



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES  
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 5-8428777

FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 1990

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SENSIBLE, IMAGINATIVE PLANNING FOR FUTURE: GOVERNOR

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HONG KONG IS PLANNING SENSIBLY AND IMAGINATIVELY FOR THE FUTURE, NOT JUST TO 1997 BUT WELL INTO THE NEXT CENTURY, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID THIS (FRIDAY) EVENING.

SPEAKING AT THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER OF THE HONG KONG INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS, SIR DAVID POINTED OUT THAT IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS WORK HAD BEGUN ON SOME OF THE MOST AMBITIOUS ENGINEERING PROJECTS IN HONG KONG'S HISTORY, PROJECTS WHICH WOULD SHAPE OUR FUTURE.

"ALL THESE PROJECTS TOGETHER - THE NEW AIRPORT, THE EXPANSION OF THE PORT, AND THE NEW ROADS AND BACK-UP FACILITIES THAT WE WILL NEED - ARE EXPECTED TO COST A TOTAL OF \$127 BILLION.

"IT IS AN ENORMOUS SUM. BUT IT WILL BE MONEY WELL SPENT. WE ARE LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS FOR HONG KONG'S CONTINUED ECONOMIC GROWTH WELL INTO THE NEXT CENTURY," HE SAID.

NOTING THAT IT WAS INTENDED TO OPEN THE NEW AIRPORT AT CHEK LAP KOK IN EARLY 1997, THE GOVERNOR SAID THERE WERE JUST SEVEN YEARS TO COMPLETE DETAILED ENGINEERING STUDIES, RECLAIM LAND FROM THE SEA, AND BUILD A LARGE NEW INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, AND THE ASSOCIATED ROAD AND RAIL NETWORK.

"HONG KONG'S REPUTATION FOR ACHIEVING THE IMPOSSIBLE, AND ACHIEVING IT AHEAD OF SCHEDULE, WILL BE TESTED TO THE FULL," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID HONG KONG WAS COMMITTED TO THE RAPID DEVELOPMENT OF THE CONTAINER PORT AT KWAI CHUNG, AND TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF WHAT WOULD IN EFFECT BE A COMPLETELY NEW PORT FURTHER WEST.

KWAI CHUNG WAS ALREADY THE WORLD'S BUSIEST CONTAINER PORT, AND THE VOLUME OF CARGO HANDLED WAS LIKELY TO INCREASE BY 500 PER CENT IN THE NEXT 20 YEARS.

THUS WORK ON CONTAINER TERMINAL NO. 8 WOULD START NEXT YEAR, AND TERMINAL NO. 9 WOULD FOLLOW, AND THERE WOULD ALSO BE A SOPHISTICATED SUPPORT SYSTEM OF ROADS, PARKING AND STORAGE FACILITIES.

THE GOVERNOR SAID THE SAME APPROACH OF LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE WAS BEHIND THE WHITE PAPER ON TRANSPORT PUBLISHED EARLIER THIS YEAR, AND RIGHTLY CALLED "MOVING INTO THE 21ST CENTURY".

SOME VERY LARGE PROJECTS WOULD BE UNDERTAKEN, BESIDES OTHER CREATIVE APPROACHES SUCH AS IMPROVING TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT AND GIVING PRIORITY TO THE MOST EFFICIENT MEANS OF TRANSPORT.

/THE ROUTE .....

THE ROUTE 3 HIGHWAY FROM WESTERN ON HONG KONG ISLAND TO THE BORDER ALONE PRESENTED HUGE ENGINEERING CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES.

SIR DAVID POINTED OUT THAT ALL THESE PROJECTS WOULD GO AHEAD IN ADDITION TO THE CONTINUING PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME, ITSELF EXPECTED TO COST MORE THAN \$12 BILLION IN THE NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR.

NEW LAND WOULD BE RECLAIMED, WATER TREATMENT AND SEWERAGE PLANTS PROVIDED, AND SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES BUILT. THE HOUSING AUTHORITY WOULD CONTINUE TO PRODUCE 50,000 NEW HOMES EVERY YEAR.

"THESE NEW PROJECTS WILL GIVE US THE ABILITY TO MAINTAIN OUR ECONOMIC GROWTH, AND TO CAPITALISE ON OUR POSITION AS THE GATEWAY TO CHINA.

"THEY WILL CARRY HONG KONG INTO THE 21ST CENTURY AS A GREAT INTERNATIONAL TRADING CENTRE AND ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST EFFICIENT AND MODERN CITIES," HE SAID.

FOR ENGINEERS, THE PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE PROJECTS WOULD PROVIDE HUGE PROFESSIONAL CHALLENGES AND TREMENDOUS PROFESSIONAL SATISFACTION.

"BUT ALL OF US, GOVERNMENT AND ENGINEERS ALIKE, MUST REMEMBER THAT DEVELOPMENT IS A HUMAN PROCESS.

"WE ARE TALKING NOT JUST OF POLICY DECISIONS AND PROFESSIONAL CHALLENGES, BUT OF PRACTICAL BENEFITS TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG," HE SAID.

THE GOVERNOR SAID HONG KONG PEOPLE HAD BECOME ACCUSTOMED TO PROGRESS, AND ECONOMIC SUCCESS, OVER GENERATIONS, HAD GIVEN US TREMENDOUS SELF-CONFIDENCE.

BUT PROBLEMS DID EXIST, AND DAMAGE TO THE ENVIRONMENT WAS ONE OF THEM. THE ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES THAT HONG KONG FACED WERE DAUNTING.

"WE ARE WORKING HARD TO PUT IN PLACE A NEW FRAMEWORK OF LAWS THAT WILL PROVIDE GREATER PROTECTION FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT," HE SAID.

HOWEVER, NEW LAWS ALONE WERE NOT ENOUGH, SIR DAVID SAID, AND OUTLINED THE RANGE OF MAJOR ENGINEERING AND PLANNING STUDIES THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD STARTED ON AS PART OF ITS PROGRAMME TO TACKLE POLLUTION.

NOTING THAT THE OVERALL PROGRAMME OF WORK ON WHICH THE GOVERNMENT HAD NOW EMBARKED OFFERED TREMENDOUS OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE LOCAL ENGINEERING PROFESSION, SIR DAVID SAID: "WE SHALL NEED THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL SKILL AND DEDICATION IN ALMOST EVERY FIELD.

"WE HAVE SET A COURSE FOR THE FUTURE, AND WE LOOK TO YOU, AND YOUR COLLEAGUES IN OTHER PROFESSIONS, TO HELP US TURN THE VISION INTO REALITY."

