



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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GOVT COMPLETES STUDY ON GORDON WU'S PROPOSALS ON PADS

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A DETAILED GOVERNMENT STUDY OF PROPOSALS MADE BY MR GORDON WU IN RELATION TO HONG KONG'S FUTURE INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT HAS REVEALED A NUMBER OF DISADVANTAGES IN COMPARISON WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S OWN STRATEGIC PLANS.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT MR WU'S PROPOSALS WERE SIMILAR TO ITS OWN PLANS IN SEVERAL IMPORTANT RESPECTS. THESE SIMILARITIES MAY BE SUMMARISED AS FOLLOWS:

- (A) THE RECOGNITION OF CHEK LAP KOK AS THE MOST SUITABLE LOCATION FOR THE NEW INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT;
- (B) RECOGNITION OF THE NEED TO PROVIDE FURTHER DEEP WATER BERTHS IN THE WESTERN HARBOUR AND PENNY'S BAY ON LANTAU;
- (C) RECOGNITION OF THE NEED FOR A WESTERN HARBOUR ROAD AND RAIL CONNECTION FROM HONG KONG ISLAND TO LANTAU;
- (D) THE DESIRABILITY OF PROVIDING A RING TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM FOR ROAD AND RAIL SERVICES LINKING HONG KONG, KOWLOON AND LANTAU TO THE NEW AIRPORT, PORT AND METRO DEVELOPMENT; AND
- (E) THE DESIRABILITY OF ENHANCING THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY SYSTEM TO EAST KOWLOON, NORTH WEST NEW TERRITORIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AT CHEK LAP KOK.

WHERE THEY DIFFER FROM THE GOVERNMENT'S PLANS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, THE ABSENCE OF DETAILED TECHNICAL INFORMATION, FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS AND PROGRAMMING HAS MADE ASSESSMENT DIFFICULT. NONETHELESS, FROM THE MATERIAL PROVIDED THE GOVERNMENT HAS SATISFIED ITSELF THAT THE PROPOSALS HAVE THE FOLLOWING DISADVANTAGES:

- (A) FAIL TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE NEED TO PROPERLY INTEGRATE THE AIRPORT WITH OTHER OVERALL DEVELOPMENT PLANS;
- (B) DO NOT MEET COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC NEEDS;
- (C) FAIL TO TAKE ADEQUATE ACCOUNT OF SEVERAL IMPORTANT TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES;
- (D) ARE UNREALISTIC IN TERMS OF PROGRAMMING;
- (E) WOULD BE SIGNIFICANTLY MORE EXPENSIVE AND FINANCIALLY LESS ROBUST AND LESS ATTRACTIVE TO PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION;
- (F) WOULD PUT THE DEVELOPMENT OF KEY STRATEGIC FACILITIES AT RISK BY PLACING THEM UNDER THE CONTROL OF A SINGLE PRIVATE SECTOR INTEREST; AND
- (G) WOULD HAVE A DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT.

CONCEPTUALLY, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, MR GORDON WU'S PROPOSALS HAVE SEVERAL ATTRACTIONS. UNFORTUNATELY, MORE DETAILED SCRUTINY OF INDIVIDUAL COMPONENTS HAS REVEALED A NUMBER OF SERIOUS FLAWS, AND THEY ARE:

- (A) CONSTRUCTION OF THE SHAM MA BRIDGE AND ROAD-RAIL LINK INSTEAD OF THE LANTAU FIXED CROSSING, WHILE PRESENTED AS A CHEAPER OPTION, WOULD, IN FACT, BE ALMOST AS EXPENSIVE AS THE LANTAU FIXED CROSSING. ANY POTENTIAL ADVANTAGE IN COST, SCHEDULING OR RELIABILITY WOULD BE MORE THAN OFFSET BY SEVERE TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS;
- (B) SEVERE CONGESTION WOULD CONTINUE ON THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY/NATHAN ROAD CORRIDOR AND ON THE STREETS OF WEST KOWLOON BECAUSE OF THE ELIMINATION OF THE WEST KOWLOON RECLAMATION. THE PROPOSALS WOULD ALSO SEVERELY OVERLOAD THE ROAD AND TRANSPORT FACILITIES OF THE TSUEN WAN AND KWAI CHUNG AREA WHILE PROVIDING NO IMPROVEMENT OF ACCESS TO TSING YI;
- (C) A SIGNIFICANT OPPORTUNITY TO IMPROVE THE UNACCEPTABLY CROWDED ENVIRONMENT OF MONG KOK, YAU MA TEI, AND TAI KOK TSUI - SOME OF THE MOST DENSELY POPULATED AREAS IN THE WORLD - WOULD BE LOST BY THE ELIMINATION OF THE WEST KOWLOON RECLAMATION;
- (D) THE BRINGING FORWARD OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE GREEN ISLAND LINK WOULD REQUIRE THE LANTAU, PORT ISLAND AND GREEN ISLAND RECLAMATION TO BE CONSTRUCTED WELL IN ADVANCE OF BOTH PORT AND TRAFFIC DEMAND. IT WOULD, THEREFORE, HAVE TO BE FUNDED BY THE GOVERNMENT AS IT IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT ANY PRIVATE SECTOR INTERESTS WOULD WISH TO BE INVOLVED AT THAT EARLY STAGE;
- (E) THESE DEFICIENCIES TAKEN TOGETHER WOULD RESULT IN BOTH SIGNIFICANT ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE, WHICH WOULD FALL LARGELY ON THE PUBLIC PURSE, AND SUB-OPTIMAL CASH FLOWS, WHICH WOULD RENDER VARIOUS COMPONENTS OF THE PROJECT UNATTRACTIVE TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR; AND
- (F) PLACING THE TOTAL PLAN FOR HONG KONG'S TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE UNDER AN OVERALL BUILD-OPERATE-TRANSFER (BOT) FRANCHISE WOULD INVOLVE AN UNACCEPTABLE LEVEL OF RISK AS COMPARED TO THE CURRENT PLANS FOR A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

