



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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ORGANISATIONAL CHANGE FACILITATING FINANCIAL, BANKING SCENE
* * * * *

THE RECENT REORGANISATION WITHIN THE ADMINISTRATION THAT BRINGS THE POLICY RESPONSIBILITIES FOR ALL ASPECTS OF THE FINANCIAL MARKETS UNDER ONE ROOF WILL GREATLY FACILITATE THE PROPER CO-ORDINATION OF THE GOVERNMENT'S ROLES IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND SUPERVISION OF THEM, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR PIERS JACOBS, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

ADDRESSING THE BUSINESS FORUM LUNCHEON OF THE HONG KONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AT THE FURAMA HOTEL, MR JACOBS SAID THE MONETARY AFFAIRS BRANCH NOW HAD POLICY RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FINANCIAL SERVICES SECTOR GENERALLY; THAT WAS FOR THE SECURITIES, COMMODITIES AND FUTURES MARKETS AND FOR THE INSURANCE INDUSTRY, IN ADDITION TO BANKING AND MONETARY ISSUES.

+THE SECRETARY FOR MONETARY AFFAIRS NOW MONITORS ALL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FINANCIAL MARKETS, PARTICULARLY IN NEW AREAS AND IN AREAS WHICH CUT ACROSS TRADITIONAL BOUNDARIES,+ HE SAID.

MR JACOBS SAID HE BELIEVED THAT THE ORGANISATIONAL CHANGE WAS A TIMELY RESPONSE TO THE CHANGES THAT WERE TAKING PLACE IN THE BANKING AND FINANCIAL SCENE.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY OUTLINED THE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS ON THE RECENT CHANGES:

- * FIRST, JAPANESE BANKS WERE NOW AN EMERGING FORCE HERE, AND INTERNATIONALLY. JAPANESE BANKS NOW FORMED THE LARGEST FOREIGN BANK GROUP IN HONG KONG, WHICH ALSO SERVED AS A BASE FOR MANY OF THEIR REGIONAL ACTIVITIES-
- * SECOND, WITH A STRONG DEPOSIT BASE, AND COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE IN CHINA-RELATED BUSINESS, THE BANK OF CHINA GROUP NOW HAD A MUCH MORE ACTIVE BUSINESS STRATEGY AND WAS RECOGNISED AS A MAJOR FORCE BY OTHER BANKS.
- * THIRD, BANKING IN HONG KONG CONTINUED TO BE INTENSELY COMPETITIVE. SOME 75 PER CENT OF THE TOP 100 BANKS IN THE WORLD WERE ALREADY IN HONG KONG. AND ALTHOUGH WE ALREADY HAD 151 LICENSED BANKS, THERE SEEMED TO BE NO LACK OF INTEREST SHOWN ON THE PART OF POTENTIAL NEWCOMERS.
- * LASTLY, AND ON A BROADER NOTE, NEW MARKET PRACTICES WERE EVOLVING RAPIDLY IN HONG KONG, FOLLOWING INTERNATIONAL TRENDS. BANK LOANS WERE NOW NOT THE ONLY MEANS OF BORROWING; MANY LARGE CORPORATIONS RAISED FUNDS DIRECTLY FROM NON-BANK INSTITUTIONAL AND PRIVATE INVESTORS. CORPORATE CUSTOMERS MAINTAINED RELATIONSHIPS WITH A NUMBER OF SEPARATE BANKS. BANKS HAD THUS LOST MANY OF THEIR TRADITIONAL ADVANTAGES, BOTH IN TERMS OF THEIR ACCESS TO PROFITABLE BUSINESS AND IN THEIR ABILITY TO ASSESS CREDIT RISK, WHICH THEY ENJOYED WHEN THEY WERE THE SOLE SOURCE OF SHORT-TERM FINANCE FOR THEIR OWN EXCLUSIVE CUSTOMERS. MANY BANKS HAD RESPONDED BY DIVERSIFYING THEIR OWN BUSINESSES AND THUS THE NATURE OF THE RISKS THEY ASSUMED. THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN BANKS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS HAD BLURRED.

/MR JACOBS

MR JACOBS NOTED THAT GOVERNMENT'S POLICY TOWARDS THESE CHANGES REMAINED ONE OF BENEVOLENT NON-INTERVENTION, THAT IS OF INTERVENING AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE IN THE NATURAL EVOLUTION OF THE MARKETPLACE, AND THEN ONLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE OVERALL FABRIC OF THE SYSTEM OR TO PROTECT NON-PROFESSIONAL PARTICIPANTS FROM EXPLOITATION.

+WE DO, NEVERTHELESS, HAVE AN INTEREST IN SEEING THAT CHANGES OCCUR BY EVOLUTION AND NOT REVOLUTION,+ HE SAID.

+WE SHALL, OF COURSE, TAKE ACCOUNT OF DEVELOPMENTS NOT ONLY LOCALLY BUT IN OVERSEAS MARKETS. WE WILL ALSO CONSIDER, IF NECESSARY IN CONSULTATION WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR, WHETHER AND WHAT LEGISLATIVE AND FISCAL CHANGES MAY BE NECESSARY TO ENABLE HONG KONG TO CONTINUE TO PROSPER AS AN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRE.+

MR JACOBS SAID THE NEW BANKING LEGISLATION, WHICH CAME INTO EFFECT ON SEPTEMBER 1 THIS YEAR, PROVIDED A MORE EFFECTIVE FRAMEWORK FOR PRUDENTIAL SUPERVISION OF BANKS AND DTC'S; ONE THAT TOOK ACCOUNT OF THE CHARACTERISTICS OF INDIVIDUAL INSTITUTIONS AND WAS RESPONSIVE ENOUGH TO NEW MARKET DEVELOPMENTS.

