DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1989

CS OPENS ASIAN INTER-CITY ATHLETICS MEETING

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THE ASIAN INTER-CITY ATHLETIC MEET, LAUNCHED ON THE INITIATIVE OF THE HONG KONG AMATEUR ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION IN 1983, HAS NOW BECOME A MAJOR ATHLETICS MEETING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE THROUGHOUT ASIA, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID FORD, SAID THIS (FRIDAY) EVENING.

"I AM DELIGHTED THAT HONG KONG HAS ONCE AGAIN BEEN CHOSEN AS THE VENUE FOR HOSTING THIS IMPORTANT EVENT," SIR DAVID SAID WHEN OPENING THE 5TH ASIAN INTER-CITY ATHLETIC MEET AT THE WAN CHAI SPORTS GROUND.

EXTENDING A WARM WELCOME TO THE YOUNG ATHLETES AND DELEGATIONS FROM 23 CITIES, THE CHIEF SECRETARY SAID THE ATHLETES HAD AN EXCITING OPPORTUNITY TO PUT THEIR HARD TRAINING INTO PRACTICE, AND TO TEST THEMSELVES TO THE LIMIT.

"I AM SURE THAT TOGETHER YOU WILL NOT ONLY SET NEW STANDARDS FOR ASIAN YOUTH ATHLETICS, BUT YOU WILL ALSO FOSTER A CLOSER FRIENDSHIP AND UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN OUR COMMUNITIES," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID CONGRATULATED THE HONG KONG AMATEUR ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION AND ALL THOSE INVOLVED FOR ORGANISING THE EVENT.

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HONG KONG NOW A CULTURAL LEADER IN ASIA

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HONG KONG HAS DEVELOPED A RANGE OF RECREATION, SPORTS AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES WHICH PLACES THE TERRITORY AS ONE OF THE CULTURAL LEADERS IN ASIA, THE SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR GUS CHUI, SAID IN LOS ANGELES ON THURSDAY (DECEMBER 14).

ADDRESSING A MEETING OF THE ASIA SOCIETY DURING A FOUR-DAY VISIT TO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, MR CHUI SAID THAT SINCE THE 1960'S, UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF THE GOVERNMENT AND THE MUNICIPAL COUNCILS, A NUMBER OF ELEMENTS HAD CONTRIBUTED TO HONG KONG'S EMERGENCE IN THE CULTURAL FIELD.

"AS HONG KONG'S POPULATION HAS EXPANDED AND NEW TOWNS HAVE BEEN BUILT IN PREVIOUSLY UNDEVELOPED AREAS, WE HAVE INVESTED LONG-TERM IN HONG KONG'S CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BY BUILDING SEVEN LARGE AND MODERN CULTURAL COMPLEXES TO SERVE OUR POPULATION OF 5.7 MILLION AT A COST OF OVER US$150 MILLION."

/MR CHUI .....

MR CHUI POINTED OUT THAT RECURRENT PUBLIC SPENDING IN HONG KONG ON THE PERFORMING ARTS LAST YEAR WAS US$23 MILLION. HE SAID THE FACT THAT THERE WAS NOW A TOTAL OF 35,000 SEATS FOR AUDIENCES IN HONG KONG MEANS THAT, EVEN IN AREAS WHERE THE LEVEL OF CULTURAL ACTIVITY WAS LOW AT PRESENT, ITS DEVELOPMENT WOULD NOT BE STUNTED BY ANY LACK OF PROPERLY EQUIPPED VENUES FOR HOLDING CULTURAL EVENTS.

"ON THE ORGANISATIONAL SIDE OUR TWO MUNICIPAL COUNCILS ARE SUPPORTING A WIDE RANGE OF ARTS, CULTURAL AND SPORTING ACTIVITIES BY SPONSORSHIP, BY DIRECTLY STAGING EVENTS AND BY PROVIDING LONG-TERM FUNDING TO PERFORMING GROUPS," MR CHUI EXPLAINED.

HE SAID THESE INCLUDED THE HONG KONG PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA, A CHINESE ORCHESTRA, A DANCE COMPANY AND A REPERTORY THEATRE AS WELL AS FUNDING FOR THE HONG KONG ARTS FESTIVAL AND THE FESTIVAL FRINGE.

POINTING OUT THAT AN IMPORTANT PART IN CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT WAS PLAYED BY THE HONG KONG COUNCIL FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, MR CHUI EXPLAINED: "ESTABLISHED IN 1982, THIS BODY HAS KEPT UNDER REVIEW HONG KONG'S POLICY FOR DEVELOPING PERFORMING ARTS AND OF ENSURING THAT FUNDING IS AVAILABLE FOR PROMISING PERFORMING GROUPS, PARTICULARLY THOSE OF AN EXPERIMENTAL NATURE OR AT AN EARLY STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT."

