



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1989

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HK WITNESSES MAJOR INVESTMENT DECISIONS IN RECENT MONTHS

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HONG KONG HAS WITNESSED A NUMBER OF MAJOR INVESTMENT DECISIONS, INCLUDING THE RELOCATION OF COMPANIES' REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS TO THE TERRITORY AND SEVERAL NEW MANUFACTURING INVESTMENTS, MADE AFTER THE RECENT EVENTS IN CHINA. THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR T.H. BARMA, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE INWARD INVESTMENT PROMOTION SEMINAR IN OSAKA, JAPAN, MR BARMA SAID THE COMPANIES WHICH HAD RELOCATED THEIR REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS TO HONG KONG INCLUDED HAYES MICROCOMPUTERS (USA), MOVING FROM SINGAPORE; MCDONNELL DOUGLAS (USA). FROM SHANGHAI; AND YAOHAN (JAPAN). FROM SHIZUOKA.

AND MAJOR NEW MANUFACTURING INVESTMENTS WERE MADE BY DAIWA STEEL (JAPAN). NEC (JAPAN). DAIDO CONCRETE (JAPAN), MULTIFORM (AUSTRALIA), 3M (USA). LAMBDA MAGNETICS LTD (JAPAN/HONG KONG), ADVANCED SEMICONDUCTOR (EUROPE/SINGAPORE/HONG KONG) AND BHP STEEL (AUSTRALIA), TOTALLING OVER US\$48 MILLION.

MR BARMA SAID ONE MAIN FACTOR OF HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC SUCCESS WAS THAT THE TERRITORY HAD AN EXCELLENT BUSINESS INFRASTRUCTURE, INCLUDING ITS ENTERPRISING ENTREPRENEURS, ITS HARD-WORKING LABOUR FORCE, ITS FREE ECONOMY, ITS WORLD-RENOWNED CONTAINER PORT, AIRPORT, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND FINANCIAL SERVICES.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT, IN ITS ROLE TO PROVIDE A FAVOURABLE ENVIRONMENT FOR PRIVATE ENTERPRISES. CONTINUED TO INVEST IN SUPPORTIVE INFRASTRUCTURES IN THE TERRITORY.

"THESE INCLUDE THE RECENTLY OPENED EASTERN MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY EXTENSION AND THE SECOND CROSS-HARBOUR TUNNEL. THE NEW UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY. A PROPOSED THIRD INDUSTRIAL ESTATE AND A TECHNOLOGY CENTRE.

"FURTHER, THE CO-ORDINATED NEW INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AND PORT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT HAS BEEN CONFIRMED. INVOLVING AN ESTIMATED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE OF US\$16.3 BILLION.

"THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT WILL BE SEEKING THE PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT INITIATIVE IN REALISING THE NEW AIRPORT AND PORT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT WHICH WILL TAKE SHAPE IN EARLY 1997." HE SAID.

MR BARMA SAID ANOTHER FACTOR WAS THAT HONG KONG HAD PROVED TO BE HIGHLY RESILIENT AND ALREADY THERE WERE SIGNS THAT BUSINESS CONFIDENCE WAS RETURNING IN HONG KONG.

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"APART FROM THE EXAMPLES I ALREADY GAVE OF FOREIGN INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT PROJECTS, THIS IS EVIDENCED ALSO BY THE RECENT US\$0.3 BILLION PURCHASE OF THE GARDEN ROAD SITE; THE US\$1.3 BILLION SYNDICATED LOAN FOR HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL TERMINAL CONTAINER CARGO HANDLING EXPANSION; THE US\$0.5 BILLION INVESTMENT IN NEW CABLE TV NETWORK BY HONG KONG CABLE COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED INVOLVING US WEST AND CODITEL SA (BELGIUM) IN ADDITION TO LOCAL PARTNERS; AND A TENTATIVE PROPOSAL TO EXTEND THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY SYSTEM TO HONG KONG ISLAND AT A COST OF US\$0.8 BILLION." HE SAID.

MR BARMA SAID THE GOVERNMENT FIRMLY BELIEVED THAT THE SUCCESS STORY OF HONG KONG WOULD CONTINUE INTO THE 1990'S.

"OUR POLICY OF FREE ENTERPRISE, COUPLED WITH A NUMBER OF DEVELOPMENTS WILL ENSURE THAT HONG KONG WILL REMAIN TO BE A PLACE OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES.

"IT IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY EVIDENT THAT SOUTH CHINA, PARTICULARLY GUANGDONG WILL REMAIN ATTRACTIVE TO INVESTORS IN THE MORE LABOUR INTENSIVE OPERATIONS.

"AT THE SAME TIME, SUCH DEVELOPMENTS WILL CONTINUE TO DEPEND ON HONG KONG AS A REGIONAL MANUFACTURING AND SUPPORT CENTRE," HE SAID.

TURNING TO JAPAN'S INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG, MR BARMA SAID THAT UP TO THE END OF FISCAL YEAR 1988, JAPAN'S TOTAL INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG WAS US\$6.17 BILLION, ACCORDING TO FIGURES RELEASED BY JAPAN'S MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

HE SAID HONG KONG CONTINUED TO BE JAPAN'S SECOND MOST IMPORTANT INVESTMENT DESTINATION IN ASIA. SINCE FISCAL YEAR 1987, JAPAN'S INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG GREW BY 36.9 PER CENT, COMPARED WITH 20.9 PER CENT FOR THE WHOLE OF ASIA.

AS REGARDS MANUFACTURING INVESTMENT, MR BARMA SAID JAPAN REMAINED AS THE SECOND LARGEST FOREIGN INVESTOR IN HONG KONG, NEXT TO THE UNITED STATES.

"CUMULATIVELY, AT US\$893 MILLION, JAPAN'S MANUFACTURING INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG ACCOUNTS FOR OVER ONE-QUARTER (26.6 PER CENT) OF THE OVERSEAS TOTAL UP TO THE END OF 1988.

"TOGETHER WITH USA WHICH CONTRIBUTED 34 PER CENT, YOU STOOD OUT AS THE TWO BIGGEST OVERSEAS INVESTORS IN HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES," HE SAID.

MR BARMA SAID THERE WERE ALREADY OVER 1,200 JAPANESE COMPANIES AND OVER 10,000 JAPANESE NATIONALS IN HONG KONG.

"THEY HAVE A STRONG PRESENCE IN THE BANKING, INSURANCE, RETAIL BUSINESS AND OTHER SECTORS.

