



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

MONDAY, MARCH 14, 1994

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
SEWAGE CONTRACT TO IMPROVE VICTORIA HARBOUR WATER	1
CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF HMDAC APPOINTED	2
HIGH FIRE RISK CLUBS URGED TO COMPLETE IMPROVEMENT WORKS	4
FINANCE COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE GOVT EXPENDITURE	4
TEACHER RECRUITMENT DRIVE SWINGS INTO ACTION	6
SAFETY FIRST AT WORKPLACES	8
BN(O) PHASE II REGISTRATION ENDS THIS MONTH	9
AIR QUALITY REPORT FOR FEBRUARY	11
TEACHING KITS PROMOTE RULE OF LAW	12
NEW PARKING METERS SET UP IN HO MAN TIN	12
WATER STORAGE FIGURE	13
HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS	13

MONDAY, MARCH 14, 1994

- 1 -

SEWAGE CONTRACT TO IMPROVE VICTORIA HARBOUR WATER

* * * * *

CONSTRUCTION WORKS FOR STAGE I OF THE STRATEGIC SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEME (SSDS) WILL BEGIN LATER THIS MONTH.

THE FIRST WORKS CONTRACT UNDER THIS STAGE WAS SIGNED AT A CEREMONY TODAY (MONDAY).

THE \$99 MILLION CONTRACT IS FOR THE INSTALLATION OF PILES FOR SEDIMENTATION TANKS OF A CHEMICALLY-ASSISTED PRIMARY SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS TO BE BUILT ON STONECUTTERS ISLAND.

THE DIRECTOR OF DRAINAGE SERVICES, MR SIU CHUEN, SIGNED THE CONTRACT WITH A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CONTRACTOR, FRANKI CONTRACTORS LIMITED.

THE PILING WORKS WILL BE COMPLETED ON MAY 30, 1995.

EXPLAINING THE PROJECT AFTER SIGNING THE CONTRACT, MR SIU SAID THE GOVERNMENT COMMISSIONED THE DETAILED DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION WORKS OF THE SSDS STAGE I LAST YEAR TO TACKLE THE PROBLEM OF DETERIORATING WATER QUALITY IN VICTORIA HARBOUR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

THE ESTIMATED COST FOR THIS STAGE IS ABOUT \$5.3 BILLION.

MR SIU SAID A NETWORK OF LARGE SEWAGE TUNNELS, ABOUT 23 KILOMETRES IN LENGTH WITH DIAMETERS RANGING FROM ONE METRE TO THREE METRES, WOULD BE CONSTRUCTED AT 150 METRES UNDERGROUND TO COLLECT THE SEWAGE FROM SEVEN EXISTING PRELIMINARY TREATMENT WORKS AT CHAI WAN, SHAU KEI WAN, TSEUNG KWAN O, KWUN TONG, TO KWA WAN, KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI.

"THE NEW CHEMICALLY-ASSISTED PRIMARY SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS ON STONECUTTERS ISLAND WILL TREAT THE COLLECTED SEWAGE BEFORE DISCHARGE VIA A SUBMARINE OUTFALL AT THE WESTERN HARBOUR ANCHORAGE AREA," HE ADDED.

THE WASTEWATER CATCHMENT AREAS COVERED BY THE SSDS STAGE I ENCOMPASS CHAI WAN, SHAU KEI WAN, TSEUNG KWAN O AND THE AREAS IN KOWLOON BETWEEN TSUEN WAN AND KWUN TONG.

THE POPULATION TO BE SERVED IS ABOUT 3.5 MILLION AND THE VOLUME OF SEWAGE TO BE TREATED IS 1,700,000 CUBIC METRES A DAY.

DOMESTIC AND INDUSTRIAL SEWAGE FROM THESE AREAS CURRENTLY DISCHARGING INTO THE HARBOUR AFTER PRELIMINARY SCREENING WILL BE COLLECTED AND CONVEYED THROUGH THE NETWORK OF DEEP SEWAGE TUNNELS TO THE CHEMICALLY-ASSISTED SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS ON STONECUTTERS ISLAND FOR TREATMENT.

MR SIU SAID THIS WOULD REMOVE POINT SOURCES OF POLLUTION AT EACH LOCAL SCREENING PLANT AROUND VICTORIA HARBOUR.

"THE SEWAGE WILL ALSO RECEIVE A HIGHER LEVEL OF TREATMENT USING CHEMICALLY-ASSISTED SEDIMENTATION AT THE SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS ON STONECUTTERS ISLAND.

/"THE WATER

MONDAY, MARCH 14, 1994

- 2 -

"THE WATER QUALITY WITHIN VICTORIA HARBOUR WILL THUS SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVE THROUGH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SSDS STAGE I," MR SIU SAID.

