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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1993

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1993

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GOVT TRIES HARD TO FIND LORRY PARKING SITES

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THE GOVERNMENT IS TRYING VERY HARD TO FIND ALTERNATIVE PARKING SITES FOR LORRIES AFFECTED BY THE WESTERN HARBOUR CROSSING PROJECT ON THE WESTERN RECLAMATION.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID OWING TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF WORKS FOR THE WESTERN HARBOUR CROSSING, ONE OF THE TWO TEMPORARY VEHICLE PARKS ON WESTERN RECLAMATION WAS CLOSED ON AUGUST 1 THIS YEAR.

THE OTHER VEHICLE PARK IS DUE TO BE CLOSED BY MID-SEPTEMBER.

THE VEHICLE PARKS PROVIDE SOME 500 GOODS VEHICLE PARKING SPACES. IN VIEW OF THE IMMINENT NEED, TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, IN CO-OPERATION WITH THE LANDS DEPARTMENT, HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT, MARINE DEPARTMENT AND OTHER PARTIES CONCERNED, HAVE BEEN ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR SUITABLE ALTERNATIVE SITES.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID SEVERAL MEETINGS HAD BEEN HELD AMONG GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AND THE DRIVER REPRESENTATIVES.

AT THE MEETINGS, DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AND THE DRIVERS SUGGESTED A NUMBER OF SITES FOR INVESTIGATION.

ALTOGETHER, SOME 20 LOCATIONS ON HONG KONG ISLAND HAVE BEEN LOOKED INTO OVER THE PAST FEW WEEKS IN AN ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY TEMPORARY SITES THAT MAY BE SUITABLE FOR GOODS VEHICLE PARKING.

THE SEARCH COVERS VACANT GOVERNMENT LAND, NEWLY RECLAIMED LAND, PUBLIC CARGO WORKING AREAS, FUTURE AND PRESENT OPEN SPACES AND KERBSIDE SPACES.

"SINCE THE END OF JULY 1993, SOME 200 GOODS VEHICLE ON-STREET PARKING SPACES HAVE BEEN PROVIDED FOR IMMEDIATE USE, OF WHICH 95 ARE FOR NIGHT-TIME PARKING ONLY. THE SPACES ARE LOCATED ALONG DES VOEUX ROAD WEST, KENNEDY TOWN PRAYA, HEUNG YIP ROAD, WESTERN PARK ROAD AND FUNG MAT STREET," HE SAID.

ANOTHER 220 OFF-STREET PARKING SPACES ARE EXPECTED TO BE AVAILABLE BEFORE MID-SEPTEMBER, OF WHICH ABOUT 90 ARE FOR NIGHT-TIME PARKING ONLY.

THE SPACES ARE PROVIDED AT A SITE IN SIU SAI WAN, WITHIN PUBLIC CARGO WORKING AREAS AT SAI WAN AND SHEUNG WAN AND AT A SITE NEXT TO THE WATERFRONT POLICE STATION.

"IN THE MEDIUM TERM, IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT OVER 200 OFF-STREET PARKING SPACES WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE IN QUARRY BAY AND BELCHER BAY BY AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 1994," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

/"ANOTHER 180

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"ANOTHER 180 OFF-STREET PARKING SPACES WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE KENNEDY TOWN VEGETABLE WHOLESALE MARKET AND THE SITE NEXT TO THE CHINA MOTOR BUS DEPOT AFTER RELOCATION OF THE WHOLESALE MARKET TO THE WESTERN WATERFRONT IN MAY 1994," HE ADDED.

THE SITE AT TELEGRAPH BAY RECLAMATION IS NOW VACANT BUT WITHOUT AN ACCESS ROAD.

TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, IN CONJUNCTION WITH HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT AND OTHER CONCERNED PARTIES, IS NOW EXAMINING THE PROVISION OF A TEMPORARY ACCESS TO THE SITE FOR GOODS VEHICLE PARKING.

AVAILABILITY OF FURTHER SITES ARE BEING ACTIVELY PURSUED.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THERE WERE OTHER SITES WHICH HAD BEEN INVESTIGATED BUT WERE FOUND NOT FEASIBLE FOR GOODS VEHICLE PARKING.

