DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6, 1985

CONTENTS PAGE NO.

CENTRAL MALARIA LABORATORY SET UP 1

LAW ALLOWS CLOSER CHECK ON INSURANCE FIRMS 2

MORE, BETTER MEDICAL SERVICES PROVIDED 4

TAI PO DB TO MEET ON TUESDAY 5

MORE NEW BUILDING PLANS APPROVED 6

SEMINAR ON HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING FUTURE 7

TIDYING UP GARBAGE DISPOSAL WORK 7

YOUTHS URGED TO HELP PREVENT CRIME 8

NEW HOMES FOR 5 000 PEOPLE AT CHEUNG HONG ESTATE 9

TENDERS FOR ROADS MAINTENANCE INVITED 10

ARTS GROUP GETS NEW HOME 10

SUBMARINE SEWERS PROPOSED FOR SAI KUNG 11

RESTRICTED ZONES IN TAI KOK TSUI 12

CENTRAL MALARIA LABORATORY SET UP

* * * *

HONG KONG HAS JUST SET UP A CENTRAL REFERENCE LABORATORY FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF MALARIA, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, DR LEE SHIU-HUNG, SAID TODAY.

SUCH A LABORATORY HAS BEEN RECOMMENDED BY THE EXPERTS OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION (WHO) FOLLOWING THEIR IN-DEPTH STUDY OF THE LOCAL SITUATION IN 1983 AND EARLY 1984.

SO FAR, TWO SENIOR LABORATORY TECHNICIANS HAVE ALREADY BEEN SENT TO MALAYSIA AND THAILAND TO STUDY ADVANCED LABORATORY TECHNIQUES ON MALARIA. ON THEIR RETURN, THEY WILL BE POSTED TO THE CENTRAL REFERENCE LABORATORY.

+THE PURPOSE OF THIS LABORATORY IS TO HAVE A CENTRAL UNIT TO COUNTER-CHECK POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE SLIDES FROM ALL GOVERNMENT PATHOLOGY INSTITUTES SO AS TO MONITOR THE STANDARD OF LABORATORY WORK,+ DR LEE EXPLAINED.

IN ADDITION, IT OFFERS CONSULTATIVE SERVICE TO OTHER LABORATORIES, INCLUDING THOSE IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR, ON DOUBTFUL CASES.

+SPEEDY IDENTIFICATION OF THE DISEASE IS MOST IMPORTANT IN CONTROLLING MALARIA IN HONG KONG,+ DR LEE SAID.

+EXTENSIVE URBANISATION HAS ELIMINATED MOST CLEAR SLOW-RUNNING STREAMS WHICH ARE THE BREEDING PLACES FOR MALARIA VECTORS IN HONG KONG. AS A RESULT, THE NUMBER OF REPORTED CASES DROPPED FROM 2 400 IN 1946 TO AN AVERAGE OF 10 CASES A YEAR IN THE EARLY 1970S,+ DR LEE EXPLAINED.

HOWEVER, WITH RAPIDLY-EXPANDING TOURISM, MALARIA NOWADAYS CAN BE EASILY IMPORTED INTO HONG KONG BY PEOPLE COMING FROM MALARIA-ENDEMIC REGIONS. WITHOUT EFFECTIVE CONTROL MEASURES, THE DISEASE COULD SPREAD BY MOSQUITO VECTORS EXISTING IN CERTAIN AREAS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

+OUR STRATEGY IS TO IDENTIFY THE DISEASE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, PROVIDE THOROUGH TREATMENT AND ELIMINATE POTENTIAL MOSQUITO BREEDING SITES.

+AFTER EVALUATING THIS STRATEGY, THE WHO EXPERTS GAVE IT THEIR FULL SUPPORT,+ DR LEE SAID.

THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT MAINTAINS A NETWORK OF HOSPITALS AND CLINICS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY FOR CASE DETECTION.

LAST YEAR, THERE WERE 113 REPORTED MALARIA CASES, INCLUDING 96 IMPORTED ONES. WITH ITS EXTENSIVE SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM, THE DEPARTMENT DEALT WITH THEM EFFECTIVELY, THEREBY PREVENTING THE DISEASE FROM BECOMING ENDEMIC.

/ALL CONFIRMED .....

ALL CONFIRMED CASES ARE TAKEN TO HOSPITAL FOR TREATMENT, WHILE HEALTH STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENT WILL CONDUCT THOROUGH INVESTIGATION TO LOCATE THE POSSIBLE SOURCE OF INFECTION AND PROVIDE HEALTH EDUCATION. OTHER PREVENTIVE MEASURES SUCH AS LARVICIDING AND INSECTICIDE SPRAYING BY STAFF OF THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL BE CARRIED OUT.

