



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FIRE VICTIMS URGED TO VACATE COMMUNITY CENTRE
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SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICER, MR SYLVESTER TSE, TODAY (SUNDAY) APPEALED TO VICTIMS OF THE CHU KOO TSAI VILLAGE FIRE, CURRENTLY STAYING IN THE TAI HANG TUNG COMMUNITY CENTRE, TO MOVE OUT OF THE CENTRE.

+SPEEDY AND APPROPRIATE ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE MADE BY THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT TO ASSIST FIRE VICTIMS IN MOVING TO THEIR NEW HOMES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES,+ HE SAID.

MR TSE POINTED OUT THAT THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE WAS TO PROVIDE A VENUE FOR RESIDENTS TO ORGANISE VARIOUS ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS, AND USED AS A TEMPORARY SHELTER ONLY IN CASES OF EMERGENCIES.

THE FIRE VICTIMS WERE GIVEN SHELTER AT THE CENTRE SHORTLY AFTER THE JANUARY 27 FIRE AND HAVE STAYED THERE EVER SINCE. AS A RESULT, THE NORMAL OPERATIONS OF THE CENTRE HAVE BEEN SERIOUSLY AFFECTED.

+THE DAILY GATHERINGS OF THE ELDERLY HAVE BEEN DISRUPTED, AND MANY INTEREST GROUPS AND TRAINING CLASSES HAVE TO BE CONDUCTED ELSEWHERE. THE STUDY ROOM, THE ACTIVITY ROOM AND THE NURSERY ON THE TOP FLOOR ARE ALSO SUFFERING VARIOUS DEGREES OF DISTURBANCES AND INCONVENIENCE,+ MR TSE SAID.

+THE CONTINUED OCCUPATION OF THE CENTRE BY FIRE VICTIMS WILL NOT ONLY DEPRIVE OTHER PEOPLE OF THEIR RIGHTS TO USE THE CENTRE, BUT ALSO ADVERSELY AFFECT THEIR OWN HEALTH AND FAMILY LIFE.+

MR TSE WAS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE OBSTRUCTIONS AND HIGH FIRE RISKS POSED BY FLIMSY STRUCTURES AND BED SPACES ERECTED BY THE SETTLERS AROUND THE OPEN CORRIDORS AND STAIRCASES WITH COMBUSTIBLES LIKE BAMBOO POLES, BLANKETS AND CLOTH.

HE ALSO WARNED THEM THAT NO COOKING WAS ALLOWED WITHIN THE CENTRE. +THE SETTLERS SHOULD BEST KNOW ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF FIRE PREVENTION BEING THEMSELVES VICTIMS OF FIRE,+ HE SAID.

MEALS PROVIDED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT AS AN EMERGENCY MEASURE WOULD BE DISCONTINUED TOMORROW (MONDAY). DURING THE PAST SEVEN WEEKS, ABOUT 800 LUNCHEES AND DINNERS A DAY HAVE BEEN PROVIDED TO THE VICTIMS.

+IT WILL BE UNFAIR TO OTHER DISASTER VICTIMS AND THE COMMUNITY IF MEAL SUPPLIES ARE FURTHER EXTENDED,+ MR TSE SAID.

HE ADDED THAT THE CIVIL AID SERVICES DUTY TEAMS WERE ALSO ON DUTY IN THE CENTRE AS AN EMERGENCY SERVICE AND THIS COULD NOT BE MAINTAINED FOR AN INDEFINITE PERIOD.

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IMPORT REQUIREMENT TO BE VIGOROUSLY ENFORCED

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THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT WILL, FROM APRIL 1, VIGOROUSLY ENFORCE THE REQUIREMENT THAT ALL TEXTILE AND GARMENT IMPORTS INTO HONG KONG CARRY IMPORT LICENCES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

UNDER THE IMPORT AND EXPORT (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, IMPORTS OF TEXTILES MUST BE BROUGHT IN UNDER VALID IMPORT LICENCES ISSUED BEFORE THE ARRIVAL OF THE GOODS. THIS REQUIREMENT WAS INTRODUCED IN 1980 BUT THERE IS A TENDENCY THAT IMPORTERS TAKE OUT IMPORT LICENCES FOR TEXTILES AFTER THE GOODS HAVE ACTUALLY ARRIVED IN HONG KONG. +THIS PRACTICE MUST STOP+, SAID THE SPOKESMAN.

