DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 1986

CONTENTS PAGE NO.

NEW TECHNOLOGY VITAL FOR CLOTHING INDUSTRY 1
FIVE PER CENT RISE IN WATER CHARGES 2
NEW TOLL BOOTHS AT LION ROCK TUNNEL 3
INDUSTRIAL AREA HAS GOOD POTENTIAL 4
NEW COUNCILLORS TOLD OF CIVIC RESPONSIBILITIES 4
APPLICANTS SOUGHT FOR COMMUNITY PROJECT GRANTS 5
RSD CONTRIBUTING TO 29TH FESTIVAL OF SPORT 6
SAI YING PUN BUILDING DECLARED DANGEROUS 7
DRAINAGE WORK AT CLEVERLY STREET UNDERWAY 7
SUBMARINE PIPELINE ACROSS RAMBLER CHANNEL 8
FREE AUDIO TESTS FOR ELDERLY, WORKERS 8
PHILHARMONIC TO PERFORM IN KWAI CHUNG 9
REFUGEES TO STAGE VARIETY SHOW 9
VISIT TO ACTIVITY CENTRE 10
BRIEFING ON FANLING DEVELOPMENT 10
TSING YI PUBLIC LIBRARY TO OPEN 11
BOARD TO DISCUSS HAWKER ISSUE 11
NORTH DISTRICT COMMITTEE TO MEET 12
ROAD CLOSURE, RESTRICTED ZONE 12
CENTRAL, SOUTHERN TRAFFIC CHANGES 13

NEW TECHNOLOGY VITAL FOR CLOTHING INDUSTRY

* * * *

THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY WILL BE ABLE TO SURMOUNT THE MANY OBSTACLES WHICH IT WILL HAVE TO FACE IN MAINTAINING ITS HIGH PATTERN OF GROWTH ONLY BY KEEPING UP WITH NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN TECHNOLOGY, THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR K.Y. YEUNG, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE CLOTHING TECHNOLOGY ACCESS UNIT OF THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY TRAINING AUTHORITY IN KOWLOON BAY.

MR YEUNG EXPLAINED THAT THE OBSTACLES INCLUDED STIFF COMPETITION FROM VARIOUS COUNTRIES, AND THE EVER-PRESENT DANGER OF MORE STRINGENT TRADE BARRIERS BEING SET UP AGAINST HONG KONG'S EXPORTS.

+THE PRODUCTIVITY OF THE WORKFORCE IN THE GARMENT INDUSTRY HAS BEEN IMPROVED BY THE INTRODUCTION OF AUTOMATIC MACHINES AND COMPUTER-AIDED PRODUCTION SYSTEMS,+ HE SAID.

+MORE AND MORE MANUFACTURERS ARE NOW CONVINCED THAT COMPUTER-AIDED DESIGN AND MANUFACTURING PROCESSES CAN GIVE THEM A MORE COMPETITIVE EDGE.+

MR YEUNG POINTED OUT THAT THE PAST DECADE HAD BEEN A PERIOD OF SUSTAINED GROWTH FOR THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY, DESPITE INCREASED PROTECTIONIST MEASURES IN OUR MAJOR MARKETS AND INCREASING COMPETITION FROM OTHER ECONOMIES.

+BETWEEN 1976 AND 1985, THE NUMBER OF GARMENT FACTORIES INCREASED FROM 8 600 TO 10 300, EMPLOYMENT HAS RISEN FROM 284 000 TO 293 000 AND THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF GARMENTS WENT UP FROM $14 BILLION TO $45 BILLION.+

HE ATTRIBUTED THE SUCCESS TO THE READINESS OF MANUFACTURERS TO INVEST IN NEW MACHINERY TO KEEP ABREAST OF THE LATEST PRODUCTION TECHNIQUES, AND THE AVAILABILITY OF SKILLED AND INDUSTRIOUS WORKERS TO OPERATE THEM.

+IT IS THIS COMBINATION OF A SKILLED AND INDUSTRIOUS WORKFORCE OPERATING MODERN PRODUCTION FACILITIES WHICH HAS ENABLED THE INDUSTRY TO SUPPLY OVERSEAS MARKETS, WITH THEIR RAPIDLY CHANGING FASHION TRENDS, WITH A DEGREE OF FLEXIBILITY FEW OF OUR COMPETITORS COULD MATCH.

+THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY TRAINING AUTHORITY HAS PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN THE TRAINING OF THESE WORKERS,+ HE ADDED.

/MR YEUNG .....

MR YEUNG SAID THE NEW CLOTHING TECHNOLOGY ACCESS UNIT OF THE AUTHORITY WOULD HELP THE INDUSTRY TO MAINTAIN ITS POSITION AT THE TOP OF THE MANUFACTURERS' LEAGUE, WITH MUTUAL BENEFIT TO BOTH MACHINERY SUPPLIERS, GARMENT MANUFACTURERS AND WORKERS.

+THE LATEST MACHINERY AVAILABLE WILL BE ON SHOW HERE SO THAT TRAINEES CAN BE GIVEN HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE IN OPERATING IT, AND SO THAT MANUFACTURERS WILL BE ABLE TO TEST EQUIPMENT IN OPERATIONAL CONDITIONS BEFORE COMMITTING THEMSELVES TO BUYING IT. SUPPLIERS WILL BE ABLE TO USE THIS CENTRE TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR MACHINES TO CUSTOMERS.+

----0----

FIVE PER CENT RISE IN WATER CHARGES

***

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS APPROVED AVERAGE INCREASES OF FIVE PER CENT IN WATER CHARGES FROM APRIL 1.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE INCREASES WERE THE RESULT OF THE ANNUAL REVIEW AND WERE IN LINE WITH THE POLICY OF REGULAR, MODEST RISES, RATHER THAN HAVING LARGE INCREASES AT INFREQUENT INTERVALS.

HE SAID THE SMALL INCREASE APPROVED KEPT THE LEVEL OF WATER CHARGES THE SAME IN REAL TERMS.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THERE WOULD BE ONLY A SLIGHT EFFECT ON CONSUMERS. ABOUT 20 PER CENT OF DOMESTIC CONSUMERS WOULD CONTINUE TO PAY NOTHING FOR THEIR WATER WHILE A FURTHER 70 PER CENT WOULD PAY LESS THAN 50 CENTS A WEEK EXTRA.

SEVEN PER CENT WOULD PAY MORE THAN 50 CENTS, WHILE ONLY THREE PER CENT WOULD BE PAYING MORE THAN AN ADDITIONAL $1 A WEEK.

AMONG TRADE CONSUMERS 65 PER CENT WOULD PAY LESS THAN 50 CENTS A WEEK EXTRA, 12 PER CENT WOULD PAY BETWEEN 50 CENTS AND A DOLLAR A WEEK EXTRA AND A FURTHER 21 PER CENT WOULD HAVE THEIR CHARGES INCREASED BY BETWEEN $1 AND $15 A WEEK.

AS IN PREVIOUS INCREASES THE NEW HIGHER RATES WOULD APPLY ONLY TO CONSUMPTION AFTER APRIL 1, 1986, AND WOULD BE REFLECTED IN WATER BILLS ISSUED ON OR AFTER AUGUST 1, 1986.

----0----

/3 .....

NEW TOLL BOOTHS AT LION ROCK TUNNEL

* * *

THREE NEW TOLL BOOTHS AT THE LION ROCK TUNNEL WILL COME INTO OPERATION FROM 10 AM ON THURSDAY (MARCH 20), INCREASING THE TOLL BOOTH CAPACITY BY ABOUT 30 PER CENT.

THE ADDITIONAL BOOTHS, ALL SITUATED AT THE KOWLOON-BOUND, NEAR SIDE LANE OF THE TUNNEL, ARE EXPECTED TO BE LARGELY USED BY BUSES AND HEAVY VEHICLES.

AT PRESENT, NINE TOLL BOOTHS ARE OPERATING AT THE TUNNEL CATERING FOR 10 LANES OF TRAFFIC AND EACH BOOTH CAN HANDLE 465 VEHICLES PER HOUR. TWO OF THESE BOOTHS ARE SET ASIDE FOR 'EXACT TOLLS' AND CAN HANDLE ABOUT 580 VEHICLES PER HOUR.

