



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1977

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EMBARGOED NEWS ITEM.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF A LECTURE ON MODERN URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN HONG KONG GIVEN BY THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, TO THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR ARTS IN LONDON ON MONDAY EVENING (NOVEMBER 28) AT 5.30 P.M. (LONDON TIME). THE ITEM IS EMBARGOED FOR 0001 HOUR ON TUESDAY (NOVEMBER 29) (LOCAL TIME). IT SHOULD NOT (REPEAT NOT) BE PUBLISHED OR BROADCAST BEFORE THEN.

MODERN URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN HONG KONG

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, SAID IN LONDON THIS EVENING HONG KONG'S TRANSFORMATION FROM A DELAPIDATED PORT TO A THRIVING INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL METROPOLIS WAS A CLASSIC EXAMPLE OF CHALLENGE AND RESPONSE.

+IT HAS DONE THIS WITHOUT EITHER NATURAL RESOURCES, OR AID, BUT THE ENDEAVOURS OF ITS OWN PEOPLE AND FROM THE REVENUES YIELDED BY THEIR OWN WORK,+ HE SAID.

SIR MURRAY WAS ADDRESSING THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS IN LONDON ON THE 'MODERN URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN HONG KONG' IN WHICH HE TRACED THE ECONOMIC BACKGROUND AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG FROM THE LATE FORTIES TO THE PRESENT DAY, AND HOW THESE HAVE BEEN INFLUENCED BY THE FLOOD OF PEOPLE.

BEFORE GOING INTO THE DETAILS OF THE NEW TOWN PLANS BEING TAKEN TO ACHIEVE AN ACCEPTABLE STANDARD OF LIVING FOR 4.5 MILLION PEOPLE OF HONG KONG, SIR MURRAY STRESSED THAT WITHOUT MONEY THERE COULD BE NO DEVELOPMENT.

HONG KONG LIVED BY TRADE, HE SAID, AND MANUFACTURING FOR EXPORT WAS STILL THE BASIS OF ITS ECONOMY.

+HONG KONG'S DEPENDENCE ON ORDERS FOR EXPORTS TO OVERSEAS MARKETS IS WORTH STRESSING, BECAUSE IT IMPLIES ALMOST TOTAL, AND CERTAINLY EXCEPTIONAL, DEPENDENCE ON THE ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES AND POLICIES OF IMPORTING COUNTRIES -- MOSTLY IN NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE -- WHICH HONG KONG NATURALLY HAS NO CONTROL WHATEVER.

+THIS SENSE OF PRECARIOUSNESS, PARTICULARLY WHEN COUPLED WITH THE ABSENCE OF EXTERNAL AID, HAS UNDOUBTEDLY AFFECTED ATTITUDES TO URBAN PLANNING,+ SIR MURRAY OBSERVED.

SIR MURRAY POINTED OUT THAT THE ENORMOUS PROBLEMS OF URBAN RENEWAL AND DECONTAMINATION BOILS DOWN TO A PROBLEM OF PEOPLE -- TOO MANY PEOPLE, ARRIVING TOO QUICKLY, ON TOO LITTLE GROUND, FOR A GOVERNMENT THAT WAS ORIGINALLY TOO SMALL AND POOR TO DEAL WITH THEM.

/HE SAID

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HE SAID TO ACHIEVE ACCEPTABLE STANDARDS OF LIVING AND ENVIRONMENT, THE GOVERNMENT HAD TO INTERVENE DRASTICALLY TO SPREAD OUT THE POPULATION TO PROVIDE HOUSING FOR THE MAJORITY UNABLE TO PAY COMMERCIAL RENTS, AND TO ACHIEVE A MUCH BETTER BALANCE IN ALL AREAS BETWEEN HOUSING, PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT, PUBLIC SERVICES AND AMENITIES, OPEN SPACE AND COMMUNICATIONS.

+THIS CONCEPT OF SPREADING OUT THE POPULATION TO REDUCE DENSITIES AND IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE NETWORK OF NEW COMMUNICATIONS NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE IT, ONLY EMERGED GRADUALLY,+ SIR MURRAY EXPLAINED.

SIR MURRAY SAID THAT THE VAST INFLUX OF POPULATION IN THE LATE '40S AND '50S AND THE PROBLEMS IT CREATED HAD DOMINATED HONG KONG EVER SINCE, +BUT FOR A TIME IT WAS NOT AT ALL APPARENT THAT THE PROBLEM WAS PERMANENT.+

IT GRADUALLY BECAME CLEAR THAT THE IMMIGRANTS HAD BECOME PERMANENT RESIDENTS OF HONG KONG AND THAT THEIR REQUIREMENTS MUST BE BUILT AND PLANNED FOR.

