DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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GOVERNOR TO SPREAD FREE TRADE MESSAGE
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, WILL STRESS THE IMPORTANCE OF FREE TRADE DURING HIS TRIP TO THE UNITED STATES IN JULY.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS TODAY (FRIDAY) AFTER OPENING THE HONG KONG STANDARDS AND TESTING CENTRE AT THE TAI PO INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, HE SAID PROTECTIONISM ALWAYS WORRIED HIM.

+IF PROTECTIONISM SPREADS, IT WOULD AFFECT NOT ONLY HONG KONG, BUT THE REST OF THE WORLD. THE WORLD OUGHT TO WANT FREER AND UNFETTERED TRADE, AND SO ANYTHING THAT GOES IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION WE SPEAK AGAINST AS WELL AS WE CAN.+

WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE DAYA BAY CONSULTANCY REPORT, SIR EDWARD POINTED OUT THAT THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY SAID QUITE CLEARLY WHEN HE SPOKE IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL THAT THE ONE WAY TO ALLAY PEOPLE'S FEARS WAS TO BE AS OPEN AS POSSIBLE ON THESE ISSUES, +AND THAT'S CERTAINLY WHAT WE ARE GOING TO TRY AND DO.+

+WE HAVEN'T GOT THE REPORT YET, WE DON'T KNOW IN WHAT FORM IT'S GOING TO COME. BUT IF THERE'S SECRECY THEN PEOPLE GET ANXIOUS AND THAT'S WHY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY SPOKE AS HE DID THE OTHER DAY.+

THE GOVERNOR SAID HE DID NOT EXPECT TO MEET THE PRIME MINISTER DURING HIS TRIP TO LONDON NEXT WEEK.

+THIS IS ONE OF THE REGULAR VISITS WHERE I SHALL BE TALKING MAINLY TO THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE.

+BUT I WILL BE SEEING MINISTERS, INCLUDING MR RENTON AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE THERE, AND THEN I SHALL ALSO GO ACROSS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE TO TALK TO SOME SENIOR OFFICIALS ABOUT THE PROSPECTS FOR TRADE, AND PARTICULARLY THE MULTI-FIBRE ARRANGEMENT NEGOTIATIONS.+

ASKED WHETHER HIS TRIP HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE ON THE NATIONALITY ISSUE, SIR EDWARD DESCRIBED THE TIMING AS A COINCIDENCE.

+I FIXED THE TIME OF MY VISIT BEFORE THEY ANNOUNCED THE DATE OF THE PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE, SO THAT REALLY IS A COINCIDENCE. BUT I WILL OF COURSE BE TAKING AN INTEREST WHILE I AM THERE IN THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE DEBATE.+

ON HIS MEETINGS WITH MEMBERS OF THE URBAN AND REGIONAL COUNCILS AND DISTRICT BOARDS, THE GOVERNOR SAID THERE WAS NOTHING VERY NEW ABOUT THESE MEETINGS.

+I MEET THEM ALL QUITE REGULARLY AS YOU KNOW. I VISIT THE DISTRICTS AND THEN I MEET THE DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS. BUT I HAVEN'T BEEN TO SEE THE URBAN COUNCIL AS A BODY FOR A WHILE,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

/+SO I .....

+SO I HAD DINNER WITH THEM THE OTHER EVENING AND I AM GOING TO HAVE A TALK TO THEM. BUT THE OBJECT OF THE EXERCISE IN JUST TO ALLOW THEM TO TELL ME OF THE THINGS THAT THEY WANT TO TELL ME ABOUT AND TO DISCUSS ANY PROBLEMS OF COMMON INTEREST.+

ASKED WHETHER HE WOULD TALK TO URBAN COUNCILLORS ABOUT THE POLITICAL SYSTEM IN HONG KONG, THE GOVERNOR SAID HE WOULD DO A LOT OF LISTENING, +AND IF THEY'VE GOT VIEWS TO EXPRESS ON THAT I SHALL BE VERY INTERESTED TO HEAR THEM.+

IN REPLY TO ANOTHER QUESTION, SIR EDWARD SAID HE HAD NO COMMENT TO MAKE ON THE +CHINA AIRLINES INCIDENT.+

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LOCAL VALIDATION BODY TO BE ESTABLISHED

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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THE FORMATION OF A PLANNING COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AWARDS TO CONSIDER IN DETAIL HOW FULL LOCAL VALIDATION OF DEGREES AWARDED BY NON-UNIVERSITY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN HONG KONG MIGHT BEST BE ARRANGED AND MANAGED.

IT IS ALSO ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE THAT THERE SHOULD BE A HONG KONG COUNCIL FOR ACADEMIC AWARDS.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT AT PRESENT DEGREE COURSE PROPOSALS FROM THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC (HKP) ARE FORWARDED TO THE UNIVERSITY AND POLYTECHNIC GRANTS COMMITTEE (UPGC) WHICH DETERMINES WHETHER THE UNITED KINGDOM COUNCIL FOR NATIONAL ACADEMIC AWARDS (CNAA) SHOULD BE ASKED TO ASSESS THE PROPOSALS.

