



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES  
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 842 8777

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 1993

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 1993

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GOVERNOR OFFERS CONDOLENCES TO ROBBERY VICTIM

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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, TODAY (WEDNESDAY) OFFERED HIS CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY OF THE WOMAN VICTIM WHO WAS SHOT DEAD IN A YAU MA TEI ROBBERY EARLIER IN THE DAY.

"LIKE THE REST OF THE COMMUNITY, I WAS EXTREMELY CONCERNED TO HEAR ABOUT THE SHOOTING TODAY AND THE ARMED ROBBERY, AND THE DEATH OF AN INNOCENT BY-STANDER," MR PATTEN TOLD REPORTERS AFTER TOURING THE NORTH DISTRICT.

"I WOULD LIKE TO OFFER MY CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY OF THE WOMAN WHO IS SO TRAGICALLY KILLED. ALL OF US, I'M SURE, OFFER OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS TO HER FAMILY."

HE ALSO HAS A MESSAGE TO GO OUT TO ANYONE CONTEMPLATING CRIME:

"WE WILL NOT HESITATE IN OUR EFFORT TO ROOT OUT VIOLENT CRIME SUCH AS WE'VE SEEN TODAY. THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, THE WHOLE POLICE FORCE ARE DETERMINED TO FIGHT CRIME AS VIGOROUSLY AS WE POSSIBLY CAN AND THEY HAVE THE WHOLE-HEARTED SUPPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE IN THAT."

THE GOVERNOR SAID MORE POLICE WERE BEING PUT ON THE STREET IN ORDER TO PREVENT THE SORT OF CRIME THAT OCCURRED TODAY.

"SO TODAY AND IN THE FUTURE WE WILL BE VIGILANT IN TRYING TO STEM OUT THAT SENSELESS VIOLENT CRIME.

"I KNOW IT'S CONDEMNED BY THE WHOLE COMMUNITY, A COMMUNITY WHICH IS ONE OF THE FEW IN THE WORLD THAT CAN SPEAK OF A FALL IN THE OVERALL CRIME RATE.

"BUT THAT'S OF NO COMFORT WHEN ONE HAS TO SEE A CRIME LIKE THE ONE THAT WAS PERPETRATED TODAY," HE SAID.

ASKED ABOUT THE FORTHCOMING VISIT OF CO-OPERATIVE RESOURCES CENTRE (CRC) MEMBERS TO LONDON, MR PATTEN SAID THE PRIME MINISTER, MR JOHN MAJOR, WILL BE SEEING CRC LEADER MR ALLEN LEE AND HIS GROUP.

"I'M SURE THAT HE'LL BE INTERESTED IN LISTENING TO WHAT MR LEE AND HIS COLLEAGUES HAVE TO SAY, AND IN PARTICULAR TO HEARING WHETHER THEY HAVE ANY PROPOSALS TO PUT FORWARD ABOUT THE POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG, BECAUSE MANY MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY HAVE DONE SO ALREADY, MOST OF THE GROUPS IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL HAVE DONE SO."

HE ALSO SAID THE PRIME MINISTER, THE FOREIGN SECRETARY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR HONG KONG MET LEGISLATORS WHENEVER THEY COULD WHEN THEY WERE VISITING LONDON.

ON MEETINGS BETWEEN THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF BRITAIN AND CHINA, THE GOVERNOR SAID:

"I WOULD ANTICIPATE THAT SEQUENCE OF MEETINGS WOULD CONTINUE INTO THE FUTURE BECAUSE IT'S CERTAINLY VERY USEFUL FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE PRC AND THEREFORE IT'S USEFUL FOR HONG KONG AS WELL."

/IN REPLY .....

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION ON HIS POLITICAL PROPOSALS, MR PATTEN SAID THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WOULD GIVE HIM AND THE GOVERNMENT ITS ADVICE IN THE COMING WEEKS ABOUT THE PRECISE LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS THAT SHOULD BE PUT TO THE LEGCO AFTER THE CHINESE NEW YEAR.

