



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 1989

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GOVT STUDYING COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY'S FINAL REPORT

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THE GOVERNMENT IS NOW STUDYING THE FINAL REPORT BY THE COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY ON CIVIL SERVICE PAY.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY (TUESDAY) SAID THAT THE REPORT, WHICH HAD BEEN SUBMITTED TO THE GOVERNOR, CONTAINED RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE PAY TREND SURVEY METHODOLOGY AND THE 1986 PAY LEVEL SURVEY OF THE NON-DIRECTORATE CIVIL SERVICE.

"THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL'S ADVICE ON THEM WILL BE SOUGHT IN DUE COURSE," HE SAID.

THE COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY WAS APPOINTED IN AUGUST LAST YEAR TO CONSIDER THE DISPUTE BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND ITS STAFF ON THE 1988 CIVIL SERVICE PAY ADJUSTMENT AND RELATED MATTERS. ITS INTERIM REPORT WAS PUBLISHED IN NOVEMBER.

MEANWHILE, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED, DATA COLLECTION FOR THE 1989 PAY TREND SURVEY WAS CURRENTLY IN PROGRESS.

"THE GOVERNMENT'S AIM IS TO REACH A DECISION ON THE CIVIL SERVICE PAY ADJUSTMENT IN TIME FOR PAYMENT TO BE MADE AT THE END OF JUNE," HE SAID.

"THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE ADJUSTMENT WOULD BE APRIL 1, 1989."

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RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY

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THE COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY INTO THE 1988 CIVIL SERVICE PAY ADJUSTMENT AND RELATED MATTERS, IN ITS FINAL REPORT RELEASED TODAY (TUESDAY), HAS CONCLUDED THAT THE FINDINGS OF THE 1986 PAY LEVEL SURVEY DO NOT PROVIDE A SUFFICIENT BASIS FOR MAKING SPECIFIC ADJUSTMENTS TO CIVIL SERVICE PAY EITHER NOW OR IN THE FUTURE.

THE COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY WAS APPOINTED IN AUGUST LAST YEAR BY THE GOVERNOR TO INQUIRE INTO A DISPUTE BETWEEN THE STAFF SIDE AND OFFICIAL SIDE OF THE SENIOR CIVIL SERVICE COUNCIL OVER CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE CIVIL SERVICE PAY SYSTEM. THE COMMITTEE STARTED WORK IN OCTOBER LAST YEAR AND AN INTERIM REPORT, WHICH DEALT WITH THE ISSUE OF THE 1988 CIVIL SERVICE PAY ADJUSTMENT, WAS SUBMITTED TO THE GOVERNOR IN NOVEMBER 1988. THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THAT REPORT WHICH INCLUDE ONE FOR AN UPWARD ADJUSTMENT TO THE 1988 PAY AWARD, WERE ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

/RELEASING THE .....

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RELEASING THE FINAL REPORT AT A PRESS CONFERENCE, THE CHAIRMAN, MR GORDON BURRETT, SAID THAT THE REPORT CONTAINED THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE ISSUES OF THE 1986 PAY LEVEL SURVEY, FUTURE PAY DETERMINATION AND THE METHODOLOGY FOR PAY TREND SURVEYS.

"IN RELATION TO THE 1986 PAY LEVEL SURVEY, THE COMMITTEE HAD REACHED THE VIEW THAT THE METHODOLOGY USED BY THE CONSULTANTS FOR THE PAY COMPARISONS IS SOUND AND REPUTABLE BUT JOB-FOR-JOB COMPARISONS WOULD HAVE BEEN PREFERABLE. AS REGARDS FRINGE BENEFITS THE METHODOLOGY USED TENDED TO OVERVALUE CIVIL SERVICE BENEFITS ESPECIALLY HOUSING. THERE ARE NEVERTHELESS NO CONVINCING GROUNDS FOR DISPUTING THE GENERAL TENOR OF THE 1986 SURVEY'S RESULTS THOUGH THE DEGREES OF DISCREPANCY BETWEEN THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND THE CIVIL SERVICE MUST BE IN DOUBT," HE SAID.

THE COMMITTEE NOTED THAT WHEN HAY MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS WERE COMMISSIONED TO CONDUCT THE 1986 PAY LEVEL SURVEY, THEY WERE SPECIFICALLY ASKED TO PROVIDE THE STANDING COMMISSION WITH INFORMATION WHICH WOULD ENABLE THEM TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE CURRENT REMUNERATION OF THE CIVIL SERVICE WAS BROADLY IN LINE WITH THAT OF EMPLOYEES IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR UNDERTAKING COMPARABLE WORK.

"HOWEVER, SINCE THE METHODOLOGY USED BY HAY PLACED THE MAIN EMPHASIS ON POINTS/FACTOR COMPARISONS AND THEY WERE EXPRESSLY PRECLUDED FROM LOOKING AT INDIVIDUAL JOBS, TO THIS EXTENT THE RESULTING REPORT MAY BE SAID TO HAVE FALLEN SHORT PERFORCE OF FULLY ACHIEVING THE 'COMPARABLE WORK' OBJECTIVE," MR BURRETT SAID.

"HAY HAVE MADE IT CLEAR THAT IN THEIR VIEW A SURVEY OF PAY LEVELS DOES NOT AND SHOULD NOT DETERMINE REMUNERATION POLICY. WE SHARE THIS VIEW AND BELIEVE OTHER FACTORS NEED TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN DETERMINING PAY APART FROM THOSE ARISING DIRECTLY FROM A PARTICULAR PAY LEVEL SURVEY, E.G. MORALE, BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS, JOB SATISFACTION, RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION PROBLEMS, SECURITY OF TENURE, PROMOTION PROSPECTS AND INTERNAL RELATIVITIES. WE THINK THAT THE HAY RESERVATIONS CAST SERIOUS DOUBT ON THE VALIDITY OF THE SURVEY RESULTS AS AN EXACT INDICATOR OF WHAT CIVIL SERVICE PAY LEVELS SHOULD HAVE BEEN IN 1986.

