



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 1979

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
CHINA'S MODERNISATION PROGRAMMES HAVE SIGNIFICANCE FOR HONG KONG .....	1
GOVERNOR OFF TO CHINA TOMORROW .....	2
PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR FEBRUARY 1979 .....	3
STIFF NEW PENALTIES FOR BUILDING OFFENDERS PROPOSED .....	6
NEW TOWNS BRING BLOOMS BOOM .....	7
NO BAN ON IMPORT OF LIVESTOCK .....	8
1979 U.S. GENERALISED SCHEME OF PREFERENCES .....	9
47 FACTORY OWNERS GET FIRE HAZARD ABATEMENT NOTICES .....	10
EMPLOYERS URGED TO FOLLOW PWD LEAD IN APPRENTICE TRAINING .....	11
20 NEW TENNIS COURTS .....	11
NEW ERA IN SPORTS DEVELOPMENT .....	12
SOCCER TOURNAMENT TO PROMOTE ARMY-TSUEN WAN COMMUNITY RELATIONS .....	13
PRISONS DEPARTMENT'S WALK FOR CHARITY .....	14
TWO RETIRE FROM E. AND M. OFFICE .....	14
FIRING PRACTICE .....	15

FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 1979

- 1 -

CHINA'S MODERNISATION PROGRAMMES  
HAVE SIGNIFICANCE FOR HK  
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, SAID THIS (FRIDAY) EVENING THAT THE NEW MODERNISATION PROGRAMMES IN CHINA HAVE SIGNIFICANCE FOR HONG KONG.

THE GREATER PROSPERITY AND PRODUCTIVITY OF CHINA CAN ONLY BENEFIT THE ENTIRE WEST PACIFIC REGION, AND GIVE ITS ECONOMIC GROWTH YET FURTHER IMPETUS, HE ADDED.

SPEAKING AT THE FOURTH ANNUAL DINNER OF THE HONG KONG INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS, SIR MURRAY SAID: +CLEARLY THEY (THE PROGRAMMES) ARE WELCOME TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG AND OUR ATTITUDE TO THEM IN PRINCIPLE IS TOTALLY POSITIVE, AND MANY HONG KONG BUSINESSMEN ARE ALREADY SEEKING TO PARTICIPATE.+

HE WAS CERTAIN THAT HONG KONG, WITH THE MANY SPECIAL FACILITIES IT HAS TO OFFER, HAS A PART TO PLAY IN THE MODERNISATION PROGRAMME.

+EXACTLY WHAT IT IS WILL EMERGE AS THE PLANS TAKE SHAPE. BUT I THINK AS THE PROGRAMME GATHERS MOMENTUM ONE OF ITS EFFECTS MAY BE TO EXERT UPWARD PRESSURE ON THE SOPHISTICATION AND TECHNOLOGICAL CONTENT OF OUR PRODUCTION. THERE IS NOTHING NEW ABOUT SUCH PRESSURE, IT HAS BEEN EXERTED ON US FROM SO MANY QUARTERS FOR MANY YEARS AND WE HAVE ALWAYS MANAGED TO RESPOND.

+BUT THIS BRINGS ME BACK TO ENGINEERS, BECAUSE IN THIS PROCESS OF DEVELOPMENT, THE PART OF OUR ENGINEERS AND OF ALL DISCIPLINES OF ENGINEERING WILL BE VITAL- SO WILL THE PART OF THE INSTITUTIONS THAT TRAIN THEM,+ SIR MURRAY SAID.

EARLIER, SIR MURRAY POINTED OUT THAT THE ENGINEERING PROFESSION HELPED SOLVE ONE OF HONG KONG'S BASIC PROBLEMS -- LACK OF LAND AND SPACE FOR WHICH TO BUILD NEW INDUSTRIES, AND NEW TOWNS TO MAN THEM.

HOWEVER, HE SAID HE DID NOT IMPLY THAT ENGINEERING WAS ONLY CONCERNED WITH THE MANIPULATION OF MUD AND ROCK, CONCRETE AND STEEL.

LOCAL ENGINEERS ALSO PLAYED A PART IN DESIGNING MACHINES AND PRODUCTS, KEEPING FACTORIES IN TOUCH WITH LATEST TECHNOLOGY AND APPLYING THEM TO HONG KONG'S REQUIREMENTS AND CONSTANTLY PUSHING UPWARDS THE SOPHISTICATION AND COMPETITIVENESS OF THE LOCAL INDUSTRY.

FURTHERMORE, THEY WERE OCCUPYING MANAGERIAL POSITIONS IN MOST OF HONG KONG'S SIGNIFICANT FACTORIES. +AND I AM SURE THAT IF HONG KONG IS TO GROW AND ADAPT TO THE CHANGING WORLD AROUND US, THIS IS ESSENTIAL,+ SIR MURRAY NOTED.

REFERRING TO THE INSTITUTION'S REQUEST FOR RECOGNITION OF ITS CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP, QUALIFICATION AND OTHER THINGS, SIR MURRAY SAID HE DID NOT FORESEE A LONG DELAY BEFORE THE FIRST STAGE OF RECOGNITION IS GRANTED.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 1979

- 2 -

ON THE INSTITUTION'S RECENT MERGER WITH THE HONG KONG BRANCH OF THE INSTITUTION OF STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS, SIR MURRAY SAID THE AMALGAMATION STRENGTHENED THE ENGINEERING PROFESSION, BUT IT WAS ALSO EASIER FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO DEAL WITH A PROFESSION THAT IS UNITED.

