



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 1991

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 1991

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GUARDIANS OF HONG KONG HISTORY

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THEY ARE FAITHFUL GUARDIANS OF HONG KONG HISTORY.

TO KEEP THE MULTIFARIOUS LIVES OF THE OLD HONG KONG ALIVE, THEY KEEP A CONSTANT FINGER ON THE PULSE OF GOVERNMENT AND NON-GOVERNMENT ARCHIVES, JUST TO MAKE SURE THEY WILL NOT BE BURIED IN OBLIVION.

THEY ALSO HELP THE OVERSEAS INQUIRERS SEARCH FOR THEIR LOST ROOTS IN THE TERRITORY.

BY NAME, THEY ARE CALLED ARCHIVISTS.

BY JOB NATURE, THEY ARE THE PEOPLE WHO LOOK AFTER HISTORICAL RECORDS IN THE FORM OF REPORTS, LISTS, MAPS, PHOTOS, LETTERS, MICROFILMS, SOUND RECORDINGS AND FILMS.

THIS BRIEF JOB DESCRIPTION MAY SOUND BORING TO MOST PEOPLE. BUT MR LEE YUK-LUN, ASSISTANT ARCHIVIST OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OFFICE (P.R.O.) THINKS DIFFERENTLY.

TO HIM, THE JOB DOES NOT SIMPLY ASSOCIATE WITH OLD DOCUMENTS. THEY ARE ALIVE WITH TOUCHING AND HUMANE STORIES.

"APART FROM ACADEMICS, CRITICS AND WRITERS, WE GOT QUITE A NUMBER OF ENQUIRIES FROM PEOPLE OVERSEAS.

"SOME OF THEM HAD KEEN INTERESTS IN THE HISTORY OF HONG KONG BECAUSE THEY HAD SOMEONE IN THEIR KINS WHO HAD LIVED HERE DECADES BACK, SOME EVEN IN THE LAST CENTURY," MR LEE SAID.

IT IS NOT UNCOMMON FOR HIM TO RECEIVE ONE ENQUIRY LETTER A DAY. MOST OF THEM ASKED ABOUT THE ACCOUNTS OF THEIR ANCESTORS. THEY USUALLY CAME FROM BRITAIN, CANADA OR AUSTRALIA.

"BUT OCCASIONALLY, WE RECEIVED LETTERS FROM LESS KNOWN PLACES ASKING ALL KINDS OF STRANGE QUESTIONS TOO," HE SAID.

HE IS MORE THAN WILLING TO HELP PEOPLE TRACE THE LOST BITS AND PIECES OF OLD HONG KONG WHICH THEY WISH TO KNOW.

"IT WILL BE A LOT COMFORTABLE IF THE 'WANTED' MAN HAD WORKED IN THE CIVIL SERVICE (THE THEN COLONIAL SERVICE). WHAT I NEED IS TO LOOK UP THE 'BLUE BOOK' (THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT STAFF LIST).

"I CAN CHASE IT BACK AS EARLY AS 1870. I CAN GET THOSE DETAILS SUCH AS THE DATES FOR THEIR JOINING AND LEAVING THE SERVICE," MR LEE SAID.

HE MANAGES TO SNATCH THE OLDEST COPY OF THE BLUE BOOK WITHIN SECONDS.

"BUT IF THEY WEREN'T CIVIL SERVANT, THE SEARCHING JOB WOULD BE MORE CUMBERSOME.

/"I WOULD, .....

"I WOULD, FOR EXAMPLE, HAVE TO LOOK UP THE 'CHINA DIRECTORY' - A DIRECTORY WITH A DETAILED LIST OF EXPATRIATE POPULATION IN HONG KONG, DATING BACK TO 1860S," HE SAID. DISPLAYING HIS UNFAILING SEARCHING SKILL, HE FETCHED THE DIRECTORY IN A LABYRINTH OF PACKED FILES.

