



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 1985

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GOVERNOR TO GO ON LEAVE

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, WILL RETURN TO LONDON ON LEAVE NEXT MONTH.

WHILE IN LONDON, SIR EDWARD WILL TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET MINISTERS FOR CONSULTATION ON HONG KONG AFFAIRS.

HE IS EXPECTED TO LEAVE HONG KONG ON FRIDAY (JULY 5) AND TO RETURN IN MID-AUGUST.

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SIR DAVID SEES LATEST IN EDUCATION

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THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SPENT THIS AFTERNOON (THURSDAY) AT EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS MEETING WITH STAFF INVOLVED IN CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT, SCHOOL SUPPORT SERVICES AND SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION WORK.

SIR DAVID, ACCOMPANIED BY THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR MICHAEL LEUNG, FIRST WENT TO THE ADVISORY INSPECTORATE, AND MET MEMBERS OF THE CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT TEAMS. THESE TEAM MEMBERS ARE SERVING TEACHERS SECONDED FROM SCHOOLS TO WORK FOR A YEAR IN THE DEPARTMENT, OFFERING THEIR EXPERIENCE AND EXPERTISE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF SPECIAL CURRICULAR PROJECTS FOR KINDERGARTENS, PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

IN THE COMPUTER EDUCATION SECTION, SIR DAVID SAW SOME OF THE EQUIPMENT USED IN SCHOOLS AND WAS ADVISED OF THE DEPARTMENT'S INTENTION TO INTRODUCE THE SUBJECT IN ALL PUBLIC-SECTOR SCHOOLS THAT WISHED TO INCLUDE IT.

THE DEPARTMENT WILL ALSO BE OPENING A COMPUTER EDUCATION CENTRE NEXT YEAR WITH A GRANT OF \$4 MILLION FROM THE MACLEHOSE FUND, TO PROVIDE COURSES AND OTHER RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS.

COMPUTER STUDIES WAS INTRODUCED AT FORM 4 LEVEL TO 30 SCHOOLS IN SEPTEMBER 1982. IT WAS TAKEN UP BY 75 MORE SCHOOLS IN THE 1984-85 SCHOOL YEAR. BY SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR, A TOTAL OF 210 SECONDARY SCHOOLS WILL BE OFFERING THE SUBJECT.

THE CHIEF SECRETARY ALSO VISITED THE CAREERS EDUCATION CENTRE, WHICH WORKS CLOSELY WITH THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF CAREERS MASTERS IN THE PROMOTION OF CAREERS GUIDANCE AND EDUCATION IN ALL SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

LATER HE VISITED THE SCHOOLS DIVISION, AND LEARNED ABOUT THE WORK OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION AND SUPERVISION, AND THE SERVICES DIVISION WHOSE RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE SPECIAL EDUCATION AND STUDENT GUIDANCE.

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COUNCIL TO REVIEW POLICIES, SERVICES

THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL WILL MEET TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO DECIDE ON THE COMPOSITION OF ITS SELECT COMMITTEES AND CONSIDER THE FIVE-YEAR FINANCIAL FORECAST OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL AND THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

MEETING FOR THE FIRST TIME WITH ITS FULL COMPLEMENT OF 24 MEMBERS, THE COUNCIL WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE PROSPECT OF ASSUMING STATUTORY RESPONSIBILITY FOR LIQUOR LICENSING IN THE NON-URBAN AREAS AND THE INTRODUCTION OF A NEW CATEGORY OF RESTAURANT LICENCE FOR BARS WHICH SELL ONLY DRINKS AND FOOD WHICH DO NOT REQUIRE KITCHEN FACILITIES.

ON THE BASIS OF PREFERENCES BY MEMBERS IN THEIR LAST MEETING ON JUNE 21, THE COUNCIL WILL DECIDE ON THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE WAYS AND MEANS SELECT COMMITTEE, THE RECREATION AND CULTURE SELECT COMMITTEE AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE SELECT COMMITTEE. EACH COMMITTEE WILL BE COMPOSED OF TEN TO 13 MEMBERS.

ALSO TO BE DISCUSSED WILL BE WHETHER THE FUTURE FULLY-FLEDGED REGIONAL COUNCIL SHOULD ASSUME LIQUOR LICENSING FUNCTIONS FOR THE NON-URBAN AREAS IN LINE WITH THE URBAN COUNCIL.

COUNCIL MEMBERS WILL EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON A PROPOSAL TO INTRODUCE A NEW CATEGORY OF RESTAURANT LICENCE FOR BARS WHICH SELL ONLY DRINKS AND PRE-PACKED INSTANT FOOD.

THE COUNCIL WILL ALSO STUDY THE RSD'S POLICIES ON HAWKERS AND MARKETS. THE POLICY ON HAWKERS IS GEARED TO THE ERADICATING IN THE NEW TERRITORIES OF THE PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH HAWKING. THE POLICY ON MARKETS IS AIMED AT IMPROVING THE STANDARD OF HYGIENE AND CONSTRUCTING MORE MODERN FACILITIES.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO REVIEW THE RSD'S VARIOUS SERVICES AND FACILITIES IN RESPECT OF CIVIC CENTRES, CULTURAL AND ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTATIONS, PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND INDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES.

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THREE APPOINTED TO PROVISIONAL RC

THREE MEMBERS OF THE HEUNG YEE KUK HAVE BEEN APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR TO SIT ON THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL, THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE THREE WILL JOIN 21 OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL AND ATTEND THE COUNCIL'S MEETING TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

/THE APPOINTEES,

THE APPOINTEES, ALL EXECUTIVE COUNCILLORS OF THE KUK, ARE MR LAU HON-KIT, AGED 47, FROM THE KUK'S TAI PO CONSTITUENCY, MR TANG CHI-LEUNG, 61, FROM THE YUEN LONG CONSTITUENCY AND MR YOUNG WING-YAU, 76, FROM THE SOUTH CONSTITUENCY.

MR LAU, A MERCHANT, IS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SHA TIN RURAL COMMITTEE AND A MEMBER OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD.

MR TANG, ALSO A MERCHANT, IS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE KAM TIN RURAL COMMITTEE AND A MEMBER OF THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD. HE SITS ON THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF A NUMBER OF LOCAL SPORTS AND CULTURAL ORGANISATIONS.

MR YOUNG, AN INDUSTRIALIST, IS AN APPOINTED MEMBER OF THE ISLANDS DISTRICT BOARD.

THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL CONSISTS OF 24 MEMBERS - 12 OF WHOM ARE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR. NINE OF THE OTHER 12 ARE ELECTED BY EACH OF THE NINE DISTRICT BOARDS IN THE NON-URBAN AREAS WHILE THE REMAINING THREE ARE EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS WHO ARE THE CHAIRMAN AND THE TWO VICE-CHAIRMEN OF HEUNG YEE KUK.

ONE OF THE MAIN TASKS OF THE PROVISIONAL RC IS TO PREPARE FOR THE SETTING UP OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL WHICH WILL BE ESTABLISHED IN APRIL NEXT YEAR. ANOTHER 12 MEMBERS, WHO WILL BE DIRECTLY ELECTED FROM THE CONSTITUENCIES IN THE NON-URBAN AREAS IN MARCH NEXT YEAR, WILL JOIN THE REGIONAL COUNCIL.

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6 570 LATE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED
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UP TO 4 PM TODAY (THURSDAY), 6 570 LATE APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION AS ELECTORS IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED. AS A RESULT OF THE EARLIER REGISTRATION EXERCISE, 34 531 ELECTORS HAVE ALREADY BEEN INCLUDED IN THE PROVISIONAL REGISTER PUBLISHED ON JUNE 21.

A STATISTICAL BREAKDOWN IS AS FOLLOWS:

	ESTIMATED SIZE OF ELECTORATE (REVISED)	NUMBER OF ELECTORS ON PROVISIONAL REGISTER	LATE APPLICATIONS
<u>ELECTORAL COLLEGE</u>	434	428	5

/FUNCTIONAL

FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES

COMMERCIAL I	2 347	681	537
COMMERCIAL II	5 512	1 730	840
INDUSTRIAL I	772	364	77
INDUSTRIAL II	2 267	913	252
FINANCIAL	141	119	8
LABOUR	393	285	11
SOCIAL SERVICES	155	129	14
MEDICAL	4 548	2 109	507
LEGAL	1 511	727	204
TEACHING	49 047	25 337	3 567
ENGINEERING, ARCHITECTURAL, SURVEYING AND PLANNING	2 890	1 709	548
<u>TOTAL</u>	70 017	34 531	6 570

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+JENKINS BILL COULD COST HALF A MILLION PER JOB SAVED+
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PROPOSED NEW LEGISLATION TO RESTRICT IMPORTS OF TEXTILE AND APPAREL PRODUCTS INTO THE UNITED STATES WOULD COST U.S. CONSUMERS HK\$514 000 PER DOMESTIC JOB SUPPORTED.

THIS IS THE PUBLICLY EXPRESSED VIEW OF DONALD SEIBERT, CO-CHAIRMAN OF THE RETAIL INDUSTRY TRADE ACTION COALITION (RITAC), WHICH OPPOSES NEW RESTRICTIONS, SAID THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, TODAY (THURSDAY).

HE SAID THAT CALCULATIONS MADE BY THE COALITION HAD SHOWN THAT LEGISLATION NOW BEFORE CONGRESS AND THE SENATE, GENERALLY KNOWN AS THE JENKINS BILL, WOULD SUPPORT 36 000 JOBS IN THE DOMESTIC APPAREL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY AT AN ANNUAL COST OF U.S.\$66 000 (HK\$514 000) EACH. AT THE SAME TIME IT WOULD ELIMINATE 58 000 JOBS IN THE AMERICAN RETAIL INDUSTRY.

A MAJOR STUDY HAS BEEN CONDUCTED FOR THE COALITION, WHICH IS MADE UP OF 40 LARGE AND SMALL RETAIL CORPORATIONS AND EIGHT RETAIL TRADE ASSOCIATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES. IT PREDICTED THAT AVERAGE PRICES OF IMPORTED APPAREL WOULD INCREASE BY 16 PER CENT AND OF TEXTILE IMPORTS BY 33 PER CENT UNDER THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION.

LOWER INCOME CONSUMERS WOULD PAY THE HEAVIEST PENALTY AS MUCH OF THE LESS-EXPENSIVE MERCHANDISE WOULD BE REDUCED OR ELIMINATED. BECAUSE OF IMPORT RESTRICTIONS, FOREIGN PRODUCERS WOULD CONCENTRATE ON EXPORTING HIGHER-VALUE GOODS. THE COSTS OF IMPORT RESTRICTIONS TO THE AMERICAN CONSUMER WOULD BE AN EXTRA HK\$18.72 BILLION A YEAR FOR APPAREL AND HK\$7.8 BILLION A YEAR FOR TEXTILES. THIS WOULD BE IN ADDITION TO THE COSTS OF EXISTING TARIFFS AND QUOTAS WHICH ALREADY COST THE AMERICAN CONSUMER HK\$179.4 BILLION ANNUALLY.

+THIS STUDY UNDERLINES THE VERY REAL COSTS OF PROTECTIONIST POLICIES SUCH AS TEXTILE QUOTAS, AND IS A VERY HELPFUL CONTRIBUTION TO THE DEBATE ON THE JENKINS BILL - INDEED IT IS PART OF AN OVERALL AND VITAL ATTEMPT TO GET THE DEBATE ONTO A RATIONAL FOOTING,+ SAID MR MACLEOD.

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GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE SUPPORT FOR INDUSTRIES

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THE GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRY BY ENSURING THAT CONDITIONS ARE CREATED AND AN INFRASTRUCTURE PROVIDED TO ENABLE INDUSTRY TO FUNCTION EFFICIENTLY AND PROFITABLY, THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR ERIC HO, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE HONG KONG MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION CHINESE EXECUTIVES CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, MR HO SAID HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT WITH DIVERSIFICATION, UPGRADING OF PRODUCT RANGE AND INCREASING USE OF AUTOMATED AND OTHER MODERN EQUIPMENT, WE COULD OVERCOME NOT ONLY OUR OWN INTERNAL PROBLEMS BUT THOSE WE FACED WITH INCREASING PROTECTIONISM AND COMPETITION AROUND THE WORLD.

DESPITE THE MANY DIFFICULTIES FACED, HE SAID, HONG KONG EXPERIENCED AN EXPORT-LED ECONOMIC RECOVERY IN 1984 AND THE EXPORT SECTOR SHOWED IMPRESSIVE GROWTH.

THE TREND TOWARDS THE MANUFACTURE OF HIGH QUALITY, MORE SOPHISTICATED CONSUMER PRODUCTS WAS CONTINUING.

TEXTILES AND GARMENT MANUFACTURE REMAINED DOMINANT AND INDUSTRY WAS DEMONSTRATING ITS WILLINGNESS TO ADOPT NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND PRODUCTION PROCESSES.