SIR MURRAY COMPLIMENTED THE INSTITUTION FOR STRENGTHENING ITS TIES WITH INSTITUTIONS IN OTHER COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES, RUNNING A SUCCESSFUL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN HONG KONG AND FOR RE-OPENING PROFESSIONAL CONTACTS THROUGH ENGINEERING TOURS OF CHINA.

+ALL THIS AUGURS WELL FOR THE FUTURE. I WISH YOU WELL AND KNOW THAT YOU WILL NOT FAIL HONG KONG,+ SIR MURRAY CONCLUDED.

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GOVERNOR OFF TO CHINA TOMORROW  
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE WILL LEAVE FOR CHINA TOMORROW (SATURDAY) ON AN OFFICIAL VISIT AT THE INVITATION OF MR. LI QIANG, MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE. HE WILL RETURN ON APRIL 4.

ACCOMPANYING SIR MURRAY ON THE VISIT WILL BE LADY MACLEHOSE, SIR YUET-KEUNG KAN, SENIOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, LADY KAN, DR. DAVID WILSON, POLITICAL ADVISER, AND MRS. WILSON.

THE GOVERNOR WILL FIRST TRAVEL TO CANTON BY HOVERFERRY, DUE TO LEAVE TAI KOK TSUI FERRY PIER AT 3 P.M. TOMORROW.

A PHOTOGRAPHIC FACILITY WILL BE ARRANGED OUTSIDE THE PIER FOR THE MEDIA TO COVER SIR MURRAY'S DEPARTURE. G.I.S. STAFF WILL BE PRESENT TO ASSIST. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WISHING TO MAKE USE OF THE FACILITY ARE ASKED TO BE IN POSITION HALF AN HOUR BEFORE THE DEPARTURE TIME.

PRESS PHOTOGRAPHERS ARE ADVISED TO BRING TELE-LENSES WITH THEM.

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/3 .....

FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 1979

- 3 -

PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR FEBRUARY, 1979

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) PUBLISHED THE PROVISIONAL FIGURES FOR HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL MERCHANDISE TRADE DURING FEBRUARY 1979.

THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS FOR FEBRUARY WAS \$2,434 MILLION, IMPORTS WERE WORTH \$5,602 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS \$1,303 MILLION. THE TRADE DEFICIT FOR FEBRUARY WAS \$1,865 MILLION.

COMPARED WITH THE SAME-MONTH IN 1978, INCREASES, BY VALUE, OF \$308 MILLION OR 14.5 PER CENT IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS, \$1,692 MILLION OR 43.3 PER CENT IN IMPORTS AND \$526 MILLION OR 67.6 PER CENT IN RE-EXPORTS WERE RECORDED.

COMMENTING ON THE TRADE FIGURES, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT IT IS ALWAYS DIFFICULT TO MAKE INTERPRETATIONS BASED ON ONE MONTH'S FIGURES, PARTICULARLY WHEN, AT THE BEGINNING OF A YEAR, THESE ARE AFFECTED BY THE TIMING OF THE CHINESE NEW YEAR.

HE POINTED OUT THAT ALTHOUGH THE TRADE DEFICIT IN FEBRUARY IS LARGE, THE AVERAGE TRADE DEFICIT FOR THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF THIS YEAR WAS JUST OVER \$1,000 MILLION. THIS AGREES WITH THE TRADE DEFICIT FIGURE IMPLICIT IN THE BUDGET SPEECH FORECAST ON THE ECONOMY.

THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS, THAT IS, DOMESTIC EXPORTS PLUS RE-EXPORTS, FOR THE FIRST TWO MONTHS THIS YEAR WAS 36.3 PER CENT HIGHER THAN THAT FOR THE CORRESPONDING MONTHS IN 1978.

THE VALUE OF IMPORTS WAS 33.7 PER CENT HIGHER. SO, TOTAL EXPORTS WERE ACTUALLY GROWING FASTER THAN IMPORTS, WHICH, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, IS AN ENCOURAGING DEVELOPMENT.

THE ORDERS ON WHICH THESE IMPORTS AND EXPORTS WERE BASED WERE PLACED MANY MONTHS BEFORE THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY (MR. PHILIP HADDON-CAVE) INTRODUCED MEASURES IN HIS BUDGET DESIGNED TO IMPROVE THE SHARE OF RESOURCES GOING TO EXPORTS.

THE FIGURES FOR THE 12-MONTH PERIOD FROM MARCH 1978 TO FEBRUARY 1979 COMPARED WITH THOSE OF THE PREVIOUS 12-MONTH PERIOD SHOWED INCREASES, BY VALUE, OF 20.7 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, 41.7 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS, 25.3 PER CENT FOR TOTAL EXPORTS AND 32.5 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS.

/FOLLOWING ARE .....

FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 1979

- 4 -

FOLLOWING ARE THE PROVISIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FIGURES FOR FEBRUARY:

MERCHANDISE:

DOMESTIC EXPORTS	:	\$2,434 MILLION
IMPORTS	:	\$5,602 MILLION
RE-EXPORTS	:	\$1,303 MILLION
TRADE BALANCE	:	\$1,865 MILLION (IN DEFICIT)

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

<u>LATEST 3 MONTHS</u>	DECEMBER 1978 TO FEBRUARY 1979	DECEMBER 1977 TO FEBRUARY 1978	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	10,556	8,423	+2,133	+25.3
IMPORTS	17,769	13,114	+4,655	+35.5
RE-EXPORTS	3,833	2,634	+1,199	+45.5
TRADE BALANCE	- 3,380	- 2,057	-1,323	

