



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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HK NEEDS TO BUILD FOUNDATIONS FOR FOREIGN RELATIONSHIPS

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THERE WAS A NEED FOR HONG KONG TO BUILD THE FOUNDATIONS FOR RELATIONSHIPS WITH JAPAN AND OTHER COUNTRIES THAT WOULD LAST BEYOND 1997.

SPEAKING TO MEMBERS OF THE KEIDANREN, JAPAN'S MOST INFLUENTIAL BUSINESS ORGANISATION, SIR DAVID SAID THE ARRANGEMENTS WERE IN PLACE FOR HONG KONG TO CONTINUE TO LOOK AFTER ITS OWN TRADE, FINANCES, CURRENCY AND LEGAL SYSTEM.

"ALL OF THOSE ARE ARRANGED UNDER THE TREATY ON THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG BETWEEN BRITAIN AND CHINA - SO THE FRAMEWORK IS THERE.

"NOW, I BELIEVE WE NEED TO BUILD ON THAT SO WE HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR MAJOR TRADING PARTNERS AND OUR MOST IMPORTANT NEIGHBOURS WHICH WILL CONTINUE SMOOTHLY BEYOND 1997."

THE GOVERNOR GAVE AS AN INDICATION THE IMPRESSIVE TRADE STATISTICS WHICH SHOWED THE IMPORTANCE OF HONG KONG IN TRADE BETWEEN JAPAN AND CHINA.

HE SAID A QUARTER OF ALL JAPAN'S TRADE WITH CHINA PASSED THROUGH HONG KONG, AND MORE RECENTLY AS MUCH AS ONE THIRD OF ALL JAPAN'S EXPORTS TO CHINA WENT THROUGH THE TERRITORY.

"IF WE BUILD UP THIS RELATIONSHIP THEN AFTER 1997, HONG KONG WILL CONTINUE TO BE VALUABLE TO CHINA, AND VALUABLE TO JAPAN IN ITS TRADE WITH CHINA - WE WILL BE THE BRIDGE BETWEEN THE TWO."

SIR DAVID SAID HONG KONG WOULD WELCOME ADVICE FROM THE JAPANESE ON HOW THIS RELATIONSHIP COULD BE FURTHER DEVELOPED.

EARLIER IN THE DAY, THE GOVERNOR, WHO IS HEADING THE HONG KONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE MISSION TO JAPAN, HELD TALKS WITH A GROUP OF MEMBERS OF JAPAN'S RULING LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (LDP), LED BY MR TSUTOMU HATA.

SIR DAVID WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THE SENIOR MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, BARONESS DUNN, THE SENIOR MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR ALLEN LEE, AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE MISSION.

DURING THE MEETING, MR HATA SPOKE ABOUT THE FORMATION OF A GROUP OF MEMBERS OF THE JAPANESE DIET WITH A PARTICULAR INTEREST IN HONG KONG AFFAIRS.

HE SAID HE HAD GATHERED TOGETHER A GROUP OF YOUNG AND ENTHUSIASTIC MEMBERS OF THE LDP WHO HAVE AN INTEREST IN HONG KONG AND HOPED TO HAVE THE PARTICIPATION OF MEMBERS OF THE OPPOSITION.

SPEAKING AT THE END OF ANOTHER HECTIC ROUND OF ENGAGEMENTS, THE GOVERNOR SAID HE WAS ENCOURAGED BY THE ENTHUSIASM THE GROUP HAD SHOWN IN ESTABLISHING LINKS WITH MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

"I THOUGHT IT WAS A VERY GOOD MEETING, MR HATA HAD A LARGE NUMBER OF YOUNGER, UP AND COMING MEMBERS OF THE DIET PRESENT.

/"HE'S GETTING

"HE'S GETTING TOGETHER A GROUP OF PEOPLE TO FORM AN ASSOCIATION - SO THAT THERE WILL BE A JAPAN-HONG KONG PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION.

"THE FACT THAT THIS WAS A GROUP OF YOUNGER PEOPLE WHO ARE CLEARLY GOING TO BE SOME OF THE IMPORTANT LEADERS OF JAPAN IN THE FUTURE, CAN BE SEEN AS SETTING A VERY GOOD FOUNDATION FOR A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE DIET AND THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL."

SIR DAVID SAID OTHER TALKS WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND OTHER JAPANESE MINISTRIES HAD CENTRED ON HOW TO BUILD UP THE ROLE HONG KONG COULD PLAY IN DIRECT TRADE AND INVESTMENT BETWEEN THE TERRITORY AND JAPAN, AND HONG KONG'S ROLE AS A BRIDGE BETWEEN CHINA AND THE REST OF THE WORLD.

