



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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BANKING INDUSTRY CONTINUES TO MAKE SOLID PROGRESS

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THE HONG KONG BANKING INDUSTRY CONTINUED TO MAKE SOLID PROGRESS IN 1989, THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING FOR 1989 NOTED.

THE REPORT REVIEWS, AMONG OTHER THINGS, SUPERVISORY POLICY AND BANKING DEVELOPMENTS AND THE WORK OF THE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE IN THE PAST YEAR.

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (MONDAY) TO RELEASE THE REPORT, THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING, MR TONY NICOLLE, SAID HONG KONG HAD SWITCHED TO THE NEW WORLDWIDE STANDARD CAPITAL ADEQUACY RATIO SET BY THE BASLE COMMITTEE ON BANKING SUPERVISION THREE YEARS AHEAD OF THE RECOMMENDED TIMETABLE.

"THE SOUNDNESS OF THE INDUSTRY WAS CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED BY THE BANKS' ABILITY COMFORTABLY TO MEET THE STANDARD," HE SAID.

HE ALSO DREW ATTENTION TO THE CONTINUING DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG AS A BASE FOR INTERNATIONAL BANKING.

"IN 1989, THERE WAS A NET INCREASE OF NINE IN THE NUMBER OF OVERSEAS BANKS LICENSED. THE NUMBER OF REPRESENTATIVE OFFICES INCREASED BY EIGHT TO 160," HE SAID.

MR NICOLLE NOTED THAT ALREADY THIS YEAR TWO MORE BANKS HAVE BEEN LICENSED.

HE ADDED THAT THE INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW AUTHORISATION CATEGORY, OF RESTRICTED LICENCE BANK, WHICH CAME INTO EFFECT ON FEBRUARY 1, 1990, WOULD FURTHER ENCOURAGE INTERNATIONAL BANKS TO ESTABLISH REGIONAL OPERATIONS HERE.

"ONE SUCH LICENCE HAS ALREADY BEEN GRANTED, AND A FURTHER FIVE APPLICATIONS ARE BEING CONSIDERED," HE SAID.

NEVERTHELESS, SPECIAL EFFORTS HAVE TO BE MADE TO ENSURE THAT HONG KONG REMAINS AN ATTRACTIVE AND COMPETITIVE PLACE FOR INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS, MR NICOLLE SAID, REFERRING TO THE RAPID GROWTH IN THE BANKS' OPERATING COSTS.

"IMPROVING EFFICIENCY AND CONTAINING COSTS ARE VITAL TO MAINTAINING NOT ONLY PROFITABILITY OF THE BANKS, BUT ALSO HONG KONG'S ATTRACTIVENESS AS ONE OF THE WORLD'S MAJOR FINANCIAL CENTRES," HE SAID.

ON THE EFFECTS OF THE JUNE EVENTS IN PEKING ON THE PRC BANKS, MR NICOLLE SAID THAT THE BANKS' POSITION AT YEAR-END SHOWED THAT THEY MORE THAN MADE GOOD THE LOSS OF DEPOSITS SUFFERED DURING THE SUMMER.

COMMENTING ON CHANGES IN THE BANKING SECTOR BALANCE SHEET, MR NICOLLE SAID THAT RECENT YEARS HAVE SEEN A STEADY AND SIGNIFICANT RISE IN THE LOAN TO DEPOSIT RATIOS OF MANY INSTITUTIONS.

"THE RATIO OF HONG KONG DOLLAR LOANS TO DEPOSITS ROSE FROM 92 PER CENT IN 1986 TO 117 PER CENT IN 1989 AS DEPOSITS DENOMINATED IN HONG KONG DOLLARS HAVE NOT BEEN GROWING AS QUICKLY AS LOANS IN THAT CURRENCY," HE SAID.

MR NICOLLE NOTED HOWEVER THAT THE GROWTH OF HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS CONTINUED TO KEEP PACE WITH THE GROWTH OF HONG KONG'S GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT EXPRESSED IN CURRENT PRICES.

"HONG KONG DOLLAR LOANS NOW ACCOUNTED FOR A HIGHER PROPORTION OF INSTITUTIONS' TOTAL HONG KONG DOLLAR ASSETS THAN AT ANY TIME IN THE PAST DECADE," HE SAID.

MR NICOLLE WARNED THAT BANKS SHOULD BE CONSIDERING CAREFULLY WHETHER THEY WOULD WISH TO GO ON INCREASING THEIR LENDING FASTER THAN THEIR DEPOSIT GROWTH.

HE NOTED THAT, SINCE THE REPORT WAS WRITTEN, HONG KONG DOLLAR INTEREST RATES HAD BEEN RAISED, WHICH WOULD HELP TO DAMPEN LOAN DEMAND, AND ENCOURAGE THE HOLDING OF HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS.

IT WAS ALSO IMPORTANT FOR BANKS TO ENSURE THAT CUSTOMERS BORROWED IN A CURRENCY MATCHED TO THAT IN WHICH THE SOURCE OF REPAYMENTS WOULD ARISE, HE SAID.

THE REPORT NOTED THAT THE COMMISSIONER HAD HAD TO EXERCISE HIS POWERS UNDER THE BANKING ORDINANCE DURING 1989 TO INTERVENE IN THE AFFAIRS OF FIVE REGISTERED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES (THREE CONTINUED FROM 1988).

