



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 1985

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CURBS NEEDED ON ABUSES OF SPEECH FREEDOM - TSAO

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THE GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS THE PRINCIPLE OF FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND SPEECH, BUT HAS TO PROVIDE SOME FORM OF SANCTION TO PREVENT ABUSES OF THIS FREEDOM.

SPEAKING AT A HIGH TABLE DINNER AT HONG KONG UNIVERSITY'S LADY HO TUNG HALL THIS EVENING (JANUARY 28), THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR PETER TSAO SAID THAT IDEALLY A FREE SOCIETY SHOULD BE FREED FROM CENSORSHIP OF ANY KIND. HOWEVER, EXPERIENCE SHOWED THAT THERE WERE PEOPLE WHO WOULD ABUSE THIS FREEDOM AND ENCROACH UPON THE RIGHTS AND SENSIBILITIES OF OTHERS.

+THE DIFFICULT QUESTION THEN IS WHERE DOES GOVERNMENT DRAW THE LINE BETWEEN PROVIDING SUFFICIENT SANCTIONS TO GUARD AGAINST ABUSES AND YET ENSURING THAT THE INDIVIDUAL'S RIGHT TO EXPRESS IS MAINTAINED. THIS IS A FINE LINE WHICH GOVERNMENT HAS TO TREAD CAUTIOUSLY,+ MR TSAO SAID.

+IN ADDRESSING THIS QUESTION, WE MUST INVARIABLY TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE PARTICULAR CONTEXT OF HONG KONG, WHICH IS STILL A PREDOMINANTLY CHINESE SOCIETY WITH TRADITIONAL CHINESE MORES AND CUSTOMS BUT CONSTANTLY OPEN TO INFLUENCES IN VALUES AND LIFE STYLES FROM OUR WESTERN TRADING PARTNERS,+ MR TSAO SAID.

WHEN DETERMINING WHICH MODE OF COMMUNICATION REQUIRES CENSORSHIP, THE GOVERNMENT'S BASIC CONSIDERATION IS THE IMPACT THE PARTICULAR MODE HAS ON THE PUBLIC AS A WHOLE.

FOR THE WRITTEN OR PICTORIAL MEDIA, THE GOVERNMENT ADOPTS RETROSPECTIVE MEASURES.

+THEY ARE ONLY CURATIVE AND CANNOT BE REGARDED AS CENSORSHIP. FURTHERMORE, THESE MEASURES ARE INVOKED ONLY WHERE THERE IS A CLEAR CASE THAT OVERALL PUBLIC INTEREST IS AT STAKE OR PUBLIC SENSITIVITIES HAVE BEEN OFFENDED.

+WHAT DOES OR DOES NOT GIVE OFFENCE IS DETERMINED BY THE COURTS, ALTHOUGH THE HOME AFFAIRS BRANCH DOES GIVE ADVICE TO PUBLISHERS AND DISTRIBUTORS ON WHERE, IN OUR VIEW, THE LIMIT MIGHT BE,+ MR TSAO SAID.

AS REGARDS FILMS FOR PUBLIC VIEWING AND TELEVISION, MR TSAO STRESSED THAT THE GOVERNMENT DID NOT DECIDE ON ITS OWN ACCORD WHAT PEOPLE SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT SEE. +WHATEVER CENSORSHIP STANDARDS GOVERNMENT APPLIES IN THESE AREAS ARE DERIVED FROM WHAT WE PERCEIVE TO BE WHAT THE COMMUNITY ITSELF AT LARGE CONSIDERS TO BE ACCEPTABLE OR NOT,+ HE SAID.

/THE COMMISSIONER

THE COMMISSIONER FOR TELEVISION AND ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING BASES HIS FILM CENSORSHIP STANDARDS ON PERIODIC SURVEYS CARRIED OUT TO GAUGE PUBLIC OPINION, AND THERE IS REGULAR ADVICE FROM A 100 STRONG PUBLIC ADVISORY GROUP WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC INVITED TO ATTEND ALL FILM CENSORSHIP SESSIONS, AND GENERAL FEEDBACK VIA THE MEDIA AND LETTERS FROM THE PUBLIC.

IN CENSORING FILMS, PARTICULAR ATTENTION IS PAID TO SCENES OF VIOLENCE AND SEX AND WHETHER THE THEME DEPICTED IS LIKELY TO LEAD IMPRESSIONABLE YOUNG PEOPLE TO ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR.

