



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 1987

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THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 1987

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HK PEOPLE URGED TO PLAY THEIR PART

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SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND INFORMATION, MR PETER TSAO, THIS (THURSDAY) EVENING CALLED ON THE PUBLIC TO TAKE PART IN THE CONSULTATION EXERCISE ON THE GREEN PAPER OUTLINING WAYS IN WHICH THE POLITICAL SYSTEM IN HONG KONG MIGHT BE FURTHER DEVELOPED.

ADDRESSING THE ZONTA CLUB OF KOWLOON DURING ITS INSTALLATION CEREMONY, HE SAID THIS WAS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG TO SPEAK OUT ABOUT THEIR FUTURE.

"ALL OBSERVERS WILL BE TAKING NOTE BOTH OF WHAT IS SAID AND OF THE DEGREE OF PARTICIPATION IN THE CONSULTATION EXERCISE. I REPEAT: BOTH FACTORS ARE IMPORTANT.

"THE GOVERNMENT HAS PRINTED ONE AND A QUARTER MILLION COPIES OF THE GREEN PAPER AND MADE SPECIAL EFFORTS TO ENSURE THAT THESE CAN BE COLLECTED AS CONVENIENTLY AS POSSIBLE.

"SO WE HAVE PLAYED OUR PART. NOW IT IS UP TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG TO PLAY THEIRS," MR TSAO SAID.

HE CALLED ON MEMBERS OF THE ZONTA CLUB TO TAKE THE LEAD, THINK HARD ABOUT THE VARIOUS OPTIONS IDENTIFIED AND CONTRIBUTE TO PUBLIC DEBATE.

"THE WAY AHEAD FOR ALL OF US, GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY, IS A CHALLENGING ONE. WE HAVE TO WORK OUT WHAT HONG KONG WILL BE LIKE AFTER 1997 AND HOW WE DEVELOP IN THE INTERIM TO MEET THAT FUTURE SITUATION.

"BUT THIS IS NOT SOMETHING THAT DIVIDES GOVERNMENT FROM THE CITIZENS. RATHER IT IS AN EXERCISE ON WHICH WE MUST BE UNITED IN TRYING TO FIND THE BEST WAY FORWARD," HE ADDED.

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BEACH GRADING SYSTEM RECOMMENDED

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A GOVERNMENT INTER-DEPARTMENT GROUP WILL RECOMMEND TO THE URBAN AND REGIONAL COUNCILS A SYSTEM OF GRADING BEACHES BASED ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT'S REGULAR MONITORING OF BEACH WATER QUALITY.

THE GRADING SYSTEM OF THE BEACHES INTO THREE CATEGORIES, NAMELY GOOD, ACCEPTABLE AND POOR, WAS AGREED ON BY THE RECENTLY ESTABLISHED BEACH WATER POLLUTION GROUP AT ITS MEETING TODAY (THURSDAY).

/THE GRADING .....

THE GRADING WILL BE BASED ON THE E. COLI COUNTS IN THE WATER. E. COLI IS A MEMBER OF THE GROUP OF FAECAL COLIFORMS AND IS AN INDICATOR OF WATER POLLUTION PREFERRED BY INTERNATIONAL SPECIALISTS.

THE CRITERIA OF GRADING WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

- A. GOOD: 0 TO 99 E. COLI PER 100 MILLILITRES OF WATER
- B. ACCEPTABLE: 100 TO 999 E. COLI PER 100 MILLILITRES OF WATER
- C. POOR: OVER 1,000 E. COLI PER 100 MILLILITRES OF WATER

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER THE MEETING, CHAIRMAN OF THE GROUP, PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MR PETER MANN, SAID IT WAS PROPOSED THAT THE GRADING INFORMATION REGARDING BEACHES SHOULD BE DISSEMINATED TO THE PUBLIC REGULARLY THROUGH THE MASS MEDIA.

MR MANN SAID THE GROUP BELIEVED THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO PROVIDE THE PUBLIC WITH A SIMPLE GRADING SYSTEM SO THAT THEY COULD DECIDE IF THEY SHOULD TAKE TO A PARTICULAR BEACH.

"HOWEVER, IT WILL BE UP TO THE URBAN AND REGIONAL COUNCILS TO DECIDE WHETHER WARNING SIGNS SHOULD BE PUT UP AT BEACHES FOUND TO BE UNSUITABLE FOR SWIMMING," HE SAID.

MR MANN SAID THE BEACH WATER POLLUTION GROUP WOULD MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ABOUT THE GRADING SYSTEM TO THE URBAN AND REGIONAL COUNCILS WITHIN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS.

"IF THE COUNCILS AGREE TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS, THE GRADING SYSTEM IS EXPECTED TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE CURRENT SWIMMING SEASON," HE SAID.

APART FROM THE GRADING SYSTEM OF BEACHES, MR MANN SAID THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAD APPROVED DRAFT LEGISLATION ON THE CONTROL OF LIVESTOCK WASTE.

"SUBJECT TO ITS ENACTMENT IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, THE NEW LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENT WOULD BRING ABOUT MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS TO BEACH WATER QUALITY AND THE GENERAL WATER QUALITY THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY," HE SAID.

TODAY'S MEETING WAS THE SECOND ONE SINCE THE BEACH WATER POLLUTION GROUP CAME INTO BEING IN APRIL THIS YEAR.

