



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 1983

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LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS FOR NOVEMBER - JANUARY QUARTER

THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR THE QUARTER NOVEMBER 1982 - JANUARY 1983 WAS 4.3 PER CENT COMPARED WITH 3.8 PER CENT FOR THE PREVIOUS QUARTER ENDING OCTOBER 1982, AND THREE PER CENT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING JANUARY LAST YEAR.

THE INCREASES OF 0.5 PERCENTAGE POINT AND 1.3 PERCENTAGE POINT RESPECTIVELY COMPARED WITH THE TWO PREVIOUS QUARTERS WERE STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT, THE COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS, MR COLIN GREENFIELD, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

THE NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS IN THE QUARTER ENDING JANUARY 1983 WAS PROVISIONALLY ESTIMATED TO BE 107 000, AS COMPARED WITH 96 200 FOR THE PREVIOUS QUARTER, AND 74 400 FOR THE SAME QUARTER LAST YEAR.

THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE WAS ESTIMATED TO BE 2.4 PER CENT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING JANUARY 1983, COMPARED WITH 1.7 PER CENT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING OCTOBER 1982. THE PROVISIONAL ESTIMATE OF THE NUMBER OF UNDEREMPLOYED PERSONS WAS 59 000 FOR THE QUARTER ENDING JANUARY 1983, COMPARED WITH 41 500 FOR THE PREVIOUS QUARTER.

MR GREENFIELD EXPLAINED THAT, 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. IN OTHER WORDS, PEOPLE SUCH AS PART-TIME WORKERS WHO CHOSE TO WORK LESS THAN 35 HOURS A WEEK AND WERE NOT AVAILABLE FOR MORE WORK, WERE NOT UNDEREMPLOYED.

HE SAID THAT BECAUSE THE PROPORTION OF FIRST-TIME JOB-SEEKERS (E.G. PEOPLE WHO HAVE JUST LEFT SCHOOL) VARIED FROM MONTH TO MONTH, THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATES SEASONALLY ADJUSTED FOR THE VARIATIONS IN FIRST-TIME JOB-SEEKERS SHOULD BE USED IN MAKING COMPARISONS OVER TIME.

THE SEASONALLY UNADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR THE QUARTER ENDING JANUARY 1983 WAS 4.4 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 SOME 15 000 HOUSEHOLDS OR 55 000 PERSONS, SELECTED SCIENTIFICALLY TO REPRESENT THE LAND-BASED POPULATION IN HONG KONG.

PERSONAL AND LABOUR FORCE DATA WERE OBTAINED IN THE SURVEY BY INTERVIEWING EACH INDIVIDUAL MEMBER IN THE HOUSEHOLDS SAMPLED.

MR GREENFIELD DREW ATTENTION TO THE SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT DEFINITIONS USED IN THE GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY FROM THOSE USED IN THE PREVIOUS LABOUR FORCE SURVEY.

THE EFFECT OF THIS DIFFERENCE ON THE ESTIMATE OF THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, HOWEVER, WAS VERY SMALL, HE SAID.

USING THE DEFINITIONS ADOPTED IN THE LABOUR FORCE SURVEY, THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR THE QUARTER ENDING JANUARY 1983 WAS 4.4 PER CENT COMPARED WITH 4.3 PER CENT BASED ON THE GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY DEFINITIONS.

HE SAID THAT BECAUSE OF THE LARGE AMOUNT OF WORK INVOLVED IN PROCESSING THE SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRES, IT WOULD TAKE ABOUT TWO TO THREE MONTHS TO PRODUCE DETAILED ANALYSIS OF THE LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS.

THE DETAILED REPORT OF THE GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY WILL BE PUBLISHED FOUR TIMES A YEAR. THE LAST REPORT FOR THE QUARTER AUGUST - OCTOBER 1982 MAY BE PURCHASED FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING.

THE REPORT COVERING THE QUARTER ENDING JANUARY 1983 SHOULD BE AVAILABLE AROUND APRIL 20, 1983.

THE COMMISSIONER ADDED THAT, BASED ON A SIMPLER METHOD OF ESTIMATION, UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT FIGURES COVERING A MOVING THREE-MONTH PERIOD COULD BE PUBLISHED EVERY MONTH.

AFTER TESTING THIS METHOD ON DATA FOR THE PAST 17 MONTHS, HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE FIGURES WERE SUFFICIENTLY RELIABLE FOR PUBLICATION AND SO THE PUBLIC WILL HAVE THE BENEFIT OF MORE FREQUENT AND EARLIER INFORMATION FROM NOW ON.

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SOCIAL SECURITY PAYMENTS TO EXCEED \$1 000 MILLION

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THE ESTIMATED TOTAL PROVISION FOR SOCIAL SECURITY PAYMENTS IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE TO ABOUT \$1 070 MILLION THIS YEAR, THE CHIEF SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICER OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, MRS DIANA LEE, SAID THIS (WEDNESDAY) MORNING.

