



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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HK AND FRANCE SIGNED NEW AIR SERVICES AGREEMENT

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AN AIR SERVICE AGREEMENT (ASA) BETWEEN THE HONG KONG AND THE FRENCH GOVERNMENTS WAS SIGNED TODAY (MONDAY).

THE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED BY THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MRS ANSON CHAN, ON BEHALF OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT UNDER THE AUTHORISATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM GOVERNMENT, AND THE CHIEF OF AIR TRANSPORT SERVICES, DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION, MONSIEUR ROBERT ESPEROU, ON BEHALF OF THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT.

THE HONG KONG/FRANCE ASA, THE FIFTH OF ITS KIND, IS DESIGNED WITH THE RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION IN MIND AS REFLECTED IN THE BASIC LAW AND IS CAPABLE OF REMAINING IN FORCE AFTER 1997.

THE OTHER FOUR WERE SIGNED WITH THE NETHERLANDS, SWITZERLAND, CANADA AND BRUNEI.

SPEAKING AT THE SIGNING CEREMONY, MRS CHAN SAID THAT IN 1989 ALMOST 100,000 PASSENGERS AND 20,000 TONNES OF CARGO TRAVELLED ON DIRECT SERVICES BETWEEN HONG KONG AND FRANCE.

"TO MEET THIS GROWING DEMAND, CATHAY PACIFIC AIRWAYS CURRENTLY OPERATE FIVE PASSENGER AND TWO ALL-CARGO SERVICES A WEEK TO PARIS, ALONGSIDE AN EQUIVALENT NUMBER OF SERVICES PROVIDED BY AIR FRANCE.

"UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW AGREEMENT, THERE WILL BE SCOPE FOR BOTH AIRLINES TO CONTINUE EXPANDING THEIR SERVICES FURTHER AS THE MARKET CONTINUES ITS EXPECTED STRONG DEVELOPMENT," SHE SAID.

TURNING TO THE PROGRAMME OF ESTABLISHING HONG KONG ASAS SEPARATE FROM THOSE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, MRS CHAN SAID HONG KONG ATTACHED CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE TO THE PROGRAMME AND WAS GRATEFUL FOR THE SUPPORT WHICH THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT HAD GIVEN TO THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION.

"UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION AND THE BASIC LAW, THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION WILL ALSO BE ABLE, AFTER 1997, TO CONCLUDE, UNDER SPECIFIC AUTHORISATION FROM THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT, ITS OWN ASAS SEPARATE FROM THOSE OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA," SHE SAID.

SHARING MRS CHAN'S VIEW, MONSIEUR ESPEROU SAID THE AGREEMENT WAS UNIQUE IN FORM BECAUSE IT HAD A BASIS IN THE JOINT DECLARATION, WHICH WOULD PERMIT THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AFTER 1997 TO ENGAGE ITSELF IN ASAS UNDER THE AUTHORISATION OF THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES.

"IT IS IN ANTICIPATION OF THESE PROVISIONS THAT THIS AGREEMENT IS NOW BEING SIGNED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF HONG KONG UNDER THE AUTHORISATION OF THE UK GOVERNMENT," HE SAID.

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"ON THE BASIS OF THIS NEW AGREEMENT, WHICH IS THE PROOF OF OUR CONFIDENCE IN THE FUTURE, IT NOW REMAINS FOR THE AIRLINES TO DEVELOP THEIR SERVICES," MONSIEUR ESPEROU ADDED.

THE SIGNING OF THE HONG KONG/FRANCE ASA FOLLOWED DISCUSSIONS OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS BETWEEN THE UK AND FRENCH DELEGATIONS. HONG KONG REPRESENTATIVES WERE ALSO IN THE UK DELEGATION AND PRESENT AT THOSE TALKS.

THE ASA, WHICH IS EXPECTED TO COME INTO FORCE EARLY NEXT YEAR, WILL PROVIDE FOR SCHEDULED SERVICES BY THE DESIGNATED AIRLINES OF THE TWO SIDES.

