



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 1989

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CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES FOR MARCH 1989

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) PUBLISHED THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES FOR MARCH 1989.

THE CPI(A) AND CPI(B) (OCT. 84 - SEP. 85 = 100) FOR MARCH 1989 WERE 125.4 AND 125.1 RESPECTIVELY, REPRESENTING INCREASES OF 9.5 PER CENT AND 9.2 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY OVER MARCH 1988.

THESE RATES OF INCREASE WERE SOMEWHAT LOWER THAN THOSE RECORDED IN FEBRUARY 1989.

COMPARING MARCH WITH FEBRUARY 1989, THE CPI(A) DECREASED BY 0.5 PER CENT AND THE CPI(B) BY 0.3 PER CENT, LARGELY BECAUSE THE PRICES OF MOST FOODSTUFFS AND SOME SERVICE CHARGES WERE LOWER AFTER THE CHINESE NEW YEAR.

THE AVERAGE CPI(A) AND AVERAGE CPI(B) FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED MARCH 1989, AT 120.3 AND 120.2 RESPECTIVELY, WERE 8.2 PER CENT AND 8.1 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY HIGHER THAN THE AVERAGE FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED MARCH 1988.

DURING THE THREE-MONTH PERIOD ENDED MARCH 1989, THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED CPI(A) AND CPI(B) BOTH INCREASED AT AN AVERAGE RATE OF 0.9 PER MONTH.

THE CPI(A) AND THE CPI(B) ARE BASED ON THE EXPENDITURE PATTERNS OF 50 PER CENT AND 30 PER CENT, RESPECTIVELY, OF URBAN HOUSEHOLDS IN HONG KONG, WHICH WERE DERIVED FROM THE 1984-85 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY.

THE CPI(A) REFERS TO HOUSEHOLDS SPENDING BETWEEN \$2,000 AND \$6,499 A MONTH AT THAT TIME AND THE CPI(B) BETWEEN \$6,500 AND \$9,999 A MONTH.

CHANGES IN THE INDEXES FOR MARCH 1989 IN RESPECT OF THE NINE COMMODITY/SERVICE SECTIONS IN THE TWO CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES, AS COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 1989 AND MARCH 1988, ARE GIVEN BELOW.

/(OCTOBER 1984

(OCTOBER 1984 TO SEPTEMBER 1985 AVERAGE = 100)

SECTION	CPI(A)			CPI(B)		
	INDEX FOR MAR.89	% CHANGE OVER FEB.89	% CHANGE OVER MAR.88	INDEX FOR MAR.89	% CHANGE OVER FEB.89	% CHANGE OVER MAR.88
FOODSTUFFS	126.0	-1.5	+11.6	127.1	-1.2	+11.8
HOUSING	118.3	+0.2	+5.9	114.4	+0.2	+4.8
FUEL AND LIGHT	95.7	+1.2	+2.6	96.3	+1.3	+2.7
ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO (FOR HOME CONSUMPTION)	131.5	+4.4	+7.0	132.4	+4.1	+7.2
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	129.4	+0.6	+10.1	131.4	+0.8	+10.6
DURABLE GOODS	121.1	+0.5	+4.7	120.4	+0.8	+4.9
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS	131.0	+0.8	+9.5	130.6	+1.0	+9.1
TRANSPORT AND VEHICLES	131.1	+0.4	+11.1	130.3	+0.5	+11.2
SERVICES	135.5	-0.7	+9.2	135.8	-0.8	+9.8
ALL ITEMS	125.4	-0.5	+9.5	125.1	-0.3	+9.2

COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 1989, THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS DECREASED BY 1.5 PER CENT IN CPI(A) AND BY 1.2 PER CENT IN CPI(B).

THIS WAS MAINLY DUE TO DECREASES IN THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF FRESH VEGETABLES, LIVE POULTRY, SALT-WATER FISH AND FRESH-WATER FISH, WHICH MORE THAN OFFSET THE INCREASE IN THE AVERAGE CHARGE FOR MEALS IN RESTAURANTS AND OTHER EATING PLACES.

THE INDEX FOR FUEL AND LIGHT INCREASED BY 1.2 PER CENT IN CPI(A) AND BY 1.3 PER CENT IN CPI(B) DUE TO THE UPWARD FUEL COST ADJUSTMENT FOR TOWNGAS AND THE FULL EFFECT OF THE INCREASES IN THE PRICES OF KEROSENE AND LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS.

THE INDEX FOR ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO (FOR HOME CONSUMPTION) INCREASED BY 4.4 PER CENT IN CPI(A) AND BY 4.1 PER CENT IN CPI(B) AS A RESULT OF HIGHER PRICES OF CIGARETTES DUE TO INCREASED DUTIES.

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THE INDEX FOR CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR INCREASED BY 0.6 PER CENT IN CPI(A) AND BY 0.8 PER CENT IN CPI(B) BECAUSE OF HIGHER PRICES OF MEN'S OUTERCLOTHING, SOCKS AND STOCKINGS, BELTS, NECKTIES AND FOOTWEAR.