AFTER TREATMENT IN HOSPITAL, PATIENTS WILL CONTINUE TO RECEIVE REGULAR BLOOD TESTS FOR AT LEAST SIX MONTHS TO ENSURE THE DISEASE WILL NOT RELAPSE.

THE DEPARTMENT ALSO PROVIDES REGULAR HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAMMES TO INVOLVE THE PUBLIC IN THE ANTI-MALARIA FIGHT.

FULLY TRAINED DOCTORS AND NURSES OF THE CENTRAL HEALTH EDUCATION UNIT GIVE HEALTH TALKS TO VILLAGES AND SCHOOLS. THEY ALSO MAKE USE OF PAMPHLETS, PUPPET SHOWS AND THE MASS MEDIA TO SPREAD THE MESSAGE.

THROUGH MEDICAL ASSOCIATIONS, DOCTORS IN PRIVATE PRACTICE ARE REMINDED PERIODICALLY TO NOTIFY THE DEPARTMENT OF SUSPECTED CASES IMMEDIATELY.

WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE WHO, TWO MALARIA LABORATORY TECHNIQUE COURSES WERE HELD LAST YEAR FOR A TOTAL OF 42 LABORATORY STAFF FROM GOVERNMENT, SUBVENTED AND PRIVATE HOSPITALS.

+WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF THE PUBLIC, INCREASED AWARENESS ON THE PART OF DOCTORS AND LABORATORY TECHNICIANS, AS WELL AS IMPROVED LABORATORY DIAGNOSTIC TECHNIQUES, IT IS HOPED THAT THE BATTLE AGAINST MALARIA WILL EVENTUALLY BE WON.+ DR LEE SAID.

HOWEVER, HE CAUTIONED THAT IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO CONTINUE MAINTAINING VIGILANCE ON THE DISEASE TO PREVENT ITS RESURGENCE IN HONG KONG, AS IT IS PRACTICALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO PREVENT THE IMPORTATION OF MALARIA.

- - - - o - - - -

LAW ALLOWS CLOSER CHECK ON INSURANCE FIRMS

* * * * *

ALL CLASSES OF INSURANCE BUSINESS CARRIED ON IN OR FROM HONG KONG WERE BROUGHT UNDER REGULATION LAST YEAR BY THE INSURANCE AUTHORITY, UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE INSURANCE COMPANIES ORDINANCE, THE REGISTRAR GENERAL, MR NOEL GLEESON, SAID TODAY.

PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE ORDINANCE ON JUNE 30, 1983, ONLY COMPANIES CARRYING ON LIFE, FIRE, MARINE AND MOTOR VEHICLE INSURANCE HAD BEEN SUBJECT TO REGULATION, HE SAID.

/+THE ORDINANCE .....

+THE ORDINANCE NOW PRESCRIBES REQUIREMENTS GOVERNING THE FITNESS OF DIRECTORS AND CONTROLLERS OF INSURANCE COMPANIES AND PROVIDES STRINGENT FINANCIAL AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS.

+IT ALSO CONFERS CONSIDERABLE POWERS OF INVESTIGATION AND INTERVENTION BY THE INSURANCE AUTHORITY FOR THE BETTER PROTECTION OF POLICYHOLDERS AND OTHERS,+ MR GLEESON SAID.

THE TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS OF THE NEW LEGISLATION HAD TO BE COMPLIED WITH BEFORE MAY 15 LAST YEAR. SOME COMPANIES HAD FAILED OR PREFERRED NOT TO COMPLY, WITH THE RESULT THAT 46 INSURANCE COMPANIES HAD THEIR AUTHORISATION WITHDRAWN BY THE END OF DECEMBER 1984.

FOUR OF THE WITHDRAWN COMPANIES WERE WOUND UP ON THE PETITION OF THE INSURANCE AUTHORITY. THE REMAINING 42 WITHDRAWN COMPANIES WERE EITHER DORMANT OR WERE UNABLE TO COMPLY WITH THE NEW LEGISLATION. MOST OF THEIR INSURANCE POLICIES HAD BEEN +RUN OFF+ AND THEIR INSURANCE CLAIMS WERE IN THE PROCESS OF BEING SETTLED IN AN ORDERLY MANNER.

