



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 1986

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### GROWING INTEREST IN ARTS WITHIN COMMUNITY

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IT IS ENCOURAGING THAT WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY THERE IS GROWING INTEREST IN THE ARTS, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

+NOT ONLY ARE AUDIENCES GROWING; SO ARE THE NUMBERS OF LOCAL PERFORMERS,+ HE SAID.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 1986 HONG KONG ARTS FESTIVAL AT THE CITY HALL CONCERT HALL, SIR EDWARD SAID THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ARTS COULD NOT TAKE PLACE WITHOUT THE ACTIVE SUPPORT OF THE COMMUNITY.

+PARTICULARLY ENCOURAGING HAS BEEN THE GROWTH IN SUPPORT AND SPONSORSHIP OF THE ARTS FROM THE COMMERCIAL SECTOR,+ HE SAID.

SIR EDWARD SAID A SPECIAL FEATURE OF THIS YEAR'S FESTIVAL IS THAT SOME OF ITS PROGRAMMES WOULD BE PRESENTED IN THE NEWLY COMPLETED ACADEMY FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS.

+THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THIS ACADEMY IS A MAJOR EVENT IN OUR CULTURAL LIFE AND A MAJOR ADVANCE IN THE PROVISION OF TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE.

+I AM SURE IT WILL NOT BE LONG BEFORE WE WILL BE ABLE TO HEAR ITS STUDENTS PERFORMING IN THIS ARTS FESTIVAL AND IN OTHER ARTS FESTIVALS ROUND THE WORLD,+ HE SAID.

SIR EDWARD SAID THE HONG KONG ARTS FESTIVAL BROUGHT TO OUR COMMUNITY EVERY YEAR A MAGNIFICENT SERIES OF HIGH-QUALITY PERFORMANCES FROM HONG KONG AND DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE WORLD.

+THIS YEAR'S FESTIVAL, WHICH PROMISES TO BE ONE OF THE MOST COLOURFUL IN THE HISTORY OF THE EVENT, WILL FEATURE OVER 120 PERFORMANCES BETWEEN NOW AND THE FINAL CURTAIN ON FEBRUARY 24,+ HE SAID.

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### GOVT TEAM GATHERING FACTS ON NATIONALITY

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THE GROUP OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS THAT WILL GO TO LONDON ON THE NATIONALITY ISSUE ARE GATHERING TOGETHER ALL THE FACTS ABOUT THE ISSUES AT STAKE, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER ATTENDING THE ANNUAL TRAINEES' GALA AT QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM, SIR DAVID SAID THESE INCLUDED REVIEWING THESE GENERAL CATEGORIES OF NON-ETHNIC CHINESE AND EX-SERVICEMEN.

/+BUT CLEARLY .....

+BUT CLEARLY THE CATEGORIES THEMSELVES NEED TO BE MORE CAREFULLY ANALYSED AND DESCRIBED,+ HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID HE COULD NOT SAY WHEN THE TEAM WOULD SET OFF, ADDING THAT THE COMPOSITION OF THE GROUP WOULD BE JUST ENOUGH TO COPE WITH THE JOB.

IN REPLY TO QUESTIONS ON REPORTS THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD PREPARED A PAPER TO CONSULT THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ON THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG'S POLITICAL REFORMS, SIR DAVID SAID HE COULD NOT CONFIRM SUCH REPORTS. +BUT CLEARLY WE ARE DOING WORK ON THIS QUESTION,+ HE SAID.

ON WHETHER THE PAPER HAD BEEN SENT TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, SIR DAVID SAID: +I AM NOT FREE TO DISCLOSE THE PAPERS THAT GO BEFORE THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL. EXCO MATTERS ARE ENTIRELY CONFIDENTIAL.+

COMMENTING ON REPORTS THAT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL COULD CUT OFF HONG KONG TAXPAYERS' MONEY TO BRITISH INTERESTS HERE IF THE COUNCIL'S DEMANDS FOR CONCESSIONS ON THE NATIONALITY ISSUE WERE NOT MET, SIR DAVID SAID WE MUST TAKE THIS QUESTION SLOWLY AND PATIENTLY AND NOT COME TO ANY SUDDEN CONCLUSION.

