



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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EXCO APPROVES URBAN TAXI FARE INCREASE

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THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL TODAY (TUESDAY) APPROVED AN INCREASE IN FARE FOR URBAN TAXIS TO MEET RISING OPERATING COSTS.

THE NEW FARES WILL BE INTRODUCED ON SUNDAY, MAY 13, 1990.

THE REVISED FARES WILL BE \$8 AT FLAGFALL FOR THE FIRST TWO KILOMETRES AND FROM 80 CENTS TO 90 CENTS FOR EVERY 0.25 KILOMETRES THEREAFTER. A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THIS WILL MEAN THAT THE AVERAGE FARE INCREASE IS 18 PER CENT.

THE WAITING TIME FOR EVERY ONE MINUTE WILL ALSO BE REVISED TO 90 CENTS FROM 80 CENTS.

IN ADDITION, OTHER SERVICE SURCHARGES WILL ALSO BE REVISED. FOR EACH ARTICLE OF BAGGAGE, ANIMAL OR BIRD, THE SURCHARGE WILL BE REVISED FROM \$2 TO \$3 WHILE RADIO-CALL BOOKING CHARGE WILL INCREASE FROM \$1 TO \$2.

COMBINED WITH THE INCREASES IN SERVICE SURCHARGES, THE TOTAL AVERAGE RATE OF FARE INCREASE WILL EXCEED 18 PER CENT.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID URBAN TAXI FARES WERE LAST REVISED IN JANUARY 1989. THE RADIO-CALL BOOKING SURCHARGE AND SURCHARGE ON BAGGAGE, ANIMALS OR BIRDS HAVE NOT BEEN REVISED SINCE MARCH 1987.

HE SAID THAT AFTER SUBMITTING THEIR APPLICATION FOR A FARE INCREASE ON THE GROUNDS OF INCREASED OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE COSTS, THE URBAN TAXI OPERATORS, TOGETHER WITH DRIVERS ASSOCIATIONS, MADE FURTHER REPRESENTATIONS TO THE ADMINISTRATION CONCERNING THE IMPACT OF THE INCREASE IN DIESEL TAX IMPLEMENTED ON MARCH 7 THIS YEAR.

A SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT TO ASSESS THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF URBAN TAXIS IN FEBRUARY THIS YEAR INDICATED THAT THE AVERAGE MONTHLY INCOME HAS INCREASED BY SEVEN PER CENT SINCE 1989, WHILE EXPENDITURE HAS INCREASED BY 14.6 PER CENT DURING THE SAME PERIOD.

ASSESSMENT BY THE DEPARTMENT ALSO SHOWED THAT THE DIESEL PRICE INCREASES SINCE THE LAST FARE REVISION HAD ALSO REDUCED TAXI DRIVERS' MONTHLY INCOME BY 7.2 PER CENT PER SHIFT.

AFTER OFFSETTING THE INCREASED DIESEL PRICE AND ANTICIPATED RISE IN OPERATING COSTS IN THE COMING YEAR, THE APPROVED NEW FARES WILL STILL YIELD A NET INCREASE IN TAXI DRIVERS' MONTHLY INCOME OF ABOUT 12 PER CENT OVER LAST YEAR.

HE SAID THAT A \$1 INCREASE IN RADIO-CALL BOOKING SURCHARGE HAD BEEN APPROVED TAKING INTO ACCOUNT INFLATION IN THE PAST FEW YEARS.

THE INCREASE IN THE SURCHARGE ON THE CARRIAGE OF BAGGAGE, ANIMALS OR BIRDS WILL ALSO GENERATE ADDITIONAL REVENUE FOR TAXI DRIVERS.

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HE STRESSED THAT THE FARE INCREASE APPLICATION HAS BEEN CAREFULLY SCRUTINISED TO ENSURE THAT THE PUBLIC INTEREST IS ALSO PROTECTED.

PENDING THE CONVERSION OF TAXIMETERS, TAXIS MAY CHARGE THE REVISED FARES STARTING FROM THE EFFECTIVE DATE BY DISPLAYING A TABLE FOR CONVERTING THE READING ON A TAXIMETER TO THE APPROPRIATE NEW FARES.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID OPERATORS AND DRIVERS COULD OBTAIN THE FARE CONVERSION TABLES FROM THE LICENSING OFFICES OF THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT AND ANY CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION'S DISTRICT OFFICE IN THE URBAN AREA AND THE DISTRICT OFFICES IN SHA TIN AND TSUEN WAN FROM MAY 9.

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EXPERT TALKS ON BOUNDARIES

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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT FURTHER DISCUSSIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE BOUNDARIES BETWEEN HONG KONG AND GUANGDONG WILL BEGIN IN CANTON TOMORROW (MAY 2) BETWEEN THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AND THE GUANGDONG PROVINCIAL AUTHORITIES.

THE HONG KONG TEAM WILL BE LED BY THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS, MR DARWIN CHEN.

THE GUANGDONG TEAM WILL BE LED BY THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF GUANGDONG FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICE, MR ZHANG QINGPING.

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RE-APPOINTMENT OF SFC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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THE GOVERNOR HAS RE-APPOINTED THE PRESENT 12 MARKET MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (AC) TO THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION (SFC) FOR A FURTHER YEAR FROM MAY 1, 1990 TO APRIL 30, 1991, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, SIR PIERS JACOBS, ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE PRESENT MARKET MEMBERS ARE MR RONALD ARCULLI, MR CHAN SUN-SUN, MR VICTOR FUNG KWOK-KING, MR RAYMOND KWOK PING-LUEN, MR STUART LECKIE, MR PETER NORRIS, MR GEOFFREY PICARD, MR LINCOLN SOO HUNG-LEUNG, MR CHARLES SOO CHEN-JEN, MR HIDEO SUZUKI, MR ROBERT THOMAS AND MR ZHANG XUE-YAO.

THE AC CONSISTS OF 15 MEMBERS, NAMELY THE 12 GOVERNOR-APPOINTED MARKET MEMBERS, TWO SFC EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS APPOINTED BY THE SFC AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SFC WHO WILL PRESIDE AT AC MEETINGS.

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MULTIPLE VISIT PERMIT SCHEME FOR TAIWANESE RESIDENTS

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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THE PROPOSAL TO ISSUE, FROM JUNE 1, MULTIPLE VISIT PERMITS (MTP'S) VALID FOR MULTIPLE ENTRIES TO ALL TAIWANESE VISITORS HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

THERE WILL BE TWO TYPES OF MTP'S, ONE FOR SOCIAL VISITORS AND ONE FOR BUSINESSMEN.

A MTP WILL BE VALID FOR 12 MONTHS. THE ONE FOR SOCIAL VISITORS WILL ENABLE THE HOLDER TO MAKE MULTIPLE TRIPS TO HONG KONG WITHIN ITS VALIDITY, PROVIDED HE DOES NOT STAY MORE THAN SEVEN DAYS IN ANY CALENDAR MONTH. EXTENSIONS OF STAY WILL NOT NORMALLY BE PERMITTED.

A MTP FOR BUSINESSMEN WILL ENABLE THE HOLDER TO MAKE MULTIPLE TRIPS TO HONG KONG FOR STAY OF NOT MORE THAN 14 DAYS ON EACH OCCASION. EXTENSIONS OF STAY WILL BE CONSIDERED ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS.

