



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 1988

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CHANGES CONCERNING TERMS OF NEW
TV BROADCASTING LICENCES ANNOUNCED

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THE GOVERNMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) ANNOUNCED MAJOR CHANGES, BASED ON THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY'S RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF NEW TELEVISION BROADCASTING LICENCES.

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAD APPROVED RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL OF LICENSEE COMPANIES, FOREIGN OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL.

THE SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND INFORMATION, MR PETER TSAO, SAID AT A PRESS CONFERENCE THAT THE BASIC PREMISES ACCEPTED BY THE BROADCASTING REVIEW BOARD, THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY AND THE ADMINISTRATION HAD BEEN THAT THE AIR-WAVES WERE A PUBLIC AND LIMITED RESOURCE AND TELEVISION WAS A PERVASIVE AND INFLUENTIAL MEDIUM.

"LICENSEE COMPANIES WHICH ARE IN EFFECT GIVEN THE MONOPOLY TO BROADCAST TV OFF AIR THEREFORE HAVE A CONSIDERABLE RESPONSIBILITY AND PUBLIC DUTY AND WHILST THE INTENTION IS NOT TO RESTRICT THEM UNDULY, THEY MUST ACCEPT THE INEVITABILITY OF CERTAIN CONTROLS ON THE WAY IN WHICH THEY OPERATE," HE SAID.

MR TSAO ADDED THAT WHEN THE NEW LICENCES ARE ISSUED, THE LICENSEE COMPANIES WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO BE HELD BY A HOLDING COMPANY AND SHOULD NOT BE PERMITTED TO HOLD SHARES IN ANY COMPANY DOING BUSINESS UNRELATED TO TELEVISION BROADCASTING.

THE NEW CONDITIONS REFERRING TO THE OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL OF LICENSEE COMPANIES INCLUDE:

* IT MAY NOT HOLD DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY ANY SUBSIDIARY COMPANY UNLESS TWO CONDITIONS ARE MET: (A) THE BUSINESS OF WHICH IS CONNECTED OR ASSOCIATED WITH TELEVISION BROADCASTING; AND (B) THE HOLDING OF A SUBSIDIARY COMPANY IS APPROVED BY THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY; AND

* A LICENSEE COMPANY SHALL NOT BE HELD IN ANY FORM BY A HOLDING COMPANY.

ON FOREIGN OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL THE NEW CONDITIONS STIPULATE:

* MORE THAN 51 PER CENT OF THE ISSUED SHARES IN A TELEVISION LICENSEE COMPANY SHALL BE HELD AT ALL TIMES ABSOLUTELY AND BENEFICIALLY BY PERSONS WHO ARE PERMANENT RESIDENTS OF, AND ORDINARILY RESIDENT IN, HONG KONG;

* FOREIGN INTERESTS WILL BE ALLOWED TO OWN OR CONTROL UNDER 49 PER CENT OF THE ISSUED SHARES IN A LICENSEE COMPANY (THE 49 PER CENT RULE);

/* NOT MORE

* NOT MORE THAN 10 PER CENT OF THE ISSUED SHARES IN A LICENSEE COMPANY SHALL BE OWNED OR CONTROLLED BY ANY SINGLE FOREIGN SHAREHOLDER (THE 10 PER CENT RULE);

* WHERE A FOREIGN SHAREHOLDER OWNS OR HAS INTEREST IN TWO PER CENT OR MORE OF THE ISSUED SHARES IN A LICENSEE COMPANY, THE LICENSEE SHALL FORTHWITH NOTIFY AND SEEK APPROVAL FROM THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY (THE TWO PER CENT RULE);

* ANY FOREIGN SHAREHOLDER HOLDING INTERESTS IN A LICENSEE COMPANY OR ITS HOLDING COMPANY EXCEEDING THESE LIMITS MAY APPLY TO THE AUTHORITY TO RETAIN HIS SHAREHOLDING WHICH HE HAD AS AT NOVEMBER 24, 1987 (IT WAS ON THIS DATE WHEN THE GOVERNMENT MADE PUBLIC ITS INTENTION TO DEAL WITH THE ISSUE OF FOREIGN OWNERSHIP). HOWEVER, IF HIS SHAREHOLDING WERE TO BE REDUCED IN FUTURE, HE WOULD NOT BE PERMITTED TO REBUILD HIS HOLDING, OTHER THAN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NEW RULES;

* NO LIMIT SHALL BE IMPOSED ON THE MAXIMUM PERCENTAGE OF SHARES AN INDIVIDUAL CAN HOLD IN A LICENSEE COMPANY PROVIDED THAT THE INDIVIDUAL IS A PERMANENT RESIDENT OF, AND ORDINARILY RESIDENT IN, HONG KONG; AND

* A MAJORITY OF THE DIRECTORS OF A LICENSEE COMPANY SHALL BE PERMANENT RESIDENTS OF, AND ORDINARILY RESIDENT IN, HONG KONG.