+THE LEGISLATION ALSO SPELLS OUT THE FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER, AND REFLECTS A NEW APPROACH TO PRUDENTIAL SUPERVISION - ONE THAT IS MORE FLEXIBLE AND RELIES MORE ON THE COMMISSIONER'S DISCRETION AND QUALITATIVE JUDGMENT THAN PREVIOUSLY,+ HE ADDED.

+IT STRENGTHENS HIS ABILITY TO DETECT PROBLEMS AND TAKE REMEDIAL ACTION EARLY.+

MR JACOBS THEN HIGHLIGHTED THE NEW CAPITAL ADEQUACY REQUIREMENT IN THE ORDINANCE - THE ONLY PART THAT HAD NOT YET COME INTO EFFECT.

+THE IDEA IS THAT AN AUTHORISED INSTITUTION'S CAPITAL, WHICH IS A BUFFER AGAINST LOSSES, MUST BEAR A MINIMUM RELATIONSHIP TO THE TOTALITY OF THE RISKS THE INSTITUTION IS UNDERTAKING+ HE SAID.

+GENERALLY, THEREFORE, THE BIGGER OR RISKIER AN AUTHORISED INSTITUTION'S BUSINESS, AS MEASURED BY ITS RISK ASSETS, THE HIGHER SHOULD BE ITS CAPITAL LEVEL.+

MR JACOBS EMPHASISED THAT RISK ASSETS INCLUDED CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND OTHER OFF-BALANCE SHEET ITEMS.

HE SAID THE CAPITAL ADEQUACY RATIO WOULD BE EFFECTIVE IN ABOUT TWO YEARS TO GIVE TIME FOR INSTITUTIONS TO ADJUST.

+INSTITUTIONS HAVE STARTED TO REPORT TO THE COMMISSIONER THEIR CAPITAL ADEQUACY RATIO ACCORDING TO THE ORDINANCE SINCE SEPTEMBER 1,+ HE SAID.

ON THE QUESTION OF CONTINUAL RESTRICTIONS IN THE TYPES OF DEPOSITS THAT COULD BE TAKEN BY DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES, GIVEN THAT THEY WERE SUBJECT TO THE SAME SUPERVISION AS BANKS, MR JACOBS SAID THE ANSWER BEING THAT THE CAPITAL AND ASSETS REQUIREMENTS THAT EXISTED BETWEEN BANKS AND DTC'S WERE DIFFERENT; THE PRESENT MARKET POSITIONS HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED OVER A NUMBER OF YEARS ACCORDING TO THE PREVAILING RULES OF THE GAMES; AND NOT ALL CHANGES COULD BE INTRODUCED AT ONCE, AND IT SEEMED SENSIBLE TO HAVE THE NEW ORDINANCE FIRMLY IN PLACE SO THAT THE INDUSTRY MIGHT HAVE TIME TO ADJUST BEFORE THE GOVERNMENT EVEN ATTEMPTED TO ALTER THE RULES ONCE MORE.

MR JACOBS THEN MENTIONED AN IMPORTANT ADDITION TO THE LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK.

+UNDER THE ORDINANCE, THE COMMISSIONER WILL PREPARE A REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL EVERY YEAR ON THE WORKING OF THE ORDINANCE AND THE ACTIVITIES OF HIS OFFICE, AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS,+ HE SAID.

+THE FIRST OF THESE REPORTS COVERING THE YEAR 1986 SHOULD BE AVAILABLE NEXT SPRING,+ HE ADDED.

REGARDING CRITICISM OF THE GOVERNMENT FOR USING THE EXCHANGE FUND TO ASSIST BANKS WHICH HAD GOT THEMSELVES INTO DIFFICULTIES, MR JACOBS SAID THE PLAIN FACT OF THE MATTER WAS THAT NO RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT COULD TURN ITS BACK ENTIRELY ON PROBLEMS IN THE BANKING SECTOR.

+WHAT WE MUST DO IS TO ENSURE THAT WHATEVER STEPS ARE TAKEN THERE IS ORDERLINESS AND STABILITY IN THE MARKETPLACE.

MR JACOBS SAID HE BELIEVED THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD ACHIEVED THAT AND THE NEW FRAMEWORK OF THE BANKING LEGISLATION WOULD FURTHER ASSIST IT IN THIS REGARD.

+I BELIEVE WE HAVE EMERGED FROM OUR TEMPORARY DIFFICULTIES WITH THE CONFIDENCE IN OUR BANKING SYSTEM INTACT,+ HE SAID.

+NO BANK DEPOSITORS HAVE LOST THEIR MONEY. GOVERNMENT'S INTERVENTION WITH MEASURES RANGING FROM DIRECT ACQUISITION TO BEING MERELY A CATALYST HAS BEEN EFFECTIVE. THERE HAVE BEEN WELCOMED INJECTIONS OF CAPITAL AND MANAGEMENT EXPERTISE IN SOME OF THE SMALLER BANKS.+

MR JACOBS SAID THAT THE TWO GOVERNMENT-OWNED BANKS, HANG LUNG AND OVERSEAS TRUST BANK, AND HONG KONG INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL BANK IN WHICH GOVERNMENT HAD A MAJORITY INTEREST, WERE RECOVERING STEADILY; TWO OUT OF THE THREE HAD RETURNED TO PROFITABILITY AND THEY WOULD ALL BE SOLD BACK TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR AT THE RIGHT TIME.

/HE ADDED

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HE ADDED THAT THE DTC SECTOR HAD BEEN CONSOLIDATING OVER THE PAST YEAR OR SO, WITH A NUMBER OF REGISTRATIONS REVOKED, MANY AT THE REQUEST OF THE INSTITUTIONS CONCERNED.

