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Bid to control hawking

THE New Territories Services Department has been particularly concerned in the field of hawkers and markets and of recreation in the New Territories since the department's reorganisation on April 1, a few papers reported today.

Quoting the Director of the New Territories Services Department, Mr. H.S. Grewal, who spoke at a luncheon meeting of the Rotary Club of the New Territories yesterday, the papers said the NTSD's aim was to prevent on-street hawking in new towns and to eliminate existing hawker black-spots.

Mr. Grewal said that in addition to the existing team in Tsuen Wan, five General Duties Teams, each comprising 120 men divided into 20 squads, would be set up in Kwai Chung, Sha Tin, Yuen Long and Tuen Mun to enforce controls on hawking.

Mr. Grewal said the provision of properly planned markets and cooked-food centres was the second requirement against on-street hawking.

He said at present there were two new markets under construction in the New Territories. The one in Sha Tin was expected to be completed in two months, and the other in Tsuen Wan early next year.

On recreational facilities, Mr. Grewal said that many projects had to be slowed down because the Government had decided to cut public expenditure in the current financial year.