



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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WATER SUPPLY IN NORTHEASTERN NT TO DOUBLE  
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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT WILL DOUBLE THE WATER TREATMENT CAPACITY IN NORTHEASTERN NEW TERRITORIES BY EARLY 1985 TO MEET INCREASING DEMAND FOR WATER SUPPLY IN THE AREA.

THIS WAS DISCLOSED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES, MR TOM TOMLINSON, TODAY (FRIDAY) WHEN HE VISITED WATERWORKS CONSTRUCTION SITES IN FANLING AND SHEUNG SHUI.

THE SCHEME WILL INVOLVE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A TREATMENT PLANT AND A PUMPING STATION IN SHEUNG SHUI AND A SERVICE RESERVOIR AT TABLE HILL.

IN ADDITION, A TOTAL OF 20 KILOMETRES OF ASSOCIATED PIPELINES WILL BE LAID IN THE DISTRICT.

MR TOMLINSON SAID THE NEW WORKS WOULD BOOST THE EXISTING DAILY CAPACITY OF 110 000 CUBIC METRES TO 210 000 CUBIC METRES BY 1985.

AMONG THE AREAS WHICH WILL RECEIVE WATER SUPPLY FROM THE NEW TREATMENT WORKS ARE SHEUNG SHUI, FANLING, SHEK WU HUI, KWU TUNG, LOK MA CHAU, LO WU, KWAN TEI, PING CHE AND SHA TAU KOK.

ACCOMPANIED BY MR LEE GUN-CHEUNG, CHIEF ENGINEER (CONSTRUCTION) OF THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT, MR TOMLINSON TOURED FOUR MAIN-LAYING PROJECTS WHICH FORMED PART OF THE SCHEME, AND DISCUSSED THE WORKS WITH ENGINEERS AND TECHNICAL STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENT AND CONTRACTORS AT THE SITES.

MR TOMLINSON SAID HE WAS PLEASED WITH THE PROGRESS OF THE \$13-MILLION MAIN-LAYING CONTRACTS.

WATER SUPPLY TO NORTHEASTERN NEW TERRITORIES IS CURRENTLY PROVIDED FROM THE TAI PO TAU TREATMENT WORKS, THE CAPACITY OF WHICH WAS EXPANDED TO 110 000 CUBIC METRES PER DAY IN SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR.

EARLIER THIS WEEK, THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT AWARDED A \$6.4 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW SHEUNG SHUI PUMPING STATION.

ANOTHER CONTRACT WORTH \$17.5 MILLION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW SERVICE RESERVOIR AT TABLE HILL WILL BE AWARDED NEXT WEEK.

WORK ON THE PUMPING STATION AND SERVICE RESERVOIR WILL START LATER THIS MONTH AND WILL TAKE ABOUT 20 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

MR TOMLINSON SAID TENDERS WOULD BE INVITED SHORTLY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW SHEUNG SHUI TREATMENT WORKS.

TRADE CURBS COULD BECOME POLITICAL EXPEDIENCY: DORWARD  
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THE LONG HISTORY OF TEXTILE RESTRICTIONS SHOWS THAT GOOD INTENTIONS COULD DETERIORATE WITH THE PASSAGE OF TIME INTO POLITICAL EXPEDIENCY, THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR BILL DORWARD, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

+WE MUST RECOGNISE AT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, THAT WITH THE EXCEPTION OF A CERTAIN COUNTRY IN WESTERN EUROPE WHICH I SHALL NOT NAME -- BUT WHOSE BRANDY SALES HAVE RECENTLY DECLINED IN HONG KONG -- OUTSIDE THE FIELD OF TEXTILES HONG KONG HAS SO FAR BEEN TREATED REASONABLY FAIRLY,+ MR DORWARD SAID, ADDRESSING THE LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF KOWLOON NORTH.

BUT HE ADDED THAT THE RISK OF A DETERIORATION WAS PROBABLY HIGHER THAN IT HAD BEEN AT ANY TIME IN THE PAST FIFTY YEARS.

