



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, MARCH 2, 1987

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ADVANTAGES OF MAINTAINING FREE MARKETS STRESSED
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HONG KONG LOOKS TO SWITZERLAND, AND OTHER LIKE-MINDED TRADING PARTNERS, TO WORK FOR INCREASED ACCESS TO EACH OTHER'S MARKETS AND TO IMPROVE THE DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES WITHIN THE MULTILATERAL FRAMEWORK, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR PIERS JACOBS, SAID THIS (MONDAY) AFTERNOON.

+THIS WILL BE ADVANTAGEOUS TO EVERYONE BECAUSE FREE TRADE BRINGS ABOUT INCREASED TRADE FOR ALL.+

SPEAKING AT THE BUSINESS LUNCH OF THE SWISS ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG, MR JACOBS SAID TRADE BETWEEN HONG KONG AND SWITZERLAND HAD GROWN STEADILY IN RECENT YEARS, WITH AN AVERAGE ANNUAL GROWTH RATE OF SOME 8 PER CENT FROM 1981 TO 1985.

+LAST YEAR, WE SAW A PARTICULARLY ENCOURAGING PERFORMANCE IN OUR TOTAL TRADE - A JUMP OF 39 PER CENT OVER 1985.+

TRADE BALANCE WAS HEAVILY IN SWITZERLAND'S FAVOUR, MR JACOBS ADDED, AND IN 1986, IMPORTS FROM SWITZERLAND WERE MORE THAN DOUBLE OF HONG KONG'S EXPORTS TO SWITZERLAND.

+HOWEVER, AS WE TRADE ON A MULTILATERAL BASIS, A PRECISE BILATERAL BALANCE OF TRADE IS NOT WHAT WE SEEK. INSTEAD, WE ENDEAVOUR TO INCREASE OUR TRADE OVERALL,+ HE ADDED.

NOTING THAT SWITZERLAND WAS THE 10TH LARGEST TRADING PARTNER OF HONG KONG AND HONG KONG THE 12TH FOR SWITZERLAND, MR JACOBS SAID HE BELIEVED THERE WERE AMPLE OPPORTUNITIES FOR FURTHER EXPANSION, WHICH WOULD BENEFIT BOTH HONG KONG AND SWISS CONSUMERS.

+THE DEPENDENCE OF OUR ECONOMIES ON EXTERNAL TRADE, AND OUR PRACTICE OF FREE TRADE POINT TO THE POTENTIAL FOR OUR TIES TO BE BOOSTED,+ HE SAID.

+I AM SURE, THEREFORE, THAT IT IS IN OUR INTEREST TO WORK FOR FREE TRADE NOT ONLY IN THE HONG KONG-SWITZERLAND BILATERAL CONTEXT BUT ALSO IN THE WIDER INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT.+

MR JACOBS SAID THAT PROTECTIONISM REMAINED A THREAT TO HONG KONG AND TO THE WORLD'S TRADING SYSTEM.

+IN THIS CONNECTION, THE URUGUAY ROUND OF MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS, HELD UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE, PRESENTS US WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO HALT THE TENDENCY TOWARDS PROTECTIONISM AND TO LIBERALISE THE INTERNATIONAL TRADING REGIME,+ HE ADDED.

/TURNING TO

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TURNING TO SWITZERLAND'S BUSINESS PARTICIPATION IN THE TERRITORY, MR JACOBS SAID SWISS INTERESTS WERE ALREADY ACTIVELY REPRESENTED IN OUR SERVICES AND SWITZERLAND WAS HONG KONG'S SEVENTH LARGEST COUNTRY SOURCE OF INVESTMENT, ACCOUNTING FOR ABOUT 2 PER CENT OF OUR TOTAL OVERSEAS INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT.

+THERE IS SCOPE FOR EXPANSION AND DEVELOPMENT AND GREATER PARTICIPATION BY SWISS INVESTORS,+ HE SAID.

MR JACOBS TOLD SWISS BUSINESSMEN THAT GOOD PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE IN IMPLEMENTING THE JOINT DECLARATION.

+THE FUTURE SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION HAS BEEN ASSURED OF THE CONTINUATION OF ALL THOSE ELEMENTS WHICH HAVE MADE HONG KONG'S SUCCESS POSSIBLE,+ HE SAID.

+WE ARE PUTTING IN PLACE A SEPARATE CUSTOMS TERRITORY WITH A FREE ENTERPRISE CAPITALIST ECONOMY, FREE CONVERTIBILITY OF CURRENCY WITHOUT EXCHANGE CONTROL, GUARANTEES OF PERSONAL RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS, PLUS A HIGH DEGREE OF AUTONOMY.+

ON THE OPENING UP OF CHINA'S ECONOMY, MR JACOBS SAID IT HAD ADDED A NEW DIMENSION TO THE OPPORTUNITIES HONG KONG OFFERED TO SWITZERLAND.

+THE EXTENSIVE BUSINESS LINKS HONG KONG HAS ESTABLISHED WITH THE REST OF THE WORLD SHOULD PROVE ATTRACTIVE TO BOTH CHINA IN HER DRIVE TO EXPAND TRADE AND INVESTMENT INTERNATIONALLY AS WELL AS TO FOREIGN COMPANIES SEEKING A ROLE IN THAT EXPANSION,+ HE SAID.

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REVIEW OF COPYRIGHT LAW PLANNED * * * * *

THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION WILL BE ASKED TO REVIEW THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, MR MICHAEL THOMAS, SAID TODAY (MONDAY) WHEN HE ADDRESSED THE HONG KONG GROUP OF ASIAN PATENT ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION.

THE ESSENTIAL PART OF THE COPYRIGHT EXERCISE, HE SAID, WAS TO ENSURE THAT HONG KONG CONTINUED TO ENJOY THE RIGHTS AND MEET THE OBLIGATIONS UNDER INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS RELATING TO COPYRIGHT, THE BERNE CONVENTION AND THE UNIVERSAL COPYRIGHT CONVENTION, WHICH HAD BEEN EXTENDED TO IT AND THEIR SURVIVAL AFTER 1997.

