



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1986

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SMUGGLERS VARY THE DRUG TRAIL
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DRUG TRAFFICKERS, RELYING ON SUPPLIES FROM THE +GOLDEN TRIANGLE+, ARE TURNING TO MORE ELABORATE SMUGGLING ROUTES IN A BID TO EVADE DETECTION.

THE WARNING CAME TODAY FROM THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS (INVESTIGATIONS), MR K.S. TONG, WHO SAID THE INCREASING USE OF CIRCUITOUS ROUTES IN CARGO SHIPMENTS TO SMUGGLE DRUGS INTO HONG KONG EMERGED AS ONE OF THE MORE WORRYING TRENDS OF LAST YEAR.

MR TONG SAID THERE WERE DISQUIETING SIGNS THAT THIS TACTIC, THOUGH NOT ALTOGETHER NEW, WAS BECOMING MORE POPULAR WITH DRUG SYNDICATES.

THE BULK OF THE OPIATE DRUGS THAT FEED HONG KONG'S ADDICTS ORIGINATE FROM THE +GOLDEN TRIANGLE+, A MOUNTAINOUS REGION WHERE THE BORDERS OF THAILAND, LAOS AND BURMA MEET. BUT INSTEAD OF SHIPPING THE DRUGS DIRECTLY FROM THE PRODUCING COUNTRIES TRAFFICKERS ARE SWITCHING TO LONGER, MORE CIRCUITOUS ROUTES AND TRANSHIPPING THEIR ILLICIT CARGOES THROUGH NON-PRODUCING COUNTRIES, SUCH AS JAPAN, TAIWAN, KOREA AND CHINA.

BY MASKING THE ORIGIN OF THE SHIPMENT, THE TRAFFICKERS HOPE TO THROW CUSTOMS OFFICERS OFF THEIR TRAIL.

THE SAME PLOY IS BEING USED BY TRAFFICKERS TRYING TO SMUGGLE CANNABIS INTO HONG KONG FROM THE PHILLIPINES, MR TONG SAID.

HE SAID THAT IN DECEMBER 126 KG OF CANNABIS, WITH AN ESTIMATED STREET VALUE OF \$7 MILLION, WAS DISCOVERED ON A SHIP THAT HAD SAILED FROM THE PHILLIPINES VIA TAIWAN, WHICH IS A NON-PRODUCING COUNTRY.

THE DRUG, THE BIGGEST SEIZURE OF CANNABIS IN HONG KONG, WAS FOUND IN THE CAVITIES AND TELEVISION CATHODE RAY TUBES OF USED VIDEO GAMES MACHINES IN A CONTAINER.

IN JANUARY THIS YEAR, CUSTOMS OFFICER FOUND 20 KG OF CANNABIS, VALUED AT \$1.1 MILLION HIDDEN IN FURNITURE FROM THE PHILLIPINES THAT HAD BEEN TRANSHIPPED THROUGH TOKYO, ANOTHER NON-PRODUCING COUNTRY, TO THE KWAI CHUNG CONTAINER TERMINAL.

+WE ARE VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THIS METHOD OF SMUGGLING WHICH MAKES DETECTION AN EVEN MORE DIFFICULT JOB.

+TENS OF THOUSANDS OF SHIPS COME INTO HONG KONG EVERY YEAR, AND IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR US TO SEARCH EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THEM, PARTICULARLY THOSE THAT DO NOT COME FROM SUSPECT PORTS,+ SAID MR TONG.

/IN RESPONSE

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IN RESPONSE TO THIS LATEST DRUG-SMUGGLING TACTIC, CUSTOMS OFFICERS HAVE STEPPED UP INTELLIGENCE-GATHERING WITH COUNTERPARTS IN THE REGION. THEY ARE ALSO INSPECTING MORE SHIPMENTS OF CARGO FROM SUCH COUNTRIES AS JAPAN, TAIWAN, KOREA AND CHINA AND ARE CHECKING MANIFESTS MORE CLOSELY.

MR TONG DESCRIBED 1985 AS +A YEAR OF STEADY YIELDS+, IN THE BATTLE AGAINST ILLICIT DRUGS.

