



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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/LEGCO BILLS

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SUPPORT FOR CLOSED CAMPS

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THE SENIOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBER, THE HON R.H. LOBO, SPEAKING FOR ALL HIS COLLEAGUES AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, EXPRESSED FULL SUPPORT FOR THE SETTING UP OF CLOSED CAMPS FOR THE DETENTION OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES.

HE SAID THAT DESPITE ITS OWN OVER-POPULATION PROBLEMS, HONG KONG HAD FOR MORE THAN THREE YEARS TAKEN A HUMANITARIAN STAND IN PROVIDING TEMPORARY ASYLUM FOR REFUGEES FROM VIETNAM.

HE POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, THAT THERE WAS A REAL DANGER THAT MANY OF THE SO-CALLED REFUGEES WHO HAD BEEN HERE FOR SOME TIME WERE COMING TO LOOK UPON HONG KONG AS A PLACE FOR PERMANENT RESIDENCE AND THAT OTHERS MIGHT BE THINKING OF JOINING THEM.

+THIS MUST BE DISCOURAGED AT ALL COSTS AND ALL REASONABLE STEPS TAKEN TO DETER FURTHER ARRIVALS,+ MR LOBO STRESSED.

+UNPLEASANT THOUGH IT MAY BE - AND THE MEASURES PROPOSED HAVE NOT BEEN DECIDED ON LIGHTLY - THE CONFINEMENT OF NEWCOMERS TO CLOSED CAMPS IS SEEN AS A NECESSARY STEP TOWARDS THIS END.

+THIS IS NO MORE THAN WHAT MANY COUNTRIES HAVE DONE FROM THE OUTSET.+

HE WAS PLEASED TO NOTE, HOWEVER THAT AN AMENDMENT WAS TO BE PROPOSED IN THE COMMITTEE STAGE OF THE BILL TO PROVIDE A SAFEGUARD AGAINST UNLAWFUL DETENTION.

IN ADDITION, MR LOBO SAID, THOSE REFUGEES WHO HAS ABUSED OUR HOSPITALITY AND TURNED THEIR OPEN CAMPS INTO BATTLEFIELDS SHOULD HAVE NO RIGHT TO FREEDOM HERE.

+WE WOULD URGE THE GOVERNMENT TO PURSUE THE RESETTLEMENT OF THESE REFUGEES OUTSIDE HONG KONG WITH RENEWED VIGOUR AND, AT THE SAME TIME, TO EXAMINE ALL POSSIBLE MEANS OF SECURING THEIR REPATRIATION.

+I CAN ONLY ADD THAT THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THIS COUNCIL PLEDGE OUR WHOLEHEARTED SUPPORT TOWARDS THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THESE OBJECTIVES,+ HE SAID.

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FLOOD OF REFUGEES FEARED

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THERE WAS A VERY REAL DANGER THAT, IN THE FACE OF GREATLY REDUCED RESETTLEMENT OPPORTUNITIES, HONG KONG, WITH ITS OPEN CAMPS FOR REFUGEES, WOULD BECOME THE MAIN DESTINATION FOR THOSE WHO WERE SEEKING TO LEAVE VIETNAM, THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, THE HON LEWIS DAVIES, SAID TODAY.

HE WAS SPEAKING IN MOVING THE SECOND READING IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE IMMIGRATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1982, WHICH PROVIDES THE GOVERNMENT WITH THE NECESSARY POWERS TO SET UP CLOSED CAMPS, TO DETAIN VIETNAMESE REFUGEES IN THEM AND TO DRAW UP RULES FOR THEIR GOOD MANAGEMENT.

THE BILL, WHICH ALSO PROVIDES THE GOVERNMENT WITH THE POWER TO REPATRIATE ANY REFUGEE IF AND WHEN CIRCUMSTANCES PERMIT, WAS PASSED INTO LAW WITH AMENDMENTS, IN ONE SITTING TODAY, WITH THE FULL SUPPORT OF UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS.

+INDEED, SOME MAY BE MISLED INTO BELIEVING THAT HONG KONG ITSELF MAY BE A LIKELY PLACE OF PERMANENT RESETTLEMENT,+ HE SAID.

TO UNDERLINE THAT THIS WAS NOT THE CASE, MR DAVIES SAID, THE BILL MADE IT CLEAR THAT REFUGEES COULD NOT GAIN CHINESE RESIDENT STATUS.

HE SAID THE NUMBER OF REFUGEES COMING INTO THE REGION AS A WHOLE IN THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1982 AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1981 HAD DROPPED FROM 39 500 TO 21 200, ABOUT 46 PER CENT, WHILE THE NUMBER COMING TO HONG KONG HAD ONLY DROPPED FROM 3 500 TO 3 200 OR 8.6 PER CENT - THE LOWEST PERCENTAGE FALL IN THE REGION.

+THESE FIGURES INDICATE THAT SOME POSITIVE CHANGES MUST BE MADE TO REDUCE THE 'PULL' OF HONG KONG AS A DESTINATION,+ MR DAVIES SAID.

IN ADOPTING THE CLOSED CAMP POLICY, HE SAID, THE GOVERNMENT WAS BRINGING HONG KONG INTO LINE WITH THE REST OF THE REGION.

+THIS MOVE SHOULD MAKE HONG KONG LESS ATTRACTIVE FOR REFUGEES. WHEN THE MESSAGE GETS BACK TO VIETNAM, IT SHOULD HELP TO DETER PEOPLE FROM SETTING OUT.+

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AIM TO DETER USE OF SHIP FOR DRUG SMUGGLING
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THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THE DANGEROUS DRUG (AMENDMENT)(NO. 2) BILL 1982 IS TO DETER TRAFFICKERS IN DANGEROUS DRUGS FROM USING SHIP TO CARRY ON THEIR NEFARIOUS TRADE, THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, THE HON LEWIS DAVIES, SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

IN MOVING THE SECOND READING OF THE BILL, MR DAVIES EXPLAINED THAT IT IMPOSES SANCTIONS ON THE OWNERS OF SHIPS WHICH ARE FOUND ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION TO HAVE SMUGGLED EXCESSIVE QUANTITIES OF DRUGS INTO HONG KONG.

THE SANCTIONS ARE A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$5 MILLION, AND IF THE PENALTY IMPOSED BY THE COURT IS NOT PAID, THE SHIP MAY BE FORFEITED TO THE CROWN.

HE SAID THAT SINCE THE DISRUPTION OF THE SYSTEM OF SMUGGLING DRUGS INTO HONG KONG BY THAI TRAWLERS IN 1974, TRAFFICKERS TURNED TO THE USE OF INDIVIDUAL COURIERS TO SMUGGLE DRUGS. +ONE OF THE METHODS FAVOURED WAS THE USE OF OCEAN-GOING VESSELS,+ HE SAID.

BETWEEN 1974 AND THIS MONTH, 675 SEIZURES OF 670 KILOGRAMMES OF ILLICIT DRUGS HAVE BEEN MADE ON BOARD 231 VESSELS, RESULTING IN 104 ARRESTS. FORTY-THREE OF THESE SEIZURES INVOLVED LARGE QUANTITIES OF DRUGS, PRINCIPALLY OF OPIUM AND HEROIN, 14 OF WHICH WERE MADE ON FOUR VESSELS BELONGING TO ONE COMPANY. HE EXPLAINED THAT EIGHT OF THESE 14 SEIZURES WERE MADE ON ONE SHIP, AND FIVE OF THEM IN LESS THAN SIX MONTHS. SHIPS OF THREE OTHER COMPANIES WERE ALSO REPEATEDLY INVOLVED IN SMUGGLING DRUGS FIVE TIMES (IN 12 MONTHS) AND TWICE (IN FOUR MONTHS) AND AGAIN TWICE (IN 30 MONTHS) RESPECTIVELY, HE SAID. BECAUSE OF THE USE OF INGENIOUS HIDING PLACES, USUALLY IN PUBLIC AREAS, NO ARRESTS WERE MADE IN MANY CASES.

+SO, DESPITE THE EFFORTS OF THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICE, THE SEIZURES HAVE HAD LITTLE REAL DETERRENT- WITHOUT IDENTIFICATION OF THOSE RESPONSIBLE NOTHING BEYOND SEIZURE OF THE DRUGS HAS BEEN POSSIBLE.

+THESE VESSELS CONTINUE TO BE USED FOR CARRYING ILLICIT DRUGS AND UNDER THE EXISTING LAW NO POSITIVE ACTION CAN BE TAKEN AGAINST THEM,+ MR DAVIES SAID.

