



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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CONSERVING ENERGY - POSITIVE ROLE FOR EVERYONE
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A CO-OPERATIVE APPROACH BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT, THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND THOSE CONCERNED WITH ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IS ESSENTIAL IF WE ARE TO ACHIEVE SOLID PROGRESS IN THE PROMOTION OF GREATER ENERGY EFFICIENCY, THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MRS ANSON CHAN, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF A TWO-DAY SYMPOSIUM ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY, MRS CHAN SAID THAT EVERY INDIVIDUAL CAN PLAY A POSITIVE ROLE IN CONSERVING ENERGY.

"UNDOUBTEDLY ONE OF THE MOST PERSUASIVE ARGUMENTS WILL BE TO DEMONSTRATE THE POTENTIAL FOR SIGNIFICANT SAVINGS ON UTILITY BILLS OR IN OPERATING COSTS WHICH MIGHT FOLLOW RELATIVELY MODEST UPFRONT EXPENDITURE ON MORE ENERGY EFFICIENCY PRODUCTS, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT," SHE SAID.

OUTLING THE GOVERNMENT'S CURRENT EFFORT IN THE PROMOTION OF GREATER ENERGY EFFICIENCY, MRS CHAN POINTED OUT THAT IN RECENT YEARS, A NUMBER OF INVESTIGATIONS WERE CARRIED OUT INTO SEVERAL MAJOR BUILDINGS AND INSTALLATIONS THAT ARE LARGE CONSUMERS OF ELECTRICITY.

"THEY INCLUDE GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS, THE AIRPORT AND INCINERATOR PLANTS," SHE SAID.

"AS A RESULT, ENERGY SAVING MEASURES HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTED. WE HAVE ALSO EMBARKED UPON A NUMBER OF MEASURES AIMED AT MORE EFFICIENT USE OF ENERGY IN GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS, FOR EXAMPLE, THE UTILIZATION OF ENERGY-SAVING FLUORESCENT LIGHTING FITTINGS AND HIGH PRESSURE SODIUM LIGHTING FITTINGS AS WELL AS THE UTILIZATION OF SOLAR HEATING FOR HOT WATER SUPPLIES.

"CLEARLY MORE CAN BE DONE IN THESE AREAS," SHE STRESSED.

MRS CHAN POINTED OUT THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD IDENTIFIED TWO PRINCIPAL AREAS ON WHICH IT WISHED TO FOCUS ATTENTION IN THE SHORT TERM.

"THE FIRST IS BUILDING DESIGN: PARTICULARLY CRUCIAL IN HONG KONG WHERE INCREASING AMOUNTS OF ENERGY ARE BEING CONSUMED IN LIGHTING AND AIRCONDITIONING MULTI-STOREY COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS.

"WE HAVE RECENTLY COMMISSIONED CONSULTANTS TO ADVISE ON HOW WE CAN ENSURE THAT NEW BUILDINGS ARE DESIGNED WITH ENERGY CONSERVATION MORE EXPLICITLY IN MIND.

"WE RECOGNISE THAT THIS HAS NOT BEEN A VERY HIGH PRIORITY FOR PROPERTY DEVELOPERS UP UNTIL NOW AND, AS A RESULT, CONSIDERABLE AMOUNTS OF ENERGY ARE WASTED THROUGH THE POOR INSULATION AND LOW THERMAL EFFICIENCY OF MANY OF OUR HIGH-RISE BUILDINGS.

"WE ARE DETERMINED TO SEE PROGRESS MADE IN THIS AREA," SHE SAID, ADDING THAT AT THE SAME TIME THE GOVERNMENT WOULD ALSO BE EXAMINING WAYS OF MODIFYING EXISTING BUILDINGS TO CONSERVE ENERGY.

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THE OTHER AREA WHICH THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE FOCUSING ON IS PUBLIC EDUCATION.

"HONG KONG NOW ENJOYS THE BENEFITS OF A MODERN AND THERMALLY EFFICIENT POWER INDUSTRY AND YET ELECTRICITY TRAFFICS HAVE ONLY RISEN AT RATES WELL BELOW THE PREVAILING LEVELS OF GENERAL PRICE INCREASES," SHE NOTED.

