



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, MAY 9, 1989

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FOURTH MEETING OF PROVISIONAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY
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THE PROVISIONAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY (PHA) HELD ITS FOURTH MEETING TODAY (TUESDAY) AND REVIEWED THE PROGRESS OF ITS VARIOUS COMMITTEES.

"THE AUTHORITY STRUCTURE COMMITTEE HAS CONTINUED TO PROGRESS SMOOTHLY," CHAIRMAN OF THE PHA, SIR S.Y. CHUNG, SAID.

"THE INITIAL CONCEPT OF INTRODUCING A DEVELOPMENT STREAM AND A COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT STREAM IN THE WORK OF THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY, IN ADDITION TO THE DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS, HAS BEEN FURTHER DEVELOPED.

"THE FORMER WILL PROVIDE A CONSTANT IMPETUS FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN THE PUBLIC HOSPITAL SYSTEM. IN AREAS COVERING NOT ONLY MEDICAL MATTERS, BUT ALSO SUPPORTING SERVICES, FINANCE, HUMAN RESOURCES, SYSTEMS, AND HOSPITAL PROJECTS.

"THE COMMUNITY STREAM WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR SETTING UP THE COMMITTEE SYSTEM. IN PARTICULAR THE REGIONAL COMMITTEES IN WHICH INDIVIDUAL HOSPITALS AND THE PUBLIC WILL BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE AND GIVE ADVICE ON THE NEEDS FOR HOSPITAL SERVICES IN THE REGION AND HOW THEY SHOULD BE MET," SIR S.Y. ELABORATED.

"THE COMMITTEE HAS ALSO AGREED THAT WHILE A THREE-TIER ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE IS NECESSARY, THAT IS THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY HEADQUARTERS, REGIONS, AND INDIVIDUAL HOSPITALS. THE REGIONAL TIER SHOULD BE KEPT AS SMALL AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO AVOID CREATING ANOTHER LAYER OF BUREAUCRACY IN THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS.

"A GREAT DEAL OF AUTHORITY WILL BE GIVEN TO INDIVIDUAL HOSPITALS, WITH THE HEADQUARTERS RETAINING OVERALL CONTROL AND PROVIDING CENTRAL DIRECTION TOWARDS REFORM."

"THE HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HAS NOW ALMOST COMPLETED ITS DISCUSSIONS ON THE ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE OF INDIVIDUAL PUBLIC HOSPITALS UNDER THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY.

"A HOSPITAL CHIEF EXECUTIVE WILL BE PUT IN CHARGE OF EACH PUBLIC HOSPITAL, WITH THE NECESSARY POWER AND AUTHORITY TO MANAGE THE HOSPITALS, TO REPLACE THE CURRENT UNSATISFACTORY SYSTEM.

"IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT THE ORGANISATION STRUCTURE WILL BE A PRACTICAL ONE, THE COMMITTEE HAS PROPOSED THAT A CONSULTANCY FIRM WITH EXPERIENCE IN HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE SHOULD BE ENGAGED TO STUDY THE RECOMMENDED MODEL AND TO ARRIVE AT AN APPROPRIATE MODEL FOR ADOPTION BY THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY," SIR S.Y. SAID.

"THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HAS CONTINUED TO DISCUSS WITH GOVERNMENT THE FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY.

"IT IS HOPED THAT THE FIRST YEAR BUDGET ALLOCATION WILL INCLUDE ADDITIONAL FUNDS TO INTRODUCE MUCH NEEDED IMPROVEMENTS IN OUR PUBLIC HOSPITALS, IN PARTICULAR REGARDING STAFFING AND EQUIPMENT," HE SAID.

/"THE COMMITTEE

"THE COMMITTEE ON INTEGRATION OF PUBLIC HOSPITAL SERVICES HAS COMPLETED THE FIRST ROUND OF CONSULTATION WITH BOARDS OF DIRECTORS OF SUBVENTED HOSPITALS.

"THE COMMITTEE IS NOW CONSIDERING HOW SUBVENTED HOSPITALS SHOULD BE INTEGRATED SMOOTHLY INTO THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY ALONG THE LINES OUTLINED TO THE PRESS AFTER THE PHA'S VISIT TO THE TUNG WAH HOSPITAL ON APRIL 27.

"THE COMMITTEE WILL HOLD FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH SUBVENTED HOSPITALS SOON," SIR S.Y. SAID.

THE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE HAS AGREED AN OUTLINE OF THE LEGISLATION FOR THE INCORPORATION OF THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY.

THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE WILL SOON ISSUE DRAFTING INSTRUCTIONS FOR A DRAFT BILL TO BE PREPARED. THE DRAFT BILL WILL BE DISCUSSED BY THE PHA BEFORE BEING SUBMITTED TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION AND TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FOR ENACTMENT.

TURNING TO THE STAFFING COMMITTEE, SIR S.Y. SAID THAT THE CONSULTANCY FIRM ENGAGED TO DEVISE A PACKAGE OF NEW TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR STAFF WORKING IN THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY HAS BEEN MAKING GOOD PROGRESS.

