



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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GOVERNOR EXPLAINS IMPORTANCE OF HK TO CHINA

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HONG KONG'S IMPORTANCE TO CHINA IS NOW GREATER THAN EVER, GIVEN THE ENORMOUS EFFORTS THAT CHINA IS MAKING TO REALISE ITS VAST ECONOMIC POTENTIAL, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID IN NEW YORK ON THURSDAY (U.S. TIME).

FOR EXAMPLE, HE SAID HONG KONG RANKED AS CHINA'S LARGEST SINGLE MARKET, AND WAS CHINA'S LARGEST SOURCE BY FAR OF EXTERNAL INVESTMENT -- SUPPLYING AT LEAST 60 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL ACCORDING TO THE LATEST CHINESE FIGURES.

SIR DAVID MADE THESE POINTS IN AN ADDRESS TO THE FOREIGN POLICY ASSOCIATION, IN WHICH HE DESCRIBED HOW CHINA WOULD BENEFIT FROM THE MAINTENANCE OF PROSPERITY AND STABILITY IN HONG KONG.

TO SUGGEST THAT CHINA WOULD DELIBERATELY PUT THE MANIFOLD BENEFITS AT RISK MADE NO SENSE, SIR DAVID SAID, REFERRING TO "GLOOMY VIEWS" OF THE FUTURE SOMETIMES EXPRESSED IN THE MEDIA.

AT THE OUTSET OF HIS SPEECH ENTITLED "HONG KONG'S FUTURE AND WHY IT MATTERS", THE GOVERNOR SAID THE QUESTION OF HONG KONG'S FUTURE HAD FAR WIDER IMPLICATIONS BEYOND THE TERRITORY ITSELF.

BESIDES CHINA'S ECONOMIC MODERNISATION AND OPENING TO THE WEST, IT ALSO AFFECTED THE INTERESTS OF ALL THOSE COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION FOR WHICH HONG KONG WAS A CENTRE OF TRADE, FINANCE, TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS.

"IT AFFECTS THE PROSPERITY, AND TO THAT EXTENT ALSO THE STABILITY, OF A DYNAMIC AREA OF THE WORLD THAT IS OF GREAT SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE UNITED STATES," HE EXPLAINED.

"I WOULD ARGUE THAT IT SHOULD THEREFORE BE SEEN AS AN IMPORTANT AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY INTEREST."

SIR DAVID OUTLINED THE MAJOR POINTS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION WHICH CHINA AND BRITAIN HAD SIGNED IN 1984 AFTER TWO YEARS OF NEGOTIATIONS, AND UNDER WHICH SOVEREIGNTY OVER HONG KONG WILL PASS TO CHINA FROM JULY 1997.

HE POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS A LEGALLY BINDING INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT REGISTERED BY THE BRITISH AND CHINESE GOVERNMENTS AT THE UNITED NATIONS.

SPECIFIC ASSURANCES WERE GIVEN THAT AS A SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION OF CHINA, HONG KONG WOULD CARRY ON ESSENTIALLY AS IT DID TODAY.

"THE JOINT DECLARATION CONTAINS MANY MORE PROVISIONS OF THIS SORT, ALL BOILING DOWN TO ONE ESSENTIAL POINT -- THAT HONG KONG AFTER 1997 WILL CONTINUE TO OPERATE AS AN INTERNATIONAL, CAPITALIST CITY, SEPARATE FROM THE SOCIALIST SYSTEM OF THE CHINESE MAINLAND," HE SAID.

/HONG KONG

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HONG KONG WOULD THEREFORE NOT BE SWALLOWED UP BY CHINA IN 1997, AND INSTEAD WOULD BE A PART OF CHINA, BUT DISTINCT, UNDER CHINA'S IMAGINATIVE CONCEPT OF "ONE COUNTRY, TWO SYSTEMS".

SIR DAVID SAID GLOOMY VIEWS EXPRESSED IN PRESS COMMENTARIES WERE SURELY NOT JUSTIFIED, AND POINTED TO CHINA'S COMMITMENT TO IMPLEMENTING THE PROVISIONS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION.

CHINA HAD DEVOTED CONSIDERABLE TIME, EFFORT AND NUMEROUS OFFICIALS TO THE CONTINUOUS NEGOTIATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS NOW UNDERWAY -- FOR EXAMPLE, IN THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP -- AS PART OF THE IMPLEMENTATION.

IN THE VITAL FIELDS OF TRADE, TRAVEL AND COMMUNICATION, THE JOINT DECLARATION'S PROVISIONS WERE ALREADY BEING IMPLEMENTED, HE EMPHASISED. "AND A GOOD START HAS BEEN MADE IN DEALING WITH THE HUNDREDS OF INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS AND ORGANISATIONS IN WHICH HONG KONG PARTICIPATES NOW AND WILL WISH TO CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE AFTER 1997."

SIR DAVID ALSO REFERRED TO THE GROWTH OF THE ECONOMY AND STRESSED THAT MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURAL PROJECTS EITHER UNDERWAY OR PLANNED REPRESENTED A LONG-TERM COMMITMENT STRETCHING BEYOND 1997.

HE MENTIONED LARGE PRIVATE SECTOR UNDERTAKINGS, AND SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS ALSO "PUTTING ITS MONEY WHERE ITS CONFIDENCE IS WITH MANY LARGE ROAD, TUNNEL AND NEW TOWN PROJECTS".

REFERRING TO POLITICAL REFORM, SIR DAVID TOLD HIS AUDIENCE THAT THIS WAS ANOTHER ASPECT THAT SOME OF THE WORLD'S PRESS APPEARED TO HAVE MISUNDERSTOOD.

HE EXPLAINED THAT FOR SOME YEARS HONG KONG HAD BEEN DEVELOPING A MORE REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT, TO SATISFY THE CHANGING ASPIRATIONS OF A BETTER EDUCATED AND EVER MORE SOPHISTICATED AND COSMOPOLITAN POPULATION.

THAT PROCESS WAS CONTINUING, AND WHILE THERE HAD BEEN SOME LIVELY DEBATE, NO-ONE WAS CALLING FOR RADICAL DEVIATION FROM THE FUNDAMENTAL POLICIES THAT HAD SERVED HONG KONG WELL, HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID HONG KONG WAS SET FAIR TO BUILD ON THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PAST, AND BOTH WEST AND EAST HAD A STAKE IN ITS SUCCESS.

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FORD: PACKAGE OF MEASURES BEING PREPARED

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A PACKAGE OF MEASURES WHICH WILL ENABLE THE ORDERLY OPENING OF THE MARKETS ON MONDAY IS BEING WORKED OUT, THE DEPUTY TO THE GOVERNOR, MR DAVID FORD, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

HE SAID IT WAS VERY IMPORTANT FOR EVERYBODY TO REMEMBER THAT THE UNDERLINING ECONOMY IN HONG KONG WAS STRONG, AND THAT PEOPLE SHOULD HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THE ABILITY OF HONG KONG TO SEE THROUGH THE FUTURE.

"THOSE PEOPLE IN THE PAST WHO HAD CONFIDENCE ON HONG KONG HAVE NEVER HAD REASON TO DOUBT THAT, NOR I DO THINK THEY WILL HAVE ANY REASON TO DOUBT THAT WE WILL ESTABLISH ORDERLY MARKETS IN THE COURSE OF NEXT WEEK," HE SAID.