"THE OPPORTUNITY IS ALWAYS OPEN FOR A LARGER SHARE OF JAPANESE MANUFACTURING INTERESTS IN THIS REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CITY OF TOMORROW," HE SAID.

MEASURES TO FURTHER IMPROVE STANDARDS OF LANGUAGE LEARNING

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THE STANDARDS OF ENGLISH APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN GENERALLY MAINTAINED IN HONG KONG, BUT THE FAST INCREASING DEMAND FOR COMPETENT ENGLISH USERS HAS LED TO A MISCONCEPTION THAT THEY ARE FALLING.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE IS LESS CONCERN OVER THE STANDARDS OF CHINESE. ALTHOUGH WRITING SKILLS MAY BE DECLINING SLIGHTLY.

THESE ARE SOME OF THE FINDINGS OF A WORKING GROUP FORMED IN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IN DECEMBER LAST YEAR TO REVIEW THE EXISTING LANGUAGE IMPROVEMENT MEASURES IN ORDER TO EVALUATE THEIR EFFECTIVENESS AND TO IDENTIFY WHERE MORE MIGHT BE DONE.

IN THE "REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP SET UP TO REVIEW LANGUAGE IMPROVEMENT MEASURES" WHICH WAS PUBLISHED FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION TODAY (TUESDAY), IT WAS NOTED THAT HONG KONG SOCIETY REQUIRES ALL ITS CITIZENS TO ATTAIN EFFECTIVE SKILLS IN CHINESE.

A RAPIDLY INCREASING PROPORTION OF ITS CITIZENS ALSO NEEDS TO ATTAIN EFFECTIVE SKILLS IN ENGLISH, WHILE OTHERS MAY ONLY REQUIRE A SURVIVAL LEVEL.

"AN ANALYSIS OF THE EVIDENCE COLLECTED ON STANDARDS REVEALS THAT WHILE THERE HAS BEEN A MODEST INCREASE IN THE SUPPLY OF THOSE WITH EFFECTIVE BILINGUAL SKILLS, THERE HAS BEEN A MASSIVE INCREASE IN THE DEMAND FOR SUCH PEOPLE." THE REPORT SAID.

"THIS HAS LED TO THE FALSE IMPRESSION THAT STANDARDS HAVE BEEN FALLING FOR WHICH THERE IS NO EVIDENCE."

THE REPORT ALSO POINTS OUT THAT WHILE STUDENTS OF SCHOOL AGE USE CHINESE ALL THE TIME, THEY STILL HAVE TO LEARN TO EXTEND THEIR USE OF CHINESE TO WIDER SOCIAL, ACADEMIC, VOCATIONAL AND CULTURAL PURPOSES.

"THESE SAME STUDENTS, HOWEVER, MAKE LITTLE OR NO USE OF ENGLISH WITHIN THEIR PEER GROUP AND FEEL LITTLE IMMEDIATE MOTIVATION TO LEARN IT, DESPITE ITS OBVIOUS IMPORTANCE AMONG ADULTS IN THE ACADEMIC, GOVERNMENT AND BUSINESS FIELDS.

"EXPOSURE TO ENGLISH AMONG THIS AGE GROUP IS RESTRICTED TO SCHOOL, WHERE THOSE WHO USE ENGLISH AS A MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION HAVE POTENTIALLY A VERY MUCH GREATER EXPOSURE TO ENGLISH THAN THOSE WHO MERELY LEARN IT AS A SUBJECT.

"EXPECTATIONS IN STANDARDS SHOULD REFLECT THESE REALITIES," THE REPORT SAID.

THE 88-PAGE REPORT EXAMINES THE LANGUAGE STANDARDS ISSUE UNDER FOUR MAJOR TOPICS : THE LEARNING AND USE OF CHINESE AND ENGLISH IN HONG KONG, MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION, THE QUALITY OF THE TEACHING AND LEARNING OF CHINESE AND ENGLISH AS SUBJECTS, AND THE PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE OF LANGUAGE TEACHERS AND THE LANGUAGE COMPETENCE OF TEACHERS OF OTHER SUBJECTS.

AFTER CONSIDERING THE FACTORS THAT LIE BEHIND THE STANDARDS IN LANGUAGE LEARNING AND TAKING INTO ACCOUNT RECENT STATEMENTS BY THE PUBLIC AND VARIOUS BODIES, THE REPORT MAKES 78 RECOMMENDATIONS TO BRING ABOUT FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS TO THE STANDARDS OF LANGUAGE LEARNING IN HONG KONG.

SOME OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS ON WHICH PUBLIC VIEWS ARE BEING SOUGHT, ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. LEARNING AND USE OF CHINESE AND ENGLISH

THE REPORT NOTES THAT THERE IS A THRESHOLD LEVEL IN A LANGUAGE THAT NEEDS TO BE ATTAINED BEFORE LEARNERS ARE ABLE TO USE IT TO STUDY EFFECTIVELY. ONCE A THRESHOLD LEVEL HAS BEEN REACHED BOTH IN THE MOTHER TONGUE AND IN SECOND LANGUAGE, IT IS POSSIBLE FOR UNDERSTANDINGS AND SKILLS GAINED THROUGH THE MOTHER TONGUE TO BE TRANSFERRED TO THE SECOND LANGUAGE.

THE THRESHOLD LEVEL BECOMES HIGHER THE FURTHER UP THE SCHOOL SYSTEM THE LEARNER GOES. THE REPORT THEREFORE PROPOSES:

- * WHERE ENGLISH IS TO BE USED AS THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS, THE TRANSFER FROM CHINESE TO ENGLISH SHOULD BE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SECONDARY SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS WHO CAN BENEFIT FROM IT.
- * TWO INTENSIVE "BRIDGING COURSES" SHOULD BE DEVELOPED TO HELP ENGLISH STREAM STUDENTS ADAPT TO ENGLISH AS THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION : ONE FOR SECONDARY 1. AND ANOTHER BETWEEN SECONDARY AND TERTIARY EDUCATION. THE COURSES WOULD BE DEVELOPED AS PILOT PROJECTS, AND EVENTUALLY MATERIALS WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO ALL SCHOOLS OFFERING ENGLISH MEDIUM STREAMS.
- * SCHOOL-BASED CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT SHOULD BE STRENGTHENED TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF THE LANGUAGE CURRICULUM; AND TRAINING, ADVICE AND SUPPORT SHOULD ALSO BE STRENGTHENED TO IMPROVE THE LANGUAGE SKILLS, IN PARTICULAR THE BILINGUAL SKILLS, OF TEACHERS.

B. MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

THE REPORT STATES THAT SCHOOLS CURRENTLY PURPORTING TO USE ENGLISH AS THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION ARE TENDING TO USE A MIXED CODE, THAT IS WITH CANTONESE FOR MOST SPOKEN EXCHANGES AND ENGLISH RESTRICTED TO TECHNICAL VOCABULARY AND READING AND WRITING. RESEARCH INDICATES THAT THIS MAY BE HINDERING BOTH COGNITIVE AND LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT. THE REPORT THEREFORE PROPOSES :

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- * SCHOOLS SHOULD ADOPT CLEAR-CUT DECISIONS FOR THEIR VARIOUS CLASSES AND USE EITHER EXCLUSIVELY ENGLISH FOR ALL SUBJECTS (EXCEPT IN CHINESE AND CHINESE HISTORY), OR EXCLUSIVELY CHINESE (EXCEPT IN ENGLISH-AS-A-SUBJECT CLASSROOMS). DECISIONS SHOULD BE BASED ON WHICH MEDIUM WILL PROVE MOST BENEFICIAL TO THE COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT OF THE STUDENTS.
- * A DIAGNOSTIC TEST SHOULD BE CONDUCTED IN PRIMARY 6 TO DIFFERENTIATE THOSE LIKELY TO COPE WITH ENGLISH MEDIUM SECONDARY SCHOOLING FROM THOSE WHOSE EDUCATION WOULD BEST BE PROMOTED BY THE CHINESE MEDIUM.
- * RESEARCH SHOULD BE CONDUCTED TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER THE EXISTING HONG KONG ATTAINMENT TEST NORMALLY ADMINISTERED AT THE START OF SECONDARY 1 COULD BE USED FOR THIS PURPOSE.

C. THE QUALITY OF TEACHING AND LEARNING OF CHINESE AND ENGLISH AS SUBJECTS

THE REPORT PROPOSES:

- * THE DEVELOPMENT OF GRADED TARGETS FOR PRIMARY 3, PRIMARY 6, SECONDARY 3 AND SECONDARY 5 IN BOTH ENGLISH AND CHINESE. THIS SHOULD BE DESIGNED TO COVER THE WHOLE RANGE OF ABILITY AND ACHIEVEMENT AT THE VARIOUS STAGES SO AS TO PROVIDE ALL STUDENTS WITH A SENSE OF SUCCESS IN THEIR LEARNING.
- * CENTRALLY-PREPARED CRITERION-REFERENCED TESTS SHOULD BE CREATED IN BOTH CHINESE AND ENGLISH FOR PRIMARY 6, SECONDARY 3 AND SECONDARY 5. THERE SHOULD BE TWO OVERLAPPING FRAMEWORKS OF TARGETS AND CRITERION-REFERENCED ASSESSMENTS FOR ENGLISH AT SECONDARY LEVEL, ONE FOR STUDENTS USING ENGLISH AS THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION AND ONE FOR STUDENTS USING CHINESE AS THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION.
- * CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MINIMUM STANDARD OF PROFICIENCY IN PUTONGHUA AND TRAINEE-TEACHERS OF CHINESE SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO STUDY PUTONGHUA.

D. THE PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE OF LANGUAGE TEACHERS AND THE LANGUAGE COMPETENCE OF TEACHERS OF OTHER SUBJECTS

THE REPORT PROPOSES:

- * THE INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION SHOULD BE EXPANDED TO PROVIDE A RANGE OF CERTIFICATE, DIPLOMA AND DEGREE QUALIFICATIONS NOT CURRENTLY OFFERED IN HONG KONG AND BE EMPOWERED TO OFFER A WIDER RANGE OF COURSES ON A MORE FLEXIBLE BASIS THAN AT PRESENT.

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- * TO STRENGTHEN COHERENCE ACROSS LANGUAGES AND ACROSS SECTORS OF EDUCATION AND LANGUAGES IN EDUCATION, A LANGUAGE PLANNING UNIT SHOULD BE SET UP WITHIN THE INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION. IT WILL INITIATE AND MONITOR LANGUAGE NEEDS ANALYSIS, RESEARCH AND CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT WORK AS NECESSARY, DRAWING ON THE EXPERTISE OF ALL THOSE ENGAGED IN LANGUAGE WORK IN HONG KONG, INCLUDING THE TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT STRESSED THAT THE REPORT REPRESENTED THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE WORKING GROUP AND NO FIRM VIEW HAD YET BEEN TAKEN ON IT BY THE ADMINISTRATION.

HE ADDED THAT COPIES OF THE REPORT WERE NOW BEING SENT TO ALL MAJOR SCHOOL COUNCILS AND ASSOCIATIONS, PRINCIPAL AND HEADS OF SCHOOLS AND TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS.

THE PUBLIC COULD ALSO OBTAIN COPIES FROM THE INFORMATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS SECTION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, THIRD FLOOR, LEE GARDENS, HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY. COMMENTS SHOULD BE SENT TO THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS BEFORE THE CONSULTATION PERIOD ENDS ON DECEMBER 31 THIS YEAR.

"DEPENDING ON THE OUTCOME OF THE CONSULTATION, PROPOSALS WILL BE DRAWN UP FOR THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL'S CONSIDERATION," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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GOOD PARTNERSHIP IS KEY TO ECONOMIC SUCCESS
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THE DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG'S ECONOMY DEPENDS MUCH ON THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN ENTREPRENEURS AND WORKERS, PARTICULARLY DURING THE PRESENT ECONOMIC TRANSITION.

THIS WAS STATED BY SIR QUO-WEI LEE TODAY (TUESDAY) AT THE OPENING OF THE LABOUR RELATIONS CONFERENCE '89 ORGANISED JOINTLY BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT AND THE LABOUR RELATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD.

SIR QUO-WEI ALSO NOTED THAT THE DEVELOPMENT IN OUTWARD PROCESSING IN CHINA HAD INCREASED THE BURDEN AND CHALLENGE FOR LOCAL WORKERS.

"BUT OUR WORK FORCE HAS SO FAR MET THIS NEW CHALLENGE WELL AND THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN OUR ENTREPRENEURS AND WORKERS HAS ALSO WORKED WELL," HE SAID.

"IN TERMS OF LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY, HONG KONG NOW RANKS AMONG THE HIGHEST IN THE REGION.

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"THIS CLEARLY IS A RESULT OF YEARS OF HARD WORK PUT UP BY ALL PARTIES CONCERNED - THE GOVERNMENT, THE ENTREPRENEURS AND, ABOVE ALL, THE LABOUR FORCE."

