



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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WITHDRAWAL OF CHINA'S MFN STATUS WILL DAMAGE HK: GOVERNOR

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THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT THAT WITHDRAWAL OF CHINA'S MOST FAVOURED NATION (MFN) STATUS WOULD SERIOUSLY DAMAGE HONG KONG, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, WARNED IN NEW YORK.

"IT WOULD DO THIS AT A TIME WHEN, WITH SEVEN YEARS TO GO BEFORE A CHANGE OF SOVEREIGNTY AND MANY DIFFICULT ISSUES TO TACKLE IF WE ARE TO BUILD HONG KONG SECURELY FOR THE FUTURE, WE CAN DO WITHOUT ADDITIONAL PROBLEMS," THE GOVERNOR SAID WHEN HE ADDRESSED THE ANNUAL DINNER OF THE ASIA SOCIETY ON MONDAY EVENING (NEW YORK TIME).

SIR DAVID SAID IT WAS NOT FOR HIM TO SAY WHAT UNITED STATES' POLICY TOWARDS CHINA SHOULD BE, BUT WHEN THAT POLICY COULD SERIOUSLY UNDERMINE THE ECONOMY OF HONG KONG, PERHAPS INADVERTENTLY, THEN HE MUST WARN OF THE DANGERS.

THE GOVERNOR OUTLINED THE GROWING LINKS BETWEEN GUANGDONG AND HONG KONG, AND SAID THAT OVER TWO THIRDS OF CHINA'S EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES WERE RE-EXPORTED THROUGH HONG KONG.

"IF CHINA LOSES ITS MFN STATUS THAT WOULD KNOCK AN ESTIMATED US\$10 BILLION OFF OUR TRADE FIGURES. THERE WOULD BE SEVERE JOB LOSSES FOR ALL THOSE ENGAGED IN THIS RE-EXPORT TRADE, AS WELL AS THOSE MANUFACTURERS IN HONG KONG, A GOOD MANY OF THEM AMERICAN, ENGAGED IN MANUFACTURING ACROSS THE BORDER," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID ENDING MFN STATUS MIGHT BE DIRECTED AGAINST PEKING BUT IT WOULD BE A BODY BLOW TO HONG KONG JUST WHEN WE NEEDED TO KEEP UP ECONOMIC GROWTH TO GET US THROUGH A TIME OF CRUCIAL POLITICAL CHANGE.

"ENDING CHINA'S MFN STATUS WOULD ALSO PUT A SUDDEN BRAKE ON THE ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THOSE SOUTHERN COASTAL PROVINCES WHICH HAVE BEEN AT THE FOREFRONT OF CHINA'S RECENT ECONOMIC LIBERALISM AND OPENNESS TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD," SIR DAVID SAID.

"THE PROCESS OF BUILDING CLOSER LINKS BETWEEN CHINA AND THE REST OF THE WORLD -- IN WHICH HONG KONG HAS PLAYED A PIVOTAL ROLE -- WOULD INEVITABLY BE SET BACK, AND SET BACK BADLY.

"SO WE IN HONG KONG WATCH WITH GREAT ANXIETY HOW THE CHINA MFN STATUS QUESTION IS RESOLVED IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS OR WEEKS," SIR DAVID SAID.

"ONE OF THE REASONS WE IN HONG KONG HOPE FOR A STABLE EXTERNAL ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT, AND NO SUDDEN MAN-MADE SHOCKS LIKE THE REMOVAL OF MFN STATUS FROM CHINA, IS THAT WE HAVE A GREAT DEAL TO DO TO BUILD SOLID FOUNDATIONS FOR THE NEW HONG KONG WHICH WILL BE BORN IN SEVEN YEARS' TIME," HE ADDED.

/THE GOVERNOR

THE GOVERNOR SAID THE JOINT DECLARATION AND THE BASIC LAW PROVIDED THE BLUEPRINT FOR HONG KONG'S TRANSITION, WITHOUT INTERRUPTION, FROM BRITISH DEPENDENT TERRITORY TO SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE FOUNDATIONS WERE LAID AND WE MUST NOW GET ON WITH THE BUILDING. "I DO NOT PRETEND THAT THIS WILL BE EASY. NO ONE HAS USED THIS BLUEPRINT BEFORE."

"SOMETIMES THE WEATHER FOR BUILDING IS NOT AS GOOD AS WE WOULD WISH. NEVERTHELESS, WE ARE MAKING REAL PROGRESS IN SORTING OUT A WHOLE SERIES OF DETAILED INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TRANSITION," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID THAT OF COURSE MANY PEOPLE IN HONG KONG WERE STILL WORRIED, PARTICULARLY OVER THE LAST YEAR. "SOME WILL NOT STAY TO SEE IF IT WORKS. SOME WANT INSURANCE IN CASE ANYTHING GOES WRONG."

HE POINTED OUT THAT LAST YEAR 42,000 MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN EMIGRATED. "THERE HAS ALWAYS BEEN MIGRATION FROM HONG KONG, BUT THIS FIGURE IS HIGHER THAN THE HISTORICAL NORM."

"ALMOST NONE OF THESE NEW EMIGRANTS WANT TO LEAVE HONG KONG. BUT THEY FEEL THE NEED TO SECURE A RIGHT TO RESIDE ELSEWHERE AS INSURANCE AGAINST FUTURE UNCERTAINTY," HE SAID.

"MANY OF THE BREADWINNERS AMONG THESE 42,000 -- WE ESTIMATE ONE QUARTER OF THEM -- ARE PROFESSIONALS. A DISPROPORTIONATE NUMBER ARE YOUNG," THE GOVERNOR SAID, AND ADDED: "WE CAN ILL AFFORD THIS OUTFLOW OF YOUNG TALENT."

