



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Thursday, November 2, 1972

VITAL NEED FOR DEVELOPMENT PLANS IN N.T.

A delay in drawing up development plans for new towns "has laid a dead hand on the development of the New Territories."

Speaking in the Legislative Council on a motion of thanks for the Governor's address, the Hon. Q.W. Lee, said that these delays had inhibited the growth which might well have taken place had decisions on such plans been made at an earlier date.

He said it was important for a master plan to be drawn up, to prescribe the specific dates by which plans for each of the new towns would be ready and also indicating the dates when the various public services such as drainage, water and roads would be made available.

Referring to the new town in Sha Tin, Mr. Lee said he had been told there was only one development plan which was produced in 1967 and "is still being revised in the light of changing conditions."

"I have been informed that the only development plan which has been decided is what is known as Stage One Phase One for Sha Tin and that concerns only an area to be developed primarily for public housing.

"What is needed is the speedy drawing up of an overall development plan to which public and private development alike can be geared," he said.

There was also a vital need for development plan for the new towns in Tsuen Wan, Sam Tseng, Tuen Mun, Yuen Long, Fanling, Shek Wu Hui and Tai Po.

/To enable

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To enable the private sector to contribute to the solution of the housing problem, Mr. Lee called on the government to speed up the development and sale of land in these areas.

He suggested that land for private development should in future be sold even before it was fully formed and certainly well before the date when the basic services were provided. This would be on the understanding that these services were to be provided within a certain period of time.

"If the title to the land is sold in advance then developers could proceed with their plans and get to the stage when the architects have done their work and the Buildings Ordinance Office has given its approval. They may even begin to proceed with some of the foundation work.

"If this service of work could be expedited, the entire process of development may be telescoped by as much as 12 to 18 months," Mr. Lee said.

Mr. Lee described the White Paper on Social Welfare as "an important milestone" and he firmly believed the proposals would be implemented in the near future.

"I am in complete agreement with the principles laid down by it in the direction of promoting social welfare," he said.

Regarding the proposal that public assistance be given to orphans, widowed, disabled and aged without a means test, Mr. Lee said that such a scheme may not cost more than one based on a means test.

/"The majority

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"The majority of the members of Hong Kong's community are Chinese who strongly uphold the virtue of filial love. As long as they are capable of supporting their parents, they will not ask for help from other people."

"Those who do come forward to seek assistance must be those who are desperate," he added.

Turning to the City District Officer scheme, Mr. Lee said the time had now come for the government to consider giving the C.D.O.'s some executive authority.

"In view of the fact that all C.D.O.'s are better acquainted with what is going on in their districts than most other government departments, it is beyond doubt that if they were given a limited but appropriate executive authority, their effectiveness would be further enhanced," he added.

At the same time, he hoped the government would give priority to appointing more experienced staff to the scheme to enable its further development for the benefit of the entire community. In recent years, he said, some of the administrative officers recruited to serve as C.D.O.'s had only one or two years experience in the government.

Mr. Lee also called on the Financial Secretary "to inform us of recent developments over the sterling guarantee and to assure us that our reserves are well protected" in view of the uncertainty overhanging the future of the Guarantee and in particular the recent weakness of the pound.

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CHANGES SUGGESTED IN LAND RESUMPTION POLICY

The Hon. Oswald Cheung, speaking on Government's policy on the development of the New Territories today called for the early implementation of the decisions that had already been made.

He told the Legislative Council that it was comparatively easy to make decisions, but it was extremely difficult to get them carried out.

He welcomed the Governor's outline of the policy, which he said was indicative of "far reaching and fundamental changes."

Referring to land resumption, he said there had been "general satisfaction" in the New Territories with the Letter B Scheme whereby the Government agreed to give land in exchange for land resumed.

But, he said, there had been "fairly acute dissatisfaction" in cases to which this scheme did not apply, and in particular where land outside a layout area was resumed.

In these cases, the landowner either sells by private treaty to the Crown, or he takes his case for assessment of compensation before a Land Resumption Tribunal.

