



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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COMPULSORY USE OF CAR SEAT BELTS PLANNED

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LEGISLATION WILL BE DRAFTED TO MAKE THE WEARING OF SEAT BELTS IN PRIVATE CARS COMPULSORY.

THIS FOLLOWS APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE BY THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL TODAY OF THE GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO INTRODUCE THE NECESSARY LEGISLATION NEXT YEAR.

THE PROPOSAL HAS BEEN ENDORSED BY THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND THE STANDING CONFERENCE ON ROAD SAFETY AND HAS THE STRONG SUPPORT OF THE HONG KONG AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION AND THE INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED MOTORISTS.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID EXPERIENCE IN OTHER COUNTRIES SHOWED THAT FRONT SEAT OCCUPANTS WEARING SEAT BELTS WERE MUCH LESS LIKELY TO BE KILLED OR SERIOUSLY INJURED IN ACCIDENTS.

A STUDY CONDUCTED BY THE ROAD SAFETY DIVISION OF THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT INDICATED THAT IN HONG KONG A REDUCTION COULD BE EXPECTED IN THE SEVERITY OF SOME 60 PER CENT OF ACCIDENTS INVOLVING FRONT SEAT PASSENGERS.

UNDER EXISTING LEGISLATION, PRIVATE CARS MANUFACTURED AFTER JUNE 30, 1964 AND REGISTERED AFTER AUGUST 1, 1976 ARE REQUIRED TO BE FITTED WITH SAFETY BELTS TO THE FRONT SEATS.

+HOWEVER, THE STUDY SHOWED THAT ONLY ABOUT FOUR TO SEVEN PER CENT OF PRIVATE MOTORISTS IN HONG KONG WEAR SEAT BELTS WHILE DRIVING,+ THE SPOKESMAN NOTED.

HE ADDED THAT WHILE HONG KONG'S TRAFFIC SITUATION MIGHT BE THOUGHT TO BE DIFFERENT, CARS OFTEN TRAVELLED AT HIGH SPEEDS, SUCH AS WHEN ON HIGHWAYS, AND EVEN AT LOW SPEEDS A HEAD-ON COLLISION COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURIES.

IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE COMPULSORY WEARING OF SEAT BELTS IN THE FRONT SEATS OF PRIVATE CARS SHOULD APPLY TO VEHICLES ALREADY REQUIRED TO BE FITTED WITH THEM UNDER CURRENT LEGISLATION.

+ABOUT 70 PER CENT OF THE PRIVATE CARS REGISTERED TO DATE MEET THIS REQUIREMENT AND THE PROPORTION WITHOUT SEAT BELTS WILL BE EVEN LOWER BY THE TIME THE NEW LEGISLATION IS IMPLEMENTED,+ THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED.

PUBLIC AND COMMERCIAL VEHICLES ARE NOT REQUIRED AT THE MOMENT TO BE FITTED WITH SEAT BELTS. +HOWEVER, THE POSSIBILITY OF EXTENDING THE LEGISLATION TO COVER PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES AND TAXIS AT A LATER DATE WILL BE KEPT UNDER REVIEW,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE BILL TO BE DRAFTED WILL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF CHILDREN AND PEOPLE WITH MEDICAL CONDITIONS.

## FERTILITY RATE IN HONG KONG DECLINED SHARPLY

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RESULTS OF A STUDY OF THE PAST AND FUTURE TRENDS OF FERTILITY IN HONG KONG WERE RELEASED TODAY (TUESDAY) IN A SPECIAL REVIEW ARTICLE CONTAINED IN THE APRIL 1982 ISSUE OF THE HONG KONG MONTHLY DIGEST OF STATISTICS. THIS ARTICLE PRESENTS THE TREND OF FERTILITY FROM 1971 TO THE PRESENT TIME AND PROJECTS IT OVER THE NEXT 20 YEARS.

