



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1992

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ANNA WU JOINS LEGCO

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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS HAS APPROVED THE APPOINTMENT OF MS ANNA WU HUNG-YUK TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

MS WU WILL SERVE FROM JANUARY 1 NEXT YEAR UNTIL THE NEXT DISSOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL, WHICH IS EXPECTED TO BE IN 1995.

HER BRIEF PERSONALITY NOTE IS:

AGED 41, SHE IS A PRACTISING SOLICITOR AND A PARTNER OF A LEGAL FIRM.

SHE IS MARRIED WITH ONE CHILD.

MS WU IS A MEMBER OF THE CONSUMER COUNCIL, OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LAW SOCIETY OF HONG KONG AND OF THE LEGAL PRACTITIONERS DISCIPLINARY PANEL.

SHE HAS PREVIOUSLY SERVED ON THE SOCIAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

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YOUNG PEOPLE TO BE RESPONSIBLE MEMBERS OF SOCIETY: CS

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GIVEN THE PRESSURES AND TEMPTATIONS THAT FACE YOUNG PEOPLE IN HONG KONG TODAY, IT IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT THAT THEY SHOULD BE GIVEN THE HELP AND SUPPORT NECESSARY TO AVOID THE DANGERS AND PITFALLS AROUND THEM.

THOSE WHO ARE VULNERABLE NEED GUIDANCE AND HELP AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO PREPARE THEMSELVES TO BE RESPONSIBLE MEMBERS OF SOCIETY.

THIS WAS STATED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID FORD, WHEN VISITING THE CARITAS CHEUNG HONG CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRE ON TSING YI.

HE WAS GREETED BY THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR MICHAEL CARTLAND, AND THE PRESIDENT OF CARITAS HONG KONG, REV FRANCIS LERDA.

WHEN TOURING FACILITIES AT THE CENTRE, SIR DAVID WAS ABLE TO WATCH VARIOUS ACTIVITIES OF YOUTH GROUPS AND TALK TO THE YOUNG PEOPLE ABOUT THEIR VIEWS ON THE CENTRE.

"I AM PLEASED TO NOTE THAT THIS CENTRE IS SENSITIVE TO THE PROBLEM OF YOUTH AT RISK, IN REACHING OUT TO THOSE HANGING AROUND IN THE VICINITY AND BRINGING THEM BACK TO THE CENTRE, INTEGRATING THEM IN THE MAINSTREAM," SIR DAVID SAID.

/"I SEE

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"I SEE MUCH VALUE IN SOCIAL WORKERS DIRECTLY ADDRESSING THE PROBLEM OF DISAFFECTED YOUTH, A SOCIAL PROBLEM WHICH APPEARS TO BE ON THE RISE. I CERTAINLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE FAR MORE OF OUR EFFORTS CHANNELLED IN THIS DIRECTION," SIR DAVID SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID A WORKING PARTY HAD BEEN FORMED IN MARCH OF THIS YEAR TO REVIEW THE POLICY ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRES IN ORDER TO MAXIMISE THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE.

"WE MUST CONCENTRATE OUR EFFORTS ON YOUNGSTERS WHO HAVE A GREATER NEED FOR PROFESSIONAL HELP SUCH AS THOSE FACING STRESS, EMOTIONAL UPHEAVALS OR WHO ARE VULNERABLE TO UNDESIRABLE INFLUENCES AS WELL AS THOSE IN DISADVANTAGED CIRCUMSTANCES.

"THESE ARE THE GROUPS WARRANTING OUR SPECIAL ATTENTION," HE SAID.

HE WAS IMPRESSED BY THE WORK THE CENTRE STAFF WAS DOING.

"I AM PARTICULARLY DELIGHTED TO MEET THOSE YOUNG VOLUNTEERS SPENDING THEIR LEISURE TIME TO SERVE OTHERS," HE ADDED.

THE CARITAS CHEUNG HONG CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRE IS AMONG SEVEN SUCH CENTRES LOCATED ON TSING YI SERVING MORE THAN 52,000 LOCAL YOUTHS.

EARLIER, SIR DAVID VISITED THE BREAKTHROUGH CENTRE TO SEE FOR HIMSELF ITS MULTI-MEDIA YOUTH SERVICES.

SIR DAVID WAS MET BY ITS GENERAL SECRETARY, DR PHILEMON CHOI.

