



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, MARCH 7, 1983

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POLLING DAY TOMORROW
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THE BIGGEST EVER URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (TUESDAY) WHEN MORE THAN 568 000 REGISTERED ELECTORS WILL BE ABLE TO VOTE FOR A CANDIDATE OF THEIR CHOICE TO REPRESENT THEIR INDIVIDUAL CONSTITUENCY ON THE COUNCIL.

VOTING WILL LAST 16 HOURS, FROM 7 AM TO 11 PM, AT ALL THE 134 POLLING STATIONS IN THE 12 CONSTITUENCIES WHERE ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD.

THE 12 CONSTITUENCIES ARE CENTRAL AND WESTERN, NORTH POINT, SHAU KEI WAN, SOUTHERN, KOWLOON CITY WEST, KOWLOON CITY EAST, KWUN TONG EAST, MONG KOK, SHAM SHUI PO EAST, SHAM SHUI PO WEST, WONG TAI SIN NORTH AND YAU MA TEI.

AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY, THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR DENIS BRAY, URGED ALL REGISTERED VOTERS IN THE 12 CONSTITUENCIES TO CAST THEIR VOTES AT TOMORROW'S ELECTIONS.

VOTING WILL BE A SIMPLE PROCESS AND SHOULD NOT TAKE MORE THAN A FEW MINUTES.

+ALL THAT AN ELECTOR NEEDS TO DO IS TO GO TO HIS POLLING STATION ANY TIME BETWEEN 7 AM AND 11 PM TOMORROW AND SHOW HIS IDENTITY CARD TO THE POLLING STAFF,+ HE SAID.

+AFTER VERIFICATION OF THE ELECTOR'S IDENTITY, HE WILL BE GIVEN A BALLOT PAPER ON WHICH TO RECORD HIS VOTE.

+THE CORRECT WAY TO VOTE IS TO MARK A CROSS (X) ON THE BALLOT PAPER IN THE SPACE PROVIDED FOR THAT PURPOSE. ALL ELECTORS SHOULD NOTE THAT THEY CANNOT VOTE FOR MORE THAN ONE CANDIDATE.

+IF A MISTAKE IS MADE ON A BALLOT PAPER, THE ELECTOR SHOULD RETURN IT TO THE PRESIDING OFFICER WHO WILL CANCEL IT AND GIVE HIM A FRESH BALLOT PAPER.

+VOTING IS BY SECRET BALLOT. EXCEPT IN THE CASE OF HANDICAPPED ELECTORS WHO WILL BE ASSISTED BY PRESIDING OFFICERS, NO ONE WILL KNOW FOR WHICH CANDIDATE AN ELECTOR HAS GIVEN HIS VOTE.

+THE PRESIDING OFFICER OF A POLLING STATION WILL ASSIST ELECTORS WHO ARE BLIND, ILLITERATE OR PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED. ALL PRESIDING OFFICERS ARE BOUND BY OATH TO MAINTAIN SECRECY OF VOTING.+

MR BRAY SAID ALL THE REGISTERED VOTERS IN THE 12 CONSTITUENCIES SHOULD HAVE RECEIVED A POLL CARD FROM THE REGISTRATION OFFICER TELLING THEM WHERE THEIR POLLING STATIONS ARE.

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IF ANY ELECTOR IN THESE 12 CONSTITUENCIES IS IN ANY DOUBT ABOUT HIS POLLING STATION, HE CAN TELEPHONE THE REGISTRATION OFFICER AT 5-270380 OR 5-270369 QUOTING HIS HONG KONG IDENTITY CARD NUMBER AND HE WILL BE ADVISED.

+THE POLL CARD, WHICH SERVES TO INFORM THE ELECTOR OF THE LOCATION OF HIS POLLING STATION, IS NOT ESSENTIAL ALTHOUGH IT WILL CERTAINLY BE OF HELP TO POLLING STAFF.+

MR BRAY ALSO APPEALED TO CANDIDATES AND THEIR AGENTS TO AVOID EXCESSIVE LOBBYING OF ELECTORS AT THE ENTRANCE OF POLLING STATIONS TO AVOID OBSTRUCTION.

