



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
<u>LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING:</u>	
TIME TO START AFRESH	1
HK DESERVES FASTER DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT	2
CALL TO MAKE 1991 ELECTION A SUCCESS	3
HK SHOULD NOT ACCEPT DEAL ON POLITICAL SYSTEM	4
FOUNDATION LAID FOR BUILDING DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT	6
REFINING LAW ON CERTIFICATION OF ORIGIN SYSTEM	7
EXTENSION OF LEGAL TIME LIMITS PROPOSED	8
LEGISLATION ON TOY SAFETY PLANNED	10
SUPREME COURT BUILDING NOT DANGEROUS	11
AIM IS PROVISION OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES AT REASONABLE COST	11
PHARMACY SERVICE EXTENDED AT TWO HOSPITALS	13
LEGCO BEGINS DEBATE ON POLITICAL SYSTEM	14
GOVERNOR TO VISIT LONDON NEXT MONTH	15
HK POLYTECHNIC REACHES OUT TO BUSINESS COMMUNITY: SEM	15
MANUFACTURERS WISE IN MAKING QUALITY THE SELLING POINT	16
APPOINTMENT OF INSPECTORS UNDER COMPANIES ORDINANCE	17
HK'S POPULATION AT 5.8 MILLION	17
DB TO DISCUSS COMMITTEES' STRUCTURE	18

/SQUATTER AREA

SQUATTER AREA IMPROVEMENT WORKS ON DB COMMITTEE AGENDA	18
DB COMMITTEE TO REVIEW GUIDELINES ON FUND ALLOCATION	19
DB COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS NOISE NUISANCE	19
HEALTH EDUCATION CARNIVAL FOR ELDERLY	20
PLACES AVAILABLE IN GOVT PRIMARY SCHOOLS	21
VISITING SERVICE FOR ISSUE OF NEW IDENTITY CARDS	22
MA TAU WAI POST OFFICE RE-OPENS ON MONDAY	23
ILLEGAL STRUCTURES IN KWUN TONG TO BE CLOSED	23
TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN WAN CHAI	24
URBAN CLEARWAY IN CENTRAL	24
URBAN CLEARWAYS IN KOWLOON BAY	24
NO-STOPPING AREA IN TAK MAN STREET EXTENDS	25
LOWER SPEED LIMIT ON PRINCE EDWARD ROAD EAST	25
FLUSHING WATER CUTS IN TSUEN WAN, HO MAN TIN AND KING'S PARK	25

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1990

- 1 -

TIME TO START AFRESH

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NOW IS THE TIME FOR THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG TO REVIEW THE PAST AND LOOK TO THE FUTURE - THE FUTURE OF OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH CHINA AND THE FUTURE OF OUR OWN PEOPLE.

THE CALL ON THE COMMUNITY TO START AFRESH CAME FROM THE SENIOR MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, THE HON ALLEN LEE, WHEN LEADING OFF DEBATE IN THE COUNCIL ON HIS MOTION ON THE FUTURE POLITICAL SYSTEM IN HONG KONG.

HIS MOTION READS: "THAT THIS COUNCIL EXPRESSES DISAPPOINTMENT THAT THE OMELCO CONSENSUS HAS NOT BEEN ADOPTED IN THE FORMULATION OF THE FUTURE POLITICAL MODEL BUT URGES THE COMMUNITY, IN THE INTEREST OF HONG KONG, TO BE UNITED IN ITS EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A SUCCESSFUL DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM."

MR LEE ALSO ASKED THE LEADERS OF CHINA TO UNDERSTAND HONG KONG AND OUR WAY OF LIFE.

"I BELIEVE THAT ONLY THROUGH MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING WILL WE BE ABLE TO ESTABLISH THE SYSTEM PROMISED BY THE CHINESE LEADERS OF 'ONE COUNTRY, TWO SYSTEMS'," HE SAID.

"THIS CONCEPT HAS NEVER BEEN TRIED BY MANKIND AND IN THE CASE OF HONG KONG, WE MUST DO OUR VERY BEST TO ENSURE ITS SUCCESS," HE ADDED.

MR LEE BELIEVED THAT HONG KONG PEOPLE MUST ESTABLISH A COMMON UNDERSTANDING AND BASIC TRUST WITH CHINA:

"LET US DO OUR PART TO CLOSE THE GAP," HE SAID.

ADMITTING THAT MANY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL, HIMSELF INCLUDED, HAD NOT THOUGHT IN THIS DIRECTION BEFORE, MR LEE ASKED: "IF, AS LEADERS OF OUR COMMUNITY, WE WERE TO ADOPT AN ATTITUDE OF NOT TRUSTING CHINA, HOW COULD WE EXPECT CHINA TO TRUST US? IF WE THINK WE CAN CONSTRUCT BLOCKADES IN ORDER TO PRESERVE OUR WAY OF LIFE, WHAT DO YOU THINK THE CHINESE REACTION WOULD BE?"

MR LEE EXPRESSED GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT THAT THE OMELCO CONSENSUS MODEL ON THE PACE OF DEMOCRACY WAS NOT ADOPTED IN THE BASIC LAW, DESPITE MEMBERS' TIRELESS EFFORTS IN SCRUTINISING AND STUDYING THE VARIOUS OPTIONS PROPOSED.

HE ADMITTED THAT IN THE CASE OF DEMOCRACY, OMELCO HAD FAILED THE HONG KONG PEOPLE ALTHOUGH MEMBERS HAD DISCHARGED THEIR DUTIES HONOURABLY. THIS WAS BECAUSE, AT THE END OF THE DAY, HONG KONG PEOPLE WERE NOT MASTERS OF THEIR OWN DESTINY.

"WE RELIED ON THE ATTITUDE OF THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT WHILST THERE WAS DEFINITELY A LACK OF GOODWILL AND TRUST," HE SAID.

/MR LEE

- 2 -

MR LEE STRESSED THAT HE BELIEVED IN DEMOCRACY, FOR THE SIMPLE REASON THAT IT OFFERED PEOPLE THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE THEIR LEADERS; PROVIDED THE NECESSARY CHECKS AND BALANCES; AND ALLOWED THE FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION.

"IN 1991, OUR PEOPLE WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN OUR HISTORY, TO DIRECTLY ELECT 18 LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS," HE SAID.

MR LEE URGED THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ELECTION AND TO COME OUT AND VOTE FOR THE PEOPLE WHOM THEY BELIEVED SHOULD BE THE LEADERS OF OUR COMMUNITY.

HE ALSO URGED THOSE WHO WERE QUALIFIED TO BE VOTERS TO REGISTER SO THAT THEY COULD VOTE.

"THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG MUST BE DETERMINED ON WHOM THEY WANT IN THE FUTURE GOVERNMENT AND THE ONLY WAY TO DO THIS IS TO GO TO THE POLLS AND VOTE," HE ADDED.

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HK DESERVES FASTER DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT

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THE HON RITA FAN TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY) SHE IS NOT HAPPY WITH THE FUTURE POLITICAL MODEL BUT ACCEPTS THAT THE MAIN TASK AHEAD IS TO PROVE TO THOSE WHO BLOCKED THE PROGRESS OF DEMOCRACY IN HONG KONG THAT THEY WERE WRONG IN THEIR ASSESSMENT.

SPEAKING IN SUPPORT OF THE HON ALLEN LEE'S MOTION IN THE DEBATE ON THE FUTURE POLITICAL MODEL, MRS FAN MAINTAINED THAT HONG KONG DESERVED AND WAS CAPABLE OF HANDLING A FASTER PACE OF DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT.

"TO DEMONSTRATE TO THE WORLD, IN PARTICULAR CHINA, THAT DEMOCRACY WORKS WELL HERE, THE ELECTIONS IN 1991 NEED TO HAVE A GOOD TURNOUT RATE, AND THE 1991 LEGISLATURE MUST ENJOY MORE SUPPORT AND OUT-PERFORM THE PRESENT ONE," SHE SAID.

MRS FAN SAID SHE WAS SADLY DISAPPOINTED WITH FOUR FACTORS THAT HAD EMERGED DURING THE PROCESS OF SINO-BRITISH TALKS ON THE FUTURE POLITICAL SYSTEM.

THE FIRST FACTOR WAS THE REFUSAL OF THE CHINESE SIDE TO CONSIDER THE OMELCO CONCENSUS SIMPLY BECAUSE THEY THOUGHT OMELCO WAS A BRITISH ORGANISATION.

THE SECOND WAS THE APPARENT FAVOURITISM SHOWN BY THE CHINESE SIDE TO THE SUGGESTIONS OF SMALL GROUPS OF PEOPLE OVER THE MAINSTREAM VIEW OF THE COMMUNITY.

/THE THIRD

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1990

- 3 -

THE THIRD WAS THE INCLUSION OF SEPARATE VOTING FOR MEMBERS BILLS AND AMENDMENTS WHICH WAS NOT ONLY CUMBERSOME BUT ALSO UNDERMINED THE SPIRIT OF CONVERGENCE.

