



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 842 8777

FRIDAY, JULY 27, 1990

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IMPROVED SECURITY AT VBP CENTRES

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THE FINANCE COMMITTEE TODAY (FRIDAY) APPROVED ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE OF \$57 MILLION TO FURTHER IMPROVE SECURITY AND LIVING CONDITIONS AT THREE VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE CENTRES.

THIS FOLLOWS A GOVERNMENT REVIEW OF STANDARDS AT ALL DETENTION CENTRES IN THE WAKE OF AN ESCAPE FROM WHITEHEAD DETENTION CENTRE BY 102 BOAT PEOPLE AND THE DISCOVERY OF SOME 2,500 OFFENSIVE WEAPONS, CAUSING CONSIDERABLE PUBLIC CONCERN ABOUT SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS GENERALLY.

THE THREE CENTRES IDENTIFIED AS REQUIRING SIGNIFICANT WORKS ARE WHITEHEAD, SEK KONG AND LO WU.

THE IMMEDIATE RESPONSE TO THE LARGE SCALE ESCAPES FROM WHITEHEAD INCLUDED THE DEPLOYMENT OF ADDITIONAL AND MORE EXPERIENCED CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT STAFF, AN INCREASE IN THE FREQUENCY AND INTENSITY OF PERIMETER PATROLLING AND THE INTRODUCTION OF A MORE EFFECTIVE RAPID RESPONSE ARRANGEMENT.

TO COMPLEMENT THESE EFFORTS, THE WHOLE LENGTH OF THE PERIMETER FENCE WOULD NOW BE REINFORCED BY STEEL PANELS, EXPANDED METAL MESH AND BARBED WIRE, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

"WITHIN THE CENTRE THERE IS A NEED TO STRENGTHEN THE GATES, WINDOWS, DOORS AND LOCKS. THE SIZE OF THE CENTRE ALSO MAKES IT NECESSARY TO INSTALL A CENTRAL ALARM SYSTEM WHICH WILL ENABLE THE MANAGEMENT TEAMS TO RESPOND QUICKLY TO EMERGENCIES."

THE SPOKESMAN SAID ADDITIONAL FUNDS WERE APPROVED TO IMPROVE SECURITY AT SHEK KONG THE MAIN ELEMENT IS THE STRENGTHENING OF THE PERIMETER.

"STAFF QUARTERS AND ASSOCIATED FACILITIES ARE IN SHORT SUPPLY AT WHITEHEAD AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITIONAL ACCOMMODATION ON SITE WILL PROVIDE FOR AN IMMEDIATE AND MORE EFFECTIVE DEPLOYMENT OF STAFF, ESPECIALLY IN CONTAINING TROUBLE," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

LO WU IS THE MAIN DEPARTURE CENTRE FOR VOLUNTEERS WAITING TO RETURN TO VIETNAM AND IT WAS DESIGNED TO ACCOMMODATE 600 PEOPLE. ANOTHER 400 PLACES WERE MADE AVAILABLE AT CAPE COLLINSON CENTRE WITH THE EXPANSION OF THIS PROGRAMME.

"IT HAS BECOME APPARENT THAT THIS SPLIT IS FAR FROM IDEAL WHILE THE USE OF CAPE COLLINSON HAS PRESENTED ITS OWN PROBLEMS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THEREFORE, IT HAS BECOME NECESSARY TO EXPAND THE FACILITIES AT LO WU IN ORDER TO CONCENTRATE RETURNING VOLUNTEERS AT ONE CENTRE, WHICH WILL MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO CLOSE CAPE COLLINSON."

THE PROGRAMME AT LO WU WILL INVOLVE THE CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITIONAL DORMITORIES, IMPROVEMENTS TO THE SANITATION SYSTEM AND THE STRENGTHENING OF THE PERIMETER FENCE.

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WHITE BILL ON REGULATION OF RETIREMENT SCHEMES PUBLISHED

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A WHITE BILL WHICH SETS OUT THE LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS ON THE PRUDENTIAL REGULATION OF PRIVATE RETIREMENT SCHEMES IS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

RELEASING DETAILS OF THE OCCUPATIONAL PENSION SCHEME (COMMERCE, TRADE & INDUSTRY ETC) BILL AT A PRESS CONFERENCE, THE SECRETARY FOR MONETARY AFFAIRS, MR DAVID NENDICK POINTED OUT THAT THE PUBLIC WOULD BE GIVEN TWO MONTHS TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS.

THE PROPOSALS ARE LARGELY THE SAME AS THOSE CONTAINED IN THE CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT ISSUED IN JUNE 1988.

"THE REGULATION OF RETIREMENT SCHEMES IS A NOVEL AND COMPLICATED SUBJECT AND PROPOSALS WILL AFFECT SOLICITORS, ACCOUNTANTS, ACTUARIES, AUTHORISED INSURERS AND TRUSTEES WHO ARE OR WILL BE INVOLVED IN THE OPERATION OF RETIREMENT SCHEMES.

"WE THEREFORE CONSIDER IT APPROPRIATE TO CONSULT THE PUBLIC AND THE PROFESSIONALS ON THE REGULATORY PROPOSALS IN THE FORM OF A WHITE BILL," HE SAID.

"THE PRIME OBJECTIVE OF THE REGULATORY SYSTEM IS TO ENSURE THAT RETIREMENT BENEFITS WILL BE PAID WHEN THEY FALL DUE," MR NENDICK EXPLAINED.

"IT IS NOT TO REQUIRE EMPLOYERS TO SET UP RETIREMENT SCHEMES OR TO SPECIFY A MINIMUM LEVEL OF BENEFITS," HE ADDED.

A SYSTEM OF REGISTRATION IS PROPOSED AND TO OBTAIN REGISTRATION, A RETIREMENT SCHEME MUST COMPLY WITH CERTAIN BASIC REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS. THESE INCLUDE SEPARATION OF ASSETS, PROVISION OF ADEQUATE FUNDING, CONDUCTING INDEPENDENT AUDIT AND DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION.

"THE BILL PROVIDES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGISTRAR OF OCCUPATIONAL PENSION SCHEMES AND SETS OUT THE REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS IN DETAIL.

"AN APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN AFFIDAVIT BY A SOLICITOR CERTIFYING WHETHER THE SCHEME IS SET UP UNDER TRUST OR AN ASSURANCE ARRANGEMENT AS WELL AS THE PROPER LAW OF THE SCHEME.

"A FURTHER AFFIDAVIT BY THE REGISTRAR, CERTIFYING THAT PROPER BOOKS AND ACCOUNTS ARE MAINTAINED, IS ALSO REQUIRED. THIS IS TO ENSURE THAT, AMONG OTHER THINGS, ASSETS OF THE SCHEME ARE SEPARATED FROM THOSE OF THE EMPLOYER," HE SAID.

/IN ADDITION

IN ADDITION TO COMPLYING WITH THE REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS, MR NENDICK POINTED OUT THAT A SCHEME'S "DESIGNATED PERSON" (I.E. A PERSON WHO UNDERTAKES TO PERFORM CERTAIN SPECIFIED DUTIES) WAS ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR SUBMITTING AN ANNUAL RETURN, ANNUAL AUDITED ACCOUNTS AS WELL AS AN ANNUAL AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE, AND WHERE APPROPRIATE, AN ACTUARIAL CERTIFICATE TO THE REGISTRAR.

"THESE PROVISIONS ENSURE THAT PROPER ACCOUNTS ARE KEPT, THAT THE SCHEME IS FUNDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES OF THE SCHEME, AND THAT ADEQUATE FUNDS ARE THERE TO MEET THE SCHEME'S LIABILITIES," HE SAID.

ON THE ROLE OF THE REGISTRAR, MR NENDICK SAID THE REGISTRAR WOULD NOT PLAY AN ACTIVE PART IN REGULATING PRIVATE RETIREMENT SCHEMES. "INSTEAD, A NUMBER OF INTERVENTIONARY MEASURES ARE AVAILABLE TO THE REGISTRAR IF THE SITUATION SO REQUIRES."