SPEAKING AT A SEMINAR ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION, MRS LEE SAID: +THE BULK OF THE EXPENDITURE WILL BE ON THE SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE AND PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SCHEMES.+

+ALTHOUGH MANY PEOPLE ARE ALREADY BENEFITING FROM THE SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEMES, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT SOME WHO WOULD BE ELIGIBLE HAVE NOT YET COME FORWARD TO APPLY,+ SHE SAID.

SHE HOPED THAT THROUGH THIS SEMINAR, MORE PEOPLE WOULD GET TO KNOW ABOUT THESE SCHEMES.

MRS LEE SAID THAT THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE WAS TO ENSURE THAT EVERYONE IN HONG KONG LIVE ABOVE A CERTAIN LEVEL.

THERE IS A ONE-YEAR RESIDENTIAL REQUIREMENT FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE APPLICANTS, MRS LEE SAID, BUT THIS CAN BE WAIVED FOR HARDSHIP CASES.

FOR PEOPLE BELOW 15 OR ABOVE 60 YEARS OF AGE, IT IS NORMALLY CONSIDERED THAT THEY SHOULD NOT OR ARE NOT FIT TO WORK. IF THEY ARE NOT ENGAGED IN GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT OR THEIR INCOME IS BELOW THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE LEVEL, THEY ARE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR ASSISTANCE.

PEOPLE BETWEEN 15 AND 59 YEARS OF AGE, CAN APPLY FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE IF THEY HAVE TO GO TO SCHOOL, RECEIVE VOCATIONAL TRAINING, OR STAY AT HOME TO LOOK AFTER YOUNG CHILDREN OR SICK OR DISABLED FAMILY MEMBERS.

THEY ARE ALSO ELIGIBLE IF THEY ARE CERTIFIED BY A GOVERNMENT DOCTOR TO BE UNABLE TO WORK BECAUSE OF ILLNESS.

THOSE WHO ARE UNEMPLOYED BUT WILLING TO WORK WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE IF THEY HAVE BEEN REGISTERED WITH THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT FOR ONE MONTH AFTER DATE OF APPLICATION.

THOSE WHO ARE EMPLOYED BUT WHOSE INCOMES FALL BELOW THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE LEVEL CAN ALSO APPLY.

THE SAVINGS LIMIT UNDER THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SCHEME IS \$5 700 FOR A SINGLE PERSON AND \$3 800 FOR A PERSON IN A FAMILY.

+IN OTHER WORDS,+ MRS LEE SAID, +A FOUR-MEMBER FAMILY WITH SAVINGS OF LESS THAN \$15 200 WILL STILL QUALIFY FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE IF THEY HAVE INSUFFICIENT INCOME.+

APART FROM THE BASIC SCALE ALLOWANCE AND THE RENT SUBSIDY, OTHER DISCRETIONARY PAYMENTS ARE AVAILABLE TO MEET SPECIAL NEEDS SUCH AS SPECIAL DIETS, EDUCATION AND TRANSPORT.

+SOME PEOPLE HAVE CALLED PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CHARITY,+ MRS LEE SAID. +THIS IS NOT VERY APPROPRIATE BECAUSE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE IS NOT CHARITY BUT IS ONE OF THE COMMUNITY'S RESPONSIBILITIES TO ITS MEMBERS.+

WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE ARE RECEIVING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE? AN ANALYSIS OF THE 50 456 ACTIVE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CASES AT THE END OF JANUARY SHOWS:

ELDERLY	33 381
DISABLED	3 213
SICK	6 914
WIDOWS AND ORPHANS	2 357
UNEMPLOYED AND LOW EARNING	2 508
OTHERS	2 083

IN THE MONTH OF JANUARY, TOTAL PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS AMOUNTED TO SOME \$36 MILLION. +THIS MEANS ON AVERAGE EACH CASE RECEIVES ABOUT \$770,+ MRS LEE SAID.

WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT'S SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM, ALL ASSISTANCE SCHEMES APART FROM PUBLIC ASSISTANCE ARE NON-MEANS-TESTED. THESE INCLUDE THE SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE SCHEME, THE CRIMINAL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT INJURIES COMPENSATION SCHEME, THE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS ASSISTANCE SCHEME AND EMERGENCY RELIEF.

REFERRING TO THE SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE, MRS LEE SAID THAT THIS COMPRISES THE OLD AGE ALLOWANCE AND THE DISABILITY ALLOWANCE. AS AT THE END OF JANUARY, THE CASELOAD FOR SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE WAS 219 607 AND PAYMENTS FOR THAT MONTH AMOUNTED TO \$55 MILLION.

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OFFICE BLOCKS AND HOTEL FOR SHA TIN NEW TOWN

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THE LANDS DEPARTMENT HAS AWARDED TWO TENDERS TO THE SUN HUNG KAI GROUP FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF TWO MAJOR SITES IN SHA TIN NEW TOWN.

ONE SITE, MEASURING 5 005 SQUARE METRES AND LOCATED AT PAK HOK TING STREET IN THE TOWN CENTRE, IS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN OFFICE COMPLEX.

