DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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GOVERNOR PLEASED TO SEE CMB STRIKE SETTLED

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (MONDAY) HE WAS PLEASED TO SEE THAT THE CMB WORKERS STRIKE WAS SETTLED IN A RELATIVELY SHORT PERIOD OF TIME BECAUSE IT DID CAUSE INCONVENIENCE TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG, PARTICULARLY IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT.

IN REPLY TO PRESS QUESTIONS AT THE END OF HIS VISIT TO THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT TODAY, SIR DAVID SAID: "WHAT WE WANT TO SEE IS A CONTINUATION OF AN EFFICIENT SERVICE, AND AN EFFICIENT SERVICE AND AN EFFECTIVE SERVICE ALSO MEANS GOOD MANAGEMENT SO THAT YOU DON'T HAVE INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES."

WITH REGARD TO THE CMB FRANCHISE, THE GOVERNOR SAID THE FRANCHISE DID NOT COME UP FOR RENEWAL FOR SEVERAL YEARS YET. "WHEN WE LOOK AT THE RENEWAL, WE WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT WE HAVE GOT A BUS COMPANY WHICH IS GOING TO RUN AN EFFECTIVE SERVICE," HE SAID.

IN ANSWER TO A QUESTION ON WHETHER HE HAD ANY PLAN TO GO TO PEKING, THE GOVERNOR SAID HE HAD NO PLANS AT THE MOMENT. "IT IS JUST AT THE MOMENT THAT I DON'T HAVE ANY TRAVEL PLAN LAID OUT. THERE IS NO NEGATIVE TO THAT. IT IS JUST I CAN'T GIVE YOU A POSITIVE ANSWER AND SAY I HAVE PLANS," HE SAID.

COMMENTING ON THE JLG MEETING TOMORROW, THE GOVERNOR SAID: "I CERTAINLY HOPE THAT IT WOULD GET DOWN TO DEALING WITH THE PRACTICAL PROBLEMS THAT WE WOULD HAVE TO FACE."

HE ALSO SAID THAT HE WOULD HAVE DINNER WITH BOTH TEAMS OF THE JLG TONIGHT AND HOPED THE ATMOSPHERE WOULD BE ONE OF GETTING DOWN TO PRACTICAL WORK.

ON POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT, THE GOVERNOR HOPED THAT THE BASIC LAW WHEN IT WAS WRITTEN WOULD TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE VIEWS OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG ON WHAT THEY THOUGHT WAS THE RIGHT PACE OF DEVELOPMENT.

"NOW IF THAT CAN BE DONE, WE, THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT WILL ALSO BE LOOKING AT THE VIEWS OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG AND THE TWO SHOULD GO IN PARALLEL. THAT IS WHAT I HOPE WILL HAPPEN," HE SAID.

ON THE STAFFING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT, THE GOVERNOR SAID IT HAD GOT A VERY GOOD SLICE OF THE CAKE IN TERMS OF STAFF INCREASES. IT WAS DOING A VERY EFFECTIVE JOB.

"I AM SURE THEY WILL CARRY OUT TO THE FULL THE COMMITMENTS THEY HAVE GOT IN THE WHITE PAPER. I DON'T THINK THAT THEY WILL BE UNDERMINED."

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GOVERNOR LOOKS AT ANTI-POLLUTION MEASURES IN SOUTHERN
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THAT WATER QUALITY AT MOST OF THE BEACHES IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT HAS IMPROVED AS A RESULT OF THE JOINT EFFORTS OF THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

"ANTI-POLLUTION MEASURES AND THE DECLARATION OF THE 'SOUTHERN WATER CONTROL ZONE' HAVE HELPED TO IMPROVE THE WATER QUALITY OF THE BEACHES. THIS WILL CERTAINLY BE WELCOMED BY THE MANY THOUSANDS USING THESE POPULAR BEACHES," HE ADDED.

DURING A VISIT TO THE DISTRICT THIS AFTERNOON, SIR DAVID SAW FOR HIMSELF THE MEASURES BEING TAKEN TO TACKLE THE POLLUTION PROBLEM.

HE INSPECTED A $45-MILLION URBAN COUNCIL PROJECT TO IMPROVE THE GENERAL CONDITION OF THE REPULSE BAY BEACH. WORK, SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION IN JANUARY NEXT YEAR, INCLUDES SAND REPLENISHMENT WHICH WILL DOUBLE THE SIZE OF THE BEACH AND DIVERSION OF THE BEACH NULLAHS, WHICH WILL REMOVE A MAJOR SOURCE OF POLLUTION.

SIR DAVID ALSO SAW A PRIVATE SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT, PREVIOUSLY A MAJOR SOURCE OF POLLUTION IN MIDDLE BAY, BUT NOW BROUGHT UP TO THE STANDARDS REQUIRED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT.

