



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
PETROL STATIONS GO METRIC	1
HAD ROLE IN DISTRICT MANAGEMENT	1
PHARMACY LAWS EFFECTIVE FROM JANUARY 1	2
FIRST HAND LOOK AT LAND PRODUCTION	3
PUBLIC VIEWS SOUGHT ON EDUCATION POLICIES	3
ONE OUT OF FOUR DEATHS CAUSED BY CANCER	4
SIR MURRAY INSPECTS PRISONS WORK	5
TONG SHUI ROAD ROADWORK PROPOSALS	6
FURTHER ISSUE OF URBAN TAXI LICENCES	7
LABOUR LAW OFFENDERS PENALISED	7
AMENDMENTS TO BUILDING REGULATIONS	8
FIVE NEW TERRITORIES SITES FOR AUCTION	3
SEAWALL FOR WESTERN RECLAMATION	9
CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR DISABLED WORKERS	10
NT TAXI LICENCE TENDER RESULTS	10
ROAD CLOSURE FOR CHARITY WALK	11
FIRING PRACTICE IN JANUARY	11

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1980

- 1 -

PETROL STATIONS GO METRIC

MOTORISTS IN HONG KONG WILL SOON THINK IN METRIC TERMS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE METRICATION COMMITTEE ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT ALL LOCAL PETROL STATIONS WILL GO METRIC AT THE TURN OF THE YEAR.

FROM JANUARY 1 PETROL AND DIESEL WILL BE SOLD IN LITRES INSTEAD OF GALLONS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID: +THE CHANGE-OVER IS IN LINE WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S METRICATION PROGRAMME AND HAS THE FULL COOPERATION AND SUPPORT OF THE EIGHT OIL COMPANIES IN HONG KONG.+

THE EXACT PRICES OF PETROL AND DIESEL IN LITRE WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT A LATER DATE.

MOST BRANDS OF LUBRICATING OIL ARE ALREADY SOLD IN LITRE. THOSE THAT ARE NOT WILL BE CONVERTED SHORTLY.

ALSO TO BE AFFECTED IS THE MEASUREMENT OF TYRE PRESSURE. TYRE PRESSURE IS NOW MEASURED IN POUND FORCE PER SQUARE INCH, BUT STARTING JANUARY 1, IT WILL BE MEASURED IN KILOPASCAL.

TO ASSIST MOTORISTS IN THE CHANGE-OVER, THE METRICATION COMMITTEE HAS PREPARED A LEAFLET CONTAINING INFORMATION ON CONVERSION FACTORS FOR FUEL QUANTITY, TYRE PRESSURE AND DISTANCE.

THE CONVERSION TABLE WILL BE AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE AT ALL PETROL STATIONS.

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HAD ROLE IN DISTRICT MANAGEMENT

ENCOURAGEMENT RECEIVED FROM THE PUBLIC IN COMMENTS ON THE GREEN PAPER ON DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION HAS CONFIRMED THE GOVERNMENT'S VIEW THAT THE SETTING UP OF DISTRICT MANAGEMENT TEAMS IS ESSENTIAL, THE DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS, MR GRAHAM BARNES SAID THIS EVENING.

SPEAKING AT THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF THE KWUN TONG COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION AT THE REGENT HOTEL, MR BARNES SAID THESE TEAMS, COMPRISING ALL CONCERNED DEPARTMENTS, WERE SET UP TO LISTEN TO PUBLIC OPINION, ASSESS PUBLIC NEEDS AND PROBLEMS, AND COOPERATING IN THEIR SOLUTION.

THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT HAS HAD TO RE-EXAMINE ITS OWN ROLE IN THIS CONNECTION, HE SAID.

WHAT IS NEW IN THE SITUATION IS THAT THE CITY DISTRICT COMMISSIONER IS NOW REINFORCED BY A STRONG STATEMENT OF POLICY, AFFECTING ALL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, THAT DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION IS TO BE MADE EFFECTIVE AND FORMAL DISTRICT TEAMS ARE BEING SET UP TO PROVIDE EFFECTIVE MACHINERY FOR THE TASK, MR BARNES SAID.

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1980

- 2 -

WHAT HAS NOT CHANGED IS THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICER'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE COMMUNITY.

+DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION WILL BE A FAILURE IF THE DISTRICT TEAMS DISREGARD COMMUNITY PRIORITIES AND OPINIONS IN THEIR EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE DISTRICT.

