



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1990

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EDUCATION QUESTIONS MUST BE ADDRESSED WITH ENTHUSIASM, IMAGINATION
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NOW THAT HONG KONG HAS ALMOST REACHED ITS TARGETS IN PROVIDING SCHOOL PLACES, THE TERRITORY MUST ADDRESS WITH RENEWED ENTHUSIASM AND IMAGINATION THE FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS OF QUALITY IN ITS EDUCATION SYSTEM, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

"ONLY IN THIS WAY CAN WE MAKE THE LEARNING PROCESS AS FRUITFUL, REWARDING AND EFFICIENT AS POSSIBLE," HE SAID.

SPEAKING AT THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY AND NINTH GRADUATION CEREMONY OF THE HANG SENG SCHOOL OF COMMERCE, SIR DAVID SAID THE NEXT DECADE WOULD SEE FAR-REACHING CHANGES.

"ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL AREAS WHERE WE HOPE TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS IS IN THE SCHOOLS CURRICULUM," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID POINTED OUT THAT THE EDUCATION COMMISSION HAD BEEN STUDYING THIS QUESTION FOR THE PAST YEAR AND IT WOULD SOON PUBLISH ITS RECOMMENDATIONS IN ITS FOURTH REPORT.

"I WOULD URGE YOU ALL TO READ IT. THE DECISIONS THAT WE TAKE AFTER THE CONSULTATION PERIOD WILL BE CRUCIAL IN DETERMINING THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION IN OUR SCHOOLS IN THE 1990'S," SIR DAVID SAID.

ON PRIVATE SCHOOLS, THE GOVERNOR SAID THAT PRIVATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN HONG KONG HAD GENERALLY NOT HAD THE RESOURCES TO COMPETE WITH THE PUBLIC SECTOR AND THAT THIS HAD BEEN A DRAWBACK.

"GOOD PRIVATE SCHOOLS, LIKE THE HANG SENG SCHOOL OF COMMERCE, CAN CONCENTRATE ON SPECIALIST AREAS.

"THEY CAN PROVIDE GREATER CHOICE WITHIN OUR EDUCATION SYSTEM.

"THE GOVERNMENT SEES IT AS IMPORTANT TO INCREASE PARENTAL CHOICE BY ENCOURAGING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A HEALTHY PRIVATE SCHOOL SECTOR," HE SAID.

TO HELP ACHIEVE THIS, SIR DAVID SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD INTRODUCED THE DIRECT SUBSIDY SCHEME WHERE, FOR THE FIRST TIME, PRIVATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS COULD RECEIVE A GOVERNMENT SUBSIDY BASED ON THE NUMBER OF PUPILS ENROLLED AND THE FEES CHARGED.

HE SAID BY SUCH MEASURES THE GOVERNMENT HOPED TO ENCOURAGE PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

"BUT THE REAL EFFORT MUST COME FROM THEIR FOUNDERS; THEIR ADMINISTRATORS; THEIR TEACHERS; AND THEIR PUPILS.

"IT IS TO THEM THAT WE MUST LOOK FOR PROGRESS. AND WHEN THEY SUCCEED, IT IS THEY WHO DESERVE THE PRAISE," HE SAID.

/SIR DAVID

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SIR DAVID NOTED THAT THE SCHOOL HAD ACHIEVED A GREAT DEAL SINCE IT WAS FOUNDED BY A GROUP OF DEDICATED PEOPLE IN NOVEMBER 1979.

"MANY HUNDREDS OF YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN HAVE BENEFITTED FROM THE TEACHING OBTAINED HERE.

"THEY HAVE GONE ON TO SUCCESSFUL CAREERS IN THE BANKING AND SERVICES SECTORS, AND HAVE MADE AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO HONG KONG'S RAPIDLY EXPANDING ACTIVITIES IN THESE FIELDS," SIR DAVID SAID.

CONGRATULATING THE FOUNDERS OF THE SCHOOL ON THEIR ACHIEVEMENT, SIR DAVID SAID THE SCHOOL WAS AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF BOTH COMMUNITY SPIRIT, AND COMMERCIAL FAR-SIGHTEDNESS.

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CAS DOING HK A GREAT SERVICE: GOVERNOR
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, TODAY (MONDAY) PRAISES THE CIVIL AID SERVICES FOR ITS WORK IN MANAGING CENTRES FOR VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE.

SPEAKING AT A CAS ANNUAL DINNER, SIR DAVID SAID EFFORTS OF THE CAS HAD MADE AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE GOVERNMENT'S ABILITY TO MANAGE A VERY DIFFICULT SITUATION.

SIR DAVID POINTED OUT THAT WHEN HE LAST SPOKE AT THE CAS ANNUAL DINNER IN 1988, HE SAID HE HOPED THE CAS WOULD VERY SOON BE ABLE TO PASS ITS REMAINING RESPONSIBILITIES FOR VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE TO THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

"UNFORTUNATELY THIS HAS NOT PROVED POSSIBLE. THE TREMENDOUS INFLUX OF BOAT PEOPLE IN 1989 HAS MEANT THAT YOU HAVE HAD TO CONTINUE BEARING THIS HEAVY BURDEN," HE ADDED.