SIR QUO-WEI ALSO EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE IN HONG KONG'S CAPABILITY IN RETAINING ITS LEAD IN LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY AND IN THE WORKERS' ABILITY TO ADAPT TO THE NEW ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT.

REFERRING TO THE CURRENT EMIGRATION TREND, HE SAID HONG KONG CONTINUED TO ENJOY ECONOMIC GROWTH AND GREATER PROSPERITY DESPITE THE EMIGRATION OF SOME 200,000 PEOPLE SINCE 1982.

"THOSE WHO ELECTED TO STAY, MOSTLY THE WORK FORCE, ARE THE CORNERSTONE OF OUR SOCIO-ECONOMIC STRUCTURE AND THE MOST IMPORTANT AND VALUABLE ASSETS HONG KONG CAN EXPECT TO POSSESS," HE STRESSED.

ALSO OFFICIATING AT TODAY'S OPENING CEREMONY WAS THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR TONY HAMMOND.

MR HAMMOND POINTED OUT THAT HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC SUCCESS HAD BEEN BUILT ON THE HARD WORK AND VERSATILITY OF ITS WORK FORCE, AS WELL AS THE DYNAMISM OF THE ENTREPRENEURS.

"IT IS ALSO DUE TO THE GOOD LABOUR MANAGEMENT RELATIONS WHICH HAVE PROVIDED THE NECESSARY CLIMATE FOR EACH EMPLOYEE TO CONTRIBUTE HIS OR HER BEST TO THE SUCCESS OF THE BUSINESS," HE ADDED.

"EVERY BUSINESS DECISION HAS A LABOUR RELATIONS IMPLICATION AND GOOD LABOUR RELATIONS ARE AN ESSENTIAL INGREDIENT FOR EVERY BUSINESS SUCCESS," HE SAID.

AS THE OLD DECADE DREW TO A CLOSE AND A NEW DECADE EMERGED, MR HAMMOND SAID IT WAS HIGH TIME TO CONSIDER WHAT PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES LAY AHEAD IN BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND LABOUR RELATIONS.

"THIS IS WHY WE HAVE CHOSEN THE TITLE 'BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND LABOUR RELATIONS IN THE 1990'S - NEW CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES' AS THE THEME FOR THIS YEAR'S CONFERENCE," HE SAID.

THE CONFERENCE HELD AT THE HONG KONG CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE HAS ATTRACTED ABOUT 900 PARTICIPANTS FROM VARIOUS SECTORS, INCLUDING ENTREPRENEURS, SENIOR BUSINESS MANAGERS, TRADE UNION LEADERS, ACADEMICS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

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\$170 MILLION FOR YOUTH SERVICES

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS ALWAYS ATTACHED IMPORTANCE TO SERVICES PROVIDED BY CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRES WHICH HELP CONTRIBUTE TO THE BALANCED DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE. THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS ELIZABETH WONG, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF YAN OI TONG'S LEUNG KING CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRE IN TUEN MUN, MRS WONG SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD ALLOCATED MORE THAN \$170 MILLION ON SERVICES RELATED TO CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRES IN THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR.

"THESE CENTRES OFFER GOOD FOSTERING AND TRAINING GROUND FOR THE FUTURE GENERATION.

"THROUGH PARTICIPATING IN THE VARIOUS TYPES OF ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY THE CENTRES, YOUTHS MAY DEVELOP AND GROW IN DIFFERENT ASPECTS AND BECOME MATURE AND CIVIC-MINDED CITIZENS OF OUR COMMUNITY IN THE FUTURE." SHE SAID.

MRS WONG NOTED THAT THERE WERE AT PRESENT OVER 200 CHILDREN'S CENTRES, CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRES, AND YOUTH CENTRES IN HONG KONG, WITH A MEMBERSHIP OF ABOUT 200,000.

SHE COMMENDED THE YAN OI TONG FOR PROMOTING AND PROVIDING WELFARE SERVICES IN TUEN MUN OVER THE YEARS.

THE LEUNG KING CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRE, WHICH BEGAN OPERATION IN NOVEMBER, OFFERS A WIDE RANGE OF RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AS WELL AS PROVIDING YOUNG PEOPLE WITH A QUIET ENVIRONMENT FOR STUDY.

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LEGCO TO DEBATE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS

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FORTY-FIVE MEMBERS ARE LISTED TO SPEAK IN THE POLICY DEBATE THAT WILL BEGIN IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE DEBATE, ON A MOTION OF THANKS FOR THE GOVERNOR'S ANNUAL ADDRESS, WILL CONTINUE ON THURSDAY.

TWENTY-THREE MEMBERS ARE LISTED TO SPEAK TOMORROW AND 22 ON THURSDAY.

THE MOTION, TO BE MOVED BY THE SENIOR MEMBER, THE HON ALLEN LEE, READS: "THAT THIS COUNCIL THANKS THE GOVERNOR FOR HIS ADDRESS".

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TAC DISCUSSES PUBLIC COMMENTS ON GREEN PAPER

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THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE TODAY (TUESDAY) DISCUSSED THE PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE GREEN PAPER ON TRANSPORT POLICY IN HONG KONG, IN PARTICULAR, ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF HIGHWAYS AND RAILWAYS.

OTHER TRANSPORT POLICY PROPOSALS COMMENTED ON BY THE PUBLIC WILL BE DISCUSSED AT ANOTHER MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6.

THE TAC NOTED THAT THE PROPOSED TRANSPORT STRATEGY IN THE GREEN PAPER WAS EXTENSIVELY DEBATED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN JULY AND WAS WIDELY DISCUSSED BY THE 19 DISTRICT BOARDS. MORE THAN 20 OTHER ORGANISATIONS HAD BEEN BRIEFED AND CONSULTED.

MEMBERS LEARNED THAT DURING THE FOUR-MONTH CONSULTATION PERIOD, WHICH ENDED ON SEPTEMBER 30, A TOTAL OF 131 WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS AND 98 TELEPHONE CALLS ON THE "GREEN PAPER HOTLINE" HAD BEEN RECEIVED.

OF THE WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS, 23 WERE FROM TRANSPORT OPERATORS, 35 FROM GROUPS AND 73 FROM INDIVIDUALS.

AMONG THE COMMENTS, THE MEMBERS NOTED THAT THE PUBLIC GENERALLY AGREED THAT THE THREE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF IMPROVING THE TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE, EXPANDING AND IMPROVING PUBLIC TRANSPORT, AND MANAGING ROAD USE SHOULD CONTINUE TO FORM THE BASIS OF THE FUTURE TRANSPORT STRATEGY.

