



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
BOOST TO MEDICAL FACILITIES IN YUEN LONG	1
GRANT FOR GRANTHAM HOSPITAL	2
WORK STARTS ON NEXT ROUND OF ELECTIONS	3
1982 SURVEY OF STORAGE, COMMUNICATIONS, FINANCING, INSURANCE AND BUSINESS SERVICES	4
SECURITY SECRETARY PRAISES VOLUNTEER ORGANISATIONS	6
AUXILIARY AIR FORCE PLAYING MAJOR COMMUNITY ROLE	7
MORE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS FOR TUEN MUN	8
APPRENTICESHIP SUB-OFFICE MOVES	9
TALKS ON EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE	9
MORE URGED TO TAKE BOILER TRAINING COURSE	10
FOOD HYGIENE HINTS OFFERED	11
TAI O MARKET STALLS FOR AUCTION	11
ROADS TO BE WIDENED	12
WANG TAU HOM ROAD CLOSURE	12

BOOST TO MEDICAL FACILITIES IN YUEN LONG
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POK OI IS TO BE DEVELOPED INTO A MAJOR DISTRICT HOSPITAL, PROVIDING A WIDE RANGE OF TREATMENT FACILITIES TO YUEN LONG AND NEARBY AREAS.

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS APPROVED THE EXPANSION PROJECT, AND WORK IS DUE TO START LATER THIS YEAR FOR COMPLETION BY 1986/87.

THE EXTENSION WILL DOUBLE THE HOSPITAL'S BED CAPACITY FROM THE EXISTING 218 TO 420 BEDS, PROVIDING A MUCH NEEDED BOOST TO MEDICAL COVERAGE IN THE WEST NEW TERRITORIES.

+THE REDEVELOPMENT OF POK OI HOSPITAL WILL GO A LONG WAY TOWARDS STRENGTHENING MEDICAL FACILITIES IN THE REGION,+ A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY.

BASED ON POPULATION PROJECTIONS IN THE NEW TOWNS, HE SAID, IT WAS ESTIMATED THAT BY 1991 THERE WOULD BE A SHORTFALL OF ABOUT 1 200 HOSPITAL BEDS IN THE REGION.

+AS PART OF THE OVERALL PLAN TO MEET DEMAND, ADDITIONAL BEDS ARE TO BE PROVIDED AT POK OI. AT THE SAME TIME, THE EXISTING FACILITIES WILL BE UPGRADED TO ENABLE IT TO FUNCTION EFFECTIVELY AS A DISTRICT HOSPITAL IN SUPPORT OF OTHER MEDICAL FACILITIES IN THE REGION,+ HE SAID.

AT PRESENT, POK OI HOSPITAL - WHICH BEGAN AS A SMALL CHINESE HERBALIST CLINIC SOME 60 YEARS AGO - PROVIDES IN-PATIENT SERVICES FOR MEDICAL, SURGICAL, PAEDIATRIC, GYNAECOLOGICAL AND MATERNITY CASES, GENERAL AND SPECIALIST OUT-PATIENT SERVICES AND A LIMITED CASUALTY SERVICE.

ITS REDEVELOPMENT WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN STAGES, WITH THE GOVERNMENT TAKING UP 80 PER CENT OF THE CONSTRUCTION COST AND POK OI ABSORBING THE REST.

THE RECURRENT COSTS WILL BE MET BY THE GOVERNMENT ON A DEFICIENCY GRANT BASIS.

MAJOR FEATURES OF THE EXTENSION PROGRAMME INCLUDE:

- * AN ADDITIONAL FIVE STOREYS ON TOP OF THE HOSPITAL'S CENTRAL WING TO PROVIDE 113 BEDS, A NEW OPERATING THEATRE SUITE AND OFFICE SPACE;
- * FOUR MORE STOREYS ON TOP OF THE NORTH WING FOR AN X-RAY DEPARTMENT, A CLINICAL LABORATORY, PHYSIOTHERAPY AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY DEPARTMENTS, LAUNDRY, A CENTRAL STERILISING SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT AND OTHER ANCILLARY FACILITIES;

- * A NEW OUT-PATIENT AND CASUALTY DEPARTMENT; AND
- * A NEW FIVE-STORY BLOCK TO PROVIDE ANOTHER 89 BEDS.

THERE WILL ALSO BE ADDITIONAL STAFF QUARTERS AND THE ACCESS ROAD TO THE HOSPITAL WILL BE WIDENED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID SOME 22 500 SQUARE METRES OF PRIVATE LAND WOULD BE RESUMED TO MAKE WAY FOR THE HOSPITAL'S EXPANSION.

HE SAID ABOUT \$10 MILLION WOULD BE SPENT ON COMPENSATION, COVERING CROPS, FRUIT TREES, FENCES, WELLS AND IRRIGATION PIPES.

