



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, MAY 8, 1986

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PERMIT SYSTEM FOR VILLAGE VEHICLES PROPOSED
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THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSES TO CONTROL THE SAFETY AND NOISE ASPECTS OF VILLAGE VEHICLES THROUGH THE INTRODUCTION OF A PERMIT SYSTEM.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THE PROPOSED PERMIT SYSTEM WAS AIMED AT BRINGING THESE MOTORISED CARTS WITHIN THE LAW AND ALLOWING THE OPERATION OF SUCH VEHICLES, WHICH IS ESSENTIAL IN SOME RURAL AREAS, TO CONTINUE.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID VILLAGE VEHICLES WERE USED TO TRANSPORT AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE, BUILDING MATERIALS AND OTHER GOODS IN RURAL AND OTHER AREAS WHICH WERE INACCESSIBLE OR CLOSED TO ORDINARY VEHICLES.

+THEY CREATE A PARTICULAR RISK WHEN FULLY LOADED AND USED ON STEEP AND NARROW FOOTPATHS. OTHER DANGEROUS FEATURES INCLUDE THE LACK OF SUITABLE BRAKES AND HORNS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

BUT VILLAGE VEHICLES HAD CONTRIBUTED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE RURAL AREAS BY SERVING A USEFUL PURPOSE IN PROVIDING A CONVENIENT MEANS OF TRANSPORTING GOODS AND BUILDING MATERIALS IN AREAS WHERE THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE TO USE MANUAL LABOUR.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE USE OF VILLAGE VEHICLES WAS ILLEGAL BECAUSE THEY WERE UNREGISTERED, UNLICENSED AND UNINSURED. UNDER THE ROAD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE THESE VEHICLES WERE +MOTOR VEHICLES+ BEING USED ON +ROADS+ AND THEREFORE HAD TO BE REGISTERED AND LICENSED.

+NEVERTHELESS, REGISTRATION AND LICENSING IS NOT POSSIBLE BECAUSE THESE VEHICLES CANNOT SATISFY THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE ROAD TRAFFIC (CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF VEHICLES) REGULATIONS.

+AS THEY CANNOT BE LICENSED UNDER THE ROAD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE, INSURANCE COMPANIES WILL NOT INSURE THEM,+ HE SAID.

THE PROPOSED PERMIT SYSTEM IS SIMPLER THAN THE REGISTRATION AND LICENSING SYSTEM APPLICABLE TO OTHER TYPES OF MOTOR VEHICLES.

UNDER THE PROPOSED SYSTEM, VILLAGE VEHICLES WILL BE DIVIDED INTO TWO SUB-CATEGORIES: PEDESTRIAN-CONTROLLED TYPE AND DRIVER-OPERATED TYPE. OWNERS OF THESE VEHICLES WILL BE REQUIRED TO OBTAIN PERMITS, EACH BEING VALID FOR A YEAR AND TO BE ISSUED OR RENEWED FOR A FEE OF \$50.

+OWNERS OF VILLAGE VEHICLES WILL BE GIVEN A GRACE PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS BEFORE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PERMIT SYSTEM TO ADAPT THEIR VEHICLES TO SATISFY CERTAIN CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS, SUCH AS BRAKING SYSTEM, WARNING INSTRUMENT AND SILENCER.

/+THEY ARE

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+THEY ARE ALSO REQUIRED TO BE INSURED AGAINST THIRD PARTY RISKS, AND A PERMIT WILL NOT BE ISSUED WITHOUT AN INSURANCE POLICY VALID FOR THE PERIOD OF THE PERMIT,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE ADDED THAT THE PROPOSED PERMIT SYSTEM HAD BEEN SUPPORTED IN PRINCIPLE BY HEUNG YEE KUK.

+TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT SUB-COMMITTEES OF DISTRICT BOARDS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, INCLUDING THE ISLANDS DISTRICT BOARD, HAVE ALSO BEEN CONSULTED AND THEY ARE GENERALLY IN AGREEMENT WITH THE PROPOSALS, ALREADY ENDORSED BY THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE,+ HE SAID.

THE PROVISION FOR THE USE AND THE CONTROL OF VILLAGE VEHICLES BY REGULATIONS WILL BE CONTAINED IN THE ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) BILL 1986 WHICH WILL BE GAZETTED ON MAY 16.

CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS WILL ALSO BE MADE TO EXTEND THE APPLICATION OF THE MOTOR VEHICLES INSURANCE (THIRD PARTY RISKS) ORDINANCE TO VILLAGE VEHICLES AND ENSURES THAT FIRST REGISTRATION TAX IS NOT LEVIED ON VILLAGE VEHICLES.

THE BILL IS EXPECTED TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FOR FIRST READING ON MAY 28.

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CALL TO EMPLOY THE DISABLED
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THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR DARWIN CHEN, TODAY (THURSDAY) CALLED ON EMPLOYERS TO HELP RESETTLE DISABLED PERSONS INTO THE COMMUNITY BY OFFERING THEM JOBS.

ADDRESSING A ROTARY CLUB LUNCHEON MEETING, HE STRESSED, HOWEVER, THAT THE PROVISION OF EMPLOYMENT FOR THE DISABLED WAS NOT AN ACT OF CHARITY.

MR CHEN SAID THAT IN THE IDEAL EMPLOYER-EMPLOYEE RELATIONSHIP THAT THE SELECTIVE PLACEMENT SERVICE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAD HELPED CREATE, NO CHARITY WAS EXPECTED AND NO CHARITY GIVEN.

+IN ALL OF THEM, EMPLOYERS' CONFIDENCE IN THE WORKING ABILITY OF THE DISABLED AND THE FAIRNESS WHICH THEY GIVE TO THE DISABLED AND THE NON-DISABLED ALIKE HAVE BEEN RECIPROCATED WITH LOYALTY AND GOOD PERFORMANCE FROM DISABLED WORKERS,+ HE SAID.

+THIS IS THE MESSAGE I HOPE YOU WILL REMEMBER: HELPING TO PLACE THE DISABLED IN EMPLOYMENT IS NOT A CHARITY BUT IS AN ACT OF GOOD FELLOWSHIP AND A VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS OUR COMMUNITY.+

/NOTING THAT

NOTING THAT MANY EMPLOYERS HAD GENERALLY BEEN UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT DISABLED PERSONS WERE ONLY CAPABLE OF DOING MENIAL JOBS, MR CHEN SAID THIS WAS SIMPLY NOT TRUE.

HE SAID THE ADVANCES IN RECENT YEARS IN THE VARIOUS REHABILITATION DISCIPLINES HAD HELPED TO WIDEN THE RANGE OF OCCUPATIONS WHICH DISABLED PERSONS WERE CAPABLE OF TAKING UP.

TECHNICAL AIDS HAD BEEN DEVELOPED TO HELP DISABLED PERSONS DO PARTICULAR JOBS. AND SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL TECHNIQUES, COUPLED WITH A PARALLEL DEVELOPMENT IN MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY, SURGICAL METHODS, PROSTHETIC EQUIPMENT, VOCATIONAL ASSESSMENT TECHNIQUES AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING OR RETRAINING, HAD ALSO ENHANCED SUBSTANTIALLY THE EMPLOYABILITY OF THE DISABLED.

IN FACT, MR CHEN POINTED OUT, THE SELECTIVE PLACEMENT SERVICE HAD BROUGHT MANY SATISFIED EMPLOYERS AND DISABLED EMPLOYEES TOGETHER OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

+MANY EMPLOYERS HAVE BEEN TAKING ON DISABLED EMPLOYEES REGULARLY THROUGH THE SERVICE AFTER A SUCCESSFUL FIRST PLACEMENT.

+THESE EMPLOYERS ARE HAPPY BECAUSE THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DISABLED WORKERS IS OFTEN ON A PAR WITH THEIR ABLE-BODIED EMPLOYEES.+

MR CHEN APPEALED TO THOSE EMPLOYERS WHO STILL HAD LITTLE UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORKING CAPACITY OF DISABLED PERSONS TO KEEP AN OPEN MIND ON THEIR WORKING ABILITY.

+DO NOT JUST TAKE MY WORD FOR IT, BUT LET A PLACEMENT OFFICER OF THE SERVICE ARRANGE FOR YOU A VISIT TO A FACTORY OR OFFICE IN WHICH DISABLED PERSONS ARE EMPLOYED, AND YOU CAN SEE FOR YOURSELF, + HE SAID.

