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AIRPORT PROJECT VITAL FOR OUR FUTURE WELL-BEING

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IN THE ON-GOING DEBATE ABOUT THE INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME, ONE MUST NOT LOSE SIGHT OF THE PARAMOUNT NEED TO MAINTAIN HONG KONG'S COMPETITIVE EDGE AS A MAJOR INTERNATIONAL TRADING, FINANCIAL AND SERVICE CENTRE.

THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MRS ANSON CHAN MADE THESE REMARKS TODAY (SATURDAY) AT A PUBLIC SEMINAR ON ISSUES RELATING TO HONG KONG'S NEW INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT REPLACEMENT PROJECT.

"TRADE IS OUR LIFE BLOOD. WE MUST HAVE THE ABILITY TO MOVE GOODS AND PEOPLE IN AND OUT OF HONG KONG QUICKLY AND EFFICIENTLY.

"WITH AIR TRAVEL SET TO CONTINUE ITS STRONG GROWTH PARTICULARLY IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION AND WITH MORE AND MORE OF OUR GOODS GOING BY AIR, WE NEED TO HAVE AN AIRPORT OF INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS IF OUR ECONOMY IS TO CONTINUE TO GROW AND IF WE ARE TO REMAIN AS THE MAJOR CONDUIT FOR TRADE IN SOUTHERN CHINA.

"THE GOVERNMENT HAS PUT TOGETHER AN INTEGRATED AND COHESIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME AFTER EXTENSIVE STUDIES, WHICH WE BELIEVE WILL MEET BOTH HONG KONG AND SOUTHERN CHINA'S MEDIUM AND LONGER TERM NEEDS IN THE MOST COST-EFFECTIVE MANNER," SHE SAID.

EMPHASISING THAT THE MANY POINTS OF VIEW EXPRESSED ON THE STRATEGY WHICH THE GOVERNMENT HAS ADOPTED WOULD BE NOTED AND CONSIDERED, MRS CHAN SAID THE TIME FOR USEFUL DISCUSSION ON THE MAIN ELEMENTS OF THE STRATEGY HAS, TO A CERTAIN EXTENT, ALREADY PASSED.

"WE ARE ALREADY IN AN IMPLEMENTATION PHASE. USEFUL DISCUSSION NEEDS TO FOCUS ON THE MANY PROBLEMS WE FACE WITH IMPLEMENTATION," SHE SAID.

THE MATTER NOW IN HAND IS HOW, AND NOT WHETHER, THE AGREED STRATEGY SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED, MRS CHAN ADDED.

'HOW' IS A VERY BIG QUESTION. IT IS ONE WHICH WE LOOK FORWARD TO DISCUSSING WITH A TEAM OF CHINESE EXPERTS WHO ARE EXPECTED TO ARRIVE IN HONG KONG THIS MONTH, SHE SAID.

"THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT IS CONCERNED TO BE KEPT INFORMED AND IS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED TO BE REASSURED THAT THE SAR (SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION) GOVERNMENT WILL BE ABLE TO COPE WITH THE FINANCIAL BURDEN OF SUCH AN ENORMOUS UNDERTAKING," MRS CHAN SAID.

SHE SAID THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT FULLY UNDERSTOOD THIS CONCERN AND IS LOOKING FORWARD TO DISCUSSING IT WITH THE CHINESE EXPERTS.

SHE SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAS ALWAYS FOLLOWED AN EXTREMELY PRUDENT BUDGETARY POLICY AND WOULD CONTINUE TO DO SO.

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"WE DO NOT EMBARK ON PROJECTS WE CANNOT AFFORD. WE TOOK A DECISION TO PROCEED HAVING REGARD TO THE SOUNDNESS OF OUR FINANCIAL POSITION BOTH NOW AND IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS (OUR FISCAL RESERVES EXCEED HK$70 BILLION QUITE APART FROM THE SAR LAND FUND WHICH WILL FORM PART OF THE SAR RESERVES). WE ALSO TOOK INTO ACCOUNT PROJECTED REVENUE FROM AIRPORT OPERATIONS.

