



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES  
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1982

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ROYAL OPENING FOR PRINCE OF WALES HOSPITAL

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HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUCHESS OF KENT TODAY PRAISED HONG KONG FOR SETTING +EXCELLENT STANDARDS+ IN MEDICAL AND HEALTH CARE AS SHE OFFICIALLY DECLARED OPEN THE PRINCE OF WALES HOSPITAL AT SHA TIN.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY, ATTENDED BY MORE THAN 500 COMMUNITY LEADERS, SHE SAID THAT THE COMPLETION OF THIS +MAGNIFICENT+ HOSPITAL WILL PROVIDE THE HIGHEST QUALITY OF MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR THOSE WHO LIVE IN THE EASTERN PART OF THE NEW TERRITORIES.

TO PROVIDE HEALTH SERVICES FOR MORE THAN FIVE MILLION PEOPLE IN A SMALL AREA MUST BE A DIFFICULT TASK AT THE BEST OF TIMES, SAID THE DUCHESS.

+YET, I SEE THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG ENJOY VERY GOOD HEALTH DESPITE THE DENSITY OF THE POPULATION,+ SHE SAID.

THE NEW INSTITUTION, THE FIRST FULLY AIR-CONDITIONED GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL IN HONG KONG, COMPRISES A 1 448-BED HOSPITAL, A SPECIALIST CLINIC, A NURSE TRAINING SCHOOL AND STAFF QUARTERS.

THE DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, DR K.L. THONG, DESCRIBED THE PROJECT AS AN +ULTRA-MODERN HOSPITAL OF INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS+ WHICH WILL SERVE AS A REGIONAL HOSPITAL FOR THE INCREASING POPULATION IN SHA TIN NEW TOWN AS WELL AS THE EASTERN PART OF THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE HOSPITAL, WHICH IS NAMED AFTER HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE CHARLES, WILL ALSO SERVE AS A TEACHING HOSPITAL FOR THE TRAINING OF MEDICAL STUDENTS AND POST MEDICAL GRADUATES OF THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

+THIS IS A MOST ESSENTIAL FUNCTION AS THE FUTURE DOCTORS PASSING THROUGH THE PORTALS OF THE PRINCE OF WALES HOSPITAL WILL HELP TO A GREAT EXTENT, TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF MEDICAL SERVICES FOR US IN HONG KONG,+ DR THONG SAID.

ALSO ATTENDING THE OPENING CEREMONY WERE HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF KENT, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE AND LADY YOUDE AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS.

THE NEW HOSPITAL, WHICH WILL BECOME OPERATIONAL IN PHASES FROM THE LATTER HALF OF NEXT YEAR, WILL PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE FACILITIES IN ALL THE BASIC SPECIALTIES SUCH AS MEDICINE, SURGERY, OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY, ORTHOPAEDICS, GERIATRICS AND PAEDIATRICS.

THERE WILL ALSO BE SPECIALIST UNITS FOR PSYCHIATRY, CLINICAL ONCOLOGY, PHYSICAL MEDICINE, INTENSIVE CARE, RENAL DIALYSIS, BURNS AND PAEDIATRIC SURGERY.

ESSENTIAL SUPPORTING SERVICES FOR THE NEW HOSPITAL INCLUDE CLINICAL PATHOLOGY, X-RAY, OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY, PHYSIOTHERAPY AND PROSTHETIC-ORTHOTIC SERVICES.

APART FROM THE WIDE RANGE OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH FACILITIES, IT WILL BE EQUIPPED WITH THE LATEST MEDICAL EQUIPMENT SUCH AS A COMPUTERISED BODY SCANNER, SEVERAL HIGHLY ADVANCED X-RAY MACHINES AND REMOTE-CONTROLLED OPERATING TABLES.

+THE COMPLETION OF THIS ESSENTIAL PROJECT REPRESENTS THE CONCERTED EFFORTS AND STERLING CONTRIBUTIONS IN VARIOUS WAYS BY MANY ORGANISATIONS AND PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS BOTH LOCALLY AND FROM OVERSEAS, AND IT ILLUSTRATES THE GOVERNMENT'S DETERMINATION TO STRENGTHEN THE PROVISION OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES IN HONG KONG, + DR THONG SAID.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF HRH'S SPEECH:

+I HOPE YOU WILL BELIEVE THAT I AM UTTERING NO CASUAL CONVENTIONAL COURTESY WHEN I TELL YOU THAT I HAVE LOOKED FORWARD EAGERLY TO THIS OCCASION. SOME YEARS AGO, WHEN MY HUSBAND WAS SERVING HERE WITH THE ARMY, WE LIVED IN HONG KONG. WE STRUCK UP THEN MANY VALUED FRIENDSHIPS; WE WERE DEEPLY IMPRESSED, AS ANY VISITOR MUST BE, BY THE ENERGY AND BUSTLE AND INGENUITY OF THE PLACE; AND YOU WILL UNDERSTAND WHY I FEEL A SENSE OF EXCITEMENT AND ANTICIPATION WHENEVER I COME HERE, FOR I KNOW THAT I SHALL SEE AROUND ME FRESH EVIDENCE OF THE VITALITY WITH WHICH HONG KONG INVARIABLY CONFRONTS ITS PROBLEMS AND SEIZES ITS OPPORTUNITIES.

+TO PROVIDE HEALTH SERVICES FOR MORE THAN 5 MILLION PEOPLE IN A SMALL AREA MUST BE A DIFFICULT TASK AT THE BEST OF TIMES. YET I SEE THAT THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG ENJOY VERY GOOD HEALTH, DESPITE THE DENSITY OF THE POPULATION. MAY I CONGRATULATE YOU MOST WARMLY UPON THE EXCELLENT STANDARDS ALREADY SET BY HONG KONG IN THIS FIELD, AND UPON THE COMPLETION OF THIS MAGNIFICENT HOSPITAL, WHICH WILL PROVIDE THE HIGHEST QUALITY OF MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR THOSE WHO LIVE IN THIS PART OF THE TERRITORY.

+THE PRINCE OF WALES HOSPITAL WILL ALSO SERVE AS THE TEACHING HOSPITAL FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS, AT UNDERGRADUATE AND POSTGRADUATE LEVELS, FROM THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG. I CANNOT LET THIS OCCASION PASS WITHOUT DECLARING A SPECIAL INTEREST IN THAT UNIVERSITY.

+AT THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS, OF WHICH I AM SO PROUD TO BE THE CHANCELLOR, THE VICE-CHANCELLOR OF THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG TOOK HIS DOCTORATE. ABOUT 20 YEARS AGO, DR JOHN LOACH, THEN THE UNIVERSALLY RESPECTED REGISTRAR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS, WAS ONE OF THOSE WHO ADVISED UPON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY; I HOPE YOU WILL ALLOW ME TO SAY HOW HIGHLY WE IN LEEDS, AS IN OTHER BRITISH UNIVERSITIES, HAVE ALWAYS VALUED OUR CONNECTIONS WITH HONG KONG, WHICH HAS PROVIDED US WITH SO MANY EXCELLENT STUDENTS. MANY OF THEM I HAVE HAD THE PLEASURE OF MEETING AT THE CEREMONIES WHEN DEGREES ARE CONFERRED. YOU WILL UNDERSTAND WHY I FEEL PARTICULARLY GLAD TO LEARN THAT THE FIRST SCHOLARSHIP FOR AN OVERSEAS STUDENT GIVEN UNDER THE AEGIS OF THE EDWARD BOYLE MEMORIAL TRUST, ESTABLISHED EARLIER THIS YEAR TO HONOUR THE MEMORY OF OUR LATE VICE-CHANCELLOR AT LEEDS, HAS BEEN AWARDED TO AN ENGINEERING STUDENT FROM HONG KONG.

+THIS COLLABORATION IN THE PURSUIT OF KNOWLEDGE, THE GENEROUS TREATMENT WHICH YOUR UNIVERSITIES ACCORD TO ACADEMIC STAFF AND STUDENTS FROM BRITAIN AND WHICH, WE HOPE, WE ACCORD TO YOURS, CONSTITUTE ONE OF THE LEAST HERALDED BUT MOST POWERFUL STRANDS IN COMMONWEALTH RELATIONSHIPS. HONG KONG IS ONE OF THE GREAT CITIES OF THE WORLD AND, IF YOU WILL ALLOW ME TO SAY SO, ONE OF THE MIRACLES OF THE WORLD. IT IS ESSENTIALLY A CHINESE CITY, BUT ONE WHICH HAS BEEN HOSPITABLE TO OTHER CULTURES AND RECEPTIVE TO OTHERS' SKILLS.