"THE SEARCH USUALLY ENDS HERE WITH NO FURTHER HICCUPS. BUT SOMETIMES, MORE WORKS HAD TO BE UNDERTAKEN. IF WE STILL FIND NO RECORD OF SUCH A PERSON, I MAY HAVE TO DIG IT OUT FROM THE PRIVATE RECORDS IN OUR STOCK," HE SAID.

ONE OF THE PRIVATE RECORDS THE P.R.O. KEPT IS THE ARCHIVES OF ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL WHICH INCLUDED MARRIAGE, BIRTH AND BURIAL REGISTERS DATING BACK TO THE 1840S.

"THERE ARE IMPORTANT HISTORICAL SOURCES ON LOCAL CHRISTIAN POPULATION," MR LEE ADDED.

ANOTHER IMPORTANT RECORD - THE "COLONIAL CEMETERY" IS ALSO USEFUL FOR TRACING THE HISTORY OF "WANTED" MAN IF HE WAS BURIED IN HONG KONG.

PULLING OUT SOME OLD NEWSPAPERS FROM THE LIBRARY SHELVES, HE SAID: "IF IT WAS A NAME OF EMINENCE IN OLD HONG KONG, I MAY BE ABLE TO GET SOME INTERESTING INFORMATION FROM OUR NEWSPAPER STACKS."

AT PRESENT, THE OFFICE HAS STOCK OF OLD COPIES OF 15 LOCAL NEWSPAPERS, INCLUDING ONE OF THE OLDEST, THE FRIEND OF CHINA, DATING BACK TO 1842 AND A HANDFUL OF NOW DEFUNCT NEWSPAPERS SUCH AS CHINA MAIL, HONG KONG SUNDAY HERALD AND HONG KONG TELEGRAPH.

IN TOTAL, THE ARCHIVES HAVE SOME 8,600 METRES OF RECORDS, INCLUDING BOTH GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE DOCUMENTS. THEY INCLUDE MANUSCRIPTS COLLECTION LIKE LETTERS AND DIARIES OF VARIOUS INDIVIDUALS, SOME 4,100 PHOTOGRAPHS AND 430 MAPS OF OLD HONG KONG AS EARLY AS 1845.

A LARGE PORTION OF THE P.R.O.'S HOLDINGS ARE ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC FREE OF CHARGE.

THE OFFICE RECEIVED SOME 1,394 READERS LAST YEAR.

"IN MOST CASES, WE WERE ABLE TO FIND SOME INFORMATION FOR THE INQUIRERS. WE SELDOM DISAPPOINT THEM. IF WE DID, WE WILL EXPLAIN TO THEM WHAT WE GOT HERE AND WHAT SOURCES WE HAVE LOOKED UP FOR THEM SO THAT THEY MAY NOT NEED TO GO THROUGH THESE SOURCES AGAIN ELSEWHERE," MR LEE SAID.

TRACING THE HISTORY OF HONG KONG FOR PEOPLE IS NOT HIS ONLY JOB IN THE P.R.O.

ANOTHER IMPORTANT JOB IS TO IDENTIFY GOVERNMENT RECORDS OF HISTORICAL VALUE TO BE KEPT IN THE P.R.O. THROUGH THE PROCESS OF RECORDS APPRAISAL.

/ON THIS, .....

ON THIS, THE ARCHIVIST OF P.R.O., DR LAU YUN-WOO, SAID: "WE SERVE ALL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS IN THIS ASPECT. WE HELP THEM EVALUATE THEIR RECORDS TO IDENTIFY THOSE WHICH ARE OF HISTORICAL VALUE AND KEEP THEM HERE FOR SAFE CUSTODY.

"EQUIPPED WITH TECHNICAL KNOW-HOW ON RECORDS MANAGEMENT INCLUDING THOSE OF RECORDS DISPOSAL, WE CAN HELP THE DEPARTMENTS REDUCE THEIR RECORDS STORES."

