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JOINT LIAISON GROUP COMMUNIQUE

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FOLLOWING IS THE COMMUNIQUE OF THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT LIAISON GROUP:-

THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT LIAISON GROUP HELD ITS SIXTH MEETING IN HONG KONG FROM MARCH 17 TO 20.

THE MEETING REVIEWED THE WORK OF THE GROUP IN THE PAST YEAR. THE TWO SIDES WERE SATISFIED WITH THE AGREEMENTS REACHED ON A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT SUBJECTS AND WITH THE PROGRESS MADE TOWARDS THEIR IMPLEMENTATION.

THE GROUP CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF A NUMBER OF MATTERS RAISED DURING THE FIFTH MEETING. POSITIVE RESULTS WERE ACHIEVED AND AGREEMENT REACHED ON SEVERAL ISSUES.

THE GROUP REACHED AGREEMENT ON THE CONTINUED PARTICIPATION OF HONG KONG IN THE CUSTOMS COOPERATION COUNCIL AFTER 1997 IN PARALLEL WITH THE ARRANGEMENTS ALREADY MADE IN THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE (GATT).

THE GROUP EXAMINED THE WORK OF THE SUB GROUP ON INTERNATIONAL RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS, AND REACHED AGREEMENT ON HOW HONG KONG WILL CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (UNCTAD) AFTER 1997. THEY HAD AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON HONG KONG'S CONTINUED PARTICIPATION IN THE ACTIVITIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION (ILO) AND THE CONTINUED APPLICATION OF RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONVENTIONS.

THE GROUP CONFIRMED SPECIFIC PRINCIPLES CONCERNING LEGAL ASPECTS OF THE RIGHT OF ABODE ENDORSEMENT IN TRAVEL DOCUMENTS DISCUSSED AT PREVIOUS MEETINGS OF THE GROUP AND AT EXPERT MEETINGS. THEY REACHED AGREEMENT ON TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR DOCUMENTS OF IDENTITY BEFORE AND AFTER 1997. IT WAS AGREED THAT DOCUMENTS OF IDENTITY ISSUED BEFORE JULY 1, 1997, WHICH WILL HAVE A SEVEN-YEAR VALIDITY, MAY, AS FROM THAT DATE, CONTINUE TO BE USED UNTIL EXPIRY.

THE TWO SIDES HELD A USEFUL PRELIMINARY EXCHANGE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION RELATING TO DEFENCE AND THE MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC ORDER IN THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION AND THE NEED FOR A SMOOTH TRANSITION IN THIS AREA. THEY AGREED TO PURSUE THEIR DISCUSSIONS AT EXPERT LEVEL.

THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP DECIDED THAT ITS NEXT MEETING WOULD TAKE PLACE IN LONDON FROM JULY 7-10, 1987.

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'A VERY PRODUCTIVE MEETING' FOR JLG TEAMS

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THE FOLLOWING IS THE STATEMENT BY MR ROBIN MCLAREN, SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BRITISH TEAM OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP, AT A PRESS RECEPTION TODAY:

+YOU'VE ALL SEEN THE COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AFTER THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP WHICH FINISHED ITS WORK THIS AFTERNOON. IT WILL BE CLEAR FROM THAT THAT WE HAVE HAD ANOTHER VERY PRODUCTIVE MEETING.

+THE ATMOSPHERE WAS WARM, FRIENDLY AND BUSINESSLIKE. AS A NEWCOMER TO THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP, THOUGH NOT TO SINO-BRITISH NEGOTIATIONS, I HAVE TO SAY THAT I WAS VERY IMPRESSED BY, STRUCK BY THE EXCELLENT CO-OPERATION, THE EXCELLENT METHODS OF WORK BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES.

+AS YOU WILL SEE FROM THE COMMUNIQUE, WE REACHED A NUMBER OF AGREEMENTS.

+THE FIRST ONE WAS ABOUT THE CONTINUED PARTICIPATION OF HONG KONG IN THE CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL. AS YOU MAY KNOW, THE CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL IS, AS ITS NAME SUGGESTS, A FORUM FOR CO-OPERATION BETWEEN CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATIONS AND IT'S VERY IMPORTANT FOR A TERRITORY LIKE HONG KONG WHICH DEPENDS ON TRADE TO TAKE PART IN ITS WORK.

+THERE IS ALSO A LINK, AS YOU WILL SEE, BETWEEN THE CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL AND THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE. THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION WHICH ARE ENVISAGED FOR THE CCC ARE SIMILAR TO THOSE WHICH HAVE ALREADY BEEN AGREED FOR THE GATT.

+AGREEMENT WAS ALSO REACHED ON HOW HONG KONG WILL CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (UNCTAD). THIS IS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO HONG KONG BECAUSE OF UNCTAD'S ROLE IN FORMULATING INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS IN THE FIELD OF SHIPPING AND I NEEDN'T STRESS THE IMPORTANCE OF SHIPPING TO HONG KONG.