+INDEED WITH BETTER MACHINERY TO ACT, THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICERS LIAISON WITH PEOPLE OF THE DISTRICT MUST BE INTENSIFIED AND BROADENED,+ MR BARNES SAID.

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PHARMACY LAWS EFFECTIVE FROM JANUARY 1
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THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT TODAY ANNOUNCED THAT THE PHARMACY AND POISONS (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1980, AIMED AT STRENGTHENING AND IMPROVING THE FUNCTION OF THE PHARMACY AND POISONS BOARD, WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON JANUARY 1, 1981.

ALSO COMING INTO EFFECT ON THE SAME DATE WILL BE THE PHARMACY AND POISONS (APPEAL TRIBUNAL) REGULATIONS 1980.

THE AMENDMENT ORDINANCE, TOGETHER WITH THE REGULATIONS, WHICH WERE APPROVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN JULY THIS YEAR, PROVIDES FOR THE CREATION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES OF THE PHARMACY AND POISONS BOARD WITH DELEGATED POWERS TO REGISTER, LICENSE AND CERTIFY PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.

THIS MEASURE WILL ENABLE THE BOARD TO FUNCTION MORE EFFICIENTLY AND EXPEDITIOUSLY.

IT ALSO PROVIDES FOR THE REGISTRATION OF IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS OF ALL PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS TO SAFEGUARD THE PUBLIC AGAINST SUB-STANDARD MEDICINES WHICH USUALLY ORIGINATE FROM UNKNOWN SOURCES.

ANOTHER IMPORTANT PROVISION IS THE SETTING UP OF AN APPEAL TRIBUNAL TO ARBITRATE IN DISPUTES ARISING FROM DECISIONS OF THE BOARD'S VARIOUS COMMITTEES ON MATTERS CONCERNING LICENSING, REGISTRATION AND THE ISSUE OF CERTIFICATES OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.

THIS MOVE IS DESIGNED TO SIMPLIFY THE EXISTING PROCEDURE WHICH HITHERTO ONLY PROVIDES FOR APPEALS TO BE MADE AT THE HIGH COURT, A PROCESS THAT IS RATHER TIME-CONSUMING.

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FIRST HAND LOOK AT LAND PRODUCTION

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MEMBERS OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON LAND PRODUCTION TODAY TOOK TO THE AIR TO SEE FOR THEMSELVES TEMPORARY LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT AREAS TERRITORY-WIDE.

THEY SAW AT FIRST HAND LARGE AREAS IN THE URBAN DISTRICTS OF HONG KONG ISLAND AND KOWLOON AND DEVELOPMENT AREAS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES -- SOME FROM CURRENT PROGRAMMES AND OTHERS WHICH FIGURE IN FUTURE PLANS.

THE TEAM INCLUDED THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE, MISS LYDIA DUNN, AND MEMBERS MR LI FOOK-WO, MR W.C.L. BROWN, AND THE COMMISSIONER FOR RATING AND VALUATION, MR R.A. FRY.

THE MEMBERS WERE ACCOMPANIED BY THE DIRECTOR OF NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT, MR J. DON, THE GOVERNMENT TOWN PLANNER (ENVIRONMENT), DR E.G. PRYOR, AND THE COMMITTEE'S SECRETARY, MR E.A. JOHNSON.

THE GROUP INSPECTED TEMPORARY LAND USES AT WAN CHAI, HO MAN TIN, KOWLOON BAY AND CHAI WAN, AS WELL AS DEVELOPMENT AREAS AT JUNK BAY, MA ON SHAN, SHA TIN, TAI PO, YUEN LONG, TUEN MUN AND NORTH LANTAU.

THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE ARE TO KEEP UNDER REVIEW THE NEEDS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS FOR NEW LAND, AND TO THIS END, TO REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR EACH YEAR :

- (1) RECOMMENDING TARGETS FOR THE PRODUCTION AND FOR THE SALE OF LAND=
- (2) INDICATING THE ADEQUACY OF (A) GOVERNMENT PROJECTS FOR WHICH FUNDS HAVE BEEN VOTED=
(B) PLANNED GOVERNMENT PROJECTS IN RELATION TO THESE TARGETS=
- (3) MAKING SUCH RECOMMENDATIONS WITH REGARD TO (2) AS IT MAY THINK FIT.

