



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1981

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
<u>LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING:</u>	
RE-ORGANISATION PLAN	1
SIR JACK CATER +A FIRST-CLASS CHIEF SECRETARY+	3
CONCERN ABOUT MAN IN THE STREET - SIR JACK CATER	5
NATIONALITY ACT - SIR JACK CATER	7
ANTI-ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION MEASURES WILL CONTINUE - SIR JACK CATER	9
GROUND'S FOR OPTIMISM IN ECONOMY - HON D.G. JEAFFRESON	9
FOUR PER CENT OF GDP SPENT ON MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES - HON E.P. HO	11
BI-SESSIONALISM IN SCHOOLS EXPLAINED - HON KENNETH TOPLEY	12
GAMBLING POLICY EXPLAINED - HON D.C. BRAY	14
PROPERTY BILL BEING STUDIED - HON G.P. NAZARETH	15
GOVERNMENT'S ROLE IN INDUSTRY - HON BILL DORWARD	16
ACTION AGAINST ILLEGAL HUT-BUILDERS - HON DONALD LIAO	18
GOVT STRONGLY COMMITTED TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION - HON IAN MACPHERSON	20
BUILDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE PLANNED - HON DAVID MCDONALD	21
POLICY ON CIVIL SERVICE PAY - HON MARTIN ROWLANDS	23
LITTERING FROM VEHICLES	24
THREE BILLS PASSED	24
ANOTHER ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR CONTRACT AWARDED	25

/CHEAPER TRAVEL

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1981

- 1 -

REORGANISATION PLAN

* * *

THE CHIEF SECRETARY, THE HON SIR JACK CATER TODAY ANNOUNCED THE INTRODUCTION OF A SECRETARY FOR CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION TO DEAL WITH DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION THROUGHOUT HONG KONG.

THIS WILL INVOLVE A FULL REORGANISATION OF THE HOME AFFAIRS BRANCH AND THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION.

WINDING UP THE POLICY DEBATE IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, SIR JACK SAID THE REORGANISATION IS TO GIVE THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION SCHEME THE NECESSARY THRUST AND COORDINATION.

IN ANNOUNCING THESE ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES, SIR JACK STRESSED THAT THE HUMAN EMPHASIS OF THE WORK OF THE DISTRICT OFFICES, WHETHER IN URBAN AREAS OR IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, WILL NOT BE LOST.

+INDEED, THESE OFFICES MUST REMAIN APPROACHABLE, AND CONSTANTLY CONCERNED FOR THE WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE IN THE DISTRICTS. THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES IN THESE ASPECTS ARE IN NO WAY LESSENER BY THE CHANGES PROPOSED,+ HE SAID.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY AMPLIFIED THE ANNOUNCEMENT MADE BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ABOUT THE REORGANISATION OF THE HOME AFFAIRS BRANCH AND THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION.

THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR DENIS BRAY, WILL HAND OVER TO THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT. MR AKERS-JONES WILL THUS BECOME THE SECRETARY FOR CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION.

THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS WILL ASSUME POLICY RESPONSIBILITY FOR INFORMATION MATTERS, WITH EFFECT FROM DECEMBER 1 FROM THE PRESENT SECRETARY FOR INFORMATION, MR ALAN SCOTT. THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS WILL CONTINUE AS THE GOVERNMENT'S SENIOR ADVISER ON CHINESE AFFAIRS. HE WILL ALSO TAKE OVER RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS, MR IAN MACPHERSON.

TO ASSIST HIM IN HIS RESPONSIBILITIES FOR CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, MR AKERS-JONES WILL HAVE TWO REGIONAL SECRETARIES. THE REGIONAL SECRETARY (CITY) WILL BE MR GRAHAM BARNES, AT PRESENT THE DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS. THE POST OF DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS WILL LAPSE. ON THE NEW TERRITORIES SIDE, MR MACPHERSON WILL BECOME REGIONAL SECRETARY (NEW TERRITORIES). BOTH HE AND MR BARNES WILL CONTINUE AS MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

/MR BRAY WILL

MR BRAY WILL THUS ASSUME POLICY RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICE IN LONDON, THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT, RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG AND CERTAIN FUNCTIONS OF THE TELEVISION AND ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING AUTHORITY. POLICY RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE GOVERNMENT'S RELATIONS WITH THE MEDIA WILL THUS CONTINUE TO BE EXERCISED AT SECRETARY LEVEL. THE POSITION OF RTHK AS A DEPARTMENT AND WITH EDITORIAL INDEPENDENCE, WILL NOT BE CHANGED.

THE SECRETARY FOR INFORMATION, MR ALAN SCOTT, AFTER HANDING OVER THE DUTIES OF SECRETARY FOR INFORMATION TO MR BRAY ON DECEMBER 1, WILL BEGIN FAMILIARISING HIMSELF WITH TRANSPORT MATTERS PREPARATORY TO TAKING OVER AS SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT ON JANUARY 1, 1982.

MR DEREK JONES, AT PRESENT SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, WILL AFTER A FAMILIARISATION PERIOD BE POSTED TO BRUSSELS AS THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT'S MINISTER FOR COMMERCIAL RELATIONS LATER IN 1982. HE WILL TAKE OVER FROM MR CLAUDE BURGESS, WHO HAS HELD THE APPOINTMENT SINCE 1974.

THE REORGANISATION OF THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT AND THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN STAGES TO BE COMPLETED BY APRIL 1, 1982. SOME OF THE MAIN CHANGES HOWEVER WILL TAKE PLACE ON DECEMBER 1, INCLUDING MOVING THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT TO THE CHARGE OF THE SECRETARY FOR CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION.

THE DUTIES OF THE POST OF DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS ARE BEING EXAMINED FOLLOWING THE TRANSFER OF THE SUBJECT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS TO THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS.

THE GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ALSO SAID THAT MR A.K. CHUI, AT PRESENT DEPUTY SECRETARY (NEW TERRITORIES), HAS BEEN APPOINTED TO BE DIRECTOR, CITY SERVICES IN THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

.....

NOTE TO EDITORS:

FOLLOWING ARE DETAILS OF RECENT POSTINGS OF THE OFFICERS INVOLVED IN THE REORGANISATION :

- (A) MR BRAY WAS SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS 1973-1977 WHEN HE BECAME HONG KONG GOVERNMENT COMMISSIONER IN LONDON. HE RETURNED IN 1980 TO THE POST OF SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS.
- (B) MR AKERS-JONES HAS BEEN SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES SINCE 1973.
- (C) MR SCOTT HAS BEEN SECRETARY FOR INFORMATION SINCE 1980- BEFORE THAT HE WAS SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE 1973-1977 AND SECRETARY FOR HOUSING 1977-80.

- 3 -

- (D) MR DEREK JONES HAS BEEN SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT SINCE SEPTEMBER, 1981. BEFORE THAT HE WAS SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT FROM 1976.
- (E) MR GRAHAM BARNES HAS BEEN DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS SINCE SEPTEMBER 1, 1980.
- (F) MR IAN MACPHERSON HAS BEEN DAEA SINCE SEPTEMBER 1, 1981 AND WAS PREVIOUSLY DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES SINCE OCTOBER 20, 1978.
- (G) MR CLAUDE BURGESS' CAREER IN HONG KONG CULMINATED IN HIS APPOINTMENT AS COLONIAL SECRETARY, 1958-1963. HE HAS BEEN MINISTER FOR HONG KONG COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES AND THE MEMBER STATES SINCE OCTOBER 1974.

SIR JACK +A FIRST-CLASS CHIEF SECRETARY+
* * * *

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY PAID WARM TRIBUTE TO THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF SIR JACK CATER WHO WILL SOON BE LEAVING TO TAKE UP HIS NEW POST AS HONG KONG COMMISSIONER IN LONDON.

SIR JACK, WHO HAS SERVED HONG KONG FOR MORE THAN 30 YEARS, ATTENDED HIS LAST COUNCIL MEETING AS CHIEF SECRETARY THIS AFTERNOON.

THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, DESCRIBED HIM AS +A FIRST-CLASS CHIEF SECRETARY+, WHO HAD COMBINED A CAPACITY FOR INNOVATION WITH EXCELLENT POLITICAL JUDGEMENT AND FAR-SIGHTED CONCERN FOR THE WELFARE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE HE LED.

THIS HAD BEEN NO SURPRISE, SIR MURRAY SAID, NOTING THAT SIR JACK HAD SHOWN HIS METTLE UNDER THE EXCEPTIONAL TEST OF FIGHTING CORRUPTION FOR FIVE COURAGEOUS YEARS AS THE FIRST COMMISSIONER OF THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION.

+THE BREAKING, DURING THOSE YEARS, OF THIS TRADITIONAL SCOURGE OF HONG KONG WILL ALWAYS BE REMEMBERED AS A REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENT AND AN IMMENSE CONTRIBUTION TO THE WELL-BEING OF OUR COMMUNITY,+ SIR MURRAY SAID.

THE GOVERNOR NOTED THAT SIR JACK'S EARLIER WORK IN HIS VARIED SERVICE TO HONG KONG HAD GIVEN HIM A DEEP KNOWLEDGE OF THE LIVES AND NEEDS OF THOSE AT ALL LEVELS IN INDUSTRY, AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES.

/THIS KNOWLEDGE

THIS KNOWLEDGE STOOD HIM IN GOOD STEAD SUCCESSIVELY AS SECRETARY FOR INFORMATION, SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, AND FINALLY FIVE COURAGEOUS YEARS AS THE FIRST COMMISSIONER OF THE ICAC.

SIR JACK WAS NOT LEAVING THE SERVICE OF HONG KONG, SAID SIR MURRAY, BUT BEGINNING YET ANOTHER AND VERY IMPORTANT CHAPTER IN HIS VARIED SERVICE TO HONG KONG.

+I AM SURE WE ARE DELIGHTED THAT AS HONG KONG'S COMMISSIONER IN LONDON HE AND HIS WIFE WILL BE FREQUENT VISITORS TO HONG KONG AND THAT WHAT WE SAY ON THIS OCCASION CAN BE 'THANK YOU AND SEE YOU AGAIN SOON', RATHER THAN 'GOOD-BYE',+ THE GOVERNOR SAID.

UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS ALSO JOINED IN PAYING TRIBUTE TO SIR JACK.

SPEAKING FOR ALL HIS COLLEAGUES, THE SENIOR UNOFFICIAL, THE HON ROGER LOBO, WISHED SIR JACK EVERY SUCCESS IN HIS NEW POST AS HONG KONG COMMISSIONER.

MR LOBO SAID: +MANY OF US HERE HAVE KNOWN SIR JACK FOR A LONG TIME, NOT ONLY AS A TOUGH AND ELOQUENT SPOKESMAN FOR THE GOVERNMENT IN THIS CHAMBER, BUT ALSO AS A HIGHLY RESPECTED AND DEDICATED CIVIL SERVANT AND A TRUSTED FRIEND.

+HE HAS BEEN WITH US CONTINUOUSLY SINCE THE END OF WORLD WAR II- THROUGH MORE THAN 30 YEARS OF DEVELOPMENT, AND THROUGH MANY DIFFICULT AND TESTING SITUATIONS.

+HIS LEADERSHIP HAS BEEN EXEMPLARY TO THIS COMMUNITY AS WELL AS TO THE SERVICE HE HAS REPRESENTED. SIR JACK'S INTEGRITY, BRAVERY AND COMMITMENT TO PUBLIC SERVICE ARE A BYWORD IN OUR SOCIETY.