IN CONCLUSION, MR JACOBS SAID THAT THE BANKING AND OTHER FINANCIAL SERVICES NOW AVAILABLE TO THE COMMUNITY WERE BETTER AND MORE SOPHISTICATED THAN TEN OR EVEN FIVE YEARS AGO.

HE SAID GOVERNMENT'S POLICY TO KEEP THE MARKET AND THE ECONOMY OPEN; TO PROVIDE A STABLE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT, AND TO TAKE DECISIVE ACTION TO STABILISE IT WHEN UNUSUAL EVENTS SO DEMAND HAD SERVED HONG KONG WELL IN THE PAST.

+I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT IT WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO IN FUTURE, AND THAT HONG KONG'S ROLE AS AN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRE WILL CONTINUE TO GROW,+ HE SAID.

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AUGUST ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT, PAYROLL FIGURES OUT
* * * * *

THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND (IN TERMS OF MONTHS) IN THE 200 LARGEST FIRMS IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR AS A WHOLE REMAINED STABLE IN AUGUST 1986 COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS MONTH, ACCORDING TO THE RESULTS OF A SURVEY RELEASED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN THE VOLUME OF ORDERS WAS REPORTED BY THE TEXTILES INDUSTRY. HOWEVER, SEVERAL OTHER INDUSTRIES SURVEYED RECORDED DECLINES IN THEIR ORDERS POSITIONS.

COMPARING AUGUST WITH JULY, THERE WAS A GENERAL DECREASE IN EMPLOYMENT IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, PARTICULARLY IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS, FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES, AS SUMMER WORKERS BEGAN TO LEAVE THE FACTORIES. EXCEPTIONS WERE THE TEXTILES AND FOOD AND DRINKS INDUSTRIES WHICH REPORTED NO CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT.

OVER THIS PERIOD, INCREASES IN BOTH PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS WERE REPORTED BY MOST MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES SURVEYED. ONLY THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY RECORDED A DECLINE IN PER CAPITA EARNINGS SUBSEQUENT TO THE PAYMENT OF BONUSES IN THE PRECEDING MONTH.

IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND THE SERVICES SECTORS, THE LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT REMAINED STABLE IN AUGUST COMPARED WITH JULY. PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS ALSO REMAINED STABLE IN OVERALL TERMS FOR THESE TWO SECTORS. HOWEVER, THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMPANIES RECORDED A DECLINE IN PAYROLL AND IN PER CAPITA EARNINGS, AFTER A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN THE PRECEDING MONTH DUE TO THE PAYMENT OF BONUSES IN THAT MONTH.

/THE PERCENTAGE

THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS FOR THE LAST THREE MONTHS ARE SHOWN IN THE TABLES BELOW.

THE SURVEY COVERED A PANEL OF THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURING COMPANIES AND THE 50 LARGEST COMPANIES IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND SELECTED SERVICES SECTORS, CHOSEN BY REFERENCE TO THEIR EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH 1983.

AS THE SAMPLE WAS NOT DRAWN ON A RANDOM BASIS, THE DEPARTMENT CAUTIONED THAT RESULTS ON THE MAGNITUDE OF CHANGE MIGHT NOT REFLECT THE EXPERIENCE OF THE ECONOMY AS A WHOLE, ALTHOUGH THEY SHOULD GIVE A USEFUL INDICATION OF THE DIRECTION OF CHANGE FOR A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ECONOMY IN THE SHORT TERM.

THE SURVEY REPORT FOR AUGUST 1986 IS ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, AND AT THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER, KAI TAK COMMERCIAL BUILDING, AT \$1.50 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE MADE TO THE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION STATISTICS SECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT ON 3-7212854.

A. ORDERS-ON-HAND IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

INDUSTRY	(% CHANGE OVER THE PRECEDING MONTH)			ORDERS-ON-HAND (IN TERMS OF MONTHS) FOR AUGUST 1986
	JUNE 1986	JULY 1986	AUG. 1986	
WEARING APPAREL, EXCEPT FOOTWEAR	-1	1	-1	4.88
TEXTILES, EXCEPT WEARING APPAREL	*	1	5	2.54
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	-8	-9	-3	3.19
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	4	3	-1	3.96
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	-2	-1	-1	5.12
OTHERS	1	*	*	4.43
<u>ALL ABOVE INDUSTRIES</u>	<u>-1</u>	<u>-1</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>4.38</u>

/B. EMPLOYMENT AND

B. EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS

INDUSTRY/ SERVICES	PERSONS ENGAGED BY THE COMPANIES SURVEYED			PER CAPITA EARNINGS			PER CAPITA EARNINGS FOR AUG. 1986 HK\$
	JUNE 1986	JULY 1986	AUG. 1986	PRECEDING MONTH)			
	(% CHANGE OVER THE			JUNE	JULY	AUG.	
	1986	1986	1986	1986	1986	1986	
MANUFACTURING	3	2	-2	-3	2	2	3 298
FOOD AND DRINKS	3	*	*	1	3	1	4 111
WEARING APPAREL, EXCEPT FOOTWEAR	*	1	-1	-1	2	2	2 856
TEXTILES, EXCEPT WEARING APPAREL	1	2	*	-2	2	2	3 488
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	7	10	-3	-5	8	-3	2 916
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	4	3	-6	-4	2	7	2 993
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	6	2	-3	-4	2	4	3 098
OTHERS	2	1	*	-4	-1	*	4 327
CONSTRUCTION**	-1	1	*	-2	3	*	4 821
SERVICES	*	*	*	2	5	*	6 070
BANKS	*	*	1	3	-3	1	5 378
HOTELS	*	*	*	*	*	*	3 903

/PUBLIC UTILITIES

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PUBLIC UTILITIES	*	*	*	*	13	-6	5 928
OTHERS	*	1	*	4	*	8	8 049

* CHANGES WITHIN +/- 0.5%

** PERSONS ENGAGED COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY; SITE WORKERS EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS NOT INCLUDED.