THE INDEX FOR DURABLE GOODS INCREASED BY 0.5 PER CENT IN CPI(A) AND BY 0.8 PER CENT IN CPI(B) DUE TO HIGHER PRICES OF OPTICAL AND TRAVEL GOODS.

THE INDEX FOR MISCELLANEOUS GOODS INCREASED BY 0.8 PER CENT IN CPI(A) AND BY 1.0 PER CENT IN CPI(B) AS A RESULT OF HIGHER PRICES OF COSMETICS, TOYS AND HOBBIES.

THE INDEX FOR SERVICES DECREASED BY 0.7 PER CENT IN CPI(A) AND BY 0.8 PER CENT IN CPI(B) AS CHARGES FOR HAIRDRESSING AND PACKAGE TOURS RETURNED TO NORMAL AFTER THE CHINESE NEW YEAR.

FIGURES HEREIN REFER TO CPI SERIES NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED. ALL PERCENTAGE CHANGES ARE DERIVED FROM CPI FIGURES TAKEN TO MORE THAN 1 DECIMAL PLACE.

MORE DETAILS ARE GIVEN IN THE "CONSUMER PRICE INDEX REPORT" FOR MARCH 1989, WHICH IS AVAILABLE AT \$3.5 PER COPY FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, CONNAUGHT PLACE, HONG KONG; OR FROM THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER I, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG; OR FROM THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT, FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, 1 BATTERY PATH, HONG KONG FOR LOCAL AND OVERSEAS MAILINGS.

FOR ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE INDEXES, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON 5-8235089.

THE HANG SENG CPI WAS 130.9 IN MARCH 1989, UP BY 0.4 PER CENT OVER FEBRUARY 1989 AND UP BY 10.6 PER CENT OVER MARCH 1988.

THE HANG SENG CPI IS BASED ON THE EXPENDITURE PATTERN OF THE 10 PER CENT OF URBAN HOUSEHOLDS IN HONG KONG THAT SPENT \$10,000-24,999 A MONTH DURING THE 1984-85 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY.

FURTHER DETAILS REGARDING THIS INDEX ARE INCLUDED IN THE HANG SENG CPI REPORT ISSUED BY THE ECONOMIC RESEARCH DEPARTMENT OF HANG SENG BANK LTD.

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ENHANCING TRAINING INFRASTRUCTURE TO MEET CHANGING MANPOWER NEEDS
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THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, MR RON BRIDGE, TODAY (TUESDAY) REAFFIRMED GOVERNMENT'S SUPPORT TO THE WORK OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL.

OFFICIATING AT THE FOUNDATION STONE LAYING CEREMONY OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL TOWER, MR BRIDGE SAID THE MANPOWER NEEDS OF HONG KONG'S ECONOMY WOULD CONTINUE TO CHANGE AS WOULD THE ASPIRATIONS OF ITS YOUNG PEOPLE.

"THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL, TOGETHER WITH OTHER COMPONENTS OF HONG KONG'S MANPOWER TRAINING INFRASTRUCTURE, WILL HAVE TO REACT TO THESE CHANGES, TO MEET NEW CHALLENGES AND TO TAKE ON NEW RESPONSIBILITIES.

"IN SO DOING, THE COUNCIL CAN BE SURE OF GOVERNMENT'S CONTINUING SUPPORT," HE SAID.

THE VTC TOWER WOULD BE A VISIBLE AND TANGIBLE SYMBOL OF THE GOVERNMENT'S CONFIDENCE IN THE COUNCIL AND ITS INTENTION THAT THE COUNCIL WOULD BE A PERMANENT AND VITAL PART OF HONG KONG'S MANPOWER TRAINING INFRASTRUCTURE, HE ADDED.

ALSO SPEAKING AT THE CEREMONY, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL, MR STEPHEN CHEONG, SAID THE COMPLETION OF THE VTC TOWER IN 1990 WOULD FREE THE COUNCIL FROM THE WORRIES ON THE FLUCTUATIONS OF THE PROPERTY MARKET.

IT WOULD ALSO SAVE PUBLIC FUNDS OF MORE THAN \$40 MILLION ANNUALLY IN RENT WHICH THE COUNCIL WOULD OTHERWISE HAVE TO PAY FROM THEN ONWARDS.

STANDING ON THE SITE OF THE ANNEX OF THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, THE TOWER OF 19-STOREY HIGH COSTS \$138 MILLION TO BUILD.

THE LOWER SEVEN STOREYS WILL BE A LARGER REPLACEMENT FOR THE DEMOLISHED ANNEX OFFERING MUCH IMPROVED TEACHING FACILITIES AND STUDENT AMENITIES TO THE INSTITUTE.