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#### IMPORTANT YEAR FOR CULTURAL LIFE

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IT HAS BEEN AN IMPORTANT YEAR IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CULTURAL LIFE OF HONG KONG, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE ANNUAL TRAINEES GALA AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM, SIR DAVID SAID: +WE HAVE SEEN THE COMPLETION AND THE OPENING OF THE ACADEMY FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS WHICH ENABLES US TO PROVIDE ACADEMIC TRAINING IN THE PERFORMING ARTS AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL.

+WEHAVE SEEN OUR MUSICIANS DEVELOP AND MATURE AND ESTABLISH THEIR REPUTATION AT HOME AND ABROAD.

+WE HAVE WATCHED THE BUILDING OF OUR NEW CONCERT HALLS AT SHA TIN AND TUEN MUN AND THE CULTURAL COMPLEX AT TSIM SHA TSUI WITH GROWING EXCITEMENT AND PLEASURE,+ HE SAID.

SIR DAVID ADDED THAT THIS YEAR, THE MUSIC OFFICE BY TRAINING 5 000 YOUNG MUSICIANS HAD AGAIN ADDED TO THE GROWING NUMBER OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY WHO ENJOYED PLAYING AN INSTRUMENT, WHO HAD LEARNED TO APPRECIATE MUSIC, AND WHO HAD BENEFITTED FROM THE DISCIPLINE OF REGULAR STUDY AND PRACTICE.

SIR DAVID CONGRATULATED ALL WHO WERE TAKING PART IN THIS IMPORTANT WORK WHICH WAS TRANSFORMING THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG.

/+THE PERFORMERS .....

+THE PERFORMERS THIS AFTERNOON AS WELL AS THE PERFORMERS OF THE CHAMBER CONCERT IN THE FIRST PART OF THIS TRAINEES' GALA HELD ON JANUARY 11, SHOULD FEEL PROUD OF THEIR PROGRESS OVER THE PAST YEAR,+ SIR DAVID SAID.

LADY AKERS-JONES THEN PRESENTED AWARDS AND CERTIFICATES OF MERITS TO TRAINEES, ORCHESTRAL, CHOIR AND BAND MEMBERS.

IN HER WELCOMING SPEECH, THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR, MRS DORIS HO, SAID THE PAST YEAR HAS BEEN A VERY BUSY ONE FOR THE MUSIC OFFICE.

+BESIDES PREPARING FOR PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS, COMPETITIONS AND INTERNAL ASSESSMENTS, OUR TRAINEES HAVE BEEN ACTIVELY SHARPENING THEIR PERFORMANCE SKILLS.

+EVERY OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC PERFORMANCE WAS SEIZED UPON WITH TRAINEES PARTICIPATING IN THE YOUTH MUSIC CAMP, THE YOUTH CHINESE MUSIC FESTIVAL AND THE YOUTH BAND FESTIVAL, ALL NOW ANNUAL EVENTS IN THE MUSIC OFFICE CALENDAR.+

HIGHLIGHT OF TODAY'S GALA WAS A COMBINED PERFORMANCE BY MORE THAN 1 000 TRAINEES WHO PLAYED +DANCE OF THE YAO+ WITH BOTH WESTERN AND CHINESE MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

THE SECRETARY FOR MUNICIPAL SERVICES, MR GRAHAM BARNES, AND THE COMMISSIONER FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR PATRICK WILLIAMSON, ALSO ATTENDED THE GALA.

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YOUTHS URGED TO HELP FIGHT DRUG ABUSE  
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YOUNG PEOPLE WERE URGED TO JOIN HANDS WITH THE GOVERNMENT IN CONTINUING THE FIGHT AGAINST ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING AND DRUG ABUSE.

THE APPEAL WAS MADE TODAY (SUNDAY) BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR GORDON MORTIMER, AT THE START OF THE ANTI-NARCOTICS RUN AT KOWLOON TSAI PARK SPORTS GROUND.

+YOUNG PEOPLE OF TODAY HOLD THEIR FUTURE IN THEIR HANDS BUT THEY ARE ALSO THE ONES MOST VULNERABLE TO THE RISK OF DRUG ABUSE,+ MR MORTIMER SAID.

HE SAID THAT IT WAS FITTING FOR ANTI-NARCOTICS FUNCTIONS TO BE ORGANISED BY YOUNG PEOPLE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

MR MORTIMER ALSO CALLED ON MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO REPORT DRUG PEDDLING ACTIVITIES AND TO PROTECT THE COMMUNITY AGAINST THE DANGERS OF DRUG ABUSE.