AT PRESENT THE COUNCIL WAS SUBSIDISING THE HONG KONG BALLET, THE CITY CONTEMPORARY DANCE COMPANY AND THE CHUNG YING THEATRE AND OTHER PERFORMING GROUPS AT A COST OF ABOUT US$3.7 MILLION PER YEAR, MR CHUI SAID.

TURNING TO THE FUTURE OF CULTURAL ACTIVITIES IN HONG KONG, MR CHUI ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THERE WERE NUMBER OF AREAS HONG KONG WISHED TO DEVELOP INCLUDING CO-ORDINATION IN MATCHING DEMANDS FOR SPONSORSHIP OF THE ARTS TO THE WILLINGNESS OF CORPORATIONS TO PROVIDE IT. "WE LOOK FORWARD TO LEARNING A LOT FROM YOU ON THE WEST COAST IN THIS RESPECT," MR CHUI SAID.

HE NOTED THE UNITED STATES WAS A MAJOR PARTNER IN HONG KONG'S FUTURE CABLE TELEVISION COMPANY. "WE ARE ALREADY ENJOYING THE BENEFITS OF U.S. EXPERTISE ON THE TECHNICAL SIDE; ON THE PROGRAMMING AND ARTISTIC SIDE, HOWEVER, WE STILL NEED TO DRAW UPON YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE."

WHILE IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, MR CHUI IS ALSO ATTENDING THE ANNUAL WESTERN CABLE SHOW IN ANAHEIM, VISITING MUSIC CENTRES AND CULTURAL CENTRES, AND ATTENDING DISCUSSIONS WITH FILM COMPANY EXECUTIVES AND EXECUTIVES OF U.S. WEST INTERNATIONAL.

HE IS ACCOMPANIED BY THE PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR STEPHEN SELBY, THE COMMISSIONER FOR TELEVISION AND ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING, MS LILY YAM.

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GOVT AIMS TO ASSURE QUALITY OF EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

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THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, MR K.Y. YEUNG, SAID TONIGHT (FRIDAY) THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S EDUCATION STRATEGY FOR THE COMING DECADE WAS DIRECTED AT ASSURING THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION IN THE SCHOOLS.

"AND I FORESEE AN INCREASING ROLE FOR INDIVIDUAL INITIATIVES BY SCHOOLS, HEADS AND TEACHERS," HE SAID.

ADDRESSING THE 25TH ANNUAL DINNER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF HEADS OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS, MR YEUNG SPOKE OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATION FOR ALL, QUALITY IMPROVEMENT, DIRECT SUBSIDY SCHEME AND MORE AIDED AUTONOMY FOR AIDED SCHOOLS.

"THE FIRST CHAPTER OF THE EDUCATION COMMISSION'S FOURTH REPORT (ECR 4), DUE TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE MIDDLE OF NEXT YEAR, WILL DEFINE CLEARLY AND COMPREHENSIVELY THE ISSUE WHICH WILL HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE EARLY 1990'S TO ENSURE QUALITY IN ALL SECTORS OF OUR EDUCATION SYSTEM," HE SAID.

"ECR 4 WILL THEN GO ON TO REVIEW PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROVISION OF NINE YEARS FREE AND COMPULSORY EDUCATION, AND WILL PROPOSE ANSWERS TO SOME QUESTIONS IN THIS FIELD.

"ONCE WE HAVE DECIDED ON THE FUTURE CONTENT OF EDUCATION IN OUR SCHOOLS, WE SHALL BE ABLE TO GO ON TO CONSIDER THE RIGHT APPROACH TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TEACHING PROFESSION IN THE 1990'S.

"THAT SUBJECT WILL BE COVERED IN ECR 5, TO BE PUBLISHED PROBABLY IN EARLY 1991," MR YEUNG SAID.

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TIGHTENING OF ANTI-SMOKING LEGISLATION IN HK

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ANTI-SMOKING LEGISLATION IN HONG KONG HAS BEEN TIGHTENED IN SEVERAL RESPECTS IN RECENT YEARS AND FURTHER LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS ARE UNDER CONSIDERATION, THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MR NIGEL SHIPMAN, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

ADDRESSING THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE HONG KONG ANTI-CANCER SOCIETY, MR SHIPMAN SAID HONG KONG HAD RECOGNISED THE IMPORTANCE OF SMOKING AS A SERIOUS HEALTH ISSUE.

HE SAID THERE HAD BEEN VARIOUS EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY CAMPAIGNS, TOGETHER WITH INCREASES IN TAXATION ON TOBACCO PRODUCTS.

/"THE OVERALL .....

"THE OVERALL RESULTS HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGING: THE PROPORTION OF SMOKERS IN THE ADULT POPULATION (OVER 15 YEARS) HAS DECREASED FROM 23.3 PER CENT IN 1982 TO 16.8 PER CENT IN 1988," HE SAID.