THE TOP 12 STOREYS WILL HOUSE THE COUNCIL'S HEADQUARTERS, THE THREE TRAINING CENTRES WHICH ARE CURRENTLY ACCOMMODATED IN RENTED PREMISES, A NEW WHOLESALE/RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRAINING CENTRE AND THE COUNCIL'S MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT CENTRE.

OFFICE SPACE WILL ALSO BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR THE GOVERNMENT SENIOR STAFF COURSE CENTRE IN THE VTC TOWER.

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NO NEW AIDS CASES IN MARCH

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THE TOTAL NUMBER OF AIDS (ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME) CASES IN HONG KONG REMAINED AT 20 IN MARCH, ACCORDING TO THE MONTHLY STATISTICS RELEASED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TODAY (TUESDAY).

HOWEVER, ONE MORE AIDS CARRIER WAS REPORTED DURING THE MONTH, BRINGING THE TOTAL NUMBER TO 142.

OF THE 142 CARRIERS, 53 WERE HAEMOPHILIACS, 15 WERE PERSONS WHO ATTENDED SOCIAL HYGIENE CLINICS, 42 WERE PATIENTS FROM GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS AND CLINICS, AND 32 WERE REFERRALS FROM PRIVATE DOCTORS AND SUBVENTED ORGANISATIONS.

THE DEPARTMENT ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT ANOTHER AIDS PATIENT DIED THIS MONTH (APRIL), BRINGING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF DEATHS TO 13. THE OTHER SEVEN PATIENTS ARE STILL ALIVE AND ARE RECEIVING TREATMENT AND COUNSELLING.

UNDER THE AIDS SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMME STARTED BY THE GOVERNMENT IN 1985, A TOTAL OF 123,471 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN TESTED FOR THE AIDS VIRUS.

MEANWHILE, THE HONG KONG RED CROSS BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE HAS ALSO SCREENED ALL BLOOD DONORS FOR AIDS.

UP TO MARCH, 536,154 UNITS OF BLOOD HAD BEEN TESTED AND EIGHT UNITS WERE FOUND POSITIVE.

/AIDS VIRUS

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愛滋病抗体檢驗

AIDS Virus (HIV) Antibody Testing

衛生署

Department of Health

病毒組

Virus Unit

	Apr 85 - Feb 89		Mar 89		Total	
	檢驗次數 No. tested	陽性次數 No. +ve	No. tested	No. +ve	No. tested	No. +ve
經由政府醫院及診所介紹 Referrals from Govt. hospitals and clinics	7677	41	277	1	7954	42
經由私家醫生及輔助醫院介紹 Referrals from private practitioners and subvented hospitals	1737	32	6	0	1743	32
到社會衛生科求診人次 Attendances at social hygiene clinics	106533	15	2843	0	109376	15
血友病患者 Haemophiliacs	362	53	5	0	367	53
濫用注射藥物者 IV drug abusers	3236	0	32	0	3318	0
經由家庭計劃指導會介紹 Referrals from Family Planning Association	157	0	3	0	160	0
健康護理人員 Health care personnel	545	0	8	0	553	0
Total 總數	120247	141	3224	1	123471	142

* This indicates the number of specimens and not persons as tests are repeated for certain individuals.

此項檢驗結果數字，並非人數，因某些個別人士之檢驗已重複

	Aug 85 - Feb 89		Mar 89		Total	
	No. tested	No. +ve	No. tested	No. +ve	No. tested	No. +ve
香港紅十字會輸血服務 Hong Kong Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service	524849	8	11305	0	536154	8

Department of Health
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LEGCO TO DEBATE BUDGET PROPOSALS

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FORTY-FIVE MEMBERS WILL SPEAK IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AND THURSDAY WHEN DEBATE ON THE 1989 APPROPRIATION BILL RESUMES.

TWENTY-THREE MEMBERS ARE LISTED TO SPEAK TOMORROW AND 22 ON THURSDAY.

OFFICIAL MEMBERS WILL SPEAK ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 10.

IN ADDITION, THE REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF AUDIT ON THE RESULTS OF VALUE FOR MONEY AUDITS WILL BE TABLED AT THE MEETING.

MEANWHILE, THE FINANCE COMMITTEE WILL BE ASKED AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW TO APPROVE THE NECESSARY FUNDS FOR LO WU CAMP AND FOR A PROPOSED EXTENSION OF THE WHITEHEAD DETENTION CENTRE TO HOUSE ANOTHER 10,000 VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE.

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COMMITTEE DISCUSSES PROPOSAL TO SPEED UP EX-GRATIA PAYMENT

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FOLLOWING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A NEW PROCEDURE FOR PAYING EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES TO LIVESTOCK FARMERS, IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE FIRST BATCH OF PAYMENT FOR LIVESTOCK FARMERS WHO HAD CEASED OPERATION IN PHASE ONE STAGE TWO CONTROL AREAS WILL BE READY IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS, ACCORDING TO AN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT (EPD) REPRESENTATIVE.

