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ACTING GOVERNOR VISITS AIRPORT

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THE ACTING GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON VISITED HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT FOR A FIRST-HAND LOOK AT FACILITIES.

SIR DAVID WAS BRIEFED BY CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS ON THE WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT, WITH EMPHASIS ON OPERATIONAL SAFETY AND PLANS FOR THE EXTENSION OF THE AIRPORT.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION MR J.T. THORPE, SIR DAVID THEN TOURED THE PASSENGER TERMINAL BUILDING WHERE HE SAW THE DEPARTURE HALL FACILITIES INCLUDING THE SECURAIR CONTROL ROOM AND A TRANSIT SECURITY SEARCH CUBICLE.

FOLLOWING THIS, HE WENT TO THE AIRCRAFT PARKING APRON AREAS AND SAW WORK IN PROGRESS AT THE HONG KONG AIRCRAFT ENGINEERING COMPANY AND THE HONG KONG AIR CARGO TERMINAL.

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CHIEF SECRETARY LOOKS AT WORK OF TAX-COLLECTORS

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A $15 MILLION COMPUTER SET-UP HAS RECENTLY BEEN INSTALLED IN THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT TO COPE WITH INCREASING WORKLOAD, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, MR DAVID FORD, WAS TOLD DURING HIS VISIT TO THE DEPARTMENT THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF INLAND REVENUE, MR ANTHONY AU YEUNG, AND THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, MR ALLAN GILL, HE INSPECTED THE SET-UP WHICH IN MAY WILL REPLACE THE ONE INSTALLED EIGHT YEARS AGO.

BEFORE VISITING THE COMPUTER ROOM, MR FORD ALSO TOURED THE INVESTIGATION UNIT -- ONE OF THE SIX UNITS OF THE DEPARTMENT -- WHERE ABOUT 70 TAX INVESTIGATORS ARE WORKING SUSPECTED TAX EVASION CASES.

LAST YEAR 357 CASES WERE COMPLETED AND $175 MILLION IN TAX AND PENALTIES WERE RECOVERED.

MR FORD THEN VISITED THE COLLECTION HALL AND SAW PEOPLE PAYING THEIR TAXES.

MR AU YEUNG AND MR GILL ALSO BRIEFED MR FORD ON THE STAFFING AND TECHNICAL MATTERS OF THE DEPARTMENT AND DISCUSSED WITH HIM ITS FUTURE PLANS.

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SINO-BRITISH LAND COMMISSION
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THE TWO SIDES OF THE SINO-BRITISH LAND COMMISSION HAVE AGREED THAT THE COMMISSION'S ELEVENTH MEETING WILL BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 25, 1987. THE MEETING WILL DISCUSS THE EXTENSION OF NEW TERRITORIES LEASES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF PARAGRAPH 2 OF ANNEX III TO THE JOINT DECLARATION.

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HO COMPLETES MISSION TO KOREA
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THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR E.P. HO, WAS RETURNING TO HONG KONG THIS (THURSDAY) EVENING AFTER TWO DAYS OF DISCUSSIONS WITH THE MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY AND SENIOR KOREAN OFFICIALS IN SEOUL.

HE WAS ACCOMPANIED DURING HIS VISIT BY CURRENT DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF TRADE AND DIRECTOR OF TRADE DESIGNATE, MR MICHAEL SZE.

THIS WAS THE LAST OF THREE VISITS UNDERTAKEN BY MR HO TO CONVEY HONG KONG'S FREE TRADE MESSAGE. HE HAD PREVIOUSLY VISITED TOKYO AND WASHINGTON.

WHILE IN SEOUL, THE DELEGATION MET THE MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR RHA WOONG-BAE, THE DIRECOTR-GENERAL OF THE MINISTRY'S INTERNATIONAL TRADE PROMOTION BUREAU, AND THE CHAIRMEN OF THE KOREAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND THE ILHAE FOUNDATION.

DISCUSSIONS CENTRED ON BILATERAL TRADE ISSUES, THE GATT NEW ROUND, AND THE THREAT OF PROTECTIONISM IN THE UNITED STATES.

ON TWO WAY TRADE, MR HO SAID HE WAS ENCOURAGED BY THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT'S PROGRAMME OF LIBERALISATION ON IMPORTS OF MANUFACTURES AS WELL AS THE GROWTH IN HONG KONG'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO KOREA IN 1986.

HOWEVER, CERTAIN ITEMS OF INTEREST TO HONG KONG REMAINED UNDER SURVEILLANCE OR WERE NOT IN THE PROGRAMME OF LIBERALISATION AT ALL, AND THE OVERALL TRADE BALANCE REMAINED OVERWHELMINGLY IN KOREA'S FAVOUR.

+I THEREFORE URGED THOSE WHOM I MET TO NOTE OUR POSITION AS THE THIRD LARGEST IMPORTER OF KOREAN PRODUCTS, AND OUR LEGITIMATE INTEREST IN THEIR MARKET,+ HE SAID.

/ON MULTILATERAL .....