+BELIEVE ME, I FEEL HONOURED THAT YOU SHOULD HAVE ASKED ME TO DECLARE THE PRINCE OF WALES HOSPITAL OPEN AS I NOW MOST GLADLY DO= AND THROUGH YOU, DIRECTOR, MAY I WISH WELL ALL THOSE WITHIN THESE WALLS WHO WILL PROBE THE CAUSES OF DISEASE, TRAIN THE NEW GENERATIONS OF DOCTORS AND PURSUE THE NOBLE VOCATION OF CARING FOR THE SICK.+

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NEW STANDARD COSTS PROPOSED FOR WELFARE SERVICES  
WILL MEAN \$12M IN INCREASED SPENDING

\* \* \* \*

PLANS BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT TO SUBVENT EIGHT WELFARE SERVICES ON A STANDARD COST BASIS IN THE NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR WILL MEAN A RISE OF ABOUT \$12 MILLION IN GOVERNMENT SPENDING IN THESE IMPORTANT AREAS, SUBJECT TO THE VOTING OF FUNDS BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT TODAY (MONDAY) DESCRIBED THE PROPOSALS AS +A FURTHER STEP FORWARD IN IMPLEMENTING THE NEW SUBVENTION SYSTEM ANNOUNCED LAST YEAR+.

+THIS IS A CLEAR INDICATION OF THE GOVERNMENT'S INCREASING COMMITMENT TO IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF SERVICES IN THESE FIELDS,+ HE SAID.

THE SERVICES COVERED INCLUDE OUTREACHING SOCIAL WORK, SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK, FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION, SMALL GROUP HOMES, FOSTER CARE AND NEIGHBOURHOOD LEVEL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT. WORK ON DETERMINING THE STANDARD COSTS FOR TWO REMAINING SERVICES -- FAMILY COUNSELLING AND POOL BUS SERVICE -- IS BEING FINALISED AND PROPOSALS WILL BE READY VERY SHORTLY.

THE DEPARTMENT HAS WRITTEN TO ALL THE SUBVENTED AGENCIES CONCERNED TO SEEK THEIR VIEWS ON THE PROPOSALS BEFORE PUTTING ITS RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE SOCIAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE. +THE DEPARTMENT WILL BE HAPPY TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSALS WITH AGENCIES IF THEY FEEL THAT A MEETING WILL BE USEFUL,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

/HE NOTED .....

HE NOTED THAT IN THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR, GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON SUBVENTING THESE SERVICES WAS ABOUT \$50 MILLION.

+IN THE NEW FINANCIAL YEAR, IF THE NEW STANDARD COSTS ARE USED, ALLOCATIONS TO VOLUNTARY AGENCIES IN THESE FIELDS WILL GO UP TO SOME \$62 MILLION,+ HE SAID.

+OUR INTENTION IS TO PROVIDE A REASONABLE LEVEL OF SUPPORT FOR SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+SUBVENTED AGENCIES SHOULD REST ASSURED THAT STANDARD COSTS WILL BE ADEQUATE. FURTHERMORE, THEY WILL BE FULLY CONSULTED BEFORE FINAL DECISIONS ARE TAKEN.+

THE SPOKESMAN WENT ON: +THE STANDARD COSTS PROPOSED ARE DERIVED FROM EXISTING STANDARDS AS SET OUT IN THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEVELOPMENT FIVE-YEAR PLAN, WHICH IS A DOCUMENT REPRESENTING CO-OPERATIVE PLANNING EFFORTS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR.+

HE SAID THAT STANDARD COSTS FOR SERVICES WERE CAREFULLY WORKED OUT FOLLOWING A REVIEW OF THE SERVICES PROVIDED IN GOVERNMENT AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND SHOULD BE REGARDED AS STARTING POINTS FOR FURTHER REVIEW AND IMPROVEMENT.

+INDEED, UNDER THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN, THERE IS THE NECESSARY MECHANISM ENABLING SERVICES TO BE REVIEWED REGULARLY AND IMPROVED UPON IN A CO-ORDINATED AND SYSTEMATIC WAY TO MEET CHANGING NEEDS AND CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES,+ HE SAID.

STANDARD COSTS ARE ASSESSED ON THE BASIS OF THE NUMBERS AND LEVELS OF STAFF REQUIRED TO PROVIDE A PARTICULAR SERVICE AND OTHER CHARGES SUCH AS UTILITIES, ADMINISTRATION AND PROGRAMME EXPENSES. THEY WILL BE REVIEWED REGULARLY TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF RECOGNISED PRICE RISES AND SALARY ADJUSTMENTS IN THE CIVIL SERVICE.

