



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1984

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
GOVERNOR PRAISES BOARD MEMBERS FOR WORK	1
UNEMPLOYMENT SITUATION STABLE	2
NINE BILLS, 20 QUESTIONS FOR LEGCO	3
PLAN TO EASE CAUSEWAY BAY TRAFFIC FLOW	4
ACCESS FACILITIES COST \$100 MILLION	5
SURVEY OF MERCHANT NAVY MANPOWER NEEDS TO BEGIN	6
MALAYSIAN PRISON OFFICIALS TO VISIT HK	7
FERRY TERMINAL CONTRACTS AWARDED	7
MARKET TO BE BUILT AT KWU TUNG	8
FESTIVAL FOR HANG HAU RESIDENTS	8
WORKSHOPS ON LISTENING COMPREHENSION	9
SEMINARS TO PROMOTE CHINESE MUSIC	10
PARKING METERS FOR KWAI CHUNG	10
WATER FIGURES	10
HALF-HOUR MORE FOR LEARNER DRIVERS	11
SPRING RECEPTION	11

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1984

- 1 -

GOVERNOR PRAISES BOARD MEMBERS FOR WORK

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, TODAY (TUESDAY) PRAISED COMMUNITY LEADERS AND DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS FOR THEIR IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE ACTIVITIES AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE HONG KONG COMMUNITY.

SIR EDWARD SPEAKING IN PUTONGHUA, WAS ADDRESSING A GATHERING OF MORE THAN 1 500 PEOPLE FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE AT A SPRING RECEPTION GIVEN BY THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION.

HE SAID HONG KONG PEOPLE FACED AND OVERCAME A SERIES OF CHALLENGES AND DIFFICULTIES WITH PRAGMATISM AND DETERMINATION LAST YEAR.

SIR EDWARD ALSO OFFERED A NEW YEAR TOAST AND REPEATED HIS GREETINGS IN CANTONESE.

THE GOVERNOR AND LADY YOUDE LATER MINGLED WITH THE GUESTS, ACCOMPANIED BY THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, AND HIS WIFE.

GUESTS ATTENDING THE ANNUAL RECEPTION INCLUDED MEMBERS OF DISTRICT BOARDS, HEUNG YEE KUK, COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS AND INTEREST GROUPS.

THEY WERE GREETED BY THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR NEW TERRITORIES, MR IAN MACPHERSON; THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR BARRIE WIGGHAM; AND OFFICIALS OF THE 18 DISTRICT OFFICES.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH AT THE CNTA SPRING RECEPTION:

+I AM DELIGHTED TO BE WITH YOU HERE TODAY TO CELEBRATE THE CHINESE NEW YEAR.

+LAST YEAR THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG FACED AND OVERCAME A SERIES OF CHALLENGES AND DIFFICULTIES WITH PRAGMATISM AND DETERMINATION. EACH ONE OF YOU HAS MADE AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE ACTIVITIES AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE HONG KONG COMMUNITY AND I AM VERY PLEASED THAT YOUR EFFORTS HAVE BEEN WELL REWARDED.

+THE RAT IS A SYMBOL OF INTELLIGENCE, TACTFULNESS AND VITALITY, WHILE 'JIAZI' IS THE BEGINNING OF A NEW CYCLE OF SIXTY YEARS IN THE TRADITIONAL CHINESE CALENDAR. THE YEAR OF THE RAT THEREFORE MARKS AN ERA OF VIM AND VIGOUR. I WISH YOU ALL EVERY SUCCESS IN THE NEW YEAR, AND HOPE THAT WITH ALL YOUR EFFORTS, HONG KONG WILL CONTINUE TO DEVELOP AND PROSPER. LET US NOW RAISE OUR GLASS TO TOAST A HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR.+

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UNEMPLOYMENT SITUATION STABLE

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THE UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT SITUATION REMAINED STABLE IN THE OCTOBER - DECEMBER QUARTER LAST YEAR, ACCORDING TO THE LATEST LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR THE PERIOD WAS 4.1 PER CENT, THE SAME AS THAT RECORDED FOR THE QUARTER ENDING NOVEMBER.

