



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

THURSDAY, MAY 5, 1988

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CONTINGENCY PLANNING REPORT FOR N-PLANT RELEASED

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GUIDANCE ON THE ACTIONS THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD PLAN TO TAKE, IN RESPONSE TO ANY ACCIDENTAL RELEASE OF RADIOACTIVITY FROM THE DAYA BAY NUCLEAR POWER STATION, IS CONTAINED IN A DETAILED REPORT ON CONTINGENCY PLANNING RELEASED TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE 106-PAGE REPORT, PREPARED FOR THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BY THE UNITED KINGDOM ATOMIC ENERGY AUTHORITY, RE-AFFIRMS THAT PLANNING FOR EXTREME MEASURES, SUCH AS EVACUATION, IS NOT REQUIRED.

POINTING OUT THAT HONG KONG NEED ONLY CONSIDER THE CONSEQUENCES THAT MIGHT ARISE AT MORE THAN 25 KILOMETRES FROM THE POWER STATION, THE REPORT ADVISES THAT AT SUCH DISTANCES THERE WAS A CONSENSUS OF INTERNATIONAL OPINION THAT THERE WOULD ONLY EXIST A NEED FOR MONITORING AND PERHAPS CONTROL OF FOODSTUFFS.

NOTING THAT THE REACTORS TO BE INSTALLED AT DAYA BAY ARE PRESSURISED WATER REACTORS (PWR), THE REPORT POINTS OUT THAT THERE HAS NEVER BEEN AN ACCIDENT TO A PWR THAT HAS RESULTED IN A SIGNIFICANT RADIOLOGICAL HAZARD TO THE PUBLIC.

IT ADDS THAT A CHERNOBYL-TYPE ACCIDENT CANNOT HAPPEN IN A PWR WHICH IS OF A TOTALLY DIFFERENT DESIGN. MOREOVER, UNLIKE THE CHERNOBYL REACTOR, WHICH LACKED AN EFFECTIVE CONTAINMENT BUILDING, PWR'S ARE PROVIDED WITH A MASSIVE PRE-STRESSED, REINFORCED CONCRETE CONTAINMENT BUILDING DESIGNED TO ENSURE THEIR INTEGRITY IN ALL CREDIBLE CIRCUMSTANCES.

EMPHASISING THAT A VERY LARGE ACCIDENT AT DAYA BAY IS EXTREMELY UNLIKELY AND HIGHLY IMPROBABLE, THE CONSULTANTS ADVISED THAT DETAILED PLANNING FOR SUCH AN OCCURRENCE IS NOT GENERALLY CONSIDERED JUSTIFIABLE.

HOWEVER, BECAUSE A GOOD EMERGENCY ORGANISATION ALREADY EXISTS IN HONG KONG TO DEAL WITH NATURAL DISASTERS, ADVICE FOR DEALING WITH CREDIBLE MAJOR NUCLEAR ACCIDENTS, WHICH ARE THEMSELVES IMPROBABLE, CAN EASILY BE EXTENDED TO DEAL WITH VERY LARGE CATASTROPHIC ACCIDENTS.

THE REPORT RECOMMENDS THAT THE ACTUAL CONTINGENCY PLAN SHOULD BE FLEXIBLE AND CAPABLE OF RESPONDING TO A WIDE RANGE OF ACCIDENTS FROM THE TRIVIAL TO THE SERIOUS.

THE PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVE OF THE PLAN SHOULD BE TO ENSURE THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS ABLE TO RAPIDLY MOBILISE RESOURCES TO MONITOR AND ASSESS THE CONSEQUENCES OF ANY ACCIDENT AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO MITIGATE AGAINST POSSIBLE ADVERSE EFFECTS.

/BECAUSE THE

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BECAUSE THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY IS MANNED ON A 24 HOUR BASIS, HAS READILY AVAILABLE METEOROLOGICAL DATA, AND HAS EXPERIENCE IN RADIATION MONITORING, THE REPORT RECOMMENDS THAT THE "MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT" CENTRE SHOULD BE SET UP AT THE OBSERVATORY.

THE BASIC RADIOLOGICAL PROTECTION PRINCIPLES THAT SHOULD BE APPLIED IN THE EVENT OF A MAJOR ACCIDENT ARE GIVEN IN THE REPORT, AND ARE DEVELOPED INTO PRACTICAL ADVICE. SOME OF THE COUNTERMEASURES, SUCH AS WASHING FOODSTUFFS, WOULD BE RELATIVELY EASY TO IMPLEMENT.

TO ENSURE THAT HONG KONG IS PROMPTLY INFORMED OF ANY EMERGENCY AT THE DAYA BAY STATION, IRRESPECTIVE OF WHETHER OR NOT THE INCIDENT WAS LIKELY TO PHYSICALLY AFFECT HONG KONG, THE CONSULTANTS RECOMMEND THAT AGREEMENT SHOULD BE REACHED WITH THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A RELIABLE COMMUNICATIONS LINK BETWEEN THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY AND THE DAYA BAY CONTROL CENTRE.

SINCE THE FOOD PATHWAY IS LIKELY TO BE THE PRINCIPAL CONCERN FOLLOWING ANY SERIOUS RELEASE OF RADIOACTIVITY FROM THE DAYA BAY PLANT, THE REPORT DEVOTES A REASONABLE AMOUNT OF COVERAGE TO THE MONITORING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE FOOD CHAIN.

THE NEED TO INITIALLY CONCENTRATE ON PRODUCE IN SHOPS AND MARKETS, SUCH AS FRUIT AND VEGETABLES, THAT MAY HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO THE PLUME IS HIGHLIGHTED.

EVEN WITH VERY SERIOUS ACCIDENTS, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT UNACCEPTABLE CONTAMINATION OF THE WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM WOULD EVENTUATE.

THIS IS BECAUSE ANY DEPOSITION ON THE RESERVOIRS WOULD BE SUBJECT TO MASSIVE DILUTION BY THE VOLUME OF WATER IN THE RESERVOIR.

FURTHERMORE THE LEVEL OF RADIOACTIVITY IN THE WATER WOULD BE GREATLY REDUCED BY THE STANDARD WATER TREATMENT PROCESS.

THE REPORT GOES ON TO SAY THAT IT IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT LIVESTOCK WOULD BE SIGNIFICANTLY CONTAMINATED UNLESS THEY HAD BEEN GRAZING ON CONTAMINATED PASTURE.

CO-OPERATION FROM THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES WOULD ENSURE THAT ANY SUCH ANIMALS WOULD BE IDENTIFIED AND CHECKED FOR CONTAMINATION AT THE AFFECTED FARM. FOR MONITORING PURPOSES THE REPORT SUGGESTS THAT A SYSTEM OF REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLING WOULD BE JUSTIFIABLE.

/OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

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OTHER HIGHLIGHTS OF THE REPORT INCLUDE:

- * THE SETTING UP OF A RADIATION PROTECTION ADVISORY GROUP TO PROVIDE INDEPENDENT ADVICE ON THE RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH A POSSIBLE ACCIDENT AT DAYA BAY;
- * THE NEED FOR EMERGENCY MONITORING TEAMS CAPABLE OF MEASURING THE DOSE RATES FROM THE RADIOACTIVE PLUME AND FROM RADIOACTIVITY DEPOSITED ON THE GROUND;
- * THE NEED TO ENSURE THAT IN AN EMERGENCY THE INDIVIDUAL RISK TO EMERGENCY WORKERS WAS MINIMISED, POSSIBLY THROUGH AN ISSUE OF DISPOSABLE PROTECTIVE CLOTHING;
- * THE NEED TO CONSIDER HOLDING SMALL STOCKS OF POTASSIUM IODATE TABLETS TO GIVE TO ANYONE WHO HAD BEEN CLOSE TO THE DAYA BAY SITE AT THE TIME OF A MAJOR ACCIDENT AND HAD SUBSEQUENTLY RETURNED TO HONG KONG WITHIN 12 HOURS.

THE MAJOR GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS INVOLVED IN THE CONTINGENCY PLAN ARE THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY TO CO-ORDINATE THE MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT CENTRE AND THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT WHOSE PRIMARY ROLE WOULD BE ADVISING THE PUBLIC ON THE SITUATION AND NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN.

SUPPORTING FACILITIES WOULD BE PROVIDED BY THE POLICE FORCE, AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, FIRE SERVICES, CIVIL AID SERVICES, TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT, THE AUXILIARY AIR FORCE, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT, MUNICIPAL SERVICES BRANCH, THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, AND THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

STRESSING THAT THE REPORT IS NOT IN ITSELF THE HONG KONG CONTINGENCY PLAN, THE CONSULTANTS EXPLAIN THAT ITS PURPOSE IS TO PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE GUIDANCE TO THE GOVERNMENT ON HOW SUCH A PLAN MAY BE PREPARED.

IN ORDER TO SET THE SCENE FOR THIS OBJECTIVE THE REPORT ALSO PROVIDES SOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON HOW NUCLEAR REACTORS OPERATE, RADIATION AND A GENERAL DISCUSSION ON REACTOR ACCIDENTS.

COPIES OF THE REPORT ARE AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT \$50 EACH FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL.

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MARICULTURISTS ALERTED OVER FISH KILL

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THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY) WARNED MARICULTURISTS IN THE TOLO HARBOUR REGION THAT RED TIDES AND STAGNANT TIDES PREVAILING IN THEIR FISH CULTURE GROUNDS MIGHT GIVE RISE TO FISH KILLS CAUSED BY OXYGEN DEPLETION.

THEY SHOULD IMPROVE THE LEVEL OF DISSOLVED OXYGEN IN THE WATERS THROUGH MECHANICAL MEANS PARTICULARLY AT NIGHT.

THE WARNING FOLLOWED A REPORT OF FISH KILL RECEIVED BY THE DEPARTMENT THIS (THURSDAY) MORNING FROM MARICULTURISTS IN THE YIM TIN TSAI FISH CULTURE ZONE WHERE 35 TONNES OF FISH WERE KILLED OVERNIGHT.

THE RESULTS OF A PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION CARRIED OUT BY THE DEPARTMENT'S FISHERIES OFFICER, DR PATSY WONG, REVEALED THAT THE FISH KILL WAS DUE TO OXYGEN DEPLETION CAUSED BY STAGNANT TIDES AND PRESENCE OF NON-TOXIC RED TIDES, FORMED BY A PLANKTON SPECIES CALLED THE "GONYAULAX POLYGRAMMA", IN THE WATERS.

DR WONG SAID THE FISH SPECIES AFFECTED INCLUDED GOLD-LINED SEABREAMS, MANGROVE SNAPPERS AND GREEN GROUPERS. AS THE FISH DIED ONLY OF OXYGEN DEPLETION, THEY WERE FIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.

"THE FOUR FISH CULTURE ZONES IN THE TOLO HARBOUR REGION, NAMELY YIM TIN TSAI, YIM TIN TSAI EAST, YUNG SHUE AU AND LO FU WAT, WILL BE AFFECTED BY LOW CURRENTS AND STAGNANT TIDES OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

"MARICULTURISTS IN THESE AREAS SHOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO AERATE THE WATERS IN ORDER TO MINIMISE THEIR LOSSES," DR WONG ADDED.

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GOVERNOR PRAISES WORK OF OUTWARD BOUND SCHOOL

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THE OUTWARD BOUND SCHOOL PLAYS A VERY VALUABLE ROLE IN TRAINING YOUNG PEOPLE IN A CHALLENGING ENVIRONMENT, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

VISITING THE SCHOOL AT TAI MONG TSAI, SAI KUNG, SIR DAVID WAS TOLD THAT LAST YEAR, THE SCHOOL ORGANISED 117 COURSES FOR MORE THAN 3,100 PEOPLE.

/THESE INCLUDED

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THESE INCLUDED ADULT COURSES, CHILDREN'S ADVENTURE AND SOCIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMMES, SPECIAL OUTDOOR SKILLS COURSES, COURSES FOR THE DISABLED AND UNDER-PRIVILEGED, AND REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES FOR JUVENILE DELINQUENTS.

NOTING THAT THE GOVERNMENT PROVIDES AN ANNUAL SUBVENTION TO HELP DESERVING PEOPLE TAKE PART IN COURSES AT THE OUTWARD BOUND SCHOOL, THE GOVERNOR SAID, "THE OUTWARD BOUND SCHOOL DOES AN EXCELLENT JOB IN PROVIDING TRAINING WHICH ENCOURAGES THOSE TAKING PART TO PLAY A MORE ACTIVE AND MORE SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN THE COMMUNITY.

"THE GOVERNMENT IS HAPPY TO PROVIDE HELP FOR SOME WHO MIGHT NOT OTHERWISE BE ABLE TO BENEFIT, TO TAKE PART."

THE GOVERNOR WAS TOLD THAT ABOUT 1,000 PEOPLE BENEFITTED FROM GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIES TO THEIR COURSE FEES EVERY YEAR.

ON ARRIVAL, THE GOVERNOR WAS MET BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE OUTWARD BOUND TRUST EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, MR DENNIS MINNS, AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE SCHOOL, MR DEREK PRITCHARD.

DURING A TOUR OF THE SCHOOL, SIR DAVID MET 11 TRAINEE PILOTS OF THE CATHAY PACIFIC CADET PILOT SCHEME WHO WERE UNDERGOING AN OUTWARD BOUND TRAINING COURSE.

LATER, THE GOVERNOR WATCHED A GROUP OF YOUNG GIRLS TAKING A RAFTING INITIATIVE COURSE ON THE BEACH, WHILE OFFSHORE GROUPS OF TRAINEES WERE LEARNING THE SKILLS OF KETCH SAILING AND CANOEING.

SIR DAVID THEN BOARDED THE 132-FOOT ADVENTURE SHIP "JI FUNG" WHERE HE MET COURSE TRAINEES WHO HAD JUST RETURNED FROM A CRUISE TO THE PHILIPPINES.

BEFORE CONCLUDING HIS VISIT, SIR DAVID, HIMSELF A KEEN MOUNTAINEER, SAW TRAINEES TAKING PART IN AN ADULT CHALLENGE COURSE IN ROCK CLIMBING AND ABSEIL PRACTICE.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER HIS VISIT, SIR DAVID SAID PARTICIPATION IN AN OUTWARD BOUND COURSE WOULD BE A PERFECT OPPORTUNITY FOR PEOPLE TO LEARN THE QUALITIES OF LEADERSHIP AND SELF-RELIANCE, AND TO GET OUT INTO THE COUNTRYSIDE.

