



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 1987

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 1987

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'HIGH' PROPERTY MARKET ACTIVITIES RECORDED

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THE NUMBER OF SALE AND PURCHASE AGREEMENTS OF FLATS IN THE URBAN AREA, THE GREAT MAJORITY OF THEM IN UNCOMPLETED BUILDINGS, REGISTERED IN THE LAND OFFICE INCREASED BY 34.8 PER CENT AND DROPPED BY 9.8 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY COMPARED WITH THE FIRST AND SECOND HALVES OF 1986.

REPORTING TODAY (WEDNESDAY) ON HIS DEPARTMENT'S FIGURES FOR PRIVATE SECTOR PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS IN THE URBAN AREA (HONG KONG ISLAND, KOWLOON AND NEW KOWLOON) DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 1987, THE REGISTRAR GENERAL, MR NOEL GLEESON, SAID THAT IN ALL 30,296 SUCH AGREEMENTS WERE REGISTERED DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 1987.

THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF THE CONSIDERATIONS IN THESE AGREEMENTS HAD INCREASED BY 58.8 PER CENT FROM \$16.836 BILLION IN THE FIRST HALF AND BY 10.6 PER CENT FROM \$24.179 BILLION IN THE SECOND HALF OF 1986 TO \$26.731 BILLION.

DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 1987, 46,828 ASSIGNMENTS OF UNITS IN COMPLETED BUILDINGS, THE MAJORITY RESIDENTIAL, WERE REGISTERED, COMPARED WITH 35,025 AND 45,462 RESPECTIVELY DURING THE FIRST AND SECOND HALVES OF 1986, SHOWING INCREASES OF 33.7 PER CENT AND 3 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF CONSIDERATIONS IN ASSIGNMENTS OF FLATS ALSO INCREASED BY 36.3 PER CENT FROM \$21.271 BILLION IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1986 AND BY 19.7 PER CENT FROM \$24.231 BILLION IN THE SECOND HALF TO \$28.999 BILLION.

A TOTAL OF 3,425 ASSIGNMENTS OF FLATS WERE COMPLETED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT ON BEHALF OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY UNDER THE GOVERNMENT HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME, COMPARED WITH 4,511 AND 5,264 IN THE FIRST AND SECOND HALVES OF 1986 RESPECTIVELY, SHOWING CONTINUED GOOD PROGRESS IN THIS AREA.

THERE WERE 415 ASSIGNMENTS OF LOTS AND SECTIONS. THIS WAS 24.3 PER CENT AND 30.1 PER CENT MORE RESPECTIVELY THAN IN THE FIRST AND SECOND HALVES OF 1986. THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF THE CONSIDERATIONS IN THESE ASSIGNMENTS DECREASED BY 70.3 PER CENT FROM \$23.017 BILLION IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1986 AND INCREASED BY 34 PER CENT FROM \$5.106 BILLION IN THE SECOND HALF TO \$6.843 BILLION.

TWENTY-ONE BUILDING MORTGAGES AND 51,513 OTHER MORTGAGES WERE REGISTERED DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 1987, COMPARED WITH 29 AND 32,387 RESPECTIVELY IN THE FIRST HALF AND COMPARED WITH 20 AND 43,617 RESPECTIVELY IN THE SECOND HALF OF 1986.

/THE TOTAL .....

THE TOTAL AMOUNT SECURED UNDER BUILDING MORTGAGES REGISTERED DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 1987 DROPPED BY 36.1 PER CENT FROM \$552 MILLION IN THE FIRST HALF AND BY 0.9 PER CENT FROM \$356 MILLION IN THE SECOND HALF OF 1986 TO \$353 MILLION. THE AMOUNT SECURED UNDER MORTGAGES OTHER THAN BUILDING MORTGAGES HOWEVER ROSE BY 56.5 PER CENT FROM \$14.970 BILLION IN THE FIRST HALF AND BY 29.3 PER CENT FROM \$18.116 BILLION IN THE SECOND HALF OF 1986 TO \$23.424 BILLION.

REPAYMENTS UNDER MORTGAGES OF ALL KINDS, AS EVIDENCED BY DISCHARGES AND MORTGAGEE'S RECEIPTS, WERE UP BY 6.5 PER CENT FROM \$11.016 BILLION IN THE FIRST HALF AND BY 5.1 PER CENT FROM \$11.167 BILLION IN THE SECOND HALF OF 1986 TO \$11.737 BILLION.

SEARCHES IN THE LAND OFFICE DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 1987 BY THE PUBLIC REACHED AN ALL TIME HIGH OF 711,370, UP BY 28.6 PER CENT AND 6.5 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY COMPARED WITH THE FIRST AND SECOND HALVES OF 1986.

