



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1989

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BILL OF RIGHTS A LAW OF THE GREATEST SIGNIFICANCE: AG

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THE BILL OF RIGHTS WILL BE A LAW OF THE GREATEST SIGNIFICANCE TO US ALL, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, MR JEREMY MATHEWS, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE ANNUAL DINNER OF THE HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED SECRETARIES AND ADMINISTRATORS, MR MATHEWS SAID THAT THE BILL OF RIGHTS WILL, BY BEING PART OF OUR OWN LAW, PROVIDE A CLEAR CODE TO THE GOVERNMENT AND TO CIVIL SERVANTS AS TO A WHOLE RANGE OF PRINCIPLES THAT MUST DETERMINE ALL THEIR ACTIONS AND THE WAY THEY CARRY OUT THEIR TASKS.

IT WILL ALSO PRESENT A CHALLENGE TO THE JUDGES AND THE LAWYERS, HE SAID.

"THE GREATEST IMPACT WILL BE ON YOU, THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG. YOU WILL HAVE THE SECURE KNOWLEDGE THAT THE RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS THAT WE SO CHERISH ARE ENSHRINED IN A BILL OF RIGHTS, PROTECTED BY AN INDEPENDENT JUDICIARY AND FEARLESS LAWYERS, AND FULLY RECOGNISED AND SUPPORTED BY THE GOVERNMENT," MR MATHEWS SAID.

HE SAID THAT THE MODEL FOR THE BILL OF RIGHTS IS THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS.

SOME OF THE IMPORTANT HUMAN RIGHTS SET OUT IN THE COVENANT INCLUDE PROVISIONS ON THE RIGHT TO LIBERTY AND SECURITY OF PERSON AND ON ARREST AND DETENTION; RECOGNITION AND EQUALITY BEFORE THE LAW AND FAIR TRIAL; EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND IDEAS; FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY; AND FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION.

HE SAID THE COVENANT ALSO CONTAINS MANY OTHER IMPORTANT RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS - SUCH AS RIGHTS AFFECTING THE FAMILY, RIGHTS FOR CHILDREN, THE FREEDOM FROM ARBITRARY OR UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE WITH A PERSON'S PRIVACY, FAMILY, HOME OR CORRESPONDENCE, AND THE FREEDOM OF THOUGHT, CONSCIENCE AND RELIGION.

ONE WOULD EXPECT TO FIND THESE PROVISIONS IN A BILL OF RIGHTS, HE SAID.

MR MATHEWS SAID THERE ARE THREE REASONS FOR MODELLING THE BILL ON THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS.

"THE FIRST REASON IS THAT IT WOULD CORRESPOND WITH THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION WHICH GUARANTEES THE CONTINUED APPLICATION OF THE RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF THE COVENANT.

"SECOND, IT IS CONSISTENT WITH CHAPTER III OF THE DRAFT BASIC LAW, IN PARTICULAR ARTICLE 39 OF THE DRAFT WHICH STIPULATES THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS, THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS, AND INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONVENTIONS AS APPLIED TO HONG KONG SHALL REMAIN IN FORCE AND SHALL BE IMPLEMENTED THROUGH THE LAWS OF THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION.

/"THE THIRD .....

"THE THIRD REASON IS THAT, AS THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS HAS BEEN ADOPTED BY MANY COUNTRIES IN THE UNITED NATIONS, THERE ARE AMPLE PRECEDENTS AND EXPERTISE UPON WHICH HONG KONG COULD DRAW," MR MATHEWS SAID.

HE SAID THERE ARE TWO SCHOOLS OF THOUGHT ON THE SUGGESTION THAT THERE SHOULD BE A HUMAN RIGHTS COURT.

THE ARGUMENT FOR ESTABLISHING A HUMAN RIGHTS COURT IS THAT PROBLEMS OF HUMAN RIGHTS WOULD BE BETTER DEALT WITH BY JUDGES WHO ARE EXPERTS IN THIS FIELD AND SYMPATHETIC TO HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES.

THE ARGUMENT AGAINST ESTABLISHMENT OF SUCH A COURT IS THAT IT WOULD NOT NECESSARILY BE HELPFUL TO EXCLUDE THE BULK OF OUR JUDGES FROM MAKING DECISIONS ON SOMETHING SO FUNDAMENTAL AS HUMAN RIGHTS WHICH OUGHT TO BE A MAINSTREAM JUDICIAL ACTIVITY.

"THIS ISSUE, WITH MANY OTHERS, IS LIKELY TO BE THROWN UP DURING THE COURSE OF THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION OF THE BILL AND IS ONE TO WHICH THE GOVERNMENT WOULD GIVE VERY CAREFUL CONSIDERATION," HE SAID.