CONSTRUCTION WORKS OF THE SSDS STAGE I ARE SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION IN JUNE 1997.

- - - - 0 - - - -

CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF HMDAC APPOINTED
* * * * *

THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MRS ELIZABETH WONG, TODAY (MONDAY) ANNOUNCED THE APPOINTMENT OF DR DAVID FANG AS CHAIRMAN OF THE HEALTH AND MEDICAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (HMDAC).

DR FANG IS THE PRESIDENT OF THE HONG KONG MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG SOCIETY FOR REHABILITATION, AND READER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY, UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVES AS THE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF HMDAC.

OTHER MEMBERS, COMPRISING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS, ACADEMICS, SOCIAL WORKERS AND LAY MEMBERS, INCLUDE:

- * DR JOHN BOEY
PRIVATE MEDICAL PRACTITIONER
- * PROF CHAN KAI MING
PROFESSOR, ORTHOPAEDIC AND TRAUMATIC SURGERY, CHINESE
UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
- * MRS CHONG YUK TAK FUN, ALICE
GENERAL SECRETARY, HONG KONG YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN
ASSOCIATION
- * MR HO CHUN YAN, ALBERT
SOLICITOR, PRIVATE PRACTICE
- * MS KIT KWONG CHI, NANCY
TRAINED NURSE; CHAIRMAN, MANAGEMENT SOCIETY FOR HEALTHCARE
PROFESSIONALS
- * MRS LEE IP WAI KAY, CECILIA
ARCHITECT; PAST CHAIRLADY OF PO LEUNG KUK
- * DR LEE KIN HUNG
PRIVATE MEDICAL PRACTITIONER; VICE-CHAIRMAN, HONG KONG
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
- * PROF NG MUN HON
PROFESSOR OF MICROBIOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
- * PROF TEIK E OH
PROFESSOR OF ANAESTHESIA AND INTENSIVE CARE, CHINESE
UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG; FORMER MEMBER OF THE HOSPITAL
AUTHORITY

/* DR ROSE

- * DR ROSE ONG
HEALTH CONSULTANT IN PRIVATE PRACTICE; NEWSPAPER HEALTH COLUMNIST
- * MRS PONG TSO SHING YUK, ALICE
NURSE TUTOR; CHAIRMAN, HONG KONG SOCIETY FOR NURSING EDUCATION
- * MRS TSANG LAU KIT PING, ALICE
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST; CHAIRMAN, HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF PHYSIOTHERAPISTS AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS
- * DR HOMER TSO WEI KWOK
PRIVATE DENTIST; PAST PRESIDENT, HONG KONG DENTAL ASSOCIATION
- * DR PETER YUEN POK MAN
HEALTH ECONOMIST; SENIOR LECTURER, DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT, HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC
- * CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, HOSPITAL AUTHORITY

IN WELCOMING THE MEMBERS TO THE 1994/96 SESSION OF THE TOP ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO GOVERNMENT ON DEVELOPMENT OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES, MRS WONG SAID THE CHALLENGE IN THE FUTURE LIED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN INTEGRATED SYSTEM OF PATIENT SERVICES, WITH CLOSE AND EFFECTIVE INTERFACE BETWEEN PRIMARY HEALTH SERVICES AND HOSPITAL CARE.

"IN THE CONTEXT OF PRIMARY HEALTH CARE BEING PARTICIPATORY CARE, OUR EMPHASIS WILL CONTINUE TO BE ON ENCOURAGING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, BOTH IN DEVELOPMENT OF A CO-ORDINATED HEALTH STRATEGY AND IN MAINTAINING A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE FOR THE INDIVIDUAL," SHE SAID.

"AT THE SAME TIME, WE MUST CONTINUE TO DEVELOP OUR MEDICAL INFRASTRUCTURE TO MEET THE HEALTH CARE NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY, TO ENSURE ACCESSIBILITY AND TO FACILITATE GREATER CHOICE OF SERVICES FOR PATIENTS.

"OUR TARGET IS TO ACHIEVE HEALTH FOR ALL IN THE YEAR 2000," MRS WONG STATED.

THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF HMDAC ARE:

- * BEARING IN MIND THE OBJECTIVES OF GOVERNMENT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF PRIMARY HEALTH CARE, TO KEEP UNDER REVIEW THE GENERAL LEVEL OF HEALTH IN THE COMMUNITY; AND
- * HAVING REGARD TO THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY AND THE AVAILABILITY OF MANPOWER AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES, TO ADVISE GOVERNMENT, THROUGH THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES AND THE INTERFACE BETWEEN HEALTH AND HOSPITAL SERVICES.

