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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1993

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CORRUPTION MUST BE PREVENTED: GOVERNOR

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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, TODAY (WEDNESDAY) SAID HE WAS DETERMINED TO DO EVERYTHING TO PREVENT CORRUPTION.

MR PATTEN WAS SPEAKING AT A LUNCHEON MEETING ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG FOREIGN BANKS REPRESENTATIVES ASSOCIATION.

HE SAID AFTER YEARS OF DECLINE, CORRUPTION WAS INCREASING AGAIN IN HONG KONG.

COMPLAINTS TO THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION IN THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF THIS YEAR ARE UP 44 PER CENT ON THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR. COMPLAINTS ARE UP IN BOTH THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS.

- "I AM DETERMINED THAT - WHILE I AM GOVERNOR AT LEAST - WE SHOULD DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO PREVENT IT," THE GOVERNOR SAID.

HE WARNED THAT A RETURN TO CORRUPTION, A NEW TOLERANCE OF CORRUPTION WOULD RUIN HONG KONG.

"I REGARD CORRUPTION AS ONE OF THE MOST SERIOUS THREATS TO HONG KONG'S FUTURE - BEFORE AND AFTER THE TRANSFER OF SOVEREIGNTY."

THERE IS NOTHING INEVITABLE ABOUT CORRUPTION, MR PATTEN SAID.

"I DO NOT ACCEPT FOR ONE MINUTE THE VIEW THAT JUST BECAUSE HONG KONG IS DOING MORE BUSINESS WITH COMMUNITIES WHERE EVEN THEIR OWN AUTHORITIES ACKNOWLEDGE, THERE ARE FORMIDABLE PROBLEMS WITH CORRUPTION - THAT IT FOLLOWS THAT CORRUPTION IN HONG KONG SHOULD INCREASE," HE SAID.

HE SAID THERE WAS ABSOLUTELY NO REASON WHY HONG KONG BUSINESSMEN AND WOMEN WORKING AND INVESTING OUTSIDE HONG KONG SHOULD AGREE TO ENGAGE IN CORRUPT PRACTICES.

"INDEED, THEY WOULD BE VERY FOOLISH IF THEY DID, PARTICULARLY GIVEN THE TOUGH MEASURES BEING TAKEN ELSEWHERE TO DEAL WITH CORRUPTION," MR PATTEN SAID.

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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON EMERGENCY CO-OPERATION
IN DAYA BAY NUCLEAR INCIDENT SIGNED

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THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AND THE GUANGDONG AUTHORITIES HELD A SECOND DELEGATION MEETING IN HONG KONG FROM SEPTEMBER 20 TO SEPTEMBER 22 ON THE SUBJECT OF EMERGENCY CO-OPERATION IN THE EVENT OF A NUCLEAR INCIDENT AT THE GUANGDONG NUCLEAR POWER STATION.

THE MEETING WAS CONDUCTED IN A FRIENDLY AND SINCERE ATMOSPHERE.

BOTH SIDES UNANIMOUSLY CONSIDERED DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE GUANGDONG NUCLEAR POWER STATION TO BE AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF SUCCESSFUL CO-OPERATION BETWEEN GUANGDONG AND HONG KONG.

THE COMPLETION AND COMMISSIONING OF THE NUCLEAR POWER STATION WILL GREATLY BOOST ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN GUANGDONG AND HONG KONG.

THE POWER STATION HAS BEEN COMPLETED TO THE HIGHEST INTERNATIONAL SAFETY STANDARDS.

HOWEVER, TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF ALL POSSIBLE CONTINGENCIES, BOTH SIDES HAVE TO BE PREPARED TO RESPOND TO NUCLEAR EMERGENCIES. CLOSE CO-OPERATION BETWEEN GUANGDONG AND HONG KONG IS ESSENTIAL IN THIS AREA.

AT THE MEETING, BOTH DELEGATIONS COMMENDED THE EXPERT GROUPS FOR THEIR HARD WORK OVER THE PAST MONTHS IN DISCUSSING VARIOUS TECHNICAL MATTERS.

THE DELEGATIONS ALSO REVIEWED AND FURTHER DISCUSSED THE CONSENSUS PAPERS PREPARED BY THE EXPERT GROUPS.

