DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

MONDAY, MAY 5, 1980

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GOVERNMENT ACCEPTS STANDARDS TESTING PROPOSALS

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RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON DIVERSIFICATION CONCERNING QUALITY CERTIFICATION, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PRIMARY STANDARDS LABORATORY AND A SYSTEM FOR THE ACCREDITATION AND SUPERVISION OF SECONDARY LEVEL CALIBRATION LABORATORIES HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE BY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT.

THIS WAS REVEALED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS, MR BILL DORWARD WHEN HE OPENED THE 7TH MEETING OF THE PACIFIC AREA STANDARDS CONGRESS HOSTED BY THE HONG KONG STANDARDS AND TESTING CENTRE.

MR DORWARD POINTED OUT TO THE DELEGATES THAT IN ITS REPORT, THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE NOTED THAT HONG KONG PRODUCTS WERE INCREASINGLY SUBJECT TO OVERSEAS REQUIREMENTS TO MEET CERTAIN SPECIFICATIONS IN RESPECT OF STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE AND QUALITY, AND CONSUMER SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

+IT CONCLUDED THAT HONG KONG'S EFFORTS TO MOVE UP-MARKET MIGHT BE INHIBITED BY THE LACK OF TECHNICAL BACK-UP SERVICES FOR MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES AS A WHOLE.

+SUCH SERVICES WOULD INCLUDE THE TESTING OF MATERIALS, COMPONENTS AND PRODUCTS, THE QUALITY CERTIFICATION OF FINISHED PRODUCTS AND THE CALIBRATION OF MEASURING INSTRUMENTS AND SYSTEMS,+ HE SAID.

THE COMMITTEE HAD RECOMMENDED THAT A PRIMARY STANDARDS LABORATORY SHOULD AIM TO ESTABLISH COMPARABILITY OF HONG KONG PRIMARY STANDARDS WITH THOSE ESTABLISHED ELSEWHERE, AND TO DEVELOP A SYSTEM FOR THE ACCREDITATION AND SUPERVISION OF SECONDARY LEVEL CALIBRATION LABORATORIES.

COMMENTING ON THIS RECOMMENDATION, MR DORWARD SAID WE STILL HAD A LONG WAY TO GO, +BUT AS A FIRST STEP, IT IS OUR INTENTION SHORTLY TO ESTABLISH AN ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC CALIBRATION LABORATORY TO PROVIDE A SERVICE OF ACCEPTABLE STANDARDS TO BOTH INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENT.+

+IN HONG KONG THERE HAS BEEN RELATIVELY LITTLE GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT IN THE FIELD OF STANDARDS, EXCEPT IN THOSE AREAS SUCH AS FOOD AND DRUGS WHERE HEALTH AND SAFETY REASONS JUSTIFY SUCH INVOLVEMENT,+ HE SAID.

THE REPORT ALSO RECOMMENDED TO THE GOVERNMENT THE BUILDING OF AN IMPROVED AND A MORE CLEARLY INDEPENDENT RANGE OF QULAITY CERTIFICATION SERVICES THAN PRESENTLY EXIST.

IN SO DOING, IT RECOGNISED THE FOUNDATION ALREADY SUPPLIED BY THE PRIVATE SECTOR, PARTICULARLY THE HONG KONG STANDARDS AND TESTING CENTRE AND THE LABORATORY NOW BEING DEVELOPED BY THE CHINESE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION.

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+AS A FIRST STEP TOWARDS IMPLEMENTING THIS RECOMMENDATION, WE ARE ABOUT TO CONDUCT A SURVEY OF ALL PRIVATE SECTOR FACILITIES WHICH CURRENTLY EXIST IN HONG KONG.

+THE RESULTS OF THAT SURVEY WILL BE EVALUATED BY A SOON-TO-BE ESTABLISHED INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD WHICH WILL BE CHARGED WITH DETERMINING, IN SPECIFIC TERMS, WHAT MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE AND ADVISING THE GOVERNMENT ON THE EXTENT, IF ANY, TO WHICH PUBLIC FUNDS MAY BE REQUIRED TO AUGMENT THE PRESENT FACILITIES,+ MR DORWARD SAID.