MONDAY, MARCH 14, 1994

- 4 -

HIGH FIRE RISK CLUBS URGED TO COMPLETE IMPROVEMENT WORKS

* * * * *

OPERATORS OF CLUBS WITH A HIGH FIRE RISK HAVE BEEN URGED TO COMPLETE THE NECESSARY IMPROVEMENT WORKS BY THE END OF THIS MONTH IF THEY WISH TO OBTAIN THE CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE TO CONTINUE THEIR BUSINESS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION (CNTA) TODAY (MONDAY) SAID THEY HAD INDIVIDUALLY RECEIVED NOTIFICATIONS OF THE DEADLINE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE LICENSING AUTHORITY.

HE SAID THE CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION NOW HELD BY THESE CLUBS WOULD EXPIRE ON MARCH 31.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT FROM APRIL 1, OFFICERS OF CNTA'S OFFICE OF THE LICENSING AUTHORITY WOULD CARRY OUT MORE INTENSIVE INSPECTIONS OF THESE PREMISES.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THOSE FOUND TO BE OPERATING WITHOUT A VALID CERTIFICATE WOULD BE LIABLE, ON CONVICTION, TO A FINE OF \$200,000 AND TWO YEARS' IMPRISONMENT AND TO AN ADDITIONAL FINE OF \$20,000 FOR EACH DAY DURING WHICH THE OFFENCE CONTINUED.

THE CLUBS (SAFETY OF PREMISES) ORDINANCE, WHICH CAME INTO EFFECT ON NOVEMBER 1, 1991, PROVIDES FOR A CERTIFICATION SCHEME FOR THE REGULATION AND CONTROL OF CLUBS WITH CLUBHOUSES IN RESPECT OF THEIR FIRE AND STRUCTURAL SAFETY.

PUBLIC ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE OF THE LICENSING AUTHORITY ON TEL 881 7034.

- - - - 0 - - - -

FINANCE COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE GOVT EXPENDITURE

* * * * *

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE WILL EXAMINE THE DRAFT ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1994/95 AT THREE SPECIAL MEETINGS TO BE HELD FROM WEDNESDAY TO FRIDAY (MARCH 16 TO 18).

THERE WILL BE 17 SESSIONS FOR THE SPECIAL MEETINGS.

EACH BRANCH SECRETARY OR HEAD OF DEPARTMENT WILL ATTEND WITH THEIR KEY CONTROLLING OFFICERS AND MAKE A BRIEF PRESENTATION ON THEIR POLICY AREAS, PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR AHEAD AND THE ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES TO THEM.

MEMBERS WILL THEN RAISE QUESTIONS ON POINTS MADE DURING THE PRESENTATION AND THE DRAFT EXPENDITURE ESTIMATES GENERALLY.

EACH MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER. FOLLOWING IS THE PROGRAMME:

/SESSION

SESSION NO. -----	DATE/TIME -----	SECRETARY/DEPARTMENT HEAD -----
MARCH 16 (WEDNESDAY)		
1.	9 AM - 10 AM	SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE (I) HEALTH
	10 AM - 11 AM	(II) SOCIAL WELFARE
	(11 AM - 11.15 AM	TEA BREAK)
2.	11.15 AM - 12.15 PM	SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE
	(12.15 PM - 2.15 PM	LUNCH BREAK)
3.	2.15 PM - 3.15 PM	SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER (I) EDUCATION
	3.15 PM - 4.15 PM	(II) EMPLOYMENT
	(4.15 PM - 4.30 PM	TEA BREAK)
4.	4.30 PM - 6.30 PM	SECRETARY FOR SECURITY
MARCH 17 (THURSDAY)		
5.	9.15 AM - 10.15 AM	SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY
6.	10.20 AM - 11.20 AM	SECRETARY FOR FINANCIAL SERVICES
	(11.20 AM - 11.35 AM	TEA BREAK)
7.	11.35 AM - 12.35 PM	SECRETARY FOR THE TREASURY
	(12.35 PM - 2.15 PM	LUNCH BREAK)
8.	2.15 PM - 3.45 PM	SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES
	(3.45 PM - 4 PM	TEA BREAK)
9.	4 PM - 5.20 PM	SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT
10.	5.25 PM - 6.55 PM	SECRETARY FOR WORKS
MARCH 18 (FRIDAY)		
11.	9.15 AM - 10 AM	SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS (I) BUILDINGS, LAND AND PLANNING
	10 AM - 10.45 AM	(II) ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
	(10.45 AM - 11 AM	TEA BREAK)
12.	11 AM - 11.50 AM	SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS
13.	11.55 AM - 12.45 PM	SECRETARY FOR CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
	(12.45 PM - 2.15 PM	LUNCH BREAK)

- 14. 2.15 PM - 3.05 PM SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE
- 15. 3.10 PM - 3.40 PM DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION
(3.40 PM - 3.55 PM TEA BREAK)
- 16. 3.55 PM - 5.25 PM ATTORNEY GENERAL
JUDICIARY ADMINISTRATOR
- 17. 5.30 PM - 5.55 PM COMMISSIONER, INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION
5.55 PM - 6.20 PM DIRECTOR OF HOUSING
6.20 PM - 6.45 PM COMMISSIONER FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINTS
DIRECTOR OF AUDIT
PRIVATE SECRETARY, GOVERNMENT HOUSE

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO OBSERVE THE PROCEEDINGS MAY RESERVE SEATS BY TELEPHONING 869 9492.

