



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1993

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
NEW CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE FOOD MARKET OPENS	1
BROADCASTING AUTHORITY CONSIDERS SUBSCRIPTION TV REPORT	2
BUSINESS URGED TO TAKE UP GREEN CHALLENGE	3
NEW ANTI-DRUG MESSAGES ON BUSES	4
ORGAN DONATION - A GIFT OF LIFE	5
PUBLIC CONCERN ON ADOPTIVE CHILDREN GROWING	5
MARRIAGE REGISTRY CLOSES FOR RENOVATION	6
WONG TAI SIN TO HOLD FIGHT CRIME CARNIVAL	7
HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS ..	8

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1993

- 1 -

NEW CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE FOOD MARKET OPENS

* * * * *

PHASE I OF THE CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE FOOD MARKET - ONE OF THE MOST MODERN MARKETS OF ITS KIND IN THE REGION, WAS OFFICIALLY OPENED BY LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR MR ANDREW WONG WANG-FAT THIS (SATURDAY) MORNING.

BUILT AT A COST OF \$504 MILLION, PHASE I OF THIS MARKET UNDER THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT OCCUPIES AN AREA OF MORE THAN 10 HECTARES ON THE WESTERN KOWLOON RECLAMATION.

THE MARKET IS THE FIRST BUILDING COMPLETED BY ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT UNDER THE AIRPORT CORE PROGRAMME.

SPEAKING AT THE MARKET'S OPENING CEREMONY, MR WONG SAID THE COMMUNITY WOULD BENEFIT FROM AN EFFICIENT AND ORDERLY WHOLESALING WITHIN THE FOOD DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM THAT WOULD HELP CUT FOOD COSTS.

HE SAID: "THE CONSUMPTION OF FRESH FOODSTUFFS SUCH AS VEGETABLES, FRESH FRUIT, LIVE POULTRY, MARINE FISH, FRESHWATER FISH AND EGGS REPRESENTS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE DIET OF THE LOCAL PEOPLE AND COMPRISES A SIGNIFICANT PROPORTION OF THE DAILY FAMILY BUDGET ON FOOD."

THE OPENING OF THE MARKET WOULD NOT ONLY DO GOOD TO THE WHOLE COMMUNITY, IT WOULD ALSO HELP THE GOVERNMENT RESOLVE SHAM SHUI PO'S ENVIRONMENTAL, TRAFFIC AND OTHER PROBLEMS LONG ASSOCIATED WITH THE OLD MARKETS THERE, HE SAID.

FURTHERMORE, LARGE AREAS OF VALUABLE LAND CAN BE RELEASED FOR OTHER PLANNED COMMUNITY USES FOLLOWING THE RELOCATION OF THE OLD MARKETS, HE ADDED.

MR WONG ALSO TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO URGE THE GOVERNMENT TO BE FIRMLY COMMITTED TO THE MARKET'S PHASE II PROGRAMME, SO THAT AN EARLY REPROVISIONING OF THE WHOLESALE FRUIT MARKET IN YAU MA TEI AND THE TEMPORARY WHOLESALE POULTRY MARKET IN CHEUNG SHA WAN, WHICH HAD BEEN CAUSING ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS TO NEARBY RESIDENTS, COULD BE REALISED.

PHASE I OF THE MARKET WAS BUILT TO PROVIDE MARKETING FACILITIES FOR VEGETABLES, FRESHWATER FISH, MARINE FISH AND EGGS.

APART FROM THE AUCTION HALL ATTACHED TO THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION MARKET, IT COMPRISES 320 MARKET STALLS WITH MORE THAN 1,000 LORRY AND CONTAINER VEHICLE PARKING SPACES.

IT IS DESIGNED TO HANDLE OVER 370,000 TONNES OF FRESH FOODSTUFFS A YEAR, ENOUGH TO MEET THE NEEDS WELL INTO THE NEXT CENTURY.

OPERATING ROUND-THE-CLOCK, THE MARKET IS ALSO PROVIDED WITH ITS OWN DRAINAGE SYSTEM AND WASTE TREATMENT PLANT TO ENSURE THE HIGHEST STANDARD OF HYGIENE AND FULL COMPLIANCE WITH THE LATEST ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS.