WHEN COMPARED WITH THE RATE OF 3.8 PER CENT FOR THE PREVIOUS QUARTER ENDING SEPTEMBER 1983, AND 3.9 PER CENT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING DECEMBER 1982, THE CHANGES ARE NOT STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT, THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT.

THE NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS IN THE QUARTER ENDING DECEMBER 1983 WAS ESTIMATED TO BE 105 500, COMPARED WITH 98 100 FOR THE QUARTER ENDING SEPTEMBER 1983, AND 98 700 FOR THE SAME QUARTER OF 1982.

THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE FOR OCTOBER - DECEMBER 1983 WAS ESTIMATED TO BE 1.4 PER CENT WHILE THAT FOR JULY - SEPTEMBER 1983 WAS 1.6 PER CENT. THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THESE TWO RATES IS NOT STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT. THE ESTIMATE OF THE NUMBER OF UNDEREMPLOYED PERSONS WAS 36 800 FOR THE QUARTER ENDING DECEMBER, AS COMPARED WITH 39 900 FOR THE PREVIOUS QUARTER ENDING SEPTEMBER 1983.

CONSISTENT WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION, PERSONS WHO WORKED LESS THAN 35 HOURS A WEEK WERE REGARDED AS UNDEREMPLOYED ONLY IF THEY WERE SEEKING MORE WORK OR WERE NOT SEEKING MORE WORK BECAUSE THEY BELIEVED MORE WORK WAS NOT AVAILABLE, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

IN COMMENTING UPON THESE FIGURES, THE COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS SAID THAT BECAUSE THE PROPORTION OF FIRST-TIME JOB-SEEKERS (E.G. PEOPLE WHO HAVE JUST LEFT SCHOOL) VARIES FROM MONTH TO MONTH, THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATES WHICH HAD BEEN SEASONALLY ADJUSTED FOR THE VARIATION IN FIRST-TIME JOB-SEEKERS SHOULD BE USED IN MAKING COMPARISONS OVER TIME. THE UNADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR THE QUARTER ENDING DECEMBER 1983 WAS 4.3 PER CENT.

THE UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT STATISTICS WERE OBTAINED FROM A CONTINUOUS GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT. THIS SURVEY COVERS A QUARTERLY SAMPLE OF 15 000 HOUSEHOLDS OR 55 000 PERSONS, SELECTED SCIENTIFICALLY TO REPRESENT THE LAND-BASED CIVILIAN NON-INSTITUTIONAL POPULATION IN HONG KONG. PERSONAL AND LABOUR FORCE DATA WERE OBTAINED IN THE SURVEY BY INTERVIEWING EACH INDIVIDUAL MEMBER IN THE HOUSEHOLD SAMPLED.

DETAILED ANALYSIS OF THE LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS IS GIVEN IN THE REPORT ON THE GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY WHICH IS PUBLISHED FOUR TIMES A YEAR. THE NEXT REPORT COVERING THE QUARTER ENDING DECEMBER 1983 SHOULD BE AVAILABLE FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AROUND MARCH 20.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1984

- 3 -

NINE BILLS, 20 QUESTIONS FOR LEGCO
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THREE BILLS ARE DUE FOR FINAL READINGS AND SIX OTHERS -- INCLUDING A PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILL -- WILL BE INTRODUCED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

IN ADDITION, THERE WILL BE 20 QUESTIONS ASKED BY UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS ON A WIDE VARIETY OF MATTERS, RANGING FROM THE DEVELOPMENT OF UP-TO-DATE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT STATISTICS, THE STANDARD OF TRANSLATION IN THE CIVIL SERVICE, MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT OF PUBLIC OPINION, TO PENALTIES FOR INADEQUATE BUS MAINTENANCE AND THE STRENGTH OF THE POLICE FORCE.