"THE MTP FACILITY AVAILABLE TO BUSINESSMEN IS A FURTHER IMPROVEMENT OF THE MULTIPLE VISA SCHEME FOR BUSINESS VISITS.

"SINCE 1989, THE POLICY IN ISSUING MULTIPLE VISIT VISA TO TAIWANESE BUSINESSMEN HAS BEEN RELAXED AND ALL BUSINESSMEN WHO HAVE GOOD REASON TO COME TO, OR THROUGH, HONG KONG HAVE BEEN ISSUED WITH SUCH VISAS," AN IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

IN THE PAST, A TAIWANESE BUSINESSMAN WHO WISHED TO APPLY FOR A MULTIPLE VISIT VISA HAD TO APPLY FOR A SINGLE JOURNEY VISIT PERMIT FIRST TO ENABLE HIM TO COME TO HONG KONG AND ACQUIRE FROM A NOTARY PUBLIC A DECLARATION OF IDENTITY FOR VISA PURPOSES.

"THE VISA, ENDORSED ON THE DECLARATION, IS VALID FOR MULTIPLE TRIPS OF 14 DAYS EACH TO HONG KONG WITHIN SIX MONTHS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THE FEE FOR MULTIPLE VISIT VISA IS \$115 AND IT TAKES FOUR TO FIVE WEEKS TO ISSUE.

"EXTENSIONS OF STAY BEYOND 14 DAYS ARE GRANTED ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS. APPLICATIONS FOR EXTENSION OF VISA HAVE TO BE SUBMITTED IN TAIWAN."

THE EXISTING ARRANGEMENT FOR TAIWANESE RESIDENTS TO APPLY FOR ENTRY PERMIT HAS REMAINED UNCHANGED. A MTP APPLICANT HAS TO APPLY THROUGH AN AUTHORISED AIRLINE IN TAIWAN, WHICH IN TURN FORWARDS THE APPLICATION TO THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT IN HONG KONG.

THAT MEANS A TAIWANESE RESIDENT MAY APPLY FOR A MTP DIRECT IN TAIWAN DESCRIBED ABOVE WITHOUT HAVING TO VISIT HONG KONG AND MAKING A DECLARATION OF IDENTITY FOR VISA PURPOSES. THE MTP, WHEN APPROVED, WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE APPLICANT THROUGH THE AIRLINE.

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A MTP WILL BE ISSUED AT A FEE OF \$230. A MTP FOR SOCIAL VISITORS WILL TAKE TWO WEEKS TO ISSUE, AND A MTP FOR BUSINESSMEN, FOUR WEEKS.

A MTP CAN BE RENEWED IN HONG KONG IN TWO DAYS' TIME BY EITHER THE APPLICANT OR HIS SPONSOR BY CALLING AT THE VISITOR SECTION OF THE IMMIGRATION HEADQUARTERS AT SIXTH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER II, 7 GLOUCESTOR ROAD, HONG KONG.

"SINGLE JOURNEY PERMITS WILL REMAIN AVAILABLE TO THOSE SOCIAL VISITORS WHO DO NOT NEED MULTIPLE VISIT FACILITIES OR WHO REQUIRE A LONGER PERIOD OF STAY THAN SEVEN DAYS," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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PUBLIC URGED TO COMMENT ON BILL OF RIGHTS

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THE GOVERNMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) CALLED ON MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THE DRAFT HONG KONG BILL OF RIGHTS BEFORE THE CONSULTATION PERIOD ENDS ON MAY 16.

THE GOVERNMENT HAS SO FAR RECEIVED SIX WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS SINCE THE TWO-MONTH CONSULTATION EXERCISE BEGAN ON MARCH 16.

IN ADDITION TO THESE WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS, A NUMBER OF GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR VIEWS ON THE DRAFT BILL THROUGH VARIOUS OTHER CHANNELS, SUCH AS PUBLIC FORUMS AND THE NEWS MEDIA.

THIRTEEN DISTRICT BOARDS AND THE HEUNG YEE KUK HAVE ALSO DISCUSSED THE DRAFT BILL AT THEIR MEETINGS.

THESE VIEWS HAVE BEEN CLOSELY MONITORED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

THE SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL HAD FORMED AN AD HOC GROUP TO EXAMINE THE DRAFT BILL, AND OFFICIALS FROM THE CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS BRANCH AS WELL AS THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN INVITED TO SOME OF THE MEETINGS OF THE AD HOC GROUP TO EXPLAIN THE VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF THE DRAFT BILL.

"ALL THESE VIEWS WILL BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION WHEN THE GOVERNMENT PREPARES A FINAL BILL FOR RE-SUBMISSION TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THE BILL IS EXPECTED TO BE INTRODUCED TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN JULY THIS YEAR," HE ADDED.

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TWO COMMITTEES SET UP UNDER ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AIDS

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TWO COMMITTEES HAVE BEEN SET UP UNDER THE NEWLY FORMED ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AIDS TO ENSURE THE EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT IMPLEMENTATION OF EDUCATION, PUBLICITY AND PREVENTION PROGRAMMES ON AIDS.

THEY ARE THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY ON AIDS AND THE SCIENTIFIC WORKING GROUP ON AIDS.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AIDS, DR S.H. LEE, SAID AFTER THE FIRST MEETING OF THE COUNCIL TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THE FORMER WOULD BE INVOLVED IN THE FORMULATION OF STRATEGIES, PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMMES ON EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY ON AIDS WHILE THE LATTER WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SCIENTIFIC ASPECTS OF AIDS.

"THE TWO COMMITTEES, REPLACING THE PREVIOUS TWO WITH THE SAME NAMES, HAVE A WIDER REPRESENTATION FROM BOTH GOVERNMENT AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS," HE SAID.

"THIS NOT ONLY REFLECTS THE ADMINISTRATION'S DETERMINATION TO TACKLE THE PROBLEM BUT ALSO ENSURES GREATER COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND PARTICIPATION AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GLOBAL COMMISSION ON AIDS."

DURING THE MEETING, THE CURRENT SITUATION OF AIDS, HIV SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMME AND CONTROL MEASURES CAME UNDER REVIEW.

THE MEETING ENDORSED A PROPOSED MEDIUM TERM PLAN FOR AIDS PREVENTION AND CONTROL IN HONG KONG.

DR LEE SAID THE PLAN WAS BUILT ON THE EXISTING ONE AND AIMED TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN AND CONSOLIDATE THE PROGRAMMES ON EDUCATION, PUBLICITY AND PREVENTION.

"THE STRATEGIES OF THE PLAN, COVERING A PERIOD OF THREE TO FIVE YEARS, ARE IN LINE WITH THE CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK RECOMMENDED BY THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION (WHO) FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NATIONAL AIDS PREVENTION AND CONTROL PROGRAMME," HE ADDED.

THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE TWO COMMITTEES IS AS FOLLOWS:

/THE COMMITTEE

THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY ON AIDS

CHAIRMAN : MRS PEGGY LAM, LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR.

MEMBERS : HO SAI CHU, THE REV. ALFRED J. DEIGNAN, REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE HONG KONG MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, HONG KONG DENTAL ASSOCIATION, HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE, FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION, SOCIETY FOR THE AID AND REHABILITATION OF DRUG ABUSERS, UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG AND RELEVANT GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS - THE HEALTH AND WELFARE BRANCH, SECURITY BRANCH, CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HOSPITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

THE SCIENTIFIC WORKING GROUP ON AIDS

CHAIRMAN : DR E.K. YEOH, CONSULTANT IN CHARGE OF THE AIDS COUNSELLING AND HEALTH EDUCATION SERVICE.

