



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 1988

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CHANGES IN CULTURAL SCENE REFLECT GOVT'S EFFORTS : GOVERNOR

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THE CHANGES THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN OUR ARTISTIC AND CULTURAL LIFE REFLECT THE GOVERNMENT'S CONTINUING COMMITMENT TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE AND THE COMMUNITY'S GROWING INTEREST IN THE ARTS, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID THIS (SUNDAY) EVENING.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 1988 HONG KONG ARTS FESTIVAL AT THE CITY HALL, SIR DAVID SAID THE CULTURAL SCENE IN HONG KONG HAD CHANGED OVER THE PAST 10 OR 15 YEARS.

"IN THE EARLY 1970'S THE CITY HALL WAS THE ONLY MAJOR VENUE FOR PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCES.

"WHEN THE CULTURAL CENTRE AT TSIM SHA TSUI IS COMPLETED IN MID-1989, WE SHALL HAVE 21,000 THEATRE AND CONCERT HALL SEATS IN THE TERRITORY," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID THAT THAT WAS PROGRESS INDEED.

HE ALSO NOTED THAT DURING THIS TIME, AUDIENCES AS WELL AS THE NUMBER OF LOCAL PERFORMING COMPANIES AND ARTISTES HAD GROWN.

ON THE ROLE OF THE ARTS FESTIVAL, HE SAID SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT 16 YEARS AGO, THE FESTIVAL HAD PLAYED A CENTRAL ROLE IN STIMULATING PUBLIC INTEREST IN THE ARTS.

"EVERY YEAR THE FESTIVAL BRINGS TO HONG KONG MANY FINE PERFORMERS FROM OVERSEAS," SIR DAVID NOTED, ADDING THAT THERE HAD ALSO BEEN AN INCREASING CONTRIBUTION FROM LOCAL TALENT DURING RECENT YEARS.

SIR DAVID SAID HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT, UNDER THE CAPABLE GUIDANCE OF THE FESTIVAL COMMITTEE, THE ARTS FESTIVAL WOULD CONTINUE TO GO FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH.

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NOVEMBER ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT, PAYROLL FIGURES RELEASED

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THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND REPORTED BY THE 200 LARGEST FIRMS IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR IN NOVEMBER 1987, REMAINED ABOUT THE SAME AS IN THE PREVIOUS MONTH, BUT WAS SLIGHTLY LOWER THAN THAT IN NOVEMBER 1986, ACCORDING TO THE RESULTS OF A SURVEY RELEASED TODAY (SUNDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND, MEASURED IN TERMS OF THE NUMBER OF MONTHS, REFERS TO THE POSITION AS AT THE END OF THE REFERENCE MONTH.

COMPARED WITH OCTOBER 1987, THE ORDERS POSITION IN NOVEMBER 1987 DROPPED SIGNIFICANTLY IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY, WHILE THE ORDERS POSITION IN THE OTHER INDUSTRIES SHOWED RELATIVELY LITTLE CHANGES.

COMPARING NOVEMBER 1987 WITH THE SAME MONTH IN 1986, THE VOLUME OF ORDERS DECREASED SUBSTANTIALLY IN THE TEXTILES AND PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES, WHILE THAT IN THE WEARING APPAREL, FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS, AND ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES SHOWED SOME INCREASES.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR SHOWED A DECREASE IN NOVEMBER 1987 WHEN COMPARED WITH BOTH OCTOBER 1987 AND NOVEMBER 1986.

COMPARING NOVEMBER 1987 WITH OCTOBER 1987, THERE WAS A SHARP REDUCTION IN EMPLOYMENT IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY WHEREAS EMPLOYMENT IN THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRY SHOWED A SLIGHT INCREASE. EMPLOYMENT IN OTHER INDUSTRIES SURVEYED WAS STABLE.

WHEN COMPARED WITH THE SAME MONTH IN 1986, EMPLOYMENT DROPPED SLIGHTLY IN THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY BUT MUCH MORE SHARPLY IN THE WEARING APPAREL AND PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES.

ON THE OTHER HAND, EMPLOYMENT IN THE FOOD AND DRINKS, TEXTILES AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES RECORDED SOME INCREASES.

IN NOVEMBER 1987, BOTH PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR DECREASED SLIGHTLY COMPARED WITH OCTOBER 1987 BUT INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY OVER NOVEMBER 1986.