"OUR STUDY SHOWS THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S PLANS ARE MORE SUITED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF HONG KONG WELL INTO THE NEXT CENTURY," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

PROVISIONAL RESULTS OF RETAIL SALES SURVEY FOR JULY

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THE VALUE OF TOTAL RETAIL SALES IN JULY 1990, ESTIMATED AT \$9,819 MILLION, INCREASED BY 16 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH JULY 1989 WHILE THEIR VOLUME INCREASED BY 9 PER CENT, ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONAL RESULTS OF A SURVEY RELEASED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

WHILE THE MARKED INCREASES WERE IN PART DUE TO A LOW BASE OF COMPARISON IN JULY 1989, THEY ALSO SUGGEST A PICK-UP IN CONSUMER SPENDING.

COMPARING WITH JULY 1989, RETAIL SALES OF FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO WENT UP BY 19 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 11 PER CENT IN VOLUME, WHILE RETAIL SALES OF FUELS ROSE BY 17 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 3 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, RETAIL SALES OF CONSUMER DURABLES INCREASED BY 31 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 23 PER CENT IN VOLUME. CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS WENT UP BY 16 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 7 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME.

RETAIL SALES OF OTHER CONSUMER GOODS ROSE BY 10 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 4 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

ANALYSED BY SELECTED TRADES, RETAIL SALES OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS WENT UP BY 39 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 28 PER CENT IN VOLUME. CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS INCREASED BY 25 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 21 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME. SALES OF DEPARTMENT STORES ROSE BY 24 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 14 PER CENT IN VOLUME. SUPERMARKET SALES INCREASED BY 16 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 6 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

COMPARING THE PERIOD JANUARY TO JULY 1990 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1989, TOTAL RETAIL SALES INCREASED BY 6 PER CENT IN VALUE BUT REMAINED ALMOST UNCHANGED IN VOLUME. FUELS WENT UP BY 17 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 1 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME. RETAIL SALES OF FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO ROSE BY 13 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 6 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, CONSUMER DURABLES INCREASED BY 6 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 2 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME, WHILE SALES OF CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS WENT UP BY 3 PER CENT IN VALUE BUT WENT DOWN BY 4 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

RETAIL SALES OF OTHER CONSUMER GOODS INCREASED BY 4 PER CENT IN VALUE BUT DECREASED BY 2 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

ANALYSED BY SELECTED TRADES, RETAIL SALES OF SUPERMARKETS INCREASED BY 21 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 10 PER CENT IN VOLUME. DEPARTMENT STORES SALES ROSE BY 12 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 4 PER CENT IN VOLUME. CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS WENT UP BY 8 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 5 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME, WHILE RETAIL SALES OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS ROSE BY 3 PER CENT IN VALUE BUT DROPPED BY 4 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

COMPARING WITH JUNE 1990, AND BEARING IN MIND THAT THIS COMPARISON MAY BE AFFECTED BY SEASONAL FACTORS, TOTAL RETAIL SALES FOR JULY 1990 INCREASED BY 5 PER CENT IN BOTH VALUE AND VOLUME. RETAIL SALES OF FUELS WENT UP BY 6 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 7 PER CENT IN VOLUME, WHILE THOSE OF FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO ROSE BY 5 PER CENT IN BOTH VALUE AND VOLUME.

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, RETAIL SALES OF CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS INCREASED BY 12 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 15 PER CENT IN VOLUME, WHILE CONSUMER DURABLES WENT UP BY 5 PER CENT IN BOTH SALES VALUE AND SALES VOLUME.

RETAIL SALES OF OTHER CONSUMER GOODS ROSE BY 3 PER CENT IN BOTH VALUE AND VOLUME.

ANALYSED BY SELECTED TRADES, SALES IN DEPARTMENT STORES INCREASED BY 19 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 22 PER CENT IN VOLUME. IN BOTH VALUE AND VOLUME TERMS, RETAIL SALES OF CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS AND "MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS" WENT UP BY 7 PER CENT AND 1 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY, WHILE THOSE OF SUPERMARKETS WENT DOWN BY 1 PER CENT.

TABLE 1 PRESENTS THE REVISED TOTAL RETAIL SALES FIGURE FOR JUNE 1990 AND THE PROVISIONAL FIGURE FOR JULY 1990.