THESE PAPERS COVERED THE EXCHANGE OF EMERGENCY INFORMATION AND MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN THE EVENT OF A NUCLEAR INCIDENT HAVING A RADIOLOGICAL IMPACT ON PEOPLE IN THE SURROUNDING AREAS.

THE CONSENSUS PAPERS WERE CONFIRMED IN THE FORM OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING SIGNED BY THE TWO SIDES.

UNDER THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING, THE GUANGDONG EMERGENCY COMMITTEE OFFICE WILL NOTIFY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT IMMEDIATELY OF ALL OFF-SITE EMERGENCIES, WHETHER OR NOT THEY MAY AFFECT HONG KONG.

BOTH SIDES HAVE ALSO UNDERTAKEN, IN THE EVENT OF AN OFF-SITE EMERGENCY AT THE GUANGDONG NUCLEAR POWER STATION, TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION PROMPTLY ABOUT THE FACILITIES OR ACTIVITIES INVOLVED; THE ESTIMATED OR ESTABLISHED CAUSE AND FORESEEABLE DEVELOPMENTS OF A NUCLEAR ACCIDENT; THE PREVAILING AND FORECAST METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS; THE NATURE OF THE RADIOACTIVE RELEASE; THE RESULTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING; THE OFF-SITE PROTECTIVE MEASURES TAKEN OR PLANNED; AND THE PREDICTED BEHAVIOUR OF THE RADIOACTIVE RELEASE.

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THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WILL ENSURE THAT HONG KONG IS FULLY INFORMED OF ANY POTENTIALLY THREATENING ACCIDENT AND THAT EMERGENCY PLANNING WORK CAN BE STARTED WELL IN ADVANCE.

THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WAS SIGNED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) BY THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MR K J WOODHOUSE, ON BEHALF OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AND BY MR WU XIYUAN, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE OF GUANGDONG PROVINCE FOR NUCLEAR POWER ACCIDENT ON BEHALF OF THE GUANGDONG GOVERNMENT.

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HK INVITED TO ATTEND APEC CONFERENCE

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IN RESPONSE TO MEDIA ENQUIRIES, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY (WEDNESDAY) CONFIRMED THAT HONG KONG HAD RECEIVED AN INVITATION TO ATTEND THE ASIA PACIFIC ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION (APEC) LEADERS ECONOMIC CONFERENCE IN NOVEMBER.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, WILL REPRESENT HONG KONG AT THE CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN SEATTLE ON NOVEMBER 19 AND 20.

"AS ONE OF THE 15 MEMBERS OF APEC, HONG KONG WILL PARTICIPATE FULLY IN ALL DISCUSSIONS AT THE CONFERENCE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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REPATRIATION OF ECVIIS BY AIR

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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY (WEDNESDAY) ANNOUNCED THAT CHINA HAD NOW AGREED TO THE REPATRIATION BY AIR OF EX-CHINA VIETNAMESE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS (ECVIIS) TO HAINAN.

THE REPATRIATION OF SOME 340 ECVIIS BY AIR WILL TAKE PLACE ON THREE CONSECUTIVE DAYS BEGINNING OCTOBER 13.

"WE HAD PREVIOUSLY INTENDED TO REPATRIATE BY SEA THOSE ECVIIS WHO CAME FROM THE GUANGXI AND HAINAN PROVINCES.

"HOWEVER, AFTER INVESTIGATION IN DETAIL THE OPTIONS OF REPATRIATION BY SEA AND BY AIR, WE HAVE COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT REPATRIATION BY AIR WILL BE QUICKER AND LESS EXPENSIVE."

"CHINA HAS AGREED TO OUR PROPOSAL TO REPATRIATE BY AIR THOSE ECVIIS WHO CAME FROM HAINAN PROVINCE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THE COST IS EXPECTED TO BE MUCH LESS THAN A SEA-BORNE OPERATION AS THERE IS NO NEED TO COMMIT CONSIDERABLE POLICE RESOURCES FOR THE ENTIRE DURATION OF THE VOYAGE LASTING FOR ABOUT SIX DAYS."