"HE MAY SEEK INFORMATION ON THE OPERATION OF THE SCHEME, INCLUDING AN EXTRAORDINARY AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE AND AN ACTUARY'S CERTIFICATE.

"HE MAY ALSO APPOINT A PERSON TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY INTO THE OPERATION OF THE SCHEME ITSELF," HE SAID.

"THE ULTIMATE SANCTION AGAINST NON-COMPLIANCE OF THE LEGISLATION IS DE-REGISTRATION. SCHEMES MAY BE DE-REGISTERED WHERE THERE IS A FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE REPORTING, DISCLOSURE OR FUNDING REQUIREMENTS OF THE BILL," HE SAID.

MEMBERS OF A DE-REGISTERED SCHEME MAY APPLY TO THE HIGH COURT FOR CERTAIN COURT ORDERS.

"FOR EXAMPLE, WHERE THE SCHEME IS SET UP UNDER HONG KONG LAW, THE HIGH COURT MAY ORDER THAT THE SCHEME BE WOUND UP. WHERE THE ASSETS OF SUCH A SCHEME ARE INADEQUATE TO MEET ITS LIABILITIES THE COURT MAY DETERMINE A SUM EQUAL TO THE SHORTFALL AND GIVE JUDGEMENT AGAINST THE EMPLOYER FOR THAT AMOUNT," MR NENDICK EXPLAINED.

HOWEVER, WHERE THE SCHEME WAS NOT GOVERNED BY HONG KONG LAW, THE COURT COULD NOT MAKE A WINDING UP ORDER, HE POINTED OUT.

"THE COURT MAY, UPON APPLICATION DIRECT AN INQUIRY INTO THE ENTITLEMENTS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SCHEME IN HONG KONG. WHERE THERE IS A SHORTFALL THE COURT MAY GIVE JUDGEMENT FOR THIS AGAINST THE EMPLOYER. MEMBERS MAY THEN SEEK ENFORCEMENT OF THE JUDGEMENT UNDER THE RELEVANT JURISDICTION," MR NENDICK SAID.

TURNING TO THE ROLE OF THE SCHEME MEMBERS, HE EXPLAINED THAT WHERE A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SCHEME SO WISH, A CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE COULD BE SET UP. "THE BILL PROVIDES THAT AN EMPLOYER IS REQUIRED TO CONVEY THE COMMITTEE'S VIEWS TO THE DESIGNATED PERSON OF THE SCHEME."

/FURTHERMORE, THE

FURTHERMORE, THE DESIGNATED PERSON IS ALSO REQUIRED TO FURNISH INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHEME TO THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE OR TO SCHEME MEMBERS UPON REQUEST.

THE BILL ALSO PROVIDES THAT THE TRUSTEES OR THE DESIGNATED PERSON OF A SCHEME SHOULD PROVIDE TO EVERY SCHEME MEMBER AN ANNUAL STATEMENT REGARDING THEIR ACCRUED BENEFITS.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS SET OUT IN THE BILL INCLUDE THE RESTRICTION OF THE EMPLOYER OR HIS ASSOCIATE FROM ACTING AS THE SOLE TRUSTEE OF A SCHEME AS WELL AS CERTAIN RESTRICTION ON THE INVESTMENT OF SCHEME ASSETS (I.E. UP TO 10 PER CENT IN THE EMPLOYER OR HIS ASSOCIATES' BUSINESS AND A PROHIBITION OF LOANS TO THE EMPLOYER).

THE CONSULTATION EXERCISE WILL INCLUDE THE SEEKING OF COMMENTS FROM CERTAIN PROFESSIONAL, TRADE AND ADVISORY BODIES.

"COMMENTS RECEIVED WILL BE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED WHEN THE GOVERNMENT PREPARES A BILL FOR INTRODUCTION INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL LATER THIS YEAR," MR NENDICK SAID.

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IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR TERTIARY EDUCATION EXPANSION APPROVED
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THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS APPROVED A RECOMMENDATION BY THE UNIVERSITY AND POLYTECHNIC GRANTS COMMITTEE (UPGC) ON THE IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME FOR THE FURTHER EXPANSION OF TERTIARY EDUCATION.

ANNOUNCING DETAILS OF THE DISTRIBUTION OF ADDITIONAL STUDENT NUMBERS, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT UPGC'S RECOMMENDATION WOULD PUT IN PLACE THE GOVERNMENT'S PLAN TO INCREASE THE PERCENTAGE OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE RELEVANT AGE GROUP TAKING FIRST DEGREES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 1994-95 FROM THE ORIGINAL TARGET OF 12.9 PER CENT TO NO LESS THAN 18 PER CENT.

IN ACTUAL NUMBERS, THIS WOULD MEAN BOOSTING THE NUMBER OF FIRST YEAR FIRST DEGREE PLACES FROM 10,510 TO APPROXIMATELY 15,000 PLACES.

"PART OF THE RECOMMENDATION IS TO EXPAND THE FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE) STUDENT PLACES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG AND THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG TO 11,500 EACH, RESULTING IN A TOTAL PROVISION OF 6,240 FIRST YEAR FIRST DEGREE PLACES.

"THE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED TARGET OF 5,070 FTE PLACES FOR THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY HAS BEEN REAFFIRMED, LEADING TO PROVISION OF 1,990 FIRST YEAR FIRST DEGREE PLACES," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

FOR THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC AND THE CITY POLYTECHNIC OF HONG KONG, THE LEVEL OF DEGREE PLACES OFFERED, WITHIN A TOTAL POPULATION OF 25,200 FTE STUDENTS, WILL BE INCREASED FROM 40 PER CENT TO 65 PER CENT. THE TWO POLYTECHNICS WILL TOGETHER PROVIDE 4,970 FIRST YEAR FIRST DEGREE PLACES.

PLANS FOR EXPANDING THE HONG KONG BAPTIST COLLEGE WILL BE BROUGHT FORWARD TO ACHIEVE A STUDENT POPULATION OF 4,000 FTE, PROVIDING 1,110 FIRST YEAR FIRST DEGREE PLACES.

ANOTHER 690 FIRST YEAR FIRST DEGREE PLACES WILL BE PROVIDED BY LINGNAN COLLEGE WHICH WILL BE UPGRADED TO A DEGREE AWARDDING INSTITUTION WITH A TOTAL STUDENT POPULATION OF 2,000 FTE.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT UPGC'S PLAN WOULD REPRESENT THE SUREST WAY OF DELIVERING THE ADDITIONAL NUMBERS WITHIN THE TIGHT TIMETABLE ENVISAGED, WHILE MAINTAINING THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF QUALITY.

"THE UPGC WILL ALSO BE MONITORING THE PLAN CLOSELY AND WILL BE CONSIDERING MEASURES TO ACHIEVE MAXIMUM COST-EFFECTIVENESS, SUCH AS THROUGH THE REVIEW OF STUDENT: STAFF RATIO, AND TO ENSURE VALUE FOR MONEY GENERALLY.

"THE GOVERNMENT IS SATISFIED THAT UPGC'S RECOMMENDATION WILL ENSURE THAT INCREASED PROVISION OF PLACES WILL NOT BE ACHIEVED AT THE EXPENSE OF QUALITY. THIS ALSO TAKES INTO ACCOUNT THE NEED FOR BALANCED GROWTH BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITY AND NON-UNIVERSITY SECTORS," HE ADDED.