+THAT WAS ONE OF THE QUESTIONS WHICH HAD BEEN DEALT WITH IN THE SUB-GROUP ON INTERNATIONAL RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS WHICH MR BURROWS TAKES PART IN. ANOTHER QUESTION WHICH IS BEING DISCUSSED IN THAT SUB-GROUP IS THE CONTINUED PARTICIPATION IN THE ACTIVITIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION.

+WE HAD AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THAT, AND ON THE CONTINUED APPLICATION TO HONG KONG OF THE VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONVENTIONS WHICH NOW APPLY IN HONG KONG, AND THE WORK OF THE SUB-GROUP IN THAT AREA WILL CONTINUE.

/+THERE IS .....

+THERE IS AN IMPORTANT PARAGRAPH DEALING WITH MATTERS CONCERNING TRAVEL DOCUMENTS. THE FIRST PART OF IT MEANS THAT THE WAY IS NOW CLEAR FOR THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION TO ENABLE THE RIGHT OF ABODE ENDORSEMENT TO BE USED IN VARIOUS TRAVEL DOCUMENTS BEFORE BN(O) PASSPORTS BEGIN TO BE ISSUED ON JULY 1.

+THE SECOND PART REFERS TO DOCUMENTS OF IDENTITY. IN PREVIOUS MEETINGS OF THE JLG, AS YOU WILL KNOW, AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON PASSPORTS AND CERTIFICATES OF IDENTITY. WITH THIS LATEST AGREEMENT WE HAVE NOW COVERED A FULL RANGE OF TRAVEL DOCUMENTS -- THE THREE TYPES OF TRAVEL DOCUMENTS USED BY THE VAST MAJORITY OF HONG KONG PEOPLE. ALL THAT REMAIN ARE A SMALL NUMBER OF VERY SPECIALISED DOCUMENTS WHICH ARE ISSUED TO SEAMAN.

+FINALLY, YOU WILL SEE THAT THE TWO SIDES HAD A USEFUL PRELIMINARY EXCHANGE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION RELATING TO DEFENCE AND THE MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC ORDER IN THE HONG KONG SAR AND THE NEED FOR A SMOOTH TRANSITION IN THIS AREA. YOU WILL ALSO SEE THAT IT WAS AGREED THAT THE DISCUSSIONS ON THIS SUBJECT WILL BE PURSUED AT EXPERT LEVEL.

+THE ARRANGEMENT IS, AS YOU KNOW, THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP HOLDS ITS MEETINGS IN ROTATION IN LONDON, PEKING AND HONG KONG. THE NEXT MEETING IS DUE TO TAKE PLACE IN LONDON AND THE FINAL POINT FROM THE COMMUNIQUE IS THAT AGREEMENT WAS REACHED THAT THE NEXT MEETING WOULD TAKE PLACE FROM JULY 7 TO 10.+

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PROPOSAL TO ALLOW I.D. CARDS FOR MACAU, CHINA TRAVEL

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HONG KONG RESIDENTS WILL SOON BE ABLE TO GO TO CHINA AND MACAU WITHOUT THEIR RE-ENTRY PERMITS IF A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE IS APPROVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL. MEANWHILE, THE CHINESE AND MACAU AUTHORITIES HAVE AGREED TO THE ARRANGEMENTS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT TECHNICAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THIS NEW MEASURE WOULD BE IN PLACE FROM MAY THIS YEAR WITH THE PHASED IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPUTERISATION AT IMMIGRATION CONTROL POINTS.

HE POINTED OUT THAT UNDER THE CURRENT LEGISLATION, ANY PERSON OF OR OVER THE AGE OF 16 WAS REQUIRED TO PRODUCE A VALID TRAVEL DOCUMENT, ENTRY PERMIT OR RE-ENTRY PERMIT, ON EXAMINATION BY AN IMMIGRATION OFFICIAL ON HIS ARRIVAL OR PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE.

/+SINCE THE .....

+SINCE THE HONG KONG IDENTITY CARD IS NOT A VALID TRAVEL DOCUMENT AS DEFINED IN THE IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE, IT IS NECESSARY TO AMEND THE IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE TO PAVE THE WAY FOR THIS NEW MEASURE TO FACILITATE TRAVELLERS,+ HE SAID.

THE PROPOSAL IS CONTAINED IN THE IMMIGRATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1987 PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY.

THE BILL SEEKS TO AMEND SECTION 5(9) OF THE IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE TO EMPOWER THE DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION TO EXEMPT ANY PERSON OR ANY CLASS OR DESCRIPTION OF PERSON FROM THE REQUIREMENT UNDER SECTION 5(4)(A) OF THE SAID ORDINANCE TO PRODUCE A VALID TRAVEL DOCUMENT, ENTRY PERMIT OR RE-ENTRY PERMIT.