MEMBERS : REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE HONG KONG MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, HONG KONG DENTAL ASSOCIATION, UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, HONG KONG RED CROSS BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE, VIRUS UNIT (QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL), CONSULTANT OF THE SOCIAL HYGIENE SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HOSPITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

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REDEFINITION OF 'MENTAL DISORDER' IN ORDINANCE RECOMMENDED

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THE WORKING PARTY ON LEGISLATION FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED HAS RECOMMENDED THAT THE TERM "MENTAL DISORDER" IN THE MENTAL HEALTH ORDINANCE BE REDEFINED TO DISTINGUISH CLEARLY PERSONS SUFFERING FROM MENTAL ILLNESS FROM PERSONS WITH MENTAL HANDICAP ONLY.

THE WORKING PARTY WAS APPOINTED IN JUNE 1988 AT THE REQUEST OF THE OMELCO AD HOC GROUP ON THE MENTAL HEALTH (AMENDMENT) BILL.

THE COMMISSIONER FOR REHABILITATION AND CHAIRMAN OF THE WORKING PARTY, MR ALAN WONG, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THE WORKING PARTY AFTER HAVING INVESTIGATED AND STUDIED THE EXISTING LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS WHICH PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED, HAD REACHED THE CONCLUSION THAT THERE WAS NOT SUFFICIENT JUSTIFICATION FOR SEPARATE LEGISLATION FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED.

/HE EXPLAINED

HE EXPLAINED THAT IN THE COURSE OF STUDY, THE WORKING PARTY HAD NOT DISCOVERED ANY EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF THE CLAIM THAT THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS HAD BEEN DEPRIVED OF THEIR LEGAL RIGHTS.

"TO CORRECT ANY PUBLIC MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT MENTAL HANDICAPPED PERSONS, COMMUNITY EDUCATION IS A MORE EFFECTIVE TOOL THAN SEPARATE LEGISLATION.

"THE PRESENT LEGISLATION RELATING TO THE WELL-BEING OF THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS CAN BE IMPROVED BY VARIOUS MEASURES OTHER THAN SEPARATE LEGISLATION," HE CONTINUED.

THE WORKING PARTY RECOMMENDED THAT THE DEFINITION OF "MENTAL DISORDER" IN THE MENTAL HEALTH ORDINANCE BE REVISED TO DISTINGUISH MENTAL HANDICAP FROM MENTAL ILLNESS BECAUSE MANY MENTALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS DO NOT SUFFER FROM SUCH ILLNESS.

IT WAS CONSIDERED THAT MANY OF THE PROVISIONS IN THE MENTAL HEALTH ORDINANCE PROTECT THE LEGAL RIGHTS OF MENTALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS SUCH AS THE PROVISIONS FOR ADMISSION INTO GUARDIANSHIP, APPEAL TO THE MENTAL HEALTH REVIEW TRIBUNAL AND SAFEGUARDS AGAINST ILL AND DEGRADING TREATMENT.

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKING PARTY INCLUDE:

- * REHABILITATION SERVICE FOR MENTALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS SHOULD BE REGULARLY REVIEWED AND IMPROVED;
- * PUBLIC EDUCATION ON MENTAL RETARDATION SHOULD BE PROMOTED IN ORDER TO DISPEL THE COMMUNITY'S MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT MENTALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS;
- * THE PROCEDURE BY WHICH DOCTORS MUST SEEK AND OBTAIN CONSENT BEFORE CARRYING OUT MEDICAL TREATMENT OR SURGICAL OPERATIONS ON MENTALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS, ESPECIALLY THOSE OF AN IRREVERSIBLE NATURE SUCH THE STERILISATION, SHOULD BE REVIEWED IF THE PERSONS CONCERNED ARE INCAPABLE OF GIVING THE NECESSARY CONSENT THEMSELVES ON ACCOUNT OF MENTAL INCAPACITY;
- * CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE PROVISION OF SPECIALISED INSTITUTIONS FOR MENTALLY HANDICAPPED OFFENDERS WHERE EMPHASIS IS PLACED ON REHABILITATION AND SPECIAL EDUCATION, AND TRAINING PROGRAMMES ARE PROVIDED BASED ON THE INDIVIDUAL NEEDS OF THE OFFENDERS;
- * EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL ON MENTAL RETARDATION SHOULD BE PRODUCED FOR DISSEMINATION TO POLICE TRAINING SCHOOLS, LAWYERS THROUGH THE PROFESSIONAL LEGAL BODIES, AND THE JUDICIARY TO ENRICH THEIR KNOWLEDGE ABOUT MENTALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS;

- * PARENTS AND RELATIVES OF MENTALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS SHOULD BE INFORMED OF THE RIGHTS OF THEIR CHILDREN IN BOTH CIVIC AND CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE EXISTING LEGISLATION AND THE COMMON LAW BY SEMINARS, BRIEFINGS PAMPHLETS AND OTHER COMMUNITY EDUCATION CHANNELS;
- * SEX EDUCATION AND COUNSELLING IN SCHOOLS, AS WELL AS ADULT SERVICES, SHOULD BE ENHANCED AND CONSTANTLY UPDATED TO ENABLE THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS TO BETTER UNDERSTAND THEIR PERSONAL HYGIENE, PHYSIOLOGICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL CHANGES IN PUBERTY AND ADULTHOOD, THE SOCIAL AND MORAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THEIR ACTIONS, AND THE CRIMINAL CONSEQUENCE OF UNLAWFUL SEXUAL BEHAVIOUR.

MR WONG EXPLAINED THAT IN ADDITION TO CONSULTING THE CONCERNED BODIES, THE WORKING PARTY HAD ALSO RECEIVED SUBMISSIONS FROM ANOTHER 14 ORGANISATIONS AND MANY INDIVIDUALS. THESE SUBMISSIONS WERE VERY VALUABLE AND HAD RECEIVED CAREFUL CONSIDERATION BY THE WORKING PARTY, HE SAID.

THE REPORT OF THE WORKING PARTY TOGETHER WITH THE VIEWS OF THE REHABILITATION DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE HAD BEEN FORWARDED TO OMELCO FOR CONSIDERATION.

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GOVT STOPS PRODUCTION OF POLLUTION-CAUSING FACTORY

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN LEASE ENFORCEMENT ACTION ON APRIL 4 BY MEANS OF RE-ENTRY OF THE POLLUX BLEACHING AND DYEING FACTORY TO STOP THE POLLUTION IN HO CHUNG RIVER, SAI KUNG.

HOWEVER, THE FACTORY HAS REQUESTED THE USE OF A PORTION OF THE PREMISES FOR OFFICE FUNCTIONS, SEWING, PACKING AND STORAGE SO THAT THE NON-PRODUCTION SIDE OF ITS BUSINESS COULD CONTINUE. THE GOVERNMENT IS CONSIDERING THIS REQUEST.

IN THE MEANTIME, THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE HAS PLACED A 24-HOUR GUARD ON THE PREMISES TO ENSURE THAT THERE IS NO UNAUTHORISED PRODUCTION.

