



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON LOCAL CRAFT REVIEW BEGINS

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A COMPREHENSIVE DOCUMENT CONTAINING PROPOSALS ON CHANGES IN THE LICENSING, SAFETY AND CONTROL OF LOCAL CRAFT WAS PRESENTED FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION BY THE MARINE DEPARTMENT THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON.

IN ANNOUNCING DETAILS OF THE DOCUMENT, ENTITLED THE "LOCAL CRAFT REVIEW", THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF MARINE (SHIPPING), MR ALAN PYRKE, URGED LOCAL CRAFT OWNERS AND OPERATORS AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES TO SEND THEIR VIEWS AND COMMENTS TO THE MARINE DEPARTMENT.

"THE CONSULTATION PERIOD WILL BE FROM APRIL 1 TO JUNE 15, 1989," MR PYRKE SAID. "COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS SHOULD BE MADE TO THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE IN WRITING BEFORE JUNE 15."

HE STRESSED THAT A DIALOGUE WITH ALL SECTIONS OF THE LOCAL MARINE INDUSTRY AND MARINE RECREATIONAL INTERESTS WAS CONSIDERED OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE TO ENSURE THAT A BALANCED VIEW WOULD BE ACHIEVED.

MR PYRKE POINTED OUT THAT COPIES OF THE REVIEW HAD BEEN SENT TO THE LOCAL CRAFT INDUSTRY, MARINE RECREATIONAL INTERESTS, UNIONS, ASSOCIATIONS, YACHT CLUBS, FRANCHISED FERRY COMPANIES, AS WELL AS TO DISTRICT BOARDS AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

"COPIES FOR ANYONE INTERESTED WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION FROM APRIL 1 AT THE MARINE DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, AND OUR LOCAL MARINE OFFICES IN ABERDEEN, SHAU KEI WAN, YAU MA TEI, TSUEN WAN, TUEN MUN, TAI PO, SAI KUNG AND CHEUNG CHAU," HE ADDED.

MR PYRKE SAID THAT THE FUNDAMENTAL IDEAS OF THE REVIEW COULD BE SUMMED UP IN THREE BASIC PHILOSOPHIES:

- DE-REGULATE IN KEEPING WITH THE DICTATES OF RISK MANAGEMENT AS WELL AS REMOVING OUTDATED PROVISIONS;
- GIVE OWNERS AND OPERATORS MORE FLEXIBILITY IN THEIR OPERATIONS BUT MAKE THEM MORE RESPONSIBLE AND ACCOUNTABLE FOR THEIR ACTIONS; AND
- ALLOW OWNERS THE OPTIONS OF USING NON-GOVERNMENTAL FIRMS OR PERSONS FOR SURVEY WORK, EXCEPTING FOR HIGH RISK VESSELS.

OTHER MAIN IDEAS CONTAINED IN THE REVIEW ARE:

- \* NEW COMPREHENSIVE LEGISLATION.
- \* USING BILINGUAL CODES OF PRACTICE, INSTRUCTIONS FOR SURVEYS, GUIDELINES ETC. WHICH, TOGETHER WITH NEW LEGISLATION, WILL PROVIDE THE PUBLIC WITH COMPREHENSIVE DOCUMENTS ON ALL ASPECTS ON THE SAFETY AND CONTROL OF LOCAL CRAFT.

/\* ONE CODE .....

- \* ONE CODE OF PRACTICE TO BE A "LOCAL CRAFT USERS CODE" WHICH WOULD BE SIMILAR IN CONCEPT AND USE TO THE "ROAD USERS CODE" ISSUED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT.
- \* REGISTRATION AND LICENSING TO BE SIMILAR TO THAT FOR ROAD VEHICLES ALTHOUGH CALLED BY DIFFERENT NAMES.
- \* ALLOW FOR FLEXIBILITY IN SURVEY DATES AS IS DONE, FOR INSTANCE, IN THE 90-DAY PRE-LICENSING PERIOD FOR A ROADWORTHINESS TEST OF A CAR.
- \* MARINE DEPARTMENT STAFF WILL SURVEY HIGH RISK VESSELS SUCH AS LARGE CAPACITY PASSENGER VESSELS, OIL TANKERS AND DANGEROUS GOODS VESSELS.
- \* TWO PRINCIPAL TYPES OF COMMERCIAL VESSEL WILL BE RECOGNISED, NAMELY PASSENGER AND NON-PASSENGER CARRYING VESSELS.
- \* A BETTER DEFINITION OF PLEASURE VESSELS SO THAT SUCH VESSELS AT PRESENT OPERATED FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES WOULD BE RE-CLASSIFIED TO THEIR APPROPRIATE COMMERCIAL CLASS.
- \* A COMPUTER SYSTEM.
- \* A FIXED PENALTY SYSTEM FOR CERTAIN COMMON OFFENCES.
- \* A MORE APPROPRIATE AND SIMPLIFIED "DRIVING LICENCE" STRUCTURE, TO BE CALLED COXSWAINS AND ENGINE OPERATOR LICENCES.
- \* A UNIFIED TONNAGE MEASUREMENT SYSTEM.
- \* COMPREHENSIVE TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS TO BE MADE.
- \* A SINGLE BROAD-BASED CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE TO ADVISE THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE ON ALL APPROPRIATE MATTERS CONCERNING LOCAL CRAFT.