THIS WOULD ALSO HELP PARTICIPANTS TRAIN THEMSELVES AS MUCH BETTER CITIZENS, MUCH MORE EFFECTIVE OPERATORS, WHATEVER THEIR JOBS, HE SAID.

CIVIL SERVANTS SENT ON OUTWARD BOUND COURSES HAD BENEFITTED ENORMOUSLY.

/SIR DAVID

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SIR DAVID SAID HE WAS VERY ENCOURAGED TO SEE HOW THE SCHOOL HAD DEVELOPED AND TO HEAR ABOUT ITS PLANS FOR FURTHER ACTIVITIES.

HE NOTED THAT WHILE THE GOVERNMENT SUBSIDISED THE OUTWARD BOUND SCHOOL AT ABOUT \$1 MILLION A YEAR TO HELP THOSE WHO MIGHT OTHERWISE NOT HAVE THE CHANCE TO COME, ANY WORTHWHILE IDEAS PUT FORWARD TO EXTEND THE SCHEME WOULD BE CONSIDERED.

ASKED TO COMMENT ABOUT THE PROBLEM OF POLLUTION IN THE COUNTRYSIDE, SIR DAVID SAID: "WE HAVE HAD A PERIOD OF VERY RAPID GROWTH IN HONG KONG. OUTWARD BOUND IS AN EXAMPLE OF HOW WE USE OUR COUNTRYSIDE. WE MUST PRESERVE THAT COUNTRYSIDE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG, AND WE MUST, AT THE SAME TIME, FIND WAYS TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM OF POLLUTION."

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FIRST CARE HOME UNDER PILOT SCHEME OPENED

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THE LAI YIU BRADBURY CARE HOME IN KWAI TSING DISTRICT WAS OFFICIALLY OPENED TODAY (THURSDAY), PROVIDING A TOTAL OF 72 CARE AND ATTENTION PLACES FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE.

IT IS OPERATED BY THE HELPING HAND WITH SUBSIDY FROM THE LOTTERIES FUND, AND IS THE FIRST CARE HOME SET UP UNDER A GOVERNMENT PILOT SCHEME WHICH SUBSIDISES SUCH HOMES IN RETURN FOR 80 PER CENT OF THE PLACES.

THE PLACES ARE USED FOR RESETTLING PUBLIC HOUSING ELDERLY TENANTS WHO ARE UNABLE TO LOOK AFTER THEMSELVES AND FOR ACCOMMODATING THOSE WHO ARE ON THE CENTRAL WAITING LIST FOR CARE AND ATTENTION PLACEMENTS.

THE GOVERNMENT SUBSIDY AND THE FEES PAID BY THE ELDERLY THEMSELVES WILL COVER THE BASIC COST, WHILE THE HELPING HAND WILL UNDERTAKE THE OPERATION OF THE HOME. THE ELDERLY WILL RECEIVE REIMBURSEMENT FOR THE FEES THEY PAID THROUGH THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SCHEME.

OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY, THE WIFE OF THE GOVERNOR, LADY WILSON, SAID THE PROJECT WOULD GO SOME WAY TOWARDS ALLEVIATING A PRESSING PROBLEM IN HONG KONG - THE PLIGHT OF THE ELDERLY WHO COULD NO LONGER CARE FOR THEMSELVES.

WHILE NOTING THE REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE TERRITORY'S PUBLIC HOUSING PROGRAMME, LADY WILSON SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THOSE STILL IN INADEQUATE CONDITIONS.

/"WE MUST

"WE MUST RECOGNISE THE NEEDS OF THOSE WHO ARE NO LONGER ABLE TO CARE FOR THEMSELVES IN THE COMMUNITY, OR BE CARED FOR BY THEIR FAMILY," SHE STRESSED.

SHE POINTED OUT THAT THE CARE HOME WAS AN EXAMPLE OF THE EFFORTS OF INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS OF CITIZENS, AND ORGANISATIONS WHICH REFLECTED THE CARING CAPACITY OF THE COMMUNITY.

SHE NOTED THAT THE CARE HOME PROJECT WAS THE FIRST TIME A GOVERNMENT SUBSIDY WAS GIVEN TO A NON-SUBVENTED ORGANISATION ON A PER CAPITA BASIS.

"THE STRENGTH OF SUCH A SCHEME IS THAT IT WILL ALLOW MORE ELDERLY PEOPLE TO BE HELPED WHILST PRESERVING THE TRULY VOLUNTARY NATURE OF A WELFARE ORGANISATION AS AN INDEPENDENT CHARITY," SHE ADDED.

LOCATED IN LAI YIU ESTATE, THE CARE HOME IS A THREE-STORY SHELTER, INSIDE WHICH THERE ARE ROOMS FOR THE ELDERLY, DINING ROOM, KITCHEN, LAUNDRY, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY ROOM, PHYSIOTHERAPY ROOM AND A ROOFTOP GARDEN.

AN INNOVATIVE IDEA BEING IMPLEMENTED IN THIS CARE HOME IS THE PROVISION OF ROOMS FOR COUPLES, WHO WILL BE ACCEPTED EVEN IF ONLY ONE OF THEM IS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION SERVICES.

VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, NOTABLY THE HOUSING AND THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENTS, HAD PROVIDED ASSISTANCE IN THE PROJECT.

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SKILLED WORKERS NEEDED FOR AUTOMATION

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THE ADOPTION OF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY HAS LED TO A STRONG DEMAND FOR PROPERLY TRAINED TECHNICAL MANPOWER AT ALL LEVELS IN THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY, ACCORDING TO A SURVEY REPORT RELEASED BY THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL TODAY (THURSDAY).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE COUNCIL SAID THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD FOUND THAT MANY MANUFACTURERS HAD MADE A HUGE INVESTMENT IN AUTOMATION BY INSTALLING ADVANCED COMPUTERISED MOULD MAKING AS WELL AS INJECTION MOULDING MACHINES FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPROVING PRODUCTIVITY AND QUALITY.

"IT IS NECESSARY FOR THE INDUSTRY TO UPGRADE THE SKILLS OF THE WORKFORCE TO SUPPORT THIS TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

/THE INCREASE

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THE INCREASE IN PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT WORK AND THE DEPLOYMENT OF TECHNICAL MANPOWER TO ASSIST IN THE SETTING UP AND MANAGING OF PRODUCTION FACILITIES IN CHINA ALSO CREATED ADDITIONAL MANPOWER NEEDS IN THE INDUSTRY, THE BOARD NOTED.

THE BOARD PROJECTED THAT THE INDUSTRY SHOULD TRAIN AT LEAST AN ADDITIONAL 100 TECHNOLOGISTS, 200 TECHNICIANS AND 400 CRAFTSMEN EACH YEAR TO SUPPORT ITS GROWTH UP TO 1993.

THE SURVEY, CONDUCTED BY THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD, RECORDED THAT THE TOTAL WORKFORCE OF THE INDUSTRY HAS SLIGHTLY DECREASED TO 78,800 IN 1987 FROM 79,800 IN 1985.

