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## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES  
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1986

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
GOVERNOR'S LUNAR NEW YEAR MESSAGE 1986 .....	1
LOANS HELP FISHING PRODUCTIVITY .....	2
SPRING DINNER BALL .....	3
JOSS STICK OFFERINGS .....	3

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1986

- 1 -

GOVERNOR'S LUNAR NEW YEAR MESSAGE 1986

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AT THE ADVENT OF THIS NEW YEAR WE ARE ABOUT TO LEAVE THE YEAR OF THE OX AND ENTER THE YEAR OF THE TIGER. IT IS NATURAL THAT AT SUCH A TIME WE SHOULD LOOK BACK OVER WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED AND LOOK FORWARD TO WHAT WE SHALL ENDEAVOUR TO ACCOMPLISH IN THE COMING YEAR.

WHEN I SPOKE TO YOU A YEAR AGO I DESCRIBED THE OX AS A STURDY SYMBOL OF OUR DETERMINATION TO MEET THE CHALLENGES WHICH LAY AHEAD. TODAY WE CAN LOOK BACK WITH SOME SATISFACTION ON WHAT THAT DETERMINATION HAS ENABLED US TO ACCOMPLISH.

I LISTED SOME OF THOSE ACHIEVEMENTS AT THE OPENING OF THE PRESENT SESSION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL. THEY INCLUDED:

- \* THE OPENING OF THE NEW COUNCIL ITSELF;
- \* THE WORK OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP AND THE LAND COMMISSION;
- \* THE IMPROVEMENT OF EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND OF THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION;
- \* THE RECORD PRODUCTION OF PUBLIC HOUSING;
- \* THE PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL MEDICAL AND SOCIAL FACILITIES; AND
- \* THE REMARKABLE GROWTH OF OUR NEW TOWNS AND IN PUBLIC TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS.

AS WE LOOK BACK ON THE PAST YEAR WE SHOULD REFLECT ON THESE ACHIEVEMENTS, AND ON HOW FAR WE HAVE COME, RATHER THAN BE DAUNTED BY WHAT HAS YET TO BE ACCOMPLISHED.

AS WE PROCEED ON OUR JOURNEY INTO 1986 WE SHALL STILL NEED TO DRAW ON THOSE QUALITIES WHICH HAVE BROUGHT US THIS FAR. IT WILL REMAIN THE GOVERNMENT'S OBJECTIVE TO PROVIDE THE BEST POSSIBLE CONDITIONS IN WHICH OUR ECONOMY CAN PROSPER. BECAUSE A PROSPEROUS ECONOMY LIES AT THE HEART OF HONG KONG'S SUCCESS. WE SHALL SEEK FURTHER PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING THE JOINT DECLARATION. WE SHALL MONITOR CAREFULLY THE WORKING OF OUR SYSTEM OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT IN READINESS FOR THE REVIEW IN 1987. WE SHALL PRESS ON STEADILY WITH THE IMPROVEMENT OF SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES. ALL THIS IS PART OF OUR CONTINUING PROGRAMME TO IMPROVE THE WELL-BEING OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG AND TO SECURE FOR THEM A PROSPEROUS AND STABLE FUTURE.

/I KNOW .....

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1986

- 2 -

I KNOW THAT I CAN COUNT ON ALL OF YOU TO SHOW THE SAME DETERMINATION, THE SAME COMMONSENSE AND THE SAME SOUND JUDGEMENT IN ADDRESSING THE TASKS WHICH LIE AHEAD AS YOU HAVE SHOWN IN THE PAST. THE STRENGTH OF HONG KONG LIES IN THE CONSTANT SEARCH FOR CONSENSUS ON THE POLICIES WE SHOULD ADOPT, AND ON THE PATH WE SHOULD FOLLOW. THAT WILLINGNESS TO SEEK CONSENSUS IS AN ASSET WHICH WILL SERVE US WELL IN THE YEAR AHEAD.

I WISH ALL OF YOU THE SAME GOOD FORTUNE IN YOUR PERSONAL AFFAIRS AS WE SEEK IN OUR COLLECTIVE ENDEAVOURS.

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LOANS HELP FISHING PRODUCTIVITY  
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MORE THAN \$16 MILLION WAS GIVEN LAST YEAR IN LOANS FROM THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION LOAN FUND AND OTHER LOAN FUNDS ADMINISTERED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT TO HELP LOCAL FISHERMEN INCREASE PRODUCTIVITY.

THIS WAS REVEALED BY THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR JOHN RIDDELL-SWAN TODAY (SATURDAY) WHEN HE OFFICIATED AT THE FMO ANNUAL PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY IN THE ABERDEEN WHOLESALE FISH MARKET.

LOANS TO FISHERMEN FOR PRODUCTIVE PURPOSES CONTINUED TO PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE LOCAL FISHING INDUSTRY, HE SAID.

HOWEVER, HE STRESSED THAT, TO QUALIFY FOR SUCH LOANS, FISHERMEN HAD TO SELL THEIR CATCHES REGULARLY THROUGH THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION WHOLESALE MARKETS.

IN HIS ADDRESS, DR RIDDELL-SWAN ALSO REVIEWED THE PROGRESS MADE BY THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION IN MARKETING REPROVISIONING AND IN ITS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME.

HE LATER PRESENTED PRIZES TO TWO FISHERMEN, MR CHAU WAI-HUNG AND MR CHEUNG KAM-FOOK, FOR THEIR EFFORTS IN SAVING THE LIVES OF SIX PEOPLE AT SEA LAST YEAR.

HE ALSO PRESENTED LONG SERVICE MEDALS TO 18 STAFF MEMBERS OF THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION WHO HAVE EACH COMPLETED 25 YEARS OF SERVICE.

MRS RIDDELL-SWAN PRESENTED PRIZES TO 26 CHAMPION FISHERMEN FOR THEIR TOP LANDINGS AT FMO WHOLESALE MARKETS LAST YEAR.

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1986

- 3 -

SPRING DINNER BALL  
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A SPRING DINNER BALL FOR CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT RESIDENTS WILL BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 22 (SATURDAY) FROM 7 PM TO 11.30 PM ABOARD THE YAU MA TI FERRY FLOATING NIGHT CLUB.

IT IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, THE WESTERN DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND THE WESTERN DISTRICT GROUP WORK UNIT OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

AS PART OF THE DISTRICT'S LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS, THE DINNER BALL WILL INCLUDE A CHINESE FEAST, SINGING, BAND MUSIC, ACROBATIC PERFORMANCES, A LUCKY DRAW AND A DISCO DANCE.

TICKETS AT \$160 PER COUPLE ARE ON SALE AT THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE WESTERN DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL 5-495141 OR 5-8523491.

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JOSS STICK OFFERINGS  
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THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD, MR NG CHAN-LAM, AND LOCAL VILLAGE LEADERS WILL OFFER JOSS-STICKS TO CHE KUNG ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 10) - THE SECOND DAY OF THE LUNAR NEW YEAR.

ON THEIR WAY TO THE CHE KUNG TEMPLE, THEY WILL BE LED BY DANCING LION AND UNICORN.

THEN, ON BEHALF OF THE RESIDENTS OF SHA TIN, MR NG WILL PICK A 'FORTUNE-STICK' ON THE DISTRICT'S PROSPECTS FOR THE COMING YEAR.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WISHING TO COVER THIS TRADITIONAL CEREMONY SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT 8 AM AT TAI WAI VILLAGE OFFICE IN CHIK FUK STREET, TAI WAI.

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NOTE: NO DIB WILL BE ISSUED ON TOMORROW (SUNDAY).

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