/HE POINTED .....

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HE POINTED OUT THAT THIS YEAR'S ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN WAS AIMED AT ENCOURAGING THE PUBLIC TO REPORT DRUG PUSHERS.

+YOUR CONCERN AND EFFORTS WILL HELP ACHIEVE THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF A DRUG-FREE GENERATION,+ HE STRESSED.

TODAY'S RUN, ORGANISED BY THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS (ACAN) YOUTH VOLUNTEER GROUP UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT'S NARCOTICS DIVISION, IS AIMED AT ENCOURAGING YOUNG PEOPLE TO PARTICIPATE IN HEALTHY PURSUITS AND TO STAY AWAY FROM DRUGS.

MR MORTIMER ALSO PAID TRIBUTE TO THE ACAN YOUTH VOLUNTEERS FOR DEVOTING THEIR SPARE TIME TO SPREADING ANTI-NARCOTICS MESSAGES.

MORE THAN 1 200 RUNNERS TOOK PART IN TODAY'S 4 000-METRE RACE WHICH STARTED FROM KOWLOON TSAI PARK SPORTS GROUND TO HEREFORD ROAD, VIA LA SALLE ROAD, NGA TSIN WAI ROAD, INVERNESS ROAD AND RETURNING TO THE STARTING POINT.

THE EVENT WAS HIGHLIGHTED BY A DEMONSTRATION OF SOCCER SKILLS BY THE HONG KONG YOUTH (UNDER 14) NATIONAL TEAM WITH THE COACH OF THE HONG KONG NATIONAL TEAM, MR KWOK KA-MING, IN THE FRONT LINE, WHILE THE MARCHING BAND FROM THE ST. BONAVENTURE PRIMARY SCHOOL PROVIDED ADDITIONAL ENTERTAINMENT.

MR MORTIMER AND MR KWOK THEN PRESENTED TROPHIES TO THE WINNERS AND RUNNERS-UP. MR YAP KAI-TAK WAS THE WINNER OF THE MEN'S SECTION AND MISS CHIU PIK-KWAN THE WINNER OF THE WOMEN'S SECTION.

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#### YEAR-END PAYMENT LAW EXPLAINED

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EMPLOYEES ARE ENTITLED TO YEAR-END PAYMENTS IF THERE HAS BEEN AN EXPRESS OR IMPLIED AGREEMENT FOR SUCH PAYMENTS IN THE EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT, WHETHER VERBAL OR WRITTEN, A SENIOR LABOUR DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

THE CHIEF LABOUR OFFICER IN CHARGE OF LABOUR RELATIONS, MR CHOW TUNG-SHAN, SAID EMPLOYERS WERE BOUND BY LAW TO HONOUR THESE PAYMENTS SINCE AMENDMENTS TO THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE CAME INTO EFFECT LAST LUNAR NEW YEAR.

+HOWEVER, THE LAW DOES NOT MAKE END OF YEAR PAYMENTS COMPULSORY IF THERE WAS NO PRIOR VERBAL OR WRITTEN AGREEMENT,+ HE SAID.

MR CHOW POINTED OUT THAT BEFORE THE LEGISLATION WAS AMENDED, THERE HAD BEEN FREQUENT COMPLAINTS THAT SOME EMPLOYERS WERE DISMISSING EMPLOYEES SHORTLY BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR TO EVADE PAYMENT OF DOUBLE PAY WHICH WOULD OTHERWISE BECOME DUE.

/+BUT NOW .....

+BUT NOW THE LAW STIPULATES THAT ANY EMPLOYEE WHO HAS SERVED THE SAME EMPLOYER FOR MORE THAN HALF A YEAR AND WHOSE CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT PROVIDE FOR DOUBLE PAY AT THE END OF THE YEAR IS ENTITLED TO A PRO RATA PAYMENT IF HE IS DISMISSED WITH NOTICE, OR PAYMENT IN LIEU,+ HE SAID.

