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MAJOR ANTI-SMOKING CAMPAIGN STARTS TODAY

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THE GOVERNMENT TODAY (WEDNESDAY) LAUNCHED A MAJOR ANTI-SMOKING PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN TO MAKE THE COMMUNITY AWARE OF THE HEALTH HAZARDS OF SMOKING.

THE CAMPAIGN AIMS TO ENCOURAGE SMOKERS TO STOP SMOKING, TO DISCOURAGE NON-SMOKERS FROM SMOKING AND TO PROMOTE THE RIGHTS OF NON-SMOKERS TO A SMOKE-FREE ATMOSPHERE.

ANNOUNCING THE CAMPAIGN AT A PRESS CONFERENCE THIS AFTERNOON, MR GEOFFREY BARNES, DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, SAID THAT CIGARETTE SMOKING IS REGARDED MEDICALLY AS ONE OF THE LARGEST CAUSES OF AVOIDABLE ILLNESS AND DEATH IN THE COMMUNITY.

+ACCORDING TO THE LATEST PROVISIONAL ESTIMATES FROM THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, THERE ARE ABOUT 790 000 SMOKERS IN HONG KONG, REPRESENTING 18 PER CENT OF THE POPULATION OVER THE AGE OF 12.

+I AM PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT THIS REPRESENTS A DROP OF 11 PER CENT IN THE ESTIMATED NUMBER OF SMOKERS IN HONG KONG OVER THE 12-MONTH PERIOD ENDING MARCH 1983. THE REASON FOR THE DECREASE MAY BE LARGELY ECONOMIC HOWEVER, AND THE NEED FOR FURTHER EFFORTS ON THE PART OF THE GOVERNMENT ON THE HEALTH AND SOCIAL ASPECTS OF SMOKING MUST CONTINUE,+ HE ADDED.

MR BARNES, WHO IS CHAIRMAN OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE FOR THE PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN, SAID THAT IT WOULD BE CARRIED OUT IN FOUR PHASES.

THE FIRST PHASE, WHICH WILL START IMMEDIATELY, IS DESIGNED TO PROMOTE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE HAZARDS OF SMOKING. PUBLICITY MATERIALS FOR THIS PHASE WILL BE WIDELY DISPLAYED AND TELEVISION AND RADIO ANNOUNCEMENTS WILL BE MADE.

+THERE WILL ALSO BE A MASS RALLY IN VICTORIA PARK IN AUGUST WITH THE AIM OF RALLYING PUBLIC SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATION IN THE ANTI-SMOKING CAUSE,+ HE ADDED.

DURING THE SECOND PHASE IN JULY AND AUGUST, SMOKERS, ESPECIALLY THOSE SUFFERING FROM SMOKING-RELATED DISEASES, WILL BE DISCOURAGED FROM SMOKING.

+DOCTORS THROUGHOUT HONG KONG ARE BEING INVITED TO SUPPORT THE PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN BY COUNSELLING THEIR PATIENTS AGAINST SMOKING AND BY DISTRIBUTING ANTI-SMOKING MESSAGE LEAFLETS.

/+IN ADDITION, ...

+IN ADDITION, RADIO AND TELEVISION PROGRAMMES, SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS AND PUBLIC TALKS WILL BE ARRANGED DURING THIS PHASE,+ HE SAID.

THE THIRD PHASE, TO BE LAUNCHED IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER, WILL AIM AT EDUCATING YOUNG PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY SCHOOL CHILDREN, NOT TO START SMOKING.

PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THIS PHASE WILL INCLUDE A SEMINAR FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS, A POSTER DESIGN COMPETITION AND A TERRITORY-WIDE INTER-SCHOOL ATHLETIC MEET. AN ANTI-SMOKING TEACHING KIT WILL BE SENT TO EVERY SECONDARY SCHOOL.

THE LAST PHASE, SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER, AIMS TO PORTRAY THE SOCIALLY UNACCEPTABLE ASPECTS OF SMOKING.

+SPECIAL ATTENTION WILL BE PAID TO PROMOTING HEALTHY ALTERNATIVES TO SMOKING,+ MR BARNES SAID.

ALSO SPEAKING AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE WERE DR RUDY KHOO OF THE HONG KONG ANTI-CANCER SOCIETY AND DR S.C. LEUNG OF THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

ELABORATING ON THE HEALTH HAZARDS OF CIGARETTE SMOKING, DR KHOO POINTED OUT THAT STUDIES BY RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS HAD ESTABLISHED THAT CIGARETTE SMOKING WAS A CAUSE OF LUNG CANCER IN BOTH MEN AND WOMEN.

