DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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HANOI AGREEMENT IS IMPORTANT PROGRESS: GOVERNOR

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) THAT THE AGREEMENT REACHED IN HANOI YESTERDAY ON THE VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE IN HONG KONG, WAS AN IMPORTANT STEP IN THE PROCESS OF RETURNING ALL THE NON-REFUGEES BACK TO VIETNAM.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER OPENING THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY WEEK IN WAN CHAI, SIR DAVID SAID: "WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED IS AN ACCELERATED PROGRAMME, BOTH FOR THOSE WHO VOLUNTEER AND FOR THOSE WHO DON'T ACTIVELY VOLUNTEER."

"THE UNHCR ARE VERY CLOSELY INVOLVED IN THIS PROCESS, IN INCHING THE WAY FORWARD IS WHAT IT REALLY IS. MOVING FROM STRAIGHTFORWARD VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION TO ARRANGEMENTS FOR RETURNING TO VIETNAM PEOPLE WHO HAVEN'T ACTIVELY VOLUNTEERED, WITH UNHCR FULLY INVOLVED IN THAT PROCESS. I SEE THAT IS IMPORTANT," HE SAID.

"THE DETAILS, THE ACTUAL DATES ARE STILL TO BE FIXED. BUT I HOPE THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO START ON THIS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE," THE GOVERNOR SAID.

"WHAT I LOOK TO IS UNHCR TO PLAY A VERY ACTIVE PART IN THIS PROCESS. A LOT OF COUNSELLING IS GOING TO BE NEEDED AND THAT IS VERY MUCH GOING TO BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE UNHCR," HE ADDED.

ASKED IF HE THOUGHT MANDATORY REPATRIATION WOULD GO AHEAD BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR, SIR DAVID SAID: "I CERTAINLY HOPE IT WILL GO AHEAD BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR. WE DO NEED TO GET ON WITH THIS WHOLE BUSINESS AS QUICKLY AS WE POSSIBLY CAN."

RESPONDING TO A QUESTION ABOUT THE NUMBER TO BE SENT BACK, THE GOVERNOR SAID: "I DON'T THINK THERE IS ANY WAY YOU COULD POSSIBLY MAKE AN ESTIMATE LIKE THAT ANY MORE THAN YOU CAN MAKE A PRECISE ESTIMATE OF HOW MANY WILL VOLUNTEER."

"THE IMPORTANT POINT IN THIS IS THAT IT IS MOVING FORWARD THE WHOLE PROCESS OF RETURNING PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT REFUGEES. THAT IS THE KEY POINT," HE SAID.

"THE OBJECTIVE IS TO RETURN TO VIETNAM ALL THOSE WHO ARE FOUND NOT TO BE REFUGEES. IT MUST BE THE OBJECTIVE. YOU CANNOT HAVE PEOPLE WHO ARE NON-REFUGEES SPENDING YEAR AFTER YEAR IN CAMPS. THAT IS SIMPLY NOT RIGHT," SIR DAVID SAID.

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HK MUST USE MORE SOPHISTICATED "IT"

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HONG KONG MUST INCREASE THE USE AND SOPHISTICATION OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IF THE TERRITORY IS TO RETAIN ITS POSITION AS A LEADING BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL CENTRE, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE HONG KONG INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY WEEK, SIR DAVID SAID INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY WAS TRANSFORMING THE WAY WE WORK, ADDING THAT IN ALMOST EVERY AREA OF BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT, IT COULD BRING NEW STANDARDS OF EFFICIENCY AND QUALITY.

SIR DAVID SAID HONG KONG HAD TAKEN TO INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY WITH ENTHUSIASM AND IT WAS DIFFICULT TO REMEMBER HOW WE LIVED BEFORE THE ARRIVAL OF THE FAX MACHINE.

