



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, JUNE 28, 1983

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TUESDAY, JUNE 28, 1983

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18 QUESTIONS AND TEN BILLS FOR LEGCO

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EIGHTEEN QUESTIONS DEALING WITH A WIDE RANGE OF MATTERS WILL BE ASKED BY UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS, IN ADDITION TO THE TEN BILLS TO BE INTRODUCED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

AMONG THE QUESTIONS WILL BE ONE CONCERNING THE PREVALENCE OF HERPES IN HONG KONG. AND THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE ASKED WHETHER THE DISEASE COULD BE CONTRACTED THROUGH THE USE OF PUBLIC FACILITIES, SUCH AS SWIMMING POOLS AND TOILETS.

TWO QUESTIONS WILL DEAL WITH THE HEALTH HAZARD IN NON-GAZETTED BEACHES, AS WELL AS LITTER FOUND ON GAZETTED BEACHES.

THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE ASKED WHETHER IT IS CONCERNED THAT THE PUBLIC SWIM IN NON-GAZETTED BEACHES, SUCH AS BUTTERFLY BEACH, AND IF SO, WHETHER IT INTENDS TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT.

IT WILL ALSO BE ASKED ABOUT ACTION BEING TAKEN TO COLLECT FLOATING REFUSE FROM GAZETTED BEACHES, AS WELL AS TO DEAL WITH VESSELS AND INDIVIDUALS CAUSING THE NUISANCE.

OTHER QUESTIONS WILL DEAL WITH UNEMPLOYMENT, THE LOSS TO LOCAL CHICKEN FARMERS ARISING FROM PUBLICITY ABOUT THE USE OF GROWTH HORMONES, AND THE METHODS USED TO DEAL WITH INDUSTRIAL AND DOMESTIC REFUSE.

THE GOVERNMENT WILL ALSO BE ASKED ABOUT ALLOWING THE USE OF PUTONGHUA IN THE COUNCIL, ABOUT THE BUSINESS STATUS OF PEOPLE WHO GIVE PRIVATE TUITION, AND ABOUT THE PROGRESS MADE IN IDENTIFYING RESERVOIRS FOR SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES.

AND IT WILL BE ASKED ABOUT ACTION TAKEN OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS AGAINST OWNERS OF VEHICLES ABANDONED ON CROWN LAND, IN PARTICULAR, ON STREETS AND PAVEMENTS; PROGRESS ON THE EAST ISLAND CORRIDOR WORK; PARKING FACILITIES FOR MOTOR CYCLES; MEASURES TO CONTROL FRAUDULENT AND MISLEADING DESCRIPTION OF GOLD ARTICLES FOR SALE IN SHOPS; MENTAL HEALTH; PROGRESS ON THE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ORDINANCE; FEE ASSISTANCE FOR KINDERGARTENS; THE SITING OF TRAM STOPS AND FLOOD WARNING ARRANGEMENTS.

THE TEN BILLS TO BE INTRODUCED AND READ A SECOND TIME ARE:

FINANCIAL SECRETARY —	INLAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT) (NO. 3) BILL 1983
SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS —	HONG KONG INDUSTRIAL ESTATE CORPORATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1983
SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS —	LAND ACQUISITION (POSSESSORY TITLE) BILL 1983

/COMMISSIONER FOR

- COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR --- FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDER-
TAKINGS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1983
- LAW DRAFTSMAN --- INTERPRETATION AND GENERAL CLAUSES
(AMENDMENT) BILL 1983
- ATTORNEY GENERAL --- INTERPRETATION AND GENERAL CLAUSES
(AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1983
- LAW DRAFTSMAN --- PROBATE AND ADMINISTRATION
(AMENDMENT) BILL 1983
- DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION --- EDUCATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1983
- DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE --- CHILD CARE CENTRES (AMENDMENT)
BILL 1983
- SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY --- IMPORT AND EXPORT (AMENDMENT)
BILL 1983

DEBATE ON THE BILLS IS EXPECTED TO RESUME ON JULY 13, PRIOR TO COMMITTEE STAGE AND FINAL READINGS.