"IRONICALLY, THIS IS PART OF THE PROBLEM WE NOW FACE IN PERSUADING THE PUBLIC TO ECONOMISE ON ENERGY.

"ON THE ONE HAND WE CAN LOOK WITH PRIDE ON THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE POWER COMPANIES IN MAINTAINING RELATIVELY CHEAP AND PLENTIFUL SUPPLIES OF ELECTRICITY.

"ON THE OTHER HAND, WHEN POWER IS PLENTIFUL AND AFFORDABLE IT IS DIFFICULT TO PERSUADE THE MAN-IN-THE-STREET OR INDEED INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE TO CUT BACK ON CONSUMPTION," MRS CHAN SAID.

SHE POINTED OUT THAT ALL OF US UNDERSTAND VERY CLEARLY WHY THERE IS A NEED TO BE MORE FRUGAL IN OUR USE OF DIMINISHING ENERGY RESOURCES.

"WE ARE ALL TOO AWARE OF THE IMPACT OF THE BURNING OF FOSSIL FUELS BOTH ON OUR LOCAL AND ON THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT.

"PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT IS NOT JUST THE RESPONSIBILITY OF A FEW. IT IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY," SHE SAID.

MRS CHAN POINTED OUT THAT UNFORTUNATELY THERE WERE MANY IN THE COMMUNITY WHO TOOK THE VIEW THAT SUCH CONCERNS WERE A LUXURY THAT THEY COULD NOT AFFORD.

"SO THE TASK OF PROMOTING GREATER ENERGY EFFICIENCY PRESENTS US WITH FORMIDABLE CHALLENGES, NOT LEAST IN THE FIELD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION," SHE SAID.

"CLEARLY, BOTH AS A GOVERNMENT AND A COMMUNITY WE MUST BEGIN TO FACE THESE CHALLENGERS MORE SQUARELY THAN WE HAVE DONE HITHERTO," MRS CHAN SAID.

THESE EFFORTS BY THE GOVERNMENT WOULD OF COURSE CONTINUE TO BE SUPPORTED, ON A DAY-TO-DAY BASIS, BY INITIATIVES AND EFFORTS DIRECTED AT GREATER ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR, MRS CHAN SAID.

"FOR EXAMPLE, THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL PROVIDES A RANGE OF ADVISORY SERVICES AIMED AT PERSUADING INDUSTRIALISTS AND FACTORY OWNERS TO CHECK THE EFFICIENCY OF THEIR PLANT AND MACHINERY, AND, WHERE APPROPRIATE, TO MAKE MODIFICATIONS IN DESIGN AND OPERATION AIMED AT ACHIEVING SAVINGS IN ENERGY CONSUMPTION.

"FOR THEIR PART, THE POWER COMPANIES PROVIDE TARIFF INCENTIVES TO BULK CONSUMERS, TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO SHIFT THEIR PEAK DEMAND FOR POWER TO OFF-PEAK HOURS.

"THEY ALSO PROVIDE ADVISORY SERVICES TO INDUSTRIAL CONSUMERS AND UNDERTAKE ON-GOING PUBLICITY PROGRAMMES ENCOURAGING THEIR CUSTOMERS TO USE ELECTRICITY AND GAS MORE EFFICIENTLY.

"I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S NEW ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY WILL BE LOOKING AT WAYS IN WHICH THESE EFFORTS CAN BE FURTHER STRENGTHENED," SHE SAID.

SHE NOTED THAT ALTHOUGH IN WORLD TERMS, HONG KONG IS A SMALL CONSUMER OF ENERGY, HONG KONG RECOGNISED ITS RESPONSIBILITY TO USE ENERGY EFFICIENTLY AND THEREBY, TO HELP MINIMISE THE ADVERSE IMPACT OF ITS CONSUMPTION ON THE ENVIRONMENT.

"AT THE SAME TIME, AN ACUTE SHORTAGE OF LAND FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF NEW POWER GENERATING PLANTS OR FUEL STORAGE FACILITIES PRESENTS US WITH A FURTHER POWERFUL IMPETUS TO ECONOMISE," SHE SAID.

MRS CHAN POINTED OUT THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S PLANNING AND POLICY-MAKING MUST STRIKE AN APPROPRIATE BALANCE BETWEEN ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL PRIORITIES.