DUE FOR COMMITTEE STAGE AND FINAL READING ARE THE:

- * PUBLIC FINANCE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1984, DEALING WITH REFUNDS OR DRAWBACKS AND THE POWER TO SIGN ALLOCATION WARRANTS,
- * RATING (AMENDMENT) BILL 1984, PROPOSING TO EXTEND THE RELIEF SCHEME FOR ALL TENEMENTS FROM APRIL 1, AND
- * PAWNBROKERS BILL 1983, IMPROVING THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR CONDUCTING PAWNBROKING.

THE FOLLOWING WILL BE INTRODUCED, PRIOR TO ADJOURNMENT OF DEBATE TO MARCH 14:

- * PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1984, PROVIDING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, A REQUIREMENT FOR ACCOUNTANTS TO SIT FOR A LOCAL LAW EXAMINATION,
- * FIXED PENALTY (TRAFFIC CONTRAVENTIONS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1984, AND
- * FIXED PENALTY (CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1984, BOTH AIMED AT IMPROVING THE FIXED PENALTY PROCEDURE,
- * PEAK TRAMWAY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1984, DEALING WITH THE COMPANY'S PERMIT FEE, AND THE
- * LABOUR TRIBUNAL (AMENDMENT) BILL 1984, DEALING WITH POWER TO SET ASIDE AN ORDER MADE IN THE ABSENCE OF A DEFENDANT, AND TO DISPOSE OF CERTAIN CLAIMS.

AN UNOFFICIAL MEMBER'S BILL -- THE MATILDA AND WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL (AMENDMENT) BILL 1984, -- WILL ALSO BE INTRODUCED IN THE COUNCIL TOMORROW.

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1984

- 4 -

PLAN TO EASE CAUSEWAY BAY TRAFFIC FLOW
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A TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SCHEME TO EASE CONGESTION IN CAUSEWAY BAY WILL BE INTRODUCED IN GLOUCESTER ROAD, OUTSIDE WORLD TRADE CENTRE FROM THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 16).

THE SCHEME WILL PROVIDE A SHORT-TERM IMPROVEMENT TO THE TRAFFIC CONDITIONS AROUND THE KINGSTON STREET-PATERSON STREET-GLOUCESTER ROAD AREA.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID, +TRAFFIC DIVERTED INTO THE AREA FOLLOWING THE OPENING OF THE TAI HANG ROAD FLYOVER WAS ONE OF THE MAIN CAUSES OF CONGESTION.+

+THE SITUATION BECOMES WORSE DURING PEAK HOURS WHEN VEHICLES ON GLOUCESTER ROAD OUTSIDE WORLD TRADE CENTRE TRY TO JOIN THE QUEUE TOWARDS THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL OR TO WEAVE ACROSS TOWARDS THE CENTRAL-BOUND LANE,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID THAT THE SITUATION WOULD BE REMEDIED WHEN THE NEW FLYOVER NOW BEING CONSTRUCTED IS OPENED TO TRAFFIC FROM THE TAI HANG ROAD FLYOVER TO JOIN DIRECTLY WITH THE WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF VICTORIA PARK ROAD.

THE FLYOVER IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN OCTOBER THIS YEAR.

+HOWEVER, DURING THE INTERIM PERIOD, IT IS CONSIDERED NECESSARY TO INTRODUCE SOME TRAFFIC MEASURES TO REDUCE CONGESTION,+ HE SAID.

UNDER THE SCHEME, THE NARROW EXIT FROM GLOUCESTER ROAD ONTO VICTORIA PARK ROAD OUTSIDE WORLD TRADE CENTRE WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC DURING THE HOURS FROM 8 AM TO 10 AM AND FROM 5 PM TO 7 PM DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

DURING THE CLOSURE OF THE EXIT, VEHICLES ON GLOUCESTER ROAD OUTSIDE WORLD TRADE CENTRE WISHING TO GO TO KOWLOON VIA CROSS-HARBOUR TUNNEL CAN USE THE FOLLOWING ALTERNATIVE ROUTES :

- * GLOUCESTER ROAD WESTBOUND SERVICE ROAD, STEWART ROAD SOUTHBOUND, LOCKHART ROAD EASTBOUND, MARSH ROAD FLYOVER NORTHBOUND, HUNG HING ROAD WESTBOUND, TONNOCHY ROAD SOUTHBOUND AND REJOIN GLOUCESTER ROAD EASTBOUND.
- * PERCIVAL STREET SOUTHBOUND, LEIGHTON ROAD WESTBOUND, WONG NAI CHUNG ROAD AND CANAL ROAD FLYOVER NORTHBOUND.

