



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
<u>LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING:</u>	
TRANSPORT STRATEGY FOR NEW DECADE UNVEILED	1
TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO BANKING BILL	3
BANKING BILL WILL BENEFIT FINANCIAL SECTOR	5
INCREASED CHARGE FOR IMPOUNDING CARS	5
MEASURES TO SHORTEN TREATMENT WAITING TIME	6
VIETNAMESE RETURNEES RECEIVE SYMPATHETIC TREATMENT	7
STEPS TAKEN TO PREVENT FURTHER COMPUTER VIRUS ATTACKS	8
DOCTORS EQUIPPED TO DEAL WITH OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES	9
REVIEW ON UNCONDITIONAL STAY STILL IN PROGRESS	10
HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT CHANGE LATER IN YEAR	11
CONTINUING EFFORTS TO IMPROVE EFFICIENCY	11
CONTROLS ON SPECULATIVE ACTIVITIES ON FLATS 'CLUMSY'	12
ADDITIONAL SPECIAL CHILD CARE PLACES BEING PROVIDED	13
BANKING BILL PASSED	14
GOVERNOR SPEAKS ON RETURN OF VBP	15
FASHION INDUSTRY NEEDS TO MOVE UP MARKET: GOVERNOR	16
SURVEY OF ATTENDEES AT GOVT CLINICS COMPLETED	17
DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY SPEAKS ON QUALITY ENHANCEMENT	18
IMMIGRATION HEADQUARTERS ON MOVE	19
ASD MAINTENANCE BRANCH TO GET HEADQUARTERS BLDG	20
DB COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS TOURISM PROMOTION CAMPAIGN	21
DB COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER FUND ALLOCATION	21
DB WORKING GROUP TO DISCUSS CONSTRUCTION OF CEMENT DEPOT	22
EMPLOYERS REMINDED OF LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS	22
GUIDE TO SAFETY OF NAVIGATION ON SMALL CRAFT AVAILABLE	23
GOVT LAND TO LET BY TENDER	24
TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN KING'S ROAD	25
TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN QUARRY BAY	25
URBAN CLEARWAY AT HK INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	26
URBAN CLEARWAYS IN SHA TIN	26

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1990

- 1 -

TRANSPORT STRATEGY FOR NEW DECADE UNVEILED

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THE GOVERNMENT'S BROAD TRANSPORT STRATEGY FOR THE COMING DECADE WAS UNVEILED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY) BY THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, THE HON MICHAEL LEUNG.

ENTITLED "MOVING INTO THE 21ST CENTURY", THE WHITE PAPER ON TRANSPORT POLICY IN HONG KONG IS THE CULMINATION OF AN EXTENSIVE PUBLIC CONSULTATION EXERCISE LAST YEAR.

MR LEUNG TOLD THE COUNCIL THE GREEN PAPER'S TRANSPORT FORECAST HAD BEEN REVISED AND THE INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMME SUBSTANTIALLY EXPANDED AS A RESULT OF THE DECISION ON THE NEW AIRPORT.

HE SAID THAT PLANNED PROJECTS NOW INCLUDED THE AIRPORT RAILWAY, THE NORTH LANTAU EXPRESSWAY, THE LANTAU FIXED CROSSING AND NEW ROADS TO NEW PORT FACILITIES ON TSING YI AND STONECUTTERS ISLANDS AND AT TUEN MUN.

COMPLETION OF THESE PROJECTS WAS PLANNED FOR MID-1990S TO TIE IN WITH THE PORT AND AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME AND IN TIME FOR THE OPENING OF THE NEW AIRPORT AT CHEK LAP KOK BY 1997.

MR LEUNG SAID THE WHITE PAPER ADDRESSED THE PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR BETTER CO-ORDINATION BETWEEN TRANSPORT AND LAND USE PLANNING ON THREE FRONTS:

- * COMMERCIAL FACILITIES WILL BE SPREAD OUT AS FAR AS PRACTICABLE TO REDUCE THE NEED FOR LONG JOURNEYS;
- * STRATEGIC ROAD AND RAIL CONNECTIONS WILL BE PLANNED TO LINK UP THE MAJOR RESIDENTIAL AND EMPLOYMENT AREAS; AND
- * LONG-TERM PLANS WILL BE DEvised TO ENSURE THAT FUTURE LAND-USE DEVELOPMENTS CAN BE SUPPORTED BY THE EXISTING AND PLANNED TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE.

"THE METROPLAN STUDY, THE REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY, AND THE URBAN RENEWAL SCHEMES WILL ALL CONTRIBUTE TO ACHIEVING THIS OBJECTIVE," MR LEUNG SAID.

ON PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES, MR LEUNG SAID THE GOVERNMENT'S STRATEGY WAS TO CONTINUE TO IMPROVE PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES, BOTH IN QUANTITY AND QUALITY, TO ENSURE THAT THE PUBLIC REMAINED WILLING AND ABLE TO TRAVEL BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT.

HE SAID THAT EFFECTIVE CO-ORDINATION OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES WAS ESSENTIAL IF THESE OBJECTIVES WERE TO BE ACHIEVED.

/MR LEUNG

- 2 -

MR LEUNG ADDED THAT THE MERITS OF HEALTHY COMPETITION WERE ALSO RECOGNISED. THE POLICY WOULD BE APPLIED FLEXIBLY TO MEET CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES, TO ENCOURAGE HEALTHY COMPETITION BETWEEN DIFFERENT MODES, AND TO GIVE IMPETUS FOR FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS.

AS AN EXAMPLE, HE SAID THAT MORE FRANCHISED BUSES WOULD BE USED TO HELP RELIEVE CONGESTION ALONG THE RAIL CORRIDORS, AND THERE WOULD BE WIDER INTRODUCTION OF GOOD QUALITY NON-FRANCHISED BUSES TO HELP MEET PEAK HOUR DEMANDS IN CERTAIN AREAS.

ON MEASURES FOR MANAGING ROAD USE, MR LEUNG SAID THE CONTINUOUS EXPANSION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES WOULD HELP TO REDUCE, BUT COULD NOT REPLACE, THE NEED FOR BETTER ROAD MANAGEMENT.

HE WARNED THAT GROWTH OF PRIVATE CARS AND GOODS VEHICLES WHICH HAD BEEN AT 10 PER CENT A YEAR SINCE 1987 COULD TRIPLE IN 10 YEARS.

"THIS WOULD OUTSTRIP THE 37 PER CENT INCREASE IN ROAD CAPACITY PROVIDED BY THE COMMITTED AND PLANNING BUILDING PROGRAMME FOR THE SAME PERIOD," HE SAID.

THE MOBILITY OF PEOPLE AND GOODS WOULD BE SERIOUSLY IMPEDED. THIS WOULD IMPOSE CONSIDERABLE STRAINS ON THE ECONOMY, AND ADVERSELY AFFECT THE QUALITY OF LIFE.

MR LEUNG SAID THAT THE WHITE PAPER SET OUT A BALANCED PACKAGE OF MEASURES FOR MANAGING ROAD USE. IT HAD THREE MAJOR OBJECTIVES:

- TO MAKE EFFECTIVE USE OF ROAD SPACE BY MODERN TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW AND TO MINIMISE TRAFFIC DISRUPTIONS CAUSED BY DEFECTIVE VEHICLES, ACCIDENTS AND ROAD WORKS;
- TO MAKE MORE RATIONAL USE OF ROAD SPACE BY GIVING PRIORITY TO THE MORE EFFICIENT AND ESSENTIAL ROAD USERS; AND
- TO MANAGE THE DEMAND FOR ROAD USE BY SPREADING OUT TRAVEL DEMAND AND MANAGING ITS GROWTH TO A LEVEL WITH WHICH THE ROAD SYSTEM CAN COPE.

"THIS INCLUDES THE USE OF FISCAL AND REGULATORY MEASURES WHEREVER NECESSARY AND PRACTICABLE TO HELP CONTAIN THE GROWTH AND USAGE OF VEHICLES," HE SAID.

MR LEUNG EMPASISED THAT TRANSPORT PLANNING WAS A CONTINUOUS PROCESS REQUIRING REGULAR UPDATING OF FORECASTS AND PROJECTION ASSUMPTIONS.

THE TRANSPORT STRATEGY OUTLINED IN THE WHITE PAPER WOULD BE APPLIED FLEXIBLY AND REVIEWED FROM TIME TO TIME TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF CHANGING DEMANDS AND CIRCUMSTANCES, HE ADDED.

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1990

- 3 -

TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO BANKING BILL

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SOME TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS WERE MADE TO THE BANKING (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1989 BEFORE IT WAS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE COMMITTEE STAGE AMENDMENTS WERE MOVED BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, THE HON SIR PIERS JACOBS, WHO SAID THE CHANGES HAD BEEN EXAMINED AND SUPPORTED BY THE LEGCO AD HOC GROUP THAT STUDIED THE BILL.