THE OTHER SITE, WITH AN AREA OF 5 219 SQUARE METRES AND SITUATED AT THE JUNCTION OF SHA TIN CENTRE STREET AND PAK HO TING STREET, IS TO BE DEVELOPED INTO A MODERN HOTEL.

TENDER DOCUMENTS FOR THESE TWO SITES WERE OFFICIALLY SIGNED TODAY BETWEEN THE SHA TIN DISTRICT LANDS OFFICER, MR ROGER NISSIM, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SUN HUNG KAI PROPERTIES LIMITED, MR T.S. KWOK.

THE SIGNING CAME ONE DAY AFTER THE LANDS DEPARTMENT HAD AWARDED A TENDER WHICH CALLED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A \$1 BILLION MARINA AND HIGH-CLASS RESIDENTIAL AREA IN SO KWAN WAT ADJOINING PEARL ISLAND IN TUEN MUN.

SPEAKING AT THE SIGNING CEREMONY TODAY, MR NISSIM SAID THE LATEST UNDERTAKINGS BY THE COMPANY WERE A FURTHER INDICATION OF THE CONFIDENCE REAL ESTATE DEVELOPERS HAD IN THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG.

HE ADDED THAT ON THE OFFICE SITE THE DEVELOPER PLANNED TO BUILD THREE HIGH-QUALITY TOWER BLOCKS TO BE INTERCONNECTED BY FOOTBRIDGES AT THE SECOND FLOOR LEVEL.

THESE BUILDINGS WILL HAVE A TOTAL FLOOR AREA OF ABOUT 37 300 SQUARE METRES AND PARKING SPACES IN THE BASEMENT FOR NOT LESS THAN 150 CARS.

THEY WILL BE LINKED BY FOOTBRIDGES TO A COMMERCIAL COMPLEX, BEING BUILT ALSO BY THE SUN HUNG KAI GROUP, WHICH IN TURN CONNECTS TO THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY STATION.

MR NISSIM SAID: +THE NEW OFFICES ARE EXPECTED TO MEET THE CHANGING NEED OF LARGE FIRMS INTENDING TO SET UP BRANCH OFFICES IN NEW TOWNS WHERE RENTAL IS EXPECTED TO BE CONSIDERABLY CHEAPER THAN IN COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS IN URBAN AREAS.+

TURNING TO THE HOTEL PROJECT, MR NISSIM SAID THAT IT WOULD BE A WELCOME ADDITION TO THE TOURIST INDUSTRY.

THE HOTEL WILL HAVE ABOUT 500 ROOMS FROM THE THIRD FLOOR UP AND A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF 26 000 SQUARE METRES.

THE FIRST TWO FLOORS WILL BE USED FOR OTHER ANCILLARY HOTEL OR COMMERCIAL FACILITIES WHILE THE BASEMENT WILL HAVE PARKING SPACES FOR 150 CARS.

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AS A STANDARD REQUIREMENT OF ALL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE TOWN CENTRE, ALL PODIUM ROOFS ARE PROPERLY LANDSCAPED AND INTERCONNECTED BY COVERED PEDESTRIAN BRIDGES THAT PROVIDE COMFORT AND SAFETY TO THE PUBLIC.

+BOTH THE HOTEL AND THE OFFICE BLOCKS ARE IDEALLY LOCATED AND HAVE A BEAUTIFUL VIEW OF THE SCENIC TOWN PARK AND THE SHING MUN RIVER,+ MR NISSIM SAID.

+TOGETHER WITH THE COMMERCIAL COMPLEX NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION, THEY WILL FORM AN IMPORTANT SECTION OF THE TOWN CENTRE WHICH WILL BECOME A COMMERCIAL, CULTURAL, TOURIST AND RECREATION CENTRE SERVING NOT ONLY SHA TIN BUT ALSO NORTHEAST REGION OF THE NEW TERRITORIES.+

THE TOTAL CONSTRUCTION COST OF THESE THREE SUN HUNG KAI PROJECTS IS ESTIMATED AT ABOUT \$600 MILLION.

+THE UNDERTAKINGS OF THESE PROJECTS REPRESENT A SUBSTANTIAL COMMITMENT BY THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO FUTURE SUCCESS OF SHA TIN NEW TOWN,+ MR NISSIM SAID.

+IT WILL ALSO MAKE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE GOAL OF PROVIDING A BALANCED DEVELOPMENT.+

WITH THE TWIN LION ROCK TUNNELS AND THE ELECTRIFICATION OF THE RAILWAY, HE SAID, SHA TIN NEW TOWN WAS JUST AS CONVENIENT AS ANY OTHER AREAS IN KOWLOON OR HONG KONG FROM A COMMUTER'S POINT OF VIEW.

+TRAVELLING TIME WILL BE REDUCED FURTHER FOLLOWING THE COMPLETION NEXT YEAR OF THE SHA TIN-TAI PO COASTAL ROAD,+ MR NISSIM SAID.