DURING THE SAME PERIOD, HOWEVER, 23 NEW COMPANIES WERE AUTHORISED TO CARRY ON INSURANCE BUSINESS UNDER THE NEW LEGISLATION. MOST OF THESE WERE OVERSEAS COMPANIES, INCLUDING THREE FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM, TWO FROM CANADA, TWO FROM BERMUDA, AND ONE EACH FROM CHINA, MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE, BAHAMAS, BELGIUM, LUXEMBOURG, NEW ZEALAND, SWEDEN AND SWITZERLAND.

THIS REFLECTED INCREASING OVERSEAS INTEREST IN HONG KONG'S INSURANCE MARKET, MR GLEESON SAID.

LAST YEAR ALSO SAW THE TIGHTENING OF THE INSURANCE AUTHORITY'S REGULATION OF AUTHORISED INSURANCE COMPANIES.

MR GLEESON SAID HE HAD EXERCISED HIS POWERS OF INTERVENTION IN RESPECT OF 32 INSURANCE COMPANIES DURING THE YEAR FOR THE BETTER PROTECTION OF POLICYHOLDERS AND OTHER CLAIMANTS.

THIS INTERVENTIONARY ACTION INCLUDED REQUIRING COMPANIES TO CEASE WRITING NEW INSURANCE BUSINESS, LIMIT THEIR PREMIUM INCOME, MAINTAIN ASSETS IN HONG KONG, KEEP ASSETS IN THE CUSTODY OF APPROVED TRUSTEES. IT ALSO INVOLVED CONDUCTING INVESTIGATIONS INTO COMPANIES' ACTIVITIES AND THEIR FINANCIAL POSITION.

AS AT DECEMBER 31 LAST YEAR, THERE WERE 284 AUTHORISED INSURANCE COMPANIES OPERATING IN HONG KONG.

OF THESE 130 WERE INCORPORATED IN HONG KONG. THE REMAINING 154 COMPANIES CAME FROM 26 COUNTRIES, INCLUDING 50 FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM, 30 FROM THE UNITED STATES, NINE FROM BERMUDA, EIGHT FROM JAPAN, SEVEN FROM SINGAPORE, SEVEN FROM SWITZERLAND, SIX FROM CANADA AND FIVE FROM FRANCE.

----0----

/4 .....

MORE, BETTER MEDICAL SERVICES PROVIDED

* * * *

THERE HAVE BEEN +UNPRECEDENTED EXPANSION AND IMPROVEMENTS+ IN HONG KONG'S MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, THE DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, DR K.L. THONG, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE SCIENTIFIC MEETING OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF EDINBURGH IN HONG KONG.

IT IS THE FIRST TIME IN 300 YEARS THAT THE ANNUAL EVENT IS BEING HELD OUTSIDE THE UNITED KINGDOM.

DR THONG TOLD THE MEETING THAT THE BASIC HONG KONG GOVERNMENT POLICY IN THE PROVISION OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES WAS TO ACHIEVE WITHIN THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE, A BALANCED DEVELOPMENT AND PROVISION OF THE PREVENTIVE, CURATIVE AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES.

+I BELIEVE I AM NOT UNDULY COMPLACENT WHEN I SAY THAT WE HAVE A SYSTEM WHICH IS TO A GREAT DEGREE EFFICIENT, WIDELY ACCESSIBLE AND AVAILABLE AT ALMOST NO COST TO THE MAJORITY OF OUR COMMUNITY WHICH RELIES ON SUBSIDISED MEDICAL CARE,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID THAT THE MEDICAL SERVICES HERE WERE ALSO UNIQUE IN THAT THEY WERE WIDELY ACCESSIBLE TO ALL WHO NEEDED IT, WITHOUT THE USUAL MEANS TESTS, SUCH AS CITIZENSHIP AND LEVELS OF INCOME.

DR THONG SAID THOSE IN THE COLLEGE WHO MADE THE DECISION TO COME TO HONG KONG AT THIS TIME MUST HAVE A RARE SENSE OF HISTORY AS THESE ARE STIRRING DAYS OF HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE FOR THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG.

HE POINTED OUT THAT FOR THE FIRST TIME PART II OF THE MRCP EXAMINATION OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE WOULD BE HELD IN HONG KONG.

+THIS SURELY MUST BE A LANDMARK IN THE HISTORY OF POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION LOCALLY AND I AM CONFIDENT THAT THIS EVENT WILL BE A TREMENDOUS CATALYST FOR US IN OUR PLANS FOR POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL TRAINING,+ HE ADDED.