+HOWEVER THE DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION DOES NOT INTEND TO EXERCISE HIS POWER OF EXEMPTION REGARDING CHILDREN UNDER 18. THEY SHOULD STILL BE REQUIRED TO TRAVEL TO CHINA AND MACAU ON RE-ENTRY PERMITS,+ HE ADDED.

THE BILL ALSO PROPOSES AN IMPROVEMENT TO SECTION 59 OF THE PRINCIPAL ORDINANCE WHICH STIPULATES THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL POWER TO MAKE REGULATIONS FOR THE ISSUE OF DOCUMENTS.

ALSO PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY ARE THE IMMIGRATION (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1987 AND THE BRITISH NATIONALITY (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ORDINANCE (AMENDMENT OF SCHEDULE) ORDER 1987.

THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS AIM TO LIST OUT THE TYPE OF TRAVEL DOCUMENTS THAT THE DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION AT PRESENT ISSUES UNDER THE IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE.

IT ALSO PROPOSES THE REMOVAL OF FEES CONNECTED WITH THE ISSUE OF HONG KONG BRITISH PASSPORT FROM THE IMMIGRATION REGULATIONS TO THE BRITISH NATIONALITY (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ORDINANCE WHICH PROVIDES FOR THE ISSUE OF HONG KONG BRITISH PASSPORTS.

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OLD I.D. CARDS DECLARED INVALID

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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT ALL OLD JUVENILE IDENTITY CARDS BELONGING TO CHILDREN BORN IN 1970, 1971 AND 1972 WILL CEASE TO BE LEGAL DOCUMENTS FROM MARCH 29 THIS YEAR. A NOTICE TO THIS EFFECT APPEARS IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

+ONCE AN OLD CARD IS DECLARED INVALID, IT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR ANY PURPOSE,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT SAID.

/+FOR INSTANCE, ...

+FOR INSTANCE, CHILDREN OF THE ABOVE AGE GROUP STILL HOLDING THE OLD TYPE OF I.D. CARD WILL NOT BE ABLE TO APPLY FOR A TRAVEL DOCUMENT AFTER MARCH 29,+ HE ADDED.

THOSE WHO HAD MISSED THEIR SPECIFIED CARD RENEWAL PHASE DUE TO THEIR ABSENCE FROM HONG KONG OR ANY OTHER REASONS, SHOULD APPROACH THE REGULAR REGISTRATION OF PERSONS OFFICES IMMEDIATELY.

+THESE CASES WILL BE LOOKED INTO THOROUGHLY AND DEALT WITH ON THEIR INDIVIDUAL MERITS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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INDUSTRIAL SAFETY A TRIPARTITE AFFAIR - SIR DAVID

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HONG KONG HAS DEVELOPED A SYSTEM OF TRIPARTITE DISCUSSION AND CO-OPERATION BETWEEN EMPLOYERS, EMPLOYEES AND THE GOVERNMENT ON MATTERS RELATING TO INDUSTRIAL SAFETY, ACCIDENT PREVENTION AND HEALTH IN THE WORKPLACE, THE ACTING GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID THIS (FRIDAY) EVENING.

BUT HE WARNED THAT HONG KONG STILL HAD A LONG WAY TO GO IN RESPECT OF INDUSTRIAL SAFETY.

SPEAKING AT THE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY GALA NIGHT ORGANISED JOINTLY BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT AND RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM, SIR DAVID STRESSED THAT INDUSTRIAL SAFETY WAS A MATTER OF LIFE OR DEATH.

+WE HAVE LAWS ON SAFETY, WE HAVE A SYSTEM OF INSPECTION, BUT WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING AND CO-OPERATION AMONG ALL PARTIES, ESPECIALLY BETWEEN EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES, WE SHALL NOT BE ABLE TO MAKE FUTHER PROGRESS,+ HE SAID.

+THE PRACTICE OF SAFETY REQUIRES A KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEANS OF ACHIEVING IT AND I KNOW THAT IT IS THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S PRIMARY CONCERN TO ADVISE AND ASSIST IN MATTERS OF TRAINING AND EDUCATION FOR SAFETY IN ALL POSSIBLE WAYS.+

SIR DAVID SAID HE BELIEVED THAT ENFORCEMENT OF LEGISLATION WAS NOT BY ITSELF SUFFICIENT TO ENSURE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY.

+THE ANSWER, I AM SURE, LIES IN THE RIGHT COMBINATION OF ENFORCEMENT, EDUCATION AND PERSUASION,+ HE SAID.

/THE GALA .....

THE GALA NIGHT WAS THE GRAND FINALE OF THE SAFETY WEEK HELD TO CELEBRATE THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AND HEALTH COMMITTEE OF THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD.