In either case, he gets compensation that is worth much less than a Letter B.

Mr. Cheung described it as "illogical" to give different treatment to land resumed within a layout area and land resumed outside; in both cases the land is required for a public purpose.

/Mr. Cheung

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Mr. Cheung said it might be that the provisions of the Land Resumption Ordinance as regards the basis on which land was valued for compensation, were defective.

He would like to see consideration given to whether the Ordinance could be amended.

"However," he said, "perhaps other equitable methods can be devised to deal with land resumption."

He applauded the policy of making Lantau and other parts of the New Territories accessible for recreation and tourism.

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KNIFING CRIMES MUST BE PREVENTED

The Hon. T.K. Ann today spoke of what he termed as a "vicious" circle that was leading to more robberies and, in particular, to more knifing crimes, and said this cycle must be broken up in order to reduce the growing crime rate.

He said one way to do this is for local mass media not to report for a while those crimes where the criminals cannot be caught red-handed, but to emphasise on news of criminals being arrested and sentenced by the courts.

Mr. Ann was speaking in the Legislative Council in support of a motion of thanks for the Governor's address given earlier this month at the opening of the Council's new session.

He explained that the "vicious" circle begins with many bloody robbery cases being given full publicity by the mass media, causing fears among the general public of getting involved in cases of other people being robbed.

As a result, he said, victims are singled out and, also because the police are understaffed, robbers often get away with it easily.

Constant reports of these may serve to encourage would-be criminals to take a chance and lead to yet more crimes.

Mr. Ann said silence will "terrorise the guilty still at large" when the mass media voluntarily refrain from reporting knifing crimes, although this suggestion "may seem shocking to a society enjoying freedom of speech".

/He said

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He said this will cut off information which is of benefit to those who may plan making an audacious attempt. It will also cut off some "association of ideas" to would-be criminals, as human thinking process and the resultant action are generally guided by "association of ideas", he added.

These tactics, he said, fall in line with the first general observation made by the Governor on combating crimes -- deterrence by "fear of detection".

Mr. Ann said he is convinced that knifing crimes do have bearing on robberies and he posed a number of questions which "may be properly asked".

He asked why knife killings are always so fatal; whether the criminals are trained killers; where they are trained; and where they get their early and first impression of thrusting a knife into a human body.

In the United Kingdom, he said, any immigrant bringing with him a knife longer than six inches has to declare it to the customs, and he asked: "Do we have a watch on knife imports and distribution?"

The other questions are: "Where do the robbers sell their plunder when it is not cash? Where do they spend their easy money? There are plenty of jobs in Hong Kong, why must they steal or rob instead of finding a job?"

Mr. Ann said: "If we tried to answer these questions, I believe the rate of crime detection could improve. And if we can only break one of the links of this vicious circle, I believe the crime rate will recede."

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However, he said, the most effective counter-measure is to bring the police force up to strength which the Governor has already given the order to put into effect.

"I think Government needs to treat this upsurge of knife robbery as an exception," he said, pointing out that a knife is a cheap, convenient but effective weapon to terrorize unarmed singled-out individuals.

Too often, he said, the knife is pointed at the victim suddenly at close range, rendering him helpless and scaring away other people who may want to come to his aid.

Mr. Ann therefore suggested that tougher laws be introduced against people carrying dangerous knives on the street without valid reason, as well as offenders convicted of crimes of knifing or killing with triangular files, razors, scissors or broken bottles.

"Thus far I have omitted mention of other arms not because I have no respect for firearms, but because I feel, for the moment, there is dire need to place special emphasis on knifing crimes in our circumstances," he said.

He said he would wholeheartedly join Council members in support of other new measures, whether on an experimental basis or otherwise, even though such new measures incur more increases in the annual expenditure.

"We all understand that law and order is of first importance to Hong Kong's continuing prosperity, and in all probability, it has to be bought at a higher price," he said.

