DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 842 8777

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1990

CONTENTS PAGE NO.

BILL SPELLS OUT HYGIENIC STANDARDS FOR MILK PRODUCTION 1

THREE COMMONLY ABUSED TRANQUILLISERS LISTED AS DANGEROUS DRUGS 2

AMENDMENTS TO TWO OZP'S 2

PUBLICATION OF INTERIM DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION AREA PLANS 5

AMENDMENTS TO UNVENTED ELECTRIC THERMAL STORAGE WATER HEATERS INSTALLATION ANNOUNCED 7

NT SITES OFFERED TO LETTER A/B HOLDERS 8

EVIDENCE AMENDMENT BILL GAZETTED 9

PREQUALIFICATION OF TENDERERS FOR AREA TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM 9

HK'S ESTIMATED POPULATION AT 5.8M 10

YOUNG PEOPLE URGED TO JOIN CORRECTIONAL WORK 10

VARIETY SHOW TO PROMOTE VOTER REGISTRATION IN SAI KUNG 11

VARIETY SHOW TO CONCLUDE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME 12

BILL SPELLS OUT HYGIENIC STANDARDS FOR MILK PRODUCTION

* * * * *

HYGIENIC STANDARDS FOR RAW MILK PRODUCED AT DAIRIES HAVE BEEN CLEARLY SPELT OUT IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH (ANIMALS AND BIRDS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990, WHICH IS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

UNDER THE DAIRIES (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1990 WHICH FORM PART OF THE BILL, IT WILL BE AN OFFENCE TO SELL, MIX WITH OTHER MILK OR DELIVER TO A FACTORY ANY MILK THAT CONTAINS MORE THAN 200,000 BACTERIA PER MILLILITRE, OR ANY COLIFORM ORGANISMS IN 1/1,000TH PART OF A MILLILITRE.

EXPLAINING THE BACKGROUND OF THE AMENDMENT REGULATIONS, AN AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT BEFORE MILK IS MARKETED, IT MUST BE HEAT-TREATED AT A "MILK FACTORY" TO DESTROY BACTERIA AND OTHER MICRO-ORGANISMS.

"STANDARD FORMS OF HEAT TREATMENT SUCH AS PASTEURISATION REQUIRE THE INPUT OF REASONABLY HYGIENIC RAW MILK AND CANNOT BE RELIED UPON TO MAKE HEAVILY CONTAMINATED MILK SAFE.

"THE AMENDMENT IS TO ENSURE THAT RAW MILK IS OF ACCEPTABLE HYGIENIC STANDARD BEFORE DELIVERY TO MILK FACTORIES FOR PASTEURISATION," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE NOTED THAT THE HYGIENIC STANDARDS STIPULATED ARE IN LINE WITH THOSE CURRENTLY ENFORCED UNDER THE MILK (URBAN COUNCIL) BY-LAWS AND THE MILK (REGIONAL COUNCIL) BY-LAWS.

THE DAIRIES (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS ALSO PROVIDE FOR AFD STAFF TO SAMPLE RAW MILK AT DAIRIES FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION BY THE GOVERNMENT LABORATORY. CERTIFICATES OF BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION ISSUED BY THE LATTER WILL BE ACCEPTED AS COURT EVIDENCE.

TURNING TO OTHER FEATURES OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH (ANIMALS AND BIRDS) (AMENDMENT) BILL, THE SPOKESMAN SAID LICENCES GRANTED UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH (ANIMALS AND BIRDS) ORDINANCE SHALL BE VALID FOR 12 MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF ISSUE. AT PRESENT, ALL LICENCES EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31 OF THE YEAR IN WHICH THEY ARE GRANTED.

"THESE INCLUDE THE DAIRY LICENCE, ANIMAL TRADERS' LICENCE, ANIMALS AND BIRDS EXHIBITION LICENCE AND LICENCES GRANTED TO ANIMAL BOARDING AND RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS," HE SAID.

MEANWHILE, IT IS ALSO PROPOSED THAT FEES FOR THE ANIMAL TRADERS' LICENCE SHOULD GO UP FROM $800 TO $1,600.

