



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1985

CONTENTS

PAGE NO.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING:

LEGCO'S MOVE TO NEW HOME SYMBOLIC --- GOVERNOR	1
+NEW HOME HIGHLIGHTS WORK OF LEGISLATURE+ -- SIR S.Y.	2
+FIRST STEP TO ELECTED LEGISLATURE+	3
OUTGOING LEGCO MEMBERS THANKED FOR PUBLIC SERVICE	3
CONTINUITY SOUGHT FROM NEW LEGCO - DUNN	6
+STEADY PROGRESS, STABILITY+ STRESSED BY GOVERNOR	7
NEW LEGCO AT APEX OF THREE-LEVEL GOVERNMENT	9
CONSULTATIVE PAPER ON REDRESS SYSTEM READY BY END OF YEAR	10
FIRST BILINGUAL LAW FOR NEXT SESSION	11
GDP GROWTH RATE 'STILL SATISFACTORY'	12
BALANCED BUDGET EXPECTED	13
PROPOSALS ON BETTER BANKING CONTROL SOON READY	14
NO LET-UP IN ANTI-PROTECTIONIST EFFORT	15
ENCOURAGING SIGNS FOR PASSPORT	16
GOVERNMENT TO PLAN FOR THIRD UNIVERSITY	19
GOVT MEETS COSTS OF SUBVENTED HOSPITALS' WORKS	21
RECORD PUBLIC HOUSING FLATS PRODUCED THIS YEAR	22

/VIEWS ON

VIEWS ON BROADCASTING TO BE FULLY CONSIDERED	23
LAND CORPORATION PLANNED FOR NEW HOUSING	23
EASTERN HARBOUR CROSSING WORK SET FOR EARLY '86	25
CCB LAUNCHING BIG OFFENSIVE	27
MAJOR DIPLOMATIC EFFORT TO REDUCE VR POPULATION	28
+LOCALISATION CONTINUES TO BEAR FRUIT+	29
PAROLE SCHEME TO BE SET UP	30
25 NEW LEGCO MEMBERS SWORN IN	31
'IMAGINATIVE, EXCITING PROJECTS SHOW CONFIDENCE'	33
STATE MINISTER BRIEFED ON TAI PO DEVELOPMENT	33
MP'S VISIT ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS	34
DANGEROUS STAIRCASE TO BE DEMOLISHED	36
BOARD TO DISCUSS OUTLINE ZONING PLAN	36
JOINT SPORTS FESTIVAL FOR TSUEN WAN, KWAI CHUNG	37
WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD ON STUDY TOUR	38
SOUVENIR PRESENTATION	38
URBAN CLEARWAYS SET UP IN CENTRAL	39
RESTRICTED ZONES IN TSUEN WAN	39

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1985

- 1 -

LEGCO'S MOVE TO NEW HOME SYMBOLIC -- GOVERNOR
* * * * *

THE MOVE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO ITS OWN BUILDING, SEPARATE FROM THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, SYMBOLISED THE DISTINCTIVE ROLE OF THE LEGISLATURE IN HONG KONG'S GOVERNMENTAL SYSTEM, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

IT WAS A DAY OF PARTICULAR SIGNIFICANCE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT IN HONG KONG, HE SAID.

SPEAKING AT THE UNVEILING CEREMONY FOR THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BUILDING, SIR EDWARD SAID THAT FOR THE FIRST TIME THE COUNCIL WOULD HAVE A HOME OF ITS OWN, WHICH BROUGHT TOGETHER UNDER ONE ROOF THE CHAMBER, THE OFFICES OF THE COUNCIL AND OF THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS.

+NEARLY 74 YEARS AGO TODAY, MY DISTINGUISHED PREDECESSOR, LORD LUGARD, STOOD ON THIS SPOT AND DECLARED THIS BUILDING OPEN.

+THIS BUILDING HAS SEEN THE STEADY GROWTH OF A LEGAL SYSTEM, FROM ONE APPROPRIATE TO A SMALL COLONY, TO ONE ABLE TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF A MODERN, INTERNATIONALLY ORIENTED ECONOMY, AND INCREASINGLY PROSPEROUS AND MATURE COMMUNITY,+ HE SAID.

NOW, HE ADDED, IT WAS TO SERVE A NEW AND SIMILARLY IMPORTANT PURPOSE. AFTER MANY YEARS OF SERVICE AS THE HOME OF THE SUPREME COURT, IT WAS TO PROVIDE A FITTING NEW HOME FOR THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SIR EDWARD SAID THAT IMPORTANT PAGES OF HISTORY HAD BEEN WRITTEN IN THE OLD CHAMBER.

+IT WAS THERE THAT THE LEGISLATURE GREW TO ITS PRESENT FORM AS A BODY IN WHICH ONLY 10 OF ITS 56 MEMBERS ARE TODAY OFFICIALS AND 24 OF ITS MEMBERS ARE ELECTED.

+IT WAS THERE THAT THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG WAS ANNOUNCED.

+I AM SURE THAT THIS NEW BUILDING WILL BE WITNESS TO EQUALLY HISTORIC DEVELOPMENTS,+ HE SAID.

THE GOVERNOR THEN THANKED AND CONGRATULATED THOSE WHO HAD PLAYED A PART IN BRINGING THE SUCCESSFUL PROJECT TO FRUITION, TO MEMBERS OF THE FORMER COUNCIL WHO HAD CONTRIBUTED THEIR TIME AND ADVICE TO THE PLANNING, TO THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE AND THE CONTRACTOR WHO COMPLETED IT ON TIME.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/2

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1985

- 2 -

+NEW HOME HIGHLIGHTS WORK OF LEGISLATURE+ -- SIR S.Y.

THE NEW LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BUILDING STANDS IN THE HEART OF HONG KONG'S FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRE AND THIS WILL HIGHLIGHT THE CONTINUING AND IMPORTANT FUNCTIONS OF THE LEGISLATURE IN PROMOTING THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL LIFE OF HONG KONG.

SENIOR MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, SIR S.Y. CHUNG, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) AT THE UNVEILING CEREMONY OF THE BUILDING.

HE SAID NOT ONLY THE APPEARANCE OF THE BUILDING WAS ARCHITECTURALLY BEAUTIFUL AND DIGNIFIED, THE LOCATION WAS IDEAL FOR ITS NEW ROLE.

HE NOTED ONE OF THE ESSENTIAL INGREDIENTS FOR HONG KONG'S PROSPERITY AND STABILITY WAS THE RULE OF LAW AND FOR NEARLY THREE QUARTERS OF A CENTURY, THE BUILDING HAD BEEN PART OF THE HONG KONG SYSTEM OF LAW AS HOME OF THE SUPREME COURT.

+NOW IT WILL CONTINUE TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH THE SYSTEM OF LAW BUT AS HOME OF THE LEGISLATURE.

+THE PEOPLE WORKING IN IT WILL CHANGE FROM THOSE ADJUDICATING THE LAW TO THOSE MAKING THE LAWS,+ SIR S.Y. SAID.

HE ALSO SAID THAT THE UNOFFICIALS WERE VERY GRATIFIED INDEED WITH THE PROVISION OF THEIR OWN HEADQUARTERS IN THIS MAGNIFICENT AND HISTORIC BUILDING.

SIR S.Y. RECALLED THAT THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF BOTH THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS ESTABLISHED THEIR UMELCO OFFICE IN 1963 WITH A VIEW TO FOSTERING THE RELATIONSHIP AMONG THEMSELVES AND, MORE IMPORTANTLY, IMPROVING THE EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THEIR SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY.

WITH A VERY MODEST START OF A FEW PEOPLE, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE UMELCO OFFICE HAD GROWN SIGNIFICANTLY, PARTICULARLY OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS, TO 134 TODAY, HE SAID.

CONCLUDING, SIR S.Y. SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO ASSOCIATE HIMSELF WITH THE THANKS AND CONGRATULATIONS EXPRESSED BY THE GOVERNOR TO ALL THOSE CONTRIBUTING TO THE SUCCESS OF THIS PROJECT.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/3

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1985

- 3 -

+FIRST STEP TO ELECTED LEGISLATURE+
* * *

THE ENTRY OF 24 ELECTED LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS MARKED THE FIRST STEP ALONG THE ROAD TO AN ELECTED LEGISLATURE, THE HON LYDIA DUNN, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE NEW SENIOR LEGCO MEMBER WAS SPEAKING AT THE UNVEILING CEREMONY OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BUILDING.

MISS DUNN SAID SHE HOPED THAT THE WISDOM AND DIGNITY WITH WHICH JUSTICE HAD BEEN DISPENSED UNDER THESE STONES AND TIMBERS IN THE PAST WOULD INSPIRE ALL THOSE WHO WOULD SERVE HERE AS MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN THE FUTURE.

+I HOPE TOO THAT WE SHALL FIND UNITY IN OUR DIVERSITY.

+THE ENERGY AND DIVERSITY OF HONG KONG'S PEOPLE HAS BROUGHT US PHENOMENAL ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL SUCCESS.

BUT AT THIS TIME OF OUR HISTORY, WE MUST CONTINUE TO DRAW UNITY FROM THAT DIVERSITY, BECAUSE BOTH ARE ESSENTIAL TO HONG KONG'S PROSPERITY AND STABILITY,+ SHE SAID.

+AS WE EMBARK UPON THE HISTORIC TRANSITION FROM BRITISH DEPENDENT TERRITORY TO CHINESE SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION, LET US REMEMBER BOTH THE WORDS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT: 'IF A HOUSE BE DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF, THAT HOUSE CANNOT STAND ...',+ MISS DUNN ADDED.

SHE ALSO CITED THE WORDS OF THE FAMOUS CHINESE HISTORIAN, ZUO QIUMING, THAT +UNITY IS STRENGTH+.

- - - - 0 - - - -

OUTGOING LEGCO MEMBERS THANKED FOR PUBLIC SERVICE
* * * *

NINE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS RETIRING FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, AND SIX OFFICIAL MEMBERS LEAVING THE COUNCIL BECAUSE OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS WERE THANKED TODAY BY THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, FOR THEIR SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC.

IN HIS VALEDICTORIES TO THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS, SIR EDWARD SAID THAT HE WAS HAPPY, HOWEVER, THAT THEY WERE PRESENT IN THE CHAMBER +TO RECEIVE WARM TRIBUTES DUE TO THEM ALL FOR THEIR NOTABLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE WORK OF THIS COUNCIL.+

THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS WERE: SIR ROGER LOBO, DR HARRY FANG, MR FRANCIS TIEN, MR ALEX WU, MR WONG LAM, MR ANDREW SO, MR BILL BROWN, MR KEITH LAM AND MR CARL TONG.

/THEY HAD

THEY HAD BETWEEN THEM +CONTRIBUTED 68 YEARS OF SERVICE, WITH A RANGE AND DEPTH OF EXPERIENCE WHICH BY ANY STANDARDS IS REMARKABLE,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

HIS VALEDICTORY REMARKS COULD NOT DO THEM FULL JUSTICE, SIR EDWARD SAID, BUT THEIR NAMES WOULD BE RECORDED IN THE HISTORY OF THE COUNCIL DURING THE PERIOD WHEN HONG KONG'S DESTINY WAS BEING SHAPED.

+HONG KONG OWES THEM MUCH,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

SIR ROGER LOBO, SIR EDWARD SAID, HAD JOINED THE COUNCIL 13 YEARS AGO, AND SERVED IN THE LAST FOUR YEARS AS SENIOR AMONG THE APPOINTED MEMBERS.

+THE SKILL AND TACT WITH WHICH HE HAS GUIDED HIS COLLEAGUES HAS BEEN MATCHED ONLY BY HIS CONSISTENT CONCERN FOR THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG,+ THE GOVERNOR SAID.

DR HARRY FANG, WHO HAD SERVED 11 YEARS, HAD BEEN A SOURCE OF WISE COUNSEL IN THE IMPORTANT AREAS OF MEDICINE AND SOCIAL WELFARE.

+HE WILL BE REMEMBERED ABOVE ALL FOR HIS OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION IN THE FIELD OF REHABILITATION AND IN PROMOTING THE WELFARE OF THE DISABLED,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

SPEAKING OF MR FRANCIS TIEN, WHO HAD JOINED THE COUNCIL IN 1974, THE GOVERNOR SAID HIS STAUNCH ADVOCACY OF FREE TRADE AND THE SPIRIT OF ENTERPRISE WHICH WERE THE LIFE BLOOD OF HONG KONG'S ECONOMY WERE REFLECTED IN THE SUCCESS STORY OF HONG KONG'S INDUSTRY AND TRADE.

+HONOURABLE MEMBERS WILL ALSO MISS THE LITERARY ALLUSIONS WHICH HAVE ENLIVENED HIS SPEECHES,+ THE GOVERNOR SAID.

MR ALEX WU, WHO HAD SERVED 10 YEARS, HAD SEEN THE TRANSFORMATION OF HONG KONG'S CULTURAL LIFE, THE GOVERNOR SAID.

+AND NOT ONLY SEEN IT; FOR IT IS IN NO SMALL MEASURE DUE TO HIS CONSIDERABLE EFFORTS INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE COUNCIL,+ HE ADDED.

+THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS UNDER HIS LEADERSHIP, AND HIS ABLE ADVOCACY IN PROMOTING THE CHINESE LANGUAGE WOULD BE HIS MONUMENT,+ THE GOVERNOR SAID.

MR WONG LAM, SIR EDWARD SAID, WAS ANOTHER PROPONENT OF THE CHINESE LANGUAGE WHO HAD DONE MUCH TO PROMOTE ITS USE IN THE COUNCIL.

