



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1985

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SIR JOHN EXPLAINS AIR TRANSPORT POLICY  
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THE MOST HEAVILY TRAVELLED AIR ROUTES TO AND FROM HONG KONG ARE ALREADY WELL SERVED BY SEVERAL ESTABLISHED OPERATORS AND THE GOVERNMENT HAS THEREFORE DECIDED THAT AS A GENERAL RULE, DESIGNATION IN RESPECT OF ROUTES AVAILABLE TO HONG KONG WILL BE LIMITED TO ONE AIRLINE PER ROUTE.

IN A STATEMENT ON AIR TRANSPORT POLICY AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, THE HON SIR JOHN BREMIDGE, SAID THE AIRLINE FIRST LICENSED BY THE AIR TRANSPORT LICENCE AUTHORITY FOR A ROUTE WOULD NORMALLY BE THE ONE TO BE DESIGNATED FOR THAT ROUTE.

SIR JOHN SAID THAT TO OPERATE SCHEDULED SERVICES ON ANY GIVEN ROUTE, AN AIRLINE ALREADY HOLDING AN AIR OPERATOR'S CERTIFICATE MUST, AS A FIRST STEP, OBTAIN THE REQUISITE LICENCE FROM ATLA, AN INDEPENDENT BODY ESTABLISHED UNDER THE AIR TRANSPORT (LICENSING OF AIR SERVICES) REGULATIONS TO DETERMINE LICENCE APPLICATIONS.

+ITS TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR DOING SO ARE LAID DOWN IN LAW IN SOME DETAIL, BUT GENERALLY SPEAKING IT MUST HAVE REGARD TO THE CO-ORDINATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF AIR SERVICES WITH THE OBJECT OF ENSURING THE MOST EFFECTIVE SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC WHILE AVOIDING UNECONOMICAL OVERLAPPING, + SIR JOHN SAID.

+AN ATLA DECISION ON A LICENCE APPLICATION IS FINAL, + HE ADDED.

SIR JOHN SAID THE NEXT STEP WAS FOR THE AIRLINE TO BE DESIGNATED UNDER THE RELEVANT AIR SERVICES AGREEMENT TO EXERCISE RIGHTS ON THE ROUTE FOR WHICH IT HAD BEEN LICENSED OR, IF THE RIGHTS DID NOT EXIST, FOR A DECISION TO BE TAKEN AS TO WHETHER THOSE RIGHTS SHOULD BE SOUGHT.

+DESIGNATION AND THE DECISION ON WHETHER TO SEEK ADDITIONAL RIGHTS ARE MATTERS FOR HMG ACTING ON THE ADVICE OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT.

+WHERE THE RIGHTS EXIST, IT IS ONLY IN THE MOST EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES THAT A GOVERNMENT CAN DECLINE TO ACCEPT DESIGNATION OF AN AIRLINE, + SIR JOHN SAID.

SIR JOHN SAID INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT WAS HIGHLY REGULATED AND AIR TRAFFIC RIGHTS WERE NOT AVAILABLE TO EVERYBODY.

+SUCH VALUABLE RIGHTS ARE JEALOUSLY GUARDED AND GOVERNMENTS SEEK TO RETAIN THE MAXIMUM SHARE FOR THEIR OWN AIRLINES. OFTEN THERE IS ONLY ONE INTERNATIONAL CARRIER, WHICH MAY WELL BE WHOLLY OR PARTLY STATE-OWNED.

+CONSEQUENTLY, MANY, IF NOT MOST, BILATERAL AIR SERVICES ARRANGEMENTS PROVIDE FOR ONLY ONE AIRLINE TO BE DESIGNATED BY EACH PARTY TO OPERATE ALL ITS ROUTES; OTHERS PERMIT NO MORE THAN ONE AIRLINE PER ROUTE FOR EACH SIDE,+ SIR JOHN SAID.

IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, SIR JOHN SAID, DESIGNATION OF MORE THAN ONE HONG KONG AIRLINE ON ANY ROUTE WOULD BE CONSIDERED ONLY IN CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE IT WAS JUDGED THAT MORE COMPETITION WAS NEEDED IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST AND THE TRAFFIC WAS SUFFICIENT TO SUSTAIN A SUBSTANTIAL OPERATION BY MORE THAN ONE HONG KONG AIRLINE.

SIR JOHN SAID THAT IN SEEKING RIGHTS TO SATISFY AN AIRLINE LICENSED TO OPERATE A NEW ROUTE OR IN DESIGNATING AN AIRLINE FOR AN EXISTING ROUTE, IT MIGHT BE FOUND THAT THE OTHER PARTY TO THE AIR SERVICES ARRANGEMENTS WAS TRYING TO EXACT A PRICE FOR THOSE RIGHTS OR THE DESIGNATION OF A NEW CARRIER RESPECTIVELY.

+IF THIS PRICE WAS, IN THE OPINION OF THE GOVERNMENT, UNACCEPTABLE IN THE OVERALL INTERESTS OF HONG KONG OR UNDULY DAMAGING TO THE INTERESTS OF AN AIRLINE ALREADY OPERATING ANOTHER ROUTE BETWEEN HONG KONG AND THE DESTINATION COUNTRY, THEN THAT PRICE WOULD NOT BE PAID,+ HE SAID.

TURNING TO NON-SCHEDULED SERVICES, SIR JOHN SAID THAT UNDER THE RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF THE AIR TRANSPORT (LICENSING OF AIR SERVICES) REGULATIONS, IT WAS THE DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION WHO DECIDED WHETHER OR NOT TO GRANT A PERMIT AND WHAT CONDITIONS, APPROPRIATE TO THE NATURE AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE APPLICATION, TO ATTACH TO A PERMIT.

+THE DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION WILL NORMALLY APPROVE AN APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT FOR AN AD HOC, NON-SCHEDULED SERVICE, IF THE APPLICANT AIRLINE HOLDING AN AIR OPERATOR'S CERTIFICATE HAS REASONABLY DEMONSTRATED THAT CORRESPONDING SCHEDULED SERVICES CANNOT SATISFY A GENUINE DEMAND BY PROVIDING THE SERVICE OR CAPACITY REQUESTED, WHETHER FOR PASSENGERS OR CARGO, AT THE PRICE OFFERED.

+APPLICATIONS FOR NON-SCHEDULED SERVICES FOR THE SAME ROUTE WILL BE DEALT WITH ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS. OF COURSE APPROVAL BY THE DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION MUST BE MATCHED BY EQUIVALENT APPROVAL BY THE OTHER ADMINISTRATION CONCERNED,+ SIR JOHN SAID.

SIR JOHN SAID THAT FOR MANY YEARS THERE HAD BEEN ONLY ONE ACTIVE HONG KONG AIRLINE.

HOWEVER, HE SAID, TWO ADDITIONAL AIRLINES HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED, ONE WAS ALREADY OPERATIONAL AND HAD MOUNTED A NUMBER OF CHARTER SERVICES, AND THE OTHER WAS PLANNING TO START OPERATIONS AT AN EARLY DATE.

/SIR JOHN .....

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SIR JOHN SAID THEY HAD TOGETHER MADE A TOTAL OF 15 LICENCE APPLICATIONS TO ATLA AND THERE WAS ALSO A PROSPECT OF FURTHER AIRLINES SEEKING TO ENTER THE AIR TRANSPORT MARKET SHORTLY.

+THIS NEW SITUATION HAS REQUIRED THE GOVERNMENT TO RECONSIDER ITS POLICY IN RELATION TO CERTAIN AIR SERVICES MATTERS.

+IT HAS DONE SO, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ITS OVERALL RESPONSIBILITY AND THE INTERESTS OF THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC AND SHIPPERS. IT HAS ALSO HAD TO TAKE COGNISANCE OF THE HIGHLY REGULATED NATURE OF THE INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT INDUSTRY,+ SIR JOHN SAID.

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STATEMENT ON DIRECTOR OF AUDIT'S REPORT

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THE APPROPRIATE FORUM FOR CONSIDERING POLICY ISSUES, INCLUDING ANY THAT MAY BE RAISED IN THE DIRECTOR OF AUDIT'S ANNUAL REPORT, IS THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WHERE THEY CAN BE PROPERLY AND FULLY DEBATED, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, THE HON SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

SIR DAVID WAS MAKING A STATEMENT WHILE TABLING A GOVERNMENT PAPER IN RESPONSE TO COMMENTS ON CERTAIN POLICY ISSUES CONTAINED IN THE DIRECTOR OF AUDIT'S ANNUAL REPORT.

THE ANNUAL REPORT, FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1985, WAS ALSO TABLED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

EXPLAINING THE REASONS FOR GOVERNMENT PROCEEDING IN THIS WAY, HE SAID: +MOREOVER, FROM A PRACTICAL POINT OF VIEW, CONTROLLING OFFICERS WHO ARE REQUIRED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE, ARE RARELY THE OFFICERS RESPONSIBLE FOR POLICY, AND ARE NOT THEREFORE USUALLY IN A POSITION TO RESPOND AUTHORITATIVELY ON MATTER OF POLICY.+

SIR DAVID SAID THE DIRECTOR OF AUDIT'S REPORT WAS A +THOROUGH AND HIGHLY PROFESSIONAL+ PIECE OF WORK.

+THE POINT I MAKE IS ONE OF PRINCIPLE REGARDING THE PROCEDURES TO BE USED FOR DISCUSSION OF POLICY ISSUES RAISED BY THE REPORT= BUT LET ME, AT THE SAME TIME, ASSURE MEMBERS OF THIS COUNCIL THE GOVERNMENT WILL ANSWER ALL THE POINTS RAISED IN IT,+ HE SAID.

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SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISION AMOUNTS TO \$262.5M  
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SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISION APPROVED FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1985-86 AMOUNTS TO JUST UNDER \$262.5 MILLION, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, THE HON SIR JOHN BREMRIDGE, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

OF THIS SUM, SIR JOHN SAID, \$145.8 MILLION WERE INCLUDED IN SUPPLEMENTARY WARRANTS.

+SOME MAJOR PROVISIONS INCLUDED \$198.7 MILLION FOR THE PAYMENT OF GRANTS TO THE UNIVERSITIES, POLYTECHNICS, BAPTIST COLLEGE AND URBAN COUNCIL AS A RESULT OF THE 1985 CIVIL SERVICE PAY ADJUSTMENT; \$8.2 MILLION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE CITY POLYTECHNIC PREMISES AND \$7.3 MILLION FOR REIMBURSEMENT TO THE ENGLISH SCHOOLS FOUNDATION OF RENT ALLOWANCES FOR FORMER GOVERNMENT TEACHERS AND THEIR REPLACEMENTS,+ HE ADDED.

SIR JOHN SAID IT WAS REASSURING TO NOTE THAT THERE WOULD BE NO NET INCREASE IN EXPENDITURE RESULTING FROM THE SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISION APPROVED BECAUSE IT HAD BEEN OFFSET EITHER BY SAVINGS UNDER THE SAME OR OTHER HEADS OF EXPENDITURE OR BY DELETION OF FUNDS UNDER THE ADDITIONAL COMMITMENTS VOTES.

