



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1986

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RAPID GROWTH IN IMMIGRATION WORK
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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT HAS SHOWN A PHENOMENAL EXPANSION, EVEN BY HONG KONG STANDARDS, SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT IN 1961 FROM A TINY DEPARTMENT OF SOME 200 STAFF TO ALMOST 5 000, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE SILVER JUBILEE BALL OF THE IMMIGRATION SERVICE, SIR DAVID, NOTED HOWEVER, THAT THE DEPARTMENT'S VOLUME OF WORK HAD GROWN EVEN FASTER AND IMMIGRATION HAD BECOME MUCH MORE COMPLICATED.

HE LISTED THE MANY PROBLEMS THE DEPARTMENT HAD HAD TO GRAPPLE WITH DURING THE PAST 25 YEARS:

- * THE ARRIVAL OF SUCCESSIVE WAVES OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES;
- * THE SUDDEN SURGES OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS ACROSS THE BORDER;
- * THE HUGE GROWTH IN THE NUMBER OF PASSENGERS TRAVELLING IN AND OUT OF HONG KONG WHICH NOW RAN AT ABOUT 40 MILLION A YEAR AND WAS STILL GROWING;
- * THE AMALGAMATION OF THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT AND THE FORMER REGISTRATION OF PERSONS DEPARTMENT AND;
- * THE ABSORPTION OF THE WORK OF THE BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES REGISTRIES.

SIR DAVID QUOTED THE WORK AT LO WU AS AN EXAMPLE. HE SAID THAT THE NUMBER OF TRAVELLERS PASSING THROUGH THE CONTROL POINT HAD INCREASED FROM AN AVERAGE OF 4 000 A DAY 10 YEARS AGO TO OVER 50 000 NOW AND THE STAFF THERE HAD HAD TO WORK UNDER DIFFICULT CONDITIONS IN INADEQUATE PREMISES.

BUT HE WAS GLAD TO KNOW THAT NEXT JANUARY THE NEW AND IMPROVED LO WU STATION WOULD BE OPENED.

SIR DAVID ALSO NOTED THAT THE NEW COMPUTER SYSTEM TO ASSIST IN IMMIGRATION CONTROL WOULD BEGIN TO OPERATE IN 1987.

HE SAID THAT HONG KONG'S REPUTATION AS A WARM, FRIENDLY AND COURTEOUS CITY AND THE MEMORY THAT VISITORS CARRIED WITH THEM WOULD DEPEND ON THEIR FIRST AND LAST IMPRESSIONS WHEN THEY MET THE IMMIGRATION SERVICE STAFF ON THEIR ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE.

HE PRAISED THE STAFF FOR HAVING ESTABLISHED A FINE REPUTATION AND THEIR PROFESSIONALISM HAD BEEN TEMPERED WITH POLITE AND HELPFUL SERVICE.

+THERE WILL NO DOUBT BE FURTHER CHALLENGES IN THE YEARS AHEAD AND I AM CONFIDENT YOU WILL MEET THEM,+ HE SAID.

AT RAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1986

VISIONS OF PROGRESS AT THE CHECKPOINT
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THOSE EARLY DAYS IN THE NEW DEPARTMENT ARE STILL VIVID IN THE MIND OF MR LEE CHUN-KWOK - EACH WORKING DAY BEGAN WITH HIM CLIMBING ONTO HIS HIGH CHAIR BEHIND A SIMILARLY HIGH DESK AND CHECKING THE FLOW OF HUMAN TRAFFIC BELOW.

FROM THIS PERCH HE FELT THE IMPORTANCE OF HIS JOB AS HE SURVEYED THE MOVING SEA OF FACES - AT TIMES ONLY A TRICKLE, BUT MORE OFTEN LIKE A GUSHING TORRENT, ESPECIALLY WHEN A FEW PLANES DISGORGED THEIR CARGOES OF WEARY, IMPATIENT PASSENGERS.

TODAY, CHIEF IMMIGRATION OFFICER LEE'S MEMORY OF KAI TAK AIRPORT IN 1961 ARE STILL CLEAR, BEING HIS FIRST JOB WITH THE DEPARTMENT THAT HAD JUST BEEN SET UP THE SAME YEAR.

+THERE WERE MORE THAN 1 500 ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES EVERY DAY, AND EVEN AT THE BUSIEST OF TIMES, THERE WERE ONLY SEVEN OF US ON DUTY,+ HE SAID.

+OUR JOB WAS TO KEEP A RECORD OF DEPARTING PASSENGERS AND TO CHECK THE TRAVEL DOCUMENTS OF INCOMING PASSENGERS. AS THERE WERE NO OFFICERS FROM THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT STATIONED AT THE AIRPORT THEN, WE HAD ALSO TO REGISTER THE DECLARATIONS FOR ARMS, AMMUNITIONS AND EVEN ANIMALS.

