



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 1986

### CONTENTS

### PAGE NO.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING:

|                                                      |    |
|------------------------------------------------------|----|
| BEST STANDARDS APPLY AT DAYA BAY -- FS .....         | 1  |
| INCIDENCE OF SHOPLIFTING CAUSES CONCERN .....        | 3  |
| ADEQUATE STAFF AT CHILD RECEPTION CENTRES .....      | 4  |
| EXPERIENCE THE REASON FOR SERVICE EXTENSION .....    | 5  |
| SQUATTERS TO BE CLEARED FROM DANGEROUS SLOPES .....  | 6  |
| PROTECTION PROVIDED FOR INTERESTS OF INVESTORS ..... | 7  |
| STEPS TAKEN TO MINIMISE LRT DISRUPTION .....         | 8  |
| TAXI VOUCHER SCHEME TO ASSIST DISABLED .....         | 9  |
| 11 276 DEMOLITION ORDERS ISSUED .....                | 10 |
| ADEQUATE TRAINING OF AFTERCARE STAFF URGED .....     | 10 |
| DEFAMATION (AMENDMENT) BILL WELCOMED .....           | 12 |
| 40 PER CENT BOOST FOR KCR CAPACITY .....             | 13 |
| THREE BILLS PASSED .....                             | 14 |
| LAND COMMISSION GROUP TO VISIT GUANGDONG .....       | 15 |
| SHIPPING, PORT, CARGO STATISTICS RELEASED .....      | 15 |
| RESPECT HELPS BUILD A HAPPY FAMILY .....             | 17 |
| DB TO DISCUSS MEDICAL SERVICES REPORT .....          | 18 |
| THREE STORAGE SITES TO LET .....                     | 18 |
| TRAFFIC CHANGES IN WESTERN, CENTRAL .....            | 19 |
| CASTLE PEAK ROAD TRAFFIC CHANGES .....               | 20 |
| YAU TONG WATER CUT .....                             | 20 |

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 1986

- 1 -

BEST STANDARDS APPLY AT DAYA BAY -- FS

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN ADVISED THAT THE NUCLEAR POWER PLANT TO BE BUILT AT DAYA BAY WOULD BE GOVERNED BY THE BEST AVAILABLE INTERNATIONAL SAFETY STANDARDS IN RESPECT OF DESIGN, MANUFACTURE, ERECTION, COMMISSIONING AND OPERATION, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, THE HON SIR JOHN BREMIDGE, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY THE HON MARIA TAM IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, SIR JOHN SAID THESE STANDARDS HAD BEEN INCORPORATED IN ALL CONTRACTS BEING PLACED BY THE GUANGDONG NUCLEAR POWER JOINT VENTURE COMPANY (JVC).

+THE NUCLEAR EQUIPMENT AND NUCLEAR DESIGN FOR THE PLANT ARE BEING OBTAINED BY THE JVC FROM FRANCE SO AS TO TAKE THE MAXIMUM POSSIBLE BENEFIT OF THE SUCCESSFUL NUCLEAR PROGRAMME THERE AND, IN PARTICULAR, OF THE VERY HIGH SAFETY STANDARD RECORD OF THE FRENCH,+ SIR JOHN SAID.

THERE WERE NOW OVER 40 SIMILAR PRESSURISED WATER REACTORS (PWR'S) OPERATING SATISFACTORILY IN FRANCE ALONE, THE SECOND LARGEST NUCLEAR POWER PROGRAMME IN THE WORLD, AND THERE WERE 160 PWR'S ALTOGETHER, HE SAID.

HE STRESSED THAT THE DESIGN OF THE DAYA BAY STATION WAS TOTALLY DIFFERENT TO THAT AT CHERNOBYL IN THE SOVIET UNION.

SIR JOHN WENT ON TO SAY THAT IN ADDITION TO THE SELECTION OF THE FRENCH COMPANY, FRAMATOME, TO SUPPLY THE NUCLEAR EQUIPMENT, THE FRENCH NATIONAL UTILITY ELECTRICITE DE FRANCE (EDF) HAD A SUPERVISING ROLE TO ENSURE THAT SPECIFIED STANDARDS WERE MET.

+TO ACHIEVE THIS OBJECTIVE, EDF IS PARTICIPATING WITH THE JVC ON ALL TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF THE MANAGEMENT OF THE PROJECT,+ HE SAID.

+THUS, ALTHOUGH THE DAYA BAY NUCLEAR PROJECT IS BEING BUILT BY THE CHINESE IN CHINA, THERE IS INTENSIVE INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION IN AND COMMITMENT TO INTERNATIONAL SAFETY STANDARDS.+

SIR JOHN SAID THAT BESIDES THE FRENCH SAFETY STANDARDS THAT HAD BEEN ADOPTED FOR THE PROJECT, APPLICABLE INTERNATIONAL AND CHINESE STANDARDS WOULD ALSO BE OBSERVED.

+IN THE APPLICATION OF THESE VARIOUS STANDARDS, THE FRENCH STANDARDS WILL BE TAKEN AS A MINIMUM REQUIREMENT,+ HE SAID.

+IN ADDITION, CHINA HAS ESTABLISHED ITS OWN NATIONAL LICENSING AUTHORITY (THE NATIONAL NUCLEAR SAFETY AUTHORITY DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE TO THE STATE COUNCIL) WHICH HAS A CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT WITH THE FRENCH LICENSING AUTHORITY (THE FRENCH CENTRAL SERVICE FOR THE SAFETY OF NUCLEAR INSTALLATIONS) REGARDING THE USE OF FRENCH STANDARDS.+

/CHINA'S LICENSING .....

CHINA'S LICENSING AUTHORITY HAD INFORMED THE JVC THAT THESE STANDARDS WOULD BE THE BASIS FOR ITS LICENSING OF THE DAYA BAY PLANT.

+ALL POSSIBLE SAFEGUARDS AS REGARDS THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE PLANT TO THE HIGHEST INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS HAVE BEEN TAKEN,+ SIR JOHN SAID.

SUCH SAFETY STANDARDS WOULD APPLY AT ALL STAGES AT THE NUCLEAR PROJECT DURING DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION.

SIR JOHN SAID: +ACCORDING TO CHINA'S LICENSING REGULATIONS, THERE ARE SEVERAL KEY STAGES OF THE CONSTRUCTION WHERE DETAILED SAFETY ANALYSIS REPORTS HAVE TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE CHINESE LICENSING AUTHORITY FOR APPROVAL.

+ON OTHER ASPECTS OF THE NUCLEAR PROJECT, THE SAFETY ANALYSIS REPORTS WILL BE PREPARED ACCORDING TO INTERNATIONAL FORMS AND STANDARDS, WITH INPUT FROM THE FRENCH CONTRACTORS INVOLVED AND UNDER THE TOTAL SUPERVISION OF EDF. CONSTRUCTION WORK CANNOT CONTINUE UNTIL THE LICENSING AUTHORITY IS SATISFIED THAT THE APPLICABLE STANDARDS HAVE BEEN MET.

