



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 1994

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FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 1994

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DISASTER RELIEF FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE HOLDS FIRST MEETING

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THE DISASTER RELIEF FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ITS FIRST MEETING TODAY (FRIDAY) TO DISCUSS GUIDELINES FOR GRANTS OF AID FROM THE DISASTER RELIEF FUND.

"THE COMMITTEE HAS LAID DOWN SOME BROAD GUIDELINES TO PROVIDE A FAIR AND OBJECTIVE BASIS FOR CONSIDERING PROPOSALS FOR GRANTS FROM THE FUND," A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THE COMMITTEE HAS DECIDED THAT GRANTS SHOULD ONLY BE MADE IN CASES OF A SPECIFIC DISASTER, NOT AN ONGOING PROBLEM. THE DISASTER SHOULD BE OF SUCH A NATURE AND SCALE THAT CALLS FOR A RESPONSE BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

UNDER THE GUIDELINES, GRANTS WILL BE CONSIDERED IN RESPONSE TO APPEALS MADE TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY BY A GOVERNMENT OR A RELIEF ORGANISATION, OR UPON RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED BY A RELIEF ORGANISATION FOR A DISASTER RELIEF PROJECT.

THE APPEAL OR APPLICATION SHOULD BE BASED ON HUMANITARIAN, NOT POLITICAL, GROUNDS AND SHOULD HAVE RECEIVED A MEASURE OF PUBLIC SUPPORT IN HONG KONG. IN ADDITION, ANY APPLICATION BY A RELIEF ORGANISATION SHOULD BE SUPPORTED BY A DETAILED PROPOSAL FOR THE COMMITTEE'S CONSIDERATION.

"TO ENSURE THAT GRANTS ARE USED FOR DISASTER RELIEF SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES, THE GOVERNMENT OR RELIEF ORGANISATION CONCERNED WILL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT TO THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AN EVALUATION REPORT AND AN AUDITED ACCOUNT ON THE USE OF THE GRANT," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE DETAILED GUIDELINES ARE AVAILABLE ON REQUEST TO INTERESTED RELIEF ORGANISATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT PUBLIC DONATIONS AND APPROPRIATIONS FROM GENERAL REVENUE ARE THE MAIN SOURCES OF THE FUND.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE ALSO WELCOME TO DONATE TO THE FUND FOR GENERAL RELIEF PURPOSE. ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE OF THE SECRETARY TO THE DISASTER RELIEF FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN ROOM 553, EAST WING, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (TEL 810 3503).

THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE IS CHAIRED BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY. OTHER MEMBERS ARE MSROSANAWONG, DRRAYMONDCH'IEN, MRSELSIETU, MRHUIYIN-FAT, THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE AND THE SECRETARY FOR THE TREASURY.

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ADJUDICATION BOARD PROPOSED
TO HANDLE MINOR EMPLOYMENT CLAIMS

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAS PROPOSED TO SET UP A BOARD TO ADJUDICATE MINOR CLAIMS ARISING FROM DISPUTES OF STATUTORY OR CONTRACTUAL RIGHTS OF EMPLOYMENT WHEN SETTLEMENT CANNOT BE ACHIEVED THROUGH CONCILIATION OF ITS LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE (LRS).

DETAILS OF THE PROPOSAL WERE SET OUT IN THE MINOR EMPLOYMENT CLAIMS ADJUDICATION BOARD BILL GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

"UNDER THE PROPOSAL, THE MINOR EMPLOYMENT CLAIMS ADJUDICATION BOARD WILL BE SET UP IN THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT BUT SEPARATED FROM AND INDEPENDENT OF THE LRS TO PROVIDE A QUICK, SIMPLE AND INEXPENSIVE SERVICE," ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR ALFRED CHAN, SAID.

"IT WILL DETERMINE CLAIMS INVOLVING NOT MORE THAN FIVE CLAIMANTS AND FOR EACH CLAIMANT THE AMOUNT OF CLAIM DOES NOT EXCEED \$5,000.

"THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF \$5,000 WILL BE SUBJECT TO REGULAR REVIEW AND IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THE BOARD WILL HANDLE ABOUT 1,300 CASES IN A YEAR," HE ADDED.

MR CHAN SAID A NUMBER OF SENIOR LABOUR OFFICERS WITH ADEQUATE EXPERIENCE IN LABOUR LAWS AND LABOUR RELATIONS IN HONG KONG WOULD BE APPOINTED AS ADJUDICATION OFFICERS.

"HEARINGS WILL BE CONDUCTED IN PUBLIC, AND IN AN INFORMAL MANNER," HE SAID.

"NO LEGAL REPRESENTATION ON EITHER SIDE WILL BE ALLOWED."

HE SAID THE ADJUDICATION OFFICER MAY, ON HIS OWN MOTION OR ON THE APPLICATION OF A PARTY, REVIEW AN AWARD MADE BY HIM WITHIN 14 DAYS.

"APPEAL AGAINST THE AWARD OF THE BOARD SHALL LIE WITH THE HIGH COURT ON THE GROUND THAT THE AWARD IS ERRONEOUS ON A POINT OF LAW OR OUTSIDE THE JURISDICTION OF THE BOARD," HE ADDED.

MR CHAN SAID REGULAR REPORTS ON THE WORK OF THE BOARD WOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE LABOUR RELATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD.

THE BILL WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL LATER THIS MONTH.

"WE HOPE THE ADJUDICATION SERVICE WOULD SPEED UP THE SETTLEMENT OF LABOUR DISPUTES, WHICH IN TURN WOULD HELP IMPROVE THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES," MR CHAN SAID.

"WE ALSO HOPE THAT IN LONGER TERM, THE SERVICE COULD HAVE A POSITIVE EFFECT ON LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY AND OUTPUT," HE ADDED.

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SECURITY BRANCH OFFICIALS MEET TAI A CHAU VIETNAMESE

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DISCUSSIONS WERE HELD THIS (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON BETWEEN SECURITY BRANCH OFFICIALS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TAI A CHAU CAMP POPULATION.

"THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING WAS TO LISTEN TO THE VIEWS OF THE VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS AT TAI A CHAU," SAID PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MR EDDY CHAN, AFTER ATTENDING THE MEETING WITH 10 VIETNAMESE MIGRANT REPRESENTATIVES.

"THE MEETING WAS HELD IN A FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE AND I TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO APPEAL TO THEM NOT TO TAKE ANY DRASTIC ACTIONS WHICH WOULD BENEFIT NO ONE, NOT LEAST THE VIETNAMESE THEMSELVES.

