



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1988

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HK'S FUTURE ROLE AS MAJOR SERVICE CENTRE FOR SOUTH CHINA

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HONG KONG SEES ITS FUTURE ROLE AS BEING THE MAJOR SERVICE CENTRE FOR SOUTH CHINA IN GENERAL AND THE PEARL RIVER DELTA REGION IN PARTICULAR, THE SECRETARY FOR MONETARY AFFAIRS, MR DAVID NENDICK, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

ADDRESSING THE PACIFIC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS INSTITUTE'S 1988 ROUNDTABLE IN CALIFORNIA, MR NENDICK SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD DO ITS BEST TO CREATE THE APPROPRIATE ENVIRONMENT FOR THIS.

HE SAID THIS MEANT MAKING SURE THAT THE FINANCIAL MARKETS WERE ABLE TO MEET THE NEEDS OF HONG KONG, CHINA AND THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION AND THAT THE PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE, PARTICULARLY PORT AND AIRPORT FACILITIES, COULD KEEP PACE WITH INCREASING DEMAND.

THIS ALSO MEANT MAKING SURE THAT OUR PEOPLE HAD THE NECESSARY SKILLS AND EXPERTISE TO SUSTAIN OUR ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TO ASSIST IN CHINA'S DEVELOPMENT, THROUGH THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY AND BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT SKILLS, HE SAID.

MR NENDICK SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS ADDRESSING ALL THESE ISSUES.

"WE ARE CONDUCTING A SERIES OF STUDIES WHICH WILL ALLOW US TO TAKE SOME MAJOR DECISIONS IN THE NEAR FUTURE ON A SECOND AIRPORT AND FURTHER PORT DEVELOPMENT AND OTHER LONG-TERM INFRASTRUCTURAL PROJECTS.

"WE ARE INCREASING THE NUMBER OF STUDENT PLACES AT TERTIARY LEVEL INSTITUTIONS AND WE ARE TAKING FIRM ACTION TO REMEDY SHORTCOMINGS REVEALED BY THE STOCK MARKET CRASH IN OCTOBER 1987," HE SAID.

MR NENDICK SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS DETERMINED TO MAINTAIN AND DEVELOP HONG KONG'S POSITION AS AN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRE, AND URGED INTERNATIONAL INVESTORS TO HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THE EFFICIENCY AND INTEGRITY OF OUR MARKETS.

MR NENDICK SAID HONG KONG HAD OVER THE PAST YEAR BUILT ON THE EXPERIENCE GAINED LAST OCTOBER.

"WHILST WE ARE CONSCIOUS OF THE NEED TO AVOID OVER-REGULATION THERE ARE FURTHER SAFEGUARDS WHICH WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF PUTTING IN PLACE TOO," HE SAID.

HE SAID LEGISLATION WAS PASSED LAST JULY REQUIRING MAJOR SHAREHOLDERS, DIRECTORS AND CHIEF EXECUTIVES OF PUBLICLY LISTED COMPANIES TO DISCLOSE THE EXTENT OF THEIR BENEFICIAL HOLDINGS AND ENABLING LISTED COMPANIES TO DISCOVER THE BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF ANY SHARE HOLDING.

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"WE ARE ALSO PLANNING TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION TO INCREASE SUBSTANTIALLY THE SANCTIONS AGAINST INSIDER DEALERS UNDER OUR EXISTING TRIBUNAL SYSTEM.

"WE ARE FIRMLY OF THE VIEW THAT INSIDER DEALING UNDERMINES THE FAIRNESS OF THE MARKET AND WE ARE DETERMINED TO DO OUR BEST TO SEE THAT IT DOES NOT OCCUR.

"WE AIM TO BRING BOTH MEASURES INTO FORCE IN THE COURSE OF NEXT YEAR WHEN THE NEW SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION IS IN BEING AND HAS RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO ENSURE PROPER ENFORCEMENT," HE SAID.

MR NENDICK SAID ONE KEY FACTOR BEHIND HONG KONG'S DEVELOPMENT AS AN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS CENTRE WAS ITS LOCATION.

"HONG KONG IS SEEN AS THE GATEWAY TO CHINA, IDEALLY PLACED FOR TRADE AND INVESTMENT IN CHINA," HE SAID.

MR NENDICK SAID HONG KONG HAD OVER THE PAST DECADE PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN HELPING CHINA TO CARRY OUT ITS MODERNISATION PROGRAMME.