IN MOVING AMENDMENTS TO CLAUSES 1, 29, 39, 44, 46, 49 AND 52, SIR PIERS SAID BOTH THE AD HOC GROUP AND THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF BANKS CONSIDERED THAT THE PRESENT LEVEL OF THE PENALTY FOR BREACHES OF OFFICIAL SECRECY UNDER THE ORDINANCE WAS TOO LOW TO CONSTITUTE AN EFFECTIVE DETERRENT.

HE AGREED WITH THEM AND PROPOSED THAT AN AMENDMENT BE MADE TO CLAUSE 46 TO INCREASE THE PENALTY FROM THE PRESENT LEVEL OF \$100,000 TO \$500,000 ON CONVICTION UPON INDICTMENT.

THIS WOULD BRING THE PENALTY MORE IN LINE WITH THOSE FOR SIMILAR OFFENCES UNDER OTHER ORDINANCES.

SIR PIERS SAID CLAUSE 52 WAS INTENDED TO AMEND THE THIRD SCHEDULE TO THE ORDINANCE CONCERNING CAPITAL ADEQUACY RATIO.

THAT SCHEDULE HAD NOW BEEN REPLACED BY VIRTUE OF THE BANKING ORDINANCE (REPLACEMENT OF THIRD SCHEDULE) NOTICE 1989 GAZETTED ON DECEMBER 22, 1989 TO GIVE EFFECT TO THE NEW CAPITAL ADEQUACY REQUIREMENTS FOR AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS. CLAUSE 52 WAS THEREFORE NO LONGER REQUIRED.

HOWEVER, IF CLAUSE 52 WAS DELETED IN ITS ENTIRETY, THE PRESENT THIRD SCHEDULE CONTAINED IN THE SAID NOTICE WOULD BE DEFECTIVE BECAUSE THE DEFINITION OF "BANK" CONTAINED THEREIN CONTAINED NO SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO RESTRICTED LICENCE BANK.

TO RECTIFY THAT DEFECT, IT WAS PROPOSED THAT THE RELEVANT PART OF CLAUSE 52 BE RETAINED.

THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO OTHER CLAUSES SOUGHT TO CLARIFY CERTAIN DRAFTING POINTS AND TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE SLIPPAGE IN THE LEGISLATIVE TIME-TABLE, SIR PIERS SAID.

ON A NEW CLAUSE 47A, SIR PIERS SAID THE PROPOSED SECTION 72A(4) IN CLAUSE 29 MADE IT AN OFFENCE FOR ANY SPECIFIED PERSON IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES STATED TO SIGN ANY DOCUMENT FOR GIVING INFORMATION UNDER THE PROPOSED SECTION 72A(2) WHICH HE KNEW, OR OUGHT TO KNOW, TO BE FALSE IN A MATERIAL PARTICULAR.

/THE PROPOSED

THE PROPOSED SECTION 72A(4) WAS MODELLED AFTER SECTION 64(5) OF THE PRINCIPAL ORDINANCE AND WAS INTENDED TO COVER SITUATIONS WHERE OFFENCES WERE KNOWINGLY COMMITTED.

ACCORDINGLY, HE PROPOSED THAT CLAUSE 47A BE ADDED TO EXCLUDE SECTION 72A(4) FROM THE AMBIT OF SECTION 126(1), WHICH PROVIDED FOR A GENERAL DEFENCE IN CASES WHERE AN OFFENCE WAS COMMITTED WITHOUT THE CONSENT OR CONNIVANCE OF THE PERSONS CONCERNED.

IN MOVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE SCHEDULE TO THE BILL, SIR PIERS SAID THE TITLE OF THE MONEY CHANGERS LEGISLATION HAD RECENTLY BEEN CHANGED FROM "MONEY CHANGERS (DISCLOSURE OF RATES, CHARGES AND COMMISSIONS) ORDINANCE" TO "MONEY CHANGERS ORDINANCE". IT WAS THEREFORE NECESSARY TO REFLECT THAT CHANGE ACCORDINGLY.

EARLIER, IN WINDING UP THE SECOND READING DEBATE ON THE BILL, SIR PIERS SAID REPRESENTATIONS ON A NUMBER OF TECHNICAL POINTS HAD BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE LEGAL PROFESSION AND THE BANKING SECTOR.

HE SAID THE AD HOC GROUP HAD EXPRESSED CONCERN IN RELATION TO THE EXTRA-TERRITORIAL APPLICATION OF THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING'S INFORMATION GATHERING POWER UNDER THE ORDINANCE.

THE GROUP SUGGESTED THAT AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION 63 OF THE ORDINANCE MIGHT BE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE THAT FAILURE OF AN OVERSEAS SUBSIDIARY OF AN AUTHORISED INSTITUTION TO COMPLY WITH THE COMMISSIONER'S REQUIREMENT TO SUBMIT INFORMATION DUE TO PROHIBITION BY THE LAW OF ITS HOME JURISDICTION SHALL CONSTITUTE A "REASONABLE EXCUSE" UNDER SECTION 63(6) AS AMENDED BY CLAUSE 26(C) OF THE BILL.

"GIVEN THE CONCERN EXPRESSED, THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS HAS BEEN CONSULTED.

"HE HAS ADVISED THAT FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENT TO SUBMIT INFORMATION DUE TO PROHIBITION BY FOREIGN LAW WOULD CONSTITUTE A REASONABLE EXCUSE UNDER SECTION 63(6).

"IN HIS OPINION, NO AMENDMENT TO SECTION 63 IS REQUIRED." AND I AM GLAD THAT THIS VIEW IS NOW SHARED BY THE AD HOC GROUP," SIR PIERS SAID.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1990

- 5 -

BANKING BILL WILL BENEFIT FINANCIAL SECTOR

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THE BANKING (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989 WILL ASSIST IN THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE FINANCIAL SECTOR IN HONG KONG, AND IS IMPERATIVE AT A TIME WHEN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION IS PLAYING AN INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE WORLD ECONOMY, THE HON DAVID LI SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

SPEAKING IN THE SECOND READING DEBATE ON THE BILL, MR LI SAID THAT THE LEGCO AD HOC GROUP SET UP TO STUDY THE BILL HAD CONSIDERED IN DETAIL SUBMISSIONS FROM INTERESTED ORGANISATIONS.

HE SAID THAT AMONG THE ISSUES CONSIDERED WAS THE PROPOSAL TO GIVE THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING ADDITIONAL POWERS TO OBTAIN INFORMATION FROM AN AUTHORISED INSTITUTION, ITS SUBSIDIARIES AND CERTAIN OTHER PERSONS.

"FAILURE TO FURNISH INFORMATION AS REQUIRED BY THE COMMISSIONER IS A CRIMINAL OFFENCE," MR LI SAID.

MR LI ALSO SAID THAT THE AD HOC GROUP HAD BEEN CONCERNED, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF THE SEVERE PENALTIES INVOLVED, THAT THE WIDE INFORMATION-GATHERING POWERS OF THE COMMISSIONER MIGHT BE ABUSED.

MEMBERS WERE GLAD THAT THE ADMINISTRATION HAD AGREED TO INTRODUCE AN AMENDMENT TO LIMIT THE COMMISSIONER'S INFORMATION-GATHERING POWERS TO THOSE NECESSARY FOR THE EXERCISE OF HIS FUNCTIONS UNDER PART XIII OF THE ORDINANCE, WHICH CONCERNED OWNERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT OF AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS, HE NOTED.

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INCREASED CHARGE FOR IMPOUNDING CARS

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THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, THE HON PETER TSAO, TODAY (WEDNESDAY) MOVED A MOTION IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO INCREASE THE CHARGES FOR THE IMPOUNDING, REMOVAL AND STORAGE OF VEHICLES WHICH HAVE BEEN ILLEGALLY PARKED ON RESTRICTED ROADS IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES.

MR TSAO POINTED OUT THAT THE HOUSING (TRAFFIC) (AMENDMENT) BY-LAWS 1989 WERE MADE BY THE HOUSING AUTHORITY ON DECEMBER 9, 1989 UNDER SECTION 30 OF THE HOUSING ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR INCREASED CHARGES FOR THESE SERVICES RESULTING FROM ILLEGAL PARKING IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES.

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1990

- 6 -

"THE EXISTING CHARGES UNDER BY-LAW 30 OF THE PRINCIPAL BY LAWS ARE : FOR IMPOUNDING A VEHICLE, \$140; FOR REMOVING A VEHICLE, \$200; AND FOR STORING A VEHICLE, \$50 FOR EACH DAY AFTER THE FIRST DAY DURING WHICH THE VEHICLE IS DETAINED," HE SAID.

"EXPERIENCE HAS SHOWN THAT THE PRESENT CHARGES ARE TOO LOW TO BE AN EFFECTIVE DETERRENT TO OFFENDING MOTORISTS AND IT IS, THEREFORE, PROPOSED THAT THESE CHARGES BE INCREASED TO \$200, \$280 AND \$70 RESPECTIVELY," HE SAID.