+IT IS IN FACT WITH THIS LAST POINT IN MIND THAT WE ARE NOW PROPOSING A NEW FILM CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM WHICH INTENDS TO CREATE, AMONG OTHER THINGS, A CATEGORY OF FILMS WHICH YOUNG PEOPLE UNDER THE AGE OF 18 WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM VIEWING.

+THE ADVANTAGE OF THIS SCHEME IS THAT WHILE YOUNG PEOPLE CAN BE EFFECTIVELY PREVENTED FROM SEEING FILMS WHICH MAY BE CONSIDERED AS UNDESIRABLE FOR NOT FULLY MATURE MINDS, STANDARDS CAN BE LIBERALISED SOMEWHAT FOR A DISCERNING ADULT AUDIENCE,+ MR TSAO SAID.

AS REGARDS TELEVISION, BECAUSE OF ITS EASY ACCESSIBILITY, MONITORING OF TV PROGRAMMES IS MORE STRINGENT.

ALL PROGRAMMES AND ADVERTISEMENTS ARE PREVIEWED OR MONITORED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CODES OF PRACTICE FOR PROGRAMMES AND ADVERTISING STANDARDS PRODUCED BY THE TELEVISION AND ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING AUTHORITY.

THE COMMISSIONER FOR TELEVISION AND ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING IS IN TURN ASSISTED BY 18 TV HOME VIEWING PANELS WHICH COMPRISE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADVISE HIM ON STANDARDS OF TELEVISION.

MR TSAO POINTED OUT THAT THE BROADCASTING REVIEW BOARD WAS NOW LOOKING INTO THE STANDARDS OF TELEVISION PROGRAMME.

+IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO SEE WHAT THE BOARD HAS TO SAY ON CENSORSHIP STANDARDS,+ HE SAID.

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LAW TRANSLATION WORK GOING AHEAD
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WITH MORE STAFF, THE CHINESE LANGUAGE DIVISION COULD TRANSLATE THE ENTIRE SET OF HONG KONG'S STATUTE LAWS INTO CHINESE WITHIN SIX TO SEVEN YEARS, THE COMMISSIONER FOR CHINESE LANGUAGE, MR FRED TING SAID.

AND THE GOVERNMENT WAS CONSIDERING GRANTING LEGAL EFFECT TO THE CHINESE VERSION, HE SAID.

/REVIEWING THE

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REVIEWING THE SHORT HISTORY OF LAW TRANSLATION IN HONG KONG, MR TING NOTED THAT THE MAIN PROBLEM IN THE PAST WAS ONE OF RESOURCE MOBILISATION.

THE CHINESE LANGUAGE DIVISION OF THE HOME AFFAIRS BRANCH HAS, SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT IN 1973, BEEN GIVEN THE JOB OF TRANSLATING INTO CHINESE THOSE LAWS CONSIDERED TO BE OF WIDE PUBLIC INTEREST.

FROM 1973 TO 1983, 39 PIECES OF LEGISLATION WERE TRANSLATED INTO CHINESE, LARGELY IN RESPONSE TO SPECIFIC REQUESTS BY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE, ROAD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE, LANDLORD AND TENANT (CONSOLIDATION) ORDINANCE AND INLAND REVENUE ORDINANCE WERE AMONG THE LAWS GIVEN PRIORITY AS THEY CONCERN THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE.

AND THE PACE OF THE TRANSLATION WORK HAS QUICKENED WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS.

SINCE MID-1983, ANOTHER 31 PIECES OF LEGISLATION HAVE BEEN TRANSLATED INTO CHINESE.

+IT SHOWS THAT WE HAVE THE CAPABILITY TO HANDLE THE JOB PROMPTLY,+ MR TING SAID.

TO COPE WITH THE INCREASED WORK LOAD, A LAW UNIT WAS FORMED WITHIN THE CHINESE LANGUAGE DIVISION LAST JUNE, COMPRISING NINE CHINESE LANGUAGE OFFICERS.

THE LAW UNIT KEEPS IN TOUCH WITH UMELCO, GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, AND THE MASS MEDIA TO IDENTIFY PRIORITY ORDINANCES FOR TRANSLATION.

+OUR STAFF WILL THEN DRAFT THE CHINESE VERSIONS IN CONSULTATION WITH THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT,+ MR TING SAID.

TRANSLATED LAWS WILL BE HANDED OVER TO THE DEPARTMENT CONCERNED FOR VETTING. THE FINAL VERSIONS WILL BE PUBLISHED INDIVIDUALLY.