THE FOURTH WAS THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S WILLINGNESS TO COMPROMISE WITH THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT FOR A CONVERGENCE IN NUMBERS BUT NOT IN ALL RESPECTS.

MRS FAN CONCLUDED THAT HONG KONG PEOPLE, BEING REALISTIC AND PRAGMATIC, HAD TO ACCEPT THE FACT THAT CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND THEIR CONTROL WERE MORE OVERWHELMING THAN THEIR OWN EFFORTS, BUT SHE STRESSED THAT ACCEPTING THE REALITY DID NOT REDUCE THE DEEPLY FELT DISAPPOINTMENT.

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CALL TO MAKE 1991 ELECTION A SUCCESS
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THE FINAL PACKAGE ON HONG KONG'S POLITICAL STRUCTURE FALLS SHORT OF WHAT WE WOULD HAVE PREFERRED, BUT IT IS HIGH TIME TO MAKE THE BEST EFFORTS TO DEMONSTRATE THAT WE ARE CAPABLE OF USING THIS OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN THE NEXT ELECTION IN 1991 AND MAKE IT A GREAT SUCCESS.

THE HON CHENG HON-KWAN SAID THIS IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY) WHEN SPEAKING IN SUPPORT OF THE HON ALLEN LEE'S MOTION IN THE DEBATE ON THE FUTURE POLITICAL SYSTEM.

MR CHENG SAID THAT ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN THE 1991 ELECTIONS WOULD ENSURE A SOLID FOUNDATION FOR FURTHER DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT - A TREND PREVAILING NOWADAYS IN MANY MORE COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD.

REFERRING TO A RECENT SURVEY WHICH SHOWED HONG KONG PEOPLE'S CONFIDENCE HAD DROPPED TO AN EVEN LOWER LEVEL THAN THAT IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE JUNE 4 EVENT, MR CHENG SAID THAT HE WAS NOT AT ALL SURPRISED.

THIS WAS NOT ONLY A MATTER OF DETAIL OF THE POLITICAL STRUCTURE BUT ALSO A REFLECTION OF A STRONG FEELING THAT THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLE HAD NOT BEEN WELL TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.

"WE HAVE TO FACE THE REALITY UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES AND STRIVE FOR A SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF OUR POLITICAL REFORM ALTHOUGH ITS FORMULATION IS NOT IN OUR HAND," HE SAID.

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1990

- 4 -

HK SHOULD NOT ACCEPT DEAL ON POLITICAL SYSTEM

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THE HON MARTIN LEE TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY) HE DISAGREED HONG KONG PEOPLE SHOULD NOW ACCEPT THE BAD DEAL REACHED BY BRITAIN AND CHINA OVER THE TERRITORY'S FUTURE POLITICAL SYSTEM AND TRY TO MAKE THE BEST OF IT.

"THE INTEREST OF HONG KONG DOES NOT LIE IN GIVING UP AND PASSIVELY ACCEPTING WHAT BRITAIN AND CHINA TELL US OUR FUTURE WILL BE," HE SAID IN THE MOTION DEBATE ON THE FUTURE POLITICAL SYSTEM.

"THE MOMENT THAT WE GIVE UP, THE MOMENT THAT WE STOP TRYING TO REALISE OUR ASPIRATIONS, THAT MOMENT WILL BE THE END OF HONG KONG."

THE DUTY OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WAS TO ATTAIN WHAT IT BELIEVED WAS BEST FOR HONG KONG, AND NOT JUST TO ADVANCE A POLITICAL MODEL FOR DISCUSSION, HE SAID.

IT WAS NOT IN THE INTEREST OF THE COUNCIL TO ACCEPT MEEKLY WHAT IT WAS OFFERED.

"WE MUST CONTINUE TO FIGHT FOR WHAT WE BELIEVE TO BE RIGHT, FOR ULTIMATELY WE THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG WILL HAVE THE GOVERNMENT THAT WE DESERVE," HE SAID.

MR LEE CRITICISED THE WORDING OF THE SENIOR MEMBER'S MOTION FOR BEING TOO MILD, AND FOR IMPLYING THAT IT WAS IN THE INTEREST OF HONG KONG TO "QUIETLY ACCEPT THE ANTI-DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL MODEL SET OUT IN THE FINAL DRAFT OF THE BASIC LAW".

HE SAID HE BELIEVED THAT THE SOFT ATTITUDE, WHICH WAS IMPLICIT IN THIS MOTION, WOULD NOT FOOL THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG INTO BELIEVING THAT STABILITY HAD BEEN ACHIEVED.

BUT HE COMMENDED THE HON JAMES MCGREGOR'S MOTION TO HIS COLLEAGUES, SAYING THAT "WE MUST CONTINUE TO FIGHT FOR WHAT WE BELIEVE TO BE RIGHT".

MR LEE STRESSED THAT THE ESSENCE OF THE OMELCO CONSENSUS MODEL WAS THAT IT WAS THE BOTTOM LINE, THE VERY MINIMUM OF DEMOCRATIC REFORM THAT MUST BE IMPLEMENTED IF PEOPLE'S CONFIDENCE IN THE FUTURE OF THE TERRITORY WAS TO BE RESTORED.

"IT WOULD BE HIGHLY DISINGENUOUS FOR THE COUNCIL NOW TO SUGGEST THAT THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG SHOULD SIMPLY ABANDON OUR ASPIRATIONS AND MAKE THE BEST OF WHAT WE HAVE OURSELVES SAID WAS BELOW THE BOTTOM LINE. FOR US TO ACCEPT THIS MODEL IS TO ENCOURAGE OUR PEOPLE TO FLEE HONG KONG," HE SAID.

MR LEE CRITICISED BRITAIN FOR SHOWING ABSOLUTELY NO INCLINATION TO ASCERTAIN HONG KONG'S OPINION AND FOR MAKING NO EFFORT TO COVER ITS CAPITULATION TO CHINA.

/HE ALSO

HE ALSO SAID THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT, IN REJECTING OMELCO CONSENSUS, HAD TOLD THE WHOLE WORLD, FIRST, THAT IT WOULD NOT BE BOUND BY THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG AND, SECOND, THAT IT ATTACHED LITTLE WEIGHT TO THE ADVICE OF OMELCO.

HE FELT THAT IT WAS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT LEGCO SHOULD DEBATE THE BASIC LAW AS A WHOLE AND SHOULD DO THIS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

SAYING THAT SEPARATING THE POLITICAL SYSTEM FROM THE REST OF THE BASIC LAW WAS A DANGEROUS ACT OF SELF-DECEPTION, MR LEE SAID THAT LITANIES OF ECONOMIC AND CIVIL FREEDOMS WERE MEANINGLESS IF NO POLITICAL STRUCTURE EXISTED TO SAFEGUARD THEM.

"IF THE BASIC LAW DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR THE HIGHLY AUTONOMOUS AND DEMOCRATIC HONG KONG AS PROMISED TO US IN THE JOINT DECLARATION, THEN ITS PROVISIONS FOR FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND OTHER FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS WILL HAVE THE SAME VALUE AND WILL SUFFER THE SAME FATE AS THOSE IN THE CONSTITUTION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA," HE SAID.

MR LEE SAID THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE OMELCO CONSENSUS MODEL AND THE POLITICAL MODEL IN THE BASIC LAW WAS NOT A MATTER OF QUIBBLING OVER A FEW SEATS.

"UNDER THE BASIC LAW, WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO DEMOCRATICALLY ELECT SO MUCH AS HALF OF THE HONG KONG LEGISLATURE UNTIL 2003 -- AND THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT MORE THAN HALF OF THE LEGISLATURE WILL EVER BE DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED THEREAFTER," HE SAID.

THE LIMITATION ON THE NUMBERS OF DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED MEMBERS AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SO-CALLED ELECTION COMMITTEE, THROUGH WHICH BEIJING HOPED TO APPOINT ITS OWN REPRESENTATIVES, WERE CLEAR VIOLATIONS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION'S PLEDGE THAT THE HKSAR LEGISLATURE SHALL BE CONSTITUTED BY ELECTIONS, HE SAID.

CHINA AND BRITAIN'S AGREEMENT ON A CEILING ON THE NUMBER OF LEGISLATORS WITH FOREIGN RIGHT OF ABODE WAS ANOTHER CLEAR BREACH OF THE JOINT DECLARATION, WHICH SPELT OUT IN DETAIL WHICH KEY POSITIONS IN THE HKSAR MUST BE HELD ONLY BY CHINESE NATIONALS.

ACCORDING TO MR LEE, THE IMPOSITION OF A DIVISIVE SPLIT-VOTING SCHEME IN THE BASIC LAW RELATING TO PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS SERVED ONLY TO FURTHER UNDERMINE THE INFLUENCE OF DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED LEGISLATORS.

