



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES  
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 5-8428777

FRIDAY, APRIL 6, 1990

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MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT PROGRAMME

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THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS, MR FRANCIS MAUDE, WILL ARRIVE IN HONG KONG TOMORROW (SATURDAY) FOR A FIVE-DAY VISIT. FOLLOWING ARE DETAILED ARRANGEMENTS FOR PRESS COVERAGE OF MR MAUDE'S VISIT:

SATURDAY, APRIL 7

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ARRIVAL AT KAI TAK  
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MR MAUDE WILL ARRIVE BY FLIGHT CX 250, ETA 2 PM. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES COVERING HIS ARRIVAL SHOULD ASSEMBLE IN THE AIRPORT PRESS ROOM AT THE ARRIVAL HALL BY 1.15 PM.

MONDAY, APRIL 9

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VISIT TO WHITEHEAD VBP DETENTION CENTRE  
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MR MAUDE WILL VISIT THE WHITEHEAD VBP DETENTION CENTRE IN SHA TIN AT 11.20 AM. PRESS TRANSPORT WILL LEAVE THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (CGO) CARPARK, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, AT 9.45 AM SHARP. THE VISIT IS EXPECTED TO LAST ABOUT ONE-AND-HALF HOURS.

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WHO WISH TO COVER THE NEXT EVENT AT THE BORDER AND NORTH DISTRICT MAY USE THE SAME TRANSPORT FROM SHA TIN. TRANSPORT WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED TO THOSE WHO WISH TO RETURN TO CENTRAL.

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VISIT TO BORDER AND NORTH DISTRICT  
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MR MAUDE WILL VISIT MAN KAM TO POLICE POST WHERE HE WILL BE BRIEFED ON BORDER SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS. HE WILL THEN VISIT THE LIU MAN SHEK TONG ANCESTRAL HALL IN SHEUNG SHUI. PRESS TRANSPORT WILL LEAVE CGO CARPARK AT 12.15 PM. THOSE MAKING THEIR OWN WAY THERE SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE POLICE FRONTIER DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS AT SHA TAU KOK ROAD NEAR THE FANLING ROUNDABOUT THE LATEST BY 1.45 PM.

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE REMINDED TO BRING THEIR PROOF OF IDENTITY TO FACILITATE THE ISSUING OF FRONTIER CLOSED AREA PERMIT.

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MEETING/DINNER WITH OMELCO MEMBERS  
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MR MAUDE WILL ARRIVE AT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BUILDING AT 6.30 PM FOR A MEETING AND DINNER WITH OMELCO MEMBERS. THERE WILL BE A FIXED POSITION OUTSIDE THE ENTRANCE OF THE BUILDING FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER HIS ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE.

/TUESDAY, APRIL 10 .....

TUESDAY, APRIL 10  
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VISIT TO WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT  
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MR MAUDE WILL VISIT WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT AT 11.20 AM. PRESS TRANSPORT WILL LEAVE CGO CARPARK AT 10.15 AM. THOSE WHO MAKE THEIR OWN WAY THERE SHOULD ASSEMBLE ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF WAI YUEN HOUSE OF CHUK YUEN (NORTH) ESTATE AT 11 AM.

COMMUNITY LUNCH  
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AT 12.45 PM, MR MAUDE WILL ATTEND A COMMUNITY LUNCH HOSTED BY THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS AT FURAMA HOTEL. THERE WILL BE A FIVE-MINUTE PHOTO-CALL BEFORE THE LUNCH STARTS.

MEETING WITH DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMEN  
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AT 2.30 PM, THE MINISTER WILL MEET DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMEN AT THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION HEADQUARTERS, SOUTHOEN CENTRE, HENNESSY ROAD, WAN CHAI. THERE WILL BE A BRIEF PHOTO-CALL BEFORE THE MEETING STARTS.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11  
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VISIT TO CITY POLYTECHNIC  
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MR MAUDE WILL VISIT THE CITY POLYTECHNIC TO SEE ITS VARIOUS FACILITIES AT 9.20 AM. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES COVERING THE VISIT SHOULD ARRIVE AT THE RECEPTION DESK ON THE 4TH FLOOR OF THE CITY POLYTECHNIC (OUTSIDE THE INFORMATION OFFICE AT ROOM 4206Y) AT 9 AM.

PRESS CONFERENCE  
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AT 4.15 PM, MR MAUDE WILL GIVE A PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE GIS PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM, 5TH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL. DUE TO THE LIMITED SEATING CAPACITY, ATTENDANCE WILL BE RESTRICTED TO ONE REPRESENTATIVE PER MEDIA ORGANISATION.

DEPARTURE  
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IN THE EVENING, MR MAUDE WILL DEPART FOR BRITAIN AT 10.50 PM BY FLIGHT BA 28. THERE WILL BE A PHOTOGRAPHIC FACILITY FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WISHING TO COVER HIS DEPARTURE. THEY SHOULD ASSEMBLE IN THE AIRPORT PRESS ROOM BY 10 PM.

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TRADE DEPT RESPONSE TO U.S. TRADE BILL

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A BILL WAS INTRODUCED INTO THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS ON WEDNESDAY (APRIL 4) SEEKING TO LIMIT THE GROWTH OF TEXTILE, APPAREL AND FOOTWEAR IMPORTS INTO THE UNITED STATES.

"THE BILL IS PURE PROTECTIONISM," THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRADE, MR CHRISTOPHER JACKSON, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

"IT IS UNLIKELY TO SUCCEED, BUT IT THREATENS HONG KONG'S INTERESTS AND WE MUST TAKE IT VERY SERIOUSLY.

"WE WILL BE WORKING WITH DOMESTIC INTERESTS IN THE UNITED STATES OPPOSED TO THE BILL, PARTICULARLY IMPORTERS AND RETAILERS, TO TRY TO PREVENT ITS ENACTMENT IN CONGRESS," HE SAID.

MR JACKSON SAID THE BILL AIMS AT LIMITING TO ONE PER CENT A YEAR GROWTH OF TEXTILE AND APPAREL IMPORTS INTO THE UNITED STATES.

IT WOULD IMPOSE IMPORT QUOTAS ON A GLOBAL BASIS, 20 PER CENT OF WHICH WOULD BE AUCTIONED OFF UNDER A PILOT PROGRAMME STARTING NEXT YEAR.