COUNTING OF VOTES WILL BEGIN AT EIGHT COUNTING CENTRES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE CLOSE OF POLL AT 11 PM.

FORTY-ONE CANDIDATES WERE NOMINATED TO CONTEST 15 SEATS -- ONE FOR EACH OF THE 15 CONSTITUENCIES.

HOWEVER, MR BRAY POINTED OUT THERE WOULD BE NO ELECTIONS IN THREE CONSTITUENCIES, NAMELY WAN CHAI, KWUN TONG WEST AND WONG TAI SIN SOUTH.

+THIS IS BECAUSE ONLY ONE CANDIDATE WAS NOMINATED IN EACH OF THESE CONSTITUENCIES AND THE THREE HAVE BEEN DECLARED ELECTED UNOPPOSED,+ HE SAID.

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REFORMS TO COPE WITH CHANGING SOCIETY
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REFORMS OF GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION TO ADAPT TO THE CHANGING WORLD OF HONG KONG WILL HAVE BEEN COMPLETED WITH TOMORROW'S URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS, THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

BY THEN, HE SAID, NOT ONLY WOULD EVERYONE IN HONG KONG BE REPRESENTED BY A DISTRICT BOARD, BUT DISTRICT BOARDS IN THE URBAN AREA WOULD BE LINKED TO THE URBAN COUNCIL. DISTRICT BOARDS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES ON THE OTHER HAND WERE LINKED TO THE HEUNG YEE KUK THROUGH THE CHAIRMEN OF THE RURAL COMMITTEES.

SPEAKING AT THE MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF NEW TERRITORIES THIS EVENING, MR AKERS-JONES SAID THERE HAD BEEN CONSTANT CHANGES IN THE LAST 40 YEARS, CAUSING A DISINTEGRATION OF THE COMMUNITY.

+THE GOVERNMENT HAS NOT BEEN INDIFFERENT TO THE NEED TO ADJUST GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND TO INTRODUCE NEW WAYS OF BRINGING OUR PEOPLE TOGETHER,+ HE SAID.

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IN 1968, HE RECALLED, THE DISTRICT OFFICER SYSTEM OF THE RURAL AREAS WAS INTRODUCED TO THE URBAN DISTRICTS, MAKING THE GOVERNMENT MORE ACCESSIBLE TO THE MAN IN THE STREET AND MOBILISING THE PUBLIC TO CLEAN HONG KONG, FIGHT CRIME, CORRUPTION AND DRUGS.

+AND THIS IN TURN BEGAN TO REBUILD THE COMMUNITY AND TO USE OLD VIRTUES TO DEVELOP MORE COHERENT AND INTEGRATED RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN ITS VARIOUS DISPARATE ELEMENTS,+ HE ADDED.

NOW ALL DISTRICT OFFICERS IN BOTH RURAL AND URBAN AREAS WERE COMBINED IN ONE DEPARTMENT AND WERE ABLE TO DEVELOP A COMMON APPROACH TO THE PROBLEMS THAT AFFECTED THE DAILY LIVES, HE SAID.

+THUS THE COMMUNITY WHICH DISINTEGRATED 40 YEARS AGO HAS NOW BEEN RE-INTEGRATED IN A DIFFERENT FORM.

+A FORM WHICH IS ADAPTED TO HIGH-RISE AND HIGH-DENSITY LIVING; A FORM WHICH RECOGNISES THE NEED FOR MUTUAL ASSISTANCE, UNITED EFFORT AND RESPECT FOR THE CONSENSUS IN FACING AND RESOLVING THE PROBLEMS OF TODAY AND TOMORROW,+ HE SAID.

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PEOPLE URGED TO GO OUT AND VOTE
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UNOFFICIAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, MR WONG LAM, TODAY (MONDAY) APPEALED TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS TO EXERCISE THEIR CIVIC RIGHT AND TO VOTE IN TOMORROW'S URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

IN A TELEVISED APPEAL THROUGH RTHK'S +ACCESS+ PROGRAMME THIS EVENING, MR WONG NOTED THAT ABOUT 568 000 PERSONS, INCLUDING THOSE REGISTERED FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS LAST SEPTEMBER, WERE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE IN THE NEW-STYLE CONSTITUENCY-BASED ELECTIONS.