ON MULTILATERAL ISSUES, THE TWO SIDES EXCHANGED VIEWS ON PROGRESS OF THE URUGUAY ROUND OF GATT TALKS. MR HO NOTED WITH SATISFACTION THE SIMILAR VIEWS BETWEEN KOREA AND HONG KONG ON MOST ISSUES, AND HOPED THIS WOULD CONTINUE.

POSSIBLE TRADE LEGISLATION IN THE UNITED STATES WAS A MAJOR ISSUE OF CONCERN IN THE TALKS. +I TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO SEEK KOREA'S ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION, AND ALSO BRIEFED MINISTER RHA ON MY IMPRESSIONS OF THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN WASHINGTON, FOLLOWING MY RECENT VISIT THERE,+ MR HO SAID.

IN 1986, THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA WAS HONG KONG'S EIGHTH LARGEST TRADING PARTNER. THOUGH IT RANKED HIGH AS A SUPPLIER OF IMPORTS IT RANKED ONLY 27TH AS A MARKET FOR THE TERRITORY'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS.

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CARE FOR THE HOMELESS URGED

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APART FROM CARING FOR THE ELDERLY MEMBERS OF OUR SOCIETY, WE SHOULD ALSO SPARE SOME THOUGHTS FOR STREET SLEEPERS, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS EVELYN DOE, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE PO LEUNG KUK LOK WAH SOCIAL CENTRE FOR THE ELDERLY, MRS DOE NOTED THAT THE UNITED NATIONS HAD DECLARED 1987 AS THE +INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF SHELTER FOR THE HOMELESS+, CALLING FOR GLOBAL ATTENTION TO THIS PROBLEM.

+IN HONG KONG, THE PROBLEM HAS ALSO AROUSED WIDE PUBLIC CONCERN AND ON THE PART OF THE GOVERNMENT, IT HAS ALL ALONG BEEN TRYING TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATE SERVICES TO HELP THESE HOMELESS PEOPLE TO GET ACCOMMODATION, FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND OTHER PERSONAL CARE SERVICES,+ SHE SAID.

MRS DOE NOTED THAT AMONG THE 1 333 STREET SLEEPERS SURVEYED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT LAST YEAR, ABOUT 20 PER CENT, OR 268 PEOPLE, WERE ELDERLY PERSONS.

+LIKE OTHER SENIOR CITIZENS, THEY NEED SOCIAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND OTHER WELFARE SERVICES AND THEY CAN SOLVE THEIR PROBLEMS AND LEAD A BETTER LIFE IF MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC CARE ABOUT AND ACCEPT THEM,+ SHE SAID.

MRS DOE NOTED THAT THE LOK WAH CENTRE WAS THE FIRST SUCH OPERATED BY PO LEUNG KUK AND THAT THE KUK WAS PLANNING A MULTI-SERVICES CENTRE FOR THE ELDERLY IN WONG CHUK HANG.

/MOREOVER, THE .....

MOREOVER, THE CENTRE WAS THE FIRST GOVERNMENT-SUBVENTED CENTRE FOR THE ELDERLY IN LOK WAH ESTATE, ENABLING ELDERLY PEOPLE THERE TO ENJOY A VARIETY OF SOCIAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES, SHE SAID.

MRS DOE COMMENDED THE PO LEUNG KUK FOR ITS UNFAILING EFFORTS IN PROVIDING A WIDE RANGE OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO MEET THE NEEDS OF DIFFERENT SECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY AND SHE HOPED THAT THE KUK WOULD CONTINUE TO DEVELOP AND EXPAND ITS SERVICES.

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TUEN MUN INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT RAPID

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TUEN MUN'S INDUSTRIAL SECTOR HAS DEVELOPED RAPIDLY OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS WITH NOTICEABLE GROWTH IN THE TYPE, SIZE AND NUMBER OF FACTORIES AS WELL AS EMPLOYMENT, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY COMMITTEE, MR YIP HING-CHUNG, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE +INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN TUEN MUN, 1985 SURVEY+ PRESS CONFERENCE, MR YIP SAID A SURVEY WAS CARRIED OUT IN 1983 TO BETTER UNDERSTAND THE CHARACTERISTICS OF LOCAL INDUSTRIES AND WORKERS AND TO PROPOSE SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED BY INDUSTRIALISTS.

+IN 1985, A WORKING GROUP HEADED BY MR TSO SHIU-WAI WAS FORMED TO MONITOR THE GENERAL PERFORMANCE OF INDUSTRIAL AREAS, THE NEEDS OF LOCAL INDUSTRIES AND WORKERS, AND TO IDENTIFY PROBLEMS CONFRONTING INDUSTRIALISTS AND WORKERS,+ SAID MR YIP.

COVERING MAINLY INDUSTRIAL AREAS 9 AND 12, LOCATED ON THE WESTERN SIDE OF TUEN MUN RIVER ALONG PUI TO ROAD, THE SURVEY CONSISTED OF TWO PARTS -- FIRSTLY, A SURVEY OF ALL EXISTING INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS WITH SPECIAL ATTENTION ON OCCUPANCY-VACANCY RATES, DESIGN, USAGE AND OPERATION; SECONDLY, THE OWNER-OPERATOR OF ALL IDENTIFIABLE MANUFACTURING FIRMS WERE INTERVIEWED.