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PUBLIC VIEWS SOUGHT ON EDUCATION POLICIES

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THE SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES ALLOCATION SYSTEM WHICH REPLACED THE SECONDARY SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAMINATION IN 1978 IS BEING REVIEWED BY A WORKING PARTY WHOSE WORK IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED SHORTLY, MR Y.T. LI, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (PLANNING AND BUILDING) SAID TODAY.

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE JOINT GRADUATION CEREMONY OF THE RHENISH CHURCH COLLEGES.

+ I AM SURE THAT BEFORE ANY FINAL DECISION IS TAKEN TO MODIFY THE SYSTEM IN ANY WAY, ALL SCHOOLS AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS, + MR LI SAID.

/THE JUNIOR

THE JUNIOR SECONDARY EDUCATION ASSESSMENT SYSTEM WHICH IS BEING INTRODUCED THIS YEAR WOULD BE SIMILARLY REVIEWED BY 1983, HE SAID.

HE NOTED THAT AMONG THE COUNTRIES AND PLACES IN THE REGION, HONG KONG IS PROBABLY ONE OF THE MOST OPEN AND DEMOCRATIC AS FAR AS FORMULATION OF EDUCATION POLICIES AND PLANS WAS CONCERNED.

+THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS VERY GRATEFUL ABOUT THE FACT THAT SCHOOLS, EDUCATION BODIES AND THE PUBLIC HAVE ALWAYS RESPONDED SO ENTHUSIASTICALLY TO EDUCATION GREEN PAPERS AND WORKING PARTY REPORTS ON MAJOR EDUCATIONAL ISSUES,+ MR LI SAID.

HE HOPED THEY WOULD CONTINUE TO DO SO IN FUTURE, AND THAT COMMENTS WOULD BE EVEN BROADER AND WOULD INCLUDE SUGGESTIONS ABOUT NOT ONLY WHAT THINGS NEEDED TO BE DONE BUT ALSO HOW THEY SHOULD BE DONE.

THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR ALSO URGED STUDENTS AND GRADUATES TO TAKE A STRONG INTEREST IN COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

+YOU SHOULD TRY TO FIND OUT WHAT THE ISSUES ARE, AND YOU SHOULD TRY TO ASSESS AS COOLLY AND AS OBJECTIVELY AS POSSIBLE THE ARGUMENTS ON BOTH SIDES BEFORE YOU FORM YOUR OWN OPINIONS AND COME TO YOUR OWN CONCLUSIONS,+ HE SAID.

IN A BIG AND CROWDED CITY SUCH AS HONG KONG, WE MUST LEARN TO RESPECT OTHER PEOPLE'S VIEWS BEFORE WE COULD ALL LIVE TOGETHER HARMONIOUSLY, MR LI SAID.

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ONE OUT OF FOUR DEATHS CAUSED BY CANCER

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CANCER REMAINS THE MAJOR HEALTH PROBLEM IN HONG KONG, CLAIMING 203 LIVES LAST YEAR AND ACCOUNTING FOR ABOUT 24 PER CENT OF ALL DEATHS, THE DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, DR K.L. THONG, WARNED THIS EVENING.

BASED ON DATA KEPT BY THE ANTI-CANCER SOCIETY REGISTRY, DR THONG ESTIMATED THAT THERE WOULD BE ABOUT 16 000 NEW CASES IN THE LOCAL POPULATION IN THE CURRENT YEAR.

IN HIS PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY, HE SAID IT IS NOT MAN'S INHERENT FATE THAT HE CONTRACTS CANCER.

+ABOUT 90 PER CENT OF CANCERS OCCUR BECAUSE OF SOMETHING WE DO, EAT, DRINK OR SMOKE. ABOUT 50 PER CENT OF CANCERS CAN BE CONTROLLED BY PERSONAL DECISIONS -- REFRAIN FROM SMOKING FOR EXAMPLE,+ HE SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT IN THE PAST, EMPHASIS ON THE SEARCH FOR A PANACEA TO +CURE+ CANCER WAS WRONGLY PUT.

TO IDENTIFY CANCER INDUCING AGENTS IN THE ENVIRONMENT AND TO FIND WAYS AND MEANS OF MINIMISING AND ELIMINATING SUCH AGENTS ARE THE MORE EFFECTIVE WAYS TO PREVENT THE DISEASE, HE SAID.

