



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FRIDAY, MAY 6, 1994

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LU PING'S SPEECH POSITIVE: GOVERNOR

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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, HOPED THAT PEOPLE WOULD SEE DIRECTOR LU PING'S SPEECH TODAY (FRIDAY) AS A POSITIVE STATEMENT ABOUT HONG KONG'S FUTURE.

RESPONDING TO MEDIA QUESTIONS ABOUT DIRECTOR LU'S SPEECH AFTER HIS VISIT TO THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL COLLEGE (TSING YI), MR PATTEN SAID: "THERE'S PLAINLY A LOT IN THE SPEECH WITH WHICH WE ALL AGREE.

" DIRECTOR LU TALKS ABOUT THE VERY IMPORTANT ECONOMIC ROLE WHICH HONG KONG CAN PLAY AND WHICH WE ALL WANT TO SEE HONG KONG PLAY IN THE CONTINUING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF CHINA."

HOWEVER, MR PATTEN BELIEVED SOME PEOPLE WOULD BE A LITTLE SURPRISED BY THE REMARKS ABOUT POLITICS.

" AFTER ALL, HONG KONG ISN'T JUST AN EXAMPLE OF CAPITALISM AT WORK," HE SAID.

" THERE ARE ALSO FREEDOMS AND VALUES IN THE INSTITUTIONS OF AN OPEN SOCIETY WHICH HAVE HELPED TO CREATE OUR PROSPERITY HERE IN HONG KONG. AND CHINA ITSELF HAS RECOGNISED THIS.

" CHINA ITSELF HAS SIGNED UP IN THE JOINT DECLARATION AND IN THE BASIC LAW TO A PROCESS OF POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT IN HONG KONG WHICH RECOGNISES THE MODEST BUT GROWING ASPIRATIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE COMMUNITY.

" SO, I THINK THAT THERE WILL BE SOME QUESTIONS ASKED ABOUT THAT."

THE GOVERNOR HOPED THAT IF THERE WERE DISAGREEMENTS ABOUT ISSUES LIKE POLITICS OR SOME ELEMENTS OF POLITICS, HE AND DIRECTOR LU COULD TALK CALMLY AND RATIONALLY TO ONE ANOTHER AND PERHAPS PUT THEM ON ONE SIDE WHILE GETTING ON WITH THE LIVELIHOOD ISSUES WHICH DIRECTOR LU HAD PUT SO MUCH EMPHASIS ON IN HIS SPEECH.

" I THINK ON THAT, PEOPLE WILL BE HOPING THAT THE SPEECH IS FOLLOWED BY PRACTICAL ACTIONS AND PRACTICAL EXAMPLES OF PROGRESS IN CO-OPERATION," HE ADDED.

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GOVERNOR MEETS MEDIA AFTER VISITING ELDERLY HOME

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FOLLOWING IS THE TRANSCRIPT OF THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, SPEAKING TO THE MEDIA AFTER VISITING AN ELDERLY HOME TODAY (FRIDAY):

GOVERNOR: I AM DELIGHTED THAT WITH LIBBY I'VE BEEN ABLE TO VISIT THIS EXCELLENT HOME THIS MORNING. I THINK THAT THE WHOLE COMMUNITY BELIEVES AS WE BECOME MORE PROSPEROUS SO WE SHOULD PROVIDE A BETTER LEVEL OF CARE AND MORE COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES FOR ELDERLY CITIZENS WHO HAVE HELPED TO CREATE THE PROSPERITY THAT WE NOW ENJOY. THIS HOME IS OBVIOUSLY DOING AN EXCELLENT JOB. WE WANT TO TRY TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT MORE PEOPLE, MORE ELDERLY PEOPLE IN HONG KONG ARE LOOKED AFTER LIKE THIS.

WE'VE MADE A NUMBER OF PLEDGES AS YOU KNOW TO DEVELOP OUR SERVICES. WE ARE PROVIDING AN EXTRA 800 CARE AND ATTENTION PLACES OVER THE NEXT COUPLE OF YEARS. WE'VE TAKEN THE DECISION TO ESTABLISH A NETWORK OF NURSING HOMES RIGHT ACROSS HONG KONG WITH AN INITIAL COMMITMENT TO 14,000 PLACES AS A FIRST STEP. WE ARE DOING WHAT WE CAN TO DEAL WITH THE BACKLOG IN THE SINGLE ELDERLY ON THE HOUSING AUTHORITY LIST AND WE'RE PLEDGED TO CLEAR A BACKLOG OF 4,000 IN THE NEXT THREE YEARS. IN GENERAL WE WANT TO SEE BETTER SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY. LIBBY AS THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE CHAIRS THE WORKING GROUP WHICH IS TRYING TO POOL TOGETHER ALL OUR SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY SO THAT WE CAN MAKE SURE THAT WE HAVE BETTER AND MORE COMPREHENSIVE PROVISION. IN THE BACKGROUND, OF COURSE, IS THE CONTINUING DEBATE AND THE IMPORTANT DEBATE ABOUT FINANCIAL PROVISION FOR THE ELDERLY WITH AT THE MOMENT A FEASIBILITY STUDY INTO THE PROPOSALS WE HAVE PUT FORWARD FOR OUR OLD AGE PENSION SCHEME. SO AS A WHOLE NETWORK OF POLICIES WHICH WE NEED TO BRING TOGETHER AND I THINK THAT EVERYBODY IN THE COMMUNITY RECOGNISES THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS AND NOBODY I THINK WILL GRUDGE FOR A MOMENT THE ADDITIONAL RESOURCES WE WANT TO PUT INTO ELDERLY CARE.

QUESTION: MR PATTEN, THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT HAS REFUSED THE APPLICATION OF SOME HONG KONG REPORTERS TO COVER THE QIANTAO LAKE EVENT IN CHINA. HOW DO YOU RESPOND TO IT?

GOVERNOR: I WOULD HAVE HOPED THAT AT THIS PARTICULAR TIME, CHINESE OFFICIALS WOULD BE WORKING AS HARD AS POSSIBLE TO ENCOURAGE THE COMMUNITY IN HONG KONG TO BELIEVE THAT THEY, THOSE CHINESE OFFICIALS WERE SERIOUS ABOUT COMMITMENTS TO FREEDOM OF THE PRESS IN HONG KONG. THERE ARE CONCERNS ABOUT THE ISSUE, CONCERNS THAT WERE GIVEN PARTICULAR POINT BY THE XI YANG CASE BUT WITH CONCERNS WHICH HAVE BEEN EXPRESSED THROUGH OTHER REASONS AS WELL WITH MORE AND MORE PEOPLE, ACCORDING TO THE POLLS, WORRY ABOUT WHAT MAY HAPPEN TO FREEDOM OF THE PRESS AFTER 1997. SO MY OWN VIEW, THOUGH IT'S A MATTER FOR CHINESE OFFICIALS, MY OWN VIEW IS THAT THEY SHOULD BE WORKING TO REMOVE THOSE CONCERNS, NOT TAKING DECISIONS WHICH INCREASE THOSE CONCERNS. I NOTICE WHAT ONE OR TWO MEMBERS OF THE PWC THEMSELVES HAVE SAID ABOUT THE DECISION WHICH SEEMS TO ME TO BE SENSIBLE AND BRAVE.