/DISCUSSIONS ARE

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DISCUSSIONS ARE CONTINUING WITH THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES FOR THE CONTINUED REPATRIATION BY AIR OF THOSE ECVIIS WHO CAME FROM GUANGXI PROVINCE, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS :

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE MEDIA TO COVER THE REPATRIATION OF THE FIRST BATCH OF ECVIIS BY AIR WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN DUE COURSE.

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ATTORNEY GENERAL ASKS FOR TRANSCRIPT OF RAPE TRIAL

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THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, MR JEREMY MATHEWS, HAS SOUGHT A FULL TRANSCRIPT OF A RAPE TRIAL HELD ON SEPTEMBER 15.

DURING THE TRIAL, A HIGH COURT JUDGE DIRECTED THE JURY TO RETURN A NOT GUILTY VERDICT ON ALL CHARGES ON THE GROUND THAT THE VICTIM, WHO WAS DEAF, MUTE AND SLIGHTLY MENTALLY RETARDED, WAS EMOTIONALLY DISTURBED DURING CROSS-EXAMINATION.

HE SAID HE WAS CONCERNED ABOUT THE ADEQUACY OF LEGAL PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED.

"THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WORKING GROUP CONVENED BY MR FRED LI WAH-MING TO STUDY SEPARATE LEGISLATION FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED. WE WILL CONTINUE TO GIVE OUR FULLEST CO-OPERATION TO THE WORKING GROUP IN ITS WORK.

"A COPY OF THE TRANSCRIPT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF LAST WEEK'S ABORTED RAPE TRIAL WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE WORKING GROUP ONCE READY.

"IT IS THE BEST MEANS TO GIVE MEMBERS A FULL AND ACCURATE ACCOUNT OF WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENED IN COURT," HE SAID.

AS IT IS THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT'S CONSISTENT POLICY NOT TO COMMENT ON ANY INDIVIDUAL CASE, IT IS CONSIDERED THAT THE MOST APPROPRIATE WAY OF EXPLAINING THE FACTS OF THE CASE IS FOR THE WORKING GROUP TO BE PROVIDED WITH A TRANSCRIPT OF THE PROCEEDINGS.

"IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT WILL TABLE A CHRONOLOGY OF THE CASE FOR MEMBERS' INFORMATION, PENDING THE AVAILABILITY OF THE TRANSCRIPT, AND WILL NOT SEND ANY REPRESENTATIVE TO ATTEND THE WORKING GROUP MEETING TOMORROW (THURSDAY)," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT SAID.

/HOWEVER, THE

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HOWEVER, THE DEPARTMENT WILL BE HAPPY TO CONTINUE ASSISTING THE WORKING GROUP IN ADDRESSING THE WIDER ISSUES CONCERNING THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED, HE ADDED.

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS, MR JOHN WOOD, HAS BEEN ATTENDING MEETINGS OF THE WORKING GROUP AND HAS GIVEN HIS PROFESSIONAL ADVICE IN HELPING THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED APPEAR IN A CRIMINAL TRIAL.

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STATUTORY ARTS BODY TO BE SET UP

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THE GOVERNMENT IS CONSIDERING SETTING UP AN INDEPENDENT STATUTORY BODY WITH EXECUTIVE POWERS FOR THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE ARTS, THE SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR JAMES SO, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) AFTER BRIEFING THE LEGCO PANEL ON RECREATION AND CULTURE.

THE RECREATION AND CULTURE BRANCH HAD EARLIER BRIEFED THE URBAN COUNCIL ON SEPTEMBER 21 AND WOULD BRIEF THE COUNCIL FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS AND THE REGIONAL COUNCIL ON SEPTEMBER 29 AND 30 RESPECTIVELY.

MR SO SAID SEVERAL HUNDRED RESPONSES HAD BEEN RECEIVED BY THE BRANCH DURING THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION PERIOD ON THE ARTS POLICY REVIEW AND THAT A CONSENSUS HAD EMERGED IN THE COMMUNITY THAT HONG KONG SHOULD HAVE A NEW STATUTORY BODY RESPONSIBLE FOR ARTS DEVELOPMENT.