UNTIL THEN, SERVICES BETWEEN HONG KONG AND FRANCE BY AIRLINES OF EITHER SIDE WILL CONTINUE TO BE OPERATED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE UK/FRANCE ASA.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

A PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN AT THE SIGNING CEREMONY TOGETHER WITH MRS CHAN AND MONSIEUR ESPEROU'S SPEECHES WILL BE BOXED TODAY.

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CLP SUBMITTED DRAFT SITE SEARCH REPORT FOR THERMAL POWER STATION
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IN RESPONSE TO MEDIA ENQUIRIES ON THE CHINA LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY LIMITED'S SITE SEARCH REPORT FOR A LARGE THERMAL POWER STATION, THE PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS BRANCH ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT TODAY (MONDAY):

"THE CHINA LIGHT AND POWER CO. LTD (CLP) HAS SUBMITTED A DRAFT SITE SEARCH REPORT TO GOVERNMENT WHICH SETS OUT THE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SITE SEARCH EXERCISE FOR A 6,000 MEGAWATT THERMAL POWER STATION.

"ACCORDING TO CLP'S ELECTRICITY DEMAND FORECAST, A NEW POWER STATION WILL NEED TO BE OPERATIONAL BY APRIL 1996 TO MEET THE GROWING DEMAND FOR ELECTRICITY IN THE LATTER HALF OF THE 1990'S AND BEYOND. HOWEVER, IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT GOVERNMENT HAS YET TO AGREE TO THE NEED FOR THIS POWER STATION AND THE SUGGESTED COMMISSIONING DATE WHICH WILL BE EXAMINED IN THE CONTEXT OF THE FINANCIAL PLAN TO BE SUBMITTED BY CLP.

"IN VIEW OF THE LONG LEAD TIME REQUIRED FOR SITE IDENTIFICATION (LAND ACQUISITION AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE POWER STATION), GOVERNMENT AGREED THAT THE SITE SEARCH EXERCISE SHOULD PROCEED AHEAD OF ANY DECISION ON THE NEED FOR THE POWER STATION.

/"THIS SITE

"THE SITE SEARCH EXERCISE, COMMENCED IN NOVEMBER LAST YEAR, WAS CONDUCTED BY INDEPENDENT CONSULTANTS RETAINED BY CLP AND WAS MONITORED CLOSELY BY GOVERNMENT.

"OF THE FIVE SHORT-LISTED AREAS (NAMELY, PO TOI, A PROPOSED ARTIFICIAL ISLAND NEAR THE WEST LAMMA CHANNEL, SIU A CHAU, SOUTHWEST LANTAU AND BLACK POINT), BLACK POINT HAS BEEN RECOMMENDED BY THE CONSULTANTS AS THE MOST SUITABLE AREA FOR ACCOMMODATING THE PROPOSED POWER STATION ON ENVIRONMENTAL, PLANNING, TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC GROUNDS.

"THE DRAFT SITE SEARCH REPORT IS STILL BEING FINALISED AND GOVERNMENT HAS YET TO AGREE TO THE RECOMMENDED AREA AT BLACK POINT.

"THE CONSULTANTS HAVE IDENTIFIED A NUMBER OF ISSUES WHICH WOULD NEED TO BE ADDRESSED FURTHER FOR SITING THE PROPOSED POWER STATION AT BLACK POINT IN RESPECT OF THE AIR QUALITY IMPACT, TRANSMISSION CONNECTION, MARINE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT AND THE POTENTIAL INTERFACE WITH THE AVIATION MANAGEMENT OF THE CHEK LAP KOK AIRPORT.

"CLP AND THE CONSULTANTS WILL CARRY OUT FURTHER STUDIES IN THESE AREAS. GOVERNMENT'S DECISION ON THE RECOMMENDED SITE, WHICH IS EXPECTED BY END 1990, WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE ABOVE ISSUES BEING RESOLVED SATISFACTORILY.

"FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT'S DECISION ON THE LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED POWER STATION, CLP AND THE CONSULTANTS WILL UNDERTAKE AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT STUDY TO RECOMMEND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SUITABLE MITIGATION MEASURES DURING THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF THE POWER STATION WITH A VIEW TO MEETING THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION STANDARDS SET BY GOVERNMENT."