THIS SITUATION, MR DAVIES SAID, IS UNACCEPTABLE ESPECIALLY BECAUSE DRUG ABUSE REPRESENTS A CONTINUING SOCIAL MENACE TO THE COMMUNITY, AND PARTICULARLY TO YOUNG PEOPLE.

+THE GOVERNMENT HAS CONCLUDED THAT EFFECTIVE DETERRENT MEASURES TO COUNTER THIS EVIL TRAFFIC MUST BE INTRODUCED,+ MR DAVIES SAID.

AFTER CAREFUL AND LENGTHY CONSIDERATION OF THE ISSUE AND SOME ALTERNATIVE METHODS, IT WAS CONCLUDED THAT THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY OF DEALING WITH THIS MENACE IS BY AMENDMENT OF THE DANGEROUS DRUGS ORDINANCE TO IMPOSE FINANCIAL PENALTIES ON THE OWNER OF THE SHIP WHICH IS FOUND TO HAVE CARRIED EXCESSIVE QUANTITIES OF DRUGS ON TWO OCCASIONS WITHIN A PERIOD OF 18 MONTHS- IF THE PENALTY IMPOSED BY THE COURT IS NOT PAID, THE SHIP MAY BE FORFEITED TO THE CROWN.

A MAXIMUM FINANCIAL PENALTY OF \$5 MILLION HAD BEEN SET TO PRODUCE THE GREATEST POSSIBLE DETERRENT EFFECT, HE SAID.

FORFEITURE OF SHIPS IS INTENDED AS THE ULTIMATE SANCTION IN THE EVENT OF THE PENALTY NOT BEING PAID.

IN FRAMING THE PROPOSALS, THE GOVERNMENT HAD CONSIDERED THE POSSIBLE DAMAGE WHICH MIGHT BE CAUSED TO SHIPPING INTEREST AND OUR IMAGE AS A FREE AND EFFICIENT TRADING PORT.

HE ADMITTED THAT THE BILL COULD RESULT IN SOME DEGREE OF DELAY TO A SHIP BUT THIS COULD BE MINIMISED IF THE OWNER AGREED TO PAY A BAIL OR GIVE A BOND FOR THE RELEASE OF THE SHIP.

+OUR AIM MUST BE TO BALANCE THE ADVANTAGE TO BE GAINED FROM AN EFFECTIVE DETERRENT TO TRAFFICKERS AGAINST THE DISADVANTAGE OF AFFECTING THE TRADING IMAGE OF HONG KONG. I BELIEVE THE BILL DOES SO,+ MR DAVIES SAID.

IT IS INTENDED THAT, IF ENACTED, THE BILL WILL COME INTO OPERATION IN SIX MONTHS' TIME.

DEBATE ON THE BILL WAS ADJOURNED.

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LRS INVESTIGATES EVERY COMPLAINT OF WRONGFUL DISMISSAL
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THE LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATES EVERY COMPLAINT OF WRONGFUL DISMISSAL OR DISMISSAL WITHOUT REASONABLE GROUNDS, THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, THE HON J.N. HENDERSON, SAID AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

REPLYING TO QUESTIONS BY THE HON ANDREW SO, MR HENDERSON POINTED OUT THAT IN CASES ALLEGING WRONGFUL DISMISSAL -- DISMISSAL IN BREACH OF THE CONTRACT OR THE LAW -- CONCILIATION SERVICE WOULD BE RENDERED TO THE PARTIES CONCERNED AND, WHERE NECESSARY, THE CASES WOULD BE REFERRED TO THE LABOUR TRIBUNAL FOR ADJUDICATION.

IN MOST CIRCUMSTANCES, THIS PROVED TO BE SUCCESSFUL TO SAFEGUARD THE LEGAL ENTITLEMENTS OF THE WORKERS, INCLUDING WAGES IN LIEU OF NOTICE. IN OTHER CASES ALLEGING DISMISSAL WITHOUT REASONABLE GROUNDS, ADVICE WOULD BE GIVEN TO THE EMPLOYERS CONCERNED. THE EMPLOYEES, IF NOT REINSTATED, WOULD RECEIVE THEIR LEGAL ENTITLEMENTS UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE AND, IN SOME CASES, AN EX-GRATIA PAYMENT OVER AND ABOVE THE LAW WOULD BE MADE AS COMPENSATION.

FROM JUNE 1981 TO MAY 1982, THE LRS RECORDED A TOTAL OF 8 813 CLAIMS FOR DISMISSAL WITHOUT NOTICE OR WAGES IN LIEU OF NOTICE. THERE WAS, HOWEVER, NO STATISTICAL BREAKDOWN OF THE CAUSES OF DISMISSALS.

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EVIDENCE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1982

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THE OBJECT OF THE EVIDENCE (AMENDMENT) BILL IS TO REMOVE DOUBTS ABOUT THE VALIDITY OF ALLOWING DIFFERENT PEOPLE TO CARRY OUT TRANSLATING AND TRANSCRIBING WORK AND SIGNING CERTIFICATES RELATING TO SUCH WORK, THE ACTING LAW DRAFTSMAN, THE HON J.J. O'GRADY, SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

IN MOVING THE SECOND READING OF THE BILL, MR O'GRADY SAID THE BILL IS CONCERNED WITH A TECHNICAL PROBLEM RELATING TO THE USE OF CERTIFIED TRANSLATIONS OF DOCUMENTS AND TRANSCRIPTS OF TAPE RECORDINGS AS EVIDENCE IN LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

HE EXPLAINED THAT WHILE THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT HAS A STAFF OF OFFICIAL INTERPRETERS WHO ADDITIONALLY DEAL WITH DOCUMENTS AND RECORDINGS, AND PRODUCE MORE THAN 14 000 PAGES OF WORK IN A MONTH, THIS IS ONLY ABOUT FIVE PER CENT OF THE CASES.

+TRANSLATIONS ARE USUALLY SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT IN THE FORM OF DRAFTS PREPARED BY SOLICITORS, OR THE POLICE, OR THE ICAC, OR WHATEVER AUTHORITY IS INVOLVED IN THE PREPARATION OF THE CASE, MANY OF WHOM HAVE COMPETENT LINGUISTS IN THEIR STAFF,+ HE SAID.

+THE DRAFTS ARE THEN CHECKED AND CORRECTED IN THE DEPARTMENT BEFORE BEING CERTIFIED AS ACCURATE.

+ON THE BASIS OF THIS CERTIFICATE, THE RELEVANT TRANSLATION IS PRODUCED IN COURTS AND, BY VIRTUE OF THE ORDINANCE, ADMITTED IN EVIDENCE AS AN ACCURATE TRANSLATION OF THE ORIGINAL,+ HE SAID.

THE WORKLOAD IN THIS AREA IS SUCH THAT THE PRESENT PRACTICE COULD NOT BE CHANGED WITHOUT A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN STAFF, TIME AND COST.

+ON THE OTHER HAND,+ MR O'GRADY SAID, +THE PRACTICE HAS BEEN WORKING SATISFACTORILY, AND PROPER STANDARDS OF ACCURACY HAVE BEEN MAINTAINED.+

IT WAS THEREFORE PROPOSED TO REMOVE ANY DOUBT AS TO ITS LEGALITY AND CORRECTNESS, HE SAID.

DEBATE ON THE BILL WAS ADJOURNED.

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HONG KONG TAKING LEGITIMATE STAND IN TEXTILE TALKS
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THE STAND TAKEN BY HONG KONG IN THE TEXTILE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE EEC IS A LEGITIMATE DEFENCE OF OUR ESSENTIAL INTERESTS, THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS, MR BILL DORWARD TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING TODAY.

+IN ANY NEGOTIATION+, HE SAID, +EVEN BETWEEN VERY UNEQUAL PARTNERS, DUE REGARD MUST BE HAD TO THE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF EACH PARTY.+

IN REPLY TO QUESTIONS BY THE HON FRANCIS TIEN, MR DORWARD SAID THAT THE HONG KONG DELEGATION ACCEPTED THAT, ON THE EVIDENCE SHOWN, THE CONTINUATION OF RESTRAINTS ON 34 OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF 45 CATEGORIES CONCERNED COULD BE CONSIDERED JUSTIFIED. EEC DEMANDS FOR CUTBACKS IN EIGHT CATEGORIES WERE, HOWEVER, BOTH UNJUSTIFIED AND INCONSISTENT WITH THE TERMS OF THE MFA.

+IN ALL BUT ONE INSTANCE, EEC IMPORTS FROM HONG KONG OF THESE EIGHT CATEGORIES OVER THE LIFE OF THE CURRENT AGREEMENT - FROM JANUARY 1978 - HAVE DECLINED, ON AVERAGE BY ABOUT 14 PER CENT. HONG KONG WAS NOT IN ALL CASES THE PRINCIPAL SUPPLIER, AND HONG KONG PRICES WERE IN SOME INSTANCES HIGHER THAN THOSE OF SIGNIFICANT SUPPLIERS WHICH WERE UNRESTRAINED, + HE EXPLAINED.