CUSTOMS OFFICERS SEIZED 315 KG OF DRUGS WITH EA STREET VALUE OF \$43 MILLION LAST YEAR. TOTAL DRUG SEIZURES FOR THE YEAR BY BOTH THE CUSTOMS SERVICE AND THE POLICE AMOUNTED TO 621 KG.

SEIZURES OF DRUGS BY THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT ROSE BY SIX PER CENT LAST YEAR COMPARED WITH 1984 SEIZURES. A TOTAL OF 315 KG OF DRUGS COMPRISING 90 KG OF HEROIN BASE, 48 KG OF HEROIN, 33 KG OF OPIUM AND 144 KG OF CANNABIS AND CANNABIS RESIN WERE CONFISCATED.

MR TONG SAID THAT THE FAVOURITE METHOD OF SMUGGLING DRUGS INTO HONG KONG CONTINUED TO BE THE SEA ROUTE BECAUSE OF HONG KONG'S EASY ACCESSIBILITY BY SEA. ONE EXTENSIVELY USED TACTIC INVOLVES THAI TRAWLERS WHICH DROP THEIR CARGO OF DRUGS CLOSE TO HONG KONG WATERS. THE DRUGS ARE THEN PICKED UP BY LOCAL FISHING VESSELS.

AMONG OTHER POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS, MR TONG CITED THE FACT THAT NO SIGNIFICANT DRUG SEIZURES HAD BEEN MADE LAST YEAR ON BOARD OCEAN-GOING VESSELS. HE SAID THIS ATTESTS TO THE DETERRENT EFFECT OF THE SANCTION LAW ON SHIPOWNERS WHICH CAME INTO EFFECT IN JANUARY 1983.

THIS PIECE OF LEGISLATION GIVES THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE THE POWER TO ACT AGAINST CHARTERERS AND OWNERS OF VESSELS EXCEEDING 250 GROSS TONNES IF EXCESSIVE QUANTITIES OF DANGEROUS DRUGS ARE FOUND.

BEFORE THIS LAW WAS INTRODUCED, OCEAN-GOING VESSELS WERE FREQUENTLY USED TO SMUGGLE DRUGS AND THE CULPRITS WERE DIFFICULT TO NAIL DOWN BECAUSE THE DRUGS WOULD INVARIABLY BE CONCEALED IN PUBLIC AREAS TO WHICH CREW MEMBERS HAD EASY ACCESS.

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PRINCESS ALEXANDRA TO VISIT HK
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HER ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS ALEXANDRA, AS HONORARY COMMANDANT GENERAL OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE, WILL VISIT HONG KONG FROM APRIL 9 TO 14, 1986 ACCOMPANIED BY HER HUSBAND, THE HON ANGUS OGILVY.

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TWO OUTLINE ZONING PLANS TO BE AMENDED
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THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS REFERRED TWO APPROVED OUTLINE ZONING PLANS TO THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD FOR AMENDMENT.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) MONG KOK AND YAU MA TEI ADMINISTRATION DISTRICTS WERE AT PRESENT COVERED BY TWO OUTLINE ZONING PLANS, THE YAU MA TEI OUTLINE ZONING PLAN APPROVED IN 1976 AND THE TAI KOK TSUI OUTLINE ZONING PLAN APPROVED IN 1979, AS WELL AS TWO DRAFT TOWN PLANS.

HE SAID SINCE THE INTRODUCTION OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, THE GOVERNMENT INTENDED TO BRING THE BOUNDARIES OF OUTLINE ZONING PLANS AS CLOSE AS POSSIBLE TO THOSE OF THE ADMINISTRATION DISTRICTS.

IT WAS NOW PROPOSED THAT MONG KOK AND YAU MA TEI ADMINISTRATION DISTRICTS SHOULD EACH HAVE THEIR OWN OUTLINE ZONING PLAN SO THAT THE LAYOUT AND PROVISION OF COMMUNITY FACILITIES WITHIN EACH DISTRICT COULD BE MORE ACCURATELY PLANNED.