<u>SAME MONTH LAST YEAR</u>	FEBRUARY 1979	FEBRUARY 1978	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	2,434 (65.1%)	2,125 (73.2%)	+ 308	+14.5
IMPORTS	5,602	3,910	+1,692	+43.3
RE-EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	1,303 (34.9%)	778 (26.8%)	+ 526	+67.6
TRADE BALANCE	- 1,865	- 1,007	- 858	

FOOTNOTE

FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 1979

- 5 -

<u>LAST MONTH</u>	FEBRUARY 1979	JANUARY 1979	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	2,434 (65.1%)	3,817 (74.4%)	-1,383	-36.2
IMPORTS	5,602	5,358	+ 244	+ 4.6
RE-EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	1,303 (34.9%)	1,311 (25.6%)	- 8	- 0.6
TRADE BALANCE	- 1,865	- 230	-1,635	
<u>CALENDAR YEAR TO-DATE</u>	JAN.-FEB. 1979	JAN.-FEB. 1978	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	6,251 (70.5%)	4,846 (74.5%)	+1,405	+29.0
IMPORTS	10,959	8,197	+2,762	+33.7
RE-EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	2,615 (29.5%)	1,660 (25.5%)	+ 955	+57.5
TRADE BALANCE	- 2,093	- 1,691	- 402	
<u>LAST 12 MONTHS</u>	MARCH 1978 TO FEBRUARY 1979	MARCH 1977 TO FEBRUARY 1978	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	42,116	34,906	+7,210	+20.7
IMPORTS	65,818	49,689	+16,129	+32.5
RE-EXPORTS	14,152	9,989	+4,163	+41.7
TRADE BALANCE	- 9,550	- 4,794	-4,756	

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16 .....

STIFF NEW PENALTIES FOR BUILDING OFFENDERS PROPOSED  
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AN AMENDMENT BILL PROPOSING STIFF NEW PENALTIES FOR CONTRAVENTIONS OF THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE WILL BE TABLED AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON APRIL 11, 1979.

THE BUILDINGS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1979 WILL EFFECTIVELY INCREASE PENALTIES UNDER CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE ORDINANCE FROM A FINE OF \$50,000 AND TWO YEARS' IMPRISONMENT TO \$250,000 AND THREE YEARS.

OFFENCES COVERED BY THE REGULATIONS INCLUDE USING OR AUTHORISING THE USE OF DEFECTIVE MATERIALS, DEVIATING FROM THE APPROVED PLAN, CARRYING ON OR AUTHORISING ANY BUILDING WORKS IN SUCH A MANNER THAT IT CAUSES OR IS LIKELY TO CAUSE INJURY OR DAMAGE AND FAILING TO COMPLY WITH AN ORDER TO CEASE OR REMEDY DANGEROUS WORK.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE WAS ENACTED IN 1955 AND SINCE THEN HAD BEEN AMENDED ON A PIECE-MEAL BASIS ON MORE THAN 20 OCCASIONS.

AN EXERCISE WAS NOW IN HAND TO OVERHAUL AND UP-DATE THE ORDINANCE TO REFLECT PRESENT REQUIREMENTS. HOWEVER, GIVEN THE NATURE AND SCOPE OF THE EXERCISE, IT WOULD TAKE SOME TIME TO COMPLETE.

THE BASIC GROUNDWORK, INCLUDING CONSULTATIONS WITH THE PROFESSIONAL BODIES CONCERNED WITH THE BUILDING INDUSTRY, HAD ALREADY BEEN UNDERTAKEN AND IT WAS ENVISAGED THAT PROPOSALS COULD BE PUT TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL LATER THIS YEAR, HE SAID.

ONE ASPECT OF THE ORDINANCE THAT HAD BEEN UNDER REVIEW WAS THE NEED TO INTRODUCE DETERRENT PENALTIES. APART FROM AN AMENDMENT IN 1972, WHICH INCREASED THE LEVEL OF PENALTIES FOR A FEW OFFENCES, THE PENALTIES FOR THE REMAINING OFFENCES WERE FIXED IN 1955 WHEN THE ORDINANCE WAS ENACTED AND REMAINED AT A FINE OF \$2,000 AND SIX MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT.

THIS WAS GROSSLY INADEQUATE TO COPE WITH A SITUATION WHERE SUBSTANTIAL BUILDING WORKS HAD BEEN DELIBERATELY CARRIED OUT IN DEFIANCE OF THE LAW AND WHICH COULD RESULT IN UNDERMINING SAFETY TO BOTH LIFE AND PROPERTY, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

IN RECENT CASES BROUGHT BEFORE THE COURTS, THE PRESENT LEVEL OF PENALTIES HAD BEEN SUBJECT TO COMMENTARY AND CRITICISM FROM THE JUDICIARY WHICH HAD SUGGESTED THAT FINES AND CUSTODIAL SENTENCES NEEDED TO BE INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY TO REFLECT THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE OFFENCES.

THEREFORE, THE GOVERNMENT CONSIDERED THAT AN AMENDING BILL SHOULD BE INTRODUCED TO INCREASE PENALTIES WITHOUT WAITING FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE OVERALL REVIEW OF THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID, HOWEVER, THAT THE NEW PENALTIES WOULD NOT BE RETROSPECTIVE.

FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 1979

- 7 -

NEW TOWNS BRING BLOOMS BOOM

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THE GOVERNMENT WILL NEED TO GROW OR BUY 8.5 MILLION TREES, PLANTS, SHRUBS AND FLOWERS OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS TO IMPLEMENT PROPOSALS FOR LANDSCAPING THE NEW TOWNS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR. DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THE GOVERNMENT WAS THINKING OF DEVELOPING ITS OWN PLANTATIONS -- BUT STRESSED THAT THE +ENORMOUS NEED+ PRESENTED A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR LOCAL GROWERS TO CULTIVATE UNUSED LAND TO HELP MEET THE SUPPLY.

