



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1991

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THOUGHT SHOULD BE GIVEN ON FINAL COURT OF APPEAL: GOVERNOR

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THE KEY ISSUE OF THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL THAT WE HAVE TO THINK ABOUT OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS WAS WHETHER WE WANT IT SET UP IN THE FAIRLY NEAR FUTURE, IN A FORM WHICH WOULD GO STRAIGHT THROUGH 1997, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TONIGHT (SATURDAY).

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AT THE AIRPORT ON HIS RETURN FROM VISITS TO SINGAPORE AND NEW ZEALAND, SIR DAVID SAID: "WE'VE GOT THE FRAMEWORK OF AN AGREEMENT THROUGH THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP."

"IT'S CLEARLY LAID DOWN, BUT SOME OF THE DETAILS OF THAT, HOW IT ACTUALLY WORKS OUT IN THE DRAFT LEGISLATION, THAT IS STILL GOT TO BE WORKED OUT AND THEN THE DRAFT OF THE LEGISLATION WILL BE PUT TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FOR IT TO CONSIDER. THAT MUST BE FOR THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO CONSIDER," HE SAID.

SPEAKING ABOUT HIS TWO VISITS, THE GOVERNOR SAID: "THE IMPRESSION I CAME BACK WITH WAS THAT WE HAVE A GREAT MANY INTERESTS IN COMMON WITH SINGAPORE AND I WOULD LIKE TO SEE US BUILDING UP OUR CONTACTS WITH SINGAPORE OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS."

"WE HAVE A LOT OF COMMON POSITIONS ON THINGS LIKE INTERNATIONAL TRADE; THERE IS AN INCREASING INTEREST IN SINGAPORE IN INVESTMENTS IN HONG KONG AND LOT OF COMMON INTERESTS FOR US TO SHARE, SO I WOULD LIKE TO SEE US BUILDING UP THOSE CONNECTIONS," HE SAID.

"NEW ZEALAND WAS A VERY OPPORTUNE VISIT IN A WAY. I WENT WITH THE MESSAGE THAT A GREAT DEAL IS HAPPENING UP HERE, IN WHAT THEY SEE AS THE NORTHERN BIT OF THE PACIFIC RIM AND TO TELL THEM THAT THIS WAS AN AREA OF GREAT ECONOMIC GROWTH FOR THE FUTURE AND HONG KONG WAS AT THE HEART OF IT.

"I FOUND, TO MY PLEASANT SURPRISE, THAT THEY WERE ALREADY THINKING ALONG THOSE LINES; THAT THEY WERE THINKING OF INCREASING THEIR TRADING ACTIVITIES IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD, SO IT WAS VERY GOOD TIMING FOR THE VISIT," SIR DAVID ADDED.

THE GOVERNOR NOTED THAT THERE WAS MUCH TO BE DONE BETWEEN NOW AND 1997, ADDING: "ALL THE PREPARATIONS THAT WE CAN MAKE TO ENSURE, AND THIS WAS THE MESSAGE I WAS PUTTING ACROSS WHILE I WAS AWAY, TO ENSURE THAT THE NEW HONG KONG, THE HONG KONG SAR WHEN IT'S SET UP IN 1997 HAS THE BEST POSSIBLE CHANCE OF SUCCEEDING."

"ONE OF THOSE THINGS IS TO CARRY ON WITH OUR LONG-TERM PROJECTS; BUILDING UP EDUCATION; BUILDING UP OUR INFRASTRUCTURE; BUILDING AN AIRPORT; EXPANDING THE PORT AND SO ON," HE ADDED.

SIR DAVID SAID IT WAS ALSO IMPORTANT OUR CONTACTS WITH THE MAINLAND OF CHINA WERE INCREASED AT ALL LEVELS WHICH WAS BEING DONE AT A GOVERNMENT LEVEL.

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"I WOULD LIKE TO SEE MORE OF OUR CIVIL SERVANTS GOING ON VISITS TO CHINA; GETTING TO KNOW PEOPLE IN CHINA; UNDERSTAND HOW CHINA OPERATES," HE SAID.