+IF THE ASSESSMENT IS FAVOURABLE AND IF THE UPGC DECIDES TO SUPPORT A PARTICULAR DEGREE COURSE PROPOSAL, THE GOVERNMENT WILL SUBMIT THE PROPOSAL TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR ADVICE.

+DEGREE COURSE PROPOSALS APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL HAVE TO BE RE-VALIDATED AFTER SIX YEARS,+ HE SAID.

BESIDES THE TWO EXISTING UNIVERSITIES AND THE HKP, THE CITY POLYTECHNIC OF HONG KONG AND THE HONG KONG BAPTIST COLLEGE ARE EXPECTED TO OFFER DEGREE COURSES IN THE 1986-87 ACADEMIC YEAR.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE NUMBER OF DEGREE COURSE PROPOSALS FROM NON-UNIVERSITY HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS REQUIRING VALIDATION AND THE SUBSEQUENT DEMAND FOR RE-VALIDATION WOULD INCREASE SIGNIFICANTLY.

IT WOULD THEREFORE BE DIFFICULT TO ASK THE CNAA, AN OVERSEAS BODY, TO DEVOTE A SUBSTANTIAL PART OF ITS RESOURCES SOLELY TO THE VALIDATION AND REVALIDATION OF DEGREE COURSES IN HONG KONG; BUT A LOCAL VALIDATION BODY ESTABLISHED FOR THE PURPOSE CAN BE CALLED UPON, AS OF RIGHT, TO DO THE JOB.

/+THIS WOULD .....

+THIS WOULD NOT ONLY ENSURE THAT THE INTRODUCTION OF DEGREE COURSES WOULD NOT BE HINDERED BY A SHORTAGE OF RESOURCES FOR VALIDATION BUT ALSO CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS ACHIEVING SELF-SUFFICIENCY OF OUR HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AWARDS WILL COMPRISE LOCAL AS WELL AS OVERSEAS ACADEMICS AND LOCAL LAY MEMBERS. THE COMMITTEE WILL REPORT ITS ADVICE TO GOVERNMENT WITHIN NINE MONTHS OF ITS ESTABLISHMENT.

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SIR EDWARD OPENS LABORATORY SERVICES BUILDING

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THE PROVISION OF A LABORATORY SERVICES BUILDING BY THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES IS EVIDENCE OF THE FEDERATION'S RECOGNITION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF CONSTANTLY IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF HONG KONG'S PRODUCTS, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE BUILDING AT TAI PO INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, SIR EDWARD SAID ITS CONSTRUCTION WAS TESTIMONY TO THE FEDERATION'S DETERMINATION TO IMPROVE HONG KONG'S INDUSTRIAL AND TRADING PERFORMANCE.

HE POINTED OUT THAT IF HONG KONG PRODUCTS WERE TO GAIN THE REQUIRED LEVEL OF INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION, LOCAL SERVICES HAD TO BE AVAILABLE TO ENSURE THAT PRODUCTION PROCESSES MET INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNISED STANDARDS.

TO THIS END, HE ADDED, THE GOVERNMENT'S STANDARDS AND CALIBRATION LABORATORY PROVIDED A VALUABLE SERVICE.

+THE LABORATORY HOLDS PRIMARY PHYSICAL STANDARDS OF MEASUREMENT AND PROVIDES CALIBRATION FOR PRECISION MEASURING EQUIPMENT IN THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS FIELD,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

IN ADDITION, INDIVIDUAL MANUFACTURERS COULD USE THE LABORATORY FACILITIES TO TEST AND CERTIFY THE QUALITY OF THEIR OWN MATERIALS, COMPONENTS AND PRODUCTS TO BE ACCREDITED UNDER THE HONG KONG LABORATORY ACCREDITATION SCHEME, AND THEREBY ACQUIRE RECOGNITION THAT THEY WERE UP TO INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS.

+ONCE THE STANDARDS AND CALIBRATION LABORATORY AND THE HONG KONG LABORATORY ACCREDITATION SCHEME HAVE BECOME FIRMLY ESTABLISHED AND THEIR SERVICES ACCEPTED BY MANUFACTURERS, WE CAN EXPECT SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS IN THE PROMOTION OF QUALITY ASSURANCE IN HONG KONG, WITH BENEFICIAL EFFECTS ON THE REPUTATION OF OUR PRODUCTS OVERSEAS.+

/SIR EDWARD .....

SIR EDWARD SAID THAT HE WAS PLEASED THAT THE HONG KONG STANDARDS AND TESTING CENTRE'S LABORATORIES, HOUSED IN THE BUILDING, WERE AMONG THOSE TO BE ASSESSED FOR ACCREDITATION THIS YEAR.

HE SAID THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES, SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT IN 1960, HAD CONSISTENTLY WORKED FOR THE PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF THE INTERESTS OF THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR.