THERE WOULD ALSO BE EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES FOR CULTIVATORS AND EX-GRATIA DISTURBANCE ALLOWANCES FOR DISPLACED PIG-BREEDERS AND POULTRY FARMERS.

RESUMPTION OF LAND, TO BE CARRIED OUT IN STAGES, WOULD INVOLVE 157 TEMPORARY STRUCTURES BEING USED FOR DOMESTIC AND INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES.

AFFECTED FAMILIES WOULD RECEIVE EX-GRATIA DOMESTIC REMOVAL ALLOWANCES, WHILE CULTIVATORS WISHING TO CONTINUE FARMING ELSEWHERE WOULD BE ELIGIBLE FOR EX-GRATIA REHABILITATION ALLOWANCES.

IF FOUND ELIGIBLE, OWNERS OF THE INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS WOULD BE OFFERED EX-GRATIA CASH ALLOWANCES, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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GRANT FOR GRANTHAM HOSPITAL

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THE GRANTHAM HOSPITAL, HONG KONG'S MAJOR HEART AND CHEST DISEASE CENTRE, HAS BEEN GRANTED SOME \$300 000 FROM THE SIR ROBERT HO TUNG CHARITABLE FUND FOR INSTALLING NEW EQUIPMENT IN ITS MEDICAL LABORATORY, PHYSIOTHERAPY UNIT, RESPIRATORY LABORATORY AND PHARMACY.

THE EQUIPMENT INCLUDE A BLOOD GAS SYSTEM FOR TESTING THE ACIDITY IN THE BLOOD, A PLASMA FREEZER FOR STORING FRESH FROZEN PLASMA, A CENTRIFUGE FOR TUBERCULOSIS CULTURE, A BLOOD MIXER AND A SLIDE STAINER FOR HEMATOLOGY AND AN INTERFERENTIAL MACHINE FOR PHYSIOTHERAPY TREATMENT.

RUN BY THE HONG KONG TUBERCULOSIS, CHEST AND HEART DISEASES ASSOCIATION, THE 625-BED GRANTHAM HOSPITAL PROVIDES MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR PATIENTS SUFFERING FROM TUBERCULOSIS, CHEST AND HEART DISEASES.

THE GOVERNMENT-SUBVENTED HOSPITAL WAS OPENED IN 1957 SOLELY FOR THE CARE OF T.B. PATIENTS WHEN THE DISEASE WAS THE MOST COMMON CAUSE OF DEATHS IN HONG KONG.

/HOWEVER,

HOWEVER, DUE TO EFFORTS MADE BY THE ASSOCIATION AND THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT OVER THE YEARS, THE DISEASE HAS BEEN BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL AND DROPPED TO THE EIGHTH PLACE IN THE TEN LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH.

AT THE SAME TIME, HEART DISEASES HAVE BECOME THE TOP KILLER DISEASES IN RECENT YEARS, AND THE NEED TO EXPAND SERVICES TO PROVIDE TREATMENT FOR THOSE SUFFERING FROM THESE DISEASES HAS BECOME MORE APPARENT.

UPON RECOMMENDATION MADE IN 1976 BY TWO PROMINENT CHEST PHYSICIANS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE GOVERNMENT BEGAN TAKING STEPS TO CONVERT THE GRANTHAM HOSPITAL FROM A T.B. HOSPITAL INTO A CARDIO-THORACIC CENTRE.

LAST YEAR, THE \$45 MILLION KWOK TAK-SENG HEART CENTRE WHICH WAS SPONSORED BY THE HONG KONG HEART FOUNDATION, WAS PUT INTO OPERATION, PROVIDING FACILITIES FOR THE HIGHLY SOPHISTICATED HEART SURGERIES.

THE CENTRE HAS TWO OPERATING THEATRES, A CARDIAC CATHETERISATION LABORATORY WITH BOTH ADULT AND PAEDIATRIC INVESTIGATION FACILITIES, A MEDICAL LABORATORY AND A PULMONARY PHYSIOLOGY LABORATORY.

INSTALLED WITH MODERN AND ADVANCED EQUIPMENT, THE HOSPITAL PROVIDES FACILITIES FOR OPEN AND CLOSED HEART SURGERIES AS WELL AS CARDIAC INVESTIGATORY SERVICES.

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WORK STARTS ON NEXT ROUND OF ELECTIONS

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STAFF OF THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL DIVISION OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT HAVE NOT WORKED THEMSELVES OUT OF A JOB NOW THAT THE URBAN COUNCIL AND DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED.

THEY ARE ALREADY LAYING THE GROUNDWORK FOR THE NEXT ROUND OF ELECTIONS AND STARTING FROM TOMORROW (MAY 16) THEY WILL MAKE ANOTHER EFFORT TO REACH THOSE ELECTORS WHOSE POLL CARDS COULD NOT BE DELIVERED BY POST FOR THE LAST ELECTIONS.

