



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1984

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SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1984

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SIR PHILIP OPENS +ONE OF WORLD'S MOST MODERN PRISONS+
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THE DEPUTY TO THE GOVERNOR, SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, TODAY (SATURDAY) OFFICIALLY OPENED THE SHEK PIK PRISON, A MODERN, PURPOSE-BUILT, MAXIMUM SECURITY INSTITUTION ON LANTAU ISLAND.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY, SIR PHILIP SAID THAT OWING TO THE POPULATION GROWTH AND THE RECENT RISE IN SERIOUS CRIME, PARTICULARLY VIOLENT CRIME, THERE WAS A +SIGNIFICANT INCREASE+ IN THE NUMBER OF PRISONERS SERVING SENTENCES OF OVER SIX YEARS.

+THE NUMBERS HAVE MORE THAN DOUBLED OVER THE LAST FIVE YEARS, FROM 662 IN 1979 TO 1 358 THIS YEAR. DURING THE SAME PERIOD, THE NUMBER OF PRISONERS SERVING IMPRISONMENT FOR LIFE ROSE FROM 58 TO 92,+ HE SAID.

NOTING THAT THE LAST MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISON TO BE BUILT WAS STANLEY PRISON, WHICH CAME INTO OPERATION 47 YEARS AGO, HE SAID THAT THE ADDITION OF SHEK PIK PRISON WAS TIMELY.

SIR PHILIP STATED THAT THE NEW SHEK PIK PRISON HAD BEEN BUILT FOR PRISONERS WHO HAVE TO BE IN MAXIMUM SECURITY CONDITIONS, HAVING REGARD TO THE LENGTH OF THEIR SENTENCES, THE DEGREE OF SOPHISTICATION THEY USED IN COMMITTING THEIR CRIMES, AND THEIR GENERAL PATTERN OF BEHAVIOUR.

THE PRISON CAN TAKE IN 482 PRISONERS. IT IS USED FOR THOSE SERVING MEDIUM TO LONG SENTENCES, INCLUDING LIFE IMPRISONMENT.

WORK ON THE MAIN BUILDING OF THE \$135-MILLION PRISON PROJECT STARTED IN OCTOBER 1980. THE STRUCTURE COMPRISES STAFF QUARTERS, AS WELL AS A COMPLEX OF MULTI-STOREY PRISON BUILDINGS, INCORPORATING WORKSHOPS, DINING HALLS, A KITCHEN, A GYMNASIUM, A LIBRARY, A CHAPEL, VISITING FACILITIES AND CELLULAR ACCOMMODATION FOR PRISONERS AND AN 18-BED HOSPITAL.

IN ADDITION, A SPECIAL UNIT IS ALSO BEING SET UP FOR PRISONERS WHO REQUIRE PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENT.

AS ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST MODERN PRISONS, IT IS INSTALLED WITH HIGH TECHNOLOGY ELECTRONIC SECURITY AIDS, INCLUDING AN INFRA-RED PERIMETER ALARM, A SOPHISTICATED RADIO NETWORK, AND A COMPREHENSIVE CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION SYSTEM WHICH CONSISTS OF OVER 160 CAMERAS SET UP ALL OVER THE PRISON AND 36 TELEVISION MONITORS AT THE CONTROL ROOM.

IT IS ALSO INSTALLED WITH A SOLAR ENERGY WATER HEATING SYSTEM PROVIDING HOT WATER FOR KITCHEN, LAUNDRY AND FOR BATHING. WITH A SOLAR PANEL AREA OF 480 SQUARE METRES, IT IS THE GOVERNMENT'S LARGEST SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM.

/PRISONERS THERE

PRISONERS THERE ARE ENGAGED IN USEFUL WORK, EITHER ON DOMESTIC SERVICES OR IN VARIOUS WELL-EQUIPPED WORKSHOPS MANAGED BY SPECIALIST INDUSTRIAL STAFF. A VARIETY OF TRADES ARE UNDERTAKEN INCLUDING GARMENT MAKING, CARPENTRY, PRINTING, LEATHER WORK, KNITTING AND LAUNDERING. IN ADDITION, EDUCATION CLASSES, RECREATION PROGRAMMES, PHYSICAL EDUCATION AS WELL AS COUNSELLING ARE ALSO PROVIDED FOR THEM.