"THE EVIDENCE GIVEN TO THE COMMITTEE ALSO SUGGESTS THAT SINCE THE 1986 SURVEY WAS CONDUCTED THE EMPLOYMENT AND REMUNERATION SCENE HAD ALTERED RADICALLY. MOREOVER, WE CONSIDER THAT IF A PAY LEVEL SURVEY IS TO BEAR THE WEIGHT OF DETERMINING THE RATES AT WHICH CIVIL SERVANTS ARE TO BE PAID IT MUST HAVE THE CONFIDENCE OF THE STAFF AND THIS CANNOT BE ACHIEVED WITHOUT ADEQUATE CONSULTATION.

"WE THINK THAT IN 1986 POSSIBLY BECAUSE OF THE TIME FACTOR, NOT ENOUGH HAD BEEN DONE TO WIN THAT CONFIDENCE. OUR CONCLUSION THEREFORE IS THAT THE 1986 SURVEY'S FINDINGS DO NOT PROVIDE A SUFFICIENT BASIS FOR MAKING SPECIFIC ADJUSTMENTS TO CIVIL SERVICE PAY EITHER NOW OR IN THE FUTURE."

/FOR FUTURE .....

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FOR FUTURE PAY DETERMINATION, THE COMMITTEE PROPOSES A SYSTEM WHICH FEATURES A COMBINATION OF BOTH PAY LEVEL SURVEYS AND PAY TREND SURVEYS. UNDER THIS PROPOSAL, PAY LEVEL SURVEYS WOULD BE THE FOUNDATION OF THE PAY SYSTEM AND WOULD BE CONDUCTED AT INTERVALS OF ABOUT EVERY THREE YEARS, WITH PAY TREND SURVEYS PROVIDING THE BASIS FOR PAY ADJUSTMENTS IN THE YEARS BETWEEN PAY LEVEL SURVEYS.

"THE PAY LEVEL SURVEYS SHOULD BE BASED ON JOB-FOR-JOB COMPARISONS. A NUMBER OF MARKER GRADES WITH IDENTIFIABLE FUNCTIONAL COUNTERPARTS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR SHOULD BE USED AS COMPARATORS. THE SURVEY INDICATORS FOR THE MARKER GRADES SHOULD THEN BE USED TO EXTRAPOLATE RATES FOR GROUPS OF STAFF NOT COVERED BY THE SURVEY ON THE BASIS OF INTERNAL RELATIVITIES," MR BURRETT EXPLAINED.

IN VALUING FRINGE BENEFITS, THE COMMITTEE FULLY ENDORSED THE VIEW THAT PAY LEVEL SURVEYS SHOULD INVOLVE A COMPARISON OF CIVIL SERVICE AND PRIVATE SECTOR TOTAL PAY PACKAGES.

"BUT WE THINK THAT IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES, THE ASSESSMENT OF FRINGE BENEFITS SHOULD BE BASED ON THE REPLACEMENT COST TO THE EMPLOYEE AND ON ACTUAL UTILISATION."

"FOR EXAMPLE, HOUSING BENEFITS FOR BOTH THE CIVIL SERVICE AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR SHOULD BE VALUED EITHER ON THE BASIS OF THE REPLACEMENT VALUE OF ACCOMMODATION PROVIDED OR, IN THE CASE OF THE CIVIL SERVICE, BY REFERENCE TO THE BENEFITS THEY WOULD DERIVE FROM THE NEW HOME PURCHASE SCHEME, THE LATTER BEING OUR PREFERRED METHOD," HE SAID.

"CIVIL SERVICE PENSIONS SHOULD BE ASSESSED AT THEIR ACTUARIAL VALUE, BUT DUE WEIGHT SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE ARGUMENTS FOR DISCOUNTING THEM IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PAY LEVEL SURVEY FINDINGS," HE ADDED.

ACCORDING TO THE PROPOSALS, THE FIRST PAY LEVEL SURVEY WOULD BE CONDUCTED IN THE 1990-91 SURVEY YEAR FOR IMPLEMENTATION WITH EFFECT FROM APRIL 1, 1991.

"THERE SHOULD BE FULL CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE OFFICIAL AND STAFF SIDES TO ENSURE CONFIDENCE IN THE PAY LEVEL SURVEY METHODOLOGY AND ITS EXECUTION," MR BURRETT STRESSED.

AS REGARDS PAY TREND SURVEYS, THE FORMULA RECOMMENDED BY THE COMMITTEE FOR CALCULATING FUTURE CIVIL SERVICE ANNUAL PAY ADJUSTMENTS WAS TO INCLUDE THE PERCENTAGE VALUES OF PRIVATE SECTOR MERIT PAY AND INCREMENTS IN THE PAY TREND INDICATORS, FROM WHICH THE VALUES OF CIVIL SERVICE INCREMENTS FOR INDIVIDUAL SALARY BANDS WOULD BE DEDUCTED AT THEIR PAYROLL COST.

"WHERE THE RESULTING INDICATOR FOR THE LOWER PAY BAND IS BELOW THAT FOR THE MIDDLE BAND, IT SHOULD BE BROUGHT UP TO THE SAME LEVEL," MR BURRETT SAID.

/ "PAY INCREASES .....

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"PAY INCREASES RELATING TO INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL RELATIVITIES AND PROMOTION AND TRANSFER IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE EXCLUDED FROM THE CALCULATION OF PAY TREND INDICATORS.

"THE PRESENT PRACTICE OF APPLYING INDUSTRIAL WEIGHTINGS TO PAY TREND INDICATORS SHOULD BE DISCONTINUED," HE ADDED.

THE COMMITTEE HAS MET ON 26 OCCASIONS SINCE IT FIRST CONVENED IN OCTOBER LAST YEAR. IT HAS CONSIDERED WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS AND TAKEN ORAL EVIDENCE FROM BOTH THE OFFICIAL AND STAFF SIDES OF THE SENIOR CIVIL SERVICE COUNCIL, AND THE STAFF SIDE OF THE MODEL SCALE I STAFF CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL.

"WE ALSO HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE STANDING COMMISSION OF CIVIL SERVICE SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE, THE CONTROLLER OF THE PAY SURVEY AND RESEARCH UNIT, A PAST CONTROLLER OF THE FORMER PAY INVESTIGATION UNIT AND HAY MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS," HE SAID.

