



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, MARCH 13, 1989

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PHA COMMITTEES MAKING GOOD PROGRESS

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THE COMMITTEES SET UP UNDER THE PROVISIONAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY (PHA), AND THEIR WORKING GROUPS, HAVE MADE GOOD PROGRESS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE AREAS OF WORK, THE PHA CHAIRMAN, SIR S.Y. CHUNG, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

THE COMMITTEES DEAL WITH AUTHORITY STRUCTURE, FINANCE, HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT, INTEGRATION OF PUBLIC HOSPITAL SERVICES, LEGISLATION, AND STAFFING MATTERS.

"PROGRESS IS CONSTANTLY MONITORED AND CO-ORDINATED BY THE STANDING COMMITTEE," SIR S.Y. SAID AFTER THE PHA HELD ITS THIRD MEETING THIS AFTERNOON.

THE COMMITTEES HAVE BEEN MEETING REGULARLY, AND MOST MEET ONCE EVERY TWO WEEKS.

FORTY-EIGHT MEETINGS OF THE PHA AND ITS COMMITTEES HAVE BEEN HELD SINCE THE PHA'S FORMATION IN OCTOBER LAST YEAR, IN ADDITION TO 16 MEETINGS AT WORKING GROUP LEVEL. SIXTEEN VISITS TO HOSPITALS HAVE ALSO BEEN MADE.

AT TODAY'S MEETING, THE PROGRESS OF WORK OF THE VARIOUS COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS WAS ALSO REVIEWED.

"IT WAS RECOGNISED AT THE OUTSET THAT PROGRESS IN THE WORK OF THE PHA DEPENDS A GREAT DEAL ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE OVERALL STRUCTURE FOR THE FUTURE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY.

"THE AUTHORITY STRUCTURE COMMITTEE HAS BEEN ACTIVELY CONSIDERING A NUMBER OF OPTIONS," SIR S.Y. SAID.

IN THE COURSE OF ITS DISCUSSIONS, THE COMMITTEE HAS CONCLUDED THAT THERE IS A NEED TO EXPAND THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT FUNCTIONS OF THE PUBLIC HOSPITAL SYSTEM.

THERE SHOULD BE MORE EMPHASIS ON SETTING AND REVIEWING STANDARDS OF PATIENT CARE, AND ON PROVIDING AN IMPETUS FOR CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT OF THE QUALITY OF SERVICE AND PROPOSING NEW INITIATIVES.

A CHANNEL OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT SHOULD ALSO BE INTRODUCED THROUGH INVOLVING THE PUBLIC AND INDIVIDUAL HOSPITALS IN COMMITTEES AT THE HEADQUARTERS AND REGIONALS LEVELS.

THE AIM IS TO PROMOTE BETTER COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE RECIPIENTS AND PROVIDERS OF PUBLIC HOSPITAL SERVICES.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HAS STARTED CONSIDERATION OF THE MEMORANDUM OF ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS WHICH WILL SET OUT THE DETAILED RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE AUTHORITY AND THE GOVERNMENT.

/"ASPECTS UNDER .....

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"ASPECTS UNDER CLOSE SCRUTINY ARE THE PRINCIPLES OF SUBVENTION, THE WAY THE AUTHORITY'S INCOME SHOULD BE TREATED, THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF INTRODUCING NEW OR IMPROVED SERVICES AND THE TRANSFER OF STAFF FROM CIVIL SERVICE TO THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY," SIR S.Y. SAID.

THE STAFFING COMMITTEE, CHAIRED BY SIR S.Y. HIMSELF, HAS DECIDED TO ENGAGE AN INTERNATIONAL CONSULTANCY FIRM SPECIALISING IN PAY AND BENEFITS TO RECOMMEND TO THE PHA A PACKAGE OF NEW TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR HOSPITAL AUTHORITY STAFF, AND A CONTRACT FOR THIS WILL BE SIGNED SHORTLY. THE PACKAGE WILL BE A UNIFIED ONE, WHICH UPON APPROVAL BY THE GOVERNMENT, WILL BE OFFERED TO EXISTING CIVIL SERVANTS AND SUBVENTED HOSPITAL STAFF ALIKE.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE CONSULTANTS WILL START WORK IN APRIL AND COMPLETE THE ASSIGNMENT BY SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR. THEY WILL DETERMINE THE CURRENT OVERALL COST OF EMPLOYING CIVIL SERVANTS IN GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS, AND COME UP WITH A PACKAGE OF NEW TERMS WHICH WILL BE FLEXIBLE AND ATTRACTIVE TO STAFF, AT COMPARABLE COST TO THE GOVERNMENT.

THE WORKING GROUPS ESTABLISHED UNDER THE STAFFING COMMITTEE ARE DISCUSSING VARIOUS ASPECTS OF FRINGE BENEFITS AND OTHER TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT.

"THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY FRONT-LINE STAFF CO-OPTED ON TO THE WORKING GROUPS HAVE BEEN MOST ENLIGHTENING AND VALUABLE, AND THEY WILL BE PASSED ON TO THE CONSULTANTS," SIR S.Y. SAID.

SIR S.Y. SAID THE HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HAS BEEN LOOKING INTO THE STRUCTURE OF A TYPICAL OPERATING UNIT IN A PUBLIC HOSPITAL WITH A VIEW TO PRODUCING MODELS WHICH WILL BE CONDUCIVE TO EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT IN PUBLIC HOSPITALS AND STREAMLINING OPERATION.

"THE COMMITTEE HAS CONCLUDED THAT THE DEFICIENCY IN THE EXISTING ORGANISATION STRUCTURE, IN WHICH THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT OFTEN HAS NO EFFECTIVE AUTHORITY TO MANAGE THE HOSPITAL, SHOULD BE RECTIFIED," HE SAID.

"THE COMMITTEE ON INTEGRATION OF PUBLIC HOSPITAL SERVICES HAS ALMOST COMPLETED ITS FIRST ROUND OF CONSULTATION WITH THE BOARDS OF DIRECTORS OF SUBVENTED HOSPITALS. A TIGHT SCHEDULE IS BEING FOLLOWED.

"THROUGH THIS ROUND OF CONSULTATION, THE PHA WILL BE MADE AWARE OF THE CONCERNS OF SUBVENTED HOSPITALS ABOUT THE PROCESS OF INTEGRATION OF THE SERVICES IN BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND SUBVENTED SECTORS."

