



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SUBSTANTIAL BUDGET INCREASE FOR EDUCATION AND
EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMMES

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TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON THE EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMMES WILL BE SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASED IN THE COMING FINANCIAL YEAR.

UNDER THE PROPOSED DRAFT ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1994-95, THE GOVERNMENT IS PLANNING TO SPEND \$28,930 MILLION ON THE EDUCATION PROGRAMME AND \$827 MILLION ON THE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME.

EDUCATION SPENDING REMAINS THE SINGLE BIGGEST ITEM OF RECURRENT EXPENDITURE IN THE BUDGET. THE FUNDS EARMARKED FOR THE EDUCATION PROGRAMME REPRESENT A REAL INCREASE OF 6.5 PER CENT OVER THE REVISED ESTIMATE FOR 1993-94, AND THAT FOR THE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME IS UP BY EIGHT PER CENT.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (SUNDAY), THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, MR W K LAM, SAID THE OVERALL INCREASE "SIGNIFIES THE GOVERNMENT'S DETERMINATION TO CONTINUE TO STRENGTHEN AND ENHANCE SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC IN THESE TWO IMPORTANT PROGRAMME AREAS WHICH AFFECT OUR 1.3 MILLION STUDENTS AND 2.9 MILLION WORKFORCE."

SCHOOL EDUCATION MAINTAINS THE BIGGEST SHARE OF THE BUDGET, WITH A RECURRENT EXPENDITURE OF \$14,728 MILLION, WHICH IS \$643 MILLION HIGHER THAN THE REVISED ESTIMATE FOR 1993-94.

"THIS INCREASE IS MORE SIGNIFICANT WHEN VIEWED AGAINST A 2.8 PER CENT DROP IN ENROLMENT IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS," MR LAM SAID.

"THE ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE IS TO PAY FOR THE PROGRAMMES IN ENHANCING THE QUALITY OF SCHOOL EDUCATION THROUGH INCREASES IN THE NUMBER OF TEACHERS AND REDUCTION IN CLASS SIZES, PLUS THE NEW INITIATIVES ANNOUNCED BY THE GOVERNOR IN HIS 1993 POLICY ADDRESS," HE ADDED.

SOME OF THE SPECIFICS ARE:

- * \$152 MILLION - FOR 645 ADDITIONAL TEACHERS FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS TO REDUCE THE RATIO OF PUPILS TO TEACHERS;
- * \$108 MILLION - FOR THE HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION IN UPGRADING TEACHER EDUCATION;
- * \$103 MILLION - FOR REDUCING CLASS SIZES, INVOLVING 178 ADDITIONAL CLASSES AND 228 ADDITIONAL TEACHERS;
- * \$33 MILLION - FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE KINDERGARTEN FEE REMISSION SCHEME;
- * \$25 MILLION - FOR UPGRADING 374 GRADUATE MASTER POSTS IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS; AND
- * \$18 MILLION - FOR UPGRADING 180 TEACHING POSTS IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS TO GRADUATE STATUS AND AN ADDITIONAL 800 GRADUATE TEACHERS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

TERTIARY EDUCATION WILL GET AN ESTIMATED \$8,150 MILLION, A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE OF \$864 MILLION OVER THE FIGURE FOR 1993-94.

OUT OF THE ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE, \$635 MILLION IS GEARED TO CATER FOR THE GROWTH IN TERTIARY STUDENT NUMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERTIARY EDUCATION EXPANSION PROGRAMME. AN ADDITIONAL 1,980 FIRST-YEAR, FIRST-DEGREE PLACES WILL BE PROVIDED IN 1994-95.

"WE ARE WELL ON TRACK TO ACHIEVE THE DECLARED TARGET OF PROVIDING FOR 14,500 FIRST-YEAR, FIRST-DEGREE PLACES, OR 18 PER CENT OF THE RELEVANT AGE GROUP, BY 1994-95," SAID MR LAM.