+THIS WILL ENSURE, THEREFORE, THAT INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNISED SAFETY STANDARDS WILL ALREADY BE ATTAINED BEFORE THE PLANT IS PUT IN OPERATION.+

SIR JOHN SAID THE JVC WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE APPLICATION OF THE SAFETY STANDARDS DURING THE OPERATIONAL STAGE, BUT UNDER THE TERMS OF THE JOINT VENTURE CONTRACT, THE OPERATIONS MANAGER AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE OPERATIONS STAFF WOULD BE NOMINATED BY THE HONG KONG NUCLEAR INVESTMENT COMPANY (HKNIC).

+THIS CLOSE OPERATIONAL LINK WILL ENABLE HKNIC TO KNOW THE OPERATING STATUS OF THE PLANT, INCLUDING THE UNLIKELY EVENT OF ANY ABNORMAL DEVELOPMENT,+ HE SAID.

OPERATING STAFF OF THE JVC WOULD BE TRAINED IN FRANCE BEFORE THE START OF OPERATIONS.

FRENCH SPECIALISTS WOULD ALSO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL STAGES OF THE COMMISSIONING AND START UP AT THE PLANT, AND THE OPERATING PROCEDURES AND STANDARDS WOULD BE ESTABLISHED AT THE PRE-OPERATIONAL STAGE.

+THE PRINCIPLE ADOPTED IN MOST COUNTRIES OPERATING NUCLEAR POWER STATIONS IS THAT THE OPERATOR IS MADE RESPONSIBLE FOR COMPLIANCE WITH THE APPLICABLE SAFETY STANDARDS: THE NATIONAL SAFETY OR LICENSING AUTHORITY UNDERTAKES A MONITORING ROLE TO ENSURE ADHERENCE TO THESE STANDARDS,+ SIR JOHN SAID.

+THE SAME APPROACH WILL APPLY AT DAYA BAY, WHEREBY THE CHINESE LICENSING AUTHORITY WILL MONITOR THE OPERATION OF THE PLANT BY THE JOINT VENTURE COMPANY AND ITS COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPERATING LIMITS.+

ANY UNUSUAL INCREASE IN THE LEVEL OF RADIOACTIVITY WOULD BE PICKED UP BY THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY THROUGH ITS RADIATION MONITORING EQUIPMENT WHICH WAS BEING SET UP IN HONG KONG.

SIR JOHN NOTED THAT PROPER CONCERNS HAD ARISEN NOT ONLY IN HONG KONG BUT THROUGHOUT THE WORLD AS A RESULT OF THE CHERNOBYL DISASTER.

+THERE WILL BE NEED TO STUDY CLOSELY FULL REPORTS, WHEN THESE BECOME AVAILABLE, AND TO APPLY ANY FURTHER LESSONS THAT CAN BE LEARNT,+ HE SAID.

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#### INCIDENCE OF SHOPLIFTING CAUSES CONCERN

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THE GOVERNMENT IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE STEEP RISE IN REPORTED CASES OF SHOPLIFTING OFFENCES AND IS TAKING A NUMBER OF STEPS TO COUNTER IT. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE HON MICHAEL THOMAS, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

FOR EXAMPLE, HE SAID, ADVICE WAS GIVEN BY THE POLICE CRIME PREVENTION BUREAU AND POLICE AT DISTRICT LEVEL TO DEPARTMENT STORES AND SUPERMARKETS ON HOW TO IMPROVE THEIR SECURITY.

REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY THE HON HILTON CHEONG-LEEN, MR THOMAS AGREED ON THE NEED TO ENLIST THE ACTIVE SUPPORT OF SHOPKEEPERS IN DEALING WITH THE PROBLEM.

+THERE IS MUCH THAT CAN BE DONE BY THE SHOPKEEPERS THEMSELVES TO COUNTER THE RISE OF SHOPLIFTING,+ HE SAID.

+SECURITY STAFF, USE OF SPACE IN A WAY THAT FACILITATES SURVEILLANCE, MIRRORS AND ALARMS - ALL THESE WOULD MAKE IT EASIER TO DETECT THE THIEF.

+AND AS IN ALL FIELDS OF CRIME, THE GREATER THE CERTAINTY OF DETECTION, THE GREATER THE DETERRENCE.+

IN ADDITION, MR THOMAS SAID, SPECIAL ATTENTION NEEDED TO BE GIVEN TO YOUNG PEOPLE, WHO SEEMED PARTICULARLY PRONE TO SHOPLIFTING.

+IN PART, MORAL EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS AND TALKS BY THE POLICE ARE DESIGNED TO DISCOURAGE CHILDREN FROM SHOPLIFTING,+ HE SAID.

+YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE CAUGHT SHOPLIFTING ARE USUALLY REFERRED TO PROBATION OFFICERS AND SOCIAL WORKERS, WHO COUNSEL THEM AGAINST COMMITTING FURTHER OFFENCES.+

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL ALSO SUGGESTED THAT PARENTS HAD TO ACCEPT A MAJOR ROLE IN DISCOURAGING THEIR CHILDREN FROM THEFT.

THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE WOULD CONTINUE TO PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO THIS PROBLEM AND THE GOVERNMENT WOULD DO ALL THAT IT COULD TO DISCOURAGE SHOPLIFTING, HE SAID.

+THE EFFECTIVE REMEDY TO THIS PROBLEM ULTIMATELY RESTS WITH THE VIGILANCE OF SHOPKEEPERS AND EDUCATION OF THE COMMUNITY, PARTICULARLY CHILDREN, AS TO THE TRULY DISHONEST NATURE OF THIS FORM OF THEFT,+ HE ADDED.

COMPARED WITH 1984, THERE HAD BEEN A 70 PER CENT INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF SHOPLIFTING OFFENCES LAST YEAR - FROM 3 971 CASES TO 6 752.

+THE INCREASE IS MOST NOTICEABLE IN THE NEW TOWNS,+ MR THOMAS SAID.

ONE FACTOR FOR THE INCREASE WAS THE CHANGE OF POLICY ON THE PART OF INSURANCE COMPANIES WHICH WERE NOW PRESSING FOR LOSSES FROM THEFT TO BE REPORTED TO THE POLICE BEFORE THEY WOULD PAY OUT ON CLAIMS.

SECOND, THE NUMBER OF SECURITY STAFF DEPLOYED IN SHOPS HAD INCREASED.

THIRD, THERE HAD BEEN SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF +SELF-SERVICE+ SHOPS. SUPERMARKETS HAD INCREASED IN NUMBER BY 20 PER CENT IN 1985 AND, MR THOMAS ADDED: +IT IS IN SUPERMARKETS THAT 65 PER CENT OF REPORTED SHOPLIFTING CASES OCCUR.+

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#### ADEQUATE STAFF AT CHILD RECEPTION CENTRES

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STAFF AND FACILITIES OF THE FOUR GOVERNMENT CHILDREN'S CENTRES AUTHORISED FOR DETENTION UNDER THE IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE ARE ADEQUATE FOR THE PROPER CARE OF CHILDREN WHO NEED TO STAY THERE, THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, THE HON JOHN CHAMBERS, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

MR CHAMBERS WAS REPLYING TO QUESTIONS BY THE HON LYDIA DUNN ABOUT THE DEATH OF A TWO-MONTH-OLD BABY AT THE CHUK YUEN CHILDREN'S RECEPTION CENTRE.