HE SAID APPROVED COMMITMENTS WERE INCREASED BY \$43.5 MILLION AND NEW COMMITMENTS OF \$151.4 MILLION WERE ALSO APPROVED.

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MOVE TO SET UP NEW SELECT COMMITTEE  
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A MOTION TO APPOINT A SELECT COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE THE PROSECUTION AND TRIAL OF COMPLEX COMMERCIAL CRIMES WAS MOVED BY THE HON LYDIA DUNN AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

INTRODUCING THE MOTION, MISS DUNN RECALLED THAT A SELECT COMMITTEE WAS APPOINTED ON MAY 1 THIS YEAR TO CONSIDER AND REPORT ON THE APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO BE TAKEN TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN THE PROSECUTION AND TRIAL OF COMPLEX COMMERCIAL CRIMES, INCLUDING CHANGES IN THE PROCEDURES BEFORE AND DURING TRIAL AND THE MODE OF TRIAL.

+HOWEVER, UNDER STANDING ORDER 61(5) A SELECT COMMITTEE IS AUTOMATICALLY DISSOLVED AT THE END OF EACH SESSION AND BY THE TIME MEMBERS WERE NOMINATED ON MAY 25, THIS COMMITTEE HAD ONLY SOME TWO MONTHS TO TACKLE A VERY IMPORTANT AND COMPLEX TASK,+ SHE SAID.

/SHE POINTED .....

SHE POINTED OUT THAT THE PRESENT MOTION AROSE FROM A RECOMMENDATION BY THE SELECT COMMITTEE IN ITS REPORT TABLED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON AUGUST 7.

THE RECOMMENDATION WAS THAT A SELECT COMMITTEE BE APPOINTED IN THE NEW SESSION TO CONSIDER FURTHER THE APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO BE TAKEN TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN THE PROSECUTION AND TRIAL OF COMPLEX COMMERCIAL CRIMES.

+IT SAID THAT A STUDY OF THE FRAUD TRIALS (ROSKILL) COMMITTEE REPORT WHEN IT IS PUBLISHED IN THE UK WILL BE HELPFUL, BUT ANY RECOMMENDATIONS BY THAT COMMITTEE WILL NEED TO BE EXAMINED IN THE CONTEXT OF HONG KONG,+ MISS DUNN ADDED.

ON THE PREVIOUS SELECT COMMITTEE, SHE SAID SHE BELIEVED THAT ALTHOUGH THE COMMITTEE REACHED NO FINAL CONCLUSION, ITS PRELIMINARY ENQUIRIES WERE BOTH ENCOURAGING AND PRODUCTIVE AND WOULD SERVE AS A USEFUL STARTING POINT FOR THE NEW SELECT COMMITTEE.

SPEAKING IN SUPPORT OF THE MOTION, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, THE HON SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO ASSURE MISS DUNN AND HER COLLEAGUES OF +THE GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO DO ALL IT CAN TO ASSIST THE SELECT COMMITTEE IN ITS DELIBERATIONS+.

SIR DAVID SAID THE SELECT COMMITTEE APPOINTED IN THE LAST SESSION UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF MR PETER WONG HAD ALREADY DONE MUCH VALUABLE WORK IN IDENTIFYING THE PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN THE INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION OF COMPLEX COMMERCIAL CRIMES.

+I AM SURE THAT THE NEW COMMITTEE WILL CONTINUE THIS EXCELLENT WORK,+ HE ADDED.

SIR DAVID ALSO THANKED MR WONG AND THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE APPOINTED ON MAY 1 LAST YEAR FOR THEIR DEDICATED EFFORTS TO FIND SOLUTIONS TO THIS PROBLEM.

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#### HIGHER LEVELS OF COMPENSATION FOR EMPLOYEES

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A RESOLUTION AIMED AT RAISING THE PRESENT LEVELS OF COMPENSATION SPECIFIED UNDER THE EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION ORDINANCE BY ABOUT 23.5 PER CENT FROM JANUARY NEXT YEAR WAS ADOPTED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

MOVING THE RESOLUTION UNDER SECTION 48A OF THE EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION ORDINANCE, THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, THE HON NEIL HENDERSON, SAID THE LEVELS OF COMPENSATION WERE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF A 1978 WORKING PARTY WHICH REVIEWED THE THEN WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ORDINANCE, REVISED EVERY TWO YEARS.

/SINCE THE .....

SINCE THE PRESENT LEVELS HAD BEEN IN FORCE SINCE JULY 1983, A FURTHER REVISION WAS NOW DUE, HE SAID.

+TO GIVE INSURERS SUFFICIENT TIME TO MAKE ADJUSTMENTS TO THEIR RATES OF PREMIUM, IT IS PROPOSED TO BRING THE REVISED LEVELS OF COMPENSATION INTO FORCE ON JANUARY 1, 1986,+ HE NOTED.

MR HENDERSON SAID THE BASIS FOR THE PROPOSED 23.5 PER CENT WAS THE 15.6 PER CENT INCREASE IN OVERALL WAGE RATES, ACCORDING TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, BETWEEN MARCH 1983 - THE DATE AGAINST WHICH THE PRESENT LEVELS OF COMPENSATION WERE SET - AND MARCH 1985.

HE ADDED: +THE PRESENT LEVELS OF COMPENSATION WERE SET ON THE BASIS OF CALCULATIONS MADE SEVERAL MONTHS BEFORE THEIR INTRODUCTION WHICH UNDERESTIMATED THE INCREASE IN WAGE RATES IN THE MEANTIME.

+ALLOWING THEREFORE FOR AN ADJUSTMENT TO CORRECT THIS UNDERESTIMATION AND ASSUMING A FURTHER FIVE PER CENT INCREASE IN OVERALL WAGE RATES BETWEEN MARCH 1985 AND JANUARY 1986, COMPENSATION LEVELS SHOULD BE SET, WITH EFFECT FROM JANUARY 1986, 23.5 PER CENT HIGHER THAN AT PRESENT.+

MR HENDERSON SAID ACCORDINGLY, IT WAS PROPOSED TO RAISE THE MAXIMUM AMOUNTS OF COMPENSATION FOR DEATH AND FOR PERMANENT TOTAL INCAPACITY FROM \$242 000 TO \$299 000- AND FROM \$276 000 TO \$341 000 RESPECTIVELY; AND THE MINIMUM AMOUNTS FROM \$81 000 TO \$100 000 AND FROM \$92 000 TO \$114 000 RESPECTIVELY.

COMPENSATION FOR THE NEED FOR CONSTANT ATTENTION WOULD ALSO BE RAISED FROM \$111 000 TO \$137 000.

A SIMILAR INCREASE WAS PROPOSED IN THE MAXIMUM PAYMENTS TO BE MADE BY AN EMPLOYER TOWARDS THE COSTS OF SUPPLYING AND FITTING A PROSTHESIS OF A SURGICAL APPLIANCE AND FOR ITS REPAIR OR RENEWAL.

THE PRESENT AMOUNTS OF \$10 000 AND \$30 000 WOULD ACCORDINGLY BE RAISED TO \$12 000 AND \$37 000, MR HENDERSON NOTED.

HE SAID THE MAXIMUM DAILY RATES PAYABLE BY THE EMPLOYER FOR, RESPECTIVELY, HOSPITAL STAY AND OUT-PATIENT TREATMENT FOR AN EMPLOYEE RECEIVING MEDICAL TREATMENT ALSO REQUIRED ADJUSTMENT TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT RECENT INCREASES IN THE DAILY CHARGES OF GOVERNMENT AND SUBVENTED HOSPITALS.

+THESE RATES HAVE NOT BEEN ADJUSTED SINCE 1977 AND ACCORDINGLY A RATHER HIGHER LEVEL OF INCREASE IS PROPOSED, FROM \$20 TO \$30 FOR EACH DAY OF STAY IN A HOSPITAL AND FROM \$10 TO \$15 FOR EACH DAY OF OUT-PATIENT TREATMENT.

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+THE REVISED RATES SHOULD ENABLE AN EMPLOYEE TO RECOVER FULL MEDICAL EXPENSES FROM HIS EMPLOYER IF HE RECEIVES TREATMENT IN A GOVERNMENT OR SUBVENTED HOSPITAL OR TO RECEIVE A REASONABLE SUBSIDY IF HE CHOOSES TO RECEIVE TREATMENT AT PRIVATE HOSPITALS OR FROM PRIVATE DOCTORS,+ MR HENDERSON SAID.

IN ANOTHER RESOLUTION, MR HENDERSON ALSO PROPOSED THAT AN EMPLOYEE'S MINIMUM EARNINGS USED AS THE BASIS FOR CALCULATING COMPENSATION BE RAISED FROM THE PRESENT \$600 TO \$800.

IN ADDITION, A SEPARATE RESOLUTION AIMED AT RAISING THE MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM LEVELS OF COMPENSATION SPECIFIED IN THE PNEUMOCONIOSIS (COMPENSATION) ORDINANCE FOR DEATH, TOTAL INCAPACITY AND CONSTANT ATTENTION, AND FOR DAILY RATES OF MEDICAL EXPENSES WERE ADOPTED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

THE INCREASES WERE IN LINE WITH THE EQUIVALENT LEVELS STIPULATED IN THE EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION ORDINANCE, MR HENDERSON SAID.

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DELEGATION OF POWERS BY DBD CLARIFIED  
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THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AD HOC GROUP ON THE BUILDINGS (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1985 HAS PROPOSED THAT IT SHOULD BE SPECIFIED IN A SCHEDULE TO THE ORDINANCE THE GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS TO WHICH THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDING DEVELOPMENT MAY DELEGATE HIS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, THE HON CHENG HON-KWAN TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

SPEAKING DURING THE RESUMED DEBATE ON THE BILL, MR CHENG SAID THE MORE SERIOUS OF THE GROUP'S TWO POINTS OF CONCERN ABOUT THE BILL WAS THAT IF ENACTED AS IT WAS THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDING DEVELOPMENT WOULD BE ABLE TO DELEGATE HIS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS TO ANY GOVERNMENT OFFICERS IN ANY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

+THE GROUP TAKES THE VIEW THAT THE SCOPE OF DELEGATION SHOULD NOT BE WIDER THAN NECESSARY.

+ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT CURRENTLY DELEGATIONS HAVE TO BE MADE TO OFFICERS IN ONLY FOUR DEPARTMENTS, NAMELY, BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, IT IS CONSIDERED THAT THESE DEPARTMENTS SHOULD BE SPECIFIED IN THE LEGISLATION,+ HE SAID.

/THE GROUP .....

THE GROUP HOWEVER RECOGNISED THE NEED FOR FLEXIBILITY, HE ADDED.

+IN ORDER THAT THE SCOPE OF DELEGATION MAY BE EXTENDED, IF AND WHEN NECESSARY IN FUTURE, WITHOUT GOING THROUGH THE ELABORATE PROCEDURE INVOLVED IN AMENDING AN ORDINANCE, THE GROUP HAS PROPOSED THAT THE SPECIFICATION BE IN THE FORM OF A SCHEDULE TO THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE AND THAT THE SCHEDULE MAY BE REVISED BY RESOLUTION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,+ HE SAID.

