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HIGH PRIORITY SET FOR SLOPE SAFETY

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THE GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO GIVE HIGH PRIORITY TO SLOPE SAFETY IN HONG KONG IN TERMS OF RESOURCES BEING EXPENDED AND POSITIVE ACTIONS BEING TAKEN.

ROUTINE CONTROL ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING CHECKING THE GEOTECHNICAL DESIGNS FOR CONSTRUCTION WORK, CONTINUE TO BE AN IMPORTANT FUNCTION OF THE GEOTECHNICAL CONTROL OFFICE (GCO) OF THE CIVIL ENGINEERING SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

GEOTECHNICAL CONTROL IS NEEDED TO ENSURE THAT UNSAFE SLOPES, RETAINING WALLS AND SITE FORMATION WORKS ARE NOT CONSTRUCTED, AND THAT EXISTING UNSAFE SLOPES AND WALLS ARE MADE SAFE.

ABOUT HALF OF THE GCO'S PROFESSIONAL STAFF ARE COMMITTED TO THESE DUTIES.

THE GEOTECHNICAL CONTROL OFFICE IS CONTINUING TO PURSUE VIGOROUSLY THE LANDSLIP PREVENTIVE MEASURES PROGRAMME WHICH WAS INITIATED IN 1976.

THIS PROGRAMME PROVIDES FOR THE INVESTIGATION OF SLOPES AND RETAINING WALLS AND THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF STABILISATION MEASURES TO UNSAFE GOVERNMENT SLOPES AND RETAINING WALLS.

THE INVESTIGATIONS, DESIGNS AND CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISION ARE CARRIED OUT ENTIRELY IN-HOUSE BY THE GCO, AND AN ANNUAL ALLOCATION OF FUNDS IS PROVIDED FOR THIS PURPOSE.

SINCE 1976, ALMOST $865 MILLION HAS BEEN SPENT ON STUDIES AND WORKS TO STABILISE NEARLY 600 SLOPES AND RETAINING WALLS.

EXPENDITURE ON THE LANDSLIP PREVENTIVE PROGRAMME IS CONTINUING AT A RATE OF ABOUT $70 MILLION PER YEAR, AND ANNUAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON SLOPE MAINTENANCE IS ADDITIONALLY ABOUT $40 MILLION.

DURING THE 1990/91 FINANCIAL YEAR, STABILISATION WERE COMPLETED ON 39 SLOPES AND RETAINING WALLS, AND WORKS COMMENCED ON 25 OTHERS.

OF THESE 64 SLOPES AND WALLS, 35 WERE ON HONG KONG ISLAND, 12 IN KOWLOON AND 17 IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE EXPENDITURE DURING THE LAST FINANCIAL YEAR WAS ABOUT $65 MILLION.

IN THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1991/92, WORKS WILL BE IN PROGRESS ON A TOTAL OF 56 SLOPES AND RETAINING WALLS, OF WHICH 27 ARE ON HONG KONG ISLAND, 12 IN KOWLOON AND 17 IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THESE COMPRISE 41 SOIL AND ROCK SLOPES, THREE LOOSE FILL SLOPES AND 12 RETAINING WALLS.

/THE EXPENDITURE .....

THE EXPENDITURE ON THE LANDSLIP PREVENTIVE MEASURES PROGRAMME DURING THIS FINANCIAL YEAR IS EXPECTED TO BE $87 MILLION.

IN ADDITION, EXPENDITURE ON STABILISATION AND IMPROVEMENT WORK TO THE LARGE SANITARY LANDFILL AT SAI TSO WAN IS EXPECTED TO BE IN THE ORDER OF $15 MILLION THIS YEAR.

UNTIL RECENTLY, THE LANDSLIP PREVENTIVE MEASURES PROGRAMME WAS CONCERNED ENTIRELY WITH SLOPES AND RETAINING WALLS WHICH COULD CAUSE LOSS OF LIFE IN THE EVENT OF FAILURE.

HOWEVER, THE PROGRAMME NOW INCLUDES THE STABILISATION OF SOME UNSATISFACTORY SLOPES AND WALLS WHICH COULD INDIRECTLY CAUSE LOSS OF LIFE BY MAJOR DISRUPTION TO ESSENTIAL SERVICES, OR WHICH COULD CAUSE MAJOR ECONOMIC DISRUPTION.