THE CONSULTANTS HAVE RECEIVED THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FOUR WORKING GROUPS ON HOUSING, RETIREMENT BENEFITS, TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT, AND OTHER BENEFITS AND WILL TAKE THEM INTO ACCOUNT IN THEIR WORK. ALL THESE WORKING GROUPS HAVE CO-OPTED FRONT LINE STAFF IN GOVERNMENT AND SUBVENTED HOSPITALS AS MEMBERS.

IN ADDITION, THE CONSULTANTS WILL ISSUE QUESTIONNAIRES TO A SIZEABLE SAMPLE OF STAFF IN GOVERNMENT AND SUBVENTED HOSPITALS TO SOLICIT THEIR VIEWS ON THE NEW TERMS. THE CONSULTANTS ARE EXPECTED TO FINISH THEIR WORK BY SEPTEMBER.

RECOGNISING THAT THE TWO TEACHING HOSPITALS, THE QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL AND THE PRINCE OF WALES HOSPITAL, NEED SEPARATE CONSIDERATION IN VIEW OF THEIR SPECIAL ROLE, A SEVENTH COMMITTEE, CALLED THE COMMITTEE ON MANAGEMENT AND FINANCING OF TEACHING HOSPITALS, HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED, WITH CO-OPTED MEMBERS FROM THE UNIVERSITY AND POLYTECHNIC GRANTS COMMITTEE AND THE MEDICAL FACULTIES OF THE TWO UNIVERSITIES.

THE COMMITTEE WILL START WORK LATER THIS MONTH.

MEANWHILE, THE USEFUL ROUND OF VISITS TO PUBLIC HOSPITALS HAS CONTINUED. SO FAR, 25 HOSPITALS HAVE BEEN COVERED.

A PROGRAMME OF FURTHER VISITS, LASTING UNTIL AUGUST, HAS BEEN DRAWN UP. THE PHA MAY THEN VISIT A NUMBER OF PRIVATE HOSPITALS.

"THE NEXT PLENARY MEETING OF THE PHA WILL BE HELD IN JULY," SIR S.Y. SAID.

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FS PLEASSED WITH OUTCOME OF HKFE'S EGM

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THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR PIERS JACOBS, TODAY (TUESDAY) CONGRATULATED THE HONG KONG FUTURES EXCHANGE FOR HAVING SUCCESSFULLY AND FULLY RECONSTITUTED ITSELF ALONG THE LINES RECOMMENDED BY THE SECURITIES REVIEW COMMITTEE, THUS PAVING THE WAY FOR FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE FUTURES EXCHANGE.

TWO RESOLUTIONS WERE ADOPTED BY THE EXCHANGE AT ITS EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING THIS EVENING.

THE FIRST DEALS WITH CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS FOR A MORE BALANCED, MARKET-ORIENTED BOARD AND A BETTER STRUCTURED MEMBERSHIP AND THE SECOND RELATES TO VOTING RIGHTS OF NON-MEMBER SHAREHOLDERS.

"I AM MOST IMPRESSED BY THE DECISION OF THE SHAREHOLDERS OF THE FUTURES EXCHANGE AND THE EFFORTS OF ALL CONCERNED, IN PARTICULAR, THE BOARD OF THE EXCHANGE AND ITS CHAIRMAN, MR EOGHAN MCMILLAN, WHO HAVE TAKEN THE INITIATIVE AND WORKED SO PATIENTLY IN THE PAST MONTHS ON THE RECONSTITUTION EXERCISE," MR JACOBS SAID.

"THE SUCCESSFUL RECONSTITUTION OF THE FUTURES EXCHANGE IS VERY ENCOURAGING INDEED.

"THIS, TOGETHER WITH THE RESTRUCTURED LIFEBOAT AGREEMENT AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NEW CLEARING CORPORATION, WILL NOW PROVIDE A VERY GOOD FOUNDATION FOR THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH OF OUR FUTURES MARKET WITH STANDARDS COMPARABLE TO THOSE OF OTHER MAJOR INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRES," HE ADDED.

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TAC DISCUSS FARE INCREASES

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THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) TODAY (TUESDAY) RECOMMENDED AN INCREASE IN THE FARES CHARGED BY TAXIS ON LANTAU ISLAND.

MEMBERS EXAMINED THE FARE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TAXIS AND BUSES, THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE TAXI TRADE AND THE LEVEL OF TAXI SERVICE ON LANTAU.

TAKING ACCOUNT OF THE RELATIVELY LONG DISTANCE THAT THE TAXIS MUST TRAVEL TO COLLECT PASSENGERS, THE TAC SUPPORTED AN INCREASE IN THE SURCHARGE FOR RADIO-CALL TAXI SERVICE ON THE ISLAND.

TAC ALSO DISCUSSED APPLICATIONS FOR FARE INCREASES FROM THE STAR FERRY COMPANY AND THE CHINA MOTOR BUS COMPANY.

/THE COMMITTEE'S

THE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FARE INCREASE APPLICATIONS WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR A FINAL DECISION.

