DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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GOVERNOR PAYS TRIBUTE TO SIR PERCY
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, TODAY (FRIDAY) PAID WARM TRIBUTE TO SIR PERCY CRADOCK, BRITISH AMBASSADOR TO PEKING, FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE INTEREST OF HONG KONG.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AT THE AIRPORT ON HIS RETURN FROM PEKING, SIR EDWARD SAID THE LATEST TALKS WERE THE LAST ROUND FOR SIR PERCY AS HEAD OF THE BRITISH DELEGATION.

+AND I TELL YOU NO SECRET WHEN I SAY THAT AT THE DINNER LAST NIGHT SOME WARM TRIBUTES WERE PAID TO HIM.

+I WOULD LIKE TO ADD MY OWN TO THE VERY GREAT CONTRIBUTION WHICH SIR PERCY HAS MADE IN THE INTEREST OF HONG KONG DURING THE TIME HE HAS BEEN AMBASSADOR TO PEKING, AND PARTICULARLY AS LEADER OF THE DELEGATION.

+HE IS NOW RETURNING TO LONDON AND WE ARE FORTUNATE THAT HE WILL CONTINUE TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH HONG KONG AFFAIRS WHILE HE IS THERE,+ HE SAID.

ON THE LATEST ROUND OF TALKS, SIR EDWARD SAID: +WE HAD ANOTHER USEFUL SESSION AND THIS TIME WE REVIEWED THE COURSE OF THE TALKS AND THE PROGRESS WE HAVE MADE SO FAR.

+THE NEXT ROUND ON THE 25TH AND 26TH (JANUARY) MEANS A SLIGHTLY LONGER GAP THAN IS USUAL, BUT THAT IS ENTIRELY BECAUSE OF THE CHANGE OF AMBASSADORS.

+MR EVANS WILL BE GETTING TO PEKING IN THE MIDDLE OF JANUARY. HE NEEDS A LITTLE TIME TO SETTLE IN AND THEN WE SHALL START AGAIN,+ HE SAID.

IN ANSWER TO A QUESTION FROM A REPORTER, SIR EDWARD SAID THE USUAL INFORMAL CONTACTS BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES WOULD CONTINUE FROM NOW TO THE NEXT ROUND OF TALKS.

THE GOVERNOR ADDED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD SOME JOURNALISTS HAD BEEN ASKING ABOUT HIS TRAVEL PLANS.

+I AM DELIGHTED TO SAY THAT I WILL BE IN HONG KONG OVER CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR.

+THEN I AM GOING, AS ANNOUNCED, TO NEW YORK, BUT MY PLANS AFTER THAT HAVE NOT BEEN FINALISED,+ HE SAID.

SIR EDWARD'S RETURN FLIGHT FROM PEKING WAS DELAYED FOR ABOUT THREE HOURS BECAUSE OF FOGGY WEATHER CONDITIONS IN TIANJIN.

ACCOMPANYING SIR EDWARD ON THE FLIGHT WERE THE POLITICAL ADVISER, MR ROBIN MCLAREN, AND THE GOVERNMENT CHIEF INTERPRETER, MR Y.P. CHENG.

THEY WERE MET AT THE AIRPORT BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, THE SENIOR MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, SIR SZE-YUEN CHUNG, THE SENIOR MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR ROGER LOBO, AND THE VICE-CHIEF EDITOR OF THE XINHUA NEWS AGENCY (HONG KONG BRANCH), MR TAN GAN.

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POSSESSION OF HANDCUFFS TO BE ILLEGAL
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THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO INTRODUCE A FURTHER CRIME PREVENTION MEASURE WHICH WILL MAKE IT ILLEGAL FOR ANYONE TO POSSESS HANDCUFFS OR SIMILAR ARTICLES WITHOUT LAWFUL EXCUSE.

UNDER THE SUMMARY OFFENCES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1983 PUBLISHED TODAY, IT WILL BE AN OFFENCE TO POSSESS HANDCUFFS, THUMBCUFFS, A WRIST RESTRAINT OR ANY OTHER ARTICLE MANUFACTURED FOR THE PURPOSE OF PHYSICALLY RESTRAINING A PERSON WITHOUT LAWFUL EXCUSE. THE POSSESSION OF ARTICLES OF RESTRAINT BY POLICE AND SECURITY OFFICERS FOR LAWFUL PURPOSES WOULD NOT BE AFFECTED, HOWEVER.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THERE HAD BEEN AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF CASES IN WHICH HANDCUFFS WERE USED IN COMMITTING CRIME. THERE WERE 10 CASES IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1982, 30 IN THE SECOND HALF OF 1982, AND 17 IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF THIS YEAR.

ALTHOUGH NO PRECISE STATISTICS ARE AVAILABLE, THE POLICE HAVE FOUND THAT THUMBCUFFS AND WRIST RESTRAINTS HAVE ALSO BEEN USED FOR CRIMINAL PURPOSES, HE SAID.

