



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FRIDAY, JULY 10, 1992

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GOVERNOR'S MEET-THE-MEDIA SESSION

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THE FOLLOWING IS TRANSCRIPT OF THE PRESS BRIEFING GIVEN BY THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE THIS (FRIDAY) MORNING:

THE GOVERNOR: I WILL SPEAK AS LOUDLY AS POSSIBLE WITHOUT, I HOPE, MAKING LIFE UNCOMFORTABLE FOR YOU.

AFTER SEVERAL WEEKS, INDEED MONTHS OF PREPARATION, I AM VERY PLEASED TO HAVE STARTED WORK THIS MORNING, IN EARNEST. MY FAMILY AND I ENJOYED YESTERDAY'S INAUGURATION AND NOW IT IS DOWN TO WORK. I'VE SAID ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS THAT WHAT I HOPE, IS THAT I WOULD BE ABLE TO BE AS OPEN AND ACCESSIBLE AS POSSIBLE DURING MY FIVE YEARS AS GOVERNOR, AND WHAT I THOUGHT WOULD BE EXTREMELY HELPFUL IN THAT PROCESS IS FOR ME, REASONABLY REGULARLY, TO TALK TO THE MEDIA LIKE THIS, WITH AT LEAST ONE COMMON OBJECTIVE IN MIND.

I THINK THAT, AS YOU KNOW, I WILL BE SPENDING AS MUCH TIME AS I POSSIBLY CAN OUT OF THE OFFICE VISITING THE CITIZENS OF HONG KONG IN THEIR OWN HOMES AND COMMUNITIES. THIS AFTERNOON, FOR EXAMPLE, I AM GOING TO MONG KOK AND SHA TIN AND DIAMOND HILL. I WANT TO LEARN ABOUT SOME OF THE HOUSING AND LAW AND ORDER PROBLEMS IN THOSE AREAS.

IT IS, I THINK, A MILD INCONVENIENCE ON BOTH SIDES IF EVERY TIME I SET FOOT OUTSIDE THE GATE YOU FEEL UNDER AN OBLIGATION TO TALK TO ME ABOUT OTHER MATTERS AND WE FETCH UP HAVING A POLITICAL DIALOGUE BY 'DOORSTEPPING' RATHER THAN MORE FORMAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU TO ASK QUESTIONS. SO I DO HOPE THAT EVEN THOUGH IT MAY INVOLVE A CERTAIN RESTRAINT ON BOTH SIDES, THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO HAVE REASONABLY REGULAR MEETINGS LIKE THIS, OF COURSE, FROM TIME TO TIME, BIGGER MORE FORMAL PRESS CONFERENCES SO THAT WE CAN DISCUSS POLITICAL ISSUES MORE SENSIBLY THAN WHILE I AM TRYING TO PLANT A TREE OR WHILE YOU ARE TRYING TO FIGHT YOUR WAY THROUGH SEVERAL TELEVISION-CREWS TO ASK A QUESTION.

WHEN I TALK ABOUT MORE OPEN AND ACCESSIBLE GOVERNMENT, OBVIOUSLY I LOOK AS WELL TO MY RELATIONSHIP WITH THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL. I WILL, IN THE NEXT WEEK OR SO, BE WANTING TO EXPLORE WITH MY COLLEAGUES IN THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, AND WITH MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, HOW I CAN BE MORE ACCOUNTABLE TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL. IT HAS BEEN SUGGESTED, AS SOME OF YOU WILL KNOW, THAT I SHOULD TRY TO INSTITUTE SOME FORM OF FAIRLY REGULAR 'QUESTION TIME' IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SO THAT ITS MEMBERS CAN ASK ME QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POLICIES OF THE ADMINISTRATION, AND I WILL BE PURSUING HOW BEST WE CAN ORGANISE SUCH A 'QUESTION TIME' WITH THOSE THAT I MENTIONED A MOMENT OR TWO AGO.

I REPEAT THAT I HOPE WE CAN MAKE THESE SESSIONS REASONABLY FREQUENT, GIVING YOU AN OPPORTUNITY OF HEARING MY OWN POLITICAL THOUGHTS AND GIVING YOU A CHANCE OF ASKING ONE OR TWO QUESTIONS. AND I AM NOW PREPARED TO TAKE ABOUT TEN MINUTES OF QUESTIONS. IF YOU CAN JUST SAY WHO YOU ARE AND WHO YOU'RE FROM IT WILL HELP US DEVELOP THAT RELATIONSHIP WHICH I KNOW WE WANT.

/QUESTION: MR PATTEN, .....

QUESTION: MR PATTEN, KEVIN LAU FROM HONG KONG ECONOMIC JOURNAL. ON BECOMING THE GOVERNOR OF HONG KONG, WILL YOU TAKE UP THE DIFFICULT TASK OF AIRPORT NEGOTIATIONS WITH CHINA? AND FOR THAT PURPOSE WILL YOU BE VISITING CHINA VERY SOON?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: COULD YOU PLEASE REPEAT THE QUESTION?

THE GOVERNOR: THE QUESTION IS: WILL I BE TAKING UP THE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE AIRPORT WITH CHINA, AND WILL I BE VISITING CHINA SOON?

THERE IS, AS I THINK YOU KNOW, AN EARLY MEETING OF THE AIRPORT COMMITTEE TO TRY TO TAKE FORWARD THE USEFUL DISCUSSIONS THAT WERE HELD LAST WEEK AND AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS WEEK IN PEKING ON THE AIRPORT. IT IS IN ALL OUR INTERESTS THAT WE MAKE PROGRESS AS SOON AS WE CAN ON THE AIRPORT. TO ALLOW THINGS TO SLIP ISN'T A COST-FREE OPTION. IT'S IN THE INTERESTS OF HONG KONG, AS I SAID YESTERDAY, AND IN THE INTERESTS OF CHINA THAT WE GET AHEAD AND BUILD THE AIRPORT AND THE ASSOCIATED PROJECTS AS SOON AS WE CAN. BUT I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD BECOME TOO EXCITABLE ABOUT IT, WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS TO HAVE AGREEMENTS THAT WORK AND ALLOW US TO MOVE FORWARD STEADILY AS SOON AS THAT IS POSSIBLE.

