



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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DECEMBER ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL FIGURES RELEASED

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THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND REPORTED BY THE 200 LARGEST COMPANIES IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR IN DECEMBER 1988 SHOWED LITTLE CHANGE WHEN COMPARED WITH BOTH NOVEMBER 1988 AND DECEMBER 1987, ACCORDING TO THE RESULTS OF A SURVEY RELEASED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

COMPARING DECEMBER 1988 WITH NOVEMBER 1988, THE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND DECREASED SLIGHTLY IN THE TEXTILES AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES, BUT SHOWED LITTLE CHANGE IN THE OTHER MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES SURVEYED.

COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1987, THE ORDERS POSITION IN DECEMBER 1988 INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY IN THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRY AND MODERATELY IN THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE ORDERS POSITION DECREASED SUBSTANTIALLY IN THE TEXTILES INDUSTRY, MODERATELY IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY AND SLIGHTLY IN THE WEARING APPAREL INDUSTRY.

THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND IS MEASURED IN TERMS OF THE NUMBER OF MONTHS AND REFERS TO ORDERS OUTSTANDING AS AT THE END OF THE REFERENCE MONTH.

ON EMPLOYMENT, THE MANUFACTURERS SURVEYED REPORTED THAT THE DECEMBER 1988 LEVEL WAS THE SAME AS IN NOVEMBER 1988, BUT DECREASED BY 6 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1987.

COMPARING DECEMBER 1988 WITH NOVEMBER 1988, EMPLOYMENT INCREASED SLIGHTLY IN THE TEXTILES AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES, BUT DECREASED SLIGHTLY IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS AND THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE FOOD AND DRINKS AND THE WEARING APPAREL INDUSTRIES SHOWED LITTLE CHANGE OVER THE SAME PERIOD.

COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1987, EMPLOYMENT IN DECEMBER 1988 DECREASED SUBSTANTIALLY IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY, MODERATELY IN THE WEARING APPAREL AND THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES, AND SLIGHTLY IN THE FOOD AND DRINKS AND THE TEXTILES INDUSTRIES.

ON THE OTHER HAND, A MODERATE INCREASE IN EMPLOYMENT WAS RECORDED IN THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRY.

IN DECEMBER 1988, PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN THE MANUFACTURING COMPANIES SURVEYED INCREASED, IN MONEY TERMS, BY 14 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH NOVEMBER 1988 AND BY 20 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1987.

MAINLY BECAUSE OF THE ISSUE OF DOUBLE PAY AND YEAR-END BONUSES IN SOME MANUFACTURING COMPANIES, PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN DECEMBER 1988 INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY OVER NOVEMBER 1988 IN THE FOOD AND DRINKS INDUSTRY AND SIGNIFICANTLY IN MOST OF THE OTHER MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES SURVEYED.

ON THE OTHER HAND, ONLY A SLIGHT INCREASE IN PER CAPITA EARNINGS WAS RECORDED IN THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRY, PROBABLY BECAUSE MOST COMPANIES SURVEYED IN THIS INDUSTRY USUALLY ISSUE DOUBLE PAY AND YEAR-END BONUSES TO EMPLOYEES IN JANUARY INSTEAD OF DECEMBER.

COMPARING DECEMBER 1988 WITH DECEMBER 1987, PER CAPITA EARNINGS INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY IN ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES SURVEYED, WITH THE LARGEST INCREASES RECORDED IN THE FOOD AND DRINKS AND THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES.

IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR, EMPLOYMENT IN DECEMBER 1988 DECREASED SLIGHTLY WHEN COMPARED WITH NOVEMBER 1988, BUT INCREASED SLIGHTLY OVER DECEMBER 1987. PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN DECEMBER 1988 INCREASED MARKEDLY WHEN COMPARED WITH BOTH NOVEMBER 1988 AND DECEMBER 1987.

THE INCREASE IN PER CAPITA EARNINGS OVER NOVEMBER 1988 WAS MAINLY DUE TO THE ISSUE OF YEAR-END BONUSES IN SOME CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES SURVEYED. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT FIGURES FOR THIS SECTOR COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY; SITE WORKERS EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS ARE NOT INCLUDED.

IN THE SERVICE SECTORS SURVEYED, THE OVERALL LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT IN DECEMBER 1988 WAS ALMOST THE SAME AS IN NOVEMBER 1988, WHILE IT INCREASED MODERATELY WHEN COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1987. PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN DECEMBER 1988 SHOWED SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES OVER NOVEMBER 1988 DUE TO THE ISSUE OF DOUBLE PAY AND ANNUAL BONUSES IN MOST COMPANIES SURVEYED.

THE INCREASE RECORDED IN THE BANKING SECTOR WAS PARTICULARLY LARGE. COMPARING DECEMBER 1988 WITH DECEMBER 1987, PER CAPITA EARNINGS INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY FOR THE SERVICE SECTORS AS A WHOLE, WITH THE LARGEST INCREASE RECORDED IN BANKS.

THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS ARE SHOWN IN TABLES 1 TO 3.

THE SURVEY COVERED A PANEL OF THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURING COMPANIES AND THE 50 LARGEST COMPANIES IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND SELECTED SERVICE SECTORS, CHOSEN BY REFERENCE TO THEIR EMPLOYMENT SIZES IN SEPTEMBER 1986.

AS THE SAMPLE WAS NOT DRAWN ON A RANDOM BASIS, THE DEPARTMENT CAUTIONED THAT THE MAGNITUDES OF CHANGE INDICATED BY THE SURVEY RESULTS MIGHT NOT REFLECT THE EXPERIENCE OF THE ECONOMY AS A WHOLE.

NEVERTHELESS, THESE COULD PROVIDE A USEFUL INDICATION OF THE DIRECTION OF CHANGE FOR A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ECONOMY IN THE SHORT TERM.

THE SURVEY REPORT FOR DECEMBER 1988 IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, AND AT THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER 1, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, AT \$1.50 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE MADE TO THE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON 5-8234820.

TABLE 1 : ORDERS-ON-HAND IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

INDUSTRY	ORDERS-ON-HAND		
	AS AT THE END OF DECEMBER 1988 (MONTHS)	CHANGE WHEN COMPARED WITH NOV. 88 (%)	CHANGE WHEN COMPARED WITH DEC. 87 (%)
ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	4.34	*	*
WEARING APPAREL	4.72	*	-3
TEXTILES	2.34	-1	-17
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	2.42	*	-7
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	4.65	-1	+10
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	5.16	*	+4
OTHERS	4.23	*	*

* CHANGES WITHIN +/-0.5 PER CENT

TABLE 2 : EMPLOYMENT

INDUSTRY/SERVICES	PERSONS ENGAGED AT THE END OF DECEMBER 1988	
	CHANGE WHEN COMPARED WITH NOV. 88 (%)	CHANGE WHEN COMPARED WITH DEC. 87 (%)
ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	*	-6
FOOD AND DRINKS	*	-3
WEARING APPAREL	*	-6
TEXTILES	+2	-3
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	-3	-21
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	+1	+4
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	-2	-6
OTHERS	*	-4
CONSTRUCTION#	-1	+3
SERVICES	*	+4
BANKS	*	+4
HOTELS	*	*
PUBLIC UTILITIES	*	*
OTHERS	+1	+13

/*CHANGES WITHIN

* CHANGES WITHIN +/-0.5 PER CENT

PERSONS ENGAGED COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY; SITE WORKERS EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS ARE NOT INCLUDED.

TABLE 3 : PER CAPITA EARNINGS

INDUSTRY/SERVICES	PER CAPITA EARNINGS		
	AVERAGE AS IN DECEMBER 1988	CHANGE WHEN COMPARED WITH NOV. 88	CHANGE WHEN COMPARED WITH DEC. 87
	(HK\$)	(%)	(%)
ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	5,048	+14	+20
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FOOD AND DRINKS	7,009	+42	+38
WEARING APPAREL	4,341	+13	+18
TEXTILES	5,059	+16	+15
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	4,693	+12	+29
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	4,482	+1	+17
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	4,789	+13	+19
OTHERS	6,317	+11	+16
CONSTRUCTION#	6,966	+13	+17
-----	-----	---	---
SERVICES	10,482	+46	+18
-----	-----	---	---
BANKS	12,020	+71	+18
HOTELS	6,116	+27	+8
PUBLIC UTILITIES	9,626	+35	+11
OTHERS	11,186	+39	+29

PER CAPITA EARNINGS COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY; SITE WORKERS EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS ARE NOT INCLUDED.

NOTES TO TABLES 1-3 : UNLIKE "ORDERS-ON-HAND" AND "PER CAPITA EARNINGS", WHICH ARE AVERAGE FIGURES AMONGST THE FIRMS SURVEYED, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED BY THE FIRMS SURVEYED IS NOT MEANINGFUL INFORMATION ON ITS OWN (BECAUSE THIS IS A PANEL SURVEY) AND IS THEREFORE NOT SHOWN.

EPCOM DISCUSSES DRAFT WASTE DISPOSAL PLAN

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MEMBERS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (EPCOM) TODAY (MONDAY) COMMENTED ON A DRAFT WASTE DISPOSAL PLAN WHICH SETS OUT IN DETAIL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL OF WASTES IN AN ENVIRONMENTALLY ACCEPTABLE MANNER.

AT THE MEETING HELD THIS AFTERNOON, MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE NOTED THAT THE DRAFT PLAN WOULD ALSO BE SUBMITTED TO THE URBAN COUNCIL AND THE REGIONAL COUNCIL DURING CONSULTATION IN THE FOLLOWING WEEKS.

IT WOULD THEN BE PUBLISHED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT BY THE MIDDLE OF THIS YEAR.