MR PYRKE SAID THE TARGET DATE FOR NEW LEGISLATION WAS IN THE EARLY 1990'S, BUT NOTED THAT SOME PROPOSALS WOULD BE IMPLEMENTED UNDER CURRENT LEGISLATION IF POSSIBLE.

ON THE RATIONALE FOR UNDERTAKING THE REVIEW, MR PYRKE POINTED OUT THAT IT HAD BEEN RECOGNISED FOR SOME TIME THAT SOME OF THE PRESENT LAWS AND PROCEDURES WERE OVER-COMPLICATED, ANOMALOUS AND ARCHAIC AND HAD, IN SOME INSTANCES, HINDERED MARINE DEVELOPMENT.

"OVER THE YEARS LOCAL CRAFT LEGISLATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE PRACTICES HAVE BEEN MODIFIED AND WIDENED TO MEET SPECIFIC PROBLEMS SUCH AS CHANGING VESSEL TYPES, NEW TECHNOLOGY, INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS, CHANGING PATTERNS OF MARINE TRADE AND POPULATION CENTRES BUT NO OVERALL REVIEW HAD TAKEN PLACE IN RECENT YEARS," HE SAID.

MR PYRKE STRESSED THAT THE REVIEW HAD BEEN INITIATED AND CARRIED OUT ENTIRELY BY THE DEPARTMENT.

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HONG KONG-NEW ZEALAND AIR SERVICES AGREEMENT INITIALLED  
\* \* \* \* \*

FOLLOWING A SERIES OF NEGOTIATIONS WHICH BEGAN IN 1987, THE HONG KONG AND NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENTS HAVE INITIALLED THE TEXT OF A NEW HONG KONG-NEW ZEALAND AIR SERVICES AGREEMENT.

IN WELCOMING THE NEW AGREEMENT, THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MRS ANSON CHAN, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THIS NEW AGREEMENT WITH NEW ZEALAND WOULD BE THE FIFTH HONG KONG AIR SERVICES AGREEMENT TO BE SEPARATED FROM UNITED KINGDOM AGREEMENTS.

IT WAS CAST IN A FORM WHICH WAS CAPABLE OF REMAINING IN FORCE BEYOND 1997 THUS ENSURING THE CONTINUITY OF HONG KONG AIR LINKS WITH NEW ZEALAND.

"I AM DELIGHTED THAT THE NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT HAVE, IN THIS PRACTICAL WAY, DEMONSTRATED THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE JOINT DECLARATION AND THEIR CONFIDENCE IN HONG KONG'S FUTURE," SHE SAID.

AIR SERVICES BETWEEN HONG KONG AND NEW ZEALAND WERE INCREASED TO TWICE WEEKLY LAST DECEMBER. FROM OCTOBER THIS YEAR, BOTH CATHAY PACIFIC AIRWAYS AND AIR NEW ZEALAND CAN DOUBLE THEIR WEEKLY SERVICES BETWEEN HONG KONG AND NEW ZEALAND.

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AMENDMENTS TO SFC BILL WILL BE PROPOSED  
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A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF AMENDMENTS TO THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION BILL WILL BE PROPOSED DURING THE COMMITTEE STAGE OF THE BILL IN THE LEGISLATURE, WHICH IS EXPECTED TO TAKE PLACE ON APRIL 12, THE ACTING FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR DAVID NENDICK, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT A LUNCH ADDRESS OF THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANTS, MR NENDICK SAID HE BELIEVED THE LEGISLATION WOULD CONTAIN ADEQUATE CHECKS AND BALANCES AGAINST ANY POSSIBLE ABUSE OF POWER BY THE NEW COMMISSION WITHOUT UNDERMINING ITS ABILITY TO DISCHARGE ITS FUNCTIONS EFFECTIVELY AND EFFICIENTLY.

"THE CREATION OF THIS NEW BODY REPRESENTS A FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE IN THE WAY HONG KONG'S MARKETS ARE TO BE SUPERVISED BUT ONE WHICH BRINGS US INTO LINE WITH OTHER MAJOR FINANCIAL CENTRES," HE SAID.

/MR NENDICK .....

