



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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GOVERNOR GIVES FULL SUPPORT TO HERITAGE PRESERVATION

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THE GOVERNOR, LORD WILSON, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT HE WELCOMED THE PROPOSAL FOR SETTING UP THE HERITAGE TRUST TO CO-ORDINATE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EFFORTS TO PRESERVE THE TERRITORY'S PRECIOUS HERITAGE.

"THIS INITIATIVE HAS MY FULL AND ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT."

"THE ADMINISTRATION WILL DO EVERYTHING IT CAN TO HELP TRANSFORM THIS CREATIVE IDEA INTO A REALITY," LORD WILSON STRESSED.

SPEAKING AT THE INAUGURATION OF THE NEW PREMISES OF THE ANTIQUITIES AND MONUMENTS OFFICE AT 136, NATHAN ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI, KOWLOON, LORD WILSON SAID HONG KONG COMMUNITY WAS BECOMING MORE AND MORE INTERESTED IN ITS PAST AND THAT EVERY ENDEAVOUR SHOULD BE MADE TO UNCOVER AND PRESERVE SOMETHING OF ITS PAST.

THE GOVERNOR ALSO PRAISED THE ANTIQUITIES ADVISORY BOARD AND THE ANTIQUITIES AND MONUMENTS OFFICE FOR MAKING A GREAT DEAL OF EFFORT TO RECORD AND CONSERVE OBJECTS AND BUILDINGS WHICH HAD PLAYED A PART IN HONG KONG'S HISTORY.

LORD WILSON SAID GENEROUS SUPPORT FROM MANY ORGANISATIONS, INCLUDING THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB AND CHINA LIGHT AND POWER PLUS HELP FROM MANY PUBLIC-SPIRITED VOLUNTEERS HAD MADE POSSIBLE SEVERAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS, RESCUING OF OBSCURITY BUILDINGS AND MONUMENTS AND THE PLANNING OF HONG KONG'S FIRST HERITAGE TRIAL IN PING SHAN, YUEN LONG.

ON THE SAME OCCASION, THE SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR JAMES SO, ALSO PRESENTED CERTIFICATES OF MERITS TO THE QUEEN'S GURKHA ENGINEERS AND THE ROYAL HONG KONG YACHT CLUB FOR THEIR HELP IN RELOCATING A TANG DYNASTY KILN AND THE REPORTING OF THE DISCOVERY OF SOME 2,500 SUNG DYNASTY COPPER COIN RESPECTIVELY.

WINNERS OF A "MONUMENTS ON CAMERA" PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION ALSO RECEIVED THEIR PRIZES FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ANTIQUITIES ADVISORY BOARD, MR LUNG PING-YEE.

THE NEW PREMISES OF THE ANTIQUITIES AND MONUMENTS OFFICE IS ORIGINALLY THE FORMER KOWLOON BRITISH SCHOOL WHICH IS THE OLDEST SCHOOL BUILDING CONSTRUCTED FOR FOREIGN RESIDENTS LIVING IN HONG KONG.

THE BUILDING, BUILT IN EARLY 20TH CENTURY, WAS DECLARED A MONUMENT LAST YEAR AND AFTER RESTORATION, IT HAS BECOME THE HOME OF THE ANTIQUITIES AND MONUMENTS OFFICE. IT IS ALSO A RESOURCE CENTRE FOR HERITAGE PRESERVATION WORK IN HONG KONG.

NEW FACILITIES INCLUDING AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL LABORATORY, A CONSERVATION LABORATORY, A PHOTOGRAPHIC STUDIO, A VIDEO/AUDIO STUDIO AND AN EXHIBITION HALL ARE PROVIDED IN THE NEW OFFICE.

COINCIDED WITH TODAY'S OPENING, WINNING ENTRIES OF THE "MONUMENTS ON CAMERA" PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION ARE DISPLAYED IN THE EXHIBITION HALL WHERE THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME FREE OF CHARGE.

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TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE POISED FOR CHANGES

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HONG KONG'S TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE WILL BE TRANSFORMED IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS, WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW AIRPORT ON CHEK LAP KOK AND THE ROADS, BRIDGES AND RAILWAY THAT WILL LINK IT TO THE URBAN AREA.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, MR MICHAEL LEUNG, TODAY (FRIDAY) AT THE INAUGURATION OF THE SWEDEN-HONG KONG TRANSPORTATION AND TELECOMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY FORUM.

"THE CONSTRUCTION OF THESE TRANSPORT LINKS WILL BE PHASED OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS. PRELIMINARY DESIGNS HAVE ALREADY BEEN COMPLETED FOR MOST, IF NOT ALL, OF THE WORKS CONCERNED," HE SAID.

MR LEUNG SAID SOME PROJECTS HAD MOVED INTO THE DETAILED DESIGN OR CONSTRUCTION PHASES AND THERE WAS A GREAT DEAL OF WORK TO BE DONE ON ALL OF THESE TRANSPORT PROJECTS.

"WE ARE THEREFORE PARTICULARLY RECEPTIVE TO NEW IDEAS FROM OVERSEAS AT THIS TIME," HE SAID.

MR LEUNG SAID HONG KONG OFFERED UNIQUE CHALLENGES TO TRANSPORT PLANNERS AS IT HAD TO DEAL WITH THE TRANSPORT NEEDS OF A RELATIVELY LARGE POPULATION LIVING IN A VERY SMALL AREA.

"BUT, IN COMMON WITH SWEDEN, WE HAVE ALSO HAD TO WRESTLE WITH A DIFFICULT AND MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN WHICH HAS INFLUENCED THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE," HE SAID.

MR LEUNG SAID HONG KONG HAD TO BUILD ROAD AND RAIL TUNNELS TO A MUCH GREATER EXTENT THAN IN SOME OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD.

"WE HAVE HAD TO INTRODUCE SOPHISTICATED TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT MEASURES BECAUSE THE CONCENTRATION OF HOUSING AND WORKPLACES IN A FEW LOW-LYING AREAS HAD CREATED MARKED PEAK HOUR TRAFFIC FLOWS ON ITS ROADS AND RAILWAYS," HE SAID.

MR LEUNG SAID HONG KONG HAD ALWAYS BEEN CONCERNED TO STAY ABREAST OF DEVELOPMENTS IN MODERN TRANSPORTATION TECHNOLOGY AND CONSCIOUS OF THE BENEFITS IT COULD BRING.

"WE HAVE ALWAYS APPRECIATED THAT THE APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY COULD HELP TO OVERCOME THE CONSTRAINTS ON BUILDING AND MANAGING HONG KONG'S TRANSPORT SYSTEM," HE ADDED.

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SECRETARY FOR WORKS ON BAGUIO VILLA LANDSLIDE
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THE FOLLOWING IS A STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE SECRETARY FOR WORKS, MR JAMES BLAKE, ON THE LANDSLIDE AT BAGUIO VILLA ON MAY 8:

"SINCE THE OCCURRENCE OF THE LANDSLIDE LAST FRIDAY, ENGINEERS FROM THE GOVERNMENT HAVE BEEN CARRYING OUT WORKS AT THE CREST OF THE LANDSLIDE TO REMOVE ANY IMMEDIATE AND OBVIOUS DANGER. THE WORKS WILL BE COMPLETED BY WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, PROVIDED THAT THE WEATHER IS NOT CONTINUOUSLY ADVERSE.

