



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1990

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HK ECONOMY PREPARES FOR NEXT UPSWING

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HONG KONG IS BUILDING WITH DETERMINATION AND SPEED FOR THE NEW OPPORTUNITIES THAT LIE AHEAD, THE HONG KONG MINISTER IN WASHINGTON, MR PETER LO, SAID ON FRIDAY (U.S. TIME).

ADDRESSING A LUNCHEON MEETING OF BUSINESS EXECUTIVES AND ACADEMICS AT THE CITY CLUB OF PORTLAND DURING A TWO-DAY VISIT TO THE STATE OF OREGON, MR LO CONCEDED THAT HONG KONG HAD TAKEN SOME HARD KNOCKS DURING THE PAST YEAR BUT POINTED OUT THAT THESE WERE NOT THE FIRST IN HONG KONG'S HISTORY, NOR WOULD THEY BE THE LAST.

"DESPITE THE TRAUMA OF JUNE, WE HAVE AGAIN BOUNCED BACK. WE HAVE OVERCOME WORSE IN THE PAST AND EMERGED STRONGER FOR IT. WE ARE BUSY STRENGTHENING OUR SOCIAL, LEGAL AND POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS.

"WE ARE TRYING TO BUILD A LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP WITH CHINA THAT IS GENUINELY BENEFICIAL TO BOTH SIDES," MR LO SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT HONG KONG'S IMPORTANT ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH CHINA, INCLUDING TRADE ACROSS THE BORDER WITH GUANGDONG PROVINCE, HAD CONTINUED ALMOST UNAFFECTED.

"THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT HAS REPEATED ITS INTENTION TO CONTINUE WITH ITS OPEN ECONOMIC POLICIES. FOR HONG KONG, WHICH GENERATES ROUGHLY ONE THIRD OF CHINA'S FOREIGN EXCHANGE, THIS IS VITALLY IMPORTANT," MR LO SAID.

HE TOLD HIS AUDIENCE THAT THE REBIRTH IN RECENT YEARS OF HONG KONG'S HISTORIC MIDDLEMAN ROLE IN TRADE BETWEEN CHINA AND THE REST OF THE WORLD HAD PUT A STRAIN ON HONG KONG'S ECONOMY, ESPECIALLY IN THE YEARS 1986-88 WHEN THE ECONOMY INCREASED IN SIZE BY A THIRD IN REAL TERMS.

"THE SERVICE SECTOR HAS EXPANDED TO SERVE THE HUGE GROWTH IN THE RE-EXPORT TRADE AT A TIME WHEN OUR MANUFACTURING SECTOR IS FLOURISHING AND THE FINANCIAL SECTOR IS GROWING FAST.

"THE RESULT HAS BEEN A RAPID RISE IN WAGES, INFLATION TOUCHING DOUBLE DIGITS AND UNEMPLOYMENT DOWN TO 1.4 PER CENT," MR LO SAID.

"IN THIS RESPECT, HONG KONG'S CURRENT, MORE MODERATE RATES OF GROWTH - THREE PER CENT IN 1989 AND THREE PER CENT FORECAST FOR 1990 - GIVE THE ECONOMY PAUSE FOR BREATH.

"AT THE SAME TIME, WHILE IT IS TRUE THAT THE EXPECTED CYCLICAL DOWNSWING LAST YEAR WAS EXACERBATED BY RETRENCHMENT IN CHINA, THE UNDERLYING ECONOMIC FUNDAMENTALS REMAIN VERY STRONG.

"THE CURRENT SLOWDOWN IN ACTIVITY WILL BRING RELIEF TO CAPACITY CONSTRAINTS AND INFLATIONARY PRESSURES, THEREBY PREPARING THE HONG KONG ECONOMY FOR THE UPSWING OF THE NEXT BUSINESS CYCLE," MR LO FORECAST.

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POLICE SHOULD TREAT 'CLIENTS' WITH CARE, UNDERSTANDING, FOREBEARANCE  
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POLICE SPEND A LARGE PROPORTION OF THEIR TIME AND EFFORT DEALING WITH PEOPLE, BE THEY CRIMINALS, SUSPECTS, VICTIMS OR JUST GENERAL MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

IT IS IMPORTANT, THEREFORE, THAT THEY ARE HANDLED AS "CLIENTS" - WITH CARE, UNDERSTANDING AND FOREBEARANCE.

THIS WAS THE MESSAGE THAT THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, MR LI KWAN-HA, HAD FOR INSPECTORS AND CONSTABLES WHO WERE PASSING OUT AT THE POLICE TRAINING SCHOOL IN WONG CHUK HANG TODAY (SATURDAY).