OF THE EIGHT NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICT LAND REGISTRIES, FIVE HAVE BEEN TAKEN OVER BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT. IT IS INTENDED THAT THE DEPARTMENT WILL TAKE OVER THE REMAINING THREE REGISTRIES, NAMELY, ISLANDS, TAI PO AND NORTH AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 1987, THE FIVE NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICT LAND REGISTRIES OPERATED BY THE DEPARTMENT REGISTERED A TOTAL OF 91,310 INSTRUMENTS, INCLUDING 22,496 SALE AND PURCHASE AGREEMENTS OF FLATS, 19,414 ASSIGNMENTS OF FLATS, 1,621 ASSIGNMENTS OF LOTS AND SECTIONS, 13 BUILDING MORTGAGES, 26,959 OTHER MORTGAGES AND 13,390 MORTGAGEE'S RECEIPTS, REASSIGNMENTS AND CERTIFICATES OF SATISFACTION WITH A TOTAL VALUE OF CONSIDERATIONS OF \$11,625 BILLION, \$7.714 BILLION, \$1.382 BILLION, \$334 MILLION, \$8.005 BILLION AND \$4.057 BILLION RESPECTIVELY.

SIGNIFICANT GOVERNMENT LAND TRANSACTIONS COMPLETED DURING THE HALF YEAR OF 1987 INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING:-

- (1) THE GRANT BY PRIVATE TREATY OF A 1.518-HECTARE SITE (LOT NO. 1576 IN DD 115) IN YUEN LONG TO KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY CORPORATION AT A PREMIUM OF \$21 MILLION FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL (EXCLUDING GODOWN) DEVELOPMENT WITH A LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SYSTEM TERMINUS AND COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION ON JANUARY 6, 1987.
- (2) THE SALE BY PUBLIC TENDER OF A 2.224-HECTARE SITE (TUEN MUN TOWN LOT NO. 246) IN AREA 5, TUEN MUN TO LEADCHOICE DEVELOPMENT LIMITED AT A PREMIUM OF \$210 MILLION FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT UNDER THE HOME OWNERSHIP (PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION) SCHEME ON FEBRUARY 9, 1987.

/(3) THE MODIFICATION .....

- (3) THE MODIFICATION OF LEASES OF MARINE LOT NO. 277 AND THE EXTENSION THERETO, MARINE LOT NO. 281 AND THE EXTENSION THERETO AND INLAND LOT NO. 1395 (NORTH POINT SHELL DEPOT) AT A TOTAL PREMIUM OF \$87 MILLION SO AS TO PERMIT REDEVELOPMENT OF A COMBINED 3.476-HECTARE SITE FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL (EXCLUDING GODOOWN OR HOTEL) PURPOSES ON MARCH 20, 1987.
- (4) THE GRANT BY PRIVATE TREATY OF A 5,956-SQUARE METRE SITE (SHAU KEI WAN INLAND LOT NO. 795) AT THE JUNCTION OF TAI ON STREET, SHAU KEI WAN ROAD AND HOLY CROSS PATH TO THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION AT A PREMIUM OF \$216 MILLION FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT WITH A MTR STATION COMPLEX AND GOVERNMENT ACCOMMODATION ON MARCH 31, 1987.
- (5) THE SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION OF A 2,098-SQUARE METRE SITE (INLAND LOT NO. 8667) AT THE JUNCTION OF DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL, QUEEN VICTORIA STREET, CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL AND JUBILEE STREET TO HANG SENG BANK LIMITED AT A PREMIUM OF \$840 MILLION FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES ON MAY 29, 1987.
- (6) THE SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION OF A 3,200-SQUARE METRE SITE (CHAI WAN INLAND LOT NO. 134) AT KA YIP STREET TO MINBASE LIMITED AT A PREMIUM OF \$83 MILLION FOR INDUSTRIAL AND/OR GODOWN PURPOSES ON MAY 29, 1987.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PROPERTY OWNERS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY ROSE BY 4.7 PER CENT FROM 866,105 IN JUNE 1986 TO 906,957 IN DECEMBER 1986 AND AGAIN BY 3.6 PER CENT TO 939,120 IN JUNE 1987.

ALL IN ALL, THESE FIGURES REFLECTED THE CONTINUING HIGH LEVEL OF ACTIVITY IN A RELATIVELY FIRM PROPERTY MARKET WITH STRENGTH PARTICULARLY IN THE LOWER END OF THE RESIDENTIAL SECTOR, MR GLEESON SAID.