"ENGINEERS HAVE ALSO EXAMINED THE LANDSLIDE AREA CLOSELY. THEY ARE OF THE OPINION THAT, AT TIMES OF EXCEPTIONAL RAINFALL, SOME RISK WILL REMAIN OF SMALL-SCALE LANDSLIPS, BUT THESE WILL NOT THREATEN THE STABILITY OF THE TOWER STRUCTURE OF BLOCK 26 AT BAGUIO VILLA. THEREFORE, ALL RESIDENTIAL UNITS OF BLOCK 26 CAN BE REOCCUPIED ON MAY 21. HOWEVER, UNTIL ALL RISKS OF LANDSLIPS HAVE BEEN ELIMINATED, THE NON-RESIDENTIAL AREAS ON THE PODIUM AND BELOW, INCLUDING ALL CAR PARKING AREAS, WILL REMAIN CLOSED, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE LIFT LOBBY AND EXIT PASSAGES ON PODIUM LEVEL.

"THE FOUR GOVERNMENT BLOCKS AT BAGUIO VILLA MUST IN THE MEANWHILE ALSO REMAIN CLOSED."

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ARRANGEMENTS IN HAND TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO SLOPE INFORMATION
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ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING MADE TO PROVIDE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ACCESS TO INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE GOVERNMENT CATALOGUE OF SLOPES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING OFFICE OF THE CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE SPOKESMAN SAID IT IS HOPED THAT THE CATALOGUE WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC AT THE GEOTECHNICAL INFORMATION UNIT IN JUNE.

THE CATALOGUE OF SLOPES INCLUDES A DATA SHEET FOR EACH OF 10,000 SLOPES. THE DATA SHEET CONTAINS INFORMATION ABOUT THE HEIGHT AND STEEPNESS OF THE SLOPES, DRAINAGE DETAILS AND THE POSITION OF THE NEAREST STRUCTURE.

THIS FACTUAL INFORMATION WAS USED SOME YEARS AGO BY SKILLED PROFESSIONALS IN THE GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING OFFICE TO MAKE AN INITIAL ASSESSMENT OF THE LIKELIHOOD OF FAILURE OF A SLOPE AND THE CONSEQUENCES IF FAILURE OCCURRED.

THIS INITIAL ASSESSMENT WAS THEN USED TO PRIORITISE THE SLOPES FOR THE LONG-TERM PROGRAMME OF SLOPE STABILITY INVESTIGATIONS, WHICH STARTED IN 1976 AND IS STILL CONTINUING.

SLOPE STABILITY INVESTIGATIONS UNDER THIS PROGRAMME HAVE NOW BEEN COMPLETED FOR 4,300 SLOPES IN THE CATALOGUE. STABILISATION WORK WAS REQUIRED FOR 880 OF THE 4,300 SLOPES.

/MOST OF

MOST OF THE SQUATTER AREAS ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE CATALOGUE, BECAUSE SEPARATE GEOTECHNICAL STUDIES OF SQUATTER AREAS HAVE BEEN UNDERTAKEN.

THESE STUDIES ENABLED THE HIGH RISK SLOPES OCCUPIED BY SQUATTERS TO BE TARGETED FOR EARLY CLEARANCE.

MORE THAN 60,000 SQUATTERS HAVE ALREADY BEEN CLEARED FROM THESE HIGH RISK SLOPES AND PROVIDED WITH BETTER HOUSING.

LESS THAN 2,000 REMAIN IN AREAS ESPECIALLY VULNERABLE TO LANDSLIPS DURING HEAVY RAIN, AND THESE WILL ALL BE CLEARED BY 1994.

FOR MORE THAN EIGHT YEARS, THE GEOTECHNICAL INFORMATION UNIT HAS BEEN AN IMPORTANT SOURCE OF USEFUL GEOLOGICAL AND GEOTECHNICAL INFORMATION FOR REFERENCE BY THE GEOTECHNICAL PROFESSION IN HONG KONG.

IT CONTAINS THE LARGEST SOURCE OF GEOTECHNICAL INFORMATION IN THE TERRITORY, INCLUDING THE CATALOGUE OF SLOPES.

THE GEOTECHNICAL INFORMATION UNIT IS HOUSED WITHIN THE CIVIL ENGINEERING LIBRARY AT 101 PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD, HO MAN TIN, KOWLOON.

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UPGRADING OF LINGNAN COLLEGE TO TERTIARY STATUS

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THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSED TO INTRODUCE A BILL SHORTLY FOR THE INCORPORATION OF LINGNAN COLLEGE AS A DEGREE-AWARDING INSTITUTION.

THE DECISION TO UPGRADE THE COLLEGE TO TERTIARY STATUS IS PART OF GOVERNMENT'S PLAN TO PROVIDE FIRST-YEAR-FIRST-DEGREE PLACES FOR AT LEAST 18 PER CENT OF THE AVERAGE POPULATION IN THE 17-20 AGE GROUP, OR 14,500 PLACES, BY 1994/95.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION AND MANPOWER BRANCH SAID: "AS THE SEVENTH TERTIARY INSTITUTION FUNDED BY THE UNIVERSITY AND POLYTECHNIC GRANTS COMMITTEE (UPGC), LINGNAN COLLEGE WILL HAVE ITS OWN ACADEMIC PROFILE, CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS MEETING GOVERNMENT'S STUDENT NUMBER TARGET, AND HELP PROVIDE THE COMMUNITY WITH A WIDER RANGE OF EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.

"IT IS EXPECTED TO OFFER ABOUT 700 FIRST-YEAR-FIRST-DEGREE PLACES BY 1994/95."

TO ENSURE THAT THE COLLEGE WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE AN ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT CONDUCIVE TO THE IMPLEMENTATION, MAINTENANCE AND DEVELOPMENT OF A GROWING NUMBER OF FIRST DEGREE PROGRAMMES, IT IS PROPOSED TO GRANT BY PRIVATE TREATY A SITE OF ABOUT EIGHT HECTARES AT TUEN MUN AREA 52 (FU TEI) TO THE COLLEGE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW CAMPUS.

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THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE SITING OF THE FUTURE COLLEGE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WEST WILL ENABLE HONG KONG TO HAVE A BETTER GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS, WITH AT LEAST ONE INSTITUTION IN EACH MAIN REGION.

A RECENT POPULATION STUDY SHOWS THAT THE TOTAL POPULATION IN NORTH WEST AND SOUTH WEST NEW TERRITORIES WILL DOUBLE TO 1.25 MILLION IN 20 YEARS, HE ADDED.

CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW CAMPUS WILL BE FUNDED BY PUBLIC FUNDS AND MONITORED BY THE UPGC.

