



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1988

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PROGRESS IN SECOND ROUND VBP TALKS

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THE VIETNAMESE HAVE COME A LONG WAY TOWARDS UNDERSTANDING THE BOAT PEOPLE PROBLEM AS A WHOLE AND A LOT OF PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE DURING THE SECOND ROUND OF TALKS JUST HELD IN LONDON.

THIS WAS SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE POLITICAL ADVISER, MR RICHARD CLIFT, AT THE AIRPORT ON HIS RETURN AFTER ATTENDING THE TALKS. COMING BACK TOGETHER WITH MR CLIFT WERE THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MR GEOFFREY BARNES, AND THE PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MR ALAN FUNG.

MR BARNES ADDED THAT THE TWO SIDES HAVE MOVED MUCH CLOSER TOGETHER THAN THEY WERE BEFORE.

"I THINK THE MOVE, FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW, HAS BEEN PARTICULARLY NOTICEABLE ON THE VIETNAMESE SIDE," HE SAID.

MR CLIFT SAID THE VIETNAMESE WERE NOW OBVIOUSLY VERY INTERESTED IN SOLVING A PROBLEM WHICH DID NOT MAKE THEM APPEAR IN A GOOD LIGHT, AND THAT THEY NOW REALISED THAT THE PROBLEM WAS MUCH MORE COMPLEX THAN THEY THOUGHT.

"I THINK WHAT WE ARE GOING TO DO NOW, WHICH IS IN OUR INTEREST TOO, IS TO START ON THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE APPLIED TO GO BACK, AND THEN TO WORK ON TO THE OTHERS," HE SAID.

MR CLIFT ADDED THAT INITIALLY, ABOUT 350 VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE WHO HAVE ASKED TO GO BACK WOULD BE INVOLVED, AND THAT 110 NAMES WHICH HAVE BEEN VALIDATED BY THE UNHCR HAVE BEEN HANDED OVER TO THE VIETNAMESE TEAM.

"WE RECOGNISE IT IS NOT THE END OF THE ROAD," MR BARNES ADDED.

"THERE IS A LOT STILL TO BE DONE, BUT CERTAINLY WHAT WE HAVE AGREED NOW IN LONDON IS THE BASIS FOR THE WAY FORWARD," HE SAID.

"THERE IS NO QUESTION OF THE 9,500 (VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE) BEING PUT ON ONE SIDE," HE SAID. "THEY ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF WHAT WE WERE TALKING ABOUT, AND THEY ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF WHAT WAS AGREED."

ASKED ABOUT DETAILS OF THE DISCUSSION CONCERNING REPATRIATION, MR CLIFT SAID A LOT OF IT HAD TO DO WITH THE ROLE OF THE UNHCR.

"ONE POINT THAT WAS NOTICEABLE WAS THAT BOTH SIDES AGREED THAT THE UNHCR WOULD PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE AND CERTAINLY WE, AND WE IMAGINE THE VIETNAMESE WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH THE UNHCR ON THIS SOON," HE SAID.

/MR BARNES

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MR BARNES ADDED THAT THEY DISCUSSED WITH THE VIETNAMESE THE METHOD OF RETURN, WHETHER IT SHOULD BE VIA BANGKOK OR DIRECT TO HANOI AND THE VIETNAMESE WERE VERY MUCH IN FAVOUR OF DIRECT FLIGHTS TO HANOI.

HE SAID IT WAS PERFECTLY ALRIGHT FROM THE DELEGATION'S POINT OF VIEW BECAUSE THEY WOULD SEE THIS AS CHARTERED FLIGHTS.

"BUT WE WOULD SEE ALSO THE UNHCR AND THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS ACTUALLY BEING RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THESE RETURNS, IN LINE WITH THE MECHANISM WHICH DOES IN FACT ALREADY EXIST FOR SOME OF THESE RETURNS.

"WE ALSO ASKED THE VIETNAMESE ABOUT THE SIZE OF PLANES THAT SHOULD BE USED. THEY PREFERRED TO HAVE MEDIUM-SIZE PLANES. THEY ALSO MADE THE POINT THAT THEY WOULD FIND VERY LARGE NUMBERS, VERY LARGE BATCHES, RATHER UNWIELDY, AND OF COURSE THE MEDIUM-SIZE PLANES WOULD FIT IN WITH THAT," MR BARNES SAID.

"THE UNHCR AND THE VIETNAMESE HAVE ALSO BEEN IN TOUCH WITH EACH OTHER ABOUT THE FORM OF ASSISTANCE. THIS IS SOMETHING AGAIN WHICH WE SEE VERY MUCH THE UNHCR PLAYING A MAJOR ROLE HERE.

"WE ARE TALKING HERE ABOUT LIMITED ASSISTANCE, NOT GREAT QUANTITIES OF ECONOMIC AID TO VIETNAM," MR BARNES STRESSED.

"IT'S LIMITED ASSISTANCE, PRACTICAL ASSISTANCE -- FOOD, CLOTHING, PERHAPS THE TOOLS, PERHAPS MEANS OF MAKING MATERIAL FOR HOUSES, SOME PERHAPS LIMITED FORM OF SUBSISTENCE OR POCKET MONEY. BUT IT IS VERY MUCH INTEGRATION ASSISTANCE, RATHER THAN AID AS SUCH," HE POINTED OUT.

"THE MAIN AIM IS TO TRY TO ENSURE THAT WHEN PEOPLE GO BACK TO VIETNAM THEY DON'T ARRIVE ABSOLUTELY PENNILESS AND WITHOUT ANY MEANS OF SUPPORT," HE SAID, ADDING THAT THIS WOULD JUST BE AN ADDITIONAL BURDEN FOR THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT AND FOR THE PEOPLE THEMSELVES.

"IT WOULD BE DEALT WITH ON A NEED BASIS. IT'S NOT GOING TO BE A PER CAPITA HAND-OUT. NOTHING LIKE THAT HAD BEEN DISCUSSED OR IS ENVISAGED," MR BARNES POINTED OUT.

MR CLIFT ADDED THAT DETAILS WOULD HAVE TO BE WORKED OUT BUT THE UNHCR HAD GOT QUITE A LOT OF EXPERIENCE AND UNDERSTANDING ON THIS SORT OF THING.

"THEY WILL NO DOUBT WANT TO LOOK AT IT IN THE LIGHT OF THE PARTICULAR VIETNAMESE PROBLEM."

ASKED TO GIVE AN ESTIMATE OF THE AMOUNT, MR BARNES SAID: "I WOULD SAY ALMOST WITHOUT ANY DOUBT WHATSOEVER IT'S GOING TO BE MUCH CHEAPER TO SEND PEOPLE BACK WITH ASSISTANCE THAN IT IS TO MAINTAIN THEM INDEFINITELY IN HONG KONG."

/IT ANSWER

IN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS ABOUT THE APPORTIONMENT OF THE ASSISTANCE, HE SAID THE TALKS HAD NOT COVERED APPORTIONMENTS OR DETAILS. "THE UNHCR ITSELF WILL BE INVOLVED IN THIS ALMOST CERTAINLY."

"AS RECORDED IN THE JOINT STATEMENT, THE BRITISH SIDE, WHICH OF COURSE IS THE UK GOVERNMENT AND THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT, ALSO SEES ITSELF BEING INVOLVED," MR BARNES NOTED.

MR CLIFT ADDED THAT THE UNHCR NEED TO DISCUSS THIS WITH THE VIETNAMESE. "THEY MAY HAVE SOME FUNDS ALREADY WHICH THEY CAN USE, WE DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH OR WHAT THEY CAN GIVE AND THEN OBVIOUSLY BOTH THE HONG KONG AND THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT THEN HAVE THEIR OWN QUITE SEPARATE PROCEDURES TO GO THROUGH IN EXAMINING THE QUESTION OF ASSISTANCE.

"SO WE HAVEN'T GOT TO THE STAGE OF APPORTIONMENT YET," THE POLITICAL ADVISER SAID.

ASKED WHETHER VIETNAM HAD GIVEN ANY ASSURANCES THAT THEY WOULD STOP PEOPLE LEAVING THE COUNTRY ILLEGALLY, MR CLIFT SAID THEY HAD QUITE A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF DISCUSSION ABOUT MEASURES TO DISCOURAGE DEPARTURES.

HE SAID THE VIETNAMESE GAVE A GOOD DEAL OF DETAILS AS TO WHAT THEY HAD BEEN DOING.

IN REPLY TO WHETHER HE WAS SATISFIED WITH THE ASSURANCES, MR CLIFT SAID ONE COULD NOT MAKE SNAP JUDGEMENTS. "BUT SINCE THERE HAS BEEN A CONSIDERABLE FALLING OFF, OBVIOUSLY PART OF IT ONE EXPECTS IS BECAUSE OF APPRECIATION OF OUR NEW POLICY WHICH HAS GOT THROUGH TO VIETNAM AND IS HAVING AN EFFECT."

HE BELIEVED THAT THE MEASURES WHICH THE VIETNAMESE HAD TAKEN HAD BEEN A CONTRIBUTION TO IT AS WELL.

AS FOR ASSURANCES OR GUARANTEES ABOUT THE TREATMENT OF VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE WHEN THEY GET BACK, MR CLIFT SAID THIS WAS SOMETHING WHICH THE UNHCR WOULD BE VERY MUCH INVOLVED IN.

"INDEED THE JOINT STATEMENT HAS A REFERENCE TO THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE UNHCR ON THE BASIS THAT THE ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN A HUMANITARIAN WAY. AND WE DID DISCUSS THE QUESTION WITH THE VIETNAMESE AND WE THOUGHT THAT THE ASSURANCES WHICH THEY GAVE WERE VERY REASSURING," HE NOTED.

ASKED TO ELABORATE ON THIS POINT, MR CLIFT SAID THE ASSURANCES WERE THAT THERE WOULD NOT BE ILL-TREATMENT OF THE PEOPLE AND THAT THEY OPERATED A HUMANE POLICY.

"BUT OF COURSE AN IMPORTANT THING CLEARLY IS THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE UNHCR AFTER PEOPLE HAVE GONE BACK. AND THAT IS SOMETHING WHICH WE WILL BE DISCUSSING WITH THEM," MR CLIFT EMPHASISED.

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DEMAND FOR ACCOUNTANT TO HELP PROBE CRIMINAL CASES: AG

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THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, MR JEREMY MATHEWS, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) HE FORESEES A GREATER DEMAND ON THE SERVICES OF ACCOUNTANTS TO ASSIST INVESTIGATORS IN FUTURE CRIMINAL CASES.

HE WAS SPEAKING ON THE TOPIC "FUTURE PUBLIC DEMANDS ON THE ACCOUNTANT AND AUDITOR" AT THE HONG KONG SOCIETY OF ACCOUNTANTS MEMBERS CONFERENCE HELD TODAY.

MR MATHEWS SAID IN THE PAST THE WORK OF THE INVESTIGATIVE ACCOUNTANT HAD BEEN MORE 'REACTIVE' THAN 'PROACTIVE'.

