DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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PADS FINANCIAL ADVISERS ANNOUNCED

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THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT IT HAS RETAINED MORGAN STANLEY AS ITS OVERALL FINANCIAL ADVISER IN CONNECTION WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S PORT AND AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (PADS).

THE PADS PROGRAMME COMPRISES A NUMBER OF MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN HONG KONG, INCLUDING A REPLACEMENT AIRPORT TO BE LOCATED AT CHEK LAP KOK, NEW PORT FACILITIES TO BE SITED AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS, AN AIRPORT RAILWAY, BRIDGES AND EXPRESSWAYS, RECLAMATIONS AND URBAN DEVELOPMENTS.

MORGAN STANLEY'S ROLE WILL BE TO ADVISE THE GOVERNMENT ON MAJOR FINANCIAL ISSUES RELATED TO THE PADS PROJECTS.

MORGAN STANLEY IS A LEADING INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT BANKING FIRM PROVIDING WORLDWIDE SERVICES, WITH OFFICES IN THE U.S., LONDON, TOKYO, HONG KONG AND OTHER LOCATIONS.

THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT ALSO ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT IT HAS RETAINED WARDLEY CAPITAL LIMITED AS ITS PROJECT FINANCIAL ADVISER ON THE REPLACEMENT AIRPORT AT CHEK LAP KOK.

WARDLEY CAPITAL'S ROLE WILL BE TO ADVISE THE GOVERNMENT ON THE FINANCIAL VIABILITY OF THE AIRPORT AT CHEK LAP KOK AND THE FINANCING STRATEGY FOR THIS PROJECT.

WARDLEY CAPITAL WILL UNDERTAKE THE ASSIGNMENT IN ASSOCIATION WITH CANADIAN-BASED AIRPORT SPECIALISTS MARSHALL MACKLIN MONAGHAN LIMITED.

WARDLEY CAPITAL IS A WHOLLY-OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF THE WARDLEY GROUP, THE MERCHANT BANKING ARM OF THE HONG KONG BANK GROUP. WARDLEY HAS OFFICES THROUGHOUT THE ASIAN REGION AND IN THE WORLD'S MAJOR FINANCIAL CENTRES. MARSHALL MACKLIN MONAGHAN IS A LEADING CANADIAN CONSULTANCY FIRM WITH SPECIALIST EXPERTISE IN THE FINANCING OF AIRPORT PROJECTS - THE COMPANY RECENTLY PLAYED A LEADING ROLE IN THE PRIVATISATION OF TERMINAL 3 AT PEARSON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, TORONTO.

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VOLUNTEERS RETURN TO VIETNAM

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A GROUP OF 140 VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE TODAY (WEDNESDAY) RETURNED TO VIETNAM UNDER THE UNHCR'S VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION PROGRAMME.

THIS BROUGHT TO 445 THE NUMBER OF VIETNAMESE WHO RETURNED HOME VOLUNTARILY THIS MONTH.

THE FIGURE FOR LAST MONTH WAS 634.

A TOTAL OF 4,239 HAVE RETURNED TO VIETNAM SINCE THE PROGRAMME OF VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION STARTED 18 MONTHS AGO. THE NUMBER OF RETURNEES INCREASED STEADILY AS THE PROGRAMME WAS IMPLEMENTED, FROM 74 IN MARCH 1989 TO 298 IN MARCH THIS YEAR, AND THEN TO 634 IN JULY THIS YEAR, BEFORE THE REVERSAL THIS MONTH.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAD SECURED AN AGREEMENT WITH HANOI THAT 1,000 VOLUNTEERS A MONTH WOULD BE ACCEPTED BACK, FROM MAY THIS YEAR.

"BUT THE NUMBER WHO ACTUALLY RETURNED WAS ALWAYS WELL SHORT OF THIS FIGURE BECAUSE OF INSUFFICIENT VOLUNTEERS," THE SPOKESMAN NOTED.

"EVERY EFFORT IS MADE TO ENCOURAGE BOAT PEOPLE TO RETURN TO VIETNAM.

"A VIDEO TAPE ABOUT THOSE WHO HAVE RETURNED IS SHOWN IN VARIOUS DETENTION CENTRES. IT DEMONSTRATES THAT RETURNEES HAVE NOT BEEN ILL TREATED AND ARE LEADING NORMAL LIVES BACK IN THEIR HOMETOWN."

THE UNHCR HAVE ALSO BEEN PROVIDING COUNSELLING TO THE BOAT PEOPLE ABOUT THE OPPORTUNITIES OPEN TO THEM TO RETURN VOLUNTARILY TO VIETNAM.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT EVEN WITH THE VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION PROGRAMME AND THE COMPARATIVELY SMALLER NUMBER OF NEW ARRIVALS IN 1990, THE OVERALL VIETNAMESE POPULATION IN HONG KONG HAD NOT DECREASED BECAUSE THE COMBINED ARRIVAL FIGURE AND BIRTH RATE EXCEEDED THE DEPARTURE RATE.

THERE ARE CURRENTLY MORE THAN 44,000 VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE IN HONG KONG, IN ADDITION TO 9,600 VIETNAMESE REFUGEES AWAITING RESETTLEMENT.

