



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18, 1984

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GOVERNOR SPEAKS ON GREEN PAPER

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THE GREEN PAPER ON THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT IS ANOTHER STEP ON THE WAY TO ESTABLISHING A SYSTEM WHICH DERIVES ITS AUTHORITY FROM THE HONG KONG COMMUNITY, SAID THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

THE GREEN PAPER'S PROPOSALS DEAL PRINCIPALLY WITH THE LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE COUNCILS, SAID SIR EDWARD.

+AS REGARDS THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, IT IS PROPOSED THAT A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL SHOULD BE ELECTED INDIRECTLY BY AN ELECTORAL COLLEGE COMPOSED OF ALL MEMBERS OF THE URBAN COUNCIL, THE NEW REGIONAL COUNCIL AND THE DISTRICT BOARDS; THAT A SIMILAR NUMBER SHOULD BE ELECTED BY SPECIFIED FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES: BY WHICH WE MEAN ORGANISATIONS REPRESENTING COMMERCE, INDUSTRY, THE LAW AND OTHER IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF OUR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL LIFE; THAT A NUMBER OF APPOINTED UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS SHOULD BE RETAINED ON THE COUNCIL, FOR THE TIME BEING; AND THAT THERE SHOULD BE A GRADUAL REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF OFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

+BY 1988, THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WOULD BE COMPOSED OF 12 UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE, 12 UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES, 16 APPOINTED UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS AND TEN OFFICIAL MEMBERS. THIS COMPARES WITH THE PRESENT COUNCIL OF 29 APPOINTED UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS AND 18 OFFICIALS.+

SIR EDWARD SAID THE SYSTEM OF INDIRECT ELECTIONS WOULD BE INTRODUCED STEP BY STEP WITH PROGRESS REVIEWS. THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ARRANGEMENTS WOULD BE INTRODUCED IN TWO STAGES, 1985 AND 1988 FOLLOWING THE DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS IN EACH YEAR. IN 1989 THERE WOULD BE A REVIEW TO DETERMINE WHAT FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS SHOULD BE PURSUED.

AT THAT TIME THE POSSIBILITY OF ALL UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS BEING ELECTED AND THE POSSIBILITY OF DIRECT ELECTIONS WOULD BE ASSESSED.

+AS REGARDS THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE APPOINTED UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL SHOULD BE REPLACED PROGRESSIVELY BY MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FROM THEIR OWN NUMBER; THAT A FEW MEMBERS SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR; AND THAT EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS SHOULD REMAIN AS MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL. THESE PROPOSED ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WOULD ALSO BE INTRODUCED IN TWO STAGES - IN 1988 AND 1991 - FOLLOWING THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS IN EACH OF THOSE YEARS.

/+THE INTENTION

+THE INTENTION IS THAT, BY 1991, THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL SHOULD BE COMPOSED OF AT LEAST EIGHT MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, TWO MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR AND FOUR EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS: HOWEVER, THESE NUMBERS MIGHT BE MODIFIED IN THE LIGHT OF THE REVIEW IN 1989 OF THE COMPOSITION AND METHOD OF SELECTION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SIR EDWARD DESCRIBED THE DEVELOPMENTS WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN RECENT YEARS IN GOVERNMENT AND WHICH HAVE INCLUDED DISTRICT BOARD AND URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGIONAL COUNCIL AND THE APPOINTMENT OF URBAN COUNCIL AND DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

+WE NOW NEED TO TAKE THE NEXT STEP WHICH IS TO CONSIDER NOT ONLY THE COMPOSITION OF THE TWO CENTRAL COUNCILS, BUT THE METHOD OF SELECTING THEIR MEMBERS,+ SAID SIR EDWARD.

+THIS IS THE OBJECT OF THE GREEN PAPER. THE AIMS OF THE PROPOSALS CONTAINED IN IT ARE THESE:

+FIRST, TO DEVELOP A SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT WHICH IS FIRMLY ROOTED IN OUR COMMUNITY; ON WHICH THE VIEWS OF THE COMMUNITY ARE FULLY REPRESENTED; AND WHICH IS MORE DIRECTLY ACCOUNTABLE TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG;

+SECOND, TO DEVELOP THIS SYSTEM PROGRESSIVELY, BUILDING ON OUR EXISTING INSTITUTIONS, AND ON OUR WELL-ESTABLISHED PRACTICE OF GOVERNMENT BY CONSENSUS; AND

+THIRD, TO GIVE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR OUR PROPOSALS TO BE TESTED AGAINST THE EXPERIENCE WE GAIN IN IMPLEMENTING THEM: TO THIS END IT IS PROPOSED TO REVIEW THE POSITION IN 1989 BEFORE DECIDING THE DIRECTION AND TIMING OF ANY FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE SYSTEM.+

SIR EDWARD SAID THAT THE PRESENT SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT OPERATES ON THE BASIS OF CONSULTATION AND CONSENSUS. THIS OPERATED THROUGH REGIONAL AND DISTRICT REPRESENTATION AND OCCUPATIONAL, OR FUNCTIONAL, INTEREST REPRESENTATION. IT WAS INTENDED TO BUILD ON THIS TO DEVELOP A SYSTEM FOR THE ELECTION OF A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCILS - RETAINING, FOR THE TIME BEING, SOME APPOINTED UNOFFICIALS.

ON SUGGESTIONS FOR DIRECT ELECTIONS, SIR EDWARD SAID: +IN HONG KONG IT IS CLEARLY ESSENTIAL THAT STABILITY SHOULD BE MAINTAINED. MOREOVER, OUR SPECIAL POLITICAL CIRCUMSTANCES MUST BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT; AND OUR SYSTEM OF REPRESENTATION MUST GIVE FULL WEIGHT TO THOSE INTERESTS ON WHICH OUR PRESENT POSITION AS A LEADING INTERNATIONAL INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL CENTRE IS BASED, AND WHICH ARE ESSENTIAL TO OUR FUTURE PROSPERITY.+

CHANGE SHOULD BE PROGRESSIVE, HE SAID +IF WE WERE TO INTRODUCE DIRECT ELECTIONS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL NOW, WE SHOULD RUN THE RISK OF A SWIFT INTRODUCTION OF ADVERSARIAL POLITICS, AND AN ELEMENT OF INSTABILITY AT A CRUCIAL TIME. THE TIME FOR DIRECT ELECTIONS MAY COME.+

SUGGESTIONS THAT UNOFFICIALS SHOULD ASSUME SOME SORT OF EXECUTIVE ROLE SIMILAR TO MINISTERIAL FUNCTIONS PERFORMED BY ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES IN OTHER COUNTRIES WOULD NOT BE PURSUED AT PRESENT, SAID SIR EDWARD.