"HOWEVER, THERE ARE CERTAIN ASPECTS THAT CAUSE US CONCERN. FOR EXAMPLE, 3,000 GIRLS IN THE 15 TO 19 AGE GROUP WERE FOUND IN 1988 TO BE DAILY SMOKERS COMPARED WITH 900 IN 1986.

"IT IS IMPORTANT THEREFORE THAT WE DO NOT ALLOW OUR FIGHT AGAINST TOBACCO TO SLAKEN."

MR SHIPMAN WAS GREATLY IMPRESSED BY THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE HONG KONG ANTI-CANCER SOCIETY IN THE PREVENTION, RESEARCH, TREATMENT OF CANCER AND HOSPICE CARE SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT IN 1964.

"WHILE EARLY DETECTION AND TREATMENT OF CANCER FORM THE MAIN THEME OF THE SOCIETY'S PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAMMES, THE AREA OF PATIENT CARE HAS NOT BEEN NEGLECTED," HE SAID.

"HOSPICE CARE IS A VALUABLE SERVICE PROVIDED TO HELP PATIENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES TO COPE WITH THE ILLNESS AND TO OVERCOME THE PAINFUL EXPERIENCE OF CANCER DEATH."

MR SHIPMAN ALSO POINTED OUT THAT CANCER REMAINED THE LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH IN HONG KONG AND STILL POSED A GREAT CHALLENGE.

"THE NUMBER OF CANCER DEATHS INCREASED FROM 2,916 IN 1964 TO 8,177 IN 1988," HE SAID.

"OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE CANCER DEATH RATE ALSO INCREASED FROM 91 TO 173 PER 100,000 POPULATION FOR MALES AND FROM 75 TO 114 PER 100,000 POPULATION FOR FEMALES.

"THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION HAS STATED THAT AN ANTI-SMOKING PROGRAMME IS THE MOST EFFECTIVE WEAPON IN THE FIGHT AGAINST LUNG CANCERS," MR SHIPMAN SAID.

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GOVERNMENT MONITORING OF KCRC STRENGTHENED

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THE GOVERNMENT REVIEW ON ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY CORPORATION, WHICH IS THE FIRST IN A SERIES OF EXERCISES TO EXAMINE THE MONITORING OF PUBLIC AND STATUTORY BODIES, HAS BEEN COMPLETED.

THE REVIEW HAS CONFIRMED THAT THE EXISTING LEGAL FRAMEWORK ALREADY PROVIDES SUFFICIENT CONTROL OVER THE TRANSPORT AND FINANCIAL OBJECTIVES OF THE CORPORATION WITHOUT AFFECTING ITS AUTONOMY AND COMMERCIAL VIABILITY. HOWEVER, THERE IS A NEED TO IMPROVE THE MONITORING OF THE CORPORATION'S PERFORMANCE AGAINST THOSE OBJECTIVES.

/THE GOVERNMENT .....

THE GOVERNMENT HAS THEREFORE DECIDED TO INTRODUCE THE FOLLOWING ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS:

* SETTING OUT THE TRANSPORT AND FINANCIAL OBJECTIVES THE CORPORATION IS EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE AND HAVING THEM FORMALLY APPROVED AND ADOPTED AS ITS BASIC STRATEGY;

* REQUIRING THE CORPORATION TO SUBMIT ANNUALLY A FIVE-YEAR PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES AND ANNUAL BUDGET TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT. THESE WILL BE REGULARLY REVIEWED;

* REQUIRING THE CORPORATION TO SUBMIT ANNUALLY A STATEMENT OF CORPORATE INTENT TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR INFORMATION;

* APPOINTING A FULL-TIME CHAIRMAN CUM CHIEF EXECUTIVE TO OVERSEE THE OPERATION AND ACTIVITIES OF THE CORPORATION, TO BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR ITS PERFORMANCE.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE ABOVE MEASURES WOULD NOT CAUSE ANY FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES TO THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY TOWARDS THE CORPORATION. THIS IS TO PROVIDE AND MANAGE A SAFE AND EFFICIENT RAILWAY SERVICE TAKING ACCOUNT OF THE REASONABLE REQUIREMENTS OF THE PUBLIC TRANSPORT SYSTEM IN HONG KONG, AND TO OPERATE ACCORDING TO PRUDENT COMMERICAL PRINCIPLES.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THESE MEASURES WOULD NOT APPLY TO OTHER PUBLIC AND STATUTORY BODIES WHICH WOULD BE REVIEWED SEPARATELY DEPENDING ON THEIR OWN CIRCUMSTANCES.

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CONTROL ON IMPORT AND EXPORT OF HALONS

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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY) THE COMING INTO OPERATION OF PART 2 OF THE SCHEDULE OF THE OZONE LAYER PROTECTION ORDINANCE (OLPO) ON JANUARY 1, 1990.