"IT IS OUR HOPE AND EXPECTATION THAT WE CAN CONTINUE TO BE, NOT ONLY A SOURCE OF TRADE AND INVESTMENT, BUT ALSO AN ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CENTRE LINKING CHINA WITH THE REST OF THE WORLD.

"THIS WILL BE TO THE MUTUAL BENEFIT OF BOTH HONG KONG AND CHINA. THUS HONG KONG WILL REMAIN AN EXCELLENT BASE FOR EXPLOITING THE CHINA MARKET," HE SAID.

HONG KONG IS, AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE, AN EXCELLENT PLACE IN WHICH TO INVEST AND TO DO BUSINESS, MR NENDICK STRESSED.

"IT IS NOW THE MOST IMPORTANT SOURCE OF TRADE AND INVESTMENT IN CHINA AND HAS A CRUCIAL ROLE TO PLAY IN CHINA'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT," HE SAID.

THE CONFERENCE IN LOS ANGELES IS BEING ATTENDED BY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF SOME 100 TOP AMERICAN AND ASIAN CORPORATIONS.

OTHER SPEAKERS AT THE "PACIFIC STRATEGIES" ROUNDTABLE INCLUDE MR STEPHEN SOLARZ, CHAIRMAN OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SUB-COMMITTEE ON ASIAN AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS; FORMER SECRETARIES OF STATE, DR HENRY KISSINGER; MR EDMUND MUSKIE AND MR ALEXANDER HAIG; U.S. AMBASSADOR TO CHINA, MR WINSTON LORD; JAPANESE VICE-MINISTER OF FINANCE, MR TOYOO GYONTEN; AND THE GOVERNOR OF THE CENTRAL BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES, MR JOSE FERNANDEZ.

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LAND REHABILITATION SCHEME MAKES GOOD PROGRESS

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THE AGRICULTURAL LAND REHABILITATION SCHEME - A GOVERNMENT PILOT PROJECT DESIGNED TO BRING FALLOW FARM LAND IN THE NEW TERRITORIES BACK TO CULTIVATION - IS MAKING ENCOURAGING HEADWAY DESPITE MANY OBSTACLES ENCOUNTERED, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (AGRICULTURE) OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, DR THOMAS YIP, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

HE SAID THAT THESE OBSTACLES INCLUDED FRAGMENTATION OF LAND, MULTIPLE LAND OWNERSHIP AND UNTRACEABLE LANDOWNERS.

WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF THE VEGETABLE MARKETING ORGANISATION (VMO), DR YIP SAID, THE SCHEME HAS, SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN JULY THIS YEAR, RENTED SOME 22,000 SQUARE METRES OF FALLOW AGRICULTURAL LAND FROM LANDOWNERS AT CHEUNG PO IN YUEN LONG AND HOK TAU IN FANLING.

THESE TWO LOCATIONS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED TO HAVE THE GREATEST POTENTIAL FOR THE AGRICULTURAL LAND REHABILITATION PROGRAMME. IN THESE TWO AREAS, 42 OUT OF 112 HECTARES OF AGRICULTURAL LAND ARE LYING FALLOW.

DR YIP MADE THE COMMENTS WHEN HE ATTEND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE PAT HEUNG RURAL COMMITTEE TO BRIEF ITS MEMBERS OF THE PROGRESS OF THE REHABILITATION SCHEME.

HE SAID: "IN THE ENDORSEMENT OF VMO'S PARTICIPATION, THE MARKETING ADVISORY BOARD HAS APPROVED THE PROVISION OF \$5 MILLION AS AN AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT FUND TO MEET THE NECESSARY EXPENDITURE ARISING FROM IMPLEMENTING THE PILOT PROJECT.

"APART FROM THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE VMO, THE GOVERNMENT WILL PROVIDE SUCH NECESSARY INPUT AS THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE AGRICULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE INCLUDING IRRIGATION, DRAINAGE AND FARM ACCESS."

FOR THE IMPROVEMENT WORK IN 1988-89 IN THE TWO PILOT AREAS, HE SAID, \$700,000 HAD BEEN APPROVED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

DR YIP SAID THAT SO FAR 10,000 SQUARE METRES OF FARM LAND RENTED BY THE VMO HAD BEEN SUB-LET TO FARMERS.

HE EXPECTED THAT FURTHER PROGRESS COULD BE ACHIEVED BECAUSE MORE CONTACTS AND NEGOTIATIONS WITH LANDOWNERS AND POTENTIAL TENANT FARMERS WERE IN HAND AND MORE LANDOWNERS HAD EXPRESSED INTEREST IN JOINING THE SCHEME.