THE SPOKESMAN REITERATED THAT THE BRITISH AND HONG KONG GOVERNMENTS' OBJECTIVE REMAINED THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF ACTION, INCLUDING THE RETURN OF ALL NON-REFUGEES TO VIETNAM.

"OUR EFFORTS ARE DIRECTED AT REACHING A CONSENSUS TOWARDS THIS END AT THE NEXT MEETING OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE," HE ADDED.

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VIGOROUS GROWTH IN HK-FINLAND TRADE

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TWO-WAY TRADE BETWEEN HONG KONG AND FINLAND HAS GROWN WITH VIGOUR OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS, HONG KONG'S DEPUTY COMMISSIONER IN LONDON, MR K.C. KWONG, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) WHEN HE ADDRESSED A SEMINAR IN HELSINKI, FINLAND.

IT AMOUNTED TO US$284 MILLION IN 1989, 23 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN 1988 AND THREE AND A HALF TIMES LARGER THAN IN 1985, HE SAID, ADDING THAT THERE WERE NOW OVER 50 FINNISH COMPANIES OPERATING IN HONG KONG ENGAGED IN A WIDE RANGE OF ACTIVITIES.

IN HIS SPEECH MR KWONG ASSURED HIS AUDIENCE THAT THE SINO-BRITISH AGREEMENT ON THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG WOULD MAINTAIN THE TERRITORY'S PROSPERITY BEYOND 1997 HONG KONG WOULD REMAIN A CAPITALIST SOCIETY UNDER THE "ONE COUNTRY, TWO SYSTEMS" CONCEPT, AND THE CURRENT LEGAL, JUDICIAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC SYSTEMS WOULD BE UNCHANGED.

MR KWONG NOTED THAT HONG KONG WAS DEPENDENT ON EXTERNAL TRADE, BUT PRACTISED FREE TRADE. "WE HAVE NO TRADE BARRIERS WHATSOEVER AND NO CUSTOMS TARIFFS," HE SAID.

QUOTING FROM STATISTICS COMPILED BY THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE (GATT), HE POINTED OUT THAT HONG KONG WAS THE 11TH LARGEST TRADING COMMUNITY IN THE WORLD.

"IN 1989, TOTAL EXTERNAL TRADE WAS WORTH US$145 BILLION, 14 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN 1988," HE SAID.

"THE CONTAINER PORT IS ONE OF THE BUSIEST IN THE WORLD. IT HANDLED 4.5 MILLION TEU'S LAST YEAR. IT IS STILL EXPANDING."

HE ADDED THAT HONG KONG WAS ALSO A MAJOR FINANCIAL CENTRE.

"THERE IS COMPLETE FREEDOM IN THE MOVEMENT OF CAPITAL INTO AND OUT OF HONG KONG. WELL OVER 400 FOREIGN BANKS FROM SOME 50 COUNTRIES, INCLUDING FINLAND, ARE REPRESENTED IN THE TERRITORY.

"WE RANK THIRD IN THE WORLD IN TERMS OF OVERSEAS BANK REPRESENTATION," MR KWONG SAID.

HE EXPLAINED THE HUGE POTENTIAL THE TERRITORY, WITH ITS SOPHISTICATED INFRASTRUCTURE, AFFORDED TO FOREIGN INVESTORS WHO WANTED TO USE IT AS A BASE NOT ONLY FOR TRADE WITH CHINA, BUT ALSO WITH COUNTRIES IN THE PACIFIC RIM.

OUTLINING SOME OF THE GOVERNMENT'S SUBSTANTIAL INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS, HE SAID: "THERE IS A COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY FOR A MASSIVE EXPANSION OF THE TERRITORY'S PORT, AIRPORT AND ASSOCIATED FACILITIES TO COPE WITH HONG KONG'S RAPIDLY GROWING ROLE AS AN ENTREPOT AND REGIONAL HUB.

/"THE PORT .....

"THE PORT EXPANSION AND NEW AIRPORT PROJECT WILL CERTAINLY BE THE BIGGEST YET FOR HONG KONG."

IN CONSLUSION, MR KWONG SAID: "AS WE ENGAGE IN BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE, THERE WILL BE PLENTY OF BUSINESS AND INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR FOREIGN AND LOCAL COMPANIES ALIKE. WE WELCOME COMPANIES FROM FINLAND TO JOIN US IN OUR GREAT UNDERTAKING."

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GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR INDUSTRY RECEIVES COMMUNITY SUPPORT

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THE GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR INDUSTRY WILL GROW FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH WITH WIDE COMMUNITY SUPPORT, THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR T.H. BARMA, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

MR BARMA, WHO IS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE AWARD SCHEME'S ORGANISING COMMITTEE, WAS SPEAKING AT A CEREMONY AT WHICH CHEQUES WERE PRESENTED BY 15 SPONSORS OF THE 1990 GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR INDUSTRY.

EACH OF THE NINE PRINCIPAL SPONSORS DONATED $100,000, WHILE THE REMAINDER DONATED $50,000 EACH.