"THEY'VE ALREADY AGREED THAT WE SHOULD AT THE SAME TIME, OR PERHAPS BEFORE WE PUT LEGISLATION BEFORE THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, THAT WE SHOULD PUT FORWARD A COMPENDIUM OF ALL THE PROPOSALS THAT HAVE BEEN MADE BY INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY ABOUT THE POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG."

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MEETING WITH POLITICAL GROUP LEADERS VALUABLE

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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY (WEDNESDAY) SAID THAT THE GOVERNOR'S MEETING WITH LEADERS OF THE CO-OPERATIVE RESOURCES CENTRE (CRC) HAD BEEN VALUABLE AND CONSTRUCTIVE.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE ISSUES DISCUSSED WERE POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT, THE FORTHCOMING BUDGET, LOCALISATION OF THE CIVIL SERVICE AND THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION.

THE CRC LEADERS PRESENTED THEIR POSITION PAPER ON CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND EXPLAINED THAT AT THIS STAGE THEY WERE FOCUSING ON BROAD PRINCIPLES.

THEY SAID THEY WOULD BE PRESENTING THE DOCUMENT TO THE PRIME MINISTER WHEN THEY MET HIM ON JANUARY 19.

THE GOVERNOR SAID, IF THE CRC HAD DIFFICULTIES WITH WHAT HE HAD PROPOSED, HE HOPED THAT THEY WOULD DEVELOP THEIR OWN THINKING FROM THE LEVEL OF GENERAL PRINCIPLES TO SPECIFIC PROPOSALS ON ISSUES SUCH AS THE FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES AND THE ELECTION COMMITTEE.

HE BELIEVED THAT THE PRIME MINISTER WOULD ASK THE CRC IF THEY HAD ANY ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS IF THEY DID NOT AGREE WITH THE ONES WHICH THE GOVERNOR HAD PUT FORWARD.

ON THE ELECTION COMMITTEE, THE GOVERNOR REPEATED THE POINTS HE MADE IN HIS ADDRESS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON OCTOBER 7, THAT IS, THAT THE ELECTORS OF THE ELECTION COMMITTEE SHOULD THEMSELVES HAVE BEEN ELECTED AND THAT THE SIMPLEST AND MOST EFFECTIVE WAY OF ACHIEVING THIS WOULD BE TO DRAW MOST IF NOT ALL OF THE MEMBERS FROM THE DIRECTLY ELECTED DISTRICT BOARDS.

HOWEVER, HE DID NOT PRECLUDE DRAWING SOME MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE FROM OTHER SOURCES, PROVIDED THEY TOO WERE ELECTED.

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 1993

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GOVERNOR VISITS NORTH DISTRICT

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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, VISITED NORTH DISTRICT THIS (WEDNESDAY) AFTERNOON.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR ALBERT LAM; THE NORTH DISTRICT OFFICER, MR TIMOTHY TONG, AND THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR PANG HANG-YIN, THE GOVERNOR FIRST TOURED A RURAL PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE IN SHA TAU KOK.

HOUSING 3,300 PEOPLE, THE ESTATE WAS BUILT IN 1991, AND ITS BUILDINGS WERE MODELLED ON UK TOWNHOUSE DESIGN, BUT WITH LOCAL ADAPTATIONS.

HE ALSO VISITED SHA TAU KOK CENTRAL PRIMARY SCHOOL, WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1988 TO REPLACE FIVE SUB-STANDARD VILLAGE PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND TO PROVIDE A MUCH IMPROVED STUDY ENVIRONMENT AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES TO STUDENTS IN THE FRONTIER AREA.

THEN HE PROCEEDED TO VISIT FUNG YING SEEN KOON TEMPLE IN FANLING, AND ALSO TOOK A WALK AT SHEK WU HUI TOWN - A MARKET TOWNSHIP IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

BEFORE CONCLUDING HIS VISIT, THE GOVERNOR MET DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AND DISTRICT PERSONALITIES AT THE COMMUNITY HALL IN CHEUNG WAH ESTATE.