"MY ACTIONS AROSE MAINLY BECAUSE OF CONCERNS OVER INADEQUATE LOAN SYSTEMS AND SERIOUS SHORTCOMINGS IN MANAGEMENT," HE SAID.

IN ONE CASE, THE RESTRICTIONS WERE EVENTUALLY LIFTED FOLLOWING A CHANGE OF CONTROL. THE OTHER CASES LED TO REVOCATION, ONE COMPULSORILY, AFTER THE REPAYMENT OF DEPOSITS.

MR NICOLLE SAID HIS OFFICE HAD MADE GOOD PROGRESS IN DEVELOPING THE BROADER APPROACH TO SUPERVISION OUTLINED IN PREVIOUS REPORTS.

"MORE EMPHASIS HAD BEEN PLACED ON OFF-SITE ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL DATA AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION, AND DISCUSSIONS WITH TOP MANAGEMENT OF THE INSTITUTIONS FOCUSING ON THEIR FUTURE PLANNING AND STRATEGIC DIRECTION.

"THE OFFICE WAS GREATLY ENCOURAGED BY THE INDUSTRY'S GENERALLY POSITIVE RESPONSE TO THESE DEVELOPMENTS," HE SAID.

THE REPORT ALSO HIGHLIGHTED A NUMBER OF MAJOR SUPERVISORY POLICIES DEVELOPED DURING 1989. THESE INCLUDED THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SUPERVISORY FRAMEWORK FOR FOREIGN EXCHANGE RISK AND A GUIDELINE FOR INSTITUTIONS ON MINIMISING THE RISK OF BEING USED FOR MONEY LAUNDERING.

THE REPORT SAID HONG KONG NOW HAD WELL-DEVELOPED MEASURES TO DISCOURAGE ITS BANKING SYSTEM BEING USED FOR DRUG MONEY LAUNDERING.

"BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ARE CO-OPERATING WITH THE AUTHORITIES TO IDENTIFY SUSPECTED DRUG TRAFFICKERS," MR NICOLLE SAID.

"THERE IS NO SOLID EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT ALLEGATIONS THAT HONG KONG IS PARTICULARLY PRONE TO BEING USED FOR LAUNDERING," HE POINTED OUT.

"A SERIOUS VIEW WOULD BE TAKEN OF ANY INSTITUTION WHICH FAILED TO TAKE PROPER STEPS TO GUARD AGAINST BECOMING A PARTY TO LAUNDERING," HE SAID.

MR NICOLLE SAID LEGISLATION INTRODUCED DURING THE YEAR TO AMEND THE BANKING ORDINANCE PRINCIPALLY CONCERNED CHANGES TO THE THREE-TIER SYSTEM.

THE DESIGNATION OF LICENSED AND REGISTERED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES WERE REPLACED BY THAT OF RESTRICTED LICENCE BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES RESPECTIVELY.

MR NICOLLE NOTED THAT HIS OFFICE'S RELATIONS WITH AUDITORS HAD CONTINUED TO BE FRUITFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE.

"TO CATER FOR EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES WHEN A BILATERAL MEETING BETWEEN THE COMMISSIONER AND THE AUDITOR WOULD BE NECESSARY, LEGISLATION HAS BEEN INTRODUCED INTO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO ENABLE AUDITORS TO DISCLOSE INFORMATION TO THE COMMISSIONER IN GOOD FAITH, WITHOUT BEING AT RISK OF SUIT FROM THEIR CLIENTS," HE SAID.

HE ADDED THAT THE HONG KONG SOCIETY OF ACCOUNTANTS WOULD, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH HIMSELF AND THE BANKING SECTOR, REVISE THEIR EXISTING GUIDELINE FOR ITS MEMBERS CLARIFYING THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHEN MEETINGS WITH THE COMMISSIONER SHOULD BE HELD IN A TRIPARTITE OR BILATERAL BASIS.

THE REPORT ALSO EMPHASISED THE OFFICE'S CONTINUING BROADENING AND DEEPENING COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE PEOPLE'S BANK OF CHINA, AS WELL AS WITH OTHER SUPERVISORS IN HONG KONG, AND OVERSEAS.

THE REPORT IS AVAILABLE FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AT \$21 PER COPY.

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SMA TO ATTEND ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK MEETING
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THE SECRETARY FOR MONETARY AFFAIRS, MR DAVID NENDICK, WILL LEAVE HONG KONG TONIGHT (MONDAY) TO ATTEND THE 23RD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK.

THE MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE IN NEW DELHI, INDIA, FROM MAY 2 TO 4. MR NENDICK IS EXPECTED TO ADDRESS THE MEETING AT A GOVERNOR'S SESSION.

ALSO IN THE HONG KONG DELEGATION ARE THE PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR MONETARY AFFAIRS, MR ALASDAIR SINCLAIR, AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR MONETARY AFFAIRS, MR THOMAS CHOW.

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MEASURES TO IMPROVE LABOUR BENEFITS
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THE GOVERNMENT IS CONSIDERING A SERIES OF MEASURES TO FURTHER IMPROVE LABOUR BENEFITS IN THE AREA OF PAID LEAVE, LONG SERVICE PAYMENT, SEVERANCE PAY, AND COMPENSATION FOR INJURED WORKERS.

THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, MR K.Y. YEUNG, SAID THIS WHEN ADDRESSING A GATHERING THIS (MONDAY) EVENING TO MARK THE MAY 1 INTERNATIONAL LABOUR DAY.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS COMMITTED TO A PROGRESSIVE AND FORWARD LOOKING LABOUR POLICY.