/QUESTION:

QUESTION: SIR, A LATEST SURVEY SHOWS THAT THE TRUST OF HONG KONG PEOPLE IN BEIJING AND THE UK GOVERNMENTS IS AT AN ALL TIME LOW, WHY DO YOU THINK THAT IS?

GOVERNOR: I HAVEN'T SEEN THAT SURVEY. MOST OF THE SURVEYS I HAVE SEEN RECENTLY SUGGESTED THAT IN COMPARISON WITH MOST OTHER COMMUNITIES, THERE IS AN ASTONISHING LEVEL OF SUPPORT FOR THE POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT. BUT IF YOU TELL WHAT THE SURVEY IS AND YOU SEE ME THIS AFTERNOON I WILL RESPOND TO IT.

QUESTION: DID YOU PROPOSE A DATE TO THE CHINESE SIDE FOR THE AIRPORT COMMITTEE MEETING?

GOVERNOR: YES, WE HAVE MADE PROPOSALS TO THE CHINESE SIDE WHICH I HOPE THE CHINESE SIDE WILL BE ABLE TO RESPOND TO IT POSITIVELY.

QUESTION: DIRECTOR LU PING WILL VISIT JUNK BAY ON THE COMING SUNDAY, WILL YOU PROVIDE ANY SECURITY ARRANGEMENT FOR HIM?

GOVERNOR: ANYTHING WHICH DIRECTOR LU PING AND HIS COLLEAGUES WOULD LIKE WE WILL PROVIDE. WE'VE BEEN PROVIDING THEM WITH AS MUCH ASSISTANCE AS THEY HAVE ASKED FOR ALL WEEK AND WE'LL CONTINUE TO DO SO BECAUSE WE WOULD LIKE DIRECTOR LU PING'S VISIT TO HONG KONG TO BE SO ENJOYABLE AND SUCCESSFUL THAT HE COMES BACK MANY TIMES IN THE FUTURE BECAUSE I THINK IT'S VERY IMPORTANT THAT HE SEES AS MUCH OF HONG KONG AS POSSIBLE, MEETS AS MANY PEOPLE IN HONG KONG AS POSSIBLE AND IS ABLE TO ADDRESS AS MANY CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG AS POSSIBLE. SO ANYTHING WE CAN DO TO MAKE HIS VISIT A SUCCESS AND ENJOYABLE WE WILL BE HAPPY TO DO.

QUESTION: GOVERNOR, THE RECENT BRITISH LOCAL COUNCIL ELECTION SHOWS THAT THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY ENJOYS THE LOWEST SUPPORT FROM THE BRITISH. HOW DO YOU EXPECT THAT IT WILL AFFECT YOUR FUTURE AS GOVERNOR OF HONG KONG?

GOVERNOR: I DON'T THINK IT MAKES ANY DIFFERENCE TO MY FUTURE AS GOVERNOR ANY MORE THAN THE LAST ELECTION RESULTS WHEN I WAS A PARTY CHAIRMAN, WHICH WERE I THINK ALMOST THE BEST WE HAVE MANY YEARS AFFECTED THE THEN GOVERNOR OR AFFECTED MY RELATIONSHIP TO THE JOB THAT EVERYBODY KNEW I WAS GOING TO DO AT THE TIME. IT'S NOT REALLY A MATTER FOR ME. I HAVEN'T SEEN THE RESULTS IN ANY DETAIL. I TOLD YOU WHAT I AM INTERESTED IN. I AM INTERESTED IN THE RESULTS FOR THE DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS THIS SEPTEMBER IN PARTICULAR. I AM INTERESTED IN GETTING THE MAXIMUM REGISTRATION OF VOTERS AND AS BIG A TURNOUT AS POSSIBLE BECAUSE I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT THAT PEOPLE TAKE AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN THEIR LOCAL AFFAIRS. LAST QUESTION.

QUESTION: DIRECTOR LU IS GOING TO MAKE A SPEECH ON "ONE COUNTRY, TWO SYSTEMS" THIS AFTERNOON.

GOVERNOR: GOOD, EXCELLENT.

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QUESTION: WHAT KIND OF EXPECTATIONS ARE YOU WAITING TO SEE, WHAT KIND OF MESSAGE ARE YOU HOPING THAT DIRECTOR LU WILL GIVE HONG KONG IN HIS SPEECH?

GOVERNOR: I VERY MUCH HOPE HE WILL BE ABLE TO LIVE UP TO THE EXPECTATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN AROUSED ABOUT THE SPEECH. I HAVE BEEN READING LEADING ARTICLES AND OTHER PIECES IN YOUR NEWSPAPERS ALL WEEK SAYING THE SORT THE THINGS THAT YOU HOPE DIRECTOR LU WILL SAY AND I HOPE THAT HE WILL HAVE GOOD NEWS FOR HONG KONG. I HOPE MORE GENERALLY HE WILL BE ABLE TO UNDERLINE CHINA'S COMMITMENT TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JOINT DECLARATION. I HOPE HE WILL BE ABLE TO SHOW THAT CHINESE OFFICIALS UNDERSTAND WHAT IT IS THAT HAS MADE HONG KONG SO SUCCESSFUL - A COMBINATION OF MARKET ECONOMICS AND THE RULE OF LAW. I HOPE THAT HE WILL BE ABLE TO UNDERLINE HONG KONG'S CONTINUING SPECIAL NATURE AND CONTINUING IMPORTANCE. I HOPE ALSO THAT HE WILL BE ABLE TO UNDERLINE THAT IN THE FUTURE HONG KONG WILL ENJOY A HIGH DEGREE OF AUTONOMY AS IT HAS BEEN PROMISED. I AM SURE THAT IT WILL BE AN EXTREMELY INTERESTING SPEECH. IT'S A SPEECH WHICH EVERYBODY IN HONG KONG HAS BEEN WAITING FOR AND HE WILL HAVE I AM SURE A VERY ENTHUSIASTIC AUDIENCE FOR IT.

QUESTION: ARE YOU INTERESTED IN ... ?

GOVERNOR: WELL, SINCE I THINK FEBRUARY I HAVE HAD AN ENGAGEMENT WITH THE HONG KONG LIONS, THE CLUB THAT IS, RATHER THAN THE ONES THAT ROAR AND I AM GOING TO GO AND HAVE LUNCH WITH THEM NOW. HAVING LUNCH WITH LIONS IS NOT SOMETHING THAT I'VE OFTEN DONE AND I HOPE I EMERGE UNSCATHED.

QUESTION: ARE YOU GOING TO MAKE SIMILAR SPEECH ON SIMILAR ITEM IN THE NEAR FUTURE?