/IN ADDITION

IN ADDITION TO HAVING FIVE PURPOSE-BUILT PIERS, THE MARKET ALSO HAS SUCH ANCILLARY FACILITIES AS BANKS, A RESTAURANT, A KIOSK, TRADE OFFICES AND WORKSHOPS.

MODERN EQUIPMENT SUCH AS A CLOSE-CIRCUIT TELEVISION SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM AND A COMPUTERISED PARKING SYSTEM HAVE BEEN INSTALLED TO ENHANCE MARKET SECURITY AND MANAGEMENT EFFICIENCY.

ALSO ADDRESSING THE OPENING CEREMONY, THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE, SAID THIS WELL-DESIGNED AND STRATEGICALLY LOCATED MARKET WAS THE SECOND IN A SERIES OF PERMANENT WHOLESALE MARKETS FOR FRESH FOODSTUFFS TO BE BUILT BY THE GOVERNMENT.

DR LEE SAID: "IT REPRESENTS THE CULMINATION OF MANY YEARS OF PLANNING AND WORK TO GROUP TOGETHER THE DIFFERENT WHOLESALE MARKETING TRADES UNDER ONE ROOF TO FORM THE FIRST PART OF A WHOLESALE MARKET COMPLEX IN KOWLOON."

PHASE I OF THE TERRITORY'S FIRST PERMANENT WHOLESALE MARKET FOR FRESH FOODSTUFFS - THE WESTERN WHOLESALE FOOD MARKET ON HONG KONG ISLAND - WAS COMPLETED AND OPEN FOR USE EARLY LAST YEAR.

CONSTRUCTION WORK FOR THE SECOND PHASE, DR LEE STRESSED, IS NEARING COMPLETION AND EXPECTED TO BECOME OPERATIONAL IN MARCH NEXT YEAR.

IT IS TO REPROVISION THE WESTERN TEMPORARY WHOLESALE POULTRY MARKET AND THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT VEGETABLE WHOLESALE MARKET IN KENNEDY TOWN.

OTHER OFFICIATING GUESTS AT TODAY'S OPENING CEREMONY INCLUDED LEGCO MEMBER, MR LAU WAH-SUM (WHO IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE FISH MARKETING ADVISORY BOARD), DIRECTOR OF ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES MR K Y S CHAN, CHAIRMAN OF THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD, MR CHOY WAI-SHEK AND CHAIRMAN OF HONG KONG AND KOWLOON FIVE-GUILDS UNION, MR IP YEUK-LAM.

- - - - 0 - - - -

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY CONSIDERS SUBSCRIPTION TV REPORT

* * * * *

THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY AT ITS MEETING CONSIDERED A REPORT ON THE FIRST MONTH OF WHARF CABLE'S SUBSCRIPTION TELEVISION BROADCASTS.

THE AUTHORITY NOTED THAT WHARF CABLE WAS PROVIDING A WIDE CHOICE WITH A GOOD MIX OF INFORMATIVE AND ENTERTAINING PROGRAMMES, AND INTRODUCING SOME INNOVATION IN TERMS OF SCHEDULING, STYLE AND PRESENTATION.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY SAID IT WAS MONITORING THE NEW LICENSEE TO SATISFY ITSELF THAT THE LICENSEE WAS MAKING THE BEST USE OF ITS EXCLUSIVE LICENCE AND SERVING THE VIEWING PUBLIC.

THE AUTHORITY WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE NEW SERVICE AS IT DEVELOPS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

IT ALSO CONSIDERED A NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS ABOUT TELEVISION AND RADIO BROADCASTS.

ATV WAS ADVISED TO OBSERVE MORE CLOSELY THE TELEVISION CODES OF PRACTICE ON FAMILY VIEWING HOURS, FOLLOWING A COMPLAINT ABOUT SCENES IN THE ATV HOME PROGRAMME "REINCARNATED II" WHICH CONTAINED SHOTS OF BEHEADING AND OTHER VIOLENT ACTS BROADCAST BETWEEN 7.30 PM AND 8.30 PM.

MEMBERS OF THE AUTHORITY FELT THAT SUCH SCENES WERE NOT SUITABLE FOR BROADCAST DURING FAMILY VIEWING HOURS.

