



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1987

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HEPATITIS VACCINATION FOR ALL BABIES IN 1988

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THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT IS PLANNING TO EXTEND ITS HEPATITIS B VACCINATION PROGRAMME TO COVER ALL NEW BORN BABIES IN A BID TO CURB THE SPREAD OF HEPATITIS B WHICH IS A MAJOR PUBLIC HEALTH PROBLEM IN THE REGION.

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THERE ARE NOW ABOUT 160 MILLION CARRIERS OF THE DISEASE IN ASIA.

THE RECOMMENDATION TO EXTEND THE PROGRAMME TO ALL BABIES WAS MADE BY THE HEPATITIS B VACCINATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE WHICH WAS FORMED IN LATE 1982 TO MONITOR AND ADVISE ON THE VACCINATION PROGRAMME.

THE NEW PROGRAMME IS EXPECTED TO BE INTRODUCED IN MID-1988.

AT PRESENT, ONLY BABIES BORN TO MOTHERS WHO ARE CARRIERS OF THE HEPATITIS B INFECTION ARE GIVEN THE VACCINATION AT GOVERNMENT AND SUBVENTED HOSPITALS.

UNDER THE PROPOSED PROGRAMME, ALL INFANTS BORN IN GOVERNMENT AND SUBVENTED HOSPITALS WILL BE VACCINATED AGAINST HEPATITIS B. AT THE SAME TIME, BABIES BORN IN PRIVATE HOSPITALS MAY ALSO BE REFERRED TO THE GOVERNMENT MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH CENTRES FOR VACCINATION.

IN ADDITION, BABIES BORN TO MOTHERS WHO ARE CARRIERS WILL BE GIVEN HEPATITIS B IMMUNOGLOBULIN (HBIG) FOR EXTRA PROTECTION.

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT ABOUT 92 PER CENT OF ALL NEW BORN BABIES IN HONG KONG WILL ATTEND THE MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH CENTRES WHILE THE REMAINING ONES WILL GO TO PRIVATE PRACTITIONERS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE EXTENDED PROGRAMME WILL COVER ABOUT 65,000 BABIES IN A YEAR.

THE ANNUAL COST FOR THE VACCINE AND SCREENING OF THE EXPANDED PROGRAMME WILL BE ABOUT \$10.5 MILLION.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT YEAST-DERIVED VACCINE WILL BE USED FOR THE EXTENDED PROGRAMME IN PLACE OF THE CURRENTLY USED PLASMA VACCINE.

HE EXPLAINED THAT SINCE BOTH VACCINES HAVE PROVEN TO BE EQUALLY EFFICACIOUS AND SAFE THE YEAST VACCINE WAS PROCURED RECENTLY AS A RESULT OF THE LATEST TENDERING EXERCISE.

/THE ADVISORY

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THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FELT THAT THE EXPANDED PROGRAMME TO COVER ALL NEW BORN BABIES WILL CURB THE SPREAD OF HEPATITIS B WHICH IS PREVALENT IN HONG KONG SINCE ABOUT 10 PER CENT OF THE POPULATION ARE CARRIERS OF THE DISEASE.

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT ABOUT ONE QUARTER OF THE CARRIERS WILL SUFFER FROM CHRONIC LIVER DISEASE SUCH AS CIRRHOSIS, OR EVEN LIVER CANCER.

CURRENTLY ABOUT 300 DEATHS FROM CHRONIC LIVER DISEASE AND 1,000 DEATHS FROM CANCER OF LIVER OCCUR EVERY YEAR.

IN FACT, LIVER CANCER IS THE SECOND LEADING CAUSE OF CANCER DEATH IN HONG KONG, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

MANY INFANTS, HE SAID, ARE INFECTED BY THE DISEASE DURING BIRTH FROM THEIR MOTHERS WHO ARE CARRIERS WHILE OTHERS MAY BECOME INFECTED IN INFANCY AND CHILDHOOD DUE TO INTRAFAMILY SPREAD.

"THEREFORE, EVEN IF MOTHERS ARE NOT CARRIERS, THERE IS STILL A RISK OF INFECTION IN EARLY LIFE."