HE SAID: +IN HONG KONG, FIGURES OVER THE PAST 10 YEARS SHOW THAT FOR LUNG CANCER, THE RATE OF DEATHS PER 100 000 POPULATION HAS INCREASED BY 53 PER CENT= ACTUAL DEATHS HAVE GONE UP BY 92 PER CENT FROM 949 IN 1972 TO 1 826 IN 1981, AND DEATHS FROM LUNG CANCER, AS A PERCENTAGE OF DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES, HAVE INCREASED BY 62 PER CENT.+

DR KHOO ADDED THAT THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION HAD ESTIMATED THAT SMOKING WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR 90 PER CENT OF ALL LUNG CANCER DEATHS.

+IN HONG KONG, THEREFORE, OVER 1 600 DEATHS FROM LUNG CANCER ARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO SMOKING.

+IN OTHER WORDS, EVERYDAY IN HONG KONG, MORE THAN FOUR PERSONS DIE OF LUNG CANCER CAUSED BY SMOKING,+ HE SAID.

DR KHOO POINTED OUT THAT, ALTHOUGH THE RESULTS OF TREATING LUNG CANCER WERE EXTREMELY POOR, LUNG CANCER AND OTHER SMOKING-RELATED DISEASES WERE CONSIDERED TO BE THE LARGEST PREVENTABLE CAUSES OF DEATH.

+ON STOPPING SMOKING, THE RISK OF DEVELOPING THE LUNG CANCER DECLINES STEEPLY SO THAT AFTER 10 YEARS THE RISK IS ALMOST AS LOW AS FOR A NON-SMOKER,+ HE SAID.

HIS ADVICE TO SMOKERS WAS, THEREFORE, +STOP SMOKING. IT IS NOT TOO LATE+.

/SHARING DR KHOO'S .....

SHARING DR KHOO'S VIEWS, SENIOR MEDICAL AND HEALTH OFFICER, DR S.C. LEUNG, SAID THAT IF THE WHOLE POPULATION WAS TO GIVE UP SMOKING, DEATHS FROM LUNG CANCER WOULD DECREASE BY 80 PER CENT WITHIN 20 YEARS.

SHE REVEALED THAT SMOKING ALSO CAUSED SUCH OTHER DISEASES AS CORONARY HEART DISEASE, BRONCHITIS AND EMPHYSEMA.

CORONARY HEART DISEASE ACCOUNTED FOR 8.9 PER CENT OF ALL DEATHS AND CLAIMED THE LIVES OF 2 262 PEOPLE IN 1982.

DR LEUNG SAID: +THE RISK OF DEVELOPING CORONARY HEART DISEASE IS DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE NUMBER OF CIGARETTES SMOKED PER DAY. UNDER THE AGE OF 65, SMOKERS ARE ABOUT TWICE AS LIKELY TO DIE OF CORONARY HEART DISEASE AS ARE NON-SMOKERS, AND HEAVY SMOKERS ABOUT THRICE AS LIKELY.+

SHE EMPHASISED THAT SMOKING WAS ESPECIALLY DANGEROUS FOR PEOPLE WHO HAD OTHER RISK FACTORS SUCH AS HYPERTENSION AND HIGH CHOLESTEROL.

DR LEUNG ALSO SPOKE OF A GREATER PREVALENCE OF PEPTIC ULCER I SMOKERS THAN IN NON-SMOKERS AND THE EFFECTS OF SMOKING ON THE FOETUS OF WOMEN WHO SMOKE DURING PREGNANCY.

SHE EMPHASISED THAT THERE WAS NO SAFE FORM OF SMOKING.

+IT HAS BEEN SHOWN THAT THE RELATIVE ADVANTAGE OF LOW TAR CIGARETTES IS UNCERTAIN. RECENT RESEARCH IN THE UNITED KINGDOM SHOWED THAT THE ASSUMED HEALTH ADVANTAGES OF SWITCHING TO LOW TAR CIGARETTES MAY BE LARGELY OFFSET BY THE TENDENCY OF SMOKERS TO COMPENSATE BY INCREASING INHALATION.

+LOW TAR CIGARETTES HAVE NOT BEEN SHOWN TO REDUCE THE RISK OF CORONARY HEART DISEASE AND THEY DO NOT LESSEN THE DAMAGE TO THE LUNGS WHICH CAUSES BREATHLESSNESS.

