



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 842 8777

TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 1992

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GOVERNOR PRESENTS INSIGNIA TO 107

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INSIGNIA FOR 107 PEOPLE WERE PRESENTED BY THE GOVERNOR, LORD WILSON, AT A CEREMONY AT THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE THIS (TUESDAY) EVENING.

SEVENTY-FOUR RECIPIENTS WERE DECORATED OR COMMENDED BY THE QUEEN FOR SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC, WHILE 33 WERE AWARDED THE GOVERNOR'S COMMENDATIONS.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE LIST OF INSIGNIA RECIPIENTS:

CBE MRS ANSON MARIA ELIZABETH CHAN FANG

MR MICHAEL LEUNG MAN-KIN

THE HON NATHANIEL WILLIAM HAMISH MACLEOD

OBE MR CHRISTOPHER CHENG WAI-CHEE

THE HON EDWARD HO SING-TIN

PROFESSOR POON CHUNG-KWONG

HON OBE MR DENYS EAMONN CONNOLLY

ISO DR TERENCE CHAU TUEN-YIN

MR KETSING TATY KUO

MBE MR WILLIAM CHAM WAI-LIM

MR VICWOOD CHONG KEE-TING

MR LI SHIU-TONG

MR NG HIM-WO

MRS LILIAN NG KWAN MAN-CHUN

MR FAROUK ABDUL RAMJAHN

MR YOUNG CHOY

HON MBE MR DAVID CUPERTINO DA SILVA

MR LAW TING-PONG

MR YIP HING-CHUNG

MBE MIL MAJOR ERIC LEE HEUNG-CHEUK

CAPTAIN JAMES COLIN JOHN

/BEM

BEM

MRS MARY BAGRIE
MR CHAN YUE-HING
MR CHENG KAM-PO
MRS MAUREEN MARGARET DICKINSON
MR FOK SIU-PONG
MR LAI MAN-KIT
MR NICHOLAS LAU CHUN-KONG
MR LO SHU-KAY
MRS LUK LEUNG MO-CHING
MR MAK KWOK-HUNG
MISS GLADYS MARCH
MR POON KWOK-CHU
MR SIN YUK-KEE
MR TANG KAY
MR TO SHIU WING
MR WONG YAU-CHUEN
MR YEUNG PAK-KWAI

BEM MIL

SERGEANT MARK JAMES
MR DHANBAHADUR THAPA
MR TONG SHU WAH

QPM

ISM

CPM

MR JAMES KENNETH EWAN
MR SO YAU-CHAN
MR SPENCER FOO TSUN-KONG
MR MICHAEL WILLIAM HORNER
MR WILLIAM RICHARD WORRALL
MR PETER HEYWOOD CUMMINGS
MR PAUL EUSTACE SMITH
MR ERNEST BAILEY

/MR WONG

MR WONG YING-CHUNG
MR CHAN FU
MR LAU MAN-KWONG
MR CHAN CHI-HING
MR WONG FUK-KUEN
MR LOO WING-LAM
MR JOSEPH LAW
MR CHOI KING-SANG

BADGE OF HONOUR

MR CHRISTOPHER CHAN CHEUK
MR CHAN KAM-MAN
MR CHANG FOON-LAM
MR CHAU MUN
MR CHENG FAI-NAM
MR CHEUNG NIM-PING
MR RAYMOND CHOW WAI-KAM
MR CHUNG YIN
MR HO KWOK-WING
MR LAI YU-WING
MR MAK HON-KAI
MR NG WAI-KWONG
MR TAM WING-KUN
MADAM TSANG WEI-FONG
MR WONG PO-LAM
MR YEUNG TAK-WAH

GOVERNOR'S COMMENDATIONS

MR ANTHONY EDMUND ROBEY
MR KWOK CHI-MING
MR LAM WAI-NIN

MR LEUNG SIU-MAN
MR CHEUNG WAI-HAY
MR CHANG MAN-KIN
MR HO KIM-MING
MR LEUNG KWOK-PIU
MR SARMUKH SINGH
MR FUNG KWAN-YUET

GOVERNOR'S

COMMENDATIONS FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

MR CHAN CHEE-SING
MS CHAN SIU
MR CHAN SUNG-IP
MR CHENG KAM-WAH
MR CHENG YUK-CHOY
MR CHUI KIM-LING
MS HO HOP-FOON
MR HO WING-CHUEN
MR KAN TIT-HO
MR KU SZE-CHUNG
MR LAM SAI-HUNG
MR LEE CHAT
MR LEE KIN-WAI
MR LEUNG PING-ON
MR LING MAN-HOI
MR MAK MING
MR PANG KING-WO
MR MICHAEL JOHN TRELOAR ROWSE
MR TSANG KAM-MIN