THE DRAFT WASTE DISPOSAL PLAN HAS BEEN PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE WASTE DISPOSAL ORDINANCE.

IT ADOPTS A PLANNING HORIZON OF THE YEAR 2001 AT WHICH TIME THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF WASTES GENERATED IN HONG KONG WOULD INCREASE FROM THE PRESENT 19,000 TONNES TO 30,000 TONNES PER DAY.

MEMBERS GENERALLY FELT THAT THE DRAFT WASTE DISPOSAL PLAN WAS SUFFICIENTLY COMPREHENSIVE.

IT ADDRESSED THE PROPER DISPOSAL AND TREATMENT OF VARIOUS TYPES OF WASTES INCLUDING HOUSEHOLD WASTE, INDUSTRIAL WASTE, CONSTRUCTION WASTE, CHEMICAL WASTE, LIVESTOCK WASTE AND SEWAGE SLUDGES.

THEY, HOWEVER, EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER THE RAPID INCREASE IN WASTE ARISING AND STRESSED THAT GREATER EMPHASIS SHOULD BE PLACED ON WASTE REDUCTION AT SOURCE.

IN PARTICULAR, MEMBERS WERE INTERESTED TO SEE MORE CONCERTED ACTION BOTH BY THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR, TO PROMOTE RECYCLING IN HONG KONG.

MEMBERS WERE INFORMED THAT THE FUTURE STRATEGY IN MANAGING MUNICIPAL WASTE WOULD INVOLVE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THREE LARGE LANDFILLS LOCATED IN REMOTE AREAS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES AND A NETWORK OF REFUSE TRANSFER STATIONS IN THE URBAN AREAS.

THEY STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT EFFECTIVE POLLUTION CONTROL MEASURES SHOULD BE INCORPORATED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THESE FACILITIES TO MINIMISE THEIR IMPACT ON THE SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT.

THEY ALSO WELCOMED THE PROGRAMME TO PHASE OUT ALL URBAN INCINERATORS WHEN THE PROPOSED FACILITIES CAME ON STREAM AS THIS WOULD REMOVE A CONSTANT SOURCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLAINTS AND GO A LONG WAY TOWARDS IMPROVING AIR QUALITY IN THE METROPOLITAN AREA.

AT TODAY'S MEETING, MEMBERS WERE ALSO GIVEN AN EARLY OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE THEIR INITIAL INPUT TO THE WHITE PAPER ON POLLUTION NOW UNDER PREPARATION.

/THEY DISCUSSED

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THEY DISCUSSED AN OUTLINE WHICH COVERED THE WHOLE SPECTRUM OF POLLUTION: AIR, WATER, WASTES AND NOISE, AND OTHER PLANNING AND ENFORCEMENT ISSUES.

MEMBERS WERE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THE AREA OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND AWARENESS AND ADVISED THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S INTENT, OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS IN THESE ASPECTS SHOULD BE CLEARLY STATED IN THE WHITE PAPER.

THEY URGED THAT AN EARLY DRAFT OF THE WHITE PAPER SHOULD BE PUT TO EPCOM FOR DISCUSSION TO ENSURE THAT MEMBERS' VIEWS WOULD BE FULLY TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.

THEY AGREED TO MEET MONTHLY TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY ADVICE TO HELP TACKLE HONG KONG'S ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS.

MEMBERS WERE INFORMED THAT THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS WOULD BE LEADING A DELEGATION TO PARTICIPATE IN AN INTERNATIONAL MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON CHLOROFUOROCARBONS AND THE OZONE LAYER TO BE HELD IN LONDON FROM MARCH 5 TO 7.

THE PURPOSE OF THE CONFERENCE IS TO SUPPORT EXISTING EFFORTS AND TO PROMOTE INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN DEALING WITH THE SERIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS POSED BY CHLOROFUOROCARBONS, PARTICULARLY THEIR DAMAGING EFFECT ON THE STRATOSPHERIC OZONE LAYER AND THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO THE "GREENHOUSE EFFECT".

HONG KONG IS A PARTICIPANT IN THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL ON SUBSTANCES THAT DEplete THE OZONE LAYER VIA INCLUSION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM'S RATIFICATION OF THE PROTOCOL.

THE LONDON CONFERENCE IS BEING HOSTED BY THE UNITED KINGDOM GOVERNMENT AND WILL BE ATTENDED BY THE PRIME MINISTER, MRS MARGARET THATCHER.

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NEW ARRANGEMENTS ON TRANSACTION LEVY

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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY (MONDAY) THAT THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR PIERS JACOBS, HAS ACCEPTED THE SECURITIES COMMISSION'S VIEW THAT THE 0.025 PER CENT STOCK EXCHANGE TRANSACTION LEVY SHOULD BE ABOLISHED.

