



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1981

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1981

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EXTENSIVE SCHEME FOR WATER FROM CHINA

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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT IS TO SPEND MORE THAN \$1 300 MILLION IN ITS MOST EXTENSIVE SCHEME EVER TO CATER FOR ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES OF WATER FROM CHINA.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY, THE DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES, MR WILLIAM TUCKER, SAID THE PROJECT WOULD BE CARRIED OUT IN THREE STAGES DURING THE NEXT 12 YEARS.

IT WILL INVOLVE THE CONSTRUCTION OF SEVEN PUMPING STATIONS, 32 KILOMETRES OF TUNNEL AND THE LAYING OF 31 KILOMETRES OF PIPELINE.

MR TUCKER SAID DESIGN WORK FOR THE NEW INSTALLATIONS REQUIRED IN THE FIRST STAGE WERE WELL IN HAND.

THE NEW WORKS INCLUDE:

- \* THE LAYING OF PIPELINES BETWEEN THE NEW MUK WU PUMPING STATION AND SHEUNG SHUI=
- \* THE LAYING OF TWO LARGE PIPELINES ACROSS THE SHENZHEN RIVER TO JOIN UP WITH THE DELIVERY SYSTEM FROM CHINA AT THE NORTHERN BANK OF THE RIVER=
- \* THE CONSTRUCTION OF FOUR NEW PUMPING STATIONS AT MUK WU ON THE SOUTHERN BANK OF THE SHENZHEN RIVER, BELOW LOWER SHING MUN DAM, AT FAN KAM ROAD AND AT AU TAU=
- \* THE EXPANSION OF EXISTING PUMPING FACILITIES AT TAI PO TAU AND HIGH ISLAND=
- \* THE UPGRADING OF THE EXISTING AQUEDUCT SYSTEM BETWEEN TAI PO TAU AND SHA TIN=
- \* THE CONSTRUCTION OF A TUNNEL FROM PAT HEUNG TO YAU KAM TAU AND
- \* THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN AQUEDUCT BETWEEN MUK WU AND TAI LAM CHUNG RESERVOIR.

HE SAID THE FIRST CONTRACT, FORMING PART OF THE FUTURE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM, WAS AWARDED RECENTLY. IT WAS FOR THE LAYING OF ABOUT 1.8 KILOMETRES OF MILD STEEL PIPELINE FROM FU TEI AU TO SHEUNG SHUI.

TENDERS ARE ALSO BEING INVITED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE PUMPING STATION BELOW LOWER SHING MUN DAM.

THIS NEW PUMPING STATION, WITH A DAILY OUTPUT OF 182 000 CUBIC METRES WILL, ON COMPLETION, AUGMENT THE OUTPUT OF THE EXISTING LOWER SHING MUN PUMPING STATION IN SUPPLYING RAW WATER TO TSUEN WAN AND SHEK LEI PUI TREATMENT WORKS.

/MR TUCKER .....

MR TUCKER SAID THAT MORE TENDERS FOR WORKS ON THE FIRST STAGE OF THE PROJECT WOULD BE INVITED DURING THE NEXT 12 MONTHS.

WORK ON STAGE ONE IS SCHEDULED TO BE COMPLETED IN VARIOUS PHASES BETWEEN OCTOBER THIS YEAR AND MID-1984 TO RECEIVE AND DISTRIBUTE THE INCREASED QUANTITIES OF SUPPLY UP TO 1986.

HE SAID: +WORK ON STAGE TWO WILL START IN 1984 AND WILL BE COMPLETED IN 1988 TO MEET THE DEMAND BETWEEN 1987 AND 1990 WHILE WORK ON THE THIRD STAGE WILL BE CARRIED OUT BETWEEN 1988 AND 1992 TO MEET THE DEMAND BETWEEN 1991 AND 1994.+

MR TUCKER ESTIMATED THAT THE FIRST STAGE WOULD COST ABOUT \$800 MILLION, THE SECOND \$350 MILLION AND THE THIRD \$150 MILLION.