MR BURRETT POINTED OUT THAT RESPONSE TO THE COMMITTEE'S INTERIM REPORT AND SUBMISSIONS FROM CIVIL SERVICE STAFF ASSOCIATIONS, INDIVIDUAL CIVIL SERVANTS AND NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS HAD BEEN CONSIDERED IN PREPARING THE FINAL REPORT.

THE TWO OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE, MR BRIAN BARRETT, AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, MR PETER POON WING-CHEUNG, ALSO TOOK PART IN TODAY'S PRESS CONFERENCE.

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#### CHIEF SECRETARY VISITS JUNK BAY

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JUNK BAY NEW TOWN ON THE EASTERN SIDE OF KWUN TONG WILL EVENTUALLY BE THE HOME OF ABOUT 440,000 PEOPLE UPON FULL DEVELOPMENT.

THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID FORD, WHO TOOK TIME OFF TO SEE FOR HIMSELF PROGRESS DEVELOPMENT IN JUNK BAY, SPENT OVER TWO HOURS THIS (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON VISITING VARIOUS PROJECTS.

SIR DAVID WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT'S DIRECTOR, MR KWOK WAI-KAI, AND PROJECT MANAGER (NEW TERRITORIES/SOUTH), MR CHOW CHE-KING.

AT A VANTAGE POINT IN SIU CHIK SHA, SIR DAVID WAS BRIEFED ON THE NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT AND ON THE PROPOSED THIRD INDUSTRIAL ESTATE BY MR CHOW.

/CONSTRUCTION WORK .....

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CONSTRUCTION WORK FOR THE NEW TOWN STARTED IN 1982 AND RESIDENTS STARTED MOVING IN EARLY LAST YEAR. THE CURRENT POPULATION STANDS AT 33,000.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES NOW AVAILABLE INCLUDE FOUR PRIMARY SCHOOLS, TWO SECONDARY SCHOOLS, A COMMUNITY CENTRE, AN INDOOR RECREATION CENTRE, AND A SUB-DIVISIONAL FIRE STATION AND AMBULANCE DEPOT.

ON THE WORKS PROGRAMME THIS YEAR ARE TWO MORE PRIMARY SCHOOLS, AN INDOOR RECREATION CENTRE, A CLINIC AS WELL AS A POLICE STATION, A NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE AND A HOST OF OTHER FACILITIES LATER AS JUNK BAY DEVELOPS.

LATER, SIR DAVID WENT TO THE ROOF OF A BLOCK AT YING MING COURT ADJOINING PO LAM ESTATE WHERE HE HAD A PANORAMIC VIEW OF JUNK BAY AND WAS BRIEFED BY STAFF OF THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT ON PUBLIC HOUSING PROJECTS.

HE WAS TOLD THAT PHASES ONE AND TWO OF PO LAM ESTATE, TSUI LAM ESTATE AND THE HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME KING MING COURT HAVE BEEN COMPLETED AND ARE TAKING IN RESIDENTS.

OTHER PROJECTS IN PROGRESS INCLUDE THE REMAINING PHASES OF PO LAM ESTATE, KING LAM ESTATE, THE HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME YING MING COURT AND YAN MING COURT, AND TWO PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION SCHEMES.

SIR DAVID ALSO SAW THE SITE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION, AND THE EASTERN PORTAL OF THE JUNK BAY ROAD TUNNEL BEFORE HE ENDED HIS VISIT.

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#### PROPER REGULATION OF INSURANCE INDUSTRY EMPHASISED

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THE GOVERNMENT LAYS GREAT EMPHASIS ON THE PROPER REGULATION OF THE INSURANCE INDUSTRY IN HONG KONG, THE SECRETARY OF MONETARY AFFAIRS, MR DAVID NENDICK, SAID THIS (TUESDAY) MORNING.

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF "INSURANCE 90'S".

MR NENDICK SAID THE GOVERNMENT ACCEPTED A RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE THE INTEGRITY OF THE MARKET AND TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE PROTECTION TO EXISTING AND FUTURE POLICYHOLDERS, GIVEN THE ECONOMIC FUNCTION OF INSURANCE, THE SIZE OF THE INSURANCE INDUSTRY AND ITS GROWING IMPORTANCE TO HONG KONG AS A FINANCIAL CENTRE.

MR NENDICK SAID A FRAMEWORK OF PRUDENTIAL SUPERVISION WAS ENSHRINED IN THE INSURANCE COMPANIES ORDINANCE WHICH WAS ENACTED IN 1983.

/"THE ORDINANCE .....

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"THE ORDINANCE REQUIRES THE INSURANCE AUTHORITY TO AUTHORISE AND MONITOR THE ACTIVITIES OF INSURANCE COMPANIES IN HONG KONG AND GRANTS HIM POWERS TO INTERVENE TO PROTECT THE INTERESTS OF POLICYHOLDERS.

"THE THRUST OF SUPERVISION IS ON THE OVERALL FINANCIAL HEALTH OF INSURERS," HE SAID.

MR NENDICK SAID THE ORDINANCE WAS UNDER CONSTANT REVIEW AND WAS AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME.

"AN AMENDMENT BILL HAS RECENTLY BEEN INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO UPDATE VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF THE ORDINANCE," HE SAID.

MR NENDICK SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS ALSO AT PRESENT EXAMINING WITH THE INSURANCE INDUSTRY WAYS TO IMPROVE CONTROL OVER THE ACTIVITIES OF INSURANCE INTERMEDIARIES, THAT IS AGENTS AND BROKERS.

"THE SYSTEM OF CONTROL WE HAVE IN MIND IS LARGELY ONE OF SELF-REGULATION WITHIN A FRAMEWORK OF SUPPORTIVE LEGISLATION.

"AGENTS WILL BE RESPONSIBLE TO AN INSURER OR GROUP OF INSURERS AND BROKERS WILL BE RESPONSIBLE TO THEIR SELF-REGULATORY ORGANISATIONS.

"THE LAW WILL DISTINGUISH BETWEEN AGENTS AND BROKERS AND WILL LAY DOWN MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS," HE SAID.

MR NENDICK SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS ALSO LOOKING AT THE QUESTION OF INSURANCE CONTRACT LAW WHICH SOME MIGHT REGARD AS TOO HEAVILY WEIGHTED IN FAVOUR OF THE INSURERS.