/Mr. Ann

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Mr. Ann foresaw that Government's set policy of improving education, housing and social welfare for the less fortunate, and of raising people's living standard must bring bonus and reduce crime.

He said hitherto there is not enough education opportunity for youngsters aged between 12 and 14, and therefore many of the youths in this age group are living in a "social limbo", neither studying nor working, and become the raw materials for moulding into future criminals.

"The issue we encounter today must be in some way due to our inability to tackle these young people in the past. Educational programmes tailored for them must be hastened. We cannot afford to wait too long," he said, adding that the Governor has rightly pressed for an accelerated programme.

In addition to education, he said measures such as the elimination of bad influences on youths might be required and he fully supports the sound policy of a good neighbourhood.

He felt it is also necessary to pay special attention towards strengthening family ties which can still be counted upon as a "bulwark" to social stability.

"To tackle local problems, in my belief, traditional thinking should not be completely ignored. We shall be on the wrong track if Western thinking is adopted too rigidly in social field-work or reformative undertaking."

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REALISTIC APPROACH TO SOCIAL WELFARE

The proposals contained in the white paper on social welfare should not be "watered down" in any way as it would be a great disservice to Hong Kong.

Speaking in the Legislative Council on a motion of thanks for the Governor's address at the opening session, the Honourable R.H. Lobo, said the proposals were put forward as a complete programme and any arbitrary cut would certainly reduce their total impact and "might well undermine them altogether."

"They will not transform social welfare in Hong Kong overnight. Nor do they constitute all that those concerned with social welfare would like to see done. But they do represent, in my view, a realistic minimum in terms of what can be done with the available staff and resources," he added.

Mr. Lobo said it was right that the effort should be concentrated on helping those least able to help themselves, and to improve community and social facilities through the extension of community centres and through the appointment of community and youth officers.

He said there was a need for such officers to work in each district to provide channels of advice, information and practical help at the "grass-roots" level which, at the moment, is unfortunately not being touched by the government.

The officers should be leaders who can encourage participation and involvement in district activities to create a sense of belonging. But, he warned, "it would be a great pity if they were to be regarded as 'little officials'".

/Mr. Lobo

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Mr. Lobo welcomed the fact that the white paper was in draft form to allow the views of the community to be expressed before final decisions were taken, and added that this might be regarded as a model for other areas of forward planning.

He also expressed concern at the number of "hats being exchanged" in regard to the post of Director of Social Welfare. "In the past nine years there have been four substantive holders of the position".

Continuity in this post, and in many heads of department postings, was essential and he urged that the incumbent should remain in office for at least four years.

On the subject of the supply of recreational equipment, Mr. Lobo suggested that consideration be given to setting up a central pool from where voluntary agencies could borrow equipment until other plans materialised.

The government and philanthropic bodies could buy and maintain the equipment.

He also called for the integration of all recreation -- cultural as well as physical -- in one department which would be responsible for organising all activities through district centres and schools.

To help solve the employment problem faced by young school leavers, Mr. Lobo called for the setting up of a Youth Employment Agency to specifically help those "who cannot find work at all".

He envisaged an agency which would do a great deal more than the Labour Department's Youth Employment Advisory Service. "It would cover actual placement of jobs."

/It would

It would try to ensure that those people seeking work would be put to the best available use in business, industry or such other employment which was available. The agency would endeavour to match the output of students to the availability of jobs.

Statistics built up by such a service would also be of immense help in planning the future development of Hong Kong's educational services and determining the best courses to be provided in the various institutions. It should also help to reduce labour turnover and wastage.

Half of Hong Kong's population is under 25 and this vast reservoir of "idealism, enthusiasm and energy" must be harnessed if the quality of life is to be improved.

Mr. Lobo called for the legalisation of off-course betting to help in paying for the new programmes to be introduced.

He said there was no need to point out the illegal benefits which had accrued to undesirable elements and added that "these illegalities are going to increase with the introduction of greater activities in the race course".

