



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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NEW HOSPITAL PROJECTS WILL BOOST SUPPLY OF BEDS

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A NUMBER OF NEW HOSPITAL PROJECTS AND INFIRMARIES WILL BE COMPLETED OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS, BRINGING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF HOSPITAL BEDS FROM THE PRESENT 25,000 TO MORE THAN 31,600 BY 1993.

THE DIRECTOR OF HOSPITAL SERVICES, DR T.Y. CHAU, SAID THIS AT A MEET-THE-MEDIA SESSION TODAY (THURSDAY). IT WAS THE FIRST SUCH SESSION HELD BY DR CHAU SINCE HE WAS APPOINTED THE HEAD OF THE NEW DEPARTMENT.

THE HOSPITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT WAS OFFICIALLY SET UP ON APRIL 1 FOLLOWING THE REORGANISATION OF THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT INTO TWO SEPARATE DEPARTMENTS. THE OTHER DEPARTMENT IS THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.

SPEAKING TO THE MEDIA, DR CHAU SAID THE NEW PROJECTS TO BE COMPLETED THIS YEAR ARE THE TUEN MUN HOSPITAL STAGE I, QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL STAGE II, TANG SHIU KIN HOSPITAL EXTENSION, RUTTONJEE HOSPITAL REDEVELOPMENT, POK OI HOSPITAL EXTENSION STAGE III, YAN CHAI HOSPITAL EXTENSION STAGE III AND VIOLET PEEL POLYCLINIC.

"WHEN THESE NEW PROJECTS ARE COMMISSIONED, AN ADDITIONAL 1,000 HOSPITAL BEDS WILL BE PROVIDED TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION," DR CHAU POINTED OUT.

SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION NEXT YEAR ARE TWO INFIRMARIES -- THE SHA TIN CHESHIRE HOME AND THE SHA TIN INFIRMARY. TOGETHER WITH THE OPENING OF THE SUBSEQUENT PHASES OF THE TUEN MUN HOSPITAL, ANOTHER 1,700 BEDS WILL BE BROUGHT ON STREAM, ACCORDING TO DR CHAU.

THE PROJECTS SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION BETWEEN 1991 AND 1993 INCLUDE THE QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL EXTENSION, THE YAN CHAI HOSPITAL EXTENSION STAGE IV, PAMELA YOUDE HOSPITAL AND THE UNITED CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL EXTENSION (PHASE I), HE SAID.

OUTLINING THE WORK OF THE HOSPITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, DR CHAU DESCRIBED THE NEW DEPARTMENT AS THE PRIME INSTRUMENT FOR CARRYING OUT GOVERNMENT POLICIES ON HOSPITAL SERVICES AND ADVISING THE GOVERNMENT, THROUGH THE HEALTH AND WELFARE BRANCH, ON THE OPERATIONAL IMPLICATIONS OF THESE POLICIES.

"IT IS BELIEVED THAT THIS WILL GREATLY FACILITATE PLANNING FOR THE REORGANISATION OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES IMPLIED BY THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY.

"AT THE SAME TIME, THE MOVE WILL ENABLE POTENTIAL TEETHING PROBLEMS TO BE IDENTIFIED AND RESOLVED BEFORE THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY COMES INTO BEING," HE EXPLAINED.

/DR CHAU .....

DR CHAU POINTED OUT THAT THE DEPARTMENT OPERATES A RANGE OF REGIONAL, DISTRICT AND CONVALESCENT HOSPITALS, SUPPORTING SPECIALIST CLINICS AND ADDITIONAL FACILITIES, INCLUDING COMMUNITY NURSING, DAY CENTRES AND REHABILITATION SERVICES.

SPECIFICALLY, THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT ARE:

- (A) TO DETERMINE THE RANGE OF SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED IN HOSPITALS;
- (B) TO KEEP UNDER CONTINUOUS REVIEW THE STATE OF DEVELOPMENT OF HOSPITAL SERVICES IN HONG KONG AND TO ADVISE THE GOVERNMENT, THROUGH THE HEALTH AND WELFARE BRANCH, ON THEIR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT;
- (C) TO IDENTIFY PROBLEMS IN THE EXISTING SYSTEM, TO ANALYSE THE CONTRIBUTORY FACTORS AND CAUSES, THEIR EFFECTS, AND TO PROVIDE SOLUTIONS;
- (D) TO DETERMINE OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE EFFECTIVE DELIVERY OF SERVICES IN HOSPITALS, INCLUDING THE SETTING UP OF QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE TARGETS AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PERFORMANCE MEASURES TO MONITOR ACHIEVEMENTS AND TO EVALUATE PERFORMANCES;
- (E) TO ADVISE ON THE FEES AND CHARGES OF HOSPITAL SERVICES; AND
- (F) TO ADVISE THE GOVERNMENT ON ALL MATTERS RELATING TO HOSPITAL SERVICES.

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STI CALLS FOR FREE AND OPEN TRADE

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THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR JOHN CHAN, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT HE BELIEVED THE CREATION OF THE SINGLE EUROPEAN MARKET IN 1992 WOULD LOGICALLY RESULT IN IMPROVED MARKET ACCESS.

HE WAS SPEAKING AT A JOINT LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE SWEDISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, NORWEGIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND FINNISH BUSINESS COUNCIL IN HONG KONG.

MR CHAN SAID THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A "HOMOGENEOUS AND DYNAMIC EUROPEAN ECONOMIC SPACE" WOULD MEAN THE HARMONISATION OF TECHNICAL STANDARDS AND ELIMINATION OF CUMBERSOME ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES WHICH WOULD HOPEFULLY FACILITATE TRADE AND BENEFIT EXPORT-ORIENTED ECONOMIES LIKE HONG KONG.

/HOWEVER, .....

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HOWEVER, HE CALLED ON THE COMMUNITY NOT TO BECOME INWARD-LOOKING IN ITS TRADE POLICY AND PUT UP MORE PROTECTIONIST TRADE BARRIERS AGAINST IMPORTS FROM OUTSIDE THE COMMUNITY AFTER 1992.

"WITH THE CREATION OF A HUGE SINGLE MARKET OF 320 MILLION PEOPLE, THERE IS SOME CONCERN BOTH HERE AND ELSEWHERE THAT THE COMMUNITY MIGHT BECOME MORE INTERESTED IN TRADE AMONGST MEMBER STATES THAN THE REST OF THE WORLD.