THE GOVERNOR SAID HE REALISED THAT IT WAS NOT A POPULAR JOB AND IT HAD ALSO BEEN A DEMANDING ONE FOR ALL THOSE INVOLVED.

ON THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE CAS OVER THE PAST YEAR, SIR DAVID SAID THEY WERE THE RESULT OF A GREAT DEAL OF VOLUNTARY HARD WORK BY PEOPLE WHO WERE COMMITTED TO THE CONCEPT OF PUBLIC SERVICE.

"THE CAS CAN BE PROUD OF THIS. SO TOO CAN HONG KONG.

"IT SAYS A GREAT DEAL ABOUT THIS COMMUNITY THAT THERE ARE SO MANY YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN READY TO DEVOTE SO MUCH OF THEIR LEISURE TIME TO PUBLIC SERVICE," SIR DAVID SAID.

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SALARY INDEXES FOR MANAGERIAL AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES RELEASED
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THE OVERALL NOMINAL SALARY INDEX (A), MEASURING CHANGES IN AVERAGE SALARY LEVELS FOR MANAGERIAL AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES, AT 216.2 IN JUNE 1990, WAS 13.6 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN JUNE 1989, ACCORDING TO THE FINDINGS OF THE SURVEY OF SALARIES AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS - MANAGERIAL AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES (EXCLUDING TOP MANAGEMENT) RELEASED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE OVERALL NOMINAL SALARY INDEX (B), WHICH MEASURES CHANGES IN AVERAGE SALARY LEVELS ONLY FOR THOSE MANAGERIAL AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES WHO REMAINED IN THE SAME JOB AND IN THE SAME COMPANY IN BOTH 1989 AND 1990, WAS 269.8 IN JUNE 1990, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 16.7 PER CENT AS COMPARED WITH JUNE 1989.

THESE SALARY INDEXES USED JUNE 1983 AS THE BASE PERIOD.

BETWEEN JUNE 1989 AND JUNE 1990, THE NOMINAL SALARY INDEX (A) FOR LARGE COMPANIES INCREASED BY 13.6 PER CENT AND THAT FOR MEDIUM-SIZED COMPANIES ALSO BY 13.6 PER CENT. AS REGARDS THE NOMINAL SALARY INDEX (B), THE CORRESPONDING INCREASES WERE 18.6 PER CENT AND 16.1 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

THESE DIFFERENCES IN SALARY INCREASES AS REFLECTED IN THE TWO INDEXES WERE LARGELY DUE TO THE EFFECT OF LABOUR TURNOVER OVER THE PERIOD CONCERNED.

THE NOMINAL SALARY INDEX (A) AND NOMINAL SALARY INDEX (B) FOR JUNE 1990 ANALYSED BY THE MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS OF COMPANY ARE SHOWN IN THE TABLE BELOW.

BY DEFLATING THE NOMINAL SALARY INDEXES BY THE HANG SENG CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, THE REAL SALARY INDEXES ARE OBTAINED TO MEASURE CHANGES IN THE PURCHASING POWER OF THE AMOUNT OF MONEY EARNED.

THE OVERALL REAL SALARY INDEX (A) STOOD AT 126.9 IN JUNE 1990, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 2.1 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH JUNE 1989.

THE OVERALL REAL SALARY INDEX (B), ON THE OTHER HAND, STOOD AT 158.3 IN JUNE 1990, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 4.9 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH JUNE 1989.

BOTH SALARY INDEXES (A) AND (B) ARE DESIGNED FOR THE PURPOSE OF MEASURING CHANGES IN SALARY LEVELS.

HOWEVER, BY CONFINING TO THOSE EMPLOYEES WHO REMAINED IN THE SAME JOB AND IN THE SAME COMPANY IN 1989 AND 1990, THE SALARY INDEX (B) ONLY ACCOUNTS FOR SALARY CHANGES DUE TO GENERAL INCREMENT, MERITORIOUS INCREASE AND GAIN IN SENIORITY.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE SALARY INDEX (A) TAKES INTO ACCOUNT EFFECTS OF LABOUR MOBILITY AS WELL.

THE RATE OF INCREASE IN THE SALARY INDEX (B) IS USUALLY HIGHER THAN THAT IN THE SALARY INDEX (A) BECAUSE THE SALARY INDEX (A) INCLUDES THE SALARIES OF NEWLY RECRUITED AND NEWLY PROMOTED EMPLOYEES, WHO TEND TO BE PAID COMPARATIVELY LOWER SALARIES THAN THOSE ALREADY IN THE SAME RANK.

AMONG THE MANAGERIAL AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES COVERED IN THE SURVEY, IT WAS FOUND THAT 70 PER CENT OF THEM WERE ENTITLED TO PROFIT-SHARING BONUS. MOREOVER, 36 PER CENT WERE ENTITLED TO HOUSING BENEFITS OF SOME KIND AND 77 PER CENT TO PROVIDENT/RETIREMENT FUND OR PENSION. IT WAS ALSO FOUND THAT 83 PER CENT OF THEM WERE ENTITLED TO GUARANTEED YEAR-END BONUS.