AFTER CAREFUL STUDY OF VARIOUS PROPOSALS FROM THE LANTAU TAXI ASSOCIATION TO ALLOW LANTAU TAXIS TO OPERATE ON NGONG PING ROAD, THE TAC DECIDED THAT THEY COULD NOT ACCEPT THEM FOR SAFETY REASONS.

ON THE PROPOSED PROVISION OF TRAFFIC SIGNALS ON DIFFERENT SECTIONS OF NGONG PING ROAD TO AVOID HEAD-ON COLLISIONS, MEMBERS NOTED THAT AN UNACCEPTABLY LONG CYCLE TIME WOULD BE REQUIRED TO REGULATE ONE-WAY TRAFFIC ON TWO CONSIDERABLY LONG SECTIONS OF THE ROAD.

THIS WOULD CREATE THE RISK OF COLLISION IF ANY IMPATIENT DRIVER WAS TEMPTED TO THE JUMP LIGHT.

MOREOVER, THE SINGLE-LANE SECTIONS WERE NOT LONG ENOUGH TO ACCOMMODATE QUEUING TRAFFIC IN VIEW OF THE ANTICIPATED INCREASE IN TRAFFIC FOLLOWING THE COMPLETION OF THE BIG BUDDHA STATUE.

ON THE SUGGESTION THAT TAXIS BE ALLOWED TO OPERATE ON NGONG PING ROAD FROM MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS, MEMBERS CONSIDERED THAT THE NGONG PING ACCESS ROAD WAS NOT YET OF A STANDARD TO ACCOMMODATE ADDITIONAL TRAFFIC AND THAT AN INCREASE CONFLICT OF HEAD-ON TRAFFIC MIGHT POSE DANGER TO BUSES AS WELL AS PEDESTRIANS AS THE ROAD WAS ALSO SERVING AS A FOOTPATH FOR ACCESS TO PO LIN MONASTERY.

TAC ALSO DID NOT ACCEPT THE LANTAU TAXI ASSOCIATION'S SUGGESTION OF ISSUING 20 SPECIAL PERMITS FOR THE ASSOCIATION TO CONTROL THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF TAXIS GAINING ACCESS TO NGONG PING AT ANY ONE TIME.

MEMBERS FELT THAT IT WAS UNDESIRABLE TO ALLOW A TAXI ASSOCIATION TO CONTROL THE USE OF PERMITS ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT.

THE COMMITTEE AGREED THAT LANTAU TAXIS SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO REACH NGONG PING AFTER THE ACCESS ROAD WAS WIDENED AND MADE SAFE.

MEMBERS NOTED THAT DETAILED DESIGN OF THE ROAD WIDENING PROJECT WAS ALREADY UNDER WAY, WITH A VIEW TO STARTING CONSTRUCTION LATER THIS YEAR AND COMPLETING IT BY LATE 1990 OR EARLY 1991.

THE TAC WAS ALSO BRIEFED ON PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH ROAD OPENINGS IN HONG KONG.

MEMBERS NOTED THAT CARRIAGEWAY AND FOOTWAY SURFACES CONCEALED A MAZE OF CABLES, PIPES AND DUCTS, WHICH REQUIRED MAINTENANCE AND UPGRADING FROM TIME TO TIME.

IN ADDITION TO THE PROBLEM OF UTILITY OPERATIONS THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT ALSO NEEDED TO MAINTAIN AND RECONSTRUCT EXISTING ROADS, AND THESE WORKS WOULD ALSO OCCUPY ROAD SURFACES.

MEMBERS OF THE TAC WERE TOLD THAT THE MAJORITY OF MAINTENANCE AND UTILITY WORK ON MAJOR ROUTES WAS UNDERTAKEN DURING OFF-PEAK TRAFFIC HOURS.

LAST YEAR, 1,229 NIGHT WORK PERMITS WERE ISSUED FOR ROAD WORKS WITH VALIDITY PERIODS FROM ONE DAY TO ONE MONTH.

THE TAC WAS INFORMED THAT, TO MINIMISE THE DISRUPTION TO TRAFFIC AND PEDESTRIANS, A ROAD OPENING CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE (ROCC) WAS ESTABLISHED IN EACH OF THE THREE REGIONS TO MONITOR AND CO-ORDINATE ALL ROAD OPENINGS IN THE PUBLIC CARRIAGEWAY AND FOOTWAY.

THE ROCC'S MONTHLY MEETING WAS ATTENDED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL RELEVANT UTILITY COMPANIES, GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER INTERESTED OR AFFECTED PARTIES.

THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO INVESTIGATE NEW TECHNOLOGY SUCH AS COMMON USER DUCTS AND SHARED TRENCHES AND INTRODUCE NEW METHODS WHERE FEASIBLE.

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BROADCASTING AUTHORITY ATTENDS PRESENTATION BY CONSULTANTS

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THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY TODAY (TUESDAY) ATTENDED A PRESENTATION BY ARTHUR D. LITTLE, THE FIRM OF CONSULTANTS ENGAGED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO ASSIST IN THE ASSESSMENT OF FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF THE CABLE TELEVISION BIDS RECEIVED ON FEBRUARY 28 THIS YEAR.

