



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1982

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
NEW RAILWAY OPENS ON MAY 6	1
NEW TSUEN WAN MANAGER MEETS DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS	3
DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES RETIRES	4
YAU MA TEI DB INAUGURAL MEETING	5
KCR FEEDER BUS SERVICES TO BE INTRODUCED IN MAY	6
LEGAL AID SERVICES FOR THE NEEDY	8
TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS ON HK ISLAND	11
PLEA FOR PRACTICAL TRAINING FOR ENGINEERING GRADUATES	12
SURVEY RESULTS ON OVERSEAS INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT	13
NT VOTERS REMINDED OF DISTRICT BOARD ELECTION DAY	14
SPECIAL STAMP ISSUES	14
SCHOOLS INVITED TO JOIN JSEA SYSTEM IN 1983	15
FIRE BAN LIFTED	15
COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB DONATES TO THE 'CHEST'	16

TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1982

- 1 -

NEW RAILWAY OPENS ON MAY 6
* * * *

THE FIRST STAGE OF THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY ELECTRIFIED SERVICE WILL BE OPENED ON MAY 6.

ANNOUNCING THE COMMENCEMENT DATE TODAY, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE COMMISSIONING OF THE ELECTRIFIED SERVICE BETWEEN KOWLOON AND SHA TIN MARKED THE BEGINNING OF AN ENTIRELY NEW RAILWAY FOR HONG KONG, ON WHICH SOME \$3.5 BILLION WOULD HAVE BEEN SPENT ON COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT FRESH LEGISLATION WAS PROPOSED FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATION OF THE NEW RAILWAY AND GAVE DETAILS OF THE NEW FARE STRUCTURE WHICH WOULD BE INTRODUCED IN MAY.

A BILL SEEKING TO REPEAL AND REPLACE THE EXISTING KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY ORDINANCE WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AT ITS NEXT MEETING ON MARCH 10. IT WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE ON FRIDAY (MARCH 5).

THE MAIN AMENDMENTS RELATE TO THE MODERNISATION OF THE SERVICE, SUCH AS THE INTRODUCTION OF AN AUTOMATIC REVENUE COLLECTION SYSTEM, AND THE ENHANCED SAFETY OF THE RAILWAY. THE BILL PROVIDES FOR HIGHER PENALTIES FOR ANYONE CAUGHT TAMPERING WITH ANY OF THE SOPHISTICATED EQUIPMENT OR INSTALLATIONS ESSENTIAL TO THE SAFE RUNNING OF THE NEW RAILWAY.

+WHILE THE FULL ELECTRIFIED SYSTEM WILL PROVIDE A MUCH IMPROVED SERVICE INCLUDING A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN FREQUENCY AND REDUCTION IN JOURNEY TIMES, NOT ALL PASSENGERS WILL REAP THE BENEFITS AT THE OUTSET, AND THIS WAS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT WHEN THE NEW FARE STRUCTURE WAS DRAWN UP,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF ELECTRIC TRAINS ON THE INNER SUBURBAN ROUTE THE FREQUENCY OF SERVICE WILL BE INCREASED TO SEVEN TRAINS AN HOUR EACH WAY, AND EIGHT TRAINS AT PEAK PERIODS, AT 10-MINUTE INTERVALS. THE EXISTING SERVICE IS TWO TRAINS AN HOUR RUNNING AT 30-MINUTE INTERVALS.

THE EXISTING DIESEL TRAINS WILL BE RETAINED FOR THE OUTER SUBURBAN SERVICE BEYOND SHA TIN PENDING THE EXTENSION OF THE NEW ELECTRIFIED RAILWAY TO TAI PO MARKET IN EARLY 1983 AND TO LO WU IN MID-1983. BY THIS TIME A TOTAL OF 16 TRAINS AN HOUR EACH WAY WILL BE OPERATED AT PEAK PERIODS BETWEEN KOWLOON AND SHA TIN WHILE THE FREQUENCY OF SERVICE AT OTHER TIMES ALONG THE ENTIRE LENGTH OF THE LINE WILL BE DICTATED BY DEMAND.

THE NEW ORDINARY CLASS FARES FROM KOWLOON WILL BE \$1 TO MONG KOK AND KOWLOON TONG AND \$1.50 TO SHA TIN. THE FARES FOR THE EXISTING DIESEL SERVICE ARE 50 CENTS (TO MONG KOK ONLY AS KOWLOON TONG WILL BE A NEW STATION) AND 90 CENTS RESPECTIVELY. THE DIFFERENCE FOR THE MAJORITY OF PASSENGERS USING THE INNER SUBURBAN SERVICE WILL BE ABOUT 67 PER CENT.

/MOST OF THE

- 2 -

MOST OF THE ORDINARY CLASS FARES FOR THE OUTER SUBURBAN SERVICE WILL BE 10 CENTS OR 20 CENTS HIGHER THAN AT PRESENT. ONE FARE WILL BE 50 CENTS HIGHER WHILE THE FARES FOR FOUR SECTIONS WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED. THE AVERAGE INCREASE WILL BE ABOUT 14 PER CENT.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE NEW FARE STRUCTURE REFLECTED HIGHER OPERATING COSTS DUE TO INFLATION AND ARISING FROM THE IMPROVED SERVICE ITSELF.

THE COST OF DIESEL FUEL ALONE HAS RISEN BY MORE THAN 100 PER CENT SINCE THE LAST REVISION OF FARES IN APRIL 1980, AND ADDITIONAL STAFF HAVE TO BE RECRUITED AND TRAINED TO OPERATE THE NEW AND MORE FREQUENT SERVICE. OTHER FACTORS INCLUDE A HEAVY INCREASE IN THE CONSUMPTION OF ELECTRICITY AND THE MORE SOPHISTICATED MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS OF THE IMPROVED SYSTEM.

+EVEN WITH THE FARE REVISION, THE THIRD IN 35 YEARS, THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY WILL STILL HAVE A SMALL DEFICIT ON DIRECT OPERATING COSTS, NOT INCLUDING DEPRECIATION,+ HE ADDED.

PROVIDING MORE DETAILS ABOUT THE NEW ELECTRIFIED SERVICE, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE MODERN ROLLING STOCK AND HIGH TECHNOLOGY INVOLVED WERE DESIGNED TO PROVIDE A PUNCTUAL AND RELIABLE SERVICE.

TRAVELLING TIMES FROM KOWLOON WILL BE FOUR MINUTES TO MONG KOK, 12 MINUTES TO SHA TIN, 26 MINUTES TO TAI PO MARKET AND 39 MINUTES TO LO WU, OR ABOUT TWICE AS FAST AS AT PRESENT.