THE GOVERNOR PRAISED THE FEDERATION'S EFFORTS TO HELP THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY TO BECOME ONE OF HONG KONG'S MAJOR SUCCESS STORIES.

HE ALSO PAID TRIBUTE TO MR H.C. TANG, HONORARY PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERATION, FOR HIS GENEROUS DONATION TOWARDS THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE BUILDING AND FOR HIS DEDICATED SUPPORT FOR THE FEDERATION OVER MANY YEARS.

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CHINESE TEXTBOOKS COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

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APPOINTMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO THE CHINESE TEXTBOOKS COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED TO ENSURE THAT GOOD QUALITY TEXTBOOKS WRITTEN IN CHINESE FOR VARIOUS SUBJECTS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE MARKET.

THE COMMITTEE, CHAIRED BY UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR SZETO WAH, IS COMPOSED OF THE FOLLOWING:

UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS

* MR CHAN TING-LAP (SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHER)

* MR CHAN WING-CHIU (DEPUTY SECRETARY, HONG KONG EXAMINATIONS AUTHORITY)

* MR DAVID CHEUNG CHI-KONG (MEMBER OF BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SECONDARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL)

* DR KENNETH HO PUI-HUNG (SENIOR LECTURER OF CHINESE DEPARTMENT, UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG)

* DR KWAN SIK-HUNG (PRINCIPAL LECTURER OF APPLIED SCIENCE DEPARTMENT, HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC)

* DR PHILIP LAI KONG-HOU (MEMBER OF TEXTILE INDUSTRIAL TRAINING BOARD AND INDUSTRIALIST)

/* MR PETER LEE .....

* MR PETER LEE SHUNG-TAK (MEMBER OF EDUCATION COMMISSION AND CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD, CO-ORDINATOR OF CARITAS VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND EDUCATION SERVICE)

* DR VICTOR MOK HOI (SENIOR LECTURER OF ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT, CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG)

* MR TONG PO-KWAI (SECONDARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL)

* DR BENJAMIN K.Y. TSOU (HEAD OF DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES, CITY POLYTECHNIC OF HONG KONG)

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

* ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (SCHOOLS), MR WONG SIK-WAH

* ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS), MR SO FAI-CHO

SECRETARY

PRINCIPAL CURRICULUM PLANNING OFFICER (SECONDARY), MRS KONG LI CHI-HO

THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE ARE:

(A) TO IDENTIFY THE DEMAND FOR CHINESE TEXTBOOKS, INCLUDING TEXTBOOKS FOR THE TEACHING OF THE CHINESE LANGUAGE, IN THE LIGHT OF THE POLICY TO ENCOURAGE SCHOOLS TO USE CHINESE AS THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION; AND

(B) TO ENSURE THE AVAILABILITY OF A VARIETY OF GOOD SECONDARY SCHOOL TEXTBOOKS WRITTEN IN CHINESE, IN DIFFERENT SUBJECTS AT DIFFERENT LEVELS, ON THE MARKET FOR USE BY THE 1989-90 SCHOOL YEAR TO MEET THE NEEDS OF SCHOOLS.

THE COMMITTEE WILL BE SERVICED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND IS EXPECTED TO HOLD ITS FIRST MEETING TOWARDS THE END OF THE MONTH.

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MEMBERS OF POLICE COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE NAMED

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THE GOVERNMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE RECENTLY APPOINTED POLICE COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE WHICH HAS TAKEN OVER THE WORK FORMERLY UNDERTAKEN BY THE UMELCO POLICE GROUP.

THIS COMMITTEE, APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR, IS AN INDEPENDENT NON-STATUTORY BODY COMPRISING A CHAIRMAN AND TWO VICE-CHAIRMEN, DRAWN FROM UMELCO, AND EIGHT MEMBERS, DRAWN FROM UNOFFICIAL JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE WILL ATTEND MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE AND PROVIDE LEGAL ADVICE.

THE MEMBERSHIP IS AS FOLLOWS:

CHAIRMAN

MR CHEN SHOU-LUM

FIRST VICE-CHAIRMAN

DR HO KAM-FAI

SECOND VICE-CHAIRMAN

MRS RITA FAN

MEMBERS -

MR CHAN SIU-KAM

MR WILFRED CHAN SIU-YUEN

MR CHIU CHUN-BONG

MR HO CHUN-TUNG

DR RONALD LEUNG DING-BONG

PROFESSOR MA CHUNG HO-KEI

DR RAYMOND MOK WAH-CHAAN

MR PETER PUN YEN-SHOU

MEMBERS HAVE BEEN APPOINTED UP TO DECEMBER 31, 1987.

THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE ARE:

* TO MONITOR AND, WHERE IT CONSIDERS APPROPRIATE, TO REVIEW THE HANDLING BY THE POLICE OF COMPLAINTS BY THE PUBLIC;

/* TO KEEP .....