STAFF COSTS ARE DERIVED FROM EXISTING STANDARDS UNDER THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN AND ALSO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE EXTENSION OF THE WELFARE CLASS REVIEW TO THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR.

SEPARATE PROVISION WILL BE MADE FOR PROVIDENT FUND CONTRIBUTIONS AS WELL AS RENTS AND RATES.

+ONCE THE STANDARD COSTS HAVE BEEN DETERMINED AND THE FUNDS PROVIDED, AGENCIES WILL HAVE MAXIMUM FREEDOM IN USING THE RESOURCES TO THEIR BEST ADVANTAGE WITHIN BROAD GUIDELINES LAID DOWN BY THE DEPARTMENT,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID. +OUR MAIN CONCERN IS TO ENSURE THAT THE FUNDS ALLOCATED ARE EFFECTIVELY SPENT FOR THE PURPOSES INTENDED.+

WORK ON THE STANDARD COSTS FOR THE OTHER WELFARE SERVICES IS PROGRESSING SATISFACTORILY AND IT IS HOPED TO HAVE THEM INTRODUCED IN 1984/85.

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GOVERNMENT REPLIES ON EASTERN HOSPITAL  
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THE GOVERNMENT TODAY OUTLINED ITS PROPOSALS FOR AN EASTERN DISTRICT HOSPITAL AND THE IMPROVEMENTS TO TRANSPORT AND MEDICAL FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED IN THE DISTRICT PRIOR TO ITS OPENING.

DETAILS OF THE PROPOSALS ARE CONTAINED IN A COMPREHENSIVE NINE-PAGE LETTER FROM THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR GRAHAM BARNES, IN RESPONSE TO A PETITION FROM RESIDENTS OF THE DISTRICT ASKING THAT THE HOSPITAL PROJECT BE BROUGHT FORWARD IMMEDIATELY.

IN HIS LETTER, RELEASED LAST WEEK, MR BARNES SAID THE GOVERNMENT IS +ON A STRAIGHT COURSE+ TO CONSTRUCT AND OPEN THE HOSPITAL AS PLANNED BY 1990, BUT EMPHASISED THAT THIS POSITION COULD CHANGE WITH A CHANGE OF CIRCUMSTANCES AT ANY TIME UNTIL THE CONTRACT IS LET.

THE REGIONAL SECRETARY POINTED OUT THAT THE PROPOSAL TO BUILD THE EASTERN DISTRICT HOSPITAL WAS INTRODUCED INTO CATEGORY B OF THE PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME IN APRIL THIS YEAR. +IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE AND MAKE NO SENSE TO UPGRADE THIS ITEM TO CATEGORY A IMMEDIATELY,+ HE ADDED.

+WHILE AN ITEM IS IN CATEGORY B THE CONCEPT MUST BE REFINED TO A DETAILED PROPOSAL, SKETCH PLANS, TECHNICAL SCHEDULES, BUILDING SERVICE REQUIREMENTS AND ESTIMATES OF COST, SO THAT UPGRADING TO CATEGORY A MAY BE SOUGHT ON THE BASIS OF FULL INFORMATION REGARDING THE COSTS AND CONSEQUENCES OF PROCEEDING WITH THE PROJECT.

+THE PREPARATION OF THESE ITEMS IS CURRENTLY IN HAND WITH THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.+

MR BARNES SAID IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE AT THIS STAGE TO GIVE A FIRM DATE WHEN THE PROPOSED HOSPITAL IS TO COMMENCE CONSTRUCTION OR TO PINPOINT THE EXACT DATE OF ITS COMPLETION.

BUT THE GOVERNMENT BELIEVED IT NECESSARY TO HAVE A HOSPITAL BUILT WITHIN THE DECADE AND WAS NOW DOING THE PLANNING WORK NECESSARY TO COMPLETE THE HOSPITAL WITHIN THAT PERIOD.

+IT IS IN FACT THE EARLIEST THAT A FULL-SCALE HOSPITAL COULD BE PLANNED AND COMPLETED, BUT THERE ARE MANY FACTORS WHICH COULD MEAN IT COULD BE COMPLETED LATER,+ MR BARNES SAID.

HE SAID THAT LIKE ALL ITEMS IN THE PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME, THE EASTERN HOSPITAL PROPOSAL WOULD BE SUBJECT TO REGULAR REVIEW IN THE LIGHT OF THE TERRITORY'S ECONOMIC SITUATION, THE GOVERNMENT'S FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND THE OTHER PROJECTS COMPETING FOR THEM.

