



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1993

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GOVERNOR SPEAKS TO THE PRESS

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GOOD AFTERNOON. WHEN I CAME BACK FROM LEAVE ON TUESDAY EVENING, I SAID TO THOSE OF YOU WHO HAD VERY KINDLY AND COURTEOUSLY COME OUT TO THE AIRPORT TO WELCOME ME HOME, THAT I WOULD GIVE YOU AN EARLY OPPORTUNITY TO FIRE A FEW QUESTIONS AT ME, AND HERE IT IS. BUT JUST BEFORE I ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE, PERHAPS I CAN MAKE ONE OR TWO REMARKS COVERING, I SUSPECT, AT LEAST SOME OF THE SUBJECTS WHICH YOU MAY WANT TO FOLLOW UP FOR 20 MINUTES OR SO THEREAFTER.

FIRST OF ALL, I COME BACK WITH, AT THE TOP OF MY IN-TRAY, THE TASK OF PREPARING MY SECOND SPEECH TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WHICH I WILL BE MAKING AT THE BEGINNING OF OCTOBER. IN THAT SPEECH, CLEARLY, I WILL WANT TO REPORT THE PROGRESS THAT WE HAVE MADE IN IMPLEMENTING THE FIVE YEAR AGENDA THAT I SET OUT ON SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC POLICY IN MY FIRST SPEECH LAST AUTUMN BUT I HOPE THAT I'LL ALSO HAVE THE CHANCE OF TAKING ONE OR TWO OTHER INITIATIVES, AND IN ORDER TO COME TO A FINAL VIEW ABOUT WHAT EXACTLY THEY SHOULD BE, I WILL WANT TO TAKE AS BROAD SOUNDINGS IN THE COMMUNITY AS POSSIBLE. SO I WILL BE MEETING IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS, THE MAIN POLITICAL GROUPS AND INDEPENDENT LEGISLATORS, TO HEAR FROM THEM WHAT THEY THINK THE GOVERNMENT'S PRIORITY SHOULD BE, AND HOW THEY THINK WE SHOULD BUILD ON THE PROGRESS THAT WE HAVE MADE IN THE LAST YEAR TOWARDS THE TARGETS THAT WE SET FOR OURSELVES IN 1992.

SECONDLY, I WILL ALSO, OBVIOUSLY, BE REVIEWING PROGRESS IN THE TALKS THAT ARE TAKING PLACE BETWEEN CHINA AND BRITAIN ON THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 1994 AND 1995 ELECTIONS, ELECTIONS WHICH TAKE PLACE WHILE BRITAIN REMAINS THE SOVEREIGN POWER. WE'VE HAD NINE ROUNDS OF TALKS SO FAR OVER THE LAST FOUR MONTHS OR SO, THE TENTH ROUND STARTS TOMORROW. THAT REPRESENTS 80 HOURS OF DISCUSSIONS WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE, I THINK IN AN AMIABLE ATMOSPHERE, THOUGH I DON'T THINK THAT ANYBODY WHO HAS TAKEN PART IN THE TALKS, CERTAINLY I DON'T THINK THAT ANY MEMBERS OF THE BRITISH TEAM, WOULD ARGUE THAT THE PROGRESS THAT HAS BEEN MADE HAS BEEN AT A BREAKNECK OR RECKLESS PACE.

THE TALKS HAVE BEEN VERY USEFUL BUT THERE IS STILL A GREAT DEAL TO DO AND A GREAT DEAL TO ACCOMPLISH. WE HAVE APPROACHED THE TALKS IN AS CONSTRUCTIVE A WAY AS POSSIBLE. WE'VE TRIED TO THROW PLANKS OVER THE DIVIDE BETWEEN BRITAIN AND CHINA ON THESE MATTERS, AND I HOPE THAT IT IS STILL POSSIBLE TO BUILD A BRIDGE ON WHICH WE CAN ALL HAPPILY STAND. BUT THE CLOCK TICKS ON. THAT IS NOT A PLOT BY THE GOVERNOR OF HONG KONG OR THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT, IT'S A STATEMENT OF THE OBVIOUS, AND SOONER OR LATER, WE ARE GOING TO HAVE TO MAKE THE NECESSARY LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR 1994 AND 1995. I HOPE, I REPEAT, THAT WE CAN REACH AGREEMENT ON THOSE MATTERS WHICH ARE STILL, ALAS, OUTSTANDING, AND I WOULD JUST LIKE TO REMIND YOU WHAT ARE FOR US THE ABSOLUTELY KEY ISSUES.

/SOMETIMES PEOPLE

SOMETIMES PEOPLE GET THE NATURE OF THE ARGUMENT OR THE DEBATE RATHER WRONG. THEY SUGGEST THAT IT'S ABOUT THE PACE OF DEMOCRATISATION IN HONG KONG, AND OF COURSE THERE ARE THOSE WHO THINK THAT THE ARGUMENT SHOULD BE ABOUT THAT. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF LEGISLATORS WHO ARGUE THAT THAT IS WHAT WE SHOULD BE IN DEBATE ABOUT. BUT THE DISCUSSION ISN'T ACTUALLY ABOUT THAT, IT'S ABOUT WHETHER THE DEMOCRATISATION WHICH HAS ALREADY BEEN AGREED SHOULD BE CREDIBLE AND FAIR, SHOULD PROVIDE US WITH A LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND IN DUE COURSE WHICH IS CREDIBLE, OR SHOULD BE DESIGNED TO PRODUCE A LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WHICH IS MERELY A PUPPET. NOW, I KNOW WHICH OF THOSE IS IMPORTANT IF WE'RE SERIOUS ABOUT MAINTAINING THE RULE OF LAW, AS WE SHOULD BE, IF WE'RE SERIOUS ABOUT IMPLEMENTING THE JOINT DECLARATION, AS WE SHOULD BE, IF WE'RE SERIOUS, FOR INSTANCE, ABOUT PREVENTING THE GROWTH OF CORRUPTION IN HONG KONG, AS WE SHOULD BE. SO MY FIRST POINT IS THAT OUR OBJECTIVE IN THESE TALKS IS TO SECURE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 1994/95 ELECTIONS WHICH ARE CLEAN AND FAIR.

SECONDLY, AS WE'VE SAID AGAIN AND AGAIN, IT DOESN'T MAKE ALL THAT MUCH SENSE TO AGREE WITH CHINA ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE '94 AND '95 ELECTIONS, IF WE HAVEN'T ALSO GOT FROM CHINA CLEAR AND OBJECTIVE CRITERIA ON THE SO-CALLED THROUGH TRAIN. THERE IS A PARALLELISM, THERE IS AN EQUATION BETWEEN THOSE TWO POINTS WHICH I THINK IS OBVIOUS TO THE WHOLE COMMUNITY, SO I REPEAT AGAIN WHAT OUR OBJECTIVES ARE IN THOSE TALKS. THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND CHINA HAD A HELPFUL MEETING IN THE SUMMER, AND I HOPE THAT CAN PRODUCE THE SORT OF PROGRESS THIS AUTUMN WHICH I BELIEVE ALL OF US SHOULD WANT TO SEE.

THE THIRD POINT I'D LIKE TO MAKE, MORE BRIEFLY, IS THAT OVER THE LAST FEW WEEKS THERE HAS BEEN A CONSIDERABLE CONTROVERSY BUT I THINK IT IS NOW, I HOPE IT IS NOW, STARTING TO EBB AWAY TO SOME EXTENT, ABOUT THE LOCALISATION POLICY WHICH WE HAVE BEEN PURSUING WITH ENTHUSIASM AND ENERGY, AND THE REQUIREMENT THAT THAT LOCALISATION POLICY SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED IN A WAY WHICH IS COMPATIBLE WITH THE BILL OF RIGHTS AND THE LAW OF THE LAND. I WANT TO STATE ONCE AGAIN, UNEQUIVOCABLY, OUR COMMITMENT TO LOCALISATION, WHICH MAKES SENSE FOR HONG KONG AND MAKES SENSE FOR THE PUBLIC SERVICE IN HONG KONG. WE'VE MADE CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS BUT THERE ARE STILL SOME PROBLEMS TO TACKLE. I THINK THERE ARE 10 DEPARTMENTS IN PARTICULAR, OUT OF 73, WHERE THERE ARE PARTICULAR ISSUES THAT WE NEED TO CRACK AND WHERE WE NEED TO WORK PARTICULARLY HARD TO MAKE SURE THAT WE GET ON TOP OF THEM.