HE POINTED OUT THAT LEGISLATION BEING PUT THROUGH PARLIAMENT BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO GRANT PASSPORTS TO 50,000 HEADS OF HOUSEHOLD IN HONG KONG AIMED TO ANCHOR KEY PEOPLE IN HONG KONG BY GIVING THEM THE ASSURANCE NEEDED TO STAY, AND NONE OF THEM WOULD HAVE TO LEAVE HONG KONG TO EARN THE RIGHT TO RESIDE IN BRITAIN.

"WE HOPE THAT OTHER COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE UNITED STATES, WILL ALSO LOOK AT MEASURES WHICH WILL HELP TO KEEP PEOPLE IN HONG KONG CONTRIBUTING TO ITS FUTURE PROSPERITY," HE ADDED.

SIR DAVID SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD ALWAYS WELCOME BACK THOSE WHO WENT AND THEN RETURNED. "BUT WE ARE ALSO IMPROVING OUR ABILITY TO MAKE GOOD THE LOSS."

OVER THE NEXT FOUR YEARS THE NUMBER OF UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE LEVEL DEGREE PLACES WOULD BE DOUBLED AND, BY 1995, 25 PER CENT OF SCHOOL LEAVERS WOULD GO ON TO FURTHER EDUCATION -- THREE QUARTERS OF THEM TO EARN DEGREES, SIR DAVID SAID.

"AND WHAT WE CANNOT FIND LOCALLY WE WILL HIRE FROM ABROAD. OUR ATTITUDE TO FIRMS WHO WANT TO BRING IN SKILLED STAFF FROM OVERSEAS HAS ALWAYS BEEN FLEXIBLE. YOU WILL FIND IT MORE SO IN THE FUTURE," HE SAID.

/SIR DAVID

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SIR DAVID STRESSED THAT MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL, WE MUST PLAN AND BUILD FOR THOSE WHO STAYED AND A KEY PART OF THIS WAS PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT.

HE SAID THE BASIC LAW HAD SET THE SEAL ON A PROCESS OF EVOLUTIONARY CHANGE WHICH WAS ALREADY IN HAND AND WHICH WOULD RUN THROUGH THE TRANSITION INTO THE NEXT CENTURY.

REFERRING TO DIRECT ELECTIONS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL NEXT YEAR, SIR DAVID SAID THE CHANGES THAT WOULD TAKE PLACE THEN WOULD BE AN IMPORTANT STEP IN BUILDING HONG KONG FOR THE FUTURE.

ON HONG KONG/U.S. LINKS, THE GOVERNOR SAID THAT HONG KONG'S COSMOPOLITAN CHARACTER COULD BE SEEN CLEARLY IN THE ROLE PLAYED BY THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY WHICH NOW NUMBERED ABOUT 17,000.

"IT IS THE LARGEST FOREIGN BUSINESS COMMUNITY AND IS GROWING STEADILY BY MORE THAN 1,000 EACH YEAR. ITS VIGOUR IS WELL DEMONSTRATED BY THE WORK OF THE AMERICAN CHAMBER, WHO ARE THE LARGEST AND MOST ACTIVE CHAMBER IN HONG KONG," HE SAID.

THE VIGOUR OF THE AMERICAN PRESENCE IN HONG KONG COULD BE SHOWN BY THE FACT THAT MORE THAN 900 U.S. FIRMS WERE ESTABLISHED IN THE TERRITORY --- DOUBLE THE NUMBER FIVE YEARS AGO, SIR DAVID NOTED.

"MANY HAVE FOUND THAT OUR LOCATION AND EXCELLENT COMMUNICATIONS MAKE HONG KONG THE RIGHT PLACE FOR THEIR REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS. AMERICAN FACTORIES PRODUCED MORE THAN US\$3 BILLION LAST YEAR: THIS MADE UP OVER NINE PER CENT OF OUR EXPORTS," HE ADDED.

"AMERICAN INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG IS IN FACT DOUBLE THAT IN CHINA AND BIGGER THAN ANYWHERE ELSE IN EAST AND SOUTH-EAST ASIA OTHER THAN JAPAN. THESE FIGURES SHOW WHAT AN IMPORTANT BRIDGEHEAD HONG KONG IS FOR AMERICAN BUSINESS INTERESTS IN ASIA," HE SAID.

TURNING TO THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PORT AND AIRPORT, THE GOVERNOR SAID THE PLANS WERE AMBITIOUS BUT CAREFULLY CONSIDERED.

"TRUE TO HONG KONG'S OPEN MARKET PHILOSOPHY, WE WILL BE LOOKING TO INTERNATIONAL INVOLVEMENT IN THEM. SO FAR OVER 700 FIRMS HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN OUR AIRPORT AND PORT DEVELOPMENT PLANS," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID NOTED THAT THE UNITED STATES WAS ALREADY INVOLVED.

"BECHTEL HAVE RECENTLY BEEN APPOINTED AS PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR FOR THE NEW TWIN RUNWAY AIRPORT WE ARE BUILDING ON LANTAU ISLAND. GREINER, FROM FLORIDA, TWO WEEKS AGO WON THE CONTRACT FOR DESIGNING THE AIRPORT MASTER PLAN IN A JOINT VENTURE WITH THE BRITISH HONG KONG FIRM OF MAUNSELLS," HE SAID.

"WE WILL BE LOOKING FOR OTHERS AS WELL FROM ALL ROUND THE WORLD," HE ADDED.