+DUE TO THE COMPLEXITY OF THE WORK, INEVITABLY THERE HAVE BEEN SOME DISCREPANCIES IN THE CHINESE TRANSLATION, ESPECIALLY WITH REGARD TO TERMS WHOSE NUANCES HAVE NOT BEEN FULLY GRASPED BY THE CHINESE LANGUAGE OFFICERS,+ MR TING EXPLAINED.

+THE TASK IS FORMIDABLE. VERY OFTEN, WE WORK UNDER ENORMOUS PRESSURE TO MEET DEADLINES,+ MR TING SAID.

FOR THE TRANSLATED CHINESE VERSION TO HAVE LEGAL EFFECT, IT MUST BE PASSED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

/MR TING

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MR TING SAW THE NEED TO FURTHER UPGRADE THE STANDARD OF HIS DIVISION'S TRANSLATION WORK TO MEET THE CHALLENGES AHEAD.

HE ALSO CONSIDERED IT ESSENTIAL FOR THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT TO HAVE BILINGUAL EXPERTS TO MAKE FINAL VETTING OF THE TRANSLATED WORKS.

THIS WOULD INVOLVE STRENGTHENING THE STAFFING OF BOTH THE CHINESE LANGUAGE DIVISION AND THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT.

MR TING SAID IDEALLY, THE LAW UNIT SHOULD HAVE 30 CHINESE LANGUAGE OFFICERS.

+WITH THIS STAFF STRENGTH, WE ARE CONFIDENT THE TASK OF TRANSLATING THE WHOLE SET OF STATUTE LAWS CAN BE COMPLETED IN SIX TO SEVEN YEARS' TIME,+ HE ADDED.

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HK HELPS FOUND TEXTILE BODY
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AN INTER-GOVERNMENTAL BODY, WHOSE MAIN FUNCTION IS TO PRESERVE THE INTERESTS OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES IN THE TEXTILE TRADE, HAS BEEN FORMED, WITH HONG KONG AS A FOUNDING MEMBER.

KNOWN AS THE INTERNATIONAL TEXTILES AND CLOTHING BUREAU (ITCB), IT WAS FORMALLY ESTABLISHED IN GENEVA, ON JANUARY 12.

OTHER FOUNDING MEMBERS ARE CHINA, COLOMBIA, EGYPT, S. KOREA, INDIA, MACAU, MEXICO, PAKISTAN, AND PERU.

AND A NUMBER OF OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, WHICH ARE EXPORTERS OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING, ARE ALSO EXPECTED TO JOIN THE ITCB IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

THE BUREAU WILL CONDUCT STUDIES ON TRADE POLICIES AS THEY AFFECT EXPORTS OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING BY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES, AND WILL SPONSOR SEMINARS, CONFERENCES AND OTHER ACTIVITIES INTENDED TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ON THE COSTS OF PROTECTIONISM.

IT WILL DEVELOP AN EXTENSIVE DATA BANK AND INFORMATION SYSTEM, AND WILL PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES IN THEIR TEXTILES NEGOTIATIONS AND CONSULTATIONS.

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\$19M MA ON SHAN PROJECT TO START

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WORK IS EXPECTED TO START ON A \$19 MILLION PACKAGE OF PROJECTS CONNECTED WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF MA ON SHAN IN SHA TIN NEW TOWN.

IT REQUIRES CONSTRUCTION OF A 1.25-KILOMETRE DUAL SINGLE-LANE CARRIAGEWAY THAT WILL PROVIDE A PORTION OF THE FUTURE ROUTE LINKING THE PROPOSED MA ON SHAN DEVELOPMENT WITH THE EXISTING ROAD NETWORK IN SHA TIN.

IT ALSO INVOLVES FORMATION OF A SITE BEING CONSIDERED AS A POSSIBLE LOCATION FOR AN INFIRMARY AND CONVALESCENT HOSPITAL.

AT A LATER STAGE, ANOTHER CARRIAGEWAY WILL BE BUILT TO CONVERT THE ROUTE INTO A DUAL TWO-LANE CARRIAGEWAY.

THE PROJECT HAS BEEN AWARDED BY THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT AND IS EXPECTED TO TAKE 18 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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PROPOSALS MADE ON PAY TREND SURVEYS

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THE STANDING COMMISSION ON CIVIL SERVICE SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE MADE PROPOSALS LAST YEAR FOR THE FURTHER REFINEMENT OF THE METHODOLOGY USED IN PAY TREND SURVEYS.

