



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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HEAVY FINES FOR EMPLOYER DEDUCTING IMPORTED WORKERS' WAGES

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (SATURDAY) REMINDED EMPLOYERS THAT THEY WOULD BE LIABLE TO HEAVY FINES FOR UNLAWFULLY DEDUCTING THE WAGES OF THEIR IMPORTED WORKERS.

THE LAI'S KNITWEAR MANUFACTURING LIMITED IN SAN PO KONG WAS CONVICTED OF NINE CHARGES OF UNLAWFUL WAGE DEDUCTION AND WAS FINED A TOTAL OF \$10,800 BY A KWUN TONG MAGISTRATE ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 27).

THE COMPANY WAS FOUND BY LABOUR INSPECTORS TO HAVE DEDUCTED WAGES FROM THREE IMPORTED WORKERS AMOUNTING FROM \$395.4 TO \$431.4 ON NINE OCCASIONS, CONTRARY TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE.

"ACCORDING TO THE ORDINANCE, AN EMPLOYER IS NOT ALLOWED TO DEDUCT THE WAGES OF HIS EMPLOYEE EXCEPT UNDER SPECIFIC CONDITIONS AND UP TO CERTAIN LIMITS STIPULATED IN THE LAW, SUCH AS FOR THE PROVISION OF FOOD AND ACCOMMODATION AND RECOVERY OF LOANS MADE BY THE EMPLOYER," ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR MAK SAI-YIU SAID.

"ANY DEDUCTION FROM AN EMPLOYEE'S WAGES OTHER THAN IS PERMITTED BY THE ORDINANCE IS UNLAWFUL, AND THE OFFENDER IS LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$10,000," MR MAK SAID.

HE STRESSED THAT THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TOOK A VERY SERIOUS VIEW OF EMPLOYERS WHO EXPLOITED IMPORTED WORKERS AND PROSECUTION WOULD BE INSTITUTED WHEN THERE WAS EVIDENCE.

"WE HAVE SUCCEEDED IN PROSECUTING FIVE EMPLOYERS AND HAVE LAID EIGHT SUMMONSES AGAINST SIX OTHER EMPLOYERS SO FAR THIS YEAR FOR VARIOUS CHARGES UNDER THE ORDINANCE," HE SAID, NOTING THAT PROSECUTION IS BEING CONSIDERED AGAINST A FURTHER 11 EMPLOYERS.

"OF THE 17 CHARGES CONVICTED THIS YEAR, 16 RELATED TO DEDUCTION OF WAGES AND LABOUR SERVICE CHARGE AND ONE TO FAILURE TO GRANT STATUTORY HOLIDAYS," HE ADDED.

MR MAK CALLED ON THOSE IMPORTED WORKERS WHO WERE EXPLOITED BY THEIR EMPLOYERS TO COME FORWARD AND REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT, SO THAT PROSECUTION COULD BE TAKEN OUT AGAINST THE OFFENDING EMPLOYERS.

TO ENSURE THAT IMPORTED WORKERS GET THEIR WAGES IN FULL, MR MAK SAID EMPLOYERS ARE REQUIRED UNDER THE CURRENT LABOUR IMPORTATION SCHEME TO PAY WAGES TO WORKERS BY AUTOPAY AS A CONTRACTUAL REQUIREMENT.

"IN ADDITION, A BILL HAS BEEN INTRODUCED TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SEEKING TO INCREASE THE PENALTY FOR UNLAWFUL DEDUCTION AND UNDERPAYMENT OF WAGES FROM \$10,000 TO \$100,000 AND FROM \$20,000 TO \$200,000 RESPECTIVELY, PLUS IMPRISONMENT FOR ONE YEAR," HE NOTED.

"THE LAW SHOULD HAVE GREATER DETERRENT EFFECT ON UNSCRUPULOUS EMPLOYERS AND SHOULD PROVIDE FULLER PROTECTION OF THE STATUTORY RIGHTS OF IMPORTED WORKERS," HE SAID.