FROM APRIL 1, THE RULES WILL BE ENFORCED MORE STRICTLY AND THE ISSUE OF LICENCES AFTER THE IMPORT OF GOODS WILL BE MADE ONLY IN EXCEPTIONAL CASES. THERE WILL ALSO BE NO INSTANT LICENSING SERVICE FOR LATE APPLICANTS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID SPOT CHECKS ON CARGOES, PARTICULARLY CARGOES IMPORTED BY SEA, WILL BE INTENSIFIED AND IMPORTERS AND CARRIERS ARE REMINDED THAT IMPORTS NOT COVERED BY LICENCES CAN BE SEIZED WITH PROSECUTIONS RESULTING.

TRANSPORTATION, SHIPPING AND AIRLINE COMPANIES SHOULD NOT RELEASE ANY TEXTILE GOODS INTO THE TERRITORY WITHOUT THE PRODUCTION OF A VALID TEXTILE IMPORT LICENCE. THEY ARE ALSO REQUIRED TO PRESENT THE RELEVANT IMPORT LICENCE TO THE TRADE DEPARTMENT TOGETHER WITH THE RELEVANT CARGO MANIFEST.

THE LAW PROVIDES HEAVY PENALTIES UP TO A FINE OF \$500 000 AND IMPRISONMENT FOR ONE YEAR FOR PARTIES WHO FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS.

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS WILL APPLY TO COVER THE SHIPMENT OF COMMERCIAL SAMPLES OF NO COMMERCIAL VALUE.

ALSO FROM APRIL 1, IMPORTERS OF GARMENTS, GARMENT PARTS AND CERTAIN KNITTED FABRICS NOT SHIPPED IN BOLT WILL HAVE TO DECLARE THE INTENDED USE OF EACH CONSIGNMENT AND TO INDICATE THE WAY IN WHICH IT IS TO BE EITHER USED LOCALLY OR THE COUNTRY TO WHICH IT IS INTENDED TO RE-EXPORT. IN ADDITION, IMPORTERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE FULL PARTICULARS OF THE GARMENT PARTS AND KNITTED FABRIC NOT SHIPPED IN BOLT.

THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS REQUIRED TO FACILITATE PHYSICAL CHECKS TO BE CARRIED OUT BY CUSTOMS OFFICERS TO VERIFY THE ACCURACY OF DECLARATIONS MADE ON IMPORT LICENCES. THE DECLARED IMPORTER MUST ALSO FURNISH INFORMATION, INCLUDING DOCUMENTS, IF ASKED, RELATING TO IMPORT LICENCES.

PROVISION OF FALSE OR MISLEADING INFORMATION ON A LICENCE APPLICATION CAN RESULT IN A FINE UP TO \$500 000 AND IMPRISONMENT FOR TWO YEARS. IN ADDITION, ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION TO DENY IMPORT LICENSING FACILITIES TO AN OFFENDER CAN BE TAKEN BY THE TRADE DEPARTMENT.

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HK'S LABOUR RELATIONS COMPARES WELL WITH OTHERS
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LABOUR RELATIONS IN HONG KONG COMPARES MOST FAVOURABLY WITH OTHER INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD, THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR DARWIN CHEN, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF WONG TAI SIN LABOUR FESTIVAL '86, MR CHEN SAID THE HARMONIOUS INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS HERE WAS ONE OF THE MAJOR FACTORS WHICH CONTRIBUTED TO THE INCREASE IN PRODUCTIVITY AND EXPORT GROWTH.

LAST YEAR, HE SAID, THERE WERE ONLY THREE WORK STOPPAGES RESULTING IN THE LOSS OF 1 160 WORKING DAYS - THE LOWEST ON RECORD.

MR CHEN SAID WHILE STATISTICS ON OTHER COUNTRIES WERE NOT AVAILABLE FOR THE LAST TWO YEARS, A COMPARISON OF THE FIGURES FOR 1983 WOULD BE QUITE REVEALING.