"THE NUMBER OF COMPUTER SYSTEMS PER HEAD IN HONG KONG IS HIGH BY REGIONAL STANDARDS. OUR TELECOMMUNICATIONS ARE WORLD-CLASS. OUR FINANCIAL SECTOR AND AIRLINES, IN PARTICULAR, WOULD BE LOST WITHOUT THEM," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID POINTED OUT THAT IN A SHORT SPACE OF TIME, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY HAD BECOME ONE OF THE CORNERSTONES OF HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC SUCCESS.

HE NOTED THAT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY WEEK WAS THE LARGEST GROUPING OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY-RELATED EVENTS EVER TO BE STAGED IN HONG KONG.

"FOR BUSINESSMEN, THERE IS A GREAT DEAL ON OFFER BOTH IN TERMS OF IDEAS AND PRODUCTS. FOR THE PUBLIC, AND ESPECIALLY THE YOUNG, THERE ARE A WIDE RANGE OF EVENTS AND COMPETITIONS," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID CONGRATULATED THE ORGANISERS OF THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY WEEK FOR BRINGING TOGETHER THE UNIQUE COMBINATION OF EVENTS BEFORE OFFICIATING AT A "HIGH-TECH" RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY.

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KCR 80TH ANNIVERSARY A NOSTALGIC DAY: GOVERNOR

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THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY IS A NOSTALGIC DAY AND IT IS ALSO A DAY FOR SEEING HOW FAR WE HAVE COME SINCE THE "GOOD OLD DAYS", THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

OFFICIATING AT THE LAUNCHING CEREMONY OF THE NOSTALGIC TRAIN JOURNEY TO CELEBRATE THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY, SIR DAVID SAID: "WHAT BETTER WAY OF CELEBRATING THE KCR'S SUCCESS AND ITS PLANS FOR THE FUTURE THAN A NOSTALGIC TRAIN JOURNEY TO RECALL THE PAST."

"LOOKING INTO THE FUTURE IS EXCITING. BUT THE FASTER THE CHANGES, THE MORE NOSTALGIC THE PAST," HE SAID.

THE GOVERNOR SAID WHEN THE FIRST PASSENGERS BOARDED THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY 80 YEARS AGO THEY DID SO IN THE MAGNIFICENT SHADOW OF THE PENINSULA HOTEL TO TRAVEL THROUGH THE RURAL NEW TERRITORIES TO REMOTE CHINA.

"TODAY'S JOURNEY MAY BE LESS ROMANTIC. BUT IT IS COOLER, CLEANER, FASTER - AND YOU CAN DO IT MORE FREQUENTLY," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID THAT KCR COULD BE LOOKED AT IN TWO WAYS.

"IT IS A VITAL LINK WITH SOUTHERN CHINA; A BOND BETWEEN THE TWO CITIES OF HONG KONG AND GUANGZHOU; ONE END OF THE LINE WHICH CAN, IF YOU WISH, FINISH AT VICTORIA STATION, LONDON.

"OR, AS IT IS FOR MANY HONG KONG PEOPLE, A WORKHORSE FORM OF COMMUNICATION; A DAILY FORM OF TRAVEL; THE LINE WHICH ENABLES THEM TO LEAVE CROWDED LIVING CONDITIONS ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND IN KOWLOON AND TO COMMUTE TO WORK FROM THE MORE RELAXED ENVIRONMENT OF THE NEW TOWNS AT SHA TIN, TAI PO AND FANLING."

SIR DAVID NOTED THAT THE RAILWAY HAD DEVELOPED A GREAT DEAL IN THE PAST 80 YEARS.

"AND THE SPEED OF CHANGE IS GETTING FASTER; FROM STEAM TO DIESEL IN 1962; FROM DIESEL TO ELECTRIC IN 1982.

"WHO KNOWS WHAT FUTURE CHANGES THE NEXT 80 YEARS WILL HOLD," THE GOVERNOR SAID.

SIR DAVID CONGRATULATED THE KCRC AND WISHED IT EVERY SUCCESS AS THE RAILWAY GLIDED FORWARD INTO ITS NINTH DECADE OF PUBLIC SERVICE.