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MR TSE FOOK-LAM
MR WONG KIN-WING
MR WONG WAH-CHEONG
MR WU KI-FOOK

ORDER OF ST JOHN

MR IVOR DALGLEISH

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WALLED CITY PHASE II-B CLEARANCE COMPLETED

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THE PHASE II-B OF THE WALLED CITY CLEARANCE WAS COMPLETED SHORTLY AFTER 5 PM TODAY (TUESDAY), A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

A TOTAL OF 131 HOUSEHOLDS WERE RECOVERED. OF THIS NUMBER, 96 PREMISES WERE FOUND TO BE VACANT, SIX HOUSEHOLDS LEFT VOLUNTARILY WHILE 24 LEFT ON PERSUASION. ONLY FIVE HAD TO BE EVICTED.

TWO POLICE OFFICERS, ONE WORKER AND ONE BUILDINGS AND LANDS STAFF MEMBER WERE ATTACKED AND INJURED BY A CLEAREE DURING THE OPERATION. THEY HAVE BEEN TREATED AND DISCHARGED FROM HOSPITAL.

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BUILDINGS IN SHEUNG WAN DECLARED DANGEROUS

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY HAS DECLARED THE BUILDING AT 47 BONHAM STRAND IN SHEUNG WAN TO BE DANGEROUS WHILE 49 OF THE STREET LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS.

IN A STATEMENT ISSUED TODAY (TUESDAY), THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING SURVEYOR (PGBS) POINTED OUT THAT THE STRUCTURES WERE FOUR-STORY PRE-WAR ONES WITH COCKLOFTS, AND CONSTRUCTED OF LOADBEARING BRICKWALLS.

THE BUILDING AT 47 HAS TIMBER FLOOR, STAIRCASES AND ROOF JOISTS AND 49 HAS PARTLY TIMBER AND PARTLY CONCRETE STAIRCASE AND FLOORS AND TIMBER ROOF JOISTS.

HE SAID THE BUILDINGS HAD BEEN UNDER OBSERVATION BY THE DANGEROUS BUILDINGS SECTION OF THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE FOR QUITE SOME TIME AND REPAIR ORDERS HAD TWICE BEEN ISSUED TO BOTH THE BUILDINGS.

/TIE-BARS

TIE-BARS HAVE ALSO BEEN INSTALLED IN 47 TO RESTRAIN THE FLANK WALL ABUTTING MAN WA LANE.

RECENT INSPECTIONS HAVE SHOWN THAT THE MOVING OF THE FLANK WALL AND THE FRONT WALL OF 47 BONHAM STRAND HAD OCCURRED AND RESULTED IN EXTENSIVE FRACTURING OF THE BRICK WORK AND WIDENING OF THE OLD FRACTURES.

SOME OF THE FRACTURES HAVE EXTENDED THE WHOLE HEIGHT OF THE BUILDING AND GENERALLY OCCURRED NEAR THE TIE-BARS AND WINDOW OPENINGS INDICATING THAT THE TIE-BARS ARE NO LONGER SUPPORTING THE WALL AND THE BUILDING.

BESIDES, ABOUT HALF OF THE STRUCTURAL TIMBER JOISTS WERE IN A SERIOUSLY DEFECTIVE CONDITION WITH THE REMAINDER ALSO FOUND DEFECTIVE TO A LESSER DEGREE, HE SAID.

THE PGBS SAID THERE WAS A DISTINCT DANGER OF COLLAPSE OF THE FLANK WALL TO THE BUILDING AT 47 BONHAM STRAND.

IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE LIVES AND PROPERTIES OF THE OCCUPIERS AND THE HAWKERS ALONG THE SIDE WALL AND THE PUBLIC AT MAN WA LANE, THE BUILDING SHOULD BE CLOSED AS BEING DANGEROUS AND SUBSEQUENTLY BE DEMOLISHED.

MEANWHILE, IT IS CONSIDERED THAT THE BUILDING AT 49 BONHAM STRAND IS IN LESS DILAPIDATED CONDITION BUT EXHIBITING SIMILAR SIGNS OF DISTRESS TO A LESSER EXTENT AND COULD NOT SAFELY WITHSTAND THE DEMOLITION OF THE STRUCTURE AT 47.

