



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1989

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GOVERNOR OPENS \$300-MILLION REDEVELOPED KOWLOON PARK

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, TODAY COMMENDED BOTH THE URBAN COUNCIL AND THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB FOR THEIR DEDICATION TO IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN HONG KONG.

SIR DAVID PAID THE TRIBUTE WHEN HE SPOKE AT THE OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY OF THE \$300-MILLION REDEVELOPED KOWLOON PARK WHICH WAS FUNDED BY THE JOCKEY CLUB AND MANAGED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL.

"IN REDEVELOPING THE 14-HECTARE PARK, SOME IMPRESSIVE NEW RECORDS HAVE BEEN SET," SAID SIR DAVID.

THESE INCLUDE A NEW INDOOR GAMES HALL WHICH IS THE LARGEST OF ITS TYPE IN THE TERRITORY; A SWIMMING POOL COMPLEX WITH A CAPACITY OF 2 000 PEOPLE AND THE FIRST MOVABLE POOL FLOOR SYSTEM IN HONG KONG; A BIRD LAKE; A SCULPTURE WALK AND A PIAZZA.

SIR DAVID SAID THAT ANOTHER MAJOR CO-OPERATIVE VENTURE WOULD BE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE VICTORIA BARRACKS SITE INTO HONG KONG PARK.

"ONCE AGAIN THE JOCKEY CLUB WILL BE MAKING A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO THE FINANCING OF THE PROJECT AND WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE CONSTRUCTION. I AM SURE THAT THE RESULTS OF THIS NEXT COOPERATIVE VENTURE WILL BE AS SUCCESSFUL AS THIS ONE HAS BEEN," HE ADDED.

IN HIS SPEECH OF WELCOME, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE URBAN COUNCIL, MR H.M.G. FORSGATE, SAID, "THE REDEVELOPMENT OF KOWLOON PARK HAS BECOME A REALITY AND ITS EXCELLENCE IS AVAILABLE FOR ALL TO SEE."

RECOUNTING THE HISTORY OF THE PARK, MR FORSGATE SAID THAT THE SITE HAD BEEN OF IMPORTANCE SINCE THE 1860S WHEN IT WAS USED BY THE MILITARY AS WHITFIELD BARRACKS.

"THE URBAN COUNCIL PROPOSED A COMPREHENSIVE REDEVELOPMENT OF THE WHOLE SITE AND PLANNING WAS IN HAND IN 1986 WHEN THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB MADE A GENEROUS OFFER TO SPONSOR THE COMPLETE REDEVELOPMENT OF KOWLOON PARK PROVIDING \$300 MILLION FOR THE DESIGN AND BUILDING OF THE PARK AS A TURNKEY PROJECT," SAID MR FORSGATE.

"THIS IS IN KEEPING WITH THE SUPPORT WHICH WE HAVE RECEIVED FROM THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB OVER THE YEARS AND WHICH WE TRUST WILL CONTINUE IN THE FUTURE."

/ALSO SPEAKING

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ALSO SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB, SIR OSWALD CHEUNG, SAID, "THE JOCKEY CLUB HAS A LONG HISTORY OF CREATING PARKS TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF THE HONG KONG PEOPLE AND THE FIRST WAS VICTORIA PARK RECLAIMED FROM MARSHLAND IN 1951.

"I HOPE THAT WHAT HAS BEEN PROVIDED WILL FURTHER REINFORCE THE JOCKEY CLUB'S COMMITMENT TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG AND THAT MANY, MANY PEOPLE WILL BE ABLE TO ENJOY NOT ONLY SOME ACTIVE RECREATION IN REALLY MODERN FACILITIES BUT ALSO, SOME MOMENTS OF PEACE AND TRANQUILITY IN THE PARKLAND OUTSIDE IN THE VERY CENTRE OF ONE OF THE MOST DENSELY POPULATED PARTS OF OUR TERRITORY," HE ADDED.

AFTER THE CEREMONY, SIR DAVID AND LADY WILSON, ACCOMPANIED BY MR FORSGATE AND SIR OSWALD, TOURED THE PARK TO SEE SOME OF ITS NEW FACILITIES.

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SITE FOR CONTAINER TERMINAL 8 UNDER STUDY

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THE GOVERNMENT IS GIVING DETAILED CONSIDERATION TO THE COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGES OF THE SITES AT TSING YI AND STONECUTTERS ISLAND FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF CONTAINER TERMINAL 8, THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MRS ANSON CHAN, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

SHE SAID THE GOVERNMENT HOPED TO BE ABLE TO ANNOUNCE A DECISION ON THE PREFERRED SITE SHORTLY.