- - - - 0 - - - -

TEACHER RECRUITMENT DRIVE SWINGS INTO ACTION

* * * * *

THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS LAUNCHING A RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN TO HELP FILL ABOUT 620 NEW TEACHING POSTS IN LOCAL SCHOOLS IN THE 1994/95 SCHOOL YEAR.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID FROM TOMORROW (TUESDAY), THE TEACHER RECRUITMENT INFORMATION OFFICE WILL RECEIVE APPLICATIONS FOR HELP IN FINDING A TEACHING APPOINTMENT IN SCHOOLS, WHICH ARE MAINLY AIDED ONES.

THIS WILL BE REINFORCED BY PUBLICITY ACTIVITIES TO ATTRACT MORE PEOPLE TO JOIN THE TEACHING PROFESSION, HE SAID.

THE ESTIMATED 620 NEW POSTS ARE INTRODUCED TO IMPLEMENT MEASURES ANNOUNCED BY THE GOVERNOR IN HIS TWO POLICY SPEECHES TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION IN PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

THE ESTIMATED INCREASE DOES NOT INCLUDE REPLACEMENTS TO FILL VACANCIES AS A RESULT OF TEACHER WASTAGES, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE SAID FROM TOMORROW, PEOPLE WHO WISH TO TEACH IN THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR MAY REGISTER WITH THE TEACHER RECRUITMENT INFORMATION OFFICE.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID LOCAL DEGREE HOLDERS, COLLEGE OF EDUCATION GRADUATES, AND PEOPLE WITH AN ACKNOWLEDGED POST-SECONDARY DIPLOMA OR OTHER ACKNOWLEDGED QUALIFICATIONS WERE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY.

APPLICATION FORMS WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM THE TEACHER RECRUITMENT INFORMATION OFFICE, THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S, DISTRICT OFFICES AND THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY CENTRES OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION.

IN ADDITION, APPLICANTS MAY GET THE FORMS THROUGH FACSIMILE BY CALLING THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S TELEPHONE ENQUIRY SERVICE ON 891 0088.

APPLICANTS WILL BE ASKED TO SPECIFY ON THE FORMS WHETHER THEY WISH TO TEACH IN A PRIMARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL AND WHETHER THEY WANT HALF-DAY OR WHOLE-DAY SCHOOLS.

THEY WILL ALSO HAVE TO FILL IN THEIR PREFERRED SUBJECT AND DISTRICT IN WHICH THE SCHOOL IS PREFERABLY LOCATED, AND WHETHER THEY WISH TO TEACH FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID SCHOOLS WITH TEACHER VACANCIES MIGHT APPROACH THE TEACHER RECRUITMENT INFORMATION OFFICE FOR INFORMATION ABOUT SUITABLE CANDIDATES. THE REQUIRED INFORMATION WILL BE FAXED TO THEM.

THE SCHOOLS WOULD THEN TAKE CARE OF SHORTLISTING THE CANDIDATES FOR INTERVIEW AND MAKING THEIR OWN DECISION ON WHETHER OR NOT TO EMPLOY THE APPLICANT.

BETWEEN MAY AND JULY LAST YEAR, THE RECRUITMENT INFORMATION OFFICE HAD BEEN APPROACHED FOR CANDIDATES TO FILL A TOTAL OF 838 TEACHING POSTS IN PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS, OF WHICH 209 WERE FINALLY FILLED BY CANDIDATES FROM THE RECRUITMENT INFORMATION OFFICE.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THOSE WHO HAD SENT IN THEIR APPLICATION FORM LAST YEAR BUT STILL WISH TO FIND A TEACHING APPOINTMENT THIS YEAR SHOULD RE-APPLY.

SHOULD ANY APPLICANT OBTAIN A JOB THROUGH OTHER CHANNELS AFTER REGISTRATION WITH THE RECRUITMENT INFORMATION OFFICE, HE SHOULD CANCEL HIS REGISTRATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO THAT THE CANDIDATE LIST IS KEPT UP-TO-DATE.

QUALIFIED PEOPLE FROM OVERSEAS AND RETIRED LOCAL TEACHERS IN GOOD HEALTH MAY ALSO REGISTER WITH THE OFFICE.