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MARBLE IN THE YUEN LONG AREA

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THE GEOTECHNICAL CONTROL OFFICE HAS RECENTLY CONFIRMED THE EXISTENCE OF MARBLE BEDROCK IN THE NORTHWEST NEW TERRITORIES AS PART OF ITS NEW GEOLOGICAL MAPPING PROGRAMME OF THE TERRITORY.

THE MARBLE OCCURS IN ISOLATED PATCHES BENEATH AN APPROXIMATELY TWO KILOMETRE WIDE STRIP OF LAND FROM NORTH OF SHENZHEN TO JUST NORTH OF TUEN MUN. IT IS PARTICULARLY PREVALENT IN THE YUEN LONG AREA AND FORMS PART OF WHAT GEOLOGISTS CALL THE YUEN LONG FORMATION, WHICH IS OF CARBONIFEROUS AGE (ABOUT 250 MILLION YEARS OLD).

NO MARBLE CAN BE SEEN AT THE GROUND SURFACE BECAUSE IT IS COMPLETELY COVERED BY A THICK LAYER OF ALLUVIAL SOIL. ITS EXACT LOCATIONS ARE THEREFORE UNKNOWN, AND INFORMATION AS TO WHERE IT EXISTS HAS ONLY BEEN FORTHCOMING FROM BOREHOLES DRILLED THROUGH THE ALLUVIUM INTO THE ROCK FOR THE DESIGN OF BUILDING FOUNDATIONS AND GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION WELLS.

PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEER, DR E.W. BRAND, SAID THE MARBLE HAD POSED PROBLEMS FOR SOME BUILDING WORKS IN THE YUEN LONG AREA BECAUSE IT HAD BEEN FOUND TO CONTAIN CAVITIES IN A FEW PLACES.

IN FACT, THE EXISTENCE OF CAVITIES IN THE MARBLE WAS FIRST DISCOVERED MORE THAN FIVE YEARS AGO, AND A TECHNICAL PAPER DESCRIBING PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDING FOUNDATIONS IN YUEN LONG WAS PUBLISHED BY K.L. SIU AND S.H. KWAN OF FREEMAN FOX AND PARTNERS AS EARLY AS 1982, HE SAID.

MARBLE IS MADE OF CALCIUM CARBONATE. OVER MILLIONS OF YEARS, THIS IS DISSOLVED BY THE WEAKLY ACID GROUNDWATER TO FORM CAVITIES.

"THE CAVITIES CAN BE VERY LARGE, AND THERE IS NO WAY OF KNOWING WHERE THEY WILL OCCUR ON THE YUEN LONG PLAIN," DR BRAND SAID. "THEY CAN ONLY BE FOUND BY DRILLING DEEPLY INTO THE MARBLE BENEATH THE ALLUVIUM."

DR BRAND EMPHASISED THAT MARBLE DOES NOT OCCUR EVERYWHERE UNDER THE YUEN LONG PLAIN, AND EVEN WHERE IT DOES OCCUR IT MAY NOT CONTAIN CAVITIES. HOWEVER, THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR DESIGNING BUILDINGS IN THE AREA SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THERE COULD BE PROBLEMS WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF FOUNDATIONS IF MARBLE EXISTS UNDER THEIR SITES.

"ALL THE PROBLEMS CAN BE OVERCOME BY A GOOD GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEER," STRESSED DR BRAND, " BUT MORE THOROUGH INVESTIGATIONS ARE REQUIRED ON SUCH SITES, AND THE FOUNDATION COSTS MIGHT BE HIGHER THAN USUAL."

/DR BRAND .....

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DR BRAND ALSO EMPHASISED THAT THERE WAS NO DANGER TO EXISTING BUILDINGS AS NO LARGE CAVITIES HAD BEEN REPORTED IN CONNECTION WITH EXISTING BUILDINGS, NOR WERE THERE ANY SIGNS THAT THEY WERE AFFECTED.

THE GEOTECHNICAL CONTROL OFFICE HAS NOW COMPILED INFORMATION FROM ALMOST 3,000 BOREHOLES IN THE AREA, SOME OF WHICH INDICATE THE EXISTENCE OF CAVERNOUS MARBLE IN A FEW LOCATIONS, PARTICULARLY IN YUEN LONG.

"IN ORDER TO PROVIDE AS MUCH ASSISTANCE AS POSSIBLE TO ENGINEERS AND ARCHITECTS WORKING IN THE YUEN LONG AREA, THE DATA COLLECTED CAN BE VIEWED AT ANY TIME IN THE GEOTECHNICAL CONTROL OFFICE," HE SAID.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE YUEN LONG MARBLE FORMS ONLY A SMALL PART OF THE DATA BEING COLLECTED FOR THE NEW 1:20,000 SCALE GEOLOGICAL MAPS NOW BEING PREPARED FOR THE WHOLE TERRITORY.