"THE SPLIT-VOTING SCHEME, ILL-CONCEIVED AS IT IS, IS REALLY UNNECESSARY GIVEN THE OTHER PROVISIONS IN THE BASIC LAW, WHICH RENDER THE LEGISLATURE QUITE POWERLESS VIS-A-VIS THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE," HE SAID.

ON THE EXECUTIVE AUTHORITIES, MR LEE SAID THE JOINT DECLARATION PROMISED THAT THEY SHOULD BE "ACCOUNTABLE TO THE LEGISLATURE", BUT ACCORDING TO THE BASIC LAW, THE ALL-POWERFUL CHIEF EXECUTIVE WOULD EFFECTIVELY BE ACCOUNTABLE TO NO ONE EXCEPT THE BEIJING GOVERNMENT.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1990

- 6 -

FOUNDATION LAID FOR BUILDING DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT

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THE QUESTION BEFORE US IS NOT SO MUCH WHETHER WE SHOULD ACCEPT THE PROPOSED POLITICAL MODEL FOR HONG KONG THAT HAS BEEN AGREED ON OUR BEHALF BY BRITAIN AND CHINA, BUT RATHER HOW WE CAN MAKE IT WORK TO THE BENEFIT OF OUR FUTURE, THE HON EDWARD HO SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

SPEAKING IN SUPPORT OF THE HON ALLEN LEE'S MOTION IN THE DEBATE ON THE FUTURE POLITICAL SYSTEM, MR HO SAID THE RECENT GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE PROVISION OF 18 DIRECTLY ELECTED SEATS IN THE 1991 LEGISLATURE WAS A VAST IMPROVEMENT OVER THE ORIGINAL NUMBER OF 10.

HE BELIEVED THIS COULD PROVIDE A WORKING FOUNDATION FOR THE BUILDING OF A DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT.

IT WOULD BE FUTILE AND STRATEGICALLY WRONG TO ADOPT A CONFRONTATIONAL ATTITUDE TOWARDS CHINA.

HONG KONG PEOPLE'S ASPIRATION FOR GREATER DEMOCRACY WOULD NOT DIMINISH, AND THE BEST WAY THEY COULD ACHIEVE THAT WAS FOR ALL SECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY TO BE UNITED IN THEIR EFFORTS IN BUILDING UP A DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM FROM THE FOUNDATION THAT HAD JUST BEEN LAID.

"THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG MUST COMMIT THEMSELVES TO MAINTAIN, WITH THE HELP OF THEIR LEADERS AND THE GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED, THE STABILITY AND PROSPERITY OF THIS WONDERFUL CITY, THEIR HOME.

"THEIR CONTINUED COMMITMENT IS THE ONLY ASSURANCE THAT HONG KONG WILL ENJOY GREATER DEMOCRACY AND AUTONOMY IN THE YEARS TO COME," MR HO SAID.

AS BOTH THE "4-4-2 MODEL" AND THE OMELCO CONSENSUS COMMANDED WIDE SUPPORT IN HONG KONG, IT WAS DISAPPOINTING THAT NEITHER WAS EVEN CONSIDERED IN THE FINAL WORKING SESSIONS OF THE BASIC LAW DRAFTING COMMITTEE, HE SAID.

THE PRESENT MODEL FELL SHORT OF THE ASPIRATION OF HONG KONG PEOPLE ON THE PACE OF DEVELOPMENT OF A DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT.

"IN ADDITION, THERE ARE ELEMENTS PROPOSED IN THE BASIC LAW, SUCH AS THE SPLIT VOTING SYSTEM AND THE RESTRICTION OF THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF THE FUTURE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL HOLDING FOREIGN PASSPORTS TO 20 PER CENT, WHICH CAN JEOPARDISE THE SMOOTH RUNNING OF THE COUNCIL, AND IN THE LATTER CASE, IS UNDESIRABLE AND EVEN UNWORKABLE," MR HO SAID.

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1990

- 7 -

REFINING LAW ON CERTIFICATION OF ORIGIN SYSTEM

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A BILL TO UPDATE AND REFINE SELECTED PROVISIONS OF THE PROTECTION OF NON-GOVERNMENT CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN ORDINANCE IN ORDER TO RENDER IT MORE CONSISTENT WITH THE PRESENT ORIGIN CERTIFICATION SYSTEM, WAS INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

MOVING THE SECOND READING OF THE PROTECTION OF NON-GOVERNMENT CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, THE HON SIR PIERS JACOBS, SAID THE ORDINANCE WAS ENACTED IN 1967 AND IT HAD BEEN LAST AMENDED IN 1982.

IT PROVIDED FOR THE BETTER PROTECTION OF CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT-APPROVED CERTIFICATION ORGANISATIONS.

HIGHLIGHTING THE PRINCIPAL PROPOSALS OF THE BILL, HE SAID, IN RELATION TO THE POWERS OF AUTHORISED OFFICERS, THAT THE POWERS TO ENFORCE THE ORDINANCE, INCLUDING SEARCH, SEIZURE AND DETENTION, WERE VESTED WITH AUTHORISED OFFICERS, THAT WAS, THOSE AUTHORISED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE, AND THE POLICE.

"SINCE THE POWERS GIVEN TO THE POLICE HAVE NEVER BEEN USED IN PRACTICE AND THE AUTHORISED OFFICERS HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CARRY OUT THEIR DUTIES SATISFACTORILY ON THEIR OWN, THE BILL SEEKS TO AMEND SECTION 10 OF THE ORDINANCE TO DELETE ALL REFERENCES TO POLICE POWERS," HE SAID.

ON PENALTIES, SIR PIERS SAID THE BILL SOUGHT TO RAISE THE PENALTIES GENERALLY FOR OFFENCES SPECIFIED IN THE ORDINANCE FROM THE PRESENT LEVEL OF EITHER \$50,000 AND ONE YEAR'S IMPRISONMENT OR \$100,000 AND ONE YEAR'S IMPRISONMENT TO \$500,000 AND TWO YEARS' IMPRISONMENT.

"THIS SERVES TO ALIGN THE PENALTY LEVELS WITH THOSE FOR SIMILAR OFFENCES REFERRED TO UNDER SECTION 36 OF THE IMPORT AND EXPORT ORDINANCES.

"THE UNIFORMITY IN THE PENALTY LEVEL WOULD IN TURN FACILITATE ADMINISTRATIVE EFFICIENCY IN PROSECUTION WORK," HE SAID.

ON NEW OFFENCES, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY SAID THE BILL SOUGHT TO ADD THREE NEW OFFENCES TO THE ORDINANCE IN ORDER TO ENHANCE THE DETERRENT EFFECT OF THE LEGISLATION AGAINST MALPRACTICE AND DAMAGE TO THE INTEGRITY OF THE HONG KONG CERTIFICATION SYSTEM.

"THE FIRST OFFENCE RELATES TO ORGANISATIONS DISHONESTLY REPRESENTING THEMSELVES TO BE GOVERNMENT-APPROVED CERTIFICATE ISSUING AUTHORITIES.

"THE SECOND CONCERNS THE ISSUING OF A DOCUMENT LIKELY TO MISLEAD ANOTHER PERSON INTO BELIEVING THAT THE DOCUMENT IS A CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT-APPROVED CERTIFICATE ISSUING AUTHORITIES.

/"THE THIRD

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"HOWEVER, IN ORDER TO ELIMINATE THE POSSIBILITY THAT SOMEONE IS SUED BY VIRTUE OF THIS NEW PROVISION A GREAT MANY YEARS AFTER THE NEGLIGENT ACT OR OMISSION OCCURRED, CLAUSE 13 OF THE BILL PROVIDES THAT NO ACTION SHALL BE BROUGHT AFTER THE EXPIRY OF AN OVERRIDING PERIOD OF 15 YEARS FOLLOWING THE DATE OF THAT ACT OR OMISSION WHICH ALLEGEDLY CAUSED THE DAMAGE," HE SAID.

MR MATHEWS NOTED THAT PROBLEMS COULD ARISE WHERE, ON THE DATE ON WHICH A PLANTIFF HAD THE KNOWLEDGE REQUIRED FOR BRINGING AN ACTION HE WAS UNDER A LEGAL DISABILITY SUCH AS INFANCY.

CLAUSE 11 PROVIDED THAT IN SUCH SITUATION, AN ACTION MIGHT BE BROUGHT WITHIN THREE YEARS FROM THE DATE UPON WHICH THE PLAINTIFF CEASED TO BE UNDER THE DISABILITY, PROVIDED THAT THIS DID NOT GO BEYOND THE OVERRIDING 15 YEARS PERIOD.

MR MATHEWS SAID THERE HAD BEEN DIFFICULTIES WHERE THERE WERE SUCCESSIVE OWNERS OF A PROPERTY WHICH HAD A HIDDEN DEFECT.