THE TEACHER RECRUITMENT INFORMATION OFFICE IS IN ROOM 706, SEVENTH FLOOR, 405 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON. ITS TELEPHONE NUMBER IS 783 7345 AND FAX NUMBER 781 0206.

THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S "BE MY TEACHER" RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN WILL BE CONDUCTED UNDER THE SLOGAN OF "LEAD THEM INTO THE FUTURE" THIS YEAR. PUBLICITY ACTIVITIES WILL BE CONDUCTED LOCALLY AND OVERSEAS.

ADVERTISEMENTS WILL BE PLACED IN CHINESE PAPERS IN NORTH AMERICA AND REGISTRATION FORMS DISTRIBUTED TO CHINESE COMMUNITIES THERE IN A BID TO LURE EMIGRATED TEACHERS BACK TO HONG KONG.

LOCALLY, THERE WILL BE A TERRITORY-WIDE ESSAY COMPETITION, RADIO PUBLICITY AND EXTENSIVE PROMOTION IN TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS.

SEGMENTS IN "HONG KONG THIS MINUTE" ON COMMERCIAL RADIO 1 FOR THREE CONSECUTIVE THURSDAY AFTERNOONS FROM MARCH 24 WILL FEATURE THE "BE MY TEACHER" RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN AND INTERVIEW SERVING TEACHERS ON THEIR FEELINGS ABOUT THEIR PROFESSION AND THE LIFE THEY SHARE WITH STUDENTS.

PROMOTION COUNTERS WILL BE SET UP AT TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS IN MARCH AND APRIL TO DISTRIBUTE RECRUITMENT REGISTRATION FORMS. TALKS WILL BE ORGANISED FOR FINAL YEAR STUDENTS TO GIVE THEM A MORE IN-DEPTH UNDERSTANDING OF THE TEACHING CAREER.

A CHINESE ESSAY CONTEST BEING CONDUCTED IN FOUR GROUPS IN PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS WILL INVITE STUDENTS TO GIVE THEIR IMPRESSIONS OF A RESPECTED TEACHER AND EXPLORE THE IDEAL TEACHER IN PUPILS' MIND.

ENTRIES MAY BE HANDED IN TO THE PARTICIPANT'S SCHOOL BEFORE MARCH 25.

- - - - 0 - - - -

SAFETY FIRST AT WORKPLACES

* * * * *

THE FACTORY INSPECTORATE DIVISION OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAS RECENTLY SENT A CIRCULAR TO PROPRIETORS OF ALL INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS IN THE TERRITORY, URGING THEM TO POSITIVELY TAKE UP THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES TO ENSURE WORKPLACE SAFETY.

THE LETTER ALSO EXPLAINS THE RATIONALE BEHIND A TARGET-HITTING INSPECTION SYSTEM.

"WE INFORMED THEM THAT IN HONG KONG, A WORKER'S CHANCE OF BEING INJURED AT WORK IS HIGHER THAN THAT OF THEIR COUNTERPARTS IN MOST OTHER DEVELOPED ECONOMIES," AN ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR MAK SAI-YIU, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

THEY HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE THE SAFETY AND HEALTH AT WORK OF HIS EMPLOYEES UNDER THE GENERAL DUTIES PROVISIONS OF THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS ORDINANCE WHICH HAVE BEEN WIDELY PROMOTED BY THE DEPARTMENT SINCE THEIR ENACTMENT IN 1989.

THE LATEST PUBLICITY DRIVE IS PART OF THE ONGOING INDUSTRIAL SAFETY PROMOTIONS LAUNCHED BY THE DIVISION.

MR MAK SAID PROPRIETORS WERE INFORMED THAT THE FACTORY INSPECTORATE, BEING THE REGULATORY AUTHORITY, WOULD CONTINUE TO PLAY ITS ROLE IN LEGISLATION AND MONITORING.

"BUT GIVEN ITS RESOURCE CONSTRAINTS AND THE NEED TO ENCOURAGE EMPLOYERS TO FALL IN LINE WITH THE SELF-REGULATION PRINCIPLE, OUR FACTORY INSPECTORS WOULD NOT CHECK EVERY WORKPLACE THOROUGHLY TO IDENTIFY ALL WORK RISKS ON THE EMPLOYER'S BEHALF.

"THIS IS AN EMPLOYER'S RESPONSIBILITY, BOTH LEGALLY AND MORALLY," MR MAK ADDED.

THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER DISCLOSED THAT AS A MEASURE TO MAXIMISE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ENFORCEMENT, FACTORY INSPECTORS ARE ADOPTING A TARGET-HITTING APPROACH FOR FOLLOW-UP INSPECTIONS TO INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS OTHER THAN CONSTRUCTION SITES.

