DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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GOVERNMENT WELL-PREPARED TO PROTECT LIFE AND PROPERTY DURING TYPHOON SEASON

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WHEN A TROPICAL CYCLONE APPROACHES HONG KONG, MOST PEOPLE WOULD EXPECT A DAY OF REST AT HOME, BUT FOR OFFICERS OF MANY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND MEMBERS OF AUXILIARY SERVICES AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, IT MEANS SWINGING INTO FULL ALERT AND STEPPING UP PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES TO PROTECT LIFE AND PROPERTY.

EACH YEAR, TROPICAL CYCLONES AND HEAVY RAINSTORMS THREATEN TO BRING DESTRUCTION AND DAMAGE. BUT LOSSES ARE KEPT TO A MINIMUM, THANKS TO THE EFFORTS AND SPEEDY ACTION OF THESE PEOPLE.

AS A STORM GETS CLOSE ENOUGH TO BE A THREAT, DEPARTMENTS WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES IMMEDIATELY ACTIVATE THEIR EMERGENCY ARRANGEMENTS AND OFFICERS WILL REPORT FOR DUTY, READY TO DEAL WITH ANY SITUATION.

LONG BEFORE THIS AND WELL BEFORE THE START OF THE TYPHOON SEASON EVERY YEAR, DETAILED CONTINGENCY PLANS AND COMPREHENSIVE WARNING SYSTEMS ARE DRAWN UP SO THAT ALL DEPARTMENTS INVOLVED KNOW EXACTLY WHAT THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES ARE. THIS ENSURES THE SMOOTH RUNNING OF ALL EMERGENCY OPERATIONS TO GIVE MAXIMUM PROTECTION TO THE COMMUNITY.

THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT HAS ARRANGED FOR THE OPENING OF 135 TEMPORARY SHELTERS TO HOUSE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SEEKING SAFE ACCOMMODATION DURING THE PASSAGE OF THE STORMS.

THESE SHELTERS CAN ACCOMMODATE MORE THAN 22 000 PEOPLE AND WILL BE OPEN WHEN TYPHOON SIGNAL NO 8 IS HOISTED. THE PUBLIC CAN CONTACT THEIR NEAREST CITY DISTRICT OFFICE IF SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS ARE REQUIRED.

THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES AND RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG, WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES FOR KEEPING THE PUBLIC INFORMED SO THAT ADVANCE PRECAUTIONS CAN BE TAKEN, ALSO GO ON FULL ALERT.

DURING TYPHOONS AND SEVERE RAINSTORMS, THE GIS PRESSROOM BECOMES A COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE WHICH CO-ORDINATES INFORMATION AND, MAINLY THROUGH RADIO AND TELEVISION, KEEPS THE PUBLIC INFORMED OF LATEST STORM INFORMATION ISSUED BY THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY, TRAFFIC CONDITIONS AND EVENTS OF PUBLIC INTEREST.

WHEN TYPHOON HOPE HIT HONG KONG IN AUGUST LAST YEAR, GIS STAFF SPENT SOME 1 500 MAN HOURS ON EMERGENCY DUTY IN THE PRESS ROOM AND AT VARIOUS KEY POSTS IN OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS WHICH WERE ALSO MANNED.

THE MARINE DEPARTMENT ALSO HAS A BUSY TIME WHENEVER THERE IS A TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNING, PARTICULARLY WHEN HONG KONG'S LARGE FLEET OF FISHING VESSELS AND JUNKS ARE RETURNING TO THEIR BASE.

/THE DEPARTMENT'S .....

THE DEPARTMENT'S PATROL LAUNCHES INSPECT ALL TYPHOON SHELTERS TO ENSURE THAT BOATS ARE SAFELY SHELTERED AND THAT FIRE LANES AND FAIRWAYS ARE NOT BLOCKED. AS LONG AS WEATHER CONDITIONS PERMIT, THEY WILL ALSO PATROL THE HARBOUR TO OFFER ASSISTANCE AND SAFETY ADVICE TO OCEAN-GOING VESSELS.