THE FIRST TWO OF THESE, AND THE TWO ACCOMPANYING DESCRIPTIVE MEMOIRS, WENT ON SALE RECENTLY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES OUTLETS.

THE GEOLOGICAL MAP AND MEMOIR WHICH COVER THE YUEN LONG AREA WILL BE AVAILABLE TOWARDS THE END OF THIS YEAR.

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#### NEW NT CAREERS INFORMATION CENTRE PLANNED

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THE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT ADVISORY SERVICE (YEAS) OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT IS PLANNING TO SET UP A CAREERS INFORMATION CENTRE IN THE EASTERN PART OF THE NEW TERRITORIES NEXT YEAR.

AND WITH FUNDS DONATED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB, IT IS ALSO PRODUCING A NEW SERIES OF VIDEO FILMS ON JOBS AVAILABLE IN THE LOCAL INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL SECTORS.

THESE WERE DISCLOSED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR DARWIN CHEN, AT THE OPENING OF THE 9TH SEMINAR ON CAREERS EDUCATION JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF CAREERS MASTERS AND GUIDANCE MASTERS AT THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

MR CHEN TOLD A GATHERING OF ABOUT 100 CAREERS TEACHERS WHO ATTENDED THE EVENT THAT THE NEW CENTRE, SIMILAR TO THE EXISTING THREE RUN BY YEAS, WOULD PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH A VARIETY OF REFERENCE MATERIALS, SOUND-ON-SLIDES, AS WELL AS VIDEO-CASSETTE RECORDINGS ON CAREERS INFORMATION AND FURTHER STUDIES.

/HE NOTED .....

HE NOTED THAT YEAS, IN PROVIDING A CAREERS GUIDANCE SERVICE, HAD PUBLISHED A RANGE OF PAMPHLETS AND ORGANISED ANNUALLY A CAREERS EXHIBITION, A CAREERS QUIZ AND A WORK ORIENTATION PROGRAMME TO ASSIST YOUNG PEOPLE TO CHOOSE A CAREER BEST SUITED TO THEIR INTERESTS AND ABILITIES.

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL, IT HAD ORGANISED IN 1986/87 SEVEN CAREERS DAYS IN TWO TRAINING CENTRES AND FIVE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES SO AS TO ENABLE STUDENTS TO UNDERSTAND BETTER THE TYPES OF COURSES AND THE TRAINING FACILITIES PROVIDED THERE.

MR CHEN ALSO COMMENTED ON THE CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE LOCAL MARKET WHICH, HE SAID, WOULD HAVE AFFECTED THE ASPIRATIONS AND CHOICE OF CAREERS OF YOUNG SCHOOL LEAVERS IN VARIOUS DEGREES.

HE HOPED THAT THE SEMINAR WOULD PROVIDE THE PARTICIPANTS WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO LOOK INTO THIS ISSUE MORE CLOSELY AND TO EXCHANGE EXPERIENCE AND VIEWS ON CAREERS GUIDANCE.

THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR Y.T. LI, WHO ALSO OFFICIATED AT THE OPENING CEREMONY SAID THE RESPONSIBILITY OF CAREERS TEACHERS WAS GETTING GREATER AND GREATER IN THE FAST CHANGING SOCIETY.

HE SAID CAREERS TEACHERS MUST BE FULLY AWARE OF THE CHANGES TAKING PLACE AND THE IMPACT OF SUCH UPON THEIR STUDENTS.

"CLEARLY FREQUENT PARTICIPATION IN CAREERS VISIT, DISCUSSION SESSIONS, WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS AND TRAINING COURSES WILL UPDATE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS IN CAREERS GUIDANCE.

"IT WILL ALSO KEEP CAREERS TEACHERS ABREAST OF CHANGES TAKING PLACE IN SOCIETY."

HE PLEDGED THAT THE CAREERS EDUCATION SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WHICH HAD BEEN UPDATING AND REPLENISHING VARIOUS TYPES OF INFORMATION FOR THE REFERENCE OF TEACHERS, STUDENTS AND PARENTS, WOULD JOIN HANDS WITH THE CAREERS TEACHERS IN FACING THE LATEST CHANGES AND NEEDS SO AS TO RENDER FURTHER DEVELOPMENT IN GUIDANCE WORK.

THE ONE-DAY SEMINAR FEATURED CAREERS EDUCATION AND ASPIRATIONS OF YOUNG SCHOOL LEAVERS IN THE 80'S. GUEST SPEAKERS INCLUDED DR LEUNG KWOK OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY, CHINESE UNIVERSITY AND MR YING WANG-BUN OF THE HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT.