MR CHENG NOTED THAT THE OTHER POINT OF CONCERN RELATED TO THE EFFECT CLAUSE 3 MIGHT HAVE ON CASES DUE TO BE HEARD IN COURT.

THE CLAUSE SOUGHT TO VALIDATE RETROSPECTIVELY THE DELEGATIONS PREVIOUSLY MADE TO OFFICERS OUTSIDE THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

THE GROUP IN ITS MEETING WITH THE ADMINISTRATION WAS ASSURED THAT THERE WAS NO PENDING LITIGATION AND IT ACCEPTED THAT THE RETROSPECTIVE PROVISION WAS NECESSARY TO PUT BEYOND DOUBT THE BUILDING AUTHORITY'S POWER TO RECOVER COSTS OF WORKS WHICH HAD BEEN CARRIED OUT BY, FOR EXAMPLE, THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, ON BEHALF OF PRIVATE DEVELOPERS.

THE RELEVANT AMENDMENTS WERE MOVED BY THE HON HO SAI-CHU AT THE COMMITTEE STAGE.

DURING THE SECOND READING OF THE BILL, THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, THE HON NICKY CHAN, SAID THAT IT WOULD BE INCONCEIVABLE THAT THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDING DEVELOPMENT WOULD DELEGATE HIS STATUTORY POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES TO A PUBLIC OFFICER WHO WAS NOT COMPETENT NOR QUALIFIED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT HE AGREED THAT SUCH A DELEGATION SHOULD BE WRITTEN INTO THE LAW BY WAY OF A SCHEDULE, LISTING THE SPECIFIC DEPARTMENTS TO WHICH POWERS MIGHT BE DELEGATED.

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PLAN TO REMOVE 'DIFFICULT' SUBSECTION IN ORDINANCE  
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A BILL AIMED AT REMOVING A POTENTIAL DIFFICULTY IN A SUBSECTION OF THE ARBITRATION ORDINANCE WAS INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

MOVING THE SECOND READING OF THE ARBITRATION (AMENDMENT)(NO.2) BILL 1985, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE HON MICHAEL THOMAS, SAID SECTION 6B EMPOWERED THE COURT TO CONSOLIDATE TWO OR MORE ARBITRATION PROCEEDINGS ON ANY OF THE GROUNDS SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (1).

/+THE DIFFICULTY .....

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+THE DIFFICULTY WITH THE SECTION IS THAT WHERE THE COURT IS REQUIRED TO APPOINT AN ARBITRATOR OR OR UMPIRE FOR CONSOLIDATED ARBITRATION PROCEEDINGS, THE EXISTING PROVISION DOES NOT EXPRESSLY GIVE THE COURT POWER TO REMOVE ANY ARBITRATOR OR UMPIRE ALREADY APPOINTED TO ACT IN THE VARIOUS ARBITRATION PROCEEDINGS WHICH THE COURT WISHES TO CONSOLIDATE,+ HE SAID.

MR THOMAS EXPLAINED THAT THE VERY PROBLEM HAD ARISEN IN A RECENT HIGH COURT CASE.

+ALTHOUGH IT WAS HELD THAT THE COURT DID HAVE THE POWER TO REMOVE AN EXISTING ARBITRATOR, IT HAD TO IMPLY THAT POWER FROM A LIBERAL READING OF THE SECTION IN THE ABSENCE OF EXPRESS PROVISION TO THAT EFFECT.

+AS A CONSEQUENCE, THE JUDICIARY HAS PROPOSED THAT THE SECTION BE AMENDED TO PUT BEYOND DOUBT THAT THE COURT'S POWER UNDER SECTION 6B(2) OF THE ARBITRATION ORDINANCE TO APPOINT AN ARBITRATOR OR UMPIRE FOR CONSOLIDATED PROCEEDINGS INCLUDES THE POWER TO REMOVE ANY EXISTING ARBITRATOR OR UMPIRE,+ SAID MR THOMAS.

DEBATE ON THE BILL WAS ADJOURNED.

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#### RETAIL MARKETS ON TARGET TO METRICATION \* \* \* \*

METRICATION IN ALL RETAIL MARKETS WILL BE ATTAINED WHEN THERE IS WILLINGNESS AND A DESIRE ON THE PART OF BOTH THE RETAILERS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC FOR THIS CHANGE, THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, THE HON ERIC HO, SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY THE HON CHEUNG YAN-LUNG, MR HO SAID THE METRICATION COMMITTEE HAD SINCE 1978 EMBARKED ON A PUBLICITY AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME TO ENCOURAGE, HELP AND PERSUADE ALL SECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY TO ADOPT THE METRIC SYSTEM AND USE METRIC UNITS.

+THE RATIONALE IS THAT THE INTERNATIONAL TREND IS TOWARDS METRICATION,+ HE SAID.

THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF THE COMMITTEE, MR HO SAID, MUCH PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE.

+IN THREE OF THE FIVE BROAD TARGET AREAS IDENTIFIED BY THE COMMITTEE METRICATION HAS BEEN ACHIEVED: THESE ARE EDUCATION AND TRAINING, BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES.+

/+PROGRESS HAS .....

+PROGRESS HAS ALSO BEEN MADE AT THE RETAIL LEVEL WHERE METRIC UNITS ARE NOW USED IN THE LABELLING OF PREPACKAGED FOOD AND DRINKS AND IN A WIDE RANGE OF HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES,+ MR HO SAID.

HE ADDED THAT A RECENT SURVEY BY THE COMMITTEE SHOWED THAT 70 PER CENT OF CLOTHING AND FASHION PRODUCTS HAD CONVERTED TO THE NEW SYSTEM.

MR HO SAID MUCH REMAINED TO BE DONE IN THE TRADITIONAL MARKET PLACES WHERE THERE APPEARED TO BE RELUCTANCE TO GOING METRIC.

+WHILE IT IS THE INTENTION OF THE METRICATION COMMITTEE TO CONCENTRATE ITS EFFORTS IN THIS AREA,+ HE SAID, +I AM AFRAID IT WOULD BE RATHER RASH OF ME TO ATTEMPT ANY FORECAST OF THE LIKELY TIMETABLE FOR THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THIS GOAL.+

TO THE CONSUMER, MR HO SAID, THE IMPLEMENTATION OF METRICATION WOULD REMOVE THE CONFUSION WHICH RESULTED FROM DIFFERENT SYSTEMS BEING USED SIMULTANEOUSLY: IT SHOULD MAKE PRICE COMPARISON EASIER.

+HOWEVER, TO THE EXTENT THAT THE STANDARD UNIT IN THE HAWKER AND MARKET STALLS IS THE CATTY THERE IS ALREADY EASE OF COMPARISON,+ HE SAID.

+I SUSPECT THAT THE PRESSURE FOR CHANGE WILL COME THROUGH COMPETITION FROM THE SUPERMARKETS WITH THEIR PREPACKAGED ITEMS WITH METRIC UNITS,+ HE ADDED.

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CONCERN EXPRESSED OVER FALLING WORKERS  
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THE NUMBER OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS INVOLVING WORKMEN FALLING FROM HEIGHT HAS BEEN AND REMAINS A MAJOR PRIORITY OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, THE HON NEIL HENDERSON, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION BY THE HON YEUNG PO-KWAN AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR HENDERSON SAID THAT THESE CASES WERE VERY CAREFULLY INVESTIGATED AND ANALYSED WITH A VIEW TO IDENTIFYING CAUSES AND SEEKING THE PREVENTIVE MEASURES REQUIRED.

HE SAID, THE DEPARTMENT'S STRATEGY IN THIS AREA WAS COMPOSED OF THREE BROAD ELEMENTS: LEGAL ENFORCEMENT, EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY.

+AS REGARDS THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK, THE CONSTRUCTION SITES (SAFETY) REGULATIONS WERE AMENDED IN 1983 TO MAKE MORE SPECIFIC PROVISION FOR PERSONS WORKING AT HEIGHT.

/+THESE AMENDMENTS .....

+THESE AMENDMENTS HAVE BEEN VIGOROUSLY ENFORCED. OF 492 PROSECUTIONS IN 1984 FOR BREACHES OF CONSTRUCTION SITES REGULATIONS, 282 CASES WERE RELATED TO THIS AREA.+

ON EDUCATION, MR HENDERSON SAID, THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S INDUSTRIAL SAFETY TRAINING CENTRE CONDUCTED SAFETY COURSES SPECIFICALLY TAILORED TO THE NEEDS OF THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY AND ALSO TO ASSIST OTHER ORGANISATIONS IN RUNNING SIMILAR COURSES.

THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT RAN 40 COURSES LAST YEAR AND WERE ATTENDED BY SOME 850 PEOPLE.

MR HENDERSON SAID PUBLICITY WAS THE THIRD MAJOR WEAPON.

+IN RECENT YEARS, THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT -- IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD'S COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AND ACCIDENT PREVENTION AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS -- HAS CONDUCTED AN INTENSIVE PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN AIMED AT PROMOTING GOOD SAFETY PRACTICES AND INSTILLING A SENSE OF SAFETY-CONSCIOUSNESS AT WORK.+

+SAFETY IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY HAS FEATURED PROMINENTLY IN THIS EFFORT,+ HE SAID.

NOTING THAT STATISTICS OF FALLS FROM HEIGHT AS DISTINCT FROM THE MUCH LARGER CATEGORY OF FALLS OF PERSONS UNDER ALL CIRCUMSTANCES WAS NOT AVAILABLE, MR HENDERSON SAID FATAL CASES WERE ALMOST ENTIRELY THE RESULT OF FALLS FROM HEIGHT AND THAT AROUND THREE-QUARTERS OF SUCH CASES OCCURRED IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY.

+THE TOTAL NUMBER OF FATALITIES IS DECLINING -- FROM 52 IN 1981 TO 24 IN 1984 AND TO 19 SO FAR THIS YEAR,+ HE SAID.

+ACTION OF THE KIND I HAVE DESCRIBED WILL CONTINUE TO BE TAKEN AND I TRUST THAT THIS WILL CONTRIBUTE TO A FURTHER DECLINE IN FATALITIES CAUSED BY THIS TYPE OF ACCIDENT,+ HE ADDED.

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#### NEW PROCEDURE TO APPROVE FILM ADVERTISING MATERIALS

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A NEW PROCEDURE ALLOWING TWO CLEAR WORKING DAYS FOR THE COMMISSIONER FOR TELEVISION AND ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING TO APPROVE ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION MATERIALS RELATING TO FILMS TO BE SHOWN IN PUBLIC HAS BEEN INTRODUCED FROM NOVEMBER 1, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, THE HON SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

ALSO, A FORMAL RECORD OF REGISTERING THE MATERIALS SUBMITTED AND CONVEYING DETAILS OF THE DECISION WOULD BE INTRODUCED.

REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY THE HON SELINA CHOW, SIR DAVID SAID THAT THESE WERE BEING DONE BECAUSE THE COMMISSIONER CONSIDERED THAT THE FILM CENSORSHIP AUTHORITY WOULD NEED MORE TIME TO PROPERLY ASSESS THE MATERIAL SUBMITTED, AND WHERE NECESSARY, TO CONSULT MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ADVISORY GROUP.

BEFORE THE NEW PROCEDURE WAS INTRODUCED, THE AUTHORITY GAVE IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION TO ADVERTISING MATERIAL ON THE SPOT WHEN IT WAS SUBMITTED.

HOWEVER, IT WAS THE AUTHORITY'S VIEW THAT THIS PRACTICE DID NOT ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO SCRUTINISE PROPERLY ALL THE MATERIAL PRESENTED, SIR DAVID SAID.

+SUPPORT FOR THIS VIEW IS EVIDENCED BY COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE LOOSE STANDARDS BEING APPLIED TO FILM ADVERTISING MATERIALS, IN PARTICULAR THOSE IN NEWSPAPER,+ HE ADDED.

ACCORDING TO SECTION 5 OF THE PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT ORDINANCE (CAP. 172), ALL POSTERS, PICTURES, FIGURES OR THE TEXT OF ANY ADVERTISEMENT USED IN CONNECTION WITH ANY FILM INTENDED FOR PUBLIC VIEWING MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE FILM CENSORSHIP AUTHORITY, THAT IS THE COMMISSIONER FOR TELEVISION AND ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING, FOR APPROVAL.

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ACTION AGAINST OBJECTIONABLE PUBLICATIONS PAYING OFF  
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BOTH THE NUMBER OF PUBLICATIONS DEEMED TO BE OBJECTIONABLE AND THE NUMBER OF PROSECUTIONS TAKEN AGAINST THESE PUBLICATIONS HAVE DROPPED SINCE MAY THIS YEAR, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, THE HON SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY THE HON LEE YU-TAI, SIR DAVID SAID SINCE MAY THIS YEAR, THE GOVERNMENT HAD TAKEN FIRMER ACTION TO DEAL WITH THE SALE OF PUBLICATIONS DEEMED TO BE OBJECTIONABLE.

+FOLLOWING SEIZURES AT NEWSPAPER STANDS IN MAY, BOTH PUBLISHERS AND VENDORS BECAME MORE CAUTIOUS ABOUT WHAT THEY HAD PUBLISHED OR DISPLAYED FOR SALE, AND SOME HAD EVEN CEASED OR DISCONTINUED PUBLICATION,+ HE NOTED.

SIR DAVID SAID THE NUMBER OF TITLES REQUIRING REGULAR SURVEILLANCE HAD DECREASED FROM 13 IN MAY TO ABOUT NINE AT PRESENT.

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+AS AN INDICATION OF THE OVERALL SITUATION DURING APRIL AND MAY THIS YEAR, THERE WERE 29 PROSECUTIONS, WHEREAS OVER THE PAST TWO MONTHS, THERE HAVE BEEN ONLY EIGHT.

+AS REGARDS SALES VOLUME, THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT HAVE ACCESS TO SUCH STATISTICS, BUT INDIRECT SOURCES INDICATE THAT THE POPULARITY OF THESE MAGAZINES HAS DECLINED,+ HE ADDED.

THE SALES OF THE MOST POPULAR TITLES WAS CURRENTLY BELIEVED TO BE ABOUT 100 000 COPIES PER ISSUE, COMPARED TO ABOUT 200 000 COPIES IN MAY. THE AVERAGE CIRCULATION FOR OTHERS WAS ABOUT 20 000 COPIES PER ISSUE,+ HE SAID.

+GOVERNMENT ACTION TO CONTROL AND ELIMINATE THIS OBJECTIONABLE TRADE CONTINUES,+ HE ADDED.

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CONSULTATION SOON ON ANIMAL WASTES CONTROL PACKAGE  
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THE GOVERNMENT IS TO START PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON A PACKAGE OF PROPOSALS FOR THE CONTROL OF ANIMAL WASTES, INCLUDING A BAN ON THE KEEPING OF PIGS IN THE MAIN URBAN AREAS, THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, THE HON JOHN CHAMBERS, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

REPLYING TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON KIM CHAM, MR CHAMBERS SAID IT WAS CERTAINLY THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY THAT PIG BREEDING ACTIVITIES WHICH CAUSED ENVIRONMENTAL NUISANCE SHOULD NOT BE TOLERATED.

MR CHAMBERS SAID THE BY-LAWS WHICH CONTROLLED THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH PIGS AND OTHER ANIMALS COULD BE KEPT AND IN PARTICULAR THE MEANS OF DISPOSAL OF ANIMAL WASTES, HAD PROVED VERY DIFFICULT TO ENFORCE AND WERE LARGELY INEFFECTIVE.

HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT GOVERNMENT WAS ABOUT TO BEGIN PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE PACKAGE OF PROPOSALS FOR THE CONTROL OF THE NUISANCE.

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TUNNEL ENTRANCE WARNING SIGNAL NO SOLUTION  
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WARNING SIGNALS AT THE ENTRANCES TO THE ABERDEEN TUNNEL AND LION ROCK TUNNEL AREAS WOULD BE OF LITTLE USE TO HELP EASE TRAFFIC CONGESTION DURING PEAK HOURS, THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, THE HON IAN MACPHERSON, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY THE HON CHENG HON-KWAN, MR MACPHERSON SAID TRAFFIC CONDITIONS AT THE ABERDEEN TUNNEL WERE NOT SUCH AS TO WARRANT THE USE OF WARNING SIGNALS.

IN THE CASE OF THE LION ROCK TUNNEL, THERE ARE PRACTICAL PROBLEMS WHICH MEAN THAT THE USE OF SIGNALS WOULD NOT HELP.

+IF SIGNALS WERE TO BE USED THEY WOULD HAVE TO BE PLACED SO FAR BACK FROM THE TUNNEL, PARTICULARLY ON THE SHA TIN SIDE COMING SOUTHBOUND, IN ORDER TO ENABLE DRIVERS TO TAKE AN ALTERNATIVE ROUTE, THAT THEY MIGHT WELL NOT REFLECT THE ACTUAL TRAFFIC SITUATION AT THE TUNNEL BY THE TIME A VEHICLE REACHED IT,+ HE EXPLAINED.

+TAI PO ROAD, WHICH IS THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE ROUTE TO LION ROCK TUNNEL, IS ALREADY BEING USED TO CAPACITY DURING PEAK PERIODS,+ HE ADDED.

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LEAFLET ON WAYS TO USE SCHOOL VANS PLANNED  
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THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO PRODUCE A LEAFLET FOR DRIVERS OF SCHOOL VANS AND LIGHT BUSES, PARENTS AND CHILDREN ON THE CORRECT WAY TO BEHAVE IN THESE VEHICLES AND TO ADVISE THEM ON HOW TO GET ON AND OFF SUCH VEHICLES SAFELY, THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, THE HON IAN MACPHERSON, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY THE HON YEUNG PO-KWAN, HE SAID THE LEAFLET SHOULD BE READY EARLY NEXT YEAR AND THAT IT WOULD SUPPLEMENT THE REGULAR POLICE TALKS TO KINDERGARTENS AND PRIMARY SCHOOLS ABOUT ROAD SAFETY.

THESE TALKS, MR MACPHERSON SAID, DEALT MAINLY WITH THE BEHAVIOUR OF CHILDREN AS PEDESTRIANS BUT THEIR BEHAVIOUR IN VEHICLES WAS ALSO COVERED.

EXPLAINING THE WAYS PARENTS AND OPERATORS OF SCHOOL VANS AND LIGHT BUSES ARE ASSISTED TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF CHILDREN BOARDING AND ALIGHTING FROM THESE VEHICLES, HE POINTED OUT THAT THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ISSUED GUIDELINES EACH YEAR TO KINDERGARTEN SUPERVISORS ON THE SAFETY OF CHILDREN TRAVELLING IN SUCH VEHICLES.

/+THESE RECOMMEND .....

+THESE RECOMMEND AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT CHILDREN SHOULD BE SUPERVISED BY A TEACHER OR AN ADULT OTHER THAN THE DRIVER WHILE TRAVELLING AND THAT THEY SHOULD BE TAUGHT THE CORRECT WAY TO GET ON AND OFF THE BUS,+ HE SAID.

TURNING TO EXISTING LEGISLATION GOVERNING THESE VEHICLES, MR MACPHERSON STATED THAT IT WAS CONSIDERED ADEQUATE TO MEET PRESENT NEEDS TO THE EXTENT THAT IT REQUIRED THEM TO BE CONSTRUCTED TO A SAFE DESIGN AND TO BE DRIVEN SAFELY.

+ALL VEHICLES USED FOR THE TRANSPORT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN HAVE TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED IN THE REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF VEHICLES WHILE ALL DRIVERS ARE REQUIRED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE TO EXERCISE PROPER CARE TO ENSURE THAT THEY DO NOT ENDANGER THEMSELVES, THEIR PASSENGERS AND OTHER ROAD USERS.

+PERSONS LICENSED TO DRIVE PRIVATE LIGHT BUSES ARE REQUIRED TO HAVE HELD A VALID DRIVING LICENCE FOR A PRIVATE CAR FOR AT LEAST THREE YEARS AND TO PASS A DRIVING TEST FOR LIGHT BUSES.+

A TOTAL OF 1 598 VAN-TYPE VEHICLES ARE REGISTERED WITH THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT AS BEING USED FOR SCHOOL TRANSPORT.

THIS FIGURE IS MADE UP OF 1 430 LIGHT BUSES WITH BETWEEN SEVEN AND 14 SEATS WHICH HAVE BEEN REGISTERED AS PRIVATE LIGHT BUSES (SCHOOL SERVICE) AND 167 SEVEN-SEATER VANS WHICH HAVE BEEN REGISTERED AS PRIVATE CARS AND ISSUED WITH SCHOOL HIRE CAR PERMITS.

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PRIORITY FOR NEW SOCIAL WELFARE PROJECTS, SERVICES  
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IT HAS BEEN DECIDED THAT NEW PROJECTS AND EXPANSION OF SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES SHOULD BE ACCORDED A HIGHER PRIORITY THAN IMPROVEMENTS TO EXISTING SERVICES FOR THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR, THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, THE HON JOHN CHAMBERS, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

ANSWERING A QUESTION FROM THE HON HUI YIN-FAT, MR CHAMBERS SAID THAT IMPROVEMENTS TO SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES, LIKE ALL OTHER PROJECTS IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR, DEPENDED ON THE AVAILABILITY OF MANPOWER RESOURCES AND FUNDS.

+IT IS FOR THESE REASONS THAT THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS IN THE MANNING RATIO FOR SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK, WHICH HAVE FIGURED IN THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN SINCE 1982 HAVE NOT YET BEEN IMPLEMENTED,+ MR CHAMBERS SAID.

/HE NOTED .....

HE NOTED THAT 28 OF THIS YEAR'S SOCIAL WORK GRADUATES WERE STILL UNEMPLOYED LAST MONTH.