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JLG SUB-GROUP TO MEET

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THE NEXT MEETING OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP SUB-GROUP ON INTERNATIONAL RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS WILL BE HELD ON OCTOBER 5 TO 7 IN HONG KONG.

THE BRITISH TEAM WILL BE LED BY MR F. BURROWS WHO WILL BE ASSISTED BY TWO OTHER MEMBERS, MR NORMAN CHAN AND MISS SHELAGH BROOKS.

OTHER EXPERTS FROM THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT WILL ATTEND AS NECESSARY.

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SWAC ENDORSES PRINCIPLES OF CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION SUBVENTION

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A STANDARD FORMULA DEvised BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT FOR CALCULATING THE LEVEL OF SUBVENTION FOR CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE VOLUNTARY AGENCIES WAS ENDORSED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TODAY (MONDAY).

THE COMMITTEE AGREED THAT THE FORMULA SHOULD MAKE PROVISION FOR EACH OF THE THREE COMPONENT PARTS OF CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION, NAMELY CO-ORDINATION AND PLANNING OF SERVICES; FINANCIAL CONTROL AND ACCOUNTING; AND GENERAL ADMINISTRATION, INCLUDING PERSONNEL MATTERS.

NOTING THAT THE AMOUNT OF SUBVENTION AS WELL AS THE RANGE OF SERVICES BEING SUBVENTED HAVE INCREASED CONSIDERABLY OVER THE YEARS, THE COMMITTEE ENDORSED THAT FULL SUBVENTION, I.E. 100 PER CENT SUBVENTION, SHOULD BE GIVEN FOR CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION TO ENABLE AGENCIES TO ACQUIRE STAFF FOR THE OVERALL PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION OF SERVICES AND THE MANAGEMENT OF FINANCES, THUS ENSURING THAT PUBLIC MONEY IS WELL SPENT.

IT WAS FURTHER AGREED THAT SUBVENTION FOR CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION SHOULD BE PROVIDED IN RESPECT OF SUPPORT FOR SUBVENTED SERVICES ONLY. IN THIS RESPECT, CATEGORY I AND CATEGORY II SERVICES SHOULD BE GIVEN EQUAL WEIGHTING IN CALCULATING THE LEVEL OF SUBVENTION.

ALSO ENDORSED WAS THE PRINCIPLE THAT AGENCIES WITH SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS, FOR EXAMPLE THOSE HAVING A PURPOSE-BUILT HEADQUARTERS BUILDING, SHOULD BE GIVEN SEPARATE CONSIDERATIONS OUTSIDE THE GENERAL FORMULA.

IN ADDITION, IT WAS ACCEPTED THAT WELFARE AGENCIES CURRENTLY RECEIVING SUBVENTIONS FOR CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION SHOULD NOT BE WORSE OFF AS A RESULT OF APPLYING THESE PRINCIPLES.

THE COMMITTEE NOTED THAT BECAUSE OF THE UNIQUE POSITION OF THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE, PROPOSALS IN RESPECT OF SUBVENTION FOR THE COUNCIL WOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE SUBVENTIONS AND LOTTERIES FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR ADVICE.

PRELIMINARY CALCULATIONS INDICATED THAT BY APPLYING THESE PRINCIPLES, THE NUMBER OF AGENCIES ELIGIBLE FOR SUBVENTION FOR THEIR CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION WOULD INCREASE FROM 39 TO 44 (EXCLUDING THE COUNCIL) WHILE THE TOTAL SUBVENTION FOR THIS AREA WOULD INCREASE BY ABOUT \$7.3 MILLION TO \$42.9 MILLION PER ANNUM.

CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE, MR LEE JARK-PUI, SAID HE WAS GLAD THAT A POSITIVE STEP HAD BEEN TAKEN TO RATIONALISE THE BASIS FOR THE SUBVENTION OF CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION WHICH HAD BEEN THE SUBJECT OF MUCH DISCUSSION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE VOLUNTARY AGENCIES FOR QUITE SOME TIME.

