



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1981

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ECONOMIC PROSPECTS BRIGHT, SAYS GOVERNOR

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IN SPITE OF PREDICTIONS OF MASSIVE UNEMPLOYMENT AND THE MANY DIFFICULTIES WHICH BESET OUR ECONOMY, UNEMPLOYMENT IN HONG KONG IS DROPPING AND THE GROWTH RATE OF OUR EXPORTS HAS STEADILY RECOVERED, THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

ADDRESSING A MEETING OF THE HONG KONG EXPORTERS' ASSOCIATION, SIR MURRAY SAID : +IN A YEAR OF RECESSION IN OUR MAJOR MARKETS OUR DOMESTIC EXPORTS HAVE BEEN REMARKABLY BUOYANT, AND WE STILL BELIEVE WILL SHOW A GROWTH IN REAL TERMS OF SOMETHING LIKE SEVEN PER CENT OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR.+

+IT IS A FINE RESULT FROM A YEAR WHICH I KNOW HAS INCLUDED MANY DIFFICULTIES, LIKE HIGH INTEREST RATES, AND SQUEEZED MARGINS.+

SIR MURRAY SAID THE YEAR HAS PROVED ONCE AGAIN THAT IN CIRCUMSTANCES OF SHALLOW RECESSION IN DEVELOPED ECONOMIES WHOSE PUBLIC'S BUYING POWER IS SHIELDED BY COMPARATIVELY HIGH RATES OF SOCIAL SECURITY, OUR COMBINATION OF MANUFACTURERS AND EXPORTERS CAN CONTINUE TO SELL THE SORTS OF THINGS HONG KONG PRODUCES.

HE SAID THAT IN SPITE OF THE MANY DIFFICULTIES BROUGHT ON TO THE ECONOMY AND THE SOCIETY BY THE MASSIVE INFLUX OF IMMIGRANTS, AND THE RECESSION IN OUR MAJOR MARKETS, +THE RESOURCES, INGENUITY, AND PROFESSIONALISM OF OUR EXPORTERS AND MANUFACTURERS HAVE SPARED US THE HORRORS OF MASSIVE UNEMPLOYMENT THAT WAS SO SHRILLY PREDICTED+

+INDEED THANKFULLY THERE IS LITTLE UNEMPLOYMENT AND IT IS DROPPING, AND IN INDUSTRY MORE ARE EMPLOYED THAN EVER BEFORE IN HONG KONG'S LONG HISTORY.+

SIR MURRAY SAID THE ACCUSTOMED RATE OF INCREASE OF WAGES MIGHT HAVE BEEN DAMPENED. +BUT IN PRESENT RESTRICTED EXPORT OPPORTUNITIES THIS IS A PRICE WHICH MOST WORKERS WOULD ACCEPT FOR CONTINUED EMPLOYMENT, JUST AS THEY WOULD EXPECT TO BE RECOMPENSED IN THE UP-SWING WHEN IT COMES,+ HE ADDED.

SIR MURRAY SAID DURING THE YEAR THE GROWTH RATE OF EXPORTS HAS STEADILY RECOVERED FROM THE LULL IN THE SECOND HALF OF 1980, THAT OF DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION HAS SLOWED, THE TRADE GAP HAS SHOWN SIGNS OF NARROWING, AND THE GROWTH RATE OF THE MONEY SUPPLY AND OF LOANS AND ADVANCES HAS EASED.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT IS HELPING THIS PHENOMENAL GROWTH OF OUR EXPORTS BY PROVIDING A STABLE SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND FISCAL ENVIRONMENT.

+BUT MORE PARTICULARLY, IT TRIES TO HELP IN FOUR SPECIFIC WAYS : COMMERCIAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND INVESTMENT PROMOTION, TRADE FACILITATION AND TRADE REGULATIONS.+

REFERRING TO HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC PROSPECTS IN 1982, SIR MURRAY SAID HE WOULD BE SURPRISED IF OVER THE YEAR THE ECONOMY DID NOT CONTINUE TO SHOW A RAPID GROWTH RATE WITH CONTINUED FULL EMPLOYMENT.

CI REVIEWS THE PAST AND ANTICIPATES THE FUTURE
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THE COMMISSIONER OF INDUSTRY, MR PETER TSAO, SAID TONIGHT (FRIDAY) THAT THE PERFORMANCE OF HONG KONG'S INDUSTRY IN THE PAST YEAR HAS PROVED ONCE AGAIN THAT, WITH ITS SOLID FOUNDATION, IT IS CAPABLE OF WITHSTANDING PERSISTENT CHALLENGES.

ADDRESSING THE DINNER MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF KWUN TONG, MR TSAO GAVE A BRIEF REVIEW OF OUR INDUSTRIAL SCENE IN 1981.

+THE DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE FIRST THREE QUARTERS OF 1981 AMOUNTED TO \$58 BILLION, REPRESENTING A 16 PER CENT GROWTH OVER THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD IN 1980. ALL OUR MAJOR INDUSTRIES SHOWED INCREASES IN EXPORTS. TEXTILES, INCLUDING GARMENTS, GREW BY 19 PER CENT TO \$24.1 BILLION, WHILE ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS ROSE BY 12 PER CENT TO \$6.7 BILLION,+ HE SAID.

+EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES, HONG KONG'S LARGEST MARKET, INCREASED BY 24 PER CENT- WHILST TO THE UNITED KINGDOM, OUR SECOND LARGEST MARKET, THE INCREASE WAS 13 PER CENT. HOWEVER, EXPORTS TO OUR THIRD LARGEST MARKET, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, WERE DOWN BY FIVE PER CENT.

+IN THE FACE OF PREVAILING RECESSIONS IN OUR MAJOR MARKETS WORLD-WIDE, THE PERFORMANCE OF HONG KONG'S INDUSTRY WAS SATISFACTORY,+ MR TSAO CONTINUED.

REFERRING TO RECENT COMMENTS ON THE STATE OF THEIR INDUSTRIES BY INDUSTRIALISTS, MR TSAO SAID THAT ACTUAL CONDITIONS VARIED FROM ONE INDUSTRY TO ANOTHER.