HE PAID TRIBUTE TO THE PIONEERING WORK DONE BY THE HONG KONG STANDARDS AND TESTING CENTRE AND THEIR EFFORTS IN REPRESENTING HONG KONG INTERESTS IN INTERNATIONAL BODIES. +BY AND LARGE, THE TASK OF STANDARD DEVELOPMENT AND QUALITY CERTIFICATION HAS BEEN LEFT TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR LABORATORIES+, HE EXPLAINED.

+THIS LACK OF DIRECT GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT DOES NOT REFLECT LACK OF INTEREST OR APPRECIATION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SUBJECT. OUR EXPORT-ORIENTED ECONOMY MAKES US ACUTELY AWARE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING INFORMED ON AND ABLE TO MEET PRODUCT STANDARD REQUIREMENTS IN OUR OVERSEAS MARKETS.

+ITS COMPARATIVE LACK OF INVOLVEMENT OTHERWISE HAS BEEN A REFLECTION OF OUR BASIC PHILOSOPHY, WHICH IS THAT GOVERNMENT INVOLVES ITSELF IN THE PROVISION OF INDUSTRIAL SUPPORT FACILITIES ONLY WHEN A CASE HAS BEEN MADE TO SHOW THAT THE ECONOMY REQUIRES SUCH FACILITIES AND THAT THE PRIVATE SECTOR CANNOT, OR IS UNLIKELY TO BE ABLE TO, PROVIDE THEM AS EFFICIENTLY AND CONVENIENTLY AS GOVERNMENT,+ HE SAID, QUOTING THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT.

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YOUNG MUSICIANS GET INTERNATIONAL EXPOSURE

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YOUNG MUSICIANS FROM HONG KONG WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO WIDEN THEIR HORIZON WHEN THEY GO ON AN OVERSEAS TOUR THIS SUMMER.

ANNOUNCING DETAILS OF THE TOUR TODAY, THE RECENTLY APPOINTED COMMISSIONER FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR BARRIE WIGGHAM, EXPLAINED THAT HONG KONG'S YOUTH ORCHESTRAS HAD BEEN INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FIRST COMMONWEALTH FILM AND TELEVISION FESTIVAL AND ARTS FESTIVAL, IN CYPRUS, AS WELL AS THE ISRAEL ARTS FESTIVAL IN AUGUST THIS YEAR.

+THIS WILL BE A MARVELLOUS EXPERIENCE FOR OUR YOUNG MUSICIANS,+ COMMENTED MR WIGGHAM. +THEY WILL BE PERFORMING AGAINST A HIGHLY INTERNATIONAL BACKGROUND IN BOTH FESTIVALS AND WILL DO MUCH TO PROJECT THE IMAGE OF HONG KONG AS A CULTURAL CENTRE FOR THE FAR EAST.+

APART FROM GIVING PERFORMANCES IN THE TWO FESTIVALS, THE YOUNG MUSICIANS WILL ALSO ATTEND AN INTENSIVE TRAINING COURSE IN ISRAEL, ARRANGED BY THE WORLD-RENOWNED VIOLINIST ISAAC STERN. ALEXANDER SCHNEIDER WILL BE THE COURSE DIRECTOR.

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+IN MANY WAYS THIS IS JUST AS EXCITING AS THE INVITATION TO TAKE PART IN THE TWO FESTIVALS,+ SAID MR WIGGHAM. +OUR STUDENTS WILL BE GETTING THE BEST INSTRUCTION, IN ONE OF THE BEST EQUIPPED MUSIC ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE WORLD, THE JERUSALEM MUSIC CENTRE.+ A FURTHER INTENSIVE COURSE IS BEING ARRANGED IN TEL AVIV UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE RESIDENT CONDUCTOR OF THE ISRAEL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA, SHALOM RONLY-RIKLIS.

IT IS INTENDED TO SEND TWO ENSEMBLES ON THE TOUR, ONE TO BE FORMED BY 22 OUTSTANDING YOUNG STRING PLAYERS AND THE OTHER BY 12 YOUNG CHINESE MUSICIANS. A SMALL CONTINGENT OF DANCERS, ARRANGED THROUGH THE HONG KONG SCHOOLS DANCE ASSOCIATION, WILL ALSO TAKE PART IN THIS TOUR.

THE MUSIC OFFICE OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DIVISION IS INVITING APPLICATIONS FROM YOUNG MUSICIANS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TOUR.

THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR, MRS ELIZABETH WONG, SAID APPLICATION FORMS WOULD BE AVAILABLE THROUGH HER OFFICE AND THROUGH THE SCHOOLS ALREADY INVOLVED IN THE GOVERNMENT'S INSTRUMENTAL TRAINING SCHEME.

+SELECTION WILL BE MADE THROUGH AUDITION,+ SHE EXPLAINED, +SINCE IT IS OBVIOUSLY IMPORTANT THAT WE HAVE THE BEST OF OUR TALENT TO REPRESENT HONG KONG.+

THE COMMONWEALTH FILM AND TELEVISION FESTIVAL AND ARTS FESTIVAL IN CYPRUS IS THE FIRST OF ITS KIND EVER TO BE HELD. IT AIMS TO PROMOTE THE ARTS, FILM AND TELEVISION, AND TO ENCOURAGE CO-OPERATION AND UNDERSTANDING AMONG THE PEOPLE OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

THE OPENING CEREMONY FOR THE FESTIVAL, WHICH WILL BE GIVEN CONSIDERABLE COVERAGE THROUGHOUT THE COMMONWEALTH, WILL TAKE PLACE IN A MAGNIFICENT OPEN-AIR ROMAN AMPHITHEATRE AT CURIUM, OVERLOOKING THE MEDITERRANEAN.

THE ISRAEL ARTS FESTIVAL, WHICH PRESENTS PERFORMANCES IN VARIOUS CENTRES THROUGHOUT ISRAEL, HAS ESTABLISHED ITSELF AS A FOREMOST MUSICAL AND CULTURAL EVENT FOR INTERNATIONAL MUSICIANS AND A GATHERING PLACE FOR ARTISTS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD.

THE COMING VISIT WILL BRING TOGETHER YOUNG MUSICIANS OF HONG KONG WITH EMINENT ISRAELI MUSICIANS, MUSICOLOGISTS AND TEACHERS. CONSIDERABLE BENEFIT WILL BE ACHIEVED FROM THE EXCHANGE OF IDEAS AND TECHNIQUES WITH ARTISTS WORKING AT THE JERUSALEM MUSIC CENTRE.

AS PART OF THE EXCHANGE AT THE CENTRE, SEMINARS ON CHINESE MUSIC AND MUSICOLOGY WILL BE CONDUCTED IN THE RUBIN ACADEMY OF MUSIC IN JERUSALEM, THE JERUSALEM FOUNDATION AND THE JERUSALEM THEATRE.

THE TOUR WILL LAST ONE MONTH AND HONG KONG'S YOUNG MUSICIANS WILL BE PERFORMING IN SOME 20 CONCERTS IN THE TWO FESTIVALS. THEY ARE EXPECTED TO RETURN TO HONG KONG IN EARLY SEPTEMBER.

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DEVELOPMENT PLANNING FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES
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BALANCED DEVELOPMENT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE, AND CANNOT BE EXPECTED AT EVERY STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT IN EVERY DISTRICT OF THE NEW TERRITORIES, THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR AUGUSTINE CHUI KAM, SAID TODAY (MONDAY) AT A MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THERE ARE ALWAYS UNFORESEEABLE AND UNCONTROLLABLE FACTORS WHICH WILL GIVE RISE TO TEMPORARY IMBALANCES, HE EXPLAINED.

LOOKED AT FROM THE LONG TERM POINT OF VIEW, HOWEVER, ALL THE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WERE LARGELY ACHIEVING THEIR GOALS, HE SAID.

MR CHUI SAID DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW TERRITORIES WAS PLAYING A VERY IMPORTANT AND SPECIAL ROLE IN THE OVERALL DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG.

+AS GOVERNMENT HAS DETERMINED TO ACTIVELY OPEN UP AREAS OUTSIDE HONG KONG ISLAND AND KOWLOON PENINSULA TO PROVIDE NEW HOMES FOR THE EVER-INCREASING POPULATION, PUBLIC HOUSING SCHEMES ARE INCLUDED IN THE DEVELOPMENT PLANS OF THE NEW TOWNS.

