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GOVERNOR TO LEAVE FOR PEKING

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, WILL LEAVE FOR PEKING TOMORROW (MONDAY) TO TAKE PART IN ANOTHER ROUND OF SINO-BRITISH TALKS ON THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG.

SIR EDWARD WILL BE TRAVELLING ON FLIGHT CA 102, ETD 12.30 PM.

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TWO DB'S TO DISCUSS GREEN PAPER

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TAI PO AND TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL GIVE THEIR VIEWS ON THE RECENTLY-PUBLISHED GREEN PAPER ON A REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT AT TWO SPECIAL MEETINGS TOMORROW (MONDAY) AND ON THURSDAY (JULY 26).

THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD SPECIAL MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 9.30 AM TOMORROW IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE BOARD'S SECRETARIAT ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF TAI PO COMMERCIAL CENTRE IN KWONG FUK ROAD.

THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD SPECIAL MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 2.30 PM ON THURSDAY IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE 10TH FLOOR OF KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN HING FONG ROAD.

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NOTE TO EDITORS :

YOU ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE TWO DISTRICT BOARD MEETINGS.

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COMMITTEE TO MONITOR DEVELOPMENT WORKS

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A WORKS PROGRESS COMMITTEE HAS RECENTLY BEEN SET UP IN THE EASTERN DISTRICT TO CO-ORDINATE AND OVERSEE THE DISTRICT'S OVERALL DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND PROGRAMMES.

THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR LUI HAU-TUEN, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) THAT THE COMMITTEE WAS ESSENTIAL TO COPE WITH THE LARGE-SCALE DEVELOPMENTS BEING PLANNED AND TO MONITOR THE PROGRESS OF DEVELOPMENT WORKS IN THE DISTRICT.

HE MENTIONED, IN PARTICULAR, THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE 65-HECTARE SITE AT SIU CHAI WAN INTO A NEW TOWN FOR 40 000 PEOPLE WITH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HOUSING ESTATES, HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME FLATS, SCHOOLS, FACTORIES AND OTHER COMMUNITY AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES.

/+THERE ARE .....

+THERE ARE ALSO OTHER DEVELOPMENT MATTERS THAT REQUIRE CO-ORDINATION AND CONCERTED ACTION AND THE COMMITTEE WILL TAKE CARE OF THEM,+ HE SAID.

+THE COMMITTEE CAN ALSO EFFECTIVELY AND APPROPRIATELY DECIDE ON SUBSTANTIAL NEEDS IN THE DISTRICT.+

BESIDES MR LUI, THE COMMITTEE COMPRISES THE DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT AS THE CHAIRMAN; THE URBAN AREA DEVELOPMENT ADVISOR S VICE-CHAIRMAN; CHIEF ENGINEERS FROM PORT WORKS DIVISION, DEVELOPMENT AND AIRPORT DIVISION, AND HIGHWAYS OFFICE; A CHIEF TOWN PLANNER; A CHIEF PUBLIC WORKS OFFICER (EASTERN); A DISTRICT LANDS OFFICER; AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE HOUSING, MARINE, TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES DEPARTMENTS.

THE COMMITTEE WILL MEET ONCE EVERY THREE MONTHS.

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COUPLES URGED TO BECOME FOSTER PARENTS

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PEOPLE WHO FEEL THEY CAN SHARE THEIR TIME AND LOVE WITH CHILDREN, ARE BEING URGED TO APPLY TO THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S CENTRAL FOSTER CARE UNIT TO BECOME FOSTER PARENTS.

+ANYONE CAN DROP INTO THE UNIT'S OFFICES IN WAN CHAI AND TALK TO THE STAFF ABOUT WHAT IS INVOLVED IN BECOMING A FOSTER PARENT,+ A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE UNIT IS LOCATED ON THE 11TH FLOOR, TUNG SUN COMMERCIAL CENTRE, 194-200 LOCKHART ROAD, AND ITS TELEPHONE NUMBER IS 5-8938121.

+BASICALLY, WE ARE LOOKING FOR COUPLES AGED BETWEEN 25 AND 60 WITH A HAPPY AND STABLE MARRIAGE, AS WELL AS STEADY INCOME AND EXPERIENCE IN RAISING CHILDREN. PREFERABLY, THE WIFE IN THE FAMILY IS NOT WORKING,+ HE SAID.