+IT WAS QUITE STRENUOUS AT TIMES. AS DELAYS WERE MORE FREQUENT FOR AIRPLANES IN THOSE DAYS, I REMEMBER ONE OCCASION WHEN THREE OF US HAD TO HANDLE PASSENGERS FROM FOUR PLANES THAT LANDED AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME.+

YET, MR LEE SAID, HE AND HIS COLLEAGUES DID NOT MIND THE EXTRA WORKLOAD. +WE ENJOYED THE RESPONSIBILITY GIVEN US AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXERCISE OUR JUDGEMENT AND INITIATIVE.+

THE PRESENT DAY AIRPORT IS OF COURSE FAR DIFFERENT FROM WHAT MR LEE HAD DESCRIBED. THERE ARE MORE THAN 26 000 PASSENGERS DAILY AND THE CHECKPOINT IS NOW MANNED BY OVER 400 IMMIGRATION SERVICE OFFICERS ROUND THE CLOCK.

THESE OFFICERS HAVE THE SAME THRUST OF INITIATIVE AND ENTHUSIASM FOR WORK, MAKING THE CHECKPOINT AT KAI TAK ONE OF THE MOST EFFICIENT AIRPORTS IN THE WORLD.

WITH THE DEPARTMENT CELEBRATING ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY THIS MONTH, MR LEE SAID ITS FUNCTIONS HAD DIVERSIFIED A GREAT DEAL FROM THOSE PIONEERING DAYS.

SET UP WITH THE AIM TO EXERCISE IMMIGRATION CONTROL AND TO ISSUE TRAVEL DOCUMENTS, IT HAS GROWN TO INCLUDE THE REGISTRATION OF A PERSON'S BIRTH, MARRIAGE OR DEATH. THIS FOLLOWED THE AMALGAMATION OF THE DEPARTMENT WITH THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS OFFICE IN 1977 AND THE BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGE OFFICE IN 1979.

/DURING THE

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DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS, THE DEPARTMENT HAD REGISTERED AN AVERAGE OF 81 000 BIRTHS, 49 000 MARRIAGES AND 26 000 DEATHS.

MR LEE SAID THAT IN THE 25 YEARS THE DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN CONFRONTED WITH THE VARIOUS CHALLENGES OF A CHANGING WORLD.

+IN 1975, WHEN THE NORTH VIETNAMESE OVERRAN SAIGON, IT TRIGGERED OFF A MASS EXODUS WHICH OUR DEPARTMENT SUDDENLY HAD TO FACE. IT WAS TREMENDOUS WORK, BUT WE FACED UP TO IT VERY WELL.+

+IN MAY OF THAT YEAR, THE CLARA MAERSK BROUGHT IN 3 743 REFUGEES, MANY WITH DISEASES CONTRACTED DURING THE LONG JOURNEY BY SEA. WE HAD TO PROCESS THEM IMMEDIATELY, RUNNING THE RISK OF BEING INFECTED.+

THE CLARA MAERSK WAS THE FIRST OF MANY SHIPS THAT BROUGHT THE REFUGEE PROBLEM TO THE DEPARTMENT, TO HONG KONG AND THE ATTENTION OF THE WORLD. BETWEEN 1975 AND 1985, OVER 110 000 REFUGEES ESCAPED TO HONG KONG WATERS IN ABOUT 2 100 SHIPS AND BOATS.

THE INFLUX OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS FROM CHINA WAS YET ANOTHER SERIOUS HURDLE THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAD TO TACKLE.

THE NUMBER OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS FROM CHINA, WHICH HAD REMAINED RELATIVELY LOW SINCE THE EARLY 60'S INCREASED DRAMATICALLY FROM 1970.

BETWEEN 1970 AND 1974, A TOTAL OF 79 083 ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS APPLIED FOR IDENTITY CARDS.

TO STEM THE FLOW OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS, AGREEMENT WAS REACHED WITH CHINA TO REPATRIATE ALL ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS ARRESTED IN THE BORDER AREA WITH EFFECT FROM NOVEMBER 30, 1974.

THERE FOLLOWED A LULL IN THE INFLUX UNTIL THE END OF THE DECADE WHEN CHINA'S MODERNISATION GAVE MANY PEOPLE THE CHANCE TO COME IN CONTACT WITH THE OUTSIDE WORLD. IT WAS QUITE NATURAL THAT THEY TURNED TO HONG KONG, THE NEAREST ATTRACTION.

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION ESCALATED ONCE AGAIN.

A TOTAL OF 183 240 APPLICATIONS FOR IDENTITY CARDS FROM CHINESE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS WERE RECORDED BETWEEN 1978 AND 1980.

THIS UNDOUBTEDLY UPSET ANY PLANS FOR THE FUTURE IN HONG KONG. THE GOVERNMENT THEREFORE ABOLISHED THE TOUCH-BASE POLICY ON OCTOBER 24, 1980. NO ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT FROM CHINA WAS TO BE ALLOWED TO REMAIN IN HONG KONG AFTER THAT DATE.

/THOSE ALREADY

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THOSE ALREADY HERE WERE GIVEN THREE DAYS TO REGISTER FOR AN IDENTITY CARD.

+YOU CAN IMAGINE WHAT A CHAOTIC SITUATION IT WAS WHEN OVER 5 000 APPLICATIONS FOR IDENTITY CARD WERE FILED, ALL WITHIN THREE DAYS,+ MR LEE SAID.

TO DETECT ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS WHO HAD SNEAKED INTO HONG KONG, LEGISLATION WAS ENACTED IN 1980 MAKING IT COMPULSORY FOR RESIDENTS TO CARRY PROOF OF IDENTITY. A NEW FORM OF IDENTITY CARD WHICH WAS DIFFICULT TO FORGE WAS ALSO DESIGNED.