MR BARMA ACKNOWLEDGED "WITH GRATITUDE" THE GENEROSITY OF THE SPONSORS IN MEETING THE COSTS OF ORGANISING THIS YEAR'S AWARD.

"YOUR SPONSORSHIP IS A MANIFESTATION OF YOUR KEEN SUPPORT OF HONG KONG'S CONTINUING SEARCH FOR INDUSTRIAL EXCELLENCE," HE SAID.

MR BARMA SAID THE AWARD SCHEME, WHICH ENJOYED THE GOVERNOR'S STRONG PERSONAL SUPPORT, WAS SET UP LAST YEAR TO RECOGNISE AND ENCOURAGE EXCELLENCE IN DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF INDUSTRIAL PERFORMANCE.

HE SAID, IN THE FIRST YEAR OF IMPLEMENTATION, AWARDS WERE MADE IN ONLY TWO CATEGORIES - CONSUMER PRODUCT DESIGN AND MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT DESIGN.

"BUILDING ON LAST YEAR'S SUCCESS AND EXPERIENCE, THE 1990 GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR INDUSTRY HAS BEEN EXPANDED TO COVER TWO OTHER EQUALLY IMPORTANT AREAS OF INDUSTRIAL PERFORMANCE : PRODUCTIVITY AND QUALITY," HE SAID.

OPEN COMPETITIONS WOULD BE HELD IN EACH AWARD CATEGORY, RUN BY DIFFERENT PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS.

MR BARMA SAID THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES WAS THE LEADING ORGANISER FOR THE CONSUMER PRODUCT DESIGN CATEGORY; THE CHINESE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION FOR THE MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT DESIGN CATEGORY; THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL FOR THE PRODUCTIVITY CATEGORY; AND THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT FOR THE QUALITY CATEGORY.

/THE SECOND .....

THE SECOND GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR INDUSTRY WILL BE HELD IN OCTOBER AND AWARDS MADE IN ALL FOUR CATEGORIES.

THE PRINCIPAL SPONSORS OF THIS YEAR'S AWARD ARE : A. FAI ENGINEER & SHIPREPAIRERS LTD; BANK OF CHINA GROUP; CHIAPHUA-SHINKO COPPER ALLOY CO LTD; THE CHINESE GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, HONG KONG; DHL INTERNATIONAL LTD; HONG KONG ECONOMIC JOURNAL; HONG KONG MILO'S KNITWEAR FACTORY LTD; LAWS INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS LIMITED; AND MR TSUI TSIN-TONG.

THE OTHER SPONSORS ARE : GOLD PEAK INDUSTRIES (HOLDINGS) LTD; HANG SENG BANK LIMITED; REGATEX MANUFACTURERS LTD; SHANGHAI COMMERCIAL BANK LTD; TAL APPAREL LTD; AND WINNER COMPANY (HK) LTD.

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SCHOOL LIAISON COMMITTEES' ROLE IN CIVIC EDUCATION DISCUSSED

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THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR DAVID LAN, TODAY (WEDNESDAY) CALLED ON MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL LIAISON COMMITTEES (SLC'S) TO ASSIST IN EDUCATING STUDENTS ON THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ELECTIONS.

SPEAKING AT THE SEMINAR ON "SCHOOL LIAISON COMMITTEE AND CIVIC EDUCATION", MR LAN SAID THE SUCCESS OF NEXT YEAR'S THREE-TIER ELECTIONS FOR THE DISTRICT BOARDS, URBAN/REGIONAL COUNCILS AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL DEPENDED ON RESIDENTS' ACTIVE PARTICIPATION.

"MEMBERS OF THE SLC'S SHOULD TAKE THE INITIATIVE IN ASSISTING SCHOOLS TO EDUCATE STUDENTS ON CIVIC-MINDEDNESS AND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ELECTIONS SO THAT WHEN THEY GROW UP THEY WILL KNOW HOW TO EXERCISE THEIR CIVIC RIGHTS FOR THE PROMOTION OF DEMOCRACY IN HONG KONG," HE SAID.

MR LAN POINTED OUT THAT IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVE OF "HONG KONG PEOPLE RULING HONG KONG" AND TO MAINTAIN THE TERRITORY'S STABILITY AND PROSPERITY, HONG KONG NEEDED THE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS BY A GROUP OF CITIZENS WITH LEADERSHIP AND A STRONG SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY.

"THEREFORE, THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN STRIVING TO PROMOTE CIVIC EDUCATION AMONG RESIDENTS, ESPECIALLY YOUNGSTERS," HE SAID.

MR LAN ALSO URGED MEMBERS OF THE SLC'S TO TAKE AN EVEN GREATER INITIATIVE IN PROMOTING CIVIC EDUCATION AMONG YOUNGSTERS IN ORDER TO ENABLE THEM TO BE FULLY PREPARED FOR THE CHALLENGES AHEAD.

"GROOMING YOUNGSTERS TO BECOME CIVIC-MINDED CITIZENS REQUIRES THE INITIATIVE AND CONCERTED EFFORTS OF SCHOOL PRINCIPALS AND TEACHERS," HE SAID.

/MR LAN .....