CLAUSE 13 THUS ALSO PROVIDED THAT A PERSON WHO ACQUIRED PROPERTY SO AFFECTED WOULD BE ABLE TO MAINTAIN AN ACTION AGAINST THE RESPONSIBLE PARTY PROVIDED THAT NO PREVIOUS OWNER HAD BEEN AWARE OF THAT LATENT DEFECT.

THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE LAW OF LIMITATION IN ACTIONS INVOLVING FRAUD, CONCEALMENT AND MISTAKE WERE CONTAINED IN CLAUSE 12.

"ITS EFFECT IS TO POSTPONE THE COMMENCEMENT OF ANY LIMITATION PERIOD UNDER THE LIMITATION ORDINANCE SO AS NOT TO PREJUDICE A PLAINTIFF WHO HAS SUFFERED FROM FRAUD, THE DELIBERATE CONCEALMENT OF FACTS OR FROM THE CONSEQUENCES OF A MISTAKE.

"IN SUCH CASES THE LIMITATION PERIOD WILL ONLY COMMENCE WHEN THE PLAINTIFF HAS DISCOVERED, OR COULD WITH REASONABLE DILIGENCE HAVE DISCOVERED, THE FRAUD, CONCEALMENT OR MISTAKE," THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SAID.

MR MATHEWS POINTED OUT THAT THE CHANGES PROPOSED IN CLAUSES 5, 6, 7 AND 8 WOULD REDUCE FROM 20 YEARS TO 12 YEARS THE PERIOD WITHIN WHICH IT WAS POSSIBLE TO BRING CERTAIN LEGAL PROCEEDINGS AFFECTING PROPERTY, IN PARTICULAR ACTIONS TO RECOVER LAND OR TO REDEEM MORTGAGED LAND.

"THE PROPOSED CHANGES ARE CONSEQUENT UPON CHANGES EFFECTED BY THE CONVEYANCING AND PROPERTY (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1988.

"DURING THE COURSE OF THE PASSAGE OF THAT PIECE OF LEGISLATION THROUGH THIS COUNCIL ON JUNE 1, THIS YEAR, I ASSURED MEMBERS THAT THE ADMINISTRATION WOULD CAREFULLY CONSIDER A PROPOSAL PUT FORWARD BY THE LATE MR PETER C. WONG, WHICH RELATED TO THE STATUTORY LIMITATION PERIODS FOR ACTIONS FOR THE RECOVERY OF LAND.

"THAT PROPOSAL IS FULLY REFLECTED IN THE BILL," HE SAID.

DEBATE ON THE BILL WAS ADJOURNED.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1990

- 10 -

LEGISLATION ON TOY SAFETY PLANNED

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A WORKING GROUP SET UP BY THE GOVERNMENT HAS CONCLUDED AFTER A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW THAT INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED STANDARDS SHOULD BE PRESCRIBED BY LEGISLATION FOR TOYS AND CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS OFFERED FOR SALE IN HONG KONG.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, THE HON SIR PIERS JACOBS, SAID THIS IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY) IN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON MIRIAM LAU.

"THE WORKING GROUP IS FINALISING ITS DETAILED RECOMMENDATIONS AND I HOPE TO BE ABLE TO INTRODUCE A TOYS AND CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS SAFETY BILL INTO THIS COUNCIL DURING THE NEXT SESSION," SIR PIERS SAID.

WHILE NOTING THAT TOYS FOR SALE IN HONG KONG WERE NOT SUBJECT TO ANY SPECIFIC SAFETY CONTROL, SIR PIERS SAID THE ADMINISTRATION RECOGNISED THAT IN THE ABSENCE OF CONTROL, THE PUBLIC COULD BE EXPOSED TO UNSAFE TOYS AND CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS.

HE SAID THE WORKING GROUPS, COMPRISING GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES, WAS THEREFORE SET UP IN APRIL 1988 TO CONSIDER THE NEED FOR MANDATORY SAFETY STANDARDS FOR TOYS AND CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS OFFERED FOR SALE IN HONG KONG.

SIR PIERS SAID MOST OF THE TOYS FOR SALE IN HONG KONG WHETHER IMPORTED OR LOCALLY MADE, WERE MANUFACTURED TO INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNISED SAFETY STANDARDS, SINCE VERY OFTEN, THE SAME PRODUCTS WERE INTENDED FOR SALE IN OTHER MARKETS WHERE COMPLIANCE WITH SAFETY STANDARDS WAS REQUIRED.

"AS PART OF ITS REGULAR MONITORING PROGRAMME, THE CONSUMER COUNCIL CONDUCTS TESTING OF PRODUCTS CONSIDERED TO BE OF HIGH RISK AND THE RESULTS ARE WIDELY PUBLICISED. TOYS ARE INCLUDED IN THIS PROGRAMME.

"IN ADDITION, EDUCATION CAMPAIGNS HAVE BEEN MOUNTED TO PROMOTE CONSUMER AWARENESS REGARDING THE SAFETY ASPECT IN THE CHOICE OF TOYS FOR CHILDREN," HE SAID.

SIR PIERS SAID THERE WERE NO SEPARATE STATISTICS AS TO THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO SUSTAINED INJURIES THROUGH THE USE OF UNSAFE TOYS.

THE NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY THE CONSUMER COUNCIL CONCERNING TOY SAFETY WAS 39 IN 1987, 26 IN 1988 AND 33 IN 1989.

"THESE FIGURES DO NOT, HOWEVER, REPRESENT ACTUAL CASES OF INJURY, SINCE THE MAJORITY OF COMPLAINTS CONCERNED THE POTENTIAL DANGERS OF UNSAFE TOYS," HE SAID.

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/11

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1990

- 11 -

SUPREME COURT BUILDING NOT DANGEROUS

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RESTORATION WORK FOR THE LOWER GROUND FLOOR OF THE SUPREME COURT BUILDING WHERE MARBLE TILES BECAME DETACHED FROM THEIR MORTAR BACKING WILL BE COMPLETED IN SIX MONTHS' TIME.

THE SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS, THE HON GRAHAM BARNES, SAID THIS IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY) IN REPLYING TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON CHENG HON-KWAN.

MR BARNES ASSURED MEMBERS THE SITUATION AT THE SUPREME COURT BUILDING WAS NOT DANGEROUS.

HE SAID THERE WERE SEVERAL POSSIBLE CAUSES FOR THE TILES BECOMING DETACHED, AND THESE WERE BEING INVESTIGATED.

"AS A RESULT WE HAVE PRISED OFF ALL THE TILES WHICH WE SUSPECT MIGHT BECOME DETACHED, AND TEMPORARY HOARDINGS HAVE BEEN ERECTED IN ALL THE LIFT LOBBIES TO MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR ANY TILE WHICH MIGHT DESPITE PRISING BE SO INCLINED TO FALL ON ANYONE," HE SAID.

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AIM IS PROVISION OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES AT REASONABLE COST

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THE GOVERNMENT RECOGNISES THAT PRIVATE SECTOR UTILITY COMPANIES CANNOT BE ALLOWED TO EXPLOIT THEIR MONOPOLY OR QUASI MONOPOLY POSITION AT THE EXPENSE OF THE CONSUMER, THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, THE HON ANSON CHAN, SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

REPLYING TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON RONALD CHOW, MRS CHAN SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD AN OVERALL INTEREST IN ENSURING THE RELIABLE PROVISION OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES TO CONSUMERS AT A REASONABLE PRICE.

SHE SAID WHERE THE PRIVATE SECTOR COMPANIES COULD PROVIDE SUCH SERVICES EFFICIENTLY, THE GOVERNMENT BELIEVED THAT THEY SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO DO SO WITH THE MINIMUM OF GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE, WITH THE COMPANIES THEMSELVES REMAINING DIRECTLY ACCOUNTABLE TO THEIR CONSUMERS AS FAR AS POSSIBLE.

HOWEVER, SHE EMPHASISED THAT WHERE IT WAS EVIDENT THAT THE CHARGING OF EXCESSIVE PRICES OR OTHER FORMS OF UNDESIRABLE MONOPOLY BEHAVIOUR WOULD RESULT, SOME FORM OF GOVERNMENT REGULATION WAS USUALLY NECESSARY.

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"THE WAY IN WHICH THIS REGULATION IS EXERCISED, IN CASES IN WHICH IT IS APPLIED, DEPENDS ON THE SIZE OF THE COMPANY, ITS POSITION IN THE MARKET, AND THE NATURE OF ITS OPERATIONS.

"THE REGULATION MAY BE BY WAY OF LEGISLATION, FRANCHISE AND/OR A SCHEME OF CONTROL AGREEMENT. BUT IN ALL SUCH CASES THE LEVEL OF REGULATION IS KEPT TO THE MINIMUM COMPATIBLE WITH PUBLIC INTEREST," SHE SAID.