DR THONG TOLD THE GATHERING THAT SINCE THE PUBLICATION OF THE GOVERNMENT WHITE PAPER ON +THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES+ IN 1974, HONG KONG HAD EMBARKED ON AN AMBITIOUS 10-YEAR PLAN FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES.

SINCE THEN, THE PLAN HAD BEEN ROLLED FORWARD AND UPDATED YEAR BY YEAR, HE SAID.

+THE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME HAS BROUGHT ABOUT THE COMPLETION WITHIN THE LAST DECADE THREE MAJOR GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS OF ABOUT 1 400 BEDS EACH, AND OUR FIRST DENTAL TEACHING HOSPITAL.+

/AT THE .....

AT THE SAME TIME, EFFECTIVE PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE IN EXPANDING AND IMPROVING EXISTING HOSPITAL FACILITIES, INCLUDING THE RE-ORGANISATION AND STRENGTHENING OF THE ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY SERVICES.

WITHIN THE SAME PERIOD, 16 NEW CLINICS WERE COMPLETED, HE SAID.

+FURTHER, MORE SPECIALIST TREATMENT FOR PSYCHIATRIC CASES AND ELDERLY PEOPLE HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED, THE FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES CONSOLIDATED AND EXPANDED AND MEDICAL TREATMENT OF ADDICTION FURTHER DEVELOPED,+ HE SAID.

DR THONG SAID THE HOSPITAL BUILDING PROGRAMME HAD BOOSTED THE NUMBER OF HOSPITAL BEDS FROM SOME 17 000 IN 1974 TO 24 000 IN 1984.

HE ESTIMATED THAT AN ADDITIONAL 16 000 BEDS WOULD BE PROVIDED BY 1994 AT THE END OF THE PRESENT 10-YEAR PLAN.

+THESE GIGANTIC PROJECTS ARE BEING PLANNED AND EXECUTED AT A TIME WHEN MANY PLACES IN THE WORLD ARE IN FACT CUTTING DOWN ON THEIR SERVICES AND EVEN CLOSING HOSPITALS,+ HE SAID.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF EDINBURGH IS ATTENDED BY MORE THAN 100 FELLOWS AND MEMBERS OF THE COLLEGE FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD, INCLUDING 35 LOCAL PARTICIPANTS.

THE FORMAL COLLEGE MEETING UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE PRESIDENT, PROFESSOR RONALD GIRDWOOD, WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (MONDAY) AND THE DAY AFTER.

----o----

TAI PO DB TO MEET ON TUESDAY

****

TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL BE BRIEFED ON THE TAI PO NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME AT THEIR MEETING ON TUESDAY (JANUARY 8) MORNING.

THE BRIEFING WILL BE GIVEN BY MR H.K. CHAN, CHIEF TOWN PLANNER OF THE TAI PO AND FANLING DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

AT THE MEETING, MEMBERS WILL ALSO COMMENT ON THE ELECTRONIC ROAD PRICING PILOT SCHEME.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY (TRANSPORT SERVICES), MR CHRIS WONG, THE PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY (TRANSPORT), MR M.J. CLANCY, AND THE ERP CONSULTANT, MR J. DAWSON, WILL BE PRESENT TO EXPLAIN THE SCHEME AND TO ANSWER QUESTIONS.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE THE TAI PO CENTRAL AREA TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SCHEME, REPORTS BY VARIOUS COMMITTEES AND APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDS.

----o----

/6 .....

MORE NEW BUILDING PLANS APPROVED

* * * *

A SEVEN-STOREY SCHOOL OF EDUCATION FOR THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG WAS AMONG 37 NEW BUILDING PLANS APPROVED BY THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE IN NOVEMBER 1984.

OTHER PLANS APPROVED INCLUDED A 28-STOREY INDOOR GAMES CENTRE AND APARTMENT BLOCK AT LOWER LASCAR ROW AND LOK KU ROAD FOR THE HONG KONG HOUSING SOCIETY, TWO BLOCKS OF APARTMENTS OVER A SEVEN-STOREY PODIUM AT ROBINSON ROAD, A SEWAGE PUMPING STATION AT THE SHA TIN RACE COURSE, AN EXTENSION TO A FACTORY BUILDING AT THE TAI PO INDUSTRIAL ESTATE AND TWO TOWER BLOCKS FOR DOMESTIC-COMMERCIAL USES AT TA CHUEN PING STREET, KWAI CHUNG.