+IN THAT YEAR, THE NUMBER OF DAYS LOST FOR EVERY 10 000 WORKING DAYS WAS 0.03 IN HONG KONG, COMPARED WITH 0.28 IN JAPAN= WHILE IN BRITAIN AND IN THE UNITED STATES, THE NUMBER OF DAYS LOST WAS 4.51 AND 5.02 RESPECTIVELY.+

HE ADDED THAT IN 1985, THE DEPARTMENT'S LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE HANDLED 155 INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES AND HELPED SETTLED 17 928 CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT.

AS A RESULT OF THE DEPARTMENT'S CONCILIATION EFFORTS, \$57.41 MILLION WAS PAID OUT TO 21 090 WORKERS.

LAST YEAR, THE LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE ALSO CONDUCTED MORE THAN 410 000 CONSULTATIONS ON PROBLEMS RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS AND PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT, AN INCREASE OF 4.6 PER CENT OVER 1984.

MR CHEN SAID THAT FOR YEARS, THE DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN PAYING PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO RELATIONS BETWEEN EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES IN AN EFFORT TO BUILD A MORE HARMONIOUS LABOUR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONSHIP IN HONG KONG.

HE SAID THE DEPARTMENT'S LABOUR RELATIONS PROMOTION UNIT HAD CONDUCTED A CONTINUOUS AND SYSTEMATIC PROGRAMME OF VISITS TO INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS, ORGANISED A SERIES OF SEMINARS, LECTURES, EXHIBITIONS AND TRAINING COURSE, AND PRODUCED A NUMBER OF BOOKLETS TO HELP BOTH EMPLOYERS AND WORKERS.

MR CHEN SAID HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE WONG TAI SIN LABOUR FESTIVAL WOULD MAKE MORE PEOPLE REALISE THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND UNDERSTAND BETTER THEIR RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE LEGISLATION.

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ILLEGAL BACKLANE STRUCTURES CLEARED

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A SIX-DAY OPERATION TO CLEAR 60 ILLEGAL STRUCTURES IN THE BACKLANE OF NGAU TAU KOK ROAD WAS COMPLETED TODAY (SUNDAY).

THE SECRETARY OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, MR ERNEST HUNG, SAID RESIDENTS OF NEARBY BUILDINGS HAD WRITTEN IN COMPLAINING ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND NOISE NUISANCE CAUSED BY OCCUPANTS OF STRUCTURES, ESPECIALLY THE COOKED FOOD OPERATORS.

+THE STRUCTURES ALSO BLOCKED THE ACCESS TO A GAS MAIN OF THE AREA AND THE COMMITTEE DECIDED TO CLEAR THE BACKLANE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, + HE SAID.

ABOUT 18 OF THE STRUCTURES WERE USED FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES, MOSTLY COOKED FOOD STALLS, WHILE THE REST WERE DOMESTIC UNITS.

EXCEPT FOR 27 CLEAREES WHO WERE INELIGIBLE FOR RE-HOUSING, 44 PEOPLE FROM 35 FAMILIES WERE RE-SETTLED TO EITHER PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES OR TEMPORARY HOUSING AREAS.

CO-ORDINATED BY THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, THE CLEARANCE WAS PART OF THE MAJOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME, ENTITLED +OPERATION FAR FLING+ WHICH STARTED IN 1983 WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE DISTRICT BOARD.

SO FAR, OPERATION FAR FLING HAD CLEARED ABOUT 450 ILLEGAL BACKLANE STRUCTURES IN KWUN TONG.

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SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD REPORTS ON ITS WORK

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THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD HAD DISCUSSED A NUMBER OF TERRITORY-WIDE ISSUES AS WELL AS DISTRICT PROBLEMS IN NO FEWER THAN 10 MEETINGS DURING THE FIRST YEAR OF THE 1985-88 SESSION, BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR JASPER LAM, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

+DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS WERE ALSO EFFECTIVELY SPENT ON ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS AIMED AT IMPROVING THE GENERAL WELL-BEING OF RESIDENTS IN THE DISTRICT, + HE SAID.