SIR DAVID EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE EVENT WOULD BE INSTRUMENTAL IN BRINGING HOME TO EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES IN INDUSTRY THE IMPORTANCE OF THE NEED TO RAISE THE LOCAL STANDARDS OF INDUSTRIAL SAFETY.

+MAY IT ALSO BE AN IMPORTANT STEPPING-STONE ON THE PATH TOWARDS ESTABLISHING A TRADITION OF SAFETY IN HONG KONG WHICH WILL BE AN EXAMPLE FOR OTHERS TO FOLLOW.+ HE ADDED.

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REGISTRATION REVOKED

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THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING ANNOUNCED THAT THE REGISTRATION OF SOLID PACIFIC FINANCE LIMITED AS A DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANY HAS BEEN REVOKED TODAY (FRIDAY) AT ITS OWN REQUEST UNDER SECTION 31(2) OF THE BANKING ORDINANCE 1986.

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JANUARY ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT, PAYROLL FIGURES OUT

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THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND (IN TERMS OF MONTHS) AS REPORTED BY THE 200 LARGEST FIRMS IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR REMAINED IN JANUARY 1987 AT THE SAME LEVEL AS THAT IN DECEMBER 1986, BUT INCREASED APPRECIABLY COMPARED WITH JANUARY 1986, ACCORDING TO RESULTS OF A SURVEY RELEASED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

COMPARING JANUARY 1987 WITH THE SAME MONTH IN 1986, SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN THE VOLUME OF ORDERS WERE RECORDED IN THE WEARING APPAREL, TEXTILES AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES AND, TO A LESSER EXTENT, IN THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY, WHILE THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY RECORDED A MODEST DROP IN ITS ORDERS POSITION.

COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1986, THE INCREASE IN THE VOLUME OF ORDERS IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY WAS OFFSET BY A DECLINE IN THE VOLUME OF ORDERS IN THE TEXTILES INDUSTRY, WITH THE ORDERS POSITION IN OTHER INDUSTRIES SURVEYED SHOWING LITTLE CHANGE.

THE LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR DECLINED SLIGHTLY IN JANUARY 1987 COMPARED WITH BOTH DECEMBER 1986 AND JANUARY 1986. THE MORE SIGNIFICANT DECREASES OCCURRED IN THE WEARING APPAREL AND PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES. OTHER INDUSTRIES RECORDED SOME INCREASE IN EMPLOYMENT OVER JANUARY 1986, AND NO CHANGE OR A SLIGHT DECREASE WHEN COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1986.

/ALL MANUFACTURING .....

ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES SURVEYED RECORDED SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES IN PAYROLL AND IN PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN JANUARY 1987, COMPARED WITH BOTH DECEMBER 1986 AND JANUARY 1986. THESE LARGE INCREASES OVER DECEMBER 1986 WERE MAINLY DUE TO THE AWARD OF DOUBLE PAY AND YEAR-END BONUSES IN MOST OF THE FACTORIES SURVEYED. THE INCREASE WAS MOST SIGNIFICANT IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY WHERE THE LEVEL OF PER CAPITA EARNINGS WAS TWICE AS HIGH AS THAT IN DECEMBER 1986.

IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR, THE LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY 1987 REMAINED STABLE COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS MONTH, WHILE PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS SHOWED SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES DUE TO THE AWARD OF DOUBLE PAY AND YEAR-END BONUSES. COMPARED WITH JANUARY 1986, EMPLOYMENT SHOWED A MODERATE INCREASE, WHILE PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY.

IN THE SERVICES SECTORS, THE LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY 1987 WAS SIMILAR TO THAT IN THE PREVIOUS MONTH, WHILE PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS INCREASED. AMONG THE SERVICES SECTORS SURVEYED, PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN HOTELS INCREASED VERY SUBSTANTIALLY, WHILE THOSE IN BANKS DECLINED.

MOST BANKS SURVEYED ISSUED DOUBLE PAY AND YEAR-END BONUSES IN DECEMBER 1986, WHILE MOST OF THE HOTELS SURVEYED ISSUED THOSE IN JANUARY 1987. COMPARED WITH JANUARY 1986, THE SERVICES SECTORS TAKEN TOGETHER SHOWED A SLIGHT INCREASE IN EMPLOYMENT, AND MODERATE INCREASES IN PAYROLL AND IN PER CAPITA EARNINGS.

THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS ARE SHOWN IN TABLES WHICH HAVE BEEN SENT BY FACSIMILE NETWORK AND ALSO BOXED FOR COLLECTION.

THE SURVEY COVERED A PANEL OF THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURING COMPANIES AND THE 50 LARGEST COMPANIES IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND SELECTED SERVICES SECTORS, CHOSEN BY REFERENCE TO THEIR EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH 1983.