+IT MAY BE CONSIDERED AT A LATER STAGE AFTER THE NEW SYSTEM OF SELECTION HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED AND GIVEN TIME TO SETTLE DOWN.+

ON THE POSITION OF THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD SAID: +THERE WILL BE SOME CHANGES IN THE ROLE OF GOVERNOR: FOR EXAMPLE, THE GOVERNOR'S POWER TO APPOINT MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS WILL BE REDUCED: THE GOVERNOR'S PRESIDENCY OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IS A FUNCTION UNCONNECTED WITH HIS OTHER FUNCTIONS, AND IT IS PROPOSED THAT HE SHOULD IN DUE COURSE BE REPLACED AS PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BY A PRESIDING OFFICER SELECTED OR ELECTED FROM AMONG THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL. BUT NOTHING BEYOND THAT IS PROPOSED AT THIS STAGE.

+IN THE CASE OF HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, CONVENTION HAS ALREADY MODIFIED THE GOVERNOR'S EXCLUSIVE RIGHT TO REFER MATTERS TO THE COUNCIL AND TO REJECT THE ADVICE OF THE COUNCIL: THIS RIGHT HAS NOT BEEN EXERCISED FOR MANY YEARS. FORMAL CHANGES IN THESE POWERS MIGHT BE CONSIDERED AT A FUTURE TIME.

HOWEVER THE GREEN PAPER MAKES NO PROPOSALS ON THE GOVERNOR'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND HIS METHOD OR APPOINTMENT AS THESE MATTER REQUIRE FURTHER REFLECTION BECAUSE OF CONSTITUTIONAL IMPLICATIONS, SAID SIR EDWARD.

IN CONCLUSION, HE SAID THE PAPER WAS A FURTHER STEP ON THE WAY TO ESTABLISHING A SYSTEM WHICH DERIVED ITS AUTHORITY FROM THE HONG KONG COMMUNITY AND TO ENABLE THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG TO BECOME MORE DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN SELECTING THEIR GOVERNMENT.

+OUR PROPOSALS RECOGNISE THE COMPLEX BALANCE OF INTEREST WHICH LIES AT THE FOUNDATION OF HONG KONG'S SUCCESS. THEY RECOGNISE THAT THIS BALANCE HAS BEEN MAINTAINED THROUGH ADHERENCE TO THE PRINCIPLES OF STABILITY AND CONSENSUS. THEY ARE PROGRESSIVE, BUT GRADUAL; THEY SEEK TO MAINTAIN THE BEST FEATURES OF THE SYSTEMS WHICH SERVED HONG KONG IN THE PAST. AT THE SAME TIME, THE PROPOSALS RECOGNISE THE POLITICAL REALITIES OF HONG KONG,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

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LATEST MOVE TOWARDS OPEN GOVERNMENT - LOBO
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THE PROPOSAL FOR THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE TO HOLD ITS HEARINGS OF EVIDENCE IN PUBLIC WAS THE LATEST IN THE LONG LINE OF MOVES MADE BY THE ADMINISTRATION TOWARDS OPEN GOVERNMENT, THE HON ROGER LOBO SAID TODAY.

MR LOBO WAS SPEAKING IN SUPPORT OF THE AUDIT (AMENDMENT) BILL 1984, WHICH WAS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

HE SAID THE BILL WAS OVERSHADOWED BY THE PROPOSAL FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT.

BUT HE ADDED, +I BELIEVE THAT IT HAS BEEN THE DEVELOPMENT OF OPEN GOVERNMENT WHICH HAS HELPED TO MAKE THE IDEA OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT A PRACTICAL PROPOSITION, BY ENCOURAGING LIVELY AND INFORMED PUBLIC INTEREST WHICH IS, ALWAYS AND EVERYWHERE, THE ESSENTIAL CONDITION FOR SUCCESSFUL REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT.+

+THIS BILL, IN ITSELF MODEST, IS THEREFORE PART OF THE GENERAL DEVELOPMENT OF GOOD GOVERNMENT IN HONG KONG TO WHICH WE ARE ALL COMMITTED, AND FOR THAT REASON AS WELL AS FOR ITS OWN MERITS IT MUST COMMAND OUR BACKING,+ HE SAID.

MR LOBO POINTED OUT THAT THE PROPOSAL TO HOLD OPEN MEETINGS HAD ITS ORIGINS IN AN INITIATIVE PUT FORWARD BY THE UNOFFICIALS ON THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE.

THE UNOFFICIALS BELIEVED THAT THE INTERESTS OF OPEN GOVERNMENT WOULD BE SERVED BY THE MOVE TO THE PUBLIC HEARING OF THE EVIDENCE WHICH THEY TAKE FROM CONTROLLING OFFICERS.

+THE PUBLIC WILL HAVE DIRECT KNOWLEDGE OF THE EXPLANATIONS WHICH CONTROLLING OFFICERS GIVE ABOUT THE USE OF THE TAXPAYERS' MONEY, AND THE MEASURE WHICH THEY HAVE TAKEN TO ENSURE THE BEST POSSIBLE VALUE FOR THAT MONEY,+ MR LOBO SAID.

HOWEVER, HE ASSURED THE OFFICIALS THAT OPEN GOVERNMENT WAS NOT TO BE EQUATED WITH +ROUGH JUSTICE AT THEIR EXPENSE.+

HE EXPLAINED THAT THE COMMITTEE STILL INTENDED TO MEET IN CAMERA TO REACH ITS CONCLUSIONS AND THEIR VIEWS WOULD THEREFORE REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL UNTIL THEY WERE LAID BEFORE THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN THE FORM OF THEIR COMPLETED REPORT.

+THE COMMITTEE WILL CERTAINLY CONTINUE TO DELIBERATE CAREFULLY ON THE EVIDENCE PRESENTED TO IT BEFORE COMING TO ANY JUDGEMENTS,+ HE SAID.

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GAP IN ADVISORY BODY FILLED
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A MOTION FOR THE REGISTRAR GENERAL TO SERVE AS AN EX-OFFICIO MEMBER OF THE EXPORT CREDIT INSURANCE CORPORATION'S ADVISORY BOARD, IN PLACE OF THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, WAS APPROVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY THE HON E.P. HO EXPLAINED THAT IT HAD BEEN NOTED AT A RECENT REVIEW OF THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE CORPORATION'S ADVISORY BOARD THAT, ON THE OFFICIAL SIDE THERE WAS BOTH DUPLICATION IN THE AREA OF TRADE, SINCE BOTH THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE AND HE HIMSELF WERE MEMBERS, AND A GAP IN THE AREA OF INSURANCE.