"THIS IS SOMETHING THE JAPANESE ARE VERY INTERESTED IN AS THEY SEE IN CHINA A PLACE OF FUTURE OPPORTUNITY, PARTICULARLY THE ECONOMIC GROWTH OF SOUTHERN CHINA - GUANGDONG AND FUJIAN - IN WHICH HONG KONG PLAYS A KEY ROLE."

SIR DAVID SAID A KEY PART OF ENSURING THE HONG KONG ECONOMY WAS SUCCESSFUL IN THE FUTURE WAS TO HAVE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS, TRADING AND FINANCIAL INVOLVEMENT IN HONG KONG.

"I FOUND ALL THE JAPANESE I TALKED TO VERY INTERESTED IN THAT CONCEPT - THE ROLE THAT HONG KONG CAN PLAY AS A CENTRE OF INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS AND FINANCE," SIR DAVID SAID.

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3RD QUARTER EXPORTS STATISTICS RE-CLASSIFIED BY
INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN PUBLISHED

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ACCORDING TO THE STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, THE SIX MOST IMPORTANT INDUSTRY GROUPS IN TERMS OF THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1990 WERE : ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS; TEXTILES, INCLUDING KNITTING; WEARING APPAREL, EXCEPT FOOTWEAR AND KNITWEAR; PROFESSIONAL AND OPTICAL EQUIPMENT; PLASTIC PRODUCTS; AND BASIC METALS AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS.

THEY TOGETHER ACCOUNTED FOR 81.4 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL VALUE OF MERCHANDISE DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1990.

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES WITH THE LARGEST INCREASES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1990 OVER THE SAME QUARTER OF 1989 WERE : PROFESSIONAL AND OPTICAL EQUIPMENT (+\$380 MILLION); CHEMICALS AND CHEMICAL PRODUCTS (+\$309 MILLION); TOBACCO (+\$179 MILLION); AND PAPER AND PAPER PRODUCTS, PRINTING AND PUBLISHING (+\$168 MILLION).

/IN PERCENTAGE

IN PERCENTAGE TERMS, MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES WITH THE LARGEST INCREASES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OVER THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1989 WERE : TOBACCO (+35.0 PER CENT); BEVERAGES (+24.5 PER CENT); CHEMICALS AND CHEMICAL PRODUCTS (+24.2 PER CENT); AND FOOD (+16.5 PER CENT).

ON THE OTHER HAND, SEVERAL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES RECORDED DECREASES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1990 AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME QUARTER OF 1989.

AMONG THEM WERE : PLASTIC PRODUCTS (-\$586 MILLION OR -20.3 PER CENT); BASIC METALS AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS (-\$375 MILLION OR -14.2 PER CENT); WEARING APPAREL, EXCEPT FOOTWEAR AND KNITWEAR (-\$344 MILLION OR -2.7 PER CENT); TEXTILES, INCLUDING KNITTING (-\$275 MILLION OR -2.1 PER CENT); AND MACHINERY, EXCEPT ELECTRICAL (-\$113 MILLION OR -5.6 PER CENT).

OUTSIDE THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, DOMESTIC EXPORTS ORIGINATING FROM THE FISHING INDUSTRY DECREASED BY \$23 MILLION OR 19.7 PER CENT AS COMPARED WITH THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1989, WHILE DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF ELECTRICITY INCREASED BY \$59 MILLION OR 30.1 PER CENT.

THE ABOVE STATISTICS ON DOMESTIC EXPORTS ANALYSED BY INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN ARE DERIVED BY RE-GROUPING ALL SIX-DIGIT MERCHANDISE EXPORT ITEMS UNDER THE EXTERNAL TRADE CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM ACCORDING TO THE INDUSTRIES IN WHICH THESE MERCHANDISE ITEMS ARE NORMALLY PRODUCED. TRANSACTIONS IN GOLD AND SPECIE ARE EXCLUDED.

THE CLASSIFICATION OF MERCHANDISE EXPORT ITEMS BY INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN IS STRUCTURED UPON THE UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL STANDARD INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION OF ALL ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES (ISIC), AS DISTINCT FROM THE UNITED NATIONS STANDARD INTERNATIONAL TRADE CLASSIFICATION (SITC) WHICH IS ADOPTED IN THE REGULAR TRADE STATISTICS REPORTS.

CAUTION SHOULD BE TAKEN WHEN REFERRING TO THESE RE-CLASSIFIED STATISTICS. CERTAIN MERCHANDISE EXPORT ITEMS MAY REQUIRE SEVERAL INTERMEDIATE PROCESSING STAGES IN THEIR PRODUCTION. IN SUCH CASES, THE INDUSTRY IN WHICH AN ITEM IS FINALLY PRODUCED IS NOT THE SOLE CONTRIBUTOR TO THE EXPORT VALUE OF THAT ITEM.

