



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FRIDAY, JULY 7, 1989

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BILL TO EFFECT CHANGES TO THREE-TIER DEPOSIT-TAKING SYSTEM

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THE BANKING (AMENDMENT)(NO.2) BILL 1989, THE PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF WHICH IS TO PUT INTO EFFECT A NUMBER OF CHANGES TO THE EXISTING THREE-TIER SYSTEM OF DEPOSIT-TAKING INSTITUTIONS, WAS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

EXPLAINING THE OBJECTIVE OF THE BILL, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE CHANGES WERE AIMED AT IMPROVING HONG KONG'S BANKING SYSTEM TO REFLECT AND IN TURN FURTHER ITS INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

"THE AMENDMENTS ARE ALSO INTENDED TO ENHANCE BANKING SUPERVISION IN THE LIGHT OF EXPERIENCE AND STRENGTHEN PROTECTION FOR DEPOSITORS," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT CHANGES TO THE EXISTING THREE-TIER SYSTEM OF DEPOSIT-TAKING INSTITUTIONS, COMPRISING LICENSED BANKS, LICENSED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES AND REGISTERED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES, HAD BEEN ANNOUNCED ON MARCH 9 THIS YEAR.

"TO GIVE EFFECT TO THESE CHANGES, THE BILL REPLACES THE EXISTING CATEGORIES OF LICENSED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANY AND REGISTERED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANY IN THE BANKING ORDINANCE WITH THE NEW CATEGORIES OF RESTRICTED LICENCE BANK AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANY.

"CLAUSE 39 AMENDS SECTION 97 OF THE BANKING ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE THAT RESTRICTED LICENCE BANKS MAY USE THE WORD 'BANK' OR ITS DERIVATIVES IN DESCRIBING THEIR BUSINESS, PROVIDED THIS IS QUALIFIED BY SUCH ADJECTIVES AS 'RESTRICTED LICENCE', 'MERCHANT', 'INVESTMENT', 'WHOLESALE', OR A TERM SPECIFIED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING BY NOTICE IN THE GAZETTE," HE SAID.

"OVERSEAS INCORPORATED BANKS AUTHORISED AS RESTRICTED LICENCE BANKS AND OPERATING IN BRANCH FORM WOULD BE ALLOWED TO USE THEIR CORPORATE NAMES WHICH INCLUDE THE WORD 'BANK', PROVIDED THESE ARE QUALIFIED IN EQUAL PROMINENCE BY THE WORDS 'RESTRICTED LICENCE BANK' NEXT TO THEM," HE ADDED.

ON CAPITAL REQUIREMENT, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE MINIMUM CAPITAL REQUIREMENT FOR THE REGISTRATION OF NEW DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES HAD ALREADY BEEN INCREASED FROM \$10 MILLION TO \$25 MILLION AS FROM MARCH 10 THIS YEAR.

"CLAUSE 12 WOULD INCREASE THE PRESENT PAID-UP CAPITAL OF \$75 MILLION FOR LICENSED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES TO \$100 MILLION FOR RESTRICTED LICENCE BANKS.

"EXISTING LICENSED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES, WHICH WOULD BE DEEMED TO BE RESTRICTED LICENCE BANKS, WOULD BE PROVIDED WITH A GRACE PERIOD OF TWO YEARS FROM MARCH 10 THIS YEAR TO COMPLY WITH THE NEW STANDARD.

/"CLAUSE 7

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"CLAUSE 7 ALSO AMENDS SECTION 18 TO RAISE THE MINIMUM CAPITAL LEVEL FOR LICENSED BANKS FROM \$100 MILLION TO \$150 MILLION TO REFLECT THE HIGHER CAPITAL REQUIREMENT APPROPRIATE TO LICENSED BANKS, WHICH WOULD ALSO BE GIVEN A GRACE PERIOD OF TWO YEARS FROM MARCH 10 THIS YEAR TO MEET THE NEW STANDARD," HE SAID.

UNDER THE EXISTING LEGISLATION, AN APPLICATION FOR A DEPOSIT-TAKING LICENCE MAY ONLY BE MADE BY A REGISTERED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANY.

"THIS REQUIREMENT WILL BE REPEALED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE APPROVED CHANGES," HE SAID.

THE INFORMATION GATHERING POWER OF THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING WILL BE EXTENDED UNDER PROPOSED LEGISLATION.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE LAW AT PRESENT ALLOWS THE COMMISSIONER TO REQUIRE INFORMATION FROM AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS IF SUCH INFORMATION IS "NECESSARY FOR THE PROPER UNDERSTANDING OF THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE INSTITUTION".

HE NOTED THAT IT WAS CONSIDERED TOO RESTRICTIVE SINCE THE COMMISSIONER WOULD NEED TO HAVE RELATIVELY UNFETTERED POWER IN THIS RESPECT IF HE WERE TO DISCHARGE HIS STATUTORY RESPONSIBILITIES EFFECTIVELY.

"THE BILL THEREFORE EMPOWERS THE COMMISSIONER TO REQUIRE ANY AUTHORISED INSTITUTION OR ITS SUBSIDIARIES TO SUBMIT TO HIM INFORMATION THAT MAY REASONABLY BE REQUIRED FOR THE EXERCISE OF HIS FUNCTIONS UNDER THE ORDINANCE," HE SAID.

ANOTHER PROVISION IN THE BILL SEEKS TO REMOVE AN ANOMALY IN THE PRESENT LEGISLATION WHICH IN EFFECT PREVENTS A BANK FROM LENDING MORE THAN 25 PER CENT OF ITS OWN CAPITAL TO ITS OWN SUBSIDIARIES EVEN THOUGH THESE ARE SUBJECT TO THE COMMISSIONER'S CONSOLIDATED SUPERVISION.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID: "THIS SITUATION AROSE BECAUSE THE PRESENT LEGISLATION PROVIDES THAT THE FINANCIAL EXPOSURE OF AN AUTHORISED INSTITUTION TO TWO OR MORE COMPANIES WHICH ARE SUBSIDIARIES OF THE SAME HOLDING COMPANY SHALL NOT EXCEED AN AMOUNT EQUIVALENT TO 25 PER CENT OF THE PAID-UP CAPITAL AND RESERVES OF THE INSTITUTION."

TO REMOVE THIS ANOMALY, THE BILL PROVIDES THAT AN EXEMPTION MAY BE GRANTED TO AN AUTHORISED INSTITUTION WHERE THE INSTITUTION IS ITSELF THE CONTROLLER OF THE SUBSIDIARIES CONCERNED.

HOWEVER, SUCH AN EXEMPTION SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE PRIOR APPROVAL BY THE COMMISSIONER AND TO SUCH CONDITIONS AS HE MAY THINK PROPER TO ATTACH, THE SPOKESMAN CONTINUED.