MR NENDICK SAID THAT NATURALLY PERHAPS, THERE WERE THOSE WHO EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT, AS HONG KONG MANAGED VERY WELL IN THE PAST WITHOUT ANY MARKET DISCIPLINE OR SIGNIFICANT PROTECTION TO INVESTORS, IT COULD CONTINUE TO DO SO IN THE FUTURE.

"FURTHERMORE, THEY GO ON TO SAY, IF STRICTER RULES AND REGULATIONS ARE INTRODUCED AND ENFORCED, MARKET ACTIVITY WILL BE SERIOUSLY AFFECTED, TO THE DETRIMENT OF THE ORDINARY INVESTOR," HE SAID.

"BUT SUCH VIEWS IGNORE REALITY," HE SAID. "WHETHER WE LIKE IT OR NOT, WE ARE NOW A PART OF ONE INTER-DEPENDENT WORLD MARKET FOR SECURITIES AND A PART IN WHICH INTERNATIONAL INVESTORS ARE PLAYING AN INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT ROLE."

HE SAID SUCH INVESTORS REQUIRED PROPER STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOUR AND ACCOUNTABILITY AND SO DID OUR INCREASINGLY SOPHISTICATED AND AFFLUENT LOCAL COMMUNITY.

"WITH AVERAGE LIVING STANDARDS ON A PAR WITH THOSE OF A NUMBER OF DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, OUR INVESTORS NOW EXPECT THAT THEIR HARD EARNED SAVINGS ARE SUBJECT TO PROPER SAFEGUARDS AND THAT INFORMATION UPON WHICH THEY CAN MAKE INFORMED JUDGEMENTS IS AVAILABLE TO ALL IMPARTIALLY," HE SAID.

MR NENDICK SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS ALSO ADDRESSING THE PARTICULAR PROBLEM OF INSIDER DEALING.

HE SAID THE SECURITIES (DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS) ORDINANCE, WHICH WAS ENACTED IN JULY LAST YEAR, WOULD BE BROUGHT INTO FORCE ONCE THE NEW SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION WAS IN A POSITION TO ENSURE PROPER ENFORCEMENT.

THIS LEGISLATION WOULD ACT AS A DETERRENT TO CREEPING TAKEOVERS AND INSIDER DEALING AND MAKE IT EASIER TO DETECT THOSE WHO PERSISTED IN BREAKING THE RULES.

"WE ARE ALSO PLANNING SHORTLY TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION WHICH WILL SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASE THE RANGE OF SANCTIONS WHICH MAY BE IMPOSED ON THOSE WHO ENGAGE IN INSIDER DEALING," HE SAID.

ONCE THE NEW SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION CAME INTO BEING, HE ADDED, IT WOULD BE PARTICIPATING WITH THE GOVERNMENT IN A MAJOR OVERHAUL OF THE REMAINDER OF OUR SECURITIES AND INVESTOR PROTECTION LEGISLATION.

"THE PRESENT LEGISLATION MAINLY DATES BACK TO THE EARLY 1970'S AND WAS ENACTED IN CIRCUMSTANCES VERY DIFFERENT FROM THOSE WHICH NOW PREVAIL," HE SAID.

MR NENDICK SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS AWARE OF, AND WOULD AVOID, THE DANGERS OF OVER-REGULATION.

/ "I AM .....

"I AM GLAD TO SAY THAT THERE ARE NO SIGNS THAT THE REFORMS THAT ARE IN THE COURSE OF BEING IMPLEMENTED ARE HAVING ANY DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON MARKET ACTIVITY.

"INDEED THE REVERSE SEEMS TO BE THE CASE. SINCE THE CRASH, AND IN FULL KNOWLEDGE OF THE CHANGES BEING MADE, NO LESS THAN THREE OF THE LARGEST U.S. INVESTMENT BANKS HAVE ACQUIRED SEATS ON THE HONG KONG STOCK EXCHANGE.

"TURNOVER HAS RETURNED TO LEVELS EXPERIENCED IN THE EARLY PART OF 1987 AND PRICES HAVE RISEN BY MORE THAN 50 PER CENT FROM THEIR POST-OCTOBER 1987 LOW.

"I FIRMLY BELIEVE THEREFORE THAT THE INGREDIENTS ARE NOW IN PLACE FOR HONG KONG TO CONTINUE TO THRIVE AS AN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRE IN THE YEARS AHEAD," HE SAID.

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#### GRADING OF BEACH WATER QUALITY

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THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT (EPD) TODAY (THURSDAY) ANNOUNCED GRADES ON THE BACTERIAL WATER QUALITY OF ALL BATHING BEACHES IN HONG KONG.

THE PURPOSE OF THE GRADING SYSTEM IS TO INFORM SWIMMERS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC ABOUT THE STATE OF BACTERIAL POLLUTION AT VARIOUS BEACHES.

AN EPD SPOKESMAN SAID THAT STARTING THIS WEEK THE GRADING WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT BIWEEKLY INTERVALS DURING THE BATHING SEASON, TO COINCIDE WITH THE FREQUENCY AT WHICH BEACH WATERS ARE USUALLY SAMPLED.