"THAT IS TO SAY, HE IS USUALLY CALLED IN TO ACT AFTER THE POLICE OR ICAC HAVE CLEARED OUT THE ENTIRE CONTENTS OF THE ACCOUNTS SECTION OF A BANK OR A LARGE BUSINESS AND HE IS THEN INVITED TO PERUSE THE RESULTING MOUNDS OF PAPER WITH A VIEW TO IDENTIFYING FURTHER EVIDENCE WHICH SUPPORTS THE SEIZURE AND, WITH LUCK AND A COMPETENT SUPERVISING INVESTIGATING OFFICER WHO HAS GIVEN HIM A PROPER BRIEF, HE MAY EVEN FIND FRESH RELEVANT EVIDENCE," HE SAID.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SAID HE BELIEVES THIS WILL CHANGE AND ACCOUNTANTS WILL BE CALLED IN EARLIER TO ADVISE INVESTIGATORS ON THE LINES OF INQUIRY WHICH THEY SHOULD PURSUE.

REFERRING TO THE GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSAL TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION BASED ON THE UK DRUGS TRAFFICKING OFFENCES ACT 1986, HE SAID THIS WAS DESIGNED TO ALLOW JUDGES TO MAKE CONFISCATION ORDERS AGAINST CONVICTED TRAFFICKERS FOR AMOUNTS EQUAL TO THE VALUE OF THE ASSETS HELD BY THE TRAFFICKERS AND WHICH HAVE BEEN FOUND TO HAVE BEEN ACQUIRED OR GENERATED THROUGH TRAFFICKING IN DRUGS.

HE EXPLAINED THAT ONE PART OF THIS ACT IS CONCERNED WITH THE MORE EFFICIENT INVESTIGATION OF THE FINANCIAL BACKGROUND OF SUSPECTED TRAFFICKERS.

IN THE UK, THE POLICE AND CUSTOMS AND EXCISE HAVE BEEN ENTRUSTED WITH SPECIAL INFORMATION GATHERING POWERS WHICH ENABLE THEM, WITH THE COURT'S APPROVAL, TO GATHER RELEVANT AVAILABLE INFORMATION FROM ANY ONE SEIZED OF IT.

MR MATHEWS SAID HE WAS SATISFIED THAT IF SUCH CONSIDERABLE POWERS ARE TO BE GIVEN TO THE POLICE AND CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICE IN HONG KONG AS WELL, THEN THERE IS AN OBVIOUS CASE FOR HAVING ACCOUNTANTS ADVISE THESE BODIES AT AN EARLY STAGE ON HOW TO PHRASE REQUESTS FOR RELEVANT FINANCIAL INFORMATION SO THAT ONLY NECESSARY DOCUMENTS ARE OBTAINED AND THE MINIMUM OF INCONVENIENCE CAUSED TO THOSE WHO ARE REQUIRED TO MAKE THIS INFORMATION AVAILABLE.

/"ONCE THIS

"ONCE THIS MATERIAL IS IN THE HANDS OF THE INVESTIGATORS, I WOULD EXPECT THE ACCOUNTANTS TO BE ABLE TO OFFER GUIDANCE AND ADVICE AS TO WHERE TO LOOK NEXT AND SO PLAY THEIR PART IN DEVELOPING AN INQUIRY THE END OF WHICH SHOULD BE, IF THE PROSECUTION FOR THE DRUGS TRAFFICKING OFFENCE SUCCEEDS, THE STRIPPING OF THE CONVICTED TRAFFICKER OF ALL HIS ILL-GOTTEN GAINS," HE SAID.

LOOKING FURTHER AHEAD, MR MATHEWS SAID: "TAKING NOTE OF CURRENT LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENTS IN THE UK, THE USA, CANADA AND AUSTRALIA AND ALSO THE GOVERNMENT'S CONCERN WITH THE GROWTH OF SERIOUS ORGANISED CRIME HERE, THERE MAY BE A CASE FOR EXTENDING THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW DRUGS LEGISLATION TO COVER ASSET SEIZURE IN OTHER CRIMINAL CASES."

HE SAID HE HAD IN MIND CASES WHERE VAST PROFITS HAVE BEEN MADE BY WHOLLY UNPRINCIPLED PERSONS WHO HAVE DEDICATED THEMSELVES TO PURSUING A SYSTEMATIC COURSE OF CRIMINAL CONDUCT, WITH A VIEW TO ACQUIRING AND MAINTAINING A STEADY SOURCE OF INCOME WHICH IS EVENTUALLY TRANSLATED INTO LEGITIMATE CAPITAL ASSETS SUCH AS FLATS OR SMALL BUSINESSES.

IN THE USA, THE MAIN THRUST AGAINST ORGANISED CRIME OVER THE PAST 10 TO 15 YEARS HAS BEEN THE RACKETEERING INFLUENCED CORRUPT ORGANISATIONS (RICO) STATUTE.

"THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE IN ITS REPORT ON TRIADS EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN THE U.S. LEGISLATION TWO YEARS AGO AND THE WORKING GROUP ON GANGS OF THE FCC HAS SINCE ASKED MY CHAMBERS TO CONDUCT AN IN-HOUSE FEASIBILITY STUDY TO SEE IF THE PRINCIPLES BEHIND THIS LEGISLATION CAN BE APPLIED HERE," HE SAID.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SAID THE SIMPLE FACT THAT SUCH LEGISLATION EXISTS IS SURELY A DETERRENT.

FURTHERMORE, IF JUDGES WERE ABLE TO MAKE USE OF ASSET FORFEITURE PROVISIONS, THEIR RANGE OF SENTENCING OPTIONS WOULD BE VERY EFFECTIVELY EXTENDED.

"THE CONVICTED PERSON HAS A RIGHT TO BE SENTENCED IN AN APPROPRIATE WAY AND, GIVEN THE FACT THAT RECIDIVIST LARGE SCALE FRAUDSTERS ARE UNUSUAL IN A WAY THAT PETTY THIEVES ARE NOT, A SHORTER TERM OF IMPRISONMENT COUPLED WITH ASSET FORFEITURE COULD WELL BE IN EVERYBODY'S INTEREST, AS THE PUNISHMENT WOULD THEN TRULY FIT THE CRIME," MR MATHEWS SAID.

HE SAID ACCOUNTANTS AND OTHER FINANCIAL EXPERTS SHOULD BE INVOLVED FROM THE OUTSET IF SUCH LEGISLATION EXISTED.

"THEY WOULD BE CALLED IN TO ASSIST ON BOTH SIDES IN THE PRELIMINARY SKIRMISHES IN A PROSECUTION WHEN THE FIRST INTERLOCUTORY FREEZING ORDERS ARE SOUGHT BEFORE TRIAL AND THEY WOULD CONTINUE TO BE INVOLVED RIGHT THROUGH TO THE EXECUTION OF THE FINAL COURT ORDERS AFFECTING REALISABLE PROPERTY," MR MATHEWS SAID.

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THE ATTORNEY GENERAL ALSO ADDRESSED THE SUBJECT OF AN ACCOUNTANT'S CONTRACTUAL DUTY OF CONFIDENCE TO HIS CLIENTS.

HE SAID THERE WERE SIGNS THAT PUBLIC INTEREST CONSIDERATIONS MAY YET DEMAND STATUTORY INTERFERENCE WITH THE PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIP OF CONFIDENTIALITY BETWEEN AN ACCOUNTANT AND HIS CLIENT.

"IF THE NEW DRUGS ASSETS CONFISCATION LEGISLATION IS INTRODUCED HERE IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME FORM AS IT EXISTS IN THE UK, THERE WILL BE A PROVISION WHICH WILL MAKE IT AN OFFENCE TO BE A PARTY TO ANY TRANSACTION DESIGNED TO PRESERVE OR SECURE ANY ASSETS GENERATED BY DRUGS TRAFFICKING IF YOU KNOW OR SUSPECT THAT THE ASSETS ARE IN FACT DRUGS RELATED," HE SAID.

THIS LEADS TO THE QUESTION OF WHETHER ACCOUNTANTS SHOULD BE LEGALLY BOUND TO REPORT FRAUD WHEREVER AND WHENEVER THEY COME ACROSS IT DURING AN AUDIT, HE SAID.

MR MATHEWS SAID THERE WERE ARGUMENTS FOR AND AGAINST MANDATORY REPORTING.

"HOWEVER, IF THE TREND TOWARDS REGULATION WHICH I HAVE INDICATED CONTINUES, AND YOUR MEMBERS ARE BY WHATEVER MEANS REQUIRED, COAXED OR CAJOLED INTO REPORTING EVIDENCE OF FRAUD AND OTHER SERIOUS FINANCIAL MISCONDUCT WHEREVER AND WHENEVER THEY FIND IT, THEN WHAT PROTECTION WILL THEY HAVE IN THE WIDE WORLD WHEN THE CHILL WIND OF CIVIL LITIGATION BLOWS AND CLIENTS SEEK DAMAGES FOR LOSS OF REPUTATION THROUGH NEGLIGENT OR MALICIOUS REPORTING?" HE SAID.

MR MATHEWS SAID THERE SEEMS TO BE THREE OPTIONS. FIRST, INCREASES IN INSURANCE COVER, SECOND, STATUTORY PROTECTION FROM THE CONSEQUENCES OF DISCLOSURE AND THIRD, THE LIMITATION OF LIABILITY.

WHILE ACCOUNTANTS THEMSELVES MIGHT ARGUE IN FAVOUR OF THE SECOND AND THIRD OPTIONS MR MATHEWS SAID, HE DID NOT SEE THE GOVERNMENT NECESSARILY ENACTING LEGISLATION DESIGNED TO SAVE THEM FROM THE CONSEQUENCES OF NEGLIGENT OR MALA-FIDE REPORTING EITHER WITHIN OR OUTSIDE A SPECIAL REGULATORY SCHEME, UNLESS THE GOVERNMENT IS ALSO SATISFIED THAT THE AUDITING AND ACCOUNTING PRACTICES ARE REALLY EFFICIENT AND ARE OPERATED BY PERSONS WITH THE WILL TO DO THE JOB PROPERLY.

"AFTER ALL, IT IS NOT IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST TO DO ANYTHING WHICH MIGHT HAVE THE EFFECT OF ENCOURAGING SOME OF YOUR MEMBERS TO MAKE HASTY, ILL-CONSIDERED AND INACCURATE REPORTS OF FRAUD OR OTHER FINANCIAL MALPRACTICES," MR MATHEWS SAID.

IN CONCLUSION, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SAID: "I HAVE LITTLE DOUBT THAT YOUR PROFESSION WILL BE ABLE TO ADAPT TO THESE TIMES AND PROSPER: IF IT DOES NOT THOUGH I FEAR THAT IT MAY SUFFER A DIMINUTION OF ITS STATUS AND THAT THE DEMANDS THAT THEN MAY BE MADE OF IT TO SUBMIT TO SOME KIND OF EXTERNAL REGULATION MAY NOT NECESSARILY BE IN ITS INTERESTS."

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PREPARATIONS UNDERWAY FOR SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION : GOVERNOR
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PREPARATIONS WERE BEING MADE TO ENABLE THE NEW INDEPENDENT STATUTORY SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION TO BECOME FULLY OPERATIONAL EARLY NEXT YEAR, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID THIS (FRIDAY) EVENING.

SPEAKING AT THE ANNUAL DINNER OF THE HONG KONG SOCIETY OF ACCOUNTANTS, SIR DAVID SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD ALREADY BEGUN TO PUT IN PLACE THE ARRANGEMENTS NEEDED TO IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECURITIES REVIEW COMMITTEE AND THAT HE WAS DETERMINED THAT THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD COMPLETE THE WHOLE TASK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

SIR DAVID SAID LAST OCTOBER'S STOCK MARKET CRASH ENABLED THE GOVERNMENT TO IDENTIFY SOME OF THE DEFICIENCIES IN HONG KONG'S REGULATORY SYSTEM.