+IN ADDITION, THE PROPOSED ROAD LINK BETWEEN SHA TIN AND TSUEN WAN IS EXPECTED TO BE READY FOR USE IN 1987 OR 1988.+

THE TOTAL PREMIUM FOR THE TWO SITES AMOUNTS TO \$30 MILLION.

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NEW CHARGES AT MULTI-STOREY CAR PARKS

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THE ORDINARY RATE CHARGES AT SEVEN WELL-USED GOVERNMENT MULTI-STOREY CAR PARKS WILL BE INCREASED BY \$1 PER HOUR WITH EFFECT FROM FRIDAY (APRIL 1) BUT THE CHEAP RATES WILL NOT BE CHANGED, A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE MONTHLY PASSES FOR THESE CAR PARKS WILL ALSO BE INCREASED BY \$200 TO REFLECT THE INCREASES IN HOURLY RATES, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE CAR PARKS ARE GARDEN ROAD, MURRAY ROAD, RUMSEY STREET, STAR FERRY AND CITY HALL ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND MIDDLE ROAD AND YAU MA TEI IN KOWLOON.

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IN ADDITION, THE COST OF MONTHLY PASSES FOR TAI KOK TSUI AND FUK TONG ROAD OPEN AIR CAR PARKS WILL BE RAISED BY \$100 FROM \$300 TO \$400.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE INCREASE WHICH WAS APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL YESTERDAY (TUESDAY), IS AIMED AT IMPROVING THE TURNOVER RATES IN THOSE MORE HEAVILY USED CAR PARKS WHERE IT WAS BECOMING VERY DIFFICULT TO FIND SPACES FOR SHORT-TERM PARKING DURING THE DAY.

NO INCREASES HAVE BEEN MADE IN OTHER CAR PARKS WHERE SPACES ARE MORE READILY AVAILABLE.

IN ORDER NOT TO DISCOURAGE OVERNIGHT OFF-STREET PARKING, THERE WILL BE NO INCREASE IN THE CHEAP RATES, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE NEW FEES AT THE AFFECTED CAR PARKS ARE AS FOLLOWS:-

<u>CAR PARK AND PERIOD OF USE</u>	<u>EXISTING FEE PER HOUR</u>	<u>NEW FEE PER HOUR</u>
1. GARDEN ROAD, MURRAY ROAD, RUMSEY STREET, STAR FERRY, CITY HALL		
A) ANY DAY EXCEPT SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS		
I) 8 AM TO 6 PM	\$ 4	\$ 5
II) 6 PM TO 8 AM	\$ 1	\$ 1
B) SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS (ALL DAY)	\$ 1	\$ 1
C) MONTHLY PASS	\$800	\$1 000
2. MIDDLE ROAD, YAU MA TEI		
A) ANY DAY		
I) 8 AM TO MIDNIGHT	\$ 3	\$ 4
II) MIDNIGHT TO 8 AM	\$ 1	\$ 1
B) MONTHLY PASS	\$600	\$ 800

THE FEES FOR THE OTHER GOVERNMENT CAR PARKS NAMELY ABERDEEN, MURRAY BARRACKS, HARBOUR ROAD AND HO MAN TIN WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED.

THE HUNG HOM CAR PARK WILL BE UNDER KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY CORPORATION MANAGEMENT WITH EFFECT FROM APRIL 1.

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INDUSTRIAL PROMOTION LIAISON MEETING HELD

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DESPITE THE WORLD-WIDE RECESSION AND ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES, OVERSEAS INVESTORS ARE SHOWING CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN HONG KONG AS AN AREA FOR BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES AND INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT.

THIS WAS A POINT PUT FORWARD BY THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT'S FOUR OVERSEAS PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIAL PROMOTION CONSULTANTS AT THE 10-DAY LIAISON MEETING JUST CONCLUDED.

THE CONSULTANTS OBSERVED THAT THE RECESSION IN THE OVERSEAS COUNTRIES HAD FORCED PREVIOUSLY DOMESTICALLY ORIENTED COMPANIES TO SEARCH FOR INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND THIS SHOULD WORK TO HONG KONG'S BENEFIT.

+THE LIAISON MEETING WAS THE FIRST TO BE HELD AFTER THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INDUSTRIAL PROMOTION OFFICES IN TOKYO, LONDON, STUTTGART AND SAN FRANCISCO LAST YEAR AND WE HOPE TO MAKE IT AN ANNUAL EVENT,+ THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR PETER JOHNSON SAID TODAY .

+WE FOUND THE MEETING VERY USEFUL AS IT PROVIDED A VALUABLE CHANCE FOR THE OVERSEAS AND HEAD OFFICE STAFF TO DISCUSS FACE TO FACE THE PROGRESS SO FAR OF OUR INDUSTRIAL PROMOTION ACTIVITIES, AND FUTURE STRATEGY.