MR FORD WAS SPEAKING TO REPORTERS TOGETHER WITH THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR PIERS JACOBS, THIS MORNING WHEN THEY WERE ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE STOCK MARKET.

MR JACOBS SAID THE WHOLE SITUATION WAS VERY FLUID AND PEOPLE WERE WORKING TOGETHER TRYING TO FIND A COMMON SOLUTION.

"THE SITUATION HAS BEEN THAT I HAVE BEEN HAVING A SERIES OF MEETINGS WITH THE PLAYERS IN THE MARKETS, MY OWN ADVISERS IN THE ADMINISTRATION, AND INDEED THOSE MEMBERS OF HAMBROS WHO ARE IN HONG KONG," MR JACOBS SAID.

OTHER MEMBERS OF THE HAMBROS TEAM WERE ON THEIR WAY TO HONG KONG, AND FURTHER MEETINGS WOULD BE HELD WITH THEM WHEN THEY ARRIVED.

MR JACOBS SAID IN THE COURSE OF THE DISCUSSIONS HE HAD HAD OVER THE LAST 24 HOURS, HE HAD SEEN A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF FLEXIBILITY AND GOOD WILL.

"OBVIOUSLY, AT THE BEGINNING, PEOPLE HAD TAKEN CERTAIN POSITIONS, BUT IN THE COURSE OF DISCUSSIONS WE'VE BEEN HAVING PEOPLE HAVE GRADUALLY BEGUN TO SEE EACH OTHER'S POINTS OF VIEW," HE SAID.

"SO AT THE MOMENT, WE ARE AT A VERY FLUID STATE. WHAT IS GRADUALLY EMERGING IS A CONSIDERABLE RECOGNITION OF NEED TO THINK ABOUT THE SOLUTION THAT IS TO THE INTEREST OF HONG KONG AND TO THE BENEFIT OF ALL THE PLAYERS IN THE MARKET," HE ADDED.

ASKED HOW LONG WOULD IT TAKE FOR THE HAMBROS BANK TO COME UP WITH A PROPOSAL, MR JACOBS SAID: "PROPOSALS ARE GRADUALLY EMERGING THROUGHOUT THE DAY. I CAN'T REALLY PUT OUT A FIXED TIME ON THIS, BUT WE HAVEN'T GOT MUCH TIME, AND THE BEAUTY OF THIS IS THAT : TIME IS VERY LIMITED, AND I WOULD LIKE TO SEE SOMETHING PUT TOGETHER EITHER LATER TODAY OR TOMORROW. WE HAVE TO SEE SOME SORT OF FRAMEWORK OF THIS BY THE WEEKEND."

/ON WHETHER

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ON WHETHER OR NOT THE EXCHANGE FUNDS WOULD BE USED, MR JACOBS SAID HE WOULD RATHER NOT COMMENT ON THAT POINT, BUT ADDING THAT THERE WERE STATUTORY LIMITS ON HOW THE FUNDS COULD BE USED.

IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, MR JACOBS CONFIRMED THAT A PROPOSAL WAS SUBMITTED TO THE GOVERNMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FUTURES EXCHANGE, DR KIM CHAM.

"OBVIOUSLY, THOSE PROPOSALS ARE IN THE MELTING POT," HE SAID.

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GOVERNMENT DEALING WITH STOCK EXCHANGE PROBLEM: FS

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THE GOVERNMENT IS DEALING WITH THE PROBLEMS WITH RESPECT TO THE STOCK EXCHANGES IN THE INTERESTS OF THE COMMUNITY, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR PIERS JACOBS, SAID THIS (FRIDAY) EVENING.

SPEAKING AT THE HONG KONG STOCK EXCHANGE'S FIRST ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION CONCERT, MR JACOBS SAID HONG KONG HAD WITNESSED AN EXTRAORDINARY WEEK ON THE WORLD'S STOCK EXCHANGES.

"LIKE OTHERS WE IN HONG KONG HAD PROBLEMS, AND WE ARE DEALING WITH THEM IN THE INTERESTS OF OUR COMMUNITY. I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT WE SHALL SUCCEED," HE SAID.

"THE ECONOMY IS SOUND AND THE COMMUNITY SHOULD HAVE CONFIDENCE IN ITSELF," HE ADDED.

MR JACOBS SAID THE GOVERNMENT AND THE HONG KONG STOCK EXCHANGE WOULD TAKE STOCK OF THE LESSONS LEARNT IN THE PAST WEEK TO WORK TOGETHER TO SAFEGUARD AND ENHANCE HONG KONG'S POSITION AS AN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRE.

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TELEVISION TALK HELD IN MACAU

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EXPERTS FROM THE HONG KONG AND MACAU GOVERNMENTS MET IN MACAU TODAY (FRIDAY) TO DISCUSS MACAU TELEVISION'S EXPANSION PLANS.

THE HONG KONG SIDE WAS REPRESENTED BY THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND INFORMATION, MR MICHAEL WU, AND THE CHIEF ENGINEER, HONG KONG POST OFFICE, MR TONY WONG.

"THE DISCUSSIONS CENTRED MAINLY ON THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF MACAU TELEVISION'S PLANS, INCLUDING THE QUESTION OF THE SIGNAL STRENGTH TO BE EMPLOYED FOR TELEVISION TRANSMISSIONS FROM MACAU." MR WU SAID ON HIS RETURN FROM MACAU.

THE TWO SIDES ALSO EXCHANGED INFORMATION REGARDING PROGRAMME AND ADVERTISING STANDARDS APPLIED TO TELEVISION BROADCASTING IN THE TWO TERRITORIES.

MR WU SAID THE MEETING HAD BEEN VERY USEFUL IN ENABLING THE TWO GOVERNMENTS TO UNDERSTAND BETTER EACH OTHER'S POSITION AND SHOULD PROVIDE THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT WITH THE NECESSARY INFORMATION TO ASSESS THE EFFECT OF MACAU TELEVISION'S PLANS ON HONG KONG.

A REPORT ON THE OUTCOME OF THE MEETING WOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY AT ITS NEXT MEETING ON OCTOBER 26, HE ADDED.

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BUILDING HEIGHT IN TWO NT AREAS RELAXED

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BUILDINGS AT LUEN WO HUI, FANLING AND SHEK WU HUI, SHEUNG SHUI CAN NOW BE CONSTRUCTED MUCH HIGHER FOLLOWING THE RELAXATION OF HEIGHT CONTROL IN THESE AREAS.

THE RELAXATION, AIMED AT ENCOURAGING THE AMALGAMATION OF SITES FOR MORE COMPREHENSIVE REDEVELOPMENT, IS ONE OF THE ITEMS INCLUDED IN THE NEW DRAFT OUTLINE ZONING PLAN FOR FANLING/SHEUNG SHUI NEW TOWN GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD.

A BOARD SPOKESMAN SAID EXISTING BUILDINGS IN THE "HUIS" WERE SUBJECT TO A HEIGHT RESTRICTION OF 20 METRES (ABOUT SIX STOREYS).

HOWEVER, NEW BUILDINGS TO BE CONSTRUCTED ON SITES OF 340 SQUARE METRES OR MORE WERE NOW PERMITTED TO A MAXIMUM HEIGHT OF 81 METRES (ABOUT 25 STOREYS).