/* WESTBOUND UP-RAMP

- * WESTBOUND UP-RAMP TO CANAL ROAD FLYOVER, CANAL ROAD FLYOVER SOUTHBOUND, CANAL ROAD EAST SOUTHBOUND, LEIGHTON ROAD WESTBOUND, MORRISON HILL ROAD NORTHBOUND, TIN LOK LANE NORTHBOUND, MARSH ROAD FLYOVER NORTHBOUND, HUNG HING ROAD WESTBOUND, TONNOCHY ROAD SOUTHBOUND AND REJOIN GLOUCESTER ROAD EASTBOUND.

TO ENABLE VEHICLES TO REACH GLOUCESTER ROAD WESTBOUND SERVICE ROAD AND THE WESTBOUND UP-RAMP TO CANAL ROAD FLYOVER VIA THE WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF VICTORIA PARK ROAD, AN ADDITIONAL EXIT, ABOUT 80 METRES WEST OF THE EXISTING EXIT, WILL BE OPENED TO TRAFFIC.

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ACCESS FACILITIES COST \$100 MILLION * * *

ACCESS FACILITIES FOR THE WAN CHAI RECLAMATION, COSTING MORE THAN \$100 MILLION, ARE EXPECTED TO BE READY IN EARLY 1987 TO COPE WITH THE FUTURE MASSIVE DEVELOPMENT IN THE AREA.

THE FACILITIES INCLUDE SEVERAL FLYOVERS, 13 NEW FOOTBRIDGES OR EXTENSIONS, NEW CARRIAGEWAYS AND TRAFFIC SIGNALS AT SIX INTERSECTIONS.

MEMBERS OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS THESE PROPOSALS AT THEIR MEETING ON FEBRUARY 21 (TUESDAY).

AT A PRESS BRIEFING TODAY (TUESDAY), THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS LOLLY CHIU, SAID THAT EXTENSIVE DEVELOPMENTS ON THE RECLAMATION AND THE ADJOINING AREAS WOULD GENERATE HEAVY VEHICULAR AND PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC.

+TO CATER FOR THE ENVISAGED TRAFFIC DEMANDS, A STUDY WAS CONDUCTED LAST YEAR BY A CONSULTANT FIRM FOR THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE OF THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT,+ SHE SAID.

+A DRAFT PRELIMINARY REPORT WAS COMPLETED RECENTLY AND SUBMITTED TO VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS FOR COMMENTS.+

BESIDES THE ACCESS FACILITIES, PROPOSALS MADE IN THE REPORT TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC INCLUDE:

- * PROHIBITION OF ON-STREET PARKING.
- * PROVISION OF PICK-UP AND SET-DOWN LAY-BYS IN HARBOUR ROAD.
- * LEFT TURN ONLY FOR MOVEMENTS INTO AND OUT OF CAR PARKS.
- * PROHIBITION OF RIGHT TURNS WITHIN THE RECLAMATION EXCEPT FOR TRAFFIC FROM SEAFRONT ROAD TO FENWICK PIER STREET, AND AT THE JUNCTIONS OF TONNOCHY ROAD, SEAFRONT ROAD AND HUNG HING ROAD, AS WELL AS OF MARSH ROAD AND HUNG HING ROAD.
- * PROHIBITION OF RIGHT TURNS SOUTH OF GLOUCESTER ROAD AT THE JUNCTION OF LOCKHART ROAD AND FLEMING ROAD.

