



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1984

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GOVERNOR RETURNS FROM PEKING

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THE FOLLOWING IS THE STATEMENT MADE BY THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, TO WAITING JOURNALISTS UPON HIS RETURN FROM PEKING THIS EVENING.

+WE'VE HAD ANOTHER TWO DAYS WORKING ON THOSE ISSUES WHICH THE SECRETARY OF STATE INDICATED NEEDED FURTHER DISCUSSION, AND I SHALL BE GOING BACK TO PEKING AGAIN IN JUST OVER TEN DAYS TO CONTINUE THAT PROCESS OF THE NEXT ROUND.

+NEXT WEEK WE WILL HAVE DR. DAVID WILSON AND SOME OF HIS TEAM HERE TO PREPARE FOR A RESUMPTION OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE WORKING GROUP, AND I'M SURE THEIR ACTIVITIES IN THE NEXT PHASE WILL BE AS PRODUCTIVE AS THEY WERE IN THE LAST ONE.

+IN THE MEANWHILE, AS USUAL, I HAVE A CERTAIN AMOUNT TO CATCH UP; I WANT TO GO ABOUT THE SPEECHES IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL YESTERDAY ON THE TEST OF ACCEPTABILITY, AND ALSO THE VIEWS THAT HAVE BEEN EXPRESSED ON THE GREEN PAPER.

+WE DO OF COURSE WANT AS WIDE AN EXPRESSION OF VIEWS AS WE CAN GET ON THE GREEN PAPER, AS A BASIS FOR THE DECISIONS WHICH WILL HAVE TO BE MADE ON IT.

+AND SO I'D BETTER GO BACK AND DO A LITTLE READING. WITH THAT I WISH YOU ALL GOOD NIGHT.+

THE GOVERNOR WAS MET AT THE AIRPORT BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, SENIOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, SIR S.Y. CHUNG, SENIOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR ROGER LOBO, AND THE VICE-CHIEF EDITOR OF THE XINHUA NEWS AGENCY (HK BRANCH), MR TAN GAN.

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U.S. AGREES TO TALK ON TEXTILE RULES

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AS A RESULT OF REQUESTS BY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT, THE UNITED STATES AUTHORITIES HAVE AGREED TO HOLD INITIAL CONSULTATIONS IN WASHINGTON TOMORROW (FRIDAY) FOLLOWED BY TWO DAYS OF CONSULTATIONS BEGINNING ON AUGUST 20 ON THE PROPOSED NEW U.S. ORIGIN RULES ON TEXTILE IMPORTS.

MRS EMMELINE MOK, ACTING COUNSELLOR (HONG KONG COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS) IN WASHINGTON, WILL LEAD THE HONG KONG TEAM IN THE TALKS ON AUGUST 10 WITH SENIOR OFFICIALS OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE AND OTHER AGENCIES. THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, WILL LEAD THE HONG KONG TEAM FOR THE CONSULTATIONS ON AUGUST 20 AND 21.

/THE OBJECTIVE

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THE OBJECTIVE OF THE INITIAL DISCUSSIONS IS TO SEEK CLARIFICATION ON THE INTENDED APPLICATION OF THE PROPOSED RULES AND TO CLARIFY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT'S POSITION AS REGARDS THE RELEVANCE OF THE RULES TO HONG KONG UNDER THE BILATERAL TEXTILES AGREEMENT.

IN ANNOUNCING THIS, A TRADE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN REAFFIRMED THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT'S STAND THAT THE PROPOSED RULES WERE IN BREACH OF THE BILATERAL AGREEMENT AND WERE CLEARLY UNACCEPTABLE.

HE SAID: +THE RULES ALSO VIOLATE THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE (GATT) AND CONFLICT WITH THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF THE MULTI-FIBRE ARRANGEMENT (MFA).

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE TEXTILES ADVISORY BOARD (TEXTAB) WAS FULLY APPRAISED OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AT ITS MEETING THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON.

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'HOT' LINES SET UP FOR TEXTILES TRADERS
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THE TRADE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT IT HAD ALLOCATED THREE TELEPHONE +HOT+ LINES TO DEAL WITH PROBLEMS WHICH HONG KONG'S TEXTILES TRADE ARE EXPERIENCING FOLLOWING THE PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER OF NEW UNITED STATES RULES OF ORIGIN ON TEXTILE IMPORTS. THIS ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE FOLLOWING A TEXTILE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON.