"I REAFFIRMED THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION ON THE VARIOUS ISSUES THAT THEY RAISED, INCLUDING THE SCREENING PROCEDURES AND THE REPATRIATION OF SCREENED-OUT VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS UNDER THE ORDERLY REPATRIATION PROGRAMME.

"THE VIETNAMESE REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDING THE MEETING AGREED TO CONVEY TO THE CAMP POPULATION THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION ON THE ISSUES RAISED AND TO CONSIDER WHETHER OR NOT TO CONTINUE THEIR PROTEST ACTIONS."

MR CHAN SAID HE HOPED THAT THE VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS WOULD COME TO REALISE THAT, UNDER THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF ACTION, THOSE WHO HAD BEEN DETERMINED TO BE NON-REFUGEES HAD NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO RETURN TO VIETNAM WHERE THEIR FUTURE LAY.

"I ALSO HOPE THAT THEY WILL BEHAVE RATIONALLY AND SENSIBLY AND CALL OFF THEIR PROTEST ACTIONS," MR CHAN SAID.

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GO-AHEAD FOR YOUTH SERVICE PLAN

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THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL HAS APPROVED THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE WORKING PARTY ON REVIEW OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRE SERVICES.

THE WORKING PARTY, CHAIRED BY PROFESSOR FELICE LIEH-MAK, WAS SET UP IN MARCH 1992 TO REVIEW THE POLICY, OBJECTIVES AND OPERATION OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRES AND RELATED SERVICES IN VIEW OF THE CHANGING NEEDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE AND A DECLINING YOUTH POPULATION.

ONE OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKING PARTY IS THAT SERVICES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE SHOULD BE INTEGRATED AND PROVIDED IN A SPECIFIC CATCHMENT AREA BY A TEAM OF SOCIAL WORKERS UNDER ONE MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE.

"THE SERVICES TO BE INTEGRATED ARE CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRES, OUTREACHING SOCIAL WORK, SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK, AND WHERE POSSIBLE, FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HEALTH AND WELFARE BRANCH SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

/THE WORKING

THE WORKING PARTY HAS ALSO RECOMMENDED THAT CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRE SERVICES SHOULD BE PLANNED ACCORDING TO THE YOUTH POPULATION AND NOT THE GENERAL POPULATION. AN INTEGRATED TEAM SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED FOR EACH CATCHMENT AREA WITH A YOUTH POPULATION OF 12,000.

PROGRAMMES OFFERED BY CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRES SHOULD BE MORE TARGET-ORIENTED AND MORE RELATED TO SOCIAL WORK.

SPECIAL ATTENTION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED YOUNG PEOPLE AND THOSE WHO ARE AT RISK AND NEED HELP.

IN ADDITION, A PILOT COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICE SCHEME SHOULD BE INTRODUCED TO HELP CHILDREN AND YOUTH WHO HAVE BROKEN THE LAW BY ORGANISING SUPERVISED ACTIVITIES FOR THEM.

THESE RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED FROM NEXT MONTH.

"A STEERING COMMITTEE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF INTEGRATED TEAMS HAS BEEN FORMED," THE SPOKESMAN SAID, ADDING THAT THE SERVICE WOULD BE EVALUATED TWO YEARS LATER IN 1996.

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PRINCESS ROYAL ARRIVES ON SUNDAY

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HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS ROYAL WILL ARRIVE IN HONG KONG ON SUNDAY (MARCH 6) FOR A FOUR-DAY VISIT.

DURING HER STAY, THE PRINCESS WILL OPEN THE "TRANSDelta CONFERENCE" ORGANISED BY THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORT IN HER CAPACITY AS PRESIDENT OF THE INSTITUTE AND THE TUEN MUN PUBLIC RIDING SCHOOL. SHE WILL ALSO VISIT THE PRINCE OF WALES BARRACKS, POKFULAM PUBLIC RIDING SCHOOL, THE ROYAL HONG KONG YACHT CLUB AND SEVERAL OTHER INSTITUTIONS.

SHE WILL RETURN TO THE UNITED KINGDOM ON MARCH 10.

ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

PRESS FACILITIES WILL BE PROVIDED FOR THE MEDIA TO COVER SOME OF THE VISIT PROGRAMMES OF THE PRINCESS ROYAL. ALTHOUGH PRIOR REGISTRATION WILL NOT BE NECESSARY, PRESS MEMBERS MAKING USE OF SUCH FACILITIES SHOULD BE ABLE TO PRODUCE PRESS IDENTITY ISSUED BY THEIR ORGANISATIONS. SECURITY CHECKS MAY ALSO BE REQUIRED.

ARRIVAL AT AIRPORT, MARCH 6

ARRIVING ON A SPECIAL FLIGHT, THE PRINCESS ROYAL WILL BE MET BY THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN.

THERE WILL BE A PHOTOGRAPHIC POSITION ON THE TARMAC TO COVER THE ARRIVAL.

/MEDIA PHOTOGRAPHERS

MEDIA PHOTOGRAPHERS SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE AIRPORT PRESS ROOM ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE PASSENGER TERMINAL BUILDING BY 2.30 PM. THEY MUST PRODUCE PROOF OF IDENTITY, FOR EXAMPLE, HONG KONG IDENTITY CARDS OR PASSPORTS, BEFORE THEY ARE ALLOWED INTO THE AIRPORT RESTRICTED AREA.

PHOTOGRAPHERS ARE ADVISED TO BRING ALONG TELEPHOTO LENSES.

OPENING OF TRANSDDELTA CONFERENCE, MARCH 8

THE PRINCESS WILL OPEN THE "TRANSDDELTA CONFERENCE - DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSPORT SERVICES IN HONG KONG AND THE PEARL RIVER DELTA" ORGANISED BY THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORT AT THE GRAND HYATT HOTEL AT 9 AM.

THERE WILL BE A FIXED POSITION OUTSIDE THE GRAND BALLROOM FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS TO COVER THE GREETING PARTY RECEIVING THE PRINCESS.

SEATS WILL BE RESERVED FOR REPORTERS INSIDE THE GRAND BALLROOM. REPORTERS WISHING TO ENTER THE BALLROOM TO COVER THE SPEECHES MUST REGISTER WITH THE ORGANISER OUTSIDE THE GRAND BALLROOM BEFORE 8.30 AM AND TAKE UP THE SEATS BEFORE 8.45 AM. NO LATE-COMERS WILL BE ADMITTED. CLEAR SOUND OUTLETS WILL BE PROVIDED NEXT TO THE PRESS SEATS FOR RECORDING OF THE SPEECHES.

UPON REQUEST OF THE ORGANISER, NO CAMERA WILL BE ALLOWED INSIDE THE CONFERENCE VENUE. PHOTOGRAPHIC COVERAGE INSIDE WILL BE PROVIDED BY A POOL PHOTOGRAPHER AND A POOL TV CAMERA IN A FIXED POSITION.

