



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 1991

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GOVERNOR VISITS COMMERCIAL RADIO

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, VISITED THE COMMERCIAL RADIO PREMISES IN BROADCAST DRIVE TODAY (THURSDAY) WHERE HE MET THE MANAGEMENT, STAFF AND PROGRAMME PRESENTERS.

THE GOVERNOR, ACCOMPANIED BY THE SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR A.K. CHUI, TOURED COMMERCIAL RADIO'S FACILITIES AND WATCHED SEVERAL LIVE RADIO SHOWS GOING OUT ON AIR.

HE WAS BRIEFED ON THE STATION'S DEVELOPMENT BY MR GEORGE HO, COMMERCIAL RADIO'S MANAGING DIRECTOR, AND MISS WINNIE YU, THE GENERAL MANAGER.

DURING THE VISIT SIR DAVID PERFORMED A SWITCHING-ON CEREMONY FOR THE NEWS AND WEATHER SERVICE WHICH COMMERCIAL RADIO IS STARTING FOR MTR COMMUTERS.

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CHIEF SECRETARY LEAVES FOR WORLD FORUM

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THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID FORD, LEAVES TODAY (THURSDAY) AS THE HEAD OF A HIGH-POWERED DELEGATION TO PROMOTE HONG KONG AT THE WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM AT DAVOS IN SWITZERLAND.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM BRINGS TOGETHER SOME OF THE WORLD'S MOST OUTSTANDING CHIEF EXECUTIVES AND GOVERNMENT LEADERS TO DISCUSS ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND THE STRENGTHENING OF ENTREPRENEURIAL DYNAMISM.

HONG KONG WILL HAVE 10 REPRESENTATIVES - SIR DAVID FORD, AND THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR JOHN CHAN, WHO MAKE UP THE OFFICIAL DELEGATION, AND DR VICTOR K.K. FUNG (CHAIRMAN OF PRUDENTIAL ASIA CAPITAL), MR MICHAEL GALE (CHIEF EXECUTIVE HONG KONG TELECOMMUNICATIONS), MR DAVID K.P. LI (DIRECTOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE, BANK OF EAST ASIA), MR VINCENT H.S. LO (CHAIRMAN OF SHUI ON GROUP), MR WILLIAM PURVES (CHAIRMAN OF HONGKONG BANK), MR PETER D.A. SUTCH (CHAIRMAN OF HONG KONG AIRCRAFT ENGINEERING CO), MR DAVID S.Y. WONG (CHAIRMAN OF DAH SING FINANCIAL HOLDINGS) AND MR JUSTIN YUE KWOK-HUNG (DIRECTOR OF WINNER CO), WHO ARE ALL MEMBERS OF THE ENTREPRENEURIAL DELEGATION.

HONG KONG HAS CHOSEN THE THEME "HONG KONG: THE GLOBAL ASSET" TO SPEARHEAD THE PROMOTION AT THE SIX-DAY ANNUAL MEETING WHICH BEGINS ON JANUARY 31 AND ENDS FEBRUARY 6.

DURING THE CONFERENCE, THE CHIEF SECRETARY WILL HOST A "MINI-PLENARY" SESSION ON HONG KONG WHICH WILL FEATURE A PANEL OF SPEAKERS - DR FUNG, MR LI, MR GALE, AND MR LO - WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION ON HAND FOR INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS.

/SIR DAVID

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SIR DAVID SAID THE WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM WAS AN IMPORTANT WORLD STAGE WHERE HONG KONG COULD GAIN INVALUABLE EXPOSURE.

"OUR CONSISTENT POLICIES OF FREE TRADE AND FREE ENTERPRISE LARGELY MIRROR THE GOALS OF THE WEF TO ENHANCE ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND STIMULATE ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION," HE SAID.

AS A LEAD UP TO THIS YEAR'S MEETING, HONG KONG WAS FEATURED IN THE PRESTIGIOUS "WORLD LINK" MAGAZINE, WHICH IS PUBLISHED BY THE WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM AND DISTRIBUTED TO BUSINESS LEADERS AND SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN 170 COUNTRIES.

SOME 1,200 DELEGATES FROM MORE THAN 60 COUNTRIES ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE PART IN THIS YEAR'S MEETING.