HE NOTED THAT, AS A RESULT OF IMPROVEMENTS TO PRIVATE SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANTS IN THE VICINITY AND THE COMMISSIONING OF AN INTERCEPTING PUMPING STATION FOR THE MIDDLE BAY NULLAH, WATER QUALITY AT MIDDLE BAY HAS GREATLY IMPROVED SINCE THE SUMMER.

IN THE MA HANG VALLEY, SIR DAVID WAS TOLD THAT SQUATTER VILLAGES THERE WOULD BE CLEARED IN TWO PHASES TO MAKE WAY FOR A LOW-RISE PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE FOR ABOUT 8,000 PEOPLE. THE NEW ESTATE HAS BEEN SPECIALLY DESIGNED TO ENSURE THAT IT WILL BLEND IN WELL WITH THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT.

COMMENTING ON THE REDEVELOPMENT, SIR DAVID SAID: "THIS WILL GIVE STANLEY A NEW LOOK AND PROVIDE BETTER HOMES FOR THOSE WHO HAVE PREVIOUSLY HAD TO LIVE AS SQUATTERS IN MA HANG".

AT THE HONG KONG SEA SCHOOL IN STANLEY, SIR DAVID HAD A VIEW ACROSS TAI TAM WAN OF THE SHEK O QUARRY, FOR WHICH A COMPREHENSIVE "REHABILITATION SCHEME" HAS BEEN DEVISED.

HE WAS TOLD THAT THE SCHEME WOULD INVOLVE CUTTING BACK THE QUARRY FACE TO CREATE A NATURAL-LOOKING SLOPE WHICH WOULD THEN BE COVERED WITH NEW VEGETATION. THIS WOULD REMOVE A SCAR RESULTING FROM 25 YEARS OF QUARRY OPERATIONS.

/BEFORE CONCLUDING .....

BEFORE CONCLUDING HIS VISIT, THE GOVERNOR MET DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AND LOCAL COMMUNITY PERSONALITIES AT A TEA RECEPTION IN THE HISTORIC BUILDING IN STANLEY VILLAGE ROAD WHICH NOW HOUSES THE STANLEY SUB-OFFICE OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE.

THE GOVERNOR WAS ACCOMPANIED ON THE VISIT BY THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR DAVID LAN; SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MRS MAUREEN CHAN; AND DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR HUI YUNG-CHUNG.

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HK WANTS RIGHT ENVIRONMENT TO DEVELOP YOUTH POTENTIAL: CS

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HONG KONG WANTS TO CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH TO BRING OUT THE BEST IN ITS NEXT GENERATION OF YOUNGSTERS SO THAT THEY CAN REALISE THEIR POTENTIAL AND SERVE THEIR COMMUNITY, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID FORD, SAID THIS (MONDAY) EVENING.

"THIS IS AN ON-GOING CHALLENGE," SIR DAVID SAID WHEN SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON YOUTH.

THE CONFERENCE, ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE, HAS 'A CARING COMMUNITY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE' AS ITS THEME, AND SIR DAVID CALLED THIS TIMELY AND RELEVANT, IN VIEW OF THE CHALLENGES FACED IN BRINGING UP THE NEXT GENERATION OF YOUNGSTERS.

THE CHIEF SECRETARY POINTED OUT THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS ABOUT TO ESTABLISH A COMMISSION ON YOUTH WHICH WOULD ADVISE ON ALL YOUTH MATTERS, INITIATE RESEARCH TO BUILD UP AN INFORMATION REPOSITORY, AND ACT AS THE FOCAL POINT FOR LIAISON WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL YOUTH ORGANISATIONS.

BUT HE SAID THAT ALL THE INITIATIVES THAT WERE BEING TAKEN WOULD DEPEND ON WELL MOTIVATED, HIGHLY TRAINED PROFESSIONAL STAFF TO MAKE THEM EFFECTIVE.

"IT IS A MATTER OF CONCERN THAT SO MANY OF SUCH PEOPLE ARE LEAVING HONG KONG TO START LIFE ELSEWHERE.

"WE MUST DO ALL WE CAN TO ENSURE THAT WE NOT ONLY TRAIN SUFFICIENT NUMBERS TO FILL THE GAPS CREATED BY THOSE LEAVING BUT ALSO WE PROVIDE THE RIGHT CAREER STRUCTURE, PAY AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE TO ENCOURAGE THOSE WE DO TRAIN TO STAY IN HONG KONG," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID THAT THOUGH COMMUNITIES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA FACED PROBLEMS WHICH WERE RATHER DIFFERENT FROM THOSE OF THE DEVELOPED WEST, ALL FACED THE SAME CHALLENGE OF BRINGING UP THE NEXT GENERATION OF YOUNGSTERS SO THAT THEY COULD HAVE A STRONG SENSE OF PURPOSE AND BE ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE COMMUNITIES TO WHICH THEY BELONGED.

/"IT SEEMS .....