/ANOTHER MAJOR

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ANOTHER MAJOR AMENDMENT IN THE BILL INVOLVES THE APPEAL SYSTEM.

"IN THE EVENT OF A BREACH OF EITHER THE SPECIFIED CAPITAL ADEQUACY RATIO OR THE SPECIFIED LIQUIDITY RATIO, THE COMMISSIONER MAY, AFTER DISCUSSION WITH THE INSTITUTION, REQUIRE IT TO TAKE SUCH REMEDIAL ACTIONS AS HE CONSIDERS NECESSARY. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE COMMISSIONER'S DIRECTION IS A CRIMINAL OFFENCE."

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT CURRENTLY UNDER THE BANKING ORDINANCE, THE INSTITUTION COULD APPEAL TO THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY AGAINST THE COMMISSIONER'S DIRECTION.

"HOWEVER, ELSEWHERE IN THE ORDINANCE, APPEALS AGAINST THE COMMISSIONER'S USE OF HIS POWERS, WHERE NON-COMPLIANCE IS A CRIMINAL OFFENCE, WOULD HAVE TO BE LODGED WITH THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL.

"FOR THE SAKE OF CONSISTENCY, AMENDMENTS ARE PROPOSED TO REPLACE THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY WITH THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL AS THE APPEAL BODY FOR SUCH APPEALS. NO OTHER CHANGES TO THE APPEAL SYSTEM ARE PROPOSED," HE NOTED.

AS THE BANKING LEGISLATION NOW STANDS, THE REQUIREMENT TO PRESERVE AND AID IN PRESERVING SECRECY APPLIES ONLY TO THOSE SPECIFIED PERSONS PRESENTLY EXERCISING FUNCTIONS UNDER THE BANKING ORDINANCE.

"IT IS CONSIDERED IMPORTANT TO ENSURE THAT ALL THOSE WHO HAVE EXERCISED SUCH FUNCTIONS IN THE PAST BUT DO NOT PRESENTLY DO SO (FOR EXAMPLE RETIRED PUBLIC OFFICERS, PROFESSIONALS AND OTHERS WHOSE CONTRACTS HAVE EXPIRED) ARE SIMILARLY RESTRICTED.

"THE BILL THEREFORE EXTENDS THE SECRECY OBLIGATION TO ALL THOSE WHO HAVE AT ANY TIME OBTAINED RELEVANT INFORMATION IN THE COURSE OF EXERCISING ANY FUNCTION UNDER THE ORDINANCE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE BANKING (AMENDMENT)(NO.2) BILL 1989 IS DUE TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON JULY 19.

COMMENTS ON ITS PROVISIONS CAN BE SENT TO THE SECRETARY FOR MONETARY AFFAIRS, ADMIRALTY CENTRE, TOWER II, 24TH FLOOR, OR TO OMELCO AT 8 JACKSON ROAD, CENTRAL.

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COMMENCEMENT DATE FOR REMAINING SFC PROVISIONS
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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT THE GOVERNOR HAS APPOINTED AUGUST 1, 1989 AS THE DAY ON WHICH THE REMAINING PROVISIONS OF THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION (SFC) ORDINANCE SHALL COME INTO OPERATION.

"MOST OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE SFC ORDINANCE COMMENCED ON MAY 1, 1989. THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE REMAINING PROVISIONS HAS BEEN DEFERRED SO AS TO ALLOW TIME FOR BOTH THE SFC AND THE REGISTERED PERSONS TO PREPARE THEMSELVES RESPECTIVELY FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF AND COMPLIANCE WITH THESE NEW PROVISIONS," A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

THESE PROVISIONS INCLUDED SECTIONS 27(1) TO (8), 30, 31 AND 32, AND ITEM (1)(B) OF PARAGRAPH 4 OF SCHEDULE 2 TO THE ORDINANCE UNDER SECTION 65 INSOFAR AS IT RELATES TO THE REPEAL OF SECTIONS 122 AND 123 OF THE SECURITIES ORDINANCE. THEY DEAL MAINLY WITH THE REGULATION OF REGISTERED PERSONS BY THE SFC.

SECTION 27(1) TO (8) REQUIRES ALL REGISTERED PERSONS TO NOTIFY THE SFC OF THE PREMISES WHERE THEIR RECORDS ARE KEPT.

SECTIONS 31 TO 32 VEST IN THE SFC POWERS TO CONDUCT SPOT CHECKS ON PREMISES NOTIFIED BY A REGISTERED PERSON UNDER SECTION 27 AND TO OBTAIN INFORMATION RELATING TO TRANSACTIONS IN SECURITIES, FUTURES AND PROPERTY INVESTMENT.

"THE COMMENCEMENT DATE OF THESE PROVISIONS IS ANNOUNCED IN ADVANCE IN ORDER TO GIVE THE MARKETS SUFFICIENT LEAD TIME TO PREPARE THEMSELVES FOR THE NEW REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE COMMENCEMENT NOTICE WAS GAZETTED TODAY.

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641 APPLICATIONS TO IMPORT WORKERS
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THE GOVERNMENT RECEIVED 641 APPLICATIONS FOR THE IMPORTATION OF A TOTAL OF 8,479 SKILLED WORKERS FROM OUTSIDE HONG KONG WHEN THE DEADLINE FOR SUCH APPLICATIONS PASSED AT THE END OF LAST MONTH.

THE BULK OF THE APPLICATIONS ARE FOR WORKERS FROM CHINA, TOTALLING MORE THAN 6,600, OR ABOUT 80 PER CENT OF THE NUMBER OF WORKERS SOUGHT. OTHER SOURCES INCLUDE THE PHILIPPINES, MALAYSIA AND THAILAND.

IN TERMS OF INDUSTRY TYPE, APPLICATIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION SITE WORKERS HEAD THE LIST WITH MORE THAN 2,500 -- REPRESENTING ABOUT 30 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF WORKERS SOUGHT.

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THIS IS FOLLOWED BY THE HOTEL, CATERING AND TOURIST INDUSTRY WITH ABOUT 1,450 WORKERS AND THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY WITH ABOUT 900 WORKERS.

COMMENTING ON THE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED, THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION, MR DONALD TSANG, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT THE EMPLOYMENT VISA CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE OF THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT HAD STARTED VETTING THEM, AND THE STEERING GROUP ON THE IMPORTATION OF SKILLED LABOUR WOULD WORK IN PARALLEL WITH THE COMMITTEE.

"WE AIM TO COMPLETE THE VETTING OF ALL APPLICATIONS BY THE END OF JULY AND INFORM EMPLOYERS OF OUR DECISIONS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE AFTERWARDS," HE SAID.