MR LAN NOTED THAT THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF SLC'S IN THE 10 URBAN DISTRICTS HAD INCREASED FROM 142 TO 871 SINCE THEIR ESTABLISHMENT IN 1982.

ALSO SPEAKING AT THE SEMINAR, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (SCHOOLS) OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, MR LUCAS CHAN, SAID THE PUBLICATION OF THE "GUIDELINES ON CIVIC EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS" IN 1985 AND THE INTRODUCTION OF THE GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS CURRICULUM IN THE FOLLOWING YEAR HAD BEEN TO MEET THE COMMUNITY NEED FOR CIVIC EDUCATION.

"CIVIC EDUCATION HAS BEEN GIVEN GREATER ATTENTION IN SCHOOLS FOLLOWING THE PUBLICATION OF THE GUIDELINES WHICH PROVIDE CONCRETE PRINCIPLES AND DIRECTIONS ON THE SUBJECT," MR CHAN SAID.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION, DR DANIEL TSE, WHO ALSO SPOKE AT THE SEMINAR, SAID THAT IN THE SHORT TERM, THE EMPHASIS OF CIVIC EDUCATION SHOULD BE PLACED ON INCREASING CITIZENS' KNOWLEDGE OF MATTERS SUCH AS THE POLITICAL SYSTEM, BASIC LAW, HUMAN RIGHTS, THE RULE OF LAW, AND CIVIC RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

"IN THE LONG RUN, THE EMPHASIS SHOULD BE ON EVALUATION, CRITICAL THINKING AND PARTICIPATION," HE SAID.

DR TSE SUGGESTED THAT CIVIC EDUCATION SHOULD BE MADE A SEPARATE SUBJECT IN THE SCHOOL CURRICULUM.

ABOUT 200 MEMBERS OF THE 10 SLC'S IN THE URBAN DISTRICTS TOOK PART IN TODAY'S SEMINAR WHICH WAS ORGANISED BY THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION AND HELD AT THE HALL OF HENRY G. LEONG YAUMATEI COMMUNITY CENTRE.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SLC'S REPORTED ON THE THREE CIVIC EDUCATION TOPICS WHICH THEY HAD EARLIER DISCUSSED IN THEIR RESPECTIVE DISTRICTS.

THE TOPICS ARE: ROLE OF SLC IN COMMUNITY BUILDING AND CIVIC EDUCATION -- A REVIEW OF THE PAST AND A VISION OF THE FUTURE; THE WAYS TO ACHIEVE BETTER UTILISATION OF DISTRICT RESOURCES IN PROMOTING CIVIC EDUCATION; AND HOW TO INTEGRATE CIVIC EDUCATION EFFORTS INSIDE AND OUTSIDE SCHOOLS.

THE SLC'S, WHICH WERE SET UP IN 1982, HAVE BEEN PLAYING A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN PROMOTING INTER-SCHOOL LIAISON AND COMMUNITY BUILDING.

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DISTRICT BOARD STUDY TOUR TO NORTH AMERICA

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A YAU TSIM DISTRICT BOARD DELEGATION TO NORTH AMERICA, WHICH LEFT HONG KONG ON AUGUST 26, STARTED ITS TOUR IN UNION CITY, A GROWING SUBURBAN COMMUNITY OF THE BAY AREA ON MONDAY.

THE 15-MEMBER GROUP IS STUDYING FIRST-HAND A WIDE RANGE OF ISSUES CONCERNING RESIDENTS IN SAN FRANCISCO, WASHINGTON D.C., NEW YORK AND TORONTO.

THE PROGRAMME OF BRIEFINGS FOR THE BOARD MEMBERS, ARRANGED THROUGH THE HONG KONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE IN SAN FRANCISCO, WILL COVER HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING, EDUCATION AND MUNICIPAL SERVICE PROVISION IN THESE CITIES.

WITH SAN FRANCISCO THE FIRST STOP ON THE ITINERARY, THE DELEGATION WAS BRIEFED BY THE MAYOR OFFICE OF THE UNION CITY ON THE CITY'S TRANSPORTATION, PLANNING, PARKS AND PUBLIC WORK POLICIES.

YAU TSIM DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR YIP WAH, SAID BOARD MEMBERS ARE FINDING THE TOUR MOST INTERESTING AND INFORMATIVE.

HE SAID THE VISIT HAD ENABLED MEMBERS TO COMPARE HONG KONG DEVELOPMENT-RELATED ISSUES TO SOME OF THE PROBLEMS CONFRONTING U.S. CITIES.

THE DELEGATION ALSO VISITED THE HONG KONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE AND DISCUSSED WITH ITS OFFICIALS THE WORK OF THE OVERSEAS OFFICES.

THE GROUP LEAVES SAN FRANCISCO TODAY (WEDNESDAY) FOR WASHINGTON D.C.

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TOWN PLANNING BILL ON DB AGENDA

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THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS THE TOWN PLANNING (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990 AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT WILL BRIEF MEMBERS ON THE AMENDMENTS.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE PROPOSAL TO SELL MARK SIX LOTTERY TICKETS AT SUPERMARKETS AND CONVENIENCE STORES.

/IN ADDITION .....