+AS THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE GOVERNMENT AND THE HEAD OF THE CIVIL SERVICE DURING THE PAST THREE YEARS, HE HAS ONCE AGAIN DEMONSTRATED HIS DETERMINATION AND ABILITY TO BRING ABOUT IMPROVEMENTS IN THE WELL-BEING OF OUR PEOPLE, IN UPGRADING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN THIS COMMUNITY AND IN ENSURING THE FAIR AND JUST RUNNING OF OUR SOCIETY.

+MY UNOFFICIAL COLLEAGUES AND I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THESE SAME OUTSTANDING QUALITIES WILL BE VALUABLY EMPLOYED IN SIR JACK'S NEXT APPOINTMENT AS HONG KONG'S COMMISSIONER IN LONDON.+

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1981

- 5 -

CONCERN ABOUT MAN IN THE STREET

* * * * *

THE GOVERNMENT, WHILE SETTING ITSELF THE TASK OF PROVIDING THE RIGHT KIND OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CLIMATE FOR GROWTH, MUST AT ALL TIMES CONCERN ITSELF WITH SAFEGUARDING AND PROVIDING FOR THE NEEDS OF THE YOUNG, THE WEAK, THE SICK AND THE DISADVANTAGED, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, THE HON SIR JACK CATER, SAID TODAY.

WINDING UP THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL DEBATE, SIR JACK SAID A BALANCE MUST BE STRUCK BETWEEN THE PHILOSOPHY OF A FREE ECONOMY AS THE BASIS FOR ECONOMIC HEALTH AND GROWTH, AND THE NEED FOR REGULATION AND CONTROL AS THE BASIS FOR SOCIAL HEALTH AND GROWTH.

+THIS IS A DYNAMIC SITUATION AND, IN WATCHING IT CHANGE FROM DAY TO DAY, WE MUST REMAIN ALERT TO SHIFTS IN EVENTS AND IN EXPECTATIONS TO ENSURE THAT AN ACCEPTABLE BALANCE IS MAINTAINED- THAT IS, A BALANCE WHICH IS ACCEPTABLE TO THE GENERALITY OF THE COMMUNITY, AND NOT JUST TO A FEW GROUPS.+

SIR JACK SAID HE WAS CONCERNED AT THE GAP BETWEEN RICH AND POOR IN OUR SOCIETY.

+I DO NOT QUESTION THE APPROPRIATE REWARD OF SKILL, ABILITY OR ENTREPRENEURIAL INGENUITY, FOR THIS HAS BEEN BASIC TO HONG KONG'S SUCCESSFUL DEVELOPMENT.

+I AM CONCERNED THAT THE MAN AND WOMAN IN THE STREET, THE ORDINARY WORKERS ON WHOM, ULTIMATELY, HONG KONG'S FUTURE DEPENDS, ARE NOT GETTING A FAIR SHARE OF THE ECONOMIC CAKE.

+THE HEROES OF OUR ECONOMIC SUCCESS ARE NOT TO BE FOUND SOLELY IN THE BOARD-ROOMS OF CENTRAL; THEY ARE TO BE FOUND LARGELY ON THE FACTORY FLOOR, AND IN THE HOUSING ESTATES, IN TSUEN WAN, IN WONG TAI SIN, TSZ WAN SHAN AND KWUN TONG.+

SIR JACK ALSO SAID HE WAS CONCERNED THAT THE SUCCESS OF LARGE BUSINESSES SHOULD NOT BE MEASURED BY PROFITABILITY WITHOUT REGARD TO SOCIAL COST- AND THAT THE PERFORMANCE OF THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD NOT BE MEASURED BY THE STATE OF OUR RESERVES WITHOUT REGARD TO UNFULFILLED SOCIAL NEEDS.

+THE 'UNACCEPTABLE FACE OF CAPITALISM' MUST NEVER BE ACCEPTED OR TOLERATED JUST BECAUSE WE ARE A CAPITALIST-ORIENTED SOCIETY, AND PROUD TO BE SO,+ SIR JACK SAID.

+THERE ARE THOSE WHO WOULD ARGUE 'LET IT BE SO': THAT THIS IS IN KEEPING WITH THE PHILOSOPHY OF HONG KONG; THAT HONG KONG IS ALL ABOUT THE SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST (SOME WOULD SAY THE POWERFUL AND THE RICH); THAT LIFE HONG KONG STYLE IS ALL ABOUT ALLOWING FREE PLAY TO 'MARKET FORCES'.

+IT IS NOT AS EASY AS THAT: NOR SHOULD IT BE,+ SIR JACK ADDED.

/ON RELATIONS

ON RELATIONS WITH BRITAIN AND CHINA, SIR JACK SAID THE EXCELLENT RELATIONS WERE UNDERSCORED WITH THE RECENT VISITS BY MR REN ZHONGYI, THE PARTY FIRST SECRETARY FOR GUANGDONG PROVINCE AND BY THE MAYOR OF SHANGHAI, MR WANG DAOHAN.

+SUCH VISITS, TOGETHER WITH THE MANY REGULAR LOWER-LEVEL CONTACTS, AND CONTINUING AND EXPANDING DEVELOPMENTS IN ECONOMIC COOPERATION, ARE MAKING A VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO HONG KONG'S FUTURE PROSPERITY AND STABILITY.+

REFERRING TO A POINT MADE BY THE HON LYDIA DUNN THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS LOSING CONTROL OVER THE GROWTH OF PUBLIC EXPENDITURE, SIR JACK SAID IT APPEARED THAT MISS DUNN HAD MISSED THE POINT THAT GROWTH IN PUBLIC SPENDING WAS BEING CUT.

+THIS OF COURSE REPRESENTS GOVERNMENT POLICY ALTHOUGH WE HAVE TO BE MOVED AS MUCH BY PRAGMATISM AS BY DOGMATISM,+ HE SAID.

IT WOULD BE HELPFUL, HE ADDED, IF MISS DUNN MADE SPECIFIC MENTION OF FURTHER CUTS SHE WOULD LIKE TO SEE. +ARE WE TO PROVIDE FEWER SCHOOLS, FEWER HOSPITALS, WORSE ROADS, LESS PUBLIC HOUSING, OR FEWER POLICE?+ HE ASKED, ADDING +IT IS SO EASY TO BE BROADLY CRITICAL IF THERE IS NO NEED TO BE PRECISE.+

ON TRANSPORT, SIR JACK SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS DETERMINED TO MEET THIS CHALLENGE AND HE CONFIRMED THAT EXPENDITURE ON TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE WILL BE ACCORDED A VERY HIGH PRIORITY IN OUR FUTURE PLANS.

ON THE MASS MEDIA, SIR JACK SHARED THE HON SELINA CHOW'S VIEW THAT IN THE LIGHT OF THE GREAT INFLUENCE OF TELEVISION ON THE MINDS OF OUR PEOPLE, PARTICULARLY THE YOUNG, SOME FORM OF CONTROL OVER PROGRAMME-STANDARDS MUST BE RETAINED.

SIR JACK AGREED WITH THE HON MARIA TAM WHO HAD EMPHASISED THE DESIRABILITY OF A CLOSELY-COORDINATED APPROACH BY THE MANY AGENCIES INVOLVED IN TACKLING JUVENILE CRIME, BUT SAID THIS WAS EASIER SAID THAN DONE.

HOWEVER, IT WAS PRECISELY TO IMPROVE THIS SORT OF LIAISON THAT THE DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE SYSTEM HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED, AND HE WAS SURE THAT THIS WOULD PROVE A USEFUL AND IMPORTANT VEHICLE TO HELP COORDINATION.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1981

- 7 -

SIR JACK SPEAKS ON NATIONALITY ACT

* * * * *

HONG KONG MUST ACCEPT THE ASSURANCES GIVEN BY UK MINISTERS THAT THE NEW NATIONALITY ACT RECENTLY PASSED BY PARLIAMENT WILL IN NO WAY ALTER THE UK GOVERNMENT'S RELATIONSHIP WITH, AND ITS COMMITMENT TO, HONG KONG AND ITS PEOPLE, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR JACK CATER SAID TODAY.

WHILE HONG KONG WOULD MUCH HAVE PREFERRED NO CHANGE AT ALL, HE SAID, IN PURELY PRACTICAL IMMIGRATION TERMS THE ACT WAS NOW PROBABLY AS NEUTRAL AS IT COULD BE IN ITS EFFECTS ON THE RIGHTS AND INTERESTS OF HONG KONG'S CITIZENS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND COLONIES.

+BUT THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT THAT IN PSYCHOLOGICAL TERMS, THE CHANGES HAVE COME AS AN UNPLEASANT AND UNWELCOME SHOCK,+ HE SAID.

SIR JACK NOTED THERE HAD BEEN A LARGE VOLUME OF EXCHANGES AT VARIOUS LEVELS BETWEEN HONG KONG AND LONDON - INVOLVING THE GOVERNOR, SENIOR UNOFFICIALS OF THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS, PRIVATE ORGANISATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS AS WELL AS OUR SUPPORTERS IN THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

+THE RESULT IS THAT, FROM HONG KONG'S POINT OF VIEW THE NEW ACT IS A CONSIDERABLE IMPROVEMENT ON THE BILL AS IT WAS FIRST PRESENTED IN JANUARY,+ HE SAID.

NEVERTHELESS IT SEEMED A GREAT PITY TO HIM THAT WE HAD NOT GOT IN THE ACT A SPECIFIC STATEMENT THAT HONG KONG PEOPLE ARE AND WILL REMAIN BRITISH, OR UNITED KINGDOM, NATIONALS.

+AFTER ALL, SUCH A STATEMENT WOULD SIMPLY BE RESTATING IN THE LAW WHAT MINISTERS HAVE STATED UNEQUIVOCALLY IN PARLIAMENT.+

IT WAS A FACT THAT THIS ERMINOLOGY HAD NEVER BEEN USED IN THE UK'S NATIONALITY LAW -- ALTHOUGH IT CERTAINLY EXISTS IN THE SPECIFIC CONTEXTS OF SOME OTHER UK LEGISLATION.

+IT IS ALSO A FACT THAT SOME INTERNATIONAL LAWYERS CONSIDER THAT A NATIONAL OF A COUNTRY HAS AN AUTOMATIC RIGHT OF ENTRY TO IT,+ HE SAID, ADDING THAT VERY FEW COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD WERE FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO BE ABLE TO ACCEPT LARGE-SCALE IMMIGRATION +AND NO-ONE KNOWS THAT BETTER THAN HONG KONG.+

NEVERTHELESS, HE ADDED, WE MUST ALL BE DISAPPOINTED THAT AN ELEMENT OF DISCRIMINATION HAS BEEN PERMITTED TO BE EMBODIED IN THE ACT IN TERMS OF TREATMENT GIVEN TO THE BRITISH DEPENDENT TERRITORIES.

SIR JACK RECALLED THAT THIS HAD BEEN THE SUBJECT OF DEBATE IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS ON OCTOBER 27 WHEN SIR PAUL BRYAN HAD ASKED FOR CONFIRMATION THAT BRITISH DEPENDENT TERRITORY CITIZENS HELD AND ENJOYED THE STATUS OF UNITED KINGDOM NATIONALS REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THEIR TERRITORY REMAINED ON THE SCHEDULE.

/THE WRITTEN

THE WRITTEN REPLY BY THE HOME SECRETARY, THE RT HON WILLIAM WHITELAW, WHICH WAS RELEASED BY SIR JACK TODAY IS AS FOLLOWS:

+IN THE DEBATE ON THE BRITISH NATIONALITY BILL ON 27TH OCTOBER I SAID THAT I WOULD WRITE TO YOU ON THE POINTS WHICH YOU RAISED ABOUT HONG KONG.