MRS CHAN POINTED OUT THAT THE ULTIMATE CONTROL LAY IN THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE CHARGES LEVIED TO BE SUBJECT TO THE GOVERNMENT'S APPROVAL.

IN APPROVING SUCH CHARGES, THE BASIC CONSIDERATIONS WERE THAT THE COMPANY SHOULD HAVE MADE EVERY EFFORT TO ACHIEVE COST ECONOMIES FOR THE BENEFIT OF CONSUMERS, AND THAT HAVING DONE SO, IT SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO RECOVER THE FULL COST OF PROVIDING THE SERVICE TOGETHER WITH A REASONABLE PROFIT SO AS TO ENCOURAGE FURTHER INVESTMENT TO MEET CHANGES IN DEMAND AND APPROVED STANDARDS IN SERVICE.

"IT IS ESSENTIAL TO BALANCE THE INTERESTS OF CONSUMERS ON THE ONE HAND, AND SHAREHOLDERS AND INVESTORS ON THE OTHER, AND THE PRESENT APPROACH IS IN LINE WITH THIS OBJECTIVE," MRS CHAN SAID.

AS REGARDS THE GAS SUPPLY SECTOR, MRS CHAN EXPLAINED THAT FUEL GASES FOR HEATING AND COOKING PURPOSES WERE CURRENTLY SUPPLIED EITHER AS TOWNGAS AND SYNTHETIC NATURAL GAS (SNG) BY THE HONG KONG AND CHINA GAS CO. LTD. OR AS LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS (LPG) BY A NUMBER OF OIL COMPANIES.

THERE WERE APPROXIMATELY 1.56 MILLION GAS CUSTOMERS IN HONG KONG, OF WHICH ABOUT 689,000 OR 45 PER CENT USED PIPED TOWNGAS OR SNG, 225,000 OR 15 PER CENT USED PIPED LPG AND 610,000 OR 40 PER CENT USED LPG IN CYLINDERS.

THE OIL COMPANIES HAD A 55 PER CENT SHARE OF THE MARKET IN TERMS OF NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS. BUT IN TERMS OF SALES OF GAS ENERGY, THE MARKET-SHARES OF LPG AND HONG KONG AND CHINA GAS CO. WERE ROUGHLY IN THE REGION OF 40:60.

MRS CHAN SAID THE GOVERNMENT RECOGNISED THAT HONG KONG AND CHINA GAS CO. WAS THE SOLE SUPPLIER OF TOWNGAS IN HONG KONG.

HOWEVER, LPG PROVIDED AN ALTERNATIVE CHOICE OF FUEL GAS AND BOTH TYPES HAD RESPECTABLE MARKET SHARES, AND CONSUMERS COULD ALSO CHOOSE ELECTRICITY AS A SOURCE OF ENERGY SUPPLY.

IT WAS THEREFORE NOT CONSIDERED NECESSARY TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATIVE CONTROL OVER HONG KONG AND CHINA GAS CO. OR TO PUT IT UNDER A SCHEME OF CONTROL, SHE SAID.

"HOWEVER, GOVERNMENT WILL MONITOR THE SITUATION CLOSELY. SHOULD THE COMPANY INCREASE ITS MARKET SHARE TO SUCH AN EXTENT THAT IT BECAME A VIRTUAL MONOPOLY IN THE GAS SUPPLY SECTOR AND IT IS FOUND TO BE OPERATING AGAINST THE PUBLIC INTEREST, THEN CONSIDERATION WOULD BE GIVEN TO PUTTING THE COMPANY UNDER SOME FORM OF CONTROL," MRS CHAN SAID.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1990

- 13 -

PHARMACY SERVICE EXTENDED AT TWO HOSPITALS

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IN RECOGNITION OF OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS, ADDITIONAL POSTS IN THE PHARMACY SERVICE HAD BEEN APPROVED AT QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL AND PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL, THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, THE HON ELIZABETH WONG, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

IN A WRITTEN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON RONALD CHOW, MRS WONG ALSO SAID THE HOURS OF OPERATION OF THE PHARMACY SERVICE AT QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL AND PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL HAD BEEN EXTENDED.

THE HOURS OF OPERATION HAD BEEN EXTENDED FROM 9 AM - 5 PM TO 9 AM - 10 PM ON MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS, AND FROM 9 AM - 1 PM TO 9 AM - 5 PM ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

ON SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS, THE HOURS OF OPERATION REMAINED FROM 9 AM TO 5 PM.

MRS WONG SAID THE ADDITIONAL POSTS IN QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL WERE: ONE PHARMACIST, TWO SENIOR DISPENSERS, FIVE DISPENSERS AND ONE WORKMAN II. THE ADDITIONAL POSTS IN PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL WERE: ONE PHARMACIST, TWO SENIOR DISPENSERS, FOUR DISPENSERS AND ONE WORKMAN II.

"REPRESENTATIVES OF PHARMACEUTICAL STAFF WERE CONSULTED ON THE HOSPITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S PLANS, INCLUDING THE ADDITIONAL MANPOWER REQUIREMENTS, PRIOR TO IMPLEMENTATION," SHE SAID.

MRS WONG SAID THAT ON ACCOUNT OF A GENERAL SHORTAGE OF DISPENSING STAFF IN THE DEPARTMENT, IT HAD BEEN AGREED WITH THE STAFF ASSOCIATIONS THAT THE DISPENSERS IN THESE TWO HOSPITALS SHOULD CONTINUE TO UNDERTAKE PAID OVERTIME WORK ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS TO COVER THE EXTENDED HOURS.

"THIS ARRANGEMENT HAS ALLOWED STAFF TO BE REDEPLOYED TO FILL VACANCIES IN OTHER IMPORTANT AREAS OF SERVICE.

"IT IS HOPED THAT OVERTIME WORK WILL BE GRADUALLY REDUCED AS IMPROVEMENTS ARE MADE TO OVERALL STAFFING LEVELS," SHE SAID.

MRS WONG POINTED OUT THAT APART FROM THE REGULAR SUPERVISION BY FIELD SUPERVISORS, AN OPERATIONAL WORKING GROUP WAS SET UP IN MAY LAST YEAR SPECIFICALLY TO MONITOR THE SCHEME WITH THE OBJECT OF MAINTAINING AN EFFICIENT SERVICE, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME GUARDING AGAINST UNDUE STAFF FATIGUE.

"TO ENSURE CONTINUITY OF SERVICE TO PATIENTS, A DUTY ROSTER FOR DISPENSERS HAS BEEN AGREED WITH STAFF IN THE HOSPITALS CONCERNED.

/"THIS ROSTER

"THIS ROSTER WILL BE INSTITUTED IN THE EVENT THAT STAFF RESOURCES FOR OVERTIME CANNOT MEET SERVICE REQUIREMENTS," SHE SAID.

MRS WONG ALSO SAID IT WAS THE INTENTION TO INTRODUCE THE EXTENDED PHARMACY SERVICE TO THE OTHER TWO REGIONAL HOSPITALS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY OF STAFF, AND THE STAFF CONCERNED WOULD BE CONSULTED ON THE ARRANGEMENTS IN DUE COURSE.

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LEGCOS BEGINS DEBATE ON POLITICAL SYSTEM

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SIXTEEN MEMBERS SPOKE ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE MOTION DEBATE ON THE FUTURE POLITICAL SYSTEM IN HONG KONG IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

TWO MEMBERS' MOTIONS WERE ON THE ORDER PAPER AND, AS THE CONTENT OF BOTH RELATED TO THE SAME SUBJECT, "FUTURE POLITICAL SYSTEM IN HONG KONG", THE COUNCIL BEGAN DEBATE ON THEM TOGETHER, AND THE DEBATE WILL CONTINUE TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

THE MOTIONS WERE IN THE NAMES OF THE SENIOR MEMBER, THE HON ALLEN LEE, AND THE HON JAMES MCGREGOR.

MR LEE LED OFF THE DEBATE BY MOVING HIS MOTION, WHICH READS: "THAT THIS COUNCIL EXPRESSES DISAPPOINTMENT THAT THE OMELCO CONSENSUS HAS NOT BEEN ADOPTED IN THE FORMULATION OF THE FUTURE POLITICAL MODEL BUT URGES THE COMMUNITY, IN THE INTEREST OF HONG KONG, TO BE UNITED IN ITS EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A SUCCESSFUL DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM."

MR MCGREGOR WILL FORMALLY MOVE HIS MOTION TOMORROW.