MR LI POINTED OUT TO THE GRADUATES THAT PEOPLE DID NOT APPROACH THE POLICE WHEN THE GOING WAS SMOOTH, BUT ONLY WHEN THEY HAD A PROBLEM, A GRIEVANCE OR WERE FACING ADVERSITY.

EVEN A CRIMINAL WAS IMPORTANT TO AND LOVED BY SOMEONE, HE SAID.

LIKEWISE, IF WE WANTED OURSELVES AND OUR LOVED ONES TO BE TREATED FAIRLY, WE SHOULD TREAT EACH AND EVERYONE IN THE COMMUNITY SIMILARLY.

"IF WE SUCCEED IN THIS APPROACH, NOT ONLY WILL WE BE GOOD POLICE OFFICERS, BUT WE WILL ALSO BE MUCH HAPPIER HUMAN BEINGS," MR LI SAID.

THE COMMISSIONER REMINDED THE OFFICERS THAT HAVING GRADUATED THEY WOULD CARRY OUT THE FULL DUTIES AS POLICE OFFICERS AND THAT THE COMMUNITY WOULD LOOK UPON THEM FOR HELP.

THEY WOULD BE PRESENTED WITH PROBLEMS FOR SOLUTION AND INITIALLY THEY MIGHT FEEL THAT THE NATURE AND VOLUME OF WORK WAS UNMANAGEABLE AND THEY WOULD OFTEN FEEL FRUSTRATED.

"IF YOU BEAR IN MIND AT ALL TIMES THAT THE PRIMARY FUNCTION OF POLICE OFFICER IS TO SERVE, YOU WILL SUCCEED," HE ADDED.

MR LI ALSO SAID THAT IN ORDER TO PROGRESS FURTHER IN THEIR CAREERS THE LEARNING PROCESS MUST BE KEPT ALIVE AND EXPANDED. THERE WAS ALSO A NEED TO GAIN PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE IN ADDITION TO KNOWLEDGE.

"DO NOT BE AFRAID TO ASK QUESTIONS WHEN YOU ARE NOT SURE; DO NOT BE AFRAID TO MAKE MISTAKES PROVIDED THAT YOU DO NOT MAKE THE SAME ONE TWICE," HE CONCLUDED.

ON PARADE TODAY WERE 29 INSPECTORS AND 244 POLICE CONSTABLES WHO HAVE JUST COMPLETED THEIR BASIC TRAINING.

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COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB MEMBERS PRAISED

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MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB (CYC) WERE TODAY (SATURDAY) PRAISED BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, DR WANG GUNGWU, FOR THEIR HIGH SENSE OF SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT DEMONSTRATED THROUGH THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE COUNTRY PARKS ADOPTION SCHEME.

DR WANG WAS ADDRESSING OVER 200 CYC MEMBERS AT THE LAUNCHING CEREMONY OF THE 1990 CYC COUNTRY PARKS ADOPTION SCHEME AT PAK TAM AU IN THE SAI KUNG EAST COUNTRY PARK.

"THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN THE SCHEME AND ITS ACTIVITIES, YOU HAVE LEARNT MORE ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT AND ARE MORE AWARE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF COUNTRYSIDE CONSERVATION. YOU HAVE SET A GOOD EXAMPLE FOR OTHERS TO FOLLOW," DR WANG TOLD THE CYC MEMBERS.

THE SCHEME, JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT (AFD) AND THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT (ED), WAS INTRODUCED LAST YEAR.

ITS AIM IS TO PROMOTE AWARENESS OF COUNTRYSIDE CONSERVATION AMONG STUDENTS AND TO PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY THROUGH VOLUNTARY WORK IN COUNTRY PARKS.

UNDER THE SCHEME, THE FIVE CYC REGIONS WILL EACH ADOPT A COUNTRY PARK AND ORGANISE STUDENTS FROM THE PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS INTO SERVICE GROUPS OF 20 TO 40 MEMBERS TO GET PHYSICALLY INVOLVED IN THE CARE OF THE ADOPTED PARK.

THE CYC REGIONS OF HONG KONG ISLAND, KOWLOON EAST, KOWLOON WEST, NEW TERRITORIES EAST AND NEW TERRITORIES WEST WILL BE ADOPTING COUNTRY PARKS IN ABERDEEN, SAI KUNG WEST, SHING MUN, PAT SIN LENG AND TAI TAM RESPECTIVELY.

STUDENTS WILL TAKE PART IN VOLUNTARY SERVICES SUCH AS LITTER COLLECTION, GRASS CUTTING, TREE TENDING, FACILITIES MAINTENANCE AND TREE PLANTING.

THEY WILL ALSO PATROL THE POPULAR RECREATION SITES ON HOLIDAYS, URGING THE PUBLIC TO KEEP THE COUNTRY PARKS CLEAN AND TO PREVENT HILL FIRE.