IN EXPLAINING LAND USES IN RELATION TO THE LAND REHABILITATION SCHEME, DR YIP SAID: "THE USAGES ARE STIPULATED IN THE LAND LEASE AGREEMENT AND LANDOWNERS HAVE THE RIGHT TO USE THE LAND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS LAID DOWN IN THE LEASE.

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"THERE IS NO CAUSE FOR CONCERN THAT THE POTENTIAL USES OF LAND WILL BE RESTRICTED AS A RESULT OF THE LAND REHABILITATION SCHEME."

TODAY'S VISIT WAS PART OF THE CONSULTATION PROCESS IN SUPPORT OF THE LAND REHABILITATION SCHEME INITIATED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT.

ACCOMPANYING DR YIP ON HIS VISIT TO THE PAT HEUNG RURAL COMMITTEE WERE THE DEPARTMENT'S SENIOR AGRICULTURAL OFFICER, MR C.C. CHAN, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE DISTRICT LAND OFFICER.

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MULTI-PRONGED APPROACH ON BUILDING MANAGEMENT

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THE GOVERNMENT IS ADOPTING A MULTI-PRONGED APPROACH TO TACKLE THE PROBLEMS OF BUILDING MANAGEMENT IN HONG KONG, THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR DAVID LAN, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

MR LAN WAS ADDRESSING A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE LIONS CLUB DISTRICT 303.

HE SAID AN AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED WITH THE LAW SOCIETY THAT WITH EFFECT FROM DECEMBER 1, 1987, ALL NEW DEEDS OF MUTUAL CONVENANT (DMC) FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS WOULD BE DRAWN UP BASED ON A SET OF GUIDELINES.

THESE GUIDELINES AIMED AT IMPROVING THE MANAGEMENT OF COMMON AREAS IN A BUILDING AND ACHIEVING A BETTER BALANCE OF INTERESTS BETWEEN THE DEVELOPERS AND OWNERS.

MR LAN SAID THREE MORE BUILDING MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATION TEAMS (BMCT'S) WOULD BE FORMED LATER THIS MONTH IN SHAM SHUI PO, KOWLOON CITY AND TSUEN WAN TO ASSIST MORE PEOPLE IN MANAGING THEIR RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS.

APART FROM LEGISLATION, MR LAN CONTINUED, BUILDING MANAGEMENT DEPENDED UPON THE MOTIVATION AND EFFORT OF INDIVIDUAL OWNERS, AND THERE WAS A NEED TO PROVIDE HELP, ADVICE AND ENCOURAGEMENT TO THE RESIDENTS OF MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS.

WITH THIS IN MIND, THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION HAD FORMED A DISTRICT TEAM COMPRISING REPRESENTATIVES FROM A NUMBER OF DEPARTMENTS IN 1982 AS A PILOT SCHEME.

/THE SCHEME

THE SCHEME WAS SO SUCCESSFUL THAT THE GOVERNMENT DECIDED IN LATE 1984 THAT BUILDING MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATION TEAMS (BMCT'S) BE ESTABLISHED IN DISTRICTS TO ASSIST RESIDENTS IN IMPROVING THE MANAGEMENT OF THEIR BUILDINGS AND TO CO-ORDINATE INTER-DEPARTMENTAL ACTION ON MATTERS RELATING TO BUILDING MANAGEMENT.

EACH BMCT CONSISTED OF ONE HOUSING MANAGER, ONE ASSISTANT HOUSING MANAGER AND TWO HOUSING ASSISTANTS SECONDED FROM THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT.

IN CONSULTATION WITH DISTRICT BOARDS, THE TEAMS IDENTIFIED BUILDINGS WHICH SUFFERED FROM POOR MANAGEMENT, AND CARRIED OUT ADVISORY AND INSPECTION VISITS TO THESE TARGET BUILDINGS.

MR LAN SAID THAT AT PRESENT SEVERAL UNRELATED ORDINANCES, ENFORCED BY SEPARATE DEPARTMENTS, APPLIED TO MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS, AND THEREFORE A HIGH DEGREE OF INTER-AGENCY CO-OPERATION WAS REQUIRED TO ENSURE A CONCERTED AND EFFECTIVE APPROACH TO ENFORCEMENT.

THIS ROLE WAS BEING CARRIED OUT BY THE BMCT'S UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE DISTRICT BUILDING MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEES, WHICH COMPRISED GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES FROM VARIOUS ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND DEPARTMENTS INVOLVED IN BUILDING MANAGEMENT MATTERS.