"It would seem not only reasonable but essential that steps be taken now to introduce legislation making off-course betting legal and the money obtained to be used for social welfare and other community activities," Mr. Lobo said.

Turning to crime, Mr. Lobo thought the reintroduction of the whistle, which was withdrawn from public use some years ago, would help as a deterrent along with the proposals outlined by the Governor.

"Many people would be only too glad to use the whistle although they would hesitate to risk the physical dangers of intervention when they see a crime committed," he said.

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HONG KONG NEEDS A NEW PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION

Mrs. Symons is very enthusiastic and sanguine at the prospect of the development of educational facilities outlined by the Governor.

In the policy outlined on the development of three years post-primary education for all, she said, she sees a most exciting challenge which few countries or communities are called upon to attempt.

Mrs. Symons said: "One suspects that there has never been much philosophical thinking in the past whenever education was provided."

Church schools and a handful of pre-war Government schools did in fact provide a good all-round education of a sort, but there was no necessity in those halcyon days to speak of the philosophy of education.

Today, she said, we cannot afford to build, staff and run a school without really thinking about the children as children, and not as examinees.

She said each year thousands of Certificate holders enrol in matriculation courses as there are so few training facilities or job opportunities.

Then two years later the process is repeated and many upper-six leavers enter tertiary education to postpone the inevitable day of starting work.

Mrs. Symons said: "As conditions in overseas countries change, especially the United States, fewer Hong Kong students will proceed abroad."

"In this circumstance, even expanded enrolment at our two universities and the Polytechnic will not be enough."

/New planning,

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New planning, she said, will surely take into consideration the imbalance of academic education to vocational and technical education which is at present so characteristic of our system.

But it will take much soul-searching and much subtle persuasion to convince our parents that not all their children should proceed to university.

"All that is good and durable in the past is certainly worth extracting," she said, "but an initial first step in the rethinking of a viable education system must face this issue fairly and squarely."

Mrs. Symons welcomed the promise of bold, new ideas and the opportunity for many to share in the new order.

She said: "It is really essential now to examine curricula being planned in the context of preparing not just Hong Kong citizens of the future, but citizens of the world."

"If the world is to be one world at peace at the end of this century, then we have an opportunity never before given any city to evolve a new pattern of education towards this aim."

Mrs. Symons pointed out that one great drawback about the discussion of education anywhere is the abundance of self-appointed experts to provide instant and inevitably oversimplified answers to Hong Kong's educational problems.

If anything, the situation in Hong Kong is further complicated because of the traditional love of learning so characteristic of our people, the somewhat misplaced confidence in the intrinsic value of examinations and the equally alarming insistence on academic grammar schooling both on the part of many parents and many school authorities.

/"If I have

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"If I have any misgivings about future replanning," she said, "it is the fear (I hope unfounded) that our youngsters will not willingly support technical institutions at the various levels, partly because of conservative opposition to blue-collar jobs and partly because of the lack of incentive in economic terms."

The suggestion that biculturalism may have to be reintroduced did not frighten her.

Apart from the practical aspect of providing more places initially it will be immeasurably helpful financially.

Hong Kong, she said, has always been able to improvise, and should be able to devise something new in biculturalism at the secondary and tertiary levels.

She added that the point which must be made and made again is that children must not be simply bottled up at home.

Mrs. Symons said: "Partners in the upbringing of a young person must be the home, the school and society."

Society in the context of Hong Kong imposes a heavy and natural responsibility on Government to provide facilities for extra-curricular activities like planned school visits, recreational and cultural pursuits.

She said the research to be undertaken in the study of such facilities will doubtless be tied up in social service studies.

The provision of fresh training facilities at the proposed Institute for Social Work Training and the proposed Police School are most welcome both as avenues of training for two really worthwhile careers and as necessary steps in the improvement of life.

/Mrs. Symons said

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Mrs. Symons said it is her earnest hope that with the 1971 census figures in hand the authorities will attempt to solve the enormous puzzles of vast numbers of unschooled men and women, boys and girls in this city.