ANALYSING THE CAUSES OF PROTECTIONISM, MR DORWARD QUOTED A RECENT REVIEW IN THE ECONOMIST UNDER THE TITLE +IS FREE TRADE DEAD?+ WHICH SAID: +PROTECTIONISM DOES NOT HAVE A LIFE OF ITS OWN. IT IS IMPOSED BY GOVERNMENTS, AND CAN BE RESISTED AND REVERSED BY THEM. GOVERNMENTS, IN TURN, DO NOT BECOME PROTECTIONIST OUT OF MALICE OR SOME UNACCOUNTABLE FAILURE TO COMPREHEND THE SIMPLE THEORY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE. THEY RESPOND TO PRESSURE, AND PRESSURE GROUPS HAVE BECOME ONE OF THE INDUSTRIAL WORLD'S GROWTH INDUSTRIES.

+THEY GROW, WHAT IS MORE, COUNTER-CYCLICALLY. WHEN ECONOMIES STAGNATE AND UNEMPLOYMENT RISES, LOBBYISTS FLOURISH -- AND POLITICIANS LISTEN. IF A THOUSAND JOBS ARE THREATENED IN A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT'S MARGINAL CONSTITUENCY IN BRITAIN OR A CONGRESSMAN'S MARGINAL DISTRICT IN THE UNITED STATES, THE PROTECTIONIST DRUM BEATS OUT ITS MESSAGE: STOP IMPORTS FROM JAPAN OR SPAIN OR BRAZIL, THEIR WORKERS CAN'T VOTE IN OUR NEXT ELECTION. POLITICIANS USUALLY TRY TO TRANSLATE THIS MESSAGE INTO WEASEL-WORDED PHRASES, BUT THEIR PURPOSE IS THE SAME AS THE CRUDEST PROTECTIONISM.+

MR DORWARD SAID A GOVERNMENT FACED WITH PRESSURE TO GO PROTECTIONIST WAS LIKE A DRIVER SUDDENLY HITTING A CORNER. +IF HE TAKES HIS FOOT OFF THE ACCELERATOR AND PERHAPS TOUCHES THE BRAKE OR CLUTCH, THE CORNER IS LIKELY TO BE A HAIR RAISING, DANGEROUS AND UNCONTROLLED ADVENTURE WHERE NOT ONLY HE BUT ALL OTHER ROAD USERS ARE AT RISK.

+IF HE KEEPS HIS NERVE, HOWEVER, HE WILL STEER THROUGH THE CORNER ON A TRUE LINE AND COME OUT SAFELY ON THE OTHER SIDE,+ HE SAID.

/THOUGH THE .....

THOUGH THE ANALOGY MIGHT BE AN OVER-SIMPLIFICATION, COMPARED WITH SOME OF THE STONE-AGE ECONOMICS BEING ADVOCATED BY APPARENTLY RESPONSIBLE POLITICIANS TODAY, IT WAS THE ESSENCE OF WISDOM, MR DORWARD REMARKED.

HE RECALLED THAT THERE WAS A LONG-STANDING DEFENCE AGAINST PROTECTIONIST ABUSES IN THE FORM OF AN INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT.

+I REFER TO THE GATT, THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE, WHICH SAYS THAT TRADE BARRIERS SHOULD BE FAIR, TRANSPARENT AND EQUALLY APPLIED. IT MAKES NO DISTINCTION BETWEEN MAJOR TRADING POWERS AND THEIR SMALLER PARTNERS AND OBLIGES EACH TO TREAT THE OTHER WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION.

+BUT OF COURSE IT DOES NOT ALWAYS WORK THAT WAY; AND THERE ARE THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO LEGITIMISE EXCEPTIONS SO THAT SO-CALLED SELECTIVE ACTION CAN BE TAKEN. IN THEORY THIS COULD BE JUSTIFIED. BUT IN PRACTICE IT IS LIKE THAT OLD SAYING THAT THE LAW IN PARIS APPLIES EQUALLY TO THE RICH AND THE POOR. THEY ARE BOTH PROHIBITED FROM SLEEPING UNDER THE BRIDGES.+

MR DORWARD THEN QUOTED FROM A SPEECH HE HAD MADE TO THE ASSEMBLED TRADE MINISTERS OF THE GATT COUNTRIES LAST NOVEMBER IN GENEVA.