TEN SENIOR STUDENTS FROM EACH PARTICIPATING SCHOOL WILL BE APPOINTED AS JUNIOR PARK WARDENS AFTER UNDERGOING BASIC TRAINING ON PRACTICAL COUNTRYSIDE CONSERVATION AND WILL LEAD FELLOW STUDENTS IN VOLUNTARY COUNTRY PARK WORK.

DR WANG SAID THE CYC MEMBERS' EFFORTS IN LOOKING AFTER FIVE COUNTRY PARKS THROUGH THE SCHEME LAST YEAR HAD MADE THEM BETTER AREAS FOR VISITORS TO USE AND ENJOY.

/WHILE URGING .....

WHILE URGING CYC MEMBERS TO SPREAD THE MESSAGE OF COUNTRYSIDE CONSERVATION TO THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS, DR WANG BELIEVED OTHER PARK USERS WOULD BE ENCOURAGED BY THE GOOD EXAMPLE SET BY THE YOUNGSTERS AND PLAY THEIR PART IN KEEPING OUR COUNTRY PARKS CLEANER AND GREENER FOR THE COMMUNITY.

"COUNTRY PARKS PROVIDE NOT ONLY A MAJOR SOURCE FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION FOR THE WHOLE COMMUNITY BUT ALSO AN EXCELLENT VENUE FOR OUR STUDENTS TO STUDY AND UNDERSTAND NATURE.

"ALTHOUGH THE GOVERNMENT HAS PROVIDED CONSIDERABLE RESOURCES TO MAINTAIN THE QUALITY OF COUNTRY PARKS, THE SITUATION COULD BE IMPROVED FURTHER IF THE USERS WOULD CO-OPERATE AND JOIN IN CONSERVING THE ENVIRONMENT," DR WANG STRESSED.

EARLIER, IN HIS WELCOMING SPEECH, THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE, EXPLAINED THAT THE DECISION TO KEEP THE CYC COUNTRY PARKS ADOPTION SCHEME AS AN ANNUAL EVENT WAS MADE BECAUSE THE TRIAL LAST YEAR HAD BEEN EXTREMELY SUCCESSFUL.

"DURING THE YEAR, OVER 1,000 PARTICIPANTS FROM 11 SCHOOLS IN FIVE CYC REGIONS HAD DONE A LOT OF WORK IN THE FIVE ADOPTED COUNTRY PARKS.

"AMONG OTHERS, 900 TREES WERE PLANTED, 900 TREES WERE TENDED, OVER 1.2 TONNES OF LITTER WERE COLLECTED AND GRASS CUTTING ALONG SEVEN KILOMETRES OF FOOTPATH WAS CARRIED OUT," HE NOTED.

THIS YEAR, 10 SCHOOLS ARE PARTICIPATING IN THE SCHEME.

ALSO OFFICIATING AT THE LAUNCHING CEREMONY TODAY WERE THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR Y.T. LI, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNTRY PARKS BOARD, MR CARLOS CHEUNG.

"THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT REQUIRES AND DESERVES ACTIVE PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT BY EVERY MEMBER OF THE COMMUNITY," MR LI STRESSED.

NOTING THAT THE AFD AND THE ED HAD WORKED IN CLOSE CO-OPERATION FOR MANY YEARS IN PROJECTS DESIGNED TO PROMOTE AND ENRICH ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAMMES IN SCHOOLS, MR LI BELIEVED THAT IN ORDER TO MAKE THE SCHEME A SUCCESS, ACTIVE PARTICIPATION BY STUDENTS THEMSELVES SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED WHENEVER POSSIBLE.

MR LI THANKED THE 19 CYC DISTRICT COMMITTEES AS WELL AS SCHOOL PRINCIPALS AND TEACHERS INVOLVED FOR SUPPORTING THE CYC COUNTRY PARKS ADOPTION SCHEME WITH GREAT ENTHUSIASM.

TAI FU TAI RESTORATION RECOGNISED BY HKIA

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THE TAI FU TAI RESTORATION PROJECT, WHICH WON THE 1989 PRESIDENT'S PRIZE OF THE HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS (HKIA) ANNUAL AWARDS, HAS ATTRACTED ABOUT 40,000 VISITORS SINCE ITS OPENING IN NOVEMBER 1988, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ANTIQUITIES ADVISORY BOARD, MR EDWARD HO, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE HKIA AWARD AT TAI FU TAI, MR HO SAID THE HISTORICAL BUILDING WAS AN ATTRACTION NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF ITS ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE, BUT ALSO BECAUSE IT WAS A LIVING PART OF THE HISTORY OF YUEN LONG, IN PARTICULAR OF THE SAN TIN AREA.