ALSO ATTENDING TODAY'S OPENING CEREMONY WERE LADY HADDON-CAVE; THE CHIEF JUSTICE, SIR DENYS ROBERTS; THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, MR MICHAEL THOMAS; THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MR DAVID JEAFFRESON, AND THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, MR THOMAS GARNER.

IN HIS WELCOMING SPEECH, MR GARNER SAID THAT THE WORK OF THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, CONFORMED WITH ALL LOCAL PROVISIONS AS WELL AS WITH THE UNITED NATIONS STANDARD MINIMUM RULES FOR THE TREATMENT OF PRISONERS.

HE SAID THAT HONG KONG DID CARE ABOUT THE TREATMENT OF PRISONERS, AS REFLECTED IN THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH PRISONERS ARE CONFINED AND THE ATTITUDE OF THE STAFF.

HOWEVER, THIS DID NOT IMPLY THAT ONE COULD SERVE IMPRISONMENT SENTENCE VERY EASILY.

THE IMPOSITION AND SERVING OF A SENTENCE OF IMPRISONMENT WAS A PUNISHMENT AND NOTHING ELSE, HE SAID.

MR GARNER SAID THAT THE CORRECT SUPERVISION OF OFFENDERS CALLED FOR DISCIPLINE, WHICH STARTED WITH THE STAFF.

DUE RECOGNITION AND STATUS HAD BEEN GIVEN BY THE COMMUNITY TO THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES STAFF WHO PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN MAINTAINING LAW AND ORDER, WHICH HAD SET HONG KONG APART FROM MOST OTHER COUNTRIES SO FAR AS CORRECTIONS WERE CONCERNED, HE SAID.

SPEAKING AT THE SAME CEREMONY, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, MR MICHAEL THOMAS SUPPORTED THE COMMISSIONER'S VIEW THAT HIGH STANDARDS OF PRISON CARE WERE A YARDSTICK FOR A CARING COMMUNITY, AND THAT THE LOSS OF LIBERTY WITHIN A DISCIPLINED ENVIRONMENT WAS A VERY REAL PUNISHMENT, AND WAS ENOUGH.

IT WAS A PUBLIC RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE PRISON CONDITIONS, HOWEVER DISCIPLINED THEY MAY BE, TOLERABLE AND HUMANE AND NOT A DEGRADING OR HUMILIATING EXPERIENCE WHICH WILL DEFEAT THE REHABILITATION OF THE OFFENDER, MR THOMAS SAID.

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY NEEDS MORE TECHNICIANS
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DESPITE THE SLUGGISH PROPERTY MARKET, THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY WILL NEED AN ADDITION OF AT LEAST 400 TECHNOLOGISTS, 650 TECHNICIANS AND 1 800 CRAFTSMEN EACH YEAR FROM 1984 TO 1988.

THESE ESTIMATES ARE AMONG THE FINDINGS IN THE REPORT ON THE 1983 MANPOWER SURVEY JUST PUBLISHED BY THE BUILDING AND CIVIL ENGINEERING INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL.

THE SURVEY SHOWED THAT THE TOTAL WORK FORCE OF THE INDUSTRY HAD DECLINED FROM ABOUT 103 000 IN APRIL 1981 TO 89 000 IN APRIL 1983, REPRESENTING AN ANNUAL DROP OF ABOUT SEVEN PER CENT.

+THE CURRENT SET-BACK OF THE INDUSTRY IS ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE ECONOMIC RECESSION, THE SLUGGISH PROPERTY MARKET AND THE UNCERTAINTY OVER THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG+, MR JOHN H.P. LOK, CHAIRMAN OF THE TRAINING BOARD, SAID.