SPEAKING AFTER THE PRESENTATION, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY, SIR ROGER LOBO, REFERRED TO A REPORT WHICH APPEARED IN AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE NEWSPAPER THIS MORNING.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE PRESENTATION HAD PUT BEFORE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY MEMBERS THE VARIOUS ISSUES IN THE CTV BIDS ON THE BASIS OF WHICH THE FINAL CHOICE WOULD HAVE TO BE MADE.

"CONTRARY TO THE SPECULATION IN THAT REPORT, THE CONSULTANTS MADE NO OVERALL QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT AS TO THE RELATIVE MERITS OF THE PROPOSALS. THAT TASK FALLS TO THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY," HE SAID.

THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY CONCLUDED THAT IN UNDERTAKING THE INQUIRY INTO A SUITABLE SYSTEM OF CABLE TELEVISION FOR HONG KONG AS ORDERED BY THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL, IT WILL HAVE FULL REGARD TO A NUMBER OF ASPECTS NOT ALL OF WHICH, IN THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY'S VIEW, HAVE BEEN FULLY COVERED IN THE CONSULTANTS' PRESENTATION.

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"IN OUR FUTURE MEETINGS, WE WILL HAVE TO LOOK VERY CAREFULLY AT THE ORIGINAL BIDS SUBMITTED ON FEBRUARY 28 TOGETHER WITH CERTAIN CLARIFICATIONS SOUGHT BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND INFORMATION BRANCH.

"THESE WILL FORM THE BASIS OF OUR INQUIRY AND OUR SUBSEQUENT RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL," HE SAID.

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BUDGET DEBATE WINDS UP TOMORROW

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THE SECOND READING DEBATE OF THE APPROPRIATION BILL 1989 WILL RESUME IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) WHEN REPLIES ARE SCHEDULED TO BE GIVEN ON VARIOUS POINTS RAISED BY MEMBERS IN THE PREVIOUS BUDGET DEBATE.

THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE WILL MOVE THAT AN AMENDMENT TO THE OUTLINE OF THE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS ASSISTANCE SCHEME, UNDER THE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS (ASSISTANCE FUND) ORDINANCE, BE APPROVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

IN ADDITION, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY WILL SPEAK ON THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY ANNUAL REPORT 1988.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY WILL ALSO WIND UP THE BUDGET DEBATE.

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MULTI-PRONGED STRATEGY TO COMBAT UNFAIR ANTI-DUMPING ACTIONS

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THE TRADE DEPARTMENT VIEWS THE SERIES OF ANTI-DUMPING ACTIONS BY THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY MOST SERIOUSLY AND IS LEAVING NO STONE UNTURNED IN COMBATTING ANY UNFAIRNESS WHICH EMERGES, THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, MR MICHAEL SZE, TOLD AN AUDIENCE FROM THE NEW TERRITORIES LIONS CLUB TODAY (TUESDAY).

HE SAID THE DEPARTMENT WAS ADDRESSING THE PROBLEM FROM VARIOUS FRONTS AND WAS FOLLOWING A MULTI-PRONGED STRATEGY.

WHILE THE GOVERNMENT DID NOT OBJECT TO LEGITIMATE ANTI-DUMPING ACTION, ITS MAIN CONCERN WAS THAT HONG KONG'S TRADING PARTNERS DID NOT IMPOSE ANTI-DUMPING ACTIONS IN SITUATIONS WHERE FROM AN ECONOMIC POINT OF VIEW, DUMPING WAS NOT OCCURRING, MR SZE SAID.

/"IN ECONOMIC

"IN ECONOMIC TERMS, IT IS DIFFICULT TO SEE HOW HONG KONG COMPANIES COULD DUMP, GIVEN HONG KONG'S COMPLETELY OPEN ECONOMY AND OUR GENERALLY SMALL COMPANIES.

"AND ONE CANNOT HELP SUSPECTING THAT ANTI-DUMPING ACTION IS BEING USED AS A PROTECTIONIST WEAPON," HE SAID.

RUNNING THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT'S MULTI-PRONGED STRATEGY, MR SZE SAID HONG KONG'S OVERSEAS OFFICES IN BRUSSELS, GENEVA, LONDON, WASHINGTON AND TOKYO ACCORDED ANTI-DUMPING TOP PRIORITY.

THEY WERE MAINTAINING A HIGH DEGREE OF VIGILANCE AND CHANNELLING INFORMATION BACK TO HONG KONG AS THEY RECEIVED IT.

SO FAR THE TRADE DEPARTMENT HAS HELD 16 MEETINGS WITH ALL AFFECTED COMPANIES TO EXPLAIN PROCEDURES, TO KEEP THEM ABREAST OF THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS, AND TO OFFER ADVICE.

"THE DEPARTMENT HAS SET UP A SPECIAL TASK FORCE WITHIN ITS EEC DIVISION TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM," HE ADDED.