HAVING AGREED THAT THE NEW COMMISSION SHOULD REPLACE THE EXISTING REGULATORY STRUCTURE, THE IMMEDIATE TASK WAS TO PREPARE LEGISLATION THAT SET OUT THE NEW COMMISSION'S CONSTITUTION, FUNCTIONS, DUTIES AND POWERS.

"THAT ALSO PROVIDES ADEQUATE CHECKS AND BALANCES --- IF YOU LIKE, A WATCH ON THE WATCHDOG," SIR DAVID SAID.

"A DRAFT BILL HAS BEEN PREPARED, AND THE GOVERNMENT IS NOW CONSULTING ORGANISATIONS AND PROFESSIONAL BODIES INVOLVED IN THE MARKET," HE ADDED.

"I HOPE THAT THE BILL WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BEFORE THE END OF 1988 SO THAT THE NEW COMMISSION CAN BECOME FULLY OPERATIONAL EARLY NEXT YEAR," HE SAID.

"ALREADY ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE, BY SETTING UP A PROVISIONAL COMPANY, TO START APPOINTING SENIOR STAFF AND TO WORK OUT A DETAILED BUDGET AND ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE," HE ADDED.

THE GOVERNOR SAID OTHER KEY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECURITIES REVIEW COMMITTEE INVOLVED THE RECONSTITUTION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE STOCK EXCHANGE AND THE FUTURES EXCHANGE.

HAVING ACCEPTED THE RECOMMENDATIONS, THE STOCK EXCHANGE TOOK THE INITIATIVE TO IMPLEMENT THEM WITH THE UNANIMOUS PASSAGE IN JULY OF A RESOLUTION TO BRING A NEW CONSTITUTION INTO EFFECT, SIR DAVID NOTED.

"THIS MOVE BY THE STOCK EXCHANGE WAS WIDELY, AND RIGHTLY, SEEN AS A MOST ENCOURAGING SIGN OF DETERMINATION BY THOSE IN THE MARKET IN HONG KONG TO PUT THEIR HOUSE IN ORDER," THE GOVERNOR SAID.

/"THE NEXT

"THE NEXT STAGE IS ELECTIONS FOR THE NEW STOCK EXCHANGE COUNCIL, WHICH ARE DUE TO TAKE PLACE NEXT MONDAY.

"I LOOK FORWARD TO THE COUNCIL ELECTING A NEW CHAIRMAN AND APPOINTING A NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID THAT CARRYING THROUGH THESE REFORMS WITHIN THE SHORT SPACE OF A YEAR AFTER THE CRISIS LAST YEAR REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT ON ALL THOSE INVOLVED IN MANAGING THE EXCHANGE.

"THE FUTURES EXCHANGE WILL ALSO BE PUTTING TO ITS MEMBERS SHORTLY PROPOSALS TO REFORM ITS CONSTITUTION AND RISK MANAGEMENT SYSTEM," THE GOVERNOR SAID.

"I HOPE THAT THESE WILL BE ACCEPTED," HE ADDED.

SIR DAVID POINTED OUT THAT ULTIMATELY THE QUESTION OF WHETHER HONG KONG CONTINUED TO HAVE A FUTURES EXCHANGE WAS ONE FOR THE MARKETS.

"THE GOVERNMENT IS NOT THERE TO IMPOSE A FUTURES EXCHANGE, OR TO PROVIDE REMEDIAL RELIEF, IF THE MARKET ITSELF DOES NOT WANT ONE.

"WE ARE HOWEVER DETERMINED THAT, IF THE EXCHANGE CONTINUES IN BEING, IT SHOULD BE PROPERLY FUNDED AND PROPERLY GUARANTEED," HE SAID.

TURNING TO THE SETTLEMENT SYSTEM FOR STOCK TRANSACTIONS, SIR DAVID SAID THE OLD ARRANGEMENTS SHOWED THEMSELVES AS UNABLE TO COPE WITH SUDDEN INCREASES IN TRADING VOLUME.

HE SAID THE SECURITIES REVIEW COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE OLD ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD BE REPLACED BY A CENTRAL CLEARING SYSTEM UNDER THE MANAGEMENT OF A NEW STATUTORY CLEARING HOUSE. IT ALSO RECOMMENDED AN EXTENSION OF THE SETTLEMENT PERIOD.

"THESE NEW ARRANGEMENTS WILL TAKE TIME TO PUT INTO PLACE. BUT THE STOCK EXCHANGE AND THE OTHER PARTIES INVOLVED, INCLUDING A NUMBER OF MAJOR BANKS, ARE ALREADY WORKING ON THE DETAILED DESIGN FOR A NEW SYSTEM," SIR DAVID SAID.

"IN THE MEANTIME, IT IS GOOD TO KNOW THAT IMPROVED INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED BY THE EXCHANGE," HE ADDED.

"THE GOVERNMENT HAVE NO WISH TO OVER-REGULATE. BUT, WITHOUT FALLING INTO THE TRAP OF OVER-REGULATION, THERE ARE STILL SOME ADDITIONAL SAFEGUARDS WE NEED TO INTRODUCE TO BRING HONG KONG INTO LINE WITH INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS SO THAT WE CAN CONTINUE TO BE WHAT WE AIM TO BE -- A MAJOR INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRE," THE GOVERNOR SAID.

ONE SUCH MEASURE WAS LEGISLATION PASSED IN JULY WHICH REQUIRED MAJOR SHAREHOLDERS, DIRECTORS AND CHIEF EXECUTIVES OF PUBLICLY LISTED COMPANIES TO DISCLOSE THE BENEFICIAL INTERESTS IN THE SHARES THEY HOLD, SIR DAVID SAID.

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"IN THIS WAY BOTH THE PUBLIC, AND THE MANAGEMENT OF LISTED COMPANIES, WILL KNOW WHO REALLY CONTROLS THE LISTED COMPANY."

"IT WILL MAKE CREEPING TAKEOVERS AND INSIDER DEALING MUCH HARDER TO CONCEAL," HE ADDED.

HE SAID THIS NEW LAW WOULD COME INTO EFFECT ONCE THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED AND WAS IN A POSITION TO ENFORCE THE DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS.

SPEAKING ABOUT INSIDER DEALING, SIR DAVID SAID LEGISLATION WOULD BE INTRODUCED TO INCREASE SANCTIONS AGAINST INSIDER DEALERS UNDER THE EXISTING TRIBUNAL SYSTEM.

"INSIDER DEALING IS A WORLDWIDE PROBLEM. IT UNDERMINES THE FAIRNESS OF THE MARKET," THE GOVERNOR SAID.

"WE ARE DETERMINED TO DO OUR BEST TO SEE THAT IT DOES NOT OCCUR," HE ADDED.

SIR DAVID SAID THE NEW SANCTIONS WOULD INCLUDE BARRING INSIDER DEALERS FROM BECOMING DIRECTORS OF COMPANIES; REQUIRING THE DISGORGEMENT OF ANY PROFITS MADE OR LOSSES AVOIDED; IMPOSING FINANCIAL PENALTIES OF UP TO THREE TIMES THESE AMOUNTS; AND REFERRING INSIDER DEALERS TO APPROPRIATE PROFESSIONAL BODIES FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION.

"THESE INCREASED SANCTIONS SHOULD PROVE TO BE A SUBSTANTIAL DETERRENT AGAINST INSIDER DEALING," SIR DAVID SAID.

THE GOVERNOR POINTED OUT THAT ACCOUNTANTS HAD AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN COMBATTING MALPRACTICES THROUGH THE AUDITING OF COMPANY ACCOUNTS.

"IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT THE ACCOUNTANCY PROFESSION HAS A KEY ROLE TO PLAY IN HELPING TO MAINTAIN HONG KONG'S STATUS AS A MAJOR FINANCIAL CENTRE," SIR DAVID SAID.

THE FACT THAT THE PROFESSION WAS REPRESENTED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL THIS YEAR SHOWED THAT ITS CONTRIBUTION TO HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC SUCCESS WAS BEING RECOGNISED, THE GOVERNOR SAID.

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APPOINTMENTS TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT THE GOVERNOR HAD REAPPOINTED DR DANIEL TSE AS A MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL UNTIL OCTOBER 31, 1991, AFTER THE EXPIRY OF HIS PRESENT APPOINTMENT ON OCTOBER 31, 1988.

THE GOVERNOR HAS ALSO APPOINTED MR CHENG HON-KWAN AS A MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FROM NOVEMBER 1, 1988 TO OCTOBER 31, 1991.

IN MAKING THIS ANNOUNCEMENT THE GOVERNOR PAID TRIBUTE TO DR TSE'S AND MR CHENG'S ADMIRABLE RECORDS OF PUBLIC SERVICE OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS.

THE GOVERNOR ALSO PAID TRIBUTE TO THE VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION OF DR CHIU HIN-KWONG TO THE WORK OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS. DR CHIU'S APPOINTMENT TO THE COUNCIL WILL EXPIRE ON OCTOBER 31.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF MR CHENG HON-KWAN:

MR CHENG HON-KWAN

AGED 61. AN ENGINEER. ELECTED MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SINCE 1985 (ELECTED BY THE ENGINEERING, ARCHITECTURAL, SURVEYING AND PLANNING FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCY).

OTHER PUBLIC SERVICE INCLUDES: CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY POLYTECHNIC OF HONG KONG, CHAIRMAN OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE OPEN LEARNING INSTITUTE OF HONG KONG, VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, AND VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE POLICE COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE.

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PROMISING OUTLOOK FOR TRADE, SAYS DIRECTOR
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HONG KONG IS GRADUALLY REDUCING ITS DEPENDENCE ON THE UNITED STATES AS A MAJOR MARKET FOR ITS EXPORTS, THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, MR MICHAEL SZE, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE CHINESE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION, MR SZE SAID THAT UNTIL RECENTLY THE UNITED STATES MARKET ABSORBED ON AVERAGE 42 PER CENT OF HONG KONG'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS.

/THIS PROPORTION

THIS PROPORTION DROPPED TO SLIGHTLY OVER 37 PER CENT LAST YEAR, WITH THE DOWNWARD TREND CONTINUING DURING THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF THIS YEAR.

MR SZE DESCRIBED AS "UNHEALTHY" AN OVER-DEPENDENCE ON ANY MARKET, ESPECIALLY "WHEN TEXTILES AND CLOTHING ALONE MAKE UP OVER 40 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL VALUE OF HONG KONG'S EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES".

HE NOTED AN ENCOURAGING TREND IN HONG KONG'S EXPORTS TO JAPAN WHICH HAD INCREASED BY 35 PER CENT IN 1986 AND 53 PER CENT IN 1987.

"INDEED WE CONTINUE TO DO REASONABLY WELL IN JAPAN THIS YEAR DESPITE AN ACUTE LABOUR SHORTAGE AND A DECLINE IN OUR EXPORTS OF FUR GARMENTS TO JAPAN, THE LARGEST SINGLE ITEM OF OUR EXPORTS."

MR SZE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THE TRADE GAP BETWEEN HONG KONG AND JAPAN REMAINED ENORMOUS AND STILL GROWING, WITH THE JAPANESE MARKET MORE OPEN THAN BEFORE THERE WERE PLENTY OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXPORTERS.