+I DO NOT KNOW WHETHER THESE GRADUATES HOPE TO GET JOBS IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES OR ELSEWHERE.+

+IN ANY CASE, THE GOVERNMENT CANNOT GUARANTEE TO FIND EMPLOYMENT FOR ALL GRADUATES IN ANY SUBJECT ALTHOUGH THE UNIVERSITIES DO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE DEMAND AND SUPPLY SITUATION WHEN PLANNING THEIR ENROLMENT,+ HE SAID.

AS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION IN GOVERNMENT AND AIDED SCHOOLS, MR CHAMBERS SAID HE UNDERSTOOD FROM THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, THAT THE SCHEME FOR PROVIDING ADDITIONAL TEACHERS WHICH WAS IMPLEMENTED LAST SEPTEMBER WAS PART OF A LONGER-TERM PROJECT BEGUN IN 1981 FOR THIS TO TAKE PLACE IN STAGES.

+IT WAS NOT DEvised WITH THE SOLE OBJECT OF ABSORBING THE GRADUATES OF THE COLLEGES OF EDUCATION,+ HE ADDED.

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JOB PLACEMENT SERVICE FOR DISABLED EXPLAINED  
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UP TO SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR, THE SELECTIVE PLACEMENT SERVICE HAD REGISTERED OR RE-REGISTERED SOME 8 000 DISABLED JOB-SEEKERS AND HAD MADE 3 300 PLACEMENTS, A PLACEMENT RATE OF ABOUT 41 PER CENT, THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, THE HON NEIL HENDERSON, SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE SELECTIVE PLACEMENT SERVICE WAS ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT IN JULY 1980 WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF PROVIDING JOB PLACEMENT ASSISTANCE TO BLIND, DEAF AND OTHERWISE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS SEEKING EMPLOYMENT. IT WAS EXTENDED TO THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED IN JULY 1984.

REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY DR THE HON HO KAM-FAI, MR HENDERSON SAID, +PLACEMENT OFFICERS OF THE SPS MAKE REGULAR VISITS TO EMPLOYERS BOTH TO EXPLAIN TO THEM THE WORKING ABILITY OF THE DISABLED AND TO IDENTIFY JOBS WHICH ARE SUITABLE FOR DISABLED PERSONS.+

THE SERVICE HAD ALSO PRODUCED FIVE PAMPHLETS, DEALING WITH DIFFERENT KINDS OF DISABILITY TO ADVISE PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYERS ON HOW TO COPE WITH DISABLED EMPLOYEES, HE SAID.

APPEALS TO EMPLOYERS TO TAKE ON DISABLED WORKERS WERE REGULARLY MADE THROUGH THE USE OF TELEVISION ANNOUNCEMENTS OF PUBLIC INTERESTS AND LIAISON WAS ALSO MAINTAINED WITH MAJOR EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATIONS, HE ADDED.

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+AT PRESENT, THE TSUEN WAN OFFICE IS ATTENDING TO PERSONS WHO ARE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED WHILE THE NGAU TAU KOK OFFICE LOOKS AFTER THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED AND THE HONG KONG OFFICE OFFERS SERVICE TO BOTH THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED AND THE PHYSICALLY DISABLED,+ MR HENDERSON SAID.

PLANS WERE IN HAND TO OPEN UP THE FORMER TWO OFFICES TO BOTH CATEGORIES SO THAT ALL THREE OFFICES OF THE SELECTIVE PLACEMENT SERVICE WOULD PROVIDE A COMPREHENSIVE SERVICE TO DISABLED PERSONS, HE ADDED.

+THE PROBLEM OF PLACING THE DISABLED IS BEING TACKLED AND I THINK IT IS FAIR TO SAY TO GOOD EFFECT,+ MR HENDERSON NOTED, ADDING: +WE SHALL NEVERTHELESS BE LOOKING OUT FOR WAYS TO IMPROVE THIS SERVICE FURTHER.+

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PREMATURE PUBLICITY WILL ONLY BENEFIT CULPRITS  
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PREMATURE PUBLICITY ON TWO RECENT POISONING OF SOFT DRINKS CASES WOULD ONLY HAVE PLAYED INTO THE HANDS OF THE CULPRITS BY CREATING UNNECESSARY PUBLIC ALARM AND IMPROVING THE CHANCE OF A SUCCESSFUL EXTORTION, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE HON MICHAEL THOMAS SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

ASKED BY DR THE HON RICHARD LAI WHY NO ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE ABOUT THE TWO CASES UNTIL AFTER THE SUSPECTS HAD BEEN ARRESTED, MR THOMAS EXPLAINED THAT IN THE FIRST BLACKMAIL ATTEMPT, EIGHT BOTTLES OF SOFT DRINK ON SALE IN A LOCAL SUPERMARKET WERE AFFECTED WITH NOTHING MORE THAN PINHOLES.

+THE SECOND ATTEMPT DID INVOLVE THE DISCOVERY OF 12 BOTTLES OF ADULTERATED SOFT DRINKS -- BUT THE POLICE WERE QUICKLY ABLE TO ESTABLISH THAT THE AMOUNTS OF POISON INTRODUCED WERE SO MINUTE THAT EVEN IF DRUNK BY A CHILD, IT WOULD ONLY HAVE CAUSED MILD REACTIONS,+ HE ADDED.

+HAD THE DANGER TO THE PUBLIC BEEN MORE SERIOUS, A WARNING WOULD CERTAINLY HAVE BEEN GIVEN,+ HE SAID.

+BUT CAREFUL CONSIDERATION LED THE POLICE TO CONCLUDE, ON REASONABLE GROUNDS, THAT THIS WAS NOT NECESSARY.+

MR THOMAS SAID THE POLICE WERE QUICKLY ABLE TO ESTABLISH A LINK BETWEEN THE TWO ATTEMPTS, THE LACK OF SOPHISTICATION OF THE CULPRITS, THE FACT THAT THE AFFECTED DRINKS APPEARED TO BE IN ONE LOCATION, AND, MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL, THE MINIMAL QUANTITIES OF ADULTERANT FOUND.

/MR THOMAS .....

MR THOMAS ADDED THAT WORLD EXPERIENCE SHOWED A DISTRESSING TENDENCY FOR IMITATIVE OR +COPYCAT+ CRIMES TO RESULT FROM THE PUBLICITY GIVEN TO CASES OF THIS SORT.

+ACCORDINGLY, THE LESS PUBLICITY THE BETTER WHERE THERE IS NO SIGNIFICANT THREAT TO PUBLIC HEALTH,+ HE SAID.

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ELDERLY ENCOURAGED TO REMAIN IN COMMUNITY  
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THE GOVERNMENT'S OVERALL POLICY FOR THE WELFARE OF THE ELDERLY IS TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO REMAIN IN THE COMMUNITY AS LONG AS POSSIBLE, PREFERABLY WITHIN THE FAMILY OR A FAMILIAR ENVIRONMENT, THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, THE HON JOHN CHAMBERS, SAID TODAY.

REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY DR THE HON CONRAD LAM IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR CHAMBERS SAID PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND THE OLD AGE ALLOWANCE ENABLED MANY ELDERLY PEOPLE TO MAINTAIN A DEGREE OF FINANCIAL INDEPENDENCE, WHICH HELPED TO AVOID ONE OF THE MAIN CAUSES OF FRICTION WITHIN THE FAMILY.

+THE FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION PROGRAMME PLACES CONSIDERABLE EMPHASIS ON RESPECT FOR THE ELDERLY AND THE NEED TO IMPROVE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE GENERATIONS,+ HE SAID.

+IN ADDITION A VARIETY OF OTHER SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY ARE PROVIDED, MAINLY BY VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, INCLUDING HOME HELP AND COMMUNITY NURSING, DAY CENTRES, SOCIAL CENTRES AND MULTI-SERVICE CENTRES,+ HE ADDED.

FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE WHO COULD NO LONGER LIVE ON THEIR OWN OR WITH THEIR FAMILIES, MR CHAMBERS SAID, A RANGE OF ACCOMMODATION SERVICES WERE PROVIDED, INCLUDING HOSTELS, CARE-AND-ATTENTION HOMES AND SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR COMPASSIONATE RE-HOUSING IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES.

+ALL THESE SERVICES ARE AIMED AT IMPROVING THE LOT OF THE ELDERLY, AND LESSENING THE LIKELIHOOD OF THEIR BEING SUBJECT TO ABUSE,+ HE ADDED.

MR CHAMBERS SAID THERE WAS NO INDICATION THAT ABUSE OF THE ELDERLY WAS A MAJOR PROBLEM AREA.

HE SAID ABUSE OF THE ELDERLY COULD TAKE MANY FORMS, INCLUDING PHYSICAL ABUSE, PSYCHOLOGICAL ABUSE, AND VARIOUS FORMS OF NEGLECT.

+THE FAMILY WELFARE CASE RECORDS DO NOT INCLUDE A SPECIFIC CATEGORY WHICH COVERS THESE TYPES OF CASE, BUT A RECENT STUDY IDENTIFIED A TOTAL OF 277 CASES BEING HANDLED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, THE WELFARE AGENCIES AND THE SUBVENTED HOSPITALS IN LATE 1983,+ HE SAID.

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PUBLIC CONCERN DECIDED CHOICE OF PROBE ORDINANCE

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INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE AFFAIRS OF EDA INVESTMENTS LIMITED WERE CONDUCTED UNDER THE AEGIS OF THE SECURITIES ORDINANCE RATHER THAN THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE BECAUSE IT DIRECTLY GOVERNED THE AREA THAT WAS OF GREATEST CONCERN TO THE PUBLIC, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY THE HON SIR JOHN BREMRIDGE, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY THE HON DAVID LI, SIR JOHN SAID BOTH THE SECURITIES COMMISSION AND THE ADMINISTRATION HAD CAREFULLY CONSIDERED IN MARCH 1983 UNDER WHICH ORDINANCE INSPECTORS INTO THE AFFAIRS OF EDA INVESTMENTS LIMITED AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES SHOULD BE APPOINTED.

+THE ARGUMENTS WERE FINELY BALANCED; BUT THE CONCLUSION WAS THAT AN INVESTIGATION UNDER SECTION 127 OF THE SECURITIES ORDINANCE WAS PREFERABLE,+ HE SAID.

+THIS ORDINANCE DIRECTLY GOVERNS THE AREA THAT WAS OF GREATEST CONCERN TO THE PUBLIC, I.E. DEALINGS IN SECURITIES. IT ALSO GIVES GREATER FLEXIBILITY AND WIDER POWERS.+

SIR JOHN SAID THE NEED TO APPOINT INSPECTORS TO INVESTIGATE THE AFFAIRS OF THE CARRIAN GROUP OF COMPANIES BECAME APPARENT IN APRIL 1983.

+BECAUSE THE INVESTIGATION INTO EDA HAD SHOWN A HIGH DEGREE OF INTERACTION BETWEEN EDA AND THE CARRIAN GROUP OF COMPANIES AND BETWEEN CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS, THE SECURITIES COMMISSION AND THE ADMINISTRATION BOTH AGREED THAT FOR SPEED OF ENQUIRY AND THE GENERAL BENEFIT TO BE DERIVED FROM IT, THE SAME INSPECTORS SHOULD BE APPOINTED UNDER THE SAME LEGISLATION,+ HE ADDED.