/BESIDES, THE

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BESIDES, THE DEVELOPMENTS ARE GOVERNED BY A MAXIMUM DOMESTIC PLOT RATIO OF FIVE AND A MAXIMUM NON-DOMESTIC PLOT RATIO OF 9.5.

"THESE RESTRICTIONS ARE IMPOSED IN LINE WITH THE PLANNED INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE NEW TOWN," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE NEW TOWN IS AIMED AT PROVIDING A BALANCED AND REASONABLY SELF-CONTAINED DEVELOPMENT FOR A POPULATION OF 280,000.

THE PURPOSE OF THE NEW DRAFT OUTLINE ZONING PLAN IS TO ESTABLISH A BROAD LAND USE ZONING AND MAJOR ROAD FRAMEWORK FOR THE NEW TOWN TO INDICATE THE BROAD PRINCIPLES OF DEVELOPMENT, PROVIDE GUIDANCE FOR MORE DETAILED PLANNING, AND PUT FUTURE DEVELOPMENT AND REDEVELOPMENT UNDER STATUTORY PLANNING CONTROL.

THE PLANNED AREA COVERS ABOUT 773 HECTARES OF RELATIVELY FLAT LAND BOUNDED BY THE INDUS AND MA WAT RIVERS TO THE NORTH AND EAST, BIRDS HILL, WO HOP SHEK AND FANLING GOLF COURSE TO THE SOUTH AND WEST.

A NUMBER OF EXISTING TRADITIONAL VILLAGES SUCH AS SHEUNG SHUI TSUEN AND FAN LENG WAI, AND SOME RECENTLY COMPLETED PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES ARE ALSO INCLUDED.

A TOTAL AREA OF 92.1 HECTARES HAS BEEN ZONED "RESIDENTIAL (GROUP A)". IT INCLUDES EXISTING AND PROPOSED PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES SUCH AS CHEUNG WAH AND TIN PING ESTATES, HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME DEVELOPMENTS SUCH AS CHOI PO AND YUK PO COURTS AND HIGH DENSITY PRIVATE HOUSING SCHEMES IN AREAS TO THE NORTH OF SO KWUN PO, NEAR FANLING RAILWAY STATION, TO THE NORTH OF LUEN WO HUI, AND TO THE WEST OF WO HOP SHEK TSUEN.

WITHIN THIS ZONE, A RANGE OF COMMERCIAL USES ARE ALWAYS PERMITTED IN THE LOWER THREE FLOORS OF THE BUILDINGS.

ABOUT 4.5 HECTARES OF LAND NEAR KAI LENG FALLS WITHIN THE "RESIDENTIAL (GROUP B)" ZONE.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE SITES WERE BASICALLY INTENDED FOR RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES, BUT SUITABLE COMMERCIAL AND COMMUNITY USES MIGHT BE PROVIDED SUBJECT TO PERMISSION FROM THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD.

"RESIDENTIAL (GROUP C)' SITES FOR LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT ARE MAINLY FOUND IN AREAS NEAR TIN PING ESTATE AND KAI LENG. THE AREA OF THE ZONE MEASURES 26 HECTARES."

"TO ENSURE THAT DEVELOPMENT IS IN CHARACTER WITH THE NEARBY TRADITIONAL VILLAGES AND ATTRACTIVE COUNTRYSIDE AREAS, AND THAT THE LOCAL ROAD AND OTHER INFRASTRUCTURAL FACILITIES WILL NOT BE OVERLOADED, RESTRICTIONS ON HEIGHT, PLOT RATIO AND SITE COVERAGE OF BUILDINGS WITHIN THIS ZONE ARE IMPOSED," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

/THE RECOGNISED

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TEN RECOGNISED TRADITIONAL VILLAGES AND THEIR FUTURE EXPANSION AREAS, AMOUNTING TO SOME 79 HECTARES, HAVE BEEN ZONED "VILLAGE TYPE DEVELOPMENT". APART FROM VILLAGE HOUSING, A SELECTIVE RANGE OF COMMERCIAL AND COMMUNITY USES ARE PERMITTED WITHIN THIS ZONE.

TO CATER FOR THE EMPLOYMENT NEEDS OF THE NEW TOWN, ABOUT 65.9 HECTARES OF LAND HAS BEEN ZONED "INDUSTRIAL". IT COVERS THE EXISTING INDUSTRIAL AREA OF ON LOK TSUEN AND PLANNED INDUSTRIAL AREAS IN THE SOUTH-EASTERN, SOUTH-WESTERN AND NORTH-WESTERN PARTS OF THE NEW TOWN.

BUILDINGS WITHIN THIS ZONE ARE RESTRICTED TO A MAXIMUM HEIGHT OF 25 METRES AND A MAXIMUM PLOT RATIO OF FIVE AS REQUIRED BY THE PLANNED INFRASTRUCTURE.

ABOUT 111 HECTARES OF LAND HAS BEEN ZONED FOR VARIOUS GOVERNMENT, INSTITUTIONAL OR COMMUNITY USES. IT INCLUDES SUCH MAJOR EXISTING FACILITIES AS THE INDOOR SWIMMING COMPLEX NEAR FAN LENG WAI, POLICE CADET SCHOOL AND FANLING HOSPITAL AT JOCKEY CLUB ROAD.

LAND HAS ALSO BEEN RESERVED FOR BUILDING NEW MAJOR FACILITIES SUCH AS AN INTEGRATED SPORT AND SWIMMING COMPLEX TO THE NORTH-EAST OF SHEK WU HUI, GOVERNMENT OFFICES, LAW COURTS AND CULTURAL COMPLEX NEAR CHEUNG WAH ESTATE, AND THE NORTH DISTRICT HOSPITAL NEAR CHOI YUEN ESTATE.

APART FROM A TOWN PARK NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION NEAR SO KWUN PO VILLAGE, A NUMBER OF DISTRICT OPEN SPACES WILL BE PROVIDED IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE NEW TOWN. THE TOWN PARK IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN 1991.

SITES FOR BUILDING A SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT, BUS DEPOT, FLOOD BALANCING RESERVOIR AND PETROL FILLING STATIONS ARE INCLUDED IN THE "OTHER SPECIFIED USES" ZONE. OF PARTICULAR NOTE IS A SITE ADJACENT TO SHEUNG SHUI RAILWAY STATION WHICH IS INTENDED TO BE DEVELOPED INTO A MAJOR TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE AND CAR PARK WITH COMMERCIAL USES INCLUDING SHOPS AND OFFICES ABOVE.

ABOUT 180 HECTARES OF LAND, WHICH ARE EITHER UNSUITABLE OR NOT REQUIRED FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE PLANNED AREA, HAS BEEN ZONED AS A "GREEN BELT". SOME OF THESE AREAS ARE FUNG SHUI PLACES AND PERIPHERAL HILLS WITH AN ATTRACTIVE LANDSCAPE WHICH ARE WORTH CONSERVING.

WRITTEN OBJECTIONS TO THE DRAFT PLAN MUST BE SENT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD BY DECEMBER 22.

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ELDERLY SERVICES ACCORDED PRIORITY

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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT WILL ACCORD PRIORITY TO THE PROVISION AND STRENGTHENING OF SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS, DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS ELIZABETH WONG, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

MRS WONG WAS SPEAKING AT THE INAUGURAL CEREMONY OF THE OFFICE-BEARERS OF THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT RESPECT FOR THE AGED ASSOCIATION.