She said that Hong Kong must study the educational systems in other countries before evolving its own.

"The time is opportunity and the opportunity great to evolve a truly Hong Kong type of education," she said.

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DANGEROUS BUILDING

The Building Authority today declared the two storey Industrial Building at the corner of Tong Mi Road and Nam Tau Street to be in a dangerous condition and ordered demolition.

The pre-war building was first inspected some years ago as a matter of routine and has been under observation since.

In spite of repair works carried out under order over the past two years, deterioration of the reinforced concrete framing has progressed to the point where there is a risk of local collapse.

It is considered that the amount of repair necessary under order to put the building in a safe condition would be unreasonable, so notice of intention to apply for a Closure Order in Kowloon District Court at 9.30 a.m. on December 14 was posted today.

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OFF-COURSE BETTING SHOULD BE LEGALISED

The Hon. P.G. Williams today called for a form of legal off-course betting and suggested that as a first step the Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club be permitted soon to accept certain off-course bets.

Speaking in the Legislative Council on a motion of thanks for the Governor's speech two weeks ago, Mr. Williams said he was not advocating that all gambling should be legalised.

"I am simply saying that for the good of the community, the gambling which is permitted in the Happy Valley Race Course should be legally permitted in other parts of Hong Kong provided it is in responsible hands and the community benefits from the profits."

Mr. Williams noted that since the war, the Jockey Club had been the vehicle for contributing vast sums of money each year for the good of the community, both indirectly through betting duties, and directly, by means of capital grants to community projects of every kind.

During the past 10 years, the Club itself has directly contributed some \$200 million for charitable and amenity projects.

Mr. Williams said that "the source of this beneficence is not only threatened by the continual extension of illegal off-course betting, but also the opportunity is being lost to obtain much more for the welfare of the community by failing to legalise and control off-course betting."

He suggested that something in the order of \$100 million had been lost in revenue from illegal betting last year alone.

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Mr. Williams said that a large proportion of people in Hong Kong considered the present situation "unreasonable and inequitable."

"He who can afford the time and money to go to the races, and provided he can get in, is allowed to bet," he said. "Other less fortunate are denied this privilege and at present, if they wish to bet, have no alternative but to turn to illegal bookmakers."

Mr. Williams said that if legal off-course betting were permitted, the machinery to effect this on a large scale would take some time to establish.

He suggested that as a first step, the Jockey Club be allowed soon to accept off-course certain approved multiple bets of the tierce and jackpot type.

He was confident that this would result in an "immediate and dramatic increase of monies available for the good of the community as a whole."

Mr. Williams, who served in the Container Committee, spoke at length on containerisation, describing it as "a monster which will not easily adapt to Hong Kong."

"It is Hong Kong that must adapt to containerisation," he said.

He had a feeling that some government departments did not fully understand the logic nor accept the inevitability of containerisation.

He made five recommendations:

- * Government should delay formal decisions relating to containers until more experience is gained and more comprehensive data is obtained based on the vastly increased traffic which will develop in the coming year.

/Government

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- * Government should study in depth the actual road congestion caused by containers as opposed to their equivalent in ordinary trucks.
- * A much more thorough survey should be made of the extra cost and the inconvenience to exporters and importers if the concept of door-to-door delivery is disallowed.
- * Rather than an all-embracing ban on curbside parking, Government should investigate the possibility of selective "parking" and "non parking" areas.
- * Improvement in road facilities such as the Kwai Chung Terminal access flyover should be hastened to cope with the increased vital traffic rather than attempting to curb progress by restrictions.

Referring to technical education and industrial training, Mr. Williams said both must have a "very high priority" among Hong Kong's many pressing needs.

He said the problems and requirements of industrial training were quite different to those of technical education and this must be kept in mind when the Board of Education was reconstituted.

He called for careful consideration of a recommendation by the Industrial Training Advisory Committee that the direction of industrial training should be in the hands of an Industrial Training Council.