OF THE PLANS APPROVED, 17 WERE ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND 20, IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

DURING THE MONTH, THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE GAVE CONSENT FOR WORK TO START ON 34 PROJECTS, 14 OF THEM ON HONG KONG ISLAND, THREE IN KOWLOON AND 17 IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THEY INCLUDED A RAMP AND TRANSFORMER ROOM AT MOUNT KELLETT ROAD FOR THE MATILDA AND WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, A COVERED WALKWAY AT INVERNESS ROAD, A HOSTEL BUILDING IN TSIM SHA TSUI, A FLUSHING WATER PUMPING STATION FOR THE HO CHUNG MARINA IN SAI KUNG AND A CHURCH-STAFF QUARTERS AT JOCKEY CLUB ROAD IN SHEUNG SHUI.

THE FLOOR AREA OF THESE 34 PROJECTS TOTALLED 171 093 SQUARE METRES, OF WHICH 87 614 SQUARE METRES WERE FOR NON-DOMESTIC USE AND THE REMAINDER FOR DOMESTIC PURPOSES.

A TOTAL OF 48 OCCUPATION PERMITS WERE ISSUED FOR NEWLY-COMPLETED BUILDINGS DURING THE MONTH.

THEY INCLUDED A 29-STOREY APARTMENT BLOCK AT SOUTH BAY ROAD, THREE SCHOOL BLOCKS WITH QUARTERS AT BRAEMAR HILL ROAD, A MEDICAL REHABILITATION CENTRE AND STAFF QUARTERS AT SANDY BAY, A BANK AND OFFICE BUILDING AT WUHU STREET, A WORKSHOP IN FO TAN, SHA TIN, AND EIGHT APARTMENT-COMMERCIAL BLOCKS AT THE JUNCTION OF CHOI WAN ROAD, KWUN TONG ROAD AND NGAU TAU KOK ROAD.

THE TOTAL FLOOR AREA OF THE NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED DURING THE MONTH WAS 172 459 SQUARE METRES, OF WHICH 88 804 SQUARE METRES WERE FOR NON-DOMESTIC USE AND THE REMAINDER FOR DOMESTIC PURPOSES.

THE TOTAL COST OF THESE BUILDINGS WAS ABOUT $663.6 MILLION.

ALSO DURING THE MONTH, THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE ISSUED 12 DEMOLITION ORDERS IN RESPECT OF 18 BUILDINGS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/7 .....

SEMINAR ON HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING FUTURE

* * * *

A SEMINAR ON HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING FUTURE, ORGANISED BY THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT AND CITIBANK, WILL BE HELD ON JANUARY 30 (WEDNESDAY) AT 2 PM IN THE ROSE AND PEONY ROOMS OF THE SHANGRI-LA HOTEL.

THE SEMINAR WILL EXPLAIN THE GUARANTEES FOR HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING SECTOR CONTAINED IN THE SINO-BRITISH AGREEMENT ON HONG KONG'S FUTURE.

IT WILL ALSO INDICATE AREAS OF POSSIBLE FUTURE GROWTH, AND DESCRIBE HOW THE ONE-STOP UNIT OF THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT CAN HELP INDUSTRIALISTS TO EXPAND AND DIVERSIFY THEIR BUSINESS.

MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL BANKING AND INDUSTRIAL COMMUNITY WILL ALSO GIVE THEIR VIEWS ON HONG KONG'S INDUSTRIAL FUTURE.

SPEAKERS WILL INCLUDE MR KEVIN LO, CHAIRMAN OF GOLD PEAK INDUSTRIES (HOLDINGS) LTD; MR PAUL WONG, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY; MR ANTONY LEUNG, VICE PRESIDENT OF CITIBANK; MR MARVIN GIENGER, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE FAR EAST OPERATIONS OF SPRAGUE WORLD TRADE CORPORATION; MR DENNIS TING, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF KADER INDUSTRIAL CO. LTD; AND MR P.K. WONG, COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIAL ESTATES CORPORATION.

PEOPLE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING THE SEMINAR MAY CONTACT THE ONE-STOP UNIT OF THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, OCEAN CENTRE, KOWLOON, OR CALL THE UNIT ON 3-7222434 BEFORE JANUARY 23.

- - - - o - - - -

TIDYING UP GARBAGE DISPOSAL WORK

* * * *

NEWLY-INTRODUCED PLASTIC BAGS HAVE PROVED TO BE NEATER THAN BAMBOO BASKETS FOR GARBAGE HANDLING AT THE TSING YI BARGING POINT.

