



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FIRST QUARTER ECONOMIC REPORT 1990 PUBLISHED

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ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR WAS GENERALLY MODEST, ACCORDING TO THE FIRST QUARTER ECONOMIC REPORT 1990.

ALTHOUGH RE-EXPORTS CONTINUED TO SHOW AN APPRECIABLE INCREASE, BOTH DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND DOMESTIC DEMAND REMAINED SLUGGISH. THE DEMAND FOR LABOUR HAD BECOME RELATIVELY LESS INTENSE, BUT THE RATE OF CONSUMER PRICE INFLATION WAS STILL HIGH, THE REPORT SAID.

THE REPORT, WHICH ANALYSES THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR, WAS PUBLISHED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE GOVERNMENT ECONOMIST, MR K.Y. TANG, SAID THAT ON THE BASIS OF THIS REPORT AND OTHER RECENT INFORMATION, A REVIEW HAD BEEN MADE OF THE FORECASTS OF THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (GDP) AND OF PRICE TRENDS FOR 1990.

"AS A RESULT OF THIS REVIEW, MINOR ADJUSTMENTS WERE MADE TO SOME OF THE COMPONENT FORECASTS, BUT THE FORECAST RATES OF INCREASE IN THE GDP (AT 3 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS), THE GDP DEFLATOR (AT 9 PER CENT), AND THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) (AT 8.5 PER CENT) REMAINED UNCHANGED FROM THOSE RELEASED WITH THE BUDGET," HE SAID.

"THE UPDATED VIEW REGARDING THE OUTLOOK FOR THE ECONOMY IN 1990 WAS THUS LARGELY THE SAME AS THAT IN THE EARLIER FORECAST," HE ADDED.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS FELL FURTHER IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1990, BY ABOUT 5 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS OVER THE SAME QUARTER IN 1989. THE LARGEST DECREASE OCCURRED IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM, FOLLOWED BY THOSE TO JAPAN. DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA RECORDED MORE MODERATE DECREASES.

THE UNITED STATES REMAINED THE LARGEST MARKET FOR HONG KONG'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS, WITH A SHARE OF 29 PER CENT IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1990.

RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY ABOUT 6 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS IN THE FIRST QUARTER OVER A YEAR EARLIER.

"THIS WAS LARGELY ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE CONTINUED RAPID GROWTH IN RE-EXPORTS OF CHINA ORIGIN," MR TANG SAID.

RE-EXPORTS TO MARKETS OTHER THAN CHINA CONTINUED TO RISE MARKEDLY IN THE FIRST QUARTER.

HOWEVER, RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA DECLINED, BEING AFFECTED MAINLY BY CHINA'S AUSTERITY PROGRAMME AND TO A LIMITED EXTENT BY THE LESS RAPID GROWTH IN OUTWARD PROCESSING ACTIVITIES, HE SAID.

/AS RE-EXPORTS .....

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AS RE-EXPORTS CONTINUED TO GROW WHILE DOMESTIC EXPORTS DECLINED FURTHER, THE SHARE OF RE-EXPORTS IN TOTAL EXPORTS ROSE TO 64 PER CENT IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1990 FROM 61 PER CENT IN THE SAME QUARTER LAST YEAR.

"THE DECLINES IN IMPORTS AND RETAINED IMPORTS HAD BECOME MORE MODERATE IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1990," HE SAID.

"ON A YEAR-ON-YEAR COMPARISON, IMPORTS FELL BY ABOUT 1 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS IN THE FIRST QUARTER, WHILE IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1989 THE DECLINE WAS 4 PER CENT," MR TANG SAID.

RETAINED IMPORTS FELL BY ABOUT 7 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS IN THE FIRST QUARTER, FOLLOWING A DECLINE OF 13 PER CENT IN THE PRECEDING QUARTER.

A VISIBLE TRADE DEFICIT OF \$3,072 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 2 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, WAS RECORDED IN THE FIRST QUARTER.

"THIS WAS SMALLER THAN THE DEFICIT OF \$6,982 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 5 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, RECORDED IN THE SAME QUARTER LAST YEAR," THE GOVERNMENT ECONOMIST SAID.

DOMESTIC DEMAND WAS RELATIVELY SLACK IN THE FIRST QUARTER.

ON CONSUMPTION, RETAINED IMPORTS OF CONSUMER GOODS CONTINUED TO SHOW A SIGNIFICANT DECLINE. COMPARED WITH A YEAR EARLIER, THE VOLUME OF RETAIL SALES ALSO FELL.

ON INVESTMENT, RETAINED IMPORTS OF CAPITAL GOODS SHOWED ONLY A SMALL INCREASE. RETAINED IMPORTS OF INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY FOR MANUFACTURING USE, HOWEVER, CONTINUED TO DECREASE SIGNIFICANTLY.

"INFLATION WAS STILL HIGH, EVEN THOUGH THE YEAR-ON-YEAR RATE OF INCREASE IN THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) HAD DECELERATED TO 9.4 PER CENT IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1990 FROM 10.1 PER CENT IN THE THIRD QUARTER AND 9.9 PER CENT IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1989," MR TANG SAID.

"COMPARED WITH A YEAR EARLIER, THE CPI (A) WAS HIGHER BY 9.8 PER CENT IN JANUARY, 8.4 PER CENT IN FEBRUARY, AND 10.0 PER CENT IN MARCH 1990," HE ADDED.

"THE FASTER RATE OF INCREASE IN CONSUMER PRICES IN THE MONTH OF MARCH WAS PARTLY DUE TO A LOW BASE OF COMPARISON IN MARCH LAST YEAR, AND PARTLY DUE TO THE INCREASES AS FROM MARCH IN DUTIES ON PETROL, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO, AS WELL AS IN BUS FARES," MR TANG POINTED OUT.

"WITH THE SLOW ECONOMIC GROWTH IN RECENT QUARTERS, THERE WERE SIGNS THAT THE DEMAND FOR LABOUR WAS EASING," HE SAID.

THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE ROSE TO 1.7 PER CENT IN THE FIRST QUARTER, WITH THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE STAYING AT 0.7 PER CENT.

/THE NUMBER .....

THE NUMBER OF VACANCIES IN MOST SECTORS RECORDED MARKED DECREASES BETWEEN DECEMBER 1989 AND DECEMBER 1990, AND THE PROPORTION OF THE EMPLOYED POPULATION WORKING OVERTIME WAS ALSO SMALLER.

"HOWEVER, GIVEN THE LIMITED LABOUR SUPPLY, THE LABOUR MARKET REMAINED GENERALLY TIGHT," MR TANG SAID.

HAVING REVIVED CONSIDERABLY SINCE LATE JULY LAST YEAR, THE PROPERTY MARKET WAS RELATIVELY LESS ACTIVE IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR.

DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE NUMBERS AND VALUE OF AGREEMENTS FOR SALE AND PURCHASE AND OF MORTGAGE ARRANGEMENTS.

"WHILE THE MARKET FOR SMALL TO MEDIUM-SIZED RESIDENTIAL FLATS HELD FIRM, DEMAND AS WELL AS PRICES AND RENTALS FOR OTHER TYPES OF PROPERTY GENERALLY SOFTENED IN THE FIRST QUARTER," HE ADDED.

IN THE FINANCIAL SECTOR, THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENTS WERE OBSERVED DURING THE FIRST QUARTER.

FIRST, REFLECTING A STRONGER U.S. DOLLAR AGAINST SOME OF THE MAJOR CURRENCIES, THE EFFECTIVE EXCHANGE RATE INDEX OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR ROSE SLIGHTLY.

SECONDLY, LOCAL MONEY MARKET INTEREST RATES WERE MARGINALLY HIGHER, KEEPING BROADLY IN LINE WITH THE CORRESPONDING U.S. DOLLAR INTEREST RATES.

THIRDLY, DEPOSITS AND THE MONEY SUPPLY GREW MORE SLOWLY, IN LINE WITH THE SLOWER GROWTH IN THE ECONOMY.

THE GOVERNMENT ECONOMIST SAID THAT THE ECONOMIC FORECASTS FOR 1990 WERE UPDATED IN THE LIGHT OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS.

"THE FORECAST GROWTH RATE OF THE GDP WAS, HOWEVER, UNCHANGED AT 3 PER CENT," HE SAID.

IN THE EXTERNAL SECTOR, THE FORECAST GROWTH RATE IN REAL TERMS OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WAS LOWERED FROM 2.5 PER CENT TO 2 PER CENT.

"CURRENT INFORMATION ON RETAINED IMPORTS OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES SUGGESTS THAT THE PERFORMANCE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WOULD PROBABLY REMAIN WEAK IN THE NEXT COUPLE OF MONTHS," MR TANG SAID.

"THE FORECAST GROWTH RATE IN REAL TERMS OF RE-EXPORTS WAS, HOWEVER, RAISED FROM 8 PER CENT TO 9 PER CENT," HE POINTED OUT.

RE-EXPORTS TO MARKETS OTHER THAN CHINA SHOULD CONTINUE TO GROW SUBSTANTIALLY. RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA WOULD PROBABLY RECOVER LATER IN THE YEAR IN LINE WITH CHINA'S MEASURES TO REFLATE ITS ECONOMY.

/"MOREOVER, THE .....

"MOREOVER, THE TREND OF DEVELOPMENT OF OUTWARD PROCESSING ACTIVITIES RESULTING IN MORE PRODUCTS BEING SHIPPED OUT AS RE-EXPORTS RATHER THAN AS DOMESTIC EXPORTS SEEMED LIKELY TO CONTINUE," HE NOTED.

REFLECTING THE FASTER GROWTH EXPECTED FROM RE-EXPORTS, THE FORECAST GROWTH RATE IN REAL TERMS OF IMPORTS WAS ADJUSTED UPWARDS FROM 6.4 PER CENT TO 6.9 PER CENT.

GIVEN AN IMPROVED OUTLOOK FOR TRADE-RELATED SERVICES AND TOURISM, THE FORECAST GROWTH RATES IN REAL TERMS OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF SERVICES WERE ALSO RAISED MARGINALLY, TO 5.8 PER CENT AND 5.4 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY FROM THE EARLIER FORECASTS OF 5.5 PER CENT AND 5 PER CENT.

IN THE DOMESTIC SECTOR, THE BUDGET FORECAST OF A 3.5 PER CENT INCREASE IN REAL TERMS IN PRIVATE CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE WAS RETAINED.

