN CENTRAL

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM TOMORROW (THURSDAY) THE EXISTING RIGHT-TURNING MOVEMENT FROM WESTBOUND DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL INTO WING WO STREET WILL BE BANNED FOR ALL VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES.

VEHICLES ON WESTBOUND DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL HEADING FOR WING WO STREET WILL BE DIVERTED VIA WING LOK STREET, HILLIER STREET AND EASTBOUND DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL TO JOIN WING WO STREET.

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TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES IN WONG TAI SIN

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN WONG TAI SIN TO FACILITATE THE MOVEMENT OF WORSHIPPERS VISITING THE WONG TAI SIN TEMPLE.

THE ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IN FORCE FROM 8 PM ON FRIDAY (JANUARY 26) TO 6 PM ON SATURDAY (JANUARY 27) AND FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY FROM SUNDAY (JANUARY 28) TO TUESDAY (JANUARY 30); FROM FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 2) TO SUNDAY (FEBRUARY 4); AND ON SATURDAY (FEBRUARY 10).

/UNDER THE .....

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UNDER THE ARRANGEMENTS, SHATIN PASS ROAD BETWEEN LUNG CHEUNG ROAD AND FUNG TAK ROAD WILL BE CLOSED EXCEPT FOR GREEN MINIBUS (SCHEDULED) SERVICE NOS. 37M AND (SHORT-WORKING SERVICE) NO. 38M AND THOSE WITH PERMITS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT.

THE UNNAMED ACCESS ROAD BETWEEN WONG TAI SIN TEMPLE AND WONG TAI SIN ROAD WILL BE CLOSED EXCEPT FOR GREEN MINIBUS (SCHEDULED) SERVICE ROUTE NO. 18 AND THOSE WITH PERMITS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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ILLEGAL STRUCTURE IN SAI YING PUN TO BE CLOSED

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS SEEKING THE CLOSURE OF AN ILLEGAL STRUCTURE ON THE FLAT ROOF ADJACENT TO FLAT C, FIRST FLOOR, 6 NEW STREET, SAI YING PUN, SO THAT IT CAN BE DEMOLISHED WITHOUT DANGER TO THE OCCUPIERS OR TO THE PUBLIC.

THE CLOSURE IS PART OF AN EXERCISE TO ENFORCE AN ORDER ISSUED UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE ON AUGUST 23 LAST YEAR REQUIRING THE DEMOLITION OF THE ILLEGAL STRUCTURE.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER FROM THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT ON MAY 29 THIS YEAR HAS BEEN POSTED ON A CONSPICUOUS PART OF THE STRUCTURE.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT DEMOLITION WORK WILL BE CARRIED OUT ONCE A CLOSURE ORDER IS OBTAINED.

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