ENQUIRY LETTERS WILL BE SENT TO THESE ELECTORS, IN THE HOPE THAT THEY WOULD RESPOND THIS TIME AND CONFIRM THEIR ELIGIBILITY TO REGISTER AND THEIR WISH TO REMAIN ON THE REGISTER.

THE LETTERS WILL ALSO BE SENT TO RANDOMLY-SELECTED ELECTORS, WHO HAD NO PROBLEMS WITH THEIR POLL CARDS, TO TEST THE OVERALL EFFICIENCY OF THE REGISTRATION PROCESS.

/A SPOKESMAN

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL DIVISION EXPLAINED THAT THE POLL CARDS OF QUITE A FEW THOUSANDS OF THE 904 916 ELECTORS ON THE REGISTER WERE RETURNED BY THE POST OFFICE.

+THIS COULD BE FOR ONE OF A NUMBER OF REASONS. SOME OF THE ELECTORS MIGHT HAVE CHANGED ADDRESS SINCE THEY WERE FIRST REGISTERED- SOME MIGHT HAVE EMIGRATED OR HAVE PASSED AWAY, AND SOME MIGHT HAVE MADE CLERICAL ERRORS IN THEIR APPLICATION FORMS. IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE THAT THE MISTAKES WERE MADE WHEN THE INFORMATION WAS FED INTO THE COMPUTER.

+THE NUMBER OF POLL CARDS RETURNED BY THE POST OFFICE WAS SMALL IN PERCENTAGE TERMS, BUT WE ARE ANXIOUS THAT THE REGISTER SHOULD BE KEPT AS CORRECTLY AS PRACTICABLE,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

IT WILL BE A SIMPLE MATTER TO REPLY TO THE ENQUIRY LETTERS. ALL THAT THE ELECTOR NEEDS TO DO IS TO COMPLETE THE STANDARD REPLY FORM ATTACHED TO THE LETTER AND RETURN IT BY POST BEFORE THE STIPULATED DEADLINE. IF THE REPLY IS NOT RECEIVED BY THEN, THE ELECTOR'S NAME WILL BE DELETED FROM THE REGISTER.

ANYONE WHO IS A REGISTERED VOTER AND DID NOT RECEIVE HIS OR HER POLL CARD FOR THE LAST ELECTIONS IS REQUESTED TO TELEPHONE THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL DIVISION AT 5-270369 OR 5-270380.

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1982 SURVEY OF STORAGE, COMMUNICATIONS,
FINANCING, INSURANCE AND BUSINESS SERVICES
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FOLLOWING THE 1981 ECONOMIC SURVEY OF STORAGE, COMMUNICATIONS, FINANCING, INSURANCE AND BUSINESS SERVICES, THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT IS NOW CONDUCTING A FOLLOW-UP SURVEY TO COLLECT DATA RELATING TO 1982.

THE FOLLOWING SERVICES ARE COVERED IN THE SURVEY:

- * STORAGE AND WAREHOUSING FACILITIES FOR HIRE BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC;
- * POSTAL, TELEPHONE, TELEGRAPH, RADIO AND CABLE COMMUNICATIONS, MESSAGE DELIVERY AND MESSAGE EXCHANGE SERVICES;
- * ALL FINANCE (EXCEPT BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES) AND INVESTMENT COMPANIES; LOAN, MORTGAGE AND DISCOUNT COMPANIES; DEALERS/BROKERS AND EXCHANGES IN STOCKS AND SHARES, COMMODITY FUTURES, GOLD BULLION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE; PAWNSHOPS; MONEY CHANGERS; AND OTHER FINANCIAL UNDERTAKINGS;
- * INSURERS, RE-INSURERS, AGENTS AND BROKERS OF ALL KINDS OF INSURANCE AND RELATED INSURANCE SERVICES;

/* ACCOUNTING AND

* ACCOUNTING AND AUDITING, ADVERTISING, DATA PROCESSING, EMPLOYMENT AGENCY, EQUIPMENT LEASING AND MACHINERY RENTAL, LEGAL, NEWS AGENCY, SECRETARIAL AND OTHER BUSINESS SERVICES.

SOME 2 800 ESTABLISHMENTS ARE SELECTED FROM A TOTAL OF 8 000 ESTABLISHMENTS FALLING UNDER THE PREVIEW OF THE SURVEY.

WHILE ESTABLISHMENTS ENGAGING 10 OR MORE PERSONS ARE FULLY COVERED, A SAMPLE IS TAKEN OF THOSE WITH FEWER THAN 10 PERSONS.

SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRES ARE BEING DESPATCHED TO THE SELECTED ESTABLISHMENTS TO COLLECT DATA ON EMPLOYMENT, LABOUR COSTS, OPERATING EXPENDITURE, BUSINESS TURNOVER AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.