THE ANTI-CANCER SOCIETY HAS BEEN PROMOTING RESEARCH ON THE CAUSES OF COMMON CANCERS IN HONG KONG.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT HAS ALSO BEEN WORKING ALONG THE SAME DIRECTION, BY ESTABLISHING A CENTRAL HEALTH EDUCATION UNIT TO DISSEMINATE HEALTH INFORMATION ON CANCER AND OTHER DISEASES TO THE PUBLIC.

AN ANTI-CANCER EXHIBITION JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION UNIT, THE ANTI-CANCER SOCIETY AND THE STOMA SOCIETY WAS HELD IN AUGUST AT THE CITY HALL AND IN NOVEMBER AT TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL WHICH WERE WELL ATTENDED, SAID DR THONG.

ANOTHER EXHIBITION ENTITLED '+SMOKING OR HEALTH, THE CHOICE IS YOURS+', CO-ORGANISED BY THE UNIT, THE ANTI-CANCER SOCIETY AND THE CARDIOLOGICAL SOCIETY WAS HELD IN THE OCEAN TERMINAL IN APRIL.

APART FROM THE PREVENTIVE MEASURES, DR THONG SAID, THE RADIATION BOARD WHICH IS A STATUTORY BODY HAS BEEN ACTING AS A WATCH-DOG TO ENSURE THE SAFE AND PROPER USE OF IONISING RADIATION IN THE MEDICAL AND INDUSTRIAL FIELDS.

AS REGARDS TREATMENT, HE SAID, A NEW LINEAR ACCELERATOR WILL BE INSTALLED AT THE QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL BY EARLY NEXT YEAR TO IMPROVE THE FACILITIES THERE.

FACILITIES INCLUDING A NEW RADIOTHERAPY AND ONCOLOGY CENTRE FOR CANCER TREATMENT WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED IN 1982 AT THE NEW TEACHING HOSPITAL IN SHA TIN.

+THE ACCEPTED AND MOST EFFECTIVE APPROACH IN DEALING WITH THIS DIFFICULT PROBLEM FROM OUR EXPERIENCE APPEARS TO CONSIST OF AN ATTACK IN THREE DIRECTIONS, NAMELY, PROVISION AND IMPROVEMENT OF DIAGNOSTIC AND TREATMENT FACILITIES AND PREVENTION,+ HE SAID.

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SIR MURRAY INSPECTS PRISONS WORK

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, THIS AFTERNOON HAD A CLOSE LOOK AT THE WORK OF DIFFERENT TYPES OF PENAL INSTITUTIONS ADMINISTERED BY THE PRISONS DEPARTMENT, ON A TOUR OF STANLEY PRISON, HEI LING CHAU DRUG ADDICTION TREATMENT CENTRE, NEI KWU CHAU DETENTION CENTRE AND SHA TSUI DETENTION CENTRE.

HE WAS ACCOMPANIED ON THE TOUR BY THE COMMISSIONER OF PRISONS, MR THOMAS GARNER.

SIR MURRAY FIRST VISITED STANLEY PRISON -- A MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISON WITH A COMPREHENSIVE INDUSTRIAL SECTION. HE INSPECTED THE PRISON HOSPITAL, CHAPEL, ACCOMMODATION FOR PRISONERS, AS WELL AS THE VARIOUS WORKSHOPS, AND WATCHED PRISONERS AT WORK.

HE THEN WENT BY HELICOPTER TO HEI LING CHAU TO SEE THE DRUG ADDICTION TREATMENT CENTRE. ON ARRIVAL THERE HE WAS BRIEFED ON THE EXPANSION PROGRAMME AND LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT OF THE ISLAND.

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AFTERWARDS SIR MURRAY WENT TO NEI KWU CHAU DETENTION CENTRE ON THE SOUTH OF THE ISLAND WHERE HE LOOKED AT THE FACILITIES PROVIDED AND WATCHED YOUNG INMATES UNDERGOING THE SHORT SHARP SHOCK TRAINING PROGRAMME. THIS CENTRE CATERS FOR YOUNG OFFENDERS AGED BETWEEN 14 AND 16.

BEFORE CONCLUDING THE VISIT, SIR MURRAY DROPPED IN ON ANOTHER DETENTION CENTRE -- SHA TSUI ON LANTAU ISLAND WHICH ALSO PROVIDES RIGOROUS TRAINING IN A STRICT REGIME BUT IS FOR OFFENDERS AGED FROM 17 TO 25.