+THIS HAS ARISEN BECAUSE PRIOR TO AUGUST 1, 1982 WHEN MY POST WAS CREATED, AND TOOK OVER RESPONSIBILITY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY POLICY, AND THE PLACE ON THIS ADVISORY BOARD, FROM THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, THE LATTER ALSO HAD INSURANCE POLICY WITHIN HIS SCHEDULE.+

THE RESOLUTION SOUGHT TO REPLACE THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE WITH THE REGISTRAR GENERAL, AS AN EX-OFFICIO MEMBER, SINCE THE LATTER HAD STATUTORY RESPONSIBILITY FOR AN EXPERTISE IN INSURANCE, MR HO SAID.

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PRIVILEGES FOR VISA OFFICE
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A BILL TO PUT THE CHINESE VISA OFFICE ON THE SAME FOOTING AS CONSULATES-GENERAL AND COMMONWEALTH COMMISSIONS ALREADY ESTABLISHED IN HONG KONG, WAS GIVEN A SECOND READING BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

MOVING THE CHINA VISA OFFICE (PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES) BILL 1984, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE HON MICHAEL THOMAS SAID THAT THE OFFICE OPENED IN HONG KONG IN NOVEMBER 1981 AND SINCE THEN IT HAD HELPED MANY THOUSANDS OF TRAVELLERS OBTAIN VISAS FOR ENTRY INTO CHINA.

AS IT WAS SUBJECT TO THE CHINESE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND ITS DIRECTOR AND STAFF WERE CAREER DIPLOMATS, IT WAS APPROPRIATE THAT IT SHOULD ENJOY CERTAIN DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES. SOME COULD BE CONFERRED BY ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENT BUT OTHERS REQUIRED LEGISLATION, MR THOMAS SAID.

AN AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE HAD BEEN ARRIVED AT BETWEEN BRITAIN AND CHINA, SAID MR THOMAS, FOR THE RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF A BRITISH CONSULATE-GENERAL AT SHANGHAI AND FOR A CHINESE CONSULATE-GENERAL TO BE OPENED IN MANCHESTER. DURING DISCUSSION OF THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES TO BE ENJOYED BY THE OFFICES OF THESE TWO CONSULATES-GENERAL THE CHINESE SIDE PROPOSED THE QUESTION OF SUCH MATTERS FOR THE CHINESE VISA OFFICE IN HONG KONG BE SETTLED AT THE SAME TIME.

/+IT WAS

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+IT WAS AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR THE VISA OFFICE IN HONG KONG TO ENJOY THE SAME PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES AS THOSE TWO CONSULATES-GENERAL IN SHANGHAI AND MANCHESTER,+ SAID MR THOMAS.

THE CONTENTS OF THE BILL ARE STRAIGHTFORWARD, HE SAID, AND SPELL OUT PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES USING WHEREVER POSSIBLE THE LANGUAGE OF THE VIENNA CONVENTION ON CONSULAR RELATIONS. THE OFFICE WOULD BE PUT ON THE SAME BASIS AS OTHER CONSULATES-GENERAL AND COMMONWEALTH COMMISSIONS.

DEBATE ON THE BILL WAS ADJOURNED.

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BILL SEEKS TO AMEND BUILDING ORDINANCE
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THE BUILDINGS (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1984, INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY, SEEKS TO MAKE THREE AMENDMENTS TO THE BUILDING ORDINANCE, THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, THE HON F.E. SHORT, SAID.

WITH +THE HONG KONG BRANCH OF THE INSTITUTION OF STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS+ NO LONGER IN EXISTENCE, THE BILL PROPOSES TO REPLACE THIS NAME IN THE ORDINANCE WITH +THE HONG KONG INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS+ WHICH NOW INCORPORATES THE DEFUNCT BODY.

MR SHORT EXPLAINED THAT THE PRESENT WORDING OF THE ORDINANCE STILL REFERS TO THE FORMER INSTITUTION AS THE BODY RESPONSIBLE FOR NOMINATING THE REGISTERED STRUCTURAL ENGINEER MEMBER OF THE REGISTRATION COMMITTEE AND ALSO AS THE BODY FROM WHICH REGISTERED STRUCTURAL ENGINEER MEMBERS OF THE DISCIPLINARY BOARD PANEL ARE SELECTED.

+THE SECOND OBJECT OF THE BILL IS FURTHER TO AMEND THE WORDING OF SECTION 5A (2) OF THE ORDINANCE, WHICH AT PRESENT STATES THAT THE DISCIPLINARY BOARD PANEL SHALL CONSIST OF NOT MORE THAN 20 MEMBERS, BUT WHICH GOES ON TO STIPULATE UNEQUIVOCALLY THAT THERE SHALL BE FIVE MEMBERS FROM EACH OF FOUR NAMED PROFESSIONAL BODIES.

+TO AVOID ANY CHALLENGE WHICH MIGHT ARISE IF, THROUGH DEATH, RETIREMENT OR OTHER REASON, THERE WERE AT ANY TIME LESS THAN FIVE MEMBERS FROM EACH OF THE NAMED BODIES, THE AMENDMENT WILL MAKE IT CLEAR THAT NOT MORE THAN FIVE MEMBERS ARE TO BE DRAWN FROM EACH BODY,+ HE SAID.

THE BILL ALSO PROPOSES TO REMOVE THE WORD +SOCIETY+, WHICH WAS NOT DELETED WHEN THE FORMER ENGINEERING SOCIETY OF HONG KONG CEASED TO BE NAMED IN SECTION 5A (2) OF THE ORDINANCE.

DEBATE ON THE BILL WAS ADJOURNED.

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BILL TO UPDATE LAW
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THE LIMITATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1984 CONCERNING THE PERIOD ALLOWED FOR BRINGING CIVIL CLAIMS TO COURTS, SEEKS TO BRING THE LAW IN HONG KONG ON THE SUBJECT INTO LINE WITH THE UNITED KINGDOM LAW.

MOVING THE SECOND READING OF THE BILL, THE ACTING LAW DRAFTSMAN, THE HON J.J. O'GRADY, RECALLED THAT IN 1983, THE COURT OF APPEAL RULED THAT THE PERIOD COULD NOT BE CIRCUMVENTED BY THE RULES OF THE SUPREME COURT AS THESE RULES ONLY APPLY TO MATTERS OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE.

+ACCORDINGLY THE COURT HELD THAT A RULE WAS ULTRA VIRES WHICH PURPORTED TO ENABLE EXISTING PROCEEDINGS TO BE AMENDED BY ADDING OR SUBSTITUTING A NEW ACTION, EVEN THOUGH THE TIME ALLOWED FOR BRINGING THE NEW ACTION AS AN ORIGINAL ACTION HAD EXPIRED.