ON THE COMMENTS ON TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS, THE TAC OBSERVED THAT THERE WAS GENERAL SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSED TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME. ONE OF THE POPULAR VIEWS WAS TO ADVANCE THE CONSTRUCTION OF MAJOR PROPOSED PROJECTS, SUCH AS ROUTE 3 AND ROUTE 7, AND BUILD MORE RAILS.

AS REGARDS TRANSPORT LINKS FOR FUTURE PORT AND AIRPORT FACILITIES, THE COMMITTEE WAS TOLD THAT THE PUBLIC WANTED THESE LINKS TO BE CONSIDERED AS PART AND PARCEL OF THE TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME.

THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSED RAILWAY PROJECTS.

THE DISTRICT BOARDS CONCERNED, HOWEVER, HAD DIVIDED VIEWS ON THE ALIGNMENT OF THE NORTHWESTERN NEW TERRITORIES URBAN RAIL LINK. THE RAILWAY OPERATORS HAD ALSO PUT FORWARD VIEWS ON THE MATTER.

ON THE WHOLE, DIFFERENT GROUPS SUPPORTED GREATER EMPHASIS ON RAIL DEVELOPMENTS BOTH ON TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENTAL GROUNDS. SOME REGARD THIS INEVITABLE IN THE LONGER TERM WITH DIMINISHING LAND FOR HIGHWAY PROJECTS.

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FOUR NEW AIDS CASES CONFIRMED

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FOUR MORE PEOPLE IN HONG KONG WERE CONFIRMED TO BE SUFFERING FROM ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS). A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY).

OF THESE, TWO PATIENTS HAVE EARLIER BEEN FOUND TO BE INFECTED WITH THE VIRUS AND HAVE NOW DEVELOPED SYMPTOMS, WHILE THE OTHER TWO ARE NEW CASES.

THE FOUR PATIENTS, ALL MALE, HAD CONTRACTED THE DISEASE SEXUALLY.

THIS BRINGS TO 29 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CONFIRMED AIDS CASES TO DATE. OF THESE PATIENTS, 15 HAD PASSED AWAY AND THE OTHER 14 ARE RECEIVING COUNSELLING AND TREATMENT.

RELEASING THE STATISTICS ON THE AIDS SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMME FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, THE SPOKESMAN SAID SIX MORE PERSONS WERE FOUND TO BE POSITIVE FOR THE HIV ANTIBODY TEST.

THEY INCLUDED THE TWO NEW AIDS CASES AND FOUR ASYMPTOMATIC CARRIERS.

THE FIGURE BRINGS TO 161 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO WERE INFECTED BY THE AIDS VIRUS.

OF THE 161 CARRIERS, 55 WERE HAEMOPHILIACS, ONE WAS AN INTRAVENOUS DRUG ABUSER, 16 WERE PEOPLE WHO ATTENDED SOCIAL HYGIENE CLINICS, 51 WERE PATIENTS FROM GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS AND CLINICS AND 38 WERE REFERRALS FROM PRIVATE DOCTORS AND SUBVENTED ORGANISATIONS.

UNDER THE AIDS SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMME STARTED BY THE FORMER MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT IN 1985, A TOTAL OF 140,054 BLOOD SPECIMENS HAD BEEN TESTED FOR THE AIDS VIRUS.

MEANWHILE, THE HONG KONG RED CROSS BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE HAS ALSO SCREENED ALL BLOOD DONORS FOR AIDS.

UP TO SEPTEMBER, A TOTAL OF 618,887 UNITS OF BLOOD HAD BEEN TESTED AND NINE WERE FOUND POSITIVE.

/AIDS VIRUS

愛滋病 抗體檢驗
 AIDS Virus (HIV) Antibody Testing
 衛生署
 Department of Health
 病毒室
 Virus Unit

	Apr 85 - Aug 89		September 89		Total	
	No. tested*	No. +ve	No. tested*	No. +ve	No. tested*	No. +ve
經由政府醫院及診所介紹 Referrals from Govt. hospitals and clinics	8 882	49	236	2	9 118	51
經由私家醫生及補助醫院介紹 Referrals from private practitioners and subvented hospitals	1 787	35	17	3	1 804	38
到教育衛生科求診人數 Attendances at social hygiene clinics	121 885	15	2 407	1	124 292	16
血友病患者 Haemophiliacs	387	55	9	0	396	55
濫用注射藥物者 IV drug abusers	3 638	1	45	0	3 683	1
經由家庭計劃指導會介紹 Referrals from Family Planning Association	184	0	2	0	186	0
健康護理人員 Health care personnel	570	0	5	0	575	0

總數
 TOTAL 137 333 155 2 721 6 140 054 161
 此乃驗血樣本數字，並非人數，因為某些個別人士之檢驗乃重複
 *This indicates the number of specimens and not persons as tests are repeated for certain individuals

	Aug 85 - Aug 89		September 89		Total	
	No. tested	No. +ve	No. tested	No. +ve	No. tested	No. +ve
香港紅十字會輸血服務 Hong Kong Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service	606 971	9	11 916	0	618 887	9

Department of Health
October 1989

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CHANGE IN PERMITTED RENT LEVELS

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THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT HAS REMINDED THE PUBLIC THAT ONE OF THE CHANGES MADE BY RESOLUTION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON JULY 12 THIS YEAR UNDER THE LANDLORD AND TENANT (CONSOLIDATION) ORDINANCE WILL COME INTO EFFECT TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT UNDER THE RESOLUTION THE PERMITTED RENT OF PRE-WAR DOMESTIC PREMISES WOULD BE RAISED FROM 39 TO 43 TIMES THE STANDARD RENT OF THE PREMISES.

"WHERE THE CURRENT RENT IS LESS THAN THE PERMITTED RENT, THE LANDLORD MAY SERVE A NOTICE IN THE SPECIFIED FORM ON THE TENANT INCREASING THE RENT TO THE PERMITTED LEVEL," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE PROVISION FOR RAISING THE MINIMUM RENT OF POST-WAR DOMESTIC PREMISES FROM 60 PER CENT TO 65 PER CENT OF THE PREVAILING MARKET RENT UNDER PART II OF THE ORDINANCE WOULD NOT BECOME OPERATIVE UNTIL DECEMBER 19 THIS YEAR.

ANYONE HAVING ENQUIRIES ON THE CHANGE CAN OBTAIN ASSISTANCE FROM RENT OFFICERS OF THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT (TEL. 5-8957888) OR THE STAFF OF THE DISTRICT OFFICES.

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DESPATCH OF FORMS TO OBTAIN INFORMATION FROM RATEPAYERS

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THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT IS NOW PREPARING FOR THE NEXT GENERAL REVALUATION WHEN ALL EXISTING RATEABLE VALUES WILL BE REVIEWED.