MEMBERS OF THE GROUP INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE HEALTH AND WELFARE BRANCH, MUNICIPAL SERVICES BRANCH, THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT, THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

PROFESSIONAL BODY ON WATER POLLUTION AND MANAGEMENT FORMED

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MONITORING OF WATER QUALITY AND WATER POLLUTION CONTROL IN THE TERRITORY TOOK A STEP FORWARD TODAY (THURSDAY) WITH THE AMALGAMATION OF THREE UK PROFESSIONAL BODIES TO FORM THE HONG KONG BRANCH OF THE INSTITUTION OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (IWEM).

THEY ARE THE INSTITUTE OF WATER POLLUTION CONTROL, THE INSTITUTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERS AND THE INSTITUTE OF WATER ENGINEERS AND SCIENTISTS.

SPEAKING AT A MEETING MARKING THE AMALGAMATION OF THE THREE PROFESSIONAL BODIES, THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, DR STUART REED, SAID THIS WAS A FAR-SIGHTED AND IMAGINATIVE STEP ON THE PART OF THE INSTITUTIONS CONCERNED.

"THE TIMING IS IMPECCABLE," SAID DR REED, "BECAUSE I BELIEVE WE ARE AT THE THRESHOLD OF A PHASE OF DEVELOPMENT THAT WILL MAKE EVEN HONG KONG'S PAST SPECTACULAR ACHIEVEMENTS SEEM PEDESTRIAN BY COMPARISON".

"MOST OF THE DEVELOPMENTS I REFER TO," DR REED CONTINUED, "HAVE POTENTIAL IMPLICATIONS EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY FOR THE QUALITY OF THE WATERS THAT SURROUND THE TERRITORY AND FOR THE SUPPLY OF WATER TO SERVICE THE EXPANDING DOMESTIC AND INDUSTRIAL NEEDS OF THE POPULATION".

"IT WILL REQUIRE THE COMBINED, CO-ORDINATED AND SUSTAINED EFFORTS OF ALL THOSE WITH PROFESSIONAL, TECHNICAL AND ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS IN THESE FIELDS TO ENSURE THAT WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE IN RELATION TO SAFEGUARDING OUR AQUATIC ENVIRONMENT AND OUR WATER SUPPLY IS DONE."

DEVELOPMENTS REFERRED TO BY DR REED AS LIKELY TO AFFECT WATER QUALITY INCLUDED THE POSSIBLE NEW AIRPORT, LARGE ADDITIONAL MARINE RECLAMATIONS, MANY OF THEM IN THE VICTORIA HARBOUR AREA, MAJOR EXPANSIONS IN ROAD AND RAIL LINKS WITH CHINA LEADING TO CONCOMITANT REQUIREMENTS FOR AN EXPANSION IN PORT FACILITIES WAY BEYOND THE TERMINAL 6 THAT IS CURRENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND TERMINAL 7 WHICH IS NOW AT THE DESIGN STAGE.

"I BELIEVE THERE WILL BE NO INSUPERABLE PROBLEMS," DR REED ASSERTED. "BUT I FEEL IT IS NECESSARY TO SOUND A WORD OF WARNING AT THIS STAGE IN RELATION TO THE OVERALL STYLE OF DEVELOPMENT. THIS IS THAT THE CONSERVATIVE CREEPING INCREMENTALISM THAT HAS SERVED US REASONABLY WELL IN THE PAST MAY NOT BE A VIABLE APPROACH FOR THE FUTURE".

"FOR EXAMPLE, IN THE PAST WE HAVE RECLAIMED SUCCESSIVE AREAS OF LAND ADJACENT TO EXISTING URBAN AREAS AND FOR EACH RECLAMATION WE HAVE ADDED ON THE SEWERAGE INCREMENTALLY AND EXTENDED THE SUBMARINE OUTFALLS. THIS HAS BEEN MORE OR LESS SUCCESSFUL IN THE PAST IN AVOIDING THE WORST WATER POLLUTION PROBLEMS," HE SAID.

/ "BUT I .....

"BUT I DO NOT BELIEVE WE CAN CONTINUE WITH THIS APPROACH OF CREEPING INCREMENTALISM."

"WE ARE GOING TO HAVE TO ADOPT A MUCH MORE IMAGINATIVE APPROACH AND TO LOOK AT MAJOR INTERCEPTION SCHEMES AND TRUNK SEWERS THAT MATCH THE NEEDS OF A CONURBATION EXPANDING INTO THE 21ST CENTURY."

"IT IS FOR THIS REASON," DR REED CONTINUED, "THAT WE ARE PROPOSING A MAJOR STUDY AIMED AT ESTABLISHING AN OVERALL SEWAGE STRATEGY FOR HONG KONG AND WE ARE SUFFICIENTLY WELL ADVANCED TO HAVE RECENTLY CARRIED OUT A PREQUALIFICATION EXERCISE FOR CONSULTANTS WHO HAVE THE REQUIRED EXPERIENCE TO CARRY OUT THIS SORT OF WORK."

DR REED ALSO REFERRED TO THE SUCCESSIVE RECLAMATIONS THAT HAD AND ARE TAKING PLACE OFF, FOR EXAMPLE, KWAI CHUNG WHICH WOULD INEVITABLY INTERFERE WITH THE FREE FLOW OF WATER AND COULD HAVE SERIOUS REPERCUSSIONS ON WATER QUALITY IN THAT AREA.

"WE NEED TO LOOK AT RADICALLY DIFFERENT ALTERNATIVES FOR PORT DEVELOPMENT, AND FOR EVERY ALTERNATIVE WE NEED TO LOOK AT THE IMPLICATIONS FOR WATER QUALITY NOT JUST IN VICTORIA HARBOUR. WE NEED TO EXAMINE ALSO HOW RECLAMATIONS OR STRUCTURES IN THE HARBOUR COULD AFFECT, TO COIN A PHRASE, THE FLUSHING OF THE SOUTH SIDE OF HONG KONG ISLAND."