+UNDER THE EXISTING LAW, IF AN ACTUAL CRIME SUCH AS ROBBERY OR KIDNAPPING IS COMMITTED, A PROSECUTION CAN FOLLOW. HOWEVER, DIFFICULTY ARISES IN PROSECUTING CASES WHEN THE POLICE STOP A PERSON IN SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES, SEARCH HIM, AND FIND HIM TO BE IN POSSESSION OF HANDCUFFS OR SIMILAR ARTICLES FOR WHICH HE CANNOT GIVE A SATISFACTORY EXPLANATION,+ THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED. THE BILL NOW PUBLISHED IS INTENDED TO REMEDY THAT SITUATION.

HE ADDED THAT CONCERN OVER THE PROBLEM OF HANDCUFFS HAD BEEN EXPRESSED BY A DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE AND THE MAIN FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE HAD ENDORSED THE PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE LAW.

THE BILL WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON DECEMBER 21 AND IS EXPECTED TO RECEIVE ITS THIRD READING ON JANUARY 11, 1984.

ANYONE WHO WISHES TO COMMENT ON ITS PROVISIONS MAY WRITE TO UMELCO, AT SWIRE HOUSE, 12TH FLOOR, CHATER ROAD, OR TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S CHAMBERS AT THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG.

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16 MORE OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES PUT ON SCHEDULE

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THE NUMBER OF OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES IN THE SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION ORDINANCE FOR WHICH EMPLOYEES ARE ELIGIBLE FOR COMPENSATION FROM THEIR EMPLOYERS, HAS BEEN INCREASED FROM 21 TO 37.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE SCHEDULE HAS BEEN RESTRUCTURED AND REPLACED WITH A NEW ONE COMBINING THE EXISTING AND THE 16 ADDITIONAL DISEASES.

AN ORDER, MADE BY THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL, AMENDING THE SCHEDULE, IS PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

THE NEW SCHEDULE WILL COME INTO OPERATION ON JANUARY 1, NEXT YEAR.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT SAID THAT THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD, THE ACCIDENT INSURANCE ASSOCIATION, AND THE FOUR MAJOR EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATIONS HAD BEEN CONSULTED AND ALL SUPPORTED THE PROPOSAL TO UPDATE THE ORIGINAL SCHEDULE.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE ORIGINAL SCHEDULE WAS UPDATED TO BRING IT MORE INTO LINE WITH THE CURRENT RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION AND THE PRACTICES IN INDUSTRIALISED COUNTRIES.

HOWEVER, HE STRESSED THAT THE POSSIBILITIES OF SOME OF THE ADDITIONAL DISEASES OCCURRING IN HONG KONG WERE EXCEEDINGLY REMOTE.

EVEN UNDER THE ORIGINAL SCHEDULE, HE ADDED, MANY PRESCRIBED OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES HAVE NEVER BEEN DIAGNOSED IN HONG KONG.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THE ORIGINAL SCHEDULE, WHICH CONTAINED 21 OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES, HAD NOT BEEN ALTERED SINCE THEY WERE INTRODUCED INTO THE ORDINANCE IN 1964, ALTHOUGH PEOPLE SUFFERING FROM SILICOSIS AND ASBESTOSIS ARE NOW ELIGIBLE FOR COMPENSATION UNDER THE PNEUMOCONIOSIS (COMPENSATION) ORDINANCE.

IN THE LAST TWO DECADES, HOWEVER, ADVANCES IN MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE HAD MADE IT POSSIBLE TO ESTABLISH MORE FIRMLY THE CAUSAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CERTAIN DISEASES AND CERTAIN TYPES OF OCCUPATION AND THE NUMBER OF OFFICIALLY-RECOGNISED OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES HAD INCREASED. MANY DEVELOPED OR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY DURING THE LAST DECADE, HAD ADDED TO THEIR LISTS OF SUCH DISEASES.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT IN THE NEW SCHEDULE, OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES WERE GROUPED UNDER FOUR CATEGORIES OF CAUSATION, NAMELY PHYSICAL AGENTS, BIOLOGICAL AGENTS, CHEMICAL AGENTS AND MISCELLANEOUS AGENTS.

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QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HOLIDAYS NEXT YEAR CHANGED

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THE DATES OF NEXT YEAR'S QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAYS HAVE BEEN CHANGED, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY.

THE CHANGE TO HONG KONG'S LIST OF GENERAL HOLIDAYS HAS BEEN MADE NECESSARY BY THE DECISION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM THAT NEXT YEAR'S QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY WILL BE CELEBRATED ON THE THIRD SATURDAY IN JUNE INSTEAD OF, AS NORMALLY, THE SECOND SATURDAY, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE ACTUAL SATURDAY BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY WILL THEREFORE FALL ON JUNE 16 AND THE FOLLOWING MONDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY ON JUNE 18 - RATHER THAN ON JUNE 9 AND JUNE 11 RESPECTIVELY.