ON THE WORK OF THE SELECTIVE PLACEMENT SERVICE, MR CHEN SAID IT PROVIDED A FREE EMPLOYMENT PLACEMENT SERVICE TO PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED OR MENTALLY DISABLED PERSONS WHO WISHED TO SEEK EMPLOYMENT IN THE OPEN LABOUR MARKET.

IT ALSO SERVED EMPLOYERS WHO WISHED TO EMPLOY WORKERS WHO WERE CAPABLE ALTHOUGH DISABLED.

BUT, HE SAID, THE PLACEMENT OF DISABLED PERSONS INTO EMPLOYMENT WAS NOT DONE IN A HAPHAZARD MANNER.

PLACEMENT OFFICERS ASSISTING HANDICAPPED CLIENTS OFTEN HAD TO ASSESS RESIDUAL ABILITIES, EDUCATIONAL OR TRAINING BACKGROUND, WORK EXPERIENCES, APTITUDES AND ASPIRATIONS.

THEY WOULD THEN BE GIVEN BRIEFINGS ON THE PREVALENT LABOUR MARKET CONDITIONS AND VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE AS WELL AS MOCK INTERVIEWS TO PREPARE THEM FOR OPEN EMPLOYMENT.

TO PROVIDE PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT, THE PLACEMENT OFFICER WOULD ALSO ACCOMPANY THE JOB-SEEKER TO THE INTERVIEW.

ONCE A CANDIDATE WAS PLACED IN EMPLOYMENT, MR CHEN SAID, THE OFFICER WOULD CONDUCT A FOLLOW-UP SERVICE FOR AT LEAST THREE MONTHS TO ENSURE THAT HE OR SHE WAS SETTLING DOWN WELL IN THE JOB.

+ALTHOUGH SOME EMPLOYERS MAY REGARD THE VISIT AS A NUISANCE, THE MAJORITY AGREE THAT IT CAN BE VERY USEFUL TO THEM BECAUSE THEY MAY BE DEALING WITH EMPLOYEES WITH DISABILITY FOR THE FIRST TIME,+ HE SAID.

AFTER ALL, MR CHEN ADDED, +HELPING THE DISABLED PERSON TO FIND THE RIGHT JOB IS WHAT THE 'SELECTIVITY' OF THE SERVICE IS ABOUT.+

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A YEAR OF CONSIDERABLE SUCCESS FOR POLICE
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WANTED CRIMINALS IN HONG KONG STAND A NEARLY 50 PER CENT CHANCE OF BEING CAUGHT.

THIS IS REVEALED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, MR RAYMON ANNING, IN THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE REVIEW OF 1985, RELEASED TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE COMMISSIONER SAID THE CROSS-THE-BOARD CRIME DETECTION RATE OF 45.8 PER CENT FOR LAST YEAR WAS A COMMENDABLE ACHIEVEMENT.

"OVERALL, 1985 WAS A YEAR OF CONSIDERABLE SUCCESS FOR THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE," SAID MR ANNING, NOTING THAT IT WAS PARTICULARLY GRATIFYING TO SEE A DECREASE IN THE CRIMINAL USE OF FIREARMS AND A REDUCTION IN VIOLENT CRIME -- A PHENOMENON WHICH FEW LARGE CITIES IN THE WORLD COULD BOAST.

HE SAID THE SMALL INCREASE IN TOTAL CRIME FOR THE YEAR WAS DUE, IN PART, TO INCREASING CASES OF SHOPLIFTING AND BURGLARY -- THE LATTER BEING A PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT OFFENCE TO DETECT AND ONE IN WHICH PREVENTION IS ALWAYS BETTER THAN CURE.

"I HOPE THAT WE WILL ENLIST THE CO-OPERATION OF EVEN MORE PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY TO REDUCE THESE STATISTICS DRAMATICALLY IN THE COMING YEAR," SAID THE COMMISSIONER.

ANTI-NARCOTICS OPERATIONS HAD BEEN MAINTAINED AT A HIGH LEVEL THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, RESULTING IN THE SEIZURE OF 467 KILOGRAMS OF OPIATE DRUGS AND THE PROSECUTION OF OVER 4,500 PEOPLE FOR SERIOUS NARCOTICS OFFENCES -- A RISE OF 33 PER CENT OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

/' DESPITE ANOTHER

"DESPITE ANOTHER ABUNDANT HARVEST IN THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE AND THE CONSEQUENT READY AVAILABILITY OF DRUGS FROM THIS SOURCE, THE GOVERNMENT'S ANTI-NARCOTICS AGENCIES ARE MAINTAINING AN EFFECTIVE BARRIER AGAINST SMUGGLING DANGEROUS DRUGS INTO THE TERRITORY," HE SAID.