MOREOVER, THE MAXIMUM PENALTIES UNDER THE ORDINANCE WILL BE INCREASED FROM $2,000 TO $5,000 TO MAINTAIN THEIR DETERRENT EFFECT. "PENALTIES WERE LAST REVISED IN 1970," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE BILL, ENDORSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL EARLIER, IS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED TO BE TABLED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FOR THE FIRST AND SECOND READINGS BY THE END OF OCTOBER.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/2 .....

THREE COMMONLY ABUSED TRANQUILLISERS LISTED AS DANGEROUS DRUGS
* * * * * *

TIGHTER CONTROLS ARE TO BE APPLIED TO THREE COMMONLY ABUSED TRANQUILLISERS BY CLASSIFYING THEM AS DANGEROUS DRUGS, IT WAS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE THREE DRUGS ARE BROTIZOLAM, FLUNITRAZEPAM AND TRIAZOLAM. BELONGING TO THE BENZODIAZEPINE GROUP OF TRANQUILLISERS. THEY ARE MORE COMMONLY KNOWN BY THE TRADE-NAMES: LENDORMIN, ROHYPNOL AND HALCION.

THESE DRUGS ARE TO BE ADDED TO PART I OF THE FIRST SCHEDULE OF THE DANGEROUS DRUGS ORDINANCE, THEREBY SUBJECTING THEM TO THE SAME STRINGENT CONTROLS AS OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS SUCH AS HEROIN, OPIUM, COCAINE, AMPHETAMINES AND CANNABIS.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE ACTION WAS BEING TAKEN ON THE ADVICE OF THE PHARMACY AND POISONS BOARD AND THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS IN WAKE OF RECENT DRUG ABUSE TRENDS.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT A CLOSE WATCH WOULD BE KEPT ON THE SITUATION, AND IF IT BECAME APPARENT THAT OTHER DRUGS WERE SUBJECT TO ABUSE, THEY COULD ALSO BE CLASSIFIED AS DANGEROUS DRUGS.

ANYONE FOUND GUILTY OF TRAFFICKING IN DANGEROUS DRUGS FACES A MAXIMUM PENALTY OF LIFE IMPRISONMENT AND A FINE OF $5 MILLION.

PEOPLE WHO ARE FOUND IN POSSESSION OF SMALL QUANTITIES OF DANGEROUS DRUGS ARE ALSO LIABLE TO THREE YEARS' IMPRISONMENT AND A FINE OF $10,000, IF THE DRUGS WERE NOT SUPPLIED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW.

TO GIVE PHARMACEUTICAL DEALERS AND MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS SUFFICIENT TIME TO PREPARE FOR THE CONTROL REQUIREMENTS, THE DANGEROUS DRUGS (AMENDMENT TO FIRST SCHEDULE) ORDER 1990 WILL TAKE EFFECT ON OCTOBER 7.

- - - - 0 - - - -

AMENDMENTS TO TWO OZP'S
* * * * *

THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED THE AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT MID-LEVELS WEST OUTLINE ZONING PLAN (OZP) AND THE DRAFT NGAU TAU KOK AND KOWLOON BAY OUTLINE ZONING PLAN.

THE CHIEF AMENDMENT TO THE DRAFT MID-LEVELS WEST OZP IS THE INCORPORATION OF A RESTRICTION LIMITING THE INTENSITY OF DEVELOPMENT AND REDEVELOPMENT IN AREAS ZONED "RESIDENTIAL (GROUP B)" TO A MAXIMUM PLOT RATIO OF FIVE OR THE PLOT RATIO OF THE EXISTING BUILDINGS, WHICHEVER IS THE GREATER.

/A SPOKESMAN .....

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE BOARD SAID IT CONSIDERED ADDITIONAL RESTRICTION NECESSARY AFTER SEEING RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY A RECENT CONSULTANCY STUDY INTO DEVELOPMENT AND ROAD IMPROVEMENTS IN THE AREA.

THE STUDY SHOWED THAT WITH THE NUMBER OF NEW FLATS BEING BUILT UNDER DENSITIES PERMITTED BY THE PREVIOUS PLAN, THE ROAD NETWORK WILL BE SERIOUSLY OVERLOADED AT PEAK TIMES.

