



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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BILL TO UPDATE MENTAL HEALTH LAW PROPOSED

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS PROPOSED EXTENSIVE LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS TO UPDATE THE LAW GOVERNING THE RECEPTION, DETENTION AND TREATMENT OF MENTALLY DISORDERED PERSONS.

AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (THURSDAY), THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MR JOHN CHAMBERS, DETAILED THE CHANGES PROPOSED IN THE MENTAL HEALTH (AMENDMENT) BILL 1987.

MR CHAMBERS SAID THAT MANY PROVISIONS IN THE EXISTING MENTAL HEALTH ORDINANCE (CHAPTER 136 OF THE LAWS OF HONG KONG) HAD BECOME OUTDATED DUE TO CHANGES IN REHABILITATION CONCEPTS FOR AND THE SOCIAL ATTITUDE TOWARDS MENTALLY DISORDERED PERSONS.

"THE MAIN DEFECTS OF THE EXISTING ORDINANCE LIE IN THE ABSENCE OF A MANDATORY REQUIREMENT FOR A MEDICAL ASSESSMENT BEFORE A PATIENT IS DETAINED IN A MENTAL HOSPITAL FOR OBSERVATION; THE LACK OF PROVISION FOR GUARDIANSHIP FOR THE MENTALLY DISORDERED PERSONS OVER 18 YEARS OF AGE; THE LACK OF PROVISION TO PERMIT CONDITIONAL DISCHARGE OF PATIENTS WITH POWER FOR THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT TO RECALL THE PATIENTS WHO FAIL TO COMPLY WITH CONDITIONS HE IMPOSED; THE ABSENCE OF A CHANNEL FOR APPEAL BY NON-OFFENDER PATIENTS SIMILAR TO THAT CURRENTLY PROVIDED FOR OFFENDER PATIENTS; AND THE LACK OF A CLEAR LEGAL AUTHORITY FOR THE POLICE TO REMOVE SUSPECTED MENTALLY DISORDERED PERSONS WHO ARE IN IMMEDIATE NEED OF CARE AND CONTROL TO HOSPITAL," MR CHAMBERS SAID.

WITH A VIEW TO REMOVING THESE DEFECTS AND UPDATING THE PROVISION IN THE ORDINANCE, THE MENTAL HEALTH (AMENDMENT) BILL PROPOSES EXTENSIVE LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS. THE MAIN PROVISIONS IN THE BILL INCLUDE:

- (A) REPLACEMENT OF DEFINITION OF 'MENTALLY DISORDERED PERSON' BY A DEFINITION OF MENTAL DISORDER.

THE BILL, HOWEVER, PROVIDES THAT NO PERSON MAY BE DEALT WITH AS SUFFERING FROM MENTAL DISORDER BY REASON OF PROMISCUITY OR OTHER IMMORAL CONDUCT, SEXUAL DEVIANCY, OR DEPENDENCE ON DRUGS OR ALCOHOL.

IT ALSO STIPULATES THAT OF THE MEDICAL OPINIONS GIVEN IN SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION FOR COMPULSORY DETENTION BEYOND THE INITIAL OBSERVATION PERIOD OR FOR GUARDIANSHIP, ONE OF THE EXAMINING DOCTORS MUST HAVE SPECIAL EXPERIENCE IN THE DIAGNOSIS OR TREATMENT OF MENTAL DISORDER.

- (B) THE REVISION OF ADMISSION PROCEDURE TO INCLUDE MEDICAL INPUT.

AS A RESULT, AN APPLICATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DETENTION AND OBSERVATION MUST IN FUTURE BE FOUNDED ON THE WRITTEN OPINION OF A REGISTERED MEDICAL PRACTITIONER WHO HAS TO BE SATISFIED THAT THE ADMISSION IS JUSTIFIED BY THE NATURE AND DEGREE OF THE MENTAL DISORDER AND IS NECESSARY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE PATIENT'S HEALTH OR SAFETY OR FOR THE PROTECTION OF OTHER PERSONS.

/THE BILL

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THE BILL ALSO PROVIDES THAT AN ORDER FOR THE PURPOSE OF DETENTION AND OBSERVATION MAY BE MADE WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF THE PATIENT'S RELATIVE. HOWEVER, THE DOCTOR OR SOCIAL WORKER WHO MADE THE APPLICATION WILL BE REQUIRED TO TAKE ALL PRACTICAL STEPS TO INFORM A RELATIVE OF THE PATIENT.

ORDERS FOR DETENTION AND OBSERVATION SHALL CONTINUE TO BE SIGNED BY A DISTRICT JUDGE, MAGISTRATE OR JUSTICE OF THE PEACE AND IT IS NOT PROPOSED TO MAKE ANY CHANGE TO THIS EXISTING ARRANGEMENT.

- (C) ADMISSION OF MENTALLY HANDICAPPED AND MENTALLY DISORDERED PERSONS ABOVE THE AGE OF 18 TO GUARDIANSHIP.

THE POWERS OF THE GUARDIAN WHO CAN BE EITHER THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE OR ANY PERSON APPROVED BY HIM, INCLUDE THE AUTHORITY TO APPOINT A PLACE OF RESIDENCE AND TO REQUIRE ACCESS TO IT TO BE GIVEN TO DOCTORS, SOCIAL WORKERS AND OTHER SPECIFIED PERSONS AND TO REQUIRE THE PERSON SUBJECT TO GUARDIANSHIP TO ATTEND AT SPECIFIED PLACES FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT, TRAINING, EDUCATION OR OCCUPATION.

TO ENSURE THAT GUARDIANSHIP IS SUBJECT TO REGULAR REVIEW, ALL GUARDIANSHIP ARRANGEMENTS SHALL CEASE TO BE OF ANY EFFECT ON THE EXPIRATION OF TWO YEARS FROM THEIR COMMENCEMENT UNLESS RENEWED BY A FURTHER APPLICATION TO THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE.

- (D) CONDITIONAL DISCHARGE FOR MENTAL PATIENTS WHO HAVE A MEDICAL HISTORY OF VIOLENCE OR A DISPOSITION TO COMMIT SUCH VIOLENCE BUT IN THE VIEW OF MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT ARE READY FOR DISCHARGE FROM MENTAL HOSPITAL.

THE CONDITIONS WHICH CAN BE IMPOSED BY THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT MAY INCLUDE A REQUIREMENT TO RESIDE IN A SPECIFIED PLACE, TO ATTEND FOR OUT-PATIENT TREATMENT, TO TAKE PRESCRIBED MEDICINE, OR TO BE SUPERVISED BY THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE.

PATIENTS WHO FAIL TO COMPLY WITH ANY SUCH CONDITIONS MAY BE RECALLED TO THE HOSPITAL. SUBJECT TO THE CONSENT OF THE GOVERNOR AND ON THE ADVICE OF A DOCTOR, IT IS PROPOSED THAT SIMILAR POWERS FOR CONDITIONAL DISCHARGE BE GIVEN TO THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES FOR OFFENDER PATIENTS DETAINED IN THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT PSYCHIATRIC CENTRE.

/(E) ADMISSION OF

(E) ADMISSION OF OFFENDER PATIENTS INTO A MENTAL HOSPITAL.

THIS INCREASES THE OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO A SENTENCING COURT OR MAGISTRATE TO ORDER AN OFFENDER TO BE DETAINED IN A MENTAL HOSPITAL AS IF HE WERE ADMITTED AS A NON-OFFENDER PATIENT AND HE WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR DISCHARGE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT WITHOUT ADDITIONAL RESTRICTION.

(F) CONTINUED DETENTION OF CRIMINAL PATIENTS IN CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT PSYCHIATRIC CENTRE AFTER EXPIRY OF THEIR PRISON SENTENCES.