IN EARLY MARCH, THE AVERAGE DAILY TRAFFIC AT THE TUNNEL WAS 75 000 VEHICLES.

A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID IT WAS EXPECTED THAT TRAFFIC FLOW IN THE TUNNEL AREA WOULD EASE FURTHER WHEN IMPROVEMENT WORKS TO TAI PO ROAD, LION ROCK TUNNEL ROAD AND WATERLOO ROAD WERE COMPLETED.

TO COPE WITH THE OPENING OF THE NEW FACILITIES, THE EXISTING KOWLOON-BOUND BUS STOP IN THE TUNNEL AREA WILL BE RELOCATED TO A POSITION ADJACENT TO THE NEW BOOTHS.

KMB ROUTES NO. 70, 70M, 72B, 74A, 80, 81M, 85A, 87 AND 89A WILL NO LONGER USE THE STOPS IN FRONT OF THE TOLL PLAZA ON BOTH THEIR KOWLOON-BOUND AND SHATIN-BOUND JOURNEYS, BECAUSE OF SPACE LIMITATIONS.

HOWEVER, FIVE SERVICES, INCLUDING KMB ROUTES NO. 82M, 85, 87A, 89 AND CROSS-HARBOUR ROUTE 170 WILL CONTINUE TO USE THE TWO STOPS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID HE DID NOT EXPECT THE ARRANGEMENTS TO CAUSE COMMUTERS UNDUE INCONVENIENCE BECAUSE THE TWO STOPS WERE MAINLY USED AS AN INTERCHANGE POINT FOR OTHER SERVICES. +BUS COMMUTERS CAN ALWAYS CHANGE ROUTES AT ALTERNATIVE BUS STOPS IN SHA TIN OR IN THE KOWLOON URBAN AREA,+ HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/4 .....

INDUSTRIAL AREA HAS GOOD POTENTIAL

* * * * *

ON LOK TSUEN IN FANLING HAS THE POTENTIAL TO BECOME A POPULAR INDUSTRIAL AREA, MR ANTHONY YUEN, CONVENOR OF THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD WORKING GROUP ON ON LOK TSUEN DEVELOPMENT, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE, MR YUEN NOTED THAT ON LOK TSUEN IS LOCATED NEAR THE FANLING RAILWAY STATION WITH EASY ACCESS FROM THE NEW TERRITORIES TRUNK ROAD SYSTEM.

IN 1978, THE GOVERNMENT HAD BEGUN TO DEVELOP ON LOK TSUEN INTO AN INDUSTRIAL AREA WITH A BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE AND LOADING AND UNLOADING AREAS.

FACTORIES COULD TAP THE LARGE WORKFORCE NOW EXISTING IN FANLING NEW TOWN, HE SAID, NOTING THAT A RECENT SURVEY SHOWED THAT ABOUT 83 PER CENT OF THE WORKING POPULATION IN THE NEW TOWN AT PRESENT WORKED OUTSIDE THE DISTRICT. MORE PEOPLE WOULD BE MOVING IN AS ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES WERE DEVELOPED.

+THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SHENZHEN SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE AND IMPROVEMENTS TO CROSS-BORDER TRAFFIC LINKS, BOTH OF WHICH ARE IN PROGRESS, ARE EXPECTED TO ENCOURAGE INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENTS IN NORTH DISTRICT,+ MR YUEN SAID.

ON LOK TSUEN HAS ABOUT 15 HECTARES OF LAND FOR INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES AND THERE ARE NOW ABOUT 130 FACTORIES OPERATING IN THE AREA.

BEFORE THE PRESS CONFERENCE, MEMBERS OF THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD AND ITS COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY COMMITTEE, ACCOMPANIED BY OFFICIALS FROM THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT AND THE DISTRICT OFFICE, VISITED SEVERAL FACTORIES IN ON LOK TSUEN.