FROM JANUARY 1, IMPORT AND EXPORT OF HALONS (FIRE EXTINGUISHING AGENTS) AND OZONE LAYER DEPLETING CHEMICALS WILL HAVE TO BE LICENSED, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT (EPD) SAID.

THE OLPO WAS ENACTED THIS YEAR TO GIVE EFFECT TO HONG KONG'S INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE 1985 VIENNA CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE OZONE LAYER AND THE 1987 MONTREAL PROTOCOL ON SUBSTANCES THAT DEPLETE THE OZONE LAYER.

/UNDER THE .....

UNDER THE PROTOCOL, HONG KONG IS REQUIRED TO BAN THE IMPORT OF CHLOROFLUOROCARBONS (CFC'S) AND HALONS COMING FROM A STATE WHICH IS NOT A PARTY TO THE PROTOCOL AS FROM JANUARY 1, 1990, AND TO FREEZE ITS CONSUMPTION OF HALONS AT THE 1986 LEVEL BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 1992.

CONTROLS ON THE IMPORT AND EXPORT OF CFC'S, ANOTHER CATEGORY OF OZONE DEPLETING SUBSTANCES, HAVE ALREADY BECOME EFFECTIVE, FROM JULY 1 THIS YEAR.

CONSUMPTION OF CFC'S IN HONG KONG IS NOW FROZEN AT THE 1986 LEVEL BY THE IMPLEMENTATION OF LICENSING CONTROLS AND A QUOTA ALLOCATION SYSTEM FOR IMPORT AND EXPORT OF THE SUBSTANCES.

AN EPD SPOKESMAN SAID THE IMPOSITION OF IMPORT/EXPORT LICENSING CONTROL ON HALONS IS MAINLY TO FULFIL HONG KONG'S OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE PROTOCOL TO BAN IMPORT OF CFC'S AND HALONS FROM NON-PARTY COUNTRIES TO THE PROTOCOL.

FROM JANUARY 1, ANYONE WHO WISHES TO IMPORT OR EXPORT HALONS SHOULD REGISTER WITH THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION. HE WILL ALSO NEED TO APPLY FOR A LICENCE FROM THE TRADE DEPARTMENT FOR EACH SHIPMENT OF HALON IMPORT OR EXPORT.

HOWEVER, IMPORTERS OR EXPORTERS OF CFC'S WHO ARE ALREADY REGISTERED WITH EPD UNDER SECTION 5 OF THE OLPO NEED NOT RE-APPLY.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID A QUOTA SYSTEM WILL BE ADMINISTERED IN THE FUTURE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SCHEDULE IN THE PROTOCOL TO ENSURE THE 1986 LOCAL HALON CONSUMPTION LEVEL WILL NOT BE EXCEEDED.

"SINCE THE DATE OF HALON CONSUMPTION RESTRICTION BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 1992 IS STILL RELATIVELY FAR OFF, IMPORT OF HALONS WILL NOT BE SUBJECT TO ANY QUOTA CONTROL AT THE MOMENT," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

ENQUIRIES REGARDING APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION SHOULD BE MADE TO THE AIR POLICY GROUP OF THE EPD AT 26TH FLOOR, SOUTHORN CENTRE, 130 HENNESSY ROAD, WAN CHAI. THE TELEPHONE NUMBER IS 5-8351089.

ENQUIRIES REGARDING THE APPLICATIONS FOR LICENCES SHOULD BE MADE TO THE TRADE LICENSING (NON-TEXTILE) BRANCH OF THE TRADE DEPARTMENT AT 13TH FLOOR, OCEAN CENTRE, 5 CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON. THE TELEPHONE NUMBERS ARE 3-7372505 AND 3-7372385.

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EIGHT AIR CONTROL ZONES DECLARED

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EIGHT AIR CONTROL ZONES WERE DECLARED UNDER THE AIR POLLUTION CONTROL (AIR CONTROL ZONE) (DECLARATION) ORDER 1989 WHICH WAS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THEY ARE THE JUNK BAY, LANTAU, FANLING - SHA TAU KOK, PORT SHELTER, SOUTH HONG KONG ISLAND - LAMMA, TOLO, TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG AIR CONTROL ZONES.

INCLUDING THE TWO AIR CONTROL ZONES DECLARED IN 1986, NAMELY HARBOUR AIR CONTROL ZONE AND TSUEN WAN - KWAI CHUNG AIR CONTROL ZONE, THE ENTIRE TERRITORY IS NOW BROUGHT UNDER THE AIR CONTROL NETWORK.

"THE DECLARATION OF THE REMAINING AREAS AS AIR CONTROL ZONES PROVIDES A COMPREHENSIVE FRAMEWORK FOR DEVELOPING TERRITORY-WIDE CONTROL MEASURES," A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

"FOLLOWING THE DECLARATION, AIR QUALITY OBJECTIVES WHICH ARE IDENTICAL TO THOSE IN THE HARBOUR AND TSUEN WAN - KWAI CHUNG AIR CONTROL ZONES HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED FOR THESE NEW ZONES," HE SAID.

"WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AIR QUALITY OBJECTIVES, INDUSTRIES SHOULD BE BETTER ABLE TO PLAN THEIR DEVELOPMENT IN THE LIGHT OF KNOWN TERRITORY-WIDE CONTROLS."

TO ACHIEVE THE AIR QUALITY OBJECTIVES, THE GOVERNMENT IS NOW PURSUING A NUMBER OF STRATEGIES, NOTABLY MORE STRINGENT CONTROL ON VEHICLE EMISSIONS, INVOLVING THE INTRODUCTION OF UNLEADED PETROL AND THE REDUCTION OF THE SULPHUR CONTENT OF INDUSTRIAL LIQUID FUEL.

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REVISION OF CERTIFICATION FEES

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THE TRADE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) A REVISION OF FEES FOR CERTIFICATION SERVICES.

UNDER THE IMPORT AND EXPORT (FEES) (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) REGULATIONS 1989 PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY, THE REVISION, WHICH WILL BE EFFECTIVE FROM JANUARY 1 NEXT YEAR, IS AS FOLLOWS:

/TYPE OF .....

	TYPE OF SERVICE	EXISTING FEE	REVISED FEE
(A)	APPLICATION FOR THE ISSUE OF A CERTIFICATE OF HONG KONG ORIGIN, COMMONWEALTH PREFERENCE CERTIFICATE, CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN - PROCESSING (FORM TIC 185), OR OF ANY OTHER FORM OF CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN OTHER THAN CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN - FORM A	$45	$55
(B)	APPLICATION FOR THE ISSUE OF A CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN - FORM A (FORM TIC 185B)	$45	$75

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRADE DEPARTMENT SAID THE REVISION OF FEES WAS TO COVER INCREASES IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS INVOLVED IN OPERATING THESE SERVICES. FEES FOR SUCH SERVICES WERE LAST REVISED IN 1985.

HE SAID THE TRADE ADVISORY BOARD HAD BEEN CONSULTED ON THE FEE REVISION AND HAD EXPRESSED ITS SUPPORT.

THE FIVE GOVERNMENT APPROVED CERTIFICATION ORGANISATIONS WILL INCREASE FEES CORRESPONDINGLY FOR CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN THEY ISSUE, DETAILS OF WHICH WILL BE ANNOUNCED BY THEM SEPARATELY.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT TO ENABLE THE GOVERNMENT TO MORE FULLY RECOVER THE COSTS INCURRED IN OPERATING THE ORIGIN CERTIFICATION SYSTEM, THE TRADE DEPARTMENT WAS CONSIDERING INTRODUCING AN ANNUAL FEE FOR REGISTRATION WITH THE TRADE DEPARTMENT FOR CERTIFICATION PURPOSES.

ENQUIRIES ON THE REVISION OF FEES MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE TRADE DEPARTMENT ON TEL. 3-7372494.

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HANDICAPPED WOMAN WINS CHRISTMAS CARD DESIGN COMPETITION

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A FORMER RESIDENT OF THE ABERDEEN REHABILITATION CENTRE (ARC), MISS CHEUNG LAI, WILL HAVE AN ESPECIALLY JOYFUL CHRISTMAS THIS YEAR. AND OTHER PEOPLE WILL BE ABLE TO SHARE HER HAPPINESS.

FOR MISS CHEUNG, AGED 23, HAS SHOWN THAT A MENTAL HANDICAP IS NO BAR TO CREATIVITY BY WINNING A TERRITORY-WIDE CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION ORGANISED BY THE ROTARACT CLUB OF PENINSULA, HONG KONG.

HER WINNING DESIGN HAS BEEN REPRODUCED FOR SALE AND THE REVENUE WILL BE USED FOR CHARITABLE PURPOSES.

/MISS CHEUNG'S .....

MISS CHEUNG'S WINNING ENTRY SHOWS A JOLLY SANTA CLAUS CARRYING A BAG LADEN WITH GIFTS, AND READILY CONVEYS A FESTIVE ATMOSPHERE. THE COLOUR SCHEME, MAINLY IN LIGHT ORANGE, IS EVENLY MATCHED.

THE HANDIWORK INDICATES THAT MISS CHEUNG HAS CONFIDENCE, AND IT ALSO SHOWS THAT IF DISABLED PERSONS ARE PROPERLY CARED FOR AND TRAINED, THEY CAN LIVE AND WORK LIKE NORMAL PEOPLE.

FOR THE ARC SHELTERED WORKSHOP AND ITS STAFF, 1989 HAS BEEN A YEAR OF ACHIEVEMENT. APART FROM MISS CHEUNG'S SUCCESS IN THE OPEN COMPETITION, WORKERS AT THE CENTRE HAVE ALSO TAKEN PART IN VARIOUS COMMUNITY AND TERRITORY-WIDE ACTIVITIES, AND WON A NUMBER OF PRIZES.