"THIS THEY WILL CONTINUE TO DO, AIDED BY STRONG INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION."

ON THE TRAFFIC FRONT, A WELCOME DOWNWARD TREND IN BOTH TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS AND CASUALTIES, WHICH BEGAN IN MID-1982 AND WAS MAINTAINED DURING 1985, SAW THE TOTAL NUMBER OF TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS DROP BY 1.4 PER CENT TO SLIGHTLY UNDER 15,000, AND CASUALTIES DECREASE BY 2.1 PER CENT TO ABOUT 19,700.

"WHILST IT IS HEARTENING TO SEE THESE REDUCTIONS," SAID THE COMMISSIONER, "THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT THEY WILL CONTINUE AND ROAD ACCIDENT STATISTICS ARE ALWAYS TOO HIGH IN THE ENORMITY OF HUMAN MISERY AND SUFFERING THAT THEY REPRESENT AS WELL AS THE UNRELENTING DEMANDS THAT THEY MAKE ON POLICE MANPOWER AND PUBLIC FUNDS."

ACKNOWLEDGING THAT THERE HAD BEEN INTENSE INTEREST AND CONSIDERABLE PUBLICITY DURING THE YEAR OVER THE WORK BEING CARRIED OUT TO DESIGN A SCHEME TO INCREASE LOCALISATION IN THE FORCE, MR ANNING SAID HE WAS SATISFIED THAT THE OUTCOME WILL BE A SYSTEM WHICH WILL ACHIEVE A VIABLE AND EFFICIENT POLICE FORCE CONTINUING UP TO 1997 AND BEYOND.

"MORALE IS OFTEN INDICATED BY THE AMOUNT OF WORK BEING DONE AND I CAN REPORT THAT EVERYONE IN THE FORCE IS WORKING HARD, THE RESULTS ARE GOOD -- ARRESTS AND THE DETECTION RATE ARE UP. CERTAINLY, THERE IS A GOOD SPIRIT ABROAD IN THE FORCE," SAID MR ANNING.

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HONG KONG ENERGY STATISTICS PUBLISHED

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A STATISTICAL REPORT, +HONG KONG ENERGY STATISTICS 1975-1985+ HAS BEEN PUBLISHED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT IN RECOGNITION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF ENERGY SUPPLIES TO THE HONG KONG ECONOMY AND IN RESPONSE TO THE INTEREST EXPRESSED WITHIN GOVERNMENT AND BY THE PUBLIC.

THE REPORT PROVIDES COMPREHENSIVE INFORMATION ON DIFFERENT FORMS OF ENERGY, INCLUDING OIL PRODUCTS, ELECTRICITY AND GAS, AS WELL AS COAL AND CHARCOAL.

LIST PRICES, STORAGE CAPACITY, TANK STOCK, IMPORT, RE-EXPORT AND QUANTITY OF SALES BY TYPE OF USER FOR VARIOUS OIL PRODUCTS ARE PRESENTED.

FOR ELECTRICITY AND GAS, THE REPORT SHOWS THEIR TARIFF CHARGES, GENERATING CAPACITY, PRODUCTION, AS WELL AS CONSUMPTION BY TYPE OF USER. FIGURES ON IMPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS OF COAL AND CHARCOAL ARE ALSO PRESENTED.

ANNUAL DATA FOR THE YEARS 1975 TO 1985 ARE SHOWN FOR MOST OF THE STATISTICS MENTIONED. IN ADDITION, QUARTERLY FIGURES FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS ARE AVAILABLE FOR SOME OF THE ITEMS.

THE REPORT INCLUDES FRESH INFORMATION NOT PUBLISHED ELSEWHERE AS WELL AS ENERGY STATISTICS AVAILABLE FROM OTHER PUBLICATIONS, SUCH AS FUEL IMPORTS FROM +HONG KONG TRADE STATISTICS+.

THE MATERIALS CONTAINED IN THE REPORT ARE USEFUL FOR STUDYING AND ANALYSING HONG KONG'S ENERGY SUPPLIES.

THE REPORT IS ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE, CONNAUGHT PLACE, AND THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER AT 317 DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL, AT \$8.50 A COPY.