TURNING TO HONG KONG'S TRADE WITH CHINA, MR SZE SAID THAT CHINA HAD BECOME HONG KONG'S NUMBER ONE TRADING PARTNER AND SUPPLIER, ACCOUNTING FOR 27 PER CENT OF THE TERRITORY'S TOTAL TRADE.

"WE HAVE JUST OVERTAKEN JAPAN AS CHINA'S LARGEST TRADING PARTNER, ACCOUNTING FOR OVER 20 PER CENT OF ITS TRADE. TWO-WAY TRADE BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CHINA HAS GROWN 19 TIMES SINCE 1978," HE ADDED.

MR SZE NOTED THAT THERE HAD BEEN A SURGE IN HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS, NOTABLY FROM CHINA, IN RECENT YEARS SO MUCH SO THAT THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS HAD NOW OVERTAKEN THAT OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS.

MR SZE ATTRIBUTED THE RE-EMERGENCE OF HONG KONG AS AN ENTREPOT FOR CHINA TO FOUR MAIN REASONS, NAMELY:

- THE OPENING UP OF CHINA HAD REVIVED HONG KONG'S ROLE AS THE NATURAL GATEWAY TO CHINA;
- THE EXCELLENT INFRASTRUCTURES AND PORT FACILITIES IN HONG KONG;
- THE TENDENCY FOR MOST OUTWARD PROCESSING PRODUCTS AND PRODUCTS FROM JOINT VENTURES WITH HONG KONG INVESTMENT TO BE SHIPPED THROUGH HONG KONG FOR QUALITY CHECKS AND PACKAGING BEFORE EXPORT; AND
- THE INCREASING AND SUBSTANTIAL VOLUME OF TRADE BETWEEN CHINA, SOUTH KOREA AND TAIWAN THROUGH HONG KONG.

MR SZE SAID THAT AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND AND OTHER HEALTHY TRENDS, THE FUTURE FOR HONG KONG'S TRADE WAS BRIGHT.

/HE REITERATED

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HE REITERATED THAT IT WAS THE TRADE DEPARTMENT'S PRIORITY TO MAINTAIN CONTINUED ACCESS TO MARKETS ALREADY OPENED TO HONG KONG, REMOVE BARRIERS WHERE THEY EXISTED AND GAIN ACCESS TO MARKETS THAT WERE CLOSED.

"WE ARE DOING OUR BEST IN THE CURRENT NEW ROUND OF MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS TO LIBERALISE WORLD TRADE, IMPROVE MARKET ACCESS AND STRENGTHEN DISCIPLINE IN THE MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM," MR SZE STRESSED.

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RESTAURANT RECEIPTS UP 12 PER CENT

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THE VALUE OF TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE ENTIRE RESTAURANT SECTOR IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1988, ESTIMATED AT \$6,309 MILLION, WAS 12 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN THE SAME QUARTER OF 1987, WHILE THE VOLUME WAS 2 PER CENT HIGHER, ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONAL RESULTS OF A SURVEY RELEASED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE PROVISIONAL ESTIMATE OF TOTAL PURCHASES BY RESTAURANTS IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1988 WAS \$2,666 MILLION, WHICH WAS 8 PER CENT HIGHER IN VALUE TERMS THAN IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1987.

ANALYSED BY TYPE OF RESTAURANT, FAST FOOD SHOPS RECORDED THE LARGEST PERCENTAGE INCREASE (27 PER CENT) IN THE VALUE OF TOTAL RECEIPTS WHEN COMPARED WITH THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1987.

THESE WERE FOLLOWED BY NON-CHINESE RESTAURANTS (17 PER CENT), "OTHER EATING AND DRINKING PLACES" - COMPRISING HERB TEA SHOPS, CREAMERIES AND OTHER OUTLETS SELLING BEAN CURD JELLY, ETC. (11 PER CENT), CHINESE RESTAURANTS (9 PER CENT) AND BARS (6 PER CENT).

IN VOLUME TERMS, THE TOTAL RECEIPTS OF FAST FOOD SHOPS, NON-CHINESE RESTAURANTS, "OTHER EATING AND DRINKING PLACES" AND BARS INCREASED BY 21 PER CENT, 7 PER CENT, 6 PER CENT, AND 2 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY WHILE THOSE OF CHINESE RESTAURANTS DECREASED BY 1 PER CENT.

COMPARING THE FIRST HALF OF 1988 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1987, TOTAL RESTAURANT RECEIPTS ROSE BY 15 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 6 PER CENT IN VOLUME; AND THE TOTAL VALUE OF PURCHASES BY RESTAURANTS INCREASED BY 11 PER CENT.

IN VALUE TERMS, FAST FOOD SHOPS RECORDED THE LARGEST GROWTH IN TOTAL RECEIPTS (25 PER CENT), FOLLOWED BY NON-CHINESE RESTAURANTS (19 PER CENT), CHINESE RESTAURANTS (13 PER CENT), "OTHER EATING AND DRINKING PLACES" (11 PER CENT) AND BARS (5 PER CENT).

/IN VOLUME

IN VOLUME TERMS, THE TOTAL RECEIPTS OF FAST FOOD SHOPS AGAIN SHOWED THE LARGEST INCREASE, AT 20 PER CENT.

THE GROWTH, IN VOLUME TERMS, RECORDED BY NON-CHINESE RESTAURANTS, "OTHER EATING AND DRINKING PLACES", CHINESE RESTAURANTS AND BARS WAS 10 PER CENT, 6 PER CENT, 3 PER CENT AND 1 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

COMPARING THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1988 WITH THE PRECEDING QUARTER - AND BEARING IN MIND THAT THIS COMPARISON MAY BE AFFECTED BY SEASONAL FACTORS - TOTAL RESTAURANT RECEIPTS DECREASED BY 4 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 7 PER CENT IN VOLUME WHILE THE VALUE OF PURCHASES BY RESTAURANTS DROPPED BY 4 PER CENT.

TOTAL RECEIPTS OF "OTHER EATING AND DRINKING PLACES" INCREASED BY 11 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 10 PER CENT IN VOLUME; THOSE OF NON-CHINESE RESTAURANTS BY 9 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 5 PER CENT IN VOLUME; AND THOSE OF FAST FOOD SHOPS BY 5 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 3 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

HOWEVER, TOTAL RECEIPTS OF BARS DROPPED BY 2 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 4 PER CENT IN VOLUME AND THOSE OF CHINESE RESTAURANTS BY 8 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 11 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

TABLE 1 PRESENTS THE REVISED FIGURES FOR THE TOTAL RECEIPTS AND TOTAL PURCHASES OF THE ENTIRE RESTAURANT SECTOR FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1988 AND THE PROVISIONAL FIGURES FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1988.

TABLE 2 SHOWS THE VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF TOTAL RECEIPTS BY TYPE OF RESTAURANT FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1988, WITH THE QUARTERLY AVERAGE FROM OCTOBER 1984 TO SEPTEMBER 1985 TAKEN AS 100.

ALSO TABULATED ARE COMPARISONS OF THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1988 RESULTS WITH THOSE FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1988 AND FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1987.

COMPARISONS OF TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE FIRST HALF OF 1988 WITH THE FIRST HALF OF 1987 ARE ALSO GIVEN.

THE REPORT ON THE QUARTERLY SURVEY OF RESTAURANT RECEIPTS AND PURCHASES FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1988 IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, AT \$1 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ON THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE WHOLESALE/RETAIL TRADE STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL NO. : 5-8234941).

TABLE 1 : TOTAL RESTAURANT RECEIPTS AND PURCHASES

		1st qtr. 1988 (Revised figures)	2nd qtr. 1988 (Provisional figures)
Total restaurant receipts	(in HK\$ million)	6 563	6 309
Total purchases by restaurants	(in HK\$ million)	2 778	2 666

TABLE 2 : VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF TOTAL RESTAURANT RECEIPTS FOR 1ST QUARTER 1988 AND 2ND QUARTER 1988

(Quarterly average of October 84 - September 85 = 100)

Type of restaurant	Index of total restaurant receipts	1st quarter 1988	2nd quarter 1988	2nd qtr. 1988 compared with 1st qtr. 1988		2nd qtr. 1988 compared with 2nd qtr. 1987		1st-2nd qtr. 1988 compared with 1st-2nd qtr. 1987	
		(Revised figures)	(Provisional figures)	Points	%	Points	%	Points	%
Chinese restaurants	Value	144	132	-12	-9	11	9	16	13
	Volume	126	112	-14	-11	-1	-1	4	3
Non-Chinese restaurants	Value	129	141	11	9	20	17	22	19
	Volume	111	117	5	5	8	7	10	10
Fast food shops	Value	156	164	9	5	35	27	32	25
	Volume	142	117	5	3	26	21	24	20
Bars	Value	126	123	-3	-2	7	6	6	5
	Volume	111	106	-4	-4	2	2	1	1
Other eating and drinking places	Value	124	138	14	11	13	11	13	11
	Volume	109	120	11	10	7	6	6	6
Entire restaurant sector	Value	141	136	-5	-4	15	12	18	15
	Volume	124	115	-9	-7	3	2	7	6

Note: Figures denoting changes are derived from unrounded figures.

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OFFERS FOR PHASE IIA WALLED CITY OCCUPIERS AND OWNERS

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ELIGIBLE OCCUPIERS AND OWNERS IN THE SECOND PHASE OF THE KOWLOON WALLED CITY CLEARANCE ARE BEING NOTIFIED OF THE DETAILS OF THEIR COMPENSATION AND REHOUSING ARRANGEMENTS.

THERE ARE ABOUT 2 200 FAMILIES AND 2 000 PREMISES INVOLVED IN THIS CLEARANCE, KNOWN AS PHASE IIA.

ABOUT 4 000 OFFER LETTERS ARE BEING ISSUED BY THE SPECIAL DUTIES OFFICE OF THE KOWLOON WALLED CITY CLEARANCE DURING A SIX-WEEK OPERATION, STARTED ON WEDNESDAY (OCTOBER 12), TO INFORM THEM OF THE DETAILED ARRANGEMENTS.

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY SPECIAL COMMITTEE OVERSEEING THE CLEARANCE HAS REVIEWED AND APPROVED AN INCREASE IN THE COMPENSATION RATES FOR PHASE IIA. THE NEW RATES REPRESENT AN INCREASE OF ABOUT 10 PERCENT COMPARED WITH THE RATES PAYABLE TO QUALIFIED PERSONS AFFECTED IN PHASE I.

THE NEW RATES ARE ONLY APPLICABLE TO PHASE IIA OWNERS AND WILL NOT HAVE RETROSPECTIVE EFFECT ON PHASE I OWNERS.

THE COMPENSATION RATES FOR EACH PHASE OF THE CLEARANCE ARE REVIEWED AND, IF NECESSARY, REVISED UPWARDS OR DOWNWARDS BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE TREND OF THE SALES PRICES OF HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME (HOS) FLATS.

THE CURRENT PHASE I CLEARANCE IS IN GOOD PROGRESS. THE SPECIAL DUTIES OFFICE HAS SECURED 700 PREMISES AND REHOUSED, MOSTLY IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES, ABOUT 900 FAMILIES.

ANOTHER 1 000 PHASE I FAMILIES HAVE OPTED FOR HOS FLATS IN JUNK BAY AND CHUK YUEN WHICH WILL BE READY FOR OCCUPATION THIS DECEMBER AND IN JUNE NEXT YEAR.