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MEASURES TO SHORTEN TREATMENT WAITING TIME

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TWO MEASURES WILL BE TAKEN BY THE HOSPITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO SHORTEN THE WAITING TIME FOR TREATING LESS URGENT CASES AT THE ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT OF THE PRINCE OF WALES HOSPITAL, THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, THE HON ELIZABETH WONG, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

AT PRESENT, THE AVERAGE WAITING TIME FOR TREATING SUCH CASES WAS ABOUT AN HOUR, MRS WONG SAID IN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON ANDREW WONG.

"FIRST, TWO ADDITIONAL DOCTORS WILL BE DEPLOYED BY MID-YEAR THIS YEAR TO THE ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT OF THE HOSPITAL.

"SECONDLY, AN ADDITIONAL EXAMINATION CUBICLE WILL BE INSTALLED TO ENABLE MORE RAPID TURNOVER OF PATIENTS," MRS WONG SAID.

THE NECESSARY CONVERSION WORKS BEING PLANNED WERE EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN THE LATTER PART OF THE YEAR.

MRS WONG STRESSED THAT PATIENTS IN SERIOUS CONDITION WERE GIVEN IMMEDIATE ATTENTION AND TREATMENT BY HOSPITAL STAFF UPON ARRIVAL AT THE ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT.

"AN EXPERIENCED NURSING OFFICER IS STATIONED AT THE REGISTRATION AREA OF THE DEPARTMENT TO ENSURE THAT THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO DELAY IN RENDERING TREATMENT TO SUCH PATIENTS." SHE SAID.

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VIETNAMESE RETURNEES RECEIVE SYMPATHETIC TREATMENT

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REPORTS FROM THE BRITISH EMBASSY IN HANOI HAVE ASSURED THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT THAT THERE IS NO EVIDENCE WHATSOEVER THAT ANY VIETNAMESE WHO HAVE RETURNED UNDER THE VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION SCHEME HAVE RECEIVED ANYTHING BUT HELPFUL AND SYMPATHETIC TREATMENT.

THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, THE HON GEOFFREY BARNES, SAID THIS IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY) IN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM DR THE HON DANIEL TSE.

MR BARNES ADDED THAT THE REPORTS CONCERNED ALL BUT THE MOST RECENT RETURNEES, AND COVERED THE EIGHT BATCHES TO WHICH DR TSE REFERRED.

"THE GOVERNMENT WILL KEEP IN TOUCH OVER THE GENERAL TREATMENT GIVEN TO VOLUNTARY RETURNEES BY MEANS OF PERIODIC REPORTS FROM THE BRITISH EMBASSY IN HANOI AND FROM INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM VISITORS TO VIETNAM WHO VISIT RETURNEES TO ASSESS THEIR WELFARE," MR BARNES EMPHASISED.

HE POINTED OUT THAT SO FAR SUCH COMPLAINTS AS HAD BEEN MADE BY RETURNEES HAD TURNED OUT TO BE BASED UPON A LACK OF INFORMATION ON THEIR PART ABOUT THEIR RIGHTS AND ENTITLEMENTS, RATHER THAN ANY UNHELPLESSNESS ON THE PART OF LOCAL OFFICIALS.

THERE HAD ALSO BEEN CASES OF RETURNEES BEING TOO EMBARRASSED TO SEEK THE HELP TO WHICH THEY WERE ENTITLED; AND OCCASIONALLY SOME RETURNEES HAD ATTEMPTED TO SECURE MORE THAN THEIR ENTITLEMENT BY CLAIMING THAT NO HELP HAD BEEN EXTENDED TO THEM WHEREAS, UPON INVESTIGATION, IT BECAME EVIDENT THAT THEY HAD, IN FACT, RECEIVED ASSISTANCE.

MR BARNES EXPLAINED THAT THE BOAT PEOPLE RETURNED TO THEIR OWN VILLAGES WHERE THE EXTENDED FAMILY SYSTEM, WHICH WAS ONE OF THE STRENGTHS OF VIETNAMESE SOCIETY, PROVIDED ASSISTANCE.

THE UNHCR PAYMENT OF US\$30 PER HEAD PER MONTH FOR ONE YEAR WAS PAID IN LOCAL CURRENCY, QUARTERLY IN ADVANCE, AND THIS WAS A WELCOME SOURCE OF INCOME DURING THE INITIAL SETTling-IN PERIOD AFTER RETURN.

"UNEMPLOYMENT IS, OF COURSE, A SEVERE PROBLEM THROUGHOUT VIETNAM AND PARTICULARLY SO FOR THOSE VIETNAMESE WHO HAD BECOME INACTIVE AFTER LONG PERIODS IN CAMPS IN HONG KONG," MR BARNES SAID.

HE SAID THOSE WITHOUT SPECIAL SKILLS HAD FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN EMPLOYMENT, BUT IT HAD BEEN OBSERVED THAT MANY BECAME SMALL-SCALE TRADERS AND SHOPKEEPERS.

MR BARNES SAID THE GOVERNMENT UNDERSTOOD THAT THE UNHCR ONLY HAD ONE MONITOR AT PRESENT IN VIETNAM.

THE MONITOR'S METHOD OF WORKING WAS TO SELECT CERTAIN AREAS AND TO BECOME WELL-ACQUAINTED WITH THE LOCAL OFFICIALS AND THE RETURNEE FAMILIES IN THOSE AREAS BY MEANS OF FREQUENT VISITS.

"IT IS, OF COURSE, NOT POSSIBLE TO VISIT ALL RETURNEES WITH THE SAME FREQUENCY BUT VISITS TO OTHERS ARE MADE AT RANDOM FOR COMPARISON WITH THOSE SELECTED FOR MORE INTENSIVE MONITORING.

"THE BRITISH EMBASSY IN HANOI ASSESSES THE SYSTEM AS APPARENTLY WORKING WELL," MR BARNES ADDED.

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STEPS TAKEN TO PREVENT FURTHER COMPUTER VIRUS ATTACKS

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ALTHOUGH THE GOVERNMENT'S MID-RANGE AND MAINFRAME COMPUTERS HAVE NOT BEEN ATTACKED BY COMPUTER VIRUSES, SOME MICRO-COMPUTERS HAVE BEEN SO ATTACKED, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, THE HON SIR PIERS JACOBS, SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

REPLYING TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON CHEUNG YAN-LUNG, SIR PIERS SAID NONE OF THE INCIDENTS HAD CAUSED ANY DESTRUCTION OR LEAKAGE OF INFORMATION BECAUSE USERS HAD BEEN ABLE TO RESTORE INFORMATION FROM BACK-UP COPIES.

"AS TO REMEDIAL ACTION, GUIDELINES ON THE PREVENTION OF COMPUTER VIRUS ATTACKS WERE ISSUED BY THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES DEPARTMENT IN APRIL 1989 TO ALL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS," HE SAID.

THESE GUIDELINES EMPHASISED THE NEED FOR COMPUTER USERS AT ALL TIMES TO BACK-UP IMPORTANT PROGRAMS AND FILES, TO AVOID USING SOFTWARE FROM UNKNOWN SOURCES, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, TO PREVENT UNAUTHORISED ACCESS.

"ANTI-VIRUS COMPUTER PROGRAMS WERE ISSUED TO ALL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS IN OCTOBER LAST YEAR.

"THESE PROGRAMS SERVE TO CHECK AGAINST POSSIBLE INFECTIONS BY VIRUSES WHEN A COMPUTER BEGINS OPERATION," HE SAID.

SIR PIERS SAID ALL MACHINES INSTALLED SINCE OCTOBER 1989 ALREADY HAD THE VIRUS CHECKING SYSTEMS AUTOMATICALLY INCORPORATED.

"WE SHALL CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE SITUATION AND TO IMPROVE OUR GUIDELINES AND SECURITY PRACTICES AS NECESSARY.

"THIS WILL BE THE BEST DEFENCE AGAINST ANY FUTURE COMPUTER VIRUS ATTACKS," HE ADDED.

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1990

- 9 -

DOCTORS EQUIPPED TO DEAL WITH OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES

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WITH THE TRAINING AND CONTINUING EDUCATION THAT IS GIVEN, REGISTERED DOCTORS IN HONG KONG SHOULD HAVE NO DIFFICULTY IN THE DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT OF THE MAJORITY OF OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES, ESPECIALLY WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF THE PATIENTS, THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, THE HON ELIZABETH WONG, SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

REPLYING TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON TAM YIU-CHUNG, MRS WONG SAID AS REGARDS THE LESS COMMON OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES, PROMPT DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT WAS ACHIEVED THROUGH PROFESSIONAL CONSULTATION AND APPROPRIATE REFERRAL.

"UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, THERE SHOULD BE NO DELAY IN THE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF PATIENTS SUFFERING FROM OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES," SHE SAID.

MRS WONG EXPLAINED THAT "OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE" REFERRED TO ANY DISEASE WHICH HAD RESULTED FROM WORK IN A PARTICULAR OCCUPATION. IT MIGHT APPEAR IN THE FORM OF RESPIRATORY DISEASE, BLOOD DISEASE OR DISEASE OF THE SKIN, EYE OR BONE.