HE TOURED THE DESIGN OFFICE OF BREAKTHROUGH PUBLISHER, AUDIO-VISUAL CENTRE, COUNSELLING AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTRE.

BREAKTHROUGH IS A REGISTERED NON-PROFIT-MAKING YOUTH ORGANISATION SINCE 1974.

SIR DAVID WAS TOLD THAT DURING THE PAST 19 YEARS, ITS SERVICES HAD BEEN EXPANDED TO MEET THE TREMENDOUS NEEDS OF THE YOUNGER GENERATION OF HONG KONG.

AT PRESENT, THEY PROVIDE A WIDE RANGE OF SERVICES WHICH INCLUDE BOOK AND MAGAZINE PUBLICATIONS, RADIO AND TELEVISION PRODUCTIONS, COUNSELLING SERVICES, YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES, YOUTH-RELATED RESEARCH AND EDUCATION EXTENSION COURSE.

"I AM PLEASED TO NOTE THAT BREAKTHROUGH CONTINUOUSLY CHALLENGE THE YOUNGER GENERATION WITH THE POSITIVE VALUES OF LIFE, AND HELP THEM CULTIVATE THE PASSION FOR LIFE AND CONCERN FOR THE COMMUNITY," SIR DAVID SAID.

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HK WELCOMES MFA EXTENSION

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THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRADE, MR DONALD TSANG, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT HE WELCOMED THE EXTENSION OF THE MULTI-FIBRE ARRANGEMENT (MFA) AGREED UPON BY EXPORTERS AND IMPORTERS SITTING IN THE GATT TEXTILES COMMITTEE YESTERDAY IN GENEVA.

"THE PROTOCOL OF EXTENSION, ON WHICH HONG KONG AND OTHER KEY EXPORTERS HAD WORKED HARD TO CONCLUDE, WILL RUN FOR 12 MONTHS FROM JANUARY 1, 1993 AND WILL BRING CERTAINTY TO THE TRADE IN HONG KONG," HE SAID.

THE PROTOCOL, WHICH IS ESSENTIALLY A ROLLOVER OF THE PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS, WILL PROVIDE A MULTILATERAL FRAMEWORK TO COVER ALL EXISTING BILATERAL DEALS INCLUDING THE RECENTLY RE-NEGOTIATED BILATERAL WITH THE EC AND THE AUSTRIAN BILATERAL CURRENTLY BEING NEGOTIATED.

THE EXTENSION IS NECESSARY TO BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN EXPIRY OF THE PRESENT PROTOCOL AND THE COMING INTO EFFECT OF THE TEXTILES AGREEMENT UNDER THE URUGUAY ROUND.

"IT IS TO BE REGRETTED THAT THE URUGUAY ROUND HAS YET TO BE CONCLUDED AS THIS WOULD HAVE REMOVED THE NEED FOR A FURTHER EXTENSION TO THE MFA.

"I SHOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RE-AFFIRM HONG KONG'S COMMITMENT TO AN EARLY AND SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION TO THE ROUND.

"HONG KONG WILL CONTINUE TO PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE AND TO POSITIVELY ASSIST IN THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS IN GENEVA", MR TSANG SAID.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE TEXTILES COMMITTEE CONSISTS OF REPRESENTATIVES OF PARTIES TO THE MFA, INCLUDING HONG KONG, MR ARTHUR DUNKEL, DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE GATT, IS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TEXTILES COMMITTEE.

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A PLEDGE OF SERVING COMMUNITY

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A ROUND-THE-CLOCK PUBLIC TELEPHONE HOTLINE SERVICE (882 2345) AND A PATIENT RELATIONS UNIT ARE NOW IN SERVICE TO CO-ORDINATE THE INVESTIGATIONS OF COMPLAINTS AND TO ENSURE EXPEDITIOUS REPLIES TO INDIVIDUALS, THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH, DR S H LEE, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TO ELABORATE ON THE "SERVING THE COMMUNITY" SCHEME, DR LEE SAID THE PROGRAMME SET OUT THE DEPARTMENT'S PERFORMANCE PLEDGES IN THE DELIVERY OF SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC.