+THE OVERSEAS CONSULTANTS HAVE ALSO MADE USE OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO UPDATE THEMSELVES OF THE INDUSTRIAL SCENE IN HONG KONG THROUGH MEETINGS WITH OFFICIALS OF THE MAJOR TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATIONS.+

THE FOUR CONSULTANTS, MR MICHAEL KIKUCHI (TOKYO), MR DONALD FLETCHER (LONDON), MR JOHN WHITE (STUTTGART) AND MR ROBERT ASHWORTH (SAN FRANCISCO) WILL LEAVE HONG KONG TODAY.

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APPOINTMENT OF QUEEN'S COUNSEL
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THE QUEEN HAS APPROVED THE APPOINTMENT OF MR KEMAL BOKHARY AND MR GILBERT RODWAY AS HER MAJESTY'S COUNSEL FOR HONG KONG.

MR BOKHARY WAS BORN IN HONG KONG IN 1947 AND EDUCATED AT KING GEORGE V SCHOOL. HE WAS CALLED TO THE ENGLISH BAR BY THE MIDDLE TEMPLE IN 1970 AND ADMITTED TO THE HONG KONG BAR IN 1971. HE HAS A SUBSTANTIAL PRACTICE IN COMMERCIAL AND COMPANY CASES. HE HAS SAT AS DEPUTY DISTRICT JUDGE, AND SERVED AS A MEMBER OF THE BAR COMMITTEE FOR SIX YEARS.

MR RODWAY WAS BORN IN KENYA IN 1937. HE WAS EDUCATED AT SHREWSBURY SCHOOL AND CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY. HE WAS CALLED TO THE ENGLISH BAR BY LINCOLN'S INN IN 1962 AND PRACTISED IN ENGLAND BEFORE COMING TO HONG KONG WHERE HE WAS ADMITTED TO PRACTISE IN 1976. HE HAS A SUBSTANTIAL CIVIL PRACTICE, SPECIALISING IN DIVORCE AND ITS ANCILLARY WORK. WHILE IN ENGLAND, HE SERVED ON THE BAR COUNCIL FOR SIX YEARS AND ON THE FAMILY BAR ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE FOR 12 YEARS.

THEY WILL BE FORMALLY CALLED WITHIN THE BAR BY THE CHIEF JUSTICE ON APRIL 30 AT THE SUPREME COURT.

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MAXICABS TO RUN IN YUEN LONG
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MAXICAB SERVICES WILL BE INTRODUCED IN YUEN LONG FROM FRIDAY (APRIL 1).

THE FIRST TWO MAXICAB ROUTES WILL BE NOS 31 AND 32, LINKING YUEN LONG WITH TONG YAN SAN TSUEN AND TAN KWAI TSUEN RESPECTIVELY.

ROUTE 31, WHICH WILL BE CIRCULAR, WILL OPERATE VIA HONG KING STREET, YUEN LONG HONG LOK ROAD, CASTLE PEAK ROAD (YUEN LONG), CASTLE PEAK ROAD (PING SHAN), THE ACCESS ROAD TO TONG YAN SAN TSUEN, CASTLE PEAK ROAD (PING SHAN), YUEN LONG TAI YUK ROAD, KAU YUK ROAD, YUEN LONG HONG LOK ROAD AND HONG KING STREET.

IT WILL RUN FROM 6 AM TO 10 PM DAILY AT AN AVERAGE FREQUENCY OF 10 MINUTES. A FLAT FARE OF \$1 WILL BE CHARGED.

ROUTE 32 WILL OPERATE VIA HONG KING STREET, YUEN LONG HONG LOK ROAD, CASTLE PEAK ROAD (YUEN LONG), CASTLE PEAK ROAD (PING SHAN) AND TAN KWAI TSUEN ROAD.

ITS RETURN JOURNEY WILL BE VIA TAN KWAI TSUEN ROAD, CASTLE PEAK ROAD (PING SHAN), YUEN LONG TAI YUK ROAD, KAU YUK ROAD, YUEN LONG HONG LOK ROAD AND HONG KING STREET.

/THE ROUTE

THE ROUTE WILL OPERATE EVERY 11 MINUTES FROM 6 AM TO 8 PM DAILY, CHARGING A FARE OF \$1.50 PER JOURNEY.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF THESE MAXICAB ROUTES, SEVERAL ROADS IN YUEN LONG WILL BE PROHIBITED TO PLBS FROM 8 AM ON FRIDAY (APRIL 1).

THEY ARE TAN KWAI TSUEN ROAD, THE ACCESS ROAD TO TONG YAN SAN TSUEN AND THE SLIP ROAD OFF CASTLE PEAK ROAD LEADING TO TONG YAN SAN TSUEN.

MEANWHILE, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT IS LOOKING FOR FURTHER ROUTES IN YUEN LONG WHICH MIGHT BE SUITABLE FOR FRANCHISED MAXICAB OPERATION.

OPERATORS WILL BE INVITED TO APPLY FOR ALLOCATION OF THE NEW ROUTES IN DUE COURSE.