IN ADDITION, PROGRESS REPORTS FROM THE VARIOUS DISTRICT BOARD COMMITTEES WILL BE TABLED FOR DISCUSSION.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD MEETING WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 9.30 AM TOMORROW (THURSDAY) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM, 13TH FLOOR, YUEN LONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 2 KIU LOK SQUARE.

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SALE OF MARK SIX TICKETS ON DB COMMITTEE AGENDA

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THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS THE PROPOSAL TO SELL MARK SIX LOTTERY TICKETS AT SUPERMARKETS AND CONVENIENCE STORES AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

MEMBERS WILL ALSO LOOK INTO THE MAINTENANCE OF THE LEK YUEN AND WO CHE COMMUNITY HALLS.

THEY WILL CONSIDER A MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE'S APPLICATION FOR A REGIONAL COUNCIL SUBSIDY OF $5,570 FOR ORGANISING A MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL CELEBRATION ACTIVITY.

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS INCLUDE FIVE APPLICATIONS FOR DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS TOTALLING ABOUT $58,000 FOR ORGANISING COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING TOMORROW (THURSDAY) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE SIXTH FLOOR, KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN STATION.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 4 PM.

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YOUTH SERVICES ON DB COMMITTEE AGENDA
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THE COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS SERVICES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION ON YOUTH, MRS ROSANNA TAM, WILL BRIEF MEMBERS ON THE PROGRESS OF THE COMMISSION'S WORK SINCE ITS FORMATION IN FEBRUARY THIS YEAR.

IN ADDITION, THE COMMITTEE'S THREE WORKING GROUPS WILL PRESENT WORK REPORTS AT THE MEETING.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE TO BE HELD TOMORROW (THURSDAY) IN THE DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, FIRST FLOOR, 880-886 KING'S ROAD.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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ANNUAL ANTI-MOSQUITO EDUCATION CAMPAIGN TO START ON SATURDAY
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THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH WILL LAUNCH THE SECOND PHASE OF A TERRITORY-WIDE EDUCATION CAMPAIGN ON MOSQUITO PREVENTION NEXT MONTH (SEPTEMBER).

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (WEDNESDAY), A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE CAMPAIGN, UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE URBAN/REGIONAL COUNCILS, AIMS TO OBTAIN RESIDENTS' HELP IN PREVENTING MOSQUITO BREEDING AND ERADICATING MOSQUITO NUISANCES IN THE HOT AND RAINY SEASON.

TO DRIVE HOME THE MOSQUITO PREVENTION MESSAGE, A 24-HOUR TELEPHONE HOTLINE -- 723 0013 -- WILL BE IN SERVICE TO PROVIDE ADVICE IN CANTONESE ON THE SUBJECT.

A TELEVISION API (ANNOUNCEMENT IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST) WILL ALSO BE SCREENED TO AROUSE PUBLIC AWARENESS.

PUBLICITY LITERATURE SUCH AS ADVISORY LETTERS, POSTERS AND LEAFLETS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO BUILDING CONTRACTORS, OWNERS INCORPORATIONS, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, MANAGEMENT OFFICES OF LARGE PRIVATE HOUSING ESTATES AND SCHOOLS.

/PRINTED EDUCATIONAL .....

PRINTED EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS ARE OBTAINABLE AT DISTRICT OFFICES (ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE) OF BOTH THE URBAN SERVICES AND REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENTS AS WELL AS DISTRICT OFFICES OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION AND THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT.

TO HELP CONTROL AND ELIMINATE MOSQUITO BREEDING GROUNDS, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE URGED TO:

* COVER TIGHTLY ALL WATER CONTAINERS, STORAGE TANKS AND WELLS;

* CHANGE WATER FOR FLOWERS AND PLANTS (AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK) AND TO LEAVE NO WATER IN PLATES OR TRAYS UNDERNEATH FLOWER POTS;

* KEEP ALL DRAINS FREE FROM CHOKAGE;

* PUT ALL USELESS BOTTLES AND JARS INTO DUSTBINS; AND

* TOP UP ALL DEFECTIVE GROUND SURFACES TO PREVENT THE ACCUMULATION OF STAGNANT WATER.

BUILDING CONTRACTORS ARE ALSO REMINDED TO REGULARLY INSPECT THEIR SITES AND TO REMOVE ALL STAGNANT WATER, AND TO SPRAY AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK A LAYER OF DIESEL OIL ON THE SURFACE OF STAGNANT WATER IF DRAINING IS NOT POSSIBLE.

"UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES ORDINANCE, TO ALLOW MOSQUITO BREEDING ON PREMISES IS AN OFFENCE AND IS LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF $10,000," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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TANG ANCESTRAL HALL RENOVATION WORK STARTS

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MAJOR RESTORATION WORK HAS STARTED AT THE HISTORICAL TANG ANCESTRAL HALL AT PING SHAN, YUEN LONG.

THE $4 MILLION PROJECT IS SOLELY FUNDED BY THE TANGS RESIDING IN PING SHAN, AND IS THE MOST COSTLY OF THIS TYPE OF RENOVATION WORK IN RECENT YEARS.