GOVERNOR: I MAKE LOTS OF SPEECHES ON THAT ISSUE. I MADE ONE NOT VERY LONG AGO, AT THE UNIVERSITY ON HOW I THOUGHT WE MANAGED TO IMPLEMENT THE JOINT DECLARATION. I POINTED OUT ALL THE WORK WHICH STILL HAS TO BE DONE, ALL THE WORK THAT HAS TO BE DONE IN THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP, THE WORK THAT HAS TO BE DONE ON THE LOCALISATION AND ADAPTATION OF LAWS AND THE WORK THAT HAS TO BE DONE ON THE CONTAINER TERMINAL, ON THE AIRPORT AND ALL THOSE OTHER MATTERS. AND THOSE ARE ISSUES ON WHICH I HOPE WE'LL BE HEARING FROM DIRECTOR LU PING EITHER THIS AFTERNOON OR IN HIS SUBSEQUENT VISITS, WHICH I REPEAT WE HOPE WILL BE MANY AND CHEERFUL. THANK YOU.

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE GOVERNOR'S MEDIA SESSION
AFTER VISITING THE HK TECHNICAL COLLEGE

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THE FOLLOWING IS THE TRANSCRIPT OF THE MEDIA SESSION BY THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, AFTER VISITING THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL COLLEGE (TSING YI) THIS (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON:-

QUESTION: MR PATTEN, WHAT'S YOUR REACTION TO LU PING'S STATEMENT TODAY THAT IT'LL BE DISASTROUS IF HONG KONG IS TURNED INTO A POLITICAL CITY?

GOVERNOR: OBVIOUSLY, DIRECTOR LU PING'S SPEECH WAS VERY CAREFULLY THOUGHT ABOUT AND CAREFULLY WRITTEN. I'VE ONLY HAD A CHANCE OF LOOKING AT IT VERY QUICKLY IN BETWEEN GOING ROUND THIS TECHNICAL COLLEGE AND I THINK IT DESERVES RATHER MORE CAREFUL STUDY. THERE'S PLAINLY A LOT IN THE SPEECH WITH WHICH WE ALL AGREE. LU PING TALKS ABOUT THE VERY IMPORTANT ECONOMIC ROLE WHICH HONG KONG CAN PLAY AND WHICH WE ALL WANT TO SEE HONG KONG PLAY IN THE CONTINUING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF CHINA. I THINK THAT SOME PEOPLE WILL BE A LITTLE SURPRISED BY THE REMARKS ABOUT POLITICS. AFTER ALL, HONG KONG ISN'T JUST AN EXAMPLE OF CAPITALISM AT WORK. THERE ARE ALSO FREEDOMS AND VALUES IN THE INSTITUTIONS OF AN OPEN SOCIETY WHICH HAVE HELPED TO CREATE OUR PROSPERITY HERE IN HONG KONG. AND CHINA ITSELF HAS RECOGNISED THIS. CHINA ITSELF HAS SIGNED UP IN THE JOINT DECLARATION AND IN THE BASIC LAW TO A PROCESS OF POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT IN HONG KONG WHICH RECOGNISES THE MODEST BUT GROWING ASPIRATIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE COMMUNITY, OF YOUNG PEOPLE LIKE THE ONES I HAVE MET TODAY. SO, I THINK THAT THERE WILL BE SOME QUESTIONS ASKED ABOUT THAT BUT OVERALL, I HOPE THAT PEOPLE WILL SEE IT AS A POSITIVE STATEMENT ABOUT HONG KONG'S FUTURE. AND I HOPE THAT IF THERE ARE DISAGREEMENTS ABOUT ISSUES LIKE POLITICS OR SOME ELEMENTS OF POLITICS, WE CAN TALK CALMLY AND RATIONALLY TO ONE ANOTHER AND PERHAPS PUT THEM ON ONE SIDE WHILE WE GET ON WITH THE LIVELIHOOD ISSUES WHICH DIRECTOR LU PING PUT SO MUCH EMPHASIS ON IN HIS SPEECH. AND I THINK ON THAT, PEOPLE WILL BE HOPING THAT THE SPEECH IS FOLLOWED BY PRACTICAL ACTIONS AND PRACTICAL EXAMPLES OF PROGRESS IN CO-OPERATION.

QUESTION: BUT DO YOU SEE THAT KIND OF REMARKS AS A KIND OF SNUB TOWARDS THE POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG?

GOVERNOR: I DON'T THINK THAT I WANT TO USE THAT SORT OF LANGUAGE. I'VE SAID BEFORE THAT I DON'T THINK YOU CAN TREAT HONG KONG AS JUST AN ECONOMIC LABORATORY. IT'S A LIVING, THRIVING COMMUNITY WITH ALL SORTS OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ASPIRATIONS, MODEST ONES, MODERATE ONES. WE ARE TALKING ABOUT A COMMUNITY WHICH IS THE EIGHTH LARGEST TRADING COMMUNITY IN THE WORLD. WE ARE TALKING ABOUT ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT AND IMPRESSIVE COMMUNITIES ANYWHERE AND WE ARE ALSO TALKING ABOUT CHINA'S AGREEMENT TO THE STEADY, NOT TOO RAPID, BUT THE STEADY POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG. SO, I THINK PEOPLE WILL WANT TO REMEMBER THAT WHEN THEY READ DIRECTOR LU PING'S WORDS. AND I AM SURE THAT WE'LL LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM HIM AND OTHER CHINESE OFFICIALS HOW THEY INTERPRET THE THINGS THAT THEY'VE AGREED TO IN THE JOINT DECLARATION ABOUT HONG KONG'S VALUES AND HONG KONG'S FREEDOMS. ALL THE THINGS WHICH THE YOUNG AND INTELLIGENT STUDENTS I WAS TALKING TO TODAY WOULD TAKE COMPLETELY FOR GRANTED.

/QUESTION:

QUESTION: YOU ALWAYS SAID THAT THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT DISBAND THE THREE TIERS OF ELECTIONS DURING THE CHANGEOVER, BUT DURING MR LU PING AND PWC'S TRIP IN HONG KONG, THEY ALWAYS SAID AGAIN AND AGAIN THAT THE THREE TIERS OF ELECTIONS WOULD BE DISBANDED, AND THIS MORNING HE SAID AGAIN. SO, DO YOU STILL HOPE THAT DREAM, OR STILL HOLD THAT DREAM OR PREPARE NOT FOR THAT?

GOVERNOR: I'VE SAID BEFORE THAT IT IS NO DENIAL OF CHINESE SOVEREIGNTY AFTER 1997 TO POINT OUT THAT THERE IS NO REASON WHY CHINA SHOULD THROW OUT OF THE WINDOW THE ARRANGEMENTS WHICH THE COMMUNITY REGARDS AS BEING MOST SENSIBLE AND MOST IN THE COMMUNITY'S INTERESTS. BUT I THINK IT IS A LITTLE PREMATURE TO REACH DECISIONS ON THAT. THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL HASN'T FINISHED DEBATING OUR BILL. I HOPE OUR BILL WILL GO THROUGH UNAMENDED BECAUSE IT'S AN EXTREMELY GOOD BILL. IF IT DOES GO THROUGH UNAMENDED, IT WILL PUT ON THE STATUTE BOOK ARRANGEMENTS WHICH ARE WHOLLY IN LINE NOT JUST WITH THE JOINT DECLARATION BUT WITH THE BASIC LAW. LAST.