STATION STOPPING TIMES WILL BE VERY SHORT, AND FOR THIS REASON THE FLOOR HEIGHT OF THE NEW TRAINS AND STATIONS HAVE BEEN DESIGNED TO MAXIMISE THE SPEED OF PASSENGER MOVEMENT IN AND OUT OF THE TRAINS. THE NEW STATION AT KOWLOON TONG WILL PROVIDE A QUICK AND EASY MEANS OF TRANSFERRING FROM THE KCR TO THE MTR.

THE ELECTRIC TRAINS, WHICH WILL BE EQUIPPED WITH 3 WIDE POWER-OPERATED SLIDING DOORS ON EACH SIDE OF EACH COACH, WILL BE FULLY AIR-CONDITIONED.

EACH SET OF TRAINS CONSISTS OF 3 VEHICLES AND CAN BE MULTIPLIED INTO A TOTAL OF 12 VEHICLES. EACH SET WILL HAVE A CAPACITY FOR 256 SEATED PASSENGERS AND ABOUT 590 STANDING PASSENGERS.

THE INNER SUBURBAN TRAINS WILL BE ORDINARY CLASS ONLY WHILE THE OUTER SUBURBAN TRAINS WILL HAVE BOTH FIRST AND ORDINARY CLASS ACCOMMODATION TOGETHER WITH TOILETS AND BAGGAGE COMPARTMENTS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/3

TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1982

- 3 -

NEW TSUEN WAN MANAGER MEETS DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS

* * * * *

TSUEN WAN'S NEW TOWN MANAGER, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, HELD HIS FIRST MEETING WITH DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS TODAY (TUESDAY).

IT WAS ALSO THE BOARD'S LAST MEETING IN ITS PRESENT FORM BEFORE 10 ELECTED MEMBERS JOIN AT THE START OF NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR.

MR MACLEOD SAID AS A NEWCOMER TO THE TOWN HE WAS SURPRISED AT THE FAST RATE OF DEVELOPMENT, NOTING THAT THE POPULATION WOULD RISE BY 300 000 TO 900 000 OVER THE NEXT EIGHT YEARS.

+THIS IS AN EXCITING TIME FOR ME TO COME TO TSUEN WAN,+ HE SAID.

+I AM ANXIOUS THAT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TSUEN WAN SHOULD HAVE A TOWN CENTRE WORTHY OF ITS SIZE AND IMPORTANCE,+ HE ADDED.

THIS WOULD BE MADE POSSIBLE WITH THE OPENING OF THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY EXTENSION AND THE WATERFRONT RECLAMATION WEST OF THE EXISTING TSUEN WAN FERRY PIER.

UPON COMPLETION, THESE DEVELOPMENTS WOULD PROVIDE HIGH CLASS SHOPPING AREAS AND OFFICES AND MUCH NEEDED FACILITIES SUCH AS A LIBRARY, CAR-PARK SPACES, AN AUDITORIUM AND A LARGE AREA OF OPEN SPACES.

MR MACLEOD SAID HE ALSO LOOKED FORWARD TO THE NEW INSIGHT WHICH THE ELECTED MEMBERS WOULD BRING TO THE BOARD.

+I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO URGE ALL THOSE ON THE ELECTORAL ROLL TO VOTE THIS THURSDAY IN THE DB ELECTIONS,+ HE SAID.

+TSUEN WAN PEOPLE CAN ONLY BENEFIT FROM THEIR DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WHETHER OFFICIAL OR UNOFFICIAL, ELECTED OR APPOINTED, IF THEY SPEAK UP AND IDENTIFY PROBLEM AREAS AND MAKE PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM,+ HE SAID.

AT PRESENT TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD HAS 29 MEMBERS.

WITH THE ADDITION OF ELECTED MEMBERS THE NUMBER WILL RISE TO 37, COMPRISING 11 OFFICIALS AND 26 UNOFFICIALS, EACH OF WHOM WILL SERVE FOR A THREE-YEAR TERM.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/4

TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1982

- 4 -

DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES RETIRES

* * *

THE DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES, MR WILLIAM TUCKER, IS RETIRING AFTER NEARLY 30 YEARS OF SERVICE IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

TO MARK THE OCCASION, MR DAVID MCDONALD, SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, TODAY PRESENTED HIM WITH A SOUVENIR ON BEHALF OF HIS FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES AT A CEREMONY HELD AT THE PWD HEADQUARTERS IN MURRAY BUILDING.

MR MCDONALD RECALLED THAT MR TUCKER JOINED THE GOVERNMENT IN SEPTEMBER 1952 AS A PUPIL ENGINEER AND WAS POSTED TO THE WATERWORKS OFFICE.

HE WAS PROMOTED TO SENIOR ENGINEER IN 1963 AND CHIEF ENGINEER IN 1965. HE BECAME ASSISTANT GOVERNMENT WATER ENGINEER IN 1969, PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT WATER ENGINEER IN 1972 AND DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES IN 1976. IN MID 1981, HE ACTED AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS.

MR MCDONALD SAID, +DURING THIS PERIOD, MR TUCKER WAS INVOLVED IN MANY OF THE LARGE WATERWORKS PROJECTS, SUCH AS PLOVER COVE AND HIGH ISLAND AND IN THE PROVISION OF EXTRA WATER FROM CHINA, IN CONNECTION WITH WHICH HE HAS MADE SEVERAL VISITS TO GUANGZHOU AS A MEMBER OF THE HONG KONG NEGOTIATING TEAM.

+IN THE NEW YEAR HONOURS LIST OF 1981, MR TUCKER'S ACHIEVEMENTS WERE JUSTIFIABLY RECOGNISED WHEN HE WAS AWARDED THE ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.+

MR TUCKER HAS ALSO BEEN VERY MUCH INVOLVED WITH COMPUTING IN PWD AND ESPECIALLY IN HIS OWN DEPARTMENT.

+THIS HAS NOT ALWAYS BEEN ENTIRELY SUCCESSFUL, ESPECIALLY IN THE FIRST ATTEMPTS, SOME YEARS AGO, TO COMPUTERIZE WATERWORKS CONSUMERS' ACCOUNTS,+ MR MCDONALD SAID.

+HAPPILY, THOSE DAYS ARE NOW OVER AND THE NEW COMPUTERIZED ACCOUNTING SYSTEM IS WORKING WELL. THIS IS DUE IN NO SMALL MEASURE TO MR TUCKER'S ENTHUSIASM AND DRIVE.