FERTILITY IN HONG KONG STARTED TO DECLINE AROUND 1963. THE DECLINE BECAME MORE SIGNIFICANT IN THE 1970'S. OVER THE PAST 10 YEARS FERTILITY RATES HAVE DECLINED SHARPLY AT EVERY AGE, BUT PARTICULARLY FOR AGES 35 AND OVER.

SUCH CONTINUED AND SUSTAINED DECLINE IN FERTILITY WAS CLEARLY A RESULT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CHANGES THAT HONG KONG HAD UNDERGONE DURING THE PAST TWO DECADES. THESE CHANGES HELPED TO DEVELOP THE GROWTH OF INDIVIDUAL ASPIRATIONS AND TO CREATE NEW PRESSURES ON REPRODUCTIVE BEHAVIOUR. COUPLES GENERALLY TOOK A MORE POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARDS LIMITING FAMILY SIZE.

WITH PROSPECTS OF A BETTER ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL SITUATION IN HONG KONG, IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE FERTILITY DECLINE WILL CONTINUE IN THE FUTURE. OVER THE NEXT TWO DECADES IT IS PREDICTED THAT THE FERTILITY RATE WILL DECREASE FURTHER AT EVERY AGE BUT THAT THE RATE OF DECREASE WILL BECOME SLOWER.

THE APRIL 1982 ISSUE OF THE HONG KONG MONTHLY DIGEST OF STATISTICS IS NOW AVAILABLE FOR SALE IN THE HONG KONG PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT CONNAUGHT PLACE.

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## EXTENSION OF SHUEN WAN CONTROLLED TIP

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THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO RECLAIM ABOUT 32 HECTARES OF SEABED IN ORDER TO EXTEND THE EXISTING SHUEN WAN CONTROLLED TIP IN TAI PO.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA OF FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED IS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE IN LAST WEEK'S GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

A NOTICE, IN BOTH ENGLISH AND CHINESE, WITH ITS RELATED PLAN CAN BE SEEN ON NOTICE BOARDS POSTED NEAR THE SITE.

OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSAL OR ANY CLAIM OF PRIVATE RIGHT SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE DIRECTOR OF LANDS WITHIN TWO MONTHS.

THE PLAN SHOWING THE AREA INVOLVED MAY BE SEEN AT THE LANDS DEPARTMENT SURVEY DIVISION, MURRAY BUILDING 5/F., GARDEN ROAD OR THE DISTRICT OFFICE, TAI PO, TAI PO GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, TING KOK ROAD, TAI PO, NEW TERRITORIES OR THE LANDS OFFICE ON THE 10TH FLOOR, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 405 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

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COMPUTER STUDIES INTRODUCED IN 30 SCHOOLS  
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THIRTY SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR WILL INTRODUCE COMPUTER STUDIES INTO THEIR CURRICULUM ON A TRIAL BASIS THIS SEPTEMBER.

THE SUBJECT WILL BE INTRODUCED AT FORM 4 LEVEL AND WILL BE EXTENDED TO FORM 5 NEXT YEAR.

BY MAY 1984, IT WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY THAT THE INTRODUCTION OF COMPUTER STUDIES WAS IN LINE WITH A RECOMMENDATION OF THE 1978 WHITE PAPER ON SENIOR SECONDARY AND TERTIARY EDUCATION, WHICH ADVOCATED A BROADENING OF THE CURRICULUM TO MEET THE NEEDS OF STUDENTS WITH A WIDE RANGE OF ABILITIES.

IT WAS HOPED THAT THE NEW SUBJECT WOULD ENABLE STUDENTS TO UNDERSTAND THE FUNCTIONS, USES AND LIMITATIONS OF COMPUTERS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT IT SHOULD ALSO PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE STUDY OF MODERN METHODS OF INFORMATION PROCESSING, ENCOURAGE AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE IMPLICATION OF COMPUTERS IN THE MODERN WORLD AND PREPARE STUDENTS FOR FURTHER STUDIES IN COMPUTER SCIENCE.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE PILOT SCHEME, DESIGNED TO TEST THE PRACTICABILITY OF THE COMPUTER STUDIES TEACHING SYLLABUS APPROVED LAST YEAR BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, WOULD BE FULLY REVIEWED IN 1984.