REFERRING TO THE CALL BY CERTAIN LABOUR ORGANISATIONS TO SCRAP THE SCHEME IN VIEW OF THE RECENT EVENTS IN CHINA RESULTING IN THE RETURN OF MANY SKILLED WORKERS TO HONG KONG, MR TSANG SAID THE LARGE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS INDICATED THAT THERE WAS STILL A CRITICAL SHORTAGE IN HONG KONG OF WORKERS POSSESSING CERTAIN SKILLS AND THERE WAS A STRONG DEMAND FOR IMPORTING SUCH SKILLS FROM OUTSIDE HONG KONG.

"MOREOVER, WE HAVE A COMMITMENT TO CONSIDER THE APPLICATIONS ALREADY LODGED," HE ADDED.

AS FOR THE FUTURE OF THE SCHEME, MR TSANG SAID A DECISION COULD ONLY BE TAKEN LATER IN THE YEAR WHEN THE NUMBER OF WORKERS ACTUALLY IMPORTED BY EMPLOYERS WAS KNOWN.

"BY THEN, WE WILL ALSO HAVE A MORE UP-TO-DATE ASSESSMENT OF THE LOCAL EMPLOYMENT SITUATION," HE SAID.

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OMELCO STATEMENT ON RIGHT OF ABODE ISSUED
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THE FOLLOWING IS THE STATEMENT BY THE SENIOR EXCO MEMBER, DAME LYDIA DUNN, AND SENIOR LEGCO MEMBER, MR ALLEN LEE, AT THE PRESS BRIEFING TODAY (FRIDAY):

"WE (MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS) HAVE JUST FINISHED AN IN-HOUSE MEETING DURING WHICH WE DISCUSSED THE WAY FORWARD REGARDING HONG KONG'S CASE FOR THE RIGHT OF ABODE FOR BRITISH SUBJECTS AND A SAFE AND SECURE FUTURE FOR ALL ITS POPULATION.

"AS YOU KNOW, SIR GEOFFREY HOWE DID NOT CHANGE HIS POSITION EVEN THOUGH HE SAW AT FIRST HAND THE DEPTH OF FEELING AND THE NEED FOR A COURAGEOUS AND DECISIVE ACTION ON THE PART OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO GIVE HONG KONG PEOPLE CONFIDENCE TO COMMIT TO A FUTURE IN HONG KONG. WE ARE ALL DEEPLY DISAPPOINTED. IT IS CLEAR THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO OFFER A LIMITED SCHEME WHICH WOULD GIVE THE RIGHT OF ABODE TO CERTAIN CATEGORIES OF PEOPLE IN HONG KONG. SUCH A MOVE WILL BE DIVISIVE BUT WE AGREE WITH THE CHIEF SECRETARY THAT IT WOULD BE CHURLISH TO REJECT SUCH A PACKAGE.

/ "THE QUESTION

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"THE QUESTION OF THE RESTORATION OF THE RIGHT OF ABODE TO BRITISH SUBJECTS IS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE. OMELCO IS FIRMLY COMMITTED TO CONTINUING TO PRESS HONG KONG'S CASE WITH DETERMINATION AND DIGNITY. THE SEVEN-POINT ACTION PLAN WHICH WE ANNOUNCED WILL BE PURSUED. AN OMELCO OFFICE HAS ALREADY OPENED IN LONDON. AN OMELCO DELEGATION WILL VISIT THE UNITED KINGDOM NO LATER THAN MONDAY, JULY 10. THEIR OBJECTIVE IS TO HOLD DISCUSSIONS WITH MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FAC REPORT ON NATIONALITY BEFORE PARLIAMENT DEBATES IT. THEY WILL ESTABLISH CONTACTS WITH BRITISH PUBLIC AND ORGANISATIONS AND CONSOLIDATE THEIR SUPPORT FOR HONG KONG'S CASE. A LIST IS BEING DRAWN UP OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND LEADING MEDIA WRITERS. INVITATIONS WILL BE ISSUED TO THEM TO VISIT HONG KONG IN THE WEEKS AND MONTHS AHEAD.

"ALL THIS WILL, OF COURSE, TAKE TIME BUT WE BELIEVE FIRMLY THAT WE HAVE A DUTY TO HONG KONG PEOPLE TO CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR THE RESTORATION OF THEIR LEGITIMATE RIGHTS. WE ASSURE THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG THAT WE WILL DO SO.

"IN THE MEANTIME, WE AS A COMMUNITY MUST CONTINUE OUR UNITY NOT ONLY ON THE ISSUE OF NATIONALITY BUT IN WORKING TOGETHER TO STRENGTHEN THE FOUNDATION OF OUR HOME, HONG KONG. EVERY ELEMENT WHICH HELPS TO STRENGTHEN THE FOUNDATION ON WHICH HONG KONG IS BUILT WILL PROVIDE ENHANCED SAFEGUARD FOR OUR FUTURE AND FOR OUR FUTURE AUTONOMOUS ROLE. WE MUST, THEREFORE, SEEK TO ESTABLISH A BASIC LAW WHICH TRULY ENSHRINES THE LETTER AND THE SPIRIT OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION. IN THIS RESPECT, OMELCO HAVE DECIDED TO ESTABLISH A SPECIAL EXPERT GROUP TO GO THROUGH EVERY CLAUSE OF THE BASIC LAW WITH THIS PURPOSE IN MIND.

"OUR POLITICAL SYSTEM IS ANOTHER IMPORTANT ELEMENT TO STRENGTHEN THE FOUNDATION OF HONG KONG. WE DECIDED TODAY OMELCO IN-HOUSE AS A WHOLE WILL COMMENCE DELIBERATIONS OF THE PACE OF DEMOCRATISATION BEFORE 1997.

"IN ALL THIS WORK, WE AS A COMMUNITY NEED TO SEEK A BROAD CONSENSUS SO THAT OUR UNITED VOICE CANNOT BE IGNORED BY BOTH THE BRITISH AND CHINESE GOVERNMENTS.

"ON A BROADER PERSPECTIVE, AN IMPORTANT SAFEGUARD FOR HONG KONG'S FUTURE IS THE CONTINUATION OF HONG KONG AS AN INTERNATIONAL CITY. WE SHOULD ENCOURAGE INTERNATIONAL INTEREST AND PARTICIPATION IN HONG KONG IN ALL THE FIELDS OF OUR LIFE; IN TRADE AND INDUSTRY, EDUCATION, THE PROFESSIONS, SERVICE INDUSTRIES, SPORTS AND ARTS AND MANY OTHERS. ACCORDINGLY, ALL 16 OMELCO PANELS WILL NOW LOOK SPECIFICALLY AT WAYS OF ENHANCING INTERNATIONAL INTEREST IN THEIR AREAS. WE SHALL ESTABLISH A STRATEGY TO CARRY THIS MESSAGE TO THE REST OF THE WORLD.