AND HE POINTED OUT THAT THE LANDSCAPING OF THE NEW TOWNS WOULD ALSO PROVIDE THE STIMULUS AND INCENTIVE FOR THE GROWTH OF A NEW PROFESSION OF LANDSCAPING IN HONG KONG.

MR. AKERS-JONES TOLD A LUNCH MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG ISLAND WEST THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD ALREADY SPENT \$4 MILLION IN THE LAST TWO OR THREE YEARS IN ATTRACTING SOME OF THE WORLD'S FINEST LANDSCAPE CONSULTANTS TO DRAW UP DETAILED AND STRATEGIC PLANS FOR THE NEW TOWNS OF SHA TIN, TUEN MUN, TSUEN WAN, TAI PO AND FANLING-SHEUNG SHUI.

HE DESCRIBED THE RESULTS OF THE CONSULTANTS' STUDIES AS +HIGHLY STIMULATING AND EXCITING+ MASTER LANDSCAPE PLANS. +THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT AT THE HEART OF THESE PRACTICAL ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES LIES THE COMMUNITY SPIRIT OF OUR NEW TOWNS,+ HE SAID.

+THESE PLANS SHOW US HOW TO DESIGN OUR HIGH DENSITY TOWNS IN HONG KONG IN SOME MEASURE LIKE THE LOW DENSITY GARDEN CITIES OF OTHER COUNTRIES.

+HIGH DENSITY LIVING NEED NOT, IF WE TAKE CARE, BE HIGH DENSITY CONCRETE. GOING HIGH GIVES US THE OPPORTUNITY TO PLAN THE OPEN SPACE AS THOUGH WE WERE DEALING WITH MUCH LOWER HUMAN DENSITIES.

+IT IS THE PLANNING AND THE PLANTING OF THE OPEN SPACES BETWEEN THE TOWER BLOCKS WHICH PROVIDES THE STIMULUS AND INCENTIVE FOR A NEW PROFESSION IN HONG KONG OF LANDSCAPING,+ HE SAID.

MR. AKERS-JONES SAID THE GOVERNMENT'S LANDSCAPING PLANS FOR THE NEW TOWNS INCLUDED:

- \* A 10.5-HECTARE PARK AS PART OF THE TUEN MUN TOWN CENTRE.
- \* A RIVERSIDE PARK RUNNING THE WHOLE STRETCH OF SHA TIN NEW TOWN.
- \* THE TRAINING OF THE LAM TSUEN AND TAI PO RIVERS THROUGH THE HEART OF A +NEW LOOK+ TAI PO WITH ITS BANKS BEAUTIFIED AND SHADED BY TREES.
- \* THE CONVERSION OF THE FORMER KWAI CHUNG RUBBISH TIP INTO A 27-HECTARE PARK.

/+HOWEVER, .....

FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 1979

- 8 -

+HOWEVER, LANDSCAPING IS NOT JUST A PROGRAMME FOR MAJOR PARKS,+ MR. AKERS-JONES ADDED. +IT IS A TOTAL PLAN FOR THE WHOLE TOWN -- TREES ALONG STREETS, STREET FURNITURE, AND BANKS PLANTED WITH SHRUBS IN PREFERENCE TO PLASTER AND CONCRETE.+

HE SAID STUDIES SHOWED THAT 1.7 MILLION TREES AND SHRUBS WOULD BE NEEDED EACH YEAR FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS TO CARRY OUT THE PLANS -- 700,000 SEEDLINGS, 800,000 SHRUBS, MORE THAN 100,000 TREES AND A VARIETY OF OTHER FLORA.

+IT TAKES FOUR TO FIVE-YEARS TO GROW A STURDY TREE AND AT PRESENT WE DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH COMMERCIAL GROWERS IN HONG KONG AND, AS A RESULT, WE HAVE TO IMPORT MANY TREES AND SHRUBS.

+WE ARE THINKING OF DEVELOPING SOME GOVERNMENT PLANTATIONS, BUT THERE IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR OUR GROWERS TO MAKE USE OF UNUSED LAND, WHICH IS NOW LYING UNUSED, TO SUPPLY THIS FUTURE ENORMOUS NEED.

+THERE IS AN OPPORTUNITY, TOO, FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE WITH A FEELING FOR NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT TO SPECIALISE IN LANDSCAPE STUDIES SO THAT WE EXPAND OUR OWN LOCAL EXPERTISE AND USE OUR OWN SKILLS TO DEVELOP AND ENHANCE THE ENVIRONMENT OF OUR OWN NEW TOWNS.+

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NO BAN ON IMPORT OF LIVESTOCK  
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THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT THERE IS NO BAN ON THE IMPORT OF LIVESTOCK INTO HONG KONG AS SUGGESTED IN SOME MEDIA LAST (THURSDAY) NIGHT AND TODAY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT CLARIFIED TODAY THAT WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF IMPORTERS AND SHIPPING COMPANIES, THE IMPORT OF LIVESTOCK IS BEING REGULATED DEPENDING ON THE SPACE AVAILABLE FOR CATTLE AND PIGS AT GOVERNMENT DEPOTS AND ABATTOIRS.