THE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN CONDUCTING THE ANNUAL SURVEY OF SALARIES AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS - MANAGERIAL AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES (EXCLUDING TOP MANAGEMENT) SINCE 1984 TO MEASURE CHANGES IN SALARY RATES FOR THE MANAGERIAL AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES.

A SAMPLE OF 203 LARGE AND MEDIUM-SIZED COMPANIES WAS SELECTED. IN THE SURVEY, ONLY EMPLOYEES WORKING IN COMMON OCCUPATIONS OF MANAGERIAL AND PROFESSIONAL LEVELS ARE COVERED. BOTH LOCAL AND EXPATRIATE STAFF ARE ENUMERATED.

IN THE SURVEY, THE SALARY RATE IS DEFINED TO INCLUDE, IN ADDITION TO BASIC SALARIES, COST-OF-LIVING ALLOWANCE, GUARANTEED YEAR-END BONUS, COMMISSION AND TIPS, AND OTHER GUARANTEED AND REGULAR BONUSES AND ALLOWANCES.

OTHER ITEMS WHICH MAY CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE TOTAL PAY PACKAGE OF EMPLOYEES AT THIS LEVEL, SUCH AS PROFIT-SHARING BONUS AND HOUSING ALLOWANCE, ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE DEFINITION OF THE SALARY RATE.

HOWEVER, STATISTICS ON FRINGE BENEFITS ARE SEPARATELY COMPILED. THEY ARE EXPRESSED IN TERMS OF PERCENTAGES OF EMPLOYEES INCLUDED IN THE SURVEY ENTITLED TO THEM.

DETAILS OF THE SALARY MOVEMENT, AVERAGE SALARY RATE FOR MAJOR OCCUPATIONS AND STATISTICS ON EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENT TO VARIOUS FRINGE BENEFITS, TOGETHER WITH A DESCRIPTION OF THE METHODOLOGY, ARE PUBLISHED IN A "REPORT OF SALARY AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS - MANAGERIAL AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES (EXCLUDING TOP MANAGEMENT)".

COPIES OF THIS REPORT ARE AVAILABLE AT \$25 PER COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SALARY INDEXES CAN BE DIRECTED TO THE WAGES AND LABOUR COSTS STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL. 823 4746 OR 823 4747.

NOMINAL SALARY INDEXES(A) AND (B) ANALYSED
BY MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTOR FOR JUNE 1990

(JUNE 1983 = 100)

SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTOR	NOMINAL SALARY INDEX (A)*	NOMINAL SALARY INDEX (B)*
MANUFACTURING/ELECTRICITY, GAS & STEAM	204.8 (+11.2)	249.0 (+13.5)
BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION AND RELATED TRADES	212.6 (+16.8)	274.6 (+17.6)
WHOLESALE/RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES	217.5 (+9.7)	273.7 (+15.3)
TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND COMMUNICATION	185.1 (+9.7)	245.7 (+17.7)
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND INSURANCE	245.3 (+16.9)	290.2 (+18.9)
ALL SECTORS ABOVE	216.2 (+13.6)	269.8 (+16.7)

* ALL INDEXES ARE ROUNDED TO ONE DECIMAL PLACE.
FIGURES IN BRACKETS ARE PERCENTAGE CHANGES FOR JUNE 1990 OVER
JUNE 1989 AND ARE CALCULATED FROM INDEXES ROUNDED TO ONE
DECIMAL PLACE.

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR BUSINESSMEN IN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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THERE ARE PLENTY OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR BUSINESSMEN TO TAKE AND
GIVE IN HONG KONG'S ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION PROGRAMMES, THE DIRECTOR
OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, DR STUART REED, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE BRITISH CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE, DR REED SAID THROUGH VARIOUS BUSINESS ACTIVITIES, MEMBERS
OF THE CHAMBER COULD DO MUCH TO IMPROVE HONG KONG'S ENVIRONMENT.

HE SAID THIS COULD BE DONE BY PROVIDING SERVICES AND EQUIPMENT
IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FIELD TO SUPPORT THE VARIOUS
ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMMES THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD IN HAND, AND BY
MAKING SURE THAT ANY PRODUCTS THEY INTRODUCE TO THE HONG KONG MARKET
WERE ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY.

/"FOR EXAMPLE

"FOR EXAMPLE, I NOTICE THAT HONG KONG IMPORTED OVER \$180 MILLION OF UK MANUFACTURED VEHICLES IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1990, SO I HOPE THAT ANY OF YOU WHO ARE INVOLVED IN THAT BUSINESS WILL BE READY TO IMPORT THE VERSIONS FITTED WITH CATALYTIC CONVERTERS SHORTLY AFTER WE INTRODUCE NO-LEAD PETROL ON APRIL 1, 1991 AND IN ADVANCE OF THE STATUTORY REQUIREMENT FOR NEW CARS TO BE FITTED WITH CONVERTERS.

"I BELIEVE YOU IMPORTED INTO HONG KONG OVER \$250 MILLION OF PAPER AND PAPER BOARD LAST YEAR. I HOPE THAT AT LEAST SOME OF THIS WAS OF THE RECYCLED VARIETY," HE SAID.