I OBVIOUSLY WANT TO TALK TO MY COLLEAGUES ON THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND TO OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY ABOUT WHEN IT WOULD BE MOST APPROPRIATE FOR ME TO VISIT THE PRC. I WANT TO HAVE GOOD WORKING RELATIONSHIPS WITH OFFICIALS IN THE PRC AND WILL OF COURSE VISIT THE PRC WHEN IT SEEMS SUITABLE. BUT I VERY MUCH HOPE THAT THE AIRPORT COMMITTEE WILL BE ABLE TO TAKE MATTERS FORWARD HELPFULLY IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

QUESTION: ... (INDISTINCT)

THE GOVERNOR: DO I AGREE WITH LEE KWAN YEW'S VIEWS ON HONG KONG'S RELATIONSHIP WITH CHINA? I'M NOT GOING TO REPHRASE THE WHOLE OF THE QUESTION, I HEARD IT AND YOU KNOW WHAT IT WAS.

I HAD VERY HELPFUL DISCUSSIONS WITH LEE KWAN YEW IN SINGAPORE. I MET HIM ON TWO OCCASIONS AND HOPE THAT I'LL BE ABLE TO SEE HIM AGAIN FREQUENTLY IN THE FUTURE. HE HAS MANY EXTREMELY INTERESTING AND THOUGHTFUL VIEWS ON THE WHOLE REGION, NOT JUST ABOUT THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN SINGAPORE AND HONG KONG OR THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CHINA. I DON'T THINK IT'S POSSIBLE TO MAKE A COMPLETE DISTINCTION BETWEEN ECONOMICS AND POLITICS. WE'VE OF COURSE COMMITTED OURSELVES TO SECURING THE STABILITY AND PROSPERITY OF HONG KONG. AS I'VE SAID BEFORE, I THINK THE STABILITY AND PROSPERITY OF HONG KONG HELP THEMSELVES TO SECURE THE LIFE-STYLE AND WAY OF LIFE OF HONG KONG, AND EQUALLY, THE WAY OF LIFE OF HONG KONG HELPS TO UNDERPIN ITS STABILITY AND PROSPERITY. SO I THINK THERE IS A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THOSE TWO ISSUES AND I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO DISCUSSING BOTH ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL MATTERS WITH BUSINESS LEADERS AND POLITICAL LEADERS OF THE COMMUNITY IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS.

QUESTION: ADRIAN BROWN OF SKY NEWS. A LOT OF WHAT YOU SAID YESTERDAY AND WHAT YOU'VE SAID IN THE PAST FEW WEEKS, THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG HAVE HEARD BEFORE. WHAT DIFFERENCE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE TO ORDINARY PEOPLE'S LIVES ...

THE GOVERNOR: I WAS ENCOURAGED BY THE WAY MY REMARKS, YESTERDAY, WERE REPORTED AND I DIDN'T GET QUITE THE FLAVOUR OF YOUR QUESTION IN THE REPORTING OF MY SPEECH YESTERDAY, BUT I'M SURE IT IS THE CASE THAT ONE ALWAYS GETS ONE'S BEST COVERAGE ON THE FIRST MORNING AFTER ONE HAS TAKEN UP A JOB. I HOPE THAT SOME OF THE COVERAGE CONTINUES TO BE AS HELPFUL IN THE COMING WEEKS. PEOPLE WILL HAVE TO JUDGE ME BY WHAT I DO AND AS I SAID YESTERDAY, I WILL BE SETTING OUT IN GREATER DETAIL MY AGENDA FOR THE FUTURE WHEN I SPEAK TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN OCTOBER.

QUESTION: ... (INDISTINCT)

THE GOVERNOR: I SAID, YESTERDAY, THAT LAW AND ORDER WAS GOING TO BE A TOP PRIORITY. I'VE BEEN ASKED TO SAY HOW.

ONE OF THE THINGS YOU WILL FIND THAT I DO IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS IS TO SPEND A GOOD DEAL OF TIME WITH THOSE WHO HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY, THE DIRECT RESPONSIBILITY, FOR SECURING LAW AND ORDER IN THIS TERRITORY. IT'S A REASON WHY I AM GOING TO MONG KOK THIS AFTERNOON, AND I WILL BE SPENDING MORE TIME WITH THE POLICE AND THE SECURITY FORCES IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS SO I CAN LEARN FROM THEM FIRST-HAND HOW WE CAN IMPROVE AND STRENGTHEN OUR FIGHT AGAINST CRIME, PARTICULARLY VIOLENT CRIME. BUT WE DO OF COURSE NEED TO HAVE THE CLOSEST POSSIBLE CO-OPERATION WITH THE PRC IN VIEW OF SOME OF THE RECENT OUTRAGEOUS VIOLENT CRIMES THAT THE COMMUNITY HAS SUFFERED.

QUESTION: ... (INDISTINCT)

THE GOVERNOR: DO I THINK THERE'S BEEN TOO MUCH INTERFERENCE FROM THE PRC IN RELATION, FOR EXAMPLE, TO THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL?

I'VE SAID ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS ALREADY, I HOPE COURTEOUSLY, THAT APPOINTMENTS TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ARE MATTERS FOR THE GOVERNOR, ACTING UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM. THEY ARE MATTERS FOR ME AND I AM SURE THAT IS WIDELY RECOGNISED, NOT LEAST BY ALL THOSE WHO TAKE AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN THE WAY THAT HONG KONG IS GOVERNED. WE DO HAVE TO RECOGNISE THE UNIQUE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN BRITAIN AND CHINA IN MAKING THE JOINT DECLARATION WORK, IN MAKING SURE THAT "ONE COUNTRY TWO SYSTEMS" IS IMPLEMENTED IN FULL AND WITH ENTHUSIASM AFTER 1997. I'M SURE THAT WE CAN FIND A CREATIVE PARTNERSHIP WHILE RECOGNISING OUR DIFFERENT, IF JOINED, RESPONSIBILITIES.

QUESTION: ... (INDISTINCT)

THE GOVERNOR: I'M SURE THAT THE ISSUES THAT HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED ON THE AIRPORT WILL BE RESOLVED IN DUE COURSE IN THE AIRPORT COMMITTEE. I THINK THAT THE AIRPORT COMMITTEE WILL BE MEETING AGAIN LATER IN THE WEEK TO TAKE MATTERS FORWARD AND I HOPE THAT IT REACHES SOME SATISFACTORY CONCLUSIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

QUESTION: MR PATTEN, YOU HAVE SAID THAT THERE ARE CERTAIN STANCES THAT HONG KONG AND CHINA HAVE TAKEN, WHAT ARE YOUR ... (INDISTINCT)

/THE GOVERNOR: .....