WHERE AN OFFENDER PATIENT HAS BEEN DETAINED IN THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT PSYCHIATRIC CENTRE AND IT IS CONSIDERED THAT HE SHOULD NOT BE DISCHARGED AT THE END OF THE TERM OF THE PRISON SENTENCE OR PERIOD OF THE HOSPITAL ORDER, THE BILL PROVIDES THAT THE DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES MAY APPLY TO THE COURT FOR A HOSPITAL ORDER AUTHORISING FURTHER DETENTION.

SUCH APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUPPORTED BY MEDICAL OPINION AND JUSTIFIED BY THE NATURE AND DEGREE OF THE MENTAL DISORDER AND THE NEED TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC.

(G) THE SETTING UP OF A MENTAL HEALTH REVIEW TRIBUNAL TO REPLACE THE EXISTING HOSPITAL ORDER APPEAL TRIBUNAL WHICH ONLY DEALS WITH PETITIONS SUBMITTED BY OFFENDER PATIENTS.

THE TRIBUNAL WILL BE CHAIRED BY A PERSON WITH SUITABLE LEGAL EXPERIENCE AND WILL CONSIST OF MEMBERS DRAWN FROM THE MEDICAL FIELD, SOCIAL WORK AND OTHER PROFESSIONS.

IT IS EMPOWERED TO REVIEW THE CASE OF A PATIENT LIABLE TO DETENTION, OR PERMITTED TO BE ABSENT FOR A TRIAL PERIOD, OR CONDITIONALLY DISCHARGED OR ADMITTED TO GUARDIANSHIP.

IN ADDITION, THE BILL STIPULATES THAT IF A PATIENT OR HIS RELATIVE DOES NOT EXERCISE THE RIGHT TO APPLY TO THE TRIBUNAL WITHIN 12 MONTHS AFTER THE RIGHT FIRST BECOMES AVAILABLE, THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT OR THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, AS APPROPRIATE, MUST REFER THE PATIENT'S CASE TO THE TRIBUNAL FOR AN AUTOMATIC REVIEW.

(H) DUTY TO GIVE INFORMATION TO DETAINED PATIENTS.

IT REQUIRES THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT OF EVERY MENTAL HOSPITAL OR THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES PSYCHIATRIC CENTRE TO TAKE SUCH STEPS AS ARE PRACTICABLE TO ENSURE THAT EVERY PATIENT IN A MENTAL HOSPITAL IS INFORMED OF THE PATIENT'S RIGHT UNDER THE ORDINANCE.

/(I) POWERS TO

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(I) POWERS TO ENTER PRIVATE PREMISES AND TO REMOVE MENTALLY DISORDERED PERSONS.

THE BILL PROVIDES THAT A MAGISTRATE MAY GRANT A WARRANT AUTHORISING A POLICE OFFICER AND OTHER AUTHORISED PERSONS TO ENTER ANY PRIVATE PREMISES IN THE PRESENCE OF AN APPROVED SOCIAL WORKER OR COMMUNITY PSYCHIATRIC NURSE IF THERE IS REASON TO BELIEVE THAT A PERSON LIABLE TO BE TAKEN OR RETAKEN UNDER THE ORDINANCE OR A PERSON SUSPECTED TO BE SUFFERING FROM MENTAL DISORDER IS TO BE FOUND THERE.

IT ALSO EMPOWERS A POLICE OFFICER TO TAKE INTO CUSTODY A SUSPECTED MENTALLY DISORDERED PERSON, AND REMOVE HIM FORTHWITH TO THE ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT OF A GENERAL HOSPITAL WHERE HE MAY BE DETAINED FOR UP TO 24 HOURS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENABLING HIM TO BE EXAMINED BY A DOCTOR AND OF MAKING THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS FOR HIS TREATMENT AND CARE.

MR CHAMBERS SAID THAT THE MEDICAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND THE REHABILITATION DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE HAD BEEN CONSULTED ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES AND HAD INDICATED THEIR GENERAL SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSALS. THE GOVERNMENT ALSO HELD CONSULTATIONS WITH THE MEDICAL ASSOCIATIONS, OTHER PROFESSIONAL BODIES, THE UNIVERSITIES AND THE VOLUNTARY AGENCIES. AS A RESULT, A NUMBER OF CHANGES WERE MADE IN RESPONSE TO THEIR COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS.

MR CHAMBERS POINTED OUT THAT BECAUSE OF THE REVIEW OF DETENTION AND DISCHARGE PROCEDURES, THE INTRODUCTION OF THE GUARDIANSHIP SCHEME AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MENTAL HEALTH REVIEW TRIBUNAL PROPOSED IN THE BILL, THERE WILL BE FINANCIAL AND STAFFING IMPLICATIONS FOR THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT, SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT AND JUDICIARY. THE TOTAL ANNUAL RECURRENT COST OF IMPLEMENTING THE PROVISIONS OF THE BILL IS ESTIMATED AT \$19.3 MILLION.

THE BILL WHICH HAS RECEIVED THE ENDORSEMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WILL BE FORMALLY GAZETTED ON JUNE 19 AND INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FOR FIRST READING ON JULY 1.

VIEWS ON PROVISIONS OF THE BILL CAN BE SENT TO THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, 7/F., CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, LOWER ALBERT ROAD OR TO OMELCO AT 8 JACKSON ROAD, CENTRAL.

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BROADCASTING AUTHORITY PROPOSED

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THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS APPROVED DRAFT LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BROADCASTING AUTHORITY, THE SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND INFORMATION, MR PETER TSAO, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE, MR TSAO SAID DETAILS OF THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION WOULD BE CONTAINED IN THE TELEVISION AUTHORITY BILL 1987 TO BE GAZETTED TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

MR TSAO SAID THE BILL PROVIDES FOR THE SETTING UP OF A BROADCASTING AUTHORITY WITH RESPONSIBILITY OVER TELEVISION, RADIO AND CABLE TELEVISION.

IT WILL CONSIST OF UP TO 12 PERSONS TO BE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR, THREE OF WHOM WILL BE PUBLIC OFFICERS AND THE REMAINING NON-OFFICIALS. THE CHAIRMAN WILL COME FROM THE NON-OFFICIAL MEMBERS.

MR TSAO SAID, INITIALLY, THE PRIMARY FUNCTION OF THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY WOULD BE TO ADMINISTER THE PROVISIONS OF THE TELEVISION ORDINANCE. ITS RESPONSIBILITY WILL BE EXTENDED TO COVER RADIO AND CABLE TELEVISION AFTER LEGISLATION FOR THESE SERVICES HAVE BEEN DRAWN UP.

"IT WILL TAKE OVER THE FUNCTIONS OF THE PRESENT TELEVISION AUTHORITY AND TELEVISION ADVISORY BOARD, WHICH WILL CEASE TO EXIST," HE SAID.

MR TSAO SAID AMONG THE MAIN FUNCTIONS ASSUMED BY THE AUTHORITY WOULD BE THE SUBMISSION OF RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL CONCERNING APPLICATIONS FOR, AND RENEWALS AND REVOCATIONS OF, TELEVISION BROADCASTING LICENCES AND THE ISSUE OF CODES OF PRACTICE FOR THE INDUSTRY.

"OTHER PRINCIPAL FUNCTIONS OF THE AUTHORITY WILL BE TO SECURE PROPER STANDARDS OF TELEVISION BROADCASTING IN RELATION TO BOTH PROGRAMME CONTENT AND TECHNICAL PERFORMANCE," HE ADDED.

THE BILL ALSO REQUIRES THE AUTHORITY TO APPOINT A COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE CONSISTING OF NOT LESS THAN FIVE MEMBERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

"THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY WILL REFER TO THE COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION ALL COMPLAINTS CONCERNING ANY ALLEGED BREACHES, BY A LICENSEE OR ANY OTHER PERSON, OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE BROADCASTING LICENCE, A CODE OF PRACTICE OR THE TELEVISION ORDINANCE," MR TSAO SAID.