THE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE HAS UNDERTAKEN A PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION OF THE OUTLINE OF LEGISLATION FOR THE INCORPORATION OF THE AUTHORITY. MORE DETAILED DRAFTING WORK IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ONCE CERTAIN MAJOR DECISIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN BY THE OTHER COMMITTEES.

/TURNING FROM .....

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TURNING FROM THE SUBJECT OF COMMITTEE WORK, SIR S.Y. SAID THE WEEKLY VISITS BY PHA MEMBERS TO PUBLIC HOSPITALS WHICH BEGAN IN NOVEMBER LAST YEAR ARE CONTINUING.

"THESE VISITS ARE OF GREAT VALUE NOT ONLY IN FAMILIARISING PHA MEMBERS WITH THE WORKING CONDITIONS AND RANGE OF SERVICES PROVIDED IN THE EXISTING GOVERNMENT AND SUBVENTED HOSPITALS, BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY IN ESTABLISHING A DIRECT DIALOGUE BETWEEN PHA MEMBERS AND FRONT-LINE HOSPITAL WORKERS ON PROBLEMS OF MUTUAL CONCERN," HE SAID.

"THE VIEWS AND SUGGESTIONS MADE BY HOSPITAL STAFF DURING THE DISCUSSIONS AT THE END OF THE VISIT CONTRIBUTED MUCH TO THE CONSIDERATION OF THE PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED BY THE GOVERNMENT ITSELF."

THE NEXT PLENARY MEETING OF THE PHA WILL BE HELD IN MAY.

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#### REGIONAL SECRETARY VISITS SHA TIN

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THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR ADOLF HSU, WAS BRIEFED ON EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE POLLUTION SITUATION IN SHING MUN RIVER DURING HIS VISIT TO SHA TIN TODAY (MONDAY).

THE VISIT WAS THE FIRST OF A SERIES TO NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICTS BY MR HSU SINCE TAKING UP HIS PRESENT POST LAST MONTH.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR VICTOR YUNG, MR HSU FIRST WENT TO THE ROOFTOP OF A BUILDING IN GARDEN RIVERA FOR A PANORAMIC VIEW OF THE DISTRICT.

THERE HE WAS BRIEFED ON THE DETAILS OF A CURRENT PROGRAMME TO IMPROVE THE POLLUTION SITUATION IN SHING MUN RIVER.

MR HSU WAS TOLD THAT UNDER THE PROGRAMME THE WHOLE LENGTH OF THE RIVER WOULD BE DREDGED IN 1989-90 AT A COST OF \$7 MILLION.

AS A LONG-TERM MEASURE, THE GOVERNMENT WOULD ALSO SPEND \$770 MILLION IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS TO REDUCE POLLUTION IN THE RIVER.

THE PARTY THEN WENT TO MA ON SHAN, WHICH IS BEING DEVELOPED INTO A NEW TOWN WITH A TARGET POPULATION OF 200,000 BY 1998, COMPLETE WITH A TRANSPORT LINK WITH SHA TIN PROPER.

AFTER VISITING HENG ON ESTATE IN MA ON SHAN, MR HSU TOURED TIN SUM VILLAGE. HE WAS INFORMED THAT THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES IN THE VILLAGE HAD BEEN GREATLY IMPROVED FOLLOWING A VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT CARRIED OUT BY THE GOVERNMENT.

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DB'S BRIEFED ON BUS COMPANY PROFIT CONTROL SCHEME  
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THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEES OF FOUR DISTRICT BOARDS WERE TODAY (MONDAY) BRIEFED ON THE OBJECTIVES AND OPERATION OF THE PROFIT CONTROL SCHEME AS APPLIED TO THE FRANCHISED BUS COMPANIES.

AT THE REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEES OF THE SAI KUNG, TAI PO, KOWLOON CITY AND SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARDS, OFFICERS FROM THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT EXPLAINED THAT THE MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THE PROFIT CONTROL SCHEME ARE TO:

- \* ENSURE THAT PASSENGERS GET ADEQUATE AND RELIABLE SERVICES;
- \* ENSURE THAT PASSENGERS GET THE SERVICES AT REASONABLE PRICES;
- \* ENSURE THAT SHAREHOLDERS GET A REASONABLE FINANCIAL RETURN ON THEIR INVESTMENT, AND SO ENCOURAGE FURTHER INVESTMENT;
- \* KEEP THE COMPANIES FINANCIALLY VIABLE SO THAT THEY CAN COMPETE WITH OTHER COMMERCIAL ORGANISATIONS FOR FUNDS;
- \* ACHIEVE THE PRECEDING OBJECTIVES WITHOUT ANY DIRECT SUBSIDY FROM PUBLIC FUNDS, AND WITH MINIMUM INTERFERENCE FROM GOVERNMENT IN THE OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE COMPANIES.

THE PROFIT CONTROL SCHEME IS DESIGNED TO ENCOURAGE LONG-TERM INVESTMENT IN RESPONSE TO PROJECTED DEMAND AND AVOID SUDDEN CHANGE IN THE LEVEL OF REQUIRED IMPROVEMENTS OR FARE LEVELS.

BY MEANS OF THE FORWARD PLANNING PROGRAMME SUBMITTED BY THE BUS COMPANIES EACH YEAR, THE GOVERNMENT CAN ENSURE THAT THE CAPITAL EXPANSION PROPOSALS OF BUS COMPANIES ARE PROPERLY JUSTIFIED AND SUFFICIENT TO MEET INCREASING DEMAND; AND PREVENT ANY UNNECESSARY EXPANSION AND DELIBERATE OVER-INVESTMENT BY THE BUS COMPANIES TO BOOST PROFITS.

ALL FARE INCREASE APPLICATIONS ARE CAREFULLY EXAMINED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT AND THE FINANCIAL MONITORING UNIT OF THE ECONOMIC SERVICES BRANCH BEFORE CONSIDERATION BY THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC).

THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL APPROVES FARE INCREASES ONLY AFTER BEING SATISFIED THAT PROPER EXAMINATION HAS BEEN MADE AND THAT THE LEVELS SOUGHT ARE FULLY JUSTIFIED.

THE SECURITIES ORDINANCE PROVIDES THAT DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE FINANCE OF THE LISTED COMPANIES SHOULD BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL, LEST THE DISCLOSURE OF SUCH INFORMATION SHOULD AFFECT THEIR SHARE PRICES.