SIR MURRAY ALSO HAD A LOOK AT THE NEW MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISON IN SHEK PIK UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

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TONG SHUI ROAD ROADWORK PROPOSALS

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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT PROPOSES TO BUILD A GRADE SEPARATED INTERSECTION ALONG TONG SHUI ROAD IN NORTH POINT, FORMING PART OF STAGE ONE OF THE HONG KONG ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR.

STAGE ONE OF THE CORRIDOR, WORK ON WHICH WILL START IN JANUARY, WILL BE A 2.3-KILOMETRE ELEVATED ROAD ALONG THE COAST BETWEEN CAUSEWAY BAY AND NORTH POINT.

THE PROPOSED WORKS CONSIST OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN ELEVATED ROAD WITH RAMPS ALONG TONG SHUI ROAD AND A COVERED FOOTBRIDGE AT ITS JUNCTION WITH JAVA ROAD.

THE ELEVATED ROAD TOGETHER WITH THE ALTERATION TO TONG SHUI ROAD WILL FORM PART OF THE ROAD CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE MAIN ELEVATED ROAD ALONG THE NORTH POINT WATERFRONT AND THE EXISTING ROAD NETWORK IN NORTH POINT.

THE FOOTBRIDGE WILL IMPROVE THE PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES IN THE AREA.

IN CONNECTION WITH THIS PROJECT, THE EXISTING FOOTWAY IN NORTH POINT ROAD WILL ALSO BE WIDENED.

NOTICES ON THE PROPOSED UNDERTAKINGS WERE PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

THE PLAN OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT CAN BE SEEN AT THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (CENTRAL AND WESTERN) ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING ENTRANCE, HONG KONG, OR AT THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (EASTERN), GROUND FLOOR, 884-886 KING'S ROAD, OR AT THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE, MURRAY BUILDING, 19TH FLOOR, GARDEN ROAD.

ANY PERSON OBJECTING TO THE PROPOSAL MUST SEND HIS OBJECTION IN WRITING TO THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS NOT LATER THAN JANUARY 19, 1981.

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1980

- 7 -

FURTHER ISSUE OF URBAN TAXI LICENCES

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR A FURTHER BATCH OF 300 HONG KONG AND KOWLOON TAXI LICENCES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TENDER FORMS WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION FROM EITHER THE HONG KONG LICENSING OFFICE ON THE MEZZANINE FLOOR OF THE MURRAY ROAD MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK, OR FROM THE KOWLOON OFFICE ON THE 9TH FLOOR OF PARK-IN COMMERCIAL CENTRE IN DUNDAS STREET.

THE TENDER FORMS THIS TIME ARE YELLOW IN COLOUR. ANY OTHER TYPE OF FORM ISSUED PREVIOUSLY MAY NOT BE USED, OTHERWISE TENDERS MAY BE DECLARED VOID.

AS ON PREVIOUS OCCASIONS, THE TENDER WILL BE IN THE FORM OF A PREMIUM FOR ONE OR MORE LICENCE.

ONE OR MORE TENDER FORM MAY BE SUBMITTED BUT IF ONE FORM IS USED FOR MORE THAN ONE LICENCE, THE PREMIUM OFFERED FOR EACH MUST BE THE SAME.

IF THE NUMBER OF AVAILABLE LICENCES IS LESS THAN THAT REQUIRED BY A TENDERER, LESS MAY BE ALLOCATED TO HIM AS APPROPRIATE.

A PUBLIC BALLOT MAY BE HELD IF THE UNIT PREMIA OFFERED BY SOME TENDERS ARE IDENTICAL.

COMPLETED TENDER FORMS TOGETHER WITH THE ORIGINAL DEPOSIT RECEIPTS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN SEALED ENVELOPS, ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY, CENTRAL TENDER BOARD, AND PLACED IN THE SECRETARIAT TENDER BOX AT THE ENTRANCE HALL OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG, BEFORE 12 NOON ON JANUARY 2, 1981.

SUCCESSFUL TENDERERS WILL BE ISSUED TAXI LICENCES AT THE RATE OF 100 PER MONTH FROM THE BEGINNING OF FEBRUARY WITH THE HIGHEST TENDERS RECEIVING PRIORITY.

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LABOUR LAW OFFENDERS PENALISED

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT LAST MONTH (NOVEMBER) TOOK OUT 579 PROSECUTIONS FOR BREACHES OF LABOUR LEGISLATION.