THE ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY CONTINUED TO GROW AND WAS STRONGLY SUPPORTED BY THE WORK OF THE INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD, THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL, THE TERTIARY EDUCATION SECTOR AND THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT'S INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT PROMOTION ACTIVITIES.

ON GOVERNMENT'S INDUSTRIAL POLICY, MR HO SAID IT WAS THE GOVERNMENT'S BASIC PHILOSOPHY THAT BUSINESS DECISIONS WERE BEST TAKEN BY BUSINESSMEN RATHER THAN BUREAUCRATS AND IT WAS GREATLY TO THE BENEFIT OF ALL IF PEOPLE WERE ALLOWED TO GET ON WITH THEIR BUSINESS WITH MINIMUM INTERFERENCE.

+THE GOVERNMENT HAS NEVER SOUGHT TO INTERVENE IN DECISIONS ON WHAT TYPE OF INDUSTRY SHOULD BE SET UP. THIS HAS GIVEN ENTREPRENEURS COMPLETE FREEDOM AND FLEXIBILITY TO RESPOND TO MARKET DEMANDS AND TO DEPLOY THEIR RESOURCES AS THEY SEE FIT.

+CONSISTENT WITH THIS POLICY, THE GOVERNMENT'S PRINCIPAL ROLE IS TO ENSURE THAT CONDITIONS ARE CREATED AND ADEQUATE INFRASTRUCTURE PROVIDED TO ENABLE INDUSTRY TO FUNCTION EFFICIENTLY AND PROFITABLY,+ MR HO SAID.

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LADY YOUDE VISITS INSTITUTIONS

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LADY YOUDE THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON VISITED TWO INSTITUTIONS FOR EX-MENTAL PATIENTS RUN BY THE NEW LIFE PSYCHIATRIC REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION.

SHE FIRST WENT TO THE KWAI SHING SHELTERED WORKSHOP AND SAW 120 FORMER MENTAL PATIENTS BEING TRAINED IN DIFFERENT TRADES, INCLUDING ASSEMBLY OF TOY-MOTORS, WATCH-BANDS, ELECTRIC COMBS AND BRUSHES.

SHE WAS TOLD THAT APART FROM TRAINING THE WORKERS TO BECOME MORE CONFIDENT AND SKILFUL IN THEIR JOB PERFORMANCE, STAFF OF THE WORKSHOP ALSO PROVIDED THEM WITH DIFFERENT PROGRAMMES IN THE CULTIVATION OF GOOD MANNERS AND WORKING HABITS.

FOLLOWING THIS, LADY YOUDE TRAVELLED TO KWUN TONG TO VISIT A HALF-WAY HOUSE FOR WOMEN.

THE HALF-WAY HOUSE, CATERING FOR 20 WOMEN, PROVIDE ACCOMMODATION FOR DISCHARGED MENTAL PATIENTS IN A HEALTHY AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT TO FACILITATE RECOVERY AND EVENTUAL INTEGRATION INTO THE COMMUNITY WITH THE HELP OF PROFESSIONAL WORKERS.

ACCOMPANYING LADY YOUDE THROUGHOUT THE VISITS WAS THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE (OPERATIONS), MRS EVELYN DOE.

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HK PAVILION CHALLENGE FOR DESIGNERS
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HONG KONG DESIGNERS ARE BEING INVITED, ALONG WITH THOSE FROM OVERSEAS, TO SUBMIT THEIR PROPOSALS FOR A HONG KONG PAVILION IN EXPO '86, WHICH WILL BE HELD IN VANCOUVER, CANADA, FROM MAY 2 TO OCTOBER 13 NEXT YEAR.

THE HONG KONG EXPO '86 CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, WHICH HAS ISSUED THE INVITATION, HOPES TO RECEIVE SUFFICIENT OUTLINE PROPOSALS BY JULY 10 FROM WHICH TO DRAW UP A SHORTLIST OF DESIGNERS WHO MAY BE CALLED UPON TO PUT FORWARD DETAILED PLANS.

THE COMMITTEE, CHAIRED BY THE SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND INFORMATION, MR PETER TSAO, COMPRISES REPRESENTATIVES OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT, THE HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, THE HONG KONG TOURIST ASSOCIATION, CATHAY PACIFIC AIRWAYS AND THE SING TAO GROUP OF NEWSPAPERS.

A COMMITTEE SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF OUTLINE PROPOSALS FOR THE DESIGN OF THE PAVILION WAS +DELIBERATELY TIGHT+ SO AS TO STIMULATE THE CREATIVE IMPULSE.

+WE HAVE A TERRIFIC IDEA TO PUT OVER AT EXPO '86,+ HE SAID. +THE IDEA OF ONE OF THE WORLD'S SMALLEST TERRITORIES MAKING ONE OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST IMPACTS.

+IN PARTICULAR, WE WANT TO STRESS THE THEME OF HONG KONG'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE FIELDS OF TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS, TRADE AND FINANCE.

+THE EXPO ORGANISERS ARE VERY ANXIOUS TO HAVE HONG KONG PARTICIPATE IN THIS MAJOR INTERNATIONAL EVENT, AND THEY HAVE RESERVED FOR US ONE OF THE BEST SITES IN THE EXPOSITION GROUNDS.

+THE PAVILION SHOULD FIRST ATTRACT THE CURIOSITY AND THEN STIMULATE THE INTEREST AND UNDERSTANDING OF AN IMPORTANT SEGMENT OF THE 16 MILLION OR SO PEOPLE EXPECTED TO VISIT EXPO.

+THIS SEGMENT WILL BE THE BUSINESSMEN AND OPINION-FORMERS WHO HAVE AN EXISTING OR POTENTIAL CONNECTION WITH HONG KONG. SOME OF THEM WILL BE KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT HONG KONG ALREADY, BUT PERHAPS NOT KNOWLEDGEABLE ENOUGH.

+HONG KONG HAS NEVER HAD AN AWARENESS PROBLEM. BUT WE DO PERHAPS HAVE AN IDENTITY PROBLEM. EVERYONE HAS HEARD OF US. EVERYONE THINKS HE KNOWS SOMETHING ABOUT US. BUT NOT ENOUGH KNOW JUST HOW FAR WE HAVE COME AND HOW FAR WE ARE STILL PLANNING TO GO. WE HOPE OUR PAVILION IN EXPO '86 WILL ADVANCE THEIR AWARENESS OF OUR KEY ROLE ON THIS SIDE OF THE PACIFIC.+

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THOSE RISING TO THE CHALLENGE OF DESIGNING A PAVILION WHICH WOULD EFFECTIVELY CONVEY HONG KONG'S MESSAGE SHOULD APPLY TO THE EXPO '86 CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, C/O TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, 31ST FLOOR, GREAT EAGLE CENTRE, 23 HARBOUR ROAD, HONG KONG.