THE AMENDED PLANS WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE CONCERNED DISTRICT BOARDS FOR CONSULTATION IN ABOUT FOUR MONTHS PRIOR TO PUBLIC INSPECTION.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID OUTLINE ZONING PLANS WERE STATUTORY PLANS TO BRING DEVELOPMENTS IN EACH DISTRICT UNDER PROPER PLANNING CONTROL.

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COMPETITION TO MARK LIBRARY OPENING
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THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL ORGANISE AN INTER-SCHOOL MURAL DESIGN AND PAINTING COMPETITION TO MARK THE OPENING OF THE SHA TIN CENTRAL LIBRARY IN OCTOBER.

THIS WAS DECIDED BY THE SHA TIN DISTRICT COMMITTEE OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL AT A MEETING TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE RSD'S CHIEF LIBRARIAN, MR ALEX NG, SAID THE LIBRARY WOULD BE THE FIRST CENTRAL LIBRARY IN THE REGIONAL COUNCIL AREA OCCUPYING A TOTAL AREA OF 3 250 SQUARE METRES.

+IT WILL ALSO PROVIDE REGION-WIDE SUPPORTING REFERENCE AND INFORMATION AND AUDIO-VISUAL SERVICES FOR OTHER PUBLIC LIBRARIES, PENDING THE COMPLETION OF TWO OTHER CENTRAL LIBRARIES AT TSUEN WAN AND TUEN MUN,+ HE SAID.

/THE COMPETITION

THE COMPETITION WILL TAKE THE FORM OF AN INTER-SCHOOL DRAWING COMPETITION ON A SPECIFIC THEME - +JOY OF READING+ - AND AN ENSUING PROGRAMME OF GROUP PAINTING BY PUPILS FROM THREE WINNING SCHOOLS ON A WALL MEASURING 2.6 M X 4.3 M AT THE JUNIOR LIBRARY.

ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED BETWEEN APRIL 1 AND MAY 15. WINNERS WILL BE AWARDED TROPHIES AND PRIZES.

ON ANOTHER MAJOR CULTURAL PROJECT FOR SHA TIN, THE COMMITTEE DECIDED TO NAME A CULTURAL COMPLEX CURRENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN THE DISTRICT AS +SHA TIN TOWN HALL+. UPON ITS COMPLETION TOWARDS THE END OF THE YEAR, IT WILL PROVIDE FACILITIES COMPARABLE TO THOSE AT THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL.

IT WILL HAVE A 1 450-SEAT AUDITORIUM, A CULTURAL ACTIVITIES HALL WITH A MOVABLE STAGE, A 378-SQUARE METRE EXHIBITION GALLERY, A DANCE STUDIO, A MUSIC STUDIO, LECTURE ROOMS, A CONFERENCE ROOM AND PRACTICE ROOMS, THE DEPARTMENT'S STAFF OFFICER (PLANNING) CULTURAL PROJECTS, MR LEE KIN-CHUN SAID.

BOTH THE SHA TIN CENTRAL LIBRARY AND THE SHA TIN TOWN HALL WILL BE MANAGED BY THE RSD AFTER THEIR OPENING.

THE COMMITTEE ALSO REVIEWED A HOST OF CULTURAL, RECREATION AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY THE RSD FOR RESIDENTS IN SHA TIN DURING MARCH AND APRIL.

THESE INCLUDE 32 RECREATION AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS BADMINTION, TENNIS, CANOEING, HIKING AND CAMPING WHICH ARE EXPECTED TO ATTRACT SOME 2 600 PARTICIPANTS.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES CONSIST MAINLY OF LIBRARY EXTENSION ACTIVITIES TO TAKE PLACE IN THE SHA TIN PUBLIC LIBRARY. AMONG THEM ARE BOOK EXHIBITIONS, MUSIC APPRECIATION SESSIONS, INTEREST GUPS, VIDEO CASSETTE SCREENINGS AND VARIOUS INTELLECTUAL GAMES.

FREE ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMMES SCHEDULED FOR THE PERIOD WILL INCLUDE A POP-FOLK CONCERT, AN ORCHESTRAL CONCERT, PUPPET SHOWS AND CANTONESE OPERAS.

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VIETNAMESE REFUGEES TO STAGE CONCERT * * * * *

VIETNAMESE REFUGEES IN CHI MA WAN CLOSED CENTRE WILL STAGE A CONCERT THERE ON FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 14) MORNING TO CELEBRATE THE LUNAR NEW YEAR.