+EACH CENTRE IS UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF AN EXPERIENCED SOCIAL WORK OFFICER AND THEIR FACILITIES ARE REGULARLY INSPECTED BY JUSTICES OF PEACE,+ HE SAID.

BABIES AND CHILDREN AWAITING REPATRIATION WERE NORMALLY ALLOWED TO STAY WITH RELATIVES. +WHERE THE MOTHER IS AN ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT AND IS HELD IN DETENTION, THE CHILD IS DETAINED WITH THE MOTHER,+ MR CHAMBERS SAID.

/+EXCEPTIONALLY, A .....

+EXCEPTIONALLY, A CHILD MAY BE DETAINED IN A CHILDREN'S CENTRE IF THERE IS NO ONE TO TAKE CARE OF HIM OR HER OR WHEN THERE ARE STRONG INDICATIONS THAT AN OLDER CHILD WOULD ABSCOND IF RELEASED.

+IN EVERY CASE THE CHILD'S BEST INTERESTS ARE THE FOREMOST CONSIDERATION.+

IN DESCRIBING THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DEATH, MR CHAMBERS EXPLAINED THAT THE CHILD WAS TAKEN BY HER PARENTS TO THE BIRTHS REGISTRY ON OCTOBER 30, 1985. THE CHILD'S MOTHER PRODUCED A SUSPECT IDENTITY CARD BUT BEFORE A MORE DETAILED ENQUIRY COULD BE CARRIED OUT INTO HER IDENTITY SHE FLED, AND COULD NOT BE TRACED.

THE CHILD WAS ADMITTED TO CHUK YUEN CHILDREN'S RECEPTION CENTRE WITH HER FATHER'S WRITTEN CONSENT AFTER IT WAS ESTABLISHED THAT SHE HAD NO RIGHT TO LAND IN HONG KONG AND HAD TO BE REMOVED TO CHINA.

MR CHAMBERS SAID THE CHILD WAS PHYSICALLY EXAMINED BY A VISITING MEDICAL OFFICER ON NOVEMBER 15 AND TREATED FOR AN UPPER RESPIRATORY INFECTION. SHE WAS SEEN AGAIN BY THE VISITING DOCTOR ON NOVEMBER 22 AND 29 AND TREATED FOR THE SAME AILMENT. LATER ON NOVEMBER 29 THE CHILD WAS FOUND TO HAVE DEVELOPED A FEVER AND WAS SENT TO QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL WHERE SHE DIED ON DECEMBER 2.

THE CORONER'S COURT FOUND THAT DEATH WAS DUE TO NATURAL CAUSES, HE NOTED.

THE CHUK YUEN CHILDREN'S RECEPTION CENTRE, THE ONLY GOVERNMENT RECEPTION CENTRE FOR CHILDREN FROM BIRTH UP TO THE AGE OF EIGHT, AT PRESENT ACCOMMODATED 64 BABIES AND CHILDREN, NONE OF WHOM WAS DETAINED AWAITING REPATRIATION, WHILE 153 WERE STAYING IN THE OTHER THREE CENTRES WITH TWO AWAITING REPATRIATION.

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EXPERIENCE THE REASON FOR SERVICE EXTENSION  
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THE REASON WHY SOME DIRECTORATE OFFICERS AGED OVER 55 ARE GRANTED EXTENSION OF SERVICE IS THAT THEIR EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS ARE STILL REQUIRED BY THE GOVERNMENT IN THOSE PARTICULAR POSTS, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, THE HON SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION BY THE HON CHENG HON-KWAN, SIR DAVID SAID OUT OF A TOTAL ESTABLISHMENT OF 1 070 DIRECTORATE GRADE POSTS, 98 DIRECTORATE OFFICERS WERE SERVING BEYOND THE NORMAL RETIREMENT AGE OF 55.

HE SAID THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS WHEREBY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS WOULD NORMALLY ONLY SERVE UNTIL 57 WAS ONLY APPLICABLE TO OVERSEAS ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS, +THE PURPOSE BEING TO ENABLE MORE LOCAL OFFICERS TO BE GIVEN EXPERIENCE IN SENIOR POSITIONS IN THE PERIOD RUNNING UP TO 1997.+

- 6 -

AS REGARDS TRAINING FOR LOCAL OFFICERS, SIR DAVID SAID THE ADMINISTRATION WAS CONSCIOUS OF THE NEED TO CONTINUE TO STRENGTHEN AND EXPAND THE GOVERNMENT'S TRAINING CAPABILITY IN THE COMING YEARS.

IN ORDER TO PREPARE MID-CAREER OFFICERS FOR WIDER MANAGERIAL RESPONSIBILITIES, GENERALLY AT THE DIRECTORATE LEVEL, A SENIOR STAFF COURSE, WHICH WAS A THREE-MONTH FULL-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME, WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1984, HE SAID.

+BY THE END OF 1989, OVER 400 OFFICERS WILL HAVE BENEFITTED FROM THIS COURSE,+ HE ADDED.

SIR DAVID NOTED THAT GOOD USE WAS ALSO MADE OF MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES RUN BY OVERSEAS INSTITUTIONS.

IN SELECTING OFFICERS FOR SUCH PROGRAMMES, PARTICULAR REGARD WAS GIVEN TO THE LONGER TERM COMPOSITION OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE AND THE DIRECTORATE STAFFING NEEDS OF THE DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED, HE SAID.

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SQUATTERS TO BE CLEARED FROM DANGEROUS SLOPES  
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ABOUT 50 000 SQUATTERS LIVING ON SLOPES CONSIDERED SUSCEPTIBLE TO LANDSLIPS ARE TO BE CLEARED BY 1990, THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, THE HON NICKY CHAN, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

REPLYING TO QUESTIONS BY THE HON POON CHI-FAI, MR CHAN SAID IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO GIVE EXACT FIGURES ON THE NUMBER OF SQUATTERS AT RISK, BUT IT WAS ESTIMATED THAT ABOUT 50 000 PEOPLE LIVED ON THESE SLOPES IN SOME 10 000 STRUCTURES.

+MAJOR STABILISATION WORKS ON MOST OF THE SLOPES ARE PRECLUDED BY THE NEED TO CLEAR THE SQUATTERS BEFORE WORK CAN COMMENCE,+ HE SAID. +SOME MINOR STABILISATION HAS BEEN CARRIED OUT AS PART OF THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT'S SQUATTER AREA IMPROVEMENT SCHEME.+

THE LONGER-TERM SOLUTION, MR CHAN POINTED OUT, WAS SQUATTER CLEARANCE AND THOSE LIVING ON THE MORE VULNERABLE SLOPES WOULD BE CLEARED BY 1990 UNDER THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT'S NON-DEVELOPMENT CLEARANCE PROGRAMME.

+UNTIL SUCH TIME AS ALL SQUATTERS ARE CLEARED FROM UNSAFE SLOPES, THE GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO RELY ON ITS LANDSLIP WARNING SYSTEM TO WARN SQUATTERS OF POSSIBLE LANDSLIPS,+ HE ADDED.