ABOVE ALL, THE DEPARTMENT IS LOOKING FOR MATURE COUPLES WITH THE RIGHT MOTIVATION -- PEOPLE WHO ARE WILLING TO DEVOTE THEIR TIME AND LOVE TO CHILDREN WHO, THROUGH NO FAULT OF THEIR OWN, ARE TEMPORARILY SEPARATED FROM THEIR NATURAL PARENTS.

FOSTER PARENTS RECEIVE A MONTHLY ALLOWANCE OF $1 220, COMPRISING A MAINTENANCE GRANT OF $916 FOR EACH FOSTER CHILD AND AN INCENTIVE PAYMENT OF $304 FOR THE PARENTS.

THERE IS ALSO A +SET UP+ GRANT OF $458 FOR EACH CHILD. ADDITIONAL GRANTS TO MEET SPECIAL NEEDS OF A FOSTER CHILD MAY ALSO BE CONSIDERED.

/EXPATRIATES ARE .....

EXPATRIATES ARE ALSO WELCOME TO BECOME FOSTER PARENTS. HOWEVER, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE USE OF EXPATRIATE HOMES FOR FOSTERING WOULD LIKELY BE RESTRICTED TO CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS, SUCH AS THOSE AWAITING ADOPTION OVERSEAS.

SINCE LAST OCTOBER WHEN A MAJOR EXERCISE TO RECRUIT FOSTER PARENTS WAS LAUNCHED, THE CENTRAL FOSTER CARE UNIT HAS RECEIVED ABOUT 600 ENQUIRIES AND ABOUT 300 APPLICATIONS.

+FOSTERING IS PARTICULARLY DESIRABLE FOR BABIES AND VERY YOUNG CHILDREN. FOR THEM, INDIVIDUAL ATTENTION AND CARE IS CRUCIAL,+ HE SAID.

FOR ITS PART, THE GOVERNMENT HAS INCREASED THE NUMBER OF SUBVENTED FOSTER PLACES FROM 40 TO 120 IN THE CURRENT YEAR.

+WE ARE MAKING GOOD PROGRESS IN PROMOTING THIS FORM OF NON-INSTITUTIONAL CARE, AND WE HOPE THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO FILL ALL 120 FOSTER PLACES BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

BY THE END OF JUNE, 57 CHILDREN HAD FOUND 43 FOSTER HOMES. ANOTHER 31 HOMES WERE AVAILABLE FOR SUITABLE CHILDREN, WHILE 25 CHILDREN WERE WAITING TO BE MATCHED, HE SAID.

THERE ARE NOW THREE VOLUNTARY AGENCIES PROVIDING FOSTER CARE SERVICES. THE HONG KONG CHRISTIAN SERVICE HANDLES 60 FOSTER PLACES, THE FAMILY WELFARE SOCIETY, 20 PLACES, AND THE SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND, 40 PLACES.

THE CENTRAL FOSTER CARE UNIT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR RECRUITING AND REGISTERING POTENTIAL FOSTER PARENTS AND ASSESSING THEIR SUITABILITY BY CONDUCTING HOME STUDIES, WHILE THE AGENCIES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MATCHING A CHILD WITH A FOSTER HOME AND THE SUPERVISION OF PLACEMENTS.

+AT PRESENT, THE AGENCIES ARE ALSO ASSISTING US IN CARRYING OUT HOME STUDIES OF PROSPECTIVE FOSTER FAMILIES AND THIS HELPS TO SPEED UP THINGS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+HITHERTO,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID, +FOSTER CARE HAS NOT BEEN A COMMON PRACTICE IN HONG KONG, BUT THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT THE SITUATION IS CHANGING. WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO DEVELOP THIS TYPE OF CARE FURTHER AS THE CONCEPT GAINS WIDER ACCEPTANCE IN THE COMMUNITY.+

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GOODS VEHICLES TO BE CLASSIFIED

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NEW CLASSES OF DRIVING LICENCES WILL BE CREATED WHEN THE NEW ROAD TRAFFIC (DRIVING LICENCE) REGULATIONS COME INTO FORCE IN LATE AUGUST THIS YEAR.

UNDER THE REGULATIONS, THE EXISTING +ALL GOODS VEHICLES+ WILL BE SUBDIVIDED INTO THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES, WITH EACH CATEGORY REQUIRING A SEPARATE DRIVING LICENCE:

* LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES OF UP TO 5.5 TONNES GROSS,

* MEDIUM GOODS VEHICLES OF UP TO 24 TONNES GROSS,

* HEAVY GOODS VEHICLES OF OVER 24 TONNES GROSS,

* SPECIAL-PURPOSE VEHICLES, SUCH AS ROAD SWEEPERS, AND

* ARTICULATED VEHICLES, SUCH AS CONTAINER LORRIES.