REPORT RECOMMENDS WIDE-RANGING IMPROVEMENTS
TO OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

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THE PROBLEM OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH CAN ONLY BE TACKLED THROUGH TRIPARTITE EFFORT OF THE GOVERNMENT, THE EMPLOYERS AND THE EMPLOYEES.

THIS WAS STATED IN A REPORT OF THE JOINT STEERING COMMITTEE ON OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY WHICH WAS SET UP IN MAY LAST YEAR UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF A DEPUTY SECRETARY OF THE EDUCATION AND MANPOWER BRANCH TO REVIEW THE MULTI-FACETED ISSUES RELATED TO OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY IN HONG KONG.

AFTER EIGHT MONTHS' DELIBERATIONS, THE COMMITTEE HAS COME UP WITH 20 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LONG TERM AND IMMEDIATE IMPROVEMENTS IN SUCH AREAS AS ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANISATIONS, LEGISLATIVE CONTROL, STRATEGIES FOR MONITORING, PREVENTION AND ENFORCEMENT, DISABILITY ASSESSMENT AND COMPENSATION AND REHABILITATION.

ACCORDING TO THE REPORT, THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATIVE SETUPS CONSISTING OF THE FACTORY INSPECTORATE DIVISION AND THE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH DIVISION IN THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT AND THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH COUNCIL (OSHC), HAVE GENERALLY BEEN EFFECTIVE.

IT ALLOWS PLENTY OF SCOPE FOR DEVELOPING CLOSER INTERACTION BETWEEN THE ADMINISTRATION AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR, WITH PARTICIPATION BY EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES IN THE INDUSTRY IN THE OVERALL DRIVE FOR BETTER OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY.

AS THE EXISTING TRIPARTITE COMMITTEES HAVE SERVED HIGHLY USEFUL PURPOSES, THE REPORT HAD THEREFORE RECOMMENDED THAT THE OSHC SET UP MORE SUCH COMMITTEES AS WELL AS AN OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE AND A CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HEALTH COMMITTEE TO BETTER EQUIP EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES WITH KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE ON THESE MATTERS.

IN ADDITION, A COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE SHOULD ALSO BE CO-OPTED TO THE COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AND HEALTH OF THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD TO STRENGTHEN THE LINK BETWEEN THE TWO BODIES.

ON LEGISLATION, THE REPORT PROPOSED THAT THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT REVIEW ANNUALLY THE LIST OF OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES, TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION DEVELOPMENTS OVERSEAS AND LOCAL CIRCUMSTANCES; DRAW UP GUIDELINES ON OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE LIMITS FOR THE 231 CHEMICALS ALREADY LISTED IN THE LAW AND ISSUE THEM TO ALL FACTORY PROPRIETORS FOR THEIR COMPLIANCE; AND INTRODUCE A NEW SET OF REGULATIONS TO PROVIDE FOR THE DEMARCATION OF NOISE ZONES WITHIN FACTORIES TO PROTECT WORKERS AGAINST NOISE HAZARDS.

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DEPARTMENTAL MONITORING TEAM ON CHEMICAL SAFETY; THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN EXPERT WORKING GROUP, CHAIRED BY THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF HEALTH, TO CONDUCT A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES IN HONG KONG; THE SETTING UP OF SAFETY COMMITTEES IN LARGER ESTABLISHMENTS AND THE EXTENSION OF THE SAFETY OFFICER SCHEME TO OTHER INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS HAD ALSO BEEN SUGGESTED.

/OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE REPORT INCLUDED:

- * REVIEW THE FIRST SCHEDULE OF THE EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION ORDINANCE WITH A VIEW TO RATIONALISING THE BASIS OF DISABILITY ASSESSMENT AND REFLECTING THE LOSS OF ACTUAL EARNING IN DISABILITY COMPENSATION;
- * REVIEW BOTH THE MAXIMUM LEVEL OF COMPENSATION AND THE STIPULATED NUMBER OF MONTHS FOR COMPENSATION;
- * AMEND THE LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE FOR THE AMOUNT OF MEDICAL EXPENSES RECOVERABLE BY AN INJURED EMPLOYEE TO BE BASED ON THE RATES IN THE THIRD SCHEDULE IN THE EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION ORDINANCE IN FORCE AT THE DATE OF THE MEDICAL TREATMENT;
- * ESTABLISH A CENTRALLY ADMINISTERED STATUTORY COMPENSATION FUND BOARD;
- * AMEND THE LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE A NEW COMPENSATION SCHEME FOR NOISE-INDUCED HEARING LOSS;
- * COMPILE MORE INFORMATIVE STATISTICS TO BETTER ASSESSED THE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION NEEDS OF INJURED WORKERS; AND
- * PUBLICISE THE PRESENT SYSTEM OF VOCATIONAL ASSESSMENT, SKILLS TRAINING, JOB PLACEMENT AND OTHER SUPPORTING SERVICES FOR DISABLED PERSONS.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO OBTAIN A COPY OF THE REPORT SHOULD WRITE TO THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY 4(1) OF THE EDUCATION AND MANPOWER BRANCH, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, 12TH FLOOR, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (WEST WING).

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WORKERS' HEALTH IMPORTANT TO PRODUCTIVITY

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THE PROMOTION OF HEALTH OF THE WORKFORCE IS IMPORTANT IN INCREASING THE PRODUCTIVITY OF THE COMMUNITY.

THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH, DR S.H. LEE, MADE THE REMARKS WHEN OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE "OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH PERSPECTIVE: INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS AND YOU" EXHIBITION THIS (SATURDAY) MORNING.

"WITH THE ADVANCEMENT IN TECHNOLOGY AND INCREASING SOPHISTICATION AND DIVERSIFICATION OF PRODUCTS, THE NUMBER OF RAW MATERIALS AND CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES IN USE ALSO INCREASES," DR LEE SAID.

"THE HEALTH OF THE WORKERS SHOULD BE WELL PROTECTED AGAINST THE VARIOUS CHEMICAL HAZARDS APART FROM THE PHYSICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HAZARDS," HE SAID.

RECENT ESTIMATES FROM THE UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR CHEMICAL SAFETY INDICATE THAT BETWEEN 70,000 AND 80,000 CHEMICALS ARE CURRENTLY IN THE WORLD MARKET. OF THE MARKETED SUBSTANCES, FIVE TO 10 PER CENT ARE CONSIDERED HAZARDOUS.

AS NEW CHEMICALS AND PRODUCTS ARE BEING INTRODUCED TO HONG KONG, DR LEE SAID NEW WORK-RELATED ILLNESSES MIGHT BE FOUND IN THE WORKERS.

"THE PROMOTION OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH IS NOT SOLELY THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE GOVERNMENT.

"TO BE MORE EFFECTIVE, ALL EFFORTS IN HEALTH EDUCATION OF THE WORKFORCE MUST HAVE THE ESSENTIAL SUPPORT OF EMPLOYERS, EMPLOYEES, THE PROFESSIONALS AND THE GOVERNMENT," DR LEE NOTED.

ALSO SPEAKING AT THE CEREMONY, THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR DARWIN CHEN, SAID THE EXHIBITION AIMED AT AROUSING AWARENESS AMONG EMPLOYERS, WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES OF THE NECESSITY TO HANDLE INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS WITH CARE AND THE CONTROL MEASURES.

"IF CONTROL MEASURES ARE NEGLECTED, WORKERS' HEALTH WILL BE HARMED, CAUSING FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES TO THEIR FAMILIES," MR CHEN SAID.

"AS FOR EMPLOYERS, SUFFICIENT CONTROL MEASURES WILL PREVENT PAYMENTS IN COMPENSATION AND LOSSES IN PRODUCTIVITY," HE ADDED.

THE EXHIBITION, BEING HELD AT THE NEW TOWN PLAZA IN SHA TIN, FEATURES PHOTOGRAPH AND EQUIPMENT DISPLAYS, SLIDE AND VIDEO PRESENTATIONS, A LUNG FUNCTION TEST, A RESPIRATOR EFFICIENCY TEST AND A QUIZ GAME.