"KNOWLEDGE OF OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE IS ACQUIRED BY MEDICAL STUDENTS DURING THEIR BASIC MEDICAL EDUCATION.

"THEY ARE TRAINED IN THE CLINICAL ASPECTS OF VARIOUS TYPES OF OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES UNDER THE RELEVANT SPECIALTIES DURING THEIR FIVE-YEAR UNDERGRADUATE COURSE AND THEIR ONE-YEAR INTERNSHIP," MRS WONG SAID.

AS PART OF THEIR TRAINING IN COMMUNITY MEDICINE, MEDICAL STUDENTS UNDERWENT A STRUCTURED COURSE ON THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE, SHE SAID.

"THIS COURSE CONSISTS OF A SERIES OF LECTURES AND TUTORIALS CONDUCTED BY EXPERTS IN THE FIELD. PROJECTS AND VISITS TO MAJOR INDUSTRIES ARE ALSO INCLUDED.

"TRAINING IN OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE RECEIVED BY MEDICAL STUDENTS IN HONG KONG IS SIMILAR TO THAT PROVIDED TO THEIR COUNTERPARTS IN OTHER ADVANCED COUNTRIES AND IS CONSIDERED TO BE ADEQUATE AND SATISFACTORY," SHE SAID.

AS PART OF AN ON-GOING AND CONTINUOUS PROCESS OF MEDICAL EDUCATION, MRS WONG POINTED OUT THAT REGISTERED DOCTORS WERE, IN GENERAL, ABLE TO UPDATE THEMSELVES IN ADVANCES IN THE PRACTICE OF OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE INCLUDING THE IDENTIFICATION OF OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES BY REFERENCE TO MEDICAL PUBLICATIONS AND THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS, REFRESHER COURSES, SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS.

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1990

- 10 -

"IN ADDITION, THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG RUNS A POST-GRADUATE DIPLOMA COURSE IN OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE FOR REGISTERED DOCTORS WHO WISH TO ACQUIRE A MORE IN-DEPTH KNOWLEDGE IN THIS FIELD.

"DOCTORS ARE ALSO ENCOURAGED TO OBTAIN ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE IN THE DIAGNOSIS OF OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES FROM THE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH DIVISION IN THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT," SHE ADDED.

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REVIEW ON UNCONDITIONAL STAY STILL IN PROGRESS

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A REVIEW TO DETERMINE HOW FOREIGN NATIONALS IN HONG KONG SHOULD BE GRANTED UNCONDITIONAL STAY AFTER HAVING LIVED HERE FOR SEVEN YEARS, AS OPPOSED TO THE CURRENT REQUIREMENT OF NINE YEARS, HAS NOT YET BEEN COMPLETED, THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, THE HON GEOFFREY BARNES, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

REPLYING TO A QUESTION FROM DR THE HON LEONG CHE-HUNG, MR BARNES SAID THIS WAS BECAUSE OF THE COMPLEXITIES INVOLVED, AND FURTHER CONSULTATION HAD PROVED NECESSARY.

IT HAD BEEN ORIGINALLY EXPECTED THAT THE REVIEW COULD BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF LAST YEAR.

MR BARNES SAID THE REVIEW WOULD PAVE THE WAY FOR THE EVENTUAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RIGHT OF ABODE PROVISIONS IN THE JOINT DECLARATION.

THESE STATED, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT ALL CHINESE NATIONALS BORN OR WHO HAD ORDINARILY RESIDED IN HONG KONG FOR SEVEN YEARS OR MORE, AND ALL OTHER PERSONS WHO HAD ORDINARILY RESIDED IN HONG KONG FOR SEVEN YEARS OR MORE AND WHO HAD TAKEN HONG KONG AS THEIR PLACE OF PERMANENT RESIDENCE, SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT OF ABODE IN THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION, HE ADDED.

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HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT CHANGE LATER IN YEAR

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THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY, EVEN WHEN SET UP UNDER THE LAW, WILL NOT TAKE OVER THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS UNTIL TOWARDS THE LATTER PART OF THE YEAR, THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, THE HON ELIZABETH WONG, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THIS WOULD ALLOW THE TIME NEEDED FOR COMPLETION OF ALL ESSENTIAL PREPARATORY WORK AS WELL AS THE NECESSARY CONSULTATIONS WITH THE STAFF CONCERNED, MRS WONG SAID IN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON RONALD CHOW.

THE SECRETARY SAID SHE HOPED TO INTRODUCE INTO THE COUNCIL IN THE NEAR FUTURE A BILL ON THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY.

"THIS WILL BE DEBATED IN COUNCIL AND, SUBJECT TO ENACTMENT OF THE LEGISLATION, IT IS MY AIM TO SET UP THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY LATER THIS YEAR," SHE SAID.

THE GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSALS ON VARIOUS MATTERS WOULD BE ANNOUNCED AS SOON AS THEY WERE READY.

"THERE WILL BE FULL CONSULTATIONS WITH THE STAFF OVER ISSUES WHICH AFFECT THEM DIRECTLY, SUCH AS THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT," SHE SAID.

MRS WONG SAID THE MAIN REPORT OF THE PROVISIONAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY HAD BEEN RECEIVED ON DECEMBER 30.

"IT CONTAINS RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE FUTURE AUTHORITY STRUCTURE, THE INTEGRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT AND SUBVENTED HOSPITALS, THE FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS, THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT, HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT REFORMS, AND MANY OTHER POINTS.

"THESE RECOMMENDATIONS AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS ARE BEING CAREFULLY STUDIED WITHIN THE ADMINISTRATION," SHE SAID.

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CONTINUING EFFORTS TO IMPROVE EFFICIENCY

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THE GOVERNMENT ALREADY HAS AN ORGANISATION AND METHODS CAPABILITY COMPRISING SOME 150 MANAGEMENT STAFF, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, THE HON SIR PIERS JACOBS, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

HE WAS REPLYING TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON MARTIN BARROW, WHO ASKED WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONSIDER SETTING UP AN INTERNAL ORGANISATION AND METHODS CAPABILITY TO ACHIEVE A SIMPLIFICATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES AND A REDUCTION IN UNNECESSARY PAPERWORK.

SIR PIERS SAID THAT GENERALLY OFFICERS IN THE MANAGEMENT SERVICES GRADE WERE BASED IN THE FINANCE BRANCH, BUT THERE WERE SPECIALISED UNITS IN SELECTED DEPARTMENTS.

"WE ALSO EMPLOY THE RESOURCES OF THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES DEPARTMENT, IF WE ARE EXAMINING THE USE OR POSSIBLE USE OF COMPUTERS.

"IF NEED BE, WE ENGAGE OUTSIDE CONSULTANTS TO ASSIST US IN OUR CONTINUING EFFORTS TO IMPROVE ADMINISTRATIVE EFFICIENCY," HE SAID.

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CONTROLS ON SPECULATIVE ACTIVITIES ON FLATS 'CLUMSY'
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CONTROLS ON SPECULATIVE ACTIVITIES ON PRE-COMPLETED DOMESTIC FLATS WOULD BE CLUMSY AND DISRUPTIVE TO DEVELOPMENT FINANCING AND WOULD PROBABLY DO MORE HARM THAN GOOD TO THE ECONOMY, THE SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS, THE HON GRAHAM BARNES, SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

MR BARNES WAS REPLYING TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON LEUNG WAI-TUNG ON WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONSIDER TAKING ANY MEASURES TO CONTROL OR EVEN PROHIBIT SPECULATIVE ACTIVITIES CONCERNING PRE-COMPLETED DOMESTIC FLATS.

HE SAID SPECULATION IN UNCOMPLETED FLATS HAD LONG BEEN A FEATURE OF THE REAL ESTATE INDUSTRY. AS IT WAS IN MOST OTHER COUNTRIES.

"IN TIMES OF SHORT SUPPLIES AND RISING MARKETS, IT TENDS TO TAKE THE CONVENTIONAL FORM OF BUYING, HOLDING AND RESELLING, HOPEFULLY AT A HIGHER PRICE; THE HIGHER MARKET PRICE WOULD THEN STIMULATE ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES.

"IN TIMES OF GREATER SUPPLIES, SUCH AS THE PRESENT, THERE IS SOME EVIDENCE THAT SOME DEVELOPERS USE ARRANGED SALES TO STIMULATE A HEATED MARKET FOR THEIR PROPERTIES," HE SAID.

MR BARNES SAID IN EITHER CASE THE ONLY REALLY EFFECTIVE MEASURE AGAINST SPECULATION WOULD BE SOME KIND OF BAR ON EARLY RESALE, ALTHOUGH THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS WOULD DEPEND ON WHETHER THE INGENUITY OF THOSE INTERESTED WOULD FIND WAYS TO OUTWIT THE SYSTEM.

