



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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ANNOUNCEMENT ON 1991 ELECTIONS PACKAGE IN A FEW WEEKS

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AN ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE PACKAGE FOR THE 1991 ELECTIONS WOULD BE MADE IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS, ALTHOUGH A PRECISE DATE COULD NOT BE GIVEN AT THE MOMENT, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER VISITING TSUEN WAN DISTRICT, SIR DAVID SAID THE GOVERNMENT WANTED TO GET THE ARRANGEMENTS ANNOUNCED SO THAT PEOPLE TAKING PART IN ELECTIONS IN 1991 WOULD HAVE AS MUCH TIME AS POSSIBLE IN THEIR PREPARATION.

ASKED TO COMMENT ON THE OMELCO CONSTITUTIONAL PANEL'S SUGGESTION ON THE DIVISION OF CONSTITUENCIES, THE GOVERNOR SAID: "WE ARE NOW LOOKING AT DIFFERENT OPTIONS OF HOW TO DEAL WITH THE QUESTIONS OF CONSTITUENCIES IN 1991."

"THERE ARE A WHOLE SERIES OF DIFFERENT POSSIBLE OPTIONS, AND WE ARE TRYING TO SELECT THE ONE WHICH IS MOST APPROPRIATE FOR HONG KONG BOTH NOW AND LOOKING INTO DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FUTURE.

"BECAUSE WE HAVE TO CONSIDER ALSO THAT WE HAVE TO HAVE A SYSTEM WHICH ALLOWS BOTH FOR 18 SEATS IN 1991, THEN DEVELOPING TO 20 IN 1995, DEVELOPING TO 24 IN 1999," SIR DAVID SAID.

"SO WHICHEVER MODEL WE CHOOSE MUST BE ONE WHICH CAN BE DEVELOPED WITHOUT TOO MUCH DISRUPTION.

"WE ARE DOING BOTH THAT AND LOOKING AT THE OTHER ASPECTS OF THE 1991 ELECTIONS; THAT IS, HOW MANY APPOINTED MEMBERS SHOULD THERE BE. HOW MANY FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCY SEATS: SHOULD WE INCREASE IT. IF SO, BY HOW MANY. AND WHAT WE DO ABOUT THE QUESTION OF OFFICIALS IN LEGCO," THE GOVERNOR SAID.

ON THE QUESTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, SIR DAVID POINTED OUT THAT BY 1997 THERE WOULD BE AN ELECTED PRESIDENT WHICH REALLY MEANT THAT THIS SHOULD BE BROUGHT IN BY 1995.

"SO THE ISSUE WE FACE IS WHAT SORT OF TRANSITION SHOULD THERE BE NOW, WHEN THE GOVERNOR IS PRESIDENT, TO 1995 WHEN WE WILL HAVE AN ELECTED PRESIDENT," HE SAID.

"I THINK WE NEED TO WORK OUT SOME SORT OF TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENT," HE ADDED.

WHEN ASKED TO COMMENT ON THE MANDATORY REPATRIATION OF VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE, SIR DAVID SAID DISCUSSIONS WERE GOING ON IN HANOI BETWEEN THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR AND THE VIETNAMESE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

/"I HOPE

"I HOPE THEY WILL MAKE FURTHER PROGRESS. THE AGREEMENT TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF VOLUNTARY REPATRIATIONS PER MONTH IS A VERY GOOD THING, AND THE MORE VOLUNTARY REPATRIATIONS WE HAVE, THE BETTER," HE SAID.

THE GOVERNOR SAID HE HOPED THERE WOULD ALSO BE AGREEMENT ON HOW TO CONTINUE WITH MANDATORY REPATRIATION, ADDING: "I EMPHASISE THAT WORD CONTINUE, BECAUSE THERE WAS, AFTER ALL, AN AGREEMENT LAST YEAR WHICH ALLOWED FOR THE FIRST NON-VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION LAST DECEMBER."

"SO WHAT WE WANT NOW IS ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONTINUING THE PROCESS," HE ADDED.

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COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PLANNED FOR TSUEN WAN

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RESIDENTS LIVING IN THE RURAL AND URBAN AREAS OF TSUEN WAN WILL BENEFIT FROM THE COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PLANS NOW UNDER WAY, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (MONDAY) DURING A VISIT TO THE DISTRICT.

"THE WAY THIS FIRST GENERATION NEW TOWN HAS RECENTLY GROWN IS VERY IMPRESSIVE," SIR DAVID SAID.

"THE GOVERNMENT IS DETERMINED TO CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS FOR EVERYONE WHO LIVES HERE," HE ADDED.

THE GOVERNOR VISITED THE MA WAN RURAL COMMITTEE WHERE HE WAS TOLD THAT A BRANCH ROAD MIGHT BE PROVIDED IN MA WAN TO LINK UP WITH THE LANTAU FIXED CROSSING BETWEEN THE NEW CHEK LAP KOK AIRPORT AND THE URBAN AREA.

THE RURAL COMMITTEE HOPED THAT SUCH A LINK WOULD BOOST THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ISLAND.

THE GOVERNOR WAS GIVEN A PANORAMIC VIEW OF TSUEN WAN FROM THE ROOFTOP OF A BUILDING IN RIVIERA GARDENS. HE WAS TOLD HOW THE GARDENS, FORMERLY THE SITE OF AN OIL DEPOT, HAVE DEVELOPED INTO A SELF-CONTAINED RESIDENTIAL ESTATE WITH ADJACENT LAND RECLAIMED TO PROVIDE SPACE FOR A WIDE RANGE OF RECREATIONAL FACILITIES.