THE GOVERNOR: I HOPE THAT AS PEOPLE SEE THE WAY I WORK AND AS PEOPLE SEE WHAT I STAND FOR AND WANT TO DO, THEY WILL UNDERSTAND THAT IT IS VERY SENSIBLE TO WORK CO-OPERATIVELY WITH ME. I BEGIN, AS I SAID YESTERDAY, FROM THE ASSUMPTION THAT WE WANT TO MAKE THE JOINT DECLARATION AND THE CONCEPT WHICH I REFERRED TO IN MY SPEECH OF "ONE COUNTRY TWO SYSTEMS" WORK AS SUCCESSFULLY AS WE CAN, AND THAT INVOLVES TRUST FROM BOTH SIDES, IT INVOLVES CO-OPERATION FROM BOTH SIDES.

QUESTION: ... (INDISTINCT) ... DOES THAT MEAN THAT YOU WANT TO FORGET ABOUT THIS?

THE GOVERNOR: WHAT I WANT TO DO IS TO ENSURE THAT ON THE BASIS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION, A UNIQUELY IMPORTANT DOCUMENT, WE ENSURE THAT THE WAY OF LIFE OF HONG KONG CONTINUES THROUGH 1997. I WANT TO SEE AS SMOOTH AND SUCCESSFUL A TRANSITION AS POSSIBLE AND I THINK I HAVE MADE THAT CLEAR BEFORE AND I'LL MAKE IT CLEAR AS OFTEN AS I NEED TO.

SECONDLY, ON THE SPECIFIC MATTERS YOU MENTIONED OF THE COMPOSITION OF BOTH EXCO AND LEGCO, AS AGAIN I'VE SAID BEFORE, AND WILL CONTINUE TO SAY AT LEAST FOR ANOTHER COUPLE OF MONTHS, THESE ARE MATTERS THAT I'M GOING TO DISCUSS WITH LEADERS OF THE COMMUNITY, THESE ARE MATTERS WHICH I'LL BE FORMING A VIEW ON WITH LEADERS OF THE COMMUNITY BETWEEN NOW AND THE AUTUMN, AND THEY ARE MATTERS ON WHICH I WILL BE EXTREMELY SPECIFIC ONCE I SPEAK TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN OCTOBER.

I'LL TAKE, LITERALLY ONE MORE, AND THEN I WANT TO SEE BISHOP KWONG AND CARDINAL WU, BOTH OF WHOM HAVE APPOINTMENTS WITH ME.

QUESTION: ... (INDISTINCT)

THE GOVERNOR: THE QUESTION WAS QUITE A LONG QUESTION. FIRST OF ALL, WHETHER, WHEN I SPOKE OF EXECUTIVE-LED GOVERNMENT IT IMPLIED THAT I WOULD MAKE CHANGES IN THE WAY THAT THE GOVERNING INSTITUTIONS AT PRESENT WORK - RIGHT?

THE ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION IS THAT I WANT TO ENSURE THAT OUR EXISTING INSTITUTIONS WORK EFFECTIVELY AND VIGOROUSLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG, SUPPORTING THE LEADERSHIP WHICH I WILL BE GIVING ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG. AND I'LL BE TALKING TO LEADERS IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS ABOUT THE ROLE AND THE FUNCTIONS OF THOSE GOVERNING INSTITUTIONS, TO ENSURE THAT THEY WORK AS WELL AS THEY POSSIBLY CAN AND THAT THEY WORK TOGETHER AS WELL AS THEY POSSIBLY CAN.

THE FIRST QUESTION WAS WHEN I SAID THAT ULTIMATE RESPONSIBILITY FOR POLITICAL LEADERSHIP RESTED WITH ME, DOES IT MEAN - WHAT YOU'RE REALLY SAYING - THAT THE BUCK STOPS HERE?

YES, IT DOES MEAN THAT THE BUCK STOPS HERE. I HAVE TO TAKE THE RESPONSIBILITIES THAT GO WITH THE OFFICE OF GOVERNORSHIP, I HAVE TO TAKE THE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR PROVIDING LEADERSHIP IN THIS COMMUNITY. I WANT TO LEAD THE COMMUNITY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THOSE WHO SHARE MY AIMS, I WANT TO BUILD AS MUCH UNDERSTANDING ACROSS THE COMMUNITY AS POSSIBLE, BUT AT THE END OF THE DAY IT IS MY JOB TO ENSURE THAT HONG KONG IS AS WELL GOVERNED AS POSSIBLE.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH INDEED. NICE TO SEE YOU AND I DARE SAY WE WILL MEET IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES AGAIN IN THE FUTURE. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

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GOVERNOR STARTS VISITS TO DISTRICTS

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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, GOT STRAIGHT DOWN TO WORK TODAY (FRIDAY) WITH A VISIT TO MONG KOK, SHA TIN AND WONG TAI SIN.

HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR MICHAEL SUEN.

HAVING PLEDGED IN HIS INAUGURATION SPEECH THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD "WORK ROUND THE CLOCK TO BEAT CRIME IN THIS CITY", THE GOVERNOR LOST NO TIME IN GETTING OUT TO SEE FOR HIMSELF THE PROBLEMS FACED BY THE POLICE.

HE RECEIVED BRIEFING FROM THE MONG KOK DISTRICT POLICE COMMANDER, MR CHRISTOPHER GLOVER, ON THE POLICING OF MONG KOK, WHICH IS A HIGH-RISK AREA FOR ROBBERIES.

HE ALSO MET SOME OF THE LOCAL RESIDENTS DURING A WALKABOUT.

THE GOVERNOR WENT ON TO AN EARLY VISIT TO ONE OF HONG KONG'S MOST EXCITING HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS - SHA TIN NEW TOWN - WHERE THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS HAVE COME TOGETHER TO HELP MEET HONG KONG'S GROWING HOUSING NEEDS.

AT SHA TIN, MR PATTEN WAS BRIEFED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR DAVID BROWNING.

FROM SHA TIN, THE GOVERNOR TRAVELLED TO WONG TAI SIN TO VISIT THE DIAMOND HILL SQUATTER AREA AND TO EXAMINE AT FIRST HAND WHAT THE GOVERNMENT IS DOING TO MEET ITS RESPONSIBILITIES TOWARDS THOSE WHO FALL BY SOCIETY'S WAYSIDE.