ON CAPITAL FORMATION, THE FORECAST GROWTH RATE IN REAL TERMS OF PRIVATE SECTOR EXPENDITURE ON BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION WAS RAISED FROM 0.5 PER CENT TO 1 PER CENT, AS WORK ON SOME PRIVATE SECTOR PROJECTS WAS EXPECTED TO GATHER MOMENTUM IN THE LATTER PART OF THE YEAR.

"AS A RESULT, THE DECLINE IN REAL ESTATE DEVELOPERS' MARGIN WAS ALSO EXPECTED TO BE SMALLER THAN WAS ENVISAGED EARLIER," THE GOVERNMENT ECONOMIST SAID.

"ON THE OTHER HAND, PARTLY BECAUSE OF CAPACITY CONSTRAINTS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY, THE FORECAST GROWTH RATE IN REAL TERMS OF PUBLIC SECTOR EXPENDITURE ON BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION WAS REDUCED FROM 15 PER CENT TO 12 PER CENT," HE SAID.

AS REGARDS EXPENDITURE ON PLANT AND MACHINERY, THE FORECAST GROWTH RATE WAS KEPT AT AROUND 3 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS.

"TAKING THESE COMPONENTS TOGETHER, THE FORECAST GROWTH RATE OF GROSS DOMESTIC FIXED CAPITAL FORMATION WAS LITTLE CHANGED, AT AROUND 2 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS," MR TANG SAID.

ON INFLATION, THE RECENT SPATE OF INCREASE IN FEES AND CHARGES MAY HAVE LED TO SUGGESTIONS FOR A SMALL UPWARD REVISION IN THE FORECAST RATE OF INCREASE IN THE CPI(A) FOR 1990, BY SAY HALF OF A PERCENTAGE POINT.

HOWEVER, A NUMBER OF FACTORS ARE CONDUCTIVE TO A FURTHER MODERATION IN THE RATE OF INFLATION. THESE INCLUDE :

- \* MODEST GROWTH IN THE ECONOMY;
- \* INDICATIONS OF FURTHER EASING IN LABOUR MARKET CONDITIONS AND OF LESS RAPID INCREASE IN WAGES AND SALARIES THAN LAST YEAR;

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- \* A SOFTENING OF COMMERCIAL PROPERTY RENTALS;
- \* RECENT DEVALUATION OF THE RENMINBI AND A RELATIVELY WEAKER YEN, AS THE CURRENCIES OF TWO MAJOR SUPPLIERS OF HONG KONG'S RETAINED IMPORTS;
- \* STABLE WORLD COMMODITY PRICES; AND
- \* A SLOW-DOWN IN THE GROWTH RATES OF THE LOCAL MONEY SUPPLY AND OF DOMESTIC LOANS AND ADVANCES THAT HAS TAKEN PLACE FOR SOME TIME.

"IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, IT WAS CONSIDERED THAT THE FORECAST RATE OF INCREASE IN THE CPI(A) SHOULD BE MAINTAINED AT 8.5 PER CENT," MR TANG SAID.

"A FURTHER REVIEW OF THE SITUATION WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN AUGUST," HE SAID.

"IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT AN ANNUAL FORECAST OF 9.5 PER CENT FOR THE CPI(A) WOULD IMPLY NO FURTHER EASING, WHILE AN ANNUAL FORECAST OF 10 PER CENT OR MORE WOULD IMPLY A RE-ACCELERATION OF INFLATION.

"BOTH APPEAR UNLIKELY IN THE LIGHT OF THE TREND IN RECENT QUARTERS AND OF THE FACTORS MENTIONED ABOVE.

THE FIRST QUARTER ECONOMIC REPORT 1990 WILL BE ON SALE TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AT \$23 A COPY.

/FORECAST FOR .....

	FORECAST FOR 1990 RELEASED WITH THE BUDGET ON 7.3.1990 ----- (%)	UPDATED FORECAST RELEASED ON 25.5.1990 ----- (%)
GROWTH RATE IN REAL TERMS OF:		
PRIVATE CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE	3.5	3.5
GOVERNMENT CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE	10	10
GROSS DOMESTIC FIXED CAPITAL FORMATION	2	2.1
TRANSFER COSTS OF LAND AND BUILDINGS	-5	-5
BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION	5.5	5
PRIVATE	0.5	1
PUBLIC	15	12
REAL ESTATE DEVELOPERS' MARGIN	-3	-2
PLANT, MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT	2.8	2.9
PRIVATE	3	3
PUBLIC	-4	-1
TOTAL EXPORTS OF GOODS	5.7	6.1
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	2.5	2
RE-EXPORTS	8	9
IMPORTS OF GOODS	6.4	6.9
EXPORTS OF SERVICES	5.5	5.8
IMPORTS OF SERVICES	5	5.4
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (GDP)	3	3
PER CAPITA GDP	1.9	1.9
GROWTH RATE IN MONEY TERMS OF:		
GDP	12.3	12.3
PER CAPITA GDP	11	11
RATE OF INCREASE IN:		
GDP DEFLATOR	9	9
DOMESTIC DEMAND DEFLATOR	7.6	7.7
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A)	8.5	8.5

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BUSY FIRST DAY IN TORONTO FOR GOVERNOR

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ON THE FIRST DAY OF HIS OFFICIAL VISIT TO TORONTO, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, HAD A BUSY DAY ON THURSDAY (MAY 24) MEETING WITH OFFICIALS OF THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY.

HIS DAY BEGAN WITH A BREAKFAST MEETING WITH OFFICIALS OF THE CANADIAN IMPERIAL BANK OF COMMERCE.

HE THEN PAID A COURTESY CALL ON THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF ONTARIO PROVINCE, THE HONOURABLE LINCOLN J. ALEXANDER, AT THE TORONTO LEGISLATURE.

AT LUNCH IT WAS A PUBLIC APPEARANCE AS THE GUEST SPEAKER OF THE UNIVERSAL SPEAKERS FORUM BEFORE AN AUDIENCE OF 800 OF THE CITY'S TOP EXECUTIVES FROM THE BANKING, BUSINESS, COMMERCE AND EDUCATION COMMUNITIES. A JOINT PRESENTATION WITH CANADIAN AIRLINES INTERNATIONAL, THE LUNCH WAS HELD AT THE METRO TORONTO CONVENTION CENTRE.

IN THE AFTERNOON, THE GOVERNOR CALLED ON TWO MINISTERS FOR DISCUSSIONS.

THE FIRST WAS THE HONOURABLE ROBERT WONG, MINISTER FOR CITIZENSHIP, RESPONSIBLE FOR RACE RELATIONS, MULTICULTURALISM AND THE ONTARIO HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION.

FROM THIS MEETING, SIR DAVID TOOK A WALK THROUGH CENTRAL TORONTO TO THE OFFICE OF THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, TRADE AND TECHNOLOGY, THE HONOURABLE MONTE KWINTER.

IN THE EARLY EVENING, THE GOVERNOR PAID A COURTESY CALL ON THE PREMIER OF ONTARIO, THE HONOURABLE DAVID PETERSON, AT WHOSE OFFICE HE SIGNED THE DISTINGUISHED VISITORS BOOK.

HE THEN ATTENDED A DINNER GIVEN IN HIS HONOUR BY MR PETERSON AMONG THOSE ATTENDED WERE MEMBERS OF THE HONG KONG CHINESE COMMUNITY IN TORONTO.

SIR DAVID CONCLUDES HIS VISIT TO THE CITY ON FRIDAY (MAY 25) AND AMONG HIS ENGAGEMENTS IS A BREAKFAST MEETING WITH EXECUTIVES OF THE HONG KONG-CANADA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION.

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DIRECTOR OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY APPOINTED

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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT MS ALICE TAI YUEN-YING WILL BECOME THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY WHEN THE NEW INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT IS ESTABLISHED ON JULY 2 THIS YEAR.

AN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER STAFF GRADE B, MS TAI HAS BEEN SECONDED TO THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT TO OVERSEE THE SETTING UP OF THE NEW DEPARTMENT, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THE NEW DEPARTMENT WILL TAKE OVER FROM THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT THE REGISTRATION OF TRADE MARKS AND PATENTS.

"IT WILL BECOME THE FOCAL POINT OF ACTION FOR THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG'S INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTION REGIME WHICH IN DUE COURSE SHOULD INCLUDE NEW LEGISLATION ON COPYRIGHTS AND PATENTS, THE INTRODUCTION OF A REGISTRATION SYSTEM FOR SERVICE MARKS AND THE STRENGTHENING OF PROTECTION FOR INTEGRATED CIRCUITS AND INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS.

"IT WILL ALSO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROMOTION OF PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTION," HE SAID.

MARRIED WITH TWO CHILDREN, MS TAI JOINED THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE IN 1974, AND HAD HELD VARIOUS POSTS IN THE FORMER NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION AND HOME AFFAIRS AND INFORMATION BRANCH, THE ECONOMIC SERVICES BRANCH, AS WELL AS THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION.

MORE RECENTLY, SHE HAD SERVED IN THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AS ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (SPORTS, ENTERTAINMENT AND MUSEUMS) IN 1983-87.

SHE WENT ON OVERSEAS TRAINING IN 1987-88 AND SERVED AS DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, LONDON, IN 1988-89.

SHE BECAME DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR MONETARY AFFAIRS IN SEPTEMBER 1989 AND WAS PROMOTED TO HER PRESENT RANK OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER STAFF GRADE B ON DECEMBER 1, 1989.

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STEPPED UP EFFORTS AGAINST SMUGGLING ANNOUNCED

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A PACKAGE OF MEASURES HAS BEEN DRAWN UP BY THE GOVERNMENT TO STEP UP ACTION AGAINST SMUGGLING INTO CHINA.

THESE INCLUDE STRICTER LICENSING CONTROL ON HIGH-POWERED SPEEDBOATS AND TIGHTER CONTROL OVER THE EXPORT OF CIGARETTES WHICH ARE POPULAR ITEMS UNLAWFULLY TAKEN INTO CHINA.

/ANNOUNCING THE .....

ANNOUNCING THE COUNTER MEASURES TODAY (FRIDAY), A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID SUCH PREVENTIVE ACTION WAS AIMED AT STRENGTHENING ONGOING ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS UNDERTAKEN BY VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS TO TACKLE THIS GROWING PROBLEM.

"WE ARE CONCERNED AT THE INCREASE IN ILLICIT ACTIVITY, INCLUDING SMUGGLING INTO CHINA, OVER THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS," HE SAID. "THE MEASURES ARE DESIGNED TO CURB THESE ACTIVITIES."

"WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT, THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE WILL NOT ISSUE LICENCES TO PLEASURE CRAFT WHICH HAVE MULTIPLE PETROL OUTBOARD ENGINES WITH A TOTAL RATING IN EXCESS OF 600 HORSEPOWER AND/OR WHOSE FUEL TANK CAPACITY EXCEEDS 180 GALLONS.

"IT HAS ALSO BEEN DECIDED THAT A LICENSING CONDITION WILL BE IMPOSED ON HIGH SPEED PLEASURE VESSELS PROHIBITING THEM FROM BEING USED BETWEEN SUNSET AND SUNRISE," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED OWNERS OF PLEASURE CRAFT OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT STRICTLY ADHERING TO LICENSING CONDITIONS. "THE LICENCE OF A PLEASURE CRAFT WHICH BREACHED LICENSING CONDITIONS BY CARRYING CARGO WAS CANCELLED ON MAY 23," HE POINTED OUT.

ON CUSTOMS CONTROL, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE HAS DECIDED TO STRENGTHEN CONTROL ON THE EXPORT OF CIGARETTES TO CHINA.

A NEW CONTROL MEASURE WHICH HAS BEEN BROUGHT INTO EFFECT TODAY IS TO RESTRICT THE ISSUE OF EXPORT PERMITS FOR CIGARETTES.

"UNDER THE NEW MEASURE, WHERE CIGARETTES ARE TO BE EXPORTED ANYWHERE BY SEA, PERMITS WILL BE ISSUED ONLY IF THE CIGARETTES ARE CARRIED BY A VESSEL OF NOT LESS THAN 250 TONS NET REGISTER OR BY A SCHEDULED PASSENGER VESSEL PERMITTED TO OPERATE IN HONG KONG WATERS BY THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE.

"ALL APPLICATIONS FOR THE EXPORT OF CIGARETTES TO CHINA WILL HAVE TO BE ACCOMPANIED BY DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE THAT THEY MAY BE LAWFULLY IMPORTED," HE SAID.

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#### IMPROVEMENTS TO INSURANCE LAW PROPOSED

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THE INSURANCE COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990, WHICH AIMS TO REMEDY TWO WEAKNESSES IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE INSURANCE COMPANIES ORDINANCE, WAS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

"THE BILL CLEARS THE DOUBT ABOUT THE ENFORCEABILITY OF INSURANCE CONTRACTS ENTERED INTO BY UNAUTHORISED INSURERS AND RECTIFIES THE UNSATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENT WHEREBY AN AUTHORISED INSURER IS ONLY REQUIRED TO NOTIFY THE INSURANCE AUTHORITY (IA) OF ANY CHANGE OF CONTROLLER AFTER THE CHANGE HAS TAKEN PLACE," A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

/UNDER THE .....

UNDER THE EXISTING ORDINANCE, THE CARRYING ON OF ANY CLASS OF INSURANCE BUSINESS IN OR FROM HONG KONG IS SUBJECT TO AUTHORISATION BY THE IA.

"HOWEVER, THERE REMAINS A DOUBT IN THE EXISTING LEGISLATION AS TO WHETHER INSURANCE CONTRACTS ENTERED INTO BY UNAUTHORISED INSURERS ARE VALID AND ENFORCEABLE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

TO PROTECT THE POLICY HOLDER, THE BILL PROPOSES THAT A DIRECT INSURANCE CONTRACT ISSUED BY AN UNAUTHORISED INSURER SHOULD BE ENFORCEABLE AT THE OPTION OF THE POLICY HOLDER WHO CAN CHOOSE EITHER TO ENFORCE OR VOID THE CONTRACT.

"IF THE POLICY HOLDER CHOOSES TO VOID THE CONTRACT, HE IS ALLOWED TO RECOVER ANY CONSIDERATION PAID UNDER THE CONTRACT," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"HOWEVER, THE BILL PROPOSES THAT A REINSURANCE CONTRACT ENTERED INTO BY AN UNAUTHORISED INSURER SHOULD BE ENFORCEABLE," HE ADDED.

"IF A REINSURANCE CONTRACT WERE TO BE UNENFORCEABLE BECAUSE OF A CONTRAVENTION BY EITHER THE INSURER OR REINSURER, THIS COULD MATERIALLY AFFECT THE ABILITY OF THE INSURER TO MEET CLAIMS OF DIRECT POLICY HOLDERS," HE SAID.

"TO PROTECT THE POLICY HOLDER, THE GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS THAT AN INSURER SHOULD BE ABLE TO RECOVER FROM ITS REINSURER ANY DIRECT CLAIMS PAID, WHETHER OR NOT THE INSURER OR REINSURER WERE DULY AUTHORISED," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

ALSO UNDER THE EXISTING ORDINANCE, AN INSURER HAS TO NOTIFY THE IA AFTER EVERY CHANGE IN CONTROLLER OF THE COMPANY AND, UPON NOTIFICATION, THE IA MAY OBJECT TO SUCH APPOINTMENT OR CHANGE IF IT APPEARS TO HIM THAT THE CONTROLLER IS NOT A FIT AND PROPER PERSON TO HOLD SUCH POSITION.

"THIS ARRANGEMENT IS UNSATISFACTORY BECAUSE IN THE INTERESTS OF POLICY HOLDERS, A PERSON WHO IS NOT FIT AND PROPER SHOULD NOT BE IN CONTROL OF AN INSURER FOR EVEN A SHORT PERIOD," THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED.

THE BILL PROPOSES THEREFORE TO REQUIRE PERSONS WHO ARE TO BE APPOINTED AS OR OTHERWISE TO BECOME CERTAIN TYPES OF CONTROLLERS OF AUTHORISED INSURERS TO SEEK PRIOR APPROVAL OF IA BEFORE THE APPOINTMENT OR CHANGE TAKES PLACE.

A CONTROLLER, AS DEFINED UNDER SECTION 9 OF THE ORDINANCE INCLUDES, INTER ALIA, A PERSON WHO, ALONE OR WITH AN ASSOCIATE OR NOMINEE, CONTROLS 15 PER CENT OF THE VOTING POWER OF THE INSURER (I.E. CONTROLLING SHAREHOLDER).

/"TO PREVENT .....

"TO PREVENT AN UNFIT CONTROLLING SHAREHOLDER FROM CONTINUING TO EXERCISE ANY INFLUENCE OVER AN INSURER, THE BILL ALSO PROPOSES TO EMPOWER IA TO IMPOSE CERTAIN RESTRICTIONS ON THE SHARES HELD BY A PERSON WHO HAS BECOME A CONTROLLING SHAREHOLDER WITHOUT APPROVAL OF THE IA AND, WHERE NECESSARY, TO APPLY TO THE HIGH COURT FOR THE SALE OF SUCH SHARES.

"THE RESTRICTION ORDER IMPOSED BY IA WOULD EFFECTIVELY PROHIBIT THE TRANSFER OF THE SHARES, THE EXERCISE OF VOTING RIGHTS, THE ISSUE OF BONUS SHARES AND THE PAYMENT OF DIVIDENDS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THE BILL ALSO MAKES IT AN OFFENCE TO ATTEMPT TO EVADE SUCH RESTRICTIONS," HE ADDED.

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LAW CHANGES RECOMMENDED ON INHERITANCE  
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THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION HAS RECOMMENDED A NUMBER OF LEGISLATIVE CHANGES TO SIMPLIFY AND MODERNISE THE LAW OF SUCCESSION UPON DEATH.

THE COMMISSION TODAY (FRIDAY) PUBLISHED A REPORT ON THE LAW OF WILLS, INTESTATE SUCCESSION AND PROVISION FOR DECEASED PERSONS' FAMILIES AND DEPENDANTS.

THE REPORT WAS THE RESULT OF FIVE YEARS WORK BY THE COMMISSION, AND A SUB-COMMITTEE CHAIRED BY MR B.S. MCELNEY TO EXPLORE IN DETAIL THIS COMPLEX BUT IMPORTANT AREA OF THE LAW.

THE PROPOSALS RECOGNISE THE SOCIAL AND LEGAL DEVELOPMENTS THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE SINCE THE LAST COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THIS AREA OF THE LAW IN 1971.

RECENT OVERSEAS LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES HAVE ALSO PROVIDED USEFUL EXAMPLES OF HOW OTHER JURISDICTIONS HAVE MODIFIED THE LAW IN THIS AREA.

THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSAL WILL AFFECT ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY AS THEY ENCOMPASS BOTH THE SITUATION WHERE A DECEASED HAS MADE A WILL AND THE SITUATION WHERE HE HAS FAILED TO DO SO.

THE EXISTING LAW GOVERNING THE POSITION WHERE A DECEASED LEAVES A WILL IS IN THE COMMISSION'S VIEW EXCESSIVELY TECHNICAL.

THE WILLS ORDINANCE IMPOSES A NUMBER OF FORMAL REQUIREMENTS WHICH MUST BE SATISFIED FOR A WILL TO BE VALID.

IN PARTICULAR, THE REQUIREMENT THAT A TESTATOR'S SIGNATURE BE IN A PARTICULAR PLACE, THAT IS, AT THE END OF THE WILL, HAS RESULTED IN WILLS BEING HELD INVALID AND THE TESTATOR'S CLEAR INTENTIONS BEING DEFEATED.

THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION HAS RECOMMENDED AMENDMENTS THAT WILL SUBSTANTIALLY RELAX THESE FORMAL REQUIREMENTS. THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT RETAINS THE PRESENT REQUIREMENT THAT THE TESTATOR SIGNS THE WILL IN THE PRESENCE OF TWO WITNESSES.

WHILST THE EXISTING FORMAL REQUIREMENTS OF WILLS ARE OVERLY STRINGENT, THEY ARE ACCOMPANIED BY A PROVISION WHICH IS EXCESSIVELY LAX. THE PROVISION PRESENTLY PROVIDES THAT ANY WILL OF A CHINESE TESTATOR, WRITTEN WHOLLY OR SUBSTANTIALLY IN CHINESE AND SIGNED BY THE TESTATOR, SHALL BE VALID ALTHOUGH FAILING TO COMPLY WITH ANY OF THE FORMALITIES.

THIS PROVISION ALLOWS INFORMAL WILL-MAKING BY THE VAST MAJORITY OF THE POPULATION WITHOUT ANY FORMAL CHECK AS TO AUTHENTICITY.