"THIS REGIONAL APPROACH COULD ERODE THE PRINCIPLES OF MOST-FAVOURLED-NATION TREATMENT AND MULTILATERALISM ENSHRINED IN THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE (GATT) TO WHICH HONG KONG AND NORDIC COUNTRIES SUBSCRIBE AND ON WHICH WE RELY," MR CHAN SAID.

HE REITERATED THAT HONG KONG STRONGLY BELIEVED THAT ONLY BY UPHOLDING THE MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM, RATHER THAN "TRADING BLOC" OR DISCRIMINATORY BILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS, COULD THE WHOLE WORLD BENEFIT FROM THE EXPANSION OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE.

TURNING TO THE POSSIBLE PROTECTIONIST PRESSURE FROM EUROPEAN INDUSTRIES, MR CHAN FELT SOME SECTORS SEEMED TO LOOK AROUND FOR NEW BARRIERS TO IMPORTS AND HE CONDEMNED THE RECENT SPATE OF ANTI-DUMPING CASES AFFECTING IMPORTS FROM HONG KONG.

HE SAID HONG KONG WAS ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION'S WARNING THAT THIRD COUNTRIES COULD NOT EXPECT TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE SINGLE MARKET WITHOUT "RECIPROCITY".

BUT, MR CHAN SAID, HONG KONG HAD ALREADY PAID ALL THAT IT HAD GOT, BEING ONE OF THE WORLD'S FREEST TRADING COMMUNITIES WITHOUT ANY TARIFF OR NON-TARIFF BARRIERS TO TRADE.

EARLIER IN HIS SPEECH, MR CHAN PAID TRIBUTE TO SWEDEN FOR ITS LAUDABLE DECISION TO ABOLISH ALL RESTRICTIONS ON TEXTILES IMPORTS WHEN THE MULTI-FIBRE ARRANGEMENT (MFA) RUNS OUT ON JULY 31, 1991.

HE ALSO WELCOMED THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO FOLLOW SUIT.

HE PREDICTED THAT THIS DEVELOPMENT WAS LIKELY TO CAUSE SOME PROBLEMS FOR FINLAND'S TEXTILE EXPORTS TO ITS NORDIC PARTNERS, BUT HONG KONG TRUSTED THAT FINLAND WOULD NOT TRY TO TACKLE THOSE PROBLEMS BY INCREASING THE PROTECTION OF ITS DOMESTIC MARKET.

LASTLY, HE CALLED ON OTHER IMPORTING COUNTRIES TO TAKE STEPS TOWARDS LIBERALISATION AS IT WOULD BENEFIT DOMESTIC ECONOMIES OF THESE COUNTRIES BY ENGENDERING MORE RATIONAL AND EFFICIENT ALLOCATION OF PRODUCTION RESOURCES.

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JETFOIL ACCIDENT REPORT RELEASED

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THE SUMMARY OF A PRELIMINARY INQUIRY REPORT ON THE GROUNDING OF THE HONG KONG REGISTERED JETFOIL "FUNCHAL" IN MACAU WATERS LAST OCTOBER WAS RELEASED TODAY (THURSDAY).

MORE THAN 70 PEOPLE WERE REPORTED INJURED IN THE ACCIDENT WHICH OCCURRED IN THE EVENING OF OCTOBER 16 SOON AFTER THE HONG KONG BOUND JETFOIL LEFT THE MACAU PIER.

THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE SUBSEQUENTLY ORDERED A PRELIMINARY INQUIRY INTO THE CIRCUMSTANCES ATTENDING THE ACCIDENT AND A DETAILED REPORT WAS SUBMITTED TO THE GOVERNOR, WHO HAD ACCEPTED THE RECOMMENDATION THAT THE CONVENING OF MARINE COURT WAS UNNECESSARY.

THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF MARINE (SHIPPING), MR ALLAN PYRKE, SAID AT TODAY'S PRESS CONFERENCE THAT THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE WHATSOEVER OF ANY HUMAN ERROR CAUSING OR CONTRIBUTING TO THE ACCIDENT.

COMPREHENSIVE TESTS AND INSPECTIONS WERE CARRIED OUT DURING THE INVESTIGATION AND SHOWED THAT IT WAS EXTREMELY UNLIKELY THAT THE ACCIDENT WAS CAUSED BY EQUIPMENT MALFUNCTION OR CREW NEGLIGENCE.

"THE MOST PROBABLE CAUSE OF THE ACCIDENT IS A PHENOMENON CALLED 'STRUT VENTILATION' OR 'FOILBORNE SKID'.

"THIS CAN HAPPEN THROUGH SEVERAL CAUSES, THE MOST COMMON OF WHICH IS RUBBISH, SUCH AS DISCARDED ROPES OR PLASTIC SHEETINGS BEING CAUGHT ON THE FORWARD STRUT," MR PYRKE SAID.

TO AVOID SIMILAR ACCIDENTS IN THE FUTURE, MR PYRKE SAID THE REPORT HAD MADE A NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HAD BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE.

THE MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS INCLUDED:

- \* A STRUT VENTILATION OR FOILBORNE SKID ALARM SHOULD BE INSTALLED ON JETFOILS, IF POSSIBLE;
- \* SEAT BELTS SHOULD BE FITTED TO ALL PASSENGER SEATS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS MADE TO RECOMMEND THAT THEY SHOULD BE WORN. ALSO, A MANDATORY REQUIREMENT TO WEAR SEAT BELTS IN THE HIGHER RISK AREAS OF THE HARBOURS SHOULD BE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED;
- \* THE CABIN CREW SHOULD BE PROVIDED WITH SEATS, FITTED WITH SAFETY BELTS, FOR USE IN THE MACAU CHANNEL AND HONG KONG HARBOUR TO ENSURE THAT, IN THE EVENT OF A SIMILAR ACCIDENT, THEY HAVE THE BEST CHANCE OF AVOIDING INJURY AND BE IN A POSITION TO RENDER ASSISTANCE TO THE PASSENGERS;

/\* AS .....

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- \* AS THE PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM, ALTHOUGH SUPPLIED FROM TWO ALTERNATIVE INDEPENDENT ELECTRICAL SOURCES, FAILED TO WORK AFTER THE ACCIDENT, IT SHOULD BE CONNECTED TO THE EMERGENCY BATTERIES;
- \* THE CONFECTIONERY AND DRINKS TROLLEYS SHOULD NOT BE USED WHILE JETFOILS ARE IN HIGH RISK AREAS SUCH AS HARBOURS;
- \* THE COMPANY SHOULD REVIEW THE CREW UNIFORMS TO SEE IF THEY ARE DISTINCTIVE ENOUGH;
- \* IT SHOULD BE RECONSIDERED WHETHER THE ORANGE SMOKE MAN-OVERBOARD SIGNALS ARE REQUIRED FOR THESE VESSELS IN VIEW OF THE PANIC THEY CAUSED BY ACTIVATING THEMSELVES DURING THIS ACCIDENT. IF THEY CAN BE DISPENSED WITH, THEN THEY SHOULD BE REMOVED FROM ALL SIMILAR CRAFT; AND
- \* THE CHIEF OFFICERS SHOULD NOT WRITE DOWN TIMES WHILE THEY ARE KEEPING A LOOKOUT IN THE CONFINED WATERS OF THE MACAU CHANNEL AND HONG KONG HARBOUR. IF IT IS NECESSARY TO RECORD A TIME THEN THIS SHOULD BE DONE BY THE ENGINEER OFFICER.