IN THE EARLY PHASE OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF MODERN HONG KONG, SIR MURRAY SAID, THE MAJOR TASK WAS TO FIND EMPLOYMENT AND SAFE WEATHER-PROOF AND FIRE-PROOF ACCOMMODATION AND THE DOMINANT PRIORITIES WERE THE PROVISION OF HOUSING AND LAND FOR INDUSTRY.

THE STANDARDS FIRST SET OUT FOR EARLY DEVELOPMENT SOON BECAME VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE IN THE DENSITIES CREATED IN URBAN AREAS WHERE LAND FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT WAS RUNNING OUT.

+IN 1972 WE THEREFORE DECIDED THAT A CONCENTRATED EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO BREAK THE BACK OF THE PROBLEM OF UNDER-PROVISION IN THE URBAN AREAS OF HONG KONG,+ SIR MURRAY EXPLAINED.

+WE SET OURSELVES A 10-YEAR PERIOD -- UP TO 1983 -- AND DREW UP AND PUBLISHED PLANS TO PROVIDE BY THAT TIME PUBLIC HOUSING FOR ALL WHO NEEDED IT, AND ALSO TO COVER ADEQUATELY THE BASIC REQUIREMENTS OF EDUCATION, MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES AND SOCIAL WELFARE.

+THESE PLANS NOT ONLY SET A TIMESCALE WITHIN WHICH THE PROBLEMS FORCED ON HONG KONG BY IMMIGRATION SHOULD BE SOLVED AND LET THE PUBLIC KNOW WHAT IT WOULD BE, BUT ALSO MADE POSSIBLE THE PLANNING OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN SUCH A WAY THAT THE NEW TOWNS SHOULD BE FROM THE START AS BALANCE COMMUNITIES, WITH PROVISIONS BEING MADE FOR INDUSTRY, PUBLIC HOUSING, SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS, RECREATIONAL SPACE AND OTHER AMENITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES TO THE SCALES PROVIDED FOR IN THE OVERALL PLAN,+ HE SAID.

/PLANS WERE

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PLANS WERE DRAWN UP PROGRESSIVELY, FIRSTLY, TO LINK THE OLD URBAN AREA TO AREAS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES IN WHICH MORE SPACIOUS AND MORE THOROUGHLY PLANNED DEVELOPMENT WOULD BE POSSIBLE.

SECONDLY, IN THE OLD URBAN AREA ITSELF, THERE WERE PLANS TO BUILD A BASIC NETWORK OF NEW MOTOR ROADS TO FREE TRAFFIC FROM THE OLD CONGESTED STREETS AND PROMOTE A MORE EFFICIENT PUBLIC BUS SERVICE.

THIS WOULD BE SUPPLEMENTED WITH AN UNDERGROUND MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY WHICH WOULD RELIEVE PRESSURE ON SURFACE TRANSPORT, SIR MURRAY SAID.

+SO WE HAVE RUN THE FULL COURSE FROM THE 50S, WHEN PLANNING WAS CONFINED TO THE BAREST NECESSITIES AND DIRECTED TO THE CROWDED HARBOUR AREA, TO THE PRESENT PROCEDURE OF BUILDING NEW TOWNS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES PLANNED TO PROVIDE ALL THAT IS NECESSARY FOR A COMPLETE COMMUNITY, AND WITH THESE ELEMENTS BEING BUILT TOGETHER, FROM THE START, BY THE GOVERNMENT, AND WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR BUILDING INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND A PART OF THE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT TO THE SAME PLAN, ON LAND PROVIDED BY THE GOVERNMENT.+

+WHILE THE METHODS WE HAVE ADOPTED ARE OUTWARDLY THOSE OF THE ENGINEERS, THE ARCHITECTS AND THE TOWN PLANNERS, THE BASIC PROBLEM AND OBJECTIVE REMAINS -- TO CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT WITHIN WHICH THE PEOPLE CAN LIVE AN ACCEPTABLE AND SATISFYING LIFE,+ SIR MURRAY SAID.

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FIRST MEETING OF TSUEN WAN DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD

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THE NEWLY-ESTABLISHED TSUEN WAN DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD HELD ITS FIRST MEETING TODAY.