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SPEAKING OF THE FUTURE, THE GOVERNOR SAID: "OUR VISION OF THE FUTURE IS A CLEAR ONE. WE ARE UNIQUELY PLACED TO PLAY SEVERAL ROLES: INTERNATIONAL MARKET PLACE; REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS, MANUFACTURING AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT BASE; FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL SERVICES HUB; AND CHINA'S WINDOW ON THE WORLD.

"THERE ARE SEVERAL CITIES IN THE REGION WHICH WOULD LIKE TO COMPETE FOR SOME OF THE BUSINESS WHICH WE DO. BUT THEY SUFFER FROM NOT BEING IN THE RIGHT PLACE.

"WE ARE TO SOUTHERN CHINA WHAT NEW YORK IS TO THE EASTERN SEABOARD OF THE UNITED STATES. NOTHING CAN CHANGE THAT. WE HAVE THE LOCATION -- WE HAVE THE PEOPLE -- AND WE HAVE THE DETERMINATION TO KEEP UP THE HONG KONG SUCCESS STORY.

"YOU -- YOUR BUSINESSMEN -- HAVE BEEN A KEY PART OF THIS ENDEAVOUR IN THE PAST. WE HOPE YOU WILL BE WITH US FOR THE FUTURE," HE SAID.

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ASIA SOCIETY TO OPEN HK CENTRE

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THE ASIA SOCIETY IS TO OPEN A HONG KONG CENTRE LATER THIS YEAR, IT WAS ANNOUNCED IN NEW YORK BY THE SOCIETY'S CHAIRMAN, MR MAURICE GREENBERG, AT ITS ANNUAL DINNER AT WHICH THE GOVERNOR WAS GUEST OF HONOUR AND SPEAKER.

THE CENTRE WILL BE THE SOCIETY'S FIRST IN ASIA AND WILL BRING HONG KONG PEOPLE, OTHER ASIANS AND AMERICANS TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON CURRENT ISSUES AND TO SHARE CULTURAL INSIGHTS.

IT WILL ALSO REACH OUT BEYOND HONG KONG TO DEVELOP CLOSER CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE SOCIETY AND INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANISATIONS IN ASIAN NATIONS, MR GREENBERG SAID.

HE SAID CHAIRMAN OF THE HANG SENG BANK, SIR Q.W. LEE, WILL CHAIR THE CENTRE'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE, AND MR BURT LEVIN WHO IS CURRENTLY U.S. AMBASSADOR TO MYANMAR OR BURMA, WILL BECOME ITS FIRST DIRECTOR WHEN HE RETIRES FROM THE FOREIGN SERVICE LATER IN THE YEAR.

MR LEVIN WAS U.S. CONSUL GENERAL IN HONG KONG FROM 1981 TO 1986.

AT THE SAME TIME, MAYOR DAVID DINKINS OF NEW YORK CITY ALSO DECLARED MAY 21, 1990 AS "HONG KONG DAY".

THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID THE SOCIETY COULD HARDLY HAVE CHOSEN A BETTER PLACE TO OPEN ITS FIRST CENTRE AND ADDED THAT HONG KONG WAS HONOURED TO HAVE A DAY NAMED FOR IT.

/EARLIER IN

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EARLIER IN THE DAY, ACCOMPANIED BY HONG KONG'S MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC AND TRADE AFFAIRS IN WASHINGTON, MR PETER LO, AND DIRECTOR OF THE HONG KONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE IN NEW YORK, MR KERRY MCGLYNN, SIR DAVID MADE A ROUND OF VISITS, INCLUDING MEETINGS WITH THE MEDIA AND LUNCH WITH MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS, NEW YORK'S LEADING FOREIGN POLICY "THINK TANK".

HE ALSO VISITED THE HONGKONG BANK'S EXHIBITION ON "CHINERY AND THE CHINA COAST", A COLLECTION OF 70 PAINTINGS BY EUROPEAN AND CHINESE ARTISTS IN SOUTH CHINA DURING THE 19TH CENTURY.

STAFF OF THE HONG KONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL PROMOTIONS OFFICES ALSO HAD A CHANCE TO MEET SIR DAVID AND DISCUSS THEIR WORK WITH HIM WHEN HE VISITED THEIR OFFICES.

SIR DAVID FLIES TO OTTAWA LATER TODAY TO BEGIN THE FIRST EVER VISIT TO CANADA BY A HONG KONG GOVERNOR.

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NEXT SIX MONTHS CRUCIAL FOR URUGUAY ROUND

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THE NEXT SIX MONTHS WILL BE CRUCIAL FOR THE URUGUAY ROUND OF MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN GOING ON FOR MORE THAN THREE AND A HALF YEARS, THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR JOHN CHAN, SAID THIS (TUESDAY) MORNING.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE 12TH COUNCIL SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TEXTILES AND CLOTHING BUREAU (ITCB), MR CHAN SAID THE WORLD'S ATTENTION WOULD INCREASINGLY BE FOCUSED ON THE LIKELY OUTCOME OF THIS UNPRECEDENTED ROUND OF TRADE TALKS TO SEE IF THE CREDIBILITY AND INTEGRITY OF THE MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM COULD BE UPHELD.

HE SAID THE SUCCESS OF THE ROUND WOULD DEPEND ON THE SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION OF MANY LONG STANDING TRADE PROBLEMS, INCLUDING THOSE ON AGRICULTURE, TROPICAL PRODUCTS AND TEXTILES AND CLOTHING.

"IN RESPECT OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING, IT IS RECOGNISED THAT THE ROUND OFFERS A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO REVERSE THE LONG TREND OF RELENTLESS, SELECTIVE AND DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT TARGETED AT EXPORTS OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING PRODUCTS FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES.