THEREFORE, IT SHOULD ALSO BE CLOSED AS BEING LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS AND BE DEMOLISHED AS A JOINT OPERATION WITH THE STRUCTURE AT 47.

NOTICES OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR CLOSURE ORDERS FROM THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT ON MAY 19 WERE POSTED ON THE PREMISES TODAY.

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PARTS OF BLUE POOL ROAD BUILDINGS TO BE CLOSED

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY TODAY (TUESDAY) DECIDED TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PARTS OF THE BUILDINGS AFFECTED BY A LANDSLIDE IN BLUE POOL ROAD, HAPPY VALLEY.

PART OF THE REAR PORTIONS OF THE BUILDINGS AT 33,35 AND 37 BLUE POOL ROAD WERE DAMAGED BY MUD WASHED DOWN FROM THE SLOPE BEHIND.

THE PARTS TO BE CLOSED INCLUDE:

* THE WHOLE OF THE GROUND FLOOR, INCLUDING THE BACK YARD AND GARAGE OF 33-35.

/* THE REAR

* THE REAR PORTION, INCLUDING THE REAR STAIRCASE, TOILET AND KITCHEN OF THE FIRST AND SECOND FLOOR OF 33-35.

* THE SINGLE-STOREY STRUCTURE AT THE BACK YARD OF 37.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO CLOSE THESE PARTS OF THE BUILDINGS WERE POSTED UP THIS AFTERNOON, AND A COURT ORDER WILL BE APPLIED TOMORROW.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE BUILDING ORDINANCE OFFICE SAID THE BUILDINGS WOULD BE FURTHER EXAMINED WHEN REMEDIAL WORKS ON THE SLOPE CONCERNED WERE COMPLETED.

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ISSUE OF GUIDANCE NOTE TO OVERSEAS LONG TERM INSURERS

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THE INSURANCE AUTHORITY HAS INFORMED ALL OVERSEAS LIFE INSURERS AUTHORISED TO CARRY ON BUSINESS IN OR FROM HONG KONG OF WHAT IS REGARDED BY THE AUTHORITY AS BEING THE MINIMUM LEVEL OF LOCAL ESTABLISHMENT NECESSARY TO BE MAINTAINED IN HONG KONG FOR THE PROPER CONDUCT OF THEIR BUSINESS IN HONG KONG.

THE REQUIREMENTS CONTAINED IN THE LONG TERM INSURANCE BUSINESS: GUIDANCE NOTE NO. 1 STIPULATES THAT THE MINIMUM LEVEL OF ESTABLISHMENT WILL INCLUDE THE APPOINTMENT BY THE INSURER OF A LOCAL CHIEF EXECUTIVE WHO WOULD BE DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THAT INSURER'S HONG KONG OPERATIONS.

INSURERS ARE ALSO ASKED TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A POLICY HOLDERS' SERVICE CENTRE TO DEAL DIRECTLY WITH HONG KONG POLICY HOLDERS AND TO MAINTAIN IN HONG KONG A HONG KONG POLICY HOLDER REGISTER AND SUPPORTING RECORDS WHICH WILL ENABLE THAT INSURER'S COMMITMENT TO HONG KONG POLICY HOLDERS TO BE READILY IDENTIFIED.

FAILURE TO DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN A PROPER LOCAL ESTABLISHMENT IS CONSIDERED BY THE AUTHORITY TO BE CONTRARY TO THE REASONABLE EXPECTATION AND GENERAL INTERESTS OF PERSONS WHO ARE OR MAY BECOME POLICY HOLDERS OF AN AUTHORISED INSURERS.

"THE MAJOR INSURERS OPERATING IN THE LOCAL MARKET ALREADY HAVE ADEQUATE LOCAL FACILITIES PROVIDING A HIGH LEVEL OF SERVICE TO POLICY HOLDERS," THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE, MR DEREK SULLIVAN, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

"IN FACT IT IS NOW AN AUTHORISATION CONDITION FOR NEW INSURERS ENTERING INTO THE MARKET THAT A PROPER LOCAL ESTABLISHMENT IS FORMED AND MAINTAINED," HE ADDED.

"THERE ARE HOWEVER A MINORITY OF AUTHORISED OVERSEAS LIFE INSURERS WHOSE LOCAL ESTABLISHMENT AT PRESENT DOES NOT COME UP TO STANDARD," HE NOTED.

"IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THOSE OVERSEAS INSURERS, PARTICULARLY IF THEY INTEND PARTICIPATING IN THE CONSIDERABLE GROWTH BEING EXPERIENCED BY THE LOCAL LIFE INSURANCE INDUSTRY, ENSURE THAT THEY HAVE A PROPER LOCAL ESTABLISHMENT IN COMPLIANCE WITH MARKET STANDARDS," HE SAID.

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SPEL INSPECTS NORTHWEST KOWLOON SEWAGE PROJECT
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THE NEWLY-APPOINTED SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS, MR A.G. EASON, TODAY (TUESDAY) PAID HIS FIRST SITE VISIT TO AN IMPORTANT SEWAGE TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL PROJECT.

IT IS PART OF HIS FAMILIARISATION PROGRAMME SINCE HE TOOK OFFICE THIS MONTH.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE DIRECTOR OF DRAINAGE SERVICES, MR SIU CHUEN, THE SECRETARY WAS BRIEFED AT THE CONSTRUCTION SITE OF THE NORTHWEST KOWLOON SEWAGE TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL SCHEME THAT THE PROJECT WAS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE PLAN TO IMPROVE WATER QUALITY IN THE COASTAL WATERS.

THIS SCHEME WILL COLLECT, TREAT AND DISCHARGE SEWAGE FROM A POPULATION OF OVER ONE MILLION IN SHAM SHUI PO, MONG KOK AND YAU MA TEI DISTRICTS TO AN AREA IN THE SEA, SOUTHWEST OF STONECUTTERS ISLAND.

THE SCHEME IS BEING IMPLEMENTED AT AN ESTIMATED COST OF OVER \$1.35 BILLION AND IT IS THE DRAINAGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S LARGEST CURRENT PROJECT.

AT PRESENT, SEWAGE FROM SHAM SHUI PO IS DISCHARGED UNTREATED CLOSE TO ITS FERRY PIER, WHILE SEWAGE FROM THE OTHER TWO DISTRICTS IS ONLY PARTIALLY TREATED IN AGEING SCREENING PLANTS AND DISCHARGED A FEW HUNDRED METRES OFFSHORE THROUGH SUBMARINE OUTFALLS.

THE SCHEME WHICH IS BEING CARRIED OUT IN SEVERAL STAGES ENTAILS THE CONSTRUCTION OF INTERCEPTOR SEWERS RUNNING ALONG THE WEST KOWLOON FORESHORE TO PICK UP SEWAGE FROM THE EXISTING SYSTEMS AND THREE SCREENING PLANTS TO REMOVE GROSS SOLIDS.

A MAJOR PUMPING STATION IS ALSO BEING BUILT TO PUMP THE SEWAGE ACROSS THE HARBOUR FROM CHEUNG SHA WAN TO STONECUTTERS ISLAND THROUGH A TWIN TWO METRE-DIAMETER SUBMARINE PIPELINE FOR TREATMENT BY SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITIES ON STONECUTTERS ISLAND WITH THE EFFLUENT TO BE DISCHARGED THROUGH ANOTHER TWIN 2.2 METRE-DIAMETER SUBMARINE OUTFALL TO WATERS 600 METRES TO THE SOUTHWEST OF THE ISLAND.

THE SCHEME IS EXPECTED TO BE COMMISSIONED IN AUGUST.

MR SIU SAID THE INTERCEPTOR SEWERS TOGETHER WITH THE DISPOSAL SYSTEM WILL BE PUT INTO OPERATION TOWARDS THE LATER HALF OF THIS YEAR BEFORE THE FILLING ACTIVITIES OF THE ENCLOSED WATERS IN WEST KOWLOON RECLAMATION PROJECT STARTS.

APART FROM DIVERTING THE AGEING POLLUTION SOURCE AWAY FROM INSHORE WATERS, THE TIMELY COMPLETION OF THESE SEWERS WOULD ALSO CONSIDERABLY REDUCE THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT RESULTING FROM WORKING ACTIVITIES OF THE RECLAMATION PROJECT AS SEWAGE DISPOSAL WILL NO LONGER BE TAKING PLACE IN THE WORK SITE AREA.

/UNTIL RECENTLY

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UNTIL RECENTLY, THERE HAVE BEEN FEARS THAT RAW SEWAGE WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE POLLUTION LEVEL AS BROUGHT ABOUT BY RECLAMATION IN THE AREA WITH THE WATERS IN THE VICINITY BECOMING MORE STAGNANT.