/HE ALSO .....

HE ALSO STRESSED THAT THE PROVISIONING OF MEDICAL FACILITIES IN THE DISTRICT COULD NOT BE DIVORCED FROM THE PROVISION OF TRANSPORT FACILITIES, ON WHICH HE MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

- \* THE ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR: THE SECTIONS BETWEEN CAUSEWAY BAY AND HEALTHY STREET WEST AND FROM HEALTHY STREET WEST TO THE TAI KOO SHING ARE DUE FOR COMPLETION BY MID-1984, WITH THE TAI KOO SHING TO SHAU KEI WAN PHASE, INCLUDING THE DIRECT LINE TO CHAI WAN ROAD, TARGETTED FOR OPENING A YEAR LATER.

THIS WOULD BE FOLLOWED IN THE SECOND HALF OF THE '80S BY THE COASTAL ROAD LINKING SHAU KEI WAN AND CHAI WAN.

- \* MTR ISLAND LINE: THE SECTION COVERING EASTERN DISTRICT -- FROM ADMIRALTY TO CHAI WAN -- IS EXPECTED TO OPEN IN MID-1985.
- \* LEI YUE MUN BRIDGE: ALTHOUGH TIMING WAS NOT YET KNOWN, THE HARBOUR CROSSING PROBLEM WAS BECOMING INCREASINGLY URGENT AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF A BRIDGE WAS LIKELY TO BE GIVEN A HIGH PRIORITY.

ON MEDICAL FACILITIES IN THE DISTRICT, MR BARNES MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

- \* A CASUALTY CENTRE IS BEING PLANNED FOR CHAI WAN TO PROVIDE FIRST AID SO THAT PATIENTS WERE FIT TO TRAVEL ON TO THE NEXT STAGE OF THEIR JOURNEY AT THE TANG SHIU KIN CASUALTY WARD. THE NEED FOR THE CASUALTY CENTRE IS DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE POSSIBILITIES OF LONG JOURNEY TIMES BETWEEN THE SCENE OF AN ACCIDENT AND TANG SHIU KIN HOSPITAL.
- \* THE TANG SHIU KIN HOSPITAL IS TO BE UPGRADED. +THIS IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE IT WILL REDUCE THE NUMBER OF CASES FROM EASTERN DISTRICT WHICH WILL HAVE TO BE TRANSFERRED TO QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL,+ MR BARNES SAID.
- \* THE IMPROVEMENTS WILL ENABLE TANG SHIU KIN TO FUNCTION MORE EFFECTIVELY AS A CASUALTY HOSPITAL AND ENABLE IT TO DEAL ADEQUATELY WITH MORE SURGICAL CASES WITHOUT REFERRING THEM TO QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL.
- \* RUTTONJEE SANATORIUM, CURRENTLY DEALING WITH TB CASES, WILL BE REDEVELOPED TO PROVIDE BETTER SERVICE TO A GREATER NUMBER OF PATIENTS, WITH FEWER TB BEDS AND MORE GERIATRIC BEDS REQUIRED FOR THE AGEING POPULATION. THE REDEVELOPMENT WILL ALSO PROVIDE BED SPACE IN VARIOUS SPECIALITIES TO SUPPORT THE TANG SHIU KIN HOSPITAL, WHICH IN TURN WOULD GREATLY INCREASE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THAT HOSPITAL AND REDUCE ITS NEED FOR REFERRALS TO THE QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL.
- \* NEW OUTPATIENT CLINICS WILL BE ESTABLISHED IN SAI WAN HO AND CHAI WAN AND FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES CENTRES WILL ALSO BE REPROVISIONED AT MTR COMPLEXES IN THE COMING YEARS.

+THUS A WIDE RANGE OF BOTH CURATIVE AND PREVENTIVE SERVICES WILL BE PROVIDED FOR THE PEOPLE IN THE REGION AND EACH TYPE OF SERVICE WILL IN ITS OWN WAY CONTRIBUTE TO THE BETTERMENT OF HEALTH AMONG THE PEOPLE,+ MR BARNES SAID.

MR BARNES ALSO DEALT WITH CRITICISM THAT PUBLIC FUNDS WERE BEING USED TO EXTEND FACILITIES AT QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL AND EXISTING HOSPITAL SERVICES IN THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT, AT THE EXPENSE OF THE EASTERN HOSPITAL PROJECT.

