



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEAconsFIELD HOUSE HONG KONG TEL 5-233191

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1981

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FIRE SERVICE INSTALLATIONS MAINTENANCE ESSENTIAL
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OWNERS OF DOMESTIC, COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS WERE TODAY (TUESDAY) WARNED THAT THE PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO MAINTAIN PROPERLY FIRE SERVICE INSTALLATIONS AND EQUIPMENT IN THEIR BUILDINGS AT ALL TIMES HAD BEEN INCREASED BY 150 PER CENT FROM \$2 000 TO \$5 000.

THE WARNING WAS GIVEN BY THE DEPUTY CHIEF FIRE OFFICER OF THE FIRE PROTECTION BUREAU, MR LAM LOK-BUN, AT TODAY'S PRESS CONFERENCE WHEN HE ANNOUNCED THE START OF THIS YEAR'S FIRE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE WERE THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, MR JOHN WHOLEY, AND THE CHIEF FACTORY INSPECTOR OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, MR CHAN SHIU-LAP.

MR LAM SAID THAT THE LAW REQUIRED OWNERS OF BUILDINGS TO KEEP FIRE SERVICE INSTALLATIONS AND EQUIPMENT IN EFFICIENT WORKING ORDER AT ALL TIMES AND TO HAVE THEM INSPECTED BY A REGISTERED CONTRACTOR AT LEAST ONCE IN EVERY 12 MONTHS. HOWEVER, THE FIRE SERVICE INSTALLATIONS AND EQUIPMENT IN MOST BUILDINGS WERE NOT PROPERLY MAINTAINED.

+IN AN ATTEMPT TO CORRECT THE SITUATION,+ HE SAID, +THE MAXIMUM FINE FOR PROVEN OFFENCES WAS RECENTLY INCREASED TO THE MORE REALISTIC LEVEL OF \$5 000. THIS WILL HOPEFULLY SERVE AS A MORE EFFECTIVE DETERRENT AGAINST NEGLIGENCE.+

SIMILARLY, THE OFFENCE OF SIGNING OR ISSUING A FALSE OR MISLEADING CERTIFICATE IN RESPECT OF THE MAINTENANCE OF SUCH EQUIPMENT WAS SUBJECT TO THE SAME FINE ON CONVICTION.

TO INDICATE THE EXTENT OF THE FIRE PROBLEM IN HONG KONG, MR LAM SAID THAT A TOTAL OF 10 051 FIRES WERE REPORTED TO THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT IN THE 12-MONTH PERIOD ENDING AUGUST THIS YEAR — A SLIGHT DECREASE AS COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS YEAR'S FIGURE OF 10 721.

+THERE WERE, UNFORTUNATELY, MORE INJURIES AND FATALITIES,+ HE SAID. HE POINTED OUT THAT APART FROM HEAVY MONETARY LOSSES, THESE FIRES RESULTED IN 48 DEATHS AND 786 INJURIES.

HE SAID THAT MANY FIRES WERE CAUSED BY CARELESSNESS.

URGING THE PUBLIC TO BE CONSTANTLY ON GUARD AGAINST POTENTIAL FIRE RISKS, HE SAID: +FIRE PREVENTION IS NOT A MATTER OF EXPERTISE— IT IS THE SIMPLE APPLICATION OF COMMONSENSE AND CARE.+

ON COUNTRYSIDE FIRE, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, MR JOHN WHOLEY, SAID THAT OVER THE LAST 10 YEARS, THERE HAD BEEN, ON AVERAGE, MORE THAN 500 HILL FIRES IN HONG KONG EVERY YEAR.

/MANY PEOPLE

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MANY PEOPLE SEEMED TO THINK THAT COUNTRYSIDE FIRES ARE OF LITTLE IMPORTANCE, PROBABLY BECAUSE OF THE INSIGNIFICANT LOSSES IN TERMS OF BUILDINGS AND HUMAN LIFE.

+THIS IS A MISTAKEN BELIEF,+ MR WHOLEY SAID. +HILL FIRES DO COST MONEY BOTH TO MEET THE COST OF THE FIRE FIGHTING ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED, AND IN TERMS OF LOSS ON THE CAPITAL INVESTMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS IN GOVERNMENT PLANTATIONS AND COUNTRY PARKS.+

IN ADDITION, HE SAID, THERE ARE SIGNIFICANT AND NOT-EASILY-QUANTIFIABLE LOSSES IN TERMS OF VEGETATION, LANDSCAPE QUALITY, WILD LIFE HABITAT, RISK OF EROSION AND SUBSEQUENT SILTING, ALL OF WHICH ARE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO THE COMMUNITY IN TERMS OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY.

MR WHOLEY CITED GRAVE WORSHIPPERS, ILLEGAL BARBECUE PARTIES, CARELESS HIKERS OR CAMPERS AND FARMERS WHO BURN OFF RUBBISH, AS THE MAIN CAUSES OF COUNTRYSIDE FIRES.

ALTHOUGH THE GOVERNMENT HAD STEADILY IMPROVED AND STRENGTHENED ITS CAPABILITY TO DEAL WITH HILL FIRES, THE FINAL SOLUTION DEPENDED ON THE PREVENTION OF FIRE AND ONLY THE SOCIAL CONSCIOUSNESS AND REAL CO-OPERATION OF THE PUBLIC COULD MAKE THIS POSSIBLE.