MR SIU SAID ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION WAS ONE OF THE GOVERNMENT'S PRIORITY TASKS AND WOULD REMAIN A MAJOR AREA OF GOVERNMENT SPENDING WITH SOME \$4 BILLION BEING SPENT ON SEWAGE TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL PROJECTS.

HE TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO REITERATE THAT DESPITE THE RELATIVELY SLOWER ECONOMIC GROWTH IN THE TERRITORY, THERE WAS NO QUESTION OF THE GOVERNMENT CUTTING DOWN ON THE EXPENDITURE WITH REGARD TO THE INVESTMENT IN INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDED FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

TO REFLECT THE GOVERNMENT'S DETERMINATION IN THIS PURSUIT, MR SIU SAID THE CAPITAL EXPENDITURE OF HIS DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN INCREASED FROM \$719 MILLION IN 1990/91 TO \$1,150 MILLION IN THE FISCAL YEAR JUST ENDED.

FOR THE 1992/93 FINANCIAL YEAR, THE ESTIMATED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE WILL REACH \$1,300 MILLION.

THIS IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE FURTHER WHEN MORE "SEWERAGE MASTERPLAN SCHEMES" ARE IMPLEMENTED WITH ANNUAL CAPITAL WORKS EXPENDITURE PROJECTED TO REACH \$2.9 BILLION IN 1993/94 WHICH IS ALMOST FOUR TIMES WHEN COMPARED WITH THAT FOR 1990/91.

SOME 94 PER CENT OF THIS EXPENDITURE IS ON SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL, THE REMAINDER BEING ON STORMWATER DRAINS AND FLOOD CONTROL MEASURES.

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SPECIAL MAIL DELIVERY AT EASTER

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THE POSTMASTER GENERAL, MR DOMINIC S.W. WONG, ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT A SPECIAL MAIL DELIVERY WOULD BE PROVIDED ON SATURDAY (APRIL 18) - THE DAY FOLLOWING GOOD FRIDAY.

NO DELIVERY WILL BE MADE ON APRIL 17, 19 AND 20.

ALL POST OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED DURING THE EASTER HOLIDAYS.

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QUARRYING INDUSTRY FORGES CLOSE TIES WITH CHINA
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THE SECRETARY FOR WORKS, MR JAMES BLAKE, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) HONG KONG'S QUARRYING INDUSTRY IS ONE OF THE FIRST LOCAL INDUSTRIES TO FORGE CLOSE COMMERCIAL LINKS WITH CHINA IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF UNTAPPED ROCK RESOURCES CLOSE TO HONG KONG.

SPEAKING AT THE INSTITUTE OF QUARRYING CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION, MR BLAKE SAID FROM THE EARLY 1980S, EVER-INCREASING SUPPLIES OF AGGREGATES HAD BEEN OBTAINED FROM NEWLY ESTABLISHED QUARRIES IN THE SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES OF CHINA.

AT PRESENT, AROUND HALF THE TERRITORY'S DEMAND FOR QUARRY PRODUCTS ARE MET FROM MODERN AND HIGHLY MECHANISED QUARRIES LOCATED MOSTLY ON UNINHABITED ISLANDS IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA TO THE WEST AND SOUTH OF HONG KONG.

"IT WOULD SEEM REASONABLE TO ASSUME, THEREFORE, THAT AN INCREASING PROPORTION OF THE TERRITORY'S DEMAND FOR QUARRY PRODUCTS WILL BE MET FROM THE CHINESE ISLAND OPERATIONS MANAGED BY EXPERIENCED COMPANIES BASED IN HONG KONG.

"WE BELIEVE THIS WILL BE PARTICULARLY SO IN THE CASE OF THE SUPPLY OF AGGREGATES AND ROCK PRODUCTS TO THE PORTS AND AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY PROJECTS," HE ADDED.

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ANNUAL FOOD HYGIENE CAMPAIGN TO START IN JUNE
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THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S ANNUAL TERRITORY-WIDE FOOD HYGIENE CAMPAIGN WILL BEGIN IN JUNE.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (TUESDAY), A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE THREE-MONTH CAMPAIGN, UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE URBAN COUNCIL AND REGIONAL COUNCIL, AIMS TO PROMOTE THE ADOPTION OF GOOD FOOD HYGIENE PRACTICES SO AS TO MINIMISE THE CHANCE OF FOOD-BORNE ILLNESSES.