MR SZE POINTED OUT THAT THE TRADE DEPARTMENT HAD EMPLOYED ONE TRADE POLICY ADVISER BASED IN LONDON AND ONE LEGAL EXPERT IN THE DUMPING FIELD BASED IN BRUSSELS TO ADVISE ON LOBBYING STRATEGY AND THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION'S LEGISLATION AND PROCEDURES.

"THEIR EXPERTISE HAS CONTRIBUTED GREATLY TO THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS," HE SAID.

MR SZE ALSO SAID THAT THE TRADE DEPARTMENT HAD MADE REPRESENTATIONS TO THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON BEHALF OF HONG KONG INDUSTRY.

HE NOTED THAT UNDER THE MULTI-PRONGED STRATEGY, THE DEPARTMENT ALSO ENGAGED STAFF IN THE OVERSEAS OFFICES TO EXPLAIN HONG KONG'S POINT OF VIEW ON ANTI-DUMPING TO OTHER GOVERNMENTS, INCLUDING THOSE OF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY.

"THE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN EXAMINING IN GREAT DETAIL THE CONFORMITY OR OTHERWISE OF RECENT ANTI-DUMPING ACTIONS WITH THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE RULES UNDER THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE (GATT)," HE SAID.

MR SZE SAID THE GOVERNMENT COULD NOT DIRECTLY REPRESENT THE INTERESTS OF INDIVIDUAL COMPANIES AND HE URGED THEM TO HAVE A WHOLE-HEARTED COMMITMENT TO DEFEND THEMSELVES.

"THEY WILL THEREBY COMPLEMENT THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS, AND THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS WILL COMPLEMENT THEIRS," HE SAID.

THE TRADE DEPARTMENT, TOGETHER WITH THE OVERSEAS OFFICES, HAD BEEN DOING THE UTMOST TO DEFEND HONG KONG RESOLUTELY AND HONG KONG HAD BEEN DOING MORE THAN ANY OTHER GOVERNMENTS IN FIGHTING ANTI-DUMPING PROCEEDINGS, MR SZE CONCLUDED.

IN ABOUT 15 MONTHS, EIGHT ANTI-DUMPING PROCEEDINGS HAVE BEEN INITIATED BY THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY AGAINST HONG KONG INVOLVING A WIDE RANGE OF PRODUCTS AND INCLUDING TWO CONCERNING RE-EXPORT OF ORES OF CHINESE ORIGIN. SO FAR, ONLY ONE PROCEEDING CONCERNING MOBILE CELLULAR RADIO TELEPHONE HAS BEEN TERMINATED BECAUSE OF LACK OF EVIDENCE OF INJURY.

THE REMAINING SEVEN ACTIVE EUROPEAN COMMISSION'S ANTI-DUMPING CASES COVER THE FIELDS OF VIDEO CASSETTE TAPES, SMALL SCREEN COLOUR TELEVISION SETS, PHOTO ALBUMS, TUNGSTEN ORE AND CONCENTRATE, SILICON METAL AUDIO TAPES AND DENIM CLOTH.

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MOBILE EXHIBITION ON RURAL IMPROVEMENT STRATEGY
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AN EXHIBITION ON THE RURAL PLANNING AND IMPROVEMENT STRATEGY (RPIS) IS BEING HELD AT THE MUI WO RURAL COMMITTEE OFFICE ON LANTAU ISLAND FROM TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE RPIS IS A PACKAGE OF PROPOSALS DESIGNED TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN RURAL AREAS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE EXHIBITION AT MUI WO WILL LAST UNTIL THURSDAY (MAY 11) AND THEN MOVE TO OTHER RURAL COMMITTEE PREMISES IN THE ISLANDS DISTRICT.

"THE GOVERNMENT IS NOW CONSULTING THE PUBLIC ON THE RPIS AND ISLANDERS ARE URGED TO ATTEND THE EXHIBITION AND GIVE THEIR OPINIONS," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICE SAID.

"THEY ARE WELCOME TO VOICE THEIR VIEWS THROUGH THE RURAL COMMITTEE OR THE DISTRICT BOARD, OR DIRECTLY WRITE TO THE LANDS AND WORKS BRANCH, 20TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG, BEFORE JULY 31," HE ADDED.

THE SCHEDULE OF THE RPIS EXHIBITIONS IS AS FOLLOWS:

RURAL COMMITTEE OFFICE -----	DATE ----
SOUTH LANTAU	MAY 12 TO 14
TUNG CHUNG	MAY 15 TO 17
TAI O	MAY 18 TO 21
CHEUNG CHAU	MAY 22 TO 24

/PENG CHAU

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PENG CHAU	MAY 25 TO 28
SOUTH LAMMA	MAY 29 TO JUNE 1
NORTH LAMMA	JUNE 1 TO 5

A BOOKLET PUBLISHED BY THE LANDS AND WORKS BRANCH OUTLINING THE RPIS PROPOSALS WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST AT THE ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICE, 20TH FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, AND ITS SUB-OFFICES AT MUI WO AND CHEUNG CHAU.