"THE PROJECT IS A GOOD EXAMPLE OF HOW WE CAN CHANGE LAND USE TO IMPROVE THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT OF THE RESIDENTS," SIR DAVID SAID.

IN THE REAR LANE OF WANG WO TSAI STREET, A SITE NOTORIOUS FOR ITS DRAINAGE PROBLEMS CAUSED BY UNTREATED INDUSTRIAL EFFLUENTS FROM FACTORIES NEARBY, THE GOVERNOR WAS TOLD HOW CONDITIONS OF THE AREA WOULD SOON BE IMPROVED.

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FACTORY OWNERS HAVE AGREED TO CARRY OUT REMEDIAL DRAINAGE WORKS FOLLOWING THE ADVICE OF THE TSUEN WAN INDUSTRIAL BUILDING MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE, SET UP A YEAR AGO TO IMPROVE THE MANAGEMENT STANDARDS OF INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS.

SIR DAVID THEN TOOK A WALK ALONG CHUNG ON STREET AND VISITED THE JOCKEY CLUB TAK WAH PARK IN THE TOWN CENTRE.

PHASE I OF THE PARK'S CONSTRUCTION WAS COMPLETED IN 1989 AND PHASE II WILL START SHORTLY AFTER THE CLEARANCE OF HOI PA VILLAGE AND THE TAK WAH STREET TEMPORARY MARKET.

MUCH NEEDED OPEN SPACE WILL THUS SOON BECOME AVAILABLE AT THE HUB OF THE TOWN CENTRE.

THE GOVERNOR THEN VISITED THE YUEN YUEN INSTITUTE AT LO WAI, A CHARITABLE ORGANISATION FOUNDED SOME 40 YEARS AGO.

SIR DAVID WAS IMPRESSED BY THE INSTITUTE'S EXPANSION PROGRAMME AND THE GOVERNMENT'S LAYOUT PLAN FOR LO WAI, WHICH WOULD GREATLY IMPROVE THE VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT.

BEFORE CONCLUDING HIS VISIT, THE GOVERNOR MET DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AND LOCAL COMMUNITY LEADERS AT A TEA RECEPTION HELD AT THE SHEK WAI KOK COMMUNITY HALL.

SIR DAVID WAS ACCOMPANIED ON HIS VISIT BY THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR ADOLF HSU; TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR WILLIAM SHIU; AND DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR CHAU HOW-CHEN.

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HK HAS QUALITIES TO ENSURE URBAN RENEWAL'S SUCCESS

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THE GOVERNMENT FIRMLY BELIEVES THAT HONG KONG, WITH FULL EMPLOYMENT, A GROWING ECONOMY AND RISING ASPIRATIONS FOR HOME OWNERSHIP, HAS THE BASE AND THE INCENTIVE TO MAKE URBAN RENEWAL A TOTAL SUCCESS.

THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID FORD, SAID THIS TODAY (MONDAY) WHEN OFFICIATING AT THE GROUND-BREAKING CEREMONY OF THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION'S THIRD STREET PROJECT, WHICH IS A JOINT VENTURE DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN THE CORPORATION AND NEW WORLD DEVELOPMENT.

SIR DAVID SAID THE GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHED THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BECAUSE IT RECOGNISED THE NEED TO REFURBISH AND REJUVENATE MANY OF THE OLDER URBAN AREAS IN HONG KONG WHICH HAD SUFFERED AS A RESULT OF POOR PLANNING AND ENSUING LACK OF FACILITIES.

/"BUT WE

"BUT WE ALSO RECOGNISED THAT ATTEMPTS TO INVEST MAJOR RESOURCES IN URBAN RENEWAL IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD HAD MET WITH VARYING DEGREES OF SUCCESS AND THAT GREAT PROBLEMS HAD DEVELOPED BECAUSE OF THE WAYS IN WHICH DEVELOPMENT CORPORATIONS HAD GONE ABOUT THEIR BUSINESS," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID THAT THE CORPORATION UNDER THE ABLE CHAIRMANSHIP OF MR F.K. HU HAD A STRONG TEAM FROM THE PRIVATE AND GOVERNMENT SECTORS TO ENSURE SUCCESS.

"I AM VERY MUCH ENCOURAGED BY THE ENTHUSIASM AND PROFESSIONALISM WITH WHICH THEY HAVE TACKLED THE PLANNING AND OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION.

"THE RESPONSE FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR HAS BEEN EXCELLENT AND I AM SURE WE HAVE PRODUCED A FORMULA IN TERMS OF PEOPLE AND ORGANISATION WHICH WILL SEE THIS DIFFICULT JOB THROUGH," HE ADDED.

SIR DAVID NOTED THAT THE THIRD STREET PROJECT WAS THE FIRST IN A SERIES OF EIGHT DEVELOPMENTS WHICH THE CORPORATION HAD IN THE PIPELINE.

"IN ADDITION TO PROVIDING PUBLIC FACILITIES TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT, THIS DEVELOPMENT WILL PROVIDE REHOUSING FOR THE CORPORATION'S OTHER RENEWAL SCHEMES IN NEARBY AREAS.