THE GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT WAS DEMONSTRATED BY WHAT HAD BEEN ACHIEVED DURING THE 1980'S IN THREE BROAD AREAS OF LABOUR BENEFITS - INDUSTRIAL SAFETY, CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT AND EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION - AND ALSO BY WHAT FURTHER THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSED TO DO IN FUTURE.

MR YEUNG SAID IN THE NEAR FUTURE, SUBJECT TO THE ADVICE OF THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD, HE INTENDED TO INTRODUCE A MEASURE THAT WOULD PROVIDE FOR AN IMMEDIATE INCREASE IN PAID ANNUAL LEAVE FROM SEVEN TO 10 DAYS FOR WORKERS WHO HAD RENDERED FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE OR LONGER, AND FOR A FURTHER INCREASE FROM 10 TO 14 DAYS PHASED OVER A FIVE-YEAR PERIOD.

HE NOTED THAT THE LONG SERVICE PAYMENT SCHEME INTRODUCED IN 1986 HAD BEEN CRITICISED ON THE GROUNDS THAT YOUNGER EMPLOYEES WHO HAD COMPLETED THE PERIODS OF SERVICE REQUIRED FOR ELIGIBILITY UNDER THE SCHEME DID NOT OBTAIN THE SAME BENEFITS THAT OLDER WORKERS RECEIVED.

"THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR AND I HAVE BEEN EXAMINING THE MATTER. WE SEE A CASE FOR BETTER TREATMENT FOR YOUNGER EMPLOYEES, AND WITH THE BENEFIT OF THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD'S ADVICE I EXPECT TO COMMISSION THE DRAFTING OF NECESSARY AMENDING LEGISLATION VERY SOON."

/MR YEUNG

MR YEUNG ADMITTED THAT PAYMENT FROM THE PROTECTION OF WAGES ON INSOLVENCY FUND TO EMPLOYEES HAD BEEN LIMITED TO RELATIVELY SMALL AMOUNT, OUT OF CONCERN THAT THE FUND MIGHT BE DEPLETED TOO FAST.

"BUT WE ARE REVIEWING THE POSSIBILITY OF RAISING THE LEVEL OF PAYMENTS AND SHOULD BE ABLE TO COME TO A DECISION LATER ON THIS YEAR," HE SAID.

"IN ADDITION TO THIS THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR AND I ARE NOW CONTEMPLATING WHETHER IT MIGHT BE FEASIBLE TO INCREASE THE INCOME OF THE FUND BY INCREASING THE LEVY ON BUSINESS REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES, WITH A VIEW TO PROVIDING A MUCH BETTER LEVEL OF PROTECTION FOR SEVERANCE PAY ENTITLEMENTS."

ON THE QUESTION OF COMPENSATION FOR WORKERS WHO SUSTAINED INJURIES IN WORK, MR YEUNG SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS NOW IN THE PROCESS OF SETTING UP AN EMPLOYEES COMPENSATION ASSISTANCE SCHEME.

"THE GOVERNMENT HAS DONE A GREAT DEAL OVER THE PAST 10 YEARS TO IMPROVE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY. SINCE 1978, THE GOVERNMENT HAD PROMULGATED SEVEN SETS OF INDUSTRY-WIDE SAFETY REGULATIONS AND HAD ALSO HELD NUMEROUS PUBLICITY CAMPAIGNS TO PROMOTE THE VIRTUE OF PREVENTION OVER CURE," HE SAID.

"THE CUMULATIVE EFFECT OF THIS REGULATORY LEGISLATION AND PUBLICITY HAS BEEN A STEADY REDUCTION IN THE INCIDENCE AND SEVERITY OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR OF OUR ECONOMY."

IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY, HOWEVER, THE RECORD OF INDUSTRIAL SAFETY WAS APPALLING, MR YEUNG NOTED.

THIS WAS WHY THE GOVERNMENT INTRODUCED A BILL INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL LAST YEAR TO AMEND THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS ORDINANCE. THE LEGISLATION CREATED A SET OF SPECIFIC OBLIGATIONS ON BOTH EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES TO ENSURE SAFETY AT WORKPLACE.

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LACK OF ADEQUATE INFORMATION ON POLLUTION-CONTROL TECHNOLOGY

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THERE IS A GENERAL LACK OF ADEQUATE INFORMATION ON POLLUTION-CONTROL TECHNOLOGY AND EQUIPMENT IN HONG KONG, THE SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS, MR GRAHAM BARNES, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

MR BARNES SAID THE TIGHTENING UP OF ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS HAD BEEN THE WORLD'S RESPONSE TO THE FAILURE OF ATTEMPTS SOMETIMES HALF-HEARTED OR SIMPLY COSMETIC AT CONTROL.

/SPEAKING AT

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SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE ENVIRONTech '90 EXHIBITION, HE SAID COPING WITH A CHANGE IN STANDARDS WAS NOT AN EASY TASK, BUT IN MANY COUNTRIES INDUSTRY HAD ACCPETED THE CHALLENGE.

THE EXHIBITION IS ORGANISED BY FORUM EVENT PLANNERS WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL.

APART FROM THE LACK OF ADEQUATE INFORMATION, THE SECRETARY SAID CAPITAL AND SPACE WERE ALSO PROBLEMS THAT HAD TO BE SOLVED.