ONE BILL, THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES CHILDREN'S EDUCATION TRUST BILL 1983, FOR THE SETTING UP OF A TRUST FUND, IS EXPECTED TO GO THROUGH THE COMMITTEE STAGE AND THIRD READING.

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HK-SHENZHEN GROUP MEETS AGAIN
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THE HONG KONG-SHENZHEN JOINT WORKING GROUP ON THE MOVEMENT OF PASSENGERS AND GOODS THROUGH BORDER CONTROL POINTS HELD ITS SEVENTH MEETING IN SHENZHEN TODAY. THE WORKING GROUP HAS BEEN MEETING AT TWO-MONTH INTERVALS FOR THE LAST 15 MONTHS ON ALTERNATE SIDES OF THE BORDER.

THE HONG KONG DELEGATION CONSISTS OF REPRESENTATIVES OF SECURITY AND TRANSPORT BRANCHES, THE POLICE AND IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS DEPARTMENTS, AND IS LED BY MR ALAN MASON, DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR SECURITY. THE SHENZHEN DELEGATION IS COMPOSED OF THEIR COUNTERPARTS, LED BY MR SHI DEWEI, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, PORT ADMINISTRATION OFFICE.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED TODAY INCLUDED THE ISSUE OF ADDITIONAL PERMITS FOR CARS AND COACHES TO CROSS THE ROAD BRIDGE AT MAN KAM TO, THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW BOUNDARY TO THE NORTH OF THE SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE, THE EFFECTS OF THE ELECTRIFICATION OF THE KCR AT THE BORDER CROSSING AND THE USE OF THE LATER OPENING HOURS AT LOWU STATION.

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EFFORTS TO BROADEN INDUSTRIAL BASE CONTINUE

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THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR JOHN YAXLEY SAID TODAY THAT THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG'S INDUSTRY WOULD SEE A CONTINUING MOVE TOWARDS THE MANUFACTURE OF HIGH QUALITY, MORE SOPHISTICATED CONSUMER AND INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS.

+IN ORDER TO RETAIN A COMPETITIVE EDGE IN THE WORLD'S MARKET, THERE WILL BE EVERY NEED TO INTRODUCE MORE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY IN OUR INDUSTRIAL PROCESSES IN ORDER TO UPGRADE AND WIDEN THE RANGE OF OUR PRODUCTS,+ SAID MR YAXLEY, ADDRESSING THE HONG KONG/SHENZHEN SESSION SEMINAR ORGANISED BY THE STANDFORD RESEARCH INSTITUTE.

HE STRESSED THAT HONG KONG WOULD CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS TO BROADEN THE INDUSTRIAL BASE BY ATTRACTING NEW INDUSTRIES TO HONG KONG - PREFERABLY THOSE USING HIGH TECHNOLOGY.

+THEY WILL HAVE MUCH TO OFFER US BUT, WE IN OUR TURN, HAVE MUCH TO OFFER THEM, NOT LEAST AN ENVIRONMENT WHICH IS REFRESHINGLY FREE FROM OVERMUCH REGULATION AND CONTROL.+

RECOUNTING HOW HONG KONG'S INDUSTRY DEVELOPED FROM ITS EMBRYONIC STAGE IN THE EARLY 1950'S INTO A MAJOR MANUFACTURING CENTRE, MR YAXLEY SAID THAT HONG KONG'S INDUSTRY IN THE 80'S WOULD CONTINUE TO FACE SOME PERENNIAL AND NEW PROBLEMS.

+ON THE WORLD FRONT, PROTECTIONISM IN WORLD TRADE HAS BEEN A GROWING MENACE SINCE THE OIL CRISIS IN THE EARLY '70S AND HONG KONG IS PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE BECAUSE IT DEPENDS ON EXPORTS AND BECAUSE PROTECTIONIST LOBBIES ARE STRONG IN HONG KONG'S MAJOR OVERSEAS MARKETS.