"SO THE THIRD STREET PROJECT WILL TRIGGER AN ONGOING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR YEARS TO COME," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID IT WAS MOST ENCOURAGING THAT THE CORPORATION AND NEW WORLD DEVELOPMENT COULD UNDERTAKE THE PROJECT AS A JOINT VENTURE, ADDING THAT HE HAD NO DOUBT THAT THE EXPERIENCE AND EXPERTISE OF BOTH WOULD ENSURE THIS PROJECT WORKED WELL.

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MEASURES TAKEN TO SAFEGUARD GARMENT MANUFACTURERS' INTERESTS

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN A SERIES OF MEASURES TO SAFEGUARD THE INTERESTS OF LOCAL GARMENT MANUFACTURERS AND EXPORTERS IN THE WAKE OF OVERSEAS ANTI-DUMPING ACCUSATIONS, THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR JOHN CHAN, SAID THIS (MONDAY) EVENING.

SPEAKING AT THE ANNUAL DINNER OF THE FEDERATION OF GARMENT MANUFACTURERS, MR CHAN SAID THESE INCLUDED MONITORING THE PROGRESS OF SUCH ACCUSATIONS; STUDYING THEIR CONTENT; SEEKING ADVICE FROM THE LEGAL COMMUNITY AND CONCERNED PARTIES; AND CONDUCTING CONSULTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS WITH IMPORTING COUNTRIES THROUGH EVERY LEGAL CHANNEL.

/"WE HAVE

"WE HAVE POINTED OUT TO OVERSEAS IMPORTERS THAT THE RATIONALE FOR DUMPING DOES NOT EXIST IN HONG KONG SINCE HONG KONG IS A FREE AND OPEN TRADING MARKET AND THE MAJORITY OF OUR GARMENT MANUFACTURERS ARE SMALL-SCALE OPERATORS," HE SAID.

MR CHAN SAID WHETHER HONG KONG COULD SUCCEED IN THE FIGHT AGAINST ANTI-DUMPING PROCEEDINGS WOULD DEPEND TO A LARGE EXTENT ON MUTUAL CO-OPERATION AND SUPPORT AMONG LOCAL GARMENT MANUFACTURERS.

"A GOOD EXAMPLE IS THE RECENT CO-OPERATION AND INITIATIVE SHOWN BY CLOTHING AND TEXTILES MANUFACTURERS IN COUNTERING ANTI-DUMPING PROCEEDINGS ON DENIM CLOTH AND ACRYLIC SWEATERS," HE SAID.

ON THE URUGUAY ROUND NEGOTIATIONS OF THE GATT, MR CHAN SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD STRONGLY DEMANDED THAT PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE TEXTILES TRADE SHOULD BE RE-INCORPORATED INTO THE GATT IN ORDER TO PHASE OUT THE EXISTING MULTI-FIBRE ARRANGEMENT.

"THE GOVERNMENT HAS ALSO PROPOSED TO THE GATT REVISING THE ANTI-DUMPING CODE AND TO DRAW UP MULTILATERAL ORIGIN CRITERIA SO AS TO PREVENT THESE TECHNICAL PROVISIONS FROM BEING USED AS TOOLS OF TRADE PROTECTIONISM," HE SAID.

MR CHAN SAID HONG KONG WAS THE WORLD'S THIRD LARGEST GARMENT EXPORTER AND HONG KONG'S TRADE DEVELOPMENT DEPENDED TO A LARGE EXTENT ON MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, PARTICULARLY THE GARMENT INDUSTRY.

HE SAID THIS INDUSTRY NOW EMPLOYED OVER 286,000 WORKERS, ACCOUNTING FOR 34 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL WORKFORCE OF THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR.

LOCAL GARMENT EXPORTS IN 1989 WERE WORTH ABOUT \$7.2 BILLION, REPRESENTING OVER 32 PER CENT OF HONG KONG'S TOTAL EXPORTS.

MR CHAN SAID HONG KONG'S CLOTHING INDUSTRY WAS FACING MANY DIFFICULTIES SUCH AS RISING OPERATING COSTS, LABOUR SHORTAGES AND FIERCE COMPETITION FROM OVERSEAS MARKETS.

"BUT I THINK THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY WILL OVERCOME THESE DIFFICULTIES BY DIVERSIFYING ITS MARKETS AND PRODUCTS, INVESTING MORE ON NEW EQUIPMENT AND PRODUCTION METHODS AND DEMONSTRATING THEIR USUAL INTELLIGENCE AND RESILIENCE," HE SAID.

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APPROPRIATION BILL TO BE GAZETTED ON FRIDAY

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DRAFT ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR BEGINNING ON APRIL 1, 1990 HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION BILL WILL BE GAZETTED ON FRIDAY (MARCH 2) AND FORMALLY MOVED BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, SIR PIERS JACOBS, IN HIS BUDGET SPEECH ON MARCH 7.

THE DRAFT ESTIMATES HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO MEMBERS EARLIER THAN USUAL TO GIVE THEM MORE TIME TO CONSIDER THE DETAILS BEFORE THE SPECIAL MEETINGS OF FINANCE COMMITTEE WHICH WILL EXAMINE THE EXPENDITURE PROPOSALS.

THE APPROPRIATION BILL PROVIDES FOR EXPENDITURE FROM THE GENERAL REVENUE ACCOUNT IN 1990-91 TOTTALLING \$65.3 BILLION TO BE INCURRED ON THE EXPENSES OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND IN PROVIDING OTHER SERVICES.

THIS REPRESENTS AN INCREASE OF 25 PER CENT OVER THE EXPENDITURE APPROVED FOR THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR.