ALSO SPEAKING AT TODAY'S CONFERENCE, MR TSO SAID THAT THE FLOORSPACE OF FACTORIES HAD INCREASED BY 22 PER CENT BETWEEN 1983 AND 1985 WHILE THE TOTAL OCCUPIED FLOORSPACE INCREASED BY 42 PER CENT FROM 740 000 SQUARE METRES TO MORE THAN ONE MILLION SQUARE METRES. THE AVERAGE FLOORSPACE FOR A FACTORY WAS 570 SQUARE METRES, WITH AN INCREASE OF 21 PER CENT. AT THE SAME TIME, THE VACANCY RATE DROPPED FROM 27.5 PER CENT TO 15.5 PER CENT.

/+PRICES FOR .....

+PRICES FOR FLATTED FACTORIES IN TUEN MUN, DURING THE THIRD-QUARTER OF 1985, WERE BETWEEN $1 360 AND $2 100 PER SQUARE METRE FOR UPPER FLOOR PREMISES AND BETWEEN $3 500 AND $6 500 PER SQUARE METRE FOR GROUND FLOOR PREMISES, WHICH WERE GENERALLY LOWER THAN OTHER DISTRICTS IN THE TERRITORY.

+IN TERMS OF NUMBER AND SIZE OF INDUSTRY, THE FIVE MAIN TYPES OF INDUSTRY IN TUEN MUN ARE PLASTICS, METALS, GARMENTS, ELECTRONICS AND TEXTILES. THEY ACCOUNT FOR 80 PER CENT OF ALL MANUFACTURING FIRMS IN THE DISTRICT.+

MR TSO SAID THE NUMBER OF WORKERS EMPLOYED IN THE TWO INDUSTRIAL AREAS WAS 30 225, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 42 PER CENT COMPARED TO 21 300 IN 1983.

DURING THE SAME PERIOD, THE PROPORTION OF WORKERS LIVING IN TUEN MUN INCREASED FROM 36.4 PER CENT TO 57.3 PER CENT WHICH SHOWED THAT OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED BY THE LOCAL MARKET AND JOB EXPECTATIONS OF THE LOCAL WORKERS WERE MORE CLOSELY MATCHED, HE ADDED.

MR TSO SAID THAT DURING THE PAST THREE YEARS, THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR IN TUEN MUN EXPERIENCED RAPID DEVELOPMENT AND EXPANSION IN TERMS OF FLOORSPACE, EMPLOYMENT AND NUMBER OF COMPANIES. IN ADDITION, FACTORY OPERATORS WERE QUITE CONTENT WITH THE ENVIRONMENT.

DETAILS AND FINDINGS OF THE SURVEY ARE INCLUDED IN A SPECIAL REPORT PUBLISHED BY THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY COMMITTEE WITH FUNDS PROVIDED BY THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD.

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INSPECTION TOUR OF ANIMAL WASTE DISPOSAL FACILITIES

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THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MR JOHN CHAMBERS, ACCOMPANIED BY THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, DR STUART REED, AND HIS SENIOR STAFF TODAY (THURSDAY) VISITED A NUMBER OF LIVESTOCK FARMS IN THE PAT HEUNG AREA TO VIEW THE METHODS USED BY NEW TERRITORIES FARMERS TO DISPOSE OF ANIMAL WASTES.

THE PARTY ALSO TOURED THE PILOT-SCALE COMPOSTING PLANT AT NGAU TAM MEI WHICH EVERY MONTHS TURNS AROUND 180 TONS OF ANIMAL WASTE INTO AN ENRICHED SOIL SUITABLE FOR LANDSCAPING OR HORTICULTURAL PURPOSES.

/IN ADDITION, ...

IN ADDITION, THEY WENT TO HANG TAU TO SEE A RIVER SO POLLUTED BY AGRICULTURAL WASTES THAT IT HAS A THICK CRUST OVER THE ENTIRE SURFACE.

A PROGRAMME TO CONTROL THE POLLUTION RESULTING FROM ANIMAL WASTE WAS LAST YEAR PRESENTED TO DISTRICT BOARDS AND ORGANISATIONS REPRESENTING FARMING INTERESTS, AND DISCUSSED AND APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

THE PROGRAMME INCLUDES THE BANNING OF LIVESTOCK FARMING ON HONG KONG ISLAND, IN KOWLOON AND NEW TOWNS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES. IN ALL OTHER AREAS THE DISCHARGE OF ANIMAL WASTE WILL BE CONTROLLED BY REGULATIONS.

BECAUSE OF THE LARGE NUMBER OF FARMS, THE PROGRAMME WILL BE IMPLEMENTED OVER TEN YEARS IN THREE PHASES. THE FIRST PHASE WILL INCLUDE ALL THE BANNED AREAS, AND ESTABLISH CONTROLS IN THE TOLO HARBOUR AREA AND THE NORTH DISTRICT.

THE SECOND PHASE WILL EXTEND CONTROLS TO MOST OF THE REMAINING HEAVILY POLLUTED AREAS, IN PARTICULAR THE YUEN LONG HINTERLAND.