DURING THE YEAR, IT ALSO COMPLETED THE FIRST STAGE OF A REVIEW OF THE JOB-RELATED ALLOWANCE SYSTEM, COVERING THE PRINCIPLES WHICH SHOULD GOVERN ELIGIBILITY FOR ALLOWANCES AND THE WAY IN WHICH THEY SHOULD BE PAID.

DISCLOSING THIS IN ITS GENERAL PROGRESS REPORT FOR 1984, WHICH IS ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, IN THE GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, THE COMMISSION SAID ALSO THAT IT HAD ADVISED THE GOVERNMENT ON A NUMBER OF PROPOSALS TO MODIFY THE PAY AND STRUCTURE OF INDIVIDUAL GRADES.

AT THE SAME TIME, ITS PAY TREND SURVEY COMMITTEE MONITORED THE CONDUCT OF THE 1983-84 PAY TREND SURVEY AND GAVE THE COMMISSION ADVICE ON IMPROVEMENTS IN THE SURVEY METHODOLOGY.

THE REPORT ALSO STATES THAT THE COMMISSION'S PAY RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE BEGAN A STUDY OF THE PRINCIPLES AND METHODOLOGY TO BE USED FOR THE VALUATION OF FRINGE BENEFITS IN THE CIVIL SERVICE AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

/AND IT

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AND IT INCLUDES AN ACCOUNT OF THE WORK OF THE PAY SURVEY AND RESEARCH UNIT, WHICH IS UNDER THE ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL OF THE COMMISSION. DURING THE YEAR, THIS FACT-FINDING AND DATA ANALYSIS UNIT CONDUCTED A NUMBER OF SURVEYS, INCLUDING THE 1983-84 PAY TREND SURVEY, AND A PRELIMINARY STUDY OF THE FEASIBILITY OF FINDING PRIVATE SECTOR ANALOGUES FOR JOBS IN THE CIVIL SERVICE.

THE 1984 GENERAL PROGRESS REPORT IS THE FOURTH PUT OUT SINCE THE COMMISSION'S ESTABLISHMENT IN 1979, THE OTHERS HAVING BEEN PUBLISHED IN 1980-81, 1982 AND 1983.

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SPORTS' VALUE STRESSED AT CENTRE OPENING
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SPORT AND RECREATION WERE ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT IN THE NEW TERRITORIES NEW TOWNS, AS THE POPULATION THERE WAS VERY YOUNG, THE DIRECTOR OF URBAN SERVICES, MR GRAHAM BARNES, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE NORTH KWAI CHUNG TANG SHIU KIN INDOOR RECREATION CENTRE, MR BARNES SAID FACILITIES FOR THE YOUNG PEOPLE WERE OF +A VERY HIGH PRIORITY+.

THESE DAYS, HE SAID, THE GOVERNMENT WAS NOT DOING TOO BADLY, AND IN THIS PROGRESS BOTH SIR SHIU-KIN TANG AND THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, HAD PLAYED THEIR PART.

MR BARNES SAID THAT THE NEW INDOOR RECREATION CENTRE WAS BUILT LARGELY WITH A \$10 MILLION DONATION FROM SIR SHIU-KIN.

IT WAS A BIG CENTRE, WITH VERY GOOD FACILITIES, AND WAS +A VERY BIG GIFT+.

+WHAT IS MORE, IT IS A GIFT FROM SOMEONE WHOSE GENEROSITY HAS ALREADY BENEFITED ENORMOUS NUMBERS OF PEOPLE,+ HE CONTINUED.

+I WOULD BE VERY SURPRISED IF YOU CAN FIND ANYONE WHO HAS NOT BENEFITED IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER FROM ONE OR OTHER PROJECTS TO WHICH SIR SHIU-KIN HAS GIVEN MONEY,+ HE ADDED.

/MR BARNES

MR BARNES ALSO THANKED MR AKERS-JONES FOR HIS CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE PROJECT.

+IT HAS BEEN PERHAPS LESS OVERT, BUT NO ONE HAS BATTLED SO HARD BEHIND THE SCENES FOR SPORTS FACILITIES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES OVER SO LONG A PERIOD,+ HE SAID.