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NO PLANS TO DROP TUNNEL CHARGES

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THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT INTEND TO TEMPORARILY DISPENSE WITH TUNNEL CHARGES AT THE LION ROCK TUNNEL PENDING COMPLETION OF THE ADDITIONAL THREE TOLL BOOTHS NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION, THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, THE HON IAN MACPHERSON, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

IN A WRITTEN REPLY TO THE HON WONG WANG-FAT, MR MACPHERSON SAID THAT TO DO SO WOULD ADD TO THE VOLUME OF TRAFFIC USING THE TUNNEL AS IT WAS ESTIMATED THAT UP TO 50 PER CENT OF VEHICLES CURRENTLY USING THE TOLL FREE TAI PO ROAD WOULD BE DIVERTED TO LION ROCK TUNNEL ROAD.

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THIS WAS NOT DESIRABLE AS THE VOLUME OF TRAFFIC USING THE LION ROCK TUNNEL AND WATERLOO ROAD WAS INCREASING STEADILY AND THERE WAS NO WAY OF KNOWING WHETHER TRAFFIC DIVERTED TO THE TUNNEL WOULD REVERT TO TAI PO ROAD WHEN TOLLS WERE REIMPOSED, HE SAID.

MR MACPHERSON ALSO STATED THAT THE GOVERNMENT INTENDED TO SUPPLEMENT THE PRESENT WARRANT SYSTEM USED BY LARGE FLEET OPERATORS WITH A PREPAID TICKET SYSTEM AVAILABLE TO ALL AS SOON AS THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR PRINTING AND SELLING THE TICKETS WERE FINALISED.

HE ADDED THAT THIS SHOULD BE EARLY IN THE NEW YEAR.

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THREE BILLS PASSED  
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THREE BILLS, THE CHIT-FUND BUSINESSES (PROHIBITION)(AMENDMENT) BILL 1985, THE MATRIMONIAL CAUSES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1985 AND THE BUILDINGS (AMENDMENT)(NO. 2) BILL 1985 WERE PASSED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

ONE BILL, THE ARBITRATION (AMENDMENT)(NO. 2) BILL 1985, WAS INTRODUCED AND READ A SECOND TIME AND DEBATE ON IT WAS ADJOURNED.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED TO NOVEMBER 27.

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CALL TO STRENGTHEN POLLUTION CONTROL MEASURES  
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PURELY LEGISLATIVE CONTROLS ON POLLUTION ARE UNLIKELY TO BE WHOLLY SUCCESSFUL UNTIL THERE HAS BEEN CREATED IN SOCIETY A CLIMATE OF OPINION DEMANDING THAT THE ENVIRONMENT BE PROTECTED, ACCORDING TO EPCOM (ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE).

TO THAT END, A WORKING GROUP SET UP BY THE COMMITTEE HAS RECOMMENDED A SERIES OF MEASURES TO STRENGTHEN EXISTING ENVIRONMENT-RELATED SUBJECTS IN SCHOOLS, EXPAND EXTRA-MURAL STUDIES AND OPEN MORE FIELD STUDIES CENTRES.

IN ENDORSING THE PROPOSALS AT ITS MEETING THIS (WEDNESDAY) EVENING, EPCOM ALSO STRESSED THE NEED FOR MORE SPECIALISED AND TECHNICAL ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING TO DEVELOP SKILLS IN ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND POLLUTION CONTROL AMONG PERSONNEL WORKING IN INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE.

IN ADDITION THERE WAS A NEED FOR MANY PROFESSIONS, AND NOT ONLY THOSE OF A SCIENTIFIC OR TECHNICAL NATURE, TO BE AWARE OF THE IMPACT THAT DECISIONS OF THEIR MEMBERS MIGHT HAVE UPON THE ENVIRONMENT.

THE WORKING PARTY PLACED PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON SCHOOLS APPROACHING THE SUBJECT IN A PRACTICAL RATHER THAN THEORETICAL WAY, THAT LEARNING BE ACTIVE RATHER THAN PASSIVE AND THAT ANALYSIS BE PREFERRED TO DESCRIPTION.

SPECIFICALLY, EPCOM HAS SUGGESTED THAT THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SHOULD INCORPORATE ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES INTO ANY GENERAL STUDIES PROGRAMMES, AND THAT MORE QUESTIONS ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES BE INCLUDED IN PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS.

MEANS SHOULD ALSO BE CONSIDERED WHEREBY SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES MIGHT USEFULLY LIAISE WITH VOLUNTARY BODIES OVER THE PROVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS AND IN THE FIELD.

EPCOM ADVISED THAT THERE WAS AN URGENT NEED FOR ADDITIONAL RESIDENTIAL FIELD STUDIES CENTRES FOR THE USE OF SCHOOL CHILDREN. IT RECOMMENDED THAT CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO EXPANDING EXISTING FACILITIES IN CERTAIN OF THE COUNTRY PARKS AND THAT SCHOOLS BE ENCOURAGED TO MOUNT DAY FIELD TRIPS AND MAKE USE OF EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES BEING PROVIDED IN THE PARKS AND AT THE MAI PO MARSHES.

THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE AGREED TO GIVE HIS SUPPORT TO FURTHERING THESE RECOMMENDATIONS WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT.

OTHER ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN TO GIVE EFFECT TO THE WORKING GROUP'S RECOMMENDATIONS WERE TO:

/(A) RECOMMEND TO .....

- (A) RECOMMEND TO THE UNIVERSITIES, POLYTECHNICS AND SECONDARY COLLEGES THAT ENVIRONMENTAL TOPICS BE INTRODUCED INTO A WIDER RANGE OF UNDERGRADUATE SUBJECTS AND THAT, IN RECOGNITION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF RESEARCH IN THIS NEW FIELD OF ENDEAVOUR, THEY PROMOTE ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AT THE POST-GRADUATE LEVEL;
- (B) PROMOTE SHORT COURSES FOR MANAGERS AND TECHNOLOGISTS EITHER THROUGH ESTABLISHED UNIVERSITY EXTRA-MURAL STUDIES PROGRAMMES OR THROUGH THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY CENTRE;
- (C) APPROACH PROFESSIONAL BODIES WITH THE PROPOSAL THAT ENVIRONMENTAL TOPICS BE INTRODUCED INTO THEIR CONSTITUTIONS AND QUALIFYING EXAMINATIONS; AND
- (D) ASK GOVERNMENT TO RESEARCH THE NEED FOR ENVIRONMENTALLY-TRAINED PERSONNEL IN INDUSTRY WITH A VIEW TO CLARIFYING THE SCALE OF NEED FOR PROFESSIONAL TRAINING IN POLLUTION CONTROL.

IN ADDITION TO DISCUSSING THE PROPOSALS FOR EDUCATING THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT, EPCOM ALSO REVIEWED THE CURRENT PRACTICE OF RELEASING QUARTERLY STATISTICS ON AIR AND WATER QUALITY.

IT WAS DECIDED THAT IN FUTURE REPORTS WOULD BE ISSUED ANNUALLY SO THAT MORE MEANINGFUL COMPARISONS COULD BE MADE. EXPLANATORY SUMMARIES IN LAYMAN'S LANGUAGE WOULD ALSO BE ISSUED AS REQUIRED.

THE COMMITTEE WAS ALSO BRIEFED ON THE GOVERNMENT'S PLANS FOR THE REORGANISATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE CONTROL OF POLLUTION, AND WELCOMED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW DEPARTMENT TO CO-ORDINATE THE WORK.

EPCOM ALSO DISCUSSED THE PROGRESS BEING MADE ON THE DRAFT WATER POLLUTION CONTROL (GENERAL) REGULATIONS. MEMBERS WERE TOLD THAT A NUMBER OF SUBMISSIONS HAD BEEN RECEIVED SINCE THE DRAFT WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE IN MAY AND THAT A REVISED DRAFT SHOULD BE READY FOR RE-SUBMISSION TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IN ABOUT TWO MONTHS.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1985

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PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE TO HOLD OPEN MEETINGS  
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OPEN HEARINGS OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE WILL BE HELD DURING THE NEXT TWO WEEKS FOLLOWING THE TABLING OF THE REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF AUDIT IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

THEY WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER ON NOVEMBER 25, 29 AND DECEMBER 5. THE AGENDA FOR THE HEARINGS WILL BE ANNOUNCED SHORTLY.

CONTROLLING OFFICERS WILL APPEAR BEFORE THE COMMITTEE IN RELATION TO POINTS MADE IN THE REPORT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE ADVISED TO BRING ALONG THEIR COPIES OF THE DIRECTOR OF AUDIT'S REPORT WHICH WILL BE BOXED THIS EVENING FOR REFERENCE.

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SEPTEMBER ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT, PAYROLL FIGURES OUT  
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THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND (IN TERMS OF MONTHS) IN THE 200 LARGEST FIRMS IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR DECLINED IN SEPTEMBER 1985 COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS MONTH, ACCORDING TO THE RESULTS OF A SURVEY RELEASED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

MOST MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES RECORDED SOME DECREASES IN THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT DECREASES OCCURRED IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES. THE ORDERS POSITION IN THE TEXTILES INDUSTRY WAS STABLE.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR AS A WHOLE FELL. THIS WAS PARTICULARLY THE CASE FOR THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY AS SUMMER WORKERS CONTINUED TO LEAVE EMPLOYMENT. THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION IN THE FOOD AND DRINKS, WEARING APPAREL AND TEXTILES INDUSTRIES, HOWEVER, REMAINED STABLE.

/DECREASES IN .....

DECREASES IN BOTH PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS WERE REPORTED BY MOST INDUSTRIES IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR. THE NOTABLE EXCEPTION WAS THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRY WHERE BOTH PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS INCREASED, IN SPITE OF A DROP IN EMPLOYMENT. THIS WAS MAINLY DUE TO SEVERANCE PAY FOR LAID-OFF WORKERS.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR DECLINED AS SOME CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS WERE NEARLY COMPLETED. ON THE OTHER HAND, EMPLOYMENT IN THE SERVICES SECTORS REMAINED UNCHANGED.

THERE WAS A SLIGHT INCREASE IN PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR BECAUSE OF THE PAYMENT OF BONUSES.

IN THE SERVICES SECTORS, THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMPANIES REPORTED SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN BOTH PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS MAINLY DUE TO SALARY ADJUSTMENT AND PAYMENT OF BONUSES.

THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS FOR THE LAST THREE MONTHS ARE SHOWN IN THE TABLES BELOW.

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

AS THE SAMPLE WAS NOT DRAWN ON A RANDOM BASIS, THE DEPARTMENT CAUTIONED THAT RESULTS ON MAGNITUDE OF CHANGE MIGHT NOT REFLECT THE EXPERIENCE OF THE ECONOMY AS A WHOLE, ALTHOUGH THEY SHOULD GIVE A USEFUL INDICATION OF THE DIRECTION OF CHANGE FOR A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ECONOMY IN THE SHORT TERM.