REPORTING ON THE WORK OF THE BOARD AT A SEMINAR WITH THE DISTRICT'S SIX AREA COMMITTEES, MR LAM SAID THE \$1.42 MILLION ALLOCATED TO THE BOARD HAD BEEN SPENT ON NUMEROUS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROJECTS MONITORED BY ITS COMMUNITY BUILDING, SOCIAL SERVICES AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEES.

/+SEVEN REGULAR

+SEVEN REGULAR MEETINGS AND THREE SPECIAL MEETINGS WERE HELD IN THE PAST YEAR TO DISCUSS A WIDE RANGE OF TOPICAL ISSUES INCLUDING THE ELECTRONIC ROAD PRICING SYSTEM, THE 1985 LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL (POWERS AND PRIVILEGES) BILL, HOUSING SUBSIDY TO PUBLIC HOUSING TENANTS, HAWKER AND MARKET POLICIES, THE CONTROL OF PUBLIC BILLIARD SALOONS AND PRIVATE BILLIARD CLUBS, THE BROADCASTING REVIEW BOARD REPORT, AND THE CONTROL OF POLLUTION CAUSED BY ANIMAL WASTES,+ HE SAID.

+LOCAL ISSUES WHICH AROUSED THE BOARD'S CONCERN INCLUDED THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT'S EXTENDED REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME IN WONG CHUK HANG ESTATE AND SHEK PAI WAN ESTATE, THE URBAN COUNCIL'S CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME IN SOUTHERN DISTRICT, THE LACK OF CROSS HARBOUR BUS ROUTES, THE DESIGN OF THE DOWN RAMP OF A FLYOVER AND A PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ON ABERDEEN MAIN ROAD.

+IT ALSO INVOLVED THE PROVISION OF A STANDARD PRIMARY SCHOOL IN TIN WAN AND A SECONDARY SCHOOL IN AP LEI CHAU, AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF REFUSE COLLECTION POINTS IN ABERDEEN AND AP LEI CHAU,+ HE ADDED.

MR LAM SAID THE BOARD HAD ADOPTED AN OPEN AND PRAGMATIC ATTITUDE WHEN DISCUSSING AND HANDLING PROBLEMS IN THE DISTRICT. RESIDENTS' VIEWS AND SUGGESTIONS WERE HEEDED AND WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF THE DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, VARIOUS PROBLEMS WERE DEALT WITH SWIFTLY AND EFFECTIVELY.

+TO IMPROVE COMMUNICATION WITH RESIDENTS AND TO COLLECT AND ASSESS PUBLIC VIEWS ON VARIOUS ISSUES, A REPORT WAS SENT TO THE AREA COMMITTEES AFTER EACH BOARD MEETING,+ MR LAM SAID.

+FURTHERMORE, THE BOARD HANDLED 80 CASES DURING THE 'MEET-THE-PUBLIC' SESSIONS AND RECEIVED 97 POSTGRAMMES UNDER THE 'MY SUGGESTIONS TO THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD' SCHEME DURING THE PAST 11 MONTHS.

+MOST OF THEM INVOLVED TRANSPORT, ENVIRONMENT, HOUSING, AND LAW AND ORDER MATTERS, AND MORE THAN ONE-THIRD OF THE CASES WERE SATISFACTORILY RESOLVED.+ HE ADDED.

TODAY'S SEMINAR WAS ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD TO PROMOTE BETTER RELATIONSHIP AND UNDERSTANDING WITH LOCAL BODIES. ABOUT 150 PEOPLE FROM THE DISTRICT'S SIX AREA COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS TOOK PART IN THE SEMINAR.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE SEMINAR, SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR EDDIE CHAN, SAID GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS WOULD STAND TO BENEFIT FROM PUBLIC VIEWS AND SUGGESTIONS REFLECTED THROUGH THE DISTRICT BOARD, AREA COMMITTEES AND LOCAL RESIDENTS ORGANISATION.

+THIS THREE-TIER CONSULTATIVE STRUCTURE OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION CAN FULLY REFLECT THE VIEWS OF VARIOUS SECTORS, THUS ENABLING THE AUTHORITIES TO HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF RESIDENTS' NEEDS WHEN CARRYING OUT ITS POLICIES,+ HE SAID.

+THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD HAS BECOME MORE REPRESENTATIVE AND MORE EFFECTIVE IN REFLECTING LOCAL OPINIONS. FROM LAST YEAR THE NUMBER OF ELECTED MEMBERS INCREASED FROM SIX TO 11, AND THE CHAIRMAN WAS ELECTED FROM AMONG MEMBERS THEMSELVES, THUS PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE CHANNEL OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE BOARD AND RESIDENTS,+ HE ADDED.

MR CHAN NOTED THAT IN THE PAST YEAR, THE BOARD HAD LOOKED INTO A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT AS WELL AS MINOR ISSUES AND HAD COME UP WITH CONSTRUCTIVE VIEWS AND SUGGESTIONS TO IMPROVE THE LIVELIHOOD OF RESIDENTS.

+THE BOARD HAD ORGANISED AND SPONSORED A WIDE VARIETY OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS, SUCH AS FESTIVAL CELEBRATIONS, AWARD SCHEMES, AND A SURVEY ON THE NEEDS OF THE ELDERLY, TO AROUSE RESIDENTS' CIVIC AWARENESS AND SENSE OF BELONGING,+ HE SAID.

+STREET LIGHTS WERE INSTALLED AND ACCESS AND AMENITY PROJECTS WERE CARRIED OUT IN SQUATTER AREAS,+ HE SAID.

+ON TRANSPORT MATTERS, THE OPENING OF THE ROAD THROUGH ABERDEEN LAST OCTOBER AND THE COMING INTO SERVICE OF THE NO. 107 CROSS HARBOUR BUS ROUTE NEXT MONTH WILL BRING MUCH CONVENIENCE TO LOCAL PEOPLE,+ HE ADDED.

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SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OVERSEAS MATRICULATION COURSE
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A NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS ARE BEING OFFERED BY LOCAL ORGANISATIONS TO FORM 5 STUDENTS TO ATTEND A TWO-YEAR MATRICULATION COURSE AT THE UNITED WORLD COLLEGES IN BRITAIN, CANADA, UNITED STATES AND ITALY.

COMPLETION OF THE COURSE WILL LEAD TO THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE WHICH IS RECOGNISED FOR UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE IN HONG KONG AND MOST COUNTRIES INCLUDING BRITAIN AND CANADA.

THE SCHOLARSHIPS, TO PROMOTE INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING THROUGH EDUCATION, ARE FOR ATLANTIC COLLEGE IN BRITAIN, PEARSON COLLEGE IN CANADA, AMERICAN WEST COLLEGE IN THE UNITED STATES AND ADRIATIC COLLEGE IN ITALY WHICH CONSTITUTE THE UNITED WORLD COLLEGE.

EACH SCHOLARSHIP WILL COVER PART OF THE TUITION AND BOARDING FEES DURING THE TWO YEARS.

IT WILL NOT BE ADEQUATE TO COVER OTHER EXPENSES SUCH AS AIR FARES TO AND FROM COLLEGE, MAINTENANCE DURING LONG VACATIONS AND PERSONAL EXPENSE.

/APPLICANTS SHOULD

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APPLICANTS SHOULD ENSURE THAT THEY ARE ABLE TO FIND SUFFICIENT FUNDS TO MEET SUCH EXPENSES.

APPLICANTS MUST BE BETWEEN 16 AND 18 OF AGE BY SEPTEMBER 1 THIS YEAR AND IN POSSESSION OF A HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION WITH AT LEAST FIVE SUBJECTS AT GRADE C OR ABOVE INCLUDING GOOD RESULTS IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE OR GCE EQUIVALENT.

STUDENTS WHO CONSIDER THAT THEY STAND A GOOD CHANCE OF OBTAINING SIMILAR RESULTS IN THE 1986 HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION MAY ALSO APPLY.

APPLICATION FORMS, AVAILABLE AT THE OVERSEAS STUDENTS AND SCHOLARSHIP SECTION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, LEE GARDENS, FIFTH FLOOR, 33-37 HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY, MUST BE RETURNED THROUGH SCHOOL HEADS BY APRIL 11.