+IT IS ONLY BY A GENUINE AND MANIFEST DEDICATION ON THE PART OF THE MAJOR TRADING PARTNERS TO RESPECT TO THE FULL THEIR OBLIGATIONS WHEN DEALING WITH WEAKER PARTNERS THAT SUCH IMPROVEMENTS AS MAY IN FACT BE NECESSARY IN THE GATT SYSTEM CAN BE MEANINGFULLY DEvised.+

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#### DB ELECTORS CAN VOTE IN UC ELECTIONS \* \* \*

MORE THAN 568 000 RESIDENTS IN HONG KONG AND KOWLOON WILL BE ABLE TO CHOOSE THEIR LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES IN THE MARCH 8 URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

THE FIGURE INCLUDES ALL THOSE WHO HAD REGISTERED AS VOTERS FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS DURING LAST YEAR'S REGISTRATION EXERCISES.

A CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION SPOKESMAN STRESSED TODAY THAT PEOPLE LIVING IN THE URBAN AREAS WHO HAD ENTERED THEIR NAMES INTO REGISTER OF ELECTORS COULD CAST THEIR VOTES IN BOTH DISTRICT BOARD AND URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

THE ORIGINAL ELECTORATE FOR THE COMING URBCO ELECTIONS IS 708 119. HOWEVER, ONLY ONE NOMINATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED IN EACH OF THE WAN CHAI, WONG TAI SIN SOUTH AND KWUN TONG WEST CONSTITUENCIES AND THE THREE CANDIDATES ARE AUTOMATICALLY DECLARED ELECTED.

/HENCE, .....

HENCE, ALL THE REGISTERED ELECTORS IN THE THREE CONSTITUENCIES, TOTALLING 139 582, WILL NOT HAVE TO VOTE BECAUSE NO ELECTION WILL BE HELD.

ON ELECTION DAY, A TOTAL OF 134 POLLING STATIONS CONVENIENTLY LOCATED IN THE REMAINING 12 CONSTITUENCIES WILL OPEN FROM 7 AM TO 11 PM FOR ELIGIBLE ELECTORS TO CAST THEIR VOTES.

IN ORDER TO HELP INTRODUCE THE CANDIDATES AND PROMOTE THE ELECTIONS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID A SERIES OF PUBLICITY CAMPAIGNS INCLUDING NEWSPAPER SUPPLEMENTS, SEMINARS, FUN FAIRS, ROAD SIDE BANNERS, POSTERS, TELEVISION AND RADIO PROGRAMMES HAVE BEEN ORGANISED BY CNTA, RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG AND INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

MEANWHILE, THE NAMES AND PARTICULARS OF THE U.C. CANDIDATES WERE PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

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POPULATION ESTIMATED AT 5 287 800

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THE ESTIMATED POPULATION OF HONG KONG AT THE END OF DECEMBER 1982 WAS 5 287 800, ACCORDING TO FIGURES RELEASED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE ESTIMATE REPRESENTS AN INCREASE OF 80 800 PEOPLE OR 1.6 PER CENT OVER THE END OF 1981 FIGURE.

THE SLIGHTLY LOWER RATE OF INCREASE IN 1982 COMPARED WITH THE 1.7 PER CENT IN 1981 WAS MAINLY DUE TO A REDUCTION IN THE LEVEL OF NET IMMIGRATION.