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EXPANSION OF TERTIARY EDUCATION VITAL TO HK'S SUCCESS, PROSPERITY  
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HONG KONG AS A COMMUNITY IS ACUTELY CONSCIOUS OF THE IMPORTANCE AND VALUE OF EDUCATION AND THIS WILL BECOME EVEN MORE TRUE IN THE 1990'S, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF SHAW COLLEGE AT THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, SIR DAVID SAID: "OUR ECONOMY IS BECOMING MORE SOPHISTICATED. IF WE ARE TO KEEP PACE WITH TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE, AS OUR INTERNATIONAL COMPETITORS MOST CERTAINLY WILL, THEN WE SHALL NEED TO UPGRADE THE SKILLS AND ABILITIES OF OUR OWN PEOPLE."

ALSO, HONG KONG'S FUTURE LEADERS WOULD FACE NEW CHALLENGES AND RESPONSIBILITIES AS HONG KONG MOVED FORWARD TO BECOME A SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

FOR ALL THESE REASONS, SIR DAVID SAID, THE GOVERNMENT HAD EMBARKED ON A FAR-RANGING PROGRAMME, BOTH TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PLACES AVAILABLE AND TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION.

THE TERTIARY SECTOR WOULD DOUBLE ITS FIRST-DEGREE PLACES FROM 7,000 TO 15,000 BY 1995.

"THIS EXPANSION PROGRAMME IS VITAL TO THE CONTINUED SUCCESS AND PROSPERITY OF HONG KONG," THE GOVERNOR SAID.

NOTING THAT EDUCATION WAS ABOVE ALL A COMMUNITY EFFORT, SIR DAVID SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD DO ITS UTMOST TO ENSURE THERE WERE ADEQUATE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL.

"BUT IT MUST BE FOR THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY, AND OUR OTHER TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS, TO PROVIDE THE COURSES WHICH MEET HONG KONG'S CHANGING NEEDS," HE SAID.

HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE PRIVATE SECTOR HAD A MAJOR PART TO PLAY, NOT ONLY AS BENEFACITOR -- AS SIR RUN RUN SHAW HAD SHOWN -- BUT ALSO AS BENEFICIARY.

"FOR IT IS ONLY BY MEETING THE ECONOMIC CHALLENGE OF THE NEW DECADE THAT HONG KONG WILL CONTINUE TO THRIVE AS A VITAL TRADING TERRITORY.

"IT IS A CHALLENGE TO WHICH I BELIEVE HONG KONG, AND ABOVE ALL THOSE WHO WILL USE THIS SPLENDID CAMPUS, ARE EQUAL," SIR DAVID SAID.

THE GOVERNOR SAID THE UNIVERSITY HAD IN THE PAST 27 YEARS MORE THAN KEPT PACE WITH THE CHANGING NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY.

/"THE HONG .....

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"THE HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF BIOTECHNOLOGY, THE HONG KONG CENTRE OF SPORTS MEDICINE AND SPORTS SCIENCE, THE ASIA PACIFIC INSTITUTE OF BUSINESS, AND THE HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF ASIA-PACIFIC STUDIES -- IN ALL OF THESE THE UNIVERSITY HAS PROMOTED REGIONAL STUDIES AND RESEARCH IN CO-OPERATION WITH INDUSTRY," HE SAID.

ON THE NEW SHAW COLLEGE, WHICH IS THE FOURTH CONSTITUENT COLLEGE OF THE UNIVERSITY, SIR DAVID NOTED THAT IT WOULD ALSO FOCUS ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY APART FROM PROVIDING MUCH-NEEDED TEACHING FACILITIES AND STUDENT AMENITIES.

"IT IS THE RESULT OF A CLEAR VISION AND FIRM COMMITMENT BY BOTH THE UNIVERSITY AND SIR RUN RUN TO THE EXPANSION OF FURTHER EDUCATION IN HONG KONG," HE SAID.

NOTING THAT THE OPENING OF SHAW COLLEGE MARKED THE CULMINATION OVER FIVE YEARS OF HARD WORK BY EVERYONE CONCERNED, THE GOVERNOR SAID IT WAS SIR RUN RUN'S GENEROUS DONATION WHICH HAD MADE THE PROJECT POSSIBLE.

"I WISH THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY, SIR RUN RUN, AND ALL WHO ARE HERE NOW OR WILL PASS THROUGH SHAW COLLEGE IN THE YEARS TO COME, EVERY SUCCESS FOR THE FUTURE," HE SAID.

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FUNDS APPROVED FOR VBP CENTRE ON TAI A CHAU  
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THE FINANCE COMMITTEE TODAY (FRIDAY) APPROVED FUNDS TOTALLING \$115 MILLION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE DETENTION CENTRE ON TAI A CHAU FAR AWAY FROM POPULATED AREAS.

THE TOTAL ESTIMATED COST OF THE PROJECT FOR 10,000 BOAT PEOPLE IS \$229 MILLION, OF WHICH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAS AGREED TO BEAR 50 PER CENT.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS WERE TOLD THAT THE PROJECT WOULD ENABLE EXISTING TEMPORARY AND UNSATISFACTORY DETENTION CENTRES TO BE CLOSED DOWN.

IT WILL ALSO ENABLE SOME OF THE CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS NOW BEING USED BY BOAT PEOPLE TO BE RETURNED TO THEIR PERMANENT USE BY THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

THIS WILL HELP REDUCE THE PRESENT LEVEL OF OVERCROWDING, WHICH IS ABOUT 28 PER CENT, IN CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

/IN ADDITION .....

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IN ADDITION, IT WILL THEN BE POSSIBLE TO CONVERT AN EXISTING CENTRE SO RELEASED, FOR EXAMPLE CHI MA WAN (UPPER), INTO A SEGREGATION CENTRE FOR TROUBLEMAKERS SO AS TO PREVENT THEM FROM CAUSING TROUBLES OR INTIMIDATING OTHER BOAT PEOPLE OR CAMP STAFF.

THE NEW DETENTION CENTRE WILL ALSO REDUCE OVERCROWDING IN OTHER REMAINING EXISTING CENTRES THEREBY REDUCING THE SECURITY RISKS INVOLVED.

THE COMMITTEE WAS TOLD THAT MORE THAN 43,600 BOAT PEOPLE WERE BEING DETAINED IN VARIOUS CENTRES WHICH WERE DESIGNED TO HOLD ONLY 38,000, RESULTING IN THE MAXIMUM DESIGN CAPACITY BEING EXCEEDED BY ABOUT 15 PER CENT.