THE CHIEF FACTORY INSPECTOR OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, MR CHAN SHIU-LAP, WHO ALSO SPOKE AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE, STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF FIRE SAFETY PRECAUTION IN WORKPLACES AND IN PARTICULAR THE PROBLEM OF OBSTRUCTION TO MEANS OF ESCAPE.

HE SAID LAST YEAR, THERE WERE 407 CASES HEARD BY THE COURTS FOR INFRINGEMENT OF FIRE SAFETY REGULATIONS, RESULTING IN FINES AMOUNTING TO \$351 450. OF THESE CASES, 249 OR OVER 60 PER CENT WERE CONCERNED WITH OBSTRUCTION TO MEANS OF ESCAPE.

MR CHAN SAID THAT THE FACTORY INSPECTORATE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT WAS ADOPTING AN ACTIVE APPROACH TO IMPROVE FIRE SAFETY IN FACTORIES THROUGH ENFORCING LEGISLATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY. APART FROM SAFETY COURSES RUN BY THE DEPARTMENT'S INDUSTRIAL SAFETY TRAINING CENTRE, A NEW SET OF 'FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS (FIRE PRECAUTIONS IN REGISTRABLE WORKPLACES) REGULATIONS WHICH CARRY PENALTIES RANGING FROM \$10 000 TO \$30 000 WAS INTRODUCED IN JULY THIS YEAR TO LAY DOWN MORE STRINGENT FIRE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.

+MOST OF THE FIRES OCCURRING IN FACTORIES ARE A RESULT OF POOR MAINTENANCE OR OVERLOADING OF ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT, UNSAFE PRACTICE IN THE USE OF FLAMMABLE SUBSTANCES AND POOR HOUSEKEEPING, THESE DEFECTS COULD BE EASILY RECTIFIED IF THOSE IN THE WORKPLACES, EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES ALIKE, PAY PROPER ATTENTION TO FIRE SAFETY,+ MR CHAN ADDED.

PUBLICITY FOR THIS YEAR'S FIRE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN WOULD BE STEPPED UP IN THE FORM OF LEAFLETS, POSTERS, WARNING SIGNS, BOOKMARKS, RADIO ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FILMS ON TELEVISION.

IN ADDITION, A TEACHING KIT HAS BEEN PRODUCED TO SPREAD THE BASIC KNOWLEDGE OF FIRE SAFETY TO SCHOOL CHILDREN.

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DISTRICT SCHEME HELPS SOCIAL SERVICE PROVISION
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THE DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS, MR GRAHAM BARNES SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT WITH THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION SCHEME THE OVERALL EXPANSION OF SOCIAL SERVICES, THE RATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT AND THE PROVISION OF RECREATIONAL FACILITIES WOULD NEED TO BE FASTER.

AND THIS MIGHT HAVE SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON GOVERNMENT'S OVERALL EXPENDITURE, HE TOLD THE JOINT DINNER ZONE II OF THE LIONS CLUB INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 303 THIS EVENING.

MR BARNES SAID HE BELIEVED MOST OF THE PROBLEMS AND POSSIBLE CONFLICTS BETWEEN DISTRICT BOARDS AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS WOULD BE RELATED TO TIMING AND DELAYS IN THE PROVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES WHICH WERE MOST LACKING IN EACH AREA.

HE SAID THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT WOULD FIND ITSELF UNDER CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE TO SPEED UP THESE PROVISIONS.

MR BARNES STRESSED THAT THE NEW DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION SCHEME WAS A BIG STEP WHICH GOVERNMENT WAS TAKING IN THIS FIELD.

AND IT WAS A BIGGER STEP IN THE URBAN AREAS THAN IT WAS IN THE NEW TOWNS WHERE THE DISTRICT OFFICER SYSTEM HAD ALREADY BEEN GRADUALLY EXPANDED INTO A SYSTEM OF DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES AND BOARDS.

+IN THE URBAN AREA THE DISTRICT-BASED SYSTEM IS BEING EXPANDED FROM THE RELATIVELY HUMBLE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE TO A FULLY-FLEDGED AND HALF ELECTED BOARD IN A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS.

+THIS BY GOVERNMENT STANDARDS IS FAIRLY SPEEDY EVOLUTION,+ HE ADDED.

MR BARNES PRAISED THE LIONS CLUBS FOR THEIR MAGNIFICENT TRADITION OF PUBLIC SERVICE AND SAID THAT THEY HAD STRONG INTERESTS, BOTH POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE, IN PARTICIPATING IN DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS.

+I UNDERSTAND THE LIONS CLUBS AS SUCH DO NOT FUNCTION AS POLITICAL ORGANISATIONS, AND THEY ARE CERTAINLY WISE TO AVOID SO DOING.

+BUT IT IS NOT ONLY A VERY WIDE OPPORTUNITY OF PUBLIC SERVICE, BUT ALSO VITAL TO THE COMMUNITY AND INDEED THE INDIVIDUAL'S INTEREST IN THE FUTURE,+ HE SAID.