WE WENT ON TO EXPLAIN THAT IT IS FOR THIS REASON THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS EMBARKED ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COMPUTER-BASED WATER QUALITY MODEL THAT WILL ENABLE THE VARIOUS OPTIONS TO BE TESTED FOR THEIR EFFECT ON WATER QUALITY.

"IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES," DR REED CONCLUDED, "IT IS ESSENTIAL, ESPECIALLY IN A SMALL PLACE SUCH AS HONG KONG, THAT THERE IS AN ACTIVE AND THRIVING BODY OF PROFESSIONALS IN THE WATER QUALITY, SEWERAGE AND WATER SUPPLY FIELDS WHO HAVE AN ORGANISATION, LIKE THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED IWEM, THAT CAN ARRANGE LEARNED SOCIETY ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS SO THAT THOSE CONCERNED CAN SUBJECT THEIR IDEAS, PROPOSALS AND PROJECTS TO THE ASSESSMENT OF THEIR PEERS AND THEIR SENIORS."

LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL BILL TO BE GAZETTED

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A BILL WHICH AMENDS THE WASTE DISPOSAL ORDINANCE TO GIVE EFFECT TO THE TEN-YEAR LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL PROGRAMME WILL BE GAZETTED NEXT FRIDAY (JUNE 12).

UNDER THE WASTE DISPOSAL (AMENDMENT) BILL 1987, LIVESTOCK KEEPING WILL BE PROHIBITED IN HONG KONG AND KOWLOON AND THE NEW TOWNS WHILE IN THE REST OF THE TERRITORY, THE STORAGE, COLLECTION, TREATMENT, TRANSPORTATION AND DISPOSAL OF LIVESTOCK WASTE WILL BE CONTROLLED BY REGULATIONS.

THE BILL IS EXPECTED TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON JUNE 24. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS CAN WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES OR TO OMELCO AT 8 JACKSON ROAD, CENTRAL.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HEALTH AND WELFARE BRANCH EXPLAINED THAT THE LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL PROGRAMME WOULD BE PHASED OVER 10 YEARS. TO ASSIST LIVESTOCK FARMERS TO COMPLY WITH THE CONTROLS, FREE COLLECTION SERVICES WILL BE PROVIDED DURING PHASE I OF THE SCHEME.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT POLLUTION FROM ANIMAL WASTE HAD BEEN A MAJOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEM. "LIVESTOCK FARMING IS INCOMPATIBLE WITH URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POSES SERIOUS HEALTH RISKS WHERE POLLUTED WATER IS USED FOR IRRIGATION OR WHERE SHELL FISHERIES AND PUBLIC BEACHES BECOME CONTAMINATED.

"LIVESTOCK WASTE POLLUTION IS RESPONSIBLE FOR 70 PER CENT OF ALL STREAM POLLUTION IN THE NEW TERRITORIES AND 50 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL ORGANIC POLLUTION ENTERING THE SEA. IT HAS LED TO A SIGNIFICANT DECLINE IN THE QUALITY OF COASTAL WATERS, PARTICULARLY IN TOLO HARBOUR, AND IMPOSES HIGH COSTS ON THE COMMUNITY," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT 50,000 TONNES PER MONTH OF LIVESTOCK WASTE IS CURRENTLY DISCHARGED UNTREATED INTO HONG KONG'S WATERCOURSES.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THERE ARE VARIOUS EXISTING CONTROLS ON THE DISPOSAL OF ANIMAL WASTE, THEY WERE PIECEMEAL AND INEFFECTIVE. "THE LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL SCHEME PROVIDES A TERRITORIAL STRATEGY FOR DEALING WITH THE PROBLEM," HE SAID.

LIVESTOCK FARMERS IN PROHIBITED AREAS AND THOSE IN CONTROLLED AREAS WHO SATISFY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT THAT THEY ARE UNABLE TO COMPLY WITH THE REGULATIONS AND HAVE THEREFORE CEASED LIVESTOCK KEEPING, WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR EX-GRATIA PAYMENTS. A "FREEZING" SURVEY OF EXISTING LIVESTOCK FARMS WILL BE CONDUCTED TO ESTABLISH ELIGIBILITY FOR EX-GRATIA PAYMENTS.

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSALS WILL REQUIRE AN EXPENDITURE OF AROUND \$500 MILLION OVER A PERIOD OF 10 YEARS.

/THE SPOKESMAN .....

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THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE AIM OF THE CONTROL SCHEME WAS TO REDUCE POLLUTION CAUSED BY ANIMAL WASTE TO AN ACCEPTABLE LEVEL, AND IF THESE MEASURES PROVED INADEQUATE, THEN FURTHER MEASURES, SUCH AS THE EXTENSION OF PROHIBITED AREAS, MIGHT BE NECESSARY.

HE CITED THE EXAMPLE OF SILVERMINE BAY BEACH WHERE LIVESTOCK WASTE FROM NEARBY FARMS WAS SERIOUSLY AFFECTING THE WATER QUALITY. "IF THE WATER QUALITY DOES NOT IMPROVE, CONSIDERATION WILL HAVE TO BE GIVEN TO MAKING SILVERMINE BAY A PROHIBITED AREA," HE SAID.

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FILM CENSORSHIP REGULATIONS AS INTERIM MEASURE  
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THE GOVERNMENT HAS MADE NEW FILM CENSORSHIP REGULATIONS AS AN INTERIM MEASURE PENDING THE ENACTMENT OF THE FILM CENSORSHIP BILL 1987.