MR MATHEWS SAID THE BILL, ONCE IN FORCE, WILL EITHER REPEAL OR RENDER INOPERATIVE ALL PREVIOUS LAWS FOUND TO BE INCOMPATIBLE WITH IT.

IN VIEW OF THE TIMETABLE SET FOR THE ENACTMENT OF THE BILL, IT IS PROPOSED TO HAVE A "FREEZE" PERIOD AFTER THE PASSAGE OF THE BILL, DURING WHICH NO EXISTING LAWS CAN BE STRUCK DOWN.

"THIS WOULD ALLOW US TIME TO CONTINUE TO REVIEW ALL EXISTING LAWS TO IDENTIFY AREAS OF DOUBT," HE SAID.

BUT THIS "FREEZE" WOULD ONLY APPLY TO EXISTING LAWS. ALL NEW LAWS MADE AFTER THE BILL IS ENACTED WOULD BE SUBJECT TO IT.

"IN OTHER WORDS, THE BILL OF RIGHTS WOULD BE A LIVING LAW FROM THE START," HE SAID.

MR MATHEWS NOTED THAT ONE OF THE CRITICISMS ADVANCED AGAINST BILLS OF RIGHTS IS THAT THEY ARE VAGUE AND GENERAL. THIS HAS THE DISADVANTAGE, AS SOME WOULD DESCRIBE IT, THAT THERE IS SOME UNCERTAINTY AS TO THE SCOPE AND MEANING OF THE LAW AT ANY GIVEN TIME.

"BUT ON THE OTHER HAND IT GIVES PERSONS WITH GRIEVANCES THE CHANCE TO ARGUE THEIR CASE FOR A REMEDY IN THE COURTS. THE ANSWERS GIVEN BY THE JUDGES WILL REFLECT THE CHANGING ATTITUDES OF SOCIETY," HE SAID.

THE GOVERNMENT AIMS TO PUBLISH A WHITE BILL FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION BY THE END OF DECEMBER.

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GOVERNOR HOPES DISPUTE WILL BE RESOLVED SOON

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT HE HOPED THE DISPUTE BETWEEN THE CHINA MOTOR BUS COMPANY AND ITS WORKERS WOULD BE RESOLVED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO THAT THE AMOUNT OF DISRUPTION TO THE ORDINARY TRAVELLING PUBLIC COULD BE KEPT TO THE VERY MINIMUM.

SIR DAVID WAS RESPONDING TO A PRESS QUESTION AFTER OFFICIATING AT THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC 17TH GRADUATION CEREMONY.

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NON-INVASIVE CARDIAC LABORATORY IN PWH UPGRADED

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THE NON-INVASIVE CARDIAC LABORATORY IN THE PRINCE OF WALES HOSPITAL (PWH) HAS RECENTLY BEEN UPGRADED FOLLOWING THE ACQUISITION OF A NEW COLOUR DOPPLER ECHOCARDIOGRAPHIC MACHINE, THE FIRST OF ITS KIND INSTALLED IN A GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL.

THE MACHINE WAS TODAY (THURSDAY) OFFICIALLY HANDED OVER TO THE CARDIOLOGY UNIT OF THE PWH BY DR HARRY FANG, STEWARD OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB WHICH HAS GENEROUSLY DONATED \$1.8 MILLION TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE EQUIPMENT AND OTHER ACCESSORIES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HOSPITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID THAT THE NEW ECHOCARDIOGRAPHIC MACHINE, WITH ITS ASSOCIATED DOPPLER FLOW AND COLOUR MAPPING DEVICES AND IMAGE-PROCESSING ACCESSORIES, WILL IMPROVE CONSIDERABLY CARDIOLOGIC SERVICE IN PWH, WHICH IS BOTH A SERVICE AND A TEACHING HOSPITAL.

"THE DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE IN PWH, THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG AND THE GOVERNMENT ARE EXTREMELY GRATEFUL TO THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB FOR THE GENEROSITY AND PUBLIC SPIRITED GESTURE THROUGH WHICH PATIENT CARE, TEACHING AND RESEARCH WILL ALL BE IMPROVED."

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT NON-INVASIVE INVESTIGATORY PROCEDURES FOR DIAGNOSIS AND ASSESSMENT OF HEART DISEASES ARE PREFERRED TO THE CONVENTIONAL INVASIVE PROCEDURES BECAUSE THEY ARE NON-TRAUMATIC, SAFE AND CAN BE PERFORMED REPEATEDLY.

"OF CENTRAL IMPORTANCE TO NON-INVASIVE INVESTIGATIONS OF HEART FUNCTIONS IS ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY.

"THIS INVOLVES TRANSMISSION OF HIGH FREQUENCY ULTRA-SONIC WAVES WHICH ARE REFLECTED FROM HEART STRUCTURES AND CONVERTED INTO VISUAL IMAGES SHOWING UP DETAILED AND ACCURATE PICTURES OF THE STRUCTURE OF THE HEART," HE EXPLAINED.