"I BELIEVE WE CAN SHAPE POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES WHICH GO A LONG WAY TO ADDRESS ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS WITHOUT PREJUDICING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT," SHE SAID.

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WASTED ENERGY IN HK COSTS \$5 BILLION
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THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, DR STUART REED, TODAY (MONDAY) CALLED ON THE COMMUNITY TO EXERCISE EVERY POSSIBLE MEANS TO PREVENT THE WASTE OF ENERGY, IN THE INTERESTS OF A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT.

DR REED WAS SPEAKING AT THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY SYMPOSIUM JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS, FRIENDS OF THE EARTH AND THE HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS.

HE SAID: "THE MISUSE OF ENERGY IN EXISTING SYSTEMS, APPLIANCES AND INSTALLATIONS AND THE USE OF OTHER THAN THE MOST UP-TO-DATE ENERGY EFFICIENT TECHNOLOGIES INEVITABLY DAMAGES THE ENVIRONMENT BECAUSE IT LEADS TO THE BURNING OF MORE FOSSIL FUEL THAN WOULD OTHERWISE BE NECESSARY."

DR REED ESTIMATED THAT HONG KONG WASTED ALMOST \$5 BILLION WORTH OF ENERGY IN 1989.

"THE MORE ENERGY THAT IS USED THE MORE FOSSIL FUEL MUST BE BURNED PRODUCING MORE POLLUTING EMISSIONS, ESPECIALLY OF THE GREENHOUSE GAS CARBON DIOXIDE," DR REED SAID.

"TOTAL EMISSIONS OF CARBON DIOXIDE ALONE FROM FOSSIL FUEL COMBUSTION IN HONG KONG IN 1989 WERE NEARLY 34 MILLION TONNES, WHILST EMISSIONS OF CARBON MONOXIDE, SULPHUR DIOXIDE, NITROGEN OXIDES AND PARTICULATES TOTALLED 400,000 TONNES.

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"THESE EMISSIONS CAN CAUSE ALL MANNER OF HEALTH PROBLEMS AND THEY ADD TO THE AS YET UNQUANTIFIED THREAT FROM THE BUILD-UP OVER A NUMBER OF YEARS OF CARBON DIOXIDE IN THE EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE."

DR REED STRESSED THAT GREATER EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS IN THE USE OF ENERGY WOULD REDUCE ALL THESE ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS.

CITING WAYS TO INCREASE EFFICIENCY AND REDUCE WASTAGE HE MENTIONED REPLACING CONVENTIONAL COAL-FIRED POWER STATIONS BY COMBINED CYCLE POWER GENERATION USING NATURAL GAS, WHICH COULD BE ONE OF THE OPTIONS FOR FUTURE GENERATING CAPACITY IN HONG KONG, AND A VARIETY OF SIMPLE MEASURES, SUCH AS TURNING OFF LIGHTS AND AIR CONDITIONING WHEN THEY ARE NOT NEEDED.

ON THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AN ENERGY POLICY IN HONG KONG, DR REED SAID HE AGREED WITH HIS FELLOW SPEAKER DR PETER HILLS THAT THIS COULD PROVIDE SUBSTANTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS, AS WELL AS ENABLE HONG KONG TO COPE WITH POTENTIALLY DRAMATIC FLUCTUATIONS IN THE PRICE AND AVAILABILITY OF FUELS.

"SUCH A POLICY WOULD NOT SIMPLY COVER ENERGY CONSERVATION IN BUILDINGS, IT WOULD NEED TO INCLUDE ALSO CONSIDERATION OF SUCH THINGS AS ENERGY ASPECTS OF TRANSPORTATION POLICY, LABELLING OF ENERGY-CONSUMING PRODUCTS, SETTING OF PERFORMANCE OR EMISSION STANDARDS FOR ENERGY CONVERSION, SUPPLY OR UTILISATION, ORGANISATION OF INFORMATION CAMPAIGNS AND ESTABLISHING AN AGENCY TO PROMOTE ENERGY EFFICIENCY.

"AN ENERGY POLICY WOULD MAKE GOOD SENSE IN TERMS OF BOTH THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE ECONOMY IN HONG KONG," DR REED CONCLUDED.