THIS CATEGORY INCLUDES SLOPES ALONG MAJOR ROADS, AND SLOPES ALONG OTHER ROADS WHICH PROVIDE THE SOLE ACCESS TO HOSPITALS, WATER SUPPLY RESERVOIRS, RESIDENTIAL AREAS.

IN ADDITION TO THE STABILISATION WORKS INITIATED AND EXECUTED BY THE GEOTECHNICAL CONTROL OFFICE, A GREAT DEAL OF SLOPE STABILISATION WORK, AT A COST OF SEVERAL HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS PER YEAR, IS CARRIED OUT IN BOTH THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS IN ASSOCIATION WITH CAPITAL WORKS PROJECTS.

THERE CONTINUES TO BE THE PROBLEM OF UNSAFE SLOPES OCCUPIED BY SQUATTERS. THESE SLOPES CANNOT BE RECTIFIED UNDER THE LANDSLIP PREVENTIVE MEASURES PROGRAMME BECAUSE CLEARANCES ARE INVARIABLY NEEDED BEFORE LARGE-SCALE WORK CAN BE CARRIED OUT.

THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT HAS NOW CLEARED ABOUT 53,000 OF THE 57,000 PEOPLE ESTIMATED TO BE OCCUPYING STEEP SLOPES ESPECIALLY VULNERABLE TO LANDSLIPS IN 1984.

THE GCO IS ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SUPPLY OF CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS, GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, GROUND INVESTIGATIONS AND LABORATORY TESTING FOR PUBLIC WORKS, AND PROVIDING GEOTECHNICAL ADVISORY SERVICES TO GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

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URBAN COUNCIL BACKS MUNICIPAL COUNCILS ELECTIONS

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THE URBAN COUNCIL HAS GIVEN ITS FULLEST SUPPORT TO THE COMING MUNICIPAL COUNCILS ELECTIONS BY HELPING REGISTERED VOTERS TO BETTER UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCILS TO THE DAILY LIFE OF HONG KONG'S POPULATION OF 5.6 MILLION PEOPLE.

AS PART OF THE OVERALL EFFORTS IN PROMOTING THE MUNICIPAL COUNCILS ELECTIONS, A TAILOR-MADE BILINGUAL LEAFLET HAS BEEN PRODUCED TO EXPLAIN, IN SIMPLE LANGUAGE, THE WORK OF THE TWO MUNICIPAL COUNCILS AND THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS IN IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN HONG KONG.

"WITH A PRINT RUN OF 1.8 MILLION COPIES, THE LEAFLET IS A JOINT EFFORT OF THE TWO MUNICIPAL COUNCILS AND THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES AND IS FUNDED BY THE TWO COUNCILS," A COUNCIL SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

"DISTRIBUTION IS BEING ARRANGED WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL OFFICE AND DISTRICT OFFICES TO ENSURE THAT EVERY REGISTERED VOTER WILL RECEIVE THE LEAFLET TOGETHER WITH THE VOTING CARD," HE SAID.

THE LEAFLET INTRODUCES THE FUNCTIONS OF THE TWO MUNICIPAL COUNCILS AND THEIR ROLES IN THE THREE-TIER SYSTEM OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS THEIR LINKS WITH THE DISTRICT BOARDS AND THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

"TO ENHANCE PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF THE MULTI-FACETED ROLES OF THE URBAN COUNCIL IN SERVING THE EVERYDAY NEEDS OF THE URBAN COMMUNITY, A SERIES OF SPECIAL MOBILE EXHIBITIONS ARE BEING STAGED AT CENTRES OF POPULATION THROUGHOUT THE URBAN AREAS THIS MONTH AND UNTIL THE ELECTION DAY ON MAY 5," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

APART FROM INTRODUCING THE COUNCIL'S THREE MAIN AREAS OF WORK -- PUBLIC HEALTH, LEISURE AND CULTURAL SERVICES, THE EXHIBITIONS ALSO DETAIL THE MANY MAJOR PROJECTS THAT WOULD COME ON STREAM THIS YEAR TO BETTER SERVE THE PUBLIC.

"THE COUNCIL HAS ARRANGED SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTS IN DISTRICT NEWSPAPERS AND PRODUCED A FOUR-MINUTE VIDEO PRESENTATION FOR SHOWING AS PART OF THE MOBILE EXHIBITION AND AT ALL UC VENUES EQUIPPED WITH AUDIO-VISUAL EQUIPMENT TO ENHANCE PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF THE COUNCIL'S WORK.