OVERCROWDING HAS RENDERED MANAGEMENT DIFFICULT AND HAS GIVEN RISE TO SECURITY PROBLEMS.

APART FROM PROVIDING ACCOMMODATION IN THE FORM OF PREFABRICATED BUILDINGS, THE PROJECT WILL INVOLVE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM, SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITY AND A BERTHING PIER.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS LEARNED THAT WITH THIS INFRASTRUCTURE IN PLACE, THE DEVELOPMENT AT TAI A CHAU WOULD BE GREATLY ENHANCED AND IN THE LONGER TERM, THE REMOTE LOCATION OF THE ISLAND WOULD MAKE IT AN ATTRACTIVE PLACE FOR RECREATIONAL OR INSTITUTIONAL USE.

WHEN THE CENTRE IS NO LONGER REQUIRED FOR BOAT PEOPLE, THE SECURITY PERIMETER FENCES CAN BE REMOVED AND THE BUILDINGS CAN BE CONVERTED INTO HOLIDAY OR YOUTH HOSTELS.

ALTERNATIVELY, THE FENCES CAN BE RETAINED AND THE BUILDINGS TURNED INTO CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION ACCOMMODATION. THIS WILL ENSURE THAT THE INFRASTRUCTURAL INVESTMENT IS PUT TO GOOD USE.

CONSTRUCTION WORK OF THE TAI A CHAU DETENTION CENTRE IS EXPECTED TO TAKE ABOUT SIX MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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\$19M APPROVED TO MEET ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE  
OF AUXILIARY POLICE

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THE FINANCE COMMITTEE TODAY (FRIDAY) APPROVED THE SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISION OF \$19 MILLION TO MEET THE ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG AUXILIARY POLICE FORCE.

AT THE MEETING, MEMBERS WERE TOLD THAT THE INCREASED EXPENDITURE HAD ARISEN FROM THE ADJUSTMENTS OF THE AUXILIARY POLICE RATES WITH EFFECT FROM APRIL 1 LAST YEAR, AND FROM THE INCREASED TURNOUT OF AUXILIARY POLICE TO SUPPLEMENT THEIR REGULAR COUNTERPARTS DURING THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR.

/MEMBERS WERE .....

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MEMBERS WERE BRIEFED THAT THE ADJUSTMENTS OF RATES WERE MADE TO BRING THEM IN LINE WITH THE SALARY SCALES OF THEIR REGULAR COUNTERPARTS WHO WERE GIVEN AN AVERAGE OF 14.5 PER CENT PAY RISE LAST APRIL.

ON THE OTHER HAND, IT WAS NECESSARY TO INCREASE THE DAILY TURNOUT RATE OF THE AUXILIARY POLICE FROM 750 TO 850 FROM APRIL 1989 TO COPE WITH EXCEPTIONAL ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE FORCE AS A WHOLE AND THE INFLUX OF VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE IN PARTICULAR.

IT WAS EXPLAINED THAT THE INCREASE IN THE DAILY TURNOUT RATE WAS AIMED AT FACILITATING THE RELEASE OF REGULAR POLICE OFFICERS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF CAMPS AND OTHER DUTIES NORMALLY COVERED BY THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

WITH CONTINUING DIFFICULT CONDITIONS IN THESE CAMPS PENDING REPATRIATION OF THOSE VIETNAMESE NOT CLASSIFIED AS REFUGEES, A FURTHER TEMPORARY INCREASE FROM 850 BY 100 TO 950 PER DAY WAS REQUIRED TO ASSIST IN CRIME PREVENTION IN THE CHINESE NEW YEAR PERIOD.

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## WELFARE PAYMENT ADJUSTMENT IN APRIL

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RECIPIENTS OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE (PA) AND SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE (SNA) WILL GET A 10 PER CENT INCREASE IN PAYMENT STARTING FROM APRIL.

THE ADJUSTMENT WAS APPROVED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE TODAY (FRIDAY).

A SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE ADJUSTMENT WAS IN LINE WITH THE INFLATION RATE SO AS TO MAINTAIN THE PURCHASING POWER OF PA AND SNA PAYMENTS. THE LAST REVISION WAS A 11 PER CENT INCREASE LAST YEAR.

BASED ON THE NEW SCALE, THE BASIC RATE FOR A SINGLE PERSON ON PA WILL BE RAISED TO \$685 FROM \$620. THE NEW SCALE IS AS FOLLOWS:

CATEGORY	EXISTING	REVISED
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	(\$)	(\$)
SINGLE PERSON	620	685
FAMILY: FIRST MEMBER	465	515

/SECOND MEMBER .....

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SECOND MEMBER	465	515
THIRD MEMBER	455	505
FOURTH MEMBER	455	505
FIFTH MEMBER AND EACH ADDITIONAL MEMBER	445	495
LONG TERM SUPPLEMENT (FOR HOUSEHOLD IN RECEIPT OF PA FOR 12 MONTHS OR MORE)		
A) FOR A SINGLE PERSON	790	870
B) FOR A FAMILY WITH TWO TO FOUR MEMBERS	1,580	1,740
C) FOR A FAMILY WITH FIVE OR MORE MEMBERS	2,370	2,610

THE NEW RATE FOR OLD AGE SUPPLEMENT FOR PA RECIPIENTS AGED 60 TO 69 WILL BE INCREASED FROM \$310 TO \$343, AND FROM \$355 TO \$393 FOR THOSE AGED 70 OR ABOVE.

THE DISABILITY SUPPLEMENT FOR PA RECIPIENTS WHO ARE NOT RECEIVING AN OLD AGE SUPPLEMENT OR A SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE WILL ALSO BE INCREASED TO \$343 FROM \$310. MEAL ALLOWANCE FOR STUDENTS ATTENDING FULL-DAY SCHOOL WILL BE INCREASED FROM \$106 TO \$118.

THE NEW SCALE FOR SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE IS AS FOLLOWS:

CATEGORY	EXISTING	REVISED
-----	-----	-----
	(\$)	(\$)
OLD AGE ALLOWANCE		
I) NORMAL RATE (FOR THOSE AGED 66 TO 69)	310	343
II) HIGHER RATE (FOR THOSE AGED 70 OR ABOVE)	355	393
DISABILITY ALLOWANCE		
I) NORMAL RATE	620	685
II) HIGHER RATE	1,240	1,370

/"THE ESTIMATED .....

"THE ESTIMATED ANNUAL ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE ARISING FROM THE ADJUSTMENT WOULD BE \$304.6 MILLION," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE ALSO APPROVED SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISION OF \$99.5 MILLION TO MEET INCREASED EXPENDITURE ON PA AND SNA IN 1989-90.