+HOWEVER, IF AN EMPLOYEE RESIGNED ON HIS OWN ACCORD, OR HAD BEEN SUMMARILY DISMISSED DURING THE PAYMENT PERIOD, HE WOULD NOT RECEIVE THIS PROTECTION.+

ANY EMPLOYEE WHO HAS BEEN PROMISED DOUBLE PAY, BUT IS DISMISSED WITHOUT SUCH PAYMENT, CAN APPROACH THE LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE FOR ASSISTANCE.

MR CHOW SAID THE LEGISLATION WAS AMENDED TO CLARIFY THE OBLIGATIONS OF AN EMPLOYER IN VIEW OF THE WIDESPREAD PRACTICE OF SUCH PAYMENT OF ONE FORM OR ANOTHER.

+BUT THE PROVISION DOES NOT COVER THOSE YEAR-END PAYMENTS OR ANNUAL BONUSES WHICH ARE OF GRATUITOUS NATURE OR WHICH ARE PAYABLE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE EMPLOYER, OR OTHER INCENTIVE PAYMENT.+

UNDER THE ORDINANCE, THE PAYMENT PERIOD IS DEFINED AS THE ONE SPECIFIED IN THE EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT, AND WHERE UNSPECIFIED IT IS DEEMED TO BE THE LUNAR YEAR.

MR CHOW ADDED THAT +EMPLOYERS ARE ALSO REQUIRED TO MAKE SUCH PAYMENTS WITHIN A SPECIFIED TIME LIMIT.+ FOR SERVING EMPLOYEES, THIS LIMIT IS NOT LATER THAN SEVEN DAYS AFTER THE END OF YEAR PAYMENT IS DUE.

+IN CASE OF AN END OF YEAR PAYMENT TO BE CALCULATED BY REFERENCE TO ANY PROFITS OF THE EMPLOYER, THE PAYMENT MUST BE MADE WITHIN SEVEN DAYS AFTER SUCH PROFITS ARE ASCERTAINED.

+THIS REQUIREMENT IS ALSO APPLICABLE TO AN EMPLOYEE WHO HAD WORKED FOR OVER 26 WEEKS IN THE PAYMENT PERIOD AND WHOSE CONTRACT WAS TERMINATED WITHOUT CAUSE,+ HE SAID.

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#### SUPPORT FOR URBCO ELECTIONS URGED

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SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR EDDY CHAN, TODAY (SUNDAY) CALLED ON REGISTERED VOTERS IN THE DISTRICT TO EXERCISE THEIR CIVIC RIGHT AND TO CAST THEIR VOTES ON MARCH 6 FOR A REPRESENTATIVE TO THE URBAN COUNCIL.

HE SAID THE WORK OF THE COUNCIL IN ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE AND PUBLIC HEALTH, AND IN PROVIDING CULTURAL SERVICES AND RECREATION FACILITIES, WAS CLOSELY RELATED TO PEOPLE'S LIVES.

/MR CHAN .....

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MR CHAN WAS SPEAKING AT THE PRIZE PRESENTATION OF SOUTHERN DISTRICT'S MAJOR CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITIONS, WHICH ARE SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD, AND JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL AND THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT SPORTS AND RECREATION COUNCIL.

+IN PROMOTING SPORTS ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT, THE URBAN COUNCIL HAS CO-ORGANISED SOME 30 EVENTS WITH THE SPORTS AND RECREATION COUNCIL BETWEEN MAY LAST YEAR AND JANUARY THIS YEAR, NOT TO MENTION THE MANY OTHER ACTIVITIES THE COUNCIL ORGANISED ON ITS OWN OR WITH OTHER BODIES,+ HE SAID.

THE ACTIVITIES, HE SAID, VARIED FROM COMPETITIONS ON TRACK AND FIELD, BASKETBALL, SOCCER AND BADMINTION TO TRAINING CLASSES ON VOLLEYBALL, WATER POLO, JUDO, HANDBALL AND TAI CHI.

+THE DIVERSITY OF THE PROGRAMME FITS IN WELL WITH THE DIFFERENT INTERESTS AND DEMANDS OF PEOPLE FROM DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS,+ HE ADDED.

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#### RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARENTS STRESSED \* \* \* \*

PEOPLE WHO BECOME PARENTS SHOULDER TREMENDOUS RESPONSIBILITIES, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS EVELYN DOE, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE +LOVE FILLS EVERY FAMILY+ CAMPAIGN ORGANISED BY THE CARITAS FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, MRS DOE SAID THAT RAISING CHILDREN INVOLVED A GREAT DEAL OF EFFORT AND IT WAS NOT EASY.