+THE RECLASSIFICATION IS TO RECOGNISE THAT DIFFERENT DRIVING SKILLS ARE REQUIRED FOR THE HANDLING OF DIFFERENT CATEGORIES OF GOODS VEHICLES,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID.

+IT IS ALSO AIMED AT PROMOTING GREATER ROAD SAFETY BY ENSURING THAT DRIVERS OF EACH CATEGORY OF GOODS VEHICLES POSSESS THE PROPER SKILLS TO HANDLE THE VEHICLES SAFETY,+ HE SAID.

PROVISIONS HAVE BEEN MADE TO ALLOW HOLDERS OF CURRENT GOODS VEHICLE LICENCES TO DRIVE LIGHT, MEDIUM AND HEAVY RIGID GOODS VEHICLES AFTER THE IMPLEMENATION OF THE NEW REGULATIONS.

THERE ARE ALSO TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS TO ALLOW CURRENT GOODS VEHICLE LICENCE HOLDERS TO DRIVE ARTICULATED VEHICLES DURING THE FIRST THREE YEARS AFTER THE IMPLEMENTATION DATE.

+HOWEVER, AFTER THIS PERIOD, THESE DRIVERS WOULD BE REQUIRED TO HAVE PASSED OR BEEN EXEMPTED FROM THE APPROPRIATE TEST IN ORDER TO CONTINUE TO DRIVE THIS NEW CLASS OF VEHICLE,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE ADDED THAT AGREEMENT HAD NOW BEEN REACHED WITH THE UNIONS AND EMPLOYERS ON THE CRITERIA FOR EXEMPTING EXISTING DRIVERS FROM THE TEST.

THE NEW REGULATIONS ALSO EMPOWER THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT TO REQUIRE A DRIVING INSTRUCTOR TO TAKE A TEST OF CONTINUED ABILITY AND FITNESS TO GIVE INSTRUCTION, AND INSTRUCTORS ARE REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN A RECORD OF ANY INSTRUCTION GIVEN TO LEARNER DRIVERS.

/THE SPOKESMAN .....

THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT NOT ALL DRIVING INSTRUCTORS WERE REQUIRED TO BE RETESTED.

+ONLY THOSE WHOSE STANDARD OF INSTRUCTION IS CONSIDERED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT TO BE INADEQUATE WOULD BE CALLED UP FOR RETESTING.

+THERE IS NOTHING FOR EXISTING DRIVING INSTRUCTORS TO FEAR SO LONG AS THEY CONSCIENTIOUSLY MAINTAIN AND UPDATE THEIR INSTRUCTION STANDARDS,+ HE SAID.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NEW REGULATIONS INCLUDE THE REQUIREMENT FOR DRIVING LICENCE APPLICANTS AGED 70 OR ABOVE TO PRODUCE A MEDICAL CERTIFICATE TO PROVE HIS FITNESS AND ABILITY TO DRIVE, AND THE RECORDING ON THE DRIVING LICENCE OF THE WEARING OF A HEARING AID.

THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT WILL ALSO BE EMPOWERED TO REFUSE TO ISSUE A LEARNER'S DRIVING LICENCE IN RESPECT OF A MOTOR CYCLE, IF THE APPLICANT HAS HELD SUCH A LICENCE DURING THE PREVIOUS 12 MONTHS BUT HAS NOT APPLIED FOR A DRIVING TEST DURING THE PERIOD, OR FAILED TO ATTEND SUCH A TEST WITHOUT REASONABLE EXCUSE.

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73 PASS LICENTIATE EXAM

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THE LICENTIATE COMMITTEE OF THE MEDIAL COUNCIL OF HONG KONG ANNOUNCED TODAY (SUNDAY) THAT 73 OUT OF 129 CANDIDATES, HAD PASSED THE FINAL PART OF LICENTIATE EXAMINATION FOR UNREGISTRABLE DOCTORS.

THIS PART OF THE EXAMINATION, HELD BETWEEN JULY 10 AND 12, WAS AN ORAL EXAMINATION OF ABILITY TO APPLY PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE TO CLINICAL PROBLEMS.