BEFORE THE MEETING STARTED, THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR. DAVID AKERS-JONES, ADDRESSED THE BOARD MEMBERS AND PRESENTED TO THEM LETTERS OF APPOINTMENT SIGNED BY SIR DENYS ROBERTS IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHIEF SECRETARY.

THE MEETING WAS CHAIRED BY THE TSUEN WAN TOWN MANGER, MR. JAMES HAYES.

IN HIS OPENING SPEECH TO THE GATHERING, MR. HAYES PRAISED MEMBERS OF THE RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE -- THE FORERUNNER OF THE DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD -- FOR THE EXCELLENT WORK THEY HAD DONE ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY.

+THE COMMITTEE'S TERMS OF REFERENCE INCLUDED ALL ASPECTS OF PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF RECREATIONAL AMENITIES FOR THE NEW TOWN AND THE PROMOTION OF THE PRIVATE BODIES ENGAGED IN THIS FIELD,+ HE SAID.

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IN THE 18 MONTHS OF THEIR EXISTENCE AS A COMMITTEE, MR. HAYES SAID, MEMBERS HAD MET 21 TIMES IN THE MAIN COMMITTEE AND SUB-COMMITTEES, PREPARING 43 PAPERS AND HAD MADE A NUMBER OF VISITS TO AMENITIES INSIDE AND OUTSIDE TSUEN WAN.

MANY USEFUL IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS TO IMPROVE AMENITIES HAD BEEN CONTRIBUTED, HE ADDED.

MR. HAYES RECALLED THAT THE COMMITTEE AT FIRST HAD NO FUNDS OF ITS OWN, BUT FROM APRIL THIS YEAR, A SUM OF \$200,000 WAS MADE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST IN THE PROMOTION AND EXPANSION OF SPORTS AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES.

+I CANNOT SAY AT THIS POINT PRECISELY WHAT FUNDS WILL BE AVAILABLE NEXT YEAR, BUT I AM REASONABLY CONFIDENT THAT THEY WILL BE SUBSTANTIALLY MORE THAN THE \$200,000 WHICH WAS AVAILABLE TO THE OLD COMMITTEE,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID THE WORK OF THE DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD WOULD BE WIDER IN SCOPE, AND WOULD NOT ONLY CONTINUE TO PROMOTE ALL ASPECTS OF SPORTING, RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL ADVANCEMENT, BUT ALSO BE ABLE TO RAISE MATTERS WHICH RELATED TO THE ENTIRE RANGE OF GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY BUSINESS IN TSUEN WAN.

+IT WILL ALSO PLAY A MAJOR PART IN HELPING TO DECIDE PRIORITIES FOR THE NEW PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME ITEMS IN THE NEW TOWN.+

MR. HAYES SAID IT WOULD TAKE TIME FOR THE BOARD TO WORK INTO ITS NEW RESPONSIBILITIES AND FOR DEPARTMENTS TO GEAR THEMSELVES TO THE NEW SITUATION.

+HOWEVER, IN THE GOVERNMENT'S VIEW, THESE CHANGES ARE UNDOUBTEDLY FOR THE BEST AND THEY ARE EXPECTED TO CONTRIBUTE GREATLY TO THE GOOD OF TSUEN WAN,+ HE SAID.

TODAY'S MEETING WAS THE FIRST OF A SERIES OF INAUGURAL MEETINGS OF THE SEVEN N.T. DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARDS, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF WHICH WERE ANNOUNCED BY THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, IN HIS ANNUAL ADDRESS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL LAST MONTH.

TSUEN WAN - WITH A POPULATION OF NEARLY 500,000 - HAS THE LARGEST BOARD WITH 20 UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS MAINLY DRAWN FROM THE RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE WHICH WAS REPLACED BY THE DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD.

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GREEN PAPER ON PERSONAL SOCIAL WORK AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE
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A GREEN PAPER WHICH OUTLINES RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DEVELOPING PERSONAL SOCIAL WORK AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE IN HONG KONG IS PUBLISHED TODAY (MONDAY) FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.

THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND VIEWS EXPRESSED ON THEM BY THE PUBLIC AND PROFESSIONAL BODIES WILL BE STUDIED CAREFULLY BEFORE ANY DECISION IS TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT.

IT IS HOPED THAT A FIRM PROGRAMME DECIDED UPON COVERING THE NEXT FIVE YEARS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE IN THE NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR COMMENCING APRIL 1, 1978.