IT IS OPEN TO PUBLIC FROM 10 AM TO 7 PM DAILY UNTIL 3 PM ON MARCH 6. ADMISSION IS FREE.

THE EVENT IS ORGANISED BY THE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH DIVISION OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT AND IS SPONSORED BY THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH COUNCIL.

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BUS PARADE TO PUBLICISE DANGERS OF FALLING OBJECTS

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PEOPLE LIVING IN HIGH-RISE BUILDINGS IN SOUTHERN DISTRICT WERE TODAY (SATURDAY) REMINDED OF THE GRAVE HARM THAT COULD BE DONE BY FALLING OBJECTS.

SPEAKING AT THE LAUNCHING CEREMONY OF A BUS PARADE TO PUBLICISE SUCH DANGERS, THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MRS ROSANNA URE, RECALLED THAT AN ELDERLY WOMAN IN LEI TUNG ESTATE WAS KILLED BY A BAG OF CEMENT THROWN OUT FROM A BLOCK IN JULY LAST YEAR.

/SHE ALSO

SHE ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN ON THE BIG INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS INVOLVING FALLING OBJECTS IN THE DISTRICT.

POLICE FIGURES REVEALED THAT THERE WERE 23 SUCH INCIDENTS LAST YEAR, COMPARED WITH ONLY ONE CASE IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

MRS URE SAID THE ADMINISTRATION WAS DETERMINED TO BRING TO JUSTICE THOSE WHO COMMIT THIS TYPE OF OFFENCE, WHICH CARRIES A MAXIMUM PENALTY OF A \$10,000 FINE AND SIX-MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT.

"FOR THOSE CASES THAT RESULT IN DEATHS, OFFENDERS MAY FACE LIFE IMPRISONMENT OR EVEN THE DEATH PENALTY," SHE SAID.

TODAY'S BUS PARADE HAS BEEN JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE DISTRICT'S SEVEN AREA COMMITTEES.

APART FROM MAKING APPEALS THROUGH THE PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM ON THE BUS, THE PUBLICITY TEAM ALSO HANDED OUT COPIES OF A BOOKLET SPECIALLY PRODUCED FOR THE PUBLICITY DRIVE.

THE TEAM COMPRISED THE DB CHAIRMAN, MR HUI YUNG-CHUNG; DISTRICT OFFICE STAFF; AND CHAIRMEN OF THE SEVEN AREA COMMITTEES, MESSRS LEE PING-WAH, TO WAI-KEUNG, TSE KIT-TO, CHEN KWONG, WONG KING-CHEUNG, KO KAM-CHEUNG AND CHAN YAU-YUE.

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CNTA DEALT WITH OVER FOUR MILLION ENQUIRIES IN 1991

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THE 20 PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRES (PESCS) OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION (CNTA) HANDLED OVER FOUR MILLION ENQUIRIES LAST YEAR.

A CNTA SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (SATURDAY) THAT OUT OF THE 4,017,467 ENQUIRIES, 150,337 CASES WERE RECEIVED BY THE CENTRAL TELEPHONE ENQUIRY CENTRE (CTEC) IN CNTA HEADQUARTERS, WHICH WAS SET UP LAST APRIL AS A BACK UP SERVICE.

HE SAID THE CENTRES, WHICH WERE CONVENIENTLY LOCATED THROUGHOUT THE 19 DISTRICTS, AND THE CTEC SERVED MORE THAN 10.7 MILLION PEOPLE DURING THE YEAR.

ASIDE FROM DECLARATION SERVICE WHICH TOPPED THE LIST OF ENQUIRIES (250,974), THE OTHER POPULAR SUBJECTS WERE LOCATIONS, TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND OPENING HOURS OF GOVERNMENT OFFICES (188,468), GOVERNMENT JOB VACANCIES (151,450), APPLICATIONS FOR HOUSING (122,639) AND EMIGRATION OR OVERSEAS VISITS (122,283).

MEANWHILE, A TOTAL OF 564,000 DECLARATIONS, OATHS AND AFFIRMATIONS, WHICH INCLUDE DECLARATION OF OVERSEAS STUDIES (113,021), EMIGRATION OR OVERSEAS VISITS (112,124) AND OVERSEAS EXAMINATIONS (30,068), WERE ADMINISTERED BY THE PESCS IN THE SAME PERIOD.

