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VACANCIES AT BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION SITES

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THE TOTAL NUMBER OF MANUAL WORKERS ENGAGED ON BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION SITES IN MARCH 1988 WAS 74,126 AND THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VACANCIES WAS 6,003, ACCORDING TO A NEW SURVEY OF VACANCIES AT CONSTRUCTION SITES CONDUCTED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE SURVEY COVERED SOME 395 PUBLIC SECTOR SITES AND 877 PRIVATE SECTOR SITES WHICH WERE ACTIVE IN MARCH 1988. FINDINGS OF THE SURVEY WERE RELEASED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE VACANCY RATE, WHICH IS THE NUMBER OF VACANCIES EXPRESSED AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE SUM TOTAL OF THE NUMBER OF MANUAL WORKERS ENGAGED AND THE NUMBER OF VACANCIES, WAS 7.5 PER CENT IN MARCH 1988.

OF THE 6,003 VACANCIES REPORTED FROM THE SITES ENUMERATED, 4,708 WERE FOUND IN PUBLIC SECTOR SITES AND 1,295 IN PRIVATE SECTOR SITES.

THE VACANCY RATES FOR THE PUBLIC SECTOR AND PRIVATE SECTOR SITES WERE RESPECTIVELY 14.2 PER CENT AND 2.8 PER CENT.

A SUMMARY OF THE SURVEY FINDINGS IS GIVEN IN THE TABLE BELOW:-

	PUBLIC SECTOR SITES	PRIVATE SECTOR SITES	TOTAL
NO. OF ACTIVE SITES	395	877	1272
NO. OF MANUAL WORKERS	28,342	45,784	74,126
AVERAGE NO. OF WORKERS PER SITE	71.8	52.2	58.3
NO. OF VACANCIES	4,708	1,295	6,003
AVERAGE NO. OF VACANCIES PER SITE	11.9	1.5	4.7
VACANCY RATE (%)	14.2	2.8	7.5

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT SAID THE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN PUBLISHING EMPLOYMENT AND VACANCY STATISTICS COVERING THE MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS ON A QUARTERLY BASIS SINCE MARCH 1976.

VACANCY STATISTICS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION SITES WERE, HOWEVER, NOT AVAILABLE. IN ORDER TO PROVIDE SUCH STATISTICS, THE DEPARTMENT CONDUCTED A SPECIAL SURVEY OF VACANCIES AT CONSTRUCTION SITES IN MARCH 1988.

IT IS INTENDED TO REPEAT THE SURVEY IN EVERY MARCH AND SEPTEMBER IN FUTURE.

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IN THE NEW SURVEY, ALL PRIVATE SECTOR SITES REGISTERED IN THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT AND PUBLIC SECTOR SITES UNDER THE CHARGE OF THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, CIVIL ENGINEERING SERVICES DEPARTMENT, HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT, TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT ARE COVERED.

IN ADDITION, SITES UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION AND KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY CORPORATION ARE ALSO INCLUDED.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS FOR VILLAGE-TYPE HOUSES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES AND MINOR ALTERATIONS, REPAIRS, MAINTENANCE AND INTERIOR DECORATION OF EXISTING BUILDINGS ARE, HOWEVER, NOT INCLUDED.

DATA WERE COLLECTED BY PERSONAL INTERVIEWS. DURING THE SURVEY PERIOD, FIELD OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT PAID VISITS TO EACH CONSTRUCTION SITE IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO SOLICIT THE REQUIRED INFORMATION DIRECTLY FROM SITE AGENTS OF THE MAIN CONTRACTOR OR SUB-CONTRACTORS.

FOR THE PUBLIC SECTOR SITES, DATA WERE SOLICITED FROM THE RESPONSIBLE RESIDENT ENGINEER OR CLERK OF WORKS, WHO OBTAINED THE INFORMATION FROM THE CONTRACTORS.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT BECAUSE OF THE DIFFICULTIES IN DEFINING AND OBTAINING ACCURATE INFORMATION ON THE NUMBER OF VACANCIES AT CONSTRUCTION SITES, READERS ARE ADVISED TO TAKE DUE NOTE OF THE DEFINITION OF VACANCY ADOPTED AND THE LIMITATIONS OF THE SURVEY WHEN INTERPRETING THE SURVEY RESULTS.

IN THE SURVEY, VACANCIES REFER TO THOSE UNFILLED, IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE JOB OPENINGS FOR WHICH ACTIVE STEPS ARE BEING TAKEN TO RECRUIT THE WORKERS. THIS DEFINITION IS CONSISTENT WITH THAT ADOPTED IN OTHER SURVEYS CONDUCTED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

HOWEVER, IT IS BELIEVED THAT THERE ARE SUBSTANTIAL SUBSTITUTION AND RE-SCHEDULING POSSIBILITIES IN THE EMPLOYMENT OF WORKERS AT CONSTRUCTION SITES, IN RESPONSE TO CHANGES IN LABOUR SUPPLY AND WORK REQUIREMENTS.

CONSEQUENTLY, VACANCIES CARRY A MUCH LOOSER SENSE AS FAR AS BUILDING CONTRACTORS ARE CONCERNED. THIS MEANS THAT VACANCY DATA SUPPLIED BY CONTRACTORS OR SUB-CONTRACTORS ARE LIKELY TO BE SUBJECT TO LARGE VARIATIONS IN REPORTING BEHAVIOUR.

AMONG THE SITES SURVEYED IN MARCH 1988, MANY WERE FOUND TO HAVE NO VACANCIES AT THE TIME OF THE SURVEY. IT IS DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE WHETHER IN THESE SITES THE CONTRACTORS WERE ABLE TO FILL ALL VACANCIES OR THEY HAD IN FACT DELAYED THE PROJECTS INSTEAD.

/DETAILS OF .....

DETAILS OF THE SURVEY FINDINGS, TOGETHER WITH A DESCRIPTION OF THE METHODOLOGY, ARE PUBLISHED IN A "REPORT OF VACANCIES AT CONSTRUCTION SITES". COPIES OF THIS REPORT ARE AVAILABLE AT $5 PER COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GPO BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, HONG KONG.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL. 5-8234753 OR 5-8234751.

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FS EXPLAINED ESTABLISHMENT OF HOSPITAL AUTHORITY

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THE DECISION TO SET UP THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY IS PART OF THE WIDER PROCESS OF INCREASING THE EFFICIENCY AND COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR PIERS JACOBS, SAID THIS (FRIDAY) EVENING.