SPEAKING AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE BAYVIEW LIONS CLUB, MRS CHAN SAID THAT THE FIRST BERTH OF TERMINAL 8 WOULD BE REQUIRED BY MID-1994 TO KEEP PACE WITH HONG KONG'S FAST GROWING CONTAINER THROUGHPUT WHICH SAW A 25 PER CENT INCREASE IN 1987 AND A FURTHER 15 PER CENT RISE LAST YEAR.

"CONSULTANTS HAVE BEEN ASSISTING GOVERNMENT IN LOCATING A SUITABLE SITE FOR THIS TERMINAL. NINE SITES WERE EXAMINED IN TERMS OF THEIR DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL, LAND ACCESS, ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT, MARINE ASPECTS AND COST.

"THE SEARCH HAS NOW BEEN NARROWED TO TWO SITES, ONE AT SOUTHEAST TSING YI AND THE OTHER AT STONECUTTERS ISLAND," SHE SAID.

MRS CHAN SAID THAT IN MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF FUTURE CONTAINER FACILITIES IT WAS ESSENTIAL THAT THE GOVERNMENT BORE IN MIND THE BEST POSSIBLE INTERESTS OF HONG KONG AS A WHOLE, AND SO AVOIDED A NEAR MONOPOLY SITUATION EMERGING IN THIS AREA.

"IT IS ONLY BY ONGOING FORWARD PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE GOODWILL AND INVOLVEMENT OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR, THAT THE GOVERNMENT CAN REMAIN AHEAD OF THE GAME AND ENSURE THAT HONG KONG'S DEMAND FOR PORT FACILITIES IS MATCHED BY SUPPLY," SHE ADDED.

/MRS CHAN

MRS CHAN NOTED THAT HONG KONG WAS IN THE TOP LEAGUE OF WORLD PORTS IN TERMS OF THE VOLUME OF CARGO HANDLED AND RANKED NUMBER ONE WITH REGARD TO THE SHEER NUMBER OF CONTAINERS HANDLED.

ABOUT HALF OF ALL TRADE THROUGH HONG KONG (BY WEIGHT) WAS CONTAINERISED AND IN 1987 THE NUMBER OF CONTAINERS HANDLED IN THE PORT WAS 3.4 MILLION TEU'S (20-FOOT EQUIVALENT UNITS).

NEARLY 80 PER CENT OF THESE WENT THROUGH THE FIVE PRIVATELY OPERATED BERTHS AT KWAI CHUNG, WHILE THE REST WERE HANDLED IN THE STREAM OR AT SMALLER PIERS OR JETTIES.

NOTING THAT EXISTING FACILITIES WERE UNDER EXTREME PRESSURE, MRS CHAN SAID THAT AN ADDITIONAL TERMINAL, TERMINAL 6, WAS BEING CONSTRUCTED BY THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO PROVIDE THREE ADDITIONAL BERTHS FOR THIRD GENERATION CONTAINER SHIPS.

THE FIRST BERTH WAS ALREADY OPERATIONAL, THE SECOND ABOUT TO BECOME SO, AND THE THIRD WOULD FOLLOW LATER THIS YEAR, SHE SAID.

AS REGARDS TERMINAL 7 WHICH WAS UNDER ADVANCED PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION, MRS CHAN SAID THAT THE SEABED ADJACENT TO TERMINAL 6 HAD BEEN SOLD TO A PRIVATE DEVELOPER WHO PLANNED TO COMPLETE THE NEW TERMINAL WELL AHEAD OF THE 1993 TARGET DATE.

"WHEN COMPLETED, TERMINALS 6 AND 7 WILL, BETWEEN THEM, ROUGHLY DOUBLE HONG KONG'S CONTAINER HANDLING CAPACITY. THE COMPLETION OF TERMINAL 7 WILL BE A LANDMARK, SINCE IT IS LIKELY TO EXHAUST THE DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL OF THE KWAI CHUNG CONTAINER PORT," SHE POINTED OUT.

"THE TRIGGERING OF TERMINAL 8, LIKE ITS PREDECESSORS, WILL BE GENERATED FROM APPLICATION OF A 'TRIGGER POINT MECHANISM' - A FORMULA, AGREED WITH THE MAJOR CONTAINER TERMINAL OPERATORS, TO ENSURE THAT DEVELOPMENT OF CONTAINER TERMINAL FACILITIES KEEPS PACE WITH PROJECTED DEMAND," SHE EXPLAINED.