THE JOB OF RENEWING ALL IDENTITY CARDS STARTED FROM MAY 1983 AND UP TO THE END OF 1985, 2 499 361 RESIDENTS HAVE HAD THEIR IDENTITY CARDS RENEWED.

LAST YEAR, MORE THAN 40 MILLION PASSENGERS PASSED THROUGH IMMIGRATION CONTROL POINTS, A 20-FOLD INCREASE OVER PASSENGER TRAFFIC IN 1961.

THE DEPARTMENT ALSO ISSUED ONE MILLION TRAVEL DOCUMENTS TO HONG KONG RESIDENTS IN 1985 AND HANDLED 840 APPLICATIONS FOR NATURALISATION.

WITH A WORKFORCE OF ONLY 201 IN 1961 THE DEPARTMENT HAS GROWN IN STRENGTH OVER 25 YEARS TO 4 710. COUPLED WITH THOROUGH STAFF TRAINING AND THE USE OF ADVANCED EQUIPMENT, THE DEPARTMENT IS COPING WITH THE INCREASED WORKLOAD EFFICIENTLY.

A NEW ASSISTANT IMMIGRATION OFFICER RECEIVES 17 WEEKS OF INDUCTION TRAINING IN ORDINANCE AND STANDING ORDERS, WORKING PROCEDURE, VISA REGULATIONS AND FOOTDRILL. IN-SERVICE COURSES WILL ALSO BE CONDUCTED WHEN NECESSARY.

THE DEPARTMENT IS QUICK TO USE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY TO BOOST EFFICIENCY. IN 1976 A TRAFFIC INDEX COMPUTER REPLACED THE PUNCH CARDS USED IN PROCESSING TRAVELLERS' RECORDS.

IN 1983 THE DEPARTMENT ADOPTED THE CINDEK COMPUTER SYSTEM WHICH PROVIDES RAPID RETRIEVALS OF RECORDS AND MAINTAINS A CENTRAL INDEX OF MICROFILMED RECORDS.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE, MR LEE SAID THE DEPARTMENT WOULD HAVE BETTER FACILITIES TO HANDLE THE FLOW OF HUMAN TRAFFIC. IN THE BEGINNING OF NEXT YEAR THERE WILL BE A NEW TERMINAL AT LO WU= A MODERN HONG KONG-CHINA FERRY TERMINAL WILL BECOME OPERATIONAL IN 1987 AND A THIRD VEHICULAR CROSSING POINT AT LOK MA CHAU IN THE FOLLOWING YEAR.

/FUNDS HAVE

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FUNDS HAVE ALSO BEEN APPROVED FOR THE DEPARTMENT TO COMPUTERISE ALL IMMIGRATION CONTROL POINTS WITH THE TRAVEL RECORD AND IMMIGRATION CONTROL ENFORCEMENT SYSTEM.

+IT'S A FAR CRY FROM MY DAYS UP ON THAT HIGH CHAIR,+ MR LEE SAID WITH A LAUGH.

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DUKE LEAVES AFTER SHORT STAY

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THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH LEFT HONG KONG TONIGHT (SATURDAY) FOLLOWING A SHORT STOPOVER AFTER A RETURN VISIT TO CHINA IN HIS CAPACITY AS PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD WILDLIFE FUND.

HE WAS SEEN OFF AT KAI TAK BY THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, AND LADY YOUDE.

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PUBLIC URGED TO SHARE CONSERVATION RESPONSIBILITY

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THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, TODAY (SATURDAY) URGED THE PUBLIC TO SHARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF LOOKING AFTER THE COUNTRYSIDE BY KEEPING IT CLEAN AND GREEN.

SPEAKING AT THE LAUNCHING CEREMONY FOR THIS YEAR'S CLEAN AND GREEN SCHEME AND COUNTRYSIDE FIRE PREVENTION PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN, SIR DAVID SAID: +AS MORE AND MORE PEOPLE USE OUR COUNTRY PARKS, THE PROBLEMS OF LITTER AND HILL FIRES INCREASE.

+ONCE AGAIN THIS YEAR WE WILL BE MOBILISING OUR RESOURCES HELPED BY ROCK CLIMBERS OF THE MOUNTAINEERING TRAINING CENTRE, CIVIL AID SERVICES AND MEMBERS OF THE HONG KONG FEDERATION OF HIKING GROUPS AND MANY OTHERS IN PICKING UP LITTER AND IN REPORTING FIRES IN REMOTE AREAS OF THE COUNTRYSIDE. BUT THE BEST METHOD IS TO STAMP OUT THESE PROBLEMS AT THEIR SOURCE.+

/ALSO OFFICIATING

ALSO OFFICIATING AT TODAY'S CEREMONY WERE THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE, THE DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES, MR ROBERT HOLMES, AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR INFORMATION SERVICES, MR PETER MOSS.

+EACH YEAR, THERE ARE ABOUT 500 HILL FIRES. LAST YEAR WAS EVEN WORSE THAN USUAL, WITH A TOTAL OF OVER 1 000 FIRES, MAINLY DURING WEEKENDS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS. OVER 500 000 TREES WERE DESTROYED AND IT WILL TAKE YEARS TO REPLACE THEM,+ SIR DAVID SAID.