"WE ACCEPT IN PRINCIPLE THE INDUSTRY'S VIEW THAT THE BEST SOLUTION LIES IN EFFECTIVE SELF-REGULATION. WE ARE WORKING TOWARDS THIS END WITH THE INDUSTRY AND INTEND TO HAVE IN PLACE WORKABLE PROPOSALS BY THE END OF THIS YEAR," HE SAID.

"WE HOPE THAT THE VARIOUS INITIATIVES NOW IN TRAIN WILL SERVE TO PROMOTE THE HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT OF THE MARKET FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE INSURING PUBLIC," HE ADDED.

MR NENDICK SAID THERE WAS A STRONG INTERNATIONAL PRESENCE IN THE INSURANCE INDUSTRY IN HONG KONG.

"OF THE 275 AUTHORISED INSURERS IN HONG KONG, 148 (OR OVER 50 PER CENT) ARE INCORPORATED OVERSEAS.

"HONG KONG IS ALSO BECOMING AN IMPORTANT BASE FOR REINSURANCE OPERATIONS IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION," HE SAID.

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SHIPPING REGISTER GROUP COMPLETES FIRST REPORT

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THE STEERING GROUP ON THE HONG KONG SHIPPING REGISTER HAS COMPLETED THE FIRST PART OF ITS REPORT ON THE DETAILED ARRANGEMENTS IT RECOMMENDS FOR THE NEW HONG KONG SHIPPING REGISTER.

AT A MEETING THIS (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON, THE STEERING GROUP COMPLETED ITS DELIBERATIONS ON MANY OF THE TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS WHICH WILL FORM THE BASIS OF THE NEW REGISTER.

THE STEERING GROUP CHAIRMAN, MR RAPHAEL HUI, SAID: "WE PLAN TO INAUGURATE THE NEW REGISTER ON TARGET IN LATE 1990. WE MUST, THEREFORE, PUT IN PLACE BY THAT DATE COMPREHENSIVE LEGISLATION GOVERNING THE PROCEDURES FOR REGISTRATION AND THE TECHNICAL STANDARDS WHICH WILL BE REQUIRED OF THE SHIP AND ITS CREW.

"PART 1 OF OUR REPORT LARGELY COVERS PROCEDURES AND IS KEY TO THE LEGISLATION SURROUNDING THE REGISTER," HE ADDED.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE STEERING GROUP, ITS COMMITTEES AND THE VERY MANY TECHNICAL WORKING GROUPS, MR HUI SAID: "WE ARE FORTUNATE TO HAVE AVAILABLE IN HONG KONG SOME OF THE BEST TALENT AND EXPERTISE IN EVERY FIELD OF THE SHIPPING INDUSTRY.

"THAT TALENT AND EXPERTISE WILL ENABLE US TO DEVELOP A TECHNICALLY SOUND REGISTER WHICH SHOULD PROVE ATTRACTIVE TO ALL SIDES OF THE INDUSTRY."

THE STEERING GROUP'S REPORT COVERS A WIDE RANGE OF AREAS INCLUDING THE FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE REGISTER, PROCEDURES FOR REGISTRATION, THE USE OF CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES AND MARITIME LIENS AND MORTGAGES.

IT WILL SHORTLY BE FORMALLY SUBMITTED TO THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AND FORM THE BASIS OF GOVERNMENT POLICY FOR THE OPERATION OF THE REGISTER.

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12 QUESTIONS ON LEGCO AGENDA

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MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL ASK A TOTAL OF 12 QUESTIONS AND CONSIDER FIVE BILLS AT THE COUNCIL'S MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE DRUG TRAFFICKING (RECOVERY OF PROCEEDS) BILL 1989 WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS.

/SECOND READING .....

SECOND READING DEBATES ON FOUR BILLS WILL BE RESUMED, AFTER WHICH EACH BILL IS DUE TO GO THROUGH THE COMMITTEE STAGE AND BE GIVEN A THIRD READING.

THESE ARE THE INLAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1988, THE LIFTS AND ESCALATORS (SAFETY) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989, THE PHARMACY AND POISONS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989 AND THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989.

THERE WILL BE AN ADJOURNMENT DEBATE ON "MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES IN PUBLIC SECTOR HOSPITALS". THE DEBATE WILL BE LED OFF BY DR THE HON LEONG CHE-HUNG.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE WILL HOLD A MEETING AT THE END OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING.

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BALLOON TO REMIND ELECTORS TO VOTE  
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A HELIUM BALLOON CARRYING A VOTING MESSAGE WAS FLOATED OVER THE SHA TSUI ROAD PLAYGROUND IN TSUEN WAN TODAY (TUESDAY) TO REMIND ELIGIBLE ELECTORS TO CAST THEIR VOTES IN THE 1989 URBAN COUNCIL AND REGIONAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS ON THURSDAY (MARCH 9).

THE SECRETARY FOR MUNICIPAL SERVICES, MR AUGUSTINE CHUI, OFFICIATED AT A CEREMONY TO HOIST THE BALLOON.

AFTER THE CEREMONY, A FANCY VEHICLE STARTED OFF FROM THE PLAYGROUND FOR A TOUR OF THE NEW TERRITORIES TO PROMOTE THE ELECTIONS.

IN THE PAST MONTH, VARIOUS ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN HELD TO HELP SPREAD THE ELECTION MESSAGE. THESE INCLUDE THE DISPLAY OF POSTERS AND BANNERS AT PROMINENT LOCATIONS, FANCY VEHICLE TOURS AND THE BROADCAST OF ANNOUNCEMENTS IN PUBLIC INTEREST (API) ON TELEVISION AND RADIO.

STARTING TOMORROW, THE ELECTION MESSAGE WILL BE BROADCAST THROUGH THE PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM OF KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY TRAIN STATIONS. AN API WILL ALSO BE SHOWN ON THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB'S DIAMOND VISION TOMORROW TO REMIND RACE-GOERS OF THE ELECTION DAY.

THE HELIUM BALLOON CARRYING THE VOTING MESSAGE WILL BE FLOATED OVER YUEN WO PLAYGROUND IN SHA TIN TOMORROW AND OVER STATUE SQUARE ON THURSDAY.

ADVERTISEMENTS WILL APPEAR IN MAJOR NEWSPAPERS ON THURSDAY TO REMIND ELIGIBLE ELECTORS TO BRING ALONG THEIR IDENTITY CARDS AND POLL CARDS TO CAST THEIR VOTES AT THE DESIGNATED POLLING STATIONS.