THE REVISED RATEABLE VALUES ARE SCHEDULED TO TAKE EFFECT ON APRIL 1, 1991.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THE DEPARTMENT HAD JUST COMMENCED ISSUING REQUISITION FORMS TO OBTAIN DETAILS OF CURRENT RENTS IN RESPECT OF DIFFERENT CATEGORIES OF PROPERTY.

SOME 75,000 FORMS ARE TO BE DESPACHED TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) TO RATEPAYERS OF SEPARATELY ASSESSED CAR-PARKING SPACES. FOR ALL OTHER TYPES OF PROPERTY, REQUISITION FORMS WILL BE SENT IN EARLY JANUARY.

IF A RATEPAYER RECEIVES A REQUISITION FORM FOR A CAR-PARKING SPACE WHICH IS LEASED TOGETHER WITH OTHER ACCOMMODATION AT A RENT WHICH CANNOT BE APPORTIONED, HE SHOULD REPORT THE ACTUAL AMOUNT OF RENT PAYABLE AND PROVIDE THE ADDRESS OF THE OTHER ACCOMMODATION.

/"RATEPAYERS WHO

"RATEPAYERS WHO RECEIVE THE FORMS MUST COMPLETE AND RETURN THEM TO THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT WITHIN 21 DAYS, USING THE RETURN ENVELOPE PROVIDED." THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

ANYONE WHO IS IN DOUBT AS TO HOW TO COMPLETE THE FORM MAY VISIT, OR TELEPHONE, THE DEPARTMENT AT THE 17TH FLOOR OF HENNESSY CENTRE, 500 HENNESSY ROAD, CAUSEWAY BAY, HONG KONG (TEL. 5-8957666) FOR ASSISTANCE.

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION AT LUNG KWU TAN

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AN AGREEMENT ON CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND A CULTURAL INSTITUTION IN THE RESCUE EXCAVATION OF LUNG KWU TAN IN TUEN MUN WAS SIGNED RECENTLY.

THE EXCAVATION, THE FIRST CO-OPERATIVE PROJECT OF THIS NATURE, IS BEING CONDUCTED JOINTLY BY THE ANTIQUITIES AND MONUMENTS OFFICE OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE BRANCH AND THE INSTITUTE OF CHINESE STUDIES OF THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

LUNG KWU TAN HAS BEEN RATED BY AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTANT AS ONE OF THE FIVE MOST SIGNIFICANT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES IN HONG KONG.

PART OF THE SITE IS KNOWN TO BE AFFECTED BY THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SOUTH ACCESS TO THE NIM WAN SOUTH CONTROLLED TIP PROJECT.

A RESCUE EXCAVATION FUNDED BY THE TIP PROJECT VOTE HAS BEEN UNDERTAKEN TO ASSESS THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL OF THE SITE AND TO OBTAIN MAXIMUM DATA FROM IT BEFORE ROAD WORK STARTS.

THE EXCAVATION BEGAN EARLY THIS MONTH AND IS EXPECTED TO CONTINUE UNTIL THE END OF MARCH.

SOME PREHISTORIC POTTERY AND STONE ARTEFACTS HAVE BEEN UNEARTHED.

A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS HAVE PLEDGED THEIR SUPPORT AND THE HONG KONG MUSEUM OF HISTORY HAS ALSO PROVIDED INVALUABLE ASSISTANCE.

AN INFORMAL CEREMONY WAS HELD TO MARK THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE EXCAVATION.

VILLAGE ELDERS OF LUNG KWU TAN AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE INSTITUTE OF CHINESE STUDIES WERE AMONG THOSE WHO ATTENDED.

A SIMPLE RITUAL CEREMONY WAS PERFORMED TO HELP ENSURE THE EXCAVATION PROCEEDED SMOOTHLY.

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ORIENTEERING ACTIVITY FOR CENTRAL AND WESTERN RESIDENTS
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A "TREASURE HUNT" IS BEING ORGANISED FOR CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT RESIDENTS AT CHATER GARDEN ON DECEMBER 2.

THE "SEARCH FOR TREASURE" GAME IS ONE OF THE 40 ACTIVITIES BEING ORGANISED FOR THE THIRD CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT FESTIVAL, WHICH WAS OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED LAST SUNDAY (OCTOBER 29).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DISTRICT FESTIVAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT PARTICIPANTS ARE REQUIRED TO FINISH A DESIGNATED ROUTE WITHIN CHATER GARDEN BEFORE ANSWERING QUESTIONS ON THE DISTRICT.

"THE EVENT AIMS TO AROUSE CIVIC AWARENESS AMONG DISTRICT RESIDENTS THROUGH PARTICIPATION.

"ATTRACTIVE PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED TO PARTICIPANTS BASED ON THEIR SCORES," HE ADDED.

THE EVENT IS BEING JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT FESTIVAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE, THE DISTRICT BOARD, DISTRICT OFFICE, CHUNG WAN AREA COMMITTEE, THE HONG KONG ORIENTEERING CLUB AND THE URBAN COUNCIL.

ENTRY FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE THREE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE PUBLIC ENQUIRY CENTRES AT HARBOUR BUILDING, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (WEST WING) AND BELCHER'S STREET.

THE COMPLETED FORM, TOGETHER WITH A STAMPED RETURN ENVELOPE, SHOULD BE SENT TO THE DISTRICT OFFICE ON THE 11TH FLOOR OF HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL. THE DEADLINE FOR ENTRY IS NOVEMBER 25.

ENROLMENT IS LIMITED TO 300 PARTICIPANTS AND, THEREFORE, WILL BE ACCEPTED ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS.

TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 5-8523499.

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HOME CLEANLINESS COLOURING CONTEST
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A COLOURING CONTEST IS BEING HELD IN YAU TSIM DISTRICT TO ENHANCE CHILDREN'S AWARENESS OF THE NECESSITY OF KEEPING THEIR LIVING ENVIRONMENT CLEAN.

PARTICIPANTS ARE REQUIRED TO COLOUR A DRAWING WHICH DEPICTS A FAMILY CLEANING AND TIDYING UP THEIR HOME.

ALL CHILDREN, AGED UNDER 12 YEARS, WHO LIVE IN THE DISTRICT ARE WELCOME TO ENTER THE CONTEST.

/COPIES OF

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COPIES OF THE DRAWING ARE AVAILABLE AT THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICE AT 490 NATHAN ROAD AND ITS TSIM SHA TSUI SUB-OFFICE AT 40 CARNARVON ROAD. ENTRIES SHOULD BE RETURNED BEFORE NOVEMBER 24.