THIS CHANGE WILL HAVE TO BE MADE BY AN ORDER UNDER THE HOLIDAYS ORDINANCE, WHICH HAS BEEN AMENDED TO EMPOWER THE GOVERNOR TO APPOINT AN ALTERNATIVE DATE FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.

THE LIST OF HOLIDAYS FOR 1984, INCORPORATING THIS REVISION, IS EXPECTED TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE FIRST ISSUE OF THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE IN THE NEW YEAR.

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CONTRACT GRANTED FOR CAR PARK OPERATION

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED THAT WILSON PARKING (HONG KONG) PTY. LTD. HAS BEEN GRANTED A CONTRACT FOR THE OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT OF ALL TEN GOVERNMENT MULTI-STOREY CAR PARKS IN THE TERRITORY.

WILSON PARKING'S TENDER WAS ACCEPTED BY THE CENTRAL TENDER BOARD FROM AMONG 42 TENDERS SUBMITTED BY 21 OPERATORS.

A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE CONTRACT WOULD COMMENCE ON MAY 1 NEXT YEAR, BUT THAT THE COMPANY WOULD START TO TAKE OVER SOME OF THE CAR PARKS IN MARCH, THE FIRST ONES BEING THE YAU MA TEI AND MIDDLE ROAD CAR PARKS FOLLOWED BY OTHER CAR PARKS ON HONG KONG ISLAND A MONTH LATER.

ALL TEN GOVERNMENT CAR PARKS - AT STAR FERRY, CITY HALL, GARDEN ROAD, RUMSEY STREET, MURRAY ROAD, ABERDEEN, MIDDLE ROAD, YAU MA TEI, KWAI FONG, AND TSUEN WAN STATION - WOULD BE UNDER PRIVATE MANAGEMENT AS FROM MAY 1.

INITIALLY, THE CONTRACT WILL BE FOR THREE YEARS AND THE EXISTING PARKING FEES WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED FOR THREE MONTHS AFTER THE AGREEMENT COMMENCES. SUBSEQUENT REVISIONS TO THE FEES WILL BE SUBJECT TO AGREEMENT BETWEEN WILSON PARKING AND THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE DEPARTMENT WOULD MONITOR THE STANDARDS OF SERVICE BEING OFFERED AND ANTICIPATED THAT THE PUBLIC WOULD BE MORE THAN SATISFIED WITH THE SERVICE THEY WOULD RECEIVE WHEN THE CAR PARKS WERE UNDER SPECIALIST MANAGEMENT.

HE ADDED THAT ONE OF THE OTHER ADVANTAGES OF PRIVATISING THE MANAGEMENT OF GOVERNMENT CAR PARKS IS THAT PRIVATE MANAGEMENT CAN RESPOND MORE QUICKLY TO CHANGING MARKET CONDITIONS.

PRE-VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS' VITAL ROLE STRESSED

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PRE-VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS FORMED AN IMPORTANT PART OF HONG KONG'S SECONDARY EDUCATION SYSTEM, THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR COLVYN HAYE, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE EXHIBITION ON STUDENT PROJECTS FOR PRACTICAL SUBJECTS ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG PRE-VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS COUNCIL, MR HAYE ALSO HIGHLIGHTED A NUMBER OF NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN PRE-VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS HERE. HE SAID HE WAS SURE THAT THESE DEVELOPMENTS WOULD MAKE PARENTS EVEN MORE CONFIDENT ABOUT THIS TYPE OF SCHOOL.

HE NOTED THAT PRE-VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS ORIGINALLY OFFERED ONLY THREE YEARS OF JUNIOR SECONDARY EDUCATION.

+HOWEVER, AS A RESULT OF RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE 1978 WHITE PAPER ON SENIOR SECONDARY AND TERTIARY EDUCATION, FORM FOUR AND FIVE CLASSES WERE INTRODUCED IN 1981 TO PREPARE A PROPORTION OF THEIR STUDENTS FOR TECHNICIAN COURSES IN THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES.+

+FORM FIVE STUDENTS FROM THESE SCHOOLS TOOK THE HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION FOR THE FIRST TIME THIS YEAR AND I AM PLEASED TO NOTE THAT THEIR PERFORMANCE WAS PROMISING, ESPECIALLY IN THE TECHNICAL AND PRACTICAL SUBJECTS,+ HE SAID.

BETWEEN 70 PER CENT AND 90 PER CENT OF THE STUDENTS TAKING ELECTRONICS AND ELECTRICITY, ENGINEERING METALWORK AND TECHNICAL DRAWING, PRINCIPLES OF ACCOUNTS AND TYPING OBTAINED GRADE E OR ABOVE, MR HAYE ADDED.

DESCRIBING THESE RESULTS AS ENCOURAGING, MR HAYE NOTED THAT THEY CONFIRMED THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S BELIEF THAT PRE-VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS FORM AN IMPORTANT AND VALUABLE PART OF THE SECONDARY EDUCATION SYSTEM.