+AT PRESENT, SIX NEW TOWNS AND TWO INDUSTRIAL ESTATES ARE BEING BUILT. UNDER CURRENT DEVELOPMENT PLANS, THE TOTAL POPULATION OF THE NEW TERRITORIES WILL INCREASE FROM ABOUT ONE MILLION TO TWO-AND-A-HALF MILLION IN 1980'S, WITH MORE THAN HALF OF THE PEOPLE LIVING IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES,+ HE SAID.

THERE WERE ALSO PLANS TO REDEVELOP THE VILLAGE TOWNS OF MUI WO, TAI O, CHEUNG CHAU AND SAI KUNG.

+MOREOVER, THE GOVERNMENT IS TRYING TO ESTABLISH SUFFICIENT COMMUNICATION NETWORKS BETWEEN THE NEW TOWNS AND THE OLD CITIES,+ MR CHUI SAID.

FOR EXAMPLE, THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY WAS LINKING TSUEN WAN WITH KOWLOON, THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY WOULD BE ELECTRIFIED AND THE TUEN MUN HIGHWAY PROJECT HAD ALREADY ENTERED THE SECOND PHASE.

CONSTRUCTION OF A ROAD ALONG THE SHA TIN COAST WOULD START EARLY NEXT YEAR. A ROAD PROJECT BETWEEN TUEN MUN AND SHA TIN AND A LIGHT RAIL SYSTEM LINKING TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG WERE BEING CONSIDERED.

THESE MASSIVE PROJECTS HELP BOTH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PUBLIC HOUSING PLANS AND OVERALL DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW TERRITORIES. +FIRSTLY, THEY PROVIDE BASIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES FOR THE PUBLIC HOUSING PLANS= SECONDLY, THEY MAINTAIN A BALANCED DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW TOWNS= AND THIRDLY, THEY IMPROVE THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT AND THUS ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO LEAVE THE CROWDED CITIES OF HONG KONG AND KOWLOON TO LIVE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES,+ HE SAID.

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FREE LEGAL ADVICE OBTAINABLE IN NT

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THE FREE LEGAL ADVICE SCHEME, INTRODUCED BY THE LAW SOCIETY IN THE URBAN AREA IN NOVEMBER, 1978, WILL BE EXTENDED TO THE WESTERN PART OF THE NEW TERRITORIES.

A LEGAL ADVICE CENTRE WILL BE SET UP ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF THE TSUEN WAN TOWN MANAGEMENT OFFICE, CHUEN KING BUILDING, 93 HOI PA STREET, TSUEN WAN, FROM MAY 20 (TUESDAY).

THE CENTRE WILL SERVE TSUEN WAN, KWAI CHUNG, TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG. IT WILL BE MANNED BY TWO LAWYERS EVERY TUESDAY EVENING FROM 6.30 TO 9.30 PM.

A NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION SPOKESMAN SAID MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO SEEK LEGAL ADVICE SHOULD APPROACH THEIR LOCAL DISTRICT OFFICE OR PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE WHERE APPLICATION FORMS WOULD BE AVAILABLE.

ALSO AVAILABLE WILL BE A LEAFLET GIVING DETAILS OF THE SCHEME AND AN APPOINTMENT CARD SHOWING THE LOCATION OF THE CENTRE.

STAFF AT THESE PLACES WILL TAKE DOWN DETAILS OF THEIR CASES AND MAKE APPOINTMENTS FOR THEM WITH THE LAWYERS.

THE LAWYERS WILL ADVISE THEM ON STEPS WHICH MAY BE TAKEN, BUT CANNOT REPRESENT THEM IN COURT. THEIR CASES HOWEVER MAY BE REFERRED TO THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID HE WAS PLEASED THAT THE LAW SOCIETY HAD BEEN ABLE TO EXTEND THE SERVICE TO THE NEW TERRITORIES AND WAS SURE THAT THE PUBLIC WOULD MAKE FULL USE OF THIS LATEST COMMUNITY FACILITY.

THE LAW SOCIETY WILL ALSO BE OPENING A NEW CENTRE IN WAN CHAI ON MAY 20. IT ALREADY OPERATES THREE OTHER CENTRES AT MONG KOK, WONG TAI SIN AND EASTERN DISTRICT. MORE THAN 170 LAWYERS ARE PARTICIPATING IN THE SCHEME WHICH HAS HANDLED 2 493 CASES SINCE IT BEGAN OPERATION.