"WE IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT ARE CERTAINLY VERY KEEN TO PROMOTE THE USE OF RECYCLED PAPER WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT AND ELSEWHERE IN HONG KONG AND THE NOTION REALLY SEEMS TO BE CATCHING ON IN OUR COMMUNITY," DR REED ADDED.

DR REED SAID THE SECOND THING THAT MEMBERS COULD CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVE HONG KONG'S ENVIRONMENT WAS WHERE THEY WERE RESOURCING BRITISH IMPORTS FROM HONG KONG, THEY COULD USEFULLY TAKE A DIRECT INTEREST IN THE EFFECT THAT THE PRODUCTION OF SUCH ITEMS HAD ON THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT.

"FOR EXAMPLE, HONG KONG EXPORTED AND RE-EXPORTED TO BRITAIN NEARLY \$2.75 BILLION OF CLOTHING IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1990.

"I WOULD NOT GO SO FAR AS TO SUGGEST TO YOU THAT YOU DON'T SOURCE THESE GOODS FROM FACTORIES THAT PUSH OUT WAVES OF BLUE AND ORANGE DYES INTO THE NEW TERRITORIES STREAMS AND OUR COASTAL WATERS.

"BUT PERHAPS THERE ARE OTHER WAYS OF INFLUENCING SOME OF YOUR SUPPLIERS TO STOP THE UNSUSTAINABLE EXPLOITATION OF OUR LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL ASSET."

DR REED SAID MEMBERS OF THE CHAMBER SHOULD ALSO BE ABLE TO GAIN COMMERCIALY AND FINANCIALLY FROM HONG KONG'S ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMMES.

OUTLINING THE GOVERNMENT'S PROGRAMMES AND POLICIES FOR PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT OVER THE COMING DECADE, DR REED SAID ALL THIS ACTIVITY IN DESIGNING, CONSTRUCTING AND OPERATING FACILITIES AND ENFORCEMENT OF LEGISLATION WOULD GIVE RISE TO MANY BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN MEETING THE DEMAND FOR RELATED PRODUCTS, GOODS AND SERVICES.

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TWO-PART SURVEY ON FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRY

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THE GOVERNMENT IS TO CONDUCT A TWO-PART SURVEY ON THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRY IN HONG KONG.

IN THE FIRST PART, FROM WHICH THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT HOPES TO OBTAIN A QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT, DETAILED QUESTIONNAIRES ARE BEING SENT TO 200 TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS SEEKING THE COLLECTIVE VIEW OF THEIR MEMBERS ON HOW INDUSTRY SHOULD DEVELOP HERE BETWEEN NOW AND 2011.

SIMULTANEOUSLY, THE DEPARTMENT WILL SEND A SIMPLIFIED VERSION TO 10,000 INDIVIDUAL MANUFACTURERS TO OBTAIN QUANTITATIVE ANSWERS TO SIMILAR QUESTIONS.

THE DEPARTMENT IS SEEKING INFORMATION SUCH AS HOW INDUSTRIALISTS CONSIDER MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY WILL DEVELOP IN THE FUTURE, HAVING REGARD TO SUCH FACTORS AS OUTWARD PROCESSING ACTIVITIES IN CHINA.

IT ALSO WANTS VIEWS ON THE METROPLAN, THE PORT AND AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT STUDY (PADS) AND THE LABOUR SHORTAGE.

REPLIES ARE TO BE GIVEN UNDER SHORT-TERM (1990-1993), MEDIUM-TERM (1994-1997) AND LONG-TERM (1998-2011) DEVELOPMENT SCENARIOS.

THERE ARE ALSO QUESTIONS ON THE IMPLICATIONS OF FUTURE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ON INDUSTRIAL ACCOMMODATION AND HOW THE GOVERNMENT'S INDUSTRIAL LAND POLICY SHOULD BE MODIFIED TO HELP LOCAL INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

ON THE METROPLAN, THEY ARE BEING ASKED WHAT MEASURES THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD TAKE TO ENCOURAGE INDUSTRIES TO RELOCATE FROM THE URBAN AREA AND THEIR IDEAS ON SUITABLE PLACES TO MOVE TO.

THE RESPONDENTS WILL BE ASKED WHETHER THEY CONSIDER NORTH LANTAU, YUEN LONG AND TIN SHUI WAI, AND TUEN MUN ARE SUITABLE FOR NEW INDUSTRIAL AREAS; WHAT INFRASTRUCTURAL SUPPORT SHOULD BE PROVIDED TO ENCOURAGE INDUSTRY TO MOVE INTO THESE AREAS; WHAT OTHER MEASURES THEY THINK THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD TAKE TO ATTRACT INDUSTRY TO MOVE TO THESE AREAS; WHAT TYPES OF INDUSTRIES ARE MOST LIKELY TO MOVE INTO THESE AREAS AND WHAT KINDS OF PREMISES THEY WILL REQUIRE, AND HOW THEY WOULD LIKE TO SEE INDUSTRIAL LAND IN THESE AREAS BEING DISPOSED OF.