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OWNERS URGED TO REMOVE ILLEGAL STRUCTURES
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THE EASTERN DISTRICT BUILDING MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATION TEAM IS WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE BUILDING AND LANDS DEPARTMENT TO TACKLE THE PROBLEM OF ILLEGAL STRUCTURES ON MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS IN THE DISTRICT.

HOUSING MANAGER OF THE TEAM, MR LIN KA-TIN, SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THAT THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE HAD ISSUED DEMOLITION ORDERS TO FOUR SUCH BUILDINGS SELECTED BY THE TEAM FOR PRIORITY ACTION.

AT THE GOLDMINE BUILDING IN CHAI WAN, OWNERS OF THE TOP FLOORS SUCCESSFULLY REMOVED ONE-THIRD OF THE ILLEGAL STRUCTURES ON ROOFTOP. THE BUILDING, WHICH WAS ONCE INFESTED WITH ILLEGALS ON BOTH THE ROOFTOP AND PODIUM FLOOR, WAS ONE OF THE BUILDINGS SELECTED FOR ACTION.

MR LIN PRAISED OWNERS OF THE TOP FLOOR FOR THEIR CO-OPERATIONS AND HE FURTHER URGED OWNERS OF THE PODIUM FLOOR OF THE BUILDING TO FOLLOW THE EXAMPLE SET BY REMOVING THE EXISTING ILLEGAL STRUCTURES.

+AT A MEETING WITH THE OWNERS OF ANOTHER PROBLEM BUILDING, THE RITZ GARDEN APARTMENT IN QUARRY BAY, THE OWNERS STRONGLY SUPPORTED ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS TO DEMOLISH THE ILLEGAL STRUCTURES ON THEIR BUILDINGS. THEY ALSO PLAN TO REPAINT THE EXTERNAL WALL OF THE BUILDING AFTER DEMOLITION,+ MR LIN SAID.

SINCE THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE PROGRAMME AGAINST ILLEGAL STRUCTURES ON MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS IN THE EASTERN DISTRICT LAST MONTH, THE DISTRICT OFFICE HAD RECEIVED A LOT OF ENQUIRY LETTERS FROM THE PUBLIC CONCERNING THE PROGRAMME AND WHETHER THEIR PREMISES WERE AFFECTED.

MR LIN REITERATED THAT IN ORDER TO AVOID STRUCTURAL AND FIRE HAZARD, OWNERS OF MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS SHOULD NOT ERECT ILLEGAL STRUCTURES OR EXTENSIONS ON THEIR PREMISES- AND THE PUBLIC SHOULD NOT TAKE THE RISK OF BUYING OR RENTING SUCH ILLEGAL STRUCTURES.

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ROLE OF DISTRICT BOARD TO BE EXAMINED
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THE ROLE OF DISTRICT BOARDS AND ITS RELATIONS WITH LOCAL ORGANISATIONS WILL BE EXAMINED DURING A MEETING OF THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD ON THURSDAY (OCTOBER 23).

SOME MEMBERS OF THE BOARD HAD PREPARED A PAPER WHICH INCLUDES THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF DISTRICT BOARDS, THEIR URBAN MANAGEMENT ROLE, AND THEIR RELATIONS WITH DISTRICT OFFICES AS WELL AS OTHER LOCAL ORGANISATIONS. THE REPORT WILL BE TABLED FOR DISCUSSION AT THE FULL BOARD MEETING THAT DAY.

THE BOARD WILL ALSO DISCUSS SEVERAL CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENTS INCLUDING ONE ON REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES AND TWO REPORTS ON PUBLIC HOUSING SUBSIDY POLICIES.

TO FACILITATE DISCUSSION ON THE REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES REPORT, THE BOARD'S PUBLIC OPINION AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE RECENTLY CONDUCTED A SURVEY TO COLLECT RESIDENTS' VIEWS ON THE SUBJECT AND ITS FINDINGS WILL BE DISCLOSED AT THE MEETING.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON A FEASIBILITY STUDY ON THE REMOVAL OF THE KENNEDY TOWN ABATTOIR.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD MEETING AT 2.30 PM ON THURSDAY IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE DISTRICT BOARD ON THE 14TH FLOOR OF HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL.

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PREFERENTIAL MEDICAL SCHEME FOR YUEN LONG

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ELDERLY OR HANDICAPPED RESIDENTS OF YUEN LONG WILL BE ABLE TO CUT DOWN EXPENSES ON DENTAL AND GENERAL MEDICAL TREATMENT BY JOINING THE PREFERENTIAL MEDICAL SCHEME, TO BE LAUNCHED BY THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD NEXT MONTH.

INITIATED BY THE BOARD'S SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE, THE SCHEME IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, THE SOCIAL CENTRES OF CARITAS AND THE FINNISH MISSIONARY SOCIETY IN YUEN LONG.

/ANNOUNCING DETAILS

ANNOUNCING DETAILS TODAY (MONDAY), CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE, MR TANG YUN-LIM, SAID THE AIM OF THE SCHEME WAS TO ENABLE ELDERLY OR HANDICAPPED RESIDENTS TO DIRECTLY BENEFIT FROM REDUCED CONSULTATION FEES FOR VISITING DENTISTS AND DOCTORS IN THE DISTRICT.

ALL RESIDENTS AGED 60 AND ABOVE OR RECEIVING DISABILITY ALLOWANCE ADMINISTERED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT ARE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE SCHEME.