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HK'S LINKS WITH CANADA WELL ESTABLISHED * * * * *

LINKS BETWEEN CANADA AND HONG KONG ARE MANY AND LONG STANDING AND INCREASING ALL THE TIME, THE DIRECTOR OF THE HONG KONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE IN SAN FRANCISCO, MR PETER JOHNSON, SAID YESTERDAY (WEDNESDAY).

ADDRESSING THE EDMONTON CHAPTER OF THE HONG KONG-CANADA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION IN ALBERTA, CANADA, MR JOHNSON SAID THESE LINKS BETWEEN THE TWO PLACES DATED BACK OVER 100 YEARS.

"TODAY THE CANADIAN POPULATION IN HONG KONG IS ESTIMATED TO BE OVER 30,000, AND THERE ARE OVER 150,000 VISITORS FROM CANADA TO HONG KONG EACH YEAR.

"IN THE OTHER DIRECTION, OVER 66,000 CANADIAN IMMIGRANT VISAS HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO HONG KONG PEOPLE DURING THE PAST THREE YEARS AND ONE IN SEVEN NEW CANADIANS COMES FROM HONG KONG," MR JOHNSON SAID.

REGARDING THE SPECIFIC AREAS OF BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY FOR CANADIAN COMPANIES WISHING TO EXPORT TO HONG KONG, MR JOHNSON SAID PAST PERFORMANCE SHOULD BE THE BEST GUIDE.

"THERE WILL CONTINUE TO BE OPPORTUNITIES IN THE AREAS FEATURING IN PRESENT TRADE BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CANADA, SUCH AS PAPER PRODUCTS, PLASTIC MATERIALS AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY.

"HONG KONG ALSO REMAINS THE LOCATION OF CHOICE FOR MOST COMPANIES WISHING TO DO BUSINESS WITH CHINA, OR SET UP A REGIONAL OPERATION.

"ONE AREA WHERE THERE ARE LIKELY TO BE NEW OPPORTUNITIES, HOWEVER, OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS IS OUR NEW AIRPORT.

/"ONE CANADIAN

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"ONE CANADIAN FIRM - MARSHALL, MACKLIN AND MONAGHAN - IS ALREADY PROMINENTLY INVOLVED IN HELPING WITH THE FINANCIAL VIABILITY STUDY OF THE AIRPORT."

MR JOHNSON ADDED THAT AN EXTENSIVE PROGRAMME OF OTHER PUBLIC WORKS, RELATED TO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS, HIGHWAYS AND OTHER TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE AND HOUSING, WAS ALSO OPEN TO ALL COMERS.

TURNING TO THE ECONOMY, MR JOHNSON NOTED THAT THE CLIMATE WAS GOOD FOR INVESTMENT IN AND TRADE WITH HONG KONG.

"IN 1990, THE HONG KONG STOCK MARKET OUT-PERFORMED ALL OTHER MAJOR STOCK MARKETS, WITH A 6.63 PER CENT RISE IN THE HANG SENG INDEX. THIS COMPARES WITH DECLINES IN ALL OTHER MAJOR MARKETS RANGING FROM 4.34 PER CENT IN NEW YORK TO 38.72 PER CENT IN JAPAN.

"AS FOR NEXT YEAR, THE HONGKONG BANK HAS FORECAST REAL GROWTH OF 3.6 PER CENT, BASED ON INCREASED CONSUMER SPENDING, A BOOST IN THE CHINA TRADE, A STRONG CONSTRUCTION SECTION AND A CONTINUING REVIVAL IN TOURISM," MR JOHNSON SAID.

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99 VBP RETURN TO VIETNAM
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A GROUP OF 99 VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE TODAY (THURSDAY) RETURNED TO VIETNAM UNDER THE UNHCR'S VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION PROGRAMME.

COMPRISING 35 MEN, 21 WOMEN, 20 BOYS AND 23 GIRLS, THEY WERE THE 49TH BATCH TO GO BACK UNDER THE PROGRAMME.

THIS GROUP BROUGHT TO 6,732 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE WHO HAVE RETURNED VOLUNTARILY.

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WASH AND BLANCH VEGETABLES BEFORE COOKING
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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE TODAY (THURSDAY) URGED TO WASH AND BLANCH VEGETABLES BEFORE COOKING.