"BUT THE BIGGEST PROBLEM IN COPING WITH THE CHANGING WORLD IS PROBABLY THE CHANGE IN PUBLIC ATTITUDES TOWARDS POLLUTION," HE SAID.

THERE IS A MASSIVE JOB TO DO TO OVERCOME RESISTANCE TO CHANGE, WHICH MAY WELL INVOLVE ADDITIONAL CAPITAL OUTLAY, EVEN IF IT COULD BE RECOUPED OVER A PERIOD OF TIME.

"A POSITIVE APPROACH IS FOR INDUSTRIALISTS TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT BETTER ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND TO SEE WHICH IS THE MOST COST-EFFECTIVE WAY OF DEALING WITH THE PROBLEM," MR BARNES SAID.

HE SAID EVERY FACTORY PROPRIETOR HAD THE RESPONSIBILITY TO CONTROL POLLUTION PROBLEM.

FOR POLLUTION CONTROL DID NOT ALWAYS ADD TO THE COSTS OF PRODUCTION. PROCESS IMPROVEMENT AND WASTE RECYCLING COULD IN FACT IMPROVE THE PRODUCTIVITY AS WELL AS REMOVING THE SOURCE OF POLLUTION, HE ADDED.

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ALL SECTORS URGED TO SUPPORT ENVIRONMENTAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE
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THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE (ECC), MRS PEGGY LAM, TODAY (MONDAY) CALLED ON PUBLIC ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS, AND THE COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL SECTORS TO CO-OPERATE WITH AND SUPPORT THE ECC TO PROMOTE ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS IN THE COMMUNITY.

THE CALL WAS MADE BY MRS LAM AT A PRESS CONFERENCE ANNOUNCING THE SETTING UP OF THE COMMITTEE, AND ITS TERMS OF REFERENCE AND WORK PLANS.

THE COMMITTEE, FORMED EARLY THIS YEAR UPON APPOINTMENT BY THE GOVERNOR, IS AIMED AT PROMOTING PUBLIC AWARENESS OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ISSUES, AND ENCOURAGING AND MOBILISING PEOPLE FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS A BETTER ENVIRONMENT.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE INCLUDE ACADEMICS, SCHOOL PRINCIPAL, DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS, JOURNALISTS, DIRECTOR OF LEADING FIRMS, EXPERIENCED ENVIRONMENTAL WORKERS AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM VOLUNTARY AGENCIES IN HONG KONG, URBAN COUNCILLOR, REGIONAL COUNCILLOR AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

/MRS LAM

MRS LAM SAID FOLLOWING THE FIRST MEETING OF THE ECC, FOUR WORKING GROUPS, ON EDUCATION, COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION CAMPAIGN, RESOURCES AND PUBLICITY, HAVE BEEN SET UP.

A TOTAL OF \$4 MILLION WILL BE DONATED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB FOR THE COMMITTEE TO ORGANISE ENVIRONMENTALLY RELATED PROGRAMMES.

ON THE COMMITTEE'S WORK PLANS, MRS LAM SAID THE EDUCATION WORKING GROUP IS PLANNING TO FORM A COMPUTER DATABASE OF INFORMATION MATERIALS OF LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS AND ORGANISATIONS FOR RESIDENTS' EASY REFERENCE.

THIS WILL HELP STRENGTHEN CO-ORDINATION AMONG ENVIRONMENTAL BODIES AND IDENTIFY THE AVAILABILITY OF AND THE NEED FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MATERIALS.

MRS LAM SAID THE EDUCATION WORKING GROUP IS ALSO PLANNING TO PRODUCE TEACHING KITS ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FOR PRIMARY AND KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION PROJECTS OR COMPETITIONS WILL BE ENCOURAGED OR ORGANISED IN SCHOOLS.

THE GROUP IS PREPARING TO DRAW UP AN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION CHECKLIST FOR SMALL FACTORIES SO THAT THESE FACTORIES CAN CHECK WHETHER THEIR EQUIPMENT HAS CAUSED POLLUTION PROBLEMS.

ON MAJOR ACTIVITIES, MRS LAM SAID THE ECC IS PLANNING TO LAUNCH TWO LARGE-SCALE CAMPAIGNS THIS YEAR. ONE IS THE 1990 WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY PROGRAMME IN JUNE, WHICH WILL BE ORGANISED BY THE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION CAMPAIGN WORKING GROUP.

ANOTHER CAMPAIGN WILL BE AN ANTI-POLLUTION FORTNIGHT TO BE HELD AT THE END OF NOVEMBER. THIS CAMPAIGN, ORGANISED UPON REQUEST FROM THE 19 DISTRICT BOARDS, IS AIMED AT ENCOURAGING RESIDENTS TO MINIMISE WASTE AND LEARN TO RE-USE AND RECYCLE WASTE MATERIALS.

TO ENCOURAGE VARIOUS SECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY TO ACTIVELY TAKE PART IN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, MRS LAM SAID A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF MONEY TO BE DONATED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB WILL BE USED TO SPONSOR LOCAL GROUPS AND ORGANISATIONS IN HOLDING ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACTIVITIES.

DETAILS OF THE FUND ALLOCATION PROCEDURES WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON JUNE 5, THE WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY, MRS LAM SAID.