+IMPORTERS AND SHIPPERS OF OVERSEAS CATTLE AND PIGS HAVE BEEN ADVISED THAT DUE TO THE GO-SLOW ACTION BY GOVERNMENT BUTCHERS, THE IMPORT OF SUCH LIVESTOCK WILL BE RESTRICTED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

+THIS MEANS THAT ALL IMPORTERS SHOULD CONSULT THE DEPARTMENT BEFORE LOADING ANY LIVESTOCK BOUND FOR HONG KONG FROM THE EXPORTING COUNTRY,+ HE SAID.

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/9 .....

FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 1979

- 9 -

1979 U.S. GENERALISED SCHEME OF PREFERENCES

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DETAILS OF THE 1979 U.S. GENERALISED SCHEME OF PREFERENCES (GSP) WHICH CAME INTO EFFECT ON MARCH 1, 1979, WERE BEING SENT TO ALL TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATIONS AND REGISTERED FACTORIES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE PRODUCT COVERAGE OF THE 1979 U.S. GSP IS SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF LAST-YEAR'S SCHEME AS A RESULT OF ADDITION AND DELETION OF CERTAIN ITEMS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT APPLICATIONS MAY NOW BE MADE TO THE TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT FOR CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN, FORMS A FOR GOODS COVERED BY THE 1979 SCHEME TO BE SHIPPED TO THE U.S.A. FOR CLAIM TO PREFERENTIAL TARIFF TREATMENT.

COPIES OF THE CIRCULAR (CERTIFICATE OF PREFERENCE CIRCULAR NO. 4/79 DATED MARCH 23, 1979) CONTAINING DETAILS OF THE 1979 U.S. GSP ARE AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE FROM THE RECEPTIONIST COUNTER OF THE TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT, GROUND FLOOR, OCEAN CENTRE, CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON.

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/10 .....

FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 1979

- 10 -

47 FACTORY OWNERS GET FIRE HAZARD ABATEMENT NOTICES

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FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU OFFICERS THIS (FRIDAY) MORNING MADE A SURPRISE CHECK IN THE CHAI WAN INDUSTRIAL AREA TO LOOK FOR OBSTRUCTIONS TO MEANS OF ESCAPE, STORAGE OF DANGEROUS GOODS WITHOUT LICENCE AND OTHER POTENTIAL FIRE HAZARDS.

DURING THE THREE-HOUR OPERATION COMMANDED BY DIVISIONAL OFFICER MR. KWAN SAI-YIU, MORE THAN 550 FACTORIES IN 17 INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS WERE INSPECTED.

+AS A RESULT, 47 FACTORY OWNERS WILL BE SERVED WITH FIRE HAZARD ABATEMENT NOTICES, MOSTLY FOR GENERAL OBSTRUCTIONS. THE OWNERS ARE REQUIRED TO REMOVE THE HAZARDS IN 72 HOURS OR ELSE BE SUMMONSED,+ MR. KWAN SAID.

+THEY ARE LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$2,000 PLUS A DAILY FINE OF \$20 IF THE NOTICES ARE NOT OBSERVED. FOR THOSE WITH PREVIOUS RECORDS, THE MAXIMUM FINE WOULD BE \$4,000 AND THE DAILY FINE, \$40,+ HE ADDED.

FIRE OFFICERS ALSO FOUND 14 CASES OF ILLEGAL ROOFTOP STRUCTURES USED FOR INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES AND AN UNLICENSED FOODSTALL. THE CASES WILL BE REFERRED TO THE RELEVANT DEPARTMENTS FOR ACTION.

MORE THAN 500 FIRE PREVENTION PAMPHLETS WERE DISTRIBUTED TO THE FACTORIES, REMINDING THEM THAT ALL FIRE EXITS, LIFT LOBBIES, ROOF EXITS AND STAIRCASES SHOULD BE FREE FROM OBSTRUCTION TO MINIMISE FIRE RISK.

+THE GENERAL SITUATION IN THE CHAI WAN INDUSTRIAL AREA IS QUITE SATISFACTORY. THERE HAS BEEN MUCH IMPROVEMENT IN THE FIRE PREVENTION MEASURES ADOPTED BY FACTORY OWNERS,+ MR. KWAN SAID.

HE SAID THE OPERATORS GENERALLY WERE CO-OPERATIVE AND WERE AWARE OF THE NEED TO MAINTAIN SATISFACTORY FIRE PREVENTION STANDARDS, SPECIALLY ON BLOCKED MEANS OF ESCAPE.

MORE THAN 20 OFFICERS AND 10 SENIOR FIREMEN TOOK PART IN TODAY'S OPERATION.

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EMPLOYERS URGED TO FOLLOW PWD LEAD IN APPRENTICE TRAINING  
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THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR. J.N. HENDERSON, TODAY (FRIDAY) URGED EMPLOYERS IN INDUSTRY TO FOLLOW THE LEAD SET BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT AND EITHER TO START PROPER APPRENTICE TRAINING SCHEMES IN THEIR ESTABLISHMENTS OR IMPROVE EXISTING ONES.

HE STRESSED THAT THE EXISTENCE OF A GOOD TRAINING SCHEME WOULD NOT ONLY RESULT IN A BETTER TRAINED WORKFORCE BUT ALSO ASSIST IN ATTRACTING YOUNG PEOPLE TO TAKE UP EMPLOYMENT IN INDUSTRY.

MR. HENDERSON WAS SPEAKING AT THE GRADUATION CEREMONY FOR GOVERNMENT APPRENTICES AT THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE.

SINCE THE GOVERNMENT APPRENTICE TRAINING SCHEME STARTED IN 1969, HE SAID, IT HAD BEEN EXPANDED CONSIDERABLY. HE DESCRIBED THIS AS A FAR-SIGHTED AND TIMELY MOVE.