IF A SHIP IS IN SERIOUS TROUBLE, THE DEPARTMENT'S PORT COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE ACTS AS THE CO-ORDINATOR OF ANY SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATION. GOVERNMENT VESSELS INCLUDING MARINE POLICE LAUNCHES, FIREBOATS, AND NAVY CRAFT MAY ALSO BE CALLED IN TO HELP.

OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS GOING ON ALERT INCLUDE THE FIRE SERVICES WHICH HANDLES RESCUE WORK AS WELL AS FIRE FIGHTING= THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT WHICH TAKES CARE OF THE INJURED= THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION WHICH PROVIDES RELIEF, SHELTER AND OTHER ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRY PEOPLE= THE POLICE WHICH MAINTAIN ROAD COMMUNICATIONS AND TRAFFIC MOVEMENTS= THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT WHICH REPAIRS DAMAGE TO ROADS, AND DRAINS= THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT WHICH PROVIDES FOOD AND OTHER RELIEF.

PLAYING AN EQUALLY IMPORTANT ROLE DURING EMERGENCIES ARE THE AUXILIARY SERVICES INCLUDING THE CIVIL AID SERVICES, THE AUXILIARY MEDICAL SERVICES, THE ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT AND THE ROYAL HONG KONG AUXILIARY AIR FORCE.

MEMBERS OF THE CAS CAN BE CALLED OUT TO HELP TO CLEAR ROADS AND DANGEROUS BUILDINGS, TO EVACUATE CASUALTIES, TO CARRY URGENT DISPATCHES AND TO DISTRIBUTE FOOD AND OTHER RELIEF ARTICLES TO STORM VICTIMS WHILE AMS MEMBERS ARE MOBILISED TO STAFF EMERGENCY AMBULANCES IN FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S AMBULANCE DEPOTS.

AIRCRAFT OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG AUXILIARY AIR FORCE CAN BE AVAILABLE 24 HOURS A DAY ONCE STORM WARNING NO 3 IS UP, AND MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT, TOGETHER WITH THOSE OF THE ARMED FORCES, CAN BE QUICKLY MOBILISED TO FORM RESCUE PARTIES, FIRST AID TEAMS, EMERGENCY TREATMENT UNITS, OR TO SUPPORT THE CIVIL AUTHORITIES IN CLEARING ROADS, FIGHTING FIRES AND DISTRIBUTING RELIEF.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS SUCH AS THE HONG KONG RED CROSS AND THE ST JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE ARE ALSO ON STANDBY AND CAN BE CALLED OUT TO PROVIDE FURTHER ASSISTANCE.

RESPONSIBLE FOR DIRECTING AND CO-ORDINATING ALL THESE EFFORTS OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, AUXILIARY SERVICES AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES IS THE CIVIL CO-ORDINATING CENTRE (CCC), WHICH IS USUALLY ACTIVATED WHEN TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNING NO 8 OR HIGHER IS HOISTED.

UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, THE CCC ACTS AS THE CENTRAL AUTHORITY FOR THE ENTIRE EMERGENCY OPERATION.

THE SAME PRECAUTIONS ARE ALSO TAKEN DURING SEVERE RAINSTORMS, FLOODINGS AND OTHER EMERGENCIES.

THROUGH THESE ARRANGEMENTS THE GOVERNMENT IS ALWAYS WELL PREPARED TO PROTECT THE COMMUNITY AND WORK TOWARDS A RAPID RETURN TO NORMAL CONDITIONS.

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MORE STUDENTS JOIN SCHOOL MEDICAL SCHEME

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THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SCHEME HAS BECOME MORE POPULAR AMONG STUDENTS WITH A 30 PER CENT RISE IN MEMBERSHIP IN THE PAST YEAR.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE BOARD SAID THE NUMBER OF PUPILS ENROLLED IN THE SCHEME HAD NOW REACHED 170 574. THEY ARE FROM 763 SCHOOLS.