MRS WONG SAID THAT TO COPE WITH THE VARIOUS NEEDS OF THE INCREASING ELDERLY POPULATION, THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO EXPAND SERVICES FOR THE OLD PEOPLE SO AS TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO CONTINUE TO LIVE IN THEIR OWN HOMES.

"VARIOUS SERVICES ARE PROVIDED BY THE GOVERNMENT AND THE VOLUNTARY WELFARE AGENCIES TO SUPPORT AND ASSIST FAMILIES WHICH ENCOUNTER PROBLEMS OR DIFFICULTIES IN LOOKING AFTER THEIR ELDERLY MEMBERS. RESIDENTIAL CARE WILL ALSO BE ARRANGED WHENEVER NECESSARY," MRS WONG SAID.

ON FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE ELDERLY, MRS WONG NOTED THAT OLD PEOPLE MADE UP ABOUT TWO-THIRDS OF THE SOME 63,000 PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CASES AND THAT OVER 230,000 PEOPLE AGED ABOVE 70 WERE RECEIVING THE OLD AGE ALLOWANCE (OAA).

"THE GOVERNMENT HAS RECENTLY PROPOSED A PACKAGE OF MEASURES TO IMPROVE THE BENEFITS FOR THE ELDERLY TO MEET THEIR NEEDS AND THAT THE NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES WILL GREATLY INCREASE.

"APART FROM PROPOSING TO INCREASE THE OAA RATE, IT IS ALSO SUGGESTED THAT THE ELIGIBILITY AGE FOR THIS ALLOWANCE BE LOWERED FROM 70 TO 65 IN STAGES. IN ADDITION, THE RATE OF DISABILITY ALLOWANCE IS TO BE DOUBLED FOR PEOPLE OVER 60 WHO LIVE IN THEIR OWN HOMES AND WHO REQUIRE CONSTANT CARE," SHE SAID.

MRS WONG SAID THAT OTHER SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY INCLUDED HOUSING, MEDICAL, HOME CARE, RESIDENTIAL CARE AND OTHER AUXILIARY SERVICES, WHICH WOULD BE EXPANDED AND IMPROVED WHEN REQUIRED.

MRS WONG COMMENDED THE ASSOCIATION FOR ITS CONTRIBUTION IN SERVING THE ELDERLY SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT IN 1981.

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NINE YAU MA TEI PROPERTIES TO BE RESUMED

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NINE PRIVATE PROPERTIES AT THE YAU MA TEI SIX STREETS WILL REVERT TO THE GOVERNMENT UNDER AN URBAN REDEVELOPMENT SCHEME.

A NOTICE OF THE RESUMPTION WAS PUBLISHED IN GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY) AND POSTED ON THE PROPERTIES CONCERNED.

THE NINE PROPERTIES AFFECTED ARE 41 AND 45 CHEUNG SHUI STREET, 37 AND 59 PUBLIC SQUARE STREET AND 649, 653, 662, 688 AND 692 CANTON ROAD.

THEY ARE PART OF THE 122 FIVE-STORY BUILDINGS INVOLVED IN A REDEVELOPMENT SCHEME TO BE CARRIED OUT IN TWO PHASES BY THE HONG KONG HOUSING SOCIETY, AND WILL REVERT TO THE GOVERNMENT ON JANUARY 23, 1988.

THE REST OF THE PROPERTIES HAVE COME UNDER GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT SINCE 1980.

PHASE I REDEVELOPMENT WILL BEGIN UPON REVERSION OF THE NINE PROPERTIES. FIVE OF THEM ARE WITHIN THE LIMIT OF PHASE I AND THE OCCUPIERS WILL HAVE TO LEAVE THESE PREMISES BEFORE THE REVERSION DATE.

OCCUPIERS OF THE OTHER FOUR PROPERTIES WITHIN THE LIMIT OF PHASE II WILL BE ALLOWED TO STAY AT THE PREMISES UNTIL THE COMMENCEMENT OF PHASE II WORK IN 1990. HOWEVER, THEY WILL BECOME THE GOVERNMENT'S TENANTS AND WILL HAVE TO PAY RENT TO THE GOVERNMENT WITH EFFECT FROM THE DATE OF REVERSION.

OWNERS OF THE NINE AFFECTED PROPERTIES WILL BE ENTITLED TO CLAIM COMPENSATION FOR THE LOSS OF THEIR INTERESTS WHILE TENANTS OF THE PROPERTIES IN PHASE I WILL ALSO BE ENTITLED TO COMPENSATION IF THEY CAN SUBSTANTIATE THEIR CLAIMS.

WITH THE EXCEPTION OF COMMERCIAL TENANTS, GENUINE OCCUPIERS AFFECTED BY THE SCHEME WILL BE REHOUSED BY THE HONG KONG HOUSING SOCIETY AND THE TYPE OF ACCOMMODATION OFFERED WILL DEPEND ON THE ELIGIBILITY OF THE OCCUPANT.

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AIRPORT SURFACE DETECTION EQUIPMENT COMMISSIONED

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NEW AIRFIELD SURFACE DETECTION EQUIPMENT CAPABLE OF DETECTING AIRCRAFT, AND VEHICLES ON THE AIRFIELD AND SHIP MOVEMENTS AROUND THE RUNWAY PROMONTORY HAS BEEN COMMISSIONED AT HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.

SITUATED ON TOP OF A 40-METRE HIGH TOWER AT KOWLOON BAY RECLAMATION, THE EQUIPMENT'S RADAR HEAD CAN IDENTIFY TARGETS AS SMALL AS A VEHICLE WITHIN A SIX KILOMETRE RANGE. INFORMATION ABOUT THE POSITION, SHAPE AND SIZE OF THE TARGET OBJECTS IS AUTOMATICALLY RELAYED TO THE CONTROL TOWER AND DISPLAYED ON A RADAR SCREEN.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT SAID THE NEW EQUIPMENT WOULD HELP TO REDUCE THE WORKLOAD OF AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS WHO PREVIOUSLY HAD TO RELY ON VISUAL SURVEILLANCE OF THE AIRFIELD AND THE HARBOUR.

"THE CONTINUOUS FLOW OF RADAR INFORMATION WILL ASSIST IN THE PREVENTION OF COLLISION BETWEEN AIRCRAFT AND VEHICLES, ESPECIALLY AT NIGHT AND IN POOR VISIBILITY," HE SAID.

AS SHIPS UNDER THE FLIGHT PATH TO THE RUNWAY MAY POSE HEIGHT OBSTRUCTIONS TO ARRIVING AND DEPARTING AIRCRAFT, IT IS NECESSARY FOR THE DETECTION EQUIPMENT TO ALSO MONITOR SHIPPING MOVEMENTS.

THE DETECTION EQUIPMENT WILL ALSO PROVIDE DATA FOR THE VESSEL TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SYSTEM NOW BEING INTRODUCED BY THE MARINE DEPARTMENT. THE NEW SYSTEM WILL DISPLAY SHIPPING MOVEMENTS WITHIN VICTORIA HARBOUR AND UP TO LEI YUE MUN GAP.

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CONSUMER PRICE INDICES FOR SEPTEMBER RELEASED

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THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) AND CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (B) FOR SEPTEMBER 1987 WERE BOTH 110.8, REPRESENTING INCREASES OF 5.9 PER CENT AND 5.7 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY OVER SEPTEMBER 1986, ACCORDING TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (FRIDAY).