+MOREOVER, COMPETITION FROM NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE LOWER LABOUR COSTS AND STABLE DOMESTIC SUPPLIES OF RAW MATERIALS HAS BEEN INCREASING. HONG KONG'S POSITION AS A MANUFACTURER OF LABOUR-INTENSIVE AND MASS-PRODUCED CONSUMER GOODS HAS WEAKENED THROUGH THE GRADUAL EROSION OF ITS COMPARATIVE COST ADVANTAGES. IN FACT THE INTRODUCTION OF HIGHLY AUTOMATED OPERATIONS HAS EVEN MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR CERTAIN TEXTILE ITEMS TO BE PRODUCED AT A LOWER UNIT COST IN THE USA THAN IN HONG KONG,+ HE ADDED.

+HONG KONG'S INDUSTRY HAS REACTED TO THESE PROBLEMS BY SEEKING NEW MARKETS AND BY DIVERSIFYING ITS RANGE OF MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS. THIS PROCESS HAS PROVED EXTREMELY SUCCESSFUL BECAUSE OF THE INGENUITY AND ADAPTABILITY OF OUR ENTREPRENEURS AND THEIR WORKFORCES AND THE FLEXIBILITY WITH WHICH THEY ARE ABLE TO OPERATE UNDER GOVERNMENT'S ECONOMIC POLICY OF FREE ENTERPRISE AND NON-INTERFERENCE.+

/HE OUTLINED

HE OUTLINED THE PROGRESS OF GOVERNMENT'S PROGRAMMES OF ASSISTANCE TO THE INDUSTRY AS RECOMMENDED BY THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON DIVERSIFICATION AND ENDORSED BY THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD.

+PROPOSALS ARE BEING EXAMINED FOR ESTABLISHING A PRECISION METAL WORKING INSTITUTE, AN ELECTRONICS TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT LABORATORY AND A COMPUTER AIDED DESIGN/COMPUTER AIDED MANUFACTURE CENTRE.

+IN RESPECT OF TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, THE REQUIREMENTS OF FOUR SELECTED INDUSTRIES - PLASTICS, METALS, ELECTRONICS AND GARMENTS - ARE BEING STUDIED.

+THE UNIVERSITIES AND THE POLYTECHNIC ARE ALSO CONDUCTING SUPPORTING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES MAINLY ON ELECTRONICS MANUFACTURING AND COMPUTER DEVELOPMENT TECHNIQUES. IN ADDITION, PUBLIC FUNDS HAVE BEEN MADE AVAILABLE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A GOVERNMENT STANDARDS AND CALIBRATION LABORATORY TO MEET INDUSTRY'S NEEDS FOR MEASUREMENT STANDARDS AND CALIBRATION.

ON LOCAL INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT SCENE, MR YAXLEY POINTED OUT THAT ONLY A HANDFUL OF HONG KONG'S INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES HAD THE RESOURCES TO UNDERTAKE THE COSTLY AND TIME-CONSUMING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT WORK ESSENTIAL IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW PRODUCTS AND TECHNOLOGY.

+TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER THROUGH COOPERATION WITH INDUSTRIES IN TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED COUNTRIES OFFERS AN ALTERNATIVE. THE GOVERNMENT THEREFORE CONSIDERS INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT PROMOTION AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE WHOLE PROCESS OF INDUSTRIAL DIVERSIFICATION AND DEVELOPMENT.

+TO THIS END, FOUR INDUSTRIAL PROMOTION OFFICES IN TOKYO, LONDON, STUTTGART AND SAN FRANCISCO AS WELL AS THE HEAD OFFICE IN HONG KONG WERE ESTABLISHED LAST YEAR TO ASSIST INVESTORS BY PROVIDING QUICK AND COMPREHENSIVE INFORMATION ABOUT HONG KONG AND BY INTRODUCING LOCAL INVESTORS TO OVERSEAS COMPANIES WHO WANT TO ESTABLISH MANUFACTURING OPERATIONS HERE THROUGH JOINT VENTURE OR SUBCONTRACTING OR LICENSING ARRANGEMENTS,+ HE SAID.