+BEING DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES IS NOT, OF COURSE, WITHOUT ITS ATTENDANT DANGERS,+ HE ADDED. +MR TUCKER HAS BEEN THE TARGET OF POPULAR INDIGNATION ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION, THE LATEST BEING THE RECENT IMPOSITION OF WATER RESTRICTIONS WHICH LIMIT SUPPLY TO TEN HOURS PER DAY.+

+THEY ARE NOWHERE NEAR AS RESTRICTIVE AS, FOR EXAMPLE, WE HAD IN 1967, WHEN SUPPLY WAS AVAILABLE ONLY FOR FOUR HOURS EVERY FOURTH DAY.+

MR MCDONALD THEN WISHED MR AND MRS TUCKER A VERY LONG AND HAPPY RETIREMENT.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/5

TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1982

- 5 -

YAU MA TEI DB INAUGURAL MEETING
* * * *

THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT BOARD, THE NINTH TO BE SET UP IN THE URBAN AREA, WILL HOLD ITS INAUGURAL MEETING ON THURSDAY (MARCH 4) AT 3 PM AT THE LUTHERAN MIDDLE SCHOOL.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE URBAN COUNCIL, MR HILTON CHEONG-LEEN, WILL ADDRESS THE MEETING.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE MEETING WILL BE THE SECRETARY FOR CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, AND THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR GRAHAM BARNES.

CHAired BY THE CITY DISTRICT COMMISSIONER OF YAU MA TEI, MR WILFRED WONG, THE BOARD COMPRISES SIX OFFICIAL MEMBERS, 13 UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS, TWO URBAN COUNCILLORS (ONE APPOINTED AND ONE ELECTED) AND A SECRETARY.

AT THE INAUGURAL MEETING, MEMBERS WILL BE INFORMED OF THE WORK OF THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (DMC) SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN AUGUST 1981. THIS WILL BE SUPPLEMENTED BY A SLIDE SHOW.

THE YAU MA TEI DMC WAS SET UP TO IMPROVE COOPERATION AND COORDINATION AMONG GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS IN ORDER TO PROVIDE BETTER PUBLIC SERVICES AND DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION FOR THE PEOPLE IN THE DISTRICT.

BETWEEN AUGUST 1981 AND FEBRUARY 1982, THE DMC, THROUGH ITS TWO SUB-COMMITTEES -- THE ENVIRONMENT SUB-COMMITTEE AND THE COMMUNITY BUILDING SUB-COMMITTEE -- HAVE CLEARED CERTAIN BACK LANES OCCUPIED BY ILLEGAL STRUCTURES- ORGANISED RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR BOAT DWELLERS IN YAU MA TEI TYPHOON SHELTER AND CONDUCTED A ROAD SAFETY PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN. IT HAS ALSO PUBLISHED A DISTRICT NEWSPAPER FOR BOTH YAU MA TEI AND MONG KOK DISTRICTS WITH A VIEW TO FOSTERING DISTRICT IDENTITY.

THE DMC HAS, MEANWHILE, MADE A NUMBER OF PROPOSALS TO THE GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING PROPOSALS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF CERTAIN SITES IN THE DISTRICT AND ON TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENT AT THE SECTION OF AUSTIN ROAD BETWEEN CHATHAM ROAD AND NATHAN ROAD. MEMBERS' ENDORSEMENT ON THE TRAFFIC MEASURES WILL BE SOUGHT AT THURSDAY'S MEETING.

AMONG OTHER WORKS OF THE DMC WERE THE SETTING UP OF TWO AD HOC WORKING GROUPS TO EXAMINE SPECIFIC PROBLEMS. ONE OF THE GROUPS WORKS TO FIND SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS ARISING FROM THE OPERATION OF THE SHEK LUNG STREET FRUIT MARKET. THE OTHER WORKS TO SCRUTINISE PROBLEMS IN SEVERAL MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS.

WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT BOARD, THE DMC WILL CONTINUE TO FUNCTION, BUT THE TWO DMC SUB-COMMITTEES WILL BE EXPANDED AND TRANSFORMED INTO DB COMMITTEES WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF UNOFFICIAL REPRESENTATION TO AVOID UNNECESSARY DUPLICATION OF WORK.

/AT THE DB

AT THE DB INAUGURAL MEETING, MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE FORMATION OF MORE SUB-COMMITTEES AND THE ARRANGEMENT OF A DISTRICT TOUR OF YAU MA TEI TO ENABLE MEMBERS TO SEE THE COMMON PROBLEMS CONFRONTING THE DISTRICT.

THE SIX OFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE BOARD ARE: REGIONAL RECREATION AND SPORT OFFICER, KOWLOON WEST, MRS LORAN MAO- REGIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER, WEST KOWLOON, MRS R. GOODSTADT- SENIOR HOUSING MANAGER, CLEARANCE, MR TANG WA-YING- SENIOR TRANSPORT OFFICER, PLANNING WEST, MISS MARY WONG- CHIEF LANDS AND WORKS OFFICER, PENINSULA, MR EDWIN LI AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, KOWLOON, OF THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT, MR T.K. CHOY.

THE 13 UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS ARE: MR CHAN YUM-TONG, MR CHIU YU-HEI, MR HO SAI-PAK, MR KAM KWOK-CHUE, MR LAI SZE-NUEN, MR MAK YAT-LAM, MR NG TOR-TAI, MDM PO WAI-CHING, MR CHEK KING-MAN, MR DENNIS SIN CHUCK-FAN, MR WONG SIU-KANG, MR YIP WAH AND MR YU LOOK-YAU.

THE TWO URBAN COUNCILLORS ARE DR DENNY HUANG AND DR PHILIP KWOK. THEY WILL SERVE FROM MARCH 4 TO SEPTEMBER 30.

- - - - - 0 - - - - -

KCR FEEDER BUS SERVICES TO BE INTRODUCED IN MAY

* * * *

NEW KCR FEEDER BUS SERVICES WILL BE PROVIDED WHEN THE FIRST STAGE OF ELECTRIFIED SERVICES BETWEEN KOWLOON AND SHA TIN STATION BECOMES OPERATIONAL IN EARLY MAY, CHIEF TRANSPORT OFFICER/RAILWAY, MR ERNEST LEE SAID TODAY.

THESE FEEDER SERVICES, WHICH CAN BE IDENTIFIED BY THE SUFFIX +K+ AFTER THEIR ROUTE NUMBERS, FOLLOW EXTENSIVE CONSULTATION WITH KMB, KCR, AND THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT SUB-COMMITTEES OF THE AFFECTED NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICTS.

SINCE KCR STATIONS IN THE URBAN AREAS ARE ALREADY SERVED BY A COMPREHENSIVE NETWORK OF FRANCHISED BUSES, MANY EXISTING FEEDER SERVICES WILL BE AUGMENTED IN THE FORM OF FREQUENCY OR CARRYING CAPACITY IMPROVEMENTS.

NEW FEEDER ROUTES WILL BE INTRODUCED WHERE NEW DEMANDS CALL FOR ADDITIONAL SERVICES, MR LEE SAID.