/HOWEVER, AS .....

HOWEVER, AS PUBLIC UTILITY COMPANIES, KOWLOON MOTOR BUS COMPANY (KMB) AND CHINA MOTOR BUS COMPANY (CMB) ARE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE INFORMATION IN CONFIDENCE FOR INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT BY THE GOVERNMENT, THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE, AND THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

THE LIMITED FINANCIAL INFORMATION MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC IS AS MUCH AS THE LAW (THE COMPANY ORDINANCE) REQUIRES THE FRANCHISED BUS COMPANIES TO DISCLOSE, AND IS AS MUCH AS THEY ARE WILLING TO RELEASE.

ANY LACK OF PUBLIC JUSTIFICATION FOR FARE INCREASES IS NOT BECAUSE THE GOVERNMENT IS UNWILLING TO DIVULGE THE INFORMATION; RATHER, IT IS BECAUSE THE INFORMATION IS OBTAINED IN CONFIDENCE AND THE GOVERNMENT WOULD BE IN A BREACH OF TRUST AND OF THE LAW IF IT DID SO.

THE PROFIT CONTROL SCHEME PROVIDES FOR A PERMITTED LEVEL OF RETURN OF 15 PER CENT FOR CMB AND 16 PER CENT FOR KMB. THE PERMITTED RETURN IS EXPRESSED AT A PERCENTAGE OF THE OPERATOR'S AVERAGE NET FIXED ASSETS IN AN ACCOUNTING YEAR.

THE PERMITTED RETURN IS THE GROSS RETURN TO THE COMPANY AND IS SUBJECT TO COMPULSORY DEDUCTIONS FOR THE INTEREST ON BORROWING TO FINANCE FIXED ASSET ACQUISITION AND THE INTEREST ON THE DEVELOPMENT FUND BALANCE UNDER THE TERMS OF THE FRANCHISE.

IN PRACTICE, THE EFFECTIVE OR NET RATE OF RETURN ACHIEVED FOR KMB HAS ONLY BEEN AROUND 13.4 PER CENT AND FOR CMB IT HAS BEEN ABOUT 14 PER CENT.

THE FRANCHISE PROVIDES THAT IF THE ACTUAL RETURN ACHIEVED EXCEEDS THE PERMITTED RETURN, THEN THE EXCESS WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE DEVELOPMENT FUND.

THE PUBLIC BUS SERVICES ORDINANCE PROVIDES FOR THE OPERATION OF THE PROFIT CONTROL SCHEME TO BE REVIEWED EVERY TWO YEARS. HOWEVER, THERE IS NO PROVISION TO REVIEW THE BASIC TERMS OF THE SCHEME, SUCH AS THE RATE OF THE PERMITTED RETURN.

THE FRANCHISE, AND THEREBY THE TERMS OF THE PROFIT CONTROL SCHEME EMBODIED IN THE FRANCHISE, ARE A LEGALLY BINDING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE FRANCHISED BUS COMPANIES WHICH THE GOVERNMENT CANNOT CHANGE UNILATERALLY.

SINCE THE INCEPTION OF THE PROFIT CONTROL SCHEME IN 1975, THE BUS COMPANIES HAVE, GENERALLY, GRADUALLY IMPROVED AND EXPANDED THEIR SERVICES TO MEET AN EVERGROWING DEMAND.

THE PUBLIC EXPECTS AND GETS RELATIVELY CHEAP, FREQUENT, AND, MOST OF THE TIME, RELIABLE SERVICES WITH GROWING STANDARDS OF COMFORT.

THE GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS THAT THE PROFIT CONTROL SCHEME, HAS BEEN ABLE, BY AND LARGE, TO ACHIEVE ITS OBJECTIVES, AND THAT NO DRASTIC CHANGES TO ITS BASIC TERMS ARE NECESSARY.

BRIEFINGS FOR TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEES OF ALL DISTRICT BOARDS ON THE PROFIT CONTROL SCHEME WILL BE COMPLETED BY APRIL 27 THIS YEAR.

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ARRANGEMENTS BEING MADE TO REPATRIATE 373 ECVII'S  
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THE GOVERNMENT IS MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE REPATRIATION OF 373 EX-CHINA VIETNAMESE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS (ECVII'S) TO CHINA.

"PARTICULARS OF THESE ECVII'S HAVE ALREADY BEEN VERIFIED BY THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES AND THEY ARE NOW READY FOR REPATRIATION," THE REFUGEE CO-ORDINATOR, MR MIKE HANSON, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

"ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING FINALISED WITH THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES ON WHETHER THE ECVII'S WILL BE SENT BACK IN ONE LARGE GROUP OR ON SEPARATE DATES.

"DEPENDING ON THE FINAL ARRANGEMENTS, THE REPATRIATION COULD BE AS EARLY AS SOMETIME NEXT WEEK.

"THE 373 ECVII'S ARE ALL FROM GUANGXI PROVINCE, COMPRISING 134 MEN, 112 WOMEN, 66 BOYS AND 61 GIRLS. OF THEM, 51 ARE INDIVIDUALS AND THE REST FROM 79 FAMILIES.

"THEY ARE AMONG A TOTAL OF 871 ECVII'S REMAINING IN HONG KONG."

MR HANSON SAID THEY WOULD BE THE SECOND BATCH OF ECVII'S TO BE REPATRIATED TO CHINA THIS YEAR.

"ON JANUARY 17, 88 ECVII'S WERE SENT BACK. LAST YEAR, ALTOGETHER 170 WERE REPATRIATED IN FOUR GROUPS," HE SAID.

SO FAR THIS YEAR THERE HAVE BEEN FOUR ECVII ARRIVALS. LAST DECEMBER THERE WERE 692.

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HK-JAPAN BILATERAL TRADE GROWING STEADILY  
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BILATERAL TRADE BETWEEN HONG KONG AND JAPAN HAS BEEN GROWING STEADILY IN RECENT YEARS AND THIS GROWTH LOOKS SET TO CONTINUE WITH THE EMERGENCE OF THE ASIA/PACIFIC REGION AS A DYNAMIC ECONOMIC FORCE.

THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF TRADE, MR MATTHEW CHEUNG, TOLD A LUNCH MEETING OF THE HONG KONG JAPANESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY THIS TODAY (MONDAY).