TO OPEN UP THE PIER AREA INSIDE THE WESTERN WHOLESALE FOOD MARKET FOR OVERNIGHT GOODS VEHICLE PARKING WILL BE RESTRICTED BY THE LOADING LIMITATION IN THE PIER AREA, SHORTAGE OF CAR PARKING PROVISION INSIDE THE MARKET, POSSIBLE TRAFFIC CONGESTION, SECURITY AND SAFETY PROBLEMS WHICH WILL AFFECT THE EFFICIENT FUNCTIONING OF THE WHOLESALE MARKET.

THE WHOLESALE FISH MARKET AT CADOGAN STREET HAS ALREADY BEEN TAKEN UP BY THE VEGETABLE TRADE CONTAINERS.

THE PLANT DEMOLITION CONTRACT AT THE KENNEDY TOWN INCINERATOR SITE WILL START SOON, TO BE FOLLOWED BY STRUCTURES DEMOLITION IN JULY 1994.

CONSTRUCTION WORKS WILL START ON THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION'S SITES AT WING LOK STREET AND JUBILEE STREET AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER. AT PRESENT, SITE CLEARANCE IS IN PROGRESS.

THROUGH THIS JOINT EFFORT OF THE GOVERNMENT, DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AND GOODS VEHICLE DRIVERS, IT HAS NOW BEEN POSSIBLE TO PROVIDE A TOTAL OF 420 PARKING SPACES WHEN THE SECOND VEHICLE PARK IS DUE TO BE CLOSED.

AN ADDITIONAL 380 OFF-STREET PARKING SPACES ARE EXPECTED TO BE AVAILABLE BY THE MIDDLE OF NEXT YEAR.

EVEN SO, THE GOVERNMENT IS STILL DISCUSSING WITH THE WESTERN HARBOUR CROSSING CONTRACTOR THE FEASIBILITY OF EXTENDING THE CLOSING DATE FOR THE SECOND VEHICLE PARK AS FAR BEYOND MID-SEPTEMBER AS POSSIBLE WHILE RECOGNISING THE NEED FOR THE WESTERN HARBOUR CROSSING PROJECT TO PROCEED WITHOUT DELAY.

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BILINGUAL LAW DATABASE FOR PUBLIC USE
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ARRANGEMENTS ARE NOW IN PLACE FOR THE LEGAL PROFESSION, THE PUBLIC AND VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS TO HAVE ACCESS TO THE FIRST BILINGUAL LAW INFORMATION DATABASE IN HONG KONG.

A LEGAL DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT A CONTRACT HAD BEEN GRANTED TO WANG PACIFIC LIMITED TO PROVIDE PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE BILINGUAL LEGISLATION INFORMATION SYSTEM (BLIS). THE LAUNCH WAS PLANNED FOR THE MIDDLE OF NEXT MONTH.

THE BLIS OFFERS ACCESS TO THE COMPLETE AND UP-TO-DATE TEXT OF HONG KONG ORDINANCES AND SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION, IN BOTH LANGUAGES, AS WELL AS A GLOSSARY OF BILINGUAL TERMS USED IN LEGISLATION.

BY PERMISSION OF THE LAW FACULTY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, ACCESS IS ALSO AVAILABLE TO THE JUDGMENTS OF HONG KONG SUPERIOR COURTS, INCLUDING PRIVY COUNCIL DECISIONS, FROM 1980 ONWARDS.

"LEGISLATION IS NORMALLY UP-DATED WITHIN THREE WEEKS OF GAZETTE PUBLICATION WHILE JUDGMENTS ARE USUALLY UPDATED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE PRONOUNCEMENT," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"ALL THAT IS REQUIRED BY PEOPLE WISHING TO ENTER THE BLIS IS A PERSONAL COMPUTER AND A TELEPHONE LINE.

"USERS CAN SEARCH BY WORD OR COMBINATION OF WORDS. SEARCHES OF JUDGMENTS CAN BE RESTRICTED TO ANY SUPERIOR COURT OF THE USERS' CHOICE.

"ADDITIONALLY, INFORMATION RETRIEVED CAN BE COPIED TO THE USER'S PERSONAL COMPUTER OR PRINTED FROM THE SCREEN," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE INITIAL COST TO SUBSCRIBERS OF BLIS WILL INCLUDE FEES FOR REGISTRATION, INSTALLATION, TRAINING AND SOFTWARE. THEREAFTER, COSTS ARE BASED ON USAGE IN ADDITION TO A NOMINAL MONTHLY FEE.

"THE AGREED FEES HAVE BEEN DELIBERATELY LOW SO AS TO ENCOURAGE PUBLIC USE OF THIS ENHANCED RESEARCH TOOL," THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED.