"IN ITS PLACE, MR JACOBS HAS PROPOSED THAT THERE SHOULD BE A NEW STATUTORY LEVY OF EQUIVALENT AMOUNT TO BE SHARED INITIALLY EQUALLY BETWEEN THE STOCK EXCHANGE AND THE NEW SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

KEY FEATURES OF THE NEW ARRANGEMENT, TO BE DEFINED IN A MORE DETAILED EXCHANGE OF LETTERS AND RECOMMENDED FOR INCLUSION IN THE NECESSARY LEGISLATION, ARE:

/* THE EXISTING

- * THE EXISTING STOCK EXCHANGE LEVY WILL BE REPLACED BY A NEW STATUTORY LEVY AT AN INITIAL LEVEL OF 0.025 PER CENT PER TRANSACTION.
- * THE STOCK EXCHANGE AND THE NEW SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION WILL EACH RECEIVE 0.0125 PER CENT AT THE INITIAL STAGE.
- * THE AMOUNT OF THE LEVY TO BE RECEIVED BY THE STOCK EXCHANGE WILL BE SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY THE GOVERNMENT WITHIN FOUR YEARS OF THE INCEPTION OF THE NEW ARRANGEMENT.
- * THE AMOUNT OF THE LEVY TO BE RECEIVED BY THE NEW SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION WILL UNDER THE PROVISIONS IN THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION BILL BE SUBJECT TO REGULAR REVIEW BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.
- * THE STOCK EXCHANGE WILL NO LONGER BE REQUIRED TO PAY THE GOVERNMENT AN ANNUAL LUMP SUM, WHICH IS REVIEWED EVERY YEAR AND TOTALLED \$14.5 MILLION FOR 1988-89.

"THE DECISION FOLLOWS THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S CAREFUL CONSIDERATION OF A REPORT SUBMITTED BY THE MONETARY AFFAIRS BRANCH ON THE SECURITIES COMMISSION'S CONCLUSION THAT THE STOCK EXCHANGE TRANSACTION LEVY SHOULD BE ABOLISHED AT A TIME AND IN A MANNER TO BE DECIDED BY THE ADMINISTRATION," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

"IT IS THE RESULT OF MY PERSONAL DISCUSSIONS WITH SIR Q.W. LEE, CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF THE STOCK EXCHANGE OF HONG KONG, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE EXCHANGE'S NEEDS TO CONTINUE WITH ITS IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMMES," MR JACOBS SAID.

"I ALSO PAID SPECIAL REGARD TO THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY MARKET BODIES THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NEW SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION SHOULD NOT RESULT IN ADDITIONAL COST BEING IMPOSED ON THE INVESTING PUBLIC," HE SAID.

HE THANKED MR C.H. WONG, CHAIRMAN OF THE SECURITIES COMMISSION, AND HIS COLLEAGUES FOR THEIR THOROUGH AND HELPFUL EXAMINATION OF ISSUED INVOLVED.

"OVERALL, I FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT THE PACKAGE REPRESENTS A MOST SATISFACTORY SOLUTION TO ALL CONCERNED AND I SHALL NOW RECOMMEND IT TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL," MR JACOBS ADDED.

THE COUNCIL OF THE STOCK EXCHANGE OF HONG KONG HAS ACCEPTED THE NEW ARRANGEMENT AT ITS MEETING HELD THIS AFTERNOON.

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DIRECTOR OF MARINE RECEIVES PLAQUE FROM NEW SHIP

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THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE, MR DERICK HALL, WAS PRESENTED WITH A PLAQUE BY THE CAPTAIN OF A NEW PASSENGER CRUISE SHIP, THE ROYAL VIKING SUN, AT A CEREMONY THIS (MONDAY) MORNING.

THE 38,000-TONNE LINER, COMMISSIONED LAST NOVEMBER, IS ON A MAIDEN WORLD CRUISE.

THE CEREMONY WAS HELD ON BOARD THE SHIP, BERTHED AT THE OCEAN TERMINAL, TO COMMEMORATE HER FIRST CALL AT THE PORT OF HONG KONG.

THE CEREMONY WAS ALSO ATTENDED BY THE DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION, MR ALAN CARTER, DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES, MR JOHN MARCH, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF MARINE, MR IAN STRACHAN, AND GUESTS FROM THE LOCAL SHIPPING COMMUNITY.

MR HALL, IN RETURN, PRESENTED A MARINE DEPARTMENT PLAQUE TO THE MASTER, CAPTAIN OLA S. HARSHEIM.

BEFORE THE CEREMONY, MR HALL AND THE GUESTS WERE TAKEN ON A TOUR ON THE SHIP WHICH CAN CARRY A MAXIMUM OF 768 PASSENGERS.

THE BAHAMAS-REGISTERED VESSEL IS 204 METRES LONG AND HAS A DRAUGHT OF SEVEN METRES AND A CRUISING SPEED OF 21 KNOTS.