MEMBERS OF THE LIVESTOCK WASTE DISPOSAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE TODAY (TUESDAY) DISCUSSED A PROPOSAL TO SPEED UP THE PAYMENT OF EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES TO LIVESTOCK FARMERS AFFECTED BY THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL SCHEME AND WHO HAD DECIDED TO CEASE OPERATION.

IN A BID TO EXPEDITE THE PAYMENT PROCESS, IT WAS PROPOSED THAT THE PROCEDURE BE SIMPLIFIED BY PAYING 100 PER CENT EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE TO ALL ELIGIBLE FARMERS WHO HAD COMPLETELY CEASED BUSINESS REGARDLESS OF THE LAND STATUS OF THE LIVESTOCK KEEPING STRUCTURES AND WITHOUT HAVING TO WAIT FOR LAND STATUS CHECKS.

THE PAYMENT SHOULD THEN BE AVAILABLE TO THE LIVESTOCK FARMERS IN ABOUT EIGHT TO 11 WEEKS IN THE NORMAL CASE. THE NEW PROCEDURE WOULD TAKE IMMEDIATE EFFECT, AN EPD REPRESENTATIVE EXPLAINED.

HOWEVER, THE PROPOSAL WOULD NOT CHANGE THE EXISTING POLICY THAT LIVESTOCK STRUCTURES ON GOVERNMENT LAND WOULD BE DEMOLISHED AFTER EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES WERE PAID.

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IN A WRITTEN REPLY TO QUESTIONS RAISED BY FARMERS' REPRESENTATIVES AT THE LAST MEETING, THE LANDS AND WORKS BRANCH CLARIFIED THAT IN THE CASE OF LICENSED FARM STRUCTURES ON PRIVATE AGRICULTURAL LAND, FARMERS WHO RECEIVED PAYMENT OF EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES FOR CESSATION OF LIVESTOCK BUSINESS IN CONTROL AREAS MIGHT RE-USE THEIR VACATED FARMS FOR NON-POLLUTING AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES BY NOTIFYING THE RESPECTIVE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE IN WRITING.

THEY SHOULD ALSO NOTIFY THE RESPECTIVE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE IN WRITING IF THEY WANTED TO RE-USE THE STRUCTURES FOR LIVESTOCK KEEPING PURPOSES.

HOWEVER, IN THE CASE OF TOLERATED FARM STRUCTURES ON PRIVATE AGRICULTURAL LAND, A LETTER OF APPROVAL FROM THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE WAS USUALLY REQUIRED IF THESE STRUCTURES WERE TO BE RE-USED FOR AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES.

AN EPD REPRESENTATIVE ADDED THAT FARMERS RESUMING LIVESTOCK KEEPING ACTIVITIES AFTER RECEIVING EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES WERE REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH POLLUTION CONTROL REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE WASTE DISPOSAL (LIVESTOCK WASTE) REGULATIONS. EPD WOULD TAKE PROSECUTION ACTION AGAINST NON-COMPLIANCE.

AT TODAY'S MEETING, THE MEMBERS WERE ALSO BRIEFED BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE EPD ON THE PROGRESS OF THE PRIVATE FARM DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.

THEY LEARNT THAT ARRANGEMENTS WERE NOW BEING MADE FOR FARMERS' ASSOCIATIONS AND INDIVIDUAL FARMERS WHO WERE INTERESTED TO SEE HOW THE WASTE TREATMENT SYSTEM ACTUALLY WORKS TO VISIT THE PRIVATE FARMS PARTICIPATING IN THE DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.

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DB MEMBERS VISIT PROPOSED LIVESTOCK WASTE CONSOLIDATION SITE

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NORTH DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS TODAY (TUESDAY) VISITED THE PROPOSED LIVESTOCK WASTE CONSOLIDATION SITE AT SHA LING WITHIN THE FRONTIER CLOSED AREA AND A COMPOSTING PLANT AT NGAU TAM MEI IN YUEN LONG.

THE FAMILIARISATION VISIT WAS SUGGESTED AT A MEETING OF THE BOARD LAST THURSDAY (APRIL 20) DURING WHICH MEMBERS' ENDORSEMENT TO THE PROPOSAL WAS SOUGHT.

LED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR RAYMOND PANG, AND THE ASSISTANT NORTH DISTRICT OFFICER (DEVELOPMENT), MRS TERESA WONG, THE PARTY FIRST WENT TO THE SITE AT SHA LING.

THE SITE HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED FOR COMPOSTING TREATMENT OF LIVESTOCK WASTE COLLECTED FROM FARMS IN NORTH DISTRICT IN LINE WITH THE LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL SCHEME.

/THERE THEY

THERE THEY WERE BRIEFED BY THE SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICER OF THE LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL GROUP, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT, MR MICHAEL WU ON THE SITE'S GEOGRAPHICAL SETTING AND WAYS TO MINIMISE ITS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ON THE LOCAL COMMUNITIES.

THEY THEN PROCEEDED TO THE NGAU TAM MEI PLANT WHICH HANDLES 12 TONNES OF RAW MANURE A DAY.

