DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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CONTENTS PAGE NO.

CAS STEPS UP TRAINING FOR ITS MEMBERS 1

TV FILMS TO PROMOTE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY 2

MORE BUILDING PLANS APPROVED LAST MONTH 3

SNT TO OPEN HEUNG YEE KUK HALL 4

TONKIN STREET TO BE IMPROVED FOR ROAD USERS 4

TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN TAI HANG ROAD 5

SALT WATER CUT 5

CAS STEPS UP TRAINING FOR ITS MEMBERS

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THE CIVIL AID SERVICES IS STEPPING UP ITS TRAINING PROGRAMME TO PREPARE ITS MEMBERS FOR ALL CONTINGENCIES.

A SERIES OF COURSES ARE BEING CONDUCTED AT THE GOVERNMENT DOCKYARD IN YAU MA TEI DESIGNED TO ACQUAINT CAS MEMBERS WITH THE LATEST ANTI-OIL POLLUTION EQUIPMENT AND HOW TO USE IT.

ANOTHER TOUGH COURSE THAT HAS BROUGHT SOME OF THEM FACE TO FACE WITH RUGGED MOUNTAINS IN WALES AND NORTH ENGLAND, TEACHES THEM TO COPE WITH SITUATIONS WHERE THEY HAVE TO EVACUATE AND MINISTER TO INJURED AND LOST HILL WALKERS.

MR CHAN CHUN-YING, PRINCIPAL TRAINING OFFICER, NOTED THAT WITH MORE PEOPLE TAKING TO WATER SPORTS, THERE WAS NOW MORE CAS TRAINING IN THESE ACTIVITIES, PARTICULARLY IN THE SAFETY ASPECTS OF WATER RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE CADETS.

THESE INCLUDE CANOE BUILDING, CANOEING, SAILING, SNORKEL DIVING, SWIMMING AND LIFE SAVING.

ON LAND, COURSES SUCH AS REFUGEE CAMP MANAGEMENT, PLANNING MOUNTAIN TREKKING EXPEDITIONS, CAMP CRAFT, RADIO COMMUNICATIONS, FOREST FIRE PRECAUTIONS, COUNTRYSIDE MANAGEMENT, VEHICLE REPAIR AND LORRY DRIVING ARE ORGANISED FOR THE MORE EXPERIENCED.

TRAINING NOT ONLY PROVIDES CAS VOLUNTEERS WITH BASIC TECHNICAL SKILLS, IT ALSO DEVELOPS THEIR INITIATIVE AND PUTS THEM IN READINESS FOR TASKS WHICH THEY MAY HAVE TO BE CALLED TO PERFORM AT ANY TIME OF THE DAY OR NIGHT AND NO MATTER HOW BAD THE WEATHER CONDITIONS, MR CHAN SAID.

FOR CAS OFFICERS AND SUPERVISORS, THERE IS IN ADDITION INSTRUCTION IN SUPERVISORY MANAGEMENT, TACTICAL DEPLOYMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF FIELD UNITS.

SUCH DIVERSE OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING NEW THINGS AND THE PROSPECT OF SERVING THE COMMUNITY IS SO APPEALING TO MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY THAT THE CAS CONSTANTLY HAS OVER 500 ADULT APPLICANTS WAITING TO FILL THE COMPARATIVELY FEW VACANCIES WHICH OCCUR EACH YEAR.

THERE ARE, HOWEVER, MORE CHANCES TO JOIN ITS CADET SERVICE WHICH HAS A LARGER TURNOVER OF MEMBERS.

+THERE COMES A TIME WHEN THE CADETS FEEL THEY HAVE TO GIVE MORE TIME TO ACADEMIC STUDIES WHEN THEY MOVE FROM ADOLESCENCE TO MANHOOD, AND WHEN THEY HAVE TO START LOOKING FOR JOBS IN THE ADULT WORLD,+ MR CHAN SAID.

+NEVERTHELESS, THEIR CAS TRAINING IS AN INVALUABLE ASSET IN THEIR PREPARATIONS FOR ADULTHOOD AND THEIR QUALIFICATIONS OFTEN ENABLE THEM TO COMPETE MORE FAVOURABLY WITH OTHER YOUNGSTERS APPLYING TO JOIN THE DISCIPLINED AND UNIFORMED SERVICES,+ HE ADDED.

/AT PRESENT .....