"IT SEEMS PARADOXICAL THAT WITH THE INCREASING AFFLUENCE AND A HIGHER LEVEL OF LITERACY WE HAVE ACHIEVED IN THE DECADES SINCE THE WAR, RAPID DEVELOPMENT AND URBANISATION HAVE BROUGHT IN THEIR WAKE MORE PRESSURES AND STRESS WITHIN OUR COMMUNITIES," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID IN MANY WESTERN COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY IN THE INNER CITIES, THERE WERE ACUTE PROBLEMS OF YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT, ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE, JUVENILE CRIME AND VANDALISM, BUT IN HONG KONG AND OTHER PARTS OF SOUTHEAST ASIA, WITH AN EXPANDING ECONOMY, YOUNG SCHOOL LEAVERS HAD NO DIFFICULTY FINDING PRODUCTIVE EMPLOYMENT.

"OUR JUVENILE CRIME RATE IS COMPARATIVELY LOWER THAN MANY MAJOR CITIES. AND WE DO NOT HAVE THE SAME SYMPTOMS OF VANDALISM OFTEN FOUND IN THE WEST. OUR PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES ARE WELL MAINTAINED WITH CO-OPERATION OF RESIDENTS.

"BUT WE ARE BY NO MEANS COMPLACENT AND ARE ONLY TOO WELL AWARE THAT UNLESS WE TAKE POSITIVE MEASURES TO FORESTALL THEM, WE TOO COULD BE PLAGUED BY SIMILAR PROBLEMS.

"WE MONITOR VERY CLOSELY THE TRENDS IN JUVENILE CRIME AND DRUG ABUSE, AND HAVE BEEN RUNNING PUBLICITY CAMPAIGNS ON THESE SUBJECTS," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID IN ORDER TO HELP YOUNG PEOPLE WHO WERE AT RISK, GREATER EMPHASIS WAS PLACED ON SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK AND OUTREACHING SOCIAL WORK.

STUDENT GUIDANCE OFFICERS WERE NOW PROVIDED IN ALL PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND THE SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS' SERVICE COVERED ALL SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

OUTREACHING SOCIAL WORKERS WERE DEPLOYED TO ESTABLISH DIRECT CONTACT WITH YOUNG PEOPLE AT RISK. IN PLACES THEY WERE KNOWN TO FREQUENT, TO HELP THEM WITH COUNSELLING AND GUIDANCE.

"ASIDE FROM THE HARD-CORE PROBLEMS OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY, OUR OVERALL APPROACH IS TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH WHICH OUR YOUNG PEOPLE CAN CHANNEL THEIR ENERGIES TO DEVELOP THEIR ABILITIES AND TO SERVE THEIR COMMUNITY.

"THE GOVERNMENT, VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND THE SCHOOLS ALL HAVE A ROLE TO PLAY IN THIS.

"THERE ARE MANY INTERESTING ORGANISATIONS FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE TO JOIN - THE SCOUTS, THE RED CROSS, THE ROAD SAFETY PATROLS AND THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD SCHEME - JUST TO NAME A FEW. WE ALSO HAVE THE JUNIOR POLICE CALL WHICH IS UNIQUE TO HONG KONG, AND THROUGH WHICH OVER 160,000 CURRENT MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO REPORT AND ASSIST IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME.

"THERE ARE ALSO OVER 200 CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRES ORGANISED ON A NEIGHBOURHOOD BASIS WHICH RUN A GREAT VARIETY OF PROGRAMMES FOR THEIR MEMBERS AND YOUTH GROUPS.

/"WE ARE .....

"WE ARE FORTUNATE THAT ALL OUR YOUTH ORGANISATIONS ARE FLOURISHING WITH LONG WAITING LISTS FOR MOST OF THEM," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID SPORTS ACTIVITIES WERE ALSO MUCH ENCOURAGED.

"WE HAVE AN ESTABLISHED PROGRAMME OF PROVIDING COMMUNITY SPORTS HALLS AND THE MUNICIPAL COUNCILS PROVIDE MANY OTHER FINE FACILITIES.

"WE ARE NOW DOING MUCH MORE IN TRAINING IN PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE AND TAKING PART VERY ACTIVELY IN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS.

"FOR THOSE WHO ARE ARTISTICALLY GIFTED, WE NOW HAVE THE ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS WHERE THEY CAN RECEIVE TRAINING LOCALLY," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID THAT ALL DELEGATES WOULD BE VERY WELL AWARE THAT CROSS-CULTURAL EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCE WAS INVALUABLE, AND HE CONGRATULATED THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICES AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES PARTICIPATING FOR TAKING THE INITIATIVE TO ORGANISE THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE.

SIR DAVID ADDED THAT HE WAS DELIGHTED TO SEE MORE THAN 280 DELEGATES FROM 19 COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES WERE ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE.

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WARNING AFTER MEDICINE FOUND TO CONTAIN PART 1 POISONS

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THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TODAY (MONDAY) WARNED THE PUBLIC NOT TO TAKE A CHINESE MEDICINE SOLD UNDER THE BRAND NAME "NAN LIEN CHUIFONG TOUKUWAN" AFTER IT WAS FOUND TO CONTAIN PART 1 POISONS.