IN JANUARY THIS YEAR, HE ADDED, THE WORST HILL FIRE SINCE 1979 OCCURRED IN THE SHING MUN AND TAI MO SHAN COUNTRY PARKS, DAMAGING MORE THAN 850 HECTARES OF PLANTATION. THREE COUNTRY PARKS AND A NATURE RESERVE WERE CLOSED FOR OVER A MONTH AS A RESULT.

ON LITTER IN THE COUNTRYSIDE, HE SAID MORE THAN 4 000 TONNES WERE COLLECTED LAST YEAR, INVOLVING AN ENORMOUS EXPENDITURE OF EFFORT AND MONEY.

+THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO NEED FOR THIS IF COUNTRY PARK VISITORS WOULD MAKE MORE USE OF RUBBISH BINS OR TAKE THEIR RUBBISH HOME.+

AT THE CEREMONY, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CIVIL AID SERVICES, THE ROYAL AIR FORCE, THE ROYAL HONG KONG AUXILIARY AIR FORCE, THE ARMY, AND THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT WERE PRESENTED WITH SOUVENIRS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION IN FIRE PREVENTION IN 1985-86.

TODAY'S EVENT WAS ALSO ATTENDED BY MORE THAN 100 DISTINGUISHED GUESTS AND POPULAR TELEVISION ARTISTES AND 300 COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB AND JUNIOR POLICE CALL MEMBERS.

DR LEE SAID THAT THE ENTHUSIASTIC TURNOUT AT THE CEREMONY REFLECTED THE COMMUNITY'S CONCERN FOR CONSERVING THE COUNTRYSIDE.

HE CALLED ON ALL PRESENT TO SPREAD THE CONSERVATION MESSAGE AND TO MAKE OTHERS AWARE OF THE NEED TO KEEP THE COUNTRYSIDE CLEAN AND GREEN.

SIR DAVID THEN LED PARTICIPANTS TO COLLECT LITTER IN THE NEIGHBOURING ROTARY PARK TO SYMBOLISE THE START OF THIS YEAR'S CLEAN AND GREEN SCHEME.

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION VITAL FOR 'CIVIC' CAMPAIGN SUCCESS
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PARTICIPATION OF DISTRICT ORGANISATIONS AND THE PUBLIC IS REQUIRED FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE CIVIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN, MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MRS RITA FAN, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

OFFICIATING AT THE LAUNCHING CEREMONY OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT CIVIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN, SHE SAID THE DEVELOPMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT PROVIDED THE PEOPLE WITH MORE WAYS TO PARTICIPATE IN DISTRICT AFFAIRS AND EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS AND THUS ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF THE PEOPLE WAS VITAL TO ITS PROPER FUNCTIONING.

MRS FAN ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE OBJECTIVES OF SETTING UP THE COMMITTEE ON THE PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION WERE TO ENHANCE PUBLIC CONCERN ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS AND ENCOURAGE THEIR PARTICIPATION, DEVELOPING THEIR ABILITY TO THINK INDEPENDENTLY, PROMOTING THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF TRADITIONS AND CULTURES, AND HELPING THE PUBLIC TO CULTIVATE A SENSE OF BELONGING TO HONG KONG SO THAT THEY WOULD WANT TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SOCIETY.

ALTHOUGH THE COMMITTEE CO-ORDINATED ACTIVITIES ON CIVIC EDUCATION, PARTICIPATION OF DISTRICT ORGANISATIONS AND THE PUBLIC WAS REQUIRED FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE CAMPAIGN, SHE STRESSED.

TURNING TO TODAY'S CEREMONY, MRS FAN SAID SHE WAS GLAD TO SEE A GROUP OF ENERGETIC YOUTHS WHO WERE CONCERNED ABOUT COMMUNITY AFFAIRS.

SHE SAID THAT WITH THE EFFORTS OF ORGANISATIONS IN TAI PO AND THE SUPPORT OF RESIDENTS, THE MESSAGE ON CIVIC EDUCATION WOULD BE DRIVEN HOME IN THE DISTRICT.

ALSO SPEAKING AT THE CEREMONY, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT CIVIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN, MR CHEUNG HOK-MING, SAID A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES WOULD BE HELD IN THE DISTRICT TO HELP RESIDENTS LEARN MORE ABOUT THE POLITICAL SYSTEM AND THEIR COMMUNITY, AND THUS ENHANCE CIVIC-MINDEDNESS AMONG THEM.

THESE ACTIVITIES INCLUDE A SINGING CONTEST, A TRAINING CAMP, AND EXHIBITION ON CIVIC EDUCATION, A COLOURING COMPETITION, A CARTOON DESIGN CONTEST, A CIVIC EDUCATION COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION SCHEME AND A CIVIC EDUCATION GAMES DAY.

ABOUT 500 YOUNG TOOK PART IN TODAY'S CEREMONY TO MARK THE LAUNCHING OF THE CAMPAIGN WHICH WAS ORGANISED BY THE TAI PO DISTRICT CIVIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE AND SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD.