/MOREOVER, ABOUT

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MOREOVER, ABOUT 6.7 MILLION FORMS AND OTHER INFORMATION SHEETS WERE DISTRIBUTED. THESE INCLUDED APPLICATION FORMS FOR GOVERNMENT VACANCIES (454,142), HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME (198,588), PUBLIC HOUSING WAITING LIST REGISTRATION (158,661), SUMMER SHORT COURSES (100,041) AND VARIOUS NON-GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES (99,368).

ON THE FREE LEGAL ADVICE SCHEME JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE CNTA AND THE HONG KONG LAW SOCIETY, A TOTAL OF 2,585 CASES WERE REFERRED TO THE SOCIETY, WITH 2,408 CASES HANDLED BY VOLUNTARY SOLICITORS AND 134 CASES SUBSEQUENTLY REFERRED TO THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT FOR ASSISTANCE.

THERE WERE 17,355 PEOPLE WHO SOUGHT ADVICE ON RENTAL AND TENANCY PROBLEMS FROM RENT OFFICERS OF THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT ON DUTY AT THE 10 URBAN DISTRICT OFFICES AND FIVE DISTRICT OFFICES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE VARIOUS SERVICES AVAILABLE AT THESE CENTRES MAY APPROACH ANY OF THE PESCS, OR CALL THE CTEC ON TEL. 835 2500.

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PART-TIME ADULT EDUCATION LECTURERS SOUGHT
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THE ADULT EDUCATION SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS NOW INVITING APPLICATIONS FROM SUITABLE QUALIFIED PERSONS TO FILL THE EVENING PART-TIME LECTURING VACANCIES IN THE VARIOUS COURSES TO BE OPERATED IN 1992-93.

APPLICANTS SHOULD BE QUALIFIED TEACHERS WITH A GENUINE INTEREST IN TEACHING ADULTS IN THE EVENING.

EXPERIENCE IN TEACHING ENGLISH LANGUAGE AT POST-SECONDARY OR SENIOR SECONDARY LEVELS, CHINESE LANGUAGE, SCIENCE, SOCIAL SUBJECTS OR COMMERCIAL SUBJECTS AT SENIOR SECONDARY LEVELS AND/OR POSSESSION OF A DIPLOMA/CERTIFICATE IN EDUCATION OR ADVANCED CERTIFICATE IN TEACHER TRAINING WOULD BE AN ADVANTAGE.

EXISTING REMUNERATIONS FOR PART-TIME LECTURING ARE: \$245 PER HOUR FOR POST-SECONDARY LEVEL SUBJECTS; \$205 PER HOUR FOR SENIOR SECONDARY LEVEL SUBJECTS; \$160 PER HOUR FOR JUNIOR SECONDARY LEVEL SUBJECTS AND \$145 PER HOUR FOR PRIMARY LEVEL SUBJECTS.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE OBTAINABLE FROM THE ADULT EDUCATION SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ON THE FIFTH FLOOR OF LEE GARDENS, HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY.

COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED ON OR BEFORE MARCH 28.

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 1992

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TALENTED LOCAL PLAYWRIGHTS WIN CFPA AWARDS

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CREATIVE LOCAL PLAYWRIGHTS HAD THEIR SCRIPT WRITING SKILLS RECOGNISED AT A PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS (CFPA) AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING ORIGINAL SCRIPTS 1991 HELD AT THE HONG KONG CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE TODAY (SATURDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE CEREMONY, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL, PROF WANG GUNGWU, SAID HE WAS DELIGHTED TO SEE THE ENTHUSIASTIC RESPONSE FROM STUDENTS TO THE AWARD SCHEME.

"THE NUMBER OF ENTRIES HAS GROWN FROM 19 IN 1990 TO 31 IN 1991, DUE MAINLY TO MANY MORE ENTRIES FROM SECONDARY SCHOOLS. THIS IS AN ENCOURAGING SIGN FOR THE FUTURE OF DRAMA HERE," HE SAID.