AS A MEMBER FOR NINE YEARS, MR LAM COULD REFLECT WITH JUSTIFIABLE PRIDE ON HIS MANY ACHIEVEMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE WORKING PEOPLE OF HONG KONG, AND ON HIS QUIET BUT DETERMINED GUARDIANSHIP OF THEIR INTERESTS.

MR ANDREW SO'S WIDE RANGE OF INTERESTS AND OF PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS HAD PROVIDED HIM WITH A DEPTH OF KNOWLEDGE AND BREADTH OF VISION WHICH HAD BEEN INVALUABLE DURING HIS SEVEN YEARS IN THE COUNCIL.

+MEMBERS WILL RECALL, TOO, THE MANY OCCASIONS ON WHICH HIS WIT AND ALLEGORY HAVE ENRICHED OUR DEBATES,+ SIR EDWARD ADDED.

SPEAKING OF MR BILL BROWN, THE GOVERNOR SAID HIS PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS WERE NUMEROUS AND EXACTING, +EVEN BY THE STANDARDS OF HIS COLLEAGUES.+

HIS FINANCIAL BACKGROUND HAD BEEN OF PARTICULAR VALUE. +THE AMOUNT OF TIME HE HAS GIVEN IN HIS FIVE YEARS AS A MEMBER IS WELL MATCHED BY HIS ANALYTICAL AND COMMONSENSE APPROACH, AND HIS STEADY ADVANCEMENT OF THE INTERESTS OF HONG KONG, BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THIS COUNCIL,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

MR KEITH LAM AND MR CARL TONG BELONGED TO THE LATEST GENERATION OF COMMUNITY LEADERS ON THE DISTRICT BOARDS.

+IN THEIR SHORT TIME ON THE COUNCIL, THEY SHOWED THEMSELVES TO BE KEENLY INTERESTED IN THE WELFARE OF THE COMMUNITY.

+THEY WILL, I TRUST, CONTINUE THEIR PUBLIC SERVICE IN OTHER SPHERES,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

SPEAKING OF THE OFFICIAL MEMBERS, THE GOVERNOR SAID THAT VALEDICTORIES WERE NOT NORMALLY ACCORDED TO THEM, UNLESS THEY WERE ALSO RETIRING FROM PUBLIC OFFICE.

+HOWEVER, SIX MEMBERS ARE LEAVING THIS COUNCIL NOT AS PART OF THE NORMAL PATTERN BUT BECAUSE OF OUR CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS WHICH HAVE SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCED THE NUMBER OF OFFICIAL PLACES.

+THESE ARE THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, THE SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND INFORMATION, THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR AND THE DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES.

+THEY AND THEIR PREDECESSORS HAVE CONTRIBUTED GREATLY TO THE WORK OF THE COUNCIL,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

WARMEST THANKS WERE DUE TO THEM TOO FOR WHAT THEY HAD DONE.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1985

- 6 -

CONTINUITY SOUGHT FROM NEW LEGCO - DUNN
* * * *

THE 1985 LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BREAKS NEW GROUND YET THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG LOOK TO IT TO PROVIDE THE CONTINUITY SO NECESSARY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE PROSPERITY AND STABILITY OF OUR SOCIETY, SENIOR LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBER, THE HON LYDIA DUNN, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

IN DELIVERING VALEDICTORIES TO OUTGOING MEMBERS, SHE SAID, +MORE MEMBERS HAVE LEFT US TODAY AND MORE MEMBERS HAVE JOINED US TODAY THAN EVER BEFORE IN THE HISTORY OF THIS COUNCIL.

+YET IT IS CONTINUITY ABOVE ALL, THAT THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG EXPECT FROM US.+

SHE POINTED OUT THAT THE PROCESS OF TRANSFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL FROM ITS FORMER PATTERN HAD LED TO THE DEPARTURE OF SIX OFFICIAL MEMBERS.

SHE SAID THE CHANGES WERE INEVITABLE AND INDICATED A CHANGING ROLE FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE.

+I AM SURE THAT THOSE WHO ONCE SAT HERE WILL STILL BE SEEN ADVISING US IN COMMITTEE AND INFORMALLY AS MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL BECOME MORE INVOLVED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF POLICY AND THE PREPARATION OF LEGISLATION,+ MISS DUNN SAID.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RETIRING UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS, MISS DUNN NOTED THAT SIR ROGER LOBO, HER PREDECESSOR, HAD JOINED THE COUNCIL IN 1972 AND HAD BEEN THE SENIOR MEMBER SINCE 1981.

SHE SAID IT WAS DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG THAT SIR ROGER'S LEADERSHIP CAME TO PROMINENCE.

+THE NEGOTIATIONS WERE SECRET YET EVERY MOVE WAS KNOWN TO EXECUTIVE COUNCIL. NOTHING COULD BE SAID YET THE STRENGTH OF FEELING ON THE ISSUES AT STAKE HAD TO BE ASSESSED. AND THESE ISSUES AFFECTED THE WHOLE LIVELIHOOD OF HONG KONG.

+THIS WAS A HARROWING TIME FOR ANYONE ON EXECUTIVE COUNCIL BUT FOR THE LEADER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, WHICH WAS NOT PRIVY TO THE TALKS, IT MUST HAVE BEEN PARTICULARLY DELICATE,+ SHE SAID.

ALTHOUGH HONG KONG ITSELF HAD NO STATUS IN THE TALKS, AND THERE WAS NOTHING THIS COUNCIL COULD DO CONSTITUTIONALLY ABOUT EITHER THE TALKS OR THE OUTCOME, SIR ROGER MOVED THE FAMOUS +LOBO MOTION+ EXPRESSING THE VIEW THAT +THIS COUNCIL DEEMS IT ESSENTIAL THAT ANY PROPOSALS FOR THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG SHOULD BE DEBATED IN THIS COUNCIL BEFORE ANY FINAL AGREEMENT IS REACHED+, MISS DUNN ADDED.

/+IN THAT

- 7 -

+IN THAT DEBATE, AND IN THOSE THAT FOLLOWED IT, I BELIEVE THIS COUNCIL GAVE VOICE TO THE REAL FEELINGS AND WISHES OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG,+ SHE SAID.

SHE SAID THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS HAD THRUST GREATNESS ON SIR ROGER WHO ROSE SPLENDIDLY TO THE OCCASION, BUT EVEN BEFORE THAT HE HAD MADE A PLACE FOR HIMSELF AMONG THOSE IN, TO USE A PHRASE HE COINED, THE SANDWICH SOCIETY.

+HIS PLEA FOR CARE NOT TO ASK FOR TOO MUCH STRUCK A STRONG CHORD OF SYMPATHY.

+SO TOO DID HIS VERY HUMAN CALL TO AVOID PROPOSALS WHICH CREATED 'TOO WIDE A GAP BETWEEN WHAT IS STATISTICALLY SATISFACTORY AND WHAT IS PERSONALLY SATISFYING'.

+THE COUNCIL WILL MISS HIS PERSONAL TOUCH AND CHARACTERISTIC CHEERFULNESS,+ MISS DUNN SAID.

SHE ALSO PAID TRIBUTE TO MR BILL BROWN, MR ANDREW SO, MR WONG LAM, MR ALEX WU, MR FRANCIS TIEN, DR HARRY FANG, MR KEITH LAM AND MR CARL TONG. MENTIONING THE CONTRIBUTIONS EACH MADE TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SHE CONCLUDED BY SAYING ALL THESE MEN HAD SERVED HONG KONG WELL IN THE COUNCIL.

+THE CONTRIBUTION OF INDIVIDUALS TO CONSENSUS CANNOT BE MEASURED BUT WITHOUT THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF INDIVIDUALS THERE CAN BE NO CONSENSUS.

+THERE HAVE BEEN MANY OCCASIONS WHEN DIFFERENCES OF VIEW AMONG US AT THE OUTSET HAVE GIVEN WAY THROUGH PATIENT DISCUSSION TO YIELD CONSENSUS,+ SHE SAID.

+THIS MAY NOT BE AS EXCITING AS THE FIREWORKS OF FIERCE DEBATE AND CONFRONTATIONAL VOTING, BUT IT IS SURELY A BETTER WAY TO RUN A GOVERNMENT,+ SHE ADDED.

----- 0 -----

+STEADY PROGRESS, STABILITY+ STRESSED BY GOVERNOR

THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO PROMOTE +STEADY PROGRESS COMBINED WITH STABILITY AND TO CONTINUE THE IMPROVEMENT IN THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN HONG KONG,+ THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID TODAY IN HIS ADDRESS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

+WE SHALL CONTINUE TO FORMULATE AND EXECUTE POLICIES WHICH WILL FULFIL THIS PURPOSE. WE SHALL CONTINUE TO SEEK OUT AND RESPOND TO THE PUBLIC WILL,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

/STATING THAT

STATING THAT THE OPENING OF THE 1985-86 SESSION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, WHICH BEGAN TODAY IN ITS NEW CHAMBER, MARKED ANOTHER STEP IN THE EVOLUTION OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT IN HONG KONG, SIR EDWARD ADDED:

+IN THIS FAST DEVELOPING WORLD, ALL SOCIETIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE= AND THEIR INSTITUTIONS MUST ADAPT TO MEET THE CHANGING REQUIREMENTS OF THE SOCIETIES WHICH ESTABLISHED THEM.

+AT THE SAME TIME, FULL WEIGHT MUST BE GIVEN TO THE NEED FOR STABILITY. HONG KONG IS SUCCESSFUL ECONOMICALLY AND SOCIALLY BECAUSE IT IS A STABLE SOCIETY.

+PROGRESS AND STABILITY MUST GO HAND IN HAND.+

THE GOVERNOR SAID HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT MEMBERS OF THE NEW, ENLARGED LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, WHICH FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HONG KONG'S HISTORY, HAD AN IMPORTANT PART OF ITS MEMBERSHIP CHOSEN BY INDIRECT ELECTION, WOULD RECOGNISE THAT, WHEN IN THE CHAMBER THEY WERE ALL PART OF ONE COUNCIL.

+EACH MEMBER MAY HAVE HIS OR HER INDIVIDUAL ALLEGIANCE BUT ALL OF US HAVE A COMMON RESPONSIBILITY TO THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

THE POLICIES ENDORSED AND THE LEGISLATION PASSED WOULD AFFECT THE DAILY LIVES, NOT ONLY OF THOSE SECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY WHICH INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS MIGHT REPRESENT, BUT OF EVERYONE IN HONG KONG.

+WHILE I EXPECT ISSUES TO BE VIGOROUSLY DEBATED IN THIS CHAMBER, IT WILL BE INCUMBENT ON US ALL NEVER TO LOSE SIGHT OF THAT COMMON RESPONSIBILITY,+ THE GOVERNOR SAID.

REFERRING TO THE EVOLUTION OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT, SIR EDWARD SAID THAT THE URBAN COUNCIL HAD HAD ELECTED MEMBERS FOR MANY YEARS, AND DISTRICT BOARDS FIRST HAD A PROPORTION OF THEIR MEMBERSHIP ELECTED IN 1982, AND HAD SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASED THIS NUMBER EARLIER THIS YEAR. AND ELECTIONS FOR THE NEW REGIONAL COUNCIL WOULD BE HELD IN MARCH NEXT YEAR.

SIR EDWARD SAID HE HAD NO DOUBT THAT THE NEW LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WOULD BE ADOPTING +ITS OWN DISTINCTIVE WORKING STYLE+.

+IN DOING SO,+ HE ADDED, +IT INHERITS A SUCCESSFUL PATTERN ON WHICH TO BUILD.+

COUNCIL MEMBERS HAD, OVER THE YEARS, BUILT UP A +REMARKABLE RECORD+ AS SPOKESMEN FOR THE COMMUNITY ON VITAL ISSUES.

+THEY HAVE SCRUTINISED AND PASSED AN IMPRESSIVE BODY OF LAW, WHICH HAS PROVIDED THE FRAMEWORK WITHIN WHICH HONG KONG HAS BEEN ABLE TO GROW INTO THE SUCCESSFUL SOCIETY IT IS TODAY.

/+THAT SOCIETY

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1985

- 9 -

+THAT SOCIETY HAS EVOLVED AS A RESULT OF A CONSTANT CONSULTATIVE PROCESS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT, THE LEGISLATURE AND THE COMMUNITY.

+THIS CONSULTATIVE PROCESS HAS BEEN A CARDINAL ELEMENT IN HONG KONG'S SUCCESS.

+THE GOVERNMENT FIRMLY INTENDS THAT IT SHOULD BE CONTINUED AND STRENGTHENED,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

THE FUNCTIONING OF THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS OVER THE NEXT 18 MONTHS, THE GOVERNOR SAID, WOULD BE MONITORED BEFORE STOCK IS TAKEN AGAIN IN THE 1987 REVIEW.

THE REFORMS OF 1985 WERE BASED ON INSTITUTIONS WHICH HAD SERVED HONG KONG WELL AND PRESERVED THE BEST FEATURES OF THESE INSTITUTIONS.

IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT HONG KONG SHOULD BUILD A GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE AT THE CENTRAL LEVEL WHICH WAS APPROPRIATE TO ITS OWN NEEDS AND IN HARMONY WITH ITS OWN TRADITIONS.

SIR EDWARD SAID THAT THE 1987 REVIEW WOULD HAVE TO DEAL WITH, AMONG OTHER MATTERS, THE FOLLOWING ISSUES:

- * WHETHER THERE SHOULD BE FURTHER CHANGES IN THE COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL,
- * WHETHER THERE SHOULD BE DIRECT ELECTIONS,
- * WHAT SHOULD BE THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS.