IN ADDITION, THE APPROPRIATION BILL PROVIDES FOR \$22.9 BILLION TO BE TRANSFERRED FROM GENERAL REVENUE TO MEET EXPENDITURE FROM OTHER FUNDS TO FINANCE THE CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME, PERMANENT INVESTMENT IN THE HOUSING AUTHORITY AND LOANS AND ADVANCES TO OTHER BODIES AND TO STUDENTS IN TERTIARY EDUCATION.

OF THE \$65.3 BILLION REQUIRED, \$12.7 BILLION IS FOR EDUCATION, \$11.7 BILLION FOR SOCIAL SERVICES AND \$5 BILLION FOR THE POLICE. THESE THREE AREAS TOGETHER WILL ACCOUNT FOR 45 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL.

THE DRAFT ESTIMATES ISSUED TO MEMBERS INCLUDE DETAILED ESTIMATES FOR EACH DEPARTMENT OR SERVICE AND A REPORT BY EACH CONTROLLING OFFICER GIVING AN ACCOUNT OF PERFORMANCE AND JUSTIFICATION FOR THE ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE BEING SOUGHT.

AFTER THE SPECIAL MEETINGS OF FINANCE COMMITTEE THE APPROPRIATION BILL WILL BE DEBATED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND IS EXPECTED TO BECOME LAW IN MAY.

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PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR JANUARY RELEASED

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THE WEAK PERFORMANCE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS CONTINUED IN JANUARY 1990, WHILE THE GROWTH RATE OF RE-EXPORTS REMAINED MODERATE. IMPORTS CONTINUED TO DECLINE FROM A YEAR EARLIER, LARGELY REFLECTING THE DECLINE IN RETAINED IMPORTS.

THESE ARE SHOWN IN THE PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES RELEASED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN JANUARY 1990 WAS \$16,638 MILLION, \$624 MILLION OR 3.6 PER CENT LESS THAN IN JANUARY 1989, WHILE THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY \$1,707 MILLION OR 6.5 PER CENT TO \$27,960 MILLION.

THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS (DOMESTIC EXPORTS PLUS RE-EXPORTS), AT \$44,598 MILLION IN JANUARY 1990, WAS THUS \$1,083 MILLION OR ONLY 2.5 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN JANUARY 1989.

THE VALUE OF IMPORTS DECREASED BY 4.7 PER CENT OR \$2,042 MILLION FROM A YEAR EARLIER, TO \$41,092 MILLION IN JANUARY 1990.

AS THE VALUE OF IMPORTS WAS SMALLER THAN THAT OF TOTAL EXPORTS, A VISIBLE TRADE SURPLUS OF \$3,506 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 8.5 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, WAS RECORDED IN JANUARY 1990.

THIS COMPARES WITH A SURPLUS OF \$381 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 0.9 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, RECORDED IN JANUARY 1989.

PUTTING THESE TRADE FIGURES IN PERSPECTIVE, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDING JANUARY 1990 WAS \$143,558 MILLION, MADE UP OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF \$55,965 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS OF \$87,593 MILLION.

COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD A YEAR EARLIER, TOTAL EXPORTS GREW BY \$2,988 MILLION OR 2.1 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS WITH DOMESTIC EXPORTS FALLING BY \$2,521 MILLION OR 4.3 PER CENT AND RE-EXPORTS RISING BY \$5,509 MILLION OR 6.7 PER CENT.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, IMPORTS FELL BY \$6,664 MILLION OR BY 4.7 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS, TO \$134,879 MILLION.

A VISIBLE TRADE SURPLUS OF \$8,679 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 6.4 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, WAS RECORDED FOR THE THREE MONTHS FROM NOVEMBER 1989 TO JANUARY 1990. THIS COMPARES WITH A DEFICIT OF \$973 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 0.7 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, RECORDED IN THE SAME PERIOD A YEAR EARLIER.

COMMENTING ON THESE FIGURES, A GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT SPOKESMAN SAID THE PERFORMANCE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS HAD BEEN SLUGGISH SINCE MAY 1989. IN EACH OF THE FIVE MONTHS TO JANUARY 1990, EXCEPT OCTOBER 1989, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS SHOWED DECLINES ON A YEAR-ON-YEAR COMPARISON.

/THE LUNAR

THE LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS, WHICH OCCURRED IN LATE JANUARY THIS YEAR BUT IN EARLY FEBRUARY LAST YEAR, MIGHT HAVE ALSO REDUCED THE GROWTH RATE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN JANUARY THIS YEAR.

AS REGARDS RE-EXPORTS, THE SLOW-DOWN IN GROWTH WAS MAINLY DUE TO A MARKED DECLINE IN RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA, ALTHOUGH RE-EXPORTS OF CHINA ORIGIN STILL RECORDED SIGNIFICANT GROWTH.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT, ON A YEAR-ON-YEAR COMPARISON, THE VALUE OF RETAINED IMPORTS SHOWED MARKED DECLINES IN RECENT MONTHS. THIS SUGGESTED THAT BOTH DOMESTIC DEMAND AND DOMESTIC EXPORTS WOULD PROBABLY REMAIN WEAK IN THE SHORT TERM.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE PRESENTS THE PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR JANUARY 1990.