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COMMITTEE SET UP TO IMPROVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY

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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (MONDAY) THAT AN ENERGY EFFICIENCY ADVISORY COMMITTEE HAS BEEN SET UP TO CONSIDER PROPOSALS TO IMPROVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY, HAVING REGARD TO THEIR LIKELY EFFECTIVENESS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND THE SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS, MR GRAHAM BARNES, SAID IT IS THE COMMON DUTY OF ALL GOVERNMENTS TO CONSERVE ENERGY.

"THE COMMITTEE WOULD BE LOOKING AT VARIOUS WAYS TO IMPROVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND BOTH NEW AND OLD BUILDINGS WOULD BE HIGH ON THE AGENDA," HE SAID.

HE NOTED THAT IN A CITY LIKE HONG KONG, DEPENDENT FOR ITS VERY EXISTENCE ON A BUOYANT INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL SECTOR, EASY ACCESS TO CHEAP AND PLENTIFUL ELECTRICITY HAS BEEN ONE OF THE MAIN COMPONENTS OF ITS SUCCESSFUL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

"A BALANCE MUST BE STRUCK BETWEEN DISCOURAGING WASTE AND PROFLIGACY IN THE USE OF ELECTRICITY, AND ENCOURAGING THE MOST EFFICIENT USES, THEREBY REDUCING UNNECESSARY CONSUMPTION WITHOUT ENDANGERING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT," HE SAID.

THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ARE:

- MR MICHAEL PRICE OF CHINA LIGHT AND POWER CO. LTD;
- DR C.M. KO OF HONG KONG ELECTRIC CO. LTD;
- MR MICHAEL CORBYN OF HONG KONG LAND PROPERTY CO. LTD;
- MR SHALOM LEVY OF S.L. ENERGY MANAGEMENT CO.;
- MR M.J. MATTHEWS REPRESENTING THE HONG KONG INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS;
- MR DANIEL LAM REPRESENTING THE HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF SURVEYORS;
- MR DENNIS LAU REPRESENTING THE HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS;
- MR W.K. LAM REPRESENTING THE HONG KONG ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS' ASSOCIATION;
- DR PETER HILLS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG;
- DR JOSEPH C. LAM OF THE CITY POLYTECHNIC OF HONG KONG; AND
- REPRESENTATIVES OF KEY HONG KONG GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND BRANCHES.

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HONG KONG SEEKS NEW AMBASSADORS IN UK

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THE CHINESE COMMUNITY IN THE UK HAS AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY AS HONG KONG'S AMBASSADOR, THE HONG KONG COMMISSIONER IN LONDON, MR JOHN YAXLEY, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT A CHINESE NEW YEAR RECEPTION IN CARDIFF, ONE IN A SERIES HOSTED IN MAJOR UK CITIES BY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICE (HKGO), HE CALLED ON COMMUNITY LEADERS TO HELP EXPLAIN THE TERRITORY'S ACHIEVEMENTS TO THE BRITISH PUBLIC.

"WE HAVE MUCH TO BE CONFIDENT ABOUT. BUT WE NEED TO KEEP ON EXPLAINING TO THOSE WHOSE KNOWLEDGE OF HONG KONG IS LIMITED WHY WE BELIEVE THAT HONG KONG HAS THE STRENGTH TO MEET FUTURE CHALLENGES - AS WE SO OFTEN HAVE DONE IN THE PAST AND WITH GREAT SUCCESS.

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"BUT WE ARE NOT COMPLACENT. PAST SUCCESS DOES NOT GUARANTEE FUTURE SUCCESS.

"WE MUST BUILD UPON WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED AND PLAN FOR THE FUTURE," MR YAXLEY SAID.

EARLIER IN EDINBURGH, MR YAXLEY URGED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SCOTTISH FINANCIAL COMMUNITY TO STRENGTHEN THEIR BUSINESS LINKS WITH HONG KONG BY SETTING UP THEIR OWN TRADE OFFICE IN THE TERRITORY.

CITING JAPANESE COMPANIES AS EXAMPLES, HE SAID MANY INTERNATIONAL FIRMS HAD DECIDED TO SET UP REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS IN HONG KONG AND IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF THE SCOTS HAD THEIR OWN PERMANENT PRESENCE THERE.