AFTER THE CEREMONY, A GROUP OF PARTICIPANTS WENT TO DIFFERENT PLACES IN TAI PO TO DISTRIBUTE LEAFLETS, BOOK-MARKS AND STICKERS ON CIVIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES.

THE REST OF THE YOUNGSTERS STAGED VARIETY SHOWS TO PUT ACROSS THE MESSAGE ON CIVIC EDUCATION AT THE TAI PO PLAYGROUND AND KWONG FUK AND TAI YUEN ESTATES.

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SEMINAR ON DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION HELD
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A SEMINAR ON +DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION IN KOWLOON CITY+ TO ENRICH 50 CIVIC AMBASSADORS' KNOWLEDGE ON DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND THEIR CIVIC RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES WAS HELD AT THE MARTHA BOSS COMMUNITY CENTRE IN HO MAN TIN THIS (SATURDAY) AFTERNOON.

THE AMBASSADORS WHO HAD ACHIEVED OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICES WERE NOMINATED FROM LOCAL SCHOOLS, ORGANISATIONS AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES IN A RECENT CIVIC AMBASSADOR SCHEME HELD IN THE DISTRICT.

THE SELECTED AMBASSADORS INCLUDE AREA COMMITTEE MEMBERS, TEACHERS, SOCIAL WORKERS AND STUDENTS IN THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT.

TODAY'S SEMINAR WAS ORGANISED BY THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT CIVIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN ORGANISING COMMITTEE AND THE DISTRICT OFFICE.

THE CIVIC AMBASSADORS HAD EARLIER ATTENDED AN OPEN DISTRICT BOARD MEETING AND A SEMINAR. THEY WILL ATTEND ANOTHER SEMINAR AND PAY A VISIT TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL LATER THIS MONTH.

THROUGH THESE ACTIVITIES, THE AMBASSADORS CAN LEARN MORE ABOUT GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE, THE LEGISLATURE, THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM, THE DISTRICT BOARD AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS.

IT IS HOPED THAT THE AMBASSADORS WILL SPREAD THE MESSAGE OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND THEIR EXPERIENCES THEY HAVE LEARNED THROUGH THE CIVIC AMBASSADOR SCHEME TO THEIR FRIENDS, COLLEAGUES AND RELATIVES.

GUEST SPEAKERS AT TODAY'S SEMINAR WERE THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ALEX FONG= AND APPOINTED KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER, REV. PETER CHOW= AND AN ELECTED KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER, MR WONG CHI-KEUNG.

MR FONG GAVE A TALK ON +DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION IN KOWLOON CITY+, WHICH INCLUDED THE DISTRICT CHARACTERISTICS, HISTORY OF KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD, ITS FORMATION, MEMBERSHIP, COMMITTEES, ROLES AND FUNCTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS.

THE AMBASSADORS WERE ENCOURAGED TO SUPPORT DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION BY JOINING MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, OWNERS INCORPORATIONS, AREA COMMITTEES AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS WHICH COULD CONTRIBUTE TO DECISIONS AFFECTING THEIR DAILY LIFE.

THE OTHER GUEST SPEAKERS, REV PETER CHOW AND MR WONG CHI-KEUNG, TALKED ON THEIR WORK AND EXPERIENCES AS DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS.

/AN AUDIO

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AN AUDIO VISUAL SLIDE PRESENTATION INTRODUCING +DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION IN HONG KONG+ AND +DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION IN KOWLOON CITY+ WAS SHOWN IN THE SEMINAR.

THE SEMINAR CONCLUDED WITH A FLOOR DISCUSSION WHICH HELPED PARTICIPANTS EXCHANGE THEIR VIEWS ON DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION.

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ISLANDS DB TO DISCUSS VEHICLE PERMITS
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MEMBERS OF THE ISLANDS DISTRICT BOARD WILL TAKE UP THE SUBJECT OF VILLAGE VEHICLES AT THEIR MEETING ON MONDAY (NOVEMBER 3).

THEY ARE EXPECTED TO REFLECT OBSERVATIONS MADE BY ISLANDS RESIDENTS ON CONDITIONS LAID DOWN BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT FOR THE ISSUE OF SUCH PERMITS.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO TALK ABOUT A SEWER CONNECTION PROBLEM ON CHEUNG CHAU, THE FORTHCOMING ISLANDS DISTRICT ATHLETIC MEET AND ALLOCATION OF DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING AT 2 PM ON MONDAY AT THE DISTRICT BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM, 14TH FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38, PIER ROAD, CENTRAL.

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SIX WIN SOUTHERN DISTRICT GOOD CITIZENS AWARD
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FIVE MEN AND A WOMAN HAVE BEEN CHOSEN AS MODEL CITIZENS FOR SEPTEMBER FROM EACH OF THE SIX AREAS OF SOUTHERN DISTRICT IN AN AWARD SCHEME JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD AND THE DISTRICT OFFICE.

SELECTION FOR THE OCTOBER AWARDS IS UNDERWAY AND NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR THE NOVEMBER AWARDS.

/THE +CITIZENS

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THE +CITIZENS OF THE MONTH+ AWARD SCHEME IS PART OF SOUTHERN DISTRICT'S CIVIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN. IT IS AIMED AT PROMOTING CIVIC AWARENESS AND GIVING RECOGNITION TO GOOD CITIZENS.