SPEAKING AT THE ANNUAL DINNER OF THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY, MR JACOBS SAID HE HOPED THAT WITH THE ACHIEVEMENT OF GREATER EFFICIENCY IN THE HOSPITAL SYSTEM, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WOULD, OVER THE YEARS, RECEIVE AN IMPROVED AND MORE EFFECTIVE SERVICE.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD IN RECENT YEARS BECOME MUCH MORE CONSCIOUS OF THE VALUE FOR MONEY CONCEPT AND IT WAS INCREASINGLY LAYING EMPHASIS ON THE NEED FOR MANAGERS THROUGHOUT THE PUBLIC SERVICE TO BE AWARE OF THE COSTS THEY WERE INCURRING.

"WE ARE ASKING CONTROLLING OFFICERS TO PLAY A FULLER ROLE IN IMPROVING THE OVERALL COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF THE ADMINISTRATION.

"CHANGES TO THE GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM HAVE ALSO BEEN INTROUCED TO GIVE HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS AND POLICY SECRETARIES GREATER SCOPE IN THEIR SEARCH FOR VALUE FOR MONEY," HE SAID.

MR JACOBS SAID THE AIM OF THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY WAS TO ENSURE THAT THE VERY SUBSTANTIAL RESOURCES ALLOCATED TO THE MEDICAL PROGRAMME WERE USED IN THE MOST EFFICIENT AND COST-EFFECTIVE MANNER.

EXPLAINING HOW THIS OBJECTIVE WOULD BE ACHIEVED, MR JACOBS SAID THAT FIRST, SUBVENTED AND GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS WOULD BE BROUGHT UNDER THE AEGIS OF THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY, WHICH SHOULD RESULT IN A BETTER UTILISATION OF SUBVENTED HOSPITALS, AND THIS IN TURN SHOULD REDUCE OVERCROWDING IN GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS.

/"PATIENTS AND .....

"PATIENTS AND STAFF WORKING IN THE HOSPITAL SYSTEM WILL BOTH BENEFIT FROM THIS MORE EFFECTIVE USE OF RESOURCES," HE SAID.

SECONDLY, HE SAID, A STRONG REGIONAL AND HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE WOULD BE INTRODUCED TO ENSURE THAT RESOURCES WERE DEPLOYED TO THEIR BEST ADVANTAGE.

"THIRDLY," HE ADDED, "WITH PUBLIC REPRESENTATION ON BOTH THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY AND ON REGIONAL BOARDS, HOSPTIAL SERVICES WILL BECOME MORE RESPONSIVE TO PUBLIC NEEDS."

MR JACOBS POINTED OUT THAT THERE WAS, PERHAPS, A MISCONCEPTION HOWEVER ABOUT THE REASONS WHY THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY WAS TO BE ESTABLISHED, AND THERE MIGHT BE FEARS THAT THE DECISION WAS MOTIVATED IN SOME WAY BY A WISH ON THE PART OF THE GOVERNMENT TO DISTANCE ITSELF FROM RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PROVISION OF MEDICAL SERVICES.

"NOTHING COULD BE FURTHER FROM THE TRUTH," MR JACOBS SAID.

"THE PUBLIC HOSPITAL SYSTEM IS AND WILL REMAIN HEAVILY SUBSIDISED. AND THE GOVERNMENT WILL, OF COURSE, RETAIN OVERALL POLICY RESPONSIBILITY," HE ADDED.

MR JACOBS SAID HONG KONG HAD ONE OF THE LOWEST INFANT MORTALITY RATES IN THE WORLD AND THE LIFE EXPECTANCY OF ITS POPULATION WAS AS GOOD AS THAT ENJOYED IN MOST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

BUT, HE SAID, IF WE WERE TO MAINTAIN OUR REMARKABLE TRACK-RECORD IN THE FIELD OF HEALTH CARE, FRESH INITIATIVES WERE NEEDED.

"THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY REPRESENTS A BOLD MOVE FORWARD, AND I BELIEVE A MOVE IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

"I AM SURE THE AUTHORITY WILL PROVIDE THE APPROPRIATE FRAMEWORK FOR THE SUCCESSFUL OPERATION AND GROWTH OF OUR HOSPITAL SERVICES THROUGHOUT THE 1990'S AND BEYOND," HE SAID.

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ECC SINGLE MARKET OFFERS OPPORTUNITIES FOR HK

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HONG KONG HAS GOOD REASON TO BE EXCITED ABOUT THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH PRESENTED BY THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY'S SINGLE MARKET PROGRAMME, THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF A CONFERENCE ON EUROPE 1992, THE FIRST EVER HELD IN HONG KONG, MR MACLEOD SAID THE STATED OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME WAS FIRST AND FOREMOST ABOUT GROWTH.

"IT AIMS TO ACHIEVE GROWTH THROUGH DISMANTLING INTERNAL BARRIERS TO TRADE, STIMULATING COMPETITION, LIBERALISING THE MOVEMENT OF CAPITAL AND THE PROVISION OF FINANCIAL SERVICES, AND DE-REGULATION," HE SAID.

"IT IS ALSO A MOVE WHICH IS THOROUGHLY FAMILIAR AND WELCOME TO HONG KONG AS THE WORLD'S MOST MARKET-ORIENTED ECONOMY.

"IF THE COMMUNITY SUCCEEDS IN ACHIEVING A LEAP IN ECONOMIC GROWTH THROUGH STIMULATING COMPETITION AND ENTERPRISE, THE BENEFITS THAT PROJECT 1992 WOULD BRING TO WORLD TRADE, AND HENCE TO WORLD ECONOMIC GROWTH WOULD BE SIGNIFICANT.

"OUR OPEN TRADING SYSTEM AND OUR MARKET-ORIENTED ECONOMY HAVE WORKED EXTREMELY WELL FOR US, AND DESPITE OUR SMALL SIZE, WE HAVE BECOME THE WORLD'S 13TH LARGEST TRADING ECONOMY."

HOWEVER, MR MACLEOD TOLD THE CONFERENCE, ORGANISED BY THE TRADE DEPARTMENT AND TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AT THE HOTEL VICTORIA, THAT HONG KONG DID HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT THE 1992 PROJECT.

IT NEEDED MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE THEORETICAL UNDERPINNINGS OF THE PROGRAMME AND THE WAY THE COMMUNITY WOULD GO ABOUT IMPLEMENTING IT.

"THERE IS CONCERN LEST IN THE COURSE OF REMOVING INTERNAL BARRIERS, THE COMMUNITY GIVES IN TO DEMANDS FOR INCREASED PROTECTION FROM SPECIFIC SECTORS, OR GOES FURTHER DOWN THE PATH OF BILATERAL OR REGIONAL DEALS, WHICH WOULD BE DETRIMENTAL TO THE MULTILATERAL SYSTEM," HE SAID.