THE NUMBERS OF THE THREE LINES ARE :

NAME -----	TEL NO -----
MR H. M. LAI	3-7222446
MR L. K. W. LAM	3-7222351
MISS A. C. H. LIN	3-7222343

FROM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) THE TELEPHONES WILL BE MANNED BETWEEN 9 AM AND 5 PM MONDAY TO FRIDAY, AND 9 AM AND NOON ON SATURDAYS.

ALL INFORMATION GIVEN TO TRADE OFFICERS MANNING THE +HOT+ LINES WILL BE LOGGED. WRITTEN INFORMATION WILL ALSO BE WELCOMED AND CAN BE SENT TO MISS A.C.H. LIN, TRADE DEPARTMENT, 15TH FLOOR, OCEAN CENTRE, 5 CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON.

/ANNOUNCING THE

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ANNOUNCING THE SETTING UP OF THE SERVICE, A TRADE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE MAIN INTENTIONS OF THE SCHEME WERE TO PROVIDE A READY CHANNEL OF COMMUNICATION FOR THE TRADE, AND TO GATHER DETAILED INFORMATION CONCERNING PROBLEMS FACING HONG KONG IN ORDER TO DEVELOP A FULL PICTURE WHICH WOULD BE PRESENTED TO THE UNITED STATES. HE ENCOURAGED ALL PARTIES AFFECTED TO MAKE THEIR CONCERNS KNOWN TO THE DEPARTMENT.

HE SAID THAT SINCE MANY PROVISIONS OF THE REGULATIONS REMAINED UNCLEAR IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE TO GIVE IMMEDIATE ANSWERS TO A LOT OF QUESTIONS.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED : +WE ARE INTERESTED IN ANY PROBLEMS THE TRADE MAY BE EXPERIENCING OR EXPECTING, SUCH AS CONTRACT PROBLEMS, WORRIES ABOUT THE DETAILED PROVISIONS OF THE NEW REGULATIONS, ETC.

+THIS DOES NOT IMPLY THAT THE GOVERNMENT ACCEPTS IN ANY WAY THE PROVISIONS OF THE REGULATIONS WHATSOEVER.+

+IT IS SIMPLY A PRUDENT STEP TO ENSURE THAT WE ARE FULLY AWARE OF PROBLEMS WHICH MAY ARISE OR WHICH MAY ALREADY HAVE TAKEN PLACE, SUCH AS LOSS OF ORDERS, CANCELLATION OF CONTRACTS AND SO ON,+ HE SAID.

IN THE MEANTIME HE CONFIRMED THAT CERTIFICATES OF HONG KONG ORIGIN WOULD CONTINUE TO BE ISSUED IN THE NORMAL WAY.

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INFORMAL GROUP ISSUES STATEMENT IN GENEVA
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HONG KONG HAS JOINED WITH OTHER DEVELOPING EXPORTERS OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING IN GENEVA IN ISSUING THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT CONCERNING RECENT TEXTILE EVENTS IN THE UNITED STATES:

+THE INFORMAL GROUP OF PARTICIPANTS IN THE PROGRAMME OF CO-OPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING EXPORTERS OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING MET IN GENEVA ON 7 AND 8 AUGUST TO REVIEW RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN RESPECT OF TWO SETS OF PROTECTIONIST MEASURES CURRENTLY CONTEMPLATED IN THE UNITED STATES:

- COUNTERVAILING DUTY PETITIONS AGAINST TEXTILES AND TEXTILE PRODUCTS FROM DEVELOPING EXPORTERS; AND
- COUNTRY OF ORIGIN REGULATIONS.

+THE GROUP CONDEMNED THESE MEASURES AS DISCRIMINATORY AND DESIGNED TO HARASS AND RESTRAIN LEGITIMATE TRADE FOR DOMESTIC POLITICAL REASONS.

/+THE GROUP

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+THE GROUP CALLED ON THE UNITED STATES AUTHORITIES TO RESIST THE COUNTERVAILING DUTY PETITIONS; TO WITHHOLD IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN REGULATIONS AND TO AFFORD ADEQUATE OPPORTUNITY FOR PRIOR BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS WITH AFFECTED TRADING PARTNERS WITH A VIEW TO SEEKING SATISFACTORY SOLUTIONS TO SUCH PROBLEMS AS MIGHT EXIST.