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 1936

- 7 -

PROTECTION PROVIDED FOR INTERESTS OF INVESTORS  
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MEASURES TO SAFEGUARD INVESTORS' INTERESTS AND TO MINIMISE CHANCES FOR MALPRACTICE ARE ALREADY ENSHRINED IN COMPANIES AND SECURITIES LEGISLATION AND THE RULES OF THE UNIFIED EXCHANGE, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, THE HON SIR JOHN BREMRIDGE, SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

REPLYING TO QUESTIONS BY THE HON LEE YU-TAI, SIR JOHN SAID THAT THE PRIME CONCERN OF THE GOVERNMENT AND OF THE SECURITIES COMMISSION HAD ALWAYS BEEN TO PROTECT THE REASONABLE INTERESTS OF THE INVESTING PUBLIC.

SIR JOHN SAID DURING THE LAST FIVE YEARS, 20 LISTED COMPANIES HAD BEEN SUSPENDED AND REMAINED SUSPENDED, WHILE 26 COMPANIES' LISTINGS HAD BEEN CANCELLED.

OF THE 26 COMPANIES SUSPENDED, HE ADDED, FIVE WERE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE FURTHER INFORMATION- SIX WERE INVOLVED IN RECONSTRUCTION OR REORGANISATION, AND NINE HAD BEEN PUT IN LIQUIDATION OR HAD BECOME INSOLVENT. THESE FIGURES DID NOT INCLUDE THE NUMEROUS TEMPORARY SUSPENSIONS WHICH RESULTED FROM PENDING ANNOUNCEMENTS, TAKEOVER SITUATIONS ETC.

+OF THE 26 LISTED COMPANIES WHOSE LISTINGS HAVE BEEN CANCELLED, SIX HAVE BEEN REACTIVATED THROUGH THE LISTING OF ANOTHER COMPANY, 15 HAVE BEEN ACQUIRED BY ANOTHER COMPANY THROUGH TAKEOVERS AND MERGERS AND FIVE HAVE BEEN WOUND UP,+ SIR JOHN SAID.

ON THE NUMBER OF SUSPENSIONS AND CANCELLATIONS THAT HAD ARISEN FROM POSSIBLE MALPRACTICES OF LISTED COMPANIES, SIR JOHN SAID THAT THESE SUSPENSIONS AND CANCELLATIONS HAD BEEN MADE AT THE REQUEST OF THE COMPANIES CONCERNED.

+IT IS DIFFICULT, IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE, TO SAY HOW MANY OF THESE SUSPENSIONS AND CANCELLED LISTINGS MIGHT HAVE BEEN ATTRIBUTED TO MALPRACTICES SINCE IT IS NOT EASY TO DEFINE MALPRACTICE AND THERE ARE DIFFERENT DEGREES OF MALPRACTICE.+

BESIDES THE PROTECTION PROVIDED BY LEGISLATION, SIR JOHN SAID, INVESTORS MUST ALSO EXERCISE COMMONSENSE AND GOOD JUDGEMENT. THOSE WHO INVEST MUST ACCEPT THE DISCIPLINE OF THE MARKET PLACE.

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 1986

- 8 -

STEPS TAKEN TO MINIMISE LRT DISRUPTION  
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ALL CONSTRUCTION WORKS AND TRAFFIC DIVERSIONS ASSOCIATED WITH CONSTRUCTION OF THE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SYSTEM IN THE NORTH-WEST NEW TERRITORIES ARE BEING CO-ORDINATED TO MINIMISE TRAFFIC DISRUPTION AND INCONVENIENCE, THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, THE HON IAN MACPHERSON, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE CO-ORDINATION IS BEING EFFECTED BY A WORKS CO-ORDINATION GROUP CHAIRED BY THE DEPUTY PROJECT MANAGER, TUEN MUN.

REPLYING TO QUESTIONS BY THE HON TAI CHIN-WAH, MR MACPHERSON SAID THE LIGHT RAIL WAS DESIGNED AS AN ON-STREET SYSTEM RUNNING ALONG EXISTING ROADS, AND IT WAS UNAVOIDABLE THAT CONSTRUCTION WORK AND RELATED UTILITY DIVERSIONS SHOULD AFFECT TRAFFIC CONDITIONS.

+TRAFFIC ALONG THE TUEN MUN TO YUEN LONG CORRIDOR IS NOT SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECTED BY LRT CONSTRUCTION WORKS AS THE LRT RESERVE IS MAINLY ALONGSIDE CASTLE PEAK ROAD,+ HE SAID. +ACCESS TO ADJACENT PROPERTIES IS BEING MAINTAINED DURING CONSTRUCTION.+

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SCHEMES HAD BEEN INTRODUCED TO TIE IN WITH LRT WORKS WITHIN TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG TOWN CENTRES, MR MACPHERSON SAID. THESE INCLUDED RE-ROUTING OF TRAFFIC, ADJUSTMENTS TO TRAFFIC LIGHT SIGNAL PHASING AND PROVISION OF TEMPORARY PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES.

+THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEES OF THE TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARDS ARE CONSULTED ON THE TRAFFIC DIVERSION PROPOSALS AND THEIR VIEWS ARE INCORPORATED INTO THE SCHEME AS FAR AS POSSIBLE.

+ADVANCE PUBLICITY IS ARRANGED TO INFORM THE PUBLIC OF THE CHANGES IN THE TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS,+ HE SAID.

MR MACPHERSON SAID TRAFFIC DIVERSIONS IN YUEN LONG TOWN CENTRE WERE DIFFICULT AS THE LRT RESERVE RAN ALONG THE CENTRE OF THE CASTLE PEAK ROAD.

+THE CURRENT PHASE OF CONSTRUCTION PERMITS TWO LANES WESTBOUND AND ONE LANE EASTBOUND. AS FROM NEXT WEEK, TWO LANES OF TRAFFIC IN EACH DIRECTION WILL BE PROVIDED AND THIS WILL EASE THE PROBLEM CONSIDERABLY.+

MR MACPHERSON REGRETTED THERE HAD BEEN A NUMBER OF TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS ALONG THIS SECTION OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD SINCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SCHEME THERE.

/TO IMPROVE .....

TO IMPROVE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY, A NUMBER OF MEASURES WHICH SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED THE POSSIBILITY OF ACCIDENTS HAD BEEN CARRIED OUT. THESE INCLUDED TEMPORARY BARRIERS TO FENCE OFF THE WORKS AREAS AND TO PREVENT PEDESTRIANS FROM RANDOMLY CROSSING CASTLE PEAK ROAD.

TRAFFIC CONES AND TEMPORARY LIGHTING HAD BEEN SET UP TO PROVIDE A WARNING AND TO PHYSICALLY SEGREGATE THE TWO DIRECTIONS OF TRAFFIC FLOW, AND TEMPORARY REFUGE ISLANDS WERE BEING PROVIDED AT THREE SIGNAL-CONTROLLED CROSSINGS FOR PEDESTRIANS.

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TAXI VOUCHER SCHEME TO ASSIST DISABLED  
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THE GOVERNMENT IS CONSIDERING A TAXI VOUCHER SCHEME AND A MAXI TAXI SCHEME TO IMPROVE TRANSPORT FACILITIES FOR THE DISABLED, PARTICULARLY THE WHEELCHAIR DISABLED WHO CANNOT USE PUBLIC TRANSPORT EXCEPT TAXIS.

THIS WAS DISCLOSED BY THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, THE HON NEIL HENDERSON, IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY) WHEN REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY DR THE HON HENRIETTA IP ON TRANSPORT FACILITIES FOR THOSE DISABLED PERSONS WHO COULD NOT USE PUBLIC TRANSPORT.