SINCE 1985-86, SEVEN DISTRICT BMCT'S HAD BEEN DEPLOYED IN THE EASTERN, WAN CHAI, CENTRAL AND WESTERN, YAU TSIM, MONG KOK, KWUN TONG AND KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICES.

THE FIRST FIVE TEAMS DEALT WITH DOMESTIC BUILDINGS, WHILE THE TEAMS IN KWUN TONG AND KWAI TSING CONCENTRATED MAINLY ON PROBLEMS IN MULTI-STOREY INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS.

THREE MORE TEAMS WOULD BE ESTABLISHED IN SHAM SHUI PO, KOWLOON CITY AND TSUEN WAN LATER THIS MONTH.

"BY THEN THE 10 DISTRICT TEAMS WILL BE SERVING ABOUT 1.9 MILLION PEOPLE LIVING IN SOME 475,000 PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL UNITS," MR LAN NOTED.

CURRENTLY, MR LAN SAID, THERE WERE 219 TARGET BUILDINGS IN THE TARGET LIST OF THE BMCT'S. SINCE THEIR ESTABLISHMENT IN MAY 1985, THE BMCT'S HAD BROUGHT ABOUT SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS IN 74 TARGET BUILDINGS.

"WE, THEREFORE, INTEND TO EXPAND THE SCHEME TO COVER THE REMAINING DISTRICTS AS AND WHEN RESOURCES BECOME AVAILABLE," HE NOTED.

MR LAN SAID THERE WAS A LIMIT TO WHAT THE GOVERNMENT COULD DO IN TACKLING "THIS PROBLEM OF URBAN DECAY, AND MUCH OF THE RESPONSIBILITY LIES WITH THE COMMUNITY ITSELF, IN PARTICULAR WITH INDIVIDUAL OWNERS OF PROPERTY.

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"INDEED, IT IS IN THE INTEREST OF THE PROPERTY OWNERS TO MANAGE AND MAINTAIN THEIR PROPERTIES PROPERLY AS THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT WILL INEVITABLY BE REFLECTED IN THE PRICES OF THEIR PROPERTIES," HE NOTED.

MR LAN POINTED OUT THAT IN FORMULATING SOLUTIONS TO TACKLE BUILDING MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS, THE GOVERNMENT HAD TO CAREFULLY CONSIDER THE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF ALL PARTIES CONCERNED, AND TO STRIKE A PROPER BALANCE ACCEPTABLE TO THE MAJORITY.

THE FORMATION OF THE "PRIVATE BUILDING MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE", WHICH HE ANNOUNCED AT A PRESS BRIEFING YESTERDAY (NOVEMBER 4), WAS, THEREFORE, AIMED AT GETTING THE COMMUNITY MORE INVOLVED IN POLICY DEVELOPMENT WORK.

"WE SHOULD ALL PLAY OUR PART TOWARDS BUILDING A BETTER ENVIRONMENT TOMORROW SO AS TO ACHIEVE GREATER PROSPERITY FOR OURSELVES AND FOR OUR CHILDREN," MR LAN CONCLUDED.

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CONSTRUCTION OUTPUT STATISTICS FOR SECOND QUARTER OF 1988
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THE GROSS VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK PERFORMED BY MAIN CONTRACTORS (INCLUDING WORK CARRIED OUT AT CONSTRUCTION SITES, AT ERECTED BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES, AND AT OTHER MINOR WORK LOCATIONS) IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1988 AMOUNTED TO \$9,900 MILLION.

THIS WAS 3.8 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN THE PRECEDING QUARTER AND 33.7 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1987, ACCORDING TO THE RESULTS OF THE QUARTERLY SURVEY OF CONSTRUCTION OUTPUT RELEASED TODAY (SATURDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE INDEX OF GROSS VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK PERFORMED BY MAIN CONTRACTORS FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1988 WAS 150.3, WITH THE QUARTERLY AVERAGE OF 1982 BEING TAKEN AS 100.

THE CORRESPONDING INDEXES FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1988 AND THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1987 WERE 144.8 AND 112.4 RESPECTIVELY.

WITH REGARD TO THE SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE OF 33.7 PER CENT IN THE VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK PERFORMED IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1988 OVER THAT IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1987, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT POINTED OUT THAT THIS WAS LARGELY DUE TO A MARKED INCREASE IN CONSTRUCTION COSTS.