IN THIS CONNECTION, HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD ALREADY STARTED TO BUILD 12 MORE NEW PRE-VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS, AND THE FIRST OF THESE WOULD BE COMPLETED IN 1984.

THIS IS THE CMA CHOI CHEUNG KOK PRE-VOCATIONAL SCHOOL IN TUEN MUN. IT WILL BE A STANDARD PRE-VOCATIONAL SCHOOL WITH 16 CLASSROOMS, NINE WORKSHOPS AND SEVEN SPECIAL ROOMS AND WILL EVENTUALLY OPERATE 25 CLASSES FROM FORM ONE TO FIVE ACCOMMODATING 1 000 STUDENTS. THIS SCHOOL WILL OFFER AIR-CONDITIONING AND REFRIGERATION, AND LIGHT METALWORK AND FINISHING AS SPECIAL SUBJECTS.

IT WILL COST $20 MILLION TO BUILD AND EQUIP THE SCHOOL.

THE OTHER 11 NEW PRE-VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS, WHICH WILL BE COMPLETED FROM 1985, WILL BE OF A SIMILAR HIGH STANDARD, MR HAYE SAID.

HE SAID TWO NEW SUBJECTS - LIGHT METALWORK AND FINISHING, AND MARINE ENGINEERING - WILL BE INTRODUCED IN NEW PRE-VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS.

/+THEY ARE .....

+THEY ARE THE RESULT OF THE VERY HARD WORK THAT HAS BEEN AND WILL BE DONE ON MARKET RESEARCH AND CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT.

+THESE SUBJECTS WILL FORM AN IMPORTANT OPTION IN THE BALANCED CURRICULUM OF THE PRE-VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS, AND WILL NO DOUBT OPEN UP NEW OPPORTUNITIES OF EMPLOYMENT FOR STUDENTS IN THESE SCHOOLS,+ MR HAYE SAID.

REFERRING TO THE OVERALL REVIEW OF THE EDUCATION SYSTEM, MR HAYE SAID HE HAD NO DOUBT THAT HONG KONG'S EDUCATION SYSTEM, OF WHICH PRE-VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS WERE AN IMPORTANT PART, WAS DEVELOPING ON THE RIGHT LINES.

THE EXHIBITION OPENED BY MR HAYE MARKS THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE OPEN DAYS OF THE EXISTING 12 PRE-VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS. IT WILL BE HELD AT THE C.C.C. ROTARY PRE-VOCATIONAL SCHOOL AT WANG TAU HOM, KOWLOON, UNTIL DECEMBER 12 (MONDAY).

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VALUE OF FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION STRESSED

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THE IMPORTANCE OF FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION WAS STRESSED TODAY BY THE DIRECTOR SOCIAL WELFARE, MR JOHN CHAMBERS.

SPEAKING AT THE FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, MR CHAMBERS SAID THAT THE FAMILY WAS THE KEY UNIT IN SOCIETY.

+FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION SEEKS TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF FAMILY LIFE AND TO PREVENT FAMILY PROBLEMS FROM DEVELOPING,+ HE ADDED.

+TO SOME EXTENT, IT ACTS AS A SCHOOL IN WHICH WE DEVELOP OUR HUMAN PERSONALITIES.

+MOREOVER, IT IS WITHIN THE FAMILY THAT EACH NEW GENERATION LEARNS HOW TO BALANCE THE RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF THE INDIVIDUAL WITHIN THE FAMILY GROUP AND IN A SOCIETY AS A WHOLE.+

BUT THIS WAS NOT ALWAYS EASY WHEN RAPIDLY CHANGING SOCIAL CONDITIONS IMPOSED GREAT STRAINS ON THE FAMILY STRUCTURE.

+BECAUSE OF THIS, IT IS EVEN MORE IMPORTANT THAT WE SHOULD MAINTAIN OUR EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN AND ENRICH THE FAMILY LIFE OF OUR PEOPLE,+ HE EMPHASISED.

MR CHAMBERS DESCRIBED THE FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION SURVEY, WHICH STUDIED THE ATTITUDES OF YOUNG PEOPLE TOWARDS FAMILY LIFE, AS +A MAJOR ACHIEVEMENT DURING THE YEAR+.

HE SAID THE REPORT WAS PARTICULARLY VALUABLE AND HELPED CORRECT THE OFTEN DISTORTED PICTURE OF WHAT HONG KONG YOUTH WERE LIKE AS PROJECTED BY THE MASS MEDIA.

/IT ALSO .....

IT ALSO INDICATED THAT ADEQUATE KNOWLEDGE OF SEX WAS SELDOM PROVIDED WITHIN THE FAMILY AND THAT THE TRADITIONAL SOCIAL BIAS AGAINST GIRLS STILL SURVIVED TO SOME EXTENT.