BY DECEMBER LAST YEAR, A TOTAL OF 438 WHOLLY-OWNED OR JOINT-VENTURE FACTORIES WERE KNOWN TO BE OPERATING IN HONG KONG WITH OVERSEAS INVESTMENT AMOUNTING TO HK\$7.5 BILLION AND EMPLOYING ABOUT 10 PER CENT OF HONG KONG'S WORKFORCE IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY. THESE FACTORIES PRODUCE A WIDE RANGE OF CONSUMER AS WELL AS CAPITAL GOODS.

+DESPITE THE INCREASING AMOUNT OF OVERSEAS INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG INDUSTRY, THE PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF INVESTMENT CAPITAL IS PUT UP BY HONG KONG COMPANIES THEMSELVES. MUCH OF LOCAL INVESTING AND RE-INVESTING IS IN NEW TECHNOLOGY AND PRODUCTION METHODS,+ MR YAXLEY CONCLUDED.

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SHAM SHUI PO ARTS ASSOCIATION FORMED
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A NEW ASSOCIATION, THE SHAM SHUI PO ARTS ASSOCIATION WAS FORMED RECENTLY TO PROMOTE ARTS AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES FOR RESIDENTS OF SHAM SHUI PO.

IT IS RUN BY LOCAL COMMUNITY LEADERS AND VOLUNTEERS, WITH FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM THE DISTRICT BOARD.

THERE ARE FOUR WORKING COMMITTEES UNDER THE ASSOCIATION - TO ORGANISE TRAINING, COMPETITIONS AND PERFORMING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS.

THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR STEPHEN IP, SAID IN THE PAST CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT HAD BEEN SHOULDERED BY A PROLIFERATION OF COMMITTEES AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS.

+MANY OF THEM HAD OVERLAPPING OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES, AND AS A RESULT, RESOURCES WERE INEVITABLY DISPERSED AND WEAKENED,+ HE SAID.

THE ARTS ASSOCIATION MAKES IT POSSIBLE TO POOL RESOURCES UNDER ONE BANNER.

+TOGETHER WITH THE SPORTS ASSOCIATION, THEY WILL BECOME THE TWO PRINCIPAL AGENTS OF THE DISTRICT BOARD TO PROMOTE SPORTS AND ARTS IN THE DISTRICT,+ MR IP SAID.

AN INAUGURATION CEREMONY WILL BE HELD TOMORROW, WITH A PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION AT 2 PM AT THE OPEN SPACE OUTSIDE THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY HALL, TO BE FOLLOWED BY A CHINESE PAINTING AND CALLIGRAPHY EXHIBITION AND DEMONSTRATION.

THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR LAWRENCE MILLS, WILL PRESENT SOUVENIRS TO THE OFFICE-BEARERS OF THE ASSOCIATION AT A CEREMONY AT 5.30 PM.

THE GUESTS WILL THEN BE TREATED TO A TWO-HOUR ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMME FEATURING CHINESE FOLK DANCES, A BALLET DANCE, A DRAMA, A CHORUS BY THE SHAM SHUI PO CHILDREN'S CHOIR AND POPULAR SONGS BY FAMOUS ARTIST MISS ANITA MUI.

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FEE ASSISTANCE SCHEME IS A SUCCESS
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THE FEE ASSISTANCE SCHEME FOR PRE-PRIMARY SERVICES, INTRODUCED BY THE GOVERNMENT LAST YEAR IS PROVING SUCCESSFUL.

THIS WAS STATED TODAY BY THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR JOHN CHAMBERS, WHEN HE OPENED THE HONG KONG AND KOWLOON KAIFONG WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION'S TING SUN HUI CHIU NURSERY AT MEI LAM ESTATE, SHA TIN.

+THE SCHEME PROVIDES CHILD CARE SERVICE ON A SUBSIDISED BASIS TO FAMILIES IN NEED, BUT ALSO OPENS THE DOORS OF THESE CENTRES TO FAMILIES WHO CAN AFFORD TO PAY A LARGER PROPORTION OF THE COST,+ HE SAID.

HE NOTED THAT THE DEMAND FOR CHILD CARE CENTRE PLACES HAD STEADILY INCREASED AND THE NEED FOR DAY CARE PROVISION WAS NO LONGER LIMITED TO THE LOWER-INCOME GROUP.