"AND ASSUMING THAT YOU WOULD NOT WANT TO HAVE SUCH CONTROLS IF THE MARKET FOR HOMES WAS NOT BEING SIGNIFICANTLY DISRUPTED, YOU WOULD HAVE TO HAVE CRITERIA FOR SWITCHING YOUR CONTROLS ON AND OFF," HE SAID.

"THIS IS PROBABLY NOT IMPOSSIBLE, BUT CERTAINLY DIFFICULT," MR BARNES ADDED.

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1990

- 13 -

ADDITIONAL SPECIAL CHILD CARE PLACES BEING PROVIDED

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THERE WILL BE AN ADDITIONAL 360 PLACES IN SPECIAL CHILD CARE CENTRES (SCCC) BY THE END OF 1989-90 AGAINST THE EXISTING 675 PLACES, THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, THE HON ELIZABETH WONG, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

IN A WRITTEN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON POON CHI-FAI, MRS WONG SAID BY THE END OF 1991-92, THERE WOULD BE A FURTHER 300 ADDITIONAL PLACES, BRINGING THE TOTAL PROVISION TO 1,335 PLACES.

AGAINST A PROJECTED DEMAND OF 1,305 IN 1991-92, THE PROVISION WAS ANTICIPATED TO BE ADEQUATE BY THE END OF THAT YEAR, SHE SAID.

MRS WONG EXPLAINED THAT IN THE 1987 REHABILITATION PROGRAMME PLAN (RPP) REVIEW, ESTIMATES ON THE DEMAND FOR SCCC, EARLY EDUCATION AND TRAINING CENTRES AND INTEGRATED PROGRAMME IN CHILD CARE CENTRES WERE PROJECTED ON THE BASIS OF PREVALENCE RATES BORROWED FROM OTHER COUNTRIES.

AS THE PROJECTED FIGURES BORE LITTLE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE KNOWN NUMBER OF DISABLED CHILDREN IN NEED OF PRE-SCHOOL SERVICES, THE METHODOLOGY FOR FORECASTING DEMAND WAS REVIEWED.

IT WAS ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE BY THE 1987 RPP REVIEW COMMITTEE THAT IT WOULD BE MORE REALISTIC TO PROJECT REQUIREMENT ON THE BASIS OF KNOWN DEMAND IN HONG KONG, THAT IS, THE NUMBER OF ENROLMENT PLUS THE NUMBER ON THE WAITING LIST, WITH A PERCENTAGE ADDED ON TO ESTIMATED HIDDEN DEMAND.

THIS FORMULA FOR PROJECTION HAD BEEN ADOPTED FOR REHABILITATION SERVICES FOR DISABLED ADULTS; AND ON THAT BASIS, THE PROJECTED DEMAND FOR SCCC IN 1989-90 WAS 1,330.

REFERRING TO THE PLACES IN SHELTERED WORKSHOPS, THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE SAID THERE WERE AT PRESENT 3,175 SUCH PLACES.

"EFFORTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO SPEED UP THE COMPLETION OF PLANNED PROJECTS WITH ENCOURAGING RESULT," MRS WONG SAID.

ACCORDINGLY, THERE WOULD BE AN ADDITION OF 1,465 PLACES AND A FURTHER 900 PLACES RESPECTIVELY BY THE END OF 1990-91 AND 1992-93.

"WITH A TOTAL OF 5,540 PLACES IN 1992-93 AGAINST A PROJECTED DEMAND OF 5,492 THE SERVICE NEED SHOULD BE ADEQUATELY MET IN THE END OF 1992-93," SHE SAID.

IN THE MEANTIME MRS WONG SAID INTERIM MEASURES SUCH AS HOME-BASED TRAINING AND COMMERCIAL HIRED VEHICLES WERE PROVIDED TO ASSIST THOSE DISABLED PERSONS AWAITING PLACEMENT INTO SHELTERED WORKSHOPS.

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- 14 -

"A SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT SCHEME IS ALSO BEING TRIED OUT FOR TWO YEARS WHICH, IF PROVED SUCCESSFUL, WILL BROADEN THE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES OF DISABLED PERSONS AND THEREBY RELIEVE TO SOME EXTENT THE DEMAND FOR SHELTERED WORKSHOP PLACES," SHE SAID.

MOREOVER, TWO COMPUTERISED CENTRAL REFERRAL SYSTEMS, NAMELY, THE CO-ORDINATED REFERRAL SYSTEM FOR DISABLED PRE-SCHOOLERS AND THE CENTRAL REFERRAL SYSTEM FOR DISABLED ADULTS, HAD BEEN SET UP BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT FOR PRE-SCHOOL DISABLED CHILDREN AND DISABLED ADULTS RESPECTIVELY TO CLOSELY MONITOR THE POSITION OF DEMAND AND SUPPLY AND TO FACILITATE REALISTIC PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OF SERVICES.

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BANKING BILL PASSED

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THE BANKING (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1989 WAS PASSED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

IN ADDITION, A PRIVATE BILL, THE HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF SURVEYORS BILL 1989, WAS PASSED. THIS HAD BEEN INTRODUCED BY THE HON CHENG HON-KWAN.

THE WHITE PAPER ON TRANSPORT POLICY, ENTITLED "MOVING INTO 21ST CENTURY", WAS TABLED BY THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, THE HON MICHAEL LEUNG.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7.

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1990

- 15 -

GOVERNOR SPEAKS ON RETURN OF VBP

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID THIS (WEDNESDAY) MORNING THAT IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE FOR VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE TO VOLUNTEER TO GO BACK TO VIETNAM, BUT IF THEY DID NOT, SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENTS MUST BE MADE FOR THEM TO DO SO.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING OF THE HONG KONG FASHION WEEK, SIR DAVID SAID THE VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE WERE GIVEN EVERY CHANCE OVER A LONG PERIOD OF TIME TO RETURN VOLUNTARILY.

"AND INDEED SOME OF THE FIRST GROUP THAT WAS GOING TO BE SENT BACK DID IN FACT VOLUNTEER, SO IT IS QUITE CLEAR THAT THEY HAVE THE CHANCE TO VOLUNTEER," HE SAID.

THE GOVERNOR WAS ASKED TO COMMENT ON THE REPORT BY LORD ENNALS WHO MONITORED THE 51 VBP WHO WERE SENT BACK MANDATORILY TO VIETNAM LAST MONTH.

SIR DAVID SAID ALTHOUGH HE HAD NOT READ THE REPORT IN FULL, HE THOUGHT THE KEY POINT MADE WAS THAT THE PEOPLE WHO WENT BACK TO THEIR HOMES IN VIETNAM HAD NOT IN ANY WAY BEEN MALTREATED WHEN THEY RETURNED.

"THAT WAS THE PURPOSE OF HIS MISSION AND I THOUGHT THAT WAS A VERY IMPORTANT POINT IN THAT IT MATTERS TO US A LOT," HE SAID.

"WHAT I WOULD SAY ABOUT THE SENDING OF THAT GROUP BACK TO VIETNAM IS WHENEVER YOU DO AN OPERATION LIKE THAT YOU WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT IT IS SUCCESSFUL.

"AND THEN THEREFORE YOU NEED TO HAVE SUFFICIENT PEOPLE TO MAKE SURE IT IS SUCCESSFUL SO THAT YOU DON'T HAVE TO USE ANY EXCESSIVE PERSUASION, AND IT WAS A VERY SUCCESSFUL OPERATION," HE ADDED.

ASKED TO COMMENT ON HONG KONG'S POLITICAL REFORM, THE GOVERNOR SAID: "THERE IS SOME DISCUSSION GOING ON AT THE MOMENT TO TRY TO FIND A SATISFACTORY WAY FORWARD ON THE QUESTION OF POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT. WE WOULD LIKE TO FIND THAT SORT OF SATISFACTORY PATTERN."

SIR DAVID SAID ALTHOUGH HE COULD NOT COMMENT FURTHER BECAUSE DISCUSSIONS WERE STILL GOING ON, HE SAID: "IT'S NOT A QUESTION IN ANY WAY, AT ANY TIME OF TRADING IN HONG KONG'S INTERESTS. IT'S TRYING TO ACHIEVE IN THE INTEREST OF HONG KONG, THE BEST POSSIBLE WAY FORWARD ON POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT."

THE GOVERNOR SAID THE VISIT BY THE FOREIGN SECRETARY WAS VERY USEFUL AND IMPORTANT.

"HE SAW A LARGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN A VERY SHORT PERIOD OF TIME. IF THE MEMBERS OF OMELCO WISH TO CARRY FORWARD DISCUSSION, THEN OF COURSE THEY SHOULD DO SO," SIR DAVID SAID.

"IT'S RIGHT THERE SHOULD BE A CONTINUING DISCUSSION ON MATTERS WHICH ARE OF ENORMOUS IMPORTANCE TO HONG KONG," HE ADDED.