MERCHANDISE:	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	:	\$16,638 MILLION	
	RE-EXPORTS	:	\$27,960 MILLION	
	TOTAL EXPORTS	:	\$44,598 MILLION	
	IMPORTS	:	\$41,092 MILLION	
	TRADE BALANCE	:	\$ 3,506 MILLION	[IN SURPLUS]

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

LATEST 3 MONTHS	NOV 89	NOV 88	INCREASE	
	TO JAN 90 HK\$ MN.	TO JAN 89 HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	55,965	58,486	-2,521	-4.3
RE-EXPORTS	87,593	82,084	5,509	6.7
TOTAL EXPORTS	143,558	140,570	2,988	2.1
IMPORTS	134,879	141,543	-6,664	-4.7
TRADE BALANCE	8,679	-973	9,652	

SAME MONTH LAST YEAR	JANUARY 1990	JANUARY 1989	INCREASE	
	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	16,638 (37.3%)	17,262 (39.7%)	-624	-3.6
RE-EXPORTS	27,960	26,253	1,707	6.5

/TOTAL EXPORTS

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TOTAL EXPORTS	44,598	43,515	1,083	2.5
IMPORTS	41,092	43,134	-2,042	-4.7
TRADE BALANCE	3,506	381	3,125	

LAST MONTH	JANUARY 1990 HK\$ MN.	DECEMBER 1989 HK\$ MN.	INCREASE	
			HK\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	16,638 (37.3%)	19,915 (40.2%)	-3,277	-16.5
RE-EXPORTS	27,960	29,587	-1,627	-5.5
TOTAL EXPORTS	44,598	49,502	-4,904	-9.9
IMPORTS	41,092	47,444	-6,352	-13.4
TRADE BALANCE	3,506	2,058	1,448	

LAST 12 MONTHS	FEB 89 TO JAN 90 HK\$ MN.	FEB 88 TO JAN 89 HK\$ MN.	INCREASE	
			HK\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	223,480	218,449	5,031	2.3
RE-EXPORTS	348,112	283,295	64,817	22.9
TOTAL EXPORTS	571,592	501,744	69,848	13.9
IMPORTS	560,739	508,782	51,957	10.2
TRADE BALANCE	10,853	-7,038	17,891	

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DSW GAINS FIRST-HAND INFORMATION ON STREET SLEEPERS

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THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR MICHAEL CARTLAND, TONIGHT (MONDAY) TOURED THE STREETS OF YAU MA TEI TO GAIN FIRST-HAND INFORMATION ON STREET SLEEPERS.

HE ALSO JOINED SWD STAFF IN DISTRIBUTING BLANKETS TO STREET SLEEPERS AS THE TEMPERATURE FELL BELOW 10 DEGREES CELSIUS.

/MR CARTLAND

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MR CARTLAND WAS BRIEFED BY STAFF MEMBERS ON THE EFFORTS MADE BY THE DEPARTMENT TO HELP STREET SLEEPERS.

THE DEPARTMENT KEEPS A CENTRAL REGISTRY ON STREET SLEEPERS AND REGULARLY MONITORS THE SITUATION.

STATISTICS SHOW THAT THE NUMBER OF STREET SLEEPERS HAS GONE DOWN AS SOCIAL WORKERS PERSISTENTLY TRY TO HELP THEM TO MOVE TO ACCOMMODATION.

AS AT JANUARY 31, THERE WERE 1,031 STREET SLEEPERS IN HONG KONG, COMPARED WITH 1,133 IN APRIL 1989, 1,343 IN APRIL 1988, AND 1,319 IN APRIL 1987.

IN THE LAST THREE YEARS, OVER 800 STREET SLEEPERS WERE HELPED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO MOVE INTO PUBLIC HOUSING, HOSTELS AND TENEMENTS.

MR CARTLAND ALSO VISITED AN URBAN HOSTEL FOR STREET SLEEPERS IN TUNG KUN STREET. IT WAS NOTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS LOOKING FOR SUITABLE PREMISES FOR THE SECOND URBAN HOSTEL, ON HONG KONG ISLAND.

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BLANKETS FOR STREET SLEEPERS

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A TOTAL OF 24 BLANKETS AND SLEEPING BAGS WERE DISTRIBUTED TO STREET SLEEPERS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES DURING THE WEEKEND, A SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

OF THESE, 18 WERE DISTRIBUTED TO 12 STREET SLEEPERS IN NEW TERRITORIES EAST WHILE SIX WERE DISTRIBUTED TO THREE BENEFICIARIES IN NEW TERRITORIES WEST.

TWENTY STAFF MEMBERS OF THE DEPARTMENT WERE MOBILISED IN THE OPERATION.

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OCCASIONAL CHILD CARE SERVICE FOR UNATTENDED CHILDREN

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INSTEAD OF LEAVING YOUNG CHILDREN UNATTENDED AT HOME, PARENTS WHO HAVE TO STAY AWAY FROM HOME FOR SHORT PERIODS OF TIME DUE TO SUDDEN ENGAGEMENTS OR URGENT COMMITMENTS MAY MAKE USE OF AN OCCASIONAL CHILD CARE SERVICE PROVIDED BY GOVERNMENT AID NURSERIES.

THE SERVICE IS AN EXPERIMENTAL PROJECT INTRODUCED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT IN NOVEMBER WITH A VIEW TO ELIMINATING THE RISK OF HAVING YOUNG CHILDREN LEFT UNATTENDED AT HOME.

UNDER THE \$1.7 MILLION PROJECT, SHORT-TERM DAY CARE SERVICE ON HALF-DAY OR FULL-DAY BASIS WITHIN THE OPERATION HOURS OF THE NURSERIES WOULD BE OFFERED TO CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN TWO AND SIX.