THE GRADING IS BASED ON THE MOST RECENT BACTERIA DATA OBTAINED BY THE EPD IN ITS ROUTINE MONITORING PROGRAMME.

THIS YEAR, FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE GRADING ALSO INCLUDES AN ESTIMATE OF THE RISK OF SUFFERING SOME MINOR SKIN OR GASTROINTESTINAL COMPLAINTS AS A RESULT OF SWIMMING AT A BEACH WHICH HAS SOME DEGREE OF POLLUTION.

THE ESTIMATE IS BASED ON A VERY LARGE BODY OF STATISTICAL INFORMATION GATHERED IN HONG KONG IN RECENT BATHING SEASONS.

THE GRADING OF SOME BEACHES MAY VARY DURING THE SUMMER. THIS REPRESENTS A NATURAL FLUCTUATION IN THE BACTERIAL QUALITY OF BATHING WATERS IN MOST CASES, AS RAIN AND TIDES BRING MORE OR LESS POLLUTION TO THE BEACHES.

BATHING WATERS COMMONLY BECOME WORSE DUE TO HEAVY USAGE DURING THE SUMMER. HOWEVER, THE GRADES GIVE A GOOD GENERAL PICTURE OF THE WATER QUALITY AT BATHING BEACHES AT THE TIME OF REPORTING AND FORM THE BEST AVAILABLE FORECAST FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

THE SYSTEM FOR GRADING BEACH WATER QUALITY IS AS FOLLOWS:

"A" GRADE INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS GOOD. THE MEAN E.COLI COUNT IS LESS THAN 100 PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED HEALTH RISK IS LESS THAN SEVEN CASES OF MINOR ILLNESS PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

"B" GRADE INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS ACCEPTABLE. THE MEAN E.COLI COUNT IS LESS THAN 1,000 PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED HEALTH RISK IS LESS THAN 18 CASES OF MINOR ILLNESS PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

"C" GRADE INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS POOR. THE MEAN E.COLI COUNT IS 1,000 OR MORE PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED HEALTH RISK IS 18 OR MORE CASES OF MINOR ILLNESS PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

THE DECISION WHETHER OR NOT TO CLOSE A BEACH TO SWIMMERS IS BASED ON A JUDGEMENT OF WHAT DEGREE OF POLLUTION IS ACCEPTABLE. NORMALLY, A RECOMMENDATION ON CLOSURE WOULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED BY THE URBAN OR THE REGIONAL COUNCIL IF A "C" GRADING OCCURRED REPEATEDLY, SO THAT THE AVERAGE HEALTH RISK OVER THE BATHING SEASON EXCEEDED 15 CASES PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

SIMILARLY, A RECOMMENDATION TO RE-OPEN A CLOSED BEACH WOULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED IF A "B" GRADE OR BETTER WERE CONSISTENTLY OBTAINED.

AT PRESENT, SIX BATHING BEACHES HAVE BEEN DECLARED UNSUITABLE FOR SWIMMING PURPOSES, BASED ON THE WATER QUALITY DURING PAST SEASONS.

THESE BEACHES ARE ANGLERS', CASTLE PEAK, SILVERMINE BAY, OLD CAFETERIA, ROCKY BAY AND TING KAU.

THEY ARE POLLUTED BY FAECAL WASTES AND FAILED TO ACHIEVE CONSISTENTLY THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION AND HONG KONG STANDARDS. THE PUBLIC ARE ADVISED NOT TO SWIM AT THESE SIX BEACHES. THEY ARE IDENTIFIED BY AN "X" IN THE FOLLOWING TABLE.

THE GRADES ON THE BACTERIAL WATER QUALITY OF VARIOUS BEACHES IN HONG KONG AS AT TODAY ARE LISTED BELOW :

BEACH -----	PRESENT GRADING ----- (AS AT 30.3.89)
HONG KONG SOUTH -----	
BIG WAVE BAY	A

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CHUNG HOM KOK	A
DEEP WATER BAY	A
HAIRPIN	A
MIDDLE BAY	A
REPULSE BAY	B
SHEK O	A
SOUTH BAY	A
ST STEPHEN'S	A
TURTLE COVE	A
STANLEY MAIN	B
ROCKY BAY	X
TO TEI WAN*	A
ISLANDS DISTRICT	
-----	
CHEUNG SHA UPPER	A
CHEUNG SHA LOWER	A
DISCOVERY BAY*	A
HUNG SHING YEH	A
KWUN YAM WAN	A
TONG FUK	A
LO SO SHING	A
PUI O	A
SILVERMINE BAY	X
TUNG WAN, CHEUNG CHAU	B
TUNG O*	A

/SAI KUNG .....