/THE SPOKEMAN .....

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE DOPPLER COLOUR FLOW MAPPING IS THE NEWEST TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCE TO PROVIDE A REAL TIME VISUALISATION OF INTRACARDIAC BLOOD FLOW.

THIS IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT IN DIAGNOSING CONGENITAL HEART DISEASES AND OTHER ABNORMALITIES IN THE ANATOMICAL STRUCTURE AND VALVE FUNCTIONS OF THE HEART.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT HEART DISEASE IS THE SECOND LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH IN HONG KONG IN RECENT YEARS AND IS OCCURRING IN A PROGRESSIVELY YOUNGER AGE GROUP. THEREFORE, EARLY RECOGNITION AND TREATMENT ARE OF VITAL IMPORTANCE.

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ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE PROMOTIONS ANNOUNCED

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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY) THE FOLLOWING SUBSTANTIVE PROMOTIONS TO SENIOR RANKS IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE:

TO SECRETARY, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT  
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MR YEUNG KAI-YIN	SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER
MR JOHN CHAN CHO-CHAK	SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY

TO ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER STAFF GRADE A  
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MR PATRICK WILLIAMSON	COMMISSIONER FOR CUSTOMS AND EXCISE
MR STEUART WEBB-JOHNSON	MINISTER, BRUSSELS
MR JAMES SO YIU-CHO	DIRECTOR OF URBAN SERVICES
MR ALISTAIR ASPREY	DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR SECURITY
MR HAIDER BARMA	DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL SERVICES
MR TYEBJEE BARMA	DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY
MRS ELIZABETH WONG CHIEN CHI-LIEN	DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE
MR MICHAEL SZE CHO-CHEUNG	DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRADE

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RTHK FUNCTION TO MARK USE OF NEW FREQUENCIES

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RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG WILL HOLD A "NEW WAVES NITE" ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 2) TO MARK THE COMING INTO OPERATION OF ITS NEW BROADCASTING FREQUENCIES.

THE FUNCTION WILL START AT 11 PM, AND CONTINUE TO 1 AM THE NEXT DAY (SUNDAY).

THE SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR AUGUSTINE CHUI, AND THE DIRECTOR OF BROADCASTING, MISS CHEUNG MAN-YEE, WILL PERFORM A SWITCHING-ON CEREMONY AT MIDNIGHT TO START BROADCASTING ON THE NEW FREQUENCIES, USHERING IN A NEW ERA IN LOCAL BROADCASTING.

THE FUNCTION WILL FEATURE A NIGHT RADIO PROGRAMME AND A PARTY WHICH WILL AT FIRST BE BROADCAST LIVE ON THE OLD FREQUENCIES, AND THEN SWITCHED TO THE NEW FREQUENCIES AFTER MIDNIGHT.

IN ADDITION, A "PROGRAMME PARADE" WILL BE PERFORMED BY STAFF OF RTHK'S CHANNEL 1, 2, 3, 4 AND 5.

GUESTS AT THE FUNCTION WILL INCLUDE THE POSTMASTER GENERAL, MR DOMINIC WONG, COMMUNITY LEADERS, SINGERS, TV AND FILM ARTISTES, AND CANTONESE OPERA PERFORMERS.

AFTER THE FUNCTION, A "SONG DEDICATION PROGRAMME" WILL BE BROADCAST ON RADIO 1 AND 2 FROM 1 AM TO 6 AM.

RTHK HAS ALSO ARRANGED A JOINT BROADCAST WITH A RADIO STATION IN NEW YORK TO MARK THE OCCASION.

RTHK'S NEW FREQUENCIES ARE: RADIO 1 FM 92.6; RADIO 2 FM 94.8; RADIO 3 AM 567/1584; RADIO 4 FM 97.6; RADIO 5 AM 783; AND RADIO 7 AM 621.

THE USE OF NEW FREQUENCIES IS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE A BETTER SERVICE FOR THE WHOLE TERRITORY.

LISTENERS WHO WISH TO MAKE ENQUIRIES AFTER THE NEW FREQUENCIES COME INTO OPERATION MAY TELEPHONE RTHK ON 3-3051240 DURING OFFICE HOURS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE FUNCTION TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 2) IN STUDIO ONE OF RTHK, 30 BROADCAST DRIVE, KOWLOON. A RECEPTION TO MARK THE OCCASION WILL BEGIN AT 10.30 PM.

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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LANGUAGE STUDIES

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THE INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL HOLD ITS FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LANGUAGE STUDIES AND LANGUAGE TEACHER EDUCATION BETWEEN DECEMBER 13 AND 15.

THE CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD FOR THE SECOND TIME IN THE HONG KONG CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE IN WAN CHAI.