THE DECLINE WAS MAINLY ATTRIBUTED TO AUTOMATION AND THE AVAILABILITY OF CHEAP LABOUR IN CHINA TO PRODUCE LABOUR-INTENSIVE PARTS AND SUB-ASSEMBLIES.

THE "1987 MANPOWER SURVEY REPORT ON THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY" IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, AT \$12.5 A COPY.

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PUBLIC URGED TO PAY ATTENTION TO FOOD HYGIENE

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WITH THE APPROACH OF THE SUMMER SEASON AND WITH THE INCREASE OF REPORTED CASES OF VIRAL HEPATITIS A INFECTION IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS, THE PUBLIC SHOULD TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES AGAINST GASTRO-INTESTINAL DISEASES ASSOCIATED WITH UNCLEAN AND UNWHOLESOME FOOD AND WATER.

MAKING THE APPEAL TODAY (THURSDAY), THE HYGIENE ADVISER OF THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES BRANCH, DR RON PERRY, WARNED THE PUBLIC TO BE ON GUARD AGAINST FOOD POISONING AND DISEASES SUCH AS CHOLERA, DYSENTERY, TYPHOID AND VIRAL HEPATITIS A.

"THEY ARE TRANSMITTED THROUGH THE ORAL-FAECAL ROUTE.

"THE PUBLIC SHOULD OBSERVE PROPER PRACTICES TO ENSURE THE FOOD THEY CONSUME IS HYGIENIC AND FREE FROM CONTAMINATION AND DETERIORATION," DR PERRY SAID.

/HE SAID

HE SAID THE PUBLIC SHOULD REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING WHEN EATING AT HOME:

- * MAINTAIN A CLEAN KITCHEN;
- * CLEAN HANDS BEFORE PREPARING FOOD;
- * USE WHOLESOME FOOD AND WATER;
- * USE CLEAN COOKING UTENSILS;
- * STORE ALL PERISHABLE FOOD NOT FOR IMMEDIATE CONSUMPTION IN A REFRIGERATOR. COOKED FOOD STORED IN A REFRIGERATOR SHOULD BE SEPARATED FROM RAW FOOD ITEMS AND WRAPPED UP IN CLEAN PLASTIC SHEETS;
- * DO NOT THAW FROZEN FOOD UNTIL IT IS NEEDED;
- * NEVER USE A CHOPPING BLOCK AND KNIFE FOR CUTTING COOKED FOOD IMMEDIATELY AFTER THEY HAVE BEEN USED FOR CUTTING RAW FOOD, PARTICULARLY MEAT OR POULTRY;
- * COOK FOOD, ESPECIALLY MEAT AND SHELLFISH, THOROUGHLY BEFORE CONSUMPTION;
- * EAT COOKED FOOD WHILE IT IS STILL HOT. DON'T LEAVE IT EXPOSED FOR A LONG PERIOD OF TIME;
- * FOOD TO BE KEPT OVERNIGHT SHOULD BE PUT IN A REFRIGERATOR. RE-COOK LEFTOVERS THOROUGHLY BEFORE EATING; AND
- * ALL GARBAGE AND WASTE SHOULD BE PUT INTO A COVERED CONTAINER BEFORE DISPOSAL.

DR PERRY ALSO REMINDED THE PUBLIC NOT TO PATRONISE ILLEGAL FOOD HAWKERS AND UNLICENSED FOOD PREMISES AS THE FOOD THEY SELL MIGHT BE UNCLEAN AND POSE A SERIOUS RISK TO HEALTH.

"THE PUBLIC ARE ALSO ADVISED NOT TO PURCHASE CUT FRUIT FROM ANY ILLEGAL FRUIT VENDORS BECAUSE ITEMS OF FRUIT CAN EASILY GET CONTAMINATED ONCE THEY ARE CUT OPEN.

"SAFE FOOD, AND GOOD PERSONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE FORM THE STRONGEST WEAPON AGAINST GASTRO-INTESTINAL DISEASES," DR PERRY SAID.

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PROVISIONAL RESULTS OF RETAIL SALES SURVEY FOR FEBRUARY

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THE VALUE OF TOTAL RETAIL SALES IN FEBRUARY 1988, ESTIMATED AT \$8,432 MILLION, WAS 45 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN FEBRUARY 1987 WHILE VOLUME WAS 33 PER CENT HIGHER, ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONAL RESULTS OF A SURVEY ON RETAIL SALES RELEASED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE ABOVE COMPARISON WAS, HOWEVER, AFFECTED BY THE TIMING OF THE LUNAR NEW YEAR, WHICH OCCURRED IN FEBRUARY THIS YEAR BUT IN JANUARY LAST YEAR.

TAKING JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 1988 TOGETHER, TOTAL RETAIL SALES INCREASED BY 26 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 16 PER CENT IN VOLUME OVER THE SAME PERIOD IN 1987.

COMPARING THE PERIOD JANUARY TO FEBRUARY 1988 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1987 AND ANALYSED BY MAJOR TRADE GROUPS, SALES OF FUELS ROSE BY 15 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 8 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO RECORDED INCREASES OF 11 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 3 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME.

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, RETAIL SALES OF CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS INCREASED BY 47 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 33 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

"OTHER CONSUMER GOODS" AND CONSUMER DURABLES WENT UP BY 29 PER CENT AND 28 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN SALES VALUE WHILE THEIR INCREASES IN SALES VOLUME WERE BOTH 19 PER CENT.

ANALYSED BY SELECTED TRADES, SALES OF "MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS" AND BY DEPARTMENT STORES INCREASED BY 52 PER CENT AND 51 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN VALUE AND BOTH BY 38 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS ROSE BY 19 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 12 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME WHILE THE CORRESPONDING INCREASES FOR SUPERMARKETS WERE 17 PER CENT AND 9 PER CENT.

COMPARING FEBRUARY 1988 WITH FEBRUARY 1987, RETAIL SALES OF FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO ROSE BY 26 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 15 PER CENT IN VOLUME. FUELS INCREASED BY 16 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 11 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME.

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, RETAIL SALES OF CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY BY 95 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 78 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

/CONSUMER DURABLES

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CONSUMER DURABLES AND "OTHER CONSUMER GOODS" ROSE BY 48 PER CENT AND 47 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN SALES VALUE, WHILE BOTH INCREASED BY 36 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME.

ANALYSED BY SELECTED TRADES, WHICH FORM PART OF THE RELEVANT MAJOR TRADE GROUPS, SALES BY DEPARTMENT STORES ROSE SUBSTANTIALLY BY 96 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 79 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

SALES OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS INCREASED BY 87 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 69 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

SUPERMARKET SALES WENT UP BY 53 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 43 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS INCREASED BY 33 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 25 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME.

WHEN COMPARED WITH JANUARY 1988, AND BEARING IN MIND THAT THIS COMPARISON IS AFFECTED BY SEASONAL FACTORS, TOTAL RETAIL SALES FOR FEBRUARY ROSE BY 5 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 4 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

SALES OF FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO INCREASED BY 1 PER CENT IN VALUE BUT DROPPED BY 2 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

SALES OF FUELS WENT DOWN BY 3 PER CENT IN BOTH VALUE AND VOLUME.