/DR LEE

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DR LEE SAID: "THROUGH PERFORMANCE PLEDGES THE PUBLIC WILL KNOW WHAT SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE, WHAT STANDARDS HAVE BEEN SET, WHETHER SUCH STANDARDS HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED, AND WHAT TO DO WHEN THEY ARE NOT."

THE DIRECTOR SAID THE PLEDGES WOULD FIRST START FROM GENERAL OUT-PATIENT (GOP) SERVICE AND THE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS AND TARGETS WOULD BE INTRODUCED IN PHASES.

THE FIRST PHASE OF THE SCHEME WILL COVER 15 GENERAL OUT-PATIENT CLINICS OUT OF A TOTAL OF 55 AND THIS WILL BE USED TO DEVELOP "BEST PRACTICE" TECHNIQUES WHICH WILL BE APPLIED TO OTHER CLINICS AT LATER STAGES.

DETAILS OF THE PERFORMANCE PLEDGES ARE LISTED OUT IN A SPECIALLY-PREPARED LEAFLET WHICH ARE NOW AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC.

THE DIRECTOR SAID PREPARATORY WORK INDEED START IN FULL GEAR BEFORE THE LAUNCHING OF THE SCHEME TODAY.

AMONG THEM INCLUDED THE SETTING UP OF A SERVICE IMPROVEMENT TEAM TO WORK OUT DETAILS OF IMPROVEMENT AREAS IN THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT OF THE CLINICS AND SUPPORT SERVICES.

"ANOTHER ASPECT IS TO DEVELOP A USER-FRIENDLY, CLIENT-BASED CULTURE AMONG OUR STAFF," DR LEE SAID.

TO MEET THIS END, DR LEE SAID, TRAINING COURSES HAD BEEN ORGANISED FOR DOCTORS IN CHARGE OF THE 15 TARGETED CLINICS, OTHER MIDDLE MANAGEMENT STAFF AND THE PATIENT RELATIONS OFFICERS OF THESE CLINICS RESPECTIVELY.

"THE DEPARTMENT WILL CONDUCT PUBLIC OPINION SURVEYS OF THE GOP CLINICS TO ASSESS THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THIS SCHEME," DR LEE SAID.

"IN ORDER TO MONITOR OUR ACHIEVEMENTS OF PERFORMANCE STANDARDS WE HAVE OBTAINED AGREEMENT OF THE HEALTH AND MEDICAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO ASSUME A THIRD PARTY MONITORING ROLE," HE ADDED.

THE DIRECTOR ATTACHED IMPORTANCE TO THE CONSTRUCTIVE COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC ON THE SERVICES THE DEPARTMENT OFFERED TO MAKE THE SCHEME A SUCCESS.

TO FACILITATE THIS ARRANGEMENT, A PATIENT RELATIONS OFFICER WILL BE AVAILABLE AT EACH OF THE 15 TARGETED CLINICS TO RESPOND TO PUBLIC ENQUIRIES.

DR LEE SAID THE DEPARTMENT WOULD LATER CONSIDER IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CIVIL SERVICE BRANCH STAFF TO PROMOTE MOTIVATION SCHEME TO GIVE OPEN RECOGNITION TO STAFF FOR THEIR GOOD PERFORMANCE.

"IT WILL ALSO PROVIDE A CHANNEL FOR THE PUBLIC AND OUR PATIENTS TO EXPRESS THEIR APPRECIATION," DR LEE SAID.

/THE DEPARTMENT

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THE DEPARTMENT ALSO INTENDED TO EXTEND PROGRESSIVELY THESE PERFORMANCE PLEDGES TO ITS OTHER HEALTH SERVICES.

WHILE NOTING THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IS A CARING AND COMMUNICATING DEPARTMENT, DR LEE PLEDGED THAT "WE CARE, WE COMMUNICATE, AND WE ACT FOR BETTER SERVICE."

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TRADE AGREEMENT GIVES INVESTORS PROTECTION

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THE INVESTMENT PROMOTION AND PROTECTION AGREEMENT (IPPA) RECENTLY SIGNED BETWEEN HONG KONG AND THE NETHERLANDS IS THE FIRST SUCH AGREEMENT DESIGNED TO GIVE ADDED ASSURANCES TO HONG KONG'S OVERSEAS INVESTORS, THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF INDUSTRY, MR T H BARMA, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT A LUNCH MEETING OF THE DUTCH BUSINESS ASSOCIATION, MR BARMA SAID THE AGREEMENT WAS PART OF A NETWORK OF IPPAS HONG KONG WAS NEGOTIATING WITH ITS MAJOR TRADING AND INVESTMENT PARTNERS.