COMPARING NOVEMBER 1987 WITH OCTOBER 1987, INCREASES IN PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS WERE RECORDED IN THE WEARING APPAREL AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES, WHILE THE OTHER INDUSTRIES SURVEYED SHOWED SOME DECREASES, WITH THE LARGEST DROP IN PAYROLL RECORDED IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY.

/COMPARED WITH

COMPARED WITH NOVEMBER 1986, PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN NOVEMBER 1987 INCREASED IN ALL INDUSTRIES SURVEYED, EXCEPT THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY IN WHICH A DROP IN PAYROLL WAS RECORDED.

IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR, EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL DECREASED SLIGHTLY IN NOVEMBER 1987 WHEN COMPARED WITH OCTOBER 1987, WHILE PER CAPITA EARNINGS INCREASED SLIGHTLY OVER THE SAME PERIOD.

COMPARED WITH NOVEMBER 1986, PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY BUT THERE WAS A SLIGHT INCREASE IN EMPLOYMENT.

IN THE SERVICES SECTORS, THE OVERALL LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER 1987 WAS ABOUT THE SAME AS IN OCTOBER 1987, BUT PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS WERE LOWER MAINLY BECAUSE OF THE SIGNIFICANT DECREASES REPORTED BY PUBLIC UTILITY COMPANIES.

COMPARED WITH NOVEMBER 1986, EMPLOYMENT IN THE SERVICES SECTORS SHOWED A SLIGHT INCREASE. PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS WERE APPRECIABLY HIGHER, WITH HOTELS RECORDING THE LARGEST INCREASES.

THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS ARE SHOWN IN TABLES 1 AND 2 BELOW.

THE SURVEY COVERED A PANEL OF THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURING COMPANIES AND THE 50 LARGEST COMPANIES IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND SELECTED SERVICES SECTORS, CHOSEN BY REFERENCE TO THEIR EMPLOYMENT SIZES IN SEPTEMBER 1986.

AS THE SAMPLE WAS NOT DRAWN ON A RANDOM BASIS, THE DEPARTMENT CAUTIONED THAT THE MAGNITUDE OF CHANGE INDICATED BY THE SURVEY MIGHT NOT REFLECT THE EXPERIENCE OF THE ECONOMY AS A WHOLE.

NEVERTHELESS, THESE RESULTS ARE EXPECTED TO PROVIDE A USEFUL INDICATION OF THE DIRECTION OF CHANGE FOR A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ECONOMY IN THE SHORT TERM.

THE SURVEY REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 1987 IS NOW ON SALE AT \$1.50 PER COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING AND AT THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER 1, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE MADE TO THE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON 5-8234820.

TABLE 1: ORDERS-ON-HAND IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

INDUSTRY	ORDERS-ON-HAND		
	FOR NOV. 1987 (MONTHS)	OCT. 87 (%)	INCREASE OVER NOV. 86 (%)
ALL INDUSTRIES	4.34	*	-2
WEARING APPAREL	4.87	*	2
TEXTILES	2.85	*	-10
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	2.66	-7	-22
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	4.32	1	3
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	4.99	-1	2
OTHERS	4.19	*	-4

TABLE 2: EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS

INDUSTRY/ SERVICES	PERSONS ENGAGED AT THE END OF NOVEMBER 1987		PER CAPITA EARNINGS		
	INCREASE OVER OCT. 87 (%)	NOV. 86 (%)	IN NOV. 87 (HK\$)	INCREASE OVER OCT. 87 (%)	NOV. 86 (%)
MANUFACTURING	-1	-3	3,774	-1	12
FOOD AND DRINKS	*	2	4,308	-4	9
WEARING APPAREL	*	-7	3,360	2	10
TEXTILES	*	1	3,728	-2	8
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	-12	-17	3,486	-3	13
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	2	3	3,705	3	17

/ELECTRICAL AND

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ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	*	-1	3,547	-2	15
OTHERS	*	-3	4,925	*	11
CONSTRUCTION [#]	-1	1	5,507	1	12

SERVICES	*	2	6,277	-3	10

BANKS	1	4	5,921	1	9
HOTELS	1	*	4,066	-1	17
PUBLIC UTILITIES	*	-1	6,287	-8	7
OTHERS	1	7	7,312	1	12

* CHANGES WITHIN +/- 0.5%

PERSONS ENGAGED COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY; SITE WORKERS EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS ARE NOT INCLUDED.