AT DIAMOND HILL, THE SQUATTERS' IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME HAS HAD A SIGNIFICANT AND VISIBLE IMPACT - FOR EXAMPLE, THROUGH THE PROVISION OF STREET LIGHTING.

DURING HIS WALK THROUGH THE DIAMOND NEW VILLAGE, THE GOVERNOR WAS BRIEFED BY THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ALDAN KWOK.

HE ALSO WITNESSED THE INDUSTRY AND VITALITY OF THE AREA, WHICH INCLUDES NUMEROUS SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED FIRMS, FROM WOODSHOPS TO IRON WORKS, DYE PLANTS TO CAR REPAIRING WORKS.

DURING HIS VISIT, THE GOVERNOR TOOK ADVANTAGE OF HONG KONG'S EXCELLENT TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE - TRAVELLING, AS MILLIONS OF HONG KONG RESIDENTS DO, ON BOTH THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY AND THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

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GOVERNOR WILL SPEND MUCH TIME OUT MEETING PEOPLE

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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, SAID THIS (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON THAT HE WOULD, THROUGHOUT HIS GOVERNORSHIP, SPEND AS MUCH TIME AS POSSIBLE OUT OF THE OFFICE MEETING PEOPLE AND SEEING THINGS FOR HIMSELF.

MR PATTEN WAS SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER HIS VISIT TO MONG KOK, SHA TIN AND WONG TAI SIN.

"THERE IS, IN MY EXPERIENCE, A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE BETWEEN READING ABOUT THINGS AND ACTUALLY EXPERIENCING THEM YOURSELF AND MEETING PEOPLE ON THE STREETS AND IN THEIR HOMES," HE SAID.

HE SAID HE WAS DELIGHTED TO HAVE MET SO MANY PEOPLE AND HE HAD BEEN VERY PLEASED BY THE RECEPTION WHICH PEOPLE HAD GIVEN HIM.

HAVING SEEN THE SQUATTER HUTS AND SQUATTER FACTORIES, MR PATTEN SAID HE REALISED THE CONTINUING IMPORTANCE OF GOOD QUALITY HOUSING FOR THE FUTURE PROSPERITY AND WELL-BEING OF EVERYONE IN HONG KONG.

THANKING THE REPORTERS FOR COVERING HIS VISIT WITH SUCH ENTHUSIASM, MR PATTEN SAID:

"I SUSPECT THAT ALL OF YOU WILL HAVE LOST A BIT OF WEIGHT DURING THE COURSE OF THE DAY. I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO MANY FUTURE VISITS AND I HOPE WE DIDN'T TRAMPLE ON TOO MANY PEOPLE'S FEET THIS AFTERNOON. THANK YOU VERY MUCH INDEED."

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GOODS VEHICLE USING CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL RECLASSIFIED

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THE CLASSIFICATIONS AND TOLLS FOR GOODS VEHICLES USING THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL ARE TO BE REVISED, WITH EFFECT FROM AUGUST 1 THIS YEAR, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

AS A RESULT, GOODS VEHICLE CLASSIFICATIONS WILL BE IDENTICAL FOR BOTH THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL AND THE EASTERN HARBOUR CROSSING.

THE TOTAL CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL TOLL (INCLUDING THE PASSAGE TAX) FOR EACH CLASS OF GOODS VEHICLE WILL ALSO BE THE SAME AS THE TOLL FOR THE EASTERN HARBOUR CROSSING.

FROM AUGUST 1, GOODS VEHICLES WITHIN THE RANGE OF 5.3 - 5.5 TONNES, WHICH ARE NOW REGARDED BY THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL AS MEDIUM GOODS VEHICLES, WILL BE RECLASSIFIED AS LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES FOR THE PURPOSE OF TOLLING.

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GOODS VEHICLES WEIGHING IN EXCESS OF 5.5 TONNES BUT BELOW 24 TONNES WILL BE CLASSIFIED AS MEDIUM GOODS VEHICLES WHILE THOSE ABOVE 24 TONNES WILL COME UNDER THE HEAVY GOODS VEHICLE CATEGORY.

UPON RECLASSIFICATION, THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL TOLLS FOR GOODS VEHICLES WILL BE REVISED AS FOLLOWS:

	REVISED TOLL -----	PASSAGE TAX -----	TOTAL TOLL -----
LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES NOT EXCEEDING 5.5 TONNES	\$10	\$5	\$15
MEDIUM GOODS VEHICLES OF OVER 5.5 TONNES BUT NOT EXCEEDING 24 TONNES	\$15	\$5	\$20
HEAVY GOODS VEHICLES OF OVER 24 TONNES	\$25	\$5	\$30
EACH ADDITIONAL AXLE IN EXCESS OF TWO	\$10		\$10

IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE RECLASSIFICATION WILL SLIGHTLY REDUCE THE NUMBER OF GOODS VEHICLES USING THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL.

THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL FOLLOWING ADVICE OF THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

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NO AMNESTY FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS  
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THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MR ALISTAIR ASPREY, TODAY (FRIDAY) REITERATED THAT THERE WAS NO CHANGE IN POLICY REGARDING THE ADMISSION OF NATIONALS OF PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA (PRC).

SPEAKING IN RESPONSE TO DEMANDS BY A GROUP OF HONG KONG RESIDENTS WHO HAVE APPROACHED THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT SEEKING THE ADMISSION OF THEIR SPOUSES FROM CHINA, HE SAID: "THERE WILL BE NO AMNESTY FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS. ALL ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS WILL BE REPATRIATED."

MR ASPREY SAID PRC NATIONALS WHO WISHED TO COME HERE FOR SETTLEMENT MUST APPLY TO THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES FOR THE ISSUE OF ONE-WAY EXIT PERMITS.

"THE ISSUE OF ONE-WAY PERMITS IS A MATTER FOR THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES," HE ADDED.

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SHIPPING AND CARGO STATISTICS FOR OCEAN-GOING VESSELS IN 1991

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LAST YEAR, 21,178 SHIPS WITH A TOTAL CAPACITY OF 119.1 MILLION NET REGISTERED TONS (NRT) ARRIVED IN HONG KONG, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 2,331 (OR 12%) IN NUMBER AND OF 6.8 MILLION NRT (OR 6%) IN CAPACITY OVER 1990.