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RIGHTS OF THE CHILD MUST BE PROTECTED

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THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MRS ELIZABETH WONG, TODAY (SUNDAY) SAID IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE THAT CHILDREN ARE PROTECTED FROM ABUSE AND ARE ABLE TO GROW UP IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF HAPPINESS, LOVE AND UNDERSTANDING.

SPEAKING AT THE CHILDREN CANDLELIGHT VIGILS AT THE HONG KONG CULTURAL CENTRE, MRS WONG SAID WE HAD TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO THOSE DISADVANTAGED OR VULNERABLE CHILDREN WHO COULD NOT BE ADEQUATELY LOOKED AFTER BY THEIR FAMILIES.

"IN CASES WHERE PARENTS OR GUARDIANS DO NOT OR ARE NOT ABLE TO PROVIDE A HOME FOR THE CHILD, OR WHEN THE PARENTS REFUSE TO EXERCISE PROPER CARE AND CONTROL OVER THEIR CHILDREN, THEN STATUTORY OR NON-STATUTORY PROTECTIVE CARE WILL BE PROVIDED.

"IN HONG KONG THIS CARE MAY BE PROVIDED THROUGH ADOPTION, FOSTER-CARE, OR A VARIETY OF RESIDENTIAL SERVICES, DEPENDING ON THE NEEDS OF THE CHILD IN QUESTION," SHE SAID.

SHE POINTED OUT THAT THE RIGHT TO CARE EXTENDED TO CHILDREN OF ALL AGES, AND SO THE GOVERNMENT WAS ALSO DEVELOPING PROGRAMMES TO LOOK AFTER OLDER CHILDREN WHOSE PARENTS WERE UNABLE TO CARE FOR THEM ALL DAY.

"ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT RIGHTS OF THE CHILD IS THAT THE CHILD SHALL BE PROTECTED FROM VIOLENCE, INJURY, MALTREATMENT AND OTHER FORMS OF ABUSE.

"THE CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES UNIT WAS ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT IN 1983 TO PROVIDE IN-DEPTH ATTENTION TO THE WELFARE OF ABUSED CHILDREN," MRS WONG SAID.

"WE CONTINUE TO MAKE STRENUOUS EFFORTS THROUGH EDUCATIONAL AND PUBLICITY PROGRAMMES TO IDENTIFY AND PREVENT CHILD ABUSE, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME WE ARE DRAWING UP LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS WHICH WILL ACCORD GREATER PROTECTION TO CHILDREN SUSPECTED OF BEING IN THIS TRAGIC SITUATION," SHE ADDED.

TURNING TO THE RIGHT FOR DISABLED CHILDREN, MRS WONG SAID: "THEY HAVE A RIGHT TO SPECIAL CARE, AND THROUGH THE NETWORK OF REHABILITATION SERVICES WE AIM TO ENSURE THAT THEIR NEEDS FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING ARE MET TO THE BEST OF OUR ABILITY TO DO SO.

"I ALSO BELIEVE THAT CHILDHOOD SHOULD BE A TIME OF HAPPINESS, AND THAT CHILDREN HAVE A NEED, AND A RIGHT, TO BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN GAMES WITH OTHERS OF THEIR OWN AGE, OR TO GO ON OUTINGS WITH THEIR SCHOOLMATES.

"SUCH THINGS COST MONEY, AND FOR PARENTS WHO DEPEND ON SOCIAL SECURITY, MAY BE BEYOND THEIR MEANS.

"IT IS WITH THIS IN MIND THAT THE RECENTLY ISSUED DRAFT WHITE PAPER ON SOCIAL WELFARE INTO THE 1990'S AND BEYOND IS PROPOSING A CHILD SUPPLEMENT TO LET FAMILIES ON PUBLIC ASSISTANCE MEET THE EXTRA NEEDS OF THEIR CHILDREN," MRS WONG SAID.