ON FOREIGN OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL OF TELEVISION STATIONS, THE AUTHORITY NOTED THAT LEGISLATION IN MANY OVERSEAS COUNTRIES SUCH AS AUSTRALIA, U.K., U.S.A. AND NEW ZEALAND WAS MUCH STRICTER THAN THAT PROPOSED BY THE AUTHORITY.

IT RECOMMENDED THAT A LOCAL PERSON SHOULD BE THE HOLDER OF A PERMANENT HONG KONG IDENTITY CARD AND ORDINARILY RESIDENT IN HONG KONG. ANYONE WHO FAILED TO MEET THAT CRITERIA WOULD BE REGARDED AS A "FOREIGNER" FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE TELEVISION ORDINANCE. AND IN THE CASE OF COMPANIES, A LOCAL COMPANY WOULD BE CONTROLLED BY PEOPLE WHO WERE PERMANENT RESIDENTS AND ORDINARILY RESIDENT IN HONG KONG.

MR TSAO SAID THAT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE LICENCE, IF ACCEPTED, WERE INTENDED TO APPLY THROUGHOUT THE 12-YEAR LICENCE PERIOD. THERE SHOULD BE A MID-TERM REVIEW IN 1994.

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TAC ACCEPTS FIVE-YEAR PLANS OF CMB, KMB
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THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) TODAY (TUESDAY) ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE THE FIVE-YEAR FORWARD PLANNING PROGRAMMES OF THE CHINA MOTOR BUS COMPANY (CMB) AND THE KOWLOON MOTOR BUS COMPANY (KMB) FOR 1988-1992.

ON ROUTE DEVELOPMENT, CMB PROPOSED NINE NEW ROUTES, ONE SERVICE WITHDRAWAL, 23 FREQUENCY IMPROVEMENTS AND TWO FREQUENCY REDUCTIONS WHICH HAD BEEN EXAMINED BY THE RELEVANT TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEES OF DISTRICT BOARDS.

THE TAC CONSIDERED THAT THE COMPANY'S ROUTE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME WAS GENERALLY ACCEPTABLE AND ITS SERVICES WERE EXPECTED TO IMPROVE FURTHER IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS. THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF CMB'S FIVE-YEAR PLAN WERE ALSO NOTED.

HOWEVER, THE COMMITTEE CONSIDERED THAT CMB'S PROGRAMME FOR REPLACEMENT OF ITS OLDER BUSES SHOULD BE SPEEDED UP, AND THAT SUCH PROVISION SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN CMB'S NEXT FORWARD PLAN.

KMB'S ROUTE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME PROPOSED A TOTAL OF 408 BUS SERVICE CHANGES OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

THESE COMPRISED: INTRODUCTION OF 51 NEW SERVICES, WITHDRAWAL OF 14 EXISTING SERVICES, 191 ROUTE FREQUENCY IMPROVEMENTS, 23 ROUTE FREQUENCY REDUCTIONS, 42 CHANGES OF SERVICE TERMINAL POINTS, 24 ROUTE CHANGES AND 63 CASES OF BUS TYPE REPLACEMENT BY HIGHER CAPACITY VEHICLES.

THE TAC CONCLUDED THAT KMB'S PROGRAMME WAS GENERALLY SATISFACTORY, AND THAT ITS FLEET DEVELOPMENT PLAN WAS REASONABLE AND ACCEPTABLE ON ECONOMIC GROUNDS. IT ALSO NOTED THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN.

OTHER MATTERS CONSIDERED BY THE TAC INCLUDED THE PROPOSAL TO EXTEND THE LEGISLATION ON THE WEARING OF SEAT BELTS BY DRIVERS AND FRONT SEAT PASSENGERS TO COVER TAXIS AND LIGHT BUSES.

MEMBERS DELIBERATED WHETHER THE PROPOSAL FOR LIMITING THE VICARIOUS LIABILITY OF TAXI AND LIGHT BUS DRIVERS FOR THE FAILURE OF FRONT SEAT PASSENGERS TO WEAR A SEAT BELT TO PASSENGERS UNDER THE AGE OF 15 SHOULD BE EXTENDED TO PRIVATE MOTORISTS.

MEMBERS, HOWEVER, AGREED THAT THE EXISTING LIABILITY OF PRIVATE MOTORISTS FOR THE WEARING OF SEAT BELTS BY FRONT SEAT PASSENGERS SHOULD NOT BE CHANGED.

/THE PROPOSAL

THE PROPOSAL ALSO SOUGHT TO SET THE PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO DISCHARGE THE VICARIOUS RESPONSIBILITY AT A FIXED PENALTY OF \$100 OR A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$2,000 ON CONVICTION AFTER PROSECUTION BY SUMMONS FOR ALL DRIVERS.