/"HONG KONG

"HONG KONG IS OUR HOME. NONE OF US WANT TO LEAVE IT. ALL OF US HAVE A DUTY TO HELP TO STRENGTH ITS FOUNDATION SO THAT IT IS A SAFE AND SOLID HOME FOR ALL."

NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE SIX MEMBERS OF THE OMELCO DELEGATION TO LONDON ARE: THE HON MRS ROSANNA TAM, THE HON STEPHEN CHEONG, THE HON ANDREW WONG, THE HON RONALD ARCULLI, DR THE HON LEONG CHE-HUNG AND THE HON MRS ELSIE TU.

THE FIVE MEMBERS OF THE SPECIAL EXPERT GROUP ON BASIC LAW ARE: THE HON MARIA TAM, THE HON JOHN SWAINE, THE HON MARTIN LEE, THE HON ANDREW WONG AND THE HON RONALD ARCULLI.

THE OMELCO PUBLIC RELATIONS ADVISER, MR ROSS CLARKE, HAS BEEN POSTED TO THE OMELCO OFFICE IN LONDON, WHICH IS LOCATED AT ROOM 5/3, THE QUEEN ELIZABETH II CONFERENCE CENTRE, WESTMINSTER, LONDON, SW1P 3EE, UNITED KINGDOM.

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SPECIFICATION FOR FARE TABLES DISPLAYED INSIDE TAXIS

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THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL HAS APPROVED A BILL TO CONTROL THE DISPLAY OF FARE TABLES INSIDE TAXIS AS A FURTHER STEP TO HELP REDUCE DISPUTES BETWEEN TAXI DRIVERS AND PASSENGERS.

IN ITS EXAMINATION OF THE QUALITY OF TAXI SERVICE, THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) FOUND THAT SOME OF THE COMPLAINTS AGAINST OVERCHARGING BY TAXI DRIVERS HAD ARISEN FROM PASSENGERS' IGNORANCE OF TAXI FARE SCALES.

THE TAC FELT THAT THE PROPER DISPLAY OF FARE TABLES INSIDE TAXIS WOULD HELP INFORM PASSENGERS OF THE APPROVED FARE SCALES AND THUS REDUCE DISPUTES OVER FARES.

THE EXISTING ROAD TRAFFIC (PUBLIC SERVICE VEHICLES) REGULATIONS REQUIRE FARE TABLES TO BE DISPLAYED BUT THERE IS NO PROVISION TO SPECIFY THEIR DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION OR POSITIONING.

SOMETIMES THE DISPLAY OF THE FARE TABLES ON THE FRONT PANEL MAKES IT DIFFICULT FOR BACK SEAT PASSENGERS TO READ.

/THE ROAD

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THE ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) (NO.3) BILL 1989 PROPOSES THAT THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL CAN MAKE REGULATIONS TO EMPOWER THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT TO SPECIFY BY NOTICE IN THE GAZETTE THE DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, POSITIONING, SIZE, COLOUR OR FORM OF ANY DESTINATION INDICATOR, NOTICE OR SIGN DISPLAYED IN PUBLIC SERVICE VEHICLES AND INSIGNIA WORD BY OWNERS AND OPERATORS OF SUCH VEHICLES.

SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENTS TO THE ROAD TRAFFIC (PUBLIC SERVICE VEHICLES) REGULATIONS WILL EMPOWER THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT TO SPECIFY PARTICULARS OF FARE TABLES, FARE CARDS, SIGNS AND DESTINATION INDICATORS AND CONTROL THE WAY IN WHICH THEY ARE DISPLAYED IN PUBLIC SERVICE VEHICLES, INCLUDING PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES AND TAXIS.

THE BILL IS EXPECTED TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON JULY 19.

IF THE BILL IS PASSED AND THE REGULATIONS ARE AMENDED, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL CONSULT THE PUBLIC SERVICE VEHICLES TRADE ON THE REQUIRED SPECIFICATIONS. THE NEW REQUIREMENTS WILL ONLY COME INTO EFFECT AFTER SOME TIME IS ALLOWED FOR THE OPERATORS TO COMPLY WITH THE SPECIFICATIONS.

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TAI A CHAU DESIGNATED PLACE OF DETENTION

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THE TAI A CHAU VIETNAMESE HOLDING AREA WAS DESIGNATED A PLACE OF DETENTION FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE UNDER AN AMENDMENT ORDER GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THIS DESIGNATION WAS SPECIFIED BY THE IMMIGRATION (PLACE OF DETENTION) (AMENDMENT) (NO. 8) ORDER 1989.

THE FIRST SCHEDULE TO THE ORDER WAS AMENDED TO INCLUDE TAI A CHAU VIETNAMESE HOLDING AREA (INCLUDING YUEN KONG CHAU). THIS MEANS THERE WILL NOT BE FREE PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE ISLAND.

THE HOLDING AREA IS NOW ACCOMMODATING ABOUT 3,400 NEW VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE ARRIVALS.

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SEVEN PRIVATE STREETS TO BE RESUMED

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THE GOVERNMENT WILL RESUME SEVEN PRIVATE STREETS IN TO KWA WAN BECAUSE OF THEIR POOR CONDITION.

THE STREETS ARE LUNG TO STREET, FUNG YI STREET, LUK MING STREET, LUN CHEUNG STREET, YING YEUNG STREET, PANG CHING STREET AND HUNG WAN STREET.

ON RESUMPTION, THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT WOULD REPAIR THE CARRIAGEWAYS AND FOOTWAYS OF THE STREETS AND CARRY OUT ASSOCIATED IMPROVEMENT WORKS, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE REPAIR WORK WOULD START BY THE END OF NEXT YEAR AND WOULD TAKE 12 MONTHS TO COMPLETE, HE SAID.

A NOTICE ON THE PROPOSED WORKS WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY.

THE PLAN AND SCHEME OF THE PROPOSED WORKS MAY BE INSPECTED AT THE FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT OFFICES:

- * CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY, HONG KONG;
- * KOWLOON WEST DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, YAU MA TEI CARPARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON;
- * KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE, 141 KAU PUI LUNG ROAD, GROUND FLOOR, KOWLOON.

ANY PERSON WHO OBJECTS TO THE PROSPOSAL SHOULD WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICE, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG BY AUGUST 29 THIS YEAR.