+FILTER-TIPPED CIGARETTES YIELD LESS TAR THAN PLAIN CIGARETTES AND PRODUCE LESS SPUTUM, BUT THE RISK OF LUNG CANCER IS STILL SIGNIFICANT, ABOUT FIVE TO 10 TIMES THAT OF A NON-SMOKER,+ DR LEUNG SAID.

WARNING THAT PASSIVE SMOKING WAS ALSO HARMFUL, SHE SAID: +BABIES WHOSE PARENTS SMOKE ARE MORE PRONE TO BRONCHITIS AND PNEUMONIA IN THE FIRST YEAR OF LIFE THAN THOSE OF NON-SMOKING PARENTS.

+ADULTS ARE AFFECTED AS WELL. TAR, NICOTINE AND CARBON MONOXIDE ARE ALL FOUND IN GREATER CONCENTRATION IN SIDESTREAM SMOKE THAN IN THE MAIN STREAM AND THEREFORE, INDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL CIGARETTE SMOKE IS ACUTELY IRRITATIVE TO THE EYES, THROAT AND RESPIRATORY MUCOUS MEMBRANES.+

/SHE CONCLUDED .....

SHE CONCLUDED BY HIGHLIGHTING THE BENEFITS OF GIVING UP SMOKING:

* TEN TO 15 YEARS AFTER STOPPING, THE EX-SMOKER'S RISK IS ONLY ABOUT TWO TIMES THAT OF A LIFE-LONG NON-SMOKER'S.

* COUGH AND SPUTUM DECREASES WITHIN WEEKS OF STOPPING SMOKING AND DAMAGE DONE TO THE LUNG MAY BE HALTED.

* THE RISK OF CORONARY HEART DISEASE IS ALSO DECREASED AND IF SMOKING IS STOPPED BEFORE THE FOURTH MONTH OF PREGNANCY, RISK TO THE FOETUS CAN BE GREATLY DIMINISHED.

+IN MOST CASES,+ DR LEUNG SAID, +IT IS NEVER TOO LATE TO STOP SMOKING. BETTER STILL IT IS ALWAYS WISE NOT TO START.+

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

GOVERNOR TO OPEN SCHOOL

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, WILL OPEN A SCHOOL AND A YMCA CENTRE IN KWAI CHUNG ON FRIDAY (JUNE 24).

SIR EDWARD WILL OFFICIALLY OPEN THE JU CHING CHU COLLEGE AT KWAI CHUNG TOWN LOT 368, TAI PAK TIN STREET, AT 11.30 AM.

IN THE AFTERNOON, HE WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING OF THE CHINESE YMCA NEW TERRITORIES CENTRE AT 30-42 KWAI SHING CIRCUIT AT 2.30 PM.

AFTER THE OPENING CEREMONIES, THE GOVERNOR WILL TOUR THE SCHOOL AND YMCA BUILDING TO SEE THE FACILITIES PROVIDED.

YOU ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE EVENTS.

TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WISHING TO MAKE USE OF THIS FACILITY SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER NOT LATER THAN 10.15 AM ON FRIDAY.

THOSE MAKING THEIR OWN WAY THERE SHOULD ARRIVE AT THE COLLEGE BY 11 AM AND AT THE YMCA CENTRE BY 2 PM.

GIS OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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SCOUT COUNCIL PRAISED FOR WORK
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SCOUTING DEVELOPED A SENSE OF SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY, DISCIPLINE AND PERSONALITY AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE, THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR LAWRENCE MILLS, SAID THIS (WEDNESDAY) EVENING.

+IN A FAST MOVING SOCIETY LIKE HONG KONG, SCOUTING IS INSTRUMENTAL IN STIMULATING NEW INTERESTS TO OFFSET THE UNSETTLING EFFECTS AND INFLUENCES OF RAPID SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT,+ HE SAID.

.SPEAKING AT THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF OFFICE-BEARERS OF THE HONG KONG ISLAND REGIONAL SCOUT COUNCIL, MR MILLS PAID TRIBUTE TO THE REGION FOR ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE COMMUNITY ON THE TRAINING OF YOUNG LEADERS.

HE SAID THAT THE CADET TRAINING COURSE, WHICH HAS NOW ENTERED ITS 13TH YEAR, HAD ALWAYS BEEN VERY POPULAR WITH YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN AS WELL AS WITH THE EMPLOYERS WHO SPONSOR THEM.

+EVERY YEAR THE COURSE IS OVER-SUBSCRIBED EVEN THOUGH SOME 130 PERSONS ARE ACCEPTED EACH TIME.