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OCCUPATIONAL RETIREMENT SCHEMES ORDINANCE  
TO TAKE EFFECT IN MID-1993

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THE OCCUPATIONAL RETIREMENT SCHEMES ORDINANCE, WHICH WILL PROVIDE A FRAMEWORK FOR THE REGULATION OF PRIVATE RETIREMENT SCHEMES IN HONG KONG, WILL COME INTO OPERATION IN MID-1993, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE ORDINANCE, TO BE GAZETTED THIS FRIDAY (JANUARY 8), WILL GIVE A MUCH GREATER DEGREE OF ASSURANCE THAT RETIREMENT BENEFITS PROMISED BY EMPLOYERS WILL BE PAID TO THE EMPLOYEES WHEN THEY FALL DUE.

"THE INTRODUCTION OF THE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK WILL BE A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO THE PROTECTION OF RETIREMENT BENEFITS IN HONG KONG," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE OCCUPATIONAL RETIREMENT SCHEMES BILL WAS INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN APRIL LAST YEAR. THEREAFTER, A LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AD HOC GROUP EXAMINED THE BILL IN DETAIL AND HELD DETAILED DISCUSSIONS WITH THE ADMINISTRATION.

/"THE ORDINANCE .....

"THE ORDINANCE IS THE PRODUCT OF THIS SCRUTINY AND TAKES INTO ACCOUNT COMMENTS FROM THE PROFESSIONAL BODIES AS WELL AS THE EMPLOYERS' AND EMPLOYEES' ORGANISATIONS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE ORDINANCE ESTABLISHES A REGISTRATION SYSTEM FOR ALL OCCUPATIONAL RETIREMENT SCHEMES OPERATING IN HONG KONG. ON COMMENCEMENT OF THE ORDINANCE, ALL RETIREMENT SCHEMES ARE REQUIRED TO BE REGISTERED WITH THE GOVERNMENT; EXEMPTION WILL BE GRANTED TO PARTICULAR CATEGORIES.

"RETIREMENT SCHEMES WHICH ARE IN OPERATION PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE ORDINANCE MUST APPLY FOR REGISTRATION OR EXEMPTION WITHIN TWO YEARS FROM THE DATE THE LEGISLATION IS BROUGHT INTO EFFECT," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"ALL APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR OF OCCUPATIONAL RETIREMENT SCHEMES WHICH WILL ASSUME THE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR ADMINISTERING THE ORDINANCE," HE SAID.

THE KEY PROVISIONS OF THE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- \* THE ASSETS OF A REGISTERED SCHEME MUST BE KEPT SEPARATE FROM THOSE OF THE EMPLOYER OR SCHEME ADMINISTRATOR AND FREE FROM ENCUMBRANCES AT ALL TIMES;
- \* ALL SCHEMES MUST HAVE ADEQUATE ASSETS TO MEET THEIR AGGREGATE VESTED LIABILITIES;
- \* INDEPENDENT AUDIT ON COMPLIANCE WITH THE STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS; AND
- \* DISCLOSURE OF ESSENTIAL INFORMATION RELATING TO THE RETIREMENT SCHEME TO THE SCHEME MEMBERS.

"ALTHOUGH THE MAJOR GUIDING PRINCIPLES AS SET OUT ABOVE HAVE NOT BEEN ALTERED, WE HAVE MADE A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER OF AMENDMENTS TO THE OCCUPATIONAL RETIREMENT SCHEMES BILL IN THE LIGHT OF DISCUSSIONS WITH THE LEGCO AD HOC GROUP AND OF COMMENTS RECEIVED ON THE BILL WHICH WE CONSIDERED TO BE REASONABLE AND APPROPRIATE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"ONE OF THESE RELATES TO ANTI-AVOIDANCE PROVISIONS. ON COMMENCEMENT OF THE ORDINANCE, ANY PROMISE MADE BY THE EMPLOYER TO PROVIDE RETIREMENT PROTECTION WOULD BE REGARDED AS AMOUNTING TO OPERATING A RETIREMENT SCHEME AND, THEREFORE, SUBJECT TO THE STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS," THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT A NUMBER OF MEASURES HAD ALSO BEEN INCLUDED IN THE ORDINANCE TO ENHANCE PROTECTION FOR SCHEME MEMBERS.

