



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1988

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JOINT PORT PROMOTION SCHEME HAS MERIT

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THERE IS MERIT IN CONSIDERING A JOINT PROMOTION SCHEME FOR THE PORT OF HONG KONG, EMBRACING GOVERNMENT AND MAJOR PORT AND COMMERCIAL INTERESTS, THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE, MR DERICK HALL, SAID THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON.

"EACH PARTICIPANT WOULD CONTRIBUTE IN THE COMMON INTEREST," MR HALL SAID WHEN HE SUGGESTED THE IDEA DURING AN ADDRESS TO THE BALTIC AND INTERNATIONAL MARITIME COUNCIL'S TWO-DAY SEMINAR AT THE FURAMA HOTEL.

"AT PRESENT THIS IS NOTHING MORE THAN AN EMBRYONIC IDEA AND GOVERNMENT WOULD NEED TO BE FULLY CONVINCED THAT THERE IS A WIDESPREAD SUPPORT FOR THE CONCEPT BEFORE MAKING ANY DECISION," HE SAID.

MR HALL POINTED OUT THAT HONG KONG DID NOT HAVE A HOMOGENEOUS PORT AUTHORITY, NOR HAD IT BEEN IN COMPETITION WITH OTHER PORTS.

"HISTORICALLY HONG KONG HAS NEVER PROMOTED ITSELF AS A PORT IN THE WAY THAT ALMOST EVERY OTHER MAJOR PORT HAS," HE SAID.

"INDIVIDUAL COMPANIES MAY NEED TO MARKET THEIR OWN FACILITIES BUT NOTHING ELSE."

HOWEVER, MR HALL WARNED THAT IT MIGHT NO LONGER BE TRUE THAT THE PORT OF HONG KONG HAD NO COMPETITORS.

"KAOHSIUNG COULD COMPETE WITH HONG KONG AS A HUB PORT FOR CHINA TRANSHIPMENT CARGO. SINGAPORE SEES ITSELF AS A COMPETING HUB PORT. THERE IS THE LIKELIHOOD OF DEVELOPMENT IN CHINA," HE SAID.

"IT IS NOT SOMETHING WHICH WE CAN AFFORD TO IGNORE," MR HALL STRESSED.

HE NOTED THAT NO SUCH SCHEME WOULD BE VIABLE WITHOUT THE BACKING OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND THEREFORE HE WOULD WELCOME ITS VIEWS.

REFERRING TO THE EXISTING PORT OPERATION, MR HALL SAID THAT BASICALLY HONG KONG WAS A 'STATE' PORT CONTROLLED BY THE MARINE DEPARTMENT ALTHOUGH MOST OF THE INDIVIDUAL COMMERCIAL FACILITIES, SUCH AS PILOTS, TUGS, CONTAINER TERMINALS WERE OWNED AND OPERATED PRIVATELY.

"THE EXCEPTIONS ARE HARBOUR MOORINGS, PASSENGER FERRY TERMINALS AND PUBLIC CARGO WORKING AREAS WHICH ARE OPERATED BY THE MARINE DEPARTMENT," HE ADDED.

/HE SAID

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HE SAID HIS DEPARTMENT ALSO HAD THE FUNCTION OF CO-ORDINATING AND RECONCILING THE OFTEN CONFLICTING INTERESTS OF INDIVIDUAL PRIVATE OPERATORS FOR THE GENERAL COMMON GOOD.

MR HALL SAID: "THIS SYSTEM HAS SO FAR BEEN A SPECTACULAR SUCCESS. HONG KONG LEADS THE WORLD IN CONTAINER THROUGHPUT. PORT ACTIVITY GENERALLY CONTINUES TO EXPAND AT AN AMAZING RATE."

ON PORT EXPANSION, MR HALL SAID TO ENABLE APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO BE CONSIDERED, THE GOVERNMENT HAD SPONSORED A NUMBER OF STUDIES INCLUDING THE PORT AND AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY STUDY (PADS) AND THE FINANCIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL STUDY (FINS).

PADS WOULD ADVISE THE GOVERNMENT AS TO HOW THE PHYSICAL EXPANSION OF THE PORT AND AIRPORT COULD BEST BE ACHIEVED, MR HALL SAID.

"FINS IS PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS TO GOVERNMENT ON HOW THIS EXPANSION SHOULD BE FINANCED AND ADMINISTERED," HE SAID.

"IT WILL ALSO CONSIDER HOW THE FUTURE PORT SHOULD FIT IN WITH THE PRESENT FINANCIAL, ECONOMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE."

MR HALL SAID THE RESULTS COULD HAVE FAR REACHING EFFECTS ON THE WAY THE EXISTING PORT WAS RUN AND THAT IT WAS NOT IMPOSSIBLE THAT THE PORT MIGHT BE RUN ON TOTALLY DIFFERENT LINES.

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COMMUNITY AIDS CONCERN WEEK EXHIBITION OPENS

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EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, MRS ROSANNA TAM, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT IT IS HIGH TIME FOR HONG KONG TO PREPARE ITSELF AND EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE FACTS OF AIDS.

SHE WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE COMMUNITY AIDS CONCERN WEEK EXHIBITION WHICH AIMS TO AROUSE PUBLIC AWARENESS AND CONCERN ABOUT THE KILLER DISEASE.

MRS TAM URGED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SUPPORT THE AIDS PREVENTION AND CONTROL PROGRAMME AS THE NUMBER OF AIDS CASES CONTINUED TO INCREASE WORLD-WIDE.

"THE FIGHT AGAINST AIDS WILL NOT BE EASY," SHE SAID. "IT NEEDS THE CO-ORDINATED ACTION OF ALL SECTORS CONCERNED -- GOVERNMENT AND NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS, PROFESSIONAL GROUPS, INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES, COMMUNITIES, AND GROUPS OF PEOPLE AT SPECIAL RISK."

/MRS TAM

MRS TAM WAS PLEASED TO SEE THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD DEMONSTRATED ITS COMMITMENT TO THIS DIFFICULT TASK AND TAKEN THE LEAD IN CO-ORDINATING EFFORTS IN MEETING THIS CHALLENGE.

SHE EMPHASIED THE IMPORTANCE OF STARTING PUBLIC EDUCATION ON AIDS EARLY.

"BY LEARNING AT AN EARLY AGE ABOUT THE FACTS OF AIDS AND BY ADOPTING A RESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOUR AND LIFESTYLE, FUTURE PROBLEMS CAN BE PREVENTED," MRS TAM SAID.

"WHEN THERE IS NO CURE, PREVENTION IS THE ONLY ANSWER."

EARLIER, THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, DR S.H. LEE, SAID THAT TODAY, DECEMBER 1, HAD BEEN PROCLAIMED BY THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION (WHO) AS "WORLD AIDS DAY".

DURING THE DAY, VARIOUS COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES JOINED THE WORLD EFFORT TO TELL THE PEOPLE AND THE WORLD WHAT THEY WERE DOING ABOUT AIDS.

IN HONG KONG, HE SAID, A COMMUNITY AIDS CONCERN WEEK WAS ORGANISED SO THAT MORE TIME COULD BE DEVOTED TO LEARNING ABOUT THE DISEASE.

IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS, THERE WOULD BE A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING SEMINARS ABOUT AIDS FOR DOCTORS, NURSES, SOCIAL WORKERS, LEADERS IN BUSINESS COMMUNITY, THE MEDIA, STAFF WORKING WITH DRUG ABUSERS, INTER-SCHOOL DEBATES AND A SUNDAY CONCERT FOR THE YOUTH.

DR LEE SAID WHILE A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF RESEARCH WORK HAD BEEN GOING ON IN FINDING A CURE FOR THE DISEASE AND IN DEVELOPING A VACCINE TO FIGHT THE VIRUS, IT WOULD STILL BE SOME TIME BEFORE A MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH COULD BE SEEN IN THESE AREAS.

"FOR THE NEAR FUTURE NO VACCINE AGAINST AIDS WILL BE AVAILABLE AND THERE IS NO CURE FOR THIS KILLER DISEASE IN SIGHT," HE SAID.

"PUBLIC INFORMATION AND EDUCATION REMAIN THE MAIN THRUST IN OUR AIDS PREVENTION AND CONTROL PROGRAMME."

IN 1987, THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE INFORMATION SERVICES AND OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS STARTED A PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN AIMED AT, AMONG OTHER THINGS, PROVIDING INFORMATION ABOUT FACTS ON AIDS AND OFFERING ADVICE ON PREVENTIVE MEASURES.

DR LEE SAID THAT TO MAKE THE CAMPAIGN EFFECTIVE IT NEEDED THE CO-OPERATION AND SUPPORT OF THE WHOLE SOCIETY.

HE ADDED THAT IT WAS ONLY THROUGH THE CONCERTED EFFORTS OF THE VARIOUS SECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY THAT THE SPREAD OF DISEASE COULD BE CONTAINED.