SAI KUNG DISTRICT  
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CAMPERS	A
CLEAR WATER BAY 1ST BEACH	A
CLEAR WATER BAY 2ND BEACH	A
HAP MUN BAY	A
KIU TSUI	A
PAK SHA CHAU	A
SILVERSTRAND	A
TRIO (HEBE HAVEN)	A

TSUEN WAN DISTRICT  
-----

ANGLERS'	X
APPROACH	B
CASAM	A
GEMINI	A
HOI MEI WAN	B
LIDO	A
TING KAU	X
TUNG WAN, MA WAN	A

TUEN MUN DISTRICT  
-----

OLD CAFETERIA	X
NEW CAFETERIA	B
CASTLE PEAK	X

KADOORIE

B

BUTTERFLY

B

NOTE: "X" THE BEACH HAS BEEN DECLARED UNSUITABLE FOR SWIMMING.  
\* NON-GAZETTED BEACHES.

IN ADDITION TO THIS REGULAR REPORTING SYSTEM, AN ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE WATER QUALITY OF ALL THE BATHING BEACHES IN HONG KONG WILL CONTINUE TO BE PREPARED BY THE EPD AFTER EACH BATHING SEASON.

THIS WILL MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BEACH MANAGEMENT AUTHORITIES ON THE SUITABILITY OF INDIVIDUAL BEACHES FOR SWIMMING PURPOSES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT MR PAUL HOLMES, PRINCIPAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICER (WATER POLICY) OF THE EPD, ON 5-8351234.

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MERITORIOUS SERVICE CERTIFICATES FOR DOCTORS, DENTISTS  
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A TOTAL OF 52 OFFICERS OF THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT WERE PRESENTED LONG AND MERITORIOUS SERVICE CERTIFICATES TODAY (THURSDAY).

UNDER THE LONG AND MERITORIOUS SERVICE CERTIFICATE SCHEME, OFFICERS WHO HAVE SERVED THE DEPARTMENT WITH GOOD PERFORMANCE FOR 20 YEARS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THE AWARD.

AT A CEREMONY HELD AT THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS THIS AFTERNOON, THE DIRECTOR, DR S. H. LEE, PRESENTED THE CERTIFICATES TO THE OFFICERS - COMPRISING DOCTORS, DENTAL OFFICERS, PRINCIPAL HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATOR, SUPERINTENDENT OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST AND SUPERINTENDENT RADIOGRAPHER.

ADDRESSING THE RECIPIENTS, DR LEE SAID HE WAS PROUD TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH THE CADRE AS A MEMBER OF THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH OFFICER GRADE.

/HE PRAISED .....

HE PRAISED THE MEDICAL AND DENTAL OFFICERS FOR SETTING A FINE EXAMPLE IN DEDICATION TO THE PROFESSION AND FOR HAVING CONTRIBUTED SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE HIGH STANDARD OF SERVICE.

SPEAKING ABOUT THE RE-ORGANISATION OF THE DEPARTMENT WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE ON SATURDAY (APRIL 1), DR LEE SAID THAT IT WOULD ENHANCE THE EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS IN THE DELIVERY OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES.

IT WOULD ALSO PROVIDE A BASIS FOR THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENT, HE ADDED.

THE DIRECTOR SAID HE WAS AWARE THAT MANY OF THE DOCTORS WERE CONCERNED ABOUT THEIR CONDITIONS OF WORK.

THE GOVERNMENT HAD RECENTLY ANNOUNCED A PACKAGE OF IMPROVEMENT MEASURES FOR THE GRADE, AND A SPECIAL COMMITTEE UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE HAD ALSO BEEN SET UP TO REVIEW THE QUALITY OF PATIENT SERVICES, HE SAID.

DR LEE SAID HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT WITH THE GOODWILL AND CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE MANAGEMENT AND STAFF, FURTHER IMPROVEMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO BE MADE.

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#### MORE PERSONS ELIGIBLE FOR HIGHER DISABILITY ALLOWANCE

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THE HIGHER DISABILITY ALLOWANCE (HDA) FOR SEVERELY DISABLED PERSONS WILL BE EXTENDED TO SEVERELY DISABLED PERSONS AGED 16 TO 59 FROM SATURDAY (APRIL 1), A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

UP TO NOW, THE HDA HAS ONLY BEEN AVAILABLE TO PERSONS AGED 60 AND OVER WHO REQUIRE CONSTANT ATTENDANCE FROM OTHERS IN THEIR DAILY LIFE BUT ARE NOT RECEIVING THIS ATTENDANCE IN A GOVERNMENT OR SUBVENTED INSTITUTION.

FOLLOWING THE REVISION OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE BASIC RATES, WHICH TAKES EFFECT NEXT MONTH, THE RATE OF THE HDA WILL BE \$1,240 PER MONTH, TWICE THE RATE OF THE NORMAL DISABILITY ALLOWANCE (NDA).