/+WE NEED

+WE NEED TO LOOK AT THE TERM OF COPYRIGHT, PHOTOCOPYING AND EXCEPTIONS TO COPYRIGHT; BROADCASTING AND CABLE DIFFUSION, CONVERSION DAMAGES (WHICH THE UNITED KINGDOM GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO ABOLISH, MANY WOULD 'SAY NOT BEFORE TIME') AND THE PROTECTION OF COMPUTER SOFTWARE.+

IN RELATION TO TRADE MARKS, HE SAID HONG KONG'S SELF-CONTAINED TRADE MARKS ORDINANCE HAD RECENTLY BEEN AMENDED TO BRING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR PART B REGISTRATION INTO LINE WITH THOSE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM. HE ADDED THAT +THE ORDINANCE AND OUR OWN TRADE MARK REGISTRY APPEAR TO BE CATERING ADEQUATELY TO HONG KONG NEEDS.+

MR THOMAS SAID HE ALSO EXPECTED TO SEE THE LAW AMENDED TO ALLOW THE REGISTRATION OF SERVICE MARKS IN THE NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE.

EARLIER IN HIS SPEECH, MR THOMAS OUTLINED THE IMPORTANCE OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY. HE SAID THAT IF HONG KONG WERE TO ADVANCE, +IT IS VITAL THAT WE SHOULD DEVELOP AND ENCOURAGE AND EXPLOIT TO MAXIMUM BENEFIT THE INTELLECTUAL PRODUCT OF OUR PEOPLE+.

TO DO THIS, LAWS PROTECTING THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OF OUR INVENTORS, INNOVATORS AND INDUSTRIALISTS HAD TO BE DEVELOPED. +BUT PERHAPS THE MOST IMPORTANT REASON WHY HONG KONG SHOULD MAINTAIN A COMPREHENSIVE AND EFFECTIVE SYSTEM OF LAWS PROTECTING INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS IS THE IMPACT THAT THE EXISTENCE OF SUCH A SYSTEM HAS ON HONG KONG'S INTERNATIONAL TRADING RELATIONS,+ HE NOTED.

MR THOMAS SAID THAT THE LOCALISATION OF PATENT LAWS, HOWEVER, WOULD BE A MORE DIFFICULT PROCESS. VIEWS COLLECTED BY THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES OVER A PERIOD OF 18 MONTHS WAS THAT, IN GENERAL TERMS, HONG KONG SHOULD NOT GRANT ITS OWN PATENTS BUT SHOULD CONTINUE THE SYSTEM OF REGISTERING PATENTS GRANTED ELSEWHERE AND THAT THE CLEAR FAVOURITE FOR REGISTRATION, IN PLACE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM PATENT, WAS THE EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE IN MUNICH.

VIEWS ON THE PETTY PATENT SYSTEM, ON THE OTHER HAND, WERE DIVIDED, MR THOMAS SAID.

+EARLIER THIS YEAR THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY AND I APPOINTED A PATENT STEERING COMMITTEE COMPRISING SPECIALISTS IN THE FIELD FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

+ITS TERMS OF REFERENCE ARE FIRSTLY, TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE RESPONSES THAT HAVE BEEN RECEIVED TO THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES CIRCULAR LETTER, SECONDLY, TO ADVISE THE GOVERNMENT WHAT PATENT SYSTEM SHOULD BE ADOPTED IN HONG KONG; AND THIRDLY, TO DRAW UP DETAILED PROPOSALS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SYSTEM.

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+THE STEERING COMMITTEE HAS STARTED WORK UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF BERTIE DE SPEVILLE, WHO IS INCIDENTALLY THE SECRETARY OF THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION, AND IT HAS NOW MET FOUR TIMES. I HOPED THAT IT WILL BE IN A POSITION TO REPORT TO THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY AND MYSELF WITHIN 12 MONTHS,+ MR THOMAS SAID.

THE AIM OF THE COMMITTEE WOULD BE TO DEVISE A SYSTEM THAT WAS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF HONG KONG - HONG KONG AS A RESERVOIR OF INVENTIVE TALENT, HONG KONG AS A MANUFACTURING AND EXPORTING CENTRE EAGER TO PROMOTE MANUFACTURING INVESTMENT FROM OVERSEAS AND HONG KONG AS A RESPONSIBLE PARTICIPANT IN INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS RELATING TO PATENTS.

+IN THIS ENDEAVOUR THE GOVERNMENT OF COURSE HAS AN IMPORTANT PART TO PLAY IN DETERMINING THE POLICY, FRAMING THE DRAFT LEGISLATION AND STEERING IT TO ENACTMENT. BUT THE GOVERNMENT RECOGNISES THAT, ALTHOUGH IT IS KEENLY INTERESTED IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND ITS EXPLOITATION, IT DOES NOT HAVE ANY GREAT TECHNICAL EXPERTISE IN THE SUBJECT.

+IT IS HEAVILY DEPENDENT FOR EXPERT ADVICE ON THE PATENT AGENTS AND SPECIALIST LAWYERS OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR, TO SO MANY OF WHOM, MAY I SAY, THE GOVERNMENT IS ALREADY INDEBTED FOR THEIR VALUABLE SUGGESTIONS,+ MR THOMAS SAID.

+WE SHALL NEED TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE THOUGHTS OF ALL OF YOU WHO WORK IN THIS SPECIALIST FIELD AND TO CONSULT YOU FULLY BEFORE WE LEGISLATE,+ HE ADDED.