+MAY I SAY THAT I FULLY UNDERSTAND THE STRENGTH OF FEELING IN HONG KONG FOR THE BRITISH CONNECTION, WHICH YOU EXPOUNDED SO CLEARLY? I WAS GLAD THAT YOU SAID THAT YOU REALISED THAT ANY CONCERN IN HONG KONG ABOUT THE BILL WAS PROBABLY BASED ON A MISUNDERSTANDING OF THE VERY REAL SENSE OF COMMITMENT TO HONG KONG WHICH THIS GOVERNMENT FEELS. AS YOU KNOW, I HAVE MYSELF UNDERLINED IN PARLIAMENT THE IMPORTANCE OF THAT COMMITMENT TO HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT; AND OTHER MINISTERS HAVE FREQUENTLY DONE THE SAME. THE BRITISH NATIONALITY BILL DOES NOT AFFECT HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT'S RELATIONSHIP WITH HONG KONG OR THE STRENGTH OF THE GOVERNMENT'S SUPPORT FOR THAT OR ANY OTHER DEPENDENT TERRITORY.

+IN YOUR SPEECH YOU MENTIONED THE UNDERTAKINGS GIVEN BY TIMOTHY RAISON DURING THE REPORT STAGE OF THE BILL IN THE COMMONS. IT MAY BE HELPFUL TO SPELL THESE OUT AGAIN AND TO CONFIRM THAT BRITISH DEPENDENT TERRITORIES CITIZENS WILL REMAIN UNITED KINGDOM NATIONALS IN THE SENSE THAT THE UNITED KINGDOM WILL AFFORD CONSULAR PROTECTION AND REPRESENT THEIR INTERESTS INTERNATIONALLY. THE GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO DO THAT, AND AS IN THE PAST THEY WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO AVOID BRITISH DEPENDENT TERRITORIES CITIZENS ENCOUNTERING DIFFICULTIES IN THIRD COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY OVER IMMIGRATION PROCEDURES.

+YOU ALSO ASKED FOR ASSURANCE THAT THE NATIONAL STATUS OF BRITISH DEPENDENT TERRITORIES CITIZENS AND HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT'S UNDERTAKINGS TOWARDS THEM WOULD CONTINUE WHETHER A PARTICULAR DEPENDENT TERRITORY REMAINED IN SCHEDULE 6 OF THE BILL OR NOT. I CANNOT, OF COURSE, MAKE ANY DEFINITE FORECAST ABOUT A HYPOTHETICAL SITUATION, PARTICULARLY ONE WHICH, AS YOU YOURSELF POINTED OUT IN THE DEBATE, IS VERY REMOTE. IT IS IMPORTANT, HOWEVER, TO POINT OUT THAT A DEPENDENT TERRITORY MAY ONLY BE REMOVED FROM SCHEDULE 6 BY A DECISION OF PARLIAMENT.

+IF THERE WERE TO BE A CHANGE IN THE STATUS OF A DEPENDENCY, THE QUESTION OF THE NATIONAL STATUS IN OUR LAW OF PEOPLE FROM THAT DEPENDENCY WOULD THEREFORE BE FOR PARLIAMENT TO DECIDE, TAKING ACCOUNT OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES. IT WOULD, I BELIEVE, BE WRONG TO TRY TO BE MORE PRECISE ON HOW BRITISH DEPENDENT TERRITORIES CITIZENS FROM HONG KONG MIGHT BE AFFECTED, PARTICULARLY AS NO CLEAR ANALOGY CAN BE DRAWN BETWEEN THAT TERRITORY AND OTHERS WHICH IN THE PAST HAVE CEASED TO BE DEPENDENCIES. WHAT I BELIEVE MATTERS MOST FROM HONG KONG'S POINT OF VIEW IS THAT THE STABILITY OF THE TERRITORY RESTS ON THE TWIN BASES OF OUR EXCELLENT RELATIONS WITH CHINA AND OF BRITAIN'S COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT THE INTERESTS OF HONG KONG'S PEOPLE. THAT IS NOT ALTERED BY THE NATIONALITY BILL.+

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1981

- 9 -

ANTI-ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION MEASURES WILL CONTINUE

* * * * *

THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR JACK CATER, TODAY REITERATED THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS NO INTENTION WHATSOEVER TO RELAX THE POLICY AND MEASURES ADOPTED IN OCTOBER LAST YEAR TO PREVENT ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION.

REPLYING TO A QUESTION FROM THE SENIOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBER, THE HON ROGER LOBO, SIR JACK MADE IT CLEAR THAT HONG KONG MUST AND WILL CONTINUE WITH ALL THE VARIOUS MEASURES AGAINST ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION, INCLUDING STRENGTHENING THE BORDER DEFENCE, THE REQUIREMENT TO CARRY AND PRODUCE PROOF OF IDENTITY AND TO PRODUCE ID CARDS ON SEEKING EMPLOYMENT, THE MARKING OF BOATS AND SO ON.

+WE SHALL CONTINUE TO SEND BACK ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS DETECTED HERE AS A RESULT OF THESE MEASURES, INCLUDING CHILDREN, MANY OF WHOM, I REGRET TO SAY, HAVE LATELY BEEN BROUGHT ACROSS THE BORDER BY ILLEGAL SYNDICATES QUICK TO EXPLOIT FAMILY AFFECTION,+ SIR JACK SAID.

THESE MEASURES HAVE TO DATE PROVED TO BE REMARKABLY SUCCESSFUL, HE NOTED. +THEY HAVE CLEARLY HAD A DETERRENT EFFECT ON THOSE WHO MIGHT BE THINKING OF LEAVING THEIR HOMES IN CHINA IN AN ATTEMPT TO COME TO HONG KONG.+

SOME OF THESE MEASURES, SIR JACK SAID, HAD UNDOUBTEDLY CAUSED INCONVENIENCE TO OUR PEOPLE.

+BUT I BELIEVE THAT NEARLY EVERYONE ACCEPTS THEM AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE POLICY. HAVING ACHIEVED CONSIDERABLE SUCCESS IN STEMMING THE TIDE, WE MUST NOT DROP OUR GUARD,+ HE STRESSED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

GROUNDS FOR OPTIMISM IN ECONOMY

* * *

THERE ARE REALISTIC GROUNDS FOR OPTIMISM ABOUT THE ECONOMY'S PROSPECTS WHICH HAVE BEEN REINFORCED BY INFORMATION THAT HAS BECOME AVAILABLE SINCE THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS IN EARLY OCTOBER.

THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, THE HON D.G. JEAFFRESON TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY THAT AN ASSESSMENT OF THE FACTS SUGGESTED THAT OUR ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE NOT ONLY WOULD IMPROVE, BUT WAS ALREADY IMPROVING.

MR JEAFFRESON ADMITTED THAT THE HONG KONG ECONOMY, LIKE EVERY OTHER FREE ECONOMY, HAD HAD ITS PROBLEMS, BUT HE POINTED OUT THAT THE REMARKABLE FEATURE OF OUR ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE HAD BEEN THAT, IN THE FACE OF UNFAVOURABLE CONDITIONS IN OUR MAIN MARKETS AND OF PERSISTENT WORLD INFLATION, THESE PROBLEMS HAD NOT BEEN MORE SEVERE.

ON THE CONTRARY, HE SAID, THE GROWTH RATE OF THE ECONOMY HAD REMAINED HIGH.

/+THIS HAS

+THIS HAS ENABLED A LARGE NUMBER OF IMMIGRANTS TO BE ABSORBED INTO THE LABOUR FORCE WITH ONLY A RELATIVELY MODEST RISE IN UNEMPLOYMENT.

+SO IN CONTRAST TO THE DOUBTS HONOURABLE MEMBERS EXPRESSED ABOUT THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY BEING ABLE TO CONTINUE TO EMPLOY A HIGH PROPORTION OF OUR LABOUR FORCE, MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT WAS AT ITS HIGHEST LEVEL EVER IN JUNE, AND THERE ARE EVEN REPORTS OF SHORTAGES FOR SOME INDUSTRIES.+

AS REGARDS DOMESTIC EXPORTS, MR JEAFFRESON SAID ALTHOUGH THEIR GROWTH RATE HAD BEEN SLOWING DOWN, THE DECELERATION HAD NOT BEEN AS SEVERE AS MIGHT HAVE BEEN EXPECTED GIVEN THE STATE OF OUR MAIN MARKETS.

+FURTHERMORE,+ HE SAID,+ THERE ARE CLEAR SIGNS THAT THINGS ARE IMPROVING.+

THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF THIS YEAR WAS 20 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN THE CORRESPONDING QUARTER LAST YEAR, WHILE FOR THE FIRST HALF YEAR COMPARISON IT WAS ONLY 14 PER CENT HIGHER.

+DISCOUNTING FOR INCREASES IN PRICES, IT IS LIKELY THAT THERE HAS BEEN AN ACCELERATION IN THE YEAR-ON-YEAR GROWTH RATE IN REAL TERMS FROM LESS THAN SIX PER CENT IN THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR TO ABOUT EIGHT PER CENT IN THE THIRD QUARTER,+ HE SAID.

FURTHER, THERE WAS ALSO A FAIRLY SHARP ACCELERATION IN THE GROWTH RATE OF RETAINED IMPORTS OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES, TRADITIONALLY AN INDICATION OF A FUTURE ACCELERATION IN THE GROWTH RATE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS.

THERE WAS ALSO AN EQUALLY SHARP SLOWING DOWN IN THE GROWTH RATE OF RETAINED IMPORTS OF CONSUMER GOODS, HE SAID, ADDING THAT THESE DEVELOPMENTS SUGGESTED THAT THE TRADE GAP MIGHT NOW BEGIN TO NARROW.

THE SLOWING DOWN IN THE GROWTH RATE OF DOMESTIC CREDIT IN THE THIRD QUARTER SHOULD ALSO BE BENEFICIAL IN TERMS OF BOTH INFLATION AND THE EXCHANGE VALUE OF THE DOLLAR.

ON THE PROPERTY MARKET, MR JEAFFRESON SAID ALTHOUGH UNTIL ABOUT THE BEGINNING OF THIS YEAR RENTS AND PRICES CONTINUED TO RISE SHARPLY, SINCE THEN THEY HAD GENERALLY BEEN STATIC OR HAD FALLEN, IN SOME CASES QUITE DRAMATICALLY.

THIS NEW SITUATION, HE SAID, HAD BEEN BROUGHT ABOUT BY A COMBINATION OF THE GOOD LEVEL OF SUPPLY OF NEW PROPERTY AND THE DAMPENING OF DEMAND.

HE SAID THE MAIN POTENTIAL PROBLEM AREAS NOW REMAINED THE FUTURE PERFORMANCE OF THE ECONOMIES OF OUR MAIN MARKETS AND THE OUTCOME OF THE NEGOTIATION ON THE RENEWAL OF THE MULTI-FIBRE ARRANGEMENTS.

ON PROPOSALS FOR CHANGES IN OUR ECONOMIC POLICIES, MR JEAFFRESON SAID HE AGREED WITH THE HON WILLIAM BROWN THAT THERE WAS GROWING EVIDENCE THAT MARKET FORCES WERE PRODUCING THEIR OWN SOLUTIONS.

FOUR PER CENT OF GDP SPENT ON MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
* * * * *

HONG KONG'S TOTAL PRIVATE AND PUBLIC EXPENDITURE ON MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES IN 1980/81 COMPRISED FOUR PER CENT OF THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT FOR THAT YEAR, COMPARED WITH 4.6 PER CENT SPENT BY THE UNITED KINGDOM IN 1978.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES, THE HON E.P. HO IN HIS REPLY TO REMARK BY UNOFFICIAL MEMBER DR THE HON HARRY FANG THAT ONLY ONE PER CENT OF OUR GDP WAS SPENT ON MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES.