"JAPAN IS HONG KONG'S THIRD LARGEST TRADING PARTNER (AFTER CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES), ITS SECOND LARGEST SUPPLIER AND FIFTH LARGEST MARKET," MR CHEUNG SAID.

/HONG KONG .....

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"HONG KONG IS JAPAN'S FIFTH LARGEST MARKET - AND THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT MARKET ON A PER CAPITA BASIS.

"JAPAN'S SECOND LARGEST TRADE SURPLUS IS WITH HONG KONG."

MR CHEUNG SAID A 20 PER CENT GROWTH IN HONG KONG'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO JAPAN WAS RECORDED IN 1988, DOWN ON THE 52.8 PER CENT AND 38.7 PER CENT FIGURES FOR THE TWO PRECEDING YEARS.

"THIS WAS LARGELY DUE TO A DECLINE IN EXPORTS OF FUR GARMENTS WHICH ACCOUNTED FOR A QUARTER OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO JAPAN IN 1987," HE SAID.

"THIS DEMONSTRATES THE FACT THAT THE RANGE OF OUR DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO JAPAN IS STILL NARROW AND THAT THE PERFORMANCE OF A SINGLE IMPORTANT EXPORT ITEM CAN HAVE SUCH AN IMPACT.

"CLEARLY, THERE IS A NEED TO DIVERSIFY OUR EXPORTS TO JAPAN."

MR CHEUNG NOTED THAT HONG KONG'S RETAINED IMPORTS FROM JAPAN WERE FOUR TIMES ITS DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE OTHER DIRECTION AND THE BALANCE OF TRADE HAD CONSISTENTLY BEEN HEAVILY IN JAPAN'S FAVOUR.

"AS A FIRM BELIEVER IN FREE TRADE, HONG KONG BEARS NO GRUDGES AGAINST JAPANESE EXPORTS NOR DO WE DEMAND THAT BILATERAL TRADE BE BALANCED," HE SAID.

"HOWEVER, THIS HUGE BILATERAL TRADE DEFICIT IS A MATTER OF CONCERN TO US. IT IS UNHEALTHY. WE THEREFORE WELCOME THE EFFORTS BEING MADE BY JAPAN TO OPEN UP ITS MARKET FURTHER."

WHILE POINTING OUT HONG KONG'S GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION MADE IT A NATURAL AND EXCELLENT GATEWAY TO CHINA, MR CHEUNG SAID NOT MANY PEOPLE REALISED THAT SINO-JAPANESE TRADE THROUGH HONG KONG HAD INCREASED DRAMATICALLY IN RECENT YEARS.

"RE-EXPORTS OF JAPANESE ORIGIN GOODS TO CHINA VIA HONG KONG JUMPED FROM A MEAGRE \$40 MILLION IN 1978 TO A STAGGERING \$23.2 BILLION IN 1988 - UP 584 TIMES IN 10 YEARS IN HONG KONG DOLLAR TERMS," HE SAID.

HE SAID JAPANESE BUSINESSMEN WELL APPRECIATED THE ADVANTAGES OF INVESTING IN HONG KONG.

"JAPANESE INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG BEGAN TO GROW IN A CONSIDERABLE VOLUME TWO YEARS AGO AND REPRESENTS THE LARGEST JAPANESE INVESTMENT IN ASIA AND THE FIFTH IN THE WORLD DURING THIS PERIOD.

"JAPAN IS NOW THE SECOND LARGEST SOURCE COUNTRY AFTER THE UNITED STATES IN TERMS OF INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.

"ALMOST ONE IN SIX BANKS IN HONG KONG IS JAPANESE OWNED AND THERE IS HEAVY INVOLVEMENT IN THE CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME."

MR CHEUNG PREDICTED FURTHER CO-OPERATION AND TRADING LINKS IN FUTURE.

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HK SUPPORTS FIRM ACTION ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

HONG KONG'S LEGISLATION AND ENFORCEMENT IN PROTECTING INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS ARE AMONG THE TOUGHEST IN THE WORLD, THE TERRITORY'S MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC AND TRADE AFFAIRS, MR PETER LO, HAS TOLD A CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON.

IN ADDITION, MR LO SAID, HONG KONG SUPPORTED EFFORTS TO PROVIDE FOR STRONGER INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION OF TRADE-RELATED INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE FRAMEWORK OF THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE (GATT).

MR LO WAS SPEAKING AT A CONFERENCE OF THE BUREAU OF NATIONAL AFFAIRS ON "CUTTING EDGE ISSUES IN COPYRIGHT AND TRADEMARK LAW", IN THE US CAPITAL ON FRIDAY.

HE SAID HONG KONG WAS KNOWN AS A FREE PORT WITH NO TARIFF BARRIERS OR QUOTA RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS.

"HONG KONG'S PARTICIPATION IN THE GATT IS THE CORNERSTONE OF OUR EXTERNAL COMMERCIAL POLICY AND BECAUSE OF OUR FIRM COMMITMENT TO THE FREE TRADE PHILOSOPHY, WE SUPPORT AND ABIDE BY THE APPLICATION OF GATT PRINCIPLES AND MECHANISMS."

MR LO SAID HONG KONG WAS ALREADY A PARTY TO THREE MAJOR TREATIES GOVERNING INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS - THE PARIS CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY, THE BERNE INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT CONVENTION AND THE UNIVERSAL COPYRIGHT CONVENTION.

"IN ADDITION, HONG KONG PROVIDES BOTH CIVIL AND CRIMINAL REMEDIES TO DEAL WITH MALPRACTICES ASSOCIATED WITH TRADE MARKS, COPYRIGHT, INDUSTRIAL DESIGN, PATENTS AND TRADE DESCRIPTIONS VIOLATIONS," HE SAID.

THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT, WHICH WAS TASKED WITH POLICING AND ENFORCING THE LEGISLATION, HAD ALREADY MADE TANGIBLE RESULTS.

THE LATEST STATISTICS SHOWED THAT IN 1987 IT HAD MADE 1,290 SEIZURES OF COUNTERFEIT GOODS VALUED AT CLOSE TO US\$7.6 MILLION.

"WITH TOUGH LEGISLATION, EFFECTIVE ENFORCEMENT AND THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT'S DETERMINED POLICY TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE PROTECTION FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS, WE ARE SATISFIED THAT THE ILLEGAL TRADE AND INFRINGEMENTS HAVE BEEN LARGELY CONTAINED," HE SAID.

/BUT, MR .....