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FEBRUARY A VERY DRY MONTH

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FEBRUARY WAS A VERY DRY MONTH. THE MONTHLY TOTAL RAINFALL WAS ONLY 2.7 MILLIMETRES AGAINST THE NORMAL FEBRUARY RAINFALL OF 41.9 MILLIMETRES AND IS THE EIGHTH LOWEST ON RECORD FOR FEBRUARY, THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY SAID IN ITS MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT TODAY (TUESDAY).

FOR THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF 1989, THE TOTAL RAINFALL WAS 26.6 MILLIMETRES WHICH IS 61 PER CENT BELOW THE NORMAL AMOUNT OF 68.8 MILLIMETRES.

WEATHER WAS GENERALLY CLOUDY TO OVERCAST FOR THE FIRST FOUR DAYS OF FEBRUARY. A WEAK SURGE OF THE NORTHEAST MONSOON EARLY ON FEBRUARY 5 BROUGHT SOME LIGHT RAIN PATCHES. ALTHOUGH THE SKY CLEARED UP DURING THE DAY, CLOUDY WEATHER RETURNED THAT EVENING AND CONTINUED FOR THE NEXT TWO DAYS.

ON FEBRUARY 8, MISTY CONDITIONS PREVAILED THROUGHOUT THE DAY. EARLY ON FEBRUARY 9, A SURGE OF THE WINTER MONSOON REACHED THE SOUTH CHINA COAST, BRINGING OVERCAST SKIES AND PERIODS OF LIGHT RAIN.

THEN, MUCH DRIER AIR FROM THE NORTH CLEARED THE SKY EARLY ON FEBRUARY 10. THE TEMPERATURE THAT MORNING ALSO DROPPED TO 8.7 DEGREES CELSIUS WHICH WAS THE LOWEST FOR THE MONTH.

FINE WEATHER CONTINUED UNTIL FEBRUARY 14. WITH INCREASE IN MOISTURE FROM THE EAST, CLOUDY CONDITIONS RETURNED THAT EVENING.

EARLY ON FEBRUARY 16, WINDS TURNED SOUTHEASTERLY, BRINGING WARMER AND EVEN MORE MOIST AIR. AS A RESULT, IT WAS FOGGY THROUGHOUT THE DAY AND IN THE MORNING OF FEBRUARY 17.

DURING THIS PERIOD, VISIBILITY AT WAGLAN ISLAND AND AROUND THE HARBOUR DROPPED TO A MINIMUM OF 100 METRES AND 900 METRES RESPECTIVELY.

THE FOGGY CONDITIONS RESULTED IN THE SUSPENSION OF FERRY SERVICES TO SOME OUTLYING ISLANDS AND THE DELAY OF JETFOIL SERVICES BETWEEN HONG KONG AND MACAU.

WITH SOUTHERLY WINDS ON FEBRUARY 17, TEMPERATURES REACHED A MAXIMUM OF 24.9 DEGREES, THE HIGHEST FOR THE MONTH.

WEATHER REMAINED FOGGY ON FEBRUARY 18, WITH VISIBILITY WITHIN THE HARBOUR REDUCED TO 500 METRES. FERRY SERVICES TO SOME OUTLYING ISLANDS WERE AGAIN INTERRUPTED AND AIR TRAFFIC IN AND OUT OF HONG KONG WAS ALSO AFFECTED.

/A SURGE .....

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A SURGE OF THE WINTER MONSOON REACHED THE SOUTH CHINA COAST EARLY ON FEBRUARY 19, BRINGING OVERCAST SKIES AND DRIZZLE TO THE TERRITORY. ALTHOUGH THE WEATHER BECAME MAINLY FINE DURING THE DAY ON FEBRUARY 20 AND 21, IT REMAINED CLOUDY WITH A FEW LIGHT RAIN PATCHES AT NIGHT.

WINDS STRENGTHENED FROM THE EAST AND WERE STRONG OFFSHORE ON FEBRUARY 22. WIND SPEEDS OF OVER 60 KILOMETRES PER HOUR WERE RECORDED AT WAGLAN ISLAND. CLOUDY CONDITIONS PREVAILED THROUGHOUT THE DAY.

WINDS GRADUALLY SUBSIDED DURING THE AFTERNOON OF FEBRUARY 23 AND THE WEATHER BECAME MAINLY FINE.

THE FINE WEATHER PERSISTED UNTIL THE AFTERNOON OF FEBRUARY 26 WHEN THE NORTHEAST MONSOON SET IN AND BROUGHT BACK CLOUDY SKIES.

A FEW LIGHT RAIN PATCHES ALSO OCCURRED EARLY ON FEBRUARY 27. WITH THE WEAKENING OF THE EASTERLIES DURING THE DAY, THE WEATHER TURNED FINE AGAIN AND PERSISTED TILL THE END OF THE MONTH.

DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, NO TROPICAL CYCLONE OCCURRED OVER THE WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC OR THE SOUTH CHINA SEA. ONE AIRCRAFT WAS DIVERTED DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER.

THE YELLOW FIRE DANGER WARNING WAS IN EFFECT ON FEBRUARY 4, 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 27, AND 28.

THE RED FIRE DANGER WARNING WAS IN EFFECT FROM FEBRUARY 10 TO 13, AND ON 26 AND 27.

SIGNALS HOISTED DURING THE MONTH WERE AS FOLLOWS:

WEATHER SYSTEM	SIGNAL	DATE AND TIME OF HOISTING	DATE AND TIME OF LOWERING
WINTER MONSOON	STRONG MONSOON	FEB. 22 4 AM	FEB. 23 8 AM
WINTER MONSOON	STRONG MONSOON	FEB. 25 2.45 AM	FEB. 25 8.40 AM
WINTER MONSOON	STRONG MONSOON	FEB. 26 11 PM	FEB. 27 7 AM

THE MONTH'S FIGURES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL WERE:

TOTAL BRIGHT SUNSHINE	149.3 HOURS	;	40.6 HOURS ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN DAILY GLOBAL SOLAR RADIATION	12.96 MJ/SQ. METRE	;	1.87 MJ/SQ. METRE ABOVE NORMAL
TOTAL RAINFALL	2.7 MM	;	39.2 MM BELOW NORMAL
MEAN AMOUNT OF CLOUD	62 PER CENT	;	9 PER CENT LESS THAN NORMAL

/MEAN RELATIVE .....