MR HO SAID THE FIGURE OF ONE PER CENT WAS CLEARLY LIMITED TO THE ESTIMATE OF GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE.

HE AGREED WITH DR FANG THAT THERE WAS A SIGNIFICANT ROLE FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN THE PROVISION OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH CARE AND ADDED THAT THE FIGURE HE GAVE DEMONSTRATED THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

HOWEVER, MR HO SAID HE FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO ACCEPT SUGGESTIONS THAT GOVERNMENT SHOULD ASSUME A NEW COMMITMENT TO DEVELOP A GENERAL HEALTH INSURANCE SCHEME.

HE QUOTED THE CHIEF SECRETARY IN 1978 AS SAYING THAT IT WOULD NOT BE PROPER USE OF PUBLIC FUNDS FOR SUCH SCHEMES TO BE SUBSIDISED, OR ORGANISED, BY THE GOVERNMENT.

+THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT WE DO NOT AGREE THAT THERE IS NEED TO ENCOURAGE THE DEVELOPMENT OF PRIVATE HOSPITALS,+ MR HO ADDED.
+THE GOVERNMENT HAS ALREADY TAKEN POSITIVE STEPS IN THIS DIRECTION.+

HE SAID THE PRESENT POLICY FOR THE GRANT OF LAND FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF PRIVATE HOSPITALS PROVIDES FOR PUBLIC AUCTION OR TENDER OF SUITABLE SITES THAT ARE RESTRICTED TO HOSPITAL DEVELOPMENT, AND FOR PRIVATE TREATY GRANTS AT NIL PREMIUM FOR NON-PROFIT-MAKING HOSPITALS.

ON THE RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF DOCTORS, MR HO SAID CONCRETE AND PRACTICAL MEASURES HAD BEEN AND WERE BEING TAKEN, INCLUDING:

- (A) THE APPOINTMENT OF A SENIOR CONSULTANT TO TAKE CHARGE OF MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT IN THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT-
- (B) THE SEEKING OF ADVICE FROM THE UNIVERSITY AND POLYTECHNIC GRANTS COMMITTEE ON THE POSSIBILITY OF EXPANDING INTAKES INTO MEDICAL SCHOOLS AT THE TWO UNIVERSITIES- AND
- (C) CASTING THE NET FOR RECRUITMENT OF APPROPRIATE STAFF AS WIDE AS POSSIBLE, INCLUDING THE USE OF CONTRACT TERMS FOR SUITABLE AND QUALIFIED DOCTORS.

ON CORRECTIONAL WORK, MR HO SAID HE WAS GRATEFUL TO THE HON JOYCE BENNETT AND DR THE HON HENRY HU FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS BY MR R.M. JARMAN THAT SEPARATE PROVISION SHOULD BE MADE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE ON REMAND, PROBATION AND CARE AND PROTECTION ORDERS.

HE SAID THE ALLOCATION OF THE FORMER QUARRY BAY SCHOOL PREMISES TO THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT WAS A FIRST STEP TOWARDS THEIR IMPLEMENTATION.

THE INSTITUTION WOULD BE FITTED OUT AND USED AS A PROBATION HOME FOR YOUNG OFFENDERS BELOW THE AGE OF 14, THUS PERMITTING CONSEQUENTIAL CHANGES TO BE MADE IN OTHER INSTITUTIONS.

ON CHILD CARE SERVICE, MR HO SAID THE GOVERNMENT'S PREFERRED POLICY WAS TO DEVELOP AND EXPAND NON-INSTITUTIONAL CARE AND TO PROVIDE A WIDER RANGE OF SUPPORT SERVICES.

ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY, HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT PLANNED TO INVITE MR LINEHAN, A CONSULTANT WHO PRODUCED THE 1976 REPORT ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AND HEALTH, TO RETURN IN JULY TO REVIEW THE IMPLEMENTATION OF HIS RECOMMENDATIONS.

MR LINEHAN WOULD ALSO EXAMINE MEANS OF TRANSFORMING THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD SAFETY COMMITTEE INTO AN OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL.

- - - - 0 - - - -

BI-SESSIONALISM IN SCHOOLS EXPLAINED

* * *

BI-SESSIONALISM WAS FORCED ON HONG KONG SCHOOLS BY THE NEED FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO MAKE FULL USE OF ITS LIMITED CAPITAL RESOURCES, THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION, THE HON KENNETH TOPLEY SAID AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

BUT WITH MOVEMENTS OF POPULATION THIS NEED WILL BECOME LESS ACUTE IN CERTAIN AREAS, HE SAID, IN REPLY TO QUESTIONS BY UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS.

MR TOPLEY SAID ABOUT 700 OF THE TOTAL OF 800 PRIMARY SCHOOLS OPERATE ON A HALF-DAY, MAINLY BI-SESSIONAL, BASIS.

+THE DIVERSION OF EFFORT NEEDED TO MOUNT A BUILDING PROGRAMME DESIGNED TO ELIMINATE BI-SESSIONALISM IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS WOULD, IT WAS CONSIDERED, BE HARD TO JUSTIFY. I CANNOT PROMISE, THEREFORE, THAT THE SITUATION IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS WILL CHANGE QUICKLY,+ MR TOPLEY SAID.

OUT OF 400 SECONDARY SCHOOLS, 120 OPERATE ON A HALF-DAY OR BI-SESSIONAL BASIS AND OF THESE 95 ARE PRIVATE INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS.

THE PROVISION OF MORE GOVERNMENT AND AIDED SECONDARY SCHOOLS, WHICH NORMALLY OPERATE ON A WHOLE-DAY BASIS, WILL IMPROVE THE SITUATION IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS, HE SAID.

DISCUSSING SCHOOL STAFFING, HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS COMMITTED TO PROVIDING ADDITIONAL TEACHERS IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS TO INCREASE THE TEACHER TO CLASS RATIO FROM 1.1:1 TO 1.2:1 FROM NEXT SEPTEMBER.

+WE ARE COMMITTED ALSO TO THE PROVISION OF TWO REMEDIAL LANGUAGE TEACHERS IN EACH STANDARD SECONDARY SCHOOL IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR FROM SEPTEMBER 1982. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THESE TWO COMMITMENTS WILL REQUIRE ABOUT 1 500 AND 650 ADDITIONAL TEACHERS RESPECTIVELY, + MR TOPLEY SAID.

FURTHER PROPOSALS WOULD REQUIRE 1 600 TEACHERS TO HELP IN SUCH AREAS AS CAREER COUNSELLING, REMEDIAL TEACHING AND EXTRA-CURRICULA ACTIVITIES, HE SAID.

A LARGE PROPORTION OF THE ADDITIONAL TEACHERS WOULD HAVE TO BE SPECIALLY TRAINED AND THE COLLEGES OF EDUCATION MUST THEREFORE EXPAND THEIR CAPACITY TO MEET THIS DEMAND.

THIS MEANT THAT THE PRESENT ENROLMENT OF 1 900 WOULD NEED TO BE INCREASED TO OVER 2 500 IN THE 1982-3 ACADEMIC YEAR.

REFERRING TO OTHER REMARKS ABOUT SENIOR STAFF OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, HE SAID: + THEY DO VISIT SCHOOLS AND THEY ARE AWARE OF THE PROBLEMS IN SCHOOLS.+

ON A SUGGESTION ABOUT A UNIFIED SYSTEM OF ENTRY INTO THE TERTIARY LEVEL INSTITUTIONS, LIKE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, MR TOPLEY SAID THE PROPOSAL HAD BEEN CONSIDERED BUT FOUND TO BE OF QUESTIONABLE SUITABILITY FOR HONG KONG.

SUCH A CENTRAL COUNCIL OF ADMISSIONS MADE SENSE IN BRITAIN, BUT IN HONG KONG, WHICH HAS ONLY TWO UNIVERSITIES, THE CASE WAS LESS STRONG, HE SAID.

ON THE QUESTION OF ADULT TRAINING OF RECENT IMMIGRANTS FROM CHINA TO HELP THEM INTEGRATE INTO THE WORK FORCE, MR TOPLEY SAID STEPS HAD BEEN TAKEN TO COLLECT INFORMATION ON THE POSSIBLE DEMAND.

DISCUSSING THE RECENT VISIT OF THE PANEL OF VISITORS CONDUCTING THE OVERALL REVIEW OF EDUCATION, MR TOPLEY EXPLAINED THAT, THOUGH THEY MADE NO SPECIFIC ATTEMPT TO INTERVIEW PARENTS AS A GROUP, THEY HAD ISSUED A GENERAL INVITATION TO MEET ALL PEOPLE. THE PANEL VISITED A WIDE VARIETY OF INSTITUTIONS AND MET A WIDE SPECTRUM OF INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS. THE PANEL WOULD BE RETURNING IN MARCH NEXT YEAR FOR SOME FINAL REVIEW MEETINGS BEFORE MAKING THEIR REPORT TO THE GOVERNMENT, MR TOPLEY SAID.

GAMBLING POLICY EXPLAINED

* * *

CHANGES WERE INTRODUCED IN THE GOVERNMENT'S GAMBLING POLICY BECAUSE ILLEGAL GAMBLING WAS SO WIDESPREAD AND SUPPORTED BY CORRUPTION, EXTORTION AND VIOLENCE ON SUCH A SCALE AS TO BE TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE, THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, THE HON DENIS BRAY TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

REPLYING TO COMMENTS MADE BY DR THE HON RAYSON HUANG EARLIER, MR BRAY SAID: +WE DID NOT CHANGE POLICY TO RAISE REVENUE. TAXATION IS A MUCH SIMPLER WAY OF RAISING MONEY FOR GOOD CAUSES.+

+THE CHANGES IN GAMBLING POLICY WERE MUCH MORE LIMITED THAN SOME WOULD HAVE WISHED,+ HE SAID, POINTING OUT THAT CASINOS, GAMBLING ON DOG RACES, AND FOOTBALL POOLS HAD ALL BEEN RESISTED, BECAUSE, THOUGH SOME MAY EXIST ILLEGALLY THEY HAVE NOT CREATED A SOCIALLY UNACCEPTABLE SITUATION AND THE LIMITED MEASURES OF CONTROL INTRODUCED HAVE BEEN REMARKABLY SUCCESSFUL.

TSE FA, WHICH HAD PERMEATED THE HOUSING ESTATES, HAD GONE AND ILLEGAL BOOKMAKERS WERE REDUCED TO A HANDFUL OPERATING UNDERGROUND AND UNAVAILABLE TO THE ORDINARY PUNTER, HE SAID.

MR BRAY SAID THERE ARE NOW 124 LICENSED OFF-COURSE BETTING CENTRES, WHICH IS TEN LESS THAN THERE WERE FIVE YEARS AGO. OF THESE SOME WERE INADEQUATE AND EXCESSIVELY CROWDED, WITH PEOPLE SPILLING OUT ONTO THE SURROUNDING PAVEMENTS.

WHEN THIS OCCURRED, THERE WAS CLEARLY NEED FOR A BIGGER CENTRE OR ANOTHER ONE NEARBY AND THIS WAS THE SORT OF CRITERION USED WHEN LICENSING ADDITIONAL CENTRES.

THE BETTING CENTRES WERE LICENSED AS PART OF A POLICY WHICH IS COHERENT AND DEFENSIBLE, MR BRAY SAID.

MR BRAY AGREED ENTIRELY WITH DR HUANG'S IDEALS AND AIMS ON THE MORAL AND PHYSICAL WELL BEING OF YOUNG PEOPLE AND ASSURED COUNCILLORS OF GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO THE PROMOTION OF HEALTHY LEISURE PURSUITS.