AT PRESENT THE SERVICE HAS 2 850 ADULT MEMBERS WHO WERE RECRUITED MAINLY IN THEIR LATE TEENS AND UP TO THEIR MID-TWENTIES. WITH FURTHER EXPANSION INTO THE NEW TERRITORIES, THE CAS HOPES TO RAISE THIS CEILING PROGRESSIVELY TO 3 500 BY THE END OF 1981. THE CADET CORPS, NOW IN ITS 12TH YEAR, HAS SOME 1 780 MEMBERS.

WHILE THERE ARE FEW REQUIREMENTS NEEDED FOR CADET APPLICANTS, ADULT VOLUNTEERS ARE PREFERRED IF THEY POSSESS SPECIAL SKILLS WHICH WILL HELP IN LEADERSHIP, RESCUE, FIRST AID AND YOUTH WORK.

HOWEVER, IF A RECRUIT DOES NOT POSSESS ANY OF THESE SKILLS THE CAS UNDERTAKE TO GIVE THE VOLUNTEER SUFFICIENT INSTRUCTION TO BECOME A COMPETENT AND EFFICIENT CIVIL AID MEMBER.

+WHATEVER BACKGROUND THEY COME FROM,+ MR CHAN SAID, +THEY JOIN THE SERVICE WITH ONLY ONE AIM -- TO PREPARE THEMSELVES IN ORDER TO CONTRIBUTE THEIR SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY IN ANY TIME OF NEED OR ADVERSITY.+

LAST YEAR WAS ONE OF THE BUSIEST CAS HAD ON RECORD, TAKING ON OVER 300 OPERATIONAL TASKS, INCLUDING 100 BY ITS CADETS. THESE INCLUDED TIME-CONSUMING AND DEDICATED WORK HELPING WITH VIETNAMESE REFUGEES, AND ONEROUS DUTIES PROTECTING OUR COUNTRYSIDE AGAINST THE RAVAGES OF FOREST FIRE.

BESIDES EMERGENCY DUTIES, THE SERVICE ALSO PROVIDED ASSISTANCE IN CROWD CONTROL AT LARGE PUBLIC FUNCTIONS AND DURING COMMUNITY CHARITY DRIVES, LECTURES ON OUTDOOR SAFETY TO SCHOOLS, AND ENTERTAINS THE PUBLIC WITH ITS MOTORCYCLE AND BICYCLE DEMONSTRATION TEAMS AND HIGHLY PROFICIENT BAND. TRAINING IS ALWAYS GEARED TO HONG KONG'S OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS, HE CONCLUDED.

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TV FILMS TO PROMOTE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY

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THE FACTORY INSPECTORATE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES, HAS PRODUCED FOUR SHORT TELEVISION FILMS TO PROMOTE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY.

EACH CLIP, IN BOTH CHINESE AND ENGLISH, DEALS WITH A SPECIFIC ASPECT OF INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AND FEATURES THE +INDUSTRIAL SAFETY GIRL+.

THE FIRST COMMERCIAL ON SAFE USE OF ELECTRICITY IS NOW BEING SHOWN ON LOCAL TELEVISION STATIONS. THE OTHER THREE WILL BE RELEASED NEXT MONTH.

THE SECOND CLIP DEALS WITH CONFINED SPACE SAFETY, EMPHASISING THE NEED FOR WORKERS TO USE SAFETY GEAR, SUCH AS BREATHING APPARATUS, SAFETY HARNESS AND HELMET, BEFORE ENTERING A CONFINED SPACE.

ANOTHER CLIP FOCUSES THE EFFECT OF INDUSTRIAL NOISE ON PEOPLE, WHILE THE FOURTH FEATURES THE +INDUSTRIAL SAFETY GIRL+ GIVING GENERAL HINTS ON SAFETY.

/A SPOKESMAN .....

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (MONDAY) URGED WORKERS TO WATCH THE FILMS.

+WE HAVE SPARED NO EFFORTS IN PROMOTING INDUSTRIAL SAFETY. IT IS HOPED THAT THE MESSAGES CARRIED BY THESE TELEVISION FILMS WILL REACH ALL WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES,+ HE ADDED.

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MORE BUILDING PLANS APPROVED LAST MONTH

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THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT APPROVED 96 NEW BUILDING PLANS IN FEBRUARY, COMPARED WITH 67 IN THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR.

OF THESE NEW PLANS, 36 WERE FOR BUILDINGS ON HONG KONG ISLAND, 19 IN KOWLOON AND 41 IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THEY INCLUDED THE JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE IN SHA TIN AND A SPORTS CENTRE IN CAROLINE HILL, A SCHOOL BUILDING IN WAH FU ROAD, A SLAUGHTER HOUSE IN KWAI CHUNG, AND AN ELECTRICITY SUBSTATION AT DYER AVENUE.