SUCH DATA WILL PROVIDE THE BASIC INFORMATION ON THE STRUCTURE AND PERFORMANCE OF THE SECTORS CONCERNED AND WILL BE USED FOR UPDATING THE ESTIMATES OF THE SECTORS' CONTRIBUTIONS TO HONG KONG'S GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT.

THE SURVEY RESULTS WILL ALSO BE USED BY BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR FOR FORMULATION OF DECISIONS AND POLICIES.

THE SURVEY IS BEING CONDUCTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS (ANNUAL SURVEY OF STORAGE, COMMUNICATIONS, FINANCING, INSURANCE AND BUSINESS SERVICES) ORDER 1983, MADE BY THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL UNDER SECTION 11 OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS ORDINANCE (CHAPTER 316) AND GAZETTED AS LEGAL NOTICE NO. 8 OF 1983 ON JANUARY 14, 1983.

ESTABLISHMENTS SELECTED FOR THE SURVEY ARE LEGALLY OBLIGED TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRES AND RETURN THEM TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT BY JULY 31, 1983.

THE COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS IS CALLING ON MANAGERMENTS WHO HAVE RECEIVED THE QUESTIONNAIRES TO COMPLETE AND RETURN THEM PROMPTLY, AND TO CO-OPERATE WITH CENSUS AND SURVEY OFFICERS DURING THE SURVEY ENUMERATION PERIOD.

CENSUS AND SURVEY OFFICERS ARE PERMANENT STAFF OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT AND CARRY A GOVERNMENT IDENTITY CARD WHILE ON DUTY.

THEY WILL VISIT THE ESTABLISHMENTS CONCERNED AND ASSIST THEM IN COMPLETING THE QUESTIONNAIRES, IF NECESSARY.

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

SECURITY SECRETARY PRAISES VOLUNTEER ORGANISATIONS
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THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MR DAVID JEAFFRESON, TODAY (SUNDAY) PRAISED HONG KONG'S VOLUNTEER ORGANISATIONS FOR PROVIDING VALUABLE SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY.

HE SAID THAT HE WAS PARTICULARLY IMPRESSED BY THE CAPABILITY AND ENTHUSIASM OF THESE ORGANISATIONS OF 19 000 MEN AND WOMEN +WHO ARE PREPARED TO SPEND A LARGE PART OF THEIR SPARE TIME PROVIDING SERVICES OF GREAT IMPORTANCE+. THESE ORGANISATIONS INCLUDE THE AUXILIARY MEDICAL SERVICES, THE AUXILIARY POLICE FORCE, THE CIVIL AID SERVICES, THE ROYAL HONG KONG AUXILIARY AIR FORCE AND THE ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT.

MR JEAFFRESON SPOKE IN PRAISE OF THE VOLUNTEERS WHEN HE INSPECTED A PASSING-OUT PARADE OF NEW RECRUITS OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT (THE VOLUNTEERS), AT THE GRANDSTAND OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB IN HAPPY VALLEY.

TAKING PART IN TODAY'S PARADE WERE 125 NEW RECRUITS WHO FORMED THE LARGEST SINGLE CADRE OF THE REGIMENT SINCE ITS FOUNDING IN 1854. THEY JOINED THE REGIMENT LAST NOVEMBER AND JUST COMPLETED SIX MONTHS' BASIC MILITARY TRAINING.

+IN PRACTICE,+ MR JEAFFRESON SAID, +THERE ARE EVEN MORE PEOPLE ENTHUSIASTIC TO JOIN THESE ORGANISATIONS.+

HE CITED THE REGIMENT AS A TYPICAL EXAMPLE. HE SAID: +FOR YOUR CADRE OF 125, THERE WERE 1 300 APPLICANTS.+

MR JEAFFRESON SAID THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO RECOGNISE THIS ENTHUSIASM BY EXPANDING THE SIZE OF THE VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS.

+FOR A NUMBER OF REASONS, THIS IS NOT PROVING EASY. BUT THE REGIMENT HAS HAD SOME SUCCESS,+ HE SAID.

HE TOLD THE RECRUITS ON PARADE THAT THE REASON WHY THEY FORMED THE LARGEST CADRE THE REGIMENT HAD EVER TRAINED WAS THAT THE REGIMENT HAD BEEN RECRUITING FOR A NEW FOURTH TROOP IN EACH SABRE SQUADRON.

HE ADVISED THEM TO MAINTAIN THE HIGH STANDARDS THEY HAD DEVELOPED DURING THEIR TRAINING AND TO WORK TOWARDS BEING AS GOOD IF NOT BETTER THAN THE FULL-TIME SOLDIERS OF THE GURKHA FIELD FORCE WITH WHOM THEY WOULD BE WORKING IN THE FUTURE.

AT THE CEREMONY, MR JEAFFRESON PRESENTED EFFICIENCY MEDALS TO NINE VOLUNTEERS WHO HAVE SERVED IN THE REGIMENT FOR MORE THAN 12 YEARS.