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WORLD MARITIME DAY 1990 EMPHASISES CLEANER OCEANS

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THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANISATION (IMO) HAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE CELEBRATION OF WORLD MARITIME DAY 1990 (WMD) IS TO TAKE PLACE DURING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 24 TO 28.

IN HIS MESSAGE TO ALL MEMBER STATES, THE IMO SECRETARY GENERAL, MR WILLIAM O'NEIL, SAID THE THEME FOR THIS YEAR'S WMD IS "CLEANER OCEANS: THE ROLE OF IMO IN THE 1990'S".

MR O'NEIL SAID: "ALTHOUGH MARITIME SAFETY REMAINS THE PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVE OF THE IMO, THE ORGANISATION HAS FROM ITS VERY INCEPTION PLACED INCREASING EMPHASIS ON THE PREVENTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION.

"ALONG WITH OTHER AGENCIES AND BODIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM, THE IMO IS NOW FULLY INVOLVED IN THE INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO HALT AND, IF POSSIBLE, REVERSE THE DEGRADATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE GLOBAL ECOLOGY."

THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF MARINE (SHIPPING), MR JOHN TSE, TODAY (SUNDAY) SAID AS AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER OF THE IMO, HONG KONG HAS ALWAYS IMPLEMENTED AND ENFORCED ALL NECESSARY TECHNICAL STANDARDS AND MEASURES DEVELOPED BY THE IMO AND ARE IN FORCE INTERNATIONALLY.

REFERRING TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE PREVENTION OF POLLUTION FROM SHIPS (MARPOL), MR TSE SAID: "PLANNING IS WELL IN HAND FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW PLANT FOR THE RECEPTION, TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL OF OILY WATER MIXTURE AND NOXIOUS CHEMICAL RESIDUES FROM SHIPS.

"THE NEW PLANT WILL BE LOCATED ON THE SOUTHWEST OF TSING YI ISLAND.

"THIS WILL ENABLE HONG KONG TO FULLY IMPLEMENT ANNEX I AND ANNEX II OF THE MARPOL CONVENTION WHICH HAS BEEN ENFORCED IN HONG KONG."

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PFA IN CONCRETE SAVES MONEY AND IMPROVES ENVIRONMENT

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IF ALL CONCRETE WERE TO HAVE PULVERISED-FUEL ASH (PFA) IN IT, HONG KONG COULD SAVE $300 MILLION A YEAR IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH DISPOSING OF THE ASH WOULD DISAPPEAR.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY, WORKS BRANCH OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, MR DICK PILLING, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY): "MOREOVER, PFA CONCRETE IS TECHNICALLY SUPERIOR TO ORDINARY CONCRETE."

IN AN EFFORT TO ENCOURAGE THE WIDER USE OF PFA IN CONCRETE, THE WORKS BRANCH HAS ISSUED A TECHNICAL CIRCULAR AND GUIDELINES FOR ITS USE, AND THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE HAS ISSUED PRACTICE NOTES FOR AUTHORISED PERSONS AND REGISTERED CONTRACTORS STATING HOW IT CAN BE USED IN PRIVATE SECTOR BUILDINGS.

"THESE INITIATIVES HAVE THE SUPPORT OF THE WORKS BRANCH ON TECHNICAL GROUNDS, THE PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS BRANCH ON ENVIRONMENTAL GROUNDS AND THE FINANCE BRANCH FOR ECONOMIC REASONS," MR PILLING SAID.

"AT PRESENT HONG KONG IS USING ABOUT FOUR MILLION TONNES OF CEMENT PER YEAR. SOME IS IMPORTED AS CEMENT, SOME AS CLINKER WHICH IS GROUND INTO CEMENT IN HONG KONG.

"THE AVERAGE COST OF THE IMPORTED MATERIAL IN 1989 WAS ABOUT $300 PER TONNE. IF A QUARTER OF THIS WAS REPLACED BY PFA, THERE WOULD BE SUBSTANTIAL SAVINGS IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE."