ESTABLISHED UPGC PROCEDURES WILL APPLY AT ALL STAGES OF THE PROJECT TO ENSURE ADEQUATE CONTROL OVER SUCH MATTERS AS THE APPROVAL OF ARCHITECTURAL PLANS, COST ESTIMATES AND FUNDING OF ALL EXPENSES.

LINGNAN COLLEGE WAS FOUNDED IN 1967 BY A GROUP OF ALUMNI OF THE FORMER LINGNAN UNIVERSITY IN CHINA.

IT WAS FIRST REGISTERED AS A PRIVATE SCHOOL WITH LESS THAN 100 STUDENTS AND LATER BECAME AN APPROVED POST-SECONDARY COLLEGE.

"THE UPGRADING OF LINGNAN COLLEGE IS A REFLECTION OF THE REMARKABLE WORK OF ITS FOUNDERS AS WELL AS ITS SUCCESSIVE GENERATIONS OF STAFF AND STUDENTS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THEY HAVE BEEN DEDICATED TO THE PURSUIT OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE, A TRADITION WHICH WILL BE CONTINUED AFTER THE COLLEGE ACHIEVES ITS ENHANCED STATUS."

THE LINGNAN COLLEGE BILL WILL BE GAZETTED ON MAY 22 AND INTRODUCED TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON JUNE 3.

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NO EFFORT IS SPARED IN IMPROVING QUALITY OF EDUCATION

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS SPARED NO EFFORTS IN IMPROVING ACCESS TO EDUCATION AT VARIOUS LEVELS AND IN THE QUALITY OF THE EDUCATION IT PROVIDES, THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, MR JOHN CHAN, SAID THIS EVENING (FRIDAY).

"THIS IS REFLECTED IN VARIOUS PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES WHICH ARE BASED ON OUR TWO-PRONGED STRATEGY OF EXPANDING THE LEVEL OF PROVISION IN TERTIARY EDUCATION SECTOR AND RAISING THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION IN OUR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS," HE SAID.

MR CHAN WAS SPEAKING AT THE ANNUAL AWARD PRESENTATION CEREMONY JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG SOCIETY OF ACCOUNTANTS AND HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF ACCOUNTING TECHNICIANS.

/ "HCNG KONG'S

"HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC GROWTH AND PROSPERITY ARE VERY HEAVILY DEPENDENT ON ITS HUMAN RESOURCES," HE SAID.

"WE ARE NOW GOING THROUGH A PERIOD OF RAPID TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE AND ECONOMIC RESTRUCTURING.

"TO MEET THE CHALLENGES PRESENTED BY THESE CHANGES, WE NEED TO OPTIMISE OUR HUMAN POTENTIAL MORE THAN AT ANY OTHER TIME IN OUR HISTORY."

THE GOVERNMENT IS COMMITTED TO DEVELOPING OUR INVALUABLE HUMAN RESOURCES, HE SAID.

HE SAID ACCOUNTANCY WAS A PROFESSION CHOSEN BY MANY OF HONG KONG'S YOUNG PEOPLE WHEN THEY PROCEEDED TO FURTHER ACADEMIC STUDIES AT TERTIARY LEVEL OR TO STUDY FOR PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS.

THE ACCOUNTING PROFESSION HAD A UNIQUE ROLE TO PLAY IN THE ECONOMIC WELL BEING OF HONG KONG, HE SAID.

"IT ENSURES ACCOUNTABILITY AND FAIR PLAY, THEREBY CONTRIBUTING TO THE VIBRANCY OF PRIVATE ENTERPRISE AND TRUST IN PUBLIC SERVICES.

"AS OUR ECONOMY EXPANDS, THE NEED FOR SUITABLY QUALIFIED PROFESSIONALS AND SUPPORTING STAFF TO PERFORM THEIR INDISPENSABLE CUSTODIAL FUNCTION ALSO GROWS.

"I AM GLAD TO SEE THAT THE HONG KONG SOCIETY OF ACCOUNTANTS AND THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF ACCOUNTING TECHNICIANS HAVE PLAYED SUCH AN ACTIVE ROLE IN TRAINING AND PROMOTING HIGH STANDARDS OF PROFICIENCY FOR THE PROFESSION.

"THE INCREASING TREND FOR PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS TO ASSUME WIDER MANAGERIAL POSITIONS REFLECTS THE COMMUNITY'S REGARD FOR THEIR EXPERTISE," MR CHAN SAID.

MR CHAN CONGRATULATED THE AWARD RECIPIENTS AND SAID THEY WERE "FINE EXAMPLES OF WELL-MOTIVATED AND CAPABLE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE HONG KONG A SUCCESS".

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STI HOPEFUL OF RENEWAL OF CHINA'S MFN STATUS

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THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR T.H. CHAU, SAID TONIGHT (FRIDAY) HE WAS HOPEFUL THAT PRESIDENT BUSH WOULD AGAIN RENEW CHINA'S MFN TRADE STATUS THIS YEAR.

SPEAKING ON HIS RETURN FROM WASHINGTON D.C., HE SAID: "I MET AMBASSADOR CARLA HILLS, UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE; COMMERCE SECRETARY BARBARA FRANKLIN AND OTHER SENIOR U.S. OFFICIALS. I RECEIVED REASSURING REMARKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S POSITION ON UNCONDITIONAL RENEWAL OF CHINA'S MFN STATUS.

"A CAUTIONARY NOTE FROM THESE OFFICIALS, HOWEVER, WAS THAT THE ISSUE WOULD CONTINUE TO BE THE SUBJECT OF HEATED DEBATES IN CONGRESS IN THE COMING MONTHS," MR CHAU SAID.

"I ALSO CALLED ON SEVERAL CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS INCLUDING SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER ROBERT DOLE AND CHAIRMAN DAN ROSTENKOWSKI OF THE HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE.

"I CAME AWAY WITH THE IMPRESSION THAT WHILE THERE IS ROOM FOR CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM, ANOTHER TOUGH BATTLE IN CONGRESS LAY AHEAD.

"WE SHALL CONTINUE TO SPARE NO EFFORT IN PRESENTING HONG KONG'S ARGUMENTS TO KEY CONGRESSIONAL TARGETS. IN THIS RESPECT, WE SHALL ALSO STEP UP OUR CO-ORDINATION WITH OUR ALLIES IN THE U.S.," HE SAID.

"DURING MY MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR HILLS, I ALSO TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE OTHER TRADE ISSUES INCLUDING THE PROSPECTS FOR A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE URUGUAY ROUND AND SECTION 301 NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE U.S. AND CHINA," HE SAID.

MR CHAU VISITED WASHINGTON D.C. FROM MAY 11 TO 13 AND RETURNED TO HONG KONG TODAY.

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UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT STATISTICS FOR JANUARY - MARCH

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THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR JANUARY - MARCH 1992 WAS 2.4%, AND THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE WAS 2.2%, ACCORDING TO THE LATEST LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE PROVISIONAL SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR THE PERIOD FEBRUARY - APRIL 1992 WAS 2.5%, WHILE THE PROVISIONAL UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE WAS 2.2%.