MR PYRKE SAID THAT SOME OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS WERE ALREADY BEING CARRIED OUT BY THE FERRY COMPANY IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE MARINE DEPARTMENT.

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#### FUTURES EXCHANGE MAKING GOOD PROGRESS

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THE HONG KONG FUTURES EXCHANGE HAS BEEN DOING A PRETTY GOOD JOB AND THE SITUATION NOW IS GOOD FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS, THE ACTING CHIEF SECRETARY, MR PIERS JACOBS, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING TO MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA AFTER A VISIT TO THE FUTURES EXCHANGE, MR JACOBS SAID HE WAS VERY PLEASED TO SEE THE EXCHANGE MAKING SUCH GOOD PROGRESS.

"WE ARE DOING A LOT OF THINKING TOGETHER GENERALLY WITH A VIEW TO INTRODUCING NEW CONTRACTS INTO THE EXCHANGE IN FUTURE.

"A LOT OF WORK HAS TO BE DONE BECAUSE OBVIOUSLY WE DON'T WANT TO MAKE MISTAKES OF INTRODUCING CONTRACTS OR SEE CONTRACTS INTRODUCED THAT CARRY WITH THEM AN UNACCEPTABLE RISK," HE ADDED.

GENERALLY, MR JACOBS FELT IT DESIRABLE THAT THERE BE NEW PRODUCTS ON THE MARKET SINCE THE EXCHANGE DID NOT HAVE A VERY LARGE RANGE OF PRODUCTS AT THE MOMENT.

/ "MOST PEOPLE .....

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"MOST PEOPLE NOWADAYS TEND TO THINK OF IT AS A FINANCIAL FUTURES EXCHANGE," HE SAID, "IN FACT WE ONLY GOT ESSENTIALLY ONE FINANCIAL FUTURES PRODUCT BEING TRADED AT THE MOMENT.

"SO WE NEED TO SEE A GREATER DEPTH OF PRODUCTS IN HONG KONG'S FUTURES EXCHANGE," HE POINTED OUT.

ASKED ABOUT THE INTEREST RATE FUTURES CONTRACT, MR JACOBS SAID THE FORMAL PROPOSAL HAD NOT YET BEEN RECEIVED.

"AS I UNDERSTAND, IT IS WITH THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION AT THE MOMENT. IT IS BEING PROCESSED THROUGH THERE."

HE SAID WHEN IT ULTIMATELY CAME TO THE ADMINISTRATION, THE GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE TO LOOK AT IT AND PROBABLY TAKE IT THROUGH THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

ASKED WHEN THIS NEW CONTRACT WOULD BE DISCUSSED, HE SAID NO EXACT DATE COULD BE GIVEN BUT HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE IN A MATTER OF A FEW MONTHS.

IN REPLY TO ANOTHER QUESTION ABOUT INDEX FUTURES AND INSIDER DEALING, MR JACOBS SAID HE WOULD MAKE A STATEMENT ON THE PARTICULAR QUESTION IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BEFORE THE END OF THIS SESSION.

HE SAID THE THINKING AT THE MOMENT WAS THAT INDEX FUTURES CONTRACT SHOULD NOT BE INCLUDED IN THE DEFINITION OF THE SECURITIES TO WHICH THE INSIDER DEALING PROVISIONS RELATE.

"IN OTHER WORDS, IT SHOULDN'T BE SUBJECT TO THE INSIDER DEALING PROVISIONS," HE SAID, ADDING THAT HIS MIND WAS NOT CLOSED ON IT AS YET.

ASKED WHETHER HE THOUGHT THE FUTURES EXCHANGE COULD BE RUN AS A SELF-REGULATORY BODY, HE SAID ONE OF THE PROVISIONS IN THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION ORDINANCE WAS THAT THE COMMISSION SHOULD DEVELOP AND PROMOTE THE CONCEPT OF SELF-REGULATION.

"SO I BELIEVE THAT THE FUTURES EXCHANGE SHOULD MOVE TO GREATER LEVELS OF SELF-REGULATION OVER THE FUTURE. BUT WE REALLY HAVE TO WORK TOGETHER TO SEE THAT THE REGULATION THAT IS IMPOSED IS ADEQUATE AND PROPER," HE SAID.

ASKED WHETHER THE RECENT RISE OF THE U.S. DOLLAR EXCHANGE RATE HAD ANY IMPACT ON EXPORT OR THE ECONOMY OF HONG KONG, MR JACOBS SAID THERE HAD BEEN A SLIGHT SLOWING DOWN IN THE ECONOMY BUT HE DID NOT SEE IT DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE RECENT INCREASE IN THE EXCHANGE RATE.

"I DON'T THINK IT HAS REACHED THAT POINT WHERE IT WOULD HAVE ANY DRAMATIC SORT OF EFFECT ON THE LEVEL OF OUR EXPORTS. OUR EXPORTS HAVE BEEN GOING DOWN SLIGHTLY ANYWAY, THERE HAS BEEN A SLIGHT COOLING," HE SAID.

/ASKED ABOUT .....

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ASKED ABOUT THE REPORT BY THE U.S. GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE (GAO) IN WHICH THE HONG KONG DOLLAR'S LINK WITH THE U.S. DOLLAR WAS MENTIONED, HE SAID IN FACT THE GAO REPORT MADE IT QUITE CLEAR THAT HONG KONG'S POSITION COULD BE DISTINGUISHED FROM TAIWAN AND KOREA.

"IT SAID THAT THERE WAS ABSOLUTELY NO REASON IN TERMS OF THE BALANCE OF TRADE FOR HONG KONG TO MOVE AT ALL," HE POINTED OUT.

EARLIER, MR JACOBS HAD A DISCUSSION WITH THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FUTURES EXCHANGE, MR EOGHAN MCMILLAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD. HE ALSO TOURED THE OFFICES AND THE TRADING FLOOR.