"IT WOULD INDEED BE DAMAGING IF, WHILE TEARING DOWN THE INTERNAL BARRIERS, THE COMMUNITY ENDS UP DISCOURAGING TRADE WITH THE REST OF THE WORLD."

MR MACLEOD REITERATED THAT HONG KONG WAS COMMITTED TO FREE TRADE AS WAS EVIDENCED BY ITS OPEN TRADING SYSTEM AND STRONG SUPPORT OF THE MULTILATERAL SYSTEM AT THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TRADE AND TARIFFS (GATT).

THE TERRITORY IMPORTED MORE FROM THE COMMUNITY THAN DID CHINA, SINGAPORE, SOUTH KOREA OR TAIWAN, HE ADDED.

POLICY TO PROMOTE BILINGUALISM IN SCHOOLS

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TO PRESERVE HONG KONG'S POSITION AS AN INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND FINANCIAL CENTRE, IT HAS BEEN GOVERNMENT POLICY TO PROMOTE BILINGUALISM IN SCHOOLS WITH A VIEW TO MAKING THE YOUNGER GENERATION PROFICIENT IN BOTH CHINESE AND ENGLISH LANGUAGES, THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR Y.T. LI, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE SPEECH DAY OF THE NEW ASIA MIDDLE SCHOOL, MR LI SAID THE EDUCATION COMMISSION RECOMMENDED IN ITS REPORT NO. 1 IN 1984 THAT SECONDARY SCHOOLS WHICH USED CHINESE AS THE INSTRUCTION MEDIUM SHOULD BE GIVEN ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO STRENGTHEN THE TEACHING OF ENGLISH TO AVERT ANY CONSEQUENTIAL DROP IN THE STANDARD OF ENGLISH DUE TO REDUCED EXPOSURE.

AS A RESULT, TWO ADDITIONAL TEACHERS OF ENGLISH, INCLUDING ONE GRADUATE AND ONE NON-GRADUATE, WERE PROVIDED TO EACH SCHOOL WHICH ADOPTED WIDER USE OF THE CHINESE LANGUAGE IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR, MR LI SAID.

IN ADDITION, A SECOND WIRE-FREE INDUCTION LOOP SYSTEM, A ONE-OFF LIBRARY GRANT FOR THE PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL READING MATERIALS IN ENGLISH AS WELL AS OTHER TEACHING AIDS WERE MADE AVAILABLE TO SCHOOLS, MR LI SAID.

HE ADDED THAT MORE FUNDS WERE ALSO PROVIDED TO THESE SCHOOLS FOR PARTITIONING CLASSROOMS INTO SMALLER ROOMS FOR SPLIT CLASS TEACHING.

ON THE TEACHING OF CHINESE LANGUAGE, MR LI SAID AN ADDITIONAL GRADUATE TEACHER IN CHINESE WOULD BE PROVIDED TO EACH SECONDARY SCHOOL WITH 18 CLASSES OR MORE STARTING NEXT SCHOOL YEAR AS ANNOUNCED BY THE GOVERNOR IN HIS ADDRESS AT THE OPENING OF THE NEW SESSION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THE PROVISION OF THESE ADDITIONAL RESOURCES WOULD FURTHER AROUSE STUDENTS' INTEREST IN LANGUAGE LEARNING AND WOULD FURTHER IMPROVE THE STANDARD OF ENGLISH OF STUDENTS, HE ADDED.

MR LI ALSO SAID THE LANGUAGE MEDIUM USED BY A CANDIDATE AS INDICATED IN THE HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION HAD BEEN REMOVED BY THE HONG KONG EXAMINATIONS AUTHORITY IN 1986.

THE CURRENT INDICATION IN NAME TO SHOW WHETHER IT WAS AN ANGLO-CHINESE OR A CHINESE MIDDLE SCHOOL HAD ALSO BEEN DROPPED BY A NUMBER OF SCHOOLS, HE SAID.

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ROUTINE DISCUSSIONS FOR JLG NEXT WEEK

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MR ROBIN MCLAREN, THE BRITISH SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE, SINO-BRITISH JOINT LIAISON GROUP, WILL BE IN HONG KONG NEXT WEEK FOR ROUTINE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE CHINESE SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE, AMBASSADOR KE ZAISHUO.

HE WILL ARRIVE ON THE EVENING OF NOVEMBER 7 AND HOLD AN INFORMAL MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR KE IN COLVIN HOUSE ON THE MORNING OF NOVEMBER 9.

WHILE IN HONG KONG, MR MCLAREN WILL TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONSULT WITH HONG KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ON A RANGE OF JLG AND OTHER BUSINESS.

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUILDING MANAGEMENT FORMED

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AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE HAS BEEN SET UP TO ADVISE THE GOVERNMENT ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE MANAGEMENT OF PRIVATE BUILDINGS, THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR DAVID LAN, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING AT A PRESS BRIEFING, MR LAN POINTED OUT THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COMMITTEE REPRESENTED ANOTHER MAJOR EFFORT BY THE GOVERNMENT TO IMPROVE BUILDING MANAGEMENT IN HONG KONG.

OTHER EFFORTS BEING MADE INCLUDED IMPROVING THE MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS (OWNERS INCORPORATION) ORDINANCE AND REMOVING UNFAIR PROVISIONS IN EXISTING DEEDS OF MUTUAL COVENANTS (DMCS).

HE ALSO SAID THAT CONTROL ON GUESTHOUSES WAS IN THE PIPELINE.

MR LAN SAID THAT THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE "ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE BUILDING MANAGEMENT" WERE TO REVIEW THE EFFECTIVENESS OF EXISTING POLICIES ON MANAGEMENT OF PRIVATE BUILDINGS AND TO RECOMMEND APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO IMPROVE THE MANAGEMENT OF THESE BUILDINGS.

/CHAIRED BY .....