THE WHOLE KOWLOON WALLED CITY CLEARANCE PROGRAMME, INVOLVING ABOUT 33 000 PEOPLE AND 8 500 PREMISES - INCLUDING SOME 900 COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS IN ABOUT 500 BUILDINGS, WILL BE UNDERTAKEN IN FOUR PHASES.

THE SITE AFTER THE CLEARANCE WILL BE REDEVELOPED INTO A PUBLIC PARK WITH RELATED COMMUNITY FACILITIES.

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\$3 MILLION CONTRACT ON LIVESTOCK WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE
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THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT (EPD) TODAY (FRIDAY) AWARDED A \$3 MILLION CONTRACT TO A PRIVATE COMPANY TO PROVIDE LIVESTOCK WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE TO FARMERS IN AREAS SCHEDULED FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SECOND STAGE OF THE LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL SCHEME.

THESE CONTROL AREAS TAKE IN RIVER INDUS, UPPER SHAM CHUN, TSUEN WAN, LIO TO VILLAGE, AND TAI LAM CHUNG.

THE CONTRACT COVERS A 12-MONTH SERVICE STARTING FROM NOVEMBER 15 THIS YEAR.

IT INCLUDES THE PROVISION OF SERVICES FOR COLLECTION OF LIVESTOCK WASTE FROM SOME 300 COLLECTION POINTS AND TRANSPORTATION OF THE COLLECTED WASTE TO DESIGNATED DISPOSAL SITES AS WELL AS MINOR SITE CLEARANCE AND CLEANSING SERVICE AT THE COLLECTION POINTS.

AT THE CONTRACT SIGNING CEREMONY, THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, DR STUART REED, SAID: "THIS EARLY PROVISION OF LIVESTOCK WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES TO THE CONTROL AREAS TO BE COVERED IN THE NEXT STAGE OF CONTROL DEMONSTRATES THE GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO HELP THE AFFECTED FARMERS TO COPE WITH THE NEW CONTROLS.

"THIS WILL ALLOW FARMERS TIME TO GET USED TO THE DRY MUCK-OUT METHOD OF REMOVING SOLID WASTE FROM LIVESTOCK KEEPING STRUCTURES AND TO HELP THEM TO COMPLY WITH CONTROL REQUIREMENTS BEFORE THE REGULATIONS ARE IMPLEMENTED IN THE SECOND GROUP OF CONTROL AREAS IN 1989."

DR REED SAID HE FELT THE GOVERNMENT WAS DOING ITS FAIR SHARE IN PROVIDING FUNDING, TECHNICAL ADVICE AND OTHER SUPPORTING FACILITIES TO COMBAT LIVESTOCK WASTE POLLUTION.

"I AM SURE THE LIVESTOCK FARM OPERATORS WILL RESPOND POSITIVELY AND PLAY THEIR PART IN TAKING APPROPRIATE STEPS TO COMPLY WITH THE CONTROL REQUIREMENTS."

DR REED SAID HE WAS PLEASED WITH THE PROGRESS MADE SO FAR WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL SCHEME, SINCE IT CAME INTO EFFECT ON JUNE 24 THIS YEAR.

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FARMERS MAKE PROPOSALS ON EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE RATES

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LIVESTOCK FARMER REPRESENTATIVES HAVE SUBMITTED A PACKAGE OF PROPOSALS ON WORKING OUT THE RATES OF EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES FOR LIVESTOCK FARM OPERATORS AFFECTED BY THE LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL SCHEME.

THE PROPOSAL WAS DISCUSSED AT A MEETING TODAY (FRIDAY) OF THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES.

THE WORKING GROUP, SET UP UNDER THE LIVESTOCK WASTE DISPOSAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE, HAD PREVIOUSLY HELD TWO MEETINGS DURING WHICH FARMER REPRESENTATIVES HAD EXPRESSED CERTAIN VIEWS ON THE REVIEW OF THE EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES RATES.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE WORKING GROUP, MR LEO KWAN, SAID HE WOULD REFLECT THE VIEWS OF FARMER REPRESENTATIVES TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR CONSIDERATION.

THE ANNUAL EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES REVIEW WILL BE HELD IN TWO TO THREE MONTHS' TIME, HE ADDED.

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CLEANING UP STATUE SQUARE

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THE SEVERITY OF THE LITTERING PROBLEM AT STATUE SQUARE DURING HOLIDAYS IS REFLECTED BY AN AVERAGE INTAKE OF THREE TONNES OF REFUSE NORMALLY COLLECTED AFTER THE HOLIDAYS.

THE URBAN COUNCIL ATTRIBUTES THIS TO THE LARGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE GATHERING THERE ON HOLIDAYS.

"PEOPLE LITTER INDISCRIMINATELY AND HAVE TURNED STATUE SQUARE INTO ONE OF THE LITTER BLACKSPOTS," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE JOINT URBAN COUNCIL/REGIONAL COUNCIL KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN STEERING COMMITTEE SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE PROBLEM IS DRAWING THE ATTENTION OF 12 VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATIONS AND GROUPS FROM THE FILIPINO COMMUNITY IN HONG KONG, WHO HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN SHOULDERING THE RESPONSIBILITY OF CLEANING STATUE SQUARE AND ITS NEIGHBOURING AREAS.

"TWELVE FILIPINO ASSOCIATIONS AND GROUPS HAVE PLEDGED SUPPORT BY JOINING IN AN ADOPTION SCHEME, WHICH HAS BEEN FORMED TO ENCOURAGE PRIVATE COMPANIES AND ORGANISATIONS TO TAKE UP THE CLEANSING RESPONSIBILITY OF A CERTAIN PUBLIC AREA OR EVEN AS MUCH AS A SECTION OF THE CITY," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

/SUCH A

SUCH A SCHEME WOULD NOT ONLY SAVE THE TAXPAYERS' MONEY BY REDUCING THE WORKLOAD OF THE GOVERNMENT, BUT WOULD ALSO AROUSE THE CIVIC CONSCIOUSNESS OF THE PUBLIC, HE ADDED.

TWO 'PITCHING-IN' FUNCTIONS WILL TAKE PLACE ON SUNDAY (OCTOBER 16) AND THE FOLLOWING SUNDAY, TO SYMBOLICALLY LAUNCH THE FILIPINO ADOPTION SCHEME.

ABOUT 500 MEMBERS OF THE 12 PARTICIPATING ASSOCIATIONS AND GROUPS WILL BE PROVIDED WITH CLEANING GEAR TO CLEAN UP STATUE SQUARE, CHATER GARDEN, EDINBURGH PLACE, CONNAUGHT PLACE, BLAKE PIER AND CENTRAL PROMENADE.

A CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT 5.30 PM ON SUNDAY (OCTOBER 16) AT STATUE SQUARE.

OFFICIATING AT THE EVENT WILL BE SISTER OF THE DIOCESAN PASTORAL CENTRE FOR FILIPINOS, SISTER ROSALINA WEE; CONSUL-GENERAL OF THE PHILIPPINE CONSULATE, MR VICENTE REYES, AND URBAN COUNCILLOR AND MEMBER OF THE JOINT URBAN COUNCIL/REGIONAL COUNCIL KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN STEERING COMMITTEE, DR RONALD LEUNG.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE LAUNCHING CEREMONY OF THE FILIPINO PITCHING-IN FUNCTION TO BE HELD AT 5.30 PM ON SUNDAY (OCTOBER 16) AT STATUE SQUARE. GIS OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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AMENDMENTS TO TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL WORKS

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THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSES TO AMEND THE TUNNEL ALIGNMENT AND THE LOCATION OF THE VENTILATION SHAFTS AND BUILDINGS OF THE TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL BETWEEN THE DIAMOND HILL PORTAL AND THE SHA TIN PORTAL.

THESE AMENDMENTS WILL ALLOW THE EXCAVATION OF THE TUNNEL TO BE CARRIED OUT ON ADDITIONAL FACES AND THUS EXPEDITE THE COMPLETION OF THE TUNNEL PROJECT.

THEY INCLUDE MINOR RELOCATION OF THE TUNNEL PORTALS AT DIAMOND HILL AND SHA TIN; MINOR RELOCATION OF THE TUNNEL ALIGNMENT; REPLACEMENT OF VERTICAL VENTILATION SHAFTS BY INCLINED VENTILATION ADITS AND THE RELOCATION OF THE ASSOCIATED VENTILATION BUILDINGS.

DETAILS OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS WERE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

/THE PLANS

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THE PLANS AND SCHEME MAY BE SEEN AT THE FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT OFFICES:

- * CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY, HONG KONG;
- * KOWLOON EAST DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, YAU MA TEI CAR PARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON;
- * SHA TIN DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, 2 TUNG LO WAN HILL ROAD, SHA TIN, NEW TERRITORIES;
- * WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICE, SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, KING FUK STREET, SAN PO KONG, KOWLOON;
- * SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE, SIXTH FLOOR, KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN STATION, NEW TERRITORIES; AND
- * KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE, KWUN TONG DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICES BUILDING, TUNG YAU STREET, THIRD AND FOURTH FLOORS, KOWLOON.

ANY REPRESENTATIONS REGARDING THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS SHOULD BE MADE IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG, BEFORE NOVEMBER 11 THIS YEAR.

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GREATER CARE CALLED FOR IN PREVENTING HILL FIRES

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THE PUBLIC WERE TODAY (FRIDAY) ADVISED TO TAKE GREATER CARE TO PROTECT HONG KONG'S LIMITED COUNTRYSIDE RESOURCES AGAINST THE MENACE OF FIRE IN THE COMING DRY SEASON.

THE APPEAL WAS MADE BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (CONSERVATION AND COUNTRY PARKS), MR K.C. IU, WHEN HE LAUNCHED THIS YEAR'S COUNTRYSIDE FIRE PREVENTION PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN.

"SO FAR THIS YEAR, THE RAINFALL IS ABOUT 30 PER CENT BELOW AVERAGE. IT IS LIKELY TO BE EVEN DRIER LATER THIS YEAR," MR IU SAID.

"AS WE ARE ENTERING AN EXCEPTIONAL DRY SEASON, I WOULD URGE THE PUBLIC TO TAKE EXTRA CARE TO SAFEGUARD OUR COUNTRYSIDE AGAINST DEVASTATION BY FIRE.

/ "ONLY WITH.....

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"ONLY WITH THEIR SUPPORT, WE CAN HOPE TO PREVENT THE RECURRENCE OF THE DISASTROUS SITUATION IN 1985-86 WHEN 306 FIRES SWEEP 6,300 HECTARES OF COUNTRY PARK AREAS, DESTROYING OVER HALF A MILLION TREES."

ALSO PRESENT AT THE LAUNCHING CEREMONY WERE THE ACTING CHIEF FIRE OFFICER (NEW TERRITORIES) OF THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, MR JAMES HO, AND FLIGHT LIEUTENANT DON SMITH OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG AUXILIARY AIR FORCE.

MR IU SAID THAT MANY PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY THOSE LIVING IN THE URBAN AREAS, SEEMED TO THINK THAT COUNTRYSIDE FIRE WAS NOT A MATTER OF THEIR CONCERN PROBABLY BECAUSE THEIR LIVES AND PROPERTIES WERE NOT ENDANGERED.

"THIS IS A MISTAKEN BELIEF," HE SAID. "HILL FIRES DO COST MONEY. APART FROM THE COST OF THE FIRE FIGHTING ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED, THE LOSS IN THE CAPITAL INVESTMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS IN ESTABLISHING GOVERNMENT PLANTATIONS AND DEVELOPING COUNTRY PARKS IS ALSO CONSIDERABLE."