THE FACTORY HAS BEEN THE MAIN SOURCE OF POLLUTION BY DISCHARGING INDUSTRIAL EFFLUENTS DIRECTLY INTO HO CHUNG RIVER.

OVER THE PAST 10 YEARS, THE FACTORY CLAIMED TO HAVE BEEN TAKING STEPS TO IMPROVE OR EXPAND ITS TREATMENT FACILITIES BUT NO PROGRESS WAS MADE.

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WHEN THE GOVERNMENT PRESSED THE FACTORY FOR SPECIFIC IMPROVEMENTS TO ITS TREATMENT FACILITIES EARLY THIS YEAR, THE FACTORY INDICATED THAT THEY HAD DECIDED NOT TO INSTALL ANY NEW TREATMENT FACILITIES BECAUSE OF THE HIGH COST BUT INTENDED TO CONTINUE OPERATIONS UNTIL THE END OF THE YEAR.

AS THE DISCHARGE OF POLLUTED INDUSTRIAL EFFLUENTS IS IN BREACH OF THE LEASE CONDITIONS OF THE LOT IN QUESTION, THE GOVERNMENT DECIDED TO TAKE BACK THE LOT UNDER THE CROWN RIGHTS (RE-ENTRY AND VESTING REMEDIES) ORDINANCE.

NOTICE OF RE-ENTRY WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE ON APRIL 12.

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS MET FACTORY REPRESENTATIVES AND THEIR ADVISERS LAST WEDNESDAY (APRIL 25) TO CONSIDER THE ISSUES RESULTING FROM THE GOVERNMENT'S RE-ENTRY OF THEIR PREMISES.

FACTORY REPRESENTATIVES CONFIRMED THAT THEY HAD CEASED ALL PRODUCTION AT THE FACTORY AND SUBSEQUENTLY DISCONNECTED THE WATER PIPES ESSENTIAL FOR THE BLEACHING AND DYEING OPERATION AS REQUESTED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

THIS WILL ENSURE THAT THESE ACTIVITIES, WHICH WAS THE PRINCIPAL CAUSE OF THE POLLUTION, CANNOT BE RE-STARTED.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT HAS ALSO CONFIRMED THAT AT PRESENT THERE IS NO POLLUTING OF HO CHUNG RIVER BY THE FACTORY.

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ABILITY TO ADOPT AND ADAPT ADVANCED INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY A CRUCIAL FACTOR

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A CRUCIAL FACTOR WHICH HAS CONTRIBUTED TO HONG KONG'S ATTRACTIVENESS AS AN INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS CENTRE IS ITS ABILITY TO ADOPT AND ADAPT ADVANCED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR ANDREW LEUNG, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

HE WAS SPEAKING AT A SEMINAR ON IMAGE PROCESSING AND DOCUMENT ARCHIVING ORGANISED BY OLIVETTI SYSTEMS AND NETWORKS HONG KONG.

"FOR EXAMPLE, HONG KONG WAS THE FIRST IN THE WORLD TO INTRODUCE DATAFAX, WHICH ENABLES SUBSCRIBERS TO SEND FAX MESSAGES DIRECT FROM THEIR PERSONAL COMPUTERS TO ANY FAX MACHINES LOCALLY THROUGH THE PUBLIC PACKET SWITCHED SERVICE WITH NO ADDITIONAL HARDWARE," MR LEUNG SAID.

"WE ARE THE FIRST TO INTRODUCE SUPERTELEX, WHICH SENDS TELEXES THROUGH A PERSONAL COMPUTER.

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"WE ARE ALSO ONE OF THE FIRST FAR EAST COUNTRIES TO OFFER PUBLIC VIDEO-CONFERENCING FACILITIES," HE SAID.

MR LEUNG SAID HE WAS PLEASED TO LEARN THAT OLIVETTI WAS INTRODUCING IMAGE PROCESSING AND DOCUMENT ARCHIVING TECHNOLOGIES TO HONG KONG.

"THESE TECHNOLOGIES ARE AN IMPORTANT ADDITION TO OUR WORLD-CLASS TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE. THEIR APPLICATION WILL FURTHER ENHANCE OUR DATA PROCESSING, COMPUTING AND DOCUMENT HANDLING CAPABILITIES IN ALL FIELDS, INCLUDING THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF ELECTRONIC DATA INTERCHANGE," HE SAID.

MR LEUNG SAID HONG KONG WAS AT A PIVOTAL POSITION AS A MAJOR FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL CENTRE IN THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION.

"APART FROM ITS EXCELLENT PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE, THE WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM IN ITS WORLD COMPETITIVENESS REPORT PUBLISHED IN THE LATTER HALF OF 1989 HAS HIGHLIGHTED THE IMPORTANCE OF HONG KONG'S MARKET AND FINANCIAL DYNAMISM, ITS FREE ENTERPRISE ECONOMY AND ITS INDUSTRIAL EFFICIENCY," HE SAID.

HE SAID THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION WAS NOW THE WORLD'S FASTEST GROWING MARKET AND ITS PENETRATION REQUIRED A STRATEGICALLY PLACED PHYSICAL PRESENCE.

HE SAID MANY ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL OFFICES WERE ALREADY IN HONG KONG. AN IMPORTANT TESTIMONY WAS OLIVETTI SYSTEMS AND NETWORKS HONG KONG, WHOSE REGIONAL OFFICE HERE ALSO SUPPORTED OPERATIONS IN TAIWAN, KOREA AND CHINA.

"ITS PRESENCE HERE NOT ONLY EMPHASISES HONG KONG'S VITAL ROLE AS A REGIONAL CENTRE, BUT THE INTRODUCTION OF OLIVETTI'S LATEST INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES WILL BRING HONG KONG TO THE FOREFRONT OF SUCH TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT," HE SAID.

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1989 SURVEY OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THE SURVEY OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION FOR 1989 HAS JUST COMMENCED.

THE SURVEY IS CONDUCTED ANNUALLY AND REPRESENTS PART OF A CONTINUOUS PROGRAMME IN THE DEPARTMENT TO COLLECT ECONOMIC STATISTICS ON THE STRUCTURE AND PERFORMANCE OF THE VARIOUS INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES IN HONG KONG.

THE AIMS OF THE SURVEY ARE TO OBTAIN UP-TO-DATE DATA FOR EVALUATING THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE VARIOUS INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES TO HONG KONG'S GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCTS, AND FOR ASCERTAINING THEIR COST STRUCTURE, OPERATING CHARACTERISTICS AND OUTPUT LEVELS.

RESULTS OF THE SURVEY ARE USEFUL TO BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN FORMULATING POLICIES AND MAKING DECISIONS.

ABOUT 8,000 ESTABLISHMENTS WILL BE ENUMERATED IN THE PRESENT ROUND OF THE SURVEY, COVERING THE FOLLOWING ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES: MANUFACTURING; MINING AND QUARRYING; AND ELECTRICITY, GAS AND WATER.

INFORMATION SOUGHT IN THE SURVEY INCLUDES: TYPE OF OWNERSHIP, ORIGIN OF INVESTMENT, FLOOR AREA, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES (THAT IS WAGES, SALARIES AND OTHER EMPLOYEE BENEFITS), PAYMENTS FOR INDUSTRIAL WORK AND INDUSTRIAL SERVICES, VALUE OF PURCHASES AND OTHER EXPENSES, SALES AND OTHER RECEIPTS, AS WELL AS CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND STOCKS.