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POLICY ON ENTRY OF HUSBANDS RELAXED

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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (MONDAY) THAT THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS AGREED TO A RELAXATION OF POLICY REGARDING ENTRY OF HUSBANDS TO JOIN THEIR WIVES WHO ARE RESIDENTS IN HONG KONG. IN SO DOING, THE POLICY ON THE ADMISSION OF HUSBANDS NOW FALLS GENERALLY IN LINE WITH THE ADMISSION OF WIVES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THAT CONSISTENT WITH OTHER IMMIGRATION POLICIES, THIS RELAXATION WOULD NOT APPLY TO HUSBANDS FROM THOSE TERRITORIES FROM WHICH THE ADMISSION OF WIVES TO HONG KONG IS RESTRICTED, THAT IS TO SAY, VIETNAM, LAOS, CAMBODIA AND CHINA.

SIMILARLY, THE RELAXATION WOULD NOT APPLY TO THOSE HUSBANDS WHO ARE EX-CHINA RESIDENTS AND WHO HAVE SETTLED IN MACAU AFTER JANUARY 14, 1979.

AS FROM TOMORROW (TUESDAY), HUSBANDS OF HONG KONG RESIDENTS MAY APPLY FOR ADMISSION UNDER THIS RELAXED POLICY.

FURTHER ENQUIRIES MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE INFORMATION OFFICE OF THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ON 3-7333111 DURING OFFICE HOURS.

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SHIPPING REGISTER STEERING GROUP ANNOUNCED

MEMBERSHIP OF THE STEERING GROUP ESTABLISHED TO DEVELOP DETAILED PROPOSALS FOR HONG KONG'S MODIFIED SHIPPING REGISTER WAS ANNOUNCED TODAY (MONDAY).

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE PLAN TO SET UP THE STEERING GROUP WAS ANNOUNCED IN OCTOBER LAST YEAR WHEN THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES UNDER WHICH THE REGISTER WOULD OPERATE WERE PUBLISHED.

+THE STEERING GROUP WILL BE CHAIRED BY DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MR RAFAEL HUI, AND COMPRISES PERSONS DRAWN FROM VARIOUS SECTORS OF HONG KONG'S SHIPPING INDUSTRY+, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE STEERING GROUP IS MR KENNETH LO, MR PETER THOMPSON, MR TING KAM-YUEN, CAPT E.H. FARROW, MR J.P. LEE, MR K.M. WALLACE, MR J. MATHEWS, MR G.A. HIGGINSON AND MR D.A. HALL. THEY HAVE, BETWEEN THEM, AN EXTENSIVE KNOWLEDGE OF HONG KONG AND ITS SHIPPING INDUSTRY.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT HONG KONG IS AT PRESENT A PORT OF BRITISH REGISTRY. THIS STATUS CANNOT CONTINUE AFTER 1997 AND IT IS NECESSARY TO PUT ITS SHIPPING REGISTER ON A FOOTING WHICH CAN MAKE THE TRANSITION IN 1997 WITH A MINIMUM OF CHANGE.

THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES AGREED BY THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP LAST YEAR WILL ENSURE THAT EXISTING HIGH STANDARDS ARE MAINTAINED AND DRAW NEW AND CLOSE LINKS BETWEEN HONG KONG AND ITS SHIPS. THE STEERING GROUP'S ROLE IS TO RECOMMEND PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS WHEREBY THIS CAN BEST BE ACHIEVED.

ITS FIRST MEETING WILL BE HELD TOWARDS THE END OF THIS MONTH.

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INTERNATIONAL BODY CONDEMNS TEXTILE BILL

A CLAIM OF +SERIOUS INJURY+ TO THE AMERICAN TEXTILE AND GARMENT INDUSTRY IN THE NEWLY-INTRODUCED TEXTILES BILL IS MERELY AN ATTEMPT TO AVOID USING THE NATION'S PROPER PROCEDURES TO ESTABLISH WHETHER SUCH INJURY REALLY EXISTS.

THIS IS THE VIEW OF THE INTERNATIONAL TEXTILES AND CLOTHING BUREAU TO WHICH HONG KONG, AND 14 NATIONS, BELONGS. THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF TRADE, MR TONY MILLER, SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THAT FOLLOWING A MEETING IN GENEVA LAST WEEK THE BODY HAD ISSUED A CONDEMNATION OF THE TEXTILE AND APPAREL ACT OF 1987 RECENTLY INTRODUCED INTO THE AMERICAN CONGRESS.

/THE STATEMENT

THE STATEMENT MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS, SAID MR MILLER:

1. THE UNITED STATES TEXTILE AND APPAREL INDUSTRY IS, IN FACT, IN GOOD SHAPE. THE SPONSORS OF THE ACT SIMPLY ASSERT +SERIOUS INJURY+ IN THE LEGISLATION IN ORDER TO AVOID USING ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES FOR IMPORT RELIEF.
2. THE DOMESTIC MARKET IS EXPANDING WITH CONSUMER EXPENDITURE ON CLOTHING IN THE U.S. HAVING RISEN BY SIX PER CENT LAST YEAR AND OPTIMISTIC FORECASTS BEING MADE FOR THIS YEAR.
3. THE BILL CLAIMS IT CAN USE ARTICLE 19 OF THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TRADE AND TARIFFS (GATT) BUT, IN FACT, THIS ARTICLE ONLY PROVIDES FOR TEMPORARY PROTECTION OF A PARTICULAR PRODUCT AND NOT OF AN ENTIRE INDUSTRY FOR 10 YEARS.
4. THE OFFER OF 10 PER CENT TARIFF CONCESSIONS PHASED OVER FIVE YEARS IS HARDLY COMPENSATION AND APPLIED ON PRODUCTS ALREADY UNDER QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS WOULD BE MEANINGLESS.
5. THE BILL'S MANDATORY SUGGESTION FOR THE SPACING OF IMPORTS EACH YEAR CLEARLY INDICATE THAT MAJOR NEW NON-TARIFF BARRIERS ARE ENVISAGED.

+HONG KONG TOOK AN ACTIVE PART IN THIS MEETING AND WE FULLY AGREE WITH THE CONCERN THAT HAS BEEN EXPRESSED BY THE BUREAU,+ SAID MR MILLER.