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WALKWAY ABOVE TUNNEL TOLL PLAZA TO BE EXTENDED

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THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT PROPOSES TO CONSTRUCT TWO COVERED ELEVATED WALKWAY EXTENSIONS TO THE EXISTING WALKWAY ABOVE THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL TOLL PLAZA.

ONE EXTENSION WILL SPAN HONG TAT PATH AND SCIENCE MUSEUM ROAD AND LINK WITH THE PEDESTRIAN PIAZZA BETWEEN THE MANDARIN PLAZA AND THE HARBOUR CRYSTAL CENTRE.

/THE OTHER

THE OTHER WILL STRETCH ACROSS HONG TAI PATH TO THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC.

A NOTICE ON THE PROPOSED WORKS WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT SAID THAT UPON COMPLETION, THE WALKWAY SYSTEM WOULD CONNECT THE HUNG HOM FERRY PIER, THE RAILWAY STATION AND THE BUS STOPS WITHIN THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL AREA WITH TSIM SHA TSUI EAST.

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AND TRAFFIC FLOW AT THE EXISTING CROSSINGS OF SCIENCE MUSEUM ROAD, HONG TAT PATH AND HONG TAI PATH WOULD BE IMPROVED.

CONSTRUCTION WOULD START IN MID-1990 AND BE COMPLETED IN ABOUT 15 MONTHS.

THE PLAN AND SCHEME OF THE PROPOSED WORKS MAY BE INSPECTED AT THE FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT OFFICES:

- * CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY, HONG KONG;
- * KOWLOON WEST DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, YAU MA TEI CARPARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON; AND
- * YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICE, HOP FAT COMMERCIAL CENTRE, GROUND, SECOND TO FIFTH FLOORS, 490-492 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

ANY PERSON WHO OBJECTS TO THE PROPOSED WORKS SHOULD WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG NOT LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 5.

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TUNG CHAU STREET TO BE WIDENED TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC CIRCULATION

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THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR WORKS TO WIDEN A SECTION OF TUNG CHAU STREET BETWEEN PRATAS STREET AND KIU KIANG STREET IN SHAM SHUI PO TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC CIRCULATION THERE.

A NOTICE WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID AT PRESENT, WESTBOUND TRAFFIC RUNNING ALONG TONKIN STREET COULD ONLY TURN LEFT AT ITS JUNCTION WITH TUNG CHAU STREET AND UP A RAMP LEADING TO THE SOUTHBOUND WESTERN KOWLOON CORRIDOR.

/UPON THE

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UPON THE COMPLETION OF THE WIDENING OF THAT PART OF TUNG CHAU STREET, VEHICLES FROM TONKIN STREET WOULD BE ABLE TO TURN LEFT ON GROUND LEVEL, TRAVEL SOUTHWARD ALONG TUNG CHAU STREET, TURN LEFT AT THE YEN CHOW STREET JUNCTION AND TRAVEL ALONG EASTBOUND YEN CHOW STREET.

THE CONTRACT WILL ALSO COVER LANDSCAPING WORKS ALONG TUNG CHAU STREET BETWEEN TAI KOK TSUI ROAD AND TONG MI ROAD.

THE WORKS ARE EXPECTED TO START IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR AND BE COMPLETED IN JUNE NEXT YEAR.

THE WORKS HAVE BEEN DESIGNED BY THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT WHICH WILL ALSO SUPERVISE THEIR CONSTRUCTION.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR KENNEDY TOWN TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SCHEME

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THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE KENNEDY TOWN TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SCHEME STAGE I CONSTRUCTION WORKS.

A NOTICE WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT IS TO FORM A GYRATORY SYSTEM ALONG SMITHFIELD, BELCHER'S STREET, FORBES STREET AND DAVIS STREET.

WORKS INCLUDE WIDENING AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FORBES STREET, PROVISION OF TRAFFIC ISLANDS AT CADOGAN STREET, SMITHFIELD AND DAVIS STREET.

THE CONTRACT ALSO COVERS THE ASSOCIATED WORKS ON TRAFFIC AIDS AND DRAINAGE.

CONSTRUCTION WILL COMMENCE AT THE END OF NEXT MONTH AND TAKE SEVEN MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR DESIGNING THE WORKS AND SUPERVISING CONSTRUCTION.

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LAND IN FANLING TO BE RESUMED

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THE GOVERNMENT IS TO RESUME LAND IN FANLING TO MAKE WAY FOR SITE FORMATION AND SERVICING WORKS TO PROVIDE LAND FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE, TWO SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND DISTRICT OPEN SPACES.

THE LAND TO BE RESUMED COMPRISES 111 PRIVATE AGRICULTURAL LOTS AND ONE MIXED BUILDING/AGRICULTURAL LOT AT PAK FUK TSUEN AND ITS NEARBY AREAS.

IT COVERS A TOTAL AREA OF ABOUT 53,870.5 SQUARE METRES OF AGRICULTURAL LAND AND 40.5 SQUARE METRES OF BUILDING LAND.

SITE FORMATION AND SERVICING WORKS ARE EXPECTED TO COMMENCE AFTER THE EXPIRY OF THE THREE MONTHS' RESUMPTION NOTICE.

DETAILS OF THE RESUMPTION WERE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

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CONTINUING DECLINE IN WINDINGS-UP, BANKRUPTCIES

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THERE WERE 74 NEW COMPULSORY WINDINGS-UP AND 86 NEW PERSONAL BANKRUPTCIES IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF THIS YEAR, COMPARED WITH 87 AND 144 IN THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR, THE REGISTRAR GENERAL, MR NOEL GLEESON, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

MR GLEESON SAID IT COULD BE SEEN, THEREFORE, THAT THE RATE OF NEW INSOLVENCIES HAD DECREASED BY 20.40 PER CENT, AND THIS HAD REFLECTED A CONTINUING TREND SINCE 1986.

THERE HAD BEEN A 34.10 PER CENT DECREASE IN THE NUMBER OF NEW INSOLVENCIES IN THE FIRST HALF OF LAST YEAR OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF 1987.

TOTAL DIVIDENDS DECLARAED BY THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER DURING THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR AMOUNTED TO \$88.60 MILLION IN 153 INSOLVENCIES, AS AGAINST \$34.41 MILLION IN 233 INSOLVENCIES FOR THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD LAST YEAR.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF THE INSOLVENCIES BEING HANDLED BY THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER'S OFFICE AT THE END OF JUNE WAS 2,742, COMPRISING 1,420 COMPULSORY WINDINGS-UP AND 1,322 PERSONAL BANKRUPTCIES.

FUNDS ADMINISTERED BY THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER AT THE END OF JUNE TOTALLED \$1,262 MILLION, A DECREASE OF 11.00 PER CENT AS AGAINST \$1,418 MILLION AT THE END OF JUNE LAST YEAR.