COMPARING THE THREE MONTHS ENDING MARCH 1992 WITH THE PRECEDING THREE MONTHS ENDING DECEMBER 1991, THE INCREASES IN THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AND THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE ARE BOTH STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT.

IT APPEARS THAT THERE HAS BEEN SOME EASING IN THE LABOUR MARKET IN RECENT MONTHS. BUT FURTHER EASING MAY NOT BE LIKELY, AS ECONOMIC ACTIVITY CONTINUED TO GROW STEADILY.

DURING THE PERIOD JANUARY - MARCH 1992, THE NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS, ADJUSTED FOR VARIATIONS IN THE NUMBER OF FIRST-TIME JOB-SEEKERS, WAS ESTIMATED AT 65,700, WHILE THE NUMBER OF UNDEREMPLOYED PERSONS WAS ESTIMATED AT 61,900.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CURRENT RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION (ILO), PERSONS WHO WORKED LESS THAN 35 HOURS A WEEK DUE TO ECONOMIC REASONS (SUCH AS SLACK WORK, MATERIAL SHORTAGE, MECHANICAL BREAKDOWN AND INABILITY TO FIND FULL-TIME WORK) WERE REGARDED AS UNDEREMPLOYED ONLY IF THEY WERE EITHER SEEKING OR AVAILABLE FOR MORE WORK.

THE UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT STATISTICS WERE OBTAINED FROM A CONTINUOUS GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE SURVEY FOR JANUARY - MARCH 1992 COVERED A QUARTERLY SAMPLE OF SOME 11,600 HOUSEHOLDS OR 40,400 PERSONS, SELECTED SCIENTIFICALLY TO REPRESENT THE LAND-BASED CIVILIAN NON-INSTITUTIONAL POPULATION IN HONG KONG.

PERSONAL AND LABOUR FORCE DATA WERE OBTAINED IN THE SURVEY BY INTERVIEWING EACH INDIVIDUAL MEMBER AGED 15 AND ABOVE IN THE HOUSEHOLDS SAMPLED.

IN THE SURVEY, THE DEFINITIONS USED IN MEASURING UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT FOLLOW CLOSELY THOSE RECOMMENDED BY THE ILO.

DETAILED ANALYSIS OF LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS IS GIVEN IN THE REPORT ON THE GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY WHICH IS PUBLISHED FOUR TIMES A YEAR.

THE NEXT REPORT COVERING THE QUARTER ENDING MARCH 1992 WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AROUND JUNE 20, 1992 AT \$15.50 PER COPY.

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AMENDED REGULATIONS TO CURB PROLIFERATION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

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WITH EFFECT FROM TODAY, LICENSING CONTROLS ON THE IMPORT AND EXPORT OF STRATEGIC COMMODITIES WILL BE EXTENDED TO SOME ARTICLES WHICH CAN BE USED IN CONNECTION WITH CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, OR NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

"AN IMPORT OR EXPORT LICENCE WILL BE REQUIRED WHEN AN IMPORTER OR EXPORTER KNOWS THAT SUCH GOODS WILL BE USED, OR SUSPECTS THAT THEY MIGHT BE USED, FOR THOSE PURPOSES.

"CERTAIN BIOLOGICAL AGENTS WHICH CAN BE USED IN THE MANUFACTURE OF BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS WILL ALSO BE BROUGHT UNDER IMPORT AND EXPORT LICENSING CONTROL," A TRADE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

DETAILS OF THE LICENSING CONTROL ARE SET OUT IN THE IMPORT AND EXPORT (STRATEGIC COMMODITIES) (AMENDMENT) REGULATION 1992 GAZETTED TODAY.

/THE SPOKESMAN

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THE CHANGE WAS PART OF A CONTINUING EFFORT OF THE GOVERNMENT IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHERS IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO PREVENT THE PROLIFERATION OF CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

"THE CONTROL IS BASICALLY A PREVENTIVE MEASURE. THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT THE TRADE THROUGH HONG KONG HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE PROBLEM OF PROLIFERATION," HE SAID.

THE TRADE DEPARTMENT IS NOTIFYING THE TRADE OF DETAILS OF THE ARRANGEMENT BY CIRCULAR LETTER.

ENQUIRIES MAY BE MADE WITH THE STRATEGIC COMMODITIES SECTION OF TRADE LICENSING (NON-TEXTILES) BRANCH, TRADE DEPARTMENT, TRADE DEPARTMENT TOWER, FIFTH FLOOR, 700 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON (TELEPHONE NUMBER: 398 5571).

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CHEMICAL WASTE PRODUCERS REQUIRED TO REGISTER

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ALL PRODUCERS OF CHEMICAL WASTE ARE REQUIRED TO REGISTER WITH ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT (EPD) FROM MAY 18 WITHIN A PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS UNDER THE WASTE DISPOSAL (CHEMICAL WASTE) (GENERAL) REGULATION WHICH CAME INTO EFFECT RECENTLY.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (FRIDAY) AT A PRESS CONFERENCE, EPD'S ASSISTANT DIRECTOR MR JOHN BOXALL SAID THE REGULATION, DESIGNED TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT FROM THE ADVERSE EFFECTS OF IMPROPER DISPOSAL OF CHEMICAL WASTE, HAS BEEN BROUGHT INTO EFFECT ON MAY 1 THIS YEAR.

THE REGULATION PROVIDES FOR THE CLASSIFICATION OF CHEMICAL WASTE, THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS PRODUCING CHEMICAL WASTE, AND THE CONTROL OF THE PRODUCTION, POSSESSION, STORAGE, COLLECTION, TRANSPORT AND DISPOSAL OF CHEMICAL WASTE.

CHEMICAL WASTE IS EITHER TOXIC OR HAZARDOUS IN NATURE AND EXAMPLES ARE SPENT ACIDS, ALKALIS, SOLVENTS, TOXIC METALS AND ASBESTOS WASTE.

IMPROPER DISPOSAL MAY ENDANGER THE SAFETY OF WORKERS AND POSE HEALTH RISKS TO THE PUBLIC.

ITS UNCONTROLLED DISCHARGE MAY ATTACK THE FABRIC OF THE SEWERS AND ADVERSELY AFFECT THE OPERATION OF THE BIOLOGICAL SEWAGE TREATMENT PROCESSES AND GENERATE TOXIC SLUDGES WHICH ARE BOTH DIFFICULT AND COSTLY TO DISPOSE OF.

MR BOXALL SAID FROM MAY 18, ALL PRODUCERS OF CHEMICAL WASTE WILL HAVE TO REGISTER WITH EPD.

/ANY PERSON

ANY PERSON WHO FAILS TO DO SO DURING THE FIRST SIX MONTHS COMMITS AN OFFENCE AND ON CONVICTION IS LIABLE TO A FINE OF \$200,000 AND IMPRISONMENT FOR SIX MONTHS.

WASTE PRODUCERS WILL HAVE TO EMPLOY LICENSED COLLECTORS TO DELIVER THEIR WASTES TO DESIGNATED OR LICENSED DISPOSAL FACILITIES.