AS THE SAMPLE WAS NOT DRAWN ON A RANDOM BASIS, THE DEPARTMENT CAUTIONED THAT THE MAGNITUDE OF CHANGE INDICATED BY THE SURVEY MIGHT NOT REFLECT THE EXPERIENCE OF THE ECONOMY AS A WHOLE. NEVERTHELESS, THESE RESULTS ARE EXPECTED TO PROVIDE A USEFUL INDICATION OF THE DIRECTION OF CHANGE FOR A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ECONOMY IN THE SHORT TERM.

THE SURVEY REPORT FOR JANUARY 1987 IS ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, AT $1.50 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE MADE TO THE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION STATISTICS SECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT ON 5-8234820.

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/A. Orders-on-hand .....

A. Orders-on-hand in manufacturing industries

Industry	Orders-on-hand in terms of months for January 1987	% increase/ decrease over Dec. 86	% increase/ decrease over Jan. 86
Wearing apparel	4.86	*	9
Textiles	2.74	-6	13
Plastic products	3.75	5	-3
Fabricated metal products	4.32	*	38
Electrical and electronic products	5.05	-1	3
Others	4.40	-1	*
All above industries	4.46	*	6

B. Employment and earnings

Industry/Services	Persons engaged at the end of January 1987: % increase/ decrease over Dec. 86	Persons engaged at the end of January 1987: % increase/ decrease over Jan. 86	Per capita earnings as in January 1987 (HK$)	Per capita earnings: % increase/ decrease over Dec. 86	Per capita earnings: % increase/ decrease over Jan. 86
Manufacturing	-2	-2	5 621	48	21
Food and Drinks	-1	4	6 374	36	4
Wearing apparel	-2	-9	4 177	24	14
Textiles	*	2	6 647	59	29
Plastic products	-10	-12	6 393	108	36
Fabricated metal products	-1	1	5 031	60	30
Electrical and electronic products	-2	1	5 037	44	12
Others	*	2	7 636	54	29
Construction**	*	3	7 652	50	42
Services	*	2	9 333	11	6
Banks	*	6	8 566	-6	9
Hotels	-1	-3	10 923	113	9
Public utilities	*	*	8 325	4	-7
Others	*	4	11 679	22	28

* Changes within ± 0.5%

** Persons engaged cover company employees only; site workers employed by labour-only sub-contractors not included.

Note : Unlike "orders-on-hand" and "per capita earnings" which are average figures, the total number of persons engaged by the firms surveyed is not meaningful information on its own (because this is a panel survey) and is therefore not shown.

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EX-GRATIA COMPENSATION RATES FOR LAND REVISED

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EX-GRATIA COMPENSATION RATES FOR THE ACQUISITION OF LAND IN THE NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT AREAS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES WILL BE INCREASED TO $58.20 PER SQUARE FOOT FOR AGRICULTURAL LAND $106.50 PER SQUARE FOOT FOR BUILDING LAND ON APRIL 1.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THESE NEW RATES REPRESENTED AN AVERAGE 13 PER CENT INCREASE ON THE EXISTING RATES AND WERE SIMILAR TO THE EX-GRATIA COMPENSATION RATE LEVELS APPLICABLE IN OCTOBER 1979.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO ANNOUNCED THE NEW CURRENCY VALUES OF NEW TERRITORIES LAND EXCHANGE ENTITLEMENTS (LETTERS A-B) THAT WOULD COME INTO EFFECT ON APRIL 1.

THE VALUES REPRESENT AN AVERAGE INCREASE OF 20 PER CENT OVER PRESENT CURRENCY VALUES, DEPENDING ON THE YEAR THE LETTER B WAS ISSUED.

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CONTRACT AWARDED TO EXTEND MANAGEMENT OF CARPARKS

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ELEVEN GOVERNMENT MULTI-STOREY CARPARKS WILL CONTINUE TO BE MANAGED BY WILSON PARKING (HONG KONG) PTY LTD. FOR THE NEXT THREE YEARS FOLLOWING A CONTRACT SIGNED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, MR PETER LEEDS AND THE MANAGING DIRECTOR OF WILSON PARKING, MR PAUL SIMPSON.

ALSO SIGNED WAS A CONTRACT EXTENDING WILSON PARKING'S RIGHT TO PRODUCE, MARKET AND SELL PRE-PAID TICKETS FOR GOVERNMENT ROAD TUNNELS UP TO APRIL 30, 1990.

WILSON PARKING HAVE BEEN RUNNING GOVERNMENT MULTI-STOREY CARPARKS SINCE THEY WERE PRIVATISED ON MAY 1, 1984. THE CURRENT AGREEMENT WITH THE GOVERNMENT ON THE MANAGEMENT OF THESE CARPARKS WILL HOWEVER EXPIRE AT THE END OF NEXT MONTH.