THE APPEAL WAS MADE BY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF HEALTH (HYGIENE), DR MAHOMMED BIN ALI, FOLLOWING A NUMBER OF FOOD-POISONING CASES IN WHICH A TOTAL OF 28 PEOPLE FROM 15 FAMILIES IN TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG WERE TAKEN ILL AFTER CONSUMING CHINESE FLOWERING CABBAGE OR CHINESE WHITE CABBAGE IN THEIR MEALS SINCE EARLY YESTERDAY MORNING.

/FOUR WERE

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FOUR WERE ADMITTED TO PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL IN SATISFACTORY CONDITION; SIX WERE DISCHARGED AGAINST MEDICAL ADVICE WHILE THE REMAINING 18 WERE TREATED AND DISCHARGED.

DR ALI SAID FOOD REMNANT TAKEN FROM ONE CASE HAD BEEN TESTED POSITIVE FOR METHAMIDOPHOS, A TOXIC AGRICULTURAL PESTICIDE THAT WAS BANNED FROM USE ON VEGETABLES.

THE DEPARTMENT WAS ON FULL ALERT FOLLOWING THE RECEIPT OF THE REPORTS.

"A TOTAL OF NINE SAMPLES OF VEGETABLES FROM IMPLICATED STALLS HAVE BEEN TAKEN AND ALL OF THEM HAVE BEEN SENT FOR PESTICIDE ANALYSIS. STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENT HAVE ALREADY STEPPED UP THE SCREENING AND SAMPLING OF VEGETABLES AT VARIOUS OUTLETS," HE ADDED.

TO PREVENT FOOD POISONING CAUSED BY THE INTAKE OF PESTICIDE-CONTAMINATED VEGETABLES, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE ADVISED TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES:

- * DON'T BUY VEGETABLES WITH AN OBVIOUS STRANGE SMELL;
- * TEAR OFF AND DISCARD THE LEAVES AT THE PERIPHERY;
- * WASH WELL BEFORE COOKING;
- * DIP VEGETABLES INTO CLEAN WATER FOR SOME TIME TO ALLOW PESTICIDES TO LEACH OUT;
- * BLANCH IN BOILING WATER AND POUR AWAY THE WATER USED FOR BLANCHING AS IT MAY CONTAIN DISSOLVED PESTICIDES; AND
- * COOK THOROUGHLY BEFORE CONSUMPTION.

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ELECTION FORUMS IN SHAM SHUI PO

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THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE WILL HOLD A SERIES OF ELECTION FORUMS FOR DISTRICT BOARD ELECTION CANDIDATES IN THE DISTRICT FROM TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

EACH CONSTITUENCY WILL HAVE A FORUM AT WHICH CANDIDATES WILL EXPLAIN THEIR PLATFORMS AND ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR.

/FOLLOWING ARE

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FOLLOWING ARE DETAILS OF THE FORUMS:

DATE -----	TIME -----	VENUE -----	CONSTITUENCY -----
FEBRUARY 1	8.30 PM	CHEUNG SHA WAN COMMUNITY HALL	LEI CHENG UR AND SO UR
FEBRUARY 2	8.30 PM	LAI KOK COMMUNITY HALL	CHEUNG SHA WAN
FEBRUARY 7	8 PM	PODIUM, BLOCK 19, SHEK KIP MEI ESTATE	SHEK KIP MEI
FEBRUARY 8	8 PM	COMMUNITY HALL, MEI FOO SUN CHUEN	LAI WAN
FEBRUARY 24	8 PM	SITTING OUT AREA OUTSIDE BLOCKS 12 AND 13, PAK TIN ESTATE	PAK TIN
FEBRUARY 25	8 PM	BASKETBALL COURT, NAM SHAN ESTATE	NAM SHAN AND YAU YAT CHUEN
FEBRUARY 26	8 PM	CARPARK PODIUM, NAM CHEONG ESTATE	NAM CHEONG WEST
FEBRUARY 27	8 PM	MAPLE STREET PLAYGROUND	NAM CHEONG EAST
	8.30 PM	BASKETBALL COURT OUTSIDE BLOCK 6, UN CHAU STREET ESTATE	LAI CHI KOK AND UN CHAU

NO FORUM WILL BE HELD FOR THE NAM CHEONG CENTRAL AND THE NAM CHEONG NORTH CONSTITUENCIES AS THE CANDIDATES ARE UNOPPOSED.

ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE ELECTION FORUMS IN SHAM SHUI PO.

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GIANT SIGNBOARD TO PROMOTE ELECTIONS

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A GIANT SIGNBOARD TO PUBLICISE THE 1991 DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS WILL BE PUT UP IN AN OPEN AREA ADJACENT TO THE SPACE MUSEUM IN TSIM SHA TSUI TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE SIGNBOARD, MEASURING 7.2 METRES BY NINE METRES, WILL INCLUDE A COUNTDOWN DEVICE TO REMIND RESIDENTS TO CAST THEIR VOTES ON MARCH 3.

THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS ANNIE TANG, WILL UNVEIL THE SIGNBOARD AT A CEREMONY TOMORROW.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE UNVEILING CEREMONY TOMORROW AT THE OPEN AREA ADJACENT TO THE SPACE MUSEUM. THE CEREMONY WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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ENJOY YOURSELF TONIGHT FIGHT CRIME SPECIAL

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MEMBERS OF THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE (FCC) WILL APPEAR IN A LIVE TELEVISION PROGRAMME TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO RELAY THE LATEST FIGHT CRIME MESSAGES TO THE HOME AUDIENCE.

JOINTLY PRODUCED BY THE FCC AND THE TELEVISION BROADCASTS LIMITED, THE PROGRAMME - ENJOY YOURSELF TONIGHT (EYT) FIGHT CRIME SPECIAL - IS THE HIGHLIGHT OF A SPECIAL PUBLICITY DRIVE LAUNCHED ON JANUARY 18 TO CALL FOR PUBLIC CO-OPERATION IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME.

"BY USING THE FORMAT OF A POPULAR ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMME, WE HOPE THAT OUR CAMPAIGN MESSAGES CAN REACH AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE FCC PUBLICITY SUB-COMMITTEE SAID.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, MR JEREMY MATHEWS, IN HIS CAPACITY AS DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE FCC, WILL REVIEW A GUARD OF HONOUR FORMED BY MEMBERS OF THE POLICE TRAINING SCHOOL AT THE START OF THE PROGRAMME.

SIX FCC MEMBERS, NAMELY, SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS MR PETER TSAO, MRS ROSANNA TAM, MR MARTIN LEE, MRS MIRIAM LAU, MR LEUNG SAU-CHI AND MR JUSTIN WONG, WILL TAKE PART IN A QUIZ SPECIALLY DESIGNED TO BRING OUT THE THREE CAMPAIGN THEMES - PREVENT CRIME, REPORT CRIME AND PROVE CRIME.

/"A NUMBER

"A NUMBER OF POLICE GROUPS WILL ALSO BE PERFORMING IN TOMORROW NIGHT'S PROGRAMME," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THERE WILL BE AN EXCITING POLICE DOG SHOW AND A DEMONSTRATION OF SELF DEFENCE TECHNIQUES BY 20 WOMAN POLICE OFFICERS."

THE POLICE FIGHT CRIME AMBASSADOR, THE ROBOTCOP, WILL ALSO APPEAR IN THE SHOW TO GIVE ADVICE ON CRIME PREVENTION AND TO FURTHER PROMOTE THE CAMPAIGN SLOGAN "JOIN FORCES AGAINST CRIME".

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT A NEWLY-PRODUCED MUSIC VIDEO ON THE FIGHT CRIME THEME SONG BY MR ANDY LAU TAK-WAH WILL MAKE ITS DEBUT SCREENING IN THE PROGRAMME.

THE BYT FIGHT CRIME SPECIAL WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE FROM 10.20 PM TO 11 PM ON TVB JADE.

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CRIME RATE LOW IN TAI PO
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POLICE STATISTICS SHOW THAT THE CRIME RATE IN TAI PO WAS AMONG THE LOWEST IN THE TERRITORY LAST YEAR, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE (DFCC), MR TANG PUI-TAT, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TO ANNOUNCE DETAILS OF A FIGHT CRIME CARNIVAL AND CONCERT, MR TANG SAID THERE WAS AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF CRIMES IN THE DISTRICT IN 1990 BECAUSE OF THE GROWING POPULATION, BUT THIS RATE WAS STILL LOW WHEN COMPARED WITH OTHER DISTRICTS.