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#### CONCERTED EFFORT NEEDED TO PREVENT INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS

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IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THE GOVERNMENT, EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES SHOULD CO-OPERATE AND TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THE PREVENTION OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH COUNCIL, MR HO SAI-CHU, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

ADDRESSING THE PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY SAFETY AWARD SCHEME 1988-89, MR HO SAID THE RISING TREND IN CONSTRUCTION ACCIDENTS HAD RESULTED IN ONE OUT OF EVERY THREE CONSTRUCTION WORKERS BEING INJURED.

LAST YEAR, 27,125 ACCIDENTS HAPPENED IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY AND 58 WORKERS WERE KILLED. COMPARED WITH 1987, THE NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS REPRESENTED AN INCREASE OF 14 PER CENT.

"APART FROM THE HUMAN SUFFERING THROUGH DEATH AND INJURIES, INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS ALSO RESULTED IN TREMENDOUS ECONOMIC LOSS, SUCH AS DAMAGE TO PLANT AND EQUIPMENT, DELAY IN PRODUCTION, AND EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION COSTS," MR HO STRESSED.

"EVERY STEP MUST BE TAKEN TO PREVENT ACCIDENTS AND TO IMPROVE THE STANDARDS OF SAFETY AND HEALTH AT WORK."

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE WORKING PARTY ON THE AWARD SCHEME, MR MA CHING-KO, SAID IT WAS WITH THIS PRIME OBJECTIVE THAT THE SCHEME WAS ORGANISED TO PROMOTE SAFE PRACTICE IN THE WORKPLACE THROUGH VARIOUS CONTESTS AMONG WORKERS AND EMPLOYERS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY.

HE WAS PLEASED TO NOTE THAT THE EVENT, ORGANISED FOR THE FIFTH YEAR, RECEIVED ENTHUSIASTIC RESPONSE FROM CONSTRUCTION WORKERS, CONTRACTORS AND CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES.

THE SCHEME WAS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY SAFETY SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD AND THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH COUNCIL.

/IT COMPRISED .....

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IT COMPRISED THREE CONTESTS - THE "WHAT'S WRONG IN THE PICTURE" IQ SAFETY CONTEST, THE SAFETY SITE CONTEST AND THE OUTSTANDING SAFETY SUPERVISOR CONTEST.

THE CHAMPION OF THE IQ SAFETY CONTEST, MR WONG SIU-MAN, WAS AWARDED A TRAVEL COUPON WORTH \$4,000 WHILE THE FIRST AND SECOND RUNNERS-UP, MR LEUNG YU-SHUN AND MR OR MAN-YU, WERE GIVEN A TRAVEL COUPON WORTH \$3,000 AND \$2,000 RESPECTIVELY. IN ADDITION, EACH WAS GIVEN \$700 CASH.

THE WINNERS OF THE SAFETY SITE CONTEST WERE MANFIELD BUILDING CONTRACTORS LTD., YAU LEE CONSTRUCTION CO. LTD., GAMMON CONSTRUCTION LTD., AND CHINA LIGHT AND POWER CO. LTD. THE COMPANIES WERE PRESENTED WITH ROAST PIGS SYMBOLISING SAFETY IN CONSTRUCTION WORK.

AS FOR THE OUTSTANDING SAFETY SUPERVISOR CONTEST, THE AWARDS WENT TO MR TAM WAI-SHING, MR LEE YAT-MING AND MR LAM PING-FAN, AND EACH WAS AWARDED A GOLD MEDAL AND A PAIR OF SAFETY BOOTS.

THERE WERE ALSO A NUMBER OF CONSOLATION PRIZES IN EACH CONTEST.

THE AWARDS AND SOUVENIRS WERE PRESENTED RESPECTIVELY BY LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR MR TAM YIU-CHUNG; THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR TONY HAMMOND; THE PRESIDENT OF THE HONG KONG CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION, MR K.L. CHONG; AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY SAFETY SUB-COMMITTEE, MR PETER NIE.

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#### MARCH ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL FIGURES RELEASED

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THE ORDERS POSITION IN MARCH 1989 AS REPORTED BY THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURING COMPANIES INCREASED BY 1 PER CENT AND 2 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 1989 AND MARCH 1988 RESPECTIVELY, ACCORDING TO THE RESULTS OF A SURVEY RELEASED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

COMPARING MARCH 1989 WITH FEBRUARY 1989, THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY IN THE TEXTILES INDUSTRY, AND TO A LESSER EXTENT IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY.

THE ORDERS POSITION SHOWED A MODEST INCREASE IN THE WEARING APPAREL INDUSTRY, BUT WAS MORE OR LESS UNCHANGED IN THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS AND THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES.

/WHEN COMPARED .....

WHEN COMPARED WITH MARCH 1988, THE ORDERS POSITION IN MARCH 1989 INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY IN THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRY, AND TO A LESSER EXTENT IN THE WEARING APPAREL AND THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES.

HOWEVER, THE ORDERS POSITION DECREASED SIGNIFICANTLY IN THE TEXTILES INDUSTRY AND MODERATELY IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY.

THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND IS MEASURED IN TERMS OF THE NUMBER OF MONTHS AND REFERS TO ORDERS OUTSTANDING AS AT THE END OF THE REFERENCE MONTH.

ON EMPLOYMENT, THE MANUFACTURERS SURVEYED REPORTED THAT THEIR TOTAL WORKFORCE IN MARCH 1989 WAS LOWER BY 1 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 1989, AND BY 7 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH MARCH 1988.

COMPARING MARCH 1989 WITH FEBRUARY 1989, EMPLOYMENT DECREASED MODERATELY IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY AND SLIGHTLY IN THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS, FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS, AND FOOD AND DRINKS INDUSTRIES. EMPLOYMENT IN THE TEXTILES AND WEARING APPAREL INDUSTRIES SHOWED LITTLE CHANGE.

COMPARED WITH MARCH 1988, EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH 1989 DECREASED SUBSTANTIALLY IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY. THERE WERE ALSO SIGNIFICANT DECLINES IN EMPLOYMENT IN THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS, AND WEARING APPAREL INDUSTRIES.

EMPLOYMENT SHOWED SLIGHT DECLINES IN THE FOOD AND DRINKS, AND TEXTILES INDUSTRIES.

ON THE OTHER HAND, A SLIGHT INCREASE IN EMPLOYMENT WAS RECORDED IN THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRY.

IN MARCH 1989, PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN THE MANUFACTURING COMPANIES SURVEYED INCREASED, IN MONEY TERMS, BY 5 PER CENT OVER FEBRUARY 1989 AND BY 18 PER CENT OVER MARCH 1988.