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HE SAID THAT THE VOLUME OF CONSTRUCTION WORK PERFORMED, AFTER DISCOUNTING COST INCREASES, ACTUALLY GREW MUCH MORE SLOWLY THAN WHAT IS IMPLIED BY THE NOMINAL CONSTRUCTION VALUES REPORTED IN THIS PRESS RELEASE. READERS SHOULD BEAR THIS POINT IN MIND WHEN INTERPRETING THE SURVEY RESULTS.

THE GROSS VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK PERFORMED BY MAIN CONTRACTORS AT CONSTRUCTION SITES IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1988 WAS \$7,771 MILLION. THIS WAS 5.2 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN THE PRECEDING QUARTER AND 39.3 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1987.

APART FROM WORK PERFORMED AT CONSTRUCTION SITES, THE GROSS VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK PERFORMED BY MAIN CONTRACTORS AT ERECTED BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES AND OTHER MINOR WORK LOCATIONS WAS \$2,129 MILLION, WHICH WAS 1.3 PER CENT LOWER THAN IN THE PRECEDING QUARTER BUT 16.6 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN SECOND QUARTER OF 1987.

OF THE GROSS VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK PERFORMED BY MAIN CONTRACTORS AT CONSTRUCTION SITES, \$2,552 MILLION WAS RELATED TO CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS OF THE PUBLIC SECTOR (INCLUDING HONG KONG GOVERNMENT, MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION AND KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY CORPORATION).

THIS REPRESENTED INCREASES OF 6.9 PER CENT AND 44.1 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH THE PRECEDING QUARTER AND THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1987 RESPECTIVELY.

AS FOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR, THE GROSS VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK PERFORMED BY MAIN CONTRACTORS AT CONSTRUCTION SITES WAS \$5,219 MILLION, WHICH WAS 4.5 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN THE PRECEDING QUARTER AND 37.1 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1987.

WHEN ANALYSED BY END-USE OF BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES, THE GROSS VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK PERFORMED BY MAIN CONTRACTORS AT CONSTRUCTION SITES IN RESPECT OF RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS (WHICH INCLUDE COMBINED RESIDENTIAL AND NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS) AND TRANSPORT PROJECTS IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1988 WAS \$3,613 MILLION AND \$1,164 MILLION RESPECTIVELY.

THESE REPRESENTED INCREASES OF 11.4 PER CENT AND 6.8 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY WHEN COMPARED WITH THE PRECEDING QUARTER, AND INCREASES OF 34.9 PER CENT AND 33.8 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY OVER THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1987.

THE GROSS VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK PERFORMED BY MAIN CONTRACTORS AT CONSTRUCTION SITES IN RESPECT OF COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS WAS \$1,141 MILLION IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1988, REPRESENTING A DECREASE OF 15.0 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH THE PRECEDING QUARTER BUT AN INCREASE OF 62.3 PER CENT OVER THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1987.

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THE GROSS VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK PERFORMED BY MAIN CONTRACTORS AT CONSTRUCTION SITES IN RESPECT OF INDUSTRIAL AND STORAGE BUILDINGS IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1988 WAS \$753 MILLION, WHICH SHOWED INCREASES OF 14.8 PER CENT AND 48.2 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH THE PRECEDING QUARTER AND THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1987 RESPECTIVELY.

OWING TO THE WIDESPREAD SUB-CONTRACTING PRACTICE IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR, A CONSTRUCTION ESTABLISHMENT CAN BE A MAIN CONTRACTOR FOR ONE CONTRACT BUT A SUB-CONTRACTOR FOR ANOTHER CONTRACT SIMULTANEOUSLY.

THE GROSS VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK PERFORMED BY MAIN CONTRACTORS REFERS TO THE OUTPUT OF THOSE CONSTRUCTION ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE PROJECTS IN WHICH THEY TAKE THE ROLE OF A MAIN CONTRACTOR, AND THUS INCLUDES THE CONSTRUCTION OUTPUT OF ALL THE SUB-CONTRACTORS EMPLOYED.

MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ON CONSTRUCTION OUTPUT IS GIVEN IN THE "REPORT ON THE QUARTERLY SURVEY OF CONSTRUCTION OUTPUT, 2ND QUARTER 1988", WHICH IS ON SALE AT \$2.50 A COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, OR AT THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATION SALES COUNTER, WANCHAI TOWER I, 19/F., 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI. REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION MAY ALSO BE ARRANGED.