THE THIRD PHASE WILL BE THE OUTLYING ISLANDS AND A FEW REMAINING AREAS OF MAINLAND NEW TERRITORIES.

TO HELP FARMERS COMPLY WITH THE NEW CONTROLS THE GOVERNMENT WILL, IN EACH CONTROLLED AREA, SET UP COLLECTION SERVICES FOR ANIMAL WASTE. EXPERIENCE IN OPERATING SUCH SERVICES HAS BEEN GAINED OVER THE LAST FIVE YEARS THROUGH THE OPERATION OF THE PAT HEUNG COLLECTION SCHEME, ESTABLISHED ORIGINALLY BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, AND SINCE APRIL 1, 1986 OPERATED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT.

THE PARTY ALSO SAW THE COLLECTION SERVICE IN OPERATION WHICH PICKED UP ANIMAL WASTE DELIVERED BY FARMERS TO ROADSIDE COLLECTION POINTS.

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CIVIC EDUCATION BOOST FOR CENTRAL-WESTERN

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A FULL RANGE OF COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN ORGANISED FROM LATE FEBRUARY UNTIL MID-MARCH TO PROMOTE CIVIC EDUCATION AMONG RESIDENTS OF THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT.

PROGRAMMES INCLUDING YOUTH CAMP, SEA CRUISE, RESEARCH PROJECT, EXHIBITIONS, AND COMPETITIONS WILL BE PRESENTED IN A PACKAGE KNOWN AS THE +CIVIC EDUCATION SUITE+.

/AIMED AT .....

AIMED AT INVOLVING VARIOUS SOCIAL GROUPS, THE PROJECT WILL HELP ENHANCE RESIDENTS' KNOWLEDGE OF THE DISTRICT'S CHARACTERISTICS AND INDUCE A SENSE OF BELONGING.

AS A PRELUDE TO THE +SUITE+, A CIVIC EDUCATION CAMP FOR WORKING YOUTHS WILL BE HELD AT THE SAN SHEK WAN YOUTH CAMP ON LANTAU THIS WEEKEND.

A GET-TOGETHER SESSION FOR MEMBERS OF THE DISTRICT BOARD, AREA COMMITTEES, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND OWNERS' INCORPORATIONS WILL BE HELD ON BOARD A YACHT ON MARCH 7.

BETWEEN MARCH 2 AND 7, THERE WILL BE A BOOK EXHIBITION ON CIVIC EDUCATION ACTIVITIES HELD AT THE YMCA AT BRIDGE'S STREET.

A JOINT SCHOOL EXHIBITION TO PROMOTE CIVIC-MINDEDNESS AMONG STUDENTS WILL ALSO BE STAGED AT THE SHUN TAK CENTRE FROM MARCH 12 FOR THREE DAYS.

COMPETITIONS ON CARICATURE DRAWING AND PAINTING HAVE BEEN ORGANISED FOR CHILDREN TO STIMULATE THEIR INTEREST IN THE COMMUNITY.

ANOTHER COMPETITION TO IDENTIFY DIFFERENT LANDMARKS IN THE DISTRICT WILL BE HELD FOR THE YOUNGER AGE GROUP ON MARCH 15.

RESIDENTS MAY ALSO TAKE PART IN A RESEARCH PROJECT ON CIVIC RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, INITIATED BY A VOLUNTARY AGENCY.

SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD, THE +CIVIC EDUCATION SUITE+ IS ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD COMMUNITY BUILDING AND SERVICES COMMITTEE, THE DISTRICT OFFICE, THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, ICAC, THE COUNCIL OF CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT SCHOOL HEADS, CARITAS HONG KONG, YMCA AND THE YWCA.

FURTHER INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED BY CALLING 5-8523002 OR 5-8171843.

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VEHICLES MADE IN 1977 REQUIRE COMPULSORY INSPECTION

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GOODS VEHICLES, SPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLES AND TRAILERS MANUFACTURED IN 1977 WHICH REQUIRE A NEW LICENCE ON OR AFTER JUNE 1 THIS YEAR WILL HAVE TO UNDERGO EXAMINATION BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT PRIOR TO LICENCE RENEWAL.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT THE MEASURE WOULD COME INTO EFFECT TOMORROW (FRIDAY). AT PRESENT, VEHICLES IN THESE THREE CATEGORIES ARE REQUIRED TO PASS A TEST BEFORE RELICENSING ONLY IF THEY ARE MANUFACTURED BEFORE 1977.

/THE SPOKESMAN .....

THE SPOKESMAN SAID A CERTIFICATE OF ROADWORTHINESS WILL BE ISSUED TO GOODS VEHICLES, SPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLES AND TRAILERS WHICH HAVE PASSED EXAMINATION AT THE DEPARTMENT'S KOWLOON BAY VEHICLE EXAMINATION CENTRE IN CHEUNG YIP STREET, KOWLOON.

+THE CERTIFICATE WILL ONLY BE VALID FOR FOUR MONTHS AND SHOULD BE PRODUCED FOR LICENCE RENEWAL APPLICATIONS,+ HE SAID.