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/16

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1990

- 16 -

FASHION INDUSTRY NEEDS TO MOVE UP MARKET: GOVERNOR

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HONG KONG'S TEXTILE INDUSTRY WILL NEED TO CONTINUE TO MOVE UP MARKET IN THE YEARS TO COME IF THE TERRITORY IS TO KEEP ITS COMPETITIVE EDGE OVER THOSE WHO ARE ALWAYS SNAPPING AT HONG KONG'S FASHIONABLE HEELS, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE "HONG KONG FASHION WEEK 1990" ORGANISED BY THE TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, THE GOVERNOR SAID PERSISTENT EFFORTS TO UPGRADE AND DIVERSIFY PRODUCTS, AND THE ABILITY TO RESPOND RAPIDLY TO CHANGING MARKET NEEDS WERE PART OF THE KEYS TO OUR ECONOMIC SUCCESS.

HE ADDED THAT HONG KONG MUST ALSO LOOK TO ITS YOUNG HOME-GROWN TALENTS TO TAKE THE TERRITORY INTO THE NEXT CENTURY AS A TREND-SETTER IN WORLD MARKETS.

"THE YOUNG DESIGNERS' SHOW, A MAJOR EVENT IN FASHION WEEK, WILL HAVE AN IMPORTANT PART TO PLAY IN ENCOURAGING OUR UP AND COMING FASHION DESIGNERS," THE GOVERNOR SAID.

SIR DAVID POINTED OUT THAT AS HONG KONG DEVELOPED INTO AN INCREASINGLY SOPHISTICATED ECONOMY AND THE IMPORTANCE OF ITS SERVICE INDUSTRIES GREW, THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR WAS STILL GOING TO REMAIN ONE OF THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE ECONOMY.

"IN THIS GARMENTS AND CLOTHING HAVE ALWAYS BEEN THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF HONG KONG'S EXPORTS," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID NOTED THAT IN 1989 CLOTHING AND TEXTILE EXPORTS ACCOUNTED FOR 39 PER CENT OF HONG KONG'S TOTAL DOMESTIC EXPORTS, AND THE INDUSTRY EMPLOYED OVER 40 PER CENT OF THE INDUSTRIAL WORKFORCE.

HONG KONG RANKED SECOND AMONG THE WORLD'S EXPORTERS OF GARMENTS AFTER ITALY, AND LESS WELL KNOWN WAS THAT IT WAS ALSO THE SECOND LARGEST GARMENT IMPORTER IN ASIA AFTER JAPAN, SIR DAVID SAID.

THE GOVERNOR SAID HONG KONG'S GARMENT PRODUCERS HAD SWEEP ASIDE ITS LONG OUT-DATED IMAGE AS A PRODUCER OF CHEAP, LOW QUALITY GOODS.

"WE RELY ON THEIR ENTERPRISE TO HELP US MAINTAIN HONG KONG'S LEADING ECONOMIC POSITION IN THE WORLD'S FASHION MARKETS, A POSITION WHICH HAS BEEN BUILT UP OVER THE LAST DECADE," SIR DAVID SAID.

HE NOTED THAT THE HONG KONG FASHION WEEK HAD DEVELOPED OVER THE PAST 30 YEARS FROM A SMALL-SCALE FASHION SHOW INTO ONE OF THE MAJOR FASHION SPECTACULARS IN ASIA.

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1990

- 17 -

"THIS IS A GREAT CREDIT TO THE HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL WHICH WORKED CLOSELY WITH GARMENT MANUFACTURING COMPANIES FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD TO PRODUCE A UNIQUE EVENT: AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY BOTH TO PROMOTE HONG KONG'S GARMENT EXPORTS AND FOR LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL MANUFACTURERS TO SWAP IDEAS," SIR DAVID SAID.

THE FASHION INDUSTRY WAS A SECTOR OF THE LOCAL ECONOMY THAT HAD ALWAYS BEEN UNIQUELY WELL ABLE TO ADJUST ITS OWN PRODUCTS AND STRATEGIES IN HONG KONG AND OVERSEAS, THE GOVERNOR CONCLUDED.

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SURVEY OF ATTENDEES AT GOVT CLINICS COMPLETED
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THE WORKING PARTY ON PRIMARY HEALTH CARE HAD COMMISSIONED A SURVEY OF ATTENDEES AT GOVERNMENT OUT-PATIENT CLINICS AND MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH CENTRES AND THE REPORT WOULD FORM A VALUABLE INPUT INTO THE WORKING PARTY'S CONSIDERATION OF THESE TWO SERVICES.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER THE WORKING PARTY'S FIFTH MEETING THIS (WEDNESDAY) AFTERNOON, THE CHAIRMAN, PROFESSOR ROSIE YOUNG, SAID SURVEY WORK HAD BEEN COMPLETED AND THE ANALYSIS WOULD BE FINISHED AND A REPORT PRODUCED BY THE END OF MARCH.

REVIEWING THE WORK PROGRESS OF THE WORKING PARTY, PROF YOUNG SAID MEMBERS HAD HAD STIMULATING DISCUSSIONS ON MEASURES TO IMPROVE THE SYSTEM OF PRIMARY HEALTH CARE IN HONG KONG.

"THESE PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS WILL HELP MEMBERS TO KEEP IN MIND THE OVERALL PICTURE OF PRIMARY HEALTH CARE WHEN THEY COME TO REVIEW THE INDIVIDUAL COMPONENTS," SHE SAID.

SHE POINTED OUT THAT ONE IMPORTANT AREA FOR THE WORKING PARTY TO CONSIDER WAS THE FINANCING OF HEALTH CARE.

"WITH THIS IN MIND, FOUR MEMBERS ATTENDED AN INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON HEALTH CARE FINANCING HELD IN TAIPEI IN DECEMBER LAST YEAR," SHE SAID.

THE SYMPOSIUM EXAMINED THE HEALTH CARE FINANCING SYSTEMS IN A NUMBER OF WESTERN COUNTRIES AND IN JAPAN.

PROF YOUNG SAID THE WORKING PARTY WOULD IN THE NEXT FEW MEETINGS CONSIDER THE LESSONS WHICH COULD BE DRAWN FOR HONG KONG FROM THESE COUNTRIES' EXPERIENCE.

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MEMBERS OF THE WORKING PARTY WILL BE VISITING SINGAPORE AT THE END OF FEBRUARY TO STUDY THE COUNTRY'S PRIMARY HEALTH CARE SYSTEM.

"THE WORKING PARTY WILL LOOK AT THE MANAGEMENT OF THE CLINICS IN SINGAPORE AND THE WAY IN WHICH THE SYSTEM ENABLES PATIENTS TO BE CARED FOR WITHOUT ADMISSION TO HOSPITALS," PROF YOUNG SAID.

"ANOTHER AREA WHICH THE WORKING PARTY WILL LOOK AT IS THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE," SHE ADDED.

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DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY SPEAKS ON QUALITY ENHANCEMENT

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NO AMOUNT OF COMPUTERISATION CAN IMPROVE THINGS IF QUALITY ASSURANCE HAD NOT BEEN FIRST FIRMLY ESTABLISHED BY MANUFACTURERS, THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR T.H. BARMA, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE COMPUTER AIDED QUALITY ENHANCEMENT SEMINAR, MR BARMA SAID ONE HAD TO KNOW WHAT ONE WANTED TO DO BEFORE ONE COULD PROGRAMME THE COMPUTER TO DO IT.

HE SAID IT WAS THEREFORE A WISE DECISION FOR THE Q-MARK COUNCIL AND IBM TO JOIN FORCES IN PUTTING TOGETHER THIS SEMINAR.

"IN MY VIEW, THE EVENT UNDOUBTEDLY COMPLEMENTS A HOST OF OTHER ACTIVITIES IN THE QUALITY AWARENESS PROGRAMME."

HE NOTED THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF QUALITY IMPROVEMENT SYSTEMS HAD BEEN DRAMATIC.

"IN THE LATE 1970'S AND EARLY 1980'S WHEN CONSUMERS WERE LESS DEMANDING, MOST MANUFACTURERS OF CONSUMER GOODS WORLDWIDE, WITH A FEW NOTABLE EXCEPTIONS, PAID ONLY SCANT ATTENTION TO THE CONCEPT OF QUALITY SYSTEMS IN THEIR INDUSTRIAL PROCESSES.

"QUALITY CONTROL, WHERE IT EXISTED, INVOLVED NO MORE THAN RANDOM INSPECTION OF THE FACTORY'S FINAL PRODUCT. QUALITY ASSURANCE WAS LARGELY UNHEARD OF.

"TRIGGERED BY SEVERE INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION IN TRADE, EMPHASIS HAD GRADUALLY SHIFTED TO MANUFACTURING CONSUMER GOODS OF IMPROVED QUALITY AND PROVIDING CONSUMERS WITH VALUE FOR MONEY," MR BARMA SAID.

HE NOTED THAT FOR HONG KONG INDUSTRIES TO MEET THIS CHALLENGE AND MOVE INTO THE PRODUCTION OF HIGH-VALUE-ADDED GOODS, THE GOVERNMENT RECOGNISED THAT THE WIDESPREAD ADOPTION OF QUALITY ASSURANCE BY LOCAL MANUFACTURERS WAS A PREREQUISITE.