THE VOLUNTARY AGENCIES WILL BE CONSULTED ON THE PROPOSALS AND IMPLEMENTATION WILL BE SUBJECT TO THEIR ACCEPTANCE OF THESE PROPOSALS AND SUCCESSFUL BIDDING FOR FUNDS FOR 1988/89 AGAINST OTHER COMPETING CLAIMS.

MR HERMAN S.M. HU, WHO HAS BEEN ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN THE HONG KONG PLAYGROUND ASSOCIATION AND OTHER COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES FOR SOME YEARS, ATTENDED THE MEETING FOR THE FIRST TIME AS A MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE, REPLACING MR L.B. MACQUARRIE WHO RETIRED IN JULY.

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TIMETABLE FOR LEGCO SITTINGS ANNOUNCED
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THE FIRST SITTING OF THE 1987-88 SESSION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL BE HELD ON OCTOBER 7 (WEDNESDAY) WHEN THE GOVERNOR WILL DELIVER HIS ANNUAL ADDRESS TO THE COUNCIL, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

THERE WILL ALSO BE A NUMBER OF TWO-DAY SITTINGS FOR THE DEBATE ON THE MOTION OF THANKS AND FOR THE BUDGET DEBATE. AN EXTRA SITTING MAY BE HELD AT THE END OF THE SESSION TO CLEAR OUTSTANDING BUSINESS, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE NEW LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL MEET WEEKLY, THE SAME AS FOR THE PREVIOUS SESSION.

FOLLOWING IS THE PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS:

PROVISIONAL DATES OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
SITTINGS FOR THE 1987-88 SESSION

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 7, 1987	OPENING OF THE 1987-88 SESSION (GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS)
WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 14, 1987	REGULAR SITTING
WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 21, 1987	"
WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 28, 1987	"
WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 4, 1987	DEBATE ON MOTION OF THANKS
THURSDAY NOVEMBER 5, 1987	(MEMBERS OTHER THAN OFFICIALS SPEAK)
WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 11, 1987	DEBATE ON MOTION OF THANKS (OFFICIALS SPEAK)

/WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 18, 1987 REGULAR SITTING

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 25, 1987 "

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 2, 1987 "

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 9, 1987 "

(CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR RECESS)

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 13, 1988 REGULAR SITTING

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 20, 1988 "

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 27, 1988 "

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 3, 1988 "

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 10, 1988 "

(LUNAR NEW YEAR RECESS)

WEDNESDAY MARCH 2, 1988 1ST BUDGET SITTING
(FINANCIAL SECRETARY PRESENTS BUDGET)

WEDNESDAY MARCH 9, 1988 REGULAR SITTING

WEDNESDAY MARCH 16, 1988 "

(SPECIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS IN WEEK COMMENCING MARCH 21, 1988)

(EASTER RECESS)

WEDNESDAY APRIL 20, 1988 2ND BUDGET SITTING
THURSDAY APRIL 21, 1988 (MEMBERS OTHER THAN OFFICIALS SPEAK)

WEDNESDAY APRIL 27, 1988 REGULAR SITTING

WEDNESDAY MAY 4, 1988 3RD BUDGET SITTING
(OFFICIALS SPEAK)

WEDNESDAY MAY 11, 1988 4TH BUDGET SITTING
(COMMITTEE STAGE AND 3RD READING OF
APPROPRIATION BILL)

WEDNESDAY MAY 18, 1988 REGULAR SITTING

WEDNESDAY MAY 25, 1988 "

WEDNESDAY JUNE 1, 1988 "

WEDNESDAY JUNE 8, 1988 "

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WEDNESDAY JUNE 22, 1988	"
WEDNESDAY JUNE 29, 1988	"
WEDNESDAY JULY 6, 1988	"
WEDNESDAY JULY 13, 1988	"
WEDNESDAY JULY 20, 1988	"
WEDNESDAY JULY 27, 1988*	"
MONDAY AUGUST 1, 1988	DISSOLUTION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

* - IF NECESSARY

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THREE LOTS OF LAND SOLD
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THREE LOTS OF GOVERNMENT LAND WERE SOLD FOR A TOTAL OF \$93.1 MILLION AT AN AUCTION TODAY (MONDAY).