BUT THAT POLICY ON LOCALISATION HAS TO BE PURSUED, I REPEAT, IN A WAY WHICH IS IN LINE WITH THE BILL OF RIGHTS. GOVERNMENT IS FULL OF DIFFICULT DECISIONS AND THE DECISIONS THAT WE ANNOUNCED AT THE END OF JULY/BEGINNING OF AUGUST, TO ENSURE THAT OUR LOCALISATION POLICY WAS IN LINE WITH THE BILL OF RIGHTS, THOSE WEREN'T EASY DECISIONS, BUT I BELIEVE THAT WE WERE RIGHT TO TAKE THEM. WHAT THEY AMOUNTED TO WAS AN INTERIM MEASURE, BECAUSE THE LONG TERM ISSUE IS ONE WHICH I BELIEVE THE ASSOCIATION OF EXPATRIATE CIVIL SERVANTS IDENTIFIED IN THE STATEMENT THAT THEY MADE YESTERDAY, AND IT'S A STATEMENT THAT I WELCOME. I THINK WE WANT TO GET ON NOW WITH THE TASK OF FINDING A PERMANENT LONG TERM SOLUTION, WHICH I HOPE WILL EMBRACE REMOVING THE DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN LOCAL AND OVERSEAS TERMS IN OUR PUBLIC SERVICE.

NOW, THAT IS A QUESTION WHICH WE HAVE TO DISCUSS NOT ONLY WITH ALL THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE HERE IN HONG KONG, WITH THE LOCAL CIVIL SERVICE UNIONS, BUT IT'S ALSO OBVIOUSLY AN ISSUE THAT WE WILL NEED TO ADDRESS, I HOPE IN A CONSTRUCTIVE WAY, WITH OUR COLLEAGUES IN THE PRC THROUGH THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP IN DUE COURSE, AND SO ON, BECAUSE ANY ARRANGEMENTS THAT WE COME TO WILL HAVE IMPLICATIONS FOR AFTER 1997. THE INTERIM PROPOSAL WHICH WE ANNOUNCED A FEW WEEKS AGO DOESN'T HAVE IMPLICATIONS FOR AFTER 1997 BECAUSE WE'RE ONLY TALKING ABOUT TWO-AND-A-HALF YEAR CONTRACTS.

I'VE ASKED THE STAFF SIDE OF THE SENIOR CIVIL SERVICE COUNCIL TO COME AND MEET ME LATER ON THIS MONTH AND I HOPE THAT WE CAN START A SERIOUS DIALOGUE ABOUT THE ISSUE AT THAT MEETING, AND I HOPE THAT THAT CAN BEGIN A PROCESS WHICH I HOPE WILL LEAD TO A CONCLUSION WHICH IS SATISFACTORY - SATISFACTORY FOR THE PUBLIC SERVICE IN HONG KONG AND SATISFACTORY AS WELL FOR ALL THOSE TAXPAYERS WHO PAY FOR THE PUBLIC SERVICE HERE IN HONG KONG.

NOW, IF THERE ARE ANY QUESTIONS? IF NOT, I'LL GO AND HAVE SOME TEA.

QUESTIONS: MR PATTEN, DO YOU EXPECT THE SINO-BRITISH TALKS CAN BE CONCLUDED AFTER THE 12TH ROUND OF TALKS?

GOVERNOR: WELL, THEY ARE ABOUT TO EMBARK ON THE TENTH ROUND IN PEKING TOMORROW AND SUBSEQUENT ROUNDS - I'M AFRAID - I HOPE WILL BE SUCCESSFUL. BUT I PREFER TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS IN THE TENTH ROUND BEFORE SPECULATING ABOUT HOW MUCH PROGRESS WE CAN MAKE IN FUTURE ROUNDS. I THINK, AS YOU KNOW, THERE IS A GENERAL HOPE AS I MENTIONED EARLIER, THAT THE MEETING BETWEEN THE FOREIGN MINISTERS THAT WAS HELD IN JULY WILL GIVE THE TALKS THIS AUTUMN MUCH MORE OF AN IMPULSE SO THAT WE CAN ARRIVE AT A SATISFACTORY CONCLUSION BUT EACH ROUND OF TALKS IS IMPORTANT AND MY CONCERN AT THE MOMENT IS THAT THE TENTH ROUND SHOULD BE AS SUCCESSFUL AS POSSIBLE.

QUESTION: IN THE CHINESE NEWS SERVICE COMMENTARY TODAY, IT WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THERE HAVE BEEN NO PROGRESS WHATSOEVER IN THE TALKS. WE'VE GOT THE 10TH ROUND TOMORROW. YOU REALLY THINK THERE IS ANY POINT IN CONTINUING. ARE THE CHINESE REALLY SINCERE ABOUT REACHING A COMPROMISE OR ANY AGREEMENT?

/GOVERNOR

GOVERNOR: WELL, CHARGES ABOUT SINCERITY OR LACK OF SINCERITY ARE PART OF THE RHETORIC OF THE NCNA AND I THINK I'D LIKE TO LEAVE THEM THERE. ALL I WILL SAY IS THAT WE ARE SINCERE IN TRYING TO SECURE AN OUTCOME. WE WANT TO SEE PROGRESS BUT WE WANT TO SEE PROGRESS THAT ACCOMPLISHES THE TWO OBJECTIVES THAT I'VE MENTIONED AND WHICH I THINK PEOPLE IN HONG KONG FEEL PARTICULARLY STRONGLY ABOUT NOT LEAST BECAUSE OF AN INCIDENT THAT'S TAKEN PLACE IN THE LAST FEW WEEKS HERE IN HONG KONG. I HOPE WE CAN SEE PROGRESS. THERE WAS ANOTHER REMARK MADE IN THAT COMMENTARY BY THE CNA TO THE EFFECT THAT WHAT ALL THESE DISCUSSIONS AND DEBATES WERE ABOUT WERE AN ATTEMPT TO PROLONG BRITISH INFLUENCE AFTER 1997. I DO THINK THAT'S ONE OF THE SILLIER CRITICISMS THAT I'VE HEARD. WHAT WE ARE ACTUALLY TRYING TO DO AND I AM SURE THAT WHOEVER WROTE THOSE REMARKS FOR THE CNA SHOULD HAVE RECOGNISED IT. WHAT WE ARE ACTUALLY TRYING TO DO IS TO ENSURE THAT THE JOINT DECLARATION IS IMPLEMENTED AFTER 1997 TO THE LETTER AND I HOPE TO THE SPIRIT AS WELL FOR FIFTY YEARS AFTER 1997. IT'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH PROLONGING BRITISH INFLUENCE AND EVERYTHING TO DO WITH BRITAIN AND CHINA LIVING UP TO THEIR TREATY OBLIGATIONS IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WELL-BEING AND PROSPERITY OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG.

QUESTION: ARE YOU PREPARED TO WAIT UNTIL DECEMBER TO DECIDE WHETHER YOU ARE GOING TO INTRODUCE YOUR REVISED POSITION TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL?

GOVERNOR: I'VE STUDIOUSLY - DESPITE ALL YOUR CHARMING ATTEMPTS TO GET ME TO DO OTHERWISE - AVOIDED RINGING DATES IN THE CALENDAR. THAT REMAINS MY OBJECTIVE. BUT AS I'VE SAID TO YOU BEFORE 'TICK-TOCK' GOES THE CLOCK.

QUESTION: MR PATTEN, THE SAR GOVERNMENT PREPARATORY COMMITTEE IS HAVING THEIR MEETING IN BEIJING. DO YOU REGARD THEIR WORK AS SOME KIND OF INTERFERENCE TO HONG KONG GOVERNMENT'S POLICY?

GOVERNOR: NO. THEY HAVE TOLD US ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS THAT THAT ISN'T THE INTENTION. CHINESE OFFICIALS HAVE TOLD US ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS THAT ISN'T THE INTENTION. I DON'T THINK THAT THEIR WORK WILL HAVE ANY EFFECT ON THE DISCHARGE OF OUR RESPONSIBILITIES BEFORE 1997, THOUGH I HOPE THAT IT HELPS THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT BEHAVE IN A WAY WHICH ENSURES THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JOINT DECLARATION AFTER 1997. I DARE SAY THAT THE MEMBERS OF THAT COMMITTEE WOULD SPEAK WITH EVEN MORE RESONANCE ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG IF MORE OF THEM HAD A MANDATE FROM THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG, NOT JUST FROM THE HONG KONG AND MACAU AFFAIRS OFFICE. BUT THEY ARE OF COURSE DISTINGUISHED CITIZENS, MANY OF THEM, AND I HOPE THAT THEY GIVE GOOD ADVICE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PRC.

"QUESTION : REGARDING MR. HAN'S CASE, THE CHINESE SIDE CRITICISED YOU, THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT FOR HAVING A HAND IN..... SO WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THAT ?