MR HENDERSON SAID THE TAXI VOUCHER SCHEME PROPOSED THAT THE WHEELCHAIR DISABLED AND THOSE WITH WALKING DIFFICULTIES SO SEVERE THAT THEY COULD ONLY USE TAXIS WOULD BE ISSUED WITH TAXI VOUCHERS BY THE GOVERNMENT. THESE VOUCHERS WOULD BE TO THE VALUE OF \$55 PER MONTH AND PERMIT THEM TO MAKE AN AVERAGE OF TWO JOURNEYS PER WEEK FOR SOCIAL AND RECREATIONAL PURPOSES.

THE REHABILITATION DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE HAD AGREED LAST WEEK THAT A PILOT SCHEME SHOULD BE TRIED OUT AND THE GOVERNMENT WAS NOW EXAMINING DETAILS OF ITS IMPLEMENTATION, HE SAID.

THE 12-MONTH PILOT SCHEME WOULD BE ADMINISTERED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SOCIAL WELFARE AND MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENTS.

CONSIDERATION WAS ALSO BEING GIVEN TO INTRODUCTION OF A MAXI TAXI SCHEME USING SPECIAL TAXIS THAT COULD EASILY ACCOMMODATE A WHEELCHAIR, MR HENDERSON SAID.

THESE TAXIS WOULD GIVE PRIORITY TO THE WHEELCHAIR DISABLED PERHAPS AT CONCESSIONARY FARES AND WOULD SUPPLEMENT THE REHABUS SERVICE WHICH DISABLED PEOPLE NOW USED FOR GETTING TO WORK AS WELL AS BEING AVAILABLE FOR USE FOR SOCIAL PURPOSES.

/MR HENDERSON .....

MR HENDERSON SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO PROVIDE OTHER SPECIAL TRANSPORT SERVICES SUBVENTED BY IT INCLUDING THE REHABUS AND THOSE CENTRE-BASED VEHICLES AT REHABILITATION INSTITUTIONS WHICH THE DISABLED ATTENDED FOR VOCATIONAL TRAINING OR EMPLOYMENT.

+TWO ADDITIONAL REHABUSES WILL BE COMING INTO OPERATION LATER THIS YEAR. IN ADDITION TO OPERATING FIXED ROUTES, THE REHABUS SERVICE IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST BY THE DISABLED FOR SPECIFIC JOURNEYS,+ HE ADDED.

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11 276 DEMOLITION ORDERS ISSUED  
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OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE HAS ISSUED 11 276 DEMOLITION ORDERS AGAINST ILLEGAL STRUCTURES AND 6 068 OF THESE HAVE BEEN COMPLIED WITH.

THIS WAS STATED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY) BY THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, THE HON NICKY CHAN.

REPLYING TO QUESTIONS BY DR THE HON DANIEL TSE, MR CHAN SAID OF AROUND 5 000 DEMOLITION ORDERS NOT YET CARRIED OUT THE LONGEST OUTSTANDING ORDER WAS SERVED ON SEPTEMBER 8, 1978.

+THERE ARE ADMINISTRATION GUIDELINES FOR DEALING WITH DEMOLITION ORDERS AND, AS A STATUTORY REQUIREMENT, TIME LIMITS FOR THE REQUIRED DEMOLITION EXERCISE TO BE UNDERTAKEN ARE ALWAYS SPECIFIED IN SUCH ORDERS,+ HE SAID.

+PRIORITY IS GIVEN TO CASES POSING OBVIOUS AND IMMEDIATE DANGER TO LIFE AND LIMB.+

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ADEQUATE TRAINING OF AFTERCARE STAFF URGED  
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THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN URGED TO ENSURE THAT THE TRAINING AND STRENGTH OF AFTERCARE OFFICERS IN THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT WOULD BE ADEQUATE TO PROVIDE THE NEEDED SUPERVISION AND COUNSELLING SERVICES FOR DRUG ADDICTS RELEASED FROM THE DEPARTMENTS TREATMENT CENTRES.

THE CALL WAS MADE BY DR THE HON HO KAM-FAI DURING THE RESUMED DEBATE OF THE DRUG ADDICTION TREATMENT CENTRES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1986 IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

IN THE TREATMENT OF DRUG ADDICTS, HE POINTED OUT THE MOST CRUCIAL PHASE OF WORK WAS TO ASSIST THEM, AFTER THEIR RELEASE FROM TREATMENT CENTRES, TO ADAPT TO THE PRESSURE ARISING FROM LIVING IN THE COMMUNITY, HOLDING A JOB AND ASSOCIATING WITH FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS.

DR HO NOTED THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT AMENDMENT PROPOSED IN THE BILL WAS TO SHORTEN THE MINIMUM PERIOD OF DETENTION IN ORDER TO MAXIMISE THE EFFECT OF AFTERCARE.

+THE INTENTION IS TO REDUCE TO THE MINIMUM THE CHANCES OF RELAPSE AND IS BASED ON EXPERIENCE THAT IN MILD CASES THE SHORTER THE TIME SPENT INSIDE THE TREATMENT CENTRE THE LOWER THE CHANCES OF RELAPSE,+ HE ELABORATED.

DR HO SAID THIS APPROACH WAS IN LINE WITH THE CURRENT REHABILITATION PRACTICE FOR DRUG ABUSERS AND WAS THEREFORE WORTHY OF SUPPORT.

HOWEVER, HE SAID THE SUCCESS OF AFTERCARE DEPENDED TO A LARGE EXTENT ON THE QUALITY OF SUPERVISION.

HE SAID THAT IF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS WERE LEGISLATED, THERE WOULD BE AN ESTIMATED 100-ODD DETOXICATED DRUG ABUSERS RELEASED FOR SUPERVISION.

+IF THERE ARE ANY SHORTFALLS IN MANPOWER, ADDITIONAL RESOURCES MUST BE ALLOCATED TO REMEDY THEM, OTHERWISE THE ENACTMENT OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE BILL WILL BE A FRUITLESS EXERCISE,+ HE STRESSED.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE HON MICHAEL THOMAS, THEN THANKED DR HO FOR HIS SUPPORT AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL'S AD HOC GROUP FOR SCRUTINISING THE BILL.

HE SAID THAT HE HAD LEARNED FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES THAT THERE MIGHT BE AN INITIAL INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF DRUG ADDICTS RELEASED ON SUPERVISION AFTER THE BILL'S ENACTMENT, BUT IN THE LONG TERM IT WAS EXPECTED THAT THE INCREASE, IF ANY, SHOULD BE MINIMAL.

+THE COMMISSIONER BELIEVES THAT HIS DEPARTMENT WILL BE QUITE CAPABLE OF MEETING ANY ADDITIONAL DEMAND ON STAFF RESOURCES ARISING FROM THE ENACTMENT OF THIS BILL.

+NEVERTHELESS DR HO'S SUPPORT FOR ALLOCATING ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR THIS PURPOSE IS MUCH WELCOMED AND IF SUCH A NEED IS DEMONSTRATED IN THE FUTURE, THE FINANCE COMMITTEE'S APPROVAL WILL BE SOUGHT,+ HE SAID.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 1986

- 12 -

DEFAMATION (AMENDMENT) BILL WELCOMED  
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LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, THE HON SELINA CHOW, TODAY (WEDNESDAY) WELCOMED THE LEGISLATIVE CLARIFICATION PROVIDED FOR BY THE DEFAMATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1986.