+SO IT IS VERY MUCH A LION'S JOB.+

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EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS NAMED
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE HAS APPOINTED 20 UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS TO THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD, THE FIRST TO BE SET UP ON HONG KONG ISLAND.

THE APPOINTED MEMBERS, COMING FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE INCLUDING EDUCATION, KAIFONGS, COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, REPRESENT A WIDE CROSS-SECTION OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.

ALSO SERVING ON THE BOARD WILL BE FOUR URBAN COUNCILLORS - MISS MARIA TAM, MR SHUM CHOI-SANG, MR PETER P.F. CHAN AND DR KIM CHAM - AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM SIX GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS. IT WILL BE CHAIRED BY THE CITY DISTRICT COMMISSIONER (EASTERN).

THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR DENIS BRAY, WILL ADDRESS THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE BOARD ON WEDNESDAY (OCTOBER 28) AT THE MANSION STREET YOUTH CENTRE IN MODEL LANE, NORTH POINT.

BEFORE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD, AN EASTERN DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (EDMC) WAS ESTABLISHED IN MARCH THIS YEAR TO CO-ORDINATE GOVERNMENT SERVICES AT THE DISTRICT LEVEL TO ENSURE THAT DISTRICT NEEDS ARE MET AND PROBLEMS RESOLVED AS SWIFTLY AND EFFECTIVELY AS POSSIBLE.

THE EDMC, CHAIRED BY THE CITY DISTRICT COMMISSIONER (EASTERN), COMPRISES REPRESENTATIVES FROM GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS MOST CLOSELY CONCERNED WITH THE PROVISION OF SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT.

DURING THE PAST FEW MONTHS, THE EDMC, WORKING THROUGH ITS THREE SUB-COMMITTEES, HAS ENDEAVOURED TO IDENTIFY DISTRICT NEEDS AND PROBLEMS AND INITIATED A NUMBER OF IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS.

THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND LIAISON SUB-COMMITTEE HAS, SINCE ITS INCEPTION, ORGANISED A WIDE VARIETY OF DISTRICT COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROJECTS AND MADE A PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF EXISTING SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE HAS CONCENTRATED ON IDENTIFYING PROBLEM AREAS AND SUGGESTING IDEAS FOR IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES. IT HAS ALSO UNDERTAKEN MINOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AND COMPILED A LIST OF VACANT CROWN LAND SITES AND MADE PROPOSALS FOR THEIR TEMPORARY USE.

THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT SUB-COMMITTEE, AMONG OTHER THINGS, HAS LOOKED INTO ILLEGAL PARKING, NEW FERRY SERVICES, PEDESTRIAN SAFETY, ABANDONED VEHICLES, THE KING'S ROAD TRAFFIC PROBLEM, AND THE LARGE SCALE ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR AND MTRC ISLAND LINE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.

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FROM THE EXPERIENCE GAINED IN WORKING TOGETHER, MEMBERS OF THE EDMC ARE NOW GEARED TO PROVIDE EFFECTIVE SUPPORT TO THE NEW DISTRICT BOARD AND ITS COMMITTEES.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD TO BE HELD IN THE MANSION STREET YOUTH CENTRE, MODEL LANE, NORTH POINT AT 10 AM TOMORROW (OCTOBER 28). MEMBERS OF THE DISTRICT BOARD WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW AT 9.45 AM.

MEANWHILE, COPIES OF BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES OF THE NEWLY-APPOINTED UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS MAY BE COLLECTED FROM GIS PRESS BOXES LATER TODAY.

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BIG JUMP IN GRANTS TO HOSPITALS
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THE GOVERNMENT HAS INCREASED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO SUBVENTED HOSPITALS BY MORE THAN 20 TIMES IN THE LAST 20 YEARS IN RECOGNITION OF THE CONTRIBUTION BY VOLUNTARY AGENCIES TO MEDICAL AND HEALTH CARE IN HONG KONG.

THIS WAS STATED BY DR S.H. LEE, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, AT A MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF PAST AND PRESENT DIRECTORS OF THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS THIS (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON.

THE AMOUNT OF SUBVENTION TO THE VOLUNTARY AGENCIES JUMPED FROM \$22M IN 1960 TO \$476M LAST YEAR, HE SAID.

DR LEE SAID HONG KONG IS UNIQUE IN THAT MEDICAL AND HEALTH CARE IS PROVIDED THROUGH THE JOINT EFFORTS OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND THE GOVERNMENT.

VOLUNTARY AGENCIES HAVE PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH CARE OF HONG KONG BY PROVIDING A FULL RANGE OF PREVENTIVE, CURATIVE AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES.

+WITHOUT THEIR ASSISTANCE THE OVERALL MEDICAL AND HEALTH CARE IN HONG KONG WOULD NOT BE SO COMPLETE,+ DR LEE SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE NUMBER OF SUBVENTED HOSPITALS AND BEDS MORE THAN DOUBLED, AND THE NUMBER OF INPATIENTS TREATED INCREASED BY 150 PER CENT, IN THE PAST 20 YEARS.

DR LEE SAID THAT IN THE NEXT DECADE THERE WOULD BE 3 000 MORE HOSPITAL BEDS FROM THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR.