MR BARMA SAID SUCH AGREEMENTS WERE DESIGNED TO CONTINUE IN FORCE BEYOND 1997.

"WE BELIEVE THAT OVERSEAS INVESTORS WILL WELCOME THE ASSURANCES PROVIDED BY SUCH AGREEMENTS -- AND OF COURSE WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE OVERSEAS INVESTORS MAINTAIN AND INCREASE THEIR STAKE IN HONG KONG'S ECONOMY IN THE RUN UP TO 1997 AND BEYOND.

"IN THIS WAY SUCH AGREEMENTS WILL CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS THE CONTINUED ECONOMIC PROSPERITY OF HONG KONG TO WHICH BOTH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT ARE COMMITTED," HE SAID.

MR BARMA SAID THE NETHERLANDS HAD SUBSTANTIAL INVESTMENTS IN HONG KONG.

AND JUST IN HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES ALONE, IN 1991, THE NETHERLANDS WAS THE SIXTH LARGEST OVERSEAS INVESTOR WITH INVESTMENTS VALUED AT OVER US\$170 MILLION.

OUTSIDE MANUFACTURING, THE NETHERLANDS HAS ALSO A NOTABLE PRESENCE IN THE FINANCIAL, TRADING AND OTHER SERVICE SECTORS.

"AS FAR AS I AM AWARE THERE ARE MORE THAN 250 DUTCH COMPANIES OPERATING IN HONG KONG.

"ACCORDING TO MY DEPARTMENT'S SURVEY LAST YEAR, 47 DUTCH COMPANIES WERE ESTABLISHED HERE AS REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS OR REGIONAL OFFICES AND THEY WERE THE FIFTH LARGEST GROUP IN TERMS OF THEIR NUMBER, AFTER USA, UK, JAPAN AND SWITZERLAND IN THAT ORDER," HE SAID.

/THE HONG

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THE HONG KONG-NETHERLANDS AGREEMENT GUARANTEES FAIR TREATMENT FOR NETHERLANDS INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG AND VICE VERSA, PROPER COMPENSATION IF INVESTMENTS ARE EXPROPRIATED AND THE FREE TRANSFER OF INVESTMENTS AND RETURNS.

IT ALSO PROVIDES FOR INVESTMENT DISPUTES TO BE SETTLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED RULES.

MR BARMA SAID THE AGREEMENT WOULD ENTER INTO FORCE ONCE THE NECESSARY REQUIREMENTS OF THE NETHERLANDS HAD BEEN MET.

"IT WILL THEN REMAIN IN FORCE IN 15 YEARS IN THE FIRST INSTANCE AND THEREAFTER FOR CONSECUTIVE PERIODS OF 10 YEARS EACH.

"I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES OF HONG MONG, WHICH THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT IS KEEN TO KEEP UP, TOGETHER WITH THE ADDED ASSURANCES GIVEN BY THE IPPA, WILL BE CONDUCIVE TO GREATER INVESTMENTS FROM THE NETHERLANDS IN THE FUTURE," HE SAID.

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CONTRACT FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF TSEUNG KWAN O SIGNED

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THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY) SIGNED A \$283 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE RECLAMATION AND DRAINAGE WORKS IN TSEUNG KWAN O.

THE CONTRACT WAS SIGNED BETWEEN THE PROJECT MANAGER OF THE DEPARTMENT'S SOUTH EAST NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, MR LEUNG MIN-SANG, AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF AOKI CORPORATION, WHICH HAS BEEN AWARDED THE CONTRACT.

THE PROJECT IS PART OF THE CONTINUING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME OF THE NEW TOWN.

CONTRACT WORKS COMPRISE RECLAMATION IN AREAS 45, 55, 56 AND 57 AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SEAWALL AND TWO BOX CULVERTS.

THE WORKS WILL BEGIN TOMORROW (FRIDAY) FOR COMPLETION IN EARLY 1995.

ON COMPLETION, ABOUT 27 HECTARES OF LAND WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR THE PROVISION OF PUBLIC HOUSING AND GOVERNMENT, INSTITUTIONAL OR COMMUNITY FACILITIES IN THE TOWN CENTRE.