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EASTERN DB TO DISCUSS ANTI-SMOKING PROPOSALS
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THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS A CONSULTATION PAPER OUTLINING PROPOSALS TO RESTRICT THE USE, SALE AND ADVERTISEMENT OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS AT ITS MEETING ON THURSDAY (MAY 11).

MEMBERS WILL BE BRIEFED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG COUNCIL ON SMOKING AND HEALTH, DR RONALD LEUNG, AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE COUNCIL, DR CHRISTOPHER LEUNG.

THE MEETING WILL ALSO DISCUSS A CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT PREPARED BY THE MARINE DEPARTMENT ON LOCAL CRAFT SAFETY AND CONTROL. SENIOR MARINE OFFICER, MR ALLAN CHADWICK, WILL BE PRESENT TO INTRODUCE THE DOCUMENT AND LISTEN TO MEMBERS' VIEWS.

MEANWHILE, THE COMMISSIONER FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINTS, MR ARTHUR GARCIA, WILL ATTEND THE MEETING TO UPDATE MEMBERS ON THE WORK OF HIS OFFICE WHICH CAME INTO OPERATION ON MARCH 1 THIS YEAR.

THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION'S HONG KONG EAST REGIONAL OFFICE WILL PRESENT ITS WORK PLAN FOR 1989-90 FOR MEMBERS' INFORMATION.

THE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE THREE PRIVATE STREETS RESUMED IN 1988-89 AND THE PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS OF THE DISTRICT BOARD ARE ALSO INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD MEETING ON THURSDAY (MAY 11) BEGINNING AT 2.30 PM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE, FIRST FLOOR, 880-886 KING'S ROAD, HONG KONG.

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DB COMMITTEE TO ASK FOR NEW SITE FOR WESTERN PARKLAND

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THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENT AND WORKS COMMITTEE WILL, AT ITS MEETING ON THURSDAY (MAY 11), ASK THE GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE A NEW SITE FOR THE PROPOSED WESTERN PARKLAND.

MEMBERS ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE FATE OF A NUMBER OF COMMUNITY PROJECTS, INCLUDING THE WESTERN PARKLAND, ON THE WESTERN RECLAMATION WHICH HAVE EITHER BEEN SHELVED OR POSTPONED FOLLOWING PLANS TO INCORPORATE ROAD NETWORKS FOR THE PROPOSED THIRD CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL.

AT THE SAME TIME, OFFICIALS FROM THE URBAN SERVICES AND THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENTS WILL BRIEF MEMBERS ON THE ENFORCEMENT ACTION AGAINST ILLEGAL HAWKERS INSIDE THE STAR FERRY CONCOURSE SUBWAY AND ON THE ELEVATED WALKWAY LINKING SWIRE HOUSE AND THE GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING.

THE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE CONTROL MEASURES ON THE INSTALLATION OF ADVERTISING SIGNBOARDS TO SAFEGUARD PEDESTRIANS' SAFETY AND THE NUISANCES CAUSED BY A LARD FACTORY IN CADOGAN STREET, KENNEDY TOWN.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR THE PROPOSED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS IN THIS FINANCIAL YEAR AND A PROGRESS REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN BUILDING AND MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE DURING THE PAST YEAR.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENT AND WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING, WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM ON THURSDAY (MAY 11) IN ROOM 1416, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL.

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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS IN SAI KUNG

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THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD WILL MEET ON THURSDAY (MAY 11) TO REVIEW LAST YEAR'S EXPENDITURE ON MINOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS AS WELL AS TO CONSIDER FUTURE PROJECTS.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE FUNDING POLICY ON THE INSTALLATION OF LETTER BOXES IN THE DISTRICT.

/OTHER TOPICS

OTHER TOPICS WILL INCLUDE THE PROPOSED DEMOLITION OF FIVE DESERTED VILLAGE INCINERATORS AND THE FORMATION OF A WORKING GROUP FOR THE 1989-90 KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING ON THURSDAY (MAY 11) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD, 2ND FLOOR, SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES, CHAN MAN STREET, SAI KUNG TOWN. THE MEETING WILL START AT 10 AM.

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DB WORKING GROUP TO DISCUSS IMPROVEMENTS TO MARICULTURE ZONES

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THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD'S WORKING GROUP ON AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES WILL RESUME DISCUSSIONS ON IMPROVEMENTS TO THE FACILITIES OF MARICULTURE ZONES IN TAI PO AT A MEETING ON THURSDAY (MAY 11).

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE PROPOSED DESIGNATION OF A NEW MARICULTURE ZONE IN TAI PO, THE PROPOSED EXTENSION OF THE BOUNDARY OF THE SHAM WAN FISH CULTURE ZONE AND THE DISCONNECTION OF THE IRRIGATION SYSTEM TO WAI TAU, LAM TSUEN.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD'S WORKING GROUP ON AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY (MAY 11) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF TAI PO COMMERCIAL CENTRE, 152 KWONG FUK ROAD, TAI PO.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 10 AM.