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HK PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990 GAZETTED  
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THE GOVERNMENT HAS PROPOSED TO ENLARGE THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL TO PROVIDE FOR GREATER REPRESENTATION FROM MAJOR INDUSTRIAL SECTORS.

THE PROPOSALS ARE CONTAINED IN THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990 PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MRS CLARIE LO, SAID THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL HAD REMAINED UNCHANGED SINCE 1967, BUT THE NATURE AND SCOPE OF THE COUNCIL'S ACTIVITIES HAD EXPANDED ENORMOUSLY.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE CURRENT SIZE OF THE MEMBERSHIP WAS INADEQUATE TO ALLOW ALL THE MAJOR INDUSTRIAL SECTORS TO BE SUFFICIENTLY REPRESENTED.

"IT IS THEREFORE PROPOSED TO ENLARGE THE COUNCIL'S MEMBERSHIP FROM 21 TO 23 TO ALLOW FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF TWO EXTRA MEMBERS FROM THE MAJOR INDUSTRIAL SECTORS," SHE SAID.

"THIS WILL ENABLE THE COUNCIL TO COPE WITH THE SCOPE, VOLUME AND COMPLEXITY OF ITS WORK WHICH HAS INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY IN RECENT YEARS."

MRS LO SAID THE PROPOSED AMENDING LEGISLATION ALSO EMPOWERED THE COUNCIL TO ESTABLISH AND ACQUIRE COMPANIES TO CARRY OUT PRODUCTIVITY ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITIES.

IT ALSO EMPOWERED THE COUNCIL TO MAKE LOANS OR GIVE OTHER FORMS OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO COMPANIES ESTABLISHED BY IT.

"THIS WILL ENABLE THE COUNCIL TO PLAY ITS ROLE AS A GOVERNMENT AGENT MORE EFFECTIVELY, AND TO EXPLOIT MORE READILY OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISES," SHE SAID.

THE BILL IS DUE TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON MARCH 14.

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TRAVEL INDUSTRY COUNCIL, TIC RESERVE FUND MADE PUBLIC BODIES  
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BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL, THE TRAVEL INDUSTRY COUNCIL OF HONG KONG (TIC) AND THE TIC RESERVE FUND ARE NOW PUBLIC BODIES FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE PREVENTION OF BRIBERY ORDINANCE.

THE SPECIFICATION IS CONTAINED IN THE PREVENTION OF BRIBERY ORDINANCE (AMENDMENT OF SCHEDULE) ORDER 1990 PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR PETER CHEUNG, SAID THAT BY SPECIFYING THE TWO AS PUBLIC BODIES, MEMBERS OF THE TWO BOARDS OF DIRECTORS WOULD BECOME PUBLIC SERVANTS FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE PREVENTION OF BRIBERY ORDINANCE AND WOULD BE SUBJECT TO PROVISIONS OF THE ORDINANCE.

"THIS WILL HELP TO MAINTAIN HIGH STANDARDS OF INTEGRITY AND HONESTY AND WILL ENHANCE THE STANDING OF THE TWO BODIES IN THE EYES OF INDIVIDUAL TRAVEL AGENTS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC," HE SAID.

MR CHEUNG SAID THE TIC WAS GIVEN CONSIDERABLE POWERS AND AUTHORITY TO OVERSEE SELF-REGULATION OF THE OUTBOUND TRAVEL INDUSTRY UNDER THE ARRANGEMENTS INTRODUCED IN 1988 WHEN THE TRAVEL AGENTS ORDINANCE WAS AMENDED.

"MEMBERSHIP OF THE TIC IS A PREREQUISITE FOR AN OUTBOUND TRAVEL AGENT TO OBTAIN A LICENCE TO OPERATE.

"THE TIC RESERVE FUND HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED TO HOLD, MANAGE AND ADMINISTER A FUND CONSISTING OF A LEVY ON OUTBOUND TOURS.

"IT IS USED TO COMPENSATE MEMBERS OF THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC FOR LOSSES SUFFERED BY REASON OF DEFAULT OF ANY LICENSED TRAVEL AGENT.

"AT PRESENT, THE FUND, WHICH IS FINANCED BY A ONE PER CENT LEVY ON ALL OUTBOUND PACKAGE TOURS, STANDS AT \$30 MILLION," MR CHEUNG SAID.

"THE TIC IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DAILY MANAGEMENT OF THE FUND," HE SAID.

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RADIATION (AMENDMENT) BILL GAZETTED

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A BILL SEEKING TO AMEND THE RADIATION ORDINANCE TO FACILITATE ITS ENFORCEMENT AND TO RATIONALISE CERTAIN PROVISIONS TO MEET CURRENT NEEDS WAS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE RADIATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990 PROPOSES, AMONG OTHER THINGS, TO INCREASE THE LEVEL OF FINES FOR VARIOUS OFFENCES UNDER THE ORDINANCE BY FIVE TIMES, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THESE FINES HAVE NOT BEEN REVISED SINCE THE ORDINANCE CAME INTO FORCE IN 1965," HE SAID, ADDING THAT THE NUMBER OF OFFENCES INVOLVED WAS VERY SMALL.

FOR EXAMPLE, IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE LEVEL OF FINE FOR AN OFFENCE TO POSSESS OR USE AN IRRADIATING APPARATUS WITHOUT A LICENCE ISSUED BY THE RADIATION BOARD SHOULD BE RAISED FROM \$10,000 TO \$50,000.

"ALTHOUGH THE NUMBER OF IDENTIFIED OFFENCES HAS REMAINED AT AN AVERAGE OF ONLY THREE OR FOUR A YEAR, WE CONSIDER IT NECESSARY TO INCREASE THE FINES IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN THEIR DETERRENT EFFECT," HE ADDED.

THE BILL ALSO SEEKS TO EMPOWER THE RADIATION BOARD TO EXEMPT ANY SPECIFIED RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES OR IRRADIATING APPARATUS FROM PRESENT CONTROLS UNDER THE RADIATION ORDINANCE.

EXAMPLES ARE RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES CONTAINED IN LUMINOUS WATCHES AND SMOKE DETECTORS.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THESE SUBSTANCES ARE BY DEFINITION "RADIOACTIVE" BUT THEY ARE PRESENT IN VERY SMALL QUANTITIES AND ARE PERMANENTLY ENCASED SUCH THAT THEY ARE NOT HARMFUL TO HEALTH.