MR CHAMBERS PRAISED THE ASSOCIATION FOR ITS OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO THE WORK OF FAMILY PLANNING AND ITS PROVISION OF VARIOUS SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES.

ITS SLOGAN +TWO IS ENOUGH+ HAD BECOME A HOUSEHOLD WORD, AND A REMARKABLE FALL IN BOTH THE BIRTH RATE AND AVERAGE FAMILY SIZE HAD TAKEN PLACE, HE SAID.

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KWUN TONG BOARD TO EVALUATE WORK

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THE WORK OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD AND WORK PLANS FOR EACH OF ITS SIX COMMITTEES WERE BEING EVALUATED, THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR KEVIN MAK SAID THIS (FRIDAY) EVENING.

HE SAID THE EVALUATION SHOULD IDENTIFY NOT ONLY ITS ACHIEVEMENTS BUT ALSO AREAS WHERE EFFORTS SHOULD BE STEPPED UP OR A CHANGE IN EMPHASIS WAS NECESSARY.

THE WORK PLANS SHOULD SET THE OBJECTIVES AND GOALS FOR THE BOARD FOR THE REMAINDER OF ITS CURRENT TERM, AND PROVIDE THE YARDSTICK AGAINST WHICH ITS FUTURE PERFORMANCE WILL BE MEASURED.

MR MAK WAS SPEAKING AT A DINNER MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF KWUN TONG.

THIS WOULD RESULT IN GREATER INVOLVEMENT AND COMMITMENT TO THE WORK OF THE DISTRICT BOARD BY ALL THE MEMBERS, AND PROVIDE FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE COMMUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, HE SAID.

MR MAK NOTED THAT THERE WERE INDICATIONS THAT PEOPLE WERE LOOKING MORE AND MORE FOR SUBSTANTIVE IMPROVEMENTS IN THEIR ENVIRONMENT AND THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE.

+AND TO REFLECT THIS CHANGING PATTERN OF DEMAND, THE DISTRICT BOARD HAD INCREASED ITS ALLOCATION OF FUNDS TO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS FROM $250 000 IN 1982-83 TO $600 000 IN 1983-84,+ HE SAID.

+AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS EVOLUTIONARY PROCESS, TOO, THE DISTRICT BOARD WILL BE DEALING WITH MORE HARD-CORE COMMUNITY PROBLEMS.+

MR MAK DISCLOSED THAT THE BOARD WOULD SHORTLY BE CONSIDERING WHETHER A WORKING GROUP SHOULD BE SET UP TO LOOK INTO THE YOUTH PROBLEM IN THE DISTRICT AND RECOMMEND SOLUTIONS AT THE DISTRICT LEVEL.

/+THE BOARD .....

+THE BOARD WILL ALSO BE CONCERNED WITH THE DETERIORATING HAWKER SITUATION,+ HE SAID.

THE ORGANISATION OF RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES WOULD REMAIN AN IMPORTANT TASK FOR THE BOARD, PARTICULARLY IN THE CONTEXT OF THEIR COMMUNITY BUILDING ROLE, HE ADDED.

+THE DISTRICT BOARD CONCERNS ITSELF WITH PRACTICALLY EVERYTHING IN THE DISTRICT, SMALL OR BIG, ROUTINE OR NON-ROUTINE, AND HAS DULY EXERTED ITS INFLUENCE IN EACH AND EVERY CASE,+ SAID MR MAK.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

PRESS CONFERENCE ON CONTAINER PORT
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A PRESS CONFERENCE ON THE KWAI CHUNG CONTAINER PORT EXPANSION PROJECT WILL BE HELD IN THE GIS THEATRE, 5TH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, CENTRAL AT 2.30 PM ON MONDAY (DECEMBER 12).

THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MR PIERS JACOBS, THE DIRECTOR OF LANDS, MR JOHN TODD, THE MANAGING DIRECTOR OF HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL TERMINALS, MR J.E. MEREDITH, AND THE MANAGING DIRECTOR OF SEA-LAND ORIENT LIMITED, MR M.M. PORTER, WILL BE PRESENT.

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

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U.S. CARE LABELLING RULE
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THE TRADE DEPARTMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED FURTHER DETAILS CONCERNING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNITED STATES AMENDED CARE LABELLING RULE FOR TEXTILE WEARING APPAREL AND CERTAIN PIECE GOODS WHICH WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON JANUARY 2, 1984.

COMMERCIAL CIRCULAR NO. 60/83 ISSUED TODAY MENTIONS, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE AMENDED CARE LABELLING RULE WILL APPLY TO PRODUCTS MANUFACTURED AFTER JANUARY 1, 1984, REGARDLESS OF THE SOURCE OF SUPPLY; AND THE U.S. FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION RATHER THAN THE U.S. CUSTOMS, WILL BE THE ENFORCEMENT AGENT OF THE AMENDED RULE.