ENQUIRIES FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE SURVEY MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT AT TELEPHONE NUMBER 5-8234860.

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COMPREHENSIVE MUNICIPAL FACILITIES FOR MONG KOK RESIDENTS * * * * *

RESIDENTS IN MONG KOK WILL BE ABLE TO ENJOY A WIDE RANGE OF MODERN MUNICIPAL FACILITIES WHEN THE URBAN COUNCIL'S \$79 MILLION FA YUEN STREET COMPLEX COMES ON STREAM BY THE END OF THIS YEAR.

"THE PROJECT INVOLVES THE RE-DEVELOPMENT OF THE FA YUEN STREET MARKET AND HAWKER BAZAAR INTO A 13-STOREY MODERN COMPLEX WITH A MARKET, A LIBRARY AND AN INDOOR GAMES HALL," THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL'S CAPITAL WORKS SELECT COMMITTEE, MR PAO PING-WING, SAID TODAY.

"THE COMPLEX IS CENTRALLY LOCATED, COVERING AN AREA OF 1 700 SQUARE METRES BOUNDED BY FA YUEN STREET, MONG KOK ROAD, FIFE STREET AND TUNG CHOI STREET.

/!"THE MARKET

"THE MARKET WILL BE ON THE FIRST THREE FLOORS WITH 360 STALLS INCLUDING MINI STALLS FOR FISH, VEGETABLES, MEAT AND POULTRY PLUS A COOKED-FOOD CENTRE WITH 26 STALLS ON THE THIRD FLOOR.

"THE MARKET FLOORS AND THE COOKED-FOOD CENTRE WILL BE LINKED BY ESCALATORS FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF HOUSEWIVES AND SHOPPERS.

ON THE FOURTH AND FIFTH FLOORS, THERE WILL BE A DISTRICT LIBRARY PROVIDING A FULL RANGE OF LIBRARY FACILITIES INCLUDING AN AUDIO-VISUAL LIBRARY AND AN EXTENSION ACTIVITIES HALL.

"THE INDOOR GAMES HALL ON THE TOP FOUR FLOORS WILL HAVE A MULTI-PURPOSE ARENA WHICH CAN BE USED FOR A BASKETBALL COURT, A VOLLEYBALL COURT OR THREE BADMINTON COURTS; THREE GAMES ROOMS, SEVEN SQUASH COURTS, A DANCE ROOM AND A FITNESS ROOM," SAID MR PAO.

"AS THE COMPLEX IS SITED AMIDST A DENSELY-POPULATED RESIDENTIAL AREA, IT IS EXPECTED TO BECOME VERY POPULAR AMONG RESIDENTS IN THE DISTRICT."

CAPTION: PHOTOGRAPH SHOWS THE GENERAL VIEW OF THE URBAN COUNCIL'S \$79 MILLION FA YUEN STREET COMPLEX IN MONG KOK DUE TO BE OPEN BY THE END OF THIS YEAR.

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SIR DAVID INSPECTS CUSTOMS PARADE

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WORK IN THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICE IS BECOMING MORE AND MORE SOPHISTICATED AND DEMANDING, THE DEPUTY TO THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID FORD, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY) AT A CUSTOMS PASSING-OUT PARADE.

ADDRESSING THE PARADE WHICH TOOK PLACE AT THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE TRAINING SCHOOL AT TAI LAM CHUNG, SIR DAVID SAID OPENING SUITCASES AND CARGO WAS NO LONGER ENOUGH IN PREVENTING SMUGGLING, FRAUD AND EVASION OF EXCISE DUTY.

"YOU HAVE TO LEARN TO MASTER AND TO MAKE FULL USE OF MODERN TECHNIQUES AND EQUIPMENT, AND MUST ALWAYS PERFORM YOUR DUTIES WITH DILIGENCE, HONESTY, INTEGRITY AND PERSEVERANCE AND UNDERTAKE THEM WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOUR.

"AS MEMBERS OF THE SERVICE, YOUR ATTITUDE AND BEHAVIOUR WILL BE CONSTANTLY EXPOSED TO PEOPLE IN ALL WALKS OF LIFE, AND THEY WILL REFLECT UPON, NOT ONLY THE SERVICE ITSELF, BUT THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AS A WHOLE," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID HE WAS HIGHLY IMPRESSED BY THE SMART TURN-OUT AND BEARING OF THE PASSING-OUT SQUADS WHICH COMPRISED 14 CUSTOMS INSPECTORS AND 119 CUSTOMS OFFICERS.