THE THEME OF THE CONFERENCE IS "LANGUAGE USE, LANGUAGE TEACHING AND THE CURRICULUM", IN BRIEF, "LULTAC '89".

RESPONSE FROM LOCAL AND OVERSEAS INSTITUTES AND COMPANIES TO THIS YEAR'S CONFERENCE HAS BEEN VERY ENCOURAGING AND THERE ARE ONLY A LIMITED NUMBER OF PLACES LEFT, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE ARE ADVISED TO ENROL NOW AS THERE WILL BE NO ENROLMENT AT THE VENUE.

THE REGISTRATION FEE FOR THE CONFERENCE WILL COVER ATTENDANCE AT THE CONFERENCE AND LUNCH ON THE THREE DAYS OF THE CONFERENCE, ABSTRACTS OF PAPERS IN THE CONFERENCE AND TWO BOUND VOLUMES OF CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE.

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR REGISTERED TEACHERS IN GOVERNMENT AND AIDED SCHOOLS TO RECEIVE A PARTIAL REFUND OF THEIR REGISTRATION FEES.

FURTHER DETAILS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION ON THE 21ST FLOOR, PARK-IN COMMERCIAL CENTRE, 56 DUNDAS STREET, MONG KOK. TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES MAY BE MADE ON 3-7719418. ENROLMENT IN PERSON CAN BE MADE AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS.

THE ISSUES THE CONFERENCE WILL ADDRESS THIS YEAR ARE OF MAJOR CONCERN TO HONG KONG WHERE THERE IS GREAT PUBLIC INTEREST IN THE ROLES AND FUNCTIONS OF CHINESE AND ENGLISH IN THE FIELDS OF EDUCATION, INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE.

THE CONFERENCE WILL RE-EXPLORE LANGUAGE TEACHING CONCERNS WITHIN A CONTEXT OF NEW INSIGHTS INTO LANGUAGE USE AND LANGUAGE LEARNING.

IT WILL RE-APPRAISE THE COMPONENTS OF LANGUAGE LEARNING AND TEACHING IN RELATION TO LANGUAGE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT, AND WILL RE-EXAMINE THE PLACE OF LITERATURE IN LANGUAGE EDUCATION.

IN ADDITION, IT WILL ENCOURAGE THE SHARING OF AND DISCUSSION ON THE DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF CURRICULUM INITIATIVES, MANAGEMENT OF CHANGES IN THE CURRICULUM AND THE RESEARCH FINDINGS OF CURRICULUM INNOVATIONS.

/A TOTAL .....

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A TOTAL OF 139 PAPERS AND WORKSHOPS ARE TO BE PRESENTED IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE BY WORLD EXPERTS IN THE FIELD.

FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE CONFERENCE WILL INTRODUCE A PANEL DISCUSSION TO MAKE THE OCCASION A PRIME ONE FOR ACADEMICS AND PRACTITIONERS DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN LANGUAGE AND EDUCATION, AS WELL AS FOR MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY WHO ARE INTERESTED IN LANGUAGE EDUCATION, ITS PRESENT AND ITS FUTURE.

THE PANEL DISCUSSION WILL DEVOTE ITS DELIBERATIONS TO "LANGUAGE PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING LANGUAGE USE".

THE CONFERENCE WILL BE ATTENDED BY SOME OF THE WORLD'S LEADING SPECIALISTS IN THE FIELD OF LANGUAGE LEARNING AND TEACHING.

THEY INCLUDE PROFESSOR JOAN RUBIN OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, USA; PROFESSOR THEODORE RODGERS AND PROFESSOR LI YING-CHE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII, USA; PROFESSOR CHRISTOPHER CANDLIN OF MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY, AUSTRALIA; PROFESSOR JOHN SINCLAIR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM, UK; PROFESSOR BJORN JERNUDD OF THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE; PROFESSOR LIN TAO OF BEIJING UNIVERSITY, AND PROFESSOR XU SI-YI OF SIN KIANG UNIVERSITY, CHINA; AND LEADING FIGURES IN LANGUAGE AND LANGUAGE EDUCATION FROM OVER 24 OVERSEAS COUNTRIES.

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CLANSMEN AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS URGED TO FACE UP TO CHALLENGE

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THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR DAVID LAN, TODAY (THURSDAY) CALLED ON CLANSMEN AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS BUILDING A BETTER COMMUNITY IN THE 1990'S.

MR LAN WAS SPEAKING AT A SEMINAR ORGANISED BY THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION FOR THE ASSOCIATIONS.

THE FUNCTION REPRESENTED ANOTHER EFFORT BY THE CNTA TO STRENGTHEN RELATIONS WITH COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS, FOLLOWING THE SUCCESS OF A SERIES OF SIMILAR FUNCTIONS FOR AREA COMMITTEES AND KAIFONG ASSOCIATIONS.