THE RESTORATION OF TAI FU TAI WAS AWARDED THE HKIA'S 1989 PRESIDENT'S PRIZE FOR ITS EXCELLENCE OF DESIGN IN ARCHITECTURE. THE AWARD IS ALSO AIMED AT GIVING RECOGNITION TO OUTSTANDING BUILDINGS WITH SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO ARCHITECTURE.

MR HO THANKED THE PUBLIC-SPIRITED MANAGERS OF THE MAN WAH CHEUNG TONG, WHO TOOK CARE OF THEIR ANCESTRAL PROPERTIES, FOR THEIR SUPPORT IN THE RESTORATION PROJECT.

"IT IS ONLY WITH THEIR SUPPORT THAT WE ARE ABLE TO ADMIRE THIS PIECE OF UNIQUELY ELEGANT TRADITIONAL ARCHITECTURE," HE ADDED.

MR HO POINTED OUT THAT PROTECTING AND PRESERVING ANCIENT MONUMENTS, ESPECIALLY THOSE ON PRIVATE LAND, WAS NO EASY TASK.

"BESIDES HAVING TO OBTAIN THE CONSENT OF OWNERS, THE COSTS OF RESTORATION ARE ALSO CONSIDERABLE.

"ALTHOUGH THE GOVERNMENT HAS SET ASIDE FUNDS FOR THIS PURPOSE, IT IS ALWAYS NECESSARY TO RESORT TO PRIVATE AND PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS FOR FINANCIAL SUBSIDY," HE SAID.

MR HO PAID TRIBUTE TO THE UNTIRING SUPPORT FROM THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB WHICH, IN THIS CASE, HAS DONATED \$2.5 MILLION TO RENDER THE TAI FU TAI RESTORATION PROJECT POSSIBLE.

AT THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY, THE SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR AUGUSTINE CHUI, PRESENTED THE PRESIDENT'S PRIZE TO REPRESENTATIVES OF BOTH THE OWNER OF THE HOUSE, MAN WAH CHEUNG TONG, AND THE JOCKEY CLUB.

ALSO ATTENDING TODAY'S CEREMONY WERE MEMBERS OF THE ANTIQUITIES ADVISORY BOARD AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, THE ANTIQUITIES AND MONUMENTS OFFICE OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE BRANCH, AND THE JOCKEY CLUB.

PRIOR TO THE CEREMONY, MEMBERS OF THE ANTIQUITIES ADVISORY BOARD TOURED KUN TING STUDY HALL, ANOTHER DECLARED MONUMENT IN YUEN LONG WHERE RESTORATION WORK IS BEING CARRIED OUT WITH A DONATION OF \$2 MILLION FROM THE JOCKEY CLUB.

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TAI PO LUNAR NEW YEAR PROGRAMME FINALE

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THE TAI PO DISTRICT LUNAR NEW YEAR PROGRAMME CONCLUDED WITH A VARIETY SHOW AT THE TAI PO CENTRAL TOWN SQUARE THIS (SATURDAY) EVENING.

OFFICIATING AT A CLOSING CEREMONY, THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR ADOLF HSU, THANKED MEMBERS OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO THE CELEBRATIONS.

"THEIR ACTIVE PARTICIPATION NOT ONLY ENRICHED THE FESTIVE ATMOSPHERE IN THE DISTRICT BUT ALSO ENHANCED THE SOLIDARITY AMONG LOCAL RESIDENTS," HE SAID.

"LOCAL RESIDENTS CAN BETTER UNDERSTAND THEIR COMMUNITY THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN SUCH PROGRAMMES," HE NOTED.

AFTER THE CEREMONY, WINNERS OF THE LUNAR NEW YEAR SCROLL WRITING AND CALLIGRAPHY COMPETITIONS WERE PRESENTED PRIZES BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD, MR HO YUNG-SANG, AND THE ACTING DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS MARY CHOW.

THE VARIETY SHOW INCLUDED PERFORMANCES BY POP SINGERS, A PUPPET SHOW AND A LION DANCE.

A LANTERN PUZZLE AND DECORATIVE LANTERNS WERE ALSO PUT UP AT THE SQUARE TO CELEBRATE TODAY'S CHINESE VALENTINE'S DAY - THE 15TH DAY OF THE FIRST MONTH IN THE CHINESE CALENDAR.

ABOUT 21 RECREATIONAL, SPORTS AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES WERE HELD DURING THE 20-DAY LUNAR NEW YEAR PROGRAMME WHICH STARTED ON JANUARY 22.