THE NEW REGULATIONS WILL BE GAZETTED TOMORROW (FRIDAY), ON WHICH DAY THEY WILL COME INTO OPERATION.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE NEW REGULATIONS WOULD REPLACE THE EXISTING FILM CENSORSHIP REGULATIONS AND INCORPORATE THE PRINCIPLES ON WHICH CENSORING OF FILMS AND RELATED ADVERTISING MATERIAL WOULD BE CARRIED OUT. THIS WOULD REMOVE ANY DOUBT ABOUT THE LEGAL BASIS FOR FILM CENSORSHIP PRACTICES.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE CENSORSHIP PRINCIPLES SET OUT IN THE NEW REGULATIONS WERE IDENTICAL TO THE PRINCIPLES SPECIFIED IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE OF GUIDANCE PUBLISHED IN 1973.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE PROMULGATION OF THE INTERIM MEASURE WOULD NOT PREJUDICE FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE FILM CENSORSHIP BILL AND THAT IT WOULD LAPSE ON THE ENACTMENT OF THE NEW ORDINANCE.

"SUBJECT TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL'S APPROVAL, A REVISED DRAFT BILL WILL BE PUBLISHED FOR FURTHER PUBLIC CONSULTATION DURING THE SUMMER," HE SAID.

ACCORDING TO THE PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT ORDINANCE, THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL MAY, BY REGULATION, PROVIDE FOR THE CENSORING OF FILMS AND RELATED MATERIAL IN SUCH MANNER AND ON SUCH PRINCIPLES AS MAY BE PRESCRIBED IN THE REGULATIONS.

THE NEW REGULATIONS WOULD SERVE AS AN INTERIM MEASURE AS IT HAS BECOME CLEAR THAT THE FILM CENSORSHIP BILL IS UNLIKELY TO BE ENACTED DURING THE CURRENT SESSION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

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## 'SYMPATHETIC' REDEVELOPMENT OF CENTRAL AND WESTERN RECOGNISED

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT HE HOPED REDEVELOPMENT OF THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT WOULD BE CARRIED OUT SYMPATHETICALLY, PAYING ATTENTION TO SOME OF THE TRADITIONAL SHOPS AND TRADITIONAL WAYS OF LIVING THERE.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER TOURING THE DISTRICT, SIR DAVID SAID IT SEEMED TO BE AN AREA IN WHICH THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION COULD PLAY A VERY USEFUL PART ONCE IT WAS SET UP.

"THERE ARE A NUMBER OF IDEAS THAT ARE ALREADY THERE FOR THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION. I LOOKED AT ONE AREA TODAY WHICH MIGHT BE DEVELOPED BY THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION. IT'S A VERY GOOD AREA FOR THAT SORT OF DEVELOPMENT."

AS A RESIDENT OF CENTRAL DISTRICT, SIR DAVID SAID HE WAS VERY PLEASED TO FIND THAT THERE WAS SUCH AN ACTIVE DISTRICT BOARD WORKING IN HIS INTEREST.

HE SAID THERE ARE PROBLEMS SUCH AS POLLUTION AND TRAFFIC THAT NEEDED TO BE DEALT WITH, AND THE GREEN ISLAND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT COULD HELP SOLVE THESE PROBLEMS.

"THEY'RE THE SORT OF THING WHICH OBVIOUSLY CONCERNS ALL RESIDENTS IN THIS AREA, AND IN A WAY, ME AS WELL," HE SAID.

THEY WERE ALL PROBLEMS THAT WOULD TAKE A LONG TIME TO SOLVE, ONE OF THE WAYS THAT SOME OF THESE PROBLEMS COULD BE SOLVED LONG TERM IN THE AREA WAS THROUGH THE GREEN ISLAND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IF AND WHEN THAT WENT AHEAD.

NOTING THAT THERE WAS SO MUCH CONTRAST BETWEEN CENTRAL AREA AND WESTERN, SIR DAVID SAID HE WAS STRUCK BY THE PROBLEMS OF AN AREA WHERE THERE WAS VERY DENSE HOUSING AND WHERE AT THE MOMENT THERE WERE INADEQUATE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES.

"IT'S ALSO STRIKING WHAT CAN BE DONE IN A VERY SMALL AREA LIKE THE SUNG HING LANE WHERE YOU CAN MAKE A RECREATIONAL GARDEN OR IN THE SMITHFIELD AREA WHERE THE DISTRICT BOARD ITSELF IS TAKING THE INITIATIVE TO DEVELOP RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND HAS SET UP A VERY GOOD INFORMAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE URBAN COUNCIL IN THAT," HE SAID.

ASKED ABOUT HIS IMPRESSION ON THE SHOPS HE VISITED, SIR DAVID SAID THE INTERESTING THING WAS TO SEE SOME OF THE TRADITIONAL SHOPPING AREAS AND TO SEE THE SALE OF TRADITIONAL MEDICINES OR GINSENG OR DRIED FISH.

"I ASKED A LOT OF THEM HOW BUSINESS WAS AND THEY ALL SAID BUSINESS WAS VERY GOOD, WHICH IMPRESSED ME BECAUSE THE SORT OF GOODS THEY WERE SELLING IN MANY CASES WERE VERY EXPENSIVE," HE ADDED.