MR YAXLEY ALSO ADDRESSED THE CHINESE STUDY GROUP AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN AND THE INTERNATIONAL POLITICS ASSOCIATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ST ANDREWS DURING HIS VISIT TO SCOTLAND.

OTHER THAN EDINBURGH AND CARDIFF, THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICE HAS HELD RECEPTIONS IN LONDON, BIRMINGHAM AND MANCHESTER, TO BE FOLLOWED BY LIVERPOOL LATER THIS MONTH, TO CELEBRATE THE YEAR OF THE RAM.

RECENTLY IN MANCHESTER, OVER 60 GUESTS REPRESENTING THE LOCAL MEDIA, ACADEME, GOVERNMENT AND BUSINESS SECTORS ATTENDED AN EXHIBITION ORGANISED BY HKGO TO DEMONSTRATE HONG KONG'S INFRASTRUCTURAL ACHIEVEMENTS, LIFE STYLE AND CAREER OPPORTUNITIES.

OPENING THE EXHIBITION, THE DEPUTY HONG KONG COMMISSIONER, MR K.C. KWONG, TOLD THE GUESTS THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE EXHIBITION WAS TO INTRODUCE THE MULTI-FACETED WAY OF LIFE IN HONG KONG TO THE BRITISH PUBLIC SO THAT THEY WOULD HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE TERRITORY.

IN ADDITION, VISITORS WERE ABLE TO OBTAIN THE LATEST INFORMATION ON HONG KONG BY SPEAKING TO HKGO STAFF AND PICKING UP BACKGROUND MATERIAL AND FACT SHEETS GIVEN OUT AT THE VENUE.

A SIMILAR EXHIBITION IS BEING PLANNED FOR LIVERPOOL LATER THIS MONTH AND IN OTHER UK CITIES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

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LEGCO DEBATE ON FRANCHISED PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES

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MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL ASK A TOTAL OF 12 QUESTIONS AND CONSIDER NINE BILLS AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING ON WEDNESDAY (MARCH 13).

OF THE NINE BILLS, THREE WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS.

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THEY ARE TRADE MARKS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991, ELECTORAL PROVISIONS (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1991 AND LEGAL AID (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991.

THE OTHER SIX BILLS WHICH ARE DUE FOR SECOND READING BEFORE GOING THROUGH THE COMMITTEE STAGE AND THIRD READING ARE RATING (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1991, MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991, KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY CORPORATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991, INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991, HEUNG YEE KUK (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991 AND JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY WILL MOVE TWO MOTIONS UNDER THE HONG KONG EXPORT CREDIT INSURANCE CORPORATION ORDINANCE AND PUBLIC FINANCE ORDINANCE RESPECTIVELY.

WHILE THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS WILL MOVE THREE MOTIONS UNDER CRIMINAL PROCEDURE ORDINANCE, FIXED PENALTY (TRAFFIC CONTRAVENTIONS) ORDINANCE AND FIXED PENALTY (CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS) ORDINANCE, THE SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS WILL MOVE A MOTION UNDER THE DUTIABLE COMMODITIES ORDINANCE.

IN OTHER BUSINESS, THE WHITE PAPER ON SOCIAL WELFARE INTO THE 1990S AND BEYOND MARCH 1991 WILL BE ADDRESSED BY THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE.

ALSO, THE HON MIRIAM LAU WILL RAISE UNDER STANDING ORDER 9(5) AN ADJOURNMENT DEBATE ON "FRANCHISED PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES IN HONG KONG".

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO OBSERVE THE PROCEEDING OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING FROM THE PUBLIC GALLERIES AND THEY MAY MAKE RESERVATIONS BY TELEPHONING 844 0899.

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NUMBER OF REPORTED CRIME DECREASED IN FOURTH QUARTER
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THE NUMBER OF REPORTED CRIME INCLUDING VIOLENT CRIMES IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF LAST YEAR SHOWED A DECREASE AS COMPARED WITH THE THIRD QUARTER.

POLICE STATISTICS ALSO INDICATED THAT THE WIDELY PUBLICISED THEFT OF VEHICLE CASES DROPPED BY NEARLY 18 PER CENT.