THE OCCUPATIONAL RETIREMENT SCHEMES BILL WHEN GAZETTED LAST YEAR PROVIDED THAT ONLY A SCHEME MEMBER WHO WAS A HONG KONG PERMANENT RESIDENT OR WHO SATISFIED CERTAIN RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS MIGHT APPLY TO THE HONG KONG COURT FOR JUDGEMENT AGAINST THE EMPLOYER IN THE EVENT OF ANY SHORTFALL ON TERMINATION OF THE SCHEME BETWEEN HIS ENTITLEMENT AND THE BENEFIT HE RECEIVED.

"TO ENSURE THAT ALL MEMBERS OF A RETIREMENT SCHEME WHICH IS SUBJECT TO THE LOCAL REGULATORY AUTHORITY WILL BE GIVEN ADEQUATE PROTECTION, THE ORDINANCE NOW ALSO ALLOWS OVERSEAS MEMBERS THE RIGHT TO APPLY TO THE HONG KONG COURT FOR JUDGEMENT," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT, IN APPLYING FOR REGISTRATION, A SCHEME WILL NEED TO SUBMIT STATEMENTS BY A SOLICITOR AND AN ACCOUNTANT STATING, RESPECTIVELY, WHETHER THE SCHEME IS SET UP AS A TRUST OR AN INSURANCE ARRANGEMENT, WHETHER IT IS GOVERNED BY THE LAWS OF HONG KONG AND WHETHER PROPER ACCOUNTS AND RECORDS ARE BEING KEPT.

AN ACTUARIAL CERTIFICATE WILL BE REQUIRED IN THE CASE OF A DEFINED BENEFIT SCHEME.

"IN THE LIGHT OF THE SIGNIFICANT ROLE PLAYED BY THE PROFESSIONALS IN THE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK, THE ORDINANCE HAS ALSO INCORPORATED REVISIONS IN ORDER THAT THE QUALIFICATIONS AND INDEPENDENCE OF THE PROFESSIONALS CAN BE BETTER ASSURED," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"WE HAVE ALSO TAKEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO REVISE THE PROVISIONS ON APPEALS AGAINST DECISIONS MADE BY THE REGISTRAR," HE SAID.

"WE HAVE NOW PROVIDED FOR AN APPEAL PANEL, INDEPENDENT OF THE CIVIL SERVICE HIERARCHY, WHICH WILL BE CHAIRED BY A QUALIFIED LEGAL PROFESSIONAL."

THE PENALTY FOR THE OPERATION OF AN ILLEGAL SCHEME HAS ALSO BEEN RAISED FROM A FINE OF \$100,000 TO A HYBRID OFFENCE COMPRISING EITHER:

- \* A FINE OF \$100,000 AND AN ADDITIONAL DAILY FINE OF \$5,000 ON SUMMARY CONVICTION; OR
- \* A FINE OF \$500,000; AN ADDITIONAL DAILY FINE OF \$10,000 AND TWO YEARS' IMPRISONMENT UPON CONVICTION ON INDICTMENT.

"IN VIEW OF THE RELIANCE OF THE REGISTRATION SYSTEM ON PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION, A DELIBERATELY FALSE STATEMENT OR CERTIFICATION WILL ALSO CONSTITUTE AN OFFENCE LIABLE TO THE SAME LEVEL OF PENALTY AS CITED ABOVE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"EMPLOYERS ARE THEREFORE ADVISED TO BEGIN TO FAMILIARISE THEMSELVES WITH THE REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS ARISING OUT OF THE ENACTMENT OF THE OCCUPATIONAL RETIREMENT SCHEMES LEGISLATION," HE SAID.

TO FACILITATE COMPLIANCE BY EMPLOYERS, INFORMATION PAMPHLETS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT DATE.

THESE WILL CONTAIN ESSENTIAL INFORMATION REGARDING THE EMPLOYERS' OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE ORDINANCE, HOW THEY MAY APPLY FOR THE COMPANY'S RETIREMENT SCHEME TO BE REGISTERED, AS WELL AS THE CRITERIA FOR REGISTRATION OR EXEMPTION.

"APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION WILL NEED TO BE SUBMITTED IN PRESCRIBED FORMS AND THESE TOGETHER WITH THE GUIDANCE NOTES AND OTHER DOCUMENTATION RELATING TO THE SCHEME, WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE BEFORE COMMENCEMENT OF THE ORDINANCE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

ALL ENQUIRIES RELATING TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE ORDINANCE MAY BE ADDRESSED TO THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR OF OCCUPATIONAL RETIREMENT SCHEMES ON 21ST FLOOR, QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES, HONG KONG.

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TOLLS TO RISE FOR THREE GOVERNMENT TUNNELS

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TOLLS FOR VEHICLES USING THE ABERDEEN, SHING MUN AND TSEUNG KWAN O TUNNELS WILL BE INCREASED BY \$1 WITH EFFECT FROM SUNDAY (JANUARY 10).

THIS MEANS TOLLS AT THE ABERDEEN AND SHING MUN TUNNELS WILL BE RAISED FROM \$5 TO \$6 WHILE THAT OF TSEUNG KWAN O TUNNEL WILL GO UP FROM \$3 TO \$4.

TOLLS AT THE LION ROCK TUNNEL WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED AT \$6.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN EMPHASISED THAT THE TOLL INCREASE WAS NOT RELATED TO CONTRACTING OUT THE MANAGEMENT OF THE FOUR GOVERNMENT TUNNELS IN EARLY 1993.

HE SAID THE INCREASE WOULD HAVE MINIMAL EFFECT ON INFLATION AS IT WOULD ONLY INCREASE THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) BY LESS THAN 0.04 PERCENTAGE POINT.

THE TOLL INCREASE IS COVERED IN THE ROAD TUNNELS (GOVERNMENT) (AMENDMENT) REGULATION 1993 TO BE GAZETTED ON FRIDAY.

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KWAI CHUNG ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT COMPLETED

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TRAFFIC CONDITION ON KWAI CHUNG ROAD SOUTH AND CONTAINER PORT ROAD HAS BEEN FURTHER IMPROVED WITH THE RECENT COMPLETION OF IMPROVEMENT WORKS FOR THE ROADS.

KWAI CHUNG ROAD SOUTH HAS BEEN UPGRADED TO A DUAL FIVE-LANE CARRIAGEWAY.

THE IMPROVEMENTS WERE ANNOUNCED BY THE DIRECTOR OF TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT, MR CHOW CHE-KING, THIS (WEDNESDAY) MORNING AT A CEREMONY MARKING THE COMPLETION OF THE \$450 MILLION WORKS.

/HE SAID .....

HE SAID THE WORKS ALSO MARKED THE COMPLETION OF THE \$700 MILLION PLUS COMPREHENSIVE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT FOR THE KWAI CHUNG ROAD CORRIDOR WHICH WAS THE MAIN ARTERY OF THE KWAI CHUNG DISTRICT ROAD NETWORK AS WELL AS AN IMPORTANT LINK BETWEEN WEST KOWLOON AND NORTHWEST NEW TERRITORIES.

WORKS FOR THE LAST PHASE OF THE PROJECT BEGAN IN AUGUST 1989.

MR CHOW NOTED THAT SOME OF THE MAJOR WORKS FOR THE LAST PHASE OF THE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, INCLUDING THE MODIFIED PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL INTERCHANGE AND THE NEW CHING CHEUNG SLIP ROAD, WERE COMPLETED LAST YEAR AND HAS BROUGHT SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENTS TO THE TRAFFIC CONDITION IN THE BUSY CONTAINER PORT AREA.

IMPROVEMENT WORKS FOR KWAI CHUNG ROAD SOUTH AND CONTAINER PORT ROAD FORMED ONE OF THE FOUR CONTRACTS LET BY THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT BETWEEN 1987 AND 1989.

THE OTHER THREE CONTRACTS FOR THE NORTHERN PORTION OF THE KWAI CHUNG ROAD CORRIDOR WERE ALL COMPLETED IN 1991.

NOTICEABLE IMPROVEMENT TO BOTH VEHICULAR AND PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC HAS BEEN ACHIEVED WITH THE OPENINGS OF NEW FLYOVERS AND FOOTBRIDGE SYSTEMS IN STAGES SINCE APRIL 1990.