SUMMING UP, THE BUREAU STATED : +THE REAL INTENTION OF THE ACT IS NO DOUBT TO FREEZE AND TO EVENTUALLY ROOL-BACK THE PRESENT LEVEL OF IMPORTS THROUGH DEVIOUS MECHANISMS COMPRISING OF ABUSE OF ARTICLE 19, CIRCUMVENTION OF PROCEDURES FOR RELIEF OF STIPULATED IN THE U.S. TRADE ACT OF 1974, AND THE ARBITRARY SPACING OF IMPORTS AND THE MANIPULATION OF QUOTAS SO THAT THE DOMESTIC INDUSTRY COULD ENJOY UNPRECEDENTED PROTECTION AND COULD MARK UP PRICES AND PRODUCTS.+

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WINDING-UP ORDER MADE AGAINST TRAVEL FIRM
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A WINDING-UP ORDER WAS MADE AGAINST AUSTRAVEL COMPANY LIMITED TODAY (MONDAY), FOLLOWING A PETITION PRESENTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AID ON FEBRUARY 5 ON BEHALF OF A GROUP OF CUSTOMERS.

ANNOUNCING THIS, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT SAID THAT, ACCORDINGLY, THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER'S APPOINTMENT AS PROVISIONAL LIQUIDATOR ON FEBRUARY 6 WAS EXTENDED.

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FORMER CUSTOMERS OF THE COMPANY WHO HAD BOOKED HOLIDAYS (WHICH MAY OR MAY NOT HAVE INCLUDED TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS AND ACCOMMODATION) AND WISH TO CLAIM AGAINST THE COMPANY SHOULD COMPLETE AND SEND A PROOF OF DEBT FORM (I.E. A CLAIM FORM) TO THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER.

THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER HAS A SPECIAL CLAIMS PROCEDURE FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF CLAIMANTS WHICH SHOULD BE FOLLOWED.

* COLLECT FORMS AND COMPLETE THEM AT

- (I) SCOUT HALL COX'S ROAD, KOWLOON
(NEAR JORDAN ROAD M.T.R.) OR
- (II) 47TH FLOOR
QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES
66 QUEENSWAY
HONG KONG

BETWEEN 10 AM AND 4 PM MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS STARTING TOMORROW (TUESDAY)

* COMPLETE FORMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN AT COLLECTION CENTRES AND ENSURE THAT THE FOLLOWING EVIDENCE (ACCORDING TO THE TYPE OF BOOKING) ACCOMPANIES THE COMPLETED CLAIM FORM:

- (A) ORIGINAL DEPOSIT RECEIPT (WHITE)
- (B) ORIGINAL OFFICIAL RECEIPT (WHITE)
- (C) HOTEL RESERVATION FORM (WHITE)
- (D) ANY OTHER DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

* HAND IN THE COMPLETED CLAIM FORMS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS, TOGETHER WITH THE FEE OF \$10, AT THE CLAIMS CENTRE, POST THEM TO THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER'S OFFICE, REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT, OR AS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED BY STAFF.

NOTICES WILL BE PUBLISHED IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE NEWSPAPERS GIVING DETAILS OF THE SPECIAL CLAIMS PROCEDURE.

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TAX CERTIFICATE INTEREST INCREASED
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AS FROM WEDNESDAY (MARCH 4), THE NEW ANNUAL RATE OF INTEREST PAYABLE ON TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES WILL BE 3 PER CENT (TAX FREE) AS AGAINST THE CURRENT RATE OF 2.52 PER CENT (TAX FREE).

NOTICE OF THIS WAS PUBLISHED IN AN EXTRAORDINARY ISSUE OF THE GAZETTE TODAY (MONDAY).

INTEREST ON TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES IS CALCULATED IN MONTHLY STEPS AND THE NEW RATE WILL BE \$0.25 PER MONTH PER \$100. INTEREST WILL BE CREDITED AS BEFORE IN RESPECT OF COMPLETED MONTHS BETWEEN PURCHASE AND SURRENDER IN PAYMENT OF TAX, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT SAID.

INTEREST IS ONLY CREDITED WHEN CERTIFICATES ARE USED TO PAY TAX AND NO INTEREST IS DUE WHERE THE PRINCIPAL VALUE OF A CERTIFICATE IS REPAID BY A CHEQUE, HE SAID.

THE NEW RATE WILL APPLY TO ALL CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER MARCH 4, 1987.

CERTIFICATES ISSUED BEFORE MARCH 4, 1987 WILL CONTINUE TO EARN INTEREST AS FOLLOWS:

6.60%	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JANUARY 16, 1985 AND BEFORE JANUARY 30, 1985;
5.52%	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JANUARY 30, 1985 AND BEFORE APRIL 3, 1985;
5.04%	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER APRIL 3, 1985 AND BEFORE APRIL 24, 1985;
4.56%	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER APRIL 24, 1985 AND BEFORE MAY 22, 1985;
4.08%	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER MAY 22, 1985 AND BEFORE JUNE 27, 1985;
3.60%	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JUNE 27, 1985 AND BEFORE JULY 17, 1985;
3.36%	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JULY 17, 1985 AND BEFORE JULY 23, 1985;
2.76%	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JULY 23, 1985 AND BEFORE SEPTEMBER 4, 1985;

/3.36% PER

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- 3.36% PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER SEPTEMBER 4, 1985 AND BEFORE APRIL 3, 1986;
- 4.32% PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER APRIL 3, 1986 AND BEFORE MAY 14, 1986;
- 4.08% PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER MAY 14, 1986 AND BEFORE AUGUST 19, 1986;
- 3.36% PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER AUGUST 19, 1986 AND BEFORE JANUARY 19, 1987;
- 2.52% PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JANUARY 19, 1987 AND BEFORE MARCH 4, 1987,

BUT ALWAYS SUBJECT TO THE GENERAL RULE THAT INTEREST CEASES TO ACCRUE AFTER 36 COMPLETED MONTHS WITHOUT SURRENDER FOR PAYMENT OF TAX.