"IN ESSENCE, THIS MEANS THAT DURING THE INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, INSPECTORS WILL TARGET CERTAIN MORE HAZARDOUS AREAS FOR VIGOROUS LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTION."

THE FACTORY INSPECTION REPORT ISSUED BY THE INSPECTOR AT THE END OF THE VISIT WILL NOT COVER ALL IRREGULARITIES IN THE ENTIRE WORKPLACE.

INSTEAD, RISK ASSESSMENT AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT PLANS PREPARED BY PROPRIETORS SHOULD SEE TO IT THAT ALL IRREGULARITIES AND RISKS ARE IDENTIFIED, AND SAFETY MEASURES DEVISED AND TAKEN TO REMEDY THE SITUATION.

COMMON IRREGULARITIES AND RISKS IN WORKPLACES INCLUDE:

- * UNGUARDED DANGEROUS PARTS OF MACHINERY;
- * USE OF EXCESSIVE QUANTITIES OF FLAMMABLE TOXIC OR HARMFUL SUBSTANCES WITHOUT ADEQUATE PRECAUTIONS;
- * ELECTRICAL FAULTS WITH TOOLS, MACHINERY AND WIRING;
- * INADEQUATE PASSAGEWAY AND EXIT ARRANGEMENTS; AND
- * LACK OF PROPER MAINTENANCE FOR PLANTS, TOOLS AND LIFTING EQUIPMENT.

THE HONG KONG OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH COUNCIL AND INDEPENDENT SAFETY AND HEALTH CONSULTANTS ARE AVAILABLE TO HELP PROPRIETORS IF REQUIRED.

THE TARGET-HITTING APPROACH IS NORMALLY USED IN ALL FOLLOW-UP INSPECTIONS BY FACTORY INSPECTORS.

BUT, FOR THE TIME BEING, IT WILL NOT APPLY TO INITIAL INSPECTIONS OF NEWLY DISCOVERED INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS, CONSTRUCTION SITES OR WORKPLACES REQUIRING SPECIAL ATTENTION.

MORE THOROUGH INSPECTIONS WILL BE MADE OF THESE CATEGORIES OF WORKPLACES.

PROPRIETORS ARE REMINDED THAT THEY ARE ALSO REQUIRED BY LAW TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE SAFETY INFORMATION, TRAINING, INSTRUCTION AND SUPERVISION TO THEIR EMPLOYEES, WHOSE CO-OPERATION IS ESSENTIAL TO MAKE WORKPLACES SAFE AND HEALTHY.

"AS RESPONSIBLE INDUSTRIALISTS, I TRUST ALL PROPRIETORS WILL TAKE POSITIVE EFFORTS TO PROTECT THEIR EMPLOYEES AND TO HELP IMPROVE HONG KONG'S INDUSTRIAL SAFETY RECORD," MR MAK ADDED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

BN(O) PHASE II REGISTRATION ENDS THIS MONTH

* * * * *

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY (MONDAY) REMINDED THE PUBLIC THAT THE DEADLINE FOR HONG KONG BRITISH DEPENDENT TERRITORIES CITIZENS (BDTCS) BORN BETWEEN 1962 AND 1966 TO APPLY FOR BRITISH NATIONAL (OVERSEAS) (BN(O)) PASSPORTS WAS THE END OF THIS MONTH.

"HONG KONG BDTCS (SUCH AS PERSONS BORN, NATURALISED OR REGISTERED IN HONG KONG) MUST OBTAIN A BN(O) PASSPORT IF THEY WISH TO CONTINUE TO TRAVEL ON BRITISH PASSPORTS BEYOND 1997," HE SAID.

AS SPECIFIED IN THE SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE HONG KONG (BRITISH NATIONALITY) ORDER 1986, APPLICATIONS FOR BN(O) PASSPORTS MUST BE SUBMITTED ON OR BEFORE THE FINAL DATES RELEVANT TO THEIR AGE GROUPS.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS BORN BETWEEN 1962 AND 1966 MUST SUBMIT THEIR APPLICATIONS ON OR BEFORE MARCH 31.

FURTHER PUBLICITY WILL BE MADE IN RESPECT OF BDTCS BORN IN OTHER YEARS SO THAT THEY MAY SUBMIT THEIR APPLICATIONS BY PHASES ACCORDING TO THEIR AGE GROUPS.

THEY ARE OF COURSE FREE TO SUBMIT THEIR APPLICATIONS NOW.

HOWEVER, THE SPOKESMAN SAID IN VIEW OF THE LARGE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVING EACH DAY, PRIORITY WOULD HAVE TO BE GIVEN TO APPLICANTS FOR FIRST PASSPORT OR REPLACEMENT OF PASSPORT WITH VALIDITY OF LESS THAN 12 MONTHS.