GOVERNOR: I DON'T KNOW HOW ANYONE WHO UNDERSTANDS HONG KONG, WHO UNDERSTANDS THE ASPIRATIONS AND CONCERNS OF PEOPLE OF HONG KONG COULD POSSIBLY ARGUE THAT WHAT HAS HAPPENED IN MR. HAN'S CASE HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG, THAT IT'S ENTIRELY A MATTER FOR INTERNAL POLITICS IN CHINA AND THAT WE SHOULD MIND OUR OWN BUSINESS. I THINK THAT TO SUGGEST THAT SUGGESTS A WOEFUL MISUNDERSTANDING BOTH OF THE VALUES WHICH ARE IMPORTANT TO HONG KONG AND OF THE SORT OF FUTURE THAT PEOPLE IN HONG KONG WANT FOR THEMSELVES AND THEIR FAMILIES.

LET ME MAKE THE POINTS MORE EXPLICITLY THAN THAT. WHAT HAS HAPPENED IN MR. HAN'S CASE IS THAT HE HAS BEEN PUSHED INTO OUR TERRITORY IN FLAGRANT CONTRADICTION - IT HAS TO BE SAID - OF THE INTERNATIONAL RULE OF LAW AND OF OTHER INTERNATIONAL PRECEDENCE. THERE IS NO DISPUTE ABOUT THAT. HE HAS BEEN PUSHED INTO HONG KONG WHERE I KNOW MANY PEOPLE HAVE TRIED TO MAKE HIM AS WELCOME A GUEST AS POSSIBLE. SECONDLY, WHAT IS FUNDAMENTAL TO THE JOINT DECLARATION, WHAT IS FUNDAMENTAL TO OUR PROSPERITY, WHAT IS FUNDAMENTAL TO OUR VALUES HERE IN HONG KONG IS THE RULE OF LAW. AND WHEN PEOPLE SEE WHAT HAS HAPPENED IN MR. HAN'S CASE, THEY INEVITABLY ASK THEMSELVES QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ATTACHMENT OF THOSE WHO MADE THESE DECISIONS TO THE RULE OF LAW. THE RULE OF LAW DOESN'T ALLOW OFFICIALS, DOESN'T ALLOW GOVERNMENTS TO TRAMPLE ALL OVER THE LAW WHENEVER THEY THINK IT SUITS THEM. THE RULE OF LAW IS ABOUT TREATING INDIVIDUALS FAIRLY, TREATING THEM WITHIN THE LAW. SO IT'S NOT SURPRISING THAT PEOPLE HERE IN HONG KONG SHOULD FIND THEMSELVES CONCERNED BY WHAT HAS HAPPENED IN THIS ONE VERY STRIKING INDIVIDUAL CASE. I HOPE THAT MEMBERS OF THOSE ADVISORY GROUPS WHICH HAVE BEEN SET UP TO HELP CHINA PLAN FOR 1997, I HOPE MEMBERS OF THE PWC, I HOPE MEMBERS OF THE NPC WHO COME FROM HONG KONG WILL ALL OF THEM TAKE UP THIS CASE IN THE INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE OF THIS COMMUNITY. THE BASIC LAW IS ABSOLUTELY CLEAR IN WHAT IT SAYS ABOUT FREEDOM OF TRAVEL. WHAT PEOPLE ARE ASKING THEMSELVES IS WHETHER THEY CAN ACTUALLY BELIEVE THAT IN THIS CASE. AND THAT'S A QUESTION WHICH HAS TO BE PUT AND A QUESTION WHICH HAS TO BE ANSWERED.

ONE OTHER THING. IF WE SWEEP CASES LIKE THIS, AND ISSUES LIKE THIS, UNDER THE CARPET, IF WE SIMPLY IGNORE CASES LIKE THIS, THEN I THINK ISSUES LIKE THIS WILL COME BACK AND HAUNT HONG KONG IN THE FUTURE. SO IT IS RIGHT TO ADDRESS THESE ISSUES SQUARELY, IT'S NOT PROVOCATIVE TO DO SO, IT IS A REFLECTION OF THE REAL WORRY, THE REAL CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE OF THIS COMMUNITY.

QUESTION: MR PATTEN, ON THIS QUESTION OF LOCALISATION, DO YOU NOT THINK THE GOVERNMENT MADE THE MISTAKE BY NOT CONSULTING THE LOCAL STAFF IN THE FIRST PLACE AND THE SITUATION WAS AGGRAVATED BY YOU PERSONALLY NOT RECEIVING THE PETITION FROM THE LOCAL ASSOCIATION?

GOVERNOR: NO, I DON'T THINK THAT EITHER OF THOSE THINGS APPLY BUT LET ME DEAL WITH THEM IN ORDER.

THERE WERE THREE COURSES OF ACTION THAT I SUPPOSE WE COULD HAVE TAKEN ONCE WE'D RECEIVED UNEQUIVOCAL ADVICE FROM TWO INDEPENDENT LEGAL SOURCES ABOUT THE INCOMPATIBILITY OF OUR EXISTING POLICY WITH THE BILL

OF RIGHTS AND I JUST SAY - IN PARENTHESIS - THAT WHEN TWO OR THREE YEARS AGO PRE-PATTEN, IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT OUR POSITION ON CENSORSHIP WAS INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE BILL OF RIGHTS NOBODY THEN SAID 'WELL, HANG ABOUT A BIT, WAIT UNTIL YOU ARE TAKEN TO COURT'. PEOPLE SAID, QUITE RIGHTLY, 'YOU MUST ACT NOW AND BRING YOUR LAWS ON CENSORSHIP INTO LINE WITH THE BILL OF RIGHTS'. BUT THERE WERE THREE COURSES OF ACTION THAT WE COULD HAVE TAKEN.

THE FIRST WAS TO WAIT UNTIL WE WERE TAKEN TO COURT AND ALLOW THE COURTS TO DECIDE THE MATTER FOR US. I DON'T THINK THAT IS A VERY HONOURABLE WAY OF BEHAVING AND I DON'T THINK THAT IT IS A VERY SENSIBLE WAY IN AN EXECUTIVE-LED GOVERNMENT WHERE THE EXECUTIVE HAS TO BE ACCOUNTABLE TO THE LEGISLATURE AND OPERATE WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE RULE OF LAW.

SECONDLY, SOME PEOPLE SAY 'WELL, YOU SHOULD HAVE HAD A CONSULTATION PERIOD'. IN ORDER TO DO THAT WE WOULD HAVE EITHER HAD TO HAVE HAD A MORATORIUM ON OUR LOCALISATION POLICY WHICH WOULD HAVE, OF COURSE, I THINK ANNOYED SOME OF THE UNIONS WHO'VE ANYWAY BEEN ANNOYED OR, SECONDLY, WE WOULD HAVE GONE AHEAD WITH OUR LOCALISATION POLICY AS IT WAS AND STILL AS LIKE AS NOT GOT TAKEN TO COURT. THE ISSUE HAS BEEN IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN. IT'S BEEN ADDRESSED SINCE LAST JANUARY. WE WERE WELL AWARE OF THE SORT OF ATTITUDES THAT PEOPLE WOULD TAKE. SO WE CONCLUDED THAT THE RIGHT COURSE OF ACTION WAS THE THIRD AND IT'S THE ONE WE TOOK, NAMELY, TO GO FOR AN INTERIM SOLUTION WHILE WE LOOKED FOR A LONG TERM SOLUTION WITH OUR COLLEAGUES IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE UNIONS AND WITH OUR COLLEAGUES IN THE PRC. I THINK THAT'S THE RIGHT WAY TO PROCEED BUT GOVERNMENT, AS I SAID EARLIER, IS TO A CONSIDERABLE EXTENT ABOUT TAKING TOUGH DECISIONS WHEN ALL THE AVAILABLE COURSES OF ACTION LOOK PRETTY HAIRY, LOOK PRETTY DIFFICULT.

AS FOR TAKING THE PETITION, YOU WILL KNOW THAT A LOT OF PEOPLE FETCH UP AT THE GATES HERE OR FETCH UP AT THE AIRPORT WITH A PETITION AND I DON'T TAKE THEM. I THINK I TOOK ONE RIGHT AT THE OUTSET. IF I WAS TO TAKE EVERY PETITION ONE OF THE THINGS THAT IT WOULD DO WOULD BE TO PERMANENTLY CLOSE THE ROAD OUT THERE OR THE ROAD DOWN THERE. AS A MATTER OF, I HOPE STABILITY WHEN I GO DOWN TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETINGS, TO THE GOVERNMENT OFFICES BELOW AND THERE'S SOMEBODY WAITING WITH A PETITION I OR MY ADC OR ONE OF MY POLICE COLLEAGUES TAKE IT BUT I CERTAINLY HAVEN'T MADE A PRACTICE OF STOPPING THE CAR WHENEVER ANYBODY SHAKES AN ENVELOPE AT ME. BUT I REPEAT WHAT I SAID EARLIER, I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO HAVING A MEETING WITH CIVIL SERVICE LEADERS LATER THIS MONTH, AND IF INDIVIDUAL GROUPS OF CIVIL SERVANTS, IF INDIVIDUAL UNIONS, WISH TO SEE ME THEY SHOULD WRITE IN AND WE WILL SEE WHAT WE CAN DO, THOUGH MY DIARY HAS FEWER HOLES IN IT THAN I MIGHT LIKE.