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BOUGHT PLACE SCHEME SHOULD CONTINUE
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THE SOCIAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SWAC) TODAY (MONDAY) SUPPORTED THE CONTINUATION OF THE BOUGHT PLACE SCHEME FOR PRIVATE HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY AFTER THE TWO-YEAR EXPERIMENTAL PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1991.

THE FINDINGS OF AN EVALUATION ON THE SCHEME CONDUCTED RECENTLY BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT (SWD) SHOWED THAT IT HAS PROVED TO BE CAPABLE OF ACHIEVING THE OBJECTIVES OF RAISING SERVICE STANDARDS, INCREASING THE SUPPLY OF PLACES OF REGISTRABLE STANDARD AND SHORTENING THE WAITING TIME OF APPLICATIONS ON THE CENTRAL WAITING LIST.

AT THE COMMITTEE'S MEETING TODAY, MEMBERS WERE INFORMED THAT UP TO AUGUST 1 THIS YEAR, SWD HAD RECEIVED 72 APPLICATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BOUGHT PLACE SCHEME.

/THE DIRECTOR

THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR M.D. CARTLAND, TOLD THE MEETING THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAD SO FAR PURCHASED 243 PLACES IN 21 PRIVATE HOMES AND HAD COMMITTED TO BUY AN ADDITIONAL 72 PLACES IN FOUR MORE HOMES IN THE NEXT THREE MONTHS.

SWAC MEMBERS ALSO LEARNED THAT WITH 243 PLACES PROGRESSIVELY BOUGHT UP TO AUGUST THIS YEAR, A TOTAL OF 252 ELDERLY APPLICANTS FROM THE SWD CENTRAL WAITING LIST HAD BEEN ADMITTED TO THESE PLACES.

THESE 252 ELDERLY PERSONS HAVE BENEFITTED FROM EARLY PLACEMENT AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS HAVE BEEN RELIEVED FROM THE BURDEN OF TAKING CARE OF THEM.

IN MAY 1989, SWAC ENDORSED A PROPOSAL OF BUYING 500 PLACES FROM PRIVATE HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY ON AN EXPERIMENTAL BASIS. THE SCHEME WAS IMPLEMENTED LAST OCTOBER.

THE BOUGHT PLACE SCHEME AIMS AT PROVIDING FINANCIAL INCENTIVE FOR:

- * EXISTING PRIVATE HOMES TO RAISE THEIR SERVICES STANDARDS SO THAT THEY WOULD NOT HAVE TO CLOSE DOWN WHEN LEGISLATIVE CONTROL OVER HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY IS INTRODUCED; AND
- * ADDITIONAL PRIVATE PLACES OF AN ACCEPTABLE STANDARD TO BE ESTABLISHED SO AS TO INCREASE THE SUPPLY OF PLACES.

ON THE VOLUNTARY REGISTRATION SCHEME, MR CARTLAND SAID: "SINCE THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE BOUGHT PLACE SCHEME IN JULY 1989, 58 APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED BETWEEN THE THREE MONTHS OF JULY AND SEPTEMBER 1989.

"THE SHARP INCREASE BY 75 PER CENT, AS COMPARED TO 33 APPLICATIONS RECEIVED OVER THE PRECEDING 10 MONTHS, IS PRIMARILY, IF NOT SOLELY, DUE TO THE ATTRACTION OF THE BOUGHT PLACE SCHEME," HE ADDED.

MR CARTLAND INFORMED SWAC MEMBERS THAT THE NUMBER OF HOMES PENDING REGISTRATION UPON IMPROVEMENTS TO REACH REGISTRATION STANDARDS IS 69, WITH 3,206 BEDS.

"THESE HOMES WILL BE REGISTERED ONCE THEY HAVE ATTAINED THE REGISTRATION STANDARDS," HE STRESSED.