AT THE KCR KOWLOON STATION IN HUNG HOM, A NEW SERVICE 26K WILL BE INTRODUCED IN MAY LINKING SHUN TIN AND LAI KOK ESTATES TO PROVIDE CONVENIENT BUS/RAIL INTERCHANGE FOR PEOPLE COMING FROM THESE AREAS. EXISTING SERVICES TO KWUN TONG FERRY, TSZ WAN SHAN AND LOK FU WILL BE FURTHER IMPROVED.

/IN THE

IN THE MEANTIME, PLANS ARE ALSO IN HAND TO IMPROVE THE INTERCHANGE FACILITIES AT THE KOWLOON STATION CONCOURSE FOR TAXIS, BUSES AND PRIVATE CARS.

ANOTHER FEEDER ROUTE, 27K, WILL OPERATE ON A CIRCULAR ROUTING FROM SHUN TIN TO MONG KOK KCR STATION, STOPPING AT SAI YEE STREET AND ARGYLE STREET FOR PASSENGERS. A MAXICAB SERVICE WILL ALSO OPERATE BETWEEN THE STATION AND PAK TIN SUN CHUEN.

PERMANENT TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE FOR FRANCHISED BUSES, PRIVATE CARS AND TAXIS WILL BE AVAILABLE WHEN THE MONG KOK STATION IS FULLY COMPLETED IN 1984.

IN THE INTERIM PERIOD, TEMPORARY TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE WILL BE PROVIDED.

AT THE KOWLOON TONG INTERCHANGE WITH MTR, THERE WILL BE FRANCHISED BUS SERVICES FROM SUI WO COURT (ROUTE 70M) AND SUN TIN WAI (18M) IN ADDITION TO A NEW MAXICAB SERVICE TO AND FROM WORLD WIDE GARDENS.

AT SHA TIN RAILWAY STATION, A NEW ROUTE 84K WILL OPERATE BETWEEN SUI WO COURT AND SIU LEK YUEN, CALLING AT THE TEMPORARY BUS TERMINUS AT SHA TIN STATION EN-ROUTE.

ANOTHER NEW SERVICE, 88K WILL OPERATE BETWEEN HIN TIN AND HO TUNG LAU AND WILL ALSO STOP AT SHA TIN STATION EN-ROUTE.

MORE FEEDER ROUTES WILL BE INTRODUCED WHEN THE PERMANENT BUS TERMINUS ABOVE THIS STATION IS COMPLETED IN JULY THIS YEAR.

A PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE ACROSS TAI PO ROAD WILL BE CONSTRUCTED LINKING THIS STATION WITH SHA TIN MARKET BUS TERMINUS TO PROVIDE A MORE CONVENIENT ACCESS ROUTE BETWEEN SHA TIN CENTRE AND THE STATION.

FEASIBILITY STUDIES ARE BEING CONDUCTED TO ESTABLISH +PARK AND RIDE+ FACILITIES IN KOWLOON TONG AND SHA TIN STATION ON A TEMPORARY BASIS.

+PERMANENT MULTI-STOREY CAR PARKS WILL BE BUILT NEAR MOST OF THE RAILWAY STATIONS IN THE LONG TERM+, MR LEE SAID.

LEGAL AID SERVICES FOR THE NEEDY

TWO LEGAL AID PROGRAMMES -- ONE ADMINISTERED BY THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT AND THE OTHER BY THE LAW SOCIETY -- HAVE BEEN PROVIDING FREE OR LOW-COST LEGAL SERVICES TO NEEDY APPLICANTS. LAST YEAR THE DEPARTMENT GRANTED LEGAL AID TO 6 600 APPLICANTS IN RESPECT OF CIVIL CASES AND TO 1 800 APPLICANTS FOR CRIMINAL CASES.

THE LEGAL AID SCHEME WAS INTRODUCED BY THE GOVERNMENT IN 1967. INITIALLY IT WAS CONFINED TO PROVIDING AID FOR CIVIL CASES ONLY, BUT SOME THREE YEARS LATER IT WAS EXTENDED TO CRIMINAL CASES.

IN THE FIRST YEAR OF OPERATION THERE WERE 972 APPLICATIONS FOR LEGAL AID. AT THAT TIME THE SCHEME WAS ADMINISTERED BY A STAFF OF SEVEN, ONLY ONE OF WHOM, THE DIRECTOR, WAS A QUALIFIED LAWYER. THE BUDGET FOR 1967 FOR PAYMENT OF LEGAL FEES FOR CIVIL CASES WAS JUST \$135 000.

DURING THE EARLY YEARS OF LEGAL AID, ALL CASES WERE ASSIGNED TO SOLICITORS IN PRIVATE PRACTICE WHO REPRESENTED THE SUCCESSFUL LEGAL AID APPLICANTS. THEIR COSTS, AS WELL AS THE FEES OF ANY BARRISTERS ENGAGED FOR THEIR CLIENTS WERE, AND CONTINUE TO BE, PAID FROM LEGAL AID FUNDS PROVIDED BY THE GOVERNMENT. BY 1973, THE NUMBER OF LEGAL AID CASES HAD RISEN DRAMATICALLY AND TO SUCH AN EXTENT THAT SOLICITORS IN PRIVATE PRACTICE COULD NO LONGER COPE WITH THIS FLOOD OF EXTRA WORK AS WELL AS THE INCREASE IN PRIVATE COMMERCIAL LEGAL WORK STEMMING FROM THE BUSINESS AND PROPERTY BOOMS IN HONG KONG.

TO OVERCOME THIS PROBLEM THE DEPARTMENT ENGAGED LAWYERS (MAINLY FROM OVERSEAS, BUT WHENEVER POSSIBLE LOCALLY) TO WORK IN THE DEPARTMENT'S NEW LITIGATION UNIT. THIS WAS SET UP IN 1974 IN ORDER TO ENABLE THE DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE LEGAL REPRESENTATION BY ITS OWN LAWYERS IN URGENT MATTERS OR CASES FOR WHICH IT WAS DIFFICULT TO ARRANGE REPRESENTATION BY SOLICITORS IN PRIVATE PRACTICE.

TODAY THE DEPARTMENT HAS A STAFF OF AROUND 260, OF WHOM 44 ARE QUALIFIED LAWYERS. TWO-THIRDS OF THESE ARE WORKING IN THE DEPARTMENT'S TWO LITIGATION DIVISIONS DOING THE SOLICITOR'S SIDE OF THE WORK IN AROUND 25 PER CENT OF CIVIL AND 40 PER CENT OF THE CRIMINAL LEGAL AID CASES. THE REMAINDER OF THE STAFF ARE INVOLVED IN DETERMINING LEGAL AID APPLICATIONS AND IN THE GENERAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE SCHEME. LAST YEAR THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FOR CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES ROSE TO 18 400.