THE BOARD HAD ALSO BEEN TOLD THAT THE NUMBER OF ROAD IMPROVEMENTS THAT COULD PRACTICABLY BE IMPLEMENTED WERE LIMITED. EVEN WITH THESE IN PLACE, THE CAPACITY OF THE ROAD NETWORK WOULD STILL BE INADEQUATE TO COPE WITH THE NEW DEVELOPMENT EXPECTED.

IF THERE WERE NO RESTRICTION ON DEVELOPMENTS, THE END RESULT WOULD BE SEVERE TRAFFIC CONGESTION, PARTICULARLY DURING PEAK HOURS, WHICH WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT ACCESS TO THE AREA AND COULD ENDANGER THE PROVISION OF EMERGENCY SERVICES.

IN ADDITION TO THE TRAFFIC PROBLEM, CONCERNS HAVE ALSO BEEN EXPRESSED ON THE INADEQUATE SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE SYSTEMS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID: "WHERE POSSIBLE, IMPROVEMENTS TO THE ROAD NETWORK WILL BE MADE. THESE WILL BE MAINLY JUNCTION IMPROVEMENTS AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SCHEMES TO MAXIMISE THE CAPACITY OF EXISTING ROADS.

"IN ADDITION, A PILOT SCHEME TO CONSTRUCT AN ESCALATOR-ASSISTED PEDESTRIAN LINK BETWEEN CONDUIT ROAD AND CENTRAL IS ALSO DUE TO START NEXT MONTH. THIS WILL PROVIDE AN ALTERNATIVE LINK BETWEEN THE MID-LEVELS AND CENTRAL AND IS DUE TO BE COMPLETED IN MID-1992.

"A CONSULTANCY STUDY HAD ALSO BEEN COMMISSIONED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO ASSESS THE ADEQUACY OF THE EXISTING SEWERAGE SYSTEM IN THE AREA AND TO IDENTIFY NECESSARY MEASURES FOR IMPROVEMENT."

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT ANOTHER AMENDMENT WAS TO EXCLUDE SUCH ANCILLARY FACILITIES AS CARPORTS, RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND CARETAKERS' ACCOMMODATION FROM PLOT RATIO CALCULATION IN THE "RESIDENTIAL (GROUP B)" AND "RESIDENTIAL (GROUP C)" ZONES.

"THIS IS TO ENCOURAGE THE PROVISION OF SUCH FACILITIES TO SERVE THE LOCAL RESIDENTS.

"TO PROVIDE SOME FLEXIBILITY IN BUILDING DESIGN, PROVISION IS ALSO MADE FOR APPLICATIONS TO THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD FOR MINOR RELAXATION OF THE STATED PLOT RATIO OR BUILDING HEIGHT RESTRICTION STIPULATED FOR THE 'RESIDENTIAL (GROUP B)' AND 'RESIDENTIAL (GROUP C)' ZONES.

"EACH APPLICATION WILL BE CONSIDERED BY THE BOARD ON ITS OWN MERITS," HE SAID.

/ANY PERSON .....

ANY PERSON AFFECTED BY THE AMENDMENTS MAY SUBMIT HIS OBJECTION IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD, C/O PLANNING DEPARTMENT, FOURTH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG, NOT LATER THAN NOVEMBER 7 THIS YEAR.

AS FOR THE DRAFT NGAU TAU KOK AND KOWLOON BAY OZP, THE MORE SIGNIFICANT AMENDMENTS ARE THE ZONING OF TWO AREAS, ONE NORTH OF THE KAI TAK AIRPORT AND ANOTHER ALONG THE WATERFRONT OPPOSITE TO THE RUNWAY, TO "OTHER SPECIFIED USES" ANNOTATED AIRPORT EXPANSION AREA TO CATER FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE AIRPORT.

THERE ARE SOME OTHER AMENDMENTS TO REFLECT THE CHANGES IN LAND USE IN THE AREA. A SITE AT THE JUNCTION OF SHEUNG YEE ROAD AND WANG CHIU ROAD IS REZONED FROM "OPEN SPACE" TO "GOVERNMENT/INSTITUTION/COMMUNITY" AND RESERVED FOR A POLICE VEHICLE POUND.