QUESTION: MR PATTEN, YOU'VE STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF A CREDIBLE LEGISLATURE AND THE ELECTIONS SHOULD BE CLEAN AND FAIR. IS IT TRUE THAT IT IS THE MAIN DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BOTH SIDES? AND IF FINALLY WE CANNOT REACH THE TWO TARGETS, THE TWO OBJECTIVES YOU'VE MENTIONED, WILL THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT GO ALONE WITHOUT ANY AGREEMENT WITH CHINA?

GOVERNOR: WELL, I'VE SAID BEFORE, AND I THINK IT'S A POINT WHICH HAS BEEN BOTH IMPLICITLY AND EXPLICITLY RECOGNISED BY MR QIAN QICHEN AND OTHER CHINESE OFFICIALS, THAT IF WE CAN'T GET AN AGREEMENT, WE WILL HAVE TO DISCHARGE OUR RESPONSIBILITIES BEFORE 1997 IN AS EFFICIENT AND COMPETENT AND FAIR A FASHION AS POSSIBLE. AGAIN, A STATEMENT WHICH ISN'T PROVOCATIVE BUT WHICH IS OBVIOUS, AND I THINK IS RECOGNISED BY THE CHINESE. BUT WE WOULDN'T HAVE SPENT 80 HOURS IN, I HOPE, HARMONIOUS DIALOGUE WITH MR JIANG ENZHU AND OTHERS, IF WE HADN'T BEEN VERY KEEN ON ARRIVING AT A SETTLEMENT, IF ONE IS TO BE POSSIBLE.

QUESTION: I KNOW YOU HATE TO TALK ABOUT THAT NOW BUT YOU SAID THAT YOU WILL SOONER OR LATER TABLE THE BILL OF THE ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS TO LEGCO AND SOME LEGCO MEMBERS SAID THAT IT WOULD BE TOO LATE IF YOU DON'T TABLE IT IN EARLY OCTOBER PROVIDED THAT THERE IS NO SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS OF THE SINO-BRITISH TALKS. DO YOU THINK SO?

GOVERNOR: WELL, WHAT I THINK IS THAT MY DISCUSSIONS WITH POLITICAL GROUPS OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS WILL ENABLE ME TO HEAR THEIR VIEWS ABOUT HOW MUCH TIME THEY THINK THEY'LL NEED FOR THE LEGISLATION, AS WELL AS TO HEAR THEIR VIEWS ABOUT OTHER MATTERS AS WELL. BUT ALL OF US WANT TO ENSURE THAT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL HAVE ENOUGH TIME TO DISCUSS THESE IMPORTANT MATTERS WITH THE ATTENTION AND DETAIL WHICH THEY WILL DESERVE, AND ALL OF US ALSO HAVE TO ENSURE THAT AFTER THAT LEGISLATION IS PASSED, WE'VE STILL GOT ENOUGH TIME TO MAKE ALL THE ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS. BUT I THINK YOU RECOGNISE THAT WHILE QUESTIONS ABOUT DEADLINES ARE FAIR SPORT, IT WOULDN'T BE VERY SENSIBLE FOR ME TO ANSWER THEM AS EXPLICITLY AS I HOPE I'VE ANSWERED SOME OF YOUR OTHER QUESTIONS THIS AFTERNOON.

QUESTION: MR PATTEN, JUST GOING BACK TO LOCALISATION. YOU KNOW... IN LEGCO HAS PLEDGED TO INITIATE PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILL TO STOP, YOU KNOW, YOUR NEW POLICY. MY QUESTION IS UNDER WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES WILL YOU PREPARE TO SHELVE OR CHANGE YOUR POLICY?

GOVERNOR: I'VE STATED WHAT OUR POLICY IS AND THAT'S OUR POLICY NOW AND WILL REMAIN OUR POLICY. I DON'T THINK YOU CAN LEGISLATE TO DO THINGS WHICH ARE ILLEGAL. IT'S A POINT ON WHICH THE ROYAL INSTRUCTIONS AND LETTERS PATENT - WITH WHICH ALL OF YOU, I KNOW, ARE TERRIFICALLY FAMILIAR - ARE ABSOLUTELY CLEAR. THEY MAKE IT CLEAR THAT WE CAN'T LEGISLATE IN A WAY WHICH IS IN CONTRAVENTION OF THE BILL OF RIGHTS. SO WHAT WE HAVE TO DO, ALL OF US, IS TO SIT DOWN AND WORK OUT A LONG TERM PERMANENT SOLUTION. IT'S NOT EASY, BUT THAT MUST BE THE CONSTRUCTIVE WAY FORWARD. IT'S ONLY A FEW WEEKS AGO THAT I WAS BEING PRESSED BY A NUMBER OF LEGISLATORS IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, FROM RIGHT ACROSS THE POLITICAL SPECTRUM, LET IT BE SAID, TO ESTABLISH A HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT THE BILL OF RIGHTS WAS IMPLEMENTED AS RIGOROUSLY AS POSSIBLE. WELL IF THAT IS THE VIEW OF THOSE LEGISLATORS, THEY CAN'T BE SURPRISED WHEN I TRY TO ABIDE BY THE BILL OF RIGHTS IN THIS PARTICULAR CASE. - TWO MORE QUESTIONS.

QUESTION: GOVERNOR, IT'S BEEN 10 MONTHS SINCE, FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSE, YOU GAZETTED PROPOSALS. JUST HOW UNHAPPY ARE YOU THAT YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO STAND BEFORE THE LEGISLATORS AND SAY: "LOOK, IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME THAT I TALKS ABOUT THIS, AS MUCH AS A YEAR AGO. AND I'M STANDING HERE AND I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO TELL YOU GUYS EXCEPT THAT I HOPE THAT WE CAN DO SOMETHING IN A COUPLE OF MONTHS."

GOVERNOR: TWO POINTS. FIRST OF ALL, IT WOULD BE WRONG OF ME TO MAKE ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT PROGRESS OR LACK OF PROGRESS IN THE TENTH, THE ELEVENTH, THE TWELFTH AND ANY OTHER ROUNDS THAT MAY TAKE PLACE BEFORE MY LEGCO SPEECH JUST AS IT WOULD BE WRONG OF ME TO MAKE ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT WHAT MAY OR MAY NOT BE AGREED AT THE MEETING BETWEEN FOREIGN MINISTERS WHICH I HOPE WILL TAKE PLACE ABOUT THE TIME OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY THIS AUTUMN. SO I CAN'T MAKE THOSE ASSUMPTIONS. SECONDLY, WHEN I DO SPEAK TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL I WILL HAVE TO SET OUT FOR THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN MORE THAN TELEGRAMATIC FORM WHERE WE NOW STAND IN THE DEBATE ON THE ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR 1994/1995. THAT IS NOT TO STATE A DEADLINE, IT IS TO STATE, ONCE AGAIN, WHAT EVERYBODY I THINK RECOGNISES AS MY RESPONSIBILITY. I THINK THE COMMUNITY HAS ALWAYS TAKEN THE VIEW THAT WE SHOULD LEAN OVER BACKWARDS TO TRY TO GET A FAIR AND ACCEPTABLE SETTLEMENT. SO I THINK THE COMMUNITY WILL RECOGNISE WHY WE HAVE PATIENTLY SPENT EIGHT MONTHS TRYING TO ARRIVE AT AN AGREEMENT. I THINK THE COMMUNITY WANTS US TO LEAN OVER BACKWARDS. I DON'T THINK IT WANTS US TO FALL OVER BACKWARDS. I DON'T THINK IT WANTS US TO FALL FOR ANYTHING. I THINK IT WANTS AN AGREEMENT WHICH IS DECENT AND SENSIBLE AND IF DESPITE MONTHS AND MONTHS AND HOURS AND HOURS OF TALKS, IF DESPITE ALL THOSE MILES OF AIRLINE TRAVEL WHICH THE MEMBERS OF OUR TEAM HAVE CLOCKED UP IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS, IF DESPITE ALL THAT, DESPITE THE BEST EFFORTS OF SIR ROBIN MCLAREN AND HIS TEAM, WE HAVEN'T GOT AN AGREEMENT, THEN WE SHALL HAVE TO TAKE OUR RESPONSIBILITIES AS I DESCRIBED EARLIER.