+I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT, EVEN BEFORE THE REVIEW, THERE WILL BE MUCH PUBLIC DISCUSSION ON THESE SUBJECTS,+ HE SAID.

-----0-----

NEW LEGCO AT APEX OF THREE-LEVEL GOVERNMENT *****

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN ITS NEW FORMAT WAS AT THE APEX OF THE THREE LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT, MADE UP ALSO OF THE URBAN AND REGIONAL COUNCILS AND THE DISTRICT BOARDS, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID TODAY.

IN CONSTRUCTING THIS FRAMEWORK, GREAT CARE HAD BEEN TAKEN TO ESTABLISH CLOSE LINKS BETWEEN THE THREE LEVELS, HE SAID.

+URBAN COUNCIL MEMBERS SIT ON THE URBAN DISTRICT BOARDS. THERE WILL BE REGIONAL DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS ON THE REGIONAL COUNCIL. MEMBERS OF DISTRICT BOARDS AND OF BOTH SECOND LEVEL COUNCILS SIT IN THE CHAMBER,+ SIR EDWARD POINTED OUT.

/TO COMPLETE

TO COMPLETE THE PATTERN, THERE WERE REPRESENTATIVES IN THE CHAMBER OF ALL THE MAJOR FUNCTIONAL ORGANISATIONS AND SECTORS OF OUR SOCIETY.

+THE SYSTEM AS A WHOLE IS THUS BOTH REPRESENTATIVE AND CLOSELY KNIT,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

DESCRIBING FURTHER THE STRUCTURE OF THE GOVERNMENT, SIR EDWARD SAID THAT THERE HAD, IN 1985, BEEN MAJOR PROGRESS IN THE DISTRICT BOARDS.

AT THE ELECTIONS OF MARCH 7, THE NUMBER OF BOARD MEMBERS DIRECTLY ELECTED INCREASED FROM 132 TO 237. IN ADDITION, 132 MEMBERS HAD BEEN APPOINTED FROM A WIDE CROSS-SECTION OF THE COMMUNITY.

THIS COMPOSITION ENHANCED THE REPRESENTATIVE NATURE OF THE BOARDS AND ENSURED CONTINUITY OF PROVEN EXPERIENCE, HE SAID.

+THE RECONSTITUTED BOARDS HAVE DEMONSTRATED THEIR EFFECTIVENESS IN IMPROVING THE ENVIRONMENT OF THEIR DISTRICTS, AND IN REFLECTING THE VIEWS OF LOCAL RESIDENTS ON LOCAL ISSUES,+ HE SAID.

REFERRING TO THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL, CONSTITUTED IN APRIL THIS YEAR TO PREPARE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FULL REGIONAL COUNCIL IN APRIL 1, 1986, HE SAID IT HAD SET ABOUT ITS TASK WITH VIGOUR.

LIKE ITS URBAN COUNTERPART, THE NEW COUNCIL WOULD BE FINANCIALLY AUTONOMOUS AND WOULD DERIVE MOST OF ITS REVENUE FROM THE RATES. IT WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL ASPECTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, RECREATION AND CULTURE, OUTSIDE THE MAIN URBAN AREA.

MANY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL, AS OF THE URBAN COUNCIL, WOULD BE DIRECTLY ELECTED.

+I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE REGIONAL COUNCIL WILL ACHIEVE THE SAME SUCCESS AS THE LONG-ESTABLISHED URBAN COUNCIL IN CARRYING OUT THIS IMPORTANT WORK,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

CONSULTATIVE PAPER ON REDRESS SYSTEM READY BY END OF YEAR
* * * * *

MORE WORK REMAINS TO BE DONE ON THE REVIEW OF THE EFFICACY OF EXISTING AVENUES OF REDRESS, BUT BY THE END OF THIS YEAR, A CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT SHOULD BE READY FOR PUBLICATION, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

IN HIS ANNUAL ADDRESS AT THE NEW SESSION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, SIR EDWARD POINTED OUT THAT THE DOCUMENT WOULD OUTLINE THE PRESENT SITUATION AND SET OUT OPTIONS FOR BUILDING ON PRESENT SYSTEMS.

/+IT WILL

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1985

- 11 -

+IT WILL INCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY OF SOME SORT OF INSTITUTION TO ENQUIRE, ON AN INDEPENDENT BASIS, INTO COMPLAINTS ALLEGING MALADMINISTRATION BY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

+THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS WIDE PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON ANY POSSIBLE CHANGES, SO THAT THE VIEWS OF THE COMMUNITY, BOTH ON THE PRINCIPLES AND THE DETAILS OF ANY PROPOSALS, CAN BE FULLY TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.

+IF THERE IS GENERAL SUPPORT FOR CHANGE, DRAFT LEGISLATION SHOULD BE READY FOR SUBMISSION TO THIS COUNCIL BEFORE THE END OF THIS SESSION,+ THE GOVERNOR SAID.

SIR EDWARD SAID THE REVIEW OF THE EFFICACY OF EXISTING AVENUES OF REDRESS WAS CONDUCTED BY UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS AND BY THE GOVERNMENT IN VIEW OF THE NEW COMPOSITION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF MORE REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT.

HE STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE UMELCO IN DEALING WITH COMPLAINTS BY THE PUBLIC AND POINTED OUT THAT THIS CRUCIAL FUNCTION WOULD CONTINUE, UNIMPAIRED BY THE INTRODUCTION OF ANY NEW INSTITUTION.

+THE LARGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE MADE REPRESENTATIONS TO THEM OVER THE YEARS PROVIDES PROOF OF PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN THEM.

+THAT FUNCTION IS CRUCIAL. IT WILL CONTINUE, UNIMPAIRED BY THE INTRODUCTION OF ANY NEW INSTITUTION.

+IF SUCH AN INSTITUTION IS CREATED, IT IS LIKELY TO BE A SUPPLEMENT TO EXISTING CHANNELS FOR THE REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES, RATHER THAN A REPLACEMENT,+ SIR EDWARD EMPHASISED.

EARLIER, THE GOVERNOR GAVE A BRIEF RUN-DOWN ON THE VERY WIDE RANGE OF INSTITUTIONS AND PROCEDURES FOR THOSE WHO SEEK REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES, OR THOSE WHO WISH TO COMPLAIN ABOUT THE ACTIONS OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES.

- - - - 0 - - - -

FIRST BILINGUAL LAW FOR NEXT SESSION * * * *

IT IS HOPED THAT THE FIRST PIECE OF NEW LEGISLATION IN BOTH LANGUAGES WILL BE PRODUCED IN THE 1986-87 SESSION, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

+IT IS ALSO THE GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO MAKE A START, IN DUE COURSE, ON PRODUCING AN AUTHENTIC CHINESE VERSION OF THE EXISTING STATUTE LAW,+ HE ADDED.

/THIS FOLLOWED

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1985

- 12 -

THIS FOLLOWED A DECISION BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IN JULY THIS YEAR THAT AN AUTHENTIC CHINESE VERSION OF THE STATUTE LAW OF HONG KONG SHOULD BE PRODUCED.

SIR EDWARD POINTED OUT THAT AS ALL MAJOR DECISIONS IN OUR SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT WERE TAKEN WITHIN, OR WERE INCORPORATED INTO, OUR STATUTES AND ORDINANCES, IT WAS RIGHT THAT LAWS SHOULD BE AVAILABLE IN THE LANGUAGE OF THE MAJORITY OF THE POPULATION.

HE SAID THAT FOLLOWING THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL'S DECISION, THE SELECTION AND TRAINING OF STAFF HAD BEGUN.

- - - - 0 - - - -

GDP GROWTH RATE 'STILL SATISFACTORY'
* * * *

THE LIKELY GROWTH RATE OF 4.5 TO 5 PER CENT FOR GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT IN 1985, THOUGH LOWER THAN HOPED FOR, WAS STILL SATISFACTORY, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID TODAY.

BUT LOOKING AHEAD TO 1986, THE MOST IMMEDIATE THREAT TO THE PERFORMANCE OF THE ECONOMY LAY IN CALLS FOR FURTHER PROTECTIONIST MEASURES, IN PARTICULAR IN THE UNITED STATES, HE SAID.

AND INSOFAR AS THE HONG KONG CURRENCY WAS CONCERNED THERE HAD BEEN OCCASIONS WHEN THE LINK WITH THE U.S. DOLLAR HAD COME UNDER PRESSURE, BUT THE SYSTEM HAD HELD UP WELL.

+THERE ARE NO PLANS TO CHANGE IT,+ THE GOVERNOR SAID.

REVIEWING THE STATE OF THE ECONOMY AND PROSPECTS, SIR EDWARD SAID THAT THOUGH DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE TRADITIONAL MARKETS HAD DECLINED, EXPORTS TO CHINA HAD CONTINUED TO RECORD SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH.

+CHINA HAS BECOME THE SECOND LARGEST MARKET FOR OUR DOMESTIC EXPORTS. RE-EXPORTS HAVE SHOWN STRONG GROWTH. AS A RESULT, TOTAL EXPORTS FOR 1985 ARE EXPECTED TO GROW BY 11 PER CENT,+ HE SAID.

AND SIGNS OF REVIVAL IN THE PROPERTY MARKET REFLECTED THE RETURN OF CONFIDENCE IN HONG KONG AND THE FACT THAT RENTALS AND PRICES WERE NOW AT MORE REALISTIC LEVELS.

UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT FIGURES HAD REMAINED STABLE. IN THE THREE MONTHS FROM JUNE TO AUGUST, THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE WAS 3.3 PER CENT AND THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE WAS 1.4 PER CENT, INDICATING THAT THE LABOUR FORCE WAS EFFECTIVELY FULLY EMPLOYED.

/THE INFLATION

THE INFLATION RATE, AT ABOUT 3.8 PER CENT DURING THE 12 MONTHS TO SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR, HAD REMAINED RELATIVELY LOW. THIS HAD BEEN DUE IN PART TO MODERATE RATES OF INFLATION IN THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH WERE HONG KONG'S MAJOR TRADING PARTNERS, TO THE EASING OF WORLD COMMODITY PRICES AND TO THE RELATIVE STRENGTH OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR.

THE ECONOMY, SIR EDWARD SAID, REMAINED DEPENDENT ON TRADE AND HENCE VULNERABLE TO EXTERNAL FORCES OUTSIDE HONG KONG'S CONTROL.

CONSUMER DEMAND IN HONG KONG'S EXPORT MARKETS AND THE WILLINGNESS OF OTHER GOVERNMENTS TO ALLOW CONSUMERS FREEDOM OF CHOICE WERE CLEARLY IMPORTANT FACTORS, HE STRESSED.

-----0-----
BALANCED BUDGET EXPECTED
* * * *

+THE RETURN TO A BALANCED BUDGET IS NOW A REALISTIC EXPECTATION,+ THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

DISCUSSING PUBLIC FINANCES, SIR EDWARD EXPLAINED THAT A REVIVAL OF ACTIVITY IN THE PROPERTY MARKET HAD BROUGHT BETTER THAN EXPECTED RESULTS FROM LAND SALES.

THESE, TOGETHER WITH IMPROVED YIELDS FROM EARNINGS AND PROFITS TAX, SHOULD RESULT IN TOTAL REVENUE FOR THE YEAR BEING HIGHER THAN ORIGINALLY ESTIMATED, HE SAID.

EXPENDITURE ON GENERAL REVENUE ACCOUNT WAS ALSO LIKELY TO BE HIGHER THAN ESTIMATED, AS A RESULT OF \$1.5 BILLION BEING INJECTED AS ADDITIONAL EQUITY INTO THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION.

THE NET EFFECT AT THE END OF THE YEAR WOULD BE A SMALLER DEFICIT THAN ORIGINALLY FORECAST.

SIR EDWARD SAID ALSO THAT EXPENDITURE ON CAPITAL WORKS HAD BEEN SLOWER THAN ORIGINALLY FORECAST. AS A RESULT THE SIZE OF THE PUBLIC SECTOR AS A PROPORTION OF GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT SHOULD DECLINE TO BELOW 16 PER CENT IN THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1985-86.

DISCUSSING TAXATION, SIR EDWARD SAID THAT BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY REMAINED IN FULL AGREEMENT ON THE NEED FOR A SIMPLE AND EQUITABLE SYSTEM.

+THE LEVELS ARE SET CAREFULLY SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR HONG KONG'S ESSENTIAL FISCAL NEEDS, BUT WITHOUT ACTING AS A DISINCENTIVE TO ENTERPRISE.

+WE SHALL NOT DEPART FROM THAT POLICY, WHICH IS IMPORTANT TO THE ECONOMIC HEALTH OF HONG KONG,+ HE SAID.

THERE WERE, HOWEVER, LOOPHOLES IN THE SYSTEM WHICH THOSE WITH ACCESS TO SOPHISTICATED FINANCIAL DEVICES COULD EXPLOIT. THEY WERE THUS ABLE, WITHIN THE LAW, TO AVOID PAYING THE TAXES THEY WERE MEANT TO PAY, AND THE BURDEN OF THAT UNPAID TAX THEN FELL ON OTHERS, THE GOVERNOR SAID.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE INLAND REVENUE ORDINANCE, DESIGNED TO CLOSE THE MOST READILY EXPLOITABLE OF THE LOOPHOLES, HAD RECENTLY BEEN EXAMINED BY THE AD HOC PANEL OF UMELCO.