+IN THE MEANTIME, AND BECAUSE OF THE IMMINENCE OF THESE MEASURES AND THEIR POTENTIALLY DEVASTATING EFFECT ON LEGITIMATE TRADE, THE GROUP HAS CALLED FOR A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE GATT TEXTILES COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE THESE MEASURES NO LATER THAN THE FIRST WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 1984.+

THE STATEMENT FOCUSES ON TWO ACTIONS WITHIN THE UNITED STATES : THE FIRST ACTION CONCERNS PETITIONS MADE AGAINST THE IMPORT INTO THE UNITED STATES FROM TWELVE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (NOT INCLUDING HONG KONG) OF A WIDE RANGE OF TEXTILE GOODS: THE SECOND ACTION IS THE NEW REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE IMPORT OF TEXTILES INTO THE UNITED STATES AS HAS BEEN WIDELY REPORTED IN THE MEDIA RECENTLY.

COMMENTING ON THE DEVELOPMENT, A TRADE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT IT WAS A WELCOME MOVE WHICH CLEARLY REFLECTED THE EXTENT OF THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE U.S. ACTIONS FOR MANY TERRITORIES. AS REGARDS THE NEW REGULATIONS, HONG KONG WAS CLEARLY NOT ALONE IN FINDING THEM OBJECTIONABLE AND A THREAT TO LEGITIMATE TRADE.

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CRACKDOWN ON LAGGARD COMPANIES

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A MUCH TOUGHER APPROACH TO THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE HAS SEEN A BIG JUMP IN THE NUMBER OF CONVICTIONS OBTAINED.

FROM JANUARY TO JULY LAST YEAR 13 CHARGES WERE LAID UNDER THE ORDINANCE WITH 13 CONVICTIONS. FOR THE SAME PERIOD THIS YEAR 106 CHARGES HAVE BEEN LAID, WITH 49 CONVICTIONS OBTAINED AND 57 CASES PENDING.

THE MORE ROBUST APPROACH TO ENFORCEMENT OF THE ORDINANCE IS TO CONTINUE, SAYS THE REGISTRAR GENERAL, MR NOEL GLEESON. THE NUMBER OF COMPANIES PROSECUTED FOR FAILING TO FILE ANNUAL RETURNS AND ACCOUNTS, AND OTHER OFFENCES, IS LIKELY TO GROW FOLLOWING A CHANGE IN PROCEDURES.

+THE COMPANIES REGISTRY HAS IN THE PAST PUBLISHED PRESS NOTICES REMINDING COMPANIES TO FILE ANNUAL RETURNS, INCLUDING THE BALANCE SHEET, AUDITED ACCOUNTS AND DIRECTORS' REPORT BEFORE DEADLINE,+ SAID MR GLEESON.

/+HOWEVER, THIS

+HOWEVER, THIS HAS OFTEN LED TO PROLONGED CORRESPONDENCE WITH COMPANIES SEEKING TO BUY TIME. THIS PROCEDURE INCREASINGLY HAS BECOME THE SUBJECT OF ABUSE BY MANY COMPANIES AND THEIR DIRECTORS.+

IN FUTURE, REMINDERS WILL NO LONGER BE PUBLISHED IN THE PRESS AND COMPANIES WILL NOT BE INDIVIDUALLY FOREWARNED OF THE IMPENDING TIME LIMIT FOR COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS OF THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE.

+FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE ORDINANCE COULD BE PARTICULARLY SERIOUS IN THE CASE OF PUBLIC LISTED COMPANIES WHERE OBVIOUSLY THERE MUST BE CONSIDERABLE PUBLIC INTEREST AND INVOLVEMENT,+ SAID MR GLEESON. THERE ARE 527 PUBLIC COMPANIES LIMITED BY SHARE ON THE COMPANIES REGISTER OF WHICH 257 ARE LISTED ON THE STOCK EXCHANGES.

+COMPLIANCE WITH THE ORDINANCE IS A MATTER FOR THE COMPANIES THEMSELVES AND THEIR DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS - ALTHOUGH THEY CAN HAVE RECOURSE TO THEIR PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS.

+UNFORTUNATELY, THE STANDARD OF COMPANY DIRECTORSHIP AND COMPANY ADMINISTRATION IN MANY CASES IN HONG KONG IS NOT HIGH AND A ROBUST APPROACH TO ENFORCEMENT IS REQUIRED,+ SAID MR GLEESON.