RECEIVING THE FIRST CLASP TO THE EFFICIENCY MEDAL WERE WARRANT OFFICER II WAN SHUN-SHING, STAFF SERGEANT YUEN KWOK-KWAN, SERGEANT B. BABIDA, SERGEANT CHAN KING-CHEUNG, SERGEANT LEUNG KWOK-HUNG AND SERGEANT YOUNG CHUNG.

EFFICIENCY MEDALS WERE AWARDED TO STAFF SERGEANT WONG SHIU-WAH, SERGEANT CHAN CHEUNG-FAI AND SERGEANT L.F. ROSARIO.

AUXILIARY AIR FORCE PLAYING MAJOR COMMUNITY ROLE
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THE ROYAL HONG KONG AUXILIARY AIR FORCE IS EXPANDING ITS OPERATIONS TO INCLUDE EMERGENCY CASUALTY EVACUATIONS WITHIN THE URBAN AREA.

THE RHKAAF IS NOW BEING CALLED UPON TO CONVEY CASUALTIES AND OTHER EMERGENCY CASES BY HELICOPTER TO HOSPITALS TO BEAT TRAFFIC CONGESTION, SAVING VITAL MINUTES OR EVEN HOURS, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE FORCE SAID.

FOR MANY YEARS, THE RHKAAF HAS PROVIDED A RESCUE AND CASUALTY EVACUATION SERVICE TO THE OUTER ISLANDS AND OTHER REMOTE AREAS INACCESSIBLE TO VEHICLES OR WHERE ROAD TRANSPORT TO HOSPITAL WOULD TAKE TOO MUCH TIME.

THE EXPANSION OF SUCH OPERATIONS INTO THE URBAN AREA IS BEING CARRIED OUT IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE FIRE SERVICES AND OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

A MAJOR PROBLEM IS THE AVAILABILITY OF SITES AS HELIPADS, THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED. THIS IS SOMETIMES OVERCOME BY THE COMBINED USE OF BOTH AMBULANCES AND HELICOPTERS.

SO FAR, THIS INNOVATIVE OPERATION HAS PROVED TO BE EFFECTIVE AND IS EXPECTED TO BECOME YET ANOTHER OF THE FORCE'S REGULAR FUNCTIONS.

IN LINE WITH ITS GROWING RESPONSIBILITIES, THE RHKAAF HAS OVER THE PAST YEAR INCREASED ITS ESTABLISHMENT OF VOLUNTEERS FROM 116 MEMBERS TO 136.

THE RHKAAF IS A UNIQUE AIR FORCE BECAUSE OF ITS EXTENSIVE INVOLVEMENT IN COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES, IN ADDITION TO ITS SECURITY ROLE.

LAST YEAR, THE FORCE WAS BUSIER THAN EVER, DEPLOYING ITS HELICOPTERS AND FIXED WING AIRCRAFT FOR MORE THAN 320 EMERGENCY FLIGHTS, MOST OF THEM CASUALTY EVACUATIONS OR SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS, OFTEN UNDER HAZARDOUS WEATHER CONDITIONS.

APART FROM THESE ASSIGNMENTS, THE FORCE IS ENGAGED IN TASKS AS DIVERSE AS AERIAL LAND SURVEYING AND MAPPING, PATROLS TO SPOT HARBOUR POLLUTION, COMBATING HILL FIRES, AIR PATROLS TO STOP ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION AND LONG-RANGE MARITIME OPERATIONS TO SHADOW VESSELS SUSPECTED OF CARRYING NARCOTIC DRUGS.

MOST MEMBERS OF THE FORCE ARE VOLUNTEERS WITH FULL-TIME JOBS WHO RECEIVE INTENSIVE TRAINING AT WEEK-ENDS OR AFTER OFFICE HOURS. ONCE A YEAR, THEY MUST ATTEND A TWO-WEEK TRAINING CAMP IN THE NEW TERRITORIES. THEY ARE ALSO REQUIRED TO BE ON STANDBY FOR EMERGENCY DUTIES.

/+THIS PUBLIC

+THIS PUBLIC SPIRIT AND DEDICATION AND THE READY COOPERATION OF THE EMPLOYERS ARE VITAL TO THE EFFICIENT OPERATION OF THE RHKAAF,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER OF THE VOLUNTEERS HAVE BEEN SERVING LONG YEARS WITH THE RHKAAF, CONTRIBUTING THOUSANDS OF HOURS OF THEIR PRIVATE TIME TO A WIDE RANGE OF EMERGENCY AND OTHER OPERATIONS.

A CASE IN POINT IS SQUADRON LEADER DICKY YIP, WHO HAS FLOWN MORE THAN 2 000 HOURS, MAINLY IN ROTARY AIRCRAFT, DURING HIS 16 YEARS WITH THE RHKAAF. HE IS THE THIRD VOLUNTEER PILOT WITH THE FORCE TO HAVE ACHIEVED THIS FLIGHT RECORD.