"CONSIDERING THE SHORT TIME THAT WE HAVE ALLOWED FOR THE PLANNED EXPANSION, THE ACHIEVEMENT IS REMARKABLE INDEED, THANKS TO THE EFFORTS OF BOTH THE UNIVERSITY AND POLYTECHNIC GRANTS COMMITTEE AND THE TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS THEMSELVES TO DELIVER THE TARGET ON TIME, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME MAINTAINING THE QUALITY OF TERTIARY EDUCATION AT AN INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNISED STANDARD."

IN LINE WITH THE GOVERNMENT POLICY, MR LAM CONTINUED, AN ADDITIONAL \$161 MILLION WOULD BE ALLOCATED TO THE STUDENT FINANCE ASSISTANCE AGENCY TO BOOST THE LOCAL STUDENT FINANCIAL SCHEME FOR TERTIARY STUDENTS, AND ANOTHER \$49 MILLION FOR ACADEMIC RESEARCH BY LOCAL TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS.

FOLLOWING THE COMPLETION OF TWO TECHNICAL COLLEGES BY THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL, IN CHAI WAN AND TSING YI RESPECTIVELY, IN SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR, THE STUDENT ENROLMENT FOR DIPLOMA/HIGHER DIPLOMA COURSES IS EXPECTED TO BUILD UP TO 4,557 FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT IN 1994-95.

AN ADDITIONAL \$106 MILLION HAS BEEN BUDGETED FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION, INCLUDING THE STUDENT POPULATION INCREASE IN NEW TECHNICAL COLLEGES.

TURNING TO THE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME, MR LAM SAID \$14 MILLION WAS EARMARKED FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE NEW STAFF FOR IMPROVING LABOUR SERVICES AND ENHANCING INDUSTRIAL SAFETY.

"WE SHALL PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL 11 FACTORY INSPECTOR POSTS," HE SAID.

"TOGETHER WITH REDEPLOYMENT, THE ENFORCEMENT CAPABILITY OF THE FACTORY INSPECTORATE WILL BE ENHANCED CONSIDERABLY.

"WE SHALL ALSO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL RESOURCES, I.E. \$1.2 MILLION, TO INCREASE PUBLICITY ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY."

ANOTHER \$3.4 MILLION HAS BEEN BUDGETED FOR STAFFING A MINOR EMPLOYMENT CLAIMS ADJUDICATION BOARD WHICH WILL TAKE OVER MINOR WAGE DISPUTE CASES FROM THE OVERLOADED LABOUR TRIBUNALS.

MR LAM EMPHASISED THAT THE MODEST BUDGET FOR THE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME DID NOT REFLECT IN FULL THE VIGOROUS EFFORTS BY THE EDUCATION AND MANPOWER BRANCH AND THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT IN ENHANCING LABOUR WELFARE AND IMPROVING INDUSTRIAL SAFETY.

IN THIS RESPECT, HE SAID, A SERIES OF LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS WERE IN THE PIPELINE.

THESE INCLUDE PROPOSALS TO REMOVE THE CEILING OF 12-MONTH AGGREGATE WAGES FOR EMPLOYEES' ENTITLEMENT TO SEVERANCE PAYMENT AND LONG SERVICE PAYMENT; IMPROVE EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION TO INCLUDE INJURIES DURING TYPHOON AND RAINSTORM WARNING; PROHIBIT THE EMPLOYMENT OF YOUNG PERSONS UNDER 18 TO WORK ON CONSTRUCTION SITE; REQUIRE THE EMPLOYMENT OF FULL-TIME SAFETY OFFICERS FOR CONSTRUCTION SITES; AND INTRODUCE TWO NEW PIECES OF LEGISLATION TARGETED AT ACCIDENT-PRONE CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY, NAMELY SUSPENDED WORKING PLATFORMS AND BUILDERS' LIFTS.