+A SIMILAR PROBLEM HAD ALREADY ARISEN IN THE UK AND THE SOLUTION THERE WAS TO ENACT AN EXPRESS STATUTORY PROVISION WHICH MEANT THAT EXISTING PROCEEDINGS COULD PROPERLY BE AMENDED IN THE WAY I HAVE JUST MENTIONED,+ MR O'GRADY SAID.

CLAUSE 2 OF THE BILL, HE ADDED, SEEKS TO ADOPT THE UK RESOLUTION.

+IN EFFECT, CLAUSE 2 RESTORES THE POSITION TO WHAT IT WAS, OR WAS UNDERSTOOD TO BE, PRIOR TO THE DECISION OF THE COURT OF APPEAL, AND BRINGS THE LAW IN HONG KONG ON THIS SUBJECT INTO LINE WITH UK LAW,+ MR O'GRADY SAID.

DEBATE ON THE BILL WAS ADJOURNED.

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BILL SEEKS TO RAISE COURT COSTS
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A BILL PROPOSING TO RAISE COURT COSTS FOR A DEFENDANT WHO NO LONGER WISHES TO CONTEST THE CHARGE WAS INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

THE FIXED PENALTY (CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS) (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1984 SEEKS TO INCREASE THE COSTS FROM \$25 TO \$70.

MOVING THE SECOND READING OF THE BILL, THE ACTING LAW DRAFTSMAN, THE HON J.J. O'GRADY, SAID THE REASONS FOR THE INCREASE WERE PURELY ECONOMIC AS THE FIGURE OF \$25 WAS SET IN 1974.

/+IN FUTURE,

+IN FUTURE, THE PROBLEM WILL BE LEFT TO THIS COUNCIL TO DEAL WITH BY RESOLUTION, AND AN AMENDMENT TO THAT EFFECT IS ALSO CONTAINED IN THE BILL,+ HE SAID.

A FEATURE OF THE FIXED PENALTY (CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS) ORDINANCE IS THAT, IF ANYONE WHO IS ISSUED WITH A NOTICE UNDER THE ORDINANCE WISHES TO DISPUTE HIS GUILT, HE IS FREE TO DO SO.

+THIS BILL DEALS WITH THE SITUATION WHERE PROCEEDINGS ARE ACTUALLY INSTITUTED BUT THE DEFENDANT SUBSEQUENTLY UNDERGOES A CHANGE OF HEART, AND NO LONGER WISHES TO CONTEST THE CHARGE,+ MR O'GRADY EXPLAINED.

IN THIS EVENT, CLAUSE 2 OF THE BILL PROVIDES THAT THE SUM PAYABLE UNDER THE PRINCIPAL ORDINANCE BY WAY OF COURT COSTS IS TO BE INCREASED.

DEBATE ON THE BILL WAS ADJOURNED.

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NEW JURY RULES PROPOSED
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A BILL TO SAVE TIME AND INCONVENIENCE TO JURY MEMBERS WAS GIVEN A SECOND READING IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

+THE WILLINGNESS OF MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO DO JURY SERVICE IS VITAL TO OUR CRIMINAL PROCEDURE,+ SAID THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE HON MICHAEL THOMAS, IN INTRODUCING THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1984.

+BUT ANYONE VISITING THE HIGH COURT WOULD BE SURPRISED TO FIND THAT IN MANY CASES, MEMBERS OF THE JURY ARE NO SOONER BROUGHT TOGETHER AND SWORN AND CHARGED TO TRY THE ISSUES BETWEEN THE PRISONER AT THE BAR AND THE QUEEN, THAN THEY ARE SENT AWAY, OFTEN FOR SOME WEEKS, WHILE THE JUDGE DECIDES A MATTER OF LAW IN THEIR ABSENCE.

+THIS TIME OF STANDING BY IS LIKELY TO CAUSE HAVOC WITH THEIR BUSINESS AND SOCIAL ARRANGEMENTS, THEY MAY FALL SICK, OR FOR SOME OTHER REASON FIND THEMSELVES UNABLE TO COME BACK FOR THE TRIAL. THIS RULE OF PROCEDURE OFTEN CAUSES INCONVENIENCE AND WILL RESULT IN WASTE OF TIME IF A NEW JURY HAS TO BE EMPANELLED,+ MR THOMAS SAID.

HE EXPLAINED THAT THE REASON FOR THE DELAY WAS THAT THE JUDGE WAS HEARING ALONE EVIDENCE ON A +VOIRDIRE+ WHERE HE DECIDED WHETHER STATEMENTS BY THE ACCUSED COULD BE ADMITTED IN EVIDENCE IN THE TRIAL.

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THE PRESENT LAW REQUIRES THE JURY TO BE EMPANELLED IMMEDIATELY AFTER A NOT GUILTY PLEA. THE BILL AIMS TO REMOVE THIS RULE.

+THIS SIMPLE REFORM DOES NOT INTERFERE WITH ANY OTHER ESTABLISHED RULE OF LAW OR PROCEDURE.

+THE ESSENCE OF THE REFORM IS TO SAVE THE TIME OF MEMBERS OF THE JURY AND AVOID THE INCONVENIENCE TO THEM OF HAVING THEIR ARRANGEMENTS DISLOCATED IN THOSE CASES WHEN THEIR PRESENCE IS NOT REQUIRED AT THE OUTSET OF A CRIMINAL TRIAL,+ HE SAID.

MR THOMAS ALSO MOVED THE SECOND READING OF THE JURY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1984 WHICH, AMONG OTHER THINGS, SEEKS TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PERSONS AVAILABLE FOR JURY SERVICE.

THERE ARE AT PRESENT ONLY ABOUT 25 000 SUCH PERSONS, HALF OF WHOM MAY BE CALLED IN ANY ONE YEAR.

+A WORKING PARTY WAS SET UP TO CONSIDER HOW THE NUMBER OF PROSPECTIVE JURORS MIGHT BE INCREASED AND TO CONSIDER THE EFFICIENCY OF THE CURRENT METHOD OF SELECTION OF JURORS.

+IT QUICKLY BECAME APPARENT THAT THERE IS IN HONG KONG A LARGE NUMBER OF POTENTIAL JURORS WHOSE ABILITY TO SPEAK AND UNDERSTAND ENGLISH IS SIMPLY NOT DISCOVERED UNDER EXISTING PROCEDURE,+ MR THOMAS REPORTED.

INCREASING THE NUMBER OF POTENTIAL JURORS WOULD NOT ONLY SPREAD THE BURDEN MORE EQUITABLY ACROSS THE COMMUNITY BUT WOULD ALSO BE ANOTHER STEP TO INVOLVE MORE PEOPLE IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAWS OF HONG KONG, HE SAID.

THE BILL PROPOSES TO GIVE THE REGISTRAR AND THE COMMISSIONER OF REGISTRATION STATUTORY POWERS TO OBTAIN INFORMATION FOR COMPILING FULL JURY LISTS, HE SAID.