EXPLAINING THE SLOGAN OF THE ECC, "ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION STARTS WITH ME", MRS LAM CONCLUDED THAT SHE HOPES EVERY RESIDENT IN HONG KONG CAN MAKE A COMMITMENT RIGHT AWAY IN STARTING THE WAR AGAINST POLLUTION.

THE ADDRESS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT IS 27TH FLOOR, SOUTHERN CENTRE, 130 HENNESSY ROAD, WAN CHAI.

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GOVT PROVIDES INFRASTRUCTURAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL SUPPORT FOR INDUSTRY
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THE GOVERNMENT MAINTAINS A CONTINUOUS PROGRAMME OF CONSULTANCIES AND STUDIES WHICH ANALYSE THE STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES OF HONG KONG'S MAIN INDUSTRIAL SECTORS AS WELL AS HOW THE WEAKNESSES MIGHT BE OVERCOME, THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR ANDREW LEUNG, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

DELIVERING THE KEYNOTE SPEECH AT A SEMINAR ON "CHINA-SHENZHEN-HONG KONG TECHNOLOGY CO-OPERATION IN THE 90'S" AT THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, MR LEUNG SAID: "IN THE LIGHT OF THESE FINDINGS AND THE ADVICE OF OUR INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD, THE GOVERNMENT HAS A REASONABLE BASIS ON WHICH TO DECIDE WHETHER AND WHERE SUPPORT IS NEEDED."

HE SAID GOVERNMENT'S SUPPORT FOR INDUSTRY FELL INTO TWO MAIN CATEGORIES, INFRASTRUCTURAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL.

INFRASTRUCTURAL SUPPORT WAS CONCERNED WITH ADEQUATE PROVISION OF INDUSTRIAL LAND, TRAINED MANPOWER, WATER, FUEL AND RAW MATERIALS, AND FINANCIAL AND OTHER BUSINESS SERVICES.

DEVELOPMENTAL SUPPORT WAS CONCERNED WITH THE STIMULATION OF INVESTMENT IN PRODUCTIVITY, QUALITY AND INNOVATION, THE THREE CRUCIAL ELEMENTS IN MAINTAINING MANUFACTURING COMPETITIVENESS.

"FOR EXAMPLE, LAND IS A SCARCE RESOURCE AND ECONOMICS DICTATE THAT IT SHOULD GENERALLY BE AUCTIONED OFF, REGARDLESS OF ECONOMIC SECTORS, TO THE HIGHEST, AND BY IMPLICATION, THE MOST EFFICIENT BIDDER ABLE TO REALISE ITS MAXIMUM DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL," MR LEUNG SAID.

"ALTHOUGH THIS GENERAL APPROACH SERVES HONG KONG WELL, IT SOMETIMES FALLS SHORT OF MEETING ONE OF THE MOST CRUCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY INDUSTRY TO DIVERSIFY AND UPGRADE ITSELF - SUITABLE LAND FOR LOW-RISE SPECIALLY DESIGNED INDUSTRIAL ACCOMMODATION MORE AMENABLE TO PROCESSES INVOLVING OPTIMUM AUTOMATION, CONTROLLED ENVIRONMENTS AND PRECISION TECHNOLOGIES.

"MOREOVER, IN THE ABSENCE OF SUCH ACCOMMODATION, IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT FOR HONG KONG TO CONTINUE TO COMPETE FOR MUCH-NEEDED FOREIGN INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT, WHICH SERVES TO UPGRADE OUR INDUSTRIES.

"THIS IS LARGELY THE PHILOSOPHY BEHIND THE PROVISION OF INDUSTRIAL ESTATES.

"AS YOU KNOW, THE GOVERNMENT IS STARTING TO PLAN AND BUILD A THIRD ONE, EXPECTED TO COME ON STREAM BY 1993," HE SAID.

MR LEUNG SAID WITH INCREASING COMPETITION FROM NEIGHBOURING ECONOMIES, CONTINUING PROTECTIONISM AND RISING CONSUMER EXPECTATIONS IN OUR MAIN OVERSEAS MARKETS, HONG KONG HAD TO COMPETE MORE ON QUALITY THAN ON PRICE AND RESPONSIVENESS.

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"INCREASING INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION HAS ALSO EMPHASISED THE NEED FOR MORE INNOVATION," HE ADDED.

"THE WORLD AROUND US IS CHANGING WITH BREATHTAKING SPEED," MR LEUNG SAID.

"FORECASTING THE FUTURE AT THIS TIME IS MORE THAN USUALLY HAZARDOUS.

"AT ANY RATE, HONG KONG'S EXTERNALLY ORIENTED ECONOMY IS LIKELY TO REMAIN VULNERABLE TO THE VICISSITUDES OF OUTSIDE EVENTS."

BUT HONG KONG'S INDUSTRIALISTS HAD PROVED THEIR RESILIENCE IN THE PAST.

IT WAS VITALLY IMPORTANT TO PRESERVE THIS RESILIENCE IN THE YEARS AHEAD BY IMPROVING AND CREATING THE CONDITIONS WITHIN WHICH INDUSTRIALISTS COULD EXPLOIT THEIR OWN ENTREPRENEURSHIP.

"I BELIEVE THAT, WITH THIS WINNING PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS, WE WILL FIND THE 1990'S A DECADE OF REWARD AS MUCH AS A DECADE OF CHALLENGE," MR LEUNG SAID.