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REVIEW GIVES NEW IDEAS ON ARTS POLICY

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GREATER PARTICIPATION BY THE ARTS COMMUNITY IN THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL ARTS AND MORE RELIANCE ON PRIVATE SPONSORSHIP IN FUNDING ARTS ACTIVITIES ARE AMONG A FEW INITIAL VIEWS FROM A GOVERNMENT REVIEW ON ARTS POLICY.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR JAMES SO, TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE PO LEUNG KUK DIRECTORS' LUNCHEON MEETING, MR SO SAID THE ADMINISTRATION WOULD SUGGEST IN THE REVIEW, WAYS TO ENABLE THE ARTS COMMUNITY TO HAVE AN EASIER ACCESS TO INFORMATION ON AND A GREATER SAY IN MATTERS AFFECTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ARTS IN HONG KONG.

MR SO ALSO SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD MAINTAIN ITS ROLE AS A CATALYST FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF ARTS. THIS, TO A LARGE EXTENT, HELPED CULTIVATE THE RIGHT SOCIAL AND CREATIVE SETTINGS FOR THE COLOURFUL VARIETY OF ARTISTIC EXPRESSIONS IN THE TERRITORY.

HE ADDED THAT RELEVANT LAWS AND REGULATIONS WERE BEING REVIEWED TO REMOVE ANY ANACHRONISM INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE FREEDOM OF ARTISTIC EXPRESSIONS ENSHRINED IN THE BILL OF RIGHTS.

MR SO ALSO CALLED FOR MORE PATRONAGE AND SPONSORSHIP TO NURTURE THE ESTABLISHED AS WELL AS THE BUDDING ART FORMS AS GOVERNMENT FUNDING FOR ARTS WAS LIMITED.

HE SAID EXTRA SOURCES OF FUNDING HAD BEEN SOUGHT THROUGH DONATION OF VARIOUS CORPORATIONS AND THE PROMOTIONAL EFFORTS OF SUCH ORGANISATIONS AS THE BUSINESS FOR ART AND THE MANY SUPPORT GROUPS SET UP BY THE VARIOUS PROFESSIONAL PERFORMING COMPANIES.

"WE ON OUR PART ARE MAKING IT MORE ATTRACTIVE FOR CORPORATE AND INDIVIDUAL SPONSORSHIP OF THE ARTS," MR SO SAID.

HE ADDED THAT THE COUNCIL FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS (CFPA) HAD SPENT ABOUT \$1.7 MILLION UNDER A MATCHING GRANT SCHEME SINCE 1990.

THE SCHEME WAS INITIATED TO HELP PERFORMING ARTS GROUPS FIND ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF FUNDING. IT ALSO ENCOURAGED PRIVATE SECTOR TO PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN SUPPORT OF ARTS.

MR SO SAID WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT AND THE MUNICIPAL COUNCILS, SEVEN LOCAL PROFESSIONAL COMPANIES HAD BEEN SET UP. THEY HAD EARNED FOR HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL PRESTIGE.

THE CFPA FUNDS AND SUPPORTS THE DEVELOPMENT AND NURTURING OF A NUMBER OF AMATEUR PERFORMING GROUPS.

HE SAID: "THE CONTINUED MAINTENANCE OF THE PROFESSIONAL PERFORMING COMPANIES AND THE CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF AMATEUR GROUPS WITH PUBLIC FUNDS SHOULD REMAIN OUR AIM IN THE 1990S."

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ON THE INCREASING PUBLIC INTEREST IN THE VISUAL AND LITERARY ARTS, MR SO SAID SERIOUS CONSIDERATION WAS BEING GIVEN TO THE SUGGESTION OF HAVING AN ORGANISATION SIMILAR TO CFPA TO TAKE CARE OF PROBLEMS OF CONCERN TO THE VISUAL AND LITERARY ARTISTS AND TO CHAMPION THEIR DEVELOPMENT.

MR SO ALSO SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD COMMIT ITSELF TO PROMOTE CULTURE, IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE CITY AND MAKING HONG KONG A CULTURAL CENTRE OF ASIA.