THE AUTHORITY ALSO SERIOUSLY WARNED COMMERCIAL RADIO FOR THE USE OF A GENUINE TRIAD EXPRESSION IN THE PROGRAMME "WONG HEI".

- - - - 0 - - - -

BUSINESS URGED TO TAKE UP GREEN CHALLENGE

* * * * *

THE BUSINESS SECTOR WAS TODAY (SATURDAY) URGED TO TAKE UP THE ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGE BY DEVISING WAYS TO MAKE THE SOCIETY USE ENERGY MORE EFFICIENTLY.

THE APPEAL WAS MADE BY THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS, MR TONY COOPER, WHEN HE OPENED AN ENVIRONMENTALLY-FRIENDLY PETROL STATION AT MA ON SHAN.

HE SAID: "ENERGY, OF WHATEVER SORT, IS THE LIFE-BLOOD OF MODERN SOCIETIES AND RELIABLE SUPPLIES ARE IMPORTANT TO THE CONTINUED WELL-BEING OF OUR COMMUNITY."

HOWEVER, HE SAID, THE WAY ENERGY IS USED IN MODERN SOCIETY PROBABLY CAUSED MORE ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE THAN ANYTHING THE COMMUNITY DID.

THEREFORE, THE BUSINESS HAS A PARTICULAR RESPONSIBILITY TO TAKE UP THE ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGE AND SET GOOD, GREEN EXAMPLES BY LOOKING AT THEIR PROCESS TO SEE HOW THEY CAN BE IMPROVED TO BENEFIT THE ENVIRONMENT.

MR COOPER WAS ENCOURAGED TO SEE THAT A PART OF THE ENERGY INDUSTRY WAS SEEKING TO GREEN THE PATH FROM RAW PRODUCT TO END USERS.

HE CITED AS AN EXAMPLE A NEW GENERATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PETROL SERVICE STATIONS THAT HAD BEEN DESIGNED TO MITIGATE AS FULLY AS POSSIBLE ITS IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT.

/HOWEVER, MR

HOWEVER, MR COOPER SAID, MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE.

"TAKING UP THIS CHALLENGE WILL INVOLVE FORMING COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS -- THE GOVERNMENT, BUSINESS, THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE ARE THE KEY COMPONENTS OF SUCH PARTNERSHIP."

- - - - 0 - - - -

NEW ANTI-DRUG MESSAGES ON BUSES

* * * * *

NEW MESSAGES WARNING THE COMMUNITY AGAINST DRUG ABUSE ARE NOW CARRIED ON THREE PUBLIC BUSES AS PART OF THE ANTI-NARCOTICS PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS SAID TODAY (SATURDAY) THAT THE 1993/94 ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN WOULD CONTINUE TO CALL ON THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE TO REINFORCE THEIR COMBINED EFFORTS AGAINST DRUG ABUSE, WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON YOUNGSTERS UNDER THE AGE OF 21.

"PUBLICITY WILL ALSO FOCUS ON PARENTS TO REMIND THEM OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE FOR THEIR CHILDREN ABOUT THE DANGERS OF DRUG ABUSE," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

TO COINCIDE WITH THE THEMES OF THIS YEAR'S CAMPAIGN, PUBLICITY SLOGANS "CARE FOR YOUR FUTURE, SAY NO TO DRUGS" AND "PARENTS OWE IT TO THEIR CHILDREN TO READ THE PARENT'S GUIDE" HAVE BEEN PAINTED ON TWO KOWLOON MOTOR BUS CO BUSES AND ONE CHINA MOTOR BUS CO BUS.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT TWO ANNOUNCEMENTS IN PUBLIC INTEREST HAVE ALSO BEEN PRODUCED TO FURTHER AROUSE THE AWARENESS OF GRAVE CONSEQUENCES OF DRUG ABUSE.

THE FILMS ARE BEING SHOWN ON LOCAL TELEVISION STATIONS AND AT THE YAUMATEI FERRY PIER.

INFORMATION LEAFLETS FOR PARENTS ON HOW TO GUIDE THEIR CHILDREN AWAY FROM DRUGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT DISTRICT OFFICES AND OFFICES OF THE PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES MANAGED BY THE HOUSING AUTHORITY.