"COST IS A CONCERN SHARED BY ALL. IN IMPLEMENTING THE PROJECT WE WOULD STRIVE TO KEEP THE OVERALL COSTS DOWN CONSISTENT WITH AN EFFICIENT AIRPORT MEETING INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS," SHE SAID.

AT THE SAME TIME, WE WOULD ENCOURAGE THE MAXIMUM PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION BOTH TO KEEP THE GOVERNMENT COSTS TO THE MINIMUM AND TO INTRODUCE THE COMMERCIAL DISCIPLINES AND EFFICIENCIES OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

"CHINESE SUPPORT FOR THE AIRPORT PROJECT WOULD OBVIOUSLY IMPROVE INVESTORS' CONFIDENCE. CONVERSELY, A LACK OF SUPPORT WOULD MAKE IT HARDER TO RAISE INTERNATIONAL FINANCE AND, THEREFORE, INCREASE THE COSTS.

"I AM SURE THAT WE ALL SHARE A COMMON AIM TO GET THIS AIRPORT BUILT AS QUICKLY AND AS COST EFFECTIVELY AS POSSIBLE," SHE SAID.

EARLIER, MRS CHAN OUTLINED THE THOROUGH AND PROFESSIONAL APPROACH WHICH THE GOVERNMENT TOOK IN REACHING ITS DECISION TO PROCEED WITH THE CHEK LAP KOK AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY.

OVER 40 STRATEGIES HAD BEEN EXAMINED IN THE SEARCH FOR THE BEST OVERALL SOLUTION AND EACH STRATEGY WAS ASSESSED AGAINST FIVE MAIN PRIMARY GOALS: ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACTS, PROGRAMMING, FLEXIBILITY AND ROBUSTNESS, AND FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE.

MRS CHAN NOTED THAT SINCE THE ANNOUNCEMENT ALMOST A YEAR AGO OF THE GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO IMPLEMENT THE CHEK LAP KOK AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY, SOME DOUBTS HAVE BEEN EXPRESSED IN VARIOUS QUARTERS ABOUT ALL OR SOME PARTS OF IT.

AS A RESPONSIVE AND RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT, WE HAVE LISTENED VERY CAREFULLY TO THOSE EXPRESSIONS OF DOUBT, SHE SAID, ADDING THAT THE GOVERNMENT APPRECIATED THE SPIRIT IN WHICH THESE CRITICISMS HAVE BEEN MADE.

"IT IS GRATIFYING TO SEE THE CONCERN FOR THE WELL-BEING OF HONG KONG MOTIVATING LOCAL EXPERTS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO SPEND CONSIDERABLE TIME AND EFFORT IN STUDYING THESE VERY IMPORTANT ISSUES.

"IT IS IN RECOGNITION OF THE SPIRIT IN WHICH THESE CRITICISMS HAVE BEEN MADE THAT WE IN GOVERNMENT HAVE SPENT SOME TIME GIVING THEM FULL AND CAREFUL STUDY," SHE SAID.

"WE ARE ALL WORKING FOR THE SAME GOAL AND AN OPEN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS IS HELPFUL IN ENSURING THE BEST ROUTE IS TAKEN," MRS CHAN SAID.

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STEPS TO IMPROVE ATTRACTIVENESS OF TEACHING PROFESSION

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THE GOVERNMENT IS TAKING STEPS TO TACKLE THE PROBLEM OF TEACHER WASTAGE AND TO RESTORE THE ATTRACTIVENESS OF THE TEACHING PROFESSION, THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, MR K.Y. YEUNG, SAID THIS (SATURDAY) MORNING.

SPEAKING AT THE GRADUATION CEREMONY OF THE FACULTY OF EDUCATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, MR YEUNG POINTED OUT THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS CONSIDERING TWO MAIN SHORT-TERM MEASURES TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS OF SERVICE GENERALLY FOR TEACHERS IN GOVERNMENT AND AIDED SCHOOLS.