ANOTHER "OPEN SPACE" SITE ALONG WANG CHIN STREET IS REZONED TO "GOVERNMENT/INSTITUTION/COMMUNITY" AND RESERVED FOR A WATER SUPPLIES MAINTENANCE DEPOT.

TO MAKE UP FOR THE LOSS OF OPEN SPACE, A LARGE PART OF THE "GOVERNMENT/INSTITUTION/COMMUNITY" SITE AT THE JUNCTION OF WANG KWONG ROAD AND KAI LAI ROAD IS REZONED TO "OPEN SPACE".

A PART OF "OPEN SPACE" SITE TO THE EAST OF KAI TAK NULLAH IS REZONED TO "GOVERNMENT/INSTITUTION/COMMUNITY" AS A REPROVISIONING SITE TO THE OXYGEN INJECTION PLANT CURRENTLY LOCATED INSIDE THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE AIRPORT EXPANSION AREA.

ANY PERSON AFFECTED BY THIS AMENDMENT PLAN MAY SUBMIT HIS OBJECTION IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD, C/O PLANNING DEPARTMENT, FOURTH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG BY SEPTEMBER 28 THIS YEAR.

THE AMENDMENTS TO BOTH DRAFT PLANS CAN NOW BE INSPECTED AT THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN PUBLIC ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING ENTRANCE, HONG KONG AND THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT, FOURTH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ALSO INSPECT THE DRAFT MID-LEVELS WEST OZP AT THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, GROUND AND 11TH FLOORS, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, HONG KONG AND THE DRAFT NGAU TAU KOK AND KOWLOON BAY OZP AT THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE, THIRD AND FOURTH FLOORS, KWUN TONG DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICES BUILDING, TUNG YAN STREET, KWUN TONG.

COPIES OF THE AMENDMENT PLANS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, BUILDING AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG, AND AT THE HONG KONG AND KOWLOON MAP SALES SECTION, 10TH FLOOR, KOWLOON OFFICES, 405 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON AT $10 EACH UNCOLOURED AND $60 EACH COLOURED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

PUBLICATION OF INTERIM DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION AREA PLANS

* * * * *

THE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED THE GAZETTING OF THREE MORE INTERIM DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION AREA (IDPA) PLANS FOR TING KOK, FU TEI AU AND SHA LING, AND SHAP SZ HEUNG IN THE NORTHEAST NEW TERRITORIES.

A TOTAL OF 15 IDPA PLANS HAVE SO FAR BEEN PUBLISHED COVERING A TOTAL AREA OF ABOUT 7,470 HECTARES SINCE THE TOWN PLANNING (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990 WAS GAZETTED ON JULY 27.

ACCORDING TO A SPOKESMAN FOR THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT, BOTH TING KOK AND SHAP SZ HEUNG ARE SITUATED IN THE MOST SCENIC PARTS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES.

"ONE OF THE MAIN OBJECTIVES OF DESIGNATING THE AREAS AS IDPA'S IS TO REGULATE DEVELOPMENT IN THESE AREAS SO AS TO CONSERVE THEIR RURAL SETTING AND TO PROTECT THEIR RECREATIONAL VALUE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE TING KOK IDPA COVERS AN AREA OF 293 HECTARES WHILE THE SHAP SZ HEUNG IDPA 254 HECTARES.

FU TEI AU AND SHA LING IDPA IS SITUATED IMMEDIATELY TO THE NORTH OF FANLING/SHEUNG SHUI NEW TOWN AND IS NEAR TO THE BORDER CROSSING AT MAN KAM TO.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THERE IS MOUNTING PRESSURE FOR DEVELOPMENT SUCH AS OPEN STORAGE AND RURAL INDUSTRIES IN THE AREA.

MOREOVER, IMPROPER DEVELOPMENT IN THE AREA WOULD FURTHER INCREASE THE RISK OF FLOODING TO THE NEARBY AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT.

THEREFORE, THERE IS AN IMMEDIATE NEED TO REGULATE DEVELOPMENT IN THE AREA. THE FU TEI AU AND SHA LING IDPA PLAN COVERS AN AREA OF 356 HECTARES.

UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE TOWN PLANNING (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990, DEVELOPMENT IN CONTRAVENTION OF THE PLANS WOULD BE SUBJECT TO ENFORCEMENT PROCEEDINGS UPON COMMENCEMENT OF THE TOWN PLANNING (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE.

ON ENACTMENT, THE IDPA'S WOULD BE INCLUDED IN STATUTORY DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION AREAS (DPA), AND THE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING COULD THEN SERVE NOTICE REQUIRING REINSTATEMENT OF THE LAND TO THE CONDITION IT WAS IN IMMEDIATELY BEFORE THE GAZETTING OF THE IDPA PLANS OR RESTORATION OF THE LAND TO HIS SATISFACTION.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT EXISTING USES WOULD BE TOLERATED WITHIN THE IDPA'S. PERMISSION GRANTED BY THE DIRECTOR WOULD BE HONOURED WHEN THE IDPA'S ARE INCLUDED INTO STATUTORY DPA'S.

/ON THE .....

ON THE THREE NEW PLANS PUBLISHED TODAY, THERE ARE AREAS DESIGNATED FOR "VILLAGE TYPE DEVELOPMENT" TO PROVIDE FOR NECESSARY EXPANSION OF ESTABLISHED VILLAGES.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT WITHIN AN IDPA WILL BE ASSESSED ON THEIR INDIVIDUAL MERIT.

FOR TING KOK, THE DIRECTOR'S CONSIDERATION OF THE PLANNING APPLICATIONS WILL BE GUIDED BY THE DEPARTMENTAL PLAN FOR THE AREA, NAMELY, THE TAI PO EAST OUTLINE DEVELOPMENT PLAN, WHICH IS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC FOR INSPECTION.

IF PERMISSION OF THE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING FOR DEVELOPMENT IS REQUIRED, AN APPLICATION FOR SUCH PERMISSION SHOULD BE SENT TO THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT, FOURTH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG.

THE APPROPRIATE APPLICATION FORMS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE GENERAL REGISTRY, PLANNING DEPARTMENT.

INDIGENOUS NEW TERRITORIES VILLAGERS WISHING TO APPLY FOR SMALL HOUSE SITES IN AREAS COVERED BY THE NEW IDPA'S SHOULD CONTINUE TO APPLY DIRECT TO THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICER.

ALL THREE IDPA PLANS CAN BE INSPECTED UNTIL NOVEMBER 7 AT THE FOLLOWING PLACES:

* THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN PUBLIC ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING ENTRANCE, ICE HOUSE STREET, HONG KONG;

* PLANNING DEPARTMENT, FOURTH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG;

* RELEVANT DISTRICT OFFICES AND DISTRICT PLANNING OFFICES.

COPIES OF THE PLANS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG AND KOWLOON MAP SALES SECTION, 10TH FLOOR, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 405 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON AT $10 FOR UNCOLOURED COPY AND $60 FOR COLOURED COPY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/7 .....

AMENDMENTS TO UNVENTED ELECTRIC THERMAL STORAGE WATER HEATERS INSTALLATION ANNOUNCED

* * * * * *

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS APPROVED AMENDMENTS TO THE WATERWORKS REGULATIONS TO PERMIT INSTALLATION OF UNVENTED ELECTRIC THERMAL STORAGE TYPE WATER HEATER.

UNDER THE WATERWORKS (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) REGULATIONS 1990 PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY), ELECTRIC THERMAL STORAGE TYPE WATER HEATER OF STORAGE CAPACITY NOT EXCEEDING 200 LITRES AND EQUIPPED WITH THERMOSTAT,THERMAL CUT-OUT, TEMPERATURE RELIEF VALVE AND PRESSURE RELIEF VALVE MAY NOW BE CONNECTED DIRECT TO A MAIN AND WITHOUT THE PROVISION OF VENT PIPE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE WATER AUTHORITY EXPLAINED THAT ACCORDING TO THE EXISTING REGULATIONS; THE THERMAL STORAGE TYPE WATER HEATER WAS REQUIRED TO BE SUPPLIED FROM A WATER TANK AND TO BE PROVIDED WITH AN INDIVIDUAL VENT PIPE FOR ENERGY RELIEF TO ELIMINATE THE DANGER OF OVERHEAT.