HE SAID IN LIGHT OF THE OPINIONS PUT FORWARD, IT WAS CONSIDERED THAT THE BODY SHOULD BE CALLED THE HONG KONG ARTS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (HKADC).

ITS MEMBERS SHOULD INCLUDE PEOPLE FROM THE ARTS COMMUNITY REPRESENTING A BROAD RANGE OF ARTISTIC INTERESTS AND ACTIVITIES, AS WELL AS COMMUNITY LEADERS INTERESTED IN AND COMMITTED TO THE PROMOTION OF THE ARTS, HE SAID.

MR SO ADDED THAT THE MISSION OF THE FUTURE HKADC WOULD BE TO PLAN AND PROMOTE THE BROAD DEVELOPMENT AND APPRECIATION OF AND PARTICIPATION IN THE ARTS WITH A VIEW TO IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF THE WHOLE COMMUNITY, PLACING PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON THE PERFORMING, VISUAL AND LITERARY ARTS.

IT WOULD ALSO AIM TO LIAISE AND WORK CLOSELY WITH EXISTING ORGANISATIONS, SUCH AS THE MUNICIPAL COUNCILS, THE HONG KONG ACADEMY FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, THE HONG KONG ARTS CENTRE AND OTHER INDEPENDENT BODIES IN THE PROMOTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE ARTS IN HONG KONG, WHILST RESPECTING AND NOT IMPINGING UPON THEIR AUTONOMOUS STATUS.

THE NEW BODY WILL BUILD UPON THE WORK ALREADY BEING DONE BY THESE AND OTHER BODIES. IT AIMS TO ADD TO THE BREADTH AND DEPTH OF DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION OF THE ARTS IN HONG KONG AND TO FILL IN GAPS IN EXISTING PROGRAMMES, RATHER THAN TO TAKE OVER OR DUPLICATE THE WORK OF OTHER BODIES.

TO FACILITATE THE PROCESS OF CONSULTATION AND TO ENSURE THAT THE NEW BODY MEETS THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE COMMUNITY, MR SO SAID THE ADMINISTRATION CONSIDERED THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE STATUTORY BODY SHOULD PROCEED IN THREE STAGES.

FIRSTLY, A WORKING COMMITTEE WILL BE SET UP TO DRAW UP RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE MEMBERSHIP, TERMS OF REFERENCE, OBJECTIVES, AND SO ON THAT THE PROVISIONAL BODY NEEDS TO ENABLE IT TO CARRY OUT ITS MISSION.

"THE WORKING COMMITTEE SHOULD AIM TO COMPLETE ITS WORK AND TO GAIN THE RELEVANT GOVERNMENT APPROVAL BY NO LATER THAN, SAY, MARCH 31 NEXT YEAR," HE ADDED.

AFTER THAT, THE PROVISIONAL BODY WILL BE SET UP AND ITS CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS APPOINTED IN APRIL NEXT YEAR, PROBABLY FOR 12 MONTHS.

"THE PROVISIONAL BODY WILL START WORK ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ARTS, FINE TUNE THE PLANS DRAWN UP BY THE WORKING COMMITTEE IN THE LIGHT OF EXPERIENCE AND HELP THE GOVERNMENT DRAFT THE NECESSARY LEGISLATION TO ESTABLISH THE BODY ON A STATUTORY BASIS SOMETIME IN 1995," MR SO SAID.

THE STATUTORY BODY, ONCE SET UP, WILL TAKE OVER ALL THE POWERS, FUNCTIONS, STAFF, FUNDS AND OTHER RESOURCES OF THE PROVISIONAL BODY.

IT WILL OPERATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ORDINANCE UNDER WHICH IT IS ESTABLISHED AND BE ABLE TO MANAGE ITS RESOURCES DIRECTLY, MR SO SAID.

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CONTRACT AWARD OF NORTH LANTAU EXPRESSWAY TUNG CHUNG SECTION

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THE CENTRAL TENDER BOARD HAS APPROVED ANOTHER HIGHWAY CONTRACT UNDER THE AIRPORT CORE PROGRAMME (ACP) FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE TUNG CHUNG SECTION OF THE NORTH LANTAU EXPRESSWAY.