THE PROGRAMME WAS ORGANISED BY THE TAI PO DISTRICT LUNAR NEW YEAR ORGANISING COMMITTEE, AND SPONSORED BY THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD AND THE REGIONAL COUNCIL.

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CIVIC EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTRE OPENS IN SSP

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THE CIVIC EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTRE LOCATED AT THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE AT 37-39 TONKIN STREET WAS OPENED TODAY (SATURDAY).

SPEAKING AT AN OPENING CEREMONY, A MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE ON THE PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION, MR CHAN WING-TAI, SAID THE COMMITTEE ENCOURAGED THE SETTING UP OF SUCH CENTRES IN DISTRICTS TO CATER FOR THE NEEDS OF RESIDENTS.

HE ADDED THAT THE CENTRE IN SHAM SHUI PO WOULD CERTAINLY HELP TO PROMOTE CIVIC EDUCATION IN THE DISTRICT.

/THE CENTRE .....

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THE CENTRE HAS BEEN SET UP BY THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT COMMITTEE ON THE PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION, WITH SPONSORSHIP FROM THE DISTRICT BOARD, AND WILL BE RUN BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE.

IT IS COMPLETE WITH VARIOUS REFERENCE MATERIALS, INCLUDING AUDIO AND VISUAL AIDS ON CIVIC EDUCATION, A VARIETY OF INFORMATION PAMPHLETS, AND ANNUAL REPORTS OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS. IT ALSO KEEPS SOME OFFICIAL INFORMATION OR PAPERS FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION.

THE MATERIALS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC DURING THE CENTRE'S OPENING HOURS FROM 9.30 AM TO 12.30 PM AND FROM 2.30 PM TO 5 PM DAILY FROM MONDAY TO FRIDAY. ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL. 7295334.

ALSO OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY WERE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ALAN FUNG, AND CHAIRMAN OF THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT COMMITTEE ON THE PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION, MR WU MAN-YUNG.

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SOUTHERN DB TO REPORT ON YEAR'S WORK

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THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD WILL GIVE A REPORT ON ITS SECOND YEAR IN OFFICE AT A SEMINAR FOR THE SEVEN AREA COMMITTEES IN THE DISTRICT ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 12).

A BOARD SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (SATURDAY) THE SEMINAR HAD BEEN JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD AND THE DISTRICT OFFICE TO STRENGTHEN THE BOARD'S TIES AND COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE AREA COMMITTEES.

IT WILL BEGIN AT 7.30 PM AT THE JUMBO FLOATING RESTAURANT IN ABERDEEN TYPHOON SHELTER, AND ALL AREA COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN THE DISTRICT ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

AT THE SEMINAR, THE CHAIRMEN OF THE DISTRICT BOARD AND ITS FIVE COMMITTEES WILL REPORT ON THEIR WORK AND ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE PAST YEAR AS WELL AS THEIR PLANS FOR THE FUTURE.

THEY ARE MR HUI YUNG-CHUNG OF THE DISTRICT BOARD; MR KO TAM-KAN OF THE COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE; MR KO KAM-CHEUNG OF THE WORKS PROJECTS COMMITTEE; MR MAN HON-MING OF THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE; MR TSE KIT-TO OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE; AND MR WONG KING-CHEUNG OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE.

THE TALKS WILL BE SUPPLEMENTED BY A 10-MINUTE SLIDE SHOW ON THE WORK OF THE BOARD AND ITS COMMITTEES.

/THE SPOKESMAN .....

THE SPOKESMAN SAID: "ABOUT 100 AREA COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES ARE EXPECTED AT THE SEMINAR. THEY WILL DIVIDE THEMSELVES INTO DIFFERENT GROUPS TO HOLD DISCUSSIONS WITH BOARD MEMBERS ON VARIOUS ASPECTS OF DISTRICT AFFAIRS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE BOARD."

THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MRS MAUREEN CHAN, AND OFFICIALS FROM VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS WILL ALSO ATTEND THE SEMINAR AND JOIN IN THE GROUP DISCUSSIONS.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE BOARD WILL STUDY CAREFULLY ALL THE ISSUES TO BE RAISED AT THE SEMINAR AND TAKE APPROPRIATE FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS WHERE NECESSARY.

THE SEMINAR FOLLOWS A SERIES OF SEVEN DISTRICT AFFAIRS SEMINARS HELD IN PREVIOUS MONTHS BY AREA COMMITTEES FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS ORGANISATIONS, INCLUDING MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, OWNERS CORPORATIONS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATIONS.