WITH THE IMPROVEMENT IN THE QUALITY AND EXPECTATION OF LIFE, THE BILL ALSO SEEKS TO RAISE THE AGE OF POTENTIAL JURORS FROM 60 TO 65 SO THAT MORE EXPERIENCED PEOPLE WILL BECOME AVAILABLE FOR THIS SERVICE.

+I ALSO BELIEVE THAT IT IS WHOLLY UNACCEPTABLE THAT THE BURDEN OF JURY SERVICE SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE PLACED ENTIRELY ON THE SHOULDERS OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

+THERE IS NO LONGER ANY JUSTIFICATION FOR THE EXEMPTION OF ALL PUBLIC SERVANTS,+ HE SAID.

BY THE NATURE OF THEIR DUTIES, CERTAIN CATEGORIES OF PUBLIC SERVANTS MUST CONTINUE TO BE EXEMPT, HE ADDED.

THEY INCLUDE JUDGES, MEMBERS OF THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT AND THE POLICE.

MR THOMAS ESTIMATED THAT UNDER THE PROPOSAL, ABOUT 40 000 CIVIL SERVANTS WOULD BECOME ELIGIBLE AS JURORS.

+SIMILARLY, TEACHERS, PROFESSORS, LECTURERS AND OTHER ACADEMIC OFFICERS WILL BECOME LIABLE TO SERVE ON JURIES. BUT THE PRESENT LIMITED EXEMPTION IN FAVOUR OF FULL-TIME STUDENTS AT EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS WILL BE EXTENDED TO ALL,+ HE SAID.

PROVISION IS ALSO MADE IN THE BILL FOR RANDOM SELECTION OF JURORS BY COMPUTER.

+SOMETIMES CASES COME TO LIGHT OF EMPLOYERS DISCRIMINATING AGAINST THEIR EMPLOYEES BECAUSE OF JURY SERVICE. THERE IS IN MY VIEW A CASE FOR RAISING THE EXISTING PENALTY TO A FINE OF \$25 000 AND IMPRISONMENT FOR THREE MONTHS,+ HE SAID.

DEBATE ON BOTH BILLS WAS ADJOURNED.

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'CLUMSY' LEGCO PROCEDURES REMOVED BY NEW ORDERS

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A NEW STANDING ORDER -- 7A -- PROVIDING FOR THE HOLDING OF SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SITTINGS DURING A RECESS, WAS APPROVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

MOVING THE AMENDMENT, THE ACTING CHIEF SECRETARY, THE HON. DENIS BRAY, RECALLED THE +CLUMSY PROCEDURE+, REQUIRED FOR THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO HOLD A SPECIAL MEETING AT A FEW HOURS' NOTICE ON SEPTEMBER 27 LAST YEAR, TO DEAL WITH THE +HANG LUNG BANK INCIDENT+.

+DURING THOSE FEW HOURS, BECAUSE WE HAD ALREADY CLOSED THE PREVIOUS SESSION AND NOT YET OPENED THE NEXT ONE, WE HAD TO PULL THE COUNCIL OUT OF RECESS BY OPENING THE NEXT SESSION AND THIS INVOLVED NOT ONLY CHANGING THE DATE AND HOUR OF THE NEXT SITTING, AS YOU, SIR, ARE EMPOWERED TO DO UNDER STANDING ORDER 7(3), BUT THE GAZETTING OF THE NEW DATE AND HOUR UNDER STANDING ORDER 5 (3).

+THIS WAS A CLUMSY PROCEDURE NECESSITATED BY THE LACK OF SUITABLE PROVISIONS IN THE STANDING ORDERS TO COVER ANY SPECIAL SITTINGS HELD DURING THE SUMMER RECESS.

+NEW STANDING ORDER 7A, THEREFORE, AIMS AT PUTTING THIS RIGHT BY PROVIDING THAT THE GOVERNOR MAY, WHERE HE IS SATISFIED THAT THE PUBLIC INTEREST SO REQUIRES, DETERMINE THAT A SITTING OF THE COUNCIL SHALL BE HELD ON SUCH DAY AND SHALL BEGIN AT SUCH HOUR AS HE MAY SPECIFY, AND THAT THE PROCEDURES FOR THAT SITTING SHOULD FOLLOW THOSE FOR ANY ORDINARY SITTING HELD DURING A SESSION,+ MR BRAY SAID.

MR BRAY ADDED THAT +EMERGENCIES ARE BY THEIR NATURE UNEXPECTED, AND NO EXTRA MEETINGS ARE ANTICIPATED AT THIS MOMENT.+

/STANDING ORDER

STANDING ORDER 7A WAS AMONG A NUMBER OF DESIRABLE CHANGES WHICH HAD EMERGED SINCE THE REVISION OF STANDING ORDERS LAST YEAR TO FACILITATE THE WORK OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE, HE SAID.

THE FIRST AMENDMENT TODAY WAS THE INTRODUCTION OF A NEW STANDING ORDER 4A TO ESTABLISH THE TITLE OF COUNSEL TO THE LEGISLATURE TO DENOTE THE SPECIAL POSITION WHICH THE LAW DRAFTSMAN HAS IN THE WORKINGS OF THE COUNCIL.

+THE TITLE WILL BRING OUT HIS PARTICULAR RESPONSIBILITIES AS REGARDS LEGISLATION, AND HIS ROLE IN THE SCRUTINY AND REFORM OF ALL ASPECTS OF THE COUNCIL'S PROCEDURE.

+MOST IMPORTANT IT WILL EXPRESS HIS GENERAL RESPONSIBILITY TO THE COUNCIL MORE CLEARLY THAN DOES HIS OFFICIAL DESIGNATION WITHIN THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S CHAMBER,+ MR BRAY SAID.

TO ILLUSTRATE THIS POINT, MR BRAY REFERRED TO THE AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDER 39(1), WHICH REQUIRES A PRIVATE BILL TO HAVE A CERTIFICATE SIGNED BY THE COUNSEL TO THE LEGISLATURE TO INDICATE THAT IT IS ALL IN ORDER.

+THIS EXAMINATION,+ MR BRAY SAID, +IS PART OF OUR PRESENT PRACTICE AND IS CLEARLY A DESIRABLE SAFEGUARD AGAINST THE INTRODUCTION OF PRIVATE LEGISLATION WHICH MIGHT IN ANY WAY CONFLICT WITH THE FORM OF LAWS OF HONG KONG AND THE STANDING ORDER OF THIS COUNCIL.