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YUEN LONG BUILDINGS IN DANGEROUS CONDITION

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY TODAY (THURSDAY) DECLARED THREE BUILDINGS AT 16A, 18A AND 20A CASTLE PEAK ROAD IN YUEN LONG TOWN TO BE IN A DANGEROUS CONDITION.

THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING SURVEYOR SAID THAT THESE BUILDINGS, EACH OF TWO STOREYS, WERE MAINLY CONSTRUCTED WITH LOAD-BEARING BRICK WALLS AND TIMBER FLOORS AND ROOFS.

RECENT INSPECTIONS HAVE FOUND THE LOAD-BEARING BRICK WALLS FRACTURED IN MANY PLACES. THERE WERE ALSO SIGNIFICANT FRACTURES OF THE FRONT MAIN ROOF BEAM.

ADDITIONALLY AN EXISTING CRACK IN THE WALL NEAR THE TOP OF THE COMMON ACCESS STEPS HAD WIDENED INDICATING UNEVEN SETTLEMENT OF THE BUILDINGS.

THE AGE, THE OVERALL POOR CONDITION OF THESE BUILDINGS AND THE RECENT MOVEMENT OF THE WALL HAD LED TO THE CONCLUSION THAT THERE WAS A RISK OF COLLAPSE. IT WAS THEREFORE NECESSARY TO CLOSE AND DEMOLISH THESE THREE BUILDINGS.

ACCORDINGLY, NOTICES OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR CLOSURE ORDERS IN TSUEN WAN DISTRICT COURT AT 9.30 AM ON JUNE 5, 1986 WERE POSTED TODAY.

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AIRPORT RUNWAY IMPROVEMENT CONTRACT AWARDED
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THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT HAS AWARDED A \$72.7 MILLION CONTRACT TO GAMMON (HONG KONG) LIMITED TO IMPROVE THE RUNWAY AND TAXIWAYS AT KAI TAK AIRPORT.

THE CONTRACT, SIGNED TODAY (THURSDAY) AT THE DEPARTMENT'S OFFICES IN EMPIRE CENTRE, TSIM SHA TSUI EAST, WILL TAKE 22 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE PROJECT, INTENDED TO IMPROVE OPERATIONAL SAFETY AT THE AIRPORT, INCLUDES RECONSTRUCTION OF THE KOWLOON CITY END OF THE RUNWAY, PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL PAVEMENT DOWN EITHER SIDE OF THE RUNWAY AND RESURFACING OF THE RUNWAY AND MAIN TAXIWAYS.

LIGHTING AND SIGNALLING INSTALLATIONS WILL ALSO BE IMPROVED.

MOST OF THE WORK WILL BE CARRIED OUT AT NIGHT TO KEEP DISRUPTION AT THE AIRPORT TO A MINIMUM, BUT NOISE LEVELS WILL BE CLOSELY MONITORED AND KEPT AS LOW AS POSSIBLE.

THE PROJECT HAS BEEN DESIGNED, AND CONSTRUCTION WILL BE SUPERVISED, BY STAFF OF THE DEVELOPMENT AND AIRPORT DIVISION OF THE CIVIL ENGINEERING OFFICE.

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MOTHERS PRAISED FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE
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MODERN WOMEN PLAYED A SIGNIFICANT PART IN COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES, BESIDES BEING WIVES AND MOTHERS, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS EVELYN DOE, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT A MOTHER'S DAY CELEBRATION HELD BY THE WOMEN'S WELFARE CLUB OF WESTERN DISTRICT, MRS DOE PAID TRIBUTE TO THOSE MOTHERS WHO HAD CONTRIBUTED TO THESE SERVICES.

SUCH MOTHERS, SHE SAID, WOULD AT THE SAME TIME MAINTAIN A HARMONIOUS FAMILY LIFE AND BRING UP AND EDUCATE THEIR CHILDREN SO THAT THEY TOO MIGHT BECOME WORTHY MEMBERS OF SOCIETY.

ALL MOTHERS WOULD BE PROUD TO BE HONOURED BY SOCIETY, BUT THEIR GREATEST ENCOURAGEMENT WOULD COME FROM APPRECIATION AND APPRAISAL FROM WITHIN THEIR OWN FAMILIES, SHE ADDED.