"THE BOARD'S SEMINAR ON MONDAY WILL THUS ALSO SERVE AS A FORUM TO CONSOLIDATE THE VIEWS, NEEDS, CONCERN AND ASPIRATIONS AS EXPRESSED BY LOCAL RESIDENTS AT THESE SEVEN DISTRICT AFFAIRS SEMINARS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE "SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD-MEETS-AREA COMMITTEES" SEMINAR TO BE HELD ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 12) AT THE JUMBO FLOATING RESTAURANT IN ABERDEEN TYPHOON SHELTER. THE SEMINAR WILL BEGIN AT 7.30 PM.

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115 GROUPS TO TAKE PART IN DANCE CONTEST

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A TOTAL OF 115 DANCING GROUPS WILL TAKE PART IN THE 19TH OPEN DANCE CONTEST TO BE HELD FROM FEBRUARY 19 TO 22 IN THE NGAU CHI WAN CIVIC CENTRE.

THE ANNUAL EVENT IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE, THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT CULTURE AND RECREATION PROMOTION ASSOCIATION AND THE URBAN COUNCIL, AND SPONSORED BY THE KWUN TONG ROTARY CLUB.

THE CONTEST IS DIVIDED INTO CHILDREN, YOUTH AND OPEN SECTIONS. THE CONTESTANTS WILL HAVE TO PERFORM VARIOUS TYPES OF DANCES, INCLUDING WESTERN AND ORIENTAL, CLASSICAL AND MODERN.

THE WINNERS WILL BE INVITED TO PERFORM WHEN A PRIZE-PRESENTATION CEREMONY IS HELD IN THE CITY HALL CONCERT HALL ON APRIL 1.

THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE CONTEST WILL BEGIN AT 7.45 PM ON FEBRUARY 19, AND WILL BE FOLLOWED BY CHINESE DANCE COMPETITIONS IN THE OPEN SECTION.

OFFICIATING GUESTS WILL INCLUDE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR CHRIS WAN; LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, MR POON CHI-FAI; CHAIRMAN OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD, MR LAM HANG-FAI; AND URBAN COUNCILLOR, MR PANG KAM-FAI.

FREE ADMISSION TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS SUB-OFFICES. TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 3416315.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE 19TH OPEN DANCE CONTEST OPENING CEREMONY WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 7.45 PM ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, AT THE NGAU CHI WAN CIVIC CENTRE, 11 CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD.

OUTSTANDING YOUTH VOLUNTEERS COMMENDED

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TWENTY-SIX OUTSTANDING YOUTH VOLUNTEERS WERE COMMENDED FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMMUNITY SERVICE AT AN AWARD PRESENTATION CEREMONY HELD BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT TODAY (SATURDAY).

THE VOLUNTEERS HAVE ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED IN VOLUNTEER SERVICE AT VARIOUS SERVICE UNITS OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, SUCH AS GROUP WORK UNITS AND YOUTH OFFICES. THE YEARS OF SERVICE RANGE FROM ONE TO SIX YEARS.

THE SERVICES THEY HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN ARE WIDE RANGING, INCLUDING PROMOTION OF COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND SERVICES FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED, MENTAL PATIENTS, ELDERLY, CHILDREN AND STREET SLEEPERS.

ALL OF THEM WERE NOMINATED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO COMPETE FOR THE "OUTSTANDING YOUTH VOLUNTEERS AWARD - YOUTH 90'" ORGANISED JOINTLY BY RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG, SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE, AGENCY FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE AND THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST WARCOTICS.

TWO OF THE NOMINEES, MISS LEUNG KIM AND MR LAI KIN-KWOK, WERE GIVEN THE AWARD.

SPEAKING AT THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY TODAY, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE (YOUTH AND REHABILITATION), MR KWOK KA-CHI, SAID VOLUNTEER WORK NOT ONLY HELPED ENRICH A PERSON'S EXPERIENCES AND WIDEN PERSPECTIVE, BUT ALSO OFFERED REAL HELP TO THE NEEDY.

/MR KWOK .....

MR KWOK CALLED ON PEOPLE TO TAKE PART IN VOLUNTEER WORK, ADDING THAT ANY PERSONS WHO WERE WILLING TO HELP OTHERS COULD BECOME VOLUNTEERS REGARDLESS OF THEIR AGE, SEX, ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS, OCCUPATION AND SKILLS.

"I HOPE THE MASS MEDIA WILL ALSO TAKE AN ACTIVE PART IN APPRECIATING THE EFFORTS MADE BY YOUTH VOLUNTEERS, THUS ENCOURAGING MORE YOUNG PEOPLE TO DEVOTE THEMSELVES TO COMMUNITY SERVICE," HE ADDED.

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FAMILY FUN DAY FOR EAST KOWLOON PA RECIPIENTS  
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ABOUT 300 PUBLIC ASSISTANCE RECIPIENTS SHARED THE JOY OF A FAMILY FUN DAY HELD BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT THIS (SATURDAY) AFTERNOON AT THE WONG TAI SIN COMMUNITY CENTRE.