MEMBERS WILL GIVE THEIR VIEWS ON THE PROPOSAL TO SET UP A LIVESTOCK WASTE CONSOLIDATION SITE AT SHA LING AT A SUPPLEMENTARY BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY (APRIL 28).

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DB COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS HOSPITAL SERVICES
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THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD'S HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE COMMITTEE WILL CONSIDER THE ADEQUACY OF HOSPITAL SERVICES FOR SHA TIN AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AFTERNOON.

A MEMBER, MR LI PO-MING, WILL ASK WHETHER THERE ARE PLANS FOR BUILDING ADDITIONAL GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS AND CLINICS TO MEET THE DISTRICT'S RAPID POPULATION GROWTH.

ANOTHER MEMBER, MR WONG LUEN-KIN, WILL ASK ABOUT THE CHANNELS FOR COMPLAINT AT THE PRINCE OF WALES HOSPITAL AND HOW COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE HOSPITAL ARE DEALT WITH.

MR WONG WILL ALSO WANT TO KNOW IF THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONSULT DISTRICT BOARDS ON THE REPORT OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE ON SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY.

IN VIEW OF THE NOISES CAUSED BY A BAR OPERATING IN BELAIR GARDEN, A MEMBER, MR WONG FUK-WAH, WILL ASK THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT WHETHER THERE ARE RESTRICTIONS PLACED ON SUCH ESTABLISHMENTS OPERATING IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS.

MEANWHILE, THE COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS THE REPORT ON ANTI-SMOKING PROPOSALS AND THE ANNUAL PROGRAMMES OF WORK FROM THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT AND EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

THE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO CONSIDER THE NOMINATION OF CO-OPTED MEMBERS AND THE SETTING UP OF STANDING WORKING GROUPS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD'S HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE COMMITTEE TO BEGIN AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE SIXTH FLOOR, KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN STATION.

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DB COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER FUNDING SUMMER YOUTH ACTIVITIES

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THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE WILL CONSIDER, AT ITS MEETING ON THURSDAY (APRIL 27), AN APPLICATION FROM THE DISTRICT'S SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR \$140,000 IN DB FUNDS.

TOGETHER WITH FUNDS FROM THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB AND PRIVATE DONORS, THE ALLOCATION WILL BE USED IN ORGANISING ABOUT 300 ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE DISTRICT FROM JUNE TO SEPTEMBER.

THE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO CONSIDER NINE OTHER APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDS FOR HOLDING VARIOUS EVENTS IN THE DISTRICT. THESE RANGE FROM DRAMA PERFORMANCE, FILM SHOW, CONCERT, TABLE-TENNIS COMPETITION, VISITING OLD PEOPLE, PICNICS, TO RECRUITMENT DRIVES FOR THE CHILDREN'S CHORUS AND DANCE GROUPS.

A PAPER INTRODUCING FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE DISTRICT AND A LIST OF URBAN COUNCIL'S RECREATION AND SPORTS PROGRAMMES FOR KOWLOON CITY WILL BE TABLED FOR MEMBERS' INFORMATION.

ANOTHER ITEM FOR DISCUSSION WILL BE THE REVISED PROPOSED BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR THE COMMITTEE IN 1989-90.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY (APRIL 27) IN THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, 141 KAU PUI LUNG ROAD.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.15 PM.

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CROSS HARBOUR BUS SERVICES ON DB COMMITTEE AGENDA

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THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS CROSS HARBOUR BUS SERVICES RUNNING VIA THE EASTERN HARBOUR CROSSING AT ITS MEETING ON THURSDAY (APRIL 27).

IT IS PROPOSED THAT TWO NEW BUS ROUTES, NAMELY ROUTE 401 RUNNING FROM ADMIRALTY TO SAU MAU PING AND ROUTE 404 TRAVELLING FROM CHAI WAN TO CHOI WAN, SHALL BE OPERATED VIA THE CROSSING WHICH IS DUE TO OPEN THIS SUMMER.

MEMBERS ARE CONCERNED THAT RESIDENTS IN THE NORTH POINT EAST AND QUARRY BAY AREAS MAY NOT BE SERVED BY THESE BUS ROUTES.

/THEY WILL

THEY WILL ALSO URGE THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION TO CONSIDER ABOLISHING THE PEAK-HOUR SURCHARGE WHEN THE NEW MTR LINE LINKING QUARRY BAY AND KWUN TONG COMES INTO OPERATION THIS SUMMER.

THE CHIEF TRANSPORT OFFICER (HONG KONG AND ISLANDS), MR T.V. RUNNACLES, WILL BRIEF MEMBERS ON THE SCHEME OF CONTROL FOR THE TWO FRANCHISED BUS COMPANIES.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE THE PROBLEM OF ILLEGAL PARKING OF VEHICLES AT QUARRY BAY STREET AND THE ISSUE OF PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ALONG THE PATH BETWEEN THE CONSTRUCTION SITE OF THE JAVA ROAD URBAN COUNCIL COMPLEX AND THE WEST BLOCK OF NORTH POINT ESTATE.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD'S TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE ON THURSDAY (APRIL 27), BEGINNING AT 2.30 PM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, FIRST FLOOR, 880-886 KING'S ROAD.