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT ABOUT 6,000 PEOPLE WILL BENEFIT FROM THE EXTENSION, AND THE ANNUAL EXPENDITURE WILL BE \$89 MILLION.

UP TO THE END OF FEBRUARY, 3,200 PEOPLE WERE DRAWING THE HDA.

/ "APART FROM .....

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"APART FROM LOWERING THE QUALIFYING AGE, THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA ARE NO DIFFERENT FROM THOSE FOR PERSONS AGED 60 AND ABOVE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR HDA, A PERSON MUST BE AGED 16 OR ABOVE AND MEET ALL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR NDA; CERTIFIED EITHER BY THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE OR THE DIRECTOR OF HOSPITAL SERVICES OR THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH TO BE IN NEED OF CONSTANT ATTENDANCE; AND NOT BE RESIDING IN A GOVERNMENT OR SUBVENTED INSTITUTION."

STAFF FROM THE DEPARTMENT'S SOCIAL SECURITY FIELD UNITS WILL ASSIST EXISTING NDA RECIPIENTS WHO HAVE BEEN CERTIFIED BY MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS THAT THEY REQUIRE CONSTANT ATTENDANCE TO APPLY FOR THE HDA.

"INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBLE PERSONS CAN ALSO APPLY THROUGH THE SOCIAL SECURITY FIELD UNITS," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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#### LEGISLATION ON PLATINUM COMES INTO EFFECT

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THE TRADE DESCRIPTIONS (MARKING) (PLATINUM) ORDER 1988 AND THE TRADE DESCRIPTION (DEFINITION OF PLATINUM) REGULATIONS 1988 WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON SATURDAY (APRIL 1), THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE ORDER AND REGULATIONS RESTRICT THE USE OF THE TERM "PLATINUM" IN PRECIOUS METAL AND JEWELLERY TRADES TO DESCRIBING ARTICLES OF A FINENESS OF AT LEAST 850 PARTS BY WEIGHT OF PLATINUM IN 1,000 PARTS BY WEIGHT OF ALLOY.

THEY ALSO REQUIRE EVERY ARTICLE OF PLATINUM THAT IS SUPPLIED OR OFFERED TO BE SUPPLIED BY ANY PERSON IN THE COURSE OF TRADE OR BUSINESS, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS AND EXCEPTIONS, TO BEAR A STANDARD OF FINENESS MARK AND BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN INVOICE OR RECEIPT.

THE FINENESS MARK OF AN PLATINUM ARTICLE SHOULD BE IN THE LETTERS "PT" AND ARABIC NUMERALS INDICATING IN PARTS PER THOUSAND THE FINENESS OF THE PLATINUM CONTENT. THE FINENESS CAN ALSO BE SHOWN BY THE CHINESE CHARACTERS (CHUK PAK KAM), WHICH INDICATE A FINENESS OF NOT LESS 990.

IN CASE OF AN ARTICLE COMPRISING PARTS MADE OF PLATINUM AND OTHER METALS, THE LEGISLATION STIPULATES THAT EACH PART OF THE PLATINUM SHOULD BE MARKED AS REQUIRED AND THE TRUE COMPOSITION OF THE OTHER PARTS MUST ALSO BE DESCRIBED ON AN ACCOMPANYING INVOICE OR RECEIPT.

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IF AN ARTICLE WITH A SURFACE TREATMENT OF PLATINUM IS MARKED WITH WORDS DESCRIBING SUCH TREATMENT AND THE WORD "PLATINUM" HAS BEEN USED, THE OTHER WORDS IN SUCH DESCRIPTION SHOULD BE AS LARGE AS THE WORD "PLATINUM".

IT IS ALSO STIPULATED IN THE LEGISLATION THAT ANY PERSON WHO SUPPLIES ANY PLATINUM ARTICLE IN BUSINESS TRANSACTION, SHOULD DELIVER TO THE PURCHASER AN INVOICE OR RECEIPT CONTAINING THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE SUPPLIER, AND A DESCRIPTION OF THE ARTICLE AND THE FINENESS MARK.

DETAILS ON THE TRADE DESCRIPTION (MARKING) (PLATINUM) ORDER 1988 AND THE TRADE DESCRIPTION (DEFINITION OF PLATINUM) REGULATIONS 1988 ARE CONTAINED IN A NOTICE TO TRADERS IN PLATINUM, WHICH HAS ALREADY BEEN SENT TO THE CONCERNED TRADE ORGANISATIONS AND TO DISTRICT BOARDS.

WITH THE LEGISLATION ON PLATINUM TAKING EFFECT ON SATURDAY, A TRADER WHO FAILS TO COMPLY WITH THE MARKING ORDER WILL BE LIABLE, ON SUMMARY CONVICTION, TO A FINE OF \$100,000 AND TO IMPRISONMENT FOR TWO YEARS.