FOOTWEAR IMPORTS WOULD BE RESTRICTED TO LAST YEAR'S LEVELS WITH NO ALLOWANCE FOR GROWTH.

IT IS SIMILAR TO THE JENKINS BILL (1985) AND THE TEXTILES BILL (1987), BOTH OF WHICH WERE VETOED BY FORMER PRESIDENT REAGAN.

"THE U.S. TEXTILES AND APPAREL INDUSTRY IS ALREADY WELL PROTECTED BY TRADE AGREEMENTS WITH OVER 40 COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES, INCLUDING HONG KONG, RESTRICTING THEIR EXPORTS OF TEXTILE AND APPAREL TO THE UNITED STATES," MR JACKSON SAID.

"ADDITIONAL PROTECTION IS GIVEN BY IMPORT DUTIES AVERAGING 18 PER CENT WHICH ARE MANY TIMES HIGHER THAN FOR MOST OTHER PRODUCTS ENTERING THE UNITED STATES.

"IT IS NOT AS IF THE TWO INDUSTRIES ARE SUFFERING," HE SAID.

"BOTH TEXTILE AND APPAREL PRODUCTION IN THE UNITED STATES WAS UP LAST YEAR, AS WERE EXPORTS AND EMPLOYMENT FIGURES.

"MANY SECTORS OF THE INDUSTRY HAVE ADAPTED AND MODERNISED AND IT IS INTERESTING THAT THE APPAREL MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION HAS NOT YET COME OUT IN SUPPORT OF THE BILL," MR JACKSON SAID.

"THE BILL APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED TO DISCOURAGE U.S. NEGOTIATORS IN THE URUGUAY ROUND OF GATT TALKS FROM MAKING ANY CONCESSIONS ON TEXTILES AND APPAREL," HE SAID.

"WHETHER THEY SUCCEED IN THIS AIM WILL BECOME CLEAR OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS."

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REVISION OF FEES FOR ISSUE OF TRADING DOCUMENTS  
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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) A REVISION OF FEES FOR THE ISSUE OF LANDING CERTIFICATES AND CERTIFIED COPIES OF IMPORT OR EXPORT DECLARATION (COMMONLY KNOWN AS TRADE DECLARATION) AND CARGO MANIFEST.

THE ISSUE OF THESE DOCUMENTS IS A SERVICE PROVIDED BY THE GOVERNMENT ON REQUEST TO MEET TRADERS' CERTIFICATION NEEDS.

UNDER THE IMPORT AND EXPORT (FEES) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1990 PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY, THE FEE REVISION, WHICH WILL BE EFFECTIVE FROM MONDAY, APRIL 9, IS AS FOLLOWS:

TYPE OF APPLICATION -----	EXISTING FEE -----	REVISED FEE -----
(A) ISSUE OF A LANDING CERTIFICATE	\$70	\$150
(B) ISSUE OF A CERTIFIED COPY OF TRADE DECLARATION OR CARGO MANIFEST	\$30	\$100

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE REVISION OF FEES WAS TO COVER INCREASES IN THE COSTS OF PROVIDING THESE SERVICES. THE EXISTING SCALE OF FEES WAS INTRODUCED IN 1982.

HE SAID THE TRADE ADVISORY BOARD HAD BEEN CONSULTED ON THE FEE REVISION AND HAD EXPRESSED SUPPORT.

ANY ENQUIRIES ON THE REVISION OF FEES MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL. 823 4868.

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ARBITRATION LAW COMES INTO OPERATION  
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THE UNITED NATIONS MODEL LAW ON ARBITRATION COMES INTO EFFECT IN HONG KONG TODAY (FRIDAY), FURTHER BOOSTING THE TERRITORY'S ONGOING EFFORTS TO DEVELOP THE POTENTIAL FOR BEING A LEADING CENTRE OF INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATIONS IN THE FAR EAST.

THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE ARBITRATION (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) ORDINANCE 1989, WHICH INCORPORATES THE UNITED NATIONS MODEL LAW, WILL MAKE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION RULES ACCESSIBLE TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

THE ORDINANCE WAS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN NOVEMBER LAST YEAR.

/THE ASSISTANT .....

THE ASSISTANT SOLICITOR GENERAL, MR ANDREW BRUCE, SAID THE ADOPTION OF THE MODEL LAW AND THE FACILITIES AND SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE INDEPENDENT HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION CENTRE, WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1985, WOULD MAKE HONG KONG AN ATTRACTIVE CHOICE OF VENUE FOR INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATIONS.

THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW (UNCITRAL) PRODUCED THE MODEL LAW IN 1985 WITH THE AIM OF PROVIDING THE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COMMUNITY WITH A CLEARLY EXPRESSED UNIVERSAL CODE THAT COULD BE USED TO ACHIEVE SPEEDY RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES WITH MINIMAL INTERFERENCE BY THE COURTS AND WITHOUT ELABORATE PROCEDURES.

THE UNCITRAL INITIATIVE IN THIS FIELD WAS PROMPTED BY THE PROBLEMS THAT PRACTITIONERS OF INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION AND THEIR CLIENTS FOUND IN DEALING WITH THE WIDELY DIFFERING REGIMES UNDER WHICH ARBITRATION OPERATED IN DIFFERING JURISDICTIONS.

IF DIFFERENT COUNTRIES HAD DIFFERENT MECHANISMS FOR RESOLVING COMMERCIAL DISPUTES, BUSINESSMEN WERE UNLIKELY TO CHOOSE A VENUE FOR ARBITRATION IF THEY OR THEIR ADVISERS WERE UNFAMILIAR WITH THAT VENUE'S ARBITRATION LAWS AND PROCEDURES.

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMON PROCEDURES, OR A MODEL LAW, WOULD ENABLE BUSINESSMEN TO CHOOSE A VENUE FOR ITS CONVENIENCE AND PUT ASIDE WORRIES ABOUT PROCEDURAL MATTERS.

HONG KONG IS ONE OF THE FIRST JURISDICTIONS IN THE WORLD TO ADOPT THE UNCITRAL MODEL LAW.