THE GREEN PAPER SUMMARISES THE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF A PROGRAMME PLAN ON PERSONAL WORK AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE COMPLETED IN JULY THIS YEAR. IT WAS PREPARED IN CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE.

THE PAPER CONTAINS SOME 35 RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH FALL MAINLY INTO THE FOLLOWING SERVICE AREAS: -

1. SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK

THIS SERVICE SHOULD BE IMPROVED AND EXPANDED TO HELP PUPILS WHOSE ACADEMIC, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT IS IN JEOPARDY= TO ASSIST PUPILS TO MAKE THE MAXIMUM USE OF THE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES= TO DEVELOP THEIR POTENTIAL TO THE FULL= AND TO PREPARE THEM FOR RESPONSIBLE ADULT LIVING.

2. SOCIAL WORK AMONG UNATTACHED YOUNG PEOPLE

THIS TYPE OF SOCIAL WORK SHOULD BE IMPROVED TO HELP YOUNG PEOPLE AT RISK THROUGH AN OUT-REACHING APPROACH UNDER WHICH SOCIAL WORKERS ARE TO ESTABLISH DIRECT CONTACT WITH THESE YOUNGSTERS IN PLACES WHERE THEY ARE KNOWN TO FREQUENT. THIS WILL HELP THEM IMPROVE THEIR BEHAVIOUR AND INTEGRATE THEM INTO NORMAL SOCIAL GROUP ACTIVITIES.

3. FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION

THIS SERVICE SHOULD BE EXPANDED TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF FAMILY LIFE AMONG INDIVIDUALS BY ENHANCING THE UNDERSTANDING OF SELF, OF HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN THE FAMILY AND THE ROLE EACH FAMILY MEMBER PLAYS, AND TO FORESTALL FAMILY BREAKDOWNS BY IMPARTING KNOWLEDGE ON MARRIAGE, CHILD CARE AND THE RESPONSIBILITY OF PARENTHOOD TO INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS.

/4. ANCILLARY

4. ANCILLARY PROVISIONS

IN ADDITION TO THE DIRECT SOCIAL WORK SERVICES, OTHER MEASURES SHOULD BE RECOMMENDED INCLUDING THE CONTROL OF TRIADS AND THEIR INFLUENCES, THE MOBILISING OF VOLUNTEERS TO ASSIST PROBLEM YOUTHS AND THE EXPANSION OF STUDY ROOM FACILITIES IN THE MORE CROWDED AREAS.

COMMENTING ON THE GREEN PAPER, MISS ANNIE CHAN, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, SAID THAT THE OVERALL OBJECTIVE OF PERSONAL SOCIAL WORK AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE IS TO REDUCE OR PREVENT ANTI-SOCIAL OR DELINQUENT BEHAVIOUR OF YOUNG PEOPLE.

+MEETING THIS OBJECTIVE ENTAILS IDENTIFYING YOUNG PEOPLE AT RISK, ASSESSING THEIR NEEDS AND MEETING THEM AS FAR AS PRACTICABLE TO INTEGRATE THEM INTO NORMAL SOCIAL GROUP ACTIVITIES. IT IS ALSO NECESSARY TO EDUCATE YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES TO UNDERSTAND AND ACCEPT THE PROPER ROLE THEY SHOULD PLAY AT HOME AND THE SOCIETY AND TO MONITOR THE EFFECT OF PERSONAL SOCIAL WORK GENERALLY.+

MISS CHAN NOTED THAT THERE WERE NO PRECISE INDICATORS OF THE MOST VULNERABLE PERIOD IN YOUTH. AN AGE RANGE OF 6 - 20 WAS CONSIDERED APPROPRIATE SINCE CHILDREN UNDER SIX WERE GENERALLY LIVING IN A PROTECTED ENVIRONMENT WHILE THOSE OVER 20 YEARS OF AGE WERE MORE MATURE AND EMOTIONALLY STABLE.