THE COMMISSION CONSIDERS THIS LACK OF SAFEGUARDS AGAINST FORGERY AND THE LIKE UNSATISFACTORY. IN THE LIGHT OF RECENT LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES IN OTHER COMMON LAW JURISDICTIONS, THE COMMISSION HAS RECOMMENDED THE REPLACEMENT OF THE PRESENT PROVISION RELATING TO CHINESE WILLS.

IT RECOMMENDS A PROVISION APPLYING TO ALL WILLS TO THE EFFECT THAT IF THE DOCUMENT IS SIGNED BY OR ON BEHALF OF THE TESTATOR AND IT APPEARS TO THE COURT TO BE ONE WHICH THE TESTATOR INTENDED TO BE HIS WILL, THEN REGARDLESS OF ITS COMPLIANCE WITH THE FORMAL REQUIREMENTS IT IS A VALID WILL. THE COMMISSION BELIEVES THAT THIS PROVISION WILL ENSURE BOTH SIMPLICITY AND RELATIVE CERTAINTY IN THE LAW.

THE COMMISSION HAS ALSO RECOMMENDED A NUMBER OF LESS FUNDAMENTAL AMENDMENTS TO THE WILLS ORDINANCE WITH THE AIM OF REMOVING THE ANOMALIES THAT THE SOMETIMES ARCHAIC EXISTING LEGAL PROVISIONS HAVE CREATED.

MANY PEOPLE DIE WITHOUT LEAVING WILLS AND ARE THEN SAID TO HAVE DIED "INTESTATE". THE INTESTATES' ESTATES ORDINANCE 1971 GOVERNS THE MANNER IN WHICH AN INTESTATE ESTATE IS TO BE ADMINISTERED.

THE ORDINANCE CONTAINS A NUMBER OF RULES WHICH ARE BASED UPON THE ASSUMPTION THAT PEOPLE WHO DIE INTESTATE WOULD, IF THEY HAD MADE A WILL, HAVE WISHED TO PROVIDE FOR THEIR NEAR RELATIONS.

THE PRIMARY ASSUMPTION IS THAT PEOPLE WISH TO PROVIDE FOR THEIR WIDOWS OR WIDOWERS AND FOR THEIR CHILDREN EQUALLY.

BUT IN THE COMMISSION'S VIEW THE EXISTING ORDINANCE INSUFFICIENTLY IMPLEMENTS THESE ASSUMPTIONS.

AT PRESENT WHERE THERE ARE CHILDREN A SURVIVING SPOUSE IS ENTITLED TO ONLY \$50,000 AND ONE HALF OF THE REMAINDER OF THE ESTATE, AND WHERE THERE ARE NO CHILDREN THE AMOUNT IS \$200,000.

/THE COMMISSION .....

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THE COMMISSION CONSIDERS THAT THE LEVEL OF THESE STATUTORY LEGACIES IS PRESENTLY TOO LOW. NOR DO THE EXISTING PROVISIONS CONFER DIRECTLY ON A SURVIVING SPOUSE THE RIGHT TO ACQUIRE THE INTESTATE'S INTERESTS IN THE MATRIMONIAL HOME WITH THE STATUTORY LEGACIES.

THE COMMISSION ACCORDINGLY RECOMMENDS THAT THE STATUTORY LEGACY LEVELS TO THE SURVIVING SPOUSE BE INCREASED TO \$500,000 WHERE THERE ARE CHILDREN, AND \$1,000,000 WHERE THERE ARE NO CHILDREN.

THESE AMOUNTS ARE MUCH MORE IN KEEPING WITH CURRENT PROPERTY PRICES AND SHOULD BE SUFFICIENT TO ENABLE THE PURCHASE OF THE AVERAGE SMALL MATRIMONIAL HOME.

THE COMMISSION ALSO RECOMMENDS THAT THE SURVIVING SPOUSE HAVE THE RIGHT TO ACQUIRE THE INTERESTS OF THE DECEASED IN THE MATRIMONIAL HOME. THE INCREASED STATUTORY LEGACY LEVELS WILL FACILITATE THE EXERCISE OF THIS RIGHT.

ANOTHER ASPECT OF THE EXISTING LAW WHICH THE COMMISSION CONSIDERS UNSATISFACTORY RELATES TO THE PERSONAL CHATTELS OF AN INTESTATE.

UNDER THE EXISTING LAW WHERE AN INTESTATE IS SURVIVED NOT ONLY BY THE SPOUSE BUT ALSO OTHER RELATIONS, THAT SURVIVING SPOUSE DOES NOT INHERIT THE PERSONAL CHATTELS.

AT MOST HE OR SHE MAY BE PERMITTED TO BUY THEM OUT OF HIS OR HER STATUTORY LEGACY. THIS CREATES THE POTENTIAL FOR FAMILY QUARRELS.

THE COMMISSION ACCORDINGLY RECOMMENDS THAT A SURVIVING SPOUSE INHERIT FROM THE INTESTATE THE HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS THAT ONE COULD REASONABLY EXPECT TO BE IN OR ABOUT A MATRIMONIAL HOME.

THE COMMISSION ALSO CONSIDERS THAT THE INTESTATES' ESTATES ORDINANCE OPERATES UNFAIRLY DUE TO ITS DEFINITION OF CHILD.

AS A RESULT WHERE A HUSBAND AND WIFE ARE EACH IN THEIR SECOND MARRIAGE, PREVIOUS CHILDREN OF THE HUSBAND ARE DEEMED TO BE HIS SECOND WIFE'S CHILDREN, BUT PREVIOUS CHILDREN OF THE WIFE ARE NOT DEEMED TO BE HER SECOND HUSBAND'S CHILDREN. ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN ARE ALSO EXCLUDED.

THE COMMISSION RECOMMENDS THE ADOPTION OF A NEW DEFINITION OF CHILD WHICH WILL ABOLISH THESE ANOMALIES AND PROVIDE THAT RELATIONSHIPS BE CONSTRUED REGARDLESS OF THE CONCEPT OF LEGITIMACY.

THE CONCEPT OF ILLEGITIMACY ALSO UNFAIRLY AFFECTS THE DETERMINATION OF THE RIGHT OF RELATIVES TO INHERIT FROM AN ILLEGITIMATE INTESTATE. SIMILARLY, THE COMMISSION RECOMMENDS THAT IN DETERMINING THESE RIGHTS THE ILLEGITIMACY OF THE INTESTATE IS IRRELEVANT.

/IN DISCARDING .....

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IN DISCARDING THE RELEVANCE OF ILLEGITIMACY IN DETERMINING RIGHTS OF INHERITANCE, THE COMMISSION IS MINDFUL OF ARTICLE 26 OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT OF CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS WHICH AMONG OTHER THINGS PROVIDES THAT PERSONS SHOULD NOT BE DISCRIMINATED AGAINST ON THE BASIS OF SOCIAL ORIGIN OR BIRTH.

THE LAW OF INHERITANCE IN HONG KONG IS COMPLICATED BY THE FACT THAT WHILST THE LEGISLATION ON THE MATTER GENERALLY FOLLOWS THAT OF ENGLAND, A DEGREE OF STATUTORY RECOGNITION IS ALSO ACCORDED TO CHINESE CUSTOMARY LAW. THUS CONCUBINAGE IS RECOGNISED IF IT WAS ENTERED INTO PRIOR TO OCTOBER 7, 1971.

THE RULES RELATING TO CONCUBINAGE ARE COMPLEX AND IN SOME RESPECTS ANOMALOUS AND THE COMMISSION HAS RECOMMENDED THAT THEY BE MODIFIED.

IN ONE SPHERE CHINESE CUSTOMARY LAW DISPLACES THE OPERATION OF THE INTESTATES' ESTATES ORDINANCE ALTOGETHER. CHINESE CUSTOMARY LAW STILL GOVERNS INHERITANCE UPON INTESTACY IN RESPECT OF LAND IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WHICH IS NOT EXEMPTED UNDER THE NEW TERRITORIES ORDINANCE.

CHINESE CUSTOMARY LAW FAVOURS DESCENT THROUGH THE MALE LINE AND DAUGHTERS CAN BE CUT OUT OF AN INHERITANCE.

THE COMMISSION CONSIDERS IT DIFFICULT TO JUSTIFY THIS PRESERVATION OF CUSTOMARY LAW IN THIS CONTEXT AND RECOMMENDS THAT IT BE ABOLISHED AND THAT THE INTESTATES' ESTATES ORDINANCE APPLY.

IF A COMPLETE ABOLITION OF THIS CUSTOMARY LAW IS CONSIDERED UNACCEPTABLE, THE COMMISSION PROPOSES THE VERY LEAST THAT SHOULD BE DONE IS THAT THE LAW BE AMENDED, SO THAT ITS OPERATION IS LIMITED ONLY TO NON-EXEMPTED LAND IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WHICH IS REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF OR HELD FOR THE BENEFIT OF A CHINESE CLAN, FAMILY, TONG OR TSO. LAND REGISTERED OR HELD OTHERWISE WOULD ACCORDINGLY DEVOLVE UPON INTESTACY UNDER THE NORMAL PROVISIONS OF THE ORDINANCE.

THE WILLS ORDINANCE PROCEEDS ON THE BASIS THAT A WILL-MAKING TESTATOR IS FREE TO DISPOSE OF HIS PROPERTY TO WHOM HE PLEASES. BUT THIS PRINCIPLE OF FREEDOM OF TESTAMENTARY DISPOSITION CAN RESULT IN INADEQUATE PROVISION FOR A TESTATOR'S DEPENDANTS.

THE DECEASED'S FAMILY MAINTENANCE ORDINANCE GIVES JURISDICTION TO THE COURTS TO INTERFERE WITH THE TESTATOR'S EXPRESSED TESTAMENTARY INTENTIONS IN CASES WHERE REASONABLE PROVISION HAD NOT BEEN MADE FOR THE DEPENDANT'S MAINTENANCE.

THE ORDINANCE ALSO APPLIES WHERE THE DECEASED HAD NOT MADE A WILL AND THE PROVISIONS OF THE INTESTATES' ESTATES ORDINANCE DETERMINE THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE ESTATE IN ORDER TO AVOID HARDSHIP IN PARTICULAR CASES.

/THE PRESENT .....

THE PRESENT ORDINANCE LIMITS THE CLASSES OF THOSE ENTITLED TO CLAIM UNDER IT TO THE DECEASED'S SPOUSES, LEGITIMATE UNMARRIED DAUGHTERS' LEGITIMATE INFANT SONS, LEGITIMATE ADULT SONS WHO ARE PHYSICALLY OR MENTALLY DISABLED, AND A PARENT SUBSTANTIALLY MAINTAINED BY THE DECEASED IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO HIS DEATH.