NOTE: UNLIKE "ORDERS-ON-HAND" AND "PER CAPITA EARNINGS" WHICH ARE AVERAGE FIGURES, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED BY THE FIRMS SURVEYED IS NOT MEANINGFUL INFORMATION ON ITS OWN (BECAUSE THIS IS A PANEL SURVEY) AND IS THEREFORE NOT SHOWN.

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SMALL BOAT OPERATORS URGED TO PLAY SAFE

* * *

OWNERS AND MASTERS OF SMALL BOATS USED FOR PLEASURE PURPOSES ARE URGED TO PAY DUE REGARDS TO ALL SAFETY REQUIREMENTS AND TO EXERCISE EXTREME CARE DURING OPERATIONS.

THE CALL CAME IN THE WAKE OF SEVERAL ACCIDENTS RECENTLY INVOLVING THESE SMALL BOATS.

IN ONE ACCIDENT IN JUNE LAST YEAR, A 21-YEAR-OLD MAN, WHO WAS FISHING WITH HIS FRIENDS, DISAPPEARED WHEN THEIR BOAT SANK OFF YUNG SHU WAN IN LAMMA ISLAND.

/MARINE DEPARTMENT'S

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MARINE DEPARTMENT'S ACTING SENIOR MARINE OFFICER (EAST REGION), MR T.M. KWOK, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) THAT SOME OF THESE ACCIDENTS WOULD NOT HAVE OCCURRED HAD PEOPLE BEEN MORE CAREFUL AND OBSERVED ALL SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.

HE POINTED OUT THAT OWNERS AND MASTERS OF SMALL BOATS SHOULD BE WELL AWARE OF THE LIMITATIONS OF THEIR BOATS, BOTH IN TERMS OF CAPACITY AND CAPABILITY.

"THESE SMALL BOATS, LIKE ANY OTHER VESSELS LICENSED, SHOULD NOT CARRY MORE PERSONS THAN PERMITTED," SAID MR KWOK.

"AND THOSE ON BOARD SHOULD WEAR LIFE JACKETS AT ALL TIMES."

MR KWOK NOTED THAT ALL SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR A VESSEL, SUCH AS THE NUMBER OF PERSONS PERMITTED ON BOARD AND LIFE-SAVING APPLIANCES, AND SO ON, WERE CLEARLY STATED IN ITS LICENCE.

"THESE REQUIREMENTS MUST BE OBSERVED," HE STRESSED.

MR KWOK ALSO URGED OWNERS AND MASTERS TO ALWAYS BEAR IN MIND THE LIMITATIONS IN CAPABILITY OF SMALL BOATS.

"PEOPLE SHOULD NOT BE OVER-CONFIDENT AND TAKE THESE BOATS TOO FAR FROM COAST OR TOO CLOSE TO SHIPPING LANES AS ANY WAVES OR WASH CREATED BY A PASSING VESSEL COULD MEAN 'HUGE WAVES' TO THESE SMALL BOATS AND MAY CAUSE A CAPSIZE," HE SAID.

LIKewise, BECAUSE THESE BOATS ARE SO SMALL IN SIZE, ANY SUDDEN MOVEMENTS OR SHIFTING OF WEIGHT ON BOARD WOULD CAUSE A HEAVY LIST OF THE BOATS.

"SO IF YOU HAVE TO MOVE, DO IT VERY CAREFULLY AND MAKE SURE OTHERS ON BOARD KNOW WHAT YOU ARE DOING," MR KWOK SAID, ADDING THAT GOOD SEAMANSHIP WAS VERY IMPORTANT IN THE MANOEUVRING OF SMALL BOATS.

"NEVER GO OUT IN BAD WEATHER. ALWAYS REMEMBER: PLAY SAFE AND PRESERVE LIFE," HE ADVISED.

MR KWOK ALSO REMINDED OWNERS AND MASTERS THAT SMALL BOATS, LIKE ALL VESSELS, HAVE TO BE LICENSED UNDER SECTION 26 OF THE SHIPPING AND PORT CONTROL ORDINANCE, CAP. 313.

"ANYONE CONTRAVENING THE PROVISION OF THE ORDINANCE WOULD BE LIABLE TO PROSECUTION AND SUBJECT TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$20,000 AND AN IMPRISONMENT OF 12 MONTHS," WARNED MR KWOK.

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ROCK CLIMBERS CLEAN UP AMAH ROCK

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A TEAM OF EIGHT EXPERIENCED ROCK CLIMBERS TODAY (SUNDAY) VOLUNTEERED THEIR SERVICE IN SUPPORT OF THE DRIVE CURRENTLY MOUNTED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT TO CLEAN UP LITTER BLACK SPOTS AND REMOTE HIKING ROUTES IN HONG KONG'S 21 COUNTRY PARKS.