+MUCH EFFORTS HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE GOVERNMENT IN PROVIDING AND EXPANDING RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

+IT IS ESTIMATED THAT ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE AGE RANGE OF 6 - 20 ARE TAKING PART IN SOME FORM OF ORGANISED YOUTH OR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND IT IS HOPED TO INCREASE THIS PROPORTION IN FUTURE. COUPLED WITH THIS AND AT A MORE PRIMARY LEVEL, THE GOVERNMENT HAS ALSO STEPPED UP EFFORTS IN PROVIDING THE BASIC SERVICES AND FACILITIES.+

DESPITE ALL THESE, MISS CHAN CONTINUED, THERE WOULD ALWAYS BE A PROPORTION OF YOUNG PEOPLE WHOSE INDIVIDUAL NEEDS AND PROBLEMS COULD NOT, FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER, BE FULLY MET BY THE BASIC SERVICES. THESE YOUNG PEOPLE WOULD REQUIRE PERSONAL SOCIAL WORK WHICH AIMS TO PROVIDE TIMELY GUIDANCE AND HELP SPECIFICALLY TO THOSE WHO EXPERIENCE PROBLEMS OF VARIOUS KINDS IN THEIR PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TO REDUCE THEIR CHANCE OF TURNING DELINQUENT.

THE PROPOSALS IN THE GREEN PAPER, IF APPROVED, WILL REQUIRE AN ESTIMATED TOTAL EXPENDITURE OF \$20.2 MILLION FOR 1978/79, RISING TO \$30.5 MILLION IN 1982/83.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO COMMENT ARE ASKED TO DO SO BEFORE THE END OF JANUARY NEXT YEAR. COMMENTS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO: THE SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG.

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COPIES OF THE GREEN PAPER IN BOTH ENGLISH AND CHINESE WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE VARIOUS CITY DISTRICT OFFICES ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND IN KOWLOON; THE DISTRICT OFFICES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES= AND THE MARKETING OFFICE, GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES AT 1A, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG.

A PAMPHLET SUMMARISING THE MAIN PROPOSALS OF THE GREEN PAPER HAS BEEN PUBLISHED FOR EASY REFERENCE OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC. COPIES OF THE PAMPHLET WILL ALSO BE OBTAINABLE FROM ALL CITY DISTRICT OFFICES IN THE URBAN AREA, DISTRICT OFFICES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, ALL COMMUNITY CENTRES AND FAMILY SERVICES CENTRES OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

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SPONSORS NEEDED IN SERVICES FOR HANDICAPPED

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THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR. COLVYN HAYE, TODAY APPEALED TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TUNG WAH GROUP TO SET AN EXAMPLE TO SPONSORS IN SHOULDERING THEIR PART OF THE UNITED EFFORT TO ACHIEVE THE TARGETS SET FOR INTEGRATING THE HANDICAPPED INTO THE COMMUNITY.

MR. HAYE WAS ADDRESSING STUDENTS AND MANAGEMENT OF THE TUNG WAH SECONDARY SCHOOLS AT THE JOINT GRADUATION CEREMONY AT THE CITY HALL.

HE SAID, +THE WORK OF THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION AND VARIOUS SOCIAL WELFARE AGENCIES HAS BEEN RIGHTLY APPRECIATED AND HONOURED BY THE COMMUNITY.+

+TUNG WAH HAS DONE MARVELLOUSLY WELL WITH THE EDUCATION OF ABLE CHILDREN. I NOW APPEAL TO YOU TO CONCENTRATE MORE ON THE EDUCATION OF THE NEEDY AND THE UNFORTUNATE,+ MR. HAYE SAID.

+YOUR EXAMPLE,+ MR. HAYE ADDED, +WILL BE TAKEN UP BY OTHER WORTHY SPONSORS AND THE GOVERNMENT LOOKS TO YOU AND TO OTHERS INTERESTED IN EDUCATION QUITE SPECIFICALLY IN TWO AREAS: TO RUN SPECIAL AND RESOURCE CLASSES IN YOUR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS, AND TO ESTABLISH SPECIAL SCHOOLS FOR MENTALLY RETARDED CHILDREN.+

IN REFERRING TO THE GOVERNMENT'S WHITE PAPER ON REHABILITATION - +A UNITED EFFORT -- INTEGRATING THE DISABLED INTO THE COMMUNITY+, HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD STATED CLEARLY THE INTENTION TO EXPAND AND IMPROVE EXISTING REHABILITATION SERVICES IN ORDER TO HELP HANDICAPPED PEOPLE TO BECOME INDEPENDENT AND CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY.

/+TO ACHIEVE

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+TO ACHIEVE THIS AIM, THE EDUCATION OF THE HANDICAPPED WILL PLAY A VERY IMPORTANT PART BECAUSE IT IS ONLY THROUGH EDUCATION THAT HANDICAPPED CHILDREN WILL BE ABLE TO TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE COMMUNITY,+ HE ADDED.