"IT IS HOPED THAT THE INCREASED KNOWLEDGE WILL ENCOURAGE MORE REGISTERED VOTERS TO COME FORWARD TO CAST THEIR VOTES ON THE ELECTION DAY TO CHOOSE THE SUITABLE PERSONS AS URBAN COUNCILLORS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE COUNCIL HAS MADE AVAILABLE A LARGE NUMBER OF COUNCIL VENUES FOR REGISTERED CANDIDATES STANDING FOR THE MUNICIPAL COUNCILS ELECTIONS TO DISPLAY ELECTIONEERING MATERIALS, INCLUDING BANNERS, BOARDS AND POSTERS.

"IN ADDITION, THE COUNCIL IS GIVING EVERY ASSISTANCE TO GOVERNMENT IN PUBLICISING THE FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS BY PUTTING UP PROMOTIONAL POSTERS AT COUNCIL VENUES AND BY SHOWING PROMOTIONAL FILMS BEFORE DAILY PROGRAMMES AT MAJOR CULTURAL VENUES MANAGED BY THE COUNCIL," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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INMATES HELP IN HANDLING ELECTION MAIL

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THE MUNICIPAL COUNCILS ELECTIONS NEXT MONTH CONCERN NOT ONLY ELECTORS AND CANDIDATES, BUT ALSO SOME INMATES OF PENAL INSTITUTIONS WHO HAVE RECENTLY JOINED IN TO ASSIST THE MAILING OF PUBLICITY LEAFLETS TO VOTERS.

ABOUT 150 INMATES FROM THE TAI TAM GAP CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION, TAI LAM CENTRE FOR WOMEN AND VICTORIA PRISON ARE NOW UNDERTAKING THE WORK OF INSERTING THE LEAFLETS ON "SIMPLE GUIDE ON VOTING" AND "INTRODUCTION TO CANDIDATES" INTO SOME 760,000 ENVELOPES AND STICKING MAILING LABELS ON THESE ENVELOPES.

THE MAILING WORK WILL TAKE ABOUT A WEEK TO COMPLETE.

THE GENERAL MANAGER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES INDUSTRIES (CSI), MR HERBERT HUI, SAID THIS WAS THE SECOND TIME THE INMATES HELPED IN THE MAILING OF ELECTION PUBLICITY MATERIALS.

"IN THE DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS IN MARCH, THE INMATES ALSO HANDLED OVER 600,000 PUBLICITY LETTERS AND MANAGED TO MEET THE TIGHT SCHEDULE AND FINISHED THE JOB PROPERLY.

"THEIR WORK HAD PROVED TO BE VALUABLE IN ALLEVIATING THE WORKLOAD OF THE DISTRICT OFFICES IN THE RUN-UP TO THE DB ELECTIONS.

"IT ALSO SAVES THE GOVERNMENT FUNDS FOR EMPLOYING TEMPORARY STAFF OR CONTRACTORS TO DO THE JOB," HE SAID.

"IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THE MAILING WORK FOR THE DB AND MUNICIPAL COUNCILS ELECTIONS WOULD HAVE COSTED THE GOVERNMENT ABOUT $300,000," HE ADDED.

MR NG SAID HE HOPED THE MAILING WORK WOULD ALSO BENEFIT THE INMATES.

"THROUGH THEIR CONTACTS WITH THESE PUBLICITY MATERIALS, IT IS HOPED THAT THE INMATES WOULD GET TO KNOW MORE ABOUT VOTING AND WOULD BE MORE WILLING TO EXERCISE THEIR CIVIC DUTY UPON RELEASE," HE SAID.

APART FROM HANDLING ELECTION MAIL, CSI HAS ALSO UNDERTAKEN MAILING WORK FOR OTHER ORGANISATIONS BEFORE.

MR NG SAID CSI WELCOMED SUCH ORDERS FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR, WHICH NOT ONLY BOOSTED GOVERNMENT REVENUES BUT ALSO HELPED KEEP THE INMATES OCCUPIED FOR CONSTRUCTIVE PURPOSES.

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FINANCIAL AID FOR NEEDY STUDENTS OF TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS

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THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON STUDENT FINANCE, WHICH ADMINISTERS THE GOVERNMENT'S SCHEME OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY STUDENTS OF TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS, TODAY (SUNDAY) ANNOUNCED THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR APPLICATIONS IN RESPECT OF THE 1991-92 ACADEMIC YEAR.