PFA IS THE FINE ASH PRODUCED WHEN PULVERISED COAL IS BURNT IN THE POWER STATIONS AT TAP SHEK KOK AND LAMMA ISLAND. ABOUT ONE MILLION TONNES IS PRODUCED ANNUALLY AND THE POWER COMPANIES SPEND MILLIONS OF DOLLARS DISPOSING OF IT AS A WASTE MATERIAL.

BUT, IF IT IS TREATED TO REMOVE THE LARGE PARTICLES AND UNBURNT CARBON, A PROCESS KNOWN AS CLASSIFICATION, THE ASH BECOMES A USEFUL MATERIAL WITH POZZOLANIC PROPERTIES WHICH CAN BE USED IN CONCRETE.

MR PILLING SAID: "WHEN CEMENT REACTS WITH WATER IT RELEASES LIME, AND THE LIME REACTS WITH THE PFA WHICH THEN SETS LIKE CEMENT. REPLACING ABOUT 25 PER CENT OF THE CEMENT IN CONCRETE WITH PFA HAS MANY BENEFITS.

"CONCRETE MADE WITH CEMENT DOES NOT GET MUCH STRONGER AFTER ABOUT A MONTH, BUT IF PFA IS USED THE CONCRETE CONTINUES TO GAIN STRENGTH FOR UP TO A YEAR OR MORE.

"PFA HAS OTHER USEFUL PROPERTIES SUCH AS REDUCING THE HEAT GENERATED WHEN THE CONCRETE SETS WHICH OFTEN LEADS TO CRACKING. IT IS EASIER TO COMPACT AND PRODUCES A BETTER FINISH THAN ORDINARY CONCRETE," HE SAID.

/ALTHOUGH PFA .....

ALTHOUGH PFA HAS BEEN AVAILABLE IN HONG KONG FOR SEVERAL YEARS IT HAS ONLY RECENTLY BEEN USED IN CONCRETE TO ANY GREAT EXTENT. IT HAS BEEN USED IN SEVERAL PRESTIGE GOVERNMENT PROJECTS SUCH AS THE HONG KONG CULTURAL CENTRE IN TSIM SHA TSUI AND THE WAN CHAI OFFICE BLOCK.

CHINA LIGHT AND POWER CO. LTD, THE MAJOR PRODUCER OF PFA, RECENTLY HELD A SERIES OF SEMINARS ON PFA FOR GOVERNMENT ENGINEERS AND CONTRACTORS.

THE COMPANY HAS ALSO CONCLUDED THE FIRST PHASE OF AN AMBITIOUS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME INTENDED TO DEMONSTRATE CONCLUSIVELY THE ADVANTAGES OF USING LOCALLY PRODUCED PFA IN CONCRETE. A REPORT WILL BE PUBLISHED SHORTLY.

MEANWHILE, THE GOVERNMENT'S STANDING COMMITTEE ON CONCRETE TECHNOLOGY, WHICH IS CHAIRED BY MR PILLING, IS ARRANGING FOR FURTHER INDEPENDENT RESEARCH BY THE TWO POLYTECHNICS TO CONVINCE ANY ENGINEERS WHO MAY STILL BE IN DOUBT.

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50 NEW BUILDING PLANS APPROVED IN JULY

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THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE APPROVED A TOTAL OF 50 NEW BUILDING PLANS IN JULY.

OF THE PLANS, 18 WERE ON HONG KONG ISLAND, 17 IN KOWLOON AND 15 IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE APPROVED PLANS INCLUDED 26 FOR APARTMENT, APARTMENT/COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS, 10 FOR COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, AND FIVE FOR FACTORY AND GODOWN PURPOSES.

DURING THE MONTH, THE OFFICE GAVE CONSENT FOR WORK TO START ON 62 PROJECTS, INVOLVING 269,530.9 SQUARE METRES OF USABLE DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA AND 409,341.9 SQUARE METRES OF USABLE NON-DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA.