THE P.R.O. WAS SET UP IN 1972 WITH THE HEAD OFFICE AT 2 MURRAY ROAD, CENTRAL AND A SUB-OFFICE AT 37 WONG CHUK HANG ROAD, ABERDEEN. IT WAS UNDER THE DIRECTORSHIP OF DR LAU WITH THE HELP OF TWO ASSISTANT ARCHIVISTS AND 27 SUPPORTING STAFF.

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#### DUAL CHAMPIONS FOR BEST OYS PROJECT COMPETITION

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THE YEAR 1990/1991 SAW THE KEENEST COMPETITION EVER AMONG YOUTH GROUPS FOR THE HONG KONG BEST OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH SCHEME (OYS) PROJECT ORGANISED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

A TOTAL OF 125 YOUTH GROUPS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY VIE FOR THE HONG KONG BEST OYS AWARD.

THE CHAMPIONSHIP WAS SHARED BETWEEN "CHING KIU GROUP" OF HONG KONG CHILDREN AND YOUTH SERVICES, KWONG FUK CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRE AND "MODERN YOUTH" OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S GROUP WORK UNIT IN ON TING/YAU OI COMMUNITY CENTRE.

THE TWO PROJECTS, WHICH TARGETTED AT MENTALLY-HANDICAPPED PEOPLE, SERVED ABOUT 3,000 RESIDENTS IN TAI PO AND TUEN MUN DISTRICTS.

THE VICE-CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, DR WANG GUNGWU, SPOKE AT THE HONG KONG BEST OYS AWARD PRESENTATION CEREMONY AT CITYPLAZA, TAIKOO SHING THIS (SATURDAY) MORNING.

HE NOTED THAT THE TERRITORY-WIDE SCHEME, INTRODUCED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT 16 YEARS AGO, WAS AIMED AT PROMOTING PERSONAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE.

"IT ALSO ENCOURAGES PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES IN A BID TO PROMOTE SOCIAL CONSCIOUSNESS AND RESPONSIBILITY AND TO DEVELOP THE SPIRIT OF CO-OPERATION AND MUTUAL HELP AMONG THEM," DR WANG SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE OBJECTIVES OF THE SCHEME WERE CORRECT DIRECTIONS IN FOSTERING THINKING OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE.

"THEY ARE ALSO VITAL INVESTMENTS FOR DEVELOPMENTS OF THE COMMUNITY," HE ADDED.

OFFICIATING AT THE EVENT WERE ALSO CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION OF YOUTH, MRS ROSANNA TAM, AND THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS ROSE GOODSTADT.

FOLLOWING THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY, THERE WAS AN EXHIBITION OF THE BEST DISTRICT PROJECTS. IN ADDITION TO DISPLAYS AND GAMES TO PROMOTE OYS, A 20-MINUTE VIDEO EXPLAINING THE OBJECTIVES OF THE OYS WAS ALSO SHOWN.

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AIR MAIL SERVICES TO MIDDLE EAST RESUMED

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THE POSTMASTER GENERAL, MR DOMINIC S.W. WONG, ANNOUNCED TODAY (SATURDAY) THE RESUMPTION OF ALL AIR MAIL SERVICES INCLUDING SPEEDPOST TO THE FOLLOWING MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES:

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|---------------------------|---------------------|
| BAHRAIN (STATE OF)        | CYPRUS              |
| GAZA AND KHAN YUNIS       | IRAN                |
| JORDAN                    | ISRAEL              |
| LEBANON                   | OMAN, SULTANATE OF  |
| QATAR (DOHA AND UMM SAID) | SAUDI ARABIA        |
| SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC      | TURKEY              |
| UNITED ARAB EMIRATES      | YEMEN (REPUBLIC OF) |

"I AM GLAD THAT THIS IS NOW POSSIBLE BECAUSE WE HAVE SUCCEEDED IN MAKING ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS TO FORWARD MAIL ITEMS TO THESE PLACES BY AIR," MR WONG SAID.