* TO KEEP UNDER REVIEW STATISTICS OF THE TYPES OF CONDUCT BY POLICE OFFICERS WHICH LEAD TO COMPLAINTS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC;

* TO IDENTIFY ANY FAULTS IN POLICE PROCEDURES WHICH LEAD OR MIGHT LEAD TO COMPLAINTS; AND

* WHERE AND WHEN IT CONSIDERS APPROPRIATE, TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE OR, IF NECESSARY, TO THE GOVERNOR.

A POLICE COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT HAS BEEN FUNCTIONING SINCE JANUARY THIS YEAR TO SERVICE THE COMMITTEE AND TO ASSIST ITS MONITORING ROLE.

THIS SECRETARIAT OPERATES AS A SEPARATE GOVERNMENT AGENCY, WITH A SECRETARY, MR WILLIAM YAP. MR YAP IS ASSISTED BY MR T.W. CHIU, DEPUTY SECRETARY, AND MR DAVIS HUI, SENIOR CROWN COUNSEL.

THE SECRETARIAT IS LOCATED ON THE 16TH FLOOR OF MELBOURNE PLAZA, 33 QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

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PLACEMENT SERVICE FOR TEACHERS RE-OPENS MONDAY

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THE PLACEMENT SERVICE UNIT OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL RE-OPEN ON MONDAY (MAY 12) FOR THE ANNUAL EXERCISE OF ASSISTING REDUNDANT TEACHERS IN AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS TO OBTAIN NEW TEACHING POSTS.

THE UNIT WAS FIRST ESTABLISHED IN 1975 TO ASSIST TEACHERS IN AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS TO SEEK ALTERNATIVE JOBS AS A RESULT OF THE DROP IN POPULATION OF PRIMARY SCHOOL AGE AS WELL AS MOVEMENT OF POPULATION FROM THE URBAN AREA TO NEW TOWNS.

THE UNIT HAS HELPED MORE THAN 4 000 TEACHERS IN SECURING ALTERNATIVE POSTS OVER THE YEARS.

+OUR 100 PER CENT SUCCESS RATE IS DUE TO THE CO-OPERATION OF SCHOOL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES FOR WHICH THE DEPARTMENT IS MOST GRATEFUL,+ SAID MRS CORINA WONG, SENIOR EDUCATION OFFICER, WHO HEADS THIS YEAR'S PLACEMENT SERVICE UNIT.

STAFFED BY FOUR OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT'S SCHOOL DIVISION THE UNIT IS LOCATED IN ROOM 611, SIXTH FLOOR, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 405 NATHAN ROAD.

REDUNDANT TEACHERS ARE REQUESTED TO REGISTER WITH THE UNIT BETWEEN MAY 23 AND 30.

/THE SCHEDULE .....

THE SCHEDULE OF REGISTRATION IS AS FOLLOWS:

MAY 23	FOR TEACHERS ON HONG KONG ISLAND
MAY 26	FOR TEACHERS IN KOWLOON (EXCEPT KWUN TONG AND WONG TAI SIN)
MAY 27	FOR TEACHERS IN KWUN TONG, KOWLOON
MAY 28	FOR TEACHERS IN WONG TAI SIN, KOWLOON
MAY 29	FOR TEACHERS IN TSUEN WAN AND KWAI CHUNG, N.T.
MAY 30	FOR TEACHERS IN OTHER AREAS IN N.T. (EXCEPT TSUEN WAN AND KWAI CHUNG)

FURTHER ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE AT 3-853058, 3-850824, 3-853442 OR 3-850448 DURING OFFICE HOURS.

MRS WONG REMINDED TEACHERS WHO WILL BE INFORMED BY LETTERS OF THEIR REDUNDANCY UNDER THE AGREED PRINCIPLE OF +LAST IN, FIRST OUT+ TO REGISTER WITH THE UNIT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SCHEDULE.

ONCE REGISTERED WITH THE UNIT, ALL WILL BE HELPED TO FIND AN ALTERNATIVE TEACHING POST IN AN AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL THIS SEPTEMBER.

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FILM CENSORSHIP FEES RAISED

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FEES PAYABLE FOR FILMS SUBMITTED FOR CENSORSHIP HAVE BEEN REVISED WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT TO HELP RECOVER THE RISING ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS OF THE SERVICE.

UNDER THE FILM CENSORSHIP (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1986 GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY), CHARGES PER 10 METRES OF 35 MILLIMETRE FILM SHOWN FOR CENSORSHIP OR REVIEW BY THE BOARD OF REVIEW ARE INCREASED FROM $5.5 TO $9 WHILE CHARGES FOR THE SAME LENGTH OF 16 OR 8 MILLIMETRE FILM RISE FROM $11 TO $18.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TELEVISION AND ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING AUTHORITY (THE COMMISSIONER OF WHICH IS THE FILM CENSORSHIP AUTHORITY) SAID THAT THERE WERE PROVISIONS UNDER THE REGULATIONS FOR FILM CLUBS OR CULTURAL AND NON-PROFIT MAKING UNDERTAKINGS TO SEEK EXEMPTION FROM CENSORSHIP FEES.