+GENERALLY SPEAKING, 1981 WAS A YEAR OF SHORT-TERM ORDERS, NARROW PROFIT MARGINS, HIGH INTEREST RATES, AND UNSTABLE WAGES AND MATERIAL COSTS. AND MANY PROBLEMS HAD TO BE SOLVED. FORTUNATELY, DESPITE THESE DIFFICULTIES, THE FOUNDATION OF OUR INDUSTRY HAS REMAINED INTACT.

+NOW THAT BANK LENDING RATES HAVE GONE DOWN CONSIDERABLY AND THE STOCKS IN OUR MAJOR MARKETS ARE GETTING LOW, OUR INDUSTRY SHOULD HAVE A GOOD CHANCE OF RECOVERY IN THE COMING YEAR.+

MR TSAO CONTINUED: +IN FACT, AFTER 20 TO 30 YEARS OF EFFORT, OUR INDUSTRY HAS GONE A LONG WAY FROM ITS PRIMITIVE STAGE. INDUSTRY, TOGETHER WITH OTHER SECTORS SUCH AS COMMERCE, FINANCE AND TRANSPORT, HAVE CREATED A VERY SOUND ECONOMIC STRUCTURE. INDIVIDUAL LINES OF PRODUCTION HAVE BEEN AUTOMATED TO A GREAT EXTENT AND WE HAVE A HIGH-SKILLED, EXPERIENCED LABOUR FORCE. MOREOVER, WE POSSESS A RATHER COMPREHENSIVE SUPPORTING AND SERVICING ENTERPRISE NETWORK. IN THE ELECTRONIC INDUSTRY PRODUCTS CAN NOW BE ASSEMBLED FROM LOCALLY-MADE PARTS WITH LOCALLY-MADE MACHINERY WITHOUT RELYING ON OVERSEAS SUPPLIES.+

EXPLAINING THE GOVERNMENT'S INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY, MR TSAO POINTED OUT THAT UNDER A FREE ECONOMY, THE GOVERNMENT ADOPTED A TWO-FOLD POLICY- TO REMOVE EXTERNALLY OBSTACLES TO OUR EXPORT TRADE SO THAT THE PRODUCTS OF HONG KONG COULD ENJOY A FAIR AND REASONABLE TREATMENT IN ALL MARKETS, AND TO ESTABLISH INTERNALLY A SOUND AND EFFECTIVE ECONOMIC STRUCTURE WHICH ENABLED INDIVIDUAL SECTORS TO PERFORM THEIR BEST.

+ALTHOUGH THE GOVERNMENT GOES BY THE NON-INTERFERENCE POLICY, IT DOES NOT JUST TAKE ON A SPECTATOR'S ROLE FOR EVERY CASE. THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT OFFER ANY DIRECT SUBSIDIES OR RELIEF BUT IN FACT, IT DOES A LOT INDIRECTLY TO BOOST INDUSTRIES.

+TO ASSIST INDUSTRIAL DIVERSIFICATION, THE GOVERNMENT PROVIDES FACILITIES WITH WHICH INDUSTRIES HAVING POTENTIAL AND NEEDED IN HONG KONG CAN LAUNCH THEIR DEVELOPMENT HERE.

+WITH THE EXISTENCE OF INDUSTRIAL ESTATES, THOSE INDUSTRIES WHICH CANNOT OPERATE IN FLATTED FACTORIES CAN STILL ESTABLISH IN HONG KONG. THE POLYTECHNIC, PRE-VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS AND CLOTHING AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TRAINING AUTHORITY ALL CONTRIBUTE TO THE TRAINING OF QUALIFIED PERSONNEL FOR THE INDUSTRIAL SECTORS,+ HE SAID.

+IN AN EFFORT TO ASSIST THE INDUSTRY TO MOVE UP TO HIGHER LEVEL OF TECHNOLOGY, THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY HAS SET UP A NEW SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DIVISION TO CO-ORDINATE THE TECHNOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF INDUSTRY. AN IMPORTANT TASK OF THE DIVISION IS TO ESTABLISH AN ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS CALIBRATION LABORATORY FOR SERVICING THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY.

+THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY HAS CONTINUED TO FOCUS ITS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ON THE PROMOTION OF INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENTS.

+IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS, THE DEPARTMENT WILL OPEN OFFICES IN JAPAN, THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE UNITED STATES AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY. THIS WILL UNDOUBTEDLY ENHANCE THE ACTIVITIES OF INVESTMENT PROMOTION AND TECHNOLOGICAL TRANSFER.

+THE PROMOTION OF INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENTS IS NOT A SERVICE PROVIDED EXCLUSIVELY FOR PEOPLE OVERSEAS, BUT IS ALSO AVAILABLE FOR LOCAL INDUSTRIALISTS SEEKING ACCESS TO NEW AND ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY,+ SAID MR TSAO.

COMPETITION FROM THE INDUSTRIES OF OUR NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES WAS GENERALLY DEVELOPING FAST, WITH LOWER LABOUR COSTS THAN IN HONG KONG, AND OUR COMPETITIVENESS IN INTERNATIONAL MARKETS FOR SOME PRODUCTS HAD ALREADY BEEN AFFECTED.

+OUR PLASTICS INDUSTRY HAS BEEN FORCED TO MOVE UP MARKET, AND CLOCK AND WATCH MANUFACTURERS CAN NO LONGER RELY ON MECHANICAL ONES. OUR SPINNING AND WEAVING INDUSTRIES, ONCE PILLARS OF HONG KONG'S MODERN INDUSTRY, CANNOT NOW AFFORD TO ADJUST TO OUTSIDE PRESSURES,+ HE SAID. +THOSE RESISTANT TO CHANGE MAY STILL SURVIVE, BUT ARE UNLIKELY TO FLOURISH.+

MR TSAO SAID HONG KONG'S WEAKNESSES INCLUDING LIMITED LAND, LACK OF RESOURCES, SOARING LABOUR COSTS, AND OVER-CONCENTRATED INDUSTRIES MAY BE EXPLOITED BY OUR COMPETITORS.

+IT IS THEREFORE IMPORTANT TO IDENTIFY OUR STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES, AND THAT OUR INDUSTRY AIMS AT 'TECHNOLOGY INTENSIVE' DEVELOPMENT+, STRESSED MR TSAO.

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AUTOMATIC MACHINES LEGISLATION TIGHTENED UP
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SOME OPERATORS OF AUTOMATIC MACHINE CENTRES MAY FIND THEMSELVES BARRED FROM OBTAINING A LICENCE AFTER NEW LICENSING GUIDELINES ARE PUBLISHED NEXT WEEK AND AN AMENDMENT BILL GAZETTED TODAY IS ENACTED.