THE SCHEME PROVIDES FINANCIAL AID IN THE FORM OF A COMBINATION OF GRANTS AND LOANS FOR STUDENTS ATTENDING FULL-TIME COURSES AT THE CITY POLYTECHNIC OF HONG KONG, THE HONG KONG BAPTIST COLLEGE, THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, THE LINGNAN COLLEGE, THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE JOINT COMMITTEE SAID THAT TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, AN APPLICANT MUST HAVE RESIDED OR BEEN DOMICILED IN HONG KONG CONTINUOUSLY FOR AT LEAST THREE YEARS IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF HIS COURSE.

"CURRENT STUDENTS MAY OBTAIN APPLICATION FORMS AS FROM TOMORROW (MONDAY) FROM THEIR INSTITUTIONS," HE SAID.

"PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS WHO SATISFY THE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS OF, AND HAVE APPLIED FOR ADMISSION TO, THE LINGNAN COLLEGE, THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG AND THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG MAY OBTAIN APPLICATION FORMS FROM THE INSTITUTIONS CONCERNED, ON PRODUCTION OF THE RESULT SLIPS OF THEIR ADVANCED/HIGHER LEVEL EXAMINATION OR NOTIFICATION OF PROVISIONAL OFFER IN RESPECT OF THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

"THEY SHOULD, HOWEVER, SUBMIT THEIR APPLICATIONS ONLY AFTER THEY HAVE BEEN OFFERED ADMISSION BY THE INSTITUTIONS CONCERNED.

"NEW STUDENTS ADMITTED BY THE HONG KONG BAPTIST COLLEGE, THE CITY POLYTECHNIC OF HONG KONG, THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC AND THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY MAY OBTAIN APPLICATION FORMS AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION."

THE SPOKESMAN SAID POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS AND STUDENTS TAKING HIGHER DEGREE OR DIPLOMA COURSES, WHO WILL NOT HAVE EXCEEDED THEIR MINIMUM PRESCRIBED PERIOD OF REGISTRATION BY SEPTEMBER 30, 1991, ARE ALSO ELIGIBLE TO APPLY.

"THE MINIMUM PERIOD OF REGISTRATION FOR A MASTER DEGREE IS NORMALLY TWO YEARS AND FOR A DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREE, THREE YEARS," HE SAID.

/THE CLOSING .....

THE CLOSING DATES FOR APPLICATIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

CURRENT STUDENTS	:	MAY 15, 1991
NEW STUDENTS:		
CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG	:	AUGUST 31, 1991
HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY	:	SEPTEMBER 2, 1991
CITY POLYTECHNIC OF HONG KONG	:	OCTOBER 12, 1991
HONG KONG BAPTIST COLLEGE	:	OCTOBER 12, 1991
HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC	:	OCTOBER 12, 1991
LINGNAN COLLEGE	:	OCTOBER 12, 1991
UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG	:	21 DAYS FROM DATE OF OFFER OF ADMISSION

THE SPOKESMAN SAID APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE ARE SUBJECT TO MEANS TEST, WHICH TAKES INTO ACCOUNT A STUDENT'S FAMILY INCOME AND ASSETS LESS PERMITTED DEDUCTIONS TO ARRIVE AT THE STUDENT'S ANNUAL DISPOSABLE INCOME FOR SETTING AGAINST HIS GRANT/LOAN REQUIREMENTS.

"FOR EVERY FRESH APPLICATION, THE APPLICANT AND/OR AN ADULT MEMBER OF HIS HOUSEHOLD WHO IS FULLY AWARE OF THE FAMILY'S CIRCUMSTANCES, WILL BE INVITED TO ATTEND AN INTERVIEW AT THE STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AGENCY TO CLARIFY THE INFORMATION REPORTED IN THE APPLICATION," HE SAID.

"AFTER THE FIRST YEAR OF APPLICATION, INTERVIEWS WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN ALTERNATE YEARS."

APPLICANTS WHO WISH TO APPLY FOR STUDENT TRAVEL SUBSIDY SHOULD DO SO BY COMPLETING THE APPROPRIATE SECTION IN THE SAME APPLICATION FORM.

THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT INCORRECT OR INACCURATE INFORMATION NOT ONLY WILL LEAD TO REJECTION OF AN APPLICATION BUT MAY ALSO GIVE RISE TO CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST THE APPLICANT.