UNDER THE SCHEME A PUPIL WHO PAYS $5 A YEAR WILL RECEIVE FREE MEDICAL ATTENTION AND MEDICINE FROM THE DOCTOR CHOSEN BY HIS SCHOOL.

THE SERVICE IS ALSO AVAILABLE TO PUPILS WHO APPLY INDIVIDUALLY IN THE EVENT THAT HIS SCHOOL DECLINES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCHEME.

ONCE A PUPIL IS ENROLLED, HE CAN VISIT THE DOCTOR ASSIGNED TO HIM AS MANY TIMES AS HE LIKES IN THE NEXT 12 MONTHS.

HE IS ALSO ENTITLED TO A FULL PHYSICAL EXAMINATION ON ENROLMENT.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE SCHEME WAS AVAILABLE TO PUPILS FROM PRIMARY ONE TO FORM 3, AND WAS IN LINE WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY OF NINE YEARS SUBSIDISED EDUCATION.

IT IS HEAVILY SUBSIDISED BY THE GOVERNMENT WHICH PAYS A DOCTOR $30 A YEAR FOR EACH PUPIL ENROLLED. THE $5 ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION FEE ALSO GOES TO THE DOCTOR.

DURING THE LAST FINANCIAL YEAR THE GOVERNMENT SUBSIDY AMOUNTED TO ABOUT $4.5 MILLION.

IN ADDITION, THE GOVERNMENT MEETS THE ADMINISTRATIVE COST OF THE SCHEME, NOW ABOUT $350 000 A YEAR.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT ALTHOUGH ENROLMENT HAS STEADILY INCREASED OVER THE YEARS, THE PRESENT ENROLMENT REPRESENTS ONLY 20 PER CENT OF ALL ELIGIBLE SCHOOL CHILDREN.

HE URGED SCHOOL AUTHORITIES TO PLAY A MORE ACTIVE PART IN GETTING AS MANY PUPILS ENROLLED IN THE SCHEME AS POSSIBLE.

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FACTORY INSPECTORATE GETS A FEMININE TOUCH

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WOMEN AT WORK IN FACTORIES, OR EVEN AT CONSTRUCTION SITES, ARE NOT AN UNCOMMON SIGHT IN HONG KONG -- BUT FEMALE FACTORY INSPECTORS ARE RARE, EVEN IN THESE DAYS.

SO FAR FIVE LADIES HAVE MADE THE BREAKTHROUGH IN WHAT WAS PREVIOUSLY AN ALL MALE DOMAIN, THE FACTORY INSPECTORATE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

THE WOMEN INSPECTORS -- MRS LAU CHONG SO-MEI, MRS AUYEUNG CHU KWOK-YING, MISS CHEUNG YUEN-YEE, MISS CHAN LIN-CHING AND MISS YEUNG KIM-CHING -- ARE MEMBERS OF A 140-STRONG FORCE DEDICATED TO UPHOLDING LABOUR LEGISLATION AND SAFEGUARDING WORKERS' WELFARE AND SAFETY.

MRS LAU AND MRS AUYEUNG, THE MOST SENIOR, ARE NOW POSTED TO THE DEPARTMENT'S PROSECUTIONS AND TRAINING DIVISION.

THE OTHERS, WHO ARE IN THE VARIOUS STAGES OF THEIR TRAINING, ARE ATTACHED TO THE INSPECTORATE'S DIVISIONAL OFFICES.

BEFORE BECOMING FULL-FLEDGED INSPECTORS, MRS LAU AND MRS AUYEUNG, LIKE THEIR MALE COLLEAGUES, WENT THROUGH THREE YEARS' BASIC TRAINING DESIGNED TO GROOM FACTORY INSPECTORS AND ENSURE THAT THEY ARE WELL VERSED IN LABOUR LEGISLATION AND INDUSTRIAL SAFETY. IT ALSO GIVES THEM SOUND KNOWLEDGE OF HONG KONG'S INCREASINGLY SOPHISTICATED INDUSTRIES.