ALL AIR MAIL SERVICES INCLUDING SPEEDPOST TO IRAQ AND KUWAIT REMAIN SUSPENDED.

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MEDIA PLAYS CRUCIAL ROLE IN PROMOTING CIVIC EDUCATION

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THE MEDIA CAN HELP PROMOTE RESIDENTS' CIVIC AWARENESS, WHICH IS CRUCIAL TO COMMUNITY BUILDING, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION, DR DANIEL TSE, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

DR TSE WAS SPEAKING AT A SEMINAR ON THE "MASS MEDIA AND CIVIC EDUCATION" ORGANISED BY THE COMMITTEE AT THE HONG KONG CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE.

"IN VIEW OF THE EXTENT OF ITS INFLUENCE ON AND CONTACT WITH THE COMMUNITY, THE MASS MEDIA IS CONSIDERED ONE OF THE MOST EFFECTIVE CHANNELS FOR PROMOTING CIVIC EDUCATION," HE SAID.

DR TSE APPEALED TO THE MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES TO JOIN THE RANKS OF CIVIC EDUCATION FRONTLINE WORKERS IN CHAMPIONING THIS MEANINGFUL CAUSE.

THE OTHER SPEAKERS AT THE SEMINAR INCLUDED THE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION (HKJA), MISS LEE YUET-WAH; HEAD OF RTHK'S CHINESE NEWS AND CURRENT AFFAIRS SECTION, MR SHIU LO-SIN; A LECTURER IN JOURNALISM AND COMMUNICATION OF THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, DR JOSEPH CHAN TAO-MAN; AND THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT CIVIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MR TAI HAY-LAP.

THEY SPOKE ABOUT THE INFLUENCE OF THE MEDIA ON PUBLIC AWARENESS OF CURRENT AFFAIRS AND THE PUBLIC PERCEPTION OF MEDIA REPORTS AND RESPONDED TO QUESTIONS RAISED BY TWO COMMENTATORS, COMMITTEE MEMBER MR CHENG KAI-NAM AND A CHINESE UNIVERSITY LECTURER DR LEUNG WAI-YIN.

THE DISCUSSION WAS THEN OPENED TO THE FLOOR WHICH COMPRISED 80 PARTICIPANTS FROM THE MASS MEDIA AND CIVIC EDUCATION ORGANISATIONS.

ALSO PRESENT AT TODAY'S SEMINAR WERE THE CHAIRMAN OF HKJA, MISS EMILY LAU AND THE CONVENOR OF THE SEMINAR'S WORKING GROUP, DR LEONARD CHU.

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CRIME RATE IN TSEUNG KWAN O KEPT AT LOW LEVEL

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WITH THE CO-OPERATION AND SUPPORT OF THE RESIDENTS AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS, THE CRIME RATE IN TSEUNG KWAN O NEW TOWN FOR THE FIRST THREE QUARTERS OF LAST YEAR WAS KEPT AT A MUCH LOWER LEVEL THAN THAT IN OTHER POLICE DISTRICTS, THE KWUN TONG POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDER, MR ARTHUR HIGGINBOTTOM, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME VARIETY SHOW AT TSUI LAM ESTATE, TSEUNG KWAN O, MR HIGGINBOTTOM SAID IN HONG KONG AS A WHOLE, THE NUMBER OF CRIMES PER 100,000 PEOPLE WAS 370 CASES IN THE SECOND QUARTER AND 393.4 CASES IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF LAST YEAR.

WHEREAS THE FIGURES FOR TSEUNG KWAN O WERE 92 AND 138 CASES DURING THE SAME PERIODS.

"THIS MEANS THAT ON AVERAGE THE DISTRICT'S CRIME RATE STANDS AT ONLY 40 TO 45 PER CENT OF OTHER DISTRICTS," HE STRESSED.

MR HIGGINBOTTOM SAID IN ORDER TO COPE WITH THE INCREASING POPULATION OF TSEUNG KWAN O, THE POLICE WILL STEP UP THEIR EFFORT IN POLICING THE COMMUNITY.