THE CONTRACT, WORTH \$969 MILLION, HAS BEEN AWARDED TO CHINA STATE-LEIGHTON-HOCHTIEF JOINT VENTURE.

THE NORTH LANTAU EXPRESSWAY, ONE OF THE 10 CORE PROJECTS UNDER THE ACP, WILL BE A DUAL THREE-LANE EXPRESSWAY TO BE CONSTRUCTED ALONG THE NORTHERN COAST OF LANTAU, SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW AIRPORT PROJECTS CO-ORDINATION OFFICE TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

/IT WILL

IT WILL CONNECT WITH THE WESTERN END OF THE LANTAU FIXED CROSSING, FORMING PART OF AN EXTENSIVE TRANSPORT NETWORK LINKING TUNG CHUNG NEW TOWN AND THE NEW AIRPORT AT CHEK LAP KOK TO THE URBAN AREAS OF HONG KONG.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID CONSTRUCTION OF THE EXPRESSWAY WAS DIVIDED INTO THREE SECTIONS: YAM O, TAI HO AND TUNG CHUNG.

CONTRACTS FOR THE TAI HO AND YAM O SECTIONS HAVE BEEN AWARDED RESPECTIVELY IN JUNE AND SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR.

THE TUNG CHUNG SECTION OF THE EXPRESSWAY WILL BE BUILT PARTLY ON HILLSIDES AND PARTLY ON RECLAIMED LAND.

THE WORKS WILL ALSO COMPRISE THE FORMATION OF RESERVES FOR THE PROPOSED AIRPORT RAILWAY AND PUBLIC UTILITIES, A SEAWALL AND PRESTRESSED CONCRETE BRIDGES.

TENDERS WERE RECEIVED FROM EIGHT PREQUALIFIED TENDERERS AND THE JOINT VENTURE FORMED BY CHINA STATE CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING CORPORATION, LEIGHTON CONTRACTORS (ASIA) LIMITED OF AUSTRALIA AND HOCHTIEF AG OF GERMANY, SUBMITTED THE LOWEST TENDER OF \$969 MILLION.

WORK WILL START LATER THIS MONTH AND BE COMPLETED IN LATE 1996.

THE AWARD OF THIS CONTRACT BRINGS THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ACP CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS AWARDED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO 28, WITH A TOTAL VALUE OF NEARLY \$30 BILLION.

TOGETHER WITH THE FOUR CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS, VALUED AT \$9.7 BILLION, AWARDED BY THE PROVISIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY, AND THE \$5.7 BILLION CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT AWARDED BY THE WESTERN HARBOUR TUNNEL COMPANY LIMITED, THE TOTAL VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS AWARDED FOR THE ACP, ALL WITHIN BUDGET, IS OVER \$45 BILLION.

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HK TO BAN IMPORT OF OZONE-DEPLETING CHEMICALS

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HONG KONG WILL IMPOSE A TOTAL BAN ON THE IMPORT OF OZONE-DEPLETING CHEMICALS BY JANUARY 1, 1996 UNDER THE OZONE LAYER PROTECTION ORDINANCE, THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF INDUSTRY, MISS DENISE YUE, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

SHE WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE "NON-OZONE-DEPLETING CHEMICALS SYMPOSIUM: CHLOROFUOROCARBON ALTERNATIVES AND SOLUTIONS".

UNDER THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL CONCLUDED IN 1987, THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY WAS COMMITTED TO THE GRADUAL PHASING OUT OF THE USE OF OZONE-DEPLETING CHEMICALS THAT DAMAGE THE ENVIRONMENT, SHE SAID.

TO FULFIL ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE PROTOCOL, HONG KONG ENACTED THE OZONE LAYER PROTECTION ORDINANCE IN JUNE 1989, SHE SAID.

UNDER THE ORDINANCE, THE MANUFACTURE OF LISTED OZONE-DEPLETING CHEMICALS LOCALLY IS PROHIBITED, AND RETAINED IMPORTS OF SUCH CHEMICALS ARE SUBJECT TO QUOTA CONTROL.

"BY JANUARY 1, 1996 - LESS THAN TWO-AND-A-HALF YEARS AWAY - THE IMPORT OF OZONE-DEPLETING CHEMICALS WILL BE COMPLETELY BANNED," MISS YUE SAID.