BUT MR LOK ADDED, +THE TRAINING BOARD EXPECTS THAT A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF EXISTING VACANT UNITS IN THE PROPERTY MARKET WILL BE TAKEN UP BY NEXT YEAR AND THERE WILL BE A REVIVED DEMAND FOR RESIDENTIAL AND NON-RESIDENTIAL PREMISES+, HE SAID.

NOW WAS THE TIME FOR EMPLOYERS TO STEP UP STAFF TRAINING TO MEET FUTURE DEMANDS, HE ADDED.

ALTHOUGH THERE WAS A DROP IN THE TOTAL WORK FORCE OF THE INDUSTRY OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS, THE NUMBER OF TECHNICIANS HAD GROWN BY ABOUT NINE PER CENT OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE SURVEY FOUND.

THIS WAS MAINLY DUE TO THE DEMAND FOR MORE SUPERVISORY STAFF, RESULTING FROM THE INCREASING APPLICATION OF COMPLEX AND SOPHISTICATED CONSTRUCTION METHODS AND MORE STRINGENT CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS.

THE BOARD STRESSED THE NEED FOR EMPLOYERS TO START OR IMPROVE PRACTICAL TRAINING SCHEMES TO UPGRADE THE QUALITY OF THE WORK FORCE IN ORDER TO COPE WITH MECHANISATION AND COMPLEX CONSTRUCTION METHODS BEING INTRODUCED.

THE REPORT, PUBLISHED IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE, IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT \$15.00 A COPY.

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LOCAL LEADERS PRAISED FOR COMMUNITY EFFORT
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THE 14 000 RESIDENTS IN TEMPORARY HOUSING AND SQUATTER AREAS IN SHAM SHUI PO CAN NOW APPLY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM A VOLUNTARY SCHEME TO IMPROVE THEIR LIVING ENVIRONMENT.

A SHAM SHUI PO TEMPORARY HOUSING AREAS AND SQUATTERS ASSISTANCE SCHEME HAS BEEN FORMED BY A GROUP OF COMMUNITY LEADERS IN THE DISTRICT, AND AN INITIAL SUM OF \$150 000 HAS BEEN RAISED FOR THE SCHEME.

SPEAKING AT AN INAUGURATION CEREMONY TODAY (SATURDAY), THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SCHEME'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, MR TAI TUNG NGOK SAID THE MAIN AIM WAS TO AROUSE PUBLIC CONCERN FOR THE NEEDS OF THE LESS FORTUNATE.

HE SAID FUNDS FOR THE SCHEME WOULD BE OBTAINED FROM PRIVATE OR PUBLIC DONATIONS.

UNDER THE SCHEME, RESIDENTS CAN APPLY FOR FUNDS TO CARRY OUT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS, COMMUNITY BUILDING, SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES OR FOR EMERGENCY RELIEF.

MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, FIRE WATCH TEAMS AND OTHER CIVIC BODIES OF THE SQUATTER AND TEMPORARY HOUSING AREAS ARE WELCOME TO APPLY THROUGH THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS SUB-OFFICES.

ALSO ADDRESSING THE GATHERING, THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR SYLVESTER TSE, PRAISED THE SCHEME'S ORGANISERS FOR THEIR PUBLIC CONSCIOUSNESS AND INITIATIVENESS IN PROMOTING THE WELL-BEING OF THE RESIDENTS.

+THIS REFLECTS AN ENCOURAGING RESPONSE TO THE CALL FOR DISTRICT INTEGRITY WHICH HAS BEEN THE MAIN THEME OF THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION SYSTEM,+ HE SAID.

HE NOTED THAT THERE WERE THREE SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ASSISTANCE SCHEME.

+FIRSTLY, THIS IS PURELY A DISTRICT-BASED ASSISTANCE SCHEME WHICH HAS APTLY EMBODIED THE COMMUNITY SPIRIT,+ HE SAID.

+SECONDLY, IT IS A FUND SET UP VOLUNTARILY BY CIVIC-MINDED PERSONALITIES IN THE DISTRICT TO HELP THE POOR AND THE NEEDY, HENCE DEMONSTRATING A HIGH SPIRIT OF MUTUAL ASSISTANCE AND CONCERN AMONG RESIDENTS.