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MONG KOK LANDMARK TO BE OPENED TOMORROW
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THE MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD LANDMARK, WHICH BEARS THE DISTRICT BOARD LOGO ON A SIX-METRE TALL CIRCULAR COLUMN, WILL BE OPENED BY THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DONALD LIAO, TOMORROW (MONDAY).

BUILT ON A LARGE LANDSCAPED TRAFFIC ISLAND AT THE INTERSECTION OF LAI CHI KOK ROAD AND NATHAN ROAD, IT IS FLANKED BY FLOWER BEDS AND PLANTERS.

THE DISTRICT BOARD LOGO HAS BEEN AFFIXED TO THE COLUMN ON FOUR SIDES NEAR THE TOP AND CAN BE SEEN FROM A DISTANCE. THE COLUMN IS COATED WITH BEIGE COLOURED MARBLE SLATS WHILE THE LOGOS ARE MADE OF REDDISH BROWN MARBLE.

+THE LANDMARK IS A SYMBOL TO STRENGTHEN LOCAL RESIDENTS' IDENTITY WITH THE DISTRICT AND TO PROMOTE A SENSE OF BELONGING IN THE COMMUNITY,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT SAID.

THE PROJECT COSTS \$132 000 WITH \$50 000 SPONSORED BY THE HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION AND \$82 000 ALLOCATED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD.

/ALSO OFFICIATING

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ALSO OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR CHOW CHUN-FAI; THE DISTRICT MANAGER MONGKOK OF THE HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, MR C.L.F. BAMFORD; CHAIRMAN OF THE LANDMARK OPENING CEREMONY SUBCOMMITTEE, MR YIP KAM-CHIU, AND CHAIRMAN OF ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE, MR CLEMENT TAO.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD LANDMARK TOMORROW AT 10.45 AM ON THE TRAFFIC ISLAND AT THE INTERSECTION OF LAI CHI KOK ROAD AND NATHAN ROAD (FACING EMPRESS THEATRE).

NEW FACILITIES FOR SPORT AND RECREATION
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SEVERAL NEW PROJECTS HAVE JUST BEEN APPROVED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL TO UPGRADE SPORT AND RECREATION FACILITIES IN HONG KONG.

THESE INCLUDE AN INDOOR GAMES HALL TO BE BUILT IN FAT KWONG STREET, HO MAN TIN, A SECOND INDOOR GAMES HALL FOR CHAI WAN AND A \$7.7 MILLION PROJECT TO PROVIDE AN OVERDUE +GREEN LUNG+ IN CAINE LANE IN THE MID-LEVELS.

THE INDOOR GAMES HALL WILL BE BUILT ON TOP OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY'S NEW HEADQUARTERS BUILDING IN FAT KWONG STREET, AND WILL FEATURE COMPREHENSIVE SPORT AND ASSOCIATED FACILITIES INCLUDING A GAMES AREA, THREE SQUASH COURTS, A DANCE STUDIO, A FITNESS ROOM AND CHANGEROOMS, TOILETS AND A FRIST-AID ROOM.

+AT LEAST ONE LIFT WILL EXCLUSIVELY SERVE THE GAMES HALL,+ SAID A COUNCIL SPOKESMAN.

THE PROJECT IS A +MARRIAGE OF CONVENIENCE+ BETWEEN MUCH-NEEDED URBAN COUNCIL AND HOUSING AUTHORITY FACILITIES.

THE COUNCIL HAS BEEN ANXIOUS FOR SOME TIME TO SECURE A SITE FOR AN INDOOR GAMES HALL IN THE BURGEONING DISTRICT, WHERE MANY THOUSANDS OF FAMILIES LIVE IN LATE-GENERATION HOUSING ESTATES.

AT THE SAME TIME THE HOUSING AUTHORITY IS HAVING TO MOVE OUT OF ITS OVERCROWDED OLD HEADQUARTERS BUILDING AND INTO CUSTOM-BUILT ACCOMMODATION FOR ITS ENLARGED HEADQUARTERS STAFF.

/+WE HAVE

+WE HAVE PUT OUR NEEDS INTO THE ONE PACKAGE, AND WILL TAKE THE TOP TWO FLOORS OF THE NEW BUILDING,' SAID THE SPOKESMAN.