/MRS DOE

MRS DOE NOTED THAT THIS YEAR'S FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION THEME, **"HONOUR YOUR PARENTS"**, AIMED AT INSTILLING IN THE YOUNGER GENERATION RECOGNITION AND APPRECIATION OF PARENTS' EFFORT IN RAISING THEM.

"IT IS HOPED THAT CONCERN AND RESPECT AS WELL AS UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT BETWEEN THE TWO GENERATIONS WOULD ENHANCE A BETTER FAMILY LIFE AND UNTOWARD INCIDENTS WOULD BE PREVENTED," SHE SAID.

MRS DOE THANKED THE WOMEN'S WELFARE CLUB FOR ITS EFFORTS IN CONTRIBUTING TO SERVICES IN CARING FOR THE ELDERLY AND THE CHILDREN AND IN EDUCATION.

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SCHEME TO TRAIN ACCOUNTING STAFF OFFERED
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THE ACCOUNTANCY TRAINING BOARD OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL IS INVITING EMPLOYERS TO JOIN AN ACCOUNTANCY TRAINEESHIP SCHEME BY OFFERING THREE-YEAR ON-THE-JOB TRAINING TO YOUNG PEOPLE SEEKING A CAREER IN THE PROFESSION.

TRAINEES RECRUITMENT EXERCISE FOR THE SCHEME THIS YEAR HAS BEGUN AND THE BOARD IS READY TO HELP EMPLOYERS WHO WISH TO SET UP ORGANISED TRAINING SCHEMES AND TO FIND RECRUITS FOR THEIR ACCOUNTING TEAMS, A COUNCIL SPOKESMAN SAID.

EMULATING THE APPRENTICESHIP SCHEME FOR INDUSTRY, THE ACCOUNTANCY SCHEME IS DESIGNED TO TRAIN MID-LEVEL ACCOUNTING STAFF FOR ALL ECONOMIC SECTORS IN HONG KONG.

MORE THAN 120 YOUNG PEOPLE WITH FORM 5 EDUCATION HAVE BEEN ENROLLED IN THE SCHEME SINCE IMPLEMENTATION IN 1984, AND 50 PER CENT OF THEM WILL BE ENTERING THEIR THIRD AND FINAL YEAR OF TRAINING THIS SEPTEMBER, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP OF EMPLOYERS, TRAINEES ARE SENT TO ATTEND RELATED THEORETICAL CLASSES ON A PART-TIME DAY RELEASE BASIS FOR TWO YEARS AT TECHNICAL INSTITUTES.

CURRICULUM OF THE COURSES IS GEARED TO PREPARE TRAINEES FOR THE LEVEL II EXAMINATION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN.

EMPLOYERS INTERESTED IN THE SCHEME SHOULD CONTACT THE SECRETARY OF THE BOARD FOR MORE DETAILS ON 5-8932341 EXT 259.

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CARNIVAL FUN FOR MOTHERS

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A +MOTHERS' DAY CARNIVAL+ ORGANISED BY THE YAU MA TEI/MONG KOK DISTRICT COMMITTEE ON FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION WILL BE HELD AT THE NEW WORLD PLAZA IN TSIM SHA TSUI BETWEEN 11.30 AM AND 5 PM ON SUNDAY (MAY 11).

THE FUNCTION IS PART OF THIS YEAR'S FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT.

THE PROGRAMME INCLUDES A STAGE PERFORMANCE, LIVE RECORDINGS, FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION EXHIBITION, VIDEO SHOW AND QUIZ. CHILDREN MAY ALSO DRAW THEIR OWN MOTHERS' DAY CARD AND RECORD A MESSAGE TO THEIR MOTHER ON A GIFT TAPE.

OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE MR ALEXANDER FUNG, REGIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER (WEST KOWLOON); MR WONG KING-TONG, CHAIRMAN OF YAU MA TEI/MONG KOK DISTRICT COMMITTEE ON FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION; MR YIP WAH, CHAIRMAN OF YAU MA TEI DISTRICT BOARD; MR CHOW CHUN-FAI, CHAIRMAN OF MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD.

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COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS NOISE POLLUTION SOLUTION

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THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE WILL MEET TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO CONSIDER MEASURES TO REDUCE THE NOISE NUISANCE CAUSED BY SURFACE WATER DRAINAGE NEAR BLOCK 9 OF PAK TIN ESTATE.