COMPARING MARCH 1989 WITH FEBRUARY 1989, SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN PER CAPITA EARNINGS OCCURRED IN THE WEARING APPAREL, TEXTILES, AND FOOD AND DRINKS INDUSTRIES, FOLLOWED BY THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES.

THESE INCREASES WERE MAINLY DUE TO A FEWER NUMBER OF WORKING DAYS IN FEBRUARY THAN IN MARCH OF THIS YEAR.

HOWEVER, A SLIGHT DECREASE IN PER CAPITA EARNINGS WAS RECORDED IN THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY.

COMPARED WITH MARCH 1988, PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN MARCH 1989 INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY IN ALMOST ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES SURVEYED, WITH THE LARGEST INCREASES RECORDED IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS AND THE FOOD AND DRINKS INDUSTRIES.

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IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR, EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH 1989 SHOWED SOME INCREASES WHEN COMPARED WITH BOTH FEBRUARY 1989 AND MARCH 1988. PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN MARCH 1989 SHOWED LITTLE CHANGE WHEN COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 1989, BUT INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY OVER MARCH 1988.

IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT FIGURES FOR THIS SECTOR COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY; SITE WORKERS EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS ARE NOT INCLUDED.

IN THE SERVICE SECTORS SURVEYED, THE OVERALL LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH 1989 WAS ABOUT THE SAME AS IN FEBRUARY 1989, BUT INCREASED MODERATELY WHEN COMPARED WITH MARCH 1988.

PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN MARCH 1989 INCREASED SLIGHTLY OVER FEBRUARY 1989, BUT COMPARED WITH MARCH 1988 THE INCREASES WERE GENERALLY SUBSTANTIAL.

THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS ARE SHOWN IN THE ATTACHED TABLES 1 TO 3.

THE SURVEY COVERED A PANEL OF THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURING COMPANIES AND THE 50 LARGEST COMPANIES IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND SELECTED SERVICE SECTORS, CHOSEN BY REFERENCE TO THEIR EMPLOYMENT SIZES IN SEPTEMBER 1986.

THE DEPARTMENT CAUTIONED THAT AS THE SURVEY IS NOT BASED ON A SCIENTIFICALLY SELECTED SAMPLE, THE MAGNITUDES OF CHANGE INDICATED BY THE SURVEY RESULTS ARE MERELY A REFLECTION OF THE EXPERIENCE OF THE COMPANIES SURVEYED.

HOWEVER, GIVEN THE COMPOSITION OF THE PANEL, IT SHOULD BE ABLE TO PROVIDE A USEFUL INDICATION OF THE DIRECTION OF CHANGE FOR MAKING A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ECONOMY IN THE SHORT TERM.

THE SURVEY REPORT FOR MARCH 1989 IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, AND AT THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER 1, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, AT \$2 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE MADE TO THE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON 5-8234820.

/TABLE 1 .....

TABLE 1 : ORDERS-ON-HAND IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

INDUSTRY	AS AT THE END OF MARCH 1989  (MONTHS)	ORDERS-ON-HAND CHANGE WHEN COMPARED WITH	
		FEB. 89  (%)	MAR. 88  (%)
ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	4.45	+1	+2
WEARING APPAREL	4.79	+2	+5
TEXTILES	2.54	+7	-9
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	3.50	+4	-4
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	4.68	*	+8
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	5.19	*	+3
OTHERS	4.24	*	+1

\* CHANGES WITHIN +/-0.5%

TABLE 2 : EMPLOYMENT

INDUSTRY/SERVICES	PERSONS ENGAGED AT THE END OF MARCH 1989	
	FEB. 89  (%)	MAR. 88  (%)
ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	-1	-7
FOOD AND DRINKS	-1	-5
WEARING APPAREL	*	-7
TEXTILES	*	-1
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	-3	-25
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	-1	+2
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	-1	-9
OTHERS	-2	-5
CONSTRUCTION#	+2	+3
SERVICES	*	+4
BANKS	-1	+3
HOTELS	+1	+1
PUBLIC UTILITIES	*	-1
OTHERS	+1	+13

\* CHANGES WITHIN +/-0.5%

# PERSONS ENGAGED COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY; SITE WORKERS EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS ARE NOT INCLUDED.

TABLE 3 : PER CAPITA EARNINGS

INDUSTRY/SERVICES	PER CAPITA EARNINGS		
	AVERAGE AS IN CHANGE WHEN COMPARED WITH		
	MARCH 1989	FEB. 89	MAR. 88
	(HK\$)	(%)	(%)
ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	4,804	+5	+18
FOOD AND DRINKS	5,276	+8	+21
WEARING APPAREL	4,009	+10	+16
TEXTILES	4,516	+9	+12
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	4,752	+7	+30
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	5,354	+6	+15
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	4,515	-1	+17
OTHERS	6,424	+3	+20
CONSTRUCTION#	6,838	*	+19
SERVICES	7,932	+1	+16
BANKS	7,531	-2	+17
HOTELS	5,590	-1	+16
PUBLIC UTILITIES	7,596	+5	+15
OTHERS	9,398	+1	+15

\* CHANGES WITHIN +/-0.5%

# PER CAPITA EARNINGS COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY; SITE WORKERS EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS ARE NOT INCLUDED.

NOTES TO TABLES 1-3 : UNLIKE "ORDERS-ON-HAND" AND "PER CAPITA EARNINGS", WHICH ARE AVERAGE FIGURES AMONGST THE FIRMS SURVEYED, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED BY THE FIRMS SURVEYED IS NOT MEANINGFUL INFORMATION ON ITS OWN (BECAUSE THIS IS A PANEL SURVEY) AND IS THEREFORE NOT SHOWN.

THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1989

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TEMPORARY CONTROL OF BUILDING DENSITY IN KOWLOON

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THE GOVERNMENT WILL SHORTLY BE INTRODUCING A BILL INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO TEMPORARILY CONTROL THE DENSITY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NEW BUILDINGS IN CERTAIN PARTS OF KOWLOON.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, MR PETER LAI, AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (THURSDAY) EXPLAINED THAT THE PROPOSED CONTROLS IN THE BILL WERE NECESSARY TO AVOID OVER-STRAINING INFRASTRUCTURAL AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES IN THESE AREAS.

A REVIEW OF AIRPORT HEIGHT RESTRICTIONS (AHR) COMPLETED LAST YEAR BY THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDED THAT EXISTING HEIGHT LIMITS IN SOME PARTS OF KOWLOON, SUCH AS TSIM SHA TSUI, HUNG HOM, KWUN TONG AND SAN PO KONG, COULD BE CONSIDERABLY RELAXED.