ACCORDING TO A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN, THE NEW GUIDELINES HAVE BEEN DESIGNED TO SIMPLIFY AND TO SPEED UP LICENSING PROCEDURES.

+ONE OF THE NEW GUIDELINES,+ HE SAID, +STATES THAT NO APPLICANT WILL BE GRANTED A LICENCE IF HE HAS BEEN CONVICTED UNDER THE MISCELLANEOUS LICENCES ORDINANCE, THE LAW WHICH GOVERNS AUTOMATIC MACHINE LICENSING. THIS MAY SPELL TROUBLE FOR THOSE OPERATORS WHO ARE PRESENTLY AVOIDING GOVERNMENT LICENSING CONDITIONS BY USING AUTOMATIC MACHINES WITH HEAT SENSITIVE SWITCHES IF THEY CONTINUE TO OPERATE WITHOUT A LICENCE AND PROPER CONTROL IN FUTURE.+

THE NEW TECHNOLOGY OF HEAT SENSITIVE MACHINES IS NOT, AT THE MOMENT, CLEARLY COVERED BY THE ORDINANCE, WHICH DESCRIBES AUTOMATIC MACHINE AS A +MECHANICAL+ DEVICE. BUT UNDER THE NEW AMENDMENT BILL GAZETTED TODAY, THESE AND OTHER MACHINES WILL BE BROUGHT INTO THE SCOPE OF THE LAW.

IF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ENACTED THE BILL, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, IT SHOULD COME INTO EFFECT IN JANUARY 1982. AFTER THAT, OPERATORS USING HEAT SENSITIVE GAMES MACHINES WITHOUT A LICENCE FROM THE TELEVISION AND ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING AUTHORITY WILL BE COMMITTING AN OFFENCE AND PROSECUTED. CONVICTION WILL PREVENT THEM FROM BEING GRANTED A LICENCE IN FUTURE.

+THESE CENTRES SHOULD THEREFORE CEASE OPERATION IMMEDIATELY UNTIL THE OPERATORS HAVE APPLIED AND OBTAINED A LICENCE FROM THE AUTHORITY,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADVISED.

+IT IS WORTH NOTING THAT THERE HAVE ALREADY BEEN 43 SUCCESSFUL PROSECUTIONS INVOLVING UNLICENSED CENTRES,+ HE ADDED.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE LICENSING REQUIREMENTS WAS TO ENSURE THAT YOUNG PERSONS WERE PROTECTED AND THAT AUTOMATIC MACHINE CENTRES WERE WELL-MANAGED, NOT OVER-CROWDED, AND DID NOT BECOME A NUISANCE TO NEARBY RESIDENTS. NO LICENSED CENTRES OTHER THAN SPECIALLY LICENSED CHILDREN CENTRES ARE PERMITTED TO ADMIT PERSONS UNDER THE AGE OF 16. FOR BOTH TYPES OF CENTRES, NO PERSON IN SCHOOL UNIFORMS ARE ALLOWED ENTRY.

+THESE REQUIREMENTS ARE ESSENTIAL IN VIEW OF THE PUBLIC CONCERN OVER THE EFFECTS OF THESE CENTRES,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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TELEGRAPH BAY RECLAMATION MODIFIED

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FOLLOWING CAREFUL CONSIDERATION OF OBJECTIONS AND CLAIMS LODGED AFTER THE GAZETTING LAST JUNE OF THE GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO RECLAIM 30 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEA BED IN TELEGRAPH BAY, MODIFICATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE TO THE PROJECT.

THE RECLAMATION HAS BEEN AUTHORISED BY THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL AND NOTICE OF THIS IS PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE IMMEDIATE PURPOSE OF GOING AHEAD WITH THE RECLAMATION LAY IN THE URGENT NEED TO PROVIDE A SUITABLE SITE FOR ACCOMMODATING SURPLUS SPOIL WHICH WOULD BECOME AVAILABLE SHORTLY FROM A HOUSING AUTHORITY BUILDING PROJECT NEARBY ON AP LEI CHAU. WHEN COMPLETED IN 1988-89, LEI TUNG ESTATE WILL HAVE MORE THAN 10 000 FLATS, PROVIDING HOUSING FOR 42 700 PEOPLE.

+FAILURE TO AUTHORISE THE RECLAMATION WOULD HAVE LED TO THE NEED TO DEFER THE LETTING OF THE CONTRACT FOR THIS IMPORTANT HOUSING PROJECT, IN TURN CAUSING AN UNACCEPTABLE DELAY TO THE OVERALL HOUSING PROGRAMME,+ THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED.

MAJOR SITE FORMATION WORKS FOR THE HOUSING ESTATE WILL GENERATE SOME 2.1 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF SURPLUS SPOIL.

+HAVING DECIDED THAT THE EXCAVATED MATERIAL SHOULD NOT BE LOST TO THE COMMUNITY BY BEING DUMPED AT SEA, THE GOVERNMENT CONDUCTED A FEASIBILITY STUDY WHICH IDENTIFIED TELEGRAPH BAY AS THE BEST SITE WHERE PROFITABLE USE COULD BE MADE OF THE SURPLUS SPOIL, WHICH IN HONG KONG IS A SCARCE NATURAL RESOURCE,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID IN RESPONSE TO OBJECTIONS FROM PEOPLE LIVING IN THE TELEGRAPH BAY AREA, THE PLAN FOR THE RECLAMATION WORKS HAD BEEN REVISED TO ENSURE THE MINIMUM DISRUPTION TO THOSE RESIDENTS.

THE FILLING MATERIAL WILL NOW BE DEPOSITED DIRECTLY INTO THE BAY FROM BARGES AND AS THE SPOIL WILL REMAIN BELOW THE WATER LEVEL, THERE WILL BE NO NUISANCE FROM DUST. THIS APPROACH WILL ALSO ELIMINATE NOISE POLLUTION THAT WOULD OTHERWISE BE CREATED IF THE MATERIAL WAS TO BE TRANSPORTED FROM AP LEI CHAU BY ROAD.+

IT IS UNLIKELY THAT ANY SPOIL WILL BE DUMPED IN THE BAY BEFORE THE END OF NEXT YEAR. THE SECOND PHASE OF THE RECLAMATION WORKS CANNOT BE INITIATED UNTIL THE SEAWALL IS CONSTRUCTED, WHICH WILL PROBABLY NOT BE BEFORE 1984.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE FUTURE USE OF THE RECLAIMED LAND WAS UNDERWAY AND BEFORE REACHING A FINAL DECISION, THE GOVERNMENT WOULD TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE VIEWS ALREADY EXPRESSED BY THOSE LIVING IN THE VICINITY OF TELEGRAPH BAY.