SPEAKING AT THE RESUMED DEBATE OF THE BILL IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MRS CHOW SAID THAT IN SPITE OF THE CONSUMER COUNCIL'S EFFORTS TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC BY EXPOSING THE FRAUDULENT PRACTICES OF UNETHICAL TRADERS, THE MEDIA WERE RELUCTANT TO REPORT THE NAMES OF THOSE RESPONSIBLE, FOR THEY WERE UNSURE WHETHER THE NAMED TRADERS MIGHT SUCCEED IN DEFAMATION ACTION AGAINST THEM FOR PUBLISHING THOSE NAMES.

+THE AMENDMENT WILL EXTEND QUALIFIED PRIVILEGE TO FAIR AND ACCURATE NEWSPAPER, TELEVISION AND RADIO REPORTS OF FUTURE CONSUMER COUNCIL NOTICES,+ SHE SAID.

MRS CHOW PRAISED THE ADMINISTRATION FOR ITS EXCEPTIONALLY SPEEDY WORK IN THE LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENT.

ALSO SPEAKING IN SUPPORT OF THE BILL, THE HON HUI YIN-FAT CALLED ON GOVERNMENT TO TAKE EFFECTIVE STEPS TO ENSURE THAT THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 28 OF THE DEFAMATION ORDINANCE AND OF SECTION 16 OF THE CORRUPT AND ILLEGAL PRACTICES ORDINANCE RECEIVED SUFFICIENT PUBLICITY IN FUTURE ELECTIONS.

MR HUI POINTED OUT THAT CLAUSE 3 OF THE BILL EXTENDED SECTION 28 OF THE ORDINANCE TO PREVENT THE DEFENCE OF QUALIFIED PRIVILEGE BEING AFFORDED TO DEFAMATORY STATEMENTS MADE BY CANDIDATES IN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS.

HE ADDED THAT SECTION 28 ALREADY COVERED URBAN COUNCIL AND REGIONAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS, AND IT WAS A TIMELY REMINDER OF THE NEED FOR FAIR PLAY TO CANDIDATES IN THE CONDUCT OF ELECTION CAMPAIGNS.

+CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM OF AN OPPONENT'S ELECTION PLATFORM IS ONE THING- BUT UNFOUNDED PERSONAL ATTACKS UPON ONE'S OPPONENTS SHOULD HAVE NO PLACE IN ELECTIONS IN HONG KONG.+ HE STRESSED.

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 1986

- 13 -

40 PER CENT BOOST FOR KCR CAPACITY

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THE CARRYING CAPACITY OF THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY WILL BE INCREASED BY 40 PER CENT WHEN 25 ADDITIONAL SETS OF ELECTRIC MULTIPLE UNITS COME INTO OPERATION IN 1987-1988, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, THE HON SIR JOHN BREMRIDGE, SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE ADDITIONAL ROLLING STOCK WAS REQUIRED TO MEET A RAPID INCREASE IN PASSENGER DEMAND, SIR JOHN SAID IN TABLING THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY CORPORATION'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1985.

NET PROFIT FOR THE YEAR WAS \$55 MILLION COMPARED WITH A NET LOSS OF \$65 MILLION THE PREVIOUS YEAR, THE REPORT SHOWED.

SIR JOHN NOTED THAT 1985 WAS A YEAR OF SIGNIFICANT GROWTH AND ACHIEVEMENT FOR THE CORPORATION:

- TOTAL DOMESTIC PASSENGER TRAFFIC HAD INCREASED BY 30 PER CENT OVER 1984 TO REACH A RECORD OF 101.8 MILLION PASSENGER TRIPS.
- CROSS BORDER TRAVEL THROUGH LO WU INCREASED BY 36 PER CENT TO 18 MILLION PASSENGER MOVEMENTS.
- FREIGHT CARRIED TO AND FROM CHINA IN TERMS OF WEIGHT INCREASED BY 114 PER CENT AND TWO PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

+DESPITE THE SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN PASSENGER AND FREIGHT TRAFFIC, THE PUNCTUALITY OF TRAINS WAS MAINTAINED AT A HIGH LEVEL, WITH 95 PER CENT OF ALL PASSENGER TRAINS ARRIVING AT THEIR DESTINATION ON TIME,+ HE SAID.

SIR JOHN SAID THE CORPORATION HAD ALSO TAKEN SEVERAL STEPS TO FURTHER DEVELOP RAILWAY FACILITIES.

+THE CONTRACT FOR PHASE ONE OF THE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT PROJECT WAS AWARDED IN AUGUST 1985. CONSULTANTS HAVE BEEN ENGAGED TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF DEVELOPING TERMINAL FACILITIES ON THE HUNG HOM BAY RECLAMATION AND EXTENDING THE LRT TO THE URBAN AREA AND OTHER PARTS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES,+ HE SAID.

REFERRING TO THE ACCOUNTS, SIR JOHN SAID: +THE OPERATING PROFIT BEFORE DEPRECIATION AND INTEREST CHARGES WAS \$237 MILLION, A REMARKABLE INCREASE OF 60 PER CENT OVER 1984.

+AFTER DEPRECIATION AND INTEREST CHARGES, THE NET PROFIT WAS \$55 MILLION, A SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT OVER THE NET LOSS OF \$65 MILLION RECORDED IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR.+

TOTAL REVENUE AMOUNTED TO \$604 MILLION AND TOTAL LIABILITIES AT YEAR-END WERE \$233.4 MILLION.

THE DEBT OUTSTANDING TO THE GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN REDUCED TO \$500 MILLION FOLLOWING THE REPAYMENT OF \$500 MILLION IN 1985, AND SINCE THEN HAD BEEN REPAID IN FULL, SIR JOHN SAID.

IN CONCLUSION, HE SAID THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY HAD NOW CLEARLY ESTABLISHED ITSELF AS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF HONG KONG'S PUBLIC TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE AND CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED ITS ABILITY TO OPERATE THE RAILWAY EFFICIENTLY AND PROFITABLY.

HE CONGRATULATED THE BOARD, MANAGEMENT AND STAFF OF THE CORPORATION ON THEIR EXCELLENT PERFORMANCE.

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THREE BILLS PASSED  
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THREE BILLS WERE PASSED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY). THEY ARE THE APPROPRIATION BILL 1986, THE DEFAMATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1986 AND THE DRUG ADDICTION TREATMENT CENTRES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1986.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED TO MAY 14.

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 1986

- 15 -

LAND COMMISSION GROUP TO VISIT GUANGDONG  
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THE BRITISH SIDE OF THE SINO-BRITISH LAND COMMISSION, LED BY SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE MR JOHN TODD, WILL BE PAYING A THREE-DAY VISIT TO GUANGDONG PROVINCE AT THE INVITATION OF THE CHINESE SIDE.

THE PURPOSE OF THE VISIT, THE PROGRAMME FOR WHICH HAS BEEN ARRANGED BY THE CHINESE, IS TO ENABLE BOTH SIDES TO CONTINUE THEIR DIALOGUE AND TO EXCHANGE VIEWS.