AT THE NEGOTIATIONS, SAID MR DORWARD, THE EEC PRESENTED STATISTICAL DATA PURPORTING TO SUPPORT THEIR REQUEST THAT HONG KONG CONTINUE RESTRAINTS ON ALL THE PRODUCTS SUBJECT TO RESTRAINT UNDER THE CURRENT FIVE YEAR AGREEMENT WHICH EXPIRES IN DECEMBER 1982= AND ALSO TO SUPPORT THEIR CLAIM OF +UNIQUE PROBLEMS+ IN EIGHT CATEGORIES OF PRODUCTS WHERE THEY SOUGHT A 12 PER CENT CUTBACK ON THE EXISTING QUOTA LEVELS FOR THE FIVE APPAREL ITEMS, AND THE SUSPENSION OF ALL FLEXIBILITY PROVISIONS FOR THREE YARN AND FABRIC CATEGORIES. THEY ALSO PROPOSED THAT ANNUAL GROWTH RATES FOR THESE CATEGORIES BE REDUCED TO 0.1 PER CENT.

ON THE PROGRESS OF THE NEGOTIATION, MR DORWARD SAID THAT DISCUSSION OF GROWTH RATES AND FLEXIBILITY PROVISIONS WAS POSTPONED UNTIL THE QUESTION OF BASE LEVELS IS RESOLVED. THERE WAS, HOWEVER, SOME PROGRESS MADE ON TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF THE PROPOSED AGREEMENT.

HE STRESSED THAT HONG KONG WOULD CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN THAT A FIRST PRIORITY MUST ESTABLISH TO WHAT EXTENT, IF ANY, SPECIFIC EEC PROBLEMS ARE BEING ACTUALLY OR POTENTIALLY CAUSED BY IMPORTS FROM HONG KONG.

+WHERE THAT CAN BE ESTABLISHED, SOLUTIONS CAN BE FOUND, BUT ONLY SOLUTIONS CONSISTENT WITH THE MFA. THESE COULD LEGITIMATELY LEAD TO REDUCTIONS IN GROWTH AND FLEXIBILITY PROVISIONS, SUCH EXIGENCIES HAVING BEEN SPECIFICALLY ENVISAGED IN THE PROTOCOL OF EXTENSION OF THE MFA= BUT NOT TO CUTBACK ON QUOTA LIMITS, + HE CONCLUDED.

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LABOUR DEPARTMENT PROPOSES EXAMINATION OF PAYMENT OF CLAIMS
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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT PROPOSES TO EXAMINE THE POSSIBILITY OF SPEEDING UP PAYMENT OF CLAIMS TO EMPLOYEES WHO LOSE THEIR JOBS AS A RESULT OF CLOSURE OF BUSINESS.

THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, THE HON. J.N. HENDERSON, SAID THIS AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY) IN REPLY TO QUESTIONS BY THE HON. ANDREW SO.

MR HENDERSON POINTED OUT THAT THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE PROVIDED EMPLOYEES WITH SAFEGUARD FOR THEIR WAGES.

UNDER THE ORDINANCE, AN EMPLOYER WOULD BE GUILTY OF AN OFFENCE AND LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$5 000 IF HE WILFULLY AND WITHOUT ANY REASONABLE EXCUSE FAILED TO PAY WAGES DUE.

IF AN EMPLOYEE FOUND HIS EMPLOYER FINANCIALLY UNABLE TO PAY WAGES OR OTHER STATUTORY ENTITLEMENTS, HE MIGHT PURSUE HIS CLAIMS THROUGH WINDING-UP OR BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDINGS.

UNDER THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE OR THE BANKRUPTCY ORDINANCE, MR HENDERSON ADDED, AN EMPLOYEE WAS ENTITLED TO THE FOLLOWING PAYMENTS OUT OF THE ASSETS OF THE EMPLOYER IN PAR WITH CROWN DEBTS BUT IN PREFERENCE TO ALL CREDITORS OTHER THAN DEBENTURE HOLDERS:

- * WAGE AND SALARY UP TO A MAXIMUM OF \$8 000=
- * ONE MONTH'S WAGES IN LIEU OF NOTICE UP TO \$2 000= AND
- * A SEVERANCE PAYMENT UP TO \$8 000.

MR HENDERSON CONCEDED THAT FULL PAYMENT OF CLAIMS TO EMPLOYEES DEPENDED ON THE MONEY AND ASSETS, WHICH THE EMPLOYER MIGHT HAVE AND WHICH THE LIQUIDATOR MIGHT BE ABLE TO RECOVER AND SELL.

+THE NATURE OF THESE PROCEEDINGS IS SLOW-MOVING BECAUSE OF THE NEED TO ENSURE THAT ALL CREDITORS WHICH INCLUDE EMPLOYEES GET THE MOST FAVOURABLE RETURN ON THE AVAILABLE ASSETS OF THE INSOLVENT EMPLOYER. HOWEVER, CLEARLY IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO EMPLOYEES IF WAYS OF SPEEDING UP PAYMENT WITHOUT DETRIMENT TO THEIR OWN LONG-TERM INTERESTS, AND THOSE OF OTHER CREDITORS, COULD BE FOUND,+ HE SAID.

ACCORDING TO THE RECORDS OF THE LRS, THERE WERE 208 CASES OF INSOLVENCY OF EMPLOYERS INVOLVING 5 099 WORKERS, WHO WERE REFERRED TO THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT FROM JUNE 1981 TO MAY 1982. THE AMOUNT OF CLAIMS INVOLVED WAS \$13.8 MILLION.

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MORE FIREWORKS DISPLAYS IN COMING YEARS
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FOLLOWING THE SUCCESS OF THE FIREWORKS DISPLAY ON THE EVENING OF LUNAR NEW YEAR'S DAY THIS YEAR, MORE DISPLAYS WILL BE STAGED IN COMING YEARS.

THE 20-MINUTE DISPLAY OF FIREWORKS THIS YEAR, SPONSORED BY JARDINE MATHESON AND CO. LTD. AND ORGANISED BY THE TOURIST ASSOCIATION, WAS ONE OF THE LARGEST BY INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AND WAS SET AGAINST MUSIC BROADCAST THROUGH RADIO HONG KONG. IT WAS WATCHED BY LARGE NUMBERS OF PEOPLE ON BOTH SIDES OF THE HARBOUR.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE PUBLIC HAD OBVIOUSLY ENJOYED THE DISPLAY. AFTER REVIEWING THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE EVENT, THE GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO ALLOW FIREWORKS DISPLAYS TO BE STAGED IN CELEBRATION OF THE TWO MAJOR CHINESE FESTIVALS, LUNAR NEW YEAR AND MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL.

THE GOVERNMENT HAS ACCEPTED AN OFFER FROM JARDINE MATHESON AND CO. LTD. TO SPONSOR AN ANNUAL DISPLAY ON LUNAR NEW YEAR'S DAY IN THE HARBOUR FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS, STARTING 1983. THE URBAN COUNCIL HAS BEEN INVITED TO ORGANISE THE DISPLAY IN 1983.

IF PRIVATE SPONSORSHIPS ARE FORTHCOMING, DISPLAYS WILL ALSO BE ALLOWED IN THE HARBOUR IN MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL, AS WELL AS SMALLER DISPLAYS IN OTHER VENUES, INCLUDING IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, ON BOTH FESTIVAL DAYS. HOWEVER, THE LUNAR NEW YEAR DISPLAY IN 1983 WILL BE THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TO ALLOW ADEQUATE TIME FOR PROPER PLANNING AND ORGANISATION.

A COMMITTEE COMPRISING THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, SECRETARY FOR CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, COMMISSIONER FOR MINES AND TWO UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS WILL BE SET UP TO CONSIDER APPLICATIONS FROM ORGANISATIONS WHICH WISH TO STAGE DISPLAYS.