/HE SAID

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1990

- 19 -

HE SAID A SOUND QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE WAS DEVELOPED TO PROMOTE THE CONCEPT OF QUALITY ASSURANCE.

TURNING TO THE EFFORTS MADE BY THE PRIVATE SECTOR, HE SAID HE WAS PLEASED TO NOTE THE NEWLY RE-CONSTRUCTED HKQ-MARK AND LOOKED FORWARD TO IT PLAYING AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE OVERALL QUALITY ENHANCEMENT EFFORTS.

MR BARMA BELIEVED THE CLIMATE WAS NOW CHANGING AND WOULD CONTINUE TO DO SO AS THE QUALITY AWARENESS CAMPAIGN MESSAGE TOOK HOLD.

"AS THE DEMANDS OF INDUSTRY UNFOLD, THE HKQ-MARK NOW APPEARS TO BE BETTER PLACED TO ASSIST IN SATISFYING SOME OF THOSE DEMANDS," HE SAID.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

COPIES OF MR T.H. BARMA'S SPEECH WILL BE BOXED.

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IMMIGRATION HEADQUARTERS ON MOVE

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THE IMMIGRATION HEADQUARTERS IN TSIM SHA TSUI WILL MOVE TO WANCHAI TOWER II, 7 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI ON MONDAY (JANUARY 22).

"THE EXISTING HEADQUARTERS WILL BE CLOSED FROM FRIDAY (JANUARY 19) TO FACILITATE REMOVAL," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

EFFECTIVE FROM MONDAY, THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS OFFICE ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF PROVIDENT CENTRE, NORTH POINT AND THE HONG KONG ISLAND OFFICE ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF HARBOUR BUILDING, CENTRAL, WILL ALSO BE REPROVISIONED TO THE NEW HEADQUARTERS.

THE NEW IMMIGRATION HEADQUARTERS IS EASILY ACCESSIBLE FROM THE WAN CHAI MTR STATION. IT OCCUPIES 25 FLOORS OF WANCHAI TOWER II, OF WHICH EIGHT LOWER PUBLIC FLOORS ARE USED TO PROCESS APPLICATIONS FOR VARIOUS IMMIGRATION FACILITIES.

THE INFORMATION OFFICE, WHICH PROVIDES INFORMATION SERVICES AND APPLICATION FORMS TO THE PUBLIC, IS SITUATED ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE BUILDING.

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- 20 -

THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY TELEPHONE NUMBER AT THE NEW IMMIGRATION HEADQUARTERS IS 8246111.

RECORDED ANSWERS WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR STRAIGHT-FORWARD ENQUIRIES WHILE MORE DETAILED ANSWERS WILL CONTINUE TO BE PROVIDED BY EXPERIENCED IMMIGRATION STAFF.

"DURING THE CLOSURE OF THE EXISTING HEADQUARTERS ON JANUARY 19 AND 20, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC REQUIRING URGENT IMMIGRATION FACILITIES MAY APPROACH OUR OTHER IMMIGRATION OFFICES FOR ASSISTANCE," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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ASD MAINTENANCE BRANCH TO GET HEADQUARTERS BLDG
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THE GOVERNMENT'S PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AGENT, THE MAINTENANCE BRANCH OF THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, WILL HAVE ITS OWN HEADQUARTERS BUILDING LATER THIS YEAR.

WHEN THE BRANCH MOVES FROM ITS PRESENT LEASED ACCOMMODATION, THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE ABLE TO SAVE ABOUT \$32 MILLION PER ANNUM ON RENTS.

THE BRANCH, WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED 28 YEARS AGO, PROVIDES PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SERVICES TO MAJOR GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND DOMESTIC COMPLEXES. IT ALSO UNDERTAKES ALTERATION, ADDITION, REFURBISHMENT AND FITTING-OUT WORKS FOR ALL EXISTING GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS.

SPEAKING AT THE TOPPING-OUT OF THE BRANCH'S NEW HEADQUARTERS BUILDING IN TO KWA WAN TODAY (WEDNESDAY), THE DIRECTOR OF ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES, MR JOSE LEI, SAID THE BRANCH HAD A PORTFOLIO OF 6,000 PUBLIC BUILDINGS, RANGING FROM PUBLIC PLAYGROUNDS TO HOSPITALS OWNED OR CONTROLLED BY THE GOVERNMENT, THE URBAN COUNCIL AND THE REGIONAL COUNCIL.

THE UPKEEP OF THE PREMISES OCCUPIED BY THE ARMED FORCES ALSO FELL WITHIN THE BRANCH'S RESPONSIBILITY, HE SAID.

THE BRANCH IS SPENDING \$2.5 MILLION DAILY TO ENSURE THAT PUBLIC PROPERTY AND FACILITIES ARE PROPERLY MAINTAINED.

THE NEW HEADQUARTERS BUILDING, WHICH ALSO INCORPORATES STORES AND CONTRACTORS WORKSHOPS, HAS BEEN DESIGNED TO ACCOMMODATE THE SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS OF THE BRANCH.

THE BRANCH WILL BE RENAMED THE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT BRANCH FROM APRIL.

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DB COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS TOURISM PROMOTION CAMPAIGN

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THE ISLANDS DISTRICT BOARD'S TOURISM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS THE PROGRESS OF THE DISTRICT'S TOURISM PROMOTION CAMPAIGN AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

MEMBERS WILL REVIEW THE ACTIVITIES HELD UNDER THE CAMPAIGN PROGRAMME, WHICH INCLUDED A PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION AND AN EXHIBITION OF THE WINNING ENTRIES, AND WILL MAKE SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE ACTIVITIES.

THEY WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE PROPOSED ESTIMATES FOR THE COMMITTEE IN 1990-91, WAYS TO DETER NUISANCES CAUSED BY HOLIDAY MAKERS, SANITARY CONDITIONS OF MUI WO PARK, PROGRESS ON THE PREPARATION OF TOURIST MAP BOARDS, AND THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A MUSEUM IN THE DISTRICT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE ISLANDS DISTRICT BOARD'S TOURISM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE TO BE HELD TOMORROW (THURSDAY) IN THE DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, 20TH FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2 PM.

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DB COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER FUND ALLOCATION

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THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE WILL CONSIDER THE ALLOCATION OF ABOUT \$120,000 IN DB FUNDS FOR 21 ACTIVITIES IN THE COMING MONTHS AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

THESE INCLUDE A SEMINAR ON THE CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION FOR FORM FIVE STUDENTS, THE PRINTING OF A CORRESPONDENCE LIST FOR ALL SHAM SHUI PO SCHOOLS, A LARGE-SCALE INTER-SCHOOL SINGING CONTEST, AREA COMMITTEE FUNCTIONS DURING THE LUNAR NEW YEAR AND FUNCTIONS FOR THE ELDERLY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE TO BE HELD TOMORROW (THURSDAY) AT THE SHEK KIP MEI COMMUNITY HALL, BLOCK 42, SHEK KIP MEI ESTATE, NAM CHEONG STREET.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2 PM.

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1990

- 22 -

DB WORKING GROUP TO DISCUSS CONSTRUCTION OF CEMENT DEPOT

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MEMBERS OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD'S WORKING GROUP ON AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES WILL EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF A CEMENT DEPOT AT SHUEN WAN AT THE WORKING GROUP'S MEETING TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

THEY WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE IMPROVEMENT OF FISH CULTURE ZONE FACILITIES IN THE DISTRICT.

OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION INCLUDE WATER POLLUTION IN TOLO HARBOUR AND REFUSE PROBLEMS IN FISH CULTURE ZONES.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD'S WORKING GROUP ON AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES TO BE HELD TOMORROW (THURSDAY) 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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EMPLOYERS REMINDED OF LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS

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EMPLOYERS ARE TODAY (WEDNESDAY) REMINDED THAT LUNAR NEW YEAR'S EVE, NEW YEAR'S DAY AND THE THIRD DAY OF THE NEW YEAR, WHICH FALL ON JANUARY 26, 27 AND 29, ARE STATUTORY HOLIDAYS FOR WORKERS.

AS THE SECOND DAY OF THE LUNAR NEW YEAR FALLS ON A SUNDAY, THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE PROVIDES THAT LUNAR NEW YEAR'S EVE SHOULD INSTEAD BE MADE A STATUTORY HOLIDAY.

ACCORDING TO THE ORDINANCE, NON-MANUAL WORKERS EARNING NOT MORE THAN \$11,500 A MONTH AND ALL MANUAL WORKERS ARE ENTITLED TO THE HOLIDAYS AND MUST BE PAID FOR THE DAYS OFF IF THEY HAVE WORKED CONTINUOUSLY FOR THREE MONTHS PRECEDING THE HOLIDAYS.