THE GROUP HAD CONSULTED WIDELY WITH THE PROFESSIONS AND THE PUBLIC, AND HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT, AS A RESULT, THE WELL-CONSIDERED PROPOSALS WOULD BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL DURING THIS SESSION, SIR EDWARD SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

PROPOSALS ON BETTER BANKING CONTROL SOON READY

* * * *

PROPOSALS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF THE SYSTEM OF SUPERVISORY CONTROL OVER BANKING OPERATIONS WERE NEARING COMPLETION AND WOULD BE PUT TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID TODAY.

THEY WOULD SEEK TO PROVIDE A GREATER MEASURE OF PROTECTION TO DEPOSITORS - TO ENSURE SOUND BUSINESS PRACTICE AMONG FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS - WHILE LEAVING FULL ROOM FOR FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISE, THE GOVERNOR SAID.

AN IMPORTANT TASK FOR THE GOVERNMENT, SIR EDWARD STRESSED, WAS TO MAINTAIN CONFIDENCE BOTH INTERNATIONALLY AND LOCALLY IN HONG KONG AS A FINANCIAL CENTRE.

THIS REQUIRED AN EFFORT TO IMPROVE THE LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK IN WHICH THE FINANCIAL AND ALLIED SERVICES INDUSTRIES OPERATED.

SIR EDWARD SAID THAT EVENTS OF RECENT YEARS, BOTH HERE AND IN OTHER MAJOR FINANCIAL CENTRES, INDICATED THAT THE MERE LOGGING OF TECHNICAL COMPLIANCE WITH STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS WAS NOT ENOUGH TO ENSURE THAT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS WERE PRUDENTLY MANAGED.

+NO SYSTEM OF PRUDENTIAL SUPERVISION CAN PREVENT ALL IRREGULARITIES, PARTICULARLY WHERE THERE IS FRAUD. BUT THE AIM OF THE PROPOSED MEASURES WILL BE TO ASSIST IN THE TIMELY IDENTIFICATION OF BAD, IMPRUDENT OR FRAUDULENT MANAGEMENT, WHICH CAN THREATEN THE HEALTH AND REPUTATION OF THE SYSTEM AS A WHOLE,+ THE GOVERNOR SAID.

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMPANY LAW REFORM HAD MADE RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE THE OPERATION OF THE COMPANIES AND SECURITIES ORDINANCE.

THESE RECOMMENDATIONS WERE BEING CONSIDERED WITH A VIEW TO INTRODUCING LEGISLATION TO IMPLEMENT THEM.

CONSUMER PROTECTION, SIR EDWARD SAID, WAS ALSO A MATTER OF CONCERN BOTH TO THE PUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT.

MEASURES HAD ALREADY BEEN TAKEN TO STRENGTHEN ENFORCEMENT UNDER EXISTING LEGISLATION, AND NEW MEASURES TO IMPROVE THE LAW WERE IN PREPARATION, SIR EDWARD SAID.

- - - 0 - - -

NO LET-UP IN ANTI-PROTECTIONIST EFFORT
* * * * *

HONG KONG WOULD NOT RELAX ITS EFFORTS IN COUNTERACTING ALL PROTECTIONIST MOVES WHICH THREATENED ITS LIVELIHOOD, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID TODAY.

EMPHASISING THAT TRADE AND INDUSTRY WERE THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE HONG KONG ECONOMY, SIR EDWARD APPLAUDED THE STAND TAKEN BY THE UNITED STATES ADMINISTRATION AGAINST PROTECTIONISM.

+THE RECENT GROWTH IN PROTECTIONIST SENTIMENT IN THE UNITED STATES POSES A SERIOUS THREAT TO OUR ECONOMIC INTERESTS,+ THE GOVERNOR SAID.

SPEAKING OF THE U.S. CUSTOMS REGULATIONS IMPOSED IN APRIL THIS YEAR ON ORIGIN REQUIREMENTS FOR MULTI-FIBRE ARRANGEMENT TEXTILE PRODUCTS, HE SAID THEY MADE NO CONCESSIONS ON KNITWEAR, DESPITE HONG KONG'S STRONG PROTESTS AND A RULING BY THE TEXTILES SURVEILLANCE BODY IN HONG KONG'S FAVOUR.

AS A RESULT, THE KNITWEAR INDUSTRY HAD TO MAKE MAJOR, COSTLY INVESTMENTS, BUT HAD YET TO ADJUST FULLY TO THE REQUIREMENTS.

THE RECENT THURMOND-JENKINS BILL, HE SAID, POSED AN EVEN MORE SERIOUS THREAT.

IF PASSED INTO LAW, THE BILL WOULD SERIOUSLY UNDERMINE NOT ONLY WORLD TRADE IN TEXTILES, BUT THE VERY PRINCIPLES ON WHICH THE MFA AND THE GATT WERE BASED.

+CREDIT MAY BE GIVEN DESERVEDLY TO THE GOVERNMENT, TO INDUSTRY, AND TO TRADE AND INDUSTRY ORGANISATIONS, IN PARTICULAR THE TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, FOR THEIR CONCERTED EFFORTS IN LOBBYING AGAINST THE BILL,+ THE GOVERNOR SAID.

THE EXHIBITION AND CONFERENCE CENTRE BEING BUILT BY THE TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AT WAN CHAI RECLAMATION WOULD BE READY IN 1988. HE CONGRATULATED THE TDC FOR TAKING ON THIS EXCITING PROJECT.

ON THE INDUSTRIAL FRONT, HE SAID, THERE HAD BEEN A RISE IN INVESTMENT IN NEW PLANT AND MACHINERY DURING THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR, REFLECTING CONFIDENCE IN HONG KONG.

+THIS SHOULD HELP US MAINTAIN AN EDGE OVER OUR COMPETITORS,+ HE SAID.

HE ADDED THAT DURING THE LAST FEW MONTHS, THE TAKE-UP OF NEW LEASES AT OUR INDUSTRIAL ESTATES HAD ACCELERATED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

ENCOURAGING SIGNS FOR PASSPORT

* * *

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAS UNDERTAKEN TO DO ITS UTMOST TO OBTAIN INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION OF THE BRITISH NATIONAL (OVERSEAS) PASSPORT AND THERE ARE ALREADY ENCOURAGING SIGNS THAT THIS WILL BE ACCORDED.

THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID THIS TODAY (WEDNESDAY) WHEN HE DWELT ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION IN HIS ANNUAL ADDRESS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE FORMAT OF THE NEW PASSPORT WOULD BE SUCH THAT IT WAS READILY IDENTIFIABLE AS A DOCUMENT ISSUED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT.

+AS HAS ALREADY BEEN ANNOUNCED, ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING MADE FOR THESE PASSPORTS TO BE ISSUED WITH EFFECT FROM JULY 1, 1987.

+THIS WILL ENABLE THE PRESENT PRACTICE OF ISSUING PASSPORTS FOR A TEN-YEAR VALIDITY PERIOD TO CONTINUE WITHOUT INTERRUPTION.

+IT WILL ALSO GIVE MAXIMUM TIME TO THIRD COUNTRIES TO GROW ACCUSTOMED TO THE NEW PASSPORTS,+ SIR EDWARD ADDED.

HE WENT ON TO NOTE THAT DURING THE COMMITTEE STAGE OF THE HONG KONG BILL IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS IN FEBRUARY THIS YEAR, THE MINISTER OF STATE SAID THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WOULD DISCUSS WITH THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES THE WORDING OF A STATEMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE BRITISH NATIONAL (OVERSEAS) PASSPORT TO SATISFY IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS IN THIRD COUNTRIES THAT AN INDIVIDUAL HAS THE RIGHT OF ABODE IN HONG KONG.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1985

- 17 -

+I AM PLEASED TO REPORT THAT THESE DISCUSSIONS ARE PROCEEDING,+ THE GOVERNOR SAID.

HE URGED ALL CONCERNED TO PUT FORWARD THEIR VIEWS ON THE RECENTLY PUBLISHED DRAFT ORDER IN COUNCIL ON BRITISH NATIONAL (OVERSEAS) STATUS SO THAT THEY COULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT WHEN THE DRAFT ORDER CAME UP FOR DEBATE IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND IN PARLIAMENT.

SIR EDWARD WENT ON TO DISCLOSE THAT THE FIRST ANNUAL REPORT ON HONG KONG, AIMED AT KEEPING PARLIAMENT INFORMED ON A REGULAR BASIS OF DEVELOPMENTS HERE DURING THE RUN-UP TO 1997, WAS EXPECTED TO BE PUBLISHED AS A WHITE PAPER AND LAID BEFORE THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT LATER THIS YEAR.

+THE REPORT WILL BE LAID ALSO BEFORE THIS COUNCIL,+ HE ADDED.

HE RECALLED THAT HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT AGREED IN FEBRUARY THIS YEAR TO PRODUCE AN ANNUAL REPORT ON HONG KONG AND TO LAY IT BEFORE THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT AS A RESULT OF REPRESENTATIONS FROM ALL PARTIES.

ON THE BASIC LAW, SIR EDWARD SAID THAT BOTH THE BRITISH AND CHINESE GOVERNMENTS HAD PLEDGED THEMSELVES TO CONSULT EXTENSIVELY WITH THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG.

+BOTH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT, WHICH WILL REMAIN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF HONG KONG UP TO 1997, AND THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT, WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR DRAFTING THE BASIC LAW, HAVE AS THEIR STARTING POINT THE JOINT DECLARATION, WHICH SETS OUT IN ANNEX I THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF THE STRUCTURE OF GOVERNMENT FOR THE FUTURE.

+BOTH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND THE GOVERNMENT OF CHINA ARE FIRMLY COMMITTED TO MAINTAINING THE PROSPERITY AND STABILITY OF HONG KONG AND TO ENSURING A SMOOTH TRANSITION IN 1997.

+I AM SURE THAT THE TWO GOVERNMENTS WILL AT ALL TIMES BE ALIVE TO THE CONCERNS AND THE VIEWS OF THE OTHER, AS WELL AS OF THE VIEWS OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG.

+I AM ALSO CONFIDENT THAT, ON THESE FOUNDATIONS, A FRAMEWORK OF ENDURING INSTITUTIONS CAN BE CONSTRUCTED, WHICH WILL MAINTAIN CONFIDENCE IN HONG KONG AND ENABLE A SMOOTH TRANSFER OF GOVERNMENT IN 1997,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

AFTER RECAPPING THE SEQUENCE OF IMPORTANT EVENTS FOLLOWING HE INITIALLING OF THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION, SIR EDWARD REPORTED BRIEFLY ON THE WORK OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP AND THE LAND COMMISSION.

/HE POINTED

HE POINTED OUT THAT DURING THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP'S FIRST MEETING IN JULY IN LONDON, BOTH SIDES AGREED ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE TO HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR HONG KONG TO CONTINUE AS A MEMBER OF THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK AFTER 1997. THE GROUP WILL MEET AGAIN IN PEKING TOWARDS THE END OF NOVEMBER.

+BY ITS VERY NATURE, THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP IS NOT A BODY THAT WILL MAKE A STRING OF MOMENTOUS DECISIONS AT EACH MEETING.

+BUT IT WILL, BETWEEN NOW AND THE YEAR 2000, NEED TO DISCUSS A WIDE RANGE OF MATTERS RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JOINT DECLARATION,+ HE SAID.

+THE ENCOURAGING START THAT THE GROUP HAS MADE AUGURS WELL FOR THE ABILITY OF THE TWO SIDES TO CO-OPERATE IN THIS IMPORTANT WORK,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

AS REGARDS THE LAND COMMISSION, THE GOVERNOR SAID IT HAS SET ABOUT ITS WORK QUICKLY AND EFFECTIVELY, AND IN A SPIRIT OF CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES.

+IT HAS REACHED AGREEMENT ON A RANGE OF LEGAL DOCUMENTS FOR USE IN LAND TRANSACTIONS, AND ON THE LAND DISPOSAL PROGRAMME FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR.

+IN SEPTEMBER AND EARLIER THIS MONTH, THE FIRST PUBLIC AUCTIONS OF GOVERNMENT LAND SINCE THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE JOINT DECLARATION WERE SUCCESSFULLY HELD, AND SEVEN LOTS OF LAND WERE SOLD FOR TERMS RUNNING UP TO 2047.

+ALL CONCERNED CAN BE CONFIDENT THAT LAND WILL CONTINUE TO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO MEET HONG KONG'S DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS,+ HE SAID.

TURNING TO THE HONG KONG REGISTER OF SHIPPING, SIR EDWARD SAID THERE HAS BEEN A CONSTRUCTIVE RESPONSE FROM THE SHIPPING INDUSTRY FOLLOWING THE PUBLICATION BY THE GOVERNMENT IN MAY OF ITS INITIAL THINKING FOR A NEW REGISTER.

+OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO SEE MORE CLEARLY THE SHAPE OF HONG KONG'S FUTURE POLICY IN THIS FIELD,+ HE SAID.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1985

- 19 -

GOVERNMENT TO PLAN FOR THIRD UNIVERSITY
* * * * *

THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO PROCEED WITH THE PLANNING OF A THIRD UNIVERSITY, TO INCREASE THE PROVISION OF FIRST-YEAR, FIRST DEGREE PLACES TO OVER 7 500 BY THE 1990'S, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

UNTIL NOW, THE TARGET FIGURE FOR FIRST-YEAR PLACES IN FIRST DEGREE COURSES BY 1994-95 HAD BEEN JUST OVER 6 300, INSUFFICIENT TO MEET +EITHER THE REQUIREMENTS OF OUR ECONOMY OR THE ASPIRATIONS OF OUR STUDENTS.+

+MUCH WORK NEEDS TO BE DONE ON THIS PROJECT= THE COST WILL BE CONSIDERABLE= BUT THE OBJECTIVE IS CLEAR, AND I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THE INVESTMENT WILL SHOW AN AMPLE RETURN,+ THE GOVERNOR SAID.