+LASTLY, IT IS A POSITIVE STEP IN PROMOTING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN IMPROVING THE LIFE OF THE UNDERPRIVILEGED.

+I LOOK FORWARD TO A WIDER LOCAL PARTICIPATION IN THE SCHEME AND A FURTHER EXPANSION OF THE SCOPE OF ITS SERVICES IN THE YEARS TO COME,+ MR TSE ADDED.

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RESIDENTS URGED TO SUPPORT DB ELECTIONS
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MONG KOK RESIDENTS WERE TONIGHT (SATURDAY) ENCOURAGED TO TAKE PART IN DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION WORK BY REGISTERING AS VOTERS OR CANDIDATES FOR NEXT YEAR'S DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS.

THE APPEAL CAME FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE, MR CLEMENT TAO, WHILE SPEAKING AT THE DISTRICT'S PRELIMINARY SINGING CONTEST.

MR TAO REMINDED RESIDENTS THAT THE SIX-WEEK REGISTRATION EXERCISE WOULD BEGIN IN MID-AUGUST.

+REGISTERING AS VOTERS IS ONLY THE FIRST STEP: A GOOD VOTER TURNOUT RATE AT THE MARCH DB ELECTIONS IS WHAT WE ARE AIMING AT,+ HE SAID.

MR TAO NOTED THAT THE FORMAT OF THE SINGING CONTEST - WHOSE WINNER IS TO REPRESENT HIS OR HER DISTRICT TO COMPETE WITH OTHERS IN A SEMI-FINAL ON AUGUST 11 - COULD HELP BUILD A SENSE OF DISTRICT IDENTITY AND BELONGING AMONG THE PARTICIPANTS.

+TAKING PART IN THE SINGING CONTEST IS ALSO ONE WAY OF GETTING YOURSELVES INVOLVED IN DISTRICT ACTIVITIES,+ HE SAID.

TWELVE YOUNG AMATEURS WERE CHOSEN FROM AMONG 200 ENTRANTS BY AUDITION TO COMPETE IN TONIGHT'S SHOW.

THE CONTEST, ALSO BEING HELD IN OTHER DISTRICTS UNTIL THE END OF JULY, IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE 18 DISTRICT OFFICES, RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG AND SING TAO NEWSPAPERS LIMITED.

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NOTE TO EDITORS :

GOVERNOR RETURNING SUNDAY
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, WILL RETURN TO HONG KONG TOMORROW (SUNDAY) AFTER ATTENDING ANOTHER TWO DAYS OF SINO-BRITISH TALKS ON THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG.

SIR EDWARD WILL BE TRAVELLING ON FLIGHT CA 105, ETA 12.25 PM.

A FACILITY HAS BEEN ARRANGED FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS AND CAMERAMEN TO COVER SIR EDWARD'S RETURN. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WISHING TO USE THE FACILITY SHOULD ASSEMBLE IN THE AIRPORT PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM BY 11.25 AM.

GIS OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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150-YEAR-OLD STUDY LIBRARY RE-OPENED

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A 150-YEAR-OLD STUDY LIBRARY IN YUEN LONG, WHICH UNDERWENT RENOVATION RECENTLY, WAS RE-OPENED BY LADY YOUDE THIS (SATURDAY) MORNING.

THIS WAS THE SECOND RECONSTRUCTION FOR THE YAU SIN LIBRARY IN HA TSUEN. THE RENOVATION WAS CARRIED OUT 70 YEARS AGO.

THE RENOVATION COST OF \$1.8 MILLION WAS PAID BY THE TANG CLAN.

MOST OF THE BUILDING MATERIALS USED FOR THE LIBRARY WERE SHIPPED TO HONG KONG FROM CHINA AND THE BEAUTIFULLY ENGRAVED STONE PILLARS AND ORIGINAL WOODEN PANELS WERE HAND-MADE BY CRAFTSMEN FROM CHINA.

