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## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, JULY 18, 1989

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EXCO APPROVES RECONSTITUTION OF RTHK

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THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS APPROVED THE RECONSTITUTION OF RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG (RTHK) INTO A PUBLIC BROADCASTING CORPORATION MANAGED BY A BOARD OF GOVERNORS.

ANNOUNCING DETAILS OF THE RECONSTITUTION AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (TUESDAY), THE SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND INFORMATION, MR PETER TSAO, SAID THE RTHK BOARD OF GOVERNORS WOULD BE MADE UP OF NINE NON-OFFICIAL MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR.

"THE BOARD WILL BE RESPONSIBLE TO THE GOVERNOR FOR THE RUNNING OF RTHK IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICIES LAID DOWN BY THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL AND ENSHRINED IN LEGISLATION WHICH WILL BE ENACTED LATER.

"THE DIRECTOR OF BROADCASTING WILL BE ITS CHIEF EXECUTIVE," MR TSAO ADDED.

ON FUNDING OF THE NEW CORPORATION, MR TSAO SAID THE NEW RTHK WOULD BE GRANTED AN ANNUAL ONE-LINE SUBVENTION WHICH WOULD BE SUBJECT TO THE VOTING OF FUNDS BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

"THE AMOUNT OF SUBVENTION TO RTHK WILL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE INCOME GENERATED BY RTHK ITSELF THROUGH SPONSORSHIPS, DONATIONS, SALES OF PROGRAMMES AND COMMISSIONS.

"IT WILL ALSO HAVE REGARD TO THE GOVERNMENT'S BUDGETARY CONSTRAINTS AND WILL BE SUBJECT TO NORMAL RESOURCE ALLOCATION PROCEDURES.

"THE FUTURE SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE WILL BE THE CONTROLLING OFFICER OF THE SUBVENTION.

"RTHK WILL BE ABLE TO DETERMINE HOW TO USE ITS FUNDS AS APPROPRIATE IN ORDER TO PERFORM ITS STATUTORY FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES," HE SAID.

"EXISTING CIVIL SERVANTS IN RTHK WILL BE GIVEN THE OPTIONS OF BRIDGING-OVER TO THE NEW CORPORATION OR REMAINING AS CIVIL SERVANTS ON SECONDMENT TO THE NEW CORPORATION," MR TSAO SAID, ADDING THAT DETAILS OF THE NEW PACKAGE WOULD BE WORKED OUT IN DUE COURSE.

"THE BOARD WILL HAVE THE POWER TO DETERMINE ITS OWN STAFFING POLICIES INCLUDING THE POWER TO HIRE AND FIRE ITS OWN EMPLOYEES.

"IT MAY ALSO DECIDE ON THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF APPOINTMENT, HAVING REGARD TO SIMILAR JOBS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR, AND SUBJECT TO THE OVERALL TERMS BEING BROADLY IN LINE WITH THOSE IN THE CIVIL SERVICE," HE SAID.

"RTHK WILL BE TURNED INTO AN INDEPENDENT PUBLIC BROADCASTING CORPORATION BY STAGES.

/ "WE AIM .....

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"WE AIM AT FINALISING THE LEGISLATIVE AND STAFFING ARRANGEMENTS WITHIN THIS FINANCIAL YEAR AND ESTABLISHING THE RTHK BOARD NO LATER THAN APRIL 1, 1990.

"RTHK THE GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT WILL THEN BE DISESTABLISHED AND RTHK WILL BECOME A PUBLIC BROADCASTING CORPORATION UNDER ITS BOARD OF GOVERNORS," HE SAID.

DURING THIS TRANSITIONAL PERIOD, THE NEW CORPORATION WILL BE GRANTED SUBVENTION ON A CASH BASIS INITIALLY BUT IT WILL START SETTING UP ITS OWN COSTING SYSTEMS IN ORDER THAT SUBVENTION MAY EVENTUALLY BE GRANTED ON A COST BASIS, THAT IS RTHK WILL BE CHARGED THE FULL COSTS OF SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE GOVERNMENT, BUT THIS WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT WHEN DETERMINING THE LEVEL OF SUBVENTION.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT RTHK WILL BECOME A FULLY INDEPENDENT PUBLIC BROADCASTING CORPORATION BY THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1991-92.

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OMELCO DELEGATION'S STATEMENT ON LONDON TRIP

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FOLLOWING IS A STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE OMELCO DELEGATION TO LONDON, MRS ROSANNA TAM, MR STEPHEN CHEONG, DR LEONG CHE-HUNG AND MRS ELSIE TU AT A PRESS BRIEFING AFTER THEY BRIEFED OMELCO MEMBERS ON THEIR RECENT TRIP TO LONDON AT A SPECIAL IN-HOUSE MEETING TODAY (TUESDAY):

"MEMBERS OF THE OMELCO DELEGATION WHO HAVE RECENTLY RETURNED FROM LONDON HAVE REPORTED TO OMELCO THIS AFTERNOON ON THE WORK THAT WE HAVE DONE WHILE WE WERE THERE. THE DELEGATION HAS SPENT A TOTAL OF FIVE WORKING DAYS IN LONDON FROM JULY 10 TO 14. DURING OUR STAY IN LONDON, WE HAVE MANAGED TO MEET ABOUT 30 MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT, AND HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH DIFFERENT GROUPS INCLUDING CHURCH PEOPLE AND BUSINESSMEN IN THE UK. WE FIND ALL THESE DISCUSSIONS BOTH USEFUL AND VALUABLE.