CHAIRED BY MR CHUNG PUI-LAM, THE COMMITTEE HAS NINE NON-OFFICIAL AND SEVEN OFFICIAL MEMBERS. THEY ARE:

MR AMBROSE LAU HON-CHUEN
DR RAYMOND HO CHUNG-TAI
MR LEUNG CHUN-YING
MR VICTOR SO HING-WOH
MR JOSEPH CHAN WAI-WANG
MR ANTHONY LEE ON
MR JUSTIN CHIU KWOK-HUNG
MR TONY KAN CHUNG-NIN
MR ANTHONY YUEN TAK-TIM

ATTORNEY GENERAL
REGISTRAR GENERAL
DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS
DIRECTOR OF HOUSING
COMMISSIONER FOR RATING AND VALUATION
REGIONAL SECRETARY (HONG KONG AND KOWLOON)
REGIONAL SECRETARY (NEW TERRITORIES)

MR LAN SAID THAT THE IMMEDIATE TASKS FACING THE COMMITTEE WOULD BE:

(A) CONSIDERING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTER-DEPARTMENTAL WORKING GROUP TASKED TO ADDRESS THE QUESTION OF UNFAIR DEEDS OF MUTUAL COVENANTS DRAWN UP BEFORE DECEMBER 1987;

(B) REVIEWING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE GUIDELINES ADOPTED IN DECEMBER 1987 BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT AND THE LAW SOCIETY FOR DRAWING UP NEW DEEDS OF MUTUAL COVENANTS; AND

(C) ENCOURAGING GREATER PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN BUILDING MANAGEMENT.

MR LAN SAID A DRAFT AMENDMENT TO MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS (OWNERS INCORPORATION) ORDINANCE, WHICH SEEKS MAINLY TO FACILITATE THE FORMATION OF OWNERS' CORPORATIONS AND PRESCRIBING MINIMUM MANAGEMENT STANDARDS AND OPERATION PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF AN OWNERS' CORPORATION, WAS EXPECTED TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL EARLY NEXT YEAR.

"DISTRICT BOARDS WERE CONSULTED ON THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS LAST YEAR. THEIR COMMENTS HAVE BEEN TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION BY THE GOVERNMENT. THE PUBLIC WILL BE ABLE TO COMMENT ON THE BILL WHEN IT IS GAZETTED," MR LAN ADDED.

REFERRING TO UNFAIR CLAUSES IN EXISTING DEEDS OF MUTUAL COVENANTS, MR LAN SAID A WORKING GROUP WAS NOW FINALISING ITS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SUBMISSION TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WITHIN THE NEXT TWO MONTHS.

/TURNING TO .....

TURNING TO THE CONTROL OF GUESTHOUSES, MR LAN SAID THAT THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LICENSING OF GUESTHOUSES TO ENSURE THAT ACCEPTABLE STANDARDS OF FIRE SAFETY, STRUCTURAL SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE WERE OBSERVED.

HE SAID THAT WORK WAS IN HAND TO PREPARE THE NECESSARY DRAFT LEGISLATION.

"IF ALL GOES WELL, THE ENABLING LEGISLATION WILL BE ENACTED IN ABOUT 10 MONTHS' TIME. MEANWHILE, ALL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED WILL MAINTAIN A VIGILANT WATCH OVER THE OPERATION OF GUESTHOUSES," MR LAN ADDED.

MR LAN ALSO SPOKE ON THE PROGRESS OF MEASURES TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT TO ASSIST LOCAL RESIDENTS IN TACKLING MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS IN THEIR RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS.

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AMENDMENT LEGISLATION ON ELECTORAL CHANGES GAZETTED

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THE GOVERNMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) GAZETTED AMENDMENT BILLS SEEKING TO INTRODUCE CERTAIN ELECTORAL CHANGES ANNOUNCED IN THE 1988 WHITE PAPER "THE DEVELOPMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT: THE WAY FORWARD".

THESE ARE THE URBAN COUNCIL (AMENDMENT) BILL 1988, THE REGIONAL COUNCIL (AMENDMENT) BILL 1988, AND THE DISTRICT BOARD (AMENDMENT)(NO. 2) BILL 1988.

THEY IMPLEMENT CHANGES ANNOUNCED IN THE WHITE PAPER:-

* TO EXPAND THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE URBAN COUNCIL, WITH EFFECT FROM APRIL 1, 1989, TO INCLUDE ONE REPRESENTATIVE ELECTED BY THE MEMBERS OF EACH DISTRICT BOARD FROM THE 10 URBAN DISTRICT BOARDS;

* TO CAUSE URBAN COUNCIL MEMBERS TO CEASE TO BE EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS OF URBAN DISTRICT BOARDS WITH EFFECT FROM APRIL 1, 1989; AND

* TO INTRODUCE A NEW SEQUENCE OF ELECTIONS, ONE OF THE EFFECTS OF WHICH IS THAT THE NEXT TERM OF THE URBAN COUNCIL AND REGIONAL COUNCIL WILL RUN FOR A LITTLE OVER TWO YEARS INSTEAD OF THE NORMAL THREE YEARS.

/THE AMENDING .....

THE AMENDING LEGISLATION WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL LATER THIS MONTH. IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO ENACT ALL OF THE BILLS BEFORE NOMINATIONS FOR THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS ARE CALLED FOR IN EARLY JANUARY NEXT YEAR.

THE URBAN COUNCIL (AMENDMENT) BILL 1988 PROVIDES FOR THE ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVE MEMBERS OF URBAN DISTRICT BOARDS TO THE URBAN COUNCIL. IT ALSO ADJUSTS THE TERMS OF MEMBERS ELECTED IN THE ELECTIONS TO BE HELD IN MARCH 1989 TO TWO YEARS AND TWO WEEKS SO THAT THEY END ON APRIL 14, 1991.

THE REGIONAL COUNCIL (AMENDMENT) BILL 1988 ADJUSTS THE TENURE OF MEMBERS ELECTED IN THE ELECTIONS TO BE HELD IN MARCH 1989 SO THAT IT ENDS ON APRIL 14, 1991.

THE BILLS ALSO PROVIDE FOR ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVE MEMBERS AND THE ELECTION OF A CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN IN 1991.

THEY PROVIDE FOR A PERSON TO DECLINE APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION PRIOR TO TAKING UP OFFICE AS A MEMBER, OTHERWISE HE/SHE IS DEEMED TO BE ELECTED; THIS REMOVES THE REQUIREMENT FOR AN ELECTED MEMBER TO DECLARE ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE IN WRITING.

THE DISTRICT BOARDS (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1988 MEANS THAT WITH EFFECT FROM APRIL 1, 1989, ELECTED URBAN COUNCIL MEMBERS WILL NO LONGER BE EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS OF DISTRICT BOARDS IN THE URBAN AREA. IT ALSO REMOVES THE RIGHT OF THE URBAN COUNCIL TO NOMINATE APPOINTED URBAN COUNCIL MEMBERS TO BE URBAN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS.

THE 1988 WHITE PAPER STATED THAT THE ELECTIONS TO DISTRICT BOARDS, MUNICIPAL COUNCILS AND THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHOULD BE HELD IN THAT ORDER AND THAT ALL THREE SETS OF ELECTIONS SHOULD BE HELD WITHIN THE SPACE OF 12 MONTHS.