AFTER THEIR TRAINING, THEY WERE POSTED TO DIVISIONAL OFFICES AND THEIR MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES WERE TO INSPECT FACTORIES, ENFORCE LABOUR LEGISLATION AND INVESTIGATE INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

VISITING FACTORIES IS AN IMPORTANT ASPECT OF THE WORK OF AN INSPECTOR.

MRS LAU SAID THAT DURING A VISIT SHE AND HER COLLEAGUES ENSURED THAT EMPLOYERS COMPLIED WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS ORDINANCE AND REGULATIONS, AND CHECKED ON MATTERS RELATING TO WORKERS' SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE.

ON SAFETY, MRS LAU SAID, SHE PAID SPECIAL ATTENTION TO MACHINERY AND OTHER IMPORTANT MATTERS.

+FOR EXAMPLE, WE MAKE SURE THAT EVERY DANGEROUS PART OF ANY MACHINERY IS EFFECTIVELY GUARDED AND THAT ALL PLATFORMS, PITS AND OPENINGS AND OTHER POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS PLACES ARE FENCED OFF.

+WE SEE TO IT THAT ALL DOORS LEADING OUT OF A WORKPLACE OR GIVING ACCESS TO A STAIRWAY IS OF FIRE-RESISTING MATERIAL, AND THAT ALL FIRE ESCAPES AND FIRE-FIGHTING APPLIANCES ARE MAINTAINED IN GOOD ORDER AND FREE FROM OBSTRUCTION.

/+IN ADDITION, ...

+IN ADDITION, THERE ARE MANY OTHER THINGS WE HAVE TO KEEP AN EYE ON. FOR EXAMPLE, WE MAKE SURE THAT THE WORKPLACE IS CLEAN AND NOT OVERCROWDED AND THAT EMPLOYERS PRACTISE GOOD HOUSEKEEPING.

+FOR GOOD HOUSEKEEPING, EMPLOYERS MUST ENSURE THAT ALL FLOORS, WALLS, CEILINGS, WINDOWS AND SKYLIGHTS BE MAINTAINED IN TOP CONDITION. FLOOR SURFACES MUST NOT BE SLIPPERY, AND SHOULD BE FREE FROM OBSTRUCTION OR OTHER HAZARDS. ALL GOODS AND MATERIALS MUST BE STORED OR STACKED TO PREVENT ACCIDENTS.+

MRS LAU SAID THAT ON DISCOVERING ANY DANGEROUS WORK PRACTICES SHE ADVISED THE MANAGEMENT, THE FOREMEN OR WORKERS ON HOW TO PUT THINGS RIGHT. IN CASES WHERE IT WAS NECESSARY, THE ADVICE WAS LATER CONVEYED TO THE MANAGEMENT BY CORRESPONDENCE.

+IT GIVES ME A LOT OF SATISFACTION ON SEEING AN EMPLOYER, A FOREMAN OR A WORKER LISTEN TO MY ADVICE AND TAKE NECESSARY ACTION,+ SHE NOTED.

HOW IS A FEMALE FACTORY INSPECTOR RECEIVED BY EMPLOYERS AND WORKERS?

MRS LAU WAS CERTAIN THERE IS NO QUESTION OF DISCRIMINATION.

+WE ARE RECEIVED IN ALMOST THE SAME WAY AS OUR MALE COLLEAGUES. BUT A SMALL ADVANTAGE IS THAT SOME EMPLOYERS AND WORKERS TREAT US WITH A LITTLE MORE COURTESY.+

HOWEVER, MRS AUYEUNG DID ADMIT THAT SOME WORKERS WERE A LITTLE SURPRISED WHEN SHE VISITED CONSTRUCTION SITES.

+THE WORKERS LOOK AT YOU, SLIGHTLY AMAZED AND AMUSED,+ SAID MRS AUYEUNG.

MRS AUYEUNG SAID AN IMPORTANT ASPECT OF CONSTRUCTION SITE INSPECTION WAS TO SEE TO IT THAT EMPLOYERS AND CONTRACTORS COMPLIED WITH THE CONSTRUCTION SITES (SAFETY) REGULATIONS.