THE MOST RECENT EXAMPLE OF THIS WAS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT. OTHERS INCLUDED THE OPENING OF THE MACLEHOSE TRAIL, MORE COUNTRY PARKS, RECREATION AND SPORTS SERVICES, MUSIC PERFORMANCES, CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS ON ADDITIONAL VENUES, AND COMMUNITY, YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S CENTRES.

THIS WAS THE TRUE MEASURE OF THE GOVERNMENT'S CONCERN FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF LEISURE ACTIVITIES IN A FREE SOCIETY, HE SAID.

DISCUSSING QUESTIONS BY THE HON MARIA TAM AND THE HON MRS SELINA CHOW ABOUT DIFFICULTIES FACED BY RECENT IMMIGRANTS FROM CHINA, MR BRAY SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONDUCT A SURVEY TO FIND OUT THEIR REAL PROBLEMS IN SETTLING IN HONG KONG.

WHILE HE WAS SURE THAT THERE WERE SOME DIFFICULTIES, HE NOTED THAT THEY HAD ADAPTED RAPIDLY TO OUR WAY OF LIFE.

/HE SAID

HE SAID HALF A MILLION PEOPLE HAD COME IN RECENT YEARS AND THE REMARKABLE FEATURE ABOUT THIS MIGRATION WAS THE SPEED OF THEIR ADAPTATION TO THE LOCAL WAY OF LIFE RATHER THAN THAT SOME HAD FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO SETTLE DOWN.

THERE WAS NO DISCRIMINATION AGAINST A PERSON USING GOVERNMENT SERVICES SIMPLY BECAUSE HE IS A GREEN SEAL IDENTITY CARD HOLDER.

HE SAID ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS FROM CHINA WHO ARRIVED AFTER OCTOBER 23 LAST YEAR WOULD CONTINUE TO BE REPATRIATED WHETHER THEY HAD BEEN CONVICTED OF SERIOUS OFFENCES OR NOT, HE SAID.

THOSE WHO REGISTERED IN THE GRACE PERIOD AND WHO WERE ALLOWED TO STAY CONDITIONALLY, WOULD NOT BE REMOVED, HE ADDED.

----- 0 -----

PROPERTY BILL BEING STUDIED

* * *

THE LAW OF PROPERTY BILL WAS DRAFTED EARLY THIS YEAR AND WAS BEING STUDIED BY THE LAW SOCIETY, THE LAW DRAFTSMAN, THE HON G.P. NAZARETH, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

HE WAS REPLYING TO COMMENTS MADE BY THE HON PETER WONG, WHO HAD ACKNOWLEDGED THE NECESSITY FOR CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED LEGISLATION, BUT HAD EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THIS SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO RESULT IN DELAY THAT WAS COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE AND WORKED AGAINST THE PUBLIC INTEREST.

'HOW MUCH TIME IS APPROPRIATE FOR CONSULTATION MUST DEPEND ON PARTICULAR CIRCUMSTANCES, AND IN THIS CASE, NOTWITHSTANDING ITS LONG HISTORY, THE BILL IS NOT REALLY A PARTICULARLY URGENT MEASURE,' MR NAZARETH SAID.

DETAILED STUDY OF LEGISLATION BY PRIVATE ORGANISATIONS, CARRIED OUT ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS, USUALLY AFTER WORKING HOURS, COULD TAKE TIME, AND MUCH WAS OWED TO THOSE WHO MADE THESE VALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO GETTING THE LEGISLATION RIGHT, HE SAID.

'I AM, IN ANY CASE, HAPPY TO SAY THAT THE LAW SOCIETY HAS ALMOST COMPLETED ITS DETAILED STUDY OF THE BILL.'

REFERRING TO THE SUGGESTION THAT WHEN THE SOCIETIES ORDINANCE IS AMENDED, THE OPPORTUNITY BE TAKEN TO CONFER CORPORATE STATUS ON SOCIETIES REGISTERED UNDER THE ORDINANCE, HE SAID THAT MOST OF THE 3 000 REGISTERED SOCIETIES MENTIONED WERE VERY SMALL ASSOCIATION FOR RECREATION AND SOCIAL PURPOSES, OFTEN WITHOUT PREMISES OR PROPERTY.

IT WAS QUESTIONABLE WHETHER THESE SMALL SOCIETIES WOULD BENEFIT FROM CORPORATE STATUS OR EVEN WHETHER THEY WISHED TO BE BOTHERED WITH THE FORMALITIES AND OBLIGATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH INCORPORATION.

THE LARGE AND PROSPEROUS SOCIETIES COULD AND DID INCORPORATE UNDER THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE, MR NAZARETH ADDED.

----- 0 -----

GOVERNMENT'S ROLE IN INDUSTRY

* * * *

THE LATEST YEAR ON YEAR TRADE FIGURES SHOWED THAT HONG KONG ENJOYED ACTUAL GROWTH IN ALL MAJOR MARKETS OTHER THAN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, THE HON BILL DORWARD, DIRECTOR OF TRADE INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

+ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION FOR THE YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER SHOWS INCREASES OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR IN ALL INDUSTRIAL SECTORS EXCEPT SPINNING AND WEAVING- AND THE LATEST 1981 FIGURES FOR IMPORTS OF MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT SHOW ROUGHLY A 30 PER CENT INCREASE IN VALUE OVER THE SAME PERIOD IN 1980,+ HE SAID.

MR DORWARD SAID HE DID NOT DISCOUNT THE DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN DIFFICULTIES FACING HONG KONG INDUSTRY. THE REAL GROWTH RATE IN EXPORTS DID NOT SHOW THE EXTENT TO WHICH PROFIT MARGINS HAD BEEN SQUEEZED, ALTHOUGH IN SOME MARKETS THIS HAD BEEN PARTLY COMPENSATED BY THE DEVALUATION OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR.

+CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS, PERHAPS MORE THAN THE ACTUAL EXTENT OF THE DEPRECIATION OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR, HAVE MADE TRADING CONDITIONS HAZARDOUS. AND IT WOULD BE UNREALISTIC FOR ANYONE TO EXPECT HONG KONG TO HAVE BEEN IMMUNE TO THE ECONOMIC RECESSION IN OUR MAJOR MARKETS,+ HE SAID.

ON SUGGESTIONS THAT THERE SHOULD BE A LOCAL +BUY HONG KONG+ CAMPAIGN AND THAT GOVERNMENT SHOULD GIVE A FIVE PER CENT MARGIN OF PREFERENCE TO HONG KONG GOODS IN ITS OWN PURCHASING, MR DORWARD SAID: +AS FAR AS THE PUBLIC IS CONCERNED, THE FIRST ESSENTIAL FOR ANY SUCH CAMPAIGN IS THAT MORE LOCAL MANUFACTURERS SHOULD BE PREPARED TO SELL IN HONG KONG. IT IS NO USE EXHORTING CONSUMERS TO BUY PRODUCTS WHICH ARE NOT IN THE MARKET.

MANY SUCH PRODUCTS WERE ALREADY ON SALE HERE AND SEEMED TO BE WELL RECEIVED, BUT ONE INHIBITION ON DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL SALES WAS THE EXTENT TO WHICH HONG KONG INDUSTRY STILL SOLD PRODUCTIVE CAPACITY RATHER THAN PRODUCTS, HE SAID.

+BEFORE ANY NEW CAMPAIGN COULD BE LAUNCHED, IT WOULD BE NECESSARY IN MY VIEW FOR THE MAJOR TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS TO GET A COMMITMENT FROM THEIR MEMBERS THAT THEY WOULD SUPPORT IT. WITHOUT SUCH AN ASSURANCE, A 'BUY HONG KONG' CAMPAIGN WOULD, I FEAR, MAKE LITTLE HEADWAY,+ HE SAID.

AS REGARDS GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT, MR DORWARD SAID THAT APART FROM THE VERY REAL CONSIDERATIONS OF VALUE FOR THE TAXPAYERS' MONEY AND THE CONFLICT WITH OUR BASIC PHILOSOPHY, THERE WAS A LEGAL OBSTACLE.

+IN ORDER TO OBTAIN RECIPROCAL ACCESS TO SIMILAR PURCHASING IN A NUMBER OF OTHER COUNTRIES, HONG KONG HAS ACCEDED TO A GATT AGREEMENT ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT WHICH PROHIBITS DISCRIMINATION BETWEEN OVERSEAS AND DOMESTIC SUPPLIERS,+ HE SAID.

REFERRING TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON DIVERSIFICATION REPORT, MR DORWARD TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD, IN ITS FIRST YEAR HAD INITIATED A NUMBER OF ACTIVITIES DESIGNED TO IMPROVE TECHNICAL SERVICES AND BACK UP FACILITIES TO INDUSTRY.

IMPORTANT BEGINNINGS HAD BEEN MADE IN REGARD TO:

- (A) THE PROVISION OF PRIMARY STANDARDS-
- (B) IMPROVEMENT OF QUALITY CERTIFICATION SERVICES-
- (C) THE DEVELOPMENT OF SERVICES FOR TECHNICAL INFORMATION TO INDUSTRY AND THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY- AND
- (D) THE CONDUCT, THROUGH THE PRODUCTIVITY CENTRE, OF A TECHNO-ECONOMIC STUDY ON THE ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MICRO-PROCESSOR DEVELOPMENT LABORATORY.

A FULL REPORT ON THE FIRST YEAR'S ACTIVITIES OF THE IDB WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC LATER THIS WEEK, HE SAID.

REFERRING TO SMALL AND MEDIUM INDUSTRIES, MR DORWARD SAID THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY CENTRE HAD, SINCE ITS INCEPTION, OFFERED A WIDE RANGE OF SERVICES TO SUCH INDUSTRIES.

IT WAS ESTABLISHING A SMALL AND MEDIUM INDUSTRY EXTENSION SERVICE TO OFFER FURTHER ASSISTANCE TO MANUFACTURERS ON ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL, ENERGY CONSERVATION AND WASTE CONTROL AND RE-CYCLING, AND WOULD BE GOING OUT TO MAKE WIDELY KNOWN THE ASSISTANCE IT COULD OFFER.

ON A SUGGESTION REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF INDUSTRIAL ESTATES FOR SMALL FACTORIES TO ENABLE MANUFACTURERS TO ACQUIRE THEIR OWN PREMISES, MR DORWARD SAID: +I DOUBT THERE IS A CASE FOR SUCH A MEASURE. IT WOULD SURELY BE AN UNPRODUCTIVE USE OF A VALUABLE RESOURCE TO ALLOCATE LAND FOR LOW INTENSITY DEVELOPMENT OTHER THAN, SAY, FOR THE GENERALLY LARGE AND TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED OCCUPANTS OF THE TAI PO AND YUEN LONG INDUSTRIAL ESTATES.+

MR DORWARD SAID TOTAL SUPPLY OF NEW FACTORY SPACE IN 1981 WAS ESTIMATED TO REACH SLIGHTLY OVER 1 000 000 SQUARE METRES, OVER 10 PER CENT OF TOTAL STOCK AT THE END OF 1980, AND THERE WOULD BE A FURTHER SUPPLY OF OVER 1.7 MILLION SQUARE METRES IN 1982.

DUE AT LEAST IN PART TO THIS SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE RENTS OF FLATTED FACTORIES HAD RECENTLY DECLINED BY AS MUCH AS 10 - 15 PER CENT, HAVING LEVELLED OFF DURING THE FIRST AND SECOND QUARTERS OF THE YEAR.

PRICES OF FLATTED FACTORIES HAD ALSO DECLINED, BY OVER SEVEN PER CENT BETWEEN THE SECOND AND THE THIRD QUARTERS, HE SAID.