COMMENTING ON HIS DISTRICT VISITS, SIR DAVID SAID IT WAS VERY USEFUL TO GET OUT AND SEE THINGS FOR HIMSELF. "A LOT OF MY WORK HAVE TO BE DONE SITTING IN MY OFFICE, OR SITTING IN EXCO, SITTING IN LEGCO, I THINK IT'S VERY IMPORTANT THAT I SHOULD SEE FOR MYSELF WHAT'S HAPPENING IN HONGKONG, AND TO THE EXTENT THAT IT IS POSSIBLE, MEET PEOPLE MYSELF, LISTEN TO SOME OF THE THINGS WHICH CONCERN THEM.

"SO FOR ME, IT MAKES ALIVE THE SORT OF PROBLEMS WHICH OTHERWISE, I'D ONLY READ ABOUT ON PAPER," HE SAID.

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GOVERNOR TOURS CENTRAL AND WESTERN

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, VISITED CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR T.H. CHAU, THE GOVERNOR AND LADY WILSON FIRST WENT TO NAM PAK HONG, A CENTRE FOR TRADITIONAL WHOLESALE BUSINESS LOCATED IN BONHAM STRANDS EAST AND WEST AND WING LOK STREET.

THERE, THEY WERE MET BY THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR LAM KAM-KWONG, AND DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR VINCENT KO.

SIR DAVID WAS TOLD THAT THE HISTORY OF NAM PAK HONG (LITERALLY MEANING "SOUTH-NORTH TRADING CENTRE") DATED BACK AS EARLY AS THE LATTER HALF OF 19TH CENTURY WHEN HONG KONG WAS ALREADY A THRIVING ENTREPOT.

SIR DAVID AND LADY WILSON THEN WENT TO NEARBY KO SHING STREET, ONE OF THE EARLIEST DEVELOPED AREAS IN HONG KONG, WHERE THEY WERE BRIEFED ON URBAN RENEWAL PLANS FOR THE AREA.

THE PARTY THEN TURNED INTO DES VOEUX ROAD WEST TO VISIT AN AREA KNOWN LOCALLY AS "HAM YU LAAN" OR "SALTED FISH MARKET", WHICH COMPRISES A CLUSTER OF SHOPS SPECIALISING IN THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL OF PRESERVED SEAFOOD.

THEY THEN WALKED TO THE NEARBY SUNG HING LANE CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND WHICH WAS BUILT IN A SMALL OPEN SPACE SURROUNDED BY DENSELY POPULATED DOMESTIC BUILDINGS.

THEIR NEXT STOP WAS KWUN LUNG LAU, A RENTAL HOUSING ESTATE BUILT AND MANAGED BY THE HOUSING SOCIETY, AND HAD A BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF KENNEDY TOWN FROM ITS ROOFTOP.

/THE GOVERNOR .....

THE GOVERNOR WAS BRIEFED ON THE MEASURES TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT TO AMELIORATE ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE KENNEDY TOWN INCINERATOR AND ABATTOIR, AND ON THE GREEN ISLAND RECLAMATION FEASIBILITY STUDY.

THE GREEN ISLAND PROJECT, IF GIVEN THE GO-AHEAD, WOULD BRING ABOUT A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE OF POPULATION FOR WESTERN.

SIR DAVID AND LADY WILSON THEN VISITED A FAMILY OF FIVE IN KWUN LUNG LAU BEFORE LEAVING FOR SMITHFIELD BELOW.

THEY TOOK A WALK IN THE SMITHFIELD TEMPORARY PARK, A PROJECT BY THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD ON THE SITE OF THE OLD SMITHFIELD CATTLE DEPOT TO IMPROVE THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT BY MAKING CONSTRUCTIVE USE OF TEMPORARILY VACANT LAND.

ON THE WAY TO THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE AT HARBOUR BUILDING ON PIER ROAD, SIR DAVID WAS BRIEFED ON THE UPGRADED CONNAUGHT ROAD SCHEME.

THE SCHEME, WHICH WOULD INCREASE CAPACITY FOR VEHICLES ALONG THE CONGESTED CONNAUGHT ROAD, INCLUDES THE CONSTRUCTION OF TWO FLYOVERS, AN UNDERPASS, AND THE DUALLING OF CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST.

SIR DAVID AND LADY WILSON CONCLUDED THEIR TOUR BY ATTENDING A TEA RECEPTION AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE WHERE THEY MET DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AND LOCAL COMMUNITY LEADERS.

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INSOLVENCY FUND TO COVER WAGES IN LIEU OF NOTICE

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WORKERS WHOSE EMPLOYERS BECOME INSOLVENT WILL IN FUTURE BE ABLE TO CLAIM SEVEN DAYS' WAGES IN LIEU OF NOTICE UP TO A PREFERENTIAL LIMIT OF \$2,000 IF THE PROTECTION OF WAGES ON INSOLVENCY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1987 IS ENACTED.

THIS IS IN ADDITION TO THEIR RIGHTS TO CLAIM FOUR MONTHS' WAGES IN ARREARS OR \$8,000, WHICHEVER IS LESS, FROM THE PROTECTION OF WAGES ON INSOLVENCY FUND SET UP TWO YEARS AGO.

DETAILS OF THE BILL ARE EXPECTED TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE NEXT FRIDAY (JUNE 12) FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE PROPOSED EXTENSION WOULD PROVE TO BE AN IMPORTANT SOURCE OF SUPPORT FOR EMPLOYEES OF INSOLVENT FIRMS, AND FOR THEIR FAMILIES, WHILE THEY WERE SEEKING NEW EMPLOYMENT.

/HE EXPLAINED .....