OPENING OF TUEN MUN PUBLIC RIDING SCHOOL, MARCH 9

THE PRINCESS WILL UNVEIL A PLAQUE, TOUR THE STABLES AND PADDOCKS.

THERE WILL BE ONE FIXED POSITION FOR THE MEDIA TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY AND HER TOUR OF THE PADDOCKS.

TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES. A COACH WILL LEAVE THE CAR PARK AT CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG, AT 9.15 AM SHARP.

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES MAKING THEIR OWN WAY SHOULD ARRIVE AT THE TUEN MUN PUBLIC RIDING SCHOOL AT LUNG MUN ROAD, BUTTERFLY BAY, TUEN MUN BY 10.30 AM.

67 TO RUN FOR EDUCATION CONDUCT COUNCIL ELECTION

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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED 67 NOMINATIONS FOR THE ELECTION OF 25 SEATS IN THE COUNCIL ON PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT IN EDUCATION (CPCE).

THE NOMINATIONS INCLUDE 42 FROM TEACHER-NOMINATED CATEGORIES AND 25 FROM ORGANISATION-NOMINATED CATEGORIES.

THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR DOMINIC WONG, ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT VOTING FOR THE ELECTION WOULD BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20.

"ALL FULL-TIME REGISTERED AND PERMITTED TEACHERS AND RELEVANT ORGANISATIONS ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE," MR WONG SAID.

THE CPCE IS A NON-STATUTORY BODY TO ADVISE THE GOVERNMENT ON MEASURES TO PROMOTE PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT IN EDUCATION INCLUDING THE DRAFTING OF OPERATIONAL CRITERIA DEFINING THE CONDUCT EXPECTED OF AN EDUCATOR, AND TO ADVISE THE DIRECTOR IN CASES OF DISPUTE OR ON ALLEGED PROFESSIONAL MISCONDUCT.

DETAILS OF THE ELECTION PROCEDURE WILL BE SENT TO SCHOOLS AND ORGANISATIONS SHORTLY.

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EIGHT DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION AREA PLANS APPROVED

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THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL LAST MONTH APPROVED EIGHT DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION AREA PLANS FOR VARIOUS PARTS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE PLANS COVER KWU TUNG SOUTH, MAN UK PIN AND SHAP SZ HEUNG IN NORTHEAST NEW TERRITORIES; HO CHUNG AND PAK KONG IN SAI KUNG; HA TSUEN, SHEUNG PAK NAI/HA PAK NAI, AND SAN TIN IN NORTHWEST NEW TERRITORIES.

THESE ARE RURAL AREAS WITH VILLAGE SETTLEMENTS IN LOWLANDS AND FOOTHILLS. IN RECENT YEARS, SOME OF THE FARMLANDS IN THE AREAS HAVE BEEN CONVERTED INTO WORKSHOPS, CAR-STRIPPING YARDS AND OPEN STORAGE TO MEET DEVELOPMENT NEEDS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD POINTED OUT THAT THESE USAGES HAD CAUSED A GENERAL DEGRADATION OF THE RURAL ENVIRONMENT AND CREATED PROBLEMS, SUCH AS TRAFFIC CONGESTION, VISUAL BLIGHT AND FLOODING.

THE PLANS ARE PUBLISHED TO PROVIDE INTERIM PLANNING CONTROL AND DEVELOPMENT GUIDANCE FOR THE RURAL AREAS PENDING THE PREPARATION OF OUTLINE ZONING PLANS (OZP'S).

REPLACEMENT OZP'S FOR THESE AREAS ARE NOW BEING PREPARED BY THE BOARD AND WOULD BE PUT UP FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION.

/"ON THE

"ON THE DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION AREA (DPA) PLANS, AREAS SET ASIDE FOR SMALL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT ARE ZONED 'VILLAGE TYPE DEVELOPMENT', WHEREAS AREAS WITH ADEQUATE INFRASTRUCTURAL FACILITIES ARE ZONED FOR LOW-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL USE TO ENCOURAGE PRIVATE INITIATIVES IN UNDERTAKING DEVELOPMENT," HE SAID.

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

"ON THE DPA PLANS ARE ALSO MANY 'UNSPECIFIED USES' AREAS WHERE PLANNING PERMISSION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL TYPES OF DEVELOPMENT OTHER THAN THE PERMITTED USES SET OUT IN THE NOTES ATTACHED TO THE PLANS," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

ALL EIGHT DPA PLANS ARE BEING EXHIBITED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION FOR ONE WEEK UNTIL MARCH 11 AT THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT, 16TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG.

THEY ARE ALSO ON DISPLAY AT THE DISTRICT OFFICES IN THE NORTH DISTRICT, TAI PO, SAI KUNG AND YUEN LONG AS WELL AS IN THE SHA TIN AND NORTH EAST DISTRICT PLANNING OFFICE, THE SAI KUNG AND TSEUNG KWAN O DISTRICT PLANNING OFFICE, AND THE TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG DISTRICT PLANNING OFFICE.

COPIES OF THE APPROVED DPA PLANS ARE ON SALE AT THE SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG AND THE KOWLOON MAP SALES SECTION, 382 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

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AMENDMENTS TO DRAFT OUTLINE ZONING PLAN ANNOUNCED

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THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT SHAU KEI WAN OUTLINE ZONING PLAN (NO. S/H9/3), WHICH WILL PROVIDE AREAS FOR PUBLIC HOUSING, SCHOOLS AND OTHER SUPPORTING FACILITIES.

THE RECLAMATION AREAS IN ALDRICH BAY HAVE BEEN REZONED FROM "UNDETERMINED", "GOVERNMENT/INSTITUTION/COMMUNITY" AND "OTHER SPECIFIED USES" ANNOTATED "SEWAGE SCREENING PLANT" AND "COMPREHENSIVE RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AREA" TO "RESIDENTIAL (GROUP A)" "OPEN SPACE", "GOVERNMENT/INSTITUTION/COMMUNITY" AND "OTHER SPECIFIED USES" ANNOTATED "SEWAGE SCREENING PLANT" AND "GODOWN".

THIS WILL MAKE PROVISION FOR PUBLIC HOUSING DEVELOPMENT INCORPORATING A PRIMARY SCHOOL, A PUBLIC TRANSPORT TERMINUS, A SHOPPING CENTRE, MARKETS, OPEN SPACE AND OTHER COMMUNITY AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES.

A SITE ON TAI ON STREET HAD ALSO BEEN RESERVED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SECONDARY SCHOOL. AREAS FOR OPEN SPACE DEVELOPMENT HAVE BEEN PROVIDED NEAR THE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT.