+WITH THE POPULATION GROWTH IN HONG KONG AND THE RAPID DEVELOPMENT OF THE AREAS, THE VOLUNTARY AGENCIES WILL CONTINUE TO PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH CARE IN THE COMMUNITY,+ HE SAID.

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WARM THANKS FROM PRINCE CHARLES AND LADY DIANA
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HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES AND THE PRINCESS OF WALES HAVE SENT THEIR WARMEST THANKS TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG FOR THEIR MOST GENEROUS GIFT ON THE OCCASION OF THE ROYAL COUPLE'S WEDDING.

+THE CARPET IS MAGNIFICENT AND WE ARE THRILLED WITH IT,+ PRINCE CHARLES WRITES IN A PARTLY HANDWRITTEN LETTER TO THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, REQUESTING HIM TO CONVEY HIS AND LADY DIANA'S WARMEST THANKS TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG.

THE FULL LETTER READS:

+WE ARE BOTH OVERWHELMED BY YOUR GREAT KINDNESS IN THINKING OF SENDING US SUCH A SPLENDID WEDDING PRESENT. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR TAKING ALL THE TROUBLE TO FIND SOMETHING WHICH IS SO GREATLY APPRECIATED AND WILL BRING SO MUCH PLEASURE TO BOTH OF US THROUGHOUT OUR MARRIED LIFE.

+THE CARPET IS MAGNIFICENT AND WE ARE THRILLED WITH IT. PLEASE WOULD YOU CONVEY OUR WARMEST THANKS TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG FOR THEIR MOST GENEROUS GIFT.+

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POK FU LAM ROAD BUS-ONLY LANE STARTS TOMORROW
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MOTORISTS ARE REMINDED THAT A BUS-ONLY LANE WILL BE INTRODUCED TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) ALONG A 1.2-KILOMETRE SECTION OF POK FU LAM ROAD.

THE LANE, EXTENDING FROM BISNEY ROAD TO POKFIELD ROAD, WILL OPERATE FROM 7 AM TO 9 AM FROM MONDAY TO SATURDAY.

THE SECTION OF POK FU LAM ROAD BETWEEN SASSOON ROAD AND POKFIELD ROAD WILL ALSO BE DESIGNATED A CLEARWAY DURING THE SAME TIMES.

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT'S CHIEF TRANSPORT OFFICER, TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT DIVISION, MR ALAN LUI, TODAY URGED CAR DRIVERS TO FORM TWO QUEUES IN THE SPACE ALONGSIDE THE BUS-ONLY LANE.

ALL VEHICLES, EXCEPT OMNIBUSES AND THOSE AUTHORISED IN WRITING BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM ENTERING THE BUS-ONLY LANE DURING ITS HOURS OF OPERATION.

VEHICLES WILL ONLY BE ALLOWED TO CROSS THE BUS LANE TO GAIN ACCESS TO ADJACENT SITES.

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MORE TEETH TO COMBAT HARBOUR LITTER

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THE MARINE DEPARTMENT'S POLLUTION CONTROL UNIT HAS STRENGTHENED ITS FLEET OF REFUSE COLLECTION VESSELS IN SUPPORT OF THE REVITALISED CLEAN HONG KONG CAMPAIGN.

TWO NEW +WATERWITCHES+ HAVE BEEN ADDED TO THE DEPARTMENT'S FLEET BRINGING TO THREE THE NUMBER OF SUCH VESSELS IN HONG KONG. THE +WATERWITCH+ IS ONE OF THE MOST ADVANCED REFUSE-COLLECTION VESSELS IN THE WORLD.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (TUESDAY), MR TREVOR BERRY, MARINE OFFICER IN CHARGE OF THE POLLUTION CONTROL UNIT SAID THAT THE WATERWITCHES ARE NOW OPERATING THROUGHOUT HONG KONG WATERS DAILY TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM OF FLOATING REFUSE. SUCH REFUSE IS ILLEGALLY DUMPED INTO THE HARBOUR OR FINDS ITS WAY INTO THE WATERS FROM NULLAHS AND DRAINS.

+EACH 'WATERWITCH' IS CAPABLE OF LIFTING ON AVERAGE FROM EIGHT TO NINE TONNES OF FLOATING REFUSE EVERY DAY. THE POLLUTION CONTROL UNIT'S FLEET HAS BEEN COLLECTING REFUSE AT THE RATE OF 4 000 TONNES A YEAR AND AS THE ESTIMATED POTENTIAL YIELD OF REFUSE FROM HONG KONG WATERS IS 10 000 TONNES A YEAR, THE ADDITION OF THESE NEW 'WATERWITCHES' TO OUR FLEET IS VITAL,+ HE SAID.

THE POLLUTION CONTROL UNIT'S FLEET NOW CONSISTS OF 46 VESSELS, INCLUDING TWO 'HARBOURSWEEPERS', RECEPTION VESSELS AND A FLEET OF SAMPANS, MR BERRY STATED.

HE SAID THAT TO UTILISE THE UNIT'S FLEET AS QUICKLY AND AS EFFICIENTLY AS POSSIBLE, DAWN HELICOPTER PATROLS WILL SOON BE UNDERTAKEN TO PINPOINT PARTICULARLY BAD SLICKS OF FLOATING REFUSE. THE WHEREABOUTS OF THESE SLICKS WILL BE RELAYED TO THE POLLUTION CONTROL UNIT WHICH WILL THEN SEND OFF ITS FLEET TO THE TROUBLED WATERS IMMEDIATELY.