THE BILL ALSO CONTAINS AMENDMENTS TO THE TELEVISION ORDINANCE AND SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION TO GIVE EFFECT TO THE TRANSFER OF POWERS AND FUNCTIONS UNDER THAT ORDINANCE FROM THE TELEVISION AUTHORITY AND THE TELEVISION ADVISORY BOARD TO THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY.

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THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY BILL 1987 IS EXPECTED TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON JUNE 24, 1987.

COMMENTS ON THE BILL MAY BE SENT TO THE SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND INFORMATION AT CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES OR THE OMELCO OFFICE AT JACKSON ROAD.

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PRIVY COUNCIL DISMISSES APPEAL
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THE JUDICIAL COMMITTEE OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL HAS HELD THAT THE COMMISSIONER FOR DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES OWED NO DUTY OF CARE TO POTENTIAL DEPOSITORS WHEN EXERCISING HIS SUPERVISORY DUTIES TO CONTROL DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES.

IN A JUDGMENT HANDED DOWN YESTERDAY (WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10), THE PRIVY COUNCIL DISMISSED THE APPEAL BROUGHT BY FOUR HONG KONG RESIDENTS IN A CASE INVOLVING A COLLAPSED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANY.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, MR MICHAEL THOMAS Q.C., APPEARED AS LEADING COUNSEL ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSIONER FOR DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES IN THE APPEAL AGAINST A DECISION OF THE COURT OF APPEAL (YUEN KUN-YEU AND OTHERS VS AG) DECIDED IN MARCH 1986.

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME IN MEMORY THAT AN ATTORNEY GENERAL OF HONG KONG HAS ARGUED A CASE IN THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

COMMENTING ON THE JUDGMENT, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR PIERS JACOBS, SAID: "I AM VERY PLEASED TO LEARN OF THE RESULT. CLEARLY THIS DECISION IS OF IMPORTANCE TO THE ADMINISTRATION IN RELATION TO ITS VARIOUS REGULATORY ROLES."

THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING, MR ROBERT FELL, ALSO WELCOMED THE DECISION. HE SAID: "WE HAVE LEARNT A GREAT DEAL FROM OUR EXPERIENCE OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS AND BOTH THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND SUPERVISORY PRACTICE HAVE BEEN OVERHAULED TO MEET HONG KONG'S NEEDS AS A WORLD BANKING CENTRE."

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"NEVERTHELESS, THE EXERCISE OF PRUDENTIAL SUPERVISION WOULD BE MADE VERY DIFFICULT IF THE COMMISSIONER HAD TO BE CONCERNED AT ALL TIMES ABOUT POSSIBLE LAW SUITS. THIS DECISION REMOVES THAT UNCERTAINTY BUT, OF COURSE, UNDERLINES THE GOVERNMENT'S DETERMINATION TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE SUPERVISION TO PROTECT DEPOSITORS AND THE GENERAL INTEGRITY OF BANKING IN HONG KONG."

IN DISMISSING THE APPEAL, THE PRIVY COUNCIL ADVISED THAT "THE ISSUES IN THE APPEAL RAISE IMPORTANT ISSUES OF PRINCIPLE, HAVING FAR-REACHING IMPLICATIONS AS REGARDS THE POTENTIAL LIABILITY IN NEGLIGENCE OF A WIDE VARIETY OF REGULATORY AGENCIES CARRIED ON UNDER THE AEGIS OF CENTRAL OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND ALSO TO SOME EXTENT BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL BODIES. SUCH AGENCIES ARE IN MODERN TIMES BECOMING AN INCREASINGLY FAMILIAR FEATURE OF THE FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL AND SOCIAL SCENE."

THE APPELLANTS ALLEGED THAT THEY HAD DEPOSITS IN A COMPANY KNOWN AS THE AMERICA AND PANAMA FINANCE CO LTD WHICH WERE LOST WHEN THE COMPANY WENT INTO LIQUIDATION ON FEBRUARY 25, 1983.

THEY BROUGHT AN ACTION IN THE HIGH COURT ALLEGING THAT THE COMMISSIONER FOR DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES HAD BEEN NEGLIGENT AND/OR IN BREACH OF STATUTORY DUTY IN HIS SUPERVISION OF THAT COMPANY AND THAT HE WAS THEREFORE LIABLE TO REIMBURSE THE APPELLANTS THEIR LOST DEPOSITS.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL APPEARED ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSIONER IN THE HIGH COURT BEFORE MR JUSTICE JONES ON AN APPLICATION TO STRIKE OUT THE PROCEEDINGS ON THE GROUNDS THAT THERE WAS NO CAUSE OF ACTION. MR JUSTICE JONES ACCEPTED THE ARGUMENT AND STRUCK OUT THE PROCEEDINGS. THE APPLICANTS APPEALED TO THE COURT OF APPEAL AND WHEN THE COURT OF APPEAL DISMISSED THE APPEAL, TO THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

THE APPELLANTS HAVE THROUGHOUT THE PROCEEDINGS BEEN REPRESENTED BY COUNSEL INSTRUCTED BY THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT.

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IMPORTANCE OF TACKLING ORGANISED CRIME STRESSED

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A VERY IMPORTANT TASK IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF LAW IS TO LOOK AT WAYS TO TACKLE MORE EFFECTIVELY ORGANISED CRIMES, INCLUDING TRIADS, THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MR DAVID JEAFFRESON SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE DIRECTORS' LUNCHEON MEETING OF PO LEUNG KUK, MR JEAFFRESON SAID HE FELT THAT HONG KONG'S CURRENT LAWS AND RULES THAT WENT WITH THEM SERIOUSLY LIMITED THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES TO TACKLE CRIMINAL ORGANISATIONS.

"OUR INVESTIGATIVE MACHINERY IS HAMPERED BY THE FACT THAT WE CANNOT GET AT AND PRODUCE IN COURT EVIDENCE WHICH EXISTS," HE SAID.

NOTING THAT THE AMERICANS, AMONG OTHERS, HAD CONFRONTED THESE PROBLEMS, MR JEAFFRESON DISCLOSED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD BE SENDING A LAWYER TO THE UNITED STATES THIS SUMMER TO SEE HOW THE AMERICAN SYSTEM FOR TACKLING ORGANISED CRIME WORKED.

"THEN I HOPE WE MAY AGAIN ASK THE PUBLIC FOR THEIR VIEWS," HE SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT IN AMERICA, THERE WAS THE GRAND JURY, AN INVESTIGATIVE BODY WHICH HAD ITS ANCESTRY IN BRITISH COMMON LAW. "IT IS A POWERFUL DEVICE FOR INVESTIGATING ORGANISED CRIME," HE ADDED.

"THE AMERICANS ALSO HAVE SPECIFIC LEGISLATION AIMED AT TACKLING CRIMINAL CONSPIRACIES. THEY CALL IT RACKETEERING. THIS LEGISLATION HAS HELPED THE AUTHORITIES THERE TO HAVE SOME NOTABLE SUCCESS IN RECENT YEARS IN TACKLING THE HEADS OF ORGANISED CRIME," HE SAID.

ON A PROPOSAL REGARDING POLICE SUPERVISION OF TRIADS OR DANGEROUS CRIMINALS, MR JEAFFRESON SAID THE ISSUE WAS STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION. "THIS IS A DIFFICULT AREA AND NOT ONE TO BE RUSHED INTO."