SHE NOTED THAT THE ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY, WHICH WAS THE PRINCIPAL USER OF THE OZONE-DEPLETING CHEMICAL, CFC-113, WAS HONG KONG'S SECOND LARGEST EXPORTER.

THE INDUSTRY ACCOUNTED FOR 26 PER CENT OF TOTAL DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND EMPLOYED 11 PER CENT OF THE MANUFACTURING WORKFORCE, SHE SAID.

THE SEARCH FOR NON-OZONE-DEPLETING CHEMICALS AND SUBSTITUTION TECHNOLOGY, WHICH WERE BOTH EFFICIENT AND COST COMPETITIVE, WAS THUS OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE FOR HONG KONG, SHE ADDED.

"IT IS WITH THIS PURPOSE IN MIND THAT THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT, THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL AND THE HONG KONG ELECTRONICS ASSOCIATION HAVE JOINED FORCES TO ORGANISE TODAY'S SYMPOSIUM," SHE SAID.

THE SYMPOSIUM AIMS TO DISSEMINATE TO MANUFACTURERS THE LATEST INFORMATION ON SUBSTITUTE PRODUCTS AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPED IN OTHER COUNTRIES AND TO ENABLE MANUFACTURERS TO SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCE.

"WE SINCERELY HOPE THAT THIS SYMPOSIUM WILL HELP MANUFACTURERS IN THEIR SEARCH FOR APPROPRIATE NON-OZONE-DEPLETING CHEMICALS AND TECHNOLOGY, AND THEREBY CONTRIBUTE TO THE PROTECTION AND THE GENERAL WELL-BEING OF OUR ENVIRONMENT," MISS YUE SAID.

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NEW HOME OPENS FOR STREET SLEEPERS

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STREET SLEEPERS AND THE HOMELESS CAN TAKE SHELTER IN NEW PREMISES IN CHEUNG SHA WAN WITH THE OPENING OF THE SALVATION ARMY YEE ON HOSTEL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

AND THEY CAN GET SUPPORT AND ADVICE FROM THE HOSTEL STAFF TOO.

AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE HOSTEL, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID FORD, SAID: "I BELIEVE THE KINDNESS AND CONCERN SHOWN BY THE STAFF HERE TO STREET SLEEPERS WILL ENCOURAGE THEM TO BECOME MORE SELF-RELIANT AND MORE STABLE."

HE SAID THE PROBLEM OF STREET SLEEPERS WAS COMPLEX AND A COMBINED EFFORT BY THE GOVERNMENT, NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS AND THE WHOLE COMMUNITY WAS NEEDED TO HELP THEM.

/HE CALLED

HE CALLED ON MORE NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS TO DEVOTE TIME AND EFFORT TO HELP THESE NEEDY PEOPLE.

"THEY ARE ALSO MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY AND DESERVE OUR COMPASSION AND UNDERSTANDING," HE SAID.

THE YEE ON HOSTEL IS THE FIRST OF FIVE HOSTELS TO BE SET UP UNDER THE URBAN HOSTEL SCHEME WITH A DONATION FROM THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB.

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CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE BRIEFED ON NEW AIRPORT WORKS

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MEMBERS OF THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON THE NEW AIRPORT AND RELATED PROJECTS WERE TODAY (WEDNESDAY) TOLD THAT GOOD PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE WITH THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE AIRPORT CORE PROGRAMME (ACP) PROJECTS.

DURING A FOUR-HOUR BOAT TOUR, MEMBERS WERE GIVEN AN OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRESS BY THE DIRECTOR OF NEW AIRPORT PROJECTS CO-ORDINATION OFFICE, MR BILLY LAM, AND THE PROJECT DIRECTOR OF THE LANTAU FIXED CROSSING PROJECT MANAGEMENT OFFICE, HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT, MR H S KWONG.

THEY SAW THE WORKS ON THE WEST KOWLOON RECLAMATION, THE TSING MA AND KAP SHUI MUN BRIDGES, THE NORTH LANTAU EXPRESSWAY AND THE TUNG CHUNG NEW TOWN RECLAMATION.