THESE CLASSES ARE OBVIOUSLY RESTRICTIVE AND THE COMMISSION RECOMMENDS THAT THESE QUALIFICATIONS ON ENTITLEMENT TO CLAIM BE SUBSTANTIALLY RELAXED.

TO ACCOMMODATE LEGITIMATE CLAIMS BY THOSE OUTSIDE THE DECEASED'S IMMEDIATE FAMILY THE COMMISSION RECOMMENDS THE INCLUSION OF A NEW CLASS OF PERSONS ENTITLED TO APPLY, NAMELY ANY PERSON WHO IMMEDIATELY BEFORE THE DEATH OF THE DECEASED WAS BEING MAINTAINED BY HIM.

AT PRESENT IN FAMILY MAINTENANCE PROCEEDINGS THE COURT IS ONLY EMPOWERED TO ORDER THAT MAINTENANCE BE PAID. CAPITAL PAYMENTS MAY NOT BE ORDERED.

TO INCREASE THE COURT'S FLEXIBILITY THE COMMISSION RECOMMENDS THAT ITS POWERS BE EXTENDED SO THAT THEY ARE SIMILAR TO THE COURT'S POWERS TO ORDER FINANCIAL PROVISION IN MATRIMONIAL PROCEEDINGS.

THE COMMISSION ALSO RECOMMENDS THAT THE MATTERS TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT BY A COURT WHEN CONSIDERING A FAMILY MAINTENANCE APPLICATION BE SPELT OUT IN GREATER DETAIL.

AS A TESTATOR MAY WISH TO SO ARRANGE HIS AFFAIRS AS RENDER FRUITLESS ANY APPLICATION AFTER HIS DEATH, THE COMMISSION RECOMMENDS THE ENACTMENT OF AN ANTI-AVOIDANCE PROVISION. THIS WOULD CONFER UPON COURTS CERTAIN POWERS TO SET ASIDE TRANSACTIONS WHICH ARE INTENDED TO AVOID APPLICATIONS FOR FAMILY MAINTENANCE.

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ANTI-POLLUTION VIDEO ON SALE

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A VIDEO ON THE ENVIRONMENT PRODUCED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT (EPD) AS PART OF ITS ANTI-POLLUTION PACK, IS NOW ON SALE.

AN EPD SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT THE VIDEO TAPE CONSISTS OF FIVE SECTIONS ON WATER, WASTE, AIR, NOISE AND A GENERAL INTRODUCTION, AND IS AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE VERSIONS.

ENTITLED "ONE MINUTE TO MIDNIGHT", THE VIDEO AIMS TO ALERT THE PUBLIC TO THE SCALE AND NATURE OF THE POLLUTION PROBLEMS CONFRONTING THE COMMUNITY.

/THE ENGLISH .....

THE ENGLISH VERSION AND CHINESE VERSION OF THE VIDEO, AT \$70 EACH, CAN BE PURCHASED AT THE EPD AND THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE.

THE VIDEO HAD TAKEN A YEAR TO PRODUCE AND INVOLVED FILMING IN AS MANY AS 120 LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY.

THESE RANGED FROM LANDFILL SITES TO CLASSROOMS; FROM BACKSTREETS RUNNING DEEP WITH FACTORY EFFLUENT TO THE STILLNESS OF COUNTRY PARKS; FROM BENEATH THE FLIGHT PATHS OF JET AIRCRAFT TO SEWAGE WORKS, INCINERATORS, POLLUTED BEACHES AND EAR-SPLITTING CONSTRUCTION SITES.

ANYONE INTERESTED IN OBTAINING THE VIDEO CAN APPROACH THE EPD'S PUBLIC RELATIONS SECTION AT 27TH FLOOR, SOUTHERN CENTRE, 130 HENNESSY ROAD, WAN CHAI; OR THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL.

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CONSULTANTS COMMISSIONED TO PROMOTE FRENCH INVESTMENT IN HK

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS COMMISSIONED CONSULTANTS TO PROMOTE FRENCH INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG.

THE PROJECT IS TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY EDITIONS TECHNIQUES PROFESSIONNELS, A SUBSIDIARY OF CNPF INTERNATIONAL, A PROMINENT AND INFLUENTIAL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION IN FRANCE WITH 170 MEMBER FEDERATIONS.

THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR T.H. BARMA, SAID THERE WAS SCOPE FOR EXPANDING FRENCH INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG.

"IN THIS CHANGING DYNAMIC ENVIRONMENT, WORLD TRADE IS LIKELY TO EXPAND, PARTICULARLY TRADE IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION WHERE HONG KONG IS LOCATED.

"FURTHERMORE, ECONOMIC REALITIES ALSO POINT TO THE CONTINUAL EXPANSION OF CHINA'S TRADE WITH THE REST OF THE WORLD.

"AND HONG KONG IS EXPECTED TO PLAY AN INCREASINGLY PIVOTAL ROLE BOTH AS A REGIONAL CENTRE AND AS THE GATEWAY TO CHINA," HE SAID.

MR BARMA SAID RECENT DEVELOPMENTS ALSO HIGHLIGHTED HONG KONG'S ROLE AS A SUPPORT CENTRE IN PROVIDING FINANCIAL, MARKETING AND TECHNICAL SERVICES FOR PRODUCTION FACILITIES IN SOUTH CHINA AND ELSEWHERE IN THE REGION.

HE SAID THE COMPANY WOULD WORK WITH THE HONG KONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE IN BRUSSELS TO DEVELOP INDUSTRIAL PROMOTION STRATEGIES SPECIFICALLY TAILORED FOR THE FRENCH MARKET WITH A VIEW TO INCREASING FRENCH INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG.

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NEW AIRPORT HEIGHT RESTRICTIONS ORDER COMES INTO EFFECT

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AN ORDER PROMULGATING AMENDMENTS TO AN EXISTING ORDER GOVERNING HEIGHT RESTRICTIONS IN RESPECT OF AIRCRAFT USING THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT COMES INTO EFFECT TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE HONG KONG AIRPORT (CONTROL OF OBSTRUCTIONS) (CONSOLIDATION) (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) ORDER 1990 WAS PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE.

THE ORDER HAS EXEMPTED PART OF THE CAPE COLLINSON CHINESE PERMANENT CEMETERY SITE FROM EXISTING AIRPORT HEIGHT RESTRICTIONS SUBJECT TO RESTRICTION DESCRIBED ON A NEW PLAN.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS BRANCH SAID: "THE PURPOSE OF THE EXEMPTION IS TO PERMIT CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITIONAL OPEN AIR OSSUARY NICHE BLOCKS TO COPE WITH THE EXPECTED INCREASE IN DEMAND IN THE COMING YEARS."

THE ORDER ALSO RECTIFIES A CLERICAL ERROR IN ONE OF THE AIRPORT HEIGHT RESTRICTIONS PLANS BY INTRODUCING A NEW PLAN TO IMPOSE THE INTENDED HEIGHT RESTRICTIONS FOR AN AREA WHICH COVERS PART OF TUNG LUNG CHAU AND PO TOI O.

THE INTENDED HEIGHT RESTRICTIONS FOR THE AREA CONCERNED WILL BE IN THE REGION OF 200 METRES ABOVE PRINCIPLE DATUM.

"IT IS NOT EXPECTED THAT ANY EXISTING DEVELOPMENTS IN THE AREA WOULD BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"AS THE AREA CONCERNED LIES IN THE REMOTE COUNTRYSIDE, NO CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION IS EXPECTED," HE ADDED.

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ALLOCATION OF SECONDARY 1 SCHOOL PLACES

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COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF RESOURCES AND IMPROVED TRANSPORT SYSTEMS ARE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION IN THE ANNUAL ALLOCATION OF SECONDARY 1 SCHOOL PLACES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE SPOKESMAN WAS ANSWERING QUESTIONS FROM THE MEDIA ON THIS YEAR'S ALLOCATION, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO SHA TIN AND CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICTS.

"SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES ARE ALLOCATED ON A TERRITORY-WIDE, AND NOT DISTRICT BASIS," HE SAID.

/THIS MEANS .....

THIS MEANS, HE EXPLAINED, THAT SURPLUS SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES IN ONE DISTRICT, FOR EXAMPLE SHA TIN, WOULD HAVE TO BE TAKEN BY STUDENTS FROM OTHER DISTRICTS.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE SECONDARY SCHOOLS BUILDING PROGRAMME SHOWED SOME DEVIATION FROM STUDENT POPULATION PROJECTIONS PROBABLY BECAUSE FORMER URBAN RESIDENTS NOW LIVING IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WERE STILL SENDING THEIR CHILDREN TO STUDY IN THEIR FORMER DISTRICTS.

THIS OBVIOUSLY AFFECTED THE DISTRIBUTION OF TYPE A (GOVERNMENT AIDED, ASSISTED PRIVATE OR CAPUT GRANT SCHOOLS) AND TYPE B (PRIVATE SCHOOLS WITH BOUGHT PLACES) SCHOOL PLACES AND SHORTAGES WOULD HAVE TO BE FILLED BY OTHER DISTRICTS WITH SURPLUS PLACES, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

IN THE CASE OF SHA TIN, HE SAID A SHORTAGE OF TYPE B PLACES HAD TO BE FILLED BY A SURPLUS IN THE NORTH DISTRICT.

"THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES THE CONCERN OF PARENTS IN OPTING SCHOOLS FOR THEIR CHILDREN AND THE EXPECTATION THAT THE ALLOCATED SCHOOL WOULD BE AS CONVENIENT AS POSSIBLE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"EVERY EFFORT IS MADE TO ENSURE THAT STUDENTS WILL BE ALLOCATED SCHOOLS WHERE THEY CAN REACH WITH THE EASY AVAILABILITY OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT SUCH AS BUSES OR TRAINS."

HE ADDED THAT THE SHA TIN SITUATION SHOULD IMPROVE IN THE ALLOCATION NEXT YEAR AS THE PRIMARY 6 POPULATION WILL INCREASE AND AT THE SAME TIME, THERE WILL NOT BE ANY NEW SECONDARY SCHOOLS PLANNED FOR THE AREA IN THE NEXT FOUR YEARS.