"FOR PRACTICAL REASONS, IT IS CONSIDERED NECESSARY TO EXEMPT THEM FROM CONTROLS," HE SAID.

SUCH EXEMPTIONS GRANTED BY THE RADIATION BOARD WOULD BE PUBLICISED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE FROM TIME TO TIME.

ANOTHER AMENDMENT TO THE ORDINANCE IS TO EMPOWER A RADIATION BOARD INSPECTOR TO SEAL THE ARTICLES OR PLACES CONTAINING RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES OR TO RENDER AN IRRADIATING APPARATUS INOPERABLE WHEN HE HAS REASONABLE GROUNDS TO SUSPECT THAT AN OFFENCE IN RESPECT OF THE SUBSTANCE OR APPARATUS HAS BEEN COMMITTED.

/"UNDER THE .....

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"UNDER THE EXISTING ORDINANCE, AN INSPECTOR ALREADY HAS THE POWER TO SEIZE, REMOVE AND DETAIN THE SUBSTANCE OR APPARATUS.

"HOWEVER, IN CASES WHERE THESE ARE TOO BULKY TO BE REMOVED PROMPTLY, THE ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS WOULD ENABLE THE BOARD TO TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION TO PREVENT OR MINIMISE ANY HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE BILL IS DUE TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON MARCH 14.

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MEMBERSHIP OF ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AIDS ANNOUNCED

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THE GOVERNMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AIDS.

THE TENURE OF OFFICE IS THREE YEARS COMMENCING MARCH 1.

THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH HAS BEEN APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR AS CHAIRMAN OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL.

THE APPOINTED MEMBERS ARE MR HO SAI-CHU; MRS PEGGY LAM PEI YU-DJA; THE REV. ALFRED J. DEIGNAN; DR MARGARET KWAN SHUK-WA; PROFESSOR JOSEPH LEE (NOMINATED BY THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG); PROFESSOR M.H. NG (NOMINATED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG); DR AVERY CHAN SAU-CHEE (NOMINATED BY THE HONG KONG MEDICAL ASSOCIATION); MR DAVID CHU YU-LIN (NOMINATED BY THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE); CONSULTANT, VIRUS UNIT; CONSULTANT IN-CHARGE OF AIDS COUNSELLING AND HEALTH EDUCATION SERVICE; REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE; REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS; REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY; REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH; REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DIRECTOR OF HOSPITAL SERVICES; REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE; REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION; AND THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION SERVICES.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL WAS TO UPGRADE THE FORMER EXPERT COMMITTEE ON AIDS TO ENABLE HONG KONG TO BETTER COPE WITH THE INCREASING PROBLEM OF AIDS.

"THE STRONG REPRESENTATION FROM BOTH GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS NOT ONLY REFLECTS THE ADMINISTRATION'S COMMITMENT TO TACKLE THE PROBLEM BUT ALSO ENSURES COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND PARTICIPATION," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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INDUSTRY DEPT HOLDS QUALITY MANAGEMENT FORUM

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THE GOVERNMENT IS VERY AWARE OF THE DIFFICULTIES THAT LIE AHEAD IN THE PURSUIT OF INCREASED QUALITY AWARENESS AND MORE EXTENSIVE APPLICATION OF QUALITY METHODS AND PRACTICES IN INDUSTRY.

THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR T.H. BARMA, SAID THIS TODAY (FRIDAY) WHEN HE WELCOMED LOCAL CHIEF EXECUTIVES TO A QUALITY MANAGEMENT FORUM ORGANISED BY THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT.

HE SAID HONG KONG HAD A TRADITION OF COPING WITH RAPID CHANGES IN MARKET DEMAND AND BEING ABLE TO PRODUCE GOODS AT VERY COMPETITIVE PRICES.

HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC SUCCESS HAD RELIED, IN NO SMALL MEASURE, ON THE SUCCESS OF OUR ENTREPRENEURS IN OVERCOMING VARIOUS PROBLEMS THAT HAD BESET MANUFACTURING OVER THE YEARS, HE SAID.

"ONE OF THE NEW CHALLENGES NOW FACING HONG KONG INDUSTRY - AND PERHAPS ONE OF THE MORE IMPORTANT AND CERTAINLY MORE DEMANDING - IS HOW TO INTRODUCE QUALITY ASSURANCE EFFECTIVELY SO AS TO PROVIDE QUALITY PRODUCTS THAT CAN MEET THE DEMANDS OF DISCERNING MARKETS IN THE 1990'S."

MR BARMA SAID THE ROLE, AND IN PARTICULAR, THE COMMITMENT AND INVOLVEMENT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE IN THE QUALITY PROCESS HAD BEEN EXTENSIVELY RESEARCHED AND DEBATED.

HE ENCOURAGED THE PARTICIPANTS TO DISCUSS AND CONSIDER CAREFULLY SOME OF THE LATEST THINKING OF THIS SUBJECT.

THE ONE-DAY QUALITY MANAGEMENT FORUM IS BEING ATTENDED BY A TOTAL OF 60 SENIOR EXECUTIVES.

TWO EXPERTS IN QUALITY MANAGEMENT FROM BRITAIN, MR ERIC WILLIAMS, CHAIRMAN OF THE UNITED KINGDOM INSTITUTE OF QUALITY ASSURANCE, AND MR RON MORTIBOYS, WHO HEADS HIS OWN QUALITY MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY COMPANY, ADDRESSED THE EXECUTIVES.

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LAW REFORM COMMISSION TO STUDY PRIVACY LAWS

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THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION HAS BEEN ASKED TO EXAMINE EXISTING LAWS AFFECTING PRIVACY AND TO RECOMMEND WHETHER THERE IS ANY NEED FOR LEGISLATIVE CHANGES.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, WHO IS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION, AND THE CHIEF JUSTICE HAVE ASKED THE COMMISSION TO LOOK NOT ONLY AT THE COLLECTION AND STORAGE OF INFORMATION AND ITS DISCLOSURE OR COMMUNICATION BUT ALSO AT INTRUSION INTO PRIVATE PREMISES AND THE INTERCEPTION OF COMMUNICATIONS.

AT THE END OF ITS STUDY, THE COMMISSION WILL REPORT ON WHETHER LEGISLATIVE OR OTHER MEASURES ARE REQUIRED TO PROTECT THE PRIVACY OF THE INDIVIDUAL AND TO PROVIDE HIM WITH REMEDIES FOR UNDUE INTERFERENCE.