+SUBJECT TO THE PROGRESS OF THE SCHEME AND THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS, PLANS ARE IN HAND TO EXTEND COMPUTER STUDIES TO A WIDER RANGE OF SCHOOLS WITH EFFECT FROM SEPTEMBER 1984,+ HE NOTED.

HE ADDED THAT THE MAIN CRITERIA FOR SELECTING THE SCHOOLS FOR THE PILOT SCHEME WERE THEIR ENTHUSIASM, INTEREST AND SUPPORT FOR THE COMPUTER STUDIES COURSE DURING THE DEVELOPMENT PERIOD.

IN ADDITION, A NUMBER OF LEADING SPONSORING BODIES WHO REQUESTED A TRY-OUT OF THE SUBJECT IN ONE OF THEIR SCHOOLS HAD BEEN INCLUDED IN THE SCHEME, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE SCHOOLS TAKING PART IN THE PILOT SCHEME ARE :

- (1) ABERDEEN TECHNICAL SCHOOL,
- (2) BISHOP HALL JUBILEE SCHOOL,
- (3) BUDDHIST SUM HEUNG LAM MEM COL,
- (4) C.C.C. MONG MAN WAI COLLEGE,

/(5) CHINESE .....

- (5) CHINESE Y.M.C.A. SECONDARY SCHOOL ,
- (6) CHOI HUNG ESTATE CATHOLIC SEC SCHOOL ,
- (7) DIOCESAN GIRLS' SCHOOL ,
- (8) DON BOSCO TECHNICAL SCHOOL ,
- (9) HO TUNG TECHNICAL SCHOOL FOR GIRLS ,
- (10) GERTRUDE SIMON LUTHERAN COLLEGE ,
- (11) HOI PING CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SECONDARY SCHOOL ,
- (12) KING'S COLLEGE ,
- (13) KWUN TONG GOVT SEC TECH SCH ,
- (14) LA SALLE COLLEGE ,
- (15) LAM WOO MEMORIAL SECONDARY SCHOOL ,
- (16) METHODIST COLLEGE ,
- (17) MUNSANG COLLEGE ,
- (18) NG YUK SECONDARY SCHOOL ,
- (19) PO LEUNG KUK CENTENARY COLLEGE ,
- (20) QUEEN'S COLLEGE ,
- (21) S.T.F.A. SEAWARD WOO COLLEGE ,
- (22) SHEUNG KWAI CHUNG GOVT SEC TECH SCH ,
- (23) ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE ,
- (24) ST PAUL'S SECONDARY SCHOOL ,
- (25) SUNG TSUN MIDDLE SCHOOL ,
- (26) T.W.G.H. CHANG MING THIEN COLLEGE ,
- (27) TANG KING PO SCHOOL ,
- (28) TSUNG TSIN ENGLISH COLLEGE ,
- (29) WAH YAN COLLEGE (KOWLOON) ,  
AND
- (30) Y.W.C.A. HIDE TJD YOENG COLLEGE .

'YEAS' HELPS YOUTH WITH JOB HUNTING  
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JOB-HUNTING EVEN FOR AN EXPERIENCED WORKER IS NOT EASY. FOR A SCHOOL-LEAVER, IT CAN BE A DAUNTING EXPERIENCE, UNLESS HE HAS EXPERT GUIDANCE.

SUCH GUIDANCE IS AVAILABLE FROM THE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT ADVISORY SERVICE (YEAS) OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT WHICH PROVIDES PRACTICALLY ALL THE NECESSARY INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE JUST SHORT OF ACTUAL JOB PLACEMENT.

ESTABLISHED IN 1968, THE YEAS HAS BEEN ENGAGED IN MANY ACTIVITIES TO HELP YOUNG PEOPLE CHOOSE CAREERS BEST SUITED TO THEIR TALENTS, INTERESTS AND ABILITIES.