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MEAN RELATIVE HUMIDITY	74 PER CENT	; 4 PER CENT LOWER THAN NORMAL
MEAN DAILY MAXIMUM AIR TEMPERATURE	19.1 DEGREES CELSIUS	; 0.3 DEGREE CELSIUS ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN AIR TEMPERATURE	16.6 DEGREES CELSIUS	; 0.7 DEGREE CELSIUS ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN DAILY MINIMUM AIR TEMPERATURE	14.6 DEGREES CELSIUS	; 0.9 DEGREE CELSIUS ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN DEW POINT	11.7 DEGREES CELSIUS	; NORMAL
TOTAL EVAPORATION	78.4 MM	; 3.5 MM BELOW NORMAL

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INTEREST ON TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES REVISED

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A GOVERNMENT GAZETTE PUBLISHED YESTERDAY (MONDAY) CONTAINS A LEGAL NOTICE TO THE EFFECT THAT THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY HAS AUTHORISED AN INCREASE IN THE RATE OF INTEREST PAYABLE ON TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES.

AS FROM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY), THE NEW ANNUAL RATE OF INTEREST WILL BE 7.80 PER CENT (TAX FREE) AS AGAINST THE CURRENT RATE OF 7.32 PER CENT (TAX FREE).

INTEREST ON TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES IS CALCULATED IN MONTHLY STEPS AND THE NEW RATE WILL BE \$0.65 PER MONTH PER \$100. INTEREST WILL BE CREDITED AS BEFORE IN RESPECT OF COMPLETE MONTHS BETWEEN PURCHASE AND SURRENDER IN PAYMENT OF TAX.

INTEREST IS ONLY CREDITED WHEN CERTIFICATES ARE USED TO PAY TAX AND NO INTEREST IS DUE WHERE THE PRINCIPAL VALUE OF A CERTIFICATE IS REPAYED BY A CHEQUE.

THE NEW RATE WILL APPLY TO ALL CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER TOMORROW.

CERTIFICATES WHICH WERE ISSUED BEFORE TOMORROW WILL CONTINUE TO EARN INTEREST AS FOLLOWS -

4.32 PER CENT	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 28, 1987 AND BEFORE OCTOBER 30, 1987;
3.24 PER CENT	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 30, 1987 AND BEFORE DECEMBER 2, 1987;

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3.00 PER CENT	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER DECEMBER 2, 1987 AND BEFORE DECEMBER 9, 1987;
2.04 PER CENT	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER DECEMBER 9, 1987 AND BEFORE FEBRUARY 20, 1988;
2.76 PER CENT	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER FEBRUARY 20, 1988 AND BEFORE APRIL 13, 1988;
3.36 PER CENT	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER APRIL 13, 1988 AND BEFORE MAY 11, 1988;
4.32 PER CENT	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER MAY 11, 1988 AND BEFORE JUNE 16, 1988;
4.8 PER CENT	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JUNE 16, 1988 AND BEFORE JUNE 29, 1988;
5.28 PER CENT	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JUNE 29, 1988 AND BEFORE JULY 27, 1988;
5.76 PER CENT	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JULY 27, 1988 AND BEFORE AUGUST 17, 1988;
6.36 PER CENT	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER AUGUST 17, 1988 AND BEFORE DECEMBER 7, 1988;
6.84 PER CENT	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER DECEMBER 7, 1988 AND BEFORE FEBRUARY 15, 1989; AND
7.32 PER CENT	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER FEBRUARY 15, 1989 AND BEFORE MARCH 8, 1989;

BUT ALWAYS SUBJECT TO THE GENERAL RULE THAT INTEREST CEASES TO ACCRUE AFTER 36 COMPLETE MONTHS WITHOUT SURRENDER FOR PAYMENT OF TAX.

EXAMPLE: \$1,000 CERTIFICATES PURCHASED ON MARCH 8, 1989, APRIL 8, 1989 AND MAY 8, 1989 RESPECTIVELY, SURRENDER IN PAYMENT OF TAX DUE ON JUNE 7, 1989 WILL HAVE INTEREST CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

ON \$1,000, MARCH 8, 1989 TO JUNE 7, 1989 3 COMPLETE MONTHS AT \$6.50 PER MONTH	= \$19.50
ON \$1,000, APRIL 8, 1989 TO JUNE 7, 1989 2 COMPLETE MONTHS AT \$6.50 PER MONTH	= \$13.00
ON \$1,000, MAY 8, 1989 TO JUNE 7, 1989 1 COMPLETE MONTH AT \$6.50 PER MONTH	= \$ 6.50
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	\$39.00
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POLICE FORCE DONATES TO COMMUNITY CHEST

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THE POLICE FORCE, WITH THE ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT OF ALL RANKS OF OFFICERS, RESPONDED FAVOURABLY LAST DECEMBER TO A WEEK-LONG FORCEWIDE COLLECTION EXERCISE IN SUPPORT OF THE COMMUNITY CHEST'S EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTION PROGRAMME.

THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, MR RAYMON ANNING, RECENTLY PRESENTED A CHEQUE FOR \$52,500 TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTION PROGRAMME, MR MALCOLM MATTHEWS, AT A CEREMONY HELD AT THE POLICE HEADQUARTERS.

THANKING THE FORCE FOR ITS GENEROSITY, MR MATTHEWS SAID THE DONATION WOULD GO TO THEIR 100 MEMBER AGENCIES TO PROVIDE BETTER COMMUNITY SERVICES TO THE LESS FORTUNATE.

THE TOTAL CONTRIBUTION FROM THE POLICE FORCE TOWARDS THE COMMUNITY CHEST'S EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTION PROGRAMME HAS REACHED \$153,000 AFTER THREE YEARS.