HOWEVER, THE TOTAL VALUE OF THE ITEM HAS WHOLLY BEEN ALLOCATED TO THAT INDUSTRY IN THIS RE-CLASSIFICATION.

BESIDES, THE CLASSIFICATION OF A MERCHANDISE EXPORT ITEM TO A PARTICULAR INDUSTRY DOES NOT IMPLY THAT THE ENTIRE EXPORT VALUE OF THE ITEM IS ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE ESTABLISHMENTS OF THAT INDUSTRY, SINCE PART OF THE VALUE MAY BE ATTRIBUTABLE TO ESTABLISHMENTS CLASSIFIED UNDER OTHER INDUSTRIES AS SECONDARY PRODUCTS.

FURTHER DETAILS OF MERCHANDISE DOMESTIC EXPORTS STATISTICS RE-CLASSIFIED BY INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN MAY BE FOUND IN A TABLE WHICH IS OBTAINABLE FROM THE INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. NO. 839 3223).

A TABLE SHOWING MORE DETAILED BREAKDOWNS OF SIMILAR STATISTICS FOR SELECTED MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IS ALSO INCLUDED IN THE REPORT "HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE, SEPTEMBER 1990".

Value of merchandise domestic exports reclassified by industrial origin
for the third quarter of 1990

(HK\$'000)

Industrial origin of the commodities exported	Merchandise domestic exports			
	1990 3rd qtr.	1989 3rd qtr.	Value change	% change
<u>Agricultural, Forestry and Fishing</u>				
Agricultural, livestock and poultry production	2,730	1,949	+781	+40.1
Fishing	93,143	116,046	-22,903	-19.7
<u>Mining and Quarrying</u>	1,009	1,298	-289	-22.3
<u>Manufacturing</u>				
Food	496,823	426,330	+70,493	+16.5
Beverages	108,295	86,961	+21,334	+24.5
Tobacco	691,730	512,423	+179,307	+35.0
Textiles (including knitting)	13,029,118	13,304,370	-275,252	-2.1
Wearing apparel, except footwear and knitwear	12,218,221	12,562,245	-344,023	-2.7
Leather and leather products	261,438	259,851	+1,587	+0.6
Footwear	226,020	260,449	-34,429	-13.2
Wood and cork products, furniture and fixtures	159,931	178,036	-18,106	-10.2
Paper and paper products, printing and publishing	1,700,120	1,532,310	+167,811	+11.0
Chemicals and chemical products	1,585,316	1,276,323	+308,993	+24.2
Products of petroleum and coal	1,781	1,583	+198	+12.5
Rubber products	25,781	29,920	-4,140	-13.8
Plastic products	2,305,267	2,891,467	-586,200	-20.3
Non-metallic mineral products	133,056	175,374	-42,318	-24.1
Basic metals and fabricated metal products	2,260,926	2,636,266	-375,339	-14.2
Machinery, except electrical	1,924,052	2,037,134	-113,082	-5.6
Electrical and electronic products	13,892,140	13,984,948	-92,807	-0.7
Transport equipment	43,635	65,159	-21,524	-33.0
Professional and optical equipment	6,023,601	5,643,480	+380,121	+6.7
Other manufacturing industries	3,594,875	3,654,241	-59,367	-1.6
<u>Electricity</u>	255,055	196,091	+58,964	+30.1
<u>Miscellaneous items</u> (e.g. developed photographic plates and film, antiques, and works of art)	27,653	35,850	-8,197	-22.9
Total	61,061,716	61,870,103	-808,387	-1.3

Individual entries of a column may not add up exactly to the corresponding total due to rounding. All percentage changes are calculated based on unrounded figures.

Industrial Research Section,
Census & Statistics Department,
Hong Kong.

Tel. : 839 3223

November 1990

HK PREPARES FOR INTRODUCTION OF UNLEADED PETROL

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A MAJOR GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY INITIATIVE TO COMBAT AIR POLLUTION CAUSED BY MOTOR VEHICLES WILL MOVE INTO PLACE WITH THE PLANNED INTRODUCTION OF UNLEADED PETROL (ULP) IN HONG KONG ON APRIL 1 NEXT YEAR.

THIS MOVE WILL BE THE FIRST STAGE OF THE VEHICLE EMISSION CONTROL STRATEGY SPEARHEADED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT (EPD).