THE HIGHEST PRICE PAID WAS \$53 MILLION FOR A PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL SITE IN MOUNT KELLETT ROAD ON HONG KONG ISLAND. BIDDING OPENED AT \$30 MILLION.

THE PURCHASER WAS SKY ALLIANCE DEVELOPMENT LIMITED.

THE SITE HAS AN AREA OF 5,952 SQUARE METRES. UNDER THE BUILDING COVENANT, THE DEVELOPER HAS TO COMPLETE AT LEAST 1,785 SQUARE METRES OF GROSS FLOOR AREA ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 1990.

ANOTHER LOT, AT STANLEY, WHICH IS FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL (EXCLUDING GODOWN) PURPOSES, WAS SOLD FOR \$12.1 MILLION. BIDDING BEGAN AT \$4.5 MILLION.

IT WAS BOUGHT BY JAPSTATE INVESTMENTS LIMITED, WHO IS REQUIRED TO BUILD A MINIMUM OF 450 SQUARE METRES OF GROSS FLOOR AREA ON THE 150-SQUARE-METRE SITE BY SEPTEMBER 27, 1990.

THE LAST LOT, AT ON LOK TSUEN, FANLING, IS FOR INDUSTRIAL AND/OR GODOWN PURPOSES (EXCLUDING OFFENSIVE TRADES). IT WAS PURCHASED BY UP TONE DEVELOPMENT LIMITED FOR \$28 MILLION.

/BIDDING FOR

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BIDDING FOR THE 3,372-SQUARE-METRE SITE STARTED AT \$25 MILLION. THE NEW OWNER HAS TO COMPLETE A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 10,116 SQUARE METRES BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, 1991.

TODAY'S AUCTION TOOK PLACE AT THE CITY HALL THEATRE AND WAS CONDUCTED BY GOVERNMENT LAND AGENT, MR JIM HUGHES, OF THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT.

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SEPTEMBER SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT,
VACANCIES AND PAYROLL STARTS

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT HAS STARTED TO CONDUCT THE SEPTEMBER 1987 ROUND OF THE SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL IN MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY TO COLLECT INFORMATION ON EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL IN RESPECT OF THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1987.

THIS SURVEY IS CONDUCTED QUARTERLY AND SURVEY RESULTS ARE USEFUL IN PROVIDING SHORT-TERM ECONOMIC INDICATORS AS WELL AS INFORMATION ON THE STRUCTURAL CHANGES IN THE LABOUR MARKET IN HONG KONG.

THIS ROUND OF THE SURVEY COVERS ABOUT 88,000 ESTABLISHMENTS WHICH ARE DRAWN FROM VARIOUS SECTORS INCLUDING THE DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES SECTOR (WHOLESALE, RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS), THE SERVICES SECTOR (TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND COMMUNICATION, FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES; COMMUNITY, SOCIAL AND PERSONAL SERVICES), WITH FULL ENUMERATION OF ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR (MINING AND QUARRYING; MANUFACTURING; ELECTRICITY AND GAS).

INFORMATION ON THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED AND EXISTING VACANCIES ON SEPTEMBER 30, 1987 WILL BE SOUGHT FROM EACH SAMPLE ESTABLISHMENT.

SOME 10,000 ESTABLISHMENTS ARE RANDOMLY SELECTED FROM THIS SAMPLE TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON PAYROLL IN EACH OF THE THREE MONTHS DURING THE REFERENCE PERIOD OF JULY-SEPTEMBER 1987.

QUESTIONNAIRES ARE BEING MAILED TO INDIVIDUAL SAMPLE ESTABLISHMENTS. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS ORDER 1982 (LEGAL NOTICE NO. 69 OF 1982, GAZETTED ON MARCH 5, 1982), ESTABLISHMENTS RECEIVING QUESTIONNAIRES ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE AND RETURN THEM TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT WITHIN THE SPECIFIED PERIOD.