MR TANG NOTED THAT OVER THE PAST MONTHS, ORGANISERS HAD BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN SOLICITING THE MAJORITY OF REGISTERED DENTISTS AND DOCTORS IN THE DISTRICT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCHEME.

INITIALLY, THE SCHEME WOULD COVER ONLY GENERAL DENTAL AND MEDICAL TREATMENT BUT WOULD BE SUBJECTED TO A REVIEW AFTER SIX MONTHS OF IMPLEMENTATION WHEN CONSIDERATION WOULD BE GIVEN TO FURTHER EXPAND ITS SCOPE TO INCLUDE MORE SERVICES SUCH AS SPECIALIST TREATMENT AND PHYSICAL CHECK-UP, HE SAID.

MR TANG SAID HE ANTICIPATED THAT THE SCHEME WOULD ATTRACT SOME 10 000 RESIDENTS TO REGISTER AS MEMBERS.

+APART FROM PROVIDING ADDITIONAL SERVICE TO YUEN LONG RESIDENTS, WE ALSO HOPE THAT THE SCHEME COULD HELP GENERATE A SENSE OF CARE FOR THE NEEDY MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY,+ HE ADDED.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SCHEME CAN BE MADE TO THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT ON 0-753831; THE YOUTH AND COMMUNITY OFFICE OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT ON 0-776107; THE CARITAS SOCIAL CENTRE ON 0-797383 AND THE YOUTH SERVICES CENTRE OF THE FINNISH MISSIONARY SOCIETY ON 0-764823.

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COURSES ON CHEMICALS, ACCIDENT PREVENTION
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THE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY TRAINING CENTRE (ISTC) OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT IS INVITING APPLICATIONS FROM EMPLOYEES TO ATTEND ITS TRAINING COURSES ON CHEMICAL HAZARDS AND BASIC INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT PREVENTION.

NINE SUCH COURSES, LASTING BETWEEN ONE AND THREE DAYS, HAVE BEEN SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER.

THEY ARE SPECIALLY DESIGNED TO UPDATE AND BROADEN THE KNOWLEDGE OF EMPLOYEES WHO ARE REQUIRED TO HANDLE CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES IN INDUSTRIAL PROCESSES.

/THE COURSES

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THE COURSES COVER A WIDE RANGE OF SUBJECTS INCLUDING FIRE HAZARDS AND HEALTH EFFECTS OF CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES, CHEMICAL HAZARDS, FIRE PREVENTION, AIR SAMPLING AND EVALUATION, AND CONTROL OF WORK ENVIRONMENT.

SO FAR THIS YEAR, THE ISTC HAD ORGANISED 54 SIMILAR COURSES WITH A TOTAL PARTICIPANTS OF ABOUT 2 000.

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN CALLED ON EMPLOYERS TO RELEASE THEIR WORKERS TO ATTEND THESE COURSES WHICH ARE FREE.

+IF THE RESPONSE IS ENCOURAGING, WE WILL BE MORE THAN HAPPY TO ORGANISE ADDITIONAL COURSES FOR THE BENEFIT OF BOTH EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES,+ HE SAID.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE OBTAINABLE FROM THE ISTC ON THE 13TH FLOOR OF HARBOUR BUILDING, CENTRAL.

ENQUIRIES CAN ALSO BE MADE ON 5-8523563.

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FUND-RAISING PLANS FOR BURNS VICTIMS

* * * * *

MEMBERS OF A FUND-RAISING GROUP SET UP UNDER THE KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI DISTRICT BOARD WILL MEET THE MEDIA AT 11 AM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO ANNOUNCE PLANS FOR VICTIMS OF AN INCIDENT WHICH TOOK PLACE IN A FUR FACTORY ON OCTOBER 8.

THE BRIEFING WILL BE HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICE, 10TH FLOOR, KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICE, 166-174 HING FONG ROAD.

ALSO PRESENT WILL BE THE ACTING KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICER, MR PETER LEUNG.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE BRIEFING AT 11 AM TOMORROW IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICE, 10TH FLOOR, KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICE (NEXT TO THE KWAI HING MTR STATION), 166-174 HING FONG ROAD, KWAI CHUNG.

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DB TO CONSIDER GRIEVANCES DOCUMENT

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WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER WILL DISCUSS THE CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT ON REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES AT THEIR MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON.

THEY WILL ALSO BE BRIEFED ON THE HOPEWELL DEVELOPMENT AT QUEEN'S ROAD EAST.

DURING THE MEETING, QUESTIONS WILL BE RAISED REGARDING THE SUPPLY OF LISTS OF MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND OWNERS CORPORATIONS IN THE DISTRICT, AND MATTERS CONCERNING CROWN LAND RESUMPTION AND COMPENSATION.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD TOMORROW AT 2.30 PM AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE EIGHTH FLOOR OF TUNG WAH MANSION, 201 HENNESSY ROAD.

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DB MEMBERS TO VISIT TRAINING CENTRE COMPLEX

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SIX MEMBERS OF THE KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI DISTRICT BOARD WILL VISIT THE KWAI CHUNG TRAINING CENTRE COMPLEX AND THE KWAI CHUNG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

THE VISIT, JOINTLY ARRANGED BY THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE TWO ORGANISATIONS, WILL ENABLE BOARD MEMBERS TO LEARN ABOUT EDUCATION FACILITIES AVAILABLE IN THE DISTRICT.

THEY WILL BE ACCOMPANIED ON THE VISIT BY STAFF OF THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICE.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE VISIT. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT 1.30 PM TOMORROW IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICE, 10TH FLOOR, KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICE (NEXT TO KWAI HING MTR STATION), 166-174, HING FONG ROAD, KWAI CHUNG.