"A TOTAL OF 105 PLACES IN 15 NURSERIES THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY ARE PARTICIPATING IN THE EXPERIMENTAL PROJECT FOR A PERIOD OF 18 MONTHS," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

"CHILDREN WHO ARE SICK OR MENTALLY RETARDED ARE NOT COVERED BY THE PROJECT," HE ADDED.

THE SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT RESIDENTS USING THE SERVICE WOULD HAVE TO PAY \$20 FOR THE HALF-DAY AND \$40 FOR THE WHOLE-DAY SERVICE. HOWEVER, FAMILIES IN FINANCIAL DIFFICULTY MAY APPLY FOR ASSISTANCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC INTERESTED IN THE SERVICE MAY CALL THE SWD HOTLINE 3432255 OR OBTAIN COPIES OF A LEAFLET GIVING THE DETAILS AND A LIST OF NURSERIES PROVIDING THE SERVICE.

COPIES OF THE LEAFLET ARE AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING PLACES: SWD OFFICES, COMMUNITY CENTRES AND DISTRICT OFFICES OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS' OFFICES, YIN NGAI SOCIETIES, HOUSING ESTATE OFFICES OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY AND HOUSING SOCIETY, HOSPITALS AND CLINICS, REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT DISTRICT OFFICES, AS WELL AS SERVICE UNITS OF THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE.

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DEMONSTRATION OF AIRCRAFT RECOVERY TRANSPORTER SYSTEM

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A DEMONSTRATION OF THE \$10 MILLION DISABLED AIRCRAFT RECOVERY TRANSPORTER SYSTEM (DARTS) WAS HELD AT THE KAI TAK AIRPORT TODAY (MONDAY).

ARRANGED BY THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT (CAD), THE DEMONSTRATION WAS CONDUCTED ON THE AIRPORT APRON WHERE THE NEW EQUIPMENT WAS OPERATED BY AN ENGINEER FROM THE MANUFACTURER, KAMAG OF WEST GERMANY.

/A SPOKESMAN

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1990

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A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE NEW EQUIPMENT WAS SPECIALLY DESIGNED BY THE MANUFACTURER FOR THE CAD WITH INPUT FROM THE AIRPORT AIRCRAFT RECOVERY COMMITTEE AND THE LOCAL AVIATION INDUSTRY IN THE LIGHT OF EXPERIENCE IN AIRCRAFT RECOVERY AT KAI TAK.

"THE DARTS IS UNIQUE IN BEING THE FIRST SELF-PROPELLED AIRCRAFT RECOVERY SYSTEM PRODUCED AND IS ABLE TO REMOVE A DISABLED AIRCRAFT FROM THE RUNWAY IN THE MOST EXPEDITIOUS MANNER, THUS ALLOWING NORMAL OPERATION TO RESUME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER AN ACCIDENT," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THE AVAILABILITY OF THIS TRANSPORTER SYSTEM WILL GREATLY ENHANCE OUR CAPABILITY IN REMOVING DISABLED AIRCRAFT FROM THE RUNWAY AND ENABLE THE AIRPORT TO RETURN TO NORMAL OPERATIONS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

"THE DARTS IS A HIGHLY MANOEUVRABLE MODULAR SYSTEM CONSISTING OF THREE LOW PROFILE HEAVY DUTY TRANSPORTERS WITH AN OVERALL LIFTING CAPACITY OF 300 TONNES.

"EACH TRANSPORTER, WITH 32 WHEELS, CAN BE USED INDEPENDENTLY, OR COMBINED IN VARIOUS CONFIGURATIONS WITH THE OTHER TWO TRANSPORTERS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THIS IS NECESSARY TO CATER FOR DIFFERENT AIRCRAFT SIZES RANGING FROM BOEING 747 TO SMALL GENERAL AVIATION AIRCRAFT, AND TO COPE WITH DIFFERENT ACCIDENT SITUATIONS VARYING FROM RELATIVELY MINOR TO MAJOR STRUCTURAL DAMAGE," HE ADDED.

WITH AN OVERALL PAYLOAD OF 300 TONNES, THE DARTS WILL LIFT A BOEING 747, THE HEAVIEST COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT, WITHOUT THE TIME CONSTRAINT OF WEIGHT REDUCTION OTHER THAN DEFUELLING AND CARGO REMOVAL FOR SAFETY AND CENTRE OF GRAVITY CONTROL PURPOSES.

EACH TRANSPORTER IS FITTED WITH A HYDRAULICALLY ADJUSTABLE PLATFORM WHICH CAN BE MOVED TO CONFORM WITH THE UNDERSIDE PROFILE OF THE AIRCRAFT TO BE LIFTED.

IN THE CASE OF AN ACCIDENT INVOLVING TO A BOEING 747, ONE TRANSPORTER WOULD BE PLACED UNDER EACH WING, AND THE THIRD UNDER EITHER THE FORWARD OR REAR FUSELAGE, DEPENDING ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE ACCIDENT.

THE THREE TRANSPORTERS WOULD THEN BE COUPLED TOGETHER WITH A RIGID FRAME AND BE ABLE TO BE DRIVEN AT UP TO SIX KILOMETRES PER HOUR WITH A B747 AIRCRAFT ON BOARD.