IT HAS THREE CAREERS INFORMATION CENTRES, EACH OF THEM EQUIPPED WITH A REFERENCE LIBRARY OF PUBLICATIONS AND PRESS CUTTINGS ON EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES, AUDIO-VISUAL FACILITIES AND TRAINED STAFF TO ASSIST YOUNG PEOPLE. AND THERE ARE PLANS TO EXPAND MANY OF ITS SERVICES.

IN COORDINATION WITH CAREERS TEACHERS, REGULAR GROUP VISITS ARE ARRANGED FOR FORM III STUDENTS TO THE CENTRES. SUCH VISITS INCLUDE A BRIEFING SESSION, A TOUR OF THE CENTRE DISPLAYS AND A SLIDE SHOW ON CAREER CHOICES AND THEIR REQUIREMENTS.

EACH OF THE CENTRES ATTRACTS MORE THAN 10 000 YOUNG PEOPLE EVERY YEAR.

ABOUT 25 000 STUDENTS WHO WERE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE CENTRES PERSONALLY OBTAINED ADVICE FROM THE CENTRES BY WRITING TO GPO BOX 10161 IN 1980-81.

MR YUEN CHUN-KAU, LABOUR OFFICER WHO HEADS ONE OF THE YEAS CENTRES, SAID, +YEAS DOES NOT PROVIDE A PASSIVE SERVICE AND WAIT FOR THE YOUNG PEOPLE TO COME IN FOR HELP+.

+IT REACHES OUT TO THEM THROUGH CAREERS TALKS WHICH YEAS STAFF REGULARLY GIVE TO FORM IV AND FORM V STUDENTS AT SCHOOLS AND OTHER FUNCTIONS JOINTLY ORGANISED WITH GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS OR OTHER ORGANISATIONS.+

HE ESTIMATED THAT CAREERS TALKS ON +CHOOSING YOUR CAREER+ AND +LOOKING FOR A JOB+ WERE GIVEN TO SOME 40 000 FORM FIVE STUDENTS EACH YEAR.

+CHOOSING YOUR CAREER+ COVERS A RANGE OF TOPICS FROM EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES TO SELF-UNDERSTANDING AND JOB ANALYSIS, WHILE +LOOKING FOR A JOB+ CONCENTRATES ON THE PREPARATORY ASPECTS OF LOOKING FOR JOB VACANCIES, APPLYING FOR A JOB AND SIGNING AN EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT.

+THESE TALKS ARE DESIGNED TO GUIDE YOUNG PEOPLE TO A SYSTEMATIC DECISION ON THE CHOICE OF CAREERS BY GIVING THEM A REAL PICTURE OF JOB REQUIREMENTS,+ MR YUEN SAID.

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THE FIRST CAREERS EXHIBITION WAS HELD IN 1972 WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF PRIVATE BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS. IT WAS ALSO THE FIRST COORDINATED PROJECT TO SHOW YOUNG PEOPLE THE WIDE RANGE OF CAREERS IN HONG KONG THROUGH PROFESSIONALLY DESIGNED EXHIBITS PROVIDED BY POTENTIAL EMPLOYERS THEMSELVES. IN RECENT YEARS, EACH OF THE 10-DAY EXHIBITIONS ATTRACTED MORE THAN 100 000 VISITORS.

THE 11TH CAREERS EXHIBITION WILL BE HELD FROM NOVEMBER 20 TO NOVEMBER 29 THIS YEAR AT THE CITY HALL EXHIBITION HALL.

+YEAS ALSO HAS A VIGOROUS PROGRAMME OF REACHING OUT TO SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS THROUGH THEIR CAREERS TEACHERS,+ MR YUEN SAID, +ONE MEANS OF DOING IT IS BY LENDING THEM OUR AUDIO-VISUAL RESOURCES, INCLUDING SOME 100 VIDEO-CASSETTE TAPE RECORDINGS.