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COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENT
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THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE OF THE MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD WILL MEET TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO DISCUSS WAYS TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC MEASURES AT THREE ROAD JUNCTIONS WHERE THERE HAVE BEEN A NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS.

IN VIEW OF THE NUMBER OF THE ACCIDENTS, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT HAS PROPOSED NEW PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ARRANGEMENTS TO ENSURE SAFER AND MORE CONVENIENT TRAFFIC FLOW.

THE JUNCTIONS ARE MONG KOK ROAD-SAI YEE STREET, FA YUEN STREET-PRINCE EDWARD ROAD, AND SHANGHAI STREET-BUTE STREET.

THE COMMITTEE WILL CONSIDER A SCHEME TO SHORTEN THE OPERATING HOURS OF GOODS VEHICLE PARKING METERS IN TAI KOK TSUI.

AT PRESENT THERE ARE 118 GOODS VEHICLE PARKING METERS IN THE AREA, OPERATING FROM 8 AM TO MIDNIGHT. THE PROPOSAL IS TO SHORTEN THE PERIOD TO 8 PM.

MEMBERS' VIEWS WILL ALSO BE SOUGHT ON A COMPLAINT ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL NUISANCES INVOLVING A PIG ROASTING FACTORY IN NELSON STREET.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD TOMORROW AT 2.30 PM AT MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, FIRST FLOOR, 157 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD.

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MORE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES FOR TSUEN WAN
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THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SEVEN-STORY RECREATION AND SPORTS CENTRE BUILDING TO BE BUILT AT TSO KUNG TAM IN TSUEN WAN TO SERVE RESIDENTS.

THE BUILDING IS IN THE FIRST PHASE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A 5.7-HECTARE PARK AT TSO KUNG TAM WHICH IS OFF ROUTE TWISK TO THE NORTH OF TSUEN WAN. THE OTHER PHASE WILL INCLUDE LANDSCAPING OF THE WHOLE AREA.

/FACILITIES TO

FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED IN THE BUILDING WILL INCLUDE A MULTI-PURPOSE GAMES HALL, THREE SQUASH COURTS AND VARIOUS ACTIVITIES AREAS. AN OUTDOOR SWIMMING POOL WILL ALSO BE BUILT.

A DORMITORY WING FOR ORGANISED RESIDENTIAL COURSES AND CAMPING FACILITIES WILL BE CONSTRUCTED.

BUILDING WILL START NEXT FEBRUARY AND BE COMPLETED BY JULY, 1988.

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TENDERERS INVITED TO PRE-QUALIFY
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THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING CONTRACTORS TO APPLY FOR INCLUSION TO A LIST OF PRE-QUALIFIED TENDERERS FOR CONSTRUCTING THE ROAD CONNECTIONS AT THE TSUEN WAN END OF ROUTE 5, THE SHA TIN-TSUEN WAN HIGHWAY.

THE WORK COMPRISES CONSTRUCTING ROADS, DRAINAGE, RETAINING WALLS, SLOPE PROTECTION, A VEHICULAR UNDERPASS AND BRIDGES, PEDESTRIAN SUBWAYS AND FOOTBRIDGES. IT WILL RESULT IN EXTENSIVE ROAD AND TRAFFIC DIVERSIONS.

APPLICATIONS FOR PREQUALIFICATION DOCUMENTS CAN BE MADE TO SCOTT WILSON KIRKPATRICK AND PARTNERS, CONSULTING ENGINEERS AND TRANSPORTATION PLANNERS, 1720, OCEAN CENTRE, CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON.

COMPLETED DOCUMENTS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY NOVEMBER 14.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN APRIL NEXT YEAR AND BE COMPLETED IN LATE 1989.

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REMINDER ON STATUTORY HOLIDAY

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT REMINDED EMPLOYERS THAT WEDNESDAY (OCTOBER 22) IS AN ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HOLIDAY APPOINTED THIS YEAR TO MARK THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO HONG KONG.

UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE, ALL MANUAL EMPLOYEES AND THOSE NON-MANUAL EMPLOYEES EARNING NOT MORE THAN \$10 500 A MONTH ARE ENTITLED TO THE HOLIDAY AND MUST BE PAID FOR THE DAY-OFF IF THEY HAVE WORKED CONTINUOUSLY FOR THREE MONTHS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY.

HOLIDAY PAY SHOULD BE EQUIVALENT TO AN EMPLOYEE'S EARNINGS ON A NORMAL WORKING DAY AND SHOULD INCLUDE BASIC WAGES AS WELL AS ALLOWANCES THAT CAN BE EXPRESSED IN MONEY TERMS SUCH AS MEALS AND COST OF LIVING ALLOWANCES.

+WHERE THE EARNINGS VARY FROM DAY TO DAY, HOLIDAY PAY SHOULD BE THE AVERAGE DAILY EARNINGS DURING EVERY COMPLETE WAGE PERIOD, WHICH COULD BE BETWEEN 28 DAYS TO 31 DAYS PRECEDING THE HOLIDAY,+ A LABOUR DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

+IF AN EMPLOYEE IS REQUIRED TO WORK ON A STATUTORY HOLIDAY, HE MUST BE GIVEN AN ALTERNATIVE DAY-OFF WITHIN 60 DAYS BEFORE OR AFTER THAT DAY.+

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RESIDENTS TO ATTEND KOWLOON CITY DB MEETING
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ABOUT 300 RESIDENTS AND STUDENTS WILL ATTEND THE 11TH MEETING OF THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD AT THE MARTHA BOSS COMMUNITY CENTRE ON THURSDAY (OCTOBER 23) AS PART OF THE DISTRICT'S CIVIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN.