MR. HENDERSON RECALLED THAT SINCE THE START OF THE TRAINING PROGRAMME, SOME 459 CRAFT APPRENTICES AND 105 TECHNICIAN APPRENTICES HAD ALREADY GRADUATED UNDER THE SCHEME.

THERE ARE CURRENTLY 513 APPRENTICES UNDER TRAINING -- 388 FOR CRAFT APPRENTICESHIP AND 125 FOR TECHNICIAN APPRENTICESHIP.

HE THOUGHT THAT THE QUALITY AND QUANTITY OF THIS OUTPUT REFLECTED THE GREATEST CREDIT ON ALL THE STAFF INVOLVED, BOTH IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT GENERALLY AND IN THE ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL OFFICE APPRENTICE TRAINING CENTRE IN PARTICULAR.

DURING THE CEREMONY, MR. HENDERSON PRESENTED GRADUATION CERTIFICATES TO 55 CRAFT APPRENTICES AND 24 TECHNICIAN APPRENTICES.

HE ALSO PRESENTED THE +LAISHLEY CUP+ TO THE BEST CRAFT APPRENTICE. WOO NGOI-CHUA OF THE E. AND M. OFFICE.

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20 NEW TENNIS COURTS  
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SOME 20 TENNIS COURTS ARE TO BE BUILT SHORTLY ON A SITE ADJOINING THE HONG KONG CRICKET CLUB IN WONG NAI CHUNG GAP ROAD.

TENDERS FOR THE WORK WERE INVITED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

A PWD SPOKESMAN SAID THE SITE, CONSISTING OF TWO PLATFORMS, MEASURED 18,700 SQUARE METRES.

+A TOTAL OF 17 TENNIS COURTS AND TWO TENNIS PRACTICE COURTS WITH FLOODLIGHTING FACILITIES WILL BE BUILT,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+IN ADDITION, THERE WILL BE MALE AND FEMALE CHANGING ROOMS AND TOILET FACILITIES, A REFRESHMENT KIOSK AND AN OFFICE, A PARKING AREA FOR 10 CARS AND A SUNKEN GARDEN WITH FOUNTAINS.+

WORK IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN AT THE END OF MAY AND BE COMPLETED EARLY NEXT YEAR.

THE PROJECT IS MAINLY FINANCED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 1979

- 12 -

### NEW ERA IN SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

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HONG KONG IS ENTERING A NEW ERA OF SPORTS DEVELOPMENT THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR JACK CATER, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) AT A CEREMONY TO MARK THE CONCLUSION OF THE ANNUAL INTER-SCHOOL ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS AT WAN CHAI SPORTS GROUND.

THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR. KENNETH TOPLEY TOLD HIM THIS WAS ONE OF THE LARGEST SCHOOLS ATHLETIC MEETS IN THE ENTIRE WORLD AND, +IN ITSELF THAT IS A PRETTY AMAZING AND WONDERFUL ACHIEVEMENT+, SIR JACK NOTED.

THE CHIEF SECRETARY WENT ON: +MUCH HAS BEEN ACHIEVED, TOO, BY THE SPORTS COMMUNITY OF HONG KONG THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF INDIVIDUAL AND VARIOUS ASSOCIATIONS, INCLUDING OUR WELL-KNOWN AMATEUR SPORTS FEDERATION AND OLYMPIC COMMITTEE OF HONG KONG, AND THE URBAN COUNCIL.

+BUT COMPARATIVELY RECENTLY EVEN MORE EFFORT HAS BEEN PUT INTO DEVELOPING SPORTS AND RECREATION ON A COMMUNITY-WIDE BASIS.

+MUCH MORE MONEY HAS BECOME AVAILABLE FOR COACHING PROMISING ATHLETES, BUILDING FACILITIES AND FOR PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL AND INTERPORT EVENTS.

+I AM GLAD THESE DEVELOPMENTS ARE TAKING PLACE AND I HOPE YOU WILL MAKE FULL USE OF THEM+.

SIR JACK TOLD THE STUDENTS THAT WHEN THEY LEAVE SCHOOL THERE WILL INCREASINGLY BE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THEM TO CONTINUE WITH THEIR CHOSEN SPORTS.

+THE NATIONAL SPORTS BODIES, THE SILVER JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE, THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE AND THE URBAN COUNCIL ARE ALL WORKING IN THE SAME DIRECTION -- TO MAKE SURE THAT THE OPPORTUNITIES GIVEN TO YOU IN YOUR EARLY SCHOOL DAYS BY THE TWO SCHOOLS' SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS AND THE SCHOOLS' SPORTS COUNCIL, WILL CONTINUE,+ HE ADDED.

REFERRING TO THE STADIUM'S MAGNIFICENT NEW TRACK -- THE FIRST IN HONG KONG BUILT TO FULL INTERNATIONAL SPECIFICATIONS, SIR JACK SAID OTHER FACILITIES WILL BE AVAILABLE SOON AND HOPED THAT YOUNG PEOPLE WILL MAKE THE GREATEST POSSIBLE USE OF THEM FOR THEIR ENJOYMENT, IMPROVEMENT AND GENERAL GOOD HEALTH.

SPEAKING AT THE SAME CEREMONY, MR. TOPLEY, WHO IS ALSO THE PRESIDENT OF THE HONG KONG SCHOOLS SPORTS ASSOCIATION, THANKED VARIOUS VOLUNTEERS, THE URBAN COUNCIL AND THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT FOR MAKING THE MEETING A SUCCESS.