THE ROCK CLIMBERS FROM THE NGOK FUNG ROCK CLIMBING SOCIETY SPENT THE WHOLE MORNING COLLECTING LITTER ON THE HILL TOP AND STEEP SLOPES OF AMAH ROCK IN LION ROCK COUNTRY PARK.

WITH THE AID OF SPECIAL ROCK CLIMBING EQUIPMENT, THEY CONCENTRATED THEIR EFFORTS ON PICKING UP LITTER TRAPPED IN ROCK CRACKS AND BELOW THE CLIFF WHERE ACCESSIBILITY IS VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE EXCEPT FOR THE VERY EXPERIENCED MOUNTAINEERS.

THEY WERE THE LATEST PARTICIPANTS IN THE DEPARTMENT'S CLEAN AND GREEN SCHEME WHICH HAS ATTRACTED MORE THAN 7,400 VOLUNTEERS, INCLUDING 1,600 HIKERS FROM 41 GROUPS, TO TAKE PART IN LITTER COLLECTION ACTIVITIES SINCE ITS LAUNCH LAST OCTOBER.

THE DEPARTMENT'S COUNTRY PARKS PROTECTION OFFICER, MR C.W. LAI, SAID HE WAS PLEASED WITH THE TURNOUT WHICH REFLECTED A GROWING PUBLIC CONCERN FOR THE COUNTRYSIDE ENVIRONMENT.

"DESPITE THE SUPPORT WE HAVE RECEIVED FROM THE CIVIC-MINDED COMMUNITY, THERE ARE UNFORTUNATELY STILL PEOPLE WHO CHOOSE TO IGNORE THE ANTI-LITTER LAW FOR SELFISH REASONS.

"THEY WILL BE PENALISED UNDER A STERN PROSECUTION DRIVE CARRIED OUT BY UNIFORMED PARK WARDENS AND PLAINCLOTHED ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT," HE SAID.

SINCE THE START OF THE PROSECUTION DRIVE SIX WEEKS AGO, MR LAI SAID, SUMMONSES HAD BEEN SERVED ON A TOTAL OF 409 LITTER OFFENDERS.

THIS IS ALMOST FOUR TIMES THE SIX-WEEKLY AVERAGE OF 110 IN 1986.

OF THESE, 255 WERE INITIATED BY PLAINCLOTHED ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS WHILE THE REMAINING 154 BY UNIFORMED PARK WARDENS.

MOST OFFENCES WERE COMMITTED IN SAI KUNG COUNTRY PARK WITH 93 CASES, FOLLOWED BY PAT SIN LENG, CLEAR WATER BAY AND PLOVER COVE COUNTRY PARKS WITH 58, 48 AND 47 CASES RESPECTIVELY.

IN ADDITION, PARK WARDENS ALSO GAVE ADVICE ON THE PROPER DISPOSAL OF LITTER TO 102,900 VISITORS FROM 4,168 GROUPS.

MR LAI SAID STRINGENT ENFORCEMENT ACTION WOULD CONTINUE UNTIL HIS DEPARTMENT WAS SATISFIED WITH THE SITUATION.

HE WARNED THAT LITTER OFFENDERS WOULD BE LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$2,000 AND IMPRISONMENT FOR THREE MONTHS.

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MONG KOK DISTRICT FESTIVAL A SUCCESS

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THE FIRST MONG KOK DISTRICT FESTIVAL WAS AN IMMENSE SUCCESS WITH 330,000 RESIDENTS HAVING TAKEN PART IN ACTIVITIES ORGANISED DURING THE SIX-WEEK FESTIVAL.

SPEAKING AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE DISTRICT FESTIVAL THIS (SUNDAY) EVENING, THE DEPUTY REGIONAL SECRETARY (HONG KONG AND KOWLOON), MR PAUL LEUNG, SAID: "THE LARGE TURNOUT OF PARTICIPANTS INDICATED THAT THE FESTIVAL WAS POPULAR AND WELL SUPPORTED BY THE RESIDENTS."

HE NOTED THAT THE SUCCESS WAS ATTRIBUTED TO THE CONCERTED EFFORTS OF THE MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD, AREA COMMITTEES, LOCAL ORGANISATIONS AND THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY IN THE DISTRICT.