"PERSONS WHO DO NOT COMPLY WITH THE RELEVANT CUT-OFF DATES WILL NOT BE ABLE TO TRAVEL ON BRITISH PASSPORTS BEYOND 1997," HE SAID.

AN APPLICATION MADE AFTER THE FINAL DATE WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED IF THE APPLICANT CAN SHOW THAT THERE ARE SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH JUSTIFY HIS LATE APPLICATION.

A BN(O) LATE REGISTRATION APPEALS ADVISORY COMMITTEE HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED TO ADVISE THE GOVERNOR ON LATE APPLICATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN REJECTED BY THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT.

THE SPOKESMAN EMPHASISED THAT THOSE WHO ALREADY HAD A BN(O) PASSPORT, EITHER THE CONVENTIONAL HARD-COVER TYPE OR THE BURGUNDY RED MACHINE READABLE TYPE, NEED NOT APPLY AGAIN.

APPLICATIONS FOR BN(O) PASSPORTS MAY BE SUBMITTED TO THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT EITHER BY POST OR IN PERSON.

APPLICANTS MAY ALSO DEPOSIT THEIR APPLICATIONS INTO THE DROP-IN BOXES INSTALLED AT THE IMMIGRATION HEADQUARTERS OR AT ANY IMMIGRATION BRANCH OFFICES THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL IMMIGRATION OFFICES AND DISTRICT OFFICES.

HONG KONG BDTCS LIVING, WORKING OR STUDYING ABROAD, ARE ALSO REQUIRED TO OBSERVE THE CUT-OFF DATES IF THEY WISH TO APPLY FOR A BN(O) PASSPORT.

HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT REQUIRED TO RETURN TO HONG KONG FOR THEIR APPLICATIONS.

THEY SHOULD SEND THEIR APPLICATIONS TO THE NEAREST BRITISH PASSPORT ISSUING OFFICE EITHER BY POST OR IN PERSON. THE REQUIRED OVERSEAS APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED AT THOSE OFFICES OR THE HONG KONG IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY TELEPHONE 824 1177 (ENGLISH) OR 824 1717 (CHINESE).

AIR QUALITY REPORT FOR FEBRUARY

* * * * *

THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT TODAY (MONDAY) RELEASED AIR QUALITY INFORMATION FOR FEBRUARY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE PURPOSE OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT WAS TO KEEP THE PUBLIC INFORMED OF THE AIR QUALITY LEVELS IN THE TERRITORY AND TO EXPLAIN THE MEASUREMENTS.

THE ANNOUNCEMENT CONTAINS MONITORING RESULTS FROM MONG KOK, CENTRAL/WESTERN AND KWAI CHUNG. THESE LOCATIONS ARE TYPICAL OF THREE OF THE IMPORTANT LAND USE TYPES FOUND IN THE TERRITORY:

- * LOCATIONS CLOSE TO ROAD TRAFFIC IN BUILT-UP URBAN AREAS,
- * COMBINED COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS, AND
- * DISTRICTS CLOSE TO INDUSTRIAL AREAS.

THE DEPARTMENT CURRENTLY MONITORS AIR QUALITY CONTINUOUSLY AT EIGHT STATIONS, INCLUDING THE THREE MENTIONED. SHORT-TERM MEASUREMENT CAMPAIGNS ARE ALSO UNDERTAKEN AS AND WHERE THE NEED ARISES.

THE REPORTED AIR POLLUTANTS INCLUDE SULPHUR DIOXIDE (SO₂), NITROGEN DIOXIDE (NO₂), TOTAL SUSPENDED PARTICULATES (TSP) WHICH COMPRISE ALL SIZES OF DUST PARTICLES, AND RESPIRABLE SUSPENDED PARTICULATES (RSP) WHICH ARE THE RESPIRABLE FRACTION OF THE DUST.

ALL THESE POLLUTANTS CAN AFFECT RESPIRATORY HEALTH IN SUFFICIENT CONCENTRATION.

THERE WERE NO EXCEEDANCES OF ANY AIR QUALITY OBJECTIVES AT ANY OF THE THREE SITES IN FEBRUARY.

OVER CHINESE NEW YEAR, SULPHUR DIOXIDE LEVELS WERE PARTICULARLY LOW AT ALL SITES AS EMISSIONS WERE REDUCED BECAUSE INDUSTRIES CLOSED DOWN OVER THE HOLIDAY PERIOD.

THE RATHER LOW DUST LEVELS ON FEBRUARY 16 WAS ALSO THE RESULT OF LOWER INDUSTRIAL AND OTHER ACTIVITIES AND THE RAIN WASHING PARTICLES OUT FROM THE AIR.