+AS A FIREWORKS DISPLAY IS EXPENSIVE AND INVOLVES CAREFUL ORGANISATION, PERMISSION WILL ONLY BE GIVEN TO THOSE ORGANISATIONS WITH SOUND FINANCIAL STANDING AND KNOWN ORGANISATIONAL CAPABILITY,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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LAND RESUMPTION EXPLAINED

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PRIOR TO THE ENACTMENT OF THE ROAD (WORKS, USE AND COMPENSATION) ORDINANCE, THE PROCESS OF RESUMING LAND FOR ROAD CONSTRUCTION COULD BE CARRIED ON SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT TOWARDS THE STAGE OF CALLING FOR TENDERS.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, THE HON N.K. CHAN, IN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON CHARLES YEUNG IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

HE SAID THAT THE EXTENT OF THE LAND REQUIRED HAVING BEEN ASCERTAINED, IT REMAINED ONLY FOR THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL TO BE SATISFIED THAT THE LAND WAS NEEDED FOR A PUBLIC PURPOSE BEFORE THE NECESSARY RESUMPTION ORDERS COULD BE MADE.

HE ADDED THAT IT WAS NORMAL HOWEVER FOR THE SCHEME TO HAVE BEEN AUTHORISED UNDER THE STREETS (ALTERATION) ORDINANCE BEFORE RESUMPTION WAS FORMALLY AUTHORISED.

+UNDER THE NEW ORDINANCE, IN ADDITION TO THE LONGER PERIOD REQUIRED FOR THE GAZETTING OF THE SCHEME, THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL MAY REFER THE PLAN AND THE SCHEME AND OBJECTIONS TO THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD, WHICH IS REQUIRED TO EXHIBIT THE PLAN AND THE SCHEME AS IT WERE A DRAFT TOWN PLAN,+ MR CHAN SAID.

+FOLLOWING WHICH THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD WILL CONSIDER THE PLAN AND SCHEME TOGETHER WITH THE ORIGINAL OBJECTIONS AND ANY RECEIVED AS A RESULT OF THE BOARD'S ACTION BEFORE ADVISING THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL. THIS WOULD INEVITABLY CAUSE SOME DELAY.+

HOWEVER, HE STRESSED THAT FOR ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS PLANNED FOR COMMENCEMENT AT SOME DISTANCE IN THE FUTURE THE ACTUAL DATE OF RESUMPTION SHOULD NOT BE DELAYED AT ALL, SINCE IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR THE CRITICAL PATH OF ACTIVITIES LEADING UP TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF WORKS TO BE ADJUSTED TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME FOR THE NEW PROCEDURES TO BE MET WITHOUT DELAYING EITHER THE PROJECT OR THE ACQUISITION OF THE NECESSARY LAND.

+IT IS ONLY IN THE CASE OF CURRENT ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS FOR WHICH, AT THE TIME OF ENACTMENT OF THE NEW LAW, THE RESUMPTION PROCESS WAS ALREADY WELL ADVANCED BUT NOT COMPLETED, THAT THERE WILL INEVITABLY BE SOME DELAY DUE TO THE NEED TO FOLLOW THE NEW PROCEDURES,+ MR CHAN SAID.

IN RESPECT OF THE NT CIRCULAR ROAD SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED BY MR YEUNG, MR CHAN SAID, ALL LAND RESUMPTION PROCEDURES HAD BEEN COMPLETED OR WERE IN HAND FOR THE LENGTH OF ROAD FROM TAI PO TO FANLING AND FOR THE FANLING BYPASS.

+ACTION WILL HAVE TO BE TAKEN UNDER THE NEW ORDINANCE WITH RESPECT TO THE LENGTH OF ROAD FROM FANLING TO AU TAU AND PREPARATIONS FOR GAZETTING ARE WELL IN HAND,+ HE ADDED.

+PROVIDING THERE ARE NO MAJOR OBJECTIONS TO THE PROJECT AND PROVIDING THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL DOES NOT SEE THE NEED TO REFER THE SCHEME TO THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD I DO NOT ANTICIPATE ANY SIGNIFICANT DELAY IN THE LAND RESUMPTION PROGRAMME DUE TO THE CHANGE IN ORDINANCES.+

RACKETEERS BEHIND SQUATTER HUTS
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VERY FEW SQUATTERS BUILT THEIR OWN HUTS AND NEARLY ALL NEW SQUATTER HUT BUILDING WAS UNDERTAKEN BY RACKETEERS FOR SALE, THE SECRETARY FOR HOUSING, THE HON DONALD LIAO, SAID TODAY.

MOVING THE SECOND READING OF THE CROWN LAND (AMENDMENT) BILL 1982 AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR LIAO SAID ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF CROWN LAND BY SQUATTERS HAD PRESENTED SERIOUS PROBLEMS IN RECENT YEARS.

A LARGE NUMBER OF NEW HUTS HAD BEEN BUILT, MANY OF THEM ON DANGEROUS HILL SLOPES OR PRECARIOUSLY SITED ON INADEQUATE FOUNDATIONS.

+THE TRAGIC RESULTS OF THIS WERE SEEN IN THE FIRES OF LAST WINTER AND THE RAINSTORMS AT THE END OF MAY,+ HE SAID.

MR LIAO POINTED OUT THAT AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT IN THE CONTROL OF NEW SQUATTER HUT BUILDING WAS THE ARREST AND PROSECUTION OF THE BUILDERS.

THE EXISTING MAXIMUM PENALTY WAS A FINE OF \$10 000 AND IMPRISONMENT FOR SIX MONTHS, AND ALTHOUGH ON AVERAGE MORE THAN 50 PERSONS WERE CHARGED EACH MONTH, THE PENALTIES IMPOSED APPEARED TO HAVE LITTLE DETERRENT EFFECT, HE SAID.

+IN ORDER TO STRENGTHEN THE EXISTING CONTROLS IN RESPECT OF ILLEGAL STRUCTURES ON CROWN LAND, THE BILL PROPOSES THAT WHERE STRUCTURES ARE ERECTED FOR GAIN, THE OFFENDER SHALL BE LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$50 000 AND TO IMPRISONMENT FOR ONE YEAR.

+ADDITIONALLY, IT IS PROPOSED THAT A NEW SECTION BE ADDED TO THE PRINCIPAL ORDINANCE TO INTRODUCE A LEGAL PRESUMPTION THAT AN OFFENDER IS BUILDING A HUT FOR SALE, THE BURDEN OF PROOF WILL THEN BE ON HIM TO SHOW THAT HE DID NOT ERECT THE STRUCTURE WITH A VIEW TO GAIN.+

THE BILL ALSO SEEKS TO ENABLE THE COURT TO ACCEPT AS PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE A CERTIFICATE SIGNED BY AN ESTATE SURVEYOR TO PROVE THAT THE LAND IN QUESTION IS UNLEASED CROWN LAND AND THAT NO LICENCE, DEED OR MEMORANDUM OF APPROPRIATION HAS BEEN GRANTED WHICH WOULD AUTHORISE CONSTRUCTION ON THE LAND.

DEBATE ON THE BILL WAS ADJOURNED.

DOCTOR-PATIENT RATIOS

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IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN GOVERNMENT POLICY THAT ALL FACTORS BEING EQUAL, CASUALTY UNITS IN PUBLIC HOSPITALS, WHETHER GOVERNMENT OR SUBVENTED, SHOULD HAVE THE SAME DOCTOR-PATIENT RATIOS, THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, DR THE HON S.F. LAM, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

HE WAS REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY THE REV. THE HON JOYCE BENNETT ON WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT WOULD IMPLEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS BY A RECENT CORONER'S INQUEST THAT THE DOCTOR-PATIENT RATIOS IN CASUALTY UNITS IN SUBVENTED HOSPITALS BE THE SAME AS IN GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS.

DR LAM SAID IRRESPECTIVE OF THE CORONER'S RECOMMENDATIONS, THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT HAD ALWAYS BEEN ADOPTING THE POLICY THAT ALL UNITS IN PUBLIC HOSPITALS PERFORMING SIMILAR LEVELS OF WORK UNDER IDENTICAL CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD HAVE THE SAME DOCTOR-PATIENT RATIOS.

HE POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, DOCTOR-PATIENT RATIOS WERE IN FACT ONLY A GENERAL GUIDE IN THE PLANNING FOR STAFFING UNITS IN MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS.

+THE ACTUAL NUMBER OF DOCTORS WORKING IN A CASUALTY DEPARTMENT MUST BE DETERMINED BY THE ACTUAL SITUATION IN THE FIELD AND THIS DIFFERS FROM HOSPITAL TO HOSPITAL WHETHER THEY ARE GOVERNMENT OR SUBVENTED,+ HE SAID.

DR LAM SAID THERE WERE ESTABLISHED CHANNELS IN ALL HOSPITALS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DOCTOR-PATIENT RATIOS IN THE FORM OF MEDICAL COMMITTEES RESPONSIBLE FOR IDENTIFYING THE NEEDS FOR STAFF AND MAKING OUT A GOOD CASE FOR SUCH.