THE 1988 WHITE PAPER STATED THAT THE TERMS OF OFFICE OF ELECTED LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE THREE YEARS FOR THE TIME BEING. SOME INTERIM ADJUSTMENTS TO THE TERMS OF OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT BOARDS AND THE MUNICIPAL COUNCILS ARE THEREFORE NECESSARY TO PREPARE FOR THE NEW SEQUENCE OF ELECTIONS.

THE INTERIM ADJUSTMENTS, RESULTING IN DISTRICT BOARD AND MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS BEING HELD CONCURRENTLY IN 1991, IS A ONE-OFF EXERCISE, AND THE GOVERNMENT WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO REDUCE ANY CONFUSION WHICH MIGHT ARISE, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

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NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PREVENTABLE

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THE TOP THREE KILLER DISEASES - CANCER, HEART DISEASES AND STROKE - WHICH ARE CLOSELY RELATED TO OUR LIVING HABITS, ARE PREVENTABLE.

THIS WAS EMPHASISED BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF THE NEW TERRITORIES WEST, MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT, DR K.H. PANG, WHEN HE OFFICIATED AT THE OPENING CEREMONY THIS (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON OF THE "HEALTH FOR ALL, ALL FOR HEALTH" EXHIBITION BEING HELD AT THE CITYPLAZA, TAIKOO SHING.

THE EXHIBITION, ORGANISED BY THE CENTRAL HEALTH EDUCATION UNIT OF THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT, AIMS TO PROMOTE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES. IT WILL ALSO KEEP PEOPLE BETTER INFORMED ABOUT THE PREVENTION OF SUCH DISEASES AND GENERAL HEALTH CARE.

"THESE DISEASES CAN BE GREATLY REDUCED IF PEOPLE ARE MORE AWARE OF PREVENTIVE MEASURES SUCH AS A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE," DR PANG SAID.

AFTER THE OPENING CEREMONY, DR PANG TOURED THE EXHIBITION, ACCOMPANIED BY DR C.M. NGAN, SENIOR MEDICAL OFFICER OF THE CENTRAL HEALTH EDUCATION UNIT.

THE PROGRAMME FOR THE EXHIBITION OPENING INCLUDED A HEALTH QUIZ COMPETITION, A SLOGAN RECITAL COMPETITION, BALLOON GAMES AND A PRIZE PRESENTATION TO WINNERS OF A SLOGAN TRANSLATION COMPETITION AND A BOOKMARK DESIGN COMPETITION.

THE EXHIBITION WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC UNTIL NOVEMBER 10. INFORMATION LEAFLETS ON VARIOUS HEALTH TOPICS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO VISITORS.

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FS VISITS TWO DEPARTMENTS

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THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR PIERS JACOBS VISITED THE OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING AND THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT THIS (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON TO UPDATE HIMSELF WITH THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS OF THE TWO DEPARTMENTS.

MR JACOBS FIRST MET THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING, MR TONY NICOLLE AND SENIOR OFFICERS FOR AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE WORKINGS OF THE BANKING SYSTEM.

/HE NOTED .....

HE NOTED THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE ENHANCEMENT OF THE PRIME COMPUTER SYSTEM AND THE INTRODUCTION OF OFFICE AUTOMATION EQUIPMENT WHICH WERE ESSENTIAL FOR THE OFFICE TO DISCHARGE ITS DUTIES EFFICIENTLY.

THESE IMPROVED COMPUTER FACILITIES ARE REQUIRED TO ACCOMMODATE FURTHER STATISTICAL INFORMATION PROVIDED BY INSTITUTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE GENERAL DEVELOPMENT OF BANKING SUPERVISION AND IN PARTICULAR WITH THE REVISED CAPITAL ADEQUACY RATIO.

MR JACOBS THEN TOURED THE OFFICE AND MET BANK EXAMINERS BEFORE PROCEEDING TO THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

THE REGISTRAR GENERAL, MR NOEL GLEESON BROUGHT THE FINANICAL SECRETARY UP-TO-DATE ON KEY ACTIVITIES IN VARIOUS DIVISIONS, INCLUDING THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER'S OFFICE, THE INSURANCE DIVISION, THE COMMERICAL DIVISION, THE COMPANIES REGISTRY, THE TRADE MARKS REGISTRY AND THE LAND OFFICE.

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SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE VISITS CNTA HQ

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THE SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE, MR HARNAM GREWAL, VISITED THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION HEADQUARTERS IN WORLD SHIPPING CENTRE, TSIM SHA TSUI, THIS (FRIDAY) MORNING TO FAMILIARISE HIMSELF WITH THE WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT.

MR GREWAL BEGAN HIS VISIT BY MEETING THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR MICHAEL SUEN, REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR DAVID LAN; DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR BOWEN LEUNG; AND THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION (SPECIAL DUTIES), MR H.T. LUI.

HE LATER TOURED THE OFFICES OF CNTA HEADQUARTERS AND THE TWO REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS TO SEE THE DAILY OPERATION OF THE DEPARTMENT.

HE THEN HAD A MEETING WITH STAFF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DEPARTMENT AND LISTENED TO THEIR VIEWS ABOUT THEIR WORK.

CONCLUDING HIS VISIT, MR GREWAL MET THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DONALD LIAO, AND DISCUSSED WITH HIM MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF CNTA.

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LONG SERVICE INSIGNIA FOR IMMIGRATION OFFICERS

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IN A PRESENTATION CEREMONY HELD AT THE IMMIGRATION HEADQUARTERS TODAY (FRIDAY), 37 MEMBERS OF THE IMMIGRATION SERVICE WERE AWARDED THE LONG SERVICE INSIGNIA BY THE DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION, MR ALAN CARTER.

FIRST CLASPS, SIGNIFYING 25 YEARS OF SERVICE, WERE PRESENTED TO SENIOR IMMIGRATION OFFICER, MR SYLVESTER KWAN KWOK-LEUNG AND FOUR OTHER OFFICERS.

ANOTHER 32 OFFICERS INCLUDING ONE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL IMMIGRATION OFFICER, FOUR CHIEF IMMIGRATION OFFICERS, AND 27 SENIOR IMMIGRATION OFFICERS AND IMMIGRATION OFFICERS, RECEIVED THE HONG KONG DISCIPLINED SERVICES MEDALS.

AT THE CEREMONY, MR CARTER SAID THE AWARD OF THE HONG KONG DISCIPLINED SERVICES MEDAL WAS TO HONOUR THOSE WHO HAVE RENDERED LONG AND MERITORIOUS SERVICE AS MEMBERS OF THE IMMIGRATION SERVICE IN HONG KONG.