HE POINTED OUT THAT A MAJOR INITIATIVE WOULD BE A TRIAD RENOUNCIATION SCHEME, WHEREBY YOUNG PEOPLE WHO WERE FORCED TO JOIN TRIADS OR DID SO WHEN UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF BAD "BROTHERS" MIGHT FORMALLY RENOUNCE THEIR PREVIOUS BAD WAYS.

"I THINK ONE OF THE KEY AREAS IS OUR DRIVE TO LET OUR YOUNG PEOPLE KNOW WHAT EVIL ASSOCIATING WITH TRIADS CAN BRING. A NUMBER OF DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEES AND DISTRICT BOARDS ARE LOOKING AT THE PROBLEM IN THEIR OWN DISTRICTS.

"CENTRALLY, THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE IS ALSO TRYING TO WORK OUT WHAT THE BEST RESPONSE IS.

"SHORTLY SOME INTENSIVE PUBLICITY WILL BE LAUNCHED AGAINST TRIADS. AND WE INTEND TO PRODUCE MATERIAL FOR THE SCHOOLS TO USE TO DISCOURAGE THEIR STUDENTS FROM JOINING TRIADS," MR JEAFFRESON SAID.

NEED TO BALANCE ALL PARTS OF THE POLITICAL SYSTEM STRESSED

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HONG KONG MUST ADJUST GRADUALLY AND MAINTAIN THE BALANCE BETWEEN THE VARIOUS PARTS OF THE POLITICAL SYSTEM INSTEAD OF DWELLING ON JUST ONE PART OF THE SYSTEM, THE SPECIAL ADVISER TO THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT AN ACADEMIC SYMPOSIUM ENTITLED "THE HISTORIC TRIANGLE OF BRITAIN, CHINA AND HONG KONG: A 60-YEAR RETROSPECTIVE" AT BAPTIST COLLEGE, SIR DAVID SAID THE BALANCE BETWEEN THE EXECUTIVE AND THE LEGISLATURE AND BETWEEN THE LEGISLATURE, THE MUNICIPAL COUNCILS AND THE DISTRICT BOARDS, AND THE POLITY AS A WHOLE MUST BE MAINTAINED.

HE ADDED THAT THE STABILITY OF HONG KONG WHICH HAD RESULTED IN A STABLE POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT PROVIDED BY BOTH BRITAIN AND CHINA WAS BEING SUBTLY BUT NEVERTHELESS RADICALLY ALTERED.

"THE COLONIAL UMBRELLA WILL BE FOLDED UP AND PUT AWAY, CHINESE SOVEREIGNTY WILL BE RESUMED BUT HONG KONG'S FUTURE WITH ALL THOSE INGREDIENTS, WHICH HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO ECONOMIC PROSPERITY IN THE PAST, WILL BE RETAINED," HE NOTED.

HE SAID THAT HONG KONG WOULD ELECT ITS LEGISLATURE AS ONE OF THE DEVICES TO DEMONSTRATE ITS HIGH DEGREE OF AUTONOMY AND IT HAD BEEN THE SUBJECT OF MUCH HEATED DEBATE.

"IT IS A DEBATE WHICH IS TENDING TO GET OUT OF FOCUS WITH, PERHAPS, AN OBSESSIVE INTEREST IN THE PART TO BE PLAYED BY DIRECT ELECTIONS WITHOUT SUFFICIENT ATTENTION BEING GIVEN TO THE WEB OF INTERLOCKING RELATIONSHIPS WHICH AT PRESENT COMPOSE AND WILL IN FUTURE COMPOSE THE HONG KONG POLITY," SIR DAVID SAID.

TURNING TO THE TRIANGULAR RELATIONSHIP OF BRITAIN, CHINA AND HONG KONG, HE SAID THAT IF THERE WAS ONE COMMON FACTOR AT THE HEART OF THE TRIANGLE, IT WAS THE HARBOUR OF HONG KONG.

SIR DAVID SAID IT WAS TRADE, AND TWENTIETH CENTURY TRADE SYMBOLISED NOW BY BOTH THE HARBOUR AND THE AIRPORT THAT LINKED THE TRIANGLE TOGETHER. "THE REST IS THE PEOPLE, THE NATIONS INVOLVED AND THE POLITICS."

"NOW, MORE THAN EVER BEFORE, TRADE IS AT THE CENTRE OF THESE RELATIONSHIPS AND WILL BE IN THE FUTURE," HE SAID.

HE SAID THE DOUBLING OF RAILWAY BETWEEN HONG KONG AND PEKING, THE INCREASING AIR ROAD AND FERRY LINK FROM HONG KONG TO ALL PARTS OF CHINA, AND THE SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT THAT MOVE IN AND OUT OF HONG KONG BY THE THOUSANDS EVERY MONTH TO DESTINATIONS ALL OVER THE WORLD WERE THE SYMBOLS OF TRADE AND PROSPERITY.

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ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS DIFFICULT TO FIND JOB

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IT IS "INCREDIBLY" DIFFICULT FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS TO FIND EMPLOYMENT IN HONG KONG EVEN IF THEY HAVE MANAGED TO SNEAK INTO THE TERRITORY, THE PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MR KEN WOODHOUSE, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

MR WOODHOUSE SAID JOINT OPERATIONS BY THE IMMIGRATION AND LABOUR DEPARTMENTS AND THE POLICE WERE MOUNTED REGULARLY AGAINST PEOPLE WORKING ILLEGALLY IN HONG KONG, INCLUDING THOSE ON CONSTRUCTION SITES AND FISH FARMS.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AT THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY STATION AFTER OVERSEEING THE LOADING OF THE THIRD CONSIGNMENT OF RELIEF SUPPLIES FOR VICTIMS OF THE FOREST FIRE DISASTER IN HEILONGJIANG, MR WOODHOUSE SAID: "THE INFORMATION WE RECEIVE FROM THE FEW ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS THAT WE DO PICK UP IS THAT FEW OF THEM WORK FOR MORE THAN A WEEK OR TWO."

HE WARNED THAT IT WAS A CRIME TO EMPLOY ANY ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT.

THE OFFENCE CARRIES A MAXIMUM PENALTY OF A \$50,000 FINE AND UP TO ONE YEAR'S IMPRISONMENT.

MR WOODHOUSE SAID THE LARGE NUMBER OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS CAUGHT BY THE SECURITY FORCES AT THE BORDER WAS INDICATIVE OF QUITE A SUCCESS RATE.

THE GOVERNMENT ALSO MONITORED VERY CLOSELY THE "EVASION RATE" WHICH MR WOODHOUSE SAID WAS "REMAINING RELATIVELY CONSTANT",

"AND THAT SUGGESTS TO US THAT WE ARE SIMPLY BEING MUCH MORE SUCCESSFUL AT THE FRONTLINE IN CAPTURING THOSE THAT ARE COMING ACROSS".

ASKED ABOUT A SHIFT IN THE ORIGINS OF THE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS, MR WOODHOUSE SAID IT WAS PART OF A "SEASONAL FLUCTUATION THAT WE HAVE EXPERIENCED".

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STRAY SWEEPING IN RABIES INFECTED AREA
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A SERIES OF INTENSIVE STRAY SWEEPING OPERATIONS IN THE NEWLY DESIGNATED TA KWU LING RABIES INFECTED AREA WERE COMPLETED TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE OPERATIONS WHICH BEGAN ON MAY 27 WHEN A RABIES CASE WAS UNCOMED IN SING PING SAN CHUEN, TA KWU LING WERE CARRIED OUT IN DIFFERENT HOURS OF THE DAY IN 21 VILLAGES. A TOTAL OF SIX DOG CONTROL TEAMS WERE MOBILISED.

"WITH THE SUPPORT FROM LOCAL VILLAGERS, OUR OPERATIONS HAD BEEN SUCCESSFUL, RESULTING IN A TOTAL OF 29 DOGS BEING ROUNDED UP AND 316 SURRENDERED VOLUNTARILY TO OUR DOG CONTROL STAFF IN THE INFECTED AREA," THE SENIOR VETERINARY OFFICER OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, DR NORMAN CHENG SAID.