+THIS IS PARTICULARLY THE CASE IN THE LIGHT OF SEVERAL RECENT COMPANY FAILURES - A NUMBER OF WHICH WERE OF SUBSTANTIAL PUBLIC LISTED COMPANIES.+

UNDER THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE, FINES OF UP TO \$500 A DAY CAN BE IMPOSED FOR CONTINUING DEFAULTS, FIXED FINES CAN RUN UP TO \$10 000 AND FINES OF \$25 PER COPY FOR EVERY INCORRECT COPY DOCUMENT ISSUED CAN BE IMPOSED. IN ADDITION, HYBRID PENALTIES CAN BRING FINES OF UP TO \$10 000 AND SIX MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT.

+IN FUTURE THE REGISTRY WILL NOT ENTER INTO CORRESPONDENCE WITH COMPANIES ON THE SUBJECT. THE EXISTING SYSTEM OF MONITORING PUBLIC COMPANIES LIMITED BY SHARES, WHETHER LISTED OR NOT, WILL CONTINUE, AND WHEN A BREACH OF THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE WITH RESPECT TO THE FILING OF RETURNS IS IDENTIFIED A PROSECUTION OF THE COMPANY AND ITS DIRECTORS WILL FOLLOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND WITHOUT ANY PRIOR REFERENCE TO THE COMPANY,+ SAID MR GLEESON.

THE COMPANY AND ITS DIRECTORS COULD THEN MAKE THEIR CASE, SUCH AS IT MIGHT BE, TO THE COURT. MR GLEESON SAID THAT THIS WAS, IN ANY CASE, THE CORRECT PROCEDURE SINCE THE ORDINANCE DID NOT CONFER ANY SPECIAL DISCRETION ON THE REGISTRAR OF COMPANIES. THE PROPER FORUM FOR DETERMINING THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE OFFENCE AND THE DEGREE OF CULPABILITY INVOLVED WAS THE COURT.

IN THE CASE OF PRIVATE LIMITED COMPANIES, FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE MAY NOT BE AS SERIOUS AS IN THE CASE OF PUBLIC COMPANIES, AND THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE ORDINANCE WERE DIFFERENT. HE SAID THERE WERE AT PRESENT OVER 120 000 PRIVATE COMPANIES ON THE REGISTER AND IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO MONITOR THEM AS STRICTLY AS PUBLIC COMPANIES. NEVERTHELESS, PRIVATE COMPANIES AND THEIR DIRECTORS WOULD CONTINUE TO BE PROSECUTED WHEN FILING OFFENCES UNDER THE ORDINANCE CAME TO LIGHT.

MR GLEESON NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT IN SOME CASES A PUBLIC COMPANY MAY BE ASSOCIATED WITH ONE OR MORE PRIVATE COMPANIES OWNED BY ONE OR MORE OF THE SUBSTANTIAL SHAREHOLDERS OF THE PUBLIC COMPANY. IN SUCH CASES IT CAN, AND DOES, HAPPEN THAT THE ASSOCIATION OR RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE PUBLIC COMPANY AND THE PRIVATE COMPANY OR COMPANIES COULD SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECT, SOMETIMES ADVERSELY, THE POSITION OF THE PUBLIC COMPANY. FOR THIS REASON, WHERE THIS RELATIONSHIP IS SEEN BETWEEN A PUBLIC COMPANY AND A PRIVATE COMPANY THE LATTER WOULD BE TREATED PROCEDURALLY FOR ENFORCEMENT PURPOSES AS IF IT WERE A PUBLIC COMPANY.

MR GLEESON ALSO DREW ATTENTION TO THE POSITION OF THE +NON-EXECUTIVE+ DIRECTOR.

+IN HONG KONG THERE IS A POPULAR, ALTHOUGH ENTIRELY MISTAKEN, BELIEF THAT A NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DOES NOT HAVE THE SAME DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS AS AN 'EXECUTIVE' DIRECTOR. NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS ARE SUPPOSED ONLY TO HAVE PRIVILEGES. THIS PLEA IN MITIGATION IS SOMETIMES MADE BY PEOPLE WHO SHOULD KNOW BETTER.

+THERE IS NO SUCH CREATURE KNOWN TO THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE AS AN 'NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR' AND THE COURTS HAVE SHOWN NO SYMPATHY WITH THIS TYPE OF PLEA,+ HE SAID.