IN THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR (1981-82) THE DEPARTMENT WILL SPEND MORE THAN \$10 MILLION ON CIVIL CASES AND \$9.4 MILLION ON CRIMINAL TRIALS AND APPEALS.

/THESE FIGURES

THESE FIGURES REFLECT BOTH THE IMPORTANCE AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE LEGAL AID SCHEME AND AN INCREASING AWARENESS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC OF THE SERVICES AVAILABLE TO THEM. THEY ARE ALSO TESTIMONY OF THE GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE LEGAL AID FREE OR, DEPENDING ON THE FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE CLIENT, AT LIMITED COST TO THE AIDED RECIPIENT, SAID MR BRIAN CLANCY WHO TOOK OVER AS DIRECTOR OF THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT LAST MARCH.

APPLICANTS FOR LEGAL AID IN CIVIL CASES ARE INTERVIEWED BY A DEPARTMENT LAWYER WHO EXAMINES THE MERITS OF ANY APPLICATION TO SEE WHETHER AID SHOULD BE GRANTED. ADDITIONALLY, APPLICANTS MUST COME WITHIN THE FINANCIAL LIMITS OF A MAXIMUM DISPOSABLE INCOME OF \$1 000 PER MONTH (AFTER DEDUCTION OF CERTAIN ALLOWANCES FOR THE APPLICANT AND HIS DEPENDANTS, AND RENT) AND A DISPOSABLE CAPITAL OF NOT MORE THAN \$10 000 (EXCLUDING CERTAIN ALLOWANCES). IN CRIMINAL CASES, THE FINANCIAL LIMIT IN RESPECT OF DISPOSABLE INCOME IS \$1 500 PER MONTH.

THE CURRENT LIMITS HAVE BEEN IN EFFECT SINCE 1977 +BUT THEY AND THE ALLOWANCES MADE FOR CALCULATING THE DISPOSABLE INCOMES AND CAPITAL RESOURCES OF APPLICANTS ARE REVIEWED FROM TIME TO TIME, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT INFLATION AND COMPARABLE SALARY INCREASES, AS THESE FACTORS COULD QUITE SUDDENLY DISQUALIFY AN APPLICANT FOR AID,+ MR CLANCY SAID.

+THE SIZE OF THE ANNUAL RISE IN APPLICATIONS TENDS TO DECREASE AS INCREASES IN INCOME THROUGH INFLATION MAKE LESS APPLICANTS ELIGIBLE UNDER THE MEANS TEST. WHEN THESE LIMITS ARE RAISED, THERE IS ALWAYS A SHARP INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF APPLICANTS AND, OF COURSE, IN THE NUMBER OF CASES WHERE LEGAL AID IS GRANTED WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN REFUSED UNDER THE OLD LIMITS,+ MR CLANCY ADDED.

IN SPITE OF PERIODICAL ADJUSTMENTS OF THE MEANS TEST, HE SAID, THERE WOULD ALWAYS BE SOME PEOPLE WHO, THOUGH EARNING ABOVE THE FINANCIAL LIMITS FOR LEGAL AID APPLICANTS, ARE EQUALLY DESERVING OF ASSISTANCE BECAUSE THEY STILL WOULD NOT HAVE ENOUGH FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO UNDERTAKE A COSTLY BUT NECESSARY HIGH COURT ACTION.

+IT IS FOR THIS REASON THAT I HAVE MADE IT ONE OF MY LONG-TERM GOALS TO SET UP A 'CONTINGENCY LEGAL AID FUND'. UNDER THIS SCHEME, IF IT IS ADOPTED, PEOPLE EARNING ABOVE THE FINANCIAL LIMITS MAY OBTAIN LEGAL AID ON A PROMISE TO DONATE A PERCENTAGE OF THEIR DAMAGES/COMPENSATION RECOVERED IN A SUCCESSFUL ACTION TO THE FUND TO BE USED TO HELP COVER THE COSTS OF OTHERS IN THE SAME SITUATION AS HIMSELF,+ HE SAID.

THIS IDEA IS NOW BEING STUDIED BY A COMMITTEE CHAIRED BY MR CLANCY, COMPRISING MEMBERS FROM THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT, THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT, THE JUDICIARY, THE BAR ASSOCIATION AND THE LAW SOCIETY.

AN INDICATION OF THE SUCCESS OF THE SCHEME AS A WHOLE IS THAT IN 1981 A TOTAL OF \$30.4 MILLION WAS RECOVERED BY BOTH THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR ON BEHALF OF LEGALLY AIDED CLIENTS.

APPLICATIONS FOR AID FROM THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT CAN BE MADE THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT'S HEADQUARTERS AT SINCERE BUILDING, 5TH FLOOR, 173 DES VOEUX ROAD, CENTRAL (TELEPHONE 5-457036), AND THE DEPARTMENT'S BRANCH OFFICE IN KOWLOON, AT RITZ BUILDING, EIGHTH FLOOR, 625 NATHAN ROAD (TELEPHONE 3-302241).

IN ADDITION, A MOBILE OFFICE IN THE FORM OF A VAN SPENDS A DAY A WEEK IN DIFFERENT LOCATIONS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, AND ENQUIRIES ABOUT THIS MAY BE MADE THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT'S TWO OFFICES.

THE LAW SOCIETY ALSO OPERATES A LEGAL ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE SCHEME. THOUGH FUNDED BY THE GOVERNMENT, IT IS STAFFED ENTIRELY BY VOLUNTEER LAWYERS FROM THE SOCIETY, THE BAR ASSOCIATION AND GOVERNMENT SERVICE. STARTING WITH TWO EVENING BUREAUX IN EASTERN AND MONGKOK DISTRICT OFFICES IN 1978, THE LAW SOCIETY'S FREE LEGAL ADVICE SCHEME HAS SINCE EXPANDED ITS SERVICES TO FOUR OTHER DISTRICTS -- IN WONG TAI SIN, WAN CHAI, TSUEN WAN AND SHA TIN. ITS 169 LAWYERS GAVE ADVICE ON 3 500 CASES IN THE 12-MONTH PERIOD ENDING OCTOBER 31, 1981.