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DR LEE THANKED ALL THOSE INVOLVED FOR THEIR VALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS, PARTICULARLY THE HONGKONG BANK FOR MAKING THE EXHIBITION VENUE AVAILABLE.

ALSO OFFICIATING AT THE RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY WERE LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLORS, MR HO SAI CHU AND MRS PEGGY LAM; THE DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION SERVICES, MRS IRENE YAU, AND MEMBERS OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AIDS CONCERN WEEK, MR SHUM CHOI-SANG AND MR PATRICK CHAU.

THE 10-DAY EXHIBITION, BEING HELD AT THE HONGKONG BANK HEADQUARTERS GROUND FLOOR PLAZA, WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC DAILY BETWEEN 9 AM AND 6 PM UNTIL DECEMBER 11.

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GOVERNOR VISITS FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON VISITED THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES, MR JOHN MARCH, THE GOVERNOR WAS MET BY THE ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR, MR CHEUNG SHU-SHING, AT THE FIRE SERVICES HEADQUARTERS IN TSIM SHA TSUI.

SIR DAVID WAS BRIEFED ON THE ORGANISATION OF THE DEPARTMENT AND THE WORK OF THE FIRE PROTECTION BUREAU.

AT THE FIRE SERVICES COMMUNICATION CENTRE IN THE TSIM SHA TSUI FIRE STATION COMPLEX SIR DAVID WATCHED DEMONSTRATIONS BY FIREMEN AND THE USE OF SOPHISTICATED EQUIPMENT IN FIRE FIGHTING AND RESCUE OPERATIONS.

THE GOVERNOR ALSO SAW A MODERN AMBULANCE, AN AMBULANCE AID MOTORCYCLE AND A MOBILE CASUALTY TREATMENT CENTRE.

SIR DAVID EXPRESSED KEEN INTEREST IN THE FUNCTIONS OF THE AMBULANCE AID MOTORCYCLE AND PLANS TO INTRODUCE EXTENDED TRAINING IN AMBULANCE AID TO THE AMBULANCE SERVICE.

AT THE END OF THE VISIT SIR DAVID BOARDED FIRE BOAT NO. 6 FOR THE TRIP TO CENTRAL.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER THE VISIT, THE GOVERNOR SAID THAT BEFORE MAKING A DECISION ON THE RENNIE COMMITTEE REPORT, THE GOVERNMENT WOULD TAKE ACCOUNT OF ALL THE COMMENTS THE DISCIPLINED SERVICES HAD ON THE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS.

/SIR DAVID

SIR DAVID SAID: "THE POINT THAT I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE IS FIRSTLY THAT IT IS AN INDEPENDENT REPORT; SECONDLY, THE GOVERNMENT HAS SAID THAT IT WOULD LIKE COMMENTS ON THE REPORT BEFORE THE GOVERNMENT MAKES ITS DECISION, SO PEOPLE ARE FREE TO PUT FORWARD THEIR COMMENTS."

IF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE WERE ACCEPTED, SIR DAVID SAID, THERE WOULD BE A SEPARATE COMMITTEE TO LOOK AFTER THE DISCIPLINED SERVICES.

"I AM SURE THAT THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT WHICH IS A DISCIPLINED SERVICE AND A VERY EFFICIENT SERVICE, WILL WANT TO PUT FORWARD THEIR IDEAS."

"I AM SURE ALSO THAT THEY WOULD DO IT IN THE FORM OF DISCUSSION AND DIALOGUE, AND THAT AS A DISCIPLINED SERVICE WITH A VERY PROUD RECORD OF SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC, THEY WILL NOT WISH TO DO ANYTHING WHICH WILL BE TO THE DISADVANTAGE OF THE PUBLIC," SIR DAVID SAID.

ASKED WHETHER THERE WOULD BE ANY NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE STAFF UNIONS, SIR DAVID SAID: "THE STAGE THAT WE ARE AT THE MOMENT IS PEOPLE HAVE A CHANCE TO PUT FORWARD THEIR VIEWS ON WHAT THE RENNIE COMMITTEE HAS SAID."

"SO IT IS NOT A STAGE OF NEGOTIATION, IT IS A STAGE OF LOOKING FOR PEOPLE'S COMMENTS AND TAKING ACCOUNT OF THE COMMENTS," SIR DAVID ADDED.

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NEW DIRECTORATE POST IN LEGAL DEPARTMENT

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THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT WILL SOON BE RECRUITING A CHAMBERS MANAGEMENT OFFICER TO HELP DEAL WITH ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL MATTERS.

THIS FOLLOWS APPROVAL BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FOR CREATION OF A NEW DIRECTORATE POST IN THE DEPARTMENT'S POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION DIVISION WHICH IS HEADED BY THE SOLICITOR GENERAL.

THE OFFICER WILL HOLD A D3 RANK WITH A MONTHLY SALARY OF \$48,500. ONE OF HIS MAIN DUTIES WILL BE TO PLAN, CO-ORDINATE AND SUPERVISE THE DEPARTMENT'S MOVES TOWARD GREATER LOCALISATION.

THE CHAMBERS MANAGEMENT OFFICER WILL PROVIDE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT AT DIRECTORATE LEVEL TO THE SOLICITOR GENERAL IN HIS ROLE AS THE DEPARTMENT'S PRINCIPAL MANAGER AND CONTROLLING OFFICER.

/"HE OR

"HE OR SHE WILL DIRECT RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN THE DEPARTMENT AND ASSIST IN STRATEGIC PLANNING UNDER THE GENERAL SUPERVISION OF THE SOLICITOR GENERAL, THUS ENABLING THE LATTER TO DEVOTE SUFFICIENT ATTENTION TO THE INCREASING NUMBER OF LEGAL AND POLICY ISSUES REQUIRING HIS ATTENTION.

"THIS ARRANGEMENT WILL BE CONSISTENT WITH THE LARGE LEGAL FIRMS WHO EMPLOY FULL-TIME ADMINISTRATORS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FIRM'S ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS TO ALLOW THE LEGAL PROFESSIONALS TO CONCENTRATE ON THEIR PROFESSIONAL WORK," A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

RECRUITMENT TO FILL THE NEW POST WILL BE FROM WITHIN THE CIVIL SERVICE AND WILL BE OPEN TO OFFICERS OF ALL GRADES ALTHOUGH THE OFFICER SELECTED WILL NEED TO HAVE CONSIDERABLE EXPERIENCE OF ONE OR MORE OF THE MANAGEMENT AREAS UNDER HIS CONTROL.

THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT HAS EXPANDED RAPIDLY IN RECENT YEARS IN RESPONSE TO A GROWING DEMAND FOR ITS SERVICE. ITS ESTABLISHMENT HAS ABOUT DOUBLED IN FIVE YEARS, FROM 394 TO 774, OF WHOM 293 ARE PROFESSIONALLY QUALIFIED OFFICERS WITH THE BALANCE MADE UP OF SUPPORT STAFF.

BUDGETTED EXPENDITURE HAS NEARLY QUADRUPLED IN THE SAME PERIOD, FROM \$54.3 MILLION IN 1983-84 TO \$210.9 MILLION IN 1988-89.

"RAPID GROWTH OF THIS MAGNITUDE INVARIABLY STRAINS MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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MINISTER AND CS MEET HK STUDENTS

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HONG KONG STUDENTS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM HAD A LIVELY DISCUSSION WITH THE FOREIGN OFFICE MINISTER WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR HONG KONG, LORD GLENARTHUR, AND THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID FORD, AT A RECEPTION HELD IN LONDON ON WEDNESDAY EVENING.

THE RECEPTION AT KING'S COLLEGE WAS ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICE IN LONDON, AND HOSTED BY THE COMMISSIONER, MR SELWYN ALLEYNE.

THE PURPOSE WAS TO ENABLE LORD GLENARTHUR AND SIR DAVID TO MEET HONG KONG STUDENTS AND, IN PARTICULAR, STUDENTS SPONSORED BY THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED UNITED KINGDOM-HONG KONG SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME.

THIS IS THE FIRST YEAR OF THE SCHEME AND UNDER IT THERE ARE NINE HONG KONG STUDENTS CURRENTLY IN THE UNITED KINGDOM PURSUING COURSES AT UNIVERSITIES IN LONDON, OXFORD, CAMBRIDGE AND BIRMINGHAM.

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AT THE RECEPTION, TWO FELLOWS AND SEVEN SCHOLARS IN THE SCHEME SPOKE TO LORD GLENARTHUR AND SIR DAVID ABOUT THEIR STUDIES AND THE PROGRESS THEY WERE MAKING.

IN ADDITION, MORE THAN 40 HONG KONG STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES FROM UNIVERSITIES THROUGHOUT THE UNITED KINGDOM ATTENDED THE RECEPTION ALONG WITH SENIOR ACADEMICS FROM THESE INSTITUTIONS.