APART FROM THE EXISTING TWO NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE OFFICES IN TSUI LAM ESTATE AND PO LAM ESTATE, THE NEW TSEUNG KWAN O POLICE STATION WILL BE PUT INTO OPERATION BY THE END OF THIS YEAR.

MR HIGGINBOTTOM URGED THE RESIDENTS TO CO-OPERATE WITH THE POLICE TO ENSURE THAT TSEUNG KWAN O MAINTAINS A PLEASANT AND PEACEFUL LIVING ENVIRONMENT.

"I WOULD ASK YOU TO EXERCISE YOUR CIVIC RESPONSIBILITIES AND CO-OPERATE WITH US IN REPORTING AND PREVENTING CRIMES AND WHERE NECESSARY GO TO THE COURT TO GIVE EVIDENCE, SO THAT POLICING OF YOUR COMMUNITY CAN BE CARRIED OUT EFFICIENTLY AND EFFECTIVELY," HE SAID.

THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME STAR, A TV ARTIST, MISS LEE SEE-KEI, ALSO APPEALED TO THE RESIDENTS TO REPORT TRIAD ACTIVITIES TO THE POLICE.

"COMMUNITY SUPPORT IS OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE IN OUR FIGHT AGAINST CRIMES," SHE STRESSED.

TONIGHT'S VARIETY SHOW, FEATURING MORE THAN TWO HOURS OF ENTERTAINMENTS INCLUDING LION DANCE, MAGIC SHOW, KUNG FU DEMONSTRATION AND SINGING PERFORMANCE, WAS ATTENDED BY MORE THAN 1,000 RESIDENTS.

OTHER OFFICIATING GUESTS INCLUDED FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE MEMBER, MR PETER WONG; SAI KUNG DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MR CHEUNG CHUN-HOI; SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR WILLIAM WAN; AND SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR FREDERICK TONG.

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FIGHT CRIME MESSAGES SPREAD THROUGHOUT NT

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ABOUT 30 MEMBERS OF VARIOUS DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEES TOOK PART IN A BUS TOUR TO NEW TOWNS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES TODAY (SATURDAY) TO PLEDGE SUPPORT FOR THE DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME ACTIVITIES.

THE GROUP STARTED THEIR TOUR IN THE EARLY AFTERNOON BY ATTENDING THE OPENING CEREMONY OF A HOME SECURITY SEMINAR AT THE REGAL RIVERSIDE HOTEL IN SHA TIN.

THE SEMINAR ATTRACTED MORE THAN 100 RESIDENTS AND MEMBERS OF MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES.

THE GROUP THEN PROCEEDED TO THE SHOPPING MALL OF TAI WO ESTATE IN TAI PO, WHERE A FIGHT CRIME CARNIVAL CUM HOME SECURITY DAY WAS HELD.

THE CARNIVAL INCLUDED A VARIETY SHOW, A DRAMA, POP SONGS, STALL GAMES, A QUIZ AND EXHIBITIONS.

THEY ALSO ATTENDED THE NORTH DISTRICT PARENT-CHILD FIGHT CRIME DAY WHICH TOOK PLACE AT THE CENTRAL PLAYGROUND IN CHEUNG WAH ESTATE, FANLING.

THE OBJECTIVE OF THIS EVENT WAS TO PREVENT CRIME THROUGH CLOSE FAMILY TIES AND PARENT-CHILD RELATIONS.

TO ACHIEVE THIS END, A PUBLIC FORUM ON PARENTAL CARE WAS ORGANISED AND COUNSELLING SERVICES WERE PROVIDED BY SOCIAL WORKERS AND THE POLICE.

THERE WERE ALSO A VARIETY SHOW AND EXHIBITIONS.