IN THE CASE OF SMALLER AIRCRAFT, IT WOULD ONLY BE NECESSARY TO USE THE TWO WING TRANSPORTERS, WHICH WOULD BE RIGIDLY COUPLED SIDE-BY-SIDE OR END-TO-END. FOR LIGHT AIRCRAFT, ONLY THE FUSELAGE TRANSPORTER WOULD BE REQUIRED.

/THE DARTS

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THE DARTS IS FITTED WITH A COMPUTERISED CONTROL AND STEERING SYSTEM AND CAN BE OPERATED BY ONE PERSON.

WITH A LARGE NUMBER OF 96 WHEELS WHEN ALL THREE TRANSPORTERS ARE COUPLED TOGETHER, THE SYSTEM IS CAPABLE OF OPERATING OVER UNEVEN GROUND, THUS SAVING TIME OVER THE NEED FOR EXTENSIVE GROUND PREPARATION.

THE DARTS IS NOW UNDERGOING COMMISSIONING TRIALS AND WILL BE PUT INTO OPERATION NEXT MONTH.

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TUEN MUN DB TO COMMENT ON DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
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THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD WILL COMMENT ON THE 1989 EDITION OF THE TUEN MUN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

UPDATED ANNUALLY BY THE TUEN MUN DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, THE PUBLICATION GIVES AN OVERALL PICTURE OF THE PROGRESS OF DEVELOPMENT IN THE NEW TOWN.

MEMBERS WILL BE BRIEFED ON THE FORMATION OF THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT AND THE ROLE OF THE TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG DISTRICT PLANNING OFFICE.

ALSO, THE FIFTH REPORT OF THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE WILL BE TABLED.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM, THIRD FLOOR, TUEN MUN GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 1 TUEN HI ROAD, TUEN MUN.

THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR PETER TSAO, WILL ATTEND THE MEETING WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 9.30 AM.

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1990

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TAI PO DB TO DISCUSS CRIME SITUATION
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THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS THE CRIME SITUATION IN THE DISTRICT AT A MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

MEMBERS WILL ALSO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THE MEDICAL SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT AND A PROJECT ON THE STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT OF TAI PO IN THE 1990'S.

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NOTE TO EDITORS :

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF TAI PO COMMERCIAL CENTRE, 152 KWONG FUK ROAD, TAI PO. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 9.30 AM.

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ENVIRONMENTAL NUISANCE ON DB COMMITTEE AGENDA
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THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS THE ENVIRONMENTAL NUISANCE IN TSZ WAN SHAN AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

MEMBERS WILL LOOK INTO REPORTS OF DUST AND NOISE NUISANCES GENERATED BY A CONSTRUCTION SITE IN PO KONG VILLAGE ROAD, AFFECTING RESIDENTS IN YUK WAH STREET AND STUDENTS OF NEARBY SCHOOLS.

THEY WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE 1990-91 BUDGET FOR THE COMMITTEE.

PROGRESS REPORTS ON THE COMMITTEE'S BEAUTIFICATION, MINOR WORKS, STREET MANAGEMENT AND GREENERY PROJECTS WILL BE TABLED.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE TO BE HELD TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, FOURTH FLOOR, SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, KING FUK STREET.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1990

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DB COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS GUESTHOUSE PROPOSALS

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THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION'S PROPOSALS TO LICENSE GUESTHOUSES AT THE COMMITTEE'S MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

THE PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY (BUILDING MANAGEMENT) OF CNTA, MR AUGUSTINE CHENG, WILL ATTEND THE MEETING TO EXPLAIN THE PROPOSALS.

ALSO, A LANDSCAPE CONSULTANT WILL PRESENT THE RESULTS OF A FEASIBILITY STUDY ON A TREE PLANTING PROJECT IN THE DISTRICT.

A MEMBER IS EXPECTED TO ASK ABOUT THE ILLEGAL USE OF PUBLIC AREAS FOR CONDUCTING BUSINESS BY FOOD SHOPS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 4 PM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM, 21ST FLOOR, SOUTHERN CENTRE, 130 HENNESSY ROAD, HONG KONG.

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ALKANES NOT DETECTED IN FRENCH MINERAL WATER

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THE HYGIENE ADVISER OF THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES BRANCH, DR MOHAMMED ALI, TODAY (MONDAY) ANNOUNCED THAT LABORATORY TESTS ON TWO SAMPLES OF A FRENCH MINERAL WATER COLLECTED IN THE LOCAL MARKET LATE LAST WEEK FOUND NO TRACE OF THE CHEMICAL ALKANES.

THE TESTS WERE CARRIED OUT FOLLOWING AN ALKANES CONTAMINATION REPORT FROM PARIS CONCERNING ONE OF SEVERAL BRANDS OF BOTTLED DRINKING WATER PRODUCED BY A FRENCH COMPANY, ALTHOUGH THE BOTTLED WATER IN QUESTION WAS NOT ON SALE IN LOCAL OUTLETS.

DR ALI SAID FURTHER SAMPLING ON THE BOTTLED WATER WOULD NOT BE NECESSARY FOR THE TIME BEING BUT MSB STAFF WOULD CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE SITUATION CLOSELY.

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1990

- 16 -

SAFETY SEMINAR FOR WORKERS

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ABOUT 350 WORKERS AND TRADE UNION MEMBERS WILL ATTEND A SEMINAR ON WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 28) TO DISCUSS THE GENERAL DUTIES OF EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES FOR INDUSTRIAL SAFETY.