THE RECRUIT INSPECTORS AND CUSTOMS OFFICERS HAVE RESPECTIVELY COMPLETED A 27-WEEK AND 13-WEEK RESIDENTIAL TRAINING PROGRAMME AT THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE TRAINING SCHOOL IN TAI LAM CHUNG, NEW TERRITORIES.

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FAMILY ATMOSPHERE IN HOMES FOR AGED
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INSTITUTIONAL CARE IS AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT IN SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY, PARTICULARLY FOR THOSE WHO CANNOT BE CARED FOR BY THEIR FAMILIES BECAUSE OF VARIOUS REASONS OR WHO HAVE LOST SELF-CARE ABILITY, THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR STEPHEN LAW, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

MR LAW WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE SHENG KUNG HUI GOOD SHEPHERD HOME FOR THE ELDERLY IN NGAU TAU KOK.

HE NOTED THAT THE OLD CONCEPT OF A HOME FOR THE AGED AS A PLACE PROVIDING AN UNINTERESTING AND CONTROLLED LIFE HAD BECOME A THING OF THE PAST.

NOWADAYS, HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY ENABLED SENIOR CITIZENS TO LEAD A HAPPY AND POSITIVE LIFE IN GROUPS, HE SAID.

"HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY MUST HAVE A FAMILY ATMOSPHERE IN ORDER TO MAKE THEM A HAPPY PLACE TO LIVE IN," MR LAW SAID.

THUS, THE HOMES SHOULD BE DECORATED AND FURNISHED LIKE THE OLD PEOPLE'S OWN HOMES WITH THE MINIMUM OF RESTRICTIONS SO THAT THE RESIDENTS COULD FEEL THAT THEY WERE BEING RESPECTED AND CARED FOR.

WHILE THE ELDERLY PEOPLE SHOULD THEMSELVES CARE FOR AND SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER, FAMILY MEMBERS SHOULD VISIT THEM MORE FREQUENTLY AND THE COMMUNITY SHOULD TAKE THE INITIATIVE TO BEFRIEND THEM.

"OUR CURRENT POLICY IS TO SET UP RESIDENTIAL HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY WITHIN THE COMMUNITY SUCH AS IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES SO THAT THE OLD PEOPLE CAN CONTINUE TO LIVE IN A FAMILIAR ENVIRONMENT WHILE RECEIVING OTHER SUPPORT SERVICES," HE SAID.

WITH THE OPENING OF THE HOME TODAY -- IT PROVIDES 144 PLACES -- THERE ARE NOW SOME 5,700 PLACES IN HOMES FOR THE AGED IN HONG KONG.

MR LAW COMMENDED THE SHENG KUNG HUI FOR ITS NUMEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS IN SOCIAL SERVICES.

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FUN DAY BOOSTS TIES BETWEEN DB MEMBERS AND OFFICIALS
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MEMBERS OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD (SDB) AND ITS COMMITTEES, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND STAFF OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE TODAY (SATURDAY) PUT ASIDE THEIR HEAVY OFFICE WORK AND HAD AN AFTERNOON OF FUN, GAMES AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES.

THE THREE TEAMS COMPETED IN BASKETBALL, TABLE TENNIS AND TELEMATCHES IN A FUN DAY ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD TO STRENGTHEN THE TIES BETWEEN DB MEMBERS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

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THE DB SECRETARY, MR MARIUS CHAN, SAID: "TODAY'S FUNCTION HAS BEEN A SUCCESS IN THAT IT NOT ONLY GIVES DB MEMBERS AND GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES A CHANCE TO RELAX, BUT AT THE SAME TIME HELPS IMPROVE THEIR RELATIONSHIP."

"THE WORK OF THE DISTRICT BOARD WILL CERTAINLY BE FACILITATED BY A BETTER MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN DB MEMBERS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS."

AFTER KEEN COMPETITIONS IN THE ABERDEEN INDOOR GAMES HALL, THE DB TEAM PROVED TO BE THE STRONGEST AND SWEEPED THE SDB CUP, THE SDB CHAIRMAN CUP AND THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICER CUP FOR THEIR CHAMPIONSHIPS IN ALL THREE EVENTS.

THE DEPUTY REGIONAL SECRETARY CUP FOR THE OVERALL CHAMPION, WHICH WAS DONATED AND PRESENTED BY THE DEPUTY REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR PAUL LEUNG, ALSO WENT TO THE DB TEAM.