MR CHOW SAID APART FROM IMPROVEMENTS TO KWAI CHUNG ROAD CORRIDOR, HIS DEPARTMENT WAS ALSO CARRYING OUT OTHER MAJOR ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS IN THE VICINITY.

THESE INCLUDED THE \$200 MILLION IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES FOR HING FONG ROAD AND TEXACO ROAD, WHICH ARE SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION IN 1994.

"BY EARLY 1994, THE ROAD CAPACITY OF HING FONG ROAD WILL BE GREATLY INCREASED WITH THE PROVISION OF A FOOTBRIDGE SYSTEM CONNECTING KWAI CHUNG PARK, AND THE EXISTING KWAI TSING ROUNDABOUT WILL BE CONVERTED TO A SIGNALISED JUNCTION.

"WITH THE COMPLETION OF THE TEXACO ROAD PHASE II IMPROVEMENT BY THE END OF 1994, THE TRAFFIC CONGESTION AT THE TSUEN TSING INTERCHANGE WILL BE RELIEVED WITH THE COMPLETION OF A NEW FLYOVER AND AN AT-GRADE SLIP ROAD SYSTEM," MR CHOW ADDED.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 1993

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LAN KWAI FONG INQUIRY

OUTLINE OF WORK DONE ON WEDNESDAY,  
(JANUARY 6) UP TO 4.30 PM

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MORNING

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1. INTERVIEWING WITNESSES.
2. STUDYING HOSPITAL RECORDS.
3. STUDYING PHOTOGRAPHS.
4. CORRESPONDENCE.

AFTERNOON

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5. VISIT QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL.
6. MEETING POLICE REPRESENTATIVES TO DISCUSS THE MATERIALS SUBMITTED BY THE FORCE.

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USA TO BE BRIEFED ON MFN IMPACT ON HK

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THE GOVERNMENT WILL DO EVERYTHING IT CAN TO ENSURE THAT THE CASE FOR UNCONDITIONAL RENEWAL OF CHINA'S MOST-FAVOURED-NATION (MFN) STATUS IS VERY CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD IN THE UNITED STATES, THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR T H CHAU, SAID TONIGHT (WEDNESDAY).

SPEAKING AT AN ANNUAL DINNER OF THE TOYS COUNCIL, MR CHAU SAID THE ACTION WOULD INCLUDE PATIENT AND CAREFUL BRIEFING OF U.S. POLITICIANS, OFFICIALS AND OPINION-FORMERS.

HE STRESSED THAT WITHDRAWAL OR CONDITIONING OF MFN WAS THE WRONG TOOL TO DEAL WITH U.S. CONCERNS ABOUT POLITICAL OR NON-TRADE ISSUES.

"IT IS A HEAVY AND BLUNT INSTRUMENT WHOSE USE WOULD HARM HONG KONG AS WELL AS CHINA - AND WITHIN CHINA, WOULD DAMAGE MOST THOSE REGIONS WHICH ARE FURTHEST AHEAD IN TERMS OF ECONOMIC REFORM AND IN WHICH HONG KONG ENTREPRENEURS HAVE MADE VERY SUBSTANTIAL INVESTMENTS," HE SAID.

NOTING THAT SOME COMMENTATORS HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT THE TREND TOWARDS OFF-SHORE PRODUCTION AND THE FUTURE OF WHAT THEY SEE AS A "HOLLOWED OUT" SEGMENT OF THE TOY INDUSTRY, MR CHAU SAID HE SAW THE TREND IN A POSITIVE LIGHT.

/"MOVING LABOUR .....

"MOVING LABOUR-INTENSIVE PRODUCTION PROCESSES OUT OF HONG KONG HAS ENABLED MANUFACTURERS TO MAINTAIN SOUND GROWTH RATES AND STRONG MARKET SHARES IN THE FACE OF TOUGH COMPETITION FROM OVERSEAS," HE SAID.

MR CHAU POINTED OUT THAT THE HONG KONG CONTRIBUTION IN TOY MANUFACTURING WAS A VITAL ONE.