THE REGIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER (HONG KONG), MR KWOK NAI-SIK, SAID THAT WITH THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE STAFF, TWO MENTALLY RETARDED FEMALE WORKERS FROM THE ARC TOOK PART IN A PHOTO CONTEST ORGANISED BY THE SOCIETY OF HOMES FOR THE HANDICAPPED. ONE OF THEM WON THE SECOND PRIZE AND RECEIVED AN AWARD OF $2,000.

"IN ANOTHER COMPETITION, 12 RESIDENTS OF ARC TOOK PART IN A FISHING COMPETITION JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE BRITISH FORCES ANGLING CLUB, HONG KONG FISHING SOCIETY AND HONG KONG SPORT ASSOCIATION FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED, AND ACHIEVED VERY GOOD RESULTS," MR KWOK SAID.

MISS CHEUNG HAD RECEIVED PRE-VOCATIONAL TRAINING AT THE ARC AND RESIDED THERE. ENCOURAGED BY CENTRE STAFF, AND DETERMINED TO OVERCOME DIFFICULTIES, SHE COMPLETED AN INDEPENDENT LIVING TRAINING PROGRAMME IN 1987, AND WAS ABLE TO LEAVE THE CENTRE TO LEAD AN INDEPENDENT LIFE.

UNDER THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S INTEGRATION PROGRAMME, MISS CHEUNG AND TWO OTHER SHELTERED WORKERS OF THE ARC HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED A UNIT IN A PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE.

"THEY ARE NOW LIVING HAPPILY AND INDEPENDENTLY. HOWEVER, SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT STAFF WILL CONTINUE TO VISIT THEM AND RENDER ASSISTANCE IF REQUIRED," HE SAID.

"WHILE IT IS THE GOVERNMENT'S PRIMARY AIM TO INTEGRATE DISABLED PERSONS INTO THE COMMUNITY, PUBLIC AND FAMILY SUPPORT ALSO PLAYS AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THIS PROCESS," MR KWOK ADDED.

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SONGS, GAMES AND PERFORMANCES TO OPEN SHA TIN FESTIVAL

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THE MONTH-LONG SHA TIN FESTIVAL WILL OPEN ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 17) AT THE OPEN SPACE BETWEEN SHA TIN TOWN HALL AND NEW TOWN PLAZA WITH ABOUT 1,000 LOCAL RESIDENTS SINGING THE FESTIVAL THEME SONG.

THE SONG, "SHA TIN IS MY HOME", IS SPECIALLY COMPOSED FOR THE OCCASION AND THE CHORUS WILL COMPRISE MEMBERS OF SEVEN MAJOR CHOIRS IN THE DISTRICT.

AS A REMINISCENCE OF THE PAST, AN "ELDERS' MARKET" WILL FEATURE CULTURAL PERFORMANCES BY THE ELDERLY, AND TRADITIONAL SKILLS IN COOKING, FACIAL COSMETICS AND HAIR STYLING.

FOR THE MORE ENERGETIC YOUNGSTERS, THEY MAY ENJOY SINGING AND DANCING AT THE "YOUTH CORNER".

THE DISTRICT'S NINE AREA COMMITTEES WILL PUT UP NINE GAMES STALLS.

TO MARK THE OPENING OF THE FESTIVAL, A CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT 2.30 PM WITH THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR ADOLF HSU, OFFICIATING.

THE FUNCTION IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. ADMISSION IS FREE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 1989-90 SHA TIN FESTIVAL TO BE HELD AT 2.30 PM ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 17) AT THE OPEN SPACE BETWEEN SHA TIN TOWN HALL AND NEW TOWN PLAZA.

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FIRE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN FOR SQUATTER AREAS

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A CAMPAIGN WILL BE HELD TO PROMOTE FIRE PREVENTION AND COMBAT THE ILLEGAL TAPPING OF ELECTRICITY AT SQUATTER AREAS IN WONG TAI SIN.

THE FOUR-WEEK CAMPAIGN, WHICH WILL BEGIN ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 17), HAS BEEN ORGANISED BY A WORKING GROUP OF THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD'S SQUATTER AREAS COMMITTEE.

A CEREMONY TO MARK THE START OF THE CAMPAIGN WILL BE HELD AT 3.30 PM ON SUNDAY AT TSZ WAN SHAN CENTRAL PLAYGROUND.

/OFFICIATING WILL .....

OFFICIATING WILL BE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, DR MICHAEL LEE; CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT BOARD'S SQUATTER AREAS COMMITTEE, MRS LEE LO YUK-SIM; DISTRICT OFFICER, MR BRIAN LAU; DIVISIONAL COMMANDER OF THE KOWLOON CENTRAL DIVISION OF THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, MR JOHN MORAN; A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CHINA LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY LIMITED, MR LEUNG SHUI-CHUNG; AND CHAIRMAN OF THE CAMPAIGN WORKING GROUP, MR LI YUK-WA.