"I'D LIKE TO SEE MORE PEOPLE COMING HERE FROM CHINA; WE'RE HAVING SEVERAL VISITS, WE'VE HAD SEVERAL OVER THE LAST FEW MONTHS, I HOPE WE'LL HAVE MORE IN FUTURE; TO BUILD UP A HIGHER DEGREE OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES. I THINK THAT'S THE SORT OF BASIC POINT ON BUILDING UP CONNECTIONS BETWEEN HERE AND CHINA," SIR DAVID ADDED.

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MANY DILAPIDATED BUILDINGS SPOTTED

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THE DANGEROUS BUILDINGS SECTION OF THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE (BOO) OF THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT HAS RECENTLY COMPLETED AN EXERCISE IN IDENTIFYING AND INSPECTING THE CONDITION OF ALL PRE-WAR PRIVATE SECTOR BUILDINGS IN THE URBAN AREAS OF HONG KONG AND KOWLOON INCLUDING THE BUILT-UP AREAS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE EXERCISE HAS RESULTED IN ABOUT 1,700 PRE-WAR BUILDINGS BEING IDENTIFIED OF WHICH 34 HAVE BEEN THE SUBJECT OF CLOSURE AND DEMOLITION ORDERS, AND OWNERS OF SOME 472 BUILDINGS SERVED WITH REPAIR ORDER SO FAR.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE OFFICE SAID TODAY (SATURDAY) THAT THESE PRE-WAR BUILDINGS HAD BEEN CLASSIFIED AS PRIORITY FOR INSPECTION LATE LAST YEAR, AND ARE MAINLY SITUATED IN THE OLD DISTRICTS SUCH AS CENTRAL AND WESTERN, WAN CHAI, YAU MA TEI AND SHAM SHUI PO WITH SOME OF THEM HAVING BEEN BUILT BEFORE THE FIRST WORLD WAR.

IN ADDITION, A SURVEY OF THE URBAN AREAS OF HONG KONG AND KOWLOON INCLUDING THE BUILT-UP AREAS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES WAS CONDUCTED BETWEEN OCTOBER 1989 AND JUNE LAST YEAR AND INVOLVED THE EXTERNAL INSPECTION OF SOME 55,500 PRIVATE SECTOR BUILDINGS.

THE EIGHT MONTH EXERCISE REVEALED THAT SOME 17,000 BUILDINGS, OR 30 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL INSPECTED, WERE FOUND TO BE IN A SUSPECT CONDITION REQUIRING A MORE DETAILED INSPECTION TO ASCERTAIN THE EXTENT OF DETERIORATION.

OF THIS NUMBER OF BUILDINGS IT WAS FOUND THAT 210 BUILDINGS (INCLUDING 76 PRE-WAR BUILDINGS) NEEDED IMMEDIATE ATTENTION.

THIS HAS RESULTED IN THE SERVING OF APPROPRIATE REPAIR ORDERS UPON THE OWNERS OF 193 BUILDINGS AND THE REMAINING 17 BUILDINGS (OF WHICH 11 WERE PRE-WAR) WERE DEALT WITH BY CLOSURE AND DEMOLITION ORDERS.

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OF THE REMAINING 16,700 BUILDINGS, A TOTAL OF 3,953 INSPECTIONS HAD BEEN CONDUCTED, RESULTING IN THE SERVING OF 2,701 REPAIR ORDERS AND 66 CLOSURE AND DEMOLITION ORDERS AS AT THE END OF OCTOBER.

THE SPOKESMAN DID NOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY OF MORE BUILDINGS IN THE GROUP BEING SUBJECT TO CLOSURE AND DEMOLITION ORDERS, AS WELL AS OTHERS BEING SERVED WITH REPAIR ORDERS, ONCE INSPECTIONS HAD BEEN CARRIED OUT.

HE SAID IT HAD LONG BEEN KNOWN THAT THERE WAS A PROBLEM REGARDING THE DETERIORATION OF CONCRETE STRUCTURES, ESPECIALLY THOSE PUT UP IN THE EARLY POST-WAR YEARS.

"THE REASONS FOR THE RAPID DETERIORATION OF THESE CONCRETE BUILDINGS, IN SUCH A SHORT-TIME SPAN OF LESS THAN 40 YEARS, MAY BE DUE TO INFERIOR QUALITY MATERIALS, IMPURITIES IN WATER CONTENT AND POOR WORKMANSHIP IN THE ORIGINAL CONSTRUCTION," HE ADDED.