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PROPOSALS TO RELIEVE OVERCROWDING IN THAS

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THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT WILL RECOMMEND THE OFFER OF LARGER TEMPORARY HOUSING UNITS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES TO SERIOUSLY CONGESTED FAMILIES IN URBAN THAS AS A QUICKER MEANS OF RELIEVING OVERCROWDING.

ANOTHER SUGGESTION IS THE REDUCTION OF THE RESIDENCE CRITERION, FROM 10 YEARS TO SEVEN YEARS, IN TRAWLING EXERCISES FOR THA FAMILIES TO TRANSFER TO PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES.

THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF HOUSING (OPERATIONS), MR HAIDER BARMA, SAID THE DEPARTMENT WAS EXAMINING THE IMPLICATIONS OF THESE OPTIONS AND WOULD SOON MAKE THE PROPOSALS TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY'S OPERATIONS COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION.

HE SAID THIS TO 15 DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AT A SCHEDULED, BUT INFORMAL, MEETING AT WHICH VIEWS AND POINTS ON THE IMPROVEMENT OF LIVING CONDITIONS IN THAS WERE EXCHANGED.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE MEETING WITH THE 15 DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS FROM KWUN TONG, SHAM SHUI PO, KWAI CHUNG, SHA TIN AND WONG TAI SIN WERE MEMBERS OF THE AUTHORITY'S OPERATIONS COMMITTEE. THEY WERE MISS LEUNG WAI-TUNG, MR CHAN YING-LUN, MR PAO PING-WING, DR JOSEPH CHENG YU-SHEK, MRS LEE LO YUK-SIM AND REV SEAN P. BURKE.

+IN THE FACE OF LIMITED URBAN THA RESOURCES, IMPROVED ACCOMMODATION IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WOULD BE A POSITIVE RESOLUTION TO CONGESTION,+ MR BARMA SAID.

OF THE PRESENT 40 000 HOUSEHOLDS IN THAS, HE SAID ABOUT 10 PER CENT, OR 4 000 FAMILIES, WERE LIVING AT A DENSITY OF LESS THAN 1.86 SQUARE METRES PER PERSON, MAINLY AS A RESULT OF NATURAL BIRTHS OR ADDITION OF RELATIVES.

THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBERS STRESSED THAT ALTHOUGH THE PROBLEM OF OVERCROWDING IN THE OLDER THAS WAS RECOGNISED, IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO ALLOCATE THESE FAMILIES ADDITIONAL LARGER UNITS IN URBAN THAS AS ALL SUCH VACANT UNITS HAD ALREADY BEEN COMMITTED.

THESE LARGER UNITS, THE MEMBERS POINTED OUT, HAD BEEN RESERVED FOR PEOPLE WHO WOULD BE DISPLACED FROM DEVELOPMENT CLEARANCE, AVERAGING 24 000 PERSONS ELIGIBLE FOR TEMPORARY HOUSING EVERY YEAR, AS WELL AS FOR THOSE MADE HOMELESS IN NATURAL DISASTERS.

UNDER THE PRESENT POLICY, MR BARMA SAID, OVERCORWDED FAMILIES IN THAS WERE ALLOCATED ADDITIONALLY A SMALLER UNIT OF LESS THAN 7.43 SQUARE METRES WHENEVER SUCH STOCK WAS AVAILABLE.

/+LAST YEAR,

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+LAST YEAR, MORE THAN 700 FAMILIES BENEFITED FROM THIS ARRANGEMENT.+

AT THE MEETING, IT WAS AGREED THAT IF THE ADDITIONAL UNIT WAS NOT THE ADJACENT ONE, A FAMILY COULD SWAP HIS UNITS WITH ANOTHER FAMILY UPON MUTUAL AGREEMENT.

MR BARMA SAID THA FAMILIES COULD HAVE VARIOUS WAYS TO MOVE TO PERMANENT PUBLIC HOUSING.

+APART FROM TRAWLING EXERCISES, THA FAMILIES ARE ASKED TO REGISTER ON THE GENERAL WAITING LIST TO WAIT FOR THEIR TURNS FOR PUBLIC HOUSING.

+IN ADDITION, A PROGRAMME HAS BEEN DRAWN UP TO CLEAR OLDER THAS WHEREBY ELIGIBLE TENANTS ARE REHOUSED TO ESTATE FLATS.+

+FOR EXAMPLE, A TOTAL OF 1 498 PEOPLE WERE REHOUSED TO PERMANENT PUBLIC HOUSING IN THE RECENT CLEARANCE OF FORTUNE STREET AND CHAI WAN (II) THAS.+

DB MEMBERS ALSO RAISED THE POINT OF TWO FAMILIES SHARING THE SAME UNIT IN THAS, THE DEPARTMENT UNDERTOOK TO CONSIDER WAYS AND MEANS OF RESOLVING THE PROBLEM.

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FAREWELL PARADE
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A PARADE WILL BE HELD AT THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT STAFF TRAINING INSTITUTE TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO BID FAREWELL TO THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, MR THOMAS GARNER, WHO IS RETIRING AFTER 38 YEARS OF GOVERNMENT SERVICE.

SEVEN CONTINGENTS, COMPRISING 204 OFFICERS FROM VARIOUS CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT, WILL TAKE PART IN THE PARADE, UNDER THE COMMAND OF SENIOR SUPERINTENDENT FRANCIS WONG.

THERE WILL ALSO BE A FLY-PAST BY TWO HELICOPTERS AND THREE FIXED-WING AIRCRAFT OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG AUXILIARY AIR FORCE.

MR GARNER, WHO HAS BEEN COMMISSIONER FOR 13 YEARS, WILL BE PRESENTING SERVICE MEDALS TO 36 CORRECTIONAL SERVICES STAFF.

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EARLY APPLICATION FOR FEE ASSISTANCE URGED
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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY) ADVISED PARENTS NEEDING FEE ASSISTANCE FOR THEIR CHILDREN ATTENDING DAY NURSERIES OR KINDERGARTENS TO APPLY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

COPIES OF A LEAFLET CONTAINING AN APPLICATION FORM ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE DEPARTMENT'S SOCIAL SECURITY FIELD UNITS AND FAMILY SERVICES CENTRES, CHILD CARE CENTRES THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY, AS WELL AS THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S HEADQUARTERS IN LEE GARDENS, THIRD FLOOR, CAUSEWAY BAY.