THE SCHEME IS EXPECTED TO BE FURTHER EXTENDED TO THE EASTERN HALF OF THE NEW TERRITORIES NEXT YEAR.

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FESTIVAL EXCITEMENT IN YUEN LONG

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MORE THAN 7 000 PEOPLE FROM 36 ORGANISATIONS WILL TAKE PART IN THIS YEAR'S TIN HAU FESTIVAL PROCESSION TO BE HELD IN YUEN LONG ON WEDNESDAY (MAY 7).

ANOTHER 50 000 PEOPLE IN YUEN LONG STADIUM AND ALONG THE ROUTE ARE EXPECTED TO WATCH THE PROCESSION, WHICH WILL BE OFFICIATED BY THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES.

A MEDLEY OF FLOATS AND PERFORMANCES WILL BE ON PARADE, INCLUDING FOUR GOLDEN DRAGONS, TWO SILVER DRAGONS, FOUR UNICORNS AND A NUMBER OF SOUTHERN AND NORTHERN LIONS.

THERE WILL ALSO BE PERFORMANCES OF CHIU CHOW GONGS AND DRUMS, LANTERN-BEAUTY TROUPES AND TRADITIONAL CHINESE FOLK DANCES AND MUSIC.

THE EVENT, ORGANISED BY SHAP PAT HEUNG RURAL COMMITTEE, IS TO CELEBRATE THE BIRTHDAY OF TIN HAU (THE QUEEN OF HEAVEN).

THE PROCESSION WILL SET OFF FROM EASTERN BUS TERMINUS AT 10.30 AM, ARRIVING AT YUEN LONG STADIUM VIA FUNG CHEUNG, CASTLE PEAK AND TAI YUK ROADS.

IT WILL TAKE ABOUT ONE AND A HALF HOURS TO PASS THROUGH THE STADIUM BEFORE 4 000 INVITED GUESTS.

IT WILL THEN MAKE ITS WAY TO THE TIN HAU TEMPLE AT TAI SHUE HA WHERE RELIGIOUS CEREMONIES WILL TAKE PLACE.

THE TRADITIONAL +FA PAU+ DRAW WILL BE HELD AT 4 PM.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND YOUR REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE TIN HAU FESTIVAL PROCESSION AT YUEN LONG STADIUM BEGINNING AT ABOUT 11.30 AM ON WEDNESDAY (MAY 7). TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED. TWO GOVERNMENT VEHICLES, AM 2088 AND AM 3214, WILL LEAVE KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER AT 9.45 AM SHARP FOR YUEN LONG. SPECIAL BADGES FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION FROM THE GIS DUTY OFFICER.

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OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN A TRADE
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THERE ARE OPPORTUNITIES FOR BOTH CRAFT AND TECHNICIAN APPRENTICESHIPS IN HONG KONG'S TEN MAJOR INDUSTRIES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

+THE TRAINING COUNCIL DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OFFERS A PLACEMENT SERVICE TO ANY SUITABLY QUALIFIED YOUNG PERSON WHO WISHES TO PURSUE A CAREER IN INDUSTRY THROUGH AN APPRENTICESHIP,+ HE SAID.

VACANCIES EXIST IN AUTOMOBILE REPAIRS AND SERVICING, BUILDING AND CIVIL ENGINEERING, CLOTHING, ELECTRICAL WORK, ELECTRONICS, MACHINE SHOP AND METAL WORKING, PLASTICS, PRINTING, SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP REPAIRS, AND TEXTILES.

DURING THE APPRENTICESHIP, NORMALLY LASTING FOUR YEARS, APPRENTICES RECEIVE ON-THE-JOB TRAINING PROVIDED BY THEIR EMPLOYERS AND AT THE SAME TIME ATTEND RELATED TECHNICAL EDUCATION ON A ONE DAY AND TWO EVENINGS PER WEEK BASIS, IN EITHER A TECHNICAL INSTITUTE OR THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

ENTRY REQUIREMENT FOR CRAFT APPRENTICESHIP IS COMPLETION OF FORM THREE AND FOR TECHNICIAN APPRENTICESHIP COMPLETION OF FORM FIVE WITH PASSES IN FOUR RELEVANT SUBJECTS IN THE CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION.