EXAMPLE: \$1 000 CERTIFICATES PURCHASED ON MARCH 4, 1987, APRIL 4, 1987 AND MAY 4, 1987 RESPECTIVELY, SURRENDER IN PAYMENT OF TAX DUE ON JUNE 3, 1987 WILL HAVE INTEREST CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

ON \$1 000, MARCH 4, 1987 TO JUNE 3, 1987 3 COMPLETE MONTHS AT \$2.50 PER MONTH	= \$ 7.50
ON \$1 000, APRIL 4, 1987 TO JUNE 3, 1987 2 COMPLETE MONTHS AT \$2.50 PER MONTH	= \$ 5.00
ON \$1 000, MAY 4, 1987 TO JUNE 3, 1987 1 COMPLETE MONTH AT \$2.50 PER MONTH	= \$ 2.50

	\$15.00

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WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME ENDORSED
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THE ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE AT A MEETING TODAY (MONDAY) ENDORSED A LONG-TERM WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME FOR IMPROVING AND SAFEGUARDING WATER QUALITY WITHIN THE TOLO HARBOUR AND CHANNEL WATER CONTROL ZONE (WCZ).

THE PROGRAMME, KNOWN AS THE TOLO HARBOUR ACTION PLAN WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN STAGES.

/THE COMMITTEE

THE COMMITTEE NOTED THAT THE EXISTING WATER QUALITY IN SEVERAL PARTS OF THE TOLO WCZ DOES NOT AT PRESENT COMPLY WITH THE PROPOSED WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES AND MONITORING INDICATES THAT AFTER AN IMPROVEMENT IN 1985, THE DOWNWARD TREND IN WATER QUALITY IN TOLO HAS CONTINUED.

THE PROPOSED TOLO HARBOUR ACTION PLAN INCLUDES:

- * CONTROL OF INDUSTRIAL EFFLUENT DISCHARGES THROUGH THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ORDINANCE, STARTING APRIL 1 THIS YEAR.
- * CONTROL OF INDUSTRIAL EFFLUENT DISCHARGES THROUGH THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE. THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT WILL INVESTIGATE DISCHARGES INTO SURFACE DRAINAGE SYSTEMS AND PASS THE INFORMATION ON ILLEGAL DISCHARGES TO THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE FOR ENFORCEMENT ACTION.
- * IMPLEMENTATION OF A BAN ON THE KEEPING OF LIVESTOCK IN SHA TIN AND TAI PO NEW TOWNS AND CONTROLS ELSEWHERE IN THE WCZ.
- * MAXIMISATION OF THE USE OF THE SECONDARY SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITIES IN SHA TIN AND TAI PO TO REDUCE THE DISCHARGE OF POLLUTANTS DIRECTLY TO WATERCOURSES.
- * MARINE DISPOSAL OF ALUM SLUDGE FROM SHA TIN WATER TREATMENT WORKS INSTEAD OF DISCHARGING IT TO THE SHING MUN RIVER.
- * INSTALLATION OF SEWER INTERCEPTION AND VILLAGE TREATMENT PLANTS TO REDUCE THE DIRECT DISCHARGE OF UNTREATED WASTEWATERS FROM UNSEWERED AREAS.
- * CONTINUED AND IMPROVED EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES TO DISCOURAGE USE OF WATERCOURSES FOR WASTE DISPOSAL.

THE COMMITTEE CONSIDERED ALSO THE RELATED MATTER OF WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES FOR WATERCOURSES IN THE TOLO HARBOUR CONTROL ZONE. IT IS A STATUTORY REQUIREMENT UNDER THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ORDINANCE THAT EPCOM SHOULD BE CONSULTED BEFORE SET OBJECTIVES ARE ISSUED BY THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE.

EPCOM RECOMMENDED SOME STRENGTHENING OF THE OBJECTIVES IN ORDER TO FURTHER SAFEGUARD THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE TOLO AREA.

OTHER TOPICS COVERED BY THE COMMITTEE INCLUDED THE POTENTIAL AGGREGATE THAT EFFECTS A NUMBER OF DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS MIGHT HAVE ON DEEP BAY, AND THE PLANS TO REVIEW THE OVERALL STRATEGY FOR DISPOSAL OF SEWERAGE.

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LAB MEMBERS DISCUSS WIDE RANGE OF ISSUES
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THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD MET THIS (MONDAY) AFTERNOON TO DISCUSS A WIDE RANGE OF ISSUES RELATING TO LABOUR MATTERS AND LEGISLATION.

DURING THE MEETING, CHAIRED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR TONY HAMMOND, THE BOARD AGREED TO SEND A DELEGATION TO ATTEND THE 73RD SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN GENEVA BETWEEN JUNE 3 AND 24 THIS YEAR.

THE HONG KONG DELEGATION WOULD COMPRISE THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, A REPRESENTATIVE OF EMPLOYEES, AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF EMPLOYERS.

THE BOARD THEN ENDORSED A PROPOSAL TO INCREASE THE WAGE CEILING FOR NON-MANUAL WORKERS UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE FROM \$10 500 TO \$11 500 A MONTH TO KEEP IN PACE WITH THE GENERAL WAGE MOVEMENTS.

IT ALSO AGREED THAT THE MAXIMUM LIMIT FOR THE ADVANCE PAYMENT TO AN INJURED WORKER OR HIS DEPENDENTS UNDER THE EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION ORDINANCE BE RAISED FROM \$10 000 TO \$20 000, SUBJECT TO THE WHOLE OR ANY PART OF SUCH PAYMENT WOULD BE DEDUCTED FROM THE AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION PAYABLE TO THE EMPLOYEE EVENTUALLY.

ALSO UNDER THE EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION ORDINANCE, MEMBERS SUPPORTED A MINOR MODIFICATION OF THE PROPOSAL TO EXTEND THE SCOPE OF THE ORDINANCE TO COVER HONG KONG WORKERS WORKING OUTSIDE HONG KONG.