HE POINTED OUT THAT GRADUATES AT THE MEDICAL SCHOOL AT HONG KONG UNIVERSITY ARE AT PRESENT REGISTRABLE WITH THE GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

IN ORDER TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS FOR REGISTRATION WITH THE COUNCIL IT WAS ESSENTIAL TO MAINTAIN AN ACCEPTABLE STANDARD REGARDING TEACHING FACILITIES, AND THE GMC HAD RECOMMENDED AN IMPROVEMENT IN STANDARDS AND PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOLLOWING A VISIT BY REPRESENTATIVES IN APRIL, 1980.

+IT WOULD BE TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE AND THE CONSEQUENCES DISASTROUS IF THE GMC DECIDED AGAINST FURTHER REGISTRATION OF THE HONG KONG MBBS DEGREE FOR FAILING TO MEET ITS RECOGNISED STANDARDS,+ MR BARNES SAID.

HE ALSO POINTED TO THE STEADY INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF PATIENTS BEING TREATED AT QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL OVER THE YEARS. THE RESULT WAS THAT EXISTING FACILITIES HAD PROVED INADEQUATE TO MEET DEMAND AND THERE WAS NOW OVERCROWDING IN THE WARDS.

MR BARNES ALSO CORRECTED THE MISCONCEPTION THAT THE PROPOSAL TO BUILD A DISTRICT HOSPITAL AT EASTERN HAD BEEN SUBJECT TO DELAY.

THE SHAU KEI WAN SITE NOW EARMARKED FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT HOSPITAL WAS FIRST CONSIDERED IN THE LATE '50S AS A POSSIBLE SITE FOR A TERRITORY-WIDE INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL, BUT THE IDEA WAS LATER ABANDONED AND THE SITE RESERVED FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES.

THE NEXT PROPOSAL WAS FOR A PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL ON THE SITE, BUT THIS PLAN WAS ALSO ABANDONED.

DURING THIS TIME, MR BARNES EMPHASISED, THE SITE WAS NOT INTENDED TO PROVIDE LOCAL GENERAL MEDICAL FACILITIES FOR EASTERN HONG KONG AND THE PROPOSAL FOR THE DISTRICT HOSPITAL WAS NOT INCLUDED IN THE PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME UNTIL 1982.

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GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY CONTINUES  
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THE FOURTH QUARTER 1982 GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY WILL CONTINUE TO BE CONDUCTED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT FROM NOVEMBER 1982 TO JANUARY 1983, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY.

THE SURVEY STARTED IN AUGUST 1981 AND IS CARRIED OUT ON A CONTINUOUS BASIS BY THE PERMANENT FIELD STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENT TO COLLECT CURRENT INFORMATION ON THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION.

A RANDOM SAMPLE OF ABOUT 16 500 HOUSEHOLDS HAVE BEEN SELECTED THROUGHOUT ALL DISTRICTS IN HONG KONG FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE SURVEY. SOME OF THE HOUSEHOLDS WERE INCLUDED IN THE THIRD QUARTER 1982 SURVEY (AUGUST TO OCTOBER 1982) THREE MONTHS AGO AND WILL BE INTERVIEWED FOR THE SECOND TIME IN THE FOURTH QUARTER 1982 SURVEY IN ORDER TO MEASURE MORE ACCURATELY THE CHANGES THAT HAVE OCCURRED SINCE THE LAST SURVEY. AN OFFICIAL LETTER, IN BOTH CHINESE AND ENGLISH, HAS BEEN SENT TO THE SAMPLED HOUSEHOLDS TO EXPLAIN THE PURPOSE OF THE SURVEY AND TO SEEK THEIR COOPERATION IN PARTICIPATION.

ASSISTANT CENSUS AND SURVEY OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT, WHO WILL IDENTIFY THEMSELVES WITH DEPARTMENTAL IDENTITY CARDS WILL VISIT THE SAMPLED HOUSEHOLDS FROM NOVEMBER 1982 TO JANUARY 1983 TO COLLECT THE INFORMATION.

QUESTIONS TO BE ASKED IN THE SURVEY INCLUDE THE CORE QUESTIONS ON LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS SUCH AS: AGE, SEX AND EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF INDIVIDUALS; ACTIVITY STATUS, OCCUPATION, INDUSTRY, EARNINGS, AND HOURS OF WORK FOR THOSE WORKING; TENURE, RENT AND INCOME OF HOUSEHOLDS.