WORK ON STAGE TWO WILL INVOLVE:

- \* THE LAYING OF PIPELINES BETWEEN SHEUNG SHUI AND TAU PASS=
- \* THE INSTALLATION OF ADDITIONAL PUMPING PLANTS AT THE NEW MUK WU PUMPING STATION, AU TAU PUMPING STATION AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF NEW PUMPING STATIONS AT HARBOUR ISLAND AND TAI MEI TUK, PLOVER COVE RESERVOIR=
- \* THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN AQUEDUCT BETWEEN PLOVER COVE RESERVOIR AND PAK KONG, SAI KUNG, INCLUDING THE LAYING OF A SUBMARINE PIPELINE ACROSS TOLO CHANNEL AND
- \* THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN AQUEDUCT FROM TAI PO TAU TO NGAU TAM MEI.

WORK ON STAGE THREE IS ENVISAGED TO COMPRISE:

- \* THE INSTALLATION OF ADDITIONAL PUMPING PLANTS AT THE NEW MUK WU, AU TAU, TAI MEI TUK AND HARBOUR ISLAND PUMPING STATIONS AND
- \* THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN AQUEDUCT, INCLUDING THE LAYING OF A SUBMARINE PIPELINE BETWEEN TAI LAM CHUNG RESERVOIR AND NORTH LANTAU SHOULD LARGE SCALE DEVELOPMENT IN THE LATTER BE PROCEEDED WITH.

MR TUCKER POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, THAT THE EXTENT OF WORK REQUIRED BEYOND STAGE ONE WOULD BE REVIEWED BEFORE IMPLEMENTATION TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF CHANGES IN THE PATTERN OF DEVELOPMENT.

IN VIEW OF THE EXTENT OF THE NEW WORKS TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN THE NORTHERN PART OF THE NEW TERRITORIES, HE SAID, PRIVATELY-OWNED LAND AS WELL AS LOCAL INHABITANTS AND THEIR FARMING ACTIVITIES WOULD INEVITABLY BE AFFECTED OR DISTURBED.

HE ADDED THAT DURING THE PLANNING STAGE CONSIDERATION HAD BEEN GIVEN TO WAYS OF MINIMISING UNDESIRABLE DISRUPTIVE EFFECTS.

+THIS HAD LED TO THE USE OF TUNNELS WHEREVER PRACTICABLE, THE AVOIDANCE OF REPETITIVE PIPE LAYING OVER THE SAME ROUTE, THE IMPROVEMENT OF LOCAL ACCESSES TO ACCOMMODATE CONSTRUCTION TRAFFIC, AND PRESERVATION, AND WHERE NECESSARY, IMPROVEMENT OF IRRIGATIONAL SYSTEMS AFFECTED AND, MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL, THE CHOICE OF ROUTES AND LOCATIONS OF INSTALLATION WHICH MAY MINIMISE LOCAL DISTURBANCE AS ADVISED BY THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES,+ SAID MR TUCKER.

+EVEN SO, THE AMOUNT OF PRIVATE LAND REQUIRED FOR THIS PROJECT IS STILL CONSIDERABLE, AND IS EXPECTED TO BE IN THE ORDER OF 40 HECTARES.+

THE NEW RECEPTION AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM, HE ADDED, WOULD, ON COMPLETION, BRING RAW WATER SUPPLY TO CENTRES OF DEMAND AT DISTRICT LEVEL.

TREATMENT WORKS, PUMPING STATIONS, TRUNK AND DISTRIBUTION PIPELINES AND SERVICE RESERVOIRS FOR TREATMENT AND DISTRIBUTION OF WATER WITHIN THE DISTRICTS WILL BE CONSTRUCTED AS AND WHEN NECESSARY TO MEET DEMAND GENERATED FROM EXISTING AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENT.

HONG KONG NOW GETS 168 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER FROM CHINA AND UNDER THE TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT SIGNED IN NOVEMBER 1978, THE TERRITORY IS TO RECEIVE AN ANNUAL SUPPLY OF 182 MILLION CUBIC METRES BY 1982.

THE LATEST AGREEMENT SIGNED IN MAY 1980 WILL ENSURE SUFFICIENT WATER SUPPLIES FOR HONG KONG WITH AN AVERAGE ANNUAL INCREASE IN SUPPLY OF ABOUT 35 MILLION CUBIC METRES FROM 1983.