QUESTION: HOW GOOD IS YOUR HOLIDAY? WHAT DO YOU THINK OF... THE SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST MR MURDOCH ?

GOVERNOR: I HAD AN EXTREMELY ENJOYABLE HOLIDAY. I WAS KEPT IN TOUCH WITH DEVELOPMENTS IN HONG KONG ON A REGULAR BASIS BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY BY TELEPHONE. I WAS ABLE TO HAVE A MEETING IN ITALY WITH THE FOREIGN SECRETARY SINCE WE WERE BOTH HOLIDAYING IN THAT COUNTRY AND I HAD A USEFUL DISCUSSION WITH HIM. IT WAS A GOOD HOLIDAY.

I'VE COME BACK, AS I HOPE YOU SEE, REFRESHED AND ENTHUSIASTIC NOT LEAST ENTHUSIASTIC TO CONTINUE TO READ IN THE SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST AND IN WAH KIU YAT PO THE SAME HIGH STANDARDS OF JOURNALISM, I AM SURE WRITTEN AS INDEPENDENTLY AND WITH AS MUCH INTEGRITY AS EVER. AND IF THAT HASN'T DONE ME ANY GOOD WITH THE NEW MANAGEMENT I'M NOT SURE WHAT WILL HAVE DONE, IF THERE IS ANY NEW MANAGEMENT. I'VE SEEN THE REPORTS TODAY AND, SO FAR AS I CAN JUDGE, THIS IS PURELY A COMMERCIAL MATTER AND DOESN'T IN ANY WAY BREACH ANY OF OUR LAWS. SO IT'S NOT REALLY A MATTER INTO WHICH I THINK I SHOULD GET INVOLVED, BUT I REPEAT THAT I AM SURE THAT WHOEVER OWNS THESE TWO DISTINGUISHED NEWSPAPERS, THOSE WHO RUN THEM AND THOSE WHO WRITE THEM WILL CONTINUE TO SHOW THOSE SAME HIGH STANDARDS OF JOURNALISTIC INDEPENDENCE WHICH ARE THE CRUCIAL PART OF FREEDOM OF THE PRESS IN A FREE SOCIETY. THAT'S MEANT VERY SERIOUSLY AND IF THAT DOESN'T HAPPEN THEN HONG KONG WOULD BE ALL THE POORER.

THE VALUES WHICH ARE EXPLICITLY STATED IN THE JOINT DECLARATION, THE VALUES WHICH HAVE CREATED ALL THIS, ARE THE SORT OF VALUES WHICH INCREASING NUMBERS OF PEOPLE ARE GOING TO TURN TO OVER THE NEXT DECADES. HONG KONG AND WHAT HONG KONG STANDS FOR IS A VISION OF THE FUTURE, NOT A BLAST FROM THE PAST AND THAT VERY MUCH INCLUDES FREEDOM OF THE PRESS.

GOVERNMENT TO GO COMPUTERISED

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THE GOVERNMENT EXPECTS TO SPEND MORE THAN \$1 BILLION OVER THE NEXT THREE YEARS ON COMPUTERISATION, THE SECRETARY FOR THE TREASURY, MR DONALD TSANG, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY WEEK ROADSHOW, MR TSANG SAID THE SCHEME INCLUDED MAJOR PROJECTS FOR THE POLICE, INLAND REVENUE, IMMIGRATION AND EDUCATION DEPARTMENTS.

IT ALSO INCLUDES THE ELECTRONIC DATA INTERCHANGE SYSTEM WHICH WILL ENABLE THE GOVERNMENT TO ACCEPT ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS OF EXPORT LICENCES AND TRADE DECLARATIONS FROM TRADERS.

HE ADDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS ALSO LAUNCHING A MAJOR INITIATIVE ON OFFICE AUTOMATION WHICH HAD EXCITING POSSIBILITIES.

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109 EX-CHINA VIETNAMESE REPATRIATED

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A TOTAL OF 109 EX-CHINA VIETNAMESE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS (ECVII'S) WERE REPATRIATED TO CHINA TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE GROUP COMPRISED 42 MEN, 29 WOMEN AND 38 MINORS UNDER 16 YEARS OF AGE.

THIS WAS THE FIRST BATCH OF ECVII'S RETURNED TO CHINA UNDER AN AGREEMENT REACHED BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CHINESE OFFICIALS AT A MEETING IN GUANGZHOU ON AUGUST 23.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE SECOND BATCH WILL BE REPATRIATED WITHIN ONE TO TWO WEEKS.

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CONTAINER TERMINAL 8 OPENS

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THE OPENING OF THE NEW CONTAINER TERMINAL NUMBER 8 MARKS AN IMPORTANT MILESTONE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF CONTAINER PORT FACILITIES IN HONG KONG, THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MR GORDON SIU, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE NEW TERMINAL, MR SIU SAID IT ADDED 58 HECTARES OF LAND TO THE CONTAINER PORT AND WOULD INCREASE TERMINAL CAPACITY BY 1.8 MILLION TEU'S A YEAR, LIFTING THE TERRITORY'S TOTAL TERMINAL CAPACITY TO 7.2 MILLION TEU'S.

"TO ALL OF US, THIS ADDITIONAL CAPACITY MEANS ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR BUSINESS," HE SAID.

MR SIU SAID TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL CAPACITY TO MEET ANTICIPATED GROWTH IN DEMAND TERMINAL 9 WOULD BE BUILT ON TSING YI ISLAND, ADDING THAT DEVELOPMENT AFTER TERMINAL 9 WOULD TAKE PLACE ON LANTAU ISLAND.

"AS WE DID IN PAST CASES, THE GOVERNMENT WILL PROVIDE THE NECESSARY INFRASTRUCTURE AND INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS WHICH BEST SUIT THE DEVELOPMENT NEEDS OF HONG KONG AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR WILL BUILD AND OPERATE THE NEW TERMINAL FACILITIES.

"EXPERIENCE HAS SHOWN THAT IN THE HONG KONG CONTEXT, THIS ARRANGEMENT WORKS WELL. OUR ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE CONFIRMS THE VALUE OF THE GOVERNMENT'S PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR," HE SAID.

MR SIU SAID HONG KONG WAS NOW THE WORLD'S 10TH LARGEST TRADING ENTITY AND CONTINUED TO BE THE WORLD'S LARGEST PORT IN TERMS OF THE NUMBER OF CONTAINERS HANDLED.

"GROWTH CONTINUES TO BE STRONG. THE MOST RECENT FIGURES SUGGEST A GROWTH IN THROUGHPUT IN THE ORDER OF 18 PER CENT BY YEAR'S END," HE SAID.

"BUT IT DOESN'T END THERE," HE ADDED. "WE EXPECT OUR ECONOMY TO CONTINUE TO GROW AS WILL OUR TRADE. REGIONAL BUSINESS WILL CONTINUE TO GO TO LOCATIONS WITH EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT FACILITIES."

"WE MUST THEREFORE NOT SIT ON OUR LAURELS. WE MUST MAINTAIN THE PUSH TO IMPROVE OUR FACILITIES AND STANDARDS TO MEET THE NEW AND EVER-CHANGING DEMANDS AND TO MAINTAIN OUR COMPETITIVE EDGE," HE SAID.

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ALTERNATIVE LORRY PARKING SPACES FOUND

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS MADE ITS BEST ENDEAVOURS TO FIND ALTERNATIVE SITES FOR LORRY PARKING IN THE WESTERN DISTRICT IN THE PAST TWO MONTHS, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE NUMBER OF GOODS VEHICLES USING THE 200-SPACE VEHICLE PARK WHICH WAS CLOSED AT THE END OF JULY WAS ABOUT 150.

AT PRESENT, UP TO ABOUT 330 LORRIES, INCLUDING ABOUT 30 DANGEROUS GOODS VEHICLES, ARE USING THE 400 SPACES OF ANOTHER VEHICLE PARK THAT IS DUE TO CLOSE BY MID-SEPTEMBER TO MAKE WAY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE WESTERN HARBOUR CROSSING.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE PROJECT CONSORTIUM HAD ALREADY GEARED UP TO START WORK AND WAS REQUIRED TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT WITHIN 48 MONTHS.

ANY FURTHER DELAYS CAUSED BY A DEFERRED HANDING OVER OF THE VEHICLE PARK WOULD AFFECT THE COMPLETION OF THIS IMPORTANT TRANSPORT FACILITY.

SINCE THE END OF JULY, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT HAS, IN CO-ORDINATION WITH OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AND DRIVERS' REPRESENTATIVES, IDENTIFIED ABOUT 490 PARKING SPACES WHICH ARE SUITABLE FOR USE BY LORRIES.

ALL OF THEM WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE BY MID-SEPTEMBER. THEY INCLUDE 220 OFF-STREET SPACES AND 270 ON-STREET SPACES, SPREADING OVER WESTERN DISTRICT AND SIU SAI WAN, CHAI WAN.