"I HASTEN TO ADD THAT THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY WE SHOULD NOT MISS," HE SAID.

/BECAUSE THE

BECAUSE THE TEXTILES SECTOR WAS SO IMPORTANT TO MANY DEVELOPING EXPORTERS, THEY MUST SECURE SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS IN THIS AREA IF THEY WERE TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE REST OF THE TRADE PACKAGE TO EMERGE FROM THE ROUND.

"FAILURE TO ARRIVE AT A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION TO THE TEXTILES PROBLEM WOULD INEVITABLY UNDERMINE THE ROUND AS A WHOLE," MR CHAN SAID.

"THIS WOULD HAVE EXTREMELY SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS FOR THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF WORLD TRADE AND WOULD BE IN NOBODY'S INTEREST, DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING PARTICIPANTS ALIKE."

HE SAID TEXTILES IMPORTING COUNTRIES HAD SUBMITTED THEIR PROPOSALS ON HOW TO PHASE OUT EXISTING RESTRICTIONS ON TRADE IN TEXTILES AND CLOTHING IN THE LAST SIX MONTHS.

SOME OF THESE PROPOSALS WERE CONSTRUCTIVE AND ADDED MUCH TO THE DEBATE ON THE SUBSTANTIAL ELEMENTS OF THE PHASING-OUT PROCESS.

OTHERS PUT FORWARD A RADICAL NEW MODALITY WHICH, IF ADOPTED, WOULD BRING GRAVE UNCERTAINTY TO THE TRADE AND WOULD BE MORE RESTRICTIVE THAN THE CURRENT REGIME UNDER THE MULTI-FIBRE ARRANGEMENT.

"THIS IS CLEARLY UNACCEPTABLE," HE SAID.

MR CHAN SAID ANY MODALITY TO REPLACE THE EXISTING MFA REGIME MUST BE ABLE TO PROVIDE CERTAINTY AND PREDICTABILITY TO EXPORTERS AS WELL AS IMPORTERS.

"WHERE RESTRAINTS CAN CONTINUE TO BE JUSTIFIED THIS CAN BE BEST ENSURED BY BUILDING ON THE PRESENT SYSTEM OF EXPORT CONTROL WHICH IS WELL UNDERSTOOD BY ALL INVOLVED IN THE TEXTILES AND GARMENTS TRADE.

"MOREOVER, THE CHOSEN MODALITY MUST BE PREDICTABLE AND CAUSE MINIMUM DISRUPTION TO TRADE, AND MUST ACCORD EQUITABLE DEVELOPMENT AMONG SUPPLIERS AND PROVIDE GREATER MARKET ACCESS FOR ALL EXPORTING COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES," HE SAID.

MR CHAN SAID THE GLOBAL QUOTA APPROACH PUT FORWARD SEPARATELY BY THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA FAILED TO MEET THESE CRITERIA.

"IT IS NOW ABUNDANTLY CLEAR THAT THERE IS A CONSENSUS MINUS TWO FOR ADOPTING AN MFA-BASED MODALITY," HE SAID.

MR CHAN SAID, TO BREAK THE IMPASSE AND TO TAKE THE NEGOTIATIONS FORWARD WITH A VIEW TO PUTTING TOGETHER A DRAFT OUTLINE AGREEMENT FOR THE JULY MEETING OF THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE, IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR THE ITCB TO DEVELOP AND TABLE A FURTHER DETAILED PROPOSAL AT THE JUNE MEETING OF THE TEXTILES AND CLOTHING NEGOTIATING GROUP.

/"FOLLOWING THE

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"FOLLOWING THE COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL SUBMITTED LAST DECEMBER BY THE BUREAU, THIS WOULD REPRESENT A FURTHER CONTRIBUTION FROM EXPORTERS TO THE NEGOTIATIONS AND, HOPEFULLY, WOULD BECOME THE BLUEPRINT FOR FUTURE WORLD TRADE IN TEXTILES AND CLOTHING," HE SAID.

"TO THIS END, THIS WEEK'S MEETING OF THE ITCB IN HONG KONG IS MOST TIMELY. THE NEXT FEW DAYS WILL UNDOUBTEDLY ENTAIL A LOT OF HARD THINKING WHEN THOSE AROUND THIS TABLE TRY TO THRASH OUT DETAILS OF THE TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENT," HE SAID.

THE MEETING, WHICH WILL RUN UNTIL FRIDAY (MAY 25), IS BEING ATTENDED BY SOME 50 REPRESENTATIVES FROM 19 MEMBERS OF THE ITCB, INCLUDING HONG KONG.

THE ITCB WAS SET UP IN 1985 TO CO-ORDINATE AND PROMOTE ACTIVITIES LEADING TO THE ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AND PROTECTIONISM DIRECTED AGAINST MEMBERS' EXPORTS OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING, AND TO ASSIST MEMBERS IN ENSURING THAT THEIR RIGHTS UNDER THE MFA ARE EFFECTIVELY PRESERVED.

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CONCERTED EFFORTS NEEDED IN REHABILITATION OF THE MENTALLY ILL
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SUCCESS IN THE REHABILITATION OF MENTALLY ILL PERSONS REQUIRES THE CONCERTED EFFORTS OF THE GOVERNMENT, CONCERNED VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, AND DEDICATED MEMBERS OF VARIOUS RELATED PROFESSIONS.

THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MRS ELIZABETH WONG, SAID THIS TODAY (TUESDAY) AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE WORLD PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION REGIONAL SYMPOSIUM AT THE HONG KONG CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE.