OTHER QUESTIONS ON SOME TRANSPORT CHARACTERISTICS, DEMAND FOR PRE-PRIMARY SCHOOL EDUCATION AND SERVICES, DEMAND FOR AND USE OF MEDICAL SERVICES, TIME SPENT BY STUDENTS IN DOING HOMEWORK AND REVISING LESSONS, AND LOCAL RESIDENTS' EXPENDITURE ABROAD, WILL ALSO BE INCLUDED.

ALL INFORMATION COLLECTED IN THE SURVEY WILL BE TREATED AS STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL AND WILL NOT BE REVEALED TO ANY PERSON OR ORGANISATION OUTSIDE THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

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STUDENTS INVITED TO JOIN CYC  
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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS INVITING PRIMARY 4 TO FORM 7 STUDENTS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND COMMUNITY SERVICES TO JOIN THE DEPARTMENT'S COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB.

AT PRESENT, MORE THAN 68 000 STUDENTS FROM 565 SCHOOLS HAVE JOINED THE CLUB SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT IN 1977.

THE CYC MOVEMENT, WHICH IS BECOMING MORE POPULAR AMONG STUDENTS, IS AIMED AT INFORMAL EDUCATION WITHIN THE SCHOOL SYSTEM WITH PARTICULAR COMMITMENT TO MORAL EDUCATION AND THE TRAINING OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN CITIZENSHIP.

CYC ACTIVITIES ARE CONDUCTED IN THREE LEVELS - WITHIN THE SCHOOL, WITHIN THE DISTRICT AND TERRITORY-WIDE. THEY INCLUDE VISITS, SEMINARS, SURVEYS, COMPETITIONS, EXHIBITIONS AND TELEVISION PROGRAMMES WHICH ARE RELATED TO THEMES LIKE CONSERVATION AND COUNTRY PARKS, FIRE PREVENTION, CONSUMER EDUCATION, ANTI-CORRUPTION, ROAD SAFETY AND OTHER MATTERS CONTRIBUTING TOWARDS COMMUNITY BUILDING IN HONG KONG.

MEMBERS WHO HAVE TAKEN PART IN A CYC ACTIVITY OR SERVICE WILL BE GIVEN CERTAIN POINTS UNDER A MERIT AWARD SCHEME. IN DECEMBER 1980, SIX MEMBERS WHO SHOWED OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IN THE SCHEME WERE SELECTED TO VISIT SINGAPORE AND LAST AUGUST EIGHT OUTSTANDING MEMBERS WERE CHOSEN TO VISIT AUSTRALIA.

STUDENTS WHO WISH TO JOIN THE CYC CAN ENROLL WITH THEIR CLASS OR FORM MASTER OR MISTRESS, WHO WILL COMPLETE A REGISTRATION FORM FOR THEM AND RETURN IT TO THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB SECTION.

TEACHERS WHO HAVE ANY QUERIES CAN CONTACT THE CYC SECTION AT 5-8392376-80.

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URBAN COUNCIL PROJECTS FOR DB DISCUSSION  
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SEVERAL URBAN COUNCIL PROJECTS UNDER PLANNING FOR THE WAN CHAI RECLAMATION WILL BE PRESENTED FOR MEMBERS' COMMENTS AT THE FIRST MEETING OF THE NEW WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

THE MEETING, TO BE CHAIRED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR TONY COOPER, WILL ALSO HEAR REPORTS ON THE WORK DONE BY THE BOARD AND ITS COMMITTEES SINCE THEIR FORMATION IN FEBRUARY.

OTHER ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED WILL INCLUDE THE BOARD'S TERMS OF REFERENCE, COMPOSITION AND MEMBERSHIP, STANDING ORDERS, AND ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.

THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD CONSISTS OF FIVE ELECTED MEMBERS, FIVE APPOINTED UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS, TWO URBAN COUNCILLORS AND EIGHT OFFICIALS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:  
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YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD TOMORROW (TUESDAY) AT 4 PM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE AT TUNG WAH MANSION, 8TH FLOOR, 201 HENNESSY ROAD.

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RSNT TO ATTEND TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD MEETING  
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THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR IAN MACPHERSON, WILL ATTEND THE FOURTH MEETING OF TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

AT THE MEETING, MEMBERS' VIEWS WILL BE SOUGHT ON THE GAMBLING POLICY AND OFF-COURSE BETTING CENTRES AS WELL AS PROBLEMS RELATING TO ABANDONED VEHICLES IN THE DISTRICT.