THE LONGEST SERVING VOLUNTEER IS WARRANT OFFICER GABRIEL ANTONIO, AGED 55, WHO HAS ALREADY PUT IN 32 YEARS WITH THE FORCE. HE FIRST JOINED THE AIR UNIT OF THE NOW DEFUNCT ROYAL HONG KONG DEFENCE FORCE IN 1951, WHICH WAS THE FORERUNNER OF THE RHKAAF. FOR HIS LONG MERITORIOUS SERVICES, HE HAS RECEIVED NUMEROUS AWARDS, INCLUDING THE BRITISH EMPIRE MEDAL. IN HIS CIVILIAN LIFE, WARRANT OFFICER ANTONIO IS AN EMPLOYEE OF THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK.

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MORE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS FOR TUEN MUN

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THE TUEN MUN NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR TWO MAJOR PROJECTS AS PART OF THE NEW TOWN'S DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME.

ONE PROJECT INVOLVES THE CONSTRUCTION OF A GRADE-SEPARATED INTERCHANGE AT CASTLE PEAK ROAD NEAR TSENG TAU TSUEN HA TSUEN AND A DUAL THREE-LANE CARRIAGEWAY TO THE WEST OF THE INTERCHANGE, ACROSS THE TUEN MUN RIVER CHANNEL TO SAN WAI TSAI NEAR TAI HING ESTATE.

THEY WILL PROVIDE DIRECT ACCESS TO THE EXISTING AND NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE NORTHWESTERN PART OF THE TOWN.

IN ADDITION, SECTIONS OF A SEWER AND A STORM WATER BOX CULVERT WILL ALSO BE CONSTRUCTED UNDER THE CONTRACT TO SERVE MAJOR HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS PLANNED FOR THIS PART OF THE NEW TOWN.

WORK ON THIS CONTRACT WILL START IN AUGUST AND IS EXPECTED TO TAKE ABOUT 24 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE OTHER CONTRACT CALLS FOR THE PAVING OF PEDESTRIAN AREAS AND THE LANDSCAPING OF THE NEW RESIDENTIAL AREA NORTH OF SAN HUI AND TO THE EAST OF THE NULLAH.

THE PROJECT COMPRISES THE CONSTRUCTION OF CONCRETE-PAVED PEDESTRIAN AREAS AND FOOTWAYS, ASSOCIATED DRAINAGE WORKS, TOGETHER WITH THE PROVISION OF TREE PITS, PLANTER BOXES AND BENCHES.

WORK ON THIS CONTRACT WILL START IN JULY AND WILL TAKE ABOUT SIX MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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APPRENTICESHIP SUB-OFFICE MOVES

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THE TSIM SHA TSUI SUB-OFFICE OF THE APPRENTICESHIP SECTION OF THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINING DEPARTMENT WILL BE OPERATING TOMORROW (MONDAY) FROM ITS NEW OFFICE AT FOUR SEAS BUILDING 10/F, 208-212 NATHAN ROAD.

THE SUB-OFFICE, PREVIOUSLY AT 14 SALISBURY ROAD, SERVES EMPLOYERS AND APPRENTICES WITHIN THE SHAM SHUI PO AND CHEUNG SHA WAN AREAS.

IT ALSO COVERS THE NEW TOWNS OF SHA TIN, TAI PO, FANLING AND SHEUNG SHUI IN ADVISING AND ASSISTING EMPLOYERS IN THE TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT OF APPRENTICES.

ACCORDING TO THE APPRENTICESHIP ORDINANCE, EMPLOYERS ARE REQUIRED TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT OF APPRENTICESHIP WITH PERSONS UNDER THE AGE OF 19 WITHIN THE 38 DESIGNATED TRADES.

EMPLOYERS ARE ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR SENDING THEIR APPRENTICES TO RECEIVE COMPLEMENTARY TECHNICAL EDUCATION, EITHER AT THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC OR THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES.

EACH MONTH, AN AVERAGE OF 700 PEOPLE CALL AT THE TSIM SHA TSUI SUB-OFFICE TO MAKE ENQUIRIES OR SEEK ASSISTANCE.

THE TELEPHONE NUMBER FOR ENQUIRIES FOR THIS SUB-OFFICE REMAINS AT 3-667463.

THERE ARE FOUR OTHER SUB-OFFICES, LOCATED AT CAUSEWAY BAY, SAN PO KONG, KWUN TONG AND TSUEN WAN.

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TALKS ON EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE

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THE PROMOTION UNIT OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT WILL ORGANISE TALKS ON THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE FOR WORKERS LIVING IN CHAI WAN, WONG TAI SIN, KWUN TONG AND TSUEN WAN IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS.