THE FIRST IS TO IMPROVE THE TEACHERS' PAY AND CAREER PROSPECTS, HE SAID, ADDING THAT IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE STANDING COMMISSION ON CIVIL SERVICE SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE ON PAY, STRUCTURE AND RELATED MATTERS CONCERNING ALL EDUCATION GRADES WILL MAKE ITS RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT BY THE END OF THIS YEAR.

"ANOTHER SHORT-TERM MEASURE THAT IS BEING CONSIDERED IS SPECIFICALLY FOR THE AIDED, RATHER THAN THE GOVERNMENT SECTOR," MR YEUNG SAID.

WHILE THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE AT PRESENT TO ACHIEVE COMPLETED PARITY OF TREATMENT FOR THE AIDED SCHOOL TEACHERS WITH GOVERNMENT TEACHERS BECAUSE OF FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCES IN THE TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT, IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR THE GAP TO BE NARROWED.

"THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT ARE NOW EXPLORING VARIOUS OPTIONS," MR YEUNG SAID.

IF ALL GOES WELL, WE WOULD BE ABLE TO CONSTRUCT A PACKAGE OF MEASURES BY THE END OF THE YEAR THAT WOULD RESULT IN A SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT FOR MANY TEACHERS, HE ADDED.

HOWEVER, HE POINTED OUT THAT PAY AND RATIONS ARE NOT THE ONLY THINGS THAT INSPIRE AN ARMY.

"THE TEACHING PROFESSION IS A HIGHLY INTELLIGENT WORKFORCE AND MUCH MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE TO IMPROVE JOB SATISFACTION, AND TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE EXERCISE OF PERSONAL INITIATIVE AND CREATIVITY IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF CURRICULUM," MR YEUNG SAID.

"WE PROPOSE TO INTRODUCE CERTAIN CHANGES IN THIS AREA IN THE MEDIUM TERM, THAT IS TO SAY, OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS," HE SAID.

MR YEUNG NOTED THAT THE PRESENT SCHOOL SYSTEM HAS BEEN SERVED BY A SYSTEM OF PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS WHICH SELECT STUDENTS FOR PROGRESSION FROM ONE KEY STAGE OF EDUCATION TO ANOTHER.

"IN SUCH A SELECTIVE SYSTEM, IT IS NATURAL THAT PUPILS ARE GRADED BY COMPARING THEIR PERFORMANCE AGAINST THAT OF EACH OTHER. THEY ARE EFFECTIVELY CATEGORISED INTO THOSE WHO HAVE DONE WELL, THOSE WHO PASSED AND THOSE WHO FAILED.

/"IT IS .....

"IT IS JUST AS NATURAL THAT SUCH GRADING PRACTICES HAVE FILTERED DOWN INTO THE SCHOOL SYSTEM FOR THE PURPOSES OF INTERNAL ASSESSMENT AND HAVE EXERTED A POWERFUL INFLUENCE ON TEACHING AND LEARNING STYLES.

"OUR EDUCATORS SHOULD NOW BE TURNING THEIR MINDS TO AN ALTERNATIVE SYSTEM OF ASSESSMENT THAT WOULD MOTIVATE STUDENTS, PROVIDE DIAGNOSTIC INFORMATION TO TEACHERS AND ENCOURAGE MORE EFFECTIVE STYLES OF TEACHING AND LEARNING," MR YEUNG SAID.

A POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE TO EXISTING PRACTICES IS A SYSTEM THAT BEGINS BY SETTING ATTAINMENT TARGETS FOR CERTIAN KEY SUBJECTS AT VARIOUS KEY STAGES OF EDUCATION IN SCHOOL, MR YEUNG SAID.