APPLICATION FORMS FOR VEHICLE EXAMINATION ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL LICENSING OFFICES AND VEHICLE EXAMINATION CENTRES OF THE DEPARTMENT. VEHICLE OWNERS ARE ADVISED TO MAKE EARLY APPOINTMENTS TO AVOID INCONVENIENCE WHEN THEIR LICENCES EXPIRE.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 3-7597505.

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CONTROLLED TIPPING OF REFUSE AT JORDAN VALLEY

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A CONTRACT FOR THE CONTROLLED TIPPING OF REFUSE AT JORDAN VALLEY, EAST KOWLOON, WAS SIGNED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CIVIL ENGINEERING SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE CONTRACTOR, KO'S CONSTRUCTION COMPANY.

WORK UNDER THE CONTRACT, WHICH INCLUDES ASSOCIATED ROADS AND DRAINAGE WORK, WILL START ON FEBRUARY 27.

THE $9.3 MILLION CONTRACT WILL RUN FOR 20 MONTHS. DURING THIS PERIOD, ALL WORKING FACES OF THE TIP WILL BE SEALED OFF TWICE DAILY TO ELIMINATE HEALTH AND FIRE HAZARDS. IT WILL INVOLVE THE SPREADING AND COMPACTING OF REFUSE IN LAYERS AND COVERING EACH LAYER WITH EARTH AS TIPPING PROCEEDS.

THE WORKS AND CONSTRUCTION WILL BE SUPERVISED BY THE DRAINAGE (CONSTRUCTION) DIVISION OF THE CIVIL ENGINEERING OFFICE, CIVIL ENGINEERING SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

SPORTS EQUIPMENT CONTRACT AWARDED

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A $350 000 CONTRACT FOR THE DESIGN, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF SPORTS EQUIPMENT FOR AN INDOOR GAMES HALL AT KOWLOON BAY RECREATION GROUND HAS BEEN AWARDED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

IT WILL INCLUDE ELECTRICALLY OPERATED BASKETBALL BACKSTOPS, GYMNASTIC EQUIPMENT, AND COURT FITTINGS FOR VOLLEYBALL AND BADMINTON.

INSTALLATION IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN APRIL, A MONTH BEFORE THE UNOFFICIAL OPENING OF THE NEW SPORTS FACILITY TO THE PUBLIC.

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SEMINAR ON SOCIAL STUDIES SYLLABUS HELD

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A GROUP OF SECONDARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS AND TEACHERS TODAY (THURSDAY) ATTEND A SEMINAR ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SOCIAL STUDIES SYLLABUS (FORM 4 AND FORM 5).

THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT-ORGANISED SEMINAR WAS HELD AT THE ANNEXE OF THE GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION IN MONG KOK.

THE SEMINAR IS TO FAMILIARISE SCHOOL PRINCIPALS AND TEACHERS WITH THE SOCIAL STUDIES SYLLABUS (FORM 4 AND FORM 5) WHICH WAS INTRODUCED TO SCHOOLS AS A PILOT SCHEME SINCE SEPTEMBER 1984. THE SYLLABUS IS NOW OPEN TO ALL SCHOOLS.

SPEAKING AT THE SEMINAR WERE TEACHERS OF THE SOCIAL STUDIES PILOT SCHEME IN SCHOOLS INCLUDING MISS ELEANOR FOK, MRS ATHENA POON AND MRS S.Y. CHING.

THEY POINTED OUT THAT THE SUBJECT WHICH COULD INCORPORATE ELEMENTS OF CIVIC EDUCATION, SEX EDUCATION AND MORAL EDUCATION HAD AROUSED MUCH INTEREST AMONG PUPILS IN THE COURSE OF THE PILOT SCHEME.

THE SUBJECT ALSO PROVIDED USEFUL INFORMATION AS WELL AS OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCUSSION SO THAT GOOD RELATIONSHIP COULD BE ESTABLISHED BETWEEN TEACHERS AND PUPILS.

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COMPUTER GRAPHIC DISPLAY CONTEST STILL OPEN

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COMPUTER SOFTWARE DESIGNERS WISHING TO TAKE PART IN THE PERSONAL COMPUTER GRAPHIC DISPLAY CONTEST ARE URGED TO SEND IN THEIR ENTRIES BY MARCH 6.

ORGANISED BY THE ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY SAFETY SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD'S INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AND HEALTH COMMITTEE, THE CONTEST IS ONE OF THE MAIN ATTRACTIONS OF THE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY WEEK TO BE HELD IN THE MIDDLE OF NEXT MONTH.

CONTESTANTS ARE REQUIRED TO DESIGN A SERIES OF GRAPHIC DISPLAYS, FOCUSSING ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY, EITHER IN STATIC ELECTRONICS PICTURE FORM OR DYNAMIC CARTOONISED ELECTRONICS STORIES OR GAMES. THE TIME FOR DISPLAYING THE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY MESSAGES IS UNLIMITED AND THE USE OF SOUND OR BACKGROUND MUSIC IS OPTIONAL.