THE REGULATIONS IMPOSE REQUIREMENTS ON CONTRACTORS AND OTHER PEOPLE ENGAGED IN VARIOUS TYPES OF CIVIL ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION WORK TO ENSURE SATISFACTORY STANDARDS OF SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE FOR WORKERS.

MRS AUYEUNG POINTED OUT THAT SHE HAD A HOST OF THINGS SHE HAD TO CHECK ON DURING THE INSPECTION.

+I CHECK, AMONG OTHER THINGS, WHETHER VARIOUS LIFTING EQUIPMENT IS SUBJECTED TO PERIODICAL TESTING AND THOROUGH EXAMINATION= MACHINERY, WORKING PLATFORMS, OPENINGS IN FLOORS AND EXCAVATIONS ARE FENCED OFF= PRECAUTIONS ARE TAKEN AGAINST DANGER FROM LIVE ELECTRIC CABLES AND AGAINST FALLING OBJECTS= WORKERS ARE PROVIDED WITH SAFETY HELMETS AND SUITABLE LIGHTING IN CERTAIN WORKPLACES AS WELL AS FIRST AID EQUIPMENT AND TRAINED FIRST-AIDERS ARE AVAILABLE.+

IN MANY CASES CONSTRUCTION SITE INSPECTIONS ARE MORE STRENUOUS THAN FACTORY VISITS.

/+YOU HAVE .....

+YOU HAVE TO GO ROUND THE SITE AMONGST THE DEBRIS, SAND AND ROCK TO SEE EVERY CORNER OF THE SITE, WALK UP AND DOWN, CLIMB PARTLY FINISHED STAIRCASES, AND TALK TO WORKERS OR FOREMEN NEXT TO THE SOMETIMES DEAFENING SOUNDS OF VARIOUS MACHINERY.+

IT IS NOT A COMFORTABLE JOB, ESPECIALLY IN THE HOT SUMMER MONTHS.

BUT MRS AUYEUNG AND ALL HER COLLEAGUES TAKE IT IN THEIR STRIDE, HOPING THAT THEIR EFFORTS WILL HELP REDUCE THE RATE OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

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BUS STATION TO BE BUILT IN SHA TIN

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A BUS STATION WILL SHORTLY BE BUILT NEAR THE NEW RAILWAY STATION IN SHA TIN.

THE STATION WILL HAVE BUS BAYS FOR SIX ROUTES AT AN ELEVATED LEVEL, WITH THE GROUND LEVEL TO BE USED AS A BUS LAYOVER AREA AND A MAXICAB TERMINUS.

TENDERS FOR THE WORK ARE BEING INVITED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

WORK WILL START IN SEPTEMBER AND WILL TAKE ABOUT 21 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE WORKS HAVE BEEN DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTION WILL BE SUPERVISED BY MAUNSELL CONSULTANTS ASIA, CONSULTING ENGINEERS FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN MID-LEVELS

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A NUMBER OF TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE INTRODUCED IN THE MID-LEVELS ON TUESDAY (MAY 13).

MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED THAT FROM 10 AM THAT DAY, TRAFFIC AT THE JUNCTION OF OLD PEAK ROAD, ALBANY ROAD AND ROBINSON ROAD WILL BE CONTROLLED BY TRAFFIC LIGHTS. THROUGH TRAFFIC FOR ROBINSON ROAD SHOULD USE THE ALBANY FLYOVER. AT THE SAME TIME, ALBANY ROAD WILL BE RE-OPENED TO TWO-WAY TRAFFIC.

FURTHERMORE, SOUTHBOUND VEHICLES ON ALBANY ROAD WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM TURNING LEFT ONTO ROBINSON ROAD, AND NORTHBOUND VEHICLES ON OLD PEAK ROAD WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO TURN RIGHT ONTO ROBINSON ROAD.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE PUT UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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NT TREE PLANTING DAYS

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THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS GOING TO ORGANISE A TREE PLANTING DAY IN EACH OF THE URBAN SERVICES DISTRICTS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE EVENT IS SUPPORTED BY VARIOUS NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARDS (DAB) AND LOCAL STUDENTS.