IT IS INTENDED THAT TROPHIES WILL BE PRESENTED TO AN OUTSTANDING RESIDENT FROM EACH OF THE DISTRICT'S SIX AREAS EVERY MONTH BASIS UNTIL DECEMBER.

THE SIX WINNERS FOR SEPTEMBER ARE LAI LING-FONG OF POK FU LAM; CHAN NAI-KWONG OF WAH FU; WONG FAI-WONG OF TIN WAN-SHEK PAI WAN, LUK KWOK-KEUNG OF ABERDEEN-AP LEI CHAU, YU TONG OF WONG CHUK HANG-BAYS, AND CHAN MAN-HOI OF STANLEY-SHEK O.

THEY ARE MEMBERS OF MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, RESIDENTS ASSOCIATIONS OR THE YIN NGAI SOCIETY AND ALL HAVE CONTRIBUTED MUCH TIME AND EFFORT TOWARDS COMMUNITY SERVICE.

SOME OF THEM HAVE SERVED ON THE ST JOHN'S AMBULANCE BRIGADE, THE AUXILIARY MEDICAL SERVICES AND THE CIVIL AID SERVICES. SOME HAVE ALSO DEMONSTRATED THEIR CARE AND CONCERN FOR OTHERS IN ORGANISING DISTRICT ACTIVITIES, CHARITY AND VOLUNTARY WORKS.

PRIZES WILL BE PRESENTED DURING THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT FESTIVAL LATER THIS MONTH.

A SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID CANDIDATES FOR THE AWARDS MUST EITHER LIVE, STUDY OR WORK IN THE DISTRICT, BE TRUSTWORTHY AND KNOW THE RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF A CITIZEN.

THEY SHOULD HAVE A GOOD UNDERSTANDING OF THEIR OWN AREA AND OF HONG KONG IN GENERAL, AND HAVE COMMENDABLE RECORDS FOR THEIR SERVICES.

THE DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS THE 18TH OF EACH MONTH. NOMINATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE AND SUB-OFFICES IN ABERDEEN CENTRE, WAH FU AND STANLEY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE AWARD SCHEME CAN BE MADE TO THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE ON 5-540271.

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FORTNIGHT TO BOOST RECREATION AND SPORTS
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MONG KOK RESIDENTS WILL BE TREATED TO AN EVENT-PACKED SPORTS AND RECREATION FORTNIGHT THIS MONTH.

THE MONG KOK DISTRICT RECREATION AND SPORTS FORTNIGHT IS AIMED AT BRINGING WHOLESOME ENTERTAINMENTS AND ACTIVITIES TO RESIDENTS.

A CHINESE SHUTTLECOCK TEAM WILL BE INVITED TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR SKILLS ON THE OPENING DAY ON NOVEMBER 6.

OTHER PROGRAMMES INCLUDE A MINI-SOCCER COMPETITION, A TABLE-TENNIS INVITATION COMPETITION, A VARIETY SHOW WITH MIME, SINGING AND BRASS BAND PERFORMANCES, A MODERN DANCE SHOW BY THE CITY CONTEMPORARY DANCE COMPANY, AND A MASS FOLK DANCE RALLY FOR MORE THAN 1 000 DANCE ENTHUSIASTS.

A SPORTS OPEN DAY WILL TAKE PLACE IN LIM POR YEN CENTRE WHERE ATHLETES WILL DEMONSTRATE THEIR SKILLS IN VARIOUS SPORTS AND RESIDENTS WILL BE ENCOURAGED TO TAKE PART.

+ALL PROGRAMMES ARE CAREFULLY PLANNED TO GIVE A BALANCED MIXTURE OF SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES, AND TO CATER TO THE INTERESTS OF ALL PEOPLE,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE SAID.

+THIS YEAR, MOST ACTIVITIES ARE HELD IN DIFFERENT VENUES TO FACILITATE RESIDENTS LIVING IN DIFFERENT AREAS,+ HE ADDED.

TO BOOST THE DEVELOPMENT OF SPORTS AND RECREATION IN THE DISTRICT, A SPECIAL AWARDS SCHEME WILL BE SET UP TO COMMEND RESIDENTS WHO HAVE MADE CONTRIBUTIONS.

THE RECREATION AND SPORTS FORTNIGHT IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD, URBAN COUNCIL AND MONG KOK DISTRICT CULTURAL RECREATIONAL AND SPORTS ASSOCIATION.

ENQUIRIES ON ADMISSION TO THE VARIOUS PERFORMANCES AND COMPETITIONS CAN BE MADE TO THE TAI KOK TSUI BRANCH OF THE MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICE ON 3-932288.

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CIVIC CARNIVAL FOR YAU MA TEI RESIDENTS

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YAU MA TEI RESIDENTS WILL BE TREATED TO AN ENTERTAINING AND EDUCATIONAL CARNIVAL NEXT SUNDAY (NOVEMBER 9) AT THE SOCCER PITCH OF KOWLOON PARK.

ORGANISED BY THE YAU MA TEI CIVIC EDUCATION CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, THE EVENT WILL MARK THE OPENING OF THE DISTRICT'S CIVIC EDUCATION FESTIVAL.