WHILE THE WHOLE PURPOSE OF THE LAW SOCIETY'S FREE LEGAL ADVICE SCHEME IS TO HELP +THE LESS ADVANTAGED+ MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, EXPLAINED MR JOHN MILLER, ADMINISTRATOR OF THE SCHEME, +THERE ARE TIMES WHEN PEOPLE WOULD BE ABLE TO HIRE THEIR OWN LAWYERS TRY TO OBTAIN THE SERVICE. IN SUCH CASES, WE FIND IT NECESSARY TO TELL THESE PEOPLE VERY COURTEOUSLY TO TAKE THEIR PROBLEMS TO A PRIVATE SOLICITOR.+

ANOTHER LEGAL AID PLAN OPERATED BY THE LAW SOCIETY IS THE DUTY LAWYERS SCHEME. IT HAS 151 LAWYERS, PAID THROUGH A GOVERNMENT SUBVENTION, PROVIDING LIMITED LEGAL ASSISTANCE IN MAGISTRACIES COVERING SCHEDULED OFFENCES : IN CONNECTION WITH UNLAWFUL SOCIETIES, LOITERING, UNLAWFUL POSSESSION, GOING EQUIPPED FOR STEALING, OBSTRUCTING OR ASSAULTING A POLICE OFFICER AND RESISTING ARREST, AND POSSESSION OF DANGEROUS DRUGS, OFFENSIVE WEAPONS, DANGEROUS DRUGS FOR TRAFFICKING AND EQUIPMENT FIT FOR CONSUMPTION OF DANGEROUS DRUGS.

IN THE 12-MONTH PERIOD ENDING OCTOBER 31, 1981, DUTY LAWYERS ASSISTED 7 400 DEFENDANTS WHO FACED A TOTAL OF 9 700 CHARGES. CLOSE TO 30 PER CENT OF THESE DEFENDANTS PLEADED GUILTY WHILE OF THE 70 PER CENT WHO PLEADED NOT GUILTY, 1 100 WERE CONVICTED AND NEARLY 2 000 ACQUITTED.

LIMITED LEGAL REPRESENTATION UNDER THE DUTY LAWYER SCHEME IS NOW AVAILABLE IN FIVE MAGISTRACIES -- CAUSEWAY BAY, NORTH KOWLOON, SAN PO KONG, SOUTH KOWLOON, TSUEN WAN -- AND PREPARATIONS ARE UNDERWAY TO EXTEND THE SCHEME TO WESTERN MAGISTRACY LATER THIS YEAR, MR MILLER SAID.

THE NUMBER OF DUTY LAWYERS INCREASED FROM 115 TO 150 IN 1981 AND THE NUMBER OF VOLUNTEER LAWYERS SERVING IN THE FREE LEGAL ADVICE SCHEME FROM 150 TO 169.

MR MILLER SAID THE SUCCESS OF THE LAW SOCIETY'S SCHEMES WAS DUE LARGELY TO ITS INDEPENDENCE, DESPITE RECEIVING A SUBVENTION FROM THE GOVERNMENT.

+THE SUBVENTION UNDERLINES THE GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO THIS WORK, WHICH IS UNDERTAKEN BY A WILLING PARTNERSHIP -- THE LEGAL PROFESSION AND THE GOVERNMENT.

THE MAIN DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE LAW SOCIETY'S SCHEMES AND THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT ARE THAT APPLICANTS FOR THE FREE LEGAL ADVICE SCHEME AND DUTY LAWYER SCHEME SERVICES NEED NOT MEET A MEANS TEST AND LEGAL REPRESENTATION IS GIVEN ONLY IN MAGISTRACIES DEALING WITH CRIMINAL LAW.

BUT DEPARTMENT LAWYERS OR SOLICITORS ASSIGNED BY IT PROVIDE LEGAL REPRESENTATION TO AIDED CLIENTS UNDER BOTH CIVIL LAW AND CRIMINAL LAW IN THE HIGH COURTS AND DISTRICT COURTS.

MR MILLER SAID THERE WERE STILL COMMON LEGAL PROBLEMS WHICH ARE USUALLY BEYOND THE SCOPE OF THE LAW SOCIETY'S SCHEMES AND THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT. +AN EXAMPLE IS THE GRANT OF PROBATE, WITHOUT WHICH MONEY IN BANK ACCOUNTS AND ASSETS IN SAFE DEPOSIT BOXES CANNOT BE OBTAINED BY THE DECEASED'S DEPENDENTS. WE HAVE THIS TYPICAL SCENARIO: A FAMILY DEATH, A SMALL ESTATE, NO WILL.+

THE PROBATE REGISTRY CAN RARELY ASSIST SUCH CASES WHILE LAWYERS FEES ARE OUT OF PROPORTION TO THE VALUE OF THE ESTATE INVOLVED, HE SAID +THE RESULT IS THAT MONEY REMAINS UNDISTRIBUTED IN THE BANK AND THE FAMILY SUFFER. ONE SOLUTION WOULD BE TO ENCOURAGE MAIN FAMILY BREADWINNERS TO MAKE PROPER WILLS. ANOTHER IS THE INTRODUCTION OF STANDARDIZED FORMS FOR WILLS TO MAKE THE PROCESS SIMPLE AND INEXPENSIVE.+

REFERRALS TO THE FREE LEGAL AID SCHEME AND THE DUTY LAWYER SCHEME RUN BY THE LAW SOCIETY ARE MADE FROM OVER 100 AGENCIES, INCLUDING ALL DISTRICT OFFICES, CITY DISTRICT OFFICES, ALL BRANCHES OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, SALVATION ARMY, NEIGHBOURHOOD ADVICE-ACTION COUNCIL, HONG KONG FAMILY WELFARE SOCIETY, CARITAS FAMILY SERVICE, AND OVER A DOZEN OTHER VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, IN ADDITION TO THE SCHEME'S HEADQUARTERS AT SWIRE HOUSE, FIFTH FLOOR, ROOM 1506 (TELEPHONE 5-224436).

----- 0 -----

TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS ON HK ISLAND

LUN FAT STREET IN WAN CHAI WILL BE DESIGNATED AS A PUBLIC LIGHT BUS PROHIBITED ZONE FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (MARCH 5).

UNDER THIS ARRANGEMENT, ALL PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THIS ROAD.

IN SHEK O, THE ACCESS ROAD TO TAI LONG WAN VILLAGE WILL BE PERMANENTLY CLOSED TO TRAFFIC ALSO FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (MARCH 5).

----- 0 -----

PLEA FOR PRACTICAL TRAINING FOR ENGINEERING GRADUATES

EMPLOYERS OF ENGINEERS HAVE BEEN URGED TO PROVIDE ENGINEERING GRADUATES WITH MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR POST-GRADUATE PRACTICAL TRAINING.

THE PLEA WAS MADE BY ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR (INDUSTRIAL TRAINING), MR HORACE KNIGHT, IN A TALK ON THE TRAINING OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AT THE LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF PENINSULA TODAY (TUESDAY).

IN PARTICULAR, HE CALLED ON THE EMPLOYERS TO PARTICIPATE IN A PRACTICAL TRAINING SCHEME FOR ENGINEERING GRADUATES, WHICH WILL BE IMPLEMENTED BY THE NEWLY-ESTABLISHED VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL.