THE TAC ALSO LOOKED INTO THE TRAFFIC CONGESTION PROBLEMS AT THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL AND THE POSSIBLE REMEDIAL MEASURES TO ALLEVIATE THEM.

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RISE IN WATER CHARGES FROM APRIL 1

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THERE IS TO BE AN INCREASE IN WATER CHARGES FROM APRIL 1, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE WATER AUTHORITY ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY).

HE SAID THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAD THIS MORNING APPROVED AN AVERAGE RISE OF SEVEN AND A HALF PER CENT FROM APRIL 1 FOLLOWING THE SIXTH IN A SERIES OF ANNUAL REVIEWS.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT 17 PER CENT OF ALL DOMESTIC CONSUMERS WOULD CONTINUE TO PAY NOTHING FOR THE WATER THEY CONSUMED.

A FURTHER 60 PER CENT WOULD PAY LESS THAN AN ADDITIONAL 50 CENTS PER WEEK.

ONLY 23 PER CENT WOULD PAY MORE THAN 50 CENTS EXTRA PER WEEK AND ONLY SEVEN PER CENT OF THOSE WOULD PAY MORE THAN \$1 PER WEEK EXTRA.

AS FOR TRADE USERS, THE MAJORITY WOULD PAY NO MORE THAN 50 CENTS EXTRA PER WEEK.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID CHARGES FOR WATER WERE AIMED AT RECOVERING THE COST OF WATERWORKS OPERATION, AND THE ANNUAL REVIEWS WERE INTENDED TO AVOID MAJOR INCREASES IN CHARGES AT ONE TIME.

"IN DOLLAR TERMS THE MAJORITY OF CONSUMERS WILL HAVE VERY LITTLE ADDED TO THEIR WATER BILLS," HE SAID.

HE SAID SALT WATER FOR FLUSHING WOULD REMAIN FREE AND THE SAME QUANTITY OF FRESH WATER FOR FLUSHING - 30 UNITS - WOULD CONTINUE TO BE PROVIDED FREE.

THE INCREASE WOULD NOT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON BUSINESS OPERATIONS AS WATER CHARGES REPRESENTED A SMALL PART OF THE OPERATING COSTS OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY, HE SAID.

/THE FOLLOWING

THE FOLLOWING TABLE GIVES A COMPARISON ON THE EXISTING AND NEW WATER CHARGES:

WATER AMOUNT		PRESENT RATES	NEW RATES
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		(PER CUBIC METRE)	
DOMESTIC SUPPLY	0 - 18 CUBIC METRES	FREE	FREE
RATE FOR FOUR	18 - 36 CUBIC METRES	\$1.23	\$1.32
MONTHLY PERIOD	36 - 64 CUBIC METRES	\$2.22	\$2.39
	64 - 92 CUBIC METRES	\$3.44	\$3.70
	OVER 92 CUBIC METRES	\$4.83	\$5.19
TRADE SUPPLY	EACH CUBIC METRE	\$2.22	\$2.39
RATE			

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CS TO MOVE MOTION ON WHITE PAPER

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THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID FORD, WILL MOVE A MOTION ON THE WHITE PAPER "THE DEVELOPMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT: THE WAY FORWARD" IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE MOTION STATES THAT "THIS COUNCIL TAKES NOTE OF THE PLANS AND INTENTIONS" CONTAINED IN THE WHITE PAPER.

A DEBATE ON THE MOTION WILL FOLLOW, AND CONTINUE ON THURSDAY, WITH 43 MEMBERS EXPECTED TO SPEAK.

DURING THE TWO-DAY MEETING, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY WILL MOVE A MOTION ON THE PUBLIC FINANCE ORDINANCE.

THE HEUNG YEE KUK (AMENDMENT) BILL 1988 WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS, AND THE HOUSING (AMENDMENT) BILL 1988 IS DUE TO GO THROUGH THE COMMITTEE STAGE AND BE READ A THIRD TIME.

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NEW DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION, INDUSTRIAL TRAINING
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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THE APPOINTMENT OF MR H.R. KNIGHT AS THE DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINING.

MR KNIGHT, AGED 54, JOINED THE CIVIL SERVICE AS AN EDUCATION OFFICER (TECHNICAL) IN SEPTEMBER 1965.

HE BECAME A SENIOR TRAINING OFFICER (APPRENTICESHIP) IN JUNE 1969 AND WAS PROMOTED TO ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR IN DECEMBER 1973.

HE WAS APPOINTED ON TRANSFER AS ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINING IN APRIL 1982.

MR KNIGHT HAS ACTED AS DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINING ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS.