THE CEREMONY WILL BE FOLLOWED BY AN EXHIBITION ON FIRE PREVENTION AND THE PROPER USE OF ELECTRICITY, A FIRE FIGHTING DEMONSTRATION AND PERFORMANCES BY A SILVER BAND.

A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES WILL BE HELD DURING THE CAMPAIGN, INCLUDING COLOUR-SHADING AND CROSSWORD PUZZLE COMPETITIONS, HOUSEHOLD VISITS, VISIT TO A FIRE STATION AND A SEMINAR ON FIRE PREVENTION.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CEREMONY TO MARK THE START OF THE WONG TAI SIN SQUATTER AREAS FIRE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN WHICH WILL BE HELD AT 3.30 PM ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 17) AT TSZ WAN SHAN CENTRAL PLAYGROUND, WAN WAH STREET, TSZ WAN SHAN.

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ROAD SAFETY CARNIVAL IN WONG TAI SIN

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A ROAD SAFETY CARNIVAL WILL BE HELD IN WONG TAI SIN ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 17) TO MARK THE CLOSING OF THE DISTRICT'S ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN.

JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD'S TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE AND THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE, THE CARNIVAL WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM AT MORSE PARK.

THE PROGRAMME WILL INCLUDE A ROAD SAFETY EXHIBITION, ROAD SAFETY BUS DISPLAY, A "BICYCLE SAFETY CITY", AND PERFORMANCES BY POPULAR SINGERS.

/OFFICIATING AT .....

OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, DR MICHAEL LEE; LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, MR MICHAEL CHENG; DISTRICT OFFICER, MR BRIAN LAU; DEPUTY DISTRICT COMMANDER OF WONG TAI SIN POLICE DISTRICT, MR DICK YOUNG; STAFF OFFICER OF TRAFFIC POLICE (KOWLOON EAST), MR LEUNG CHING-PONG; AND CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT BOARD'S TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE, MR YEUNG CHIU-MING.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE WONG TAI SIN ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN CARNIVAL TO BE HELD ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 17) AT THE HARD GROUND FOOTBALL PITCH IN MORSE PARK, BEGINNING AT 2.30 PM.

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MONG KOK EYE CARE CAMPAIGN STARTS TOMORROW

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THE MONG KOK EYE CARE CAMPAIGN FOR THE ELDERLY WILL START TOMORROW (SATURDAY) WITH AN OPENING CEREMONY AT THE CHAN HING SOCIAL SERVICES CENTRE AT 45 FUK TSUEN STREET, TAI KOK TSUI.

THE DIRECTOR OF HOSPITAL SERVICES, DR CHAU TUEN-YIN, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE CEREMONY, WHICH WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A TALK ON COMMON EYE DISEASES AMONG THE ELDERLY.

THE CAMPAIGN HAS BEEN JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS AND THE MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD AS PART OF THE MONG KOK FESTIVAL 1989-90.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE MONG KOK EYE CARE CAMPAIGN FOR THE ELDERLY WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 10.30 AM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AT THE CHAN HING SOCIAL SERVICES CENTRE, 45 FUK TSUEN STREET, TAI KOK TSUI.

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BANQUET FOR THE ELDERLY IN SAI KUNG

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THE 1989 SAI KUNG DISTRICT FESTIVAL FOR THE ELDERLY WILL CONCLUDE WITH A BANQUET FOR THE ELDERLY TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AFTERNOON.

THE FESTIVAL, WHICH STARTED ON NOVEMBER 18, IS AIMED AT AROUSING CONCERN TOWARDS THE WELL-BEING OF THE ELDERLY PEOPLE IN SAI KUNG.

BEFORE THE BANQUET THE SIX OLDEST PERSONS IN THE DISTRICT WILL EACH BE PRESENTED A GOLD MEDAL.

THE SAI KUNG ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS LISA CHAN, AND LOCAL COMMUNITY LEADER MR LEE SPIEGAL WILL OFFICIATE AT THE FESTIVAL'S CLOSING CEREMONY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE 1989 SAI KUNG DISTRICT FESTIVAL FOR THE ELDERLY AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AT TUNG YUEN RESTAURANT, 21-25 YEE KUK STREET, SAI KUNG TOWN.

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SHAM SHUI PO MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION CAMPAIGN CLOSES

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THE NINE-MONTH LONG SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT MENTAL HEALTH CAMPAIGN CLOSED TODAY (FRIDAY) WITH A DINNER RECEPTION AND VARIETY SHOW FOR OVER 300 DISABLED PERSONS AND THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS IN THE DISTRICT.

THE CAMPAIGN WAS ORGANISED BY THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT MENTAL HEALTH PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE, WHOSE MEMBERS INCLUDED REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE AND DISTRICT BOARD AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND ORGANISATIONS IN THE DISTRICT.