MEMBERS FURTHER CONSIDERED A NUMBER OF PROPOSALS TO REVISE THE LEVELS OF MAXIMUM FINES FOR CONTRAVENTION OF OFFENCES UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE AND ITS SUBSIDIARY REGULATIONS AND TO INTRODUCE CUSTODIAL SENTENCES AS A DETERRENT MEASURE.

MEMBERS EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE INTRODUCTION OF CUSTODIAL SENTENCE BUT THEY WERE ASSURED THAT PROSECUTIONS AGAINST EMPLOYERS UNDER THE ORDINANCE WOULD ONLY BE USED AS A LAST RESORT AGAINST BLATANT OFFENDERS IN VERY SERIOUS CASES.

THE BOARD EXAMINED AMENDMENTS TO THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS ORDINANCE WHICH LAID DOWN SPECIFICALLY THE GENERAL DUTIES OF EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES IN RESPECT OF SAFETY AND HEALTH AT WORK. THE PROPOSED PROVISIONS ALSO PROVIDED FOR CUSTODIAL PENALTIES FOR CONTRAVENTION OF CERTAIN OFFENCES UNDER THE ORDINANCE.

MEMBERS WERE IN GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES SHOULD HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY IN INDUSTRIAL SAFETY. THEY SUGGESTED THAT BOTH PARTIES SHOULD BE SUBJECTED TO CUSTODIAL PENALTIES AND THAT THIS SHOULD BE WRITTEN DOWN IN THE LEGISLATION.

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AT A PREVIOUS LAB MEETING, MEMBERS HAD DISCUSSED AND ENDORSED IN PRINCIPLE THE CONTROL AND LABELLING OF DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES IN INDUSTRY. TODAY MEMBERS WERE FURTHER BRIEFED ON THE DETAILS OF THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS INCLUDING A LIST OF ABOUT 230 DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES COMMONLY USED IN INDUSTRY AND THE STANDARD OF LABELLING.

ON A PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE ON MATERNITY LEAVE, MEMBERS ENDORSED THE PROPOSALS TO ENABLE A PREGNANT WORKER TO SERVE NOTICE OF HER INTENTION TO TAKE MATERNITY LEAVE TO HER EMPLOYER AT ANY TIME AFTER HER PREGNANCY HAS BEEN CERTIFIED BY A MEDICAL PRACTITIONER, AND TO PREVENT EITHER PARTY TO SERVE NOTICE OF TERMINATION DURING THE PERIOD OF MATERNITY LEAVE, EXCEPT BY MUTUAL CONSENT. HOWEVER, MEMBERS AGREED THAT THE EXISTING SIX-WEEK POST-NATAL LEAVE SHOULD REMAIN UNCHANGED.

AS REGARDS OVERTIME WORK FOR WOMEN IN INDUSTRY, MEMBERS SUPPORTED THAT THE LIMIT OF 48 HOURS OF WORK PER WEEK BE CHANGED TO 96 HOURS IN ANY PERIOD OF TWO CONSECUTIVE WEEKS AND THAT EMPLOYERS BE GIVEN THE FLEXIBILITY TO CALCULATE OVERTIME WORK BY REFERENCE TO THE UNDERTAKING, OR TO DIFFERENT PARTS AND SETS OF THE UNDERTAKINGS, OR TO INDIVIDUAL WOMAN WORKERS.

LASTLY, THE BOARD STUDIED A PAPER ON THE REVIEW OF THE LONG SERVICE PAYMENT PROVISIONS UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE. HOWEVER, IN ORDER TO GIVE MEMBERS MORE TIME TO STUDY THE PAPER, IT WAS AGREED THAT THE ISSUE WOULD BE FURTHER DISCUSSED AT THE BOARD'S NEXT MEETING IN APRIL.

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BLACK BEAR IN GOOD CARE
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THE YOUNG ASIATIC BLACK BEAR WHICH CAME INTO THE CUSTODY OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT YESTERDAY, HAS BEEN INSPECTED BY VETERINARY STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENT AND FOUND CLINICALLY TO BE IN VERY GOOD HEALTH.

THE DEPARTMENT'S SENIOR VETERINARY OFFICER, DR NORMAN CHENG, SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THAT THE ANIMAL WAS VERY ACTIVE AND WAS DOING WELL IN THE SHEK WU HUI KENNEL. IT WAS IN GOOD CARE AND APPEARED TO BE UNDISTURBED BY ITS CAPTIVITY.

+DESPITE THE ABSENCE OF ANY PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS OF ILL HEALTH, THE BEAR WILL BE PLACED UNDER CLOSE OBSERVATION FOR A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME DURING WHICH REGULAR INSPECTION WILL BE CARRIED OUT BY OUR VETERINARY OFFICERS.

+UNTIL THEN, A DECISION WILL BE MADE AS TO WHETHER THE ANIMAL WILL BE REPATRIATED BACK TO CHINA WHERE IT EVIDENTLY CAME FROM OR SENT TO AN OVERSEAS COUNTRY WHERE A SUITABLE HOME WILL BE FOUND FOR IT,+ HE SAID.

THE ASIATIC BLACK BEAR IS AN ENDANGERED SPECIES PROTECTED UNDER THE ANIMALS AND PLANTS (PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES) ORDINANCE. ANY ILLEGAL IMPORT, EXPORT OR POSSESSION OF THE SPECIES WILL BE LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$5 000 FOR A FIRST OFFENCE, AND TO \$10 000 PLUS IMPRISONMENT FOR SIX MONTHS FOR A REPEATED OFFENCE.

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MONDAY, MARCH 2, 1987

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TUEN MUN TOUR ARRANGED FOR COMMUNITY LEADERS
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COMMUNITY LEADERS IN TUEN MUN ARE INVITED TO TAKE PART IN A ONE-DAY TOUR OF THE DISTRICT ON MARCH 15 TO LEARN ABOUT VARIOUS DEVELOPMENTS AND FACILITIES.