A PARENT HAD TO CONTRIBUTE ENORMOUS TIME, ENERGY, PATIENCE AND ADAPTABILITY, SHE ADDED.

THE MAIN THEME OF THIS YEAR'S CAMPAIGN, +HONOUR YOUR PARENTS+, WAS AIMED AT URGING THE YOUNGER GENERATION TO RECOGNISE AND APPRECIATE THE EFFORTS OF THEIR PARENTS IN BRINGING THEM UP.

TODAY'S CEREMONY INCLUDED EDUCATIONAL GAMES AND AN EXHIBITION OF MATERIAL RELATED TO FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION.

MRS DOE POINTED OUT THAT THE DEPARTMENT IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS ANNUALLY ORGANISED TERRITORY-WIDE CAMPAIGNS ON FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION THROUGH PUBLICITY ACTIVITIES, PRODUCTION OF SHORT TELEVISION SERIES, RADIO PROGRAMMES AND POSTERS.

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### PUBLIC ROLE IN ANTI-CRIME EFFORT STRESSED

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PUBLIC SUPPORT IS IMPORTANT IN THE MAINTENANCE OF LAW AND ORDER, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, MR CHENG WOO-YICK SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE FRIENDS OF THE POLICE AND CITIZENS' AWARD PRESENTATION CEREMONY, MR CHENG SAID IT WAS NOT ENOUGH JUST TO DEPEND ON THE RESOURCES OF THE POLICE AND THE GOVERNMENT IN FIGHTING CRIME.

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEES IN 19 DISTRICTS WAS AIMED AT ENLISTING THE JOINT EFFORTS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT TO COMBAT CRIME AND ENCOURAGE CRIME PREVENTION.

THE FRIENDS OF THE POLICE AND CITIZENS' AWARD SCHEME, SPONSORED BY THE LIONS AND LIONESSE CLUBS OF LION ROCK, WAS INTRODUCED IN THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT IN 1978.

THROUGH THE SCHEME, CITIZENS WHO HELP POLICE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME ARE GIVEN PRIZES.

A TOTAL OF 23 PEOPLE -- 22 MEN AND A WOMAN -- AGED BETWEEN 15 AND 68 -- NOMINATED BY THE POLICE AND AREA COMMITTEES RECEIVED PRIZES AND SOUVENIRS TODAY.

ALSO AT TODAY'S PRESENTATION, 26 WINNERS OF THE FIGHT CRIME BOOKMARK DESIGN COMPETITION RECEIVED BOOK GIFT VOUCHERS AND SOUVENIRS.

THREE DESIGNS SELECTED WERE USED IN THE PRODUCTION OF 60 000 BOOKMARKS FOR DISTRIBUTION IN KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT.

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### MORE SCHOOLS TO RUN COMPUTER COURSES

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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS TO PROVIDE EQUIPMENT AND CASH SUBSIDY TO A FURTHER 93 GOVERNMENT AND AIDED SECONDARY SCHOOLS TO ENABLE THEM TO RUN COMPUTER STUDIES COURSES IN FORM 4 AND 5 IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR.

AIDED AND GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOLS WHICH NOW WISH TO INTRODUCE THE COURSE ARE ADVISED TO SUBMIT THEIR APPLICATIONS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE COMPUTER STUDIES SCHEME (1986-87) TO THE DEPARTMENT BEFORE FEBRUARY 5.

/A SPOKESMAN .....

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A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID A TEACHING SYLLABUS FOR COMPUTER STUDIES WAS APPROVED BY THE CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE IN 1981 AND IMPLEMENTED IN 30 SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN 1982. A TOTAL OF 210 PUBLIC SECTOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS ARE IMPLEMENTING THE SUBJECT AT THIS STAGE.

THE PRINCIPAL AIM OF THE COMPUTER STUDIES IS TO GIVE STUDENTS A BASIC UNDERSTANDING OF THE FUNCTIONS OF THE MICRO-COMPUTER AND ITS APPLICATION IN THE MODERN WORLD.

IN ADDITION, THE SYLLABUS AIMS TO DEVELOP PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS AND AN AWARENESS OF DATA PROCESSING CONCEPTS WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH A WORKING KNOWLEDGE OF THIS RAPIDLY GROWING FORM OF TECHNOLOGY.