THE PROPOSALS, FOR WORKS RANGING FROM \$8 000 TO AS MUCH AS \$160 000, WERE DRAWN UP FOLLOWING A SITE VISIT ORGANISED BY THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICER, MR SYLVESTER TSE, FOR DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AND CONCERNED GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS IN FEBRUARY. DURING THE VISIT NOISE READINGS WERE MADE BY EXPERTS FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT.

SUBJECT TO THE COMMITTEE'S AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE, THE DEPARTMENT AND THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE WILL WORK OUT DETAILS ON IMPLEMENTATION AND ALSO A MORE REALISTIC ESTIMATION OF COSTS FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE.

THE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO DISCUSS MINOR REPAIRS TO THE SHAM SHUI PO CLOCK TOWER. THE TOWER WAS BUILT IN 1983 WITH BOARD FUNDS AND PRIVATE DONATIONS. IT IS NOW REGARDED AS A LANDMARK.

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RECENTLY, THE NEON LIGHTS ILLUMINATING THE CLOCK FACES FAILED AND VANDALS HAVE ALSO CAUSED SOME DAMAGE.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT IN BUTTERFLY VALLEY NEW VILLAGE AND KIM SHIN LANE, ERECTION OF GUARD RAILS AT NAM CHEONG STREET, STREET LIGHTS IN SQUATTER AREAS, REFUSE DUMPING NEAR SHAM SHUI PO MTR STATION, AND RENT INCREASES IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES.

THE MEETING IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND WILL START AT 2.15 PM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD, 39 TONKIN STREET, THIRD FLOOR, KOWLOON.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING.

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PRESENTATION OF GUITAR MASTERCLASS
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THE MUSIC OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES BRANCH WILL PRESENT A GUITAR MASTERCLASS BY RENOWNED GUITARIST GERALD GARCIA ON MAY 15 AT THE MONG KOK MUSIC CENTRE.

HE HAS PERFORMED REGULARLY IN BRITAIN AND EUROPE AND IN HONG KONG WHERE HE HAS CONDUCTED A NUMBER OF MASTERCLASSES AND LECTURE DEMONSTRATION CONCERTS.

UNDER HIS DIRECTION, FOUR TO FIVE GUITAR STUDENTS WILL PLAY POPULAR PIECES BEFORE THE AUDIENCE.

ADMISSION IS FREE. FURTHER DETAILS CAN BE OBTAINED BY CALLING 3-7149255.

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LOK FU GETS NEW POST OFFICE
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A NEW POST OFFICE IN SHOP F3 ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF THE LOK FU SHOPPING CENTRE WILL BE OPENED AT 9 AM ON MONDAY (MAY 12) TO REPLACE THE EXISTING LOK FU POST OFFICE AT 176-8 JUNCTION ROAD.

THE NEW POST OFFICE WILL OPERATE IN LARGER ACCOMMODATION WITH IMPROVED COUNTER FACILITIES, A POST OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

IT WILL PROVIDE THE NORMAL RANGE OF COUNTER SERVICES BETWEEN 9 AM AND 5 PM FROM MONDAY TO FRIDAY AND 9 AM TO 1 PM ON SATURDAY. THE TELEPHONE NUMBER REMAINS THE SAME 3-376192, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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TSING YI BRIDGE, ROAD CLOSURE
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THE TSING YI BRIDGE WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FOR SEVERAL HOURS ON SUNDAY (MAY 11) FOR ROUTINE MONITORING OF THE STRUCTURE.

THE BRIDGE WILL BE CLOSED FROM 12.30 AM TO 2.30 AM, 6.30 AM TO 7.30 AM AND 3 PM TO 4 PM.

DURING THE CLOSURE, THE BRIDGE WILL BE OPENED AT FIVE-MINUTE INTERVALS TO GENERAL TRAFFIC AND IMMEDIATELY TO EMERGENCY SERVICE VEHICLES.

FROM 12.01 AM TO 6 AM ON THE SAME DAY, TUNG CHAU STREET IN MONG KOK BETWEEN WALNUT STREET AND MAPLE STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC TO FACILITATE INSTALLATION OF EQUIPMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE WEST KOWLOON CORRIDOR.

VEHICLES TRAVELLING ALONG TUNG CHAU STREET HEADING FOR TAI KOK TSUI ROAD SOUTHBOUND WILL BE DIVERTED VIA WALNUT STREET AND FUK TSUN STREET.

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