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DB COMMITTEE TO REVIEW DISTRICT FESTIVAL SUBSIDY SCHEME

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MEMBERS OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD'S CULTURE, RECREATION AND SPORTS COMMITTEE WILL REVIEW THE REGIONAL COUNCIL'S DISTRICT FESTIVAL SUBSIDY SCHEME AT THEIR MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THEY WILL ALSO REVIEW THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE IN THE PAST YEAR AND CONSIDER SEVERAL APPLICATIONS FOR DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD'S CULTURE, RECREATION AND SPORTS COMMITTEE TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM, SECOND FLOOR, SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, CHAN MAN STREET, SAI KUNG TOWN.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 10 AM.

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DB COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS DEEDS OF MUTUAL COVENANT

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THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD'S SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS A CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT ON PROPOSALS TO REMEDY UNFAIR PROVISIONS IN EXISTING DEEDS OF MUTUAL COVENANT FOR MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

A MEMBER WILL RAISE QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT OF POK OI HOSPITAL AND THE FUTURE STATUS OF THE HOSPITAL'S STAFF FOLLOWING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY.

ANOTHER MEMBER WILL ASK ABOUT THE PROVISION OF CHILD CARE SERVICES IN YUEN LONG AND THE GOVERNMENT'S PLANS TO IMPROVE THE SERVICES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD'S SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM, 13TH FLOOR, TAI KIU GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 2 KIU LOK SQUARE, YUEN LONG.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 3 PM.

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SURVEY ON STUDY ROOM FACILITIES IN SHAM SHUI PO

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A SURVEY WILL BE CONDUCTED IN SHAM SHUI PO THIS MONTH TO COLLECT STUDENTS' VIEWS ON STUDY ROOM FACILITIES IN THE DISTRICT.

THE DISTRICT BOARD SPONSORED SURVEY IS TO OBTAIN DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE DEMAND AND ADEQUACY OF STUDY ROOMS IN THE DISTRICT AND HOW THE SERVICE COULD BE IMPROVED.

A SPECIAL WORKING GROUP UNDER THE DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY WELFARE COMMITTEE HAS COMMISSIONED A PROFESSIONAL RESEARCH COMPANY TO CONDUCT THE SURVEY WHICH WILL COST MORE THAN \$30,000.

INFORMATION WILL BE OBTAINED BY RANDOM TELEPHONE INTERVIEWS WITH 800 YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE DISTRICT WHO ARE EITHER STUDYING IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS OR STUDYING ON THEIR OWN.

AFTER THE COMPLETION OF THE SURVEY, A REPORT WILL BE PRODUCED AND PRESENTED TO THE COMMUNITY WELFARE COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION.

IT IS HOPED THAT THE DATA COLLECTED WILL SERVE AS USEFUL REFERENCE FOR THE GOVERNMENT AND OTHER CONCERNED INSTITUTIONS.

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YOUTH CHINESE ORCHESTRA RECRUITS MEMBERS

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THE HONG KONG YOUTH CHINESE ORCHESTRA OF THE MUSIC OFFICE IS RECRUITING MEMBERS FOR THE 1989-90 TERM.

SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT IN 1978, THE ORCHESTRA HAS TAKEN PART IN CONCERTS, DISTRICT ART FESTIVALS AND OVERSEAS MUSIC EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES.

THE FORTHCOMING MAJOR EVENTS IN WHICH THE ORCHESTRA WILL TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE INCLUDE THE YOUTH CHINESE MUSIC FESTIVAL, ANNUAL TRAINEES GALA, AND AN OVERSEAS TOUR IN 1990.

AN INTENSIVE TRAINING PROGRAMME WILL BE DRAWN UP TO EMBRACE MASTERCLASSES AND REHEARSALS CONDUCTED BY LOCAL AND OVERSEAS MUSICIANS.

IN THE TRAINING SCHEDULE, ALL REHEARSALS WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY EVENINGS.

A MUSIC OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT ALL MEMBERS OF THE ORCHESTRA WOULD BE RECRUITED EACH YEAR BY OPEN AUDITION AND CURRENT MEMBERS WERE NO EXCEPTION.

FULL ATTENDANCE BY ALL MEMBERS AT REHEARSALS AND TRAINING SESSIONS WOULD BE EXPECTED, HE ADDED.

APPLICANTS SHOULD BE UNDER 25 YEARS OLD, HAVE ATTAINED AT LEAST GRADE VI IN THE MUSIC OFFICE'S INTERNAL ASSESSMENT OR EQUIVALENT IN ONE CHINESE MUSICAL INSTRUMENT AND HAVE ORCHESTRAL EXPERIENCE.

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS WILL BE INVITED TO ATTEND AN AUDITION ON APRIL 1 AND 2.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL MUSIC CENTRES OF THE MUSIC OFFICE AND ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 0-6065753. ALL APPLICATIONS SHOULD REACH THE SHA TIN MUSIC CENTRE, KCR HOUSE, FOURTH FLOOR, BY MARCH 20.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR PUBLIC CARPARKS

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THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR TWO LOTS FOR FEE-PAYING PUBLIC PARKING AREAS IN KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE KOWLOON LOT IS AT SAM KA TSUEN, LEI YUE MUN AND HAS AN AREA OF ABOUT 2,110 SQUARE METRES. IT IS USED FOR THE PARKING OF ANY MOTOR VEHICLES CURRENTLY LICENSED UNDER THE ROAD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE EXCLUDING CONTAINER VEHICLES WITH THEIR TRAILERS/CHASSIS ATTACHED.

THE LEASE IS FOR ONE YEAR AND RENEWABLE MONTHLY AFTERWARDS.

THE OTHER LOT IN THE NEW TERRITORIES IS FOR THE PARKING OF GOODS VEHICLES, CONTAINER TRACTORS AND TRAILERS ONLY. MEASURING ABOUT 4,310 SQUARE METRES IN AREA, IT IS LOCATED IN AREA 17, TUEN MUN NEW TOWN.

THE LEASE IS FOR TWO YEARS AND AND RENEWABLE QUARTERLY AFTERWARDS.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR ACCEPTANCE OF TENDERS IS NOON ON MARCH 17 THIS YEAR.

FORM OF TENDER, TENDER NOTICE AND CONDITIONS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM, AND TENDER PLAN INSPECTED AT, THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, KOWLOON, YAU MA TEI CARPARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON; AND THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG.

THE TENDER DOCUMENTS FOR THE TUEN MUN LOT ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, TUEN MUN.