BOTH LORD GLENARTHUR AND SIR DAVID HAVE TAKEN A CLOSE PERSONAL INTEREST IN SUPPORTING AND ENCOURAGING HONG KONG STUDENTS IN BRITAIN.

THE NEW UNITED KINGDOM-HONG KONG SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME IS DESIGNED TO ENABLE OUTSTANDING HONG KONG STUDENTS TO GO TO THE UNITED KINGDOM FOR FURTHER STUDY.

UP TO 250,000 POUNDS STERLING PER YEAR IS AVAILABLE FOR AN AVERAGE OF EIGHT STUDENTS TO COVER THE COST OF TUITION FEES, AIR FARES AND MAINTENANCE.

THE SCHOLARSHIPS CAN BE AWARDED FOR EITHER UNDERGRADUATE OR POST GRADUATE STUDIES, AND THE SCHEME IS FUNDED ON AN EQUAL BASIS BY THE BRITISH AND THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENTS.

THERE WERE NEARLY 300 APPLICANTS FOR 1988-89 AND 238 APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FOR 1989-90.

THE BRITISH AND THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENTS ALSO EACH CONTRIBUTE TWO MILLION POUNDS STERLING PER YEAR TO THE UNITED KINGDOM-HONG KONG JOINT FUNDING SCHEME.

SUBJECT TO MEANS-TESTING, THIS SCHEME PROVIDES ASSISTANCE TO HONG KONG STUDENTS UNDERTAKING FIRST DEGREE OR HIGHER NATIONAL DIPLOMA COURSES IN BRITAIN.

MORE THAN 1,450 STUDENTS RECEIVED FINANCIAL SUPPORT UNDER THIS SCHEME IN 1987-88

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CORDLESS TELEPHONES TO BE EXEMPTED FROM LICENSING

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"FROM MARCH 2, 1989, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WILL BE ABLE TO PURCHASE AND USE CORDLESS TELEPHONES WITHOUT THE NEED TO OBTAIN LICENCES, THE POSTMASTER GENERAL, MR GORDON SIU, ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE, MR SIU POINTED OUT THAT THIS WAS BEING MADE POSSIBLE BY AN EXEMPTION ORDER PASSED BY THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL RECENTLY.

"HOWEVER, ONLY CORDLESS TELEPHONES THAT HAVE BEEN TESTED BY THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY AND FOUND TO HAVE SATISFIED THE TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS WILL BE EXEMPTED UNDER THE ORDER AND WHEN THEY ARE SOLD OR DISPLAYED FOR SALE THEY MUST BEAR AN APPROPRIATE LABEL," HE ADDED.

THE ORDER WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AND WILL COME INTO FORCE AFTER THREE MONTHS, ALLOWING TIME FOR TESTING PROCEDURES TO BE COMPLETED AND FOR STOCKS OF THE EXEMPTED TYPE TO BE BUILT UP BY SUPPLIERS.

THE GAZETTE NOTICE WILL CONTAIN DETAILS OF THE TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS AND THE DESIGN OF THE CERTIFICATION LABEL.

"THIS PARTICULAR TYPE OF CORDLESS TELEPHONE HAS BEEN CHOSEN BECAUSE IT IS CURRENTLY THE ONLY MODEL WITH AGREED TECHNICAL STANDARDS THAT IS SUITABLE FOR THE HONG KONG ENVIRONMENT," HE EXPLAINED.

"THE 49 MHZ TYPE, WHICH IS IN COMMON USE IN THE U.S., HAS BEEN RULED OUT BECAUSE IT DOES NOT PROVIDE ADEQUATE PROTECTION AGAINST INTERFERENCE BETWEEN INSTRUMENTS USED IN CLOSE PROXIMITY, WHICH IS USUALLY THE CASE IN THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT IN HONG KONG.

"IN ADDITION, IT CAUSES UNACCEPTABLE INTERFERENCE TO THE POLICE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM," MR SIU SAID.

"ON THE OTHER HAND, THE PERMITTED TYPE, WHICH OPERATES AT 47 MHZ AND WITH ADDED SECURITY FEATURES, OFFERS BETTER PROTECTION THROUGH AN ADVANCED CODING DEVICE AND CAUSES NO INTERFERENCE WITH EXISTING TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES," HE SAID.

TO AVOID BUYING THE WRONG TYPE, MR SIU ADVISED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC NOT TO PURCHASE ANY CORDLESS TELEPHONES BEFORE MARCH 2, 1989.

"THEY SHOULD BUY ONLY THE ONES BEARING THE APPROPRIATE LABEL AS AUTHORISED BY THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY. GOVERNMENT POSTERS DEPICTING THE DESIGN OF THE APPROVED LABEL WILL BE DISPLAYED IN PUBLIC PLACES OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS," HE SAID.

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NEW ERA IN COUNTRY PARK RECREATION DEVELOPMENT

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RECREATION DEVELOPMENT IN HONG KONG'S COUNTRY PARKS ENTERED A NEW ERA TODAY (THURSDAY) WITH THE OPENING OF A SPECIALLY-DESIGNED CYCLING SITE IN TAI MONG TSAI IN SAI KUNG COUNTRY PARK.

THE FIRST PURPOSE-BUILT CYCLING FACILITY IN THE COUNTRY PARKS SYSTEM, THE SITE IS A PILOT PROJECT AIMED AT ATTRACTING RECREATIONAL CYCLISTS TO PURSUE THEIR ACTIVITIES OFF THE HIGHWAYS.

THE SITE COMPRISES A 450-METRE ACCESS TRACK, A 250-METRE CIRCULAR CYCLING TRACK, A 2,000-SQUARE-METRE CYCLING GROUND AND SHELTER AND PICNIC FACILITIES. THE COST WAS \$500,000.

THE SURFACING OF THE TRACKS HAS BEEN COMPLETED WHILE WORKS ON THE CYCLING GROUND AND SHELTER AND PICNIC FACILITIES ARE IN PROGRESS AND ARE EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED NEXT YEAR.

THE PROJECT WAS JOINTLY UNVEILED THIS MORNING BY THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE, THE COMMISSIONER FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR CLIVE OXLEY, AND THE CHAIRMEN OF THE COUNTRY PARKS BOARD'S PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND THE PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE, MR CARLOS CHEUNG AND MR WILLIAM WAN.

IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY, THE CYCLING TRACK WAS OPENED TO THE PUBLIC AND A NUMBER OF COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB MEMBERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THIS MORNING'S CEREMONY WERE THE FIRST TO USE THE NEW FACILITY.

DR LEE SAID AFTER THE OPENING CEREMONY THAT HE WAS HAPPY TO SEE THE PILOT PROJECT REACH FRUITION IN THE CONTINUING EFFORT BY THE COUNTRY PARKS AUTHORITY TO UPGRADE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES IN COUNTRY PARKS.

"IF THE PROJECT PROVES SUCCESSFUL, CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO EXTENDING IT TO OTHER POPULAR COUNTRY PARKS," HE ADDED.

THE OPENING CEREMONY FORMED PART OF AN ACTIVITY PROGRAMME PREPARED FOR COUNTRY PARKS BOARD MEMBERS IN THE MORNING AND EARLY PART OF THE AFTERNOON TO VIEW RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COUNTRY PARKS.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (CONSERVATION AND COUNTRY PARKS), MR K.C. IU, BOARD MEMBERS INSPECTED THE NEW MANAGEMENT CENTRE IN THE MA ON SHAN COUNTRY PARK WHERE THEY WERE BRIEFED ON THE RECREATION DEVELOPMENTS IN THAT AREA.

THEY LATER VISITED HOI HA WAN IN SAI KUNG COUNTRY PARK WHERE THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT IS STUDYING THE FEASIBILITY OF SETTING UP A MARINE RESERVE TO PROTECT AND MANAGE MARINE RESOURCES AND TO PROVIDE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PUBLIC.

THE HOI HA WAN SITE IS A SHELTERED BAY SITUATED AT THE NORTHERN COASTLINE OF SAI KUNG PENINSULA AND COVERS AN AREA OF 285 HECTARES. THE AREA IS RICH IN CORALS.

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CHRISTMAS LIGHTS TO BE SWITCHED ON TOMORROW
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SENIOR MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR ALLEN LEE, WILL OFFICIATE AT A SWITCHING-ON CEREMONY FOR CHRISTMAS LIGHTING AT TSIM SHA TSUI EAST AT THE URBAN COUNCIL CENTENARY GARDEN TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE LIGHTING AND DECORATIONS ARE SPONSORED BY THE TSIM SHA TSUI EAST PROPERTY DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE CHAIRMAN OF THE ASSOCIATION, MR LUI CHI-WO, AND YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICER, MR NG HON-WAH.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE TSIM SHA TSUI EAST CHRISTMAS LIGHTING SWITCHING-ON CEREMONY STARTING AT 6 PM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT THE URBAN COUNCIL CENTENARY GARDEN BETWEEN REGAL MERIDIAN HOTEL AND SOUTH SEAS CENTRE.