QUESTION: MR PATTEN, DO YOU AGREE WITH MR LU PING, IN THE SPEECH, HE MENTIONED THAT STABILITY OF CHINA IS SO IMPORTANT TO THE ONE-COUNTRY-TWO SYSTEMS CONCEPT. OTHERWISE, IT WILL JUST MERELY BUILD ON SAND. WHAT WILL YOU DO IF YOU TRY TO ASSESS THE ONE-COUNTRY-TWO-SYSTEMS CONCEPT INTO REALITY?

GOVERNOR: I HAVE SAID ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS THAT IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO HONG KONG, I HAPPEN TO THINK IT'S VERY IMPORTANT TO THE REGION AND THE WORLD, THAT CHINA CONTINUES TO GROW AND DEVELOP PROSPEROUSLY, PEACEFULLY AND WITH STABILITY BECAUSE WHAT'S HAPPENING IN CHINA IS ENORMOUSLY IMPORTANT FOR ALL OF US AND ALL OF US SHOULD WANT TO SEE IT SUCCEED. I'VE MADE THAT POINT PLAIN AGAIN, AGAIN AND AGAIN. NO ONE IN THEIR RIGHT MINDS COULD CONCEIVABLY WANT CHINA TO STUMBLE OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS. CHINA IN FIFTEEN YEARS HAS MADE AN ASTONISHING TRANSFORMATION FROM THE SORT OF ECONOMICS WHICH, I THINK NONE OF US WOULD AGREE WITH, TO SOMETHING QUITE LIKE A MARKET ECONOMY. IT'S MANAGED THAT PASSAGE WITH SPECTACULAR AGILITY. OF COURSE, IT NOW FACES SOME MAJOR PROBLEMS BUT NOBODY SHOULD BE SURPRISED ABOUT THAT. PROBLEMS OF MACRO-ECONOMIC POLICY, INFLATION AND OVER-HEATING, PROBLEMS IN CHANGING OVER MAN-INDUSTRIES. THOSE ARE ALL PROBLEMS WHICH OTHERS HAVE TO TACKLE. THEY ARE BIGGER IN CHINA'S CASE BECAUSE CHINA IS SO MUCH BIGGER. BUT, I HOPE AS YOU ALL DO THAT CHINA MANAGES TO COPE WITH THEM WITH THE SAME DEXTERITY WITH WHICH CHINA'S COPE WITH ITS PROBLEMS IN THE LAST FEW YEARS AND I VERY MUCH HOPE AND SO DO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG, I BELIEVE THAT EVERYONE IN HONG KONG CAN PLAY A ROLE IN THAT SUCCESSFUL DEVELOPMENT. BUT WE ALL HAVE TO RECOGNISE, YOU DON'T HAVE, I AM NOT MAKING A CHEAP POINT, YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A MARXIST OR AN EX-MARXIST TO RECOGNISE IT THAT ECONOMICS HAS SOCIAL AND TECHNICAL AND POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES THAT THERE ARE RELATIONSHIPS. AND SUCCESSFUL GOVERNMENT AND POLITICAL LEADERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION ACCOMMODATES AND BALANCES THE TWO AND THAT'S WHAT WE'VE ALL GOT TO DO AS SATISFACTORILY AS POSSIBLE. THANK YOU VERY MUCH INDEED.

GOVERNOR VISITS HOME FOR THE AGED

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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, TODAY (FRIDAY) VISITED THE CHUK LAM MING TONG CARE AND ATTENTION HOME FOR THE AGED IN POKFULAM TO SEE HOW A SUBVENTED HOME FOR THE ELDERLY PROVIDES ITS SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MRS ELIZABETH WONG, THE GOVERNOR WAS MET ON ARRIVAL BY THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR IAN STRACHAN.

MR STRACHAN INTRODUCED TO THE GOVERNOR THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOME'S MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, MR SO TUNG-LAM, AND THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE HOME, MS LIU YIN-CHOI.

THE GOVERNOR WAS BRIEFED ON THE FACILITIES OF THE HOME WHICH PROVIDES HOME FOR THE AGED, CARE-AND-ATTENTION AND INFIRMARY SERVICE FOR PERSONS AGED 60 AND OVER.

HE LEARNED THAT THERE ARE A TOTAL OF 180 PLACES, OF WHICH 60 ARE HOME FOR THE AGED PLACES AND 120 ARE CARE-AND-ATTENTION PLACES INCLUDING 40 INFIRMARY BEDS.

THE PARTY FIRST ARRIVED AT THE HOME'S ACTIVITY ROOM TO SEE A GROUP OF ELDERLY RESIDENTS PRACTISING CHINESE CALLIGRAPHY, TAI CHI, COTTON-WOOL MAKING, HANDICRAFT, DIM SUM MAKING AND MEAL PREPARATION.

THE GOVERNOR LATER JOINED THE RESIDENTS IN CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF MADAM WOO WAI-CHUN WHO IS THE OLDEST RESIDENT AT THE HOME. THE GOVERNOR ALSO PRESENTED A BIRTHDAY CAKE TO MADAM WOO.

BEFORE DEPARTURE, THE GOVERNOR TOURED THE FACILITIES PROVIDED AT THE CARE-AND-ATTENTION CUM INFIRMARY SECTION.

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GOVERNOR THANKS LIONS FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

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THE 39-YEAR COMMUNITY SERVICE OF THE LIONS CLUB OF HONG KONG HAS EARNED WORDS OF APPRECIATION FROM THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN.

SPEAKING AT THE CLUB'S LUNCHEON TODAY (FRIDAY), MR PATTEN PAID TRIBUTE TO ITS MEMBERS' WORK IN HEALTH, EDUCATION, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, AS WELL AS SERVICES FOR YOUTH AND DISABLED.

ON ITS FUTURE PLANS, MR PATTEN WAS PLEASED TO KNOW THAT THE LIONS WERE WORKING ON A NUMBER OF NEW PROJECTS, SUCH AS A COMMUNITY CHARTER ON AIDS, A STUDENT VISIT EXCHANGE PROGRAMME FOR HONG KONG, CHINA AND TAIWAN, A PREVOCATIONAL SCHOOL AND A HEALTH SERVICE CENTRE.

AN INTERNATIONAL LIONS CLUB CONVENTION IS PLANNED IN HONG KONG FOR THE YEAR 2000.

MR PATTEN EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT THE PARTICIPANTS WOULD FIND HONG KONG PEOPLE BUILDING THE FUTURE OF THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION WITH THE SAME VIGOUR, INVENTIVENESS AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT WITH WHICH THEY HAD BUILT HONG KONG IN THE PAST.

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WHITEHEAD OPERATION PRESS REPORT DISMISSED

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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY (FRIDAY) DISMISSED AS UNTRUE A REPORT IN AN ENGLISH NEWSPAPER THAT A REQUEST HAD BEEN PUT TO THE GOVERNMENT FLYING SERVICE BY THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT OFFICERS TO USE HELICOPTERS TO DROP WATER DURING THE REMOVAL OF 1,500 VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS FROM THE WHITEHEAD DETENTION CENTRE ON APRIL 7.

"AT NO STAGE DURING THE PLANNING OF THIS OPERATION WAS THE USE OF WATER DROPPED FROM HELICOPTERS EVER CONSIDERED. SUCH USE IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE WHITEHEAD INCIDENT WOULD HAVE BEEN DANGEROUS," HE SAID.