IT IS PLANNED TO INCREASE THE PROVISION OF SCHOOL PLACES FOR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN FROM 12,165 TO 50,800 BY 1985-86 - AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 38,000 PLACES OVER THE NEXT DECADE.

SOME 27,000 PLACES WILL BE PROVIDED IN ORDINARY PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN THE FORM OF SPECIAL AND RESOURCE CLASSES FOR CHILDREN WITH MILD PHYSICAL HANDICAPS OR WITH LEARNING AND BEHAVIOUR DIFFICULTIES AND MORE THAN 8,000 PLACES WILL BE PROVIDED IN MORE SPECIAL SCHOOLS FOR MORE SEVERELY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN.

+YOU WILL AGREE THAT IN THEIR UNITED EFFORT THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE RELYING ON VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND SPONSORS TO ACHIEVE TARGETS,+ HE POINTED OUT.

+1979 WILL BE THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD. TO MARK THE OCCASION AND IN RESPONSE TO THE CHALLENGE OF THE WHITE PAPER ON REHABILITATION, YOU MAY WANT TO DO SOMETHING BIG,+ HE ADDED.

MR. HAYE ALSO TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO ADVISE SCHOOL LEAVERS TO LOOK FOR CAREERS VIA THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES AND THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC AS ALTERNATIVES TO FURTHER EDUCATION IN THE FACE OF KEEN COMPETITION.

+THERE ARE VERY WORTHWHILE CAREERS TO BE FOUND IN INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE,+ HE SAID, +AND THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES AND THE POLYTECHNIC HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED TO TRAIN YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN IN THESE FIELDS.+

AT THE CEREMONY MRS. HAYE DISTRIBUTED CERTIFICATES AND PRIZES.

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NOTICES FOR REMOVAL OF VERANDAHS IN 16 BUILDINGS
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A TOTAL OF 16 BUILDINGS IN SHAM SHUI PO, KOWLOON, ARE REQUIRED TO HAVE THEIR VERANDAHS REMOVED TO MAKE WAY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE EXTENSION OF THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY FROM PRINCE EDWARD STATION TO LAI CHI KOK BAY.

THE BUILDINGS, ALL BUILT IN PRE-WAR TIMES, ARE SITUATED AT NOS. 1 - 5, PLAYING FIELD ROAD, NOS. 50, 177, 183-185, 219, 269-273, 218-224 AND 248, CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD, AND WERE INCLUDED AMONG THE 34 BUILDINGS ON THE RAILWAY AREA PLAN GAZETTED ON NOVEMBER 4, 1977.

NOTICES FOR THE REMOVAL OF THE VERANDAHS WERE SERVED TODAY (MONDAY) ON THE OWNERS UNDER THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY (LAND RESUMPTION AND RELATED PROVISIONS) ORDINANCE.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE REMOVAL OF THE VERANDAHS OF THE ABOVE BUILDINGS WAS NECESSARY IN ORDER TO ALLOW FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF STATIONS AND TUNNELS ALONG THIS SECTION OF THE RAILWAY.

UNDER THE ORDINANCE, OWNERS OF ANY BUILDING MAY BE REQUIRED TO REMOVE ANY OBJECT OR STRUCTURE WHICH IS ATTACHED TO OR PROJECTS FROM THE BUILDING IF IT IS CONSIDERED NECESSARY FOR THE PURPOSE OF BUILDING THE RAILWAY, THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT. HE ADDED THAT SIMILAR MEASURES WERE TAKEN AGAINST A NUMBER OF BUILDINGS IN NATHAN ROAD IN CONNECTION WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MODIFIED INITIAL SYSTEM.

THE NOTICES SERVED TODAY WILL COME INTO FORCE AFTER 14 DAYS. IN DEFAULT OF THE REQUIREMENT OF THE NOTICES, THE GOVERNMENT WILL CARRY OUT THE DEMOLITION WORK SOME TIME NEXT YEAR. IN SUCH CASES, GENUINE DOMESTIC OCCUPIERS OF THE VERANDAHS AFFECTED BY THE DEMOLITION ARE TO BE OFFERED ALTERNATIVE ACCOMMODATION IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES IF THEY ARE ELIGIBLE. THEY WILL ALSO RECEIVE EX-GRATIA PAYMENT IF THEY ARE MOVED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

THE SPOKESMAN ADVISED PEOPLE LIKELY TO BE AFFECTED TO APPROACH THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE, SHAM SHUI PO, FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE IN THE FIRST INSTANCE.