THE RECENT RABIES OUTBREAK SPARKED OFF GREATER PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE DEADLY DISEASE. DURING THE PERIOD, 322 PEOPLE REQUESTED THE DEPARTMENT TO DISPOSE OF A TOTAL OF 717 UNWANTED DOGS AND 19 CATS TERRITORY WIDE.

IN ADDITION, 441 BITER CASES WERE REPORTED TO THE POLICE AND THE ANIMALS HANDED OVER TO THE FOUR GOVERNMENT KENNELS FOR OBSERVATION.

"THE INCREASED PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE NECESSITY TO CURB FURTHER OUTBREAK AND THE PUBLIC CO-OPERATION TOWARDS THIS AIM HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO BRINGING THE DISEASE UNDER CONTROL," HE SAID.

THE DEPARTMENT WILL SPARE NO EFFORTS TO COMBAT THE DEADLY DISEASE THROUGH STRINGENT CONTROL MEASURES. THESE MEASURES INCLUDE QUARANTINE OF IMPORTED DOGS AND CATS, COMPULSORY DETENTION OF BITER DOGS FOR OBSERVATION, STRAY DOG CONTROL AND PROVISION OF FREE INOCULATION SERVICES BY THE DEPARTMENT'S MOBILE INOCULATION TEAMS.

IN JUNE, THE TEAMS WILL VISIT VILLAGES IN YUEN LONG AND SHA TIN TO PROVIDE THE SERVICES TO DOG OWNERS THERE.

THE RURAL VILLAGES IN YUEN LONG TO BE VISITING INCLUDE NAM PIN WAI, SAI PIN WAI, YEUNG UK TSUEN, SHUI CHIU SAN TSUEN, SHUI CHIU LO WAI, MA TIN TSUEN, TSUNG CHING SAN TSUEN, TAI KEI LING TSUEN AND SHAN PUI TSUEN.

IN SHA TIN, THE TEAMS WILL BE VISITING VILLAGES OF FO TAN, FO TAN SQUATTER AREA, MAN HANG TSUEN, HO LEK PUI, WONG CHUK YEUNG, WO LIU HANG, BUT TSZ WO, KWAI TI, LOK LO HA AND HO TUNG LAU.

DISCUSSION ON PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS

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THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD'S TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS FOUR PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS PROPOSED BY THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT AT A MEETING TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE PROJECTS INCLUDE A PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN SUBWAY BETWEEN TAT CHEE AVENUE EXTENSION AND KOWLOON TONG KCR/MTR STATIONS; CONSTRUCTION OF NEW LAI CHI KOK BUS TERMINUS; IMPROVEMENTS TO LAI CHI KOK ROAD AND CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD; AND REALIGNMENT OF CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD BETWEEN HING WAH STREET AND TAI NAM STREET WEST.

THE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO DISCUSS A PROPOSAL BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT TO LAUNCH TWO NEW GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES IN THE DISTRICT.

OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION INCLUDE THE SHAM SHUI PO ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN 1987/88; PROPOSED IMPROVEMENT TO THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT THE JUNCTION OF TAI HANG TUNG ROAD AND TAT CHEE AVENUE; AND PROPOSED ERECTION OF SIGNS BANNING LEARNER DRIVERS FROM DIANTHUS ROAD, IN YAU YAT CHUEN.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING WHICH STARTS AT 2.15 PM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD, 39 TONKIN STREET, 2ND FLOOR, KOWLOON.

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RESULTS OF BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR SURVEY RELEASED

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A TOTAL OF 172 STORAGE ESTABLISHMENTS WERE IN OPERATION DURING THE WHOLE OR PART OF 1985 REPRESENTING A DECREASE OF 10 PER CENT COMPARED WITH 1984, ACCORDING TO THE SUMMARY RESULTS OF A CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT SURVEY RELEASED TODAY (THURSDAY).

THESE ESTABLISHMENTS ENGAGED 3,322 PERSONS OR A DECREASE OF FOUR PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH 1984, THE 1985 SURVEY OF STORAGE, COMMUNICATIONS, FINANCING, INSURANCE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SHOWED.

THEY GENERATED \$873 MILLION OF BUSINESS RECEIPTS AND OTHER INCOME (A DECREASE OF 5 PER CENT COMPARED WITH 1984), AND SPENT \$165 MILLION ON COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES (+3 PER CENT AND \$573 MILLION ON OPERATING EXPENSES (+5 PER CENT)). THE VALUE ADDED OF THIS SECTOR, REPRESENTING ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT, DROPPED BY 11 PER CENT TO \$405 MILLION IN 1985.

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IN THE COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR WHICH INCLUDES TELEPHONE, TELEGRAPH, COURIER, RADIO-PAGING AND OTHER TELECOMMUNICATION COMPANIES, THERE WERE 162 ESTABLISHMENTS IN OPERATION IN 1985, AN INCREASE OF 23 PER CENT OVER 1984. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED INCREASED SLIGHTLY BY 1 PER CENT TO 19,616.

COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES AMOUNTED TO \$1,543 MILLION (+10 PER CENT) AND OPERATING EXPENSES TO \$1,757 MILLION (-31 PER CENT). BUSINESS RECEIPTS AND OTHER INCOME INCREASED BY 5 PER CENT TO \$6,548 MILLION, WHILE THE CONTRIBUTION OF THIS SECTOR TO THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT IN TERMS OF VALUE ADDED INCREASED BY 21 PER CENT TO \$4,225 MILLION.

IN THE FINANCING SECTOR, 2,009 ESTABLISHMENTS WERE IN OPERATION DURING 1985, A DECREASE OF 1 PER CENT COMPARED WITH 1984. THIS SECTOR COMPRISES BILL DISCOUNTING COMPANIES, CREDIT INSTITUTIONS, FINANCE, LEASING, LOAN AND MORTGAGE COMPANIES, PAWNSHOPS, INVESTMENT AND HOLDING COMPANIES, SECURITY, COMMODITY FUTURES AND GOLD BULLION BROKERS AND DEALERS, MONEY CHANGERS AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE BROKERS AND DEALERS; BUT IT EXCLUDES BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES WHICH ARE COVERED UNDER A SEPARATE SURVEY.

COMPARED WITH 1984, THE SECTOR'S TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED ROSE BY 10 PER CENT TO 19,814. COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES INCREASED BY 18 PER CENT TO \$1,957 MILLION. HOWEVER, OPERATING EXPENSES DECREASED BY 7 PER CENT TO \$5,782 MILLION. BUSINESS RECEIPTS AND OTHER INCOME GREW BY 7 PER CENT TO \$18,190 MILLION, WHILE THIS SECTOR'S VALUE ADDED INCREASED SLIGHTLY TO \$3,147 MILLION.

IN THE BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR, THERE WERE 5,189 ESTABLISHMENTS IN OPERATION IN 1985, AN INCREASE OF 18 PER CENT OVER 1984.

THESE ESTABLISHMENTS, INCLUDING LEGAL, ACCOUNTING, AUDITING AND DATA PROCESSING FIRMS; COMPANIES ENGAGING IN BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND CONSULTING, ADVERTISING, DESIGNING, SECRETARIAL AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES; TECHNICAL SERVICES AND MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT RENTAL COMPANIES; ENGAGED A TOTAL OF 52,889 PERSONS, AN INCREASE OF 15 PER CENT OVER 1984.

THEY SPENT \$3,403 MILLION ON COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES (+22 PER CENT) AND \$5,306 MILLION ON OPERATING EXPENSES (+17 PER CENT), AND GENERATED \$11,234 MILLION OF BUSINESS RECEIPTS AND OTHER INCOME (+18 PER CENT).