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NEW PROCEDURES ON EX-GRATIA PAYMENTS

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THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT (EPD) HAS ADOPTED NEW PROCEDURES TO SPEED UP THE PAYMENT OF EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES TO LIVESTOCK FARMERS WHO HAD DECIDED TO CEASE OPERATION UNDER THE LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL SCHEME.

THE NEW PROCEDURES WERE IMPLEMENTED FOLLOWING FURTHER CONSULTATION WITH THE LIVESTOCK WASTE DISPOSAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON APRIL 25 THIS YEAR.

UNDER THE NEW PROCEDURES, 100 PER CENT OF EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES IS TO BE PAID TO ELIGIBLE FARMERS WHO HAVE COMPLETELY CEASED BUSINESS REGARDLESS OF THE LAND STATUS OF THE LIVESTOCK KEEPING AND RELATED STRUCTURES, AND WITHOUT HAVING TO WAIT FOR LAND STATUS CHECKS.

IN NORMAL CASES, THE PAYMENT WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO LIVESTOCK FARMERS ABOUT EIGHT TO 11 WEEKS AFTER CESSATION OF BUSINESS.

HOWEVER, THE EXISTING POLICY THAT LIVESTOCK STRUCTURES ON GOVERNMENT LAND WILL BE DEMOLISHED AFTER PAYMENT OF EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED.

AN EPD SPOKESMAN SAID THE FIRST CHEQUE FOR 100 PER CENT PAYMENT WAS ISSUED TO A FARMER IN THE TAI PO CONTROL AREA ON APRIL 25, IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE LIVESTOCK WASTE DISPOSAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING.

FOLLOWING THE ADOPTION OF THE REVISED PROCEDURES IN MAKING EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE PAYMENT TO STAGE TWO CONTROL AREAS, A TOTAL OF 17 CHEQUES HAVE BEEN COLLECTED, 19 CHEQUES ARE AWAITING COLLECTION, WHILE ANOTHER 200 CASES ARE BEING PROCESSED.

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ANNUAL PLACEMENT SERVICE FOR PRIMARY TEACHERS

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THE PLACEMENT SERVICE UNIT OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL BE IN OPERATION AGAIN ON MONDAY (MAY 15) AS AN ANNUAL EXERCISE TO ASSIST ELIGIBLE REDUNDANT TEACHERS IN AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS TO FIND A NEW TEACHING POST.

THE ANNUAL EXERCISE STARTED IN 1975 WITH THE AIM OF HELPING REDUNDANT TEACHERS IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS TO SEEK ALTERNATIVE EMPLOYMENT AS A RESULT OF THE DROP IN POPULATION OF PRIMARY SCHOOL AGE AND A SHIFT OF POPULATION FROM THE URBAN AREAS TO NEW TOWNS.

THE UNIT HAS HELPED SOME 5,270 TEACHERS TO SECURE ALTERNATIVE TEACHING POSTS IN THE LAST FEW YEARS.

/ "WE WILL

"WE WILL BE GIVING TEACHERS FULL ASSISTANCE AGAIN THIS YEAR. OUR 100 PER CENT SUCCESS RATE OVER THE PAST YEARS REFLECTED THE FULL SUPPORT AND CO-OPERATION OF SCHOOL HEADS AND THE SCHOOL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES TO WHICH THE DEPARTMENT IS MOST GRATEFUL," SAID SENIOR EDUCATION OFFICER, MRS REBELLA HO, WHO HEADS THE PLACEMENT SERVICE UNIT THIS YEAR.

THE PLACEMENT SERVICE UNIT, STAFFED BY A TEAM OF FOUR OFFICERS OF THE SCHOOLS DIVISION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, WILL BE LOCATED AT ROOM 611, 6TH FLOOR, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 405 NATHAN ROAD, YAU MA TEI.

REDUNDANT TEACHERS ARE REQUESTED TO REGISTER WITH THE UNIT BETWEEN MAY 24 AND 31 DURING OFFICE HOURS FROM 9 AM TO 12.45 PM AND 2.15 PM TO 4.45 PM.

REDUNDANT TEACHERS ARE REQUESTED TO NOTE THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE OF REGISTRATION:

MAY 24 (WEDNESDAY)	FOR TEACHERS ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND AT SAI KUNG AND OUTLYING ISLANDS.
MAY 25 (THURSDAY)	FOR TEACHERS IN KWUN TONG AND YAU MA TEI.
MAY 26 (FRIDAY)	FOR TEACHERS IN WONG TAI SIN, MONG KOK, SHAM SHUI PO, AND KOWLOON CITY.
MAY 29 (MONDAY)	FOR TEACHERS IN TAI PO AND NORTH AND TSUEN WAN.
MAY 30 (TUESDAY)	FOR TEACHERS IN KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI.
MAY 31 (WEDNESDAY)	FOR TEACHERS IN TUEN MUN, YUEN LONG AND SHA TIN.

TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES CONCERNING REGISTRATION MATTERS CAN BE MADE AT 3-324959, 3-324945, 3-324944 AND 3-324920 DURING OFFICE HOURS.