THIS SHOULD ALSO PROVIDE SUFFICIENT AND SUITABLE SPACES FOR THE PARKING OF DANGEROUS GOODS VEHICLES.

BY THE MIDDLE OF NEXT YEAR, ABOUT 400 MORE SPACES ARE EXPECTED TO BE MADE AVAILABLE IN WESTERN DISTRICT AND QUARRY BAY.

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT HAS HELD MEETINGS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF LORRY DRIVERS AND SOME DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS. THE NEW PARKING SPACES HAVE BEEN EXPLAINED AND OFFERED TO THEM.

IT IS REGRETTABLE THAT THE DRIVERS' REPRESENTATIVES WERE NOT SATISFIED WITH THE OFFER.

THEY INDICATED THEIR PREFERENCE TO STAY IN THE EXISTING VEHICLE PARK FOR SO LONG AS OTHER LARGE OFF-STREET PARKING SPACES IN WESTERN DISTRICT WOULD BE AVAILABLE.

TO EXPRESS THEIR DISSATISFACTION, THEY PETITIONED LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLORS AND HAVE APPLIED TO THE POLICE FOR STAGING A SLOW DRIVE TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

THE DEPARTMENT HAS ATTENDED A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND WORKS COMMITTEE OF THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD THIS (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON. THE PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE PARKING SPACES WERE EXPLAINED TO MEMBERS AT THE MEETING.

AFTER THE MEETING, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, MR C C CHAN, SAID THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT HAD ALSO HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH THE WESTERN HARBOUR CROSSING CONSORTIUM AND CONTRACTORS.

IT HAD BEEN CONFIRMED BY NOON TODAY THAT IN ORDER TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT, IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE TO INDEFINITELY DEFER THE TAKING OVER OF THE VEHICLE PARK.

HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF THE SUGGESTIONS MADE BY ALL CONCERNED, INCLUDING SOME LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS, DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AND DRIVERS' REPRESENTATIVES, THE CONSORTIUM HAS CRITICALLY REVIEWED THE WORKS PROGRAMME AND HAS PREPARED, AS A LAST RESORT AND EXPRESSION OF GOODWILL, TO RE-OPEN THE FORMER VEHICLE PARK UNTIL THE END OF SEPTEMBER, WHICH HAS ALREADY BEEN CLOSED TO VEHICLE PARKING AT THE END OF JULY.

"IT IS EXPECTED THAT THIS SITE, WHICH CAN ACCOMMODATE 200 LORRIES, WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE FROM MONDAY (SEPTEMBER 6)," MR CHAN SAID.

HE STRESSED THAT NO MORE DEFERMENTS COULD BE MADE WITHOUT CAUSING DELAYS TO THE COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT.

MR CHAN APPEALED TO THE LORRY DRIVERS TO ABANDON THE PROPOSED SLOW DRIVE TOMORROW IN THE INTEREST OF THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC.

TOGETHER WITH PARTIES CONCERNED, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO TRY TO MAKE AVAILABLE MORE ALTERNATIVE PARKING SPACES FOR LORRIES IN THE LONGER TERM.

ONE POSSIBILITY IS THE SITE ON TELEGRAPH BAY RECLAMATION. IN ORDER TO MAKE IT AVAILABLE FOR PARKING, AN ACCESS ROAD IS REQUIRED.

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT IS WORKING TOGETHER WITH THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY.

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LEGAL DEPARTMENT INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR COUNSEL POSTS

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THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT INVITES LEGAL PROFESSIONALS TO JOIN THE FAMILY OF GOVERNMENT LAWYERS, BE A CROWN COUNSEL AND TAKE UP A CHALLENGING JOB WHICH IS OF REAL VALUE TO THE HONG KONG COMMUNITY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT WAS FULLY COMMITTED TO A PROGRAMME OF LOCALISATION, AND PREFERENCE WOULD BE GIVEN TO LOCAL APPLICANTS.

"IT HAS BEEN THE AIM OF THIS DEPARTMENT TO HAVE SUFFICIENT LOCAL OFFICERS TO FILL MOST OF THE SENIOR POSTS BY 1995/96.

"THE DEPARTMENT'S EXISTING LOCALISATION MEASURES, WITH THE AIM OF GROOMING LOCAL CROWN COUNSEL WITH POTENTIAL TO SENIOR CROWN COUNSEL AND FOR FUTURE PROMOTION TO FILL DIRECTORATE POSTS, ARE SERVING THEIR PURPOSE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

AT PRESENT, AT THE NON-DIRECTORATE LEVEL, OVER 55 PER CENT OF THE CROWN COUNSEL ARE LOCALS.

A CROWN COUNSEL DEPLOYED IN THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S CHAMBERS WILL UNDERTAKE CRIMINAL ADVOCACY, CIVIL LITIGATION, LEGAL ADVISORY WORK, LEGISLATIVE DRAFTING (INCLUDING BILINGUAL LEGISLATION), COMMERCIAL LAW AND LEGAL POLICY WORK.

A NEWLY APPOINTED CROWN COUNSEL WILL NORMALLY BE POSTED IN THE FIRST INSTANCE TO THE CIVIL DIVISION, THE LAW DRAFTING DIVISION OR THE PROSECUTIONS DIVISION. HE OR SHE MAY BE SUBSEQUENTLY POSTED TO OTHER DIVISIONS FOR CAREER DEVELOPMENT PURPOSES.

THE PAY SCALE FOR A CROWN COUNSEL IS \$30,150 TO \$50,230 A MONTH, THE ENTRY PAY DEPENDS ON EXPERIENCE.

AS REGARDS ENTRY REQUIREMENTS, CANDIDATES SHOULD BE:

- * ADMITTED AS SOLICITORS IN A RECOGNISED JURISDICTION AS STIPULATED UNDER THE LEGAL OFFICERS ORDINANCE AND SCHEDULE 1 TO LEGAL PRACTITIONERS ORDINANCE; OR
- * BARRISTERS WITH TWO YEARS' PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE SINCE CALL TO THE BAR IN A RECOGNISED JURISDICTION AS STIPULATED UNDER THE LEGAL OFFICERS ORDINANCE AND SCHEDULE 1 TO LEGAL PRACTITIONERS ORDINANCE.

BARRISTERS WITH THE RIGHT TO PRACTISE BUT WHO DO NOT POSSESS TWO YEARS' PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE SINCE CALL MAY ALSO APPLY.

/IF SELECTED

IF SELECTED, THEY MAY ENTER AT AN APPROPRIATE POINT BELOW THE MINIMUM OF THE CROWN COUNSEL PAY SCALE.

CANDIDATES WHO WILL COMPLETE THEIR TRAINING AS A TRAINEE SOLICITOR OR PUPILLAGE ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 30 THIS YEAR MAY ALSO APPLY.

THEIR APPOINTMENT, HOWEVER, WILL BE SUBJECT TO THEIR ADMISSION AS A SOLICITOR OR SATISFACTORY COMPLETION OF PUPILLAGE.

CANDIDATES SHOULD APPLY IN WRITING WITH A COMPLETED APPLICATION FORM (G.F. 340 (REV. 5/90)), WHICH IS OBTAINABLE FROM DISTRICT OFFICES, CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, AND A FULL C.V. TO THE SECRETARY, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION, SIXTH FLOOR, ST JOHN'S BUILDING, 33 GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG BY SEPTEMBER 25 THIS YEAR (ENQUIRIES 867 2276).

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ENTERPRISES URGED TO TRAIN SKILLED PERSONNEL

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LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR MR STEVEN POON TODAY (FRIDAY) URGED INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISES TO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN THE TRAINING OF SKILLED PERSONNEL.

"ONLY BY DOING SO CAN SOCIETY GET A CONTINUOUS SUPPLY OF SKILLED MANPOWER," HE STRESSED.

MR POON MADE THE PLEA AT THE GRADUATION CEREMONY FOR APPRENTICES OF THE ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT (EMSD).

POINTING OUT THAT MANPOWER WAS ONE OF THE MOST ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF ECONOMY, HE SAID THIS WAS ESPECIALLY TRUE FOR THE SERVICE TRADE WHICH HAD SURPASSED THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY, RESULTING IN AN EVER-INCREASING DEMAND FOR QUALIFIED PERSONNEL.

"IT IS A BLESSING THAT IN HONG KONG, THE WHOLE SOCIETY, INCLUDING THE GOVERNMENT, SEES THE TREND AND IS WILLING TO SPEND LOTS OF MANPOWER AND RESOURCES IN PROMOTING VARIOUS PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL TRAINING," HE SAID.