/SHOULD RESPONDENTS

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SHOULD RESPONDENTS FIND DIFFICULTIES IN COMPLETING THE FORMS, THEY ARE WELCOME TO CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT FOR ASSISTANCE AT 5-8235076.

AS FOR THOSE ESTABLISHMENTS KNOWN TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT DURING JULY-SEPTEMBER 1987, THEY WILL ALSO BE ENUMERATED IN ORDER TO MAKE THE SURVEY RESULTS COMPLETE. FIELD OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT, EACH BEARING A GOVERNMENT IDENTITY CARD, WILL CALL ON THESE ESTABLISHMENTS TO SOLICIT INFORMATION ON NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED, EXISTING VACANCIES, TYPE OF OWNERSHIP, NATURE OF BUSINESS AND DATE ON WHICH BUSINESS COMMENCED.

IN CASE OF ANY ENQUIRIES REGARDING THESE FIELD VISITS, THEY SHOULD CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT FOR ASSISTANCE AT 5-8234770.

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GOVERNOR TO VISIT SHA TIN

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, AND LADY WILSON WILL VISIT SHA TIN ON WEDNESDAY (SEPTEMBER 30) AFTERNOON TO SEE THE PHYSICAL AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN THE FAST DEVELOPING NEW TOWN.

THEY WILL TOUR LUNG HANG ESTATE AND VISIT A FAMILY IN A RENTAL HOUSING UNIT AND A FAMILY IN A HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME FLAT. THEY WILL ALSO TOUR TIN SUM VILLAGE, WHICH IS A TRADITIONAL SETTLEMENT BEING SERVICED WITH PROPER BASIC FACILITIES UNDER A PILOT VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT SCHEME.

LATER SIR DAVID AND LADY WILSON WILL ATTEND A TEA RECEPTION AT SHA TIN TOWN HALL, AND MEET MEMBERS OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD, DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, CHAIRMAN OF AREA COMMITTEES AND OTHER LOCAL ORGANISATIONS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE GOVERNOR'S VISIT TO SHA TIN ON WEDNESDAY (SEPTEMBER 30). PRESS COACHES WILL LEAVE THE KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER AT 2.15 PM SHARP FOR LUNG HANG ESTATE.

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COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR SEES APPAREL MANUFACTURING

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THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR TONY HAMMOND, SPENT THIS (MONDAY) AFTERNOON VISITING THE REGATEX MANUFACTURERS LTD., AN APPAREL MANUFACTURING FACTORY, IN KWAI CHUNG.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE COMPANY'S DIRECTOR, MR AMPERE CHU, AND THE PERSONNEL MANAGER, MR JAMES TSE, MR HAMMOND TOURED THE VARIOUS PARTS AND WORK PROCESSES OF THE FACTORY WHICH PRODUCE RELATIVELY HIGH-PRICED LADIES' FASHION, TROUSERS, RAINCOATS, OUTERWEAR AND CHILDREN'S WEAR FOR THE EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN MARKETS.

HE LEARNT THAT THE COMPANY MAINTAINED GOOD LABOUR MANAGEMENT RELATIONS AND THAT THE TURN-OVER RATE OF THE 1,000 STRONG WORKFORCE WAS VERY LOW WITH MANY WORKERS HAVING WORKED FOR THE COMPANY FOR MORE THAN FIVE YEARS.

MR HAMMOND ALSO TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS WITH THE MANAGEMENT A WIDE RANGE OF SUBJECTS, INCLUDING LABOUR SHORTAGE, STAFF WELFARE AND LABOUR LEGISLATION.

TODAY'S VISIT WAS PART OF A CONTINUOUS PROGRAMME TO KEEP THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR ABREAST WITH THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE LOCAL INDUSTRIAL AND LABOUR SCENE.

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SCHOOLS URGED TO LABEL HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS

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TO FURTHER PROMOTE LABORATORY SAFETY IN SCHOOLS, THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS ISSUING TO SECONDARY SCHOOLS SELF-ADHESIVE CONTAINER LABELS BEARING HAZARD WARNING SYMBOLS TO IDENTIFY THE HAZARDOUS PROPERTIES OF CHEMICALS STORED IN SCHOOLS.