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RULES FOR DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS

THE GAZETTE TODAY CONTAINS SEVERAL PIECES OF SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION WHICH PAVE THE WAY FOR THE FIRST DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES NEXT MARCH.

UNDER THE URBAN COUNCIL AND DISTRICT BOARDS ELECTION EXPENSES ORDER 1981, A CANDIDATE WILL BE ALLOWED TO SPEND UP TO \$10 000 IN ELECTION EXPENSES, AND UP TO \$3 000 IN FEES TO HIS ELECTION AGENT. A REASONABLE AMOUNT OF TRAVELLING AND LIVING EXPENSES FOR HIMSELF IN RELATION TO THE ELECTION WILL NOT BE COUNTED.

THIS SCALE OF ELECTION EXPENSES ALSO APPLIES TO CANDIDATES FOR FUTURE URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS AND, UNDER THE HEUNG YEE KUK ELECTION EXPENSES ORDER 1981, TO HEUNG YEE KUK CANDIDATES.

ALSO GAZETTED IS THE NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICT BOARD CONSTITUENCIES (NUMBER OF ELECTED MEMBERS) ORDER 1981. THIS DECLARES THAT THERE WILL BE 36 CONSTITUENCIES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WITH ONE VACANCY EACH FOR ELECTED MEMBER AT THE COMING ELECTIONS AND TEN CONSTITUENCIES (4 IN SHA TIN DISTRICT, 4 IN TUEN MUN DISTRICT AND 2 IN TAI PO DISTRICT) EACH WITH TWO SUCH MEMBERS.

A FURTHER PIECE OF SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION, THE POST OFFICE (AMENDMENT) (NO.2) REGULATIONS 1981, EXTENDS THE POSTAGE-FREE FACILITY ENJOYED BY CANDIDATES AT URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS TO CANDIDATES AT ANY FUTURE DISTRICT BOARD ELECTION.

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ACCOUNTANTS BY-LAWS REVISED

THE GOVERNMENT HAS APPROVED AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS OF THE HONG KONG SOCIETY OF ACCOUNTANTS WHICH WAS SET UP IN JANUARY 1973 TO PROVIDE FOR THE REGISTRATION AND CONTROL OF THE ACCOUNTANCY PROFESSION IN HONG KONG.

UNDER THE AMENDMENTS,

- * THE STANDARD FOR REGISTRATION WITH THE SOCIETY AS A STUDENT WILL BE RAISED FROM JANUARY 1, 1982, FROM FIVE O LEVEL PASSES TO EITHER TWO A LEVEL AND THREE O LEVEL PASSES, OR THREE A LEVEL AND ONE O LEVEL PASSES.
- * A FELLOW OF AN APPROVED INSTITUTE WILL BE REQUIRED TO HAVE SEVEN YEARS' STANDING WITH THAT INSTITUTE AS AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER BEFORE HE CAN BE ELIGIBLE FOR DESIGNATION AS A FELLOW OF THE SOCIETY. IN THE PAST SUCH DESIGNATION COULD BE MADE UPON PAYING A PRESCRIBED FEE.
- * THE REGISTRAR WILL BE ABLE TO LODGE A COMPLAINT WITH THE COUNCIL OF THE SOCIETY AGAINST A REGISTERED STUDENT WHO IS GUILTY OF MISCONDUCT.

THESE CHANGES ARE SET OUT UNDER THE PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS (AMENDMENT) BY-LAWS 1981 PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY.

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RESTORATION WORK FOR SUPREME COURT

THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IS CALLING TENDERS FOR THE PARTIAL RESTORATION OF THE OLD SUPREME COURT BUILDING IN CENTRAL.

THE TENDER NOTICE APPEARED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE WORK WILL INCLUDE WEATHER PROOFING, THE REPAIR OF CRACKS, AND DECORATION TO RETURN THE BUILDING TO A FUNCTIONAL CONDITION AND IS TO BE COMPLETED WITHIN A CONTRACT PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS.

THE OLD SUPREME COURT WAS VACATED IN JULY 1978 WHEN SETTLEMENT ASSOCIATED WITH MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY WORKS CAUSED CRACKS IN THE BUILDING.

AS HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN ANNOUNCED, THE GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO RENOVATE THE BUILDING AND USE IT FOR COURTS WHILE WORK PROCEEDS ON THE NEW SUPREME COURT BUILDING IN QUEENSWAY.

THIS WILL ALLOW THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION ACCESS TO THE FIRE BRIGADE BUILDING IN CONNAUGHT ROAD, WHICH IS NOW USED FOR JUDICIAL ACCOMMODATION.

THE LONG-TERM FUTURE OF THE OLD SUPREME COURT IS STILL NOT DECIDED.

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PLAN FOR MTR WORKS

A RAILWAY AREA PLAN IN RESPECT OF PROPERTY AT NOS. 244-246 DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL AND NOS. 32-38 WING LOK STREET, HAS BEEN DEPOSITED IN THE LAND OFFICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY (LAND RESUMPTION AND RELATED PROVISIONS) ORDINANCE.

THE PLAN SHOWS THE AREAS IN WHICH LAND OR PROPERTY MAY BE RESUMED OR EASEMENTS CREATED FOR THE PURPOSE OF BUILDING AND RUNNING THE MTR ISLAND LINE. IT IS AN ADDITION TO THE RAILWAY AREA PLAN GAZETTED ON MARCH 13, 1981 FOR THE SECTION OF THE ISLAND LINE BETWEEN SHEUNG WAN AND VICTORIA PARK.

THE ADDITIONAL PLAN IS REQUIRED AS A RESULT OF THE RE-DESIGN OF THE CONCOURSE ARRANGEMENTS FOR SHEUNG WAN STATION. THE CONCOURSE TO BE BUILT IN AND AROUND HILLIER STREET IS NOW LARGER, THUS INCREASING THE AMOUNT OF PROPERTY WHICH MAY BE AFFECTED BY ITS CONSTRUCTION.