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INDUSTRIES HAVE SCOPE TO IMPROVE PRODUCTIVITY
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A STUDY COMMISSIONED BY THE GOVERNMENT LAST YEAR ON THE CONSTRAINTS AND DETERMINANTS OF GROWTH IN THE CLOTHING AND TEXTILES INDUSTRIES CONCLUDED THAT WHILE BOTH INDUSTRIES HAD MADE SIGNIFICANT STRIDES IN RECENT YEARS, THERE WAS STILL CONSIDERABLE SCOPE FOR IMPROVING THEIR PRODUCTIVITY, THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE CLOTHING TECHNOLOGY FAIR, MR MACLEOD SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD AGREED TO PROVIDE FUNDING SO THAT THE PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL COULD ESTABLISH A TEXTILES DIVISION THIS YEAR, TO ADVISE MANUFACTURERS ON WAYS OF IMPROVING THEIR EFFICIENCY.

"OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS, THE NEW DIVISION WILL GRADUALLY EXPAND ITS SERVICES TO PROVIDE ADVICE AND TRAINING ON MACHINERY, AUTOMATION AND MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES SPECIFICALLY TAILORED TO THE NEEDS OF CLOTHING AND TEXTILES MANUFACTURERS.

"THE INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD WILL ALSO BE CONSIDERING OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS STEMMING FROM THE CONSULTANCY, INCLUDING IMPROVED MANPOWER TRAINING AND BETTER INFRASTRUCTURAL SUPPORT," HE SAID.

/MR MACLEOD

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MR MACLEOD NOTED THAT ALTHOUGH HONG KONG WAS THE WORLD'S LARGEST EXPORTER OF CLOTHING, THE ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH CLOTHING MANUFACTURERS OPERATED WAS A DIFFICULT ONE.

THEY HAD TO OPERATE AGAINST A BACKGROUND OF RISING COSTS, GROWING THREATS OF PROTECTIONIST MEASURES FROM MAJOR MARKETS AND INCREASING COMPETITION FROM NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES.

"THEY MUST CONSTANTLY STRIVE TO UPGARDE THE QUALITY OF THEIR PRODUCTS, IMPROVE THEIR PRODUCTION AND MARKETING TECHNIQUES, AND INCREASE PRODUCTIVITY, IF THEY ARE TO MAINTAIN THEIR COMPETITIVENESS," HE SAID.

MR MACLEOD SAID THE GOVERNMENT RECOGNISED THAT IT HAD AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN HELPING THE CLOTHING AND TEXTILES INDUSTRIES TO OVERCOME THE BARRIERS TO GROWTH.

"WHILE THE GOVERNMENT IS DETERMINED TO DO ALL IT CAN TO COMBAT THE THREAT OF PROTECTIONIST MEASURES IN OUR OVERSEAS MARKETS, WE ARE ALSO KEEN TO REMOVE OTHER MORE TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO EXPANSION BY THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY," HE ADDED.

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HK WORKS HARD TO LIBERALISE WORLD TRADE
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HONG KONG IS WORKING HARD IN THE GATT'S CURRENT URUGUAY ROUND OF MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS TO LIBERALISE WORLD TRADE, IMPROVE MARKET ACCESS AND STRENGTHEN DISCIPLINE IN THE MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM, THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, MR MICHAEL SZE, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

IN A SPEECH TO THE CHINESE ASSOCIATION OF DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES, MR SZE SAID ANY INTENSIFICATION OF PROTECTIONIST MEASURES WOULD AFFECT PROSPECTS FOR HONG KONG'S EXPORTS AND WORLD TRADE GENERALLY.

"PROTECTIONISM ABOUNDS - NOT ONLY IN THE FORM OF QUOTAS AND TARIFFS BUT IN 'VOLUNTARY' EXPORT RESTRAINTS; ORDERLY MARKETING ARRANGEMENTS; OBSCURE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM; AND ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDANCE," HE SAID.

ON THE TRADE PROSPECTS FOR 1988, MR SZE NOTED THAT THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY HAS FORECAST AN OVERALL INCREASE IN HONG KONG'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF ONLY SIX PER CENT.

"WITHIN THIS FIGURE, THE OUTLOOK IS RELATIVELY BRIGHTER FOR TWO MARKETS: JAPAN AND CHINA," HE SAID.

/HE SAID

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HE SAID THE GROWTH RATE OF HONG KONG DOMESTIC EXPORTS FOR BOTH JAPAN AND CHINA WAS EXPECTED TO BE OF THE ORDER OF 14 PER CENT.

AS FOR THE UNITED STATES, MR SZE SAID DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE LIKELY TO GROW BY ONLY 2.5 PER CENT THIS YEAR.

"THE FORTHCOMING EXCLUSION OF OUR EXPORTS FROM THE U.S. GENERALISED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES MAY FURTHER ADVERSELY AFFECT OUR EXPORT PERFORMANCE IN 1989," HE SAID.

MR SZE NOTED THAT DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO ALL MAJOR MARKETS GREW IN 1987.