A CHEMICAL WASTE TREATMENT CENTRE IS CURRENTLY BEING CONSTRUCTED BY ENVIROPACE LTD, WHICH HAS TO DESIGN, BUILD AND OPERATE THE FACILITY.

ENVIROPACE WILL PROVIDE TO WASTE PRODUCERS SUITABLE AND PROPERLY LABELLED CONTAINERS FOR STORING THEIR WASTE AND WILL COLLECT AND DELIVER THE WASTE TO THE TREATMENT CENTRE USING THEIR OWN FULLY EQUIPPED COLLECTION FLEET.

GENERAL ADVICE ON WASTE IDENTIFICATION, WASTE STORAGE ARRANGEMENTS AS WELL AS ASSISTANCE TO THE WASTE PRODUCERS IN HANDLING DOCUMENTATION WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE CONTRACTOR.

MR BOXALL SAID IN ORDER TO MONITOR ALL MOVEMENTS OF CHEMICAL WASTE IN THE TERRITORY, A SYSTEM FOR RECORDING CONSIGNMENTS OF WASTE WILL BE IMPLEMENTED.

FOR EVERY WASTE CONSIGNMENT, A WASTE PRODUCER WILL HAVE TO COMPLETE A 'TRIP-TICKET' BEFORE THE WASTE WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR COLLECTION FROM HIS PREMISES.

THE TRIP-TICKET WILL HAVE TO BE ADDED TO BY THE LICENSED COLLECTOR AND DISPOSAL FACILITY OPERATOR BEFORE SUBMISSION TO EPD.

THIS WILL HELP ENSURE THAT THERE IS NO FLYTIPPING OR ILLEGAL DISCHARGE OF CHEMICAL WASTE. ENVIROPACE WILL HELP WASTE PRODUCERS CORRECTLY FILL OUT THE TRIP-TICKET.

TO HELP INDUSTRY BETTER UNDERSTAND THE REGULATION, GUIDANCE NOTES AND A CODE OF PRACTICE WILL BE PUBLISHED. A SERIES OF SEMINARS WILL BE HELD FOR VARIOUS INDUSTRIAL SECTORS.

ENQUIRY ABOUT THE REGULATION MAY BE MADE TO EPD ON TELEPHONE 755 3554. FURTHER ADVICE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE OF ENVIROPACE ON 420 6600.

FRIDAY, MAY 15, 1992

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CONTRACT SIGNED TO EXPAND TRANSFER CAPACITY FOR CHINA WATER
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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) AWARDED A \$127 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE CIVIL ENGINEERING AND BUILDING WORKS OF THE MUK WU 'C' PUMPING STATION IN TA KWU LING IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THIS IS THE THIRD IN A SERIES OF CONTRACTS FOR THE CHINA WATER SUPPLY PROJECT WHICH PROVIDES FOR PHASED EXPANSION OF FACILITIES TO RECEIVE AND TRANSFER ADDITIONAL WATER SUPPLY FROM CHINA.

ON COMPLETION OF THE EXPANSION, THE RECEPTION AND TRANSFER CAPACITY WILL BE INCREASED FROM THE EXISTING 620 MILLION CUBIC METRES PER YEAR TO 1,100 MILLION CUBIC METRES PER YEAR.

STAGE I OF THE PROJECT, AT AN ESTIMATED TOTAL COST OF \$2,100 MILLION, COVERS ALL THE MAJOR WORKS REQUIRED FOR COMMISSIONING BY EARLY 1995.

MUK WU IS THE FOREMOST POINT IN THE TERRITORY'S CHINA WATER RECEPTION AND TRANSFER SYSTEM.

THERE ARE TWO EXISTING PUMPING STATIONS AT MUK WU, DESIGNATED AS MUK WU 'A' & 'B' PUMPING STATIONS, WHICH PROVIDE A COMBINED PUMPING CAPACITY OF 2.2 MILLION CUBIC METRES PER DAY.

THE MUK WU 'C' PUMPING STATION, ULTIMATELY HOUSING 12 PUMPS, WILL INCREASE THE PUMPING CAPACITY BY ANOTHER 2.3 MILLION CUBIC METRES PER DAY.

THE CONTRACT INCLUDES THE CONSTRUCTION OF A PUMPING STATION/RECEPTION TANK COMPLEX, TWIN PIPELINES ACROSS THE SHENZHEN RIVER FOR CONNECTING WITH A NEW DELIVERY POINT ON THE NORTHERN BANK, POWER SUBSTATION AND OTHER ASSOCIATED WORKS.

WORKS ON THE CONTRACT WILL TAKE ABOUT 30 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE CONTRACT WAS SIGNED TODAY BY THE DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES, MR WONG KWOK-LAI, ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF WO HING CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED.

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BILL TO INVOLVE OWNERS TO UPKEEP THEIR BUILDINGS GAZETTED
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A BILL WHICH SEEKS TO MAKE OWNERS OF PRIVATE BUILDINGS MORE DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROPER MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF THEIR BUILDINGS WAS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE BUILDING (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1992 EMPOWERS THE BUILDING AUTHORITY TO REQUIRE OWNERS TO APPOINT AN AUTHORISED PERSON TO CARRY OUT DETAILED INVESTIGATIONS OF THEIR BUILDINGS AND BUILDING DRAINAGE AND TO CARRY OUT THE NECESSARY REMEDIAL WORKS.

/THE BILL

THE BILL ALSO STIPULATES THAT IF AN OWNER FAILS TO FULLY COMPLY WITH THE PROVISION, THE BUILDING AUTHORITY WILL BE EMPOWERED TO CARRY OUT THE WORKS AND TO RECOVER THE COST FROM THE OWNER.

A BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID: " IN THE PAST, THE BOO HAS TO CONDUCT EXHAUSTIVE SURVEYS OF SUSPECTED DANGEROUS BUILDINGS, BEFORE SERVING AN ORDER TO THE OWNER REQUIRING HIM TO CARRY OUT THE NECESSARY REMEDIAL WORK."

"WHILE IT MAY SPECIFY LIMITED DIAGNOSTIC WORK TO DETERMINE THE EXTENT OF THE DEFECTS, THE BOO CANNOT REQUIRE OWNERS TO CARRY OUT DETAILED INSPECTIONS TO DETERMINE WHETHER THEIR BUILDINGS ARE DANGEROUS AND WHAT THE DEFECTS ARE."

"THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION IS TO IMPROVE BUILDING SAFETY, PARTICULARLY FOR THOSE BUILDINGS WHICH ARE POORLY MAINTAINED," HE SAID.

"IN PARALLEL, THE BOO WILL CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS IN ORGANISING PUBLICITY CAMPAIGNS TO ENHANCE THE AWARENESS OF PRIVATE BUILDING OWNERS OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TOWARDS BUILDING MAINTENANCE.

"IT IS THE ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE THAT THESE OWNERS WILL INVESTIGATE AND REPAIR THEIR BUILDINGS ON THEIR OWN INITIATIVE," HE SAID.