NET IMMIGRATION, THAT IS THE BALANCE OF TOTAL ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES, WHICH HAD BEEN THE MAJOR FACTOR IN POPULATION GROWTH IN THE YEARS 1978-1980, ACCOUNTED FOR ONLY 19 419 PEOPLE OR 24.0 PER CENT OF TOTAL POPULATION GROWTH.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF BIRTHS IN 1982 WAS 86 629. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF DEATHS WAS 25 281. NATURAL INCREASE, THAT IS THE BALANCE OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS, AMOUNTED TO 61 348 PEOPLE OR 76.0 PER CENT OF POPULATION GROWTH IN 1982, AND THUS HAS BECOME THE DOMINANT FACTOR IN TOTAL POPULATION GROWTH.

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FOOTBRIDGES PLANNED FOR KING'S ROAD  
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THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE OF THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PLANS TO CONSTRUCT THREE FOOTBRIDGES ACROSS KING'S ROAD AT ITS JUNCTION WITH PAN HOI STREET, MOUNT PARKER ROAD AND YAU MAN STREET IN QUARRY BAY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY THAT THE PROPOSED FOOTBRIDGES WILL BE AMONG A SERIES OF FOOTBRIDGES TO BE BUILT IN THE NORTH POINT AND QUARRY BAY AREAS UNDER THE PUBLIC TRANSPORT PRIORITY SCHEME NOW BEING IMPLEMENTED TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC CIRCULATION IN THE AREAS.

HE SAID THE AIM WAS TO PROMOTE TRAFFIC AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AND ELIMINATE DISRUPTION TO VEHICULAR FLOW CAUSED BY PEDESTRIAN CROSSING MOVEMENTS ON GROUND LEVEL.

THE WORKS WILL ALSO INVOLVE MODIFICATIONS OF PARTS OF THE ALIGNMENTS AND WIDTHS OF PAN HOI STREET, MOUNT PARKER ROAD, YAU MAN STREET AND KING'S ROAD.

NOTICES CONCERNING THE PROPOSED WORKS WERE PUBLISHED UNDER THE ROADS (WORKS, USE AND COMPENSATION) ORDINANCE IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY.

PLANS SHOWING THE PROPOSED WORKS CAN BE SEEN AT THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING MAIN ENTRANCE; THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE (HONG KONG NORTH), MURRAY BUILDING, 3RD FLOOR, GARDEN ROAD AND THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, 884-886 KING'S ROAD, HONG KONG.

ANY OBJECTION TO THE PROPOSALS MUST BE SENT IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS WITHIN 60 DAYS.

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MODERN MARKET FOR TUEN MUN READY SOON  
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A NEW TWO-STOREY MARKET WITH MODERN FACILITIES IN TUEN MUN WILL BE OPENED IN APRIL THIS YEAR, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

BY THEN THE TEMPORARY MARKETS, INCLUDING A HAWKER BAZAAR, WILL BE DEMOLISHED TO MAKE WAY FOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN THE NEW TOWN, HE SAID.

THE \$4.25-MILLION YAN OI MARKET WILL HAVE 28 STALLS FOR SELLING FISH, MEAT, POULTRY AND OTHER FOOD ITEMS, AND 80 MINI-STALLS FOR SELLING VEGETABLES, FRUIT AND OTHER DRY GOODS.

/MOST OF .....

MOST OF THE STALLS WERE LET OUT TODAY AT A RESTRICTED AUCTION TO HAWKERS CURRENTLY OPERATING AT THE TEMPORARY MARKETS.

BIDDED PRICES RANGE FROM \$1 150 TO \$1 950 FOR THE STANDARD STALLS AND FROM \$350 TO \$440 FOR THE MINI-STALLS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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#### FIRE HAZARD CONVERTED INTO REST GARDEN

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A FORMER FIRE-HAZARD AT A TUNG TAU PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE SITE HAS NOW BEEN CONVERTED INTO A PLEASANT REST GARDEN, AS A RESULT OF THE CONCERN AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD.

THE FIRE-HAZARD WAS AN OPEN SPACE NEAR BLOCK 23 ON LOK SIN ROAD, USUALLY OCCUPIED BY LORRIES LOADED WITH GASOLINE AND LP GAS CYLINDERS.