MR KNIGHT POINTED OUT THAT HONG KONG HAD BEEN FACING A CRITICAL PROBLEM OF INSUFFICIENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRACTICAL TRAINING FOR AN INCREASING NUMBER OF ENGINEERING GRADUATES.

HE SAID THAT THE PROBLEM HAD BROUGHT ABOUT A SHORTAGE OF TRAINED AND EXPERIENCED ENGINEERS, PROMPTING BOTH THE PRIVATE SECTION AND GOVERNMENT TO LOOK OUTSIDE HONG KONG FOR ENGINEERS.

IN THE PAST 10 YEARS, MR KNIGHT CONTINUED, HONG KONG'S ENGINEERING EDUCATION HAD UNDERGONE RAPID EXPANSION, BUT THIS HAD NOT BEEN MATCHED BY A SIMILAR INCREASE IN THE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE.

AND PRACTICAL TRAINING WAS NOT ONLY ONE OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR RECOGNITION FOR CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP STATUS OF A PROFESSIONAL BODY, BUT WAS NECESSARY FOR TURNING GRADUATES INTO FULLY TRAINED ENGINEERS.

+SO CONTRARY TO WHAT MANY PEOPLE THINK, INCREASING THE OUTPUT OF GRADUATES HAS NOT AND WILL NOT SOLVE THE APPARENT SHORTAGE OF TRAINED AND EXPERIENCED ENGINEERS,+ HE NOTED.

MR KNIGHT BELIEVED THAT THE SCHEME TO BE IMPLEMENTED BY THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL WOULD PROVIDE THE NECESSARY INCENTIVES THAT WOULD MOTIVATE THE EMPLOYERS CONCERNED TO PROVIDE MORE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENGINEERING GRADUATES.

IN CONCLUSION, MR KNIGHT PLEADED: +IF THE PROBLEM WAS CONSIDERED URGENT IN THE 60'S, IT IS CRUCIAL IN THE 80'S. IT CAN AND MUST BE SOLVED BUT THERE WILL BE NO SOLUTION UNLESS EMPLOYERS OF ENGINEERS ARE WILLING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCHEME AND CO-OPERATE WITH THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL BY TAKING ON GRADUATES FOR TRAINING.

+FOR THE SAKE OF HONG KONG'S INDUSTRY AND YOUNG PEOPLE, I HOPE THAT WILLINGNESS AND CO-OPERATION WILL BE FORTHCOMING.+

TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1982

- 13 -

SURVEY RESULTS ON OVERSEAS INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT
* * * *

THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY RELEASED TODAY (TUESDAY) THE RESULTS OF A SURVEY ON OVERSEAS INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT, CONDUCTED IN THE SUMMER OF 1981.

+ONE OF THE OBJECTS OF THE EXERCISE WAS TO UP-DATE THE DEPARTMENT'S RECORD OF FACTORIES WITH OVERSEAS INVESTMENT. IN THE PAST FEW YEARS OUR STATISTICS HAVE BEEN COMPILED ON THE BASIS OF DATA COLLECTED IN A SIMILAR SURVEY CARRIED OUT IN 1977, UP-DATED PERIODICALLY WITH INFORMATION THAT BECAME AVAILABLE TO THE DEPARTMENT,+ SAID A TICD SPOKESMAN.

THE SURVEY REVEALS THAT IN 1981, THERE WERE 426 MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS EITHER WHOLLY OR PARTLY OWNED BY OVERSEAS INTERESTS, COMPARED WITH 484 ESTABLISHMENTS ON THE OLD RECORD. A NUMBER OF THOSE ON THE DEPARTMENT'S OLD RECORDS WERE FOUND IN THE LATEST SURVEY TO HAVE CLOSED OR BEEN COMPLETELY TAKEN OVER BY LOCAL INTERESTS.

OF THE COMPANIES SURVEYED, 391 PROVIDED FULL DETAILS TO QUESTIONS REFERRING TO THEIR CAPITAL INVESTMENT. THESE RETURNS SHOWED A TOTAL INVESTMENT FIGURE OF JUST OVER \$7 000 MILLION - SOME 1.7 TIMES MORE THAN THE OLD FIGURE.

THE USA, JAPAN AND THE UK CONTINUE TO LEAD AS THE MAJOR SOURCES OF OVERSEAS INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT, ACCOUNTING FOR 43.7 PER CENT, 31.6 PER CENT AND 6.9 PER CENT OF TOTAL INVESTMENT RESPECTIVELY. THEY ARE FOLLOWED BY SWITZERLAND (2.8 PER CENT), THE NETHERLANDS (2.7 PER CENT), DENMARK (2.3 PER CENT), AND AUSTRALIA (2.2 PER CENT).

THE TICD SPOKESMAN SAID : +A COMPARISON OF THE SURVEY RESULTS WITH STATISTICS PUBLISHED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT SHOWS THAT OVERSEAS INVESTMENT PLAYS A VERY SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN SOME OF HONG KONG'S INDUSTRIAL SECTORS. THESE SECTORS EMPLOY 90 059 WORKERS, OR ABOUT 10 PER CENT OF THE WORKFORCE IN THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.+

OVERSEAS INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT IS CONCENTRATED IN THE ELECTRONICS, TEXTILES AND GARMENTS AND ELECTRICAL PRODUCTS SECTORS, WHICH ACCOUNTED FOR 38.1 PER CENT, 12.4 PER CENT AND 7.5 PER CENT OF TOTAL INVESTMENT RESPECTIVELY. OTHER SIGNIFICANT SECTORS INCLUDE CHEMICAL PRODUCTS (7.2 PER CENT), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (5.7 PER CENT), AND FOOD AND BEVERAGES (5.5 PER CENT).

+THEIR TOTAL SALES ADDED UP TO SLIGHTLY OVER \$17 000 MILLION FOR 1980, OF WHICH 67 PER CENT WERE FOR EXPORT - EQUIVALENT TO 16.4 PER CENT OF HONG KONG'S TOTAL DOMESTIC EXPORTS,+ HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/14

TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1982

- 14 -

NT VOTERS REMINDED OF DISTRICT BOARD ELECTION DAY

POPULAR SINGER LI LUNG-KAY, WHO HAS BEEN LIVING IN TUEN MUN FOR MORE THAN 20 YEARS, IS A STAUNCH SUPPORTER OF THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD.

HE FEELS THE BOARD PLAYS AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN PROVIDING MORE HEALTHY ACTIVITIES FOR THE GROWING POPULATION OF TUEN MUN.