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BUT, MR LO WENT ON, SATISFIED AS HONG KONG WAS WITH ITS ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS SO FAR, IT WAS NOT BECOMING COMPLACENT FOR IT RECOGNISED THAT NO LEGISLATION WAS COMPLETELY INFALLIBLE AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES MUST EVOLVE IN RESPONSE TO CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES.

WITH THIS IN MIND, HONG KONG WAS CURRENTLY CARRYING OUT A REVIEW OF ALL EXISTING INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAWS APPLICABLE TO THE TERRITORY.

TWO SUB-COMMITTEES HAD BEEN SET UP UNDER THE INDEPENDENT LAW REFORM COMMISSION, ONE TO LOOK INTO COPYRIGHT (INCLUDING DESIGN LAW) IN GENERAL AND THE OTHER TO CONSIDER WHETHER THE EXISTING COMMON LAW RELATING TO "BREACH OF CONFIDENCE", OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "TRADE SECRETS", SHOULD BE REPLACED BY A STATUTORY ORDINANCE. THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS WERE EXPECTED BY THE END OF THE YEAR.

ALSO, MR LO SAID, A PATENT STEERING COMMITTEE, SET UP IN 1987, WAS LOOKING INTO HONG KONG'S PATENT LEGISLATION THAT WAS DERIVED FROM THE RELEVANT BRITISH ACT, WITH A VIEW TO REPLACING IT WITH A LOCALLY ENACTED ORDINANCE WHICH WOULD ENSURE THAT THE RIGHTS RELATING TO PATENTS IN HONG KONG WOULD CONTINUE TO APPLY AFTER 1997 WHEN HONG KONG BECAME A SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION OF CHINA.

FURTHERMORE, MR LO WENT ON, THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT WAS CONSIDERING THE INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION IN TWO OTHER AREAS.

ONE WAS THE STRENGTHENING OF THE TRADE MARKS ORDINANCE WHICH AT PRESENT PROVIDES ONLY FOR TRADE MARKS FOR GOODS, SO AS TO INCLUDE THE REGISTRATION OF TRADE MARKS FOR SERVICES.

THE OTHER WAS TO PROVIDE FOR THE PROTECTION OF A NEW FORM OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, THAT OF SEMI-CONDUCTOR CHIP DESIGNS AND OTHER ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DESIGNS (WHICH WERE ALSO BEING EXAMINED BY THE WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANISATION). IT WAS EXPECTED TO HAVE THE LEGISLATION READY BY 1990.

FINALLY, MR LO SAID, BECAUSE OF THE HEAVY LEGISLATIVE SCHEDULE OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS AND IN RECOGNITION OF THE GROWING IMPORTANCE OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS INTERNATIONALLY, THE GOVERNMENT WOULD BE SETTING UP ON APRIL 1, 1990, A NEW DEPARTMENT SPECIFICALLY TASKED WITH ADMINISTERING ALL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LEGISLATION AND POLICY DIRECTIVES.

ALL THESE MEASURES, MR LO SAID, DEMONSTRATED HONG KONG'S INTENTION "TO REMAIN AT THE FOREFRONT IN THE FIELD OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTION".

"WE WELCOME INITIATIVES BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO CURB COUNTERFEITING AND OTHER FORMS OF PATENT AND COPYRIGHT PIRACY AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS," HE ADDED.

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ENTRY SCHEME FOR MACAU RESIDENTS  
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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (MONDAY) THAT THE FOLLOWING EX-CHINA RESIDENTS OF MACAU HOLDING MACAU IDENTITY CARDS ISSUED BETWEEN DECEMBER 1, 1981 AND FEBRUARY 28, 1982 MAY APPLY FOR ENTRY TO HONG KONG:

- (I) HUSBANDS/WIVES (TOGETHER WITH THEIR CHILDREN) TO JOIN THEIR RESIDENT SPOUSE IN HONG KONG; AND
- (II) AGED PARENTS/DEPENDENT CHILDREN TO JOIN THEIR RESIDENT CHILDREN/PARENTS IN HONG KONG.

APPLICATIONS CAN BE SUBMITTED FROM MARCH 21 (TUESDAY) BY THE HONG KONG SPONSORS IN PERSON TO THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT, 61 MODY ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI EAST, KOWLOON.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE ENTRY SCHEME MAY BE MADE TO THE DEPARTMENT'S INFORMATION OFFICE ON 3-7333126.

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CSD BEGINNING RECRUITMENT EXERCISE  
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THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS TO SET UP NEW TEMPORARY RECRUITMENT CENTRES AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS TO INVITE YOUNG PEOPLE TO JOIN THE DEPARTMENT AS OFFICERS AND ASSISTANT OFFICERS II.

"THE TEMPORARY RECRUITMENT CENTRES FORM PART OF THE DEPARTMENT'S MAJOR RECRUITMENT EXERCISE TO BE LAUNCHED FROM THIS MONTH TO THE END OF THE YEAR," A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE SAID THAT THIS YEAR'S INITIAL TARGET IS TO RECRUIT MORE THAN 800 OFFICERS AND ASSISTANT OFFICERS II.

"WE MAY HAVE TO RECRUIT MORE OFFICERS IF AND WHEN MORE POSTS ARE CREATED IN THE COMING FISCAL YEAR," HE ADDED.

WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE, THE DEPARTMENT WILL SET UP THE FIRST NEW RECRUITMENT CENTRE AT THE PRINCESS ALEXANDRA COMMUNITY CENTRE IN TAI HO ROAD, TSUEN WAN, FROM WEDNESDAY (MARCH 15).

THE NEW CENTRE WILL HAVE THREE DISPLAY PANELS EXPLAINING THE WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT AND BE MANNED BY CORRECTIONAL SERVICES OFFICERS WHO WILL ASSIST PEOPLE IN MAKING APPLICATIONS AND ANSWER ENQUIRIES.

/PLANS ARE .....

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PLANS ARE IN HAND TO SET UP MORE CENTRES AT VARIOUS SHOPPING ARCADES IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES.

"OVER 5,000 APPLICATIONS WERE RECEIVED IN THE DEPARTMENT'S RECRUITMENT EXERCISE BETWEEN JULY AND DECEMBER LAST YEAR, AND SOME 500 NEW RECRUITS ARE NOW UNDERGOING TRAINING AT THE DEPARTMENT'S STAFF TRAINING INSTITUTE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

PEOPLE WHO WISH TO JOIN THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT CAN APPLY AT THE NEW RECRUITMENT CENTRE OR AT THE CENTRAL RECRUITMENT CENTRE AT THE DEPARTMENT'S HEADQUARTERS.