"UNDER THIS SYSTEM, ALL STUDENTS WOULD BE ABLE TO SEE HOW MUCH PROGRESS THEY HAVE MADE UP THE LADDER OF ATTAINMENT TARGETS, WITHOUT HAVING TO BE RELEGATED TO THE BOTTOM OF THE CLASS.

"TEACHERS WOULD SEE MORE CLEARLY THE EFFECT OF THEIR TEACHING AND BE PROVIDED WITH INFORMATION ON THE AREAS OF UNDER-ACHIEVEMENT THEY SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON," HE SAID.

MR YEUNG STRESSED THAT BECAUSE PROGRESS WOULD BE VISIBLE AND MEASURABLE THE INCENTIVE TO TEACH AND TO LEARN WOULD BE THAT MUCH GREATER.

HE DESCRIBED THIS AS A MAJOR CHALLENGE THE EDUCATION COMMISSION IS HANDING DOWN TO THE TEACHING PROFESSION IN THE 1990S.

TURNING TO OTHER MAJOR TASKS OF THE EDUCATION COMMISSION, MR YEUNG SAID THAT THE COMMISSION WOULD BE ASKED TO ADDRESS THE WAY IN WHICH EXISTING TEACHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING SERVICES ARE DELIVERED.

"THESE SERVICES ARE CURRENTLY PROVIDED IN A FRAGMENTED WAY, WITH LITTLE OR NO ATTEMPT AT CO-ORDINATION OR OVERALL PLANNING," MR YEUNG SAID.

HE NOTED THAT AT PRESENT EACH INSTITUTION SEEMS TO BE TRYING TO DO ITS OWN THING -- THE UNIVERSITIES PROVIDE POST-QUALIFICATION TRAINING FOR GRADUATES, THE COLLEGES OF EDUCATION TRAIN NON-GRADUATES AND THE INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION PROVIDES IN-SERVICE TRAINING FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS.

MR YEUNG STRESSED THAT THIS AREA OF ACTIVITY CLEARLY NEEDS SORTING OUT.

ANOTHER MATTER THE COMMISSION WILL NEED TO ADDRESS IS THE SUGGESTION THAT HONG KONG SHOULD ULTIMATELY HAVE AN ALL-GRADUATE, TEACHER-TRAINED WORKFORCE, HE SAID.

"WE SHALL NEED TO CONSIDER THE EXTENT TO WHICH AN ALL GRADUATE WORKFORCE REPRESENTS MERELY A DESIRABLE GOAL, OR WHETHER IT IS SOMETHING WE CANNOT AFFORD TO DO WITHOUT.

"IT WILL BE FOR THE EDUCATION COMMISSION TO STRIKE A HAPPY MEDIUM BETWEEN WHAT IS DESIRABLE AND WHAT IS ATTAINABLE," HE ADDED.

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GOVT WELCOMED BUSH'S VETO OF TRADE BILL

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NEWS OF PRESIDENT BUSH'S VETO OF THE TEXTILES, APPAREL AND FOOTWEAR BILL WAS TODAY (SATURDAY) WELCOMED BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRADE, MR T.H. CHAU.

"THE DECISION WAS NOT UNEXPECTED AS PRESIDENT BUSH HAD ALREADY INDICATED HIS INTENTION TO VETO THE BILL WHEN IT WAS FIRST PASSED BY THE SENATE," MR CHAU SAID.

"WE WELCOME THE VETO. THE ENACTMENT OF THE BILL WOULD NOT ONLY SERIOUSLY JEOPARDISE THE MULTILATERAL TEXTILES TALKS UNDER THE GATT URUGUAY ROUND WHICH HAS ENTERED INTO A CRITICAL STAGE, BUT THE SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE ROUND AS A WHOLE," HE ADDED.

MR CHAU SAID THE TRADE DEPARTMENT WOULD BE MONITORING CLOSELY ACTION BY THE CONGRESS TO OVERRIDE THE PRESIDENT'S VETO AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE PRESIDENTIAL VETO WOULD NOT BE OVERTURNED BY CONGRESS.