CELEBRATION OF TIN HAU FESTIVAL IN SAI KUNG
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A TWO-DAY CELEBRATION TO HONOUR THE SEAFARERS' PATRON GODDESS "TIN HAU" WILL BE HELD AT JOSS HOUSE BAY, SAI KUNG FROM THURSDAY (APRIL 27) TO MARK THE ANNUAL TIN HAU FESTIVAL.

ABOUT 60,000 WORSHIPPERS AND SIGHTSEERS ARE EXPECTED TO FLOCK TO THE TIN HAU TEMPLE AT JOSS HOUSE BAY DURING THE PERIOD.

IN VIEW OF THE ANTICIPATED LARGE CROWD, SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR CHRISTOPHER MUNN, URGED WORSHIPPERS TO MAKE GOOD USE OF SEA TRANSPORT.

SPECIAL FERRY SERVICES WILL BE ARRANGED BY THE HONGKONG AND YAUMATI FERRY COMPANY TO TAKE WORSHIPPERS TO JOSS HOUSE BAY.

THE FIRST FERRY FROM NORTH POINT PIER WILL DEPART AT 10.30 AM ON THURSDAY AND THE LAST FERRY FROM JOSS HOUSE BAY TO NORTH POINT WILL DEPART AT 4 PM THE NEXT DAY.

MR MUNN AND THE DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR WILLIAM WAN, WILL ATTEND A WORSHIP CEREMONY ON FRIDAY (APRIL 28).

MR MUNN REMINDED WORSHIPPERS THAT TAKING MORE THAN THREE BURNING JOSS STICKS INTO AND THE BURNING OF PAPER OFFERINGS INSIDE THE TEMPLE WOULD BE PROHIBITED.

/HOWEVER, SUFFICIENT

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HOWEVER, SUFFICIENT INCINERATORS WOULD BE PROVIDED OUTSIDE THE TEMPLE TO HOLD BURNING PAPERS AND JOSS STICKS, HE SAID.

MR MUNN ALSO ADVISED WORSHIPPERS TO DISCARD RUBBISH IN LITTER BINS AND NOT TO USE LOUDHAILERS OR BROADCAST TAPES WITHIN THE TEMPLE AREA.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE WORSHIP CEREMONY FOR THE TIN HAU FESTIVAL AT JOSS HOUSE BAY, SAI KUNG ON FRIDAY (APRIL 28).

TRANSPORT FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WILL DEPART FROM THE SAI KUNG POST OFFICE, SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES, CHAN MAN STREET, SAI KUNG TOWN AT 10.30 AM.

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TRAFFIC PLAN FOR TIN HAU FESTIVAL

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SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN TUEN MUN, YUEN LONG AND CHA KWO LING ON FRIDAY (APRIL 28) IN CONNECTION WITH THE TIN HAU FESTIVAL.

THE ARRANGEMENTS WILL INCLUDE ROAD CLOSURES AND TRAFFIC RE-ROUTEINGS.

IN TUEN MUN, BETWEEN 8 AM AND 5 PM, THE FOLLOWING ROAD SECTIONS WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC:

- * TIN HAU ROAD SOUTH OF SAN HOP LANE;
- * SAN ON STREET BETWEEN HING WONG STREET AND ITS SOUTHERN JUNCTION WITH HUNG CHEUNG ROAD;
- * HUNG CHEUNG ROAD BETWEEN ITS SOUTHERN JUNCTION WITH SAN PING CIRCUIT AND TIN HAU ROAD; AND
- * SAN PING CIRCUIT BETWEEN SAN YICK LANE AND SAN LIK STREET.

AT THE SAME TIME, ALL PARKING SPACES AT HUNG CHEUNG ROAD CARPARK WILL BE SUSPENDED.

IN YUEN LONG, A NUMBER OF ROAD SECTIONS WILL ALSO BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM FRIDAY MORNING.

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FROM 9 AM, FUNG CHEUNG ROAD BETWEEN KIN LOK STREET AND FUNG KAM STREET; AND HOP YICK ROAD WILL BE CLOSED.

IN ADDITION, THE SECTION OF TAI TONG ROAD BETWEEN KAU YUK ROAD AND FRASER VILLAGE; KAU YUK ROAD; YUEN LONG TAI YUK ROAD; MA TIN ROAD; AND AN UNNAMED NULLAH-BUND ROAD FROM MA TIN TSUEN TO LUNG TIN TSUEN WILL BE CLOSED FROM 10 AM.

FROM 7 AM ON THURSDAY (APRIL 27) TO 10 PM ON FRIDAY (APRIL 28), THE NORTHERN NULLAH-BUND ROAD FROM TAI KEI LENG TO TAI SHU HA WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY EASTBOUND; AND THE SOUTHERN NULLAH-BUND ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY WESTBOUND.