IT READS: "THAT THIS COUNCIL DEPLORES THE EXTREMELY UNDEMOCRATIC POLITICAL MODEL PROPOSED FOR THE BASIC LAW AT THE RECENT MEETING OF THE BASIC LAW DRAFTING COMMITTEE AND URGES THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT TO RECOGNISE THE IMPORTANCE OF PRESERVING THE CONFIDENCE OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG IN THEIR FUTURE AFTER 1997 BY ACCEPTING A MORE DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL MODEL FOR THE BASIC LAW BASED UPON THE OMELCO CONSENSUS WHICH RECOMMENDS A FULLY ELECTED LEGISLATURE BY THE YEAR 2003, REFLECTING THE EXPRESSED WISHES OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG; AND URGES THE ADMINISTRATION IN HONG KONG TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION PROVIDING FOR NO LESS THAN 50 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SEATS TO BE DIRECTLY ELECTED BY 1995."

SIXTEEN MEMBERS ARE LISTED TO SPEAK WHEN THE DEBATE CONTINUES TOMORROW.

IN OTHER BUSINESS, THE PROTECTION OF NON-GOVERNMENT CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990 AND THE LIMITATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990 WERE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS.

DEBATES ON THE TWO BILLS WERE ADJOURNED.

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1990

- 15 -

GOVERNOR TO VISIT LONDON NEXT MONTH

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, WILL VISIT LONDON FROM MARCH 8-11. THE MAIN PURPOSE WILL BE TO BRIEF THE FOREIGN SECRETARY, MR DOUGLAS HURD, ON THE CURRENT SITUATION IN HONG KONG, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

IN ADDITION, THE GOVERNOR WILL MEET THE MINISTER OF STATE WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR HONG KONG, MR FRANCIS MAUDE, AND HOLD DISCUSSIONS WITH OFFICIALS IN THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE.

SIR DAVID WILL LEAVE HONG KONG ON MARCH 7 AND RETURN ON MARCH 12.

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HK POLYTECHNIC REACHES OUT TO BUSINESS COMMUNITY: SEM

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THE OPENING OF THE BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY CENTRE IS YET ANOTHER FINE EXAMPLE OF THE WAY IN WHICH THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC IS REACHING OUT TO THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY, IN AN ENDEAVOUR TO HELP THEM RESPOND TO CHANGE.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE CENTRE TODAY (WEDNESDAY), THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, MR K.Y. YEUNG, SAID THIS WOULD BE ACHIEVED IN SEVERAL WAYS.

FIRSTLY, AS A SORT OF ONE-STOP UNIT, THE CENTRE WOULD HELP CLIENT COMPANIES LOCATE AND PACKAGE THE EXPERTISE AND EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE POLYTECHNIC, AND DEPLOY THEM FOR THE PURPOSE OF SOLVING SPECIFIC CORPORATE PROBLEMS, HE SAID.

"THIS WILL BE ACHIEVED THROUGH THE MECHANISM OF CONSULTANCIES, TRAINING COURSES, AND RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

"SECONDLY, IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK, THE POLYTECHNIC HAS MOUNTED IN THIS CENTRE MODULAR COURSES FOR MIDDLE AND SENIOR MANAGERS ON A PART-TIME, BLOCK RELEASE BASIS THAT SHOULD LEAD TO THE AWARD OF A MASTER'S DEGREE IN THREE YEARS' TIME.

"THESE COURSES ARE DESIGNED AND OVERSEEN BY A BOARD OF 18 MEMBERS, OF WHOM NO FEWER THAN 15 ARE DRAWN FROM THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY," HE SAID.

MR YEUNG SAID THE POLYTECHNIC HAD TAKEN STEPS TO ENSURE THAT THE POST-GRADUATE EDUCATION IT PROVIDED THROUGH THE CENTRE WAS HIGHLY RELEVANT TO THE NEEDS OF THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY.

/HE ADDED

- 16 -

HE ADDED THAT IT WAS MOST ENCOURAGING TO NOTE THAT THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CENTRE WERE FOCUSED ON SOLUTIONS TO SERIOUS BUSINESS PROBLEMS.

"THESE INCLUDE THE DEVELOPMENT OF INFORMATION AND OTHER SYSTEMS BY WHICH HONG KONG HEAD OFFICE BASED MANAGERS DETERMINE THE DESIGN, PRODUCTION, QUALITY AND DELIVERY OF GOODS MANUFACTURED BY THEIR PARTNERS AND SUBSIDIARIES IN CHINA.

"THEY ALSO INCLUDE THE DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATION OF TECHNOLOGY THAT IS INCREASINGLY BEING SOUGHT BY OUR INDUSTRIES HERE IN HONG KONG, NAMELY, THE TECHNOLOGIES OF PRODUCTIVITY ENHANCEMENT, CONSISTANT QUALITY AND VALUE CREATION," HE ADDED.

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MANUFACTURERS WISE IN MAKING QUALITY THE SELLING POINT

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THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR T.H. BARMA, TODAY (WEDNESDAY) CONGRATULATED LOCAL OPTICAL GOODS MANUFACTURERS ON THEIR STRATEGIC DECISION IN MAKING THE QUALITY OF THEIR PRODUCTS THEIR MAIN SELLING POINT.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL OPTICS EXPOSITION - OPTEX '90 - AT THE HONG KONG CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE, MR BARMA SAID HONG KONG'S OPTICAL GOODS INDUSTRY FACED TWO MAJOR CHALLENGES TO ITS POSITION IN MAJOR MARKETS WHICH INCLUDED THE UNITED STATES, THE UNITED KINGDOM, CHINA AND WEST GERMANY.

"FIRSTLY, INCREASING COMPETITION FROM OTHER ASIAN ECONOMIES.

"SECONDLY, THE DEMAND FROM CUSTOMERS FOR EVER-HIGHER STANDARDS OF QUALITY," HE SAID.

MR BARMA SAID THE INDUSTRY WAS TO BE CONGRATULATED ON THE INTELLIGENT WAY IT HAD RESPONDED TO THESE CHALLENGES.

MANUFACTURERS HAD INVESTED IN SOPHISTICATED PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY AND PAID CLOSE ATTENTION TO PRODUCT DESIGN IN WHAT WAS A HIGHLY FASHION-DRIVEN INDUSTRY.

AS EXPORT FIGURES DEMONSTRATED, THIS HAD BEEN A WISE MOVE, HE SAID.

MR BARMA SAID THE VALUE OF THE THE INDUSTRY'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS HAD NEARLY DOUBLED IN THE LAST FOUR YEARS, FROM \$654 MILLION IN 1986 TO JUST OVER \$1.1 BILLION IN 1989.

HE SAID QUALITY-ORIENTED MANUFACTURING WAS THE ROAD WHICH HE SAW OTHER LOCAL INDUSTRIES TAKING IN THE COMING YEARS.

- 17 -

THE GOVERNMENT HAD TAKEN THE STEPS NECESSARY TO PUT IN PLACE AN INFRASTRUCTURE WHICH PROVIDED INDUSTRIES WITH THE INFORMATION AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT THEY NEEDED TO MEET THE HIGHEST QUALITY STANDARDS.

THE OPTICAL GOODS INDUSTRY EMPLOYED JUST OVER 3,000 WORKERS, BUT MR BARMA SAID ITS IMPORTANCE TO HONG KONG LAY NOT IN ITS SIZE BUT IN ITS PRODUCTIVITY AND POTENTIAL FOR GROWTH.

THE FIRST HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL OPTICS EXPO WAS HELD IN NOVEMBER 1988 WITH THE HONG KONG OPTICAL MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION, THE HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AND EXPO MANAGEMENT LTD PARTICIPATING.

OVER 200 COMPANIES FROM 15 COUNTRIES ARE TAKING PART IN THIS YEAR'S EXHIBITION.

THE NEWEST AND MOST FASHIONABLE PRODUCTS OF THE INDUSTRY WILL BE DISPLAYED, AND THE THREE-DAY EXHIBITION WILL BRING TOGETHER MANUFACTURERS, OPTICAL SPECIALISTS AND BUYERS OF OPTICAL GOODS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD.

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APPOINTMENT OF INSPECTORS UNDER COMPANIES ORDINANCE

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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THIS (WEDNESDAY) AFTERNOON THAT THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, SIR PIERS JACOBS, IN EXERCISE OF THE POWERS CONFERRED ON HIM BY SECTION 143(1)(C) OF THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE (CHAPTER 32), HAS APPOINTED MR JOHN ROBERT LEES, PRINCIPAL OF FERRIER HODGSON SPICER AND MARFAN, CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS, AS INSPECTOR TO INVESTIGATE THE AFFAIRS OF PALADIN LIMITED.

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HK'S POPULATION AT 5.8 MILLION

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THE ESTIMATED POPULATION OF HONG KONG AT THE END OF DECEMBER 1989 WAS 5,812,300, ACCORDING TO FIGURES RELEASED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THIS IS AN INCREASE OF 76,300 PEOPLE OR 1.3 PER CENT OVER END-1988.

THE BALANCE OF TOTAL ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SHOWED A NET INFLOW OF 33,600 DURING 1989.