THEY WILL BE QUESTIONED ON WHETHER THEY THINK HONG KONG NEEDS A SCIENCE PARK OR A BUSINESS PARK, AND IF SO WHERE IT SHOULD BE LOCATED.

ON THE TOPIC OF OUTWARD PROCESSING ACTIVITIES TO CHINA BY HONG KONG MANUFACTURERS, THE QUESTIONNAIRE TO THE TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS ASKS WHETHER SUCH ACTIVITIES ARE BENEFICIAL TO HONG KONG AND IF SO WHAT MEASURES COULD THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT INTRODUCE IN THE FORM OF PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE TO HELP INTEGRATION OF MANUFACTURING ACTIVITIES IN HONG KONG AND CHINA.

INDIVIDUAL MANUFACTURERS ARE ASKED IF THEY OWN MANUFACTURING PLANTS IN GUANGDONG PROVINCE; WHETHER THEY HAVE PLANS TO EXPAND OPERATIONS IN THE PROVINCE; AND WHETHER THEY HAVE PLANS TO RELOCATE FURTHER PARTS OR ALL OF THEIR EXISTING HONG KONG OPERATION THERE.

IN A LETTER ACCOMPANYING THE QUESTIONNAIRES, THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR T.H. BARMA, REFERS TO THE METROPLAN AND PADS AND SAYS THE PROPOSALS CONTAINED IN BOTH STUDIES OFFER UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDUSTRY.

"AS YET," THE LETTER STATES, "THE PLANS CONSIST SIMPLY OF LINES ON A MAP WITHOUT ATTEMPTING TO PREDICT THE PRECISE SIZE AND FORM OF INDUSTRY IN THE FUTURE.

"BUT, HAVING TAKEN DECISIONS ABOUT KEY PROJECTS SUCH AS THE SITE OF THE NEW AIRPORT AND FUTURE CONTAINER TERMINALS, THE GOVERNMENT IS NOW TURNING ITS ATTENTION TOWARDS THE QUESTION OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT UP TO THE YEAR 2011."

IT WAS DIFFICULT HOWEVER TO PLAN WITHOUT SOME APPRECIATION OF HOW INDUSTRIALISTS THEMSELVES SAW THE FUTURE.

"IN ORDER TO INPUT SUCH KEY INFORMATION INTO THE PLANNING PROCESS THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN TASKED WITH CO-ORDINATING SURVEYS TO SEEK THE VIEWS OF INDUSTRIALISTS," MR BARMA SAID.

ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONNAIRES WOULD HELP THE GOVERNMENT FORMULATE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS AS REGARDS DEVELOPING LAND, ACCOMMODATION AND SUPPORTING INFRASTRUCTURE FOR INDUSTRY UP TO THE YEAR 2011, HE SAID.

MR BARMA URGES RECIPIENTS OF THE QUESTIONNAIRES TO RESPOND, STATING: "AT THE MOMENT THE GOVERNMENT IS OPEN TO ANY AND ALL SUGGESTIONS, BUT ONCE FORMAL PLANNING HAS TAKEN PLACE IN SOME DETAIL IT WILL BECOME MUCH MORE DIFFICULT TO MAKE RADICAL CHANGES."

THE QUESTIONNAIRES ARE TO BE RETURNED EARLY NEXT MONTH.

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POLICE FAREWELL TO OUTGOING SENIOR ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER
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HUNDREDS OF FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES TODAY (MONDAY) ATTENDED A TRADITIONAL GUARD OF HONOUR TO BID FAREWELL TO OUTGOING SENIOR ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, MR ERIC MCCOSH, WHO HAS SERVED 32 YEARS IN THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE.

MR MCCOSH WILL TAKE UP THE POST OF COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES ON NOVEMBER 21.

THE ASSEMBLY, WHICH TOOK PLACE AT THE COMPOUND OF THE POLICE HEADQUARTERS, WAS ATTENDED BY REGULAR AND AUXILIARY POLICE OFFICERS, CIVILIAN STAFF AND THEIR FAMILIES.

THE GUARD WAS DRAWN FROM THE POLICE TRAINING SCHOOL, UNDER THE COMMAND OF SUPERINTENDENT BILL FULLERTON.

MR MCCOSH JOINED THE POLICE FORCE AS A PROBATIONARY SUB-INSPECTOR IN 1958 AND HAS BEEN PROMOTED THROUGH THE RANKS TO SENIOR ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF POLICE IN NOVEMBER 1988. HIS LAST POSTING WAS THE DIRECTOR OF MANAGEMENT AND INSPECTION SERVICES.

HE WAS AWARDED THE QUEEN'S POLICE MEDAL AND THE COLONIAL POLICE MEDAL IN 1987 AND 1981 RESPECTIVELY.

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LEGCO MEETING ON WEDNESDAY

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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS WILL ASK A TOTAL OF EIGHT QUESTIONS AND CONSIDER FIVE BILLS AT THE COUNCIL'S MEETING ON WEDNESDAY (NOVEMBER 21).

OF THE FIVE BILLS, THREE WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS AND DEBATES ON THEM WILL BE ADJOURNED.

THEY ARE THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY CORPORATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990, POLICE FORCE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990 AND THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990.