THE WINNER OF THE CONTEST WILL BE AWARDED $5 000 WHILE THE FIRST AND SECOND RUNNERS-UP WILL RECEIVE $3 500 AND $2 000 RESPECTIVELY. THERE ARE ALSO 10 CREATIVITY PRIZES OF $500 EACH.

WINNING ENTRIES WILL BE DISPLAYED AT THE SHUN TAK SHOPPING ARCADE IN CENTRAL BETWEEN MARCH 19 AND 21.

ENTRY FORMS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE HONG KONG AND KOWLOON ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY EMPLOYEES' GENERAL UNION, ALL DISTRICT OFFICES OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, AND THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S INDUSTRIAL SAFETY TRAINING CENTRE ON THE 13TH FLOOR OF HARBOUR BUILDING, CENTRAL.

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CROSS-COUNTRY TEST FOR NORTH RESIDENTS

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RESIDENTS IN NORTH DISTRICT ARE BEING INVITED TO TAKE PART IN THE ANNUAL CROSS COUNTRY RACE TO BE HELD ON SUNDAY, MARCH 8.

THE RACE WILL BE DIVIDED INTO WOMEN'S AND MEN'S SECTIONS WITH THE WOMEN COVERING EIGHT KILOMETRES AND THE MEN 10 KILOMETRES.

WOMEN WILL START THE RACE IN HUNG LING VILLAGE AT THE ENTRANCE OF PING CHE ROAD WHILE THE MEN WILL START AT SING PING PUBLIC SCHOOL IN TA KWU LING. THEY WILL ALL FINISH AT THE SHEK WU HUI PLAYGROUND IN SHEUNG SHUI.

/THE ANNUAL .....

THE ANNUAL RACE IS ORGANISED BY THE SHEUNG SHUI SPORTS ASSOCIATION WITH SPONSORSHIP FROM THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27. APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE NORTH DISTRICT CHOI YUEN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS BRANCH OFFICE, CHOI YUEN ESTATE ; SHEUNG SHUI PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE, SAN FUNG AVENUE ; CHEUNG WAH COMMUNITY HALL, CHEUNG WAH ESTATE AND THE SHEUNG SHUI SPORTS ASSOCIATION, 47 FU HING STREET, SHEUNG SHUI.

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PROPOSALS TO SOLVE TUNNEL CONGESTION FOR DISCUSSION

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THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE WILL MEET TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO DISCUSS PROPOSALS TO SOLVE CONGESTION AT LION ROCK TUNNEL.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED SCHEME TO LICENSE CERTAIN PUBLIC LIGHT BUS ROUTES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES TO CARRY GOODS AND THE TAXI POLICY REVIEW.

DISCUSSION WILL ALSO RESUME ON THE DIVERSION OF KMB ROUTE 88K, THE PROPOSED EXTENSION OF N.T. KMB ROUTE 63K AND BUS SERVICES TO TIN SAM AREA.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING TOMORROW AT 9.30 AM AT THE SIXTH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE, KCR HOUSE.

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DB COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS LRT TRAFFIC PROPOSALS

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MEMBERS OF THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE OF THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS TWO PROPOSED TRAFFIC MEASURES IN CONNECTION WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE TRANSIT SERVICE AREA OF THE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SYSTEM AT A MEETING TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE MEASURES ARE THE INTRODUCTION OF ABOUT 20 RESTRICTIONS AT SIGNALISED JUNCTIONS ALONG THE TUEN MUN - YUEN LONG CORRIDOR AND OF A NEW GREEN MINIBUS SERVICE TO REPLACE THE EXISTING KMB ROUTE 56 RUNNING BETWEEN YUEN LONG AND TAI TONG.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS A PROPOSED SCHEME TO LICENSE PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES ON CERTAIN SCHEDULED ROUTES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES TO CARRY GOODS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING TO BE HELD TOMORROW IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT, 13TH FLOOR, TAI KIU GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, YUEN LONG. PLEASE NOTE THAT THE TIME OF MEETING HAS BEEN POSTPONED TO 3 PM FROM THE 10 AM START ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED.

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VISIT TO REHABILITATION CENTRE

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A PRESS VISIT TO THE MARGARET TRENCH MEDICAL REHABILITATION CENTRE OF THE HONG KONG SOCIETY FOR REHABILITATION HAS BEEN ARRANGED FOR TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO SEE PRISONERS TAKING PART IN COMMUNITY PROJECTS.

PRISONERS FROM PIK UK HAVE FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS PROVIDED DOMESTIC SERVICE AND TAKEN PART IN GENERAL MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION WORK AT THE CENTRE.

STAFF OF THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS AND EXPLAIN THE PRISONERS' ROLE IN THESE PROJECTS.

/THE CERAMIC .....

THE CERAMIC WORKSHOP OF THE CENTRE, SET UP FOLLOWING A DONATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT, WILL BE OPENED AT 11.30 AM ON THE SAME DATE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE VISIT. TRANSPORT FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE LEAVING FOR THE CENTRE FROM THE DEPARTMENT'S PUBLIC RELATIONS UNIT, 32 01 KWAN ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG, AT 10 AM TOMORROW.