MR TUCKER SAID THAT FROM 1982, THE ANNUAL SHUT-DOWN PERIOD WOULD BE CHANGED FROM AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER TO MARCH AND APRIL TO MORE READILY FACILITATE THE ANNUAL MAINTENANCE OF THE RECEPTION AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM.

THIS MEANS THAT THE ANNUAL QUOTA OF WATER WILL BE SUPPLIED BETWEEN MAY 1 AND THE END OF FEBRUARY OF THE FOLLOWING YEAR, LEAVING MARCH AND APRIL FOR MAINTENANCE BY BOTH SIDES. DURING THE SHUT-DOWN PERIOD, SUPPLY WILL BE MAINTAINED FROM STORAGE IN THE RESERVOIRS WITHIN THE TERRITORY.

IN VIEW OF THE CONSTRUCTION LEAD TIME, MR TUCKER SAID, HONG KONG WOULD NOT BENEFIT FROM LAST YEAR'S AGREEMENT UNTIL 1983.

ON THE CURRENT WATER SITUATION, MR TUCKER DREW ATTENTION TO THE RATE OF INCREASE IN CONSUMPTION OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE ANNUAL INCREASE IN CONSUMPTION IN 1979 WAS 10 PER CENT, WHILE THAT FOR 1980 WAS 8.5 PER CENT, COMPARED WITH A FORECAST AVERAGE INCREASE OF JUST OVER 6 PER CENT.

THE INCREASES WERE SIMILAR IN ALL DISTRICTS AND ARE ATTRIBUTED TO IMPROVED HOUSING STANDARDS, GREATER USAGE OF WATER CONSUMING APPLIANCES AND THE INCREASE IN POPULATION.

WHILE THE TREND DID NOT GIVE RISE TO CONCERN AT THE PRESENT, HE STRESSED THAT THERE WAS A NEED FOR CAREFUL USE OF WATER IN VIEW OF THE CURRENT WATER STORAGE SITUATION.

THE TOTAL STORAGE IN THE RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM YESTERDAY WAS 282.698 MILLION CUBIC METRES OR 48.9 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL STORAGE CAPACITY, COMPARED WITH 379.717 MILLION CUBIC METRES OR 65.7 PER CENT AT THE SAME TIME LAST YEAR.

+THIS IS THE RESULT OF THE BELOW AVERAGE RAINFALL IN 1980 FOLLOWED BY AN EXCEPTIONALLY DRY WINTER COMBINED WITH THE INCREASE IN CONSUMPTION DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS,+ MR TUCKER SAID.

HE ADDED THAT THE WATER STORAGE SITUATION WAS KEPT UNDER CONSTANT REVIEW.

WHILE NO WATER RESTRICTIONS WERE PROPOSED, HE APPEALED TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC NOT TO WASTE WATER.

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#### LUNAR NEW YEAR FIRE PREVENTION ADVICE

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THE PUBLIC WERE TODAY (SUNDAY) URGED TO BE ON FULL ALERT AGAINST POTENTIAL FIRE HAZARDS WHILE PREPARING FOR THE LUNAR NEW YEAR.

THE WARNING WAS GIVEN BY A SPOKESMAN FOR THE FIRE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE, WHO SAID THAT AS USES OF ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES AND KITCHEN UTENSILS WERE INTENSIFIED, EVERY CARE SHOULD BE TAKEN TO REDUCE FIRE RISKS TO A MINIMUM.