THIS IS LOCATED ON THE 23RD FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER I, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI. TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 5-275951.

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FASHION DEALER FINED \$861,606 FOR MAKING INCORRECT TAX RETURN  
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THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT HAS REMINDED TAXPAYERS THAT THEY MUST FILE CORRECT TAX RETURNS.

THIS FOLLOWS THE PROSECUTION OF A FASHION DEALER IN THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT TODAY (MONDAY) FOR MAKING THREE INCORRECT PROFITS TAX RETURNS WITHOUT REASONABLE EXCUSE CONTRARY TO SECTION 80 (2)(A) OF THE INLAND REVENUE ORDINANCE.

THE DEFENDANT, MISS ROSE CHEUNG YAT-MUI, AGED 31, IS THE SOLE PROPRIETRESS OF THE ROSE FASHION SITUATED IN CENTRAL. IT DEALS IN FASHION CLOTHING AND ACCESSORIES BOTH LOCALLY AND OVERSEAS, RETAIL AND WHOLESALE.

SHE PLEADED GUILTY TO THE THREE CHARGES BEFORE JUDGE GALL AND WAS FINED \$861,606, THE MAXIMUM THAT COULD BE IMPOSED UNDER THE ORDINANCE.

THE COURT WAS TOLD THE PROPRIETRESS HAD EMPLOYED BOOKKEEPERS TO MAINTAIN, UNDER HER DIRECTION, SUBSTANTIALLY ACCURATE BUSINESS RECORDS. SHE WAS ALSO REGULARLY KEPT INFORMED OF THE FINANCIAL STATE OF THE BUSINESS BY HER STAFF MEMBERS.

HOWEVER, BETWEEN JULY 1986 AND JUNE 1987, SHE FILED INCORRECT PROFITS TAX RETURNS FOR THE YEARS OF ASSESSMENT 1983-84, 1985-86 AND 1986-87 BY UNDERSTATING SALES OF \$600,000, STOCK OF \$300,000 AND BY OVERSTATING PURCHASES OF \$725,000.

THE UNDERSTATEMENT OF PROFITS IN TOTAL WAS \$1,625,000 OR 80 PER CENT OF HER TRUE PROFITS, AND THE TAX UNDERCHARGED WAS \$282,202.

/IN PASSING .....

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IN PASSING SENTENCE, THE JUDGE SAID THE DEFENDANT HAD OVER A PERIOD OF TIME UNDERSTATED A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF INCOME RECEIVED. THE DEFENDANT SHOULD RETURN THE ACCURATE PROFITS AND INDEED IT WAS THE DEFENDANT'S DUTY TO FILE CORRECT TAX RETURNS.

IN ALL THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, THE JUDGE CONSIDERED THAT THIS WAS A SERIOUS OFFENCE AND THAT MAXIMUM PENALTY WAS APPROPRIATE.

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TELA HOSTS RECEPTION FOR TV, ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRIES  
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THE COMMISSIONER FOR TELEVISION AND ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING TODAY (MONDAY) HELD A SPRING RECEPTION FOR PEOPLE IN THE TELEVISION, FILM, ADVERTISING, PUBLISHING AND ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRIES.

AMONG THE GUESTS WERE THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY, MEMBERS OF TELEVISION VIEWING GROUPS AND THE PANEL OF ADVISERS ON FILM CENSORSHIP, AS WELL AS REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE TWO TELEVISION STATIONS, RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG AND COMMERCIAL RADIO.

WELCOMING HIS GUESTS, THE COMMISSIONER FOR TELEVISION AND ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING, MR PETER NG, SAID HE HOPED THE RECEPTION WOULD PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR PEOPLE FROM THE VARIOUS INDUSTRIES TO MEET ONE ANOTHER.

THE RECEPTION HAD ALSO GIVEN HIM A CHANCE TO GET TO KNOW THEM BETTER SINCE HIS APPOINTMENT TO THE TELA POST AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR, HE SAID.

DURING THE GATHERING, MEMBERS OF THE TELEVISION VIEWING GROUPS WERE INTRODUCED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY, SIR ROGER LOBO.

SIR ROGER EXPRESSED A KEEN INTEREST IN THE OPINIONS GIVEN BY THE VIEWING GROUPS ON THE QUALITY OF TELEVISION BROADCASTING OVER THE YEARS.

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CENTRAL ALLOCATION OF PRIMARY ONE PLACES

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PARENTS OF ALL CHILDREN WHO HAVE APPLIED FOR A PUBLIC SECTOR PRIMARY ONE PLACE BUT HAVE NOT SECURED A DISCRETIONARY PLACE WILL BE CENTRALLY ALLOCATED A PLACE IN A GOVERNMENT OR AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL.

RESULTS OF THE CENTRAL ALLOCATION OF PLACES WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN JUNE, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

PARENTS WILL RECEIVE A LETTER FROM THE DEPARTMENT'S PRIMARY ONE ADMISSION UNIT REQUESTING THEM TO GO TO A SPECIFIED DISTRIBUTION/COLLECTION CENTRE TO COLLECT A "CHOICE OF SCHOOLS" FORM AND A LIST OF ALL GOVERNMENT AND AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN THEIR OWN SCHOOL DISTRICT FROM SATURDAY (MARCH 18) TO TUESDAY (MARCH 21) BETWEEN 9 AM AND 4 PM.

"COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE SAME CENTRE WITHIN THE SAME PERIOD," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

FOR THOSE PARENTS WHO HAD NOT RECEIVED THE LETTER FROM THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT BY SATURDAY (MARCH 18), THEY ARE ADVISED TO CONTACT THE PRIMARY ONE ADMISSION UNIT ON 5-724383 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

IN VIEW OF THE UNEVEN DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLIC SECTOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS, SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAT DO NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT PLACES WILL BE ASSIGNED PLACES FROM SCHOOLS IN NEIGHBOURING DISTRICTS TO MAKE GOOD THE SHORTFALL.

THE SPOKESMAN ASSURED PARENTS THAT ARRANGEMENTS WOULD ENABLE CHILDREN TO BE ALLOCATED TO A SCHOOL AS NEAR TO THEIR HOME AS POSSIBLE.