THIS WAS NOTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES, MR DAVID WEEKS, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (OPERATIONS) OF THE NTS, MR ARTHUR JOHNSON, AND THE URBAN SERVICES OFFICER OF KWAI CHUNG, MR LEE SHEUNG-YEE DURING THEIR VISIT LAST WEEK TO SEE THE NEW SCHEME IN OPERATION.

MR WEEKS SAID HE WAS IMPRESSED WITH THE CLEANLINESS AT THE BARGING POINT.

THE GARBAGE WAS DELIVERED TO THE TSING YI BARGING POINT FROM CHEUNG CHAU, LAMMA ISLAND, PENG CHAU AND MUI WO ON LANTAU ISLAND FOR TRANSPORT TO THE KWAI CHUNG INCINERATION PLANT FOR DISPOSAL. THIS SYSTEM IS AIMED AT PHASING OUT VILLAGE-TYPE INCINERATORS, AND AT IMPROVING ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE AT THE OUTLYING ISLANDS.

/UNDER THE .....

UNDER THE NEW PLAN, THE CONTRACTOR IS REQUIRED TO HAVE THE DOMESTIC REFUSE WRAPPED IN PLASTIC BAGS AT THE FOUR OUTLYING ISLANDS AND TO HAVE IT EVENTUALLY BROUGHT TO THE KWAI CHUNG INCINERATOR FOR DISPOSAL.

THE REFUSE HAS AMOUNTED TO ABOUT 30 TONNES A DAY.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO HAVE ANY COMPLAINT ABOUT THIS PILOT SCHEME SHOULD CONTACT THE SENIOR HEALTH INSPECTOR (CLEANSING) OF THE ISLANDS URBAN SERVICES OFFICE ON TELEPHONE 5-452416.

----o----

YOUTHS URGED TO HELP PREVENT CRIME

* * * *

IN THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR, YOUNG PEOPLE SHOULD BE MORE ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN HELPING THE AUTHORITIES IN PREVENTING CRIME, SAID DR HO KAM-FAI, A MEMBER OF THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE.

HE WAS SPEAKING AT TODAY'S SAI KUNG DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME CARNIVAL, WHICH WAS THE GRAND FINALE TO THE DISTRICT'S FIGHT CRIME CAMPAIGN.

+YOUTHS SHOULD FOSTER THE SPIRIT OF LOVING HONG KONG AND SERVING SOCIETY THROUGH ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN VARIOUS ACTIVITIES TO FIGHT CRIME SO THAT OUR SOCIETY WILL CONTINUE TO DEVELOP IN STABILITY, AND EVERYONE CAN LIVE AND WORK IN PEACE AND HARMONY,+ DR HO SAID.

+THERE SHOULD ALSO BE CLOSER RELATIONS BETWEEN THE PUBLIC AND THE POLICE IN COMBATTING CRIME FOR THE SAKE OF SOCIETY,+ HE ADDED.

+THE PUBLIC SHOULD TREAT THE POLICE AS THEIR BROTHERS AND, IN TURN, THE POLICE SHOULD ACT UPON INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE PUBLIC IN TACKLING CRIME,+ HE SAID.

DR HO POINTED OUT THAT THE SPIRIT OF CO-OPERATION WAS EVIDENT BETWEEN THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE AND VARIOUS DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEES.

+THROUGH VARIOUS DISTRICT COMMITTEES, THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE HAS BEEN ABLE TO STRENGTHEN COMMUNICATIONS, GATHER FIRST-HAND INFORMATION AND LISTEN TO VIEWS ON FIGHTING CRIME,+ HE SAID.

DR HO SAID WITH THE SIGNING OF THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION ON HONG KONG'S FUTURE, THE HEARTS OF MANY PEOPLE HAD BEEN SET AT EASE.

+HOWEVER, THE EXISTENCE OF LAW AND ORDER IS THE BASIS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR SOCIETY,+ HE SAID.

+I HOPE THAT RESIDENTS IN SAI KUNG WILL TAKE MEASURES TO PREVENT AND TO REDUCE CRIME IN THE DISTRICT,+ DR HO ADDED.

/HUNDREDS OF .....

HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE WHO TURNED UP AT TODAY'S FIGHT CRIME CARNIVAL WERE TREATED TO A VARIETY OF PROGRAMMES THAT INCLUDED A PARACHUTE SHOW, A DONKEY RIDE FOR CHILDREN, A CYCLING DEMONSTRATION, AN ANTI-CRIME AND ANTI-NARCOTICS EXHIBITION, AND PERFORMANCES BY THE AUXILIARY POLICE BAND AND THE SAI KUNG CHILDREN'S CHOIR.