AS A RESULT OF THE DECISION TO FURTHER EXPAND TERTIARY EDUCATION AND THE UPGC'S RECOMMENDATION TO LIMIT DEGREE PLACES AT THE TWO POLYTECHNICS TO 65 PER CENT, SOME OF THE EXISTING AND PLANNED SUB-DEGREE LEVEL COURSES HAVE TO BE TRANSFERRED FROM THE TWO POLYTECHNICS TO THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL (VTC) SO THAT BY 1996-97, 16,200 SUB-DEGREE FTES WILL BE PROVIDED WITH THE TWO POLYTECHNICS EACH PROVIDING 4,725 AND THE VTC 6,750.

"TO PUT THIS INTO EFFECT, A NUMBER OF PROPOSALS ON NEW FACILITIES AND EXPANSION OF EXISTING ONES FOR THE VTC WERE ACCEPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

A NEW TECHNICAL COLLEGE WILL BE BUILT AT TSING YI TO PROVIDE ACCOMMODATION FOR 3,400 FTE. THE BUILDING WILL BE DESIGNED IN SUCH A WAY TO ALLOW FOR FUTURE EXPANSION.

THE CHAI WAN TECHNICAL INSTITUTE WILL BE EXPANDED AND UPGRADED TO A TECHNICAL COLLEGE TO ACCOMMODATE A FURTHER 3,350 FTE.

THE REMAINING SEVEN TECHNICAL INSTITUTES OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL WILL BE MODIFIED AND EXPANDED TO TAKE ON THE TECHNICIAN COURSES DECANTED FROM THE CHAI WAN TECHNICAL INSTITUTE.

A NEW TRAINING CENTRE COMPLEX SITUATED AT POKFULAM WILL BE CONSTRUCTED BY AUGUST 1992 TO ACCOMMODATE ALL THE CRAFT COURSES DISPLACED FROM THE EIGHT TECHNICAL INSTITUTES.

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"THE ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL CAPITAL COST AT MID-1990 PRICES FOR THE UPGC AND THE VTC COMPONENTS OF THE TERTIARY EXPANSION PROGRAMME IS \$2,071 MILLION.

"BASED ON EXISTING SALARY SCALES AND ON THE AVERAGE UNIT COSTS UPDATED TO MID-1991 PRICES, THE UPGC ESTIMATES THAT THE ADDITIONAL RECURRENT EXPENDITURE REQUIRED FOR THE UPGC COMPONENT OF THE EXPANSION PROGRAMME WOULD AMOUNT TO \$2,341 MILLION OVER THE FOUR YEARS 1991-92 TO 1994-95. THE ESTIMATED RECURRENT COST OF PROVIDING 6,750 SUB-DEGREE PLACES AT THE VTC WOULD BE ABOUT \$405 MILLION AT MID-1991 PRICES," HE SAID.

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SIX INTERIM DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION AREA PLANS PUBLISHED

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FOLLOWING THE APPROVAL BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN PLANNING (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990 EARLIER THIS WEEK, THE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED THE PUBLICATION OF INTERIM DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION AREA PLANS FOR SIX AREAS IN THE RURAL NEW TERRITORIES.

THE SIX AREAS, COVERING A TOTAL OF ABOUT 3,782 HECTARES, ARE PING CHE AND TA KWU LING, KWU TUNG SOUTH, SAN TIN, MAI PO AND FAIRVIEW PARK, NAM SANG WAI, AND HO CHUNG.

THE TOWN PLANNING (AMENDMENT) BILL, WHICH WAS GAZETTED TODAY, HAS BEEN INTRODUCED TO EXTEND THE JURISDICTION OF THE EXISTING TOWN PLANNING ORDINANCE TO COVER THE RURAL NEW TERRITORIES SO AS TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT AND TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE TO PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT.

A PLANNING DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT CONVERSION OF AGRICULTURAL LAND IN THE RURAL AREA INTO OPEN STORAGE USES HAD GROWN AT AN ALARMING RATE OVER THE LAST YEAR, CREATING ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS FOR THE AREAS. TO AVOID FURTHER DETERIORATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT, IN PARTICULAR, TO CONTROL THE PROLIFERATION OF UNPLANNED URBAN ACTIVITIES AND INCOMPATIBLE LAND USES IN THE RURAL AREAS, THE GOVERNMENT HAD DECIDED THAT THERE WAS AN URGENT NEED TO INTRODUCE PLANNING CONTROL IN THESE AREAS.

UNDER THE PROVISION OF THE TOWN PLANNING (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990, HE SAID, THE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING MAY DESIGNATE AREAS AS INTERIM DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION AREAS WITHIN WHICH DEVELOPMENT SHALL NOT BE UNDERTAKEN OR CONTINUED OTHER THAN IN CONFORMITY WITH THE INTERIM DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION AREA PLAN OR WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE DIRECTOR.

/DEVELOPMENT IN

DEVELOPMENT IN CONTRAVENTION OF THE PLANS WOULD BE SUBJECT TO ENFORCEMENT PROCEEDINGS UPON COMMENCEMENT OF THE TOWN PLANNING (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE. ON ENACTMENT, THE INTERIM DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION AREAS WOULD BE INCLUDED IN STATUTORY DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION AREAS, AND THE DIRECTOR COULD THEN SERVE NOTICE REQUIRING REINSTATEMENT OF THE LAND TO THE CONDITION IT WAS IN IMMEDIATELY BEFORE THE GAZETTING OF THE PLANS OR RESTORATION OF THE LAND TO HIS SATISFACTION.

"FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH SUCH A NOTICE WOULD BE AN OFFENCE AND THE OFFENDER WOULD BE LIABLE TO A FINE OF \$500,000, IMPRISONMENT FOR ONE YEAR AND \$10,000 FOR EACH DAY DURING WHICH THE OFFENCE WAS PROVED TO HAVE CONTINUED."

WITHIN THE FIRST SIX INTERIM DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION AREAS, THE SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT ZONES HAD BEEN DESIGNATED TO ALLOW VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT AND OPEN STORAGE. THE MAI PO AND FAIRVIEW PARK AREA ALSO INCLUDED ZONINGS TO GIVE ADDITIONAL PROTECTION TO THE NATURE RESERVES.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT EXISTING USES WOULD BE TOLERATED WITHIN THE INTERIM DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION AREAS. ALSO, PERMISSION GRANTED BY THE DIRECTOR WOULD HAVE ITS EFFECT RETAINED WHEN THE INTERIM DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION AREAS WERE INCLUDED INTO STATUTORY DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION AREAS.

IF PERMISSION OF THE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING FOR DEVELOPMENT IS REQUIRED, AN APPLICATION FOR SUCH PERMISSION SHOULD BE SENT TO THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT, FOURTH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG. THE APPROPRIATE APPLICATION FORMS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE GENERAL REGISTRY OF THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT. INDIGENOUS NEW TERRITORIES VILLAGERS WISHING TO APPLY FOR SMALL HOUSE SITES IN AREAS COVERED BY THE NEW INTERIM DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION AREAS SHOULD CONTINUE TO APPLY TO THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICER.

THE INTERIM PLANNING PERMISSION AREA PLANS CAN BE INSPECTED UNTIL SEPTEMBER 27 THIS YEAR AT THE FOLLOWING PLACES:

- (A) THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN PUBLIC ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING ENTRANCE, ICE HOUSE STREET, HONG KONG;
- (B) PLANNING DEPARTMENT, FOURTH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG; AND
- (C) RELEVANT DISTRICT OFFICES AND DISTRICT PLANNING OFFICES.

COPIES OF THE PLANS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG AND KOWLOON MAP SALES SECTION, 10TH FLOOR, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 405 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON AT \$10 EACH UNCOLOURED AND \$60 EACH COLOURED.

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HK IS BUILDING FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

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THE IMMEDIATE TASK FACING HONG KONG IN THE NEXT SEVEN YEARS IS TO STRENGTHEN ITS ECONOMIC FOUNDATION AND TO PUT IN PLACE A POLITICAL AND SOCIAL STRUCTURE THAT MEETS ITS UNIQUE CIRCUMSTANCES, INCLUDING THE REALITY OF CHINA RESUMING THE EXERCISE OF SOVEREIGNTY OVER HONG KONG IN 1997.

THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR JOHN CHAN, SAID THIS TODAY (FRIDAY) AT A SEMINAR ON "HONG KONG/GUANGDONG - A SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP" IN GUANGZHOU.

SPEAKING ON "HONG KONG'S PORT AND AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY - BUILDING FOR THE 21ST CENTURY", MR CHAN SAID HONG KONG HAD MADE SOME DIFFICULT BUT IMPORTANT DECISIONS TO DEVELOP ITS POLITICAL SYSTEM AND PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE, TO IMPROVE ITS ENVIRONMENT AND TO PROVIDE FOR MORE AND BETTER SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES.

"THESE PLANS CARRY ON WELL BEYOND 1997 AND ARE ALL ESSENTIAL TO OUR FUTURE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND WELL-BEING.

"WITH THESE PLANS, COUPLED WITH OUR GEOGRAPHICAL ADVANTAGES AND OUR COMMITMENT TO THE PRINCIPLES OF FREE ENTERPRISE AND FREE TRADE, WE HAVE EVERY REASON TO BELIEVE THAT HONG KONG WILL REMAIN A BUSINESS CENTRE OF CHOICE WHERE HUMAN INGENUITY AND ENTERPRISE CAN FLOURISH," HE SAID.

ON THE AIRPORT, MR CHAN SAID THE NUMBER OF PASSENGERS USING KAI TAI AIRPORT HAD GROWN INCESSANTLY IN RECENT YEARS TO REACH MORE THAN 16 MILLION LAST YEAR.

"EVEN ON THE BASIS OF A CONSERVATIVE FORECAST WHICH ASSUMES AN ANNUAL GROWTH RATE OF FIVE PER CENT, KAI TAK WILL BE UNABLE TO COPE BEYOND 1996, AND AIR PASSENGER TRAFFIC WILL MORE THAN TRIPLE TO ABOUT 50 MILLION IN 2011," HE SAID.

MR CHAN SAID THE ECONOMIC DISBENEFITS OF NOT PROVIDING A NEW AIRPORT WERE OVERWHELMING - IN CASH TERMS THEY AMOUNTED TO SOME \$100 BILLION BETWEEN THE END OF 1996 AND 2010.

"THIS IS MUCH MORE THAN THE COST OF BUILDING A NEW AIRPORT AND ITS TRANSPORT LINKS," HE SAID.

LIKE THE AIRPORT, MR CHAN SAID, HONG KONG'S PORT HAD EXPERIENCED HIGH ANNUAL GROWTH IN UTILISATION IN RECENT YEARS.

LAST YEAR OVER 19,000 OCEAN-GOING VESSELS AND SOME 96,000 RIVER CRAFT USED THE PORT. IN TERMS OF CARGO OVER 85 MILLION TONNES WERE HANDLED, INCLUDING 4.5 MILLION CONTAINERS.

/"AGAIN, EVEN

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"AGAIN, EVEN AT A CONSERVATIVE GROWTH RATE OF 8.6 PER CENT PER ANNUM, WE FORECAST PORT CARGO TO INCREASE FIVE-FOLD BY 2011. I MIGHT SAY THAT THE AVERAGE ANNUAL GROWTH IN TRAFFIC OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS HAS BEEN NEARLY 14 PER CENT," HE SAID.

"KNOWING THAT WE WOULD NEED BOTH A NEW AIRPORT AND MASSIVE NEW PORT FACILITIES IN THE SECOND HALF OF THIS DECADE, WE HAD TO DECIDE WHERE THEY SHOULD BE PUT," MR CHAN ADDED.

"WE STUDIED OVER 40 DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES, AND HAVE OPTED FOR AN INTEGRATED APPROACH THAT PROVIDES THE BEST OPTIONS IN TERMS OF OVERALL DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF RESOURCES."

MR CHAN SAID THE PLANS WERE THAT THE NEW INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT WOULD BUILT ON CHEK LAP KOK ISLAND NORTH OF LANTAU AND WOULD COVER ABOUT 1,000 HECTARES.

"WITH APPROPRIATE DEMAND MANAGEMENT MEASURES, IT WILL BE ABLE TO HANDLE UP TO 80 MILLION PASSENGERS AND FOUR MILLION TONNES OF AIR CARGO A YEAR. IT WILL BE ABLE TO DEAL WITH 70 AIRCRAFT MOVEMENTS PER HOUR.

"THE FIRST RUNWAY SHOULD OPEN IN EARLY 1997; THE SECOND RUNWAY COULD BECOME OPERATIONAL TWO YEARS LATER IF DEMAND SO REQUIRES," HE SAID.

MR CHAN SAID THE GOVERNMENT INTENDED TO CREATE A STATUTORY AIRPORT AUTHORITY IN ORDER TO BUILD AND BRING THE AIRPORT INTO USE IN THE QUICKEST AND MOST EFFICIENT WAY. THE AUTHORITY WOULD CONSTRUCT AND MANAGE THE NEW AIRPORT.

HE SAID A PROVISIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED TO OVERSEE THE IMMEDIATE TASKS INVOLVED IN MOVING THE AIRPORT PROJECT FORWARD.

"AS TO FUNDING," HE SAID, "OUR INITIAL THINKING IS THAT THE AUTHORITY SHOULD BE FUNDED THROUGH GOVERNMENT EQUITY AND PRIVATE LOAN FINANCE; WE HAVE NOT, AT THIS STAGE, RULED OUT THE POSSIBILITY OF DRAWING ON PRIVATE EQUITY."

"TENANT FACILITIES AT THE AIRPORT (FOR EXAMPLE, AIRCRAFT REPAIR, AIR CARGO HANDLING, CATERING AND OTHER PASSENGER SERVICES) SHOULD BE LARGELY, IF NOT WHOLLY, FINANCED, AS THEY ARE NOW, BY THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

MR CHAN SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD JUST AWARDED A CONSULTANCY TO THE AMERICAN FIRM GREINER TO PREPARE A MASTER LAYOUT OF THE AIRPORT AND TO CARRY OUT CIVIL ENGINEERING DESIGN AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT. THE CONSULTANTS WERE EXPECTED TO REPORT BEFORE THE END OF 1991.

BEFORE THEN, HE SAID, THE GOVERNMENT EXPECTED TO TENDER FOR THE MAJOR SITE FORMATION WORKS INCLUDING SEAWALL CONSTRUCTION, RECLAMATION AND THE EXCAVATION OF CHEK LAP KOK.

/AS REGARDS

AS REGARDS THE PORT, MR CHAN SAID THE MAIN DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SHORT TERM WOULD INCLUDE TWO NEW CONTAINER TERMINALS EACH OF 1.5 MILLION TEU'S. THE FIRST BERTH OF THE FIRST OF THESE TERMINALS SHOULD BECOME AVAILABLE DURING 1993.

"WE WILL NEED THE SECOND ADDITIONAL TERMINAL BY EARLY 1995," HE SAID.

IN THE LONGER TERM, MR CHAN SAID, AFTER THE BRIDGE TO LANTAU WAS IN PLACE, NEW PORT DEVELOPMENT WOULD TAKE PLACE THERE.

HE SAID CONTAINER TERMINALS AND MULTI-PURPOSE BERTHS WOULD BE CONSTRUCTED INCREMENTALLY AND THE GREATER PART OF THIS DEVELOPMENT WOULD TAKE PLACE AFTER 1997.

MR CHAN SAID BOTH THE PORT AND THE AIRPORT WOULD BE SUPPORTED BY NEW AND EFFICIENT TRANSPORT NETWORKS WHICH WOULD INCLUDE A 12-KILOMETRE, SIX LANE EXPRESSWAY FROM THE AIRPORT, ALONG THE NORTHERN COAST OF LANTAU ISLAND, AND A 1.4-KILOMETRE SUSPENSION BRIDGE LINKING LANTAU WITH TSING YI ISLAND.