+IT IS GRATIFYING TO SEE THAT THE BOARD HAS ORGANISED SO MANY PROGRAMMES FOR US,+ MR LI SAID DURING A BREAK IN A RECORDING SESSION TODAY (TUESDAY).

+I MYSELF HAVE TAKEN PART IN SEVERAL OF THEM, ONE OF WHICH WAS THE TUEN MUN FESTIVAL, AND I AM EXTREMELY IMPRESSED BY ITS POPULARITY AMONG LOCAL RESIDENTS,+ MR LI SAID.

+THE FESTIVAL NOT ONLY PROVIDED THEM WITH ENTERTAINMENT, BUT ALSO HELPED THEM TO KNOW THEIR DISTRICT BETTER,+ HE ADDED.

THIS, IN FACT, IS WHAT EVERY DISTRICT BOARD IS TRYING TO DO FOR ITS RESIDENTS, MR LI POINTED OUT.

HE REMINDED REGISTERED NEW TERRITORIES VOTERS THAT THE NT DISTRICT BOARD ELECTION DAY IS ON THURSDAY (MARCH 4) WHEN THEY WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO CHOOSE THOSE THEY WISH TO REPRESENT THEM ON THE BOARDS.

+I WILL CERTAINLY CAST MY VOTE ON THAT DAY, AND I HOPE OTHER VOTERS WILL DO THE SAME,+ MR LI SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

SPECIAL STAMP ISSUES

+HONG KONG FAUNA+ WILL BE THE SUBJECT OF THE NEXT SET OF FOUR POSTAGE STAMPS WHICH WILL GO ON SALE ON MAY 4, THE POSTMASTER GENERAL, MR A.C. HEATHCOTE SAID.

MR HEATHCOTE ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT THE CURRENT DEFINITIVE POSTAGE STAMPS WHICH WERE FIRST PLACED ON SALE IN 1973 WILL BE REPLACED BY A NEW ISSUE IN AUGUST. THE NEW DEFINITIVE STAMPS WILL FOLLOW THE TRADITION OF DEPICTING THE HEAD OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN BUT THE SUPPORTING DESIGN WILL GIVE IT MORE OF A HONG KONG FLAVOUR THAN THE PRESENT DESIGN.

THE 1982 PROGRAMME OF STAMP ISSUES WILL BE COMPLETED IN OCTOBER WHEN SPECIAL STAMPS WILL BE ISSUED TO COMMEMORATE THE +FAR EAST AND SOUTH PACIFIC GAMES FOR THE DISABLED+, WHICH WILL BE HELD FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HONG KONG.

- - - - 0 - - - -

TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1982

- 15 -

SCHOOLS INVITED TO JOIN JSEA SYSTEM IN 1983
* * *

SCHOOLS WISHING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 1983 JUNIOR SECONDARY EDUCATION ASSESSMENT (JSEA) SYSTEM SHOULD APPLY TO THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ON OR BEFORE MARCH 29 THIS YEAR, AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

+THOSE PRIVATE INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS NOT IN THE BOUGHT PLACE SCHEME WHICH CHOOSE NOT TO PARTICIPATE ARE REMINDED THAT THEY MUST NOTIFY PARENTS THAT THEIR CHILDREN WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR ALLOCATION TO SUBSIDIZED FORM 4 PLACES,+ HE SAID.

ALL GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS, AIDED SCHOOLS, NON-PROFIT-MAKING PRIVATE SCHOOLS AND INDEPENDENT PRIVATE SCHOOLS IN THE BOUGHT PLACE SCHEME WILL BE EXPECTED TO PARTICIPATE NEXT YEAR.

SCHOOLS WHICH PARTICIPATED THIS YEAR ARE REQUESTED TO RE-AFFIRM WITH THE DEPARTMENT THAT THEY WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO IN 1983.

SINCE THE IDENTITY CARD NUMBER OF EACH PARTICIPATING STUDENT WILL BE PRINTED ON HIS CERTIFICATE, STUDENTS SHOULD ENSURE THEY HAVE THEIR PERSONAL IDENTITY CARD BEFORE THEY ENTER FOR THE SCALING TEST, THAT IS, BEFORE SEPTEMBER OF THE YEAR THEY ENTER FORM 3.

SUCH IDENTITY CARDS SHOULD BE THE NEW TYPE WHICH BEARS THE PHOTOGRAPH OF THE HOLDER, AND CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS OFFICE.

----- 0 -----

FIRE BAN LIFTED
* * *

THE BAN ON THE USE OF FIRES IN THE TAI LAM COUNTRY PARK AND THE TAI PO KAU NATURE RESERVE HAS BEEN LIFTED WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT.

HOWEVER, PICNICKERS TO THESE TWO AREAS AND TO THE COUNTRYSIDE IN GENERAL ARE ADVISED TO USE ONLY APPROVED BARBECUE PITS AND CONTINUE TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS IN PREVENTING THE OUTBREAK OF FIRES.

THE BAN ON FIRES IN THE TAI LAM COUNTRY PARK AND THE TAI PO KAU NATURE RESERVE WAS IMPOSED ON DECEMBER 20 LAST YEAR WHEN WEATHER CONDITIONS WERE EXTREMELY DRY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT TODAY SAID THE BAN WAS LIFTED IN VIEW OF THE RECENT CHANGE IN WEATHER.

----- 0 -----

TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1982

- 16 -

COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB DONATES TO THE 'CHEST'

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) PRESENTED CHEQUE DONATIONS AMOUNTING TO NEARLY \$40 000 TO THE COMMUNITY CHEST AT A CEREMONY HELD IN THE CHEST'S OFFICE.

THE MONEY WAS RAISED THROUGH THE JOINT EFFORT OF SOME 1 700 CYC MEMBERS FROM 48 SCHOOLS WHO TOOK PART IN THE WALK FOR MILLIONS HONG KONG WALK LAST DECEMBER.

PRESENTING THE CHEQUES ON BEHALF OF CYC WERE KWONG LAI-FAN OF PO LEUNG KUK C.F.A. NO. 1 AM SCHOOL, SUN WAI-YING OF CLEMENTI MIDDLE SCHOOL AND WONG KWONG-HING OF MING YIN COLLEGE.

THE CHEQUES WERE RECEIVED BY MR DAVID CHU, THE CHEST'S DIRECTOR.

A CYC SPOKESMAN SAID, +OUR SUPPORT FOR THE COMMUNITY CHEST DOES NOT STOP HERE.

+WE WILL ORGANISE ANOTHER TEAM TO TAKE PART IN THE KOWLOON WALK TO BE HELD THIS SUNDAY (MARCH 7) AT THE KWUN TONG RECREATION GROUND AND WE EXPECT SOME 2 000 MEMBERS TO TURN UP.+

- - - - 0 - - - -