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"NO SMOKING" SIGNS TO STATE MAXIMUM PENALTY

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WITH EFFECT FROM AUGUST 1 THIS YEAR, "NO SMOKING" SIGNS IN PUBLIC TRANSPORT CARRIERS AND PUBLIC PLACES WHERE SMOKING IS PROHIBITED WILL HAVE TO STATE THE MAXIMUM PENALTY FOR SMOKING IN CONTRAVENTION OF THE PROHIBITION IS A FINE OF \$5,000.

THE NEW FORM OF "NO SMOKING" SIGN IS PRESCRIBED IN THE SMOKING (PUBLIC HEALTH) (NOTICES) (AMENDMENT) ORDER 1992 PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE SIGNS SHALL READ "NO SMOKING" OR "SMOKING PROHIBITED" AND BEAR THE STATEMENT "MAXIMUM PENALTY: \$5,000", BOTH IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE.

"THE INTENTION OF INCLUDING THE MAXIMUM PENALTY ON 'NO SMOKING' SIGNS IS TO PROVIDE FURTHER DETERRENCE AGAINST SMOKING," A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

MANAGEMENTS OF PUBLIC PLACES AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT CARRIERS WHERE SMOKING IS PROHIBITED ARE CURRENTLY REQUIRED BY LAW TO PLACE PROMINENTLY IN THEIR PREMISES OR CARRIERS A SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF "NO SMOKING" SIGNS.

/"UNDER THE

"UNDER THE SMOKING (PUBLIC HEALTH) (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1992 WHICH WAS ENACTED EARLY THIS YEAR, THE PROHIBITION AGAINST SMOKING HAS NOW BEEN EXTENDED TO OTHER AREAS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"WHEN THE REQUIREMENT COMES INTO EFFECT ON AUGUST 1 THIS YEAR, NEW SIGNS WILL HAVE TO REPLACE THE EXISTING ONES AND ALSO BE ADDED TO THOSE AREAS WHERE THE PROHIBITION AGAINST SMOKING HAS BEEN EXTENDED."

THE AREAS COVERED BY THE REQUIREMENT INCLUDE ALL SEATING ACCOMMODATION IN CINEMAS, THEATRES AND CONCERT HALLS; AMUSEMENT GAME CENTRES; AND ALL PUBLIC TRANSPORT CARRIERS.

SMOKING IN PUBLIC LIFTS, AMONG OTHERS, HAS ALL ALONG BEEN PROHIBITED.

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TAR AND NICOTINE YIELDS OF CIGARETTES PUBLISHED

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THE AVERAGE TAR YIELD AMONG THE 103 TOP BEST-SELLING CIGARETTES IN HONG KONG SAMPLED DURING THE SIX-MONTH PERIOD BETWEEN AUGUST 1991 AND JANUARY 1992 IS 14.5 MILLIGRAMS PER CIGARETTE (MG/CIG).

THIS REPRESENTS AN INCREASE OF 0.2 MG/CIG OVER THE AVERAGE YIELD RECORDED IN THE PREVIOUS SIX-MONTH PERIOD.

ACCORDING TO A LATEST SURVEY, THE AVERAGE NICOTINE YIELD HAS ALSO GONE UP BY 0.04 MG/CIG TO 1.22 MG/CIG.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT APART FROM THE INCREASE IN THE AVERAGE TAR AND NICOTINE YIELDS, NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGES HAVE BEEN FOUND.

AMONG THE 103 BRANDS OF CIGARETTES, 65 WERE IMPORTED AND 38 WERE MANUFACTURED LOCALLY.

"OF THE TOTAL, 10 BRANDS CONTAIN A TAR CONTENT EXCEEDING 20 MG/CIG.

"THESE WILL HAVE TO BE WITHDRAWN FROM THE MARKET IF THE TAR CONTENT IS NOT LOWERED," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE FULL REPORT OF THE LATEST SURVEY IS PUBLISHED IN THE LATEST EDITION OF THE CONSUMER COUNCIL'S "CHOICE" MAGAZINE.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE SAME TEST METHODS AND PROCEDURES FOR FORMER REPORTS WERE EMPLOYED BY THE GOVERNMENT LABORATORY FOR THE LATEST SURVEY.

/HOWEVER, THE

HOWEVER, THE TAR GROUP DESIGNATION FOR CIGARETTES HAS NOW BEEN RESTRUCTURED AS FOLLOWS:

MILLIGRAMS PER CIGARETTE	TAR GROUP DESIGNATION
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0 - 9	LOW
10 - 14	LOW TO MIDDLE
15 - 17	MIDDLE
18 - 20	HIGH

"THE RESTRUCTURING CORRESPONDS TO THE PROHIBITION OF SALE OF CIGARETTES WITH A TAR CONTENT EXCEEDING 20 MG UNDER THE SMOKING (PUBLIC HEALTH)(AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1992," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THE NEXT REVIEW SCHEDULED IN APRIL 1993 WILL FOLLOW THE NEW TAR GROUP DESIGNATION," HE ADDED.

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CONTRACT FOR AIRPORT TAXIWAY BRIDGE AWARDED
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THE CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) AWARDED A \$109 MILLION DESIGN-AND-BUILD CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A TAXIWAY BRIDGE AT HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AS PART OF AN IMPROVEMENT SCHEME.

THIS IS THE FIRST-EVER FAST-TRACK DESIGN-AND-BUILD CIVIL ENGINEERING CONTRACT SIGNED IN HONG KONG.

THE CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE DEPARTMENT'S DEVELOPMENT AND AIRPORT DIVISION, MR GREGORY YUEN, SAID THE FAST-TRACK DESIGN-AND-BUILD CONCEPT WOULD ALLOW MORE FLEXIBILITY AND INCENTIVE TO TENDERERS TO PROVIDE THE MOST COST-EFFECTIVE DESIGN WHICH COULD RESULT IN SUBSTANTIAL SAVING TO THE GOVERNMENT.

THE CONTRACT WAS DESIGNED UNDER A SET OF CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT JOINTLY PREPARED BY THE WORKS BRANCH OF THE GOVERNMENT AND THE HONG KONG CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION.

THE NEW TAXIWAY BRIDGE, CAPABLE OF CARRYING A FULLY LOADED BOEING 747, WILL SPAN ACROSS THE SEA CHANNEL BETWEEN THE RUNWAY AND THE NEW PARKING APRON ON THE KOWLOON BAY RECLAMATION.

UPON COMPLETION, IT WILL PROVIDE A MUCH SHORTER ROUTE FOR AIRCRAFT BETWEEN THE RUNWAY AND THE NEW APRON.

CONSTRUCTION WORK WILL START SOON AND BE COMPLETED IN AUGUST NEXT YEAR.

THE CONTRACT WAS AWARDED TO DRAGAGES ET TRAVAUX LIMITED.