+ALL OF THESE ARE AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING AT OUR CENTRES BUT MORE THAN 300 SECONDARY SCHOOLS HAVE MADE USE OF OUR LOAN SERVICE IN 1981.+

EACH YEAR YEAS ALSO ORGANISES SIX REGIONAL CAREERS CONVENTIONS WITH THE ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT OF THE STUDENTS THEMSELVES, AND LAST YEAR THESE ATTRACTED SOME 10 000 STUDENTS FROM 62 SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

EACH CONVENTION INCLUDES CAREERS ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS SPECIALIST TALKS, FILM SHOWS, AND A MINI-EXHIBITION MOUNTED BY THE STUDENTS THEMSELVES AFTER THEY HAVE COLLECTED FIRST-HAND INFORMATION FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

+THIS DIRECT CONTACT BETWEEN THE STUDENTS AND THEIR PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYERS GIVES THEM A MORE REALISTIC IDEA OF WHAT WORKING LIFE IS REALLY LIKE,+ MR YUEN SAID.

THIS YEAR, OVER 26 000 STUDENTS FROM 139 SECONDARY SCHOOLS ATTENDED THE SIX CAREERS CONVENTIONS, COMPARED WITH ONLY 10 000 STUDENTS FROM 62 SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN 1981 - AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN TWO AND A HALF TIMES.

SINCE 1979 YEAS HAS ORGANISED AN ANNUAL TWO-DAY TRAINING SEMINAR FOR CAREERS TEACHERS. EACH SEMINAR TRAINS 60 CAREERS TEACHERS IN THE TECHNIQUES OF COUNSELLING AND KEEPS THEM ABREAST OF THE DEVELOPMENTS IN THE JOB MARKET. THE FOURTH SEMINAR, WHICH WILL CONCENTRATE ON HOW TO INCORPORATE CAREERS ELEMENTS INTO THE SCHOOL CURRICULUM, IS SCHEDULED TO BE HELD FROM JULY 21 TO JULY 22 AT THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

MR YUEN ALSO DISCLOSED THAT YEAS PLANS TO OPEN THREE MORE CAREERS INFORMATION CENTRES SOON, LOCATED IN THE EAST REGION OF THE NEW TERRITORIES, THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF HONG KONG ISLAND AND IN KOWLOON WEST.

THE EXISTING CENTRES ARE LOCATED AT 500 HENNESSY ROAD, SIXTH FLOOR, (5-7956212, 5-7956051); 1 MA TAU KOK ROAD, THIRD FLOOR, (3-7122702, 3-7124061) AND FAR EAST BANK BUILDING, 135 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, THIRD FLOOR, TSUEN WAN (0-466664, 0-466400).

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CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT RECRUITS AO'S

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THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL SET UP A MOBILE RECRUITMENT CENTRE AT THE CHAI WAN COMMUNITY CENTRE TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) TO RECRUIT YOUNG MEN AS ASSISTANT OFFICERS.

THE CENTRE WILL BE OPEN FROM 4 PM TO 10 PM DAILY UNTIL FRIDAY (JULY 9).

CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ANSWER ENQUIRIES AND HANDLE APPLICATIONS ON THE SPOT.

THE DEPARTMENT'S CORRECTIONAL WORK WILL BE INTRODUCED TO THE PUBLIC IN THE FORM OF PHOTOGRAPHIC DISPLAYS. THESE WILL INCLUDE STAFF DUTIES, WELFARE, PROMOTION PROSPECTS, TRAINING AND PRISON INDUSTRIES. THEY WILL BE ON SHOW AT VARIOUS COMMUNITY CENTRES THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY FOR SEVEN CONSECUTIVE WEEKS BETWEEN JULY 7 AND AUGUST 27.

THOSE WHO WISH TO APPLY IN PERSON SHOULD BRING ALONG THEIR IDENTITY CARD, BIRTH CERTIFICATE AND ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS TOGETHER WITH PHOTOSTATS OF THESE DOCUMENTS.