IN THE CASE OF CONVICTION ON INDICTMENT, THE TRADER WILL FACE A FINE OF \$500,000 AND TO IMPRISONMENT FOR FIVE YEARS.

FURTHER ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE MARKING ORDER AND DEFINITION REGULATIONS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE TRADING STANDARDS INVESTIGATION BUREAU OF THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT ON TEL. 3-7600994.

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MONG KOK DB ELECTS UC REPRESENTATIVE

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THE MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD TODAY (THURSDAY) ELECTED MR STEPHEN HO FEI-CHI AS ITS REPRESENTATIVE ON THE URBAN COUNCIL.

MR HO DEFEATED THE OTHER CANDIDATE IN THE ELECTION, MR JUSTIN CHIU KWOK-HUNG, BY EIGHT VOTES TO SEVEN.

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/13 .....

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PRESENTATION OF CLASPS TO CSD STAFF  
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THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, MR CHAN WA-SHEK, WILL PRESENT CLASPS TO THE COLONIAL PRISON SERVICE MEDAL TO 22 STAFF AT A PARADE AT THE STAFF TRAINING INSTITUTE IN STANLEY TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON.

THE PARADE WILL ALSO MARK THE PASSING-OUT OF 53 RECRUIT ASSISTANT OFFICERS WHO HAVE COMPLETED SIX MONTHS OF BASIC TRAINING.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRESENTATION OF CLASPS AND THE PASSING-OUT PARADE TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT THE STAFF TRAINING INSTITUTE OF THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, 47 TUNG TAU WAN ROAD, STANLEY. THE CEREMONY WILL BEGIN AT 4 PM.

PRESS TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WHO WISH TO USE THE SERVICE SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE WANCHAI TOWER I, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, AT 3 PM SHARP.

PHOTOGRAPHERS ARE ADVISED TO BRING ALONG TELEPHOTO LENSES AS THERE WILL BE FIXED PRESS POSITIONS.

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INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN ON LOK TSUEN ON AGENDA  
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THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMERCE, INDUSTRY, AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS MEASURES TO PROMOTE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN ON LOK TSUEN, FANLING, AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

MEMBERS WILL ALSO EXAMINE THE ISSUE OF A LABOUR SHORTAGE IN THE TERRITORY, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION IN NORTH DISTRICT.

/A MEMBER .....

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A MEMBER WILL ENQUIRE WHETHER THE PRACTICE OF PART-TIME EMPLOYEES NOT BEING ABLE TO RECEIVE A PENSION, AND LARGE SCALE GARMENT FACTORIES ADOPTING THE CONTRACTUAL SYSTEM, CONFORMS TO THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE.

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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. IT WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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#### NEW SUB-OFFICE OPENS IN KOWLOON CITY

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A NEW SUB-OFFICE OF THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE HAS BEEN SET UP TO SERVE RESIDENTS OF THE LUNG SHING, KOWLOON TONG AND MA TAU WAI AREAS.

LOCATED ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF 68-74 JUNCTION ROAD, THE LUNG SHING SUB-OFFICE WAS OFFICIALLY OPENED TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT AN OPENING CEREMONY, THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ALEX FONG, SAID THE PLAN FOR THE SUB-OFFICE HAD BEEN IN THE PIPELINE FOR SOME TIME IN ORDER TO STRENGTHEN THE PROVISION OF SERVICES IN THE LUNG SHING, KOWLOON TONG AND MA TAU WAI AREAS, AND TO PROVIDE LIAISON.

HE SAID THAT SINCE THE LUNG SHING SUB-OFFICE HAD BEGUN OPERATIONS ON FEBRUARY 9, IT HAD HANDLED CLOSE TO 1,800 CASES, INCLUDING COMPLAINTS AND ENQUIRIES, INDICATING THAT IT WAS WELL RECEIVED BY THE RESIDENTS.

THE LUNG SHING SUB-OFFICE, LIKE OTHER DISTRICT SUB-OFFICES, OFFERS A WIDE RANGE OF PERSONAL SERVICES THROUGH ITS PUBLIC ENQUIRIES SERVICE CENTRE.

IT IS ALSO HEAVILY INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY LIAISON WORK AND KEEPS CLOSE LINKS WITH THE DIFFERENT SECTORS OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.

OTHER OFFICIATING GUESTS AT THE CEREMONY WERE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD, MR WONG SIK-KONG; CHAIRMAN OF THE LUNG SHING AREA COMMITTEE, MR MA YU-LEUNG; AND CHAIRMAN OF THE KOWLOON TONG AND MA TAU WAI AREA COMMITTEE, MR WONG DAT-SHOI.