ULP WILL FORM THE BASIS FOR MORE STRINGENT EMISSION STANDARDS AND CONTROLS, AND WILL ENABLE PETROL-DRIVEN CARS TO USE CATALYTIC CONVERTERS, THE BEST EMISSION CONTROL TECHNOLOGY IN THE WORLD.

ABOUT 70 PER CENT OF PETROL-DRIVEN CARS IN HONG KONG WILL BE ABLE TO USE THE NEW FUEL IMMEDIATELY WITHOUT MODIFICATION OR ADJUSTMENT AND WITH NO EFFECT ON ENGINE PERFORMANCE OR FUEL ECONOMY. TEN PER CENT WILL NEED ONLY A MINOR ENGINE ADJUSTMENT TO USE ULP.

ANOTHER 14 PER CENT OF CARS CAN RUN ON ULP MOST OF THE TIME BUT SHOULD OCCASIONALLY BE FILLED WITH LEADED PETROL TO LUBRICATE THEIR SOFT VALVE SEATS. THE REMAINING SIX PER CENT OF VEHICLES WILL NEED TO CONTINUE TO USE LEADED PETROL.

TO PROVIDE AN INCENTIVE FOR DRIVERS TO SWITCH TO ULP, THE NEW FUEL WILL GO ON SALE WITH A PRICE ADVANTAGE OF ABOUT \$1 PER LITRE OVER LEADED PETROL.

ON THE SUPPLY SIDE, ULP WILL BE AVAILABLE AT ALL FILLING STATIONS WHILE THE SUPPLY OF LEADED PETROL WILL BE MAINTAINED AT ABOUT 50 PER CENT OF THE SERVICE STATIONS FOR VEHICLES WHICH CANNOT USE ULP.

A TERRITORY-WIDE CAMPAIGN, INITIATED BY THE GOVERNMENT AND SUPPORTED BY THE OIL INDUSTRY, MOTOR MANUFACTURERS AND DISTRIBUTORS, WILL BE LAUNCHED EARLY NEXT YEAR TO EDUCATE THE MOTORING PUBLIC ON THE BENEFITS OF ULP AND TO ANSWER QUESTIONS RELATING TO THIS ENVIRONMENTALLY-FRIENDLY FUEL.

THE CORNERSTONE OF THE CAMPAIGN IS A COMPREHENSIVE BILINGUAL BOOKLET, "THE MOTORISTS GUIDE TO UNLEADED PETROL", WHICH WILL BE MAILED TO ALL REGISTERED OWNERS OF PETROL-DRIVEN VEHICLES DURING LATE JANUARY AND FEBRUARY NEXT YEAR.

IT IS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE MOTORISTS WITH FACTUAL AND CONCISE INFORMATION ON THE USE OF ULP AND TO FOSTER A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF WHY IT IS SO ESSENTIAL TO HONG KONG AND ITS ENVIRONMENT. ALL INFORMATION PROVIDED HAS BEEN ENDORSED BY OIL COMPANIES, MOTOR MANUFACTURERS AND DISTRIBUTORS.

THE EDUCATION PROCESS STARTED BY THE BOOKLET WILL BE FURTHER SUPPORTED BY AN EXTENSIVE PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN, TO BEGIN IN LATE JANUARY NEXT YEAR, WHICH WILL INCLUDE POSTER AND WALLCHART DISPLAYS AT GOVERNMENT LOCATIONS AND FILLING STATIONS AND ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE PRESS AND BROADCASTING MEDIA.

/IN ADDITION

IN ADDITION, A SPECIAL HOTLINE WILL BE SET UP TO ENABLE THE MOTORING PUBLIC TO OBTAIN FURTHER INFORMATION ON ULP AND THE SUITABILITY OF VARIOUS CAR MODELS TO USE IT.

"THE INTRODUCTION OF ULP INTO HONG KONG WILL MARK THE BEGINNING OF THE GOVERNMENT'S SYSTEMATIC ATTACK ON VEHICLE EMISSION," THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION (AIR AND NOISE), MR ROBERT LAW, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) AT A PRESS CONFERENCE.

"THE EPD HAS RECEIVED WIDESPREAD SUPPORT IN ITS ULP INITIATIVE, PRIMARILY FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (EPCOM), OIL COMPANIES, MOTOR MANUFACTURERS AND DISTRIBUTORS IN HONG KONG.

"FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF ULP, OIL COMPANIES ARE INVESTING MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN BUILDING NEW STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION FACILITIES FOR THE ENVIRONMENTALLY-FRIENDLY FUEL IN THE FILLING STATIONS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY.

"EVERYBODY INVOLVED IN THE PLANNING STAGES ENDORSES THE NEED OF BRINGING NEW EMISSION CONTROL TO HONG KONG," HE SAID.