THE "SEMINAR ON GENERAL DUTIES OF EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES AT WORK" IS PART OF THE GOVERNMENT'S PUBLICITY PROGRAMME TO ACQUAINT EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1989 WHICH WAS PASSED INTO LAW LAST DECEMBER.

THE SEMINAR IS ORGANISED JOINTLY BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT AND THE HONG KONG FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS (FTU).

"THE SEMINAR, SPECIALLY CONDUCTED FOR EMPLOYEES IN INDUSTRY, AIMS TO INCREASE PARTICIPANTS' UNDERSTANDING OF THE ORDINANCE," THE DEPARTMENT'S SUPERINTENDENT OF FACTORY INSPECTORS (TRAINING), MR CHAN HON-TING, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

"THE ORDINANCE INTRODUCES A SET OF GENERAL DUTIES ON BOTH EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES TO ENSURE SAFE WORK PRACTICES AND ENVIRONMENTS," MR CHAN SAID.

ONE OF THE SPEAKERS AT THE SEMINAR IS FTU CHAIRMAN MR CHENG YIU-TONG. HE WILL TALK ABOUT "THE ATTITUDE OUGHT TO BE TAKEN BY WORKERS TOWARDS INDUSTRIAL SAFETY".

THE CHIEF FACTORY INSPECTOR OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, MR YIP YUK-LUN, WILL EXPLAIN THE GENERAL DUTIES OF EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES AS PRESCRIBED IN THE ORDINANCE.

A SOLICITOR, MR SUNG WING-KWONG, WILL DISCUSS "CIVIL LIABILITIES OF EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY".

THE SEMINAR WILL BE OPENED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR TONY HAMMOND, MR CHENG AND MR SUNG AT THE FTU ASSEMBLY HALL.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE "SEMINAR ON GENERAL DUTIES OF EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES AT WORK" AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL OF THE HONG KONG FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS, 50 MA TAU CHUNG ROAD, NINTH FLOOR, TO KWA WAN AT 6.15 PM ON WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 28).

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1990

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CHEUNG SHA WAN MATERNITY HOME TO CLOSE
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THE CHEUNG SHA WAN MATERNITY HOME WILL BE OFFICIALLY CLOSED FROM THURSDAY, MARCH 1, THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH ANNOUNCED TODAY (MONDAY).

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID ALL ANTENATAL CLIENTS PREVIOUSLY REFERRED TO THE CHEUNG SHA WAN MATERNITY HOME WILL NOW BE DIRECTED TO LI PO CHUN MATERNITY HOME AT 22 ARRAN STREET, TAI KOK TSUI.

THE CLOSURE WILL NOT AFFECT THE NORMAL OPERATION OF THE CHEUNG SHA WAN MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH CENTRE AND GENERAL OUT-PATIENT CLINIC WHICH WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE VARIOUS MEDICAL, MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC.

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UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURE IN QUARRY BAY TO BE CLOSED
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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS SEEKING TO CLOSE AN UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURE IN QUARRY BAY SO THAT IT CAN BE DEMOLISHED WITHOUT DANGER TO THE OCCUPIERS AND TO THE PUBLIC.

THE STRUCTURE IS PUT UP AT THE BALCONY OF FLAT 5, 23RD FLOOR, WAI LEE BUILDING, 997 KING'S ROAD.

THE CLOSURE FORMS PART OF AN EXERCISE TO ENFORCE AN ORDER ISSUED UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE IN OCTOBER 1988 REQUIRING THE DEMOLITION OF THE SAID UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURE.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER FROM THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT ON APRIL 26 THIS YEAR WAS POSTED ON A CONSPICUOUS PART OF THE FLAT TODAY (MONDAY).

IT IS EXPECTED THAT DEMOLITION WORK WILL START ONCE THE CLOSURE ORDER IS OBTAINED.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE
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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 39.8 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 233.492 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 215.981 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 36.8 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1990

- 18 -

WATER CUT IN TSIM SHA TSUI

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN TSIM SHA TSUI WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 11 PM ON WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 28) TO 6 AM THE NEXT DAY TO FACILITATE LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY SALISBURY ROAD, CHATHAM ROAD SOUTH, MODY ROAD AND MINDEN ROW, INCLUDING HANOI ROAD, MINDEN AVENUE AND BLenheim AVENUE.

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NIGHT CLOSURE OF TSING YI ROAD WEST

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT TSING YI ROAD WEST BETWEEN LIU TO ROAD AND FUNG SHUE WO ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 30 MINUTES PAST MIDNIGHT TO 5.30 AM FROM WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 28) FOR TWO NIGHTS.

AFFECTED VEHICLES WILL BE DIVERTED VIA FUNG SHUE WO ROAD, TSING YI HEUNG SZE WUI ROAD, CHUNG MEI ROAD AND CHING HONG ROAD ON JOURNEYS TO AND FROM THE SOUTHERN PART OF TSING YI ISLAND.

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TEMPORARY LANE CLOSURE ON TOLO HIGHWAY, TAI PO

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT TO FACILITATE ROAD MAINTENANCE WORKS, ABOUT 200 METRES LONG OF THE SLOW LANE OF TOLO HIGHWAY NORTHBOUND NEAR TAI PO TAI WO ROAD WILL BE CLOSED FROM 9 AM ON WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 28) TO 9 AM ON MARCH 3.

MOTORISTS ARE URGED TO DRIVE WITH CARE AND PATIENCE. APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC AIDS WILL BE PROVIDED TO GUIDE THEM.

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