MRS WONG EXPLAINED BRIEFLY SOME RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE REHABILITATION OF THE MENTALLY ILL IN HONG KONG.

SHE SAID DURING THE LAST DECADE, A WIDE RANGE OF REHABILITATIVE PROGRAMMES AND SERVICES HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED TO FACILITATE THE INTEGRATION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, INCLUDING THOSE WHO HAD RECOVERED FROM MENTAL ILLNESS, INTO THE COMMUNITY.

MRS WONG SAID THE EMPHASIS OF SUCH PROGRAMMES HAD GRADUALLY SHIFTED FROM INSTITUTIONAL CARE TO COMMUNITY CARE.

"TO IMPROVE THE COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES FOR MENTALLY ILL PERSONS, WE HAVE, SINCE 1989, ESTABLISHED TWO TYPES OF FACILITY: THE PURPOSE-BUILT HALF-WAY HOUSE AND THE LONG STAY CARE HOME."

/MRS WONG

MRS WONG POINTED OUT THAT THE PURPOSE-BUILT HALF-WAY HOUSE WAS BASED ON THE EXPERIENCE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM WHICH DEMONSTRATED THAT THE CHANCE OF SUCCESSFUL REHABILITATION WOULD BE SMALLER IF ALL THOSE REQUIRING INTENSIVE CARE AND SUPERVISION WERE SEGREGATED INTO AN ISOLATED AND EXCLUSIVE GROUP.

THIS TYPE OF FACILITY SERVED NOT ONLY DISCHARGED MENTAL PATIENTS WHO NEEDED A HIGHER LEVEL OF SUPERVISION AND CARE, INCLUDING THOSE WHO HAD AN ASSESSED DISPOSITION TO VIOLENCE, BUT ALSO DISCHARGED MENTAL PATIENTS WITHOUT SUCH A BACKGROUND, SHE SAID.

"IN A PURPOSE-BUILT HALF-WAY HOUSE, THROUGH THE PROVISION OF A SMALL GROUP LIVING ENVIRONMENT, COUPLED WITH PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT, THE RESIDENTS ARE ASSISTED TO DEVELOP A SENSE OF SELF IDENTITY TO HELP EFFECT POSITIVE ADJUSTMENTS TO THEIR SOCIAL SKILLS, WORK HABITS, VALUES OF LIFE AND DECISION-MAKING ABILITIES.

"IN THIS WAY, THE HALF-WAY HOUSE SERVES AS A TRANSITIONAL VENUE FOR READJUSTMENT BACK INTO THE NORMAL ROUTINE OF DAILY LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY," MRS WONG SAID.

"TO CATER TO THE NEEDS OF THE CHRONIC MENTAL PATIENTS WHO ARE IN STABLE OR CONTROLLED MEDICAL AND MENTAL CONDITIONS BUT DO NOT REQUIRE ACTIVE TREATMENT EXCEPT MINIMAL NURSING CARE, THE LONG STAY CARE HOME WAS SET UP IN HONG KONG EARLIER THIS YEAR.

"IT PROVIDES FOR REHABILITATION OUTSIDE A HOSPITAL ENVIRONMENT, CONSTITUTES ACCOMMODATION COUPLED WITH CARE AND TRAINING.

"THE AIM IS FOR RESIDENTS TO PROGRESS FROM A STATE OF DEPENDENCY TO SEMI-DEPENDENCY THROUGH SOCIAL SUPPORT, APPROPRIATE STIMULATION AND SUPERVISION.

"SOME INDEED CAN BE EXPECTED TO PROGRESS TO INDEPENDENT LIVING AND EVENTUAL RETURN TO THE COMMUNITY," SHE SAID.

MRS WONG STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR PERSONS WHO HAD RECOVERED OR WERE RECOVERING FROM MENTAL ILLNESS.

"SINCE 1985, PUBLIC EDUCATION ON REHABILITATION HAS BEEN GIVEN A MAJOR STATUS IN THE PUBLICITY CAMPAIGNS OF THE GOVERNMENT," SHE SAID.

TURNING TO RECENT CHANGES TO RELEVANT LEGISLATION, SHE SAID THE MENTAL HEALTH ORDINANCE WAS AMENDED IN 1988 TO REINFORCE THE PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF THE MENTALLY ILL.

"IN PARTICULAR, TWO NEW PROVISIONS OF MAJOR SIGNIFICANCE WERE INTRODUCED, NAMELY THE GUARDIANSHIP SCHEME AND THE MENTAL HEALTH REVIEW TRIBUNAL.

"THE PURPOSE OF THE GUARDIANSHIP SCHEME IS TO SAFEGUARD THE WELFARE OF MENTALLY ILL PERSONS AGED 18 AND ABOVE AND AT THE SAME TIME TO PROTECT OTHERS IN THE COMMUNITY.

"THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MENTAL HEALTH REVIEW TRIBUNAL, ON THE OTHER HAND, STRENGTHENS THE PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF MENTALLY ILL PERSONS."

MRS WONG SAID HONG KONG FACED MANPOWER DIFFICULTIES AS WELL AS THE NEED TO GAIN GREATER COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE OF MENTALLY ILL PERSONS.

"NEVERTHELESS, WE ARE DETERMINED TO CONTINUE TO IMPROVE SERVICES FOR MENTALLY ILL PERSONS AND EXPLORE NEW INITIATIVES," SHE ADDED.

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TAC RECOMMENDS NT AND LANTAU TAXI FARE INCREASES

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THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) TODAY (TUESDAY) DISCUSSED FARE INCREASE APPLICATIONS FROM THE NEW TERRITORIES AND LANTAU TAXI OPERATORS.