FOLLOWING ARE STATISTICS FOR SHA TIN AND CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICTS (THESE FIGURES ARE TENTATIVE AS THE PROCESSING OF THE CROSS-NET TRANSFER AND DISCRETIONARY PLACES IN TYPE A SECONDARY SCHOOLS HAS NOT YET BEEN FINALISED):

## SHA TIN

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NO. OF PUPILS ALLOCATED TO TYPE A SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN KOWLOON	49
NO. OF PUPILS ALLOCATED TO TYPE A SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN TAI PO	244
NO. OF PUPILS ALLOCATED TO TYPE B SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN NORTH	219
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	512 (7.1%)
NO. OF PUPILS ALLOCATED TO SECONDARY SCHOOLS (ALL OF TYPE A) IN OWN DISTRICT	6,750 (92.9%)
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TOTAL:	7,262

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NO. OF SECONDARY 1 SCHOOL PLACES	8,314
NO. OF SECONDARY 1 SCHOOL PLACES RESERVED FOR OWN DISTRICT	6,750
NO. OF SECONDARY 1 SCHOOL PLACES RESERVED FOR KOWLOON	1,564

THE ALLOCATION OF 49 PUPILS TO KOWLOON IS BECAUSE THREE TYPE A SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN KOWLOON HAVE LINKAGES, UNDER THE NOMINATED SCHOOLS SCHEME, WITH FOUR PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN SHA TIN.

SOME 460 PUPILS NEED BE ALLOCATED TO SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN TAI PO AND NORTH DISTRICT PARTLY BECAUSE SHA TIN DOES NOT HAVE ANY TYPE B SCHOOLS AND PARTLY BECAUSE THERE IS A SURPLUS OF SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES IN TAI PO AND NORTH DISTRICT AS A WHOLE. THESE SURPLUS PLACES WILL BE TAKEN UP BY PRIMARY SCHOOL PUPILS FROM SHA TIN. THIS ARRANGEMENT WILL REDUCE THE TRAVELLING TIME SPENT BY PUPILS AS A WHOLE.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE CONSEQUENTIAL SURPLUS OF SOME 1,500 SECONDARY 1 SCHOOL PLACES IN SHA TIN WILL BE TAKEN BY GRADUATING PRIMARY SCHOOL PUPILS FROM KOWLOON.

CENTRAL AND WESTERN  
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NO. OF PUPILS ALLOCATED TO SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN OTHER DISTRICT ON HONG KONG ISLAND	857
NO. OF PUPILS ALLOCATED TO SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN KOWLOON	418
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	1,275 (37.7%)
NO. OF PUPILS ALLOCATED TO SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN OWN DISTRICT	2,103 (62.3%)
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TOTAL:	3,378
NO. OF SECONDARY 1 SCHOOL PLACES	2,765
NO. OF SECONDARY 1 SCHOOL PLACES RESERVED FOR OWN DISTRICT	2,103
NO. OF SECONDARY 1 SCHOOL PLACES RESERVED FOR OTHER DISTRICTS ON HONG KONG ISLAND	652
NO. OF SECONDARY 1 SCHOOL PLACES RESERVED FOR ISLANDS DISTRICT	10

/ABOUT 400 .....

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ABOUT 400 PUPILS NEED TO GO TO KOWLOON BECAUSE THERE IS A SHORTAGE OF SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES IN THIS DISTRICT. ALSO, IN ORDER THAT PUPILS IN A DISTRICT CAN HAVE A WIDER RANGE OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS TO CHOOSE, SCHOOLS ARE ALLOWED AND ENCOURAGED, UNDER THE SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES ALLOCATION SYSTEM, TO SERVE A NUMBER OF DISTRICTS PROVIDED THAT THEY ARE ACCESSIBLE TO THOSE PUPILS FROM THE DISTRICTS THEY SERVE.

TEN PUPILS FROM LAMMA ISLAND WILL TAKE UP SECONDARY 1 SCHOOL PLACES IN CENTRAL AND WESTERN AS THIS IS THE ONLY POSSIBLE TRANSPORT LINK BETWEEN LAMMA ISLAND AND THE OTHER NETS THAT CAN PROVIDE PLACES FOR ITS PUPILS.

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#### HIGHER SAFETY STANDARDS IN USE OF ELECTRICITY

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WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF THE ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY AND THE EFFECTIVE ENFORCEMENT OF THE NEW ELECTRICITY ORDINANCE AND ITS SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION, IT IS ENVISAGED THAT THE PUBLIC WILL ENJOY A HIGHER STANDARD OF SAFETY AT WORK SITES, IN THE OFFICE OR AT LEISURE.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES, MR KWOK PING-KI, IN A SPEECH AT THE 45TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER PARTY OF THE HONG KONG AND KOWLOON ELECTRIC TRADE ASSOCIATION THIS (FRIDAY) EVENING.

THE ELECTRICITY ORDINANCE WAS ENACTED ON MARCH 23 THIS YEAR. TOGETHER WITH ITS SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION, IT IS AIMED AT ACHIEVING THE DUAL PURPOSE OF:

- REPLACING THE EXISTING ELECTRICITY SUPPLY ORDINANCE THE PROVISIONS OF WHICH HAVE BECOME OUT OF DATE AND DEFICIENT IN A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT AREAS; AND
- INTRODUCING MEASURES TO IMPROVING SAFETY STANDARDS IN RELATION TO ELECTRICAL WORK AND APPLIANCES.

IN HIS SPEECH, MR KWOK TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO FURTHER ELABORATE ON THE MAJOR ASPECTS OF THE LEGISLATION AND HOW ITS IMPLEMENTATION IN DUE COURSE WOULD COVER THE RESPONSIBILITY OF PARTIES CONCERNED IN THE ELECTRICAL FIELD, INVOLVING NOT JUST SUPPLY COMPANIES BUT ALSO CONSUMERS, WHO AT THE SAME TIME WERE OWNERS OF INSTALLATIONS.

REGARDING THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS AND WORKERS, MR KWOK SAID A SET OF REGULATIONS STIPULATING THE SPECIFIC QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR REGISTRATION OF ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS AND WORKERS WAS BEING DRAFTED AND WOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION SHORTLY.

/HE SAID .....

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HE SAID THAT SUBSEQUENT TO ITS EVENTUAL ENACTMENT, A PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN WOULD BE LAUNCHED TO INFORM THE ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY AND THE PUBLIC OF THE DETAILS OF THE REGISTRATION SYSTEM.

THE PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN WOULD INCLUDE SEMINARS, DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLICITY PAMPHLETS THROUGH VARIOUS DISTRICT OFFICES AND BROADCASTING OF API'S (ANNOUNCEMENTS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST) OVER TELEVISION AND RADIO, HE SAID.

HE ADDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS LOOKING AT MAKING A START ON REGISTERING WORKERS LATER IN THE YEAR.

TURNING TO SAFETY REQUIREMENTS, MR KWOK SAID ANOTHER SET OF REGULATIONS, THE PROPOSED ELECTRICITY (WIRING) REGULATIONS, WAS ALSO BEING PREPARED TO SET OUT THE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR CONSUMERS' FIXED ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS, OF EITHER LOW OR HIGH VOLTAGE, IN BUILDINGS AND PREMISES.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS, THE ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT WOULD PUBLISH A CODE OF PRACTICE PROVIDING TECHNICAL GUIDELINES TO HELP THE TRADE TO COMPLY WITH THE STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS.

MR KWOK SAID THE GOVERNMENT INTENDED TO BRING THE PROVISIONS OF THESE REGULATIONS INTO OPERATION AFTER THE COMPLETION OF REGISTERING EXISTING CONTRACTORS AND WORKERS, WHICH WOULD TAKE ABOUT 18 MONTHS OR SO.

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POSTPAK CARTONS ON SALE AT POST OFFICES  
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THE POSTMASTER GENERAL, MR DOMINIC S.W. WONG, ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THE INTRODUCTION OF ANOTHER POSTPAK PRODUCT -- THE POSTPAK CARTONS -- FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF CUSTOMERS.

THE CARTONS WILL BE PUT ON SALE AT ALL POST OFFICES (EXCEPT MOBILE POST OFFICES) FROM JUNE 11.

THESE CARTONS ARE MADE OF STRONG CORRUGATED CARDBOARD TO FACILITATE PACKING ITEMS SENT BY PARCEL POST, AND ARE AVAILABLE IN TWO POPULAR SIZES:

SIZE CODE	DIMENSIONS (CM)	PRICE
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1	40 X 24 X 15	\$11
2	50 X 28 X 20	\$16

POSTERS SHOWING THESE CARTONS ARE ON DISPLAY AT ALL POST OFFICES. EXPLANATORY LEAFLETS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE.

POSTPAK ENVELOPES ARE ALREADY AVAILABLE IN FOUR DIFFERENT SIZES.

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RECLAMATIONS AT TAI A CHAU AUTHORISED

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THE GOVERNMENT IS TO CARRY OUT TWO RECLAMATIONS AT TAI A CHAU AND CONSTRUCT A SMALL BOAT PONTOON LANDING FACILITY AT TUI MIN HOI, SAI KUNG.

THE RECLAMATIONS WILL BE CARRIED OUT WITHIN AN AREA OF APPROXIMATELY 9.51 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED AT TAI A CHAU TO PROVIDE FACILITIES FOR THE BERTHING OF BOATS, CONSTRUCTION OF SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS AND ASSOCIATED SERVICES, INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF ACCESS ROADS.

A SMALL BOAT PONTOON LANDING FACILITY FOR USE BY THE MARINE POLICE WILL BE BUILT WITHIN AN AREA OF APPROXIMATELY 1,125 SQUARE METRES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED AT TUI MIN HOI, SAI KUNG.

THIS IS TO PROVIDE OPERATIONAL FACILITIES FOR THE NEW MARINE POLICE DIVISION BASE BEING CONSTRUCTED AT THE TUI MIN HOI SITE.

WORK ON THE PROJECTS WILL COMMENCE LATER THIS YEAR AND BE COMPLETED ABOUT MID 1991.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREAS AFFECTED WERE DESCRIBED IN NOTICES OF AUTHORISATION PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HIS INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORES AND SEABEDS INVOLVED WILL BE INJURIOUSLY AFFECTED BY THE ABOVE UNDERTAKINGS MAY DELIVER TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS A WRITTEN CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION ON OR BEFORE MAY 24, 1991.

HE SHOULD STATE IN HIS SUBMISSION THE SUM OF MONEY WHICH HE IS WILLING TO ACCEPT IN FULL AND FINAL SETTLEMENT OF HIS CLAIM AND SHOULD SUBMIT SUCH PARTICULARS WHICH HE POSSESSES TO SUBSTANTIATE HIS CLAIM.