ANYONE INTERESTED IN OBTAINING FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE SYSTEM MAY CONTACT WANG PACIFIC ON TEL 880 4999, FAX 590 9614, OR WRITE TO:

THE INFO/LAW MARKETING EXECUTIVE
WANG PACIFIC LTD
15TH FLOOR SOMERSET HOUSE
TAI KOO PLACE
979 KING'S ROAD
QUARRY BAY
HONG KONG

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NEW ORGAN DONATION CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC CAN NOW OBTAIN ORGAN DONATION CARDS THROUGH A WIDER DISTRIBUTION NETWORK WHICH CONSISTS OF A LARGE NUMBER OF GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE SECTOR OUTLETS.

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (WEDNESDAY), SENIOR MEDICAL AND HEALTH OFFICER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S CENTRAL HEALTH EDUCATION UNIT, DR C Y MOK, URGED THE PUBLIC TO SUPPORT THE "GIFT OF LIFE" ORGAN DONATION CAMPAIGN.

DR MOK SAID ALTHOUGH THE NUMBER OF CASES OF ORGAN TRANSPLANT WAS ON THE RISE, THE DEMAND FOR HUMAN ORGANS STILL EXCEEDED SUPPLY.

WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR, ORGAN DONATION CARDS ARE AVAILABLE THIS MONTH FROM ALL WELLCOME SUPERMARKETS, THE TWO CUSTOMER CENTRES OF THE HONGKONG ELECTRIC COMPANY, THE MAIN STORE AND TWO BRANCH STORES OF JUSCO AND EIGHT TRAVEL SERVICES CENTRES OF THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY.

SOME MEMBERS OF THE HONG KONG MEDICAL ASSOCIATION WILL ALSO HELP AND DISTRIBUTE ORGAN DONATION CARDS AT THEIR CLINICS.

ORGAN DONATION CARDS WILL CONTINUE TO BE AVAILABLE AT THE INDOOR GAMES HALLS, SWIMMING POOLS, PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND CIVIC CENTRES OF THE URBAN SERVICES AND REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENTS AFTER THE CAMPAIGN ENDS LATER THIS MONTH.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC CAN ALSO PICK UP ORGAN DONATION CARDS FROM THE REGULAR DISTRIBUTION POINTS WHICH INCLUDE MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH CLINICS AND GENERAL OUTPATIENT CLINICS OF DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, DISTRICT OFFICES, TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT'S LICENSING OFFICES, HONG KONG RED CROSS TRANSFUSION SERVICES DONOR CENTRES, HOSPITAL AUTHORITY'S INSTITUTIONS, WING ON DEPARTMENT STORES AND TAKE YOUR CARD COMPANY'S DISPENSING OUTLETS.

DR MOK EXPLAINED THAT THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE CAMPAIGN WAS AN EXHIBITION JOINTLY ORGANISED WITH LION ROCK JAYCEES AT METROPLAZA, KWAI FONG THIS WEEKEND.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO VISIT THE EXHIBITION AND SUPPORT THE CAMPAIGN BY SIGNING IN ORGAN DONATION CARDS. THE EXHIBITION IS SPONSORED BY THE CITIBANK.

DR MOK SAID A SPECIAL TELEPHONE HOTLINE 838 3232 HAD BEEN SET UP TO DISSEMINATE PRE-RECORDED MESSAGE ON ORGAN DONATION.

HE ADDED THAT ONE SET OF NEW EXHIBITION BOARDS ON ORGAN DONATION HAD ALSO BEEN PRODUCED AND ORGANISATIONS INTERESTED TO MAKE USE OF THESE BOARDS IN PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES COULD CONTACT THE CENTRAL HEALTH EDUCATION UNIT ON TEL 572 1476.

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HONG KONG SUCCESSFUL IN JEWELLERY TRADE

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HONG KONG OWES ITS LEADING POSITION IN THE JEWELLERY TRADE TO BOTH ITS ENTERPRISING BUSINESSMEN AND ITS QUALITY WORKFORCE, THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, MR MICHAEL LEUNG, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 1993 HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL JEWELLERY SHOW, MR LEUNG SAID A KEY REASON WHY HONG KONG LED IN THE EXPORT OF FINE JEWELLERY WAS THAT DESIGN WAS TAKEN VERY SERIOUSLY.