SPEAKING AT THE CEREMONY, THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID THE HISTORIC AND ARTISTIC BUILDING WAS ONE OF THE MOST DISTINGUISHED STUDY HALLS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

+IT IS A TIMELY REMINDER TO US, WHEN SO MANY PEOPLE IN HONG KONG ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THEIR FUTURE, THAT THE PAST SHOULD NOT BE FORGOTTEN NOR THE TRADITIONS WHICH IT HAS HANDED DOWN TO US AND THE LESSONS WHICH IT CAN TEACH US,+ HE SAID.

+FOR THESE ARE THE BRICKS AND MORTAR WITH WHICH TO BUILD STRONG FOUNDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE.+

MR AKERS-JONES SAID WHILE IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO INCLUDE SOME OF THE ORIGINAL WOOD CARVINGS IN THE RE-CONSTRUCTION, MOST OF THE EXTERNAL APPEARANCE AND THE STYLE OF THE BUILDING HAVE BEEN PRESERVED IN THEIR ORIGINAL FORM SO THAT THE STRUCTURAL FORM AND ARTISTIC STYLE OF A CENTURY AGO COULD STILL BE APPRECIATED.

+FILIAL PIETY AND UNITY ARE CHINESE VIRTUES; AND IT IS IN KEEPING WITH THESE TO LOVE ONE'S BROTHER AND FOLLOW IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ONE'S FATHER,+ HE SAID.

+DEMONSTRATING THESE VIRTUES, THE TANG CLAN HAS INVESTED A LARGE AMOUNT OF MONEY AND EFFORT IN BRINGING THE GLORY BACK TO THIS HISTORIC AND ARTISTIC BUILDING. THEY SHOULD BE PROUD OF IT,+ HE SAID.

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PUBLIC URGED TO HELP KEEP NULLAH CLEAN
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GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO CLEAN UP THE POLLUTED TUEN MUN NULLAH WOULD BE FUTILE WITHOUT PUBLIC SUPPORT, AN UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE NEW TERRITORIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE CLEAN HONG KONG DRIVE, MR AUGUSTINE NG, SAID TODAY.

MR NG MADE THE REMARK AFTER SEEING A CLEAN-UP OPERATION AT THE NULLAH DURING A TWO-HOUR VISIT TO TUEN MUN.

ACCOMPANYING MR NG ON THE TOUR WERE THE SENIOR SUPERINTENDENT (OPERATIONS) OF THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT, MR AUTHUR JOHNSON, AND THE DEPUTY URBAN SERVICES OFFICER OF TUEN MUN, MR CHAN CHAI-CHI.

MR NG WAS TOLD THAT INDISCRIMINATE DUMPING OF AGRICULTURAL AND HOUSEHOLD REFUSE OVER THE YEARS HAD SERIOUSLY POLLUTED THE NULLAH.

TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM, THE GOVERNMENT HAD SET UP A WORKING PARTY COMPRISING REPRESENTATIVES OF VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS AND HAD RECENTLY SPENT \$550 000 TO REMOVE REFUSE AT A SECTION OF THE NULLAH.

IN ADDITION, A NEW PUMPING STATION HAD BEEN BUILT AT ITS UPPER STREAM TO CHANNEL POLLUTED WATER TO THE SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT AT PILLAR POINT.

THE PARTY NEXT VISITED KAI FAT PATH TO INSPECT A NEW REFUSE COLLECTION POINT CAPABLE OF HANDLING ABOUT 10 TONNES OF REFUSE A DAY.

THEY THEN PROCEEDED TO TUEN MUN CENTRE WHERE MR NG SAID HE WAS IMPRESSED WITH THE GENERAL CLEANLINESS OF THE COMMON PARTS OF THE MULTI-STOREY RESIDENTIAL BUILDING.

AT CHING CHUNG KOON, A POPULAR TOURIST SPOT, MR NG INSPECTED A NEWLY-BUILT FIBRE-GLASS REFUSE COLLECTION FACILITY.