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HK AND GUANGDONG CUSTOMS ANNUAL MEETING

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A SEVEN-MAN DELEGATION, HEADED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE, MR PATRICK WILLIAMSON, DEPARTED FOR CANTON THIS (MONDAY) MORNING FOR THE EIGHTH ANNUAL REVIEW MEETING ON LIAISON ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE GUANGDONG BRANCH OF THE CUSTOMS GENERAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

DRUG TRAFFICKING, SMUGGLING ACTIVITIES AND CUSTOMS CONTROL MEASURES WILL BE REVIEWED BY BOTH SIDES DURING THE MEETING. AT THE SAME TIME, COMPUTERISATION OF CUSTOMS AFFAIRS, SIMPLIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS AND THE ADOPTION OF A HARMONISED SYSTEM WILL ALSO BE DISCUSSED.

THE HONG KONG CUSTOMS DELEGATION IS EXPECTED TO RETURN TO HONG KONG ON MAY 6.

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FIRST AGRICULTURE SHOW IN 18 YEARS
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AN AGRICULTURE SHOW WILL BE HELD IN THE FANLING RECREATION GROUND FROM MAY 26 TO 28.

THE SHOW, AS PART OF THE NORTH DISTRICT'S COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES SHOW, IS THE FIRST IN 18 YEARS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SHOW'S ORGANISING COMMITTEE SAID: "AGRICULTURE SHOWS WERE VERY POPULAR AMONG NEW TERRITORIES FARMERS IN THE 1950'S AND EARLY 1970'S. THE LAST SHOW TOOK PLACE IN 1972 AT SHEK KONG.

"WE REVIVE THE SHOW AFTER A LAPSE OF 18 YEARS BECAUSE WE WANT TO REINTRODUCE COUNTRY LIFE TO CITY PEOPLE, GIVING THEM AN OPPORTUNITY TO SEE WHERE THEIR FOOD COMES FROM, AND TO SEE REAL FARM ANIMALS."

ON SHOW WILL BE ANIMALS AND POULTRY OF DIFFERENT SPECIES, INCLUDING PIGS, CATTLE, GOATS, CHICKENS, GEESE, PIGEONS AND QUAILS.

STALLS WILL BE SET UP TO DISPLAY LIVESTOCK FEED, AGRICULTURAL HEALTH PRODUCTS, TOOLS, AUXILIARY TRADES, LIVESTOCK WASTE DISPOSAL AND POLLUTION CONTROL. THERE WILL BE A STALL TO PROMOTE THE CONSUMPTION OF FRESH LOCAL EGGS.

ON THE CROP SIDE, EMPHASIS WILL BE PUT ON THE PLANTING OF VEGETABLES AND FLOWERS IN NORTH DISTRICT.

THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT WILL SET UP A STALL TO INTRODUCE THE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN HONG KONG, PARTICULARLY THE FARMING CHARACTERISTICS IN NORTH DISTRICT.

THE PRELUDE OF THE SHOW WILL BE THE ADJUDICATION OF THE BEST PIG BREEDER AMONG 20 ENTRIES.

THE NORTH DISTRICT COMMERCE, INDUSTRY, AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES SHOW, WITH A BUDGET OF MORE THAN \$500,000, IS BEING SPONSORED BY THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD AND THE REGIONAL COUNCIL.

THE LOGO OF THE SHOW IS MADE UP OF TWO ANCIENT CHINESE COINS, A GEAR WHEEL, TWO FISH AND A COCK TO REPRESENT THE FOUR FACETS OF THE EVENT.

"THE LOGO DESIGN IS BASED ON THE CHINESE CHARACTER 'NORTH', WITH THE AUSPICIOUS COCK IN THE CENTRE TO SYMBOLISE THE DEVELOPING AND VIGOROUS NORTH DISTRICT," THE SPOKESMAN NOTED.

HE ANTICIPATED THAT THE SHOW WILL ATTRACT TENS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE FROM BOTH THE URBAN AND RURAL AREAS.

VISITORS ARE ADVISED TO GO TO THE SHOW BY TRAIN. ADMISSION IS FREE.

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MONDAY, APRIL 30, 1990

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YAN OI TONG PRAISED FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMMUNITY
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THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR ADOLF HSU, TODAY (MONDAY) PRAISED YAN OI TONG FOR ITS CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMMUNITY SERVICES IN NEW TOWNS.

HE MADE THE REMARKS WHILE WELCOMING THE ORGANISATION'S CHAIRMAN AND DIRECTORS DURING THEIR COURTESY CALL ON THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION.

MR HSU NOTED THAT THE COMMUNITY SERVICES BEING PROVIDED BY YAN OI TONG INCLUDED EDUCATION, MEDICAL SERVICES, ARTS, RECREATION, SPORTS AND SERVICES FOR YOUTH AND THE ELDERLY.

"THESE SERVICES SUIT THE NEEDS OF RESIDENTS IN THE FLEDGLING NEW TOWNS WELL.

"THE CONTINUOUS EFFORTS BY MEMBERS OF YAN OI TONG TO PROVIDE RESIDENTS WITH VARIOUS SERVICES HAVE ALSO EARNED THEM GREAT RESPECT FROM THE PUBLIC," HE ADDED.

THE REGIONAL SECRETARY ALSO REFERRED TO YAN OI TONG'S PLAN TO BUILD A MULTI-PURPOSE SERVICE CENTRE IN TSEUNG KWAN O.