THERE WILL BE ATTRACTIVE PRIZES FOR THE TOP THREE WINNERS AND 10 OTHER OUTSTANDING ENTRIES.

THE CONTEST, SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD AND THE URBAN COUNCIL, IS PART OF THE DISTRICT'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT CAMPAIGN.

OTHER EVENTS OF THE CAMPAIGN INCLUDE A SEMINAR ON HOME CLEANLINESS, A COOKED FOOD STALL CLEANLINESS CONTEST AND THE REMOVAL OF ABANDONED SIGNBOARDS.

TO ENCOURAGE RESIDENTS TO JOIN THE CLEAN-UP DRIVE, A CLEANLINESS CONTEST WAS HELD EARLIER THIS MONTH IN BUILDINGS IN THE DISTRICT.

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DISTRICT OFFICER TO MEET RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVES

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KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICER, MR PAUL TANG, WILL MEET REPRESENTATIVES OF ABOUT 300 MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND 100 OWNERS' CORPORATIONS IN THE DISTRICT IN GROUPS OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON COMMUNITY BUILDING MATTERS.

THE MEETINGS ARE BEING ORGANISED BY THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICE.

REPRESENTATIVES OF MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND OWNERS' CORPORATIONS OF TSING YI CENTRAL AND SOUTH SUB-DISTRICT WILL ATTEND A MEETING ON THURSDAY (NOVEMBER 2).

SEVEN OTHER SIMILAR MEETINGS WILL BE ORGANISED FOR MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND OWNERS' CORPORATIONS OF KWAI CHUNG EAST, KWAI CHUNG SOUTH, KWAI CHUNG WEST, KWAI CHUNG NORTH, KWAI CHUNG CENTRAL, KWAI SHING AND TSING YI NORTH SUB-DISTRICTS.

IN ADDITION TO EXCHANGING VIEWS WITH THE DISTRICT OFFICER, THE REPRESENTATIVES CAN ALSO DISCUSS VARIOUS LOCAL ISSUES WITH OTHER STAFF OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE.

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AGE LIMIT LOWERED FOR ELDERLY SCHEME

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THE AGE LIMIT FOR PARTICIPATING IN A PREFERENTIAL SCHEME FOR THE ELDERLY IN THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT WILL BE LOWERED FROM 65 TO 60 AS FROM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE SCHEME, WHICH IS BEING ADMINISTERED BY A WORKING GROUP UNDER THE DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE, IS OPEN TO ALL THOSE AGED 60 OR ABOVE IN THE DISTRICT.

PARTICIPANTS ARE OFFERED DISCOUNT RATES BY MORE THAN 70 REGISTERED DOCTORS AND DENTISTS IN SHAM SHUI PO.

THEY CAN ALSO MAKE PURCHASES AT DISCOUNTED PRICES AT CERTAIN OPTICAL SHOPS, DRUG STORES, A DRIED SEAFOOD CENTRE AND THE HONG KONG INTER-ASSOCIATION SERVICE CENTRE.

AT PRESENT, MORE THAN 1,200 ELDERLY PEOPLE IN THE DISTRICT ARE BENEFITTING FROM THE SCHEME. TO ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION, A PROMOTION CAMPAIGN AND A CARNIVAL WILL BE HELD.

THOSE WHO WISH TO JOIN MAY APPROACH THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE AT 37-39 TONKIN STREET AND ITS SUB-OFFICES FOR DETAILS.

THE WORKING GROUP WILL ALSO PUBLISH A BOOKLET LISTING THE DOCTORS AND DENTISTS PARTICIPATING IN THE SCHEME AS WELL AS THE TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, POLICE STATIONS AND ELDERLY CENTRES IN SHAM SHUI PO.

IT WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION FREE OF CHARGE AT THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS SUB-OFFICES.

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VEHICLE EMISSION ON DB COMMITTEE AGENDA

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THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS THE EMISSION OF BLACK SMOKE BY PUBLIC VEHICLES AT ITS MEETING ON THURSDAY (NOVEMBER 2).

IT WILL ALSO CONSIDER PROPOSED ROADWORKS AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT MEASURES WHICH ARE REQUIRED TO COPE WITH THE EXPECTED TRAFFIC FLOW TO BE GENERATED BY THE SHAU KEI WAN FOOTHILLS PUBLIC HOUSING DEVELOPMENT.

MEMBERS WILL PROPOSE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE ROAD SIGNS ALONG THE NEWLY-OPENED ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR STAGE THREE.

/OTHER AGENDA

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS INCLUDE THE ERECTION OF INFORMATIVE SIGNBOARDS AT ROADWORK SITES AND A PROPOSAL TO INSTALL PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS AT THE JUNCTION OF TIN HAU TEMPLE ROAD WITH PAK FUK ROAD AND TIN HAU TEMPLE ROAD WITH BRAEMAR HILL ROAD.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD'S TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE ON THURSDAY (NOVEMBER 2) IN THE DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, FIRST FLOOR, 880-886 KING'S ROAD.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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FULL HONOURS FOR SENIOR FIREMAN

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THE FUNERAL OF SENIOR FIREMAN CHAN JENG-YU WAS HELD WITH FULL FIRE SERVICES HONOURS TODAY (TUESDAY).

MR CHAN DIED FROM INJURIES SUSTAINED IN THE COURSE OF DUTIES. DURING THE FIGHTING OF A NO.4 ALARM FIRE AT SUN HING BUILDING IN NATHAN ROAD LAST WEEK.

THE OFFICIAL CEREMONY WAS HELD AT TSIM SHA TSUI FIRE STATION, WHERE THE LATE SENIOR FIREMAN CHAN WAS LAST POSTED, AFTER A RELIGIOUS SERVICE AT THE UNIVERSAL FUNERAL PARLOUR IN HUNG HOM.

THE COFFIN, DRAPED WITH THE UNION JACK AND ESCORTED BY SIX PALL-BEARERS, ARRIVED AT THE FIRE STATION ON BOARD A HEARSE WHICH WAS AN OLD-STYLE FIRE APPLIANCE.

WREATHS FROM THE GOVERNOR, THE DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES AND OTHER SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WERE LAID AT THE CEREMONY.

THE CORTEGE THEN MOVED ON TO THE SCENE OF THE FIRE, WHERE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE LOCAL COMMUNITY PAID THEIR LAST RESPECTS TO THE DECEASED AND STREET RITUALS WERE PERFORMED. IT LATER PROCEEDED TO THE CHAI WAN CHINESE PERMANENT CEMETERY FOR THE BURIAL CEREMONY.