BEFORE LEAVING, THE PARTY VISITED YEUNG SIU HANG VILLAGE TO SEE CLEANSING FACILITIES PROVIDED FOR SOME 1 200 RESIDENTS THERE.

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RECLAMATION PLANNED AT SHA TAU KOK HOI
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THE GOVERNMENT IS PLANNING TO RECLAIM ABOUT 1.46 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED AT SHA TAU KOK HOI CLOSE TO THE TYPHOON SHELTER, FOR USE AS A PUBLIC SPORTS GROUND.

IT IS ALSO PLANNING TO DREDGE A NEW NAVIGATION CHANNEL TO REPLACE THE ONE WHICH WILL DISAPPEAR AS A RESULT OF THE RECLAMATION,

THE EXISTING CHANNEL IS USED BY FISHING BOATS TO GET TO THE TYPHOON SHELTER.

THE AREA TO BE DREDGED IS 1.26 HECTARES.

WORK ON THE RECLAMATION AND DREDGING, WHICH WILL BE CARRIED OUT UNDER THE PUBLIC RECLAMATIONS AND WORKS ORDINANCE, IS EXPECTED TO START IN SEPTEMBER AND BE COMPLETED IN SIX MONTHS.

THE CHANNEL LEADING TO THE TYPHOON ANCHORAGE WILL REMAIN NAVIGABLE DURING WORK ON THE RECLAMATION AND PRECAUTIONS WILL BE TAKEN TO PREVENT WATER POLLUTION IN THE NEARBY FISH CULTURE ZONES DURING THE CONSTRUCTION PERIOD.

THE EXTENT OF THE AFFECTED AREA IS DESCRIBED IN THE LATEST GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

THE PLAN CAN BE INSPECTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

- * LANDS DEPARTMENT, SURVEY DIVISION, MURRAY BUILDING, 5TH FLOOR, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG;
- * TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICE, TAI PO GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, TING KOK ROAD, TAI PO, NEW TERRITORIES;
- * NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE, OLD DISTRICT OFFICE BUILDING, TAI PO MARKET, NEW TERRITORIES; AND
- * NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE'S FANLING SUB-OFFICE, JOCKEY CLUB ROAD, FANLING, NEW TERRITORIES.

THE NOTICE TOGETHER WITH ITS PLAN CAN ALSO BE SEEN POSTED NEAR THE SITE.

OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSAL AND CLAIMS FOR COMPENSATION SHOULD BE FORWARDED IN WRITING TO THE DIRECTOR OF LANDS WITHIN TWO MONTHS.

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TO KWA WAN SPORTS CENTRE OPENED
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HONG KONG'S NEWEST SPORTS CENTRE WAS OPENED IN TO KWA WAN TODAY (SATURDAY) BY THE COMMISSIONER OF THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION, MR PETER WILLIAMS.

IN HIS ADDRESS, MR WILLIAMS SAID HE WAS SURE THAT THE SPECIALLY DESIGNED FITNESS CENTRE WOULD BE WELL PATRONISED BY PEOPLE OF THIS CROWDED COMMUNITY.

+THE GOOD WORK OF THE RECREATION AND SPORTS SERVICE IN THE COMMUNITY IS WELL KNOWN TO ALL, AND AS THE COMMISSIONER OF ICAC, I WOULD TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK THE SERVICE FOR THE CO-OPERATION AND ASSISTANCE THEY HAVE GIVEN TO ICAC IN THE PAST IN ORGANISING A NUMBER OF RECREATION FUNCTIONS TO PROMOTE OUR CONCEPTS,+ HE SAID.

OTHERS WHO ATTENDED THE OPENING OF THE TO KWA WAN SPORTS CENTRE ON THE 10TH FLOOR OF THE TO KWA WAN MARKET COMPLEX WERE THE COMMISSIONER FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR PATRICK WILLIAMSON AND KOWLOON CITY'S COMMUNITY LEADERS.

MR WILLIAMSON SAID THE DEPARTMENT SOUGHT TO PROVIDE HEALTHY ACTIVITIES FOR PEOPLE.