SHE SAID IT WAS NECESSARY FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO ASSESS DEMAND WELL INTO THE FUTURE ON AN ONGOING BASIS IN VIEW OF THE FIVE YEAR LEAD TIME INVOLVED IN DEVELOPING SUCH FACILITIES.

TURNING TO THE GOVERNMENT'S SHIPPING POLICY, ITS OBJECTIVE AND STRATEGY, MRS CHAN SAID GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES IN THESE AREAS WERE AIMED AT CREATING AN ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH HONG KONG TRADE COULD BEST PROSPER.

"GOVERNMENT'S ROLE IS TO ENSURE THAT THE FACILITIES, INFRASTRUCTURE AND GOODWILL ARE THERE.

"IT IS THEN UP TO THE TRADING AND SHIPPING COMMUNITY TO MAKE THE BEST OF THIS BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT BY TAKING WHATEVER COMMERCIAL DECISIONS ARE REQUIRED TO ACHIEVE THEIR OWN COMMERCIAL OBJECTIVES," SHE SAID.

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PRELIMINARY FIGURES OF 1989 PROPERTY REVIEW RELEASED
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THE PRELIMINARY FINDINGS IN THE 1989 PROPERTY REVIEW RELEASED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) INDICATE THAT AT THE END OF 1988 VACANCIES IN DOMESTIC AND OFFICE SECTORS WERE DOWN ON 1987 WHILE VACANCIES IN COMMERCIAL PREMISES REMAINED MUCH THE SAME.

FOR FLATTED FACTORIES ON THE OTHER HAND, THE SURPRISINGLY HIGH SUPPLY IN 1988 AT 1,138,000 SQUARE METRES COUPLED WITH A 27 PER CENT DROP IN TAKE-UP FROM 1987 LEVELS RESULTED IN AN INCREASE IN VACANCY TO 4.7 PER CENT OF STOCK, UP FROM LAST YEAR'S ALL TIME LOW OF 1.7 PER CENT.

PRIVATE DOMESTIC (ALL CLASSES)

SUPPLY IN 1988 AT AROUND 34,500 UNITS WAS VERY MUCH THE SAME AS THAT IN THE PREVIOUS TWO YEARS AND 1989 IS EXPECTED TO SHOW AN INCREASE IN SUPPLY OF 9 PER CENT TO AROUND 37,700 UNITS.

THE 1988 TAKE-UP OF DOMESTIC PREMISES, AT 33,900 UNITS, VIRTUALLY MATCHED SUPPLY AND VACANCIES WERE DOWN 9 PER CENT IN ABSOLUTE TERMS TO JUST 2.9 PER CENT OF STOCK.

PRIVATE DOMESTIC (LARGE UNITS - 100 SQUARE METRES AND ABOVE)

SUPPLY IN 1988 WAS THE HIGHEST EVER RECORDED, AND AMOUNTED TO 3,150 UNITS WHICH SIGNIFICANTLY EXCEEDED SUPPLY IN 1987 BY SOME 58 PER CENT. SUPPLY IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE BY A MODEST 6 PER CENT IN 1989 TO AROUND 3,350 UNITS.

TAKE-UP OF LARGE UNITS WAS DOWN 36 PER CENT ON LAST YEAR, AND COUPLED WITH THE INCREASED SUPPLY HAS LED TO AN INCREASE IN VACANCY LEVELS OF 50 PER CENT OVER 1987, REPRESENTING 6.3 PER CENT OF STOCK.

OFFICES

THE SUPPLY OF OFFICE SPACE AT AROUND 247,000 SQUARE METRES IN 1988 WAS VERY MUCH THE SAME AS THAT IN 1987. OVER 35 PER CENT WAS IN SECTOR I AND 52 PER CENT WAS IN SECTOR II. OVERALL SUPPLY IS FORECAST TO INCREASE IN 1989 BY SOME 14 PER CENT TO 282,000 SQUARE METRES, BUT BY CONTRAST 45 PER CENT OF THE FORECAST SUPPLY IS EXPECTED TO BE IN SECTOR III.

TAKE-UP AT 354,000 SQUARE METRES WAS MORE THAN 30 PER CENT UP ON LAST YEAR RESULTING IN A FURTHER REDUCTION IN VACANCY TO 124,000 SQUARE METRES OR 2.7 PER CENT OF STOCK. AROUND 44 PER CENT OF THE TAKE-UP WAS IN SECTOR I PUSHING VACANCIES DOWN DRAMATICALLY, TO ONLY 0.5 PER CENT IN THAT SECTOR.