PROF WANG THANKED THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE DRAMA COMMITTEE OF THE CFPA FOR THEIR HARD WORK IN SELECTING THE WINNING ENTRIES FROM ALL THE SCRIPTS SUBMITTED. HE CONGRATULATED ALL THOSE WHO HAD PARTICIPATED IN THE SCHEME FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL DRAMA.

ALSO OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WAS THE SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR JAMES SO, WHO SAID THE COUNCIL HAD PLAYED AN INFLUENTIAL ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF ARTISTIC TALENT IN HONG KONG.

MR SO SAID THE AWARD SCHEME, JUDGING FROM THE INTEREST IT HAD GENERATED, HAD PROVED TO BE A MOST VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE PROMOTION OF INDIGENOUS DRAMA.

THE SECRETARY SAID THE MOST STRIKING ACHIEVEMENT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF CULTURE WAS THE CONSTRUCTION OF WORLD CLASS PERFORMANCE AND TRAINING FACILITIES, SUCH AS THE HONG KONG CULTURAL CENTRE AND THE ACADEMY FOR PERFORMING ARTS.

RECEIVING THE CHAMPION PRIZE OF THE AWARD'S OPEN SECTION AT TODAY'S CEREMONY WAS MR CHAN CHI-WAH FOR HIS WINNING SCRIPT "LANDFILL". THE SECOND PRIZE WENT TO MR WONG WAN-LUNG'S "ONCE THERE WAS A MOUNTAIN", AND THE THIRD PRIZE WENT TO MISS IP LAI-CHUN'S "I COULD HAVE DANCED ALL NIGHT".

IN THE SECONDARY SCHOOL SECTION, THE CHAMPION PRIZE WAS WON BY STUDENTS OF HOI PING CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SECONDARY SCHOOL WHO HAD WRITTEN THE SCRIPT "BLUE RIVER EVER FLOW". THE SECOND PRIZE WENT TO MISS SHAW MEI-KWAN OF KIANGSU-CHEKIANG COLLEGE (SHATIN)'S "WHAT WILL BECOME OF ME", AND THE THIRD PRIZE WAS AWARDED TO HO LAP DRAMA SOCIETY OF HO LAP COLLEGE'S "BE A COURTEOUS CITIZEN".

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DRAMA COMMITTEE, DR LAM TAI-HING, SAID THE COUNCIL WAS PREPARED TO FUND THE PERFORMANCE OF THE WINNING SCRIPTS ON STAGE, IF SUCH APPLICATIONS WERE RECEIVED.

/THE COUNCIL

THE COUNCIL HAD ALSO AWARDED A GRANT FOR THE PRINTING OF 1,000 COPIES OF THE 1990 SCRIPT COLLECTION TO PROMOTE ORIGINAL SCRIPT WRITING.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL, MR CHEUNG YAN-LUNG; THE CHAIRMAN OF THE URBAN COUNCIL CULTURE SELECT COMMITTEE, MR MAN SAI-CHEONG, AND THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR WONG SIK-WAH, HAD RECEIVED THE COLLECTION FROM PROF WANG AT TODAY'S CEREMONY.

THE COLLECTION WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO SCHOOLS AND PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

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NEW SCHEDULED PLB ROUTE ON HONG KONG ISLAND
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (SATURDAY) THAT A NEW PUBLIC LIGHT BUS (SCHEDULED) ROUTE NO. 41M WILL COMMENCE OPERATION ON HONG KONG ISLAND FROM 8 AM ON MONDAY (MARCH 2) TO SERVE BETWEEN WAN CHAI MTR STATION AND WAN CHAI NORTH.

THE HOURS OF OPERATION FOR THIS NEW ROUTE WILL BE FROM 8 AM TO 7 PM. ITS FARE WILL BE \$2 PER SINGLE JOURNEY.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS
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	DATE	\$ MILLION
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CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	28.2.92	1100*
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	29.2.92	NEUTRAL
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		NEUTRAL

* INCLUDES 500MN O/N ASSISTANCE TO BE REVERSED ON 2 MAR 92

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