DURING THE OPERATION IN WHITEHEAD, FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT OFFICERS WERE ON STAND-BY TO CONTROL POSSIBLE OUTBREAKS OF FIRE. THEY HAD NO OTHER ROLE.

THE SPOKESMAN CATEGORICALLY DENIED THAT THEY EVER PUT SUCH A REQUEST TO THE GOVERNMENT FLYING SERVICE.

"CRITICISM OF MR ERIC MCCOSH, THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES ATTRIBUTED TO PAM BAKER OF REFUGEE CONCERN AND RECORDED IN THE REPORT WAS ILL-FOUNDED AND IRRESPONSIBLE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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HK REPRESENTATIVES TO APEC PACIFIC BUSINESS FORUM NAMED

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HONG KONG HAS NOMINATED TWO PROMINENT LEADERS FROM THE BUSINESS SECTOR TO REPRESENT THE TERRITORY IN THE ASIAN PACIFIC ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION (APEC) PACIFIC BUSINESS FORUM, THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR CHAU TAK-HAY, ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THEY ARE MR LINUS CHEUNG WING-LAM, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF HONG KONG TELECOM AND DR SARAH LIAO SAU-TUNG, DIRECTOR OF EHS CONSULTANTS LTD.

THE PACIFIC BUSINESS FORUM WAS ONE OF THE INITIATIVES AGREED BY THE APEC ECONOMIC LEADERS' MEETING IN SEATTLE ON NOVEMBER 20, 1993.

THE AIM OF THE FORUM IS TO FACILITATE REGIONAL TRADE AND INVESTMENT AND ENCOURAGE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF BUSINESS NETWORKS THROUGHOUT THE REGION.

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THE FORUM WILL BE TASKED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF IDENTIFYING THE MOST IMPORTANT FACTORS THAT SUPPORT OR CONSTRAIN BUSINESS ACTIVITIES IN THE REGION AND RECOMMENDING STEPS THAT APEC COULD TAKE TO IMPROVE THE BUSINESS CLIMATE.

"WITH THE WIDE EXPERIENCE THEY HAVE IN THE BUSINESS SECTOR, I AM SURE THAT MR CHEUNG AND DR LIAO WILL MAKE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE FORUM," MR CHAU SAID.

THE FORUM IS EXPECTED TO MEET AT LEAST TWICE BEFORE THE SECOND ECONOMIC LEADERS' MEETING IN INDONESIA IN NOVEMBER 1994. THE DATE AND VENUE OF THE FIRST MEETING HAVE YET TO BE FIXED.

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HK HOME TO SOPHISTICATED TELECOMMUNICATIONS CENTRE

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HONG KONG HAS BECOME THE LOGISTICAL BASE AND NERVE CENTRE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTHERN CHINA BECAUSE IT IS HOME TO ONE OF THE MOST EFFICIENT AND SOPHISTICATED TELECOMMUNICATIONS CENTRES IN THE WORLD, THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MR GORDON SIU, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE ANNIVERSARY DINNER OF THE BRITISH COMPUTER SOCIETY (HONG KONG SECTION), MR SIU SAID HONG KONG WAS ALSO THE DE FACTO TELECOMMUNICATIONS HUB OF THE REGION.

MR SIU SAID TO MAINTAIN ITS COMPETITIVENESS, HONG KONG HAD TO MAINTAIN ITS LEADING EDGE IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.

"HONG KONG IS FORTUNATE IN THAT WE HAVE ALREADY MADE A HEAD START," HE SAID.

"WE ARE THE FIRST CITY IN THE WORLD THAT HAS A COMPREHENSIVE FIBRE OPTIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK AND FULLY DIGITALISED TELEPHONE EXCHANGE SYSTEM.

"WE WILL SHORTLY BE ISSUING LOCAL FIXED NETWORK LICENCES TO THREE ADDITIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS OPERATORS SO THAT THE RANGE OF SERVICES AND TECHNOLOGY AVAILABLE TO BUSINESS AND DOMESTIC CUSTOMERS WILL BE EVEN WIDER.

"IN SHORT, WE ARE MAKING SURE THAT THE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IS IN PLACE," MR SIU SAID.

TO ENSURE HONG KONG'S EDUCATION SYSTEM WAS PRODUCING WORKERS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE NEXT GENERATION, MR SIU SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD SPENT \$40 MILLION IN EQUIPPING SCHOOLS WITH COMPUTERS AND ANOTHER \$20 MILLION MORE WOULD BE SPENT.

MORE THAN 350 SCHOOLS ARE NOW OFFERING COMPUTER STUDIES COURSES.

/TO IMPROVE

TO IMPROVE EFFICIENCY, THE GOVERNMENT WAS ENGAGING IN A \$600 MILLION-PROJECT DESIGNED TO LINK COMPUTER FACILITIES AND SYSTEMS IN GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, MR SIU SAID.

THE GOVERNMENT HAD ALSO SET UP A JOINT EQUITY COMPANY, TRADELINK, WITH 11 MAJOR HONG KONG ENTERPRISES TO PROVIDE A CATALYST FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF A COMMUNITY WIDE ELECTRONIC DATA INTERCHANGE SERVICE, HE SAID.

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SPEL EXCHANGES VIEWS WITH CONSUMER COUNCIL

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THE SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS, MR TONY EASON, TODAY (FRIDAY) EXCHANGED VIEWS WITH THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CONSUMER COUNCIL, PROF EDWARD CHEN, AND THE COUNCIL'S CHIEF EXECUTIVE, MRS PAMELA CHAN, ON A NUMBER OF ISSUES CONCERNING CONSUMER PROTECTION IN PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS.

MR EASON SAID: "THE MEETING WILL BE VERY USEFUL IN HELPING THE TASK FORCE FORMULATE ITS RECOMMENDATIONS ON INCREASING LAND SUPPLY AND DEALING WITH PROPERTY SPECULATION.

"WE DISCUSSED PROPERTY PRE-SALE ARRANGEMENTS AND WAYS TO ASSIST POTENTIAL FLAT BUYERS TO OBTAIN MORE UP-TO-DATE AND COMPREHENSIVE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROPERTY MARKET AND THE FLAT SUPPLY SITUATION IN THE LONGER TERM."

TODAY'S MEETING FORMED PART OF THE CURRENT CONSULTATION THAT MR EASON IS HAVING WITH RELEVANT GROUPS AND BODIES. VIEWS SOLICITED IN THIS PROCESS WILL HELP THE TASK FORCE FORMULATE ITS RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR TO INCREASE LAND SUPPLY AND TO MODERATE PROPERTY PRICES.

MR EASON SAID: "OUR WORK IS PROCEEDING WELL AND IT REMAINS OUR TARGET TO COMPLETE OUR WORK BY THE END OF JUNE."

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HONG KONG FESTIVAL FOR 1995

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THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL HAS ENDORSED A PROPOSAL TO HOLD A LARGE-SCALE HONG KONG FESTIVAL LATE NEXT YEAR TO HELP FOSTER COMMUNITY SPIRIT AND PROMOTE A SENSE OF BELONGING AMONG RESIDENTS.