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UNITED STATES SENATE TRADE BILL  
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THE UNITED STATES SENATE APPROVED A TRADE BILL ON TUESDAY BY A MAJORITY OF 71 VOTES TO 27.

THE BILL PROVIDES FOR RETALIATION AGAINST COUNTRIES WITH UNFAIR TRADING PRACTICES AND MIGHT MAKE EXPORTING TO THE UNITED STATES MORE DIFFICULT.

A TRADE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY): "THE U.S. TRADE BILL STILL HAS A LONG WAY TO GO. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO SAY AT THIS STAGE WHAT THE FINAL BILL WILL LOOK LIKE. AT THE MOMENT IT IS OVER 1,000 PAGES LONG AND INCLUDES 275 PROPOSED AMENDMENTS."

HE ADDED THAT THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES HAD APPROVED A DIFFERENT VERSION OF THE BILL IN APRIL.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT "THE NEXT STEP WILL BE FOR THE HOUSE AND SENATE VERSIONS OF THE BILL TO BE BROUGHT TOGETHER BY KEY MEMBERS OF THE TWO CHAMBERS TO IRON OUT A COMPROMISE TEXT IN CONFERENCE. THIS IS NOT LIKELY TO TAKE PLACE UNTIL AT LEAST SEPTEMBER.

"THE BILL THEN HAS TO GO TO THE PRESIDENT, WHO MAY CHOOSE TO VETO IT."

AS IT STANDS, THE BILL CONTAINS A NUMBER OF PROVISIONS WHICH ARE OBJECTIONABLE TO HONG KONG, PARTICULARLY WHERE THEY ERODE THE PRESIDENT'S DISCRETION IN NEGOTIATING TRADE AGREEMENTS. HOPEFULLY THESE WILL NOT SURVIVE THE CONFERENCE STAGE, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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RUTTONJEE HOSPITAL TO BE RE-DEVELOPED  
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THE RUTTONJEE SANATORIUM IN WAN CHAI WILL BE UPGRADED INTO A GENERAL HOSPITAL FROM AN ANTI-TUBERCULOSIS INSTITUTION UNDER A REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME WHICH IS NOW UNDERWAY.

FUNDS FOR THE EXTENSIVE REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME OF THE OLD HOSPITAL, RUN BY THE HONG KONG TUBERCULOSIS, CHEST AND HEART DISEASES ASSOCIATION, HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE GOVERNMENT. THE CAPITAL COST OF THE PROGRAMME IS ESTIMATED TO BE \$279.9 MILLION OF WHICH 80 PER CENT IS CONTRIBUTED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

/THE REDEVELOPMENT .....

THE REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT INCLUDES THE BUILDING OF A FIVE-STORY PODIUM WHICH IS THE HEART OF THE NEW HOSPITAL FOR ALL ESSENTIAL SERVICES AND FACILITIES.

THERE WILL BE THREE HIGH BLOCKS - A MAIN HOSPITAL BLOCK WITH 16 WARDS, A NURSES QUARTERS AND A SENIOR STAFF AND MEDICAL OFFICERS QUARTERS.

THE TOTAL FLOOR AREA OF THE NEW HOSPITAL IS ABOUT 42,000 SQUARE METRES.

WHEN COMPLETED BY THE END OF 1989, THE NEW RUTTONJEE HOSPITAL WILL PROVIDE MEDICAL, SURGICAL, GERIATRICS, TUBERCULOSIS AND CHEST, INTENSIVE CARE AND INFIRMARY SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC.

THE NEW HOSPITAL WILL HAVE 462 GENERAL BEDS, 152 INFIRMARY BEDS AND 50 GERIATRIC DAY HOSPITAL PLACES.

SITE FORMATION AND FOUNDATION WORK OF THE REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT HAVE BEEN COMPLETED AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE MAIN HOSPITAL BUILDINGS WHICH COSTS \$178 MILLION WILL BEGIN SHORTLY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

A CONTRACT SIGNING CEREMONY FOR THE MAIN BUILDING OF THE RUTTONJEE HOSPITAL WILL BE HELD AT 3 PM TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

THE \$178 MILLION CONTRACT WILL BE SIGNED BY ACTING CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HOSPITAL, MR TSENG CHENG.

REGIONAL DIRECTOR (HONG KONG) OF THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT, DR KATHLEEN SO, WILL BE PRESENT TO WITNESS THE SIGNING OF THE CONTRACT.