HE ADVISED THAT THE FOLLOWING PRECAUTIONS SHOULD BE OBSERVED:

- \* DON'T LEAVE ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES IN USE UNATTENDED. SWITCH THEM OFF BEFORE LEAVING THE HOUSE.
- \* TAKE CARE WHEN COOKING - DON'T LEAVE PANS, ESPECIALLY PANS OF FAT, UNATTENDED. CHECK THAT ALL KITCHEN FIRES ARE SAFELY GUARDED.
- \* STORE FUEL ONLY IN REASONABLE QUANTITIES AND IN SUITABLE CONTAINERS, WHICH SHOULD BE KEPT WELL AWAY FROM ANY SOURCE OF HEAT.
- \* NEVER FILL A KEROSENE STOVE OR HEATER WHEN IT IS ALIGHT.
- \* KEEP ALL MATCHES, LIGHTERS OUT OF THE REACH OF CHILDREN WHO SHOULD BE TAUGHT BASIC FIRE SAFETY RULES AND FIRE ESCAPE ROUTES.
- \* NEVER STACK UNUSED FURNITURE AND ARTICLES IN THE CORRIDOR OR STAIRCASE AND KEEP ALL EXITS FREE FROM OBSTRUCTION.
- \* ALWAYS USE METAL CONTAINERS FOR BURNING JOSS STICKS AND JOSS PAPERS IN WORSHIPPING RITUALS.
- \* ENSURE THAT SUFFICIENT ASHTRAYS ARE AVAILABLE TO HOLD CIGARETTE ENDS. NEVER EMPTY AN ASHTRAY UNTIL THE CONTENTS ARE TOTALLY EXTINGUISHED.

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THE SPOKESMAN SAID, +THE DANGER OF FIRE WILL BE CONSIDERABLY MINIMISED IF THESE SIMPLE SAFETY HINTS ARE HEEDED. I NOW APPEAL TO THE PUBLIC FOR THEIR CO-OPERATION TO ENSURE A FIRE-FREE NEW YEAR.+

APART FROM FIRE PRECAUTIONS AT HOME, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT EQUAL ATTENTION SHOULD BE PAID TO PREVENTING HILL FIRES.

HE SAID: +PICNICKERS AND VISITORS TO THE COUNTRYSIDE SHOULD BARBECUE IN DESIGNATED AREAS. THEY SHOULD ENSURE THAT ALL FIRES ARE PROPERLY EXTINGUISHED BEFORE LEAVING.+

HE ALSO REMINDED THAT A BAN ON THE USE OF FIRE WAS ALREADY IN FORCE IN THE PAT HEUNG AREA OF THE TAI LAM COUNTRY PARK AND THE TAI PO KAU NATURE RESERVE AREA.

PEOPLE PLANNING TO VISIT ANY OF THESE COUNTRY PARKS ARE ADVISED TO TAKE ALONG SANDWICHES OR PRE-COOKED FOOD.

+CAUSING A FIRE IN A COUNTRY PARK OR ELSEWHERE IN THE COUNTRYSIDE WILL LEAD TO MAXIMUM FINES OF \$5 000 AND \$2 000 RESPECTIVELY,+ THE SPOKESMAN WARNED.

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#### \$493 MILLION SOCIAL SECURITY PAYOUT IN 1980

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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT PAID OUT \$493 MILLION IN NON-CONTRIBUTORY SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS LAST YEAR TO PEOPLE IN NEED - \$72 MILLION MORE THAN IN 1979.

THE CASH GRANTS, REPRESENTING AN AVERAGE DAILY PAYOUT OF \$1.4 MILLION, WENT TO SOME 300 000 PEOPLE AS PUBLIC ASSISTANCE TO MEET BASIC LIVING AND AS OLD AGE AND DISABILITY ALLOWANCES TO COVER SPECIAL NEEDS.

IN DECEMBER ALONE, PAYMENTS IN PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCES AMOUNTED TO \$48.1 MILLION.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) THE INCREASED PAYOUT RESULTED FROM THE 22 PER CENT INCREASE IN PAYMENT RATES INTRODUCED LAST SEPTEMBER.

HE SAID THAT OF THE \$493 MILLION PAID OUT IN 1980, \$211 MILLION WERE FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE, \$209 MILLION FOR OLD AGE ALLOWANCE AND \$73 MILLION FOR DISABILITY ALLOWANCE.

AT PRESENT, HE SAID, THE DEPARTMENT'S 26 SOCIAL SECURITY FIELD UNITS HANDLE 45 600 PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CASES, 155 600 OLD AGE ALLOWANCE CASES AND 27 800 DISABILITY ALLOWANCE CASES.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT OF THE TOTAL PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CASELOAD, ABOUT 300 CASES WERE UNEMPLOYED ABLE-BODIED ADULTS UNABLE TO SUPPORT THEMSELVES THROUGH NO FAULT OF THEIR OWN.