THE TOTAL DECLARED COST OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED DURING THE MONTH WAS ABOUT $1,294 MILLION. THE USABLE FLOOR AREAS FOR DOMESTIC AND NON-DOMESTIC USES WERE ABOUT 39,462.6 SQUARE METRES AND 130,823.9 SQUARE METRES RESPECTIVELY.

ALSO DURING THE MONTH, THE OFFICE ISSUED 25 OCCUPATION PERMITS, TWO FOR HONG KONG ISLAND, EIGHT FOR KOWLOON AND 15 FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES.

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IN ADDITION, THE OFFICE ISSUED 31 DEMOLITION CONSENTS AFFECTING 70 BUILDINGS.

THE CONTROL AND ENFORCEMENT DIVISION RECEIVED 563 COMPLAINTS ON ILLEGAL BUILDING WORKS, CARRIED OUT 809 INSPECTIONS AND ISSUED 194 REMOVAL ORDERS.

THE DANGEROUS BUILDING SECTION INSPECTED 376 BUILDINGS AND OBTAINED SEVEN EMERGENCY CLOSURE ORDERS.

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DREDGING AT OUTER DEEP BAY PROPOSED

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THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO DREDGE WITHIN AN AREA OF APPROXIMATELY 1,955 HECTARES OF SEABED AT OUTER DEEP BAY TO PROVIDE MATERIALS FOR USE IN CONSTRUCTION AND FUTURE RECLAMATIONS.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA AFFECTED HAS BEEN DESCRIBED IN THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE GAZETTE.

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HE HAS AN INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED MAY SUBMIT A WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 20 THIS YEAR.

THE SUBMISSION SHALL DESCRIBE THE INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT OF THE OBJECTOR AND THE MANNER IN WHICH HE ALLEGES HE WILL BE AFFECTED.

MEANWHILE, THE GOVERNMENT IS TO RECLAIM WITHIN AN AREA OF APPROXIMATELY 0.44 HECTARE OF FORESHORE AND SEABED AT REPULSE BAY TO PROVIDE LAND FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SEWAGE PUMPING STATION.

WORK WILL BEGIN NEXT MONTH AND BE COMPLETED AROUND APRIL 1992.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA AFFECTED HAS BEEN DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE OF AUTHORISATION PUBLISHED IN THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE GAZETTE.

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HIS INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED WILL BE AFFECTED BY THIS UNDERTAKING MAY DELIVER TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS A WRITTEN CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 20, 1991.

HE SHOULD STATE IN HIS SUBMISSION THE SUM OF MONEY WHICH HE IS WILLING TO ACCEPT IN FULL AND FINAL SETTLEMENT OF HIS CLAIM AND SHOULD SUBMIT SUCH PARTICULARS WHICH HE POSSESSES TO SUBSTANTIATE HIS CLAIM.

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TWO PRIVATE STREETS IN EASTERN TO BE RESUMED

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THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT PROPOSES TO RESUME AND REPAIR CHURCH LANE AND FINNIE STREET IN THE EASTERN DISTRICT ON HONG KONG ISLAND.

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) THAT THE TWO STREETS, NOW UNDER PRIVATE MULTIPLE OWNERSHIP, ARE NOT PROPERLY MANAGED OR MAINTAINED.

AS A RESULT, THE STREETS ARE IN POOR REPAIR AND ARE PARTLY OCCUPIED BY STALLS WHICH OBSTRUCTED PEDESTRIAN AND VEHICULAR MOVEMENT. THE SITUATION GIVES RISE TO CONSIDERABLE ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRAFFIC PROBLEMS.

THE RESUMPTION WILL ENABLE THE GOVERNMENT TO CLEAR THE STALLS AND TO REPAIR, MAINTAIN AND MANAGE THE ROADS AND DRAINS TO A PROPER STANDARD FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

WORK ON THE PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO START IN MARCH 1992.

A NOTICE CONCERNING THE PROPOSED WORKS WAS PUBLISHED IN THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE GAZETTE.