THIS FOLLOWS A JOINT OPERATION BY OFFICERS OF THE CUSTOMS INVESTIGATION BRANCH AND PHARMACISTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH LAST WEDNESDAY (NOVEMBER 29) DURING WHICH ABOUT $2.2 MILLION WORTH OF SUCH MEDICINE WAS SEIZED.

THE MEDICINE, COMPRISING 1.6 MILLION PILLS, 33,000 PLASTERS AND 83 KILOGRAMS OF SEMI-FINISHED PRODUCTS, WAS SEIZED WHEN OFFICERS RAIDED A CHINESE MEDICINE MANUFACTORY IN CHAI WAN.

UPON PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS BY THE GOVERNMENT CHEMIST, THE CHINESE MEDICINE WAS FOUND TO CONTAIN MEFENAMIC ACID AND DIAZEPAM, BOTH PART 1 POISONS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH WARNED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC THAT THE MEDICINE, IF TAKEN WITHOUT A PRESCRIPTION, COULD CAUSE DROWSINESS, DIZZINESS, HEADACHE, PEPTIC ULCERATION, GASTRO-INTESTINAL BLEEDING, HAEMOLYTIC ANAEMIA, CONFUSION AND DRUG DEPENDENCE.

/ALL DEALERS .....

ALL DEALERS HAVING IN THEIR POSSESSION ANY NAN LIEN CHUIFONG TOUKUWAN PILLS AND PLASTERS ARE ADVISED TO SURRENDER THEM IMMEDIATELY, TO THE FORENSIC PHARMACY SECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, CENTRE POINT BUILDING, FIFTH FLOOR, 181-185 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI, FOR DISPOSAL.

A MAN AND A WOMAN ARRESTED BY THE CUSTOMS WERE LATER RELEASED ON BAIL PENDING INVESTIGATIONS.

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INVESTMENT IN YOUNG PEOPLE IMPORTANT

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THE GOVERNMENT FULLY RECOGNISES THE SIGNIFICANCE OF SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES AND SEES THE IMPORTANCE OF INVESTING IN YOUNG PEOPLE TO PREPARE THEM FOR THE COMMUNITY IN FUTURE, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS ELIZABETH WONG, SAID THIS (MONDAY) EVENING.

MRS WONG WAS SPEAKING AT A DINNER RECEPTION HOSTED FOR DELEGATES OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON YOUTH AT THE HONG KONG CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE.

"THE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN ALLOCATED SOME $4,000 MILLION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1989-90, OF WHICH NEARLY $300 MILLION ARE FOR SERVICES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE," SHE SAID.

MRS WONG NOTED THAT IT WAS THE JOINT EFFORT OF BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR TO TAKE WELFARE SERVICES FORWARD TO REACH THE PEOPLE IN NEED.

"IN YOUTH SERVICE, IN PARTICULAR, A LOT OF YOUTH WORK IS IN FACT PROVIDED BY VOLUNTARY AGENCIES IN THEIR CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRES, SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK, OUTREACHING SOCIAL WORK AND WELFARE SERVICES FOR THE NEIGHBOURHOOD.

"THE GOVERNMENT TAKES THE LEAD IN POLICY REVIEWS AND PROVIDES THE NECESSARY RESOURCES FOR PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION.

"I HAVE EVERY FAITH IN THIS PARTNERSHIP AND I AM CONFIDENT THAT IT WILL CONTINUE TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY IN THE YEARS TO COME," MRS WONG ADDED.

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ANNUAL EXTRAVAGANZA FOR SHAM SHUI PO RESIDENTS

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THE 1989-90 SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT FESTIVAL WILL BE HELD BETWEEN DECEMBER 9 AND JANUARY 8, OFFERING A TOTAL OF 55 EVENTS ON THE THEME OF "YOUTH EDUCATION".

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (MONDAY), THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT BOARD AND FESTIVAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, MR TAI TUNG-NGOK, SAID IT WAS HOPED THAT THE FESTIVAL ACTIVITIES WOULD HELP STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY SPIRIT AND ENHANCE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN DISTRICT AFFAIRS.

THE ANNUAL FESTIVAL HAS BEEN ORGANISED BY THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT FESTIVAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE AND CO-ORGANISED BY THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE.

LOCAL ORGANISATIONS, SUCH AS AREA COMMITTEE AND RESIDENT'S ASSOCIATIONS, WILL OFFER A WIDE RANGE OF CULTURAL, RECREATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF THE FESTIVAL.

THE FESTIVAL WILL BEGIN ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 9) WITH A STAR-STUDDED VARIETY SHOW TO BE BROADCAST LIVE ON TVB-JADE. THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR DAVID LAN, WILL OFFICIATE AT A SWITCHING-ON CEREMONY TO MARK THE FESTIVAL'S OPENING.