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TURKEY JOINS SPEEDPOST NETWORK

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SPEEDPOST SERVICE WILL BE EXTENDED TO TURKEY FROM MONDAY (FEBRUARY 23), THE POST OFFICE ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY).

THIS WILL BRING TO 49 THE NUMBER OF COUNTRIES INCLUDED IN THE SPEEDPOST NETWORK SERVED FROM HONG KONG.

SPEEDPOST ITEMS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR TRANSMISSION TO ALL AREAS IN TURKEY.

ITEMS POSTED ON MONDAY TO FRIDAY FOR ISTANBUL WILL BE DELIVERED ON THE SECOND WORKING DAY WHILE THOSE POSTED ON SATURDAY WILL BE DELIVERED ON THE NEXT WORKING DAY. FOR OTHER AREAS IN TURKEY, DELIVERY WILL NORMALLY TAKE ONE WORKING DAY LONGER.

ONLY +ON DEMAND+ SERVICE IS AVAILABLE.

THE MAXIMUM WEIGHT LIMIT PER ITEM IS 10 KG AND THE POSTAGE RATES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

ITEMS WEIGHING UNDER 250 G	$85
ITEMS WEIGHING BETWEEN 250 G AND 500 G	$95
EACH SUBSEQUENT ADDITIONAL 500 G	$25

/MEANWHILE, ...

MEANWHILE, SPEEDPOST SERVICE WILL BE EXTENDED TO ALL DESTINATIONS IN TAIWAN, WHICH PRESENTLY IS AVAILABLE ONLY TO THE MAJOR CITIES.

CUSTOMERS REQUIRING MORE SPECIFIC INFORMATION ABOUT THE SPEEDPOST SERVICE TO TURKEY AND TAIWAN AND THE SPEEDPOST SERVICE GENERALLY SHOULD CONTACT THE POSTAL SERVICES REPRESENTATIVES ON 5-8471108.

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LAUNCHING OF MUSEUM APPEAL

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THE ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT WILL LAUNCH A MUSEUM APPEAL AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TO BE HELD AT 3 PM TOMMORROW (FRIDAY) IN THE GIS PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM, FIFTH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, CENTRAL.

SOLDIERS IN UNIFORM AND ITEMS OF HISTORICAL INTEREST TO HONG KONG WILL BE ON DISPLAY.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

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ANNUAL SPEECH DAY

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THE SECRETARY FOR MUNICIPAL SERVICES, MR. A.K.CHUI, WILL ADDRESS THE ANNUAL SPEECH DAY OF QUEEN'S COLLEGE TOMMORROW (FRIDAY) AT 5.45 PM.

MRS CHUI WILL DISTRIBUTE SCHOLARSHIPS AND PRIZES TO STUDENTS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

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FUN DAY FOR FAMILIES
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OVER 1 800 FAMILY MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT STAFF WILL BE HAVING A DAY OF FUN AT THE ANNUAL FAMILY DAY ON SUNDAY (FEBRUARY 22).

THE ANNUAL EVENT WILL BEGIN WITH THE EYE-DOTTING OF A LION BY THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES, MR MICHAEL SMITH, FOLLOWED BY A LION DANCE PERFORMED BY THE AUXILIARY MEDICAL SERVICES STAFF.

APART FROM GAMES AND COMPETITIONS, THERE WILL BE A POLICE DOG DEMONSTRATION, A MAGIC AND ACROBATIC SHOW, AND A DISPLAY OF FIREARMS AND A FIRE ENGINE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE ANNUAL FAMILY DAY TO BE HELD THIS SUNDAY FROM 1 PM TO 4.30 PM AT THE GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT COMPOUND AT 12 OIL STREET, NORTH POINT.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS FOR KOWLOON WALK
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SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN WONG TAI SIN ON SUNDAY (FEBRUARY 22) FOR THE +KOWLOON WALK FOR MILLIONS+.

THE ARRANGEMENTS INCLUDE ROAD CLOSURES, TRAFFIC RE-ROUTINGS AND DIVERSIONS OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES. DETAILS ARE:

ROAD CLOSURES

FROM 7 AM TO NOON

* THE SOUTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF FUNG MO STREET BETWEEN HENG LAM STREET AND FU MEI STREET;

* THE SLIP ROAD LEADING FROM LUNG CHEUNG ROAD WESTBOUND TO FUNG MO STREET SOUTHBOUND;

* THE SOUTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF FUNG MO STREET FLYOVER;

* MA CHAI HANG ROAD BETWEEN MA CHAI HANG MINI-ROUNDABOUT AND WONG TAI SIN ROAD;

/* WONG TAI SIN .....

* WONG TAI SIN ROAD BETWEEN MA CHAI HANG ROAD AND THE ACCESS ROAD LEADING TO UPPER WONG TAI SIN ESTATE BLOCK 8;

* THE NEAR-SIDE LANE OF SHA TIN PASS ROAD NORTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY BETWEEN LUNG FUNG STREET AND TSZ WAN SHAN ROAD ;

* THE ACCESS ROAD LEADING FROM SHA TIN PASS ROAD TO CHUK YUEN ROAD; AND

* THE UNNAMED ROAD BETWEEN CHUK YUEN ROAD AND WONG TAI SIN ROAD WILL BE CLOSED AT ITS JUNCTION WITH WONG TAI SIN ROAD.