THE PLANS AND SCHEMES OF THE PROPOSED WORKS CAN BE SEEN AT THE FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT OFFICES:

* CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY, HONG KONG;

* HONG KONG EAST DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, 19TH FLOOR, SOUTHORN CENTRE, 130 HENNESSY ROAD, WAN CHAI; AND

* EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, 880-886 KING'S ROAD, NORTH POINT.

ANY PERSON WHO OBJECTS TO THE PROPOSED WORKS SHOULD SEND HIS WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG NOT LATER THAN NOVEMBER 13 THIS YEAR.

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ROAD WORKS TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO TSENG LAN SHUE VILLAGE

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THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PROPOSES TO CARRY OUT ROAD WORKS NEAR CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD AT TSENG LAN SHUE.

THE WORKS ARE INTENDED TO PROVIDE PROPER VEHICULAR ACCESS AND CARPARK TO THE TSENG LAN SHUE VILLAGE UNDER THE URBAN FRINGE AREA IMPROVEMENT SCHEME IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE PROPOSED WORKS INCLUDE:

* CONSTRUCTION OF A SECTION OF APPROXIMATELY 100 METRES LONG CARRIAGEWAY;

* CONSTRUCTION OF 23 CAR PARKING SPACES; AND

* CONSTRUCTION OF ASSOCIATED FOOTPATHS, SITE FORMATION, LANDSCAPING AND DRAINAGE WORKS.

THESE WORKS ARE PROGRAMMED TO COMMENCE IN AUGUST NEXT YEAR WITH A CONSTRUCTION PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS.

DETAILS OF THE PROPOSAL WERE PUBLISHED IN THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE GAZETTE AND A NOTICE HAS BEEN POSTED NEAR THE SITE OF THE PROPOSED WORKS.

THE PLAN AND SCHEME OF THE PROPOSED WORKS MAY ALSO BE SEEN AT THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY, HONG KONG; AND AT THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE AND THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE, BOTH AT SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, CHAN MAN STREET, SAI KUNG TOWN.

ANY PERSON WHO OBJECTS TO THE PROPOSED WORKS SHOULD WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG NOT LATER THAN NOVEMBER 20 THIS YEAR.

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DANGEROUS OPENINGS ON SITE MUST BE GUARDED

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BUILDING CONTRACTORS MUST ENSURE THAT ALL DANGEROUS PLACES IN THEIR SITES ARE PROVIDED WITH SUITABLE GUARDRAILS OR PROPER COVERINGS TO PREVENT THE FALL OF PERSONS, OTHERWISE THEY MAY FACE PROSECUTION.

THE REMINDER WAS MADE BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (SUNDAY) FOLLOWING A RECENT COURT CASE IN WHICH A BUILDING CONTRACTOR, SUNG FOO KEE LIMITED, WAS FINED A TOTAL OF $105,000 BY A SHA TIN MAGISTRATE FOR THE ABOVE AND OTHER OFFENCES.

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DURING A VISIT TO THE CONTRACTOR'S SITE IN TAI PO, FACTORY INSPECTORS FOUND THAT FIVE FLOOR OPENINGS AND TWO LIFT SHAFT OPENINGS WERE NOT PROPERLY GUARDED, WHILE THE LANDING GATE OF A PASSENGER HOIST WAS NOT INTERLOCKED AT ITS LANDING PLACE.

IT WAS ALSO FOUND THAT 24 WORKERS ON THE SITE WERE NOT WEARING SAFETY HELMETS.

ACCORDING TO THE CONSTRUCTION SITES (SAFETY) REGULATIONS, EVERY OPENING, EDGE OR OTHER DANGEROUS PLACE FROM WHICH A PERSON IS LIABLE TO FALL SHALL BE PROVIDED WITH SUITABLE GUARDRAILS OR FIXED COVERINGS.