THE EIGHT-MEMBER GROUP WILL LEAVE TOMORROW (THURSDAY) AND WILL BE VISITING GUANGZHOU, FOSHAN, ZHONGSHAN AND ZHUHAI. THEY WILL BE RETURNING ON SATURDAY (MAY 10).

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SHIPPING, PORT, CARGO STATISTICS RELEASED  
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IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1985, 3 387 SHIPS WITH A TOTAL CAPACITY OF 20.3 MILLION NRT (NET REGISTERED TONNAGE) ARRIVED IN HONG KONG, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 384 IN NUMBER AND OF 14 PER CENT IN CAPACITY OVER THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1984.

THESE FIGURES ARE CONTAINED IN THE +HONG KONG SHIPPING STATISTICS+ REPORT PUBLISHED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF CARGO DISCHARGED IN HONG KONG FROM INCOMING SHIPS (ESTIMATED FROM SAMPLED MANIFEST CONSIGNMENTS) INCREASED BY 16 PER CENT. WHEN ANALYSED BY SHIP TYPE, NOTABLE INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE NUMBER OF CONTAINER VESSELS (+228), CONVENTIONAL CARGO VESSELS (+104) AND DRY BULK CARRIERS (+49), WHILE THE NUMBER OF OIL TANKERS DROPPED (-15).

INCREASES WERE NOTED FOR SHIPS REGISTERED IN CHINA (+166), PANAMA (+152), THE PHILIPPINES (+28) AND TAIWAN (+18), BUT DECLINES WERE RECORDED FOR JAPANESE AND LIBERIAN SHIPS (-36 AND -12 RESPECTIVELY). THE NUMBER OF SHIPS WITH CAPACITY UNDER 10 000 DWT INCREASED (+287).

IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1985, THERE WERE 3 384 OUTGOING SHIPS, WITH A TOTAL CAPACITY OF 20.5 MILLION NRT, AN INCREASE OF 398 IN NUMBER AND OF 16 PER CENT IN CAPACITY OVER THE SAME QUARTER IN 1984. THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF CARGO LOADED IN HONG KONG ONTO OUTGOING SHIPS (ESTIMATED FROM SAMPLED MANIFEST CONSIGNMENTS) ROSE BY 17 PER CENT. ABOUT 65 PER CENT OF THE DEPARTING SHIPS STAYED IN HONG KONG FOR LESS THAN TWO DAYS.

/OF THE .....

OF THE CARGO DISCHARGED FROM INCOMING SHIPS, 85 PER CENT IN TERMS OF TONNAGE WAS IMPORTS AND 15 PER CENT WAS TRANSHIPMENT CARGO. OF THE CARGO LOADED ONTO OUTGOING SHIPS, 55 PER CENT WAS EXPORTS (INCLUDING RE-EXPORTS) AND 45 PER CENT WAS TRANSHIPMENT CARGO.

THE MAJOR COUNTRIES OF LOADING FOR SEABORNE IMPORTS IN TONNAGE TERMS WERE JAPAN (18 PER CENT), SINGAPORE (13 PER CENT), CHINA (12 PER CENT) AND THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA (10 PER CENT), WHILE THE MAJOR COUNTRIES OF DISCHARGE FOR SEABORNE EXPORTS WERE THE U.S. (20 PER CENT), CHINA (16 PER CENT), TAIWAN (14 PER CENT) AND JAPAN (6 PER CENT).

TRANSHIPMENT CARGO WAS MAINLY LOADED IN CHINA (28 PER CENT) AND THE U.S. (23 PER CENT), AND WAS ALSO MAINLY DISCHARGED IN CHINA (26 PER CENT) AND THE U.S. (14 PER CENT).

COMPARING THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1985 WITH THE SAME QUARTER IN 1984, INCREASES IN TONNAGE WERE NOTED FOR IMPORTS FROM CANADA (+93 PER CENT), THAILAND (+83 PER CENT), THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA (+58 PER CENT), AND CHINA (+24 PER CENT), BUT A DECLINE WAS RECORDED FOR IMPORTS FROM THE U.S. (-22 PER CENT).

AS A WHOLE, THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF IMPORTS ROSE BY 13 PER CENT. AMONG THE PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES, INCREASES IN CARGO TONNAGE WERE RECORDED IN THE IMPORTS OF INORGANIC CHEMICALS (+82 PER CENT), LOG AND TIMBER (+71 PER CENT) AND COAL, COKE AND BRIQUETTES (+45 PER CENT). HOWEVER, A DECREASE WAS NOTED FOR THE IMPORTS OF PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS (-22 PER CENT).

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE TONNAGE OF TOTAL SEABORNE EXPORTS (DOMESTIC EXPORTS PLUS RE-EXPORTS) INCREASED BY 14 PER CENT. INCREASES IN TONNAGE WERE RECORDED FOR SEABORNE EXPORTS TO CHINA (+39 PER CENT), JAPAN (+38 PER CENT), TAIWAN (+29 PER CENT) AND SINGAPORE (+23 PER CENT), BUT DECREASES WERE NOTED FOR EXPORTS TO INDONESIA (-16 PER CENT) AND SOUTH KOREA (-5 PER CENT).

AMONG THE PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES, INCREASES WERE NOTED FOR EXPORTS OF IRON AND STEEL (+128 PER CENT), VEGETABLES AND FRUIT (+55 PER CENT) AND CEMENT AND CEMENT CLINKER (+54 PER CENT). HOWEVER, THE EXPORTS OF TOYS DROPPED (-21 PER CENT).

SHIPPING STATISTICS ARE COMPILED PRIMARILY FROM GENERAL DECLARATIONS SUBMITTED TO THE MARINE DEPARTMENT BY SHIPOWNERS OR AUTHORISED SHIPPING AGENTS, AND COVER ALL OCEAN-GOING VESSELS ENTERING AND LEAVING HONG KONG, EXCLUDING YACHTS AND PLEASURE CRAFT.

PORT AND CARGO STATISTICS ARE COMPILED FROM OCEAN CARGO MANIFESTS SUPPLIED BY SHIPPING COMPANIES OR AGENTS TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT. BECAUSE OF RESOURCE CONSTRAINTS, A SAMPLE OF ALL CONSIGNMENTS LISTED IN THE MANIFESTS IS USED FOR COMPILING THE STATISTICS. THE SAMPLING METHOD IS DESCRIBED IN THE EXPLANATORY NOTES OF THE REPORT.

MORE DETAILS ON SHIPPING, PORT AND CARGO STATISTICS FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1985 ARE CONTAINED IN THE +HONG KONG SHIPPING STATISTICS+ REPORT FOR OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 1985, WHICH IS ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, AT \$12 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ON STATISTICS PROVIDED IN THE REPORT MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE SHIPPING STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT AT TELEPHONE NUMBERS 5-452701 AND 5-455422.

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RESPECT HELPS BUILD A HAPPY FAMILY  
\* \* \* \*

RESPECT AND JOY SHOULD BE BORNE IN MIND BY THE YOUNGER GENERATION IN RELATIONSHIPS WITH PARENTS, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS EVELYN DOE, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

SPEAKING AT A MOTHER'S DAY CELEBRATION HELD BY THE WOMEN'S WELFARE CLUB OF EASTERN DISTRICT, MRS DOE SAID THE TWO GENERATIONS MIGHT LEAD A HARMONIOUS FAMILY LIFE BY LIVING IN AN ENVIRONMENT OF MUTUAL RESPECT AND LOVE.