"ULP WILL RESULT IN A CLEANER AND HEALTHIER ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL," HE ADDED.

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OPERATION TOMORROW TO REMOVE 'DANGEROUS' PROJECTIONS
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GOVERNMENT CONTRACTORS WILL BEGIN DISMANTLING A NUMBER OF PROJECTIONS, DEEMED TO BE IN A DANGEROUS CONDITION, FROM THE EXTERNAL WALLS OF TWO BUILDINGS IN TO KWA WAN TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE STAFF THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON DELIVERED ADVISORY LETTERS TO OWNERS/OCCUPIERS OF THE PROJECTIONS INFORMING THEM OF THE WORK TO BE CARRIED OUT AND SEEKING THEIR CO-OPERATION AND SUPPORT.

THE BUILDINGS ARE AT 68A-70C AND 72-76B TO KWA WAN ROAD, AND 72-76B LOK SHAN ROAD.

LAST SUNDAY, A CANOPY COLLAPSED FROM ONE OF THESE BUILDINGS AND SUBSEQUENT INSPECTIONS BY THE BOO STAFF FOUND THAT CERTAIN PROJECTIONS FROM THE EXTERNAL WALLS ARE IN IMMEDIATE DANGER AND AN EMERGENCY EXISTS.

THE GOVERNMENT BUILDING SURVEYOR OF BOO, MR CHENG WEI-DART, TODAY (THURSDAY) SAID: "WE HAVE IDENTIFIED INITIALLY A TOTAL OF 23 DANGEROUS PROJECTIONS INCLUDING CANOPIES, METAL CAGES, FLOWER RACKS AND OTHER APPENDAGES.

"SOME OF THE PROJECTIONS ARE ILLEGAL AND THERE IS LITTLE EVIDENCE OF ANY ATTEMPT AT MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR.

/"THEY ARE

"THEY ARE IN IMMINENT DANGER AND HAVE TO BE REMOVED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE," MR CHENG SAID.

"OTHER SIMILAR PROJECTIONS IN THESE TWO BUILDINGS WILL BE SUBJECT TO FURTHER INVESTIGATIONS BY THE BOO AT A FUTURE DATE," HE ADDED.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

THE GOVERNMENT BUILDING SURVEYOR FROM THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE, BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, MR CHENG WEI-DART, WILL BE AVAILABLE TO SPEAK TO THE MEDIA AT THE TO KWA WAN SITE AT 9.30 AM TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

INFORMATION OFFICERS FROM THE PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS BRANCH WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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DIRECTOR OF MARINE SIGNS SURVEY AGREEMENTS

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THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE, MR MICHAEL C.C. SZE, HAS GIVEN APPROVAL FOR SIX SHIP CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES TO CONDUCT SURVEYS OF SHIPS JOINING THE NEW HONG KONG SHIPPING REGISTER.

THE SURVEYS ARE IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL REQUIREMENTS, TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF OCEAN-GOING SHIPPING, THE PROTECTION OF MARINE ENVIRONMENT AND THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF SEAMEN.

THE SOCIETIES CONCERNED ARE AMERICAN BUREAU OF SHIPPING, BUREAU VERITAS, CHINA CLASSIFICATION SOCIETY, DET NORSKE VERITAS, LLOYD'S REGISTER OF SHIPPING AND NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI.

THE BRITISH COMMITTEES OF FOUR OF THESE INTERNATIONALLY BASED SOCIETIES HAVE A LONG STANDING RELATIONSHIP WITH THE MARINE DEPARTMENT AS THEY HAVE CONDUCTED SURVEYS FOR HONG KONG SHIPS UNDER THE EXISTING HONG KONG REGISTER.

FORMAL PROCEDURES WERE CONCLUDED TODAY (THURSDAY) WHEN MR SZE SIGNED AN AGREEMENT WITH EACH OF THE SIX CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES AT A CEREMONY IN THE MARINE DEPARTMENT.

"INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS ALLOW MARINE ADMINISTRATIONS TO DELEGATE THE CONDUCT OF SURVEYS TO CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES AS WELL AS USING THEIR OWN SURVEYORS," MR SZE SAID.

"I AM ADOPTING THIS INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE BY BUILDING ON EXPERIENCE GAINED UNDER THE EXISTING REGISTER AND ALSO RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF THE SHIPPING INDUSTRY BY STREAMLINING OFFICIAL PROCEDURES AND BY GIVING THEM THE CHOICE OF USING EITHER MARINE DEPARTMENT SURVEYORS OR SURVEYORS FROM THE APPROVED CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES."