"THESE REQUIREMENTS ARE DIFFICULT AND COSTLY TO COMPLY WITH IN CERTAIN SITUATION PARTICULARLY IN RESPECT OF INSTALLATIONS CARRIED OUT IN EXISTING BUILDINGS.

"WITH THE INCREASING DEMAND FROM CONSUMERS, A WORKING GROUP STUDYING THE FEASIBILITY OF PERMITTING INSTALLATION FOR THIS TYPE OF WATER HEATER WITHOUT THE PROVISION OF A VENT PIPE HAS BEEN FORMED," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE WORKING GROUP CONSIDERED THAT IT WOULD BE SAFE TO PERMIT UNVENTED INSTALLATION OF SUCH WATER HEATERS UNDER THE CONDITION THAT THE ESSENTIAL SAFETY DEVICES WERE STANDARDISED AND PROPERLY MAINTAINED.

"THE SAFETY OF UNVENTED ELECTRIC THERMAL STORAGE TYPE WATER HEATER DEPENDS ON CORRECT INSTALLATION," HE STRESSED.

"CONSUMERS WISHING TO INSTALL SUCH TYPE OF WATER HEATER MUST ENGAGE A LICENSED PLUMBER OR QUALIFIED ELECTRIC WORKER WHO HAS RECEIVED SPECIAL TRAINING AND SUBMIT APPLICATION TO THE WATER AUTHORITY FOR APPROVAL," HE ADDED.

A LIST OF SUCH QUALIFIED PLUMBERS/ELECTRIC WORKERS WHO HAVE RECEIVED THE NECESSARY TRAINING IS AVAILABLE AT THE CONSUMER ENQUIRY CENTRES OF THE WATER AUTHORITY FOR INSPECTION BY CONSUMERS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/8 .....

NT SITES OFFERED TO LETTER A/B HOLDERS

* * * * *

THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING REGISTERED OWNERS OF LAND EXCHANGE ENTITLEMENTS (LETTER A/B) TO TENDER FOR THREE SITES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE FIRST SITE IS IN MA ON SHAN TOWN CENTRE, SHA TIN, WITH AN AREA OF ABOUT 12,700 SQUARE METRES. IT IS FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL, EXCLUDING GODOWN, PURPOSES.

ACCORDING TO THE BUILDING COVENANT, A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 37,300 SQUARE METRES HAS TO BE COMPLETED ON OR BEFORE MARCH 31, 1995.

THE SECOND SITE IS ALSO IN SHA TIN. WITH AN AREA OF ABOUT 5,600 SQUARE METRES, THIS SITE AT PAK TIN STREET IS FOR PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES.

THE BUILDING COVENANT PROVIDES THAT A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 16,800 SQUARE METRES HAS TO BE COMPLETED ON OR BEFORE JUNE 30, 1995.

IN KWAI CHUNG, A 2,080-SQUARE-METRE SITE SITUATED AT KAU WA KENG IS FOR PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES.

A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 6,240 SQUARE METRES HAS TO BE COMPLETED WITHIN 36 MONTHS FROM THE DATE ON WHICH POSSESSION OF THE LOT IS GIVEN.

APPLICANTS CAN SUBMIT EITHER A "VINTAGE" TENDER OR A "MONETISED LETTER B" TENDER CALCULATED BY REFERENCE TO A LIST OF CURRENCY VALUES PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE PRIOR TO THE CLOSING DATE FOR TENDER.

A "VINTAGE" TENDER WILL BE GIVEN PRIORITY.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS NOON ON OCTOBER 5.

FURTHER DETAILS AND APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG; THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES KOWLOON, 10TH FLOOR, YAU MA TEI CARPARK BUILDING, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON; AND THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES OF ISLANDS, SAI KUNG, SHA TIN, TAI PO, NORTH, TSUEN WAN, KWAI TSING, TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/9 .....

EVIDENCE AMENDMENT BILL GAZETTED

* * * * *

A BILL WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PROVIDING FOR INFORMATION COMPUTED BY NON-RADAR SPEED DETECTION DEVICES TO BE ADMITTED AS PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE BEFORE THE COURTS.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID CURRENT LEGISLATION REFERS SPECIFICALLY TO RADAR DEVICES AND GENERALLY TO OTHER APPARATUS USED TO ASCERTAIN THE SPEED OF A VEHICLE.