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COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) ORDINANCE 1990 GAZETTED  
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FOLLOWING THE PUBLICATION OF THE COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) ORDINANCE 1990 IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY), A NEW, IMPROVED SYSTEM OF KEEPING COMPANY RECORDS AND MAKING THEM AVAILABLE FOR SEARCH BY THE PUBLIC ON MICROFILM WILL BE BROUGHT INTO OPERATION BY THE COMPANIES REGISTRY ON APRIL 20.

THE REGISTRAR GENERAL, MR NOEL GLEESON, SAID THE NEW SYSTEM WOULD APPLY TO ALL COMPANY RECORDS, EXCEPT SHAREHOLDERS LISTS WHICH WERE NOT EASY TO MICROFILM BECAUSE OF THEIR SIZE.

THE NEW SYSTEM WOULD ALSO ACHIEVE SAVINGS IN FLOOR SPACE, HE SAID.

SEARCHES OF COMPANY RECORDS FROM APRIL 20 WILL BE BY THE YEAR OR A MULTIPLE OF YEARS AT A FEE OF \$10 PER YEAR. A DOCUMENT INDEX WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM WHICH SEARCHERS CAN, IF NECESSARY, ASCERTAIN THE YEAR OF FILING OF ANY PARTICULAR DOCUMENT.

"A HANDOUT EXPLAINING THE OPERATION OF THE NEW SYSTEM IS NOW AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC AT THE COMPANIES REGISTRY AND A CIRCULAR EXPLAINING THE OPERATION OF THE NEW SYSTEM HAS BEEN SENT TO ALL PROFESSIONAL BODIES AND OTHERS WHO USE THE FACILITIES OF THE COMPANIES REGISTRY ON A REGULAR BASIS," MR GLEESON SAID.

"THE COMPANIES REGISTRY HAS ALREADY GIVEN PRACTICE RUNS ON THE NEW SYSTEM FOR MAJOR USERS," HE ADDED.

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HOSPITAL AUTHORITY BILL GAZETTED

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THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY BILL WHICH SETS OUT THE AUTHORITY'S LEGAL STATUS, FUNCTIONS AND POWERS, OVERALL STRUCTURE AND ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE GOVERNMENT WAS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

"THE BILL IS A PIECE OF ENABLING LEGISLATION PROVIDING FOR THE SETTING UP OF A HOSPITAL AUTHORITY AS AN AUTONOMOUS STATUTORY ORGANISATION, WITH ITS GOVERNING BODY APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR," A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED.

"ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONS IN THE BILL, THE PRINCIPAL FUNCTION OF THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY IS TO MANAGE AND DEVELOP A PUBLIC HOSPITAL SYSTEM IN WAYS WHICH PROVIDE A HIGH STANDARD OF SERVICE IN AN EFFICIENT MANNER.

"OTHER FUNCTIONS INCLUDE ADVISING GOVERNMENT ON THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY FOR PUBLIC HOSPITAL SERVICES, AND RECOMMENDING TO THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE APPROPRIATE POLICIES ON HOSPITAL FEES.

"THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE RETAINS THE POWER, UNDER THE BILL, TO GIVE DIRECTIONS TO THE AUTHORITY ON THE LEVEL OF FEES TO BE CHARGED," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID UNDER THE BILL, THE AUTHORITY HAS THE POWER TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS WITH THE GOVERNMENT AND THE GOVERNING BODIES OF THE SUBVENTED HOSPITALS FOR THE MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL OF THE PUBLIC HOSPITALS BY THE AUTHORITY.

"THE AUTHORITY ALSO HAS POWERS TO ACQUIRE AND HOLD PROPERTY TO USE BY THE AUTHORITY, TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN SUCH HOSPITAL SERVICES AS THE AUTHORITY CONSIDERS NECESSARY, TO EMPLOY STAFF TO CARRY OUT HOSPITAL SERVICES AND TO MAKE BY-LAWS REQUIRED FOR PROPER CONTROL WITHIN PUBLIC HOSPITAL ESTATES," HE SAID.

THE BILL SPECIFIES THAT THE AUTHORITY SHOULD KEEP AUDITED ACCOUNTS OF ITS EXPENDITURE AND PREPARE ANNUAL REPORT OF ITS ACTIVITIES, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE IS REQUIRED TO TABLE THESE IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ANNUALLY.

"THE BILL ALSO PROVIDES THAT THE DIRECTOR OF AUDIT HAS THE POWER TO CONDUCT AN EXAMINATION INTO THE ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY WITH WHICH THE AUTHORITY HAS EXPENDED ITS RESOURCES," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT UNDER THE BILL'S PROVISIONS, THE AUTHORITY CAN ESTABLISH COMMITTEES TO CARRY OUT ITS FUNCTIONS. "IN PARTICULAR, THE BILL PROVIDES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND HOSPITAL GOVERNING COMMITTEES.

"A REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED FOR A REGION WILL PROVIDE ADVICE TO THE AUTHORITY ON THE NEEDS OF THAT REGION FOR HOSPITAL SERVICES.

"A HOSPITAL GOVERNING COMMITTEE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE, UNDER THE OVERALL CONTROL OF THE AUTHORITY, FOR OVERSEEING THE OPERATION OF THE PUBLIC HOSPITAL FOR WHICH IT IS ESTABLISHED," HE EXPLAINED.

THE BILL WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON MAY 2, 1990.

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SHW MAKES PERSONAL APPEAL TO STAFF TO CONTINUE CONSULTATION

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THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MRS ELIZABETH WONG, APPEALED AT A PRESS CONFERENCE THIS (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON TO THE STAFF ASSOCIATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HOSPITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO GIVE THE MANAGEMENT A CHANCE TO CONTINUE WITH CONSULTATIONS ON THE BRIDGING-OVER ARRANGEMENTS RELATED TO THE SETTING UP OF THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY.

A SPECIAL ONE-DAY BRIEFING SYMPOSIUM WAS ORGANISED FOR REPRESENTATIVES OF STAFF ASSOCIATIONS AT THE HILLTOP COUNTRY CLUB TODAY IN ORDER TO EXPLAIN THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION ON THE SETTING UP OF THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY AND ON THE TERMS OF BRIDGING-OVER ARRANGEMENTS SO AS TO FACILITATE FUTURE CONSULTATION, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

HOWEVER, EVEN BEFORE THE DISCUSSION STARTED, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LEAGUE OF DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HOSPITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT STAFF UNIONS CAUTIONED TO THE EFFECT THAT UNLESS THEIR DEMANDS WERE MET, THEY WOULD NOT TAKE PART IN ANY CONSULTATION. THEY THEN WALKED OUT FROM THE SYMPOSIUM.