THE SURVEY IS BEING CONDUCTED UNDER THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS (ANNUAL SURVEY OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION) ORDER 1984, WHICH WAS MADE UNDER THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS ORDINANCE (CHAPTER 316) AND ISSUED IN THE GAZETTE ON JANUARY 13, 1984.

SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRES HAVE BEEN MAILED TO THE ESTABLISHMENTS SAMPLED FOR THE SURVEY. THESE ESTABLISHMENTS ARE LEGALLY REQUIRED TO COMPLETE AND RETURN THE QUESTIONNAIRES TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT BY JULY 31 THIS YEAR.

IF REQUIRED, OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT WILL VISIT INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS AND ASSIST THEM IN COMPLETING THE QUESTIONNAIRES. THESE OFFICERS WILL CARRY A GOVERNMENT IDENTITY CARD AND A CERTIFICATE FOR CONDUCTING THE SURVEY WHILST ON DUTY, WHICH ARE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION.

THE COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS APPEALED TO THE MANAGERMENTS OF ALL SAMPLED ESTABLISHMENTS TO RETURN THE COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRES PROMPTLY AND TO CO-OPERATE WITH OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT IN THE COURSE OF THE SURVEY, SO AS TO FULFIL THEIR LEGAL AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.

HE STRESSED THAT INFORMATION RELATING TO INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS WOULD BE TREATED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE UNDER THE PROVISION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS ORDINANCE. ONLY AGGREGATE INFORMATION, WHICH DOES NOT REVEAL DETAILS OF INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS, WILL BE RELEASED.

THE COMMISSIONER ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE AUDITED ACCOUNTS ARE NOT ESSENTIAL FOR THE SUPPLY OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE DATA REQUIRED IN THE SURVEY.

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ACCEPTS FIGURES BASED ON PRELIMINARY ACCOUNTS OR ESTIMATES WHICH ARE CORRECT TO THE BEST OF THE RESPONDENTS' KNOWLEDGE AT THE TIME OF SUBMISSION OF THE RETURNS, IF AUDITED ACCOUNTS ARE NOT YET AVAILABLE.

ANY ENQUIRIES REGARDING THE SURVEY MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL. 823 5079.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY STUDENTS

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THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON STUDENT FINANCE, WHICH ADMINISTERS GOVERNMENT'S SCHEME OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY STUDENTS OF TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS, TODAY (TUESDAY) ANNOUNCED THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR APPLICATIONS IN RESPECT OF THE 1990-91 ACADEMIC YEAR.

THE SCHEME PROVIDES FINANCIAL AID IN THE FORM OF A COMBINATION OF GRANTS AND LOANS FOR STUDENTS ATTENDING FULL-TIME COURSES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, THE CITY POLYTECHNIC OF HONG KONG, AND THE HONG KONG BAPTIST COLLEGE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE JOINT COMMITTEE SAID THAT TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, AN APPLICANT MUST HAVE RESIDED OR BEEN DOMICILED IN HONG KONG CONTINUOUSLY FOR AT LEAST THREE YEARS IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO APPLYING FOR ASSISTANCE.

"CURRENT STUDENTS MAY OBTAIN APPLICATION FORMS AS FROM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) FROM THEIR INSTITUTIONS," HE SAID.

"PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS WHO SATISFY THE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS OF, AND HAVE APPLIED FOR ADMISSION TO, EITHER UNIVERSITY MAY OBTAIN APPLICATION FORMS FROM THE STUDENT FINANCE SECTION OF THE EDUCATION AND MANPOWER BRANCH AT QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES, LOW BLOCK, GROUND FLOOR, 66 QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG, OR FROM THE INSTITUTIONS CONCERNED.

"THEY WILL HAVE TO PRODUCE THE RESULT SLIPS OF THEIR ADVANCED/HIGHER LEVEL EXAMINATION OR NOTIFICATION OF PROVISIONAL OFFER IN RESPECT OF THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

"THEY SHOULD, HOWEVER, SUBMIT THEIR APPLICATIONS ONLY AFTER THEY HAVE BEEN OFFERED ADMISSION BY THE UNIVERSITY CONCERNED.

"NEW STUDENTS ADMITTED BY THE TWO POLYTECHNICS AND THE BAPTIST COLLEGE MAY OBTAIN APPLICATION FORMS AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION."

THE SPOKESMAN SAID POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS AND STUDENTS TAKING HIGHER DEGREE OR DIPLOMA COURSES, WHO WOULD NOT HAVE EXCEEDED THEIR MINIMUM PRESCRIBED PERIOD OF REGISTRATION BY SEPTEMBER 30, 1990, WERE ALSO ELIGIBLE TO APPLY.

THE MINIMUM PERIOD OF REGISTRATION FOR A MASTER DEGREE IS NORMALLY TWO YEARS AND FOR A DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREE, THREE YEARS, HE SAID.

/THE CLOSING

THE CLOSING DATES FOR APPLICATIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

CURRENT STUDENTS	: JUNE 1, 1990
NEW STUDENTS, CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG	: AUGUST 24, 1990
NEW STUDENTS, UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG	: EARLY SEPTEMBER 1990
NEW STUDENTS OF THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, CITY POLYTECHNIC OF HONG KONG AND BAPTIST COLLEGE	: OCTOBER 10, 1990

THE SPOKESMAN SAID APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WERE SUBJECT TO MEANS TEST, WHICH TAKES INTO ACCOUNT A STUDENT'S FAMILY INCOME AND ASSETS LESS PERMITTED DEDUCTIONS TO ARRIVE AT THE STUDENT'S ANNUAL DISPOSABLE INCOME FOR SETTING AGAINST HIS GRANT/LOAN REQUIREMENTS.

"FOR EVERY FRESH APPLICATION, THE APPLICANT AND/OR AN ADULT MEMBER OF HIS HOUSEHOLD (PREFERABLY HIS DECLARANT), WHO IS FULLY AWARE OF THE FAMILY'S CIRCUMSTANCES, WILL BE INVITED TO ATTEND AN INTERVIEW AT THE STUDENT FINANCE SECTION TO CLARIFY THE INFORMATION REPORTED IN THE APPLICATION," HE SAID.

"AFTER THE FIRST YEAR OF APPLICATION, INTERVIEWS WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN ALTERNATE YEARS."

THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT INCORRECT OR INACCURATE INFORMATION NOT ONLY WOULD LEAD TO REJECTION OF AN APPLICATION BUT MIGHT ALSO GIVE RISE TO CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST THE DECLARANT.

ENQUIRIES SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO STUDENT FINANCE SECTION OF THE EDUCATION AND MANPOWER BRANCH AT QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES, LOW BLOCK, GROUND FLOOR, 66 QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG. THE TELEPHONE NUMBER IS 867 2738.

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18 QUESTIONS, 15 BILLS ON LEGCO AGENDA
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MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL ASK A TOTAL OF 18 QUESTIONS AND CONSIDER 15 BILLS AT THE COUNCIL'S MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE WILL ALSO MOVE A MOTION UNDER THE PHARMACY AND POISONS ORDINANCE.

OF THE 15 BILLS, 11 WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS AND DEBATE ON THEM WILL BE ADJOURNED.