THE TALKS WILL BE GIVEN BY OFFICERS OF THE UNIT TO HELP WORKERS UNDERSTAND BETTER THE PROVISIONS OF THE ORDINANCE AND THEIR RIGHTS UNDER THE LAW.

THE SUBJECTS TO BE COVERED BY THE TALKS INCLUDE WAGES, PAID ANNUAL LEAVE, SEVERANCE PAY, REST DAYS, STATUTORY HOLIDAYS, SICKNESS ALLOWANCE, MATERNITY PROTECTION, AND CONTRACTS OF EMPLOYMENT.

+THE TALKS WILL BE HELD ON THREE WEEK DAY EVENINGS AND ON ONE SUNDAY FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF WORKERS, AND IT IS HOPED THAT THEY WILL ATTEND IN THEIR OWN INTEREST,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY.

/THE FIRST

THE FIRST TALK WILL BE HELD AT THE CHAI WAN COMMUNITY CENTRE, 230 CHAI WAN ROAD, AT 8 PM ON TUESDAY (MAY 24), THE SECOND AT THE KWUN TONG COMMUNITY CENTRE, 17 TSUI PING ROAD, AT 8 PM ON FRIDAY (MAY 27), THE THIRD AT THE PRINCESS ALEXANDRA COMMUNITY CENTRE, TAI HO ROAD, TSUEN WAN, AT 2 PM ON SUNDAY (JUNE 5), AND THE FOURTH AT THE WONG TAI SIN COMMUNITY CENTRE, 140 TSING TAK STREET, AT 8 PM ON WEDNESDAY (JUNE 8).

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MORE URGED TO TAKE BOILER TRAINING COURSE
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THE FIRST CANDIDATES WHO ATTENDED A TWO-HOUR TRAINING COURSE ON THE OPERATION OF SMALL ELECTRIC IRONING BOILERS HAVE BEEN ALLOWED TO ATTEND TO BOILERS UNDER EXEMPTION ORDERS ISSUED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THAT THE ORDERS WERE ISSUED BY THE PRINCIPAL SURVEYOR OF THE DEPARTMENT'S PRESSURE EQUIPMENT UNIT AFTER THE CANDIDATES HAD PASSED A MULTIPLE-CHOICE TEST ON COMPLETION OF THE COURSE.

THE ORDERS, HOWEVER, ARE VALID FOR ONLY 14 MONTHS, DURING WHICH A CANDIDATE SHOULD OBTAIN A CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCE FROM THE UNIT BY PASSING THE APPROPRIATE EXAMINATION. FAILING THIS, HE WILL NO LONGER BE ALLOWED TO TAKE CHARGE OF THE BOILERS AFTER THE ORDER EXPIRES.

THE SPOKESMAN REITERATED THAT THE TRAINING COURSE IS AIMED AT ASSISTING FACTORY PROPRIETORS IN OBTAINING COMPETENT PERSONNEL FOR THE OPERATION OF THEIR IRONING BOILERS.

HE URGED THE PROPRIETORS TO SEND THEIR STAFF TO ATTEND THE COURSE, AND STRESSED THAT THEY SHOULD NOT HESITATE TO DO SO EVEN IF THE STAFF DO NOT POSSESS A HIGH EDUCATIONAL STANDARD.

+THE COURSE DOES NOT REQUIRE A HIGH EDUCATIONAL STANDARD. WE WILL DO WHATEVER WE CAN TO HELP CANDIDATES TO PASS THE TEST,+ HE NOTED.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THE MINIMUM QUALIFICATION FOR THE COURSE IS TWO MONTHS' EXPERIENCE IN OPERATING IRONING BOILERS.

THE COURSE TAKES THE FORM OF A TWO-HOUR LECTURE TO BE GIVEN IN CANTONESE BY INSPECTORS FROM THE UNIT, AND THOSE WISHING TO JOIN THE COURSE SHOULD CALL ON THE UNIT ON THE 4TH FLOOR OF CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 393 CANTON ROAD, YAU MA TEI. THE TELEPHONE FOR ENQUIRIES IS 3-688111 EXT. 352.

THEY SHOULD BRING ALONG THEIR HONG KONG IDENTITY CARDS, A LETTER FROM THEIR EMPLOYERS CONFIRMING THEIR PERIOD OF SERVICE IN THE OPERATION OF ELECTRIC IRONING BOILERS AND A COPY OF THE CERTIFICATE OF FITNESS FOR REGISTERED BOILERS.

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FOOD HYGIENE HINTS OFFERED

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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WARNED ABOUT THE NEED FOR GREATER FOOD AND PERSONAL HYGIENE, ESPECIALLY IN THE SUMMER MONTHS, TO GUARD AGAINST GASTRO-INTESTINAL INFECTIONS.