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1984

- 6 -

SURVEY OF MERCHANT NAVY MANPOWER NEEDS TO BEGIN

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A SURVEY WILL BE CARRIED OUT BETWEEN MARCH 1 AND 31 TO ASCERTAIN THE MANPOWER SITUATION OF THE MERCHANT NAVY AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR LOCAL OFFICERS AND RATINGS.

THE SURVEY WILL BE CONDUCTED BY THE MERCHANT NAVY TRAINING BOARD OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE MARINE DEPARTMENT.

A TOTAL OF 63 SHIPPING COMPANIES WHICH ARE MAJOR EMPLOYERS OF HONG KONG SEAMEN WILL BE COVERED IN THE SURVEY.

THE COMPANIES WILL BE ASKED ABOUT THE MANPOWER REQUIREMENT FOR THEIR SHIPS, INCLUDING THE NUMBER OF HONG KONG OFFICERS AND RATINGS PRESENTLY EMPLOYED AND TO BE EMPLOYED AND THE QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED.

BASED ON THE FINDINGS, THE BOARD WILL MAKE A FORECAST ON THE DEMAND FOR HONG KONG SEAMEN IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS.

+THE SURVEY IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE BOARD TO FORMULATE RECOMMENDATIONS AND PLANS ON MANPOWER TRAINING FOR THE INDUSTRY,+ THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MERCHANT NAVY TRAINING BOARD, MR FRANK CHAO SAID.

HE URGED EMPLOYERS TO CO-OPERATE IN THE SURVEY AND SUPPLY ACCURATE DATA.

+THE INFORMATION COLLECTED WILL BE HANDLED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND WILL BE PUBLISHED ONLY IN THE FORM OF STATISTICAL SUMMARIES WITHOUT REFERENCE TO ANY INDIVIDUAL COMPANY,+ HE STRESSED.

QUESTIONNAIRES AND EXPLANATORY NOTES ABOUT THE SURVEY HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE COMPANIES.

DURING THE SURVEY PERIOD, OFFICERS FROM THE MARINE DEPARTMENT WILL VISIT THE COMPANIES TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE AND COLLECT COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRES.

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/7

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1984

- 7 -

MALAYSIAN PRISON OFFICIALS TO VISIT HK

A DELEGATION OF 16 SENIOR MALAYSIAN PRISON OFFICIALS WILL ARRIVE HERE ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 16) ON A FIVE-DAY TOUR TO STUDY VARIOUS CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND PROGRAMMES IN HONG KONG.

LED BY MALAYSIA'S DIRECTOR GENERAL OF PRISONS, DATO' IBRAHIM B. HJ. MOHAMED, THE DELEGATION WILL VISIT SECURITY PRISONS, TRAINING CENTRES, AN ADDICTION TREATMENT CENTRE, A PSYCHIATRIC CENTRE, AND THE STAFF TRAINING INSTITUTE OF THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES.

THEY WILL ALSO HOLD DISCUSSIONS WITH THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, MR THOMAS GARNER.

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FERRY TERMINAL CONTRACTS AWARDED

TWO CONTRACTS TOTALLING ALMOST \$840 000 HAVE BEEN AWARDED BY THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IN CONNECTION WITH A TEMPORARY INTERNATIONAL FERRY TERMINAL AT SHA TIN.

ONE INVOLVES ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION WORK IN THE SINGLE-STOREY TERMINAL BUILDING AND IS VALUED AT ABOUT \$765 000. IT HAS BEEN AWARDED TO TUNG YUEN HONG AND ELECTRICAL COMPANY LIMITED.

THE OTHER, VALUED AT ABOUT \$70 000, IS FOR FIRE SERVICES INSTALLATION AND HAS BEEN AWARDED TO ARNHOLD AND COMPANY LIMITED.

WORK ON THE TEMPORARY FERRY TERMINAL STARTED IN DECEMBER.

THE \$4.2 MILLION PROJECT WILL CATER FOR FERRY SERVICES LINKING HONG KONG AND THE HOLIDAY RESORTS OF DAI MEI SHA AND XIAO MEI SHA, SHENZHEN.