SINCE 1969, MORE THAN 2,700 PERSONS HAVE BEEN TRAINED UNDER THE CRAFT AND TECHNICIAN APPRENTICE SCHEME ORGANISED BY EMSD.

"I EARNESTLY URGE OTHER INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISES TO FOLLOW THE GOVERNMENT'S EXAMPLE AND ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN THE TRAINING OF SKILLED PERSONNEL," HE SAID.

GRADUATING TODAY WERE 52 TECHNICIAN APPRENTICES AND CRAFT APPRENTICES WHO HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED A FOUR-YEAR TRAINING PROGRAMME.

/THEIR THEORETICAL

THEIR THEORETICAL KNOWLEDGE WAS OBTAINED FROM STUDY AT TECHNICAL INSTITUTES, WHILE PRACTICAL SKILLS WERE ACQUIRED THROUGH A SIX-MONTH BASIC TRAINING AT THE APPRENTICE TRAINING CENTRE, FOLLOWED BY A THREE-YEAR ON-THE-JOB TRAINING IN VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE PARTICIPATING DEPARTMENTS.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE CEREMONY WERE THE DIRECTOR OF ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES, MR KWOK PING-KI, STAFF INVOLVED IN THE TRAINING PROGRAMME AND PARENTS OF THE GRADUATES.

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NEW ROADS AND DRAINS FOR SIU SAI WAN

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THE CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF ROADS AND DRAINS UNDER STAGE III OF SIU SAI WAN DEVELOPMENT.

THE PROJECT COMPRISES CONSTRUCTION OF 1,900 METRES OF ROADS AND FOOTPATHS TOGETHER WITH ASSOCIATED STORMWATER DRAINS AND SEWERS.

THE EXISTING BOX CULVERTS AT THE RECLAMATION AREA IN SIU SAI WAN WILL ALSO BE EXTENDED.

THE WORKS ALSO INCLUDE FILLING THE EXISTING TEMPORARY OPEN CHANNELS TO PROVIDE SITES FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT IN THE AREA.

CONSTRUCTION IS EXPECTED TO START IN NOVEMBER AND WILL TAKE 24 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING TENDERS IS NOON ON SEPTEMBER 24.

FORMS OF TENDER AND FURTHER PARTICULARS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DEVELOPMENT AND AIRPORT DIVISION, CIVIL ENGINEERING OFFICE, CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, SECOND FLOOR, 101 PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD, HO MAN TIN, KOWLOON.

THE WORKS HAVE BEEN DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTION WILL BE SUPERVISED BY THE DEVELOPMENT AND AIRPORT DIVISION OF THE CIVIL ENGINEERING OFFICE.

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HK AND THAILAND SHARE FIRE-FIGHTING EXPERIENCE

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ELEVEN THAI FIRE OFFICERS WHO HAVE COMPLETED A TWO-WEEK ATTACHMENT WITH THE HONG KONG FIRE SERVICES WERE TODAY (FRIDAY) PRESENTED WITH CERTIFICATES.

SPEAKING AT THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY, THE ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES, MR TSANG KWONG-YU, SAID THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE THAILAND FIRE BRIGADE HAD ESTABLISHED A LONG AND AMICABLE WORKING RELATIONSHIP OVER THE YEARS.

/ OFFICERS OF

"OFFICERS OF THE TWO BRIGADES HAVE EXCHANGED VISITS TO SHARE EXPERIENCES AND TO DISCUSS DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED," HE SAID.

"THROUGH THE EXCHANGE OF IDEAS, BOTH SIDES HAVE GAINED A LOT AND IN TURN THE COMMUNITIES CAN BE BETTER SERVED," HE ADDED.

MR TSANG TOLD THE THAI OFFICERS THAT OWING TO DIFFERENCES IN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS, WHAT THEY LEARNED HERE MIGHT NOT BE APPLIED AT THEIR HOME WITHOUT MODIFICATIONS.

DURING THEIR ATTACHMENT, THE OFFICERS STUDIED LOCAL FIRE PROTECTION PRACTICES, INCLUDING LAW, POLICY, SYSTEM AND SAFETY MEASURES, AND VISITED FACTORIES.

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HOI HONG STREET TO BE REPAIRED

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS PROPOSED TO AMEND THE SCHEME FOR THE RESUMPTION AND REPAIR OF HOI HONG STREET AND REAR LANE IN THE EASTERN DISTRICT TO ENSURE ITS PROPER MAINTENANCE AND USE IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST.

THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT WORKS ARE TO RECONSTRUCT THE STREET AND REAR LANE AND TO PROVIDE PROPER CARRIAGEWAY AND FOOTWAY.

THE ORIGINAL SCHEME WAS SET OUT IN NOTICES GAZETTED ON MARCH 28 AND APRIL 4, 1991.

AT PRESENT, HOI HONG STREET AND REAR LANE IS UNDER PRIVATE MULTIPLE OWNERSHIPS AND IS NOT PROPERLY MANAGED OR MAINTAINED.

AS A RESULT THE ROAD IS IN POOR CONDITION AND PARTLY OCCUPIED BY STALLS THAT OBSTRUCT PEDESTRIAN MOVEMENT, GIVING RISE TO CONSIDERABLE ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRAFFIC PROBLEMS.

THE RESUMPTION WILL ENABLE THE GOVERNMENT TO CLEAR THE STALLS AND TO REPAIR THE STREET TO A PROPER STANDARD FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START BY NOVEMBER 1995.

A NOTICE CONCERNING THE PROPOSED WORKS IS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE AMENDED PLAN AND SCHEME SHOWING THE PROPOSED WORKS AND LAND RESUMPTION CAN BE SEEN AT:

- * THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG;
- * THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, 29 TAI ON STREET, GROUND FLOOR, EASTERN LAW COURTS BUILDING, SAI WAN HO, HONG KONG; AND

- * THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, HONG KONG EAST, 19TH FLOOR, SOUTHORN CENTRE, 130 HENNESSY ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG.

ANY PERSON OBJECTING TO THE PROPOSAL MUST SEND HIS OBJECTION IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 2, 1993 DESCRIBING HIS INTEREST AND THE MANNER IN WHICH HE ALLEGES WILL BE AFFECTED BY THE WORKS OR USE.

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ROAD WORK TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC CIRCULATION

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THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSES TO EXTEND CHOI HA ROAD SOUTHWARDS TO JOIN CHUN WAH ROAD IN A BID TO IMPROVE THE TRAFFIC CIRCULATION IN THE AREA.

A 70-METRE-LONG CARRIAGEWAY OF WIDTHS OF NINE TO 12 METRES AND WITH FOOTWAYS ON BOTH SIDE IS TO BE CONSTRUCTED FROM THE SOUTHERN END OF CHOI HA ROAD TO CHUN WAH ROAD.

AN 80-METRE-LONG SECTION OF CHOI HA ROAD LEADING TO THE NEW ROAD WILL ALSO BE WIDENED AND RECONSTRUCTED, INCLUDING ITS JUNCTION WITH JORDAN VALLEY NORTH ROAD.

THE PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY EARLY 1995.

A NOTICE GIVING DETAILS OF THE PROPOSED WORKS HAS BEEN GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

A PLAN SHOWING THE PROPOSED WORKS CAN BE SEEN AT:

- * THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG;
- * THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE/KOWLOON EAST, YAU MA TEI CAR PARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON; AND
- * THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE, KWUN TONG DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICES BUILDING, TUNG YAN STREET, THIRD FLOOR, KOWLOON.

ANY PERSON WHO WISHES TO OBJECT TO THE PROPOSAL MAY ADDRESS HIS OBJECTION IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 2, 1993, DESCRIBING HIS INTEREST AND THE MANNER IN WHICH HE WILL BE AFFECTED BY THE PROPOSAL.

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APPOINTMENTS TO CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

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THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, MR MICHAEL LEUNG, TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED THAT MR ANDREW SO KWOK-WING HAD BEEN REAPPOINTED AS CHAIRMAN OF THE CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL.

MR SO IS THE INTERNATIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT OF CUNA MUTUAL INSURANCE GROUP AND HAS ALSO RECENTLY BEEN APPOINTED AS CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

MR LEUNG ALSO ANNOUNCED THE APPOINTMENTS OF THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS TO THE COUNCIL:

- * MISS FUNG PIK-YEE, A TEACHER IN HEEP WOH PRIMARY SCHOOL;
- * MRS ALICE CHENG YAU SHUK-KI, PRINCIPAL OF NORTHCOTE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION;
- * MR LI SHIU-TSANG, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF LI PO CHUN ESTATES LTD;
- * MR SEID SUN-NG, A TEACHER IN LINGNAN SECONDARY SCHOOL.