THE COMPUTER STUDIES SYLLABUS IS DESIGNED FOR A TWO-YEAR STUDY AT FORM 4 AND 5 LEVEL WITH A RECOMMENDED TIME-TABLE OF FOUR PERIODS PER WEEK.

THE SYLLABUS ENTAILS THEORETICAL STUDIES AND PRACTICAL WORK.

COMPUTER STUDIES HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE HONG KONG EXAMINATIONS AUTHORITY AS A PRACTICAL SUBJECT. SCHOOLS WISHING TO ENTER CANDIDATES FOR EXAMINATIONS IN COMPUTER STUDIES WILL BE REQUIRED TO SATISFY THE AUTHORITY THAT THEIR STUDENTS HAVE ACCESS TO THE APPROPRIATE FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT.

EACH SELECTED SCHOOL WILL BE PROVIDED WITH 11 MICRO-COMPUTERS WITH KEYBOARDS AND VISUAL DISPLAY UNITS, 12 FLOPPY DISC DRIVES AND TWO PRINTERS WITH INTERFACES. THE FREE EQUIPMENT WILL BE DELIVERED TO SCHOOL IN OCTOBER THIS YEAR.

APART FROM THAT, A GOVERNMENT SUBSIDY OF UP TO \$25 000 WILL BE AVAILABLE TO EACH PARTICIPATING SCHOOL FOR FURNISHING AND CONVERTING A ROOM INTO A COMPUTER CLASSROOM, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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#### INCREASED DEMAND FOR LIBRARY SERVICES \* \* \* \*

THE DEMAND FOR LIBRARY SERVICES IN THE NON-URBAN AREA IS GROWING ALONG WITH THE RAPID DEVELOPMENT OF THE REGION IN RECENT YEARS.

LAST YEAR, THE NUMBER OF BOOKS READ IN ALL REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S PUBLIC LIBRARIES REGISTERED AN INCREASE OF 28 PER CENT, RISING FROM 4.5 MILLION IN 1984 TO 5.8 MILLION IN 1985.

THE NUMBER OF BOOKS ISSUED FOR HOME USE ALSO INCREASED BY 20 PER CENT IN THE SAME PERIOD, FROM 2.6 MILLION TO 3.2 MILLION, SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE RSD.

/IN 1985, .....

IN 1985, 53 769 PEOPLE JOINED THE RSD'S PUBLIC LIBRARIES AS NEW MEMBERS, BRINGING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF REGISTERED BORROWERS TO 314 122, AN INCREASE OF 20.65 PER CENT.

TO COPE WITH THE INCREASING DEMAND, THE RSD PURCHASES NEW BOOKS AND AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIALS REGULARLY TO ENRICH THE STOCK OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

UP TO LAST DECEMBER, THE DEPARTMENT'S 16 LIBRARIES AND TWO MOBILE ONES CARRIED A STOCK OF 700 000 BOOKS AND 29 000 ITEMS OF AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIALS, WHICH REPRESENTED AN INCREASE OF 15 AND 42 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY WHEN COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING FIGURES IN DECEMBER 1984.

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CHILDREN'S DAY IN WAN CHAI  
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HUNDREDS OF CHILDREN IN WAN CHAI SPENT AN AFTERNOON OF FUN AND GAMES AT A CHILDREN'S DAY AT THE SOUTHERN PLAYGROUND TODAY (SUNDAY).

THE EVENT WAS PART OF THE WAN CHAI FESTIVAL ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD AND THE FESTIVAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE.

IN ADDITION, A +MUSIC BUS+ FEATURING THE HONG KONG BRASS BAND PERFORMING ON AN OPEN-DECK BUS TOURED THE DISTRICT AND STOPPED AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS TO PROVIDE MUSIC TO RESIDENTS.

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SEASON'S GREETING IN POSTERS, LAISEE PACKETS  
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THOUSANDS OF LUNAR NEW YEAR POSTERS AND LAISEE PACKETS WILL CARRY THE SEASON'S GREETING FROM THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD TO EVERYONE IN THE DISTRICT.

CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT BOARD, MR LAM HANG-FAI, SAID: +THE TRADITIONAL GODS WHO SIGNIFY 'GOOD LUCK, PROSPERITY AND LONGEVITY', ARE THE PROMINENT FIGURES IN THE POSTER WHICH ALSO FEATURE FOUR COLOURFUL CHINESE CHARACTERS SYMBOLISING GOOD FORTUNE.+

THE RED PACKETS ALSO FEATURE A DESIGN SIMILAR TO THE NEW YEAR POSTERS.

THE DISTRICT BOARD HAS SPENT ABOUT \$90 000 TO PRODUCE 100 000 POSTERS AND 400 000 LAISEE PACKETS FOR FREE DISTRIBUTION TO LOCAL PEOPLE.

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+THE POSTERS AND LAISEE PACKETS WILL BE A NEW YEAR GIFT FROM THE DISTRICT BOARD TO WISH THE KAIFONGS A YEAR OF GOOD FORTUNE AND PROSPERITY,+ MR LAM ADDED.

THE NEW YEAR POSTERS AND LAISEE PACKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION AT THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS FIVE SUB-OFFICES FROM TUESDAY (JANUARY 28).

LAST YEAR, THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD PRODUCED 100 000 +GOOD LUCK+ SPRING SCROLLS FOR DISTRIBUTION TO RESIDENTS.

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TSUEN WAN YOUTH AMBASSADORS OFF TO JAPAN  
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TEN STUDENTS RECENTLY SELECTED AS YOUTH AMBASSADORS UNDER THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR AMBASSADOR SCHEME WILL VISIT JAPAN EARLY NEXT MONTH ON A STUDY TOUR.

A RECEPTION WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY (JANUARY 27) AT 6 PM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE TO INTRODUCE THE YOUTH AMBASSADORS AND TO THANK VARIOUS ORGANISATIONS AND SCHOOLS FOR TAKING PART IN THE SCHEME.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TSUEN WAN IYY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, MR CHAU HOW-CHEN, AND THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ANGUS MIU, WILL BE PRESENT AT THE RECEPTION.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE RECEPTION TO BE HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF THE TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK BUILDING AT 174-208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN.

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DATE CHANGED FOR MEET-THE-PUBLIC SESSION  
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NORTH DISTRICT BOARD WILL SHIFT THE DATE FOR +MEET-THE-PUBLIC+ SESSIONS FROM WEDNESDAY TO THURSDAY STARTING THIS WEEK.

TWO DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL BE ON DUTY EVERY THURSDAY FROM 7 PM TO 9 PM IN THE NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE AT JOCKEY CLUB ROAD, FANLING ROUNDABOUT.

/RESIDENTS OF .....

RESIDENTS OF FANLING, SHEUNG SHUI, TA KWU LING AND SHA TAU KOK WISHING TO MEET MEMBERS SHOULD MAKE APPOINTMENTS IN PERSON OR TELEPHONE THE BOARD SECRETARIAT ON 0-908041.

A BOARD SECRETARIAT SPOKESMAN SAID THE SCHEME HAD BEEN A POPULAR CHANNEL FOR COMMUNICATION BETWEEN MEMBERS AND RESIDENTS.

+SINCE THE SCHEME STARTED IN EARLY 1983, MORE THAN 1 000 PEOPLE HAVE MADE USE OF THE SESSIONS TO BRING COMPLAINTS OR SUGGESTIONS TO THE ATTENTION OF THE BOARD,+ HE ADDED.

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SPORTS VENUES TO CLOSE FOR RE-TURFING  
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THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT EIGHT SPORTS VENUES IN THE NON-URBAN AREAS WILL BE CLOSED FROM FOUR TO TEN WEEKS THIS YEAR TO FACILITATE RE-TURFING WORK.

THE CLOSURE PERIOD IS AS FOLLOWS:

<u>VENUE</u>	<u>CLOSURE PERIOD</u>
FANLING RECREATION GROUND	MARCH 16 - APRIL 15
SHA TIN SPORTS GROUND	JUNE 1 - AUGUST 12
SAI KUNG TANG SHIU KIN SPORTS GROUND	JUNE 15 - AUGUST 30
TSUEN WAN SPORTS GROUND	JUNE 15 - AUGUST 31
KWAI CHUNG SPORTS GROUND	JUNE 16 - AUGUST 31
WO YI HOP ROAD SPORTS GROUND	JULY 16 - SEPTEMBER 30
TUEN MUN TANG SHUI KIN SPORTS GROUND	JULY 16 - SEPTEMBER 30
YUEN LONG STADIUM	AUGUST 1 - AUGUST 31

THE EARLY ANNOUNCEMENT IS TO ALLOW TIME FOR SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS AND SCHOOLS TO PLAN THEIR ANNUAL PROGRAMME WELL IN ADVANCE, A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 1986

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FOLLOW HYGIENE RULES, OPERATORS TOLD  
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FOOD ESTABLISHMENT OPERATORS WERE TODAY URGED TO OBSERVE HYGIENE RULES IN HANDLING OF FOOD.