MRS HO SAID THAT TEACHERS CONCERNED WOULD BE INFORMED BY LETTER OF THEIR REDUNDANCY UNDER THE AGREED PRINCIPLE OF "LAST IN, FIRST OUT".

SHE SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT THEY SHOULD REGISTER WITH THE UNIT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ABOVE SCHEDULE.

"ONCE REGISTERED WITH THE UNIT, THEY WILL ALL BE HELPED TO FIND AN ALTERNATIVE TEACHING POST IN AN AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 1989," MRS HO SAID.

TUESDAY, MAY 9, 1989

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LABOUR OFFICES ON THE MOVE
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FOUR BRANCH OFFICES OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S FACTORY INSPECTORATE HAVE MOVED TO NEW PREMISES IN TSUEN WAN RECENTLY.

THE OFFICES PREVIOUSLY LOCATED AT KWUN TONG DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICES BUILDING, SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICES, ARE NOW OPERATING ON THE THIRD FLOOR, PHASE II, TSUEN WAN GARDEN, 12-18 TEXACO ROAD.

IN ADDITION, THE TSUEN WAN OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT'S EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION DIVISION WILL MOVE TO THE SAME PREMISES ON THURSDAY (MAY 11).

THE NEW TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF THE RESPECTIVE OFFICES ARE:

FACTORY INSPECTORATE DIVISION

0-4150394 (BUILDING AND ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION DIVISION/
NEW TERRITORIES WEST)
0-4150417 (BUILDING AND ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION DIVISION/
RAILWAY)
0-4150435 (TSUEN WAN-1)
0-4150379 (TSUEN WAN-2)

EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION DIVISION

0-4150142
0-4150170

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN KWUN TONG
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT FROM 10 AM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY), THE SECTION OF SHUN ON ROAD IN KWUN TONG BETWEEN ITS JUNCTIONS WITH THE ACCESS ROAD TO NING PO COLLEGE AND THE ACCESS ROAD TO TIN CHU HOUSE WILL BE CLOSED TO FACILITATE SLOPE REPAIR WORKS.

ALL VEHICLES WILL BE DIVERTED TO TRAVEL VIA SAU MAU PING ROAD, SHUN LEE TSUEN ROAD, SHUN ON ROAD AND LEE ON ROAD.

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TUESDAY, MAY 9, 1989

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS ON TOLO HIGHWAY AND IN WONG TAI SIN
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT TO FACILITATE ROAD MAINTENANCE WORKS, SEVERAL LANES OF TOLO HIGHWAY IN TAI PO, KOWLOON BOUND WILL BE CLOSED FROM THURSDAY (MAY 11).

THE FAST LANE BETWEEN THE SLIP ROAD LEADING FROM LAM KAM ROAD INTERCHANGE TO THE SLIP ROAD LEADING TO TAI PO TAI WO ROAD WILL BE CLOSED FROM 9 AM ON THURSDAY TO 8 AM ON MAY 14.

TWO LANES FOR A SECTION OF ABOUT 500 METRES SOUTH OF TO TSZ KIN WILL BE CLOSED FROM 8 PM EACH DAY TO 7 AM THE NEXT MORNING BETWEEN MAY 16 AND 24; WHILE ONE LANE OF THE SAME SECTION WILL BE CLOSED FROM 7 AM TO 8 PM EACH DAY FROM MAY 17 TO 25.

ON THE OTHER HAND, IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE TRENCH REINSTATEMENT WORKS AT THE JUNCTION OF SHUNG LING STREET AND TSEUK LUK STREET IN SAN PO KONG, THE NORTHBOUND TSEUK LUK STREET BETWEEN SHUNG LING STREET AND YIN HING STREET WILL ALSO BE CLOSED FROM 10 AM ON THURSDAY (MAY 11) FOR ONE WEEK.

DURING THE CLOSURE, YIN HING STREET BETWEEN TSEUK LUK STREET AND KAM WING STREET WILL BE CONVERTED FROM ONE-WAY WESTBOUND TO ONE-WAY EASTBOUND.

MOTORISTS IN SHUNG LING STREET HEADING FOR NORTHBOUND TSEUK LUK STREET WILL BE DIVERTED TO TRAVEL VIA SHUNG LING STREET, KAM WING STREET, YIN HING STREET AND TSEUK LUK STREET.

MEANWHILE, THE ROUTINGS OF KOWLOON GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES 19, 20 AND 52 WILL BE DIVERTED TO TRAVEL VIA SHUNG LING STREET, KAM WING STREET, YIN HING STREET AND TSEUK LUK STREET ON JOURNEYS TO CHUK YUEN ESTATE/TSZ WAN SHAN.

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VILLAGE VEHICLE BAN ON CHEUNG CHAU FOR BUN FESTIVAL
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT ALL VILLAGE VEHICLES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO OPERATE ON CHEUNG CHAU BETWEEN 7 AM AND 6 PM DAILY ON THURSDAY (MAY 11) AND FRIDAY.

THIS MEASURE IS NEEDED BECAUSE OF THE HOLDING OF THE BUN FESTIVAL.

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