"THE COMMITTEE WILL NOT BE COMPLACENT WITH THIS AND WILL CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME," HE SAID.

THE TAI PO DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME CARNIVAL AND CONCERT, ORGANISED BY THE DFCC, WILL TAKE PLACE AT FU SHIN ESTATE ON SUNDAY (FEBRUARY 3), STARTING AT 2 PM. ADMISSION IS FREE.

THE FUNCTION WILL CONCLUDE A SERIES OF PUBLICITY ACTIVITIES FOCUSSED ON JUVENILE CRIME, PARENTAL CARE, HOME SECURITY AND DRUG ABUSE ORGANISED BY THE DFCC. THE CONCERT WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE ON RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG.

THE CO-ORGANISERS OF THE EVENT ARE THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS (ACAN) AND THE HOUSING AUTHORITY.

OFFICIATING GUESTS WILL BE A MEMBER OF THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, MR JUSTIN WONG; CHAIRMAN OF ACAN, DR GERALD CHOA; ACTING COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MISS WINDY KWOK; TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICER, MR THOMAS YIU; TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR HO YUNG-SANG; AND POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDER OF TAI PO, MR LEUNG FUNG-SHUN.

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DISTRICT OFFICE DISTRIBUTES 'LAISEE'
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STAFF MEMBERS OF THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE THIS (THURSDAY) MORNING DISTRIBUTED "LAISEE" (LUCKY MONEY) TO ELDERLY PEOPLE AT FOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS.

LED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR DUNCAN PESCOD, THE VISITORS ALSO WISHED THEM A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS LUNAR NEW YEAR.

THE ACTIVITY IS AN ANNUAL CHARITY EVENT IN THE DISTRICT FUNDED BY THE SING TAO FOUNDATION.

"LAISEE" WERE ALSO DISTRIBUTED TO NEEDY RESIDENTS AT THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE MAIN OFFICE AND ITS HUNG HOM SUB-OFFICE.

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FIRE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN IN TYPHOON SHELTERS
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WITH THE APPROACH OF THE LUNAR NEW YEAR, THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAS LAUNCHED A FIRE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN IN TYPHOON SHELTERS TARGETTED AT MEMBERS OF THE FISHING COMMUNITY WHO WILL BE RETURNING TO HONG KONG DURING THE FESTIVE PERIOD.

FROM TODAY (THURSDAY), OFFICERS FROM THE DEPARTMENT'S MARINE DIVISION WILL VISIT TYPHOON SHELTERS TO CONVEY THE FIRE PREVENTION MESSAGES TO FISHERMEN AND BOAT DWELLERS.

THE OFFICERS, ON FIREBOATS, WILL VISIT THE TYPHOON SHELTERS IN ABERDEEN, SHAU KEI WAN, YAU MA TEI, CAUSEWAY BAY, CHEUNG CHAU, CHAI WAN AND TUEN MUN.

THE CAMPAIGN, WHICH WILL LAST UNTIL FEBRUARY 18, IS AIMED AT AROUSING THE AWARENESS OF THE FISHING COMMUNITY AND BOAT PEOPLE TOWARDS FIRE PREVENTION AND THE MEASURES TO BE TAKEN IN CASE OF EMERGENCY OR AN OUTBREAK OF FIRE.

THE FIRE BOATS WILL BROADCAST FIRE PREVENTION MESSAGES WHILE OFFICERS WILL DISTRIBUTE PAMPHLETS ADVISING ON THE PREVENTION MEASURES WHICH INCLUDE:

- * DO NOT LEAVE COOKING UNATTENDED;
- * TAKE CARE WHEN HANDLING JOSS STICKS, PAPERS AND CANDLES;
- * CIGARETTE ENDS AND MATCHES SHOULD BE PROPERLY EXTINGUISHED BEFORE DISPOSING OF;
- * NEVER SMOKE IN BED; AND
- * KEEP MATCHES AND LIGHTERS OUT OF CHILDREN'S REACH.

DURING THE VISITS, THE FIREBOATS WILL PATROL THE TYPHOON SHELTERS TO ENSURE THAT THE FAIRWAY AND FIRE-LANES ARE PROPERLY MAINTAINED.