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE ASSISTANCE SCHEME WAS TO HELP LOW INCOME FAMILIES PAY THE FEES CHARGED IN DAY NURSERIES OR KINDERGARTENS.

FOR ASSESSMENT OF INCOME ELIGIBILITY, PARENTS ARE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE INFORMATION SUCH AS THE TOTAL INCOME OF THE FAMILY, THE SIZE OF THE FAMILY AND THE RENT PAID.

THE AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE PAYABLE WILL BE CALCULATED ACCORDING TO NET HOUSEHOLD INCOME, I.E. THE TOTAL INCOME FROM ALL FAMILY MEMBERS REMAINING AFTER THE RENT HAS BEEN PAID.

APPLICANTS FOR DAY NURSERY OR FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN FEE ASSISTANCE HAVE TO SHOW THAT THEY ARE UNABLE TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE CARE FOR THEIR CHILD AT HOME DURING THE DAY.

+IN THIS REGARD, ASSISTANCE WILL BE GIVEN TO FAMILIES WHERE BOTH PARENTS HAVE TO WORK, OR THE CHILD BELONGS TO A SINGLE PARENT FAMILY, OR THERE ARE MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY WHO ARE DISABLED AND REQUIRE SPECIAL CARE,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE SAID THAT A FOUR-MEMBER FAMILY WITH A NET MONTHLY INCOME OF \$1 500 MIGHT RECEIVE MAXIMUM FEE ASSISTANCE.

COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS SHOULD BE SENT TO THE NEAREST SOCIAL SECURITY FIELD UNIT.

APPLICANTS WILL BE INVITED TO ATTEND A BRIEF INTERVIEW TO WHICH THEY SHOULD BRING THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:

- * THE APPLICANT'S IDENTITY CARD AND THE ID CARD/BIRTH CERTIFICATE NUMBERS OF OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS;
- * TWO PHOTOGRAPHS OF EACH CHILD;
- * THE BIRTH CERTIFICATE(S) OF THE CHILD/CHILDREN;
- * EMPLOYERS' STATEMENTS CONFIRMING THE AMOUNT OF INCOME EARNED BY THE APPLICANT AND HIS FAMILY MEMBERS;

/ * RECENT

* RECENT RENTAL RECEIPT; AND

* SCHOOL FEE RECEIPTS/LETTERS OF ACCEPTANCE FROM DAY NURSERY OR KINDERGARTEN IN WHICH THE CHILD IS ENROLLED OR PLACED ON THE WAITING LIST.

APPLICANTS WILL BE NOTIFIED BY LETTER OF THE RESULT OF THE APPLICATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL RECEIVE A CERTIFICATE SHOWING THE AMOUNT OF FEE ASSISTANCE APPROVED.

THIS CERTIFICATE WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE SUPERVISOR OF THE CENTRE THE CHILD IS ATTENDING.

FEE ASSISTANCE WILL BE PAID DIRECTLY TO THE DAY NURSERY OR KINDERGARTEN CONCERNED AND NOT TO THE APPLICANT. REGULAR PAYMENTS WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE CENTRE CERTIFYING THE CONTINUED ATTENDANCE OF THE CHILD.

TO QUALIFY FOR FEE ASSISTANCE IN A DAY NURSERY, A CHILD MUST BE AGED AT LEAST TWO YEARS AND LESS THAN SIX YEARS. TO QUALIFY FOR FEE ASSISTANCE IN A KINDERGARTEN, A CHILD MUST BE AT LEAST THREE YEARS OLD.

ALL APPLICATIONS FOR FEE ASSISTANCE MUST BE MADE BY THE PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN OF THE CHILD, WHO MUST ALSO BE PREPARED TO ATTEND THE BRIEF INTERVIEW PERSONALLY.

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\$484 000 BOOST FOR SAMARITAN FUND

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THE SAMARITAN FUND RECENTLY RECEIVED A DONATION OF \$484 000 FROM THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB (CHARITIES) LIMITED, BRINGING TO \$630 000 THE AMOUNT AVAILABLE FOR EXPENDITURE THIS YEAR.

THE SAMARITAN FUND, WHICH IS ADMINISTERED BY THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT, WAS SET UP IN 1950 TO PROVIDE TEMPORARY GRANTS TO NEEDY PATIENTS IN GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS AND CLINICS. IT IS DEPENDENT ON DONATIONS FROM VARIOUS CHARITABLE ORGANISATIONS.

ASSISTANCE OFFERED TO PATIENTS INCLUDE PROVISION OF SMALL CASH GRANTS, WHEELCHAIRS, CAPD FLUIDS, CARDIAC PACEMAKERS, HEARING AIDS AND OTHER MEDICAL OR SURGICAL APPLIANCES.

NEEDY PATIENTS ATTENDING GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS AND CLINICS MAY APPLY FOR ASSISTANCE THROUGH MEDICAL WELFARE OFFICERS WHO WILL ASSESS THE PATIENTS' FINANCIAL SITUATION BEFORE MAKING RECOMMENDATION TO THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR GRANTS.

IN THE PAST THREE YEARS, MORE THAN 4 000 PATIENTS ANNUALLY RECEIVED ASSISTANCE FROM THE SAMARITAN FUND. THE AMOUNT GRANTED TO PATIENTS IN THE LAST FINANCIAL YEAR WAS ABOUT \$378 000.

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GRANTS, LOANS OFFERED TERTIARY LEVEL STUDENTS
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NEEDY STUDENTS ENTERING TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS AND POST-GRADUATE STUDENTS OF THE TWO UNIVERSITIES ARE BEING INVITED TO APPLY FOR GRANTS AND INTEREST-FREE LOANS FOR THE 1985-86 ACADEMIC YEAR.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON STUDENT FINANCE, WHICH ADMINISTERS GOVERNMENT'S SCHEME OF FINANCIAL HELP FOR NEEDY STUDENTS AT THE TERTIARY LEVEL, SAID THAT THE GRANTS ARE FOR FULL-TIME COURSES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, THE CITY POLYTECHNIC OF HONG KONG AND THE HONG KONG BAPTIST COLLEGE (FOR POST-ADVANCED LEVEL STUDENTS ONLY).

APPLICANTS, HOWEVER, MUST HAVE RESIDED OR HAVE BEEN DOMICILED IN HONG KONG FOR AT LEAST THREE YEARS CONTINUOUSLY UP TO JULY 1985.