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MRS WONG VERY MUCH REGRETTED THAT THE STAFF DID NOT EVEN GIVE HER AN OPPORTUNITY AT THE SYMPOSIUM TO FINISH HER INTRODUCTORY SENTENCE BEFORE WALKING OUT. EVEN THEN SHE APPEALED FOR DISCUSSION OPPORTUNITIES.

NOTWITHSTANDING THEIR WALK OUT, AND IN THE INTEREST OF SETTING UP A SYSTEM TO BETTER IMPROVE PATIENT CARE FOR THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE, THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE REITERATED HER APPEAL THROUGH THE MEDIA FOR AN EARLY OPPORTUNITY TO CONTINUE WITH CONSULTATION AS ORIGINALLY PLANNED.

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TRANSFER OF HYGIENE DIVISION TO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT FOLLOWING THE DISSOLUTION OF THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES BRANCH ON APRIL 1, THE HYGIENE DIVISION, WHICH PREVIOUSLY FORMED PART OF THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES BRANCH, HAS BEEN TRANSFERRED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.

"THE DIVISION WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE TERRITORY-WIDE HYGIENE SERVICES ON BEHALF OF THE URBAN COUNCIL AND THE REGIONAL COUNCIL," HE SAID.

THESE SERVICES INCLUDE FOOD HYGIENE, PEST CONTROL ADVISORY SERVICES AND HEALTH EDUCATION.

THE HYGIENE DIVISION IS ACCOMMODATED AT THE URBAN COUNCIL FA YUEN STREET COMPLEX IN MONG KOK.

TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES MAY BE MADE ON 392 0325 OR 392 0549.

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<sup>a</sup> APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ANNOUNCED

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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) APPOINTMENTS TO THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WHICH WAS SET UP IN 1988 TO OFFER ADVICE ON SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ISSUES.

PROFESSOR POON CHUNG-KWONG HAS BEEN REAPPOINTED CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS INCLUDE: DR EDMOND CHAN CHE-HUNG, MR DONALD CHIA, DR RAYMOND HO CHUNG-TAI, MR LEUNG TIN-PIU, PROFESSOR ARTHUR LI KWOK-CHEUNG, MR TAM CHUNG-DING, DR DONALD FRANK TAYLOR, MR JAMES TIEN PEI-CHUN AND MR RICHARD ALLAN WILLSTEED.

/THE SECRETARY .....

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THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DIRECTOR OF ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES, DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES, DIRECTOR OF THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY, AND THE GOVERNMENT CHEMIST, OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVES, WILL ALSO SIT ON THE COMMITTEE.

THE APPOINTMENTS ARE FOR ONE YEAR, EFFECTIVE FROM APRIL 1.

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EXCO APPROVES ISSUE OF LICENCE TO ASIASAT-TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
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THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS APPROVED THE ISSUE OF A LICENCE UNDER THE TELECOMMUNICATION ORDINANCE TO ASIA SATELLITE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CO. LTD. (ASIASAT) TO COVER ITS SATELLITE CONTROL AND MONITORING RADIO STATIONS IN HONG KONG, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY).

"AS A FURTHER MEASURE, A BILL WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, AIMING TO AMEND THE TELECOMMUNICATION ORDINANCE, TO MAKE RADIO STATIONS ON SATELLITES REGISTERED IN HONG KONG SUBJECT TO LICENSING," HE SAID.

THE BILL WILL BE GAZETTED NEXT THURSDAY (APRIL 12).

"THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THESE LICENSING ARRANGEMENTS IS TO ENSURE THAT THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES INVOLVED IN SATELLITE OPERATION ARE PLACED UNDER PROPER REGULATORY CONTROL, FOR EXAMPLE WITH RESPECT TO FREQUENCY USAGE," HE EXPLAINED.

"AS EXTERNAL PRIVATE CIRCUITS COME UNDER THE EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS GRANTED TO CABLE AND WIRELESS (HONG KONG) LIMITED, IT WAS ALSO NECESSARY FOR THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO GIVE A WRITTEN DIRECTION UNDER THAT COMPANY'S LICENCE TO ALLOW ASIASAT TO OPERATE THE RADIO CIRCUITS BETWEEN ITS HONG KONG CONTROL AND MONITORING FACILITIES AND SATELLITE, AND THIS HAS BEEN DONE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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SECOND COMMERCIAL RADIO LICENCE TENDER EXERCISE

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THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL HAS APPROVED THE CONDITIONS TO BE REFLECTED IN TENDER DOCUMENTS CALLING FOR PROPOSAL FOR A SECOND COMMERCIAL RADIO SERVICE.

THE TENDER EXERCISE WOULD BE LAUNCHED IN ABOUT FOUR WEEKS, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

A GAZETTE NOTICE AND A PRESS RELEASE ANNOUNCING THE TENDER PERIOD WILL BE ISSUED AT THAT TIME.

ADVERTISEMENTS WILL BE PLACED IN THE LOCAL PRESS INVITING INTERESTED PARTIES TO OBTAIN COPIES OF THE TENDER DOCUMENTS.

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TOWN PLANNING BOARD ANNOUNCES ZONE PLANS

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THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED THE APPROVED OUTLINE ZONING PLAN FOR SHEK KIP MEI AREA, AND AN AMENDMENT TO THE NGAU TAU KOK AND KOWLOON BAY OUTLINE ZONING PLAN.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE BOARD SAID THE PLAN FOR SHEK KIP MEI WAS INTENDED TO ESTABLISH A STATUTORY LAND USE FRAMEWORK WITHIN WHICH DEVELOPMENT AND REDEVELOPMENT OF LAND COULD TAKE PLACE IN AN INTEGRATED AND ORDERLY MANNER.

THE PLAN WAS APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL ON DECEMBER 5 LAST YEAR.