+THE 'WATERWITCH' IS MANUFACTURED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AT A COST OF HK\$750 000 EACH,+ MR BERRY SAID. +IT IS USED BY MARINE AUTHORITIES IN COUNTRIES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD INCLUDING THOSE IN THE U.S.A., EUROPE, THE MIDDLE EAST AND SINGAPORE,+ HE STATED.

THE TWO NEW WATERWITCHES WHICH ONLY ARRIVED BY SHIP ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, WERE COMMISSIONED ON SUNDAY (OCTOBER 25) IN THE PRESENCE OF THREE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MANUFACTURER WHO FLEW OUT TO HONG KONG ESPECIALLY FOR THE OCCASION, HE ADDED.

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FLYOVER PLANNED

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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT PLANS TO BUILD A FLYOVER ALONG LAU SIN STREET LINKING HING FAT STREET AND TIN HAU TEMPLE ROAD.

BECAUSE OF INTENSIVE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT IN THE TIN HAU TEMPLE ROAD AND BRAEMAR HILL ROAD AREAS, HEAVY TRAFFIC WAS BEING GENERATED AT THE JUNCTIONS OF TIN HAU TEMPLE ROAD AND KING'S ROAD AND CAUSEWAY ROAD AND HING FAT STREET, A PWD SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE PROPOSED FLYOVER WOULD PROVIDE A BYPASS FOR TRAFFIC HEADING FOR THESE AREAS AND IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW ON KING'S ROAD. IN ADDITION, A FOOTBRIDGE WOULD BE BUILT ACROSS KING'S ROAD.

THE PROPOSED WORKS WILL INVOLVE ALTERATION TO THE ALIGNMENTS, LEVELS AND WIDTHS OF LAU SIN STREET AND ITS INTERSECTION WITH HING FAT STREET, ELECTRIC ROAD, NGAN MOK STREET, KING'S ROAD AND TIN HAU TEMPLE ROAD.

A NOTICE CONCERNING THE PROPOSED UNDERTAKINGS WAS PUBLISHED IN GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSALS SHOULD BE MADE IN WRITING TO THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS BEFORE NOVEMBER 16 THIS YEAR AND CLAIMS FOR COMPENSATION SHOULD BE MADE BEFORE DECEMBER 16 THIS YEAR.

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LOK SIN TONG GROUP CALLS ON WELFARE DIRECTOR

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SIXTEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LOK SIN TONG BENEVOLENT SOCIETY, LED BY THE CHAIRMAN, MR KU SZE-CHUNG, PAID A COURTESY VISIT TO THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR SELWYN ALLEYNE, THIS (TUESDAY) MORNING.

DURING THE MEETING, MR KU TOLD MR ALLEYNE THAT THE SOCIETY HAD UNDERTAKEN TWO MAJOR PROJECTS IN THE CURRENT YEAR — THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW \$10-MILLION SECONDARY SCHOOL IN LOK SIN ROAD AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CARE-AND-ATTENTION HOME IN TAI PO WITH MORE THAN 240 PLACES.

THE \$10-MILLION TAI PO PROJECT, WHICH IS RECEIVING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, IS DUE FOR COMPLETION NEXT SUMMER.

MR ALLEYNE SAID HE WAS HAPPY TO HEAR OF THE NEW PROJECTS. +I HOPE THE DEPARTMENT AND THE SOCIETY WILL DO SOME PROJECTS TOGETHER,+ HE SAID.

DURING THE MEETING, MR KU ALSO PRESENTED TWO CHEQUES TOTALLING \$5 000 TO MR ALLEYNE AS THE SOCIETY'S DONATIONS TO THE TWO FAMILIES INVOLVED IN THE POISON WELL TRAGEDY IN HO SHEUNG HEUNG ABOUT TWO MONTHS AGO.

A VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY, MR LUI FOOK-HONG, ALSO PERSONALLY DONATED \$250 EACH TO THE FAMILIES.

THE LOK SIN TONG BENEVOLENT SOCIETY IS ONE OF THE BIGGEST VOLUNTARY WELFARE ORGANISATIONS IN THE TERRITORY WITH A HISTORY GOING BACK MORE THAN 100 YEARS.

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FIRST PUBLIC ENQUIRY COUNTER IN THA
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THE FIRST PUBLIC ENQUIRY COUNTER IN A TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA (THA) WAS OPENED AT YUE KOK, TAI PO, TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE COUNTER IS IN BLOCK 37 IN AN OFFICE WHICH IT WILL SHARE WITH THE FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION.

RESIDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE DECLARATIONS THERE, GET ANSWERS TO GENERAL ENQUIRIES AND OBTAIN GOVERNMENT FORMS.

MANNED BY A LIAISON OFFICER FROM TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICE, THE COUNTER WILL BE OPEN EVERY TUESDAY BETWEEN 7 PM AND 9.30 PM.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DISTRICT OFFICE SAID LOCAL RESPONSE TO SIMILAR SERVICES PROVIDED AT THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICES CENTRE ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE BUILDING HAD BEEN GOOD.