THE ROYAL VIKING SUN ARRIVED IN HONG KONG THIS MORNING WITH SOME 500 PASSENGERS AND WILL STAY UNTIL WEDNESDAY WHEN SHE WILL LEAVE FOR BANGKOK.

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SEMINAR TO BOOST INWARD INVESTMENT

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THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT WILL ORGANISE A HALF-DAY SEMINAR ON INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 23) AT THE MANDARIN ORIENTAL HOTEL.

THE SEMINAR, AIMED AT BOOSTING INWARD INVESTMENT, WILL BE ATTENDED BY ABOUT 40 POTENTIAL INVESTORS WHO ARE INTERESTED TO KNOW WHAT HONG KONG HAS TO OFFER AS WELL AS ITS UNIQUE, STRONG AND DEVELOPING RELATIONSHIP WITH CHINA.

THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, IS INVITED TO DELIVER A WELCOME SPEECH, WHILE THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR K. Y. YEUNG, WILL PRESENT A SLIDE SHOW ENTITLED "HONG KONG WORKS".

/OTHER SPEAKERS

OTHER SPEAKERS WILL INCLUDE DR VICTOR FUNG OF PRUDENTIAL ASIA INVESTMENTS LIMITED AND MR HOGAN LOH OF INTERPAC CONTAINERS.

DR FUNG WILL SPEAK ON "HONG KONG AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA", WHILE MR LOH WILL SHARE HIS EXPERIENCE OF BEING AN INVESTOR IN HONG KONG WITH THE PARTICIPANTS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WHO WISH TO COVER THE SEMINAR ON INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG SHOULD ARRIVE AT THE SMALL CONNAUGHT ROOM ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF THE MANDARIN ORIENTAL HOTEL, 5 CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG AT 9.30 AM ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 23).

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 37.3 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 218.738 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 313.287 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 53.4 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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PLANNING BEGINS FOR WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT FESTIVAL

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PREPARATIONS HAVE BEGUN FOR THE 1989 WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT FESTIVAL.

A FESTIVAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE MET RECENTLY TO DISCUSS INITIAL ARRANGEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES TO BE STAGED DURING THE FESTIVAL, THE THIRD OF ITS KIND IN THE DISTRICT.

THE FESTIVAL, WHICH IS EXPECTED TO LAST ABOUT TWO WEEKS, WILL BE HELD IN NOVEMBER.

THE FIRST WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT FESTIVAL WAS HELD IN 1983, AND THE SECOND IN 1986.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICE SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THAT A WIDE VARIETY OF ARTS, CULTURAL, RECREATION AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES WOULD BE HELD.

"IT IS HOPED THAT THE FESTIVAL WILL FOSTER A SENSE OF BELONGING AMONG RESIDENTS IN THE DISTRICT AND AT THE SAME TIME PROVIDE ENTERTAINMENT FOR THEM," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

/THE FESTIVAL

THE FESTIVAL WILL BE JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD, THE URBAN COUNCIL, THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT ARTS COUNCIL AND THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT RECREATION AND SPORTS COUNCIL.

THE BUDGET FOR THE FESTIVAL IS ABOUT \$1 MILLION, OF WHICH A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT WILL COME FROM THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD.

THE BALANCE IS EXPECTED TO COME FROM SPONSORSHIP BY LOCAL ORGANISATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS.

FOUR WORKING GROUPS, EACH CHAIRED BY A MEMBER OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE, HAVE BEEN SET UP UNDER ORGANISING COMMITTEE TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE FESTIVAL.

THEY ARE THE WORKING GROUPS ON OPENING AND CLOSING CEREMONIES, PUBLICITY AND PUBLICATION OF A DISTRICT FESTIVAL COMMEMORATIVE BOOKLET, ARTS AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND RECREATION, AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES.

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TUEN MUN DB TO DISCUSS DEVELOPMENT REPORT

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THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS THE 1988 EDITION OF "TUEN MUN DEVELOPMENT" AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

THE ANNUAL REPORT IS COMPILED BY THE TUEN MUN DEVELOPMENT OFFICE.

IT PROVIDES INFORMATION AND STATISTICS ON THE NEW TOWN'S POPULATION, INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, EMPLOYMENT SIZE, AND THE PROVISION OF HOUSING, ROADS, TRANSPORT AS WELL AS COMMUNITY FACILITIES.

AT THE MEETING, MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE FORMATION OF SIX FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEES AND A JOINT COMMITTEE FOR THE COMING FINANCIAL YEAR.

MEMBERS' VIEWS WILL BE SOUGHT ON THE STANDING ORDER CONCERNING THE ELECTION OF A MEMBER TO SIT ON THE REGIONAL COUNCIL, PROCEDURES FOR THE NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED MEMBERS, AND THE REVISION OF PROCEDURES FOR SEEKING DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS.