COPIES OF THE CIRCULAR MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE NORTH AMERICA DIVISION OFFICE OF THE TRADE DEPARTMENT, OCEAN CENTRE, 14TH FLOOR (ADJACENT TO ROOM 1443). ENQUIRIES MAY BE DIRECTED TO MR R.M. LAI AT TELEPHONE NO. 3-7222446.

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SPREADING THE ANTI-DRUGS MESSAGE
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ABOUT 550 KOWLOON CITY RESIDENTS WILL PARTICIPATE IN A 4 000 METRE ROUND-THE-DISTRICT WALK TO PUBLICISE ANTI-NARCOTICS MESSAGES ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 11).

WEARING TRACK SHIRTS WITH ANTI-DRUG MESSAGES, THE PARTICIPANTS WILL START FROM SUNG WONG TOI PLAYGROUND VIA TAM KUNG ROAD, MOK CHEONG STREET, TO KWA WAN ROAD, MA TAU WAI ROAD, WUHU STREET, YAN FUNG STREET, VALLEY ROAD ESTATE AND CHUNG HAU STREET TO OI MAN ESTATE PLAYGROUND.

THE WALK WILL LAST ABOUT 90 MINUTES. BRASS BAND PERFORMANCES WILL BE STAGED BY THE LOK SIN TONG KU CHIU MAN SECONDARY SCHOOL BEFORE AND AFTER THE PARADE.

THE EVENT IS ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT RECREATION AND SPORTS COUNCIL AND RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE AS PART OF A TWO-WEEK ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN WHICH BEGAN ON DECEMBER 3.

THE STARTING-OFF CEREMONY WILL BE CONDUCTED BY THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ROGER GARCIA, AND CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MR WONG SIK-KONG, AT 8.30 AM IN THE SUNG WONG TOI PLAYGROUND.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

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PERMANENT RAILWAY STATION FOR TAI WAI
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WORK WILL START SOON ON CONSTRUCTING A PERMANENT RAILWAY STATION AT TAI WAI, SHA TIN.

THIS FOLLOWS THE AWARD OF A $38-MILLION CONTRACT TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE RAILWAY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO LEIGHTON CONTRACTORS PTY LTD.

THE CONTRACT WAS SIGNED BY THE GOVERNMENT ENGINEER-RAILWAY, MR LEUNG MIN SUN, AND MR JOHN HAMILTON, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE COMPANY.

THE PROJECT INVOLVES CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW UNDERGROUND STATION BUILDING, A SINGLE-STOREY RAILWAY MAINTENANCE BUILDING, A SUBWAY AND REMOVAL OF THE TEMPORARY RAIL DIVERSION.

A TEMPORARY STATION AT TAI WAI HAS BEEN IN USE SINCE AUGUST.

WORK ON TAI WAI STATION WILL START LATER THIS MONTH AND TAKE 30 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THERE WILL EVENTUALLY BE THREE RAILWAY STATIONS IN SHA TIN. BESIDES THE ONE IN THE TOWN CENTRE AND THE ONE TO BE BUILT AT TAI WAI, ANOTHER IS BEING CONSTRUCTED AT FO TAN WHICH WILL BE COMPLETED IN 1986. BY THE END OF THE DECADE SHA TIN'S POPULATION WILL BE 730 000.

INTER-SCHOOL MATHEMATICS OLYMPIAD

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STUDENTS FROM 124 SECONDARY SCHOOLS WILL TAKE PART IN THE PRELIMINARY ROUNDS OF THE FIRST HONG KONG MATHEMATICS OLYMPIAD TO BE HELD AT THREE SCHOOLS ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND IN KOWLOON TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

THE COMPETITION, JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S ADVISORY INSPECTORATE AND NORTHCOTE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, IS TO PROMOTE, ENCOURAGE AND SUSTAIN STUDENTS' INTEREST IN THE STUDY OF MATHEMATICS.

A TOTAL OF 40 TEAMS WILL BE SELECTED TO TAKE PART IN A FINAL COMPETITION WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE IN FEBRUARY NEXT YEAR.

THE VENUES FOR TOMORROW'S PRELIMINARY ROUNDS ARE CLEMENTI MIDDLE SCHOOL AT FORTRESS HILL ROAD, NORTH POINT; WONG TAI SHAN MEMORIAL COLLEGE AT NAM CHEONG STREET, SHAM SHUI PO; AND PUI SHING MIDDLE SCHOOL AT OXFORD ROAD, KOWLOON TONG.

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BILL PROVIDES FOR PROFESSIONAL FEE PAYMENT

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THE GOVERNMENT IS TO INTRODUCE A BILL INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL LATER THIS MONTH AMENDING THE CROWN LANDS RESUMPTION ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR PAYMENT OF PROFESSIONAL FEES INCURRED BY OWNERS WHERE THE GOVERNMENT PURCHASES PROPERTY BY AGREEMENT FOLLOWING POSTING OF A RESUMPTION NOTICE.