SINCE TRAINING CLASSES STARTED AT THE CENTRE AT THE BEGINNING OF APRIL, SOME 90 SESSIONS OF VARIOUS ACTIVITIES WERE HELD, ATTRACTING MORE THAN 2 000 PERSONS, HE SAID.

THE TO KWA WAN CENTRE IS A REPLACEMENT FOR THE HUNG HOM CAR PARK SPORTS CENTRE, WHICH WAS HANDED BACK TO THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT IN 1982.

IT COVERS 7 000 SQUARE FEET AND HAS THE LATEST EQUIPMENT FOR SPORTS AND KEEP-FIT ACTIVITIES.

THE CENTRE IS OPEN FROM 7 AM TO 10 PM DAILY, AND PEOPLE WISHING TO TAKE PART IN THE COURSES OFFERED BY IT SHOULD SEND IN THEIR APPLICATIONS.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE FROM ALL THE 19 DISTRICT OFFICES OF THE RECREATION AND SPORTS SERVICE.

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IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE IN SHA TIN
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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT WILL BE OPENING A SHA TIN OFFICE ON TUESDAY (MAY 1) FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF RESIDENTS THERE.

THE NEW OFFICE WILL BE ON THE 2ND FLOOR OF KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY HOUSE, SHA TIN STATION, NEW TERRITORIES, AND WILL PROVIDE SERVICES IN SUCH THINGS AS TRAVEL DOCUMENTS AND RE-ENTRY PERMITS.

THE OFFICE HOURS WILL BE BETWEEN 9 AM AND 12.45 PM AND 2 PM AND 4.30 PM FROM MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS, AND BETWEEN 9 AM AND 12.30 PM ON SATURDAYS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID ALSO THAT FROM TUESDAY, THE MOBILE BIRTHS AND MARRIAGES REGISTRATION SERVICES PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED ON WEDNESDAYS AT THE SHA TIN RURAL COMMITTEE WILL BE PROVIDED IN THE NEW OFFICE EVERY WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY, FROM 10 AM TO 12.30 PM AND FROM 2 PM TO 3.30 PM.

HE SAID THAT AFTER THE OPENING OF THIS NEW OFFICE, THE DEPARTMENT'S MOBILE REGISTRATION TEAM WILL NOT CALL AT THE SHA TIN RURAL COMMITTEE OFFICE.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO MAKE ENQUIRIES MAY TELEPHONE 3-7333111.

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ROLE OF VILLAGE REPRESENTATIVES STRESSED
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A NEW VILLAGE OFFICE AT SHUI HAU ON SOUTH LANTAU WAS OPENED TODAY (SATURDAY) BY THE ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICER, MR WILLIAM YAP.

THE 63-SQUARE-METRE VILLAGE OFFICE WAS BUILT BY THE VILLAGERS AT \$82 000, OF WHICH \$15 000 WAS FROM THE ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICE'S LOCAL PUBLIC WORKS VOTE.

SPEAKING AT THE CEREMONY, MR YAP SAID THE SETTING UP OF A VILLAGE OFFICE COULD HELP IMPROVE COMMUNICATION AMONG THE VILLAGERS AND PROVIDE A VENUE FOR MORE WELFARE AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES.

HE ALSO SPOKE ON THE IMPORTANT ROLE PLAYED BY VILLAGE ELDERS AND LOCAL DIGNITARIES WHO HAD HELPED GOVERNMENT IN IDENTIFYING THE NEEDS AND SOLVING VILLAGERS' PROBLEMS.

+VILLAGES ARE GRASS-ROOT ORGANISATIONS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES,+ HE SAID.

+FOR YEARS, VILLAGERS HAVE BEEN ABLE TO REFLECT THEIR VIEWS AND PROBLEMS RELATING TO THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE TO THE GOVERNMENT THROUGH THEIR VILLAGE REPRESENTATIVES AND RURAL COMMITTEE LEADERS.+

ALSO PRESENT AT TODAY'S CEREMONY WERE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SOUTH LANTAU RURAL COMMITTEE, MR LAU YUNG-FUK, AND A VILLAGE REPRESENTATIVE OF SHUI HAU, MR CHAN SAU.