THE MORE VOTERS THERE WERE, THE MORE REPRESENTATIVE THE ELECTED COUNCILLORS WOULD BE, HE SAID.

+IF YOU ARE SATISFIED WITH THE WORK OF THE URBAN COUNCIL, YOU WILL CERTAINLY SUPPORT THE ELECTIONS.

+AND IF YOU THINK THERE IS ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT IN THE WORK OF THE COUNCIL, YOU MUST VOTE AND CHOOSE THE RIGHT PERSON TO UNDERTAKE THIS IMPORTANT TASK,+ HE SAID.

MR WONG SAID THE COUNCIL'S WORK IS CLOSELY RELATED TO THE DAILY LIFE OF EVERYONE IN HONG KONG. IT PROVIDES A WIDE RANGE OF SERVICES RANGING FROM REFUSE COLLECTION, PROVISION OF RECREATIONAL AND SPORT FACILITIES, TO THE CONTROL OF HAWKERS AND FOOD HYGIENE.

ALL REGISTERED VOTERS CAN GO TO THEIR POLLING STATIONS BETWEEN 7 AM AND 11 PM TOMORROW TO CAST THEIR VOTES. THERE ARE ALTOGETHER 134 POLLING STATIONS.

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JANUARY MONEY SUPPLY AND FINANCIAL STATISTICS
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MONEY SUPPLY ON ALL DEFINITIONS GREW IN JANUARY 1983, ACCORDING TO MONEY SUPPLY AND FINANCIAL STATISTICS FOR THE MONTH PUBLISHED TODAY (MONDAY).

WITH DEMAND DEPOSITS AND THE CURRENCY CIRCULATION BOTH GROWING RAPIDLY, AS IS TYPICAL AHEAD OF THE LUNAR NEW YEAR, THE NARROWEST DEFINITION OF MONEY SUPPLY, M1, GREW FASTER THAN THE BROADER DEFINITIONS, M2 AND M3.

DEPOSITS IN BOTH HONG KONG DOLLARS AND FOREIGN CURRENCIES GREW FASTER IN JANUARY THAN IN DECEMBER LAST YEAR. FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS CONTINUED TO GROW FASTER THAN HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS. DEPOSITS WITH REGISTERED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES DECREASED SUBSTANTIALLY IN JANUARY WHILE THOSE WITH BANKS AND LICENSED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES INCREASED.

TOTAL LOANS AND ADVANCES EXTENDED BY BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES CONTINUED TO GROW IN JANUARY AT A MODERATE RATE. AMONG THE VARIOUS TYPES OF LOANS DISTINGUISHED, THOSE FOR USE IN HONG KONG (OTHER THAN TO FINANCE HONG KONG'S VISIBLE TRADE) RECORDED THE HIGHEST GROWTH.

A STATISTICAL TABLE (ATTACHED) SETS OUT SUMMARY FIGURES FOR JANUARY 1983 AND COMPARISONS WITH EARLIER MONTHS.

HONG KONG DOLLAR MONEY SUPPLY

HK\$ MONEY SUPPLY ON ALL DEFINITIONS ROSE IN JANUARY. FOR THE NARROWER DEFINITIONS, HK\$M1 AND HK\$M2, GROWTH RATES WERE HIGHER THAN THOSE IN DECEMBER. HK\$M1 GREW RAPIDLY, BY 4.8 PER CENT, AND HK\$M2 BY THREE PER CENT, COMPARED WITH CORRESPONDING RATES OF 3.9 PER CENT AND 2.6 PER CENT IN DECEMBER 1982. HK\$M3 INCREASED BY 1.7 PER CENT, THE SAME AS THE INCREASE RECORDED IN DECEMBER.

IN THE THREE MONTHS TO JANUARY, HK\$M1 ROSE BY 8.9 PER CENT, HK\$M2 BY 4.6 PER CENT AND HK\$M3 BY THREE PER CENT. IN THE 12 MONTHS TO JANUARY, THE CORRESPONDING GROWTH RATES WERE 6.1 PER CENT, 25.8 PER CENT AND 2.2 PER CENT.