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THREE LOTS FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION

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THREE LOTS OF GOVERNMENT LAND WILL BE OFFERED FOR SALE BY THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT AT A PUBLIC AUCTION TO BE HELD ON JUNE 22 AT THE CITY HALL THEATRE.

THE AUCTION WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

THE FIRST LOT IS A 2,900-SQUARE-METRE GODOWN SITE LOCATED AT HOI CHAK STREET, QUARRY BAY, HONG KONG.

ACCORDING TO THE BUILDING COVENANT, A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 16,530 SQUARE METRES HAS TO BE COMPLETED ON OR BEFORE JUNE 30, 1994.

/THE OTHER .....

THE OTHER TWO LOTS ARE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

ONE IS LOCATED IN AREA 29B, FANLING AND HAS AN AREA OF ABOUT 4,841 SQUARE METRES.

IT IS FOR PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES. THE DEVELOPER HAS TO COMPLETE A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 2,324 SQUARE METRES ON OR BEFORE JUNE 30, 1993.

THE OTHER SITE IS LOCATED IN AREA 2A, TUEN MUN, AND HAS AN AREA OF ABOUT 8,400 SQUARE METRES.

IT IS FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL, EXCLUDING GODOWN, PURPOSES.

THE BUILDING COVENANT STIPULATES THAT THE PLOT RATIO IS 9.5/5 AND MAXIMUM SITE COVERAGE IS 66.6 PER CENT. A BUILDING OR BUILDINGS HAVE TO BE COMPLETED WITH IN 48 MONTHS.

FULL PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM, AND SALE PLANS INSPECTED AT THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:

- \* THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG;
- \* THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (WEST WING), GROUND FLOOR, HONG KONG; AND
- \* THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES KOWLOON, YAU MA TEI CARPARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON.

CONDITIONS OF SALE IS ALSO AVAILABLE AT THE VARIOUS DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

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#### GRADE SEPARATED INTERCHANGE AT ABERDEEN

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THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT HAS AWARDED A \$88 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A GRADE SEPARATED INTERCHANGE AT THE JUNCTION OF ABERDEEN PRAYA ROAD AND TIN WAN PRAYA ROAD IN ABERDEEN.

AT A CEREMONY TODAY (FRIDAY), THE CONTRACT WAS SIGNED BY THE REGIONAL HIGHWAY ENGINEER (HONG KONG), MR LEUNG MIN-SUN, AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF CHINA FUJIAN CORPORATION FOR INTERNATIONAL TECHNO-ECONOMIC CORPORATION, MR HUANG XUNGENG.

THE INTERCHANGE WILL REPLACE THE EXISTING SIGNAL CONTROLLED JUNCTION AT ABERDEEN AND TIN WAN PRAYA ROADS TO COPE WITH THE INCREASE IN TRAFFIC FOLLOWING THE COMPLETION OF THE PUBLIC HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AT KELLETT BAY.

FRIDAY, MAY 25, 1990

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CONSTRUCTION WORK INCLUDED A GRADE-SEPARATED INTERCHANGE FOR VEHICLES AND PEDESTRIANS AT THE JUNCTION OF ABERDEEN PRAYA ROAD, TIN WAN PRAYA ROAD AND TIN WAN HILL ROAD; A NEW FOOTBRIDGE SYSTEM NEAR TIN WAN STREET TO REPLACE THE EXISTING ONE OPPOSITE ABERDEEN FISHERIES AND MARINE OFFICE; AND ASSOCIATED AMENITY AREAS, FOOTWAYS, ISLANDS, CENTRAL DIVIDERS, DRAINAGE AND LANDSCAPING WORKS.

OTHER ROAD WORKS INVOLVE WIDENING, RECONSTRUCTION AND RESURFACING OF ABERDEEN PRAYA ROAD BETWEEN ABERDEEN MAIN ROAD AND SHEK PAI WAN ROAD; RECONSTRUCTION OF A SECTION EACH OF TIN WAN PRAYA ROAD AND TIN WAN STREET; AND RECONSTRUCTION OF THE OPEN AIR LORRIES AND COACHES CARPARK ADJACENT TO THE ABERDEEN WHOLESALERS FISH MARKET AND THE PUBLIC CARPARK NEAR YUE KO STREET.

DURING THE CONSTRUCTION PERIOD, WHICH WILL TAKE ABOUT 22 MONTHS, APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT MEASURES WILL BE IMPLEMENTED TO FACILITATE VEHICULAR AND PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC. UPON COMPLETION, THERE WILL BE UNRESTRICTED TRAFFIC MOVEMENT.

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FIRE SERVICES COMMENDED FOR PROMPT ACTION  
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PROMPT ACTION TAKEN BY MEMBERS OF THE FIRE SERVICES IN STOPPING A FISHING TRAWLER FROM SINKING HAD WON PRAISE FROM THE MASTER OF THE TRAWLER.

AT A CEREMONY HELD AT SHEUNG WAN FIRE STATION TODAY (FRIDAY), THE MASTER OF THE FISHING TRAWLER, MR KWOK CHI-KIN, PRESENTED A SILVER PLATE TO THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER (HONG KONG), MR RAYMOND JOHNSTON, AS A GESTURE OF APPRECIATION.

THE INCIDENT OCCURRED NEAR GREEN ISLAND IN THE AFTERNOON OF MARCH 12 THIS YEAR WHEN THE TAIL SHAFT OF THE FISHING TRAWLER FELL INTO SEA AND LEFT A HOLE IN THE HULL OF THE TRAWLER. IT BEGAN TAKING IN WATER AND WAS IN DANGER OF SINKING.

AFTER RECEIVING A REPORT FROM THE MASTER OF THE TRAWLER, FIREBOAT "ALEXANDER GRANTHAM" WAS DEPLOYED TO THE SCENE AND LOCATED THE TRAWLER NEAR KENNEDY TOWN ABATTOIR.

FIREMEN ON BOARD "ALEXANDER GRANTHAM" GAVE ASSISTANCE IN PUMPING OUT WATER FROM THE TRAWLER AND IN COVERING THE HOLE WITH WOODEN PLANKS. THE TRAWLER WAS LATER TOWED FOR REPAIR.

MEANWHILE, AT A SEPARATE CEREMONY HELD AT THE SAME STATION EARLIER TODAY, FIREMAN WONG WING-WAI WAS PRESENTED THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER'S COMMENDATION FOR HIS BRAVERY, PROMPT AND PUBLIC SPIRITED ACTION IN RESCUING AN OLD WOMAN FROM THE SEA.

/ABOUT 9 AM .....

ABOUT 9 AM ON MARCH 13 WHEN HE WAS OFF DUTY, MR WONG SAW A WOMAN DROWNING AT SEA NEAR KOWLOON CITY PIER. DESPITE THE CHILLY WEATHER, HE IMMEDIATELY JUMPED INTO THE SEA AND BROUGHT HER TO SHORE.

HE APPLIED CARDIAC PULMONARY RESUSCITATION TO THE WOMAN UNTIL THE AMBULANCE ARRIVED AND TOOK HER TO HOSPITAL FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT.

THE COMMENDATION WAS PRESENTED BY MR RAYMOND JOHNSTON.

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NORTH FARM SHOW TO OPEN TOMORROW  
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THE NORTH DISTRICT COMMERCE, INDUSTRY, AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES SHOW WILL BE STAGED AT THE FANLING RECREATION GROUND FROM SATURDAY TO MONDAY (MAY 26 TO 28).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SHOW'S ORGANISING COMMITTEE SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THE OBJECTIVE OF THE SHOW IS TO INFORM THE PUBLIC AND LOCAL FARMERS ABOUT NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN AGRICULTURE AND TO PROMOTE THE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE IN ON LOK TSUEN IN THE FANLING/SHEUNG SHUI NEW TOWN.

ON SHOW WILL BE FARM ANIMALS SUCH AS PIGS, DAIRY CATTLE AND GOATS, AND POULTRY SUCH AS CHICKENS, DUCKS AND GEESE, AND ALSO PIGEONS AND QUAIL.

STALLS WILL DISPLAY VEGETABLES AND FLOWERS GROWN IN NORTH DISTRICT, LIVESTOCK FEED, AGRICULTURAL HEALTH PRODUCTS, TOOLS, AUXILIARY TRADES, LIVESTOCK WASTE DISPOSAL, AND POLLUTION CONTROL.

THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT WILL HAVE A STALL ON FARMING CHARACTERISTICS AND MARICULTURE IN THE DISTRICT.

INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITS WILL INCLUDE RATTAN FURNITURE, GARMENTS, PLASTIC PRODUCTS, SPORTING GOODS, FEATHER FANS AND SOAPS.

THE SHOW, SPONSORED BY THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD AND THE REGIONAL COUNCIL, WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FREE OF CHARGE FROM 1 PM TO 5 PM TOMORROW AND BETWEEN 9 AM AND 5 PM ON SUNDAY AND MONDAY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING OF THE NORTH DISTRICT COMMERCE, INDUSTRY, AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES SHOW AT 10.30 AM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) IN THE FANLING RECREATION GROUND.

OFFICIATING GUESTS WILL INCLUDE THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR ADOLF HSU; DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE; ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR ALFRED CHAN; NORTH DISTRICT OFFICER, MR WILLIAM HUI; DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR RAYMOND PANG; AND REGIONAL COUNCIL CHAIRMAN, MR CHEUNG YAN-LUNG.

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RE-REGISTRATION OF PART-TIME INSTRUCTORS AND LEADERS  
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THE RECREATION AND CULTURE BRANCH (RCB) OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT TODAY (FRIDAY) CALLED ON ALL PART-TIME INSTRUCTORS AND LEADERS IN SPORTS, MUSIC AND OTHER RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES TO REGISTER WITH THE RCB BEFORE NEXT THURSDAY (MAY 31).

THE AIM OF THIS EXERCISE IS TO UPDATE THE INFORMATION OF ALL REGISTERED INSTRUCTORS AND LEADERS WHO HAVE ALREADY BEEN REGISTERED WITH THE RCB.

FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT RCB AT 25TH FLOOR, SHUI ON CENTRE, 6-8 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI.

TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 866 0794 DURING OFFICE HOURS.

ALL REGISTERED INSTRUCTORS AND LEADERS ARE ADVISED TO SUBMIT THE COMPLETED FORMS TO THE RCB BEFORE MAY 31.