TABLE 2 SHOWS THE VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF RETAIL SALES IN JUNE 1990 AND JULY 1990 (A) FOR ALL RETAIL TRADES, (B) BY MAJOR TRADE GROUPS AND (C) BY SELECTED TRADES (WHICH FORM PART OF THE RELEVANT MAJOR TRADE GROUPS), WITH AVERAGE RETAIL SALES FROM OCTOBER 1984 TO SEPTEMBER 1985 TAKEN AS 100.

COMPARISONS OF JULY 1990 RESULTS WITH THOSE FOR JUNE 1990 AND WITH THOSE FOR JULY 1989, AND COMPARISONS OF RETAIL SALES IN THE PERIOD JANUARY TO JULY 1990 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1989, ARE ALSO GIVEN.

THE REPORT CONTAINING THE ANALYSIS OF JULY 1990 SURVEY RESULTS IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AT \$1 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. NO. : 556 5240).

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/TABLE 1

TABLE 1 : TOTAL RETAIL SALES

Total Retail Sales for July 1990 (Provisional Figure)	= HK\$9,819 million
for June 1990 (Revised Figure)	= HK\$9,393 million

TABLE 2 : VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF RETAIL SALES
FOR JUNE 1990 AND JULY 1990

(Monthly average of Oct. 84 - Sept. 85 = 100)

Item	Index of Retail Sales	June 1990	July 1990	July 1990 compared with June 1990		July 1990 compared with July 1989		Jan.-Jul. 1990 compared with Jan.-Jul. 1989	
		(Revised figures)	(Provisional figures)	Points	%	Points	%	Points	%
(A) FOR ALL RETAIL TRADES									
	Value	168	175	+8	+5	+25	+16	+10	+6
	Volume	122	128	+6	+5	+11	+9	±	±
(B) BY MAJOR TRADE GROUPS									
Foodstuffs, alcoholic drinks and tobacco	Value	166	174	+8	+5	+27	+19	+18	+13
	Volume	122	129	+7	+5	+13	+11	+6	+6
Fuels	Value	132	140	+8	+6	+20	+17	+17	+17
	Volume	114	122	+8	+7	+4	+3	+1	+1
Clothing, footwear and allied products	Value	154	172	+18	+12	+24	+16	+5	+3
	Volume	100	115	+15	+15	+8	+7	-6	-4
Consumer durables	Value	172	180	+8	+5	+42	+31	+9	+6
	Volume	123	129	+6	+5	+25	+23	+2	+2
Other consumer goods	Value	175	180	+5	+3	+16	+10	+6	+4
	Volume	128	132	+4	+3	+5	+4	-3	-2
(C) BY SELECTED TRADES									
(see note 1 below)									
Supermarkets	Value	228	226	-2	-1	+31	+16	+36	+21
	Volume	161	159	-2	-1	+9	+6	+14	+10
Motor vehicles and parts	Value	324	328	+4	+1	+92	+39	+9	+3
	Volume	200	203	+2	+1	+45	+28	-7	-4
Consumer durables other than motor vehicles and parts	Value	126	135	+9	+7	+27	+25	+9	+8
	Volume	100	107	+7	+7	+18	+21	+5	+5
Department stores	Value	198	236	+38	+19	+45	+24	+24	+12
	Volume	132	161	+29	+22	+20	+14	+6	+4

NOTES : 1. In order to analyse the sales of certain trades WITHIN major trade groups, the value and volume indexes in respect of the following selected trades are compiled :

- "Supermarkets" - a trade in the "Foodstuffs, alcoholic drinks and tobacco" group.
 - "Motor vehicles and parts" - a trade in the "Consumer durables" group.
 - "Consumer durables other than motor vehicles and parts" - a trade in the "Consumer durables" group.
 - "Department stores" - a trade in the "Other consumer goods" group.
2. Figures denoting changes are derived from the unrounded index figures.
3. "±" denotes a figure within ±0.5.

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NO-DIG TECHNOLOGY: A REMEDY TO ROAD DIGGINGS

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THE DIRECTOR OF HIGHWAYS, MR KWEI SEE-KAN, TODAY (TUESDAY) SAID THE DEVELOPMENT OF "NO-DIG" TECHNOLOGY OFFERED A REMEDY TO REDUCE TRAFFIC DISRUPTION CAUSED BY UTILITY WORKS ON THE ROADS OF HONG KONG.

MR KWEI EXPECTED TO SEE SUCH TECHNOLOGY TO BE USED MORE FREQUENTLY IN HONG KONG ALTHOUGH THE "NO-DIG" TECHNOLOGY STILL HAD CERTAIN LIMITATIONS AND MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO TAKE OVER COMPLETELY THE TRADITIONAL TRENCHING METHOD.

HE WAS SPEAKING AT A "NO-DIG TECHNOLOGY FOR HONG KONG" ENGINEERING SEMINAR ORGANISED BY CHARLES HASWELL & PARTNERS.

MR KWEI SAID THE "NO-DIG" OR TRENCHLESS TECHNOLOGY WAS A NEW CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUE ALLOWING UTILITY COMPANIES TO CARRY OUT THE REQUIRED INSTALLATION, REPLACEMENT OR RENOVATION OF SERVICES WHILE AT THE SAME TIME MAINTAINING THE ROAD SURFACE AT ALL TIMES FOR ROAD TRAFFIC.