+THIS COURSE RANKS AS ONE OF THE MOST INTENSIVE AND COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING PROGRAMMES EVER UNDERTAKEN BY A VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION IN HONG KONG.

+THOSE WHO HAVE GONE THROUGH THE TRAINING WILL BECOME BETTER AND USEFUL MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY,+ HE SAID.

MR MILLS SAID THAT THE HONG KONG ISLAND REGION HAD UNDERTAKEN A WIDE RANGE OF ACTIVITIES DURING THE YEAR AND MADE IMPRESSIVE ACHIEVEMENTS.

+YOUR REGION ALSO ORGANISED A NUMBER OF MAJOR EVENTS THIS YEAR IN CELEBRATION OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF WORLD SCOUTING.

+THE HONG KONG ISLAND REGION IS PLAYING A PROMINENT ROLE IN THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION'S RAINBOW PROJECT, PIONEERING NO LESS THAN THREE NEW PROGRAMMES.

+THE FIRST AND MOST SIGNIFICANT OF THESE IS TO START A NEW SECTION FOR BOYS AND GIRLS IN THE SIX-TO-EIGHT AGE GROUP. THERE IS CERTAINLY A NEED FOR MORE SUITABLE AND MEANINGFUL ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN OF THIS AGE GROUP.

+THE SECOND TRIAL PROGRAMME IS TO ACCEPT GIRL MEMBERS INTO THE CUB SCOUT SECTION AND THE THIRD IS TO ACCEPT GIRL MEMBERS INTO THE SCOUT SECTION.

+THE WHOLE PROJECT CLEARLY SHOWS THAT YOUR ASSOCIATION IS MOVING WITH THE TIMES AND THAT YOUR REGION, IN PARTICULAR, IS DETERMINED TO TAKE THE LEAD IN TRYING OUT NEW PROGRAMMES AND FACING UP TO NEW CHALLENGES,+ MR MILLS SAID.

/HE POINTED OUT .....

HE POINTED OUT THAT TO CATER FOR A GROWING DEMAND FOR MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP SKILLS, THE REGION HAD EMBARKED ON A MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR LEADERS AT THE SENIOR LEVEL, IN CO-OPERATION WITH VOLUNTEERS WHO ARE EXPERTS IN THIS FIELD.

+THE INTRODUCTION OF THIS PROGRAMME BEARS TESTIMONY TO THE FORESIGHT OF YOUR REGIONAL COUNCIL IN GEARING ITSELF UP FOR MORE CHALLENGING TIMES AHEAD.

+IT ALSO DEMONSTRATES THE HIGH REGARD FOR THE SCOUT MOVEMENT HELD BY CIVIC-SPIRITED PROFESSIONALS AND INDIVIDUALS FROM OUTSIDE YOUR ASSOCIATION,+ HE SAID.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

NEED FOR INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT STRESSED IN FILM

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A PREVIEW OF AN INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT PROMOTION FILM PRODUCED BY THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT, WILL BE HELD AT 2.30 PM ON FRIDAY (JUNE 24) AT GIS THEATRE, 5TH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, CENTRAL.

THE FILM, ENTITLED +TWO STEPS AHEAD+, HIGHLIGHTS THE NEED FOR LOCAL INDUSTRIALISTS TO INVEST IN UP-TO-DATE MACHINERY AS WELL AS TO DIVERSIFY INTO NEW PRODUCTS. IT ALSO PUBLICISES THE SERVICES OF THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT'S +ONE-STOP+ UNIT, WHICH OFFERS FREE SERVICES TO INVESTORS WISHING TO JOIN THE MANUFACTURING COMMUNITY IN HONG KONG.

THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR JOHN YAXLEY WILL GIVE AN INTRODUCTION TO THE FILM, WHICH WILL BE SHOWN IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE. MR YAXLEY AND THE TWO ASSISTANT DIRECTORS OF INDUSTRY, MR PETER KIANG AND MR PETER JOHNSON WILL ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS AFTER THE SHOWINGS.

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE FILM SHOWING. TV AND RADIO STATIONS REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD SET UP THEIR EQUIPMENT BY 2.15 PM.

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MORE TECHNICAL MANPOWER NEEDED FOR MACHINE SHOPS

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THE MACHINE SHOP AND METAL WORKING INDUSTRY WILL NEED AN ADDITION OF AT LEAST 65 TECHNOLOGISTS, 370 TECHNICIANS AND 2 330 CRAFTSMEN EACH YEAR FROM 1983 TO 1987 TO COVER BOTH GROWTH AND WASTAGE.