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CHAI WAN MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH CENTRE ON MOVE  
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THE CHAI WAN MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH CENTRE WILL OPERATE FROM ITS NEW ADDRESS AT 233 CHAI WAN ROAD, NEW JADE GARDEN, LEVEL 2 FROM JUNE 4, THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE CENTRE WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE A COMPREHENSIVE RANGE OF SERVICES, INCLUDING INFANT AND CHILD HEALTH CARE, IMMUNISATION, COMPREHENSIVE OBSERVATION SERVICE, ANTENATAL AND POSTNATAL CARE, AND FAMILY PLANNING.

THE HOURS OF OPERATION WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED.

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FIRING PRACTICE IN JUNE  
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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE HA TSUEN-CASTLE PEAK RANGE ON 24 DAYS NEXT MONTH.

THE PUBLIC IS WARNED NOT TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN RED FLAGS ARE HOISTED.

FOLLOWING ARE THE DATES AND TIMES THAT FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE:

DATE	TIME
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JUNE 1 (FRIDAY)	8.30 AM - 11.59 PM
JUNE 2 (SATURDAY)	12.01 AM - 5 PM
JUNE 4 (MONDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JUNE 5 (TUESDAY)	8.30 AM - 11.59 PM
JUNE 6 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 AM - 11.59 PM
JUNE 7 (THURSDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JUNE 8 (FRIDAY)	8.30 AM - 11.59 PM
JUNE 9 (SATURDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JUNE 11 (MONDAY)	8.30 AM - 11.59 PM
JUNE 12 (TUESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JUNE 13 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JUNE 14 (THURSDAY)	8.30 AM - 11.59 PM
JUNE 15 (FRIDAY)	12.01 AM - 5 PM
JUNE 19 (TUESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JUNE 20 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JUNE 21 (THURSDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JUNE 22 (FRIDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JUNE 23 (SATURDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JUNE 25 (MONDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JUNE 26 (TUESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JUNE 27 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JUNE 28 (THURSDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JUNE 29 (FRIDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
JUNE 30 (SATURDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM

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

THE STRUCTURE IS ON THE ROOF OVER FLAT E, 13TH FLOOR, SAM WO BUILDING, 14-24 CHUNG ON STREET.

/NOTICE OF .....

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER FROM THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT COURT ON JUNE 29 THIS YEAR WAS POSTED ON A CONSPICUOUS PART OF THE STRUCTURE TODAY (FRIDAY).

UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE, A CLOSURE ORDER IS REQUIRED BEFORE DEMOLITION CAN BE CARRIED OUT.

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

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WATER CUTS IN TSUEN WAN AND TAI KOK TSUI

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN TSUEN WAN WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 8.30 AM TO 12.30 PM ON SUNDAY (MAY 27) TO FACILITATE WATER WORKS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT ALL PREMISES AT SHAM TSENG, TSING LUNG TAU AND CHOI YUEN TSUEN.

ALSO TO FACILITATE WATER WORKS, FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN TAI KOK TSUI WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 9.30 AM TO 5 PM ON WEDNESDAY (MAY 30).

THE AREA AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY PRINCE EDWARD ROAD WEST, TONG MI ROAD, FIR STREET, FUK TSUN STREET, WALNUT STREET AND TUNG CHAU STREET.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN WESTERN DISTRICT

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT IN CONNECTION WITH THE DUALLING OF CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST, THE FOLLOWING TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN WESTERN DISTRICT FROM 10 AM ON SUNDAY (MAY 27):

- \* THE EXISTING RIGHT TURNING MOVEMENT FROM EASTBOUND CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST INTO KA ON STREET WILL BE BANNED FOR A PERIOD OF ABOUT FOUR WEEKS UNTIL SIGNALISATION OF THIS JUNCTION IS COMPLETED.
- \* VEHICLES ON EASTBOUND CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST HEADING FOR KA ON STREET WILL BE DIVERTED VIA THE SLIP ROAD LEADING TO SHEUNG WAN FIRE STATION AND WESTBOUND CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST TO JOIN KA ON STREET.

/\* VEHICLES EXITING .....

- \* VEHICLES EXITING NORTHWARDS FROM WATER STREET AT ITS JUNCTION WITH CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST WILL BE ALLOWED TO TURN LEFT, RIGHT OR PROCEED STRAIGHT AHEAD.
- \* ONLY FRANCHISED BUSES EXITING SOUTHWARDS FROM WATER STREET AT ITS JUNCTION WITH CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST WILL BE ALLOWED TO TURN RIGHT INTO WESTBOUND CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST FROM 5 AM TO 7 AM DAILY.
- \* VEHICLES EXITING FROM WHITTY STREET AT ITS JUNCTION WITH CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST WILL ONLY BE ALLOWED TO TURN LEFT.
- \* VEHICLES ON WESTBOUND CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST WILL BE ALLOWED TO GO BEYOND WESTERN STREET AND PROCEED TO THE JUNCTION OF HILL ROAD, DES VOEUX ROAD WEST AND CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST.
- \* AT THE JUNCTION OF HILL ROAD, DES VOEUX ROAD WEST AND CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST, VEHICLES ON WESTBOUND CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST WILL BE ALLOWED TO TURN RIGHT INTO THE WESTERN CARGO HANDLING AREA; VEHICLES EXITING FROM THE SURFACE ROAD OF WESTBOUND CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST WILL BE ALLOWED TO TURN RIGHT AND PROCEED TO KENNEDY TOWN PRAYA OR TURN LEFT INTO EASTBOUND DES VOEUX ROAD WEST; AND VEHICLES ON HILL ROAD AND ON WESTBOUND DES VOEUX ROAD WEST WILL BE ALLOWED TO PROCEED VIA A TWO-LANE SLIP ROAD TO JOIN EASTBOUND CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST.

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URBAN CLEARWAYS IN WESTERN DISTRICT

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM ON SUNDAY (MAY 27), THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS OF ROADS IN WESTERN DISTRICT WILL BE DESIGNATED URBAN CLEARWAYS 24 HOURS DAILY:

\* THE SECTION OF WESTBOUND CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST FROM A POINT ABOUT 90 METRES EAST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH WESTERN STREET TO ITS JUNCTION WITH KA ON STREET, EXCLUDING THE LAY-BYS;

\* THE SOUTHERN LANE OF WESTBOUND CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST FROM A POINT ABOUT 25 METRES WEST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH WHITTY STREET TO ITS JUNCTION WITH THE UNNAMED ROAD LEADING TO THE WESTERN CARGO HANDLING AREA;

\* THE SOUTHERN LANE OF THE SURFACE ROAD OF WESTBOUND CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST FROM A POINT ABOUT 80 METRES WEST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH CENTRE STREET TO ITS JUNCTION WITH WESTERN STREET;

\* THE NORTHERN LANE OF THE SURFACE ROAD OF WESTBOUND CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST FROM A POINT ABOUT 25 METRES WEST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH WHITTY STREET TO ITS JUNCTION WITH DES VOEUX ROAD WEST;

/\* THE SOUTHERN .....

\* THE SOUTHERN LANE OF THE SURFACE ROAD OF WESTBOUND CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST FROM A POINT ABOUT 45 METRES WEST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH WHITTY STREET TO ITS JUNCTION WITH DES VOEUX ROAD WEST;

\* THE SLIP ROAD LEADING TO EASTBOUND CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST BETWEEN CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST AND DES VOEUX ROAD WEST;

\* THE SECTION OF EASTBOUND CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH DES VOEUX ROAD WEST TO ITS JUNCTION WITH WESTBOUND CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST;

\* THE SECTION OF EASTBOUND DES VOEUX ROAD WEST FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST TO A POINT ABOUT 60 METRES WEST OF THE SAME JUNCTION;

\* THE NORTHERN LANE OF DES VOEUX ROAD WEST FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH THE SLIP ROAD LEADING TO EASTBOUND CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST BETWEEN CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST AND DES VOEUX ROAD WEST TO A POINT ABOUT 30 METRES EAST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH HILL ROAD;

\* THE SOUTHERN LANE OF WESTBOUND DES VOEUX ROAD WEST FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH HILL ROAD TO A POINT ABOUT 40 METRES EAST OF THE SAME JUNCTION;

\* THE SECTION OF EASTBOUND DES VOEUX ROAD WEST FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH WATER STREET TO A POINT ABOUT 65 METRES WEST OF THE SAME JUNCTION;

\* THE SECTION OF WESTBOUND DES VOEUX ROAD WEST BETWEEN WATER STREET AND CHIU KWONG STREET;

\* THE SECTION OF WATER STREET FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST TO A POINT ABOUT 30 METRES SOUTH OF THE SAME JUNCTION; AND

\* THE EASTERN LANE OF HILL ROAD FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH DES VOEUX ROAD WEST TO A POINT ABOUT 30 METRES SOUTH OF THE SAME JUNCTION.

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

FRIDAY, MAY 25, 1990

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FARE REVISION ON NT GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES  
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT THE FARES OF THREE NEW TERRITORIES GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES WILL BE REVISED ON SUNDAY (MAY 27).

THEY ARE ROUTE 36 (YUEN LONG FOOK HONG STREET TO TAI SANG WAI RURAL OFFICE), ROUTE 37 (YUEN LONG FOOK HONG STREET TO YAU TAM MEI VILLAGE OFFICE) AND ROUTE 38 (YUEN LONG FOOK HONG STREET TO HA CHUK YUEN).

THE FULL FARE PER SINGLE JOURNEY ON THESE SERVICES WILL BE REVISED FROM \$3 TO \$3.50.

FOR JOURNEYS BETWEEN YUEN LONG TOWN AND CHUK YUEN VEGETABLE STATION, AND JOURNEYS BETWEEN AU TAU AND HA CHUK YUEN, THE SECTION FARES WILL BE INCREASED FROM \$2.50 TO \$3.

THE SECTION FARES FOR JOURNEYS BETWEEN FAIRVIEW PARK BOULEVARD AND TAI SANG WAI RURAL OFFICE, NGAU TAM MEI ROAD AND YAU TAM MEI VILLAGE OFFICE, CHUK YUEN ACCESS ROAD AND HA CHUK YUEN WILL BE INCREASED BY 20 CENTS TO \$1.70.

NOTICES WILL BE PUT UP BY THE GMB OPERATOR AT TERMINAL POINTS AND INSIDE VEHICLES TO INFORM PASSENGERS OF THE FARE REVISION.

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