STUDENTS WHO SATISFY THE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS OF, AND HAVE APPLIED FOR ADMISSION TO, THE UNIVERSITIES MAY OBTAIN THE SPECIALLY-DESIGNED APPLICATION FORMS AT THE COMMITTEE'S OFFICE AT BASKERVILLE HOUSE, MEZZANINE FLOOR 1, 22 ICE HOUSE STREET, HONG KONG.

+THEY MUST BRING ALONG THE RESULT SLIPS OF THEIR ADVANCED-HIGHER LEVEL EXAMINATION, OR NOTIFICATION FOR PROVISIONAL OFFER (FOR THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG ONLY).

+AS REGARDS STUDENTS TO BE ADMITTED TO THE POLYTECHNICS AND THE BAPTIST COLLEGE, APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED DIRECT FROM THE INSTITUTIONS CONCERNED AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION,+ HE SAID.

POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS AND STUDENTS TAKING A HIGHER DEGREE OR DIPLOMA COURSE, WHO WILL NOT HAVE EXCEEDED THEIR MINIMUM PRESCRIBED PERIOD OF REGISTRATION BY SEPTEMBER 30, 1985 AND WHO WISH TO BE CONSIDERED FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, ARE ALSO ELIGIBLE TO APPLY. (THE MINIMUM PERIOD OF REGISTRATION FOR A MASTER DEGREE IS NORMALLY TWO YEARS AND FOR A DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREE, THREE YEARS).

CLOSING DATES FOR APPLICATIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

NEW STUDENTS, CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG	:	JULY 15
NEW STUDENTS, UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG	:	JULY 31
NEW POST-GRADUATE STUDENTS, CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG AND UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG	:	JULY 31
NEW STUDENTS, HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC	:	OCTOBER 10

/NEW STUDENTS,

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NEW STUDENTS, CITY POLYTECHNIC : OCTOBER 10
NEW STUDENTS, BAPTIST COLLEGE : OCTOBER 8

ALL NEW STUDENTS SHOULD RETURN THEIR COMPLETED APPLICATIONS IN THE PRESCRIBED FORM TO THE INSTITUTIONS CONCERNED, EXCEPT STUDENTS APPLYING FOR ADMISSION TO THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, WHO SHOULD RETURN THEIR COMPLETED APPLICATIONS TO THE COMMITTEE'S OFFICE, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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UK TOUR FOR SIX YOUNG AMBASSADORS
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SIX OUTSTANDING YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE BEEN SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 1985 COMMONWEALTH YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAMME AND HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE THEIR EXPERIENCES WITH YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DONALD LIAO, MET THE SIX ENTHUSIASTIC DELEGATES IN HIS OFFICE TODAY (THURSDAY) AND DISCUSSED WITH THEM THEIR PLANS FOR THE EXCHANGE PROGRAMME.

THE SIX WILL SET OFF FOR SOUTH GLAMORGAN NEXT TUESDAY (JULY 2) FOR A THREE-WEEK TOUR OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

THEIR PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES INCLUDES VISITS TO MUSEUMS, SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, COMMUNITY CENTRES, GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHMENTS, DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AND OTHER PLACES OF INTEREST.

THE YOUNG AMBASSADORS WILL BE BRIEFED BY THE AUTHORITIES CONCERNED AND WILL TAKE PART IN COMMUNITY WORK PROJECTS, CULTURAL AND SOCIAL EVENTS.

THE COMMONWEALTH YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAMME WAS INITIATED IN 1977 TO COMMEMORATE THE QUEEN'S SILVER JUBILEE. THE AIM OF THE PROGRAMME WAS TO PROVIDE YOUNG PEOPLE WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THEIR NEIGHBOURS IN THE COMMONWEALTH AND TO ENCOURAGE THE EXCHANGE AND DISCUSSION OF IDEAS, EXPERIENCES AND CULTURE AMONG PARTICIPANTS.

SINCE 1977, THE UNITED KINGDOM AND HONG KONG HAD TAKEN TURNS HOSTING THE PROGRAMME.

THE SIX, AGED BETWEEN 20 AND 23, WERE SELECTED FROM AMONG 40 YOUTHS NOMINATED BY VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, EDUCATION COLLEGES, TECHNICAL INSTITUTES AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES.

/TO QUALIFY

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TO QUALIFY THEY HAD TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR ABILITIES IN REFLECTING HONG KONG CULTURE AND TO PARTICIPATE IN VARIOUS DISCUSSIONS.

THE SIX HONG KONG DELEGATES ALL HAVE LIMITED TRAVELLING EXPERIENCE BUT HAVE CONSIDERABLE EXPERIENCE IN VOLUNTARY OR COMMUNITY SERVICES.

THEY ARE:

1. MR CHAN YAN-TAT, CHRISTOPHER, AGE 21, HONG KONG UNIVERSITY UNDERGRADUATE.
2. MR CHOW CHI-KWONG, WILSON, AGE 20, FORM SIX STUDENT.
3. MISS HO HAU-MAN, CARMEN, AGED 22, CLERK.
4. MISS LEE WING-YEE, ELIZA, AGE 22, CHINESE UNIVERSITY UNDERGRADUATE.
5. MR WONG CHAK-SHAM, MICHAEL, AGE 21, LINGNAM COLLEGE STUDENT.
6. MR WONG SEK-WAI, PATRICK, AGE 23, HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC STUDENT.

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SEMINAR TO STRENGTHEN MONG KOK TIES
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A SEMINAR AIMED AT STRENGTHENING THE WORKING RELATIONSHIP AMONG AREA COMMITTEES, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND OWNERS CORPORATIONS IN MONG KOK NORTH AREA WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (FRIDAY) EVENING.

THE SEMINAR, ORGANISED BY THE MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICE AND MONG KOK NORTH AREA COMMITTEE, IS AIMED AT PROVIDING PARTICIPANTS WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON VARIOUS ISSUES.

MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICER, MRS BRENDA FUNG, WILL SPEAK ON WAYS TO IMPROVE TIES BETWEEN LOCAL ORGANISATIONS AND THE PEOPLE. REPRESENTATIVES FROM VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS WILL BE ON HAND TO ANSWER QUESTIONS ON DIFFERENT SUBJECTS.

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BRIEFING ON AUXILIARY LITTER WARDEN SCHEME

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A MEMBER OF THE URBAN COUNCIL KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN COMMITTEE, MRS MARGARET LI, WILL GIVE A BRIEFING TO PARTICIPANTS OF THE COUNCIL'S SEVENTH AUXILIARY LITTER WARDEN SCHEME AT 10 AM ON SATURDAY (JUNE 29) AT QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM, OI KWAN ROAD, WAN CHAI.