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HOME SAFETY COMPETITION - A GREAT COMMUNITY SERVICE
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THE HOME SAFETY POSTER DESIGN COMPETITION WAS THE FIRST OF ITS KIND AND A GREAT SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY, THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR COLVYN HAYE, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

THE COMPETITION WAS ORGANISED BY THE ZONTA CLUB OF HONG KONG FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS TO MAKE STUDENTS AWARE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF HOME SAFETY.

OFFICIATING AT THE PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE COMPETITION, MR HAYE DESCRIBED THE CONTEST AS A +VERY WELCOME SUPPLEMENTARY WORK+ TO THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S EFFORTS IN DRAWING CHILDREN'S ATTENTION TOWARDS SAFETY IN SCHOOLS.

A LARGE NUMBER OF ART CONTESTS AND EXHIBITIONS ON MEANINGFUL THEMES HAVE BEEN ORGANISED IN RECENT YEARS BY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, SERVICE CLUBS, PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND SCHOOL GROUPS.

APART FROM GIVING HELP, THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HAD ALSO ORGANISED SIMILAR FUNCTIONS, BOTH FOR LEARNING AND APPRECIATION PURPOSES, MR HAYE SAID.

HE URGED SCHOOLS TO ENCOURAGE THEIR PUPILS TO TAKE ACTIVE PART IN SUCH ACTIVITIES.

THE RESPONSE TO THE HOME SAFETY POSTER DESIGN COMPETITION WAS EXTREMELY GOOD AND THE STANDARD OF THE ENTRIES WAS HIGH, MR HAYE SAID.

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NOTE TO EDITORS :

LONG-DISTANCE RUN IN TAI PO
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MORE THAN 700 PEOPLE WILL TAKE PART IN TOMORROW'S (SUNDAY) TAI PO LONG-DISTANCE RUN ALONG THE PLOVER COVE RESERVOIR MAIN DAM.

THE RUN WILL BE FROM THE FRONT GATE OF THE DAM TO TUNG TAU CHAU AND BACK TO THE STARTING POINT, COVERING A DISTANCE OF 9 000 METRES.

THERE WILL BE A TOTAL OF FIVE RACES IN TOMORROW'S EVENT.

FUNDED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD, THE EVENT IS ORGANISED BY TAI PO SPORTS ASSOCIATION, THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE (TAI PO OFFICE).

THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR THOMAS CHAN, WILL PRESENT PRIZES TO THE WINNERS.

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE LONG-DISTANCE RUN, WHICH WILL START AT 10 AM.

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TWO MORE TENNIS COURTS IN FANLING

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TWO MORE TENNIS COURTS WILL BE OPEN IN NORTH DISTRICT FROM TUESDAY (MAY 1).

THEY ARE LOCATED NEXT TO THE TWO EXISTING TEMPORARY COURTS OPPOSITE THE FANLING PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL.

BUILT BY THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD, THE COURTS WILL BE MANAGED BY THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

ADMISSION IS FREE AND THE OPENING HOURS WILL BE FROM 8 AM TO 5 PM DAILY, AN NTSD SPOKESMAN SAID.

ADVANCE BOOKING MUST BE MADE WITHIN ONE WEEK AND THE COURTS WILL BE ALLOCATED ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

BOOKING FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE OF THE FANLING NEW TOWN SQUASH COURTS LOCATED NEXT TO THE FANLING PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL.

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FIRING DRILL IN HA TSUEN-CASTLE PEAK

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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE HA TSUEN-CASTLE PEAK RANGE FOR THREE DAYS NEXT MONTH (MAY).

THE PUBLIC ARE WARNED NOT TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN RED FLAGS ARE FLYING.

THE DATES AND TIMES OF THE PRACTICE ARE :

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
MAY 2 (WEDNESDAY)	8 AM - 11 PM
MAY 18 (FRIDAY)	8 AM - 5 PM
MAY 30 (WEDNESDAY)	8 AM - 11 PM

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