COPIES OF THE PLAN MAY BE INSPECTED, FREE OF CHARGE, DURING OFFICE HOURS AT THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (CENTRAL AND WESTERN) ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, GROUND FLOOR, ANY CITY DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT OFFICES, MURRAY BUILDING, (19TH FLOOR), GARDEN ROAD.

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NEW SECONDARY SCHOOL OPENS AT TSUEN WAN

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A GOVERNMENT-AIDED SECONDARY SCHOOL, NAMED AFTER MADAM LEUNG SING-TAK, ONE OF TWO LADY MEMBERS OF THE HEUNG YEE KUK, WAS OFFICIALLY OPENED TODAY (FRIDAY) AT SHEK WAI KOK ESTATE, TSUEN WAN.

MADAM LEUNG HAS DONATED \$500 000 TO THE SCHOOL, OF WHICH SHE IS THE SUPERVISOR.

THE SCHOOL IS THE FIRST TO BE OPERATED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF DIRECTORS AND FORMER DIRECTORS OF POK OI HOSPITAL LTD. MADAM LEUNG IS A FORMER DIRECTOR.

THE LEUNG SING TAK COLLEGE WAS FOUNDED IN SEPTEMBER 1979, USING PREMISES BORROWED FROM THE SHUN TAK FRATERNAL ASSOCIATION LEE SHAU KEE COLLEGE.

A YEAR LATER, IT MOVED TO THE 4 000 SQUARE-METRE SITE IT NOW OCCUPIES OVERLOOKING HILL TOP COUNTRY CLUB.

THE COST OF BUILDING THE SCHOOL WAS \$7 MILLION.

AT PRESENT, THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 900 PLACES FOR FORM I TO FORM IV STUDENTS AND THIS NUMBER WILL BE EXPANDED TO 1 120 WHEN FORM V STUDENTS WILL BE ENROLLED IN THE NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR.

THERE ARE 28 CLASSROOMS, A HALL, FOUR LABORATORIES, TWO METAL AND WOOD WORK ROOMS, A HOME ECONOMICS ROOM, A LIBRARY, AND MUSIC AND ARTS ROOM.

THE WIFE OF THE SECRETARY FOR CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, MRS JANE AKERS-JONES, PERFORMED THE OFFICIAL OPENING.

SHE SAID THE SCHOOL PROVIDED, APART FROM SCHOLASTIC EDUCATION, A GREAT CHOICE OF EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES WITH A NUMBER OF SOCIETIES FOR STUDENTS TO CULTIVATE AN INTEREST IN THE ARTS, SCIENCES, SPORTS, SCOUTS AND GIRL GUIDES ACTIVITIES, ALL OF WHICH PLAYED A VERY IMPORTANT PART IN BECOMING A WELL-BALANCED ADULT.

TSUEN WAN, WITH ITS TOWN HALL, ARTS COMMITTEE AND SPORTS GROUNDS AND HALLS AND WITH ITS OPPORTUNITIES FOR BALLET, FOLK DANCING, THEATRE AND SINGING, NEEDED THE STUDENTS' CONTINUING INTEREST AND PARTICIPATION EVEN AFTER THEY HAD LEFT SCHOOL, SHE SAID.

+ALL THESE THINGS WILL GIVE YOU FUN, A SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY AND A SERVICE TO YOUR COMMUNITY AND A WAY OF MAKING FRIENDS WHICH WILL STAND YOU IN GOOD STEAD FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIVES.

+I AM SURE THAT THIS SCHOOL WILL PLAY A GREAT PART IN FORMING THE PERSONALITIES OF THE CITIZENS OF THE FUTURE HONG KONG,+ MRS AKERS-JONES SAID.

THERE ARE AT PRESENT ABOUT 40 SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN TSUEN WAN WHERE 660 000 PEOPLE LIVE.

ALSO OFFICIATING AT TODAY'S OPENING WERE: MADAM LEUNG SING-TAK- THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SCHOOL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, MR TAI TUNG-NGOK- AND THE PRINCIPAL, MR LAU CHOK-SHAN.

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SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS
HEAR ABOUT ROAD SAFETY WORK
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MEMBERS OF THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD WERE TODAY (FRIDAY) BRIEFED ON THE WORK OF THE STANDING CONFERENCE ON ROAD SAFETY.

IN ITS SECOND MEETING HELD AT THE CMA PRE-VOCATIONAL SCHOOL, THE BOARD WAS TOLD THAT THE STANDING CONFERENCE, CHAIRED BY THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, MR PETER MOOR, WILL CO-ORDINATE ACTIONS BY VARIOUS INTERESTED PARTIES ON ROAD SAFETY AND ASSIST IN CONDUCTING ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGNS.

THE BOARD ALSO HEARD THAT THE STANDING CONFERENCE ALSO AIMS TO DEVISE, PROMOTE AND ENCOURAGE THE ADOPTION OF PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES AGAINST TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS.

THREE MEMBERS OF THE CONFERENCE - MR D.G. WILLDAY OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, MR R.C. SMALLSHAW OF THE POLICE AND MR P.Y.J. SHEK OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION - WERE PRESENT TO EXPLAIN THE FUNCTIONS OF THE CONFERENCE IN DETAIL.

AT THE MEETING MEMBERS WERE ALSO CONSULTED ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE HAWKER BAZAAR ON THE NAM CHEONG STREET NULLAH DECKING, THE PROPOSED TEMPORARY USE OF CROWN LAND SITES IN THE DISTRICT AND THE PROPOSED PROVISION OF MARKET AND COMMUNITY CENTRE FACILITIES IN MEI FOO SUN CHUEN.

THEY ALSO EXAMINED THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE BOARD, DISCUSSED VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT AND COMMUNITY-BUILDING PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN BY THE BOARD, AND CONSIDERED THE PROGRESS REPORTS OF ITS THREE COMMITTEES.

ANOTHER AREA OF CONCERN IS THE PROVISION OF LIBRARY AND STUDY ROOM FACILITIES IN THE DISTRICT.