WITH THE EXPERIENCE OF THE FIRST FESTIVAL AS A GOOD FOUNDATION, HE HOPED THAT THE DISTRICT BOARD AND THE LOCAL COMMUNITY WOULD CONTINUE TO ORGANISE SIMILAR FUNCTIONS FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS IN FUTURE.

MORE THAN 5,000 PEOPLE TONIGHT PACKED THE MONG KOK STADIUM WHERE A STAR-STUDED GALA CONCERT WAS HELD TO CONCLUDE THE FESTIVAL.

WINNERS IN A SHOW WINDOW DISPLAY CONTEST ORGANISED FOR THE FESTIVAL RECEIVED PRIZES DURING THE CLOSING CEREMONY.

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FIGHT CRIME CARNIVAL IN KWAI TSING

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THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME CARNIVAL WAS HELD TODAY (SUNDAY) AT THE KWAI CHUNG SPORTS GROUND TO PROMOTE THE MESSAGES OF HOME SAFETY, FIGHTING AGAINST JUVENILE CRIME AND COMBATTING TRIAD ELEMENTS AMONG RESIDENTS.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE CARNIVAL, CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, MR CHOI HING-SHUN, SAID THE CARNIVAL WAS THE YEAR-END ROUND-UP OF A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES HELD IN 1987/88.

PRIZES WERE PRESENTED TO WINNERS OF THREE CONTESTS HELD LAST YEAR.

A MOTHER, HER SON AND DAUGHTER OF A WONG FAMILY WON THE FAMILY QUIZ COMPETITION.

/THE BRAVE

THE BRAVE CITIZENS OF THE DISTRICT ARE A HOUSEWIFE, MISS HO YIN-LING, AND AN ESTATE WATCHMAN, MR WONG YUK-MING.

THE MODEL NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH BUILDING CONTEST AWARD BELONGS TO THE MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE OF BLOCK 14 OF KWAI SHING ESTATE.

THE WINNERS WERE AWARDED PRIZES BY KWAI CHUNG DISTRICT COMMANDER OF THE POLICE, MR E.H. EVANS; TV ARTISTE, MISS LIZA WANG, AND FOOTBALL STAR, MR KWOK KA-MING.

PROGRAMMES OF THE CARVIVAL INCLUDED POLICE MOTORCYCLING, TAI CHI AND JUDO DEMONSTRATIONS AS WELL AS PERFORMANCES BY POLICE DOGS.

RESIDENTS ALSO TOOK PART IN THE 30 STALL GAMES SET UP AT THE VENUE.

OTHER GUESTS OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE CARNIVAL WERE KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICER, MR BRIAN COAK; DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR HO TUNG-CHING, AND CHAIRMAN OF THE CARNIVAL, MRS NANCY LAM.

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GATHERING OF PAINTERS AND CALLIGRAPHISTS

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THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR T.H. CHAU, AND HIS WIFE TODAY (SUNDAY) OFFICIATED AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF A GATHERING OF MORE THAN 300 LOCAL PAINTERS AND CALLIGRAPHISTS AT A KOWLOON HOTEL.

ORGANISED BY THE YAU MA TEI AND TSIM SHA TSUI CULTURE AND ARTS ASSOCIATION AND SPONSORED BY THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT BOARD, THE GATHERING PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY FOR PAINTERS AND CALLIGRAPHISTS TO SHARE EXPERIENCE AND DEMONSTRATE THEIR SKILLS.

SPEAKING AT THE CEREMONY, MR CHAU SAID THE ASSOCIATION HAD BEEN PLAYING A LEADING ROLE IN PROMOTING CHINESE CULTURE BY ORGANISING LARGE SCALE EXHIBITIONS AND COMPETITIONS ON PAINTINGS, CHINESE CALLIGRAPHY AND POETRY.

HE PAID TRIBUTE TO THE ASSOCIATION FOR ENHANCING CULTURAL LIFE THROUGH VARIOUS CULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND TRAINING CLASSES.

THE ASSOCIATION HAS ORGANISED TRAINING CLASSES AND INTEREST GROUPS AT ITS ACTIVITY CENTRE AT SALISBURY ROAD ON CALLIGRAPHY, STAMPER PRODUCTION, MANDARIN OPERA; AS WELL AS PERFORMANCES AND CULTURAL GATHERINGS.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE OPENING CEREMONY WERE THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR AUGUSTINE CHENG; CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT BOARD, MR YIP WAH, AND CHAIRMAN OF THE ASSOCIATION, MR YANG TZE-KIANG.