DAB MEMBERS AND STUDENTS OF EACH DISTRICT WILL BE INVITED TO PLANT TREES AT SELECTED SPOTS IN EACH DISTRICT.

DIFFERENT SPECIES OF TREES WILL BE PLANTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TYPE OF SOIL AND WEATHER OF THE DISTRICT. THESE INCLUDE: BAUHINIA, COTTON TREES, CASSIA SURATTENSIA, ALEURITIES MOLUCCANA, DELONIX REGIA AND JACARANDA ACUTIFOLIA.

A NTSD SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) THAT ROUTINE MAINTENANCE OF THESE TREES THEREAFTER WILL BE CARRIED OUT BY THE DEPARTMENT.

+STATISTICS SHOW THAT EVERY YEAR ABOUT 800 TREES ARE DAMAGED THROUGH VANDALISM,+ HE SAID.

+IT IS HOPED THAT THE TREE PLANTING DAYS WILL AROUSE THE AWARENESS OF THE PUBLIC TO CARE FOR TREES SO THAT DAMAGE TO THE TREES THROUGH VANDALISM IS MINIMISED.+

THE TREE PLANTING DAY WILL TAKE PLACE IN TAI PO, TUEN MUN AND TSUEN WAN/KWAI CHUNG ON MAY 16= YUEN LONG ON MAY 17= ISLAND DISTRICT ON MAY 22= SAI KUNG ON MAY 23 AND SHA TIN ON MAY 27.

/THE SPOKESMAN .....

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT ABOUT 40 TREES WILL BE PLANTED IN EACH DISTRICT ON EACH TREE PLANTING DAY.

+APART FROM THAT, THE NTSD PLANS TO PLANT A TOTAL OF 4 000 TREES IN PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS AND ROADSIDES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES DURING THE YEAR,+ HE SAID.

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SAI KUNG CHILDREN'S CHOIR TO GET NEW LOOK

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THE SAI KUNG CHILDREN'S CHOIR, WHICH HAS PROVED A GREAT SUCCESS SINCE IT WAS FORMED A YEAR AGO, IS TO TAKE ON A NEW LOOK.

MEMBERS OF THE CHOIR WILL SHED THEIR WESTERN STYLE UNIFORMS AND, INSTEAD, PUT ON NEW OUTFITS SIMILAR TO THOSE OF FARMERS AND FISHERMEN.

+THIS WILL BETTER IDENTIFY THE CHOIR WITH THE SAI KUNG AREA,+ SAID MR FUNG KIN-HONG, ITS TUTOR.

THE DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD APPROVED EXPENDITURE AMOUNTING TO $7 000 FOR 70 UNIFORMS AT ONE OF ITS RECENT MEETINGS.

THE GIRLS WILL HAVE PINK DRESS WITH BLACK VELVET APRONS AND THE BOYS BLUE UNIFORMS WITH MARIGOLD COLOURED SILK BELTS.

THE UNIFORMS HAVE BEEN DESIGNED BY THE CHOIR'S INSTRUCTORS. THEY WILL BE USED FOR THE FIRST TIME AT A CONCERT THE CHOIR HOPES TO GIVE IN JUNE.

THE EXISTING UNIFORMS WILL BE KEPT FOR USE ON SOME OCCASIONS.

MR FUNG SAID A RECRUITMENT DRIVE LAUNCHED LAST WEEK TO ENLIST 90 YOUNG PEOPLE AGED BETWEEN 12 AND 15 FOR A TEENAGER GROUP HAD RECEIVED AN OVERWHELMING RESPONSE.

HE SAID HUNDREDS OF APPLICATIONS HAD BEEN RECEIVED. +SELECTION IS GOING TO BE VERY DIFFICULT.+

BECAUSE OF THE GROWTH IN MEMBERSHIP AND ACTIVITIES, TWO CONDUCTORS, TWO PIANO ACCOMPANISTS, TWO ORGANISERS AND A PERCUSSION INSTRUCTOR ARE BEING RECRUITED.

DETAILS OF THE POSTS ARE AVAILABLE FROM SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE.

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