MEMBERS WERE TOLD THAT AREA COMMITTEES IN THE DISTRICT CONSIDERED THE PRESENT PROVISION OF 23 LIBRARIES AND STUDY ROOMS INADEQUATE. THEIR VIEWS WERE SOUGHT AS TO HOW THE SITUATION COULD BE IMPROVED.

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GOLD COIN APPLICATIONS RESULTS
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THE PROCESSING OF APPLICATIONS FOR THE YEAR OF THE DOG GOLD COINS HAS NOW BEEN COMPLETED AND SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL BE NOTIFIED IN JANUARY.

UNSUCCESSFUL APPLICATIONS TOGETHER WITH THE ACCOMPANYING CHEQUES OR CASHIER'S ORDERS WILL BE RETURNED THIS MONTH.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT SOME 37 000 APPLICATIONS HAD BEEN RECEIVED FOR THE DOG GOLD COINS. OF THIS TOTAL, 16 000 APPLICATIONS WERE FOR THE PROOF COINS WHILE THE REMAINING 21 000 WERE FOR THE BRILLIANT UNCIRCULATED VERSION.

/THIS YEAR,

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1981

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THIS YEAR, 14 000 PROOF COINS AND 18 000 UNCIRCULATED VERSIONS WERE AVAILABLE FOR SALE TO HONG KONG RESIDENTS, THE SAME NUMBERS AS LAST YEAR.

ABOUT 1 900 DUPLICATE APPLICATIONS WERE REJECTED BY COMPUTER PRIOR TO BALLOTING.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID : +THE RESULTS SHOW THAT THE APPLICATION AND ALLOCATION PROCEDURES WHICH WERE INTRODUCED FOR THE FIRST TIME LAST YEAR, ARE NOW PRODUCING THE RESULTS EXPECTED. THEY ARE NOT ONLY DISCOURAGING PERSONS WHO, IN PAST YEARS, HAVE APPLIED FOR COINS SIMPLY WITH THE OBJECT OF SELLING IMMEDIATELY AT A PROFIT, BUT HAVE ALSO PROVIDED BETTER OPPORTUNITIES FOR GENUINE COLLECTORS TO OBTAIN A COIN.+

HE SAID THAT THIS SHOULD LEAD TO A MUCH MORE HEALTHY SECONDARY MARKET.

THE YEAR OF THE DOG GOLD COIN IS THE SEVENTH IN A SERIES THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN ISSUING, SINCE 1976, TO DEPICT ANIMALS OF THE CHINESE LUNAR CALENDAR.

EACH COIN HAS A FACE VALUE OF \$1 000. THE BRILLIANT UNCIRCULATED VERSION IS SOLD AT \$2 200 WHILE THE PROOF COIN IS SOLD AT \$3 300.

GOLD COINS WITH A FACE VALUE OF \$1 000 WERE MADE LEGAL TENDER ON MAY 5, 1975.

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TENDERS FOR THE SUPPLY OF MOTOR BOATS INVITED

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TENDERS FOR THE SUPPLY OF MOTOR BOATS ON HIRE TO THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICE OF THE TRADE INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT, WERE CALLED TODAY (FRIDAY) IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

THE MOTOR BOATS WILL HAVE TO BE SUPPLIED AT A MINIMUM OF THREE AT ONE TIME ON HIRE AT HOURLY RATES AND FOR A PERIOD OF 12 MONTHS STARTING FROM APRIL 1, 1982.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TICD SAID THE BOATS WILL BE USED TO CONVEY CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICE OFFICERS BETWEEN SHORE AND SHIPS IN THE HARBOUR AND FOR PATROLS WITHIN THE WATERS OF THE TERRITORY. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE TOTAL SAILING TIME PER MONTH WILL NOT BE LESS THAN 200 HOURS AND THE TOTAL WAITING TIME 500 HOURS.

FORMS OF TENDER AND FURTHER PARTICULARS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE SUPPLIES SECTION OF THE TRADE INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT, AT EMPIRE CENTRE, THIRD FLOOR, TSIM SHA TSUI, KOWLOON.

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SCHOLARSHIP FUND SET UP FOR DISABLED STUDENTS

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THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR COLVYN HAYE TODAY (FRIDAY) SAID THAT THE SHELL/ISLAND JAYCEES SCHOLARSHIP FUND FOR THE DISABLED, THE FIRST OF ITS KIND, IS AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO HONG KONG'S DETERMINATION TO INTEGRATE THE DISABLED INTO THE COMMUNITY.

THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND IS BEING SET UP WITH A DONATION OF \$100 000 FROM THE SHELL COMPANY OF HONG KONG LIMITED, ONE OF THE SPONSORS OF THE +TALENTS UNLIMITED+ GAMES CONTEST, AS A CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF DISABLED PERSONS.

IT WILL BE ADMINISTERED UNDER THE EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS FUND OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, AND AIMS TO ENCOURAGE HANDICAPPED PUPILS TO BECOME ALL-ROUND, MATURE PERSONS WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE AND READY TO FACE GREATER CHALLENGES ON GRADUATION.

AT A CEREMONY TODAY, MR S.J. OSMOND, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE SHELL COMPANY HANDED OVER A CHEQUE FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND TO MR HAYE.

SPEAKING AT THE CEREMONY, MR HAYE SAID: +UNDER THE CONDITIONS OF AWARD OF THIS SCHOLARSHIP, A NUMBER OF DISABLED PUPILS EACH YEAR WILL RECEIVE RECOGNITION FOR THEIR EFFORTS TO OVERCOME THEIR HANDICAPS, THEIR LEARNING DIFFICULTIES AND FOR THEIR ENTHUSIASM AND PERSISTENCE IN ACHIEVING INTEGRATION IN THE SCHOOL SETTING.+

HE ALSO NOTED THAT THE SCHOLARSHIPS ARE BY NO MEANS SIMPLY A MEASURE OF ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT BECAUSE THEY ALSO SERVE SEVERAL OTHER OBJECTIVES.

THESE OBJECTIVES ARE TO RECOGNISE AND ACCEPT HANDICAPPED PUPILS IN OUR COMMUNITY- TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND SUPPORT THEIR SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY- AND TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR HANDICAPPED PUPILS TO SET A GOOD EXAMPLE TO THEIR FELLOW CLASSMATES.

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TUEN MUN LUNAR NEW YEAR FAIR SITES SOLD

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ONE HUNDRED STALL SITES FOR THE TUEN MUN LUNAR NEW YEAR FAIR WERE SOLD AT A PUBLIC AUCTION TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE HIGHEST PRICE FETCHED WAS \$460 FOR A SITE SELLING FLOWERS.