THERE WERE 71,300 BIRTHS LAST YEAR. DEATHS TOTALLED 28,700. NATURAL INCREASE, THAT IS THE SURPLUS OF BIRTHS OVER DEATHS AMOUNTED TO 42,600, WHICH ACCOUNTED FOR 56 PER CENT OF THE POPULATION GROWTH.

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DB TO DISCUSS COMMITTEES' STRUCTURE

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THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS THE COMPOSITION AND STRUCTURE OF ITS COMMITTEES FOR THE 1990-91 TERM AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE PROCEDURES FOR ELECTING REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE BOARD TO SIT ON THE REGIONAL COUNCIL'S KWAI TSING DISTRICT COMMITTEE FOR THE ONE-YEAR TERM BEGINNING APRIL 1.

MEANWHILE, A MEMBER WILL MOVE A MOTION TO REQUEST THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO PASS THE 1990 AIR POLLUTION CONTROL (FUEL RESTRICTION) REGULATIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND WITHOUT EXEMPTION TO ANY FACTORIES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT BOARD MEETING WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (THURSDAY) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM, 10TH FLOOR, KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, KWAI CHUNG.

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SQUATTER AREA IMPROVEMENT WORKS ON DB COMMITTEE AGENDA

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THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD'S SQUATTER AREAS COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS IMPROVEMENT WORKS AT DIAMOND HILL SQUATTER AREA AT ITS MEETING ON FRIDAY (MARCH 2).

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE COMMITTEE'S 1990-91 BUDGET AND THE ALLOCATION OF \$20,000 IN DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS TO CLEAR CHOKED DRAINAGE AT TAI HOM SOUTH VILLAGE.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE REPORTS ON THE SQUATTER AREAS FIRE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN, MINOR WORKS PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN BY THE COMMITTEE, AND ON CASES OF LANDSLIPS, MUDSLIPS AND STRUCTURAL FAILURES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD'S SQUATTER AREAS COMMITTEE TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY (MARCH 2) IN THE DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, FOURTH FLOOR, SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, KING FUK STREET.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1990

- 19 -

DB COMMITTEE TO REVIEW GUIDELINES ON FUND ALLOCATION

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THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD'S RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMITTEE WILL REVIEW THE GENERAL GUIDELINES ON THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR ORGANISING RECREATIONAL AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES FOR RESIDENTS AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

MEMBERS WILL ALSO CONSIDER THE COMMITTEE'S FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND A REPORT FROM THE NORTH DISTRICT ARTS ADVANCEMENT ASSOCIATION.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE THE USAGE PATTERN OF MAJOR RECREATIONAL VENUES IN THE DISTRICT; THE REGIONAL COUNCIL'S ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMME FOR THE DISTRICT IN MARCH AND APRIL; AND A REPORT ON ATTENDANCE AT CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS IN THE NORTH DISTRICT TOWN HALL.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD'S RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMITTEE TO BEGIN AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (THURSDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE, JOCKEY CLUB ROAD, FANLING.

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DB COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS NOISE NUISANCE

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THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS A COMPLAINT BY SOME NAM CHEONG ESTATE RESIDENTS ABOUT NOISE NUISANCE IN THEIR VICINITY AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

THE RESIDENTS COMPLAINED OF NOISE COMING FROM A NEARBY CARGO WORKING AREA AND A SHIPYARD.

THE MEETING WILL ALSO CONSIDER 26 PROPOSED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FOR THE DISTRICT IN 1990-91. THE PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN MADE BY BOARD MEMBERS AND LOCAL AREA COMMITTEES AND WILL BE IMPLEMENTED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE IF THEY ARE APPROVED.

ALSO ON THE AGENDA ARE THE POULTRY HAWKER PROBLEM AT KWEILIN STREET, SEEPAGE AND SPALLING PROBLEMS AT CHAK ON ESTATE, AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION AND TRAFFIC CONGESTION AT CHEUNG SHUN STREET.

/WORK REPORTS

- 20 -

WORK REPORTS BY THE COMMITTEE'S WORKING GROUPS ON THE KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN AND THE REDEVELOPMENT OF PAK TIN AREA WILL BE TABLED.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE TO BE HELD TOMORROW (THURSDAY) AT THE SHEK KIP MEI COMMUNITY HALL, BLOCK 42, SHEK KIP MEI ESTATE, NAM CHEONG STREET.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2 PM.

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HEALTH EDUCATION CARNIVAL FOR ELDERLY

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A CARNIVAL WILL BE HELD IN SHAM SHUI PO ON SATURDAY (MARCH 3) TO ENABLE THE ELDERLY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HEALTH CARE.

THOSE WHO ARE AGED 60 OR ABOVE ARE WELCOME TO TAKE PART IN THE EVENT WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE FROM 2 PM TO 5 PM AT THE BUDDHIST TAI HUNG COLLEGE.

ORGANISED BY THE WORKING GROUP ON PREFERENTIAL SCHEME FOR THE ELDERLY UNDER THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE, THE CARNIVAL WILL INCLUDE A TALK AND A VIDEO SHOW ON HEALTH AND MEDICAL ISSUES, AS WELL AS AN EXHIBITION ON MOUTH HYGIENE.

PARTICIPANTS WILL BE GIVEN FREE TESTS ON THEIR HEARING ABILITY, EYESIGHT AND BLOOD PRESSURE.

IN ADDITION, GAMES STALLS WILL BE SET UP BY LOCAL CENTRES FOR THE ELDERLY AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES.

FREE ADMISSION TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE AT 37-39 TONKIN STREET AND AT ITS NAM CHEONG, NAM SHAN, CHEUNG SHA WAN AND MEI FOO SUB-OFFICES.

MEANWHILE, THE WORKING GROUP IS INVITING LOCAL RESIDENTS AGED 60 OR ABOVE TO TAKE PART IN ITS ONGOING PREFERENTIAL SCHEME TO ENJOY DISCOUNTS OFFERED BY 70 DOCTORS AND DENTISTS AS WELL AS SHOPS IN THE DISTRICT.

/MORE THAN

- 21 -

MORE THAN 1,200 OLD PEOPLE HAVE JOINED THE SCHEME.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SHAM SHUI PO CARNIVAL ON HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY TO BE HELD FROM 2 PM TO 5 PM ON SATURDAY (MARCH 3) AT THE BUDDHIST TAI HUNG COLLEGE AT CHEUNG FAT STREET (NEAR SO UK ESTATE). A RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT 2 PM.

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PLACES AVAILABLE IN GOVT PRIMARY SCHOOLS

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A NUMBER OF PLACES IN PRIMARY 2 TO 6 CLASSES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR CHILDREN AT VARIOUS GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN THE NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR, THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

CHILDREN AGED SIX YEARS AND EIGHT MONTHS AND ABOVE ON SEPTEMBER 1 THIS YEAR, CAN APPLY FOR ADMISSION, A SPOKESMAN SAID.

A NOTICE INDICATING VACANCIES AT SPECIFIC LEVELS WILL BE PUT UP AT THE MAIN ENTRANCE OF INDIVIDUAL SCHOOLS.

APPLICATION FORMS WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM THESE SCHOOLS FROM MARCH 2 TO 9, EXCEPT SUNDAY.

THE SPOKESMAN ADVISED PARENTS TO RETURN THE COMPLETED FORMS TO THE SCHOOL OF THEIR CHOICE.

SELECTION OF APPLICANTS WILL BE MADE ON MARCH 16.

"CHILDREN WILL NORMALLY BE ADMITTED TO SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICT WHERE THEY LIVE," HE SAID.

"CONSIDERATION WILL ALSO BE TAKEN TO ENSURE CHILDREN FROM THE SAME FAMILY WILL NOT BE SEPARATED."

THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED PARENTS THAT APPLICATION FORMS ARE FREE AND NO ENTRANCE FEE WILL BE CHARGED FOR ADMISSION TO GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS.

CHILDREN IN THE SIX TO 12 AGE GROUP WHO ARE STILL NOT IN SCHOOL SHOULD APPLY FOR ADMISSION, HE ADDED.

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1990

- 22 -

VISITING SERVICE FOR ISSUE OF NEW IDENTITY CARDS

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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT TODAY (WEDNESDAY) ANNOUNCED THAT A VISITING SERVICE TO ASSIST IN THE APPLICATION FOR NEW IDENTITY CARDS WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO RESIDENTS OF CHEUNG CHAU, LAMMA, MUI WO, TAI O AND SAI KUNG FROM MARCH 12 TO 24.

"THIS WILL BE THE FIRST ROUND OF VISITING SERVICE PROVIDED. VISITING TEAMS WILL INITIALLY HANDLE APPLICATIONS FROM MEN BORN BETWEEN 1928 AND 1931, WHO LIVE IN THOSE AREAS," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

"THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING SUCH A SERVICE IS TO FACILITATE APPLICATIONS FROM THOSE AFFECTED BY THE CURRENT PHASE OF THE NEW IDENTITY CARD RE-ISSUE SCHEME, AND TO OFFER THOSE WHO HAVE MISSED THEIR TURN IN PREVIOUS PHASES A LAST OPPORTUNITY TO APPLY," HE SAID.