+FAMILIES AT ALL INCOME LEVELS NOW SHARE THE SAME NEED, BECAUSE OF CHANGES IN SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS,+ HE SAID.

THE NURSERY, WHICH PROVIDES PLACES FOR 120 CHILDREN, HAS BEEN FITTED OUT AND FURNISHED WITH A GRANT OF \$518 000 FROM THE LOTTERIES FUND AND A DONATION OF \$200 000 FROM MADAM TING SUN HUI CHIU, AFTER WHOM THE NURSERY HAS BEEN NAMED.

MR CHAMBERS SAID THE NEW NURSERY WOULD PROVIDE A MOST VALUABLE SERVICE TO FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN LIVING IN THE FAST DEVELOPING SHA TIN NEW TOWN.

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STUDENTS COMMENDED IN ESSAY COMPETITION

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TWELVE HONG KONG STUDENTS HAVE BEEN COMMENDED FOR THEIR ENTRIES IN THE 1982/83 ESSAY COMPETITION ORGANISED BY THE ROYAL COMMONWEALTH SOCIETY BASED IN LONDON.

MISS ALICE LAI OF ST. MARY'S CANOSSIAN COLLEGE HAS BEEN +COMMENDED+ FOR HER ENTRY TO CLASS A OF THE COMPETITION.

IN CLASS B, MISS ALICE LUI, MISS YASMIN HUSSIAN MOHAMMED, MISS HELEN SHEA AND MISS ANNA SHUM OF SACRED HEART CANOSSIAN COLLEGE AND MISS PEGGY CHEN AND MISS PATRICIA LEUNG OF ST. MARY'S CANOSSIAN COLLEGE HAVE BEEN +HIGHLY COMMENDED+ FOR THEIR ESSAYS.

THE SOCIETY ALSO COMMENDED MISS ESTHER LAW OF SACRED HEART CANOSSIAN COLLEGE AND MISS JANET LEE AND MISS SYLVIA MAN OF ST. MARY'S CANOSSIAN COLLEGE FOR THEIR ENTRIES IN THE SAME CLASS.

IN CLASS C, MISS VIVIAN LO OF SACRED HEART CANOSSIAN COLLEGE HAS BEEN +HIGHLY COMMENDED+ FOR HER ENTRY WHILE HER SCHOOLMATE MISS BETTY NG HAS BEEN +COMMENDED+.

THE ESSAY COMPETITION IS HELD ANNUALLY BY THE SOCIETY WITH A VIEW TO ENCOURAGING COMMONWEALTH STUDIES IN SCHOOLS.

CLASS A IS FOR CANDIDATES BETWEEN THE AGES OF 16 AND 19, CLASS B FOR STUDENTS FROM 14 TO UNDER 16, AND CLASS C FOR THOSE UNDER 14.

THE HONG KONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AWARDS BOOK PRIZES TO THE BEST THREE COMPETITORS IN EACH CLASS OF THE PRELIMINARY ROUND HELD LOCALLY.

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MASS TREE-PLANTING EFFORT PROPOSED

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A LARGE AREA OF HONG KONG WOULD BE SHADED BY TREES IF EACH PERSON HERE PLANTED ONE, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MEI FA WORKING GROUP OF THE CLEAN HONG KONG NEW TERRITORIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE, MR WILLIAM WAN, SAID TODAY.

MR WAN WAS SPEAKING AT A CEREMONY TO MARK THE LAUNCHING OF THE SAI KUNG TREE PLANTING DAY AT PAK KONG SOCCER PITCH.

THE DISTRICT-WIDE EVENT, ORGANISED BY THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD, WAS IMPORTANT IN GETTING MORE PEOPLE TO BEAUTIFY THEIR ENVIRONMENT BY PLANTING TREES.

TREE PLANTING WAS ONE OF THE MANY ACTIVITIES OF THE MEI FA PHASE OF THE CLEAN HONG KONG EFFORT.