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NO ROOM FOR +QUEUE-JUMPING+ IN PUBLIC HOUSING
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FROM TIME TO TIME, GROUPS OF PEOPLE ATTEMPT TO +JUMP THE QUEUE+ AND GET INTO PUBLIC HOUSING WITHOUT GOING THROUGH THE PROCEDURES EVERYBODY ELSE HAS TO ABIDE BY.

THE DIRECTOR OF HOUSING, MR. DONALD LIAO, SAID THIS TODAY IN A LUNCHEON SPEECH TO THE ASSOCIATION OF PAST CHAIRMEN OF THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS.

MR. LIAO SAID SUCH ATTEMPTED QUEUE-JUMPING COULD NOT BE PERMITTED SINCE NOT ONLY WOULD IT THROW THE GOVERNMENT'S CLEARANCE PROGRAMME OUT OF BALANCE, AFFECTING SUCH BIG PROJECTS AS THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY, BUT ALSO IT WOULD BE QUITE UNFAIR TO OTHER PEOPLE WAITING PATIENTLY IN THEIR RIGHTFUL PLACES IN THE QUEUE.

REVIEWING THE WORK OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY, TO WHICH THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT WORKS AS ITS EXECUTIVE ARM, MR. LIAO GAVE DETAILS OF THE BREAK-DOWN OF WORKLOAD TO THE VARIOUS COMMITTEES SUPERVISING SPECIALIST SECTORS OF PUBLIC HOUSING SUCH AS MANAGEMENT, OPERATIONS, THE BUILDING PROGRAMME, FINANCE, APPEALS AND THE HOME OWNERSHIP COMMITTEE.

CONCERNING HOME OWNERSHIP, MR. LIAO SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME HAD GRIPPED THE IMAGINATION OF THE LESS PROSPEROUS MAJORITY OF OUR POPULATION SINCE IT HELD OUT TO THEM THE VERY REAL HOPE OF A HOME OF THEIR OWN VIRTUALLY AT COST PRICE.

HE SAID: +ALREADY PREPARATIONS ARE WELL ADVANCED FOR THE FIRST SIX HOME OWNERSHIP SITES, PILING WORK HAS STARTED AT SOME AND APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE CALLED IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF NEXT YEAR.+

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SURVEY OF RENTAL MOVEMENTS

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THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT WILL SHORTLY CONDUCT A SURVEY TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ON RENTAL MOVEMENTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT'S 1978 PROPERTY REVIEW.

THE SURVEY WILL BE CONDUCTED BY QUESTIONNAIRE, COPIES OF WHICH WILL BE SENT TO ABOUT 1,000 SELECTED TENANTS ON WEDNESDAY (NOVEMBER 30).

THE COMMISSIONER OF RATING AND VALUATION, MR. RAYMOND FRY, SAID TODAY THE COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS OF SUCH INFORMATION WAS OF CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE TO THE GOVERNMENT, AND HE URGED TENANTS RECEIVING THE QUESTIONNAIRE TO CO-OPERATE BY COMPLETING ALL QUESTIONS FULLY AND ACCURATELY AND RETURNING THEM AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

MR. FRY EMPHASISED THAT THE QUESTIONNAIRE WAS NOT A STATUTORY FORM AND WOULD BE DESTROYED ONCE THE STATISTICAL INFORMATION HAD BEEN RECORDED.

THE QUESTIONNAIRE COMPRISES ONLY FIVE SIMPLE QUESTIONS CONCERNING RENTALS AND MAY BE ANSWERED EITHER IN CHINESE OR ENGLISH. THE COMPLETED FORM MAY BE RETURNED TO THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT IN THE ENCLOSED PRE-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE.

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SAI KUNG FLATS FOR SALE

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THE GOVERNMENT WILL AUCTION ANOTHER 15 DOMESTIC FLATS IN SAI KUNG TOWN ON WEDNESDAY (NOVEMBER 30).

AS IN THE PREVIOUS AUCTIONS, BUYERS WILL HAVE THE OPTION OF PAYING HALF OF THE PURCHASE PRICE BY ANNUAL INSTALMENTS.

THE AUCTION IS THE THIRD IN A SERIES TO SELL THE 692-SQUARE-FOOT FLATS IN MODERN FIVE-STORY BLOCKS BUILT PRIMARILY TO REHOUSE LOCAL VILLAGERS AFFECTED BY THE HIGH ISLAND WATER SCHEME.