THE COMMITTEE HAS RECOMMENDED A FARE INCREASE AT A LOWER PERCENTAGE THAN THOSE REQUESTED BY THE TRADE.

IN ARRIVING AT ITS RECOMMENDATIONS, THE TAC TOOK INTO CONSIDERATION THE POLICY OF ESTABLISHING A SUBSTANTIAL FARE DIFFERENTIAL BETWEEN TAXIS AND OTHER MODES; THE EFFECT OF INCREASED OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE AND FUEL COSTS AND THE NEED TO MAINTAIN AN ACCEPTABLE LEVEL OF TAXI SERVICE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES AND LANTAU.

APART FROM INCREASES IN MAIN TAXIMETER FARES, A RECOMMENDATION TO INCREASE THE SURCHARGE ON RADIO-CALL SERVICE HAS ALSO BEEN MADE.

THE RECOMMENDED FARE SCALES WILL YIELD AN INCREASE IN TAXI DRIVERS' MONTHLY INCOME AFTER OFFSETTING THE INCREASED DIESEL PRICE AND TAKING INTO ACCOUNT AN ANTICIPATED INCREASE IN OPERATING COSTS IN THE COMING YEAR.

MEMBERS NOTED THAT THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT HAD CARRIED OUT ROADSIDE SURVEYS IN BOTH THE NEW TERRITORIES AND ON LANTAU TO MEASURE THE LEVEL OF TAXI SERVICE WITH REFERENCE TO WAITING TIME, QUEUE LENGTH AND HEADWAY BETWEEN VACANT TAXIS.

THE RESULTS REVEALED THAT THE DEMAND FOR TAXI SERVICE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES HAS REMAINED STABLE IN RECENT YEARS WHILE THE AVAILABILITY OF TAXIS ON LANTAU HAS IMPROVED.

THE TAC'S RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION.

MEMBERS WERE ALSO BRIEFED ON THE COMPARATIVE FIGURES OF AVERAGE PEAK HOUR TRAFFIC SPEEDS IN THE URBAN AREAS BETWEEN HONG KONG AND OTHER MAJOR CITIES.

/THEY NOTED

THEY NOTED THAT FROM TIME TO TIME, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT UNDERTAKES CAR JOURNEY TIME SURVEYS DURING PEAK HOURS.

THESE SURVEYS SHOW THAT THE AVERAGE PEAK HOUR TRAFFIC SPEEDS VARIED FROM 20 TO 28.1 KILOMETRES PER HOUR BETWEEN 1979 AND 1989.

THE SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN THE AVERAGE TRAFFIC SPEED BETWEEN 1979 (20 KPH) AND 1984 (28.1 KPH) WAS DUE MAINLY TO THE COMMISSIONING OF A NUMBER OF MAJOR TRANSPORT PROJECTS, SUCH AS THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY, THE ELECTRIFIED KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY AND THE ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR.

THE INTRODUCTION OF FISCAL RESTRAINT MEASURES IN RESPECT OF PRIVATE CARS IN MAY 1982 ALSO HELPED TO EASE THE TRAFFIC FLOW CONSIDERABLY.

AS A RESULT OF SUSTAINED ECONOMIC GROWTH, THE TOTAL VEHICLE FLEET, PARTICULARLY PRIVATE CARS, STARTED TO GROW AGAIN IN EARLY 1987 (25.7 KPH). THE GENERAL TRAFFIC SITUATION BEGAN TO DETERIORATE GRADUALLY, BUT STEADILY, DROPPING FROM 28.1 KPH IN 1984 TO 21.5 KPH IN JUNE 1989.

ACCORDING TO FIGURES AVAILABLE TO THE DEPARTMENT, THE AVERAGE PEAK HOUR TRAFFIC SPEEDS FOR SINGAPORE AND LONDON WERE 26.7 AND 18.5 KPH RESPECTIVELY AS COMPARED TO 23.8 KPH FOR HONG KONG.

ON AVERAGE PEAK HOUR BUS SPEEDS, THE STUDY SHOWS HONG KONG STANDS AT 17.1 KPH AS COMPARED TO THE LOWEST OF 12 KPH IN THE CASE OF TOKYO AND THE HIGHEST OF 22.9 KPH AS IN THE CASE OF SEOUL.

OTHER THAN TOKYO, HONG KONG STANDS AT A BETTER POSITION THAN KOBE AND OSAKA BUT COMES AFTER SINGAPORE, LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER AND BERLIN, OTHER THAN SEOUL.

MEMBERS NOTED THAT, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT HONG KONG'S HEAVY TRAFFIC DENSITY, THE AVERAGE PEAK HOUR BUS SPEED IN HONG KONG COMPARES FAVOURABLY WITH THOSE OF SOME CITIES.

MEANWHILE, THE COMMITTEE WAS ALSO BRIEFED ON THE PROGRESS OF A CONSULTANCY STUDY ON THE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM OF THE CHINA MOTOR BUS COMPANY.

MEMBERS NOTED THAT AN INITIAL REPORT HAD BEEN COMPLETED AND A FINAL REPORT WAS EXPECTED TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT BY THE END OF MAY.

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SURVEY OF BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION, REAL ESTATE SECTORS BEGINS
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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THE SURVEY OF BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE SECTORS FOR 1989 HAS JUST COMMENCED.

THE SURVEY IS CONDUCTED ANNUALLY AND REPRESENTS PART OF A CONTINUOUS PROGRAMME IN THE DEPARTMENT TO COLLECT ECONOMIC STATISTICS ON THE STRUCTURE AND PERFORMANCE OF THE BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE ACTIVITIES IN HONG KONG.