THE NEW COUNTER WOULD SERVE AS A CHANNEL OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THA RESIDENTS. IT WOULD IMPROVE SERVICES AND ENABLE CLOSER CONTACT BETWEEN THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND RESIDENTS.

THE YUE KOK THA, LOCATED AT TING KOK ROAD, IS THE ONLY ONE IN TAI PO. IT HOUSES 8 900 PEOPLE, MOST OF WHOM HAVE MOVED THERE FROM OTHER AREAS OF TAI PO, FANLING AND SHEUNG SHUI.

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PRISON OFFICERS THANKED FOR SAVING OLD WOMAN
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TWO ASSISTANT OFFICERS OF THE PRISONS DEPARTMENT WHO RESCUED AN ELDERLY WOMAN FROM CHOPPY SEA AT CHI MA WAN EARLY LAST MONTH WERE TODAY (TUESDAY) THANKED FOR THEIR COURAGEOUS ACT.

THE 68-YEAR-OLD WOMAN, MRS LEE LAU-YING, CALLED AT THE CHI MA WAN PRISON TODAY AND PRESENTED THE OFFICERS EACH WITH A PLAQUE IN APPRECIATION OF THEIR BRAVERY AND PUBLIC-SPIRITED ACTION. THE OFFICERS ARE MR CHAN KWOK-KEUNG AND MR NG SHUI-MING.

MRS LEE SAID THE TWO PLAQUES WERE SENT HERE BY HER SON WHO IS A BUSINESSMAN IN TAIWAN. HER SON HAD ALSO WRITTEN TO THE SUPERINTENDENT OF CHI MA WAN PRISON THAT HE WAS VERY GRATEFUL TO THE TWO OFFICERS FOR SAVING HIS MOTHER'S LIFE.

THE INCIDENT OCCURRED AT 11.15 AM ON SEPTEMBER 4 WHEN MR CHAN KWOK-KEUNG OF CHI MA WAN PRISON AND MR NG SHUI-MING, A DRIVER OF MA PO PING PRISON WHO WERE ON DUTY AT CHI MA WAN RESPONDED TO A CRY FOR HELP COMING FROM THE DIRECTION OF A PUBLIC PIER NEARBY.

THEY SAW MRS LEE, A VILLAGER OF SHAP LONG TSUEN ON LANTAU, WHO HAD FALLEN OFF THE PIER, STRUGGLING IN THE CHOPPY SEA, AND DIVED IN AND RESCUED HER.

AFTER INITIAL TREATMENT BY THE MEDICAL OFFICER IN THE PRISON, MRS LEE WAS TAKEN BY HELICOPTER TO THE HOSPITAL.

THE VILLAGERS OF SHAP LONG TSUEN INFORMED HER SON IN TAIWAN OF WHAT HAD HAPPENED.

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TRAINING COURSE ON CAGE CULTURE FOR FISH
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SIXTEEN REPRESENTATIVES FROM SEVEN ASIAN COUNTRIES WILL TAKE PART IN A TRAINING COURSE ON CAGE CULTURE FOR FINFISH AT THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT'S FISHERIES RESEARCH STATION IN ABERDEEN FROM NOVEMBER 2 TO 12.

THE TRAINING COURSE IS ORGANISED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT AND FUNDED BY THE SOUTH CHINA SEA FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT AND CO-ORDINATING PROGRAMME OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

COUNTRIES TO BE REPRESENTED ARE BANGLADESH, INDONESIA, MALAYSIA, THE PHILIPPINES, SINGAPORE, SRI LANKA AND THAILAND.

LECTURES WILL BE GIVEN BY FISHERIES EXPERTS OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT ON THE SELECTION OF SITES, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF FLOATING CAGES AND RAFTS FOR CAGE CULTURE, SPECIES OF FISH CULTURED, FEEDS AND FEEDING, FISH DISEASES AND THEIR DIAGNOSIS AND CONTROL, AS WELL AS THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF CAGE CULTURE.

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APPEAL FOR STUDENTS' SUPPORT OF CHILDREN'S WARD
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AN APPEAL TO SCHOOL CHILDREN TO SUPPORT BY ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS THE +SCHOOL CHILDREN'S WARD+ IN THE RUTTONJEE SANATORIUM WAS MADE BY THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR COLVYN HAYE, IN A GENERAL SCHOOLS CIRCULAR.

THIS WARD OF 10 COTS IS THE ONLY ONE OF ITS KIND IN HONG KONG AND THE DONATIONS RECEIVED FROM SCHOOLS ENABLE THE CHILDREN THERE TO RECEIVE MEDICAL CARE AND ATTENTION WHICH MIGHT OTHERWISE NOT BE AVAILABLE TO THEM.

+LAST YEAR, SCHOOLS CONTRIBUTED A SUM OF ABOUT \$314 888, A SPLENDID ACHIEVEMENT AND A CREDIT TO ALL CONCERNED,+ MR HAYE SAID.

HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT SCHOOLS WOULD CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN THIS WARD BY INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE EFFORTS.

+INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD AGAIN BE LIMITED TO 50 CENTS AND MUST BE ENTIRELY VOLUNTARY, BUT SCHOOLS MAY CONSIDER VARIOUS OTHER WAYS AND MEANS OF RAISING MONEY TO SUPPORT THIS PRAISEWORTHY CAUSE,+ THE DIRECTOR SAID.

SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD BE SENT, PREFERABLY BY CROSSED CHEQUES PAYABLE TO THE HONG KONG TUBERCULOSIS, CHEST AND HEART DISEASES ASSOCIATION, TO THE DEPUTY SECRETARY (GENERAL) OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, LEE GARDENS, CAUSEWAY BAY, HONG KONG FOR ONWARD TRANSMISSION TO THE ASSOCIATION. ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED +ANTI-TB+.

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1981

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TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS SEE NEW TOWN OF THE FUTURE
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A PREVIEW OF WHAT TAI PO WILL LOOK LIKE BY THE 1990'S WAS GIVEN TODAY (TUESDAY) TO MEMBERS OF THE DISTRICT BOARD.

THE MEMBERS ATTENDED AN EXHIBITION OF MODELS, MAPS AND PHOTOGRAPHS SHOWING FUTURE POPULATION GROWTH AND DISTRIBUTION, TRANSPORT SYSTEMS, HOUSING AND SPORTING AND CULTURAL FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED IN THE NEW TOWN BY THE TIME IT IS FULLY DEVELOPED.

THE MEMBERS, INCLUDING 14 UNOFFICIALS AND FIVE OFFICIALS WERE BRIEFED BY THE PROJECT MANAGER OF TAI PO AND FANLING DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, MR JEFF THOMAS.

THEY LEARNED THAT THE POPULATION WOULD RISE FROM THE PRESENT 70 000 TO 230 000 BY THE END OF THE DECADE AND THAT HALF WOULD BE LIVING IN PUBLIC HOUSING.

RESIDENTS ARE ALREADY MOVING INTO THE FIRST PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE, TAI YUEN, AND WORK ON TWO OTHER ESTATES WILL BE COMPLETED BY 1985.

ROAD PROJECTS, INCLUDING THE COASTAL HIGHWAY, ELECTRIFICATION OF THE KOWLOON CANTON RAILWAY AND THE TRUNK ROAD LINKING TAI PO TO FANLING, WERE EXPLAINED.

THE EXHIBITION, ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICE IN TING KOK ROAD, WILL ALSO BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FROM 9 AM TO 5 PM UNTIL NEXT TUESDAY (NOVEMBER 3).

AFTER THE VISIT, THE MEMBERS ATTENDED THE FOURTH DISTRICT BOARD MEETING.

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TSUEN WAN SPORTS FESTIVAL PRESS CONFERENCE
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MORE THAN 70 EVENTS WILL BE HELD DURING THE THREE-WEEK TSUEN WAN SPORTS FESTIVAL WHICH STARTS ON NOVEMBER 7.

THE FESTIVAL, HELD ANNUALLY SINCE 1979, IS BEING ORGANISED BY TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD, THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT, THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT AND THE FEDERATION OF TSUEN WAN DISTRICT SPORTS AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION.

DETAILS OF THIS YEAR'S FESTIVAL WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AT 3 PM AT THE FUNG SHUI ROOM ON THE SIXTH FLOOR OF HONG KONG HOTEL IN TSIM SHA TSUI.

TSUEN WAN TOWN MANAGER, DR JAMES HAYES= THE FESTIVAL CHAIRMAN, MR CHAU HOW-CHEN= THE DISTRICT'S URBAN SERVICES OFFICER, MR LI TIN-MING= AND THE RECREATION AND SPORT OFFICER, MR POON SHU-KEE, WILL BE PRESENT.

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE.

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1981

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GOOD PROMOTION PROSPECTS IN IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT

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MORE INTELLIGENT YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN ARE BEING URGENTLY SOUGHT BY THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT TO COPE WITH THE EVER-INCREASING WORKLOAD.

+FOR INSTANCE, WE HAVE HAD TO DEAL WITH NEARLY 16 MILLION ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES IN THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF THIS YEAR, COMPARED WITH ABOUT 14 MILLION FOR THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT EXPLAINED.

THE DEMAND FOR OTHER IMMIGRATION FACILITIES HAS ALSO INCREASED. FOR EXAMPLE, A TOTAL OF 786 559 TRAVEL DOCUMENTS WERE ISSUED AND 385 527 VISA APPLICATIONS WERE PROCESSED FROM JANUARY TO AUGUST THIS YEAR. DURING THE SAME PERIOD, THE DEPARTMENT'S ENQUIRIES SECTION HAS HAD TO DEAL WITH SOME 361 800 CALLS, AN EIGHT PER CENT INCREASE OVER THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD IN 1980.

+THAT IS WHY WE HAVE TO RECRUIT MORE STAFF AND AT THE SAME TIME, TO PROMOTE THE EXPERIENCED OFFICERS TO TAKE UP POSTS OF HIGHER RESPONSIBILITY,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+IMMIGRATION WORK IS INTERESTING, CHALLENGING, EXCITING AND FULL OF VARIETY,+ SAID MR LEE KUN-SUM, AN IMMIGRATION ASSISTANT RECENTLY PROMOTED TO THE RANK OF ASSISTANT IMMIGRATION OFFICER. MR LEE JOINED THE DEPARTMENT IN 1977 AS AN IMMIGRATION ASSISTANT.