HE SAID THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE FULLY SUPPORTED THE PROJECT AND A CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE COMPRISING REPRESENTATIVES OF YAN OI TONG AND VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS WOULD BE SET UP SOON TO DRAW UP A DETAILED PLAN FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE GOVERNMENT.

MR HSU SAID HE WAS PROUD TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH YAN OI TONG AS A MEMBER OF ITS ADVISORY COUNCIL, AND STRESSED THAT THE CNTA WOULD CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE VARIOUS ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS INITIATED BY THE ORGANISATION.

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TSUEN WAN DB TO DISCUSS CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES
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THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS THE CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES OF THE DISTRICT FOR THE 1991 DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS AND THE DRAFT BILL OF RIGHTS AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON.

MEMBERS WILL BE BRIEFED ON THE ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMMES FOR THE DISTRICT TO BE CARRIED OUT BY VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS INCLUDE REPORTS ON THE WORK OF VARIOUS DB COMMITTEES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD MEETING WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE MAIN CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL, SECOND FLOOR, TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STORY CARPARK BUILDING, 174-208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN.

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MONDAY, APRIL 30, 1990

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KWAI TSING DB TO DISCUSS DRAFT BILL OF RIGHTS

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THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS THE DRAFT BILL OF RIGHTS AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT AND THE CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS BRANCH WILL BE PRESENT TO LISTEN TO MEMBERS' VIEWS.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO STUDY THE PROBLEMS OF TERMITES AND WATER LEAKAGE IN TEMPORARY HOUSING AREAS, AND THE RE-DEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR KWAI CHUNG AND TAI WO HAU ESTATES.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT BOARD MEETING WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM, 10TH FLOOR, KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, KWAI CHUNG.

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DB COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY ACTIVITIES

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THE COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE ISLANDS DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS THE ACTIVITIES TO BE HELD IN THE DISTRICT IN SUPPORT OF THE WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 1990 AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

MEMBERS WILL CONSIDER A PROPOSAL TO ORGANISE A MAJOR TREE PLANTING PROGRAMME FOR THE OUTLYING ISLANDS AND THE APPROPRIATE SITES FOR THE PROJECT.

THEY WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE ACTIVITIES FOR THE KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN 1990-91, INCLUDING A VILLAGE CLEANING COMPETITION.

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS INCLUDE VISITS BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND FUNDING FOR THE DISTRICT'S FIRE WATCH TEAMS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE ISLANDS DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, 20TH FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.15 PM.

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MONDAY, APRIL 30, 1990

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NORTH DB COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS CHILD CARE SERVICES

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THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD'S SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE CHILD CARE SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

THE RECOMMENDATIONS WERE MADE BY A DB WORKING GROUP ON CHILD CARE SERVICES AT PRE-SCHOOL, PRIMARY AND JUNIOR SECONDARY EDUCATION LEVELS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD'S SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE TO BE HELD TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE, JOCKEY CLUB ROAD, FANLING.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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PROVISIONAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY REPORT ON DB COMMITTEE AGENDA

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THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING AND SERVICES COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS THE REPORT ON THE PROVISIONAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY (PHA) AT ITS MEETING ON WEDNESDAY (MAY 2).

PHA'S SECRETARY-GENERAL, MR JOHN CHAMBERS, WILL ATTEND THE MEETING AND BRIEF MEMBERS ON THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY'S MEMBERSHIP AND OVERALL STRUCTURE.

MEMBERS WILL STUDY THE DISCUSSION NOTES ON A CONSULTATION PAPER ON SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES SUBMITTED BY TWO MEMBERS.

THEY WILL ALSO CONSIDER AN INVITATION BY THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD TO SPONSOR A PREFERENTIAL TRAVEL SCHEME FOR THE ELDERLY.

THE 1990-91 WORK PLAN OF THE ICAC REGIONAL OFFICE (HONG KONG WEST AND ISLANDS) WILL BE TABLED.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING AND SERVICES COMMITTEE WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM ON WEDNESDAY (MAY 2) IN ROOM 1416, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, HONG KONG.

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MONDAY, APRIL 30, 1990

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DB COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS FUND APPORTIONMENT

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THE COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS THE APPORTIONMENT OF DB FUNDS FOR THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

MEMBERS WILL CONSIDER APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDS FOR ORGANISING A NUMBER OF ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING A SEMINAR ON YOUTH AFFAIRS, A LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAMME, A SUMMER OUTING FOR THE ELDERLY AND A SELF-CARING TRAINING CAMP.

THEY WILL ALSO STUDY AN INFORMATION PAPER ON THE WORK PLAN OF THE ICAC HONG KONG EAST REGIONAL OFFICE FOR 1990-1991.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 4 PM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM, 21ST FLOOR, SOUTHORN CENTRE, 130 HENNESSY ROAD, HONG KONG.

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KWAI TSING DB REPORT PUBLISHED

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THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT BOARD HAS PUBLISHED A REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE BOARD AND ITS COMMITTEES FOR THE YEARS 1987-88 AND 1988-89.

FREE COPIES OF THE REPORT WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO SCHOOLS, VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, OWNERS' INCORPORATIONS, AREA COMMITTEES AND OTHER LOCAL ORGANISATIONS.

THE 160-PAGE BILINGUAL REPORT RECORDS THE PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY THE BOARD AND ITS COMMITTEES, THE NUMBER AND NATURE OF CASES RECEIVED UNDER THE MEET THE PUBLIC SCHEME, LOCAL AND OVERSEAS VISITS MADE BY BOARD MEMBERS, MINOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS COMPLETED AND PARTICULARS OF INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBERS.