+THE INTENTION THEREFORE IS TO FORMALISE THIS PRACTICE BY INCORPORATING IT IN THE STANDING ORDERS, AND THE LAW DRAFTSMAN, IN HIS ROLE AS THE COUNSEL TO THE LEGISLATURE, WILL CONTINUE TO CARRY OUT THE FUNCTION OF 'CHECKS AND BALANCES' IN RELATION TO PRIVATE LEGISLATION.+

AN AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDER 8 (4) PROHIBITS ANY NEW BUSINESS AFTER THE SIX O'CLOCK HOUR OF INTERRUPTION -- OTHER THAN ADJOURNMENT DEBATES -- BUT EXPLICITLY PROVIDES THAT A MOTION TO WAIVE STANDING ORDER 8 SHALL NOT COUNT AS NEW BUSINESS.

+THE EFFECT OF THIS WOULD BE TO ALLOW THE HOUR OF INTERRUPTION TO BE USED AS A MARKER AS TO WHEN THE BUSINESS OF THE LEGISLATURE SHOULD CONCLUDE -- THE PRESIDENT WILL MAKE A FORMAL INTERRUPTION AT THE MOMENT HE DEEMS APPROPRIATE -- BUT THEREAFTER THE CHIEF SECRETARY WILL BE ABLE TO MOVE THE SUSPENSION OF THE OTHER PROVISIONS OF THE STANDING ORDER, SO THAT THE COUNCIL CAN CONCLUDE THE MATTER IN HAND, AND THE REST OF THE BUSINESS SCHEDULED FOR THE DAY.

+THIS WILL MEAN THAT THE INTERRUPTION OF THE COUNCIL'S BUSINESS IS MADE BY THE PRESIDENT, AS BY RIGHT IT WOULD BE, RATHER THAN BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY, AS IN PRACTICE IT IS AT PRESENT,+ MR BRAY SAID.

THE PREVIOUS PROCEDURE, MR BRAY SAID, WAS CUMBERSOME AND CONFUSING.

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THE MAIN AMENDMENT TO ORDER 60A, MR BRAY SAID, PROVIDES FOR PUBLIC MEETINGS OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE.

MR BRAY SAID THAT AS THE WORK OF THE COUNCIL DEVELOPED IN SOPHISTICATION AND COMPLEXITY, THE STANDING ORDERS SHOULD KEEP UP WITH THE NEEDS AND CHANGES OF THE COUNCIL.

+FOR THIS REASON, WE SHALL CONTINUE TO REVIEW THE STANDING ORDERS TO ENSURE THAT THEIR PROVISIONS REMAIN UP-TO-DATE AND AS RATIONAL AS POSSIBLE,+ HE SAID.

THE AMENDMENT TODAY, HE SAID, PROPOSED TO DO JUST THAT.

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THREE BILLS PASSED
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THREE BILLS WERE PASSED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

THEY ARE: THE AUDIT (AMENDMENT) BILL 1984, IMPORT AND EXPORT (AMENDMENT) (NO.2) BILL 1984 AND RESERVED COMMODITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1984.

SIX BILLS WERE READ A SECOND TIME AND DEBATE ON THEM WAS ADJOURNED.

THEY ARE: THE CHINESE VISA OFFICE (PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES) BILL 1984, CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1984, THE JURY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1984, THE FIXED PENALTY (CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS) (AMENDMENT) (NO.2) BILL 1984, THE LIMITATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1984 AND THE BUILDINGS (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1984.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED TO TUESDAY (JULY 24).

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PRESS URGED TO REGISTER AS VOTERS
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, THIS (WEDNESDAY) AFTERNOON CALLED ON REPORTERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS TO REGISTER THEMSELVES AS VOTERS.

SPEAKING TO JOURNALISTS AFTER THE PRESENTATION OF THE GREEN PAPER ON THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, SIR EDWARD SAID.

+SINCE THERE ARE SO MANY OF YOU HERE THIS AFTERNOON, I HOPE YOU WILL ALL BE VERY QUICK TO REGISTER YOUR VOTE AND TO TAKE PART.+

HE ALSO URGED REPORTERS TO ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO LET THE GOVERNMENT HAVE THEIR VIEWS ON THE GREEN PAPER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

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SIR PHILIP RETURNING NEXT WEEK
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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN CONFIRMED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE IS EXPECTED TO RETURN TO HONG KONG FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM IN THE MIDDLE OF NEXT WEEK.

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MEDIA BRIEFING
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THE ACTING CHIEF SECRETARY, MR DENIS BRAY, WILL GIVE A MEDIA BRIEFING ON THE GREEN PAPER ON THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT AT 4 PM TOMORROW (THURSDAY) IN THE GIS THEATRE, 5TH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE.

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

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SEMINAR ON DB ELECTIONS

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A SEMINAR TO EXPLAIN DETAILS ABOUT THE FORTHCOMING REGISTRATION OF DISTRICT BOARD VOTERS WILL BE HELD IN SHAM SHUI PO ON FRIDAY (JULY 20) EVENING.

IT IS BEING JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE CHEUNG SHA WAN AREA COMMITTEE AND THE LEI CHENG UK AND SO UK AREA COMMITTEE, WITH THE LOCAL DISTRICT BOARD AS THE SPONSOR.

THE SEMINAR IS ALSO AIMED AT ENCOURAGING RESIDENTS TO REGISTER AS VOTERS FOR NEXT YEAR'S DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS.

SPEAKERS AT THE SEMINAR WILL BE THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MR BRIAN LAU= AND THE CHAIRMEN OF THE TWO AREA COMMITTEES AND DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS, MR WONG PING-HON AND MR TANG SUN-WAH.

LOCAL RESIDENTS AND MEMBERS OF MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, OWNERS CORPORATIONS AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES HAVE BEEN INVITED TO ATTEND.

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YOUTHS URGED TO HELP BUILD BETTER COMMUNITY

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YOUNG PEOPLE SHOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO HELP BUILD A BETTER COMMUNITY AS THEY ARE THE +PILLAR OF SOCIETY+, THE DEPUTY REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR LUI HAU-TUEN, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

+AFTER ACQUIRING MORE KNOWLEDGE IN THEIR COURSE OF STUDY, THEY SHOULD TAKE AN INTEREST IN THEIR SURROUNDINGS AND TRY TO HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF, AND MORE CONCERN FOR, THEIR COMMUNITY,+ HE SAID.

MR LUI WAS SPEAKING AT THE SPEECH DAY OF THE KIANGSU AND CHEKIANG PRIMARY SCHOOL IN EASTERN DISTRICT.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THERE WERE MANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO GET DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS.

BY WAY OF EXAMPLE, HE SAID YOUNGSTERS COULD HELP THE POLICE COMBAT CRIME BY BECOMING MEMBERS OF THE JUNIOR POLICE CALL.

THEY COULD ALSO TAKE PART IN MANY OF THE HEALTHY AND MEANINGFUL ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUBS.

MR LUI ALSO URGED STUDENTS TO MAKE GOOD USE OF THEIR LEISURE AND THE LONG SUMMER HOLIDAYS BY PARTICIPATING IN SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMMES.