CANDIDATES WERE GIVEN A 30-MINUTE EXAMINATION BY TWO PANELS OF EXAMINERS IN EACH OF THE THREE DISCIPLINES -- MEDICINE, SURGERY AND OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY.

THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES WILL NOW BE REQUIRED TO UNDERGO AN 18-MONTH PERIOD OF ASSESSMENT AND TRAINING IN HOSPITALS APPROVED BY THE MEDICAL COUNCIL, STARTING IN SEPTEMBER.

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FOOD PLACES CONTINUE TO GROW
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THE NUMBER OF LICENSED FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS OPERATING IN THE URBAN AREAS SHOWED A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE THIS YEAR.

AS AT THE END OF LAST MONTH, THE URBAN COUNCIL HAD ISSUED A TOTAL OF 2 933 GENERAL RESTAURANT LICENCES -- AN INCREASE OF 186 OVER THE FIGURES FOR THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR.

LIGHT REFRESHMENT RESTAURANT LICENCES ALSO WENT UP BY 29 TO 799 THIS YEAR.

OTHER FOOD BUSINESSES ALSO REGISTERED AN INCREASE IN NUMBER THIS YEAR, WITH LAST YEAR'S FIGURES IN BRACKETS: FRESH PROVISION SHOPS - 1 559 (1 481), FOOD FACTORIES - 713 (683), FACTORY CANTEENS - 163 (129), BAKERIES - 531 (512), AND FROZEN CONFECTION FACTORIES - 72 (51).

HOWEVER, THERE WAS A DECREASE OF SIX SIU MEI AND LO MEI SHOPS THIS YEAR -- FROM 326 TO 320.

APART FROM THE CATEGORIES LISTED ABOVE, PERMITS ARE REQUIRED FROM THE URBAN COUNCIL FOR THE SALE OF RESTRICTED FOODS SUCH AS MILK, ICE CREAM, CUT FRUIT, NON-BOTTLED DRINKS, CHINESE HERB TEA AND FOOD SOLD IN COIN-OPERATED AUTOMATIC VENDING MACHINES.

THE NUMBER OF SUCH PERMITS AS AT JUNE THIS YEAR TOTALLED ABOUT 4 700.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE URBAN COUNCIL SAID THAT ALL FOOD BUSINESSES MUST BE RUN UNDER AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUISITE LICENCE OR PERMIT FROM THE COUNCIL.

A LICENCE OR PERMIT IS ISSUED ONLY AFTER THE PREMISES HAVE CONFORMED TO THE PRESCRIBED HYGIENE STANDARDS LAID DOWN IN THE VARIOUS BY-LAWS MADE UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND URBAN SERVICES ORDINANCE AND TO THE APPROVED LICENSING POLICY OF THE COUNCIL.

+FOOD PREMISES ARE ALSO REGULARLY INSPECTED BY HEALTH STAFF TO SEE THAT LICENSING CONDITIONS AND THE HEALTH LAWS ARE OBSERVED AND THE HYGIENE STANDARDS MAINTAINED,+ HE SAID.

+A CONTRAVENTION OF LAW MAY LEAD TO SUMMONS ACTION, WHILE AN UNRECTIFIED CONTRAVENTION AGAINST A LICENSING CONDITION MAY RESULT IN SUSPENSION OF THE LICENCE OR PERMIT.+

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IN-SERVICE COURSE FOR TRADE INSTRUCTORS

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WORKSHOP OR TRADE INSTRUCTORS WORKING IN SPECIAL SCHOOLS FOR THE HANDICAPPED ARE INVITED TO JOIN A TWO-YEAR IN-SERVICE COURSE TO BE OFFERED BY THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE.

THE COURSE, DUE TO START IN THE COMING SCHOOL TERM, WILL COVER STUDIES IN EDUCATION PRINCIPLES, THE NEEDS OF, AND SERVICES FOR, THE HANDICAPPED, PRINCIPLES AND TECHNIQUES OF TEACHING THE HANDICAPPED, VOCATIONAL ASSESSMENT AND TOOLS ADAPTATION.

APART FROM LECTURES, THERE WILL BE TUTORIALS, SEMINARS AND EDUCATIONAL VISITS. TEACHING SUPERVISION AT THE PARTICIPANTS' WORK-PLACE WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED.