"AT A GROWTH RATE OF 52 PER CENT, DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CHINA RECORDED THE FASTEST INCREASE, DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO JAPAN, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND THE UNITED KINGDOM, ALSO RECORDED SUBSTANTIAL REAL GROWTH, BY ABOUT 41 PER CENT, 27 PER CENT AND 27 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

"ON THE OTHERHAND, THE REAL GROWTH RATE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES WAS ONLY 10 PER CENT.

"AS A RESULT OF THIS GROWTH PATTERN, THE U.S.A., THOUGH STILL BY FAR THE LARGEST MARKET FOR OUR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, HAS DECLINED SOMEWHAT IN RELATIVE IMPORTANCE FROM A 42 PER CENT SHARE IN 1986 TO 37 PER CENT IN 1987."

MR SZE ALSO NOTED THAT DESPITE SOME DIVERSIFICATION, HONG KONG'S EXPORTS HAD REMAINED HEAVILY DEPENDENT ON LIGHT CONSUMER GOODS INDUSTRIES, SUCH AS CLOTHING, TEXTILES, ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS, AND TOYS AND DOLLS.

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U.S. EXPORT AUTHORISATION CALL RECEIVED
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THE TRADE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THE IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION OF THE ISSUING OF EXPORT AUTHORISATIONS FOR CATEGORY 611 (STAPLE ARTIFICIAL FABRICS (85 PER CENT OR MORE BY WEIGHT)) FOR THE U.S. MARKET, PENDING CONSULTATIONS WITH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.

THE SUSPENSION WAS ANNOUNCED FOLLOWING THE RECEIPT OF A REQUEST FROM THE U.S. GOVERNMENT FOR CONSULTATIONS ON THAT CATEGORY.

THE DEPARTMENT WILL, HOWEVER, CONTINUE TO APPROVE AND ISSUE EXPORT LICENCES FOR THE ABOVE CATEGORY AGAINST VALID EXPORT AUTHORISATIONS ALREADY APPROVED.

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EDUCATION THE UNDERLYING FORCE FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
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EDUCATION IS THE UNDERLYING FORCE FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND WILL ALSO HELP THE TRAINING OF CHARACTER AND MORAL INTEGRITY - ELEMENTS WHICH ARE CONDUCIVE TO THE STABILITY OF THE COMMUNITY.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR MR CHAN KAM-CHUEN SAID THIS TODAY (TUESDAY) AT A PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF BURSARY CERTIFICATES OF THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES CHILDREN'S EDUCATION TRUST AT THE DEPARTMENT'S STAFF TRAINING INSTITUTE IN STANLEY.

SPEAKING IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE EDUCATION TRUST COMMITTEE, MR CHAN SAID IT WAS ONLY WHEN A SOCIETY HAD EQUIPPED ITSELF WITH ADEQUATE AND SUFFICIENT MANPOWER THAT IT WOULD PROGRESS ON A STEADY, CONSTRUCTIVE AND PROSPEROUS PATH.

"RECENTLY THERE WERE OVER 100 PAGES OF ADVERTISEMENTS OF JOBS IN A LOCAL NEWSPAPER. THIS UNDERLINES THE IMPORTANCE OF TRAINING MORE MANPOWER AT ALL LEVELS WITH VARIOUS SKILLS TO SATISFY THE IMMEDIATE AND FUTURE REQUIREMENTS OF HONG KONG," MR CHAN ADDED.

SEEN IN THIS LIGHT, MR CHAN SAID FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GIVEN TO STUDENTS WAS MONEY WELL SPENT.

THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES CHILDREN'S EDUCATION TRUST WAS SET UP IN 1983 TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR CHILDREN OF ASSISTANT OFFICERS AND EQUIVALENT GRADES TO PURSUE HIGHER EDUCATION.

IT ALSO AIMS TO ENCOURAGE THE CHILDREN TO PURSUE AND STRIVE HARD IN THEIR STUDIES, FOR THEIR OWN GOOD AND FOR THE WELL-BEING OF THE COMMUNITY.

THE TRUST WAS INITIALLY FUNDED BY A GENEROUS DONATION FROM MR WILLIAM MONG, THE PRESIDENT OF THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION.

AN INVESTMENT ADVISORY BOARD HAS BEEN SET UP WITH SIR OSWALD CHEUNG, A FORMER MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, AS CHAIRMAN, AND DR PETER VINE AND MR AUBREY LI AS MEMBERS, TO ADVISE THE TRUST COMMITTEE ON INVESTMENT OF THE FUND. THE INCOME EARNED IS USED AS BURSARIES.

AT TODAY'S CEREMONY, THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, MR CHAN WA-SHEK, SPEAKING AS TRUSTEE OF THE EDUCATION TRUST, THANKED THE INVESTMENT ADVISORY BOARD FOR THEIR SOUND ADVICE CONCERNING INVESTMENT.