MEANWHILE, A PIECE OF LAND TO THE EAST OF ALDRICH BAY HAS BEEN RESERVED FOR THE REPROVISIONING OF A WHOLESALE FISH MARKET AND THE EXTENSION OF THE SEWAGE SCREENING PLANT. AN AREA NEAR A KUNG NGAM WILL BE USED FOR GODOWN PURPOSE.

OTHER AMENDMENTS INCLUDE REZONING THE AREA BOUNDED BY SHAU KEI WAN MAIN STREET EAST AND TUNG HEI ROAD FROM "COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL" AND "GOVERNMENT/INSTITUTION/COMMUNITY" TO "RESIDENTIAL (GROUP A)", "GOVERNMENT/INSTITUTION/COMMUNITY" AND "OPEN SPACE".

THE AREAS WITHIN TAI TAM COUNTRY PARK HAVE ALSO BEEN REZONED FROM "GREEN BELT" TO "COUNTRY PARK" TO REFLECT THE EXISTING USE.

THE AMENDMENT PLAN (NO. S/H9/4) IS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION UNTIL MAY 3 IN THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:

- * HONG KONG DISTRICT PLANNING OFFICE,
11TH FLOOR, LEIGHTON CENTRE,
77 LEIGHTON ROAD,
HONG KONG;
- * PLANNING DEPARTMENT,
16TH FLOOR,
MURRAY BUILDING,
GARDEN ROAD,
HONG KONG; AND
- * EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE,
GROUND FLOOR,
EASTERN LAW COURTS BUILDING,
29 TAI ON STREET,
HONG KONG.

ANY PERSON AFFECTED BY THE AMENDMENTS MAY SEND HIS WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD, C/O PLANNING DEPARTMENT, 13TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING BEFORE MAY 3.

COPIES OF THE AMENDMENT PLAN CAN BE BOUGHT AT THE SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, AND KOWLOON MAP SALES OFFICE, 382 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

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WONG NAI CHUNG OUTLINE ZONING PLAN APPROVED

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THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD HAS PUBLISHED AN APPROVED OUTLINE ZONING PLAN FOR WONG NAI CHUNG.

THE PLAN COVERS AN AREA OF ABOUT 139 HECTARES, ESTABLISHING A STATUTORY PLANNING FRAMEWORK TO CONTROL DEVELOPMENT AND REDEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE AREA.

THE PLANNING AREA IS BOUNDED BY LEIGHTON ROAD IN THE NORTH, HONG KONG STADIUM AND SO KON PO IN THE EAST, TAI HANG ROAD IN THE SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST AND STUBBS ROAD IN THE WEST.

THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE PLANNING AREA IS PREDOMINANTLY RESIDENTIAL, AND THE NORTHERN PART, COMPRISING HAPPY VALLEY AND CAROLINE HILL, HAS BEEN DEVELOPED MAINLY FOR SPORTS AND RECREATION CLUB USES.

ABOUT 38 HECTARES OF THE LAND IN THE AREA HAVE BEEN DESIGNATED FOR RESIDENTIAL USE. SPECIFIC RESTRICTIONS ON DEVELOPMENT INTENSITY HAVE BEEN IMPOSED ON SOME OF THE RESIDENTIAL ZONES BECAUSE OF THE LIMITED CAPACITY OF THE ACCESS ROADS, THE NEED TO PRESERVE PUBLIC VIEWS AND THE DESIRE TO MAINTAIN THE CHARACTER OF THE AREA.

MEANWHILE, 35 HECTARES OF THE LAND HAVE BEEN RESERVED FOR OTHER SPECIFIED USES INCLUDING SPORTS AND RECREATION CLUB, CEMETERY AND RACE COURSES; ABOUT NINE HECTARES FOR OPEN SPACE DEVELOPMENT; ONE HECTARE FOR COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL USE; ABOUT 21 HECTARES ALONG STUBBS ROAD AND TAI HANG ROAD FOR GREEN BELT AREAS; AND ABOUT 20 HECTARES FOR ROADS.

THE APPROVED PLAN IS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION FOR A WEEK AT:

- * WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE,
21ST FLOOR, SOUTHOEN CENTRE,
130 HENNESSY ROAD,
WAN CHAI, HONG KONG;
- * HONG KONG DISTRICT PLANNING OFFICE,
11TH FLOOR, LEIGHTON CENTRE,
77 LEIGHTON ROAD,
HONG KONG; AND
- * PLANNING DEPARTMENT,
16TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING,
GARDEN ROAD,
HONG KONG.

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

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LAND SURVEY BILL GAZETTED
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THE GOVERNMENT IS TO INTRODUCE THE LAND SURVEY BILL TO IMPROVE THE STANDARD OF LAND BOUNDARY SURVEYS AND TO ESTABLISH AN ACCURATE LAND BOUNDARY RECORD SYSTEM.

THE BILL, GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY), WILL PROVIDE FOR A REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR THE CONTROL OF THE STANDARD THROUGH THE REGISTRATION OF AUTHORISED LAND SURVEYORS WHO HAVE TO ENSURE THAT ALL LAND BOUNDARY SURVEYS CARRIED OUT BY THEM ARE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ADOPTED CODES OF PRACTICE.

THE BILL REQUIRES THAT LAND BOUNDARY PLANS CERTIFIED BY AUTHORISED LAND SURVEYORS SHOULD ACCOMPANY CONVEYANCING INSTRUMENTS OR DEEDS CREATING NEW DIVISION OF LAND FOR REGISTRATION UNDER THE LAND REGISTRATION ORDINANCE.

THE REQUIREMENT WILL BE MANDATORY AFTER THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION TAKES EFFECT.

/THE AUTHORISED

THE AUTHORISED LAND SURVEYORS SHOULD ALSO DEPOSIT THE LAND BOUNDARY PLANS AND THE RELATED SURVEY RECORD PLANS WITH THE LAND SURVEY AUTHORITY, WHO WILL EITHER BE THE DIRECTOR OF LANDS OR HIS DELEGATED REPRESENTATIVE.

UNDER THE BILL, AUTHORISED LAND SURVEYORS WILL BE LIABLE FOR ANY DAMAGES TO ANY PERSONS AS A RESULT OF ANY INACCURACY OR INCOMPLETENESS OF LAND BOUNDARY PLANS CERTIFIED BY THEM.

THE BILL, WHICH WAS APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL ON FEBRUARY 22, IS SCHEDULED TO RECEIVE ITS FIRST READING IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON MARCH 30.