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SIR DAVID TRENCH FUND FINANCES MORE THAN 3,000 PROJECTS

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THE SIR DAVID TRENCH FUND FOR RECREATION HAD FINANCED ABOUT 3,000 NON-CAPITAL AND 170 CAPITAL WORKS PROJECTS FOR VARIOUS PURPOSES IN THE PAST 20 YEARS, THE COMMISSIONER FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MRS SHELLEY LAU, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF A SEMINAR ON THE SIR DAVID TRENCH FUND FOR RECREATION AT THE AUDITORIUM OF THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE, MRS LAU SAID THOUSANDS OF RESIDENTS OF ALL AGES, ESPECIALLY YOUNG PEOPLE, HAD BENEFITTED FROM THESE PROJECTS.

"WITH THE RAPID ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN HONG KONG DURING THE PAST TWO DECADES, THE STANDARD OF LIVING HAS RISEN, RESULTING IN GREATER EXPECTATIONS AND DEMAND FOR RECREATIONAL, CULTURAL AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES," SHE SAID.

NOTING THAT THERE HAD ALSO BEEN CHANGES IN THE PATTERNS OF COMMUNITY RECREATION, MRS LAU SAID TODAY'S SEMINAR PROVIDED A USEFUL OPPORTUNITY FOR PARTICIPANTS TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON THE CHANGING NEEDS OF RESIDENTS AND HOW THE FUND COULD BE BETTER UTILISED TO MEET THESE NEEDS.

"IT IS ALSO MEANT TO PROMOTE BETTER UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE COMMITTEE AND THE RECIPIENTS OF THE FUND, AND TO IMPROVE GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE EFFICIENCY IN DEALING WITH APPLICATIONS," SHE ADDED.

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ALSO ADDRESSING THE SEMINAR, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SIR DAVID TRENCH FUND COMMITTEE, MR CHAN KA-KUI, NOTED THAT THE FUND WAS ESTABLISHED 20 YEARS AGO TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO VOLUNTARY AND EDUCATIONAL ORGANISATIONS FOR BUILDING FACILITIES FOR RECREATIONAL, SPORTING, CULTURAL AND SOCIAL PURPOSES.

THE FUND WAS INITIALLY USED FOR NON-CAPITAL WORKS PROJECTS AND STARTING FROM 1981, ALSO COVERED CAPITAL WORKS PROJECTS SUCH AS REPLACEMENT OF EQUIPMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS TO OR PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL FACILITIES, HE SAID.

MORE THAN 120 REPRESENTATIVES FROM ABOUT 90 ORGANISATIONS ATTENDED THE SEMINAR TODAY.

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SPECIAL CAR NUMBERS SOLD BY AUCTION

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FORTY SPECIAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION NUMBERS WERE PUT UP FOR AUCTION THIS (SATURDAY) MORNING FOR A TOTAL OF $732,000 WHICH WILL GO TO THE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES FUND FOR CHARITY PURPOSES.

THE AUCTION, HELD AT THE CITY HALL RECITAL HALL, SAW THE REGISTRATION NUMBER AA889 FETCH THE HIGHEST PRICE OF $63,000.

ANOTHER NUMBER AJ180 WAS SOLD AT THE SECOND HIGHEST PRICE OF $55,000 WHILE THE LOWEST PRICE WAS $1,000 EACH FOR EK1975 AND EK1013.

FOLLOWING ARE THE RESULTS OF TODAY'S AUCTION:

	$		$		$		$
AA889	63,000	EK188	22,000	EC6	50,000	EK122	8,000
AB625	7,000	EK662	28,000	EK877	5,000	AB900	20,000
BB3523	3,500	EK778	13,000	EK2232	7,000	EK1013	1,000
EL919	30,000	2948	20,000	AJ180	55,000	EK7787	8,000
EK7368	4,000	BL605	3,500	EM11	40,000	EM171	5,000
5707	47,000	AZ230	13,000	EL230	14,000	EK902	8,000
EK693	10,000	750	42,000	BB625	10,000	AA7960	3,000
CC55	38,000	ED8918	7,000	EL1386	10,000	EK275	4,000
EK1975	1,000	EK302	13,000	EK779	7,000	EK1990	3,000
EK928	28,000	EK883	22,000	EL100	51,000	EJ7333	8,000

SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS WERE REQUIRED TO PAY BY CHEQUE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE BIDDING.