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LOCAL YOUTH MOTIVATED ON AIDS PREVENTION AND EDUCATION

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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC COULD LEARN FROM PARTICIPANTS IN THE "YOUTH ACTION ON AIDS" FUNDING SCHEME THAT EVERYBODY COULD ASSIST IN EFFECTIVELY ORGANISING EDUCATION PROGRAMMES ON THIS DEADLY DISEASE.

THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MRS ELIZABETH WONG, MADE THIS REMARK WHILE OFFICIATING AT THE BEST PROJECT AWARD CEREMONY FOR THE SCHEME TODAY (SUNDAY) AT THE CITY POLYTECHNIC OF HONG KONG.

"PEOPLE OFTEN ASSOCIATE AIDS WITH DEATH. BEING IGNORANT OF THE DISEASE, SOME PEOPLE SHOW DISCRIMINATION AND PREJUDICE AGAINST THOSE INFLECTED, COMPOUNDING THE TRAUMA OF BOTH THE PATIENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

"THEREFORE, AIDS IS MORE THAN A DISEASE, IT IS A SOCIAL PROBLEM WHICH DESERVES ATTENTION FROM THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE," MRS WONG SAID.

THE FUNDING SCHEME, THE THIRD OF ITS KIND SINCE 1991, WAS ORGANISED BY THE WORKING GROUP ON YOUTH UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY ON AIDS.

IT WAS AIMED AT AROUSING YOUNG PEOPLE'S AWARENESS OF AIDS AND ITS SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS, ENCOURAGING AND MOBILISING THEM TO ORGANISE PROJECTS AND RELATED ACTIVITIES.

PROJECT PROPOSALS WERE INVITED FROM SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND YOUTH CENTRES IN TWO PHASES EARLIER IN 1993. AMONG THE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED, 20 PROJECTS WERE SELECTED AND EACH WAS GRANTED A CASH SPONSORSHIP FOR STAGING ITS PUBLICITY ACTIVITIES FROM JUNE TO DECEMBER IN THE SAME YEAR.

AMONG THESE CREATIVE AND INNOVATIVE ACTIVITIES WERE DRAMA SHOW, MOBILE EXHIBITION, FOOTBALL TRAINING PROJECT, CAMP, CRUISE, FUN FAIR, GET-TOGETHER NIGHT, QUIZ, PRODUCTION OF CARING CARD, CALENDER CARD, VIDEO AND OTHER AIDS EDUCATION RESOURCE MATERIALS AND RED RIBBON CAMPAIGN.

"THESE ACTIVITIES HAD WELL SERVED THEIR PURPOSE SINCE THEY WERE ORGANISED BY YOUNG PEOPLE WITH THEIR COUNTERPARTS AS THE TARGET AUDIENCE," MRS WONG SAID.

DURING THE CEREMONY, MRS WONG PRESENTED AN "OUTSTANDING PROJECT" AWARD AND A CASH PRIZE OF \$2,000 TO EACH OF THE BEST THREE PROJECTS.

THE RECIPIENTS WERE ST PAUL'S SECONDARY SCHOOL, THE HONG KONG FEDERATION OF YOUTH GROUPS - YAU TONG YOUTH CENTRE AND THE CARITAS OUT-REACHING SOCIAL WORK TEAM - TUEN MUN.

OTHER OFFICIATING GUESTS INCLUDED THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF HEALTH, DR MARGARET CHAN; THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR ANTHONY CHAN; AND THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE, MISS KAY KU. THEY PRESENTED SOUVENIRS TO ALL YOUTH GROUPS PARTICIPATING IN THE FUNDING SCHEME.

THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF HEALTH, DR MARGARET CHAN, ALSO PRESENTED A SOUVENIR TO THE STUDENT GROUP OF THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG WHICH ORGANISED AN EDUCATION PROJECT ON AIDS LAST YEAR.