ENQUIRIES ON THE BILL SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

SENIOR LAND SURVEYOR/TECHNICAL INFORMATION
LANDS DEPARTMENT
ROOM 1507, 15TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING,
GARDEN ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG

TEL : 848 2723
FAX : 877 8520

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THREE LOTS FOR AUCTION
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THREE LOTS OF GOVERNMENT LAND WILL BE OFFERED FOR SALE AT A PUBLIC AUCTION ON MARCH 31 (THURSDAY).

THE AUCTION WILL START AT 2.30 PM IN THE JADE BALLROOM OF HOTEL FURAMA-KEMPINSKI, CONNAUGHT ROAD, CENTRAL.

THE FIRST LOT, AT 665 KING'S ROAD, HAS AN AREA OF ABOUT 2,661 SQUARE METRES.

IT IS INTENDED FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL USE, EXCLUDING PETROL-FILLING STATION, GODOWN, WAREHOUSE AND PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL.

THE SECOND LOT, AT AREA 11, TUEN MUN, COVERS AN AREA OF ABOUT 3,781 SQUARE METRES.

IT IS FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL USE, EXCLUDING GODOWN, RESIDENTIAL, HOTEL, SERVICE APARTMENT AND PETROL-FILLING STATION, BUT INCLUDING MULTI-STOREY PUBLIC CAR PARK.

THE THIRD LOT, AT AREA 11, ON YIU STREET, SHA TIN, HAS AN AREA OF ABOUT 6,515 SQUARE METRES. IT IS PLANNED FOR INDUSTRIAL OR GODOWN (WITH ANCILLARY OFFICE) USE.

FULL PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD; AND THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES KOWLOON, YAU MA TEI CAR PARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON.

SALE PLANS ARE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION IN THE OFFICES.

CONDITIONS OF SALE WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE AT THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES OF SHA TIN, TUEN MUN, YUEN LONG, TSUEN WAN, KWAI TSING, TAI PO, NORTH, SAI KUNG AND ISLANDS.

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CONSTRUCTION OF SHIPYARD AT TO KAU WAN, NORTH LANTAU

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ABOUT 7.7 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEA-BED AT TO KAU WAN, LANTAU ISLAND WILL BE RECLAIMED TO PROVIDE LAND FOR A SHIPYARD. RECLAMATION AND ASSOCIATED WORKS WILL COMMENCE IN SEPTEMBER AND TAKE ABOUT ONE YEAR TO COMPLETE.

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

THE NOTICE AND THE 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 AND AT THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE, FIRST FLOOR, TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK BUILDING, 174-208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN, NEW TERRITORIES.

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HE HAS AN INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEA-BED INVOLVED MAY SUBMIT A WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE DIRECTOR OF LANDS BEFORE OR ON MAY 4, 1994. IT SHOULD DESCRIBE THE MANNER IN WHICH HE ALLEGES HE WILL BE AFFECTED.

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GAMES HALL FOR DIAMOND HILL RESIDENTS

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DIAMOND HILL RESIDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO ENJOY MORE SPORTS FACILITIES WHEN AN INDOOR GAMES HALL IS COMPLETED BY THE END OF NEXT YEAR.

THE INDOOR GAMES HALL, TO BE DEVELOPED ON A SITE OF 0.6 HECTARE AT THE JUNCTION OF PO KONG VILLAGE ROAD AND FUNG LAI ROAD, WILL HAVE A CHILDREN'S PLAY ROOM, A DANCING STUDIO, A GAMES ROOM FOR TABLE TENNIS, A MULTI-PURPOSE ACTIVITIES ROOM, TWO BASKETBALL COURTS AND SIX SQUASH COURTS.

THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS NOW INVITING TENDERS FOR THE PROJECT WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO START IN JUNE.

FORMS OF TENDER AND FURTHER PARTICULARS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, 34TH FLOOR, QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 66 QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG.

TENDER OFFER WILL CLOSE AT NOON ON MARCH 25.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 1994

- 12 -

REVISION OF JUDICIARY FEES

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THE SUPREME COURT FEES (AMENDMENT) RULES 1994 AND THE DISTRICT COURT CIVIL PROCEDURE (FEES) (AMENDMENT) RULES 1994, WHICH SEEK TO INCREASE THE FEES COLLECTED BY THE JUDICIARY IN PROVIDING VARIOUS SERVICES UNDER THE SUPREME COURT ORDINANCE AND THE DISTRICT COURT ORDINANCE, WERE GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE FEES WERE LAST REVISED IN 1992.

"TAKING ACCOUNT OF THE INCREASE IN THE COSTS OF PROVIDING THE SERVICES SINCE THE LAST REVIEW, THE FEES WILL BE INCREASED BY 10 PER CENT WITH EFFECT FROM MAY 1, 1994," A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THE FEE REVISION WAS A ROUTINE ADJUSTMENT AIMED AT RECOVERING THE INCREASED ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS INCURRED.

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CONTRACT FOR UPGRADING SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITIES SIGNED

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THE DRAINAGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) SIGNED A \$37.6 MILLION WORKS CONTRACT TO UPGRADE THE SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITIES IN THE TAI PO SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT.

THE CONTRACT WAS SIGNED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (PROJECTS AND MANAGEMENT), MR TSE HON-SUM, AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CONTRACTOR, CHIU HING CONSTRUCTION AND TRANSPORTATION COMPANY LIMITED.

MR TSE SAID THE CONTRACT INVOLVED THE CONSTRUCTION OF A CONTROL AND STORAGE HOUSE, AS WELL AS MODIFICATION AND REFURBISHMENT OF SOME OF THE EXISTING TREATMENT INSTALLATIONS, SUCH AS THE INLET WORKS, AERATION TANKS AND PIPEWORKS.

THE WORKS ARE SCHEDULED TO BEGIN ON MARCH 19 FOR COMPLETION IN AUGUST 1996.

THE EFFLUENT QUALITY AND OPERATION CONDITIONS OF THE TAI PO SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT WOULD BE IMPROVED UPON THE COMPLETION OF THE WORKS, MR TSE ADDED.

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EDUCATION OFFICERS CONDUCT SURPRISE INSPECTIONS

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EDUCATION OFFICERS CONDUCTED SURPRISE INSPECTIONS ON 13 PRIVATE EVENING SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY LAST (THURSDAY) NIGHT.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY THE INSPECTIONS WERE CONDUCTED TO ENSURE THAT THESE SCHOOLS WERE OPERATING ACCORDING TO THE EDUCATION ORDINANCE.

/THE INSPECTIONS

THE INSPECTIONS WERE ALSO AIMED AT MAINTAINING CLOSE COMMUNICATION WITH THE OPERATORS AND OFFERING ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE TO ENHANCE THEIR STANDARD, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

DURING THE INSPECTIONS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, FOUR SCHOOLS WERE FOUND NOT COMPLYING WITH THE EDUCATION ORDINANCE.