SITUATED BETWEEN HANG TAU TSUEN AND HANG MEI TSUEN OF PING SHAN, THIS ANCESTRAL HALL IS ONE OF THE LARGEST OF ITS KIND IN THE NEW TERRITORIES AND HAS A HISTORY OF AT LEAST 600 YEARS.

IT IS THE MAIN ANCESTRAL HALL OF THE TANGS OF PING SHAN LINEAGE, WHO MIGRATED FROM KAM TIN IN THE 13TH CENTURY. THE LAST MAJOR RENOVATION WORK AT THE HALL WAS CARRIED OUT ABOUT 150 YEARS AGO.

/THE TANG .....

THE TANG ANCESTRAL HALL IS ONE OF THE FINEST EXAMPLES OF THIS TYPE OF HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE. IT IS A MAGNIFICENT THREE-HALL STRUCTURE WITH TWO INTERNAL COURTYARDS.

THE BUILDING IS FRONTED BY TWO DRUM TERRACES, EACH WITH TWO COLUMNS SUPPORTING THE ROOF. THE INNER COLUMN IS MADE OF GRANITE AND THE OUTER ONE OF RED SANDSTONE.

ONE OF THE DISTINGUISHED FEATURES OF THE ANCESTRAL HALL IS THAT IT HAS NO THRESHOLD AT THE ENTRANCE. THE ELEVATED RED PATHWAY IN THE FRONT COURTYARD INDICATES THAT A TANG CLANSMAN MIGHT ONCE HOLD HIGH RANKING POSITION IN THE QING IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT.

THE WOODEN BRACKETS AND BEAMS OF THE THREE HALLS ARE ELEGANTLY CARVED WITH AUSPICIOUS CHINESE MOTIFS, AND THE MAIN RIDGES AND ROOFS ARE DECORATED WITH FINE SHIWAN DRAGON-FISH AND UNICORNS. ANCESTRAL TABLETS ARE DISPLAYED ON THE ALTAR AT THE MAIN HALL.

THE BUILDING IS STILL REGULARLY USED IN THE TRADITIONAL MANNER, FOR WORSHIP OF ANCESTORS, FOR FESTIVALS AND CEREMONIES, AND FOR MEETINGS OF VILLAGE ELDERS.

THE RESTORATION WORK WILL INCLUDE RE-ROOFING, REPOSITIONING OF THE STONE COLUMNS, STONE PAVING, WALL PAINTING AND CLEANING OF THE CARVED WOODEN BRACKETS.

ORIGINAL CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS WILL BE USED AND TRADITIONAL SKILLS WILL BE EMPLOYED AS FAR AS POSSIBLE TO BRING BACK THE GLAMOUR OF THE HISTORICAL ANCESTRAL HALL.

THE RESTORATION PROJECT IS ASSISTED AND SUPERVISED BY THE ANTIQUITIES SECTION OF THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE ANTIQUITIES AND MONUMENTS OFFICE OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE BRANCH.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE WORK WILL BE COMPLETED IN NINE MONTHS.

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NEW FIRE STATION AT MA ON SHAN

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THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAS AWARDED A $38.8 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SUB-DIVISIONAL FIRE STATION IN SHA TIN.

LOCATED AT AREA 92, MA ON SHAN, THE PROJECT WILL ALSO HAVE UNDER THE SAME ROOF AN AMBULANCE DEPOT AND AN AMBULANCE TRAINING SCHOOL.

THE FIRE STATION WILL BE A SEVEN-STOREY BUILDING CONSISTING OF TWO FOUR-BAY APPLIANCE ROOMS, QUARTERS, LECTURE ROOM, GYMNASIUM, SYNDICATE ROOMS, DUTY ROOM, A CANTEEN/RECREATION ROOM AND EQUIPMENT STORES.

/EXTERNAL WORKS .....

EXTERNAL WORKS FOR THE PROJECT WILL INCLUDE ANCILLARY BUILDINGS, DRILL YARDS, REFILLING STATIONS, UNDERGROUND FUEL TANK CHAMBERS AND SOIL DRAINAGE.

CONSTRUCTION WORK WILL START SOON AND IS SCHEDULED TO BE COMPLETED IN NOVEMBER NEXT YEAR.

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ROADWORKS TO IMPROVE APPROACHES TO KAI TAK AIRPORT

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THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT PROPOSES TO CARRY OUT ROAD IMPROVEMENT WORKS TO THE SOUTHERN APPROACH ROADS TO THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT TO CATER FOR INCREASED TRAFFIC MOVEMENTS.

THE PROPOSAL INCLUDES WIDENING AND RECONSTRUCTION OF SUNG WONG TOI ROAD, OLYMPIC AVENUE, MA TAU CHUNG ROAD, HANG WAN ROAD AND KOWLOON CITY ROAD.

DIRECT ACCESS FROM THE AIRPORT TUNNEL AND SUNG WONG TOI ROAD WESTBOUND TO OLYMPIC AVENUE WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED.