TOTAL MONEY SUPPLY

TOTAL M1 GREW RAPIDLY, BY 5.3 PER CENT, IN JANUARY AFTER FALLING BY 2.2 PER CENT IN DECEMBER. TOTAL M2 AND TOTAL M3 GREW BY FOUR PER CENT AND 2.9 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY, COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING RATES OF 2.8 PER CENT AND 2.1 PER CENT IN DECEMBER.

IN THE THREE MONTHS TO JANUARY, TOTAL M1 GREW BY 1.5 PER CENT, TOTAL M2 BY 6.2 PER CENT AND TOTAL M3 BY 4.8 PER CENT. IN THE 12 MONTHS TO JANUARY, THE CORRESPONDING GROWTH RATES WERE 5.5 PER CENT, 78.6 PER CENT AND 43.1 PER CENT.

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LOANS AND ADVANCES

LOANS AND ADVANCES EXTENDED BY BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES GREW BY 1.4 PER CENT AFTER A GROWTH OF 1.3 PER CENT IN DECEMBER. OVER THE THREE MONTHS TO JANUARY, THE GROWTH RATE WAS 3.6 PER CENT AND OVER THE 12 MONTHS TO JANUARY 28.2 PER CENT. LOANS TO FINANCE HONG KONG'S VISIBLE TRADE GREW BY A MARGINAL 0.2 PER CENT AFTER A FOUR PER CENT INCREASE IN DECEMBER. OVER THE THREE MONTHS, THE INCREASE WAS 3.7 PER CENT AND OVER THE 12 MONTHS 17.5 PER CENT. OTHER LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG GREW BY 1.8 PER CENT, COMPARED WITH THE ONE PER CENT RISE IN DECEMBER. OVER THE THREE MONTHS THE INCREASE WAS 3.8 PER CENT AND OVER THE 12 MONTHS 29.7 PER CENT.

FOREIGN CURRENCY POSITIONS

THERE WERE INCREASES OF \$5.8 BILLION TO \$571.3 BILLION IN THE SPOT FOREIGN CURRENCY LIABILITIES OF THE MONETARY SECTOR AND \$7.2 BILLION TO \$553.5 BILLION IN THE SPOT FOREIGN CURRENCY ASSETS IN JANUARY. THUS, NET SPOT FOREIGN CURRENCY LIABILITIES OF THE MONETARY SECTOR DECREASED TO \$17.8 BILLION AT THE END OF JANUARY FROM \$19.3 BILLION AT THE END OF DECEMBER. BANKS HAD NET LIABILITIES OF \$10.5 BILLION AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES HAD NET LIABILITIES OF \$7.3 BILLION.

STATISTICS COLLECTED FOR PRUDENTIAL SUPERVISION PURPOSES BY THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING AND OF DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES SHOW THAT AT THE END OF JANUARY, THE MONETARY SECTOR HAD NET SPOT FOREIGN CURRENCY LIABILITIES OF \$18.2 BILLION (THIS FIGURE DIFFERS FROM THAT IN THE PRECEDING PARAGRAPH BECAUSE OF MINOR DIFFERENCES IN DEFINITION). THIS WAS MORE THAN COVERED BY A NET FORWARD FOREIGN CURRENCY ASSET POSITION OF \$37.1 BILLION.

LIQUIDITY RATIOS

THE AVERAGE LIQUIDITY RATIO (AS DEFINED IN S.18 OF THE BANKING ORDINANCE) FOR ALL BANKS IN JANUARY WAS 45.6 PER CENT, SLIGHTLY BELOW THE 47.2 PER CENT IN DECEMBER. THE AVERAGE LIQUIDITY RATIO (AS DEFINED IN S.24A OF THE DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ORDINANCE) FOR ALL DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES DECLINED TO 55.5 PER CENT IN JANUARY FROM 57.3 PER CENT IN DECEMBER.