"THE CONDITION MAY ALSO BE AGGRAVATED BY OVERLOADING, WEATHERING IN A POLLUTED ATMOSPHERE AND AN ALMOST TOTAL NEGLECT OF MAINTENANCE AFTER CONSTRUCTION," HE SAID.

COMMENTING ON THE PROGRESS OF THE OVERALL EXERCISE ON BUILDING INSPECTION, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THERE WERE STILL SOME 12,750 BUILDINGS FROM THE ORIGINAL 16,700 TO BE INSPECTED WHICH WAS A LONG WAY TO GO DESPITE THE BOO'S EFFORTS IN STEPPING UP THE ACTION.

HE ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT FROM EVIDENCE OBTAINED SO FAR, IT APPEARED THAT GENERALLY OWNERS OF PRIVATE SECTOR BUILDINGS WERE STILL NOT PREPARED TO CARRY OUT BASIC MAINTENANCE TO THEIR PREMISES ALTHOUGH IT WAS THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE BUILDING SAFETY.

HE QUOTED THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS AS SAYING EARLIER THIS YEAR THAT ON THE PRESSURE SIDE, THE GOVERNMENT WOULD BE EXAMINING NEW POWERS WHICH WOULD ENABLE THE BUILDING AUTHORITY TO REQUIRE OWNERS TO HAVE INSPECTIONS AND SURVEYS OF THEIR BUILDINGS CARRIED OUT, TO PRODUCE CERTIFICATES OF STRUCTURAL SAFETY AND TO ENSURE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR.

BUT IN THE MEANTIME, HE WAS OF THE VIEW THAT BUILDING OWNERS SHOULD DO MORE TO COMPLEMENT THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS TO IMPROVE BUILDING SAFETY FOR WHICH HIS DEPARTMENT WOULD PROVIDE ADVICE TO OWNERS AND TO BRING HOME THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES CLEARLY.

TO THIS END, THE SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAD RECENTLY PRODUCED A PUBLICITY LEAFLET, HIGHLIGHTING THE IMPORTANCE OF BUILDING SAFETY WITH USEFUL INFORMATION CONCERNING BUILDING CHECK-UP AND REPAIR.

HE ALSO REMINDED THE PUBLIC THAT ALL DISTRICT OFFICES HAVE A COPY OF TWO BOOKLETS THAT CONTAIN THE NAMES OF THE AUTHORISED PERSONS/ REGISTERED STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS AND REGISTERED CONTRACTORS WHO WOULD ASSIST OWNERS TO MAINTAIN THEIR BUILDINGS.

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LUSH GARDEN BUILT OVERNIGHT OPENS TOMORROW

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A LUSH GARDEN BUILT OVERNIGHT ON A CONCRETE THOROUGHFARE IN THE HEART OF CENTRAL WILL BE OPEN TO ALL PEOPLE OF HONG KONG TOMORROW (SUNDAY) AS PART OF THE KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN.

"THE ONE-DAY 'GARDEN CELEBRATION' AT THE CHATER ROAD PEDESTRIAN PRECINCT AIMS AT CREATING A VISUAL SYMBOLIC EXAMPLE OF WHAT CAN BE DONE IF EVERY ONE PITCHES IN TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT AND KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE JOINT URBAN COUNCIL/REGIONAL COUNCIL KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN STEERING COMMITTEE SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

THE SPOKESMAN SAID SOME 200 WORKERS WILL BE HOT THE HEELS TO TURN THE AREA INTO AN ATTRACTIVE PARK FEATURING A CENTRE-PIECE, WHICH IS THE VICTORIAN-STYLE "FOUNTAIN OF LIFE" ADORNED WITH ROSES; CHINESE AND JAPANESE GARDENS; LILY, CARNATION AND CHRYSANTHEMUM BLOSSOMS; TROPICAL AND GREEN HOUSE PLANTS, CLIMBING AND HANGING PLANTS, AS WELL AS TOPIARY.

THERE WILL ALSO BE AN EXHIBITION GALLERY FEATURING THE 19 DISTRICT BOARDS' YEAR-ROUND KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN ACTIVITIES, HE ADDED.

OMELCO MEMBER, MR ALLEN LEE PENG-FEI, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY.