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RC DISTRICT FESTIVAL SUBSIDY SCHEME ON DB AGENDA

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THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS THE REGIONAL COUNCIL'S NEW SUBSIDY SCHEME FOR DISTRICT-BASED FESTIVE EVENTS ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT BOARDS AND OTHER LOCAL BODIES AT ITS MEETING ON TUESDAY (JANUARY 19).

THE SCHEME HAS BEEN DISCUSSED AT A RECENT MEETING OF THE BOARD'S FINANCE COMMITTEE, WHICH RESOLVED THAT IT SHOULD BE FURTHER DISCUSSED AT THE MAIN BOARD MEETING DURING WHICH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT WOULD EXPLAIN THE DETAILED TERMS AND CONDITIONS TO MEMBERS.

ALSO, VARIOUS MEMBERS WILL ASK A NUMBER OF QUESTIONS AT THE MEETING.

MR WONG HONG-CHUNG WILL ENQUIRE IF THE GOVERNMENT WOULD IMPROVE THE STAFFING SITUATION OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT OR SET UP A CENTRALISED INFORMATION SERVICES CENTRE TO FACILITATE THE WORK OF DB MEMBERS. HE ALSO WANTS TO KNOW ABOUT THE PROGRESS OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION'S REVIEW ON THE STRUCTURE AND CONSTITUTION OF MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES.

MR JUSTIN WONG WILL ASK ABOUT DESILTING WORK AT SHING MUN RIVER THIS YEAR, WHILE MR WONG HONG-CHUNG WILL ENQUIRE IF THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONSIDER CHANNELLING PROCESSED WASTE WATER FROM THE SHA TIN SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT TO THE UPSTREAM OF SHING MUN RIVER TO IMPROVE RIVER WATER FLOW.

MR LAU YUK-TONG WILL ASK ABOUT THE CRITERIA FOR THE PROVISION OF POST OFFICES AND POST BOXES IN NEWLY DEVELOPED AREAS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES AND SUGGEST IMPROVEMENTS TO POSTAL SERVICES AND FACILITIES IN THE SHA KOK AREA.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE THE DRAFT TERM REPORT OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD, APPLICATION FOR FUNDS, PROGRESS REPORTS BY COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN AND ON DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MATTERS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD AT 9.30 AM ON TUESDAY (JANUARY 19) AT THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM, SIXTH FLOOR, KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN STATION.

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KEEP CLEAN CAMPAIGN SCHOOL COMPETITIONS PRIZE PRESENTATION

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WINNERS OF TWO SCHOOL COMPETITIONS ORGANISED SINCE NOVEMBER LAST YEAR IN CONNECTION WITH THE KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN WILL BE PRESENTED PRIZES TOMORROW (MONDAY).

THE TWO COMPETITIONS WERE THE SLOGAN DESIGN COMPETITION AND THE THEME SONG SINGING CONTEST. EACH COMPETITION WAS DIVIDED INTO PRIMARY SCHOOL AND SECONDARY SCHOOL SECTIONS.

THEY WERE ORGANISED BY THE JOINT URBAN COUNCIL/REGIONAL COUNCIL KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN STEERING COMMITTEE, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, TO INSTIL A SPIRIT OF ACTIVE PARTICIPATION AMONG STUDENTS IN KEEPING HONG KONG CLEAN.

TOMORROW'S PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY WILL START AT 4.30 PM AT THE SHA TIN TOWN HALL. THE GRAND FINAL OF THE SONG CONTEST WILL BE HELD BEFORE THE CEREMONY.

CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT UC/RC KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN STEERING COMMITTEE, MR CARLOS CHEUNG, AND URBAN COUNCILLOR, MR TONG KAM-BIU, WILL PRESENT PRIZES TO THE WINNERS OF THE SONG CONTEST.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR SO FAI-CHO, AND THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION SERVICES, MR PETER MOSS. THEY WILL PRESENT PRIZES TO THE WINNERS OF THE SLOGAN DESIGN COMPETITION.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN SCHOOL COMPETITIONS TO BE HELD AT 4.30 PM TOMORROW (MONDAY) AT THE SHA TIN TOWN HALL. GIS OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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ART LABORATORY FOR PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN

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A UNIQUE "ART LABORATORY" FOR PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN WILL BE SET UP AT EDINBURGH PLACE IN CENTRAL NEXT SUNDAY (JANUARY 24).