/THEY ARE

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THEY ARE THE MOTOR VEHICLES (FIRST REGISTRATION TAX) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990, ROAD TRAFFIC (DRIVING LICENCES REGULATIONS AND REGISTRATION AND LICENSING OF VEHICLES REGULATIONS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990, BUSINESS REGISTRATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990, COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) (NO. 3) BILL 1990, BANKING (AMENDMENT) (NO. 3) BILL 1990, INLAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1990, ESTATE DUTY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990, SECURITIES (DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990, TELECOMMUNICATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990 AND HOSPITAL AUTHORITY BILL 1990.

THE ELEVENTH BILL IS A PRIVATE ONE, THE DEN NORSKE BANK BILL 1990.

THE OTHER BILLS ARE EACH DUE TO BE GIVEN A SECOND READING, AND THEN TO GO THROUGH THE COMMITTEE STAGE AND THIRD READING.

THEY ARE THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES (JOINT LIAISON GROUP AND LAND COMMISSION) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990, ARCHITECTS REGISTRATION BILL 1989, ENGINEERS REGISTRATION BILL 1989 AND GRANTHAM SCHOLARSHIP FUND (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990.

IN ADDITION, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY WILL SPEAK ON THE REPORT OF CHANGES TO THE APPROVED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE APPROVED DURING THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1989-90; WHILE THE HON PROF C.K. POON WILL SPEAK ON THE 1989-90 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

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\$351M HOSPITAL CONTRACT SIGNED

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THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE PAMELA YOUDE HOSPITAL STAFF QUARTERS AND NURSES TRAINING SCHOOL IN CHAI WAN WILL START LATER THIS MONTH.

THE DIRECTOR OF ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES, MR JOSE LEI, TODAY (TUESDAY) SIGNED A \$351.4 MILLION CONTRACT WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF SHUI ON CONSTRUCTION CO. LTD TO EFFECT THE PROJECT.

THE CONTRACT INCLUDES FOUR INTERLOCKING BLOCKS OF 17 STOREYS TO PROVIDE:

- * A NURSE TRAINING SCHOOL WITH LECTURE THEATRE, CLASSROOMS, SEMINAR/DISCUSSION ROOMS, DEMONSTRATION/PRACTICAL AREAS AND LIBRARY;
- * 793 UNITS OF QUARTERS FOR NURSES AND STUDENTS, DINING ROOMS, KITCHEN, ADMINISTRATION AREAS, SQUASH COURTS AND CARPARKING; AND

/*STAFF PEDESTRIAN/SERVICES

- * STAFF PEDESTRIAN/SERVICES TUNNEL LINK TO HOSPITAL AND LARGER STAFF RECREATIONAL FACILITIES (THAT IS LANDSCAPED GARDEN, LOUNGES, LIBRARY AND CANTEEN).

THE CONTRACT ALSO INCLUDES THREE HIGH-RISE BLOCKS PROVIDING 108 QUARTERS FOR SENIOR STAFF AND CARPARKING. THERE WILL BE GARDEN AREAS WITH A CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND AND OUTDOOR FITNESS CENTRE.

CONSTRUCTION WORK IS SCHEDULED TO BE COMPLETED BY APRIL 1992.

THE PAMELA YOUDE HOSPITAL, FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE EASTERN DISTRICT HOSPITAL, IS BEING BUILT ON A MID-LEVEL SITE OVERLOOKING CHAI WAN.

IT WILL PROVIDE A FULL RANGE OF MEDICAL AND SURGICAL FACILITIES FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT AND IS ONE OF THE LARGEST HOSPITALS UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN THE WORLD TODAY.

THE HOSPITAL COMPLEX WILL CONSIST OF INTER-RELATED BUILDINGS AROUND THE HILLSIDE LINKED BY TUNNELS, DOCKS AND FOOTBRIDGES.

THE PRIMARY UNIT WILL BE A 14-STOREY MAIN BLOCK, AND THERE WILL BE A 12-STOREY SPECIAL BLOCK, A NINE-STOREY PATHOLOGY BLOCK, A SIX-STOREY POLYCLINIC BLOCK, A NURSES TRAINING SCHOOL AND STAFF QUARTERS.

CARPARKING, LANDSCAPED ROOF DECKS, STAFF BARRACKS AND A ROOFTOP HELIPAD FOR EMERGENCY USE WILL BE PROVIDED.

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SURVEY COMPLETED IN STAGE 3 LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL AREA

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THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT (EPD) HAS RECENTLY COMPLETED THE PRE-OPERATIONAL SURVEY IN PHASE I STAGE 3 CONTROL AREA UNDER THE LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL SCHEME.

THE PHASE I STAGE 3 CONTROL AREA COVERS THE TUEN MUN ENVIRONS.

AN EPD SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THE SURVEY WAS TO FIND OUT THE NUMBER OF FARMS IN THE AREA AND ASSESS THE ELIGIBILITY OF FARMS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL SCHEME.

OPERATORS OF ANY LIVESTOCK FARMS IN THE AREA THAT HAVE NOT BEEN SURVEYED SHOULD CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT. THE TELEPHONE NUMBERS ARE 733 2280 AND 733 2292.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE STATUTORY DATE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL SCHEME IN PHASE I STAGE 3 CONTROL AREA WAS JANUARY 1, 1990.

FOLLOWING THE SAME ADMINISTRATIVE PRACTICE APPLIED TO STAGE 2 CONTROL AREA, GENERAL ENFORCEMENT OF CONTROL WOULD NOT BE EXTENDED TO THE TUEN MUN ENVIRONS PENDING THE REVIEW OF THE PRIVATE FARM DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS, HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED AFFECTED FARMERS IN THE PHASE I STAGE 3 CONTROL AREA WHO WISH TO CEASE BUSINESS TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS FOR EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE AND THOSE WHO WISH TO CONTINUE OPERATION TO APPLY FOR CAPITAL GRANT AND LOW INTEREST LOAN.

LETTERS FOR APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE AFFECTED FARM OPERATORS.

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VA'S IMPORTANT IN PROVIDING CHILD CARE SERVICES: LADY WILSON
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CHILD CARE SERVICES IN HONG KONG ARE VITAL, IN VIEW OF THE INCREASING NUMBER OF NUCLEAR FAMILIES AND WORKING MOTHERS, LADY WILSON SAID THIS (TUESDAY) MORNING DURING A VISIT TO THE TSUNG TSIN MISSION ON YAN CHILD CARE CENTRE IN FU SHIN ESTATE, TAI PO.

"VOLUNTARY AGENCIES HAVE MADE A GREAT CONTRIBUTION IN MEETING THE DEMAND," SHE NOTED.

THE ON YAN CHILD CARE CENTRE, WHICH CAN LOOK AFTER UP TO 150 CHILDREN BETWEEN TWO AND SIX YEARS OF AGE, ADOPTS GAME-ORIENTED TEACHING METHODS TO ENABLE YOUNG CHILDREN TO LEARN EFFECTIVELY IN A FREE AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT.

IT ALSO ENCOURAGES PARENTS TO TAKE AN ACTIVE PART IN THE CHILDREN'S LEARNING PROGRAMMES.

LADY WILSON WAS SHOWN AROUND THE CENTRE, WHERE SHE SAW THE CHILDREN LEARNING, PLAYING AND DANCING.