HE SAID THESE IRREGULARITIES INCLUDED COLLECTION OF UNAPPROVED FEES, TEACHERS WITHOUT REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES OR TEACHING PERMITS AND EXCESS ENROLMENT.

WARNINGS HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO THE SCHOOLS TO RECTIFY THE IRREGULARITIES IMMEDIATELY, HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE DEPARTMENT WOULD TAKE FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS, INCLUDING LEGAL ACTION IF WARRANTED, AGAINST THESE OPERATORS.

HE SAID THE DEPARTMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO CONDUCT SURPRISE INSPECTIONS ON SCHOOLS TO ENSURE THAT THEIR OPERATIONS WERE SMOOTH.

IN THE 1992/93 SCHOOL YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT CONDUCTED 211 SUCH INSPECTIONS AND 112 BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 1993 AND FEBRUARY 1994.

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APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR CONVERSION TO WHOLE-DAY SCHOOLING
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AIDED BI-SESSIONAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS ARE INVITED TO APPLY FOR WHOLE-DAY OPERATION IN THE 1995/96 SCHOOL YEAR.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID SCHOOLS OPERATING ON A WHOLE-DAY BASIS WERE GIVEN AN IMPROVED TEACHER/CLASS RATIO OF 1.4 TO ONE AND A SENIOR TEACHER RATIO OF ONE ASSISTANT MASTER/MISTRESS FOR EVERY THREE CLASSES.

"WHOLE-DAY SCHOOLS ALSO RECEIVE AN INCREASED ANNUAL CLASS GRANT," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN ADVISED SCHOOLS TO DISCUSS WITH PARENTS AND TEACHERS ON THE CONVERSION BEFORE SENDING IN THEIR APPLICATIONS.

THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS APRIL 18. APPLICANTS WILL BE INFORMED OF THE RESULTS IN MAY.

AT PRESENT, A TOTAL OF 131 WHOLE-DAY PRIMARY SCHOOLS ARE IN OPERATION IN THE TERRITORY.

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ESTATE AGENTS WORKING GROUP SUPPORTS LICENSING
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THE WORKING GROUP ON REGULATION OF REAL ESTATE AGENTS TODAY (FRIDAY) AGREED TO RECOMMEND TO THE GOVERNMENT THAT ESTATE AGENTS IN HONG KONG SHOULD BE LICENSED BY A REGULATORY AUTHORITY WITH LEGISLATIVE BACKING.

THE RECOMMENDATION CAME AFTER MEMBERS OF THE GROUP CONSIDERED CAREFULLY THE PROS AND CONS OF VARIOUS REGULATORY SYSTEMS FOR THE TRADE.

THEY HAVE MADE REFERENCE TO SIMILAR REGULATORY FRAMEWORK AND EXPERIENCE IN OVERSEAS COUNTRIES AND HAD REGARD TO THE LICENSING SYSTEMS FOR SOME OF LOCAL TRADES IN THEIR LAST MEETING AND TODAY'S MEETING.

MEMBERS GENERALLY AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE TRADE AND THE PUBLIC TO PLACE ESTATE AGENTS UNDER A FORMAL REGULATORY FRAMEWORK THAT WILL SERVE THE PURPOSES OF ENSURING MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE COMPETENCE STANDARD AND SANCTIONING DISHONEST AND INCOMPETENT AGENTS.

THEY ALSO AGREED THAT THE PRIMARY FUNCTIONS OF THE AUTHORITY SHOULD INCLUDE ADVISING THE GOVERNMENT ON REGULATORY MATTERS, DETERMINING LICENSING REQUIREMENTS, LICENSING ESTATE AGENTS, INQUIRING INTO ALLEGED BREACHES OF RULES AND REGULATIONS AND IMPOSING PENALTIES ON DEFAULTING AGENTS.

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MORE WOMEN ADVISERS ON FILM CENSORSHIP NEEDED
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THE TELEVISION AND ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING AUTHORITY (TELA) WILL RECRUIT MORE WOMEN TO BE PUBLIC ADVISERS ON FILM CENSORSHIP.

AT A SPRING RECEPTION HOSTED BY TELA TODAY (FRIDAY), THE COMMISSIONER FOR TELEVISION AND ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING, MRS RITA LAU, SAID: "WE NOW HAVE A PANEL OF ABOUT 300 PUBLIC ADVISERS BUT ONLY ABOUT 80 OF THEM ARE WOMEN.

"THE ADDITION OF WOMEN WOULD MAKE THE PANEL MORE REPRESENTATIVE OF OUR COMMUNITY," SHE SAID.

BUT MRS LAU SAID SHE WAS NOT IMPLYING THAT THE PRESENT PANEL DID NOT REFLECT THE COMMUNITY'S OPINION.

"IN FACT, A PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY ON FILM STANDARDS CONDUCTED AT THE END OF LAST YEAR SHOWS THAT THE VIEWS OF OUR PUBLIC ADVISERS ARE GENERALLY IN LINE WITH THOSE HELD BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC."

CERTAIN DATA WAS STILL BEING ANALYSED BY THE INDEPENDENT RESEARCH FIRM CONDUCTING THE SURVEY, MRS LAU SAID.

"THE REPORT WILL BE READY BY THE END OF THIS MONTH BUT WE HAVE YET TO MAKE A DECISION ON THE PRECISE DATE WHEN IT WILL BE RELEASED TO THE PUBLIC," SHE SAID.

MRS LAU PRAISED THE CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY THE PUBLIC ADVISERS, WHO SPENT HALF A DAY EVERY TWO WEEKS TO ADVISE THE FILM CENSORS ON WHETHER A FILM SHOULD BE APPROVED FOR SHOWING AND IF SO, WHETHER IT SHOULD BE CLASSIFIED AS CATEGORY I, II OR III.

"IT IS HEARTENING TO SEE SO MANY MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY, WHO COME FROM DIFFERENT WALKS OF LIFE, SACRIFICING THEIR TIME TO RENDER A SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY.

"THE FACT THAT THERE WAS IN THE WHOLE OF 1993 ONLY ONE APPEAL AGAINST THE FILM CENSORS' DECISION IS INDICATIVE OF THE BALANCED ADVICE PUT FORTH BY THE PUBLIC ADVISERS," MRS LAU SAID.

ON THE QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED TO BE A PUBLIC ADVISER, MRS LAU SAID: "ANY PERSON OF THE AGE OF 18 OR ABOVE WHO IS NOT A CIVIL SERVANT IS ELIGIBLE TO BE APPOINTED PROVIDED THAT THE APPOINTMENT WILL NOT GIVE RISE TO ANY CONFLICT OF INTEREST."