"HONG KONG'S JEWELLERY DESIGN HAS IMPROVED SIGNIFICANTLY OVER THE PAST DECADE," HE SAID.

"TODAY, THE HIGH STANDARD OF THE TERRITORY'S DESIGN IS ACKNOWLEDGED WORLDWIDE," HE ADDED.

"HONG KONG EMPLOYERS AND THEIR ASSOCIATIONS HAVE PLAYED A KEY ROLE IN FOSTERING THE TALENT OF OUR NEW GENERATION OF JEWELLERY DESIGNERS."

MR LEUNG NOTED THAT VARIOUS TRADE ASSOCIATIONS ORGANISED INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS REGULARLY TO STIMULATE AND PROMOTE ORIGINALITY.

"HONG KONG'S DESIGNERS HAVE DONE VERY WELL IN THESE COMPETITIONS," HE ADDED.

"FOR EXAMPLE, IN LAST YEAR'S DIAMOND DESIGN COMPETITION, THE LEADING JEWELLERY DESIGN CONTEST IN SOUTHEAST ASIA ORGANISED BY THE DIAMOND IMPORTERS ASSOCIATION, 13 OF THE 19 WINNERS WERE FROM HONG KONG," THE SECRETARY SAID.

HE ATTRIBUTED HONG KONG'S SUCCESS TO THE FORESIGHT OF THE TRADE ASSOCIATIONS AS WELL AS TO THE EAGERNESS OF HONG KONG'S DESIGNERS AND CRAFTSMEN TO STRENGTHEN THEIR SKILLS.

MR LEUNG POINTED OUT THAT THE QUEST FOR EXCELLENCE THROUGH EDUCATION AND TRAINING WAS A STRONG DRIVING FORCE FOR HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC SUCCESS.

HE NOTED THAT JEWELLERY WAS ONE OF HONG KONG'S MAJOR EXPORTS, AMOUNTING IN VALUE TERMS TO \$5 BILLION LAST YEAR.

"HONG KONG IS THE WORLD'S THIRD LARGEST EXPORTER OF PRECIOUS METAL JEWELLERY AND THE FOURTH LARGEST IMPORTER OF LOOSE DIAMONDS," MR LEUNG ADDED.

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IMPORTANCE ATTACHED TO PROTECTION OF MANGROVE

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THE GOVERNMENT ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE PROTECTION OF HONG KONG'S MANGROVE HABITATS, THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE, SAID THIS (WEDNESDAY) MORNING.

DR LEE WAS SPEAKING AT THE ASIA-PACIFIC SYMPOSIUM ON MANGROVE ECOSYSTEM HELD AT THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

CITING THE EXAMPLE OF THE MAI PO MARSHES, THE MOST IMPORTANT MANGROVE STAND IN THE TERRITORY, DR LEE SAID THE SITE WAS LISTED AS A RESTRICTED AREA UNDER THE WILD ANIMALS PROTECTION ORDINANCE IN 1975.

"A YEAR LATER, IT WAS RECOGNISED AS A SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST TO ENSURE AWARENESS OF ITS SCIENTIFIC IMPORTANCE AND THAT CONSERVATION CONSIDERATION IS GIVEN WHEN DEVELOPMENTS IN OR NEAR THE AREA ARE PROPOSED."

AT THE RECENT CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE RAMSAR CONVENTION, THE GOVERNMENT HAS ALSO ANNOUNCED ITS ACCEPTANCE IN PRINCIPLE THAT MAI PO MARSHES CAN BE CONSIDERED SUITABLE FOR DESIGNATION AS A WETLAND OF INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE UNDER THE CONVENTION.

DR LEE SAID AN INTERNAL STUDY ON THE IMPLICATIONS WAS IN PROGRESS AND PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSAL WOULD BE CARRIED OUT AT A LATER STAGE.

DR LEE HOPED THAT FORMAL DESIGNATION WOULD BE ACHIEVED AROUND THE END OF NEXT YEAR.

HE STRESSED THAT THE LONG-TERM SUCCESS OF MANGROVE CONSERVATION DEPENDED MUCH ON THE SUPPORT OF THE COMMUNITY.

TO THIS END, THE GOVERNMENT IS WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE WORLD WIDE FUND FOR NATURE HONG KONG (WWF) IN THE MANAGEMENT OF MAI PO MARSHES AND IN PROMOTING WETLAND AND MANGROVE CONSERVATION, HE SAID.

A WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTRE, A FIELD STUDIES CENTRE AND A CAPTIVE WATERFOWL COLLECTION WERE ESTABLISHED BY THE WWF AT THE MAI PO MARSHES AND EVERY YEAR THEY OFFER NUMEROUS EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE MAI PO MARSHES, DR LEE POINTED OUT THAT ACCORDING TO A RESEARCH STUDY, THE AREA PRODUCED MORE THAN 12 TONS DRY WEIGHT OF BIOMASS PER HECTARE PER YEAR WHICH SUPPORTED A DIVERSE FAUNAL COMMUNITY INCLUDING AVIAN, ARBOREAL INSECTS, AMPHIBIANS, REPTILES AND OTHER BENTHIC, SURFACE DWELLING AND PELAGIC ORGANISMS.

ABOUT A DOZEN INVERTEBRATE SPECIES NEW TO SCIENCE HAVE BEEN DISCOVERED IN THIS WETLAND ECOSYSTEM, HE SAID.

OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE IS THAT MAI PO MARSHES SUPPORT THE LARGEST POPULATION OF BIRDS, ESPECIALLY WATERFOWLS IN HONG KONG.

SOME 260 SPECIES HAVE BEEN RECORDED. ABOUT 20 PER CENT OF THEM ARE RESIDENT AND THE REST ARE MIGRANTS.

"EACH YEAR THOUSANDS OF MIGRATORY BIRDS USE MAI PO MARSHES AS A STOP-OVER AND REFUELING STATION. ANNUAL BIRD COUNTS IN DEEP BAY AREA IN THE PAST DECADE INDICATE AN INCREASING TREND WITH THE RECENT FIGURE OF OVER 50,000 BIRDS."

TURNING TO ANOTHER PROJECT IN LANTAU, DR LEE SAID AN OFF-SITE MITIGATION MEASURE FOR THE CREATION OF A NEW MANGROVE STAND ON THE DISUSED SALT PANS AT TAI O ON WESTERN LANTAU WAS UNDERWAY.

THIS IS TO MINIMISE THE IMPACT OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW AIRPORT AT CHEK LAP KOK IN NORTH LANTAU WHICH WILL INEVITABLY HAVE AN IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT, INCLUDING THE LOSS OF PATCHES OF MANGROVES ON THE ISLAND AND ALONG NORTH LANTAU SHORES, HE ADDED.

FUTHERMORE, THE GOVERNMENT WAS GOING TO COMMISSION AN ECOLOGICAL STUDY OF THE MANGROVES IN HONG KONG WITH A VIEW TO DEVELOPING AN EFFECTIVE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN, HE SAID.

THE STUDY WILL INCLUDE A COMPREHENSIVE ECOLOGICAL SURVEY OF EXISTING MANGROVES IN HONG KONG AND AN EVALUATION SCHEME TO ASSIGN DIFFERENT LEVELS OF CONSERVATION VALUES TO EACH STAND WILL BE DEVELOPED.

FOR THOSE WITH HIGH CONSERVATION VALUES, CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PLANS WILL BE DRAWN UP HAVING REGARD TO OPERATIONAL FEASIBILITY AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS.

DR LEE WAS PLEASED THAT IN A SMALL TERRITORY SUCH AS HONG KONG WITH CLOSE TO SIX MILLION POPULATION, THE GOVERNMENT WAS STILL ABLE TO MAINTAIN A DIVERSITY OF IMPORTANT ECOLOGICAL HABITATS INCLUDING MANGROVES AND WETLANDS.

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SECRETARY FOR WORKS ATTENDS SINGAPORE CONFERENCE

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THE SECRETARY FOR WORKS, MR JAMES BLAKE, WILL ATTEND A CONFERENCE IN SINGAPORE ON CITY PLANNING, TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS AND URBAN INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT ON SEPTEMBER 2 AND 3.

THE CITY TRANS ASIA '93 CONFERENCE WILL FEATURE TALKS BY SPECIALISTS IN INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT, PRESENTATIONS BY DELEGATES AND VISITS TO PROJECT SITES IN SINGAPORE.

MR BLAKE WILL PRESENT A PAPER ON HONG KONG'S INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT AT A PLENARY SESSION TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

HE WILL TALK ABOUT THE LATEST PROGRESS IN PORT AND AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT AND THE STRATEGY TO DEVELOP AN EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM IN HONG KONG.