MR LAI POINTED OUT THAT ANY RELAXATION NOW WOULD RESULT IN GREATER DEVELOPMENT DENSITIES THAN CURRENTLY PERMITTED AND WOULD PLACE THE EXISTING AND PLANNED TRANSPORT SYSTEM AND THE INFRASTRUCTURE OF ROADS, DRAINS AND OTHER COMMUNITY FACILITIES, UNDER AN UNACCEPTABLE STRAIN.

RECOGNISING THESE PROBLEMS, THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS ENDORSED GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSAL FOR A BILL TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THE BILL WILL REQUIRE THE BUILDING AUTHORITY TO REFUSE APPROVAL OF ANY BUILDING PLANS SHOWING A BUILDING WHICH EXCEEDS A PLOT RATIO GREATER THAN IS PERMITTED UNDER THE PRESENT AHR.

MR LAI SAID THE PROBLEMS OF URBAN DENSITIES WERE BEING DEALT WITH IN THE WIDER CONTEXT OF THE METROPLAN STUDY.

"METROPLAN IS EXPECTED TO MAKE ITS RECOMMENDATIONS TO GOVERNMENT BY THE END OF THIS YEAR, AND IT WILL TAKE ANOTHER YEAR FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED.

"THE TEMPORARY CONTROLS CAN THEN BE LIFTED AT THE END OF 1990," HE SAID.

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THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1989

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TWENTY-ONE PASS MEDICAL LICENTIATE EXAMINATION  
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THE LICENTIATE COMMITTEE OF THE MEDICAL COUNCIL OF HONG KONG ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT A TOTAL OF 21 CANDIDATES HAVE PASSED PART II (ENGLISH FOR PROFESSIONAL USE PAPER) OF THE LICENTIATE EXAMINATION FOR UNREGISTRABLE DOCTORS THIS YEAR.

THE PART II EXAMINATION HAS BEEN HELD TWICE THIS YEAR, IN MARCH AND MAY, GIVING CANDIDATES A CHOICE OF EXAMINATION DATES AND ALSO THE OPPORTUNITY FOR THOSE WHO FAILED IN THE FIRST EXAMINATION TO TAKE THIS PART OF THE EXAMINATION AGAIN IN THE SAME YEAR.

OF THE 21 SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES, 17 PASSED THE EXAMINATION IN MARCH AND FOUR PASSED IN MAY.

ALL THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED THE PART II EXAMINATION THIS YEAR ARE ELIGIBLE TO TAKE THE PART III EXAMINATION SCHEDULED FOR JULY.

THE PART III LICENTIATE EXAMINATION IS AN ORAL EXAMINATION ON CANDIDATES' ABILITY TO APPLY PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE TO CLINICAL PROBLEMS.

EACH CANDIDATE WILL BE EXAMINED IN EACH OF THE THREE DISCIPLINES OF MEDICINE, SURGERY AND OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY.

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AMENDMENT BILL TO ENSURE SAFETY ON MODERNISED PEAK TRAMWAY  
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A BILL TO BE GAZETTED TOMORROW (FRIDAY) SEEKS TO AMEND THE PEAK TRAMWAY ORDINANCE TO ENSURE SAFE OPERATION OF THE MODERNISED PEAK TRAMWAY.

LAST SEPTEMBER, THE GOVERNMENT EXTENDED THE PEAK TRAMWAY COMPANY'S FRANCHISE TO RUN AND OPERATE THE TRAMWAY FOR A FURTHER 10 YEARS, UNTIL THE END OF 2003, AFTER THE COMPANY FIRMLY COMMITTED ITSELF TO IMPLEMENT A MODERNISATION PROGRAMME FOR THE TRAMWAY.

ON THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE MODERNISED TRAMWAY, THE PEAK TRAMWAY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989 STIPULATES THAT THE COMPANY SHOULD HAVE DUE REGARD TO SAFETY AND ADHERE TO THE CODE OF PRACTICE ISSUED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

THE BILL EMPOWERS THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT TO APPOINT INSPECTORS TO TEST AND EXAMINE THE TRAMWAY, TO ENSURE ITS SAFETY AND TO INVESTIGATE ACCIDENTS. IT ALSO SETS OUT THE POWERS OF THE INSPECTORS.

/THE SECRETARY .....

THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1989

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THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT IS ALSO AUTHORISED TO DIRECT THE COMPANY TO REMEDY TRAMWAY DEFECTS WHICH ARE LIKELY TO CAUSE INJURIES. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE DIRECTION WITHOUT GOOD REASONS WILL CONSTITUTE AN OFFENCE.

THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT IS ALSO VESTED WITH THE POWERS TO ORDER FULL OR PARTIAL CLOSURE OF THE TRAMWAY FOR SAFETY REASONS.

THE COMPANY MAY ALSO CLOSE THE TRAMWAY FOR REPAIRS AND ALTERATIONS BUT IT IS REQUIRED TO NOTIFY THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT.

THE BILL INCREASES THE MAXIMUM PENALTY FROM \$100 TO \$5,000 AND SIX MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT FOR THE OFFENCE OF WILFUL INTERFERENCE WITH THE TRAMWAY.

IT ALSO MAKES IT AN OFFENCE IF AN EMPLOYEE OF THE COMPANY THROUGH NEGLIGENCE IN HIS WORK ENDANGERS, OR IS LIKELY TO ENDANGER, SAFETY ON THE TRAMWAY.

AS REGARDS SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION, THE BILL PROVIDES THAT THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL MAY MAKE REGULATIONS, AMONG OTHER THINGS, FOR CONTROLLING AND REGULATING THE CARRYING OUT OF TRAMWAY WORKS, MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF THE TRAMWAY, AND PROVIDING SAFE SYSTEMS OF OPERATION.

SUBJECT TO THE BILL BEING PASSED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, A SET OF PEAK TRAMWAY (SAFETY) REGULATIONS WILL BE MADE TO REPLACE THE EXISTING PEAK TRAMWAY RULES TO COPE WITH THE MODERNISED TRAMWAY.

ON THE PART OF THE COMPANY, IT MAY MAKE NEW BY-LAWS SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO REPLACE THE OLD ONES AFTER THE BILL HAS BEEN PASSED.

THE BY-LAWS REGULATE THE CONDUCT OF THE PASSENGERS.

ON FARE STRUCTURE, THE BILL PROVIDES THAT THE COMPANY MAY CONTINUE TO FIX ITS OWN FARES.