THE CENTRAL ALLOCATION IS SOLELY BASED ON PARENTS' CHOICES WITH NO REFERENCE TO THE POINTS SYSTEM, HE ADDED.

HOWEVER, WHEN A SCHOOL IS OVERSUBSCRIBED, A RANDOMISATION METHOD WILL BE USED TO ENSURE FAIRNESS TO ALL.

PARENTS WHO HAVE MOVED HOUSE RECENTLY OR ARE PLANNING TO MOVE HOUSE IN THE NEAR FUTURE ARE REQUESTED TO INFORM THE PRIMARY ONE ADMISSION UNIT SO THAT ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE TO ALLOCATE A PLACE TO THEIR CHILDREN IN THEIR NEW HOME DISTRICT.

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TOWN PLANNING IN HK BOOKLET PUBLISHED

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A BOOKLET EXPLAINING THE FUNCTIONS AND CONCEPT OF TOWN PLANNING IN THE LOCAL CONTEXT HAS JUST BEEN PUBLISHED BY THE TOWN PLANNING OFFICE OF THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT.

ENTITLED "TOWN PLANNING IN HONG KONG" AND WELL ILLUSTRATED WITH MAPS AND CHARTS, THE BOOKLET IS A MINE OF INFORMATION AND USEFUL REFERENCE MATERIALS TO ACADEMICS, PROFESSIONALS, DEVELOPERS AND ORDINARY INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS ALIKE.

APART FROM GIVING A CLEAR EXPLANATION ON THE PLANNING PROCEDURE AND THE ORGANISATIONAL SET-UP INVOLVED IN TOWN PLANNING, THE BOOKLET ALSO IDENTIFIES THE MAJOR PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES IN THE TERRITORY AND TOUCHES ON THE MAJOR PLANNING ACTIVITIES IN RECENT YEARS.

REFERENCE IS ALSO MADE TO THE TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY DEALING WITH FUTURE DEVELOPMENT.

THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT TOWN PLANNER AND HEAD OF THE TOWN PLANNING OFFICE, DR PETER PUN, SAID THE ENGLISH PUBLICATION IS AIMED AT HELPING THE PUBLIC UNDERSTAND THE ROLE AND IMPORTANCE OF TOWN PLANNING IN NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT, URBAN RENEWAL AND OVERALL BUILDING AND LAND DEVELOPMENT IN THE TERRITORY.

"AN EARLIER ENGLISH VERSION OF THE PUBLICATION AS WELL AS A CHINESE TRANSLATION OF IT HAVE BOTH BEEN WELL RECEIVED BY THE PUBLIC. THIS LATEST PUBLICATION WILL NO DOUBT ADVANCE PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT FOR TOWN PLANNING," DR PUN ADDED.

COPIES OF THE BOOKLET ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF GPO BUILDING IN CENTRAL AND AT THE TWO MAP SALES OFFICES OF THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT AT 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG AND 382 NATHAN ROAD, GROUND FLOOR, KOWLOON, AT \$45 PER COPY.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 35.4 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 207.498 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 282.521 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 48.2 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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DB TO COMMENT ON PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES REDEVELOPMENT

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MEMBERS OF THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD WILL COMMENT ON THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT'S PLAN FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT OF ESTATES IN TSZ WAN SHAN AT THEIR MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

FIVE PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES IN TSZ WAN SHAN, NAMELY TSZ MAN, TSZ OI, TSZ CHING, TSZ LOK AND TSZ ON, WILL BE REDEVELOPED FROM MAY THIS YEAR.

THE DEPARTMENT HAS PREPARED A "PLANNING BRIEF AND CONCEPT PLAN" FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT. MEMBERS WERE BRIEFED ON THE DOCUMENT LAST MONTH.

REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE DEPARTMENT WILL ATTEND TOMORROW'S MEETING TO DISCUSS WITH MEMBERS MATTERS RELATING TO THE REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT.

AT THE MEETING, MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS PROPOSALS TO REMEDY UNFAIR PROVISIONS IN EXISTING DEEDS OF MUTUAL COVENANT FOR MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS, AND THE INSERTION INTO THE DISTRICT BOARD STANDING ORDERS OF A PROCEDURE FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED MEMBERS TO DISTRICT BOARD COMMITTEES.

IN ADDITION, MEMBERS WILL CALL ON THE GOVERNMENT TO STEP UP PROMOTION ON FOOD HYGIENE.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE WORK PROGRESS REPORTS BY THE BOARD'S VARIOUS COMMITTEES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD MEETING WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) AT THE FUNG MING HALL OF WONG TAI SIN TEMPLE.

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SHA TIN DB TO ELECT COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

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THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD WILL HOLD A MEETING ON WEDNESDAY (MARCH 15) TO ELECT THE CHAIRMEN OF ITS SIX COMMITTEES.

THE COMMITTEES ARE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT; CULTURE AND SPORTS; DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING; FINANCE AND GENERAL AFFAIRS; HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE; AND TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT MATTERS.

/AT THE .....

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AT THE MEETING, MEMBERS WILL ENDORSE THE MEETING SCHEDULE OF THE DISTRICT BOARD AND ITS COMMITTEES FOR 1989-90 AND THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEES.

THEY WILL ALSO DETERMINE THE PROCEDURES FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED MEMBERS TO THE COMMITTEES.

THE MEETING WILL ALSO NOMINATE FOUR MEMBERS OF THE BOARD TO THE REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR APPOINTMENT AS CO-OPTED MEMBERS OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT COMMITTEE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD MEETING ON WEDNESDAY (MARCH 15) BEGINNING AT 3 PM, IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE SIXTH FLOOR, KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN STATION.

PLEASE NOTE THAT MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES MAY BE REQUIRED TO LEAVE THE CONFERENCE ROOM WHILE THE ELECTION IS IN PROGRESS.

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WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY ACTIVITIES ON AGENDA

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THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS WAYS TO COMMEMORATE THE WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 1989 AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

A MEMBER OF THE WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 1989 WORKING GROUP, MR WAN SEK-LUEN, WILL BRIEF THE COMMITTEE ON RELATED DISTRICT BOARD ACTIVITIES AS PROPOSED BY THE GROUP.