ON THE NEED FOR ROAD OPENINGS IN HONG KONG, MR KWEI SAID ROAD AND UTILITY WORKS WENT IN PARALLEL WITH URBAN DEVELOPMENT.

THE MORE FREQUENTLY OLD BUILDINGS WERE TORN DOWN AND REBUILT, THE MORE OFTEN THE UTILITIES HAD TO CARRY OUT WORKS TO EXPAND THEIR NETWORKS AND TO SUPPLY THE NEW DEVELOPMENTS WITH ESSENTIAL SERVICES.

THE RAPID RATE OF DEVELOPMENT IN RECENT YEARS HAD LED TO A SHARP RISE IN THE AMOUNT OF ROAD AND UTILITY WORKS. HE SAID 10 YEARS AGO, 21,000 ROAD OPENING WORKS WERE UNDERTAKEN IN A YEAR. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SUCH WORKS PER YEAR HAD GRADUALLY INCREASED TO 43,000 LAST YEAR, AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 100 PER CENT IN NINE YEARS.

HE SAID THERE WAS A NEED TO CONTAIN THE DISRUPTION CAUSED BY THIS LARGE AMOUNT OF ROAD OPENING ACTIVITIES.

"THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT IS DETERMINED TO REDUCE ANY ADVERSE EFFECT CAUSED BY ROAD OPENING ACTIVITIES AND EARLY LAST YEAR THE UTILITIES TECHNICAL LIAISON COMMITTEE WAS FORMED BETWEEN THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT AND THE UTILITY UNDERTAKERS TO ADDRESS PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH UTILITY OPERATIONS.

"THIS IS A FORUM AT SENIOR MANAGEMENT LEVEL WITH THE AIM TO REVIEW AND PROMOTE TECHNICAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND CONSTRUCTION PROCEDURES AND PRACTICES TO REDUCE DISRUPTION TO THE PUBLIC AS A RESULT OF ROAD OPENING ACTIVITIES," MR KWEI SAID.

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ONE MORE AIDS CASE CONFIRMED

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ONE MORE CASE OF AIDS (ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME) HAS BEEN CONFIRMED IN SEPTEMBER, BRINGING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF AIDS CASES IN HONG KONG TO 42, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE NEW PATIENT HAD ACQUIRED THE DISEASE SEXUALLY. HE WAS PREVIOUSLY FOUND TO BE POSITIVE FOR THE HIV ANTI-BODY TEST.

SO FAR, A TOTAL OF 29 AIDS PATIENTS HAVE PASSED AWAY WHILE 13 OTHERS ARE EITHER UNDER COUNSELLING AND TREATMENT OR HAVE LEFT HONG KONG.

RELEASING THE MONTHLY STATISTICS ON THE AIDS SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMME FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THREE MORE MEN WERE FOUND TO BE POSITIVE FOR THE HIV ANTI-BODY TEST.

THEY ALL ACQUIRED THE DISEASE SEXUALLY AND TWO OF THEM, WHO WERE LATER REPORTED AS AIDS CASES HAD DIED IN THE SAME MONTH.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF HIV CARRIERS WHO HAVE NOT YET DEVELOPED AIDS REMAINED AT 150 AT THE END OF AUGUST. OF THESE, 54 WERE HAEMOPHILIACS, 78 ACQUIRED THE INFECTION SEXUALLY, FOUR WERE DRUG ABUSERS, THREE ACQUIRED THE INFECTION THROUGH BLOOD TRANSFUSION AND THE INFORMATION FOR THE OTHER 11 WAS INADEQUATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

UNDER THE AIDS SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMME STARTED IN 1985, A TOTAL OF 168,774 BLOOD SPECIMENS HAVE BEEN TESTED FOR THE AIDS VIRUS.

THE HONG KONG RED CROSS BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE HAS ALSO SCREENED ALL BLOOD DONORS FOR AIDS.

UP TO LAST MONTH, 768,846 UNITS OF BLOOD WERE TESTED AND 13 WERE FOUND POSITIVE.

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/AIDS VIRUS

豐滋為抗體檢驗
AIDS Virus (HIV) Antibody Testing
病毒組 衛生署
Virus Unit, Department of Health

	Apr 85-Jul 90		Aug 90		Total	
	檢驗次數 No. tested*	陽性次數 No. +ve	No. tested*	No. -ve	No. tested*	No. -ve
經由政府診所及醫院介紹 Referrals from Govt. hospitals and clinics	11143	65	299	3	11442	68
經由私家醫生及補助醫院介紹 Referrals from private practitioners and subvented hospitals	1987	40	17	0	2004	40
到社會衛生科診所求診人數 Attendances at social hygiene clinics	147188	22	2212	0	149400	22
血友病患者 Haemophiliacs	445	59	14	0	459	59
濫用體液注射毒品人士 IV drug abusers	4427	1	91	0	4518	1
經由家庭計劃指導會介紹 Referrals from Family Planning Association	210	0	0	0	210	0
健康護理人員 Health care personnel	736	0	5	0	741	0

總數
TOTAL 166136 187 2638 3 168774 190
此乃驗血樣本數目，並非人數，因某些人士的檢驗是重複的
* This indicates the number of specimens and not persons as tests are repeated for certain individuals.