ALL OF THE PARTICIPANTS COME FROM SINGLE-PARENT FAMILIES LIVING IN THE EAST KOWLOON REGION.

FOLLOWING A LUNCH BUFFET, PARTICIPANTS WERE TREATED TO SINGING AND DANCING PERFORMANCES BY THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT CHILDREN'S CHOIR, TRAINEES OF LUNG ON DAY ACTIVITY CENTRE, AND THE TAI TAM GAP CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION MARCHING BAND.

THERE WERE ALSO GAMES, A FILM SHOW AND AN EXHIBITION ON FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION.

THE DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (FAMILY WELFARE), MR ALFRED CHUI, AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (SOCIAL SECURITY), MR CARLOS LEUNG, ATTENDED THE FUNCTION AND DISTRIBUTED TOYS DONATED BY SWD STAFF AT VARIOUS SERVICE UNITS IN THE EAST KOWLOON REGION.

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LABOUR DEPT COURSES TO PROMOTE STAFF RELATIONS  
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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT WILL RUN A SERIES OF CERTIFICATE COURSES THIS YEAR AS PART OF ITS ONGOING PROGRAMME TO PROMOTE HARMONIOUS STAFF-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS.

THE SERIES INCLUDES 12 COURSES ON LABOUR RELATIONS AND FIVE ON STAFF RELATIONS MANAGEMENT, ALL TO BE HELD BETWEEN MARCH AND AUGUST.

THE LABOUR RELATIONS COURSES, EACH COMPRISING SIX HALF-DAY SESSIONS, ARE DESIGNED TO PROVIDE EMPLOYERS, MANAGERS, TRADE UNION OFFICIALS AND INDIVIDUAL EMPLOYEES WITH A COMPREHENSIVE KNOWLEDGE OF LABOUR LEGISLATION AND WAYS TO IMPROVE MANAGEMENT SKILLS AND TOOLS.

/THE COURSES .....

THE COURSES COVER VARIOUS LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS, INCLUDING THE EMPLOYMENT, EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION AND CONTRACTS FOR EMPLOYMENT OUTSIDE HONG KONG ORDINANCES, THE WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS (INDUSTRY) REGULATIONS AND THE EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN REGULATIONS.

OTHER SUBJECTS INCLUDE LABOUR RELATIONS IN HONG KONG, EMPLOYER-EMPLOYEE COMMUNICATION, GRIEVANCE AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES, DISPUTE RESOLUTION AND PREVENTION, AND PREPARATION OF EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS AND EMPLOYEE HANDBOOKS.

EACH STAFF RELATIONS MANAGEMENT COURSE WILL LAST THREE DAYS, AIMED MAINLY AT COMPANY SUPERVISORS, MANAGERS, PERSONNEL OFFICERS, OFFICIALS OF TRADE UNIONS AND EMPLOYERS ASSOCIATIONS AS WELL AS EMPLOYERS IN SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES.

THE COURSES ARE DESIGNED TO ENHANCE PARTICIPANTS' MANAGEMENT AND HUMAN RELATIONS KNOWLEDGE AS RELATED TO THE ROLE OF A LINE SUPERVISOR.

EMPHASIS WILL BE LAID ON INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION, LEADERSHIP, MOTIVATION AND MORALE, DISCIPLINE AND CONFLICT MANAGEMENT, GRIEVANCE AND COMPLAINT HANDLING AND RELATED CASE STUDIES.

ALL COURSES WILL BE CONDUCTED IN CANTONESE, LEADING TO AN AWARD OF A CERTIFICATE ON COMPLETION OF THE COURSE.

APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS, WITH PRIORITY GIVEN TO APPLICANTS FOR THE LABOUR RELATIONS COURSES WHO ARE SPONSORED BY THEIR EMPLOYERS OR TRADE UNIONS.

FEEES FOR THE LABOUR RELATIONS COURSES AND STAFF RELATIONS MANAGEMENT COURSES ARE \$350 AND \$450 RESPECTIVELY.

DETAILS OF THE COURSES AND ENROLMENT LEAFLETS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE LABOUR RELATIONS PROMOTION UNIT OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT ON THE 12TH FLOOR OF HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, AND FROM ALL LABOUR RELATIONS BRANCH OFFICES.

TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 8523511.

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#### TAXI OPERATORS URGED TO CO-OPERATE IN SURVEY

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT HAS URGED URBAN TAXI OPERATORS AND TRADE ASSOCIATIONS TO CO-OPERATE IN A SURVEY ON THE OPERATING CHARACTERISTICS AND FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE URBAN TAXI TRADE.