THIS IS INDICATED IN THE 1982 MANPOWER SURVEY REPORT PREPARED BY THE MACHINE SHOP AND METAL WORKING INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL.

THE SURVEY WAS CONDUCTED IN SEPTEMBER 1982 TO COLLECT UP-TO-DATE MANPOWER INFORMATION WITH A VIEW TO DETERMINING THE EXISTING AND FUTURE MANPOWER REQUIREMENTS OF THE INDUSTRY.

BASED ON THE FINDINGS OF THE SURVEY, RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE MADE TO GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY ON WAYS OF MEETING THESE REQUIREMENTS.

THE SURVEY WAS CARRIED OUT WITH THE HELP OF THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINING DEPARTMENT AND THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE REPORT NOTES THAT AT THE TIME OF THE SURVEY, THERE WERE 33 TECHNOLOGIST, 366 TECHNICIAN AND 2 856 CRAFTSMAN TRAINEE-APPRENTICES UNDER TRAINING IN THE INDUSTRY - OUT OF A TOTAL WORKFORCE OF 122 134.

THE REPORT ALSO NOTES THAT EMPLOYMENT IN THE INDUSTRY HAD DECLINED AT AN AVERAGE ANNUAL RATE OF ABOUT 2.2 PER CENT BETWEEN 1980 AND 1982.

BUT IT STATES THAT THE DECREASE IN EMPLOYMENT WAS DUE PARTLY TO THE WORLDWIDE ECONOMIC RECESSION AND PARTLY TO MECHANISATION AS A RESULT OF TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION IN THE INDUSTRY.

THE REPORT, THEREFORE, EXPECTS A +CONTINUING AND INCREASING DEMAND FOR WELL-TRAINED TECHNICAL MANPOWER AT ALL LEVELS.

THE REPORT CONTAINS DETAILED STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON THE MANPOWER STRUCTURE OF THE INDUSTRY, THE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES IN EACH PRINCIPAL JOB, A FORECAST OF THE TRAINING NEEDS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON TRAINING MEASURES.

PRINTED IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE, THE REPORT IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, AT $28.50 A COPY.

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ANTIQUITIES BOARD GETS LANDROVER
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THE DIRECTOR OF URBAN SERVICES, MR GRAHAM BARNES, RECEIVED A LANDROVER FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE AMERICAN EXPRESS COUNTRY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, MR SIMPSON CHUA AT THE KOWLOON PARK TODAY.

AT THE HANDING-OVER CEREMONY, MR BARNES WHO IS ALSO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ANTIQUITIES ADVISORY BOARD, PAID TRIBUTE TO THE AMERICAN EXPRESS FOUNDATION FOR ITS CONTINUOUS SUPPORT OF THE BOARD IN THE PRESERVATION OF THE HERITAGE OF HONG KONG.

HE NOTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO PRESERVE THE HERITAGE IS SHOWN BY ITS COMMISSIONING OF A TERRITORY-WIDE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY LAST YEAR.

THIS SURVEY, HE POINTED OUT, IS AIMED AT ASSESSING HONG KONG'S ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES AND DETERMINING PRIORITIES FOR THE CONSERVATION OF KNOWN AND NEWLY-DISCOVERED ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES.

+GOOD PROGRESS IN THE SURVEY IS DEPENDENT ON THE READY AVAILABILITY OF SUITABLE TRANSPORT, AND THE GENEROUS DONATION OF $75 000 FROM THE AMERICAN EXPRESS FOUNDATION HAS ENABLED US TO PURCHASE A LANDROVER FOR THE SURVEY.

+THIS IS AN IDEAL VEHICLE FOR THE JOB AS ONLY VERY FEW OF OUR ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES HAVE GOOD ROADS TO THEM,+ MR BARNES SAID.

THE ANTIQUITIES ADVISORY BOARD, SET UP BY LAW IN 1976, IS CONFINED TO AN ADVISORY ROLE.

THE DIRECTOR OF URBAN SERVICES, PROVIDES A LINK WITH THE SERVICES OF THE MUSEUM OF HISTORY AND WITH THE ANTIQUITIES AND MONUMENTS OFFICE, BOTH OF WHICH ARE PART OF THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND DIRECTLY CONCERNED WITH THE WORK OF THE BOARD.