WITH HIM WILL BE THE REGIONAL COUNCIL CHAIRMAN, MR CHEUNG YAN-LUNG; THE URBAN COUNCIL CHAIRMAN, DR RONALD LEUNG DING-BONG; CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE, MR GILBERT LEUNG KAM-HO AND MISS CHRISTINA TING YUK-CHEE; THE DIRECTOR OF URBAN SERVICES, MR HAIDER BARMA; AND THE DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL SERVICES, MR ADOLF HSU.

THE OFFICIATING GUESTS WILL ALSO PERFORM A FLOWER-PLANTING CEREMONY IN THE FLOWER BEDS SURROUNDING THE CENTRE-PIECE WITH CELEBRITIES INCLUDING 1991 MISS HONG KONG AND MISS ASIA; MS JOSEPHINE SIAO, MS MO SHUN-KWAN, MR SIMON YAM, MR DERIC WAN, MR TANG HO-KONG AND MR LAM CHO-FAI.

THE CAMPAIGN MASCOTS, THE "DRAGON OF CLEANLINESS" FAMILY, WILL BE AROUND TO GREET VISITORS. SOUVENIRS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED FREE ON THE SPOT.

"THE GARDEN CELEBRATION", ORGANISED BY THE JOINT URBAN COUNCIL/REGIONAL COUNCIL KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN STEERING COMMITTEE, WILL BE HELD FROM 11.45 AM TO 6.30 PM TOMORROW (SUNDAY). ADMISSION IS FREE.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF "THE GARDEN CELEBRATION" TO BE HELD AT THE CHATER ROAD PEDESTRIAN PRECINCT, CENTRAL TOMORROW (SUNDAY), BEGINNING 11 AM.

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RESIDENTS LEARN ABOUT BUILDING MANAGEMENT AT SEMINAR

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ABOUT 200 RESIDENTS, BUILDING CARETAKERS AND MEMBERS OF OWNERS CORPORATIONS AND MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES IN THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT ATTENDED A BUILDING MANAGEMENT SEMINAR AT THE SHEK KIP MEI COMMUNITY HALL THIS (SATURDAY) AFTERNOON.

TOPICS DISCUSSED AT THE THREE-HOUR SEMINAR WERE THE MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS (OWNERS INCORPORATIONS) ORDINANCE, FIRE PREVENTION REGULATIONS AND LEGISLATION, AND THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY ON UNAUTHORISED BUILDING STRUCTURES.

AN EXHIBITION ON BUILDING MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS WAS ALSO STAGED.

THE SEMINAR WAS ORGANISED BY THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT PRIVATE BUILDING MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD TO PROMOTE THE IMPORTANCE OF BUILDING MANAGEMENT AMONG RESIDENTS.

OFFICIATING AT TODAY SEMINAR'S OPENING CEREMONY WERE THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ALAN FUNG; AND DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR CHOY WAI-SHEK.

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SEMINAR ON CARE FOR STREET-SLEEPERS TOMORROW

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SOME 120 VOLUNTEERS WILL PUT THEIR HEADS TOGETHER IN A SEMINAR TOMORROW (SUNDAY) ON SERVICES TO STREET-SLEEPERS IN WEST KOWLOON AND TSUEN WAN/KWAI TSING AREA.

THE SEMINAR IS ORGANISED BY THE YAU TSIM/MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICE OF SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT TO MARK THE COMPLETION OF THE 1991-92 PROGRAMME FOR STREET-SLEEPERS.

THE PROGRAMME STARTED IN EARLY SEPTEMBER TO PROMOTE VOLUNTARISM TO HELP AND TO CARE FOR THE DEPRIVED HAVENED AT STREET CORNERS AND TO AROUSE COMMUNITY ATTENTION ON THEM.

THE VOLUNTEERS VISITED A TOTAL OF 350 STREET-SLEEPERS IN THE DISTRICTS. APART FROM EXPRESSING CARE AND CONCERN, THE VOLUNTEERS ALSO SENT OUT GIFTS AND LUNCH BOXES TO THE STREET-SLEEPERS.

SOME VOLUNTEERS ALSO RECORDED THEIR LIVING PATTERN TO BE POST-MORTEMED IN THE SEMINAR.

THE SEMINAR WILL BE OFFICIATED BY REGIONAL OFFICER (WEST KOWLOON) MRS PUN LEE WAI-CHUN.