COMPARED WITH AUGUST 1987 AND BEARING IN MIND THAT THIS COMPARISON MAY BE AFFECTED BY SEASONAL FACTORS, THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) INCREASED BY 0.3 PER CENT AND THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (B) BY 0.4 PER CENT.

THE AVERAGE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) AND AVERAGE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (B) FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 1987, AT 107.6 AND 107.8 RESPECTIVELY, WERE BOTH 4.7 PER CENT HIGHER THAN THE AVERAGE FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 1986.

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DURING THE THREE-MONTH PERIOD ENDED SEPTEMBER 1987, THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) AND CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (B) BOTH INCREASED AT AN AVERAGE RATE OF 0.3 PER CENT PER MONTH.

DURING SEPTEMBER, RETAIL PRICES OF FRESH FRUIT, RENTS FOR SOME PUBLIC HOUSING UNITS AND CHARGES FOR MEALS IN RESTAURANTS AND OTHER EATING PLACES INCREASED. ON THE OTHER HAND, RETAIL PRICES OF FRESH VEGETABLES DECREASED.

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) AND THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (B) ARE BASED ON THE EXPENDITURE PATTERNS OF 50 PER CENT AND 30 PER CENT, RESPECTIVELY, OF URBAN HOUSEHOLDS IN HONG KONG, WHICH WERE DERIVED FROM THE 1984/85 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY. THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) REFERS TO HOUSEHOLDS SPENDING BETWEEN \$2,000 AND \$6,499 A MONTH AT THAT TIME AND THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (B) BETWEEN \$6,500 AND \$9,999 A MONTH.

CHANGES IN THE INDICES FOR SEPTEMBER 1987 IN RESPECT OF THE NINE COMMODITY/SERVICE SECTIONS IN THE TWO CONSUMER PRICE INDICES, AS COMPARED WITH AUGUST 1987 AND SEPTEMBER 1986, ARE GIVEN BELOW.

(OCTOBER 1984 TO SEPTEMBER 1985 AVERAGE = 100)

SECTION	CPI(A)			CPI(B)		
	INDEX FOR SEP.87	% CHANGE OVER AUG.87	% CHANGE OVER SEP.86	INDEX FOR SEP.87	% CHANGE OVER AUG.87	% CHANGE OVER SEP.86
FOODSTUFFS	108.1	+0.1	+5.3	108.6	+0.3	+5.6
HOUSING	111.1	+1.0	+4.3	108.4	+0.4	+2.9
FUEL AND LIGHT	92.6	+0.0*	+4.6	93.2	-0.1	+4.6
ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO (FOR HOME CONSUMPTION)	116.9	+0.1	+6.2	117.3	+0.1	+6.9
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	113.2	+0.4	+5.6	114.9	+0.5	+6.1
DURABLE GOODS	112.7	+0.2	+5.8	111.9	+0.4	+5.8

/MISCELLANEOUS GOODS

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MISCELLANEOUS GOODS	117.7	+0.2	+10.9	117.7	+0.7	+10.4
TRANSPORT AND VEHICLES	116.3	+0.4	+8.4	115.1	+0.3	+8.0
SERVICES	116.8	+0.5	+6.3	116.6	+0.4	+6.6
ALL ITEMS	110.8	+0.3	+5.9	110.8	+0.4	+5.7

* LESS THAN 0.05 PER CENT

COMPARED WITH AUGUST 1987, THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS INCREASED BY 0.1 PER CENT IN CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) AND BY 0.3 PER CENT IN CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (B). THIS WAS MAINLY DUE TO THE INCREASE IN THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF FRESH FRUIT AND LIVE POULTRY AND IN THE AVERAGE CHARGE FOR MEALS IN RESTAURANTS AND OTHER EATING PLACES, WHICH MORE THAN OFFSET THE DECREASE IN THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF FRESH VEGETABLES. THE EFFECT OF MOVEMENTS IN THE RETAIL PRICES OF OTHER FOOD ITEMS ON THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS WAS INSIGNIFICANT.

THE INDEX FOR HOUSING INCREASED BY 1.0 PER CENT IN CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) AND BY 0.4 PER CENT IN CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (B) DUE TO HIGHER RENTS FOR SOME HOUSING AUTHORITY GROUP A ESTATES.

THE INDEX FOR CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR INCREASED BY 0.4 PER CENT IN CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) AND BY 0.5 PER CENT IN CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (B) AS A RESULT OF HIGHER PRICES OF MEN'S OUTERCLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR.

THE INDEX FOR MISCELLANEOUS GOODS INCREASED BY 0.2 PER CENT IN CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) AND BY 0.7 PER CENT IN CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (B) BECAUSE OF HIGHER PRICES OF COSMETICS AND TOYS.

THE INDEX FOR SERVICES INCREASED BY 0.5 PER CENT IN CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) AND BY 0.4 PER CENT IN CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (B) DUE TO HIGHER CHARGES FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT AND HOUSEHOLD SERVICES.

PRICE MOVEMENTS IN OTHER SECTIONS OF THE CONSUMER PRICE INDICES WERE INSIGNIFICANT.

MORE DETAILS ARE GIVEN IN THE "CONSUMER PRICE INDEX REPORT" FOR SEPTEMBER 1987, WHICH IS AVAILABLE AT \$3.5 PER COPY FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, CONNAUGHT PLACE, HONG KONG; OR FROM THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, 19/F., WANCHAI TOWER 1, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WANCHAI, HONG KONG; OR FROM THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT, FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, 1 BATTERY PATH, HONG KONG FOR LOCAL AND OVERSEAS MAILINGS.

/FOR ENQUIRIES

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FOR ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE INDICES, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON 5-8235089.

THE HANG SENG CONSUMER PRICE INDEX WAS 114.2 IN SEPTEMBER 1987, UP BY 1.0 PER CENT OVER AUGUST 1987 AND UP BY 6.9 PER CENT OVER SEPTEMBER 1986. THE HANG SENG CONSUMER PRICE INDEX IS BASED ON THE EXPENDITURE PATTERN OF THE 10 PER CENT OF URBAN HOUSEHOLDS IN HONG KONG THAT SPENT HK\$10,000 - 24,999 A MONTH DURING THE 1984/85 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY. FURTHER DETAILS REGARDING THIS INDEX ARE INCLUDED IN THE HANG SENG CONSUMER PRICE INDEX REPORT ISSUED BY THE ECONOMIC RESEARCH DEPARTMENT OF HANG SENG BANK LTD.

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AMENDMENTS TO CONVEYANCING LAW PROPOSED

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AMENDMENTS INTENDED TO CLARIFY AND IMPROVE FURTHER THE LAW RELATING TO CONVEYANCING AND REAL PROPERTY ARE CONTAINED IN A BILL THAT WAS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE AMENDMENTS, WHICH ARE TECHNICAL IN NATURE, ARE CONTAINED IN THE CONVEYANCING AND PROPERTY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1987.

THEY ARE AIMED AT REFINING THE CONVEYANCING AND PROPERTY ORDINANCE WHICH WAS ENACTED IN 1984.