IN TUEN MUN, A FIGHT CRIME CARNIVAL WAS HELD AT YAN OI TOWN SQUARE TO DISSEMINATE THE HOME SECURITY AND ANTI-NARCOTICS MESSAGES.

ON HONG KONG ISLAND, A SIMILAR EVENT WAS HELD AT THE SOUTHERN PLAYGROUND IN WAN CHAI.

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DISTRICT OFFICER SPOKE ON DANGERS OF DRUGS

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YOUNG PEOPLE SHOULD GET TO UNDERSTAND THE DANGER OF DRUGS AND SHOULD NEVER BE TEMPTED TO TRY THEM, THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR PETER MANN, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE DISTRICT'S ANTI-NARCOTICS AND FIGHT CRIME CARNIVAL AT SOUTHERN PLAYGROUND, MR MANN TOLD YOUNG PEOPLE THAT NARCOTIC DRUGS WOULD RUIN THEIR LIVES.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE (DFCC), MR LESTER KWOK, REMINDED RESIDENTS TO BE ALERT ABOUT CRIME AND THE NARCOTIC PROBLEM AND TO REPORT THEM TO THE POLICE.

/ORGANISED JOINTLY .....

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ORGANISED JOINTLY BY THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS AND THE DFCC, THE CARNIVAL WAS AIMED AT SPREADING THE ANTI-NARCOTICS AND ANTI-CRIME MESSAGES TO RESIDENTS.

HUNDREDS OF RESIDENTS ATTENDED THE CARNIVAL WHICH PROVIDED GAMES AND PERFORMANCES.

IN ADDITION, 11 CIVIC-MINDED CITIZENS WERE PRESENTED THE DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME AWARDS FOR THEIR EXEMPLARY ACTS IN HELPING THE POLICE.

ALSO OFFICIATING AT THE CARNIVAL WERE THE DISTRICT POLICE COMMANDER, MR LIONEL LAM; A FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE MEMBER, MRS MIRIAM LAU; WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MRS PEGGY LAM; AND CHAIRMEN OF THE DISTRICT'S FIVE AREA COMMITTEES.

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WATER QUALITY AND MANAGEMENT SEMINAR FOR FACTORY OPERATORS  
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A SEMINAR ON WATER QUALITY CONTROL AND INDUSTRIAL BUILDING MANAGEMENT ATTRACTED ABOUT 100 FACTORY OPERATORS AND MEMBERS OF OWNERS' CORPORATIONS IN KWAI TSING TODAY (SATURDAY).

THE SEMINAR, ORGANISED BY THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT INDUSTRIAL BUILDING MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATION TEAM AND THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT BOARD, FOCUSED ON THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL REGULATION AND ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH INDUSTRIAL BUILDING MANAGEMENT.

AN OPERATOR OF A DYEING AND BLEACHING FACTORY TALKED ABOUT THE INDUSTRY'S DIFFICULTIES IN COMPLYING WITH THE REGULATIONS AND THE ASSISTANCE WHICH THE OPERATORS HOPED THE GOVERNMENT COULD PROVIDE.

IN RESPONSE, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE BUILDING MANAGEMENT, MR CHUNG PUI-LAM, SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICER OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT, MR TANG KIN-FAI AND BUILDING SURVEYOR OF THE BUILDING ORDINANCE OFFICE, MR DAVY YUEN, ADVISED THE OPERATORS ON THE WAY TO OVERCOME THESE DIFFICULTIES.

THE SEMINAR WAS ONE OF THE ACTIVITIES SPONSORED BY THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT BOARD TO PROMOTE BUILDING MANAGEMENT. A BUILDING MANAGEMENT COURSE AND A SLOGAN COMPETITION WERE ORGANISED EARLIER THIS FINANCIAL YEAR.

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SURVEY ON URBAN TAXI OPERATION

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL CONDUCT A SURVEY ON THE OPERATION CHARACTERISTICS OF URBAN TAXIS OVER THE NEXT TWO WEEKS.