THE SECOND INDOOR GAMES HALL WILL BE BUILT ON TOP OF THE YUE WAN MARKET/CARPARK BUILDING AT CHAI WAN.

+THE \$31.6 MILLION PROJECT WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FACILITIES FOR SPORTS AND RECREATION IN THE DISTRICT.

+WHEN THIS BUILDING WAS DESIGNED A SPECIAL LOAD-BEARING CAPACITY WAS ADDED SO THAT THE ROOF COULD BE USED FOR OTHER PURPOSES,+ SAID A COUNCIL SPOKESMAN.

THE GAMES HALL WILL BE EASILY CONVERTIBLE FOR A WIDE VARIETY OF SPORTS INCLUDING HANDBALL, BASKETBALL, VOLLEY-BALL AND BADMINTON. IN ADDITION, THERE WILL BE THREE SQUASH COURTS, A DANCING ROOM AND A FITNESS TRAINING ROOM, ALL OF WHICH WILL BE AIR-CONDITIONED.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN LATER THIS YEAR WITH COMPLETION SET FOR 1988.

MEANWHILE, A 3 320 SQUARE-METRE SITE IN CAINE LANE WILL BE TRANSFORMED INTO AN IMAGINATIVE +GREEN LUNG+ IN THE MIDDLE OF A HIGH-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL AREA.

+THE CENTREPIECE WILL BE A BEAUTIFUL GARDEN WITH WATER FEATURES AND PAVILIONS, AND THE REST OF THE PROJECT WILL INCLUDE A LARGE CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA, SITTING-OUT AREAS, AND TOILETS.

+THIS WILL PROVIDE THE AREA WITH A MUCH-NEEDED ACTIVE AND PASSIVE RECREATIONAL AREA, AND IS SURE TO BE VERY WELL USED BY THE MANY FAMILIES IN THE AREA,+ SAID THE SPOKESMAN.

THE GO-AHEAD FOR BOTH PROJECTS WAS GIVEN AT THE LAST MEETING OF THE COUNCIL'S STANDING COMMITTEE, CHAIRED BY MR HILTON CHEONG-LEEN.

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NO MORE DEADLINES FOR DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS
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THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD HAS DONE AWAY WITH DEADLINES FOR ORGANISATIONS APPLYING FOR FUNDS TO ORGANISE COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE BOARD SECRETARIAT SAID.

+LOCAL ORGANISATIONS IN THE DISTRICT ARE INVITED TO APPLY FOR FUNDS FOR THE 1986-87 FINANCIAL YEAR,+ HE SAID.

/+IN THE

+IN THE PAST, APPLICATIONS FOR DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS WERE INVITED ONLY TWICE A YEAR - IN MARCH AND AUGUST.

+HOWEVER, THIS HAD PROVED IMPRACTICAL AS SOME WORTHWHILE PROJECTS COULD NOT BE IMPLEMENTED BECAUSE APPLICANTS WERE UNABLE TO MEET THE DEADLINES,+ HE ADDED.

TO ALLOW THE COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD TO HAVE SUFFICIENT TIME TO PROCESS APPLICATIONS, ADVANCE NOTICE OF AT LEAST TWO MONTHS SHOULD BE GIVEN BEFORE THE PROJECT STARTED, HE SAID.

EACH APPLICATION WOULD BE SCREENED BY A VETTING COMMITTEE, WHICH WOULD THEN MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE.

APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE AT 880-886 KING'S ROAD, THE CAUSEWAY BAY SUB-OFFICE AT 9-11 WING HING STREET, THE SHAU KEI WAN SUB-OFFICE AT 243 SHAU KEI WAN ROAD, AND THE CHAI WAN SUB-OFFICE AT BLOCK 2, HING WAH ESTATE.

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FLYOVER PROJECT AT AIRPORT

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THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS TO BUILD A 5.5-METRE WIDE FLYOVER TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT'S NEW PASSENGER DEPARTURE PODIUM FROM PRINCE EDWARD ROAD NORTHBOUND.

WORK ON THE SINGLE-LANE FLYOVER WILL START IN DECEMBER AND IS DUE FOR COMPLETION AT THE SAME TIME AS THE DEPARTURE PODIUM IS READY IN FEBRUARY 1988.