THE COURSE WILL BE OPERATED ON A PART-TIME BASIS. DURING THE FIRST YEAR, PARTICIPANTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND CLASS ON FRIDAYS. IN THE SECOND YEAR, THEY MUST ATTEND CLASS ON EITHER ONE EVENING A WEEK PLUS SATURDAY MORNINGS, OR ONE WEEKDAY A WEEK.

THE MAIN MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION WILL BE CANTONESE.

ON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE COURSE, TRAINEES WHO ARE QUALIFIED INSTRUCTORS WILL BE AWARDED CERTIFICATES.

OTHERS WILL BE AWARDED PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATES, AND WILL RECEIVE FULL CERTIFICATES WHEN THEY HAVE ATTAINED THE STATUS OF QUALIFIED INSTRUCTORS.

THOSE ACCEPTED FOR THE COURSE MUST CONTINUE TO TEACH IN SPECIAL SCHOOLS FOR THE DURATION OF THE COURSE.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, LEE GARDENS, HYSAN AVENUE, HONG KONG; THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SUB-OFFICE, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON; AND THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE AT 373 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG.

COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED BY JULY 31 TO THE COLLEGE THROUGH THE SUPERVISOR OR HEAD OF THE SPECIAL SCHOOL WHERE THE APPLICANT IS TEACHING.

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FOOTBRIDGES PLANNED FOR QUEENSWAY

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THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS PLANNING TO CONSTRUCT A COVERED FOOTBRIDGE SYSTEM AT THE JUNCTIONS OF QUEENSWAY-QUEEN'S ROAD EAST AND HENNESSY ROAD-ARSENAL STREET TO PROVIDE SAFER ROAD CROSSINGS FOR PEDESTRIANS.

THE SYSTEM WILL ALSO LESSEN INTERRUPTIONS TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC ALONG THESE ROADS IN WAN CHAI.

CONSTRUCTION OF THE FOOTBRIDGES WILL REQUIRE MODIFICATIONS TO MONMOUTH PARK IN QUEEN'S ROAD EAST.

A PLAN SHOWING THE PROPOSED WORKS CAN BE SEEN AT THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY, HONG KONG; THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, HONG KONG NORTH, 12TH FLOOR, HARBOUR CENTRE, HARBOUR ROAD, HONG KONG; AND THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE, TUNG WAH MANSIONS, 201 HENNESSY ROAD, GROUND FLOOR, HONG KONG.

ANY PERSON OBJECTING TO THE PROPOSAL SHOULD WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS BY SEPTEMBER 18.

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SEAWALL AT ALDRICH BAY

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A SEAWALL IS TO BE BUILT AT ALDRICH BAY IN CONNECTION WITH STAGE THREE OF ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR.

RECLAMATION OF 1.3 HECTARES OF LAND WILL BE CARRIED OUT BEHIND THE SEAWALL.

A SECTION OF ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR FROM SHAU KEI WAN TO CHAI WAN WILL BE BUILT ON PART OF THE RECLAIMED LAND.

THE REST WILL BE USED FOR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, PROVISION OF OPEN SPACE AND SEWAGE FACILITIES.

THE CIVIL ENGINEERING OFFICE OF THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR BUILDING THE 200-METRE SEAWALL.

WORK ON THE 10-MONTH CONTRACT WILL START IN SEPTEMBER.

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LANDS DEPARTMENT OFFICE MOVES

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THE REGRANT SECTION OF THE LANDS DEPARTMENT, FORMERLY LOCATED WITHIN THE PREMISES OF THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE/KOWLOON WEST ON THE 10TH FLOOR OF YAU MA TEI CAR PARK BUILDING, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON, HAS MOVED INTO NEW PREMISES IN THE SAME AREA.

IT IS NOW OPERATING FROM THE 10TH FLOOR OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 405 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

THOSE WHO WISH TO MAKE ENQUIRIES CAN TELEPHONE 3-884111, EXT. 367.

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MORE PUBLIC HOUSING FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE

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THE HOUSING AUTHORITY PLANS TO PROVIDE PUBLIC HOUSING PREMISES FOR 24 MORE OLD PEOPLE'S HOSTELS OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

+THIS WILL BRING TO 53 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SUCH HOSTELS IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES,+ SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE AUTHORITY TODAY.

HE SAID THE NUMBER OF HOSTEL SPACES WOULD ALSO INCREASE FROM THE EXISTING 3 891 IN 29 ESTATE HOSTELS TO 7 730.