MONTHLY TICKETS WILL ALSO CONTINUE TO BE ISSUED TO REGULAR COMMUTERS AT A CHARGE NOT EXCEEDING 25 TIMES THE STANDARD FULL-DISTANCE ADULT SINGLE JOURNEY FARE.

THE BILL IS DUE TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON MAY 31.

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REGIONAL SECRETARY VISITS TIN SHUI WAI

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THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR ADOLF HSU, VISITED TIN SHUI WAI TODAY (THURSDAY) TO SEE PROGRESS IN THE FUTURE NEW TOWN.

THE REGIONAL SECRETARY WAS JOINED BY THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY (DESIGNATE), MR T.H. BARMA; ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY (INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT), MR MIKE ARNOLD; AND YUEN LONG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ROBIN IP.

THEY FIRST WENT TO SEE THE FLOOD PROTECTION WORKS FOR THE FOUR LOW-LYING VILLAGES OF SIK KONG TSUEN, SIK KONG WAI, LO UK TSUEN AND KIU TAU WAI.

THIS INVOLVES THE CONSTRUCTION OF EMBANKMENTS, FLOOD STORAGE PONDS AND PUMPS.

THE PARTY LATER TOURED A SITE RESERVED FOR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN NORTHERN TIN SHUI WAI AND THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY AN INSPECTION OF LAND FORMATION WORKS IN THE SOUTH.

TIN SHUI WAI WILL ULTIMATELY HAVE A POPULATION IN EXCESS OF 140,000 WITH THE FIRST INTAKE PLANNED FOR LATE 1991 OR EARLY 1992.

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FOOD MANUFACTURER AND RETAILER FINED ON LABELLING CHARGES

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THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES BRANCH TODAY (THURSDAY) REMINDED FOOD MANUFACTURERS, WHOLESALERS AND RETAILERS NOT TO SELL PREPACKAGED FOOD WHICH BEARS NO PROPER LABELLING AS REQUIRED BY THE THIRD SCHEDULE OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS (COMPOSITION AND LABELLING) REGULATIONS (CHAPTER 132) OR THEY WILL BE LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$25,000 AND SIX MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT.

THE REMINDER FOLLOWS TWO CASES RECENTLY HEARD IN THE CENTRAL MAGISTRACY AND THE NORTH KOWLOON MAGISTRACY.

THESE WERE THE FIRST TWO CASES IN WHICH A RETAILER AND A FOOD MANUFACTURER HAD BEEN PROSECUTED AND FINED SINCE THE ABOVE REGULATIONS CAME INTO OPERATION IN AUGUST LAST YEAR.

IN THE FIRST CASE, AN OWNER OF A FOOD FACTORY IN WAN CHAI WAS FINED A TOTAL OF \$500 FOR SELLING PREPACKAGED EGG AND SHRIMP SPAWN NOODLES WITH THE PLASTIC BAG NOT MARKED OR LABELLED WITH A LIST OF INGREDIENTS, INDICATION OF MINIMUM DURABILITY AND THE NUMERICAL COUNT OF THE CONTENTS OR THE NET WEIGHT OF THE FOOD.

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IN THE SECOND CASE, A SUPERMARKET IN MONG KOK WAS FINED A TOTAL OF \$1,000 FOR SELLING PREPACKAGED PISTACHIOS WITH THE PLASTIC BAG NOT MARKED OR LABELLED WITH THE NAME OR DESIGNATION OF THE FOOD, A LIST OF INGREDIENTS, INDICATION OF MINIMUM DURABILITY, ADDRESS OF THE PACKER AND THE NUMERICAL COUNT OF THE CONTENTS OR THE NET WEIGHT OF THE FOOD.

BOTH WERE PROSECUTED UNDER REGULATIONS 4A(1) AND 5(1) OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS (COMPOSITION AND LABELLING) REGULATIONS MADE UNDER SECTION 55 OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES ORDINANCE.

THEY WERE ALSO ORDERED TO PAY THE SAMPLE COST OF \$12 AND \$28 RESPECTIVELY.

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\$23 MILLION GRANTS TO FIVE ARTS ORGANISATIONS  
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THE COUNCIL FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS (CFPA) HAS ADVISED THE GOVERNMENT TO AWARD ABOUT \$23 MILLION IN GENERAL SUPPORT GRANTS (GSG) TO FIVE LOCAL PERFORMING ARTS ORGANISATIONS FOR THE 1989-90 FINANCIAL YEAR.

THE FIVE ARTS ORGANISATIONS ARE THE HONG KONG BALLET, CITY CONTEMPORARY DANCE COMPANY, CHUNG YING THEATRE, HONG KONG ARTS FESTIVAL SOCIETY AND HONG KONG FESTIVAL FRINGE.

THE BREAKDOWN OF THE AWARDS IS AS FOLLOWS:

HONG KONG ACADEMY OF BALLET LIMITED	\$10.506 MILLION
CITY CONTEMPORARY DANCE COMPANY	\$2.910 MILLION
CHUNG YING THEATRE COMPANY	\$4.874 MILLION
HONG KONG ARTS FESTIVAL SOCIETY LIMITED	\$4.523 MILLION
HONG KONG FESTIVAL FRINGE LIMITED	\$0.332 MILLION

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TOTAL: \$23.145 MILLION

WITH THE GRANTS RECEIVED, THE FIVE ORGANISATIONS WILL BE ABLE TO PUT ON NEW PRODUCTIONS AND STAGE MORE PERFORMANCES IN THE COMING YEAR. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PERFORMANCES WILL INCREASE BY ABOUT 15 PER CENT.

THE HONG KONG BALLET WILL PRESENT 15 PRODUCTIONS, WHICH WILL INCLUDE MAJOR WORKS SUCH AS THE "SWAN LAKE" AND THE "NUTCRACKER".

THE COMPANY ALSO PLANS TO STAGE 52 PUBLIC TICKETED PERFORMANCES, 12 PUBLIC FREE PERFORMANCES AND 160 SCHOOL PERFORMANCES BY ITS YOUTH EDUCATION UNIT, AND 12 SPECIAL FULL-COMPANY SCHOOL PERFORMANCES IN PUBLIC VENUES.

THE CITY CONTEMPORARY DANCE COMPANY WILL PUT ON 10 PRODUCTIONS INCLUDING "X-ISLE, ISLE-X", "HELL SCREEN" AND "WANDERINGS IN THE COSMOS".

IN ADDITION, IT WILL STAGE 43 PUBLIC TICKETED PERFORMANCES, TWO PUBLIC FREE PERFORMANCES AND 25 SCHOOL PERFORMANCES. ITS DANCE EDUCATION UNIT WILL STAGE 80 SCHOOL PERFORMANCES AND 80 WORKSHOPS.