THE PROPOSED ESTIMATES FOR THE DISTRICT BOARD AND REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND RESPECTIVE COMMITTEES UNDER THE BOARD WILL BE TABLED FOR MEMBERS' INFORMATION.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD BEGINNING AT 9.30 AM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE DISTRICT BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE THIRD FLOOR, GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, NO. 1 TUEN HI ROAD, TUEN MUN.

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PROGRESS REPORTS ON DB COMMITTEE AGENDA

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THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD'S CULTURE AND SPORTS COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS A NUMBER OF PROGRESS REPORTS AT ITS MEETING ON WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 22).

THE REPORTS WILL BE FROM THE SHA TIN ARTS ASSOCIATION, SHA TIN SPORTS ASSOCIATION, SHA TIN DISTRICT FESTIVAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE AND THE FESTIVE LIGHTING CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE PROPOSED ESTIMATES FOR SPONSORING CULTURAL AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES IN 1989 - 90.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD'S CULTURE AND SPORTS COMMITTEE MEETING TO BEGIN AT 9.30 AM ON WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 22) AT THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM ON SIXTH FLOOR, KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN.

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ELECTION FORUM IN YAU TSIM

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A SPOKESMAN FOR THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICE TODAY (MONDAY) URGED RESIDENTS OF YAU TSIM DISTRICT TO ATTEND AN URBAN COUNCIL ELECTION FORUM TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 23) EVENING.

THE FORUM IS AIMED AT ENABLING ELECTORS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE DISTRICT'S CANDIDATES BEFORE CASTING VOTES IN THE ELECTION ON MARCH 9.

THE FORUM WILL START AT 8 PM IN THE HALL OF THE HENRY G. LEONG YAU MA TEI COMMUNITY CENTRE, 60 PUBLIC SQUARE STREET.

THE CANDIDATES, MISS WOO YAN-YUE, MR GARY AHUJA AND MR WONG KWOK-TUNG, WILL PRESENT THEIR PLATFORMS AND ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE ELECTION FORUM WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 8 PM ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 23) IN THE HALL OF THE HENRY G. LEONG YAU MA TEI COMMUNITY CENTRE, 60 PUBLIC SQUARE STREET.

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ELECTION FORUM FOR TSUEN WAN CANDIDATES

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THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE WILL HOLD A FORUM ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 23) TO INTRODUCE TWO CANDIDATES CONTESTING THE TSUEN WAN CONSTITUENCY'S SEAT ON THE REGIONAL COUNCIL.

THE PUBLIC FORUM WILL BEGIN AT 8 PM IN THE PRINCESS ALEXANDRA COMMUNITY CENTRE.

THE TWO CANDIDATES ARE MR ALBERT CHAN WAI-YIP AND MR YEUNG FUK-KWONG. THEY WILL PRESENT THEIR PLATFORMS AND ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR.

THE TSUEN WAN ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS SANDY HO, WILL BE THE MODERATOR.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE REGIONAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS CANDIDATES FORUM TO BEGIN AT 8 PM ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 23) IN THE PRINCESS ALEXANDRA COMMUNITY CENTRE, TAI HO ROAD, TSUEN WAN.

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WAN CHAI DB TO DISCUSS ELECTION DATE

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THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD WILL FIX A DATE FOR THE ELECTION OF A REPRESENTATIVE TO THE URBAN COUNCIL AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

THEY WILL ALSO CONSIDER A NUMBER OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS ON VARIOUS ISSUES, INCLUDING THE LOCATION OF EXAMINATION CENTRES FOR THE HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION; AND A PROPOSAL TO ISSUE CERTIFICATES OF AWARD TO OWNERS CORPORATIONS AND MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE THE DISTRICT BOARD MEETING DATES FOR 1989-90; REPORTS SUBMITTED BY DISTRICT BOARD COMMITTEES, AREA COMMITTEES AND THE DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE; AS WELL AS A FINANCIAL STATEMENT ON PROJECTS FUNDED BY THE BOARD.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, EIGHTH FLOOR, TUNG WAH MANSION, 201 HENNESSY ROAD, HONG KONG. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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REFRESHER COURSES FOR NON-GRADUATE TEACHERS

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THE INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL RUN TWO ENGLISH REFRESHER COURSES, WHICH INCLUDE A TRAINING PROGRAMME IN BRITAIN, FOR NON-GRADUATE SECONDARY TEACHERS OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF THE FULL-TIME COURSES IS TO FAMILIARISE TEACHERS WITH THE PRESENT TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING.

PARTICIPANTS WILL BE INTRODUCED TO NEW PERSPECTIVES IN LANGUAGE LEARNING WITH AN AIM TO EXPAND THEIR RANGE OF TEACHING TECHNIQUES.

THE COURSES WILL ALSO HELP TEACHERS TO DEVELOP THEIR ABILITY IN COMPILING TEACHING MATERIAL AND IN EVALUATING AND IMPROVING THE TEACHING AND LEARNING PROCESS IN THE CLASSROOM.