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FIVE SUBMISSIONS OF INTEREST RECEIVED FOR CONTAINER TERMINAL 9

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FIVE SUBMISSIONS HAVE BEEN LODGED WITH THE GOVERNMENT AS AT THE CLOSING TIME FOR SUBMISSION OF INTEREST FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION OF CONTAINER TERMINAL NO. 9 AT SOUTHEAST TSING YI, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

THESE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE STUDIED BY THE GOVERNMENT AND A FURTHER ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE MADE IN DUE COURSE.

THE GOVERNMENT INVITED EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION OF CONTAINER TERMINAL NO. 9 ON APRIL 10 THIS YEAR. THE CLOSING TIME FOR SUBMISSION OF INTEREST WAS 5 PM TODAY.

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FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSIONS ON AIRPORT RAILWAY

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THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON THE NEW AIRPORT AND RELATED PROJECTS WILL BE HOLDING FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSIONS ON THE AIRPORT RAILWAY AT ITS FIFTH MEETING ON MAY 18 (MONDAY).

THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT CONFERENCE HALL, FIRST FLOOR, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, MAIN WING (NEW ANNEXE), AND WILL START AT 2.30 PM.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO OBSERVE THE PROCEEDINGS ARE REQUESTED TO RESERVE A SEAT BY TELEPHONING MS LEUNG WING-CHONG ON 802 3302 DURING OFFICE HOURS.

AS SEATING IN THE CONFERENCE HALL IS LIMITED, BOOKINGS WILL BE ACCEPTED ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING.

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SIU CHIK SHA RECLAMATION WORKS AUTHORISED

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THE GOVERNMENT IS TO RECLAIM LAND AT SIU CHIK SHA IN TSEUNG KWAN O FOR THE TSEUNG KWAN O LANDFILL STAGE ONE EXTENSION.

THE WORKS INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF ABOUT 840 METRES OF SEAWALL AND RECLAMATION OF ABOUT 5.6 HECTARES OF LAND WITHIN AN AREA OF ABOUT 18.9 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEABEDS AT SIU CHIK SHA.

/THIS WILL

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THIS WILL PROVIDE LAND FOR THE TIPPING OF ADDITIONAL QUANTITIES OF SOLID WASTE INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION WASTE AND REFUSE AT THE TSEUNG KWAN O LANDFILL STAGE ONE.

WORKS WILL BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER AND BE COMPLETED BY FEBRUARY 1994.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREAS AFFECTED IS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE OF AUTHORISATION GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HIS INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED WILL BE INJURIOUSLY AFFECTED BY THE UNDERTAKING MAY DELIVER TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS A WRITTEN CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION ON OR BEFORE MAY 14, 1993.

HE SHOULD STATE IN HIS SUBMISSION THE SUM OF MONEY HE IS WILLING TO ACCEPT IN FULL AND FINAL SETTLEMENT OF HIS CLAIM, AND SHOULD SUBMIT SUCH PARTICULARS HE POSSESSES TO SUBSTANTIATE HIS CLAIM.

THE GAZETTE NOTICE TOGETHER WITH THEIR RELATED PLAN CAN BE SEEN AT THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG, WHERE COPIES CAN ALSO BE PURCHASED ON ORDER.

MEANWHILE, THE NOTICE AND RELATED PLAN CAN ALSO BE SEEN AT THE TSEUNG KWAN O SUB-OFFICE OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE, UNIT 121-122, GROUND FLOOR, PO NING HOUSE, PO LAM ESTATE, TSEUNG KWAN O, SAI KUNG, NEW TERRITORIES.

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CONSTRUCTION OF TIN SHUI WAI WEST ACCESS APPROVED

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THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL HAS GIVEN APPROVAL TO UPGRADE THE EXISTING HUNG TIN ROAD AT AN ESTIMATED COST OF \$300 MILLION TO FURTHER IMPROVE THE ACCESS TO THE TIN SHUI WAI NEW TOWN.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT THE ROAD IMPROVEMENT WORKS WOULD START IN AUGUST OR SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR, PROVIDING A DIRECT LINK BETWEEN TIN SHUI WAI NEW TOWN AND THE YUEN LONG/TUEN MUN EASTERN CORRIDOR UPON COMPLETION.

AT PRESENT, THERE ARE FOUR ACCESS ROADS, INCLUDING TIN HA ROAD, PING HA ROAD, HUNG TIN ROAD AND LONG TIN ROAD, SERVING TIN SHUI WAI NEW TOWN.

WITH THE GRADUAL BUILD-UP OF POPULATION IN THE NEW TOWN, THE CAPACITY OF THESE ROADS WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO COPE WITH THE TRAFFIC DEMAND, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE ROAD IMPROVEMENT WORKS WILL BE CARRIED OUT ALONG THE ALIGNMENT OF THE EXISTING HUNG TIN ROAD.

/APART FROM

APART FROM WIDENING THE EXISTING HUNG TIN ROAD INTO A DUAL TWO-LANE CARRIAGEWAY, THE PROJECT WILL ALSO INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE HUNG SHUI KIU INTERCHANGE, A FLYOVER ACROSS CASTLE PEAK ROAD AND ASSOCIATION SLIP ROADS TO LINK UP WITH THE YUEN LONG/TUEN MUN EASTERN CORRIDOR.

A NOTICE OF THE APPROVAL IS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE SPOKESMAN SAID WHEN THE TIN SHUI WAI WEST ACCESS WAS COMPLETED IN 1995, IT WOULD ONLY TAKE ABOUT 10 MINUTES FROM THE TIN SHUI WAI NEW TOWN TO TUEN MUN ROAD.

"MOREOVER, MOTORISTS CAN TRAVEL TO AND FROM URBAN KOWLOON AND THE NEW TOWN WITHOUT PASSING THROUGH THE ALREADY CONGESTED CASTLE PEAK ROAD," HE ADDED.

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CONTRACT FOR BUILDING SPECIAL SCHOOL AWARDED

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THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) AWARDED A \$17.3 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SPECIAL SCHOOL FOR SEVERELY MENTALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN AT LEI KING WAN, HONG KONG.

THE TWO-STOREY SPECIAL SCHOOL WHICH IS DUE FOR COMPLETION IN ONE YEAR'S TIME WILL ACCOMMODATE 80 CHILDREN WITH BOARDING FACILITIES FOR 60.

THE SCHOOL PREMISES WILL HAVE 10 GENERAL CLASSROOMS, FOUR SPECIAL CLASSROOMS AND FOUR PARAMEDICAL ROOMS.

THE BOARDING SECTION WILL COMPRISE SEVEN BEDROOMS/STUDY ROOMS IN ADDITION TO WARDEN'S QUARTERS AND STAFF BARRACKS.

THE PROJECT HAS BEEN DESIGNED TO FACILITATE THE EASY MOVEMENT OF CHILDREN WITH THE PROVISION OF WIDE AND OPEN CORRIDORS, ADEQUATE RAMPS AND A LIFT.

A DINING ROOM, PLAY AREAS AND LANDSCAPING WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED TO CREATE A PLEASANT LEARNING AND LIVING ENVIRONMENT FOR THE CHILDREN.