"WE FIND THAT OUR VISIT HAS PROVIDED A VALUABLE OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH DIFFERENT GROUPS AND PEOPLE IN THE UK AND THIS HAS LAID A VERY USEFUL FOUNDATION FOR OUR FUTURE CONTACT. WE ARE AWARE THAT OUR CAUSE WILL NOT BE AN EASY ONE AND WILL TAKE SOME TIME TO ACHIEVE SOME RESULTS. WE WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS HONG KONG'S CASE FOR THE RIGHT OF ABODE. IN THIS REGARD AND IN PURSUANCE WITH THE SEVEN-POINT ACTION SCHEME ANNOUNCED EARLIER, WE NOW PLAN TO DO THE FOLLOWING:-

- (A) TO CONTINUE OUR STRATEGY OF INFORMING MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND BRITISH PUBLIC ABOUT HONG KONG'S CASE;

/(B) TO .....

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- (B) TO MAINTAIN THE OMELCO OFFICE RECENTLY SET UP IN LONDON AS A CONTACT POINT BETWEEN OMELCO AND OTHER INTERESTED GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS;
- (C) TO WORK OUT A PROGRAMME FOR MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND BRITISH LEADING WRITERS TO VISIT HONG KONG SO THAT THEY CAN HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE SITUATION HERE IN HONG KONG; AND
- (D) TO SHARE OUR OWN EXPERIENCE GAINED FROM THE LONDON TRIP WITH LOCAL GROUPS INTERESTED IN THE RIGHT OF ABODE ISSUE; IN THIS REGARD THE OMELCO SPECIAL WORKING GROUP ON NATIONALITY WILL START MAKING ARRANGEMENTS TO MEET THESE GROUPS.

"WE RECOGNISE THAT WE MUST TRY OUR BEST TO HELP AND RESOLVE HONG KONG'S CURRENT CONFIDENCE CRISIS. IT IS NOT AN EASY MATTER. ALSO, THE RESTORATION OF RIGHT OF ABODE CANNOT BE ACHIEVED WITHIN SUCH A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME. BUT THIS WILL NOT DETER US FROM CONTINUING TO PRESS HONG KONG'S CASE. TO GIVE UP NOW WILL DO GREAT INJUSTICE TO THE PRINCIPLE THAT WE ARE FIGHTING FOR.

"THE PRIME MINISTER HAS ASSURED US THAT A STATEMENT WOULD BE RELEASED REASONABLY SOON IN RELATION TO THE RIGHT OF ABODE ISSUE. THE FOREIGN SECRETARY HAS ALSO MENTIONED THAT AN EARLY ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE MATTER WOULD BE MADE. SO FAR THIS HAS NOT BEEN FORTHCOMING. WE SHALL ASK, THROUGH THE GOVERNOR OF HONG KONG, WHEN HMG WILL MAKE SUCH AN ANNOUNCEMENT.

"APART FROM THE RIGHT OF ABODE ISSUE, WE WILL DEFINITELY PRESS ON WITH OTHER ASPECTS OF THE WORK THAT THE TWO SENIOR MEMBERS HAVE OUTLINED EARLIER AND WHICH ARE AS IMPORTANT. THIS ENTAILS DISCUSSION ON THE BUILDING UP OF SAFEGUARDS THAT WILL STRENGTHEN HONG KONG'S FOUNDATION AS OUR HOME. THEY INCLUDE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BASIC LAW WHICH TRULY ENSHRINES THE LETTER AND THE SPIRIT OF THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION, DISCUSSION OF THE PACE OF DEMOCRATISATION BEFORE 1997, AND THE BEST WAYS TO SECURE THE CONTINUATION OF HONG KONG AS AN INTERNATIONAL CITY. THESE WILL BE FURTHER DISCUSSED AT THE COMING OMELCO MEETING THIS FRIDAY, JULY 21. WE ARE SURE THAT THEY, ALTOGETHER, WILL COMBINE TO HELP HONG KONG BECOME A SAFER AND MORE SECURE PLACE FOR US ALL."

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10 QUESTIONS, 17 BILLS ON LEGCO AGENDA  
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MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL ASK A TOTAL OF 10 QUESTIONS AND CONSIDER 17 BILLS AT THE COUNCIL'S MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE BANKING (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1989, THE ARCHITECTS REGISTRATION BILL 1989, THE ENGINEERS REGISTRATION BILL 1989, AND THE ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) (NO. 3) BILL 1989 WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS.

