



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN - SUPPLEMENT

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BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1985

GOVERNOR'S LUNAR NEW YEAR MESSAGE 1985

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FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE'S
NEW YEAR MESSAGE:

+AT THIS TIME ALL OVER HONG KONG, FAMILIES ARE GATHERING TOGETHER TO WELCOME THE YEAR OF THE OX; OTHERS HAVE JOINED THEIR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS ELSEWHERE FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE NEW YEAR. THIS RENEWAL OF FAMILY TIES IS A REMINDER OF THE DEEP AND ENDURING RELATIONSHIPS WHICH ARE SO ESSENTIAL FOR THE PEACE AND WELL-BEING OF OUR COMMUNITY.

+WHEN I SPOKE TO YOU AT THIS TIME LAST YEAR, THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG WAS STILL UNKNOWN. THERE WAS WORRY AND UNEASE. THERE WERE FEW WHO EXPECTED THAT BY THE YEAR'S END AN AGREEMENT WOULD HAVE BEEN SIGNED, OR THAT THAT AGREEMENT WOULD ESTABLISH SO FIRM A FRAMEWORK WITHIN WHICH HONG KONG'S SPECIAL WAY OF LIFE CAN CONTINUE FAR INTO THE NEXT CENTURY. NOW THAT THE CLOUD OF UNCERTAINTY HAS ROLLED AWAY, WE CAN CONTINUE WITH OUR PLANNED PROGRAMMES AND POLICIES WITH CONFIDENCE. WE CAN DEVELOP AND BUILD, KNOWING THAT WHAT WE CONSTRUCT WILL SERVE THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY FOR A LONG TIME TO COME.

+THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG ARE REMARKABLE FOR THE WAY IN WHICH THEY JOIN IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS, FOR THE WAY IN WHICH THEY WORK TOGETHER TO SOLVE PROBLEMS AND SHOW THEIR CONCERN FOR THE LESS FORTUNATE. NOW WE NEED A COMMITMENT FROM EVERYONE TO MAKE USE OF NEW OPPORTUNITIES. WE NEED TO CHOOSE WELL QUALIFIED LEADERS IN THE DISTRICT BOARDS, THE URBAN AND REGIONAL COUNCILS AND THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, SO THAT WITH THEIR ADVICE AND SUPPORT, THE RIGHT DECISIONS CAN BE MADE TO DETERMINE THE SHAPE AND PACE OF PROGRESS IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

/+IT IS

+IT IS FOR THIS REASON THAT I HOPE THAT ALL OF YOU WHO HAVE REGISTERED WILL CAST YOUR VOTES IN THE DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS NEXT MONTH. BY DOING SO, YOU WILL BE PLAYING AN IMPORTANT PART IN CREATING THE FUTURE GOVERNMENT OF HONG KONG. WE SHALL BE ABLE NOT ONLY TO RETAIN THE BEST AND WELL TRIED ELEMENTS IN OUR SOCIETY, BUT AT THE SAME TIME ENLIVEN GOVERNMENT WITH NEW IDEAS WHICH FRESH MINDS WILL BRING TO THE PROBLEMS WHICH FACE US.

+THE OX IS A STURDY SYMBOL OF OUR DETERMINATION TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF THE NEW YEAR. WE CAN DO SO WITH A CONFIDENCE WHICH HAS ITS ROOTS IN THE STRENGTH OF A COMMUNITY UNITED IN ITS RESOLVE TO BUILD STEADILY FOR THE FUTURE.+

SPEAKING IN CANTONESE, THE GOVERNOR SAID:

+THIS IS THE YEAR OF THE OX.

+THE OX SYMBOLISES PERSERVERANCE, STEADFASTNESS AND COURAGE. I HOPE THAT EACH AND EVERY ONE IN HONG KONG WILL CONTINUE TO STRIVE TO BUILD FOR THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG IN THIS SPIRIT.

+MY WIFE AND I WISH YOU ALL GOOD HEALTH AND ALL THE VERY BEST.+

LADY YOUDE SAID: +I WISH YOU ALL EVERY HAPPINESS, GOOD HEALTH AND THE BEST OF LUCK IN THE NEW YEAR.+