AFTER THE PRIZE-PRESENTATION CEREMONY, THE WINNING GROUPS OF THE BEST THREE PROJECTS AWARD WERE INVITED TO PRESENT THEIR PROJECTS TO GUESTS.

EXHIBITION PANELS WERE ALSO SET UP AT THE VENUE TO DISPLAY THE WORKS OF OTHER PARTICIPATING YOUTH GROUPS SO THAT GUESTS COULD SEE FOR THEMSELVES THE MULTI-FACETED APPROACH ADOPTED BY YOUTHS IN THE PUBLICITY DRIVE AGAINST AIDS.

"EVERY ONE OF US HAS A ROLE TO PLAY IN PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF AIDS AND TO LEND OUR SUPPORT TO THE UNFORTUNATE ONES WHO HAVE BEEN INFLICTED WITH THE DISEASE," MRS WONG SAID.

"WHAT WE'RE FACED WITH IS NOT JUST A DISEASE WHICH AFFECTS THE INDIVIDUALS, BUT ONE WHICH HAS A BEARING ON THE COMMUNITY AND ALL HUMAN BEINGS AS A WHOLE," SHE ADDED.

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TOWER CONSTRUCTION OF KAP SHUI MUN BRIDGE TO START SOON

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CONSTRUCTION OF THE FIRST MAIN TOWER OF THE KAP SHUI MUN BRIDGE ON LANTAU ISLAND IS EXPECTED TO START NEXT MONTH.

THIS FOLLOWS THE COMPLETION OF THE TOWER'S FOUNDATION WORKS.

"THE WORKS ARE PROCEEDING ON TIME AND ON SCHEDULE," THE PROJECT DIRECTOR OF THE LANTAU FIXED CROSSING MANAGEMENT OFFICE OF THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT, MR K C YEUNG, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

THE CABLE-STAYED BRIDGE, WITH A TOTAL LENGTH OF 820 METRES, WILL LINK THE NORTH LANTAU EXPRESSWAY ON LANTAU TO A 503-METRE LONG VIADUCT SPANNING MA WAN ISLAND.

"ON THE MA WAN SIDE, SITE FORMATION WORKS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED. FOUNDATION WORK FOR THE MAIN BRIDGE TOWER THERE, AS WELL AS THE CASTING BED FOR THE SIDE SPAN AND MA WAN VIADUCT, ARE UNDER WAY.

"TWO CONCRETE BATCHING PLANTS, ONE ON LANTAU AND THE OTHER ON MA WAN, HAVE ALSO BEEN SET UP," SAID MR YEUNG.

THE KAP SHUI MUN BRIDGE AND THE MA WAN VIADUCT, PART OF THE LANTAU FIXED CROSSING, IS BEING BUILT BY KUMAGAI-MAEDA-YOKOGAWA-HITACHI JOINT VENTURE UNDER A \$1.64 BILLION "DESIGN AND CONSTRUCT" CONTRACT AWARDED IN DECEMBER 1992. DESIGNER FOR THE CONTRACT IS GREINER INTERNATIONAL.

THE LANTAU FIXED CROSSING IS ONE OF THE 10 PROJECTS IN THE AIRPORT CORE PROGRAMME.

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COMPLETED EIAs MADE PUBLIC

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THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT (EPD) TODAY (SUNDAY) RELEASED A LIST OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTS (EIAs) OF MAJOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS COMPLETED SINCE 1993, AS WELL AS A LIST OF THOSE MAJOR EIAs WHICH WOULD BE COMPLETED IN THE NEXT 12 MONTHS.

SIMILAR LISTS OF EIAs WOULD BE RELEASED EVERY THREE MONTHS.

"WE BELIEVE THAT THIS IS A VERY ESSENTIAL STEP TOWARDS PROVIDING BETTER ACCESS TO ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION. THE PUBLIC HAVE A RIGHT TO KNOW," EPD'S ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, MR RAYMOND CHAN, SAID.