THE AUCTION, ORGANISED BY THE TUEN MUN URBAN SERVICES OFFICE, WAS HELD AT TAI HING COMMUNITY HALL AT TAI HING ESTATE. THE UPSET PRICE WAS \$50 FOR A SITE.

THE FAIR WILL BE HELD AT TUEN MUN SAN HUI PLAYGROUND BETWEEN JANUARY 18 AND 25.

SITES FOR BOTH THE SHEUNG SHUI AND TAI PO FAIRS WILL BE PUT UP FOR AUCTION ON MONDAY (DECEMBER 21) AND TUESDAY (DECEMBER 22) RESPECTIVELY.

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LAND FORMATION FOR YUEN LONG PUBLIC HOUSING
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ANOTHER 15 HECTARES OF LAND WILL BE FORMED IN THE NORTH WEST PART OF YUEN LONG NEW TOWN FOR PUBLIC HOUSING AND ASSOCIATED CIVIC AMENITIES.

A \$39 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE WORK WAS SIGNED TODAY BY MR LEE SHING-SEE, CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT BRANCH AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF THE PHILIPPINES.

THE CONTRACT INVOLVES DRAINING AND CLEARING EXISTING FISH PONDS OF SOFT MUD AND FILLING THEM WITH MATERIAL FROM AN EXISTING BORROW AREA NEAR TAI TONG.

BECAUSE OF THE TEMPORARY INCREASE IN TRAFFIC ON TAI TONG ROAD - WHICH WILL BE THE HAUL ROUTE FOR THE FILL MATERIAL - A SHORT SECTION OF THE ROAD AT TAI KEI LENG WILL BE WIDENED. IN ADDITION, A CYCLE TRACK WILL BE PROVIDED ON ONE SIDE OF THE ROAD AND WIDER FOOTPATHS ON BOTH SIDES.

WORK IS TO START LATER THIS MONTH AND TAKE ABOUT 26 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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SAI KUNG HAWKERS JOIN HANDS IN CLEAN-UP
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TWO HUNDRED HAWKERS PLYING IN THREE SAI KUNG STREETS GOT TOGETHER TODAY (FRIDAY) TO IMPROVE ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE IN THEIR TRADING AREA.

THEY SWEEPED AWAY ALL DEBRIS ACCUMULATED IN THE STREETS AND DEMOLISHED ALL ILLEGAL HAWKER STRUCTURES ERECTED AT SAI KUNG MAIN STREET, HOI PONG STREET AND MARKET STREET.

THE OPERATION WAS PART OF THE DISTRICT-WIDE CLEAN-UP IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CURRENT CLEAN HONG KONG CAMPAIGN.

CLEANSING STAFF OF THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT PROVIDED A BACK UP SERVICE BY SETTING UP TEMPORARY REFUSE COLLECTION POINTS AND MOVED AWAY ALL DEBRIS DURING THE OPERATION.

MR WILLIAM WAN, CHAIRMAN OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT COMMITTEE OF THE CLEAN HONG KONG CAMPAIGN, PRAISED THE HAWKERS FOR THEIR CIVIC-MINDEDNESS AND TOURED THE AREA WITH THE CHAIRMAN OF SAI KUNG RURAL COMMITTEE, MR CHUNG POON, AND THE DEPUTY URBAN SERVICES OFFICER OF SAI KUNG, MR CHOY YEUNG-HUNG.

BANNERS WERE PRESENTED TO THE HAWKERS WHOSE STALLS WERE FOUND TO BE THE CLEANEST.

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TRIBUTE TO KOWLOON WOMEN'S WELFARE CLUB

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THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR SELWYN ALLEYNE, TONIGHT (FRIDAY) DESCRIBED AS TIMELY THE KOWLOON WOMEN'S WELFARE CLUB'S DECISION TO EXTEND ITS WORK INTO A NEW SERVICE AREA -- CARE OF THE ELDERLY.

SPEAKING AT THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CLUB, HE NOTED THAT WITH A GENEROUS DONATION FROM MR WONG CHO-TONG, THE PROJECT ARCHITECT, THE CLUB PLANNED TO ESTABLISH A HOSTEL FOR THE ELDERLY IN SHUN TIN ESTATE, NGAU TAU KOK NEXT YEAR.

THE HOSTEL, WHICH WILL PROVIDE 165 RESIDENTIAL PLACES FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE, WILL BE SUPPORTED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

+ITS OPENING WILL MARK THE PARTICIPATION OF YET ANOTHER VOLUNTARY AGENCY IN PROVIDING MUCH NEEDED SERVICES TO OLD PEOPLE IN NEED OF HOUSING AND HELP IN THEIR DAILY LIVING,+ MR ALLEYNE SAID.

THE DIRECTOR PAID TRIBUTE TO MEMBERS OF THE CLUB FOR THEIR +HARD WORK, DEDICATION AND ENTHUSIASM+.

HE NOTED THAT THE CLUB RUNS A PRIMARY SCHOOL FOR 1 000 PUPILS AND A DAY-CARE CENTRE FOR 70 CHILDREN OF PRE-SCHOOL AGE AND ORGANISES INTEREST GROUPS AND OTHER WELFARE ACTIVITIES AT ITS HEADQUARTERS BUILDING IN SHING TAK STREET, KOWLOON.

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KWUN TONG HANDICAPPED CHILDREN CHRISTMAS CONCERT

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A CHRISTMAS CONCERT FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN OF KWUN TONG DISTRICT WILL BE JOINTLY PRESENTED BY THE MUSIC OFFICE, THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD, THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT CULTURE AND RECREATION PROMOTION ASSOCIATION AND THE KWUN TONG CITY DISTRICT OFFICE TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AT 10 AM AT THE KWUN TONG COMMUNITY CENTRE.

THIS CONCERT HAS BEEN ORGANISED IN RESPONSE TO THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE DISABLED AND TO GIVE THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN OF KWUN TONG AN OPPORTUNITY TO ENJOY AND PLAY MUSIC AND SHARE THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS WITH THE AUDIENCE DURING THE FESTIVE SEASON.