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INAUGURATION OF JOINT FEDERATION
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THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MRS ANSON CHAN, AND THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE, WILL JOINTLY OFFICIATE AT THE INAUGURATION OF THE JOINT FEDERATION OF THE HONG KONG AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND MARKETING SOCIETIES TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY WILL BE HELD IN A KOWLOON HOTEL.

THE JOINT FEDERATION IS A BODY FORMED BY HONG KONG'S THREE MAJOR AGRICULTURAL BODIES WITH THE AIM OF BETTER PROMOTING THE LOCAL AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY.

THE THREE BODIES ARE THE NEW TERRITORIES CHICKEN BREEDERS ASSOCIATION, THE FEDERATION OF VEGETABLE MARKETING CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES, AND THE FEDERATION OF PIG RAISING CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES OF HONG KONG, KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES.

/MEMBERSHIP COMPRISES

MEMBERSHIP COMPRISES 380 MAJOR CHICKEN FARMS WITH OVER 1,500 CHICKEN FARMERS, 26 VEGETABLE MARKETING CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES WITH SOME 9,100 VEGETABLE FARMERS AS MEMBERS, AND 22 PIG RAISING CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES WITH SOME 1,300 PIG FARMERS AS MEMBERS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE INAUGURATION OF THE JOINT FEDERATION OF THE HONG KONG AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND MARKETING SOCIETIES TOMORROW.

THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY WILL BE HELD IN THE CENTENARY ROOM, HONG KONG HOTEL, CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON, BEGINNING AT 2 PM.

AFD INFORMATION STAFF WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES.

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WATER POLLUTION IN HK SOUTH BEING TACKLED

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THE GOVERNMENT IS MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO IMPROVE WATER QUALITY AT BEACHES ON THE SOUTHERN PART OF HONG KONG ISLAND, THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR DAVID LAN, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

MR LAN MADE THIS REMARK FOLLOWING A VISIT TO THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT WHERE MANY OF HONG KONG'S MOST POPULAR BEACHES ARE LOCATED.

HE SAID HE HAD CONSULTED THE ENVIRONMENT DIVISION OF THE LANDS AND WORKS BRANCH AS WELL AS THE DIRECTOR OF CIVIL ENGINEERING SERVICES, AND NOTED THAT THE MAIN CAUSES OF WATER POLLUTION AT THOSE BEACHES WERE POLLUTED STREAM COURSES AND DRAINS DISCHARGING INADEQUATELY TREATED DOMESTIC SEWAGE FROM DEVELOPMENTS IN THE HINTERLAND.

MR LAN POINTED OUT THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS NOW ADOPTING A MULTI-PRONGED APPROACH IN TACKLING THE PROBLEM.

ON THE LEGISLATION SIDE, THE SOUTHERN WATER CONTROL ZONE WAS GAZETTED ON JULY 29 THIS YEAR, SETTING WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES FOR THIS ZONE. LICENCES WERE NOW REQUIRED FOR NEW DISCHARGES OF SEWAGE.

"APART FROM LEGISLATION MEASURES, A NUMBER OF WORKS PROJECTS WILL BE CARRIED OUT TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION," MR LAN SAID.

/HE ADDED

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HE ADDED HE UNDERSTOOD THAT AS SHORT-TERM IMPROVEMENTS TO WATER QUALITY AT REPULSE BAY AND STANLEY MAIN BEACHES, THE POLLUTED FLOWS IN STREAM COURSES AND DRAINS WOULD BE INTERCEPTED AND DIVERTED AWAY FROM THE BEACH.

THE PROJECTS WOULD COST A TOTAL OF \$7.1 MILLION. PARTS OF THEM WERE SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION BEFORE THE BATHING SEASON OF 1989.

FURTHER IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AT REPULSE BAY, MIDDLE BAY, CHUNG HOM KOK, ROCKY BAY, SHEK O AND DEEP WATER BAY BEACHES, COSTING SOME \$8.5 MILLION, WOULD BEGIN EARLY NEXT YEAR.

AS FOR LONG-TERM IMPROVEMENTS, CONSULTANTS HAD BEEN COMMISSIONED TO UNDERTAKE THE HONG KONG ISLAND SOUTH SEWERAGE MASTER PLAN STUDY.

"IN ADDITION TO PROVIDING 'FIRST AID' MEASURES TO REDUCE BEACH POLLUTION TO ACCEPTABLE LEVELS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, THE CONSULTANTS ARE ALSO ASKED TO COME UP WITH LONG-TERM PROPOSALS FOR SEWERAGE, TOGETHER WITH SEWAGE AND SLUDGE TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL, TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF THE BEACHES AS A LONG-TERM AMENITY," MR LAN NOTED.

DURING HIS TOUR OF SOUTHERN DISTRICT THIS AFTERNOON, MR LAN VISITED A SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT IN REPULSE BAY. HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MRS MAUREEN CHAN, AND THE DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR HUI YUNG-CHUNG.

FROM REPULSE BAY, MR LAN AND HIS PARTY PROCEEDED TO A VANTAGE POINT IN CHUNG HOM KOK FOR A PANORAMIC VIEW OF MA HANG VILLAGE WHICH WILL BE REDEVELOPED INTO A PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE IN THE MIDDLE OF 1989.

THE PARTY THEN TOURED THE ABERDEEN TYPHOON SHELTER ON A SAMPAN TO SEE THE BUSTLING ACTIVITIES OF HONG KONG'S LARGEST FISHING PORT.

HE CONCLUDED HIS TOUR OF THE DISTRICT BY VISITING THE 200-YEAR-OLD POK FU LAM VILLAGE WHERE HE SAW SOME ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS CARRIED OUT BY THE DISTRICT BOARD.

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FARMERS BRIEFED ON WASTE CONTROL EXTENSION

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LIVESTOCK FARM OPERATORS HAVE BEEN ASSURED THAT THE LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL SCHEME WILL NOT BE ENFORCED IN NORTH DISTRICT, TSUEN WAN ENVIRONS AND TAI LAM CHUNG BEFORE THE GOVERNMENT HAS REVIEWED THE OUTCOME OF THE DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS ON PRIVATE FARMS AND THE RELEVANT REGULATIONS.

"HOWEVER, LIVESTOCK FARMERS IN THESE AREAS WHO WISH TO CEASE BUSINESS AND APPLY FOR EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES MAY DO SO FROM JANUARY 1, 1989," AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF LANDS AND WORKS BRANCH, MISS PHYLOMENA HO EXPLAINED AT TODAY'S (THURSDAY) LIVESTOCK WASTE DISPOSAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING ATTENDED BY GOVERNMENT AND FARMERS' REPRESENTATIVES.

"BUT THOSE FARMERS WHO RESUMED BUSINESS AFTER ACCEPTANCE OF EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES WILL BE SUBJECT TO ENFORCEMENT ACTION.

"THEY WILL BE REQUIRED TO COMPLY FULLY WITH THE CONTROL REGULATIONS INCLUDING, IF NECESSARY, THE INSTALLATION OF TREATMENT FACILITIES AT THEIR OWN EXPENSE," SHE ADDED.

FARMERS MAY ALSO WAIT FOR THE RESULT OF THE REVIEW BEFORE DECIDING WHETHER TO CEASE OR CONTINUE OPERATION. NO ENFORCEMENT ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AGAINST THEM IN THE MEANTIME.

THE REPRESENTATIVE EXPLAINED THAT IN DECIDING ON THE ARRANGEMENT, THE GOVERNMENT HAD TAKEN ACCOUNT OF ITS PROMISE THAT THE CONTROL SCHEME WOULD NOT BE EXTENDED TO THE SECOND BATCH OF CONTROL AREAS BEFORE A REVIEW WAS COMPLETED.

IT HAD ALSO TAKEN ACCOUNT OF THE FARMERS' REQUEST THAT THOSE WHO WANTED TO CEASE BUSINESS SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO APPLY FOR AN EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE FROM JANUARY 1.

"THE REQUEST OF THE FARMER REPRESENTATIVES WAS CONVEYED TO THE GOVERNMENT AT A PREVIOUS MEETING OF A WORKING GROUP ON EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES AND ALSO THROUGH SOME LEGCO MEMBERS," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE, MR LEO KWAN, SAID THE ARRANGEMENT COULD BE CONSIDERED SATISFACTORY.

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NEW POLICE MUSEUM OPENS

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THE POLICE FORCE MUSEUM HAS OPENED ITS DOORS TO THE PUBLIC IN NEW SURROUNDINGS AT THE FORMER WAN CHAI GAP POLICE STATION.

THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE IS ONE OF THE OLDEST IN THE COMMONWEALTH AND HAS A PROUD AND INTERESTING STORY TO TELL.

AIM OF THE NEW POLICE MUSEUM IS TO INTRODUCE THAT HISTORY THROUGHOUT THE YEARS, TOGETHER WITH VARIOUS ASPECTS OF ITS WORK.

ESTABLISHED IN 1976, AND ORIGINALLY CONTAINED WITHIN POLICE HEADQUARTERS, THE MUSEUM MOVED TO TAI SANG COMMERCIAL BUILDING IN 1982.

IN 1986 PLANS WERE DRAWN UP FOR REPROVISIONING THE MUSEUM TO WAH CHAI GAP WITH THE COST FINANCED PARTLY BY THE GOVERNMENT AND PARTLY FROM DONATIONS TO THE FORCE.

DIVIDED INTO FOUR GALLERIES - THE ORIENTATION GALLERY, THE NARCOTICS GALLERY, THE TRIAD SOCIETIES GALLERY AND THE CURRENT GALLERY - THE NEW POLICE MUSEUM COVERS A TOTAL AREA OF 560 SQUARE METRES.

IN THE ORIENTATION GALLERY, THE HISTORY OF THE FORCE IS TOLD THROUGH PHOTOGRAPHS, OLD UNIFORMS, EQUIPMENT AND FIREARMS. THE GALLERY ALSO FEATURES COUNTERFEIT MONEY AND ARTIFACTS OF ILLEGAL GAMBLING TO ILLUSTRATE DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF POLICE WORK.

A VALUABLE DONATION BY A FORMER COMMISSIONER, MR DUNCAN MACINTOSH IS ALSO ON DISPLAY. SIGNIFICANT EXHIBITS ALSO INCLUDE THE HEAD OF THE TIGER SHOT IN 1915, THE PLAGUE MEDAL OF 1894, A MACHINE FOR PRINTING FAKE UNITED STATES DOLLARS, COUNTERFEIT HONG KONG BANKNOTES AND AN OLD MOTORCYCLE WITH SIDE-CAR.

IN THE NARCOTICS GALLERY, THE NARCOTICS PROBLEM IN HONG KONG IS HIGHLIGHTED IN A DISPLAY OF DRUG SAMPLES, DRUG SMOKING AND TRAFFICKING TOOLS SEIZED BY THE POLICE AND PHOTOGRAPHS SHOWING SOME IMPORTANT CASES OF RECENT YEARS.

IN THE TRIAD SOCIETIES GALLERY, THE HISTORY OF THE TRIAD SOCIETIES AND THEIR ACTIVITIES ARE FEATURED. EXHIBITS INCLUDE MODELS OF A TRIAD LEADER, TRIAD OFFENSIVE WEAPONS, A TRIAD ALTAR AND PHOTOGRAPHS OF TRIAD FLAGS AND SECRET SIGNS.

/THE CURRENT

THE CURRENT EXHIBITION GALLERY FEATURES MARINE POLICE. EXHIBITS INCLUDE HISTORICAL PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE MARINE POLICE AND POLICE LAUNCHES, OLD MARINE UNIFORMS, MODELS OF POLICE LAUNCHES, AND DOCUMENTS. PHOTOGRAPHS AND AN INTRODUCTION TO MARINE HEADQUARTERS, WHICH IS THE EARLIEST REMAINING COLONIAL BUILDING IN KOWLOON, ARE ALSO DISPLAYED.

SERVICES SUCH AS GUIDED TOURS, THE SALE OF SOUVENIRS AND VIDEO PROGRAMMES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE.

OPENING HOURS ARE FROM 9 AM TO 5 PM FROM WEDNESDAY TO SUNDAY, 2 PM TO 5 PM ON TUESDAY AFTERNOON. THE MUSEUM IS CLOSED ON MONDAYS, TUESDAY MORNINGS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

ACCESS TO THE MUSEUM IS BY BUS ROUTE 15 (FROM EXCHANGE SQUARE TO THE PEAK).

FOR ENQUIRIES AND APPOINTMENT OF GUIDED TOURS, PLEASE CALL 5-8496018.

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PROVISIONAL RESULTS OF RETAIL SALES SURVEY FOR SEPTEMBER

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THE VALUE OF TOTAL RETAIL SALES IN SEPTEMBER 1988, ESTIMATED AT \$8,596 MILLION, WAS 19 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN SEPTEMBER 1987 WHILST THEIR VOLUME WAS 10 PER CENT HIGHER, ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONAL RESULTS OF A SURVEY RELEASED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

COMPARING SEPTEMBER 1988 WITH SEPTEMBER 1987, RETAIL SALES OF FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO INCREASED BY 23 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 10 PER CENT IN VOLUME. FUELS ROSE BY 13 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 12 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME.

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, RETAIL SALES OF "CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS" AND "OTHER CONSUMER GOODS" ROSE BY 21 PER CENT AND 20 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN VALUE AND 10 PER CENT AND 12 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN VOLUME. CONSUMER DURABLES INCREASED BY 15 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 6 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME.

ANALYSED BY SELECTED TRADES, RETAIL SALES OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS ROSE BY 32 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 22 PER CENT IN VOLUME. SUPERMARKETS SALES WENT UP BY 25 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 14 PER CENT IN VOLUME, WHILST THE CORRESPONDING INCREASES FOR DEPARTMENT STORES WERE 19 PER CENT AND 9 PER CENT.

/CONSUMER DURABLES

CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS INCREASED BY 5 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE BUT DROPPED BY 1 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME.

COMPARING THE PERIOD JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER 1988 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1987, TOTAL RETAIL SALES INCREASED BY 23 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 13 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

ANALYSED BY MAJOR TRADE GROUPS, FUELS WENT UP BY 8 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 4 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME. SALES OF FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO INCREASED BY 8 PER CENT IN VALUE BUT DROPPED BY 1 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, RETAIL SALES OF "OTHER CONSUMER GOODS" ROSE BY 34 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 24 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

"CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS" AND CONSUMER DURABLES INCREASED BY 25 PER CENT AND 20 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN SALES VALUE, AND 14 PER CENT AND 11 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN SALES VOLUME.

ANALYSED BY SELECTED TRADES, SALES BY DEPARTMENT STORES WENT UP BY 46 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 34 PER CENT IN VOLUME, WHILE THE CORRESPONDING INCREASES FOR MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS WERE 37 PER CENT AND 25 PER CENT.

SUPERMARKETS SALES ROSE BY 16 PER CENT IN VALUE AND BY 7 PER CENT IN VOLUME. CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS INCREASED BY 12 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 5 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME.

WHEN COMPARED WITH AUGUST 1988, AND BEARING IN MIND THAT THIS COMPARISON IS LIKELY TO BE AFFECTED BY SEASONAL FACTORS, TOTAL RETAIL SALES FOR SEPTEMBER 1988 DECREASED BY 1 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 2 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

HOWEVER, SALES OF FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO RECORDED INCREASES OF 15 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 13 PER CENT IN VOLUME. FUELS REMAINED ALMOST UNCHANGED IN BOTH SALES VALUE AND VOLUME.

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, RETAIL SALES OF CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS DECREASED BY 2 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 4 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

CONSUMER DURABLES WENT DOWN BY 5 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 6 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME. "OTHER CONSUMER GOODS" FELL BY 7 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 8 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME.

ANALYSED BY SELECTED TRADES, SUPERMARKETS RECORDED INCREASES OF 11 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 10 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME.

MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS ROSE BY 6 PER CENT IN BOTH SALES VALUE AND VOLUME. CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS DROPPED BY 11 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 12 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME.

SALES BY DEPARTMENT STORES DECREASED BY 22 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 24 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

TABLE 1 PRESENTS THE REVISED TOTAL RETAIL SALES FIGURE FOR AUGUST 1988 AND THE PROVISIONAL FIGURE FOR SEPTEMBER 1988.

TABLE 2 SHOWS THE VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 1988 (A) FOR ALL RETAIL TRADES, (B) BY MAJOR TRADE GROUPS AND (C) BY SELECTED TRADES (WHICH FORM PART OF THE RELEVANT MAJOR TRADE GROUPS), WITH AVERAGE RETAIL SALES FROM OCTOBER 1984 TO SEPTEMBER 1985 TAKEN AS 100.

COMPARISONS OF SEPTEMBER 1988 RESULTS WITH THOSE FOR AUGUST 1988 AND WITH THOSE FOR SEPTEMBER 1987 AND COMPARISONS OF RETAIL SALES IN THE PERIOD JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER 1988 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1987 ARE ALSO GIVEN.

THE REPORT CONTAINING THE ANALYSIS OF THE SEPTEMBER 1988 SURVEY RESULTS IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, AT \$1 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. 5-8234941).