"THE EVIDENCE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990, WHICH WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY, MAKES IT CLEAR THAT THE PROVISIONS APPLY TO ALL TYPES OF SPEED DETECTION EQUIPMENT."

- - - - 0 - - - -

PREQUALIFICATION OF TENDERERS FOR AREA TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM

* * * * *

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING APPLICATIONS FROM EXPERIENCED SUPPLIERS TO BE PREQUALIFIED TO TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF AN AREA TRAFFIC CONTROL (ATC) SYSTEM TO RENEW THE EXISTING SYSTEM IN KOWLOON AND TO PROVIDE ATC TO TSUEN WAN NEW TOWN.

A NOTICE OF PREQUALIFICATION OF TENDERERS IS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE KOWLOON ATC SYSTEM WAS 13 YEARS OLD AND ITS USEFULNESS WAS COMING TO AN END. THE NEW SYSTEM WAS INTENDED TO PROVIDE STANDARD ATC FUNCTIONS, TRAFFIC ADAPTIVE CONTROL AND INTEGRATED SYSTEM MANAGEMENT FEATURES, HE SAID.

"THE SYSTEM WILL INITIALLY PROVIDE FOR THE CONTROL, MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT OF SOME 900 SIGNALISED JUNCTIONS AND 2,000 DETECTORS.

"THE INSTATION COMPUTERS WILL BE LOCATED AT TWO CONTROL CENTRES IN KOWLOON AND TSUEN WAN. COMMUNICATIONS WILL BE VIA THE EXISTING DEDICATED NETWORK SUPPLEMENTED BY TELEPHONE CIRCUITS," HE ADDED.

CONTRACTORS WHO HAVE EXPERIENCE IN DESIGNING AND IMPLEMENTING ATC SYSTEMS ARE INVITED TO APPLY FOR PREQUALIFICATION DOCUMENTS TO THE CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE TRAFFIC CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE DIVISION, 16TH FLOOR, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 405 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

ACCEPTANCE OF COMPLETED PREQUALIFICATION APPLICATIONS WILL CLOSE ON OCTOBER 29 THIS YEAR.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/10 .....

HK'S ESTIMATED POPULATION AT 5.8M

* * * * *

THE ESTIMATED POPULATION OF HONG KONG AT THE END OF JUNE THIS YEAR WAS 5,800,600, ACCORDING TO FIGURES RELEASED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THIS IS AN INCREASE OF 39,100 PERSONS OR 0.7 PER CENT OVER MID-1989.

THE BALANCE OF TOTAL ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES IN THE 12-MONTH PERIOD FROM MID-1989 TO MID-1990 WAS MINUS 2,900.

THERE WERE 70,800 BIRTHS AND 28,800 DEATHS IN THE SAME PERIOD. NATURAL INCREASE, I.E., THE SURPLUS OF BIRTHS OVER DEATHS AMOUNTED TO 42,000.

- - - - 0 - - - -

YOUNG PEOPLE URGED TO JOIN CORRECTIONAL WORK

* * * * *

THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES (PERSONNEL), MR ALAN HANDLEY, TODAY (FRIDAY) CALLED ON YOUNG PEOPLE TO START A CAREER IN THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES FIELD.

"THE PROSPECTS ARE GOOD FOR THOSE WHO ARE WILLING TO WORK HARD AND LEARN," HE SAID.

MR HANDLEY WAS SPEAKING AT THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S (CSD) PASSING-OUT PARADE AT STANLEY.

HE EMPHASISED THAT CORRECTIONAL WORK REQUIRED A GREAT DEAL OF DEDICATION AND MUST BECOME THE MAIN PART OF LIFE OF A CSD OFFICER.

WHILE CONCEDING THAT CORRECTIONAL WORK WAS NOT ALWAYS UNDERSTOOD OR APPRECIATED BY THE PUBLIC, HE SAID CSD OFFICERS SHOULD BE PROUD OF THEIR WORK, WHICH WAS ESSENTIAL TO THE LAW AND ORDER OF HONG KONG AND FOR THE WELL-BEING OF OUR SOCIETY.