HE ALSO EXPRESSED APPRECIATION TO THE TRUST COMMITTEE FOR PROVIDING ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT AND FOR ENSURING THAT THE GRANTS WERE ALLOCATED IN A FAIR AND EFFECTIVE MANNER.

ELEVEN STAFF MEMBERS RECEIVED THE BURSARY CERTIFICATES AND CHEQUES FROM MRS WILLIAM MONG DURING THE CEREMONY.

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'WALK AND PLANT' PUBLICITY TO BEGIN ON SATURDAY

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A MAJOR PUBLICITY DRIVE WILL BE MOUNTED LATER THIS WEEK TO ENCOURAGE PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR TREE PLANTING AND THE WIDER USE OF THE FAMILY WALKS RECENTLY ESTABLISHED IN HONG KONG'S COUNTRY PARKS.

ORGANISED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT, THE DRIVE WILL BE SPEARHEADED BY A LARGE-SCALE 'WALK AND PLANT' OUTDOOR ACTIVITY TO BE HELD AT 10.30 AM ON SATURDAY (MARCH 19) AT PAK TAM AU IN SAI KUNG COUNTRY PARK.

THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID FORD, AND LADY FORD WILL START OFF THE MONTH-LONG PROMOTIONAL PROJECT. THEY WILL BE JOINED BY THE SECRETARY FOR MUNICIPAL SERVICES, MR AUGUSTINE CHUI, AND THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (TUESDAY), THE DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (CONSERVATION AND COUNTRY PARKS), MR K.C. IU, SAID THE THEME OF THE DRIVE WAS FAMILY INVOLVEMENT IN HELPING TO IMPROVE THE COUNTRYSIDE ENVIRONMENT THROUGH TREE PLANTING AND IN HEALTHY PURSUITS SUCH AS OUTINGS TO THE FAMILY WALKS IN COUNTRY PARKS.

A FAMILY WALK IS A TRAIL WHICH IS LOCATED AT A SCENIC SPOT IN COUNTRY PARK AREA AND IS EASILY ACCESSIBLE BY VEHICULAR TRANSPORT. VARYING FROM 1 KM TO 3.5 KM IN LENGTH, IT IS SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR HIKING AND STROLLING BY THE WHOLE FAMILY AND THE GRADIENT IS USUALLY VERY GENTLE.

"WITH THESE AIMS IN MIND, THE 'WALK AND PLANT' ACTIVITY WAS SO PLANNED THAT IT WOULD MARK THE LAUNCHING OF THE 1988 COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING SCHEME AND THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE FIRST 13 FAMILY WALKS IN THE COUNTRY PARKS.

"WE ARE GRATEFUL TO SIR DAVID AND LADY FORD FOR THEIR SUPPORT WHICH WILL UNDOUBTEDLY SET A VERY GOOD EXAMPLE FOR THE COMMUNITY TO FOLLOW," MR IU SAID.

AT THE FUNCTION, SIR DAVID AND LADY FORD WILL LEAD SOME 100 GUESTS WHICH INCLUDE POPULAR ARTISTES FROM THE TELEVISION BROADCASTS LIMITED, AND ABOUT 1,000 FAMILY GROUPS AND SCHOOL CHILDREN IN PLANTING THE FIRST TREES AT PAK TAM AU.

THEY WILL ALSO WALK ALONG THE NEARBY 1.8 KM-LONG PAK TAM FAMILY WALK WHICH PASSES THROUGH A SCENIC AREA IN THE SAI KUNG COUNTRY PARK.

MR IU SAID THE ACTIVITY WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY TREE PLANTING DAYS FOR THE PUBLIC TO BE HELD ON ALL SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS FROM MARCH 20 TO APRIL 30.

/ON EACH

ON EACH TREE PLANTING DAY, FREE TREE SEEDLINGS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PLANTING BY INTERESTED RESIDENTS AT EIGHT DESIGNATED SITES IN THE COUNTRY PARKS AT TAI MO SHAN, TAI TONG, BRIDE'S POOL, CLEARWATER BAY, PAK TAM CHUNG, POK FU LAM, QUARRY BAY AND MUI WO FROM 9 AM TO 4 PM.

AFD STAFF WILL BE ON DUTY TO PROVIDE THE SEEDLINGS, TOOLS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

APART FROM INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR ABOUT 3,800 STUDENTS AND YOUTHS TO TAKE PART IN THE PROGRAMME IN GROUPS.

ANY ORGANISATION INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN THE PROJECT MAY CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT'S CONSERVATION EDUCATION UNIT ON 3-7332121 FOR REGISTRATION.

"I HOPE MORE PEOPLE WILL COME FORWARD TO JOIN THIS MEANINGFUL PROJECT TO ACHIEVE A BETTER ATTENDANCE RECORD THAN LAST YEAR'S 17,300 PEOPLE," MR IU ADDED.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

PRESS TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED AND WILL LEAVE AFD HEADQUARTERS, CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 393, CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON AT 9.15 AM.