THE SECOND READING DEBATES ON 13 BILLS WILL RESUME AND WHEN THEY ARE COMPLETED EACH BILL IS DUE TO GO THROUGH THE COMMITTEE STAGE AND THIRD READING.

THESE BILLS ARE THE LEGAL AID (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989, THE COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989, THE HONG KONG INDUSTRIAL ESTATES CORPORATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989, THE INLAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT) (NO. 3) BILL 1989, THE PROTECTION OF INVESTORS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989, THE SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION (1988-89) BILL 1989, THE LEGAL PRACTITIONERS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989, THE LEGAL OFFICERS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989, THE CHARITABLE TRUST FUNDS (MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS) BILL 1989, THE LI PO CHUN CHARITABLE TRUST FUND (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989, THE ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1989, THE TELECOMMUNICATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989, AND THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989.

THE CHIEF SECRETARY AND THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS WILL MOVE TWO MOTIONS UNDER THE INTERPRETATION AND GENERAL CLAUSES ORDINANCE, WHILE THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY WILL MOVE A MOTION UNDER THE TELEPHONE ORDINANCE.

IN ADDITION, THE HON PETER POON WILL PRESENT THE REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE ON REPORT NO. 13 OF THE DIRECTOR OF AUDIT ON THE RESULTS OF VALUE FOR MONEY AUDITS.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DEBATE A MOTION ON THE WHITE PAPER ON POLLUTION IN HONG KONG, MOVED BY THE HON PETER WONG.

THE MOTION READS: "THAT THIS COUNCIL SUPPORTS THE AIMS OF THE 'WHITE PAPER ON POLLUTION IN HONG KONG -- A TIME TO ACT' AND URGES EVERYBODY TO KEEP OUR ENVIRONMENT CLEAN."

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APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR DB FUNDS

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THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT BOARD IS INVITING ORGANISATIONS IN THE DISTRICT TO APPLY FOR DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS FOR ORGANISING COMMUNITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FROM THE DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT AT THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICE, 490 NATHAN ROAD, 14TH FLOOR, A DISTRICT BOARD SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING APPLICATIONS IS AUGUST 31.

THE FUNDS SHOULD BE USED FOR ACTIVITIES TO BE HELD WITHIN THE FOUR MONTHS FROM NOVEMBER THIS YEAR TO FEBRUARY.

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE TO ENHANCE RESIDENTS' UNDERSTANDING OF YAU TSIM DISTRICT AND TO PROMOTE COMMUNITY SPIRIT AND NEIGHBOURLINESS AMONG LOCAL RESIDENTS.

"ACTIVITIES WHICH FULFILL THE FIRST OBJECTIVE INCLUDE THOSE PROMOTING DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT, CIVIC EDUCATION, AND IDENTIFYING THE DISTRICT'S SPECIAL PROBLEMS AND THEIR SOLUTIONS.

"RECREATIONAL, SPORTS AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES FALL WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE SECOND OBJECTIVE," THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED.

APPLICATIONS WILL BE VETTED BY THE BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE. THE APPLICANTS WILL BE INFORMED OF THE RESULTS WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE APPLICATION DEADLINE.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 3-7700424.

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DB COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS LOGO PROTECTION

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THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD'S FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS STATUTORY PROTECTION FOR THE USE OF DISTRICT BOARD LOGOS AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

MEMBERS WILL ALSO CONSIDER THE PROCEDURES FOR THE NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED MEMBERS.

/OTHER ITEMS .....

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA ARE PLACING OF ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE DISTRICT NEWSPAPER AND THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD'S FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE, TUNG YAN STREET.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF MARSH ROAD

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM ON THURSDAY (JULY 20), MARSH ROAD NORTHBOUND BETWEEN JAFFE ROAD AND HOUSE NOS. 15-17, WAN CHAI, WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FOR ABOUT TWO WEEKS TO FACILITATE WATERMAIN LAYING WORKS.

DURING THE CLOSURE, MARSH ROAD BETWEEN GLOUCESTER ROAD SERVICE ROAD AND HOUSE NOS. 15-17 WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND TO TWO-WAY CUL-DE-SAC WITH ACCESS FROM GLOUCESTER ROAD SERVICE ROAD.

JAFFE ROAD BETWEEN TONNOCHY ROAD AND MARSH ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED TO ONE-WAY WESTBOUND. MOTORISTS ON MARSH ROAD NORTHBOUND HEADING FOR GLOUCESTER ROAD SERVICE ROAD WILL BE DIVERTED VIA JAFFE ROAD AND TONNOCHY ROAD.

MEANWHILE, MOTORISTS HEADING FOR THE SECTION OF JAFFE ROAD BETWEEN MARSH ROAD AND CANAL ROAD WEST ARE ADVISED TO USE CANAL ROAD WEST, GLOUCESTER ROAD SERVICE ROAD AND MARSH ROAD.

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