HE EXPLAINED THAT THE PROPOSAL TO LIMIT TO SEVEN DAYS' WAGES IN LIEU OF NOTICE INITIALLY HAD BEEN TAKEN WITH CAUTION SINCE "A DOWNTURN IN THE ECONOMY RESULTING IN A GREATER NUMBER OF INSOLVENCIES, OR A DECLINE IN THE GROWTH OF NEW COMPANY REGISTRATIONS RESULTING IN A LOWER-THAN-ESTIMATED LEVY INCOME, COULD UPSET THE FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE FUND".

"HOWEVER, THE OPERATION OF THE FUND WILL BE REVIEWED AGAIN IN ONE YEAR'S TIME TO DETERMINE WHETHER A FURTHER EXTENSION OF THE COVERAGE CAN BE JUSTIFIED," HE ADDED.

THE BILL ALSO PROPOSES TO MAKE SOME CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS TO THE BANKRUPTCY AND COMPANIES ORDINANCES TO REMOVE INCONSISTENCIES IN THE LIMITS ON PAYMENTS FROM THE PROTECTION OF WAGES ON INSOLVENCY FUND.

THIS WILL ENSURE THAT AN EMPLOYEE WILL BE ABLE TO CLAIM FOR OUTSTANDING WAGES AS PREFERENTIAL PAYMENT, AND NOT BE TREATED AS AN ORDINARY CREDITOR SIMPLY BECAUSE A PETITION FOR BANKRUPTCY OR WINDING-UP IS MADE MORE THAN FOUR MONTHS AFTER THE EMPLOYEE HAS APPLIED TO THE FUND.

THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD AND THE PROTECTION OF WATGES ON INSOLVENCY FUND BOARD WERE CONSULTED ON THE AMEMDMENTS.

THE BILL IS EXPECTED TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS ON JUNE 17.

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YAU MA TEI CELEBRATES ENVIRONMENT DAY  
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A SITTING-OUT AREA WILL BE OPENED TOMORROW (FRIDAY) FOR YAU MA TEI RESIDENTS ALONG THE WATERFRONT AT MAN CHEONG STREET.

THE PROJECT IS SPONSORED BY THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT BOARD IN SUPPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY.

BENCHES, PLANTER BOXES AND ARBOURS ARE PROVIDED IN THIS DENSELY POPULATED AREA AND FOR NEARBY RESIDENTS.

YAU MA TEI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR AUGUSTINE CHENG AND THE CHAIRMAN OF DISTRICT BOARD, MR YIP WAH WILL OFFICIATE AT A PLAQUE UNVEILING CEREMONY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CEREMONY AT A SITTING-OUT AREA ALONG THE WATERFRONT OF MAN CHEONG STREET, YAU MA TEI TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT 11 AM.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 1987

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WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY TO BE COMMEMORATED

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THE WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY (WED) SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (EPCOM) WILL HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE FOLLOWED BY A TREE PLANTING CEREMONY AT THE POKFULAM COUNTRY PARK AT 10 AM TOMORROW (JUNE 5).

EPCOM CHAIRMAN DR DAVID JOHNS; SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MR JOHN CHAMBERS; DIRECTOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT, DR STUART REED; AND CHAIRMAN OF WED SUB-COMMITTEE MR S.L. WAN WILL ATTEND THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

OFFICIATING AT THE TREE PLANTING CEREMONY WILL BE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBER, MR CHEUNG YAN-LUNG.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE PRESS CONFERENCE AND THE TREE PLANTING CEREMONY. TRANSPORTATION WILL BE PROVIDED TO TAKE THE MEDIA TO AND FROM THE POKFULAM COUNTRY PARK. PLEASE ASSEMBLE AT THE ENTRANCE OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES AT 9.15 AM TOMORROW GOVERNMENT VANS WILL DEPART AT 9.30 AM.

IN THE EVENT OF UNFAVOURABLE WEATHER CONDITIONS, THE PRESS CONFERENCE WOULD BE HELD AT THE G.I.S. PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE 5TH FLOOR OF BEACONSFIELD HOUSE AT 10 AM.

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CHIEF SECRETARY VISITS PRINTING DEPARTMENT

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THE CHIEF SECRETARY, MR DAVID FORD, VISITED THE PRINTING DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY) FOR A FIRST-HAND LOOK AT ITS WORK.

HE WAS MET ON ARRIVAL BY THE GOVERNMENT PRINTER, MR HARRIS MYERS, WHO BRIEFED HIM ON THE WORK AND RECENT DEVELOPMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT.

MR FORD THEN SAW THE OPERATION OF THE VARIOUS DIVISIONS WHICH USE THE LATEST PRINTING TECHNIQUES AND EQUIPMENT TO COPE WITH THE HEAVY DEMAND.

HE WAS TOLD THAT THE INSTALLATION SOON OF ADVANCED COMPUTER SYSTEMS WOULD BE ABLE TO MEET THE NEED FOR PRODUCING THE LAWS OF HONG KONG BILINGUALLY AND IN FACING-PAGE FORMAT WHEN REQUIRED NEXT YEAR.

/A CUSTOMER .....

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A CUSTOMER LIAISON OFFICE WAS RECENTLY SET UP TO PROMOTE PRINTING FOR SUBVENTED ORGANISATIONS WHICH INCLUDE THE URBAN COUNCIL, THE REGIONAL COUNCIL, THE HOUSING AUTHORITY AND THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY CORPORATION.

SINCE APRIL 1983, THE SECURITY DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN PRODUCING THE NEW IDENTITY CARD WHICH CONTAINS SPECIAL FEATURES TO HELP REDUCE FORGERY AND COUNTERFEITING. MR FORD WAS TOLD THAT IT WOULD CONTINUE TO PRODUCE THE SECOND PHASE NEW IDENTITY CARDS FROM JULY OF THIS YEAR.