MEANWHILE, NEW TERRITORIES GREEN MINIBUS ROUTE 73 WILL BE RE-ROUTED VIA THE SOUTHERN NULLAH-BUND ROAD ON ITS JOURNEYS TO YUEN LONG TOWN.

THE OFF-STREET CARPARK ON YUEN LONG TAI YUK ROAD OUTSIDE THE YUEN LONG STADIUM AND ALL ON-STREET PARKING SPACES ON FUNG CHEUNG ROAD, YUEN LONG TAI YUK ROAD, MA TIN ROAD, TAI TONG ROAD SECTION BETWEEN KAU YUK ROAD AND FRASER VILLAGE WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 8 AM ON FRIDAY UNTIL COMPLETION OF THE CELEBRATION CEREMONY.

ILLEGALLY PARKED VEHICLES WILL BE REMOVED BY THE POLICE.

ALSO, ROUTINGS OF A NUMBER OF BUS AND GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES WILL BE DIVERTED FROM 9 AM UNTIL THE CEREMONY COMPLETES.

LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT BUS ROUTE 656 WILL OPERATE FROM WONG NAI TUN VIA TAI TONG ROAD TO FRASER VILLAGE AND THE SERVICE WILL BE PROVIDED BY 24-SEAT COACHES.

NEW TERRITORIES GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES 31 AND 32 WILL BE DIVERTED VIA CASTLE PEAK ROAD (YUEN LONG), TUNG LOK STREET, YUEN LONG ON NING ROAD, SAI TAI STREET, KUK TING STREET, TAI TONG ROAD, YU KING SQUARE, YUEN LONG HONG LOK ROAD AND HONG KING STREET ON THEIR JOURNEYS TO YUEN LONG TOWN.

ROUTE 39 WILL OPERATE BETWEEN KUNG OM AND LUNG TIN TSUEN ALONG THE UNNAMED NULLAH-BUND ROAD AND A TEMPORARY STOP WILL BE PROVIDED AT LUNG TIN TSUEN.

ROUTE 73 WILL BE SUSPENDED BUT WILL RESUME SERVICE AFTER COMPLETION OF THE CEREMONY.

TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT IN CHA KWO LING WILL START FROM 8 AM TO 6 PM.

A SECTION OF CHA KWO LING ROAD FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH WING FOOK STREET TO A POINT ABOUT 900 METRES EAST OF THE SAME JUNCTION WILL BE CLOSED.

MOTORISTS ON WAI YIP STREET HEADING FOR YAU TONG AREA WILL BE DIVERTED TO TRAVEL VIA KING YIP STREET, CHA KWO LING ROAD, LEI YUE MUN ROAD WESTBOUND, KWUN TONG ROAD WESTBOUND, ROUNDABOUT AND KWUN TONG ROAD EASTBOUND.

/MOTORISTS WILL

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MOTORISTS WILL BE ALLOWED TO MAKE THE U-TURNING FROM CHA KWO LING ROAD WESTBOUND ONTO CHA KWO LING ROAD EASTBOUND OUTSIDE CHUNG HWA SHIPYARD.

THE STAND FOR PUBLIC LIGHT BUS ROUTES 23, 23A AND 23B OUTSIDE HOUSE NOS. 175-193 CHA KWO LING ROAD WILL BE SUSPENDED. PASSENGERS ARE ADVISED TO MAKE USE OF THE APPROVED STOPPING PLACE IN FRONT OF THE SHELL OIL DEPOT ON CHA KWO LING ROAD WESTBOUND.

IN ADDITION, TAI O MUN ROAD BETWEEN CLEAR WATER BAY NO. 2 BEACH CARPARK AND PO TOI O CHUEN ROAD WILL BE CLOSED FROM 7 AM ON THURSDAY TO 6 PM ON FRIDAY.

ONLY EMERGENCY VEHICLES; PO TOI O VILLAGERS' VEHICLES; VEHICLES OF THE GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB IDENTIFIED BY SPECIFIED LABELS OF THE CLUB; SHUTTLE SERVICE VEHICLES OF THE GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB; COACHES FULLY LOADED WITH WORSHIPPERS; AND SERVICE VEHICLES OF THE INVOLVED ORGANISATIONS DEPLOYED ON DUTY FOR THE FESTIVAL ARE ALLOWED TO ENTER.

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FAREWELL TO GIS CREATIVE DIRECTOR
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COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS TODAY (TUESDAY) BADE A FOND FAREWELL TO MR ARTHUR HACKER, CREATIVE DIRECTOR OF THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES WHO IS RETIRING AFTER MORE THAN 21 YEARS' SERVICE.