IT COVERS AN AREA OF ABOUT 266 HECTARES IN THE NORTHWESTERN PART OF KOWLOON, WHICH IS BOUNDED BY THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY TO THE EAST, BOUNDARY STREET TO THE SOUTH AND TAI PO ROAD AND BERWICK STREET TO THE WEST.

TO THE NORTH, THE BOUNDARY FOLLOWS THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION BOUNDARY BETWEEN KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE AREA HAS BEEN LARGELY DEVELOPED, AND FORMS PART OF THE EXISTING URBAN AREAS OF KOWLOON.

IN THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN PARTS, DEVELOPMENTS ARE MAINLY PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES WITH ASSOCIATED LOCAL COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND OPEN SPACES. DEVELOPMENTS IN THE EASTERN AND NORTHERN PART ARE MOSTLY LOWER DENSITY PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS.

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ON THE PLAN, ABOUT 21 PER CENT OF LAND (55 HECTARES) IS ZONED GREEN BELT WHICH MAINLY COVERS THE STEEP HILLSLOPES AT THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN FRINGES OF THE AREA.

ABOUT 30 PER CENT (79 HECTARES) IS ZONED FOR MIXED COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL OR PURE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES.

ANOTHER 36 PER CENT (96 HECTARES) IS ZONED FOR GOVERNMENT/INSTITUTION/COMMUNITY AND OPEN SPACE USES.

A FURTHER FIVE PER CENT (13 HECTARES) IS ZONED FOR OTHER SPECIFIED USES INCLUDING THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY, THE POLICE RECREATION GROUND AT BOUNDARY STREET AND PETROL FILLING STATIONS. THE REST OF THE AREA (25 HECTARES) IS RESERVED FOR ROADS.

ON THE DRAFT NGAU TAU KOK AND KOWLOON BAY OUTLINE ZONING PLAN, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE AMENDMENT WAS MADE ON THE NOTES OF THE "COMMERCIAL" ZONING TO INCLUDE "BROADCASTING, TELEVISION AND/OR FILM STUDIO" AS A COLUMN 2 USE.

"THIS MEANS THAT THE USES UNDER THE 'COMMERCIAL' ZONING MAY BE PERMITTED BY THE BOARD, WITH OR WITHOUT CONDITIONS ON APPLICATION," HE EXPLAINED.

BOTH PLANS CAN BE INSPECTED AT THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING ENTRANCE, HONG KONG; OR AT THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT, FOURTH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG.

ANY PERSON AFFECTED BY THE AMENDMENT PLAN MAY SUBMIT HIS OBJECTION IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD, C/O PLANNING DEPARTMENT, FOURTH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG, BY JUNE 6.

COPIES OF BOTH PLANS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE MAP AND PLAN SALES SECTIONS OF SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, HONG KONG AND 10TH FLOOR, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 405 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON, AT \$10 PER UNCOLOURED COPY, \$50 PER COLOURED COPY FOR THE APPROVED PLAN AND \$60 PER COLOURED COPY FOR THE DRAFT PLAN.

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GO AHEAD FOR WEST KOWLOON RECLAMATION

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MASSIVE RECLAMATION IN WEST KOWLOON IS TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN THE COMING YEARS TO PROVIDE LAND FOR FUTURE INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT.

TOTALLING 307 HECTARES, THE RECLAMATION WOULD EXTEND FROM THE WEST-END WATERFRONT OF MEI FOO SUN CHUEN TO THE NORTH OF THE CHINA FERRY TERMINAL, CANTON ROAD.

THE MASSIVE LAND FORMED WOULD BE USED FOR RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL, PORT RELATED, GOVERNMENT INSTITUTION/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENTS AND OPEN SPACES.

IN ADDITION, THE RECLAMATION WOULD ALSO PROVIDE LAND RESERVES FOR THE WEST KOWLOON EXPRESSWAY, WESTERN HARBOUR CROSSING AND RAIL LINK TO THE NEW CHEK LAP KOK AIRPORT.

RECLAMATION WORKS WOULD START EARLY NEXT YEAR AND ARE EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF 1996. BY THEN, THE LAND AREA OF THE KOWLOON PENINSULA WOULD BE EXTENSIVELY ENLARGED.

THE RECLAMATION WOULD BE UNDER TWO SEPARATE PROJECTS TO BE CARRIED OUT SIMULTANEOUSLY.

ONE PROJECT WOULD INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF 2,750 METRES OF SEAWALL AND THE RECLAMATION OF AN AREA OF 156 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED AT THE WESTERN SIDE OF THE EXISTING WATERFRONT FROM THE TAI KOK TSUI FERRY PIER TO THE WESTERN END OF MEI FOO SUN CHUEN AND ACROSS TO THE NORTHERN SIDE OF STONECUTTERS ISLAND.

THE OTHER PROJECT WOULD INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 1,740 METRE-SEAWALL AND THE RECLAMATION OF 151 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED AT THE WESTERN SIDE OF THE EXISTING KOWLOON WATERFRONT FROM THE NORTH OF THE CHINA FERRY TERMINAL, CANTON ROAD UP TO CHERRY STREET.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREAS AFFECTED ARE DESCRIBED IN TWO NOTICES GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HE HAS AN INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORES AND SEABEDS INVOLVED MAY SUBMIT A WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS ON OR BEFORE JUNE 5.

THE NOTICES AND THE PLANS CAN BE SEEN ON NOTICE BOARDS POSTED NEAR THE SITES.

THE PLANS CAN ALSO BE SEEN AT THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE AT 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING IN GARDEN ROAD OR AT THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICE, 490-492 NATHAN ROAD, HOP FAT COMMERCIAL CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, KOWLOON.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR WORKS IN HUNG SHUI KIU

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THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR CONSTRUCTION WORKS UNDER THE HUNG SHUI KIU STAGE I, PHASE II PROJECT.

A TENDER NOTICE WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE WORKS INCLUDE THE SITE FORMATION OF ABOUT 1.5 HECTARES OF LAND FOR FUTURE COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT, DIVISIONAL POLICE STATION AND LOCAL OPEN SPACE.

CONSTRUCTION OF 520 METRES OF ACCESS ROADS, FOUL SEWERS, CARPARKS, CYCLE TRACKS, FOOTPATHS, LAYING OF WATERMANS, LANDSCAPE WORKS AND ASSOCIATED DRAINAGE WORKS ARE ALSO INCLUDED.