/THIS YEAR,

THIS YEAR, HE SAID, THE EASTERN DISTRICT HAD ORGANISED OVER 150 RECREATIONAL AND SPORTS EVENTS FOR YOUTHS IN THE DISTRICT.

THEY INCLUDE TRAINING CAMPS, POTTED-PLANT COMPETITIONS, BALL GAMES AND OTHER ENTERTAINING ACTIVITIES FOCUSING ON THE THEME +HEALTH, HELP AND HAPPINESS+.

THE DISTRICT'S SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME, CO-ORDINATED BY THE EASTERN DISTRICT YOUTH RECREATION CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE AND THE DISTRICT BOARD, WILL COST \$95 500.

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MORAL EDUCATION MUST FEATURE STUDENTS' NEEDS
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EFFECTIVE MORAL EDUCATION MUST TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE FACT THAT STUDENTS HAVE INDIVIDUAL AND PERSONAL REQUIREMENTS AS WELL AS COLLECTIVE INTERESTS, MR JOHN WINFIELD, ACTING SENIOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT), SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

MORAL EDUCATION PROGRAMMES COULD NOT BE IMPOSED, AND HAD TO DEVELOP FROM WITHIN THE INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL COMMUNITY TO REFLECT THE INTERESTS AND NEEDS OF SPECIFIC GROUPS OF STUDENTS, HE SAID.

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF A TWO-DAY EXHIBITION ON MORAL EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS BEING HELD AT QUEEN ELIZABETH SCHOOL.

THE EXHIBITION IS ON UNTIL TOMORROW (THURSDAY), FROM 9 AM TO 4.30 PM.

THE UNDERLYING POLICY OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S APPROACH TOWARDS MORAL EDUCATION IS THAT MORAL VALUES ARE MOST EFFECTIVELY INCULCATED THROUGH THE WHOLE CURRICULUM AND IN THE CORPORATE LIFE OF THE SCHOOL.

+ALTHOUGH OUR ADVISORY SERVICES ARE IN NO SENSE PRESCRIPTIVE, WE HAVE FOUND THAT OUR REGULAR SEMINARS FOR TEACHERS HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN CREATING FOCAL POINTS FOR ISSUES OF GENERAL CONCERN, AND WE INTEND TO CONTINUE TO PLAN FURTHER SEMINARS ON SIMILAR LINES FOR THE FUTURE,+ MR WINFIELD SAID.

JUDGING FROM THE EXHIBITS, HE SAID TEACHERS WERE NO LONGER SATISFIED WITH TRADITIONAL APPROACHES TO BASIC UNIVERSAL MORAL CONCEPTS.

+THEY HAVE DEVISED MORE EFFECTIVE TECHNIQUES, WHICH ARE MUCH MORE STIMULATING AND MORE DIRECT IN THEIR PERSONAL APPEAL TO YOUNG PEOPLE,+ HE ADDED.

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EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES WERE AN EFFECTIVE MEANS TO GIVE STUDENTS A SENSE OF BELONGING TO GROUPS WITH CLOSELY SHARED INTERESTS. THEY ALSO OFFERED STUDENTS OPPORTUNITIES TO ACCEPT AND SHARE RESPONSIBILITY AMONG THEMSELVES.

ON THE DEPARTMENT'S EFFORTS IN PROMOTING MORAL EDUCATION, HE SAID THAT APART FROM DEVELOPING A BROAD RANGE OF ADVISORY SERVICES, THE RELIGIOUS-ETHICAL EDUCATION SECTION HAD CONDUCTED SEMINARS ON MORAL EDUCATION FOR SCHOOL HEADS, ISSUED COMPREHENSIVE GUIDELINES TO ALL SCHOOLS, AND COMPILED REFERENCE MATERIALS TO SUPPORT AND ILLUSTRATE THE VARIOUS SUGGESTIONS OUTLINED IN THE GUIDELINES.

ORGANISERS OF THE EXHIBITION ARE THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION, THE EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES CO-ORDINATORS' ASSOCIATION, THE COLLEGES OF EDUCATION, SEVEN PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND 14 SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

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WARM RESPONSE TO NEW FACTORY ESTATE
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FACTORY OPERATORS TURNED UP IN LARGE NUMBERS TODAY TO VIEW THE HOUSING AUTHORITY'S LATEST FACTORY BUILDING AT WANG CHEONG INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, CHEUNG SHA WAN.

THE ESTATE MANAGEMENT OFFICE REPORTED THAT IN ADDITION TO RECEIVING OVER 200 TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES, MORE THAN 400 PEOPLE WERE QUEUEING AT THE OFFICE FOR APPLICATION FORMS WHEN IT OPENED THIS MORNING. THE DEMAND FOR APPLICATIONS APPEARS TO BE HIGH, AS APPARENTLY 40 OF THOSE IN THE QUEUE HAD BEEN WAITING OVERNIGHT.

ALL APPLICATIONS ARE BEING DEALT WITH ON A +FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED+ BASIS.

POTENTIAL TENANTS ONLY NEED TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FORMS FOR LEASING THE UNITS AND SUBMIT THEM TO THE ESTATE OFFICE DURING WEEKDAYS.

APPLICANTS WILL BE OFFERED AN INTERVIEW TO ENSURE THAT THEY GET UNITS SUITABLE FOR THEIR REQUIREMENTS.

THE WHOLE APPLICATION PROCEDURE CAN BE COMPLETED WITHIN HALF AN HOUR.

THE ESTATE HAS BEEN CAREFULLY DESIGNED TO ENSURE MAXIMUM FLEXIBILITY IN THE USE OF SPACE, AND TO CATER FOR THE NEEDS OF TENANTS WHOSE BUSINESS MAY EXPAND. IT OFFERS FACTORY PREMISES IN SIZES RANGING FROM 25 SQ.M. TO 2 500 SQ.M., AT RENTS FROM \$35.50 TO \$67.40 PER SQ.M.

THE BUILDING WILL BE READY FOR OCCUPANCY IN SEPTEMBER.

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NEED FOR MENTAL HEALTH CARE STRESSED

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HONG KONG PEOPLE WERE URGED TODAY BY A GOVERNMENT DOCTOR TO PAY MORE ATTENTION TO MENTAL HEALTH THAN THEY DO NOW.

WHILE THEIR PHYSICAL HEALTH WAS IMPROVING, HONG KONG PEOPLE MUST NOT FORGET THAT THE MENTAL AND SOCIAL ASPECTS OF HEALTH WERE JUST AS IMPORTANT, PARTICULARLY AS HONG KONG BECAME MORE INDUSTRIALISED AND URBANISED, DR. CHAN WAI-MAN, SENIOR MEDICAL OFFICER, MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT, SAID.