- - - - 0 - - - -

NEW COUNCILLORS TOLD OF CIVIC RESPONSIBILITIES

* * *

THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S CONSTANT GOAL IS TO +UPGRADE AND IMPROVE SERVICES WHEREVER POSSIBLE -- AND WHENEVER ECONOMICALLY POSSIBLE.+

THIS WAS SAID TODAY BY THE DIRECTOR OF URBAN SERVICES, MR AUGUSTINE CHUI KAM, WHEN GIVING A BRIEFING TO HONG KONG'S FIVE NEWEST URBAN COUNCILLORS ON HOW THE COUNCIL'S +WORKING ARM,+ THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT, CARRIES OUT ITS MANIFOLD TASKS IN SERVICING HONG KONG.

/ALSO TAKING .....

ALSO TAKING PART IN THE TOP-LEVEL BRIEFING SESSION WERE MR A.L. PURVES, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR IN CHARGE OF ADMINISTRATION, MR JOHN HEYWOOD, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR IN CHARGE OF ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION, AND MRS HELEN YU, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR IN CHARGE OF CULTURE AND ENTERTAINMENT.

LATER THE NEW COUNCILLORS TOOK PART IN AN ENTHUSIASTIC QUESTION-AND-ANSWER SESSION WITH MEMBERS OF THE DEPARTMENT'S DIRECTORATE.

THE FIVE NEW COUNCILLORS, ELECTED ON MARCH 6, WILL TAKE UP THEIR SEATS FROM APRIL 1. THEY ARE MISSES CHEUNG WAI-PING AND FOK PUI-YEE, AND MESSRS CHAN KWOK-MING, CHOW WAI-KEUNG AND MAN SAI-CHEONG.

- - - - o - - - -

APPLICANTS SOUGHT FOR COMMUNITY PROJECT GRANTS

* * * * *

YOUTH GROUPS PLANNING INNOVATIVE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS CAN APPLY FOR GRANTS UNDER THE +OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH SCHEME+ ORGANISED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

THE SCHEME OFFERS YOUTHS THE CHANCE TO BROADEN THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE, TO ACHIEVE A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING ABOUT PEOPLE AND THE COMMUNITY, AND TO BE ABLE TO ATTAIN THE NECESSARY SATISFACTION FOR PERSONAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT.

IT ALSO ENABLES YOUNG PEOPLE TO REALISE THEIR PLANNED PROJECTS WHICH ARE CONDUCIVE TO THEIR PERSONAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AS WELL AS TO THE BENEFIT OF THE COMMUNITY.

MAXIMUM SUBSIDY FOR AN APPROVED PROJECT IS $4 500.

ON COMPLETION OF THE PROJECTS, EACH DISTRICT WILL SELECT ITS MOST OUTSTANDING PROJECT TO COMPETE FOR THE HONG KONG +BEST OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH SCHEME AWARD+.

APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE DEPARTMENT'S SOCIAL WORK OFFICES (YOUTH AND COMMUNITY).

APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS AND DETAILED PROJECT PROPOSALS SHOULD REACH THE YOUTH AND COMMUNITY OFFICES BEFORE MAY 15.

ALL PROJECTS SHOULD BE COMPLETED BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30.

EACH PARTICIPATING GROUP SHOULD HAVE AT LEAST SEVEN MEMBERS AGED BETWEEN 15 AND 25, AND SHOULD BE SPONSORED BY A SCHOOL, YOUTH AGENCY OR BUSINESS ORGANISATION.

/GROUPS WITHOUT .....

GROUPS WITHOUT SPONSORS MAY ALSO APPLY WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE SOCIAL WORK OFFICER (YOUTH AND COMMUNITY) OF THEIR DISTRICTS.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA WILL INCLUDE THE EXTENT OF YOUTH INVOLVEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT, THE EXTENT OF COMMUNITY BENEFIT, FEASIBILITY OF THE PROJECT, AND OPTIMUM USE OF RESOURCES AND INNOVATION.

FURTHER ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SCHEME SHOULD BE MADE TO THE DISTRICT SOCIAL WORK OFFICER (YOUTH AND COMMUNITY).

- - - - 0 - - - -

RSD CONTRIBUTING TO 29TH FESTIVAL OF SPORT

* * * * * *

THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN ORGANISING 14 COMPETITIVE SPORTS EVENTS IN THE REGIONAL COUNCIL AREA FROM MARCH 2 TO 30 AS ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE 29TH FESTIVAL OF SPORT.