FROM 7 AM TO 3 PM

* SHA TIN PASS ROAD BETWEEN TSZ WAN SHAN ROAD AND FEI NGO SHAN ROAD ;

* JAT'S INCLINE BETWEEN FEI NGO SHAN ROAD AND NGAU CHI WAN STREET ;

* JAT'S INCLINE BETWEEN NGAU CHI WAN STREET AND CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD; AND

* FEI NGO SHAN ROAD BETWEEN A POINT ABOUT 300 METRES NORTH OF ITS JUNCTION WITH CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD AND JAT'S INCLINE.

FROM 9 AM TO 3 PM

* NGAU CHI WAN STREET.

TRAFFIC DIVERSIONS

* BETWEEN 9 AM AND 3 PM, FUNG SHING STREET WEST OF CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED TO TWO-WAY TRAFFIC. LEFT TURN FROM FUNG SHING STREET EASTBOUND ONTO CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD NORTHBOUND WILL BE PROHIBITED;

* THE RIGHT TURN MOVEMENT FROM FU MEI STREET EASTBOUND TO FUNG MO STREET SOUTHBOUND WILL BE BANNED FROM 7 AM TO NOON, WHILE THE RIGHT TURN BAN FROM FU MEI STREET EASTBOUND TO WANG TAU HOM EAST ROAD SOUTHBOUND WILL BE LIFTED;

/* MOTORISTS .....

* MOTORISTS TRAVELLING FROM CHOI HUNG AND TSZ WAN SHAN TO LOK FU AND CHUK YUEN ARE ADVISED TO USE PO KONG VILLAGE ROAD, CHOI HUNG ROAD, SHA TIN PASS ROAD, TUNG TAU TSUEN ROAD AND FUNG MO STREET NORTHBOUND;

* MOTORISTS TRAVELLING FROM CHUK YUEN ESTATE TO WONG TAI SIN UPPER ESTATE ARE ADVISED TO USE CHUK YUEN ROAD, ROAD A1, MA CHAI HANG INTERCHANGE, LUNG CHEUNG ROAD, PO KONG VILLAGE ROAD, FUNG TAK ROAD, SHA TIN PASS ROAD AND WONG TAI SIN ROAD;

* VEHICULAR TRAFFIC FROM EASTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF FU MEI STREET RIGHT TURNING ON TO FUNG MO STREET SOUTHBOUND SHOULD RE-ROUTE VIA WANG TAU HOM EAST ROAD, HENG LAM STREET AND FUNG MO STREET SOUTHBOUND; AND

* MOTORISTS HEADING FROM CHUK YUEN TO LOK FU ARE ADVISED TO USE ROAD A1, MA CHAI HANG MINI-ROUNDABOUT, LUNG CHEUNG ROAD EASTBOUND, PO KONG VILLAGE ROAD, CHOI HUNG ROAD, SHA TIN PASS ROAD, TUNG TAU TSUEN ROAD, FUNG MO STREET AND HENG LAM STREET.

DIVERSION OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES

FROM 7 AM TO NOON, A NUMBER OF BUS AND GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES WILL BE DIVERTED TO AVOID THE CLOSED ROADS. THESE INCLUDE KMB ROUTES 1, 2F, 3C, 5E, 7M, 11C AND TUNNEL BUS 113; AND GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES 33, 52 AND 53M. MEANWHILE, FROM 9 AM TO 3 PM, GREEN MINIBUS ROUTE 16 WILL OMIT NGAU CHI WAN STREET.

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NO FREE PARKING ON SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS

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THE OPERATING HOURS OF 56 PARKING METERS IN SAI YING PUN WILL BE EXTENDED TO SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS FROM 10 AM THIS SUNDAY (FEBRUARY 22).

THE METERS ARE LOCATED AT HIGH STREET BETWEEN CENTRE STREET AND EASTERN STREET AND TWO SECTIONS OF THIRD STREET BETWEEN WATER STREET AND POK FU LAM ROAD, AND BETWEEN WESTERN STREET AND CENTRE STREET. THEY WILL OPERATE FROM 10 AM TO 10 PM ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS, CHARGING THE SAME RATES AS ON NORMAL WEEKDAYS.

THESE METERS CAN BE DISTINGUISHED BY THE WHITE PAINT ON THE UPPER PARTS OF THE POSTS.

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STREET CLOSED FOR FOOTBRIDGE CONSTRUCTION

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A SECTION OF HIN KENG STREET NEAR ITS JUNCTION WITH CHE KUNG MIU ROAD IN SHA TIN WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM SATURDAY (FEBRUARY 21) TO FEBRUARY 23 BETWEEN MIDNIGHT AND 5.30 AM.

THIS IS TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FOOTBRIDGE ACROSS HIN KENG STREET. DURING THE CLOSURE, ACCESS TO SHEUNG KENG HAU AND HA KENG HAU WILL BE MAINTAINED.

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