ENQUIRIES SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AGENCY AT QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES, LOW BLOCK, GROUND FLOOR, 66 QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG (TEL. NO.: 867 2738).

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APPOINTMENT TO CIVIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE ANNOUNCED
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THE CHIEF SECRETARY HAS APPOINTED 15 PERSONS AS MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM STARTING FROM APRIL 1, 1991 TO MARCH 31, 1993, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY (SUNDAY).

ELEVEN OF THEM, INCLUDING THE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, DR DANIEL TSE, ARE RE-APPOINTEES.

THE FOUR NEW MEMBERS ARE MR CHAN KAR-LOK, A SOLICITOR; MR LAI CHI-TONG, A SOCIAL WORKER; DR LO CHI-KIN, A PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMENTATOR; AND MR LO KWOK-CHIM, A LYRIC WRITER.

THE COMMITTEE WAS SET UP IN 1986 TO STUDY, DISCUSS AND MAKE PROPOSALS ON THE OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF CIVIC EDUCATION AND ITS WAYS OF IMPLEMENTATION.

IT ALSO HELPS VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS PROMOTE CIVIC EDUCATION AND ENCOURAGES PARTICIPATION IN ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES.

IN ADDITION TO APPOINTED MEMBERS, THE COMMITTEE ALSO COMPRISES REPRESENTATIVES FROM VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

FOLLOWING IS THE LIST OF THE APPOINTED MEMBERS:

CHAIRMAN	DR DANIEL TSE
MEMBERS	MR CHAN CHUN-FAT
	MR CHAN KAR-LOK
	MR CHAN WING-TAI
	MR CHENG KAI-NAM
	DR LEONARD L. CHU
	MISS JUNIA HO
	MR LAI CHI-TONG
	DR LO CHI-KIN
	MR LO KWOK-CHIM
	MR MAK HOI-WAH
	MR POON KAI-TIK
	MR TAM MAN-KWAN
	MR JUSTEIN C. WONG
	MS NORA YAU

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YIN NGAI SOCIETY PRAISED FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES

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THE YAU TSIM AND MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS ANNIE TANG, TODAY (SUNDAY) PRAISED THE YAU MA TEI (NORTH AND SOUTH AREAS) YIN NGAI SOCIETY FOR ITS CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITY SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT.

OFFICIATING AT THE INAUGURAL CEREMONY OF THE SOCIETY'S FIFTH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, MISS TANG NOTED THAT THE SOCIETY HAD MADE CONTINUOUS EFFORTS IN ORGANISING A VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE COMMUNITY.

"IT HAS ALSO SUCCESSFULLY MOTIVATED WOMEN IN THE DISTRICT TO PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNITY WORK," SHE ADDED.

WHILE PRAISING THE MEMBERS FOR DEVOTING THEIR VALUABLE TIME TO ORGANISE EDUCATIONAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR RESIDENTS, MISS TANG ENCOURAGED THEM TO MAINTAIN THE SAME MAGNANIMOUS ATTITUDE AND CONTINUE TO WORK FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE DISTRICT.

THE YAU MA TEI (NORTH AND SOUTH AREAS) YIN NGAI SOCIETY WAS SET UP SEVEN YEARS AGO AND NOW BOASTS A MEMBERSHIP OF OVER 900.

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APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR YOUTH PROJECT GRANTS

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LOCAL YOUTH GROUPS WISHING TO APPLY FOR GRANTS UNDER THE "OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH SCHEME" (OYS) OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT (SWD) ARE TODAY (SUNDAY) REMINDED THAT THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION IS APRIL 30.

"YOUTH GROUPS WISHING TO APPLY FOR GRANTS MAY SUBMIT THEIR PROJECT PROPOSALS THROUGH THE SOCIAL WORK OFFICER (YOUTH) OF THEIR RESPECTIVE DISTRICT," THE CHAIRMAN OF THE OYS ORGANISING COMMITTEE, MISS CHUNG WOON-CHEUNG, SAID.

THE PLANNED PROJECTS SHOULD BE INNOVATIVE AND MEANINGFUL. THEY MAY BE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS, RURAL AREAS AND DEPRIVED AREA SERVICE, COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROJECTS, REHABILITATION AND ELDERLY SERVICE OR COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAMMES.

EACH APPROVED PROJECT WILL BE GRANTED A SUBSIDY UP TO $6,000.