MR LAN DESCRIBED THE 1990'S AS A "CHALLENGING ERA" FOR HONG KONG.

ON ONE HAND LOCAL PEOPLE WOULD HAVE TO FACE UP TO THE IMPACT TO BE BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE DEVELOPMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT AND THE BRAIN DRAIN; ON THE OTHER HAND, THE TERRITORY WOULD BE ENTERING INTO "AN ERA OF MAJOR CONSTRUCTIONS", WHICH INCLUDE A NEW AIRPORT, ROAD NETWORKS, TUNNELS AND MANY OTHER PROJECTS IN BOTH THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS, HE SAID.

/THE 1990'S .....

THE 1990'S WOULD ALSO WITNESS A RAPID DEVELOPMENT OF TERTIARY EDUCATION, WITH THE NUMBER OF TERTIARY PLACES INCREASED TO 67,000 BY 1995. THIS WOULD MAKE UNIVERSITY OR POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION AVAILABLE TO ONE IN EVERY FOUR YOUNG PERSONS - A PROPORTION BETTER THAN THOSE IN MANY ADVANCED WESTERN COUNTRIES.

MR LAN, THEREFORE, CALLED ON THE VARIOUS LOCAL ORGANISATIONS TO FACE UP TO THE FORTHCOMING "UNPRECEDENTED CHANGES AND CHALLENGE" WITH THE DETERMINATION AND RESILIENCE SYNONYMOUS WITH HONG KONG PEOPLE.

HE ALSO URGED THESE ORGANISATIONS TO ASSIST IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GOVERNMENT POLICIES AND VARIOUS INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENTS TO ENSURE THAT THE TERRITORY WOULD CONTINUE TO PROGRESS.

MR LAN PRAISED LOCAL CLANSMEN AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS FOR CONTRIBUTING TOWARDS HONG KONG'S SUCCESS ON VARIOUS FRONTS.

"APART FROM PROMOTING CLANSMENSHIP, THESE ASSOCIATIONS HAVE BEEN INCREASINGLY CONCERNED WITH THE WELL-BEING OF THE COMMUNITY.

"THEY HAVE ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED IN COMMUNITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES AND SUPPORTED VARIOUS GOVERNMENT POLICIES THAT BENEFIT THE PUBLIC," HE NOTED.

MR LAN RECALLED THAT CLANSMEN AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS RENDERED VALUABLE SERVICES IN THE PROVISION OF EMERGENCY RELIEF IN THE WAKE OF THE MAJOR SHEK KIP MEI FIRE IN DECEMBER 1953, TYPHOON WANDA IN AUGUST 1962, AND SERIOUS LANDSLIDES IN JUNE 1972.

MANY SECONDARY AND PRIMARY SCHOOLS AS WELL AS OTHER COMMUNITY FACILITIES SUCH AS CLINICS WERE CURRENTLY RUN BY THESE ASSOCIATIONS, HE SAID.

A NUMBER OF GUESTS SPOKE ON VARIOUS TOPICS AT THE SEMINAR. THEY INCLUDED MR H.C. FUNG, MR LIU LIT-FOR, MR LEO LEE AND MR M.T. YIP.

THE SPEAKERS GENERALLY AGREED THAT THE 1990'S OFFERED EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR CLANSMEN AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS TO SHOW THEIR VIGOUR AND STRENGTH TOWARDS BUILDING A BETTER TOMORROW FOR HONG KONG.

THEY SUGGESTED THAT OPPORTUNITIES SHOULD BE GIVEN TO YOUNGER MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATIONS TO TAKE A MORE ACTIVE AND LEADING ROLE IN THE CONDUCT OF BUSINESS OF THESE ASSOCIATIONS.

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BLANKETS FOR STREET SLEEPERS

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A TOTAL OF 167 FIELD STAFF OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT DISTRIBUTED BLANKETS TO STREET SLEEPERS IN AN OPERATION LAST (WEDNESDAY) NIGHT.

A TOTAL OF 508 BLANKETS AND SLEEPING BAGS WERE DISTRIBUTED TO 158 STREET SLEEPERS ON HONG KONG ISLAND, 251 IN WEST KOWLOON, 39 IN EAST KOWLOON, 26 IN NEW TERRITORIES EAST AND 15 IN NEW TERRITORIES WEST.

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AREA PUBLIC TRANSPORT NETWORK EFFICIENCY STUDIES

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT HAS COMMISSIONED THE FIRST IN A SERIES OF AREA TRANSPORT STUDIES AS PART OF ITS CONTINUING EFFORT TO IMPROVE THE EFFICIENCY OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES.

A \$3.15 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE STUDY WAS SIGNED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, MR PANG HAU-CHUNG, AND THE MANAGING DIRECTOR OF MVA CONSULTANCY, MR F.N. BROWN.