UNDER EXISTING POLICY, GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS ARE REQUIRED TO DEPOSIT EIA REPORTS OF MAJOR PROJECTS COMPLETED AFTER JANUARY 1992, FOR WHICH THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE, AT THE RELEVANT DISTRICT OFFICES FOR PUBLIC REFERENCE.

PROONENT DEPARTMENTS ARE, IN ADDITION, NOW REQUIRED TO PLACE EIA REPORTS AT UC/RC PUBLIC REFERENCE LIBRARIES IN CITY HALL, HEADQUARTERS AND THE OMLEGCO LIBRARY.

"THERE IS AT PRESENT NO LAW REQUIRING THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO DO LIKEWISE BUT SO FAR THEY HAVE BEEN LARGELY CO-OPERATIVE," MR CHAN SAID.

"IT IS VERY IMPORTANT FOR PROJECT PROPONENTS TO MAKE THESE EIA REPORTS AVAILABLE.

"MAKING KNOWN THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURES FOR A PROJECT SHOULD BE SEEN AS BEING PART AND PARCEL OF GOOD PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT," MR CHAN SAID.

FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF EIA REPORTS COMPLETED BY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR SINCE 1993:

- * HUNGHOM BYPASS (HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT, JANUARY 1993)
- * LUNG CHEUNG ROAD FLYOVER HAMMER HILL ROAD TO NEW CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD (HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT, FEBRUARY 1993).
- * REHABILITATION OF MOUNT BUTLER QUARRY (CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, MARCH 1993)
- * LANTAU PORT AND WESTERN HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT STUDIES (CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, MARCH 1993)
- * CENTRAL KOWLOON ROUTE (HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT, MAY 1993)

/*ENGINEERING FEASIBILITY

- * ENGINEERING FEASIBILITY STUDY OF TSEUNG KWAN O AREA 137 (TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, MAY 1993)
- * SHUEN WAN LANDFILL EXTENSION AND RESTORATION (ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT, APRIL 1993)
- * ROCK HILL STREET EXTENSION (HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT, NOVEMBER 1993)
- * PROPOSED EXTENSION TO THE HONG KONG CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE (TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, NOVEMBER 1993)
- * FAIRWAY TO WENT (WESTERN NEW TERRITORIES) LANDFILL (ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT, NOVEMBER 1993)
- * GOLF COURSE IN TUEN MUN AREA 19 (REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, DECEMBER 1993)
- * 400KV ELECTRICAL SUBSTATION IN AREA 115, TSEUNG KWAN O (CHINA LIGHT & POWER CO LTD, JANUARY 1993)
- * TOWNGAS LANTAU LINK (THE HK & CHINA GAS CO LTD, JANUARY 1993)
- * HOK UN POWER STATION RESIDENTIAL REDEVELOPMENT (CHINA LIGHT & POWER CO LTD, FEBRUARY 1993)
- * HONG KONG ELECTRIC: ASH LAGOON AT LAMMA ISLAND (THE HONG KONG ELECTRIC CO LTD, MARCH 1993)
- * HONG KONG ELECTRIC: EXTENSION OF POWER STATION AT LAMMA (UNITS 7 & 8) (THE HONG KONG ELECTRIC CO LTD, APRIL 1993)
- * LAMMA QUARRY CASTING BASIN AND MODERATE QUARRY EXTENSION (LAMMA ROCK PRODUCTS LTD, MAY 1993)
- * REHABILITATION OF ANDERSON ROAD QUARRY (K WAH QUARRY CO LTD & PIONEER QUARRIES (HK) LTD, JUNE 1993)
- * CHINA LIGHT AND POWER: POWER STATION AT BLACKPOINT (CHINA LIGHT & POWER CO LTD, SEPTEMBER 1993)
- * RELOCATION OF GAS TURBINES FROM HOK UN POWER STATION (CHINA LIGHT & POWER CO LTD, NOVEMBER 1993)
- * MOBIL OIL TERMINAL: CONTAMINATED SOIL REMEDIATION AT SOUTH-EAST TSING YI SITE (MOBIL OIL (HK) LTD, DECEMBER 1993)
- * CONCORD OIL: CONTAMINATED SOIL REMEDIATION AT SOUTH-EAST TSING YI (CONCORD OIL (HK) LTD, DECEMBER 1993)
- * LANTAU AND AIRPORT RAILWAY (MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION, JANUARY 1994)