AT THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL'S RECREATION AND CULTURE SELECT COMMITTEE MEETING, THE RSD'S ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (LEISURE SERVICES), MR DAVID WEEKS, SAID A COMMUNITY SPORTS PROGRAMME IS ORGANISED EACH YEAR IN MARCH IN RESPONSE TO THE ANNUAL EVENT WHICH IS CO-ORDINATED BY THE AMATEUR SPORTS FEDERATION AND OLYMPIC COMMITTEE OF HONG KONG.

+THE SPORTS ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY THE RSD IN ALL NINE DISTRICTS OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL AREA ARE EXPECTED TO ATTRACT SOME 2 000 PARTICIPANTS,+ MR WEEKS SAID.

THE COMMITTEE ALSO ENDORSED AT THE MEETING A PROPOSAL TO HOLD A BOOKMARK DESIGN COMPETITION TO PROMOTE LIBRARY USAGE.

MR WEEKS SAID THE COMPETITION WILL BE HELD IN JUNE TO AROUSE COMMUNITY AWARENESS OF THE WIDE RANGE OF PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICES RUN BY THE RSD AND TO PROMOTE AN INTEREST IN CREATIVE ART AND DESIGN. ENTRIES WILL BE INVITED FROM APRIL 14.

MR WEEKS SAID THAT A REVIEW OF THE ATTENDANCE PATTERN AT PUBLIC BEACHES IN THE REGIONAL COUNCIL AREA HAD BEEN CARRIED OUT TO SEE WHETHER ANY REVISION OF SERVICE HOURS IS NECESSARY.

+THE REVIEW SHOWS THAT SOME BEACHES HAVE GAINED IN POPULARITY DURING RECENT YEARS AND AN EXTENSION OF SERVICE HOURS OF LIFEGUARDS IS REQUIRED AT WEEKENDS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS DURING THE PEAK SWIMMING SEASON,+ HE SAID.

+HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF THE LOW ATTENDANCE RATE AT PAK SHA CHAU AND CAMPER'S BEACHES IN SAI KUNG DISTRICT, IT IS CONSIDERED THAT THESE SHOULD ONLY BE MANNED ON SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS BETWEEN JUNE AND AUGUST.+

NOTICES WOULD BE PUT UP TO INFORM BATHERS OF THE SERVICE HOURS OF LIFEGUARDS AND TO ADVISE THE PUBLIC AGAINST SWIMMING WHEN NO LIFEGUARDS WERE ON DUTY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/7 .....

SAI YING PUN BUILDING DECLARED DANGEROUS

* * * *

THE BUILDING AUTHORITY TODAY (TUESDAY) DECLARED THE BUILDING AT 15 SAM TO LANE IN SAI YING PUN TO BE IN A DANGEROUS CONDITION.

THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING SURVEYOR SAID THAT THE TWO-STOREYED BUILDING, WHICH HAD A REINFORCED CONCRETE FLOOR AND ROOF OF LOADING BEARING BRICK WALLS, HAD BEEN UNDER OBSERVATION SINCE 1968.

+THE REINFORCED CONCRETE ELEMENTS OF THE BUILDING SHOW SIGNS OF ADVANCED DETERIORATION AND THERE ARE BULGES AT TWO LOCATIONS ON THE PARTY WALL BETWEEN 13 AND 15 SAM TO LANE.

+THE BULGE AT THE MIDDLE OF THE WALL IS CONSIDERED TO BE NEW AND IS REFLECTED BY A FRESH CRACK BETWEEN THE SOFFIT OF THE STAIRHOOD AND THE PARTY WALL. IT IS THEREFORE NECESSARY TO CLOSE AND DEMOLISH THIS BUILDING.+

A NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER IN VICTORIA DISTRICT COURT AT 9.30 AM ON APRIL 15, 1986 WAS POSTED TODAY.

- - - - o - - - -

DRAINAGE WORK AT CLEVERLY STREET UNDERWAY

* * * * *

WORK HAS STARTED ON REPLACING THE MAIN DRAIN UNDER CLEVERLY STREET BETWEEN DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL AND CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL.