"MALE LATECOMERS BORN BETWEEN 1932 AND 1940 ARE THEREFORE URGED TO MAKE USE OF THIS SERVICE TO APPLY FOR THEIR NEW IDENTITY CARDS.

"HOWEVER, THE VISITING TEAMS WILL ONLY DEAL WITH HOLDERS OF VALID OLD TYPE IDENTITY CARDS.

"OTHER APPLICATIONS SUCH AS REGISTRATION OF AN IDENTITY CARD FOR THE FIRST TIME OR REPLACEMENT OF AN IDENTITY CARD DUE TO LOSS, DAMAGE OR FOR AMENDMENT SHOULD BE SUBMITTED AT ONE OF THE REGULAR REGISTRATION OF PERSONS OFFICES," HE SAID.

"ON SOME OCCASIONS, APPLICANTS MAY BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND A NEW IDENTITY CARD ISSUE OFFICE IN THE URBAN AREAS FOR FURTHER FORMALITIES. IN THESE CASES, THE APPLICANTS WILL BE NOTIFIED INDIVIDUALLY," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

APPLICATIONS WILL BE PROCESSED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS DURING THE SPECIFIED PERIODS, MONDAYS TO SATURDAYS:

DATE -----	CENTRE -----	OPENING HOURS -----
MARCH 12 TO 14	MUI WO COMMUNITY AFFAIRS BRANCH OFFICE, GRAND VIEW MANSION, GROUND FLOOR, SHOP D, SOUTH LANTAU ROAD, MUI WO, LANTAU ISLAND, DD4 LOT 669	10 AM - 1 PM 2 PM - 4 PM
MARCH 12 TO 17	CHEUNG CHAU RURAL COMMITTEE OFFICE, 2 CHURCH ROAD, CHEUNG CHAU	10 AM - 1 PM 2 PM - 4 PM
MARCH 12 TO 24	SAI KUNG JOCKEY CLUB TOWN HALL, PO TUNG ROAD, SAI KUNG	10 AM - 1 PM 2 PM - 4 PM

/MARCH 19

- 23 -

MARCH 19 TO 21	NORTH LAMMA RURAL COMMITTEE OFFICE, YUNG SHU WAN MAIN STREET, NORTH LAMMA	10 AM - 1 PM 2 PM - 4 PM
MARCH 19 TO 21	TAI O RURAL COMMITTEE OFFICE, 29 MARKET STREET, TAI O	10.30 AM - 1 PM 2 PM - 3.30 PM

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

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MA TAU WAI POST OFFICE RE-OPENS ON MONDAY
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RENOVATION WORK IN MA TAU WAI POST OFFICE AT 11 FARM ROAD, MA TAU WAI HAS COMPLETED AND THE OFFICE WILL RE-OPEN FOR BUSINESS ON MONDAY (MARCH 5), THE POST OFFICE ANNOUNCED TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

ALL POSTAL FACILITIES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED AT THE OFFICE WILL BE RESUMED FROM THE SAME DATE.

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ILLEGAL STRUCTURES IN KWUN TONG TO BE CLOSED
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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS SEEKING TO CLOSE CERTAIN ILLEGAL STRUCTURES IN KWUN TONG SO THAT THEY CAN BE DEMOLISHED WITHOUT DANGER TO THE OCCUPIERS AND TO THE PUBLIC.

THE ILLEGAL STRUCTURES ARE ON THE FLAT ROOF AND CANOPY ADJOINING FLAT G, FIRST FLOOR, KIN TAK HOUSE, 93-115 HIP WO STREET.

THE CLOSURE FORMS PART OF AN EXERCISE TO ENFORCE AN ORDER ISSUED UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE IN MARCH LAST YEAR REQUIRING THE DEMOLITION OF THE STRUCTURES.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER FROM THE SHA TIN DISTRICT COURT ON MARCH 28 THIS YEAR WAS POSTED ON A CONSPICUOUS PART OF THE STRUCTURES TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

IT IS EXPECTED THAT DEMOLITION WILL START ONCE THE CLOSURE ORDER IS OBTAINED.

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1990

- 24 -

TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN WAN CHAI

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM FRIDAY (MARCH 2), TWO SECTIONS OF ROADS IN WAN CHAI WILL BE TEMPORARILY CLOSED TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC TO FACILITATE CABLE LAYING WORKS.

STONE NULLAH LANE BETWEEN JOHNSTON ROAD AND CROSS STREET WILL BE CLOSED FROM 9 PM TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR THREE DAYS UNTIL MARCH 4.

THE JUNCTION OF KING SING STREET WITH STONE NULLAH LANE WILL BE CLOSED FOR 10 DAYS UNTIL MARCH 11.

DURING THE CLOSURE PERIOD, KING SING STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED TO TWO-WAY CUL-DE-SAC, AND HING WAN STREET TO ONE-WAY EASTBOUND. TRAFFIC ON STONE NULLAH LANE HEADING FOR KING SING STREET OR KENNEDY STREET WILL BE DIVERTED VIA HING WAN STREET.

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URBAN CLEARWAY IN CENTRAL

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (MARCH 2), THE SOUTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF WESTBOUND CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL FROM A POINT ABOUT 30 METRES WEST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH JUBILEE STREET TO ITS JUNCTION WITH GILMAN STREET EXCLUDING THE LAY-BY, WILL BE DESIGNATED AN URBAN CLEARWAY 24 HOURS DAILY FOR THREE MONTHS TO FACILITATE ROAD RE-CONSTRUCTION WORKS.

NO VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS THERE.

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URBAN CLEARWAYS IN KOWLOON BAY

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (MARCH 2), TWO ROAD SECTIONS IN KOWLOON BAY WILL BE DESIGNATED URBAN CLEARWAYS.

THE EASTERN KERBSIDE LANE OF WANG KWONG ROAD FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH KAI YAN STREET TO A POINT ABOUT 110 METRES TO THE NORTH WILL BECOME A PEAK HOUR (7 AM - 10 AM AND 4 PM - 7 PM) DAILY URBAN CLEARWAY.

ALSO, KAI LOK STREET FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH WANG CHIU ROAD AND KAI LAI ROAD TO A POINT ABOUT 40 METRES TO THE EAST WILL BE MADE A 7 AM TO MIDNIGHT DAILY URBAN CLEARWAY.

NO VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS WITHIN THE RESTRICTED AREAS.

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1990

- 25 -

NO-STOPPING AREA IN TAK MAN STREET EXTENDS

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (MARCH 2), THE EXISTING 7 AM TO 7 PM URBAN CLEARWAY ON THE SOUTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF TAK MAN STREET IN HUNG HOM BETWEEN WUHU STREET AND A POINT ABOUT 50 METRES EAST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH DOCK STREET WILL BE EXTENDED EASTWARDS FOR ABOUT 47 METRES.

NO VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS THERE.

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LOWER SPEED LIMIT ON PRINCE EDWARD ROAD EAST

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (MARCH 2), THE SPEED LIMIT ON PRINCE EDWARD ROAD EAST EASTBOUND BETWEEN A POINT ABOUT 90 METRES EAST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH THE ACCESS ROAD LEADING TO CHOI HUNG ROAD AND A POINT ABOUT FIVE METRES EAST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH THE ACCESS ROAD LEADING TO LUNG CHEUNG ROAD NORTHBOUND WILL BE LOWERED FROM 70 TO 50 KILOMETRES PER HOUR.

THIS MEASURE IS IMPLEMENTED FOR ROAD SAFETY REASONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL.

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FLUSHING WATER CUTS IN TSUEN WAN, HO MAN TIN AND KING'S PARK

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FLUSHING WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN TSUEN WAN WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 8 AM TO 4 PM ON FRIDAY (MARCH 2) TO FACILITATE WATER WORKS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT ALL PREMISES AT ON YAT STREET, TSUEN KING CIRCUIT, ON YUK ROAD, INCLUDING ALLWAY GARDENS, HONG KONG ADVENTIST HOSPITAL AND STAFF QUARTERS, YAN CHAI HOSPITAL, LIM POR YEN SECONDARY SCHOOL, AND KEI WAI PRIMARY SCHOOL.

ON SATURDAY (MARCH 3), FLUSHING WATER SUPPLY TO ALL PREMISES IN HO MAN TIN AND KING'S PARK WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 2 PM TO MIDNIGHT THE NEXT DAY TO FACILITATE WATER WORKS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT ALL PREMISES AT HO MAN TIN AND KING'S PARK DISTRICT, INCLUDING KING GEORGE V SCHOOL, HO MAN TIN ESTATE, OI MAN ESTATE, CHUN MAN COURT AND VALLEY ROAD ESTATE.

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