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YEAR-END CLEAN-UP PROGRAMME STARTS

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A TERRITORY-WIDE YEAR-END CLEAN-UP PROGRAMME TO TIE IN WITH THE TRADITIONAL PRACTICE OF "SPRING CLEANING" IN THE CHINESE COMMUNITY HAS BEGUN AND WILL BE IN FULL SWING IN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS.

THE PROGRAMME, ORGANISED BY THE JOINT URBAN/REGIONAL COUNCIL KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN STEERING COMMITTEE, WILL END ON FEBRUARY 14 (THURSDAY) BEFORE THE LUNAR NEW YEAR STARTS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE STEERING COMMITTEE SAID TODAY (THURSDAY): "TO FACILITATE THE DISPOSAL OF UNWANTED FURNITURE AND BULKY WASTE TO HAIL THE NEW YEAR, TEMPORARY JUNK COLLECTION POINTS HAVE BEEN SET UP IN ALL URBAN AND NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICTS.

"ADDITIONAL LORRIES AND STAFF ARE BEING DEPLOYED TO CLEAN UP LITTER BLACK SPOTS BY REMOVING REFUSE AND UNCLAIMED ARTICLES FROM THE STREETS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE ADDED THAT DURING THE 10 DAYS BEFORE THE LUNAR NEW YEAR LAST YEAR, A DAILY AVERAGE OF 5,519 TONNES OF REFUSE WAS COLLECTED THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY, WHICH WAS 20 PER CENT MORE THAN THE USUAL DAILY AVERAGE YIELD OF 4,599 TONNES.

"MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE ADVISED TO ENSURE THAT THEY DISCARD REFUSE IN NEARBY COLLECTION POINTS BEFORE THEY ARE CLOSED.

"ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE CLOSING TIME OF VARIOUS REFUSE COLLECTION POINTS DURING THE YEAR-END AND DETAILS OF THE CLEAN-UP OPERATIONS CAN BE MADE TO THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT HOTLINE 868 0000 OR THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT HOTLINE 414 5555, AND RESPECTIVE DISTRICT OFFICES OF BOTH DEPARTMENTS," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED THE PUBLIC THAT THE MAXIMUM PENALTY FOR IMPROPER DISPOSAL OF REFUSE IN PUBLIC PLACES OTHER THAN COLLECTION POINTS IS A FINE OF \$10,000 AND SIX MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT.

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EARLIER WELFARE PAYMENT FOR LUNAR NEW YEAR

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RECIPIENTS OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE HOLDING CASH ORDER BOOK MAY RECEIVE EARLIER WELFARE PAYMENT IF THEIR PAY DAYS FALL ON THE LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS FROM FEBRUARY 14 TO 17.

A SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT THEY MAY CASH THEIR CASH ORDER BOOK COUPONS ON FEBRUARY 8 IF THEIR PAY DAY FALLS ON FEBRUARY 14; ON FEBRUARY 11 IF THEIR PAY DAY FALLS ON FEBRUARY 15; ON FEBRUARY 12 IF THEIR PAY DAY FALLS ON FEBRUARY 16; AND ON FEBRUARY 13 IF THEIR PAY DAY FALLS ON FEBRUARY 17.

/SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR THEM TO COLLECT PAYMENT AT THEIR DESIGNATED POST OFFICE OR TREASURY SUB-OFFICES, HE ADDED.

MEANWHILE, THE PAY DAY FOR RECIPIENTS OF SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE PAID UNDER THE BANK PAYMENT SYSTEM ON FEBRUARY 15 WOULD ALSO BE ADVANCED TO FEBRUARY 13.

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MARINE WATER QUALITY REPORT ON SALE
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A COMPREHENSIVE REPORT SUMMARISING THE RESULTS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT'S (EPD) MARINE WATER QUALITY MONITORING PROGRAMME IN 1989, IS NOW AVAILABLE FOR SALE.

THE 106-PAGE "MARINE WATER QUALITY IN HONG KONG 1990", COMPILED IN ENGLISH, REVIEWS THE CURRENT STATE OF MARINE WATER QUALITY AND SEDIMENT CHARACTERISTICS IN THE TERRITORY'S COASTAL WATERS.

AN EPD SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN CONDUCTING THE GOVERNMENT'S MARINE WATER AND SEDIMENT MONITORING PROGRAMME SINCE APRIL 1986.