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THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 1989

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TEMPORARY MOVE OF CSCT OFFICE  
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THE OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER FOR SECURITIES AND COMMODITIES TRADING WILL MOVE TEMPORARILY TO NEW PREMISES AT ALEXANDRA HOUSE IN CENTRAL FROM MONDAY (APRIL 3).

THIS IS TO ENABLE RENOVATION WORK TO BE CARRIED OUT AT THE OFFICE'S EXISTING PREMISES IN EXCHANGE SQUARE. THE RENOVATION IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY THE BEGINNING OF JUNE.

THE NEW ADDRESS OF THE OFFICE, AND ITS TELEPHONE MAIN EXCHANGE (WHICH REMAINS UNCHANGED), ARE AS FOLLOWS:

32ND FLOOR, ALEXANDRA HOUSE  
16-20 CHATER ROAD  
CENTRAL  
HONG KONG  
TELEPHONE MAIN EXCHANGE: 5-8427666  
TELEX NUMBER: 61919 SECUR  
FAXLINE NUMBER: 5-8105385

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NEW WATERFRONT DIVISIONAL POLICE STATION  
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THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW WATERFRONT DIVISIONAL POLICE STATION IN CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST, SHEUNG WAN.

THE PROPOSED DIVISIONAL POLICE STATION WILL BE OF A NEW STANDARD DESIGN CONSISTING OF AN EIGHT-STOREY BLOCK, A SINGLE STOREY PODIUM, A COVERED COMPOUND AND A DRILL YARD.

FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED INCLUDE OFFICES, REPORT ROOM, DETENTION CELLS, ARMOURY, RADIO EQUIPMENT ROOM, CANTEEN AND RECREATION ROOMS, BARRACK AND LOCKERS/CHANGING ACCOMMODATION AND LAUNDRY.

DOG KENNELS AND CARPARKING FACILITIES WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN JUNE AND BE COMPLETED IN FEBRUARY 1991.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF TENDERS IS NOON ON APRIL 21.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN KOWLOON FOR CHING MING FESTIVAL  
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN SHAM SHUI PO AND WONG TAI SIN FOR CHING MING FESTIVAL AND GRAVE-SWEEPERS ARE STRONGLY ADVISED TO USE PUBLIC TRANSPORT.

IN SHAM SHUI PO, FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY ON SUNDAY (APRIL 2) AND ON CHING MING FESTIVAL DAY (APRIL 5), WING MING STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE ON-STREET PARKING SPACES IN YEE KUK WEST STREET, YU CHAU WEST STREET, KING LAM STREET, WING HONG STREET AND TAI NAN WEST STREET WILL BE ALSO SUSPENDED.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC GOING TO THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CEMETERY ABOVE CHING CHEUNG ROAD ARE ADVISED TO USE CASTLE PEAK ROAD, YEE KUK WEST STREET AND KING LAM STREET.

ON THE SAME DAYS (APRIL 2 AND 5), VEHICLES HEADING FOR DIAMOND HILL CEMETERY IN WONG TAI SIN SHOULD TRAVEL VIA LUNG CHEUNG ROAD, PO KONG VILLAGE INTERCHANGE AND PO KONG VILLAGE ROAD AS TRAFFIC CONGESTION IS EXPECTED TO OCCUR AT THE JUNCTION OF HAMMER HILL ROAD WITH LUNG CHEUNG ROAD.

NO PARKING SPACES WILL BE AVAILABLE IN PO KONG VILLAGE ROAD AND HAMMER HILL ROAD.

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TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN KWUN TONG  
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL CONTINUE TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN KWUN TONG FOR ABOUT ONE WEEK FOR EMERGENCY WATER MAIN REPAIRS.

TSUN YIP STREET BETWEEN WAI YIP STREET AND HOI BUN ROAD WILL BE CLOSED.

HOI BUN ROAD BETWEEN TSUN YIP STREET AND LAI YIP STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY WESTBOUND.

SOUTHBOUND VEHICLES ON LAI YIP STREET AND HOW MING STREET WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO TURN RIGHT TO HOI BUN ROAD EASTBOUND.

MEANWHILE, VEHICLES ON HOI BUN ROAD EASTBOUND WILL ONLY BE ALLOWED TO TURN LEFT TO LAI YIP STREET.

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THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 1989

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TEMPORARY URBAN CLEARWAY IN TAI KOK TSUI  
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT FROM 10 AM ON SUNDAY (APRIL 2), THE NORTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF FOO KWAI STREET IN TAI KOK TSUI, NEAR ITS JUNCTION WITH THE UNNAMED ROAD BETWEEN POK MAN STREET AND FOO KWAI STREET TO A POINT ABOUT 25 METRES EAST OF THE SAME JUNCTION, WILL BE DESIGNATED AN URBAN CLEARWAY ROUND-THE-CLOCK FOR ABOUT THREE WEEKS.

ROAD WORKS WILL BE IN PROGRESS DURING THIS TIME.

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

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