LADY WILSON WAS ACCOMPANIED ON HER VISIT BY THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR ADOLF HSU; TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICER, MR THOMAS YIU; PRESIDENT OF TSUNG TSIN MISSION, MR SIMON POON-KI SIT; AND CHAIRMAN OF THE MISSION'S SOCIAL SERVICE DIVISION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, MR PETER LIN.

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CONCERN GROUP BRIEFED ON SECURITY MEASURES AT WHITEHEAD
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THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD, MR NG CHAN-LAM, AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD'S CONCERN GROUP ON THE WHITEHEAD DETENTION CENTRE THIS (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON OBSERVED THE CENTRE FROM OUTSIDE THE SECURITY FENCES.

DURING THE VISIT, SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR VICTOR YUNG, BRIEFED THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS ON THE MEASURES BEING TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT TO IMPROVE SECURITY AT THE CENTRE.

THESE INCLUDE STRENGTHENING THE EXISTING FENCES AND PROVIDING AN EXPANDED METAL SECURITY FENCE, AS WELL AS ERECTING A BARRIER BETWEEN FENCES.

OTHER MEASURES ARE MOUNTING A CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT MOBILE PATROL AROUND THE PERIMETER OF THE CENTRE, DEPLOYING ONE POLICE TACTICAL UNIT PLATOON TO STRENGTHEN SECURITY AT THE CENTRE, AND CONDUCTING ANOTHER LARGE-SCALE WEAPONS SEARCH AT THE CENTRE.

MR YUNG STRESSED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE RECENT ESCAPE OF BOAT PEOPLE FROM THE CENTRE, AND WOULD CONTINUE TO CLOSELY MONITOR THE SITUATION.

"IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE MEASURES, THE SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS AT WHITEHEAD WILL BE FURTHER IMPROVED," HE SAID.

MR YUNG SAID THE DB MEMBERS APPRECIATED THE GOVERNMENT'S PROMPT RESPONSE TO, AND SWIFT ACTIONS TO DEAL WITH, THE INCIDENT AT WHITEHEAD.

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CNTA SUPPORTS PO LEUNG KUK PROJECTS
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THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION (CNTA) WILL FULLY SUPPORT PO LEUNG KUK'S SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICE PROJECTS PLANNED FOR THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR, THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR PETER TSAO, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

MR TSAO SAID THIS AFTER BEING BRIEFED ON THE KUK'S WORK PLAN FOR 1990-91 BY THE ORGANISATION'S CHAIRMAN AND DIRECTORS WHO WERE PAYING A COURTESY CALL ON THE CNTA.

REFERRING TO THE WORK PLAN, MR TSAO SAID: "I AM PLEASED TO LEARN THAT THE KUK IS BUILDING MORE NURSERIES, HOMES FOR CHILDREN AND FOR THE ELDERLY, AS WELL AS BUILDING THE Y.C. CHENG CENTRE AND THE TSEUNG KWAN O CENTRE TO PROVIDE REHABILITATION SERVICES FOR THE MENTALLY-HANDICAPPED.

/"THESE SERVICES

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"THESE SERVICES ARE MUCH NEEDED BY THE COMMUNITY, AND THE CNTA WILL FULLY SUPPORT THESE BUILDING PROJECTS."

ON EDUCATION, MR TSAO SAID HE ENDORSED THE KUK'S POLICY OF BUILDING DIFFERENT TYPES OF SCHOOLS IN A DISTRICT, SUCH AS SECONDARY AND PRIMARY SCHOOLS, AS WELL AS KINDERGARTENS, TO ENABLE CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGES TO STUDY IN THEIR OWN DISTRICTS.

"THIS POLICY WILL HAVE A FAR-REACHING IMPACT ON THE OVERALL DEVELOPMENT OF NEW TOWNS," HE NOTED.

MR TSAO ALSO PRAISED THE KUK'S EFFORTS IN BROADENING THE SCOPE OF ITS EDUCATIONAL SERVICES BY ESTABLISHING VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS AND ADULT EDUCATION CENTRES.

"THIS SPIRIT OF CONTINUOUSLY STRENGTHENING AND IMPROVING SERVICES WILL CERTAINLY WIN THE APPRECIATION OF THE PUBLIC," HE ADDED.

ON THE KUK'S PLAN FOR A LARGE-SCALE HOLIDAY CAMP IN TAI TONG, YUEN LONG, MR TSAO SAID THE CNTA WOULD RENDER FULL SUPPORT SO THAT THE PROJECT WOULD PROCEED SMOOTHLY.

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YUEN LONG DB COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS MEDICAL SERVICES

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THE SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE MEDICAL SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT AT A MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO CONSIDER APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDS FOR HOLDING COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES FROM JULY TO SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD'S SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE TO BE HELD TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM, 13TH FLOOR, YUEN LONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 2 KIU LOK SQUARE, YUEN LONG. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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KOWLOON CITY DB TO DISCUSS CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES

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THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS THE PROPOSED CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES OF THE DISTRICT FOR THE 1991 DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS AT ITS MEETING ON THURSDAY (MAY 3).

THE MEETING WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE ALLOCATION OF DB FUNDS FOR 1990-91, THE PROPOSED LIAISON WORK OF THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION IN THE DISTRICT THIS YEAR AND THE PRODUCTION OF THE BOARD'S FOURTH TERM REPORT.

MEMBERS WILL REQUEST THE GOVERNMENT TO INTRODUCE MORE STRINGENT LEGISLATION CONCERNING ILLEGAL STRUCTURES AND TO REINSTATE THE NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE UNIT IN VALLEY ROAD ESTATE.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY (MAY 3) IN THE DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, 141 KAU PUI LUNG ROAD. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.15 PM.

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DB COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER FUND APPLICATIONS

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THE COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD WILL CONSIDER SEVEN APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDS FOR ORGANISING VARIOUS OUTINGS AND CARNIVALS FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS AT ITS MEETING ON THURSDAY (MAY 3).

MEMBERS WILL ALSO STUDY REPORTS ON COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING TO BEGIN AT 2.30 PM ON THURSDAY (MAY 3) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM, SECOND FLOOR, SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 34 CHAN MAN STREET, SAI KUNG TOWN.

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FISHERFOLK TO CELEBRATE TAM KUNG FESTIVAL

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THOUSANDS OF FISHERFOLK AND WORSHIPPERS WILL GATHER AT SHAU KEI WAN MAIN STREET EAST TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) MORNING TO CELEBRATE THE TRADITIONAL TAM KUNG FESTIVAL.

THE FESTIVAL FALLS ON THE EIGHTH DAY OF THE FOURTH MONTH OF THE LUNAR CALENDAR TO COMMEMORATE THE BIRTHDAY OF THE LEGENDARY DEITY WHO IS BELIEVED TO BE ABLE TO BESTOW GOOD FORTUNE ON WORSHIPPERS.

THE HIGHLIGHT OF THIS YEAR'S CELEBRATION IS A GRAND PROCESSION FEATURING DRAGON, LION AND UNICORN DANCES ALONG SHAU KEI WAN MAIN STREET EAST TO THE TAM KUNG TEMPLE.

THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR STEVE BARCLAY, WILL VISIT THE TEMPLE AT 10.30 AM.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE TAM KUNG FESTIVAL CELEBRATION ACTIVITIES AT SHAU KEI WAN MAIN STREET EAST TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY), STARTING AT 10.30 AM.