ACTION AGAINST ILLEGAL HUT-BUILDERS

SIXTY THOUSAND ILLEGAL SQUATTER STRUCTURES HAVE BEEN DEMOLISHED BY THE SQUATTER CONTROL FORCE IN THE PAST THREE YEARS BUT AN ESTIMATED 20 000 OTHER DOMESTIC STRUCTURES HAVE HAD TO BE TOLERATED IN THE SAME PERIOD IN URBAN AREAS NOT NEEDED FOR PERMANENT DEVELOPMENT, PARTICULARLY IN EAST KOWLOON.

THE SECRETARY FOR HOUSING, MR DONALD LIAO, SAID THIS IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY WHEN HE ANNOUNCED THAT THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT HAD ASSUMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR SQUATTER CONTROL THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY AND THAT FIRST PRIORITY WOULD BE GIVEN TO REGAINING CONTROL AGAINST ILLEGAL HUT-BUILDERS — PARTICULARLY RACKETEERS EXPLOITING OTHERS' MISFORTUNES.

+MEASURES TO INCREASE THE PENALTIES FOR THOSE WHO BUILD HUTS FOR SALE ARE ALSO BEING CONSIDERED,+ HE SAID.

MR LIAO SAID THAT DESPITE THE VERY LARGE PUBLIC HOUSING PROGRAMME, MANY SQUATTER CONCENTRATIONS WOULD REMAIN FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE AND IMPROVED BASIC SERVICES AND FACILITIES WOULD BE PROVIDED FOR THE MORE PERMANENT OF THESE AREAS IN ADDITION TO WHAT HAD BEEN SUPPLIED TO THEM IN RECENT YEARS, INCLUDING MINOR PUBLIC WORKS AND THE SUPPLY OF WATER AND ELECTRICITY.

+A NEW ORGANISATION IS TO BE ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT TO CARRY OUT THIS WORK,+ HE SAID.

+THE FIRST STEP MUST BE TO UPGRADE THE SAFETY MEASURES IN THESE AREAS AGAINST FIRE AND LANDSLIP. THIS WILL BE DONE BY IMPROVING ACCESS AND WATER SUPPLY FOR FIRE FIGHTING, PROVIDING FIRE BREAKS AND UNDERTAKING ESSENTIAL SLOPE STABILITY WORKS.+

+OTHER IMPROVEMENTS WILL FOLLOW, BUT I SHOULD CAUTION AGAINST EXPECTING TOO MUCH TOO SOON BECAUSE THE SQUATTER AREAS ARE SCATTERED AND, THEREFORE, THESE EFFORTS WILL BE FRAGMENTED.+ HE ALSO CAUTIONED THAT THERE WERE VALID ENGINEERING CONSTRAINTS ON MOST SITES WHICH WOULD INVOLVE TECHNICALLY-DIFFICULT AND EXPENSIVE WORK PROGRAMMES.

+NEVERTHELESS, A NUMBER OF PILOT SCHEMES HAVE ALREADY BEEN WORKED OUT AND WILL BE IMPLEMENTED SHORTLY,+ HE SAID.

ON OTHER PUBLIC HOUSING AND HOME OWNERSHIP POINTS RAISED BY UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS, MR LIAO SAID:

PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION SCHEME AND MIDDLE-INCOME HOUSING

IT IS INTENDED THAT THE PRICES OF FLATS BUILT UNDER THE PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION SCHEME AND THE MIDDLE-INCOME HOUSING PROGRAMME WILL, AS WITH THE MAIN HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME, EXCLUDE THE FULL MARKET VALUE OF THE LAND ON WHICH THEY ARE BUILT.

HOS RE-SALE RESTRICTIONS

A PERMANENT RESTRICTION ON RE-SALES HAS BEEN CONSIDERED IN DEPTH BUT REJECTED SINCE IT IS THOUGHT THAT THE SAFEGUARDS NOW PROPOSED STRIKE A REASONABLE BALANCE. HOWEVER THE PROPOSED DEBARRING OF PUBLIC HOUSING TENANTS WHO ALREADY OWN PROPERTY FROM APPLYING FOR HOS FLATS WILL BE RECONSIDERED IN THE LIGHT OF THE REVISED POLICY.

INCREASED PROPORTION OF HOS FLATS

UNTIL THE DEMAND FOR RENTAL PUBLIC HOUSING IS SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCED THIS MUST REMAIN THE MAIN THRUST OF THE PUBLIC HOUSING PROGRAMME. HOWEVER, THREE ADDITIONAL HOS SITES HAVE BEEN EARMARKED -- IN TUEN MUN, TAI PO AND KOWLOON -- AND IT IS HOPED THEY WILL PRODUCE 4 000 MORE FLATS UNDER THE PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION SCHEME IN 1984/85.

MARRIED COUPLES

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN MUST CONTINUE TO TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER YOUNG MARRIED COUPLES INCLUDING WORKING WIVES, WHO NORMALLY ARE BETTER ABLE TO GET ACCOMMODATION IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR, AND ALSO CONSIDER BUYING THEIR OWN HOMES. HOWEVER, AS SUCH COUPLES START FAMILIES AND BECOME ELIGIBLE, SOME MAY BE ABLE EITHER TO PURCHASE HOS FLATS OR OBTAIN PUBLIC RENTAL HOUSING.

FLATTED FACTORIES

OVER THE NEXT FOUR YEARS 12 500 FLATTED-FACTORY UNITS EACH OF 25 SQUARE METRES WILL BE BUILT, PROVIDING OVER 300 000 SQUARE METRES OF INDUSTRIAL FLOOR-SPACE TO ACCOMMODATE WORKSHOPS AND SMALL FACTORIES DISPLACED BY DEVELOPMENT CLEARANCES.

GENERAL IMPROVEMENTS

ACCORDING TO THE 1981 CENSUS, THE AVERAGE INCOME OF LOWER-INCOME FAMILIES, MANY OF WHOM LIVE IN PUBLIC HOUSING, HAS INCREASED IN REAL TERMS BY 40 PER CENT OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

+THESE FAMILIES ARE ENJOYING THEIR PRESENT STANDARD OF LIVING NOT ONLY AS A RESULT OF THE LOW RENTS THEY PAY, BUT ALSO BECAUSE OF THE WELL-PLANNED ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH THEY LIVE,+ SAID MR LIAO.

+DESPITE THIS, IT IS APPRECIATED THAT THERE ARE STILL MANY WAITING FOR PUBLIC HOUSING AND THAT IS WHY WE ARE NOW EMBARKING ON THE EXPANDED PROGRAMME TO WHICH YOUR EXCELLENCY REFERRED.+

GOVT STRONGLY COMMITTED TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

* * * *

THE GOVERNMENT IS STRONGLY COMMITTED TO AN EFFECTIVE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION PROGRAMME AND IS WORKING VIGOROUSLY TO TRANSLATE THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK INTO A WELL-PLANNED, INTEGRATED AND WORKABLE SYSTEM OF CONTROLS AND SERVICES.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS, THE HON IAN MACPHERSON AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

MR MACPHERSON SAID RECOMMENDATIONS WERE BEING MADE TO DECLARE TOLO HARBOUR AND CHANNEL AS THE FIRST WATER CONTROL ZONE.

UNDER THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ORDINANCE, THE DECLARATION OF AN AREA AS A WATER CONTROL ZONE PROVIDES FOR WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES TO BE ESTABLISHED FOR SUCH AN AREA AND FOR REGULATIONS TO BE MADE TO CONTROL DISCHARGES INTO IT.

NEW SOURCES OF WATER POLLUTION WILL THEN BE SUBJECT TO LICENSING WHILE EXISTING EMITTERS WILL BE PERMITTED TO CONTINUE WITHOUT LICENSING, BUT SUBJECT TO CONSTRAINTS.

MR MACPHERSON SAID IT HAD BEEN RECOGNISED THAT THE WATER AT THE TOLO HARBOUR AND CHANNEL, WITH ITS NARROW OPENING TO THE SEA, WAS AT CONSIDERABLE RISK BECAUSE OF THE RAPID BUILD UP OF POPULATION AND INDUSTRY IN THE AREA.

+THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WILL VERY SHORTLY BE ASKED TO CONSIDER THIS PROPOSAL AND IF IT AGREES THE WAY WILL BE OPEN FOR THIS LARGE PART OF THE NEW TERRITORIES WATERS TO BENEFIT FROM THE CLOSE MONITORING AND CONTROLS I HAVE DESCRIBED,+ HE SAID.

MR MACPHERSON POINTED OUT THAT VERY CAREFUL MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN SET UP TO KEEP AN EYE ON WATER QUALITY IN A NUMBER OF COASTAL AREAS, AND FURTHER PROPOSALS WOULD BE MADE AS NECESSARY.

IN REPLY TO REMARKS MADE BY AN UNOFFICIAL MEMBER, DR THE HON HO KAM-FAI, MR MACPHERSON SAID THAT VILLAGE WELLS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WERE CONSTANTLY SURVEYED BY STAFF OF THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

+OBVIOUSLY IT IS WRONG THAT VILLAGERS SHOULD HAVE TO DEPEND ON CONTAMINATED WATER.

+THE ANSWER IS TO PROVIDE PIPED WATER SUPPLIES AND THERE IS AN ON-GOING PROGRAMME TO DO JUST THIS,+ HE SAID.

THE MAIN SOURCES OF POLLUTION IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WATERS WERE DOMESTIC SEWAGE, INDUSTRIAL EFFLUENTS AND AGRICULTURAL WASTE.

+VERY SUBSTANTIAL EFFORTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN MADE WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF A MAJOR SEWAGE TREATMENT WORK AT SHA TIN AND ANOTHER AT TAI PO BUT GREATER EFFORTS WILL BE NEEDED TO EXTEND THE SEWERAGE SYSTEM FURTHER.+

MR MACPHERSON SAID CONTROLS ON INDUSTRIAL EFFLUENTS SHOULD NOT IMPOSE UNACCEPTABLE BURDENS ON INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

HE SAID A PILOT SCHEME WAS IN FORCE FOR THE COLLECTION OF AGRICULTURAL WASTE.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1981

- 21 -

BUILDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE PLANNED

* * * *

THE GOVERNMENT IS CONSIDERING SETTING UP A BUILDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE WITH OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL MEMBERSHIP WHICH WILL PROVIDE A FORUM FOR THE INTERCHANGE OF VIEWS ON MATTERS OF MUTUAL CONCERN AND WILL HANDLE ALL PROPOSALS SUBMITTED REGARDING POSSIBLE IMPROVEMENTS OF PRACTICE IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, MR DAVID MCDONALD, AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

HE WAS REPLYING TO COMMENTS MADE BY THE HON LYDIA DUNN ABOUT THE TIME TAKEN BY THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE TO APPROVE BUILDING PLANS AND ISSUE OCCUPATION PERMITS, AND TO HER SUGGESTIONS THAT PROCEDURES IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE BE SIMPLIFIED AND IMPROVED.

MR MCDONALD SAID THAT SINCE OCTOBER 1976, THE BOO HAD BEEN USING A CENTRAL PROCESSING SYSTEM, WHICH SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED THE TIME TAKEN TO OBTAIN APPROVALS OF SUBMISSIONS.

+DURING THE JULY TO SEPTEMBER QUARTER OF THIS YEAR, OF THE 4 427 PLAN SUBMISSIONS DEALT WITH, ONLY ONE EXCEEDED THE STATUTORY PERIOD OF 60 DAYS AND 3 062 PROPOSALS WERE APPROVED.

+DURING THE SAME QUARTER, OF THE 173 APPLICATIONS FOR OCCUPATION PERMITS, ALL BUT TWO WERE DEALT WITH WITHIN THE STATUTORY PERIOD OF TWO WEEKS AND 151 WERE ISSUED.