EIAS THAT ARE LIKELY TO BE COMPLETED IN THE NEXT 12 MONTHS:

- * TUEN MUN PORT DEVELOPMENT (TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT)

/*RELOCATION OF

- * RELOCATION OF SHIU WING STEEL MILL TO TUEN MUN (SHIU WING STEEL MILL)
- * WESTERN HARBOUR CROSSING CASTING BASIN AT SHEK O QUARRY (WESTERN HARBOUR CROSSING COMPANY)
- * SMITHFIELD ROAD EXTENSION (HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT)
- * SHA LO TUNG GOLF COURSE (SHA LO TUNG DEVELOPMENT CO LTD)
- * LANTAU PORT DEVELOPMENT - STAGE 1 : CT10 & CT11 (CONTAINER TERMINALS 10 AND 11) (PRELIMINARY DESIGN) (CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT)
- * KAU SAI CHAU GOLF COURSE (RECREATION AND CULTURE BRANCH)
- * ROUTE 3 - TING KAU BRIDGE AND APPROACH VIADUCT (HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT)
- * ROUTE 3 - TAI LAM TUNNEL AND YUEN LONG APPROACH ROAD (HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT)
- * ROUTE 5 - SECTION BETWEEN SHEK WAI KOK AND CHAI WAN KOK (TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT)
- * SHENZHEN RIVER EIA STUDY - PRELIMINARY REPORT (DRAINAGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT)
- * NWNT (NORTH WEST NEW TERRITORIES) REFUSE TRANSFER STATION (ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT)
- * PAK SHEK KOK RECLAMATION (CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT)
- * AVIATION FUEL SUPPLY SYSTEM (PROVISIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY)
- * BLACK POINT LNG (LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS) SUPPLY (CHINA LIGHT & POWER CO LTD)
- * CRPC OIL DEPOT RELOCATION/EXTENSION (CHINA RESOURCES PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS CO LTD)
- * SHEUNG SHUI SLAUGHTER HOUSE (ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT)
- * NWNT (NORTH WEST NEW TERRITORIES) LANDFILL RESTORATION (ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT)
- * LANTAU PORT DEVELOPMENT - STAGE 1 : CT10 & CT11 (ANCILLARY WORKS) (CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT)
- * CENTRALISED INCINERATION FACILITIES (ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT)
- * RESTORATION OF URBAN LANDFILLS STAGE II (ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT)
- * TUEN MUN AREA 38 (RECLAMATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE) (TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT)

FIRST FILM MADE UNDER HK - CANADA MOU

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THE SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE HAS APPROVED THE FILM "YOUNG OFFENDERS" AS THE FIRST CO-PRODUCTION PROJECT UNDER THE HONG KONG - CANADIAN FILM AND TELEVISION MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU), A SPOKESMAN FOR THE RECREATION AND CULTURE BRANCH SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

THE MOU WAS SIGNED BETWEEN THE CANADIAN AND HONG KONG GOVERNMENTS IN JUNE 1991.

THE MOU ENABLES HONG KONG AND CANADIAN FILM AND TELEVISION PRODUCERS TO POOL TOGETHER RESOURCES TO CO-PRODUCE HIGH QUALITY FILMS AND TELEVISION PROGRAMMES AND HAVE THEM CERTIFIED AS OFFICIAL CO-PRODUCTIONS.