ANYONE INTERESTED COULD OBTAIN AN APPLICATION FORM BY WRITING TO OR DROPPING IN THE TELA OFFICE ON THE 39TH FLOOR, REVENUE TOWER, 5 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG.

THE RECEPTION WAS ATTENDED BY ABOUT 250 PERSONS INCLUDING THE PUBLIC ADVISERS, MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF REVIEW CHAIRED BY MR NORMAN LEUNG AND ALSO GUESTS FROM THE FILM AND VIDEO INDUSTRY.

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PROVISIONAL RESULTS OF RETAIL SALES
SURVEY FOR DECEMBER 1993 RELEASED

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THE VALUE OF TOTAL RETAIL SALES IN DECEMBER 1993, ESTIMATED AT \$17.7 BILLION, INCREASED 13% WHEN COMPARED WITH THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR, ACCORDING TO THE STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

AFTER DISCOUNTING THE EFFECT OF PRICE CHANGES OVER THE PERIOD, TOTAL RETAIL SALES INCREASED 6% IN VOLUME TERMS.

FOR 1993 AS A WHOLE, THE INCREASE IN RETAIL SALES WAS 13% IN VALUE AND 7% IN VOLUME.

THE INCREASE IN DECEMBER WAS MAINLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO A CONSIDERABLE GROWTH IN SPENDING ON CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR, CONSUMER DURABLE GOODS OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES, AND SALES IN DEPARTMENT STORES.

SALES OF CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS REGISTERED A SIGNIFICANT YEAR-ON-YEAR INCREASE IN DECEMBER, 26% IN VALUE AND 16% IN VOLUME.

SALES OF CONSUMER DURABLE GOODS OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES WENT UP MARKEDLY BY 21% IN VALUE AND 18% IN VOLUME, WHILE SALES IN DEPARTMENT STORES ROSE BY 15% AND 7% RESPECTIVELY.

BOTH SALES IN SUPERMARKETS AND SALES OF JEWELLERY AND WATCHES INCREASED 10% IN VALUE. IN VOLUME TERMS, THE INCREASES WERE 3% AND 2% RESPECTIVELY.

SALES OF FUELS WENT UP SLIGHTLY BY 3% IN VALUE AND 1% IN VOLUME.

ON THE OTHER HAND, SALES OF OTHER FOODSTUFFS SHOWED NO GROWTH IN VOLUME, DESPITE AN INCREASE IN VALUE BY 9% SALES OF MOTOR VEHICLES RECORDED A DECREASE OF 7% IN VOLUME BUT VIRTUALLY NO CHANGE IN VALUE.

COMPARING 1993 WITH THE PRECEDING YEAR, TOTAL RETAIL SALES ROSE BY 13% IN VALUE AND 7% IN VOLUME. THE CORRESPONDING INCREASES IN 1992 WERE 18% AND 12% RESPECTIVELY, INDICATING A CONTINUED GROWTH IN CONSUMER SPENDING IN 1993.

SALES OF CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR ROSE SHARPLY IN 1993 BY 31% IN VALUE AND 21% IN VOLUME; THOSE OF CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES BY 17% IN VALUE AND 15% IN VOLUME; AND THOSE OF JEWELLERY AND WATCHES BY 11% IN VALUE AND 8% IN VOLUME.

MODERATE INCREASES WERE RECORDED FOR SALES OF SUPERMARKETS (BY 10% IN VALUE AND 3% IN VOLUME); SALES IN DEPARTMENT STORES (BY 10% IN VALUE AND 2% IN VOLUME); SALES OF FUELS (BY 8% IN VALUE AND 3% IN VOLUME); AND SALES OF OTHER FOODSTUFFS (BY 7% IN VALUE AND 1% IN VOLUME).

SALES OF MOTOR VEHICLES RECORDED A 1% INCREASE IN VALUE BUT A 7% DECREASE IN VOLUME.

COMPARING WITH NOVEMBER 1993, AND BEARING IN MIND THAT THIS COMPARISON MAY BE AFFECTED BY SEASONAL FACTORS, TOTAL RETAIL SALES IN DECEMBER 1993 INCREASED 18% IN BOTH VALUE AND VOLUME TERMS.

THE VOLUME OF RETAIL SALES IS DERIVED FROM THE VALUE OF RETAIL SALES AFTER ADJUSTING FOR PRICE CHANGES. THE RELEVANT COMPONENTS OF THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX ARE USED AS DEFLATORS.

TABLE 1 PRESENTS THE REVISED TOTAL RETAIL SALES FIGURE FOR NOVEMBER 1993 AND THE PROVISIONAL FIGURE FOR DECEMBER 1993.

TABLE 2 SHOWS THE VALUE AND VOLUME INDICES OF RETAIL SALES IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 1993 FOR ALL RETAIL OUTLETS AND BY TYPE OF RETAIL OUTLET, WITH AVERAGE RETAIL SALES FROM OCTOBER 1989 TO SEPTEMBER 1990 TAKEN AS 100. COMPARISONS OF DECEMBER 1993 RESULTS WITH THOSE FOR NOVEMBER 1993 AND WITH THOSE FOR DECEMBER 1992, AND COMPARISONS OF RETAIL SALES IN 1993 WITH 1992 ARE ALSO GIVEN.

THE REPORT CONTAINING THE ANALYSIS OF THE DECEMBER 1993 RESULTS IS NOW ON SALE AT \$2 PER COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL; AND THE PUBLICATIONS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER, WAN CHAI.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. NO. : 802 1258).

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TABLE 1 : TOTAL RETAIL SALES

Total Retail Sales for December 1993 (Provisional Figure) = HK\$17,730.9 million
for November 1993 (Revised Figure) = HK\$15,008.0 million

TABLE 2 : VALUE AND VOLUME INDICES OF RETAIL SALES FOR NOVEMBER 1993 AND DECEMBER 1993

(Monthly average of Oct. 89 - Sept. 90 = 100)