ACTIVITIES ORGANISED DURING THE YEAR-LONG SAI KUNG DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME CAMPAIGN INCLUDED VISITS TO THE O PUI SHAN BOY'S HOME, THE TELEVISION AND ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING AUTHORITY, AND THE PIK UK PRISON. THERE WERE ALSO DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE AND VARIOUS MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES.

THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE ALSO ORGANISED A FIGHT YOUTH CRIME CAMP, A FIGHT CRIME BOOKMARK COMPETITION AND A SEMINAR ON +COMMUNITY AGAINST CRIME+.

THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD HAD CONTRIBUTED ABOUT $22 000 TOWARD THE COST OF THE CAMPAIGN.

- - - - o - - - -

NEW HOMES FOR 5 000 PEOPLE AT CHEUNG HONG ESTATE

* * * *

THREE NEW BLOCKS THAT PROVIDE MODERN PUBLIC HOUSING FOR 5 000 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN COMPLETED AT CHEUNG HONG ESTATE ON TSING YI ISLAND AND TENANTS ARE SIGNING UP FOR THEIR NEW HOMES.

+RISING ON A HIGHER LEVEL IN THE EASTERN PART OF THE ISLAND, THE TOWERING BLOCKS OFFER A MAGNIFICENT VIEW OF THE SEA AND TSUEN WAN,+ SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HOUSING AUTHORITY TODAY.

HE SAID THE 26-28-STOREY BLOCKS HAD ALTOGETHER 1 152 SELF-CONTAINED FLATS AND HAD BEEN BUILT UNDER THE THIRD PHASE OF THE ESTATE.

+ALSO COMPLETED UNDER THIS PHASE ARE A KINDERGARTEN, A NURSERY AND A WIDE RANGE OF RECREATIONAL FACILITIES INCLUDING CHILDREN'S PLAY AREAS, A JOGGING PATH AND A FIVE-A-SIDE SOCCER PITCH.

+OTHER AMENITIES SUCH AS SCHOOLS, A COMMERCIAL CENTRE, A MARKET, CARPARKS, COOKED FOOD STALLS AND SOCIAL SERVICES ARE ALREADY PROVIDED ON THE ESTATE.+

THERE ARE AT PRESENT 15 000 PEOPLE LIVING IN SIX OTHER BLOCKS COMPLETED AT CHEUNG HONG ESTATE UNDER ITS FIRST TWO PHASES.

+TWO MORE BLOCKS FOR ANOTHER 8 000 PEOPLE ARE APPROACHING COMPLETION UNDER THE FOURTH PHASE.

+WHEN THE FIFTH, AND THE LAST, PHASE OF CONSTRUCTION IS COMPLETED IN 1986, CHEUNG HONG ESTATE WILL BECOME A SELF-CONTAINED ENTITY WITH ABOUT 35 000 PEOPLE,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

- - - - o - - - -

/10 .....

TENDERS FOR ROADS MAINTENANCE INVITED

* * * *

THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE OF THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR FOUR CONTRACTS FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION OF ROADS, BRIDGES, DRAINAGE WORKS AND SLOPES FOR THE COMING TWO FINANCIAL YEARS.

THE AREAS TO BE INCLUDED ARE THE EASTERN AND SOUTHERN DISTRICTS OF HONG KONG ISLAND, THE WESTERN DISTRICTS OF KOWLOON AND NEW KOWLOON, AND NEW TERRITORIES EAST AND OUTLYING ISLANDS.

A NEW COMPUTER SYSTEM WILL BE INTRODUCED TO PROCESS PAYMENTS FOR WORKS UNDER THE CONTRACTS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE SAID UNDER THE NEW SYSTEM, CONTRACTORS WILL MEASURE THE WORKS THEMSELVES AND SUBMIT THE MEASUREMENTS TO GOVERNMENT FOR PAYMENT.

COMPLETED JOBS WILL BE PROCESSED BY THE COMPUTER IN BATCHES WITH THE GOVERNMENT CHECKING THE ACCURACY OF THE MEASUREMENTS ON RANDOM SAMPLES, HE SAID.

IT IS ENVISAGED THAT THE NEW SYSTEM WILL REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF ADMINISTRATIVE WORK, THUS ENABLING THE BILLS TO BE PROCESSED MORE QUICKLY.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING TENDERS IS 12 NOON ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1.