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE TWO-PART SURVEY WOULD INCLUDE A QUESTIONNAIRE SURVEY AND A METER-READING SURVEY.

LETTERS, QUESTIONNAIRE FORMS AND SKETCHES SHOWING THE LOCATIONS OF THE METER-READING HAVE BEEN SENT TO SELECTED OPERATORS, SEEKING THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE SURVEY.

FOR THE METER-READING SURVEY, SELECTED TAXI OWNERS WILL BE REQUESTED TO PRESENT THEIR VEHICLES TO ANY OF THE 10 METER-READING CENTRES THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY.

METER-READING WILL BE CONDUCTED FROM JANUARY 28 TO FEBRUARY 1 AND FROM FEBRUARY 4 TO 8 DURING 9.30 AM TO 12.30 PM AND 2.00 PM TO 4.30 PM.

OWNERS OF THE SELECTED TAXIS ARE REQUESTED TO COMPLETE A SHORT QUESTIONNAIRE ON THEIR OPERATION INCLUDING ITEMS SUCH AS OPERATING FORMAT, INCOME AND FUEL AND MAINTENANCE COSTS.

THEY ARE REQUESTED TO RETURN THE COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE TO THE DEPARTMENT BY FEBRUARY 4.

THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT ALL INFORMATION COLLECTED WILL BE KEPT IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND ONLY BE USED FOR STATISTICAL ANALYSIS.

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SPECIAL CAR NUMBERS SOLD BY AUCTION

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SEVENTY SPECIAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION NUMBERS WERE PUT UP FOR AUCTION THIS (SATURDAY) MORNING FOR A TOTAL OF \$288,100 WHICH WILL GO TO THE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES FUND FOR CHARITY PURPOSES.

THE AUCTION, HELD AT THE CITY HALL'S RECITAL HALL, SAW THE REGISTRATION NUMBER BM850 FETCH THE HIGHEST PRICE OF \$134,000.

ANOTHER NUMBER EN608 WAS SOLD AT THE SECOND HIGHEST PRICE OF \$10,000 WHILE THE LOWEST PRICE WAS \$ 1,000 \*EACH FOR/ EK740, EL4098, AW486, EL1011, EP2523, EL4383, EL9499, CF6779, EN5768, EM7891, EN2343, AH5456, EL3884, CN427, EL3345, EL486, AT501, EM408, AL486, EP1654, BL1956 AND AK2152.

/FOLLOWING ARE .....

## FOLLOWING ARE THE RESULTS OF TODAY'S AUCTION:

## FROM 10 AM TO 10.45 AM

	\$		\$		\$		\$		\$
AV486	4,000	EL1081	2,000	EK9226	1,500	EL6008	3,500	EL3680	1,300
EL9666	4,000	DA2271	1,200	EL3884	1,000	CN427	1,000	EP2523	1,000
EK740	1,000	EN915	1,200	EM8600	6,000	EM129	6,000	EL8732	1,800
AH5456	1,000	EL4006	W/D	EP284	2,200	EL1011	1,000	EM921	3,300
CV427	W/D	EL448	2,400	BM850	134,000	EL3345	1,000	EL1227	2,600
EK531	5,500	DR1737	W/D	CV6908	1,400	EM750	2,200	EL486	1,000
EM7776	1,500	EL4098	1,000	AW486	1,000	BX1916	W/D	BJ1112	2,900

## FROM 11 AM TO 11.45 AM

	\$		\$		\$		\$		\$
EM6200	3,000	EM408	1,000	EJ7080	3,600	EM7688	4,000	AW8348	2,800
EM590	1,600	BY912	2,300	EM1560	1,200	EM7891	1,000	EM7862	1,600
EL4383	1,000	CF6779	1,000	AG2788	7,000	BL1956	1,000	EN2343	1,000
AT501	1,000	EM2155	W/D	EM637	1,200	EN3555	1,500	AK2152	1,000
EL3208	5,600	AL486	1,000	EN129	6,800	EM9091	1,800	EP8494	W/D
EM449	W/D	EP8600	5,600	EN5768	1,000	EN608	10,000	EN240	1,200
EL9499	1,000	EM1500	3,200	EP1654	1,000	EN1120	3,400	BB621	8,200

SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS WERE REQUIRED TO PAY BY CHEQUE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE BIDDING. CV427, EL4006, DR1737, EM449, EM2155, EP8494 AND BX1916 WERE WITHDRAWN AND DEPOSITS \$7,000 WERE FOREFIETED TO THE TOTAL REALIZED.