THE OTHER TWO BILLS ARE SET FOR SECOND READING BEFORE GOING THROUGH THE COMMITTEE STAGE AND THIRD READING.

THEY ARE THE ROAD TRAFFIC (DRIVING-OFFENCE POINTS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990 AND THE PUBLIC HEALTH (ANIMALS AND BIRDS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990.

THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES WILL MOVE A MOTION UNDER THE TELEPHONE ORDINANCE.

MEANWHILE, THE HON PROF C.K. POON WILL MOVE A MOTION UNDER THE INTERPRETATION AND GENERAL CLAUSES ORDINANCE AND THE HON KINGSLEY SIT WILL MOVE A MOTION ON THE PORT AND AIRPORT STRATEGY.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO OBSERVE THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING FROM THE PUBLIC GALLERIES AND THEY MAY MAKE RESERVATIONS BY TELEPHONING 844 0899.

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CONSULTATION ON LICENSING FOR MOBILE PHONE SERVICES

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THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY TODAY (MONDAY) ISSUED A CONSULTATIVE PAPER ON THE FUTURE LICENSING POLICY FOR THE NEXT GENERATION OF PUBLIC MOBILE RADIOTELEPHONE SERVICES BASED ON THE DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY SAID: "THE EXISTING PUBLIC MOBILE RADIOTELEPHONE SERVICES USING THE ANALOGUE TECHNIQUES HAVE BEEN VERY POPULAR.

"THERE ARE NOW OVER 120,000 SUBSCRIBERS AND THE GROWTH RATE HAS BEEN OVER 3,000 SUBSCRIBERS PER MONTH.

/"TO MEET

"TO MEET FURTHER GROWTH IN THE DEMAND WITHOUT ANY DETERIORATION IN STANDARDS, IT IS NECESSARY TO INTRODUCE THE NEXT GENERATION OF PUBLIC MOBILE RADIOTELEPHONE SERVICES INTO HONG KONG."

INTERESTED PARTIES MAY OBTAIN COPIES OF THE CONSULTATIVE PAPER FROM THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS BRANCH, FIFTH FLOOR, SINCERE BUILDING, 173 DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG.

COMMENTS ON THE PAPER SHOULD BE SENT TO THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY BEFORE JANUARY 18, 1991.

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SATISFACTORY TEST RESULTS ON AUSTRALIAN MINERAL WATER

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THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF HEALTH (HYGIENE), DR MAHOMMED BIN ALI, SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THAT LABORATORY FINDINGS ON AN AUSTRALIAN BRAND OF JUICE-FLAVOURED MINERAL WATER INDICATED THAT THE DRINK WOULD POSE NO HEALTH PROBLEM TO THE CONSUMERS.

TEST RESULTS OF SIX SAMPLES OF THE BEVERAGE TAKEN BY THE DEPARTMENT'S HYGIENE DIVISION FOR THE EXAMINATION OF BENZENE DURING THE PAST FEW DAYS WERE DESCRIBED AS SATISFACTORY.

"SAMPLES OF VARIOUS BRANDS OF MINERAL WATER PRODUCTS HAVE ALSO BEEN TAKEN FOR EXAMINATION FOR MONITORING PURPOSE," DR ALI ADDED.

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SUPER SWEET CORN AVAILABLE FOR SALE

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LOCALLY-GROWN "GOLD AND SILVER" SUPER SWEET CORN WILL AGAIN BE AVAILABLE FOR SALE, AND THIS TIME ON A LARGER SCALE.

STARTING TOMORROW (TUESDAY), ABOUT 4,000 COBS OF "GOLD AND SILVER" SUPER SWEET CORN WILL BE SUPPLIED TO SUPERMARKET DAILY. THE SUPPLY IS EXPECTED TO LAST SIX WEEKS.

"GOLD AND SILVER" SUPER SWEET CORN LAST CAME ON MARKET AROUND END OF MAY THIS YEAR, WITH 1,000 COBS OF CORN MADE AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING DAILY FOR A 50-DAY PERIOD UNDER A PILOT PROGRAMME TO PRODUCE EXOTIC VEGETABLES.

THE COBS WERE SNAPPED UP AS SOON AS THEY HIT THE MARKET AND GENERAL REACTION TO THE PRODUCE WAS VERY FAVOURABLE.

THE VARIETY DIFFERS FROM COMMON SWEET CORNS OR OTHER SUPER SWEET CORNS IN THE COLOUR OF ITS GRAIN WHICH IS IN BRIGHT YELLOW AND WHITE SET IN A RANDOM PATTERN ON THE COB.

THE TENDER AND SUCCULENT GRAINS PROVIDE AN UNIQUE COMPLEMENT TO THE SWEETNESS NOT EASILY FOUND IN OTHER VARIETIES.

THE PILOT SCHEME, JOINTLY ADMINISTERED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT (AFD) AND THE FEDERATION OF THE VEGETABLE MARKETING CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES (FVMCS), WAS A FOLLOW-UP TO AFD'S EFFORTS IN JANUARY THIS YEAR TO ENCOURAGE AND HELP LOCAL FARMERS GROW UP-MARKET EXOTIC VEGETABLES BY WAY OF THE MASS SEEDLING PRODUCTION TECHNIQUE.