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IT WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A TALK BY SENIOR LECTURER OF HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, MR CHENG CHI-HO, AN INTERVIEW OF A FORMER STREET-SLEEPER, AND AN OPEN FORUM.

ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SEMINAR WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 2.15 PM TOMORROW AT THE HALL OF H.G. LEONG COMMUNITY CENTRE, SHANGHAI STREET, YAU MA TEI, KOWLOON.

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WORK SAFETY CONFERENCE

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SOME 500 SUPERVISORS, MANAGERS AND SAFETY OFFICERS WILL GET TOGETHER AT A CONFERENCE NEXT MONDAY (NOVEMBER 25) TO SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCE IN WORK SAFETY AND HEALTH IN THE CONSTRUCTION TRADE.

THE ANNUAL CONSTRUCTION SAFETY CONFERENCE IS ORGANISED JOINTLY BY THE HONG KONG OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ASSOCIATION, THE HONG KONG INDUSTRIAL SAFETY ASSOCIATION AND THE SOCIETY OF REGISTERED SAFETY OFFICERS AND SPONSORED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

"THE CONFERENCE AIMS TO ENHANCE SAFETY AND HEALTH STANDARDS IN THE TRADE AND PARTICIPANTS WILL DISCUSS THE SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM," DIVISIONAL FACTORY INSPECTOR CHAN KING-CHUEN SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

IN ADDITION, MR CHAN SAID THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF INSPECTION OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH UNDER CHINA'S MINISTRY OF LABOUR, MS SU YI-YONG WILL PRESENT A PAPER ON OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH IN CHINA AND SAFE OPERATIONAL EXPERIENCE IN CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY AT AN OPEN FORUM.

"WE HOPE ACTIVITIES SUCH AS THIS WILL HELP BRING DOWN THE APPALLING ACCIDENT FIGURES IN THE CONSTRUCTION TRADE," HE ADDED.

GUESTS OFFICIATING AT THE WELCOMING CEREMONY OF THE CONFERENCE WILL INCLUDE SECRETARY FOR WORKS, MR JAMES BLAKE; THE DIRECTOR OF HOUSING, MR FUNG TUNG; ACTING COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR YIU YAN-NANG; AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH COUNCIL, MR K.Y. TONGSON.

ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE WELCOMING CEREMONY OF THE CONFERENCE AT 6.30 PM ON MONDAY (NOVEMBER 25) AT THEATRE 1 OF THE HONG KONG CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE, 1 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI.

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CYC MEMBERS HELP CONSERVE COUNTRY PARKS

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THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY) THAT THE DEPARTMENT'S EFFORT IN MANAGING COUNTRY PARKS COULD ONLY BE SUCCESSFUL WITH THE BACKING OF THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE.

SPEAKING TO SOME 500 COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB (CYC) MEMBERS AT THE LAUNCHING CEREMONY OF THE 1991/92 COUNTRY PARKS ADOPTION SCHEME AT THE LIONS NATURE EDUCATION CENTRE, DR LEE SAID BY HELPING TO LOOK AFTER THE COUNTRY PARKS, THE CYC MEMBERS ATTEMPT TO KEEP OUR COUNTRY PARKS CLEANER AND GREENER.

HE SAID: "THEIR ENTHUSIASM AND CONCERN OVER THE COUNTRY PARKS WILL ALSO ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO MAKE THE BEST USE OF THESE BEAUTIFUL PLACES AND TO HELP CONSERVE THE COUNTRY PARKS."

THE SCHEME, JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT (AFD) AND THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT (ED), AIMS AT PROMOTING THE SENSE OF COUNTRYSIDE CONSERVATION AMONG PARTICIPATING STUDENTS THROUGH VOLUNTARY WORK IN COUNTRY PARKS.

DR LEE SAID: "BETWEEN NOW AND JUNE, STUDENTS FROM PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS WILL BE PHYSICALLY INVOLVED IN VOLUNTARY COUNTRY PARK MANAGEMENT WORK SUCH AS TREE PLANTING AND TENDING, APPLYING FERTILISER, WEEDING, PATH MAINTENANCE AND LITTER COLLECTION IN 10 COUNTRY PARKS AND ONE SPECIAL AREA IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE TERRITORY.