THE SCHEME WAS INTRODUCED IN 1974 TO PROMOTE PERSONAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE; ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE A SENSE OF SOCIAL CONSCIOUSNESS AND RESPONSIBILITY; AND DEVELOP THE SPIRIT OF CO-OPERATION AND MUTUAL HELP.

/"EACH PARTICIPATING .....

"EACH PARTICIPATING GROUP SHOULD HAVE AT LEAST SEVEN MEMBERS AGED 13 TO 25, AND SHOULD BE SPONSORED BY A SCHOOL, YOUTH AGENCY, OR AN INDUSTRIAL OR COMMERCIAL ORGANISATION," MISS CHUNG SAID.

"GROUPS WITHOUT SPONSORS MAY ALSO APPLY WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE SWO (YOUTH) OF THEIR DISTRICT," SHE ADDED.

UPON COMPLETION OF THE PROJECTS, EACH DISTRICT WILL SELECT ITS MOST OUTSTANDING PROJECT WHICH WILL RECEIVE A DISTRICT BEST OYS AWARD. THE DISTRICT WINNERS WILL THEN COMPETE FOR THE HONG KONG BEST OYS AWARD.

MISS CHUNG SAID THE PROJECTS WOULD BE ASSESSED BY THE EXTENT OF YOUTH INVOLVEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT, FEASIBILITY, THE EXTENT OF COMMUNITY BENEFITS, OPTIMUM USE OF RESOURCES AND INNOVATION.

FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHEME AND APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE VARIOUS YOUTH OFFICES OF THE SWD.

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DRAWING CONTEST FOR CHILDREN

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CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN FOUR AND 13 ARE INVITED TO TAKE PART IN THE 1991 INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN DRAWING CONTEST TO BE HELD ON APRIL 28, FROM 9 AM TO 11.30 AM, AT THE HONG KONG CULTURAL CENTRE IN TSIM SHA TSUI.

THE CONTEST IS BEING JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICE, THE URBAN COUNCIL, HARBOUR JAYCEES AND SING TAO LIMITED WITH SPONSORSHIP FROM HONG KONG TELECOM.

IT AIMS TO PROVIDE CHILDREN WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE PART IN ART ACTIVITIES SO AS TO ENHANCE THEIR CREATIVITY.

THE THEMES OF THE CONTEST ARE "I LOVE HONG KONG", "PICNICKING" AND "MY WORLD".

IT IS DIVIDED INTO THREE SECTIONS: JUNIOR FOR THOSE AGED FOUR TO SIX, INTERMEDIATE FOR THOSE AGED SEVEN TO NINE, AND SENIOR FOR THOSE AGED 10 TO 13.

THERE WILL BE 10 OUTSTANDING AWARDS AND 120 CONSOLATION PRIZES FOR EACH SECTION. THE PRIZES INCLUDE PLAQUES AND GAME SETS.

ENTRY FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL DISTRICT OFFICES. ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL. 343 8111.

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CHANGE OF PARTICULARS MUST BE REPORTED TO TRANSPORT DEPT

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VEHICLE OWNERS AND DRIVING LICENCE HOLDERS ARE REQUIRED TO NOTIFY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT IN WRITING ANY CHANGE IN THE NAME, ADDRESS OR IDENTITY DOCUMENT SPECIFIED IN THE DRIVING LICENCE WITHIN 72 HOURS AFTER SUCH CHANGE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID VEHICLE OWNERS WERE ALSO REQUIRED TO NOTIFY THE COMMISSIONER IN WRITING THE CHANGES OF VEHICLE REGISTRATION PARTICULARS ENTERED IN A REGISTRATION DOCUMENT.

"ANY PERSON WHO WITHOUT REASONABLE EXCUSE CONTRAVENES THE REGULATIONS COMMITS AN OFFENCE AND IS LIABLE TO A FINE OF $2,000," HE SAID.

FORMS FOR NOTIFICATION OF CHANGE OF PERSONAL PARTICULARS AND CHANGE OF VEHICLE REGISTRATION PARTICULARS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE DEPARTMENT'S LICENSING OFFICES.

COMPLETED FORMS MAY BE SUBMITTED IN PERSON TO THE HONG KONG LICENSING OFFICE AT 2 MURRAY ROAD, HONG KONG; THE KOWLOON LICENSING OFFICE AT NINTH FLOOR, 56 DUNDAS STREET, KOWLOON; THE KWUN TONG LICENSING OFFICE AT FIFTH FLOOR, KOWLOON EAST GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 12 LEI YUE MUN ROAD; AND THE SHA TIN LICENSING OFFICE AT FIFTH FLOOR, KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN STATION, NEW TERRITORIES.