Speaking on sports generally, Mr. Williams said that to raise standards, top trainers must be brought to Hong Kong and ways found for paying for this.

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"These in turn will train our own trainers so that a skilled training force in all sports can be built up," he said.

Participation in international competition, he said, must be encouraged and supported. But he warned that this should not be at a level where Hong Kong sportsmen were totally unable to compete unless it was token participation in a major event to ensure Hong Kong's presence.

Mr. Williams also suggested that leading athletes from overseas be encouraged to perform here.

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NEED FOR BETTER EDUCATED AND TRAINED WORKFORCE

The Hon. James M.H. Wu today called for a "better educated and trained workforce" to meet the challenges Hong Kong now faces.

Delivering his maiden speech in the Legislative Council this afternoon, Mr. Wu said that plans for expanding the universities and particularly the Polytechnic are "not without justification."

However, he said, "industrial training and allied technical education at lower level are equally important."

As Hong Kong advances into growing mechanisation and sophistication, only a better educated and trained workforce can manage and produce the kind of increased productivity to counteract the competition and adversities Hong Kong faces, he added.

Mr. Wu said the technical institutes and pre-vocational schools proposed had their definite roles to play.

But, he said, "the specific fast changing skills can only be acquired by learning, practising and working on the shop floor."

This, promoted in the way of properly organised apprenticeship schemes, "provides our youths with a earn-as-you-learn opportunity to acquire a skill and the industrialists a stable and motivated manpower source."

In this connection, Mr. Wu expressed concern over the fact that the Labour Department's Industrial Training Division was still "very much understaffed".

/He was

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He was also concerned at the "apparent inaction" in implementing the recommendations of the Final Report of the Industrial Training Advisory Committee, including the setting up of the Hong Kong Training Council.

Mr. Wu described the Final Report as "an unprecedented achievement and excellent ground-work for planning."

It was evident, Mr. Wu said, that Hong Kong's problem in technical education and vocational training was not money, or school buildings, but inexperienced teachers.

He called on the Government to consider the idea of setting up industrial fellowships to help graduates of the universities and polytechnic to spend time in selected industries to acquire practical experience and expertise to become better teachers and professionals.

On industrial development, Mr. Wu called for the promotion of the metals and light-engineering industries to "tap the high volume markets of appliances, automotive parts, and other advanced technological products."

He urged the Government to set up an industrial park exclusively for foundries, forges and other metal processing plants.

This, he said, would have a catalytic effect and would go a long way "to provide for the basic support and to attract foreign investment, thus realising a true diversification into high technology and capital intensive industries for better productivity of our labour force."

/Referring

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Referring to the stock market, Mr. Wu said much wheeling-dealing was done mainly in the finance and real-estates shares to the aggravation of inflation and contributing little to the production of material wealth of the community.

In today's circumstances, it calls for dedicated industrialists to toil for usually meagre profits with big investment on a long term basis and high risks in comparison to what appears to be easy and quick money in playing the stock market to the detriment of particularly the wage earners.

"This," Mr. Wu said, "in my own opinion could culminate in economic disaster and grave social injustice, and I believe government and those who weild financial powers can and should redress and discourage this with means at their disposal, in addition to legislative measures."

Commenting on housing, Mr. Wu said the present price of \$200 or higher a square foot for nearly all types of newly completed buildings was becoming "prohibitive" for the overseas executive and certainly for the local low-income group.

This was why, he said, there was such a "wide acclaim" for the long range plan in public housing.

The implementation of the plan should rightly command "the highest priority," he added.

Mr. Wu said the prsent contracting and sub-contracting way of doing work provided "little incentive for improving methods."

/He said

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He said that people in the construction business had told him that they could use a lot more modernisation and mechanisation.

"Clearly," he said, "this is a field where architects, civil engineers, equipment makers and contractors can work together for the benefit of all."

Turning to community involvement, Mr. Wu had reservations about the allegation that Hong Kong people were apathetic and indifferent.