THE TOUR WILL START AT 10 AM WITH A BRIEFING ON THE GENERAL DEVELOPMENT OF TUEN MUN BY THE PROJECT MANAGER (NT/NW) OF THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, MR SIU CHUEN, IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT.

PARTICIPANTS WILL THEN LEAVE FOR THE TUEN MUN TOWN HALL WHERE THEY WILL BE BRIEFED BY CHIEF ARCHITECT, MR S.H. PAO, ON FACILITIES AT THE NEWLY-COMPLETED CULTURAL COMPLEX.

FROM SIU HONG COURT, PARTICIPANTS WILL HAVE A PANORAMIC VIEW OF TUEN MUN NEW TOWN AND SEE VARIOUS DEVELOPMENT NEARBY.

THEY WILL THEN BE TAKEN TO THE SITE OF THE TUEN MUN HOSPITAL WHICH, WHEN COMPLETED NEXT YEAR, WILL BE ONE OF THE LARGEST HOSPITALS IN THE TERRITORY PROVIDING 1 600 BEDS.

THE GROUP WILL THEN HAVE A VEGETARIAN LUNCH AT CHING CHUNG KOON, AND THE TOUR WILL END WITH A SITE VISIT TO THE TOWN CENTRE'S COMMERCIAL COMPLEX WHERE PARTICIPANTS WILL BE BRIEFED BY THE PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER OF THE SINO GROUP, MR TOMMY YEUNG.

THOSE INTERESTED IN JOINING THE TOUR SHOULD APPLY TO THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE AT THE GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, SECOND FLOOR, OR CALL 0-4513046 OR 0-866052 FOR FURTHER DETAILS. EACH PARTICIPANT WILL HAVE TO PAY \$20 FOR LUNCH AND TRANSPORT.

THE TOUR IS ORGANISED BY THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE AS A FOLLOW-UP TO THE TRAINING CAMP FOR COMMUNITY LEADERS HELD IN JANUARY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE ONE-DAY TOUR. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WISHING TO TAKE PART SHOULD CONTACT THE INFORMATION OFFICER (MISS WENDY TSANG) ON 0-4513042 BY WEDNESDAY (MARCH 4).

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MONDAY, MARCH 2, 1987

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BOARD TO DISCUSS TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL

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WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL MEET TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO DISCUSS A FEASIBILITY REPORT ON THE TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL AND ASSOCIATED ROADWORKS.

THE REPORT DETERMINES THE ALIGNMENT OF THE TUNNEL AND ASSOCIATED CONNECTING ROADS.

THE MAIN TUNNEL APPROACH ROAD WILL CONNECT WITH THE PROPOSED KWUN TONG BYPASS IMMEDIATELY SOUTH OF PRINCE EDWARD ROAD.

REGIONAL HIGHWAY ENGINEER OF THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT, MR YEUNG KIM-CHOY, AND THE DIRECTOR OF MOTT, HAY AND ANDERSON HONG KONG LIMITED, MR J.M. WHITEFIELD, WILL BE PRESENT TO ANSWER QUERIES RAISED.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO HAVE A FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION OF A PROPOSED TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA ON A PRIMARY SCHOOL SITE AT CHUK YUEN ESTATE NORTH-EAST PLATFORM.

IN ADDITION, MEMBERS WILL HEAR POLICY GUIDELINES FOR THE GRANTING OF AMUSEMENT GAME CENTRE LICENCES.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA WILL INCLUDE THE PROGRESS REPORT ON DIAMOND HILL DEVELOPMENT AND PROGRESS REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING TOMORROW AT 2.30 PM AT FUNG MING HALL, WONG TAI SIN TEMPLE.

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INDUSTRIAL SAFETY WEEK ORGANISED

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THE TRIPARTITE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AND HEALTH COMMITTEE (ISHC) OF THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD WILL BE HOLDING AN INDUSTRIAL SAFETY WEEK BETWEEN MARCH 14 AND 20 TO MARK ITS TENTH ANNIVERSARY.

DURING THE WEEK, A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES AIMED AT FOCUSING PUBLIC ATTENTION ON SAFETY AT WORK, WILL BE ORGANISED WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE SIX INDUSTRY-BASED SUB-COMMITTEES FORMED UNDER ISHC.

MONDAY, MARCH 2, 1987

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THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE EVENT WILL BE A VARIETY SHOW TO BE HELD AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM IN WAN CHAI ON MARCH 20.

DETAILS OF THE WEEK'S PROGRAMME WILL BE ANNOUNCED BY THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR YIU YAN-NANG, AND THE CHIEF FACTORY INSPECTOR, MR YIP YUK-LUN, AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TO BE HELD AT 3 PM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) AT THE GIS PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM, FIFTH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, CENTRAL.

NOTE TO EDITORS;

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

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AMBULANCE AID MOTORCYCLES IN OPERATION

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A FLEET OF SEVEN AMBULANCE AID MOTORCYCLES OF THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT WENT INTO SERVICE TODAY (MONDAY).

TWO MOTORCYCLES WILL BE DEPLOYED ON HONG KONG ISLAND, TWO IN KOWLOON AND ANOTHER TWO IN THE NEW TERRITORIES. THE REMAINING ONE WILL BE A MAINTENANCE RESERVE.

+THE MOTORCYCLES CAN MANOEUVRE WITH EASE IN TRAFFIC JAMS AND REACH THE SCENE OF ACCIDENT BEFORE AN AMBULANCE,+ A FIRE SERVICE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+THE MOTORCYCLE AMBULANCEMAN WILL GIVE FIRST AID TO ACCIDENT VICTIMS BEFORE THE AMBULANCE COMES TO TAKE THEM TO HOSPITAL.+

THE TOTAL COST FOR THE MOTORCYCLES AND THEIR STOWAGE AMOUNTS TO ABOUT \$350 000.