WHERE EARNINGS VARY FROM DAY TO DAY, HOLIDAY PAY SHOULD BE THE AVERAGE DAILY EARNINGS DURING EVERY COMPLETE WAGE PERIOD OF BETWEEN 28 AND 31 DAYS PRECEDING THE HOLIDAY.

IF AN EMPLOYEE IS REQUIRED TO WORK ON A STATUTORY HOLIDAY, HE MUST BE GIVEN AN ALTERNATIVE DAY OFF EITHER 60 DAYS BEFORE OR AFTER THAT DAY WITH 48 HOURS' NOTICE.

/EMPLOYERS WHO

EMPLOYERS WHO FAIL TO GRANT THEIR EMPLOYEES ANY ENTITLED STATUTORY HOLIDAYS OR HOLIDAY PAY ARE LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$10,000.

FURTHER ENQUIRIES CONCERNING STATUTORY HOLIDAYS MAY BE MADE AT ANY BRANCH OFFICES OF THE DEPARTMENT'S LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE.

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GUIDE TO SAFETY OF NAVIGATION ON SMALL CRAFT AVAILABLE
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A GUIDE TO SAFETY OF NAVIGATION ON SMALL CRAFT IS NOW AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE FROM VARIOUS MARINE OFFICES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MARINE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE GUIDE, AVAILABLE IN BOTH CHINESE AND ENGLISH, IS THE LATEST EFFORT TO EDUCATE SMALL CRAFT OPERATORS ON HOW THEY SHOULD SAIL THEIR CRAFT SAFELY.

THE MARINE DEPARTMENT HAS ISSUED SEVERAL NOTICES RELATING TO SAFETY ON BOARD VESSELS BUT ACCIDENTS STILL CONTINUE TO OCCUR.

"ALTHOUGH THE ACCIDENT RATE IS NOT VERY HIGH COMPARED TO THE TRAFFIC IN THE HARBOUR, THE DEPARTMENT IS CONCERNED AS MANY OF THESE ACCIDENTS COULD HAVE BEEN EASILY AVOIDED," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

LAST YEAR, 288 ACCIDENTS WERE REPORTED WITH IN 41 LIVES LOST AND 50 PERSONS INJURED. TWENTY-NINE PER CENT OF THESE ACCIDENTS INVOLVED FISHING VESSELS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID MANY OF THESE ACCIDENTS OCCURRED BECAUSE THE CREWS DID NOT OBSERVE SIMPLE PRECAUTIONS WHEN HANDLING THEIR VESSELS.

HE CITED A RECENT COLLISION WHICH RESULTED IN THE LOSS OF A 22-METRE FISHING VESSEL.

INVESTIGATION SHOWED THAT THE VESSEL WAS OPERATED BY A FAMILY OF FIVE, THREE MEMBERS (TWO GIRLS AND ONE BOY) OF WHOM WERE 10 TO 12 YEARS OLD. NOBODY POSSESSED A COMPETENCY CERTIFICATE FOR HANDLING THE VESSEL OR OPERATING THE ENGINE.

IT WAS LEARNT THAT IN THE HOUR BEFORE THE COLLISION, EVERYONE ON BOARD WAS BUSY HAULING THE NET. NOBODY NOTICED WHAT WAS HAPPENING AROUND THEM AND NOBODY WAS STEERING THE VESSEL.

ONLY THE FATHER AND A 10-YEAR-OLD GIRL WERE RESCUED IN THE ACCIDENT.

/THE SPOKESMAN

- 24 -

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT WITH THE APPROACH OF THE FOGGY SEASON, THE DEPARTMENT WISHED TO REMIND COXSWAINS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CORRECT USE OF RADARS.

"SOME PEOPLE MAY THINK THAT THE RADAR IS SIMPLE TO USE AND THAT IT ENABLES YOU TO GO FAST IN FOG," HE SAID.

"THIS IS NOT THE CASE. YOU HAVE TO BE TRAINED TO BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND RADAR INFORMATION AND, EVEN THEN, YOUR VESSEL'S SPEED SHOULD BE SLOW, ESPECIALLY WHEN THE RADAR SHOWS HEAVY TRAFFIC."

THE SPOKESMAN HOPED THAT ALL SMALL CRAFT OPERATORS WOULD READ THE GUIDEBOOK CAREFULLY.

THE ADVICE IN THE BOOKLET IS ALSO USEFUL FOR CANDIDATES PREPARING FOR ALL GRADES OF THE LOCAL MASTERS' CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY.

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GOVT LAND TO LET BY TENDER

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THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT IS OFFERING TO LET BY TENDER A PIECE OF GOVERNMENT LAND IN D.D. NO. 91, FANLING, AREA 29B, NEW TERRITORIES.

MEASURING ABOUT 7,300 SQUARE METRES IN AREA, THE LOT IS TO BE USED FOR OPEN STORAGE OF GOODS (INCLUDING NEW MOTOR VEHICLES NOT LICENSED UNDER THE ROAD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE, BUT EXCLUDING THE STORAGE OF CONTAINERS) OR STORAGE AND SALE OF POTTED PLANTS (BUT NOT BOTH).

THE LEASE IS FOR ONE YEAR AND IS RENEWABLE ON A QUARTERLY BASIS.

FORM OF TENDER, TENDER NOTICE AND CONDITIONS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM AND TENDER PLAN INSPECTED AT THE NORTH DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, PIK FUNG ROAD, FANLING; THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG; AND THE KOWLOON DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES, 10TH FLOOR, YAU MA TEI CARPARK BUILDING, 250 SHANGHAI STREET.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF TENDERS IS NOON ON FEBRUARY 2 THIS YEAR.

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1990

- 25 -

TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN KING'S ROAD

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT WITH EFFECT FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (JANUARY 19), CERTAIN SECTIONS OF KING'S ROAD WILL BE TEMPORARILY DESIGNATED 24-HOUR DAILY URBAN CLEARWAYS TO FACILITATE ROAD RECONSTRUCTION WORKS.

KING'S ROAD EASTBOUND FROM A POINT ABOUT 60 METRES WEST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH THE WESTERN ARM OF SHIPYARD LANE TO A POINT ABOUT 130 METRES EAST OF THE SAME JUNCTION WILL BE DESIGNATED AN URBAN CLEARWAY FOR ABOUT NINE MONTHS.

KING'S ROAD EASTBOUND FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH KORNHILL ROAD TO A POINT ABOUT 175 METRES WEST OF THE SAME JUNCTION WILL BE DESIGNATED AN URBAN CLEARWAY FOR ABOUT 18 MONTHS.

ALL VEHICLES, EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES AND THOSE WITH PERMITS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM STOPPING FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS THERE.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN QUARRY BAY

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT TO FACILITATE THE RECONSTRUCTION OF KING'S ROAD, THE VEHICULAR TRAFFIC FLOW IN SHIPYARD LANE, QUARRY BAY, WILL BE RE-ROUTED TO A CLOCKWISE DIRECTION FROM FRIDAY (JANUARY 19) FOR 18 MONTHS.

AT THE SAME TIME, ALL VEHICLES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO TURN RIGHT FROM KING'S ROAD EASTBOUND ONTO GREIG ROAD.

VEHICLES TRAVELLING ON KING'S ROAD EASTBOUND HEADING FOR GREIG ROAD WILL BE DIVERTED VIA KING'S ROAD EASTBOUND, KORNHILL ROAD WESTBOUND AND KING'S ROAD WESTBOUND. GREEN MINIBUSES ON ROUTE 33 ON THEIR JOURNEYS TO KORNHILL WILL ALSO BE DIVERTED VIA THIS ROUTEING.

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1990

- 26 -

URBAN CLEARWAY AT HK INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (JANUARY 19), THE EASTERN KERBSIDE LANE OF THE DEPARTURE CIRCUIT, FROM THE BAGGAGE VEHICLES HOLDING AREA TO A POINT ABOUT 35 METRES SOUTH OF THE SAME AREA AT THE DEPARTURE LEVEL IN THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, WILL BE DESIGNATED AN URBAN CLEARWAY 24 HOURS DAILY.

ALL VEHICLES, EXCEPT THOSE WITH PERMITS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM STOPPING FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS THERE.

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URBAN CLEARWAYS IN SHA TIN

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (JANUARY 19), THE FOLLOWING ROAD SECTIONS IN SHA TIN WILL BE DESIGNATED URBAN CLEARWAYS FROM 7 AM TO MIDNIGHT DAILY:

- * THE SECTION OF KONG PUI STREET NORTHBOUND BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH SHA KOK STREET AND YI SHING SQUARE;
- * THE SECTION OF SHA KOK STREET EASTBOUND BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH KONG PUI STREET AND A POINT ABOUT 53 METRES WEST OF THE SAME JUNCTION; AND
- * THE SECTION OF YI SHING SQUARE BETWEEN ITS SOUTHERN END JUNCTION WITH KONG PUI STREET AND A POINT ABOUT 33 METRES WEST OF THE SAME JUNCTION.

ALL VEHICLES, EXCEPT THOSE WITH PERMITS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM STOPPING FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS AT THESE ROAD SECTIONS.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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