HE ALSO CONGRATULATED ALL RECEIPIENTS AND THANKED THEM FOR THEIR MANY YEARS OF LOYALTY AND DEDICATION TO THE IMMIGRATION SERVICE.

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CONSULTANCY STUDY ON LEACHATE DISPOSAL

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THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT (EPD) TODAY (FRIDAY) SIGNED A CONTRACT WITH A CONSULTANT TO STUDY THE DISPOSAL OF LEACHATE FROM THE PROPOSED NORTH EAST NEW TERRITORIES LANDFILL (NENT LANDFILL).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EPD SAID THE CONSULTANCY STUDY WOULD IDENTIFY THE PREFERRED METHOD OF TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL OF THE CONTAMINATED WATER CALLED LEACHATE WHICH IS DISCHARGED FROM THE LANDFILL, AND PRODUCE DESIGNS FOR THE LEACHATE TREATMENT PLANT WHICH WILL BE THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN HONG KONG.

THE NENT LANDFILL, LOCATED IN WONG MAU HANG SHAN, TO THE NORTHEAST OF FANLING, IS ONE OF THREE LARGE-CAPACITY LANDFILLS INTENDED TO BE PROVIDED FOR THE ENTIRE TERRITORY AS PART OF THE LONG-TERM WASTE DISPOSAL STRATEGY.

ACCORDING TO AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) STUDY ON THE PROPOSED LANDFILL COMPLETED IN APRIL THIS YEAR, A FULLY ENGINEERED CONTAINMENT LINER SHOULD BE INSTALLED TO PREVENT LEACHATE FROM MIGRATING OFF THE SITE. THE LEACHATE SHOULD BE COLLECTED AND TREATED PRIOR TO DISPOSAL.

/LOCAL COMMUNITIES .....

LOCAL COMMUNITIES IN WONG MAU HANG SHAN HAD EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER THE LOSS OF IRRIGATION WATER AND WORSENING OF FLOODING PROBLEMS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE EIA STUDY HAD RECOMMENDED THE PUMPING OF WATER FROM DEEP WELLS TO REPLACE THE LOST IRRIGATION WATER.

PUMPING TRIALS WERE THEREFORE CARRIED OUT IN EARLY SEPTEMBER, WHICH INDICATED A SUITABLE SUPPLY. FURTHER PUMPING TRIALS WOULD BE CARRIED OUT TO CONFIRM AVAILABILITY OF THIS SUPPLY ON A YEAR-ROUND BASIS.

THE FLOODING PROBLEM WOULD BE ADDRESSED UNDER A SEPARATE CONSULTANCY TO BE COMMISSIONED SOON BY CIVIL ENGINEERING SERVICES DEPARTMENT FOR THE DETAILED DESIGN OF THE LANDFILL. DESIGN OF STREAM TRAINING WORKS AND FLOOD DIVERSION CHANNELS WOULD ALSO BE INCLUDED.

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE LANDFILL PROJECT, ADDITIONAL UPGRADING WORKS FOR THE VILLAGES IN THE VICINITY OF THE LANDFILL WOULD BE IMPLEMENTED.

THE TA KWU LING RURAL CENTRE WOULD BE BUILT AS PART OF THE VILLAGE UPGRADING WORKS.

RELEVANT GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS ARE IN THE PROCESS OF FINALISING THE LAYOUT PLAN AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY OF THE RURAL CENTRE.

A CONSULTANCY TO BE MANAGED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT FOR THE DETAILED DESIGN IS PROGRAMMED TO BEGIN EARLY NEXT YEAR.

THE TA KWU LING RURAL CENTRE AND OTHER VILLAGE UPGRADING WORKS ARE PROGRAMMED TO BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO THE OPENING OF THE LANDFILL IN LATE 1993 OR EARLY 1994.

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RECLAMATION AT TSING YI PROPOSED

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THE GOVERNMENT IS CONSIDERING GRANTING A LEASE TO MOBIL OIL HONG KONG LIMITED WITHIN AN AREA OF ABOUT 18.37 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEA-BED AT THE SOUTH-WEST COAST OF TSING YI ISLAND.

RECLAMATION WOULD BE CARRIED OUT THERE TO PROVIDE LAND FOR THE BULK STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND PETROCHEMICALS. A PIER WILL ALSO BE BUILT.

THE WORK WILL START IN 1989 AND BE COMPLETED IN ABOUT 1991.

/THE EXTENT .....

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA AFFECTED IS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HE HAS AN INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FOREDHORE AND SEA-BED INVOLVED MAY SUBMIT A WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 3, 1989.

THE NOTICE AND THE RELATED PLAN COULD BE INSPECTED AT NOTICE BOARDS NEAR THE SITE; THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE AT 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG (WHERE COPIES OF THE PLAN ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE ON ORDER) AND THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICES.

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REVISION OF ANIMAL LICENCE FEES

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REVISED FEE LEVELS FOR TWO LICENCES AND ONE PERMIT ISSUED UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH (ANIMALS AND BIRDS) ORDINANCE WILL BE INTRODUCED ON JANUARY 1 NEXT YEAR, THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE DOCUMENTS ARE THE ANIMAL TRADER LICENCE, DAIRY LICENCE, AND TEMPORARY EXHIBITION PERMIT.

THE LEVELS OF THESE FEES WILL BE REVISED AS FOLLOWS:

	EXISTING LEVEL	REVISED LEVEL
ANIMAL TRADER LICENCE	$700 PER YEAR	$800 PER YEAR
	$350 PER 1/2 YEAR	$400 PER 1/2 YEAR
DAIRY LICENCE	$25 PER COW PER YEAR OR	$30 PER COW PER YEAR OR
	$1,000 PER DAIRY PER YEAR	$1,200 PER DAIRY PER YEAR
TEMPORARY EXHIBITION PERMIT	$200 PER EXHIBITION	$300 PER EXHIBITION

/THE REVISIONS, ...

THE REVISIONS, PRESCRIBED IN A SERIES OF AMENDMENT REGULATIONS UNDER THE ORDINANCE, WERE APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ON TUESDAY. A NOTICE TO THIS EFFECT WAS PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE.

ANNOUNCING THESE DETAILS, THE DEPARTMENT'S SENIOR VETERINARY OFFICER, DR NORMAN CHENG, SAID THE FEE REVISION WAS THE SECOND PHASE IN THE RECOVERY OF COSTS REQUIRED FOR ADMINISTERING THE VARIOUS LICENCE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE ORDINANCE.

"THE LEVELS OF FEES CHARGED FOR THE ISSUE OF THESE LICENCES AND PERMIT HAD NOT BEEN INCREASED FOR MORE THAN 14 YEARS," HE SAID.