IN 1989, THE MARINE WATER QUALITY PROGRAMME COVERED 66 WATER QUALITY STATIONS, 14 TYPHOON SHELTERS AND 40 SEDIMENT MONITORING STATIONS.

AT EACH OF THE MONITORING STATIONS, A WIDE RANGE OF PHYSIO-CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL AND BACTERIAL PARAMETERS WERE MEASURED TO PROVIDE A COMPREHENSIVE COVERAGE OF ESSENTIAL INFORMATION ON MARINE WATER QUALITY AND SEDIMENT CHARACTERISTICS.

ACCORDING TO THE REPORT, THE WATER QUALITY IN OPEN MARINE WATERS INCLUDING THE EASTERN WATERS, THE NORTHWESTERN WATERS AND THE SOUTHERN WATERS WAS STILL GOOD DURING 1989 DUE TO FASTER WATER MOVEMENT IN THESE AREAS AND SMALL AMOUNT OF POLLUTION LOADS DISCHARGING INTO THEM.

HOWEVER, THE WATER QUALITY IN VICTORIA HARBOUR AND THE INNER PARTS OF ENCLOSED BAYS SUCH AS TOLO HARBOUR, PORT SHELTER, HEBE HAVEN, JUNK BAY AND DEEP BAY WAS UNSATISFACTORY.

THE POLLUTION PROBLEM IN TOLO HARBOUR, VICTORIA HARBOUR AND DEEP BAY HAD EXEMPLIFIED IN THE FORM OF SEVERE DISSOLVED OXYGEN DEPLETION AND ALGAL BLOOMS IN THE FORM OF RED TIDES.

FURTHERMORE, INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION HAD ALSO BEEN IDENTIFIED IN THESE AREAS AS INDICATED BY THE HIGH CONTENTS OF MICRO-POLLUTANTS IN THE SEDIMENTS.

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THE REPORT SAID IT WAS ALSO WORRYING THAT THERE WAS AN INCREASING TREND OF POLLUTION IN THESE AREAS. THE RELATIVELY UNPOLLUTED WATERS ALSO HAD FAIRLY HIGH NUTRIENT CONTENTS WITH HIGH EUTROPHIC POTENTIAL INDICATING IMMINENT WATER POLLUTION PROBLEMS.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT HOWEVER, DURING 1989, THERE WERE SOME IMPROVEMENTS IN THE WATER QUALITY IN TOLO HARBOUR WHEN COMPARED TO 1988, LARGELY DUE TO THE SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ORDINANCE IN 1987 AND OF THE TOLO HARBOUR ACTION PLAN.

THE MARINE WATER QUALITY REPORT CONTAINS USEFUL INFORMATION FOR PROFESSIONALS SUCH AS SCIENTISTS, ENGINEERS AND TOWN PLANNERS WHOSE WORK RELATES TO THE SUBJECT.

IT ALSO SERVES AS A REFERENCE BOOK FOR RESEARCHERS, TEACHERS, UNDERGRADUATES AND HIGHER FORM SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS. AS THE REPORT IS PRESENTED IN A COMPREHENSIVE WAY, IT IS ALSO SUITABLE FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO ARE INTERESTED IN WATER POLLUTION PROBLEMS.

THE REPORT, AT \$54 A COPY, IS AVAILABLE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL.

ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

FURTHER ENQUIRIES CAN BE DIRECTED TO THE PRINCIPAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICER (WATER POLICY) OF EPD, MR PAUL HOLMES, ON TEL. 835 1234.

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DIVISION RENAMED TO REFLECT LABOUR INSPECTORS' WORK
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THE WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS DIVISION (WYPD) OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT WILL BE RENAMED LABOUR INSPECTION DIVISION FROM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO FULLY REFLECT ITS WORK AND EXPANDED RESPONSIBILITIES.

THE WYPD WAS ORIGINALLY SET UP TO REGULATE THE HOURS OF WORK AND REST PERIODS FOR WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS IN INDUSTRY AND THE EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN AGED UNDER 15.

BUT THE DIVISION HAS TAKEN ON MORE DUTIES OVER THE YEARS TO ENSURE THAT EMPLOYERS KEEP RECORDS OF THEIR EMPLOYEES AND TAKE OUT INSURANCE POLICIES TO COVER THEIR LIABILITIES TO COMPENSATE EMPLOYEES INJURED AT WORK.