SPEAKING OF THE NORTH KWAI CHUNG TANG SHIU KIN INDOOR RECREATION CENTRE, MR BARNES SAID THIS WAS THE SECOND TO BE BUILT IN KWAI CHUNG.

+IT IS IN THE MIDST OF A GROUP OF SPORTING AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, OF WHICH THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS JUSTLY PROUD, AND WILL BE PROUD TO DELIVER TO THE REGIONAL COUNCIL WHEN IT OPENS FOR BUSINESS ON APRIL 1,+ HE SAID.

MEANWHILE, MR BARNES EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE BUILT UP USAGE SO THAT IT WAS GIVING THE MAXIMUM BENEFIT TO THE LOCAL RESIDENTS.

+IN THIS, WE WILL BE HELPED BY OUR COLLEAGUES FROM THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE WITH WHOM THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL BE JOINING IN A SINGLE DEPARTMENTAL TEAM IN A FEW WEEKS' TIME,+ HE CONCLUDED.

UNVEILING A PLAQUE AT THE FOYER OF THE INDOOR RECREATION CENTRE TO MARK THE OPENING OF THE INDOOR FACILITY, MR AKERS-JONES SAID THE TWO INDOOR CENTRES IN KWAI CHUNG PROVIDED IMPORTANT VENUES FOR A WIDE RANGE OF LOCAL SPORTING ACTIVITIES AND HAVE THE ADVANTAGE OF BEING USABLE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR REGARDLESS OF WEATHER CONDITION.

MR AKERS-JONES SAID IT SHOULD BE THE AIM OF THE GOVERNMENT TO BUILD THEM IN ALL MAJOR CENTRES OF POPULATION.

THANKING SIR SHIU-KIN FOR HIS CONTINUED GENEROSITY IN HELPING TO FUND WORTHWHILE COMMUNITY PROJECTS SUCH AS THIS INDOOR RECREATION CENTRE, MR AKERS-JONES SAID THAT THE PEOPLE OF KWAI CHUNG WOULD BE GRATEFUL TO HIM.

+SO WILL THE PEOPLE OF THE NEW TERRITORIES TO WHOM HE HAS CONTRIBUTED SO MUCH IN RECENT YEARS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SPORTS FACILITIES,+ HE SAID.

EARLIER MR AKERS-JONES AND SIR SHIU-KIN JOINTLY PLANTED A TREE AT THE COMPOUND OF THE CENTRE TO COMMEMORATE THE OPENING OF THE INDOOR RECREATION VENUE.

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PRESS VISIT

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ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR THE MEDIA TO VISIT THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL DIVISION OF THE COUNCILS AND ADMINISTRATION BRANCH ON WEDNESDAY (JANUARY 30) TO SEE VARIOUS BACK-UP SERVICES THE DIVISION PROVIDES FOR THE COMING DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS.

THE VISIT WILL START WITH A TOUR OF THE DIVISION'S OFFICE IN HARBOUR CENTRE, WHERE MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE GIVEN A BRIEFING ON ITS WORK. THE MEDIA WILL THEN BE TAKEN TO THE DIVISION'S CENTRAL STORE AT 8 MEI FONG STREET, 1ST FLOOR, HA KWAI CHUNG WHERE POLLING BOOTHS, BALLOT BOXES AND ALL OTHER EQUIPMENT NECESSARY FOR RUNNING THE ELECTIONS ARE STORED.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ASSIGNED TO THE VISIT SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES CARPARK AT 2 PM ON WEDNESDAY (JANUARY 30). GIS OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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TEACHING WORKERS ABOUT FAMILY LIFE

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A SEMINAR TO PROMOTE FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION AMONG PEOPLE IN THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR OF KWUN TONG WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 1).

THE THREE MAIN TOPICS AT THE SEMINAR WHICH WILL BE HELD AT THE AMBASSADOR HOTEL IN TSIM SHA TSUI WILL BE ABOUT THE MEANING OF FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION, THE BENEFITS OF PROMOTING FAMILY PLANNING AMONG THE WORKERS, AND WAYS OF ENCOURAGING FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION IN FACTORIES.

THE THREE TALKS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY GROUP DISCUSSIONS AND A QUESTION-AND-ANSWER SESSION.

THE SEMINAR IS ORGANISED BY THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT YOUTH FESTIVAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE AS PART OF THE CURRENT TWO-WEEK YOUTH FESTIVAL.