NUMBER OF REPORTING INSTITUTIONS

THE NUMBER OF REPORTING LICENSED BANKS REMAINED AT 128. THE NUMBER OF REPORTING LICENSED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES INCREASED BY THREE TO 21 WHILE THE NUMBER OF REPORTING REGISTERED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES DECREASED BY SEVEN TO 336.

Monetary Statistics⁶ - January 1983

HK\$mn

Money Supply	January 1983	Earlier months (% change to January, 1983)		January 1982
		December 1982	October 1982	
M1 - HK\$	27,346	26,086 (+4.8%)	25,122 (+8.9%)	25,785 (+6.1%)
Foreign Currency	1,598	1,399 (+14.2%)	3,404 (-53.1%)	1,641 (-2.6%)
Total	28,944	27,485 (+5.3%)	28,526 (+1.5%)	27,426 (+5.5%)
M2 - HK\$	124,605	120,956 (+3.0%)	119,097 (+4.6%)	99,012 (+25.8%)
Foreign Currency	90,434	85,732 (+5.5%)	83,315 (+8.5%)	21,420 (+322.2%)
Total	215,039	206,688 (+4.0%)	202,412 (+6.2%)	120,432 (+78.6%)
M3 - HK\$	151,828	149,254 (+1.7%)	147,374 (+3.0%)	148,493 (+2.2%)
Foreign Currency	106,919	102,293 (+4.5%)	99,488 (+7.5%)	32,344 (+230.6%)
Total	258,747	251,547 (+2.9%)	246,862 (+4.8%)	180,837 (+43.1%)
Deposits				
Demand deposits	17,232	16,043 (+7.4%)	17,570 (-1.9%)	15,415 (+11.8%)
Savings deposits	70,438	69,590 (+1.2%)	66,175 (+6.4%)	53,274 (+32.2%)
Time deposits with banks	110,610	104,626 (+5.7%)	103,404 (+7.0%)	37,217 (+197.2%)
Time deposits with dtcs	42,582	43,813 (-2.8%)	43,239 (-1.5%)	59,532 (-28.5%)
All HK\$ deposits	137,684	135,384 (+1.7%)	134,091 (+2.7%)	134,754 (+2.2%)
All foreign currency deposits	103,178	98,688 (+4.5%)	96,297 (+7.1%)	30,684 (+236.3%)
Total	240,863	234,072 (+2.9%)	230,388 (+4.5%)	165,438 (+45.6%)
Loans and advances				
To finance Hong Kong's visible trade	26,387	26,339 (+0.2%)	25,435 (+3.7%)	22,462 (+17.5%)
To finance merchandising trade not touching Hong Kong	2,182	2,292 (-4.8%)	2,724 (-19.9%)	2,454 (-11.1%)
Other loans for use in Hong Kong	190,633	187,321 (+1.8%)	183,703 (+3.8%)	146,997 (+29.7%)
Other loans for use outside Hong Kong	102,380	100,951 (+1.4%)	99,314 (+3.1%)	78,516 (+30.4%)
Other loans where the place of use is not known	14,427	14,330 (+0.7%)	13,222 (+9.1%)	11,725 (+23.0%)
All loans in HK\$	183,769	182,095 (+0.9%)	177,644 (+3.4%)	148,403 (+23.8%)
All loans in foreign currencies	152,240	149,138 (+2.1%)	146,754 (+3.7%)	113,751 (+33.8%)
Total	336,008	331,233 (+1.4%)	324,398 (+3.6%)	262,154 (+28.2%)

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LESS TRANSPORT COMPLAINTS DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS ARE APPARENTLY WELCOMED NOT JUST BY STUDENTS BUT ALSO BY PEOPLE WHO HAVE TO GO TO WORK, ACCORDING TO THE TRANSPORT COMPLAINTS UNIT'S LATEST QUARTERLY REPORT.

THE REPORT, COVERING THE PERIOD FROM OCTOBER 1 TO DECEMBER 31 LAST YEAR, REVEALS THAT WHILE THE NUMBER OF DIRECT COMPLAINTS TO THE TCU GREW STEADILY IN THE LAST TWO YEARS, MONTHLY STATISTICS INDICATE THAT IT FELL INTO A PATTERN.