DURING THE PERIOD, 24 SEMINARS ON "FOOD SAFETY IS OUR TALKING POINT" WILL BE HELD AT CONVENIENTLY-LOCATED VENUES THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY FOR PEOPLE IN THE FOOD TRADE, INCLUDING LICENSEES AND STAFF OF LICENSED PREMISES, COOKED FOOD STALLS AND CANTEENS.

THE EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS WILL EACH COMPRISE A TALK, A SLIDE SHOW, A FILM ON FOOD HYGIENE AND AN OPEN DISCUSSION.

INFORMATION MATERIALS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AND EACH PARTICIPANT WILL RECEIVE A CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE AT THE END OF THE CAMPAIGN PERIOD.

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THE SPOKESMAN URGED PEOPLE IN THE FOOD TRADE TO SIGN UP FOR THE SEMINARS, ADMISSION TO WHICH IS FREE.

INVITATIONS HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE TARGET GROUPS. THOSE WHO WISH TO PARTICIPATE SHOULD RETURN THE COMPLETED ENTRY FORM BY APRIL 22.

THOSE WHO HAVE NOT RECEIVED THE INVITATION MAY CONTACT THE ORGANISER ON TEL. 787 1230.

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VIEWS ON YOUTH CHARTER POSITIVE

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VIEWS SO FAR RECEIVED ON THE DRAFT CHARTER FOR YOUTH BY THE COMMISSION ON YOUTH HAVE BEEN MOSTLY POSITIVE AND SUPPORTIVE; THE COMMISSION'S CHAIRMAN, MR ERIC LI KA-CHEUNG, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

WITH CONSULTATION PERIOD DUE TO EXPIRE ON MAY 1, MR LI HOPED THAT ALL PARTIES CONCERNED, YOUNG PEOPLE IN PARTICULAR, WOULD BE FORTHCOMING WITH VIEWS ON THE DRAFT CHARTER.

HE POINTED OUT THAT ALL POTENTIAL SUBSCRIBERS TO THE DOCUMENT, INCLUDING SCHOOLS AND STUDENT BODIES, AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED IN YOUTH DEVELOPMENT HAD BEEN INVITED TO SUBMIT THEIR VIEWS.

MR LI NOTED THAT LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLORS HAD EXPRESSED UNANIMOUS SUPPORT TO THE DOCUMENT DURING A MOTION DEBATE ON FEBRUARY 26.

MOVED BY MR LI HIMSELF, THE MOTION URGED THE GOVERNMENT TO ADOPT THE PRINCIPLES ENUNCIATED IN THE DRAFT CHARTER.

IT ALSO CALLED ON THE GOVERNMENT TO REVIEW ITS EXISTING LEGISLATION, POLICIES AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES RELATING TO YOUTH DEVELOPMENT SO AS TO ENSURE THAT THEY ARE SUFFICIENT TO MEET THOSE AIMS.

AFTER THE DEBATE, THE COMMISSION WAS INVITED TO PRESENT THE DRAFT CHARTER TO 13 DISTRICT BOARDS, A NUMBER OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, YOUTH GROUPS AND STUDENT BODIES.

"SO FAR, 11 DISTRICT BOARDS OR THEIR COMMITTEES HAVE BEEN CONSULTED," MR LI SAID.

MR LI OBSERVED THAT ALTHOUGH MOST BOARD MEMBERS FOUND THE CHARTER A NEW CONCEPT, THEY SUPPORTED THE PRINCIPLES AND ASKED THE GOVERNMENT TO PLAY A MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN PROMULGATING THESE PRINCIPLES, AND TO BECOME A SUBSCRIBER AS WELL.

"NATURALLY A LOT OF QUESTIONS WERE RAISED ON THE TEXT OF THE DOCUMENT, THE SUBSCRIPTION SYSTEM AND THE MEASURES TO MONITOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CHARTER," THE CHAIRMAN SAID.

/HE SAID

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HE SAID THE CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT HAD ALREADY PROPOSED A BIENNIAL REVIEW SYSTEM.

"UNDER THE SYSTEM, SUBSCRIBERS WOULD BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT REPORTS ON THE ACTIONS THEY HAVE TAKEN TO IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS IN THE CHARTER SO THAT COMPARISONS ON YEAR-TO-YEAR PROGRESS COULD BE MADE," HE SAID.