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MONDAY, MARCH 2, 1987

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SPEEDPOST PICK-UP SERVICE EXTENDED
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SPEEDPOST PICK-UP SERVICE WHICH IS PRESENTLY AVAILABLE TO CUSTOMERS ON HONG KONG ISLAND, KOWLOON AND TSUEN WAN ONLY, WILL BE EXTENDED TO COVER THE URBAN AREAS OF SHA TIN, TUEN MUN AND TAI PO FROM MARCH 16, A POST OFFICE SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY (MONDAY).

+IN SPEEDPOST SERVICE, POSTAGE IS EITHER CHARGED TO THE DEPOSIT ACCOUNT MAINTAINED WITH THE POST OFFICE OR PREPAID BY FRANKING LABELS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+TO USE THE SERVICE ALL CUSTOMERS HAVE TO DO IS TO SIGN AN UNDERTAKING TO REIMBURSE THE POST OFFICE IF THE POSTAGE PAYABLE EXCEEDS THE AMOUNT OF DEPOSIT REQUIRED.

+CUSTOMERS CAN THEN TELEPHONE THE POST OFFICE TO HAVE THEIR SPEEDPOST ITEMS PICKED UP FROM THEIR PREMISES AT NO EXTRA CHARGE,+ HE ADDED.

FOR TELEPHONE CALLS RECEIVED BEFORE 2.30 PM, COLLECTION WOULD BE MADE ON THE SAME DAY, OTHERWISE, IT WOULD BE MADE THE NEXT MORNING.

CUSTOMERS REQUIRING MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE FACILITY AND THE SPEEDPOST SERVICE GENERALLY SHOULD CONTACT POSTAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES ON 5-8471108.

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ADMISSION TO PRIMARY 2-6 IN GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS
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ALL GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOLS ARE TO ENROL PRIMARY 2 TO PRIMARY 6 STUDENTS FOR THE 1987-88 ACADEMIC YEAR.

CHILDREN WHO ARE SIX YEARS AND EIGHT MONTHS OLD BY SEPTEMBER 1 THIS YEAR MAY APPLY FOR ADMISSION TO PRIMARY 2 AND FOR THOSE ONE YEAR OLDER TO THE PRIMARY CLASS ONE YEAR SENIOR UP TO PRIMARY 6.

PARENTS OF SUCH STUDENTS SHOULD MAKE ENQUIRIES DIRECT WITH INDIVIDUAL SCHOOLS TO SEE IF THERE ARE VACANCIES AT ANY LEVEL. THE LEVELS OF CLASSES OPEN TO APPLICATION WILL BE CLEARLY SPECIFIED IN A NOTICE POSTED UP AT THE MAIN ENTRANCE OF EACH SCHOOL.

/APPLICATION FORMS

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APPLICATION FORMS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THOSE GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOLS WITH VACANCIES IN PRIMARY 2 TO PRIMARY 6 FROM FRIDAY (MARCH 6) TO MARCH 13 EXCLUDING GENERAL HOLIDAYS.

COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE SCHOOL TO WHICH ADMISSION IS SOUGHT. SELECTION WILL BE MADE ON MARCH 20.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE FREE AND NO ENTRANCE FEE IS CHARGED FOR ADMISSION TO ANY GOVERNMENT SCHOOL.

AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN REMINDED PARENTS AND GUARDIANS THAT ALL CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN SIX AND 12 WHO ARE NOT IN SCHOOL SHOULD APPLY FOR ADMISSION.

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ROADS, DRAINS FOR PAK KONG VILLAGE EXTENSION
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A TWO-WAY ACCESS ROAD WILL BE BUILT TO SERVE THE PAK KONG VILLAGE EXTENSION IN SAI KUNG.

INCLUDED IN THE PROJECT WILL BE CONSTRUCTION OF PARKING AREAS AND RELATED DRAINAGE WORKS WITHIN THE EXTENSION AREA.

THE CIVIL ENGINEERING SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE WORK WHICH IS EXPECTED TO START IN JUNE AND BE COMPLETED IN 12 MONTHS.

THE WORK HAS BEEN DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTION WILL BE SUPERVISED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S CIVIL ENGINEERING OFFICE.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR COOKED FOOD CENTRE
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TENDERS ARE BEING INVITED FOR BUILDING A 12-STALL COOKED FOOD CENTRE IN KWAI CHUNG. RECREATIONAL AND OTHER FACILITIES WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED AT THE 1.049-HECTARE SITE AT THE JUNCTION OF KWAI SHUN AND KWAI TAK STREETS.

THE FACILITIES WILL INCLUDE A REFUSE COLLECTION POINT, PUBLIC TOILET, MINI SOCCER PITCH, ROLLER SKATING RINK AND SITTING-OUT AREA.

THERE WILL ALSO BE A MANAGEMENT OFFICE, STORAGE AREA AND DANGEROUS GOODS STORE.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN MAY AND BE COMPLETED IN ONE YEAR.

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BRIEFING ON SCHOOL BOUGHT PLACES

AN UNATTRIBUTABLE BACKGROUND BRIEFING ON THE PHASING OUT OF 5 000 BOUGHT PLACES FROM PRIVATE SCHOOLS WILL BE GIVEN TO THE MEDIA AT THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS, THIRD FLOOR, LEE GARDENS, HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY, AT 3 PM TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE BRIEFING. INFORMATION OFFICERS OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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NO FLUSHING WATER IN KWUN TONG

SALT WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN KWUN TONG AREA WILL BE TURNED OFF ON THURSDAY (MARCH 5) FROM 9 AM TO 6 PM FOR MAINS WORK.

PREMISES AFFECTED INCLUDE LAM TIN ESTATE, SAU MAU PING ESTATE, SHUN ON ESTATE, SHUN TIN ESTATE, SHUN CHI COURT, CHOI WAN ESTATE, SHUN LEE TSUEN TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA, UNITED CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL, THOSE ALONG NEW PO LAM ROAD, HIP WO STREET BETWEEN HIU KWONG STREET AND SAU MAU PING ROAD, HIU KWONG STREET, KUNG LOK ROAD, HONG NING ROAD AND HONG LEE ROAD.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 56.2 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 329.522 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 348.166 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 59.4 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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