HE SAID ABOUT 30,000 PARTICIPANTS FROM MORE THAN 120 SCHOOLS HAD TAKEN PART IN THE 15-DAY ATHLETIC MEETING.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 1979

- 13 -

SOCCER TOURNAMENT TO PROMOTE  
ARMY-TSUEN WAN COMMUNITY RELATIONS  
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THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ARMY AND THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL BE HOLDING A MINI-SOCCER MARATHON TOURNAMENT AT GALLIPOLI LINES, FANLING, ON SUNDAY.

MORE THAN 400 PLAYERS FROM 24 TEAMS WILL COMPETE FOR THE GURKHA SOCCER CUP 1979 DONATED BY THE ARMY.

AMONG THE TEAMS, 22 ARE FROM VARIOUS SECTORS OF THE TSUEN WAN COMMUNITY, INCLUDING SCHOOLS, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS. THE REMAINING TEAMS ARE REPRESENTING THE 7TH DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S OWN GURKHA RIFLES.

THE TOURNAMENT IS ONE OF A SERIES OF SPORTING COMPETITIONS FOR GURKHA CUPS DESIGNED TO PROMOTE CLOSER CO-OPERATION AND MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE ARMED SERVICES AND THE PEOPLE OF TSUEN WAN.

THESE GOOD-WILL SPORTING EVENTS WERE FIRST STARTED IN NOVEMBER 1976 AND HAVE NOW BECOME A PERMANENT FEATURE IN THE SPORTING CALENDAR OF THE NEW TOWN.

AT THE END OF THE DAY, THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR. DAVID TSUI, THE COMMANDING OFFICER, 7TH DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S OWN GURKHA RIFLES, LIEUTENANT-COLONEL MILES HUNT-DAVIS AND THE CHIEF RECREATION AND SPORT OFFICER, MISS BETTY MAIR, WILL PRESENT THE GURKHA SOCCER CUP AND OTHER PRIZES TO THE WINNING TEAMS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE GURKHA SOCCER CUP TOURNAMENT ON SUNDAY.

THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR. DAVID TSUI, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE PRIZE PRESENTATION AT GALLIPOLI LINES, FANLING AT 4 P.M.

PRESS TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED. A GOVERNMENT VAN, AM 2086, WILL LEAVE KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER, TSIM SHA TSUI, AT 2 P.M. FOR FANLING.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 1979

- 14 -

PRISONS DEPARTMENT'S WALK FOR CHARITY  
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PRISONS DEPARTMENT STAFF AND FAMILIES WILL TAKE PART IN A SPONSORED WALK FOR CHARITY TOMORROW (SATURDAY) STARTING AT 11 A.M. FROM THE TAI LAM TREATMENT CENTRE FOOTBALL GROUND.

THE COMMISSIONER OF PRISONS, MR. T.G. GARNER, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY. THE WALK WILL BE ON A FOUR-MILE CIRCUIT ROUND TAI LAM CHUNG RESERVOIR. THERE WILL ALSO BE A BARBECUE, CHILDREN'S GAMES AND A LUCKY DRAW.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY PERFORMED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF PRISONS, MR. T.G. GARNER AND TO TAKE PART IN A SPONSORED WALK FOR CHARITY TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AT 11 A.M. ROUND TAI LAM CHUNG RESERVOIR.

TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED. THERE WILL BE ONE LEAVING GUARDIAN HOUSE, OI KWAN ROAD, WAN CHAI, AT 9.30 A.M. AND ANOTHER IN KOWLOON WHICH WILL DEPART LAI CHI KOK RECEPTION CENTRE AT 10 A.M.

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TWO RETIRE FROM E. AND M. OFFICE  
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TWO MEMBERS OF THE ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL OFFICE, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, WILL RETIRE SHORTLY AFTER SERVING IN THE GOVERNMENT FOR A TOTAL OF 46 YEARS.

AT A CEREMONY TODAY (FRIDAY), MR. MICHAEL HUTTON, GOVERNMENT ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEER, PRESENTED THEM WITH RETIREMENT GIFTS ON BEHALF OF THEIR COLLEAGUES.

MR. TO YICK-KWAN, WORKS SUPERVISOR II, JOINED PWD AS AN ARTISAN I IN 1958 AND HAS WORKED IN THE VEHICLE SECTION IN KOWLOON EVER SINCE.

MR. LAW WING-SANG, CLERICAL ASSISTANT, HAS SERVED IN THE DEPARTMENT FOR 25 YEARS. HE FIRST JOINED AS A STORE ATTENDANT IN 1954 AND BECAME OFFICE-WORKSHOP ASSISTANT IN 1959 AND CLERICAL ASSISTANT IN 1969.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 1979

- 15 -

FIRING PRACTICE  
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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE AT HA TSUEN-CASTLE PEAK RANGE ON 17 DAYS NEXT (APRIL) MONTH.

THE PUBLIC ARE REMINDED THAT IT IS DANGEROUS TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN THE RED FLAGS ARE FLYING DURING THE TIME OF FIRING PRACTICE.