THIS INFORMATION IS CONTAINED IN THE "HONG KONG SHIPPING STATISTICS REPORT, 1991" PUBLISHED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

IN 1991, THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF CARGO DISCHARGED IN HONG KONG FROM INCOMING SHIPS WAS 52.9 MILLION TONNES AND REPRESENTED AN INCREASE OF 14% OVER 1990.

ANALYSING INCOMING SHIPS BY SHIP TYPE, MAJOR INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE NUMBER OF CONTAINER VESSELS (+1,243), OIL TANKERS (+738) AND DRY BULK CARRIERS (+211); WHILE A MAJOR DECREASE WAS RECORDED IN THE NUMBER OF SEMI-CONTAINER VESSELS (-127).

ANALYSING INCOMING SHIPS BY FLAG OF VESSELS, MAJOR INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE NUMBER OF SHIPS REGISTERED IN CHINA (+881), PANAMA (+221), LIBERIA (+104), SINGAPORE (+82) AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (+81); WHILE A MAJOR DECREASE WAS RECORDED IN THE NUMBER OF SHIPS REGISTERED IN THE NETHERLANDS (-46).

THE NUMBER OF INCOMING SHIPS WITH A CAPACITY OF LESS THAN 10,000 DEADWEIGHT TONS INCREASED BY 1,856 WHILE THE NUMBER OF THOSE WITH A LARGER CAPACITY INCREASED BY 475.

IN 1991, THERE WERE 21,217 OUTGOING SHIPS WITH A TOTAL CAPACITY OF 119.3 MILLION NRT, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 2,393 (OR 13%) IN NUMBER AND OF 7.1 MILLION NRT (OR 6%) IN CAPACITY OVER 1990.

THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF CARGO LOADED ONTO OUTGOING SHIPS WAS 23.5 MILLION TONNES AND REPRESENTED AN INCREASE OF 19%.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, CHANGES IN THE NUMBER OF OUTGOING SHIPS BY SHIP TYPE, FLAG, AND CAPACITY ARE ABOUT THE SAME AS THOSE RECORDED FOR INCOMING SHIPS, AS ABOUT 68% OF THE DEPARTING SHIPS STAYED IN HONG KONG FOR LESS THAN TWO DAYS.

OF THE CARGO DISCHARGED FROM INCOMING SHIPS, 85% IN TERMS OF TONNAGE WAS IMPORTS AND 15% WAS TRANSHIPMENT CARGO. OF THE CARGO LOADED ONTO OUTGOING SHIPS, 64% WAS EXPORTS (INCLUDING DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS) AND 36% WAS TRANSHIPMENT CARGO.

THE MAJOR COUNTRIES OF LOADING FOR SEABORNE IMPORTS WERE SINGAPORE (WHICH ACCOUNTED FOR 15% IN TONNAGE TERMS), JAPAN (14%), CHINA (11%), TAIWAN (9%), AUSTRALIA (9%), THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA (8%) AND THE USA (8%).

/THE MAJOR .....

THE MAJOR COUNTRIES OF DISCHARGE FOR SEABORNE EXPORTS WERE THE USA (WHICH ACCOUNTED FOR 21% IN TONNAGE TERMS), CHINA (17%), TAIWAN (13%), JAPAN (6%), SINGAPORE (5%), THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (5%) AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (3%).

TRANSHIPMENT CARGO WAS MAINLY LOADED IN CHINA (31%) AND THE USA (16%), AND WAS MAINLY DISCHARGED ALSO IN CHINA (19%) AND THE USA (13%).

COMPARING 1991 WITH 1990, MAJOR INCREASES IN TONNAGE WERE NOTED FOR SEABORNE IMPORTS FROM THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (+74%), CANADA (+71%), INDONESIA (+51%), THE USA (+44%), TAIWAN (+36%) AND THAILAND (+17%).

AS A WHOLE, THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF SEABORNE IMPORTS ROSE BY 13%.

AMONG THE PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES, MAJOR INCREASES IN CARGO TONNAGE WERE RECORDED FOR SEABORNE IMPORTS OF STONE, SAND AND GRAVEL (+253%), ARTIFICIAL RESINS AND PLASTIC MATERIALS (+41%), PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS (+14%), AND COAL, COKE AND BRIQUETTES (+7%); WHILE A MAJOR DECREASE WAS RECORDED FOR SEABORNE IMPORTS OF CEMENT AND CEMENT CLINKER (-29%).

COMPARING 1991 WITH 1990, THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF SEABORNE EXPORTS (DOMESTIC EXPORTS PLUS RE-EXPORTS) INCREASED BY 20%. MAJOR INCREASES IN TONNAGE WERE RECORDED FOR SEABORNE EXPORTS TO CHINA (+46%), JAPAN (+23%), THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (+22%), THE USA (+21%) AND THE NETHERLANDS (+20%); WHILE A MAJOR DECREASE WAS RECORDED FOR SEABORNE EXPORTS TO THAILAND (-23%).

AMONG THE PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES, MAJOR INCREASES IN TONNAGE WERE NOTED FOR SEABORNE EXPORTS OF FOOTWEAR (+57%), PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS (+42%), CLAY AND KAOLIN (+28%), AND TOYS (+28%).

OF THE CARGO DISCHARGED FROM INCOMING SHIPS, INCLUDING SEABORNE IMPORTS AND INWARD TRANSHIPMENT, 42% IN TERMS OF TONNAGE WAS CONTAINERISED CARGO.

OF THOSE LOADED ONTO OUTGOING SHIPS, INCLUDING SEABORNE EXPORTS AND OUTWARD TRANSHIPMENT, 80% WAS CONTAINERISED CARGO.

IN TERMS OF TONNAGE, CONTAINERISED CARGO ACCOUNTED FOR 34% OF SEABORNE IMPORTS. IN PARTICULAR, CONTAINERISED CARGO ACCOUNTED FOR A LARGE PROPORTION OF SEABORNE IMPORTS FROM ITALY (99%), THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (90%), TAIWAN (83%) AND THE UNITED KINGDOM (80%).

THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF CONTAINERISED SEABORNE IMPORTS IN 1991 ROSE BY 25% OVER 1990.

AMONG THE PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES, CONTAINERISED CARGO ACCOUNTED FOR, IN TONNAGE TERMS, 99% OF SEABORNE IMPORTS OF ARTIFICIAL RESINS AND PLASTIC MATERIALS, 94% OF PAPER AND PAPER PRODUCTS, 89% OF TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD, ALL KINDS, AND 87% OF MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURES OF METAL AND NON-METALLIC MINERALS.