+THESE ARE ADDITIONAL TO THE 892 SHELTERED HOUSING SPACES NOW BEING PROVIDED FOR THE ELDERLY IN THREE ESTATES AND SEVEN TEMPORARY HOUSING AREAS.

+THE INCREASED PROVISION OF PUBLIC HOUSING FOR HOSTEL PROJECTS IS PART OF THE AUTHORITY'S CONTINUING EFFORTS TO MEET THE HOUSING NEEDS OF THE ELDERLY.

+ALREADY GOOD PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TWO PRIORITY SCHEMES FOR THE BENEFITS OF OLD PEOPLE,+ HE SAID.

UNDER ONE OF THESE SCHEMES, THE SPOKESMAN SAID GROUPS OF THREE UNRELATED PEOPLE AGED 60 YEARS OR ABOVE COULD APPLY FOR A PUBLIC HOUSING FLAT ON A SHARING BASIS.

+SO FAR, MORE THAN 5 540 ELDERLY PEOPLE HAVE MOVED INTO ESTATES UNDER THE SCHEME WHICH BEGAN IN 1979.

+APPLICANTS MAY APPLY IN ADVANCE, TWO YEARS BEFORE ATTAINING THE AGE OF 60, AS FLATS ARE NORMALLY ALLOCATED WITHIN TWO YEARS OF APPLICATION.

/+THERE IS .....

+THERE IS NO SPACE LIMIT, AND THE INCOME ELIGIBILITY LIMIT IS SET 20 PER CENT HIGHER THAN FOR WAITING LIST APPLICANTS.+

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE OTHER PRIORITY SCHEME WAS FOR FAMILIES LIVING WITH ELDERLY PEOPLE AGED 60 OR OVER.

+UNDER THIS SCHEME, PUBLIC HOUSING ALLOCATION IS MADE TO ELIGIBLE FAMILIES ONE YEAR EARLIER THAN THE NORMAL WAITING PERIOD.

+IT WAS INTRODUCED IN 1982 AND HAS BENEFITED 1 204 FAMILIES WITH AGED PARENTS.+

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RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ORGANISATIONS TO BE DISCUSSED

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THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DISTRICT BOARDS, AREA COMMITTEES AND MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES WILL BE DISCUSSED BY WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AT THEIR MEETING ON TUESDAY (JULY 24) AFTERNOON.

A PAPER ON THE RESULT OF A REVIEW OF THE EXISTING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THESE THREE TYPES OF ORGANISATIONS AND PROPOSALS TO STRENGTHEN THIS RELATIONSHIP WILL BE TABLED AT THE MEETING.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO BE BRIEFED ON THE REDEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR LOWER WONG TAI SIN, WANG TAU HOM, LOK FU AND TUNG TAU PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES WHERE MANY OLD-TYPE HOUSING BLOCKS WERE CONSTRUCTED BETWEEN 1958 AND 1964 TO HOUSE SQUATTERS CLEARED FROM DEVELOPMENT SITES.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA WILL INCLUDE PUBLICITY FOR THE FORTHCOMING REGISTRATION OF VOTERS AND DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS, A REVIEW OF WATER SUPPLY IN SQUATTER AREAS IN THE DISTRICT, THE URBAN COUNCIL'S POLICY ON HAWKERS AND PROGRESS REPORTS OF THE BOARD'S VARIOUS COMMITTEES.

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NEW MARKET FOR SHAM TSENG READY SOON

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THE SHAM TSENG TEMPORARY MARKET WILL BE OPEN FROM SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR, PROVIDING LOCAL RESIDENTS WITH HYGIENIC MARKET FACILITIES.

THE $4-MILLION TEMPORARY MARKET IS LOCATED AT AN 8 600-SQUARE-METRE SITE UNDER THE FLYOVER OF THE TUEN MUN HIGHWAY AT SHAM TSENG, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID.

THE SINGLE-STOREY MARKET IS DIVIDED INTO TWO SECTIONS, ONE ACCOMMODATING 29 STALLS FOR THE SELLING OF VEGETABLES, MEAT, FISH AND POULTRY, AND THE OTHER HOUSING EIGHT COOKED FOOD STALLS.

OTHER FACILITIES INCLUDE A POULTRY-SCALDING ROOM AND A BAY FOR LOADING OR UNLOADING GOODS.

THE NEW MARKET, DESIGNED AND BUILT BY THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, WILL BE MANAGED BY THE NTSD.