A "CO-PRODUCTION" PROJECT CAN INCLUDE ANIMATION AND DOCUMENTARY PRODUCTION PRODUCED EITHER ON FILM, VIDEOTAPE OR LASERDISC FOR SCREENING IN THEATRES OR ON TELEVISION.

UNDER THE MOU, BOTH THE HONG KONG AND CANADIAN GOVERNMENTS HAVE UNDERTAKEN TO FACILITATE ENTRY OF CO-PRODUCTION PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT FOR SHOOTING PURPOSES. THE CANADIAN CO-PRODUCERS MAY ALSO ENJOY CERTAIN TAX EXEMPTIONS FROM THE CANADIAN AUTHORITIES.

"YOUNG OFFENDERS" IS A JOINT PRODUCTION OF CITIMEDIA LTD OF HONG KONG AND HOLIDAY PICTURES LTD OF CANADA. THE FILM FEATURES THE LIFE OF HONG KONG EMIGRANTS IN CANADA AND THE PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED BY SOME OF THEM.

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EXHIBITION ON PRIMARY SCHOOL ACTIVITY APPROACH

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A ONE-WEEK EXHIBITION TO PROMOTE AN ACTIVITY APPROACH FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS WILL BE LAUNCHED ON THURSDAY (MARCH 3) AT THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S RESOURCES CENTRE IN HOK YUEN STREET, HUNG HOM.

ON DISPLAY WILL BE TEACHER-DESIGNED GROUP ACTIVITIES, TEACHING RESOURCES AND MODELS. ALSO AVAILABLE FOR VISITORS WILL BE VIDEOS ON THE ACTIVITY APPROACH.

"THE EXHIBITION, IN WHICH 22 PRIMARY SCHOOLS ARE PARTICIPATING, ALSO AIMS TO ENCOURAGE TEACHERS TO EXCHANGE EXPERIENCE AND VIEWS IN THE DESIGN AND ORGANISATION OF GROUP ACTIVITIES," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

A MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR TIK CHI-YUEN, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY.

THE EXHIBITION, ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE, WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FROM 10 AM TO 4.30 PM FROM MONDAY TO FRIDAY AND FROM 9 AM TO NOON ON SATURDAY.

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FEAST FOR 1,600 ELDERLY IN NORTH DISTRICT
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ABOUT 1,600 ELDERLY PEOPLE AGED ABOVE 65 IN NORTH DISTRICT WILL BE TREATED TO A FEAST AS A TOKEN OF RESPECT FOR THEM TOMORROW (MONDAY).

SPONSORED BY THE NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD, THE FEAST IS ARRANGED BY THE NORTH DISTRICT COMMITTEE FOR ELDERLY ACTIVITIES EVERY YEAR AND IS ONE OF THE MAJOR ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT.

ENTERTAINMENT LIKE CHINESE OPERAS AND LUCKY DRAWS WILL ALSO BE OFFERED.

TWENTY-TWO OF THE OLDEST WILL BE PRESENTED WITH GOLD MEDALS BY THE NORTH DISTRICT OFFICER, MR TIMOTHY TONG; THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD, MR RAYMOND PANG; AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NORTH DISTRICT COMMITTEE FOR ELDERLY ACTIVITIES, MR BRIAN KAN.

THEY INCLUDE LI SAU-NGAN, AGED 101; YU SUN-KAM, AGED 100; HAU KIN-HING, AGED 97; LI HO, AGED 96; AND TANG SZE AS WELL AS LEUNG SAM-MUI, BOTH AGED 95.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

THE NORTH DISTRICT OFFICER, MR TIMOTHY TONG; THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR RAYMOND PANG; THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NORTH DISTRICT COMMITTEE FOR ELDERLY ACTIVITIES, MR BRIAN KAN; AND THE DISTRICT SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER (NORTH DISTRICT), MR LAM HARK-CHEE, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE EVENT.

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 4 PM AT THE CHOI SING PALACE RESTAURANT AT CHOI YUEN ESTATE IN SHEUNG SHUI.