AT A FAREWELL RECEPTION ALSO ATTENDED BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID FORD, THE DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION SERVICES, MRS IRENE YAU, SAID MR HACKER HAD DEVOTED HIMSELF TO THE TASK OF COMMUNICATING INFORMATION THROUGH THE VISUAL MEDIUM IN A MANNER WHICH WAS NOT ONLY EDUCATIONAL BUT ALSO ENTERTAINING.

"HE HAS ELEVATED THE QUALITY OF OUR PUBLICATIONS, POSTERS, PRINTED MATTER, EXHIBITIONS AND DISPLAYS, FILMS AND TELEVISION MESSAGES TO HEIGHTS WE COULD BARELY HAVE ENVISAGED TWO DECADES AGO, "MRS YAU ADDED.

SHE CITED THE "LAP SAP CHUNG" IN THE CLEAN HONG KONG CAMPAIGN AND THE BROKEN DAGGER FOR THE FIGHT CRIME CAMPAIGN AS SOME OF THE IMAGES WHICH MR HACKER HAD CREATED AND WHICH WOULD REMAIN FIXED IN THE MEMORY OF MANY HONG KONG PEOPLE.

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RECREATION CENTRE FOR SAI KUNG
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A RECREATION CENTRE WHICH WILL INCORPORATE FACILITIES FOR A WIDE VARIETY OF INDOOR AND OUTDOOR LEISURE ACTIVITIES IS BEING BUILT IN SAI KUNG.

THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAS AWARDED AN \$18 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SAI KUNG OUTDOOR RECREATION CENTRE STAGES II-A AND B.

STAGE II-A WORKS NOW BEING CARRIED OUT INCLUDE A CANTEEN, OFFICE, FOUR SQUASH COURTS AND TWO TENNIS COURTS. THEY WILL BE COMPLETED IN JUNE THIS YEAR.

STAGE II-B WORKS WILL INVOLVE A MAJOR REDEVELOPMENT OF THE OLD RECREATION CENTRE, WHICH CONSISTS A DORMITORY, A SWIMMING POOL, A ROLLER SKATING RINK, AN ARCHERY FIELD AND A CHILDREN PLAY AREA.

THE NEW FACILITIES TO BE CONSTRUCTED INCLUDE A TWO-STOREY INDOOR ACTIVITIES CENTRE, A SINGLE-STOREY BICYCLE STORE, A GARDEN SHED, A PAVILION, TWO ROADSIDE SHELTERS, ONE MINI-SOCCER PITCH, A BARBECUE SITE, CYCLING TRACK AND CHILDREN PLAY AREA.

THE INDOOR ACTIVITIES CENTRE WILL HAVE DIFFERENT ROOMS FOR GAMES, FITNESS EXERCISES, DANCING, TABLE TENNIS, MUSIC AND SOCIAL GATHERING.

WORK ON STAGE II-B OF THE CENTRE, WHICH IS LOCATED BEHIND THE SAI KUNG FIRE STATION ON SAI KUNG ROAD, WILL START IN JULY.

UPON ITS COMPLETION IN NOVEMBER 1990, THE RECREATION CENTRE WILL BE HANDED OVER TO THE REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR MANAGEMENT.

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WORKS TO ALLEVIATE FLOODING IN NORTH WEST NT
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THE CIVIL ENGINEERING SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS PLANNING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A DRAINAGE CHANNEL IN NORTH WEST NEW TERRITORIES TO ALLEVIATE FLOODING IN THE AREA.

TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION WORKS ARE BEING INVITED BY THE DEPARTMENT. THE DRAINAGE DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT HAS DESIGNED AND WILL SUPERVISE THE REQUIRED WORKS.

WORKS UNDER THIS CONTRACT INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF CONCRETE-LINED DRAINAGE CHANNELS NEAR TIN SAM, SIK KONG WAI AND TSEUNG KONG WAI, AND ASSOCIATED MAINTENANCE ROADS AND FOOTPATHS.

CONSTRUCTION WORK IS SCHEDULED TO START IN AUGUST AND WILL TAKE 24 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

ALL TENDERS MUST BE SUBMITTED BEFORE NOON ON MAY 12.

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TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT IN TUEN MUN

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT TO FACILITATE DRAINAGE WORKS, RIGHT-TURNING FROM CASTLE PEAK ROAD CASTLE PEAK BAY ONTO ROAD LA 39C IS BANNED FROM TODAY (TUESDAY) UNTIL MID-MAY.

MOTORISTS ON CASTLE PEAK ROAD CASTLE PEAK BAY NORTHBOUND HEADING FOR ROAD LA 39C MAY USE TSING HOI CIRCUIT AND CASTLE PEAK ROAD CASTLE PEAK BAY SOUTHBOUND.

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SUSPENSION OF CARPARK AT KAI FAT PATH, TUEN MUN

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT THE OPEN-AIR METERED CARPARK FOR PRIVATE CARS AT KAI FAT PATH, TUEN MUN, WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 8 AM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE CARPARK, TO BE LET ON A SHORT TERM TENANCY, WILL BE RE-OPENED EARLY NEXT MONTH.

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