+THE DECISION TO EXTEND THE AGREEMENT FOR ANOTHER THREE YEARS WITH EFFECT FROM MAY 1 WAS BASED ON WILSON PARKING'S EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT AND SATISFACTORY PERFORMANCE RECORD IN RUNNING THESE CARPARKS,+ MR LEEDS SAID AFTER THE CONTRACT SIGNING.

THE CARPARKS, LOCATED IN CENTRAL, ABERDEEN, TSIM SHA TSUI, YAU MA TEI, KWAI FONG AND TSUEN WAN, PROVIDE OVER 7 000 PARKING SPACES.

/THE PRE-PAID .....

THE PRE-PAID TICKET SCHEME FOR THE LION ROCK TUNNEL AND THE ABERDEEN TUNNEL WAS INTRODUCED IN FEBRUARY LAST YEAR.

THE SCHEME HAS GAINED POPULARITY AND NOW ABOUT 20 PER CENT OF MOTORISTS USING THE TWO TUNNELS TENDER TICKETS INSTEAD OF CASH.

THE PRE-PAID TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT WILSON PARKING'S 37 OUTLETS.

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CLOSURE OF ILLEGAL STRUCTURES SOUGHT

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS SEEKING CLOSURE OF AN ILLEGAL STRUCTURE ON THE ROOF OF A BUILDING AT 50 SHUI NING STREET, KOWLOON, SO THAT IT CAN BE DEMOLISHED.

THIS FOLLOWS THE OWNER'S FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH AN ORDER ISSUED UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE IN APRIL 1985 REQUIRING DEMOLITION OF THE STRUCTURE.

A NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER FROM THE DISTRICT COURT, HONG KONG, ON MAY 22 WAS POSTED ON THE STRUCTURE TODAY (FRIDAY).

DEMOLITION WORK WILL BE CARRIED OUT ONCE THE CLOSURE ORDER IS OBTAINED.

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GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY REPORT OUT

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THE REPORT ON THE GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY FOR OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 1986 IS AVAILABLE AND CONTAINS STATISTICS ON EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT FOR THE QUARTER.

IT ALSO CONTAINS DETAILED ANALYSIS OF THE CHARACTERISTICS OF MEMBERS OF THE LABOUR FORCE, INCLUDING THEIR AGE AND SEX STRUCTURE, EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, ACTIVITY STATUS, OCCUPATION, INDUSTRY, HOURS WORKED PER WEEK, MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT EARNINGS AS WELL AS REASON FOR UNEMPLOYMENT AND DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT FOR THE UNEMPLOYED.

COPIES OF THE REPORT CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, AT $8.50 PER COPY.

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VIEWS ON REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT VITAL

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SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR SIMON LORD, SAID THIS (FRIDAY) EVENING IT WAS ABSOLUTELY VITAL THAT RESIDENTS SHOULD MAKE KNOWN THEIR VIEWS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT IN HONG KONG.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF A SEMINAR ON THE REVIEW OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT, MR LORD SAID THE GREEN PAPER ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT WOULD SOON BE ISSUED AND THE PUBLIC DEBATE ON IT WOULD DETERMINE HOW THE TERRITORY'S REPRESENTATIVE INSTITUTIONS WOULD EVOLVE.

THE SEMINAR WAS ONE OF THE CIVIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN PROGRAMMES SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE. IT WAS ATTENDED BY ABOUT 100 MEMBERS FROM THE DISTRICT BOARD, AREA COMMITTEES, RESIDENTS ORGANISATIONS, VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND SCHOOLS.

ON THE DISTRICT'S CIVIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN WHICH STARTED IN AUGUST LAST YEAR, MR LORD SAID IT NOT ONLY SPREAD THE MESSAGE OF CIVIC EDUCATION TO ALL CORNERS OF SOUTHERN, BUT ALSO PROVIDED A CHANCE TO PAY TRIBUTE TO THE MANY PUBLIC SPIRITED CITIZENS OF THE DISTRICT THROUGH THE +CITIZENS OF THE MONTH+ AWARD SCHEME.

MEANWHILE, COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MR PAUL YOUNG, SAID TONIGHT'S SEMINAR HAD ENABLED RESIDENTS TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE IMPLEMENTATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT AND ITS IMPORTANCE THROUGH EXCHANGING VIEWS.

THE SEMINAR INCLUDED TALKS, A QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION, AND GROUP DISCUSSIONS.

A CEREMONY WAS ALSO HELD TO PRESENT TROPHIES TO 18 WINNERS OF THE +CITIZENS OF THE MONTH+ AWARD FOR NOVEMBER, DECEMBER AND JANUARY.

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SOUTHERN DB TO DISCUSS BOUNDARY CHANGES

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THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS THE PROPOSED CHANGES IN CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES AND THE NUMBER OF ELECTED SEATS IN THE DISTRICT AT ITS MEETING ON THURSDAY (MARCH 26).