/HE SAID .....

HE SAID THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SCHEME WAS EXTENDED IN 1977 TO COVER PEOPLE IN THIS CATEGORY WHO WERE AGED BETWEEN 15 AND 59 YEARS.

TO QUALIFY, HE SAID, THE UNEMPLOYED APPLICANT IS REQUIRED TO HAVE LIVED IN HONG KONG FOR TWO YEARS AND TO REGISTER FOR JOBS IN THE FIRST INSTANCE WITH THE LOCAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

SINCE APRIL 1977, THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SCHEME COVERED A TOTAL CASELOAD OF 2 079 UNEMPLOYED ABLE-BODIED ADULTS, HE ADDED.

THE MEANS-TESTED PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SCHEME PROVIDES MONTHLY CASH PAYMENT TO HELP MAINTAIN THE INCOME OF AN INDIVIDUAL OR A FAMILY IN NEED UP TO A LEVEL WHERE BASIC LIVING CAN BE MET.

THE SCHEME IS ALSO BUILT IN WITH SUPPLEMENTS TO PROVIDE EXTRA GRANTS FOR THOSE RECIPIENTS AGED 60 YEARS AND OVER, OR PARTIALLY DISABLED. IN ADDITION, AN ANNUAL PAYMENT IS MADE TO LONG-TERM RECIPIENTS.

ANY INDIVIDUAL OR FAMILY WITHOUT INCOME OR UNABLE TO EARN ENOUGH FOR BASIC LIVING, OR IN NEED OF SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCES, MAY APPLY TO THEIR NEAREST FAMILY SERVICES CENTRE OR SOCIAL SECURITY FIELD UNIT OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

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#### FAIR TIME IN NEW TERRITORIES

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SIX LUNAR NEW YEAR FAIRS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WILL START DURING THE NEXT FEW DAYS TO WELCOME IN THE YEAR OF THE COCKEREL ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 5).

WITH THE RAPID DEVELOPMENT OF KWAI CHUNG AND TUEN MUN, RESIDENTS OF THESE TWO NEW TOWNS WILL HAVE THEIR OWN FAIRS FOR THE FIRST TIME THIS YEAR.

+THIS WILL SAVE THEM FROM TRAVELLING A LONG WAY TO VISIT FAIRS IN OTHER DISTRICTS,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

THE KWAI CHUNG LUNAR NEW YEAR FAIR WILL BE AT THE KWAI CHUNG PLAYGROUND WHILE THE TUEN MUN FAIR WILL BE AT THE TUEN MUN SAN HUI PLAYGROUND.

TUEN MUN'S FIRST NEW YEAR FAIR WILL BE OPENED BY A RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY AT 2.30 PM ON TUESDAY (FEBRUARY 3).

AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE THE CHAIRMAN OF HEUNG YEE KUK, MR LAU WONG-FAT= THE DISTRICT OFFICER OF TUEN MUN, MR BILLY LAM= AND THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (NORTH) OF THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT, MR BOWEN LEUNG.

/OTHER LUNAR .....

OTHER LUNAR NEW YEAR FAIRS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES ARE BEING HELD AT SHA TSUI ROAD PLAYGROUND IN TSUEN WAN= SHEK WU HUI PLAYGROUND IN SHEUNG SHUI= YUEN LONG SPORTS GROUND= AND THE TAI PO TEMPORARY RECREATION GROUND.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID BUSINESS ACTIVITIES IN THE SIX FAIRS WERE EXPECTED TO FLOURISH AS THE POPULATION IN THE NEW TOWNS WAS LARGE.

HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT TSUEN WAN HAD THE LARGEST FAIR SITE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WITH 208 STALLS FOLLOWED BY THE YUEN LONG FAIR, WITH 142 STALLS.