ON COMPLETION OF THE APPRENTICESHIP, THE APPRENTICES WILL BE AWARDED CERTIFICATES BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR RECOGNISING THEIR COMPETENCY IN THE TRADE OR OCCUPATION THEY HAD CHOSEN.

THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT ANY SUITABLY QUALIFIED YOUNGSTER INTERESTED IN AN APPRENTICESHIP WOULD BE WELCOME TO ENQUIRE AT THE TRAINING COUNCIL DIVISION OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT. IT IS ON THE 12TH FLOOR OF ASIAN HOUSE AT 1 HENNESSY ROAD, WANCHAI, HONG KONG.

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HOSPITAL DIRECTORS REVEAL WELFARE PLANS

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PLANS TO EXPAND CHILD CARE SERVICES TO THE NEW TOWNS WERE REVEALED BY DIRECTORS OF YAN CHAI HOSPITAL DURING THEIR COURTESY CALL ON THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR THOMAS LEE TODAY.

THE VISITORS, LED BY THEIR CHAIRMAN, MRS IVY WU, WERE RECEIVED BY MR LEE AND SENIOR OFFICIALS OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT AT THE DEPARTMENT'S HEADQUARTERS IN WORLD TRADE CENTRE, CAUSEWAY BAY.

DURING DISCUSSIONS, MRS WU OUTLINED PLANS FOR THREE NEW CHILD CARE CENTRES TO BE OPENED BY THE HOSPITAL IN TUEN MUN AND SHA TIN TO HELP WORKING PARENTS.

SHE ALSO GAVE DETAILS OF PROJECTS THEY WERE PLANNING FOR THE ELDERLY, INCLUDING A CARE AND ATTENTION HOME IN KWAI CHUNG,AND THREE HOSTELS, IN TUEN MUN, SHA TIN AND TSING YI.

MR LEE PRAISED THE DIRECTORS FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS, PARTICULARLY IN THE EXTENSION OF THEIR SCOPE OF SERVICE TO COVER THE NEEDS OF OLD PEOPLE.

HE ASSURED THEM THE DEPARTMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO SUPPORT WORTHWHILE WELFARE PROJECTS.

THE DISCUSSIONS WERE FOLLOWED BY A TOUR OF THE DEPARTMENT'S OFFICES.

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ROAD SAFETY DESIGN COMPETITION

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STUDENTS, ESPECIALLY MEMBERS OF COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUBS, ARE INVITED TO JOIN A ROAD SAFETY POSTER DESIGN COMPETITION ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION AND INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENTS.

THE COMPETITION AIMS TO AROUSE THEIR AWARENESS OF PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AND TO PROMOTE PUBLIC CONCERN ABOUT ROAD SAFETY.

THERE WILL BE A JUNIOR DIVISION FOR PRIMARY AND A SENIOR DIVISION FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS.

PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED IN THE FORM OF BOOK AND STATIONERY TOKENS.

FIRST PRIZE IS WORTH $250 IN TOKENS, THE SECOND PRIZE $150 AND THE THIRD PRIZE $100. WINNERS WILL ALSO GET A QUARTZ WATCH.

THERE WILL ALSO BE TEN OTHER PRIZES OF $50 EACH PLUS A SOUVENIR.

ADDITIONALLY, TEN SPECIAL PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED TO SCHOOLS WHICH SUBMIT THE LARGEST NUMBER OF ENTRIES.

ANY NUMBER OF DESIGN MAY BE SUBMITTED BY ONE STUDENT. THE POSTER SIZE MUST BE 42 CM BY 59 CM. DESIGNS SHOULD BE SELF-EXPLANATORY, AND THEIR WORDINGS SHOULD BE KEPT TO A MINIMUM.

HEADS OF SCHOOLS SHOULD SEND ALL POSTERS TO THE COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB SECRETARIAT, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AT CAROLINE MANSION, 4TH FLOOR, 8 YAN PING ROAD, CAUSEWAY BAY, HONG KONG BEFORE MAY 23.

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MAXICAB ROUTE WITHDRAWN

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A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT KOWLOON MAXICAB ROUTE NO 2 BETWEEN WATERLOO HILL AND TSIM SHA TSUI WILL STOP TO RUN FROM WEDNESDAY (MAY 7).

A NOTICE WILL BE DISPLAYED AT THE END STOPS TO INFORM PASSENGERS.

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