THEY INCLUDE 50 CIVIC AMBASSADORS CHOSEN FROM A RECENT CIVIC AMBASSADOR SCHEME, MEMBERS OF THE EIGHT AREA COMMITTEES, OWNERS INCORPORATIONS, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS AND STUDENTS IN THE DISTRICT.

IN THE MEETING, BOARD MEMBERS WILL DISCUSS THE CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT ON REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES AND TWO REPORTS ON PUBLIC HOUSING RENT SUBSIDY POLICIES.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE A DISCUSSION ON THE NEED FOR MASS TRANSIT SERVICE IN HUNG HOM AND TO KWA WAN AREAS, REQUEST FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO NUISANCE CAUSED BY FLYOVERS AND A REQUEST FOR PROPER CONTROL ON OIL PRICES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD MEETING AT 2.15 PM ON THURSDAY IN THE COMMUNITY HALL OF THE MARTHA BOSS COMMUNITY CENTRE, 89 CHUNG HAU STREET, HO MAN TIN. THERE WILL BE NO SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION SERVICE DURING THE MEETING.

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BANKING TRAINING COURSE OFFERED
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BANKING EMPLOYEES INVOLVED IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE DEALINGS ARE INVITED TO ENROL FOR AN INTENSIVE COURSE ORGANISED BY PRICE WATERHOUSE ASSOCIATES AT THE REQUEST OF THE BANKING TRAINING BOARD OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL.

DESIGNED FOR TRAINEE DEALERS IN THE FOREIGN EXCHANGE, TREASURY OR FUNDING DEPARTMENT, THE TWO-DAY COURSE WILL PROVIDE PARTICIPANTS WITH AN UNDERSTANDING OF HOW COMMERCIAL BANKS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS CONTROL AND ACCOUNT FOR SUCH TRANSACTIONS.

THE COURSE WILL START WITH BASIC CONCEPTS AND BUILDS TOWARD MORE COMPLEX IDEAS IN A LOGICAL MANNER WHICH WOULD ENABLE PARTICIPANTS TO FOLLOW. EACH SESSION IS A MIXTURE OF LECTURE, DISCUSSION AND CASE STUDIES WHILE VIDEO AND SLIDES ARE USED AS TEACHING AIDS.

THE FULL-DAY COURSE WILL BE CONDUCTED ON NOVEMBER 25 AND 26 AND COURSE FEE IS \$1 600 WITH CLASS SIZE LIMITED TO 25. QUALIFIED PARTICIPANTS WILL BE REIMBURSED HALF THE FEE BY THE COUNCIL AT THE END OF THE COURSE.

DEADLINE FOR ENROLMENT IS OCTOBER 31. FURTHER DETAILS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE BANKING TRAINING BOARD, ON 5-8932341 EXT. 255 DURING OFFICE HOURS.

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REQUEST BY HANDICAPPED BEING CONSIDERED
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CONSIDERATION WOULD BE GIVEN TO THE QUESTION OF ALLOWING HANDICAPPED PEOPLE TO BOARD AND ALIGHT FROM PUBLIC TRANSPORT VEHICLES IN RESTRICTED AREAS, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

HE WAS COMMENTING ON PRESS REPORTS THAT A GROUP OF PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED PEOPLE WOULD USE THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO HIGHLIGHT THEIR CAMPAIGN FOR SPECIAL TREATMENT ON PUBLIC TRANSPORT.

THE SPOKESMAN EMPHASISED THAT THE PROPOSAL WAS NOT A NEW ONE, AS IT HAD BEEN CONSIDERED IN 1983, BUT REJECTED ON THE GROUNDS OF SAFETY AND IMPRACTICABILITY.

THE ISSUE WOULD ALSO BE RAISED AT THE NEXT MEETING OF THE ACCESS AND TRANSPORT SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE REHABILITATION DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, HE ADDED.

HE NOTED THAT THE COMMITTEE WAS ALREADY CONSIDERING SEVERAL OTHER OPTIONS FOR IMPROVING TRANSPORT FOR THE HANDICAPPED, INCLUDING A MAXI-TAXI SCHEME, A PILOT TAXI-VOUCHER SCHEME AND EXTENSION OF REHABUS.

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TRANSPORT IMPROVEMENTS IN SAI KUNG TOWN

A NEW TERMINUS FOR FRANCHISED BUSES, GREEN MINIBUS AND PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES WILL COME INTO OPERATION IN SAI KUNG TOWN TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

THE TERMINUS IS DESIGNED TO COPE WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF SAI KUNG TOWN AND THE INCREASE IN RECREATIONAL VISITORS TO SAI KUNG DISTRICT.

KMB ROUTES 92, 94 AND 99; AND GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES 1, 2 AND 9 WILL TERMINATE AT THE TERMINUS.

THE TERMINUS IS PART OF A CONTINUING PROGRAMME OF IMPROVEMENT WORKS IN SAI KUNG. THESE INCLUDE IMPROVEMENTS TO PO TUNG ROAD AND MAN NIN STREET, CONSTRUCTION OF A PARKING PLACE FOR BUSES, AND PROVISION OF LAY-BYS IN CHAN MAN STREET.

FROM TOMORROW, AN ADDITIONAL TAXI STAND ADJACENT TO THE WATERFRONT WILL ALSO COME INTO OPERATION.

A MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK IN CHAN MAN STREET WILL SOON BE OPENED TO ALLEVIATE THE SHORTAGE OF PARKING SPACES IN THE AREA.

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PLB RESTRICTED ZONES IN SAI KUNG

CHAN MAN STREET IN SAI KUNG WILL BE DESIGNATED A 24-HOUR DAILY PUBLIC LIGHT BUS PROHIBITED ZONE FROM 10 AM TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

AT THE SAME TIME, THE SECTION OF FUK MAN ROAD LEADING TO THE BUS AND GREEN MINIBUS TERMINI, AND THE TAXI STAND IN SAI KUNG TOWN WILL BE MADE A PLB RESTRICTED ZONE.