ON THE NEW AIRPORT SITE AT CHEK LAP KOK, THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE PROVISIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY, DR HENRY TOWNSEND, TOLD MEMBERS THAT ABOUT 24 PER CENT OF THE AIRPORT SITE HAD BEEN COMPLETED AND MORE THAN 220 HECTARES OF LAND HAD BEEN RECLAIMED.

A TOTAL OF 17 MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE WENT ON THE TOUR. THEY WERE THE CHAIRMAN MR WONG PO-YAN, MRS ENA CHAN YUEN YIN-HUNG, MR LINUS CHEUNG, MR CHOW CHUN-FAI, MR RAYMOND CHOY, MR FUNG SHIU-WING, MR GERRY HIGGINSON, DR RAYMOND HO, MR HO KING-ON, MR AMBROSE LAU, MR DAVID MORRIS, MR SHAO YOU-BAO, MR TAN MAN-KOU, DR LAURIE WAN, DR OWEN WONG, PROFESSOR YEUNG YUE-MAN AND MR YIP WAH.

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TWO NEW TERRITORIES LOTS TO LET

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THE LANDS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE SHORT-TERM TENANCY OF TWO LOTS OF GOVERNMENT LAND IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE FIRST LOT, IN AREA 10B AT TAI WO HAU ROAD IN KWAI CHUNG, HAS AN AREA OF ABOUT 5,750 SQUARE METRES.

IT CAN BE USED FOR LANDSCAPE GARDENING, PLANT NURSERY AND COMMERCIAL GARDENING, INCLUDING GROWING GARDEN PRODUCTS, STORAGE AND SALE OF POTTED PLANTS AND OTHER ANCILLARY GARDEN PRODUCTS.

THE TENANCY IS FOR THREE YEARS, RENEWABLE QUARTERLY AFTERWARDS.

THE SECOND LOT IN AREA 39, FANLING, COVERING AN AREA OF ABOUT 14,000 SQUARE METRES, IS INTENDED FOR A FEE-PAYING PUBLIC CAR PARK FOR LICENSED CONTAINER VEHICLES.

THE TENANCY IS FOR 18 MONTHS, RENEWABLE QUARTERLY AFTERWARDS.

CLOSING DATE FOR TENDERS IS NOON ON OCTOBER 8.

FORMS OF TENDER, TENDER NOTICES AND CONDITIONS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM:

- * THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, 10TH FLOOR, TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK BUILDING, 174-208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN;
- * DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, NORTH, SIXTH FLOOR, NORTH DISTRICT GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 3 PIK FUNG ROAD, FANLING;
- * LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD; AND
- * DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES KOWLOON, 10TH FLOOR, YAU MA TEI CAR PARK BUILDING, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON.

TENDER PLANS CAN BE INSPECTED AT THE OFFICES.

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STAMP SHEETLET TO MARK WORLD PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

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THE ACTING POSTMASTER GENERAL, MR S K LI, ANNOUNCED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT A DEFINITIVE STAMP SHEETLET WOULD BE ISSUED ON OCTOBER 5 TO COMMEMORATE THE PARTICIPATION OF THE POST OFFICE IN THE BANGKOK WORLD PHILATELIC EXHIBITION (BANGKOK 1993).

THE EXHIBITION WILL BE HELD BETWEEN OCTOBER 1 AND 10.

/IT IS

IT IS ORGANISED JOINTLY BY THE COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY OF THAILAND AND THE PHILATELISTS ASSOCIATION OF THAILAND TO CELEBRATE THE 110TH ANNIVERSARY OF THAI POSTAL SERVICES AND THE FIRST ISSUE OF STAMPS BY THE THAI POST OFFICE.

THE EXHIBITION HAS THE FULL SUPPORT OF THE FEDERATION OF INTERNATIONAL PHILATELY AND THE FEDERATION OF INTER-ASIAN PHILATELY.

THE DEFINITIVE STAMP SHEETLET IS DESIGNED BY MR ARDE LAM AND PRINTED BY JOH ENSCHEDE OF THE NETHERLANDS.

FOR ADVANCE INFORMATION OF THE PUBLIC, THE SHEETLET WILL BE DISPLAYED AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE, TSIM SHA TSUI POST OFFICE AND SHATIN CENTRAL POST OFFICE FROM SEPTEMBER 28.