UPON COMPLETION OF THE WORKS, HUNG SHUI KIU, WHICH WILL BE DEVELOPED INTO A DISTRICT CENTRE FOR THE YUEN LONG - TUEN MUN CORRIDOR, WILL HAVE BETTER COMMUNITY FACILITIES.

THE CONTRACT IS SCHEDULED TO COMMENCE IN JUNE THIS YEAR FOR COMPLETION IN JUNE 1991.

THE WORKS HAVE BEEN DESIGNED AND WILL BE SUPERVISED BY THE NEW TERRITORIES REGION OF HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT.

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MARICULTURE AT OPEN SEA NOW UNDER STUDY

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THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT (AFD) IS NOW STUDYING THE POSSIBILITY OF DEVELOPING MARICULTURE IN THE OPEN SEA SO AS TO IMPROVE FISH CULTURE PRODUCTION.

INTRODUCING THE NEW IDEA AT A PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE ABERDEEN FISHERIES OFFICES TODAY (FRIDAY), THE DEPARTMENT'S FISHERIES OFFICER, MR ALEX KWOK, SAID A CULTURE TRIAL PERIOD WOULD SOON BE CONDUCTED IN COLLABORATION WITH INTERESTED MARICULTURISTS.

"THE DEPARTMENT HAS ALREADY IDENTIFIED SEVERAL OPEN SITES FOR EXPERIMENTING THE NEW SYSTEM IN HONG KONG," HE SAID.

"THE DESIGN CONSISTS BASICALLY OF A CAGE FITTED WITH FLOATS SUSPENDED FROM A SYSTEM OF FLOATING COLLARS," MR KWOK EXPLAINED.

"THIS SPECIAL DESIGN HAS BEEN PROVEN CAPABLE OF WITHSTANDING STRONG CURRENTS AND WAVES EVEN UNDER GALE CONDITIONS IN MANY COUNTRIES SUCH AS THE UNITED KINGDOM, CANADA, JAPAN AND IRELAND.

"VARIOUS CAGE DESIGNS IN THESE COUNTRIES WERE STUDIED AND ONE OF THEM, WITH SOME MODIFICATION, APPEAR TO BE SUITABLE FOR USE IN HONG KONG," HE SAID.

/MR KWOK .....

MR KWOK SAID ALTHOUGH THE INITIAL CONSTRUCTION AND THE OPERATION COSTS FOR THIS TYPE OF CAGE WOULD BE MORE EXPENSIVE, THE NEW SYSTEM MIGHT PROVE TO BE MORE COST EFFECTIVE IN THE LONG RUN.

"IT AVOIDS POLLUTION IMPACT FROM LAND DISCHARGES AS THE CAGES ARE MOORED IN EXPOSED CONDITIONS.

"SECONDLY, GOOD FLUSHING PROVIDES FAST REPLENISHMENT OF DISSOLVED OXYGEN AND FAST WASTE REMOVAL, THEREFORE, INCREASES FISH HOLDING CAPACITY.

"THIRDLY, GOOD FLUSHING ALSO REDUCES STRESS FROM OXYGEN DEPLETION AND PREVENTS SELF POLLUTION, THEREFORE, FISH HAS BETTER AND FASTER GROWTH AND WITH LESS CHANCES OF DISEASE OUTBREAK AND FISH MORTALITY," MR KWOK SAID.

HE POINTED OUT: "FISH CULTURE IN HONG KONG TRADITIONALLY INVOLVES GROWING FISH IN CAGES SUSPENDED FROM WOODEN RAFTS.

"AS SUCH STRUCTURES ARE USUALLY NOT ABLE TO WITHSTAND STRONG WAVES AND CURRENTS, THE PRESENT MARICULTURE ACTIVITIES ARE THUS RESTRICTED TO COMPARATIVELY SHELTERED BAYS WHICH ARE ALSO POPULAR SITES FOR RECREATIONAL USE AND NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES."

HE ADDED: "IN SHELTERED BAYS, FLUSHING IS USUALLY LIMITED AND CONSEQUENTLY THE DISSOLVED OXYGEN AND NUTRIENT EXCHANGE ARE RELATIVELY LOW.

"UNDER SUCH CONDITIONS AND WITH THE COMMON PRACTICE OF THE MARICULTURISTS TO STOCK THE CAGE FAIRLY DENSELY, THE FISH OFTEN SUFFER FROM POOR GROWTH, FREQUENT DISEASE OUTBREAK AND FISH MORTALITY AND ULTIMATELY, IT RESULTS IN POOR PRODUCTION."

MR KWOK SAID TO PRACTISE MARICULTURE IN THE OPEN SEA MIGHT BE A WAY TO IMPROVE THE ABOVE CONDITIONS AND TO FURTHER DEVELOP THE MARICULTURE INDUSTRY.

HE SAID THE INITIAL TRIAL WOULD TAKE ABOUT 12 MONTHS AND THE FEASIBILITY OF APPLYING THIS NEW SYSTEM IN HONG KONG WOULD BE ASSESSED AT THE END OF THE TRIAL PERIOD.

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR 1989

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THE ANNUAL REPORT ON THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) FOR 1989 HAS BEEN PUBLISHED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE REPORT PROVIDES A COMPREHENSIVE ACCOUNT OF THE MOVEMENTS OF THE CPIS DURING 1989.

/IT ALSO .....

IT ALSO INCLUDES FOUR CHARTS AND FIVE TABLES SHOWING MOVEMENTS OF THE 1984/85-BASED CPI(A) AND CPI(B) BY SECTION AND BY GROUP OF COMMODITY/SERVICE, AS WELL AS THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE OVERALL CHANGE IN THE INDICES.

THE REPORT IS A BILINGUAL PUBLICATION IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE. APART FROM STATISTICS ON THE CPIS, IT ALSO CONTAINS A DETAILED ELABORATION ON THE CONCEPTS AND COMPUTATION METHOD OF THE CPIS WHICH WOULD HELP READERS TO OBTAIN A BETTER UNDERSTANDING AND PROPER INTERPRETATION OF THE CPIS.

THE REPORT IS NOW ON SALE, AT HK\$19.00 A COPY, AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, CONNAUGHT PLACE, AND THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER 1, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE DIRECTED TO THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT AT 823 5089.