ALTHOUGH INDIVIDUALS MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO MAINTAIN CLOSE INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER PEOPLE IN A RAPID CHANGING WORLD, MOTHER'S LOVE REMAINED CONSTANT AND UNCHANGED, SHE SAID.

THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, IN CONJUNCTION WITH VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, PROMOTED FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION EVERY YEAR SO AS TO AROUSE PUBLIC RECOGNITION OF ITS IMPORTANCE, MRS DOE NOTED.

THIS YEAR'S FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION THEME - +HONOUR YOUR PARENTS+ AIMS AT INSTILLING IN THE YOUNGER GENERATION RECOGNITION AND APPRECIATION OF PARENTS' EFFORTS IN BRINGING THEM UP.

+IT IS HOPED THAT THE TWO GENERATIONS WOULD BETTER UNDERSTAND AND RESPECT EACH OTHER, ENHANCE BETTER COMMUNICATION AND UNDERSTANDING OF ONE'S ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES, THUS MAINTAINING A GOOD RELATIONSHIP AMONG FAMILY MEMBERS,+ SHE SAID.

MRS DOE ALSO PAID TRIBUTE TO THE WOMEN'S WELFARE CLUB OF EASTERN DISTRICT FOR ITS ACTIVE ROLE IN PROMOTING SOCIAL SERVICES AND VARIOUS TYPES OF SOCIAL WORK.

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 1986

- 18 -

DB TO DISCUSS MEDICAL SERVICES REPORT  
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KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL MEET TOMORROW (THURSDAY) TO DISCUSS THE REPORT ON THE DELIVERY OF MEDICAL SERVICES IN HOSPITALS, AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS CAUSED BY THE TO KWA WAN GAS WORKS.

A FIVE-YEAR URBAN COUNCIL CAPITAL WORKING PROGRAMME WILL BE TABLED AT THE MEETING TO SEEK MEMBERS' VIEWS ON THE PRIORITY RATINGS ACCORDED TO VARIOUS CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN THE DISTRICT.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE BOARD'S 1986-87 BUDGET AND ALLOCATION OF FUNDS TO CARRY OUT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROJECTS.

A REVIEW OF THE USE OF NOTICE BOARDS FOR THE AREA COMMITTEES AND DISTRICT BOARD WILL ALSO BE DISCUSSED.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE A PROPOSAL TO HOLD AN OPEN BOARD MEETING ONE EVENING TO PROMOTE THE CIVIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN AND TO STRENGTHEN COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE BOARD, LOCAL ORGANISATIONS AND THE PUBLIC.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD MEETING AT 2.15 PM TOMORROW IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE DISTRICT BOARD OFFICE AT 141 KAU PUI LUNG ROAD, TO KWA WAN.

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THREE STORAGE SITES TO LET  
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THREE SITES ARE BEING OFFERED FOR RENT ON SHORT TERM TENANCY BY THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT.

ONE, AT KAI FUK ROAD IN THE KOWLOON BAY RECLAMATION, IS 3 025 SQUARE METRES IN AREA AND IS FOR STORING NON-DANGEROUS GOODS AND VEHICLES, AS WELL AS FOR THE REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE OF VEHICLES. IT MAY ALSO BE USED AS A BUILDER'S YARD.

THE SECOND SITE, MEASURING 20 390 SQUARE METRES, AT SIU LAM IN TUEN MUN, IS FOR STORING GOODS, VEHICLES, CONTAINERS, AND CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS.

/TENANCIES FOR .....

TENANCIES FOR THESE TWO SITES ARE FOR TWO YEARS, RENEWABLE QUARTERLY AFTERWARDS.

THE LAST SITE, AT FUK LO TSUEN, LAU FAU SHAN, YUEN LONG, IS FOR USE AS A CAR PARK OR FOR THE STORAGE OF GOODS OR EQUIPMENT. IT HAS AN AREA OF 158 SQUARE METRES.

TENANCY IS FOR ONE YEAR, RENEWABLE QUARTERLY AFTERWARDS.

TENDERS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY MAY 23.

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TRAFFIC CHANGES IN WESTERN, CENTRAL  
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NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE EFFECTIVE IN WESTERN AND CENTRAL FROM 10 AM ON SATURDAY (MAY 10).

IN WESTERN, POK FU LAM ROAD SOUTHBOUND FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH THE ACCESS ROAD LEADING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG AND A POINT ABOUT 20 METRES NORTH OF THE SAME JUNCTION, WILL BE MADE 24-HOUR DAILY URBAN CLEARWAY.

THE 7 AM TO 10 AM AND 4 PM TO 7 PM DAILY RESTRICTION ON POK FU LAM ROAD NORTHBOUND FROM A POINT ABOUT 78 METRES SOUTH OF ITS JUNCTION WITH HILL ROAD TO A POINT ABOUT 45 METRES EAST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH HILL ROAD FLYOVER, WILL BE EXTENDED TO OPERATE 24 HOURS DAILY.

WITHIN THE RESTRICTED ZONES, NO VEHICLE OTHER THAN FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS.

IN CENTRAL, THE FOLLOWING TEMPORARY ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED FOR ABOUT ONE WEEK TO FACILITATE THE REPLACEMENT OF CONCRETE ROAD SLABS:

- \* VEHICLES EXCEEDING 5.5 TONNES GROSS ON WESTBOUND CONNAUGHT ROAD WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO TURN LEFT INTO GILMAN STREET.

AFFECTED VEHICLES WILL BE DIVERTED VIA WING WO STREET TO REJOIN DES VOEUX ROAD.

- \* THE EXISTING PEAK HOUR (7 AM TO 10 AM AND 4 PM TO 7 PM) URBAN CLEARWAY RESTRICTION ON THE WESTERN KERBSIDE LANE OF WING WO STREET BETWEEN CONNAUGHT ROAD AND DES VOEUX ROAD WILL BE EXTENDED TO OPERATE 24 HOURS DAILY.

NO VEHICLE OTHER THAN FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP WITHIN THE URBAN CLEARWAY FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS.

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 1986

- 20 -

CASTLE PEAK ROAD TRAFFIC CHANGES

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN CASTLE PEAK ROAD FROM 10 AM ON SATURDAY (MAY 10) TO FACILITATE ROAD CONSTRUCTION WORKS THERE.

THE MEASURES ARE :

- \* THE NEWLY-CONSTRUCTED SECTION OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD BETWEEN TSUNG PAK LOONG AND KAM TSIN WILL BE OPENED TO TRAFFIC; AND
- \* KMB ROUTE 76K WILL BE DIVERTED TO OPERATE ALONG THIS SECTION OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD.

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YAU TONG WATER CUT

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN YAU TONG WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 9 PM ON SATURDAY (MAY 10) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR MAINS WORK.

THE AFFECTED PREMISES ARE MA YAU TONG, PO LAM ROAD, MAU WU TSAI AND RENNIE'S MILL, INCLUDING HAVEN OF HOPE SANATORIUM.

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