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'KAI TO' LICENCES GRANTED
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THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT (HONG KONG AND ISLANDS), MR RICHARD MEAKIN, TODAY (WEDNESDAY) GRANTED THE FIRST BATCH OF 16 'KAI TO' SERVICE LICENCES TO THE QUALIFIED OPERATORS.

A TOTAL OF 118 APPLICATIONS FOR THE LICENCES HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM 'KAI TO' OPERATORS SINCE DECEMBER LAST YEAR.

IT IS EXPECTED ALL LICENCES WOULD BE GRANTED TO THE QUALIFIED OPERATORS BEFORE JULY 1983.

UNDER THE FERRY SERVICES ORDINANCE ENACTED ON JUNE 15 LAST YEAR, 'KAI TO' OPERATORS WISHING TO CHARGE SEPARATE FARES FOR PASSENGERS AND FREIGHT ON THEIR SERVICES MUST HAVE A SERVICE LICENCE GRANTED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT IN ADDITION TO THE VESSEL LICENCE ISSUED BY THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS 'KAI TO' LICENSING EXERCISE IS TO CLARIFY THE STATUS OF SUCH SERVICES AND TO ENABLE THE SERVICES GENERALLY TO BE REGULATED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

+IT IS INTENDED THAT ALL 'KAI TO' SERVICES SHOULD OPERATE UNDER A LICENCE BY JULY 1, 1983, AFTER WHICH ENFORCEMENT ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AGAINST THOSE OPERATING ILLEGALLY,+ A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

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TENDERS BEING INVITED FOR MORE TAXI LICENCES

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL BE INVITING TENDERS FOR A FURTHER 301 URBAN TAXI LICENCES AND 150 NEW TERRITORIES TAXI LICENCES.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY, A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TENDER FORMS FOR THE 451 TAXI LICENCES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION TOMORROW (THURSDAY), FROM EITHER THE HONG KONG LICENSING OFFICE ON THE MEZZANINE FLOOR OF THE MURRAY ROAD MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK, CENTRAL, OR THE KOWLOON LICENSING OFFICE AT DUNDAS STREET, MONG KOK.

BLUE TENDER FORMS WILL BE USED FOR URBAN TAXI LICENCES AND WHITE FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES.

+PROSPECTIVE TENDERERS CANNOT USE ANY OTHER FORMS ISSUED PREVIOUSLY,+ THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED.

TENDERERS MUST DEPOSIT \$25 000 WITH THE DIRECTOR OF ACCOUNTING SERVICES FOR EACH URBAN TAXI LICENCE AND \$15 000 FOR EACH NEW TERRITORIES TAXI LICENCE.

THE TENDERER MAY SUBMIT ONE TENDER FORM FOR ANY NUMBER OF TAXI LICENCES NOT EXCEEDING 301 FOR THE URBAN AREA AND 150 FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES.

A PUBLIC BALLOT MAY BE HELD TO DETERMINE THE ACCEPTANCE OF TENDERERS WHO OFFER THE SAME UNIT PREMIUM.

COMPLETED TENDER FORMS, TOGETHER WITH ORIGINAL DEPOSIT RECEIPTS, MUST BE SUBMITTED IN DUPLICATE IN SEALED ENVELOPES, ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN, CENTRAL TENDER BOARD, AND PLACED IN THE TENDER BOX ON THE LOWER GROUND FLOOR OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (EAST WING), LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG, BEFORE NOON ON FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 1983.

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SCHOOLS URGED TO REVIEW EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

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THE ROLE OF EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES IS COMPLEMENTARY TO CLASSROOM TEACHING AND BOTH CONTRIBUTE TO THE FULL DEVELOPMENT OF PUPILS' PERSONALITY, THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR MICHAEL LEUNG, SAID TODAY.

MR LEUNG WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE TWO-DAY CONFERENCE ON EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS AT THE GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION. ABOUT 200 HEADS OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS ARE ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE WHICH IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY'S SCHOOL OF EDUCATION.

MANY SCHOOLS' EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES HAD TENDED JUST TO GROW RATHER THAN TO BE INTRODUCED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SOME OVERALL PLAN, HE SAID.

+I WOULD SUGGEST THAT IF THIS IS THE SITUATION, THE SCHOOL SHOULD CONDUCT A THOROUGH RE-EXAMINATION OF ITS OBJECTIVES IN EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND RECOGNISE THE NEED FOR WELL-COORDINATED PLANNING. THIS WILL ENSURE REAL COMPLEMENTING OF THE ACADEMIC CURRICULUM AND PURPOSEFUL ALLOCATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES AND TASKS TO ALL STAFF,+ HE SAID.

MR LEUNG ALSO URGED TEACHERS TO ATTACH MORE IMPORTANCE TO EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND TO SPEND MORE TIME IN LEADING AND ENCOURAGING THEIR STUDENTS TO TAKE PART IN THESE ACTIVITIES.