/COMMERCIAL

COMMERCIAL

SUPPLY OF COMMERCIAL SPACE AT 238,000 SQUARE METRES WAS SOME 16 PER CENT DOWN ON THAT IN 1987 AND IS EXPECTED TO DROP FURTHER IN 1989 TO 205,000 SQUARE METRES.

TAKE-UP WAS WELL DOWN ON 1987 WHICH WAS AN EXCEPTIONAL YEAR. AS A RESULT, VACANCIES IN ABSOLUTE TERMS INCREASED ONLY marginally BUT AS A PERCENTAGE OF STOCK, REMAINED MUCH THE SAME.

FLATTED FACTORIES

SUPPLY IN 1988 WAS THE HIGHEST SINCE 1979 AND AT 1,138,000 SQUARE METRES, WAS SIGNIFICANTLY IN EXCESS OF THE 870,000 SQUARE METRES FORECAST AND WELL UP ON THE 541,000 SQUARE METRES SUPPLIED IN 1987. COMPLETIONS ARE FORECAST TO BE HIGH AGAIN IN 1989.

TAKE-UP WAS DOWN BY 27 PER CENT ON 1987 WHICH, COUPLED WITH THE SIGNIFICANT SUPPLY, FORCED VACANCIES UP FROM 1.7 PER CENT OF STOCK IN 1987 TO 4.7 PER CENT IN 1988.

GENERAL

A SUMMARY OF SUPPLY, TAKE-UP AND VACANCY IN THE MAIN SECTORS IS ATTACHED.

IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE FIGURES QUOTED ARE PRELIMINARY ONLY. FULL AND FINAL FIGURES WILL BE SHOWN IN THE 1989 PROPERTY REVIEW, WHICH IS EXPECTED TO BE AVAILABLE IN APRIL.

THE DEFINITIONS OF FLOOR AREAS IN THE 1989 PROPERTY REVIEW WILL BE THE SAME AS THOSE IN THE 1988 EDITION.

PRIVATE DOMESTIC (ALL CLASSES)

	(NO. OF UNITS)			
	SUPPLY	TAKE-UP	VACANCY	%*
	-----	-----	-----	---
1986	34,100	30,300	24,700	3.9
1987	34,400	35,100	22,300	3.4
1988	34,500	33,900	20,200	2.9
1989	[37,700]			

"PRIVATE DOMESTIC" EXCLUDES FLATS BUILT UNDER THE HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION SCHEME.

*VACANCY AT THE END OF THE YEAR AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL STOCK.

/PRIVATE DOMESTIC

PRIVATE DOMESTIC (LARGE UNITS - 100 SQUARE METRES AND OVER)

(NO. OF UNITS)

	SUPPLY	TAKE-UP	VACANCY	%
	-----	-----	-----	---
1986	2,550	1,800	3,300	6.6
1987	2,000	2,650	2,300	4.5
1988	3,150	1,700	3,450	6.3
1989	[3,350]			

OFFICES (ALL SECTORS)

('000 SQUARE METRES)

	SUPPLY	TAKE-UP	VACANCY	%
	-----	-----	-----	---
1986	46	256	266	6.0
1987	247	269	241	5.5
1988	247	354	124	2.7
1989	[282]			

OFFICES (SECTORAL ANALYSIS)

('000 SQUARE METRES)

	SUPPLY	TAKE-UP	VACANCY	%
	-----	-----	-----	---
SECTOR I				

CENTRAL, GRADE A OFFICES				
1986	7	60	40	4.4
1987	70	38	73	8.4
1988	88	156	5	0.5
1989	[76]			

/SECTOR II

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SECTOR II

SHEUNG WAN, WAN CHAI, CAUSEWAY BAY & TSIM SHA TSUI, GRADE A
OFFICES AND CENTRAL, GRADE B OFFICES

1986	9	82	37	2.9
1987	102	74	65	4.6
1988	128	107	79	5.2
1989	[80]			

SECTOR III

REMAINDER

1986	30	114	189	8.6
1987	75	157	103	4.8
1988	31	91	40	1.8
1989	[126]			

COMMERCIAL

('000 SQUARE METRES)

	SUPPLY	TAKE-UP	VACANCY	%
	-----	-----	-----	---
1986	174	213	466	7.8
1987	284	358	368	5.4
1988	238	174	381	5.5
1989	[205]			

FLATTED FACTORIES

('000 SQUARE METRES)

	SUPPLY	TAKE-UP	VACANCY	%
	-----	-----	-----	---
1986	611	787	516	3.8
1987	541	804	247	1.7
1988	1,138	588	736	4.7
1989	[763]			

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STRONG ACTION TO STOP MALPRACTICES IN FISH MARKET

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STRINGENT MEASURES WILL BE INTRODUCED FROM THE THIRD WEEK OF THIS MONTH IN THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION'S ABERDEEN WHOLESALE FISH MARKET - THE LARGEST OF THE SEVEN WHOLESALE FISH MARKETS IN HONG KONG - WITH A VIEW TO IMPROVING ITS MARKETING ORDER.