ABOUT 22,200 CRIME CASES WERE REPORTED TO THE POLICE IN THE LAST QUARTER REPRESENTING A DECREASE OF ALMOST THREE PER CENT OVER THE PREVIOUS QUARTER.

VIOLENT CRIME ALSO DROPPED BY 5.4 PER CENT TO 4,567 (ABOUT 49 CASES A DAY) COMPARED WITH 4,830 (52 CASES A DAY) IN THE PRECEDING QUARTER.

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ACCORDING TO STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (MONDAY), THE CRIME RATES, DEFINED AS THE NUMBER OF CASES PER 100,000 POPULATION, DECREASED BY 2.7 PER CENT TO 382 COMPARED WITH 393 RECORDED IN THE PRECEDING QUARTER.

ON ROBBERY CASES, THE FOURTH QUARTER SAW AN INCREASE OF 0.3 PER CENT OVER THE PREVIOUS QUARTER WITH A TOTAL OF 1,986 INCIDENTS REPORTED.

OF THE ROBBERIES WHICH OCCURRED IN THE FOURTH QUARTER, GOLDSMITH AND WATCH SHOP ROBBERIES DECREASED TO 18 CASES FROM 25 RECORDED IN THE PRECEDING QUARTER.

THE NUMBER OF ROBBERY CASES INVOLVING THE USE OF FIREARMS DECREASED TO 17 COMPARED WITH 23 IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1990.

ON PREVENTIVE CRIME, THERE WERE 1,024 CASES IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1990 REPRESENTING A DECREASE OF 5.4 PER CENT COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS QUARTER.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF BURGLARY CASES INCREASED BY 78 CASES TO 3,443 FROM 3,365 IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1990.

DURING THE LAST QUARTER, A TOTAL OF 11,043 PERSONS WERE ARRESTED FOR CRIME, 32 PERSONS FEWER THAN THE PREVIOUS QUARTER. OF THE PERSONS ARRESTED IN THE QUARTER, 21 PER CENT WERE INVOLVED IN VIOLENT CRIME.

THE OVERALL DETECTION RATES FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER WAS 44.6 PER CENT REPRESENTING A SLIGHT INCREASE WHEN COMPARED WITH 43.4 PER CENT IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1990.

AS FOR VIOLENT CRIME AGAINST PERSON, THE DETECTION RATE FOR RAPE WAS 59.4 PER CENT, FOR INDECENT ASSAULTS 68.9 PER CENT, FOR WOUNDING 52.5 PER CENT, FOR SERIOUS ASSAULTS 58.1 PER CENT, AND FOR CRIMINAL INTIMIDATION 63.9 PER CENT.

THE DETECTION RATE FOR ROBBERY WITH FIREARMS WAS 35.3 PER CENT COMPARED WITH 26.1 PER CENT IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1990.

STATISTICS INDICATED THAT DETECTION RATES FOR BURGLARY CASES REMAINED RELATIVELY THE SAME. FOR BURGLARY WITHOUT BREAKING, THE DETECTION RATE IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1990 WAS 16 PER CENT WHILE THAT FOR BURGLARY WITH BREAKING WAS 5.6 PER CENT.

IN ORDER TO ADVISE RESIDENTS TO STEP UP THEIR SECURITY MEASURES AND TO AVOID BECOMING VICTIMS OF BURGLARY, A PILOT SCHEME HAS RECENTLY BEEN IMPLEMENTED BY THE POLICE.

A POLICE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT UNDER THE SCHEME, RESIDENTS OF BUILDINGS WHERE BURGLARY HAS BEEN REPORTED WILL BE ALERTED.

A WARNING NOTICE IN THE FORM OF A POSTCARD WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO ALL OCCUPANTS OF THE BUILDING ADVISING THEM ON THE NEED TO LOCK UP PROPERLY AND CALL THE POLICE IF RESIDENTS FIND ANYTHING SUSPICIOUS.

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THE SCHEME IS BEING CARRIED OUT IN WAN CHAI, KOWLOON CITY AND SHA TIN DISTRICTS.

THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT PUBLIC CO-OPERATION AND SUPPORT ARE IMPORTANT TO THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME.

HE URGED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO "JOIN FORCES AGAINST CRIME" BY PREVENTING CRIME, REPORTING CRIME AND PROVING CRIME.