He said: "Whilst positive response is not always spontaneous (therefore the allegation), good leadership, organisation and liaison seldom fail in bringing about a resounding success."

He said the Governor's "pragmatic approach and unassuming attitude" had given him all the more reason to believe that much more difficult problems could be solved through community involvement.

Commenting on factory fires, Mr. Wu called for some concerted efforts to remedy the situation and avoid disasters.

He hoped that the Fire Service and insurance companies would take part in a joint committee formed by the Chinese Manufacturers' Association and the Federation of Hong Kong Industries to tackle this problem.

On crime, Mr. Wu said this "vexing problem" was not likely to be solved without community involvement.

"It is important," he said, "that channels for effective and fruitful consultations be created whereby the assistance of the Kaifongs can be enlisted at the neighbourhood or grass-roots level."

He believed that more involvement with the Kaifongs was possible with the help from the Secretary for Home Affairs and the Secretary for Information.

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WATER SUPPLY SCHEME FOR REMOTE ISLAND

Seven thousand residents of Kat O Chau and Kau Lau Wan Village will have their own water supply when a \$3 million scheme serving the two areas is opened on Saturday (November 4).

The scheme includes intake dams, delivery pipelines both overland and underwater, and concrete reservoirs near the villages.

The facilities will also serve the crews of fishing vessels based at Kat O and Kau Lau Wan.

Special projects for these remote areas must be planned and built as water cannot be supplied from the general water supply system serving other parts of the New Territories.

Two opening ceremonies will be held on Saturday when the residents will join with officials and engineers in the celebrations marking the completion of the scheme.

Note to Editors: You are invited to send a reporter and/or photographer to cover the opening ceremonies. A van, No. AM3274 will be waiting at 7.45 a.m. in the car park behind the Tsim Sha Tsui Post Office to take the Press to the Tai Po Kau Pier.

The Press will then board a launch for Kat O. A light breakfast will be served on board.

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After the opening ceremony at Kat O, the Press will be conveyed by launch to cover the ceremony at Kau Lau Wan.

At about 12.45 p.m., the Press will be taken to the nearby Tap Mun Island, where a seafood lunch will be served.

After lunch, the Press will be taken back to Tai Po Kau Pier, and then by the same van back to Tsim Sha Tsui.

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GOVERNOR'S SPEECH SUMMARISED IN CHINESE

Highlights of the Governor's speech at the opening of the new session of the Legislative Council on October 18 have been published in Chinese and are now being distributed by the Secretariat for Home Affairs.

The leaflet outlines the Government's 10-year plan for housing, as well as plans for education, medical services, social welfare and law and order.

Copies of the leaflet are now available to the public from all City District Offices.

A limited print order of the leaflet in English is being distributed to secondary schools throughout Hong Kong.

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VISIT OF ANTHONY ROYLE

Mr. Peter Blaker, Chairman of the Anglo-Hong Kong Parliamentary Group, and Mr. Dan Jones, Joint Vice-Chairman of the Group, called on the Under Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, Mr. Anthony Royle yesterday (Wednesday) for a general discussion prior to his forthcoming visit to Hong Kong.

According to a cable from London the Minister agreed to give the group an account of his visit on his return.

Mr. Royle will be visiting Hong Kong from November 11 to 15 during which period he will be having wide-ranging discussions with the Governor, officials and leading members of the community.

Mr. Blaker is Conservative Member of Parliament for Blackpool, South, while Mr. Jones is Labour Member for Burnley.

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ANOTHER LANDSLIDE BUILDING REOPENS

Another building in the Kotewall Road landslide area has been reopened.

The Building Authority announced that the closure order on Block II, Emerald Gardens, No. 36 Kotewall Road was raised today.

The Principal Government Building Surveyor said now that the authorised architect, appointed by the owners, had completed certain specified works and produced satisfactory evidence regarding the stability of the building, he was satisfied that it was no longer dangerous.

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Release time: 8.30 p.m.