THE DEPARTMENT PRODUCES MORE THAN 90 PER CENT OF ALL GOVERNMENT'S REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTINUOUS STATIONERY, ENABLING THE GOVERNMENT TO SAVE ABOUT \$2 MILLION PER YEAR.

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1986 SURVEY OF TRANSPORT AND RELATED SERVICES

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT IS CONDUCTING A SURVEY OF TRANSPORT AND RELATED SERVICES FOR THE YEAR 1986.

THE SURVEY COVERS LAND, SEA AND AIR TRANSPORT SERVICES, SUCH AS PUBLIC BUSES, TRAMWAYS, TAXIS, PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES, TRUCKS, FERRIES, SHIPPING COMPANIES AND AIRLINES.

IT ALSO COVERS SUCH TRANSPORT-RELATED SERVICES AS THOSE PROVIDED BY CAR PARKS, TRAVEL AGENTS AND CARGO FORWARDING AGENTS.

QUESTIONNAIRES ARE BEING SENT TO A SAMPLE OF ABOUT 3,600 ESTABLISHMENTS OUT OF A TOTAL OF SOME 40,000 ESTABLISHMENTS FALLING UNDER THE PURVIEW OF THE SURVEY.

DATA TO BE COLLECTED IN THE SURVEY INCLUDE THE TYPE OF OWNERSHIP, FLOOR AREA, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES, OPERATING EXPENSES, BUSINESS TURNOVER AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.

/SUCH ECONOMIC .....

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SUCH ECONOMIC DATA WILL PROVIDE BASIC INFORMATION ON THE STRUCTURE AND PERFORMANCE OF THE TRANSPORT SECTOR AND ARE NEEDED FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT OF HONG KONG.

THE SURVEY RESULTS WILL ALSO BE USED BY THE GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE ESTABLISHMENTS IN FORMULATING POLICIES AND MAKING DECISIONS.

IT IS A LEGAL REQUIREMENT TO RESPOND TO THE SURVEY. A CENSUS AND STATISTICS ORDER AUTHORISING THE CONDUCT OF THE SURVEY WAS MADE BY THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL UNDER SECTION 11 OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS ORDINANCE AND ISSUED AS LEGAL NOTICE NO. 11 IN THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT GAZETTE IN 1984.

SELECTED ESTABLISHMENTS ARE REQUIRED TO RETURN THE COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRES BY JULY 31. OFFICERS OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, WHO CARRY A GOVERNMENT IDENTITY CARD WHILE ON DUTY, WILL VISIT THE ESTABLISHMENTS CONCERNED TO ASSIST THEM IN COMPLETING THE QUESTIONNAIRES, IF REQUIRED.

THE COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS STRESSES THAT INFORMATION RELATING TO INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS WILL BE TREATED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND THAT ONLY AGGREGATE INFORMATION, WHICH DOES NOT REVEAL DETAILS OF INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS, WILL BE RELEASED.

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#### SUMMER SPORTS SCHEME FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

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A WIDE RANGE OF SPORTS TRAINING COURSES WILL BE ORGANISED FOR SOME 2,600 PRIMARY, SECONDARY AND SPECIAL SCHOOL CHILDREN DURING THE FORTHCOMING SUMMER VACATION.

THE SUMMER SPORTS SCHEME FOR SCHOOLS WILL OFFER 67 CLASSES OF TRAINING COURSES IN 10 SPORTS INCLUDING SAILING, CANOEING, ROWING, ORIENTEERING, ARCHERY, LIFE SAVING, FENCING, GYMNASTICS, VOLLEYBALL AND JUDO.

THE SCHEME IS ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE HONG KONG SCHOOLS SPORTS COUNCIL, WITH ASSISTANCE FROM VARIOUS SPORTS GOVERNING BODIES AND THE JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE AND UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP OF SWIRE BOTTLERS LIMITED.

IT AIMS TO PROVIDE SUITABLE SPORTS ACTIVITIES TO DEVELOP THE BODY AS WELL AS THE MIND OF SCHOOL CHILDREN IN THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS.

/INSTRUCTORS WILL .....

INSTRUCTORS WILL SELECT A BOY AND A GIRL FROM EACH CLASS AS THE BEST ATHLETES ACCORDING TO ATTENDANCE, IMPROVEMENT AND CONDUCT DURING THE COURSES.

THESE BEST ATHLETES WILL BE PRESENTED A PRIZE IN A CEREMONY TO BE HELD ON AUGUST 21 AT THE SCHOOL HALL OF CLEMENTI MIDDLE SCHOOL, NORTH POINT.

PARTICIPANTS ACHIEVING AN 80 PER CENT ATTENDANCE WILL OBTAIN A CERTIFICATE FROM THEIR COACHES.

SCHOOL HEADS WISHING STUDENTS TO TAKE PART IN THE TRAINING COURSES WITH WRITTEN PARENTAL PERMISSION ARE ADVISED TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS TO THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, FOURTH FLOOR, LEE GARDENS, HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY, BEFORE JUNE 20 (SATURDAY).

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ROAD SAFETY TOWN TO BE BUILT AT SHA TIN  
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A ROAD SAFETY TOWN FOR CHILDREN IS TO BE BUILT IN SHA TIN TO BRING HOME TO LOCAL RESIDENTS THE ROAD SAFETY MESSAGE.

ITS MAIN FEATURES WILL INCLUDE A CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND, A CYCLING PROFICIENCY AREA, AN OUTDOOR INSTRUCTION AREA, A LECTURE ROOM AND A WORKSHOP.