THE SURVEY REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 1985 IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, AND THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER, KAI TAK COMMERCIAL BUILDING, AT \$1.50 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE MADE TO THE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION STATISTICS SECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT AT 3-7212854.

(A) ORDERS-ON-HAND IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

INDUSTRY	(% CHANGE OVER THE PRECEDING MONTH)			ORDERS-ON-HAND (IN TERMS OF MONTHS) FOR SEPT. 1985
	JULY 1985	AUG. 1985	SEPT. 1985	
WEARING APPAREL, EXCEPT FOOTWEAR	2	1	-2	4.40

/TEXTILES, EXCEPT .....

TEXTILES, EXCEPT WEARING APPAREL	4	2	*	2.19
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	*	*	-7	3.98
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	-2	-1	-5	3.25
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	-3	*	-3	4.04
OTHERS	*	*	*	4.41
ALL ABOVE INDUSTRIES	*	*	-3	4.19
	-	-	-	-

(B) EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS

INDUSTRY/ SERVICES	PERSONS ENGAGED BY THE COMPANIES SURVEYED			PER CAPITA EARNINGS			PER CAPITA EARNINGS FOR SEPT. 1985 (HK\$)
	(% CHANGE OVER THE PRECEDING MONTH)						
	JULY 1985	AUG. 1985	SEPT. 1985	JULY 1985	AUG. 1985	SEPT. 1985	
MANUFACTURING	*	-2	-3	3	1	-1	2 984
FOOD AND DRINKS	1	1	*	6	-1	-2	3 804
WEARING APPAREL, EXCEPT FOOTWEAR	*	-2	*	5	3	-5	2 489
TEXTILES, EXCEPT WEARING APPAREL	-1	1	*	1	-2	1	3 046
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	7	-2	-11	7	9	-7	2 685
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	-3	-4	-4	10	-2	6	2 756

/ELECTRICAL AND .....

ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	-1	-2	-3	1	*	*	2 533
OTHERS	1	-1	-2	1	3	-1	4 041
CONSTRUCTION**	1	-1	-2	1	*	2	4 525
-----	---	---	---	---	---	---	-----
SERVICES	*	*	*	8	-2	4	5 712
-----	---	---	---	---	---	---	-----
BANKS	*	*	*	5	-2	1	4 942
HOTELS	*	*	1	-2	*	-1	3 545
PUBLIC UTILITIES	*	*	*	11	-6	12	6 148
OTHERS	1	*	*	5	5	-8	6 619

\* CHANGES WITHIN +/- 0.5 PER CENT

\*\* PERSONS ENGAGED COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY; SITE WORKERS EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS NOT INCLUDED.

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DRAFT TRADE BILL FOR U.S. SENATE  
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THE TRADE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY IT HAD RECEIVED FURTHER DETAILS OF A DRAFT TRADE BILL TO BE INTRODUCED TO THE UNITED STATES SENATE.

THE BILL HAS BEEN PREPARED BY A GROUP OF REPUBLICAN SENATORS AND, AS REPORTED BY THE DEPARTMENT EARLIER THIS WEEK, IT SEEKS TO EXCLUDE SOME DEVELOPING NATIONS FROM THE UNITED STATES GENERALISED SCHEME OF PREFERENCES (GSP).

A COVERING LETTER TO THE BILL, LIKELY TO BE INTRODUCED TODAY (U.S. TIME) AND SIGNED BY 18 LEADING FIGURES IN THE SENATE, INCLUDING SENATORS PATRICK MOYNIHAN, JACK DANFORTH AND BOB DOLE, SAYS THAT THE BILL SETS OUT TO +ENSURE SYSTEMATIC ENFORCEMENT OF EXISTING TRADE LAWS AGAINST FOREIGN UNFAIR TRADE PRACTICES, EXPAND TRADE THROUGH MARKET LIBERALIZATION, PROMOTE MEANINGFUL ADJUSTMENT OF IMPORT-RELATED INDUSTRIES TO NEW COMPETITIVE CONDITIONS, AND REMEDY MISALIGNMENT OF THE DOLLAR, DEVELOPING COUNTRY DEBT, AND DISINCENTIVES TO U.S. EXPORTS.+

MR PAUL WONG, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF TRADE, SAID THE MOST DIRECT THREAT TO HONG KONG CAME IN THE BILL'S PROPOSALS ON GSP GRADUATION.

+IT SAYS THAT THE PRESIDENT SHOULD BE REQUIRED TO SET CRITERIA FOR FULL GRADUATION OF ADVANCED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (INCLUDING HONG KONG, KOREA AND TAIWAN) WITHIN 90 DAYS OF ENACTMENT.

+THE CRITERIA ARE TO BE BASED ON PER CAPITA INCOME AND DEMONSTRATED EXPORT CAPABILITY IN THE ABSENCE OF GSP. THE BILL REQUIRES THAT SUCH COUNTRIES WOULD BE GRADUATED FROM GSP WITHIN TWO YEARS OF ENACTMENT,+ MR WONG SAID.

MR WONG SAID HONG KONG'S COMMISSIONER FOR COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS IN NEW YORK, MR BILL DORWARD, AND THE TERRITORY'S LOBBYISTS WERE MEETING WITH KEY SENATORS AND THEIR ASSISTANTS TO EXPLAIN WHY HONG KONG STILL NEEDED GSP ELIGIBILITY.

+THE PRECISE MEANING OF THE GSP PROVISION IS UNCLEAR,+ SAID MR WONG. +THIS IS THE FIRST STEP IN THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS AND IT IS NOT A FOREGONE CONCLUSION THAT THIS PROVISION WILL BE INCLUDED IN ANY FINAL VERSION OF THE BILL.

+THERE ARE, OF COURSE, THREE OTHER SIMILAR TRADE PACKAGES WHICH HAVE ALREADY BEEN RELEASED IN THE HOUSE AND SENATE AND IT IS NOT CLEAR HOW FAR ANY OF THESE BILLS WILL GO,+ HE SAID.

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LADY YOUDE TO OPEN NORTH DISTRICT FLOWER SHOW  
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LADY YOUDE WILL BE THE GUEST-OF-HONOUR AND WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE TENTH NORTH DISTRICT FLOWER SHOW IN MARCH.

THIS WAS DISCLOSED TODAY BY THE RSD'S STAFF OFFICER (HORTICULTURE), MR WOO WING-KUI, AT THE FIRST MEETING OF THE NORTH DISTRICT COMMITTEE OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL.

THE FLOWER SHOW, SPONSORED BY THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD, IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND A NUMBER OF OTHER DEPARTMENTS AND ORGANISATIONS.

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THAT THE FLOWER SHOW HAD BECOME A MAJOR COMMUNITY EVENT AND WAS STILL THE ONLY SHOW OF ITS KIND IN THE NON-URBAN AREAS, THE COMMITTEE DECIDED TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION OF \$50 000.

/+THE CONTRIBUTION .....

+THE CONTRIBUTION WILL BE IN THE FORM OF DIRECT PAYMENTS FOR SOME OF THE GOODS AND SERVICES REQUIRED FOR THE FLOWER SHOW WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO BE HELD FROM MARCH 8-11 AT THE FANLING RECREATION GROUND,+ MR WOO SAID.

REPORTING TO THE COMMITTEE ON THE RANGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE SERVICES PROVIDED IN NORTH DISTRICT, THE DISTRICT HYGIENE SUPERINTENDENT (NORTH), MR UN WAI-KWOK, SAID THAT PUBLIC CLEANSING, DISTRICT HYGIENE WORK AND MANAGEMENT OF HAWKERS AND MARKETS IN THE DISTRICT WERE PROVIDED BY A WORK FORCE OF 680 STAFF.

+THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DAILY COLLECTION OF AN AVERAGE OF 75 TONNES OF REFUSE AND JUNK, STREET SWEEPING AND WASHING, MANAGEMENT OF 122 REFUSE COLLECTION POINTS AND 160 PUBLIC TOILETS, IN ADDITIONAL TO SPECIAL CLEANSING SERVICES PROVIDED TO SOME 120 VILLAGES SCATTERED OVER AN AREA OF ABOUT 44 000 HECTARES,+ HE SAID.

MR UN ADDED THAT DISTRICT HYGIENE WORK INVOLVED THE REGULAR AND SURPRISE INSPECTION OF 285 LICENSED FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS AND PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT AS WELL AS ENFORCEMENT ACTION AGAINST UNLICENSED BUSINESSES.

THE DISTRICT'S 626 LICENSED AND SOME 350 UNLICENSED HAWKERS WERE CONTROLLED BY FIVE GENERAL DUTIES TEAM SQUADS WHILE A SEPARATE STREAM OF STAFF WITHIN THE HAWKERS AND MARKETS SECTION WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING FIVE PUBLIC MARKETS, ONE PRIVATE MARKET AND TWO OFF-STREET HAWKER BAZAARS.

ON THE PROVISION OF RECREATION AND SPORTS FACILITIES AND SERVICES, THE DISTRICT LEISURE MANAGER (NORTH), MR CHU KWONG-MAN, SAID IT WAS LOOKED AFTER BY A 110-STRONG LEISURE SERVICES SECTION, WHICH WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE OVERALL MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC PLEASURE GROUNDS AS WELL AS TWO MAJOR RECREATION VENUES - THE FANLING RECREATION GROUND AND THE FANLING SWIMMING POOL.

THE SECTION ALSO HELPED TO INITIATE AND DEVELOP RECREATION AND SPORTS PROGRAMMES FOR ALL AGES AND ABILITY GROUPS. FROM APRIL TO SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR, 137 PROJECTS WERE ORGANISED, INVOLVING 7 412 PARTICIPANTS. MANY OF THESE PROJECTS WERE JOINTLY ORGANISED WITH LOCAL SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS, VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD.

AS REGARDS THE CULTURAL ACTIVITIES IN THE NORTH DISTRICT, THE RSD'S CULTURAL SERVICES OFFICER, MR LO YIU-CHUNG, SAID THEY CENTRED AROUND THE TOWN HALL AND THE SHEUNG SHUI PUBLIC LIBRARY.

THE LIBRARY, WHICH WAS WELL PATRONISED, ISSUED A TOTAL OF 71 219 LIBRARY ITEMS FOR HOME USE FROM JULY TO SEPTEMBER 1985, REPRESENTING AN AVERAGE DAILY LOAN OF 900 ITEMS. IT ALSO OFFERED EXTENSION ACTIVITIES RANGING FROM STORY-TELLING TO INTEREST CLUBS, BOOK EXHIBITIONS, SUBJECT TALKS, MINI CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS, MUSIC APPRECIATION, FILM SHOWS AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES.

+DURING THE SAME PERIOD, AN AVERAGE OF JUST OVER 6 000 PEOPLE PARTICIPATED IN THESE LIBRARY EXTENSION ACTIVITIES EACH MONTH,+ HE ADDED.

MR LO ALSO SAID THAT A NEW PUBLIC LIBRARY AT CHEUNG LOK HOUSE, CHEUNG WAH ESTATE, FANLING, WOULD BE OPENED NEXT MONTH, CARRYING AN INITIAL STOCK OF 12 600 BOOKS AND 900 AUDIO CASSETTES.