ON PENALTIES MR GLEESON SAID THAT IN HIS OPINION SOME OF THESE WERE NOT SUFFICIENT TO ACT AS A DETERRENT IN THIS DAY AND AGE. THE STAKES, PARTICULARLY IN THE CASE OF PUBLIC COMPANIES, WERE OFTEN VERY HIGH. THE MAXIMUM PENALTIES, BOTH FINANCIAL AND CUSTODIAL, PRESCRIBED IN THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE NEEDED THEREFORE BE REVISED UPWARDS, AND HE WAS GLAD TO SAY THAT THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMPANY LAW REFORM HAD AGREED TO DISCUSS THE LEVEL OF SUCH PENALTIES. THERE WOULD ALSO BE CONSULTATION WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL ON THIS.

+I HOPE THAT THE NEW PROCEDURE WILL SECURE GREATER COMPLIANCE WITH THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE AND THAT IT WILL HAVE A BENEFICIAL EFFECT ON COMPANY ADMINISTRATION GENERALLY.

+IT IS ENTIRELY CONSISTENT WITH THE PROPOSALS NOW BEING CONSIDERED BY THE SECURITIES COMMISSION FOR A NEW SET OF LISTING RULES WHICH, IF INTRODUCED, WILL SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVE DISCLOSURE OF COMMERCIAL AND OTHER INFORMATION IN RESPECT OF PUBLIC LISTED COMPANIES,+ HE SAID.

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IT'S DANGEROUS TO EAT PUFFER FISH
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THE PUBLIC ARE TODAY WARNED AGAINST EATING PUFFER FISH - WHICH CAN RESULT IN FATAL CASES OF FOOD POISONING.

THE WARNING WAS ISSUED FOLLOWING A FATAL INCIDENT IN WHICH A WOMAN DIED AFTER EATING THIS TYPE OF FISH LAST MONTH.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID THAT DESPITE REPEATED WARNINGS, SOME MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE STILL RISKING THEIR LIVES BY INDULGING IN THE DANGEROUS HABIT OF EATING SUCH FISH.

+THE POISON IN THE FISH CONCENTRATES IN THE INTERNAL ORGANS AND DIFFUSES INTO THE FLESH,+ HE EXPLAINED.

+THE POISON IS MORE CONCENTRATED IN SUMMER AND THE MORE COLOURFUL THE SPECIES ARE, THE MORE POISONOUS THE FISH IS LIKELY TO BE.

+AS THE TOXIN LEVEL PRESENT IN PUFFER FISH VARIES FROM FISH TO FISH AND FROM SEASON TO SEASON, THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO GUARANTEE OF SAFETY FOR ANY PERSON WHO EATS SUCH FISH.+

THE SPOKESMAN ADVISED THAT ANYONE FEELING UNWELL AFTER EATING FISH OR FISH-MEAT SHOULD CONSULT A DOCTOR AT ONCE.

MEANWHILE, CIRCULAR LETTERS HAVE ALSO BEEN SENT TO FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS ADVISING THEM NOT TO OFFER THE FISH AS A DISH.

UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND URBAN SERVICES ORDINANCE, HE WARNED, ANY PERSON WHO SELLS PUFFER FISH FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION IS LIABLE TO BE PROSECUTED.

HOWEVER, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED, PUFFER FISH MIGHT BE IMPORTED AND SOLD SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

- * THAT THEY ARE ACCOMPANIED BY AN OFFICIAL HEALTH CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY THE COMPETENT HEALTH AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN, CERTIFYING THAT THE FISH DO NOT CONTAIN ANY HARMFUL SUBSTANCES.
- * THAT THEY ARE FIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.
- * THAT THEY ARE PERMITTED TO BE SOLD FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION IN THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN.

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GREEN PAPER OPEN FORUMS BEING HELD

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RESIDENTS OF CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT WILL BE BRIEFED ON THE GREEN PAPER ON REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT IN HONG KONG AT THREE OPEN FORUMS FROM SATURDAY (AUGUST 11).

THE FORUMS, TO BE HELD ON AUGUST 11, 12 AND 14, ARE BEING ORGANISED TO COLLECT PUBLIC VIEWS ON THE PAPER FOR DETAILED DISCUSSION AT THE LOCAL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING ON AUGUST 16.