"TO ENABLE THE STUDENTS TO CARRY OUT THEIR WORK PROPERLY AND SMOOTHLY, WE HAVE PROVIDED BASIC TRAINING ON PRACTICAL COUNTRYSIDE CONSERVATION TO SOME OF THEM AND APPOINTED THEM AS JUNIOR PARK WARDENS. ON-SITE GUIDANCE WILL ALSO BE GIVEN BY OUR PARK WARDENS."

DR LEE POINTED OUT THAT THE SCHEME WAS FIRST INTRODUCED IN 1989 AND IT HAD SINCE THEN PROVEN TO BE VERY POPULAR WITH THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS INCREASED FROM 10 IN 1989 TO 50 THIS YEAR.

HE COMMENDED PRINCIPALS AND TEACHERS OF PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS FOR THEIR FULL SUPPORT IN MOBILISING STUDENTS TO TAKE PART IN THIS SCHEME.

"I TRUST THAT PARTICIPANTS WILL BOTH LEARN AND ENJOY THROUGH THEIR VOLUNTARY SERVICE," HE SAID.

DR LEE ALSO EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION TO THE LIONS CLUBS FOR THEIR GENEROUS SPONSORSHIP FOR THIS YEAR'S SCHEME.

HE SAID: "THE LIONS CLUBS HAVE BEEN GREAT SUPPORTERS OF MANY WORTHY PROJECTS. THEY HAVE SPONSORED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE LIONS NATURE EDUCATION CENTRE WHICH WAS OPENED IN JUNE THIS YEAR AS WELL AS THE COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB WHEN IT WAS FIRST SET UP 14 YEARS AGO."

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ALSO OFFICIATING AT THE LAUNCHING CEREMONY TODAY WERE THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR LI YUET-TING; THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNTRY PARKS BOARD, MR CARLOS CHEUNG; AND THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR OF THE LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 303, HONG KONG AND MACAU, MR ALBERT WONG.

MR LI SAID: "IN RECENT YEARS, GREAT IMPORTANCE HAS BEEN PLACED IN ENCOURAGING OUR YOUNGER GENERATION TO DEVELOP A GREATER SENSE OF COMMITMENT TO THE WELL-BEING OF OUR COMMUNITY, AND IN THIS CONNECTION THE CYC HAS MADE CONSIDERABLE CONTRIBUTION THROUGH PROVIDING NUMEROUS COMMUNITY SERVICES.

"THE CYC COUNTRY PARKS ADOPTION SCHEME IS JUST A GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR CYC MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN SERVING THE COMMUNITY AND PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT," HE ADDED.

MR LI EXPRESSED SINCERE APPRECIATION TO THE AFD, WHICH HAD WORKED IN CLOSE CO-OPERATION FOR MANY YEARS WITH HIS DEPARTMENT, FOR PROVIDING PROFESSIONAL TRAINING IN FORESTRY WORK TO CYC MEMBERS AND FOR OPENING THE COUNTRY PARKS FOR THEM TO WORK IN.

HE ALSO PAID TRIBUTE TO THE LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 303, HONG KONG AND MACAU, FOR THEIR CONTINUOUS SUPPORT FOR THE GROWTH OF THE CYC AS WELL AS MAKING A GENEROUS DONATION OF \$69,000 TO FINANCE THIS YEAR'S SCHEME.

MR LI FINALLY THANKED THE HEADMASTERS AND TEACHERS OF VARIOUS PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS WHO HAVE SUPPORTED THIS SCHEME WITH GREAT ENTHUSIASM AS WELL AS THE STUDENTS FOR ACTIVELY PARTICIPATING IN THE SCHEME.

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OUTSTANDING CENTRAL AND WESTERN STUDENTS RECEIVE MERIT AWARDS
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MORE THAN 100 CENTRAL AND WESTERN PRIMARY STUDENTS WERE TODAY (SATURDAY) AWARDED CERTIFICATES OF MERIT UNDER THE DISTRICT'S OUTSTANDING PUPILS AWARD SCHEME.

THEY WERE ALSO TAKEN ON A HALF-DAY TOUR OF THE OCEAN PARK.

IN THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY HELD EARLIER IN THE MORNING, THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE (DFCC), MR WU CHOR-NAM, TOLD THE STUDENTS AND THEIR PARENTS THAT THE SCHEME HAD BECOME INCREASINGLY POPULAR IN THE DISTRICT.