THE 780 STALLS OF ALL THE SIX FAIRS WERE SOLD AT SEPARATE AUCTIONS IN WHICH A FLOWER STALL AT THE TSUEN WAN FAIR WAS SOLD AT A RECORD PRICE OF \$2 100, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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#### CHE KUNG FESTIVAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS \* \* \* \*

AT LEAST 100 000 WORSHIPPERS ARE EXPECTED TO VISIT THE CHE KUNG TEMPLE IN SHA TIN DURING THE LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAY, AND A STRONG APPEAL HAS BEEN MADE TO THEM TO AVOID GOING THERE BY PRIVATE CAR.

A SPOKESMAN FOR SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) THE MAJORITY OF WORSHIPPERS WOULD VISIT THE TEMPLE ON THE THIRD DAY OF THE LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAY (SATURDAY) WHEN THE CHE KUNG FESTIVAL REACHES ITS PEAK.

THEY WERE ALSO EXPECTED TO VISIT THE TEMPLE ON FEBRUARY 5, 6, 8, 10, 13 AND 19.

EXPLAINING THE SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS MADE TO ASSIST WORSHIPPERS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID A ONE-WAY CIRCUIT WOULD BE PROVIDED FOR PEDESTRIANS, WHO WERE ASKED TO USE THE ACCESS TRACK ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF SHING MUN RIVER FROM LION ROCK TUNNEL ROAD.

+THEY ARE ASKED TO LEAVE THE TEMPLE USING THE FOOT-BRIDGE LEADING TO TAI PO ROAD, ALONG THE PATH BESIDE THE SHING MUN RIVER,+ HE SAID.

HE URGED WORSHIPPERS TO USE PUBLIC TRANSPORT TO GET TO THE TEMPLE AS PARKING FACILITIES WOULD BE VERY LIMITED DUE TO EXTENSIVE CONSTRUCTION WORK IN THE AREA.

+PRIVATE CAR OWNERS WILL FIND IT VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO FIND A PLACE TO PARK ANYWHERE IN THE VICINITY,+ HE SAID.

ONLY FRANCHISED BUSES WOULD BE ALLOWED TO STOP ON THE LION ROCK TUNNEL ROAD AND PLBS AND TAXIS WOULD HAVE SPECIAL STOPPING POINTS.

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THE KOWLOON MOTOR BUS COMPANY WILL ARRANGE EXTRA BUS SERVICES ON THE BUSIEST ROUTES AS:

- \* ROUTE 70 - JORDAN ROAD TO SHEUNG SHUI, VIA LION ROCK TUNNEL
- \* ROUTE 70M - KOWLOON TONG MTR STATION TO WO CHE ESTATE, VIA LION ROCK TUNNEL
- \* ROUTE 87 - TAI KOK TSUI FERRY PIER TO LEK YUEN ESTATE, VIA LION ROCK TUNNEL
- \* ROUTE 89 - KWUN TONG (YU MAN SQUARE) TO LEK YUEN ESTATE VIA LION ROCK TUNNEL

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR PLBS AND TAXIS ARE:

- \* A PLB AND TAXI ALIGHTING POINT WILL BE LOCATED OUTSIDE SHA TIN KOWLOON MOTOR BUS COMPANY DEPOT, BESIDE LION ROCK TUNNEL ROAD, FOR THOSE ARRIVING FROM LION ROCK TUNNEL.
- \* A PLB AND TAXI ALIGHTING POINT WILL BE LOCATED IN SHING HO ROAD, BESIDE SHING MUN RIVER, FOR THOSE ARRIVING FROM TAI PO ROAD.
- \* FOR WORSHIPPERS WISHING TO RETURN TO KOWLOON, A PLB AND TAXI STAND WILL OPERATE IN TAI WAI ROAD.

POLICE WILL BE PRESENT TO ASSIST AND DIRECT WORSHIPPERS, AND ALL PEDESTRIAN AND TRAFFIC ROUTES WILL BE WELL SIGN-POSTED.