/THE SECTOR

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THE SECTOR CONTRIBUTED \$5,690 MILLION TO THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (+19 PER CENT), MEASURED IN TERMS OF VALUE ADDED.

IN THE INSURANCE SECTOR, WHICH INCLUDES GENERAL AND LIFE INSURERS, INSURANCE AGENTS AND OTHER RELATED SERVICES, THE NUMBER OF ESTABLISHMENTS INCREASED BY 7 PER CENT TO 1,073, WHILE THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED INCREASED BY 13 PER CENT TO 11,964. THIS SECTOR GENERATED \$8,582 MILLION OF BUSINESS RECEIPTS AND OTHER INCOME (+23 PER CENT). COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES AMOUNTED TO \$922 MILLION AND OPERATING EXPENSES TO \$825 MILLION, REPRESENTING INCREASES OF 25 PER CENT AND 31 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY OVER 1984.

THE 1985 SURVEY WAS ONE OF A SERIES OF ANNUAL SURVEYS CONDUCTED FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASCERTAINING THE STRUCTURE AND OPERATING CHARACTERISTICS OF THE STORAGE, COMMUNICATIONS, FINANCING, INSURANCE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTORS AND OF UPDATING THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT OF HONG KONG.

DATA COLLECTED IN THE SURVEY INCLUDED TYPE OF OWNERSHIP, FLOOR AREA, NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED, NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES, COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES, OPERATING EXPENSES, BUSINESS RECEIPTS AND OTHER INCOME, AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.

DESCRIPTIONS OF THE BACKGROUND AND METHODOLOGY OF THE SURVEY, TOGETHER WITH THE ANALYTICAL TABLES SHOWING THE PRINCIPAL STATISTICS FOR ALL ESTABLISHMENTS CLASSIFIED BY SERVICES GROUP/SECTOR AND ANALYSED BY VARIOUS ECONOMIC VARIABLES, ARE INCLUDED IN THE STATISTICAL REPORT ENTITLED "1985 SURVEY OF STORAGE, COMMUNICATIONS, FINANCING, INSURANCE AND BUSINESS SERVICES".

THE REPORT WILL BE ON SALE IN EARLY JULY 1987 AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE; AND THE PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, 19/F., WANCHAI TOWER 1, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE TRANSPORT AND SERVICES STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON 5-8234926.

/Comparison of

Comparison of selected principal statistics for all establishments in the Storage, Communications, Financing, Insurance and Business Services Sectors between 1984 and 1985

Sector		Number of establishments	Number of Persons engaged	Number of employees	Compensation of employees	Operating expenses	Business receipts and other income	Value added
Storage	1984	191	3 476	3 466	160.8	547.5	915.1	455.2
	1985	172	3 322	3 317	165.1	572.9	873.1	404.7
	% change	-10	-4	-4	+3	+5	-5	-11
Communications	1984	132	19 355	19 319	1 398.6	2 552.4	6 226.3	3 478.5
	1985	162	19 616	19 532	1 542.9	1 757.4	6 548.0	4 225.4
	% change	+23	+1	+1	+10	-31	+5	+21
Financing	1984	2 036	18 067	16 925	1 662.7	6 222.1	16 956.1	3 143.8
	1985	2 009	19 814	18 664	1 957.0	5 781.5	13 189.5	3 147.2
	% change	-1	+10	+10	+18	-7	+7	#
Business services	1984	4 405	45 891	42 304	2 793.9	4 521.9	9 512.7	4 753.6
	1985	5 189	52 889	48 459	3 402.8	5 306.1	11 233.6	5 690.2
	% change	+18	+15	+15	+22	+17	+18	+19
Insurance	1984	1 003	10 608	10 077	737.1	628.1	6 956.8	-
	1985	1 073	11 964	11 428	922.4	825.3	8 582.3	-
	% change	+7	+13	+13	+25	+31	+23	-
Government/Semi-government institutions	1984	2	4 431	4 431	366.2	333.0	876.7	-
	1985	2	4 512	4 512	422.8	433.2	1 067.4	-
	% change	0	+2	+2	+15	+30	+22	-

Notes : (1) # denotes less than 0.5% in magnitude.

(2) In the financing sector, value added was not compiled for investment and holding companies due to the special features of their business operation. Hence, total value added for the sector did not include that of investment and holding companies.

(3) Value added was not compiled for the insurance sector and government/semi-government institutions.

(4) Government/semi-government institutions comprised the Post Office and the Hong Kong Export Credit Insurance Corporation.

(5) Figures denoting changes are derived from unrounded figures.

(6) Value added is a measure of the contribution of an economic sector to Hong Kong's Gross Domestic Product. The definition can be found in the "1985 Survey of Storage, Communications Financing, Insurance and Business Services" Report.

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CO-OPERATION OF EMPLOYERS URGED

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY) CALLED ON THE PUBLIC TO CO-OPERATE WITH ITS OFFICERS.

THE APPEAL FOLLOWED A RECENT COURT CASE IN WHICH THE EMPLOYER OF AN INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKING WAS FINED \$750 BY A SAN PO KONG MAGISTRATE FOR OBSTRUCTING A LABOUR INSPECTOR. HE WAS ALSO ORDERED TO PAY \$1,000 COURT COST.

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE INSPECTOR WENT TO THE FACTORY TO CHECK THE EMPLOYEES' RECORDS AND IDENTITY CARDS UNDER THE EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION AND IMMIGRATION ORDINANCES.

HE SAID THE EMPLOYER, AFTER LEARNING THE IDENTITY OF THE INSPECTOR, BECAME HOSTILE AND UNCO-OPERATIVE. NOT ONLY DID HE REFUSE TO LET THE INSPECTOR CARRY OUT HER DUTIES, HE ALSO TOOK A PHOTOGRAPH OF HER WITHOUT HER CONSENT.

IT WAS ONLY AFTER THE POLICE AND OTHER SENIOR LABOUR INSPECTORS WERE CALLED IN THAT THE EMPLOYER FINALLY PRODUCED HIS EMPLOYEES' RECORD FOR INSPECTION.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID ALL LABOUR INSPECTORS WERE AUTHORISED TO ENTER AND INSPECT, AT ALL REASONABLE TIMES, ANY PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF PART IVB OF THE IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE AND OTHER LABOUR LEGISLATION.

UNDER THE IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE, ANY PERSON WHO OBSTRUCTS OR DELAYS AN AUTHORISED OFFICER IN THE EXERCISE OF HIS DUTIES COMMITS AN OFFENCE AND IS LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$10,000.

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DEADLINE FOR VIEWS ON NOISE BILL EXTENDED

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IN RESPONSE TO REQUESTS FROM THE PUBLIC, THE DEADLINE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF VIEWS ON THE DRAFT NOISE CONTROL BILL 1987 HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO THE END OF JUNE, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE ORIGINAL DEADLINE WAS JUNE 13, 1987.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT THEIR VIEWS AND COMMENTS TO THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE AT CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, OR THE OMELCO OFFICE AT JACKSON ROAD BEFORE JULY 1, 1987.

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RELIEF SUPPLIES LEAVE FOR CHINA

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THE THIRD AND THE LARGEST CONSIGNMENT OF RELIEF SUPPLIES FOR VICTIMS OF THE FOREST FIRE DISASTER IN HEILONGJIANG PROVINCE WILL BE TRANSPORTED BY KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY TO CHINA EARLY TOMORROW (FRIDAY) MORNING.

THE ARTICLES, COSTING MORE THAN \$4 MILLION, COMPRISED 1,250 TONNES OF RICE, 280 TONNES OF CANNED MEAT AND 2.8 TONNES OF BISCUITS.