"IN MARCH THIS YEAR, THE GOVERNMENT, AFTER EXAMINING CAREFULLY THE PREVAILING FEE LEVELS WITH DUE CONSIDERATION OF THE NATURE AND SCALE OF BUSINESSES INVOLVED, DECIDED TO INCREASE THE FEES TO COVER THE FULL COST OF PROVIDING THE SERVICES BY PHASES ON APRIL 1, 1988, JANUARY 1, 1989 AND JANUARY 1, 1990 RESPECTIVELY.

"HENCE THE NEW FEES - FORMING PHASE TWO - WERE APPROVED FOR INTRODUCTION ON JANUARY 1 NEXT YEAR."

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (ANIMALS AND BIRDS) ORDINANCE PROVIDES FOR THE PREVENTION OF DISEASE AMONG ANIMALS AND BIRDS AND FOR THE PROTECTION AND SAFETY OF THE PUBLIC AT PLACES WHERE ANIMALS OR BIRDS ARE KEPT.

UNDER THE ORDINANCE, A LICENCE IS REQUIRED FOR TRADING IN LIVE ANIMALS AND BIRDS, MAINTAINING A DAIRY OR FOR THE TEMPORARY EXHIBITION OF ANIMALS AND BIRDS.

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SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD HOLDS FUN DAY TOMORROW

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THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD WILL HOLD A FUN DAY TOMORROW (SATURDAY) TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN LINKS BETWEEN BOARD MEMBERS AND GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES THROUGH SPORTS COMPETITIONS AND TELEMATCHES.

DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS, REPRESENTATIVES FROM VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS SITTING ON THE OUTHERN DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, AND STAFF OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE WILL FORM TEAMS TO TAKE PART IN THE FUN DAY.

/THEY WILL .....

THEY WILL COMPETE AGAINST EACH OTHER IN VARIOUS SPORTS EVENTS, INCLUDING BASKETBALL, TABLE TENNIS AND TELEMATCHES.

THE DEPUTY REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR PAUL S.W. LEUNG, WILL ATTEND THE FUN DAY AND OFFICIATE AT THE PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD FUN DAY WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE FROM 3 PM TO 6 PM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AT THE URBAN COUNCIL ABERDEEN INDOOR GAMES HALL IN WONG CHUK HANG. THE PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AROUND 5.30 PM.

AN INFORMATION OFFICER, MR ALEX LI, WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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CARNIVAL TO PROMOTE ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN

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THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT ROAD SAFETY CARNIVAL WILL BE HELD AT ARGYLE STREET PLAYGROUND ON SUNDAY (NOVEMBER 6) TO PUBLICISE ROAD SAFETY AND ALSO PROVIDE AN AFTERNOON OF FUN FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS.

THE CARNIVAL WILL BEGIN AT 2 PM AND WILL INCLUDE GAME STALLS, FOOTDRILL BY SCHOOL ROAD SAFETY PATROL TEAMS, AND PERFORMANCES BY THE JUNIOR POLICE CALL ROTARY BAND. THERE WILL ALSO BE AN INFLATABLE "BEAR" FOR CHILDREN TO PLAY WITH.

A ROAD SAFETY EXHIBITION BUS AND A MOBILE ROAD SAFETY TOWN WILL BE AN DISPLAY AT THE VENUE. IN THE MORNING, A ROAD SAFETY PUBLICITY BUS WILL TOUR THE DISTRICT TO SPREAD THE ROAD SAFETY MESSAGE.

THE CARNIVAL IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE AND THE DISTRICT OFFICE. IT IS SPONSORED BY THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD.

OFFICIATINC AT THE CARNIVAL WILL BE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR WONG SIK-KONG; DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ALEX FONG; KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT POLICE COMMANDER, MRS WONG LEUNG KAM-SHAN, AND KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD'S TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MR CHAN CHI-KWAN.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT ROAD SAFETY CARNIVAL TO BE HELD AT THE ARGYLE STREET PLAYGROUND ON SUNDAY (NOVEMBER 6), BEGINNING AT 2 PM.

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MUSICIANS ARRIVE FROM CHINA FOR MUSIC FESTIVAL

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THREE WELL-KNOWN MUSICIANS FROM CHINA, LI XIAO-GANG, XIAO JIAN-SHENG AND SUN GUI-SHENG ARRIVED HONG KONG THIS (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON TO TAKE PART IN THE '1988 HONG KONG YOUTH CHINESE MUSIC FESTIVAL'.

ANOTHER MUSICIAN QU AU-HUA WHO IS RENOWNED IN ERHU WILL ALSO ARRIVE TOMORROW.

THEY WILL GIVE THEIR DEBUT PERFORMANCES AT THE JING YING CONCERT TO BE HELD AT THE CITY HALL THEATRE AT 8 PM NEXT THURSDAY (NOVEMBER 10).

APART FROM PERFORMANCES, THE FOUR GUEST MUSICIANS WILL ALSO CONDUCT A SERIES OF MASTER CLASSES, LECTURES AND DEMONSTRATIONS AT VARIOUS MUSIC CENTRES OF THE MUSIC OFFICE DURING THE NINE-DAY FESTIVAL.

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SELECTIVE PLACEMENT OFFICE TO MOVE

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THE HONG KONG OFFICE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S SELECTIVE PLACEMENT DIVISION, CURRENTLY SITUATED ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF DOMINION CENTRE IN QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, WILL MOVE TO NEW PREMISES ON MONDAY (NOVEMBER 7).

THE NEW OFFICE IS LOCATED ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF HARBOUR BUILDING, WEST WING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL. THE TELEPHONE NUMBER IS 5-8524114.

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FOUR SITES FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION

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FOUR LOTS ARE BEING OFFERED FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION ON NOVEMBER 29 BY THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT.

THE AUCTION WILL TAKE PLACE AT 2.30 PM IN THE SHOUSON THEATRE OF HONG KONG ARTS CENTRE, 2 HARBOUR ROAD.

ONE OF THE LOTS IS LOCATED AT HOI BUN ROAD IN KWUN TONG. IT IS FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES INCLUDING A MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK, BUT EXCLUDING RESIDENTIAL, HOTEL AND GODOWN.

/THE AREA .....

THE AREA IS ABOUT 4,500 SQUARE METRES. THE DEVELOPER IS REQUIRED TO COMPLETE NOT LESS THAN 29,000 SQUARE METRES OF GROSS FLOOR AREA ON THE SITE BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 1992.

THE SECOND LOT IS AT BAILEY STREET IN HUNG HOM.