THE FESTIVAL WILL LAST FOR ABOUT THREE WEEKS, BEGINNING AROUND LATE OCTOBER TO EARLY NOVEMBER 1995.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE RECREATION AND CULTURE BRANCH TODAY (FRIDAY) SAID: "THE SUCCESS OF THE HONG KONG FESTIVAL IN CANADA IN 1992 ENCOURAGED US TO COME UP WITH THIS IDEA. THAT EVENT SHOWED THAT HONG KONG HAS THE ORGANISING ABILITY AND CREATIVE TALENT TO MOUNT A SUCCESSFUL PROGRAMME.

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"THE HIGH LEVEL OF SUPPORT IN HONG KONG FOR THAT FESTIVAL ALSO SHOWED THAT THE COMMUNITY IS VERY WILLING TO RALLY ROUND TO CONTRIBUTE TO SUCH EVENTS."

THE MAIN AIM OF THE PLANNED HONG KONG FESTIVAL IS TO BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER, TO PROVIDE A RALLYING POINT FOR THE COMMUNITY TO SHARE AND ENJOY THE FRUITS OF THE YEARS OF EFFORT AND PERSEVERANCE THAT HAVE LED TO ECONOMIC SUCCESS AND TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR HOME-GROWN ARTISTIC AND SPORTING TALENT.

"THE FESTIVAL WILL AT THE SAME TIME REFLECT HONG KONG'S COSMOPOLITAN CHARACTER WITH INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION BOTH THROUGH LOCAL EXPATRIATE GROUPS AND THE CONTRIBUTION OF TALENT FROM OVERSEAS," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE TWO MUNICIPAL COUNCILS, THE HONG KONG TOURIST ASSOCIATION AND THE HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL ARE BEING INVITED TO BECOME CO-ORGANISERS.

THEY WILL BE REPRESENTED ON A STEERING COMMITTEE TO BE CHAIRED BY A PROMINENT MEMBER OF THE COMMUNITY.

THE STEERING COMMITTEE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DESIGNING A MAJOR THEME, FORMULATING STRATEGY AND GIVING DIRECTION FOR THE ORGANISATION OF THE FESTIVAL.

AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE FOR DETAILED PROGRAMME PLANNING WILL ALSO BE SET UP.

"IT IS ENVISAGED THAT DISTRICT BOARDS, TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS, LOCAL RECREATIONAL AND ARTS GROUPS, TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS, CHARITABLE BODIES, BUSINESS COMPANIES, THE MEDIA, CONSULATES ETC. WILL ALSO BE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN THE ORGANISATION OF BOTH KEY AND SUPPORTING EVENTS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THE PROGRAMME MAY INCLUDE CARNIVALS, FIREWORKS DISPLAYS, FLOATS AND PARADES, YOUTH RALLIES, OPEN-AIR CONCERTS, COMMUNITY BAZAARS, FILM SHOWS, ARTS AND ARCHITECTURAL EXHIBITIONS, CULTURAL PERFORMANCES, SPORTS EVENTS, PHOTOGRAPH, MUSIC, AND PAINTING COMPETITIONS."

IT IS EXPECTED THAT FUNDING FOR THE FESTIVAL WOULD COME FROM THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR ON AN EQUAL SHARING BASIS.

THE STEERING COMMITTEE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR FINANCIAL PLANNING AND FOR DRAWING UP THE BUDGET.

THE TWO MUNICIPAL COUNCILS ARE EXPECTED TO CONTRIBUTE BY PROVIDING PERFORMANCES AND VENUES FREE OF CHARGE.

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PLANNING DEPARTMENT ACTS AGAINST UNAUTHORISED DEVELOPMENTS

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THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN TAKING ENFORCEMENT ACTION UNDER THE 1991 TOWN PLANNING (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE AGAINST UNAUTHORISED DEVELOPMENTS IN RURAL AREAS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, INCLUDING SAN TIN AND NGAU TAM MEI.

THESE UNAUTHORISED DEVELOPMENTS INCLUDE POND FILLING, SITE FORMATION, OPEN STORAGE AND CONTAINER VEHICLE PARKS.

UP TILL NOW, 29 SUMMONSES HAVE BEEN ISSUED IN RESPECT OF THREE CASES OF UNAUTHORISED DEVELOPMENTS IN SAN TIN AND NGAU TAM MEI AREA.

THE PURPOSE OF THESE ENFORCEMENT AND PROSECUTION ACTIONS IS TO PREVENT FURTHER PROLIFERATION OF UNAUTHORISED DEVELOPMENTS AND DETERIORATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT IN THIS AREA.

IT IS WORTH NOTING THAT THESE UNAUTHORISED DEVELOPMENTS HAVE HAD NO PERMISSION FROM THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD, THUS CONTRAVENING THE PROVISIONS OF THE TOWN PLANNING ORDINANCE.

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ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION FUND TO BE SET UP

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THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL HAS APPROVED THAT A BILL SHOULD BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FOR THE SETTING UP OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION FUND TO SUPPORT EDUCATIONAL, RESEARCH AND OTHER PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL AND CONSERVATION MATTERS.

SUBJECT TO THE ENACTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION FUND BILL AND FUNDING APPROVAL BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE, THE FUND WILL BE SET UP WITH AN INITIAL CAPITAL INJECTION OF \$50 MILLION BY THE GOVERNMENT AS ANNOUNCED BY THE GOVERNOR IN HIS LAST POLICY ADDRESS.

THE SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS (SPEL) WILL BE THE TRUSTEE OF THE FUND WHICH WILL PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO COMMUNITY GROUPS AND OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL BODIES TO UNDERTAKE WORTHWHILE ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS.

THE BILL ALSO PROVIDES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION FUND COMMITTEE TO ADVISE THE TRUSTEE ON MATTERS CONCERNING THE APPLICATION OF THE FUND.

THE COMMITTEE WILL CONSIST OF A CHAIRMAN APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR, MAXIMUM OF FOUR OTHER MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR AND EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS FROM RELEVANT GOVERNMENT BRANCHES AND DEPARTMENTS.

SPEL, AS THE TRUSTEE, WILL TABLE BEFORE THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ANNUALLY THE AUDITED ACCOUNT AND HIS REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FUND.

THE BILL WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON MAY 18 THIS YEAR.

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FOUR DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION AREA PLANS APPROVED

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THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL HAS APPROVED FOUR DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION AREA (DPA) PLANS FOR LAU FAU SHAN AND TSIM BEI TSUI, NAM SANG WAI, KAM TIN SOUTH AND KAM TIN NORTH IN YUEN LONG, THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THEY ARE RURAL AREAS ENGAGED IN OPEN STORAGE AND INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES MIXED WITH RURAL SETTLEMENTS.

IN RECENT YEARS, MANY FISH PONDS AND AGRICULTURAL LAND HAVE BEEN CONVERTED INTO CAR-REPAIRING YARDS AND CONTAINER STORAGE USE.

"THESE USES HAVE DEGRADED THE RURAL ENVIRONMENT AND CREATED VARIOUS PROBLEMS SUCH AS TRAFFIC CONGESTION, VISUAL BLIGHT AND FLOODING.