IT WOULD PROVIDE THE USUAL RANGE OF LIBRARY LENDING SERVICES, INCLUDING ADULT AND CHILDREN LENDING, REFERENCE AND ENQUIRY, NEWSPAPER AND PERIODICAL AND AUDIO CASSETTE LENDING.

ON THE CULTURAL FRONT, MR LO SAID THAT A WIDE VARIETY OF POPULAR PRESENTATIONS, INCLUDING CHINESE OPERAS, DRAMA, VARIETY SHOWS, DANCE, ORCHESTRAL CONCERTS, AND SO ON WERE HELD AT THE NORTH DISTRICT TOWN HALL. WHILE FREE ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMMES, SUCH AS PUPPET SHOWS, POP CONCERTS, WERE REGULARLY ARRANGED AT 15 OUTDOOR VENUES.

ON AVERAGE, ABOUT THREE PROGRAMMES WERE PRESENTED EACH MONTH, ATTRACTING AN AUDIENCE OF BETWEEN 100 TO 400 PEOPLE EACH TIME.

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION OFFICIAL VISITS FACTORY  
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THE DIRECTOR GENERAL (EXTERNAL RELATIONS) OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION, MR LESLIE FIELDING, NOW IN HONG KONG ON A 3-DAY VISIT, TOURED AN ELECTRONICS FACTORY IN KWUN TONG TODAY (WEDNESDAY) TO SEE THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE INDUSTRY.

ACCOMPANIED BY MRS TERESA NG, A TRADE OFFICER OF THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT, MR FIELDING VISITED RADOFIN ELECTRONICS (FAR EAST) LTD AT SHING YIP STREET. HE WAS MET ON ARRIVAL BY THE COMPANY'S VICE PRESIDENT, MR WILLIAM LITTLE.

THE COMPANY WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1974 AND HAS A WORKFORCE OF 900. IT MAINLY PRODUCES ELECTRONIC CONSUMER AND BUSINESS GOODS FOR EXPORT TO THE UNITED STATES, EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST.

THE ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY HAS EXPANDED RAPIDLY IN RECENT YEARS AND IS HONG KONG'S SECOND LARGEST EXPORT EARNER, ACCOUNTING FOR 22.5 PER CENT OF TOTAL VALUE OF LAST YEAR'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS.

IN JUNE THIS YEAR, THERE WERE 1 340 ESTABLISHMENTS EMPLOYING A TOTAL OF OVER 87 000 WORKERS - OR 10 PER CENT OF HONG KONG'S TOTAL EMPLOYMENT IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR.

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- 30 -

YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME STARTS  
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A SIX-WEEK LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAMME IN EASTERN DISTRICT WAS LAUNCHED TODAY TO ENCOURAGE YOUNG PEOPLE TO BE ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY SERVICES.

THE FIRST IN A SERIES OF SEMINARS IN THE YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING SCHEME WAS HELD THIS (WEDNESDAY) EVENING AT THE HONG KONG FEDERATION OF YOUTH GROUPS MANSION STREET YOUTH CENTRE IN NORTH POINT.

EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR BOWEN LEUNG, GAVE A TALK ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT, THE OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS OF DISTRICT BOARDS AND THE IMPORTANCE OF THE URBAN COUNCIL AND REGIONAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS NEXT MARCH.

THE 60 PARTICIPANTS IN THE SCHEME, AGED BETWEEN 17 AND 25, WILL BE ATTENDING SEMINARS EACH WEDNESDAY ON SUBJECTS THAT INCLUDE LEADERSHIP SKILLS, WORKS AND FUNCTIONS OF COMMITTEES, HUMAN RELATIONSHIP, AND SKILL IN ORGANISING RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES.

THE PARTICIPANTS WILL ALSO ATTEND A WORK CAMP ON DECEMBER 14 AND 15.

AT THE END OF THE TRAINING COURSE, THEY WILL EACH HAVE TO ORGANISE A COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT IN THE DISTRICT.

THE YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING SCHEME IS ORGANISED BY THE EASTERN DISTRICT YOUTH RECREATION CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT AND LOCAL VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, AND IS SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD.

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SHARES DISCLOSURE  
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THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON TAKEOVERS AND MERGERS UNDER RULE 29 OF THE HONG KONG CODE ON TAKEOVERS AND MERGERS ADVISES THAT CHUANG'S FINANCE LTD., A WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF CHUANG'S (HOLDINGS) LTD., HAS DEALT IN LAMBDA TECHNOLOGY LTD. SHARES AS FOLLOWS:-

DATE	BOUGHT/SOLD	NO OF SHARES	PRICE PER SHARE
19.11.85	BOUGHT	292,000	HKD0.81
19.11.85	BOUGHT	641,000	HKD0.82

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1935

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FIRE INSPECTION TOUR  
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WITH THE APPROACH OF THE DRY SEASON, OFFICERS OF THE KOWLOON FIRE COMMAND WILL BE CARRYING OUT AN INSPECTION OF A NUMBER OF SQUATTER AREAS IN YAU TONG TOMORROW (THURSDAY) TO FAMILIARISE THEMSELVES WITH HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS IN THE AREA.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE INSPECTION TOUR.

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MEET THE MEDIA  
\* \* \*

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE INDUSTRIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI DISTRICT BOARD, MR CHOI HING-SHUN, WILL MEET THE PRESS AT 11.30 AM ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 22) TO INTRODUCE THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE.

THE MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI DISTRICT OFFICE, 10TH FLOOR, KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING (NEXT TO KWAI HING MTR STATION), 166-174 HING FONG ROAD.

CHAIRMEN OF VARIOUS ORGANISING COMMITTEES ON DIFFERENT PROJECTS INITIATED BY THE INDUSTRIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE WILL ALSO BE PRESENT AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

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NATIONALITY ORDER ON DB AGENDA  
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KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL DISCUSS THE WHITE PAPER ON THE DRAFT ORDER ON BRITISH NATIONALITY AT THEIR MEETING TOMORROW (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON.

THE PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MRS REGINA IP, WILL BE PRESENT TO LISTEN TO MEMBERS' VIEWS AND TO ANSWER QUESTIONS.

AT THE MEETING, MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE HUNG HOM BAY RECLAMATION (PHASE 1) PROJECT IN WHICH ABOUT 15 HECTARES OF LAND AT HUNG HOM BAY WILL BE RECLAIMED TO MEET THE EXPANSION OF THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY CORPORATION'S CARGO YARD.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE A MOTION ON THE +CENTRAL PROVIDENT FUND FEASIBILITY STUDY+; THE PROVISION, PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OF WELFARE SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY IN THE DISTRICT, AND THE PROPOSED PRIVATISATION OF GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD AT 2.15 PM TOMORROW (THURSDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE AT 141 KAU PUI LUNG ROAD.

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NEW TSUEN WAN OFFICE OPENS TOMORROW  
\* \* \* \*

THE NEW PREMISES OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE - ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF THE TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK BUILDING IN CASTLE PEAK ROAD - WILL BE OFFICIALLY OPENED TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

A CEREMONY TO MARK THE OPENING WILL BE HELD AT 11 AM. FOUR JUSTICES OF THE PEACE WITH LONG ASSOCIATION IN COMMUNITY SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT WILL OFFICIATE AT THE CEREMONY.

THEY ARE MR CHAN PO-FONG, A VETERAN COMMUNITY LEADER; MR CHAU HOW-CHEN, CHAIRMAN OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD; MR HO TUNG-CHING, CHAIRMAN OF THE KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI DISTRICT BOARD; AND MR CHAN LAU-FONG, CHAIRMAN OF THE TSUEN WAN RURAL COMMITTEE.

/THE CEREMONY .....

THE CEREMONY WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A HOUSE-WARMING RECEPTION FOR GUESTS.

THE NEW PREMISES NEXT TO ITS PREVIOUS LOCATION AT FOU WAH CENTRE, ACCOMMODATES THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE HEADQUARTERS, THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE SUB-HEADQUARTERS FORMERLY LOCATED IN HOI PA STREET, THE WORKS SECTION OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT.

INCLUDING A PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE, IT HAS A TOTAL FLOOR AREA OF ABOUT 1 800 SQUARE METRES.

OPERATIONS BEGAN LAST MONDAY, AND WITH DIFFERENT UNITS HOUSED UNDER ONE ROOF, THE NEW OFFICE WILL PROVIDE MORE EFFICIENT SERVICES WHICH ARE WITHIN EASY REACH OF THE PUBLIC.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE NEW OFFICE PREMISES AT 11 AM ON THURSDAY. THE OFFICE IS LOCATED ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF THE TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK BUILDING AT 174-208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN.

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NEW JURY LIST TO BE PUT UP

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THE REGISTRAR OF THE SUPREME COURT, MR NICHOLAS JOHN BARNETT, ANNOUNCED THAT A FURTHER LIST OF COMMON JURORS WILL BE POSTED ON THE NOTICE BOARD OF THE SUPREME COURT BUILDING AT NO. 38 QUEENSWAY, ON NOVEMBER 26.

THE LIST WILL REMAIN POSTED FOR 14 DAYS DURING WHICH TIME ANY PERSON MAY APPLY BY NOTICE IN WRITING TO THE REGISTRAR REQUIRING THAT HIS NAME OR THE NAME OF SOME OTHER PERSON BE POSTED OR REMOVED UPON CAUSE DULY ASSIGNED IN SUCH NOTICE.

THE REGISTRAR SHALL IN HIS DISCRETION, POST OR REMOVE SUCH NAME ACCORDINGLY AND SHALL IF NECESSARY ALTER THE LIST.

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1935

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SAI KUNG DB MEETING  
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THE NEXT MEETING OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 22).

MEMBERS WILL BE BRIEFED ON THE WORK OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL, AND PROGRESS REPORTS OF THE BOARD'S COMMITTEES WILL BE SUBMITTED FOR MEMBERS' INFORMATION.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING AT 10 AM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD, SECOND FLOOR, SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, MAN NIN STREET, SAI KUNG TOWN.

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URBAN CLEARWAYS SET UP IN WAN CHAI  
\* \* \* \* \*

THE WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF LOCKHART ROAD, BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH ARSENAL STREET AND A POINT 50 METRES WEST OF THE SAME JUNCTION, WILL BE MADE AN URBAN CLEARWAY 24-HOUR DAILY FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 22).

IN ADDITION, THE EXISTING 24-HOUR URBAN CLEARWAY ON THE EASTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF HENNESSY ROAD, BETWEEN A POINT ABOUT 15 METRES WEST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH ARSENAL STREET AND A POINT ABOUT 65 METRES EAST OF THE SAME JUNCTION, WILL BE EXTENDED ABOUT 70 METRES EASTWARD.

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

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CADOGAN STREET PROHIBITED ZONE  
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CADOGAN STREET SOUTH OF BELCHER'S STREET IN KENNEDY TOWN WILL BE MADE A PROHIBITED ZONE TO ALL PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES 24-HOUR DAILY FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 22).

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