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SUSPENSION OF WATER SUPPLY IN FIVE AREAS

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN SAI KUNG PREMISES WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 10 PM ON THURSDAY (MARCH 9) TO 6 AM THE NEXT DAY TO FACILITATE WATER WORKS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT AN AREA BOUNDED BY PAK SHA WAN, PAK TAM CHUNG, SAI O AND NEAR THE END OF CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD.

/ALSO, FRESH .....

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ALSO, FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN NGAU TAU KOK PREMISES WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 11 PM ON THE SAME DAY TO 6 AM THE NEXT DAY TO FACILITATE NIGHT LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT AN AREA BOUNDED BY NGAU TAU KOK ROAD, JORDAN VALLEY NORTH ROAD AND CHOI HA ROAD.

ON THE OTHER HAND, CERTAIN PREMISES IN KWAI CHUNG WILL SUFFER WEAK PRESSURE TO FRESH WATER SUPPLY AS WATER WORKS ARE BEING CARRIED OUT BETWEEN 8 PM ON THE SAME DAY TO 6 AM THE NEXT DAY.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY WING KEI ROAD, WING KIN ROAD, WING LAP STREET AND WING HAU STREET.

BOTH POTABLE AND FLUSHING WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN TAI PO WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 9 AM TO 5 PM ON FRIDAY (MARCH 10) TO FACILITATE WATER WORKS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT THE PREMISES ALONG TING KOK ROAD FROM HA HANG TO TAI MEI TUK.

ALSO TO FACILITATE WATER WORKS, BOTH FRESH AND SALT WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN KOWLOON TONG WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 10 PM ON THE SAME DAY TO 7 AM THE NEXT DAY.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT HOUSE 2-24 BEACON HILL ROAD, CORNWALL STREET TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA, TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS' CHANG MING THIEN COLLEGE, CHAK YAN CENTRE AND THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S KOWLOON KITCHEN.

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TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN SHEK WAI KOK, TSUEN WAN

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF ROUTE 5, TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN SHEK WAI KOK, TSUEN WAN, FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (MARCH 10) FOR ABOUT 10 MONTHS.

THE FOLLOWING ROAD SECTIONS WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC :

- \* SHEK WAI KOK ROAD BETWEEN CHEUNG PEI SHAN ROAD AND THE ACCESS ROAD LEADING TO SHEK TSUI HOUSE;
- \* WAI TSUEN ROAD NORTHBOUND BETWEEN SHEK WAI KOK ROAD AND THE ACCESS ROAD LEADING TO LUK YEUNG SUN TSUEN; AND
- \* THE UNNAMED LINK ROAD BETWEEN TEXACO ROAD NORTH AND WAI TSUEN ROAD.

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AT THE SAME TIME, SHEK WAI KOK ROAD BETWEEN WAI TSUEN ROAD AND SHEK ON STREET WILL BE OPENED TO EASTBOUND TRAFFIC HEADING FOR SHEK WAI KOK ESTATE. THIS ROAD SECTION WILL ALSO BE MADE A 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY URBAN CLEARWAY.

MEANWHILE, TEXACO ROAD NORTH BETWEEN TSUEN KAM INTERCHANGE AND SHING MUN ROAD WILL BE RE-OPENED TO TRAFFIC.

SHEK WAI KOK ROAD BETWEEN THE ACCESS ROAD LEADING TO SHEK TSUI HOUSE AND SHEK ON STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND TO TWO-WAY TRAFFIC.

FOLLOWING THE ROAD CLOSURES, VEHICLES TRAVELLING TO AND FROM TSUEN WAN WILL BE DIVERTED VIA TEXACO ROAD NORTH.

IN ADDITION, VEHICLES HEADING FOR LUK YEUNG SUN TSUEN WILL BE DIVERTED VIA TSUEN KAM INTERCHANGE AND WAI TSUEN ROAD.

VEHICLES GOING TO SHEK WAI KOK ESTATE WILL BE DIVERTED VIA TSUEN KAM INTERCHANGE, WAI TSUEN ROAD AND SHEK WAI KOK ROAD.

MEANWHILE, THE FOLLOWING TWO SECTIONS OF CHEUNG PEI SHAN ROAD WILL BECOME URBAN CLEARWAYS ROUND-THE-CLOCK :

- \* CHEUNG PEI SHAN ROAD EASTBOUND BETWEEN TSUEN KAM INTERCHANGE AND SHEK WAI KOK ROAD; AND
- \* CHEUNG PEI SHAN ROAD WESTBOUND BETWEEN CHEUNG SHAN ESTATE ROAD WEST AND SHEK WAI KOK ROAD.

REGARDING PUBLIC TRANSPORT, KMB ROUTES 32B AND 32M AND GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES 81, 81M, 82 AND 82M WILL BE DIVERTED VIA TEXACO ROAD NORTH ON JOURNEYS TO AND FROM TSUEN WAN.

IN ADDITION, ON JOURNEYS TO TSUEN WAN, GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES 81, 81M, 82 AND 82M WILL BE DIVERTED VIA TSUEN KAM INTERCHANGE, WAI TSUEN ROAD, SHEK WAI KOK ROAD, SHEK ON STREET, SHEK KWAI STREET, CHEUNG PEI SHAN ROAD AND TSUEN KAM INTERCHANGE BEFORE JOINING TEXACO ROAD NORTH.

GREEN MINIBUS ROUTE 94 WILL ALSO BE DIVERTED VIA TSUEN KAM INTERCHANGE, WAI TSUEN ROAD, SHEK WAI KOK ROAD AND SHEK ON STREET ON JOURNEYS TO SHEK WAI KOK ESTATE.

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LEFT-TURN BAN ON WEST KOWLOON CORRIDOR

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (MARCH 10), VEHICLES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO TURN LEFT FROM WESTBOUND WEST KOWLOON CORRIDOR TO THE SOUTHBOUND UNNAMED ROAD LEADING TO HAKING WONG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE.

THE LEFT-TURN BAN WILL BE IN FORCE FOR ABOUT SIX MONTHS FOR ROAD RECONSTRUCTION WORK.

AFFECTED VEHICLES WILL BE DIVERTED VIA THE SLIP ROAD LEADING TO YEN CHOW STREET, YEE KUK STREET AND LAI CHI KOK ROAD.

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