THE OBJECTIVE OF THE SEVEN-MONTH PROJECT IS TO REVIEW THE EFFICIENCY OF THE EXISTING PUBLIC TRANSPORT NETWORKS IN THE EASTERN NEW TERRITORIES BY INVESTIGATING HOW FAR THEY MEET PUBLIC DEMAND IN BOTH THE ROUTEING AND SERVICE QUALITY OF BUS AND GREEN MINIBUS SERVICES.

THE TECHNIQUE IN CONDUCTING THE STUDY WILL SUBSEQUENTLY BE APPLIED TO THE STUDY OF TRANSPORT NETWORKS IN OTHER AREAS.

THE STUDY REFLECTS TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT'S POLICY TO IMPROVE PUBLIC TRANSPORT MONITORING AND PLANNING METHODS.

EXTENSIVE SURVEYS WILL BE CONDUCTED ON SUCH MATTERS AS PASSENGERS' PREFERENCES AND THE FINANCIAL VIABILITY OF DIFFERENT NETWORK OPERATIONS.

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HIGHWAYS DEPT MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR TO BE REPLACED

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AS THE CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE WORKS IN THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN AREAS OF HONG KONG ISLAND HAS CEASED WORK AT VARIOUS SITES, THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT IS NOW INVITING TENDERS FOR A NEW TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACT.

A HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THE NEW CONTRACT WAS EXPECTED TO COMMENCE IN MID-JANUARY NEXT YEAR.

"THE DEPARTMENT IS TAKING ACTION TO ARRANGE FOR THE MORE URGENT AND PRESSING WORKS TO CONTINUE BEFORE A NEW CONTRACTOR IS SELECTED.

"WE WILL DO OUR UTMOST TO ATTEND TO COMPLAINTS IN CONNECTION WITH ROAD WORKS WHICH MAY POSE A DANGER OR CAUSE UNDUE INCONVENIENCE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC," HE SAID.

"WE REGRET NOT BEING ABLE TO MAINTAIN THE NORMAL LEVEL OF SERVICES IN REGARD TO THE CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF ROADS, DRAINS AND SLOPE WORKS IN THE AREAS IN THE NEXT TWO MONTHS," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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DISPLAY ON EMPLOYMENT LAW

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT WILL STAGE A MOBILE EXHIBITION IN TWO PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES IN SHA TIN AND TAI PO NEXT MONTH TO PROMOTE PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF EMPLOYMENT LAWS.

THE EXHIBITION IS ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S LABOUR RELATIONS PROMOTION UNIT AND HAS BEEN STAGED IN VARIOUS DISTRICTS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY SINCE JULY. IT IS AIMED AT PUBLICISING THE PROVISIONS OF THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE AND THE STATUTORY ENTITLEMENTS OF WORKERS.

USING SIMPLE LANGUAGE AND INTERESTING CARTOONS, THE EXHIBITION EXPLAINS PROVISIONS IN THE ORDINANCE OF GENERAL INTEREST INCLUDING LONG SERVICE PAY, SICKNESS ALLOWANCE, MATERNITY PROTECTION, STATUTORY HOLIDAY, PAID ANNUAL LEAVE, END-OF-YEAR PAYMENT AND TERMINATION OF CONTRACTS.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT STAFF WILL BE PRESENT TO ANSWER QUESTIONS ON EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR RELATIONS MATTERS.

THERE WILL ALSO BE A QUIZ ON EMPLOYMENT LEGISLATION WITH A LUCKY DRAW FOR SUCCESSFUL PARTICIPANTS.

THE EXHIBITION WILL BE HELD AT THE COMMERCIAL COMPLEXES IN WO CHE ESTATE IN SHA TIN FROM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) DECEMBER 3 AND IN FU SHIN ESTATE IN TAI PO FROM DECEMBER 15 TO 17. OPENING HOURS ARE FROM 9.30 AM TO 5.30 PM.

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NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE IN SHAM SHUI PO OPENS ON SATURDAY

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A NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE IN THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT WILL BE OPENED ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 2).

SITUATED IN NAM CHEONG ESTATE NEXT TO THE SHAM SHUI PO FERRY PIER, THE SIX-STOREY CENTRE WILL SERVE A POPULATION OF ABOUT 110,000 IN THE NAM CHEONG AREA.

THE CENTRE IS MANAGED BY THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION. IT HAS A MULTI-PURPOSE HALL, A CONFERENCE ROOM AND A BASKETBALL COURT, ALL OF WHICH CAN BE USED BY LOCAL ORGANISATIONS.

APPLICATIONS FOR RENTING THE FACILITIES SHOULD BE SENT TO THE NAM CHEONG SUB-OFFICE OF THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE.

THE NEW CENTRE ALSO HOUSES A CENTRE FOR THE ELDERLY OPERATED BY SIK SIK YUEN AND A CHILDREN'S DAY CARE CENTRE RUN BY THE PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF HONG KONG.