THE ACTING SECRETARY OF THE COMMISSION, MR STUART STOKER, SAID A SUB-COMMITTEE HAD BEEN FORMED UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF MR JUSTICE MORTIMER, WHO IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION, TO CONSIDER THE SUBJECT.

THE SUB-COMMITTEE IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN WORK SHORTLY.

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KEEP HK CLEAN SPECTACULAR TO MARK CAMPAIGN'S CLIMAX

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A VARIETY SHOW TO PROMOTE A CLEANER HONG KONG WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AT THE HONG KONG CULTURAL CENTRE IN TSIM SHA TSUI. IT WILL BEGIN AT 8.15 PM.

THE SHOW IS ORGANISED BY THE JOINT URBAN COUNCIL/REGIONAL COUNCIL KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN STEERING COMMITTEE TO MARK THE CLIMAX OF THE 1989-90 KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN.

PRODUCED BY TELEVISION BROADCASTS LIMITED, THE TWO-HOUR SHOW WILL DISSEMINATE KEEP CLEAN MESSAGES THROUGH VARIOUS PERFORMANCES BY POPULAR SINGERS, ARTISTES AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS.

/OFFICIATING AT .....

OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE THE CHAIRMAN OF HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION LTD, MR WILLIAM PURVES; REGIONAL COUNCIL CHAIRMAN, MR CHEUNG YAN-LUNG; VICE-CHAIRMAN OF URBAN COUNCIL, MR STEPHEN LAU MAN-LUNG; CHAIRMAN OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE, DR PANG HOK-TUEN; CHAIRMAN OF THE UC PUBLIC HEALTH SELECT COMMITTEE, DR RONALD LEUNG DING-BONG; VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE, MR TONG KAM-BIU; DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL SERVICES, MR HAIDER BARMA; AND DIRECTOR OF URBAN SERVICES, MR JAMES SO.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN SPECTACULAR TO BEGIN AT 8.15 PM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AT THE HONG KONG CULTURAL CENTRE, TSIM SHA TSUI.

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE REQUESTED TO ASSEMBLE AT THE ENQUIRY COUNTER ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE CENTRE'S AUDITORIUM BUILDING AT 8 PM SHARP. GIS OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

1990 COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING SCHEME TO BE LAUNCHED

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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WILL BE ABLE TO PLANT TREES IN COUNTRY PARKS WITH THEIR OWN HANDS THROUGHOUT MARCH AND APRIL WITH THE OFFICIAL LAUNCHING OF THE 1990 COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING SCHEME AT HOI HA AU IN SAI KUNG WEST COUNTRY PARK AT 10.30 AM ON SUNDAY (MARCH 4).

THE COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING SCHEME IS AN ANNUAL EVENT WHICH DATES BACK TO 1957. OVER THE YEARS, IT HAS GROWN IN POPULARITY. ABOUT 20,000 PEOPLE PARTICIPATED IN THE SCHEME LAST YEAR.

THIS YEAR'S SCHEME IS ORGANISED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT (AFD) IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG HIKING AND OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES GROUPS.

THE GUEST OF HONOUR AT THE LAUNCHING CEREMONY WILL BE OMELCO MEMBER, DR DANIEL TSE.

OTHER OFFICIATING GUESTS INCLUDE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNTRY PARKS BOARD, MR CARLOS CHEUNG; DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE; CHAIRMAN OF THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG HIKING AND OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES GROUPS, MR C.W. LEE; GENERAL MANAGER OF TELEVISION BROADCASTS LTD, MR KELLY CHENG; AND MISS HONG KONG, MISS MONICA CHAN.

/AT THE .....

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AT THE FUNCTION, DR TSE WILL LEAD ABOUT 100 DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, INCLUDING MISS HONG KONG TITLE-WINNERS, AND 600 HIKERS AND 500 SCHOOL CHILDREN, IN PLANTING TREES AT HOI HA AU.

THE ACTIVITY WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A SERIES OF TREE PLANTING DAYS FOR THE PUBLIC SCHEDULED FOR ALL SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS STARTING MARCH 5 UNTIL THE END OF APRIL.

ON EACH PLANTING DAY, TREE SEEDLINGS WILL BE AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE FOR PLANTING BY INTERESTED PARTIES AT SIX DESIGNATED SITES IN COUNTRY PARKS AT TAI MO SHAN, TAI MEI TUK, PAK TAM CHUNG, QUARRY BAY, MUI WO AND CLEAR WATER BAY.

AFD STAFF WILL BE ON DUTY AT THE SITES TO PROVIDE TREE SEEDLINGS, TOOLS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

MEANWHILE, TREE PLANTING BY SCHOOLS AND ORGANISED GROUPS CAN BE ARRANGED FOR WEEKDAYS AND SATURDAYS DURING THE PERIOD.

ANY ORGANISATION INTERESTED IN JOINING THE SCHEME CAN CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT'S CONSERVATION EDUCATION UNIT ON TEL. 7332121 FOR REGISTRATION.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO COVER THE LAUNCHING CEREMONY OF THE 1990 COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING SCHEME ON SUNDAY (MARCH 4).

TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES AND WILL LEAVE AFD HEADQUARTERS, CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 393 CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON AT 9.15 AM THAT DAY.

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NEW FEE REMISSION FOR KINDERGARTEN CHILDREN ANNOUNCED  
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A NEW AND SIMPLIFIED FEE REMISSION SCHEME FOR KINDERGARTEN CHILDREN WILL BE INTRODUCED IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (FRIDAY), AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE NEW SCHEME FOLLOWS THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EDUCATION COMMISSION REPORT NO. 2 TO IMPROVE THE STANDARD OF KINDERGARTEN EDUCATION AND REVISE THE EXISTING FEE ASSISTANCE SCHEME SO AS TO BENEFIT A GREATER NUMBER OF PARENTS.

/THE PRINCIPAL .....

THE PRINCIPAL FEATURES OF THE NEW SCHEME ARE:

- \* ASSISTANCE IS BASED ON THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR THE EXISTING FEE REMISSION SCHEME FOR SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL PUPILS;
- \* TO ASCERTAIN ELIGIBILITY, PARENTS WILL BE MEANS-TESTED; AND
- \* APPLICATION FORMS ARE OBTAINABLE FROM THE KINDERGARTENS IN WHICH THE CHILDREN ARE ENROLLED AND COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO KINDERGARTENS WHICH SHOULD ENSURE THAT COPIES OF ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS ARE ATTACHED BEFORE THEY ARE FORWARDED TO THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT FOR PROCESSING.