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, RETAIL SALES OF "OTHER CONSUMER GOODS" ROSE BY 8 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 9 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

SALES OF CONSUMER DURABLES INCREASED BY 7 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 6 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

SALES OF CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS FELL BY 2 PER CENT IN VALUE BUT REMAINED ALMOST UNCHANGED IN VOLUME.

/ANALYSED BY

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ANALYSED BY SELECTED TRADES, SUPERMARKETS SALES WENT UP BY 21 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 20 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

SALES OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS ROSE BY 14 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 12 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

SALES OF CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS HAD INCREASES OF 4 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 3 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

SALES BY DEPARTMENT STORES INCREASED BY 2 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 3 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

TABLE 1 PRESENTS THE REVISED TOTAL RETAIL SALES FIGURE FOR JANUARY AND THE PROVISIONAL FIGURE FOR FEBRUARY.

TABLE 2 SHOWS THE VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF RETAIL SALES IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 1988 (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 FEBRUARY 1988 RESULTS WITH THOSE FOR JANUARY 1988 AND WITH THOSE FOR FEBRUARY 1987 AND COMPARISONS OF RETAIL SALES IN THE PERIOD JANUARY TO FEBRUARY 1988 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1987 ARE ALSO GIVEN.

THE REPORT CONTAINING THE ANALYSIS OF THE FEBRUARY 1988 SURVEY RESULTS IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE 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 (5-8234941).

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TABLE 1 : TOTAL RETAIL SALES

Total Retail Sales for February 1988 (Provisional Figure) = HK\$8,432 billion
for January 1988 (Revised Figure) = HK\$8,056 billion

TABLE 2 : VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF RETAIL SALES
FOR JANUARY 1988 AND FEBRUARY 1988

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

Item	Index of Retail Sales	January 1988		February 1988		February 1988 compared with January 1988		February 1988 compared with February 1987		Jan. - Feb. 1988 compared with Jan. - Feb. 1987	
		(Revised figures)	(Provisional figures)	Points	%	Points	%	Points	%		
(A) FOR ALL RETAIL TRADES											
	Value	144	151	7	5	46	45	30	26		
	Volume	125	130	5	4	32	33	18	16		
(B) BY MAJOR TRADE GROUPS											
Foodstuffs, alcoholic drinks and tobacco	Value	130	131	1	1	27	26	13	11		
	Volume	120	117	-2	-2	15	15	4	3		
Fuels	Value	98	95	-3	-3	13	16	13	15		
	Volume	106	103	-4	-3	11	11	8	8		
Clothing, footwear and allied products	Value	187	184	-3	-2	89	95	59	47		
	Volume	157	157	8	8	69	78	39	33		
Consumer durables	Value	141	152	10	7	49	48	32	28		
	Volume	118	125	7	6	33	36	19	19		
Other consumer goods	Value	149	162	12	8	52	47	35	29		
	Volume	126	138	11	9	36	36	21	19		
(C) BY SELECTED TRADES											
(see note 1 below)											
Supermarkets	Value	145	176	30	21	61	53	23	17		
	Volume	131	158	26	20	48	43	12	9		
Motor vehicles and parts	Value	197	226	28	14	105	87	72	52		
	Volume	146	165	18	12	67	69	43	38		
Consumer durables other than motor vehicles and parts	Value	124	129	5	4	32	33	20	19		
	Volume	109	113	4	3	23	25	12	12		
Department stores	Value	187	190	3	2	93	96	64	51		
	Volume	159	164	5	3	72	79	45	38		

- 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 change of less than 0.5.

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CENTRAL AND WESTERN DB ELECTS COMMITTEES' CHAIRMEN
* * * * *

THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD TODAY (THURSDAY) ELECTED THE CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN FOR ITS FIVE COMMITTEES.

THEY ARE:

COMMITTEE -----	CHAIRMAN -----	VICE-CHAIRMAN -----
COMMUNITY BUILDING AND SERVICES COMMITTEE	MR LEUNG YING-YEUNG	MR CHEUNG YAU-HUNG
ENVIRONMENT AND WORKS COMMITTEE	MISS ESTHER CHAN WAI-FONG	MR CHAN TAK-CHOR
FINANCE COMMITTEE	MR LEUNG SIK-WAH	MR LEUNG YING-YEUNG
PUBLIC OPINION AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE	MR NG SUNG-MAN	MR LEE SHUN-WAI
TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE	MR HUNG WING-TAT	MR CHAN CHOI-HI

THEIR TERM OF OFFICE WILL LAST UNTIL THE END OF SEPTEMBER, 1989.

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REGIONAL SECRETARY SEES DIFFERENT FACES OF SHA TIN
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THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR MICHAEL SUEN, TODAY (THURSDAY) TOURED SHA TIN TO HAVE A COMPREHENSIVE VIEW OF THE DIFFERENT FACES OF THE FAST-DEVELOPING NEW TOWN.

MR SUEN STARTED OFF IN THE MORNING WITH A BRIEF VISIT TO THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE, FOLLOWED BY A MEETING WITH THE SHA TIN RURAL COMMITTEE, DURING WHICH VIEWS WERE EXCHANGED ON THE DEVELOPMENTS AND PROBLEMS OF THE RURAL SECTOR.

ACCOMPANIED BY SENIOR STAFF OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE, MR SUEN LATER TOURED TIN SUM VILLAGE, THE FIRST PILOT VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT SCHEME IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

/HE WAS

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HE WAS TOLD THAT THE VILLAGE NOW HAS 108 SMALL HOUSES ACCOMMODATING ABOUT 1,000 PEOPLE IN AN AREA OF 40,700 SQUARE METRES.

THE PARTY THEN WENT TO YUEN CHAU KOK TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA TO SEE HOW THE CARITAS NEIGHBOURHOOD LEVEL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IS WORKING TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY SPIRIT IN THE LARGEST SUCH AREA IN HONG KONG.

THEY LEARNT THAT THROUGH THIS PROJECT MANY PROBLEMS RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL AND PHYSICAL FACILITIES ARE RESOLVED BECAUSE OF RESIDENTS' ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT AND ASSISTANCE GIVEN BY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

LATER, THEY HAD A PANORAMIC VIEW OF THE DISTRICT FROM THE ROOFTOP OF A BUILDING NEAR SHING MUN RIVER. THERE, MR SUEN WAS BRIEFED BY STAFF OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE ON THE DISTRICT'S MAJOR DEVELOPMENT PLANS.

IN THE AFTERNOON, MR SUEN MOVED ON TO MA ON SHAN AREA, WHICH WAS DESIGNED FOR A POPULATION OF 200,000 UPON FULL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MID-1990'S.

THERE, HE VISITED VARIOUS COMMUNITY AND HOUSING FACILITIES IN HENG ON ESTATE, WHICH HAD ALREADY TAKEN IN SOME 23,000 RESIDENTS.

AFTER THE TRIP, THE PARTY RETURNED TO THE DISTRICT OFFICE FOR A TEA RECEPTION DURING WHICH VIEWS WERE EXCHANGED WITH DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS ON THE PLANS, PROBLEMS AND DEVELOPMENTS OF THE DISTRICT.