THE CENTRE FOR THE ELDERLY PROVIDES HOME-CARE AND COUNSELLING SERVICES, AS WELL AS RECREATIONAL AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR AGED PEOPLE, WHILE THE CHILDREN'S CENTRE OFFERS 100 PLACES FOR CHILDREN IN THE AREA.

IN ADDITION, THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT PROVIDES FAMILY AND SOCIAL SECURITY SERVICES AND RUNS A WORK UNIT IN THE CENTRE.

OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING OF THE CENTRE AT 2.15 PM ON SATURDAY WILL BE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ALAN FUNG; DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR TAI TUNG-NGOK; POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDER, MR GERALD FRITH; DISTRICT SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER (SHAM SHUI PO), MISS CHAN JOY-YIN; AND SENIOR HOUSING MANAGER, MR JOHN LUK.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE NAM CHEONG COMMUNITY CENTRE ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 2) AT NAM CHEONG ESTATE. THE CEREMONY WILL BEGIN AT 2.15 PM.

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NEW PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE IN SHEUNG SHUI

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A NEW PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE IN TIN PING ESTATE, SHEUNG SHUI, WILL START OPERATION TOMORROW (FRIDAY), PROVIDING A WIDE RANGE OF SERVICES.

THE CENTRE IS LOCATED AT UNIT 105, ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF TIN HOR HOUSE IN TIN PING ESTATE.

"IT WILL HANDLE ENQUIRIES FROM THE INCREASING POPULATION IN THE AREA," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

"THE SERVICES AVAILABLE INCLUDE ANSWERING GENERAL ENQUIRIES, ADMINISTERING DECLARATIONS, GIVING ADVICE ON SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE GOVERNMENT, HANDLING SIMPLE COMPLAINTS AGAINST GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, RENDERING ASSISTANCE IN SOLVING PERSONAL PROBLEMS AND ARRANGING REFERRALS FOR COMPLICATED CASES WHICH REQUIRE LEGAL OR EXPERT ADVICE.

"THE CENTRE WILL ALSO HELP TO DISTRIBUTE GOVERNMENT FORMS, LEAFLETS, POSTERS, CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENTS AND OTHER PUBLICITY MATERIALS," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE CENTRE WILL BE OPEN FROM 8.45 AM TO 5.15 PM FROM MONDAY TO FRIDAY, AND FROM 9 AM TO 12 NOON ON SATURDAY.

STATUTORY DECLARATION SERVICE WILL BE PROVIDED AT THE CENTRE BETWEEN 2 PM AND 4.30 PM EVERY WEDNESDAY.

THE TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THE TIN PING PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE IS 0-6706211.

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NOMINATIONS FOR GOOD STUDENT AWARD

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NOMINATIONS FOR THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT GOOD STUDENT AWARD SCHEME WILL OPEN TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

NOMINATION FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE'S THREE PUBLIC ENQUIRY CENTRES AT HARBOUR BUILDING, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (WEST WING) AND BELCHER'S STREET.

COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE (DFCC) AT 11TH FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, NOT LATER THAN DECEMBER 21.

/A DFCC .....

A DFCC SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT THE AWARD SCHEME, NOW IN ITS THIRD YEAR, HAD BECOME INCREASINGLY POPULAR WITH SCHOOL PRINCIPALS AND STUDENTS IN THE DISTRICT.

"AS IN PREVIOUS YEARS, THE SCHEME WILL ATTEMPT TO ENHANCE SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS' AWARENESS OF THE WORK OF THE LOCAL DFCC SO THAT THEY WOULD PARTICIPATE MORE ACTIVELY IN CRIME PREVENTION ACTIVITIES.

"STUDENTS NOMINATED FOR THE SCHEME WILL BE JUDGED BY THEIR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS, CONDUCT AND PARTICIPATION IN EXTRA-CURRICULAR OR SOCIAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES," HE ADDED.

TEN FINALISTS WILL BE SELECTED BY A PANEL OF JUDGES EARLY NEXT YEAR, AND EACH WILL RECEIVE A TROPHY AND \$1,000 SCHOLARSHIP. THE BEST FOUR AMONG THEM WILL BE AWARDED A FREE OVERSEAS STUDY TOUR NEXT APRIL.

THE AWARD SCHEME HAS BEEN ORGANISED BY THE LOCAL DFCC WITH ASSISTANCE FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE DISTRICT'S TWO POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICES.

IT IS ALSO BEING JOINTLY SPONSORED BY THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD, THE MOUNT CAMERON OF HONG KONG LIONS CLUB, MAN ON TOSHIBA LTD, THE BANGKOK BANK AND THE PHOENIX LIONS CLUB.