THE 2.1-METRE DIAMETER DRAIN, COSTING $1.1 MILLION, IS PART OF A $25 MILLION SCHEME TO RECONSTRUCT DES VOEUX ROAD BETWEEN WING WO STREET AND MORRISON STREET.

THE WHOLE SCHEME HAS BEEN ENTRUSTED TO THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION AND IS DESIGNED TO RAISE THE ROADS IN THE AREA BY HALF A METRE TO REDUCE FLOODING.

THE SINGLE TRAM TRACKS ALONG CLEVERLY STREET AND MORRISON STREET WILL ALSO BE REPLACED WITH DOUBLE TRACKS.

WORK ON THE DRAIN WAS TO HAVE STARTED EARLIER THIS YEAR BUT WAS DEFERRED UNTIL AFTER THE LUNAR NEW YEAR TO MINIMISE THE EFFECT ON BUSINESSES IN CLEVERLY STREET.

BECAUSE OF THE WORKS, CLEVERLY STREET IS CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FOR SIX MONTHS, BUT PEDESTRIANS WILL STILL BE ABLE TO USE IT.

- - - - o - - - -

SUBMARINE PIPELINE ACROSS RAMBLER CHANNEL

* * * * *

ABOUT 600 METRES OF SUBMARINE PIPELINE IS TO BE LAID ACROSS RAMBLER CHANNEL TO IMPROVE THE TRANSFER OF FRESH WATER FROM YAU KOM TAU TO TSING YI NORTH.

THE 700-MILLIMETRE DIAMETER PIPELINE WILL BE BURIED IN THE SEABED OF RAMBLER CHANNEL.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA AFFECTED IS PUBLISHED IN THE LATEST GAZETTE, AND THOSE WISHING TO OBJECT TO THE WORKS SHOULD WRITE TO THE DIRECTOR OF LANDS BEFORE MAY 13.

- - - - o - - - -

FREE AUDIO TESTS FOR ELDERLY, WORKERS

* * * *

FACTORY WORKERS AND THE ELDERLY IN KWUN TONG WILL BE ABLE TO RECEIVE FREE AUDIOMETRIC SCREENING SERVICE FROM THIS SATURDAY (MARCH 22).

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE THIS (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON, CHAIRMAN OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD'S SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE, MR LI WAH-MING, SAID: +APART FROM THE SCREENING SERVICE, THERE WILL BE A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES TO ENHANCE THEIR AWARENESS OF AURAL HEALTH DURING THE SIX-MONTH AURAL HEALTH SCHEME IN KWUN TONG.+

THESE ACTIVITIES INCLUDE A TOURING EXHIBITION, A BOOKMARK DESIGN COMPETITION, A SONG AND LYRIC WRITING CONTEST, AND A LARGE-SCALE CARNIVAL ON AURAL HEALTH.

+AS REGARDS THE AUDIOMETRIC SCREENING SERVICE, AN APPLICATION FORM WILL BE SENT TO LOCAL FACTORIES AND ELDERLY INSTITUTIONS, AND ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE MADE FOR THE SCREENING VAN TO SERVE THE APPLICANT ORGANISATION ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS,+ MR LI SAID.

THE VAN WOULD ALSO BE STATIONED OUTSIDE THE TSUEN YIP STREET PLAYGROUND EVERY THURSDAY TO CATER TO INDIVIDUAL WORKERS OF THE INDUSTRIAL AREA.

THE SCHEME, THE FIRST OF ITS KIND AMONG ALL DISTRICTS, IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG SOCIETY FOR THE DEAF, THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD'S SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE, THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE, AND THE KWUN TONG INDUSTRIAL AREA COMMITTEE.

/WITH A .....

WITH A SPONSORSHIP OF ABOUT $70 000 FROM THE DISTRICT BOARD, THE SCHEME WILL BE LAUNCHED THIS SATURDAY IN THE TSUEN YIP STREET PLAYGROUND.

ALSO ATTENDING TODAY'S PRESS CONFERENCE WERE DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR LAM HANG-FAI; ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MR STANLEY YING; AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE INDUSTRIAL AREA COMMITTEE, MR PETER LOO.