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EIGHT MORE HIV-INFECTED CASES CONFIRMED

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EIGHT MEN WERE FOUND TO BE POSITIVE FOR THE HIV ANTIBODY TEST IN JULY THIS YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH ANNOUNCED TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE FIGURE BRINGS THE TOTAL NUMBER OF HIV-INFECTED PERSONS IN HONG KONG TO 389.

THREE AIDS CASES WERE REPORTED DURING THE MONTH.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CONFIRMED AIDS CASES IS 89 WITH 57 DEATHS. THE 32 OTHERS ARE EITHER UNDER COUNSELLING OR HAVE LEFT THE TERRITORY.

OF THE 389 PERSONS INFECTED, 283 GOT THE INFECTION SEXUALLY, EIGHT WERE INTRAVENOUS DRUG-USERS, AND 65 GOT THE INFECTION THROUGH CONTAMINATED BLOOD OR BLOOD PRODUCTS BEFORE 1985 WHEN HIV ANTIBODY TEST AND SAFE HEAT-TREATED CLOTTING CONCENTRATES WERE NOT AVAILABLE.

FOR THE REMAINING 33, THE INFORMATION AVAILABLE WAS INADEQUATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

UNDER THE HIV SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMME WHICH STARTED IN 1985, A TOTAL OF 278,843 BLOOD SPECIMENS HAVE BEEN TESTED FOR THE HIV ANTIBODY.

THE HONG KONG RED CROSS BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE HAS ALSO SCREENED ALL BLOOD DONORS FOR HIV INFECTION.

UP TO JULY THIS YEAR, 1,279,423 UNITS OF BLOOD HAVE BEEN TESTED AND 27 DONORS WERE FOUND POSITIVE.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

FROM THIS MONTH ONWARDS, THE MEDIA BRIEFING ON AIDS SITUATION BY THE CONSULTANT (SPECIAL PREVENTIVE PROGRAMME), DR S S LEE WILL BE CONDUCTED FROM MONTHLY TO QUARTERLY. DR LEE WILL BRIEF THE MEDIA ON THE AIDS SITUATION FOR THE THIRD QUARTER THIS YEAR NEXT MONTH.

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TRADER PUNISHED FOR EXPORTING FRAUDULENTLY DESCRIBED GARMENTS

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A TRADER WAS FINED \$840,000 AND GIVEN SIX MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT SUSPENDED FOR TWO YEARS FOR EXPORTING \$10 MILLION WORTH OF FRAUDULENTLY DESCRIBED GARMENTS AT THE SOUTH KOWLOON MAGISTRACY TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE GARMENTS WERE DESCRIBED AS METAL OFFICE FURNITURE WHEN EXPORTED FROM HONG KONG TO THE U.S.

/CHAN PUI-MUI,

CHAN PUI-MUI, PETER, THE SOLE PROPRIETOR OF RAYSON TRADING COMPANY AND THE MANAGING DIRECTOR OF GOLD POWER ENGINEERING LIMITED, PLEADED GUILTY TO 41 COUNTS OF EXPORTING 647,900 PIECES OF FRAUDULENTLY DESCRIBED GARMENTS.

ACTING ON INFORMATION FROM THE U.S. CUSTOMS, HONG KONG CUSTOMS OFFICERS RAIDED THE OFFICE OF RAYSON TRADING COMPANY AND GOLD POWER ENGINEERING LIMITED ON JUNE 9 THIS YEAR. SOME DOCUMENTS AND A RETURNED SHIPMENT OF 166,968 PIECES OF MEN'S T-SHIRTS LABELLED "MADE IN CHINA" WERE SEIZED.

INVESTIGATION REVEALED THAT RAYSON AND GOLD POWER HAD EXPORTED 13 SHIPMENTS OF CHINA-ORIGIN MEN'S AND BOYS' SWEAT-SHIRTS, T-SHIRTS, PANTS, SHORTS AND JACKETS WHICH WERE FRAUDULENTLY DESCRIBED AS METAL OFFICE FURNITURE ON TRADE DOCUMENTS FROM SEPTEMBER 2 TO DECEMBER 15, 1991.

ALL SHIPMENTS HAD BEEN IMPORTED INTO THE U.S. EXCEPT TWO. ONE SHIPMENT WAS SEIZED BY THE U.S. CUSTOMS UPON ARRIVAL IN THE U.S. WHILE THE OTHER WAS SEIZED BY THE HONG KONG CUSTOMS DURING THE INVESTIGATION.