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE CEREMONY WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE ASSEMBLY HALL, NURSES QUARTERS, RUTTONJEE SANATORIUM, 266 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, HONG KONG.

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SERVICES TO FOSTER YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

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ADDITIONAL FUNDS HAVE BEEN APPROVED FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF 28 MORE SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER POSTS IN SEPTEMBER TO IMPROVE THE MANNING RATIO, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS ELIZABETH WONG, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE HONG KONG FEDERATION OF YOUTH GROUPS, SHE OUTLINED THE VARIOUS SERVICES FOR HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE IN THEIR HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT.

SHE NOTED THAT 40 PER CENT OF HONG KONG'S POPULATION, OR 2.2 MILLION PEOPLE, WERE UNDER 24.

ONE OF THE MANY SERVICES FOR THEM WAS THE CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRES, WHICH WERE SET UP AT VARIOUS DISTRICTS AT A PLANNING RATIO OF ONE CENTRE EVERY 20,000 POPULATION, SHE SAID. AT PRESENT, THERE ARE 163 YOUTH CENTRES AND 151 CHILDREN CENTRES.

"THESE CENTRES ARE MANAGED BY TRAINED SOCIAL WORKERS WHO ASSIST THE YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR CHARACTER, LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL AND SOCIALISATION SKILLS," MRS WONG SAID.

"THIS SERVICE HAS ATTAINED ITS OBJECTIVE, BUT THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT IS NOW CONSIDERING WHETHER THERE IS A NEED TO REVIEW THE PLANNING RATIO.

"THE VOLUNTARY AGENCIES WERE CONSULTED AND WE BOTH AGREED THAT A MORE FLEXIBLE AND PRACTICAL STANDARD IS REQUIRED TO COINCIDE WITH THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE YOUTH POPULATION.

"THE RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE SOCIAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SWAC) SHORTLY FOR CONSIDERATION," SHE SAID.

APART FROM JOINING THE YOUTH CENTRES, YOUNG PEOPLE COULD ALSO TAKE PART IN THE CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, SHE SAID.

SHE POINTED OUT THAT THESE ACTIVITIES WERE FURTHER SUPPLEMENTED BY MORE IN-DEPTH INDIVIDUAL COUNSELLING AND SUPPORT.

"YOUTH SERVICES THEREFORE ALSO EXTEND TO SCHOOLS, FAMILIES AND THE WORKING YOUTHS TO ENHANCE THE UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN FAMILY MEMBERS AND TO PROMOTE THE SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY AND MORAL ETHICS," SHE ADDED.

IN THE SCHOOLS, A CONTINGENT OF 123 SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS ARE NOW SERVING SOME 463,000 STUDENTS IN 465 SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

/MRS WONG .....

MRS WONG ANNOUNCED THAT FUNDS HAD BEEN APPROVED TO ESTABLISH 28 MORE SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER POSTS IN SEPTEMBER TO IMPROVE THE MANNING RATIO, AS RECOMMENDED BY A EVALUATION STUDY AND SUBSEQUENTLY ENDORSED BY SWAC.

"SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS SUPPLEMENT THE TEACHING RESOURCES IN HELPING STUDENTS TO SOLVE PROBLEMS WHICH AFFECT THEIR STUDIES, THEIR MOODS AND PSYCHOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT.

"FURTHERMORE, THEY CAN HELP STUDENTS TO COMMUNICATE BETTER WITH THEIR PARENTS AND OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS, REALISE THEIR OWN SHORTCOMINGS, AS WELL AS UNDERSTAND WHAT ARE THE PROPER WAYS TO MEET THEIR DESIRES AND TO MAKE BETTER USE OF EXISTING RESOURCES," SHE SAID.

MRS WONG SAID THAT FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION WAS YET ANOTHER SERVICE BEING ACTIVELY PROMOTED TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF FAMILY LIFE AND TO PREVENT FAMILY PROBLEMS.

"ONE OF THE THEMES OF THIS COMMUNITY EDUCATION CAMPAIGN IS TO ASSIST YOUNG PEOPLE TO UNDERSTAND THEIR ROLE IN THE FAMILY AND THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS, TO PREVENT THEM FROM GOING ASTRAY DURING ADOLESCENCE AND TO PREPARE THEM TO FACE THE ADULT WORLD, THE WORKING LIFE AND MARITAL RELATIONSHIP IN FUTURE," SHE SAID.

SHE POINTED OUT THAT THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE OVERALL PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATIVE WORK OF THIS CAMPAIGN WHEREAS THE ACTUAL RENDERING OF SERVICE WAS CARRIED OUT BY THE VOLUNTARY AGENCIES THROUGH 56 FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION WORKERS.