FOR SEABORNE EXPORTS, CONTAINERISED CARGO ACCOUNTED FOR 72% IN TERMS OF TONNAGE.

/IN PARTICULAR, .....

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IN PARTICULAR, CONTAINERISED CARGO ACCOUNTED FOR ALL SEABORNE EXPORTS TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, AND ALMOST ALL TO THE USA, THE NETHERLANDS, THE UNITED KINGDOM, ITALY, CANADA, FRANCE AND AUSTRALIA.

THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF CONTAINERISED SEABORNE EXPORTS IN 1991 ROSE BY 18% OVER 1990.

SEABORNE EXPORTS OF SOME PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES WERE ALL OR NEARLY ALL CONTAINERISED. THESE INCLUDED COTTON GARMENTS; TOYS; FOOTWEAR; GARMENTS OF MIXED MATERIALS; MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES; AND VEGETABLES AND FRUIT.

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

CARGO STATISTICS OF OCEAN-GOING VESSELS ARE COMPILED FROM OCEAN CARGO MANIFESTS SUPPLIED BY SHIPPING COMPANIES OR AGENTS TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

A SAMPLE OF CONSIGNMENTS LISTED IN THE MANIFESTS IS USED FOR COMPILING CARGO STATISTICS. THE SAMPLING METHOD IS DESCRIBED IN THE EXPLANATORY NOTES OF THE REPORT.

MORE DETAILS OF SHIPPING AND CARGO STATISTICS OF OCEAN-GOING VESSELS FOR 1991 ARE CONTAINED IN THE "HONG KONG SHIPPING STATISTICS REPORT, 1991".

THIS REPORT IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, AND THE PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER I, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI AT \$52.5 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ON STATISTICS CONTAINED IN THE REPORT MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE TRADE SURVEYS AND SHIPPING STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL 582 4887.

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INDUSTRIAL POLICIES HELP CREATE  
POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR MANUFACTURING IN HK  
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THE GOVERNMENT'S INDUSTRIAL POLICIES, WHICH CAN BE SUMMED UP IN THE PHRASE "MINIMUM INTERVENTION PLUS MAXIMUM SUPPORT", HAVE CREATED A POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR MANUFACTURING IN HONG KONG, THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR T.H. CHAU, SAID THIS (FRIDAY) EVENING.

SPEAKING AT AN ANNUAL DINNER OF THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MR CHAU SAID WITHIN THIS FRAMEWORK, INDUSTRIALISTS WERE FREE TO MAKE THEIR OWN BUSINESS DECISION, AND TO REAP THE BENEFITS OF THEIR SUCCESS.

"GOVERNMENT'S ROLE IS TO PROVIDE THE INFRASTRUCTURE, FACILITIES AND SERVICES TO UNDERPIN INDUSTRY'S EFFORT TO UPGRADE," HE SAID.

MR CHAU SAID ADVANCEMENT IN TECHNOLOGY SHOULD BE SEEN AS A MEANS OF PROMOTING HONG KONG'S PROSPERITY.

"THAT WAS THE VIEW REACHED BY THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, HAVING STUDIED THE WAY OUR NEIGHBOURING ECONOMIES APPROACH TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT, AND IT IS ONE WHICH THE GOVERNMENT SHARES," HE SAID.

HE BELIEVED ALSO THAT EFFORTS TO PROMOTE TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT SHOULD BE FOCUSED.

"GIVEN HONG KONG'S LIMITED RESOURCES, WE CANNOT HEAD OFF IN ALL DIRECTIONS AT ONCE. WE NEED TO HOME IN ON TECHNOLOGY AREAS WHICH HOLD THE KEY TO IMPROVING THE COMPETITIVENESS OF OUR EXISTING INDUSTRIES - OR TO DEVELOPMENT IN NEW, HIGH-VALUE ADDED AREAS WHICH ARE WELL SUITED TO HONG KONG'S STRENGTHS.

"AND IN A REALISTIC INDUSTRIAL SUPPORT PROGRAMME, THE WATCHWORD SHOULD BE "APPROPRIATE" RATHER THAN "LEADING-EDGE" TECHNOLOGIES," HE SAID.

"I WOULD ADD THAT A GREAT DEAL OF WORK HAS BEEN DONE IN RECENT YEARS TO IDENTIFY THE TECHNOLOGICAL DETERMINANTS OF GROWTH AND COMPETITIVENESS FOR HONG KONG'S INDUSTRIES," MR CHAU SAID.

"THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT'S REGULAR PROGRAMME OF TECHNOECONOMIC STUDIES IS ONE EXAMPLE. THE TERTIARY EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS' "ROADMAPS" STUDY IS ANOTHER.

"SO THERE IS ALREADY A RICH SUPPLY OF MATERIAL ON WHICH THE INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL CAN DRAW," MR CHAU SAID.

ASSUMING SUPPORT FOR TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT IS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF SUPPORT FOR INDUSTRY OVERALL, THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN INVESTING HEAVILY IN WHAT SOME CALL THE "TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE", MR CHAU SAID.

/HE SAID .....

HE SAID THE FACILITIES AND SERVICES NOW ON OFFER INCLUDE:

- \* A WIDE CHOICE OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING PLACES IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AT THE TERTIARY EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS AND THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL;
- \* SITES ON SPECIAL INDUSTRIAL ESTATES FOR TECHNOLOGY-INTENSIVE OPERATIONS; AND
- \* A WIDE RANGE OF INDUSTRIAL SUPPORT SERVICES GEARED TO HELP COMPANIES IMPROVE QUALITY AND PRODUCTIVITY.

HE SAID COMING ON STREAM SOON WILL BE :

- \* PREMISES FOR FLEDGLING TECHNOLOGY-BASED BUSINESSES IN A NEW INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY CENTRE AT KOWLOON TONG;
- \* FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR WORTHWHILE APPLIED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN THE FORM OF MATCHING INVESTMENT; AND
- \* GRANTS FOR TRAINING OVERSEAS IN NEW TECHNOLOGIES.

HE SAID IT WAS WIDELY ACCEPTED THAT THERE WAS A NEED TO PROMOTE HONG KONG AS A PLACE FOR TECHNOLOGY-INTENSIVE INDUSTRY.