+THE WORK RANGES FROM THE CONTROL OF PEOPLE PASSING IN AND OUT OF HONG KONG TO THE ISSUE OF TRAVEL DOCUMENTS, FROM SEARCHES FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS, TO THE ENFORCEMENT OF IMMIGRANT LAWS,+ HE SAID.

SHARING HIS COLLEAGUE'S VIEWS, MR WONG HANG-CHEONG ADDED THAT THE WORK WAS IMPORTANT AND BUSY TOO.

+AS IMMIGRATION OFFICERS, WE HAVE THE CHANCE TO MEET PEOPLE OF DIFFERENT NATIONALITIES AND FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE, AND THERE WAS ALSO OPPORTUNITIES TO GO OVERSEAS,+ MR WONG SAID.

MR WONG WAS AWARDED A BRITISH EMPIRE MEDAL (BEM) LAST YEAR BY THE QUEEN FOR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IN HANDLING LARGE NUMBERS OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES DURING THE HEIGHT OF THE INFLUX IN 1979.

BOTH OFFICERS AND EIGHT OTHER PROMOTED ASSISTANT IMMIGRATION OFFICERS ARE NOW RECEIVING A FURTHER 13 WEEKS INTENSIVE TRAINING WHICH COVERS PHYSICAL EXERCISES, LEARNING ABOUT THE RELEVANT IMMIGRATION LAWS AND STANDING ORDERS, AS WELL AS THE TECHNIQUES OF HANDLING SUSPECTS, AND THE IDENTIFICATION OF FORGED DOCUMENTS.

+THE TRAINING IS ESSENTIAL BECAUSE THE OFFICERS ARE GIVEN POWERS TO SEARCH, DETAIN AND ARREST ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS, OVERSTAYERS AND THOSE WHO BREACH THE IMMIGRATION ORDINANCES,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+THE TECHNIQUES IN IDENTIFYING FORGED DOCUMENTS ARE DESIGNED TO CURB ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION AND ASSOCIATED CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES,+ HE STRESSED.

THE TRAINEES ARE ALSO DESPATCHED TO CONTROL POINTS AT THE AIRPORT, LOWU AND HONG KONG-MACAU FERRY PIER ON PRACTICAL WORK.

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1981

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DISABLED TO STAGE TALENT SHOW

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DISABLED AND ABLE-BODIED PEOPLE FROM 11 VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS AND THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S ABERDEEN REHABILITATION CENTRE WILL STAGE A COLOURFUL TALENT SHOW AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM IN WAN CHAI ON SUNDAY (NOVEMBER 1).

THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR JACK CATER, WILL OFFICIATE AT A CEREMONY TO MARK THE OPENING OF THE SHOW, WHICH IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT AND THE VOLUNTARY AGENCIES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT IN LINE WITH THE UNITED NATIONS' PROCLAMATION OF 1981 AS THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF DISABLED PERSONS, THE DEPARTMENT AND THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR HAD ORGANISED MANY ACTIVITIES TO DRIVE HOME THE OVERALL THEME OF +INTEGRATION+.

+THE TERRITORY-WIDE TALENT SHOW IS ONE OF THE MAIN ACTIVITIES ORGANISED FOR THE YEAR,+ HE SAID.

+THE PURPOSE IS TO DRAW THE PUBLIC'S ATTENTION TO THE PROBLEMS OF THE DISABLED AND TO THE FACT THAT THEY HAVE MANY OTHER ABILITIES AND ARE IMPORTANT MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

PERFORMANCES BY THE DISABLED ON SUNDAY WILL INCLUDE DANCES, BAND MUSIC, FOLK SONG SINGING, A LION DANCE, A VARIETY SHOW AND THE PLAYING OF VIOLIN AND OTHER MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

DANCERS FROM TVB AND DISC JOCKEYS FROM RTHK WILL ALSO ENTERTAIN THE GATHERING.

TWO MONTHS AGO, THE TALENT SHOW ORGANISING COMMITTEE, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE LIONS CLUB OF SHA TIN, HELD A SLOGAN COMPETITION IN SUPPORT OF THE TALENT SHOW. WINNERS OF THE COMPETITION WILL RECEIVE THEIR PRIZES AT THE OPENING CEREMONY ON SUNDAY.

OTHERS TAKING PART IN THE OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR SELWYN ALLEYNE- THE PRESIDENT OF THE TSIM SHA TSUI KAI FONG ASSOCIATION, MR NG TOR-TAI- THE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE SOCIETY OF HOMES FOR THE HANDICAPPED, MR NG WAI-KEI, AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE LIONS CLUB OF SHA TIN, MR SIU WING-HONG.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE TALENT SHOW WHICH STARTS AT 2 PM ON SUNDAY AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM, 18 01 KWAN ROAD, WAN CHAI. THE OPENING CEREMONY WILL START AT 3 PM AND WILL LAST ABOUT HALF AN HOUR. PERFORMANCES WILL RESUME AT ABOUT 3.45 PM.

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