THE ORDINANCE UPDATED AND CONSOLIDATED THE LAW CONCERNING CONVEYANCING AND REAL PROPERTY, AND EXPERIENCE SINCE ITS ENACTMENT HAS POINTED TO CERTAIN AREAS WHERE ITS PROVISIONS CAN BE FURTHER IMPROVED.

"THE AMENDMENTS PROPOSED ARE NOT SUBSTANTIAL OR RADICAL," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT SAID.

ONE OF THE MAIN CHANGES CONCERNS THE LENGTH OF TIME FOR WHICH A VENDOR OF LAND HAS TO PRODUCE DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE, SUCH AS THE CROWN LEASE AND OTHER ITEMS, TO PROVE HIS TITLE TO THE PROPERTY.

AT PRESENT A VENDOR USUALLY HAS TO PRODUCE DOCUMENTS FOR A PERIOD OF 25 YEARS, AND IT IS NOW PROPOSED TO REDUCE THIS TO 15 YEARS.

THE AMENDMENT BILL HAS BEEN DRAWN UP FOLLOWING THE DELIBERATIONS BY A RECONSTITUTED CONVEYANCING AND PROPERTY LAW WORKING GROUP. THE WORKING GROUP HAD ORIGINALLY RECOMMENDED THE PROVISIONS IN THE 1984 ORDINANCE.

THE BILL WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHORTLY.

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/14

A LITTLE CARE HELPS PROTECT HILLSIDES FROM FIRES
* * * * *

PEOPLE SHOULD REMEMBER THAT IT TOOK ONLY A LITTLE CARE TO HELP PROTECT THE COUNTRYSIDE FROM FIRES, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (CONSERVATION AND COUNTRY PARKS) OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, MR K.C. IU, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

OVER THE YEARS APATHY ON THE PART OF IRRESPONSIBLE CITIZENS HAD GIVEN RISE TO MANY NEEDLESS HILL FIRES, HE POINTED OUT.

ALTHOUGH HUMID WEATHER CONDITIONS HAD MADE THE COUNTRYSIDE LESS VULNERABLE TO FIRE LAST YEAR, THERE WERE STILL 281 FIRES REPORTED IN OR NEAR COUNTRY PARKS, DAMAGING OVER 80,000 TREES AND 1,300 HECTARES OF VEGETATION, MR IU SAID.

"THIS CLEARLY REFLECTS THE PREVAILING APATHY OF MANY PEOPLE TOWARDS THEIR COUNTRYSIDE ENVIRONMENT AND THEIR FAILURE TO EXERCISE COMMON SENSE IN CONSERVING THE NATURAL ASSET," HE SAID.

"WE ARE DISTURBED TO FIND THAT DESPITE HUMID WEATHER THE NUMBER OF FIRES REMAINED AT A FAIRLY HIGH LEVEL LAST YEAR.

"SHOULD THE TREND CONTINUE IN A DRY YEAR LIKE 1985-86, WHEN 306 FIRES SWEEP 6,300 HECTARES TO DESTROY OVER HALF A MILLION TREES, THE DAMAGE WOULD BE DISASTROUS."

MR IU WAS SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE HELD AT THE SHING MUN COUNTRY PARK TO LAUNCH THIS YEAR'S COUNTRYSIDE FIRE PREVENTION PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE CONFERENCE WERE THE DEPUTY CHIEF FIRE OFFICER (NEW TERRITORIES) OF THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, MR JAMES HO, AND THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER (PROMOTIONS) OF THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT, MR GEORGE YUEN.

UNLIKE MANY OVERSEAS PLACES, COUNTRYSIDE FIRES IN HONG KONG ARE NOT STARTED BY NATURAL CAUSES BUT ARE A RESULT OF HUMAN NEGLIGENCE, MR IU SAID.

"A LIGHTED CIGARETTE BUTT CARELESSLY THROWN, A BARBECUE FIRE LEFT UNATTENDED OR A STACK OF HAY ACCIDENTALLY SET ON FIRE BY BURNING JOSS PAPERS WOULD EASILY CAUSE INESTIMABLE LOSS," HE SAID.

"I APPEAL TO THE GOOD SENSE OF ALL WHO INTEND TO VISIT THE COUNTRYSIDE THIS SEASON. DO TAKE EXTRA CARE AND USE ONLY PERMITTED AREAS TO LIGHT BARBECUE FIRES. WORSHIPPERS AT GRAVES SHOULD ENSURE THEY LIGHT JOSS PAPERS ONLY IN METAL CONTAINERS AND DO NOT LEAVE BURNING JOSS STICKS UNATTENDED."

MR IU SAID THAT SHOULD PUBLICITY AND ADVICE FAIL TO PREVENT THE OUTBREAKS OF HILL FIRES, ENFORCEMENT AND PROSECUTION ACTION WOULD BE STEPPED UP.

/HE POINTED

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HE POINTED OUT THAT ILLEGAL LIGHTING OF FIRES IN THE COUNTRYSIDE WAS PUNISHABLE BY A FINE OF \$5,000 AND IMPRISONMENT FOR ONE YEAR.

MR IU SAID THAT THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG AUXILIARY AIR FORCE AND CIVIL AID SERVICES, HAD OVER THE YEARS, DEVELOPED AN EFFICIENT SYSTEM TO DEAL WITH COUNTRYSIDE FIRES.

"HOWEVER, THE DETECTION AND REPORTING SYSTEM, TRAINED FIRE FIGHTERS, AND MODERN FIRE FIGHTING METHODS AND EQUIPMENT WILL ALL BE RENDERED INEFFECTIVE IF THE NUMBER OF FIRE OUTBREAKS REMAINS AT A HIGH LEVEL," HE SAID.

THE PRESS CONFERENCE WAS FOLLOWED BY A FIRE FIGHTING DEMONSTRATION BY THE DEPARTMENT'S FIRE CREW, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF RHKAAP HELICOPTER WHICH CARRIED OUT WATER BOMBING.

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KWUN TONG HOLDING ANTI-CRIME SEMINAR
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A SEMINAR ON WAYS OF IMPROVING COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE PUBLIC AND MEMBERS OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, AREA COMMITTEES AND THE POLICE IN PREVENTING CRIME WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY (OCTOBER 25).

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THE SEMINAR, WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE KWUN TONG COMMUNITY CENTRE, TSUI PING ROAD, FROM 2 PM TO 5 PM.

THE SEMINAR, WITH "ANTI-TRIAD" AS ITS THEME, HAS BEEN ORGANISED BY THE LOCAL FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE AS PART OF ITS CAMPAIGN TO ENHANCE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF ANTI-CRIME MEASURES.

A DFCC MEMBER, MR MA YAT-CHEUNG, WILL SPEAK ON THE PROBLEM OF JUVENILE INVOLVEMENT IN TRIAD ACTIVITIES. MR LO WAI-CHUNG, A POLICE SENIOR INSPECTOR, WILL TALK ABOUT TRIAD INFLUENCE AND MEASURES TAKEN BY THE POLICE TO COMBAT THE PROBLEM.

THE TALKS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY GROUP DISCUSSIONS TO EXPLORE THE CAUSE AND EFFECT OF TRIAD INFLUENCE AND WAYS TO DEAL WITH IT.