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TABLE 1 : TOTAL RETAIL SALES

Total Retail Sales for September 1988 (Provisional Figure) = HK\$48,596 million
for August 1988 (Revised Figure) = HK\$48,716 million

TABLE 2 : VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF RETAIL SALES
FOR AUGUST 1988 AND SEPTEMBER 1988

(Monthly average of Oct. 84 - Sept. 85 = 100)

Item	Index of Retail Sales	August	September	September 1988 compared with August 1988		September 1988 compared with September 1987		Jan.-Sep. 1988 compared with Jan.-Sep. 1987	
		1988	1988	Points	%	Points	%	Points	%
(A) FOR ALL RETAIL TRADES									
	Value	154	153	-2	-1	25	19	28	23
	Volume	129	126	-3	-2	12	10	15	13
(B) BY MAJOR TRADE GROUPS									
Foodstuffs, alcoholic drinks and tobacco	Value	125	144	19	15	27	23	9	8
	Volume	105	119	14	13	11	10	-1	-1
Fuels	Value	107	107	#	#	12	13	7	8
	Volume	116	116	#	#	13	12	4	4
Clothing, footwear and allied products	Value	167	163	-4	-2	28	21	33	25
	Volume	135	130	-5	-4	12	10	16	14
Consumer durables	Value	169	161	-8	-5	21	15	26	20
	Volume	133	126	-8	-6	7	6	12	11
Other consumer goods	Value	172	160	-11	-7	26	20	41	34
	Volume	141	130	-11	-8	14	12	26	24
(C) BY SELECTED TRADES									
(see note 1 below)									
Supermarkets	Value	165	183	19	11	36	25	22	16
	Volume	140	155	14	10	19	14	9	7
Motor vehicles and parts	Value	267	283	16	6	69	32	64	37
	Volume	188	199	11	6	36	22	34	25
Consumer durables other than motor vehicles and parts	Value	139	123	-16	-11	6	5	14	12
	Volume	117	103	-13	-12	-2	-1	6	5
Department stores	Value	207	161	-46	-22	26	19	57	46
	Volume	169	128	-41	-24	11	9	37	34

NOTES : 1. In order to analyse the sales of certain trades WITHIN major trade groups, the value and volume indexes in respect of the following selected trades are compiled :

- (a) "Supermarkets" - a trade in the "Foodstuffs, alcoholic drinks and tobacco" group.
 - (b) "Motor vehicles and parts" - a trade in the "Consumer durables" group.
 - (c) "Consumer durables other than motor vehicles and parts" - a trade in the "Consumer durables" group.
 - (d) "Department stores" - a trade in the "Other consumer goods" group.
2. Figures denoting changes are derived from the unrounded index figures.
 3. "#" denotes a figure within ± 0.5 .

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CAS RESCUE UNIT CARRIES OUT EXERCISE
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THE MOUNTAIN RESCUE UNIT OF THE CIVIL AID SERVICES CARRIED OUT A GORGE RESCUE EXERCISE AT TSING LUNG TAU IN THE NEW TERRITORIES THIS (THURSDAY) MORNING.

THE EXERCISE INVOLVED THREE MOCK CASUALTIES -- SUFFERING SEPARATELY FROM BONE FRACTURES, HEAD INJURIES, AND BRUISES -- WHO HAD TO BE RESCUED FROM A 50-METRE-DEEP GORGE BY USING THREE DIFFERENT STRATEGIES.

THIRTY UNIT MEMBERS, IN FULL HARNESS, PARTICIPATED IN THE RESCUE OF THE THREE "INJURED" PERSONS.

STARTING AT 10 AM, THEY SET UP ANCHOR POINTS, AND BROUGHT THE CASUALTIES TO THE MAIN ROAD ONE AND A HALF HOURS LATER.

AFTER INSPECTING THE EXERCISE, THE INSPECTOR OF LAND RESCUE FROM THE BRITISH MINISTRY OF DEFENCE, SQUADRON LEADER RICHARD FOSTER, PRAISED THE UNIT'S HIGH STANDARD OF PERFORMANCE AND SAID ITS TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT WAS ALSO OF HIGH STANDARD.

THE UNIT, HE SAID, WAS "AS GOOD AS ANY OTHER SIMILAR TEAM IN THE UNITED KINGDOM".

MR FOSTER VISITS HONG KONG EVERY TWO YEARS TO CONDUCT A FULL INSPECTION OF THE UNIT.

THE INSPECTION THIS YEAR BEGAN ON NOVEMBER 24 AND WILL CONTINUE UNTIL DECEMBER 7.

THE LAND RESCUE INSPECTOR WILL THEN COMPLETE A PROFESSIONAL APPRAISAL OF THE UNIT'S ABILITY AND PERFORMANCE.

THE FULL INSPECTION INCLUDES A SERIES OF EXERCISES ON MOUNTAIN SEARCH AND RESCUE, MOUNTAIN AND CLIFF RESCUE TECHNIQUES, CASUALTY EVACUATION AND A CROSS-COUNTRY EXPEDITION.

THE MOUNTAIN RESCUE UNIT, WHOSE STRENGTH HAS GROWN TO 60 MEMBERS SINCE 1967, ON AVERAGE CARRIES OUT ABOUT 15 SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS EVERY YEAR.

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VTC DELEGATION VISITS CHINA

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A DELEGATION OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL LEFT FOR PEKING TODAY (THURSDAY) TO START A 10-DAY TOUR CONCERNING VOCATIONAL TRAINING IN CHINA AT THE INVITATION OF THE CHINESE STATE EDUCATION COMMISSION,

THE NINE-MEMBER DELEGATION, LED BY DR HENRY YU, A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL, WITH MR HORACE KNIGHT, THE COUNCIL'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, AS DEPUTY LEADER, WILL BE VISITING VARIOUS VOCATIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTIONS AND MEETING OFFICIALS OF EDUCATION AUTHORITIES IN PEKING, SHANGHAI AND CANTON.

"THE TOUR PROVIDES VALUABLE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AND EXPERIENCES ON VOCATIONAL TRAINING BETWEEN OUR HOSTS IN CHINA AND THE DELEGATION," DR YU SAID.

IN ADDITION, MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION WILL CONDUCT PRESENTATIONS COVERING THE TOPICS ON THE HISTORY AND THE SYSTEM OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING IN HONG KONG AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE TERRITORY.

"THIS IS THE FIRST VISIT MADE BY THE COUNCIL TO THE MAINLAND. I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO BRINGING BACK FIRST-HAND KNOWLEDGE OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING IN CHINA WHICH MAY HELP IMPROVE OUR OPERATIONS IN HONG KONG," MR KNIGHT SAID.

THE GROUP WILL RETURN TO HONG KONG ON DECEMBER 10.

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INTER-SCHOOL DEBATE ON AIDS

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THE FINAL OF AN INTER-SCHOOL DEBATE ON ETHICAL ISSUES RELATING TO AIDS FEATURED IN THE 'COMMUNITY AIDS CONCERN WEEK' WILL BE HELD AT GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION THIS SATURDAY (DECEMBER 3) MORNING.

THE DEBATE, WHICH STARTS AT 9.30 AM, IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE RISKS OF AIDS AND ITS PREVENTION.

THE DEBATE AIMS IN PARTICULAR TO ENHANCE STUDENTS' UNDERSTANDING OF THE DEADLY DISEASE, TO SUSTAIN THEIR INTEREST AND CONCERN ON THE ISSUE, AND TO SOLICIT THEIR ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN THE HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAMME ON AIDS.

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IN THE FINAL ON SATURDAY, STUDENTS OF THE HO MAN TIN GOVERNMENT MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HO TUNG TECHNICAL SCHOOL FOR GIRLS WILL GIVE THEIR ARGUMENTS ON THE TOPIC OF "THE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CONTROL OF AIDS RESTS WITH INDIVIDUALS AND NOT WITH THE GOVERNMENT".

THE JUDGING PANEL COMPRISES THE CONTROLLER OF EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION OF RADIO AND TELEVISION OF HONG KONG, MR P.H. CHU, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (NARCOTICS) OF THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT, DR S.C. LEUNG, AND THE DEPUTY CHIEF INSPECTOR (CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT) OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, MR C.L. HO.

A PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY WILL BE HELD IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE DEBATE AND THE BISHOP OF HONG KONG AND MACAU, THE RT. REV. PETER K.K. KWONG, WILL PRESENT A TROPHY AND A BOOK COUPON WORTH \$1,500 TO THE WINNERS OF THE DEBATE.

THE FIRST RUNNERS-UP WILL RECEIVE A TROPHY AND A BOOK COUPON WORTH \$1,000 WHILE OTHER SCHOOLS IN THE SEMI-FINAL ROUND WILL EACH BE PRESENTED WITH A PLAQUE AND A BOOK COUPON WORTH \$500.