THE SHAM TSENG RESITE MARKET AND THE SHAM TSENG COOKED FOOD BAZAAR WILL BE DEMOLISHED TO MAKE WAY FOR DEVELOPMENT.

ELIGIBLE STALL-HOLDERS CURRENTLY TRADING AT THESE TWO PLACES WILL BE ACCOMMODATED AT THE NEW MARKET.

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YOUTH MUSIC CAMP STARTS

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GIVEN ENCOURAGEMENT AND SUPPORT, HONG KONG COULD PRODUCE ITS SHARE OF FINE YOUNG MUSICIANS, JUST AS IT HAD PRODUCED SUCCESSFUL AND INTERNATIONALLY FAMOUS PEOPLE IN COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND THE PROFESSIONS, MISS LYDIA DUNN SAID TODAY.

MISS DUNN, A MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS, WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 1984 HONG KONG YOUTH MUSIC CAMP.

THIS ANNUAL EVENT, NOW IN ITS FIFTH YEAR, IS BEING HELD AT THE PO LEUNG KUK PAK TAM CHUNG HOLIDAY CAMP IN SAI KUNG UNTIL AUGUST 5.

/+IN RECENT .....

+IN RECENT YEARS, WE IN HONG KONG HAVE WITNESSED A CHANGING ATTITUDE TOWARDS MUSIC TRAINING FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE. PARENTS, TEACHERS AND CHILDREN ALIKE HAVE COME TO REALISE THE WIDESPREAD INTEREST AND TALENTS IN MUSIC AMONG THE YOUNG PEOPLE IN THIS COMMUNITY AND THE PART THAT MUSIC TRAINING CAN PLAY IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN INDIVIDUAL.

+IT IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT AT THIS POINT IN HONG KONG'S HISTORY THAT OUR YOUNG PEOPLE ARE GIVEN EVERY ENCOURAGEMENT TO CHANNEL THEIR ENERGIES AND INTERESTS INTO MEANINGFUL PURSUITS, AND I AM SURE THAT IN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS, THROUGH MUSIC, THROUGH THE EXCHANGE OF MUSICAL IDEAS, AND THROUGH MAKING NEW FRIENDS WITH SIMILAR INTEREST FROM SOUTHEAST ASIA AND OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD, OUR YOUNG MUSICIANS WILL FIND IT A FULFILLING AND INSPIRING EXPERIENCE,+ MISS DUNN SAID.

SHE JOINED THE COMMISSIONER FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR CLIVE OXLEY, IN EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO THE PO LEUNG KUK FOR MAKING AVAILABLE THE BEAUTIFUL CAMP SITE, AND TO THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB FOR THEIR FINANCIAL SUPPORT. SHE ALSO THANKED THE RECREATION AND SPORTS SERVICE FOR ORGANISING THE SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL PROGRAMMES.

IN A WELCOME SPEECH EARLIER, MR OXLEY SAID THAT THE CAMP IS NOW A WELL-ESTABLISHED EVENT IN THE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME.

MR OXLEY SAID THE FIVE-HECTARE PAK TAM CHUNG HOLIDAY CAMP OFFERS FACILITIES FOR SUCH SPORTS AS ARCHERY, CYCLING, ROLLER-SKATING, CANOEING, ROPE-CLIMBING, BADMINTON, SWIMMING, FIVE-A-SIDE FOOTBALL, TABLE-TENNIS AND JOGGING.

+I AM SURE YOU WILL ALL TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS WIDE RANGE OF FACILITIES, ESPECIALLY WITH QUALIFIED INSTRUCTORS ON HAND TO OFFER GUIDANCE AND TRAINING,+ HE ADDED.

+BESIDES THESE RECREATIONAL PURSUITS, OF COURSE, THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE NEXT TWO WEEKS IS THE WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY TO GET TOGETHER WITH MUSICIANS, NOT ONLY FROM HONG KONG BUT FROM MALAYSIA, THE PHILIPPINES AND MACAU TO EXCHANGE IDEAS AND EXPERIENCE, TO MAKE FRIENDS, AND TO LEARN FROM RENOWNED MUSICIANS FROM AUSTRALIA, CHINA, THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

+UNDER THEIR EXPERT TEACHING AND SOUND GUIDANCE, YOU HAVE THE CHANCE TO REALISE YOUR ASPIRATIONS IN THE ART OF MUSIC-MAKING. IT IS MOST GRATIFYING TO SEE YOUNG PEOPLE LIKE YOURSELVES HARNESSING THEIR ENERGIES IN THE STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE AND DEVOTING THEIR TIME TO SUCH PURPOSEFUL PURSUITS,+ MR OXLEY SAID.

THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR, MRS DORIS HO, THEN GAVE A VOTE OF THANKS TO ALL PARTIES CONCERNED.

/ABOUT 250 .....

ABOUT 250 YOUNG MUSIC ENTHUSIASTS ARE TAKING PART IN THIS YEAR'S CAMP.

PARENTS AND GUARDIANS OF THE CAMPERS WILL BE INVITED TO VISIT THE CAMP ON JULY 29 WHEN THEY WILL BE ABLE TO SEE THEIR CHILDREN AT WORK AND PLAY.

AN EVENING PERFORMANCE BY JUNIOR CAMPERS WILL BE HELD AT THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY HALL AT 8 PM ON AUGUST 3 AND A FINALE CONCERT BY SENIOR CAMPERS TO BE HELD AT THE CITY HALL AT 8 PM ON AUGUST 4.

TICKETS AT $5 EACH FOR THE FINALE CONCERT ARE NOW ON SALE AT THE CITY HALL, THE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM, THE KO SHAN THEATRE, THE SPACE MUSEUM AND ALL MUSIC CENTRES OF THE MUSIC OFFICE.

ENQUIRIES MAY BE MADE BY DIALLING 5-283257 OR 5-741622.

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WARNING STICKER TO GO ON LITTER BINS

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A NOTICE TO WARN PEOPLE AGAINST DEPOSITING REFUSE OUTSIDE A LITTER BIN WILL SOON BE POSTED ON URBAN COUNCIL LITTER BINS IN KEY BLACKSPOTS THROUGHOUT THE HONG KONG ISLAND AND KOWLOON.

THE NOTICE STATES THAT THE OFFENCE CARRIES A MAXIMUM FINE OF $5 000 AND SIX MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT.

MANY PEOPLE HAVE THE HABIT OF DISCARDING JUNK IN THIS MANNER, NOT REALISING THAT IT IS AGAINST THE LAW, A CITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

+THE URBAN COUNCIL HAS TO SPEND A GREAT DEAL OF TIME AND MONEY COLLECTING HEAPS OF REFUSE AROUND LITTER BINS. SUCH REFUSE SHOULD BE DELIVERED TO THE NEAREST REFUSE COLLECTING POINTS DURING COLLECTION HOURS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE WARNING STICKER WILL BE PASTED UP ON ABOUT 1 000 BINS IN ALL DISTRICTS, ESPECIALLY IN WAN CHAI, WESTERN, SHAU KEI WAN, MONG KOK, SHAM SHUI PO AND YAU MA TEI, WHERE THE PROBLEM IS MOST SERIOUS.

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SUBMARINE OUTFALL FOR JUNK BAY

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A 3 400-METRE-LONG SUBMARINE SEWAGE OUTFALL PIPE IS TO BE LAID AT JUNK BAY AND IN THE TATHONG CHANNEL AS PART OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF JUNK BAY NEW TOWN.

IT WILL BE 1 600 MILLIMETRES IN DIAMETER AND WILL BE LAID WITHIN AN AREA OF 23 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED.

WORK WILL START IN EARLY 1985 AND TAKE ABOUT 10 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

CARE WILL BE TAKEN TO AVOID DISRUPTION TO NAVIGATION IN THE AREA DURING THE CONSTRUCTION PERIOD.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA AFFECTED IS DESCRIBED IN THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

ALL OBJECTIONS AND CLAIMS FOR COMPENSATION SHOULD BE IN WRITING TO THE DIRECTOR OF LANDS WITHIN TWO MONTHS.

THE NOTICE, TOGETHER WITH ITS RELATED PLAN, HAS BEEN POSTED ON NOTICE BOARDS NEAR THE SITE.

THE PLAN CAN ALSO BE SEEN AT :

* THE LANDS DEPARTMENT, MURRAY BUILDING, 5TH FLOOR, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG;

* SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE, SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICE BUILDING, 1ST FLOOR, 692, PRINCE EDWARD ROAD, SAN PO KONG, KOWLOON; AND

* SAI KUNG BRANCH OFFICE OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE, 63, MAN NIN STREET, SAI KUNG, NEW TERRITORIES.

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