	Aug 85-Jul 90		Aug 90		Total	
	No. tested	No. -ve	No. tested	No. -ve	No. tested	No. -ve
香港紅十字會輸血服務 Hong Kong Red Cross Blood transfusion Service	753713	12	15133	1	768846	13

Department of Health
September 1990

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ENCOURAGING RESPONSE TO VOTER REGISTRATION

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A TOTAL OF 412,549 PEOPLE HAVE SENT IN THEIR APPLICATIONS TO THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL OFFICE SINCE THE VOTER REGISTRATION CAMPAIGN STARTED IN MID-AUGUST.

THESE ARE ON TOP OF THE 1.6 MILLION VOTERS ALREADY ON THE ELECTORAL ROLL.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ELECTORAL PROVISIONS (REGISTRATION OF ELECTORS) REGULATION, LATE APPLICATIONS ARE STILL ACCEPTED UP TO NOVEMBER 20 THIS YEAR. THOSE ELIGIBLE PERSONS WHO HAVE NOT YET REGISTERED ARE URGED TO SEND IN THEIR APPLICATIONS WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY.

TO FACILITATE REGISTRATION, THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL OFFICE HAS SET UP A 24-HOUR TELEPHONE HOTLINE 827 1122. THOSE WHO HAVE NOT YET REGISTERED CAN PICK UP THE TELEPHONE TO GET REGISTERED.

"ALL A CALLER HAS TO DO IS TO GIVE HIS NAME, RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS, IDENTITY CARD NUMBER AND TELEPHONE NUMBER ON THE PHONE," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL OFFICE SAID.

A COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM WILL BE SENT TO THE CALLER FOR SIGNATURE. THE FORM CAN THEN BE MAILED BACK TO THE OFFICE POSTAGE FREE.

MEANWHILE, REGISTRATION FORMS ARE STILL AVAILABLE AT ALL DISTRICT OFFICES, POST OFFICES, HOUSING ESTATE OFFICES AND LEADING BANKS.

THOSE WHO REGISTER BY NOVEMBER 20 THIS YEAR WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE IN THE DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS IN MARCH, THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS IN MAY AND THE FIRST DIRECT ELECTIONS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN SEPTEMBER NEXT YEAR.

"DON'T MISS THE CHANCE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

STARTING FROM THIS WEEK, NEW APPLICANTS WHO SENT IN THEIR FORMS BY OCTOBER 1 WILL BE NOTIFIED IN WRITING THAT THEIR NAMES WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE PROVISIONAL ELECTORAL ROLL TO BE PUBLISHED NEXT MONTH.

THEY ARE REQUESTED TO CHECK THE CORRECTNESS OF THEIR PERSONAL PARTICULARS AS PRINTED ON THE NOTICE. ANY PRINTING MISTAKE SHOULD BE NOTIFIED IMMEDIATELY TO THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL OFFICE.

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COMMENT ON PRESS REPORT CONCERNING WELFARE ASSISTANTS

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COMMENTING ON A PRESS REPORT TODAY (TUESDAY) ON A DECISION MADE BY THE WELFARE ASSISTANT'S BRANCH OF HONG KONG CHINESE CIVIL SERVANTS ASSOCIATION IN RELATION TO MANPOWER FOR ADDITIONAL WORK, A SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE MANAGEMENT HAS RECEIVED A REPORT FROM THE FINANCE BRANCH ON REVISED MANNING SCALE.

THE DEPARTMENT IS DISCUSSING THE DRAFT REPORT WITH THE FINANCE BRANCH WITH A VIEW TO PRODUCING A REVISED DRAFT REPORT. WHEN THIS SECOND DRAFT REPORT IS READY, THE STAFF ASSOCIATION WILL BE CONSULTED BEFORE THE REPORT IS FINALISED FOR IMPLEMENTATION.

ON ADDITIONAL WORK, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THIS HAS RESULTED FROM THE LOWERING OF THE QUALIFYING AGE FOR OLD AGE ALLOWANCE FROM 70 TO 66 AND THE INTRODUCTION OF HIGHER DISABILITY ALLOWANCE IN THE PAST TWO YEARS, AS WELL AS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TRAICES MATCHING RECENTLY.

TRAICES MATCHING IS TO DETECT THROUGH COMPUTER RECORDS ANY ABSENCE OF OLD AGE ALLOWANCE RECIPIENTS FROM HONG KONG AND TO IDENTIFY CASES WHO HAVE BEEN OVER-PAID AS A RESULT OF BEING AWAY FROM THE TERRITORY FOR OVER 90 DAYS IN ONE YEAR.

"A SERIES OF MEASURES TO SIMPLIFY PROCEDURES HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED IN THE PAST TWO YEARS TO ACHIEVE STAFF SAVINGS TO COPE WITH THE ADDITIONAL WORK," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THESE INCLUDED EXTENSION OF PAYMENT OF OLD AGE ALLOWANCE WITHOUT CASE REVIEWS AND RELAXING THE REVIEW CYCLES FOR CERTAIN CATEGORIES OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CASES SUCH AS STABLE CASES, SINGLETONS AND SIMPLE FAMILY CASES."