WITH DISTRICT BOARD SPONSORSHIP, THE FORUMS ARE BEING ORGANISED BY THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, THE BOARD'S SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE AND A WORKING GROUP ON THE GREEN PAPER.

THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR LAM KAM-KWONG; THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MR KIM SALKELD; THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD'S SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE AND THE WORKING GROUP, MR CHOW WAI-KEUNG; AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE WILL BE SPEAKERS AT THE FORUMS.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THE FORUMS TO BE HELD AT:

- A) 8 PM ON SATURDAY (AUGUST 11) AT
YMCA BRIDGES STREET CENTRE,
- B) 4.30 PM ON SUNDAY (AUGUST 12) AT
KENNEDY TOWN KAIFONG WELFARE ASSOCIATION,
AND
- C) 8 PM ON TUESDAY (AUGUST 14) AT
CHIU CHOW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
81-85 DES VOEUX ROAD WEST,
10TH FLOOR, HONG KONG.

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NAM SHAN ESTATE GETS FACELIFT

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NAM SHAN ESTATE IS TAKING ON A NEW LOOK WITH REFRESHING COLOURS.

A REDECORATION PROJECT IS UNDERWAY TO BRIGHTEN UP SEVEN DOMESTIC BLOCKS AND THE COMMERCIAL CENTRE-CARPARK ON THE ESTATE.

COSTING \$680 000, THE PROJECT INVOLVES REPAINTING THE EXTERNAL WALLS, CORRIDORS, STAIRCASES, TOILETS AND OTHER PUBLIC AREAS OF THE BUILDINGS, AND WILL BE COMPLETED NEXT MONTH.

+THIS FORMS PART OF OUR ESTATE MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME AIMED AT KEEPING A GOOD LIVING ENVIRONMENT FOR TENANTS AT ALL TIMES,+ SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT TODAY.

UNDER THE ON-GOING PROGRAMME, HE SAID PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES WERE GIVEN A FACELIFT ONCE EVERY FOUR YEARS.

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FIRE SERVICES SEEKS RECRUITS
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THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS OFFERING A CHALLENGING CAREER TO YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE FORM FIVE GRADUATES OR ABOVE.

THE STARTING SALARY FOR A STATION OFFICER RANGES FROM \$5 920 TO \$7 340, DEPENDING ON QUALIFICATIONS, AND RISES TO \$13 080.

+AN APPLICANT MUST BE ACTIVE, INTELLIGENT AND UNDER 30 YEARS OF AGE, HAVE GOOD PHYSIQUE AND NORMAL EYESIGHT,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE FIRE SERVICES SAID TODAY.

+HE SHOULD BE ABOVE 168 CM TALL AND WEIGH AT LEAST 55 KILOGRAMS. HIS CHEST MEASUREMENT SHOULD NOT BE LESS THAN 86 CM DEFLATED, WITH AN EXPANSION OF AT LEAST 5 CM,+ HE ADDED.

THE ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED ARE FIVE PASSES, INCLUDING ENGLISH LANGUAGE (SYLLABUS B) AT GRADE E IN THE HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION.

APPLICATION FORMS (GF 340) MAY BE OBTAINED FROM ALL DISTRICT OFFICES AND SHOULD BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED TO THE RECRUITMENT UNIT, FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, 323 JAVA ROAD, NORTH POINT.

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LIBERAL MP ARRIVING
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LIBERAL MP, MR J.J.D. ('PADDY') ASHDOWN WILL ARRIVE IN HONG KONG ON SATURDAY (AUGUST 11) FOR A NINE-DAY VISIT AT THE INVITATION OF THE GOVERNMENT.

MR ASHDOWN WILL TOUR EASTERN DISTRICT ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND HAVE LUNCH WITH MEMBERS OF THE DISTRICT BOARD. HE WILL ALSO VISIT A TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA AND A PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE IN SHA TIN, AND CALL ON THE ESTATE'S MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN AS WELL AS A FAMILY LIVING IN ONE OF THE HOUSING BLOCKS.

MR ASHDOWN WILL ALSO MEET UMELCO AND MEMBERS OF THE URBAN COUNCIL AND WILL BE BRIEFED BY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. HIS ITINERARY INCLUDES VISITS TO A KWUN TONG FACTORY AND CHI MA WAN CLOSED CENTRE AND A BRIEFING WITH THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

HE WILL MEET THE PRESS ON AUGUST 18 BEFORE HE LEAVES HONG KONG THE FOLLOWING DAY.