OF THE CASES TAKEN OUT BY THE DEPARTMENT'S PROSECUTIONS UNIT, 564 RESULTED IN CONVICTION AND FINES IMPOSED BY THE COURTS TOTALLED MORE THAN \$506 000.

THE MAJORITY OF CASES WERE RELATED TO BREACHES OF THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS ORDINANCE AND VARIOUS REGULATIONS MADE UNDER THE ORDINANCE, INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION SITES (SAFETY) REGULATIONS.

AMONG THEM, 220 CONCERNED VIOLATION OF INDUSTRIAL SAFETY REGULATIONS AND FINES AMOUNTED TO NEARLY \$330 000.

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OF THESE CASES, 101 (\$127 450 IN FINES) WERE FOR BREACHES OF THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS (GUARDING AND OPERATION OF MACHINERY) REGULATIONS AND 87 (\$157 550 IN FINES) FOR THE CONSTRUCTION SITES (SAFETY) REGULATIONS.

OFFENCES IN CONNECTION WITH EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS ACCOUNTED FOR 320 CASES, TOGETHER LEADING TO FINES OF \$159 600.

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AMENDMENTS TO BUILDING REGULATIONS

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FIVE BUILDING AMENDMENT REGULATIONS WERE PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY.

THEY WILL COME INTO OPERATION ON APRIL 1, 1981.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE SAID THE AMENDMENTS, WHICH AIMED TO REFLECT PRESENT-DAY REQUIREMENTS, WERE OF MINOR AND TECHNICAL NATURE.

ONE OF THE REGULATIONS, THE BUILDING (DEMOLITION WORKS) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1980, AMENDED THE PRINCIPAL REGULATIONS TO MAKE BETTER PROVISION FOR THE SAFETY OF DEMOLITION WORKS.

UNDER A CLAUSE OF THE NEW REGULATIONS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, MECHANICAL PLANT OR EQUIPMENT MIGHT ONLY BE USED IN DEMOLITION WORK BY EXPERIENCED OPERATORS UNDER SUPERVISION OF A COMPETENT FOREMAN.

THE OTHER FOUR AMENDING REGULATIONS WERE THE BUILDING (ESCALATORS)(AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1980, BUILDING (REFUSE CHUTES)(AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1980, BUILDING (STANDARDS OF SANITARY FITMENTS, PLUMBING, DRAINAGE WORKS AND LATRINES) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1980 AND THE BUILDING (VENTILATION SYSTEMS)(AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1980.

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FIVE NEW TERRITORIES SITES FOR AUCTION

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THE GOVERNMENT IS TO AUCTION FIVE SITES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES TOTALLING 1.66 HECTARES NEXT MONTH.

TWO OF THE SITES ARE IN SHA TIN, TWO IN SAI KUNG AND ONE IN TAI PO.

A SHA TIN SITE, MEASURING 5 000 SQUARE METRES, IS FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL OR HOTEL DEVELOPMENT. IT IS LOCATED IN WHAT WILL BECOME THE NEW TOWN CENTRE OPPOSITE SHING MUN RIVER.

SALE CONDITIONS SPECIFY A BUILDING COVENANT OF \$42 MILLION IF THE SITE IS FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL USE, OR \$84 MILLION IF FOR HOTEL DEVELOPMENT, TO BE COMPLETED IN FOUR YEARS WHICHEVER FORM DEVELOPMENT TAKES.

/THE OTHER

THE OTHER SHA TIN SITE, COVERING AN AREA OF 1 300 SQUARE METRES, IS SITUATED NEAR HO TUNG LAU, OVERLOOKING THE RACE COURSE. IT IS FOR TWO-STOREY RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT.

THE LOT CARRIES A BUILDING COVENANT OF \$1.12 MILLION TO BE COMPLETED IN THREE YEARS.

THE TAI PO SITE IS ADJACENT TO TAI PO MARKET AND IN THE FUTURE TOWN CENTRE. IT MEASURES 5 000 SQUARE METRES AND IS FOR COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT.

THE BUILDING COVENANT IS \$32 MILLION TO BE COMPLETED IN FOUR YEARS.

MEASURING BETWEEN 2 600 AND 2 700 SQUARE METRES, THE SAI KUNG SITES ARE FOR INDUSTRIAL OR GODOWN USE.