THERE ARE ALSO PLANS FOR ANOTHER SINGLE-LANE FLYOVER TO PROVIDE AN EXIT FROM THE EXISTING CAR PARK ON TO PRINCE EDWARD ROAD NORTHBOUND, BUT NO STARTING DATE FOR THIS FLYOVER HAS BEEN FIXED.

BESIDES PROVIDING BETTER ACCESS TO THE AIRPORT THE TWO FLYOVERS WILL IMPROVE TRAFFIC CIRCULATION AT THE JUNCTION OF SUNG WONG TOI ROAD, MA TAU CHUNG ROAD AND THE KOWLOON CITY ROUNDABOUT.

BOTH THE KOWLOON CITY AND WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARDS HAVE ENDORSED THE PROJECT.

A PLAN OF THE PROJECT CAN BE SEEN AT THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY, HONG KONG; AT THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, KOWLOON WEST, YAU MA TEI CARPARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON; AND AT THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE, 141-143 KAU PUI LUNG ROAD, FIRST FLOOR, KOWLOON.

OBJECTIONS TO THE SCHEME SHOULD BE SENT IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS BY MAY 20.

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SITE BEING DEVELOPED AS OPEN SPACE
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A SITE AT THE JUNCTION OF ON LOK ROAD AND TAI CHEUNG STREET IN YUEN LONG IS TO BE DEVELOPED INTO LOCAL OPEN SPACE.

OCCUPYING AN AREA OF ABOUT 800 SQUARE METRES, THE PROPOSED OPEN SPACE WILL BE PROVIDED WITH CONCRETE PAVING, TIMBER ARBOURS, WOODEN SEATS, TREE PITS AND FLORAL POTS.

WORK ON THE PROJECT ALSO INCLUDES THE PROVISION OF PLUMBING AND A DRAINAGE SYSTEM.

THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE PROJECT, WHICH IS EXPECTED TO START IN JUNE AND BE COMPLETED IN OCTOBER.

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HOLIDAY OPENING HOURS OF LIBRARIES
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THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT ITS PUBLIC LIBRARIES WILL BE OPEN AT CERTAIN TIMES DURING THE EASTER HOLIDAYS.

ALL PUBLIC LIBRARIES, EXCEPT THE SOUTH LAMMA LIBRARY AND THE TWO MOBILE LIBRARIES, WILL BE OPEN IN THE MORNING ON BOTH SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (MARCH 29-30).

ON MONDAY (MARCH 31), THE LIBRARIES AT CHEUNG CHAU, FANLING, MUI WO, SAI KUNG, SHEUNG SHUI, SOUTH KWAI CHUNG, TAI PO, TSING YI AND TUEN MUN (TAI HING) WILL OPEN ONLY IN THE MORNING WHILE THOSE AT PENG CHAU, NORTH KWAI CHUNG, SHA TIN, SOUTH LAMMA, TAI O, TSUEN WAN, TUEN MUN (YAU OI), YUEN LONG AND THE TWO MOBILE LIBRARIES WILL BE CLOSED.

ALL LIBRARIES WILL BE CLOSED ON FRIDAY (MARCH 28).

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TUEN MUN WATER CUT
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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN TUEN MUN WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 7 PM ON WEDNESDAY (MARCH 26) TO 8 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR MAINS WORK.

THE AFFECTED PREMISES ARE BOUNDED BY SHEK PAI TAU ROAD, TSUN WEN ROAD, ROAD LD2 AND ROAD LD3, INCLUDING TAI HING ESTATE, CASTLE PEAK HOSPITAL, SIU HANG TSUEN, KWONG SHAN TSUEN, PO TONG HA TSUEN, LEUNG TIN TSUEN, TZE TIN TSUEN, SIU HONG COURT, KI LUN WAI, SAN HING TSUEN, SHUN FUNG WAI, FUK HANG TSUEN AND FU TEI SHEUNG TSUEN.

FU TEI CHUNG TSUEN, SAN WAI TSAI, LAM TEI TAI STREET, NAI WAI AND FU TEI WILL ALSO BE AFFECTED.

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