NEARBY RESIDENTS HAD REGARDED THIS AS A SERIOUS FIRE HAZARD AND A THREAT TO THEIR LIVES. AND SO THE FIVE MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES IN BLOCK 23 RAISED THE PROBLEM WITH THE DISTRICT BOARD.

THE MATTER WAS LATER TAKEN UP BY THE DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, FOLLOWED BY A DISCUSSION MEETING BETWEEN OFFICIALS OF VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS WHO FELT THAT THE BEST SOLUTION WAS TO CONVERT THE OPEN SPACE INTO A SITTING-OUT AREA.

THE PROBLEM WAS QUICKLY SOLVED WHEN THE DISTRICT BOARD UNDERTOOK TO MEET THE CONVERSION COST OF \$60 000 AS ONE OF ITS ENVIRONMENT IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS.

THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF THE REST GARDEN WHICH IS INSTALLED WITH ARBOURS AND STONE CHESS TABLES AND CHAIRS.

AT A BRIEF CEREMONY TODAY (FRIDAY), THE SITTING-OUT AREA WAS OFFICIALLY OPENED BY CHIEF HOUSING MANAGER, MR LO CHI-YUEN, THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR IAN STRACHAN, AND SEVERAL DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS.

MR LO TOLD THE GATHERING THAT THE PROJECT CLEARLY SHOWED THE CONCERN OF THE DISTRICT BOARD AND THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT FOR THE WELL BEING OF THE ESTATE'S RESIDENTS.

+THE CONVERSION OF THIS SITE INTO A SITTING-OUT AREA IS A VERY GOOD EXAMPLE TO SHOW THAT IN CARRYING OUT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS, LOCAL OPINION AND THE SUPPORT OF KAIFONGS IS ESSENTIAL TO THE SUCCESS OF THE SCHEME,+ HE SAID.

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THREE-WEEK-LONG ANTI-DRUG DRIVE NEARS END

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THE THREE-WEEK-LONG KWUN TONG ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN WILL COME TO AN END ON SUNDAY (FEBRUARY 6) WITH THE FINAL PROGRAMMES TO BE HELD IN THE KWUN TONG RECREATION GROUND, TSUI PING ROAD.

A SERIES OF ENTERTAINING BUT EDUCATIONAL DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAMMES HAS BEEN ORGANISED FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE DISTRICT BY THE KWUN TONG ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN ORGANISING COMMITTEE AND THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS.

MORE THAN 300 PRIMARY STUDENTS WILL TAKE OVER A SECTION OF THE RECREATION GROUND TO DISPLAY THEIR TALENTS AND IMPRESSION OF THE DANGERS OF DRUG ABUSE IN A DRAWING AND PAINTING EVENT.

A BAND PERFORMANCE BY THE CAPE COLLINSON CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION AND A TELEMATCH GAME BETWEEN SIX TEAMS OF KWUN TONG RESIDENTS COMPRISING 360 PEOPLE WILL FOLLOW.

THERE WILL ALSO BE DISPLAYS BY JUNIOR POLICE CALL MEMBERS, POLICE DOGS AND THE ST. BONAVENTURE COLLEGE BAND.

SINCE JANUARY 15, EXTENSIVE THREE-WEEK DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION ACTIVITIES WERE HELD IN WHICH THOUSANDS OF KWUN TONG RESIDENTS PARTICULARLY YOUNG PEOPLE TOOK PART.

EXHIBITIONS, SEMINARS FOR SCHOOL TEACHERS AND PUPILS, ANTI-DRUGS FILM SHOWS, VISITS TO DRUG TREATMENT CENTRES AND VARIOUS HEALTH PROMOTING ACTIVITIES WERE ALSO WELL ATTENDED.

A CEREMONY TO MARK THE END OF THE CAMPAIGN WILL BE HELD AT 5 PM IN THE KWUN TONG RECREATION GROUND, WITH MR DAVID TSUI, DISTRICT OFFICER KWUN TONG; MR C.M. LEUNG, ACTING COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS; AND MR EDDIE LAMB, CHAIRMAN OF KWUN TONG ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN ORGANISING COMMITTEE OFFICIATING.