+IN PRACTICE, FILMS PRESENTED DURING FILM FESTIVALS AND BY BONA FIDE FILM CLUBS ARE EXEMPTED FROM THE PAYMENT OF CENSORSHIP FEES,+ HE SAID.

/THE SPOKESMAN .....

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE FEES WERE LAST REVISED IN DECEMBER 1980 AND NO LONGER REFLECTED THE COSTS INVOLVED.

HE EXPLAINED FURTHER THAT THE REVISION IN 1980 ONLY TOOK INTO ACCOUNT THE SALARY COSTS OF OFFICERS DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN FILM CENSORSHIP, BUT NOT THE ASSOCIATED ADMINISTRATIVE OVERHEADS.

+AN UP-TO-DATE COSTING OF FILM CENSORSHIP HAS SHOWN THAT THE FEES WOULD NEED TO BE INCREASED BY 118 PER CENT IF THE FULL COSTS WERE TO BE RECOVERED AT LATE 1985 PRICES,+ HE SAID.

AFTER CONSULTATION WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TRADE AND IN VIEW OF THE LIKELY FINANCIAL HARDSHIP WHICH WOULD BE CAUSED TO SMALLER OPERATORS, THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL DECIDED THAT THE RECOVERY OF FULL COSTS SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED OVER A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS.

TO ALLOW FOR MINIMAL FEE INCREASES ON A REGULAR BASIS, A SECOND STAGE OF INCREASES WOULD BE CONSIDERED IN EARLY 1987 WHEN THE ACTUAL COSTS WOULD AGAIN BE ASSESSED, HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE AUTHORITY HAD TAKEN MEASURES TO MINIMISE COSTS AND TO IMPROVE PRODUCTIVITY AND EFFICIENCY THROUGH CENSOR REDEPLOYMENT.

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NEW FIREMEN REMINDED OF MAIN TASK

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A GROUP OF NEWLY-GRADUATED FIREMEN WERE TOLD TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT THEIR MAIN TASK WAS TO HELP THE NEEDY IN DISTRESS RATHER THAN MAKE THEMSELVES POPULAR IN THE PUBLIC EYE.

ADDRESSING THE GRADUATES AT A PASSING-OUT CEREMONY AT THE FIRE SERVICES PAT HEUNG TRAINING SCHOOL, THE DEPUTY CHIEF FIRE OFFICER, MR WOO KWAN-KUEN, SAID THEY SHOULD NOT FORGET THAT AS A MEMBER OF THE HONG KONG FIRE SERVICES, THEY HAD A DUTY TO FULFIL.

+IT IS UP TO YOU TO UTILISE THE SKILL AND KNOWLEDGE ACQUIRED FROM TRAINING TO SATISFY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO TURN TO YOU IN TIME OF NEED AND DISTRESS AND BRING THEM RELIEF.+

MR WOO THEN REVIEWED A PARADE OF 19 GRADUATES AND ABOUT 100 NEW RECRUITS UNDER TRAINING AND PRESENTED THE BEST RECRUIT AWARD TO MR CHAN KWOK-HUNG.

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ENCOURAGING DEVELOPMENT FOR NORTH DISTRICT
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NORTH DISTRICT HAS GREAT POTENTIAL IN INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, DISTRICT OFFICER, MR MATTHEW CHEUNG, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING DURING HIS VISIT TO THE LUEN WO AND SHEK WUI HUI CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE, MR CHEUNG SAID THAT WITH THE ELECTRIFICATION OF THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY AND THE OPERATION OF THE NEW TERRITORIES CIRCULAR ROAD, TRAVELLING TIME BETWEEN THE URBAN AREA AND THE DISTRICT HAD BEEN GREATLY REDUCED.

+NORTH DISTRICT IS NO LONGER A REMOTE AREA IN THE NEW TERRITORIES,+ HE SAID.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SHENZHEN SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE AND IMPROVEMENTS TO CROSS-BORDER TRAFFIC LINKS WOULD ALSO ENCOURAGE INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE DISTRICT, HE SAID.

AT PRESENT, BORDER-CROSSING POINTS ARE PROVIDED AT LO WU FOR RAIL PASSENGERS, AND AT MAN KAM TO AND SHA TAU KOK FOR VEHICULAR TRAFFIC. A NEW PASSENGER TERMINAL WOULD BE COMPLETED AT LO WU STATION EARLY NEXT YEAR.

MR CHEUNG SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS TAKING AN ACTIVE ROLE IMPROVING THE BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE OF ON LOK TSUEN WHERE MANUFACTURERS COULD SET UP FACTORIES AND PROVIDE MORE JOB OPPORTUNITIES.

THUS, IN THE LONG TERM, THE ECONOMIC PROSPECT OF NORTH DISTRICT WAS ONE THAT WE COULD LOOK UPON WITH GREAT OPTIMISM, HE ADDED.