MEANWHILE, MR LI ALSO NOTED THAT SOME PARTIES HAVE COMMENTED THAT THE DRAFT CHARTER HAD PLACED TOO MUCH EMPHASIS ON THE RIGHTS OF YOUNG PEOPLE, WITHOUT STATING THEIR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

"THERE WERE ALSO COMMENTS ON THE LACK OF ADEQUATE REFERENCE TO CHINESE CULTURE IN THE DOCUMENT," HE SAID.

HE PROMISED THAT THE COMMISSION WOULD CAREFULLY CONSIDER ALL THESE COMMENTS AND EXAMINE WHETHER CHANGES TO THE CONTENTS AS WELL AS THE SYSTEM OF REVIEW WERE REQUIRED.

TURNING TO THE CONSULTATION WITH OTHER PARTIES, THE CHAIRMAN SAID DISCUSSION SESSIONS HAD BEEN ORGANISED WITH FRONT-LINE SOCIAL WORKERS, YOUTH GROUPS AND STUDENT UNIONS OF TERTIARY INSTITUTES.

"THE COMMISSION IS GLAD TO SEE THAT THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE, HONG KONG FEDERATION OF YOUTH GROUPS AND BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF HONG KONG HAVE ISSUED STATEMENTS CALLING FOR PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR THE CHARTER.

"OTHER ORGANISATIONS, INCLUDING THE HONG KONG JUNIOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND HONG KONG SOCIAL WORKERS' GENERAL UNION, HAVE ALSO INDICATED THEIR SUPPORT OF THE DOCUMENT," MR LI SAID.

HE SAID A NUMBER OF ORGANISATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS HAD ALSO WRITTEN TO THE COMMISSION SUPPORTING THE SPIRIT AND PRINCIPLES IN THE DRAFT CHARTER.

REFERRING TO THE CURRENT CONSULTATION EXERCISE, MR LI SAID THE COMMISSION WOULD LIKE TO SEE MORE YOUNG PEOPLE EXPRESSING THEIR VIEWS.

"AFTER ALL, THE DOCUMENT IS DESIGNED TO PROMOTE HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE," HE STRESSED.

TO ENSURE A WIDER CIRCULATION OF THE CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE, THE COMMISSION WILL BE DISTRIBUTING COPIES OF THE DOCUMENT TO STUDENTS, THROUGH THE COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB.

IT HAS ALSO WRITTEN TO YOUTH GROUPS, REMINDING THEM TO PUT FORWARD THEIR COMMENTS BEFORE THE END OF THE CONSULTATION EXERCISE.

MEANWHILE, COPIES OF THE DRAFT CHARTER ARE STILL AVAILABLE AT ALL DISTRICT OFFICES.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
TENDER RESULTS

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TENDER DATE	7 APR 92
PAPER ON OFFER	EF BILLS
ISSUE NUMBER	Q215
AMOUNT APPLIED	HKD 2,439 MN
AMOUNT ALLOTTED	HKD 500 MN
AVERAGE YIELD ACCEPTED	4.11 PCT
HIGHEST YIELD ACCEPTED	4.12 PCT
PRO RATA RATIO	ABOUT 37 PCT
AVERAGE TENDER YIELD	4.16 PCT

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

TENDER TO BE HELD IN THE WEEK BEGINNING 13 APRIL 1992 -

TENDER DATE	14 APR 92	14 MAR 92
PAPER ON OFFER	EF BILLS	EF BILLS
ISSUE NUMBER	Q216	H262
ISSUE DATE	15 APR 92	15 APR 92
MATURITY DATE	15 JULY 92	14 OCT 92
TENOR	91 DAYS	182 DAYS
AMOUNT ON OFFER	HK\$500 + 100 MN	HK\$200 + 60 MN

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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	6.4.92	1,000
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	7.4.92	-190 *
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		-110
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS AFTERNOON		NEUTRAL

* O/N ASSISTANCE TO BE REVERSED -300 MN

* OTHER FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED +110 MN

TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX 112.5 *+0.1* 7.4.92

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	4.06 PCT	20 MONTHS	2311	6.25	101.26	5.49
1 MONTH	4.03 PCT	23 MONTHS	2402	5.50	99.38	5.94
3 MONTHS	4.04 PCT					
6 MONTHS	4.26 PCT					
12 MONTHS	4.59 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 6,736 MN

CLOSED 7 APRIL 1992

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