THE NUMBERS AUCTIONED WILL BE ASSIGNED ONLY TO VEHICLES REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF THE DATE OF AUCTION.

TODAY'S SALE, THE 156TH ORGANISED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SINCE MAY 1973, BROUGHT THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF MONEY FOR CHARITY REALISED SO FAR TO $107,116,505.

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INNOVATIVE PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES TO MEET
YOUNGSTERS' CHANGING NEEDS
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PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRES SHOULD BE INNOVATIVE TO MEET THE CHANGING NEEDS OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR M.D. CARTLAND, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE SHA TIN SOCIAL SERVICE CENTRE OF YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION (YWCA), MR CARTLAND SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT THE CENTRES SHOULD BE WELL-DESIGNED AND PHYSICALLY ATTRACTIVE TO MEET THE MODERN STANDARDS AND EXPECTATIONS OF THE IMPROVING LIVING CONDITIONS IN THE 90'S.

"TO ACHIEVE THIS OBJECTIVE, A CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRE HAS TO IDENTIFY ITS TARGET GROUPS AND MAINTAIN CLOSE CONTACT WITH THEM, AS WELL AS THEIR FAMILIES AND RELATED ORGANISATIONS SUCH AS SCHOOLS AND OTHER AGENCIES," HE ADDED.

HE NOTED THAT THE SHA TIN SOCIAL SERVICE CENTRE WAS THE YWCA'S 14TH YOUTH CENTRE WHICH WILL PROVIDE CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH A WIDE RANGE OF GROUP ACTIVITIES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR CHARACTER, PERSONALITY, LEADERSHIP AND SOCIAL SKILLS.

"I HAVE EVERY CONFIDENCE THAT THIS CENTRE WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE A CREDITABLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW APPROACHES AND TO THE DELIVERY OF GOOD QUALITY SERVICE TO CATER FOR THE NEEDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN SHA TIN," HE SAID.

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ATHLETIC MEET FOR ISLANDERS
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THE 13TH ISLANDS DISTRICT ATHLETIC MEET WILL BE HELD AT THE SHATIN SPORTS GROUND, YUEN WO ROAD, TOMORROW (SUNDAY).

ABOUT 360 ISLANDERS WILL COMPETE IN THE 16 TRACK AND FIELD EVENTS, INCLUDING LONG JUMP, HIGH JUMP, SHOT PUT, SPRINT, RELAY AND HURDLES.

PARTICIPANTS WILL BE DIVIDED INTO SEVEN GROUPS ACCORDING TO THEIR AGE AND SEX. WINNERS WILL BE PRESENTED WITH MEDALS.

ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MR EDDIE POON, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY AT 11 AM.

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THE ANNUAL EVENT, AIMED AT RAISING THE ISLANDERS' INTEREST IN SPORTS AND ENHANCING COMMUNICATION BETWEEN RESIDENTS OF DIFFERENT ISLANDS, IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE, DISTRICT BOARD, REGIONAL COUNCIL, ISLANDS DISTRICT SPORTS ASSOCIATION AND THE DISTRICT'S EIGHT RURAL COMMITTEES.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE ISLANDS DISTRICT ATHLETIC MEET TO BE HELD AT THE SHATIN SPORTS GROUND, YUEN WO ROAD, TOMORROW (SUNDAY).

A GOVERNMENT VAN RC 888 WILL LEAVE THE MARINE DEPARTMENT PIER, CENTRAL AT 10 AM TO TAKE REPORTERS TO THE VENUE.

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