THE TCU TENDS TO GET FAR FEWER COMPLAINTS DURING THE MAJOR SCHOOL HOLIDAYS. TYPES OF COMPLAINTS SENSITIVE TO THIS SEASONAL FACTOR ARE ABOUT INADEQUATE PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES, THE STANDARD OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES AND ROAD CONGESTION.

THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE UNIT, MR JAMES KWAN, SAID TODAY THAT HE HAD DISTRIBUTED COPIES OF THE REPORT FOR THE INFORMATION OF TRANSPORT PLANNERS AND THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION.

THE REPORT ALSO DISCLOSES THAT COMPLAINTS INVOLVING THE TWO MAJOR BUS COMPANIES DURING THE PERIOD DROPPED SIGNIFICANTLY WHEN COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS QUARTER: CHINA MOTOR BUS FROM 219 TO 171 AND KOWLOON MOTOR BUS FROM 232 TO 187.

A BETTER RECORD OF ADHERENCE TO SCHEDULED FREQUENCIES IN KOWLOON, AND THUS FEWER COMPLAINTS AGAINST KMB, WAS ATTRIBUTABLE TO PUBLIC TRANSPORT PRIORITY SCHEMES INTRODUCED IN MA TAU WEI ROAD/WUHU STREET, UN CHAU STREET/CASTLE PEAK ROAD AND CHOI HUNG ROAD.

THIS IS NOT APPARENT, HOWEVER, ON HONG KONG ISLAND AS THE NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS ABOUT CMB'S NON-ADHERENCE TO FREQUENCIES REMAINED MORE OR LESS THE SAME, DESPITE THE SIGNIFICANT DROP IN THE NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS ABOUT CONGESTION ON KING'S ROAD SINCE MID-NOVEMBER LAST YEAR.

THE NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS AGAINST BUS DRIVERS REMAINED RELATIVELY HIGH DURING THE QUARTER: 78 OUT OF A TOTAL OF 171 COMPLAINTS AGAINST CMB AND 39 CASES OUT OF 187 COMPLAINTS AGAINST KMB.

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APPLICATIONS INVITED SOON FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS
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APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION TO PRIMARY TWO TO SIX OF GOVERNMENT AND AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS WILL BE INVITED BETWEEN MARCH 15 AND 22, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY.

ALL PRIMARY ONE PLACES OF THESE SCHOOLS WILL BE ALLOCATED THROUGH THE NEW PRIMARY ONE ADMISSION SYSTEM, HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT APPLICANTS SHOULD NORMALLY BE FULLY SEVEN YEARS OF AGE ON ENTRY TO PRIMARY TWO ON SEPTEMBER 1. HOWEVER, CHILDREN WHO HAVE REACHED SIX YEARS EIGHT MONTHS BY THAT DATE MAY ALSO APPLY FOR ADMISSION.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT VACANCIES SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO INDIVIDUAL SCHOOLS, HE SAID.

APPLICATION FORMS WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM THOSE SCHOOLS WITH VACANCIES IN PRIMARY TWO TO SIX BETWEEN MARCH 15 AND 22 (EXCLUDING GENERAL HOLIDAYS) ON THE PRODUCTION OF BIRTH CERTIFICATES OR OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS.

COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE SCHOOL TO WHICH ADMISSION IS SOUGHT. SELECTION OF PUPILS WILL BE CONDUCTED ON MARCH 24.

CARE WILL BE TAKEN TO ENSURE THAT CHILDREN FROM THE SAME FAMILY ARE NOT SEPARATED, HE SAID.

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NEW FRESH WATER SERVICE RESERVOIR FOR NORTH POINT
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A FRESH WATER SERVICE RESERVOIR WILL BE CONSTRUCTED IN NORTH POINT TO IMPROVE THE SUPPLY OF WATER TO LOW-LEVEL AREAS IN THE DISTRICT.

A CONTRACT FOR THE PROJECT WAS SIGNED TODAY AT THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT'S HEADQUARTERS BY THE CHIEF ENGINEER (CONSTRUCTION), MR LEE GUN-CHEUNG, AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF SANG LEE CONSTRUCTION CO. LTD.