EACH SCHOOL WILL RECEIVE 20 SETS OF THE LABELS TOGETHER WITH COPIES OF THE REVISED EDITION OF A PAMPHLET ON "SAFETY IN SCIENCE LABORATORIES" IN BOTH ENGLISH AND CHINESE.

THE SYMBOLS ON THE LABELS CLASSIFY THE HAZARDOUS PROPERTIES OF CHEMICALS INTO EIGHT CATEGORIES, NAMELY CARCINOGEN, CORROSIVE, EXPLOSIVE, FLAMMABLE, HARMFUL, IRRITANT, OXIDISING AND TOXIC NATURE.

"CLEAR AND EXACT LABELLING, GOOD HOUSEKEEPING AND REGULAR INSPECTION ARE ESSENTIAL IN MINIMISING ACCIDENTS RESULTING FROM THE STORAGE OR HANDLING OF CHEMICALS OF A HAZARDOUS NATURE," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

/THE PAMPHLET

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THE PAMPHLET ON THE "SAFETY IN SCIENCE LABORATORIES" AIMS TO ENHANCE THE STANDARD OF SAFETY IN SCHOOL LABORATORIES BY EXPLAINING WAYS TO MINIMISE RISKS AND TO DEAL WITH ANY POSSIBLE ACCIDENTS EFFECTIVELY.

IT ALSO CONTAINS GUIDELINES ON GENERAL PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN WHEN WORKING IN THE LABORATORY.

WHILE KNOWN HAZARDS COULD BE GUARDED AGAINST, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THERE WAS ALWAYS AN ELEMENT OF UNFORESEEN DANGER WHICH CALLED FOR PROPER ATTITUDES TO LABORATORY WORK AND THE SETTING OF GOOD EXAMPLES BY TEACHERS.

"SCIENCE TEACHERS AND LABORATORY STAFF MUST AT ALL TIMES REMEMBER THE GREAT RESPONSIBILITY THEY HAVE TOWARDS STUDENTS IN THEIR CHARGE DURING PRACTICAL WORK AND ENSURE THAT ALL PRECAUTIONS ARE CONSISTENT WITH COMMON SENSE ARE CONTINUALLY OBSERVED," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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AUSTIN ROAD TO BE WIDENED

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A SECTION OF AUSTIN ROAD IN TSIM SHA TSUI IS TO BE WIDENED TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC CONDITIONS IN THE AREA.

THE WORK CONSISTS OF INCREASING THE WIDTH OF A SECTION OF THE ROAD BETWEEN NATHAN ROAD AND TEMPLE STREET. ALSO INCLUDED IN THE PROJECT WILL BE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE CARRIAGEWAY AND FOOTWAY, IMPROVEMENT TO ROAD DRAINAGE AND CONSTRUCTION OF A RETAINING WALL ADJACENT TO KOWLOON PARK.

THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT HAS TAKEN THE OPPORTUNITY ARISING FROM THE DEVELOPMENT OF KOWLOON PARK ADJACENT TO AUSTIN ROAD TO IMPLEMENT THIS ROAD WIDENING PROJECT, WHICH IS ONE OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TSIM SHA TSUI TRAFFIC STUDY AIMED AT IMPROVING LOCAL TRAFFIC CONDITIONS.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN DECEMBER AND TAKE 12 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

TENDERS ARE NOW BEING INVITED BY THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT, THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING WHICH IS NOON ON OCTOBER 16.

THE KOWLOON REGION OF THE DEPARTMENT HAS DESIGNED AND WILL SUPERVISE THE WORK.

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YOUTHS TO TAKE PART IN RALLY
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ABOUT 1,000 YOUTHS WILL GATHER AT VICTORIA PARK ON OCTOBER 11 AND 'PITCH IN' AT THIS YEAR'S KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN IN THE FORM OF A YOUTH RALLY.

THE RALLY, ORGANISED BY THE JOINT URBAN COUNCIL/REGIONAL COUNCIL KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN STEERING COMMITTEE, AIMS TO AROUSE SOCIAL CONSCIOUSNESS AMONG THE YOUNGER GENERATION IN KEEPING THE TERRITORY CLEAN.