ALTHOUGH THERE WERE SO MANY DIFFERENT VARIETIES OF EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES IN SCHOOLS AND THE INCREASING NUMBER OF PUPILS TAKING PART, IT WAS NECESSARY TO ASSESS IN EACH CASE WHETHER THE ROLE OF THE TEACHER OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM HAD ACHIEVED SIGNIFICANT RESULTS.

HE SAID, +IT IS TRUE THAT THE PRESENT DEVELOPMENT IS BOTH WELCOME AND HEALTHY, BUT THERE IS STILL A LOT TO BE DONE.

+FIRST, THE TEACHER MUST ENSURE THAT THOSE PUPILS TAKING PART IN EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES ARE NOT LIMITED TO A MINORITY WHO ARE RELATIVELY MORE ACTIVE.

+SHOULD THIS BE THE CASE, THE TEACHER SHOULD ENCOURAGE EVERY PUPIL TO CHOOSE AT LEAST ONE ACTIVITY SUITABLE TO HIS INTERESTS AND INCLINATION.+

THE SAME PRINCIPLE SHOULD ALSO APPLY TO TEACHERS THEMSELVES, HE SAID. THE ORGANISATION OF EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES IN EACH SCHOOL SHOULD NOT BE RESTRICTED TO A FEW TEACHERS. IT SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN BY ALL STAFF CONCERNED SO THAT EVERY TEACHER WOULD HAVE ADEQUATE OPPORTUNITY TO GET IN TOUCH WITH AND UNDERSTAND HIS PUPILS AND HELP THEM DEVELOP, HE SAID.

THE TEACHER SHOULD ENCOURAGE PUPILS TO PLAY AN ACTIVE PART IN THESE ACTIVITIES OR GROUPS, AND SHOULD GIVE THEM ADEQUATE GUIDANCE ON HOW TO ORGANISE AND RUN THEIR OWN GROUPS OR ORGANISATIONS.

THE TEACHER MUST ALSO PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE BEHIND THE SCENES AS AN ADVISER AND MUST PARTICIPATE IN THE ACTIVITIES.

+IT IS OFTEN WITHIN THIS RELAXED AND AMICABLE ATMOSPHERE THAT THE PUPILS CAN BEST REVEAL AND DEVELOP THEMSELVES, DISPLAYING FREELY THEIR EMOTIONS AND THOUGHTS AND SHOWING ALL THEIR STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES.

+THE TEACHER WILL THEN BE IN THE BEST POSITION TO UNDERSTAND EACH PUPIL'S PERSONALITY AND, USING HIS POSITION AS A MEMBER OF SUCH ACTIVITY, ESTABLISH HIMSELF AS A MODEL FOR HIS PUPILS AND EDUCATE THEM THROUGH PERSONAL EXAMPLES,+ MR LEUNG SAID.

TRAFFIC CHANGES FOR CHING MING FESTIVAL

SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN WONG TAI SIN AND SHAM SHUI PO FOR THE FORTHCOMING CHING MING FESTIVAL.

IN SHAM SHUI PO, WING MING STREET WILL BE CLOSED BETWEEN 7 AM AND 7 PM FROM APRIL 1 TO 5.

THE GOODS VEHICLE PARKING SPACES IN KING LAM STREET, WING HONG STREET AND YU CHAU WEST STREET WILL BE SUSPENDED DURING THESE PERIODS.

ON CHING CHEUNG ROAD, THE 'NO WAITING' RESTRICTION WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED THROUGHOUT THE FESTIVAL PERIOD.

ACCESS TO THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CEMETERY ABOVE CHING CHEUNG ROAD WILL BE VIA CASTLE PEAK ROAD AND YU CHAU WEST STREET, WHILE DEPARTURE WILL BE VIA KING LAM STREET AND YEE KUK WEST STREET.

PARKING FACILITIES AT THE CEMETERY IS LIMITED AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE ADVISED TO USE PUBLIC TRANSPORT.

IN WONG TAI SIN, TRAFFIC AT THE JUNCTION OF HAMMER HILL ROAD WITH LUNG CHEUNG ROAD IS EXPECTED TO BE HEAVY. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC VISITING THE HAMMER HILL CEMETERY ARE ADVISED TO APPROACH IT VIA LUNG CHEUNG ROAD AND PO KONG VILLAGE ROAD.

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22 HOUSES SOON FOR SALE

TWENTY-TWO HOUSES, SITUATED ON TOP OF THE CHOI HUNG MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY STATION AND FORMING PART OF THE NEW NGAU CHI WAN VILLAGE, WILL SOON BE OFFERED FOR SALE BY THE LANDS DEPARTMENT.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY, THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICER FOR KOWLOON EAST, MR LYALL ALEXANDER-WEBBER, SAID THAT FOUR OF THESE TWO-STOREY HOUSES WOULD BE PUT UP FOR SALE NEXT MONTH.

+THE GROSS FLOOR AREA OF EACH OF THESE HOUSES IS ABOUT 110 SQUARE METRES, WITH TWO OF THEM SLIGHTLY LARGER AT 148 SQUARE METRES. THE CONDITIONS OF SALE ALLOW FOR THESE HOUSES TO BE USED FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES,+ MR ALEXANDER-WEBBER SAID.