THE CENTRAL THEME OF THE WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY, WHICH FALLS ON JUNE 5, IS AIMED AT PROMOTING PUBLIC AWARENESS OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO CONSIDER DISTRICT PROGRAMMES IN SUPPORT OF THE JOINT URBAN/REGIONAL COUNCIL KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN FOR 1989-90.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE REQUESTS FOR CARRYING OUT LOCAL PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS, AS WELL AS PROGRESS REPORTS ON VILLAGE LIGHTING INSTALLATIONS, MINOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS AND SQUATTER AREA IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS.

/NOTE TO .....

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE, JOCKEY CLUB ROAD, FANLING. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 9.30 AM.

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SAI KUNG DB COMMITTEE TO REVIEW ITS WORK

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THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE WILL REVIEW ITS WORK IN THE PAST YEAR AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS SEVERAL APPLICATIONS FOR DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS AND THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE COMMITTEE.

AFTER THE MEETING, A CEREMONY WILL BE HELD TO PRESENT SOUVENIRS TO 17 COMMERCIAL ORGANISATIONS WHICH HAVE TAKEN PART IN THE TWO-WEEK SPECIAL OFFER SCHEME FOR ELDERLY IN THE DISTRICT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM, SECOND FLOOR, SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES, CHAN MAN STREET, SAI KUNG TOWN.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 10 AM.

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DB COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS INSTALLATION OF RAILINGS

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THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS THE INSTALLATION OF RAILINGS ALONG GLOUCESTER ROAD NEAR THE WAN CHAI POLICE STATION AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

MEMBERS WILL ALSO STUDY AN INFORMATION PAPER PREPARED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ON THE PROFIT CONTROL SCHEME APPLIED TO THE TWO FRANCHISED BUS COMPANIES.

/NOTE TO .....

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD'S TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE, EIGHTH FLOOR, TUNG WAH MANSION, 201 HENNESSY ROAD, HONG KONG.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 4 PM.

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YUEN LONG DB COMMITTEE TO MEET

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THE CULTURE COMMITTEE OF THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD WILL HOLD ITS SIXTH MEETING FOR 1988-89 ON WEDNESDAY (MARCH 15).

MEMBERS WILL STUDY PROGRESS REPORTS ON CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS, ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMMES, LIBRARY EXTENSION ACTIVITIES, AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD'S CULTURE COMMITTEE ON WEDNESDAY (MARCH 15) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM, 13TH FLOOR, TAI KIU GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 2 KIU LOK SQUARE, YUEN LONG. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 3 PM.

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DB RECREATION, SPORTS COMMITTEE TO MEET

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THE RECREATION, SPORTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD WILL MEET ON WEDNESDAY (MARCH 15).

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES PLANNED BY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS FOR THE DISTRICT DURING THIS MONTH AND NEXT MONTH.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE RECREATION, SPORTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD TO BE HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE DB SECRETARIAT ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF TAI PO COMMERCIAL CENTRE, 152 KWONG FUK ROAD ON WEDNESDAY (MARCH 15). THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES WORKING GROUP TO MEET

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THE WORKING GROUP ON AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD WILL MEET ON WEDNESDAY (MARCH 15).

MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP WILL RESUME DISCUSSIONS ON IMPROVEMENT TO THE FACILITIES OF MARICULTURE ZONES IN TAI PO, AND THE PROPOSED DESIGNATION OF A NEW MARICULTURE ZONE IN THE DISTRICT.

THEY WILL ALSO CONSIDER THE PROPOSED EXTENSION OF THE BOUNDARY OF THE SHAM WAN FISH CULTURE ZONE AND THE DISCONNECTION OF THE IRRIGATION WATER SUPPLY TO WAI TAU, LAM TSUEN.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD'S WORKING GROUP ON AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES TO BE HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE DB SECRETARIAT ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF TAI PO COMMERCIAL CENTRE, 152 KWONG FUK ROAD ON WEDNESDAY (MARCH 15). THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 10 AM.

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TEMPORARY LANE CLOSURES ON TAI PO ROAD

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT TO FACILITATE ROAD MAINTENANCE WORKS, TEMPORARY LANE CLOSURES WILL BE CARRIED OUT ON TAI PO ROAD (FANLING) SOUTHBOUND BETWEEN KAI LENG INTERCHANGE AND PAK FUK TSUEN FROM WEDNESDAY (MARCH 15).

THE OUTER-MOST LANE WILL BE CLOSED FROM 8 PM ON MARCH 15 TO 8 PM ON MARCH 17.

THE CENTRE LANE WILL BE CLOSED FROM 8 PM TO 6 AM THE NEXT DAY DAILY ON MARCH 15, 16, 17, 19 AND 20.

IN ADDITION, THE INNER-MOST LANE WILL BE CLOSED FROM 8 PM ON MARCH 17 TO 2 AM ON MARCH 22.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE PROVIDED TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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SUSPENSION OF WATER SUPPLIES IN THREE DISTRICTS

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN TAI KOK TSUI PREMISES WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 11 PM ON WEDNESDAY (MARCH 15) TO 6 AM THE NEXT DAY TO FACILITATE NIGHT LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT 1-80 FUK TSUN STREET, 4-8 LIME STREET, 1-45 PINE STREET, 1-21 AND 70-100 BEECH STREET, AND 1-43 IVY STREET.

ALSO TO FACILITATE NIGHT LEAKAGE TESTS, FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN SAU MAU PING WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 11 PM ON THURSDAY (MARCH 16) TO 6 AM THE NEXT DAY.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT BLOCKS 32-41 SAU MAU PING ESTATE.

ON THE OTHER HAND, FLUSHING WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN CHAI WAN PREMISES WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 10 AM ON THE SAME DAY TO 10 AM THE NEXT DAY TO FACILITATE WATER WORKS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT ALL PREMISES AT CHAI WAN ROAD, WAN TSUI ROAD, FEI TSUI ROAD, SUI MAN ROAD, LIN SHING ROAD, WING TAI ROAD, CHEUNG MAN ROAD, LOK MAN ROAD, HONG MAN STREET, CHEUNG LEE STREET, KUT SHING STREET, LEE CHUNG STREET, NING FOO STREET, YEE FUNG STREET, YEE SHING STREET, YEE SHUN STREET, WAH HA STREET, SAN HA STREET, SHEUNG ON STREET, KA YIP STREET, FUNG YIP STREET, SUN YIP STREET, ON YIP STREET, SUN ON STREET, WING PING STREET, HONG PING STREET, KAM YUEN LANE AND THE WHOLE AREA OF HENG FA CHUEN.

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