+MY DEPARTMENT WILL ALWAYS SUPPORT JUSTIFIED REQUESTS FROM ALL SUBVENTED HOSPITALS,+ HE ADDED.

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ACTIONS AGAINST COUNTERFEIT PHARMACEUTICALS

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THIRTY-TWO PROSECUTIONS WERE TAKEN AGAINST THE COUNTERFEITING OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS IN THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR, RESULTING IN FINES TOTALLING \$36 950, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE HON JOHN GRIFFITHS, DISCLOSED AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

IN ONE CASE, A THREE-MONTH PRISON SENTENCE WAS IMPOSED, MR GRIFFITHS SAID, IN REPLY TO A QUESTION BY THE HON LYDIA DUNN.

BY COMPARISON, GOODS SEIZED WERE VALUED AT \$538 840.

FOR THE SAME PERIOD, MR GRIFFITHS REPORTED TEN PROSECUTIONS FOR THE SALE OF UNREGISTERED PRODUCTS.

THE FINES TOTALLED \$6 550, COMPARED WITH THE MARKET VALUE OF \$20 000 FOR GOODS SEIZED.

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LAY MAGISTRATES COURTS HANDLE MINOR OFFENCES

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HONG KONG RECENTLY SET UP LAY MAGISTRATES COURTS TO DEAL WITH MINOR OFFENCES OF A ROUTINE NATURE, WITH TWO FULL-TIME CANTONESE-SPEAKING LAY MAGISTRATES ALREADY APPOINTED, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE HON. JOHN GRIFFITHS, SAID AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING TODAY.

CONSIDERATION MIGHT ALSO BE GIVEN TO A SCHEME SIMILAR TO A FIXED PENALTY SYSTEM FOR SUCH MINOR OFFENCES AS LITTERING AND ILLEGAL HAWKING, MR GRIFFITHS SAID IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION BY THE HON. K.C. CHAN, AS TO WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONSIDER REVIVING THE JUSTICES OF PEACE COURT SYSTEM, TRIED HERE TEN YEARS AGO FOR MINOR OFFENCES.

DIFFICULTIES WERE EXPERIENCED AT THE TIME IN FINDING MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY WITH SUFFICIENT TIME TO ATTEND COURT REGULARLY, MR GRIFFITHS EXPLAINED, STATING ALSO THAT THE SAME PROBLEMS STILL EXISTED.

MR GRIFFITHS POINTED OUT THAT OVER THE LAST TEN YEARS, PEOPLE IN HONG KONG HAD BECOME MORE AWARE OF THEIR LEGAL RIGHT TO DISPUTE ALLEGED OFFENCES IN COURT.

+IF JUSTICES OF PEACE WERE TO BECOME INVOLVED IN OTHER THAN VERY STRAIGHT-FORWARD CASES, THEY WOULD BE LIKELY IN SOME CASES TO NEED THE ASSISTANCE OF LEGALLY-QUALIFIED CLERKS,+ HE SAID.

THIS WOULD INVOLVE RECRUITING TRAINED LAWYERS FOR THESE POSTS, HE ADDED.

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PSYCHIATRIC NURSING

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OF THE 3 788 BEDS AVAILABLE FOR THE MENTALLY ILL, 30 ARE AT A SUBVENTED HOSPITAL, THE SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES, THE HON ERIC HO, SAID TODAY.

THE COMMUNITY NURSING SERVICE BASED ON THAT HOSPITAL IS ALREADY HANDLING DISCHARGED PSYCHIATRIC CASES REFERRED TO IT, HE SAID IN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM THE REV THE HON JOYCE BENNETT.

MISS BENNETT HAD ASKED WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT WOULD EXTEND THE PSYCHIATRIC COMMUNITY NURSING SERVICE TO SUBVENTED HOSPITALS WISHING TO FOLLOW-UP ON CASES.

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WAYS TO STOP TRAGIC ACCIDENTS BEING CONSIDERED

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THE LANDS AND WORKS BRANCH IS CONSIDERING POSSIBLE WAYS OF REDUCING THE RISK OF A RECURRENCE OF ACCIDENTS INVOLVING CHILDREN DROWNED IN CONSTRUCTION SITES.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, THE HON N.K. CHAN, IN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON CHEUNG YAN-LUNG AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY ON THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN DROWNING IN AND AROUND OPEN PITS AT CONSTRUCTION SITES.

THE DANGER ASSOCIATED WITH POOLS OR FLOODED PITS, WHETHER ON CONSTRUCTION SITES OR ELSEWHERE, HAD BEEN HIGHLIGHTED BY THE TRAGIC DEATH OF TWO YOUNG BOYS AT A CONSTRUCTION SITE IN TSUEN WAN AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS MONTH, MR CHAN SAID.

HE REGRETTED THAT STATISTICS ON THIS TYPE OF ACCIDENT WERE NOT READILY AVAILABLE.

HE EXPLAINED THAT THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT MAINTAINED DATA ONLY ON ACCIDENTS TO WORKMEN ON CONSTRUCTION SITES AND THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE COMPILED STATISTICS ON DROWNING GENERALLY, BUT NOT CLASSIFIED OR CATEGORISED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO ENABLE EASY EXTRACTION OF THIS PARTICULAR TYPE OF ACCIDENTS.

THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT WAS ALSO ABLE TO PRODUCE FIGURES RELATING TO CHILDREN DROWNED IN VARIOUS TYPES OF SITUATION, BUT ONLY IF FIREMEN HAD ACTUALLY BEEN CALLED TO THE SCENE.

THEREFORE, HE SAID, A GREAT DEAL OF RESEARCH INVOLVING SEVERAL DEPARTMENTS WOULD BE NECESSARY IN ORDER TO FIND OUT THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO DIED IN THE LAST 10 YEARS AS A RESULT OF DROWNING IN AND AROUND OPEN PITS AT CONSTRUCTION SITES.

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STUDY OF LASER BEAM EFFECTS

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THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH HAS BEEN ASKED TO CARRY OUT AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE EFFECTS OF THE USE OF LASER-BEAM EQUIPMENT IN BEAUTY CLINICS AND OTHER SIMILAR ESTABLISHMENTS, THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, DR. THE HON. S.F. LAM, SAID TODAY.

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION BY MR T.S. LO ON WHETHER ITS USE IS HARMFUL TO THE HUMAN BODY, DR LAM TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL THAT THE USE OF LASERS FOR BEAUTY THERAPY AND IN ENTERTAINMENT FIELD IS GENERALLY SAFE AS THESE ARE LOW ENERGY, NON-IONISING ELECTRO-MAGNETIC EMISSIONS OF RADIATION.

HE WARNED, HOWEVER, THERE COULD BE ISOLATED CASES OF DANGER TO PERSONS ESPECIALLY IN THE LONG TERM WITH PROLONGED EXPOSURE, INVOLVING MAINLY THE EYES.

+AS THE SUBJECT IS COMPARATIVELY NEW IN HONG KONG, IT NEEDS TO BE EXPLORED IN DEPTH,+ HE SAID.

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EVENING OUT-PATIENT CLINICS

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THE GOVERNMENT IS SATISFIED THAT THE NEED FOR EVENING OUT-PATIENT CLINICS HAS BEEN ADEQUATELY MET BY EXISTING PROVISION OF THE SERVICES, THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, DR THE HON S.F. LAM, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION BY DR HENRY WU, HE SAID THAT IN 1981 THERE WERE 717 482 ATTENDANCES AT 15 EVENING OUT-PATIENT CLINICS, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF ABOUT 40 000 OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

DR LAM EXPLAINED THAT THE BASIC ROLE OF THE EVENING CLINICS IS TO COMPLEMENT THE DAY-TIME OUT-PATIENT CLINIC SERVICE.

ONE OF THE BASIC OBJECTIVES OF THE OUT-PATIENT SERVICE IS THAT IT SERVES AS A SURVEILLANCE MECHANISM FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF EPIDEMICS OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES.

THE SECOND OBJECTIVE, HE WENT ON, IS TO IDENTIFY THE MORE SERIOUS CASES FOR REFERRAL TO SPECIALIST CLINICS FOR CONSULTATIONS, INVESTIGATIONS AND TREATMENT, INCLUDING HOSPITALISATION. OUT-PATIENT SERVICES ALSO ENABLE PATIENTS WITH AILMENTS THAT ARE TREATABLE ON AN AMBULATORY BASIS TO BE TREATED, HE ADDED.

+MY DEPARTMENT IS KEEPING THE SITUATION UNDER CONSTANT REVIEW AND WILL PROVIDE THE SERVICES IN THOSE AREAS WHERE A NEED IS IDENTIFIED,+ DR LAM SAID.