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ONE MORE FLOOR FOR HOSPITAL
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AN ADDITIONAL FLOOR IS TO BE BUILT ABOVE THE TWO-STOREY CLINICAL BUILDING AT QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL TO PROVIDE OFFICE SPACE AND LECTURE FACILITIES.

BESIDES BEING THE REGIONAL HOSPITAL FOR HONG KONG, QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL IS ALSO A TEACHING HOSPITAL FOR THE MEDICAL FACULTY OF HONG KONG UNIVERSITY.

IT PROVIDES CLINICAL TEACHING FACILITIES FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS, INCLUDING LECTURE THEATRES, SEMINAR ROOMS, LABORATORIES AND OFFICES IN THE PROFESSIONAL BLOCK AND THE CLINICAL BUILDING WITHIN THE HOSPITAL COMPOUND.

AS A RESULT OF STAFF INCREASES IN RECENT YEARS, BOTH BUILDINGS HAVE BECOME OVERCROWDED.

WORK ON THE PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN ABOUT 12 MONTHS.

A \$2.42 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE PROJECT, WHICH WILL PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL 720 SQUARE METRES OF FLOOR SPACE, HAS BEEN AWARDED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

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BOARD MEMBERS SEE POLICE AT WORK
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FOURTEEN UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD TODAY (THURSDAY) VISITED TWO BRANCHES OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE TO LEARN ABOUT THE DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONS OF THE FORCE.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE DISTRICT COMMISSIONER, MR FUNG KWOK-KEUNG, MEMBERS FIRST WENT TO THE NEW TERRITORIES REGIONAL COMMAND AND CONTROL CENTRE AT KWAI CHUNG POLICE STATION, WHERE THEY WERE MET BY THE DISTRICT COMMANDER, MR B. ELEY.

THEY WERE BRIEFED ON THE SET-UP OF THE CENTRE AS WELL AS THE OPERATION OF THE POLICE BEAT RADIO SCHEME AND THE '999' SYSTEM.

LATER, AT THE FORCE'S CRIME PREVENTION BUREAU AT EMPIRE CENTRE IN TSIM SHA TSUI, MEMBERS ATTENDED A BRIEFING ON THE ORGANISATION AND WORK OF THE BUREAU AND VISITED A DISPLAY ROOM WITH CRIME PREVENTION AND SECURITY EQUIPMENT.

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CHILDREN URGED TO TAKE UP TENNIS

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CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN SIX AND 12 WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN TO PLAY TENNIS BEFORE THE SCHOOL YEAR STARTS.

THE RECREATION AND SPORTS SERVICE (RSS) OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT AND THE HONG KONG TENNIS ASSOCIATION ARE JOINTLY ORGANISING A SERIES OF ELEMENTARY TENNIS COURSES LATER THIS MONTH AT THE JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE.

+EIGHT CLASSES WILL BE OFFERED ACCOMMODATING 288 CHILDREN WHO WILL BE ABLE TO LEARN THE BASIC SKILLS OF TENNIS,+ AN RSS SPOKESMAN SAID.

FOUR CLASSES WILL BE HELD IN THE MORNING FROM AUGUST 18 TO 23 AND THE REST IN THE AFTERNOON, FROM AUGUST 25 TO 30. EACH CONSISTS OF SIX SESSIONS.

+THROUGH TENNIS, BOYS AND GIRLS CAN IMPROVE THEIR PHYSICAL FITNESS AND MAKE FRUITFUL USE OF THEIR LEISURE DURING SUMMER,+ HE SAID. HE URGED PARENTS TO ENCOURAGE THEIR CHILDREN TO TAKE PART.

INTERESTED PERSONS SHOULD APPLY NOW, HE SAID.

THE COURSE FEE IS \$20.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE RECREATION AND SPORTS SERVICE HEAD OFFICE AT WING ON CENTRE, CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL, ITS 19 DISTRICT OFFICES AND THE HONG KONG TENNIS ASSOCIATION AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM, WAN CHAI.

ENROLMENT IS ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS AND TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE AT 5-458511 AND 5-741546.