"HONG KONG HAS ALL THE INGREDIENTS FOR TECHNOLOGICAL SUCCESS. WE HAVE A POOL OF HIGHLY EDUCATED AND SKILLED MANPOWER, A STRONG FRAMEWORK OF BUSINESS LAWS AND A FAVOURABLE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT.

"BUT THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR, AND BENEFITS OF, HIGH-TECHNOLOGY INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG NEED TO BE EFFECTIVELY COMMUNICATED TO INVESTORS BOTH LOCALLY AND OVERSEAS.

"THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT AND THE INDUSTRIAL SUPPORT AGENCIES PLAY THEIR PART BY PROVIDING INFORMATION, ENCOURAGEMENT AND SUPPORT FOR COMPANIES INTERESTED IN ADOPTING MORE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES.

"AND OUR INWARD INVESTMENT PROGRAMME IS TARGETED AT OVERSEAS COMPANIES WHICH CAN BRING NEW AND BENEFICIAL TECHNOLOGIES TO HONG KONG," MR CHAU SAID.

"BUT THE GOVERNMENT IS ONLY ONE ELEMENT IN THE PICTURE. ORGANISATIONS SUCH AS THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, WHICH PROVIDE A CHANNEL FOR COMMUNICATION AND CO-OPERATION BETWEEN INDIVIDUAL SCIENTISTS, PROFESSIONALS AND BUSINESSMEN, HAVE A VITAL ROLE TO PLAY," HE SAID.

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SUPPORT URGED FOR HERITAGE TRUST

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THE SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR JAMES SO, TODAY (FRIDAY) URGED THE COMMUNITY TO HELP PRESERVE HONG KONG'S HERITAGE THROUGH GENEROUS DONATIONS TO THE LORD WILSON HERITAGE TRUST.

ADDRESSING A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG NORTHEAST, MR SO SAID THE TRUST WAS ESTABLISHED WITH THE DUAL OBJECTIVE OF MARKING THE TENURE OF LORD WILSON AS GOVERNOR OF HONG KONG AND PROVIDING A CENTRAL BODY TO CHANNEL COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR THE CAUSE OF HERITAGE PRESERVATION.

MR SO SAID THE TRUST WOULD BE USED TO FUND EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN, THE RESTORATION OF TEMPLES AND OTHER HISTORIC BUILDINGS, AND EFFORTS TO RECORD OLD LOCAL TRADITIONS WHICH WERE BEING ERODED BY CHANGING LIFESTYLES AND FAST DEVELOPMENTS.

DONATIONS CAN BE MADE AT ANY HONGKONG BANK OR SENT TO P.O. BOX 8800 IN THE NAME OF "THE LORD WILSON HERITAGE TRUST".

MR SO SAID THE GOVERNMENT'S MAIN CONCERNS WERE TO INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF AND TO PROMOTE INTEREST IN HONG KONG'S HERITAGE AS WELL AS IDENTIFYING, RECORDING AND PRESERVING IMPORTANT HISTORICAL REMAINS IN HONG KONG.

TO ACHIEVE THE FORMER, COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUES AND DIRECTION SIGNS ON HISTORICAL BUILDINGS WOULD BE ERECTED LATER THIS YEAR, MR SO SAID.

PROMOTIONAL LITERATURE SUCH AS LEAFLETS AND DISPLAYS ON HISTORICAL MONUMENTS, AND BOOKLETS ON THE HISTORY OF THE WAN CHAI AND THE ISLANDS DISTRICTS WERE ALSO PLANNED, HE SAID.

ALSO, THE RECREATION AND CULTURE BRANCH HAD BEEN WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND YOUTH GROUPS IN AN EFFORT TO GENERATE INTEREST AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE.

PROJECTS FOR YOUTH INCLUDED AN EXPERIMENTAL LOCAL HISTORY CURRICULUM, VISITS TO HISTORICAL BUILDINGS FOR TEACHERS, AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORKSHOPS.

TURNING TO THE RECORDING AND CONSERVATION OF HONG KONG'S HERITAGE, MR SO SAID THE ANTIQUITIES AND MONUMENTS OFFICE (AMO) OF THE BRANCH HAD DISCOVERED AND RESTORED MANY HISTORIC TEMPLES, ANCESTRAL HALLS WITH FUNDING FROM THE GOVERNMENT AND THE JOCKEY CLUB.

HE SAID A HERITAGE TRAIL WAS EXPECTED TO BE OPENED IN PING SHAN NEXT YEAR.

"WORK ON RESTORING ATTRACTIONS ON THE TRAIL IS WELL ADVANCED, THANKS TO THE STAUNCH SUPPORT OF THE JOCKEY CLUB, THE TANG CLAN AND LOCAL RESIDENTS WHO HAVE ALSO SHOWN GREAT INTEREST IN THE PROJECT," MR SO SAID.

/HE ADDED .....

HE ADDED THAT INVESTIGATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES WAS ANOTHER IMPORTANT ASPECT OF THE AMO'S WORK AS IT ENRICHED THE KNOWLEDGE OF LIFE IN PREHISTORIC TIMES.

MR SO SAID EXCAVATION ON CHEK LAP KOK HAD ALREADY BEEN COMPLETED AND YIELDED A FASCINATING GLIMPSE OF LIFE IN PREHISTORIC HONG KONG.

A RECONSTRUCTION OF ONE OF THE KILNS UNEARTHED ON THE ISLAND IS ON DISPLAY IN THE NEW PREMISES OF THE AMO IN NATHAN ROAD.

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NEW MEMBERS APPOINTED TO LAW REFORM COMMISSION

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THREE NEW MEMBERS - A QUEEN'S COUNSEL, A BUSINESS LEADER, AND A SENIOR ACADEMIC IN LAW - HAVE BEEN APPOINTED TO THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION.

THEY ARE MR ANDREW LIAO, QC, MR ALASDAIR MORRISON AND PROFESSOR DEREK ROEBUCK.

MR LIAO IS A WIDELY RESPECTED ADVOCATE WITH A CONSIDERABLE BREADTH OF LEGAL EXPERIENCE.

HE HAS BEEN A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION'S SUB-COMMITTEE ON COPYRIGHT SINCE IT WAS SET UP IN DECEMBER 1987.

MR MORRISON IS THE MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE HONG KONG LAND PROPERTY CO LTD AND HAS LIVED IN HONG KONG FOR MORE THAN 20 YEARS.