THE HEAD OF CUSTOMS TRADING STANDARDS INVESTIGATION BUREAU, MR ANDREW WONG, SAID THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT WOULD CONTINUE ITS EFFORT TO DETER ILLEGAL TRANSHIPMENT OF TEXTILE TO HONG KONG'S TRADING PARTNERS INCLUDING THE U.S.

"IT WOULD HAVE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES IF HONG KONG WAS VIEWED BY ITS TRADING PARTNERS AS A FAVOURED PORT FOR RE-EXPORT OF TEXTILES CONNECTED WITH TRANSHIPMENT FRAUD," HE ADDED.

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KWAI CHUNG LAND TO LET

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THE LANDS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE SHORT-TERM TENANCY OF A PIECE OF GOVERNMENT LAND AT AREA 10B, KWAI SHING CIRCUIT, KWAI CHUNG.

THE 2,450-SQUARE-METRE LOT IS INTENDED FOR OPEN STORAGE PURPOSES, EXCLUDING STORAGE OF CONTAINERS, CONTAINER TRACTORS, LICENSED MOTOR VEHICLES, OFFENSIVE GOODS, DANGEROUS GOODS AND CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS.

THE TENANCY IS FOR THREE YEARS, RENEWABLE QUARTERLY.

CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF TENDERS IS NOON ON SEPTEMBER 17.

FORMS OF TENDER, TENDER NOTICES AND CONDITIONS MAY 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;

/* THE LANDS

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* THE LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD; AND

* THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES KOWLOON, 10TH FLOOR, YAU MA TEI CARPARK BUILDING, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON.

THE TENDER PLAN CAN BE INSPECTED AT THESE OFFICES.

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KWUN TONG DB MEMBERS VISIT HEALTH CENTRE

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MEMBERS OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD AND SOME OF ITS AREA COMMITTEES VISITED THE KWUN TONG JOCKEY CLUB HEALTH CENTRE AND THE ATTACHED METHADONE CLINIC THIS (WEDNESDAY) EVENING.

THE VISIT, ORGANISED BY THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE, THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND THE GOVERNMENT PROPERTY AGENCY, PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE MEMBERS TO SEE FOR THEMSELVES THE EXISTING FACILITIES OF THE HEALTH CENTRE.

THE HEALTH CENTRE WAS BUILT IN THE SIXTIES. IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE FACILITIES CANNOT MATCH TODAY'S STANDARD.

THE VISIT IS MEANT TO ADDRESS CONCERN ABOUT THE REPROVISIONING OF THE HEALTH CENTRE EXPRESSED BY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND AREA COMMITTEES.

MEMBERS WERE SHOWN AROUND BY DR P L MA OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND MR WONG FAY-PANG OF THE GOVERNMENT PROPERTY AGENCY.

MR WONG POINTED OUT THAT THE REPROVISIONING OF THE HEALTH CENTRE AND THE METHADONE CLINIC ALLOWED FOR A MORE THOROUGH UPGRADING OF THE FACILITIES.

DR MA ADDED THAT THE REPROVISIONED HEALTH CENTRE WILL BE PATIENT-FRIENDLY, EFFICIENT AND FULLY AIR-CONDITIONED.

THE NEW HEALTH CENTRE WILL INCLUDE A GENERAL OUT-PATIENT CLINIC, A MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH CENTRE, A DENTAL CLINIC AND A NEW OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH CLINIC.

THE KWUN TONG METHADONE CLINIC WILL MOVE TO THE CAR PARK OF THE KOWLOON EAST GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING WHICH IS VERY ACCESSIBLE BUT SEPARATED FROM RESIDENTIAL BLOCKS BY ROAD.

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1993

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	\$ MILLION

OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,200
REVERSAL OF LAF	-200
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	2,000
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	+180
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,180
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER	TWI 112.5 **0.2* 1.9.93

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS

EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.75 PCT	14 MONTHS	2411	4.625	101.45	3.41
1 MONTH	2.78 PCT	17 MONTHS	2502	4.75	101.67	3.59
3 MONTHS	2.82 PCT	20 MONTHS	2505	4.75	99.87	3.86
6 MONTHS	3.03 PCT	23 MONTHS	2508	4.625	101.16	4.04
12 MONTHS	3.27 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 12,468 MN

CLOSED SEPTEMBER 1, 1993

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