- - - - 0 - - - -

PHILHARMONIC TO PERFORM IN KWAI CHUNG

* * *

ABOUT 1 000 RESIDENTS IN KWAI CHUNG WILL BE TREATED TO AN EVENING OF FREE ENTERTAINMENT BY THE HONG KONG PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA ON SATURDAY (MARCH 22).

THE CONCERT, SPONSORED BY THE KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI DISTRICT BOARD, WILL TAKE PLACE AT 7.30 PM IN THE KIANGSU-CHEKIANG COLLEGE IN HING SHING ROAD.

PROGRAMMES FOR THE EVENING INCLUDE MOZART'S OVERTURE +THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO+, ELGAR'S SERENADE FOR STRINGS, DITTERSDORF'S DOUBLE BASS CONCERTO IN E MAJOR, TCHAIKOVSKY'S +ROMEO AND JULIET+ FANTASY OVERTURE.

THERE WILL ALSO BE TWO PIECES OF CHINESE MUSIC - OVERTURE +SPRING FESTIVAL+ BY LI HUAN ZHI, DANCE OF THE YAO PEOPLE BY MAO YUEN.

ADMISSION TICKETS FOR THE FREE CONCERT ARE AVAILABLE AT THE KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS SUB-OFFICES ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

REFUGEES TO STAGE VARIETY SHOW

* * *

THE VIETNAMESE REFUGEES AT CAPE COLLINSON CLOSED CENTRE WILL STAGE THEIR LAST VARIETY SHOW THERE TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AFTERNOON.

THE CAMP IS TO BE CLOSED DOWN IN MID-APRIL, AND ITS 300 REFUGEES WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE BOWRING CLOSED CENTRE DURING THE NEXT FEW WEEKS.

/THE REFUGEES .....

THE REFUGEES WISH TO USE THE OCCASION TO EXPRESS THEIR GRATITUDE TO THOSE WHO HAVE WORKED FOR THEM AND HELPED THEM.

THE SHOW WILL FEATURE VIETNAMESE CULTURAL DANCES, FOLK SONG AND COMEDIES.

- - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT. TRANSPORT FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WILL LEAVE THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S HEADQUARTERS, 32, OI KWAN ROAD, WAN CHAI, BY 1.30 PM.

- - - - 0 - - - -

VISIT TO ACTIVITY CENTRE

* * * *

A PRESS VISIT TO THE WONG TAI SIN WORK ACTIVITY CENTRE OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN ARRANGED ON THURSDAY (MARCH 20).

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES COVERING THE VISIT SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE CGO CARPARK WHERE TWO VANS WILL LEAVE FOR THE ACTIVITY CENTRE AT 1.45 PM SHARP. THOSE WISHING TO GO ON THEIR OWN SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE ENTRANCE OF THE WONG TAI SIN COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 104 CHING TAK STREET AT 2.30 PM. GIS OFFICERS WILL ASSIST.

- - - - 0 - - - -

BRIEFING ON FANLING DEVELOPMENT

* * * * *

NORTH DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL BE BRIEFED ON FANLING NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT AT A SPECIAL MEETING ON FRIDAY (MARCH 21).

AT THE MEETING, MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE COMPOSITION OF THE DISTRICT BOARD COMMITTEES IN THE COMING FINANCIAL YEAR.

- - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING AT 10 AM ON FRIDAY (MARCH 21) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE, FANLING ROUNDABOUT.

- - - - 0 - - - -

TSING YI PUBLIC LIBRARY TO OPEN

* * * *

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI DISTRICT COMMITTEE OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL, MR LAM KIN-MING, WILL OPEN THE NEW TSING YI PUBLIC LIBRARY ON FRIDAY (MARCH 21).

IT WILL BE THE FIRST PUBLIC LIBRARY ON THE ISLAND AND THE 17TH STATIC LIBRARY UNDER THE MANAGEMENT OF THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

ALSO PRESENT IN THE OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE THE DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL SERVICES, MR TONY HAMMOND, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL, DR HO MAN-WUI.

\- - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE TSING YI PUBLIC LIBRARY ON FRIDAY AT 11.30 AM. TRANSPORT FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES COVERING THE EVENT WILL LEAVE THE KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER BY 10.30 AM.

\- - - - 0 - - - -

BOARD TO DISCUSS HAWKER ISSUE

* * *

THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD WILL HOLD A SPECIAL MEETING ON THURSDAY (MARCH 20) TO DISCUSS THE CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT ON HAWKER AND MARKET POLICIES.

AFTER A BRIEFING IN JANUARY BY MEMBERS OF THE URBAN COUNCIL WORKING PARTY, BOARD MEMBERS CONSULTED THEIR RESPECTIVE AREA COMMITTEES AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS IN ORDER TO COLLECT VIEWS AND COMMENTS ON THE REPORT.

BASED ON THE OPINIONS OF THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE, BOARD MEMBERS WILL DISCUSS CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS SET OUT IN THE DOCUMENT ON FUTURE HAWKER MANAGEMENT.

\- - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD SPECIAL MEETING TO BE HELD AT 2.30 PM ON THURSDAY (MARCH 20) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE ON THE FIRST FLOOR, 880-886 KING'S ROAD.

\- - - - 0 - - - -

/12 .....

NORTH DISTRICT COMMITTEE TO MEET

* * * *

THE ROLE OF THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IN CLEANSING RIVERS AND STREAMS IN THE NORTH DISTRICT WILL BE AMONG TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED AT A MEETING OF THE NORTH DISTRICT COMMITTEE OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO DECIDE ON THE NAMING OF A NEW PLAYGROUND AND LOOK INTO THE CULTURAL, RECREATION AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES TO BE ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN THE DISTRICT BETWEEN APRIL AND JUNE.

THE MEETING WILL START AT 2.30 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK AND GOVERNMENT OFFICE BUILDING, SECOND FLOOR, 174-208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN.

- - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING.

- - - - o - - - -

ROAD CLOSURE, RESTRICTED ZONE

* * * * *

TUNG CHAU STREET BETWEEN WALNUT STREET AND MAPLE STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM MIDNIGHT ON FRIDAY (MARCH 21) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR THE INSTALLATION OF EQUIPMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE WEST KOWLOON CORRIDOR.

DURING THE CLOSURE, VEHICLES TRAVELLING ON TUNG CHAU STREET HEADING FOR TAI KOK TSUI ROAD SOUTHBOUND WILL BE DIVERTED TO WALNUT STREET AND FUK TSUN STREET.

FROM 10 AM ON THE SAME DAY, THE TUEN MUN CENTRAL BUS STATION WILL BE DESIGNATED A 24-HOUR DAILY PROHIBITED ZONE.

NO VEHICLES OTHER THAN FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE TERMINUS.

- - - - o - - - -

/13 .....

CENTRAL, SOUTHERN TRAFFIC CHANGES

* * * *

A NUMBER OF TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WOULD BE IMPLEMENTED IN CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN DISTRICT FROM FRIDAY (MARCH 21).

THESE ARE:

* FROM 10 AM, THE SECTION OF GILMAN STREET BETWEEN CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL AND DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL WILL BE MADE A 24-HOUR DAILY URBAN CLEARWAY FOR ABOUT A MONTH. NO VEHICLE OTHER THAN FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP IN THE RESTRICTED ZONE FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS.

* THE EXIT RAMP FROM COTTON TREE DRIVE FLYOVER TO QUEENSWAY WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC DAILY BETWEEN 1 AM AND 6 AM FROM FRIDAY TO MONDAY (MARCH 24) FOR ROAD WORKS ON QUEENSWAY. VEHICLES WILL BE DIVERTED TO COTTON TREE DRIVE, THE LOOP ROAD ADJACENT TO ST. JOHN'S BUILDING AND GARDEN ROAD.

* TO FACILITATE A FUN FAIR OF THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, THE CUL-DE-SAC END OF SOUTH BAY CLOSE LEADING TO THE SWIMMING POOL OF THE SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 3 PM TO 5 PM ON FRIDAY AND FROM 9 AM TO 4.30 PM THE NEXT DAY (MARCH 22).

----0----