/PERSONS INTERESTED

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PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE SEMINAR MAY NOW OBTAIN APPLICATION FORMS AT ROOM 313 ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICES BUILDING IN TUNG YAN STREET, OR CALL 3-416315 (EXTENSION 421) FOR ENQUIRIES.

THE SPEAKERS AT THE SEMINAR INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION, THE HONG KONG FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION, AND THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY SERVICES CENTRE. THE PRESIDENT OF THE CHINESE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG, MR NGAI SHIU-KIT, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY.

THE SEMINAR IS CO-SPONSORED BY THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION, AND THE CHINESE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG.

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BUS CHANGES FOR CENTRAL STATION WORK
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A NUMBER OF CMB SERVICES NOW OPERATING FROM THE CENTRAL BUS STATION WILL BE RELOCATED FROM FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 1), AS WORK STARTS ON THE STATION'S REDEVELOPMENT.

SOME OF THE SERVICES WILL BE ACCOMMODATED AT THE NEW EXCHANGE SQUARE BUS TERMINUS, A PART OF WHICH IS TO OPEN FROM THE SAME DAY.

OTHER ROUTES WILL BE RESITED TO OTHER PARTS IN CENTRAL, WHILE A FEW ROUTES WILL REMAIN IN CENTRAL BUS STATION.

THE DETAILS ARE:

- * ROUTE 7 WILL TERMINATE OUTSIDE CENTRAL VEHICULAR FERRY PIER;
- * ROUTE 12 WILL TERMINATE AT CONNAUGHT PLACE, NORTH OF CONNAUGHT CENTRE;
- * ROUTE 12A WILL TERMINATE AT EDINBURGH PLACE, OUTSIDE THE STAR FERRY CONCOURSE;
- * ROUTE 17 WILL TERMINATE AT EDINBURGH PLACE, WEST OF CITY HALL.

/EXCHANGE SQUARE

EXCHANGE SQUARE BUS TERMINUS

- * ROUTES 6, 15, 61, 260 AND 262 WILL MOVE TO THE NEW COVERED BUS TERMINUS AT EXCHANGE SQUARE.

CENTRAL BUS STATION

- * ROUTES 3A, 11, 25, 70, 75 AND 721 WILL REMAIN IN CENTRAL BUS STATION.

RELOCATION AND CANCELLATION OF BUS STOPS

- * AS A RESULT OF THE ABOVE TERMINAL REARRANGEMENTS, THE BUS STOP FOR ROUTES 260 AND 262 IN EDINBURGH PLACE OUTSIDE STAR FERRY PIER WILL BE RESITED TO THE SOUTHERNMOST BAY THERE. THE STOP WILL ALSO BE OBSERVED BY ROUTE 15=
- * THE EXISTING BUS STOP FOR ROUTES 12A AND 15 IN EDINBURGH PLACE WILL BE CANCELLED.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE ABOVE RELOCATIONS, THE FOLLOWING ROAD SECTIONS IN CENTRAL WILL BE DESIGNATED URBAN CLEARWAYS FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 1):

- * THE EASTERN KERBSIDE LANE OF CONNAUGHT PLACE SOUTHBOUND FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL TO A POINT ABOUT 70 METERS NORTH OF THE SAME JUNCTION;
- * THE SOUTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF CONNAUGHT PLACE WESTBOUND FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH HARBOUR VIEW STREET TO A POINT ABOUT 70 METRES EAST OF THE SAME JUNCTION.

NO VEHICLES OTHER THAN FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS FROM 7 AM TO 10 AM AND 4 PM TO 7 PM DAILY WITHIN THE RESTRICTED ZONES.

IN ADDITION, THE METERED PARKING SPACES OUTSIDE THE GENERAL POST OFFICE WILL BE CANCELLED TO ENABLE SMOOTH TRAFFIC FLOW. MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED TO PARK THEIR CARS IN THE MULTI-STORY CAR PARKS NEARBY OR USE PUBLIC TRANSPORT WHEN GOING TO THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.

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TAI PO TRAFFIC SCHEME CHANGE PLANNED

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THERE ARE PLANS TO REVISE CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE TAI PO CENTRAL AREA TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SCHEME BY LUNAR NEW YEAR, INCLUDING REINSTATING TWO-WAY TRAFFIC ALONG TAI PO MARKET'S MAIN ROAD -- PO HEUNG STREET.