THE AIMS OF THE SURVEY ARE TO OBTAIN UP-TO-DATE DATA FOR EVALUATING THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE ACTIVITIES TO HONG KONG'S GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT, AND FOR ASCERTAINING THEIR COST STRUCTURE, OPERATING CHARACTERISTICS AND OUTPUT LEVELS.

RESULTS OF THE SURVEY ARE USEFUL TO BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN FORMULATING POLICIES AND MAKING DECISIONS.

ABOUT 4,000 ESTABLISHMENTS WILL BE ENUMERATED IN THE PRESENT ROUND OF THE SURVEY, INCLUDING A FULL COVERAGE OF PROMINENT ESTABLISHMENTS AND A RANDOM SAMPLE OF SMALLER ESTABLISHMENTS ENGAGED IN THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:-

- * BUILDING AND CIVIL ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION;
- * REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT;
- * ARCHITECTURAL, SURVEYING AND PROJECT ENGINEERING; AND
- * REAL ESTATE LEASING, BROKERAGE AND MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT.

THE SURVEY IS BEING CONDUCTED UNDER THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS (ANNUAL SURVEY OF BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE SECTORS) ORDER 1984, WHICH WAS MADE UNDER THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS ORDINANCE (CHAPTER 316) AND ISSUED AS LEGAL NOTICE NO. 14 IN THE GAZETTE ON JANUARY 13, 1984.

A DIFFERENT VERSION OF SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE IS USED FOR EACH OF THE FOUR AFORE-MENTIONED CATEGORIES OF ESTABLISHMENTS.

INFORMATION SOUGHT IN THE SURVEY INCLUDES: TYPE OF OWNERSHIP; NUMBER OF DIRECT EMPLOYEES; COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES; CONSUMPTION OF MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES; PAYMENTS FOR SUB-CONTRACT WORK; OPERATING EXPENSES; VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK PERFORMED; VALUE OF PROPERTIES UNDER DEVELOPMENT AND THE ASSOCIATED PROJECT OUTLAYS (INCLUDING LAND VALUES); OTHER FORMS OF BUSINESS RECEIPTS; AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.

SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRES HAVE BEEN MAILED TO THE ESTABLISHMENTS SAMPLED FOR THE SURVEY. THESE ESTABLISHMENTS ARE LEGALLY REQUIRED TO COMPLETE AND RETURN THE QUESTIONNAIRES TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT BY JULY 31 THIS YEAR.

/IF REQUIRED

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IF REQUIRED, OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT WILL VISIT INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS AND ASSIST THEM IN COMPLETING THE QUESTIONNAIRES. THESE OFFICERS WILL CARRY A GOVERNMENT IDENTITY CARD AND A CERTIFICATE FOR CONDUCTING THE SURVEY WHILST ON DUTY, WHICH ARE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION.

THE COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS APPEALED TO THE MANAGERMENTS OF ALL SAMPLED ESTABLISHMENTS TO RETURN THE COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRES PROMPTLY AND TO CO-OPERATE WITH OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT IN THE COURSE OF THE SURVEY, SO AS TO FULFIL THEIR LEGAL AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.

HE STRESSED THAT INFORMATION RELATING TO INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS WOULD BE TREATED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE UNDER THE PROVISION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS ORDINANCE. ONLY AGGREGATE INFORMATION, WHICH DOES NOT REVEAL DETAILS OF INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS, WILL BE RELEASED.

THE COMMISSIONER ALSO POINTED OUT THAT AUDITED ACCOUNTS ARE NOT ESSENTIAL FOR THE SUPPLY OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE DATA REQUIRED IN THE SURVEY.

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ACCEPTS FIGURES BASED ON PRELIMINARY ACCOUNTS OR ESTIMATES WHICH ARE CORRECT TO THE BEST OF THE RESPONDENTS' KNOWLEDGE AT THE TIME OF SUBMISSION OF THE RETURNS, IF AUDITED ACCOUNTS ARE NOT YET AVAILABLE.

ANY ENQUIRIES REGARDING THE SURVEY MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL. 823 4977.

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YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICE ON MOVE
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THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICE AND DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT WILL MOVE TO NEW PREMISES AT GROUND FLOOR, MIDDLE ROAD CARPARK BUILDING, 15 MIDDLE ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI, ON MAY 29.

THE NEW TELEPHONE NUMBERS FOR THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE COUNTER ARE 301 2130 AND 301 2131 WHILE THE NEW NUMBER FOR THE DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT IS 301 2150.

THE OFFICE WILL BE OPEN BETWEEN 9 AM AND 5.30 PM MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS AND FROM 9 AM TO NOON ON SATURDAYS.

IT WILL CONTINUE TO HANDLE GENERAL ENQUIRIES AND PROVIDE THE PUBLIC WITH STATUTORY DECLARATION AND OTHER SERVICES.

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DB COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER FUND APPLICATIONS
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THE COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE OF THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD WILL CONSIDER SEVERAL APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDS FOR ORGANISING ACTIVITIES FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS AT A MEETING ON THURSDAY (MAY 24).

THESE INCLUDE AN EYE-CARE PROJECT FOR THE ELDERLY, THE DISTRICT'S SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME AND A CHILDREN'S MUSIC CAMP.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY (MAY 24) IN THE DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, 141 KAU PUI LUNG ROAD, KOWLOON. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.15 PM.