THE NUMBERS AUCTIONED WILL BE ASSIGNED ONLY TO VEHICLES REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF THE DATE OF AUCTION.

TODAY'S SALE, THE 160TH ORGANISED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SINCE MAY 1973, BROUGHT THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF MONEY FOR CHARITY REALISED SO FAR TO \$114,018,605.

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## PROPRIETORS URGED TO WATCH OUT FOR IMPOSTERS

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (SATURDAY) CALLED ON COMPANY PROPRIETORS TO BE ON THE ALERT FOR PEOPLE IMPERSONATING OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT.

THE DEPARTMENT HAS RECENTLY RECEIVED REPORTS FROM A NUMBER OF COMPANIES SAYING THAT THEY WERE APPROACHED FOR INFORMATION BY PEOPLE CLAIMING TO BE LABOUR DEPARTMENT OFFICERS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT EXPLAINED THAT OFFICERS MAKING TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES WOULD ALWAYS GIVE THEIR NAMES, AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS OR OFFICE ADDRESSES, WHILE THOSE ON SITE VISITS WOULD PRODUCE VALID WARRANT CARDS.

/"PROPRIETORS SHOULD .....

"PROPRIETORS SHOULD NOTE THAT ALL SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT ARE FREE OF CHARGE, AND THERE IS NO QUESTION OF INDIVIDUAL OFFICERS ASKING FOR MONETARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO DEPARTMENTAL PUBLICATIONS," HE ADDED.

"IF PROPRIETORS HAVE ANY DOUBT ABOUT A CALLER'S IDENTITY, THEY SHOULD ASK FOR THE FULL PARTICULARS OF HIS OFFICE AND CHECK WITH THE DEPARTMENT OR REPORT IMMEDIATELY TO THE NEAREST POLICE STATION," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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POLICE REMINDER ON OVERLOADING

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DRIVERS OF OVERLOADED GOODS VEHICLES ARE REMINDED THAT THEY MIGHT BE ARRESTED AND FACE THE CHARGE OF RECKLESS DRIVING INSTEAD OF JUST RECEIVING A FIXED PENALTY TICKET FROM FEBRUARY, A POLICE SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

IN VIEW OF THE DRASTIC INCREASE IN OVERLOADING OFFENCES OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS, POLICE HAVE DECIDED TO TIGHTEN THEIR ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS.

STARTING FROM FEBRUARY 1, THE DRIVERS OF ANY GOODS VEHICLES WHICH ARE OVERLOADED BY 41 PER CENT OR MORE OF THE PERMITTED GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT WILL BE ARRESTED AND MAY FACE THE CHARGE OF RECKLESS DRIVING PENDING THE MOTOR VEHICLE EXAMINER'S INSPECTION.

FOR THOSE VEHICLES OVERLOADED BY 26 PER CENT TO 40 PER CENT, THE DRIVERS WILL BE SUMMONSED, WHILE FIXED PENALTY TICKETS WILL BE GIVEN TO THOSE WHO HAVE THEIR VEHICLES OVERLOADED BY 11 PER CENT TO 25 PER CENT OF THE PERMITTED WEIGHT.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO ADVISED MOTORISTS THAT DRIVING OVERLOADED OR IMPROPERLY LOADED VEHICLES NOT ONLY ENDANGERS THEMSELVES BUT ALSO OTHER ROAD USERS.

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