+THIS IS IN RESPONSE TO VIEWS EXPRESSED BY DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AT A RECENT BOARD MEETING TO REVIEW THE SCHEME WHICH WAS IMPLEMENTED IN OCTOBER,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICE SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT IN GENERAL TERMS THE SCHEME WAS SUPPORTED BY THE BOARD BUT THERE WERE RECOMMENDATIONS TO AMEND CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE SCHEME.

+THIS INCLUDED ALLOWING VEHICLES ENTERING TAI PO MARKET FROM PO HEUNG BRIDGE, SEEKING ACCESS TO PUN CHUNG OR TO THE TEMPORARY MARKET, TO BE ABLE TO PROCEED ALONG PO HEUNG STREET INSTEAD OF HAVING TO MAKE A DETOUR AROUND WAN TAU STREET AND HEUNG SZE WUI STREET,+ HE SAID.

ANOTHER AMENDMENT RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD WAS THAT THE NUMBER OF PEAK-HOUR URBAN CLEARWAYS BE REDUCED.

+ALL THESE PEAK-HOUR URBAN CLEARWAYS WERE IMPLEMENTED, AS PART OF THE WHOLE SCHEME ON OCTOBER 5,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+THE RELEVANT GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS HAVE GIVEN CONSIDERATION TO EACH STREET INDIVIDUALLY, BEARING IN MIND THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO KEEP TRAFFIC FLOWING SMOOTHLY AND TO MINIMISE INCONVENIENCE CAUSED TO THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC.

+AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION IT WAS THAT THE PEAK-HOUR URBAN CLEARWAY RESTRICTIONS IN HEUNG SZE WUI STREET AND ON THE SOUTHERN SIDE OF WAI YAN STREET WILL BE LIFTED.+

+HOWEVER, THE PEAK-HOUR URBAN CLEARWAY ALONG PO HEUNG STREET WILL NOT BE LIFTED, AS IT COULD CAUSE SERIOUS DISRUPTION TO THE FLOW OF TRAFFIC, PARTICULARLY AT THE JUNCTION OF PO HEUNG STREET AND NAM SHING STREET WHICH IS ONE OF THE BUSIEST ROAD JUNCTIONS AND PEDESTRIAN CROSSING POINTS IN TAI PO MARKET,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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OVERNIGHT ROAD WORK

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THE SECTION OF THE TUEN MUN-BOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF TUEN MUN ROAD, BETWEEN SIU LAM INTERCHANGE AND ROAD D8, WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 10.30 PM ON WEDNESDAY (JANUARY 30) TO 5 AM THE FOLLOWING MORNING, FOR ROAD WORK.

DURING THE CLOSURE, MOTORISTS HEADING FOR TUEN MUN OR YUEN LONG WILL BE DIVERTED TO CASTLE PEAK ROAD.

KMB ROUTES NO. 59A, 59M, 60, 60M, 66, 66M, 67M, 68 AND 68M WILL BE ALSO DIVERTED TO OPERATE VIA CASTLE PEAK ROAD.

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PLAYGROUND KIOSK OFFERED

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TENDERS ARE BEING INVITED FOR OPERATION OF A LIGHT REFRESHMENT KIOSK AT THE TSUEN KING CIRCUIT PLAYGROUND IN TSUEN WAN.

THE TSUEN KING CIRCUIT PLAYGROUND, WHICH INCLUDES FOUR FLOODLIT TENNIS COURTS, A REST GARDEN WITH A FOUNTAIN AND A CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND WITH MODERN PLAY EQUIPMENT, IS A POPULAR AMENITY AND RECREATION VENUE, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY.

LAST YEAR, MORE THAN 30 000 PERSONS USED THE TENNIS COURTS.

THE THREE-YEAR CONTRACT STARTS FROM APRIL 1.

TENDER FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE TSUEN WAN URBAN SERVICES OFFICE ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF FAR EAST BANK BUILDING AT 135 CASTLE PEAK ROAD IN TSUEN WAN.

THEY MUST BE PLACED IN THE TENDER BOX LOCATED AT THE NTSD HEADQUARTERS ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF SWIRE AND MACLAINE HOUSE (AUSTIN CENTRE) AT 19-23 AUSTIN AVENUE BEFORE 9 AM ON MARCH 1.

FURTHER ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE TENDERS CAN BE MADE AT THE TSUEN WAN URBAN SERVICES OFFICE ON TELEPHONE 0-444281.

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WATER STORAGE
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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY)
STOOD AT 69.8 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 408.890 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR, THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 505.484 MILLION
CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 86.2 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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