AFTERWARDS, A CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND WILL BE OFFICIALLY OPENED AT THE CENTRE, BY THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, MR CHAN WA-SHEK, TOGETHER WITH PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF SECURITY, MR KEN WOODHOUSE; AND THE OFFICER COMMANDING THE SALVATION ARMY, LIEUTENANT-COLONEL LIM AH-ANG.

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THE PLAYGROUND IS EQUIPPED WITH NEW PLAYING FACILITIES
DONATED BY A CHARITY GROUP.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT. PRESS REPRESENTATIVES
SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT QUEEN'S PIER BY 9 AM ON FRIDAY MORNING WHEN A
LAUNCH WILL TAKE THEM TO CHI MA WAN.

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SPRING RECEPTIONS
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TWO DISTRICTS WILL BE HOLDING SPRING RECEPTIONS TOMORROW
(THURSDAY).

THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE WILL HOLD ITS RECEPTION FROM
3.30 PM TO 5.30 PM AT PHOENIX COURT, JUMBO FLOATING RESTAURANT,
ABERDEEN.

INVITED GUESTS INCLUDE THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT
ADMINISTRATION, MR BARRIE WIGGHAM, SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD
MEMBERS, AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND LOCAL COMMUNITY
LEADERS.

AND THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE WILL HOST ITS RECEPTION
FROM 4.30 PM AT THE CITY PLAZA PALACE RESTAURANT ON THE
3RD FLOOR OF CITY PLAZA, TAIKOO SHING.

THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR BARRIE
WIGGHAM, WILL ARRIVE AT 5 PM.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE TWO RECEPTIONS.

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FRIDAY RECEPTION FOR 300
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MORE THAN 300 COMMUNITY LEADERS, AREA COMMITTEE AND DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AS WELL AS GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WILL ATTEND THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE'S ANNUAL SPRING RECEPTION ON FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 14) IN THE TREASURE RESTAURANT AT THE NEW TOWN PLAZA, SHA TIN.

THE DEPUTY REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR PETER NG, WILL ATTEND THE RECEPTION.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THE RECEPTION TO BE HELD AT 3.30 PM.

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FUNDS OFFERED FOR YOUTH WORK
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THE 1986 SAI KUNG SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME WILL BE HELD FROM JULY TO AUGUST ON THE THEME - +CARE FOR YOUR COMMUNITY, KNOW YOUR HONG KONG+.

A SAI KUNG DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE WILL BE SET UP TO CO-ORDINATE AND ALLOCATE RESOURCES FOR YOUTH ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT.

JOCKEY CLUB FUNDS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ENCOURAGE LOCAL ORGANISATIONS TO ORGANISE YOUTH ACTIVITIES THIS SUMMER.

APPLICATIONS FOR THESE FUNDS SHOULD REACH THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE BY FEBRUARY 28.

FURTHER INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE LIAISON OFFICER, SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE, MISS VIKKI YIU AT 3-2814455 EXT. 24.

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CHILDREN'S CHOIR HOLDS CONCERT

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THE SHAM SHUI PO CHILDREN'S CHOIR WILL HOLD ITS FOURTH ANNUAL CONCERT AT THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY HALL ON MARCH 9.

STARTING AT 3 PM, THE CONCERT WILL FEATURE GROUP CHORUS, MOVIE THEME SONGS, POPULAR MUSIC, CLASSIC LIEDER AND FOLK SONGS.

PART OF THE EVENT WILL ALSO BE DEDICATED TO RHYTHMIC PERFORMANCES BY LOCAL SCHOOL TEAMS.

FORMED IN 1982 WITH THE SPONSORSHIP OF THE DISTRICT BOARD, THE CHOIR IS AT PRESENT MADE UP OF 125 CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN SIX AND 15 FROM THE DISTRICT, AND DIVIDED INTO JUNIOR AND SENIOR SECTIONS.

BESIDES A TWO-HOUR VOCAL TRAINING BY PROFESSIONAL INSTRUCTORS EVERY SATURDAY, MEMBERS OFTEN ATTEND CONCERTS AND TAKE PART IN OPEN COMPETITIONS.