A POLICE SPOKESMAN SAID: +ALL SIGNS AND SPECIAL ROUTES ARE INTENDED TO HELP WORSHIPPERS, AND WE WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR THEIR SUPPORT.+

THE DISTRICT OFFICE SPOKESMAN WARNED ALL VISITORS TO THE TEMPLE ABOUT THE FIRE RISK, ASKING THEM TO TAKE SPECIAL CARE WHEN BURNING JOSS STICKS. HE ALSO ADVISED HAWKERS THAT THEY WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO OPERATE IN THE VICINITY OF THE TEMPLE, AND WARNED THAT IT WAS DANGEROUS TO SELL HYDROGEN FILLED BALLONS AS THEY COULD EXPLODE.

THE POLICE SPOKESMAN ISSUED A WARNING THAT PICK-POCKETS WERE LIKELY TO BE OPERATING IN THE AREA AND ADVISED ALL WORSHIPPERS TO REMAIN ALERT TO THIS DANGER.

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TAX REMINDER TO PROPERTY OWNERS

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PROPERTY OWNERS ARE REMINDED TODAY (SUNDAY) THAT OBJECTIONS TO PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENTS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE COMMISSIONER OF INLAND REVENUE WITHIN ONE MONTH OF THE DATE OF THE NOTICE OF THE ASSESSMENT.

CLAIMS FOR PROPERTY TAX REFUND SHOULD BE MADE WITHIN 90 DAYS AFTER THE END OF THE RELEVANT YEAR OF ASSESSMENT, OR WITHIN 90 DAYS AFTER THE NOTICE TO PROPERTY TAX IS GIVEN.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT SAID THE DEADLINE WOULD BE EXTENDED IF THE COMMISSIONER WAS SATISFIED THAT THE PERSON OBJECTING TO AN ASSESSMENT OR CLAIMING FOR REFUND WAS PREVENTED FROM DOING SO WITHIN THE SPECIFIED TIME OWING TO ABSENCE FROM HONG KONG, SICKNESS OR ANY OTHER REASONABLE CAUSE.

HE SAID VACANCY CLAIMS COULD ALWAYS BE MADE WITHOUT SUPPORTING EVIDENCE IN ORDER TO MEET TIME LIMITS- BUT OWNERS OF DOMESTIC PREMISES MUST BE PREPARED TO FORWARD EVIDENCE SUCH AS ELECTRICITY, GAS AND WATER BILLS LATER.

FOR NON-DOMESTIC PREMISES, HE ADDED, THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT WOULD ISSUE VACANCY CERTIFICATES IN ALL APPROPRIATE CASES AND THESE FORMS MUST BE PRODUCED TO SUPPORT CLAIMS FOR REFUND.

FURTHER INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED BY TELEPHONING THE ASSESSOR (PROPERTY TAX) AT 5-79595217, OR BY WRITING TO THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT, GPO BOX 132, HONG KONG.

ADVICE, IN PERSON, IS AVAILABLE FROM THE INLAND REVENUE OFFICES, 17TH FLOOR, WINDSOR HOUSE, 311 GLOUCESTER ROAD, CAUSEWAY BAY- ON THE 12TH FLOOR, PARK-IN COMMERCIAL BUILDING, 56 DUNDAS STREET, MONG KOK- OR ON THE GROUND FLOOR, FOU WAH CENTRE, 210 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN.

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FORUM ON SPORT AND RECREATION FOR THE DISABLED

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THE REHABILITATION DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE SPORT AND RECREATION SUB-COMMITTEE AND THE HONG KONG PHAB ASSOCIATION WILL LATER THIS MONTH HOLD AN OPEN FORUM ENTITLED '+SPORT AND RECREATION FOR THE DISABLED+.

THE FORUM WILL BE HELD DURING THE AFTERNOON OF FEBRUARY 22 AT THE POKFULAM CENTRE OF THE HONG KONG PHAB ASSOCIATION.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE FORUM WAS ONE OF A SERIES OF PROGRAMMES LAUNCHED TO COMMEMORATE 1981 AS THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF DISABLED PERSONS.

FOLLOWING THE THEME OF THE 'INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF DISABLED PERSONS', THE OPEN FORUM WILL FOCUS ON THE VARIOUS ASPECTS OF NEEDS FOR THE PROVISION OF SPORT AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES FOR THE DISABLED.

/+WITH THIS .....