HE HAS HELD MANAGEMENT POSITIONS WITH THE JARDINE MATHESON GROUP OF COMPANIES IN THE PHILIPPINES, AUSTRALIA AND HONG KONG.

PROFESSOR ROEBUCK IS THE HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW AT THE CITY POLYTECHNIC OF HONG KONG AND IS AN ADMITTED SOLICITOR IN HONG KONG AND IN ENGLAND AND WALES.

PROFESSOR ROEBUCK HAS HELD ACADEMIC POSTS IN NEW ZEALAND AND PAPUA NEW GUINEA AND WAS HEAD OF RESEARCH FOR AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL FROM 1979 TO 1982.

HE WRITES EXTENSIVELY ON LEGAL MATTERS.

IN ADDITION TO THE APPOINTMENT OF THE THREE NEW MEMBERS, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, MR JEREMY MATHEWS, WHO IS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION, ALSO ANNOUNCED THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF MR JUSTICE MORTIMER AS A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION AND SAID HE WAS PLEASED THAT HE HAD AGREED TO CONTINUE WITH THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION.

MR LIAO, MR MORRISON AND PROFESSOR ROEBUCK REPLACE MR SIMON IP, DR FRANK CHAO AND MISS MARIA TAM, WHO ARE RETIRING AFTER HAVING SERVED ON THE COMMISSION BETWEEN THREE AND SIX YEARS.

/MR MATHEWS .....

MR MATHEWS PAID TRIBUTE TO THE TIME AND EFFORTS THAT THE RETIRING MEMBERS HAD DEVOTED TO THE COMMISSION AND SAID THEY HAD BEEN CALLED ON TO CONSIDER A VARIETY OF COMPLEX ISSUES.

HE POINTED TO THE IMMINENT COMPLETION OF THE COMMISSION'S REPORT ON POWERS OF ARREST AS BEING OF PARTICULAR PUBLIC IMPORTANCE.

OTHER REPORTS ON DIVORCE AND COPYRIGHT WERE EXPECTED TO BE PUBLISHED LATER THIS YEAR, MR MATHEWS SAID.

"WITH THE INCREASING COMPLEXITY OF MODERN SOCIETY IT IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT THAT OUR LEGAL SYSTEM SHOULD KEEP PACE WITH AND SHOULD BE ABLE TO ADAPT TO SOCIETY'S CHANGING NEEDS. THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION PLAYS A VITAL ROLE IN THAT PROCESS," MR MATHEWS SAID.

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SHA TIN SOCCER PITCH TO BE RESURFACED

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THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF ARTIFICIAL TURF TO THE SOCCER PITCH AT TSANG TAI UK PLAYGROUND IN SHA TIN, WHICH MEASURES ABOUT 7,300 SQUARE METRES.

THE WORKS ARE EXPECTED TO START IN OCTOBER AND TAKE ABOUT THREE MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

TENDER OFFER WILL CLOSE AT NOON ON JULY 31.

FORMS OF TENDER AND FURTHER PARTICULARS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE PROPERTY SERVICES BRANCH, ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, FIFTH FLOOR, MAIN BLOCK, APB CENTRE, 9 SUNG PING STREET, TO KWA WAN, KOWLOON.

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DREDGING FOR SEA SAND AT PO TOI EAST

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THE GOVERNMENT WILL DREDGE WITHIN AN AREA OF ABOUT 1,620 HECTARES OF SEABED AT PO TOI EAST TO PROVIDE MATERIALS FOR USE IN CONSTRUCTION AND FUTURE RECLAMATIONS.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA AFFECTED WAS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HIS INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED WILL BE INJURIOUSLY AFFECTED BY THIS UNDERTAKING MAY DELIVER TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS A WRITTEN CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION ON OR BEFORE JULY 9, 1993.

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TWO MINIBUS ROUTES TO ADJUST FARES  
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT FROM SUNDAY (JULY 12), THE FARES OF GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES NO. 38M FROM CHUK YUEN (NORTH) ESTATE TO WONG TAI SIN MTR STATION (SHATIN PASS ROAD) AND NO. 39M PLYING BETWEEN LOK FU AND TUNG TAU (CIRCULAR) WOULD BE INCREASED BY 20 CENTS.

THE NEW FARES WILL BE \$1.6 AND \$1.7 PER JOURNEY RESPECTIVELY.

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SCHOOL PROJECTS ON COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES  
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SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS WHO HAVE WON A "COMMERCIAL SUBJECTS' PROJECTS" COMPETITION WILL RECEIVE PRIZES AT A CEREMONY IN CITY HALL TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

THE ANNUAL COMPETITION, OPEN TO STUDENTS TAKING COMMERCIAL SUBJECTS AT SENIOR SECONDARY LEVEL, WAS ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE CHINESE GOLD AND SILVER EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

IT AIMED AT ENCOURAGING STUDENTS TO EXPLORE FEATURES OF VARIOUS COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES IN HONG KONG WHICH HAVE SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON PEOPLE'S LIVELIHOOD.

PARTICIPANTS PRESENTED THEIR PROJECTS IN THE FORM OF ARTICLES, PHOTOGRAPHS, MODELS, SLIDES, VIDEO TAPES OR COMPUTER PACKAGES TO ILLUSTRATE THE THEME "COMMERCE IN HONG KONG - YEARS OF GREAT LEAPS".

THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS), MR SIMON HO, AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE CHINESE GOLD AND SILVER EXCHANGE SOCIETY, MR ZEE KWONG-KUNG, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE CEREMONY.

COMMENDABLE PROJECTS WILL BE ON DISPLAY AT THE SAME TIME.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRIZE-PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE COMPETITION TO BE HELD AT THE EXHIBITION HALL OF THE CITY HALL (LOW BLOCK) AT NOON TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND  
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS  
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	\$ MILLION -----
OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,078
REVERSAL OF LAF	-90
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	988
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	+800
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,788

LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER TWI 110.0 \*+0.4\* 10.7.92

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS		HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS				
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	1.95 PCT	16 MONTHS	2311	6.25	103.00	3.98
1 MONTH	2.09 PCT	19 MONTHS	2402	5.50	101.89	4.31
3 MONTHS	2.32 PCT	22 MONTHS	2405	5.50	101.79	4.48
6 MONTHS	2.77 PCT					
12 MONTHS	3.53 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 8,817 MN

CLOSED 10 JULY 1992

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