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52 NEW BUILDING PLANS APPROVED
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THE BUILDINGS DEPARTMENT APPROVED 52 NEW BUILDING PLANS IN DECEMBER LAST YEAR.

OF THEM, NINE ARE FOR HONG KONG ISLAND, 20 FOR KOWLOON AND 23 FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE APPROVED PLANS INCLUDE 17 FOR APARTMENT AND APARTMENT/COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENTS, 15 FOR COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENTS AND EIGHT FOR FACTORY AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENTS.

IN THE MONTH, CONSENTS WERE GIVEN FOR WORK TO START ON 31 BUILDING PROJECTS, WHICH INVOLVE 46,694 SQUARE METRES OF USABLE DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA AND 71,387 SQUARE METRES OF USABLE NON-DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA.

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MEANWHILE, THE DECLARED COST OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED IN THE SAME MONTH TOTALLED ABOUT \$1,832 MILLION.

OF THE BUILDINGS CERTIFIED FOR OCCUPATION IN THE MONTH, USABLE FLOOR AREAS FOR DOMESTIC AND NON-DOMESTIC USE ARE 235,543 SQUARE METRES AND 49,589 SQUARE METRES RESPECTIVELY.

IN DECEMBER, THE DEPARTMENT ISSUED 34 OCCUPATION PERMITS - 12 FOR HONG KONG ISLAND, NINE FOR KOWLOON AND 13 FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES.

IN ADDITION, 32 DEMOLITION CONSENTS INVOLVING 51 BUILDINGS WERE ISSUED.

THE DEPARTMENT'S CONTROL AND ENFORCEMENT DIVISION RECEIVED 518 COMPLAINTS OF UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS, CARRIED OUT 1,421 INSPECTIONS AND ISSUED 958 REMOVAL ORDERS IN RESPECT OF UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS.

THE DANGEROUS BUILDINGS SECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT INSPECTED 1,268 BUILDINGS AND OBTAINED TWO EMERGENCY CLOSURE ORDERS.

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LAND GRANT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CENTRE

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THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL HAS APPROVED THAT A PRIVATE TREATY LAND GRANT BE MADE TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT (PSCE) FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A PERMANENT ENVIRONMENTAL CENTRE AT YAU YAT TSUEN, KOWLOON.

THE CENTRE, FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE CENTRE OF ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY, WAS ESTABLISHED BY PSCE AS A NON-PROFIT-MAKING BODY TO HELP HONG KONG'S INDUSTRY TACKLE POLLUTION PROBLEMS, ESPECIALLY THOSE POLLUTING INDUSTRIES OPERATING IN THE FLATTED FACTORIES OR OTHER FACILITIES WITH LIMITED SPACE.

CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW CENTRE IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN LATER THIS YEAR FOR COMPLETION BY LATE 1995.

THE NEW CENTRE WILL BE LOCATED AT THE CORNER OF TAT CHEE AVENUE AND TO YUEN STREET, EASILY ACCESSIBLE BY INDUSTRIES IN HUNG HOM, KWUN TONG, CHEUNG SHA WAN AND TSUEN WAN.

IT WILL BE BUILT AND FURNISHED WITH A \$55 MILLION DONATION FROM THE JOCKEY CLUB, THE HONGKONGBANK AND THE SWIRE GROUP.

THE NEW CENTRE WILL BE ACCOMMODATED IN A THREE-STOREY BUILDING WITH A GROSS AREA OF ABOUT 3,600 SQUARE METRES.

IT WILL PROVIDE BETTER FACILITIES INCLUDING AN EXHIBITION HALL AND AN ENVIRONMENTAL DATABASE CENTRE TO HELP INDUSTRY UPGRADE THEIR ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY.

THE PSCE'S CENTRE IS NOW TEMPORARILY HOUSED IN THE CITY POLYTECHNIC OF HONG KONG.

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