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BUILDINGS IN KWONG YUEN STREET DECLARED DANGEROUS

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY HAS DECLARED THE BUILDINGS AT 12 AND 14 KWONG YUEN STREET EAST DANGEROUS AND THE BUILDINGS AT 8, 10 AND 16 OF THE SAME STREET AND 5 KWONG YUEN STREET WEST LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS.

IN A STATEMENT ISSUED THIS (THURSDAY) MORNING, THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING SURVEYOR SAID ALL THE BUILDINGS WERE BUILT PRE-WAR,

NEARLY ALL OF THEM HAD LOAD-BEARING BRICK PARTY-WALLS AND TIMBER FLOOR AND ROOF JOISTS, HE ADDED.

THE BUILDING AT 5 KWONG YUEN STREET WEST IS A SINGLE-STOREY BUILDING, HAVING BEEN PARTIALLY DEMOLISHED PREVIOUSLY. IT HAS LOAD-BEARING BRICK WALLS, ONE OF WHICH IS SUPPORTED BY RAKING SHORES.

THE LOAD-BEARING PARTY-WALLS WERE DEFECTIVE WITH MANY FRACTURES AND BULGING BRICKWORK, PARTICULARLY IN THE REAR WALLS TO THE KITCHEN BLOCKS WHERE SIGNS OF RECENT MOVEMENT WERE ALSO NOTED.

THE MOST SERIOUS CONDITION WAS AT 14 KWONG YUEN STREET EAST.

THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING SURVEYOR POINTED OUT THAT THE OVERALL CONDITION OF THE STRUCTURAL TIMBER MEMBERS IN THE BUILDINGS IN KWONG YUEN STREET EAST WAS POOR WITH DEFECTIVE TIMBERS IN MOST OF THE BUILDINGS.

PARTS OF THE FIRST AND SECOND TIMBER FLOORS IN THE VACANT BUILDING AT 12 KWONG YUEN STREET EAST HAVE ALREADY COLLAPSED.

IN VIEW OF THE EXTENT OF THE DEFECTIVE STRUCTURAL TIMBER MEMBERS AT 12 AND 14 KWONG YUEN STREET EAST, COUPLED WITH THE DANGER OF COLLAPSE OF THE BUILDINGS, SIGNS OF RECENT MOVEMENT AND POOR CONDITION OF THE LOAD-BEARING WALLS, THE BUILDINGS SHOULD BE CLOSED AND DEMOLISHED IN THE INTEREST OF PUBLIC SAFETY.

THE BUILDINGS AT 8, 10 AND 16 KWONG YUEN STREET EAST AND 5 KWONG YUEN STREET WEST, WHICH ARE ALSO IN A POOR CONDITION AND STRUCTURALLY DEPENDENT ON EACH OTHER FOR SUPPORT, COULD NOT SAFELY WITHSTAND THE DEMOLITION OF THE ADJOINING BUILDINGS AND SHOULD BE CLOSED AND DEMOLISHED FOR THE SAME REASON.

/SOME OF

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SOME OF THE BUILDINGS AFFECTED HAVE BEEN RESUMED BY THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT LAND AGENT HAS BEEN ADVISED TO TAKE CONCURRENT ACTION IN RESPECT OF THE BUILDINGS UNDER HIS CONTROL, THAT IS, 8 AND 16 KWONG YUEN STREET EAST AND 5 KWONG YUEN STREET WEST.

NOTICES OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR CLOSURE ORDERS IN RESPECT OF 10, 12 AND 14 KWONG YUEN STREET EAST ON FEBRUARY 8 NEXT YEAR WERE POSTED ON THE BUILDINGS TODAY.

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TWINNING SCHEME FOR SCHOOLS

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THERE IS A NEED FOR GREATER TOLERANCE FOR PEOPLE FROM DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS AND POSSIBLY WITH DIFFERENT VALUES AND VIEWS IF HONG KONG IS TO REMAIN FORWARD LOOKING AFTER 1997.

THE SENIOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (SERVICES AND INSTITUTIONS), MR LUCAS CHAN KWOK-HEI, SAID THIS TODAY (THURSDAY) WHILE LAUNCHING A TWINNING SCHEME IN WHICH 28 LOCAL, INTERNATIONAL AND ENGLISH FOUNDATION SCHOOLS WILL BE TAKING PART.

MR CHAN SAID STUDENTS TAKING PART WOULD STRENGTHEN LINKS WHICH SHOULD RESULT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF EACH OTHER'S NATIONAL CULTURE AND A READINESS TO LEARN FROM OTHERS.