THE CHUNG YING THEATRE IS PLANNING EIGHT NEW PRODUCTIONS AND THREE RE-RUNS. THERE WILL BE 59 PUBLIC TICKETED PERFORMANCES, 125 SCHOOL PERFORMANCES AND 40 WORKSHOPS.

THE HONG KONG ARTS FESTIVAL SOCIETY LIMITED WILL ORGANISE THE 1990 HONG KONG ARTS FESTIVAL IN WHICH RENOWNED LOCAL AND OVERSEAS ARTISTS IN MUSIC, DANCE, THEATRE AND OTHER DISCIPLINES WILL PERFORM.

THE MAJOR ATTRACTIONS FROM OVERSEAS WILL INCLUDE A MAJOR ORCHESTRA, A CHAMBER ORCHESTRA, AN OVERSEAS BALLET COMPANY AND A LOCALLY PRODUCED OPERA FEATURING OVERSEAS SOLOISTS.

THE HONG KONG FESTIVAL FRINGE WILL CONTINUE TO ORGANISE THE ANNUAL FESTIVAL FRINGE IN 1989-90 AND TO RUN THE FRINGE CLUB FOR ARTISTS TO PERFORM OR EXHIBIT THEIR WORK.

THE ACTIVITIES TO BE HELD IN THE YEAR WILL INCLUDE 144 EXHIBITIONS, 359 PERFORMANCES, 157 WORKSHOPS, 14 LARGE SCALE EVENTS AND 232 OUTREACH SHOWS.

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FIRE OFFICER RECEIVES TOP OVERSEAS STUDENT AWARD

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AN OFFICER OF THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAS WON A TOP OVERSEAS STUDENT AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE WHILE RECEIVING TRAINING IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL OFFICER, MR CHOW WING-TAK, SCORED AN OVERALL 88.5 PER CENT IN AN AIRPORT OFFICER COURSE HELD AT THE UK CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY FIRE SERVICE TRAINING SCHOOL IN JUNE LAST YEAR.

MR CHOW'S MARKS WERE THE HIGHEST AMONG THE 35 OVERSEAS STUDENT ATTENDING VARIOUS COURSES IN THE SCHOOL DURING 1988.

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THE THREE-WEEK COURSE, WHICH COVERS AERODROME RESCUE AND FIRE FIGHTING OPERATIONS, IS SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR FIRE OFFICERS FROM BOTH THE UK AND OVERSEAS.

AT THE END OF THE COURSE, MR CHOW WAS ATTACHED TO PRESTWICK AIRPORT IN SCOTLAND AND GATWICK AIRPORT IN LONDON FOR TWO WEEKS TO FAMILIARISE WITH THE WORK OF FIRE STATIONS THERE.

MR CHOW IS NOW A WATCH COMMANDER AT THE AIRPORT FIRE CONTINGENT.

LAST YEAR, TWO OTHER FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT OFFICERS ALSO ATTENDED AIRPORT OFFICER COURSES IN THE UK.

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DB COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO LAYOUT PLAN  
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THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMERCE, INDUSTRY, AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE LAYOUT PLAN FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL AREA SOUTHEAST OF SHEK WU HUI IN THE FANLING/SHEUNG SHUI NEW TOWN AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE PLAN INCLUDES AN OFFICE BLOCK WITH A MULTI-STOREY CARPARK, A RETAIL SHOPPING CENTRE AND A BUS TERMINUS.

THE SENIOR TOWN PLANNER OF THE NEW TERRITORIES NORTH EAST DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, MR ANTHONY KWAN, WILL ATTEND THE MEETING TO BRIEF MEMBERS ON THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS.

ALSO ON THE AGENDA IS A REPORT ON A MOBILE CAREER EXHIBITION ORGANISED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT IN CHOI YUEN ESTATE, SHEUNG SHUI EARLY LAST MONTH.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMERCE, INDUSTRY, AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES COMMITTEE TOMORROW (FRIDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE, JOCKEY CLUB ROAD, FANLING.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1989

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ILLEGAL STRUCTURE IN TAI PO TO BE CLOSED  
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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS SEEKING TO CLOSE AN ILLEGAL STRUCTURE IN TAI PO SO THAT IT CAN BE DEMOLISHED WITHOUT DANGER TO THE OCCUPIERS AND TO THE PUBLIC.

THE STRUCTURE IS ON THE ROOFTOP OVER FLAT 5, FIFTH FLOOR, KWONG FUK BUILDING, 114-124 KWONG FUK ROAD.

THE CLOSURE IS PART OF AN EXERCISE TO ENFORCE ORDERS ISSUED UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE IN MARCH LAST YEAR REQUIRING THE DEMOLITION OF THE STRUCTURE.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER FROM THE SHA TIN DISTRICT COURT ON SEPTEMBER 21, 1989 WAS POSTED ON A CONSPICUOUS PART OF THE STRUCTURE TODAY (THURSDAY).

IT IS INTENDED THAT DEMOLITION WORK WILL BE CARRIED OUT ONCE THE CLOSURE ORDER IS OBTAINED.

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REGISTRATION OF DTC SUSPENDED  
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THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING ANNOUNCED THAT HE HAD SUSPENDED THE REGISTRATION OF G.S.P. FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED AS A DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANY AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS TODAY (THURSDAY).

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URBAN CLEARWAYS IN KWUN TONG, YUEN LONG  
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT FROM 10 AM ON SATURDAY (MAY 20), TWO SECTIONS OF HIP WO STREET IN KWUN TONG WILL BE DESIGNATED URBAN CLEARWAYS 24 HOURS DAILY FOR THREE MONTHS TO FACILITATE ROAD RECONSTRUCTION WORKS.

THE SECTIONS ARE THE WESTERN KERBSIDE LANE BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH TUNG YAN STREET AND A POINT ABOUT 10 METRES SOUTH OF THE SAME JUNCTION; AND THE WESTERN KERBSIDE LANE FROM A POINT ABOUT 38 METRES SOUTH OF ITS JUNCTION WITH TUNG YAN STREET TO ITS JUNCTION WITH KWUN TONG ROAD.

AT THE SAME TIME, IN YUEN LONG, YUEN LONG ON LOK ROAD, EXCLUDING THE LOADING AND UNLOADING BAY BETWEEN CASTLE PEAK ROAD (YUEN LONG) AND YUEN LONG TAI CHEUNG STREET, WILL ALSO BE DESIGNATED URBAN CLEARWAY 24 HOURS DAILY.

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

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