MEASURING ABOUT 2,472 SQUARE METRES IN AREA, THE LOT IS FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES EXCLUDING GODOWN AND HOTEL.

THE BUILDING COVENANT REQUIRES THE DEVELOPER TO COMPLETE A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 10,600 SQUARE METRES BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 1991.

THE THIRD LOT, WHICH IS FOR PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES, IS LOCATED AT TAT CHEE AVENUE, YAU YAT TSUEN.

THE AREA OF THE LOT IS ABOUT 4,250 SQUARE METRES, AND THE DEVELOPER IS REQUIRED TO COMPLETE NOT LESS THAN 5,400 SQUARE METRES OF GROSS FLOOR AREA BEFORE DECEMBRE 31, 1992.

THE LAST LOT IS IN THE TUNG TAU INDUSTRIAL AREA IN YUEN LONG.

WITH A SITE AREA OF ABOUT 1,735 SQUARE METRES, THE LOT IS FOR INDUSTRIAL AND/OR GODOWN PURPOSES EXCLUDING OFFENSIVE TRADE.

THE BUILDING COVENANT STIPULATES THAT THE DEVELOPER HAS TO COMPLETE A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 8,328 SQUARE METRES BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 1992.

FULL PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE ARE AVAILABLE AND SALE PLANS SEEN AT THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG; THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES WEST WING ENTRANCE; AND THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES KOWLOON, YAU MA TEI CAR PARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON.

CONDITIONS OF SALE ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

AS REQUIRED BY THE MANAGEMENT OF HONG KONG ARTS CENTRE, ADMISSION TO SHOUSON THEATRE WILL ONLY BE GIVEN TO TICKET HOLDERS.

PROSPECTIVE PURCHASERS ATTENDING THIS AUCTION ARE REQUESTED TO COME EARLY AS THE NUMBER OF SEATS IS LIMITED. TICKETS FOR ADMISSION WILL BE ISSUED FREE OF CHARGE AT THE ENTRANCE ON A FIRST-COME FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

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NEW I.D. CARDS FOR WOMEN BORN IN 1960-62

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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT WOMEN BORN IN 1960, 1961 OR 1962 WERE REQUIRED TO APPLY FOR NEW I.D. CARDS FROM NOVEMBER 14 TO JANUARY 14.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT SAID: "WOMEN OF THE ABOVE AGE GROUP CAN CALL AT ANY ONE OF THE EIGHT NEW I.D. CARD ISSUE OFFICES DURING THIS PERIOD."

THE OFFICES ARE OPEN FROM 8 AM TO 9.30 PM DAILY, EXCEPT SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

HE SAID: "THE ISSUE OFFICES ARE VERY CROWDED IN THE EVENINGS. TO AVOID HAVING TO QUEUE UP FOR A LONG TIME AT THE ISSUE OFFICES OR TO COME BACK ON ANOTHER DAY, APPLICANTS ARE ADVISED TO GO TO THESE OFFICES IN THE MORNINGS AND AFTERNOONS."

APPLICANTS MAY ALSO MAKE USE OF THE PHONE-IN SERVICE TO ARRANGE FOR AN APPOINTMENT BY CALLING THE OFFICE OF THEIR CHOICE.

THE ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF THE ISSUE OFFICES ARE:

HONG KONG	: BASEMENT, 151 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI. TEL. NO. 5-747070
EAST KOWLOON	: AMOY PLAZA, 2ND FLOOR, 77 NGAU TAU KOK ROAD. TEL. NO. 3-7553679
WEST KOWLOON	: CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 2ND FLOOR, 393 CANTON ROAD, YAU MA TEI. TEL. NO. 3-7232424
TSUEN WAN	: EAST ASIA COMMERCIAL CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, 29-37 TSUEN FU STREET. TEL. NO. 0-4981259
SHA TIN	: SHOP 8A, 2/F, CHANWAY SHOPPING CENTRE, 11-17, SHATIN CENTRE STREET, SHA TIN TEL. NO. 0-6059108
YUEN LONG	: HOP YICK CENTRE, 2ND FLOOR, 31 HOP YICK ROAD, TEL. NO. 0-793291
TUEN MUN	: CHI LOK COMMERCIAL CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, CHI LOK FA YUEN. TEL. NO. 0-4580862
SHEUNG SHUI	: TSUEN WO TAI LAU, GROUND FLOOR, 82-84 SAN FUNG AVENUE, SHEK WU HUI. TEL. NO. 0-927191

/THE SPOKESMAN .....

THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED WOMEN BORN IN 1963 OR 1964 WHO HAVE NOT APPLIED FOR THEIR NEW I.D. CARDS TO COME FORWARD WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY AS THERE IS ONLY ONE MORE WEEK LEFT BEFORE THE CURRENT PHASE CLOSES ON NOVEMBER 12.

HE POINTED OUT THAT FAILURE TO APPLY FOR A NEW I.D. CARD WITHIN THE SPECIFIED PERIOD IS AN OFFENCE LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF $3,000.

THE SPOKESMAN REITERATED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO AMNESTY FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

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TEMPORARY LANE CLOSURES ON TOLO HIGHWAY

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT TO FACILITATE ROAD MAINTENANCE WORKS, TEMPORARY LANE CLOSURES ON TOLO HIGHWAY, BETWEEN SHUI WAI INTERCHANGE AND WO HOP SHEK INTERCHANGE IN TAI PO, WILL BE IMPLEMENTED DURING THE FOLLOWING PERIODS:

* THE INNER-MOST LANE OF TOLO HIGHWAY NORTHBOUND NEAR SHUI WAI INTERCHANGE WILL BE CLOSED ON NOVEMBER 7 (MONDAY) AND 8.

* THE OUTER-MOST LANE OF TOLO HIGHWAY NORTHBOUND NEAR HONG LOK YUEN ROUNDABOUT WILL BE CLOSED ON NOVEMBER 14 AND 15.

* THE INNER-MOST LANE OF TOLO HIGHWAY NORTHBOUND BETWEEN HONG LOK YUEN ROUNDABOUT AND WO HOP SHEK INTERCHANGE WILL BE CLOSED ON NOVEMBER 28 AND 29.

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF TAI PO ROAD

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT SECTIONS OF THE SLOW AND MIDDLE LANES OF TAI PO ROAD NORTHBOUND NEAR TOLO HIGHWAY IN SHA TIN WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 8 PM ON MONDAY (NOVEMBER 7) TO 8 AM THE NEXT DAY.

THE ROAD SECTIONS, ABOUT 250 METRES IN LENGTH, WILL BE CLOSED TO FACILITATE WEIGHBRIDGE MAINTENANCE WORKS.

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