TO FACILITATE THE PROVISION OF THE GROUND LEVEL GYRATORY ROAD SYSTEM, THE OLYMPIC AVENUE SOUTHERN APPROACH TO SUNG WONG TOI ROAD, A SECTION OF SUNG WONG TOI ROAD EASTBOUND AND THE FOOTWAYS ALONG MA TAU CHUNG ROAD AND HANG WAN ROAD ADJACENT TO THE SUNG WONG TOI GARDEN WILL BE CLOSED.

WORK ON THE PROJECT IS SCHEDULED TO COMMENCE IN APRIL NEXT YEAR AND WILL TAKE ABOUT 14 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE EXTENT OF THE WORKS IS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE PUBLISHED IN THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE GAZETTE.

THE PLAN AND SCHEME MAY BE INSPECTED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AT THE FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT OFFICES:

* CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY, HONG KONG;

* KOWLOON EAST AND KOWLOON WEST DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES, BOTH AT YAU MA TEI CARPARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON; AND

* KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE, 141-143 KAU PUI LUNG ROAD, FIRST FLOOR, KOWLOON.

ANY PERSON WHO OBJECTS TO THE PROPOSED WORKS SHOULD WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG NOT LATER THAN OCTOBER 23 THIS YEAR.

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AIRMAIL SERVICES TO LIBERIA SUSPENDED

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DUE TO THE CLOSURE OF THE MONROVIA AIRPORT, ALL AIRMAIL SERVICES INCLUDING LETTERS AND PARCELS TO LIBERIA ARE NOW SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, THE ACTING POSTMASTER GENERAL, MISS ELLE SHUM, ANNOUNCED TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE PUBLIC WILL BE ADVISED AS SOON AS SERVICES ARE RESUMED.

MEANWHILE, SURFACE LETTERS AND PARCELS TO LIBERIA WILL CONTINUE TO BE ACCEPTED.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS ON HONG KONG ISLAND

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (AUGUST 31), THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS OF ROADS IN CENTRAL DISTRICT WILL BE DESIGNATED RESTRICTED ZONES 24 HOURS DAILY:

* THE SOUTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF WESTBOUND CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH MORRISON STREET TO ITS JUNCTION WITH MAN WA LANE;

* THE SERVICE ROAD ON WESTBOUND CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL FROM A POINT ABOUT 10 METRES WEST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH CLEVERLY STREET TO A POINT ABOUT 10 METRES EAST OF THE SAME JUNCTION;

* THE SERVICE ROAD ON WESTBOUND CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH MORRISON STREET TO A POINT ABOUT 15 METRES EAST OF THE SAME JUNCTION;

* THE SERVICE ROAD ON EASTBOUND CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH THE MACAU FERRY TERMINAL INTERNAL ROAD TO A POINT ABOUT 25 METRES TO THE EAST;

* THE SERVICE ROAD ON EASTBOUND CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH THE ACCESS ROAD LEADING TO RUMSEY STREET MULTI-STOREY CARPARK TO A POINT ABOUT 35 METRES TO THE WEST;

* THE NORTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH MORRISON STREET TO A POINT ABOUT 10 METRES EAST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH CLEVERLY STREET; AND

* THE SOUTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH MORRISON STREET TO A POINT ABOUT 25 METRES EAST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH CLEVERLY STREET.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE EXISTING RESTRICTED AREAS FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY ON PART OF THE ABOVE-MENTIONED SECTIONS OF DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL WILL BE CANCELLED.

/MEANWHILE THE .....

MEANWHILE THE FOLLOWING ROAD SECTIONS IN CENTRAL WILL BE DESIGNATED URBAN CLEARWAYS FROM 7 AM TO 10 AM AND FROM 4 PM TO 7 PM DAILY:

* THE WESTERN KERBSIDE LANE OF GILMAN STREET BETWEEN ITS JUNCTIONS WITH CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL AND PIER ROAD;

* THE EASTERN KERBSIDE LANE OF GILMAN STREET BETWEEN ITS JUNCTIONS WITH CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL AND PIER ROAD;

* THE EASTERN KERBSIDE LANE OF GILMAN STREET BETWEEN ITS JUNCTIONS WITH CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL AND DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL;

* THE NORTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL FROM A POINT ABOUT 70 METRES EAST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH THE MACAU FERRY TERMINAL ACCESS ROAD TO ITS JUNCTION WITH QUEEN VICTORIA STREET; AND

* THE SOUTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH GILMAN STREET TO A POINT ABOUT 60 METRES EAST OF THE SAME JUNCTION.

NO VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS THERE.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE EXISTING RESTRICTED AREAS FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY ON PART OF THE ABOVE-MENTIONED SECTIONS OF GILMAN STREET WILL BE CANCELLED.

IN ADDITION, THREE SECTIONS OF ROADS IN CENTRAL DISTRICT WILL BE DESIGNATED PUBLIC LIGHT BUS BAN ZONES. ALL PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES, EXCEPT THOSE WITH PERMITS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM ENTERING THE BAN ZONES 24 HOURS DAILY.

THEY ARE:

* THE SECTION OF GILMAN STREET BETWEEN CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL AND DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL;

* THE SERVICE ROAD ON WESTBOUND CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL BETWEEN ITS JUNCTIONS WITH MAN WA LANE AND DES VOEUX ROAD WEST; AND

* THE SECTION OF MAN WA LANE BETWEEN CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL AND DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL.