TOPPING THE LIST OF ENTERTAINERS AT THE SHOW WILL BE ROMAN TAM, LUI FONG, ALEX TO, MARIA CORDERO AND THE GRASSSHOPPERS. THE SHAM SHUI PO ARTS ASSOCIATION'S CHILDREN AND YOUTH CHOIRS WILL ALSO GIVE PERFORMANCES.

A PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION COVERING FESTIVAL EVENTS WILL BE ORGANISED. THE COMPETITION WILL BE DIVIDED INTO TWO SECTIONS - THE MASKING PRINT SECTION AND THE PROJECTION PRINT SECTION.

BOTH BLACK AND WHITE AND COLOUR ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED. WINNING PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE USED IN FUTURE FESTIVAL PUBLICATIONS.

FILM SHOWS ON YOUTH EDUCATION WILL BE HELD DURING THE FESTIVAL. ACCOMPANYING THESE FILM SHOWS WILL BE QUIZZES AND SLIDE SHOWS AIMED AT ENCOURAGING THE YOUNG TO LEAD A HEALTHY LIFE.

THE SHAM SHUI PO SPORTS CARNIVAL ON DECEMBER 17 WILL FEATURE A LION DANCE, AN AEROBIC DANCE, MARTIAL ARTS DEMONSTRATIONS AND BAND PERFORMANCES, AS WELL AS A TELEMATCH FOR ALL AREA COMMITTEES IN THE DISTRICT.

HELD ON THE SAME DAY WILL BE A CIVIC EDUCATION CARNIVAL PROVIDING STALL GAMES AND VIDEO SHOWS.

A FIGHT CRIME CARNIVAL WILL BE HELD ON DECEMBER 23 TO ENCOURAGE THE YOUNG TO TAKE AN ACTIVE PART IN COMBATTING CRIME.

/A WORKING .....

A WORKING GROUP UNDER THE DISTRICT BOARD WILL, FOR THE FIRST TIME, ORGANISE A GRAND VEGETARIAN FEAST ON JANUARY 4 FOR THE EDLERLY IN THE DISTRICT. THERE WILL BE 60 TABLES AND PARTICIPANTS WILL ALSO BE TREATED TO A CANTONESE OPERA.

THE FESTIVAL WILL CLOSE ON JANUARY 8 WITH THE SHAM SHUI PO YOUTH CHOIR ANNUAL CONCERT.

OTHER ACTIVITIES OF THE FESTIVAL INCLUDE A CROSS COUNTRY RACE, YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING CAMP, CHINESE PAINTING AND CALLIGRAPHY EXHIBITION, YOUTH DRAWING COMPETITION AND VARIETY SHOWS.

THE DISTRICT FESTIVAL, ESTIMATED TO COST ABOUT $1.3 MILLION, WILL BE FUNDED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD, THE URBAN COUNCIL AND PRIVATE DONATIONS.

TO ENHANCE THE FESTIVAL ATMOSPHERE, BUNTING, BANNERS AND POSTERS HAVE BEEN PUT UP IN PROMINENT LOCATIONS IN THE DISTRICT, AND A HUGE DECORATED ARCHWAY WILL BE PUT UP AT CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD.

SOUVENIRS SUCH AS T-SHIRTS, DIARIES AND CALCULATORS WILL ALSO BE DISTRIBUTED.

TO PUBLICISE THE FESTIVAL, TWO VANS WILL TOUR THE DISTRICT ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 9) AND TWO VIDEO WALLS MEASURING NINE-AND-A-HALF FEET BY 12 FEET WILL BE SET UP AT THE MAPLE STREET PLAYGROUND AND THE PO ON ROAD PLAYGROUND.

BROCHURES AND LEAFLETS CONTAINING DETAILS OF THE FESTIVAL ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE AT 37-39 TONKIN STREET AND ITS FOUR SUB-OFFICES.

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DB COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER FUND APPLICATIONS

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MEMBERS OF THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE WILL CONSIDER AT THEIR MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY) APPLICATIONS FOR DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS TO CARRY OUT COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROJECTS IN THE DISTRICT.

THE APPLICATIONS, FOR A TOTAL OF ABOUT $405,622, ARE FROM LOCAL ORGANISATIONS AND AREA COMMITTEES.

IN ADDITION, MEMBERS WILL STUDY REPORTS ON COMPLETED COMMUNITY BUILDING PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN BY LOCAL ORGANISATIONS WITH DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE, WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICE, FOURTH FLOOR, SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, KING FUK STREET.

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POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

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THE LATEST DATE FOR POSTING CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR LOCAL DELIVERY BEFORE CHRISTMAS IS TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, THE POST OFFICE ANNOUNCED TODAY (MONDAY).

"POSTINGS AFTER THIS DATE MAY NOT BE DELIVERED IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE POST OFFICE SAID.

"MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE ADVISED TO POST AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE TO AVOID A LAST MINUTE RUSH," HE ADDED.

THE POST OFFICE ALSO ANNOUNCED THE SERVICE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS.