IN ORDER TO REACH A BROADER AUDIENCE AND TO SUSTAIN PUBLICITY, LARGE POSTERS WILL BE PUT UP AT ALL MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY STATIONS IN JANUARY NEXT YEAR, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

ORGAN DONATION - A GIFT OF LIFE

* * * * *

THE GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY BODIES MUST JOIN HANDS IN PROVIDING A CONTINUING AND VIGOROUS PROGRAMME OF PUBLICITY AND PUBLIC EDUCATION TO ENCOURAGE LIVER DONATIONS, MRS PATTEN SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

"WE MUST PROVIDE THE COMMUNITY WITH MORE INFORMATION ABOUT LIVER DISEASE AND THE NEED FOR TRANSPLANTS," SHE SAID.

SPEAKING AT THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF THE LIVER FOUNDATION, MRS PATTEN NOTED THAT LIVER DISEASE WAS A MAJOR KILLER IN HONG KONG.

ONE IN 10 OF THE POPULATION IS A CARRIER OF HEPATITIS-B AND SOME OF THESE CARRIERS WILL GO ON TO DEVELOP LIVER CANCER.

SHE POINTED OUT THAT MUCH OF THIS ILLNESS AND SUFFERING COULD BE AVOIDED BY PRACTISING HEALTHY LIFESTYLE HABITS, WHILE MANY OF THOSE WHO CONTRACTED LIVER DISEASE COULD BE CURED BY TRANSPLANT.

"WE HAVE THE TECHNOLOGY, BUT WE DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH DONORS," SHE SAID.

SHE FELT THAT ORGAN DONATION WAS THE MOST SELFLESS WAY IN WHICH MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY CAN DEMONSTRATE THEIR CONCERN AND PUBLIC SPIRIT.

"ORGAN DONATION IS A GIFT THAT COSTS THE DONOR NOTHING. BUT TO THE RECIPIENT, IT IS THE GIFT OF LIFE," SHE SAID.

ALTHOUGH TRADITIONAL CULTURAL ATTITUDES AND RESISTANCE WERE GRADUALLY BEING OVERCOME, MRS PATTEN SAID: "THIS IS A SLOW PROCESS AND REQUIRES A LONG-TERM COMMITMENT. THERE IS STILL A LOT TO BE DONE."

SHE HOPED THE FUTURE WOULD SEE MORE PEOPLE FOLLOWING THE LEAD THAT HONG KONG'S YOUNGER GENERATION HAS TAKEN AND OPT TO BE DONORS.

FOR THOSE WHO CHOOSE NOT TO BE DONORS, SHE SAID: "WE MUST RESPECT THEIR WISHES. BUT IN TURN, WE ASK THEM TO RESPECT THE WISHES OF THOSE WHO WANT TO DONATE AND NOT TO RAISE OBJECTIONS."

- - - - 0 - - - -

PUBLIC CONCERN ON ADOPTIVE CHILDREN GROWING

* * * * *

VOLUNTEERS HAVE SHOWN GROWING CONCERN AND SUPPORT FOR ADOPTIVE SERVICE OVER THE YEARS, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR IAN STRACHAN, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

SPEAKING AT AN AWARDS-PRESENTATION CEREMONY FOR VOLUNTEERS IN ADOPTION SERVICE AT WAN CHAI, MR STRACHAN EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT MORE PEOPLE WOULD AWARE OF THE NEEDS OF CHILDREN AWAITING ADOPTION.

IN 1991, 32 NOMINATED VOLUNTEERS RECEIVED THE AWARDS. THIS YEAR 68 WERE AWARDED.

"THE PROPER CARE OF THESE CHILDREN IS NOT JUST THE CONCERN OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

"IT SHOULD ALSO BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE COMMUNITY TOO," HE ADDED.

POINTING OUT THAT 1994 IS THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE FAMILY, HE SAID: "THE INVOLVEMENT OF A CARING COMMUNITY WILL BE NECESSARY TO HELP THE HOMELESS CHILDREN GET THEIR FAMILIES.

"A CARING COMMUNITY WILL PROVIDE A MOST VALUABLE SAFETY NET FOR THOSE IN NEED."

IN THE PAST TWO YEARS, CHILDREN ARE BEING PLACED RELATIVELY QUICKLY; MOST OF THEM ARE PLACED WITHIN THREE MONTHS AFTER AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION.