HIGHLIGHT OF THE DAY WILL BE A QUIZ FINAL IN WHICH CONTESTANTS WILL BE TESTED ON THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF THE DISTRICT AND CIVIC MATTERS.

TWENTY GAME STALLS WILL ALSO BE SET UP WITH CIVIC EDUCATION-ORIENTED GAMES.

OTHER PROGRAMMES INCLUDE DANCE AND SINGING PERFORMANCES BY VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND THE YAU MA TEI AND TSIM SHA TSUI CULTURE AND ARTS ASSOCIATION.

THE +TVB CARES+ TEAM WILL ALSO PERFORM A MAGIC SHOW AND ACROBATIC ACTS AND CONDUCT GAMES ON CIVIC EDUCATION.

+IT IS HOPED THAT MESSAGES ON CIVIC EDUCATION CAN BE PUT ACROSS TO THE PUBLIC THROUGH A LIVELY AND ENTERTAINING ATMOSPHERE,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE SAID.

FREE TICKETS FOR THE CARNIVAL ARE AVAILABLE AT THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT OFFICE AND TSIM SHA TSUI SUB-OFFICE.

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MUSIC CAMP FOR WAN CHAI CHILDREN

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ABOUT 60 CHILDREN AND THEIR PARENTS FROM WAN CHAI DISTRICT ARE TAKING PART IN A TWO-DAY MUSIC CAMP AT THE PO LEUNG KUK PAK TAM CHUNG HOLIDAY CAMP IN SAI KUNG THIS WEEKEND.

THE CAMP WAS ORGANISED BY THE CHILDREN'S CHOIR OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT ARTS, CULTURAL, RECREATIONAL AND SPORTS ASSOCIATION AND SPONSORED BY THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD.

THE PURPOSE IS TO PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE CHILDREN TO APPRECIATE AND ENJOY SINGING IN A RELAXED ATMOSPHERE.

APART FROM TRAINING SESSIONS, PARTICIPANTS TOOK PART IN A VARIETY OF RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND GAMES.

THE CHILDREN'S CHOIR WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1982 AND HAS PERFORMED ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS IN DISTRICT EVENTS.

URBAN COUNCIL PARTY LEAVES FOR CHINA
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THE URBAN COUNCIL PARTY THAT LEFT TODAY FOR CHINA IS +KEENLY LOOKING FORWARD+ TO SEEING A WIDE RANGE OF CULTURAL FACILITIES AND ACTIVITIES IN PEKING AND SHANGHAI, AND IN WIDENING CONTACTS WITH CULTURAL AUTHORITIES IN CHINA.

THIS WAS SAID TODAY BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE URBAN COUNCIL, MR H.M.G. FORSGATE, WHO IS LEADING THE COMBINED COUNCIL-URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT VISIT.

IN PEKING THE PARTY WILL VISIT THE CITY'S MAIN MUSEUM, THE TIEN TAN HEAVENLY TEMPLE, THE GREAT WALL, THE MING TOMBS, THE CHINA ARTS PERFORMING COMPANY, THE PEOPLE'S ART THEATRE, THE CONCERT HALL, THE ORIENTAL OPERA AND DANCE THEATRE, THE NATIONAL LIBRARY, AND THE INSTITUTE OF VERTEBRATE PALAEOLOGY.

IN SHANGHAI THE PARTY WILL VISIT THE SHANGHAI FOLK OPERA AND DANCE THEATRE, THE SHANGHAI MUSEUM, THE CITY'S LIBRARY AND ART GALLERY AND THE CONCERT HALL WHERE IT WILL WATCH A PERFORMANCE BY THE FOLK OPERA AND DANCE THEATRE TROUPE.

THE PARTY WILL RETURN TO HONG KONG ON SUNDAY WEEK (NOVEMBER 9).

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INDIA JOINS SPEEDPOST NETWORK
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SPEEDPOST SERVICE WILL BE EXTENDED TO INDIA FROM MONDAY (NOVEMBER 3), A POST OFFICE SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY.

THIS WILL BRING TO 46 THE NUMBER OF COUNTRIES INCLUDED IN THE SPEEDPOST NETWORK SERVED FROM HONG KONG.

+SPEEDPOST ITEMS ARE ACCEPTABLE FOR TRANSMISSION TO BOMBAY, NEW DELHI, CALCUTTA AND MADRAS IN INDIA,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+ITEMS POSTED IN HONG KONG WILL BE DELIVERED TO THE ADDRESSEES IN BOMBAY ON THE NEXT WORKING DAY; IN CASE OF NEW DELHI, CALCUTTA AND MADRAS, SPEEDPOST ITEMS POSTED ON MONDAY TO FRIDAY WILL BE DELIVERED TO THE ADDRESSEES ON THE SECOND WORKING DAY WHILE THOSE POSTED ON SATURDAY WILL BE DELIVERED ON THE NEXT WORKING DAY.+

ONLY +ON DEMAND+ SERVICE IS AVAILABLE.