"THIS YEAR, A TOTAL OF 110 PRIMARY STUDENTS FROM 22 SCHOOLS HAVE BEEN NOMINATED BY THEIR HEADMASTERS FOR THEIR ACADEMIC WORK, CONDUCT AND PARTICIPATION IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES," HE SAID.

MR WU REMINDED THE RECIPIENTS NOT TO BE COMPLACENT BUT TO KEEP UP WITH THEIR GOOD WORK TO SET A GOOD EXAMPLE FOR OTHER STUDENTS.

FOLLOWING THE PRESENTATION, A POLICE SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICER GAVE A TALK ON "ANTI-TRIAD ACTIVITIES IN SCHOOLS".

OTHER OFFICIATING GUESTS AT THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY WERE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER, MISS CHIH WAN-WAN; CHAIRMAN OF THE SCHEME'S ORGANISING COMMITTEE, MR CHOW YIN-SUM; AND CHAIRMAN OF THE CHUNG WAN AREA COMMITTEE, MR CHAN HAY.

THE ANNUAL EVENT WAS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE DFCC, THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE DISTRICT BOARD.

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SECOND COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD FOR SWD BOYS' HOME

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VOLUNTEERS FROM THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S BEGONIA ROAD BOYS' HOME (BRBH) RECEIVED AN AWARD TODAY (SATURDAY) FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE.

THIS IS THE SECOND CORRECTIONAL HOME OF THE DEPARTMENT TO WIN SIMILAR AWARD WITHIN ONE MONTH.

THE AWARD-WINNING PROJECT "GREEN SUMMER, GREEN LIFE" WON THE BEST CONTRIBUTION TO THE COMMUNITY AWARD.

THE COMPETITION ENTITLED "1991 SHELL BETTER ENVIRONMENT AWARD" ATTRACTED A BIG NUMBER OF ENTRIES.

EARLIER THIS MONTH, ANOTHER SWD CORRECTIONAL HOME, THE CASTLE PEAK BOYS' HOME WON AN OUTSTANDING PROJECT FOR THE ELDERLY, WHICH WAS ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL WELFARE TO MARKED THE ANNUAL ELDERLY FESTIVAL.

A SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (SATURDAY) THAT ACTIVITIES OF THE BRBH PROJECT INCLUDED ENVIRONMENT TALKS, EXHIBITIONS, TALENT QUIZ, HORTICULTURE, RECYCLE OF USED MATERIALS, ORGANIC FARMING, ENVIRONMENT IMPROVEMENT SERVICES AND CONCERNED VISITS.

"THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THE DEPARTMENT'S CORRECTIONAL HOMES TO PARTICIPATE IN SUCH A LARGE-SCALE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.

"THE AIM OF THIS PROJECT IS TO EDUCATE RESIDENTS THE IMPORTANCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION THROUGH GROUP ACTIVITIES," HE SAID.

"RESIDENTS OF SWD'S CORRECTIONAL HOMES HAVE BEEN ACTIVELY TAKING PART IN VARIOUS COMMUNITY SERVICES APART FROM THEIR REGULAR PREVOCATIONAL AND ACADEMIC TRAINING.

"THROUGH THE COMMUNITY SERVICES, WE INTENDED TO HELP THE YOUNGSTERS ACQUIRE THE ABILITY, SKILL, MOTIVATION AND MATURITY TO LEAD TO A LAW-ABIDING LIFE WHEN THEY LEAVE THE HOME," HE REMARKED.

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282 VM'S RETURN TODAY

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A GROUP OF 282 VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS TODAY (SATURDAY) RETURNED TO VIETNAM UNDER THE UNHCR'S VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION PROGRAMME.

COMPRISING 84 MEN, 75 WOMEN, 56 BOYS AND 67 GIRLS, THEY WERE THE 77TH BATCH TO GO BACK UNDER THE PROGRAMME.

THIS GROUP BROUGHT TO 6,082 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS WHO HAVE RETURNED VOLUNTARILY THIS YEAR, AND TO 12,378 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RETURNEES SINCE THE PROGRAMME STARTED IN MARCH 1989.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	22.11.91	500
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	23.11.91	NEUTRAL
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		NEUTRAL

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