MR HANDLEY WILL SOON RETIRE FROM THE DEPARTMENT, AFTER NEARLY 33 YEARS OF SERVICE.

DURING HIS LONG CAREER WITH CSD, HE HAS SPENT CONSIDERABLE TIME WORKING IN THE DRUG ADDICTION TREATMENT FIELD. HE HAS ALSO BEEN IN CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT'S INSPECTORATE AND PERSONNEL SECTIONS SINCE HIS APPOINTMENT AS ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER IN 1985.

TODAY'S PARADE MARKED THE PASSING OUT OF 25 OFFICERS AND 74 ASSISTANT OFFICERS WHO HAVE JUST COMPLETED A 26-WEEK BASIC TRAINING AT THE DEPARTMENT'S STAFF TRAINING INSTITUTE.

MR HANDLEY ALSO PRESENTED SILVER WHISTLES TO THREE BEST RECRUITS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

VARIETY SHOW TO PROMOTE VOTER REGISTRATION IN SAI KUNG

* * * * *

A VARIETY SHOW AND GAMES DAY WILL BE HELD AT CARMEL DIVINE GRACE FOUNDATION SECONDARY SCHOOL IN PO LAM ESTATE, TSEUNG KWAN O ON SUNDAY (SEPTEMBER 9) TO PROMOTE VOTER REGISTRATION.

THE "VOTING IS OUR RIGHT" SHOW IS ORGANISED BY THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE, AS PART OF THE DISTRICT'S VOTER REGISTRATION CAMPAIGN.

THERE WILL BE PERFORMANCES BY POPULAR SINGERS, A KARAOKE SESSION, STALL GAMES AND A CIVIC EDUCATION EXHIBITION.

THE STALL GAMES CARRY THE THEMES OF VOTER REGISTRATION, WORK OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD AND NEXT YEAR'S THREE-TIER ELECTIONS.

SPECIAL VOTER REGISTRATION COUNTERS WILL BE SET UP AT THE VENUE TO ENABLE PARTICIPANTS TO SIGN UP. TV ARTISTES WILL BE PRESENT TO ASSIST THE FILLING IN OF REGISTRATION FORMS.

OFFICIATING AT THE SHOW'S OPENING WILL BE THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR FREDERICK TONG; DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR WILLIAM WAN; AND CHAIRMAN OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT CIVIC EDUCATION PROMOTION COMMITTEE, MR LAWRENCE LOUR.

A BROADCASTING VAN WILL TOUR SAI KUNG DISTRICT FROM 11 AM TO 7 PM THAT DAY TO CALL ON RESIDENTS TO SIGN UP. REGISTRATION FORMS, INFORMATION LEAFLETS AND SOUVENIRS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED.

- - - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT'S "VOTING IS OUR RIGHT" VARIETY SHOW AND GAMES DAY TO BE HELD ON SUNDAY (SEPTEMBER 9) AT CARMEL DIVINE GRACE FOUNDATION SECONDARY SCHOOL, PO LAM ESTATE, TSEUNG KWAN O. THE OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT 2 PM.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/12 .....

VARIETY SHOW TO CONCLUDE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME

* * * * *

A VARIETY SHOW WILL BE HELD IN TAI PO CIVIC CENTRE TOMORROW (SATURDAY) EVENING TO MARK THE END OF THIS YEAR'S TAI PO DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME.

POPULAR LOCAL SINGERS WILL PERFORM IN THE 90-MINUTE SHOW.

THERE WILL ALSO BE PERFORMANCES BY THE TAI PO DISTRICT CHILDREN'S CHOIR, WINNERS OF A KARAOKE SINGING COMPETITION AND SCHOOL DANCING TROUPES.

DEPUTY REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR LEO KWAN, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE CEREMONY.

ADMISSION IS FREE. TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS SUB-OFFICES.

- - - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME TO BE HELD TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AT TAI PO CIVIC CENTRE, ON CHEUNG ROAD, TAI PO.

THE CEREMONY WILL START AT 8 PM.

- - - - 0 - - - -