"A FEASIBILITY STUDY ON THE ROUTE HAS JUST BEEN COMPLETED AND WORK ON DETAILED DESIGN WILL START SOON. THIS ROUTE HAS BEEN CHOSEN AFTER CAREFUL ECONOMIC AND TRANSPORT EVALUATION OF SEVERAL ALTERNATIVES," HE SAID.

THERE WOULD ALSO BE A COMPLEMENTARY RAIL ACCESS AND THE GOVERNMENT EXPECTED DEDICATED EXPRESS TRAINS TO CARRY ABOUT HALF OF ALL AIRPORT TRAVELLERS IN THE MAXIMUM OF COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE, MR CHAN ADDED.

HE SAID IT WAS GOVERNMENT POLICY TO ENCOURAGE PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION IN TRANSPORT PROJECTS.

MR CHAN SAID THE EXACT DETAILS AS TO HOW SUCH PROJECTS WOULD BE PRIVATISED REMAINED TO BE WORKED OUT, BUT THE GOVERNMENT ENVISAGED THAT OPEN INVITATIONS WOULD BE MADE BEFORE NEXT YEAR TO PRIVATE SECTOR CONSORTIA, BOTH LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL, TO PARTICIPATE IN THESE PROJECTS ON THE BASIS OF "BUILD, OPERATE AND TRANSFER" ARRANGEMENTS.

HE SAID SOME WORK HAD NOW STARTED ON ALL THE TRANSPORT PROJECTS AND ENGINEERING FEASIBILITY STUDIES HAD EITHER COMMENCED OR WERE BEING PLANNED.

"THE NEXT STAGE IS DETAILED FINANCIAL ANALYSIS TO ENABLE US TO DECIDE WHICH PROJECTS SHOULD BE PRIVATISED AND IN WHAT FORM," MR CHAN SAID.

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JOINT STATEMENT BY HK GOVT AND GUANGDONG PROVINCIAL GOVT

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FOLLOWING IS A JOINT STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AND THE GUANGDONG PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT:

ON THE MORNINGS OF 25 JULY AND 26 JULY, SENIOR OFFICIALS FROM GUANGDONG AND HONG KONG RESPECTIVELY LED BY MR CHEN WEN-LI, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, PUBLIC SECURITY DEPARTMENT, GUANGDONG PROVINCE AND MR C A J SHEPPARD, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, OPERATIONS, RHKP HELD A FRIENDLY DISCUSSION AT SHENZHEN AND AT TAI PO, HONG KONG ON THE ISSUES OF ANTI-ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION, ANTI-SMUGGLING AND RELATED MATTERS.

BOTH SIDES HAVE EXCHANGED INFORMATION WITH RESPECT TO ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS FROM CHINA TO HONG KONG, SMUGGLING ACTIVITIES AT SEA AND OTHER ISSUES. THE MEETING AGREED FURTHER TO STRENGTHEN COOPERATION AND CONSIDERED MEASURES AND TACTICS IN ORDER TO COMBAT ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION, SPEED BOAT SMUGGLING ACTIVITIES AND IN PARTICULAR THE ILLEGAL TRANSPORTATION OF FIREARMS AND OTHER RELATED PROBLEMS BETWEEN THE TWO TERRITORIES.

DURING THE MEETING, FOR THE PURPOSES OF PROSECUTING THE SUSPECTS AND THE NEED TO CONCLUDE THE CASE AS WELL AS TO RETURN THE CARS TO OWNERS, THE HONG KONG DELEGATION REQUESTED THE GUANGDONG AUTHORITIES TO RELEASE THE THREE VEHICLES WHICH WERE CONFISCATED IN THE "3RD MAY" SMUGGLING INCIDENT. HAVING VERIFIED THE DETAILED PARTICULARS OF THE VEHICLES, AND HAVING CONSIDERED THE REQUIREMENT OF THE HONG KONG SIDE FOR EXHIBITS AND FOR CONCLUDING THE CASE, AND THE MORAL PRINCIPLE OF RETURNING STOLEN PROPERTY TO THE ORIGINAL OWNER, AS WELL AS THE FRIENDLY COOPERATION AND GOOD RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES, THE GUANGDONG DELEGATION AGREED TO RETURN THE THREE VEHICLES TO THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE. THE HONG KONG DELEGATION EXPRESSED THANKS FOR THIS.

BOTH SIDES EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE GOOD COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GUANGDONG AND HONG KONG POLICE.

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HK EXPRESSED CONCERN AT NO REAL PROGRESS IN GATT TALKS

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HONG KONG HAS EXPRESSED CONCERN AT THE LACK OF REAL PROGRESS IN THE CURRENT GATT URUGUAY ROUND NEGOTIATIONS ON TEXTILES.

SPEAKING AT THE MEETING OF THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE HELD IN GENEVA EARLIER THIS WEEK, THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRADE, MR T.H. CHAU, POINTED OUT THAT THERE COULD BE NO PROGRESS UNLESS THE MAJOR PARTICIPANTS WERE PREPARED TO ADDRESS SUBSTANTIVELY THE FUNDAMENTALS IN SUCH IMPORTANT ISSUES AS TEXTILES.

/"WE NEED

"WE NEED IN THIS AREA AN INJECTION OF UNEQUIVOCAL POLITICAL WILL FROM THE MAJOR PARTICIPANTS IN ORDER TO GET OVER THE PRESENT IMPASSE," MR CHAU SAID IN HIS STATEMENT TO THE MEETING WHICH WAS ATTENDED BY SENIOR OFFICIALS FROM SOME 105 COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES PARTICIPATING IN THE URUGUAY ROUND OF MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS.

THE TALKS, WHICH STARTED IN URUGUAY ALMOST FOUR YEARS AGO, ARE SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION THIS DECEMBER. THE TEXTILES AND CLOTHING SECTOR IS ONE OF THE MOST DIFFICULT COVERED BY THE NEGOTIATIONS.

A BASIC PROBLEM IN THE TEXTILES NEGOTIATIONS IS THE FAILURE TO DATE TO AGREE ON THE MODALITY FOR THE PHASING OUT OF MFA RESTRICTIONS AND INTEGRATION OF THE SECTOR INTO THE GATT.

INSISTENCE UPON GLOBAL QUOTAS BY THE U.S. AND CANADA HAS BROUGHT THE NEGOTIATIONS TO A VIRTUAL STANDSTILL, MR CHAU SAID.

ON ANTI-DUMPING, ANOTHER AREA OF PARTICULAR CONCERN TO HONG KONG, HONG KONG HAS REJECTED THE DRAFT OF A TEXT PRODUCED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ANTI-DUMPING GROUP AS A BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS.

"THE DRAFT ENVISAGES AN EXTENSION OF ANTI-DUMPING INTO NEW AREAS, WHILE PROPOSALS TO INTRODUCE GREATER DISCIPLINES ON THE USE OF ANTI-DUMPING MEASURES HAVE AT BEST ONLY BEEN PARTIALLY REFLECTED IN THE PAPER," MR CHAU SAID.

HONG KONG ALSO TOLD THE MEETING OF THE CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE IT ATTACHED TO THE CONCLUSION OF A COMPREHENSIVE AGREEMENT ON SAFEGUARDS (I.E. EMERGENCY ACTION TO RESTRICT INJURIOUS IMPORTS) BASED ON THE MOST FAVOURED NATION PRINCIPLE.

"HONG KONG IS ENCOURAGED TO NOTE THAT THE OVERRIDING SENSE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS IS FOR A SOLIDLY NON-SELECTIVE AGREEMENT, WHICH IS IMPORTANT GIVEN THAT WE ARE TO BRING SUCH SENSITIVE SECTORS AS AGRICULTURE AND TEXTILES INTO THE GENERAL GATT FRAMEWORK," MR CHAU SAID.