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DB COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS PROGRESS OF WORK PROJECTS

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THE CULTURE, RECREATION AND SPORTS AND COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS THE PROGRESS OF PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS IN THE DISTRICT AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

MEMBERS WILL ALSO REVIEW THE LATEST FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE COMMITTEE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD'S CULTURE, RECREATION AND SPORTS AND COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE TO BE HELD TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, 6 TUNG YAN STREET.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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SPORTS DAY FOR THE ELDERLY IN SOUTHERN DISTRICT  
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ABOUT 500 ELDERLY PEOPLE WILL TAKE PART IN A SPORTS DAY FOR THE ELDERLY IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 2) IN AN ACTIVITY OF THE CURRENT DISTRICT FESTIVAL.

JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT FESTIVAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE, THE DISTRICT RECREATION AND SPORTS COUNCIL, THE URBAN COUNCIL AND THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, THE EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE ABERDEEN SPORTS GROUND IN WONG CHUK HANG FROM 9.30 AM TO NOON.

THERE WILL BE SIX TELEMATCHES WHICH HAVE BEEN CAREFULLY DESIGNED FOR THE ELDERLY.

LAST WEEK, THE DISTRICT FESTIVAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE HELD TWO CRUISES ESPECIALLY FOR ELDERLY RESIDENTS AND DISABLED PERSONS.

DURING THEIR TRIPS ALONG THE DISTRICT'S SHORELINE ON BOARD A YACHT, THE PARTICIPANTS WERE ABLE TO ENJOY THE DISTRICT'S SCENERY IN DEEP WATER BAY, REPULSE BAY AND STANLEY, AND VIEW ITS LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN KELLET BAY AND TELEGRAPH BAY.

THEY WERE ALSO TREATED TO LUNCH IN A FLOATING RESTAURANT AND WERE GIVEN SOUVENIRS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DISTRICT FESTIVAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE SAID THE PURPOSE OF THESE FUNCTIONS WAS TO ENABLE THE ELDERLY AND THE DISABLED IN THE DISTRICT TO SHARE THE FUN OF THE DISTRICT FESTIVAL.

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FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR DEPENDANTS OF ACCIDENT VICTIMS  
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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY) APPROVED PAYMENT OF \$86,940 FROM THE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS ASSISTANCE (TAVA) FUND TO DEPENDANTS OF TWO MEN KILLED IN A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT ON NOVEMBER 17.

A MOULD-MAKING WORKER, MR WAN KEUNG, AGED 32, AND A FACTORY WORKER, MR WONG SIU-MAN, AGED 59, WERE KILLED WHEN A PUBLIC LIGHT BUS CRASHED INTO A METAL SHOP IN TEXACO ROAD, TSUEN WAN.

FOUR OTHER PERSONS WERE INJURED IN THE ACCIDENT. THEIR APPLICATIONS FOR ASSISTANCE ARE BEING PROCESSED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S TAVA SECTION.

THE TAVA SCHEME PROVIDES QUICK FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS OR THEIR DEPENDANTS WITHOUT TAKING REGARD OF THE MEANS OF A FAMILY OR THE ELEMENT OF FAULT IN THE CAUSE OF THE ACCIDENT.

/BENEFICIARIES UNDER .....

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BENEFICIARIES UNDER THE SCHEME STILL RETAIN THE RIGHT TO MAKE CLAIMS FOR LEGAL DAMAGES OR COMPENSATION FROM OTHER SOURCES IN THE USUAL WAY.

HOWEVER, THOSE WHO RECEIVE OTHER DAMAGES OR COMPENSATION IN RESPECT OF THE ACCIDENT ARE REQUIRED TO REPAY THE AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE ALREADY RECEIVED FROM THE SCHEME, BUT IN ANY CASE THE AMOUNT TO BE REPAID WOULD NOT EXCEED THE AMOUNT OF DAMAGES OR COMPENSATION AWARDED.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT MAKING APPLICATIONS FOR ASSISTANCE UNDER THE SCHEME MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE DEPARTMENT'S TAVA SECTION AT 15 WATSON ROAD, VICTORIA CENTRE, FIRST FLOOR, CAUSEWAY BAY, HONG KONG, OR BY TELEPHONING 5-702410.

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WATER CUT ON LAMMA

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES ON LAMMA ISLAND WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 10 AM TO 4 PM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO FACILITATE WATERWORKS AT TAI YUEN VILLAGE, YUNG SHUE WAN.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT ALL PREMISES AT YUNG SHUE WAN, SHA PO, KO LONG, WANG LONG, TAI WAN SAN TSUEN, TAI WAN KAU TSUEN, TAI YUEN VILLAGE, YUNG SHUE LONG, TAI PING, PAK KOK KAU TSUEN, PAK KOK SAN TSUEN, SHEK LI, SHEK LI KA NAM, NGA KAU WAN, O TSAI AND PO WAH YUEN.

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