THE EXISTING PLB PROHIBITED ZONE ON PO TUNG ROAD WILL BE AMENDED TO START AT A POINT NEAR ITS JUNCTION WITH FUK MAN ROAD.

THE EXISTING PLB PROHIBITED ZONE ON MAN NIN STREET WILL ALSO BE AMENDED TO START AT A POINT NEAR ITS JUNCTION WITH PO TUNG ROAD.

NO PLB WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE RESTRICTED AREA.

WITH EFFECT FROM THE SAME TIME, THE SAI KUNG TOWN GREEN MINIBUS TERMINUS WILL BE DESIGNATED A 24-HOUR DAILY RESTRICTED ZONE.

NO VEHICLE WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE RESTRICTED AREA.

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RIGHT-TURN BAN IN NORTH POINT

FROM 10 AM ON THURSDAY (OCTOBER 23), NO VEHICLE WILL BE ALLOWED TO TURN RIGHT FROM NORTHBOUND MOUNT PARKER ROAD ON TO KING'S ROAD IN NORTH POINT FOR ABOUT THREE WEEKS. TRAM TRACK RENEWAL WORK WILL BE IN PROGRESS.

VEHICLES ON MOUNT PARKER ROAD HEADING FOR SAI WAN HO AND AREAS FARTHER EAST SHOULD USE WESTBOUND KING'S ROAD, TONG CHONG STREET, HOI KWONG STREET, FINNIE STREET AND EASTBOUND KING'S ROAD.

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NO LEFT TURNING IN TAI KOK TSUI

NO VEHICLES WILL BE ALLOWED TO TURN LEFT FROM POK MAN STREET EASTBOUND TO TAI KOK TSUI ROAD NORTHBOUND FROM 10 AM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO IMPROVE THE TRAFFIC CIRCULATION IN THE AREA.

MOTORISTS ON POK MAN STREET EASTBOUND HEADING FOR TAI KOK TSUI ROAD NORTHBOUND SHOULD USE TAI KOK TSUI ROAD SOUTHBOUND AND CHERRY STREET.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 67.3 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 394.727 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 457.389 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 78.0 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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Royal Visit.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1986

BRIEFING BY PRESS SECRETARY TO THE QUEEN
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THE PRESS SECRETARY TO THE QUEEN, MR MICHAEL SHEA, WILL GIVE A PRESS BRIEFING ON THE ROYAL VISIT AT 5.30 PM TOMORROW (OCTOBER 21) AT THE OLD LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, MAIN WING, CENTRAL.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE BRIEFING.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

REMINDER:

A TEAM OF JAPANESE TECHNICIANS WILL ASSEMBLE THE FIREWORKS IN THE STORAGE AREA AT GREEN ISLAND TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN PREPARATION FOR THE ROYAL FIREWORKS DISPLAY ON WEDNESDAY EVENING.

A LAUNCH WILL LEAVE BLAKE PIER IN CENTRAL AT 9.15 AM TO TAKE MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES TO GREEN ISLAND.

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ROYAL VISIT PRESS CENTRE IN OPERATION
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A ROYAL VISIT PRESS CENTRE HAS BEEN SET UP AT THE GIS PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE FIFTH FLOOR OF BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, QUEEN'S ROAD, CENTRAL.

THE PRESS CENTRE, WITH TYPEWRITERS, TELEX AND FACSIMILE FACILITIES, AND IDD CARDPHONES, WILL STAY OPEN ROUND-THE-CLOCK THROUGHOUT THE ROYAL VISIT.

GIS OFFICERS WILL BE PRESENT TO GIVE ASSISTANCE, AND GENERAL REFERENCE MATERIALS ON HONG KONG, TOGETHER WITH PRESS RELEASES AND PICTURES OF THE ROYAL VISIT WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM THE CENTRE.

ONE BLACK AND WHITE MANUAL FILM LABORATORY HAS ALSO BE SET UP NEXT TO THE PRESS CENTRE FOR USE BY VISITING PHOTOGRAPHERS. THE LAB WILL HAVE TWO 135 MM PHOTO ENLARGERS.

ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

REMINDER:

THE FOLLOWING ARE TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES COVERING THE ROYAL VISIT TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DEPARTURE TIME</u>	<u>ASSEMBLY POINT</u>
(NOTE: ALL TRANSPORT WILL DEPART FROM THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (CGO) CARPARK, LOWER ALBERT ROAD)		
1. ARRIVAL OF HMY BRITANNIA (I) PRESS BOATS (II) HELICOPTER POOL	7 AM 7.15 AM	
2. LANDING AT QUEEN'S PIER	8.30 AM	
3. WELCOMING CEREMONY AT CITY HALL	8.30 AM	
4. VISIT TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BUILDING	(NO TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED)	BEFORE 10 AM AT THE JACKSON ROAD ENTRANCE TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BUILDING.
5. VISIT TO HONG KONG BANK BUILDING	(NO TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED)	BEFORE 10.30 AM AT THE BANK STREET ENTRANCE TO THE BANK.
6. GOVERNMENT HOUSE LUNCHEON	11.15 AM <u>-----</u> (INSTEAD OF NOON AS STATED IN THE DETAILED MEDIA ARRANGEMENTS DISTRIBUTED EARLIER)	
7. VISIT TO HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC	1.15 PM	
8. CONVENTION CENTRE FOUNDATION STONE-LAYING CEREMONY	2.15 PM	
9. COLISEUM SPECTACULAR (I) TSIM SHA TSUI EAST LANDING SITE (II) COLISEUM	7 PM 6.30 PM	