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SONGS TO PROMOTE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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POP SINGING WILL HELP TO PROMOTE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IN AN AFTERNOON OF MUSIC AT NEW TOWN PLAZA, SHA TIN, ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 3) AFTERNOON.

THIS WILL BE PART OF THE "ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION MUSIC DAY AND CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE 1988-89 KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN (SHA TIN COMMITTEE)".

THE FUNCTION IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD'S WORKING GROUP ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND THE 1988-89 KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN (SHA TIN COMMITTEE).

LADY WILSON WILL OFFICIATE AT THE FUNCTION.

DURING THE AFTERNOON PRIZES AND SOUVENIRS WILL BE PRESENTED TO WINNERS OF THE CLEANLINESS-MINDED RESIDENTS AWARD AS WELL AS THE KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN SHA TIN SLOGAN AND FAMILY HYGIENE COMPETITIONS.

ALSO ATTENDING WILL BE THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR VICTOR YUNG; SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR NG CHAN-LAM; CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT BOARD'S WORKING GROUP ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, DR JOHN YOUNG; AND KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN (SHA TIN COMMITTEE) CHAIRMAN, MR CHOI KAN-PUI.

/FUNDS FOR

FUNDS FOR ORGANISING THE DISTRICT'S CLEANLINESS CAMPAIGN AND MUSIC DAY ARE COVERED BY ALLOCATIONS OF \$40,000 FROM THE REGIONAL COUNCIL, \$27,500 FROM THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD, \$25,000 FROM THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE REST FROM PRIVATE SPONSORS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE "ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION MUSIC DAY AND CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE 1988-89 KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN (SHA TIN COMMITTEE)" WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 3) AT THE MUSICAL FOUNTAIN AREA ON LEVEL 3, NEW TOWN PLAZA, SHA TIN. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE ADVISED TO ARRIVE BY 2.20 PM.

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EASTERN DISTRICT COMMUNITY CHEST DAY ON DECEMBER 16

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THE EASTERN DISTRICT COMMUNITY CHEST DAY WILL BE HELD ON DECEMBER 16 (FRIDAY) TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE NEEDY.

ORGANISED BY THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD IN SUPPORT OF THE COMMUNITY CHEST'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY, A SERIES OF FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES WILL BE HELD IN THE DISTRICT THROUGHOUT THAT DAY.

ANNOUNCING THE DETAILS OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT COMMUNITY CHEST DAY AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (THURSDAY), THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MISS CHRISTINA TING, APPEALED TO LOCAL RESIDENTS AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS TO SUPPORT THE MEANINGFUL EVENT.

THE FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES WILL INVOLVE HAWKERS, GREEN MINIBUS OPERATORS IN THE DISTRICT AND DRIVING TUTORS, ALL OF WHOM WILL DONATE TAKINGS FOR CHARITY.

THERE WILL ALSO BE A STAR-STUDED FUND-RAISING CONCERT.

A CHARITY SALE, WHICH IS ORGANISED BY A HAWKERS' ASSOCIATION IN NORTH POINT, WILL BE HELD IN THE MORNING ON DECEMBER 16.

A SPECIAL STALL WILL SELL VEGETABLES, FRUIT, GROCERIES AND FLOWERS AT THE JUNCTION OF CHUN YEUNG STREET AND TONG SHUI ROAD.

ON NINE MINIBUS ROUTES OPERATED BY TWO LOCAL MINIBUS COMPANIES FARES PAID IN THE MORNING WILL BE GIVEN TO CHARITY.

OVER 80 DRIVING TUTORS FROM TWO VEHICLE DRIVING TUTOR ASSOCIATIONS WILL DONATE TO CHARITY FEES FROM ONE HOUR OF TUTORING.

THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE COMMUNITY CHEST DAY WILL BE A "SING FOR CHARITY CONCERT" TO BE HELD AT THE DR SEAKER CHAN MEMORIAL HALL IN NORTH POINT.

THE CONCERT WILL BEGIN AT 7.30 PM.

THERE WILL BE SINGING AND DANCING PERFORMANCES BY WELL-KNOWN ARTISTS, AND A CHARITY AUCTION WILL ALSO BE HELD DURING THE SHOW.

ITEMS TO BE AUCTIONED INCLUDE A GOLD BUDDHA STATUE FROM THAILAND, A SET OF WORKS BY A FAMOUS CHINESE CALLIGRAPHER AND A PAIR OF LOUD SPEAKERS BEARING THE SIGNATURES OF FAMOUS ARTISTS.

POSTAL BOOKINGS FOR TICKETS FOR THE "SING FOR CHARITY CONCERT" CAN BE MADE WITH THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE AT 880-886 KING'S ROAD, NORTH POINT.

A LIMITED NUMBER OF TICKETS WILL BE ON SALE AT THE DR SEAKER CHAN MEMORIAL HALL FROM SATURDAY (DECEMBER 3).

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TSUEN WAN SPORTS FESTIVAL ENDS ON SATURDAY

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THE NATIONAL MARTIAL ARTS TEAM OF CHINA AND THE SHENZHEN WRESTLING TEAM (MONGOLIAN STYLE) WILL PERFORM AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE TSUEN WAN SPORTS FESTIVAL THIS SATURDAY (DECEMBER 3) EVENING.

TO MARK THE FESTIVAL'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY, A TOTAL OF TEN "LIONS" FROM THE HA HON-HUNG SPORTS ASSOCIATION WILL PERFORM A LION-DANCE AT THE CEREMONY.

ANOTHER HIGHLIGHT OF THE EVENING WILL BE A DEMONSTRATION BY THE HONG KONG WUSHU (MARTIAL ARTS) TEAM.

THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR WILLIAM SHIU; THE REGIONAL COUNCIL CHAIRMAN, MR CHEUNG YAN-LUNG; AND A COMMUNITY LEADER, MR CHAN PO-FONG WILL OFFICIATE AT THE CEREMONY WHICH WILL START AT 8 PM IN THE SHA TSUI ROAD PLAYGROUND.

DURING THE MONTH-LONG FESTIVAL, RESIDENTS IN TSUEN WAN WERE TREATED TO SOME 40 SPORTS EVENTS HELD AT VARIOUS VENUES IN THE DISTRICT.

THESE INCLUDED ARCHERY, MINI-SOCCER, FIVE-A-SIDE SOCCER, BASKETBALL, VOLLEY BALL, HANDBALL, TENNIS, AEROBIC DANCE, GO-KART RACING AND CROSS-COUNTRY MARATHON.

THE PROGRAMMES ALSO INCLUDED SPECIAL EVENTS FOR THE HANDICAPPED AND THE ELDERLY.

IN THE MEANTIME, A SPORTS FESTIVAL PHOTO COMPETITION HAS ALSO BEEN ORGANISED FOR ENTHUSIASTS.

THE DEADLINE FOR THE PHOTO CONTEST WILL BE DECEMBER 9 AND ADJUDICATION WILL TAKE PLACE ON DECEMBER 21.

THE 10TH TSUEN WAN SPORTS FESTIVAL IS PRESENTED BY THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD, DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE FEDERATION OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT SPORTS AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION AS A JOINT EFFORT TO BOOST SPORTS ACTIVITIES AND TO PROMOTE THE STANDARD OF SPORTS IN THE DISTRICT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE 10TH TSUEN WAN SPORTS FESTIVAL WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 8 PM ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 3) IN THE SHA TSUI ROAD PLAYGROUND, TSUEN WAN.

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ABANDONED SIGNBOARDS IN YAU TSIM REMOVED

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TEN ABANDONED SIGNBOARDS IN YAU TSIM DISTRICT WERE REMOVED IN AN OPERATION TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE OPERATION WAS CARRIED OUT AS A JOINT EFFORT BY THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICE AND OWNERS' CORPORATIONS.

IT WAS PART OF THE DISTRICT'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT CAMPAIGN TO ENLIST RESIDENTS' SUPPORT IN IMPROVING THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT.

THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT BOARD MET 90 PER CENT OF THE REMOVAL COST WITH AN ALLOCATION OF \$21,150.

OTHER EVENTS IN THE CAMPAIGN INCLUDE A BUILDING CLEANLINESS CONTEST, AREA PATROLS TO IDENTIFY PROBLEMATIC LOCATIONS, AND A YEAR-END CLEAN-UP OPERATION.

EARLIER IN THE YEAR, SEVERAL ACTIVITIES WERE HELD TO SPREAD THE "KEEP-CLEAN" MESSAGE TO DIFFERENT SECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY.

THESE INCLUDED A MARKET CLEANLINESS CONTEST URGING HAWKERS TO KEEP THEIR STALLS CLEAN; A SERIES OF HEALTH SEMINARS TO TEACH RESTAURANT WORKERS HOW TO DISPOSE OF GREASE AND FOOD RESIDUE PROPERLY, AND A SLOGAN CONTEST.