THE DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THAT THESE VEGETABLES HAVE GREAT MARKET POTENTIALS.

HAVING GAINED MUCH USEFUL EXPERIENCE FROM THE PILOT PRODUCTION PROGRAMME, THE FVMCS THIS TIME PLAYS A MUCH MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN ORGANISING THE PRODUCTION OF THE "GOLD AND SILVER" SUPER SWEET CORN TO ENSURE STABLE SUPPLY.

MARKETING OF THE PRODUCE AND LIAISON WITH BUYERS ARE LOOKED AFTER BY THE VEGETABLE MARKETING ORGANISATION (VMO).

A TOTAL OF 48 FARMERS, ALL WELL-EXPERIENCED IN VEGETABLE GROWING, HAVE JOINED THE PRODUCTION PROGRAMME AROUND THE END OF SEPTEMBER ON ABOUT 5.5 HECTARES OF LAND.

AND FOR THE FIRST TIME THE VEGETABLE SEEDLINGS USED FOR PRODUCTION ARE RAISED BY THE FARMERS THEMSELVES ADOPTING THE TECHNOLOGY TRANSFERRED FROM AFD.

THE FVMCS RAISED THE SEEDLINGS IN A GREEN HOUSE AT AFD'S TAI LUNG EXPERIMENTAL STATION USING THE MASS SEEDLING PRODUCTION TECHNIQUE AND SUPPLIED THEM TO FARMERS AT COST.

MEANWHILE, PLANS ARE AFOOT TO SET UP THE FVMCS' OWN GREEN HOUSES AT TSIU KENG AND TA KWU LING FOR MASS SEEDLING PRODUCTION.

WHEN THE GREEN HOUSE PLAN MATERIALISES, THE FEDERATION WILL BE IN A BETTER POSITION TO PLAN AND CO-ORDINATE PRODUCTION FOR SUPPLY TO SPECIFIC BUYERS THROUGH THE VMO.

THIS PLANNED AND MARKET-ORIENTED APPROACH, IF SUCCESSFUL, WILL SET A MILESTONE FOR HONG KONG'S AGRICULTURE, BECAUSE FOR THE FIRST TIME, EFFORTS ARE MADE TO BALANCE THE SUPPLY AND DEMAND OF A CROP TO AVOID WASTAGE AND TO ENSURE A STEADY SUPPLY FOR CONSUMERS AS WELL AS TO SECURE REASONABLY GOOD RETURN FOR PRODUCERS.

TO SECURE BUYERS' CONFIDENCE IN THE "GOLD AND SILVER" SUPER SWEET CORN, THE VMO AND THE FVMCS TODAY (MONDAY) ORGANISED A TASTING PANEL AND A TRIP FOR THEM TO ACTUALLY SEE THE CORN IN THE FIELDS OF TSIU KENG, SHEUNG SHUI.

PRODUCTION PROGRAMMES FOR OTHER EXOTIC VEGETABLE TYPES HAVE BEEN WORKED OUT AND THE NEXT CROP, WHICH INCLUDED RED LETTUCE, SAVOY CABBAGE AND PURPLE CABBAGE, WILL BE MARKETED EARLY NEXT YEAR.

AT A LATER STAGE, CROPS SUCH AS TOMATO, BRINJAL, CELERY, SWEET PEPPER AND JAPANESE RADISH WILL ALSO BE INCLUDED IN THE CROPPING PROGRAMME IN ADDITION TO SUPER SWEET CORN.

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THIRTY-FOUR LIFE SAVERS HONOURED

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THIRTY-FOUR MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY WERE COMMENDED TODAY (MONDAY) FOR THEIR COURAGE IN SAVING 65 PEOPLE FROM DROWNING.

THE GROUP WAS PRESENTED THE RESCUE STAR, THE HIGHEST HONOUR FOR WATER RESCUE, BY THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE.

SPEAKING AT THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY HELD AT THE HONG KONG LIFE GUARD CLUB (HKLGC) IN REPULSE BAY, DR LEE PRAISED THE LIFE SAVERS' SELFLESS AND GALLANT ACTS, ADDING THAT THEY HAD SET A GOOD EXAMPLE FOR US ALL.

THE ANNUAL AWARD WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1962 TO ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO PARTICIPATE IN LIFE-SAVING OPERATIONS AT SEA. SINCE THEN, 809 PEOPLE HAD RECEIVED RESCUE STARS.

THIS YEAR'S AWARD WENT TO 10 FISHERMEN AND 24 LIFEGUARDS FROM THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT (RSD) AND THE OCEAN PARK.

MR HO DING-FAT, WHO LED THE FISHERMEN GROUP TO RESCUE 19 BRITISH SOLDIERS OFF TAP MUN ON JUNE 17 THIS YEAR, WAS NAMED LIFE SAVER OF THE YEAR AND WAS HONOURED WITH THE TIEN HAU TROPHY.