THESE MEASURES WILL TAKE THE FORM OF RESTRICTING ENTRY TO THE SORTING FLOOR, RESTRICTING THE USE OF HAND HOOKS IN THE MARKET AND ALSO PROHIBITING THE MARKING OF FISH BEFORE SALE.

THIS IS THE SECOND TIME THAT CONTROL MEASURES HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED IN THE WHOLESALE FISH MARKETS OF THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION (FMO).

CLOSURE OF THE SORTING FLOOR TO FISH BUYERS WAS IMPLEMENTED IN JULY LAST YEAR IN THE CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE FISH MARKET WITH CONSIDERABLE SUCCESS.

FROM FEBRUARY 13, FISH BUYERS IN THE ABERDEEN FISH MARKET WILL NOT BE ALLOWED ENTRY TO THE MARKET'S SORTING FLOOR WHERE FISH IS LANDED AND SORTED.

ACCESS TO THIS AREA WILL, FROM THE SAME DATE, BE STRICTLY RESTRICTED TO FISHERMEN, THEIR AGENTS AND EMPLOYEES, ALL OF WHOM WILL BE ISSUED WITH A PERMIT.

THE SENIOR FISHERIES OFFICER OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, MR PHILIP CHEUNG, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THE STRINGENT MEASURES WOULD BE IMPLEMENTED JOINTLY WITH THE POLICE AND THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE IN PURSUANCE OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE'S WORKING GROUP ON GANGS.

HE SAID THAT THESE MEASURES WERE DESIGNED TO ROOT OUT VARIOUS MALPRACTICES DISCOVERED IN THE MARKET INCLUDING THE INFILTRATION OF TRIAD MEMBERS ONTO THE SORTING FLOOR, RESULTING IN GOOD QUALITY FISH BEING PRE-SELECTED, MARKED AND MANIPULATED THROUGH THE SALES PROCESS.

"THESE MALPRACTICES HAVE MADE IT VERY UNFAIR TO THE MAJORITY OF FISH BUYERS WHO ARE IN FACT BARRED FROM PARTICIPATING IN A FAIR AUCTION OF THE FISH.

"IN VIEW OF THIS AND SINCE ALL FISH BUYERS SHOULD BE ABLE TO PURCHASE FISH FROM THE AUCTION FLOOR, WE HAVE DECIDED TO PROHIBIT BUYERS FROM ENTERING THE SORTING FLOOR," MR CHEUNG SAID.

HE SAID THAT TO DATE, THE FMO HAD RECEIVED 188 APPLICATIONS FOR SORTING FLOOR PERMITS FROM FISHERMEN, THEIR AGENTS AND EMPLOYEES. OF THE TOTAL, 162 HAD BEEN APPROVED.

/THE SUCCESSFUL

THE SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED INDIVIDUALLY AND THEY HAVE ALSO BEEN REQUESTED TO COLLECT THEIR PERMITS FROM THE MANAGEMENT OFFICE OF THE ABERDEEN MARKET AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

HE SAID THAT MANY FISH BUYERS WERE FOUND CARRYING VARIOUS TYPES OF HAND HOOKS IN THE MARKET AND THESE WOULD BE BANNED AS FROM THE SAME DATE BECAUSE OF THEIR POTENTIAL THREAT TO THE SAFETY OF THE MARKET USERS.

"IN SEVERAL INCIDENTS, THIS TOOL WAS USED AS A WEAPON BY UNDESIRABLE ELEMENTS TO THREATEN LEGITIMATE FISH BUYERS," MR CHEUNG ADDED.

EXTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT WITH BOTH BUYERS AND FISHERMEN AND THEY HAVE EXPRESSED FULL SUPPORT FOR THESE MEASURES.

THE ABERDEEN WHOLESALE FISH MARKET'S DAILY THROUGHPUT IS ABOUT 75 TONNES, CATERING MAINLY FOR THE POPULATION OF HONG KONG ISLAND.