THERE ARE NOW 28 000 FULL-TIME AND EQUIVALENT PART-TIME STUDENTS IN THE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING, 13 000 OF THEM ON DEGREE COURSES.

SIR EDWARD SAID THAT THE COMMUNITY HAD ALWAYS PLACED GREAT VALUE ON EDUCATION, AND THE GOVERNMENT REMAINED COMMITTED TO +CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT IN EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND IN THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION.+

THIS YEAR, 17 PER CENT OF TOTAL PUBLIC EXPENDITURE WAS DEVOTED TO EDUCATION - MORE THAN THE AMOUNT SPENT ON ANY SINGLE AREA OF GOVERNMENT ACTIVITY.

THE GOVERNMENT WAS ALREADY COMMITTED TO IMPROVING ON THE NINE YEARS OF UNIVERSAL, FREE AND COMPULSORY EDUCATION AS INTRODUCED IN 1978.

ON THE EDUCATION COMMISSION'S ADVICE, IT HAD SET THE TARGET OF PROVIDING BY 1991 ENOUGH SUBSIDISED PLACES, IN FORMS 4 AND 5 IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS, AND IN ONE-YEAR FULL-TIME CRAFT COURSES IN TECHNICAL INSTITUTES AND TRAINING CENTRES, TO SATISFY THE DEMAND FOR POST-FORM 3 EDUCATION, SIR EDWARD SAID.

THIS SHOULD PERMIT THE PHASING-OUT OF THE JUNIOR SECONDARY EDUCATION ASSESSMENT SYSTEM, HE SAID.

TO DO THIS, HE SAID, 24 SECONDARY SCHOOLS WOULD HAVE TO BE BUILT AND PLACES IN FORMS 4 AND 5 WOULD HAVE TO BE PURCHASED FROM GOOD PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

WITH THE OPENING OF THE NEW TECHNICAL INSTITUTES AT TUEN MUN AND SHA TIN IN THE COMING YEAR, OVERALL STUDENT NUMBERS IN TECHNICAL INSTITUTES WOULD RISE FROM 45 500 TO OVER 52 000, REPRESENTING SOME 2 700 MORE STUDENTS AT THE TECHNICIAN LEVEL, AND NEARLY 3 900 MORE STUDENTS ENGAGED IN CRAFT-LEVEL COURSES.

/ON LANGUAGE

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1985

- 20 -

ON LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION, SIR EDWARD SAID THE GOVERNMENT INTENDED TO ESTABLISH A CHINESE TEXTBOOKS COMMITTEE.

THE PURPOSE OF THE COMMITTEE, SIR EDWARD SAID, WOULD BE TO ENSURE THAT SUFFICIENT SECONDARY SCHOOL TEXTBOOKS OF GOOD QUALITY, WRITTEN IN CHINESE, BECOME AVAILABLE WITHIN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

HONG KONG'S POSITION AS AN IMPORTANT INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL CENTRE, NOW AND IN THE FUTURE, REQUIRED THE BEST EFFORTS TO ENSURE THAT THE CHILDREN COULD USE BOTH CHINESE AND ENGLISH WITH EASE, HE SAID.

SIR EDWARD SAID THOSE SECONDARY SCHOOLS WHICH TAUGHT IN ENGLISH WOULD BE ASKED TO CONSIDER WHETHER THEY WISHED TO MAKE GREATER USE OF CHINESE.

MORE WIDESPREAD USE OF CHINESE, HE SAID, WAS IN NO WAY INTENDED TO DIMINISH THE IMPORTANCE OF A HIGH STANDARD OF ENGLISH.

+OUR OBJECTIVE, WHICH WE BELIEVE TO BE ACHIEVABLE, IS HIGH STANDARDS IN BOTH,+ HE SAID.

TURNING TO COMPUTER EDUCATION, SIR EDWARD SAID THE COMPUTER STUDIES PILOT SCHEME HAD GROWN TO COVER, BY LAST MONTH, A TOTAL OF 210 GOVERNMENT AND GOVERNMENT-AIDED SECONDARY SCHOOLS SINCE ITS IMPLEMENTATION IN 1982.

IT WAS INTENDED THAT ALL AIDED SECONDARY SCHOOLS SHOULD, IF THEY WISHED, INCLUDE COMPUTER STUDIES IN THEIR FORM 4 AND FORM 5 CURRICULA FROM SEPTEMBER 1986. HOWEVER, MORE TEACHERS HAD TO BE TRAINED FOR THE PLAN.

A CAPITAL GRANT OF \$4 MILLION HAD BEEN MADE EARLIER THIS YEAR FROM THE MACLEHOSE FUND FOR SETTING UP A FULLY EQUIPPED COMPUTER EDUCATION CENTRE TO PROVIDE FURTHER TRAINING FOR TEACHERS INVOLVED IN THE USE AND APPLICATION OF COMPUTERS.

SPEAKING OF THE JOINT FUNDING SCHEME FOR HONG KONG STUDENTS IN BRITAIN, SIR EDWARD SAID IT HAD BECOME A VALUED SOURCE OF SUBSIDISED PLACES IN HIGHER EDUCATION, ADDITIONAL TO THE PLACES AVAILABLE LOCALLY.

IN 1984-85 THERE WERE OVER 1 300 SUCCESSFUL APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS UNDER THE SCHEME, THE COST OF WHICH WAS SHARED EQUALLY WITH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT.

SIR EDWARD SAID IN 1985-86, THE AMOUNT AVAILABLE FOR GRANTS HAD INCREASED SLIGHTLY TO FOUR MILLION POUNDS STERLING.

- - - - 0 - - - -

GOVT MEETS COSTS OF SUBVENTED HOSPITALS' WORKS

THE GOVERNMENT HAS UNDERTAKEN DURING THE PAST YEAR TO MEET THE COST OF MAJOR EXTENSIONS TO SUBVENTED HOSPITALS, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

A CAPITAL SUBVENTION OF \$680 MILLION WOULD PROVIDE A 760-BED EXTENSION FOR THE UNITED CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL BY 1991, WHICH WOULD MORE THAN DOUBLE ITS PRESENT SIZE, HE SAID.

ANOTHER SUBVENTION OF \$224 MILLION WOULD PROVIDE FOR CAPACITY AT THE YAN CHAI HOSPITAL TO INCREASE FROM 150 TO 700 BEDS BY 1988.

FUNDS HAD ALSO BEEN PROVIDED TO ALLOW CONTINUATION OF THE PHASED EXPANSION OF THE POK OI HOSPITAL.

AS PART OF A REVIEW OF THE MANAGEMENT ORGANISATION OF HOSPITAL SERVICES IN HONG KONG, CONSULTANTS HAD BEEN ASSESSING THE POTENTIAL FOR BETTER INTEGRATION BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND SUBVENTED HOSPITALS.

THEIR REPORT IS EXPECTED BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR.

ON ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS, SIR EDWARD SAID SEVERAL PROPOSALS FOR CONTROLS ON WASTE DISPOSAL, AIR AND NOISE POLLUTION WERE EXPECTED TO BE INTRODUCED DURING THE PRESENT SESSION.

PROPOSALS FOR ENFORCEABLE CONTROLS ON THE DISPOSAL OF UNTREATED ANIMAL WASTES, THE CAUSE OF SOME OF THE MOST SEVERE POLLUTION PROBLEMS, WOULD SOON BE CONSIDERED BY DISTRICT BOARDS AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES, HE SAID.

IT WAS HOPED TO INTRODUCE MEASURES, TOGETHER WITH THE NECESSARY LEGISLATION, DURING THE PRESENT SESSION.

PROPOSALS TO IMPROVE CONTROLS ON AIR POLLUTION WOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL DURING THE FIRST HALF OF NEXT YEAR.

THE NATURE AND SCALE OF NOISE PROBLEMS WERE LESS EASILY DEFINED THAN MOST OTHER POLLUTION PROBLEMS, AND ACCEPTABLE OBJECTIVE MEASUREMENTS OF NOISE WERE DIFFICULT TO ESTABLISH.

IT IS, NEVERTHELESS, HOPED TO INTRODUCE A NOISE CONTROL BILL INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BEFORE THE END OF THE PRESENT SESSION, THE GOVERNOR SAID.

----- 0 -----

RECORD PUBLIC HOUSING FLATS PRODUCED THIS YEAR
* * *

A RECORD OF OVER 48 000 PUBLIC HOUSING FLATS WOULD BE PRODUCED THIS YEAR, WITH THE HOUSING AUTHORITY EXCEEDING ITS ANNUAL TARGET FOR THE SIXTH SUCCESSIVE YEAR, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

+THE AUTHORITY CONTINUES STEADILY TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF ITS NEW HOUSING AS WELL AS UPGRADING AND REDEVELOPING EXISTING STOCK,+ HE SAID.

PRIVATE SECTOR PRODUCTION HAD INCREASED AND WAS FORECAST TO REACH ABOUT 30 000 FLATS THIS CALENDAR YEAR, RISING TO ABOUT 33 000 UNITS IN 1986.

+ABOUT 18 000 FLATS ARE SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION NEXT YEAR UNDER THE HOME OWNERSHIP AND PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION SCHEMES. THIS IS YET ANOTHER RECORD,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

MEANWHILE, HE SAID, THE RESTRUCTURED SQUATTER CLEARANCE PROGRAMME HAD STARTED AND THE RURAL HOUSING PROGRAMME CONTINUED TO MAKE STEADY PROGRESS, WITH A PROJECT AT TUI MIN HOI IN SAI KUNG DUE TO BE COMPLETED LATER THIS YEAR, AND PROJECTS AT MUI WO ON LANTAU AND AT SHA TAU KOK SCHEDULED TO START NEXT YEAR.

AS FOR THE LEVEL OF HOUSING SUBSIDY TO PUBLIC HOUSING TENANTS, SIR EDWARD SAID THE HOUSING AUTHORITY WOULD EXAMINE CAREFULLY ALL PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SUGGESTIONS SET OUT IN ITS GREEN PAPER, TOGETHER WITH ALTERNATIVE IDEAS WHICH MAY COME FORWARD, BEFORE DECIDING WHETHER ANY RECOMMENDATIONS SHOULD BE MADE TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

SPEAKING OF THE HOUSING NEEDS OF THE ELDERLY PEOPLE, SIR EDWARD SAID, THE HOUSING AUTHORITY HAD AGREED IN JULY TO PROVIDE SELF-CARE HOSTELS IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE STILL ENJOYING GOOD HEALTH.

+THE AUTHORITY PLANS TO PROVIDE HOSTELS FOR SOME 2 000 PEOPLE OVER THE NEXT SIX YEARS. THESE WILL BE IN ADDITION TO THE EXISTING QUOTA OF SHARED FLATS AND HOUSING UNITS FOR SINGLE PERSONS IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES.

+THESE ARRANGEMENTS WILL HELP THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT AND WELFARE AGENCIES IN THEIR TASK OF LOOKING AFTER THOSE ELDERLY PEOPLE WHO ARE UNABLE TO CARE FOR THEMSELVES,+ HE SAID.

WHILE RESIDENTIAL INSTITUTIONS HAVE LONG PROVIDED SERVICES CATERING FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WHO, BECAUSE OF FAMILY CIRCUMSTANCES OR THEIR OWN BEHAVIOUR, HAVE TO LIVE AWAY FROM THEIR FAMILIES, SIR EDWARD SAID LIMITED ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE IN RECENT YEARS TO CARE FOR CHILDREN OUTSIDE THESE INSTITUTIONS.

+A WORKING GROUP HAS RECENTLY BEEN ESTABLISHED TO LOOK INTO THIS AREA, AND TO REPORT TO THE SOCIAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE,+ HE SAID.

VIEWS ON BROADCASTING TO BE FULLY CONSIDERED
* * * * *

ALL PUBLIC VIEWS ON THE BROADCASTING REVIEW BOARD'S REPORT WOULD BE TAKEN FULLY INTO ACCOUNT WHEN THE GOVERNMENT DRAWS UP PROPOSALS FOR THE BROADCASTING POLICIES TO BE ADOPTED AFTER THE EXPIRY OF THE PRESENT LICENCES IN 1988, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

REFERRING TO ONE OF THE PROPOSALS IN THE REPORT -- THE TURNING OF RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG INTO AN INDEPENDENT PUBLIC BROADCASTER WITH GUARANTEED ACCESS TO TELEVISION PRIME TIME -- SIR EDWARD SAID IT HAD EXCITED CONSIDERABLE PUBLIC COMMENT.

BUT THERE WERE MANY OTHER PROPOSALS, THAT WERE, EQUALLY IMPORTANT AND EQUALLY DESERVING OF DISCUSSION.

THEY INCLUDE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW BROADCASTING AUTHORITY, GREATER CONTROL OVER COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING, THE PROHIBITION OF TOBACCO ADVERTISING ON RADIO AND TELEVISION, AND THE PROVISION OF A MODERN CABLE TELEVISION DISTRIBUTION NETWORK.

+THE DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN ARE FAR-REACHING,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

+THEY WILL SHAPE THE FUTURE OF TELEVISION AND BROADCASTING IN HONG KONG FOR A LONG TIME TO COME. THEY WILL THEREFORE NEED TO BE SOUNDLY BASED AND ACCEPTABLE TO THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE.+

- - - - 0 - - - -

LAND CORPORATION PLANNED FOR NEW HOUSING
* * *

THE GOVERNMENT IS DRAFTING LEGISLATION FOR THE SETTING UP OF A LAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION WHICH WILL CO-OPERATE WITH PRIVATE DEVELOPERS AND OWNERS OF RUN-DOWN PROPERTIES IN THE OLDER URBAN AREAS TO PRODUCE NEW HOUSING, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

SIR EDWARD SAID THIS WOULD BE BUILT TO MODERN STANDARDS AND EQUIPPED WITH A FULL RANGE OF COMMERCIAL, COMMUNITY AND WELFARE FACILITIES.