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KWUN TONG DB MEETING

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KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL HEAR ABOUT DEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR THE JUNK BAY ROAD PARK AT ITS MEETING ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 7).

THE MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS MEANS TO DEAL WITH SUSPECTED +ONE-GIRL APARTMENT+ VICE ESTABLISHMENTS.

THE QUESTION OF PROVIDING PROPER LETTER BOXES IN SQUATTER AREAS AND REPLACING OLD LIFTS AT PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES IN SAU MAU PING WILL BE RAISED BY AN ELECTED DB MEMBER.

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FINES FOR FAILING TO GIVE NOTICES INCREASED TO \$5 000  
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THE EXISTING FINES OF \$1 000 AND \$2 000 FOR FAILING TO GIVE NOTICES TO THE PNEUMOCONIOSIS COMPENSATION FUND BOARD FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING ASSESSMENT OF LEVY HAVE BEEN RAISED TO \$5 000.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (FRIDAY), A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT SAID THE INCREASED FINE IS PROVIDED FOR BY THE PNEUMOCONIOSIS (COMPENSATION) (ASSESSMENT OF LEVY) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1983, WHICH CAME INTO OPERATION ON TUESDAY (FEBRUARY 1) - THE SAME DAY WHEN THE PNEUMOCONIOSIS (COMPENSATION) (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1983 WAS BROUGHT INTO FORCE. THE ORDINANCE IMPOSES PENALTIES FOR LATE PAYMENTS OF LEVY OR SURCHARGE TO THE FUND BOARD.

THE INCREASED FINE APPLIES TO FAILURES TO REPORT TO THE FUND BOARD THE COMMENCEMENT AND CESSATION OF CONSTRUCTION WORKS AND QUARRY OPERATIONS, THE RECEIPT OF PAYMENTS BY CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS AND THE MONTHLY PRODUCTION VOLUME OF QUARRY PRODUCTS, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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TEXTILES NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN SWEDEN  
AND HONG KONG ADJOURNED  
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TEXTILES NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN HONG KONG AND SWEDEN WHICH BEGAN ON MONDAY (JANUARY 31) WERE ADJOURNED TODAY (FRIDAY) WITHOUT AN AGREEMENT.

THE CURRENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN HONG KONG AND SWEDEN IS DUE TO EXPIRE ON MARCH 31.

THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF TRADE, MR JUSTIN YUE AND LEADER OF THE HONG KONG TEAM, SAID THAT THE TWO SIDES HAD A FULL AND FRANK EXCHANGE OF VIEWS, BUT THEIR POSITIONS REMAINED SOME DISTANCE APART.

ACCORDING TO MR YUE, THE TWO SIDES HAVE AGREED TENTATIVELY TO RESUME THE NEGOTIATIONS IN EARLY MARCH IN STOCKHOLM.

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NEW TRAFFIC PLAN IN WONG CHUK HANG  
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NEW ARRANGEMENTS TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW IN WONG CHUK HANG ROAD NEAR THEIR JUNCTIONS WITH NAM LONG SHAN ROAD WILL BE INTRODUCED FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 7).

HEUNG YIP ROAD AND THE WESTBOUND SECTION OF WONG CHUK HANG ROAD NEAR THEIR JUNCTIONS WITH NAM LONG SHAN ROAD WILL BE DESIGNATED AS PEAK HOUR URBAN CLEARWAYS.

THIS WILL ALSO APPLY TO NAM LONG SHAN ROAD NEAR WONG CHUK HANG ROAD.

WITHIN THOSE SECTIONS, VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS FROM 7 AM TO 10 AM AND FROM 4 PM TO 7 PM DAILY.

AT THE SAME TIME, ALL VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES TRAVELLING ALONG NAM LONG SHAN ROAD WILL BE BANNED FROM TURNING RIGHT INTO HEUNG YIP ROAD.

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