BOARD MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE CONSULTATION DOCUMENT ON THE CONTROL OF UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS AND THE DISTRICT BOARD BUDGET FOR 1987-88.

/THE INTER-DEPARTMENTAL .....

THE INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON THE REVIEW OF DISTRICT BOARD CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES HAS PROPOSED TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF CONSTITUENCIES IN SOUTHERN FROM THE PRESENT SIX TO SEVEN, AND THE NUMBER OF ELECTED SEATS FROM 11 TO 13.

A MAJOR CHANGE IS TO SPLIT THE PRESENT ABERDEEN AND AP LEI CHAU CONSTITUENCY INTO TWO CONSTITUENCIES, ABERDEEN AND HARBOUR AND AP LEI CHAU AND INCREASE THE TWO ELECTED SEATS TO THREE.

ANOTHER MAJOR CHANGE IS TO DETACH BAYS FROM THE WONG CHUK HANG AND BAYS CONSTITUENCY AND TO ALIGN IT WITH STANLEY AND SHEK O, LEAVING WONG CHUK HANG AS A CONSTITUENCY ON ITS OWN.

THE TWO CONSTITUENCIES WOULD EACH HAVE TWO ELECTED SEATS, AS COMPARED TO TWO SEATS FOR WONG CHUK HANG AND BAYS AND ONE SEAT FOR STANLEY AND SHEK O AT PRESENT.

THE OTHER THREE CONSTITUENCIES -- TIN WAN AND SHEK PAI WAN, POK FU LAM AND WAH FU -- WOULD CONTINUE TO HAVE TWO ELECTED SEATS EACH.

THERE ARE ALSO PROPOSALS FOR A SLIGHT REALIGNMENT OF THE NORTHERN BOUNDARY OF WAH FU CONSTITUENCY WITH POK FU LAM AND THE SOUTHERN BOUNDARY OF TIN WAN AND SHEK PAI WAN CONSTITUENCY WITH ABERDEEN.

LARGE SCALE MAPS SHOWING THE VARIOUS PROPOSALS WILL BE DISPLAYED AT THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY COUNTERS OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE AND SUB-OFFICES IN ABERDEEN CENTRE, WAH FU AND STANLEY UNTIL APRIL 8 FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.

THE DISTRICT OFFICE WILL ALSO HOLD A BRIEFING TO EXPLAIN THE PROPOSALS TO AREA COMMITTEES AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS.

MEANWHILE, AT NEXT WEEK'S MEETING, A NUMBER OF BOARD MEMBERS WOULD ASK QUESTIONS CONCERNING SQUATTER CONTROL, NORTH AP LEI CHAU DEVELOPMENT CLEARANCE, FACTORY CANTEENS IN WONG CHUK HANG, URBAN COUNCIL'S SWIMMING LESSONS, AND THE RELOCATION OF A PLB STAND IN TUNG SING ROAD.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE THE DISTRICT BOARD AND AREA COMMITTEES SEMINAR HELD LAST MONTH, AND REPORTS OF MEETINGS OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, DISTRICT BOARD COMMITTEES AND THE DISTRICT'S SIX AREA COMMITTEES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING AT 2.30 PM ON THURSDAY IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, NO. 7-11 NAM NING STREET, MEI FUNG COURT, SECOND FLOOR, ABERDEEN CENTRE.

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MOBILE RADIO TELEPHONE STATION SITE OFFERED

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A SITE AT RED HILL SERVICE RESERVOIR AT TAI TAM, HONG KONG, IS TO BE OFFERED ON SHORT-TERM TENANCY BY THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT.

THE 35-SQUARE-METRE SITE IS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF A PUBLIC MOBILE RADIO TELEPHONE STATION.

TENANCY IS FOR THREE YEARS AND RENEWABLE QUARTERLY AFTERWARDS.

TENDERS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY NOON ON APRIL 3.

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GOOD RESPONSE TO CLEAN-UP WEEK

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PUBLIC RESPONSE TO THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT CLEAN-UP WEEK WAS ENCOURAGING WITH 1 700 ENTRIES RECEIVED IN THE CHILDREN COLOURING COMPETITION AND 300 STORIES SELECTED FOR AN ESSAY COMPETITION FROM 25 LOCAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

IN ADDITION, ADJUDICATION IN THE FAMILY CLEANSING COMPETITION HAS BEEN COMPLETED FOR THE SELECTION OF MODEL FAMILIES IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES.

ORGANISED BY THE KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN TUEN MUN COMMITTEE AND SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD, THE CLEAN-UP WEEK WAS AIMED AT BOOSTING PUBLIC AWARENESS IN KEEPING THE DISTRICT CLEAN.

A CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE CLEAN-UP WEEK FEATURING A VARIETY SHOW WILL TAKE PLACE AT 8.30 PM ON SUNDAY (MARCH 22) AT THE BUTTERFLY ESTATE AMPHITHEATRE.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN TUEN MUN COMMITTEE, MR TSO SHIU-WAI, CHAIRMAN OF THE CLEAN-UP WEEK, MR WONG KIN-HONG, ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MR EDWARD YAU, AND THE DISTRICT HEALTH SUPERINTENDANT, MR HIU KWOK-HUNG, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CLOSING CEREMONY.

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GALA TIME FOR TAI PO INDUSTRIAL ESTATE WORKERS

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ABOUT 12 000 EMPLOYEES WORKING IN THE TAI PO INDUSTRIAL ESTATE AND THEIR FAMILIES WILL BE TREATED TO A FUN-FILLED GALA AT THE ESTATE ON SUNDAY (MARCH 22).

THE GALA, JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE TAI PO ASSOCIATION OF YOUNG MERCHANTS AND PROFESSIONALS LIMITED AND THE TAI PO PERSONNEL CLUB AND CO-ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE, IS AIMED AT PROMOTING A SENSE OF BELONGING AMONG WORKERS.

PROGRAMMES INCLUDE PERFORMANCES BY POPULAR SINGERS, A MAGIC SHOW, ACROBATICS, GAMES STALLS, AN EXHIBITION OF ARMOURED VEHICLES, DONKEY RIDES AND A TRAMPOLINE FOR CHILDREN.

TICKETS FOR GAMES STALLS HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED TO EMPLOYEES THROUGH THE EIGHT FACTORIES PARTICIPATING IN THE EVENT.

ADMISSION IS FREE AND RESIDENTS ARE ALSO WELCOME TO SHARE IN THE FUN.

OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR STEPHEN CHEONG, ACTING TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS ANISSA WONG, TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR STEPHEN WONG, AND CHAIRMAN OF THE TAI PO RURAL COMMITTEE, MR HO YUNG-SANG.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE GALA AT 1.30 PM ON SUNDAY AT THE CAR PARK OF THE TAI PO INDUSTRICAL ESTATE.

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DETAILS OF SAI KUNG FOLK SONGS

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THE CHAIRMAN OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE PRESERVATION AND PROMOTION OF RURAL SAI KUNG FOLK SONGS, MR HO KOON-SHIN, WILL GIVE A PRESS CONFERENCE ON THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE GROUP TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AT THE SAI KUNG TOWN HALL.

THE WORKING GROUP WAS FORMED BY THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD'S CULTURE, RECREATION AND SPORTS COMMITTEE IN AUGUST 1985 TO COLLATE AND PROMOTE THE DISTRICT'S RURAL FOLK SONGS.

DURING THE PRESS CONFERENCE, THERE WILL BE PERFORMANCE BY RURAL FOLK SINGERS AND PRESENTATION OF SOUVENIRS.

/TAPES AND .....

TAPES AND BOOKLETS ON RURAL SAI KUNG FOLK SONGS WILL ALSO BE DISTRIBUTED FREE TO INTERESTED PARTIES.

THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS BETTY CHING, AND THE DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR WILLIAM WAN, WILL ALSO ATTEND.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE PRESS CONFERENCE TOMORROW AT 10 AM AT THE SAI KUNG TOWN HALL, PO TUNG ROAD, SAI KUNG TOWN.

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DETAILS OF TREE-PLANTING PROGRAMME

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THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE, WILL GIVE A PRESS CONFERENCE ON MONDAY (MARCH 23) TO ANNOUNCE A PROGRAMME TO ENCOURAGE ALL SECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY TO PLANT TREES IN COUNTRY PARKS IN THE COMING WEEKS TO MARK THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING SCHEME.

THE PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AT 3 PM AT THE GIS PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM, FIFTH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, CENTRAL, HONG KONG.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE CONFERENCE WILL BE MRS ROSANNA TAM AND GENERAL MANAGER OF TELEVISION BROADCASTS LIMITED, MR ROBERT CHAN, CO-ORGANISERS OF THIS YEAR'S EVENT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

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GOOD CITIZENS TO RECEIVE APPRECIATION CERTIFICATES

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SIXTY-FOUR PUBLIC SPIRITED CITIZENS WHO HAVE HELPED COMBAT CRIME IN THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT WILL BE PRESENTED WITH CERTIFICATES IN APPRECIATION OF THEIR BRAVERY AND ASSISTANCE AT A CEREMONY TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

PRIZES WILL ALSO BE AWARDED TO WINNERS OF A SLOGAN COMPETITION HELD RECENTLY TO PROMOTE THE FIGHT CRIME MESSAGE.

OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR AUGUSTINE CHENG, AND POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDER, MR TSANG YAM-PUI.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CEREMONY TO BE HELD AT 3 PM TOMORROW AT THE HENRY G. LEONG YAU MA TEI COMMUNITY CENTRE, 60 PUBLIC SQUARE STREET.

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