IN ADDITION, MR IU SAID, HILL FIRES ALSO CAUSED SIGNIFICANT DAMAGE TO THE VEGETATION, LANDSCAPE QUALITY AND WILDLIFE HABITATS, AND CAUSED EROSION OF SOIL, RESULTING IN SILTING UP OF STREAM COURSES.

"ALTHOUGH IT IS DIFFICULT TO QUANTIFY ALL THESE IN TERMS OF MONEY, THEY ARE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO OUR COMMUNITY IN TERMS OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY.

"SUCH DAMAGE OR DETERIORATION IN THE QUALITY OF THE COUNTRYSIDE ENVIRONMENT WOULD DEPRIVE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC OF THE ENJOYMENT OF THE COUNTRYSIDE," HE ADDED.

MR IU POINTED OUT THAT ALL HILL FIRES IN HONG KONG WERE CAUSED BY HUMAN CARELESSNESS AND THEY COULD BE PREVENTED EASILY IF EVERYONE TOOK PROPER CARE IN HANDLING FIRES IN THE COUNTRYSIDE.

"COUNTRYSIDE VISITORS SHOULD LIGHT BARBECUE FIRES ONLY IN DESIGNATED BARBECUE PITS AND SHOULD ALSO REFRAIN FROM DISCARDING BURNING CIGARETTE ENDS. FARMERS AND VILLAGERS SHOULD NOT LEAVE A BURNING STACK OF HAY OR RUBBISH UNATTENDED," HE SAID.

MR IU ALSO URGED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC INTENDING TO VISIT THEIR ANCESTORS' GRAVES IN THE COUNTRYSIDE DURING THE CHUNG YEUNG FESTIVAL NEXT WEEK TO BE ON SPECIAL GUARD AGAINST HILL FIRES.

"THEY SHOULD LIGHT JOSS PAPERS ONLY IN METAL CONTAINERS AND NEVER LEAVE BURNING JOSS STICKS UNATTENDED," HE SAID.

ANYONE WHO CHOSE TO IGNORE THESE PREVENTIVE MEASURES WAS COMMITTING AN OFFENCE AND WAS LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$5,000 AND ONE YEAR'S IMPRISONMENT, MR IU WARNED.

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OLDER AREAS OF DISTRICT TAKING ON NEW LOOK
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THE OLDER PARTS OF CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT WILL TAKE ON A COMPLETELY NEW LOOK IN THE NEXT 10 YEARS AS A RESULT OF A COMPREHENSIVE REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME.

THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR DAVID LAN, SAID THIS FOLLOWING A VISIT TO THE DISTRICT THIS (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON.

"HOWEVER, REJUVENATION OF AN OLDER PART OF A DISTRICT REQUIRES CAREFUL AND DETAILED PLANNING," HE ADDED.

HE HOPED THAT THESE REDEVELOPMENTS WOULD UPGRADE DISTRICT FACILITIES AND IMPROVE THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT WITHOUT REMOVING ALL THE UNIQUE FEATURES.

MR LAN WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR STEPHEN FISHER, AND THE DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR AMBROSE LAU.

HE FIRST VISITED ONE OF THE TRADITIONAL WHOLESALE TRADING AREAS IN SHEUNG WAN - NAM PAK HONG - AND THEN WALKED THROUGH THE NEARBY AREA AROUND QUEEN STREET AND TSUNG SAU LANES.

THIS IS AMONG THE FIVE AREAS IDENTIFIED BY THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (LDC) AS SUITABLE FOR COMPREHENSIVE REDEVELOPMENT.

THE OTHER FOUR AREAS ARE COCHRANE STREET, WING SING STREET, GILMAN STREET AND THIRD STREET/UN SHING LANE. ALL FIVE HAVE BEEN DESIGNATED AS COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT AREAS BY THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD.

ONE OF THE EARLIEST DEVELOPED PARTS IN HONG KONG, THE QUEEN STREET SITE HAS A TOTAL AREA OF ABOUT 5,450 SQUARE METRES.

IT IS NOW OCCUPIED BY DILAPIDATED PRE-WAR BUILDINGS, WITH A NUMBER OF CHINESE HERB STORES AT GROUND FLOOR LEVEL AND MARKED BY CHAOTIC AND NARROW STREET PATTERNS OWING TO UNPLANNED, PIECEMEAL DEVELOPMENT IN EARLIER DECADES.

MR LAN WAS TOLD THAT THE LDC, IN CONJUNCTION WITH VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, WAS PREPARING A SCHEME TO REDEVELOP THE SITE IN A COMPREHENSIVE MANNER.

THIS WOULD OPTIMISE THE DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL AND INCORPORATE COMMUNITY FACILITIES, APART FROM IMPROVING THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT OF THE AREA AS A WHOLE.

MR LAN LATER WENT TO ANOTHER COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT AREA, AT KIN MAN STREET AND CATCHICK STREET IN KENNEDY TOWN.

/CURRENTLY OCCUPIED

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CURRENTLY OCCUPIED BY AROUND 30 TENEMENT HOUSES CONSTRUCTED IN THE 1950'S, THE 5,980 SQUARE METRE SITE WILL BE REDEVELOPED BY THE HOUSING SOCIETY IN THE EARLY 1990'S.

THE COMPOSITE DEVELOPMENT WILL PROVIDE A LARGE PUBLIC OPEN SPACE ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF CATCHICK STREET AND RESIDENTIAL COMPLEXES INCORPORATING COMMUNITY AND COMMERCIAL FACILITIES ON THE NORTH SIDE.

MR LAN SAID SUCH RENEWAL PROJECTS WERE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT IN A DISTRICT WHICH WAS NOT NOTED FOR LARGE-SCALE PUBLIC HOUSING.

DURING HIS TOUR, MR LAN WAS ALSO SHOWN THE INCINERATOR, ABATTOIR AND WHOLESALE MARKET IN KENNEDY TOWN FROM A VANTAGE POINT IN KA WAI MAN ROAD.

EXPRESSING CONCERN ABOUT POLLUTION PROBLEMS ARISING FROM THESE PLANTS, MR LAN SAID THE GREEN ISLAND RECLAMATION PROJECT, CURRENTLY UNDER STUDY, WOULD PROBABLY PROVIDE AN ALTERNATIVE SITE FOR THE RELOCATION OF THE ABATTOIR AND ITS ANCILLARY FACILITIES ALONG THE NEW SEAFRONT.

MEANWHILE, HE POINTED OUT, THE INCINERATOR WOULD BE CLOSED IN 1991 WHEN THE ISLAND REFUSE TRANSFER STATION AND THE CONTROLLED TIP IN THE NORTHWEST NEW TERRITORIES WERE IN OPERATION.

THE FISH AND VEGETABLE WHOLESALE MARKET WOULD BE RESITED TO THE WESTERN RECLAMATION IN 1990.

MR LAN ALSO LOOKED OVER THE COASTAL DEVELOPMENTS, INCLUDING THE WESTERN RECLAMATION AND PUBLIC CARGO HANDLING ACTIVITIES, FROM A POLICE LAUNCH.

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SHEUNG WAN PRE-WAR BUILDINGS DECLARED DANGEROUS

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY TODAY (FRIDAY) DECLARED NOS. 4, 6, 8 TUNG MAN STREET AND NO. 1 WING ON STREET TO BE IN A DANGEROUS CONDITION AND NOS. 3, 5 AND 7 WING ON STREET LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS.

IN A STATEMENT ISSUED TODAY THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING SURVEYOR SAID THESE THREE STOREY PRE-WAR BUILDINGS WERE MAINLY BUILT OF TIMBER FLOORS AND ROOF ON LOAD BEARING BRICK WALLS.

VERTICAL FRACTURES WITH A GAP VARYING IN WIDTH OF BETWEEN 5 MM AND 50 MM WERE FOUND ON THE FLANK WALL OF NO. 4 TUNG MAN STREET EXTENDING FROM THE SECOND FLOOR LEVEL TO GROUND FLOOR LEVEL.

/SIMILAR FRACTURES

SIMILAR FRACTURES WERE ALSO FOUND ON THE PARTY WALLS BETWEEN NOS. 4, 6, AND 8 TUNG MAN STREET, INDICATING THAT THE FRONT WALLS OF THESE BUILDINGS WERE BREAKING AWAY FROM THE MAIN BUILDINGS.

OTHER DEFECTS WERE ALSO NUMEROUS, INCLUDING DEFECTIVE STRUCTURAL TIMBERS, WEAK MORTAR JOINTS OF BRICK WALLS AND SPALLED CONCRETE AT BEAMS AND LINTELS.

NUMBER ONE, WING ON STREET IS ALSO GENERALLY VERY DILAPIDATED WITH SEVERAL VERTICAL FRACTURES ON THE REAR WALL ABUTTING A VACANT SITE.

THERE IS A HIGH RISK OF A SUDDEN COLLAPSE OF NOS. 4, 6 AND 8 TUNG MAN STREET AND NO. 1 WING ON STREET AND THEREFORE IT IS NECESSARY TO CLOSE AND DEMOLISH THESE BUILDINGS.

NUMBERS 3, 5 AND 7 WING ON STREET ARE OF SIMILAR CONSTRUCTION AS THE OTHER BUILDINGS MENTIONED ABOVE ALTHOUGH THE FORMER BUILDINGS ARE MAINTAINED IN A SLIGHTLY BETTER CONDITION.

THEY ARE ADJOINING NOS. 4, 6 AND 8 TUNG MAN STREET AT THE BACK WITH CROSS WALLS WHICH ARE CRACKED AT THE ARCHES.

IT IS CONSIDERED THAT NOS. 3, 5 AND 7 WING ON STREET CANNOT WITHSTAND THE EFFECT OF DEMOLITION OF NOS. 4, 6, 8 TUNG MAN STREET AND NO. 1 WING ON STREET AND SHOULD ALSO BE CLOSED AND DEMOLISHED IN ONE OPERATION.

NOTICES OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR CLOSURE ORDERS IN THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT AT 9.30 AM ON NOVEMBER 18 WERE POSTED TODAY.

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NEW ROADS IN YUEN LONG

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THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PROPOSES TO CONSTRUCT TWO NEW SECTIONS OF ROADS TO LINK TIN SHUI WAI AND LONG PING ESTATE WITH THE YUEN LONG WEST LINK.

THE SCHEME WILL INVOLVE CLOSURE OF A STRETCH OF FUNG CHI ROAD, A SECTION OF LONG PING ROAD EAST OF FUNG CHI TSUEN AND A STRETCH OF YUNG YUEN ROAD BETWEEN THE BURIAL GROUNDS NORTH OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD AND ALTERATIONS TO CERTAIN FOOTPATHS AND TRACKS.

DURING THE CONSTRUCTION PERIOD, INTERIM ACCESSES WILL BE PROVIDED.

DETAILS OF THE PROPOSAL WERE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY) AND A NOTICE, BOTH IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE, CAN BE SEEN ON THE NOTICE BOARDS NEAR THE SITE OF THE PROPOSED WORKS.

A COPY OF THE PLANS OF THE PROPOSED UNDERTAKINGS SHOWING THE AREAS AND THE EXISTING ROADS OR FOOTWAYS TO BE AFFECTED CAN BE SEEN AT THE FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT OFFICES:

- * CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY, HONG KONG;
- * YUEN LONG DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, YUEN LONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND TAI KIU MARKET, NINTH TO 11TH FLOORS, 2 KIU LOK SQUARE, YUEN LONG; AND
- * YUEN LONG DISTRICT OFFICE, YUEN LONG DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICES BUILDING, 269 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, YUEN LONG.