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SHEUNG SHUI VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT UNDERWAY

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A DEVELOPMENT PROJECT AIMED AT IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF 8,000 PEOPLE IS NOW BEING UNDERTAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT IN THE WALLED SHEUNG SHUI VILLAGE AND ITS VICINITY, THE NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE, MR MATTHEW CHEUNG, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE INAUGURATION OF THE 19TH TERM OFFICE-BEARERS OF THE SHEUNG SHUI RURAL COMMITTEE, MR CHEUNG SAID THE PROJECT INVOLVED THE OPENING UP OF A VILLAGE EXTENSION AREA NORTHWEST OF SHEUNG SHUI VILLAGE TO PROVIDE 166 SMALL HOUSE SITES.

"OF THESE, 45 SITES WILL BE READY BY THE END OF THIS YEAR, WHILE THE REMAINING 121 SITES WILL BE PROVIDED IN 1990," HE SAID.

/THE TOTAL

THE TOTAL COST OF LAND RESUMPTION FOR THIS PROJECT WAS OVER \$60 MILLION.

"TO GUARD AGAINST THE FLOODING OF RIVER INDUS, WHICH WOULD AFFECT SHEUNG SHUI VILLAGE, A \$10 MILLION FLOOD PROTECTION SCHEME WILL BE IMPLEMENTED," HE SAID.

MR CHEUNG ALSO NOTED THAT WORK ON THE FIRST URBAN FRINGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT IN NORTH DISTRICT HAD BEGUN IN MARCH.

"THE \$0.78 MILLION PROJECT, WHICH INVOLVES RECONSTRUCTION OF 364 METRES OF A VAN TRACK AT TSUNG PAK LONG VILLAGE IN SHEUNG SHUI, IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN LATE JULY," HE SAID.

REFERRING TO THE WIDENING OF MAN KAM TO ROAD, MR CHEUNG SAID THE SECTION BETWEEN SHA LING ROADBLOCK AND FUNG KAI SECONDARY SCHOOL WOULD BE COMPLETED NEXT MONTH.

"THIS WILL HELP RELIEVE TRAFFIC CONGESTION CAUSED BY A SHARP INCREASE IN VEHICULAR TRAFFIC BETWEEN HONG KONG AND SHENZHEN," HE ADDED.

MR CHEUNG PRAISED THE SHEUNG SHUI RURAL COMMITTEE FOR CO-OPERATING WITH THE GOVERNMENT IN RESOLVING LOCAL PROBLEMS.

HE ALSO THANKED THE COMMITTEE FOR ITS EFFORTS AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT IN ORGANISING VARIOUS ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT.

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TAI PO DB TO DISCUSS STANDING ORDERS

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THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS ITS REVISED STANDING ORDERS AND ENDORSE THE PROPOSED PROCEDURES FOR THE ELECTION OF CHAIRMEN OF THE BOARD'S COMMITTEES AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (FRIDAY) MORNING.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO CONSIDER PROPOSALS TO FORM FIVE COMMITTEES AND AN AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES WORKING GROUP UNDER THE BOARD, AND EXPRESS VIEWS ON THE ADOPTION OF SUMMER TIME IN HONG KONG.

ALSO AT THE MEETING, MEMBERS WILL DECIDE IF THE BOARD SHOULD ORGANISE ANY ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF THE WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 1988 AND JOINTLY ORGANISE A PROJECT ON INDUSTRIAL DESIGN/PACKAGING WITH THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES DESIGN AND PACKAGING CENTRE.

THE PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME OF LOCAL PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS FOR THE DISTRICT IN 1988-89 WILL BE TABLED.

/ALSO ON

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ALSO ON THE AGENDA ARE THE REGIONAL COUNCIL'S DISTRICT FESTIVALS SUBSIDY SCHEME; GUIDELINES ON THE USE OF FUNDS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND MINOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS; GUIDELINES ON SPONSORSHIP; AND GUIDELINES ON THE LOCAL PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TOMORROW (FRIDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF TAI PO COMMERCIAL CENTRE, 152 KWONG FUK ROAD. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 9.30 AM.

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MEETINGS OF TWO DB ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEES

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THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AND THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE WILL HOLD SEPARATE MEETINGS TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON.

THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE OF THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS THE USE OF FUNDS FOR CARRYING OUT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS, AND REPAIRING PLANTERS NEAR THE SHAM SHUI PO MTR STATION.

OTHER ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED INCLUDE WATER QUALITY OF THE TAI HANG TUNG ROAD NULLAH; A PROPOSAL ON THE TEMPORARY USE OF A VACANT SITE AT THE JUNCTION OF CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD AND HING WAH STREET; AND FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS TAKEN SINCE THE LAST MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO RAISE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROPOSED LAI WAN MARKET. AN URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVE WILL ATTEND THE MEETING TO ANSWER ENQUIRIES.

MEMBERS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS THEIR WORK PLAN FOR 1988-89 AND CONSIDER CO-OPTING NON-DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS INTO THE COMMITTEE.

THE MEETING WILL ALSO CONSIDER FINANCING A NUMBER OF MINOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS, INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION OF TWO SITTING-OUT AREAS, EXTENSION OF A MORNING WALK TRAIL NEAR CHUN WAH ROAD, AND RECONSTRUCTION OF BUS SHELTERS IN SHUN ON ESTATE.

/OTHER ITEMS

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDS TO PROVIDE OFFICE PREMISES FOR THE LING NAM UPPER VILLAGE MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE AND FOR ORGANISING A COMMUNITY PROJECT IN SUPPORT OF THE WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETINGS OF THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AND THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON.

THE FIRST COMMITTEE'S MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.15 PM IN THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, SECOND FLOOR, 37-39 TONKIN STREET, WHILE THE SECOND COMMITTEE'S MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM IN THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, THIRD FLOOR, THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICES BUILDING, TUNG YAN STREET.

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DB COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS LONG PING ESTATE TRANSPORT SERVICES
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THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE OF THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS GREEN MINIBUS AND LRT FEEDER BUS SERVICES FOR LONG PING ESTATE AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO CONSIDER THE PROPOSED 24-HOUR NO-STOPPING RESTRICTION ON CASTLE PEAK ROAD WITHIN YUEN LONG TOWN AND THE PROPOSED NO-STOPPING RESTRICTION AT SIGNALISED JUNCTIONS ALONG THE TUEN MUN - YUEN LONG CORRIDOR.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD'S TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE TOMORROW (FRIDAY) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM, 13TH FLOOR, TAI KIU GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 2 KIU LOK SQUARE, YUEN LONG. THE MEETING WILL START AT 10 AM.

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ANNUAL SEMINAR FOR CAREERS AND GUIDANCE MASTERS

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MORE THAN 170 CAREERS MASTERS AND GUIDANCE MASTERS WILL ATTEND A SEMINAR ON "PERSONAL GROWTH AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT" IN CENTRAL TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE SEMINAR, AN ANNUAL EVENT, IS ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF CAREERS MASTERS AND GUIDANCE MASTERS.

THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (SERVICES), MR LUCAS CHAN, WILL OFFICIATE AT A CEREMONY TO MARK THE OPENING OF THE SEMINAR, WHICH WILL BE HELD IN THE AUDITORIUM OF THE HANG SENG BANK IN DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE ANNUAL SEMINAR ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF CAREERS MASTERS AND GUIDANCE MASTERS IN THE HANG SENG BANK AUDITORIUM ON THE 20TH FLOOR, 77 DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL, AT 9 AM TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

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BUTTERFLY ESTATE CULTURAL WEEK ENDS ON SATURDAY

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A CLOSING AND PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT THE BUTTERFLY ESTATE COMMUNITY CENTRE ON SATURDAY (MAY 7) TO MARK THE END OF THE CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES WEEK THERE.

ORGANISED BY THE CENTRE'S MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND THE CULTURAL AND RECREATION ACTIVITIES ORGANISING COMMITTEE, THE PROGRAMME HAS AIMED AT INTRODUCING VARIOUS FACILITIES AND ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE AND AT ENCOURAGING PARTICIPATION BY RESIDENTS.

ACTIVITIES ORGANISED DURING THE WEEK HAVE RANGED FROM A CHILDREN'S DRAWING COMPETITION, GAMESTALLS, FILM SHOW, AND KINDERGARTEN PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE COMPETITION, TO A PRIMARY SCHOOL BAND COMPETITION AND A BADMINTON COMPETITION.

/OFFICIATING AT

THURSDAY, MAY 5, 1988

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OFFICIATING AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY WILL BE THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR JOHN WAN, AND THE DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR LAU WONG-FAT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE CULTURAL AND RECREATION ACTIVITIES WEEK WILL BE HELD AT 11 AM ON SATURDAY (MAY 7) IN THE BUTTERFLY ESTATE COMMUNITY CENTRE, TUEN MUN. YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

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YUEN LONG PREPARES FOR TIN HAU FESTIVAL

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COLOURFUL CELEBRATIONS, HIGHLIGHTED BY A GRAND PROCESSION, WILL BE HELD IN YUEN LONG ON SUNDAY (MAY 8) TO MARK THE TIN HAU FESTIVAL.

THE ANNUAL PROCESSION, FIRST HELD IN 1963, HAS BEEN ORGANISED BY THE SHAP PAT HEUNG RURAL COMMITTEE AND ABOUT 2,500 PEOPLE FROM 15 LOCAL ORGANISATIONS WILL TAKE PART.

THE PROCESSION WILL COMPRISE A DRAGON, LIONS, UNICORNS, AND FLOATS, AND WILL SET OFF FROM FUNG KAM STREET IN YUEN LONG TOWN EAST AT 10.30 AM.

ALONG THE WAY CHIU CHOW SONGS WILL BE SUNG AND CHIU CHOW AND OTHER FOLK DANCES PERFORMED.

THE PROCESSION WILL WIND ALONG HOP YICK, TAI TONG, KAU YUK AND TAI YUK ROADS BEFORE ARRIVING AT THE YUEN LONG STADIUM FOR A FINALE.

THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR MICHAEL SUEN, WILL BE THE GUEST OF HONOUR AND WILL OFFICIATE AT CELEBRATIONS TO BE HELD IN THE YUEN LONG STADIUM AT 11 AM.

THE PROCESSION, INCLUDING CEREMONIES AND PERFORMANCES IN THE STADIUM, IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BEFORE 1 PM.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE FESTIVAL, A TRADITIONAL "FA PAU" LOTTERY WILL BE HELD IN THE OPEN AREA OUTSIDE THE TIN HAU TEMPLE AT TAI SHU HA, SHAP PAT HEUNG, AT 2.30 PM.

THE TIN HAU FESTIVAL HAS SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE TO BOAT PEOPLE WHO PRAY TO TIN HAU (GODDESS OF HEAVEN) FOR FAIR WEATHER AND GOOD FISHING ALL YEAR ROUND.

/IT IS

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IT IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT RELIGIOUS EVENTS FOR YUEN LONG PEOPLE, DATING BACK TO THE 17TH CENTURY WHEN THE DISTRICT WAS A COASTAL FISHING VILLAGE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE TIN HAU FESTIVAL PROCESSION TO BEGIN AT 10.30 AM IN YUEN LONG ON SUNDAY.

PRESS BADGES FOR THE EVENT ARE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION FROM THE NEWS AND PUBLICITY DIVISION OF THE CNTA HEADQUARTERS, 12TH FLOOR, WORLD SHIPPING CENTRE, 7 CANTON ROAD, HARBOUR CITY, TSIM SHA TSUI.

PLEASE NOTE THAT AS PRESS BADGES ARE LIMITED, EACH ORGANISATION IS ENTITLED TO ONLY ONE BADGE.

THREE GOVERNMENT VANS WILL LEAVE KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER AT 9 AM ON SUNDAY TO TAKE PRESS MEMBERS TO YUEN LONG. SEATS WILL BE ALLOCATED ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS.

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NT TRAFFIC PLAN FOR TIN HAU FESTIVAL

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SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG ON SUNDAY (MAY 8) IN CONNECTION WITH THE TIN HAU FESTIVAL.

THE ARRANGEMENTS WILL INCLUDE ROAD CLOSURES AND TRAFFIC RE-ROUTEINGS.

IN TUEN MUN, BETWEEN 8 AM AND 5 PM ON SUNDAY, THE FOLLOWING ROAD SECTIONS WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC:

- * TIN HAU ROAD SOUTH OF SAN HOP LANE.
- * SAN ON STREET BETWEEN HING WONG STREET AND ITS SOUTHERN JUNCTION WITH HUNG CHEUNG ROAD.
- * HUNG CHEUNG ROAD BETWEEN ITS SOUTHERN JUNCTION WITH SAN PING CIRCUIT AND TIN HAU ROAD.

AT THE SAME TIME, ALL PARKING SPACES IN THE SAN ON STREET AND HUNG CHEUNG ROAD CARPARKS WILL BE SUSPENDED.

IN YUEN LONG, A NUMBER OF ROAD SECTIONS WILL ALSO BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM SUNDAY MORNING.

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FROM 9 AM, FUNG KAM STREET, FUNG YAU STREET SOUTH, FUNG CHEUNG ROAD BETWEEN FUNG KAM STREET AND HOP YICK ROAD, AND HOP YICK ROAD WILL BE CLOSED.

IN ADDITION, TAI TONG ROAD BETWEEN KAU YUK ROAD AND FRASER VILLAGE, KAU YUK ROAD, TAI YUK ROAD, MA TIN ROAD, AND THE UNNAMED NULLAH-BUND ROAD (MA TIN TSUEN TO LUNG TIN TSUEN) WILL ALSO BE CLOSED FROM 10 AM.

FROM 7 AM ON SATURDAY (MAY 7) TO 10 PM ON MONDAY (MAY 9), THE NORTHERN NULLAH-BUND ROAD FROM TAI KEI LENG TO TAI SHU HA WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY EASTBOUND; AND THE SOUTHERN NULLAH-BUND ROAD WILL BECOME ONE-WAY WESTBOUND.

DURING THE PERIOD, NEW TERRITORIES GREEN MINIBUS ROUTE NO. 73 WILL BE RE-ROUTED VIA THE SOUTHERN NULLAH-BUND ROAD ON ITS JOURNEYS TO YUEN LONG TOWN.