IN ADDITION, THE FOLLOWING SERVING MEMBERS HAVE BEEN REAPPOINTED:

- * MR AU PAK-KUEN, A TEACHER IN SHAU KEI WAN GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL;
- * DR JACK CHAN CHAM-KIT, DIRECTOR, CENTRE FOR EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, HONG KONG BAPTIST COLLEGE;
- * MR CHAN KAI-YEEN, PRINCIPAL OF BISHOP WALSH SCHOOL;
- * MR FRANK NG HAK-TSUN, PRINCIPAL OF BISHOP HALL MEMORIAL PREVOCATIONAL SCHOOL;
- * MR DAVID TO CHI-SHANG, PRINCIPAL OF UNITED CHRISTIAN COLLEGE;
- * DR LEUNG YAT-MING, A LECTURER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM STUDIES, FACULTY OF EDUCATION, UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG;
- * MR CHOI CHEE-CHEONG, SECRETARY OF HONG KONG EXAMINATIONS AUTHORITY;
- * MRS ESTHER FUNG YUEN YAU-KIT, CHAIRMAN OF THE KWUN TONG GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION;
- * MS LEE WAI-LING, PRINCIPAL OF PO LEUNG KUK NG TOR TAI KINDERGARTEN;
- * MRS LAURA LING LAU YUET-FUN, PRINCIPAL OF SHA TIN PUBLIC SCHOOL;

- * MR KENNETH TING WOO-SHOU, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF KADER INDUSTRIAL LTD;
- * MRS EUNICE WONG LAM YUEN-CHING, PRINCIPAL OF ST CLARE'S GIRLS' SCHOOL;
- * MR WU SIU-WAI, A TEACHER IN SHENG KUNG HUI KEI TAK PRIMARY SCHOOL;
- * MR YUNG HO-KOON, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (TECHNICAL EDUCATION) OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL.

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE) OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE TO SERVE AS THE VICE-CHAIRMAN IN HIS EX-OFFICIO CAPACITY.

ALL APPOINTMENTS ARE FOR A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR, WITH EFFECT FROM SEPTEMBER 1 THIS YEAR.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR TAI PO SEWAGE WORKS

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THE NORTH EAST NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE CIVIL ENGINEERING WORKS OF STAGE IVB OF TAI PO SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS.

THE WORKS, WHICH FORM PART OF THE CONTINUING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR THE TAI PO NEW TOWN, INCLUDE THE BUILDING OF A TANKING SYSTEM AND ASSOCIATED DRAINS.

OTHER MAJOR ITEMS INVOLVE THE INSTALLATION OF DIFFUSERS, PUMPS, PIPE WORK, CHEMICAL DOSING SYSTEMS AND ELECTRONIC MONITORING EQUIPMENT; PROVISION OF ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL FACILITIES AND ASSOCIATED PIPE WORK FOR THE AERATION PROCESS; AS WELL AS PROVISION OF INTERNAL ROADS AND LIGHTING AND FOAMING CONTROL FACILITIES.

THE WORKS ARE EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN NOVEMBER FOR COMPLETION IN TWO YEARS.

A NOTICE OF THE TENDER INVITATION WAS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

TENDER FORMS AND FURTHER PARTICULARS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM BALFOURS INTERNATIONAL (ASIA) CONSULTANT ENGINEERS LIMITED, 10TH FLOOR, 1 KOWLOON PARK DRIVE, TSIM SHA TSUI.

THE TENDER CLOSING DATE IS NOON ON OCTOBER 15.

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1993

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RADIO SERIES TO PROMOTE HARMONIOUS FAMILY LIFE

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THE FIRST EPISODE OF A SERIES ON FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION WILL BE ON AIR ON RTHK RADIO 5 AT 11 AM TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

JOINTLY PRODUCED BY RTHK AND THE COMMITTEE ON FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN, THE HOUR-LONG PROGRAMME IS TO BE BROADCAST LIVE THROUGH AM 783 FOR 13 WEEKENDS.

"BECAUSE OF GOOD RESPONSE FROM THE AUDIENCE TO THE PREVIOUS SERIES WHICH ENDED IN JULY, THE SECOND SERIES WERE PRODUCED," THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE, MISS CHUNG WOON-CHEUNG, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

ENTITLED "HARMONIOUS LIFE", THE PROGRAMME WILL FOCUS ON WAYS TO ENHANCE EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION AMONG FAMILY MEMBERS.

TELEVISION ARTISTE CHAN MAN-YEE AND AN EXPERIENCED SOCIAL WORKER WILL BE PRESENT ON EVERY SHOW.

AUDIENCES ARE WELCOME TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS BY PHONING IN OR WRITING TO THE PROGRAMME. THEY WILL ALSO HAVE A CHANCE TO WIN FABULOUS PRIZES.

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TOWN PLANNING BOARD TO REVIEW OUTLINE ZONING PLANS

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THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS REFERRED FIVE OUTLINE ZONING PLANS (OZP) TO THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION AND AMENDMENTS TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES, THE GAZETTE ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE PLANS ARE SHEK KIP MEI OZP NO. S/K4/3, HO MAN TIN OZP NO. S/K7/4, WANG TAU HOM AND TUNG TAU OZP NO. S/K8/6, MA TAU KOK OZP NO. S/K10/6 AND KOWLOON TONG OZP NO. LK18/10A.

THEY WERE APPROVED BY THE BOARD BETWEEN MAY 1982 AND DECEMBER 1989.

"THE BOARD WILL REVISE THE PLANS, WHICH, AFTER INCORPORATING THE LATEST AMENDMENTS, WILL BE EXHIBITED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION IN DUE COURSE," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE BOARD SAID.

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ZONINGS IN DRAFT MONG KOK PLAN REVIVED

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THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD HAS REFUSED TO APPROVE THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION'S DEVELOPMENT SCHEME PLAN FOR SHAMCHUN STREET, MONG KOK (NO. S/K3/LDC2/1) IN THE LIGHT OF OBJECTIONS RECEIVED.

THE BOARD'S DECISION HAS BEEN ENDORSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

A 0.35-HECTARE AREA BOUNDED BY ARGYLE STREET, CANTON ROAD, NELSON STREET AND SHAMCHUN STREET HAS BEEN ZONED "COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT AREA" ON THE CORPORATION'S DEVELOPMENT SCHEME PLAN.

AS A RESULT OF THE DECISION, THE ORIGINAL ZONINGS - "GOVERNMENT/INSTITUTION/COMMUNITY", "RESIDENTIAL (GROUP A)" AND "ROAD" - AS SHOWN ON THE REVISED DRAFT MONG KOK OUTLINE ZONING PLAN NO. S/K3/7 HAVE BEEN REVIVED.

COPIES OF THE REVISED OUTLINE ZONING PLAN ARE AVAILABLE AT THE SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG; AND AT THE KOWLOON MAP SALES SECTION, 382 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

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FEEES REVISED FOR PROCESSING BUILDING PLANS

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FEEES FOR PROCESSING BUILDING PLANS HAVE BEEN REVISED TO BRING THEM UP TO COST-RECOVERY LEVEL.

PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE FEE REVISION ARE CONTAINED IN THE BUILDING (ADMINISTRATION) (AMENDMENT) (NO. 3) REGULATION 1993 GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE AMENDMENT REGULATION WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON SEPTEMBER 24, 1993.

A BUILDINGS DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID: "THE FEE REVISION REPRESENTS THE FINAL PHASE OF THE PLAN TO RECOVER THE FULL COST OF PROCESSING BUILDING PLANS. THEREAFTER, WE AIM TO ADJUST THE FEEES ANNUALLY IN LINE WITH ANY INCREASE IN COST IN FUTURE."

FEEES FOR PROCESSING BUILDING PLANS WERE FIRST INTRODUCED IN 1991 AT A RATE OF 25 PER CENT OF THE FULL COST. THE FEEES WERE ADJUSTED TO 50 PER CENT OF THE FULL COST IN 1992 BEFORE BEING BROUGHT UP TO FULL COST NOW.

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THE FEEES AT THE NEW RATE WILL YIELD MORE THAN \$200 MILLION IN REVENUE A YEAR, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1993

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS
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	\$ MILLION -----
OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,175
REVERSAL OF LAF	-175
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	2,000
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	-275
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,725
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER	TWI 112.5 *+0.1* 3.9.93

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS

EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.73 PCT	14 MONTHS	2411	4.625	101.48	3.38
1 MONTH	2.78 PCT	17 MONTHS	2502	4.75	101.71	3.55
3 MONTHS	2.82 PCT	20 MONTHS	2505	4.75	99.97	3.80
6 MONTHS	3.01 PCT	23 MONTHS	2508	4.625	101.31	3.96
12 MONTHS	3.25 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 10,273 MN

CLOSED SEPTEMBER 3, 1993

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