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+WITH THIS OBJECTIVE IN MIND, IT HOPES TO OBTAIN VIEWS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM DISABLED PERSONS THEMSELVES, AS WELL AS EXPERTS IN THIS FIELD, ON WAYS AND MEANS TO IMPROVE THEIR SPORT AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES,+ SAID THE SPOKESMAN.

MR LI KWAN-HUNG, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG PHAB ASSOCIATION, WILL BE CHAIRMAN OF THE PANEL. OTHER MEMBERS WILL BE CHOSEN EITHER BY VIRTUE OF THEIR EXPERIENCE IN THIS FIELD OF SPECIALITY, OR AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DIFFERENT CATEGORIES OF DISABLED PERSONS - MENTALLY HANDICAPPED, MENTALLY ILL, BLIND, DEAF AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED.

THE PROGRAMME WILL START WITH A PANEL PRESENTATION, FOLLOWED BY A GROUP DISCUSSION AND +REPORT-BACK+ SESSION.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID ANYONE INTERESTED IN THE FORUM COULD OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BY CONTACTING THE HONG KONG PHAB ASSOCIATION ON TELEPHONE 5-514161.

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LUNAR NEW YEAR CARNIVAL FOR CHILDREN  
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A LUNAR NEW YEAR CHILDREN'S CARNIVAL WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11 FROM 10.30 AM TO 5 PM AT MACPHERSON PLAYGROUND AT SAI YEE STREET, MONG KOK.

THE CARNIVAL WILL BE ORGANISED BY THE MONG KOK DISTRICT CULTURAL, RECREATIONAL AND SPORTS ASSOCIATION AND THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (MONG KOK).

IT WILL FEATURE 30 GAMESTALLS AND PERFORMANCES BY THE MONG KOK CHILDREN'S CHOIR, HONG KONG BUDDHIST NICHIRENSHOCHU, WALT DISNEY'S MICKEY MOUSE CLUB AND THE JUNIOR POLICE CALL. THE ROYAL NAVY WILL PROVIDE A TOY TRAIN, +THE TAMAR BELLE+, TO ADD COLOUR TO THE OCCASION.

THE CARNIVAL, APART FROM PROVIDING FREE ENTERTAINMENT TO SOME 30 000 CHILDREN IN THE DISTRICT, IS AIMED TO ENCOURAGE YOUNG PEOPLE TO PARTICIPATE MORE ACTIVELY IN CULTURAL, RECREATIONAL AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES.

MR G. BARNES, DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS, MRS BARNES AND MR S.F. FAIRCHILD, SENIOR MANAGER OF HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, WILL OPEN THE CARNIVAL.

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GOOD RESPONSE TO INDUSTRIAL SAFETY POSTER COMPETITION  
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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S LATEST INDUSTRIAL SAFETY POSTER COMPETITION ATTRACTED MORE THAN 200 ENTRIES FROM 22 SCHOOLS.

THE COMPETITION -- THE 13TH SO FAR -- WAS FOR STUDENTS ATTENDING POST-SECONDARY COLLEGES, VOCATIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTES, GOVERNMENT, GOVERNMENT-AIDED AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

ON THE PANEL OF JUDGES WERE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE CULTURAL CRAFTS CENTRE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, THE DESIGN DEPARTMENT OF THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S PRINCIPAL INFORMATION OFFICER, SUPERINTENDENT OF FACTORY INSPECTORS (TRAINING) AND THE DIVISIONAL FACTORY INSPECTOR (TRAINING).

THE FIRST PRIZE OF \$500 WAS WON BY TSE PUI-LEUNG OF METHODIST COLLEGE. THE SECOND AND THIRD PRIZES OF \$400 AND \$300 WENT TO YIP PO-HOI AND NG CHI-FAI OF CARITAS BIANCHI COLLEGE OF CAREERS.

TEN ENTRIES WON CONSOLATION PRIZES OF \$100 EACH. IN ADDITION, ALL PRIZE-WINNERS RECEIVED A CERTIFICATE OF MERIT.

A PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY, TO BE OFFICIATED BY MR CHAN KAM-CHUEN, AN UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, WILL BE HELD LATER THIS MONTH.

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