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YOUTH CHINESE ORCHESTRA RECRUITS MEMBERS

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THE HONG KONG YOUTH CHINESE ORCHESTRA OF THE MUSIC OFFICE IS RECRUITING MEMBERS FOR 1991/92.

SET UP IN 1978 TO PROVIDE ORCHESTRAL TRAINING TO YOUNG PEOPLE, THE ORCHESTRA HAS TAKEN PART IN CONCERTS, DISTRICT ART FESTIVALS AND OVERSEAS MUSIC EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES.

ITS FORTHCOMING MAJOR ACTIVITIES INCLUDE THE 31ST INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC WORLD CONFERENCE IN JULY, AND THE CHINESE MUSIC FESTIVAL IN OCTOBER.

MEMBERS OF THE ORCHESTRA WILL RECEIVE INTENSIVE TRAINING WHICH INCLUDES MASTERCLASSES AND REHEARSALS CONDUCTED BY LOCAL AND OVERSEAS MUSICIANS. ALL REHEARSALS WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY EVENINGS AT THE YAU MA TEI MUSIC CENTRE.

A MUSIC OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THAT THE ORCHESTRA RECRUITS ALL ITS MEMBERS EACH YEAR BY OPEN AUDITION.

MEMBERS ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND ALL REHEARSALS AND TRAINING SESSIONS, HE ADDED.

APPLICANTS SHOULD BE UNDER 25 YEARS OLD, AND HAVE ATTAINED AT LEAST GRADE V IN THE MUSIC OFFICE'S INTERNAL ASSESSMENT OR EQUIVALENT IN ONE CHINESE MUSICAL INSTRUMENT.

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS WILL BE INVITED TO ATTEND AN AUDITION IN MID-APRIL.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL MUSIC CENTRES OF THE MUSIC OFFICE AND ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL. 714 9255.

APPLICATIONS SHOULD REACH THE MONG KOK MUSIC CENTRE AT FIRST FLOOR, CAMBRIDGE COURT, 84 WATERLOO ROAD BY MARCH 23.

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ACTION ON ILLEGAL STRUCTURES IN MONG KOK

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS SEEKING TO CLOSE CERTAIN UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS IN MONG KOK SO THAT THEY CAN BE DEMOLISHED WITHOUT DANGER TO THE OCCUPIERS OR THE PUBLIC.

THE STRUCTURES ARE LOCATED IN AN OPEN AREA ADJACENT TO THE STAIRCASE ON THE FIFTH, SIXTH AND SEVENTH FLOOR LEVELS, PROSPERITY BUILDING, AT THE JUNCTION OF 6A-6E NELSON STREET AND 59A-61C TUNG CHOI STREET.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER FROM THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT ON JUNE 7 THIS YEAR WAS POSTED ON THE STRUCTURES TODAY (MONDAY).

DEMOLITION WORK IS EXPECTED TO START ONCE THE CLOSURE ORDER IS GRANTED.

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BLITZ AGAINST ILLEGAL BILL AND POSTER DISPLAY

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A TOTAL OF 37 SUMMONSES WERE ISSUED DURING A TERRITORY-WIDE BLITZ OPERATION AGAINST ILLEGAL DISPLAY OF BILLS AND POSTERS HELD LAST SATURDAY AND SUNDAY.

"BILLS AND POSTERS ARE OFTEN DISPLAYED ILLEGALLY AT PRIVATE OR PUBLIC PLACES OVER WEEKENDS, HOLIDAYS AND AFTER OFFICE HOURS, AFFECTING THE OVERALL TIDINESS AND CLEANLINESS OF THE CITY," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE JOINT URBAN COUNCIL/REGIONAL COUNCIL KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN STEERING COMMITTEE SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

TO COMBAT THE SITUATION, BLITZ OPERATIONS WERE CARRIED OUT BY THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT ON A REGULAR BASIS.

"WE HOPE THAT THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ESPECIALLY ADVERTISING COMPANIES, WOULD EXERCISE SELF-DISCIPLINE IN HANDLING THEIR OUTDOOR PUBLICITY POSTERS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"PERSONS WHO DISPLAY BILLS AND POSTERS IN PRIVATE PLACES WITHOUT THE OWNERS' CONSENT OR AT PUBLIC PLACES WITHOUT AUTHORISATION ARE LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$5,000," HE SAID.