THE SERVICE WOULD BE FURTHER IMPROVED, HE SAID.

MR MCDONALD SAID THAT THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE ITSELF WAS KEPT UNDER CONSTANT REVIEW BY A COMMITTEE WHICH INCLUDED REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE PROFESSIONAL INSTITUTES, AND OTHER REGULAR DEPARTMENTAL LIAISON MEETINGS WERE HELD WITH AUTHORISED PERSONS, THE REAL ESTATE DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION AND THE BUILDING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION.

THE ICAC HAD PROVIDED VALUABLE ADVICE ON NEW PROCEDURES TO SIMPLIFY AND SPEED UP HANDLING TIMES AND WAS STUDYING THE POSSIBILITY OF ADDITIONAL MEASURES, HE SAID.

DISCUSSIONS WERE ALSO BEING HELD WITH THE HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS ON OTHER METHODS FOR SPEEDING UP PROCEDURES, HE SAID.

/MR MCDONALD

MR MCDONALD SAID ALSO THAT SEVERAL DEVELOPMENT PACKAGES AND INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS INVOLVING SUBSTANTIAL LAND PRODUCTION HAD BEEN SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED BY DEVELOPERS IN RECENT YEARS.

+IT IS APPROPRIATE THEREFORE THAT WE SHOULD SEEK TO EXPAND THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THIS TYPE OF PARTICIPATION IN HONG KONG'S DEVELOPMENT,+ HE SAID.

+THE MEANS OF ACHIEVING THIS IS TO BE THE SUBJECT OF A STUDY TO BE CARRIED OUT BY A WORKING GROUP WITH OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL MEMBERSHIP. THE AIM IS TO COMPLETE THE STUDY WITHIN THREE MONTHS.

+THE GROUP, LED BY MISS DUNN, WILL REVIEW OUR EXPERIENCE SO FAR AND CONSIDER THE FEASIBILITY OF INCREASING BOTH THE SCALE OF PRIVATE SECTOR INVOLVEMENT IN LAND PRODUCTION AND THE DEGREE OF AUTONOMY IT SHOULD HAVE IN THE PROCESS. THE PROS AND CONS OF ESTABLISHING A STATUTORY CORPORATION AS SUGGESTED BY MISS DUNN WILL BE ASSESSED AND PROBLEMS RELATING TO OTHER GOVERNMENT LAND AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITMENTS, THE EXISTENCE OF PRIVATELY LEASED LAND AND THE NEED FOR CLEARANCE AS WELL AS PREMIUM PAYMENT WILL ALSO BE CONSIDERED,+ HE SAID.

THE LAND SALES PROGRAMMES FOR THE COMING YEAR INCLUDED SIZEABLE SITES AT SHOUSON HILL, TAI TAM ROAD AND CHUNG HOM KOK IN THE URBAN AREA AND SO KWUN WAT WHICH SHOULD BE ATTRACTIVE TO PEOPLE IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR LOOKING FOR A LAND PRODUCTION ROLE, HE SAID.

+LOOKING FURTHER AHEAD, THE NEW TOWNS AT SHA TIN, TUEN MUN, TAI PO, FANLING AND LARGE LAND AREAS IN THE NORTH WEST NEW TERRITORIES, SOME OF THE SMALLER UNDEVELOPED ISLANDS, AND SUBSTANTIAL SITES AT TAT CHEE AVENUE, VICTORIA ROAD AND TELEGRAPH BAY APPEAR TO OFFER THE BEST OPPORTUNITIES FOR MORE ACTIVITY OF THIS KIND.

+A REVIEW OF EXISTING AND FURTHER LAND PRODUCTION POTENTIAL IS BEING UNDERTAKEN AND IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR THE WORKING GROUP TO CONSIDER THE RESULTS OF THIS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO THE SUITABILITY OF SITES SO IDENTIFIED FOR PRIVATE SECTOR INVOLVEMENT,+ HE ADDED.

MR MCDONALD SAID ALSO THAT A DECISION HAD ALREADY BEEN TAKEN TO INCREASE PLOT RATIOS IN THE NEW TOWNS.

+A FLEXIBLE APPROACH TO THE ADOPTION OF HIGHER PLOT RATIOS WILL BE APPLIED IN THE FIRST GENERATION NEW TOWNS BUT WILL BE USED AS THE STANDARD IN THOSE WHICH HAVE YET TO BE DEVELOPED,+ HE SAID, IN REPLY TO A PROPOSAL BY THE HON F.K. HU.

WITH REGARD TO THE OLDER URBAN AREAS, MR MCDONALD SAID, CONGESTION WAS A WELL-KNOWN PROBLEM IN SEVERAL DISTRICTS AND FACILITIES OF MANY KINDS WERE QUITE COMMONLY UNDER-PROVIDED BECAUSE OF SPACE AND OTHER LIMITATIONS.

+WE MUST, THEREFORE, BE WARY OF COMPOUNDING SUCH PROBLEMS AND OVERLOADING INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES. NEVERTHELESS, THE PROCESS OF URBAN PLANNING AND REDEVELOPMENT IS A CONTINUOUS ONE AND OUR INTENTION IS TO ENCOURAGE GOOD URBAN REDEVELOPMENT AND COMPREHENSIVE REDEVELOPMENT SCHEMES, FOR WHICH THERE IS STILL PLENTY OF SCOPE,+ HE SAID.

- 23 -

REPLYING TO REMARKS BY THE HON CHAN KAM-CHUEN ABOUT FACTORY ACCOMMODATION, MR MCDONALD SAID THAT CHANGE OF USE OF FACTORY SITES UPON REDEVELOPMENT WAS NOT GENERALLY PERMITTED.

HOWEVER, MANY OLDER INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS WERE BEING REDEVELOPED FOR MORE INTENSIVE AND PROFITABLE INDUSTRIAL USE, BUT THE LOSS OF SUCH INDUSTRIAL ACCOMMODATION SHOULD BE REGARDED AS PURELY TEMPORARY.

ON MR CHAN'S SUGGESTION OF SUBSIDISED LAND BEING OFFERED FOR INDUSTRIAL USE, HE SAID THAT CURRENT SIGNS OF SOME OVER-SUPPLY OF INDUSTRIAL FLOOR SPACE AND FALLING INDUSTRIAL LAND PRICES MADE GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION AT THIS TIME INAPPROPRIATE.

HOWEVER, THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO PRESS ON WITH ITS OVERALL INDUSTRIAL LAND SALES PROGRAMME, HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

POLICY ON CIVIL SERVICE PAY

* * * *

THE GOVERNMENT'S STATED POLICY ON CIVIL SERVICE REMUNERATION IS THAT PAY AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE FOR CIVIL SERVANTS SHOULD BE REGARDED AS FAIR BOTH BY THEMSELVES AND BY THE PUBLIC WHOM THEY SERVE, THE SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE, THE HON MARTIN ROWLANDS SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

IN REPLY TO REMARKS MADE BY UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR ROWLANDS SAID THAT AT PRESENT, THE GOVERNMENT ATTEMPTED TO ACHIEVE THIS STATE OF EQUITY BY APPLYING THE PRINCIPLE OF FAIR COMPARISON WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

SINCE THE PAY TREND SURVEY SYSTEM WAS ADOPTED IN 1974, HE SAID, THE ONLY SALARY ADJUSTMENTS FOR CIVIL SERVANTS HAD BEEN THOSE BASED ON OBSERVED TRENDS IN PRIVATE SECTOR SALARIES.

+THE ONLY YEAR IN WHICH THERE HAS BEEN A DEPARTURE FROM THAT WAS IN 1975 WHEN, ON OVERRIDING ECONOMIC GROUNDS, IT WAS DECIDED NOT TO GIVE ANY SALARY INCREASE TO THE CIVIL SERVICE DESPITE THE FACT THAT PAY TREND SURVEY HAD INDICATED AN UPWARDS MOVEMENT IN PRIVATE SECTOR SALARIES IN THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING REVIEW PERIOD,+ HE SAID.

HOWEVER, MR ROWLANDS SAID THE STANDING COMMISSION ON CIVIL SERVICE SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE HAD BEEN ASKED TO ADVISE ON THE SUITABILITY OF THE PAY TREND SURVEY SYSTEM AND AN INTERIM REPORT ON THIS WAS EXPECTED SHORTLY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1981

- 24 -

LITTERING FROM VEHICLES

* * *

THE GOVERNMENT WAS TODAY CALLED UPON TO EXAMINE THE QUESTION OF VICARIOUS LIABILITY OF LITTERING FROM MOVING VEHICLES.

THE PLEA WAS MADE BY UNOFFICIAL MEMBER, THE HON CHARLES YEUNG, DURING THE RESUMED DEBATE OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND URBAN SERVICES (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL.

MR YEUNG NOTED THAT THE BILL MAINLY COVERS THE PROBLEM OF DUMPING LITTER AND WASTE FROM GOODS VEHICLES ONLY, BUT NOT OTHER TYPES OF MOVING VEHICLES AS FAR AS VICARIOUS LIABILITY IS CONCERNED.

+LITTERING FROM MOVING VEHICLES IS BECOMING A MORE FREQUENT HABIT, AND WITH THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE NEW CLEAN HONG KONG CAMPAIGN, WE SHOULD BE TACKLING THIS PROBLEM NOW,+ HE URGED.

MR YEUNG ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE TREMENDOUS EXPANSION AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE NEW TERRITORIES HAS BROUGHT WITH IT INCREASED WASTE AND POLLUTION.

HE WAS THEREFORE PLEASED TO SEE THAT INCREASED PENALTIES ARE PROPOSED FOR ALL FORMS OF LITTERING INCLUDING ILLEGAL DUMPING.

- - - - 0 - - - -

THREE BILLS PASSED

* * * * *

THREE BILLS PASSED THEIR THIRD READING IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

THEY ARE THE INLAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT) (NO.5) BILL 1981, PUBLIC HEALTH AND URBAN SERVICES (AMENDMENT) (NO.2) BILL 1981, AND THE CARITAS - HONG KONG INCORPORATION BILL 1981.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/25

ANOTHER ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR CONTRACT AWARDED

* * * * *

A MAJOR CONTRACT FOR PART OF THE SECOND STAGE OF THE ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR WAS AWARDED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) TO GAMMON (HONG KONG) LTD BY THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE OF THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

THE CONTRACT, VALUED AT \$196 MILLION, WAS FORMALLY SIGNED BY MR HAROLD BEATON, PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT HIGHWAY ENGINEER, AND MR DAVID MORRIS, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF GAMMON (HONG KONG) LTD.

AFTER THE CONTRACT-SIGNING CEREMONY, MR BEATON SAID THAT WORK ON THE CONTRACT WILL START IN DECEMBER THIS YEAR AND BE COMPLETED IN 1984.

IT COVERS THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN 850 METRE-LONG ELEVATED DUAL THREE-LANE HIGHWAY, 600 METRES OF WHICH WILL BE OVER THE SEA.

+THIS SECTION OF THE COASTAL ROAD WILL CONNECT THE FIRST STAGE OF THE ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR AT THE HEALTHY STREET INTERCHANGE IN THE WEST AND THE NEW QUARRY BAY RECLAMATION IN THE EAST,+ HE SAID.

+ELEVATED SLIP ROADS WILL PROVIDE ACCESS TO AND FROM JAVA AND KING'S ROADS TO COMPLETE THE HEALTHY STREET INTERCHANGE+.

WORK ON THE FIRST STAGE OF THE PROJECT FROM CAUSEWAY BAY TO HEALTHY STREET WEST IS PROCEEDING SATISFACTORILY.

THE WORK, SO FAR, INVOLVES THE CONSTRUCTION OF FOUNDATIONS ON LAND AND IN THE HARBOUR.