"FOR TEACHERS, ALTHOUGH THE CURRICULA IN THE LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS MAY BE DIFFERENT, THEY CAN STILL LEARN FROM EACH OTHER LATEST CURRICULUM DESIGN AND TEACHING METHODS," HE SAID.

THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS TAKING PART INCLUDE THE HONG KONG JAPANESE SCHOOL, INDONESIAN SCHOOL AND SHA TIN COLLEGE.

THE INAUGURATION WAS HELD AT THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS IN WU CHUNG HOUSE, WAN CHAI, AND WAS ATTENDED BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE 28 SCHOOLS.

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FESTIVE ILLUMINATIONS IN MONG KOK

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MONG KOK WILL BE DECORATED WITH COLOURFUL ILLUMINATIONS TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO GREET CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR.

THERE WILL BE A SWITCHING-ON CEREMONY.

IT WILL BE OFFICIATED BY THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR PAUL WONG.

/LIGHTING DISPLAYS

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LIGHTING DISPLAYS WILL BE CONCENTRATED AT THE JUNCTION OF ARGYLE STREET AND NATHAN ROAD. DISPLAYS WILL ALSO BE FOUND AT THE ENTRANCES TO MONG KOK MTR AND KCR STATIONS.

WITH A PRICE-TAG OF MORE THAN \$1 MILLION, THE ILLUMINATIONS ARE SPONSORED BY THE MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD AND LOCAL COMMERCIAL ORGANISATIONS.

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ATTENTIONS NEWS EDITORS:

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SWITCHING-ON CEREMONY WHICH WILL BE HELD AT THE JUNCTION OF NATHAN ROAD AND ARGYLE STREET AT 6.30 PM TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THERE WILL BE A COCKTAIL RECEPTION AT THE SIXTH FLOOR, GRAND TOWER HOTEL, 627-641 NATHAN ROAD AT 7 PM.

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE RECEPTION.

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EXHIBITION ON EMPLOYMENT LAW IN TUEN MUN
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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT WILL HOLD A THREE-DAY EXHIBITION IN TUEN MUN FROM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) UNTIL SUNDAY (DECEMBER 13) TO PUBLICISE VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE.

ORGANISED BY THE LABOUR RELATIONS PROMOTION UNIT, THE EXHIBITION WILL, IN SIMPLE LANGUAGE AND VIVID ILLUSTRATIONS, HELP EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES UNDERSTAND THEIR RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE ORDINANCE.

SUBJECTS INCLUDE PAID ANNUAL LEAVE, LONG SERVICE AND SEVERANCE PAYMENTS, MATERNITY PROTECTION AND ENTITLEMENT UPON TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT.

LABOUR OFFICERS WILL BE THERE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS AND TO DISTRIBUTE PAMPHLETS.

A QUIZ WILL ALSO BE HELD ON THE SPOT FROM 3 PM TO 4 PM DAILY TO AROUSE PUBLIC INTEREST IN THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE AND LABOUR RELATIONS.

THE EXHIBITION WILL BE OPEN FROM 2 PM TO 6 PM TOMORROW ON THE FIRST FLOOR, TUEN MUN TOWN PLAZA, PHASE 1, 1 TUEN SHUN STREET, AND BETWEEN 10 AM AND 6 PM OVER THE WEEKEND.

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FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETS TOMORROW

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THE FINANCE COMMITTEE WILL HOLD A MEETING AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO OBSERVE THE PROCEEDINGS FROM THE CHAMBER'S PUBLIC GALLERY. THEY MAY RESERVE SEATS BY CALLING 869 9492.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	\$ MILLION

OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,529
REVERSAL OF LAF	-29
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	1,500
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	+500
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,000
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER	TWI 114.0 **0.2* 10.12.92

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.93 PCT	15 MONTHS	2402	5.50	100.60	5.03
1 MONTH	3.58 PCT	18 MONTHS	2405	5.50	100.55	5.16
3 MONTHS	3.87 PCT	21 MONTHS	2408	4.375	98.65	5.29
6 MONTHS	3.98 PCT	24 MONTHS	2411	4.625	98.65	5.44
12 MONTHS	4.66 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 3,786MN

CLOSED 10 DECEMBER 1992

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