THE YOUTHS' PARTICIPATION IS TWO-FOLD - EITHER TAKING PART IN A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES OR COMPETITIONS.

THE ACTIVITIES WILL BE DESIGNED AROUND THE ENVIRONMENT IMPROVEMENT THEME, INCLUDING MAKING OF SIGNS/LOGOS; REFURBISHING BENCHES/ARBOURS; PAINTING OF LITTER CONTAINERS; AND REFURBISHING OF RAILINGS.

THE FIVE COMPETITIONS ARE : KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN POSTER DESIGN COMPETITION; LOGO DESIGN COMPETITION; MODEL DESIGN COMPETITION; THEME SONG CONTEST AND TURNING LITTER INTO ORNAMENTAL/DECORATIVE ITEMS COMPETITION.

THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, WILL TOUR THE PARK AND SEE THE YOUTHS AT WORK.

BEFORE THE START OF THE ACTIVITIES, THERE WILL BE A PARADE BY ALL PARTICIPANTS, WHO COME FROM A TOTAL OF 18 YOUTH ORGANISATIONS. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT UC/RC KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN STEERING COMMITTEE, MR CARLOS CHEUNG, WILL TAKE THE SALUTE.

OTHER PROGRAMMES OF THE DAY WILL INCLUDE A TWO-HOUR ENTERTAINMENT SHOW BY POPULAR SINGERS AND PERFORMANCES BY THE HONG KONG YOUTH SYMPHONIC BAND.

THE YOUTH RALLY FORMS PART OF THE SERIES OF ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY THE JOINT UC/RC KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN STEERING COMMITTEE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR TO SECURE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND ENHANCE THEIR AWARENESS OF THE KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN MESSAGE.

MEANWHILE, THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAS TAKEN OUT A TOTAL OF 154 PROSECUTIONS AGAINST LITTER OFFENDERS ON BEACHES AND BARBECUE AREAS FROM MID-AUGUST TO MID-SEPTEMBER TO CONSOLIDATE THE EFFECT OF THE 'CLEAN BEACH' PHASE OF THIS YEAR'S CAMPAIGN.

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YOUTH SCHEME EXPANDING

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FOR OVER 20 YEARS, THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD SCHEME HAS PROVIDED YOUNG PEOPLE OF HONG KONG WITH AN INVALUABLE OPPORTUNITY TO GROOM THEIR PERSONALITY, INTEGRITY AND SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY AS WELL AS TO FULLY DEVELOP THEIR ABILITY AND POTENTIALS, DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS ELIZABETH WONG, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE 44TH SILVER AWARD PRESENTATION CEREMONY AT THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH TRAINING CAMP, MRS WONG SAID THAT THROUGH TAKING PART IN A SERIES OF CHALLENGING ACTIVITIES, THE YOUNG PEOPLE COULD SERVE THE COMMUNITY, LEARN NEW SKILLS AND MAKE NEW FRIENDS.

"MORE AND MORE PEOPLE ARE TAKING PART IN THE SCHEME AND NOW THERE ARE ABOUT 39,000 PARTICIPANTS, AS COMPARED WITH 250 IN 1961, REPRESENTING AN EXCITING INCREASE.

"AS A MATTER OF FACT, THE SCHEME HAS ALWAYS BEEN EXPANDING AND THE IMPROVEMENT IN ITS TRAINING FACILITIES SUCH AS THE TRAINING CAMP IS A GREAT ASSET TO FUTURE OUTDOOR TRAINING FACILITIES," SHE SAID.

MRS WONG CONGRATULATED THOSE WHO RECEIVED THE SILVER AWARD FOR BRAVELY FACING UP TO EVERY CHALLENGE AND FOR HAVING PERSEVERED TO THE END. SHE WISHED THEM SUCCESS IN MEETING THEIR NEXT CHALLENGE -- THE GOLD AWARD OF THE SCHEME.

MRS WONG ALSO COMMENDED ALL THOSE WHO WORKED HARD TO PROMOTE THE SCHEME.