IT IS PART OF A PROJECT TO PROVIDE ACTIVE AND PASSIVE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES ON LOCAL OPEN SPACE FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS.

THESE FACILITIES WILL BE BUILT ON SEVEN SITES NEAR YUEN CHAU KOK AND SHA TIN WAI, SHA TIN.

OTHER FACILITIES WILL INCLUDE A SKATING RINK, AMENITY AND SITTING OUT AREAS, MINI-SOCCER PITCH AND A SERVICE BUILDING.

TENDERS FOR THE PROJECT ARE NOW BEING INVITED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT. THE DEADLINE IS NOON ON JUNE 19.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 1987

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PRESS CONFERENCE ON WEIGHTS AND MEASURES BILL  
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A PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO ANNOUNCE DETAILS OF THE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES BILL 1987.

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY OF THE TRADE AND INDUSTRY BRANCH, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, MR STEVE BARCLAY, WILL CHAIR THE CONFERENCE.

ALSO ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE WILL BE THE HEAD OF THE TRADING STANDARDS INVESTIGATION BUREAU OF THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT, MR JOHN HOWARD, AND A SENIOR CROWN COUNSEL OF THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT, MR ERIC AU.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRESS CONFERENCE WHICH WILL BE HELD IN THE GIS PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE FIFTH FLOOR OF BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, AT 12 NOON TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

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FOOTBALLER AWARD PRESS CONFERENCE  
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A SECOND PRESS CONFERENCE ON THE 10TH HONG KONG TOP FOOTBALLERS AWARDS AND THE SECOND HONG KONG YOUTH FOOTBALLERS AWARDS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY RADIO HONG KONG TELEVISION, HONG KONG FOOTBALLERS ASSOCIATION AND HONG KONG CHINESE FOOTBALLERS ASSOCIATION WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT 3 PM AT THE MARINA ROOM, THE EXCELSIOR.

ATTENDING THE PRESS CONFERENCE INCLUDE THE HEAD OF CHINESE PROGRAMME SERVICES, RTHK, MR RAYMOND NG; VICE-CHAIRMAN OF HONG KONG FOOTBALLERS ASSOCIATION, MR LAM KIN-MING; CHAIRMAN OF HONG KONG CHINESE FOOTBALLERS ASSOCIATION, MR WU KWOK-HUNG; CHAIRMAN OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE, MR HO KAM-KONG AND GENERAL MANAGER, SPECIALTY RETAILING OF DAIRY FARM CO. LTD., MR MICHAEL BEDFORD.

REPRESENTATIVES FROM EIGHT LOCAL SOCCER TEAMS WILL ALSO ATTEND THE PRESS CONFERENCE AND RECEIVE SOUVENIRS FROM THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

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SHAM SHUI PO DB TO DISCUSS PUBLIC ORDER ORDINANCE

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SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD WILL MEET TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO FURTHER DISCUSS THE PUBLIC ORDER (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1986.

SEVEN MEMBERS OF THE BOARD WILL ALSO SUBMIT WRITTEN QUESTIONS FOR FURTHER EXPLANATION ON MATTERS RELATED TO THE ISSUE.

OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION INCLUDE THE DRAFT NOISE CONTROL BILL AND THE FIVE YEAR URBAN COUNCIL CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TOMORROW (JUNE 5) AT 2.30 PM. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM AT 39 TONKIN STREET, KOWLOON.

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GREEN MINIBUS ROUTE IN TUEN MUN TO BE WITHDRAWN

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APPROVAL HAS BEEN GIVEN FOR GREEN MINIBUS ROUTE 46 OPERATING FROM AREA 4B TO YAU OI IN TUEN MUN TO BE WITHDRAWN FROM SUNDAY (JUNE 7), THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THAT APPROVAL WAS GIVEN AS THE SERVICE HAD BEEN OPERATING AT A LOSS.

THE OPERATOR OF THE SERVICE HAS BEEN REQUESTED TO PUT UP NOTICES AT THE TERMINAL POINTS AND INSIDE THE VEHICLES OF THE ROUTE TO ADVISE PASSENGERS OF THE SERVICE WITHDRAWAL.

AFFECTED PASSENGERS CAN TAKE THE ALTERNATIVES OF KMB ROUTE 59B FROM SIU HONG COURT TO BUTTERFLY ESTATE; AND ROUTE 63 FROM YUEN LONG TO TUEN MUN FERRY, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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SPEEDPOST TO SAUDI ARABIA EXTENDED

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THE SPEEDPOST SERVICE TO SAUDI ARABIA WHICH IS PRESENTLY AVAILABLE TO 21 CITIES WILL BE EXTENDED TO THREE MORE CITIES, NAMELY AL BIKEIRIYA, AL KHARJ AND AL MEDHNAB, THE POST OFFICE ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE 24 CITIES IN SAUDI ARABIA TO WHICH SPEEDPOST SERVICE WILL THEN BE AVAILABLE ARE AS FOLLOWS:

ABHA	JUBAIL
AL BIKEIRIYA	JUBAIL SINAIYA
AL KHARJ	KHOBAR
AL MEDHNAB	KHAMIS-MUSHAYT
ALBAHA	MAKKAH
ARRAS	MEDINA
BALGURASHI	RIYADH
BUREIDA	TABOUK
DAMMAM	TAIF
DHAHRAN	UNIEZA
HAIL	YANBU
JEDDAH	YANBU SINAIYA

MORE SPECIFIC INFORMATION ABOUT THE SPEEDPOST SERVICE MAY BE OBTAINED BY CALLING THE POSTAL SERVICES REPRESENTATIVES ON 5-8471108.

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