DURING THE VISIT, MR CHEUNG EXCHANGED VIEWS WITH THE CHAIRMAN OF THE LUEN WO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, MR TAM SHIU-KWONG, AND THE SHEK WU HUI CHAMBER CHAIRMAN, MR CHEUNG KUEN.

HE ALSO PAID A VISIT TO THE FUNG YING SIN KOON, A FAMOUS TAOIST TEMPLE IN THE DISTRICT.

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SUBSCRIPTION FEES FOR NOTICES TO EXPORTERS REVISED

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THE TRADE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT SUBSCRIPTION FEES FOR NOTICES TO EXPORTERS WILL BE INCREASED FROM JUNE 1.

EXISTING SUBSCRIPTION FEES, WHICH HAVE REMAINED UNCHANGED SINCE JANUARY 1980, WILL BE RAISED FROM $35 TO $100 A YEAR FOR EACH OF SERIES 1, 2 AND 3; AND FROM $10 TO $40 A YEAR FOR EACH OF SERIES 1A, 2A AND 3A.

SERIES 1, 2 AND 3 CONTAIN INFORMATION ON THE CONTROL ARRANGEMENTS FOR, AND ANY MODIFICATION TO, THE TEXTILES EXPORT CONTROL SYSTEM.

SERIES 1A, 2A AND 3A REPORT MONTHLY ON QUOTA UTILISATION IN INDIVIDUAL RESTRAINT MARKETS, IN ADDITION TO PROVIDING LISTS OF QUOTA-HOLDERS AND THEIR HOLDINGS.

NEW OR RENEWED SUBSCRIPTIONS TAKING EFFECT ON OR AFTER JUNE 1 WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE REVISED RATES. SUBSCRIPTIONS ALREADY PAID FOR AT EXISTING RATES WILL CONTINUE AT SUCH RATES UNTIL THEY EXPIRE.

HOWEVER, THE DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE ITS EXISTING PRACTICE OF MAKING AVAILABLE, FREE OF CHARGE, COPIES OF NOTICES TO TRADE AND INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS AS WELL AS MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC CALLING IN PERSON AT THE DEPARTMENT.

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NEW ID CARDS FOR WOMEN BORN 1926 - 1930

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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT WOMEN BORN IN 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929 AND 1930 WILL HAVE TO APPLY FOR NEW I.D. CARDS FROM MAY 19 TO JUNE 28.

DURING THE SIX-WEEK PERIOD, APPLICANTS CAN BRING ALONG THEIR OLD CARDS AND CALL AT ANY OF THE EIGHT ISSUE OFFICES WHICH ARE OPEN DAILY FROM 8 AM TO 9.30 PM, EXCEPT SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

THE ADDRESSES OF THE ISSUE OFFICES ARE:

HONG KONG : BASEMENT, 151 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI

EAST KOWLOON : AMOY GARDEN PLAZA, SECOND FLOOR, 77 NGAU TAU KOK ROAD.

WEST KOWLOON : CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, SECOND FLOOR, 393 CANTON ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI.

/TSUEN WAN .....

TSUEN WAN	: EAST ASIA COMMERCIAL CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, 29-37 TSUEN FU STREET.
SHA TIN	: SHA TIN CENTRE, PODIUM FLOOR, 2-16 WANG POK STREET.
YUEN LONG	: HOP YICK CENTRE, SECOND FLOOR, 31 HOP YICK ROAD.
TUEN MUN	: CHI LOK COMMERCIAL CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, CHI LOK FA YUEN.
SHEUNG SHUI	: TSUEN WO TAI LAU, GROUND FLOOR, 82-84 SAN FUNG AVENUE, SHEK WU HUI.

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT AS ALL APPLICANTS IN THE COMING PHASE ARE IN THEIR LATE FIFTIES, SOME MIGHT BE IN POOR HEALTH, AND IT COULD CAUSE THEM A GREAT DEAL OF HARDSHIP AND INCONVENIENCE TO GO TO THE ISSUE OFFICES.

HE REMINDED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC THAT UNDER THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS REGULATIONS, PERSONS WHO ARE AGED, BLIND OR INFIRM, AND WHO CAN SATISFY THE COMMISSIONER OF REGISTRATION THAT THEIR PERSONAL ATTENDANCE FOR REGISTRATION WOULD INJURE THEIR HEALTH, ARE NOT REQUIRED TO REGISTER OR APPLY FOR THE ISSUE OF AN IDENTITY CARD.

+IN SUCH CASES, THEY MAY APPLY IN WRITING FOR A CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION TO BE ISSUED TO THEM,+ HE SAID.

FOR INFORMATION ON HOW TO APPLY FOR A CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SHOULD TELEPHONE THE DEPARTMENT'S INFORMATION OFFICE ON 3-7333111.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO REMINDED APPLICANTS TO ASCERTAIN THEIR YEARS OF BIRTH BEFORE MAKING THEIR VISITS TO AN ISSUE OFFICE.

+IF IN DOUBT, THEY ARE ADVISED TO BRING ALONG THEIR TRAVEL DOCUMENTS SUCH AS PASSPORTS OR CERTIFICATES OF IDENTITY,+ HE SAID.