"THE DPA PLANS ARE PUBLISHED TO INTRODUCE PROPER PLANNING CONTROL AND DEVELOPMENT GUIDANCE FOR THE RURAL AREAS AND TO PREVENT THE PROLIFERATION OF UNCO-ORDINATED DEVELOPMENTS SO THAT THE RURAL ENVIRONMENT WILL NOT BE DEGRADED FURTHER," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD SAID.

THREE SITES OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST (SSSIS) OF ABOUT 87 HECTARES HAVE BEEN DESIGNATED IN TSIM BEI TSUI AND AROUND THE INNER DEEP BAY.

"THESE SITES ARE IMPORTANT EGRETRIES PROVIDING A NESTING PLACE FOR DIFFERENT SPECIES OF EGRET AND HERON IN THE TERRITORY. THEY ARE ALSO THE LARGEST AND THE MOST IMPORTANT DWARF MANGROVE COMMUNITIES IN HONG KONG.

"ALL THE SSSIS ARE LOCATED WITHIN DEEP BAY BUFFER ZONE ONE. THE PLANNING INTENTION FOR BUFFER ZONE ONE IS TO PROTECT THE SPECIAL ECOLOGICAL VALUE OF THE INNER DEEP BAY AREA AND THE MAI PO NATURE RESERVE IN PARTICULAR.

"NEW DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THIS ZONE WOULD NOT BE ALLOWED UNLESS IT IS REQUIRED TO SUPPORT THE CONSERVATION OF NATURAL FEATURES IN THE AREA," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

MEANWHILE, 'OPEN STORAGE' ZONES OF ABOUT 22 HECTARES AND SEVEN HECTARES HAVE BEEN DESIGNATED IN THE KAM TIN NORTH DPA PLAN AND THE NAM SANG WAI DPA PLAN RESPECTIVELY TO PROVIDE LAND FOR OPEN STORAGE USES.

OPEN STORAGE USES WHICH HAVE NO ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECT WOULD BE PERMITTED THERE.

STORAGE USES WHICH MAY CAUSE ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION, SUCH AS FOR CAR BREAKING AND DANGEROUS GOODS, WOULD REQUIRE PLANNING PERMISSION FROM THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD.

PLANNING PERMISSION IS ALSO REQUIRED FOR DEVELOPMENT IN THE 'UNSPECIFIED USES' AREAS EXCEPT THOSE WHICH HAVE BEEN SPECIFIED IN THE NOTES OF THE PLANS.

"AREAS HAVE ALSO BEEN SET ASIDE ON THE PLANS FOR SMALL HOUSE DEVELOPMENT AND FOR LOW-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL USE.

"IN ADDITION, THERE ARE 'GREEN BELT' ZONES DELINEATING AREAS WITH LANDSCAPE AND AMENITY VALUE; AND 'GOVERNMENT/INSTITUTION/COMMUNITY' ZONES RESERVING LAND TO MEET LOCAL AND DISTRICT DEMANDS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

ALL FOUR APPROVED DPA PLANS ARE BEING EXHIBITED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION UNTIL MAY 13 AT THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT, 16TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG.

THEY ARE ALSO ON DISPLAY AT THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT OFFICE, GROUND FLOOR, YUEN LONG DISTRICT OFFICES BUILDING, 269 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, YUEN LONG; AND THE TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG DISTRICT PLANNING OFFICE, LEVEL 11, METROPLAZA TOWER 1, 223 HING FONG ROAD, KWAI FONG IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

COPIES OF THE PLANS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT THE SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, AND THE KOWLOON MAP SALES SECTION, 382 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

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FOOTBRIDGE PROPOSED FOR SHA TIN

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THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS PLANNING TO CONSTRUCT A FOOTBRIDGE AT THE JUNCTION OF CHE KUNG MIU ROAD AND HUNG MUI KUK ROAD IN SHA TIN.

THE PROJECT, WHICH IS PART OF THE CONTINUING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR THE NEW TOWN, ALSO INCLUDES ASSOCIATED ROAD IMPROVEMENT WORKS.

THE PROPOSED WORKS INVOLVE THE CONSTRUCTION OF:

- * A COVERED FOOTBRIDGE WITH FOUR ESCALATORS AND STAIRS FOR PEDESTRIANS AND RAMPS FOR CYCLISTS;
- * A ROUNDABOUT TO REPLACE THE EXISTING SIGNALISED ROAD JUNCTION;
- * ROAD IMPROVEMENT WORKS ON CHE KUNG MIU ROAD, HUNG MUI KUK ROAD AND MEI TIN ROAD; AND
- * FOOTPATHS, CYCLE TRACKS, DRAINAGE AND LANDSCAPING.

SOME EXISTING ACCESS MAY HAVE TO BE CLOSED TO FACILITATE THE WORKS. BUT PERMANENT ALTERNATIVE ACCESS WOULD BE PROVIDED TO CATER FOR ROADS THAT HAVE TO BE CLOSED.

DURING THE CONSTRUCTION PERIOD, NECESSARY ACCESS WILL BE MAINTAINED TO MINIMISE ANY INCONVENIENCE TO THE PUBLIC.

A NOTICE ABOUT THE PROPOSED WORKS WAS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

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THE PLAN AND SCHEME SHOWING THE PROPOSED WORKS CAN BE SEEN DURING OFFICE HOURS AT:

- * THE PUBLIC ENQUIRIES SERVICE CENTRE OF THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, GROUND FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG;
- * SHA TIN DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, 2 TUNG LO WAN HILL ROAD, SHA TIN, NEW TERRITORIES; AND
- * SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE, SIXTH FLOOR, KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN RAILWAY STATION, NEW TERRITORIES.

ANY PERSON WISHING TO OBJECT TO THE PROPOSALS SHOULD WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ABLERT ROAD, HONG KONG BEFORE JULY 5, DESCRIBING HIS INTEREST AND MANNER IN WHICH HE WILL BE AFFECTED.

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CAR RAMP TO OCEAN TERMINAL PROPOSED

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS PROPOSED GRANTING A SHORT-TERM TENANCY TO WHARF PROPERTIES LIMITED TO CONSTRUCT A RAMP WITHIN ABOUT 2,000 SQUARE METRES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED ADJOINING OCEAN TERMINAL IN KOWLOON.

THE TWO-WAY SPIRAL PUBLIC VEHICULAR RAMP WILL CONNECT OCEAN TERMINAL AND OCEAN CENTRE PRAYA ROAD, AND WORK WILL START IN JULY FOR COMPLETION IN MAY 1995.

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

THE NOTICE, AND ITS RELATED PLAN, CAN BE SEEN ON NOTICE BOARDS POSTED NEAR THE SITE. THE PLAN CAN ALSO BE SEEN AT THE LANDS DEPARTMENT'S SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG; THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, GROUND FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG AND AT THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICE, GROUND FLOOR, MIDDLE ROAD CARPARK BUILDING, 15 MIDDLE ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI, KOWLOON.

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HE HAS AN INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED MAY SUBMIT A WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE DIRECTOR OF LANDS ON OR BEFORE JULY 6, 1994. HE SHOULD ALSO DESCRIBE THE MANNER IN WHICH HE ALLEGES HE WILL BE AFFECTED.