SPEAKING AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE FOUR-DAY MEETING, MR CHAU SAID THE LACK OF SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION ON THE OBSTACLES IN THE VARIOUS NEGOTIATING AREAS WAS RATHER DISAPPOINTING.

ON THE OTHER HAND, HE WAS ENCOURAGED BY THE AGREEMENT REACHED ON A WORK PROGRAMME AND TIMETABLE FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS IN THE RUN-UP TO THEIR CONCLUSION IN DECEMBER. HE REMAINED REASONABLY OPTIMISTIC THAT THEY WOULD CONCLUDE ON TIME.

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TWO NT LOTS FOR SALE BY AUCTION

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TWO GOVERNMENT LOTS WILL BE OFFERED FOR SALE BY THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT AT A PUBLIC AUCTION ON AUGUST 21.

THE AUCTION, TO BE HELD AT THE JADE BALLROOM OF FURAMA HOTEL, WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

THE FIRST LOT IS A 2,476-SQUARE-METRE SITE AT AREA 25, ON LOK TSUEN, FANLING. IT IS FOR INDUSTRIAL AND/OR GODOWN PURPOSE (EXCLUDING OFFENSIVE TRADE).

ACCORDING TO THE BUILDING COVENANT, A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 7,428 SQUARE METRES HAS TO BE COMPLETED ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, 1994.

THE OTHER LOT IS LOCATED AT AREA 2A, TUEN MUN, AND HAS AN AREA OF ABOUT 6,700 SQUARE METRES.

IT IS FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL (EXCLUDING GODOWN) PURPOSES. THE DEVELOPER HAS TO COMPLETE A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 20,100 SQUARE METRES WITHIN 48 MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF POSSESSION.

FULL PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE 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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AIRPORT RESCUE VESSEL COMMISSIONED

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A NEW AIRPORT RESCUE VESSEL, CIVIL AVIATION 3, WHICH COST \$10 MILLION TO BUILD AND EQUIP, WAS TODAY (FRIDAY) COMMISSIONED BY THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MRS ANSON CHAN.

THE 23-METRE, ALUMINIUM CATAMARAN, WAS BUILT IN A LOCAL SHIPYARD AND REPLACES THE EXISTING CATAMARAN WHICH WAS BROUGHT INTO SERVICE IN 1973.

SPEAKING AT THE COMMISSIONING CEREMONY, MRS CHAN SAID THE CATAMARAN WAS THE FASTEST FIRE BOAT IN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE ONLY FIRE-FIGHTING BOAT WITH RESCUE FACILITIES IN HONG KONG.

IT HAS A MAXIMUM SUSTAINED SPEED IN EXCESS OF 25 KNOTS WHICH MEANS THAT IT COULD, IF REQUIRED TO, REACH LEI YUE MUN FROM ITS MOORING POSITION AT THE AIRPORT SUB-FIRE STATION WITHIN SEVEN MINUTES.

IT IS HIGHLY MANEUVERABLE BUT STABLE, AND CAN CARRY 250 PERSONS ON BOARD PLUS 260 ON EIGHT LIFE RAFTS. IT COULD THEREFORE RESCUE A FULL PASSENGER LOAD OF A BOEING 747 AIRCRAFT SHOULD THIS EVER BE NECESSARY.

"IT HAS TAKEN 10 MONTHS TO CONSTRUCT THIS VESSEL TO THE EXACTING PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS SPECIFIED BY OUR CIVIL AVIATION, FIRE SERVICES AND MARINE DEPARTMENT," SHE SAID.

WITH THIS LATEST ADDITION TO THE AIRPORT FIRE CONTINGENT'S FLEET OF APPLIANCES, MRS CHAN SAID THE GOVERNMENT'S ABILITY TO RESPOND PROMPTLY AND EFFICIENTLY TO ANY ACCIDENT AT OR AROUND THE AIRPORT WOULD BE ENHANCED.

SHE NOTED THAT DESPITE THE CONSTRAINTS IMPOSED BY A SINGLE RUNWAY IN THE MIDST OF A VERY DENSELY POPULATED AREA, KAI TAK HAD COPEDED REMARKABLY WELL WITH THE INCREASING PRESSURES OF AIR TRAFFIC GROWTH IN RECENT YEARS.

"THE GOVERNMENT HAS SPARED NO EFFORTS TO IMPROVE FACILITIES AT THE AIRPORT BUT A GREAT DEAL OF THE CREDIT MUST GO TO THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO WORK AT THE AIRPORT, SOMETIMES UNDER VERY TRYING CIRCUMSTANCES.

MRS CHAN PAID TRIBUTE TO THE DIRECTOR AND HIS STAFF AND TO THE STAFF OF THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE, THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT, THE MARINE DEPARTMENT AND THE MANY OTHER DEPARTMENTS WHO CO-OPERATED IN ENSURING THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF SAFETY AND EFFICIENCY AT THE AIRPORT.

"WE HAVE A RECORD OF WHICH ALL CAN BE JUSTIFIABLY PROUD," SHE SAID.

/ALSO SPEAKING

ALSO SPEAKING AT THE COMMISSIONING CEREMONY, THE DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION, MR PETER LOK, NOTED THAT KAI TAK NOW HANDLED NEARLY 17.2 MILLION INTERNATIONAL PASSENGERS AND 99,700 INTERNATIONAL AIRCRAFT MOVEMENTS A YEAR.

"IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT AN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT OF SUCH A SCALE BE EQUIPPED WITH A MATCHING AIRCRAFT CRASH AND RESCUE SERVICE TO ENABLE US TO RESPOND TO ANY AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT OR INCIDENT OCCURRING AT, OR IN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF THE AIRPORT.

"THIS WE CERTAINLY HAVE AND WE ARE PROUD OF IT, IN TERMS OF SCALE OF EQUIPMENT AND THE STANDARD OF ITS CREW," MR LOK SAID.

THE NEW RESCUE VESSEL JOINED THE EXISTING FLEET OF APPLIANCES IN KAI TAK'S AIRPORT FIRE CONTINGENT WHICH COMPRISES 10 VEHICLES AND THREE VESSELS.

IN MARCH NEXT YEAR, ANOTHER VEHICLE WILL BE ADDED TO THE FLEET. IT WILL BE EQUIPPED WITH A JACKLESS HYDRAULIC WORKING PLATFORM TO ENABLE THE FIRE-FIGHTING TEAM TO COMBAT TAIL ENGINE FIRES ON TRIJETS.

MR LOK SAID THE COMMISSIONING OF THE NEW VESSEL REPRESENTED THE GOVERNMENT'S CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO STRENGTHEN AND UPGRADE THE AIRPORT'S FIRE FIGHTING AND RESCUE CAPABILITY.

IT ALSO EPITOMISES THE CLOSE CO-OPERATION AMONG THE FIRE SERVICES, THE MARINE AND CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENTS WHO TOGETHER EVOLVE THE SPECIFICATIONS, WITH THE MARINE DEPARTMENT SUPERVISING THE CONSTRUCTION AND ACCEPTANCE TRIALS.

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PROPOSED ROAD IMPROVEMENT SCHEME IN KOWLOON CITY

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THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT PROPOSES TO IMPLEMENT AN IMPROVEMENT SCHEME AT FU NING STREET AND SHING TAK STREET, KOWLOON CITY TO ENHANCE TRAFFIC CIRCULATION AT THE JUNCTION OF MA TAU CHUNG ROAD AND SUNG WONG TOI ROAD, WHICH IS CURRENTLY THE MOST CRITICAL JUNCTION IN THE VICINITY OF HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.