MRS WONG EMPHASISED THAT ULTIMATELY THE BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON YOUNG PEOPLE CAME FROM THEIR PARENTS WHO SHOULD GIVE THE CHILDREN LOVE AND PROPER GUIDANCE AND SET A GOOD EXAMPLE FOR THEM BECAUSE FAMILY WAS ALWAYS THE BEST SHELTER AND THE FIRST PLACE FOR LEARNING TO THE CHILDREN.

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ALL REDUNDANT PRIMARY TEACHERS PLACED

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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HAS SUCCESSFULLY PLACED ALL 382 REDUNDANT AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS WHO REGISTERED WITH THE PLACEMENT SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT IN MAY THIS YEAR.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THANKED THE SCHOOL AUTHORITIES FOR THEIR FULL SUPPORT AND COOPERATION TO ACCEPT THE REDUNDANT TEACHERS REFERRED TO THEM BY THE DEPARTMENT TO FILL THEIR VACANCIES.

ALL AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS WILL BE INFORMED IN WRITING TOMORROW (THURSDAY) THAT THEY ARE FREE TO ENTER INTO EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS WITH OTHER TEACHERS STARTING TOMORROW.

THE PLACEMENT SERVICE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HOLDS AN ANNUAL EXERCISE SINCE 1975 TO HELP REDUNDANT TEACHERS IN AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS SEEK ALTERNATIVE JOBS AS A RESULT OF A DROP IN POPULATION OF PRIMARY SCHOOL AGE AND A POPULATION SHIFT FROM URBAN AREAS TO THE NEW TOWNS IN RECENT YEARS.

UNDER THE ARRANGEMENT, ABOUT 5,000 TEACHERS HAVE BEEN HELPED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO SECURE ALTERNATIVE POSTS IN THE LAST 12 YEARS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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COMPUTER-AIDED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT SIGNED

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THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR. K.Y. YEUNG, WILL SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG AND THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG ON A CO-ORDINATED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME ON COMPUTER-AIDED DESIGN/COMPUTER-AIDED MANUFACTURE TECHNOLOGY.

THE CEREMONY WILL TAKE PLACE AT 10 AM ON JULY 24 (FRIDAY) AT THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT AT ROOM 1402, OCEAN CENTRE, CANTON ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI, KOWLOON.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

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ACTRESS TO BE SAI KUNG'S ANTI-CRIME ADVOCATE  
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FILM ACTRESS, MISS WAI YING-HUNG, HAS ACCEPTED AN OFFER TO BE SAI KUNG DISTRICT'S STANDARD BEARER IN FIGHT CRIME ACTIVITIES.

A CEREMONY TO PRESENT THE APPOINTMENT LETTER TO MISS WAI AS THE STANDARD BEARER OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME CAMPAIGN WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (THURSDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD.

OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, MR CHEUNG CHUN-HOI AND THE DIVISIONAL POLICE COMMANDER OF THE SAI KUNG DIVISIONAL POLICE STATION, MR P.C.C. LAWRENCE.

AFTER THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY, THE PARTY WILL PROCEED TO CLEAR WATER BAY SECOND BAY WHERE THEY WILL ERECT A PUBLICITY SIGNBOARD ON THE BEACH.

ABOUT 10 OTHER PUBLICITY SIGNBOARDS WILL BE ERECTED AT VARIOUS CARPARKS AND BEACHES SUCH AS THE CLEAR WATER BAY FIRST BAY, SILVERSTRAND BEACH, TRIO BEACH, HAP MUN BAY, PAK SHA WAN PIER AND SAI KUNG TOWN PUBLIC PIER IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS.

THE SIGNBOARDS WILL BE A REMINDER TO BEACH GOERS TO TAKE GREAT CARE OF THEIR BELONGINGS AND TO REPORT ANY BEACH OR VEHICLE THEFT TO THE POLICE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY AND THE ERECTION OF PUBLICITY SIGNBOARDS FOR THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME CAMPAIGN TOMORROW (THURSDAY). MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD, SECOND FLOOR, SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES, MAN NIN STREET, SAI KUNG TOWN AT 10 AM. TRANSPORT WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED FOR THE MEDIA TO COVER THE ERECTION OF SIGNBOARDS AT THE CLEAR WATER BAY SECOND BAY AFTER THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY.

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 1987

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SURVEY TO GAUGE WAN CHAI VIEWS ON GREEN PAPER

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THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD HAS COMMISSIONED A RESEARCH COMPANY TO CONDUCT A SURVEY ON RESIDENTS' VIEWS ON THE GREEN PAPER ON THE 1987 REVIEW OF DEVELOPMENTS IN REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT IN THE DISTRICT.