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STUDENTS' SWIMMING GALA IN SHA TIN
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ABOUT 350 PUPILS FROM 34 PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN SHA TIN WILL TAKE PART IN A SWIMMING GALA ON THURSDAY (MAY 24).

ORGANISED BY THE NEW TERRITORIES SCHOOLS SPORTS ASSOCIATION SHA TIN BRANCH, THE 12TH SHA TIN DISTRICT INTER-PRIMARY SCHOOLS SWIMMING GALA WILL BE HELD AT THE SHA TIN JOCKEY CLUB PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL.

A PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY WILL TAKE PLACE AT 4 PM.

OFFICIATING GUESTS WILL INCLUDE THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR NG CHAN-LAM; ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS VICTORIA TANG; AND THE DISTRICT'S SENIOR EDUCATION OFFICER, MR HO WAI-MAN.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE 12TH SHA TIN DISTRICT INTER-PRIMARY SCHOOLS SWIMMING GALA TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY (MAY 24) AT THE SHA TIN JOCKEY CLUB PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL. IT WILL BEGIN AT 4 PM.

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PRAISE FOR WORK OF TUNG WAH GROUP

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THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR M.D. CARTLAND, COMMENDED THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS FOR ITS CONTINUOUS EFFORTS IN SERVING THE COMMUNITY WHEN MEETING ITS NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS THIS (TUESDAY) MORNING.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, LED BY THE CHAIRMAN, MR EDDIE LEE, PAID A COURTESY VISIT TO MR CARTLAND TO DISCUSS THE DEVELOPMENT OF MAJOR WELFARE SERVICES BY THE GROUP.

IN THE MEETING, MR CARTLAND ASSURED THE BOARD MEMBERS THAT THE DEPARTMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THEM IN AN EFFORT TO IMPROVE AND EXPAND WELFARE SERVICES FOR THE COMMUNITY.

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TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN SOUTHERN DISTRICT

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT THE SLIP ROADS CONNECTING AP LEI CHAU BRIDGE ROAD WILL BE TEMPORARILY CLOSED ON VARIOUS DATES TO FACILITATE ROAD RESURFACING WORKS.

THE SLIP ROAD LINKING AP LEI CHAU BRIDGE ROAD NORTHBOUND WITH WONG CHUK HANG ROAD EASTBOUND WILL BE CLOSED FROM MIDNIGHT TO 5 AM ON THURSDAY AND FRIDAY (MAY 24 AND 25).

VEHICLES ON AP LEI CHAU BRIDGE ROAD NORTHBOUND HEADING FOR WONG CHUK HANG AND ABERDEEN TUNNEL WILL BE DIVERTED TO TRAVEL VIA ABERDEEN PRAYA ROAD FLYOVER, ABERDEEN MAIN ROAD, LOK YEUNG STREET, TUNG SING ROAD, ABERDEEN MAIN ROAD, ABERDEEN PRAYA ROAD AND THEN REJOIN WONG CHUK HANG ROAD.

THE SLIP ROAD LINKING ABERDEEN PRAYA ROAD EASTBOUND WITH AP LEI CHAU BRIDGE ROAD SOUTHBOUND WILL BE CLOSED FROM 12.30 AM TO 5 AM ON MAY 26 AND 28.

VEHICLES ON ABERDEEN PRAYA ROAD EASTBOUND HEADING FOR AP LEI CHAU WILL BE DIVERTED TO TRAVEL VIA WONG CHUK HANG ROAD, FLYOVER, OCEAN PARK ROAD, ROUNDABOUT, OCEAN PARK ROAD, WONG CHUK HANG ROAD, SLIP ROAD AND THEN REJOIN AP LEI CHAU BRIDGE ROAD.

THE SLIP ROAD LINKING AP LEI CHAU BRIDGE ROAD NORTHBOUND WITH ABERDEEN PRAYA ROAD WESTBOUND WILL BE CLOSED FROM MIDNIGHT TO 5 AM ON MAY 29 AND 30.

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VEHICLES ON AP LEI CHAU BRIDGE ROAD NORTHBOUND HEADING FOR ABERDEEN WILL BE DIVERTED TO TRAVEL VIA SLIP ROAD, WONG CHUK HANG ROAD, FLYOVER, OCEAN PARK ROAD, ROUNDABOUT, OCEAN PARK ROAD, WONG CHUK HANG ROAD AND THEN REJOIN ABERDEEN PRAYA ROAD.

THE SLIP ROAD LINKING WONG CHUK HANG ROAD WESTBOUND WITH AP LEI CHAU BRIDGE ROAD SOUTHBOUND WILL BE CLOSED FROM MIDNIGHT TO 5 AM ON MAY 31 AND JUNE 1.

VEHICLES ON WONG CHUK HANG ROAD WESTBOUND HEADING FOR AP LEI CHAU WILL BE DIVERTED TO TRAVEL VIA ABERDEEN PRAYA ROAD, FLYOVER, ABERDEEN MAIN ROAD, LOK YEUNG STREET, TUNG SING ROAD, ABERDEEN MAIN ROAD, ABERDEEN PRAYA ROAD, SLIP ROAD AND THEN REJOIN AP LEI CHAU BRIDGE ROAD SOUTHBOUND.

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TEMPORARY LANE CLOSURE IN TAI PO
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT A SECTION OF ABOUT 400 METRES OF THE SLOW LANE OF TAI PO ROAD (TAI WO) NORTHBOUND NEAR HONG LOK YUEN WILL BE CLOSED FROM 9 AM ON THURSDAY (MAY 24) TO 9 AM ON SUNDAY (MAY 27).

THE ARRANGEMENT IS TO FACILITATE ROAD MAINTENANCE WORKS.

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