+THE UPPER FLOOR HAS TWO BEDROOMS, A SITTING/DINING ROOM, KITCHEN, TOILET AND A COVERED BALCONY,+ HE ADDED.

THE NEW NGAU CHI WAN VILLAGE, WHICH COMPRISES A TOTAL OF 67 HOUSES, IS IDEALLY LOCATED NEXT TO PING SHEK AND CHOI HUNG ESTATES WHICH SHOULD PROVIDE SUBSTANTIAL CUSTOMERS IF THE AREA IS USED FOR SHOPPING AND RETAILING PURPOSES, MR ALEXANDER-WEBBER SAID.

+IN ADDITION, AN URBAN COUNCIL MARKET COMPLEX WILL SOON BE BUILT NEXT TO THE VILLAGE,+ HE SAID.

POTENTIAL BUYERS OF THE GROUP BATCH OF FOUR HOUSES, WHICH ARE TO BE SOLD ON APRIL 29, AT THE CHOI WAN ESTATE COMMUNITY CENTRE IN CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD STARTING AT 2.30 PM, ARE WELCOME TO INSPECT THE HOUSES BY APPROACHING THE GUARDS ON SITE.

SALES OF THE REMAINING 18 HOUSES WILL BE ANNOUNCED OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS.

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FIRST-EVER CLASSICAL GUITAR ORCHESTRA
CONCERT STAGED IN YUEN LONG
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MORE THAN 800 YUEN LONG MUSIC LOVERS WERE GIVEN A SPECIAL TREAT THIS (WEDNESDAY) EVENING - THE FIRST CONCERT EVER TO BE STAGED IN HONG KONG BY A CLASSICAL GUITAR ORCHESTRA.

THE ORCHESTRA FROM KEENE STAGE COLLEGE IN THE UNITED STATES FLEW ALL THE WAY TO HONG KONG TO GIVE THE CONCERT. THE ORCHESTRA IS ALSO UNIQUE IN THE UNITED STATES AS THE ONLY CLASSICAL GUITAR ORCHESTRA OF ITS KIND.

SPEAKING BEFORE THE CONCERT HELD AT THE LUT SAU HALL, YUEN LONG, THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR JAMES WILSON, WELCOMED THE ORCHESTRA TO YUEN LONG AND SAID HE HOPED THAT THIS WOULD BE THE FIRST OF MANY SUCH VISITS.

HE SAID: +MANY YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE DISTRICT ARE INTERESTED IN GUITAR MUSIC, AND THIS CONCERT IS A MARVELOUS OPPORTUNITY FOR THEM TO KEEP UP WITH INNOVATIVE IDEAS IN THE FIELD OF GUITAR MUSIC, AND A SOURCE OF INSPIRATION TO DEVELOP AND IMPROVE THEIR TECHNIQUES.+

WORLD FAMOUS CLASSICAL GUITARIST, MISS ALICE ARTZT, APPEARED AS A GUEST ARTIST WITH THE ORCHESTRA. THE ORCHESTRA WILL CONDUCT A MUSIC WORKSHOP AT TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL BEFORE LEAVING FOR THE NEXT LEG OF THEIR TOUR.

TONIGHT'S CONCERT WAS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD, THE DISTRICT OFFICE, THE MUSIC OFFICE, THE YUEN LONG TOWN HALL AND THE CULTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT (NT).

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STATUTORY HOLIDAY PAY REMINDER
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EMPLOYERS WERE REMINDED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT STATUTORY HOLIDAY PAY SHOULD INCLUDE ALLOWANCES PAYABLE TO EMPLOYEES UNDER A CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT EXPLAINED THAT HOLIDAY PAY SHOULD BE EQUIVALENT TO AN EMPLOYEE'S EARNINGS ON A NORMAL WORKING DAY AND SHOULD INCLUDE BASIC WAGES AS WELL AS ALLOWANCES THAT CAN BE EXPRESSED IN MONEY TERMS SUCH AS MEAL AND COST OF LIVING ALLOWANCES.

WHERE THE EARNINGS VARY FROM DAY TO DAY, HOLIDAY PAY SHOULD BE THE AVERAGE DAILY EARNINGS DURING THE PERIOD OF 28 DAYS PRECEDING THE HOLIDAY, HE ADDED.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT STATUTORY HOLIDAY PAY MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE NEAREST BRANCH OFFICE OF THE LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE.

THE TELEPHONE NUMBERS ARE: FOR KOWLOON EAST 3-205638; KOWLOON WEST 3-201652; KOWLOON SOUTH 3-319454; KWUN TONG 3-898520; TSUEN WAN 0-4980208; TAI PO 0-6577111 EXT. 114; TUEN MUN 0-818443; HONG KONG ISLAND (WEST) 5-268671 AND HONG KONG ISLAND (EAST) 5-282523.

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