THE TERMINAL BUILDING WILL INCLUDE OFFICE ACCOMMODATION FOR POLICE AS WELL AS IMMIGRATION, MARINE AND CUSTOMS OFFICIALS.

THERE WILL ALSO BE AN ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE HALL AND A BUS AND TAXI LAY-BY AREA IN FRONT OF THE BUILDING.

IT WILL BE READY FOR USE BY THE MIDDLE OF THE YEAR.

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1984

- 8 -

MARKET TO BE BUILT AT KWU TUNG
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THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR A MARKET BUILDING AT KWU TUNG IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

IT WILL ACCOMMODATE LOCAL SHOP OPERATORS WHOSE PREMISES ARE REQUIRED FOR IMPROVEMENT WORK TO THE NEW TERRITORIES CIRCULAR ROAD BETWEEN AU TAU AND FAN KAM.

THE MARKET WILL BE BUILT ON A 5 000 SQUARE-METRE SITE ON THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE EXISTING OI WAH SCHOOL.

THE CONTRACT WILL INCLUDE CONSTRUCTION OF A TWO-STOREY MARKET BUILDING, A ONE-STOREY SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT, A TRANSFORMER ROOM AND ANCILLIARY WORKS.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO COMMENCE IN EARLY APRIL AND TAKE ONE YEAR TO COMPLETE.

THE PROJECT HAS BEEN DESIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT'S HIGHWAYS OFFICE BY A JOINT GROUP OF CONSULTANTS COMPRISING BINNIE AND PARTNERS (HONG KONG), WILBUR SMITH AND ASSOCIATES AND HARRIS AND SUTHERLAND (FAR EAST).

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FESTIVAL FOR HANG HAU RESIDENTS
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RESIDENTS IN HANG HAU, SAI KUNG WILL CELEBRATE THE LANTERN FESTIVAL WITH A VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES AT THE LOCAL RURAL COMMITTEE OFFICE.

THE FESTIVAL -- THE 15TH DAY OF THE FIRST LUNAR MONTH -- FALLS ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 16) THIS YEAR.

THE DAY'S EVENT WILL BEGIN AT 12 NOON WITH UNICORN AND LION DANCES, TO BE FOLLOWED BY PRIZE PRESENTATIONS TO WINNERS OF A DRAWING COMPETITION AND A CROSS-WORD PUZZLE HELD IN THE DISTRICT EARLIER.

THE OCCASION WILL ALSO MARK THE BEGINNING OF A THREE-DAY HANG HAU FESTIVAL - AN ANNUAL EVENT SINCE LAST YEAR TO PROMOTE THE RELATIONSHIP AMONG LOCAL RESIDENTS AND TO STRENGTHEN PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF THE AREA.

OTHER ACTIVITIES IN THE FESTIVAL WILL INCLUDE A MINI-SOCCER MATCH, A CARNIVAL FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND A LANTERN RIDDLE.

/THE FESTIVAL

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1984

- 9 -

THE FESTIVAL WILL BE ROUNDED OFF WITH A VARIETY SHOW FEATURING A POP CONCERT, AN ACROBATIC AND MAGIC PERFORMANCE, AND A CANTONESE OPERA ON SATURDAY, STARTING AT 7.30 PM.

ALL THE ACTIVITIES WILL BE STAGED AT THE CHENG CHIK CHEE SECONDARY SCHOOL.

THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS HAVE CONTRIBUTED \$44 000 FOR THE FESTIVAL.

ADMISSION TO ALL ACTIVITIES IS FREE.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE HANG HAU FESTIVAL OPENING CEREMONY AT 12 NOON ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 16) AT THE OFFICE OF THE HANG HAU RURAL COMMITTEE, HANG HAU ROAD IN CLEAR WATER BAY.