THE NEW AGREEMENT ALLOWS CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES TO CONDUCT ALL THE SURVEYS. GOVERNMENT SURVEYORS WILL STILL INSPECT SHIPS BEFORE THEY ARE PERMITTED TO BE REGISTERED IN HONG KONG, BUT THEY WILL NOT, UNLESS SO REQUESTED BY THE OWNERS, CARRY OUT THE REQUIRED SURVEYS.

"THIS WILL ENABLE ME TO MAKE SURE CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES INTERPRET THE HONG KONG REGULATIONS IN A SIMILAR MANNER TO GOVERNMENT SURVEYORS AND SO MAINTAIN THE HIGH STANDARDS REQUIRED BY THE NEW HONG KONG REGISTER AS WELL AS THE MAINTENANCE OF A POSITIVE LINK BETWEEN THE ADMINISTRATION AND THE SHIP."

THE NEW HONG KONG REGISTER BEGINS OPERATIONS ON MONDAY (DECEMBER 3).

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TIME TO CONSIDER RETIREMENT BENEFITS FOR CONSTRUCTION WORKERS

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THE TIME HAS COME FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TO CONSIDER SERIOUSLY WHETHER IT SHOULD PROVIDE ITS WORKERS WITH SOME FORM OF RETIREMENT BENEFIT, THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, MR K.Y. YEUNG, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

MR YEUNG SAID HE WAS AWARE THAT EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES' REPRESENTATIVES IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY HAD BEEN DISCUSSING THE FEASIBILITY OF SETTING UP AN INDUSTRY-WIDE WELFARE FUND THAT WOULD PROVIDE RETIREMENT AND OTHER BENEFITS FOR WORKERS.

SPEAKING AT THE 1990 TRAINING COMPLETION CEREMONY OF THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TRAINING AUTHORITY THIS AFTERNOON, MR YEUNG SAID THIS DEVELOPMENT WAS WELCOMED.

HE URGED BOTH EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES TO PUSH AHEAD WITH THIS IDEA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

"THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR AND HIS STAFF STAND READY TO ASSIST THE INDUSTRY WITH ANY ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE IT MAY NEED IN SETTING UP SUCH A FUND," HE SAID.

MR YEUNG NOTED THAT IF THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY COULD FINANCE THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE FROM LEVIES ON THE VALUE OF CONTRACTS, THERE WAS NO REASON WHY EMPLOYERS COULD NOT ENLARGE THIS LEVY TO PROVIDE FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO A RETIREMENT FUND.

HE POINTED OUT THAT MANY BUSINESSES WERE FINDING IT NECESSARY NOT ONLY TO INCREASE THE SUPPLY OF FRESHLY TRAINED MANPOWER, BUT ALSO TO RETAIN THEIR EXISTING WORKFORCE.

"THIS IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT IN THE CASE OF THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY WHERE WORKING CONDITIONS ARE UNATTRACTIVE COMPARED WITH OTHER INDUSTRIES, AND WHERE THE INCIDENCE OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS HAS BEEN RELATIVELY HIGH," HE SAID.

/MR YEUNG

MR YEUNG POINTED OUT THAT THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TRAINING AUTHORITY HAD MADE PLANS TO EXPAND ITS EXISTING CAPACITY BY INTRODUCING ADDITIONAL COURSES AND BY BUILDING A FOURTH TRAINING CENTRE.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS ACTIVELY TRYING TO FIND A SUITABLE SITE FOR THE FOURTH TRAINING CENTRE FOR THE AUTHORITY.

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EXPERT MEETING ON COURT OF FINAL APPEAL ON MONDAY
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A MEETING OF EXPERTS OF THE BRITISH SIDE AND THE CHINESE SIDE OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP WILL BE HELD IN HONG KONG ON MONDAY (DECEMBER 3) TO DISCUSS MATTERS RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL.

THE BRITISH TEAM WILL BE LED BY THE DEPUTY REGISTRAR, SUPREME COURT, MR BRIAN SUTTILL.

THE CHINESE TEAM WILL BE LED BY CHINESE REPRESENTATIVE MR ZHENG WEIRONG.

THEY WILL BE ASSISTED BY OTHER EXPERTS FROM THE TWO SIDES.

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FESTIVE ILLUMINATIONS FOR TSIM SHA TSUI
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A SWITCHING-ON CEREMONY FOR THE TSIM SHA TSUI EAST FESTIVE ILLUMINATIONS WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT 6 PM AT THE URBAN COUNCIL CENTENARY GARDEN.

A LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, MR STEPHEN CHEONG, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE CEREMONY.