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ACTIVITIES TO MARK WORLD HEALTH DAY  
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IN SUPPORT OF THE WORLD HEALTH DAY TOMORROW (SATURDAY), THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IS TO LAUNCH THE FIRST IN A SERIES OF HEALTH EDUCATION ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR THE OCCASION.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE ACTIVITIES AIM TO AROUSE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE EFFECT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION ON HEALTH.

THEY COINCIDE WITH THE THEME OF THIS YEAR'S WORLD HEALTH DAY, "OUR PLANET - OUR HEALTH", WHICH FOCUSES ON ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH.

STARTING TOMORROW, HEALTH MESSAGES IN CANTONESE ON VARIOUS ASPECTS OF ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH WILL BE DISSEMINATED THROUGH A 24-HOUR PRE-RECORDED TELEPHONE INFORMATIVE SERVICE.

BY DIALLING 838 3232, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WILL BE ABLE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT AIR POLLUTION THIS MONTH. THIS WILL BE FOLLOWED TILL THE END OF THE YEAR BY OTHER MONTHLY TOPICS ON NOISE POLLUTION, A CLEAN HOME, FOOD HYGIENE, SUN BURN, SEWAGE CONTAMINATION AT BEACH, EXERCISE AND HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH CARNIVAL AND SMOKING AND HEALTH.

OTHER ACTIVITIES INCLUDE A PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION AND AN INTER-SCHOOL ESSAY COMPETITION, DETAILS ON BOTH OF WHICH WILL BE ANNOUNCED SHORTLY.

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THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT FROM JUNE ONWARDS, A SERIES OF WORKSHOPS ON ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH WILL BE ORGANISED FOR STUDENTS OF PRIMARY 4 TO 6.

THE SAME TOPIC WILL ALSO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE COMING YOUNG HEALTH LEADERS TRAINING PROJECT.

TO TOP THESE OFF, A CARNIVAL WILL BE STAGED AT THE SOUTHORN PLAYGROUND IN WAN CHAI ON NOVEMBER 10.

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#### GRADING OF BEACH WATER QUALITY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

/THE SYSTEM .....

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THE SYSTEM FOR GRADING BEACH WATER QUALITY IS AS FOLLOWS:

GRADE "1" INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS GOOD. THE E.COLI COUNT IS NO MORE THAN 24 PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED RISK OF MINOR ILLNESS TO SWIMMERS IS UNDETECTABLE.

GRADE "2" INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS FAIR. THE E.COLI COUNT IS NO MORE THAN 180 PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED HEALTH RISK IS NO MORE THAN 10 CASES OF MINOR ILLNESS PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

GRADE "3" INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS ACCEPTABLE. THE E.COLI COUNT IS NO MORE THAN 610 PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED HEALTH RISK IS NO MORE THAN 15 CASES OF MINOR ILLNESS PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

GRADE "4" INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS POOR. THE E.COLI COUNT IS MORE THAN 610 PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED HEALTH RISK IS MORE THAN 15 CASES OF MINOR ILLNESS PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

THE DECISION WHETHER OR NOT TO CLOSE A BEACH TO SWIMMERS IS BASED ON A JUDGEMENT OF WHAT DEGREE OF POLLUTION IS ACCEPTABLE. NORMALLY, THE CLOSURE OF A BEACH WOULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL OR REGIONAL COUNCIL IF A "4" GRADING OCCURRED REPEATEDLY, SO THAT THE AVERAGE HEALTH RISK OVER THE BATHING SEASON EXCEEDED 15 CASES PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

SIMILARLY, THE REOPENING A CLOSED BEACH WOULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED IF A "3" GRADE OR BETTER WERE CONSISTENTLY OBTAINED.

AT PRESENT, THREE BATHING BEACHES HAVE BEEN DECLARED UNSUITABLE FOR SWIMMING PURPOSES, BASED ON THE WATER QUALITY DURING PAST SEASONS. THESE BEACHES ARE CASTLE PEAK, OLD CAFETERIA AND ROCKY BAY.

THEY ARE POLLUTED BY FAECAL WASTES AND FAIL TO ACHIEVE CONSISTENTLY THE HONG KONG STANDARDS. THE PUBLIC ARE ADVISED NOT TO SWIM IN THE WATER AT THESE THREE BEACHES. THEY ARE IDENTIFIED BY AN "X" IN THE FOLLOWING TABLE.

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

/BEACH .....

BEACH -----	PRESENT GRADING ----- (AS AT 6.4.90)
HONG KONG SOUTH -----	
BIG WAVE BAY	2
CHUNG HOM KOK	1
DEEP WATER BAY	1
HAIRPIN	1
MIDDLE BAY	1
REPULSE BAY	1
SHEK O	2
SOUTH BAY	1
ST STEPHEN'S	1
TURTLE COVE	1
STANLEY MAIN	2
ROCKY BAY	X
TO TEI WAN*	1
TUEN MUN DISTRICT -----	
OLD CAFETERIA	X
NEW CAFETERIA	2
CASTLE PEAK	X
KADOORIE	2
BUTTERFLY	2
ISLANDS DISTRICT -----	
CHEUNG SHA UPPER	1
CHEUNG SHA LOWER	1

DISCOVERY BAY*	2
HUNG SHING YEH	1
KWUN YAM WAN	1
TONG FUK	1
LO SO SHING	1
PUI O	1
SILVERMINE BAY	3
TUNG WAN, CHEUNG CHAU	1
TUNG O*	1
SAI KUNG DISTRICT	
-----	
CAMPERS	1
CLEAR WATER BAY 1ST BEACH	1
CLEAR WATER BAY 2ND BEACH	1
HAP MUN BAY	1
KIU TSUI	1
PAK SHA CHAU	1
SILVERSTRAND	2
TRIO (HEBE HAVEN)	1
TSUEN WAN DISTRICT	
-----	
ANGLERS'	2
APPROACH	3
CASAM	2
GEMINI	2
HOI MEI WAN	2
LIDO	3

TING KAU	3
TUNG WAN, MA WAN	1

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

IN ADDITION TO THIS REGULAR REPORTING SYSTEM, AN ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE WATER QUALITY OF ALL THE BATHING BEACHES IN HONG KONG WILL CONTINUE TO BE PREPARED BY EPD AFTER EACH BATHING SEASON. THIS WILL ADVISE THE BEACH MANAGEMENT AUTHORITIES ON THE SUITABILITY OF INDIVIDUAL BEACHES FOR SWIMMING PURPOSES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT MR DAVID L. HALL, ACTING PRINCIPAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICER (WATER POLICY) OF EPD, AT 835 1234.