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TSUEN WAN AREA TRAFFIC CONTROL FEASIBILITY STUDY

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THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, MR JAMES SO, TODAY (WEDNESDAY) SIGNED AN AGREEMENT WITH A SYSTEMS ENGINEERING CONSULTANT FIRM TO CARRY OUT A FEASIBILITY STUDY ON THE INTRODUCTION OF AN AREA TRAFFIC CONTROL (ATC) SYSTEM IN TSUEN WAN.

THE PROPOSED SYSTEM WILL BE CAPABLE OF CONTROLLING OVER 100 TRAFFIC SIGNALS IN TSUEN WAN, KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI AND WILL INCLUDE AN ASSOCIATED CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM.

MR SO SAID THAT THE ATC SYSTEM IN KOWLOON HAS BEEN PROVED TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN REGULATING TRAFFIC IN THE MAIN ROADS AND BUSY JUNCTIONS.

THE SECOND ATC SYSTEM INSTALLED ON THE NORTHERN SHORE OF HONG KONG ISLAND IS NEARING COMPLETION AND IS UNDERGOING TESTING. IT WILL BE OFFICIALLY OPENED LATER THIS YEAR.

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THAT THE INCREASING TRAFFIC IN THE TSUEN WAN AREAS CAN BE BETTER REGULATED WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF A COMPUTERISED ATC SYSTEM, MR SO SAID.

IF IMPLEMENTED, THE PROPOSED SYSTEM WILL BE THE FIRST ATC SYSTEM INSTALLED IN A NEW TOWN.

THE NINE-MONTH FEASIBILITY STUDY, WHICH HAS JUST STARTED, WILL LOOK INTO VARIOUS SYSTEMS AND WILL INCLUDE TECHNICAL INVESTIGATIONS IN RESPECT OF ATC STRATEGY, SYSTEM REQUIREMENT, DESIGN, SPECIFICATION AND CONTRACT IMPLEMENTATION.

IT WILL ALSO ADDRESS THE SPECIAL TRAFFIC CONTROL REQUIREMENTS OF TSUEN WAN AS WELL AS THE GENERAL ATC DEVELOPMENT IN A TERRITORY-WIDE CONTEXT.

THE AGREEMENT FOR THE STUDY WAS SIGNED BY MR SO AND MR JOSEPH LAM, VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE CONSULTANT FIRM, DELCAN INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION.

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TAI PO READY FOR NEW YEAR FESTIVITIES

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A VARIETY SHOW WILL BE HELD IN TAI PO PLAYGROUND TOMORROW (THURSDAY) EVENING TO MARK THE OPENING OF THE DISTRICT'S LUNAR NEW YEAR PROGRAMME.

THE SHOW WILL BEGIN AT 8 PM. A LUNAR NEW YEAR FLOWER FAIR WILL ALSO BE OPEN IN THE PLAYGROUND AT AROUND THAT TIME.

THE SHOW, ORGANISED BY THE SECOND TAI PO FESTIVAL'S LUNAR NEW YEAR PROGRAMME COMMITTEE, WILL FEATURE SINGING AND A LION DANCE.

THE TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICER, MR JOHN BURRETT, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY WITH OTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND LOCAL COMMUNITY LEADERS.

DURING THE LUNAR NEW YEAR, RESIDENTS WILL BE TREATED TO A SERIES OF ENTERTAINING AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES PROVIDED AS PART OF THE SECOND TAI PO FESTIVAL.

THESE ACTIVITIES INCLUDE VARIETY SHOWS TO BE STAGED IN TAI PO MARKET, GALA EVENTS TO BE HELD IN LAM TSUEN, TAI HANG AND LUEN YICK FISHERMEN'S VILLAGE, AND PERFORMANCES BY THE FRINGE CLUB IN TAI YUEN, KWONG FUK AND FU SHIN ESTATES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE VARIETY SHOW TO MARK THE OPENING OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT'S LUNAR NEW YEAR PROGRAMME STARTING AT 8 PM TOMORROW (THURSDAY) IN TAI PO PLAYGROUND, HEUNG SZE WUI STREET, TAI PO MARKET.

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1989

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ONE CANDIDATE WITHDRAWS FROM MC ELECTIONS

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ONE CANDIDATE HAD WITHDRAWN HIS NOMINATION FOR THE FORTHCOMING MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS ON MARCH 9 WHEN THE DEADLINE FOR WITHDRAWAL PASSED AT 5 PM TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

HE IS MR BOTON LI YAU-WAI OF SHAM SHUI PO EAST CONSTITUENCY.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF NOMINATIONS NOW STANDS AT 53 -- 30 CANDIDATES IN THE URBAN COUNCIL CONSTITUENCIES AND 23 IN THE REGIONAL COUNCIL CONSTITUENCIES.