+THE FIRST PROJECT SHOULD GET UNDER WAY IN THE NEXT 12 MONTHS= I AM HOPEFUL THAT THIS INITIATIVE WILL GIVE A STRONG IMPETUS TO THE RENOVATION OF AREAS SUCH AS WESTERN DISTRICT, WAN CHAI, YAU MA TEI AND MONG KOK,+ HE SAID.

+THE GOVERNMENT IS CONCERNED THAT THE REDEVELOPMENT OF THE OLDER PARTS OF OUR CITY SHOULD PROCEED PARALLEL WITH NEW DEVELOPMENT.+

/TURNING TO

TURNING TO THE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME IN THE URBAN AREA, SIR EDWARD SAID THE GOVERNMENT'S STRATEGY WAS AIMED AT SUSTAINING LONG-TERM URBAN GROWTH.

+IN PREPARATION FOR THE EARLY 1990'S, DETAILED PLANNING AND ENGINEERING STUDIES ON NEW GROWTH AREAS AROUND THE HARBOUR ARE NOW UNDER WAY.

+INITIALLY, RECLAMATION WILL TAKE PLACE AT KELLETT BAY ON THE WESTERN SHORE OF HONG KONG ISLAND TO PROVIDE LAND FOR PUBLIC HOUSING= AND AT HUNG HOM BAY TO PROVIDE LAND FOR EXPANSION OF THE KCR TERMINAL, FOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT, AND FOR GOVERNMENT AND INSTITUTIONAL FACILITIES MUCH NEEDED IN THIS PART OF KOWLOON.+

AS FOR NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT, SIR EDWARD SAID ADVANCE ENGINEERING WORK FOR THE TIN SHUI WAI NEW TOWN WAS COMING ALONG WELL AND FORMATION WORK WAS DUE TO BEGIN NEXT YEAR TO PROVIDE LAND TO HOUSE 135 000 PEOPLE.

+BY 1995, THE POPULATION OF THE NORTH-WEST NEW TERRITORIES, INCLUDING TUEN MUN, WILL HAVE RISEN TO OVER 700 000.

+TO CATER FOR THE EXPECTED TRAVEL DEMANDS IN THIS REGION, WORK ON THE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SYSTEM WILL COMMENCE EARLY NEXT YEAR= THE SYSTEM IS EXPECTED TO START RUNNING IN 1988,+ THE GOVERNOR SAID.

SIR EDWARD SAID MAJOR ENGINEERING WORKS AND PUBLIC HOUSING CONSTRUCTION WERE ALSO UNDER WAY IN JUNK BAY, AND THE FIRST RESIDENTS OF THE NEW TOWN WOULD MOVE IN BY EARLY 1987.

+THE TOWN WILL ACCOMMODATE UP TO 155 000 PEOPLE BY ABOUT 1994, AND WILL BE LINKED TO EAST KOWLOON BY A NEW ROAD TUNNEL ON WHICH WORK WILL START NEXT YEAR.

+THERE IS GOOD PROGRESS ALSO ON THE REDEVELOPMENT OF SHA TAU KOK, WHERE PRIORITY IS BEING GIVEN TO RE-HOUSING OVER 3 000 RESIDENTS LIVING IN UNSATISFACTORY ACCOMMODATION,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

THE MOMENTUM OF NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WAS BEING REINFORCED BY LARGE INVESTMENT IN TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE, HE ADDED.

TURNING TO EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS, SIR EDWARD SAID THE PORT DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY STUDY, TO WHICH HE REFERRED LAST YEAR, WAS NOW REACHING ITS CONCLUSION.

+IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT HONG KONG MAINTAINS ITS CAPACITY TO HANDLE PROMPTLY AND EFFECTIVELY THE CARGOES WHICH PASS THROUGH OUR PORT.

- 25 -

+THIS STUDY SHOULD TELL US JUST WHAT FACILITIES WILL BE NEEDED AND WHERE THEY SHOULD BE,+ HE SAID.

AS FOR THE MORE IMMEDIATE NEEDS AT THE CONTAINER TERMINAL, THE GOVERNOR SAID RECLAMATION OF KWAI CHUNG CREEK TO PROVIDE 25 ADDITIONAL HECTARES OF LAND WAS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE, AND WOULD BE COMPLETED BY EARLY 1987.

+NEGOTIATIONS ARE WELL ADVANCED FOR THE ADDITION OF AN AMBITIOUS THREE-BERTH TERMINAL AT KWAI CHUNG, WITH THE RECLAMATION OF A FURTHER 29 HECTARES,+ HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

EASTERN HARBOUR CROSSING WORK SET FOR EARLY '86

* * * *

CONSTRUCTION OF THE EASTERN HARBOUR CROSSING IS EXPECTED TO START IN EARLY 1986 AND WILL TAKE ABOUT THREE AND A HALF YEARS TO COMPLETE, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID TODAY.

THE GOVERNMENT, HE SAID, WAS NEGOTIATING WITH SEVERAL CONSORTIA WHICH HAD SUBMITTED THE MOST PROMISING PROPOSALS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, OPERATION AND FINANCING OF THE CROSSING.

SIR EDWARD SAID IT HAD BEEN DECIDED EARLIER THIS YEAR THAT THE EASTERN HARBOUR CROSSING SHOULD PROVIDE BOTH ROAD AND RAIL FACILITIES.

+THE ROAD TUNNEL WILL ALLEVIATE CONGESTION THROUGH THE PRESENT CROSS-HARBOUR TUNNEL AND WILL GREATLY ASSIST THE FULFILMENT OF OUR TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY.

+THE ADDITIONAL MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CROSSING WILL RELIEVE PRESSURE ON THE NATHAN ROAD SECTION OF THE RAILWAY AND BRING OTHER TRANSPORT BENEFITS,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

THE OPENING OF THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY ISLAND LINE FROM CHAI WAN TO ADMIRALTY HAD INCREASED PATRONAGE ON THE MTR BY ABOUT 300 000 BOARDINGS A DAY.

+THE EXTENSION OF THIS LINE TO SHEUNG WAN, PASSING THROUGH CENTRAL, WILL BE COMPLETED IN THE EARLY SUMMER OF 1986. THIS IS EXPECTED TO LEAD TO A FURTHER INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF PASSENGERS USING THE ISLAND LINE,+ THE GOVERNOR SAID.

REVIEWING THE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE ROAD NETWORK DURING THE YEAR, SIR EDWARD SAID THE COMPLETION OF THE ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR AS FAR AS SHAU KEI WAN HAD GREATLY IMPROVED ROAD COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE EASTERN PART OF HONG KONG ISLAND AND THE REMAINDER OF THE URBAN AREAS.

/+THE OPENING

+THE OPENING LAST MONTH OF THE SECTION OF THE NEW TERRITORIES TRUNK ROAD FROM SHA TIN TO FANLING WILL BRING SUBSTANTIAL BENEFIT TO THE NORTH-EAST NEW TERRITORIES.

+FURTHER ROAD IMPROVEMENTS ON WHICH WORK WILL COMMENCE DURING THE COMING YEAR INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW TUNNEL LINK BETWEEN SHA TIN AND TSUEN WAN,+ HE SAID.

ON ROAD CONGESTION, THE GOVERNOR SAID THE FISCAL MEASURES INTRODUCED IN MAY 1982 HAD REDUCED THE NUMBER OF PRIVATE CARS ON THE ROAD, BUT IMPOSED A BURDEN ON ALL CAR OWNERS REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THEY WERE HEAVY USERS OF CONGESTED ROADS.

THE MEASURES, THOUGH SO FAR EFFECTIVE, WERE A BLUNT INSTRUMENT AND OTHER, MORE EQUITABLE AND MORE EFFICIENT METHODS OF TACKLING CONGESTION HAD TO BE CONSIDERED SO THAT MAXIMUM ECONOMIC BENEFIT COULD BE OBTAINED FROM THE EXPENSIVE ROAD NETWORK.

+CONSULTATION ON SUCH MEASURES, INCLUDING THE QUESTION OF WHETHER ANY FORM OF ELECTRONIC ROAD PRICING SHOULD BE INTRODUCED, AND IF SO, WHERE AND WHEN, IS STILL IN PROGRESS IN THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE,+ HE SAID.

THE GOVERNOR NOTED THAT THERE WAS INCREASING CONGESTION AT THE NORTHERN ENTRANCE TO THE LION ROCK TUNNEL AND THE NUMBER OF TOLL COLLECTION BOOTHS DID NOT MATCH THE TUNNEL CAPACITY.

+TO REMEDY THIS, THREE ADDITIONAL TOLL BOOTHS ARE BEING BUILT= THEY SHOULD BE OPERATIONAL BY MARCH NEXT YEAR. OTHER MEASURES ARE BEING INVESTIGATED TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW THROUGH THE TUNNEL, INCLUDING THE POSSIBILITY OF AUTOMATIC TOLL COLLECTION.

+IN ADDITION, THE FEASIBILITY OF A ROAD TUNNEL UNDER TATE'S CAIRN, LINKING SHA TIN WITH EAST KOWLOON, IS BEING CLOSELY EXAMINED,+ THE GOVERNOR SAID.

TURNING TO CROSS-BORDER LINKS, THE GOVERNOR SAID NEW FACILITIES DESIGNED TO IMPROVE COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN HONG KONG AND THE SHENZHEN SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE WERE OPENED DURING THE YEAR.

+THEY INCLUDE THE SECOND BRIDGE AT MAN KAM TO, THE NEW BRIDGE AT SHA TAU KOK AND A NEW FOOTBRIDGE AT LO WU. WORK HAS ALSO BEGUN ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE FIRST STAGE OF THE LOK MA CHAU BRIDGE= THIS IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN EARLY 1988.

+THESE IMPROVEMENTS TO CROSS-BORDER LINKS WILL PROVIDE SUFFICIENT CAPACITY TO COPE WITH THE EXPECTED GROWTH OF TRAFFIC INTO THE NEXT DECADE,+ THE GOVERNOR SAID.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1985

- 27 -

CCB LAUNCHING BIG OFFENSIVE

* * *

A STRENGTHENED COMMERCIAL CRIME BUREAU IS SPEARHEADING AN ASSAULT ON COMMERCIAL CRIME, AND SOME 30 PER CENT OF THE ICAC'S OPERATIONS ARE NOW DIRECTED TO INVESTIGATIONS IN THIS FIELD.

TALKING ABOUT LAW AND ORDER IN HIS ANNUAL ADDRESS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY), THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, REPORTED A NOTICEABLE RISE IN COMMERCIAL CRIME IN RECENT YEARS AND THE CONTINUATION OF THE TREND IN LARGE SCALE FRAUDS FACILITATED BY CORRUPTION WHICH HE REFERRED TO LAST YEAR.

+CRIME OF THIS NATURE DAMAGES THE COMMUNITY AND BESMIRCHES HONG KONG'S REPUTATION INTERNATIONALLY,+ HE SAID, ADDING THAT AN ASSAULT HAS BEEN LAUNCHED BY THE COMMERCIAL CRIME BUREAU.

REGARDING THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON COMPLEX COMMERCIAL CRIME, SIR EDWARD SAID HE WOULD INVITE THE COUNCIL TO CONSIDER THE CONTINUATION OF THE WORK BY REAPPOINTMENT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE FOR THE COMING SESSION.

ON VIOLENT CRIME, THE GOVERNOR SAID AN AGGRESSIVE CRIME PREVENTION CAMPAIGN CONTINUED UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE.

+I HAVE ASKED THE COMMITTEE TO GIVE HIGH PRIORITY TO FURTHER MEASURES TO COMBAT THE INSIDIOUS MENACE OF TRIADS,+ HE SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT 1985 WOULD PROBABLY SHOW A SLIGHT INCREASE OVER 1984 IN RECORDED CRIME, DUE LARGELY TO AN INCREASE IN BURGLARY AND SHOPLIFTING.

+BY CONTRAST, THE DECREASE IN VIOLENT CRIME RECORDED IN 1984 HAS CONTINUED IN 1985, WITH A FURTHER REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF ROBBERIES AND CASES INVOLVING FIREARMS,+ HE SAID.

TURNING TO CORRUPTION, SIR EDWARD SAID REPORTS RECEIVED BY THE ICAC HAD IN TOTAL SHOWN AN INCREASE OF SEVEN PER CENT SO FAR THIS YEAR, WITH A MORE MARKED INCREASE OF 16 PER CENT IN REPORTS RELATING TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

+AS PART OF THE CONTINUING EFFORT AGAINST CORRUPTION IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR, THE COMMISSIONER HAS RECENTLY FORMED A CORRUPTION PREVENTION ADVISORY SERVICES GROUP WHICH, ON REQUEST, ADVISES PRIVATE BUSINESSES AND COMPANIES ON WAYS IN WHICH THE RISK OF CORRUPT PRACTICES MAY BE MINIMISED.

+THIS SERVICE HAS BEEN DRAWN TO THE ATTENTION OF GOVERNMENT-LISTED CONTRACTORS AND SUBVENTED ORGANISATIONS, AND IS AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS OF PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SOCIETIES AND ASSOCIATIONS,+ HE SAID.