THE FIRM, CONSUMER SEARCH HK LTD., WILL INTERVIEW 500 HOUSEHOLDS AT RANDOM FROM THE FIVE CONSTITUENCIES IN WAN CHAI BETWEEN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER. LETTERS WILL BE SENT TO THE SELECTED FAMILIES INFORMING THEM OF THE EXERCISE.

RESULTS OF THE SURVEY WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD BEFORE THEY ARE PRESENTED TO THE SURVEY OFFICE.

THE BOARD HAS ALLOCATED \$50,000 FOR THE SURVEY IN AN EFFORT TO GAUGE PUBLIC OPINION ON THE GREEN PAPER.

APART FROM THIS, THE BOARD HAS ALSO SET ASIDE FUNDS TO ORGANISE SEMINARS IN A BID TO PROMOTE PUBLIC INTEREST IN THE GREEN PAPER. SO FAR, THREE LOCAL GROUPS HAVE RECEIVED FUNDS FROM THE BOARD FOR CONDUCTING SEMINARS ON THE SUBJECT.

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DISCUSSION ON CENTRAL PROVIDENT FUND

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MEMBERS OF THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY COMMITTEE OF THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS THE SETTING UP OF A CENTRAL PROVIDENT FUND AT A MEETING TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

A REPORT ON THE SALE AND OCCUPANCY OF FLATTED INDUSTRIAL UNITS IN THE DISTRICT WILL ALSO BE TABLED.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING WHICH WILL BE HELD AT 2.30 PM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD, THIRD FLOOR, TUEN MUN GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 1 TUEN HI ROAD.

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 1987

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TENANCY SOUGHT FOR STORAGE SITE  
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AN OPEN STORAGE SITE AT TUEN MUN IS TO BE LET ON SHORT TERM TENANCY BY THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT.

THE 1.1-HECTARE SITE IS AT CASTLE PEAK ROAD NEAR SIU LAM SAN TSUEN.

REPAIRING OF CONTAINERS IS ALSO PERMITTED.

THE TENANCY IS TWO YEARS, RENEWABLE QUARTERLY AFTERWARDS.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING TENDERS IS NOON ON AUGUST 7.

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13 SPEED LIMIT IN YUEN LONG  
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THE EXISTING SPEED LIMIT OF 70 KILOMETRES PER HOUR ON FAN KAM ROAD AND KAM TIN ROAD IN YUEN LONG WILL BE REDUCED TO 50 KILOMETRES PER HOUR FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (JULY 24).

THE AFFECTED SECTIONS ARE: FAN KAM ROAD BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH KAM TIN ROAD AND A POINT ABOUT 100 METRES NORTH OF THE SAME JUNCTION; AND KAM TIN ROAD BETWEEN A POINT ABOUT 150 METRES EAST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH FAN KAM ROAD AND A POINT ABOUT 40 METRES WEST OF THE SAME JUNCTION.

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 1987

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TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN CENTRAL

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TO FACILITATE CONSTRUCTION WORKS, THE EXISTING BAN ON VEHICLES EXCEEDING SEVEN METRES IN LENGTH ON THE SLIP ROAD SOUTH OF THE MURRAY ROAD MULTI-STOREY CARPARK IN CENTRAL WILL BE EXTENDED FOR ABOUT TWO WEEKS FROM 10 AM ON SATURDAY (JULY 25).

AFFECTED VEHICLES INCLUDING CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL ROUTE 103 ON ITS JOURNEY TO POKFIELD ROAD WILL BE DIVERTED VIA QUEENSWAY, RODNEY STREET, DRAKE STREET, TAMAR STREET AND HARCOURT ROAD TO REJOIN COTTON TREE DRIVE.

ALSO FROM 10 AM ON THE SAME DAY (SATURDAY), A 35-METRE STRETCH ALONG THE SOUTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF WELLINGTON STREET WEST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH PEEL STREET WILL BE DESIGNATED A 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY URBAN CLEARWAY.

NO VEHICLE WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS WITHIN THE RESTRICTED AREA.

MEANWHILE, THE PUBLIC LIGHT BUS STAND ON THE SAME SECTION OF WELLINGTON STREET WILL BE SUSPENDED.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY RESTRICTED ZONE ALONG A 35-METRE STRETCH OF THE SOUTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF WELLINGTON STREET EAST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH ABERDEEN STREET WILL BE LIFTED.

THESE MEASURES WILL LAST FOR ABOUT ONE MONTH TO FACILITATE GAS MAINS LAYING WORKS.

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