THE PROPOSAL INCLUDES RECONSTRUCTION AND CONVERSION OF FU NING STREET BETWEEN MA TAU CHUNG ROAD AND SHING TAK STREET TO ONE-WAY WESTBOUND, SHING TAK STREET TO ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND AND THE RELOCATION OF THE BUS TERMINUS IN SHING TAK STREET TO THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE ROAD IN ASSOCIATION WITH FOOTPATH WIDENING.

THE PROJECT IS SCHEDULED TO COMMENCE IN APRIL 1991 AND WILL TAKE ABOUT EIGHT MONTHS TO COMPLETE. THE EXTENT OF THE WORKS IS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE PLAN AND SCHEME MAY BE INSPECTED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AT THE FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT OFFICES:

- * CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY, HONG KONG;
- * KOWLOON WEST DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, YAU MA TEI CARPARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON; AND
- * KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE, 141-143 KAU PUI LUNG ROAD, FIRST FLOOR, KOWLOON.

ANY PERSON WHO OBJECTS TO THE PROPOSED WORKS SHOULD WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG NOT LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 25, 1990.

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ANNUAL REGISTRATION FEE FOR CERTIFICATION INTRODUCED

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THE TRADE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THE INTRODUCTION OF AN ANNUAL FEE FOR REGISTRATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT FOR CERTIFICATION PURPOSES.

UNDER THE IMPORT AND EXPORT (FEES) (AMENDMENT) (NO. 3) REGULATIONS 1990 PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY, A REGISTRATION FEE OF \$500, WHICH WILL BE EFFECTIVE FROM AUGUST 1, 1990, IS INTRODUCED FOR PERSONS REGISTERED OR TO BE REGISTERED UNDER REGULATION 7 OF THE EXPORT (CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN) REGULATIONS.

CONCURRENTLY, THE EXPORT (CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN) (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) REGULATIONS 1990 HAVE BEEN MADE TO PROVIDE FOR REGISTRATION WITH VALIDITY NOT EXCEEDING 12 MONTHS ON PAYMENT OF THE PRESCRIBED FEE.

MANUFACTURERS APPLYING FOR CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN MUST THEREFORE BE REGISTERED WITH THE TRADE DEPARTMENT AND THE REGISTRATION MUST BE RENEWED BY THEM ANNUALLY OR IT WILL LAPSE AUTOMATICALLY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRADE DEPARTMENT SAID PAYMENT OF THE PRESCRIBED ANNUAL FEE WAS ONE OF THE CONDITIONS FOR REGISTRATION OR FOR RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION FOR CERTIFICATION PURPOSES.

"AT PRESENT, THE REGISTRATION IS FREE OF CHARGE. BUT AS IT IS THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY THAT FEES AND CHARGES SHOULD RECOVER THE COSTS OF OPERATING THE ORIGIN CERTIFICATION SYSTEM, AN ANNUAL REGISTRATION FEE NEEDS TO BE INTRODUCED IN ORDER TO RECOVER THE ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS INCURRED BY THE GOVERNMENT IN REGISTERING PERSONS FOR CERTIFICATION PURPOSES," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE TRADE ADVISORY BOARD HAD BEEN CONSULTED AND SUPPORTED THE INTRODUCTION OF THE ANNUAL REGISTRATION FEE.

ANY ENQUIRIES ON THE SUBJECT MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE TRADE DEPARTMENT ON TELEPHONE NUMBER 737 2480 OR 737 2489.

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12 CIVIC EDUCATION SEMINAR FOR WOMEN
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THE IMPACT OF DIRECT ELECTIONS ON FAMILIES AND THE COMMUNITY WILL BE EXPLORED AT A SEMINAR ORGANISED BY THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

THE WAYS TO ENCOURAGE WOMEN TO PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS WILL ALSO BE DISCUSSED.

SPEAKERS AT THE SEMINAR WILL BE LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, MR ANDREW WONG, THE WORKER-IN-CHARGE OF CARITAS'S WOMEN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IN SHAU KEI WAN, MISS TSE YUEN-HING, AND TELEVISION PERSONALITY MS MARY CHEUNG.

THE EVENT IS A PRELUDE TO A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES AIMED AT PROMOTING CIVIC EDUCATION AMONG DIFFERENT SECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY.

ACTIVITIES TO BE HELD IN THE COMING MONTHS INCLUDE A SEMINAR FOR HAWKERS, AN AWARD SCHEME FOR OUTSTANDING YOUNG PEOPLE AND A CIVIC EDUCATION NIGHT.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CIVIC EDUCATION SEMINAR TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AT CLUB GRAND ON THE NINTH FLOOR OF GRAND PLAZA HOTEL, QUARRY BAY. THE EVENT WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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APPLY NOW FOR FEE ASSISTANCE SCHEME
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PARENTS REQUIRING FEE ASSISTANCE FOR THEIR CHILDREN ATTENDING DAY NURSERIES ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT THEIR APPLICATIONS NOW, A SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

EXISTING RECIPIENTS OF SUCH ASSISTANCE ARE ALSO REQUIRED TO APPLY AGAIN.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT APPLICATION FORMS WERE AVAILABLE FROM THE DEPARTMENT'S SOCIAL SECURITY FIELD UNITS AND FAMILY SERVICES CENTRES AS WELL AS ALL DAY NURSERIES.

TO FACILITATE APPLICATIONS TO BE MADE DURING THE PERIOD FROM JUNE TO AUGUST EACH YEAR, THE SOCIAL SECURITY FIELD UNIT, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF OPERATORS OF DAY NURSERIES, MAY ARRANGE FOR INTERVIEWS TO TAKE PLACE AT THE CENTRE CONCERNED FOR PROCESSING APPLICATIONS IN GROUPS.

/"THE AMOUNT

"THE AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE PAYABLE IS CALCULATED WITH REGARD TO THE FAMILY'S NET INCOME WHICH IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE FAMILY'S TOTAL INCOME AND THE RECOGNISED RENT," HE SAID.

THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE PAYABLE WOULD BE BASED ON THE APPROVED FEES BEING CHARGED IN NON-PROFIT-MAKING DAY NURSERIES, HE ADDED.

MEANWHILE, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE FINANCE COMMITTEE TODAY APPROVED THE INCOME BASELINE FOR MAXIMUM ASSISTANCE BE RAISED TO ONE AND ONE-THIRD OF THE EXISTING LEVEL, EFFECTIVE FROM THE 1990-91 SCHOOL YEAR.

UNDER THIS IMPROVEMENT, FAMILIES WITH NET INCOMES AT OR BELOW ONE AND ONE-THIRD PUBLIC ASSISTANCE BASIC SCALE RATE LEVEL WILL NOT HAVE TO PAY ANY FEES AT ALL, AND ALL REMAINING RECIPIENTS OF FEE ASSISTANCE WILL BENEFIT FROM REDUCTIONS IN THE LEVEL OF THEIR REQUIRED CONTRIBUTION.

THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF IMPLEMENTING THIS IMPROVEMENT MEASURE IS ESTIMATED TO BE \$9.6 MILLION IN 1990/91.

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PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF MARINE STOCKPILE AREA

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THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO CONSTRUCT A MARINE STOCKPILE AREA AT KWAI SHEK IN NORTH LANTAU.

THE AREA WILL BE USED FOR TEMPORARY STOCKPILING OF ROCK WHICH WILL BE SUBSEQUENTLY RECOVERED FOR USE FOR GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AS AND WHEN THE NEED ARISES.

THE PROPOSED WORK WILL BE CARRIED OUT WITHIN AN AREA OF ABOUT 41.7 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEA-BED NEAR KWAI SHEK OF NORTH LANTAU.

IN TSING YI, THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO GRANT A LEASE TO A CONTAINER SERVICE COMPANY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A JETTY.

THE OFFLOADING JETTY WILL BE BUILT WITHIN AN AREA OF ABOUT 1.25 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEA-BED OFF THE EAST COAST OF TSING YI ISLAND.