THE SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT TO VET APPLICATIONS, A RECKONER GUIDE WILL BE USED TO AWARD POINTS TO AN APPLICANT ACCORDING TO FAMILY INCOME AND FAMILY SIZE.

"ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS MAY RECEIVE ASSISTANCE AT RATES OF 25, 50, 75 OR 100 PER CENT OF THE WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF NON-PROFIT-MAKING KINDERGARTEN FEES WHICH WILL BE ADJUSTED ANNUALLY," HE SAID.

"ONE ADVANTAGE OF THE NEW SCHEME OVER THE EXISTING ONE IS THAT AN ELIGIBLE PARENT WILL GET AT LEAST 25 PER CENT OF THE WEIGHTED AVERAGE FEE.

"PAYMENTS WILL BE MADE TO SCHOOLS BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT NORMALLY WITHIN THE FIRST 10 DAYS OF EACH MONTH SO AS TO ENABLE SCHOOLS TO PAY INDIVIDUAL SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS THE AMOUNT OF FEE REMISSION TO WHICH THEY ARE ENTITLED."

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT TO BECOME ELIGIBLE FOR FEE REMISSION, KINDERGARTEN PUPILS SHOULD BE AGED THREE YEARS OR ABOVE AND APPLICANTS SHOULD NOT BE IN RECEIPT OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

THE AVERAGE MONTHLY INCOME OF A FAMILY FROM ALL SOURCES SHOULD NOT EXCEED \$10,000.

A LEAFLET EXPLAINING THE NEW SCHEME AND APPLICATION PROCEDURES WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO ALL SCHOOLS AND PARENTS SHORTLY.

PARENTS REQUIRING MORE INFORMATION CAN TELEPHONE THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANCE SCHEMES UNITS ON HONG KONG (8392545 OR 8392344), KOWLOON (3884111 EXT. 266 OR 3855514) AND NEW TERRITORIES (7601927 OR 7152840).

MEANWHILE, THE SPOKESMAN ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT IN ORDER TO GIVE SUFFICIENT TIME TO KINDERGARTEN OPERATORS TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE NEW FEE REMISSION SCHEME, THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS TO INCREASE FEES FOR THE 1990-91 SCHOOL YEAR HAS BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL MARCH 31.

FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 1990

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WORKER FINED FOR SMOKING IN FACTORY

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) REMINDED WORKERS TO STRICTLY OBSERVE FIRE PRECAUTIONS AT WORKPLACES.

IN A RECENT COURT CASE, A GARMENT FACTORY WORKER WAS FINED \$200 BY THE SAN PO KONG MAGISTRACY FOR FAILING TO COMPLY WITH A SMOKING PROHIBITION.

DESPITE VERBAL ADVICE GIVEN TO HIM, THE WORKER WAS FOUND SMOKING IN THE FACTORY PREMISES WHERE A "NO SMOKING" NOTICE WAS PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED.

"IT IS THE LEGAL DUTY OF EVERY PERSON TO COMPLY WITH SMOKING PROHIBITION IN ANY WORKPLACE," A LABOUR OFFICER (PROSECUTIONS), MR RAYMOND LUK, SAID. THE MAXIMUM FINE FOR THE OFFENCE IS \$10,000.

MR LUK ALSO REMINDED PROPRIETORS TO TAKE ALL REASONABLE STEPS TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH SMOKING PROHIBITION AS FIRE CAUSED LOSS IN PRODUCTION TIME, DAMAGE TO PROPERTY, INJURIES AND EVEN DEATHS.

"PROPRIETORS SHOULD DISPLAY A SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF PROHIBITION NOTICES AT CONSPICUOUS SPOTS IN THEIR WORKPLACES AND ENSURE THAT THEY ARE MAINTAINED IN GOOD CONDITION," HE ADDED.

ENQUIRIES ON FIRE PRECAUTIONS IN WORKPLACES CAN BE MADE AT THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S FACTORY INSPECTORATE ON TEL. 8150678.

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PRESS CONFERENCE TO ANNOUNCE JUVENILE DELINQUENCY SURVEY RESULTS

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A WORKING GROUP OF THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE (DFCC) WILL HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE ON MONDAY (MARCH 5) TO ANNOUNCE RESULTS OF A RECENT SURVEY ON JUVENILE DELINQUENCY IN THE DISTRICT.

THE SURVEY WAS CONDUCTED IN DECEMBER AND JANUARY. A TOTAL OF 1,500 QUESTIONNAIRES WERE DISTRIBUTED TO STUDENTS AT ABOUT 40 SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICT, AND TO PARTICIPANTS AT A CARNIVAL HELD BY THE DFCC LAST YEAR.

ABOUT 79 PER CENT OF THE QUESTIONNAIRES WERE RETURNED TO THE WORKING GROUP.

/THE SURVEY .....

THE SURVEY COVERED THE BACKGROUND AND HABITS OF THE RESPONDENTS; THEIR VIEWS ON JUVENILE DELINQUENCY; THEIR KNOWLEDGE ABOUT, AND ATTITUDES TOWARDS, TRIAD SOCIETIES; AND RELATIONSHIP WITH THEIR FAMILIES.

HOSTING THE PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE THE WORKING GROUP'S CHAIRMAN, MR WILLIAM WONG, AND DFCC CHAIRMAN, MR FAN KAM-PING.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE PRESS CONFERENCE TO ANNOUNCE RESULTS OF A JUVENILE DELINQUENCY SURVEY IN THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT TO BE HELD ON MONDAY (MARCH 5) AT THE LAI KOK COMMUNITY HALL, LAI KOK ESTATE. IT WILL BEGIN AT 4 PM.

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THREE GOVT LOTS TO LET BY TENDER  
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THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE SHORT TERM TENANCY OF THREE GOVERNMENT LAND LOTS.

THE FIRST TWO LOTS, IN KOWLOON, ARE FEE-PAYING PARKING AREA FOR MOTOR VEHICLES, EXCLUDING CONTAINER VEHICLES WITH THEIR TRAILERS/ CHASSIS ATTACHED, CURRENTLY LICENSED UNDER THE ROAD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE.

THEY ARE LOCATED IN CARPENTER ROAD AND SA PO ROAD AND MEASURE ABOUT 3,050 AND 2,340 SQUARE METRES RESPECTIVELY.

THE TENANCY IS FOR THREE YEARS, RENEWABLE QUARTERLY AFTERWARDS.

THE THIRD LOT IS A 7,224-SQUARE-METRE SITE AT SAI KUNG TOWN, SAI KUNG. IT IS FOR A PUBLIC CARPARK FOR MOTOR VEHICLES, EXCLUDING ARTICULATED VEHICLES, CURRENTLY LICENSED UNDER THE ROAD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE.