MAKING THE APPEAL, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID CONTAMINATION OF DRINKING WATER AND FOOD COULD CAUSE SUCH INFECTIOUS DISEASES AS BACILLARY DYSENTERY, CHOLERA, TYPHOID, VIRAL HEPATITIS AND FOOD POISONING.

FOOD-BORNE DISEASES ARE TRANSMITTED THROUGH UNCLEAN WATER AND FOOD.

AS A PRECAUTION, THE SPOKESMAN SUGGESTED THAT ALL FOOD BE THOROUGHLY COOKED AND CONSUMED HOT.

HE SUGGESTED THE FOLLOWING:

- * PLACE OVERNIGHT FOOD IN THE REFRIGERATOR AND RE-COOK THE FOOD THOROUGHLY BEFORE EATING AGAIN.
- * STORE ALL PERISHABLE FOOD, INCLUDING CUT FRUIT, MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS, POULTRY, FISH, MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS NOT FOR IMMEDIATE CONSUMPTION IN REFRIGERATORS AT A TEMPERATURE BELOW 10 DEGREES CENTIGRADE TO RETARD THE GROWTH OF MICRO-ORGANISMS.
- * CLEAN ALL COOKING UTENSILS AND CUTLERY WITH DETERGENT AND HOT WATER BEFORE USE.
- * KEEP CLEAN ALL LIVING SURROUNDINGS AND KITCHENS TO DENY SHELTER FOR FLIES, RODENTS AND COCKROACHES WHICH ARE CARRIERS OF BACTERIA. STORE ALL RUBBISH IN PROPER DUSTBINS WITH COVERS.
- * BOIL DRINKING WATER FROM SOURCES OTHER THAN THE GOVERNMENT MAINS WATER SUPPLY.

TO SAFEGUARD PUBLIC HEALTH, OFFICERS OF THE NTSD ARE STEPPING UP INSPECTIONS OF RESTAURANTS AND OTHER LICENSED FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

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TAI O MARKET STALLS FOR AUCTION

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SEVEN STALLS AT TAI O MARKET ON LANTAU ISLAND WILL BE PUT UP FOR PUBLIC AUCTION ON THURSDAY (MAY 19).

THE AUCTION WILL START AT 11.15 AM AT THE TAI O SUB-OFFICE OF THE ISLANDS URBAN SERVICES OFFICE AT THE SHEK CHAI PO STREET GOVERNMENT OFFICES AT TAI O, LANTAU ISLAND.

/THREE STALLS

THREE STALLS ARE FOR THE SALE OF FISH, TWO ARE FOR VEGETABLES AND THE OTHER TWO ARE FOR MEAT, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT EXPLAINED.

THE UPSET MONTHLY RENTAL FOR ALL THE STALLS IS \$120 EACH.

SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS FOR THE STALLS MAY START BUSINESS ON JUNE 1 ON A THREE-YEAR CONTRACT.

BIDDERS MUST BE OVER 21 YEARS OF AGE AND MUST BRING ALONG THEIR IDENTITY CARDS AND FIVE PHOTOGRAPHS TO THE AUCTION VENUE.

FURTHER INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE ISLANDS URBAN SERVICES OFFICE, TEL. 5-452416.

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ROADS TO BE WIDENED
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SECTIONS OF GARDEN ROAD AND COTTON TREE DRIVE WILL SOON BE WIDENED TO EASE TRAFFIC CONGESTION IN THE AREA.

TENDERS FOR THE PROJECT ARE BEING INVITED BY THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE OF THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

THE CONTRACT INVOLVES THE WIDENING OF THE SECTION OF GARDEN ROAD ABOVE ITS JUNCTION WITH COTTON TREE DRIVE AND THE SECTION OF COTTON TREE DRIVE ABOVE ITS JUNCTION WITH KENNEDY ROAD.

THE TWO-LANE UPHILL CARRIAGEWAY OF GARDEN ROAD WILL BE EXPANDED TO PROVIDE THREE-LANE TRAFFIC AND THE PRESENT TRAFFIC CONDITION IN THE AREA IS EXPECTED TO IMPROVE CONSIDERABLY DURING PEAK HOURS.

IN ADDITION, GENERAL LANDSCAPING WORK IN THE AREA WILL BE CARRIED OUT.

WORK ON THE PROJECT WILL START IN JULY AND IS EXPECTED TO TAKE ABOUT NINE MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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WANG TAU HOM ROAD CLOSURE
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FROM 10 AM ON TUESDAY (MAY 17), THE SLIP ROAD OFF THE EASTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF LUNG CHEUNG ROAD, NEAR THE FUNG MO INTERCHANGE, WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FOR ABOUT THREE MONTHS FOR ROAD WORKS.

TRAFFIC ON LUNG CHEUNG ROAD EASTBOUND HEADING FOR WANG TAU HOM WILL BE DIVERTED VIA WONG TAI SIN ROAD AND MA CHAI HANG ROAD.

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