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FRIDAY, JULY 7, 1989

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SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES ALLOCATION RESULTS TO BE RELEASED
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RESULTS OF THE SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES ALLOCATION (SSPA) WILL BE RELEASED ON WEDNESDAY (JULY 12), THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY).

A TOTAL OF 84,607 PRIMARY 6 PUPILS TOOK PART IN THE SSPA THIS YEAR AND ALL OF THEM HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED SECONDARY 1 PLACES IN GOVERNMENT, AIDED OR PRIVATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

AMONG THE PRIMARY 6 LEAVERS, 40,447 (47.81 PER CENT) HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED PLACES OF THEIR FIRST CHOICE.

ANOTHER 17,660 HAVE BEEN GIVEN PLACES OF THEIR SECOND AND THIRD CHOICES, BRINGING THE COMBINED TOTAL OF STUDENTS ALLOCATED PLACES OF THEIR FIRST THREE CHOICES TO 58,107 (68.68 PER CENT).

"IN ADDITION, 2,872 PUPILS (3.39 PER CENT) HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN OBTAINING DISCRETIONARY PLACES WHICH THEY APPLIED FOR EARLIER THIS YEAR," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

UNDER THE SSPA SCHEME, PARTICIPATING PUPILS WILL BE GIVEN THREE YEARS FREE EDUCATION UP TO SECONDARY 3 LEVEL AND NO TUITION FEES WILL BE CHARGED.

ALLOCATION RESULTS WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM THE PUPILS' OWN PRIMARY SCHOOLS ON WEDNESDAY.

THE SPOKESMAN ADVISED PUPILS TO FOLLOW ARRANGEMENTS LAID DOWN BY THEIR RESPECTIVE PRIMARY SCHOOLS WHEN COLLECTING THEIR ADMISSION SLIP AND ALLOCATION SLIP (ADHERED TO THEIR PRIMARY 6 IDENTIFICATION FORM) FROM THEIR SCHOOLS.

"THEY SHOULD REPORT TO THE SECONDARY SCHOOLS TO WHICH THEY HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED PLACES DURING THE REGISTRATION PERIOD ON JULY 18 AND 19.

"THOSE WHO FAIL TO REPORT TO THE SECONDARY SCHOOLS ALLOCATED ARE DEEMED TO HAVE CHOSEN NOT TO TAKE UP THE PLACES ALLOCATED," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

WHEN REPORTING TO THE SECONDARY SCHOOLS FOR REGISTRATION, PUPILS ARE ADVISED TO PUT ON THEIR SCHOOL UNIFORM AND BRING THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:

/* PRIMARY

- * PRIMARY 6 IDENTIFICATION FORMS, TO WHICH THEIR INDIVIDUAL ALLOCATION SLIPS HAVE BEEN ADHERED;
- * ADMISSION SLIPS;
- * BIRTH CERTIFICATES, HONG KONG JUVENILE IDENTITY CARDS OR OTHER DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE OF THEIR DATE OF BIRTH AND STATUS AS PERMANENT RESIDENTS OF HONG KONG. (NOTE: PUPILS SHOULD ALSO BRING ALONG THEIR TRAVELLING DOCUMENTS IF THE SYMBOL 'C' (FOR CONDITIONAL STAY) IS FOUND AT LINE 7 OF THE NEW TYPE HONG KONG IDENTITY CARD);
- * LATEST SCHOOL REPORTS, IF ANY; AND
- * TWO RECENT PASSPORT-SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS.

"IN CASE BOTH THE PUPIL AND THE PARENT/GUARDIAN ARE AWAY FROM HONG KONG DURING THE REGISTRATION PERIOD, THEY SHOULD AUTHORISE IN WRITING REPRESENTATIVES TO COMPLY WITH THE REGISTRATION PROCEDURES ON THEIR BEHALF.

"COPIES OF LETTERS OF AUTHORISATION ARE OBTAINABLE FROM THEIR PRIMARY SCHOOL HEADS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

IN CASE OF GENUINE DIFFICULTIES, THE PARENTS OR PUPILS CONCERNED SHOULD INFORM THE SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES ALLOCATION SECTION BEFORE THE END OF THE REGISTRATION PERIOD SO THAT ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS MAY BE MADE.

"AFTER THE REGISTRATION PERIOD, VACANCIES ARISING FROM NON-REPORTEES WILL BE FILLED AT THE DISCRETION OF INDIVIDUAL SCHOOLS," HE ADDED.

"PARENTS SEEKING TRANSFERS FOR THEIR CHILDREN HAVE TO APPLY DIRECT TO THE SCHOOLS CONCERNED WHICH HAS TOTAL DISCRETION TO ACCEPT AN APPLICANT OR NOT," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS HAVE TO RETRIEVE THE ADMISSION SLIPS FROM THE SECONDARY SCHOOLS WHICH THEY HAVE REGISTERED DURING THE REGISTRATION PERIOD AND HAND THEM TO THE SCHOOLS TO WHICH THEY SEEK TRANSFER.

PARENTS AND PUPILS ARE REMINDED THAT BY RETRIEVING THEIR ADMISSION SLIPS, THEIR REGISTRATION WITH THE SCHOOLS WILL AT THE SAME TIME BE CANCELLED.

"SHOULD THERE BE A TROPICAL CYCLONE, PERSISTENT HEAVY RAIN OR THUNDERSTORM DURING THE REGISTRATION PERIODS, SCHOOL HEADS AND PARENTS ARE ADVISED TO PAY ATTENTION TO ANNOUNCEMENTS IN THE MEDIA FOR ANY NECESSARY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

ENQUIRIES CONCERNING THE ALLOCATION RESULTS SHOULD BE MADE TO THE SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES ALLOCATION SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ON TELEPHONE 5-8912200.

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AMS CHIEF INSPECTS VBP DETENTION CENTRE FACILITIES

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THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH, DR S.H. LEE, TODAY (FRIDAY) VISITED THE LO WU AND WHITEHEAD DETENTION CENTRES IN HIS CAPACITY AS COMMISSIONER OF AUXILIARY MEDICAL SERVICES (AMS) TO SEE FOR HIMSELF THE MEDICAL COVERAGE AMS PROVIDES TO VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE.

HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THE ACTING CHIEF STAFF OFFICER OF THE AMS, MR C.C. LOK.

DURING HIS VISIT, DR LEE CHATTED WITH AMS MEMBERS WHO PROVIDE TRAINED ASSISTANCE IN SUPPORT OF THE REGULAR MEDICAL SERVICES IN THE DETENTION CENTRES.