Type of outlet	Index of Retail Sales	November 1993	December 1993	December 1993 compared with November 1993		December 1993 compared with December 1992		Jan-Dec. 1993 compared with Jan-Dec. 1992	
		(Revised figures)	(Provisional figures)	Points	%	Points	%	Points	%
(A) FOR ALL RETAIL OUTLETS									
	Value	159.8	188.8	+29.0	+18.1	+22.3	+13.4	+18.0	+12.7
	Volume	129.0	152.5	+23.6	+18.3	+8.8	+6.1	+8.6	+6.9
(B) BY TYPE OF RETAIL OUTLET									
Foodstuffs, alcoholic drinks and tobacco (other than supermarkets)	Value	130.1	142.3	+12.1	+9.3	+11.4	+8.7	+7.8	+6.6
	Volume	104.6	111.3	+6.7	+6.4	-0.3	-0.3	+1.1	+1.1
Supermarkets ϕ	Value	132.9	154.8	+21.9	+16.5	+14.4	+10.3	+12.7	+10.0
	Volume	99.6	115.9	+16.3	+16.4	+3.5	+3.1	+2.8	+2.7
Fuels	Value	150.5	159.9	+9.4	+6.3	+4.8	+3.1	+11.3	+8.2
	Volume	110.1	117.8	+7.7	+7.0	+0.6	+0.5	+3.6	+3.4
Clothing, footwear and allied products	Value	221.0	268.3	+47.4	+21.4	+55.5	+26.1	+48.2	+30.8
	Volume	158.2	194.6	+36.4	+23.0	+27.2	+16.3	+27.2	+20.9
Consumer durable goods	Value	185.4	185.2	-0.2	-0.1	+18.4	+11.0	+14.6	+9.0
	Volume	155.2	157.1	+1.9	+1.2	+9.3	+6.3	+7.0	+4.8
- Motor vehicles and parts	Value	225.3	193.1	-32.2	-14.3	+0.5	+0.2	+2.1	+1.1
	Volume	171.8	147.0	-24.9	-14.5	-11.7	-7.4	-10.7	-6.6
- Consumer durable goods other than motor vehicles and parts	Value	156.6	179.5	+22.9	+14.6	+31.4	+21.2	+23.7	+16.8
	Volume	143.2	164.4	+21.2	+14.8	+24.5	+17.5	+19.8	+14.8
Department stores	Value	144.6	195.2	+50.6	+35.0	+25.0	+14.7	+12.7	+9.6
	Volume	107.5	147.2	+39.7	+37.0	+9.3	+6.7	+2.7	+2.4
Jewellery, watches and clocks, and valuable gifts	Value	142.7	179.1	+36.4	+25.6	+16.8	+10.3	+14.6	+10.6
	Volume	141.1	174.7	+33.6	+23.8	+2.8	+1.6	+10.8	+7.6
Other consumer goods not elsewhere classified	Value	162.2	212.8	+50.6	+31.2	+26.3	+14.1	+23.7	+15.9
	Volume	131.5	172.6	+41.1	+31.3	+14.7	+9.3	+13.1	+10.2

NOTES : ϕ Not including supermarkets operating in department stores.

FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 1994

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MORE FUNDS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL WORKS

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS ALL ALONG PLACED GREAT EMPHASIS ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, AS EVIDENCED BY A 15.3 PER CENT INCREASE IN THE ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE ON ENVIRONMENTAL WORKS FOR 1994/95, WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR PETER MANN, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT GREENING FOR THE CHEST TREE-PLANTING CEREMONY, HE SAID THE UPCOMING ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION PROGRAMMES WOULD BENEFIT FROM THE EXTRA FUNDING PROPOSED IN THE BUDGET.

A TOTAL OF 25 FICUS BENJAMINA WERE PLANTED ALONG THE FOOTBALL PITCH OF WAN CHAI PARK, RAISING MORE THAN \$97,000 FOR THE COMMUNITY CHEST.

WAN CHAI HAS BEEN AMONG THE FIRST TO IMPLEMENT THE SCHEME, WHICH HAS SEEN A GROWING NUMBER OF TREES IN THE DISTRICT WHILE BOOSTING THE CHARITY COFFERS.

SINCE 1989, MORE THAN 650 TREES HAVE BEEN PLANTED IN THE AREA.

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ELDERLY TO BENEFIT FROM BUDGET

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THE ELDERLY RESIDENTS OF WAN CHAI WILL HAVE BETTER CARE AND SUPPORT JUDGING FROM THE PROPOSALS ON SOCIAL SERVICES PUT FORWARD IN THE 1994/95 BUDGET, WAN CHAI ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS VIVIAN KO, SAID THIS (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON.

ADDRESSING THE CLOSING CEREMONY FOR THE GREEN WARDEN SCHEME, SHE SAID THE PROPOSALS INCLUDED AN INCREASE OF 8.4 PER CENT IN THE RECURRENT EXPENDITURE ON SOCIAL WELFARE, AN ADDITIONAL 1,660 PLACES IN CARE AND ATTENTION HOMES AND 24 ELDERLY CENTRES THIS YEAR.

THESE, COUPLED WITH THE FORTHCOMING ISSUE OF SENIOR CITIZENS' CARDS, WILL DEFINITELY BENEFIT THE AGED IN THE DISTRICT, SHE ADDED.

A TOTAL OF 50 ELDERLY PEOPLE WERE AWARDED CERTIFICATES AS A TOKEN OF THANKS FOR REPORTING "ILL TREES" TO THE RELEVANT DEPARTMENT UNDER THE THREE-MONTH SCHEME.

THE TRIAL SCHEME WAS ORGANISED BY THE CONCERN FOR THE AGED WORKING GROUP UNDER THE COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE OF THE DISTRICT BOARD.

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GOVT SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT TO HOLD FAMILY DAY

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ABOUT 2,000 CHILDREN OF THE STAFF OF THE GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT WILL HAVE A COLOURFUL AFTERNOON THIS SUNDAY (MARCH 6) AT THE COMPOUND OF ITS HEADQUARTERS IN OIL STREET, NORTH POINT.

THE ANNUAL FAMILY DAY WILL BE HELD FROM 1 PM TO 5 PM.

/THE CHILDREN

THE CHILDREN WILL BE TREATED TO A POLICE DOG SHOW, A DRILL OF THE JUNIOR LEADERS OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT, MUSIC PRESENTED BY THE AUXILIARY MEDICAL SERVICES BAND AND STALL GAMES.

THE DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES, MR NIGEL SHIPMAN, WILL JOIN THE STAFF AND THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

THE DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES, MR NIGEL SHIPMAN, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY AT 1 PM AT THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT AT OIL STREET, NORTH POINT.

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	\$ MILLION

OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,270
REVERSAL OF LAF	+730
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	3,000
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	-782
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,218
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER TWI 125.7 *+0.2*	4.3.94

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS		EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS				
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	3.56	18 MONTHS	2508	4.625	99.98	4.69
1 MONTH	3.60	21 MONTHS	2511	4.15	98.85	4.91
3 MONTHS	3.67	24 MONTHS	2602	4.40	98.83	5.10
6 MONTHS	3.80	32 MONTHS	3610	4.20	97.15	5.44
12 MONTHS	4.26	35 MONTHS	3701	4.60	97.68	5.55

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 27,857 MN

CLOSED 4 MARCH 1994

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