THE PRACTICE TIMES ARE:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
APRIL 2 (MONDAY)	8 A.M. - 5 P.M.
APRIL 3 (TUESDAY)	8 A.M. - 5 P.M.
APRIL 4 (WEDNESDAY)	8 A.M. - 4.30 P.M.
APRIL 9 (MONDAY)	8 A.M. - 5 P.M.
APRIL 10 (TUESDAY)	8 A.M. - 5 P.M.
APRIL 11 (WEDNESDAY)	8 A.M. - 5 P.M.
APRIL 12 (THURSDAY)	8 A.M. - 5 P.M.
APRIL 17 (TUESDAY)	8 A.M. - 4.30 P.M.
APRIL 18 (WEDNESDAY)	8 A.M. - 4.30 P.M.
APRIL 19 (THURSDAY)	8 A.M. - 5 P.M.
APRIL 20 (FRIDAY)	8 A.M. - 5 P.M.
APRIL 23 (MONDAY)	8 A.M. - 6 P.M.
APRIL 24 (TUESDAY)	8 A.M. - 6 P.M.
APRIL 25 (WEDNESDAY)	8 A.M. - 10.30 P.M.
APRIL 26 (THURSDAY)	8 A.M. - 4 P.M.
APRIL 27 (FRIDAY)	8 A.M. - 4 P.M.
APRIL 30 (MONDAY)	8 A.M. - 10.30 P.M.

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# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN SUPPLEMENT

Friday, March 23, 1979

EMBARGOED:

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The following item is embargoed  
until 10.30 p.m. today (Friday).

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SPEECH BY THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, G.B.E., K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O,  
AT THE FOURTH ANNUAL DINNER OF THE HONG KONG INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS

"I am most grateful to you for your hospitality. When I arrived, and it seems a long time ago, I gladly accepted your invitation to become Patron of the Engineering Society which has since been transformed into the present statutory Institution.

"I have seen what your profession is doing to change the physical face of Hong Kong. Indeed as a professional group, to our mutual benefit, you do raise more dust to the acre than any other. But it is remarkable how quickly the dust settles.

"One of my early tasks was to open the cross-harbour tunnel. Now, it is hard to remember what Hong Kong was like without it.

"Perhaps in 18 months it will be hard to remember what Hong Kong was like without a Mass Transit Railway, and we will have taken for granted the massive deployment and coordination of the many disciplines of engineering, let alone the financial arrangements, that made it possible. I hope we will forget equally rapidly the inconvenience that its construction created.

/"I must .....

"I must admit to special interest in engineering that helps to solve one of our most basic problems --- lack of land and space for which to build new industries, and new towns to man them in which a better life is possible than in the crowded area around the harbour.

"If ever we have to choose between works for convenience in the old areas on the one hand and the opening up of new areas on the other, I have no doubt our prosperity and our future will depend on our choosing the new.

"So for my part I watch with special interest: the Aberdeen Tunnel and its associated roadworks; the Tsuen Wan/Tuen Mun motorway becoming six-lane; the double tracking and electrification of the Hong Kong section of the Kowloon-Canton Railway, and also the other highways linking the towns of the New Territories, and then with the old urban areas, and above all the massive works of reclamation and construction to which they give access, and which spread out from them to provide new land and new possibilities and elbow room for the future.

"Please do not misunderstand me. I do not imply that engineering is only concerned with the manipulation of mud and rock, concrete and steel. But that is how it all has to start.

"Then comes the part of the engineers who design our machines and our products, who keep our factories in touch with latest technology, and apply them to our own requirements, who constantly push upwards the sophistication and competitiveness of our industry.

"In a recent speech by The Prince of Wales in the United Kingdom he deplored the resistance of industry in the United Kingdom to promoting engineers to managerial positions, and the difficulty of managing well if you do not know the machines you are managing. I have been impressed that this is not the case in Hong Kong.

/"Most of our .....

"Most of our significant factories have engineers at the managerial and policy making level, and I am sure that if Hong Kong is to grow and adapt to the changing world around us, this is essential.

"We have been adapting for a quarter of a century and continue to adapt we must. None know better than ourselves the external pressures to which our industry must respond, pressures often originating thousands of miles away.

"The new modernisation programmes in China must have significance for Hong Kong. Clearly they are welcome to the people of Hong Kong and our attitude to them in principle is totally positive, and many Hong Kong businessmen are already seeking to participate.

"The greater prosperity and productivity of China can only benefit the entire West Pacific region, and give its economic growth yet further impetus. And in the centre of this lies Hong Kong with the many special facilities it has to offer; so I am sure that Hong Kong has a part to play in the modernisation programme.

"Exactly what it is will emerge as the plans take shape. But I think as the programme gathers momentum one of its effects may be to exert upward pressure on the sophistication and technological content of our production..

"There is nothing new about such pressure, it has been exerted on us from so many quarters for many years and we have always managed to respond..

"But this brings me back to engineers, because in this process of development, the part of our engineers and of all disciplines of engineering will be vital; so will the part of the institutions that train them. So the responsibility of the profession will be great.

/"You have .....

"You have reminded me, Mr. President, of your Institution's request for recognition of its corporate membership: that is recognition of it first as a qualification for employment within the Government; secondly for work where Government exercises control over the private sector, and ultimately as the sole qualification recognised for Hong Kong engineers.

"These are ambitious targets and before they can be achieved the Government will need to be satisfied that the Institution is geared to ensure that the training and admission of candidates meet the highest international standards, and also that, should the need arise, the strength and will to exercise discipline and maintain those standards throughout your practising membership exist.

"These decisions, once taken, cannot easily be reversed so do please be understanding if we seem to be moving towards them with caution. But, having said this, I do not foresee a long delay before the first stage of recognition is granted.

"The Institution has achieved much during the year. It is good to know that you have successfully negotiated the merger with the Hong Kong Branch of the Institution of Structural Engineers.

"It strengthens your profession, but it is also easier for the Government to deal with a profession that is united.

"I am glad to hear how your contacts are developing farther afield: strengthening the ties you have with institutions in other Commonwealth countries, running a successful international conference here; and reopening professional contacts through engineering tours of China.

"All this augurs well for the future. I wish you well and know that you will not fail Hong Kong."