THE FIRST COURSE WILL LAST 16 WEEKS FROM SEPTEMBER 11 THIS YEAR TO JANUARY 13 NEXT YEAR WHILE THE SECOND COURSE LASTING 17 WEEKS WILL TAKE PLACE NEXT YEAR BETWEEN FEBRUARY 19 AND JUNE 23.

PARTICIPANTS OF THE TWO COURSES WILL ALSO HAVE TO ATTEND A RESIDENTIAL INTENSIVE COURSE IN HONG KONG BETWEEN JUNE 25 AND JULY 14 NEXT YEAR AND AN OVERSEAS LANGUAGE LEARNING AND TEACHING PROGRAMME IN BRITAIN BETWEEN JULY 20 AND AUGUST 17 NEXT YEAR.

SECONDARY SCHOOL HEADS ARE ADVISED TO SUBMIT NOMINATIONS TO THE INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION BEFORE MARCH 3.

THE SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL BE RELEASED FROM NORMAL SCHOOL DUTIES TO ATTEND THE REFRESHER COURSES ON A FULL-TIME BASIS.

SCHOOLS WILL BE ALLOWED TO EMPLOY FULL-TIME REPLACEMENT TEACHERS TO TAKE UP TEACHING DUTIES OF THOSE TEACHERS SELECTED TO ATTEND THE COURSES.

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TRAINING CENTRES HOLD JOINT OPEN DAY

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THE THREE MAIN VOCATIONAL TRAINING ORGANISATIONS IN HONG KONG WILL HOLD THEIR FIRST JOINT OPEN DAY ON SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (FEBRUARY 25 AND 26).

THE KOWLOON BAY TRAINING CENTRES OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL, THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TRAINING AUTHORITY AND THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY TRAINING AUTHORITY WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON THE TWO DAYS FROM 9 AM TO 4 PM.

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OVER 80 FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME PROGRAMMES OF DIFFERENT DURATION ARE BEING OFFERED AT THESE CENTRES FOR THE TRAINING OF APPROXIMATELY 5,000 OPERATIVES, CRAFTSMEN AND TECHNICIANS EACH YEAR.

STUDENTS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE INVITED TO VISIT THESE TRAINING CENTRES WHICH ARE LOCATED AT NOS. 44, 46 AND 63 TAI YIP STREET, KOWLOON BAY.

THE CENTRES COVER SKILLS TRAINING FOR A WIDE RANGE OF INDUSTRIES AND TRADES. VISITORS WILL BE ABLE TO TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT THE COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING FACILITIES AND LEARN MORE ABOUT THE TRAINING ENVIRONMENT THERE.

THE VTC CENTRES OFFER COURSES IN HOTEL OPERATION, ELECTRONICS, MACHINE SHOP AND METAL WORKING, PRECISION TOOLING, PRINTING, PLASTICS, TEXTILES, JEWELLERY, AUTOMOBILE REPAIR, ELECTRICITY, GAS, WELDING AND SEAMEN'S TRAINING.

THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TRAINING AUTHORITY PROVIDES COURSES IN BRICKLAYING, PLASTERING AND TILING, CARPENTRY AND JOINERY, PAINTING, DECORATING AND SIGNWRITING, CONSTRUCTION PLANT MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR, BAMBOO SCAFFOLDING, MARBLE LAYING AND STONE MASONRY, PLUMBING AND PIPE FITTING, ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION AND A CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISOR TRAINING PROGRAMME.

COURSES IN CLOTHING MANUFACTURE, KNITWEAR PROCESSING, FOOTWEAR MANUFACTURE, FUR MANUFACTURE, PATTERN MAKING AND CLOTHING MACHINERY MAINTENANCE ARE OFFERED AT THE CENTRES OF THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY TRAINING AUTHORITY.

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JOINT KEEP HK CLEAN STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

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MEMBERS OF THE JOINT URBAN COUNCIL/REGIONAL COUNCIL KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN STEERING COMMITTEE WILL MEET TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

THE AGENDA OF THE MEETING WILL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- * PROGRESS REPORT ON JOINT CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES FOR 1988-89.
- * PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE FEBRUARY - MARCH PERIOD.
- * PROGRESS REPORT ON THE "CAMPAIGN ON THE DISCRIMINATE USE/REUSE/RECYCLING OF PLASTIC BAGS IN THE 1989-90 CAMPAIGN"
- * PROGRESS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN 1989-90.

/* APPOINTMENT OF

* APPOINTMENT OF AGENCIES TO UNDERTAKE ADVERTISING AND CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP FOR THE 1989-90 CAMPAIGN.

THE MEETING WILL START AT 2.30 PM IN THE URBAN COUNCIL CHAMBER, THIRD FLOOR, URBAN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, EDINBURGH PLACE.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING.

NEW GOVT OFFICE BLOCK TO BE BUILT IN TAI PO

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A TWO-STOREY BLOCK WILL BE BUILT IN TAI PO'S AREA 27 TO ACCOMMODATE TWO SEPARATE OFFICES OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT AND THE MARINE DEPARTMENT.

TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE BUILDING, WHICH IS EXPECTED TO START IN APRIL, ARE BEING INVITED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

UPON ITS COMPLETION IN MARCH NEXT YEAR, THE BUILDING WILL PROVIDE 542 SQUARE METRES IN TOTAL FLOOR AREA FOR A MARINE LICENSING STATION AND A FISHERIES OFFICE.

THE LICENSING STATION WILL INCLUDE A GENERAL OFFICE, AN EXAMINATION ROOM, A PUBLIC WAITING AREA, A COMMON ROOM AND STOREROOMS.

THE FISHERIES OFFICE WILL INCLUDE A GENERAL OFFICE, A DRAWING OFFICE AND AN INTERVIEW ROOM. THE PANTRY AND TOILETS WILL BE SHARED BY BOTH OFFICES.

TENDERS MUST BE SUBMITTED BEFORE NOON ON MARCH 10.

FIRST INDOOR RECREATION CENTRE IN SHEUNG SHUI

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CONSTRUCTION WORK WILL START LATER THIS MONTH ON THE FIRST INDOOR RECREATION CENTRE IN SHEUNG SHUI UNDER A CONTRACT AWARDED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

COSTING SLIGHTLY UNDER \$28 MILLION, THE CENTRE WILL BE BUILT IN AREA 6 OF SHEK WU HUI, NEW TERRITORIES.

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IT WILL HAVE A MULTI-PURPOSE INDOOR GAMES HALL WHICH CAN BE USED AS TWO BASKETBALL COURTS, OR EIGHT BADMINTON COURTS, OR TWO VOLLEYBALL COURTS.

OTHER FACILITIES WILL INCLUDE THREE AIR-CONDITIONED SQUASH COURTS, A FITNESS CENTRE, A DANCE ROOM, CHANGING FACILITIES AND ADMINISTRATION OFFICES. THERE WILL ALSO BE A LANDSCAPED SITTING-OUT AREA.

THE CENTRE WILL HAVE A TOTAL FLOOR AREA OF 4,400 SQUARE METRES. IT WILL BE HANDED OVER TO THE REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR MANAGEMENT UPON ITS COMPLETION IN MAY 1990.

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FRESH WATER SERVICE RESERVOIR TO BE BUILT IN TUEN MUN
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A FRESH WATER SERVICE RESERVOIR WILL BE BUILT NEAR SIU LAM IN TUEN MUN TO COPE WITH FUTURE DEMAND FROM NEW DEVELOPMENTS AND TO SUPPLEMENT EXISTING STORAGE FACILITIES.

THE NEW REINFORCED CONCRETE FRESH WATER SERVICE RESERVOIR WILL HAVE A CAPACITY OF 14,000 CUBIC METRES.

CONSTRUCTION WORK IS EXPECTED TO COMMENCE IN APRIL AND TAKE ABOUT 18 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE PROJECT.

THE DEADLINE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF TENDERS IS NOON ON MARCH 10.

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TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN CENTRAL
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL BETWEEN ICE HOUSE STREET AND BANK STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC BETWEEN 30 MINUTES PAST MIDNIGHT AND 4.30 AM FROM THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 23) FOR TWO NIGHTS FOR FOOTBRIDGE CONSTRUCTION.

DURING THE CLOSURE, THE FOLLOWING BUS ROUTES WILL BE DIVERTED:

- * WESTBOUND BUS ROUTES 2, 6, 111, 113 AND 121 WILL BE DIVERTED VIA QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL AND JUBILEE STREET.
- * WESTBOUND BUS ROUTES 101, 104 AND 105 WILL BE DIVERTED VIA QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.
- * EASTBOUND BUS ROUTES 5B, 10, 101, 104, 105, 111, 113 AND 121 WILL BE DIVERTED VIA CHATER ROAD AND MURRAY ROAD.

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RELOCATION OF BUS TERMINUS IN WONG TAI SIN
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT FROM THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 23), THE WONG TAI SIN BUS TERMINUS BETWEEN MUK LUN STREET AND SHATIN PASS ROAD WILL BE RELOCATED TO LOWER WONG TAI SIN ESTATE AT THE JUNCTION OF SHATIN PASS ROAD WITH TUNG TAU TSUEN ROAD.

AS A RESULT, FOUR BUS ROUTES WILL BE RE-ROUTED TO TERMINATE AT THE LOWER WONG TAI SIN ESTATE BUS TERMINUS.

THEY ARE KMB ROUTES 3A, 6B, 11 AND CROSS-HARBOUR ROUTE 106. ALL WILL BE RE-ROUTED VIA TUNG TAU TSUEN ROAD AND SHATIN PASS ROAD.

NOTICES WILL BE POSTED AT THE WONG TAI SIN BUS TERMINUS TO INFORM PASSENGERS OF THE TERMINAL RELOCATION ARRANGEMENT.

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