"WITH THEIR FINGERS ON THE PULSE OF THE OVERSEAS MARKET, HONG KONG COMPANIES ARE ABLE TO STAY AHEAD OF THE COMPETITION.

"THEY ARE PROVIDING THE TECHNOLOGY AND THE QUALITY MANAGEMENT EXPERTISE TO ENSURE THAT PRODUCTS MANUFACTURED OFFSHORE ARE UP TO THE MARK IN TERMS OF QUALITY AS WELL AS OF COST," HE SAID.

MR CHAU SAID THE GOVERNMENT'S INDUSTRY SUPPORT PROGRAMME WAS THERE TO HELP TOY MANUFACTURERS FACE THE CHALLENGE OF FINDING OUT NEW WAYS TO ADD VALUE.

"THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL AND ITS DESIGN SUBSIDIARY PROVIDE SERVICES FOR MANUFACTURERS WHO WANT TO UPGRADE THEIR PRODUCTS OR PROCESSES.

"AND THE HONG KONG PLASTICS TECHNOLOGY CENTRE PROVIDES A RANGE OF SERVICES AND SUPPORT TO THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY," MR CHAU SAID.

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CUSTOMS QUADRANGULAR FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

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THE FIRST GUANGDONG, THAI, MACAO AND HONG KONG CUSTOMS QUADRANGULAR FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT WILL TAKE PLACE ON FRIDAY (JANUARY 8) AT THE SOUTH CHINA ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION STADIUM, CAROLINE HILL ROAD, SO KON PO, HONG KONG.

MR ZHAO YUANXING, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, GUANGDONG BRANCH OF THE CUSTOMS GENERAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE KICK-OFF CEREMONY AT 9 AM. THE OPENING MATCH WILL BE PLAYED BETWEEN ROYAL THAI CUSTOMS AND GUANGDONG CUSTOMS.

THE CHAMPION MATCH WILL TAKE PLACE AT 11 AM ON SATURDAY (JANUARY 9).

COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE, MR CLIVE OXLEY, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE KICK-OFF CEREMONY AND PRESENT TROPHY TO THE CHAMPION TEAM.

THE QUADRANGULAR FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT IS ONE IN A SERIES OF SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY THE SPORTS AND RECREATION CLUB OF THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT TO CELEBRATE THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 1993

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HONG KONG JOINED THE CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL ON JULY 1, 1987.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENTS.

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245 VIETNAMESE GO HOME

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A GROUP OF 245 VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS TODAY (WEDNESDAY) RETURNED TO VIETNAM UNDER THE UNHCR'S VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION PROGRAMME.

COMPRISING 101 MEN, 68 WOMEN, 38 BOYS AND 38 GIRLS, THEY WERE THE FIRST BATCH TO GO BACK THIS YEAR AND THE 141ST UNDER THE PROGRAMME.

THE GROUP BRINGS TO 26,557 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RETURNEES SINCE THE PROGRAMME STARTED IN MARCH 1989.

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FRESH WATER CUT IN KWAI CHUNG

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN KWAI CHUNG WILL GO OFF FROM 11 PM ON FRIDAY (JANUARY 8) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY TO FACILITATE WASTE DETECTION WORK ON WATER MAINS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT ALL THE PREMISES AT KWAI LUEN ROAD, BLOCKS 12 TO 14 OF KWAI SHING EAST ESTATE AND BLOCKS 6 TO 10 OF KWAI SHING WEST ESTATE.

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 1993

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND  
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	\$ MILLION
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OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,170
REVERSAL OF LAF	+330
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	1,500
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	-400
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,100
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER	TWI 114.3 *-0.3* 6.1.93

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.97 PCT	13 MONTHS	2402	5.50	101.03	4.59
1 MONTH	3.42 PCT	16 MONTHS	2405	5.50	100.88	4.88
3 MONTHS	3.66 PCT	19 MONTHS	2408	4.375	98.87	5.18
6 MONTHS	3.89 PCT	22 MONTHS	2411	4.625	98.83	5.36
12 MONTHS	4.55 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 14,232MN

CLOSED 6 JANUARY 1993

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