THE MAXIMUM WEIGHT LIMIT IS TWO KG AND THE POSTAGE RATES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

ITEMS WEIGHING UNDER 250 G	\$70
ITEMS WEIGHING BETWEEN 250 G AND 500 G	\$80
EACH SUBSEQUENT 500 G	\$25

+CUSTOMERS REQUIRING MORE SPECIFIC INFORMATION ABOUT THE SPEEDPOST SERVICE TO INDIA AND THE SPEEDPOST SERVICE GENERALLY ARE REQUESTED TO CONTACT THE POSTAL SERVICES REPRESENTATIVES ON 5-2671108,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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LANE CLOSURE ON SHA TIN ROAD
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TRAFFIC LANES ON THE SOUTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF SHA TIN ROAD WILL BE CLOSED SEPARATELY FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY (NOVEMBER 3) TO 6 PM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR MAINTENANCE WORK.

THE AFFECTED SECTION RUNS FROM THE LION ROCK TUNNEL ROAD TO SHA TIN WAI ROAD.

AS TRAFFIC CONGESTION IS EXPECTED DURING THE LANE CLOSURE, MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED TO DRIVE WITH CARE.

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FIRING PRACTICE IN NOVEMBER
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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE HA TSUEN-CASTLE PEAK RANGE ON 21 DAYS IN NOVEMBER.

THE PUBLIC IS WARNED NOT TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN RED FLAGS ARE HOISTED.

THE DATES AND TIMES OF THE PRACTICE ARE:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
NOVEMBER 6 (THURSDAY)	8.30 AM - 11.30 PM
NOVEMBER 7 (FRIDAY)	0.01 AM - 5 PM
NOVEMBER 8 (SATURDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
NOVEMBER 10 (MONDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
NOVEMBER 11 (TUESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
NOVEMBER 12 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
NOVEMBER 13 (THURSDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
NOVEMBER 14 (FRIDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
NOVEMBER 15 (SATURDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
NOVEMBER 17 (MONDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
NOVEMBER 18 (TUESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
NOVEMBER 19 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
NOVEMBER 20 (THURSDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
NOVEMBER 21 (FRIDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
NOVEMBER 22 (SATURDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
NOVEMBER 24 (MONDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
NOVEMBER 25 (TUESDAY)	8.30 AM - 11.59 PM
NOVEMBER 26 (WEDNESDAY)	0.01 AM - 11.59 PM
NOVEMBER 27 (THURSDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
NOVEMBER 28 (FRIDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
NOVEMBER 29 (SATURDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1986.

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PUBLIC CEMETERY FOR MUI WO

A PUBLIC CEMETERY IS TO BE BUILT AT NGAU KWU WAN IN MUI WO, ON LANTAU ISLAND.

TENDERS FOR THE FIRST STAGE OF THE PROJECT ARE BEING INVITED BY THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT.

WORK IN THIS STAGE INVOLVES CONSTRUCTING A CONCRETE ACCESS TRACK, FOOTPATHS, DRAINAGE, A RETAINING WALL, EARTHWORKS AND OTHER ANCILLARY WORKS, AND ALSO FORMING TERRACES FOR ABOUT 300 BURIAL SPACES.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT WORK WILL START IN JANUARY AND TAKE ABOUT SIX MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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YAU MA TEI WATER CUT

FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN YAU MA TEI WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 11 PM ON TUESDAY (NOVEMBER 4) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR LEAKAGE TEST.

THE AFFECTED PREMISES ARE BOUNDED BY CANTON ROAD, ARGYLE STREET, SHANGHAI STREET, SHANTUNG STREET, NATHAN ROAD AND DUNDAS STREET, INCLUDING RECLAMATION STREET, PORTLAND STREET, CHANGSHA STREET AND SOY STREET.

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TRAFFIC RE-ROUTING IN YUEN LONG

THE SECTION OF TAI YUK ROAD IN YUEN LONG BETWEEN KAU YUK ROAD AND MA TIN ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM TWO-WAY TO ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND FROM 10 AM ON TUESDAY (NOVEMBER 4).

THE MEASURE IS BEING INTRODUCED IN CONNECTION WITH WORK ON THE TUEN MUN-YUEN LONG LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SYSTEM AND WILL LAST ABOUT A MONTH.

MOTORISTS ON TAI YUK ROAD WISHING TO TRAVEL NORTHBOUND ARE ADVISED TO USE MA TIN ROAD.

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RESTRICTED ZONES IN KWUN TONG
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THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS OF ROADS IN KWUN TONG WILL BE DESIGNATED RESTRICTED ZONES FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY FROM 10 AM ON TUESDAY (NOVEMBER 4):

- * THE SECTION OF HING YIP STREET FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH KING YIP STREET TO A POINT ABOUT 38 METRES NORTHWEST OF THE SAME JUNCTION; AND
- * THE NORTHEAST-BOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF KING YIP STREET BETWEEN HING YIP STREET AND HUNG TO ROAD.

NO VEHICLES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS WITHIN THE RESTRICTED ZONES.

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KWUN TONG STREET SECTION RE-ROUTED
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FROM 10 AM ON TUESDAY (NOVEMBER 4), THE SECTION OF KING YIP STREET IN KWUN TONG BETWEEN HUNG TO ROAD AND HING YIP STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM ONE-WAY NORTHEAST BOUND TO TWO-WAY TRAFFIC.

THE MOVE IS DESIGNED TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW IN THE KWUN TONG INDUSTRIAL AREA.

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