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LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD MEETS

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THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD DISCUSSED THREE MAIN TOPICS AT A MEETING TODAY - THE WAGE CEILING FOR NON-MANUAL EMPLOYEES IN THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE, THE SEVERANCE PAY PROVISIONS IN THE ORDINANCE IN REGARD TO MOVING OF PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT AND CONTROL ON THE USE OF ASBESTOS IN INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS.

IT ALSO DISCUSSED THE SPECIAL SCHEME FOR NIGHT WORK FOR WOMEN AND AGREED THAT THE SCHEME SHOULD BE EXTENDED FOR ANOTHER YEAR.

THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BOARD WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR CONSIDERATION IN LINE WITH USUAL PRACTICE.

THE MEETING WAS CHAIRED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR J.N. HENDERSON, AND WAS ATTENDED BY ALL EMPLOYEE AND EMPLOYER REPRESENTATIVES.

THE BOARD COMPRISES THE COMMISSIONER OR THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER AS THE CHAIRMAN EX-OFFICIO AND SIX EMPLOYER REPRESENTATIVES AND SIX EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVES AS MEMBERS.

IT ADVISES THE COMMISSIONER ON SUCH MATTERS, INCLUDING LEGISLATION, AS HE MAY REFER TO IT.

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TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE

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FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (JUNE 24), WAI HANG STREET IN SAI WAN HO BETWEEN TAI LOK STREET AND TAI NING STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC.

THIS ARRANGEMENT IS DESIGNED TO FACILITATE SLOPE STABILISATION WORK AND WILL LAST FOR ABOUT THREE MONTHS.

IN CENTRAL, EDINBURGH PLACE EAST OUTSIDE QUEEN'S PIER WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC BETWEEN 9 AM AND 5.30 PM ON SATURDAY (JUNE 25) FOR THE SUMMER ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMME ORGANISED BY RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG.

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FIVE HOUSES SOLD BY AUCTION

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FIVE HOUSES IN NGAU CHI WAN VILLAGE WERE SOLD TODAY AT AN AUCTION HELD BY THE LANDS DEPARTMENT AT THE CHOI WAN ESTATE COMMUNITY CENTRE.

FOUR OF THE HOUSES, EACH WITH AN AREA OF ABOUT 56 SQUARE METRES, WERE SOLD FOR $890 000, $840 000, $830 000 AND $830 000 RESPECTIVELY.

THE REMAINING HOUSE, WITH AN AREA OF ABOUT 74.9 SQUARE METRES WAS SOLD FOR $1 MILLION.

ANOTHER HOUSE, ALSO ABOUT 74.9 SQUARE METRES, WAS WITHDRAWN BECAUSE THERE WAS NO BIDDER.

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LONGER SERVICE HOURS FOR MAXICAB ROUTE

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MAXICAB SERVICES ON ROUTE 61M WILL BE EXTENDED TO 3 AM, STARTING FROM SATURDAY (JUNE 25).

THE ROUTE, BETWEEN THE KOWLOON TONG RAILWAY STATION AND LEK YUEN, CURRENTLY CLOSES AT 11.30 PM.

+THE EXTENSION IS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF COMMUTERS TRAVELLING OUTSIDE THE OPERATION HOURS OF KMB AND KCR,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID.

THE ROUTE RUNS VIA LION ROCK TUNNEL ROAD, SHA KOK STREET, SHA TIN WAI ROAD AND SHA TIN TOWN CENTRE AT 15-MINUTE INTERVALS.

THE FARE IS $2.50.

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THE QUEEN REAFFIRMS BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S AIMS OVER HK'S FUTURE

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IN HER SPEECH AT THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT TODAY (WEDNESDAY), HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, REAFFIRMED THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S AIMS IN NEGOTIATIONS OVER THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG.

AT THE COLOURFUL CEREMONY TO MARK THE OPENING OF THE NEW SESSION OF PARLIAMENT, ATTENDED BY BOTH LORDS AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, HER MAJESTY REFERRED TO HONG KONG VERY EARLY IN HER SPEECH WHICH OUTLINES THE GOVERNMENT'S MAIN PROPOSALS FOR THE PARLIAMENTARY SESSION 1983/84.

HER MAJESTY SAID: +MY GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO FULLY DISCHARGE THEIR OBLIGATIONS TO THE PEOPLE OF THE FALKLAND ISLAND. THEY REAFFIRM THEIR COMMITMENT TO THE PEOPLE OF GIBRALTAR.

+THEY WILL CONTINUE TALKS WITH CHINA ON THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG, WITH THE AIM OF REACHING A SOLUTION ACCEPTABLE TO THIS PARLIAMENT, TO CHINA AND TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG.+

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