A FURTHER CONTRACT, TO BE SIGNED NEXT YEAR, WILL EXTEND THE CORRIDOR TO TAIKOO SHING AT GROUND LEVEL ACROSS QUARRY BAY ON RECLAIMED LAND NOW BEING FORMED AND IT IS ALSO EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN 1984.

+WITH THE COMPLETION OF BOTH STAGES OF THE ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR, A FOUR KILOMETRE-LONG DUAL THREE-LANE CARRIAGEWAY WILL BE PROVIDED BETWEEN CAUSEWAY BAY AND TAIKOO SHING WITH A POTENTIAL CAPACITY OF 10 000 VEHICLES PER HOUR, WHICH NEARLY TREBLES THAT OF KING'S ROAD,+ HE ADDED.

MR BEATON SAID THAT THE REMAINING SECTIONS OF THE SECOND STAGE EXTENDING THE HIGHWAY TO SHAU KEI WAN ARE BEING PLANNED WITH A TARGET COMPLETION DATE AT THE END OF 1985.

THE ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR FROM CAUSEWAY BAY TO TAIKOO SHING HAS BEEN DESIGNED BY MAUNSELL CONSULTANTS ASIA WHO WILL ALSO SUPERVISE CONSTRUCTION ON BEHALF OF THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1981

- 26 -

CHEAPER TRAVEL FOR 450 000 STUDENTS
* * *

ALMOST 450 000 FULL-TIME STUDENTS AGED BETWEEN 12 AND 25 HAVE BEEN ISSUED WITH STUDENT TRAVEL CARDS GIVING THEM CHEAPER TRAVEL ON BUSES, TRAINS, FERRIES AND TRAMS.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY, THE SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER IN CHARGE OF THE STUDENT TRAVEL OFFICE, MR H.M. CHOW, SAID THAT ELIGIBLE STUDENTS WHO HAD NOT APPLIED FOR A STUDENT TRAVEL CARD, OR THOSE WHO BECAME ELIGIBLE AFTER OCTOBER ON REACHING THE AGE OF 12, COULD APPLY FOR A CARD AT ANY TIME DURING THE ACADEMIC YEAR.

+THESE STUDENTS SHOULD INFORM THEIR EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OF THEIR WISH TO APPLY FOR A STUDENT TRAVEL CARD, AND THE SCHOOL SUPERVISOR OR PRINCIPAL CAN ACQUIRE THE NECESSARY APPLICATION FORMS FROM THE STUDENT TRAVEL OFFICE,+ MR CHOW SAID.

HE SAID THAT, IF AN ORIGINAL STUDENT TRAVEL CARD WERE DEFACED, LOST OR STOLEN, A REPLACEMENT CARD WOULD BE ISSUED.

HOWEVER, IN THE CASE OF LOSS OR THEFT, THE STUDENT MUST FIRST REPORT THE MATTER TO THE POLICE AND OBTAIN A LOSS CERTIFICATE.

THE STUDENT SHOULD THEN COMPLETE AN APPLICATION FORM FOR A REPLACEMENT CARD, WHICH IS OBTAINABLE FROM SCHOOLS OR THE STUDENT TRAVEL OFFICE.

+AFTER ENDORSEMENT BY THE SCHOOL CONCERNED, THIS FORM SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IN PERSON TO THE STUDENT TRAVEL OFFICE, TOGETHER WITH THE LOSS CERTIFICATE OR THE DEFACED STUDENT TRAVEL CARD, PLUS TWO PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE APPLICANT AND A FEE OF \$20 FOR THE ISSUE OF A REPLACEMENT CARD.+

THE STUDENT TRAVEL OFFICE IS LOCATED AT ROOM 705, CAPITOL CENTRE, 5-19 JARDINE'S BAZAAR, CAUSEWAY BAY, TELEPHONE 5-7954631.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/27

HONG KONG SUPPORTER PRAISED

* * * *

THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS, MR BILL DORWARD TODAY (WEDNESDAY) PAID TRIBUTE TO A GERMAN MAIL ORDER FIRM AND ITS CHAIRMAN FOR HELPING TURN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY INTO HONG KONG'S SECOND LARGEST MARKET.

SPEAKING AT A RECEPTION TO MARK THE OPENING OF THE NEW OFFICE OF OTTO VERSAND, MR DORWARD SAID THAT UP TO AUGUST THIS YEAR HONG KONG EXPORTS TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY EXCEEDED \$4.5 THOUSAND MILLION. THIS WAS MORE THAN TEN TIMES THE FIGURE FOR THE WHOLE OF 1966, THE YEAR IN WHICH THE COMPANY ESTABLISHED ITS FIRST OFFICE IN HONG KONG.

+IMPRESSIVE THOUGH THAT FIGURE IS, IT MAKES THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE TROUBLED DAYS OF 1967 THAT HONG KONG EXPORTS TO GERMANY HAVE SHOWN A DECLINE. YEAR ON YEAR, WE ARE LAGGING ABOUT SIX PER CENT UNDER EXPORT PERFORMANCE IN 1980, A REFLECTION OF DEPRESSED MARKET CONDITIONS IN GERMANY.

+IT IS ALL THE MORE REMARKABLE, THEREFORE, THAT I UNDERSTAND OTTO VERSAND WILL, IN 1981, HAVE THEIR BEST YEAR EVER FOR PURCHASES IN HONG KONG AND THAT THESE WILL BE VALUED AT SOMETHING LIKE \$350 MILLION, + HE SAID.

MR DORWARD PRAISED DR MICHAEL OTTO, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD, FOR BEING ONE OF THE CLEAREST AND MOST OUTSPOKEN ADVOCATES OF LIBERAL TRADE POLICIES IN HIS NATIVE COUNTRY AND IN EUROPE AT LARGE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

TWO NEW ROADS OPENING IN TSIM SHA TSUI EAST

* * * *

TWO NEW ROADS IN TSIM SHA TSUI EAST - SCIENCE MUSEUM ROAD AND GRANVILLE ROAD - WILL BE OPENED TO TRAFFIC FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 13).

AT THE SAME TIME, NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE INTRODUCED IN THE AREA.

CHING HAY STREET AND SECTIONS OF GRANVILLE ROAD AND SCIENCE MUSEUM ROAD WILL BE DESIGNATED AS URBAN CLEARWAYS.

THE EXISTING URBAN CLEARWAY IN CHING YEE ROAD WILL BE ADJUSTED TO COVER ONLY THE SECTION BETWEEN CHATHAM ROAD AND A POINT ABOUT 140 METRES TO THE EAST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH CHATHAM ROAD AND THE SECTION BETWEEN SCIENCE MUSEUM ROAD AND A POINT ABOUT 130 METRES TO THE WEST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH SCIENCE MUSEUM ROAD.

WITHIN THE CLEARWAYS, NO VEHICLES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY.

TURNING RIGHT FROM CHATHAM ROAD INTO GRANVILLE ROAD WILL BE DISALLOWED AS WILL TRAFFIC FROM GRANVILLE ROAD INTO CHATHAM ROAD.

TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE PUT UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1981

- 28 -

TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF BROADWOOD ROAD

* * *

A SECTION OF BROADWOOD ROAD NEAR HAPPY VIEW TERRACE IN HAPPY VALLEY WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FOR ABOUT THREE WEEKS FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 13) TO FACILITATE ROAD RECONSTRUCTION.

SIGNS WILL BE PUT UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

COOKING COMPETITION TO BE HELD IN TAI PO

* * *

VALUABLE PRIZES ARE BEING OFFERED TO WINNERS OF A COOKING COMPETITION TO BE HELD IN TAI PO ON NOVEMBER 21 (SATURDAY).

THE COMPETITION, RESTRICTED TO LOCAL WOMEN AGED OVER 18, WILL TAKE PLACE AT TAI PO TSUNG TAK MIDDLE SCHOOL AT 2.30 PM.

IT IS BEING ORGANISED BY TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICE, LOCAL MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND OWNERS' INCORPORATIONS, AND SPONSORED BY TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD.

THE COMPETITION IS LIMITED TO A TOTAL OF 40 ENTRANTS AND WILL BE DIVIDED INTO PRELIMINARY AND FINAL SECTIONS. ALL COOKING FACILITIES AND MATERIALS WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE ORGANISERS.

THE FIRST THREE PRIZES WILL BE A REFRIGERATOR, A WASHING MACHINE AND AN ELECTRIC OVEN.

ADJUDICATORS WILL INCLUDE PEOPLE FROM FOOD AND BEVERAGE BUSINESSES IN TAI PO.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE. ALL ENTRIES MUST BE SUBMITTED BY THIS SATURDAY (NOVEMBER 14).

- - - - 0 - - - -

/29

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1981

- 29 -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

VISIT OF MACAU GOVERNOR

* * *

THE GOVERNOR OF MACAU, CAPTAIN VASCO DE ALMEIDA E COSTA WILL VISIT HONG KONG TOMORROW (THURSDAY) TO PAY A COURTESY CALL ON SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE.

HE WILL ARRIVE BY JETFOIL AT THE MACAU FERRY PIER AT NOON. HE WILL BE MET BY MR STEPHEN CORRICK, ADC TO THE GOVERNOR OF HONG KONG= MR PEDRO CATARINO, CONSUL-GENERAL OF PORTUGAL= MRS FELICIDAD BENGZON GONZALES, CONSUL-GENERAL OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE DOYEN OF THE CONSULAR CORPS IN MACAU= MR G.C. PERRY, BRITISH VICE-CONSUL FOR MACAU= AND SIR JOHN CURLE, DIRECTOR OF PROTOCOL.

THERE WILL BE A PHOTOGRAPHIC FACILITY OUTSIDE THE PIER. PRESS PHOTOGRAPHERS AND TV CAMERAMEN ARE REQUESTED TO BE IN POSITION BY 11.45 AM. GIS OFFICERS WILL BE PRESENT TO ASSIST.

- - - - 0 - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

WTS DISTRICT BOARD PRESS CONFERENCE

* * *

THE WONG TAI SIN CITY DISTRICT COMMISSIONER, MR IAN STRACHAN, WILL CHAIR A PRESS CONFERENCE TOMORROW (THURSDAY) TO DISCLOSE PROGRESS MADE ON DISTRICT MATTERS, INCLUDING A PROPOSED LOCAL TRAFFIC PROJECT, AND A PLAN FOR THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS TO MEET THE PUBLIC.

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CONFERENCE, WHICH WILL BE HELD AT THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (WONG TAI SIN), SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, FOURTH FLOOR, KING FUK STREET, AT 6.30 PM.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1981

- 30 -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

TALK ON NEW WELFARE SUBVENTION SYSTEM

* * * *

THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS ANSON CHAN, WILL BE THE GUEST SPEAKER AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF KOWLOON AT THE SALISBURY ROOM, PENINSULA HOTEL, AT 12.40 PM TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

SHE WILL SPEAK ON +A NEW SUBVENTION SYSTEM FOR SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR+.

----- 0 -----

NOTE TO EDITORS:

SYMPHONIC BAND CONCERT

* * *

A SYMPHONIC BAND FESTIVAL CONCERT WILL BE HELD AT THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY HALL TOMORROW (THURSDAY) STARTING AT 8 PM.

THE CONCERT IS PART OF THE FOURTH HONG KONG YOUTH SYMPHONIC BAND FESTIVAL ORGANISED BY THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT, IN CONJUNCTION WITH TOM LEE MUSIC FOUNDATION.

THE HONG KONG YOUTH SYMPHONIC BAND AND THE ALL-JAPAN GOLD MEDAL - WINNING SHUJITSU GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL BAND WILL PERFORM.

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CONCERT.

----- 0 -----