APPLICANTS SHOULD HAVE A GOOD PHYSIQUE, PREFERABLY UNDER 35, AND HAVE A SECONDARY EDUCATION.

THE STARTING SALARY OF AN ASSISTANT OFFICER RANGES FROM \$2 550 TO \$2 820, DEPENDING ON THE QUALIFICATION.

OTHER VENUES IN WHICH THE RECRUITMENT DRIVE WILL BE MOUNTED ARE: WESTERN DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE, THIRD STREET, SAI YING PUN (JULY 14 - 16); TAI HANG TUNG COMMUNITY CENTRE, TONG YAM STREET, TAI HANG TUNG (JULY 21 - 23); KWUN TONG COMMUNITY CENTRE, TSUI PING ROAD, KWUN TONG (JULY 28 - 30); NGAU TAU KOK ESTATE COMMUNITY CENTRE, ON TAK ROAD, NGAU TAU KOK (AUGUST 4 - 6); LEK YUEN COMMUNITY HALL, SHA TIN (AUGUST 11 - 13); PRINCESS ALEXANDRA COMMUNITY CENTRE, TAI HO ROAD, TSUEN WAN (AUGUST 18 - 20); AND WONG TAI SIN COMMUNITY CENTRE, TSING TAK STREET, WONG TAI SIN (AUGUST 25 - 27).

IN ADDITION, APPLICANTS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT'S RECRUITMENT OFFICE ON 5-8916559 FOR AN APPOINTMENT, THE VARIOUS DISTRICT OFFICES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES; OR ANY OF THE LOCAL EMPLOYMENT ADVISORY SERVICE CENTRES OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF APPLICANTS, THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAS ALSO SET UP RECRUITMENT CENTRES AT TAI LAM CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, LAI CHI KOK RECEPTION CENTRE IN KOWLOON AND THE STAFF TRAINING INSTITUTE AT STANLEY.

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WATER ACCOUNT ENQUIRIES AVERAGE 22 000 A MONTH  
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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT HANDLES AN AVERAGE OF 22 000 WATER ACCOUNT ENQUIRIES EACH MONTH.

ADDRESSING A LUNCH MEETING OF THE LIONS CLUB OF BEACON HILL TODAY (TUESDAY), THE BUSINESS MANAGER OF THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT, MR TOM MCDONOUGH SAID THAT 6 000 OF THESE WERE BY TELEPHONE, 6 000 BY LETTERS AND THE REMAINING 10 000 AT THE ENQUIRY CENTRE.

THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT HAS SET UP THREE ENQUIRY CENTRES. THEY ARE LOCATED AT LEIGHTON CENTRE, CAUSEWAY BAY; ARGYLE STREET, MONG KOK; AND TAI PO GOVERNMENT OFFICES WHERE CONSUMERS MAY COME AND DISCUSS ANY PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THEIR WATER BILLS.

IN ADDITION, THE DEPARTMENT HAS SEVEN DIRECT TELEPHONE ENQUIRY LINES (5-7900222).

MR MCDONOUGH SAID THAT IT WAS PROPOSED TO SET UP MORE ENQUIRY CENTRES OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS IN SHA TIN, YUEN LONG, FANLING, TSUEN WAN, TUEN MUN, KOWLOON BAY, SAI KUNG, WESTERN DISTRICT, SHAU KEI WAN, STANLEY AND ABERDEEN.

MR MCDONOUGH ALSO TOUCHED ON WATER DEPOSITS WHICH HE SAID WERE NOT TRANSFERABLE.

+IT IS WHOLLY INCORRECT THEREFORE FOR AN OUT-GOING TENANT TO ATTEMPT TO 'SELL' HIS DEPOSIT TO AN IN-COMING TENANT SINCE LEGALLY THE DEPOSIT REMAINS PERMANENTLY DUE TO BE REPAID TO THE INDIVIDUAL WHO PAID IN THE FIRST INSTANCE,+ HE SAID.