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PLANS TO IMPROVE MANNING SCALE OF SPECIAL SCHOOLS

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PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN MADE TO IMPROVE THE MANNING SCALES OF SPECIAL SCHOOLS IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR TO MATCH THE IMPROVEMENTS ALREADY APPROVED FOR ORDINARY SCHOOLS, THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, THE HON COLVYN HAYE, SAID AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

MR HAYE WAS REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY DR THE HON HARRY FANG WHO ASKED ABOUT PLANS BY THE GOVERNMENT TO IMPROVE THE MANNING SCALE FOR SPECIAL SCHOOLS.

HE SAID THESE PROPOSALS INCLUDED A BETTER TEACHER-TO-CLASS RATIO, ADDITIONAL TEACHERS FOR LANGUAGE CLASSES, MORE SENIOR TEACHER POSTS, PROMOTION POSTS FOR HEADS OF SCHOOLS WITH LARGE NUMBER OF CLASSES, AND ALLOWANCES FOR HEADS OF OTHER SCHOOLS WITH FEWER CLASSES.

+IT IS THOUGHT THAT THESE PROPOSALS, WHICH INCIDENTALLY WERE BLESSED RECENTLY BY THE REHABILITATION DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE CHAIRED BY DR FANG, IF APPROVED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THIS COUNCIL, WILL INDUCE MANY TEACHERS TO JOIN OR REMAIN IN SPECIAL SCHOOLS,+ MR HAYE NOTED.

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OFFICIAL USE OF CHINESE EXPANDS

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MUCH PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE ON THE USE OF CHINESE AS AN OFFICIAL LANGUAGE, WITH ALL IMPORTANT GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS NOW BEING PRODUCED IN BOTH ENGLISH AND CHINESE, THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, THE HON DAVID AKERS-JONES, REPORTED TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION HAD BEEN EXTENDED FROM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND URBAN COUNCIL MEETINGS TO DISTRICT BOARDS AS WELL AS TO MAJOR ADVISORY BOARDS AND COMMITTEES, HE SAID.

THIS BILINGUAL SERVICE WOULD CONTINUE TO BE EXPANDED, HE ADDED.

MR AKERS-JONES POINTED OUT THAT THE NUMBER OF CHINESE LANGUAGE OFFICERS IN GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS HAD INCREASED FROM 100 IN 1973 TO 336 TODAY.

+MOREOVER, THE ENTRY QUALIFICATION FOR CHINESE LANGUAGE OFFICERS HAS ALSO BEEN RAISED FROM THE LEVEL OF MATRICULATION TO THAT OF A UNIVERSITY DEGREE,+ HE SAID.

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SHORT-TERM PARKING NEEDS DISCUSSED

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THE SHORTEST PRACTICABLE DURATION FOR PARKING METERS AT ON-STREET PARKING SPACES IS HALF AN HOUR AND IN DESIGNATING SUCH SPACES, THE NEED OF MOTORISTS FOR PUBLIC CONVENIENCES WAS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT, THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, THE HON ALAN SCOTT, POINTED OUT AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SESSION TODAY.

HE WAS REPLYING TO THE HON K.C. CHAN, WHO ASKED WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONSIDER INSTALLING SHORT-TERM PARKING METERS, PARTICULARLY FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF PROFESSIONAL DRIVERS.

MR SCOTT EXPLAINED THAT WHERE THE DEMAND FOR PARKING WAS HIGH, METERS WERE INSTALLED TO FACILITATE A HIGHER TURNOVER IN THE USE OF SPACES.

AS VEHICLE TRIPS IN HONG KONG WERE OF SHORT DURATION, COMPARED WITH LONG MOTORWAY TRIPS IN MOST COUNTRIES, THERE WAS NOT THE SAME NEED FOR PROVIDING ON-STREET PARKING SPACES HERE, MR SCOTT SAID.

BUT HE ADDED, +PROFESSIONAL DRIVERS IN HONG KONG CAN MAKE USE OF FACILITIES LOCATED NEAR TRANSPORT INTERCHANGES, BUS TERMINI AND TAXI STANDS.+

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LEGCO BILLS

THE IMMIGRATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1982 AND THE SUPREME COURT (AMENDMENT) BILL 1982 WERE PASSED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE FOLLOWING FOUR BILLS WERE INTRODUCED AND READ A SECOND TIME AND DEBATE ON THEM WAS ADJOURNED: THE SUPREME COURT (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1982, THE DANGEROUS DRUGS (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1982, THE CROWN LAND (AMENDMENT) BILL 1982 AND THE EVIDENCE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1982.

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RADIO RECEPTION IN TUNNELS

APPROPRIATE DEVICES WILL BE INSTALLED IN THE ABERDEEN TUNNEL, THE LION ROCK TUNNEL AND THE AIRPORT TUNNEL TO MAKE RADIO RECEPTION POSSIBLE, PROVIDED THE COST IS REASONABLE AND FUNDS ARE VOTED FOR IT.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE HON D.G. JEAFFRESON, SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, IN REPLY TO A QUESTION BY THE HON PETER C. WONG IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

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ROAD TRAFFIC OFFENCES

IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR 56 DRIVERS WERE CONVICTED OF AN OFFENCE SPECIFIED IN THE FIRST SCHEDULE TO THE ROAD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE HON JOHN GRIFFITHS, SAID IN REPLY TO A QUESTION BY THE HON F.K. HU AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

THIRTY-FOUR OF THEM WERE DRIVERS OF PRIVATE CARS BEING DRIVEN FOR HIRE AND 22 WERE OF GOODS VEHICLES, MR GRIFFITHS SAID.

HE EXPLAINED THAT WITHOUT CHECKING THE PAPERS IN EACH INDIVIDUAL CASE, IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO SAY HOW MANY OFFENDING OWNERS HAD SOLD THEIR VEHICLES IN THE PERIOD BETWEEN BEING SUMMONED AND CONVICTED.

BUT HE ADDED THAT ANY INTENDING BUYER COULD OBTAIN A CERTIFICATE FROM THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT STATING WHETHER ANY FIXED PENALTY TICKETS WERE OUTSTANDING.

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PROVISION OF STUDY ROOM FACILITIES
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ADDITIONAL STUDY ROOMS ARE PROVIDED IN SCHOOLS DURING EXAMINATION PERIODS, THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, THE HON COLVYN HAYE, SAID AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING TODAY.

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION BY THE HON SELINA CHOW CONCERNING THE PROVISION OF STUDY ROOM FACILITIES, MR HAYE SAID THE GOVERNMENT RECOGNISED THE NEED FOR STUDY ROOMS FOR CHILDREN WHOSE DOMESTIC CIRCUMSTANCES PREVENTED THEM FROM STUDYING AT HOME.

HE SAID ROOMS WERE PROVIDED ON A PERMANENT BASIS IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES RUN BY THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT, BY VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH CENTRES OR COMMUNITY CENTRES OPERATED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT OR VOLUNTARY AGENCIES.

MR HAYE SAID THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, WHICH COORDINATED THE OVERALL AND SPECIAL PROVISION OF STUDY ROOMS FACILITIES, REVIEWED THE DEMAND FOR STUDY ROOMS ANNUALLY.

+THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS ALWAYS HAPPY TO CONSIDER REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL STUDY ROOMS, PROVIDED THERE IS A CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED DEMAND,+ HE SAID.

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MOTOR VEHICLE LICENCE RENEWAL
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IF THE LICENCE OF A VEHICLE IS NOT RENEWED FOR TWO YEARS, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT INFORMS THE REGISTERED OWNER BY POST THAT THE REGISTRATION OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE WILL BE CANCELLED, IF THE LICENCE IS NOT RENEWED WITHIN 15 DAYS.

THIS IS A REQUIREMENT UNDER THE ROAD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE. IN 1981/82, 13 016 VEHICLES WERE DE-REGISTERED IN THIS MANNER.

THIS WAS STATED TODAY BY THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, THE HON ALAN SCOTT IN REPLY TO A QUESTION BY THE HON PETER C. WONG IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

MR WONG HAD ASKED WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT TOOK ANY FOLLOW-UP ACTION IF THE LICENCE OF A MOTOR VEHICLE WAS NOT RENEWED.

MR SCOTT SAID ALSO THAT THE POLICE PROSECUTE DRIVERS FOUND USING UNLICENSED VEHICLES, AND THE OWNERS OF THE VEHICLES WHO PERMIT SUCH USE.

IN 1981/82, THERE WERE 581 PROSECUTIONS FOR THESE OFFENCES.