A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING A CARNIVAL, COMPETITIONS, AN EXHIBITION AND SEMINAR HAVE BEEN HELD SINCE APRIL TO AROUSE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION.

OFFICIATING AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY WERE THE REGIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER (WEST KOWLOON), MRS PUN LEE WAI-CHUN; SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ALAN FUNG; DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR TAI TUNG-NGOK; AND A SPONSOR, MR CHAN MU-FAT.

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ANTI-RAT CAMPAIGN BEFORE LUNAR NEW YEAR

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TO TIE IN WITH THE ANNUAL YEAR-END CLEAN-UP BEFORE THE LUNAR NEW YEAR, A TERRITORY-WIDE ANTI-RAT EDUCATION CAMPAIGN IS BEING HELD TO DRIVE HOME THE MESSAGE OF RAT PREVENTION.

ORGANISED BY THE HEALTH EDUCATION UNIT OF THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES BRANCH AND SPONSORED BY THE URBAN AND REGIONAL COUNCILS, THE CAMPAIGN AIMS TO REMIND THE PUBLIC OF THE IMPORTANCE OF RAT PREVENTION AND HENCE LESSEN THE THREAT OF RAT-BORNE DISEASES.

"RATS ARE CARRIERS OF DISEASES LIKE PLAGUE, TYPHUS, AND FOOD POISONING," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HEALTH EDUCATION UNIT SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

"THEY ARE ALSO A NUISANCE AND CAUSE PHYSICAL DAMAGE AND FINANCIAL LOSSES TO HUMAN PROPERTIES.

"THEY MIGHT EVEN BITE ELECTRIC WIRES, THUS POSING FIRE HAZARDS," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THERE WERE WAYS TO PREVENT RAT INFESTATION, SUCH AS NOT LETTING RATS HAVE FOOD, HAVE A HOME, OR ENTER YOUR HOUSE.

DURING THE CAMPAIGN, POSTERS, LEAFLETS AND ADVISORY LETTERS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO BUILDING MANAGEMENT OFFICES, FOOD PREMISES AND MARKETS TO CALL FOR POSITIVE RAT-PREVENTIVE MEASURES.

ALSO, THE HEALTH EDUCATION UNIT WILL OPERATE A TELEPHONE HOTLINE 3-7230013 DURING THE CAMPAIGN PERIOD TO PROVIDE RAT-PREVENTIVE INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC.

"IF RESIDENTS WANT ADVICE OR ASSISTANCE ON RODENT CONTROL, THEY ARE WELCOME TO CONTACT STAFF OF THE PEST CONTROL UNITS OF THE RESPECTIVE DISTRICT OFFICES (ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE) OF THE URBAN SERVICES AND REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENTS," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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NT LOT FOR SALE BY TENDER

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THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT IS OFFERING FOR SALE BY TENDER A LAND LOT OF ABOUT 5,433 SQUARE METRES IN AREA 7B, SHEUNG SHUI, NEW TERRITORIES.

THE LOT IS FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL (EXCLUDING RESIDENTIAL, HOTELS AND GODOWN) PURPOSES WITH BUS TERMINUS AND CARPARK.

/THE BUILDING .....

THE BUILDING COVENANT REQUIRES A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 30,968 SQUARE METRES TO BE COMPLETED WITHIN 48 MONTHS.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR ACCEPTING TENDERS IS NOON ON FEBRUARY 2 NEXT YEAR.

TENDER FORMS, TENDER NOTICE AND CONDITIONS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG, AND THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES KOWLOON, YAU MA TEI CARPARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON.

TENDER DOCUMENTS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT ALL THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

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ILLLEGAL STRUCTURES IN SHEK KIP MEI TO BE CLOSED

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS SEEKING TO CLOSE CERTAIN ILLEGAL STRUCTURES IN SHEK KIP MEI SO THAT THEY CAN BE DEMOLISHED WITHOUT DANGER TO THE OCCUPIERS AND THE PUBLIC.

THEY ARE ON THE GROUND FLOOR AND MEZZANINE FLOOR OF NO. 19, THE ROOF OVER THE THIRD FLOOR OF NO. 1 AND 3 AND 9-27 (ODD NUMBERS) BERWICK STREET.

THE CLOSURE FORMS PART OF AN EXERCISE TO ENFORCE AN ORDER ISSUED UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE IN AUGUST AND NOVEMBER THIS YEAR REQUIRING DEMOLITION OF THE STRUCTURES.

NOTICES OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR CLOSURE ORDERS FROM THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT COURT ON APRIL 18 NEXT YEAR WERE POSTED ON CONSPICUOUS PARTS OF THE STRUCTURES TODAY (FRIDAY).

IT IS EXPECTED THAT DEMOLITION WILL START IMMEDIATELY AFTER CLOSURE ORDERS ARE OBTAINED.

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