

Press in May 1996

<i>Press May 25, 1996</i>	
Headline :	<i>Attention News Editors :</i>
Content:	<p>The following is issued on behalf of the Housing Authority :</p> <p>In response to today (Saturday) press reports on the cleanliness of Kai Lok Temporary Housing Area (THA), a spokesman for the Housing Department reiterated that housing staff had been working hard to maintain the cleanliness of the THA and to allocate public rental flats (PRH) to tenants.</p> <p>He pointed out that in September last year, the Department announced the decision to make direct offers for rehousing to PRH units to residents of the THA. Up to May 15, 1996, 313 families had already received direct offers from the Department.</p> <p>However, only 78 families accepted such offers, he said.</p> <p>The acceptance rate was low, although housing staff had tried their best to satisfy residents? Requests within existing resources. ""He will still honour our pledge to make at least one direct offer to residents of Kai Lok THA before the end of this year.""</p> <p>The spokesman emphasized that residents should clear things left inside their units when they moved out. The Department would then refurbish these units for improving the overall environment of the area and the living conditions inside the units.</p> <p>However, the Department was unable to start refurbishment for units at Kai Lok due to resistance from residents, he said.</p> <p>He added that a series of measures were in place to enhance management of THAs, including increasing cleansing of public toilets up to six times daily and arranging cleansing workers to collect refuse door-to-door in the evening.</p> <p>In addition, arrangements were made with the Urban Services Department to regularly place rat baits and with specialist firms to eradicate termites in THAs.</p> <p>The spokesman emphasized that cooperation between housing staff and THA residents was vital for maintaining a clean environment in THAs.</p> <p>As the manager of THAs, the Department will take the matter seriously. Should residents have any problem, they may either approach the management office at Kai Lok or inform our staff by phone, he said.</p> <p>End Saturday, May 25, 1996</p>