THE SERVICE RESERVOIR WILL BE BUILT AT THE JUNCTION OF CLOUD VIEW ROAD AND YEE KING ROAD, AT A COST OF \$9 MILLION.

IT WILL BE CONSTRUCTED IN REINFORCED CONCRETE AND WILL HAVE A STORAGE CAPACITY OF 30 000 CUBIC METRES.

WORK ON THE PROJECT WILL TAKE ABOUT 18 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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THAI CORRECTIONAL OFFICIALS VISIT HK
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THAILAND'S DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, MR VICHITR THONGKAM AND ONE OF HIS SENIOR SUPERINTENDENTS TODAY (MONDAY) VISITED THE HEI LING CHAU DRUG ADDICTION TREATMENT CENTRE TO LOOK OVER THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S COMPULSORY PLACEMENT PROGRAMME FOR DRUG DEPENDENTS.

ACCOMPANIED BY SENIOR SUPERINTENDENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, MR FRANCIS WONG, THE VISITORS TOURED THE CENTRE AND WERE BRIEFED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT IN CHARGE, MR TSUNG PUI-KWAN ON THE VARIOUS FACILITIES AND TREATMENT PROGRAMMES PROVIDED.

EARLIER TODAY, THEY MET AND DISCUSSED WITH THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, MR T.G. GARNER, ABOUT HONG KONG'S CORRECTIONAL PROGRAMMES.

THE VISITORS WILL BE SEEING THE NEWLY BUILT TUNG TAU CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION AND THE DEPARTMENT'S STAFF TRAINING INSTITUTE IN STANLEY BEFORE RETURNING TO BANGKOK TOMORROW EVENING.

THEY ARE IN HONG KONG AS PART OF A VISIT TO SOUTH EAST ASIA, AND HAVE ALREADY BEEN TO THE PHILIPPINES, JAPAN AND KOREA.

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TECHNICAL INSTITUTE STUDENTS WIN AWARDS
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FORTY STUDENTS FROM THE FIVE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES HAVE WON AWARDS FOR THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS IN TECHNICAL EDUCATION, THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINING DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY.

TWENTY-FIVE OF THEM RECEIVED A \$2 000 SCHOLARSHIP EACH WHILE THE REST SHARED A TOTAL OF \$7 000 FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING ENTRIES IN A CRAFT SKILL COMPETITION FOR PART-TIME DAY RELEASE AND FULL-TIME BASIC CRAFT STUDENTS FROM THE MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL DISCIPLINES.

IN A PRESENTATION CEREMONY HELD OVER THE WEEKEND AT THE LEE WAI LEE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINING, MR JEFF DEVEREUX, THANKED THE SPONSOR OF THE SCHOLARSHIPS AND THE COMPETITION, CHEN HSONG MACHINERY CO. LTD.

/+THE COMPETITION

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+THE COMPETITION HAS HELPED TO INSTIL A SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY AND ACHIEVEMENT AMONG THE STUDENTS SINCE IT WAS FIRST HELD THREE YEARS AGO,+ SAID MR DEVEREUX.

HE STRESSED THAT THIS SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY AND ACHIEVEMENT WAS IMPORTANT AS THE STUDENTS WOULD BE FILLING TECHNICAL POSITIONS IN VARIOUS INDUSTRIES AND WOULD HELP IMPROVE THEIR PRODUCTS AND SERVICES.

THE COMPETITION LASTED FOUR MONTHS AND THOSE SELECTED FOR THE FINAL ROUND, INCLUDING THE PRIZE WINNERS, WERE EACH GIVEN A CERTIFICATE OF MERIT.

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YAU MA TEI WATER LEAKAGE TESTS
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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN YAU MA TEI WILL BE CUT OFF FOR SEVEN HOURS FROM 11 PM ON THURSDAY (MARCH 10) FOR LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE AREA TO BE AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY JORDAN ROAD, MAN WUI STREET, MAN CHEONG STREET, FERRY STREET, KANSU STREET, AND CANTON ROAD, INCLUDING THE JORDAN ROAD FERRY PIER.

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WATER FIGURES
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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 76.0 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 438.952 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 239.438 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 41.5 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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