DURING THE HOLIDAY PERIOD, THERE WILL BE TWO SPECIAL LETTER DELIVERIES ON DECEMBER 17 (SUNDAY) AND ONE DELIVERY EACH ON DECEMBER 24 (SUNDAY), 26 (TUESDAY) AND ON JANUARY 1 (MONDAY).

THERE WILL BE NO DELIVERY ON DECEMBER 25 (MONDAY) AND 31 (SUNDAY).

ON DECEMBER 26 AND JANUARY 1 THE GENERAL POST OFFICE ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND THE TSIM SHA TSUI POST OFFICE IN KOWLOON WILL OPEN FOR BUSINESS FROM 9 AM TO NOON.

ALL POST OFFICES WILL CLOSE ON DECEMBER 24, 25 AND 31.

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YOUTH BAND FESTIVAL DURING CHRISTMAS

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THE MUSIC OFFICE WILL ORGANISE A NINE-DAY YOUTH BAND FESTIVAL DURING THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD TO PROVIDE ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE PUBLIC.

ON DECEMBER 23 AND 24, A SERIES OF FREE CONCERTS WILL BE HELD AT THE NGAU CHI WAN CIVIC CENTRE, CITY PLAZA IN TAIKOO SHING AND TAI PO SHOPPING CENTRE. THESE CONCERTS WILL FEATURE CHRISTMAS CAROLS PRESENTED BY THE MUSIC OFFICE'S YOUTH SYMPHONIC BANDS.

A FESTIVAL CONCERT, SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR BAND MUSIC LOVERS, WILL BE HELD AT THE CONCERT HALL OF THE ACADEMY FOR PERFORMING ARTS ON DECEMBER 27.

THE 70-MEMBER HONG KONG YOUTH SYMPHONIC BAND AND THE NARASHINO HIGH SCHOOL SYMPHONIC BAND FROM JAPAN WILL PRESENT A SERIES OF CLASSICAL COMPOSITIONS INCLUDING TCHAIKOVSKY'S BALLET MUSIC FROM "SWAN LAKE" AND CHINESE MUSIC "FISHERMEN'S EVENSONG".

/THE JAPANESE .....

THE JAPANESE BAND, COMPRISING 83 MEMBERS, HAD WON A NUMBER OF PRIZES IN THE ALL JAPAN BAND CONTEST OVER THE PAST NINE YEARS.

THE CLIMAX OF THE FESTIVAL WILL BE THE GALA FINALE TO BE HELD AT THE HONG KONG CULTURAL CENTRE CONCERT HALL ON DECEMBER 31.

OVER 500 MEMBERS OF SIX SYMPHONIC BANDS FROM THE MUSIC OFFICE AS WELL AS THE NARASHINO HIGH SCHOOL SYMPHONIC BAND WILL PLAY MUSIC TOGETHER. THE CONCERT WILL END WITH THE PRESENTATION OF "AULD LANG SYNE" BY THE YOUNG MUSICIANS.

BOTH THE FESTIVAL CONCERT AND THE GALA FINALE WILL BEGIN AT 7.30 PM.

APART FROM THE CONCERTS, THERE WILL ALSO BE TWO SYMPHONIC BAND CONTESTS AND A MARCHING BAND CONTEST FOR LOCAL SCHOOL BANDS.

THE FESTIVAL IS SPONSORED BY TOM LEE MUSIC COMPANY LTD.

TICKETS AT $10 AND $20 EACH FOR THE FESTIVAL CONCERT AND AT $20 AND $30 EACH FOR THE GALA FINALE ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL URBTIX OUTLETS. TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 3-7955761.

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WINNERS OF YOUNG MUSICIANS' AWARDS

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THIS YEAR'S HONG KONG YOUNG MUSICIANS' AWARDS ENDED SUCCESSFULLY YESTERDAY (SUNDAY) AFTER TWO CONSECUTIVE NIGHTS OF KEEN COMPETITION AMONG NINE TALENTED YOUNG COMPOSERS AND SIX ENSEMBLE GROUPS.

BOTH THE CHINESE MUSIC FINAL ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 2), AND THE WESTERN MUSIC FINAL LAST NIGHT, WERE HELD AT THE DRAMA THEATRE OF THE ACADEMY FOR PERFORMING ARTS.

THE AWARDS, NOW IN ITS FIFTH YEAR, ARE JOINTLY PRESENTED BY THE MUSIC OFFICE, RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG AND THE COMPOSERS AND AUTHORS SOCIETY OF HONG KONG (CASH).

COMMENTING ON THE ANNUAL EVENT AT THE WESTERN MUSIC FINAL LAST NIGHT, THE COMMISSIONER FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MRS SHELLEY LAU, SAID THE CONTEST HAD EFFECTIVELY STIMULATED YOUNG COMPOSERS IN THEIR CREATIVE WORK AND PROVIDED YOUNG MUSICIANS WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR TALENTS.