AS PAK TAM AU IS WITHIN THE COUNTRY PARK AREA WHERE PUBLIC VEHICULAR ACCESS IS RESTRICTED, ANY MEDIA REPRESENTATIVE OR TELEVISION CREW WISHING TO ARRANGE FOR THEIR OWN TRANSPORT SHOULD CONTACT THE AFD INFORMATION UNIT ON 3-7332176 BEFORE NOON ON FRIDAY (MARCH 18) FOR VEHICULAR PERMITS. LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ENTERTAINED.

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DISTRICT DANCE TROUPE TO BE FORMED

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A CHILDREN'S DANCE TROUPE WILL BE FORMED IN THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT TO PROMOTE INTEREST IN DANCING AND TO IMPROVE DANCING STANDARDS.

THE DISTRICT ASSOCIATION FOR CULTURE AND ARTS (CENTRAL AND WESTERN) IS NOW RECRUITING MEMBERS FOR THE TROUPE. YOUNGSTERS BETWEEN SIX AND 14 YEARS OLD WHO ARE LIVING OR STUDYING IN THE DISTRICT ARE WELCOME TO TAKE PART.

TROUPE MEMBERS WOULD RECEIVE TRAINING IN ORIENTAL DANCE, AND WOULD ALSO LEARN BALLET AND MODERN DANCE TECHNIQUES, THE MANAGER OF THE TROUPE, MISS LUK YUN-MEE, SAID.

"EXPERIENCED INSTRUCTORS WILL USE A LIVELY APPROACH TO STIMULATE CHILDREN'S INTEREST AND MUCH EMPHASIS WILL BE PUT ON AESTHETIC TRAINING," SHE ADDED.

MEMBERS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND CLASSES ON SATURDAY AFTERNOONS. THEY WILL HAVE THE CHANCE TO PERFORM AFTER SIX MONTHS' TRAINING.

ENROLMENT FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, 11TH FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL. AUDITIONS WILL BE ARRANGED LATER.

FOR ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT MISS BETSY LAI ON 5-8523489 OR 5-8523499.

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UNICEF CHILDREN'S PAINTING COMPETITION

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SCHOOL CHILDREN ARE INVITED TO TAKE PART IN THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND (UNICEF) CHILDREN'S PAINTING COMPETITION WHICH AIMS TO FOSTER CULTURAL EXCHANGES AND ENCOURAGE LOCAL CHILDREN TO EXTEND THEIR CONCERN TO CHILDREN IN OTHER COUNTRIES.

THE COMPETITION IS ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG COMMITTEE FOR UNICEF. THE FIRST PRIZE OF THE INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR GROUPS OF THE CONTEST WILL BE A FREE TRIP TO VISIT UNICEF PROJECTS IN CHINA WITH ONE PARENT/GUARDIAN, AND THE WINNER OF THE JUNIOR GROUP WILL RECEIVE A BOOK PRIZE OF \$2,000.

/THE WINNING

THE WINNING PAINTINGS WILL BE SENT TO THE UNICEF ART COMMITTEE IN NEW YORK FOR SELECTION. IF SELECTED, THE PAINTINGS WILL BE PRINTED AS UNICEF GREETING CARDS TO BE SOLD WORLDWIDE FOR THE BENEFIT OF CHILDREN AND MOTHERS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

THE THEME OF ENTRIES SHOULD BE "THE CHILD, AS HE SEES HIMSELF, TOMORROW". THERE WILL BE THREE CATEGORIES IN THE COMPETITION - THE JUNIOR GROUP FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN AGED FOUR TO SEVEN, INTERMEDIATE GROUP FOR THOSE AGED EIGHT TO 11, AND THE SENIOR GROUP FOR THOSE AGED 12 TO 14.

ENTRIES SHOULD BE IN A4 SIZE (210 MM X 297 MM) AND ANY FORM OF TWO-DIMENSIONAL WORK WILL BE ACCEPTABLE. ALL ENTRIES SHOULD BE SENT THROUGH SCHOOL HEADS, WITH ENTRY FORMS, TO THE ORGANISER OF THE COMPETITION, POST OFFICE BOX 70100, BEFORE MARCH 24.

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GOVERNMENT PROPERTIES FOR SALE
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THE GOVERNMENT IS TO PUT UP FIVE PROPERTIES FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION ON THURSDAY (MARCH 17) IN THE HALL OF THE HENRY G. LEUNG YAUMATEI COMMUNITY CENTRE, KOWLOON. THE AUCTION WILL START AT 2.30 PM.