THE FIRST TWO AUCTIONS HELD EARLIER THIS YEAR SAW 14 FLATS GOING UNDER THE HAMMER FOR OVER \$1.9 MILLION. IN THE LAST AUCTION, FLATS WERE SOLD AT PRICES RANGING FROM \$136,000 TO \$153,000.

THE 15 FLATS TO BE AUCTIONED ARE ON EITHER THE THIRD OR FOURTH FLOORS, EXCEPT ONE WHICH IS ON THE SECOND FLOOR. TWELVE ARE IN MAN NIN STREET AND THREE IN YI CHUN STREET.

ALL SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO PAY A DEPOSIT OF \$10,000 AFTER THE FALL OF THE HAMMER.

THEN WITHIN ONE CALENDER MONTH OF THE SALE, THEY CAN PAY EITHER THE FULL PURCHASE PRICE, OR HALF OF THE PRICE PLUS THE FIRST OF 10 EQUAL ANNUAL INSTALMENTS FOR THE REMAINING HALF.

BUYERS OPTING FOR INSTALMENT PAYMENT CANNOT ASSIGN, UNDERLET OR ENTER INTO ANY AGREEMENT TO DISPOSE OF THE FLATS UNTIL THEY HAVE PAID THE WHOLE AMOUNT OF THE PURCHASE PRICE.

THE AUCTION WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY AT 3 P.M. AT THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE IN THE SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 692, PRINCE EDWARD ROAD, KOWLOON.

COPIES OF THE SALE CONDITIONS CAN BE OBTAINED AND THE PLAN INSPECTED AT ALL DISTRICT OFFICES AND AT THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION HEADQUARTERS, 101 PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD, KOWLOON.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE AUCTION ON WEDNESDAY (NOVEMBER 30) AT 3 P.M. AT THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE IN SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 692, PRINCE EDWARD ROAD, KOWLOON.

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1977

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

SNT TO ATTEND SCHOOL SPEECH DAY
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THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR. DAVID AKERS-JONES, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE SPEECH DAY OF THE SHA TIN SECONDARY SCHOOL AT 6 P.M. TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

THE SCHOOL IS AT THE 8-1/2 MILESTONE, TAI PO ROAD NEAR THE SHA TIN GOVERNMENT CLINIC.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO COVER THE EVENT.

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APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF REGISTERED PARTICULARS
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THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS OFFICE ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT FROM THURSDAY (DECEMBER 1), MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO APPLY FOR CERTIFICATES OF REGISTERED PARTICULARS MAY GO TO THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:

HONG KONG OFFICE

CAUSEWAY BAY MAGISTRACY BUILDING, 3RD FLOOR=

KOWLOON BRANCH OFFICE

CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 2ND FLOOR, YAU MA TEI= AND

TSUEN WAN BRANCH OFFICE

FAR EAST BANK BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, CASTLE PEAK ROAD,
TSUEN WAN.

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1977

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN YAU MA TEI
AND SHAU KEI WAN
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NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE INTRODUCED IN WOO SUNG STREET, YAU MA TEI, FROM WEDNESDAY (NOVEMBER 30) TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW THERE.

AS FROM 10 A.M. ON THAT DAY, A PUBLIC LIGHT BUS CLEARWAY, FROM 7 A.M. TO 7 P.M. DAILY, WILL BE IN FORCE IN THE SECTION OF WOO SUNG STREET BETWEEN KANSU STREET AND PAK HOI STREET.

AT THE SAME TIME, A TAXI STAND WILL BE SET UP ON THE WEST SIDE OF WOO SUNG STREET, NEAR ITS JUNCTION WITH PAK HOI STREET.

MEANWHILE, ON THE HONG KONG ISLAND, PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM PICKING UP OR SETTING DOWN PASSENGERS IN THE SECTION OF SAI WAN HO STREET BETWEEN SHING ON STREET AND TAI NING STREET IN SHAU KEI WAN FROM 7 A.M. TO MIDNIGHT DAILY AS FROM 10 A.M. ON THURSDAY (DECEMBER 1).

THE RESTRICTION IS TO FACILITATE CABLE LAYING WORK IN THE AREA AND WILL LAST FOR ABOUT TWO MONTHS.

APPROPRIATE SIGNS WILL BE SET UP IN THE TWO AREAS TO INDICATE THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS.

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