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VEHICLE GROSS WEIGHT DISPLAY REQUIRED

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ALL GOODS VEHICLES, SPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLES AND TRAILERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO DISPLAY THE PERMITTED GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT INSTEAD OF THE UNLADEN WEIGHT WHEN THE NEW ROAD TRAFFIC (CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF VEHICLES) REGULATIONS COME INTO EFFECT LATE THIS MONTH.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT STRESSED TODAY THAT, UNDER THE NEW REGULATIONS, THE PERMITTED GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT, ALONG WITH THE OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS AND THE MAXIMUM PERMITTED AXLE WEIGHT, MUST BE DISPLAYED ON SOME CONSPICUOUS PLACE ON TRAILERS, AND ON BOTH SIDES OF GOODS VEHICLES AND SPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLES.

/+THESE MARKINGS

+THESE MARKINGS SHOULD BE IN ENGLISH AND IN CHINESE CHARACTERS AND SHOULD BE PAINTED IN WHITE ON A BLACK BACKGROUND. CHARACTERS AND FIGURES SHOULD NOT BE LESS THAN 25 MM IN HEIGHT,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE PERMITTED GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT DISPLAYED SHOULD BE IN METRIC TERMS.

+GOODS VEHICLE OWNERS WHO DO NOT KNOW THE GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT OF THEIR VEHICLES SHOULD CALL THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ON 5-260979 OR 5-264860,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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FIRE FITTINGS FOR PIK UK PRISON
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A \$399 639 CONTRACT HAS BEEN AWARDED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT FOR INSTALLING FIRE SERVICES FITTINGS IN A WORKSHOP BEING BUILT ON A 1 080 SQUARE-METRE SITE WITHIN PIK UK PRISON.

INSTALLATION STARTED LAST MONTH AND WILL TAKE 10 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE FOUR-STOREY WORKSHOP WILL PROVIDE A TOTAL AREA OF 2 880 SQUARE METRES FOR 500 MALE PRISONERS IN A FACTORY SETTING.

THE WORK AREAS WILL BE FOR CARPENTRY, DOOR-MAKING AND TAILORING. THERE WILL ALSO BE OFFICES AND FACILITIES FOR STORAGE OF MATERIALS AND FINISHED GOODS.

CONSTRUCTION OF THE WORKSHOP IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN JUNE NEXT YEAR.

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1984

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SCHOOL WATER PUMP WORK STARTS
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WORK HAS STARTED ON INSTALLING THREE SEWAGE AND FLUSH WATER PUMPS IN A PRIMARY SCHOOL NOW BEING BUILT AT HIRAM'S HIGHWAY, HO CHUNG, SAI KUNG.

THE WORK, WHICH WILL INCLUDE ASSOCIATED VALVE AND PIPEWORK, IS TO BE COMPLETED IN SEVEN WEEKS.

THE FIVE-STOREY SCHOOL, OCCUPYING AN AREA OF 3 921 SQUARE METRES, WILL HAVE 24 CLASSROOMS, SPECIAL ROOMS, TEACHING FACILITIES AND ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES ON THE UPPER FLOORS, AND A COVERED PLAY AREA AND CHANGING ROOMS ON THE GROUND FLOOR.

CONSTRUCTION OF THE SCHOOL IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN SEPTEMBER.

A \$60 700 CONTRACT FOR THE JOB WAS AWARDED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

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NEW TRAFFIC RESTRICTIONS IN TSIM SHA TSUI
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FROM 10 AM ON SATURDAY (AUGUST 11), HAIPHONG ROAD BETWEEN CANTON ROAD AND A POINT ABOUT 14 METRES TO THE EAST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH CANTON ROAD WILL BE DESIGNATED A RESTRICTED ZONE FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY.

WITHIN THE RESTRICTED ZONE, ALL MOTOR VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES AND THOSE AUTHORISED IN WRITING BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM PICKING UP OR SETTING DOWN PASSENGERS; OR LOADING OR UNLOADING GOODS.

VEHICLES TRAVELLING ON THE NORTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF CANTON ROAD WILL BE PROHIBITED TO U-TURN ONTO THE SOUTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF CANTON ROAD AT THE JUNCTION OF HAIPHONG ROAD.

VEHICLES EXITING FROM THE HARBOUR CITY ARE ONLY PERMITTED TO TURN LEFT ONTO THE NORTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF CANTON ROAD.

ON THE SAME DAY, THE CUL-DE-SAC OF SAU LAI STREET NEAR BLOCK 3 OF LOWER SAU MAU PING ESTATE WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC, FROM 6 PM TO 10 PM.

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