ANY PERSON WHO WISHES TO OBJECT TO THE PROPOSAL SHOULD WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG, NOT LATER THAN DECEMBER 13 THIS YEAR.

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CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITIONAL MTR ENTRANCE IN TSIM SHA TSUI

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PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY CLOSURE OR ALTERATION OF SEVERAL STREETS AND AREAS IN TSIM SHA TSUI WILL BE EFFECTED BETWEEN NEXT MONTH AND MARCH 1990 TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN ADDITIONAL ENTRANCE TO THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY STATION.

THE NEW ENTRANCE IS TO BE LOCATED IN NATHAN ROAD TO THE SOUTH OF PEKING ROAD.

CONSTRUCTION WORK, SOME OF WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO COMMENCE ON NOVEMBER 14, MAY AFFECT SOME FOOTPATHS OR CARRIAGEWAYS IN CAMERON ROAD, NATHAN ROAD, PEKING ROAD AND MIDDLE ROAD.

DETAILS OF THE STREET CLOSURES AND ALTERATIONS CAN BE OBTAINED AT THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT AT MURRAY BUILDING AND AT YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICE, 490 NATHAN ROAD. THEY ARE ALSO PUBLISHED IN THE LATEST GAZETTE.

ANY CLAIMS FOR COMPENSATION RESULTING FROM THE WORKS MUST BE PRESENTED IN WRITING TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS NOT LATER THAN ONE YEAR AFTER COMMENCEMENT OF WORK.

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TENDERS CALLED FOR REPLACING BRIDGE ON TAI TAM ROAD
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THE GOVERNMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF BRIDGE H7 ON TAI TAM ROAD.

THE WORKS COMPRISE THE DEMOLITION OF THE EXISTING BRIDGE, REPLACING IT WITH A 7.9 METRES WIDE TWO-LANE BITUMINOUS CARRIAGEWAY WITH A FOOTWAY ON ONE SIDE.

THE OPPORTUNITY WILL BE TAKEN TO REALIGN AND RECONSTRUCT A SECTION OF TAI TAM ROAD.

STORM WATER DRAINS WILL BE LAID IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ROADWORKS.

CONSTRUCTION WORK ON SITE IS EXPECTED TO COMMENCE IN DECEMBER THIS YEAR AND TO TAKE ABOUT 12 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE WORKS HAVE BEEN DESIGNED BY THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT WHICH WILL ALSO SUPERVISE THEIR CONSTRUCTION.

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PROPOSED LOADING/UNLOADING AREA IN CHEUNG CHAU
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THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO CONSTRUCT A NEW PUBLIC LOADING/UNLOADING AREA AT NAM WAN ON CHEUNG CHAU ISLAND TO RELIEVE THE CONGESTION AT THE EXISTING PUBLIC PIER.

THE LOADING/UNLOADING AREA, MEASURING 40 METRES BY 16.5 METRES, WILL BE BUILT WITHIN A TOTAL AREA OF ABOUT 4,130 SQUARE METRES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED.

TWO SETS OF THE EXISTING LANDING STEPS ON THE RUBBLE REVETMENT WILL ALSO BE RE-LOCATED SOUTHWARD BY ABOUT 100 METRES.

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

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HE HAS AN INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED MAY SUBMIT A WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 13, 1988

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ASD TO BUILD INDOOR GAMES HALL IN SHEK WU HUI

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RESIDENTS IN SHEUNG SHUI CAN LOOK FORWARD TO MORE MODERN RECREATION AND SPORTS FACILITIES, CONSTRUCTION OF WHICH WILL BEGIN IN JANUARY.

TENDERS FOR CONSTRUCTION WORKS OF AN INDOOR RECREATION CENTRE IN AREA 6, SHEK WU HUI ARE NOW BEING INVITED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

THE MULTI-PURPOSE INDOOR GAMES HALL CAN BE USED AS TWO BASKETBALL COURTS, OR EIGHT BADMINTON COURTS, OR TWO VOLLEYBALL COURTS.

IN ADDITION TO THREE AIR-CONDITIONED SQUASH COURTS, A FITNESS CENTRE, A DANCE ROOM, CHANGING FACILITIES AND ADMINISTRATION OFFICES WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED.

THE CENTRE WILL HAVE A TOTAL FLOOR AREA OF 4,400 SQUARE METRES. IT WILL BE HANDED OVER TO THE REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR MANAGEMENT UPON ITS COMPLETION IN MARCH 1990.

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TREE PLANTING TO MARK WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

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TO COMMEMORATE THE WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 1988, THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD TODAY (FRIDAY) HELD A TREE-PLANTING EXERCISE NEAR A CHINESE-STYLE FOOTBRIDGE AT FANLING SOUTH ROUNDABOUT.

THE FOOTBRIDGE, WHICH WAS OPENED TODAY, PROVIDES PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO THE WO HOP SHEK CEMETERY, WO HOP SHEK VILLAGE, WAH MING PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION, AND THE PROPOSED TOWN CENTRE IN THE AREA.

THE NAME OF THE FOOTBRIDGE, WHICH MEANS THINKING OF ONE'S PARENTS WITH AFFECTION, WAS DECIDED ON AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE FANLING RURAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN AND VILLAGE REPRESENTATIVES OF WO HOP SHEK AND WA MEI SHAN.

GUESTS OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY AND TREE-PLANTING EXERCISE INCLUDED THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR RAYMOND PANG; DISTRICT OFFICER, MR WILLIAM HUI; AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE, MR LAW CHAK-TONG.

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WAN CHAI TO STAGE ROAD SAFETY VARIETY SHOW

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A VARIETY SHOW AND A VEHICLE EXHIBITION WILL BE HELD IN SOUTHERN PLAYGROUND IN WAN CHAI TOMORROW (SATURDAY) TO MARK THE OPENING OF THE DISTRICT'S ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN FOR THIS YEAR.

THE CAMPAIGN IS ORGANISED JOINTLY BY THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD, WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE.

IT AIMS TO PROMOTE ROAD SAFETY MEASURES, AND THE IMPORTANCE OF OBSERVING TRAFFIC REGULATIONS, AMONG PEDESTRIANS, MOTORISTS AND CYCLISTS.

A NUMBER OF POPULAR SINGERS WILL PERFORM IN THE VARIETY SHOW WHICH WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE ON COMMERCIAL RADIO II. DISC JOCKEYS FROM THE STATION WILL ACT AS PRESENTERS.

OTHER PROGRAMMES IN THE SHOW WILL INCLUDE A BAND PERFORMANCE BY THE CAPE COLLINSON MARCHING BAND, A ROAD SAFETY FASHION SHOW PRESENTED BY THE HONG KONG SCHOOL OF MOTORING, AND AN EXHIBITION INTRODUCING SAFETY DEVICES FOR VEHICLES.

OFFICIATING AT THE FUNCTION WILL BE THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ALLAN CHOW, DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MRS PEGGY LAM, AND POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDER, MR MICHAEL PREW.

THE PROGRAMME WILL BEGIN AT 2.45 PM TOMORROW, FREE ADMISSION TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER WAN CHAI DISTRICT ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN VARIETY SHOW AND VEHICLE EXHIBITION TO BE HELD TOMORROW (SATURDAY) IN SOUTHERN PLAYGROUND, WAN CHAI, BEGINNING AT 2.45 PM.

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CARNIVAL TO PROMOTE NAME OF DISTRICT

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RESIDENTS OF YAU TSIM DISTRICT WILL BE ABLE TO SHARE THE FUN OF A CARNIVAL TO PROMOTE THE NEW NAME OF THE DISTRICT ON SUNDAY (OCTOBER 16).

THE CARNIVAL, TO BEGIN IN THE URBAN COUNCIL CENTENARY GARDEN IN TSIM SHA TSUI EAST AT 2 PM, WILL FEATURE STALL-GAMES, SINGING AND DANCE PERFORMANCES, A LION DANCE AND A PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION.

/A SHUTTLE

A SHUTTLE BUS WILL TAKE RESIDENTS ON A TOUR OF THE DISTRICT AT HOURLY INTERVALS.

THE CARNIVAL IS THE LAST OF A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES SPONSORED BY THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT BOARD TO PROMOTE THE NEW NAME OF THE DISTRICT, WHICH WAS INTRODUCED IN APRIL, AND TO INSTILL A SENSE OF BELONGING AMONG RESIDENTS.

WINNERS OF BASKETBALL, TABLE-TENNIS, AND PHOTOGRAPHY CONTESTS HELD EARLIER IN THE YEAR WILL RECEIVE PRIZES AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE CARNIVAL, AT WHICH THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR DAVID LAN, WILL OFFICIATE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE CARNIVAL TO BE HELD IN THE UC CENTENARY GARDEN AT 2 PM ON SUNDAY (OCTOBER 16).

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DUTCH MISSION VISITS KWAI TSING DISTRICT

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A 40-MEMBER MUNICIPAL AND ECONOMIC MISSION FROM AMSTERDAM VISITED KWAI TSING DISTRICT TODAY (FRIDAY) AS PART OF THEIR ITINERARY TO FOSTER CLOSER ECONOMIC TIES BETWEEN THE NETHERLANDS AND HONG KONG.

THE MISSION, LED BY VICE-MAYOR OF AMSTERDAM, MR W. ETTY, COMPRISED SENIOR REPRESENTATIVES OF THE AMSTERDAM PORT MANAGEMENT, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY OF AMSTERDAM, DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, NETHERLANDS COUNCIL FOR TRADE PROMOTION AND UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM.

ACCOMPANYING THE MISSION WERE KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICER, MR BRIAN COAK; A PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, MR MIKE WATERS, AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT, THE MARINE DEPARTMENT AND THE TSUEN WAN DEVELOPMENT OFFICE.

THE MISSION TOURED ROUND THE DISTRICT ON BOARD A LAUNCH AND WAS BRIEFED ON DEVELOPMENTS OF THE KWAI CHUNG CONTAINER PORT AND GROWTH OF THE DISTRICT IN AREAS OF HOUSING, TRAFFIC AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES.

MEMBERS OF THE MISSION ALSO HAD DISCUSSIONS WITH INDUSTRIALISTS, BUSINESSMEN AND PROFESSIONALS IN THE DISTRICT ON INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENTS OF KWAI TSING AND WORLD TRADE IN GENERAL.

THE MISSION IS ON A STOP-OVER IN HONG KONG FOLLOWING A VISIT TO CHINA RECENTLY IN VIEW OF THE BUSINESS RELATION BETWEEN HONG KONG AND THE NETHERLANDS AND FOR THE FACT THAT THE KWAI CHUNG CONTAINER PORT IS THE WORLD'S BUSIEST CONTAINER PORT.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF VAN TRACK

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TENDERS ARE BEING INVITED FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF A VAN TRACK AT SHAP YI WAT VILLAGE IN SHA TIN.

A NOTICE TO THIS EFFECT WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION SAID THE PROJECT WAS PART OF THE URBAN FRINGE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME.

WORKS WOULD INCLUDE THE RECONSTRUCTION OF 616 METRES OF VAN TRACK TO PROVIDE A 3.5-METRE WIDE CARRIAGEWAY WITH A TURNING AREA, PASSING PLACES AND ASSOCIATED DRAINAGE.