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APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR IMPORTATION OF LABOUR

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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT TODAY (MONDAY) REMINDED EMPLOYERS WISHING TO EMPLOY FOREIGN TECHNICIANS, CRAFTSMEN, SUPERVISORS AND EXPERIENCED OPERATIVES UNDER THE NEW IMPORTATION OF LABOUR SCHEMES TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 31, 1990.

EMPLOYERS SHOULD COMPLETE THE STANDARD REQUEST (ID 408C) AND PRELIMINARY APPLICATION FORMS (ID 408B) AND SUBMIT THEM, TOGETHER WITH SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS, TO THE DEPARTMENT'S ENTRY VISA SECTION ON THE SEVENTH FLOOR, 7 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID ALL APPLICATIONS WOULD BE EXAMINED AND DECIDED ON IN SEPTEMBER.

"ONCE AN APPLICATION HAS BEEN APPROVED, THE EMPLOYER WILL BE NOTIFIED OF HIS SHARE OF THE QUOTA, AND WILL BE GIVEN THREE MONTHS FROM THAT DATE TO RECRUIT WORKERS AND TO ARRANGE FOR THE WORKERS TO APPLY FOR VISAS," HE SAID.

"A VISA APPLICATION WILL TAKE THREE TO FIVE WEEKS TO PROCESS," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE LIST OF THE PRINCIPAL JOB TITLES IN EACH INDUSTRY WITH MEDIAN WAGE LEVELS, A PAMPHLET ON "HOW TO IMPORT LABOUR FROM OUTSIDE HONG KONG UNDER THE SPECIAL SCHEME", APPLICATION FORMS, EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT AND GUIDANCE NOTES ARE AVAILABLE ON REQUEST FROM THE IMMIGRATION AND LABOUR DEPARTMENTS.

ENQUIRIES ON IMMIGRATION MATTERS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ON TEL. 829 3220 OR 829 3222.

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UK/HK SCHOLARSHIPS 1991-92

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THE UK/HK SCHOLARSHIPS COMMITTEE TODAY (MONDAY) INVITED APPLICATIONS FOR ITS SCHOLARSHIPS COMMENCING IN THE ACADEMIC YEAR 1991-92.

THE SCHOLARSHIPS WILL BE FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES LEADING TO A FIRST DEGREE OR POSTGRADUATE STUDIES LEADING TO A HIGHER DEGREE, EITHER BY RESEARCH OR BY COURSEWORK.

THE SCHOLARSHIPS ARE OFFERED BY THE UK/HK SCHOLARSHIPS COMMITTEE ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND HONG KONG GOVERNMENTS.

APPLICANTS MAY CHOOSE ANY SUBJECT OF STUDY OR RESEARCH AT ANY ACADEMIC INSTITUTION AT THE TERTIARY LEVEL IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

/SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR FULFILLING ALL APPLICATION PROCEDURES AND ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS OF THE INSTITUTIONS OF THEIR CHOICE AND SHOULD BE OFFERED A PLACE SUBSEQUENTLY.

SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES ARE ALSO EXPECTED TO POSSESS HIGH ACADEMIC PROWESS AND LEADERSHIP QUALITIES. THEY SHOULD DEMONSTRATE A STRONG SENSE OF COMMITMENT TO HONG KONG AND HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND HONG KONG.

UPON GRADUATION, SCHOLARS ARE REQUIRED TO WORK IN HONG KONG FOR A MINIMUM OF THREE YEARS.

THE VALUE OF THE SCHOLARSHIP NORMALLY COVERS UNIVERSITY COMPOSITION FEE, A MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE AND AN AIR TRAVEL ALLOWANCE.