THE PROGRAMME WILL INCLUDE PERFORMANCES BY THE MUSIC LOVER'S CHINESE ORCHESTRA AND STUDENTS FROM THE WORLD REHABILITATION FUND DAY CENTRE, CARITAS RESURRECTION SCHOOL, C.C.C. KEI SHUN SPECIAL SCHOOL AND PO LEUNG KUK KO CHIU ROAD CENTRE.

ADMISSION IS FREE. FOR ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CALL 3-7561328.

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ALL IN ONE FAMILY
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THE MESSAGE THAT THE DISABLED AND THE ABLE-BODIED BELONG TO ONE BIG FAMILY WILL LIVE ON DESPITE THE FACT THAT THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF DISABLED PERSONS IS DRAWING TO A CLOSE, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE (OPERATIONS), MRS EVELYN DOE, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SHE WAS SPEAKING AT A CHRISTMAS PARTY ORGANISED JOINTLY BY THE ABERDEEN REHABILITATION CENTRE AND THE KAI CHI CHILDREN'S CENTRE FOR ABOUT 400 DISABLED TRAINEES.

SHE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE MESSAGE WOULD +BECOME PART OF OUR DAILY LIVING.+

ALSO PRESENT AT THE CHRISTMAS PARTY WAS THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR SELWYN ALLEYNE, WHO PRESENTED SOUVENIRS TO PERFORMERS AT THE FUNCTION.

IN HIS SPEECH, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT RECREATION CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, MR LAM HON-KEUNG, CALLED ON EMPLOYERS TO MAKE POSITIVE EFFORTS TO PROVIDE JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE DISABLED.

TRAINEES OF THE TWO CENTRES AND OTHER REHABILITATION INSTITUTIONS PUT ON AN ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMME FOR EVERYONE PRESENT.

THERE WAS ALSO A LUCKY DRAW.

THE ABERDEEN REHABILITATION CENTRE PROVIDES SERVICES FOR THE SOCIAL AND VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION OF DISABLED PEOPLE. THE KAI CHI CHILDREN'S CENTRE IS A RESIDENTIAL CENTRE FOR MENTALLY-RETARDED CHILDREN UNDER 16.

BOTH CENTRES ARE RUN BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

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CANTONESE OPERA FOR SHA TIN ARTS FORTNIGHT
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A WHOLE WEEK OF CANTONESE OPERA WILL BE STAGED FROM MONDAY (DECEMBER 21) AT TAI WAI FOOTBALL GROUND AS PART OF THE CURRENT SHA TIN ARTS FORTNIGHT.

PERFORMING WILL BE MORE THAN 60 ARTISTES FROM THE CHOR FUNG MING OPERA TROUPE.

THERE WILL BE ONE PERFORMANCE ON MONDAY EVENING STARTING AT 7 PM. FOR THE REMAINING SIX DAYS THERE WILL BE TWO PERFORMANCES STARTING AT 1 PM AND 7 PM.

THE COST OF STAGING THE PERFORMANCES IS \$300 000 WHICH IS BEING PROVIDED BY TAI WAI VILLAGE OFFICE.

TICKET PRICES ARE DIVIDED INTO TWO TYPES : THOSE FOR ALL BUT ONE OF THE PERFORMANCES, COSTING \$800, \$500, \$350 AND \$200- AND THOSE FOR INDIVIDUAL SHOWS WHICH COST \$70, \$50 AND \$30.

/TICKETS ARE

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FROM TAI WAI VILLAGE OFFICE.

RECEIPTS FROM THE 1 PM SHOW ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 27) WILL GO TOWARDS FUNDS RAISED FOR SHA TIN SPORTS ASSOCIATION. SEAT PRICES WILL BE \$500 (FOR TWO PERSONS), \$100, \$75 AND \$50. TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FROM TAI WAI VILLAGE OFFICE, THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT OFFICE.

OPERAS TO BE PERFORMED WILL INCLUDE WELL-KNOWN LEGENDS LIKE +PRINCESS CHANG PING+, +STORY OF THE PURPLE HAIRPIN+, + DREAM OF THE PEONY PAVILION+ AND +THE REBIRTH OF HONG MEI+.

THE MATSHED IN WHICH THE OPERAS WILL BE STAGED CAN SEAT 2 000.

THE FULL LIST OF OPERAS TO BE PERFORMED IS :

- * DECEMBER 21 (EVENING) +THE PREMIER OF SIX WARRING STATES+, FOLLOWED BY +LIUYI, THE LETTER DELIVERER+.
- * DECEMBER 22 (MATINEE) +THE TREASURED SWORD+ (EVENING) +DREAM OF THE PEONY PAVILION+.
- * DECEMBER 23 (MATINEE) +THE SWORD OF YU CHANG+ (EVENING) +STORY OF THE PURPLE HAIRPIN+.
- * DECEMBER 24 (MATINEE) +THE UNFINISHED ROMANCE IN THE PHOENIX CHAMBER+ +THE HOWLS OF A SHREW+.
- * DECEMBER 25 (MATINEE) +THE VIRTUOUS LADY+ (EVENING) + THE GODDESS OF LUO+.
- * DECEMBER 26 (MATINEE) +COURTSHIP THROUGH A GOLD HAIRPIN+ (EVENING) +PRINCESS CHANG PING+.
- * DECEMBER 27 (MATINEE) +THE MARRIAGE OF THREE SMILES+ (FUND-RAISING SHOW) (EVENING) +THE REBIRTH OF HONG MEI+.

THE SHA TIN ARTS FORTNIGHT STARTED ON DECEMBER 13 AND WILL END ON JANUARY 3.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT IN DES VOEUX ROAD WEST

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SEVERAL SECTIONS OF DES VOEUX ROAD WEST IN SHEUNG WAN WILL BE DESIGNATED AS PROHIBITED ZONES FROM 10 AM ON TUESDAY (DECEMBER 22).

THEY ARE THE EASTBOUND TRAM TRACK AT ITS JUNCTION WITH EASTERN STREET, THE EASTBOUND TRAM TRACK AT ITS JUNCTION WITH WILMER STREET AND WESTBOUND TRAM TRACK AT ITS JUNCTION WITH EASTERN STREET.

ALL MOTOR VEHICLES EXCEPT TRAMS WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM ENTERING THESE ZONES.

THE PROHIBITED ZONES WILL BE INDICATED BY TRAFFIC SIGNS AND CARRIAGEWAY MARKINGS.

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