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CAUSEWAY BAY, NORTH POINT OUTLINE ZONING PLANS CHANGED

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THE BOUNDARIES OF VICTORIA PARK AND THE NEARBY TYPHOON SHELTER ARE TO BE DELETED FROM THE CAUSEWAY BAY OUTLINE ZONING PLAN AND WILL BE INCORPORATED INTO THE NORTH POINT OUTLINE ZONING PLAN, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

OTHER AMENDMENTS WERE ALSO NECESSARY TO ALLOW PLANNED DEVELOPMENTS IN NORTH POINT TO PROCEED, HE ADDED.

/THEY INCLUDE .....

THEY INCLUDE THE EXTENSION OF WHARF ROAD AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF HUNG HING ROAD FLYOVER AND A BUS TERMINUS AT THE JUNCTION OF LAI TAK TSUEN AND YEE KING ROADS.

OTHER PLANNED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENTS INCLUDE A PARK ALONG TAI HANG ROAD TO THE EAST OF HONG KONG STADIUM AND A SECONDARY SCHOOL AT BRAEMAR HILL ROAD.

DUE TO POOR VEHICULAR ACCESS, HEIGHT RESTRICTIONS ON DEVELOPMENTS IN THE AREA AROUND FUK KWAN ROAD AND COMFORT TERRACE HAVE BEEN IMPOSED, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE AMENDED PLANS MAY BE INSPECTED AT:

* EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, 880-886 KING'S ROAD, GROUND FLOOR;

* WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE, 201 HENNESSY ROAD, GROUND FLOOR;

* PUBLIC ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING ENTRANCE; AND

* TOWN PLANNING OFFICE, BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, FOURTH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG.

OBJECTIONS TO THE AMENDMENTS MUST BE SENT IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD, C/O BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, FOURTH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG, BY MAY 29.

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EXHIBITION ON COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN TAI PO

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THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, DR JAMES HAYES, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING OF THE EXHIBITION ON COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN TAI PO TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AT NOON.

THE EXHIBITION, TO BE HELD AT THE NEW WORLD CENTRE IN TSIM SHA TSUI IS AIMED AT PROMOTING COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE DISTRICT.

IT IS ORGANISED BY THE PROMOTION AND PUBLICITY COMMITTEE OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD AND SPONSORED BY THE BOARD.

DIVIDED INTO TWO STAGES, THE EXHIBITION WILL FIRST BE HELD IN THE NEW WORLD CENTRE FROM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) TO MAY 12, THEN MOVE TO THE TAI PO COMMUNITY CENTRE FROM MAY 17 TO MAY 19.

/INFORMATION ON .....

INFORMATION ON THE DISTRICT'S GROWTH INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT, POPULATION, AGE GROUPS, AVAILABILITY OF COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL PREMISES WILL BE PRESENTED THROUGH DISPLAY BOARDS AND A 15-MINUTE VIDEO-FILM.

A PAMPHLET +INVEST IN TAI PO+, PREPARED BY THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD'S PROMOTION AND PUBLICITY COMMITTEE, WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO VISITORS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE EXHIBITION ON COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN TAI PO AT THE FLYOVER OF THE NEW WORLD CENTRE, TSIM SHA TSUI, AT NOON TOMORROW.

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CENTRAL TRAFFIC CHANGES BEGIN MONDAY

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A SCHEME TO IMPROVE BOTH VEHICULAR AND PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC IN THE QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL AREA IS TO BE IMPLEMENTED SHORTLY.

+A MAJOR ELEMENT OF THE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SCHEME IS THAT FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY (MAY 12), THE EXISTING THROUGH MOVEMENT FROM WYNDHAM STREET TO PEDDER STREET WILL BE BANNED. THE MEASURE IS TO SIMPLIFY THE OPERATION OF TRAFFIC SIGNALS AT THE JUNCTION OF WYNDHAM STREET WITH QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL AND PEDDER STREET IN ORDER TO PROVIDE GREATER TRAFFIC THROUGHPUT,+ A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED.

+TRAFFIC WILL BE DIVERTED VIA LOWER ALBERT ROAD, ICE HOUSE STREET AND QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL. AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE DIVERSION, GLENEALY AND A SHORT SECTION OF LOWER ALBERT ROAD BETWEEN GLENEALY AND ICE HOUSE STREET HAVE ALREADY BEEN RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY DOWNHILL AND ONE-WAY EASTBOUND RESPECTIVELY,+ HE CONTINUED.

GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES 1, 2, 3, 3A, 8 AND 9 ON HONG KONG ISLAND WILL BE AFFECTED BY THE WYNDHAM STREET TO PEDDER STREET THROUGH TRAFFIC BAN AND WILL BE DIVERTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ABOVE ROUTEING.

ALSO ON MAY 12, NEW TRAFFIC SIGNALS WILL BE COMMISSIONED AT THE JUNCTIONS OF ICE HOUSE STREET WITH QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL AND DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL.