"THE ORGANISERS ARE READY TO PROVIDE THESE OPPORTUNITIES AND INCENTIVES BUT IT IS UP TO OUR YOUNG MUSICIANS TO TAKE UP THE CHALLENGE," MRS LAU ADDED.

/THERE ARE .....

THERE ARE SIX CATEGORIES FOR THE AWARDS: COMPOSITION FOR WESTERN MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, CHINESE MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, MIXED INSTRUMENTATION AND ELECTRO-ACOUSTICAL WORKS, AS WELL AS ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCE IN WESTERN MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS AND CHINESE MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

THE WINNERS IN EACH CATEGORY RECEIVED CASH AWARDS OF $6,000 WHILE THE FIRST AND SECOND RUNNERS-UP RECEIVED $3,000 AND $1,000 RESPECTIVELY. THE CASH PRIZES, AMOUNTING TO A TOTAL OF $60,000, WERE DONATED BY CASH.

THE RESULTS OF THE AWARD WINNERS AND THE WINNING PIECES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

COMPOSITION (CHINESE MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS)

1. TEMPLE BY HUI CHEUNG-WAI
2. EVOLUTION OF THOUGHT BY LAW WAI-LUN
3. CONFLICT BY NG CHIU-SING

COMPOSITION (MIXED INSTRUMENTATION)

1. OATH BY CHU HON-PONG
2. MI BY LAM SHUN
3. ALONE BY NG CHIU-SING

CHINESE ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCE

1. HAN BY CHIN KWOK-WAI (PERFORMERS: CHAU CHIN-TUNG, HUI CHI-HANG, KWONG WING-CHUNG, LAM CHIK-TUNG AND WONG DICK-BONG)
2. LANTERN FESTIVAL BY KUAN NAI-CHUNG (PERFORMERS: KONG WAI-KEI, WONG SIU-TO, LOO SZE-YUEN AND CHAN SHUK-HAR)
3. HAPPY DAYS BY MA SHENG-LONG (PERFORMERS: CHAN SUM-YEE, CHENG SZE, LAM SIU-KING, MOK O-GAY, TSANG HING-BUN AND WONG HO-YEE)

/COMPOSITION (ELECTRO-ACOUSTICAL .....

COMPOSITION (ELECTRO-ACOUSTICAL WORKS)

1. NIL

2. DESOLATION BY KWOK KOI-HIN AND ILLUSION BY MA WAI-MEI

3. A VIEW OF A MOSQUITO BY LEUNG CHI-SING

COMPOSITION (WESTERN MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS)

1. GRETCHEN BY CHEUNG CHI-LEUNG

2. TRIO FOR FLUTE, CLARINET AND BASS CLARINET BY LAM SHUN

3. HOMELAND BY HUI CHEUNG-WAI

WESTERN ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCE

1. FANFARE AIR AND FINALE BY ARTHUR FRACKENPOHL (PERFORMERS: MARTIN CHOY, KENNETH TSE, JAMES LEUNG AND POON PO-CHOI)

2. THE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES 1861-1865 ARRANGED BY HOWARD CABLE (PERFORMERS: PETER CHAO, HERBERT CHU, BENNY KWAN, STEVE KWAN AND WONG YAN-TIN)

3. DIVERTIMENTO BY ANTORI SZALOWSKI (PERFORMERS: VICTOR TAM, MARIA WONG AND CHEUNG KING LUN).

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STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS VISIT CUSTOMS CONTROL POINTS

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MEMBERS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON DISCIPLINED SERVICES SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE VISITED THE CONTROL POINTS COMMAND OF THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT THIS (MONDAY) AFTERNOON.

FOUR MEMBERS, MR ANTHONY CHEUNG, MR CHOW CHUN-FAI, MRS MIRIAM LAU AND MR ANTHONY NEOH TOOK PART IN THE VISIT.

THEY WERE ACCOMPANIED BY THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER (OPERATIONS), MR S.H. MAN, AND THE SENIOR SUPERINTENDENT (CONTROL POINTS COMMAND), MR C.W. SZETO, DURING THE VISIT.

/THE MEMBERS .....

THE MEMBERS FIRST VISITED THE MAN KAM TO CONTROL POINT AND WERE BRIEFED BY MR SZETO ON THE WORK OF THE CONTROL POINTS COMMAND. THEY WERE THEN GUIDED TO SEE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE OFFICERS ON CARGO EXAMINATION AND VEHICLES SEARCH DUTIES.

THE PARTY THEN PROCEEDED TO THE LO WU CONTROL POINT AND MET WITH FIELD OFFICERS ON PASSENGERS PROCESSING DUTIES.

THE LAST STOP WAS THE NEW LOK MA CHAU CONTROL POINT, WHERE COMMITTEE MEMBERS SAW AND WERE BRIEFED ON THE CUSTOMS FACILITIES THERE.