/THERE WILL

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THERE WILL BE AN OPENING CEREMONY AT WHICH THE CHAIRMAN OF THE KWUN TONG DFCC, MR MAU KEI-ON, AND THE KWUN TONG ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MRS ROSANNA URE, WILL OFFICIATE.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SEMINAR'S OPENING CEREMONY ON SUNDAY AT 2 PM AT THE KWUN TONG COMMUNITY CENTRE IN TSUI PING ROAD.

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RADIO SERIES, QUIZ TO PROMOTE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY
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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT WILL LAUNCH A NEW RADIO SERIES AND A QUIZ CONTEST ON MONDAY (OCTOBER 26) TO PROMOTE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY.

FORMING PART OF THIS YEAR'S INDUSTRIAL SAFETY CAMPAIGN PROGRAMME, THE RADIO SERIES, ENTITLED "SAFETY HINTS IN INDUSTRY", WILL BE AIRED ON COMMERCIAL RADIO 1 AT 5.20 PM FROM MONDAY TO FRIDAY FOR EIGHT WEEKS.

IT WILL FEATURE A SYMBOLIC CHARACTER, "CAPTAIN INDUSTRIAL SAFETY", WHO READILY GIVES ADVICE TO WORKERS AND EMPLOYERS ON ALL MATTERS RELATING TO INDUSTRIAL SAFETY IN THEIR WORKPLACES.

THIS INCLUDE THE HANDLING OF CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES, FIRE PRECAUTIONS, OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH, EYE PROTECTION AND THE WORKING ENVIRONMENT IN CONSTRUCTION SITES.

THE AUDIENCE WILL BE INVITED TO TAKE PART IN THE PROGRAMME BY ANSWERING QUESTIONS ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY. WINNERS WILL RECEIVE PRIZES AND TICKETS TO AN INDUSTRIAL SAFETY CONCERT TO BE HELD AT THE KO SHAN THEATRE IN HUNG HOM IN JANUARY.

ALSO ON MONDAY, THE DEPARTMENT WILL BEGIN A "KNOW YOUR HARMFUL CHEMICALS" QUIZ CONTEST IN CONJUNCTION WITH WEN WEI PO.

THE AIM OF ORGANISING THE QUIZ IS TO AROUSE THE AWARENESS OF THE PUBLIC, IN PARTICULAR WORKERS, TOWARDS THE SAFE HANDLING OF DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES.

THE QUIZ WILL BE PUBLISHED ON MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY UNTIL DECEMBER 11, AND READERS WILL BE INVITED TO SEND IN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS WHICH WILL BE CENTERED ON THE THEME OF CLASSIFICATIONS AND LABELLING OF DANGEROUS SUBSTANCE COMMONLY USED IN INDUSTRY.

WINNERS OF THE CONTEST WILL BE AWARDED TRAVEL VOUCHERS TO CHINA INCLUDING ONE TO SHANGHAI AND HANGZHOU AT A PRICE OF \$5,000.

PRIZES FOR THE RADIO SERIES ARE DONATED BY THE GOLDEN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT LIMITED AND THOSE FOR THE QUIZ CONTEST ARE SPONSORED BY FEOSO OIL LIMITED.

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PRESS CONFERENCE ON EASTERN DISTRICT FESTIVAL
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THE FIRST EASTERN DISTRICT FESTIVAL WILL BE HELD BETWEEN NOVEMBER 15 AND 28 TO PROVIDE A WIDE VARIETY OF RECREATIONAL AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES FOR RESIDENTS OF ALL AGES IN THE DISTRICT.

ORGANISED BY THE EASTERN DISTRICT FESTIVAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT ARTS COUNCIL, EASTERN DISTRICT RECREATION AND SPORTS ADVANCEMENT ASSOCIATION AND THE DISTRICT OFFICE; THE FESTIVAL IS ALSO SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD AND THE URBAN COUNCIL.

A PRESS CONFERENCE TO ANNOUNCE THE DETAILS OF THE FESTIVAL WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY (OCTOBER 26) AT 4 PM ON 2M FLOOR, WORLD TRADE CENTRE, CAUSEWAY BAY.

THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR SHUM CHOI-SANG; THE FESTIVAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MR ERIC LI AND THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR GARY YEUNG, WILL ATTEND THE CONFERENCE. THEY WILL ALSO SPEAK ON THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF EASTERN DISTRICT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE PRESS CONFERENCE OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT FESTIVAL WHICH WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY (OCTOBER 26) AT 4 PM IN THE AMBASSOR SUITE, 2M FLOOR, WORLD TRADE CENTRE, CAUSEWAY BAY.

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TV SERIES TO PROMOTE HOME SAFETY
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PARENTS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN ARE INVITED TO WATCH THE FIRST OF A THREE-PART TV SERIES FEATURING HOME SAFETY TOMORROW (SATURDAY) EVENING.

THE EPISODE, WHICH WILL BE SCREENED ON TVB-JADE AT 9.50 PM TOMORROW, SHOWS HOW AN INNOCENT YOUNG GIRL FELL TO HER DEATH THROUGH AN UNGRILLED OPEN WINDOW. THE PROGRAMME WILL BE REPEATED ON ATV-GOLD AT 7.58 PM NEXT SATURDAY.

THE TV SERIES, JOINTLY PRODUCED BY RTHK AND INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT, WILL FEATURE THREE AUTHENTIC STORIES IN THE FOLLOWING WEEKS TO PROMOTE SAFETY IN HOME.

"A LARGE PART OF ACCIDENTAL DEATHS THAT HAPPENED IN HOME RESULTED FROM FALLS," MR GEORGE YUEN, CHAIRMAN OF HOME SAFETY PUBLICITY COMMITTEE SAID.

/"FALLS FROM

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"FALLS FROM WINDOWS OR BALCONIES CAN BE DEADLY, AND ONE SHOULD NEVER TAKE CHANCES - THERE MAY NOT BE A SECOND TIME," HE SAID.

"WHILST SOME PEOPLE REALIZE THAT THERE ARE POTENTIAL DANGERS IN THE HOME, THERE ARE OTHERS WHO TEND TO TAKE THE ATTITUDE THAT TRAGEDIES MAY NEVER HAPPEN TO THEM," MR YUEN NOTED.

"IT IS FOR THIS REASON THAT PUBLICITY EFFORTS MUST BE STEPPED UP TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC," HE ADDED.

MR YUEN SAID A MOBILE EXHIBITION ON HOME SAFETY IS BEING HELD EVERY SUNDAY. THE NEXT ONE WILL BE HELD ON OCTOBER 25 AT THE CHEUNG CHING ESTATE IN TUEN MUN BETWEEN 10 AM AND 6 PM. FREE COPIES OF A HOME SAFETY BOOKLET WILL BE DISTRIBUTED.

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SPEEDPOST EXTENDED TO NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

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SPEEDPOST SERVICE WILL BE EXTENDED TO NETHERLANDS ANTILLES IN SOUTH AMERICA FROM MONDAY (OCTOBER 26), THE POST OFFICE ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THIS WILL BRING TO 51 THE NUMBER OF COUNTRIES INCLUDED IN THE SPEEDPOST NETWORK SERVED FROM HONG KONG, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE POST OFFICE SAID.

SPEEDPOST ITEMS WOULD BE ACCEPTED FOR TRANSMISSION TO CURACAO AND ST MAARTON N.A. SIDE IN NETHERLANDS ANTILLES, HE SAID.