BY JUNE, NEW TRAFFIC SIGNALS WILL COME INTO OPERATION AT THE JUNCTION OF GLENEALY WITH WYNDHAM STREET AND LOWER ALBERT ROAD. THIS WILL IMPROVE PEDESTRIAN CROSSING FACILITIES THERE.

/MOREOVER, A .....

MOREOVER, A NEW PEDESTRIAN CROSSING WILL BE PROVIDED AT THE JUNCTION OF QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL WITH D'AGUILAR STREET WHEN THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL THERE COMES INTO OPERATION NEXT MONTH.

+THE NEW OR IMPROVED FACILITIES AT THE VARIOUS JUNCTIONS WILL PROVIDE A SAFER ENVIRONMENT FOR PEDESTRIANS,+ THE SPOKESMAN NOTED.

+EVENTUALLY, TRAFFIC CONDITIONS IN THE AREA WILL BE IMPROVED WITH PEDESTRIAN ACTIVITY UNDER CONTROL AND TRAFFIC SIGNALS LINKED UP ON QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL BETWEEN PEDDER STREET AND D'AGUILAR STREET, AND ON ICE HOUSE STREET BETWEEN QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL AND CHATER ROAD,+ HE SAID.

HE ADDED THAT IN JUNE, URBAN CLEARWAY RESTRICTIONS WILL BE IMPOSED NEAR THE JUNCTIONS OF QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL WITH PEDDER STREET, WYNDHAM STREET AND D'AGUILAR STREET TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW.

HE URGED THE PUBLIC TO WATCH OUT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION DATES OF THE TRAFFIC MEASURES, WHICH WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN DUE COURSE.

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SHAU KEI WAN MAIN STREET TO BE WIDENED

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THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE IS TO WIDEN SHAU KEI WAN MAIN STREET EAST BETWEEN KAM WA STREET AND MIU TUNG STREET.

THE DRAINAGE SYSTEM WILL ALSO BE REPLACED TO ALLEVIATE PERSISTENT FLOODING ON THAT SECTION OF THE STREET.

THE PLANS, AIMED AT COPING WITH PRESENT AND FUTURE TRAFFIC REQUIREMENTS, CALL FOR THE CARRIAGEWAY TO BE WIDENED TO 7.3 METRES WITH A 2.45-METRE FOOTPATH ON EITHER SIDE. THE ROAD LEVEL WILL BE RAISED BY AN AVERAGE OF ABOUT 0.7 METRE.

A NOTICE CONCERNING THE PROPOSED WORKS WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE PROJECT WILL ENTAIL REMOVAL OR REPOSITIONING OF UTILITIES SUCH AS GAS MAINS, ELECTRICITY AND TELEPHONE CABLES. NOTICES REGARDING THE REPOSITIONING WILL BE PUBLISHED IN SUBSEQUENT ISSUES OF THE GAZETTE.

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CENTRAL, SHAU KEI WAN TRAFFIC CHANGES

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FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY (MAY 12), POTTINGER STREET FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL TO A POINT ABOUT 29 METRES SOUTH OF ITS JUNCTION WITH DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL WILL BE MADE A PUBLIC LIGHT BUS RESTRICTED ZONE DAILY FROM 7 AM TO MIDNIGHT.

WITHIN THE RESTRICTED ZONE, NO PUBLIC LIGHT BUS WILL BE ALLOWED TO PICK UP OR SET DOWN PASSENGERS.

ALSO FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY, HOI FOO STREET AT ITS JUNCTION WITH SHAU KEI WAN ROAD WILL BE TEMPORARILY CLOSED TO ALL TRAFFIC FOR ABOUT ONE WEEK TO FACILITATE ROAD WORK.

VEHICLES REQUIRING ACCESS TO HOI FOO STREET WILL BE DIVERTED VIA SUN SHING STREET AND SAI WAN HO STREET.

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FLYOVER AND ROAD CLOSED FOR REPAIR

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THE FLYOVER AT CHOI HUNG INTERCHANGE LEADING FROM KWUN TONG ROAD WESTBOUND TO LUNG CHEUNG ROAD WESTBOUND WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC BETWEEN 8 PM AND 5.30 AM FROM MONDAY (MAY 12) TO MAY 19 TO FACILITATE REPAIR WORKS.

MOTORISTS TRAVELLING ALONG KWUN TONG ROAD WESTBOUND FOR CHOI HUNG ESTATE OR CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD SHOULD USE THE FLYOVER CONNECTING CONCORDE ROAD AND PRINCE EDWARD ROAD EAST EASTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY.

ALSO FROM MONDAY, THE SLIP ROAD LEADING OFF THE NORTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF TAI PO ROAD (SHA TIN HEIGHTS SECTION) NEAR 5-1/2 MILESTONE WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FOR ROAD IMPROVEMENT WORKS.

THE CAR PARKING AREA ON TAI PO ROAD ADJACENT TO TAI PO ROAD LOOKOUT WILL ALSO BE CLOSED.

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