THE FORMS CAN ALSO BE SENT BY REGISTERED POST TO P.O. BOX 69511, KWUN TONG POST OFFICE, KOWLOON.

"NO FEES ARE REQUIRED FOR MAKING CHANGES TO PERSONAL PARTICULARS. RECORDING A CHANGE OF VEHICLE REGISTRATION PARTICULARS IS ALSO FREE OF CHARGE, BUT ADJUSTMENT OF LICENCE FEES MAY BE REQUIRED WHEN CHANGES AFFECT CLASS, ENGINE POWER, SEATING CAPACITY AND PERMITTED GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

HE SAID PROSECUTION ACTION WOULD BE TAKEN AGAINST THOSE WHO FAILED TO OBSERVE THE LEGAL REQUIREMENT.

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ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT INVITES RECRUITS

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THE ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT (THE VOLUNTEERS) WILL START ITS ANNUAL RECRUITMENT EXERCISE TOMORROW (MONDAY).

THE REGIMENT IS LOOKING FOR ABOUT 200 MALE RECRUITS AND 25 FEMALE RECRUITS THIS YEAR.

THOSE WHO ARE INTERESTED SHOULD BE AT LEAST 18 YEARS OLD, HAVE COMPLETED SECONDARY EDUCATION AND HAVE A REASONABLE KNOWLEDGE OF SPOKEN ENGLISH. THEY SHOULD ALSO HAVE REGULAR EMPLOYMENT AND SHOULD HAVE OBTAINED THEIR EMPLOYERS' CONSENT FOR JOINING THE FORCE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE VOLUNTEERS SAID: "SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL RECEIVE TRAINING IN BASIC MILITARY SKILLS, INCLUDING DRILLS, HANDLING RIFLES AND SUB-MACHINE GUNS, AND USE OF VEHICLES AND ASSAULT BOATS.

"TRAINING IN OPERATING RADIO EQUIPMENT, AND IN MAP READING AND FIRST AID IS ALSO GIVEN."

HE SAID THE TRAINING NO DOUBT HELPED IN BUILDING UP ONE'S PHYSIQUE AS WELL AS CULTIVATING A MORE MATURE AND CAPABLE PERSONALITY.

"VOLUNTEERS WILL ALSO GAIN VALUABLE EXPERIENCE IN SUPERVISORY SKILLS, JUDGEMENT AND DECISION-MAKING," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

TRAINING FOR THE RECRUITS WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN FOUR EVENINGS AND ONE WEEKEND PER MONTH FOR A PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS. THEY WILL ALSO HAVE TO ATTEND TWO NINE-DAY TRAINING CAMPS BEFORE PASSING OUT.

THE MAJORITY OF TRAINING WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE SCENIC COUNTRY PARKS OF HONG KONG ISLAND AND THE NEW TERRITORIES.

ON COMPLETION OF BASIC TRAINING, THE VOLUNTEERS WILL RECEIVE TRAINING ON TWO EVENINGS AND ONE WEEKEND A MONTH. THERE ARE TWO CAMP PERIODS, ONE OF WHICH IS SPENT ON MANNING THE HONG KONG-CHINA BORDER.

APPLICATION FORMS AND INFORMATION LEAFLETS ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL DISTRICT OFFICES AND THE REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS AT SPORTS ROAD, HAPPY VALLEY.

THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION IS JUNE 30 THIS YEAR.

FURTHER INFORMATION CAN BE DIRECTED TO THE VOLUNTEERS' HEADQUARTERS ON TEL. 576 1371.

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NEW TELEPHONE NUMBERS FOR PMH
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THE TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL WILL BE CHANGED FROM TUESDAY (APRIL 16) FOLLOWING THE INSTALLATION OF A NEW PABX TELEPHONE SYSTEM, THE HOSPITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (SUNDAY).

THE NEW NUMBERS ARE:

MAIN EXCHANGE: 310 3111

ENQUIRY OFFICE: 310 3200

ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT: 310 3253

AS THE HOSPITAL'S OLD TELEPHONE SYSTEM WILL BE DISCONNECTED ON TUESDAY, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE ADVISED NOT TO DIAL THE OLD TELEPHONE NUMBERS ANY MORE FROM THAT DAY.

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