A NOTICE OF THE CROWN LANDS RESUMPTION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1983, IS PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE PRINCIPAL ORDINANCE WOULD BE AMENDED:

(I) TO ENABLE THE GOVERNMENT TO ACCEPT LIABILITY FOR PROFESSIONAL FEES WHERE IT PURCHASES LAND UNDER SECTION 4A;

(II) TO ALLOW OFFERS OF AND CLAIMS FOR COMPENSATION TO TAKE PROFESSIONAL FEES INTO ACCOUNT; AND

(III) TO ENABLE OWNERS OR OCCUPIERS OF ANY PREMISES ON RESUMED LAND TO RECOVER EXPENSES INCURRED IN MOVING TO OR ACQUIRING ALTERNATIVE LAND OR LAND AND BUILDINGS AND REMUNERATION PAID TO PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS.

A NEW SECTION WOULD ALSO BE ADDED TO ENABLE THE GOVERNMENT TO MAKE PROVISIONAL PAYMENTS OF COMPENSATION PENDING DETERMINATION BY THE LANDS TRIBUNAL OF DISPUTED CLAIMS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE FIRST READING AND COMMENCEMENT OF THE SECOND READING OF THE BILL WOULD BE ON DECEMBER 21. THE RESUMED SECOND READING, THE COMMITTEE STAGE AND THIRD READING WOULD TAKE PLACE ON JANUARY 11, 1984.

500 TO COMPETE IN TUEN MUN ATHLETICS

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MORE THAN 500 ATHLETES IN TUEN MUN WILL COMPETE IN THE DISTRICT'S EIGHTH ATHLETIC MEETING ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 11).

STARTING AT 9 AM AT THE TANG SHIU KIN SPORTS GROUND, THE CONTESTANTS WILL TAKE PART IN 55 TRACK AND FIELD EVENTS, INCLUDING LONG JUMP, HIGH JUMP, TRIPLE JUMP, DISCUS, SHOT PUT, JAVELIN AND RELAY.

THE COMPETITIONS WILL BE DIVIDED INTO MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SECTIONS AND SIX DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS.

TROPHIES AND MEDALS WILL BE AWARDED TO WINNERS WHO WILL LATER REPRESENT TUEN MUN IN THE THIRD NT INTER-DISTRICT ATHLETIC MEET NEXT MONTH IN SAI KUNG.

THE EVENT IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE TUEN MUN SPORTS ASSOCIATION, TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE, TUEN MUN RURAL COMMITTEE, RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE, AND THE NT SCHOOL SPORTS ASSOCIATION (TUEN MUN BRANCH).

THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MR CHRISTOPHER WONG; THE PRESIDENT OF THE TUEN MUN SPORTS ASSOCIATION, MR LAU WONG-FAT; THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE, MR TANG TUNG-CHIU; AND THE RECREATION AND SPORT OFFICER, MR CHOW KAI-MING, WILL OFFICIATE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE EIGHTH TUEN MUN DISTRICT ATHLETIC MEET AT 9.30 AM ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 11) AT TANG SHIU KIN SPORTS GROUND IN TUEN MUN.

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FESTIVAL TO END WITH MUSIC, DANCING

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THE TWO-MONTH WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT FESTIVAL WILL END ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 11) EVENING WITH A SHOW FEATURING SYMPHONIC BAND AND HARMONICA PERFORMANCES, A CHILDREN'S BALLET AND MODERN DANCES.

WINNERS OF THE FESTIVAL'S SINGING CONTESTS WILL ALSO PERFORM THEIR FAVOURITE NUMBERS FOR ABOUT 1 000 PEOPLE EXPECTED TO ATTEND THE TWO-HOUR SHOW, TO BE HELD AT THE LOK SIN TONG WONG CHUNG MING SECONDARY SCHOOL.

THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR PHILIP CHOK, AND THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR, MR CLIVE OXLEY, WILL PRESENT PRIZES AND SOUVENIRS TO WINNERS OF VARIOUS CONTESTS ORGANISED AS PART OF THE FESTIVAL PROGRAMME.

/TVB PICTURE

THE DISTRICT FESTIVAL IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD, THE URBAN COUNCIL, THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT RECREATION AND SPORTS COUNCIL, THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT ARTS COUNCIL AND AND THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT.

MORE THAN 30 ITEMS OF FREE ENTERTAINMENT AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN ORGANISED FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS.

THE CLOSING CEREMONY WILL BEGIN AT 8 PM. FREE ADMISSION TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS SUB-OFFICES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE CLOSING CEREMONY, WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 8 PM ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 11) AT THE LOK SIN TONG WONG CHUNG MING SECONDARY SCHOOL AT 161 LOK SIN ROAD, SAN PO KONG.

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KNITTING FOR THE ELDERLY

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A SCARF FOR EACH OF 1 500 PEOPLE AGED OVER 65 IN WAN CHAI IS THE AIM OF THE DISTRICT'S +KNITTING FOR THE AGED+ CAMPAIGN WHICH BEGINS TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

AS A START, MORE THAT 150 PARTICIPANTS FROM NINE LOCAL ORGANISATIONS WILL BE KNITTING SCARFS TOMORROW AFTERNOON AT THE TANG SHIU KIN SOCIAL SERVICE CENTRE.