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MORE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FOR SAI KUNG

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MEMBERS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD WILL PROPOSE, AT A MEETING ON THURSDAY (MAY 3), THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NINE MINOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS IN THE DISTRICT THIS YEAR.

THESE PROJECTS INCLUDE THE REPAIR OF THE DRAINAGE SYSTEM AT SUN KING TERRACE, THE LINKING OF THE JOGGING TRACKS OF TSUI LAM AND PO LAM ESTATES IN TSEUNG KWAN O AND THE PROVISION OF NEST LETTER BOXES FOR PO TOI O VILLAGERS.

MEMBERS WILL DISCUSS A PROPOSAL TO PUT UP ROAD SAFETY BOARDS NEAR THE BUS STOP OUTSIDE PO YAN HOUSE, PO LAM ESTATE, TO WARN JAYWALKERS.

THEY WILL ALSO CONSIDER ALLOCATING \$45,000 UNDER THE MINOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT VOTE TO DEMOLISH FIVE DESERTED INCINERATORS IN PAK SHEK WO, MAU WU TSAI, PAK SHA O, LUK MEI AND SHA TAU.

/OTHER AGENDA

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OTHER AGENDA ITEMS INCLUDE THE FORMATION OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN 1990-91.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY (MAY 3) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM, SECOND FLOOR, SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 34 CHAN MAN STREET, SAI KUNG TOWN.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 10 AM.

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SWD TUEN MUN OFFICES ON MOVE

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THE BUTTERFLY FAMILY SERVICES CENTRE AND BUTTERFLY SOCIAL SECURITY FIELD UNIT OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT IN TUEN MUN HAVE MOVED TO TAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICES, THIRD FLOOR, 16 TSUN WEN ROAD, TUEN MUN, TODAY (TUESDAY).

FAMILY SERVICES CENTRES PROVIDE SERVICES TO HELP FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS SOLVE FAMILY RELATIONSHIP OR ADJUSTMENT PROBLEMS, WHILE FIELD UNITS HANDLE APPLICATIONS FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE, SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE, CRIMINAL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT INJURIES COMPENSATION, TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS ASSISTANCE AND EMERGENCY RELIEF.

THE SWD OPERATES A TOTAL OF 31 FAMILY SERVICES CENTRES AND 34 SOCIAL SECURITY FIELD UNITS SERVING RESIDENTS IN VARIOUS DISTRICTS.

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SYMPOSIUM TO PROMOTE SAFETY PROGRAMME

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MORE THAN 100 PEOPLE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROMOTION OF SAFETY AT WORK IN 54 ORGANISATIONS WILL SPEND THREE DAYS TOGETHER STARTING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) TO BETTER PREPARE THEMSELVES FOR THE JOB.

THE THREE-DAY SYMPOSIUM ON SAFETY AND HEALTH MANAGEMENT WILL FOCUS ATTENTION ON THE NEED FOR A SELF-REGULATORY APPROACH TO DEAL WITH THE ISSUE.

/IT IS

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IT IS ORGANISED BY THE FACTORY INSPECTORATE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT FOR THE THIRD YEAR RUNNING FOR MEMBERS OF SAFETY COMMITTEES AND PEOPLE RESPONSIBLE FOR WORK SAFETY AND HEALTH IN SAFETY ORGANISATIONS.

HELD AT THE LEI YUE MUN PARK AND HOLIDAY VILLAGE, THE SYMPOSIUM THIS YEAR WILL CARRY THE THEME OF PROMOTING IN-PLANT SAFETY PROGRAMME AND TACKLING THE ASSOCIATED PROBLEMS.

THERE WILL BE TALKS BY EXPERTS, INCLUDING A SOLICITOR, ON SUCH TOPICS AS THE ROLES OF SAFETY OFFICERS, EXPERIENCE IN SELF-REGULATORY APPROACH IN THE CONTROL OF IN-PLANT SAFETY PROBLEMS, A PARTICIPATIVE APPROACH TO SITE SAFETY MANAGEMENT AND CIVIL LIABILITY CLAIMS.

IN ADDITION, THE PROGRAMME WILL INCLUDE FACTORY VISITS AND GROUP DISCUSSIONS ON SAFETY MANAGEMENT IN ACTION.

THE EVENT WILL BE OFFICIALLY OPENED TOMORROW BY THE SECRETARY FOR WORKS, MR KENNETH KWOK; COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR TONY HAMMOND; VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH COUNCIL, MR K.Y. TONGSON; AND A MEMBER OF THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD, MR CHEUNG LUN.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE SYMPOSIUM ON SAFETY AND HEALTH MANAGEMENT WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 10.30 AM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AT THE LEI YUE MAN PARK AND HOLIDAY VILLAGE.

A COACH (CM 4946) TO TAKE MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES TO THE VENUE WILL DEPART FROM THE HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, AT 9.30 AM SHARP.

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WATER CUTS IN TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN TUEN MUN WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 10 PM ON THURSDAY (MAY 3) TO 6 AM THE NEXT DAY TO FACILITATE WATER WORKS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT CERTAIN PREMISES ALONG CASTLE PEAK ROAD (FROM SUN FUNG WAI TO FU TEI ROUNDABOUT), INCLUDING SUN FUNG WAI, NAI WAI, LAM TEI, LAM TEI ROAD, LAM TEI SAN TSUEN, LO FU HANG, TO YUEN WAI, FU TEI, FU TEI SAN TSUEN, FU TEI SHEUNG TSUEN, BOWRING CAMP, BOWRING CLOSED CENTRE, TSING CHUEN WAI AND TUEN TSZ WAI.

/ALSO TO

TUESDAY, MAY 1, 1990

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ALSO TO FACILITATE WATER WORKS, FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN YUEN LONG WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 8 AM TO 6 PM ON FRIDAY (MAY 4).

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT ALL PREMISES ALONG KAM SHEUNG ROAD AND LAM KAM ROAD, WONG CHUK YUEN, AND CERTAIN PREMISES ALONG FAN KAM ROAD (FROM WANG TOI SHAN TO TA SHEK WU).

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TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES IN NORTH POINT

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS OF ROADS IN NORTH POINT, WHICH ARE NOW PROHIBITED TO ALL MOTOR VEHICLES EXCEPT BUSES, THOSE WITH PERMITS AND THOSE FOR ACCESS, WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 10 AM ON THURSDAY (MAY 3) FOR ABOUT TWO WEEKS:

- * KING'S ROAD EASTBOUND BETWEEN TIN CHIU STREET AND MAN HONG STREET; AND
- * MAN HONG STREET NORTHBOUND BETWEEN KING'S ROAD AND JAVA ROAD.

THE ARRANGEMENT IS TO FACILITATE THE MODIFICATION OF THE CENTRAL ISLAND ON KING'S ROAD EASTBOUND NEAR ITS JUNCTION WITH TIN CHIU STREET.

DURING THE CLOSURES, VEHICLES HEADING FOR KING'S ROAD EASTBOUND MAY TRAVEL VIA TIN CHIU STREET NORTHBOUND, JAVA ROAD AND MAN HONG STREET.

VEHICLES HEADING FOR ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR MAY TRAVEL VIA TIN CHIU STREET NORTHBOUND AND JAVA ROAD.

AFFECTED EASTBOUND BUS ROUTES WILL ALSO BE DIVERTED VIA TIN CHIU STREET NORTHBOUND, JAVA ROAD AND MAN HONG STREET.

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