+NEW TENANTS OR OWNERS SHOULD THEREFORE SEEK APPROVAL FROM THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT TO BECOME THE REGISTERED CONSUMER AND PAY THEIR OWN DEPOSIT WHICH WILL BE REFUNDED TO THEM AT A LATER DATE WHEN THEIR ACCOUNT IS CLOSED.+

MR MCDONOUGH SAID: +I EMPHASIZE THEREFORE MOST STRONGLY THAT WHEN ANY REGISTERED CONSUMER MOVES FROM HIS LOCATION, HE MUST INFORM THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AND IDEALLY IN ADVANCE.+

ON THE GROWTH OF THE CONSUMER ACCOUNTS, HE SAID, THERE WERE A TOTAL OF 1 075 000 ACCOUNTS AT THE END OF LAST (JUNE) MONTH.

+WITH THE INCREASE IN SEPARATE METERING AS OPPOSED TO MANY HOUSEHOLDS BEING ON COMMON METERS AND THE GROWTH OF THE NEW TOWNS, THE NUMBER OF CONSUMER ACCOUNTS IS GROWING AT A RATE OF APPROXIMATELY 100 000 PER ANNUM,+ HE SAID.

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RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL FACILITIES  
FOR SOUTHERN DISTRICT RESIDENTS  
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RESIDENTS LIVING ON THE SOUTHERN PART OF HONG KONG ISLAND WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE FULL USE OF LOCAL RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL FACILITIES THROUGH VARIOUS ACTIVITIES TO BE CENTRALLY ORGANISED BY THE NEWLY FORMED SOUTHERN DISTRICT ARTS AND CULTURE ASSOCIATION.

THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID THIS TODAY (TUESDAY) AT THE ASSOCIATION'S INAUGURATION CEREMONY HELD IN A SCHOOL AT WONG CHUK HANG.

HE SAID THE FORMATION OF THE ASSOCIATION WOULD PROMOTE THE INTERESTS IN THESE ACTIVITIES AMONG THE LOCAL PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY THE YOUNG.

+THIS, IN TURN, WILL RESULT IN IMPROVEMENTS TO BOTH THE QUALITY AND QUANTITY OF SUCH ACTIVITIES.

+THE ASSOCIATION'S ESTABLISHMENT ALSO COINCIDES WITH THE DEVELOPMENT IN OTHER SPORTS, RECREATIONAL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES -- THUS BRINGING ABOUT A FULLER LIFE, A MORE HARMONIOUS HUMAN RELATIONSHIP, AND A MORE UNITED COMMUNITY.+

MR AKERS-JONES ADDED THAT HE WAS PLEASED TO LEARN THAT THE ASSOCIATION'S EFFORTS IN PROMOTING CULTURAL ACTIVITIES HAD ALREADY WON THE SUPPORT FROM THE LOCAL DISTRICT BOARD AND VETERANS IN THE CULTURAL FIELD.

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DEATH SENTENCE COMMUTED  
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THE GOVERNOR, AFTER TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE ADVICE OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, HAS DECIDED THAT THE DEATH SENTENCE, PASSED ON SIU CHI-KAI ON JANUARY 14, 1981, SHOULD BE COMMUTED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT.

SIU WAS FOUND GUILTY OF THE MURDER OF CHAN WUN-HING AT YUEN LONG IN AUGUST 1979.

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WATER CUT IN MID-LEVELS  
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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN THE MID-LEVELS WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR SEVEN HOURS FROM 11 PM ON FRIDAY (JULY 9) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR A LEAKAGE TEST.

THE HOUSES TO BE AFFECTED WILL BE 5-49 AND 2-62 ROBINSON ROAD, 15-31 SHELLEY ROAD, 18-102 CAINE ROAD, 3-11 AND 18-22 CASTLE ROAD, CASTLE LANE, 1-13 SEYMOUR ROAD INCLUDING ST JOSEPH'S TERRACE, MOSQUE JUNCTION, MOSQUE STREET, PRINCE'S TERRACE, YING FAI TERRACE, LEUNG FAI TERRACE AND WOODLANDS TERRACE.

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