THE TENANCY IS FOR FIVE YEARS, RENEWABLE QUARTERLY AFTERWARDS.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF TENDERS IS NOON ON MARCH 16.

FORMS OF TENDER, TENDER NOTICE AND CONDITIONS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM AND TENDER PLAN INSPECTED AT THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES AT SAI KUNG AND KOWLOON EAST AND THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR SALE OF DESALTING PLANT

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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE SALE OF THE LOK ON PAI DESALTING PLANT AND ITS ASSOCIATED MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT.

ONE OF THE TENDERS INVOLVES THE SALE OF THE MAIN AND AUXILIARY PLANTS OF THE DESALTER AND SPARE PARTS.

THE OTHER COMPRISES MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT SUITABLE FOR USE IN THE DESALTING PLANT, INCLUDING PIPE FITTINGS, POWER CABLES, CABLE TERMINALS, MINIATURE CIRCUIT BREAKERS, VALVES, PIPE GASKETS, O-RINGS, VALVE PACKINGS, NUTS AND BOLTS.

THE DESALTING PLANT, WHICH WAS COMMISSIONED IN 1975-77, COMPRISES SIX MULTI-STAGE FLASH DISTILLATION UNITS, EACH WITH ITS OWN OIL FIRED BOILER, EVAPORATOR, TURBO-GENERATOR AND ANCILLARIES.

THE TOTAL DISTILLATE OUTPUT IS 181,800 CUBIC METRE (40 MILLION GALLONS) PER DAY.

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AGREED IN JULY LAST YEAR THAT IN VIEW OF THE PRESENT IMPROVED WATER SUPPLY SITUATION, ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN TO DISPOSE OF THE PLANT WHICH IS NOW MAINTAINED IN A MOTHBALLED STATE.

FORMS OF TENDERS AND FURTHER PARTICULARS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE WATER AUTHORITY, LEIGHTON CENTRE, 11TH FLOOR, 77 LEIGHTON ROAD, HONG KONG.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR TENDERS IS NOON ON MAY 18 THIS YEAR.

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DREDGING WORK TO BE CARRIED OUT OFF TUEN MUN

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THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO DREDGE WITHIN AN AREA OF APPROXIMATELY 1,040 HECTARES OF SEABED AT THE BROTHERS AND AN AREA OF ABOUT 1,400 HECTARES OF SEABED AT URMSTON ROAD OFF TAP SHEK KOK IN TUEN MUN.

THIS IS TO PROVIDE MATERIALS FOR USE IN CONSTRUCTION AND FUTURE RECLAMATIONS.

THE EXTENT OF THE AFFECTED AREAS IS DESCRIBED IN NOTICES PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

/ANY PERSON .....

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ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HE HAS AN INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED MAY SUBMIT A WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS ON OR BEFORE MAY 1 THIS YEAR.

THE GAZETTE NOTICES, TOGETHER WITH THE RELATED PLANS, CAN BE SEEN ON NOTICE BOARDS POSTED NEAR THE SITES.

THE PLANS CAN ALSO BE SEEN AT THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG AND AT THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE, SECOND FLOOR, TUEN MUN GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 1 TUEN HI ROAD, TUEN MUN.

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ROAD AND DRAINAGE WORKS IN TAI PO

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THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR ANOTHER PROJECT AS PART OF THE CONTINUING PROGRAMME FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF TAI PO NEW TOWN.

THE PROJECT MAINLY COVERS ROADS AND DRAINAGE WORKS TO SERVE PLATFORMS IN AREA 57, TAI PO, AND MISCELLANEOUS WORKS BETWEEN AREA 57 AND TUNG TSZ ROAD.

THE PROPOSED WORKS INVOLVE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A VEHICULAR ACCESS FROM TUNG TSZ ROAD TO AREA 57 TOGETHER WITH ASSOCIATED FOOTPATH AND LAY-BYS; A CAR/LORRY PARK AND A CARPARK; A BRIDGE, STAIR ACCESS, AMENITY AREA AND ASSOCIATED SLOPEWORKS AND THE RECONSTRUCTION OF A SECTION OF TUNG TSZ ROAD.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN MAY THIS YEAR AND WILL TAKE ABOUT 15 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

FORMS OF TENDER AND FURTHER PARTICULARS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CONSULTANTS FOR THE PROJECT, MAUNSELL CONSULTANTS ASIA LTD, AT WO CHE ESTATE, SHA TIN.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING TENDERS IS NOON ON MARCH 23.

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OLD-TYPE IDENTITY CARDS INVALID FROM MARCH 5  
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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) REMINDED MEN BORN BETWEEN 1941 AND 1952 THAT THEIR OLD-TYPE IDENTITY CARDS ISSUED BEFORE JULY 1, 1987 WILL CEASE TO BE VALID DOCUMENTS FROM MONDAY, MARCH 5.

"THIS IS THE SEVENTH BATCH OF IDENTITY CARDS DECLARED INVALID SINCE THIS NEW IDENTITY CARD RE-ISSUE SCHEME STARTED IN JULY 1987," A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE EMPHASISED THAT ONCE AN OLD CARD WAS DECLARED INVALID, IT WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR ANY PURPOSE.

"FOR EXAMPLE, MEN OF THE ABOVE AGE GROUP HOLDING AN INVALID OLD-TYPE IDENTITY CARD WILL NOT BE ABLE TO USE IT FOR TRAVELLING ABROAD OR TO APPLY FOR A TRAVEL DOCUMENT.

"HOWEVER, THOSE WHO HAVE MISSED THEIR SPECIFIED CARD REPLACEMENT PERIODS DUE TO THEIR ABSENCE FROM HONG KONG OR ANY OTHER REASONS SHOULD IMMEDIATELY APPROACH ANY ONE OF THE EIGHT NEW IDENTITY CARD ISSUE OFFICES," HE ADDED.

THESE CASES WILL BE LOOKED INTO THOROUGHLY AND DEALT WITH ON THEIR INDIVIDUAL MERITS.

THE SPOKESMAN REITERATED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO AMNESTY FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

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PLB BAN ZONE IN CENTRAL  
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM ON SUNDAY (MARCH 4), THE SECTION OF MAN WA LANE BETWEEN CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL AND DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL WILL BE DESIGNATED A PUBLIC LIGHT BUS BAN ZONE.

ALL PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES, EXCEPT THOSE WITH PERMITS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM ENTERING THE PROHIBITED ZONE 24 HOURS DAILY.

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