BORN IN 1951, THE LATE SENIOR FIREMAN CHAN JOINED THE FIRE SERVICES AS A FIREMAN IN 1972 AND WAS PROMOTED TO SENIOR FIREMAN IN 1982.

HE IS SURVIVED BY HIS WIFE AND TWO SONS, AGED 12 AND SEVEN.

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DEATH SENTENCES COMMUTED

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THE GOVERNOR, AFTER TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE ADVICE OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, HAS DECIDED THAT THE DEATH SENTENCE PASSED ON CHOW CHEUNG-MING ON OCTOBER 26, 1987 SHOULD BE COMMUTED TO A SENTENCE OF 25 YEARS' IMPRISONMENT.

CHOW WAS FOUND GUILTY OF THE MURDER OF NGAN LEE.

THE GOVERNOR, AFTER TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE ADVICE OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, HAS ALSO DECIDED THAT THE DEATH SENTENCE PASSED ON NG SO-CHING ON FEBRUARY 3, 1988 SHOULD BE COMMUTED TO A SENTENCE OF 20 YEARS' IMPRISONMENT.

NG WAS FOUND GUILTY OF THE MURDER OF FUNG LEUNG CHEUK-IN.

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PRESENTATION OF DRAMA COMPETITION PRIZES

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THE PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE 1989-90 KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN INTER-SCHOOL DRAMA COMPETITION WILL BE HELD AT THE CITY HALL THEATRE TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE COMPETITION WAS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE JOINT URBAN COUNCIL/REGIONAL COUNCIL KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN STEERING COMMITTEE AND THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

ITS AIM WAS TO REINFORCE THE MESSAGE OF KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN TO ENHANCE THE CIVIC-MINDEDNESS OF STUDENTS THROUGH DRAMATISATION OF CHARACTERS AND INCIDENTS.

OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT URBAN COUNCIL/REGIONAL COUNCIL KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN STEERING COMMITTEE, DR PANG HOK-TUEN; VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE, MR TONG KAM-BIU; AND DEPUTY CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, MRS C.H. KONG.

PRIZES WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE WINNERS OF BEST PERFORMANCE, BEST SCRIPT, BEST DIRECTOR AND BEST PERFORMER IN EACH OF THE PRIMARY SCHOOL AND SECONDARY SCHOOL SECTIONS.

AFTER THE CEREMONY, THE WINNERS OF THE BEST PERFORMANCE PRIZES WILL PERFORM THEIR DRAMAS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY AND WINNERS' PERFORMANCE OF THE 1989-90 KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN INTER-SCHOOL DRAMA COMPETITION TO BE HELD AT THE CITY HALL THEATRE AT 7.30 PM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

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BARGAINS AT CSD AUTUMN FAIR
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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC CAN BUY ATTRACTIVE STUFFED TOYS AND HANDICRAFT ITEMS AT BARGAIN PRICES AND AT THE SAME TIME CONTRIBUTE TO CHARITY AT THE AUTUMN FAIR OF THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY (NOVEMBER 4).

THE FAIR MARKS THE ANNUAL SALE OF ARTS AND HANDICRAFT PRODUCTS MADE BY INMATES DURING THEIR DETENTION IN VARIOUS PENAL INSTITUTIONS RUN BY THE DEPARTMENT. PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE WILL BE DONATED TO CHARITABLE ORGANISATIONS.

"THE PURPOSE OF THE FAIR IS TO MOTIVATE THE INMATES TO ADOPT A POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARDS THEIR FUTURE AS WELL AS TO ENHANCE THEIR SENSE OF CONTRIBUTION TO SOCIETY," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

A VARIETY OF PRODUCTS, INCLUDING STUFFED TOYS, HANDICRAFTS, RATTAN AND WOODEN FURNITURE, WILL BE ON SALE AT SOME 30 STALLS.

THERE WILL ALSO BE GAME STALLS FOR CHILDREN.

IN ADDITION, THE CIVIL AID SERVICES' BICYCLE TEAM, TAI TAM GIRL PIPERS AND MARCHING TEAM, AND CAPE COLLINSON BAND WILL PERFORM AT THE FAIR.

THE FAIR WILL BE HELD BETWEEN NOON AND 5 PM AT THE FOOTBALL FIELD NEXT TO STANLEY PRISON. ADMISSION IS FREE.

AS PARKING PLACES ARE LIMITED, VISITORS ARE ADVISED TO TRAVEL BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT.

THEY CAN TAKE BUSES NOS. 6 OR 260 (FROM CENTRAL), NO. 73 (FROM WAH FU ESTATE), NO. 63 (FROM NORTH POINT) OR NO. 14 (FROM SAI WAN HO).

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF MARSH ROAD
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT TO FACILITATE WATER-MAIN LAYING WORKS, MARSH ROAD SOUTHBOUND BETWEEN GLOUCESTER ROAD AND JAFFE ROAD IN WAN CHAI WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 10 AM ON THURSDAY (NOVEMBER 2) FOR ABOUT TWO WEEKS.

DURING THE CLOSURE, JAFFE ROAD BETWEEN MARSH ROAD AND CANAL ROAD WEST WILL BE RE-ROUTED TO ONE-WAY WESTBOUND. VEHICLES HEADING FOR THIS SECTION OF JAFFE ROAD WILL HAVE TO GAIN ACCESS FROM CANAL ROAD WEST.

VEHICLES ON GLOUCESTER ROAD SERVICE ROAD HEADING FOR LOCKHART ROAD MAY USE TONNOCHY ROAD.

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF CANAL ROAD FLYOVER DOWN-RAMP
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT TO FACILITATE ROAD RESURFACING WORKS, THE DOWN-RAMP LEADING FROM CANAL ROAD FLYOVER TO CANAL ROAD EAST WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 1.15 AM TO 6 AM DAILY ON THURSDAY AND FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 2 AND 3).

VEHICLES FROM CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL HEADING FOR LEIGHTON ROAD AND MORRISON HILL ROAD MAY TRAVEL VIA THE EXIT ROAD LEADING TO CAUSEWAY BAY, GLOUCESTER ROAD FLYOVER, GLOUCESTER ROAD SERVICE ROAD, PERCIVAL STREET SOUTHBOUND AND LEIGHTON ROAD WESTBOUND.

BUSES ON CROSS HARBOUR ROUTES 121 AND 122, ON THEIR JOURNEYS TO CENTRAL AND NORTH POINT RESPECTIVELY, WILL TAKE THE SAME DIVERSION.

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