IT ALSO ENFORCES PROVISIONS IN THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE ON STATUTORY BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYEES AND ON THE MAINTENANCE OF EMPLOYEES' WAGE AND EMPLOYMENT RECORDS.

/SINCE 1989

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SINCE 1989, THE DIVISION HAS BEEN OPERATING A GENERAL ENQUIRY TELEPHONE SERVICE TO PROVIDE THE PUBLIC WITH TAPED INFORMATION ON LABOUR LEGISLATION AND THE DEPARTMENT'S WORK.

LABOUR INSPECTORS FROM THE DIVISION CARRY OUT SPOT CHECKS ON PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH RELEVANT STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS BY EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES AND TO PROSECUTE OFFENDERS.

IN ADDITION, THE DIVISION OFFERS FREE ADVICE TO THE PUBLIC ON THEIR RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE LABOUR LAW.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE TO THE LABOUR INSPECTION DIVISION ON TEL. 815 5066 OR 852 4191.

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EYE CARE TEACHING KIT PRESENTATION CEREMONY

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AN EYE CARE TEACHING KIT PRODUCED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL BE AVAILABLE IN MARCH FOR THE USE OF PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS.

THE KIT, COMPRISING A TEACHER'S HANDBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY TEACHING MATERIALS, WILL BE DISTRIBUTED FREE TO ALL PRIMARY SCHOOLS TO ENSURE THAT THE MESSAGE OF EYE CARE IS CONVEYED TO SCHOOL CHILDREN.

PRODUCTION OF THE KIT WAS SPONSORED BY THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS.

THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR LI YUET-TING, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS, MR LEE CHUNG-KEUNG, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE TEACHING KIT TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE EVENT WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 3 PM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT THE PROMENADE ROOM, FIRST FLOOR, LEE GARDENS HOTEL, HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY.

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KOWLOON CITY POST-WAR BUILDING TO CLOSE

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS SEEKING TO CLOSE THE BUILDING AT 93 LION ROCK ROAD IN KOWLOON REQUIRED FOR THE REINSTATEMENT OF THE REAR STAIRCASE, DEMOLITION OF UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURES AND GENERAL REPAIRS TO THE BUILDING.

IN A STATEMENT ISSUED TODAY (THURSDAY), THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING SURVEYOR SAID THE BUILDING WAS A FIVE-STOREY POST-WAR REINFORCED CONCRETE FRAMED BUILDING SERVED BY TWO STAIRCASES.

INSPECTION SUBSEQUENT TO EMERGENCY ACTION TO REMOVE LOOSE EXTERNAL RENDERING IN OCTOBER LAST YEAR INDICATED THAT THE BUILDING IS SHOWING MARKED SIGNS OF DETERIORATION, WITH SPALLED REINFORCED CONCRETE, ADDITIONAL AREAS OF LOOSE/CRACKED RENDERING AND DEFLECTIVE WINDOWS AND GLAZING.

THE REAR STAIRCASE FROM THE SECOND TO FOURTH FLOORS HAD BEEN DEMOLISHED AND THE STAIRWELL HAD BEEN CONVERTED TO DOMESTIC ACCOMMODATION AT EACH FLOOR LEVEL FROM THE FIRST FLOOR UPWARDS, HE SAID.

IN ADDITION, THERE WERE UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURES ON THE ROOFTOP AND OTHER PARTS OF THE BUILDING.

HE NOTED THAT THE DEMOLITION OF THE STAIRS AND THE PRESENCE OF THE STRUCTURES ON THE ROOFTOP HAD RENDERED THE BUILDING DANGEROUS BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF ADEQUATE MEANS OF ESCAPE.

THEREFORE THE FIRST, SECOND, THIRD, FOURTH FLOORS AND THE ROOF SHOULD BE CLOSED.

THE BUILDING AUTHORITY ADVISED THAT UNTIL ALL THE REQUIRED WORKS TO MAKE THE BUILDING SAFE HAD BEEN SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED, THE BUILDING SHOULD REMAIN CLOSED.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER FROM THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT ON MARCH 14 WAS POSTED ON THE BUILDING TODAY.

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