THE EVENT IS ORGANISED BY THE TSIM SHA TSUI EAST PROPERTY DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION AND RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG WITH YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICE AS CO-HOSTS.

A CONCERT FEATURING POP SINGERS SANDY LAM AND DANNY CHAN WILL BE STAGED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CEREMONY AND WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE ON RADIO 2, RTHK.

/ALSO OFFICIATING

ALSO OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TSIM SHA TSUI EAST PROPERTY DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION, MR LUI CHE-WOO; YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS ANNIE TANG; AND HEAD OF RTHK'S RADIO 2, MR CHEUNG MAN-SUN.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SWITCHING-ON CEREMONY OF THE TSIM SHA TSUI EAST FESTIVE ILLUMINATIONS AT 6 PM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT THE URBAN COUNCIL CENTENARY GARDEN, TSIM SHA TSUI EAST.

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LABOUR DEPT TO KEEP UP GOOD SERVICES

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE TO IMPROVE BOTH THE QUALITY AND RANGE OF ITS SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC DESPITE THE STRINGENT CONTROL OF ITS RESOURCES, THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR TONY HAMMOND, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

MR HAMMOND WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 10TH RESIDENTIAL SEMINAR FOR LABOUR INSPECTORS HELD AT THE LEI YUE MUN PARK.

HE PRAISED THE INSPECTORS FOR THEIR HIGH STANDARD OF WORK AND WAS DELIGHTED THAT THE SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT TEAM (SET), SET UP IN JULY 1988 TO ENFORCE CERTAIN STATUTORY PROVISIONS OF THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE, HAD PROVED SUCCESSFUL.

"SINCE IT CAME INTO BEING, THE SET HAS CONDUCTED VISITS TO MORE THAN 4,800 ESTABLISHMENTS," MR HAMMOND NOTED.

"AS A RESULT OF THE EFFORTS OF THE TEAM AND THE CO-OPERATION OF EMPLOYERS, MOST OF THE BREACHES OF THE LAW DETECTED BY OUR INSPECTORS HAVE BEEN RECTIFIED," HE SAID, ADDING THAT ONLY EIGHT EMPLOYERS HAD HAD TO BE PROSECUTED FOR FAILING TO TAKE REMEDIAL ACTION DESPITE WARNINGS.

MR HAMMOND SAID THE GENERAL ENQUIRY TELEPHONE SERVICE (GETS) HAD ALSO RECEIVED A WARM RESPONSE FROM THE PUBLIC.

"BETWEEN JULY 1, 1989 AND OCTOBER 31, 1990, SOME 76,500 CALLS WERE RECEIVED," HE SAID.

"THE GETS HAS PROVED ITSELF CAPABLE OF PROVIDING A MORE EFFICIENT AND CO-ORDINATED MEANS OF ANSWERING ENQUIRIES FROM THE PUBLIC ABOUT LABOUR LEGISLATION AND RELATED MATTERS," HE SAID.

/MR HAMMOND

MR HAMMOND WAS PLEASED THAT THE FINANCE BRANCH HAD RECOMMENDED FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF BOTH SERVICES.

TURNING TO IMPORTED WORKERS, MR HAMMOND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE DEPLOYMENT OF TWO SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT TEAMS TO MONITOR THEIR EMPLOYMENT WOULD ENSURE THAT THE IMPORTATION SCHEMES WERE SUCCESSFUL AND WERE NOT ABUSED BY EMPLOYERS.

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DTC REGISTRATION REVOKED

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THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING ANNOUNCED THAT THE REGISTRATION OF BFG: FINANCE ASIA LIMITED AS A DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANY HAS BEEN REVOKED AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS TODAY (THURSDAY) AT ITS OWN REQUEST UNDER SECTION 31(2) OF THE BANKING ORDINANCE.

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IMPORTANCE OF COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY STRESSED

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HONG KONG MUST ADOPT COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY EXTENSIVELY IN ITS VARIOUS OCCUPATIONS TO MAINTAIN THE TERRITORY'S VITALITY AND COMPETITIVENESS.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR LI YUET-TING, TODAY (THURSDAY) AT A FLAG PRESENTATION CEREMONY TO MARK THE DEPARTURE OF THREE STUDENTS WHO WILL TAKE PART IN TWO INTERNATIONAL COMPUTER COMPETITIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES AND SINGAPORE ON DECEMBER 7 AND 12.

MR LI SAID IT IS OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE TO TRAIN COMPUTER PROFESSIONALS AND TO INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS ON COMPUTERISATION, PARTICULARLY AMONG YOUNG STUDENTS.