HE WAS IMPRESSED BY THE HIGH MORALE OF AMS MEMBERS AND THE WAY THEY GO ABOUT THEIR DUTIES, WHICH ARE VERY OFTEN CARRIED OUT UNDER TRYING CONDITION.

ABOUT 100 AMS MEMBERS ARE DEPLOYED DAILY TO VARIOUS SICK BAYS AND CLINICS INSIDE DETENTION CENTRES OR CAMPS TO GIVE MEDICAL SERVICES TO VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE.

THE PRIMARY TASK OF THE AUXILIARY MEDICAL SERVICES, WITH A STRENGTH OF OVER 5,000 VOLUNTEERS FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE, IS TO AUGMENT THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES IN TIMES OF EMERGENCIES.

IN NORMAL TIMES, THEY PROVIDE FIRST AID COVERAGE FOR PUBLIC FUNCTIONS AND AT COUNTRY PARKS AT WEEKENDS; AND ACT AS LIFE GUARDS AT PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS AND BEACHES DURING PEAK SEASON. IN ADDITION, THEY ASSIST THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN ADMINISTERING THE METHADONE MAINTENANCE CLINICS.

DR LEE EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION TO EMPLOYERS AND FIRMS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR FOR RELEASING THEIR STAFF TO TAKE PART IN SUCH A MEANINGFUL COMMUNITY SERVICE.

WITHOUT THEIR CO-OPERATION, HE ADDED, IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO PROVIDE THE MUCH NEEDED SUPPORT FOR THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES.

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SCOUT LEADERS COMMENDED

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THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR STEPHEN LAW, TODAY (FRIDAY) COMMENDED LEADERS OF THE SCOUT MOVEMENT IN HONG KONG, WHO LED THE LARGEST NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS IN SERVING THE COMMUNITY.

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE INAUGURATION OF THE OFFICE-BEARERS OF THE EAST KOWLOON REGIONAL SCOUT COUNCIL.

/THROUGH OUTDOOR

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THROUGH OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES IN SMALL TEAMS, MR LAW SAID THE SCOUT MOVEMENT HELPED TO PROMOTE BOTH THE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE AND GROOM THEIR LEADERSHIP SO THAT THEY WOULD GROW UP TO BECOME RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS.

HE COMMENDED THE COUNCIL FOR ITS UNCEASING EFFORTS IN PROVIDING TRAINING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE EAST KOWLOON REGION OVER THE YEARS AND NOTED THAT IT WOULD FURTHER EXTEND ITS SERVICES AND IMPROVE THEIR QUALITY.

MR LAW POINTED OUT THAT THERE WERE NOW OVER 50,000 SCOUTS IN HONG KONG AND THAT THE COUNCIL ALONE HAD A MEMBERSHIP OF ABOUT 6,400 YOUNGSTERS FROM 147 UNITS.

APART FROM OPERATING VARIOUS FACILITIES, THE COUNCIL ALSO JOINT HANDS WITH OTHER COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS TO EXTEND ITS SERVICES TO THE GENERAL YOUTH POPULATION, A MOVE DEEPLY APPRECIATED BY THE COMMUNITY, MR LAW NOTED.

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FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL CELEBRATIONS

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RESIDENTS' ORGANISATIONS AND LOCAL BODIES IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT CAN NOW APPLY FOR SUBSIDIES FROM THE DISTRICT BOARD FOR ORGANISING FESTIVE ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT'S SEVEN AREAS TO CELEBRATE THE MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL.

"APPLICATIONS CAN BE MADE TO THE BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE, WHICH HAS SET ASIDE A TOTAL OF \$144,000 THIS FINANCIAL YEAR FOR SPONSORING MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL AND LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DISTRICT BOARD SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE SEVEN AREAS IN THE DISTRICT -- ABERDEEN AND HARBOUR; POK FU LAM; TIN WAN AND SHEK PAI WAN; WONG CHUK HANG; AP LEI CHAU; STANLEY AND SHEK O; AND BAYS -- HAVE EACH BEEN ALLOCATED \$18,000 TO \$30,000.

MEANWHILE, THE COMMITTEE IS ALSO INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR SUBSIDIES FROM LOCAL ORGANISATIONS FOR CARRYING OUT DISTRICT-BASED COMMUNITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS RECREATIONAL, CULTURAL, SPORTS OR OTHER EVENTS, FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT COMMUNITY.

FOR DETAILS OF APPLICATION PROCEDURES, PROSPECTIVE APPLICANTS MAY REFER TO THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS APPLICATION GUIDELINES WHICH CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMITTEE AT THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE, SECOND FLOOR, MEI FUNG COURT, ABERDEEN CENTRE.

/ALL APPLICATIONS

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ALL APPLICATIONS MUST REACH THE SECRETARY BY AUGUST 11.

"THE COMMITTEE WILL CONSIDER THE APPLICATIONS AT A MEETING IN EARLY SEPTEMBER AND THE APPLICANTS WILL BE INFORMED OF THE OUTCOME OF THEIR APPLICATIONS IN WRITING AFTER THE MEETING," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT APPLICATION MATTERS CAN BE MADE ON 5-540271.

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SHA TIN SYP BEGINS ON SUNDAY

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THE SHA TIN DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME WILL BEGIN IN THE MAIN PLAZA OF THE CENTRAL PARK, SHA TIN, ON SUNDAY (JULY 9) AFTERNOON.

THE OPENING DAY'S ACTIVITIES WILL BE HELD BETWEEN 2.30 PM AND 5 PM. THERE WILL BE 21 STALL GAMES, KARAOKE SINGING, AND PRIZES WILL BE PRESENTED TO CHILDREN AGED 12 AND UNDER.

OUTSTANDING ENTRIES FROM THE BOOKMARKS AND POSTERS DESIGN COMPETITIONS FOR THE DISTRICT'S SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME WILL ALSO BE ON DISPLAY.

TO MARK THE OPENING OF THE PROGRAMME, A CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT 2.30 PM AT THE AMPHITHEATRE. SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR VICTOR YUNG, AND DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR NG CHAN-LAM, WILL OFFICIATE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SHA TIN DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME OPENING CEREMONY TO BE HELD AT 2.30 PM ON SUNDAY (JULY 9) IN THE AMPHITHEATRE OF THE CENTRAL PARK, SHA TIN.

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WAN CHAI SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME STARTS TOMORROW

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A CARNIVAL WILL BE HELD IN SOUTHERN PLAYGROUND TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AFTERNOON TO MARK THE OPENING OF THIS YEAR'S WAN CHAI DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME (SYP).

THERE WILL BE A LION DANCE, FOLK DANCES, SINGING, CHINESE MARTIAL ART DEMONSTRATIONS, HARMONICA RECITALS, AND STALL GAMES.

OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING WILL BE THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICER AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT SYP CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE.

/THE CARNIVAL

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THE CARNIVAL IS THE FIRST IN A SERIES OF MORE THAN 200 INDOOR AND OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES TO BE HELD IN JULY AND AUGUST FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE DISTRICT. IT WILL BEGIN AT 2 PM.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 3.30 PM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) IN SOUTHOEN PLAYGROUND, WAN CHAI.

THE OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE PRECEDED BY A CARNIVAL BEGINNING AT 2 PM AT THE SAME VENUE.

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TEMPORARY REVIEWERS REQUIRED TO ASSESS CHINESE REFERENCE BOOKS

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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS RECRUITING TEMPORARY REVIEWERS TO GO THROUGH ABOUT 350 CHINESE REFERENCE BOOKS WRITTEN FOR THE HONG KONG ADVANCED LEVEL EXAMINATIONS SELECTED BY THE CHINESE TEXTBOOKS COMMITTEE.

THE TEMPORARY POSTS ARE OPEN TO LECTURERS OF TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS AND EXPERIENCED SECONDARY 6 AND 7 TEACHERS WHO ARE ABLE TO ASSESS THE SUITABILITY OF REFERENCE BOOKS FOR USE AT SIXTH FORMS.

APPOINTMENT WILL BE OFFERED TO SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES FOR THREE MONTHS STARTING NEXT MONTH (AUGUST).

THE REVIEWERS ARE REQUIRED TO REVIEW IN DETAIL CHAPTERS AND SECTIONS OF THE CHINESE REFERENCE BOOKS IN 12 DIFFERENT SUBJECTS -- APPLIED MATHEMATICS, BIOLOGY, BUSINESS STUDIES, CHEMISTRY, ECONOMICS, GEOGRAPHY, GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS, HISTORY, PHYSICS, PRINCIPLES OF ACCOUNTS, PSYCHOLOGY AND PURE MATHEMATICS.

THEY ARE ALSO REQUIRED TO COMPILE ASSESSMENT REPORTS ON THE SUITABILITY OF THE MATERIALS REVIEWED FOR THE HONG KONG ADVANCED LEVEL EXAMINATIONS.

TEMPORARY REVIEWERS WILL BE PAID AT THE RATE OF \$100 FOR THEIR WORK TO REVIEW EVERY 15 PAGES OF TEXTS INCLUDING THE COMPILATION OF ASSESSMENT REPORTS.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT SECTION (SECONDARY) OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, FIFTH FLOOR, LEE GARDENS, HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY.

THE CLOSING DATE OF APPLICATION IS JULY 20. ENQUIRIES SHOULD BE MADE TO THE CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT SECTION (SECONDARY) ON 5-8392668 OR 5-8392645.

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CAS TO OPEN NEW OFFICE IN TSZ WAN SHAN

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THE CIVIL AID SERVICES WILL OPEN A NEW OFFICE IN TSZ WAN SHAN ON SUNDAY (JULY 9) TO SERVE AS ITS TSZ WAN SHAN CADET UNIT HEADQUARTERS.

THE SENIOR ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER (YOUTH) AND REGIONAL COMMANDER (NT) OF CAS, MR CHAU HOW-CHE, WILL CUT THE RIBBON AND DOT THE LION'S EYES DURING THE OPENING CEREMONY.

THERE WILL BE PERFORMANCES AND A DISPLAY OF CAS RESCUE AND WATER SPORT EQUIPMENT.

THE PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME INCLUDES CADET POP BAND SHOW, MARCHING BAND SHOW, LION DANCE, MOUNTAIN RESCUE UNIT SKILL DEMONSTRATION, AND CADET BICYCLE DEMONSTRATION ON TEAM TRICK RIDING.

THE CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT THE BASKETBALL COURT ADJACENT TO WAI YUEN HOUSE, CHUK YUEN NORTH ESTATE IN TSZ WAN SHAN.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE CIVIL AID SERVICES' TSZ WAN SHAN CADET UNIT HEADQUARTERS ON SUNDAY (JULY 9), BEGINNING AT 10 AM AT THE BASKETBALL COURT ADJACENT TO WAI YUEN HOUSE, CHUK YUEN NORTH ESTATE. THE RIBBON CUTTING AND LION'S EYES DOTTING CEREMONY WILL START AT 11.50 AM.

LABOUR OFFICE ON THE MOVE

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THE WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS DIVISION OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT NOW SITUATED AT UN CHAU STREET, SHAM SHUI PO, WILL MOVE TO NEW PREMISES IN NATHAN ROAD NEXT WEEK.

THE OFFICE WILL BE OPERATING FROM WINNER MANSION, FIRST FLOOR, 695-697 NATHAN ROAD, MONG KOK, KOWLOON, AS FROM MONDAY (JULY 10).

THE DIVISION IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS (INDUSTRY) REGULATIONS WHICH GOVERN THE EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS IN INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS.

IT ALSO COVERS EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN IN ALL ECONOMIC SECTORS UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN REGULATIONS.

FURTHER ENQUIRIES CAN BE OBTAINED ON 3-965393.

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REMOVAL OF KOWLOON MARRIAGE REGISTRY

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THE KOWLOON MARRIAGE REGISTRY LOCATED ON THE FIFTH FLOOR OF THE KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 405 NATHAN ROAD, WILL MOVE TO ITS NEW ADDRESS ON AUGUST 29, THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE NEW ADDRESS IS THE UPPER BASEMENT AND LEVEL 3, ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING, HONG KONG CULTURAL CENTRE, 10 SALISBURY ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI.

ON AND AFTER AUGUST 29, THE REGISTRY WILL BE KNOWN AS THE TSIM SHA TSUI MARRIAGE REGISTRY AND ITS OFFICE HOURS WILL BE:

MONDAY TO FRIDAY	8.45 AM	-	12.45 PM
	2 PM	-	4.45 PM
SATURDAY	9 AM	-	11.30 AM
SUNDAY	9 AM	-	12.45 PM
(MARRIAGE CEREMONIES ONLY)	2 PM	-	4.45 PM

THE REGISTRY WILL BE CLOSED ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO MAKE ENQUIRIES MAY TELEPHONE 3-7333111.

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NIGHT CLOSURE OF TSING YI BRIDGE

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT TSING YI BRIDGE WILL BE COMPLETELY CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 1.30 AM TO 5.30 AM ON TWO SUNDAYS, JULY 9 AND 16, TO FACILITATE THE STAGE II IMPROVEMENT WORKS.

AFFECTED VEHICLES, INCLUDING GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES 88M AND 88S, WILL BE DIVERTED VIA TSING TSUEN BRIDGE.

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