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FRIDAY, MAY 15, 1992

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PREQUALIFICATION EXERCISE FOR MARKETING OF
BILINGUAL LAW INFORMATION SYSTEM

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THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT IS INVITING COMMERCIAL FIRMS TO APPLY FOR THE PREQUALIFICATION OF TENDERERS TO MARKET THE DEPARTMENT'S COMPUTER DATA BASES WHICH STORE ALL LAWS OF HONG KONG AND A GLOSSARY OF BILINGUAL LEGAL TERMS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID IT WAS THE INTENTION OF THE DEPARTMENT TO MAKE THE SYSTEM MORE ACCESSIBLE TO PRIVATE FIRMS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

AT PRESENT, THE INFORMATION THAT HAS BEEN PUT IN THE SEARCHABLE DATABASES OF THE BILINGUAL LAWS INFORMATION SYSTEM INCLUDES HONG KONG ORDINANCES AND SELECTED CONSTITUTIONAL DOCUMENTS SUCH AS THE LETTERS PATENT, THE JOINT DECLARATION AND THE BASIC LAW, SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION AND A GLOSSARY OF BILINGUAL TERMS.

THE ENACTED OR DECLARED CHINESE TEXTS OF THE LAWS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE.

AT PRESENT, ABOUT 65% OF SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION HAS BEEN STORED AND INPUT OF THE BALANCE IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF THIS YEAR.

THE GLOSSARY OF BILINGUAL TERMS NOW HAS ABOUT 5,000 ENTRIES AND WILL BE EXPANDED TO 60,000 ENTRIES BY THE END OF 1995.

WHILE THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT IS PREPARED TO MAKE THE DATABASES AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC AND MORE WIDELY AVAILABLE TO OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, IT DOES NOT HAVE THE STAFF TO SERVICE A CUSTOMER BASE.

COMPANIES SHORTLISTED IN THE CURRENT PREQUALIFICATION TENDER EXERCISE WILL BE INVITED LATER TO TENDER FOR A CONTRACT FOR MARKETING THE SYSTEM.

A TENDER NOTICE IS GAZETTED TODAY.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE PLACED IN THE TENDER BOX AT THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT BEFORE NOON, FRIDAY, JUNE 12, THIS YEAR.

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TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS COMMENDED

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THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR M.D. CARTLAND, PRAISED THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS FOR ITS CONTINUOUS EFFORTS IN SERVING THE COMMUNITY WHEN MEETING ITS NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS TODAY (FRIDAY).

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, LED BY THE CHAIRMAN, MR CHARLES CHAN, PAID A COURTESY VISIT TO MR CARTLAND AND DISCUSSED WITH HIM DEVELOPMENTS OF THE GROUP'S MAJOR SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES IN THE YEAR.

IN THE MEETING, MR CARTLAND ASSURED BOARD MEMBERS THAT THE DEPARTMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THEM TO FURTHER IMPROVE WELFARE SERVICES FOR THE COMMUNITY.

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NEW MARINE OFFICE IN TAI PO OPENS

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THE MARINE DEPARTMENT HAS ESTABLISHED FIRM AND FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE TAI PO RURAL COMMITTEES AND FISHERMEN ORGANISATIONS, HAVING HAD A MARINE OFFICE OF SOME SORT IN THE AREA FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS, THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF MARINE, MR ALLAN PYRKE, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

ADDRESSING THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE NEW TAI PO MARINE OFFICE, MR PYRKE SAID: "I AM SURE THIS WILL CONTINUE, TO THE BENEFIT OF THE MARINE DEPARTMENT, AS A REGULATORY AUTHORITY, AND OUR CUSTOMERS, THE LOCAL MARINE COMMUNITY."

OVER THE YEARS, THE SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE TAI PO MARINE OFFICE HAVE INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY FROM THE ORIGINAL SINGLE FUNCTION OF LICENSING LOCAL CRAFT.

MR PYRKE SAID: "THIS OFFICE IS NOW THE BASE FOR MARINE PATROLS IN HONG KONG'S NORTHEASTERN WATERS, THE REGULATION OF MARINE ACTIVITIES, THE ENFORCEMENT OF MARINE LEGISLATION AND THE MONITORING OF SAFETY ON LOCAL VESSELS, IN ADDITION TO THE ORIGINAL BASIC LICENSING FUNCTION.

"OUR LICENSING STAFF ALSO REGULARLY VISIT ABOUT 15 REMOTE VILLAGES SUCH AS SHA TAU KOK, AP CHAU, TAP MUN, HOI MA, AND KAU LAU WAN TO PROVIDE A CONVENIENT SERVICE TO LOCAL COMMUNITIES."

REFERRING TO THE VAST PORT DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS CURRENTLY BEING UNDERTAKEN IN THE WEST OF THE TERRITORY RESULTING FROM THE PADS, MR PYRKE SAID: "MY DEPARTMENT IS COMMITTED TO PROVIDING A LARGE PART OF ITS RESOURCES TO THIS ENDEAVOUR.

"BUT LET ME ASSURE YOU THAT THE MARINE DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE LOCAL MARINE COMMUNITY IN TAI PO WILL CONTINUE TO BE FULLY MET. THIS ASSURANCE IS UNDERLINED BY THE OPENING OF THIS NEW PERMANENT OFFICE TODAY."

/ALSO OFFICIATING

ALSO OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY WAS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD, MR HO YUNG-SANG.

MR HO SAID: " THE MARINE DEPARTMENT SPARES NO EFFORT FROM TEDIOUS FORMALITIES SUCH AS LICENSING AND RENEWAL OF LICENCES FOR VESSELS, TO DIFFICULT TASKS SUCH AS ASSISTING IN COASTAL DEVELOPMENT AND ENSURING THAT VESSELS COMPLY WITH REGULATIONS.

"THE DEPARTMENT HAS ACHIEVED SPLENDID RESULTS AND HAS CONTRIBUTED MUCH TO THE AREA."

THE NEW TAI PO MARINE OFFICE IS LOCATED AT 3 YU ON STREET IN SAM MUN TSAI.

SERVICES PROVIDED INCLUDE THE ISSUING, RENEWAL AND CANCELLATION OF LICENCES, CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP OF VESSELS, COLLECTION OF SURVEY FEES, CONTROL OF PRIVATE MOORINGS AND THE SHUEN WAN TYPHOON SHELTER AND ISSUING PERMITS TO VESSELS ENTERING THE SHING MUN RIVER CHANNEL.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	DATE ----	\$ MILLION -----
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	14.5.92	988
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	15.5.92	+158
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		-158
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS AFTERNOON		+700 *
* O/N ASSISTANCE TO BE REVERSED	18.5	
TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX	112.0	**+0.2* 15.5.92

/HONG KONG

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS		HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS				
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	3.04 PCT	18 MONTHS	2311	6.25	102.48	4.58
1 MONTH	3.17 PCT	21 MONTHS	2402	5.50	100.98	4.96
3 MONTHS	3.30 PCT					
6 MONTHS	3.60 PCT					
12 MONTHS	4.02 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 10,208 MN

CLOSED 15 MAY 1992

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