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30, 1982

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GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERS

THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY HAD NO DIFFICULTY IN FINDING SUITABLE GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERS FOR THEIR GEOTECHNICAL STUDIES, THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, MR N.K. CHAN, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

HE WAS REPLYING TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON S.L. CHEN.

HE SAID THAT THE CURRENT GEOTECHNICAL STANDARDS IN BUILDING AND ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT WORK IN HONG KONG HAD NOW BEEN IN PRACTICE FOR WELL OVER TWO YEARS.

THE GOVERNMENT, HE POINTED OUT, DOES NOT PUBLISH A LIST OF APPROVED GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERS.

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NEW FORM FOR PROSECUTING LITTER OFFENDERS

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY) APPROVED THE MAGISTRATES (FORMS) (AMENDMENT) RULES 1982 SIMPLIFYING FORM 1A USED FOR BRINGING CERTAIN OFFENDERS, ESPECIALLY LITTER OFFENDERS, TO COURT.

THE ACTING LAW DRAFTSMAN, MR J.J. O'GRADY, MOVING THE MOTION, SAID, +AT PRESENT ABOUT 4 000 SUCH NOTICES ARE ISSUED EACH MONTH. THIS IS LIKELY TO INCREASE AS THE USE OF FORM 1A IS EXTENDED TO COVER THE GROWING PROBLEM OF MARINE LITTERING.+

FORM 1A IN ITS EXISTING FORMAT IS AN INCONVENIENT DOCUMENT FOR DAY-TO-DAY ENFORCEMENT PURPOSES WHILE THE DOCUMENT IN ITS NEW FORM WILL BE SMALLER IN SIZE AND MORE READABLE, HE EXPLAINED.

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SIR EDWARD VISITS FACTORY

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE AND LADY YOUDE ACCOMPANIED BY THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS, MR BILL DORWARD TODAY (JUNE 30) VISITED MANHATTAN GARMENTS LTD., AT KWAI CHUNG.

ON ARRIVAL AT THE FACTORY THE GOVERNOR WAS WELCOMED BY THE MANAGING DIRECTOR, MR FRANCIS TIEN AND THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, MR JAMES TIEN.

FOLLOWING A DISCUSSION WITH THE COMPANY'S MANAGEMENT, THE GOVERNOR WATCHED THE OPERATION OF THE FACTORY'S COMPUTERISED PATTERN MARKING AND PLOTTING MACHINE - ONE OF THE FEW IN USE BY LEADING GARMENT FACTORIES. HE SPENT ABOUT AN HOUR TOURING VARIOUS PRODUCTION FLOORS, INCLUDING THE CUTTING, SEWING, WASHING, EMBROIDERY, FINISHING AND PRESSING SECTIONS.

MANHATTAN GARMENTS, ESTABLISHED SINCE 1958, HAS FOUR FACTORIES TOTALLING 28 535 SQUARE METRES, EMPLOYING ABOUT 1 750 STAFF. IT PRODUCES TROUSERS - MAINLY JEANS - SLACKS AND SHORTS IN COTTON DENIM, COTTON CORDUROY, COTTON/POLYESTER PRODUCED BY THE FACTORY'S WEAVING DIVISION IN TSUEN WAN.

THE COMPANY SELLS 96 PER CENT OF ITS PRODUCTION OVERSEAS. THE UNITED STATES TAKES A 75 PER CENT SHARE, WITH THE REMAINDER GOING TO THE UNITED KINGDOM, WEST GERMANY, NETHERLANDS AND THE LOCAL MARKET.

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NEW MAXICAB ROUTE BETWEEN TSIM SHA TSUI AND HO MAN TIN

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A NEW MAXICAB ROUTE - NO. 8 - LINKING TSIM SHA TSUI WITH HO MAN TIN WILL START OPERATION FROM FRIDAY (JULY 2).

FOR JOURNEYS TO HO MAN TIN, THE MAXICAB WILL TRAVEL FROM HANKOW ROAD VIA PEKING ROAD, ASHLEY ROAD, MIDDLE ROAD, KOWLOON PARK DRIVE, SALISBURY ROAD, MODY LANE, MODY ROAD, CHATHAM ROAD, CHEONG WAN ROAD, ON WAN ROAD (KOWLOON RAILWAY STATION), CHEONG WAN ROAD, GILLIES AVENUE, WUHU STREET, MA TAU WAI ROAD, FAT KWONG STREET, CHUNG HAU STREET, FAT KWONG STREET, SHEUNG FOO STREET, SHEUNG SHING STREET, SHEUNG LOK STREET AND SHEUNG WO STREET.

FOR THE RETURN JOURNEYS THE MAXICAB WILL BEGIN FROM SHEUNG WO STREET VIA SHEUNG LOK STREET, SHEUNG SHING STREET, SHEUNG FOO STREET, FAT KWONG STREET, CHUNG HAU STREET, FAT KWONG STREET, MA TAU WAI ROAD, WUHU STREET, GILLIES AVENUE, CHEONG WAN ROAD, ON WAN ROAD (KOWLOON RAILWAY STATION), CHEONG WAN ROAD, CHATHAM ROAD, MODY ROAD, MODY LANE, SALISBURY ROAD, NATHAN ROAD, MIDDLE ROAD AND HANKOW ROAD.

IT WILL OPERATE FROM 6.30 AM TO 11 PM ON WEEKDAYS AND FROM 8 AM TO 10.30 PM ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS. THE PEAK HOUR FREQUENCY WILL BE EVERY 10 MINUTES, AND THE FARE FOR A SINGLE JOURNEY IS \$1.50.

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30, 1982

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HEALTH MANPOWER SURVEY

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THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT HAS BEGUN A HEALTH MANPOWER SURVEY IN BOTH THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS TO DETERMINE THE SCOPE OF THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH INDUSTRY IN HONG KONG.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT 44 000 QUESTIONNAIRES HAVE BEEN SENT OUT TO VARIOUS INSTITUTIONS TO COLLECT INFORMATION ON THE SIZE AND STRUCTURE OF THE DIFFERENT GRADES OF MEDICAL, DENTAL, PARA-MEDICAL, PARA-DENTAL AND NURSING STAFF IN THE DIFFERENT SECTORS OF THE INDUSTRY.

THE SURVEY WILL COVER ALL CLINICS, HOSPITALS, MATERNITY HOMES, PRIVATE PRACTITIONERS' OFFICES, DENTISTS' SURGERIES, MEDICAL X-RAY AND DENTAL LABORATORIES, DISPENSARIES AND RELATED INSTITUTES.

THE THREE-MONTH SURVEY (FROM JULY TO SEPTEMBER) IS THE SECOND MANPOWER STUDY BY THE DEPARTMENT. THE FIRST WAS CONDUCTED IN 1980.

THE INFORMATION GATHERED WILL HELP THE DEPARTMENT TO ASSESS AND FORMULATE POLICY ON PRESENT AND FUTURE HEALTH MANPOWER PLANNING AND TRAINING NEEDS IN HONG KONG.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN SHEUNG WAN

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NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE INTRODUCED IN SHEUNG WAN FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (JULY 2) FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MTR SHEUNG WAN STATION, A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

HILLIER STREET BETWEEN WING LOK STREET AND CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC.

CMB ROUTE 21 WILL BE DIVERTED VIA QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, MORRISON STREET AND WILL TERMINATE AT DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL NEAR ITS JUNCTION WITH MORRISON STREET INSTEAD OF HILLIER STREET.

MORRISON STREET BETWEEN WING LOK STREET AND DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL WILL BE DESIGNATED AS AN URBAN CLEARWAY WHERE VEHICLES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS BETWEEN 7 AM AND 7 PM DAILY.

THIS WILL ALSO APPLY TO CLEVERLY STREET BETWEEN WING LOK STREET AND DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL.

PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES WILL BE BANNED FROM ENTERING WING LOK STREET AND BONHAM STRAND.

HOWEVER, THE EXISTING PROHIBITED ZONE FOR PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES IN FRONT OF THE MACAU FERRY WHARF WILL BE RESCINDED.

THERE WILL BE SIGNS AND CARRIAGEWAY MARKINGS TO INDICATE THE VARIOUS ARRANGEMENTS.

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30, 1982

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HONG KONG FARMERS TO ATTEND UK TRAINING COURSE
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A 19-YEAR-OLD GIRL WILL BE AMONG 10 YOUNG FARMERS FROM HONG KONG ATTENDING A THREE-WEEK VEGETABLE FARMING TRAINING COURSE IN BRITAIN NEXT WEEK.

MISS TANG HOI-YAU AND THE OTHERS WILL LEAVE FOR BRITAIN ON SATURDAY (JULY 3) ON THE TRAINING TOUR ORGANISED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT. THE VEGETABLE MARKETING ORGANISATION IS SUBSIDISING 75 PER CENT OF THE EXPENSES WHILE THE REMAINDER IS BEING BORNE BY THE PARTICIPANTS.