THE LAW ALSO PROVIDES THAT THE CONTRACTOR MUST PROVIDE EACH WORKER EMPLOYED WITH A SUITABLE SAFETY HELMET AND ENSURE THAT IT IS WORN BY THE WORKER WHILE REMAINING ON SITE.

MOREOVER, A SPECIAL PRECAUTION NOTICE ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO ALL SITE CONTRACTORS ALSO REQUIRES THAT EACH LANDING PLACE OF A PASSENGER HOIST BE FITTED WITH A GATE WHICH HAS EFFICIENT INTERLOCKING TO PREVENT THE GATE FROM BEING OPENED UNLESS THE HOIST IS AT THE LANDING PLACE.

ANYONE BREACHING THE ABOVE SAFETY PROVISIONS WILL BE LIABLE TO MAXIMUM FINES RANGING FROM $30,000 TO $50,000.

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ENTRY TO 'SAY YES TO LIFE' KARAOKE CONTEST INVITED

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YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE INTERESTED IN SINGING ARE INVITED TO ENTER A KARAOKE SINGING CONTEST ORGANISED BY THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS YOUTH VOLUNTEER GROUP TO PROMOTE THE "SAY YES TO LIFE" MESSAGE.

THE CONTEST, OPEN TO PEOPLE AGED 15 TO 30, WILL FORM PART OF THE ANTI-DRUG FORTNIGHT TO BE HELD IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER.

THE PRELIMINARY COMPETITION WILL BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 4 AT SHEUNG WAN CIVIC CENTRE. THE FINALISTS SELECTED WILL COMPETE AT THE MUSIC FOUNTAIN ATRIUM OF SHA TIN NEW TOWN PLAZA ON NOVEMBER 11.

ALL ENTRANTS SELECTED FOR THE PRELIMINARY ROUND WILL EACH RECEIVE A SOUVENIR. THE TOP THREE WINNERS IN THE FINAL CONTEST WILL BE AWARDED DELUXE MICROPHONES AND CASH COUPONS WORTH $2,000 TO $5,000.

/ENTRY FORMS .....

ENTRY FORMS ARE NOW OBTAINABLE FROM ALL DISTRICT OFFICES AND THE NARCOTICS DIVISION ON 23RD FLOOR, QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES.

COMPLETED FORMS, TOGETHER WITH A SELF-RECORDED CASSETTE TAPE CONTAINING TWO SONGS FOR INITIAL SCREENING, SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO THE NARCOTICS DIVISION BY OCTOBER 20.

FURTHER ENQUIRIES ON THE CONTEST CAN BE MADE ON TEL. 867 2762.

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SHAM SHUI PO SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME CLOSES

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MORE THAN 1,000 RESIDENTS THIS (SUNDAY) AFTERNOON TURNED OUT AT A VARIETY SHOW AND PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION HELD AT THE CHEUNG SHA WAN PLAYGROUND TO MARK THE END OF THIS YEAR'S SHAM SHUI PO SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME (SYP).

SPEAKING AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT'S SYP CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, MR RAYMOND CHOY, SAID THE SUMMER ACTIVITIES WERE AIMED AT PROMOTING CIVIC AWARENESS AMONG YOUNGSTERS.

HE SAID THE COMMITTEE RECEIVED A TOTAL OF 472 APPLICATIONS FOR SPONSORSHIP OF ACTIVITIES THIS YEAR, AN INCREASE OF 20 PER CENT OVER LAST YEAR'S NUMBER.

"THIS REFLECTS THE GROWING POPULARITY OF OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE," MR CHOY SAID.

THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB DONATED $420,000 TO MEET THE COST OF THE PROGRAMME, WHILE THE DISTRICT BOARD ALLOCATED $56,300 TO FUND THE OPENING AND THE CLOSING CEREMONIES AND FOR PUBLICITY.

AT THE CEREMONY, FOUR YOUNGSTERS WERE PRESENTED THE OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER AWARD FOR THEIR PERFORMANCE IN ORGANISING VARIOUS ACTIVITIES UNDER THE SYP.

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