ILLEGAL STRUCTURES ON ROOFTOPS OR PODIUMS OF NON-INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS AND UNAUTHORISED ALTERATIONS WILL ALSO BE DISCUSSED.

TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS ELAINE CHUNG, WILL REPORT ON ARRANGEMENTS ON CHRISTMAS LIGHTINGS AND ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMMES IN THE DISTRICT.

THE KAU WAH KENG OUTLINE DEVELOPMENT PLAN HAS ALSO BEEN INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE ON THE 1ST FLOOR OF FOU WAH CENTRE, 210 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN.

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1982

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NEW ADDRESS FOR LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S DIVISIONAL OFFICES

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THE THREE DIVISIONAL OFFICES OF THE FACTORY INSPECTORATE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT IN KOWLOON - K-6, K-7 AND K-12 - HAVE MOVED TO THE AMOY PLAZA, SECOND FLOOR, 77 NGAU TAU KOK ROAD, KOWLOON.

UNDER THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS ORDINANCE AND ITS SUBSIDIARY REGULATIONS, THESE OFFICES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE OF WORKERS IN FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS IN TSZ WAN SHAN, NGAU CHI WAN, JORDAN VALLEY, NGAU TAU KOK, KWUN TONG, SAU MAU PING AND SAI KUNG AREAS.

THE TELEPHONE NUMBERS FOR GENERAL ENQUIRIES ARE 3-7551592 AND 3-7551594 FOR KOWLOON-6 3-7551581 AND 3-7551585 FOR KOWLOON-7, AND 3-7551503 AND 3-7551505 FOR KOWLOON-12.

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NT FRESH WATER TAPS OFF

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES AND VILLAGES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR NINE HOURS FROM 9 PM ON THURSDAY (NOVEMBER 4) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY (FRIDAY) FOR MAINS CONNECTION WORK.

THE PREMISES AND VILLAGES AFFECTED WILL BE THOSE ALONG:

- \* TAI PO ROAD BETWEEN KOWLOON HANG TSUEN AND SHEUNG SHUI CROSS ROAD
- \* CASTLE PEAK ROAD BETWEEN SHEUNG SHUI CROSS ROAD AND LOK MA CHAU, SAN TIN
- \* FAN KAM ROAD BETWEEN SHEUNG SHUI CROSS ROAD AND CHIU KENG TSUEN
- \* JOCKEY CLUB ROAD BETWEEN FANLING ROUND-ABOUT AND SAN FUNG AVENUE INCLUDING SHEK WU HUI AND SHEUNG SHUI TSUEN
- \* MAN KAM TO ROAD BETWEEN SAN FUNG AVENUE AND MAN KAM TO POLICE POST INCLUDING LO WU K.C.R. STATION AND MUK WU PUMPING STATION
- \* SHA TAU KOK ROAD BETWEEN FANLING ROUND-ABOUT AND SHA TAU KOK MARKET INCLUDING LUEN WO HUI AND ON LOK TSUEN
- \* PING CHE ROAD BETWEEN SHA TAU KOK AND TA KWU LING POLICE STATION IN FANLING.

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1982

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URBAN CLEARWAYS IN KENNEDY TOWN AND SHEK TONG TSUI

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QUEEN'S ROAD WEST BETWEEN KENNEDY TOWN PRAYA AND BELCHER'S STREET WILL BE DESIGNATED AS AN URBAN CLEARWAY FROM 10 AM ON WEDNESDAY (NOVEMBER 3).

WITHIN THE SECTION, VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS FROM 7 AM TO 10 AM AND FROM 4 PM TO 7 PM DAILY.

SIMILARLY, PEAK-HOUR CLEARWAY RESTRICTIONS WILL ALSO BE IMPOSED ON HILL ROAD IN SHEK TONG TSUI BETWEEN QUEEN'S ROAD WEST AND DES VOEUX ROAD WEST FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 5).

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TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE IN CAUSEWAY BAY

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FROM 10 AM ON WEDNESDAY (NOVEMBER 3), FUK KWAN AVENUE IN CAUSEWAY BAY WILL BE CLOSED FOR ABOUT FIVE WEEKS TO VEHICLES EXCEPT THOSE REQUIRING ACCESS TO LOCAL PREMISES.

THE CLOSURE IS TO ALLOW FOR THE LAYING OF GAS MAINS.

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WATER FIGURES

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 81.9 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 473.064 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 274.723 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 47.6 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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