MR WAN URGED THE RESIDENTS +TO TRY THEIR BEST TO ADD GREENERY TO THEIR LIVING SURROUNDINGS TO MAKE THEM MORE BEAUTIFUL.+

PAYING TRIBUTE TO A GROUP OF STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN TODAY'S TREE PLANTING EXERCISE, MR WAN SAID THEIR INVOLVEMENT DEMONSTRATED A DEEP CONCERN AND GENEROUS SUPPORT FOR SAI KUNG.

THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF A GROUP OF COMMUNITY-SPIRITED STUDENTS FROM TWO LOCAL SCHOOLS, SOME 60 EVERGREEN TREES WERE PLANTED AT THE BOUNDARY OF THE BARREN SOCCER PITCH.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICER OF SAI KUNG, MR CHAN SUI-JEUNG, AND THE URBAN SERVICES OFFICER OF SAI KUNG, MR MA IU-KI, MR WAN ALSO PLANTED A YOUNG TREE TO HIGHLIGHT THE EVENT.

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WATER MAINS WORK ON HONG KONG ISLAND

FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO TWO AREAS ON HONG KONG ISLAND WILL BE TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED FOR SEVERAL HOURS ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY TO ALLOW MAINS WORK TO BE CARRIED OUT.

IN THE PEAK, THE WATER SUPPLY WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR EIGHT HOURS -- FROM 9 AM TO 5 PM -- ON FRIDAY (JULY 1) WHILE MAINS WORK IS CARRIED OUT AT POLLOCK'S PATH.

THE AREAS AFFECTED ARE NO. 2-10 POLLOCK'S PATH, 1-24 GOUGH HILL ROAD, 1-7 GOUGH HILL PATH, 1-7 PEEL RISE ROAD, 1-23 SEVERN ROAD, 8-51 BARKER ROAD, 1-15 BLUFF PATH, HOSPITAL PATH AND 60 PEAK ROAD.

IN SAI WAN HO, FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR SEVEN HOURS -- FROM 11 PM ON FRIDAY TO 6 AM ON SATURDAY -- FOR A LEAKAGE TEST.

AFFECTED WILL BE THE PREMISES BOUNDED BY TAI HONG STREET, SHAU KEI WAN ROAD, HOI NING STREET AND SEA FRONT.

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TERMINUS TO BE MOVED

PEAK TRAM SERVICE WILL BE CURTAILED ON THURSDAY (JUNE 30) AT 7 PM FOR ITS LOWER TERMINUS TO BE MOVED TO THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE NEW ST. JOHN'S BUILDING.

NORMAL SERVICE WILL BE RESUMED FROM 7 AM ON FRIDAY (JULY 1).

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POLICE KEEP UP DRIVE AGAINST VICE
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KEEPING UP THE THREE-PRONGED OFFENSIVE AGAINST VICE PERPETRATORS, POLICE CARRIED OUT 2 641 RAIDS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY LAST MONTH (MAY) RESULTING IN THE ARREST OF 1 959 PERSONS.

ANNOUNCING THESE FIGURES TODAY (TUESDAY), A POLICE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE OPERATIONS WERE MAINLY DIRECTED AGAINST ILLEGAL GAMBLING ESTABLISHMENTS, DRUG DIVANS AND VICE DENS.

HE SAID THAT 485 PERSONS WERE ARRESTED DURING 473 RAIDS CONDUCTED ON HONG KONG ISLAND, 1 101 ARRESTED IN 1 817 RAIDS IN KOWLOON AND 350 ARRESTED IN 325 RAIDS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES. ANOTHER 23 PERSONS WERE ARRESTED BY NARCOTICS BUREAU OFFICERS IN 26 OPERATIONS MOUNTED DURING THE MONTH.

ON THE ANTI-GAMBLING FRONT, POLICE CONDUCTED 298 RAIDS DURING WHICH 768 PERSONS WERE ARRESTED. STAKE MONEY AND THE VALUE OF BETTING SLIPS SEIZED TOTALLED \$44 100 AND \$203 100 RESPECTIVELY.