"IT IS IMPORTANT FOR TAXI OPERATORS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SURVEY AS IT WILL HELP THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ASSESS CORRECTLY THE OPERATING CONDITIONS OF THE TRADE," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

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THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT INFORMATION COLLECTED WILL BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL AND ONLY BE USED FOR STATISTICAL ANALYSIS.

HE EXPLAINED THAT THE SURVEY IS AN ANNUAL EXERCISE AND CONSISTS OF TWO PARTS: QUESTIONNAIRE AND METER READING. URBAN TAXIS HAVE BEEN RANDOMLY SELECTED FOR THE EXERCISE.

OWNERS OF THE SELECTED TAXIS ARE REQUESTED TO COMPLETE A SHORT QUESTIONNAIRE ON THEIR OPERATIONS WHICH INCLUDE ITEMS SUCH AS OPERATING FORMAT, INCOME AND FUEL AND MAINTENANCE COSTS. THEY ARE REQUESTED TO RETURN THE COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE TO THE DEPARTMENT BY FEBRUARY 23.

TAXI OPERATORS ARE ALSO ASKED TO PRESENT THEIR TAXIS TWICE FOR METER READING FROM FEBRUARY 12 TO FEBRUARY 16 AND FROM FEBRUARY 19 TO FEBRUARY 23, BETWEEN 9.30 AM AND 12.30 PM OR BETWEEN 2 PM AND 4.30 PM, AT ANY OF THE 10 METER READING CENTRES THROUGHOUT THE URBAN AREAS.

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#### TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN TSIM SHA TSUI

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 12), TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN TSIM SHA TSUI BECAUSE OF EXCAVATION WORKS IN MIDDLE ROAD.

THE TEMPORARY ARRANGEMENTS WILL LAST FOR ABOUT THREE WEEKS.

MIDDLE ROAD FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH SALISBURY ROAD TO A POINT ABOUT 40 METRES TO THE NORTH WILL BE RE-ROUTED TO ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND.

MIDDLE ROAD FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH NATHAN ROAD TO A POINT ABOUT 60 METRES TO THE EAST WILL BE RE-ROUTED TO ONE-WAY WESTBOUND.

AT THE SAME TIME, VEHICLES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO TURN LEFT FROM SOUTHBOUND NATHAN ROAD ONTO MIDDLE ROAD.

MOTORISTS ON SOUTHBOUND NATHAN ROAD HEADING FOR THE MIDDLE ROAD MULTI-STOREY CARPARK WILL BE DIVERTED VIA EASTBOUND SALISBURY ROAD AND NORTHBOUND MIDDLE ROAD.

VEHICLES LEAVING THE CARPARK ARE ADVISED TO USE WESTBOUND MIDDLE ROAD AND SOUTHBOUND NATHAN ROAD.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN WAN CHAI

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 12) TO WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 14) AND FROM FEBRUARY 24 TO 28, THE EXISTING LEFT-TURNING FROM SHIP STREET INTO QUEEN'S ROAD EAST IN WAN CHAI WILL BE BANNED FOR ALL VEHICLES TO FACILITATE ROAD REPAIR WORKS.

VEHICLES ON WESTBOUND JOHNSTON ROAD HEADING FOR EASTBOUND QUEEN'S ROAD EAST WILL BE DIVERTED VIA LI CHIT STREET.

ALTERNATIVELY, VEHICLES MAY USE SHIP STREET, WESTBOUND QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, LUN FAT STREET, JOHNSTON ROAD AND LI CHIT STREET TO JOIN QUEEN'S ROAD EAST.

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NO-ENTRY BAN TO BE LIFTED

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 9 AM ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 12), OTHER VEHICLES IN ADDITION TO GREEN MINIBUSES WILL ALSO BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE GREEN MINIBUS TERMINUS AT THE MONG KOK KCR STATION.

THIS MEASURE WILL LAST UNTIL 5 PM ON FEBRUARY 23 FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING A TAXI SURVEY THERE.

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PARTIAL CLOSURE OF TAI PO ROAD

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT TO FACILITATE ROAD MAINTENANCE WORKS, ABOUT 1.2 KILOMETRES OF THE OUTERMOST LANE OF TAI PO ROAD (TAI WO) SOUTHBOUND NEAR HONG LOK YUEN ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 12).

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WATER CUT IN ABERDEEN

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN ABERDEEN WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 11 PM ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 12) TO 6 AM THE NEXT DAY TO FACILITATE LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT ALL PREMISES LOCATED AT YUE KWONG ROAD, YUE HONG STREET, SHEK PAI WAN ESTATE, YUE KWONG CHUEN, YUE FAI COURT AND TAI SHUI HANG VILLAGE.

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