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SEMINAR FOR ENGLISH-SPEAKING RESIDENTS IN SAI KUNG

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ENGLISH-SPEAKING RESIDENTS IN SAI KUNG DISTRICT WILL BE ABLE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE DISTRICT'S LATEST DEVELOPMENT PLANS, EXISTING FACILITIES AND SERVICES AT A SEMINAR TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE SEMINAR HAS BEEN ORGANISED BY THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD. SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION INCLUDE THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, THE ENGLISH SCHOOLS FOUNDATION PRIMARY SCHOOL IN SAI KUNG AND TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT.

SPEAKERS AT THE SEMINAR INCLUDE THE PRO-VICE-CHANCELLOR (ADMINISTRATION AND BUSINESS) (ACTING) OF THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MR I.F.C. MACPHERSON; THE SECRETARY OF THE ENGLISH SCHOOLS FOUNDATION, MR G. WILLS AND THE TRAFFIC ENGINEER OF THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, MR D. WEBSTER.

THERE WILL BE A QUESTION-AND-ANSWER SESSION AFTER EACH TALK AND A VIDEO WILL BE SHOWN DURING THE TALK ON THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

THE SEMINAR WILL START AT 7.15 PM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD, SECOND FLOOR, SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, CHAN MAN STREET, SAI KUNG TOWN.

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BUILDING DECLARED LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY TODAY (THURSDAY) DECLARED NO. 77 NGAU HOM VILLAGE IN LAU FAU SHAN, YUEN LONG, TO BE LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS.

IN A STATEMENT ISSUED THIS MORNING, THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING SURVEYOR SAID THE SINGLE STOREY BUILDING FORMED ONE OF A TERRACE OF FOUR VILLAGE TYPE HOUSES CONSTRUCTED OF MUD WALLS AND TIMBER PITCHED ROOFS.

THE ADJACENT HOUSES, NOS. 78, 79 AND 80 HAD BEEN DESERTED FOR SOME TIME AND PART OF THE FRONT AND REAR WALLS OF NO. 79 HAD ALREADY COLLAPSED.

THE POTENTIAL DANGER OF FURTHER COLLAPSE NECESSITATED THESE ADJACENT BUILDINGS TO BE DEMOLISHED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

/AS VERTICAL

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AS VERTICAL CRACKS WERE FOUND AT THE REAR WALL OF NO. 77 AND OTHER CRACKS AT THE SIDE WALL WHICH WAS ALSO LEANING TOWARDS THE SIDE LANE, THE BUILDING AUTHORITY CONSIDERED THAT HOUSE NO. 77 WAS LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS UPON DEMOLITION OF THE ADJACENT HOUSES.

IT WAS THEREFORE NECESSARY TO CLOSE THIS BUILDING AND TO DEMOLISH IT JOINTLY WITH THE ADJACENT BUILDINGS.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER IN TSUEN WAN DISTRICT COURT AT 9.30 AM ON FEBRUARY 23, 1989 WAS POSTED TODAY.

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TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN WESTERN DISTRICT

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN WESTERN DISTRICT FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY (DECEMBER 5).

WHITTY STREET BETWEEN CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST AND DES VOEUX ROAD WEST WILL BE RE-ROUTED TO ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND. ALL VEHICLES OVER SEVEN METRES LONG WILL BE BANNED FROM ENTERING THIS SECTION.

VEHICLES FROM HILL ROAD WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO TURN RIGHT TO DES VOEUX ROAD WEST EASTBOUND. THESE VEHICLES WILL BE DIVERTED VIA DES VOEUX ROAD WEST WESTBOUND, CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST EASTBOUND, WHITTY STREET AND DES VOEUX ROAD WEST EASTBOUND.

NO VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE FORMER WHITTY STREET TRAM TERMINUS BETWEEN CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST AND DES VOEUX ROAD WEST.

THE SOUTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH HILL ROAD TO A POINT ABOUT 30 METRES TO THE EAST WILL BECOME A PEAK HOUR (7 AM - 10 AM AND 4 PM - 7 PM) DAILY URBAN CLEARWAY. NO VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS THERE.

THESE MEASURES WILL BE IN FORCE FOR ABOUT THREE WEEKS FOR TRAM TRACK CONNECTION WORKS.

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PARTIAL LANE CLOSURE OF KWAI CHUNG ROAD

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT FROM DECEMBER 4 (SUNDAY) TO JANUARY 8 NEXT YEAR, THE TRAFFIC LANES ON KWAI CHUNG ROAD BETWEEN CHING CHEUNG ROAD AND TSUEN WAN ROAD WILL BE CLOSED IN TURN FOR ROAD MAINTENANCE WORKS.

DURING THE WORKS PERIOD, AT LEAST TWO SOUTHBOUND AND TWO NORTHBOUND TRAFFIC LANES WILL REMAIN OPEN.

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TEMPORARY PARTIAL LANE CLOSURE OF TUEN MUN ROAD

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT TO FACILITATE ROAD RESURFACING WORK, THE THREE TRAFFIC LANES ON TUEN MUN ROAD EASTBOUND WILL BE CLOSED IN TURN.

THE BROTHER BRIDGE SECTION WILL BE CLOSED FROM DECEMBER 4 TO 13 WHILE THE SHAM TSENG VIADUCT SECTION WILL BE CLOSED FROM DECEMBER 18 TO 24.

IN ADDITION, CLOSURE OF THE TSING LUNG TAU BRIDGE SECTION WILL BE IN FORCE FROM JANUARY 2 TO 10 NEXT YEAR TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE YAU KAM TAU BRIDGE SECTION FROM JANUARY 8 TO 18.

DURING THE WORKS PERIOD, TWO TRAFFIC LANES WILL BE MAINTAINED ON THE AFFECTED SECTION FROM 6.30 AM TO 9 PM WHILE AT LEAST ONE TRAFFIC LANE WILL REMAINED OPEN FROM 9 PM TO 6.30 AM. BUT MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED TO USE THE ALTERNATIVE ROUTEING VIA CASTLE PEAK ROAD.

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'CITY IN CONCERT AND GAMES 88' TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS

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SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN HAPPY VALLEY AND CAUSEWAY BAY FOR THE "CITY IN CONCERT AND GAMES 88" TO BE HELD AT THE HONG KONG STADIUM ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 4), THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED.

THE FOLLOWING ARRANGEMENTS WILL COME INTO EFFECT FROM 12.30 PM:

/* CAROLINE HILL

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- * CAROLINE HILL ROAD BETWEEN LINK ROAD AND STADIUM PATH WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND;
- * CAROLINE HILL ROAD BETWEEN EASTERN HOSPITAL ROAD AND LEIGHTON ROAD/PENNINGTON STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC EXCEPT FOR LOCAL ACCESS;
- * CAROLINE HILL ROAD BETWEEN COTTON PATH AND LEIGHTON ROAD/PENNINGTON STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND;
- * EASTERN HOSPITAL ROAD BETWEEN STADIUM PATH AND TUNG LO WAN ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND; BUT VEHICLES CAN STILL ENTER THE ST PAUL'S HOSPITAL CARPARK FROM TUNG LO WAN ROAD; AND
- * LINK ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY UPHILL; VEHICLES EXITING FROM UPPER BROADWOOD ROAD, HAPPY VIEW TERRACE AND LEIGHTON HILL SHOULD TRAVEL DOWNHILL VIA BROADWOOD ROAD TO WONG NAI CHUNG ROAD.

THE FOLLOWING ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED 15 MINUTES BEFORE THE EVENT FINISHES:

- * CAROLINE HILL ROAD BETWEEN STADIUM PATH AND LEIGHTON ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND;
- * CAROLINE HILL ROAD BETWEEN LEIGHTON ROAD AND COTTON PATH WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC; AND
- * LINK ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC. VEHICLES TRAVELLING TO AND FROM UPPER BROADWOOD ROAD, HAPPY VIEW TERRACE, LEIGHTON HILL AND THE LOCAL PREMISES IN LINK ROAD WILL BE DIVERTED VIA WONG NAI CHUNG ROAD AND BROADWOOD ROAD.

THESE ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE WITHDRAWN ON COMPLETION OF THE EVENT AND AFTER THE MAJORITY OF PEOPLE ATTENDING HAVE DISPERSED.

LEARNER DRIVERS WILL BE BANNED FROM MATHESON STREET, RUSSELL STREET AND SHARP STREET EAST FROM 9 AM TO 8 PM.

IN ADDITION, THEY WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO TURN LEFT FROM PERCIVAL STREET SOUTHBOUND INTO LEIGHTON ROAD EASTBOUND, AND ENTER TUNG LO WAN ROAD FROM CAUSEWAY ROAD.

ALL ON-STREET PARKING SPACES IN SUN WUI ROAD, STADIUM PATH AND THE UNNAMED SERVICE ROAD AROUND THE STADIUM WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM NOON TO MIDNIGHT.

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