ABOUT 800 VOLUNTEERS, MOSTLY STUDENTS, WILL BE TAKING PART IN THIS YEAR'S SCHEME. THEY WILL PATROL BEACHES AND HELP KEEP THEM CLEAN THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE BRIEFING. FOR FURTHER DETAILS, PLEASE CONTACT MR PAUL LEUNG AT 5-275115 DURING OFFICE HOURS.

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SPECIAL MEDICAL SCHEME FOR WONG TAI SIN ELDERS

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SENIOR CITIZENS LIVING IN WONG TAI SIN CAN NOW APPLY FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT AT A REDUCED RATE FROM PRIVATE PRACTITIONERS IN THE DISTRICT.

THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT COMMUNITY MEDICAL SERVICE SCHEME IS NOW OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS, AND RESIDENTS IN THE DISTRICT AGED 60 OR ABOVE CAN APPLY IN PERSON AT THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS FOUR SUB-OFFICES DURING NORMAL OFFICE HOURS.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS WILL ENJOY A REDUCTION OF 20 PER CENT OR MORE IF THEY SEEK MEDICAL TREATMENT FROM A PARTICIPATING DOCTOR UNDER THE SCHEME BRINGING WITH THEM REFERRAL CARDS ISSUED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE. THE REDUCED RATE INCLUDES CONSULTATION FEES AND TWO DAYS' SUPPLY OF MEDICINE.

+THE SCHEME, JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD, THE DISTRICT'S COMMUNITY HEALTH PROMOTION ASSOCIATION AND THE DISTRICT OFFICE, DEMONSTRATES THE BOARD'S CONCERN FOR THE COMMUNITY BY PROVIDING CHEAP AND EFFECTIVE MEDICAL SERVICES TO NEEDY RESIDENTS AMONGST THE LOWER INCOME GROUP IN THE DISTRICT,+ WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR PHILIP CHOK, SAID.

/+TO ENSURE

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+TO ENSURE THAT THE ELDERLY ARE FULLY AWARE OF THE SCHEME, THE DISTRICT OFFICE CONTACTED AND MADE ARRANGEMENTS WITH ELDERLY CENTRES, AREA COMMITTEES, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND OTHER LOCAL ORGANISATIONS,+ HE SAID.

+PUBLICITY POSTERS AND INFORMATION LEAFLETS WERE SENT TO THEM AND DISPLAYED AT THE ENQUIRY COUNTERS OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE FOR THE PUBLIC,+ HE ADDED.

MR CHOK ALSO POINTED OUT THAT IF REQUIRED THE DISTRICT OFFICE MAY CONSIDER SENDING STAFF TO ELDERLY CENTRES TO HANDLE APPLICATIONS.

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REFRESHER COURSE ON AURAL REHABILITATION BEGINS

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A REFRESHER COURSE ON AURAL REHABILITATION FOR TEACHERS CONDUCTED BY TWO VISITING AUSTRALIAN SPECIALISTS BEGAN TODAY (THURSDAY).

ABOUT 30 TEACHERS OF THE DEAF WITH INITIAL TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE IN THE EDUCATION OF DEAF CHILDREN, ATTENDED THE FIVE-WEEK ADVANCED COURSE BEING HELD AT THE PERTH STREET SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICE CENTRE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

THE COURSE IS AIMED AT PROVIDING PARTICIPANTS WITH A COMPREHENSIVE PERSPECTIVE OF COMMUNICATION DISORDERS RESULTING FROM HEARING IMPAIRMENT AND THE APPROPRIATE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES REQUIRED.

IT IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, THE HONG KONG SOCIETY FOR THE DEAF AND FOUR SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF IN HONG KONG.

WITH THE GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION OF \$55 000 FROM THE HONG KONG BANK TRUSTEE LIMITED, THE TWO SPECIALISTS, MRS GILLIAN CLEZY, A SPEECH PATHOLOGIST, AND MRS JANET DOYLE, AN AUDIOLOGIST, OF THE LINCOLN INSTITUTE OF HEALTH SCIENCES, MELBOURNE, ARE NOW IN HONG KONG CONDUCTING LECTURES DURING THE COURSE.

PARTICIPANTS WHO HAVE COMPLETED THE COURSE WILL BE AWARDED A CERTIFICATE IN AURAL REHABILITATION BY THE LINCOLN INSTITUTE.

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TUEN MUN MARKS TREE PLANTING DAY
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A GROUP OF COMMUNITY LEADERS AND STUDENTS TODAY (THURSDAY) PLANTED SOME 100 YOUNG TREES AT AN OPEN SPACE NEAR TAP SHEK KOK STATION IN TUEN MUN TO BEAUTIFY THE ENVIRONMENT.

THE TREES - INCLUDING CASUARINA EQUISETIFOLIA, MELALEUCA LEUCADENDRON AND ACACIA CONFUSA - WERE PLANTED AT A CEREMONY TO MARK THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT TREE PLANTING DAY WHICH WAS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE CHINA LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY LIMITED.

OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD, MR LAU WONG-FAT, SAID THE TREE PLANTING DAY WAS AIMED AT AROUSING THE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF BEAUTIFYING THE ENVIRONMENT WITH MORE TREES AND VEGETATION.

HE ALSO CALLED ON FELLOW RESIDENTS TO PLANT TREES TO BRING MORE GREENERY TO THE RAPIDLY DEVELOPING NEW TOWN.

MR LAU LATER PLANTED A SAPLING TO MARK THE EVENT. HE WAS ASSISTED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD, MR TSO SIU-WAI, AND THE STATION MANAGER OF CASTLE PEAK +A+ POWER STATION, MR J. WOODS.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE CEREMONY WERE THE DISTRICT OFFICER OF TUEN MUN, MR RICKY FUNG; THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (LEISURE SERVICES) OF RSD, MR DAVID MAK; THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT HYGIENE SUPERINTENDENT, MR FU KAM-HUNG, AND THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT LEISURE MANAGER, MR CHOW KAI-MING.

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REFUSE BOOMS TO KEEP MORE POPULAR BEACHES CLEAN
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THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS IN THE PROCESS OF INSTALLING TWO REFUSE BOOMS AT STANLEY MAIN BEACH AND DEEP WATER BAY.

THIS FOLLOWS THE SUCCESSFUL TRIAL OF A SIMILAR BOOM AT REPULSE BAY LAST YEAR TO KEEP THE BEACH AND SWIMMING AREA POLLUTION FREE.