AT THE TIME OF RESCUE, THE NO. 1 TYPHOON SIGNAL WAS HOISTED AND THE BRITISH SOLDIERS, WHOSE BOAT HAD SUNKEN, WERE FOUND FLOATING AT SEA. DESPITE THE INCLEMENT WEATHER AND THE ROUGH SEAS, THE FISHERMEN RUSHED OUT IN SAMPANS AND RESCUED ALL THE SOLDIERS.

AMONG THE LIFEGUARDS, MR YUNG KAM-PUI OF RSD'S TUEN MUN PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL SAVED THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF LIVES. IN THE SWIMMING SEASON OF THIS YEAR, MR YUNG ALTOGETHER RESCUED NINE SWIMMERS WHILE HIS COLLEAGUE AT THE SAME SWIMMING POOL, MR LAM CHI-YUNG, SAVED FIVE PEOPLE.

ANOTHER RSD LIFEGUARD, MR HO PUI, ALSO RESCUED FIVE SWIMMERS AT BUTTERFLY BEACH, TUEN MUN, IN THIS SWIMMING SEASON.

IN 1990, THE HKLGC PROVIDED SOME 4,400 VOLUNTEER LIFEGUARD SERVICES AT BATHING BEACHES, SWIMMING POOLS AND VARIOUS WATER RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY SOCIAL BODIES, AND A TOTAL OF 1,007 PEOPLE WERE RESCUED FROM DROWNING.

MOREOVER, THE CLUB CONTINUED TO PROMOTE YOUTH PROGRAMMES WITH 6,700 PEOPLE PARTICIPATING IN ITS SWIMMING COMPETITIONS, POSTER DESIGN CONTEST AND TRAINING SESSIONS ON LIFE-SAVING, SWIMMING AND FIRST AID.

/THE CLUB

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THE CLUB ALSO ACTIVELY TOOK PART IN INTERNATIONAL LIFEGUARD ACTIVITIES THROUGH WHICH LOCAL ACTIVITIES IN THIS AREA WERE MADE KNOWN TO LIFEGUARD CLUBS IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD.

"THIS HAS RAISED THE PRESTIGE OF HONG KONG," DR LEE SAID, WHILE THANKING THE CLUB FOR ITS VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE COMMUNITY OVER THE YEARS.

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PRESTIGE STAMP BOOKLET TO MARK CENTENARY OF ELECTRICITY SUPPLY
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A PRESTIGE STAMP BOOKLET WILL BE ISSUED ON NOVEMBER 29 TO MARK THE CENTENARY OF ELECTRICITY SUPPLY IN HONG KONG, THE POSTMASTER GENERAL, MR DOMINIC S.W. WONG, ANNOUNCED TODAY (MONDAY).

THE BOOKLET WILL BE AVAILABLE AT ALL POST OFFICES AT \$26 EACH.

"THIS IS THE THIRD PRESTIGE STAMP BOOKLET ISSUED BY THE HONG KONG POST OFFICE," MR WONG SAID.

"THE BOOKLET WILL COVER THE HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF ELECTRICITY SUPPLY IN HONG KONG FROM THE LAST CENTURY, INTERLEAVED WITH FOUR SOUVENIR SHEETS.

"I EXPECT THIS PRODUCT TO BE WELL RECEIVED BY PHILATELISTS, AS THOSE ON THE LAST TWO OCCASIONS."

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE RELEASE OF THE BOOKLET, A CACHET WILL BE INTRODUCED ON NOVEMBER 29. A HAND-BACK SERVICE USING THE CACHET WILL BE AVAILABLE AT ALL POST OFFICES ON THAT DAY.

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THREE GOVT LOTS TO LET BY TENDER
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THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE SHORT-TERM TENANCY OF THREE LOTS IN KOWLOON.

THE FIRST LOT, LOCATED AT THE JUNCTION OF HAMMER HILL ROAD AND LUNG CHEUNG ROAD, MEASURES ABOUT 8,400 SQUARE METRES.

IT IS FOR FEE-PAYING PUBLIC PARKING AREA FOR MOTOR VEHICLES (EXCLUDING CONTAINER VEHICLES WITH THEIR TRAILERS/CHASSIS ATTACHED) CURRENTLY LICENSED UNDER THE ROAD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE.

/THE TENANCY

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THE TENANCY IS SET FOR ONE YEAR AND RENEWABLE QUARTERLY AFTERWARDS.

LOCATED AT WAN HOI STREET, HUNG HOM, THE SECOND LOT IS AN 8,350-SQUARE-METRE SITE DESIGNATED FOR OPEN STORAGE EXCLUDING CONTAINER VEHICLES WITH THEIR TRAILER/CHASSIS ATTACHED, SAND, CEMENT AND AGGREGATE.

THE TENANCY IS SET FOR 18 MONTHS AND RENEWABLE QUARTERLY AFTERWARDS.

THE THIRD LOT, LOCATED AT LUNG CHEUNG ROAD, MEASURES ABOUT 5,350 SQUARE METRES. IT IS FOR OPEN STORAGE (EXCLUDING STORAGE OF CONTAINER BOXES).

THE TENANCY IS FOR ONE YEAR AND RENEWABLE QUARTERLY AFTERWARDS.

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

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