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KEEP CLEAN MESSAGE FOR BOAT PEOPLE

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THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD CONDUCTED A SPECIAL PUBLICITY EXERCISE IN ABERDEEN TYPHOON SHELTER TODAY (WEDNESDAY) TO MAKE BOAT PEOPLE MORE AWARE OF THE NEED TO FIGHT POLLUTION AND TO KEEP THE WATERS CLEAN.

THE EXERCISE WAS ORGANISED BY THE BOARD'S ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AS PART OF THE DISTRICT'S PROGRAMME IN SUPPORT OF THE KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN. IT INCLUDED A "CLEAN FORESHORE EXERCISE" AND A REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICE.

IN THE "CLEAN FORESHORE EXERCISE", MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE JOINED FORCES WITH STAFF OF THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT, MARINE DEPARTMENT AND THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE IN CLEARING FLOATING GARBAGE GATHERED ALONG THE ABERDEEN WATERFRONT.

VOLUNTEERS FROM THE FISHING COMMUNITY ALSO PARTICIPATED IN THE OPERATION.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MR CHAN YAU-YUE, SAID IT WAS HOPED THAT, THROUGH THESE CLEAN-UP EFFORTS, THE BOAT PEOPLE IN THE VICINITY WOULD REALISE THAT THE FLOATING GARBAGE WAS NOT ONLY AN EYESORE BUT WOULD ALSO MAR THE TYPHOON SHELTER'S REPUTATION AS A TOURIST SPOT.

"THE LONG-TERM SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM DEPENDS MUCH ON THE CO-OPERATION OF THE BOAT PEOPLE THERE IN NOT LITTERING THE WATERS," HE ADDED.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE THEN TOURED THE TYPHOON SHELTER IN SAMPANS TO DISTRIBUTE GARBAGE BAGS TO FISHING VESSELS AND DWELLING BOATS TO ENCOURAGE BOAT PEOPLE TO DISPOSE OF THEIR GARBAGE PROPERLY.

/APART FROM

APART FROM DISTRIBUTING FREE GARBAGE BAGS, THE REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICE ALSO INCLUDES A DAILY COLLECTION OF GARBAGE FROM VESSELS BY A CONTRACTOR HIRED BY THE COMMITTEE.

A TOTAL OF 8,000 GARBAGE BAGS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AND THE COLLECTION SERVICE WILL LAST UNTIL FEBRUARY 4.

MR CHAN POINTED OUT THAT THE PERIOD OF THE COLLECTION SERVICE WAS DESIGNATED TO COINCIDE WITH THE LUNAR NEW YEAR WHEN FISHING VESSELS WOULD BE RETURNING TO THE TYPHOON SHELTER.

MEANWHILE, THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE AND VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS WILL BE STEPPING UP SECURITY MEASURES IN THE TYPHOON SHELTER DURING THE LUNAR NEW YEAR PERIOD.

THE MARINE DEPARTMENT, MARINE POLICE AND THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL JOIN HANDS IN MAINTAINING REGULAR PATROL OF THE HARBOUR TO ENSURE THAT THE FAIRWAYS AND FIRE LANES ARE CLEAR.

THE PATROL VESSELS WILL ALSO BROADCAST FIRE PREVENTION MESSAGES.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE WILL SEND A LETTER WITH A SKETCH MAP TO THE BOAT PEOPLE ADVISING THEM ON WHERE THEIR BOATS SHOULD BE MOORED, AND ON OTHER SECURITY MEASURES.

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SHAM SHUI PO DB TO DISCUSS STANDING ORDERS
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THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (THURSDAY) PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE BOARD'S STANDING ORDERS.

THE MEETING WILL ALSO DISCUSS WHETHER A NEW SECTION ON "THE ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVE MEMBERS FROM THE DISTRICT BOARDS TO THE URBAN/REGIONAL COUNCIL", PROPOSED BY THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE STANDING ORDERS.

ANOTHER ITEM FOR MEMBERS' CONSIDERATION WILL BE THE PROPOSED TIMETABLE FOR BOARD MEETINGS IN 1989-90.

THE MEETING WILL THEN HEAR REPORTS FROM THE DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND THE BOARD'S FOUR COMMITTEES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD MEETING WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 2 PM TOMORROW (THURSDAY) AT THE SHEK KIP MEI COMMUNITY HALL, BLOCK 42, SHEK KIP MEI ESTATE, NAM CHEONG STREET.

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LOITERING YOUTHS ON DB COMMITTEE AGENDA

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THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (THURSDAY) THE PROBLEM OF YOUNGSTERS LOITERING IN HOUSING ESTATES.

DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER, THE REV FUNG CHI-WOOD, WILL ASK WHETHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS SUCH AS THE SOCIAL WELFARE, EDUCATION AND HOUSING DEPARTMENTS AND THE POLICE ARE AWARE OF THE SITUATION OF GROUPS OF YOUNGSTERS LOITERING IN SHA TIN HOUSING ESTATES AT NIGHT.

HE WILL ALSO WANT TO KNOW IF THERE ARE ANY MEASURES OR ACTION TAKEN TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM.

THE MEETING WILL ALSO DISCUSS APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDS SUBMITTED BY LOCAL ORGANISATIONS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING TO BEGIN AT 4 PM TOMORROW (THURSDAY) AT THE DISTRICT BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE SIXTH FLOOR, KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN STATION.

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CUSTOMS OFFICERS INSPECT LIQUOR STORES

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WITH THE APPROACH OF THE LUNAR NEW YEAR, THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT CONDUCTED A TWO-DAY OPERATION FOR THE DETECTION OF ADULTERATED LIQUORS AS WELL AS LIQUOR AND CIGARETTES ON WHICH DUTY HAD NOT BEEN PAID.

THE OPERATION STARTED YESTERDAY (TUESDAY) AND INVOLVED 100 OFFICERS FROM REGIONAL ENFORCEMENT TEAMS AND THE CUSTOMS INVESTIGATION BUREAU.

THEY INSPECTED A TOTAL OF 187 LIQUOR STORES THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY BUT HAD DETECTED NO ADULTERATED LIQUORS NOR GOODS WITH DUTY NOT PAID.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT ADVISED THE PUBLIC NOT TO PURCHASE LIQUORS AT RELATIVELY CHEAP PRICES BECAUSE THEY MIGHT CONTAIN THE WRONG INGREDIENTS AND WOULD BE HAZARDOUS TO HEALTH.

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AT THE SAME TIME, SHOP OWNERS SHOULD PURCHASE LIQUORS AND CIGARETTES FROM REPUTABLE LICENSED DEALERS AND NOT FROM ILLEGITIMATE SOURCES.

THE DEPARTMENT MOUNTED TWO SIMILAR OPERATIONS IN MAY AND BEFORE CHRISTMAS LAST YEAR.

IN THE FIRST OPERATION, A MANUFACTURING CENTRE OF ADULTERATED LIQUORS WAS NEUTRALISED AND 281 BOTTLES OF ADULTERATED LIQUORS WITH A VALUE OF \$35,000 WERE SEIZED.

IN THE SECOND OPERATION, A TOTAL OF 346 BOTTLES OF ADULTERATED LIQUORS WORTH \$46,500 WERE SEIZED.

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DTC REGISTRATION REVOKED

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THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING ANNOUNCED THAT THE REGISTRATION OF PENGKALEN FINANCE LIMITED AS A DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANY HAS BEEN REVOKED AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS TODAY (WEDNESDAY) AT ITS OWN REQUEST UNDER SECTION 31(2) OF THE BANKING ORDINANCE.

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NEW REFUSE COLLECTION POINT IN SHA TIN

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A REFUSE COLLECTION POINT IS TO BE BUILT IN SHA TIN NEW TOWN, OPPOSITE THE HOTEL RIVERSIDE PLAZA.

WORK ON THE TWO-STOREY BUILDING, WHICH WILL OCCUPY A 112-SQUARE-METRE SITE IN AREA 5B SHA TIN, WILL START IN MID-MARCH AND TAKE SEVEN MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

IT WILL BE MANAGED BY THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

TENDERS FOR THE PROJECT, NOW BEING INVITED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, MUST BE SUBMITTED BEFORE NOON ON FEBRUARY 17.

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URBAN CLEARWAY IN CHATER ROAD

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 3), THE SOUTHERN KERSIDE LANE OF CHATER ROAD BETWEEN MURRAY ROAD AND JACKSON ROAD WILL BE DESIGNATED A 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY URBAN CLEARWAY.

NO VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS THERE.

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URBAN CLEARWAY IN TAI PO

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT FROM 10 AM ON SATURDAY (FEBRUARY 4), ROAD L8/1 IN TAI PO AREA 8 FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH TING KOK ROAD TO A POINT ABOUT 160 METRES NORTH OF THE SAME JUNCTION WILL BE MADE A 7 AM TO MIDNIGHT DAILY URBAN CLEARWAY.

NO VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS WITHIN THE RESTRICTED AREAS.

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