APPLICATION FORMS AND FURTHER INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED BY WRITING TO THE SECRETARY, UK/HK SCHOLARSHIPS COMMITTEE, QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES, LOW BLOCK, GROUND FLOOR, 66 QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG. FORMS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION AT THE FOLLOWING ADDRESSES:

- (A) FINANCIAL AID SECTION,
STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AGENCY,
QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES,
LOW BLOCK, GROUND FLOOR,
66 QUEENSWAY,
HONG KONG.
- (B) CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE,
CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE,
CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES,
WEST WING, GROUND FLOOR,
11 ICE HOUSE STREET,
HONG KONG.
- (C) OVERSEAS STUDENTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS SECTION,
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT,
ROOM 530,
LEE GARDENS, FIFTH FLOOR,
HYSAN AVENUE,
HONG KONG.
- (D) MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICE,
TUNG PING BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR,
157 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD WEST,
MONG KOK,
KOWLOON.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATION IS OCTOBER 19, 1990. SUITABLE CANDIDATES WILL BE INVITED TO ATTEND AT LEAST ONE SELECTION INTERVIEW IN HONG KONG IN JANUARY 1991.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

AN INFORMATION NOTE SETTING OUT FURTHER DETAILS OF THE SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME WILL BE BOXED.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 53.4 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 312.871 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 345.519 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 61.3 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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YOUTH ORCHESTRA RECRUITS NEW MEMBERS

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THE HONG KONG YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA OF THE MUSIC OFFICE IS RECRUITING NEW MEMBERS FOR 1990/91 AND YOUNG MUSIC LOVERS ARE URGED NOT TO MISS THE CHANCE.

THE HONG KONG YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA WAS SET UP IN 1978 TO PROVIDE TRAINEES OF THE MUSIC OFFICE WITH ORCHESTRAL TRAINING.

THE ORCHESTRA HOLDS REGULAR CONCERTS IN HONG KONG, AND HAD PERFORMED IN AUSTRALIA, CYPRUS, FRANCE, ISRAEL, MACAU, THE UNITED KINGDOM AND CHINA IN THE LAST FEW YEARS.

APPLICANTS SHOULD BE UNDER 25 YEARS OF AGE AND HAVE ATTAINED GRADE SIX OR ABOVE IN THE ROYAL SCHOOLS OF MUSIC EXAMINATION, OR EQUIVALENT, IN AT LEAST ONE ORCHESTRAL MUSICAL INSTRUMENT.

THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION IS SEPTEMBER 10. QUALIFIED APPLICANTS WILL BE INVITED TO ATTEND AN AUDITION LATER.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT ALL MUSIC CENTRES OF THE MUSIC OFFICE. FURTHER INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED ON TEL. 7226240.

COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE YAU MA TEI MUSIC CENTRE, THIRD FLOOR, GOLDEN GATE COMMERCIAL BUILDING, 138 AUSTIN ROAD, MONG KOK, BEFORE SEPTEMBER 10.

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WAN CHAI DB DISCUSS MARK SIX PLAN

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THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS A PROPOSAL TO SELL MARK SIX LOTTERY TICKETS IN SUPERMARKETS AND CONVENIENCE STORES AT A MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

MEMBERS WILL CONSIDER RECENT REPORTS CONCERNING THE WITHDRAWAL OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS FROM DB MEETINGS AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS TO ENHANCE HONG KONG'S STATUS AS AN INTERNATIONAL CITY.

PROGRESS REPORTS FROM THE VARIOUS DB COMMITTEES AND THE DISTRICT'S AREA COMMITTEES, AS WELL AS A FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR DB-FUNDED PROJECTS WILL BE TABLED.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD MEETING WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, 21ST FLOOR, SOUTHERN CENTRE, 130 HENNESSY ROAD, HONG KONG.

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DB TO STUDY NEW POWER STATION

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THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD WILL LOOK INTO THE CHINA LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY'S PROPOSAL TO BUILD A THERMO POWER STATION IN THE DISTRICT AT TOMORROW'S (TUESDAY) MEETING.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO STUDY THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SITE FOR SPECIAL INDUSTRIES AND THE TOWN PLANNING (AMENDMENT) BILL.

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS WILL INCLUDE THE ALLOCATION PROCEDURE OF DB FUNDS, MEMBERSHIP OF THREE DB COMMITTEES AND THE CLOSURE OF SAN YICK OPEN CENTRE FOR VIETNAMESE REFUGEES.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM, 3RD FLOOR, TUEN MUN GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 1 TUEN HI ROAD, TUEN MUN.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 9.30 AM.

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