THE APPEAL CAME FROM THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT AFTER A RECENT COURT CASE IN WHICH THE OPERATOR OF A RESTAURANT IN TJEN MUN WAS FINED \$2 000 FOR SELLING A DISH OF BEEF BALLS CONTAINING TWO PIECES OF GLASS.

THE CASE CAME TO LIGHT ON AUGUST 10 LAST YEAR FOLLOWING A COMPLAINT LODGED TO THE RSD BY A CUSTOMER OF THE RESTAURANT.

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SLOPE REMEDIAL WORKS IN SHA TIN  
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THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT HAS AWARDED A \$10.3 MILLION CONTRACT FOR SLOPE IMPROVEMENT WORKS IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF SHA TIN.

THE CONTRACT ALSO INCLUDES DRAINAGE WORKS ON SLOPES NEAR FU SHAN CREMATORIUM, LUNG HANG ESTATE, CHUN CHEK ESTATE AND BORROW AREAS NEAR TSOK POK HANG VILLAGE RESITE.

IN ADDITION THERE WILL BE CONSTRUCTION OF TAI WAI INTERIM TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE AND MINOR ROAD WORKS IN KONG PUI STREET AND YUEN CHAU KOK ROAD.

THESE WORKS ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE ABOUT 10 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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ROAD CLOSURE IN SHAU KEI WAN, CENTRAL  
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THE SLIP ROAD LEADING FROM THE ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR TO SHAU KEI WAN WILL BE CLOSED FROM MIDNIGHT ON TUESDAY (JANUARY 28) TO 6 AM ON FRIDAY (JANUARY 31) TO FACILITATE ROAD WORKS.

DURING THE CLOSURE, EASTBOUND TRAFFIC ON THE ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR HEADING FOR SHAU KEI WAN WILL BE DIVERTED TO THE SLIP ROAD LEADING TO SAI WAN HO, TAI ON STREET AND SHAU KEI WAN ROAD.

MEANWHILE, STANLEY STREET IN CENTRAL WILL BE CLOSED FROM 1 AM TO 5 AM ON TUESDAY TO FACILITATE A HOISTING OPERATION. VEHICLES WILL BE DIVERTED TO WELLINGTON STREET.

THE CLOSURE WILL BE REPEATED BETWEEN 1 AM AND 5 AM ON FRIDAY (JANUARY 31).

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 1936

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BEACH FACILITIES FOR PUI O

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A RANGE OF RECREATIONAL AND BEACH FACILITIES IS TO BE PROVIDED AT PUI O BEACH.

THEY INCLUDE TWO CHANGING ROOMS, TOILET AND SHOWER FACILITIES, OFFICES, A FIRST-AID POST, STOREROOMS AND A STAFF CHANGING AND REST ROOM.

BEACH AMENITIES SUCH AS BARBECUE PITS AND GAMES AREAS FOR CHILDREN WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED.

THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE PROJECT, WORK ON WHICH WILL START IN MARCH AND BE COMPLETED AROUND NOVEMBER.

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TUNG CHAU STREET SECTION CLOSED

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THE SECTION OF TUNG CHAU STREET BETWEEN WALNUT STREET AND MAPLE STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM MIDNIGHT ON TUESDAY (JANUARY 28) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY TO FACILITATE THE INSTALLATION OF EQUIPMENT IN CONNECTION WITH THE WEST KOWLOON CORRIDOR CONSTRUCTION WORKS.

DURING THE CLOSURE, VEHICLES TRAVELLING ALONG TUNG CHAU STREET HEADING FOR TAI KOK TSUI ROAD SOUTHBOUND WILL BE DIVERTED TO WALNUT STREET AND FUK TSUN STREET.

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