THE GASES AND PARTICLES DESCRIBED ORIGINATE FROM VARIOUS SOURCES. SO₂ IS MOSTLY PRODUCED WHEN FUELS THAT CONTAIN SULPHUR ARE BURNED. NO₂ IS FORMED DURING COMBUSTION BY THE COMBINATION OF NITROGEN AND OXYGEN.

HOWEVER THE MAJORITY OF IT IS FORMED IN THE ATMOSPHERE BY THE OXIDATION OF NITRIC OXIDE (NO), ALSO A PRODUCT OF COMBUSTION.

VEHICLE EXHAUSTS ARE IMPORTANT SOURCES OF NO AND NO₂ IN TERMS OF IMPACT ON LOCAL AIR QUALITY.

THESE EXHAUSTS ARE ALSO A MAJOR SOURCE OF AIRBORNE PARTICULATE MATTER, ESPECIALLY THE SMALLER RESPIRABLE PARTICLES.

/OTHER SOURCES

OTHER SOURCES OF PARTICLES INCLUDE INDUSTRY, FURNACES AND BOILERS, CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES, THE SEA AND THE SOIL.

IT IS WORTH NOTING THAT WHILE THE WEATHER AND CLIMATE ALWAYS AFFECT THE CONCENTRATIONS OF POLLUTANTS IN THE AIR, THE ONLY SURE WAY OF REDUCING THE LEVELS IS TO REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM THE MAN-MADE SOURCES.

- - - - 0 - - - -

TEACHING KITS PROMOTE RULE OF LAW
* * * * *

A TEACHING KIT TO EXPLAIN AND PROMOTE THE RULE OF LAW AMONG YOUNGSTERS IS NOW AVAILABLE FOR USE IN CLASSROOMS AND SOCIAL SERVICE CENTRES.

THE KIT, COMPRISING SIX MANUALS AND A VIDEO TAPE, WAS PRODUCED BY THE COMMITTEE ON THE PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE COMMITTEE SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THAT ABOUT 1,200 KITS WERE BEING DISTRIBUTED TO TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS, COLLEGES OF EDUCATION, SECONDARY SCHOOLS, CIVIC EDUCATION BODIES AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AT DISTRICT LEVEL.

THE MANUALS CARRY THE THEMES: LEGAL PERSONNEL, JURY SYSTEM, FAIR TRIAL, JUDICIAL INDEPENDENCE, EQUALITY BEFORE THE LAW AND DUE PROCESS OF LAW.

EACH HANDBOOK ALSO CONTAINS TEACHING PLANS AND ACTIVITIES AS WELL AS BRIEF NOTES AND SKETCHES TAILOR-MADE FOR SLIDE SHOWS, HE ADDED.

COPIES HAVE BEEN PLACED AT EACH PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE OF THE DISTRICT OFFICES TERRITORY-WIDE FOR EASY REFERENCE BY INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 835 1381.

- - - - 0 - - - -

NEW PARKING METERS SET UP IN HO MAN TIN
* * * * *

TWENTY-ONE PARKING METERS SET UP AT PARKING SPACES AT GOOD SHEPHERD STREET, HO MAN TIN WILL COME INTO SERVICE FROM 10 AM ON WEDNESDAY (MARCH 16), THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED.

THE TWO-HOUR PARKING METERS ARE FOR PRIVATE CARS, LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES, PUBLIC/PRIVATE LIGHT BUSES AND TAXIS. THE CHARGE IS \$2 PER EVERY 30 MINUTES.

OF THEM, 11 METERS WILL BE OPERATIONAL FROM 5 PM TO MIDNIGHT ON MONDAYS TO SATURDAYS AND FROM 8 AM TO MIDNIGHT ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS. THE OTHER 10 ARE OPERATIONAL FROM 8 AM TO MIDNIGHT DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WATER STORAGE FIGURE
* * * * *

STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 67.9 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 397.689 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 306.446 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 52.3 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS
* * * * *

	\$MN	TIME	CUMULATIVE CHANGE (\$MN)
	---	----	-----
OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,324	0930 HR	+676
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	3,200	1000 HR	+676
CHANGE ATTRIBUTABLE TO:		1100 HR	+676
MONEY MARKET ACTIVITY	+676	1200 HR	+676
LAF TODAY	+200	1500 HR	+676
		1600 HR	+676
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER	TWI 125.5	*+0.1*	14.3.94

HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY

EF BILLS

EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	3.45	18 MONTHS	2508	4.625	99.82	4.81
1 MONTH	3.58	21 MONTHS	2511	4.15	98.72	5.01
3 MONTHS	3.73	24 MONTHS	2602	4.40	98.72	5.17
6 MONTHS	3.95	32 MONTHS	3610	4.20	96.98	5.52
12 MONTHS	4.40	35 MONTHS	3701	4.60	97.44	5.65

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 23,015 MN

CLOSED 14 MARCH 1994

- - - - 0 - - - -