THE REPORT IS ILLUSTRATED WITH MORE THAN 100 COLOURED PHOTOGRAPHS OF EVENTS IN THE DISTRICT AND DISTRICT BOARD ACTIVITIES.

IT WAS COMPILED BY AN EDITORIAL BOARD CHAIRED BY A DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER, MR YAU HON-KEE, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICE AND DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT.

/OTHER MEMBERS

OTHER MEMBERS ON THE EDITORIAL BOARD INCLUDED THE DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR LEE WING-TAT, AND THREE DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS, MP CHUNG MAN-FAI, MR KWONG FU-SAM AND MR LEE KIN-SANG.

THIS IS THE THIRD KWAI TSING DISTRICT BOARD REPORT PUBLISHED.

RESIDENTS WISHING TO OBTAIN A COPY OF THE REPORT MAY WRITE TO THE DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT, 10TH FLOOR, KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, KWAI CHUNG.

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COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING SCHEME SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDED

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THIS YEAR'S COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING SCHEME WAS SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDED TODAY (MONDAY) WITH A TOTAL OF 19,397 PARTICIPANTS PLANTING MORE THAN 25,900 TREES IN HONG KONG'S COUNTRY PARKS.

AMONG THE PARTICIPANTS, 13,279 CAME FROM 197 SCHOOLS AND ORGANISED GROUPS WHILE THE REST WERE INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THEIR FAMILIES.

THE COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING SCHEME, FIRST ORGANISED IN 1957, IS AN ANNUAL EVENT TO AROUSE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF COUNTRYSIDE CONSERVATION.

IT HAS GROWN IN POPULARITY OVER THE YEARS AND PARTICIPATION FIGURES HAS SHOT UP FROM A FEW HUNDREDS IN THE EARLY DAYS TO NEARLY 20,000 NOW.

THIS YEAR'S SCHEME, OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED ON MARCH 4, WAS ORGANISED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG HIKING AND OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES GROUPS.

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LABOUR COMMISSIONER VISITS MACHINERY FACTORY

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THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR TONY HAMMOND, TODAY (MONDAY) VISITED A MACHINERY FACTORY IN THE TAI PO INDUSTRIAL ESTATE TO UPDATE HIMSELF ON DEVELOPMENTS IN THE LABOUR SCENE.

ESTABLISHED IN 1958, THE CHEN HSONG MACHINERY COMPANY IS A LEADING MANUFACTURER OF INJECTION MOULDING MACHINES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. THE PRODUCTS ARE INTENDED NOT ONLY FOR THE LOCAL MARKET BUT ALSO FOR EXPORT TO VARIOUS PARTS OF THE WORLD.

/MR HAMMOND

MR HAMMOND WAS GIVEN A GENERAL BRIEFING BY THE COMPANY'S DIRECTOR, MISS LILY CHIANG, AND WAS TAKEN ON A TOUR OF VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE PLANT.

HE WAS TOLD THAT THE COMPANY EMPLOYS 500 WORKERS, INCLUDING TWO DISABLED PERSONS, AND PLANS TO EMPLOY MORE SUITABLE DISABLED WORKERS WHERE POSSIBLE.

MR HAMMOND WAS ALSO PLEASED TO NOTE THAT THE COMPANY HAS MAINTAINED A GOOD SAFETY RECORD WITH A SAFETY COMMITTEE COMPRISING A SAFETY OFFICER, SECTION SUPERVISORS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF BOTH THE MANAGEMENT AND EMPLOYEES.

BEFORE CONCLUDING THE VISIT, MR HAMMOND DISCUSSED WITH THE MANAGEMENT THE LABOUR RELATIONS AND STAFF WELFARE SITUATION IN THE COMPANY.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 41.1 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 240.604 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 202.046 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 34.5 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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WATER CUTS IN TSUEN WAN, KWAI CHUNG AND YAU MA TEI

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FLUSHING WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN TSUEN WAN AND KWAI CHUNG WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 9.30 AM TO 3 PM ON WEDNESDAY (MAY 2) TO FACILITATE WATER WORKS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT THE WHOLE AREA OF TSUEN WAN AND CERTAIN PREMISES IN KWAI CHUNG, INCLUDING SHEUNG KWAI CHUNG, HA KWAI CHUNG AND CONTAINER TERMINALS.

ON THE SAME DAY, FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN YAU MA TEI WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 11 PM TO 6 AM THE NEXT DAY TO FACILITATE LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT CERTAIN PREMISES BOUNDED BY WATERLOO ROAD, SHANGHAI STREET, WING SING LANE, RECLAMATION STREET, PUBLIC SQUARE STREET, CHING PING STREET, TUNG KUN STREET AND CANTON ROAD.

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MONDAY, APRIL 30, 1990

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT IN SHAU KEI WAN

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT TO FACILITATE THE HOLDING OF CELEBRATION ACTIVITIES FOR THE TAM KUNG FESTIVAL, THE SECTION OF SHAU KEI WAN MAIN STREET EAST BETWEEN KAM WA STREET AND THE ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR GROUND LEVEL ROAD WILL BE TEMPORARILY CLOSED FROM 8 AM TO 5 PM ON WEDNESDAY (MAY 2).

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