SPEAKING AT THE ROTARY CLUB OF KOWLOON LUNCH, DR. CHAN EXPLAINED THAT MENTAL HEALTH WAS THE WAY PEOPLE +THINK, FEEL, BEHAVE, ADJUST TO THEMSELVES, TO OTHERS AND TO SOCIETY.+

SHE SAID THERE WERE THREE WAYS TO ACHIEVE MENTAL HEALTH -- PREVENTION, EARLY DETECTION AND REHABILITATION.

+TO ACHIEVE THESE THREE AIMS, THE CENTRAL HEALTH EDUCATION UNIT OF THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT HAS CARRIED OUT A NUMBER OF EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE PAST FOUR YEARS, INCLUDING THE RECENT INTRODUCTION OF A 24-HOUR HEALTH EDUCATION HOTLINE SERVICE,+ DR. CHAN SAID.

THIS ATTRACTED OVER 2 000 CALLS IN JUNE ALONE, SHE SAID.

IT COULD BE EASILY SEEN THAT MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION WAS IN GREAT DEMAND BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

+THAT IS WHY THE CENTRAL HEALTH EDUCATION UNIT ALSO ENCOURAGES COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS AND AGENCIES TO CARRY OUT SUCH ACTIVITIES ON THEIR OWN,+ SHE SAID.

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DESIGNERS TOLD OF NEED FOR TENACITY

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HONG KONG'S ASPIRING YOUNG DESIGNERS WERE TOLD TONIGHT THAT TENACITY WAS SOMETIMES MORE USEFUL TO A DESIGNER THAN TALENT.

+A DESIGNER MUST BE FIRM IF HE KNOWS HE IS RIGHT,+ STUDENTS OF THE DESIGN DEPARTMENT OF THE LEE WAI LEE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL WERE TOLD BY MR HENRY STEINER, A WELL-KNOWN GRAPHIC DESIGNER.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE +T. I. DESIGN,+ GRADUATION EXHIBITION AT THE CITY HALL'S EXHIBITION HALL, MR STEINER TOLD THEM +TO RESIST THE HERD INSTINCT+ AND TO DECIDE FOR THEMSELVES +IF CONFORMITY WAS A SUPREME VIRTUE.+

/HE TOLD

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HE TOLD THE STUDENTS ALSO THAT +FOR DESIGNING TO BE RECOGNISED AS A PROFESSION, DESIGNERS MUST BEHAVE LIKE PROFESSIONAL +

THE EXHIBITION IS AN ANNUAL EVENT ORGANISED BY SOME 300 FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME STUDENTS OF THE DESIGN DEPARTMENT.

IT FEATURES VARIOUS PROJECTS ON GRAPHIC DESIGN, PRODUCT DESIGN, JEWELLERY DESIGN, INTERIOR DESIGN, FASHION DESIGN AND WINDOW DISPLAY.

THE LEE WAI LEE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE IS ONE OF THE FIVE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES UNDER THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL AND IS THE ONLY TECHNICAL INSTITUTE OFFERING DESIGN COURSES.

MR LEE WAI LEE, WHO DONATED TOWARDS THE BUILDING AND EQUIPPING OF THE INSTITUTE, OFFICIATED AT THE OPENING OF THE EXHIBITION.

THE TWO-DAY EXHIBITION WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC BETWEEN 9 AM AND 8 PM TOMORROW (THURSDAY) AND BETWEEN 9 AM AND 6 PM ON FRIDAY (JULY 20).

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KWAI CHUNG RESTRICTED ZONES
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FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (JULY 20), THE SECTION OF CONTAINER PORT ROAD FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH CONTAINER PORT TERMINAL FLYOVER IN KWAI CHUNG, TO THE SOUTHERN END OF THE ROAD WILL BE DESIGNATED AS A RESTRICTED ZONE FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY.

WITHIN THE RESTRICTED ZONE, ALL MOTOR VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES AND THOSE AUTHORISED IN WRITING BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM STOPPING FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE SECTION OF KWAI LUEN ROAD FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH KWAI SHING CIRCUIT TO A POINT ABOUT 220 METRES TO THE SOUTHWEST WILL BE DESIGNATED AS A TAXI RESTRICTED ZONE FROM 7 AM TO 10 AM AND FROM 4 PM TO 7 PM DAILY.

WITHIN THE RESTRICTED ZONE, ALL TAXIS WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM STOPPING FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS.

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TRAFFIC PLAN FOR GLENEALY ROAD WORK

IN CONNECTION WITH ROAD RESURFACING WORKS IN GLENEALY, THE FOLLOWING ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (JULY 20) FOR ABOUT EIGHT WEEKS:

- * THE SECTION OF GLENEALY BETWEEN LOWER ALBERT ROAD AND HOUSE NO. 6 GLENEALY WILL BE RESTRICTED TO ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND.
- * THE SECTION OF LOWER ALBERT ROAD BETWEEN GLENEALY AND ICE HOUSE STREET WILL BE RESTRICTED TO ONE-WAY EASTBOUND.
- * MAXICAB ROUTE NOS. 8, 11, 22 AND 28 OPERATING VIA LOWER ALBERT ROAD WESTBOUND AND GLENEALY SOUTHBOUND WILL BE DIVERTED VIA COTTON TREE DRIVE, UPPER ALBERT ROAD TO CAINE ROAD.
- * VEHICLES ON UPPER ALBERT ROAD NORTHBOUND AND THOSE LEAVING THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES CARPARKS HEADING FOR MID-LEVELS WILL BE DIVERTED VIA LOWER ALBERT ROAD EASTBOUND AND COTTON TREE DRIVE.

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BUS-ONLY LANE

FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (JULY 20), THE SECTION OF THE WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF ROAD LD2 BETWEEN ITS TWO JUNCTIONS WITH TSUEN WAN ROAD IN TUEN MUN WILL BE MADE A 24-HOUR PROHIBITED ZONE.

ALL MOTOR VEHICLES OTHER THAN FRANCHISED BUSES AND THOSE AUTHORISED IN WRITING BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM ENTERING THE ZONE.

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WATER MAINS WORK

CERTAIN PREMISES IN HUNG HOM AND TSIM SHA TSUI WILL EXPERIENCE WEAK PRESSURE OF FRESH WATER SUPPLY FROM 9 PM ON SATURDAY (JULY 21) TO NOON THE FOLLOWING DAY DUE TO WATER MAINS WORK.

THE AFFECTED PREMISES ARE BOUNDED BY JORDAN ROAD, GASCOIGNE ROAD, CHATHAM ROAD NORTH, MA TAU WAI ROAD, LOK SHAN ROAD AND THE SEAFRONT OF TSIM SHA TSUI AND HUNG HOM.

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