THE TOTAL DECLARED COST OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED DURING THE MONTH WAS $213.88 MILLION, COMPARED WITH $107.95 MILLION IN FEBRUARY LAST YEAR.

THE USABLE FLOOR AREA OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED AMOUNTED TO 188 034.8 SQUARE METRES, COMPRISING 125 942.2 SQUARE METRES OF NON-DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA AND 62 092.6 SQUARE METRES OF DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA.

THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE ALSO GAVE CONSENT FOR WORK TO START ON 53 NEW PROJECTS, INCLUDING A SCHOOL HALL AND A SWIMMING POOL IN STUBBS ROAD, AN OFFICE BLOCK IN THE POLYTECHNIC, AN AUDITORIUM IN THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY, A POWER STATION ON LAMMA ISLAND AND AN ELECTRICITY SUBSTATION AT TAI YUEN ESTATE, TAI PO.

A TOTAL OF 29 NEWLY COMPLETED BUILDINGS WERE CERTIFIED FOR OCCUPATION DURING THE MONTH, INCLUDING A BLOCK OF SENIOR STAFF QUARTERS AT THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY AND A CHILDREN'S CENTRE AT NAM HANG, TAI PO.

THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE ALSO ASSENTED TO THE DEMOLITION OF 183 BUILDINGS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

SNT TO OPEN HEUNG YEE KUK HALL
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THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING OF A $750 000 HALL AT THE HEUNG YEE KUK HEADQUARTERS AT 4 PM TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

THE NEW HALL IS NEXT TO THE KUK'S OFFICE AT 47 CUMBERLAND ROAD, KOWLOON TONG.

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND MEMBERS OF YOUR STAFF TO COVER THE EVENT. MR DONALD STRANGE OF THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION'S INFORMATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS UNIT WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST THE PRESS.

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TONKIN STREET TO BE IMPROVED FOR ROAD USERS
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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IS TO REBUILD A SECTION OF TONKIN STREET BETWEEN CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD AND LAI CHI KOK ROAD.

TENDERS FOR THE WORK ARE BEING INVITED BY THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE OF PWD.

MR T.D. ARMOUR, CHIEF HIGHWAY ENGINEER. SAID THAT WORK ON THE PROJECT WOULD INVOLVE THE RE-CONSTRUCTION OF THIS SECTION OF THE ROAD TO A DUAL THREE-LANE CONCRETE CARRIAGEWAY, PART OF WHICH WOULD SPAN THE EXISTING NULLAH.

FOOTWAYS AND AMENITY AREAS WOULD BE PROVIDED ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ROAD.

ALSO INCLUDED IN THE CONTRACT IS THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW BUS TERMINUS IN TONKIN STREET NEAR LAI KOK PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE.

ON COMPLETION, MR ARMOUR SAID, THIS NEW AND WIDER ROAD TOGETHER WITH THE NEW BUS TERMINUS WOULD SERVE RESIDENTS OF THE NEARBY HOUSING ESTATES AND WOULD IMPROVE TRAFFIC CONDITIONS.

WORK ON THE PROJECT WILL START IN JULY AND WILL TAKE ABOUT 15 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE WORK HAS BEEN DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTION WILL BE SUPERVISED BY THE HIGHWAYS (KOWLOON) DIVISION OF THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN TAI HANG ROAD

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THE SECTION OF TAI HANG ROAD BETWEEN THE STUBBS ROAD ROUNDABOUT AND THE JUNCTION WITH BLUE POOL ROAD WILL BE CLOSED BETWEEN 12.30 AM AND 5.30 AM ON APRIL 2, 3 AND 4 TO FACILITATE CONSTRUCTION WORK IN THE AREA.

DURING THE TEMPORARY CLOSURE, MOTORISTS MAY USE STUBBS ROAD AS AN ALTERNATIVE ROUTE.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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SALT WATER CUT

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SALT WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF AREAS IN KOWLOON WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 9.30 AM TO 11 PM ON WEDNESDAY (APRIL 2) TO FACILITATE REPAIR WORKS.

THE AREAS TO BE AFFECTED ARE HUNG HOM, TO KWA WAN, KOWLOON TONG, KOWLOON CITY, WANG TAU HOM ESTATE, LOK FU ESTATE, TUNG TAU ESTATE AND WONG TAI SIN ESTATE.

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