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NEW TEACHING KITS ON CIVIC EDUCATION

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THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF YAN CHAI HOSPITAL TODAY (MONDAY) PRESENTED 1,850 SETS OF TEACHING KITS, COSTING $250,000, TO THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO PROMOTE CIVIC EDUCATION IN PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

AT A PRESENTATION CEREMONY, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOSPITAL, MR CHOI WAI-CHIU, SAID THE BOARD WAS HAPPY TO TAKE PART IN THIS MEANINGFUL TASK OF PROMOTING CIVIC EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS.

ACCEPTING THE TEACHING KITS, THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR Y.T. LI, THANKED THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION.

HE SAID THE TEACHING KITS WERE BASED ON WORKS OF THE CHAMPIONS OF LAST YEAR'S INTER-SCHOOL CIVIC EDUCATION PROJECTS COMPETITION.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE AND PO CHARK PRIMARY SCHOOL (MORNING SESSION) WERE THE WINNERS OF THE SECONDARY AND PRIMARY SECTIONS OF THE CONTEST RESPECTIVELY. THE FORMER WORKED ON THE THEME OF DISTRICT BOARDS WHILE THE LATTER EXPLORED ROAD SAFETY AND COURTESY.

THE TEACHING KITS WILL FURTHER ENHANCE CIVIC EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS AS THEY PROVIDE USEFUL AND PRACTICAL MATERIALS FOR REFERENCE, HELPING TO AROUSE THE INTERESTS OF STUDENTS IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

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BLITZ OPERATION AGAINST ILLEGAL DISPLAY OF BILLS AND POSTERS

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A TOTAL OF 21 SUMMONSES WERE ISSUED DURING A TERRITORY-WIDE BLITZ OPERATION AGAINST ILLEGAL DISPLAY OF BILLS AND POSTERS HELD LAST SATURDAY AND SUNDAY.

"BILLS AND POSTERS ARE OFTEN DISPLAYED ILLEGALLY AT PRIVATE OR PUBLIC PLACES DURING WEEKENDS, HOLIDAYS AND AFTER OFFICE HOURS, AFFECTING THE OVERALL TIDINESS AND CLEANLINESS OF THE CITY," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE JOINT URBAN COUNCIL/REGIONAL COUNCIL KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN STEERING COMMITTEE SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

TO DEAL WITH THE SITUATION, BLITZ OPERATIONS WERE CARRIED OUT BY THE URBAN SERVICES AND THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENTS ON A REGULAR BASIS, HE SAID.

"WE HOPE THE PUBLIC, ESPECIALLY ADVERTISING COMPANIES, WOULD EXERCISE SELF-DISCIPLINE IN HANDLING THEIR OUTDOOR PUBLICITY POSTERS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THOSE WHO DISPLAY BILLS AND POSTERS IN PRIVATE PLACES WITHOUT THE OWNERS' CONSENT OR AT PUBLIC PLACES WITHOUT AUTHORISATION ARE LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF $5,000," HE SAID.

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ILLEGAL STRUCTURES IN WESTERN DISTRICT TO BE CLOSED

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS TO SEEK THE CLOSURE OF CERTAIN UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS IN WESTERN DISTRICT SO THAT THEY CAN BE DEMOLISHED WITHOUT DANGER TO THE OCCUPIERS OR TO THE PUBLIC.

THE ILLEGAL STRUCTURES ARE LOCATED AT THE COCKLOFT AND GROUND FLOOR OF 106 FIRST STREET.

THE CLOSURE IS PART OF AN EXERCISE TO ENFORCE AN ORDER ISSUED UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE ON JANUARY 12, 1986 REQUIRING THE DEMOLITION OF THESE UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER FROM THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT ON MARCH 6 NEXT YEAR WAS POSTED ON THE STRUCTURES TODAY (MONDAY).

IT IS INTENDED THAT DEMOLITION WORK WILL BE CARRIED OUT ONCE A CLOSURE ORDER IS OBTAINED.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 52.6 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 308.331 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 236.808 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 40.4 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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WATER CUT IN SHAM SHUI PO

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN SHAM SHUI PO WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 11 PM ON WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 6) TO 6 AM THE NEXT DAY TO FACILITATE LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY YU CHAU WEST STREET, WING MING STREET, WING HONG STREET, FUK WING STREET, FUK WA STREET, HING WAH STREET, CASTLE PEAK ROAD, INCLUDING CHEUNG WAH STREET, TSAP FAI STREET AND KIM SHIN LANE.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN SHA TIN

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL AND ITS APPROACHES IN SHA TIN, THE WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY SECTION OF SIU LEK YUEN ROAD BETWEEN KWONG SIN STREET AND SHA TIN WAI ROAD WILL BE CLOSED BETWEEN 10 PM AND 6 AM NEXT MORNING FROM WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 6) TO DECEMBER 16.

DURING THE CLOSURE, MOTORISTS ON THE WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF SIU LEK YUEN ROAD HEADING FOR CITY ONE, SHATIN, WILL BE DIVERTED TO USE KWONG SIN STREET, AN UNNAMED ROAD AND SHA TIN WAI ROAD BEFORE RE-JOINING SIU LEK YUEN ROAD.

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