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT OF THE TOTAL OLD AGE ALLOWANCE RECIPIENTS, 200,000 HAD THE RECORD OF HAVING BEEN AWAY FROM THE TERRITORY. OF THESE, ABOUT 16,000 RECIPIENTS WERE BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN AWAY FOR OVER 90 DAYS IN ONE YEAR.

"THE MANAGEMENT ESTIMATED THAT HALF OF THE 16,000 RECIPIENTS ARE STILL AWAY FROM HONG KONG. FOR THE REMAINING 8,000 THE PROCEDURES TO REVIEW THEIR ELIGIBILITY WOULD BE AFFECTED," HE SAID.

"THE DEPARTMENT HAS A STRENGTH OF 400 WELFARE ASSISTANTS. WE ESTIMATE EACH WELFARE ASSISTANT WOULD HANDLE AN AVERAGE OF ABOUT 40 CASES OVER A PERIOD OF THREE MONTHS," HE ADDED.

UP TO END OF AUGUST, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF WELFARE ASSISTANT GRADE OFFICERS IN THE DEPARTMENT'S SOCIAL SECURITY BRANCH WAS 655 AND THE STRENGTH WAS 651.

"WHILE HOPING THAT THE WELFARE ASSISTANTS WOULD PUT THE INTEREST OF OUR SENIOR CITIZENS IN THE FIRST PLACE, THE MANAGEMENT WILL MAINTAIN DIALOGUE WITH THE WELFARE ASSISTANT'S BRANCH OF THE HONG KONG CHINESE CIVIL SERVANTS ASSOCIATION WITH A VIEW TO SOLVING THE ISSUE," THE SPOKESMAN CONCLUDED.

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4,735 APPLY FOR KINDERGARTEN FEE REMISSION

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NEARLY 5,000 PARENTS OF CHILDREN STUDYING IN KINDERGARTENS HAVE APPLIED FOR FEE REMISSION, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

APPLICATIONS TO DATE TOTALLED 4,735, COMPARED WITH A TOTAL OF 4,400 LAST YEAR, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE APPLICATIONS ARE NOW BEING PROCESSED AND IT IS EXPECTED THAT PAYMENT, THROUGH THE KINDERGARTENS, WILL BE MADE TO THE FIRST SUCCESSFUL 1,000 APPLICANTS AT THE END OF THIS MONTH.

"UNDER THE NEW MEANS-TESTED SCHEME, ELIGIBLE PARENTS MAY RECEIVE ASSISTANCE AT RATES OF 25, 50, 75 AND 100 PER CENT OF THE ACTUAL FEE CHARGED OR THE WEIGHTED AVERAGE FEE OF NON-PROFIT-MAKING KINDERGARTENS, WHICHEVER IS THE SMALLER," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE WEIGHTED AVERAGE FEE WILL BE ADJUSTED ANNUALLY.

THE WEIGHTED AVERAGE FEES OF NON-PROFIT-MAKING KINDERGARTENS FOR THE 1990-91 SCHOOL YEAR ARE \$336 FOR HALF-DAY AND \$740 FOR FULL-DAY SESSION SCHOOLS.

ONE ADVANTAGE OF THE NEW SCHEME OVER THE PREVIOUS ONE IS THAT AN ELIGIBLE PARENT WILL GET AT LEAST 25 PER CENT OF THE WEIGHTED AVERAGE FEE, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

HE ALSO SAID THAT PARENTS MAY FORWARD APPLICATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT THROUGH THE KINDERGARTENS EITHER AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR, OR AT ANY TIME WHEN THE FEE REMISSION IS REQUIRED.

APPLICATIONS, HE EXPLAINED, SHOULD BE RETURNED WITH COPIES OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS TO THE KINDERGARTENS, BUT THE DEPARTMENT WILL DIRECTLY INFORM PARENTS OF THE RESULT.

"THE GOVERNMENT WILL PAY THE REMITTED FEES TO SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS THROUGH THE KINDERGARTENS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

COPIES OF A LEAFLET INTRODUCING THE FEE REMISSION SCHEME ARE AVAILABLE FROM KINDERGARTENS, DISTRICT OFFICES OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, DISTRICT EDUCATION OFFICES, AND THE KINDERGARTEN FEE REMISSION SCHEME UNIT OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

ENQUIRIES MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE KINDERGARTEN FEE REMISSION SCHEME UNIT ON TEL. 839 2546 OR 839 2344.

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1990

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AUCTION OF SPECIAL CAR NUMBERS
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL HOLD AN AUCTION OF SPECIAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION NUMBERS ON SATURDAY (OCTOBER 6) AT 10 AM AT THE CITY HALL RECITAL HALL.

A TOTAL OF 40 SPECIAL CAR NUMBERS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR BIDDING. THEY ARE:

AA889	EK188	EC6	EK122
AB625	EK662	EK877	AB900
BB3523	EK778	EK2232	EK1013
EL919	2948	AJ180	EK7787
EK7368	BL605	EM11	EM171
5707	AZ280	EL230	EK902
EK693	750	BB625	AA7960
CC55	ED8918	EL1386	EK275
EK1975	EK302	EK779	EK1990
EK928	EK883	EL100	EJ7333

SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS MUST PAY BY CHEQUE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE BIDDING.