THE TOUR, THE FIRST OF ITS KIND ORGANISED, IS DESIGNED TO GIVE YOUNG FARMERS PRACTICAL TRAINING IN CROP CULTIVATION.

DURING THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF THE TOUR THE FARMERS, AGED FROM 19 TO 23, WILL UNDERGO TRAINING IN THE PERSHORE COLLEGE OF HORTICULTURE IN WORCESTERSHIRE.

SUBJECTS WILL INCLUDE VEGETABLE CULTIVATION WITH EMPHASIS ON SEEDLING PRODUCTION= HORTICULTURAL ENGINEERING ON THE USE AND OPERATION OF MACHINES FOR SMALL HOLDINGS= VEGETABLE GRADING AND POST HARVESTING HANDLING, AND THE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF MUSHROOM GROWING.

VISITS TO VARIOUS CROP PRODUCTION CENTRES, EXPERIMENTAL HORTICULTURAL STATIONS, OTHER AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTES AND THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SHOW ARE INCLUDED IN THE STUDY TOUR.

THE GROUP WILL BE LED BY A SENIOR FIELD OFFICER OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, MR THOMAS NG.

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NOTE TO EDITORS :

THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, MR JOHN RIDDELL-SWAN WILL PRESENT A BANNER TO THE 10 YOUNG FARMERS ON FRIDAY (JULY 2) PRIOR TO THEIR DEPARTURE FOR BRITAIN.

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE PRESENTATION.

REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD ARRIVE AT ROOM 1404 ON THE 14TH FLOOR OF THE CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES AT 393 CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON, AT 2.45 PM.

THE FARMERS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEWS.

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SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

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THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD WILL HOLD ITS SIXTH MEETING ON FRIDAY (JULY 2) AT 2.30 PM AT CHAN PAK SHA SCHOOL IN WONG CHUK HANG.

AMONG THE TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED WILL BE THE REPORT ON THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION SEMINAR HELD BETWEEN UNOFFICIAL BOARD MEMBERS AND SOCIAL WORKERS IN THE DISTRICT ON JUNE 15.

BOARD MEMBERS' OPINIONS WILL BE SOUGHT ON THE PROPOSALS RAISED DURING THE SEMINAR, INCLUDING THE PROVISION OF MORE CHILD CARE CENTRES AND JOB TRAINING FOR THE ELDERLIES AS WELL AS THE SETTING UP OF A WORKING GROUP TO STUDY THE NEEDS OF YOUTHS IN THE DISTRICT.

THREE CHAPTERS OF THE DISTRICT'S ANATOMY REPORT ON PUBLIC SERVICES- HAWKERS AND MARKETS- AND RECREATION, SPORTS AND CULTURE WILL ALSO BE TABLED.

THE PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED IN THE RECRUITMENT OF WORKERS FOR DEEP-SEA FISHING WILL ALSO BE DISCUSSED.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD, TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY (JULY 2) AT 2.30 PM IN THE GEOGRAPHY ROOM OF CHAN PAK SHA SCHOOL AT 1 SHUM WAN ROAD, WONG CHUK HANG.

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NEW DOUBLE TRACK AT FO TAN COMES INTO USE

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THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY TRAINS WILL START USING THE NEW DOUBLE TRACK AT FO TAN FROM 5 AM ON FRIDAY (JULY 2).

TO FACILITATE THE TESTING OF SIGNALS ON THE NEW TRACK TOMORROW (THURSDAY), HOWEVER, DIESEL PASSENGER TRAINS RUNNING BETWEEN KOWLOON AND LO WU MAY BE SLIGHTLY DELAYED WHEN THE SINGLE LINE IS STILL IN OPERATION BETWEEN FO TAN AND UNIVERSITY STATION.

A KCR SPOKESMAN TODAY WARNED THE PUBLIC, PARTICULARLY SCHOOL CHILDREN AND VILLAGERS, TO KEEP OFF THE TRACKS IN THAT AREA BECAUSE TRAINS WILL BE RUNNING ON BOTH UP AND DOWN LINES.

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KNOWLEDGE OF NAVIGATION IMPORTANT FOR HK FISHERMEN

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FISHING VESSELS MUST BE NAVIGATED ACCURATELY IF FISHERMEN ARE TO AVOID SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES RESULTING FROM INTRUSION INTO TERRITORIAL WATERS OF NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, MR ROY CHILVERS SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

MR CHILVERS SAID A KNOWLEDGE OF NAVIGATION WAS BECOMING INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT AS TODAY'S FISHING FLEET ADOPTED MORE POWERFUL ENGINES AND MORE MODERN DESIGNS.

+THESE DEVELOPMENTS ENABLE OUR BOATS TO VENTURE MUCH FURTHER AFIELD TO NEW FISHING GROUNDS WHICH MAY BE FAR FROM THE WELL-KNOWN LAND MARKS AND TO DO THIS MORE SOPHISTICATED NAVIGATION MUST BE USED,+ HE SAID.

MR CHILVERS WAS SPEAKING AT A GRADUATION CEREMONY OF THE 28TH NAVIGATION TRAINING CLASS ORGANISED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT. TEN GRADUATES WHO COMPLETED THE SIX-MONTH COURSE RECEIVED CERTIFICATES FROM MR CHILVERS.

THE NAVIGATION CLASSES PROVIDE A WORKING KNOWLEDGE OF CHARTS, SEAMANSHIP, SIGNALLING AND DEAD-RECKONING NAVIGATION AND ARE SPECIFICALLY GEARED TO THE NEEDS OF THE MIDDLE AND DISTANT WATER FISHING FLEET, HE SAID.

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ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS PROMOTION

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THE GOVERNMENT TODAY ANNOUNCED A SERIES OF PROMOTIONS AT VARIOUS LEVELS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE.

SIX OFFICERS HAVE BEEN PROMOTED TO THE RANK OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER STAFF GRADE B. THESE ARE MR A.G. EASON, MR G.A. HIGGINSON, MR T.H. BARMA, MR G. SIU KWING-CHUE, MRS E. WONG CHIEN CHI-LIEN AND MR M. SZE CHO-CHEUNG.

NINETEEN OFFICERS HAVE BEEN PROMOTED TO THE RANK OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER STAFF GRADE C, AND EIGHTEEN OFFICERS TO THE RANK OF SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER.

ALL THE PROMOTIONS TOOK EFFECT FROM APRIL 1, 1982.

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TUEN MUN SPORTSGROUND TO OPEN EARLIER FOR JOGGERS

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THE TUEN MUN TANG SHIU KIN SPORTSGROUND WILL OPEN HALF AN HOUR EARLIER EVERY MORNING STARTING FROM TOMORROW (THURSDAY) UNTIL THE END OF SEPTEMBER FOR USE BY JOGGERS FROM TUEN MUN NEW TOWN, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY.

THE NEW OPENING HOURS WILL BE FROM 6.30 AM TO 9 AM AND FROM 5 PM TO 7 PM.

THE SPORTSGROUND WILL OPEN SIX DAYS A WEEK, EXCEPT ON FRIDAYS WHEN IT WILL BE RESERVED FOR EXCLUSIVE BOOKING AND MAINTENANCE WORK.

THE NEW ARRANGEMENT IS AIMED AT ENCOURAGING MORE PEOPLE TO TAKE UP JOGGING AND TO MEET THE INCREASING DEMAND EXPECTED DURING THE COMING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS.

APART FROM JOGGING, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE ALSO WELCOME TO USE THE ALL-WEATHER RUNNING TRACK OF THE SPORTSGROUND FOR INDIVIDUAL ATHLETIC TRAINING.

HOWEVER, NO BALL GAMES ARE ALLOWED DURING THE TWO SPECIAL OPENING SESSIONS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

PEOPLE WISHING TO ENTER THE SPORTSGROUND ARE REQUESTED TO WEAR PROPER SPORTS SHOES AND TO BRING ALONG THEIR IDENTITY CARDS FOR RECORDING PURPOSES.

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FRESH WATER CUT IN WONG TAI SIN

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN WONG TAI SIN WILL BE CUT OFF FOR EIGHT HOURS FROM 10 PM ON FRIDAY (JULY 2) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR WATER MAINS CONNECTION.

PREMISES AND FACTORY BUILDINGS IN THE AREA BOUNDED BY SHEUNG HEI STREET, TSEUK LUK STREET, TAI YAU STREET AND CHOI HUNG ROAD WILL BE AFFECTED.

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