ALL THE PROPERTIES ARE FOR DOMESTIC PURPOSES AND THEIR LOCATIONS ARE:

- * SECOND FLOOR OF 20 WAN ON STREET, KOWLOON, WITH AN AREA OF ABOUT 41.9 SQUARE METRES;
- * SECOND FLOOR (FRONT BLOCK) OF 103 TAI NAN STREET, KOWLOON, WITH AN AREA OF ABOUT 60.9 SQUARE METRES;
- * THIRD FLOOR OF 135 TAI NAN STREET, WITH AN AREA OF ABOUT 52.6 SQUARE METRES;
- * FIRST FLOOR OF 137 TAI NAN STREET, WITH AN AREA OF ABOUT 52.6 SQUARE METRES; AND
- * THIRD FLOOR OF 137 TAI NAN STREET, WITH AN AREA OF ABOUT 52.6 SQUARE METRES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PUBLIC AUCTION.

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TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 1988

- 14 -

BOTANICAL GARDEN, LOCAL OPEN SPACE FOR TUEN MUN
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TUEN MUN RESIDENTS AND STUDENTS WILL HAVE THEIR OWN EDUCATIONAL FACILITY ON BOTANY WHEN A LARGE BOTANICAL GARDEN IS COMPLETED BY THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IN APRIL NEXT YEAR.

ENCIRCLED BY SHAN KING ESTATE, YEUNG SIU HANG VILLAGE, TUEN MUN TECHNICAL INSTITUTE AND TSING WUN ROAD, THE 2.5-HECTARE GARDEN WILL ALSO SERVE AS A MAJOR RECREATIONAL VENUE FOR THE CENTRAL AREA OF WESTERN TUEN MUN.

IT WILL HAVE A VISITORS' CENTRE AND SERVICE BUILDING, A PLANT COLLECTION AREA, A ROCK GARDEN, A TERRACE GARDEN, A FOUNTAIN CASCADE AND POOLS, PERGOLAS AND PAVILIONS, A CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA, A "TAI CHI" AREA AND SITTING-OUT AREAS, ALL INTER-CONNECTED BY WELL-LIT FOOTPATHS.

OTHER FACILITIES WILL INCLUDE TOILETS AND STOREROOMS.

THE WHOLE GARDEN WILL BE SURROUNDED BY EXTENSIVE PLANTED AREAS.

THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS NOW INVITING TENDERS FOR CARRYING OUT SITE FORMATION AND BUILDING WORK FOR THE PROJECT.

CONSTRUCTION HAS BEEN SCHEDULED TO BEGIN NEXT MONTH.

ALSO, THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS CALLING FOR TENDERS FOR BUILDING A LOCAL OPEN SPACE ON A 4,000-SQUARE-METRE-SITE AT CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TUEN MUN.

IT WILL HAVE FOUR TENNIS COURTS, A ROLLER SKATING RINK, CHANGING/TOILET/SHOWER FACILITIES AND A SMALL SITTING-OUT AREA.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN AUGUST AND WILL TAKE 10 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 1988

- 15 -

AUCTION OF SPECIAL CAR NUMBERS

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL HOLD ANOTHER AUCTION OF SPECIAL CAR REGISTRATION NUMBERS ON SATURDAY (MARCH 19) AT 10 AM IN THE CITY HALL RECITAL HALL.

A TOTAL OF 40 SPECIAL CAR NUMBERS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR BIDDING. THEY ARE:

DS163	DR8823	DS198	DR1628
AU8068	DS911	CN1	DR2178
BV1	DT33	DS6686	8468
DS3278	DS328	DS3880	DM938
HK58	DR178	DD68	DR13
DS8382	DS6682	AA7202	BP1128
CL7628	DS3328	DS9888	AF172
AD3399	AW1623	BC883	DR8885
DS172	DB6	DR2388	AK105
DD18	DU339	XX133	DT6898

SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS MUST PAY IN CASH OR BY CHEQUE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE BIDDING.

A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN REMINDED BIDDERS THAT THE VEHICLE REGISTRATION NUMBER WOULD BE ASSIGNED ONLY TO A VEHICLE REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF THE AUCTION.

PROCEEDS OF THE AUCTION WILL AS USUAL GO TO THE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES FUND.

THE COMING AUCTION WILL BE THE 122ND ORGANISED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SINCE MAY 1973.

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TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CHANGES IN TSIM SHA TSUI

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TO FACILITATE ROAD RECONSTRUCTION WORKS, THE SECTION OF SHUN YEE STREET BETWEEN KIMBERLEY STREET AND GRANVILLE ROAD IN TSIM SHA TSUI WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (MARCH 18) FOR ABOUT THREE MONTHS.

AT THE SAME TIME, KIMBERLEY STREET TO THE WEST OF SHUN YEE STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM ONE-WAY EASTBOUND TO ONE-WAY WESTBOUND.

MOTORISTS ON KIMBERLEY STREET TO THE EAST OF SHUN YEE STREET WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO TURN LEFT INTO SHUN YEE STREET, BUT WILL HAVE TO TRAVEL STRAIGHT AHEAD VIA KIMBERLEY STREET TO CARNARVON ROAD.

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