A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN REMINDED BIDDERS THAT THE VEHICLE REGISTRATION NUMBER WOULD BE ASSIGNED ONLY TO A VEHICLE REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF THE AUCTION.

THE CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION MUST BE PRODUCED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE AUCTION IF THE VEHICLE REGISTRATION MARK IS TO BE REGISTERED UNDER THE NAME OF A BODY CORPORATE.

PROCEEDS OF THE AUCTION WILL AS USUAL GO TO THE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES FUND.

THE COMING AUCTION WILL BE THE 156TH ORGANISED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SINCE MAY 1973.

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FIFTEEN NOMINATED FOR LAB ELECTION
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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED FROM EMPLOYEES' TRADE UNIONS 15 NOMINATIONS OF CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION AS EMPLOYEES' REPRESENTATIVES TO THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD.

OF THE CANDIDATES, FIVE WILL BE ELECTED FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD FOR TWO YEARS STARTING FROM JANUARY 1, 1991.

/THE ELECTION

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1990

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THE ELECTION WILL BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 10 AT QUEEN ELIZABETH SCHOOL IN KOWLOON.

THE CANDIDATES ARE:

MR CHAN YAN-CHONG
CITY POLYTECHNIC OF HONG KONG STAFF ASSOCIATION

MR CHEUNG KWOK-BUI, FELIX
HONG KONG CIVIL SERVANTS GENERAL UNION

MISS LI FUNG-YING
HONG KONG AND KOWLOON ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY EMPLOYEES' GENERAL UNION

MR MAN SAI-KWONG
DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT LOCAL STAFF UNION, HONG KONG

MR LO CHAI-FAI
DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT LOCAL STAFF UNION, HONG KONG

MR LEE YIU-KI
DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT LOCAL STAFF UNION, HONG KONG

MR LEE HIM-LONG
DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT LOCAL STAFF UNION, HONG KONG

MR LAM KUEN
DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT LOCAL STAFF UNION, HONG KONG

MR LEUNG TSZ-LEUNG
AMALGAMATED UNION OF SEAFARERS, HONG KONG

MR LEE CHEUK-YAN
CLOTHING INDUSTRY WORKERS GENERAL UNION

MR CHU MING
HONG KONG PROSTHETISTS AND ORTHOTISTS ASSOCIATION

MR LEUNG FU-WAH
HONG KONG AND KOWLOON RUBBER AND PLASTIC WORKERS GENERAL UNION

MR LEUNG CHOK-PO
HONG KONG AND KOWLOON CLOCK AND WATCH TRADE WORKERS UNION

MR TSANG PING-FAT
HONG KONG STOREHOUSES AND TRANSPORTATION STAFF ASSOCIATION

MR WU MAN-LUNG
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT SURVEY OFFICERS (ESTATE)

MEANWHILE, ALL REGISTERED EMPLOYEES' TRADE UNIONS WILL BE INVITED TO REGISTER AS ELECTORS AND TO APPOINT UP TO TWO PERSONS AS AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVES TO ATTEND THE ELECTION BY SECRET BALLOT.

/THE LABOUR

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THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD HAS 12 MEMBERS, INCLUDING FIVE ELECTED EMPLOYEES' REPRESENTATIVES, FIVE NOMINATED EMPLOYERS' REPRESENTATIVES, AND ONE EACH APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO REPRESENT EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES RESPECTIVELY.

NOMINATIONS FOR EMPLOYERS' REPRESENTATIVES ARE BEING INVITED FROM THE HONG KONG, GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, THE EMPLOYERS' FEDERATION OF HONG KONG, THE CHINESE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG, THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES, AND THE CHINESE GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

THE BOARD IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ADVISING THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR ON LABOUR MATTERS, INCLUDING LEGISLATION AND THE APPLICATION OF INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONVENTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

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ANNUAL MARINE SEARCH AND RESCUE EXERCISE COMPLETED
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AN ANNUAL MARINE SEARCH AND RESCUE EXERCISE OUTSIDE HONG KONG WATERS WAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THIS (TUESDAY) EVENING.

CO-ORDINATED BY THE MARITIME RESCUE CO-ORDINATION CENTRE OF THE MARINE DEPARTMENT, THE DAY-LONG EXERCISE INVOLVED THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT, FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, ROYAL HONG KONG AUXILIARY AIR FORCE, ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE, ROYAL OBSERVATORY AND ROYAL NAVY.

THE MARINE OFFICER (SEARCH AND RESCUE) OF THE MARINE DEPARTMENT, MR TREVOR BERRY, SAID: "THE ANNUAL EXERCISE IS DESIGNED TO TEST AND EVALUATE HONG KONG'S SEARCH AND RESCUE RESOURCES."

THE SCENARIO OF THE EXERCISE, WHICH STARTED SHORTLY AFTER 8 AM TODAY, WAS A "MAN OVERBOARD, TIME AND POSITION UNCERTAIN".