/ON THE

ON THE NARCOTICS FRONT, THE GOVERNOR NOTED THAT EVENTS OVER THE PAST 12 MONTHS INDICATED THAT THE GOVERNMENT AND THE COMMUNITY MUST CONTINUE TO BE ON GUARD AGAINST THE EVER-PRESENT THREAT OF DRUG ABUSE.

+THE PROGRESS MADE IN 1984 AND IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1985 IN REDUCING THE NUMBER OF NEWLY REPORTED DRUG ABUSERS IS IN DANGER OF BEING ERODED BY THE LOWEST HEROIN PRICES EVER RECORDED, AND BY THE PERSISTENCE OF THE DRUG TRAFFICKERS; NOTWITHSTANDING THE RELENTLESS EFFORTS OF THE POLICE AND CUSTOMS WHICH HAVE LED TO MANY SUCCESSFUL PROSECUTIONS AND OFTEN HEAVY SENTENCES,+ HE SAID.

HE STRESSED THAT PREVENTIVE EDUCATION AMONG THE YOUNG BY THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS WILL CONTINUE.

ON MEASURES TO DEPRIVE CONVICTED DRUG TRAFFICKERS OF THEIR ILL-GOTTEN AND ENORMOUS PROFITS, SIR EDWARD SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS CLOSELY EXAMINING THE MEASURES WHICH HAD BEEN ADOPTED OR WERE BEING CONSIDERED BY OTHER COUNTRIES, WITH A VIEW TO DECIDING ON A PRACTICABLE APPROACH FOR HONG KONG IN TACKLING THIS INTERNATIONAL PROBLEM.

- - - - 0 - - - -

MAJOR DIPLOMATIC EFFORT TO REDUCE VR POPULATION

* * * * *

HONG KONG IS PREPARED TO ACCEPT A LIMITED NUMBER OF ETHNIC CHINESE VIETNAMESE REFUGEES, BUT ONLY AS PART OF A WIDELY CONCERTED INTERNATIONAL ATTEMPT TO REDUCE ITS REFUGEE POPULATION, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

BOTH THE BRITISH AND HONG KONG GOVERNMENTS HAD MOUNTED A MAJOR DIPLOMATIC EFFORT TO THIS END, HE TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING.

GIVING AN UPDATE ON THE SITUATION, HE SAID VIETNAMESE REFUGEES CONTINUED TO ARRIVE IN HONG KONG, ALTHOUGH THE 'CLOSED CENTRE' POLICY HAD REDUCED THE INFLUX.

+THE RATE OF RESETTLEMENT REMAINS DISAPPOINTINGLY LOW= MANY REFUGEES HAVE BEEN IN CAMPS HERE FOR UP TO FIVE YEARS.

+IN SEPTEMBER, THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED A RELAXATION OF ITS FAMILY REUNION CRITERIA FOR VIETNAMESE HELD IN CAMPS IN COUNTRIES OF TEMPORARY ASYLUM,+ HE SAID.

THIS MEANT THAT ABOUT 500 SUCH REFUGEES IN HONG KONG WOULD BECOME ELIGIBLE FOR RESETTLEMENT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, SIR EDWARD ADDED.

+THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WILL ALSO CONSIDER ACCEPTING FURTHER LIMITED NUMBERS OF REFUGEES FROM HONG KONG, PROVIDED OTHER COUNTRIES DO THE SAME,+ HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1985

- 29 -

+LOCALISATION CONTINUES TO BEAR FRUIT+
* * * * *

LOCAL OFFICERS IN INCREASING NUMBERS ARE TAKING UP SENIOR POSITIONS, AND THE PROPORTION OF LOCAL OFFICERS IN THE DIRECTORATE HAS CLIMBED FROM 31 PER CENT IN 1976 TO 50 PER CENT IN 1985, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

+THE LOCALISATION POLICY WHICH HAS BEEN PURSUED SINCE THE 1960'S CONTINUES TO BEAR FRUIT.

+WE SHALL CONTINUE WITH LOCALISATION, TAKING CARE TO ENSURE, HOWEVER, THAT EFFICIENCY AND MORALE ARE NOT JEOPARDISED.

+THERE IS NOW A SUFFICIENTLY LARGE AND GROWING POOL OF LOCAL TALENT AT MIDDLE AND SENIOR LEVELS, FOR US TO BE CONFIDENT THAT WE SHALL BE ABLE TO FILL TOP POSTS WITH LOCAL PEOPLE, IN TERMS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION, BEFORE 1997,+ SIR EDWARD SAID, ADDING THAT THERE WOULD STILL BE A PLACE FOR OVERSEAS OFFICERS, WHOSE SERVICES WERE HIGHLY VALUED.

+THEIR EMPLOYMENT IN THE GOVERNMENT AFTER 1997 IS PROVIDED FOR UNDER THE JOINT DECLARATION,+ HE SAID.

REFERRING TO THE POLICE FORCE, SIR EDWARD SAID HONG KONG WOULD CONTINUE TO RELY ON THE EFFICIENT AND DEDICATED POLICE FORCE TO MAINTAIN LAW AND ORDER DURING AND BEYOND THE TRANSITION OF THE TERRITORY TO A SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION.

+HAVING REGARD TO THE TERMS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION, IT IS CLEAR THAT THE FORCE MUST UNDERGO SOME CHANGES, AMONG OTHER THINGS IN THE STAFFING OF THE SENIOR RANKS.

+WE FORESEE A VALUABLE ROLE FOR EXPATRIATE POLICE OFFICERS= THE FORCE MUST NEVERTHELESS ACHIEVE LOCALISATION AT A FASTER PACE THAN HITHERTO.

+AT THE SAME TIME, WE MUST NOT JEOPARDISE THE FORCE'S EFFICIENCY, NOR ENDANGER ITS HIGH LEVEL OF MORALE,+ HE SAID.

SIR EDWARD SAID HE EXPECTED SOON TO RECEIVE RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOW SUCH OBJECTIVES COULD BEST BE ACHIEVED, FROM A STEERING GROUP COMPRISING THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY AND THE SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE.

+IN THE MEANTIME, THE FORCE AND ITS RESOURCES ARE BEING CONTINUALLY MODERNISED TO MEET CHANGING POLICING REQUIREMENTS,+ HE SAID.

WORK WOULD START ON THE BUILDING OF A NEW HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX IN THE COMING YEAR WHILE THE FLEET OF DIVISIONAL PATROL CRAFT WOULD REACH FULL STRENGTH IN DECEMBER THIS YEAR WHEN THE MARINE POLICE TAKE DELIVERY OF THEIR LAST NEW CRAFT IN AN ORDER OF 15.

/SPEAKING OF

ON THE FIRE SERVICES, SIR EDWARD POINTED OUT THAT THE GOVERNMENT PLANNED TO INTRODUCE AMENDMENTS TO PRESENT LEGISLATION, MAKING IT A DIRECT OFFENCE TO PLACE MOVABLE OBJECTS IN CORRIDORS OR ON STAIRCASES.

+LOCKING GATES ACROSS ESCAPE ROUTES WILL ALSO BE MADE A SPECIFIC OFFENCE,+ HE SAID.

THE GOVERNOR SAID SUBSTANTIAL HUMAN AND FINANCIAL LOSSES WERE SUFFERED EACH YEAR AS A RESULT OF FIRE, PARTICULARLY BECAUSE OF THE WAY IN WHICH FIRE-FIGHTING WAS FREQUENTLY HAMPERED BY GOODS AND OTHER OBSTACLES STACKED IN COMMON AREAS OF BUILDINGS.

ON THE QUESTION OF LEGAL AID, HE SAID THAT THE LAST COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF LEGAL AID SERVICES HAD TAKEN PLACE IN 1971.

+AT THAT TIME THE GOVERNMENT WAS SPENDING \$1.5 MILLION PER ANNUM ON LIMITED SERVICES; TODAY IT IS SPENDING A LITTLE OVER \$80 MILLION PER ANNUM ON A MUCH WIDER RANGE OF SERVICES.

+ALLOWING FOR THE IMPACT OF INFLATION, THIS REPRESENTS MORE THAN A TEN-FOLD INCREASE OVER 15 YEARS,+ HE SAID.

A WORKING PARTY WAS EXAMINING ALL MATTERS RELATING TO THIS IMPORTANT ASPECT OF OUR LEGAL SYSTEM.

+WHEN ITS REVIEW HAS BEEN COMPLETED, THERE WILL BE FULL CONSULTATION WITH THE LEGAL PROFESSION AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES, PROBABLY IN EARLY 1986,+ HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

25 NEW LEGCO MEMBERS SWORN IN
* * * * *

TWENTY-FIVE NEW MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, ELECTED AND APPOINTED, WERE SWORN IN AT THE START OF THE 1985-86 SESSION THIS AFTERNOON.

OF THEM, 12 MADE THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AFFIRMATION, 12 TOOK THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OATH, AND ONE TOOK THE OATH OF ALLEGIANCE.

FOLLOWING IS THE ORDER OF SWEARING-IN:

MR JACKIE CHAN CHAI-KEUNG	LEGCO AFF. (CHINESE)
MR CHENG HON-KWAN	LEGCO OATH (ENGLISH)

/DR CHIU

DR CHIU HIN-KWONG	LEGCO OATH (CHINESE)
MR CHUNG PUI-LAM	LEGCO AFF. (CHINESE)
MR THOMAS CLYDESDALE	OATH OF ALLEGIANCE (ENGLISH)
MR HO SAI-CHU	LEGCO AFF. (CHINESE)
MR HUI YIN-FAT	LEGCO OATH (CHINESE)
MR RICHARD LAI SING-LUNG	LEGCO AFF. (CHINESE)
DR CONRAD LAM KUI-SHING	LEGCO OATH (CHINESE)
MR LAU WONG-FAT	LEGCO OATH (CHINESE)
MR MARTIN LEE CHU-MING	LEGCO OATH (ENGLISH)
MR LEE YU-TAI	LEGCO OATH (CHINESE)
MR DAVID LI KWOK-PO	LEGCO OATH (CHINESE)
MR LIU LIT-FOR	LEGCO AFF. (CHINESE)
MR NGAI SHIU-KIT	LEGCO AFF. (CHINESE)
MR PANG CHUN-HOI	LEGCO AFF. (CHINESE)
MR POON CHI-FAI	LEGCO AFF. (CHINESE)
PROF POON CHUNG-KWONG	LEGCO OATH (CHINESE)
MR HELMUT SOHMEN	LEGCO OATH (ENGLISH)
MR SZETO WAH	LEGCO AFF. (CHINESE)
MR TAI CHIN-WAH	LEGCO AFF. (CHINESE)
MRS ROSANNA TAM WONG YICK-MING	LEGCO OATH (CHINESE)
MR TAM YIU-CHUNG	LEGCO AFF. (CHINESE)
DR DANIEL TSE CHI-WAI	LEGCO AFF. (CHINESE)
MR WONG WANG-FAT	LEGCO OATH (CHINESE)

'IMAGINATIVE, EXCITING PROJECTS SHOW CONFIDENCE'
* * *

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS, MR TIMOTHY RENTON, SAID THE IMAGINATIVE AND EXCITING DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS HE SAW IN TAI PO TODAY SHOWED TO HIM A GREAT DEAL OF CONFIDENCE IN THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AT THE TAI PO SPORTS ASSOCIATION LI FUK LAM INDOOR SPORTS CENTRE AFTER TOURING THE NEW TOWN, MR RENTON SAID THESE BUILDINGS AND PROJECTS WERE NOT BEING JUST PUT UP FOR A FEW YEARS.

+THEY ARE BEING PUT UP FOR THE CHILDREN INTO THE GENERATIONS AHEAD. AND THAT SHOWS A CONFIDENCE IN HONG KONG THAT I AM ABSOLUTELY DELIGHTED TO SEE,+ HE SAID.

MR RENTON SAID WHAT HE HAD SEEN AT TAI PO WAS A +MOST IMAGINATIVE AND EXCITING+ PROJECT IN WHICH THE POPULATION WAS GOING TO GO UP MORE THAN FOUR TIMES IN THE COURSE OF 10 YEARS.

+WE HAVE SEEN EVERYTHING FROM THE NEW PUBLIC HOUSING, THE NEW BLOCKS OF FLATS, SOME OF THEM BEING RENTED, SOME IN HOME OWNERSHIP, AND THEN OVER TO THE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, A VERY MODERN FACTORY MAKING CANS, AND NOW HERE TO THIS LOVELY SPORTS CENTRE. I WISH MORE OF OUR TOWNS IN BRITAIN HAD MODERN SPORTS CENTRES LIKE THIS.

+AND I UNDERSTAND THAT THE MONEY FOR THIS HAS BEEN EITHER LARGELY GIVEN BY THE JOCKEY CLUB, OR BY PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS, OR BY THE LOCAL RESIDENTS. AND THAT IS A VERY EXCITING CONTRIBUTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS COMMUNITY,+ HE SAID.

ALL THAT HE HAD SEEN TODAY, HE SAID, COUPLED WITH THE RECENT ELECTRIFICATION OF THE RAILWAY, THE RECLAMATION OF SO MUCH LAND, THE BUILDING OF NEW FACTORIES, THE NEW MOTORWAY IN THE NORTHEASTERN CORNER OF THE NEW TERRITORIES, SHOWED TO HIM A GREAT DEAL OF CONFIDENCE IN THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG.

- - - - 0 - - - -

STATE MINISTER BRIEFED ON TAI PO DEVELOPMENT
* * * *

THE MINISTER OF STATE AT THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE, MR TIMOTHY RENTON, TOURED TAI PO THIS (WEDNESDAY) MORNING AND SAW VARIOUS DEVELOPMENTS IN THE DISTRICT.