IN WESTERN DISTRICT, TWO SECTIONS OF TRAM TRACK WILL BE DESIGNATED BAN ZONES 24 HOURS DAILY TO FACILITATE TRAM OPERATIONS. ALL MOTOR VEHICLES, EXCEPT THOSE WITH PERMITS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM ENTERING THE BAN ZONES.

THEY ARE:

* THE SECTION OF TRAM TRACK ON CADOGAN STREET BETWEEN BELCHER'S STREET AND CATCHICK STREET; AND

/* THE SECTION .....

* THE SECTION OF THE WESTBOUND TRAM TRACK ON DES VOEUX ROAD WEST BETWEEN WATER STREET AND CHIU KWONG STREET.

IN CAUSEWAY BAY, ALL VEHICLES EXCEEDING EIGHT METRES IN LENGTH WILL BE PROHIBITED 24-HOUR DAILY FROM ENTERING FOOK YUM ROAD, AND THE ACCESS ROAD LEADING FROM ELECTRIC ROAD TO FOOK YUM ROAD THROUGH THE PETROL STATION AT THE ROAD JUNCTION.

THE ARRANGEMENT WILL LAST FOR ABOUT NINE WEEKS TO FACILITATE ROAD RECONSTRUCTION WORKS.

ALSO TO FACILITATE ROAD RECONSTRUCTION WORKS, THREE SECTIONS OF ROADS WILL BE DESIGNATED URBAN CLEARWAYS 24 HOURS DAILY FOR ABOUT SIX WEEKS.

THEY ARE:

* THE EASTERN KERBSIDE LANE OF FOOK YUM ROAD FROM ELECTRIC ROAD TO A POINT ABOUT FIVE METRES NORTH OF KING WAH ROAD;

* KING WAH ROAD BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH FOOK YUM ROAD AND A POINT ABOUT 30 METRES EAST OF THE SAME JUNCTION; AND

* WANG ON ROAD BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH FOOK YUM ROAD AND A POINT ABOUT FIVE METRES EAST OF THE SAME JUNCTION.

NO VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS THERE.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN WAN CHAI AND NORTH POINT

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (AUGUST 31), THE SECTION OF SOUTHBOUND BORRETT ROAD BETWEEN KENNEDY ROAD AND BOWEN ROAD, IN WAN CHAI, WILL BE DESIGNATED A BAN ZONE TO ALL VEHICLES 24 HOURS DAILY FOR ABOUT 10 DAYS TO FACILITATE ROAD RECONSTRUCTION WORKS.

EXCEPT SCHOOL BUSES AND THOSE WITH PERMITS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, ALL VEHICLES WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM ENTERING THIS BAN ZONE.

ALSO TO FACILITATE ROAD RECONSTRUCTION WORKS, THE WESTERN KERBSIDE LANE OF CHEUNG HONG STREET, IN NORTH POINT, FROM A POINT ABOUT 20 METRES NORTH OF ITS JUNCTION WITH KIN WAH STREET TO A POINT ABOUT 60 METRES NORTH OF THE SAME JUNCTION WILL BE DESIGNATED AN URBAN CLEARWAY 24 HOURS DAILY FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (AUGUST 31) FOR ABOUT 10 DAYS.

NO VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS THERE.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT IN HO MAN TIN

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT THE FOLLOWING TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE INTRODUCED IN GULLANE ROAD IN HO MAN TIN FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (AUGUST 31):

* THE SECTION OF GULLANE ROAD BETWEEN ARGYLE STREET AND TWEED ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND TO TWO-WAY OPERATION; AND

* ALL VEHICLES EXCEEDING 5.5 TONNES IN WEIGHT WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE NORTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF GULLANE ROAD BETWEEN ARGYLE STREET AND DUNBAR ROAD 24 HOURS DAILY.

MOTORISTS ARE ALSO ADVISED TO OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING TRAFFIC CONTROL MEASURES IN GULLANE ROAD:

* THE 24-HOUR DAILY URBAN CLEARWAY ON GULLANE ROAD BETWEEN ARGYLE STREET AND TWEED ROAD; AND

* THE BAN ZONE ON GULLANE ROAD PROHIBITING VEHICLES EXCEEDING 10 METRES IN LENGTH TO ENTER THE SOUTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF GULLANE ROAD BETWEEN ARGYLE STREET AND TWEED ROAD.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT IN KWUN TONG

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM TOMORROW (THURSDAY) THE SERVICE LANE AT THE BACK OF NO. 154-174 WAI YIP STREET IN KWUN TONG WILL BE PARTIALLY CLOSED TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC IN STAGES FOR ABOUT SIX MONTHS.

THE ABOVE LANE CLOSURE IS TO FACILITATE ROAD RECONSTRUCTION WORK.

DURING THE ROAD WORK, THE SECTION OF THIS ONE-WAY SERVICE LANE THAT OPENS TO TRAFFIC WILL BE USED FOR TWO-WAY TRAFFIC.

MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED TO DRIVE WITH EXTRA CARE ON THIS SERVICE LANE.

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