- - - - o - - - -

ARTS GROUP GETS NEW HOME

* * * *

THE NEW PREMISES OF THE SHAM SHUI PO ARTS ASSOCIATION WAS UNVEILED TODAY (SUNDAY) AT THE LAI KOK ESTATE.

OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE URBAN COUNCIL, MR HILTON CHEONG-LEEN SAID RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES HAD BECOME AN ESSENTIAL MEANS OF RELAXATION FROM THE BUSY LIFE STYLE OF MANY PEOPLE.

HE NOTED THAT SINCE THE START OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, SUCH ACTIVITIES HAD BEEN SPREAD OUT EVENLY IN THE COMMUNITY.

+TO CATER FOR LOCAL NEEDS, THE SHAM SHUI PO ARTS ASSOCIATION WAS ESTABLISHED TO PLAN CULTURAL ACTIVITIES, PROMOTE PERFORMING ARTS AND TO PROVIDE HEALTHY RECREATION.

/+FURTHERMORE, ...

+FURTHERMORE, IT AIMS AT ENCOURAGING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY BUILDING AND ULTIMATELY ACHIEVING COMMUNITY STABILITY AND PROSPERITY,+ MR CHEONG-LEEN SAID.

THE ARTS ASSOCIATION PREMISES IS LOCATED AT S14-15A LAI FU HOUSE OF LAI KOK ESTATE TO ACCOMMODATE VARIOUS TRAINING CLASSES, EXHIBITIONS AND OTHER FACILITIES.

THE ASSOCIATION WAS FOUNDED WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE DISTRICT BOARD IN JUNE 1983 TO POOL LOCAL RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES UNDER ONE BANNER.

IT HAS FOUR COMMITTEES -- PERFORMING ARTS, CHILDREN'S CHOIR, CULTURE AND RECREATION -- TO PROMOTE AND ORGANISE ACTIVITIES AND PERFORMANCES AT DISTRICT LEVEL.

OTHER GUESTS AT TODAY'S OPENING CEREMONY WERE THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR, MRS DORIS HO, THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR SYLVESTER TSE AND THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF HOUSING, MR FUNG TUNG.

----0----

SUBMARINE SEWERS PROPOSED FOR SAI KUNG

****

THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO LAY TWO SUBMARINE SEWERS TOTALLING 294 METRES IN LENGTH WITHIN AN AREA OF 1.15 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED AT SAI KUNG HOI, SAI KUNG.

THE PROPOSAL WILL FORM A PART OF A SEWERAGE SYSTEM FOR THE CONTINUING DEVELOPMENT OF SAI KUNG, TUI MIN HOI, SHA KOK MEI AND PAK KONG.

A NOTICE DESCRIBING THE EXTENT OF THE AFFECTED AREA HAS BEEN PUBLISHED IN THE LATEST GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

THE NOTICE TOGETHER WITH ITS RELATED PLAN HAVE BEEN POSTED ON NOTICE BOARDS NEAR THE SITE.

THE PLAN CAN ALSO BE INSPECTED AT THE LANDS DEPARTMENT, SURVEY DIVISION, 5TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG= AND THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE, SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 2ND FLOOR, MAN NIN STREET, SAI KUNG, NEW TERRITORIES.

OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSAL OR CLAIMS FOR COMPENSATION SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO THE DIRECTOR OF LANDS BY MARCH 4.

----0----

/12 .....

RESTRICTED ZONES IN TAI KOK TSUI

* * * *

FROM 10 AM ON TUESDAY (JANUARY 8), SEVERAL ROADS IN TAI KOK TSUI WILL BE MADE RESTRICTED ZONES.

THE FOLLOWING WILL HAVE 24 HOURS RESTRICTION:

* EASTBOUND CHERRY STREET BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH BEECH STREET AND A POINT ABOUT 49 METRES EAST OF THE SAME JUNCTION.

* THE SLIP ROAD LEADING FROM EASTBOUND CHERRY STREET TO THE UPRAMP TO THE WEST KOWLOON CORRIDOR.

CHERRY STREET BETWEEN TONG MEI ROAD AND TAI KOK TSUI FERRY CONCOURSE WILL BE A RESTRICTED ZONE FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY.

WITHIN THE RESTRICTED ZONES, ALL MOTOR VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES AND THOSE WITH PERMITS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM PICKING UP OR SETTING DOWN PASSENGERS= ND LOADING OR UNLOADING GOODS.

- - - - o - - - -