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DSD LOOKS FOR EQUIPMENT SUPPLIERS

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THE DRAINAGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING PRE-QUALIFICATION SUBMISSIONS FOR A WORKS CONTRACT FOR STAGE I OF THE STRATEGIC SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEME.

THE CONTRACT WILL COVER THE DESIGN, MODELLING, SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING AND COMMISSIONING OF ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT FOR THE SEDIMENTATION TANKS TO BE BUILT FOR A SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS ON STONECUTTERS ISLAND.

A NOTICE INVITING THE SUBMISSIONS WAS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

ONLY CONTRACTORS WITH EXPERIENCE IN THE DESIGN, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT FOR SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS WITH A TREATMENT PLANT DESIGN CAPACITY EXCEEDING 10 CUBIC METRES PER SECOND ARE INVITED TO APPLY FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION DOCUMENT FROM THE PROJECT'S CONSULTANT, MONTGOMERY WATSON HONG KONG LIMITED, 1911 WINDSOR HOUSE, 311 GLOUCESTER ROAD, CAUSEWAY BAY.

THE APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE CONSULTANT BEFORE NOON ON JUNE 16.

THE DRAINAGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL INVITE TENDERS FROM THE PRE-QUALIFIED CONTRACTORS LATER THIS YEAR.

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SWD HELPS EXPANSION OF CHARITY WORK INTO CHINA

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THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, THE CHARITY WORK OF THE LEPROSY MISSION, AN INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL AGENCY BASED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, MAY BE FURTHER EXPANDED INTO CHINA IN THE FIELD OF LEPROSY REHABILITATION.

A CHEQUE OF 10,000 POUND STERLING WAS TODAY (FRIDAY) PRESENTED TO THE MISSION BY MR HO SAU-KI, A PHILANTHROPIST IN HONG KONG IN THE PRESENCE OF THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR IAN STRACHAN, WHO ARRANGED THE DONATION. THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH, DR S H LEE, AND DR HARRY S Y FANG WERE ALSO PRESENT.

MR STRACHAN SAID THAT THE MISSION HAD A CLOSE LINK WITH HONG KONG DATING BACK TO THE 60S AND 70S TO HELP THE PEOPLE WITH LEPROSY WHO WERE DEPRIVED AND REJECTED.

MR STRACHAN SAID: "THE ORGANISATION PROVIDED A VALUABLE SERVICE TO PEOPLE WHO SUFFERED FROM LEPROSY WHO WERE THEN BEING CARED FOR AND TREATED IN HEI LING CHAU.

SUBSEQUENTLY ITS ROLE IN HONG KONG HAD DIMINISHED AFTER THE CLOSURE OF THE CENTRE THAT CAME ABOUT THE SUCCESSFUL TREATMENT OF LEPROSY VICTIMS.

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"HOWEVER THE AGENCY IS STILL COMMITTED TO THE CARE AND TREATMENT OF A QUARTER OF A MILLION LEPROSY PATIENTS EACH YEAR ALL OVER THE WORLD."

MR STRACHAN ADDED THAT SINCE 1990 THE LEPROSY MISSION HAD BEEN WORKING IN COLLABORATION WITH THE CHINESE HEALTH AUTHORITIES ON A REHABILITATION PROJECT IN MID-SOUTH AND SOUTH-WEST CHINA AND IN COASTAL REGIONS.

THE DONATION WILL BE USED TO CONDUCT AN EVALUATION STUDY FOR THE PROJECT WITH A VIEW TO FURTHER DEVELOPING THE PROGRAMME.

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OPEN EMPLOYMENT FOR DISABLED PERSONS VITAL

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ALL EMPLOYERS SHOULD BE OPEN-MINDED TOWARDS DISABLED PERSONS, TO FOCUS ON THEIR ABILITIES AND TO TAKE THEM ON AS EMPLOYEES.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE GREENWOOD MORNINGHILL SCHOOL TODAY (FRIDAY), MRS PATTEN SAID MANY OF THE DISABLED PERSONS HAD THE CAPABILITIES TO WORK IN OPEN EMPLOYMENT AND COULD MAKE A USEFUL CONTRIBUTION IF THEY WERE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY.

AT PRESENT, MORE THAN FOUR PER CENT OF THE POPULATION SUFFER FROM SOME FORM OF DISABILITY.

"REHABILITATION AIMS AT DEVELOPING THE CAPABILITIES OF DISABLED PERSONS, SO HELPING THEM TO LEAD FULL AND INDEPENDENT LIVES.

"IT IS PRIMARILY THROUGH OPEN EMPLOYMENT THAT THE GOAL OF INTEGRATION IS ACHIEVED," MRS PATTEN SAID.

THE SCHOOL, WHICH PROVIDES 200 PLACES FOR MILDLY MENTALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN, IS ONE OF THE PROJECTS BY THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED.

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SECONDARY STUDENTS URGED TO BECOME VOTERS

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TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICER, MR PO PUI-LEONG, TODAY (FRIDAY) APPEALED TO SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN THE AREA TO REGISTER AS VOTERS.

SPEAKING AT THE TAI PO DISTRICT OUTSTANDING STUDENTS AWARD, HE ENCOURAGED STUDENTS TO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN THE SEPTEMBER DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS IF THEY WANTED TO ELECT A RESPONSIBLE DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER TO REPRESENT THEM.

AS THE VOTING AGE HAS NOW BEEN LOWERED TO 18, HE ALSO HOPED THAT MORE YOUNG PEOPLE WOULD RESPOND.

HIS OFFICE WILL ARRANGE A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES INCLUDING DOOR-TO-DOOR VISITS AND VARIETY SHOWS TO PROMOTE THE MESSAGE.

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39 ECVIIS SENT BACK

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A TOTAL OF 39 EX-CHINA VIETNAMESE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS, INCLUDING 30 MEN, FIVE WOMEN, TWO BOYS AND TWO GIRLS, WERE RETURNED TO GUANGDONG VIA SHA TAU KOK THIS (FRIDAY) MORNING.

DISCUSSIONS ARE CONTINUING WITH THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES ON THE REPATRIATION OF THE 670 ECVIIS STILL REMAINING IN HONG KONG.

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HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	\$ MILLION	TIME (HOURS)	CUMULATIVE CHANGE (\$ MILLION)
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OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,925	0930	+540
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,634	1000	+540
CHANGE ATTRIBUTABLE TO :		1100	+740
MONEY MARKET ACTIVITY	+736	1200	+740
LAF TODAY	-1027	1500	+740
		1600	+736
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER	TWI 124.7	*+0.2*	6.5.94

HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY

EF BILLS

EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.89	19 MONTHS	2511	4.15	97.68	5.82
1 MONTH	3.53	22 MONTHS	2602	4.40	97.29	6.12
3 MONTHS	4.05	30 MONTHS	3610	4.20	94.70	6.66
6 MONTHS	4.62	33 MONTHS	3701	4.60	94.90	6.78
12 MONTHS	5.22	36 MONTHS	3704	6.15	98.43	6.85

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 22,099 MN

CLOSED 6 MAY 1994

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