"ITEMS POSTED ON MONDAY TO FRIDAY WILL BE DELIVERED ON THE SECOND WORKING DAY WHILE THOSE POSTED ON SATURDAY WILL BE DELIVERED ON THE NEXT WORKING DAY AFTER POSTING," HE SAID, ADDING THAT ONLY 'ON DEMAND' SERVICE WAS AVAILABLE.

THE MAXIMUM WEIGHT LIMIT IS 20 KG AND THE POSTAGE RATES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

ITEMS WEIGHING UNDER 250 G	\$70
ITEMS WEIGHING BETWEEN 250 G AND 500 G	\$95
EACH SUBSEQUENT 500 G	\$35
KILOPAK	\$120

CUSTOMERS REQUIRING MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE SPEEDPOST SERVICE TO NETHERLANDS ANTILLES AND THE SPEEDPOST SERVICE IN GENERAL CAN CONTACT THE POSTAL SERVICES REPRESENTATIVES ON 5-8471108.

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JOCKEY CLUB SUPPORTS KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN DRIVE

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REGIONAL COUNCILLOR, MR TANG PUI-TAT, WILL JOIN HANDS WITH STAFF OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB TOMORROW (SATURDAY) IN A CLEANSING OPERATION AT ONE OF THE OFF-COURSE BETTING CENTRES.

THE OPERATION, TO BE LED BY THE DIRECTOR OF BETTING, ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB, MR WARREN WILSON, WILL BE CARRIED OUT AT THE SURROUNDING AREA OF THE TAI PO PLAZA OFF-COURSE BETTING CENTRE.

THE OPERATION IS ONE OF THE MANY ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN SUPPORT OF THIS YEAR'S KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN AND IS AIMED AT REMINDING THE PUBLIC, ESPECIALLY PUNTERS, AND SHOP OWNERS THE IMPORTANCE OF A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE FUNCTION WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE AT 11 AM TOMORROW. A VAN (RC4634) WILL DEPART AT 10 AM FROM THE KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER, TSIM SHA TSUI. GIS OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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ILLEGAL STRUCTURES FACE DEMOLITION

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS TO APPLY IN TSUEN WAN DISTRICT COURT ON DECEMBER 17 FOR PERMISSION TO CLOSE A NUMBER OF ILLEGAL STRUCTURES IN SHAM SHUI PO PRIOR TO DEMOLISHING THEM.

THE CLOSURE WILL APPLY TO THE ILLEGAL STRUCTURES ON THE FLAT ROOFS ADJACENT TO FLATS B, C, E, F AND G ON THE FOURTH FLOOR OF 37-39, TONKIN STREET AND FLATS A, B, D, F AND G ON THE FOURTH FLOOR OF 253-263, SHUN NING ROAD AND THE SIDE YARD ADJOINING SHOP 4 ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF 253-263, SHUN NING ROAD.

THE AUTHORITY INTENDS TO CLOSE THEM SO THAT THEIR DEMOLITION CAN TAKE PLACE SAFELY.

A NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR THE CLOSURE ORDER WAS POSTED ON THE STRUCTURES TODAY (FRIDAY).

ORDERS TO DEMOLISH THE STRUCTURES WERE ISSUED TO OCCUPIERS UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE IN SEPTEMBER 1985 AND LAST JANUARY, BUT THEY HAD NOT BEEN COMPLIED WITH.

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TWO BOOKS ON MANAGEMENT PUBLISHED
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THE MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT CENTRE OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL HAS PRODUCED TWO PUBLICATIONS ON MANAGEMENT TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT WHICH ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE IN CENTRAL.

THE "DIRECTORY OF MANAGEMENT TEACHERS AND TRAINERS IN HONG KONG" IS A 600-PAGE BOOK PROVIDING VALUABLE SOURCE OF REFERENCE FOR MANAGERS AND THOSE WHO ARE ENGAGED IN MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT, TEACHING AND TRAINING.

IT IS CONSISTED OF FIVE PARTS, FEATURING PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND AND SPECIALISMS OF MANAGEMENT TEACHERS, TRAINERS AND CONSULTANTS IN HONG KONG; DETAILS OF THEIR MANAGEMENT RESEARCH PROJECTS; AN INDEX OF EMPLOYING ORGANISATIONS; A LIST OF SUBJECT AREAS FOR TEACHING, CONSULTANCY AND RESEARCH INTERESTS; AND A SUBJECT INDEX TO RESEARCH PROJECTS.

THE PUBLICATION OF THE DIRECTORY, THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN HONG KONG, IS A JOINT EFFORT OF THE CENTRE AND THE TWO UNIVERSITIES, POLYTECHNICS AND COLLEGES, CONSULTANCY AND TRAINING FIRMS AND COMPANIES WITH THEIR OWN TRAINING STAFF.

THE SECOND PUBLICATION RELEASED BY THE CENTRE IS A CASE REPORT ENTITLED "THE MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT OF COMPANY ALPHA".

IT DESCRIBES THE DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR ONE SMALL INDUSTRIAL COMPANY.

IT ALSO CONTAINS SMALL APPENDICES WHICH PROVIDE USEFUL INFORMATION FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO CARRY OUT A PROGRAMME IN THEIR COMPANY.

THE DIRECTORY IS SOLD AT \$67.5 A COPY AND THE REPORT \$7.5 A COPY.

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ONE MAIL DELIVERY ON CHUNG YEUNG FESTIVAL
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THERE WILL BE ONE MAIL DELIVERY DURING THE CHUNG YEUNG FESTIVAL HOLIDAY WHICH FALLS ON OCTOBER 31, THE POST OFFICE ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY).

FORTY-TWO POST OFFICES, INCLUDING THE GENERAL POST OFFICE ON HONG KONG ISLAND, KOWLOON CENTRAL AND TSIM SHA TSUI POST OFFICES IN KOWLOON, AND TSUEN WING STREET, SHA TIN CENTRAL AND TAI PO OFFICES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, WILL BE OPEN FOR BUSINESS FROM 9 AM TO NOON THAT DAY.

THE NAMES OF THE OTHER POST OFFICES WHICH WILL BE OPEN ON THAT DAY CAN BE OBTAINED FROM ANY POST OFFICE OR FROM THE OFFICE ENQUIRY BUREAU ON 5-231071.

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NT LOT FOR USE AS PETROL FILLING STATION
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A 937.9 SQUARE METRE LOT IN FANLING IS BEING OFFERED FOR SALE BY TENDER BY THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT.

THE LOT, LOCATED IN AREA 26, TAI PO ROAD, IS SPECIFIED FOR USE AS A PETROL FILLING STATION, EXCLUDING ANY LUBRICATING OR SERVICING FACILITIES.

TENDERS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY NOON ON NOVEMBER 20.

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KITE FLYING FUN DAY IN SAI KUNG
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MORE THAN 300 PEOPLE WILL PARTICIPATE IN AN ANTI-NARCOTICS KITE FLYING FUN DAY ORGANISED BY THE YOUTH VOLUNTEER GROUP OF THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS AT TAI AU MUN, SAI KUNG, ON SUNDAY (OCTOBER 25).

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MRS AGNES ALLCOCK, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY AND PRESENT PRIZES TO WINNERS OF THE ANTI-NARCOTICS KITE DESIGN COMPETITION AT 11 AM.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE FOUR-HOUR EVENT WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 11 AM ON SUNDAY AT TAI AU MUN, SAI KUNG.

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