THE 1,533 TONNES OF FOOD SUPPLIES WILL LEAVE HUNG HOM STATION ON 27 GOODS WAGONS AT 6.14 AM TOMORROW AND ARE EXPECTED TO REACH THE PROJECT FOR RECEIVING FOREST DIASTER RELIEF UNDER THE CHINESE MINISTRY OF FORESTRY IN SEVEN TO NINE DAYS.

APPROVAL FOR \$5 MILLION OF RELIEF FUNDS BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE WAS SOUGHT FOLLOWING AN APPEAL THREE WEEKS AGO BY THE CHINESE MINISTRY OF FORESTRY TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO HELP THE 50,000 MADE HOMELESS BY THE FIRES AND THE THOUSANDS INJURED IN COMBATTING THE FIRES.

TWO PLANE-LOADS OF RELIEF ITEMS CONSISTING OF BLANKETS, DISPOSABLE SYRINGES, HOSPITAL AIR MATTRESSES, MEDICINE, FOOD SUPPLIES AND BLEACHING AGENT HAD ALREADY BEEN FLOWN TO CHINA ON JUNE 2 AND JUNE 5 THROUGH COURTESY OF CATHAY PACIFIC AIRWAYS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

FACILITIES HAVE BEEN ARRANGED FOR MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA TO TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE LOADING OF THE RELIEF SUPPLIES ON THE GOODS WAGONS AT THE KOWLOON GOODS YARD OF THE KCRC IN HUNG HOM AT 1.30 PM TODAY (THURSDAY).

PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MR KEN WOODHOUSE, WILL BE ON HAND TO BRIEF MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ON THE EXERCISE.

THOSE COVERING THE EVENT ARE REQUESTED TO ASSEMBLE AT THE GATEWAY OF THE KOWLOON GOODS YARD NEAR THE INTERNATIONAL MAIL CENTRE OFF SALISBURY ROAD AT 1.15 PM.

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EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE FOR OYSTER FARMERS

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IN RESPONSE TO A REPORT SUBMITTED BY THE APPEAL BOARD FOR OYSTER FARMERS AFFECTED BY THE TSANG TSUI PHASE II PULVERISED FUEL ASH LAGOONS, THE GOVERNMENT HAD DEvised AN EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE PACKAGE TOLLING \$1 MILLION FOR 34 APPELLANTS, TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR STEPHEN SELBY, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT A PRESS BRIEFING, MR SELBY SAID OYSTER FARMERS WHOSE APPEALS WERE CONSIDERED BY THE BOARD, WHICH COMPRISED UNOFFICIAL AND OFFICIAL MEMBERS, HAD BEEN BRIEFED ON THE GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE TO THE REPORT.

THE GOVERNMENT HAS ACCEPTED THE MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE REPORT AND ALL THE APPELLANTS HAVE BEEN RECOGNISED AS GENUINE OYSTER FARMERS.

HOWEVER, AS THE FARMERS DO NOT OWN THE SEA-BED WHERE THE OYSTER FARMS ARE THEY ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR COMPENSATION UNDER THE LAW. TO OVERCOME THIS, AN EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE WAS OFFERED TO THE OYSTER FARMERS BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE TSANG TSUI PHASE II OYSTER FARMERS WERE FARMING AT APPROXIMATELY THE SAME DENSITY AS THOSE IN PHASE I.

MR SELBY ALSO ADDED THAT GOVERNMENT HAD ACCEPTED THAT EXCEPTIONAL TREATMENT WAS NECESSARY IN THIS CASE BECAUSE OF PARTICULAR DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED IN CARRYING OUT THE SITE SURVEY OF OYSTER BEDS AT TSANG TSUI AND IMPROVEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO WORKING METHODS TO AVOID THESE DIFFICULTIES IN FUTURE.

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NEW I.D. CARD RE-ISSUE SCHEME TO START ON JULY 1

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THE NEW IDENTITY CARD RE-ISSUE SCHEME WILL START ON JULY 1 THIS YEAR.

"UNDER THIS SCHEME, ALL HONG KONG RESIDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO EXCHANGE THEIR EXISTING IDENTITY CARDS FOR NEW ONES," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT SAID.

AS THERE ARE ABOUT 4.8 MILLION CARDS TO BE RENEWED, ISSUE OF THE NEW CARDS WILL BE PHASED OVER A PERIOD OF A FEW YEARS.

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THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF NEW IDENTITY CARDS TO BE ISSUED UNDER THE SCHEME. THEY ARE HONG KONG PERMANENT IDENTITY CARD (PIC), WHICH IS ISSUED TO A HONG KONG PERMANENT RESIDENT WHO HAS THE RIGHT OF ABODE IN HONG KONG, AND HONG KONG IDENTITY CARD (IC), WHICH IS ISSUED TO A PERSON WHO DOES NOT HAVE THAT RIGHT. THE NEW IDENTITY CARDS WILL THEREFORE REFLECT THE IMMIGRATION STATUS OF THE HOLDERS.

THE ISSUE OF NEW FORMS OF IDENTITY CARDS WILL INVOLVE ARRANGEMENTS SIMILAR TO THOSE ADOPTED IN THE LAST RE-ISSUE EXERCISE WHICH HAS BEEN COMPLETED EARLY THIS YEAR.

IDENTITY CARD HOLDERS WILL BE ASKED TO COME FORWARD IN SPECIFIED GROUPS BY AGE AND SEX TO HAVE THEIR CARDS REPLACED, AND EXISTING CARDS WILL BE DECLARED INVALID PROGRESSIVELY.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID, "THE FIRST GROUP OF PERSONS TO BE CALLED FORWARD WILL BE MEN BORN BETWEEN 1952 AND 1968."

"MEN BORN OF THESE AGES SHOULD WATCH OUT FOR THEIR PERIOD TO EXCHANGE THEIR EXISTING IDENTITY CARDS," HE ADDED.

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DB TO PROMOTE GREEN PAPER

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THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT BOARD WILL MEET TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO APPROVE WORK PLANS TO PROMOTE THE GREEN PAPER ON THE 1987 REVIEW OF DEVELOPMENTS IN REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT IN THE DISTRICT.

A WORKING GROUP ON POLITICAL REFORM WAS RECENTLY SET UP TO TAKE CHARGE OF THE PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN.

IT PROPOSED A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES TO BE ORGANISED TO SOLICIT PUBLIC VIEWS. THESE INCLUDE THE DISPLAY OF POSTERS AND BANNERS, HOLDING EXHIBITIONS AND SEMINARS, DISTRIBUTION OF PAMPHLETS AND CONDUCTING OPINION POLLS.

THE BOARD WILL ALSO REVIEW THE EXISTING ARRANGEMENTS ON THE MEET-THE-PUBLIC SCHEME.

THE RECENT REVIEW ON THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION SCHEME HAD SUGGESTED THAT THE SCHEME, AMONG OTHER AREAS, SHOULD BE EXAMINED IN EACH DISTRICT FOR IMPROVEMENT.

/MEMBERS' VIEWS

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MEMBERS' VIEWS WILL BE SOUGHT ON TSIM SHA TSUI RESIDENTS' PROPOSAL OF RENAMING THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT BOARD TO YAU MA TEI AND TSIM SHA TSUI DISTRICT BOARD IN ORDER TO SHOW THAT THE TWO AREAS ARE ACTUALLY COVERED BY THE ONE BOARD.

THEY WILL ALSO DISCUSS A MEMBER'S SUGGESTION OF STEPPING UP PUBLICITY TO REMIND PASSENGERS IN THE FRONT SEATS OF TAXIS AND PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES TO WEAR SEAT BELTS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING TO BE HELD AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT THE CONFERENCE ROOM, YAU MA TEI DISTRICT OFFICE, SECOND FLOOR, 490-492 NATHAN ROAD.