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AGRICULTURAL LOTS IN YUEN LONG TO BE RESUMED  
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ELEVEN PRIVATE AGRICULTURAL LOTS IN YUEN LONG WILL BE RESUMED FOR DEVELOPMENT PURPOSES.

THE RESUMPTION OF THE LAND LOTS, HAVING A TOTAL AREA OF ABOUT 3,162.5 SQUARE METRES, IS REQUIRED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN OPEN DRAINAGE CHANNEL.

RELATED PROJECTS INCLUDE ROADS, FOOTPATHS AND BRIDGES FOR HUNG SHUI KIU AREA.

A NOTICE ON THE RESUMPTION WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

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BISHOP KWONG VISITS CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS  
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THE BISHOP OF HONG KONG AND MACAU, THE RT REV PETER KWONG, TODAY (FRIDAY) VISITED THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S LAI KING TRAINING CENTRE AND LAI CHI KOK RECEPTION CENTRE.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE PRISON CHAPLAINS, HE FIRST WENT TO THE TRAINING CENTRE AND WAS MET ON ARRIVAL BY THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, MR CHAN WA-SHEK.

BISHOP KWONG SAW THE YOUNG INMATES IN LAI KING ATTENDING CLASSES AND TAKING PART IN VARIOUS VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES.

AT LAI CHI KOK RECEPTION CENTRE, HE INSPECTED VARIOUS CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES, INCLUDING THE DORMITORIES, WORKSHOPS, SICK BAY, CHAPEL, LIBRARY AND KITCHEN.

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TUEN MUN DRAGON BOAT RACE ORGANISERS INVITE APPLICATIONS  
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THE TUEN MUN DRAGON BOAT RACE COMMITTEE 1990 WILL ORGANISE A SERIES OF DRAGON BOAT RACES ON MAY 28 TO CELEBRATE THE TRADITIONAL TUEN NG FESTIVAL.

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN TO ORGANISATIONS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY AS WELL AS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS TO FORM TEAMS TO COMPETE IN THE RACES WHICH WILL BE HELD AT CASTLE PEAK BAY.

APART FROM LARGE AND MEDIUM DRAGON BOATS AND PHOENIX BOATS THIS YEAR'S RACES WILL ALSO FEATURE SMALL DRAGON BOATS.

THE RACE COURSE WILL BE 400 METRES, EXCEPT SMALL DRAGON BOATS, WHICH WILL BE 200 METRES.

EACH COMPETING TEAM FOR LARGE DRAGON BOAT RACE MUST NOT EXCEED 58 MEMBERS, INCLUDING THE COXSWAIN AND THE DRUMMER, WHILE THE LIMIT FOR MEDIUM DRAGON BOAT ARE 26 AND 22 FOR THE OPEN AND INVITATION RACES RESPECTIVELY.

FOR SMALL DRAGON BOAT AND PHOENIX BOAT RACES, THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS ARE LIMITED TO NINE AND 12 RESPECTIVELY.

TEAMS PARTICIPATING IN THE PHOENIX BOAT AND MEDIUM DRAGON BOAT OPEN RACES HAVE TO PAY AN ENTRANCE FEE OF \$500, WHILE THE SMALL DRAGON BOAT RACE WILL COST TEAMS \$300 TO ENTER.

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ENTRY IS FREE FOR THE LARGE DRAGON BOAT RACE AND THE MEDIUM DRAGON BOAT INVITATION RACES.

THE RACE COMMITTEE WILL SUPPLY BOATS AND OTHER ESSENTIAL EQUIPMENT FOR THE SMALL AND MEDIUM DRAGON BOAT AND PHOENIX BOAT TEAMS, WHILE THE LARGE DRAGON BOAT AND MEDIUM BOAT INVITATION TEAMS HAVE TO USE THEIR OWN BOATS.

APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF TUEN MUN GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 1 TUEN HI ROAD. THEY SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE ABOVE OFFICE BEFORE THE END OF APRIL. ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL. 450 9673.

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OPENING OF FLYOVER CONNECTING KWAI CHUNG ROAD AND CHEUNG WING ROAD

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM ON SUNDAY (APRIL 8), THE FLYOVER CONNECTING KWAI CHUNG ROAD AND CHEUNG WING ROAD WILL BE OPEN TO TRAFFIC.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE ACCESS ROAD CONNECTING THE EASTBOUND AND WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD - KWAI CHUNG AT THE WEST OF CHEUNG WING ROAD GYRATORY WILL BE DESIGNATED A BAN ZONE 24 HOURS DAILY.

MOTORISTS ON THE NORTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF KWAI CHUNG ROAD INTENDING TO GO TO CHEUNG WING ROAD WILL BE DIVERTED TO THE NEW FLYOVER BEFORE CONTINUING THE REST OF THE JOURNEY.

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URBAN CLEARWAYS ON KWAI CHUNG ROAD

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM ON SUNDAY (APRIL 8), THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS OF KWAI CHUNG ROAD WILL BE DESIGNATED URBAN CLEARWAYS 24 HOURS DAILY:

- \* THE FLYOVER CONNECTING KWAI CHUNG ROAD AND CHEUNG WING ROAD;  
AND
- \* THE NORTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF KWAI CHUNG ROAD BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH WO TONG TSUI STREET AND A POINT ABOUT 65 METRES NORTH OF THE SAME JUNCTION.

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

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BAN AT CHEUNG WING ROAD GYRATORY

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM ON SUNDAY (APRIL 8), THE ACCESS ROAD CONNECTING THE EASTBOUND AND WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD - KWAI CHUNG AT THE WEST OF CHEUNG WING ROAD GYRATORY WILL BE DESIGNATED A BAN ZONE 24 HOURS DAILY.

ALL VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES, PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES (SCHEDULED) SERVICE AND THOSE WITH PERMITS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE ROAD.

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