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VOTERS URGED TO REGISTER IMMEDIATELY

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CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR LAM KAM-KWONG, TODAY (MONDAY) URGED RESIDENTS TO SIGN UP AS VOTERS IMMEDIATELY SO THAT THEY COULD VOTE IN NEXT YEAR'S DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS.

SPEAKING AT A PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY FOR THE 'SOMEWHERE IN YOUR DISTRICT' EXHIBITION QUIZ, MR LAM SAID THEY SHOULD MAKE USE OF THE LAST THREE DAYS OF THE CAMPAIGN AND REGISTER BEFORE WEDNESDAY (SEPTEMBER 30) EITHER AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE'S PUBLIC ENQUIRIES SERVICE CENTRES OR AT A TEMPORARY REGISTRATION COUNTER AT MTR CENTRAL STATION.

/HE SAID

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HE SAID THAT SO FAR MORE THAN 6,000 RESIDENTS HAD SIGNED UP, BOOSTING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF REGISTERED VOTERS IN THE DISTRICT FROM 66,000 TO OVER 72,000.

MR LAM ALSO COMMENDED THE 10 WINNERS FOR THEIR GOOD KNOWLEDGE OF CIVIC MATTERS AND DISTRICT AFFAIRS BEFORE PRESENTING PRIZES TO THEM.

THE EXHIBITION WAS HELD AT SHUN TAK CENTRE IN AUGUST AS PART OF THE DISTRICT'S PROMOTIONAL PROGRAMME FOR VOTER REGISTRATION.

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SAI KUNG RESIDENTS URGED TO REGISTER AS ELECTORS

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SAI KUNG ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS BETTY CHING, TODAY (MONDAY) URGED ELIGIBLE RESIDENTS IN THE DISTRICT TO MAKE USE OF THE LAST TWO DAYS OF THE CURRENT VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE TO SIGN UP AS ELECTORS.

MISS CHING, DURING A VISIT TO THE TUNG SIN TAN HOME FOR THE AGED SAID THE CAMPAIGN WAS GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR ELIGIBLE PEOPLE TO EXERCISE THEIR CIVIC RIGHTS AND REGISTER FOR DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS NEXT YEAR.

"THE ELDERLY, WHO ARE THE SENIOR RESIDENTS IN THE DISTRICT, HAVE SHOWN GOOD EXAMPLES OF COMMUNITY SPIRIT BY REGISTERING AS ELECTORS AND VOTING IN PREVIOUS DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS.

"THEREFORE, SAI KUNG RESIDENTS AGED 21 OR ABOVE BY THE END OF THE YEAR, AND WHO ARE HONG KONG RESIDENTS OR HAVE RESIDED IN HONG KONG FOR SEVEN YEARS, SHOULD SHOW THEIR SUPPORT AND REGISTER AS ELECTORS," SHE SAID.

THE VOTER REGISTRATION CAMPAIGN IN SAI KUNG DISTRICT WAS LAUNCHED ON AUGUST 4 AND WILL END ON WEDNESDAY (SEPTEMBER 30). A SERIES OF DOOR-TO-DOOR VISITS WERE CARRIED OUT COVERING SAI KUNG TOWN, HANG HAU AND RENNIE'S MILL WHICH ENCOMPASSED THE TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA, VILLAGES, FACTORIES AND CENTRES FOR THE ELDERLY.

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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1987

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COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS FUND ALLOCATIONS

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THE COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE OF THE MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD WILL MEET TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO DISCUSS FUND ALLOCATIONS TO A NUMBER OF LOCAL ORGANISATIONS FOR ORGANISING COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO BE INFORMED OF THE DETAILS OF A PROPOSED PROJECT CHOSEN FOR THE 'OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH SCHEME' JOINTLY SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD AND THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE THE ORGANISING OF A SOCIAL ACTIVITY TO STRENGTHEN RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE DISTRICT BOARD AND LOCAL BODIES AND THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROJECTS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING TO BE HELD AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICE, FIRST FLOOR, 157 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 73.1 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 428.319 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 410.687 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 70.1 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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