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SEMINARS ON AIDS FOR TEACHERS
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TO ENABLE PRIMARY SCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS TO HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE WAYS TO PREVENT AIDS AND OTHER BLOOD-BORNE DISEASES IN SCHOOLS, THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT WILL JOINTLY ORGANISE THREE SEMINARS FOR THEM NEXT MONTH AS PART OF THE CURRENT PROGRAMME TO INCREASE THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY'S AWARENESS OF THESE DISEASES.

THE SEMINARS WILL FOCUS ON THE NATURE, MODE OF TRANSMISSION, SYMPTOMS OF AIDS AND OTHER BLOOD-BORNE DISEASES.

IT WILL BE HELD AT GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AT GASCOIGNE ROAD IN YAU MA TEI ON JULY 9 AND AT THE AUDITORIUM OF THE DUKE OF WINDSOR SOCIAL SERVICE BUILDING AT 15 HENNESSY ROAD IN WAN CHAI ON JULY 10.

MEDICAL OFFICERS OF THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT WILL GIVE TALKS AT THE SEMINARS ON AIDS AND OTHER BLOOD-BORNE DISEASES AS WELL AS ON PREVENTIVE MEASURES AGAINST THEIR SPREAD IN SCHOOLS.

HEADS OF SCHOOLS AND KINDERGARTENS ARE REQUESTED TO SUBMIT NOMINATIONS TO THE INSPECTOR OF HEALTH EDUCATION, ADVISORY INSPECTORATE, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, 5TH FLOOR, LEE GARDENS, HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY, BEFORE JUNE 16 (TUESDAY).

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SPEEDPOST TO EGYPT EXTENDED

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SPEEDPOST SERVICE TO EGYPT, WHICH IS NOW AVAILABLE TO 12 CITIES, WILL BE EXTENDED TO GIZA FROM TUESDAY (JUNE 16), THE POST OFFICE ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY).

FROM THE SAME TIME, THE MAXIMUM WEIGHT FOR A SPEEDPOST ITEM TO EGYPT WILL BE INCREASED FROM 15 KG TO 20 KG, AND THE MAXIMUM SIZE EXTENDED TO 1.05 METRES IN LENGTH AND 2 METRES FOR THE LENGTH AND GIRTH COMBINED.

THE 13 CITIES IN EGYPT TO WHICH SPEEDPOST SERVICE WILL THEN BE AVAILABLE ARE ALEXANDRIA, AL-MANSOURA, AL-ZAGAZIK, ASWAN, BENHA, CAIRO, DAMANHOOR, DAMIETTE, GIZA, ISMAILIA, PORT SAID, SUEZ AND TANTA.

CUSTOMERS REQUIRING MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE SERVICE MAY CONTACT THE POSTAL SERVICES REPRESENTATIVES ON 5-8471108.

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CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE TO VISIT STREET SLEEPERS

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MEMBERS OF THE CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE ON STREET SLEEPERS WILL VISIT YAU MA TEI THIS (THURSDAY) EVENING TO SEE AT FIRST HAND THE STREET SLEEPERS PROBLEM IN THE DISTRICT.

THE COMMITTEE IS CHAIRED BY THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MISS ELAINE CHUNG, AND COMPRISES REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE HEALTH AND WELFARE BRANCH, THE SECURITY BRANCH, THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT, THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT, THE POLICE AND THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION.

IT HAS BEEN SET UP TO REVIEW THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY AND PROGRAMMES IN ORDER TO CO-ORDINATE ACTION RELATING TO STREET SLEEPERS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE VISIT. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE REQUESTED TO ASSEMBLE AT THE HENRY G LEONG YAUMATEI COMMUNITY CENTRE, 60 PUBLIC SQUARE STREET, YAU MA TEI, KOWLOON, NOT LATER THAN 9.15 PM. GIS OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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INFORMATION ON LITTER OFFENCE COMPUTERISED

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THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL EXTEND THE CONTRACT WITH A COMPUTER FIRM TO PROVIDE SERVICES FOR THE COMPUTER-BASED LITTER OFFENCE RECORD SYSTEM (CLORS) IN THE NEXT 12 MONTHS STARTING TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE CLORS, IMPLEMENTED SINCE 1982, HAS PROVED TO BE VERY USEFUL IN PROVIDING THE GOVERNMENT WITH RELEVANT AND UP-DATED INFORMATION ON LITTER OFFENCES FOR STRATEGIC AND OPERATIONAL PLANNING.

THE COMPUTERISED RECORD SYSTEM ALSO GIVES THE COURTS SUFFICIENT BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR IMPOSING APPROPRIATE FINES ON RECIDIVISTS.

AS THE SYSTEM HAS BEEN FOUND TO BE USEFUL IN MANY ASPECTS, A SUM WAS SET ASIDE IN THIS YEAR'S BUDGET TO CONTINUE ITS IMPLEMENTATION.

THE COMPUTER FIRM WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COMPUTER PROGRAMMING, INPUTING AND UPDATING INFORMATION, AND PRINTING OUT DAILY AND MONTHLY REPORTS.

UNDER CLORS, REPORTS ON THE LITTER OFFENCE, BREAKDOWN OF FINES IMPOSED ON LITTERBUGS, ANALYSIS OF CONVICTION BY AGE GROUP, BY DISTRICT OR BY NATURE OF THE OFFENCES, AS WELL AS A LIST OF RECIDIVISTS WILL BE PRINTED OUT EITHER REGULARLY OR ON REQUEST.

STAFF OF THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT CAN MAKE USE OF THESE REPORTS IN THE DAILY OPERATION OR EXTRACT OTHER INFORMATION FROM THE COMPUTER SYSTEM FOR SPECIAL PURPOSES.

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REPROVISIONING OF LEUN WO HUI PLAYGROUND

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THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT HAS AWARDED A \$660,000 CONTRACT FOR REPROVISIONING OF LUEN WO HUI PLAYGROUND AT FANLING.

THE PLAYGROUND, OPPOSITE ON LOK TSUEN, HAS AN AREA OF ABOUT 2,775 SQUARE METRES AND WILL BE EQUIPPED WITH A MINI-SOCCER PITCH AND A BASKETBALL COURT, INCLUDING CONCRETE BENCHES.

ANOTHER CONTRACT WORTH \$136,000 HAS ALSO BEEN AWARDED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT FOR ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION.

LIGHTING WILL BE INSTALLED IN THE PLAYGROUND.

WORK HAS ALREADY STARTED AND WILL BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF OCTOBER.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 1987

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MORE DONATION TO FUND

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THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE SIR EDWARD YOUDE MEMORIAL FUND, MR LEE QUO-WEI, WILL RECEIVE A DONATION OF \$36,000 FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG WATCH TRADES AND INDUSTRIES, MR TAN GIOK-SEI, AT A CEREMONY TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT 11.15 AM IN THE DINING HALL OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BUILDING.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CEREMONY MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES COVERING THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY ARE REQUESTED TO ASSEMBLE IN THE PRESS ROOM ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF THE BUILDING AT 11 AM.

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TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CHANGES IN CENTRAL

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TO FACILITATE CONSTRUCTION WORKS, NO VEHICLE EXCEEDING SEVEN METRES IN LENGTH WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE SLIP ROAD SOUTH OF THE MURRAY ROAD MULTI-STOREY CARPARK FROM 10 AM ON SATURDAY (JUNE 13) FOR ABOUT SIX WEEKS.

AFFECTED VEHICLES, INCLUDING CROSS-HARBOUR BUS ROUTE NO. 103 ON ITS JOURNEYS TO POKFIELD ROAD, WILL BE DIVERTED VIA QUEENSWAY, RODNEY STREET, DRAKE STREET, TAMMER STREET AND HARCOURT ROAD TO REJOIN COTTON TREE DRIVE.

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