+HOWEVER, WE NEED THE SUPPORT OF OTHER CIVIC-MINDED PEOPLE IN HONG KONG,+ SAID THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CAMPAIGN, MR HO FOOK-CHU.

+THEY CAN KNIT THE SCARFS AT HOME AND HAND THEM TO THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE FOR DISTRIBUTION TO THE ELDERLIES.+

THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS LOLLY CHIU, AND A DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER, MRS GRACE WAN, WILL ALSO TAKE PART IN TOMORROW'S KNITTING CAMPAIGN.

THE EVENT IS A PRELUDE TO NEXT MONTH'S CARE FOR THE AGED WEEK WHICH, SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD, WILL INCLUDE FILM AND VARIETY SHOWS AND HARBOUR TOURS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS :

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER TOMORROW'S (SATURDAY) +KNITTING FOR THE AGED+ CAMPAIGN AT 3 PM AT THE LILYVALE COMMUNITY COFFEE HOUSE, GROUND FLOOR, TANG SHIU KIN SOCIAL SERVICE CENTRE, 36 01 KWAN ROAD, WAN CHAI.

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TSUEN WAN HEALTH WEEK STARTS MONDAY

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ABOUT 2 000 PEOPLE IN TSUEN WAN ARE EXPECTED TO BENEFIT FROM FREE MEDICAL CHECK-UPS DURING THE TSUEN WAN HEALTH WEEK WHICH WILL START FROM MONDAY (DECEMBER 12).

MEDICAL TEAMS FROM THE YAN CHAI HOSPITAL WILL CARRY OUT THE CHECK-UPS AT 11 VENUES, INCLUDING LOCAL FACTORIES, SCHOOLS AND A CENTRE FOR THE ELDERLY.

THE HOSPITAL WILL ALSO TAKE UP CASES REQUIRING FOLLOW-UP ATTENTION.

THE HEALTH WEEK IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD AND THE YAN CHAI HOSPITAL, AND SPONSORED BY THE YUEN YUEN INSTITUTE.

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OVERSTAYING PENALTY - $2

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A PENALTY OF $2 WILL BE LEVIED ON CARS OVERSTAYING IN GOVERNMENT CAR PARKS FOR MORE THAN 15 MINUTES AFTER PAYMENT OF THE PARKING FEE, IT IS ANNOUNCED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THIS MEANS THAT FOR THE PERIOD OF OVERSTAYING, THE ORDINARY HOURLY FEE WOULD BE CHARGED TOGETHER WITH A PENALTY OF $2 FOR EACH HOUR OR PART THEREOF.

UNDER THE EXISTING REGULATIONS, A MOTORIST WHO HAS PAID THE PARKING FEE, HAS AN ALLOWANCE OF 15 MINUTES TO REMOVE HIS VEHICLE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MOVING TO NEW PREMISES

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THE KWUN TONG WEST DISTRICT OFFICE AND KWUN TONG CENTRAL DISTRICT OFFICE OF THE WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS DIVISION OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, BOTH SITUATED AT 9 HONG NING ROAD, 9TH FLOOR, MORNING LIGHT BUILDING, WILL MOVE TO NEW PREMISES IN HIU KWONG COURT, 3RD FLOOR, 26-38 HIU KWONG STREET, KWUN TONG, TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

IN THE KWUN TONG WEST DISTRICT OFFICE, THE NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER FOR THE SENIOR LABOUR INSPECTOR IS 3-497184 AND FOR GENERAL ENQUIRIES, 3-497926; WHILE THE KWUN TONG CENTRAL DISTRICT OFFICE'S NEW TELEPHONE NUMBERS ARE 3-497754 FOR THE SENIOR LABOUR INSPECTOR AND 3-497058 FOR GENERAL ENQUIRIES.

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ROAD CLOSURE

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HOK TAU ROAD WILL BE TEMPORARILY CLOSED TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC BETWEEN 7 AM AND 12 NOON ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 11), IN CONNECTION WITH THE PAT SIN RANGE WALK FOR A MILLION.

AND THE TWO CAR PARKS AT BRIDE'S POOL ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC BETWEEN 7 AM AND 6 PM.

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CAUSEWAY BAY MAINS TEST

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN THE CAUSEWAY BAY AREA WILL BE INTERRUPTED FROM 11 PM ON MONDAY (DECEMBER 12) TO 6 AM ON TUESDAY (DECEMBER 13) FOR LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE AREA AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY PERCIVAL STREET, LEIGHTON ROAD, LEE GARDEN ROAD AND HENNESSY ROAD AND WILL INCLUDE 482 HENNESSY ROAD, AND 1 AND 3 JARDINE'S CRESCENT.

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