ALSO, THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO CONSTRUCT A SLIPWAY WITHIN AN AREA OF APPROXIMATELY 367.5 SQUARE METRES OF FORESHORE AND SEA-BED AT MAN YEE IN SAI KUNG.

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

/ANY PERSON

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ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HE HAS AN INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEA-BED INVOLVED MAY SUBMIT A WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 26, 1990.

THE NOTICE OF SUCH OBJECTION SHALL DESCRIBE THE INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT OF THE OBJECTOR AND THE MANNER IN WHICH HE ALLEGES HE WILL BE AFFECTED.

MEANWHILE, AUTHORISATION HAS BEEN GIVEN FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO UNDERTAKE SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS IN STANLEY.

THE PERMANENT WORKS INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN EFFLUENT PIPE ACROSS TWEED BAY BEACH FROM THE PROPOSED STANLEY SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT AND THE INSTALLATION OF A SUBMARINE EFFLUENT OUTFALL TO LINK WITH THE COASTAL EFFLUENT PIPE.

THE TEMPORARY WORKS COMPRISE WORKS ON THE TWEED BAY FORESHORE AREA, DREDGING AND BACKFILLING OF THE SEA-BED WITHIN THE LIMITS SHOWN IN THE GAZETTE NOTICE.

BOTH WORKS WILL BE CARRIED OUT WITHIN AN AREA OF APPROXIMATELY 39 HECTARES INCLUDING THE FORESHORE AT TWEED BAY AND THE SEA-BED BETWEEN TWEED BAY AND THE MOUTH OF TAI TAM BAY.

THE WORK WILL COMMENCE IN LATE THIS YEAR AND WILL BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF 1992.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA AFFECTED WAS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE OF AUTHORISATION PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HIS INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEA-BED INVOLVED WILL BE INJURIOUSLY AFFECTED BY THE ABOVE UNDERTAKING MAY DELIVER TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS A WRITTEN CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION ON OR BEFORE JULY 26, 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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TAX RELIEF FOR APPROVED CHARITABLE DONATIONS
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A REVISED LIST OF CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS AND TRUSTS WHICH HAVE, AS AT MAY 31 THIS YEAR, BEEN RECOGNISED AS EXEMPT FROM TAX UNDER SECTION 88 OF THE INLAND REVENUE ORDINANCE WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THIS REVISED LIST SUPERSEDES ALL PREVIOUS LISTS, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT SAID.

"THE INLAND REVENUE ORDINANCE PROVIDES, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN LIMITATIONS, TAX RELIEF FOR PERSONS WHO MAKE DONATIONS OF MONEY TO ANY CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS OR TRUST OF A PUBLIC CHARACTER WHICH IS EXEMPT UNDER SECTION 88 OF THE ORDINANCE," THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED.

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YAU TSIM TO LAUNCH FIGHT CRIME CAMPAIGN
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THE 1990-91 YAU TSIM DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME CAMPAIGN, WHICH FOCUSED ON THE THEME OF "JUVENILE DELINQUENCY AND HOME SECURITY", WILL BE LAUNCHED THIS SUNDAY (JULY 29) AFTERNOON.

IT IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE AND THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE WITH SPONSORSHIP FROM THE DISTRICT BOARD AND DISTRICT OFFICE.

AN OPENING CEREMONY, WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM, WILL BE OFFICIATED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT BOARD, MR YIP WAH; DISTRICT OFFICER, MR WONG HON-HO; POLICE REGIONAL COMMANDER, KOWLOON, MR PETER LEE LAM-CHUEN; ACTING POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDER, YAU TSIM, MR HARRY BLUD; AND CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, MR YANG TZE-KIANG.

A VARIETY SHOW FEATURING PERFORMANCES BY A MARCHING BAND AND POPULAR SINGERS WILL BE STAGED. ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS WILL BE "ROBOTCOP".

AN EXHIBITION ON CRIME PREVENTION WILL ALSO BE HELD.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 1990-91 YAU TSIM DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME CAMPAIGN WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM ON SUNDAY (JULY 29) AT THE NEW WORLD PLAZA, TSIM SHA TSUI.

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LEISURE AND ENTERTAINMENT LEAD TO A RELIEF OF STRESS

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LEISURE AND ENTERTAINMENT ACTIVITIES ARE AN ESSENTIAL MEANS TO HELP RELAX AND RELIEVE BUSY PEOPLE OF HONG KONG FROM STRESS, THE SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR A.K. CHUI, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE LEISURE AND HOBBY EXPO '90 AT THE HONG KONG CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE, MR CHUI SAID MANY PEOPLE TOOK PART IN VARIOUS KINDS OF INDOOR AND OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES AND CULTIVATED THEIR INTEREST AFTER WORK TO IMPROVE THEIR HEALTH AND WORK EFFICIENCY.

QUOTING THE FINDINGS OF A RECENT SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL WHICH ORGANISED THE EXPO, MR CHUI SAID SPORTS WERE ONE OF THE MOST FAVOURABLE PASTIMES OF HONG KONG PEOPLE, WITH JOGGING, CYCLING, SWIMMING, SAILING, WINDSURFING, CAMPING, FOOTBALL AND SQUASH BEING THE MOST POPULAR.

ON THE INCREASING CONSCIOUSNESS OF LOCAL PEOPLE ON HEALTH AND FITNESS, MR CHUI SAID INDOOR FITNESS EXERCISES WERE GROWING IN POPULARITY, LEADING TO A MUSHROOMING OF FITNESS CLUBS AND GYMNASIA.

"KARAOKE, THE LATEST FAD, HAS ALSO BECOME A POPULAR PASTIME AMONG OUR YOUTHS AND FAMILIES ALIKE," MR CHUI ADDED.

MR CHUI SAID OTHER FAVOURABLE HOBBIES INCLUDED DANCING, SINGING, FLYING KITES, PHOTOGRAPHY, MARTIAL ARTS, PHILATELY, ROCK CLIMBING, POTTERY PRODUCTION AND CHESS GAMES.

FURTHERMORE, HONG KONG PEOPLE WERE AVID TRAVELLERS. MR CHUI SAID STATISTICS SHOWED THAT LOCAL PEOPLE HAD MADE MORE THAN 20 MILLION TRIPS OVERSEAS LAST YEAR.

MR CHUI CONGRATULATED THE HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL FOR ITS SUCCESS IN ORGANISING THE EXPO WHICH HAD ATTRACTED MORE THAN 100 EXHIBITORS TO TAKE PART.

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SUSPENSION OF PAK SHA WAN CAR PARK

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 8 AM ON SUNDAY (JULY 29) TO 6 PM ON AUGUST 10, THE PAK SHA WAN CAR PARK WHICH IS LOCATED AT NORTH OF THE JUNCTION OF HIRAM'S HIGHWAY WITH THE ACCESS ROAD TO PAK SHA WAN FERRY PIER, IN SAI KUNG, WILL BE SUSPENDED.

THE ARRANGEMENT IS TO FACILITATE THE HOLDING OF THEATRICAL PERFORMANCES IN CELEBRATION OF THE KWUN YUM FESTIVAL.

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FRIDAY, JULY 27, 1990

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WATER CUT IN KOWLOON WEST
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FLUSHING WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN KOWLOON WEST WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 9 AM TO 9 PM ON SUNDAY (JULY 29) TO FACILITATE WATER WORKS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT CERTAIN PREMISES AT LAI CHI KOK, CHEUNG SHA WAN, SO UK, TAI WO PING, SHEK KIP MEI, YAU YAT CHUEN, SHAM SHUI PO, TAI KOK TSUI, MONGKOK, BROADCAST DRIVE, MARCONI ROAD, FESSENDEN ROAD, A SECTION OF LUNG CHEUNG ROAD BETWEEN NAM CHEONG STREET AND LION ROCK TUNNEL ROAD, AND BEACON HEIGHTS.

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