THE AUCTION WILL BE HELD IN THE SHOUSON THEATRE OF THE ARTS CENTRE ON JANUARY 14 STARTING AT 11 AM.

DETAILS OF THE FIVE LOTS ARE PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY.

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SEAWALL FOR WESTERN RECLAMATION * * * *

A 900-METRE SEAWALL WILL SOON BE CONSTRUCTED FOR THE RECLAMATION IN WESTERN DISTRICT, TO PROVIDE ABOUT 18 HECTARES OF LAND FOR DEVELOPMENT.

A \$17.9 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE WORK HAS BEEN AWARDED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TO DRAGAGES ET TRAVAUX PUBLICS OF FRANCE.

MR TSANG NAI-LOK, CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE PWD'S PORT WORKS DIVISION, SAID THE FUTURE RECLAMATION WOULD BE OFF CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST BETWEEN SUTHERLAND STREET AND WATER STREET.

THE LAND FORMED WILL BE FOR NEW ROADS, INDUSTRIAL AND CARGO HANDLING USES, LOCAL OPEN SPACE AND OTHER GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY USES.

HE SAID THE WORK ON THE PRESENT CONTRACT MAINLY INVOLVED THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SEAWALL ON RECENTLY COMPLETED FOUNDATIONS. IT WILL TAKE ABOUT 21 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE WORKS HAVE BEEN DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTION WILL BE SUPERVISED BY THE PORT WORKS DIVISION.

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1980

- 10 -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR DISABLED WORKERS
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FOUR REHABILITATION INSTITUTIONS RUN BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT IN KWUN TONG WILL HOLD A JOINT CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR THEIR TRAINEES AND SHELTERED WORKERS ON MONDAY (DECEMBER 22).

THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR SELWYN ALLEYNE, WILL JOIN THE PARTY AND CUT THE RIBBON IN A CÉREMONY TO START IT.

THE ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMME WILL INCLUDE PERFORMANCES BY DISC JOCKEYS MISS TSANG LO-TAK, MISS BRENDA LO AND MR YEUNG CHUN-YIU, A VARIETY SHOW BY THE MOBILE THEATRE OF THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES, AND LUCKY DRAWS.

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE CHRISTMAS PARTY WHICH WILL START AT 10.30 AM AT THE KWUN TONG COMMUNITY CENTRE IN 17 TSUI PING ROAD, KWUN TONG.

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NT TAXI LICENCE TENDER RESULTS
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT RECEIVED 551 TENDERS FOR 782 NEW TERRITORIES TAXI LICENCES WHEN THE TENDER OFFER OF 100 LICENCES CLOSED ON NOVEMBER 28.

THE HIGHEST BID WAS \$210 800 AND THE LOWEST \$196 000. THE AVERAGE PREMIUM WAS \$200 592.

SUCCESSFUL TENDERERS AND THE AMOUNTS THEY TENDERED ARE PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GOVERNMENT GAZETTE. LETTERS WILL BE SENT TODAY TO NOTIFY THEM.

INSPECTION OF THE FIRST OF THE 100 NEW TERRITORIES TAXIS WILL BE CARRIED OUT FROM THE MIDDLE OF NEXT MONTH.

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1980

- 11 -

ROAD CLOSURE FOR CHARITY WALK
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HOK TAU ROAD IN TAI PO WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 8.30 TO 11.30 AM ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 21) FOR THE COMMUNITY CHEST PAT SIN RANGE WALK.

CARS WITH SPECIAL LABELS, EMERGENCY VEHICLES AND VILLAGE TRANSPORT WILL NOT BE AFFECTED.

ON SUNDAY THE TWO CAR PARKS AT BRIDE'S POOL WILL ALSO BE SUSPENDED AND RESERVED FOR THE USE OF THE EVENT BETWEEN 7 AM AND 6 PM.

HOWEVER, KMB ROUTE 75R WILL STILL TERMINATE WITHIN ONE OF THE CAR PARKS.

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FIRING PRACTICE IN JANUARY
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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE HA TSUEN/CASTLE PEAK RANGE ON THREE DAYS NEXT MONTH.

THE PRACTICE TIMES ARE 8 AM TO 4 PM ON JANUARY 13 (TUESDAY), 9 AM TO 6 PM ON JANUARY 22 (THURSDAY) AND 8 AM TO 5 PM ON JANUARY 30 (FRIDAY).

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WARNED NOT TO ENTER THE PRACTICE AREA DURING THESE TIMES.

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