WHEN COMPLETED, THE RECONSTRUCTED TRACK WOULD PROVIDE AN IMPROVED ACCESS BETWEEN SHA TIN PASS ROAD AND SHAP YI WAT VILLAGE.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID CONSTRUCTION WAS EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN NOVEMBER AND WOULD TAKE ABOUT SIX MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE WORKS HAD BEEN DESIGNED BY THE WORKS SECTION OF SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE WHICH WOULD SUPERVISE CONSTRUCTION, HE ADDED.

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HUNG MUI KUK ROAD TO BE PARTIALLY CLOSED

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT SECTIONS OF HUNG MUI KUK ROAD WESTBOUND BETWEEN CHUNG PAK ROAD AND TIN SAM STREET WILL BE CLOSED ALTERNATIVELY TO TRAFFIC FROM OCTOBER 17 (MONDAY) FOR ABOUT THREE MONTHS.

THE CLOSURE IS TO FACILITATE LARGE SCALE ROAD RECONSTRUCTION WORK TO BE CARRIED OUT BY THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT.

AS CONGESTION IS EXPECTED DURING THE PERIOD OF CLOSURE, MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED TO AVOID USING THE AFFECTED ROAD SECTIONS. THEY SHOULD ALSO WATCH OUT FOR TEMPORARY TRAFFIC SIGNS AND DRIVE WITH EXTRA CARE AND PATIENCE.

UNDER THE ARRANGEMENTS, THE WESTBOUND SLOW AND MIDDLE LANES OF HUNG MUI KUK ROAD, FROM A POINT ABOUT 50 METRES EAST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH TIN SAM STREET TO A POINT ABOUT 80 METRES EAST OF THE SAME JUNCTION, WILL BE CLOSED FROM OCTOBER 17 (MONDAY) TO NOVEMBER 6.

/THE WESTBOUND

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THE WESTBOUND FAST LANE OF THE SAME SECTION OF HUNG MUI KUK ROAD WILL ALSO BE CLOSED BETWEEN DECEMBER 16 AND JANUARY 4.

FROM NOVEMBER 6 TO 26, THE WESTBOUND MIDDLE LANE OF HUNG MUI KUK ROAD, FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH TIN SAM STREET TO A POINT ABOUT 50 METRES EAST OF THE SAME JUNCTION, WILL BE CLOSED.

THE WESTBOUND FAST LANE OF THE SAME SECTION OF HUNG MUI KUK ROAD WILL ALSO BE CLOSED BETWEEN NOVEMBER 26 AND DECEMBER 16.

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CUSTOMS COMMENDED FOR COPYRIGHT PROTECTION

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THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT WAS TODAY (FRIDAY) PRAISED BY A DISTRIBUTOR OF U.S. COMPUTER SOFTWARE FOR ITS STRENUOUS EFFORTS IN FIGHTING COMPUTER SOFTWARE PIRACY.

AT A SPECIAL CEREMONY TODAY, THE GENERAL MANAGER OF IMAGINEERING MICRO DISTRIBUTOR LTD, MR TONY SENA, PRESENTED A PLAQUE TO THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE, MR PATRICK WILLIAMSON, IN APPRECIATION OF THE DEPARTMENT'S HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL OPERATIONS AGAINST COMPUTER SOFTWARE PIRACY.

THE DEPARTMENT HAS ACHIEVED GREAT SUCCESS OVER THE PAST YEAR IN CRACKING DOWN A NUMBER OF PRINTERS/BOOK-BINDERS OF PIRATED MANUALS AND THEIR STORAGE PLACES, INCLUDING A SERIES OF RAIDS CONDUCTED IN JULY TO STOP THE ILLEGAL TRADE IN THE GOLDEN SHOPPING ARCADE IN SHAM SHUI PO.

RAIDS CONDUCTED IN THE PERIOD RESULTED IN PIRATED GOODS VALUED OVER \$15 MILLION BEING SEIZED AND 76 ARRESTS. SIXTEEN TRADERS HAVE BEEN PROSECUTED AND FINES TOTALLING \$198,400 IMPOSED, IN ADDITION TO TWO IMMEDIATE OR SUSPENDED PRISON SENTENCES.

IMAGINEERING REPRESENTS SEVERAL MAJOR SOFTWARE COMPANIES FROM THE USA AND ACTS AS THE SOLE AUTHORISED DISTRIBUTOR IN MARKETING THEIR PRODUCTS IN THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION.

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SENIOR FIRE OFFICERS RECEIVE LONG SERVICE MEDALS

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TWO LONG-SERVING SENIOR OFFICERS OF THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT WERE PRESENTED SECOND CLASPS TO THE FIRE BRIGADE LONG SERVICE MEDAL BY THE DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES, MR JOHN MARCH, TODAY (FRIDAY).

AT A CEREMONY AT FIRE SERVICES HEADQUARTERS, MR MARCH PRESENTED THE AWARDS TO THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES, MR LAM CHEK-YUEN, AND THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER OF THE KOWLOON FIRE COMMAND, MR WOO KWAN-KUEN.

MR MARCH SAID THAT THE SECOND CLASPS REPRESENTED 30 YEARS OF EXEMPLARY SERVICE AS MEMBERS OF THE HONG KONG FIRE SERVICES AND HE THANKED MR LAM AND MR WOO FOR THEIR LOYALTY AND DEDICATION TO THEIR WORK.

THIS YEAR, A TOTAL OF 243 FIRE AND AMBULANCE PERSONNEL WHO HAVE SERVED THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT BETWEEN 18 AND 30 YEARS HAVE BEEN AWARDED THE FIRE BRIGADE LONG SERVICE MEDALS AND CLASPS.

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PFA CONTRIBUTES TO REHABILITATION OF INMATES

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THE WORK OF THE PRISONERS' FRIEND ASSOCIATION (PFA) CONTRIBUTED MUCH TO THE REHABILITATION OF PRISONERS, THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, MR CHAN WA-SHEK, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION AT THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S HEADQUARTERS.

SPEAKING IN HIS CAPACITY AS THE PRESIDENT OF PFA, MR CHAN ALSO SAID THAT PRISON VISITS WERE CONDUCIVE TO THE BETTER BEHAVIOUR OF PRISONERS DURING THEIR INTERNMENT, AND TO THEIR REHABILITATION IN THE END.

"IN ARRANGING VISITS, MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION HAVE AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO MAKE, IN GIVING THEM A MORE POSITIVE OUTLOOK OF LIFE AND INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIP, AS WELL AS PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT AND A MEANINGFUL LINK WITH THE OUTSIDE WORLD."

THE PFA WAS SET UP IN 1980, WITH THE AIM TO PROVIDE LINK AND FRIENDSHIP FOR PRISONERS. ITS ULTIMATE TASK IS TO HELP PRISONERS FEEL THAT THEY ARE NOT SOCIALLY REJECTED AND THE OUTSIDE WORLD STILL CARED ABOUT THEM.

/MR CHAN

MR CHAN ALSO THANKED MEMBERS OF PFA FOR THEIR CONTINUED ENTHUSIASM AND INTEREST IN DISCHARGING THEIR ROLE.

HE COMMENDED THE CHAIRMAN AND HIS COMMITTEE FOR THEIR EFFORTS IN RECRUITING NEW MEMBERS AND EXTENDING THE WORKING RELATIONSHIP OF THE ASSOCIATION WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS.

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CROSS TOLO HARBOUR SWIM ON SUNDAY

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THE 21ST CROSS TOLO HARBOUR SWIMMING RACE WILL BE HELD IN TAI PO ON SUNDAY (OCTOBER 16).

OF THE 1,500 APPLICATIONS RECEIVED, 1,240 APPLICANTS WERE FROM MEN AND 260 FROM WOMEN, WITH THE YOUNGEST ENTRANT BEING 12 YEARS OLD AND THE OLDEST 85.

THE RACE IS ORGANISED BY THE TAI PO SPORTS ASSOCIATION AND CO-SPONSORED BY THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD AND A BREWERY.

IT WILL START AT 10.30 AM AT SHA LAN BEACH IN SHUEN WAN AND WILL FINISH AT THE TAI MEI TUK WATER SPORTS CENTRE, COVERING A DISTANCE OF 2,400 METRES.

THE TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICER, MR JOHN BURRETT, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE STARTING CEREMONY.

THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR MICHAEL SUEN, WILL PRESENT PRIZES TO WINNERS AT A CEREMONY TO BE HELD AT THE WATER SPORTS CENTRE AT 12.10 PM.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE 21ST CROSS TOLO HARBOUR SWIMMING RACE IN TAI PO ON SUNDAY (OCTOBER 16).

A COACH TAKING MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES TO THE STARTING POINT AT SHA LAN WILL LEAVE THE TAI PO SPORTS ASSOCIATION'S LI FOOK LAM INDOOR SPORTS CENTRE AT 2 ON CHEUNG ROAD, TAI PO AT 9.30 AM.

THOSE TRAVELLING ON THEIR OWN SHOULD GATHER AT A PIER NEAR THE ROUNDABOUT OF SAM MUN TSAI ROAD (I.E. NEAR THE LUEN YICK SEAFOOD HOUSE) IN THE LUEN YICK FISHERMEN VILLAGE BY 10 AM.

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LANDS AND WORKS GROUP TO HOLD SWIMMING GALA
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THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, MR GRAHAM BARNES, AND THE DIRECTOR OF TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT, MR KENNETH KWOK, ARE AMONG PARTICIPANTS OF THE SIXTH LANDS AND WORKS GROUP SWIMMING GALA.

THE SWIMMING GALA WILL BE HELD FROM 8 AM TO 5 PM ON SUNDAY (OCTOBER 16) IN THE PAO YUE KONG SWIMMING POOL IN ABERDEEN.

MR BARNES AND MR KWOK HAVE BOTH SIGNED UP FOR EVENT 25 -- 50 METRES FREESTYLE (MEN OVER 40) -- IN THE AFTERNOON.

DIRECTORS OF LANDS AND WORKS GROUP OF DEPARTMENTS WILL PRESENT TROPHIES AND MEDALS WHILE MRS BARNES WILL OFFICIATE AT A RAFFLE DRAW.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE WELCOME TO SEND YOUR REPRESENTATIVE TO ATTEND THE SWIMMING GALA.

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS FOR ID CARD ISSUE OFFICE
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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT REMINDED RESIDENTS THAT WITH EFFECT FROM MONDAY (OCTOBER 17), THE SHA TIN NEW IDENTITY CARD ISSUE OFFICE WILL PROVIDE SERVICES FOR NEW IDENTITY CARDS AT THE FOLLOWING NEW ADDRESS:

CHANWAY SHOPPING CENTRE,
2ND FLOOR, SHOP 8A,
11-17 SHA TIN CENTRE STREET,
SHA TIN, NEW TERRITORIES.
TEL. 0-6059108

THE OPERATION HOURS OF THE OFFICE WILL BE FROM 8 AM TO 9.30 PM DAILY, EXCEPT SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

"APPLICANTS SHOULD COLLECT THEIR NEW IDENTITY CARDS AT THE NEW OFFICE ADDRESS AFTER OCTOBER 16," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT SAID.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO MAKE FURTHER ENQUIRIES MAY TELEPHONE THE DEPARTMENT'S INFORMATION OFFICE ON 3-7333111.

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