THE STAMP SHEETLETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT \$10 EACH. MATCHING SOUVENIR COVERS AT \$1 EACH WILL BE ON SALE FROM SEPTEMBER 28.

BOTH ITEMS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT ALL POST OFFICES EXCEPT THE AIRPORT POST OFFICE. THERE WILL BE NO ADVANCE ORDER SERVICE.

ON OCTOBER 5, EACH PERSON IN THE QUEUE MAY BUY ONLY 10 STAMP SHEETLETS.

A HAND-BACK SERVICE WILL BE PROVIDED AT ALL POST OFFICES, EXCEPT THE AIRPORT POST OFFICE, FOR OFFICIAL OR PRIVATELY MADE COVERS BEARING AN INDICATION OF THE OCCASION.

A SPECIAL DATESTAMP WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR THE HAND-BACK SERVICE AND A CACHET WILL ALSO BE INTRODUCED FOR GENERAL CANCELLATION PURPOSES.

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DRAWING CONTEST FOR CENTRAL AND WESTERN CHILDREN

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CHILDREN LIVING OR STUDYING IN CENTRAL AND WESTERN ARE INVITED TO JOIN IN AN ANNUAL DRAWING CONTEST TO BE HELD IN THE GARDEN PLAZA OF HONG KONG PARK ON OCTOBER 17.

A DISTRICT OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT THE COMPETITION, WHICH WAS POPULAR AMONG CHILDREN, ATTRACTED MORE THAN 300 PARTICIPANTS EACH YEAR.

HE SAID ENTRIES FOR THIS YEAR'S EVENT WOULD CLOSE AT THE END OF THIS MONTH AND WOULD BE ACCEPTED ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

THE CONTEST IS DIVIDED INTO THREE SECTIONS. THE JUNIOR SECTION, FOR CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN FOUR AND NINE, HAS THE THEME "NATURAL LANDSCAPES".

THE SENIOR SECTION, OPEN TO THOSE AGED BETWEEN 10 AND 15, WILL FEATURE THE PRESENT OR FUTURE OUTLOOK OF THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT.

A THIRD SECTION IS INCLUDED IN THIS YEAR'S CONTEST TO ENCOURAGE MORE YOUNG TALENTS FROM THESE TWO GROUPS TO SHOW THEIR PAINTING SKILLS THROUGH GROUP PARTICIPATION.

THE TOP THREE WINNERS IN EACH SECTION WILL BE AWARDED PRIZES INCLUDING TROPHIES, BOOK COUPONS AND GIFTS.

OUTSTANDING ENTRANTS WILL ALSO BE GIVEN SOUVENIRS.

THE COMPETITION IS ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE, THE DISTRICT BOARD, THE DISTRICT'S ASSOCIATION FOR CULTURE AND ARTS, THE MID-LEVELS EAST AREA COMMITTEE AND YMCA, WITH SPONSORSHIP FROM PENTEL COMPANY LIMITED AND GUIDEAST LIMITED COMPANY.

ENTRY FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FROM THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, GROUND FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL.

FOR ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CALL 852 3485 OR 852 3499.

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POST OFFICES TO CLOSE ON MID-AUTUMN HOLIDAY

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THE ACTING POSTMASTER GENERAL, MR S K LI, ANNOUNCED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT THERE WOULD BE NO MAIL DELIVERY ON OCTOBER 1 (THE DAY FOLLOWING THE MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL).

ALL POST OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED ON THE DAY.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	\$ MILLION

OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,270
REVERSAL OF LAF	+730
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	2,000
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	-65
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,935
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER	TWI 112.4 *+0.3* 22.9.93

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1993

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS

EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.58 PCT	14 MONTHS	2411	4.625	101.36	3.43
1 MONTH	2.71 PCT	17 MONTHS	2502	4.75	101.56	3.63
3 MONTHS	2.83 PCT	20 MONTHS	2505	3.75	99.89	3.85
6 MONTHS	3.00 PCT	23 MONTHS	2508	4.625	101.28	3.96
12 MONTHS	3.27 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 5,697 MN

CLOSED SEPTEMBER 22, 1993

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