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WORKSHOPS ON LISTENING COMPREHENSION

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THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING CENTRE WILL HOLD TWO IDENTICAL WORKSHOPS ON THE TEACHING OF LISTENING COMPREHENSION FOR TEACHERS OF ENGLISH IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

THE TWO-DAY WORKSHOPS WILL BE HELD AT THE TEACHING CENTRE'S HONG KONG AND KOWLOON OFFICES ON FEBRUARY 28 AND MARCH 1, AND ON MARCH 7 AND 9.

THE WORKSHOPS WILL INCLUDE TALKS AND DEMONSTRATIONS. PARTICIPANTS WILL BE GIVEN A CHANCE TO DESIGN A LISTENING COMPREHENSION EXERCISE SUITABLE FOR USE IN THEIR OWN CLASSES.

EACH WORKSHOP WILL ACCOMMODATE 20 TEACHERS, AND CERTIFICATES OF ATTENDANCE WILL BE AWARDED TO THOSE WHO HAVE SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED THE COURSE.

HEADS OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS WHO WISH TO SEND TEACHERS TO THE WORKSHOPS SHOULD SUBMIT THEIR NOMINATIONS TO THE SENIOR INSPECTOR, ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING CENTRE, 9A BONHAM ROAD, HONG KONG BY FEBRUARY 21.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE AT THE CENTRE ON 5-482537.

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1984

- 10 -

SEMINARS TO PROMOTE CHINESE MUSIC
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EIGHT SEMINARS ON CHINESE MUSIC WILL BE HELD AT THE YAUMATEI AND MONG KOK MUSIC CENTRES FROM SATURDAY (FEBRUARY 18) TO MARCH 24.

ORGANISED BY THE MUSIC OFFICE OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT, THE SEMINARS ARE AIMED AT PROMOTING INTEREST IN CHINESE MUSIC.

THEY INCLUDE AUDIO-VISUAL AIDS AND DEMONSTRATIONS BY NOTED CHINESE MUSICIANS.

FREE TICKETS FOR THE SEMINARS CAN BE OBTAINED AT ALL MUSIC CENTRES OF THE MUSIC OFFICE ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

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PARKING METERS FOR KWAI CHUNG
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A TOTAL OF 176 PARKING METERS WILL BE INSTALLED OVER A TWO-DAY PERIOD FROM THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 16) IN KWAI CHUNG TO REGULATE THE USE OF ON-STREET PRIVATE CAR AND GOODS VEHICLE PARKING SPACES THERE.

THE NEW METERS AT SHING FONG STREET, LAI FONG STREET, SHUN FONG STREET, YAN FONG STREET, KO FONG STREET, KWONG FAI CIRCUIT, KWONG FAI LANE AND TA CHUEN PING STREET CAR PARK WILL OPERATE UPON INSTALLATION.

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WATER FIGURES
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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM YESTERDAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 84.7 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 496.314 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 411.686 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 70.2 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1984

- 11 -

HALF-HOUR MORE FOR LEARNER DRIVERS

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THE PERMITTED NIGHT DRIVING HOURS FOR LEARNER DRIVERS WILL BE EXTENDED BY HALF-AN-HOUR DAILY TO 11.30 PM FROM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY), A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY.

THE REVISED HOURS WILL BE 6 AM TO 7.30 AM, 9.30 AM TO 4.30 PM, AND 7.30 PM TO 11.30 PM.

MEANWHILE, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT IS RE-ASSESSING THE TRAINING AND TEST ROUTES FOR LEARNER DRIVERS IN THE WONG CHUK HANG AREA, HE ADDED.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:-

SPRING RECEPTION

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MORE THAN 450 COMMUNITY LEADERS, DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WILL ATTEND THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE'S SPRING RECEPTION AT 3.30 PM ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 16) AT THE TELFORD CHINESE RESTAURANT, TELFORD COMMERCIAL ARCADE IN KOWLOON BAY.

AT THE RECEPTION, THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR BARRIE WIGGHAM, WILL PRESENT CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION TO MEMBERS OF 60 LOCAL ORGANISATIONS, INCLUDING MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, SCHOOLS AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY.

YOU ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THE RECEPTION.

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