CHILDREN WHO WOULD NEED TO WAIT LONGER FOR A SUITABLE HOME ARE THOSE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS SUCH AS THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED, THE SICK AND THE DISABLED.

"SPECIAL EFFORTS WILL CONTINUE TO BE MADE TO LOCATE ADOPTIVE FAMILIES FOR THEM.

"THERE WILL ALSO BE ONGOING EFFORTS TO ARRANGE CONCERNED INDIVIDUALS OR FAMILIES TO VISIT AND PLAY WITH THESE CHILDREN, OR TO PROVIDE THEM WITH PRE-ADOPTION FOSTER CARE.

"SUCH EFFORTS WILL HELP THEM INTEGRATE INTO THEIR FUTURE NEW FAMILIES MORE EASILY," MR STRACHAN SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

MARRIAGE REGISTRY CLOSES FOR RENOVATION

* * * * *

THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (SATURDAY) THAT THE CITY HALL MARRIAGE REGISTRY WOULD BE CLOSED FROM MARCH 28 TO JULY 31 NEXT YEAR.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT SAID THE TEMPORARY CLOSURE WAS DUE TO RENOVATION WORK. IT WILL BE RE-OPENED ON AUGUST 1.

FROM DECEMBER 28 UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, THE MARRIAGE REGISTRATION AND RECORDS OFFICE AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE IN QUEENSWAY WILL NOT ACCEPT NOTICES OF MARRIAGE CEREMONIES TO TAKE PLACE AT THE CITY HALL MARRIAGE REGISTRY BETWEEN MARCH 28 AND JULY 31 NEXT YEAR.

NOTICES OF MARRIAGE CEREMONIES TO TAKE PLACE AT THE COTTON TREE DRIVE MARRIAGE REGISTRY WILL NOT BE AFFECTED.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1993

- 7 -

DURING THE CLOSURE OF THE CITY HALL MARRIAGE REGISTRY, THE TSIM SHA TSUI AND THE COTTON TREE DRIVE MARRIAGE REGISTRIES WILL EXTEND THEIR SERVICE TO SATURDAY AFTERNOONS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE TWO REGISTRIES WILL ALSO MAINTAIN FULL-DAY MARRIAGE CEREMONY SERVICE ON SUNDAYS.

APART FROM THE COTTON TREE DRIVE MARRIAGE REGISTRY, RESIDENTS ON HONG KONG ISLAND MAY CHOOSE TO USE THE EASTERN MARRIAGE REGISTRY ON 11TH FLOOR, EASTERN LAW COURTS BUILDING, 29 TAI ON STREET.

FOR ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CALL 824 6111.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WONG TAI SIN TO HOLD FIGHT CRIME CARNIVAL
* * * * *

CRIME PREVENTION IS THE THEME OF A CARNIVAL SCHEDULED FOR 2 PM TOMORROW (SUNDAY) AT THE MORSE PARK.

THE IMPORTANCE OF REPORTING CRIMES AND CO-OPERATION WITH THE POLICE WILL ALSO BE HIGHLIGHTED.

RESIDENTS OF THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT ARE WELCOME TO JOIN THE EVENT WHICH IS ORGANISED BY THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE AND SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD AND DISTRICT OFFICE.

THERE WILL BE AN EXHIBITION, STALL GAMES AND PERFORMANCES, INCLUDING CARTOON FIGURES IMITATING POLICE PATROL.

OFFICIATING GUESTS WILL INCLUDE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE MEMBER, MR JUSTIN WONG; WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ALDAN KWOK; WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT POLICE COMMANDER, MR MICHAEL DOWIE AND DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR CHAN KAM-MAN.

- - - - -

ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT'S FIGHT CRIME CARNIVAL WILL BEGIN AT 2 PM AT THE MORSE PARK HARD SURFACE SOCCER PITCH TOMORROW (SUNDAY).

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

- - - - 0 - - - -

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1993

- 8 -

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

* * * * *

	\$ MILLION

OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,300
REVERSAL OF LAF	+9,200
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	10,500
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	-9,039
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,461
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER TWI 113.6 *-0.1* 11.12.93	

- - - - 0 - - - -