COMPUTER STUDIES, HE SAID, WAS INTRODUCED AS A SUBJECT AT THE SECONDARY 4 AND 5 LEVELS IN 1982 AND COMPUTER LITERACY AT THE JUNIOR SECONDARY LEVEL.

IT WAS EXTENDED TO SPECIAL SCHOOLS IN 1989.

HE ADDED THAT COMPUTER EDUCATION WOULD FURTHER BE EXTENDED TO SECONDARY 6 AND 7 IN PHASES FROM NEXT YEAR.

NOTING THAT COMPUTER EDUCATION HAS DEVELOPED SIGNIFICANTLY DURING THE PAST EIGHT YEARS, MR LI POINTED OUT THAT ITS DEVELOPMENT LIES NOT ONLY WITH THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT BUT ALSO WITH THE PUBLIC.

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CIVIC EDUCATION GALA NIGHT IN EASTERN
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TEN OUTSTANDING YOUNG PERSONS IN EASTERN DISTRICT WILL RECEIVE THEIR AWARDS ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 1) AT A CIVIC EDUCATION GALA NIGHT AT THE SAI WAN HO CIVIC CENTRE.

THEY WERE SELECTED FROM 50 NOMINEES FOR THEIR DISTINGUISHED CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITY SERVICE AND VOLUNTARY WORK.

THE GALA NIGHT IS ONE OF THE ACTIVITIES JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE DISTRICT BOARD TO CULTIVATE RESIDENTS' SENSE OF BELONGING TO HONG KONG.

THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A PROGRAMME COVERING A SLIDE SHOW ENTITLED "HONG KONG IS MY HOME", A DRAMA, AND SINGING AND DANCING PERFORMANCES. THE TWO-HOUR SHOW WILL START AT 7.30 PM.

OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR STEVE BARCLAY; EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR SHUM CHOI-SANG; URBAN COUNCILLOR MS CHRISTINA TING; AND CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE, MR SUNNY WU.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EASTERN DISTRICT CIVIC EDUCATION GALA NIGHT WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 7.30 PM ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 1) AT THE SAI WAN HO CIVIC CENTRE THEATRE.

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FIGHT CRIME CARNIVAL FOR ISLANDERS
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THE ISLANDS DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME CARNIVAL WILL BE HELD AT THE NGAN WAN ESTATE PLAZA IN MUI WO, LANTAU ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 1) AFTERNOON.

THE FINALS OF AN ANTI-CRIME DRAMA COMPETITION AND A SINGING CONTEST WILL BE HELD DURING THE CARNIVAL WHICH WILL START AT 2.30 PM. ADMISSION IS FREE.

THERE WILL ALSO BE PERFORMANCES BY POP SINGERS AND A FIGHT CRIME QUIZ.

THE CARNIVAL, ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT'S FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, AIMS TO PROMOTE THE HOME SECURITY AND FIGHT CRIME MESSAGES AND STRENGTHEN NEIGHBOURHOOD TIES AMONG THE ISLANDERS.

/A PRIZE

A PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT 4 PM.

OFFICIATING GUESTS WILL INCLUDE A LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, MR LAM WAI-KEUNG; THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR KIM SALKELD; POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDER, MR WILLIAM WORRAL; AND CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT'S FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, MR YUEN CHIT-CHI.

ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE ISLANDS DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME CARNIVAL TO BE HELD AT THE NGAN WAN ESTATE PLAZA IN MUI WO, LANTAU ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 1), BEGINNING AT 2.30 PM.

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TSUEN WAN SPORTS FESTIVAL TO CLOSE

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THE DRAGON COMPANY OF THE HONG KONG MILITARY SERVICE CORPS AND THE 29 SQUADRON RCT MOTORCYCLE DISPLAY TEAM WILL STAGE A SIMULATED BATTLE AND MOTORCYCLE DEMONSTRATION AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE 12TH TSUEN WAN SPORTS FESTIVAL ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 1) EVENING.

THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR RAYMOND YOUNG, AND A COMMUNITY LEADER, MR CHAN PO-FONG, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE CEREMONY AT 8 PM AT THE SHA TSUI ROAD PLAYGROUND.

FREE ADMISSION TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICES CENTRES OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE.

THE MONTH-LONG TSUEN WAN SPORTS FESTIVAL IS ORGANISED BY THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE, THE DISTRICT BOARD AND THE FEDERATION OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT SPORTS AND RECREATION ASSOCIATIONS.

THE COST OF THE FESTIVAL IS ABOUT \$900,000.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE 12TH TSUEN WAN SPORTS FESTIVAL WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 8 PM ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 1) AT THE SHA TSUI ROAD PLAYGROUND, TSUEN WAN.

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