THE OFF-STREET CARPARK ON TAI YUK ROAD OUTSIDE YUEN LONG STADIUM AND ALL ON-STREET PARKING SPACES ON FUNG CHEUNG ROAD, KAU YUK ROAD, TAI YUK ROAD, MA TIN ROAD, TAI TONG ROAD BETWEEN KAU YUK ROAD AND FRASER VILLAGE WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 8 AM ON SUNDAY UNTIL THE COMPLETION OF THE CELEBRATION CEREMONY.

ALL ILLEGALLY PARKED VEHICLES WILL BE REMOVED BY THE POLICE.

IN ADDITION, ROUTINGS OF A NUMBER OF BUS AND GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES WILL BE DIVERTED FROM 9 AM UNTIL THE CEREMONY COMPLETES.

KMB ROUTE NO. 56 WILL OPERATE A SHORT-WORKING SERVICE FROM WONG NAI TUN VIA TAI TONG ROAD TO FRASER VILLAGE WHERE A TEMPORARY STOP WILL BE PROVIDED.

NEW TERRITORIES GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES NO. 31 AND 32 WILL BE DIVERTED VIA CASTLE PEAK ROAD (PING SHAN SECTION), WANG TAT ROAD, LONG YIP STREET, CASTLE PEAK ROAD (YUEN LONG SECTION), TAI TONG ROAD, KU KING SQUARE, YUEN LONG HONG LOK ROAD AND HONG KING STREET.

SHORT-WORKING SERVICES WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED BY GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES NO. 39 AND 73.

THE SHORT-WORKING SERVICE OF ROUTE NO. 39 WILL OPERATE BETWEEN KUNG OM AND LUNG TIN TSUEN ALONG THE UNNAMED NULLAH-BUND ROAD AND A TEMPORARY STOP WILL BE PROVIDED AT LUNG TIN TSUEN.

AS FOR THAT OF ROUTE NO. 73, IT WILL TRAVEL BETWEEN TUNG KONG STORE AND TAI KEI LENG ALONG THE UNNAMED NULLAH-BUND ROAD AND A TEMPORARY STOP WILL BE PROVIDED AT TAI KEI LENG.

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GOVERNMENT SITES TO LET BY TENDER

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TWO GOVERNMENT SITES IN KOWLOON ARE BEING LET BY TENDER ON SHORT-TERM TENANCY BY THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT.

ONE SITE IS AT TSUI PING ROAD, KWUN TONG, AND MEASURES ABOUT 730 SQUARE METRES.

IT IS FOR A NURSERY FOR THE GROWING, STORAGE AND SELLING OF POTTED PLANTS AND/OR STORAGE OF UNLICENSED NEW MOTOR VEHICLES AND/OR PARKING OF MOTOR VEHICLES CURRENTLY LICENSED UNDER THE ROAD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE (EXCLUDING CONTAINER LORRIES AND OTHER ARTICULATED VEHICLES).

THE INITIAL TENANCY IS FOR TWO YEARS, RENEWABLE QUARTERLY THEREAFTER.

THE OTHER SITE IS OFF FAT TSEUNG STREET, CHEUNG SHA WAN RECLAMATION. MEASURING ABOUT 1,570 SQUARE METRES, IT IS FOR OPEN STORAGE OF GOODS.

THE INITIAL TENANCY IS FOR ONE YEAR, RENEWABLE MONTHLY AFTERWARDS.

TENDER FORMS AND NOTICES MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES, KOWLOON EAST/KOWLOON WEST, YAU MA TEI CARPARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON AND THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR TENDERS FOR BOTH SITES IS NOON ON MAY 20.

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SPEEDPOST SERVICE TO NIGERIA EXTENDED

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THE SPEEDPOST SERVICE TO NIGERIA, WHICH IS AT PRESENT ONLY AVAILABLE TO LAGOS, WILL BE EXTENDED TO 21 MORE CITIES FROM MONDAY (MAY 9), THE POST OFFICE ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE CITIES IN NIGERIA TO WHICH SPEEDPOST SERVICE WILL THEN BE AVAILABLE ARE:

ABEOKUTA, ABUJA, AKURE, BAUCHI, BENIN, CALABAR, ENUGU, IBADAN, ILORIN, JOS, KADUNA, KANO, KATSINA, LAGOS, MAIDUGURI, MAKURDI, MINNA, OWERRI, PORT HARCOURT, SOKOTO, UYO, YOLA.

"THE SPEEDPOST SERVICE IS A FAST AND RELIABLE MEANS FOR FORWARDING BUSINESS DOCUMENTS, SAMPLES AND MERCHANDISE OVERSEAS AND A FREE PICK-UP SERVICE IS AVAILABLE," A POST OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"CUSTOMERS REQUIRING MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE SERVICE CAN CONTACT THE POSTAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES ON 5-8683868."

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U.S. BAN ON IMPORTS OF BURUNDI IVORY

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THE UNITED STATES HAS IMPOSED A BAN ON IMPORTS OF IVORY FROM BURUNDI WITH EFFECT FROM APRIL 29 THIS YEAR.

THE U.S. HAS CALLED ON ALL COUNTRIES TO JOIN IN PROHIBITING THE IMPORTATION OF IVORY FROM BURUNDI WHICH WAS NOT REGISTERED WITH THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA (CITES) BY DECEMBER 1, 1986.

IN AN EFFORT TO DETERMINE THE TRADING ROUTE OF ILLEGAL IVORY, THE U.S. WILL PROHIBIT ALL IVORY IMPORTS FROM ANY COUNTRY THAT ALLOWS UNREGISTERED BURUNDI IVORY, WHETHER IN A RAW OR WORKED FORM, TO BE IMPORTED INTO OR PASS THROUGH THAT COUNTRY.

A TRADE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY (THURSDAY) SAID THAT THE DEPARTMENT WOULD MEET WITH THE HONG KONG AND KOWLOON IVORY MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION TO EXAMINE THE U.S. MEASURE IN MORE DETAIL AND ITS IMPLICATION, IF ANY, ON EXPORTS OF IVORY PRODUCTS FROM HONG KONG.

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THURSDAY, MAY 5, 1988

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OPENING OF HARCOURT ROAD FLYOVER

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FROM 10 AM ON SUNDAY (MAY 8), THE NEWLY CONSTRUCTED SOUTHERN SECTION OF HARCOURT ROAD FLYOVER WILL BE OPEN TO TRAFFIC.

MOTORISTS ON HARCOURT ROAD HEADING FOR COTTON TREE DRIVE ARE ADVISED TO USE THE INNER LANE OF THE NEW FLYOVER TO AVOID HAVING TO PASS THROUGH THE GROUND LEVEL TRAFFIC SIGNAL.

THIS NEW SECTION OF THE FLYOVER WILL REPLACE THE EXISTING HARCOURT ROAD FLYOVER WHICH WILL BE DEMOLISHED SOMETIME LATER.

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MONG KOK ROAD BUS LANE LIFTED

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FROM 10 AM ON SATURDAY (MAY 7), EXISTING BUS-ONLY LANE ON THE OFFSIDE LANE OF THE WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF MONG KOK ROAD BETWEEN CHEUNG WONG ROAD AND TONG MEI ROAD WILL BE LIFTED.

VEHICLES ON MONG KOK ROAD WESTBOUND WILL BE ABLE TO TURN RIGHT ONTO TONG MEI ROAD USING THE OFFSIDE LANE.

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