IN AN OPERATION MOUNTED ON MAY 25, OFFICERS OF WESTERN POLICE STATION ARRESTED A MAN FOR BOOKMAKING AND SEIZED A QUANTITY OF BETTING SLIPS WORTH ABOUT \$10 000 DURING A RAID ON A CATCHICK STREET PREMISES. THE ARRESTED PERSON WAS LATER CONVICTED IN COURT AND FINED \$5 000.

IN ANOTHER ANTI-GAMBLING OPERATION CARRIED OUT IN THE AFTERNOON OF MAY 28, TUEN MUN OFFICERS RAIDED AN UNNUMBERED HUT IN THE DISTRICT AND ARRESTED TWO MEN. THEY ALSO SEIZED BETTING SLIPS WITH A TOTAL FACE VALUE OF OVER \$19 000. THE PAIR WERE LATER CHARGED WITH BOOKMAKING AND SUBSEQUENTLY FINED \$20 000 AND \$10 000 RESPECTIVELY.

TURNING TO THE CRACKDOWN ON DRUG TRAFFICKERS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID 812 PERSONS WERE ROUNDED UP DURING 1 178 RAIDS ON PREMISES AND SEARCH OPERATIONS IN THE STREETS.

AMONG THE SEIZURES WERE 5.4 KG OF HEROIN AND 357 G OF OPIUM.

AS FOR THE CLAMPDOWN ON VICE ESTABLISHMENTS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT 1 165 RAIDS WERE CARRIED OUT LAST MONTH RESULTING IN THE ARREST OF 379 PERSONS.

IN ONE OF THE RAIDS CONDUCTED BY CENTRAL POLICE OFFICERS, TWO WOMEN WERE ARRESTED IN A WELLINGTON STREET BARBER SHOP ON MAY 9 AND CHARGED WITH KEEPING AN UNLICENSED MASSAGE ESTABLISHMENT. THEY WERE SUBSEQUENTLY FINED \$1 000 AND \$400 RESPECTIVELY.

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SENIOR HOUSING STAFF DECENTRALISED INTO DISTRICTS
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THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT HAS COMPLETED DECENTRALISING 15 SENIOR HOUSING MANAGERS INTO VARIOUS DISTRICTS IN LINE WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION SCHEME.

+THESE SENIOR MANAGEMENT STAFF ARE NOW OPERATING FROM DISTRICT CENTRES AND ACTIVELY TAKING PART IN THE DELIBERATIONS OF DISTRICT BOARDS TO ENSURE THAT HOUSING POLICIES ARE GEARED TO LOCAL NEEDS,+ SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT TODAY.

HE SAID THE DECENTRALISATION SCHEME HAD ENABLED THEM TO MAINTAIN CLOSER CONTACT WITH LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THE PROCESS OF COMMUNITY BUILDING.

+SOME OF THEM HAVE EVEN JOINED DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS IN THEIR GROUP SESSIONS WITH MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AFTER OFFICE HOURS.

+IN SUCH SESSIONS, WHILE NOT ALL ISSUES BROUGHT UP RELATE TO PUBLIC HOUSING, HOUSING OFFICIALS PUT CURRENT HOUSING PRACTICES IN PERSPECTIVE WHENEVER NECESSARY.

+WHERE QUESTIONS CONCERN INDIVIDUAL CASES, THEY TRY THEIR BEST TO GIVE THE FULLEST EXPLANATION POSSIBLE ALTHOUGH IT IS NOT ALWAYS EASY TO IMMEDIATELY AND SATISFACTORILY RESPOND TO MATTERS INVOLVING PARTICULAR CASES.

+HOWEVER, SUCH CASES WILL ALWAYS BE FURTHER LOOKED AT MORE CLOSELY IN FOLLOW-UP ACTION.+

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO ENSURE THAT, TIME AND MANPOWER PERMITTING, AS MANY +MEET-THE-PUBLIC+ SESSIONS AS POSSIBLE WERE REPRESENTED BY HOUSING OFFICIALS ALTHOUGH IT WAS NOT ALWAYS POSSIBLE FOR EACH AND EVERY SESSION TO BE SO REPRESENTED BECAUSE OF MANPOWER CONSTRAINT.

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