RESULTS OF THE TRIAL SHOWED THAT THE BOOM WAS VERY EFFECTIVE IN RETAINING FLOATING RUBBISH, SUCH AS PLASTIC BAGS AND OTHER REFUSE, IN A SPECIFIC AREA ON BOTH SIDES OF IT, THUS MAKING CLEANSING A LITTLE EASIER. IT COULD ALSO HELP PREVENT ACCIDENTS BY PROVIDING A VERY CLEAR AND VISIBLE BARRIER BETWEEN BOATING AND SWIMMING AREAS.

/EACH BOOM

EACH BOOM COMPRISES A CLOSELY-PACKED STRING OF BUOYS BOUNDED BY MESH NETTING WEIGHTED DOWN TO ABOUT 1.5 METRES BELOW THE SURFACE.

THE COST TO INSTALL THE TWO NEW BOOMS AT STANLEY MAIN BEACH AND DEEP WATER BAY AND TO EXTEND THE EXISTING ONE AT REPULSE BAY IS \$700 000.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID DEEP WATER BAY AND STANLEY MAIN BEACH HAD BEEN SELECTED BECAUSE, LIKE REPULSE BAY, THEY WERE VERY POPULAR BEACHES AND HAD SIMILAR PROBLEMS OF FLOATING REFUSE.

+OTHER BEACHES ARE NOT RECOMMENDED EITHER BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT SUITABLE FOR SUCH INSTALLATION (FOR INSTANCE, SHEK O AND BIG WAVE BAY ARE VULNERABLE TO THE NORTH-EASTERLY WIND, WHICH IS MOST LIKELY TO CAUSE IRREPARABLE DAMAGE TO A BOOM) OR BECAUSE OF INSUFFICIENT MANPOWER TO COPE WITH THEIR INSTALLATION AND RETRIEVAL,+ HE ADDED.

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AWARDS FOR WATER SAFETY CONTEST WINNERS
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FORTY-FOUR WINNERS OF A WATER SPORTS SAFETY QUIZ CONTEST RECEIVED THEIR PRIZES TODAY (THURSDAY) FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE WORKING PARTY ON THE 1985 WATER SPORTS SAFETY CAMPAIGN, MR J.A. FORTUNE.

THE PRIZES, WHICH INCLUDE HOTEL BUFFET COUPONS, TICKETS FOR A DAY-LONG SIGHT-SEEING CRUISE, AND FREE LESSONS IN A NUMBER OF LAND SPORT TRAINING COURSES, WERE SPONSORED BY FIVE LEADING HOTELS, THE ADVENTURE SHIP LTD. AND THE OUTWARD BOUND TRUST OF HONG KONG.

THE WINNERS, WHOSE AGES RANGE FROM 11 TO 38, WERE CHOSEN FROM A TOTAL OF 1 500 ENTRIES.

ORGANISED BY THE COUNCIL FOR RECREATION AND SPORT, THE QUIZ WAS HELD DURING THE WATER SPORTS SAFETY DAY EARLIER THIS MONTH TO TEST PEOPLE'S SAFETY KNOWLEDGE OF AQUATIC ACTIVITIES.

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WINNING ENTRIES ON EXHIBITION
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MORE THAN 300 WINNING ENTRIES OF THE HONG KONG YOUTH CULTURAL AND ARTS COMPETITIONS WILL BE DISPLAYED AT AN EXHIBITION IN THE CITY HALL LOW BLOCK STARTING SATURDAY (JUNE 29).

THE TWO-DAY EXHIBITION FEATURES OUTSTANDING PIECES OF CALLIGRAPHY, CHINESE AND WESTERN PAINTINGS, POSTERS, CHINESE ESSAYS AND TRANSLATION WORKS BY WINNERS OF THE COMPETITIONS.

ABOUT 7 000 PARTICIPANTS WERE INVOLVED IN VARIOUS TYPES OF PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES IN THE COMPETITIONS, SPONSORED BY THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION.

BESIDES THE EXHIBITION, VIDEO-TAPES OF THE SPEECH COMPETITION AND THE FINAL OF THE NEWS AND ACADEMIC QUIZ WILL BE SHOWN TO VISITORS.

WELL-KNOWN CALLIGRAPHISTS AND PAINTERS WILL BE INVITED TO SHOW THEIR SKILLS AT AN IMPROMPTU DEMONSTRATION, THE RESULTS OF WHICH WILL BE GIVEN BY BALLOT TO VISITORS.

THE PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY (HONG KONG AND KOWLOON) OF THE CNTA, MR GREGORY LEUNG, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE EXHIBITION.

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NEW OFFICE FOR DISTRICT BOARD
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THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT BOARD OFFICE WILL BE OFFICIALLY OPENED TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE NEW OFFICE, LOCATED IN THE SAME BUILDING AS THE DISTRICT OFFICE, IS ON THE 14TH FLOOR OF THE HOP FAT COMMERCIAL CENTRE, AT 490-492 NATHAN ROAD.

OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR BOWEN LEUNG, ACCOMPANIED BY THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR YIP WAH.

AFTER THE CEREMONY THERE WILL BE A RECEPTION IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE, ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE BUILDING.

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OFFICES ON THE MOVE
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THE DISTRICT OFFICES OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS DIVISION IN KWUN TONG WILL MOVE TO NEW PREMISES ON THE SIXTH FLOOR, KOWLOON EAST GOVERNMENT OFFICES, LEI YUE MUN ROAD, KOWLOON, TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

IN THE KWUN TONG EAST DISTRICT OFFICE, THE TELEPHONE NUMBER FOR THE SENIOR LABOUR INSPECTOR IS 3-490785 AND FOR GENERAL ENQUIRIES, 3-490885= IN THE KWUN TONG CENTRAL DISTRICT OFFICE, THE TELEPHONE FOR SENIOR LABOUR INSPECTOR IS 3-490765 AND FOR GENERAL ENQUIRIES, 3-490810= AND IN THE KWUN TONG WEST DISTRICT OFFICE THE NEW TELEPHONES ARE 3-490774 FOR SENIOR LABOUR INSPECTOR AND 3-490819 FOR GENERAL ENQUIRIES.

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CENTRAL STREET CLOSED
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BANK STREET IN CENTRAL WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FOR TWO-AND-A-HALF HOURS FROM 5 AM ON SUNDAY (JUNE 30) TO FACILITATE THE INSTALLATION OF WINDOW-CLEANSING EQUIPMENT AT THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK BUILDING.

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