TICKETS FOR THE ANNUAL CONCERT ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT \$10 EACH AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND SUB-OFFICES, AND THE SHAM SHUI PO ART ASSOCIATION AT S14-15 LAI FU HOUSE, LAI KOK ESTATE.

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PERFORMANCE BY DANCE WINNERS

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WINNERS OF THE 15TH OPEN DANCE CONTEST RECENTLY HELD IN KWUN TONG WILL STAGE A SPECIAL PERFORMANCE AT THE CITY HALL LATER THIS MONTH (FEBRUARY).

THE 17 DANCING GROUPS WERE SELECTED FROM 119 PARTICIPATING TEAMS OF THE 5-DAY CONTEST HELD LAST DECEMBER.

DURING THE WINNERS' PERFORMANCE, AUDIENCES WILL BE TREATED TO WESTERN AND ORIENTAL, CLASSICAL AND MODERN, AND CHILDREN'S DANCES.

THE 15TH OPEN DANCE CONTEST PRIZE-PRESENTATION CEREMONY CUM WINNERS' PERFORMANCE WILL START AT 7.30 PM ON FEBRUARY 26 (WEDNESDAY) IN THE CONCERT HALL OF THE CITY HALL.

TICKETS AT \$10, \$20 AND \$30 ARE AVAILABLE AT KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE IN ROOM 309 OF THE KUNG TONG DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICES BUILDING IN TUNG YAN STREET.

THE 15TH OPEN DANCE CONTEST IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT CULTURE AND RECREATION PROMOTION ASSOCIATION AND KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE AND CO-ORGANISED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL.

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NEW YEAR GREETINGS TO RURAL COMMITTEES
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ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICER, MR MICHAEL WU, WILL VISIT THE EIGHT RURAL COMMITTEES IN THE DISTRICT IN THE NEXT TWO DAYS TO BRING NEW YEAR GREETINGS TO RC REPRESENTATIVES AND VILLAGERS.

HE WILL VISIT MUI WO, SOUTH LANTAU, TUNG CHUNG AND TAI O TOMORROW (THURSDAY) AND SOUTH LAMMA, NORTH LAMMA, CHEUNG CHAU AND PENG CHAU ON FRIDAY.

THE ISLANDS DISTRICT IS ONE OF THE LARGEST ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICTS, COVERING MORE THAN 20 ISLANDS AND ISLETS INCLUDING LANTAU ISLAND WHICH IS TWICE THE SIZE OF HONG KONG ISLAND.

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RETIRING OFFICER COMMENDED
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THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, MR PETER LEEDS, TODAY (WEDNESDAY) PRESENTED A LETTER OF VALEDICTION TO A TECHNICAL OFFICER (TRAFFIC) IN APPRECIATION OF HIS SERVICE WITH THE GOVERNMENT IN THE PAST 26 YEARS.

TECHNICAL OFFICER (TRAFFIC), MR LAM WING-CHUNG, FIRST JOINED THE GOVERNMENT IN JANUARY 1960 AS FOREMAN CLASS II IN THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT. FOUR YEARS LATER, HE WAS APPOINTED TECHNICAL ASSISTANT IN THE THEN PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT AND WAS PROMOTED TO HIS PRESENT RANK IN NOVEMBER 1968.

MR LAM HAS WORKED IN THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SINCE APRIL 1982, AFTER THE RESTRUCTURING OF THE HIGHWAY OFFICE.

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TENANCY SOUGHT FOR STORAGE SITE
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A SITE FOR STORING GOODS AND VEHICLES AT THE JUNCTION OF ON SUM STREET AND ON MUK STREET, SHA TIN, IS TO BE LET BY THE LANDS DEPARTMENT.

THE TENANCY FOR THE 2 158-SQUARE-METRE SITE IS INITIALLY FOR THREE YEARS, RENEWABLE QUARTERLY AFTERWARDS.

TENDERS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY FEBRUARY 28.

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WATER FIGURES

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (WEDNESDAY) STOOD AT 61.6 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 360.822 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 404.899 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 69.1 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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