YOUNGSTERS AGED BETWEEN TWO AND SEVEN ARE WELCOME TO TAKE PART IN THE "EXPERIMENTS" AND TRY THEIR HANDS AT THE VARIOUS FORMS OF ART INCLUDING WOODWORK, PAPER-CUTTING, HANDICRAFT AND MASK-PAINTING.

THEY CAN EXPRESS THEIR CREATIVE ABILITY AND ARTISTIC TALENT WITH THE USE OF PRIMITIVE MATERIALS SUCH AS CLAY, PAPER, FLOUR AND CRAYON.

THE "PAINT AND PLAY" DAY WILL BE HELD FROM 12 NOON TO 4 PM AND IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, THE CHUNG WAN AREA COMMITTEE, THE SALVATION ARMY AND THE PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUNDS ASSOCIATION.

THE "PAINT AND PLAY" ACTIVITIES, AIMED AT HELPING THE YOUNG ONES TO LEARN THROUGH PLAY, WAS EXPECTED TO ATTRACT MORE THAN 1,000 CHILDREN, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ORGANISERS SAID.

IN THE COURSE OF CREATION, THEY WOULD LEARN TO MAKE DECISIONS, ORGANISE THEIR WORK AND SOLVE PROBLEMS ON THEIR OWN, SHE ADDED.

PARENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ACCOMPANY THEIR CHILDREN THROUGHOUT THE ACTIVITIES BUT THEY SHOULD NOT INTERFERE WITH THEIR CREATIVITY.

DETAILS OF THE FUNCTION CAN BE OBTAINED ON 5-8523487.

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MORE LABOUR RELATIONS COURSES IN THE PIPELINE

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT IS TO ORGANISE A SERIES OF CERTIFICATE COURSES ON LABOUR RELATIONS FOR EMPLOYERS, MANAGEMENT STAFF, TRADE UNION OFFICIALS AND INDIVIDUAL EMPLOYEES BETWEEN MARCH AND AUGUST THIS YEAR.

THIS FORMS PART OF THE CONTINUOUS EFFORT BY THE DEPARTMENT TO PROMOTE HARMONIOUS LABOUR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS.

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY (SUNDAY) SAID THE COURSES WERE AIMED AT PROVIDING PARTICIPANTS WITH A COMPREHENSIVE KNOWLEDGE OF LABOUR LEGISLATION AND WAYS TO IMPROVE MANAGEMENT SKILLS AND TOOLS.

/THE COVER

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THEY COVER A WIDE RANGE OF TOPICS INCLUDING EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE, EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION ORDINANCE, MATERNITY PROTECTION ORDINANCE, WORK OF THE LABOUR TRIBUNAL AND MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES, CONTRACTS FOR EMPLOYMENT OUTSIDE HONG KONG, AND ROLES OF THE GOVERNMENT, UNIONS AND EMPLOYERS' ORGANISATIONS IN LABOUR RELATIONS.

ALTOGETHER 10 SUCH COURSES WILL BE ORGANISED, EACH COMPRISING EIGHT TWO-AND-A-HALF-HOUR SESSIONS.

PARTICIPANTS MAY ENROL FOR THE FULL COURSE OR CHOOSE TO ATTEND ONE OR MORE SESSIONS.

"CERTIFICATES WILL ONLY BE AWARDED TO THOSE WHO HAVE COMPLETED THE FULL COURSE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE FEES FOR A FULL COURSE IS \$180 AND THAT FOR EACH SELECTED SESSION IS \$30.

ALL COURSES WILL BE HELD BETWEEN 9.30 AM AND 5 PM AT THE DEPARTMENT'S HEADQUARTERS AT HARBOUR BUILDING, 14TH FLOOR, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL.

THE FIRST SESSION WILL START ON MARCH 1.

ENROLMENT FOR COURSES BETWEEN MARCH AND MAY SHOULD BE MADE BEFORE JANUARY 31, AND THAT FOR THE COURSES BETWEEN MAY AND AUGUST BEFORE MARCH 31.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE DEPARTMENT'S PROMOTION UNIT, 12TH FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING.

ENQUIRIES MAY BE MADE ON 5-8523511.

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NEW IDENTITY CARDS FOR MEN BORN IN 1959-60

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MEN BORN IN 1959 AND 1960 ARE REQUIRED TO APPLY FOR NEW IDENTITY CARDS FROM JANUARY 18 TO MARCH 5. THEY SHOULD CALL AT ANY ONE OF THE EIGHT NEW IDENTITY CARD ISSUE OFFICES DURING THIS PERIOD.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT SAID: "THESE NEW IDENTITY CARD ISSUE OFFICES ARE OPEN FROM 8 AM TO 9.30 PM DAILY, EXCEPT ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS."