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ELEVEN NOMINATIONS RECEIVED FOR UC/RC ELECTIONS
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A TOTAL OF 11 NOMINATIONS FOR THE URBAN COUNCIL AND REGIONAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS IN MAY WERE RECEIVED ON THE FIRST DAY OF NOMINATION FOR CANDIDATES TODAY (MONDAY).

SEVEN WERE FOR THE URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS AND FOUR FOR THE REGIONAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

SO FAR, THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF NOMINATIONS RECEIVED WAS IN THE KOWLOON CITY WEST CONSTITUENCY WITH TWO CANDIDATES.

NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES WILL LAST FOR TWO WEEKS UNTIL MARCH 25.

CANDIDATES WILL BE CONTESTING 27 SINGLE SEAT CONSTITUENCIES - 15 IN THE URBAN COUNCIL AREA AND 12 THE REGIONAL COUNCIL AREA.

FOLLOWING ARE THE PERSONAL PARTICULARS OF THE CANDIDATES WHOSE NOMINATION FORMS WERE RECEIVED TODAY :

URBAN COUNCIL CONSTITUENCY AREA	NAME	SEX	AGE	OCCUPATION	CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER
WAN CHAI	WONG HON-CHING	M	39	ENGINEER	5546519 8383823
NORTH POINT	MAN SAI-CHEONG	M	46	SOLICITOR	5265775 5667888
KOWLOON CITY WEST	CHIANG SAI-CHEONG	M	35	TEACHER	7156144
KOWLOON CITY WEST	CHAN CHI-KWAN (PETER)	M	55	BARRISTER	3360839 5252105
WONG TAI SIN SOUTH	MOK YING-FAN	M	40	HERBALIST	3830866 3236255
KWUN TONG WEST	ELSIE TU	F	76	SCHOOL SUPERVISOR	3412932 3422414
KWUN TONG EAST	LI WAH-MING	M	35	LECTURER	7973259

/REGIONAL COUNCIL

REGIONAL COUNCIL CONSTITUENCY AREA	NAME	SEX	AGE	OCCUPATION	CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER
ISLANDS	KWONG KWOK-KAM	M	44	MERCHANT	9810219
NORTH	CHEUNG HON-CHUNG	M	32	EXECUTIVE	6796232 6755277
SHA TIN WEST	LAU KONG-WAH	M	34	LECTURER	6948333
KWAI CHUNG EAST	CHOW YICK-HAY	M	33	UNIVERSITY EMPLOYEE	1163300 CALL:2267

FOLLOWING IS A STATISTICAL BREAKDOWN OF THE NOMINATIONS RECEIVED SO FAR :

URBAN COUNCIL CONSTITUENCY AREA	NO. OF NOMINATIONS RECEIVED
1. CENTRAL AND WESTERN	NIL
2. WAN CHAI	1
3. NORTH POINT	1
4. SHAU KEI WAN	NIL
5. SOUTHERN	NIL
6. KOWLOON CITY WEST	2
7. KOWLOON CITY EAST	NIL
8. KWUN TONG WEST	1
9. KWUN TONG EAST	1
10. MONG KOK	NIL
11. SHAM SHUI PO EAST	NIL
12. SHAM SHUI PO WEST	NIL
13. WONG TAI SIN SOUTH	1
14. WONG TAI SIN NORTH	NIL
15. YAU TSIM	NIL
SUB-TOTAL:	7

MONDAY, MARCH 11, 1991

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REGIONAL COUNCIL CONSTITUENCY AREA	NO. OF NOMINATIONS RECEIVED
1. ISLANDS	1
2. NORTH	1
3. SAI KUNG	NIL
4. SHA TIN EAST	NIL
5. SHA TIN WEST	1
6. TAI PO	NIL
7. TSUEN WAN	NIL
8. TUEN MUN EAST	NIL
9. TUEN MUN WEST	NIL
10. YUEN LONG	NIL
11. KWAI CHUNG EAST	1
12. KWAI CHUNG WEST AND TSING YI	NIL

SUB-TOTAL:	4

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