FROM THE ROOF OF A BUILDING AT WANG FUK COURT, MR RENTON HAD A COMMANDING VIEW OF THE NEW TOWN AND WAS TOLD ABOUT THE LATEST PROJECTS AND DEVELOPMENTS IN THE DISTRICT.

HE THEN WENT TO THE TAI PO INDUSTRIAL ESTATE WHERE HE WAS BRIEFED ON THE CONCEPT AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE ESTATE.

/MR RENTON

MR RENTON VISITED THE CONTINENTAL CAN (HK) LIMITED, BEFORE DEPARTING FOR THE TAI PO SPORTS ASSOCIATION LI FUK LAM INDOOR SPORTS CENTRE, WHERE HE TOURED THE FITNESS ROOM, DANCING STUDIO AND THE MULTI-PURPOSE GYMNASIUM.

HE WAS BRIEFED ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SWIMMING POOL WHICH WAS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY AUGUST NEXT YEAR.

MR RENTON WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, MR NICKY CHAN, THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, DR JAMES HAYES, AND TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICER, MR THOMAS CHAN, DURING THE TOUR.

- - - - -

REMINDER:

FOLLOWING ARE THE PRESS ARRANGEMENTS FOR COVERING MR RENTON'S ACTIVITIES TOMORROW (THURSDAY):

(1) PRESS CONFERENCE

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER MR RENTON'S PRESS CONFERENCE TO BE HELD AT 8.50 AM IN THE GIS PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM, FIFTH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, CENTRAL. A FULL TRANSCRIPT OF THE PRESS CONFERENCE, TOGETHER WITH A CHINESE TRANSLATION WILL BE ISSUED BY GIS.

(2) DEPARTURE AT KAI TAK

MR RENTON WILL DEPART HONG KONG FOR SINGAPORE ON FLIGHT SQ1, ETD 10 AM. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES COVERING HIS DEPARTURE SHOULD ASSEMBLE IN THE AIRPORT PRESS ROOM ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE AIRPORT TERMINAL BUILDING NOT LATER THAN 9.10 AM.

- - - - - 0 - - - - -

MP'S VISIT ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS

* * * *

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BRITISH HONG KONG PARLIAMENTARY GROUP, SIR PETER BLAKER, AND THE CONSERVATIVE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, SIR PAUL BRYAN, VISITED THE ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS IN WAN CHAI THIS (WEDNESDAY) MORNING.

TOGETHER WITH LADY BLAKER AND LADY BRYAN, THEY WERE MET ON ARRIVAL BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF THE ACADEMY FOR PERFORMING ARTS, MR ALEX WU, AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE ACADEMY, DR BASIL DEANE.

/DURING THEIR

DURING THEIR HOUR-LONG STAY, SIR PETER AND SIR PAUL TOURED THE VARIOUS FACILITIES IN THE SIX-STOREY ACADEMY, WHICH INCLUDE A 1 200-SEAT MAIN THEATRE, LECTURE ROOMS, DANCE AND DRAMA STUDIOS, A RECITAL HALL AND AN EXPERIMENTAL THEATRE.

THE VISITORS ALSO SAW THE ACADEMY'S FIRST BATCH OF 210 STUDENTS TAKING LESSONS IN ITS FOUR SCHOOLS OF DANCE, DRAMA, MUSIC AND TECHNICAL ARTS.

IN THE AFTERNOON, SIR PETER AND LADY BLAKER, AND SIR PAUL AND LADY BRYAN ATTENDED THE INAUGURATION OF THE NEW LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BUILDING AND THE OPENING OF THE 1985-86 SESSION.

- - - - -

REMINDER:

FOLLOWING ARE THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR COVERING SIR PETER'S AND SIR PAUL'S ACTIVITIES TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

(1) VISIT TO WONG TAI SIN AND LOK FU

TWO PRESS VANS (AM 2994 AND AM 2816) WILL LEAVE KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER AT 10 AM FOR CHUK YUEN ESTATE. PRESS REPRESENTATIVES MAKING THEIR OWN WAY TO THE ESTATE ARE REQUESTED TO BE IN POSITION BEFORE 10.30 AM.

(2) SIR PAUL'S PRESS CONFERENCE

SIR PAUL AND LADY BRYAN WILL LEAVE FOR VANCOUVER BY CX 800, ETD 3.45 PM. A PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES COVERING THE CONFERENCE SHOULD ARRIVE AT THE AIRPORT VIP ROOM NOT LATER THAN 2.30 PM.

(3) SIR PETER'S PRESS CONFERENCE

SIR PETER AND LADY BLAKER WILL LEAVE FOR LONDON BY BA 20, ETD 9 PM. SIR PETER WILL GIVE A PRESS CONFERENCE BEFORE HE DEPARTS. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE AIRPORT VIP ROOM BY 7.45 PM.

- - - - - 0 - - - - -

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1985

- 36 -

DANGEROUS STAIRCASE TO BE DEMOLISHED

* * *

THE BUILDING AUTHORITY TODAY (WEDNESDAY) DECLARED THE STAIRCASE ON THE RIGHT-OF-WAY OF 6D, NEW PRAYA, KENNEDY TOWN, DANGEROUS AND SHOULD BE CLOSED AND DEMOLISHED, WHILE THE FIRST FLOOR OF THE BUILDING WHICH WAS LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS SHOULD ALSO BE CLOSED.

A NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER IN THE VICTORIA DISTRICT COURT AT 9.30 AM ON NOVEMBER 28 WAS POSTED ON THE AFFECTED PREMISES.

A BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID THE STAIRCASE WAS THE REMAINING HALF OF THE RIGHT-OF-WAY AFTER THE ADJACENT BUILDING HAD BEEN DEMOLISHED.

HE SAID THAT STRUCTURAL TIMBERS OF THE STAIRCASE HAD DETERIORATED AND SIGNIFICANT FRACTURES WERE NOTED AT THE FRONT AND REAR ELEVATIONS INDICATING THAT IT WAS PULLING AWAY FROM THE BUILDING.

AS A RESULT, HE SAID, IT WAS NECESSARY TO CLOSE AND DEMOLISH THE STAIRCASE.

ON DEMOLITION OF THE STAIRCASE, THE ONLY MEANS OF FIRE ESCAPE FROM THE FIRST FLOOR WOULD BE DENIED AND, IT SHOULD THEREFORE BE CLOSED AT THE SAME TIME.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE OWNER OF THE FIRST FLOOR WOULD BE ADVISED TO PROVIDE ACCEPTABLE FIRE ESCAPES AND, ON SATISFACTORY PROVISION, THE CLOSURE ORDER WOULD BE LIFTED.

----- 0 -----

BOARD TO DISCUSS OUTLINE ZONING PLAN

* * *

SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL DISCUSS THE DRAFT POK FU LAM OUTLINE ZONING PLAN AT THEIR MEETING ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 1) AFTERNOON.

THE DRAFT PLAN AFFECTS AN AREA OF ABOUT 420 HECTARES ON THE WESTERN COAST OF HONG KONG ISLAND. THE PRESENT POPULATION OF THIS AREA IS ABOUT 84 500, BUT WHEN FULLY DEVELOPED, THE POPULATION WOULD INCREASE TO ABOUT 124 000 PEOPLE.

UNDER THE DRAFT PLAN, SITES HAVE BEEN EARMARKED FOR COMMERCIAL USE, RESIDENTIAL USE, VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT, INSTITUTION AND COMMUNITY USES, OPEN SPACE, GREAT BELT, CEMETERY AND OTHER PURPOSES.

AT THE MEETING, BOARD MEMBERS WILL BE BRIEFED BY A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE LANDS DEPARTMENT ON DETAILS OF THE DRAFT PLAN.

/MEMBERS WILL

- 37 -

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN WONG CHUK HANG AND THE PROPOSED REPULSE BAY BUS TERMINUS.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE LIBRARY SERVICES IN SOUTHERN DISTRICT= THE ENFORCEMENT OF COMPULSORY INSURANCE UNDER THE EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION ORDINANCE AND THE PROGRESS REPORTS OF THE BOARD'S VARIOUS COMMITTEES AND DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

- - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD AT 2.30 PM ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 1) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE, SECOND FLOOR, MEI FUNG COURT, ABERDEEN CENTRE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

JOINT SPORTS FESTIVAL FOR TSUEN WAN, KWAI CHUNG
* * * *

THE 1985 TSUEN KWAI SPORTS FESTIVAL, A JOINT DISTRICT SPORTS EVENT FOR TSUEN WAN AND KWAI CHUNG, WILL BEGIN ON NOVEMBER 9.

THE MONTH-LONG FESTIVAL WILL START WITH AN OPENING CEREMONY TO BE ACCOMPANIED BY PERFORMANCES BY VISITING GYMNASTIC TEAMS FROM GUANGDONG PROVINCE ON NOVEMBER 9 AT THE OSMAN RAMJU SADICK INDOOR GAMES HALL IN KWAI CHUNG.

AS A JOINT EFFORT TO PROMOTE AND ENCOURAGE SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES AMONG RESIDENTS IN THE DISTRICTS, THE FESTIVAL WAS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD, THE KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI DISTRICT BOARD, THE DISTRICT OFFICES, THE FEDERATION OF TSUEN WAN DISTRICT SPORTS AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION AND THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

DETAILS AND PROGRAMMES OF THE FESTIVAL WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT A PRESS CONFERENCE AT NOON ON THURSDAY (OCTOBER 31) AT THE KAPOK ROOM OF THE UNITED RESTAURANT, UNITED CENTRE, ADMIRALTY MTR STATION, QUEENSWAY.

THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT COMMISSIONER, MR CHAN SUI-JEUNG, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE FESTIVAL, MR CHAN WAI-MAN, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE WILL BE PRESENT.

- - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1985

- 38 -

WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD ON STUDY TOUR

* * * *

WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS LEFT TODAY (WEDNESDAY) FOR HAWAII AND JAPAN ON A TEN-DAY STUDY TOUR.

THE PARTY, COMPRISING EIGHT DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AND TWO AREA COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN, WAS HEADED BY BOARD CHAIRMAN, MRS PEGGY LAM, AND ACCOMPANIED BY WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ROGER GARCIA.

DURING THEIR STAY IN HAWAII AND JAPAN, THEY WILL VISIT VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND INSTITUTIONS TO STUDY THE LEGISLATURE AND LEGAL SYSTEM, ELECTION PROCESS, TOWN PLANNING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND TRANSPORT PLANNING.

+THE TOUR WILL PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS TO LEARN ABOUT THE WORKINGS OF OTHER GOVERNMENTS WHICH WE MAY FIND USEFUL IN OUR WORK,+ MRS LAM SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

SOUVENIR PRESENTATION

* * *

THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR YIU YAN-NANG, WILL OFFICIATE AT A SOUVENIR PRESENTATION TO PARTICIPATING COMPANIES OF THE CONSTRUCTION SAFETY AWARD SCHEME TOMORROW (THURSDAY) AT THE BUILDING CONTRACTORS' ASSOCIATION ON THE 16TH FLOOR OF 182 HENNESSY ROAD, WAN CHAI.

THE AWARD SCHEME, ORGANISED BY THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY SAFETY SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD, IS AIMED AT PROMOTING SAFETY AMONG EMPLOYERS AND WORKERS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY.

THE SCHEME IS OPEN TO ALL WORKERS AND CONTRACTORS IN THE INDUSTRY AND IS DIVIDED INTO THREE CATEGORIES INCLUDING A SAFETY SITE AWARD, A SAFETY WORKER AWARD AND A SAFETY CROSSWORD PUZZLE CONTEST.

- - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRESENTATION WHICH STARTS AT 3 PM TOMORROW.

- - - - 0 - - - -

URBAN CLEARWAYS SET UP IN CENTRAL
* * * * *

SEVERAL ROAD SECTIONS IN CENTRAL WILL BE MADE URBAN CLEARWAYS DAILY FROM 7 AM TO MIDNIGHT FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 1).

THESE INCLUDE:

- * COTTON TREE DRIVE BETWEEN ITS JUNCTIONS WITH GARDEN ROAD AND THE SLIP ROAD LEADING TO KENNEDY ROAD.
- * THE NORTHERN SECTION OF THE FLYOVER LEADING FROM KENNEDY ROAD TO COTTON TREE DRIVE, MEASURING 15 METRES.
- * MACDONNELL ROAD FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH GARDEN ROAD TO A POINT ABOUT 25 METRES SOUTHWARDS.
- * THE SOUTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF GARDEN ROAD BETWEEN COTTON TREE DRIVE AND MAGAZINE GAP ROAD.

WITHIN THESE ROAD SECTIONS, NO VEHICLES OTHER THAN FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

RESTRICTED ZONES IN TSUEN WAN
* * * * *

TSUEN WAN ROAD INCLUDING ALL ITS SLIP ROADS BETWEEN TEXACO ROAD AND TUEN MUN ROAD WILL BE DESIGNATED A 24-HOUR RESTRICTED ZONE FROM 10.30 AM ON SATURDAY (NOVEMBER 2).

FROM 9 AM ON THE SAME DAY, THE SOUTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF THE UNNAMED ROAD CONNECTING CASTLE PEAK ROAD ROUNDABOUT AT CHAI WAN KOK AND ROUNDABOUT BENEATH TSUEN WAN ROAD WILL ALSO BE DESIGNATED A 24-HOUR RESTRICTED ZONE.

ALL MOTOR VEHICLES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS AND GOODS.

MEANWHILE, THE NEW ROAD WILL ALSO BE DESIGNATED AS A +LEARNER DRIVER PROHIBITED+ ZONE ON THE SAME DAY.

- - - - 0 - - - -