ANTICIPATING THAT THE ISSUE OFFICES WILL BE VERY CROWDED IN THE EVENINGS, HE ADVISED APPLICANTS TO GO IN THE MORNINGS AND THE AFTERNOONS TO AVOID HAVING TO QUEUE UP.

/APPLICANTS MAY

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APPLICANTS MAY ALSO USE THE PHONE-IN SERVICE TO ARRANGE FOR AN APPOINTMENT BY CALLING THE OFFICE OF THEIR CHOICE.

THE ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF THE ISSUE OFFICES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

HONG KONG : BASEMENT, 151 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI.
TEL. NO. : 5-747070

EAST KOWLOON : AMOY PLAZA, SECOND FLOOR, 77 NGAU TAU KOK
ROAD.
TEL. NO. : 3-7553679

WEST KOWLOON : CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, SECOND
FLOOR, 393 CANTON ROAD, YAU MA TEI.
TEL. NO. : 3-7232424

TSEUN WAN : EAST ASIA COMMERCIAL CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR,
29-37 TSUEN FU STREET.
TEL. NO. : 0-4981259

SHA TIN : SHA TIN CENTRE, PODIUM FLOOR, 2-16 WANG POK
STREET.
TEL. NO. : 0-6059108

YUEN LONG : HOP YICK CENTRE, SECOND FLOOR, 31 HOP YICK
ROAD.
TEL. NO. 0-793291

TUEN MUN : CHI LOK COMMERCIAL CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR,
CHI LOK FA YUEN.
TEL. NO. 0-4580862

SHEUNG SHUI : TSUEN WO TAI LAU, GROUND FLOOR, 82-84 SAN
FUNG AVENUE, SHEK WU HUI.
TEL. NO. : 0-927155

THE SPOKESMAN REITERATED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO AMNESTY FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

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VOLLEYBALL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME FOR INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION
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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS TO ORGANISE A VOLLEYBALL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME BETWEEN FEBRUARY AND MAY THIS YEAR TO PROVIDE A SYSTEMATIC TRAINING TO SECONDARY STUDENTS INTERESTED IN THIS BALLGAME AND TO PREPARE THEM TO REPRESENT HONG KONG IN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS IN THE FUTURE.

THE SCHEME WILL BE HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE HONG KONG SCHOOLS SPORTS COUNCIL AND THE HONG KONG AND KOWLOON VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TODAY (SUNDAY) CALLED FOR NOMINATIONS OF BOY AND GIRL STUDENTS FROM SCHOOLS OF JUNIOR AND SENIOR AGE GROUP (UNDER 16 YEARS OLD AND UNDER 18 YEARS OLD RESPECTIVELY) FOR THE STAGE ONE SELECTION TO BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 27.

HE SAID TEACHERS WERE REQUESTED TO CONSIDER NOMINEES' AGILITY, BASIC SKILLS IN VOLLEYBALL AND MINIMUM HEIGHT REQUIRED.

PARTICIPANTS ACHIEVING GOOD STANDARD IN STAGE ONE OF THE TRAINING WILL BE INVITED TO ATTEND THE STAGE TWO SELECTION ON APRIL 2.

SCHOOLS ARE REQUESTED TO SUBMIT ENTRIES TO THE PRINCIPAL INSPECTOR (PHYSICAL EDUCATION) OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT BEFORE FEBRUARY 15.

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PILED FOUNDATION FOR UC COMPLEX
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AN URBAN COUNCIL COMPLEX IS TO BE BUILT AT QUEEN'S ROAD WEST NEAR HILL ROAD TO SERVE RESIDENTS OF THE WESTERN DISTRICT.

WORK ON PILED FOUNDATION HAS JUST COMMENCED FOLLOWING THE AWARD OF A \$3.8-MILLION CONTRACT BY THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

THE PILING WORK IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN SIX MONTHS.

WITH A TOTAL GROSS FLOOR AREA OF ABOUT 5,000 SQUARE METRES, THE EIGHT-STORY COMPLEX WILL HOUSE MARKET STALLS, COOKED FOOD STALLS, A LIBRARY AND AN INDOOR GAMES HALL.

CONSTRUCTION WORK OF THE COMPLEX IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER AND TAKE ABOUT TWO YEARS TO COMPLETE.

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