THE MARITIME RESCUE CO-ORDINATION CENTRE IMMEDIATELY ACTIVATED AN AIR-AND-SEA SEARCH AND THE "MISSING MAN" WAS LATER LOCATED 30 NAUTICAL MILES SOUTH-SOUTHEAST OF HONG KONG.

FOR EXERCISE PURPOSES, THE "RESCUED MAN" WAS TAKEN ON BOARD HMS STARLING, TRANSFERRED TO MARINE POLICE LAUNCH NO. 71 AND THEN AIR-LIFTED TO HOSPITAL BY ONE OF THE NEW SIKORSKY S76 HELICOPTERS OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG AUXILIARY AIR FORCE AT 5 PM.

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THREE II'S FROM CHINA ARRESTED

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ACTING ON INFORMATION, IMMIGRATION INVESTIGATORS ARRESTED THREE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS FROM CHINA IN TSUEN WAN YESTERDAY (OCTOBER 1).

THE THREE MALE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS, AGED 16, 27 AND 39, WERE ARRESTED AT A MOULD FACTORY.

THEY ARE SUSPECTED TO HAVE USED OTHER PERSON'S HONG KONG IDENTITY CARDS TO OBTAIN JOBS.

ALL OF THEM ARE CHIU CHOW NATIVES AND CLAIMED TO HAVE SNEAKED INTO HONG KONG IN SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR OR AUGUST THIS YEAR.

TWO PERSONS IN CHARGE OF THE FACTORY ARE ASSISTING WITH THE INVESTIGATION.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT STRESSED THAT THERE WILL BE NO AMNESTY GRANTED TO ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

HE ALSO REMINDED ALL EMPLOYERS TO CHECK THE IDENTITY OF THEIR RECRUITS, IRRESPECTIVE OF THEIR NATIONALITY AND THAT THEY WILL BE LIABLE TO PROSECUTION IF THEY FAILED TO OBSERVE SUCH LEGAL REQUIREMENT.

EMPLOYERS WHO HAVE COME ACROSS DOUBTFUL PROOF OF IDENTITY MAY CALL THE INVESTIGATION HOTLINE ON TEL. 824 1551 DURING OFFICE HOURS.

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RESIDENTS URGED TO REGISTER AS VOTERS

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DEPUTY REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR FUNG KWOK-KEUNG, TONIGHT (TUESDAY) URGED SHAM SHUI PO RESIDENTS TO REGISTER AS ELECTORS SO AS TO ENABLE THEM TO VOTE IN NEXT YEAR'S THREE-TIER ELECTIONS.

SPEAKING AT A DISTRICT VARIETY SHOW TO CELEBRATE THE MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL, MR FUNG ALSO APPEALED TO LOCAL COMMUNITY LEADERS TO ENCOURAGE THEIR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES TO ENROL.

THE VOTER REGISTRATION CAMPAIGN, HE ADDED, HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO THE END OF THIS MONTH.

THOSE WHO HAVE CHANGED THEIR ADDRESSES SHOULD ALSO INFORM THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL OFFICE, MR FUNG SAID.

/THOUSANDS OF

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1990

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THOUSANDS OF RESIDENTS ATTENDED TONIGHT'S SHOW WHICH FEATURED CHOIR PERFORMANCES, GAMES STALLS, DEMONSTRATION OF TRADITIONAL CHINESE HANDICRAFTS, LANTERN RIDDLES AND POP SINGING.

THE FUNCTION WAS ORGANISED BY THE SHAM SHUI PO ARTS ASSOCIATION AND THE DISTRICT OFFICE.

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HOLIDAY CLINIC SERVICES

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EIGHT GOVERNMENT OUT-PATIENT CLINICS WILL REMAIN OPEN FROM 9 AM TO 1 PM ON THURSDAY (OCTOBER 4), THE DAY FOLLOWING THE MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE EIGHT CLINICS ARE VIOLET PEEL HEALTH CENTRE AND SHAU KEI WAN JOCKEY CLUB CLINIC ON HONG KONG ISLAND; KWUN TONG JOCKEY CLUB HEALTH CENTRE, ROBERT BLACK HEALTH CENTRE AND YAU MA TEI JOCKEY CLUB CLINIC IN KOWLOON; AND LADY TRENCH POLYCLINIC, SHEK WU HUI JOCKEY CLUB CLINIC AND YUEN LONG JOCKEY CLUB HEALTH CENTRE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

ALL OTHER OUT-PATIENT AND EVENING CLINICS WILL BE CLOSED.

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GOVT LOT IN KOWLOON BAY TO LET BY TENDER

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THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE SHORT TERM TENANCY OF A SITE AT THE JUNCTION OF WANG KWONG ROAD AND KAI WAH STREET, KOWLOON BAY.

MEASURING ABOUT 6,710 SQUARE METRES, THE SITE IS FOR OPEN STORAGE OF NON-DANGEROUS GOODS.

THE TENANCY IS FOR 18 MONTHS, RENEWABLE QUARTERLY AFTERWARDS.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF TENDERS IS NOON ON OCTOBER 19.

FORM OF TENDER, TENDER NOTICE AND CONDITIONS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM, AND TENDER PLAN INSPECTED AT THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG AND THE KOWLOON EAST DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES, 10TH FLOOR, YAU MA TEI CARPARK BUILDING, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON.

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