OTHER OFFICIATING GUESTS AT THE PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY INCLUDED THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MRS MAUREEN CHAN, AND SDB CHAIRMAN, MR HUI YUNG-CHUNG.

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HEALTH DAY PROGRAMME ON CHEK LAP KOK

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ELDERLY ISLANDERS OF CHEK LAP KOK WILL BE GIVEN FREE MEDICAL CHECK-UPS AT A "HEALTH DAY" PROGRAMME TOMORROW (SUNDAY).

THE PROGRAMME IS ORGANISED BY THE ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICE WITH THE ASSISTANCE FROM THE MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

A SERVICE CENTRE WILL BE SET UP AT THE CHEK LAP KOK VILLAGE AND IT WILL START OPERATION AT 10.45 AM.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE "HEALTH DAY" PROGRAMME.

PRESS REPRESENTATIVES MAY TRAVEL BY THE LAUNCH "CLEMENTI" WHICH WILL LEAVE THE MARINE DEPARTMENT PIER IN CENTRAL AT 9 AM. IT IS EXPECTED TO RETURN TO CENTRAL AT ABOUT 4 PM.

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SPECIAL CAR NUMBERS SOLD AT AUCTION

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SIXTY SPECIAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION NUMBERS WERE PUT UP FOR AUCTION THIS (SATURDAY) MORNING FOR A TOTAL OF \$180,700 WHICH WILL GO TO THE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES FUND FOR CHARITY PURPOSES.

THE AUCTION, HELD AT THE CITY HALL RECITAL HALL, SAW THE REGISTRATION NUMBER AA906 FETCH THE HIGHEST PRICE OF \$26,000.

ANOTHER NUMBER DX935 WAS SOLD AT THE SECOND HIGHEST PRICE OF \$15,000 WHILE THE LOWEST PRICE WAS \$1,000.

FOLLOWING ARE THE RESULTS OF TODAY'S AUCTION:

| | \$ | | \$ | | \$ | | \$ |
|--------|-------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|
| DX861 | 2,000 | AS209 | 3,500 | AE7792 | 1,000 | DV2316 | 1,000 |
| DX1345 | 1,000 | AW8876 | 1,000 | DX760 | 1,000 | CC285 | 6,500 |
| DD3836 | 2,000 | DY930 | 13,000 | DW865 | 1,000 | AP894 | 1,000 |
| DY285 | 2,000 | AG677 | 6,000 | BB1885 | 6,000 | BN4001 | 1,000 |
| DX650 | 1,000 | AL735 | 4,000 | DV1798 | ----- | DW415 | 1,000 |
| CE2218 | 1,000 | DX7830 | 1,000 | DW3376 | 1,000 | AZ8230 | 2,500 |
| AT2684 | 1,000 | HK3743 | 3,500 | DY524 | 1,000 | AJ568 | 9,000 |
| DV809 | 5,500 | AK9876 | 6,000 | DX8119 | 3,500 | AA906 | 26,000 |
| DD821 | 3,000 | DY1468 | 1,000 | CD391 | 2,000 | DT5258 | 1,000 |
| DW4013 | 1,000 | DW3864 | ----- | AV1517 | ----- | DY235 | 1,000 |
| DX750 | 2,000 | DX8881 | 5,000 | DY6872 | 1,000 | DM3690 | 1,000 |
| DV6522 | 1,000 | DV841 | 1,000 | CK2405 | 1,000 | DZ314 | 1,000 |
| DY957 | 1,000 | DW8218 | 1,000 | HK1972 | 3,500 | DY372 | 1,000 |
| DV6023 | 1,000 | DX935 | 15,000 | BB4070 | ----- | DY8885 | 2,500 |
| DW2717 | 1,000 | DY1686 | 6,000 | DY3020 | 3,500 | BB3836 | 3,200 |

DW3864, AV1517, DV1798 AND BB4070 WERE WITHDRAWN AND THE DEPOSIT \$4,000 WAS FOREFEITED TO THE TOTAL REALISED.

SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS WERE REQUIRED TO PAY BY CHEQUE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE BIDDING.

THE NUMBERS AUCTIONED WILL BE ASSIGNED ONLY TO VEHICLES REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS WITH 12 MONTHS OF THE DATE OF AUCTION.

TODAY'S SALE, THE 131ST ORGANISED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SINCE MAY 1973, BROUGHT THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF MONEY FOR CHARITY REALISED SO FAR TO \$67,393,032.00.

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