



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES  
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 842 8777

THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 1994

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THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 1994

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CS SPEAKS TO PRESS AFTER VISITING WAN CHAI POLICE STATION

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MRS CHAN : GOOD AFTERNOON EVERYONE. I HAVE JUST COME FROM SOME VERY USEFUL DISCUSSIONS WITH THE CP AND HIS STAFF AND HAVE BEEN FORTUNATE TO SEE FOR MYSELF SOME ASPECTS OF THE POLICE WORK. THE COMMISSIONER AND HIS STAFF ARE CLEARLY DOING AN EXCELLENT JOB IN ENSURING THAT OUR STREETS CONTINUE TO BE FREE OF CRIME AND SAFE FOR OUR POPULATION AND WE OBVIOUSLY ARE KEEN TO ENSURE THAT THE POLICE CONTINUE TO HAVE THE RESOURCES THAT THEY NEED TO COMBAT CRIME. I'D ALSO LIKE TO SAY A FEW WORDS ABOUT THE BUDGET. YESTERDAY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY DELIVERED A REMARKABLE BUDGET AND I THINK IN THIS BUDGET EVERYBODY CAN SEE SOMETHING IN IT FOR THEMSELVES. IT UNDERLINES THE STRENGTH OF OUR ECONOMY. IT SAYS A GREAT DEAL ABOUT THE EFFICACY OF OUR FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES. FOR THE SECOND YEAR RUNNING, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY HAS BEEN ABLE TO INCREASE PUBLIC EXPENDITURE IN THE AREAS THAT THE COMMUNITY WISHES TO SEE MORE RESOURCES BEING SPENT. AT THE SAME TIME, HE HAS BEEN ABLE TO CUT TAXES SO THAT EVERYBODY BENEFITS AND ALSO STRENGTHEN THE POSITION OF OUR RESERVES. I HOPE THAT THIS WILL SEND A CLEAR STATEMENT OF CONFIDENCE TO NOT ONLY OUR OWN COMMUNITY BUT ALSO TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND THAT IT WILL BE REASSURING FOR THE CHINESE PARTICULARLY IN NOTING THAT AFTER 1997 THE SAR GOVERNMENT WILL INHERIT AN EXTREMELY STRONG FINANCIAL POSITION. I UNDERSTAND THAT THE EXPERT TALKS ON THE AIRPORT FINANCING ARRANGEMENT IS STILL GOING ON. WE HAVE, AS YOU KNOW, PUT FORWARD A FOURTH FINANCING PROPOSAL TO THE CHINESE WHICH, WE HOPE, ADDRESSES ALL THE CONCERNS THAT THE CHINESE HAD PUT TO US IN PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS AND WE LOOK FORWARD VERY MUCH TO A POSITIVE RESPONSE FROM THE CHINESE AND TO EARLY AGREEMENT SO THAT THE AIRPORT PROJECT CAN GO AHEAD AT FULL SPEED.

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BUDGET TO SEND A STATEMENT OF CONFIDENCE: CS

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THE CHIEF SECRETARY, MRS ANSON CHAN, THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON SAID SHE HOPED THE REMARKABLE BUDGET DELIVERED BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY YESTERDAY WOULD SEND A CLEAR STATEMENT OF CONFIDENCE TO NOT ONLY THE LOCAL COMMUNITY BUT ALSO TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

"IT WILL BE REASSURING FOR THE CHINESE PARTICULARLY IN NOTING THAT AFTER 1997, THE SAR GOVERNMENT WILL INHERIT AN EXTREMELY STRONG FINANCIAL POSITION," SHE SAID.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER HER VISIT TO THE WAN CHAI POLICE STATION, THE CHIEF SECRETARY SAID: "I THINK IN THIS BUDGET EVERYBODY CAN SEE SOMETHING IN IT FOR THEMSELVES. IT UNDERLINES THE STRENGTH OF OUR ECONOMY.

"IT SAYS A GREAT DEAL ABOUT THE EFFICACY OF OUR FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES."

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FOR THE SECOND YEAR RUNNING, MRS CHAN SAID, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY HAD BEEN ABLE TO INCREASE PUBLIC EXPENDITURE IN THE AREAS THAT THE COMMUNITY WISHED TO SEE MORE RESOURCES BEING SPENT.

"AT THE SAME TIME, HE HAS BEEN ABLE TO CUT TAXES SO THAT EVERYBODY BENEFITS AND ALSO STRENGTHEN THE POSITION OF OUR RESERVES," SHE SAID.

ON THE EXPERT TALKS ON THE AIRPORT FINANCING ARRANGEMENT, MRS CHAN SAID: "WE HAVE, AS YOU KNOW, PUT FORWARD A FOURTH FINANCING PROPOSAL TO THE CHINESE WHICH, WE HOPE, ADDRESSES ALL THE CONCERNS THAT THE CHINESE HAD PUT TO US IN PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS.

"WE LOOK FORWARD VERY MUCH TO A POSITIVE RESPONSE FROM THE CHINESE AND TO EARLY AGREEMENT SO THAT THE AIRPORT PROJECT CAN GO AHEAD AT FULL SPEED."

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#### AIRPORT TALKS RESTART

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IN ANSWER TO MEDIA QUESTIONS ON THIS AFTERNOON'S EXPERT LEVEL TALKS ON AIRPORT AND AIRPORT RAILWAY FINANCING, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID:

"WE ARE PLEASED THAT TALKS WITH THE CHINESE SIDE ON AIRPORT AND AIRPORT RAILWAY FINANCING HAVE RESTARTED ON A CONSTRUCTIVE BASIS.

"THIS AFTERNOON THE CHINESE SIDE ASKED VARIOUS QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR FOURTH FINANCING PROPOSAL, AND WE WILL BE PROVIDING THEM WITH ANSWERS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

"WE NOW HOPE THAT TODAY'S FRIENDLY AND POSITIVE MEETING, WHICH TOOK PLACE AT EXPERT LEVEL, WILL PAVE THE WAY FOR AN EARLY MEETING OF THE AIRPORT COMMITTEE."

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#### VIEWS INVITED ON MUNICIPAL COUNCIL CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES

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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE INVITED TO GIVE THEIR VIEWS ON THE PROVISIONAL ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES DETERMINED BY THE BOUNDARY AND ELECTION COMMISSION (BEC) FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTITUENCIES OF THE URBAN COUNCIL AND REGIONAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS IN 1995.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (THURSDAY), THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION, THE HONOURABLE MR JUSTICE WOO KWOK-HING, SAID REPRESENTATIONS SHOULD BE SENT TO THE COMMISSION SECRETARIAT BETWEEN MARCH 4 AND APRIL 2.

/"THE COMMISSION .....

"THE COMMISSION WILL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR BY END OF APRIL AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE CONSULTATION EXERCISE," MR JUSTICE WOO SAID.

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE, MR JUSTICE WOO SAID SIMILAR TO THE DELINEATION OF THE DISTRICT BOARD (DB) CONSTITUENCIES, THE BEC WAS REQUIRED TO DETERMINE ITS PROVISIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE PROPOSED CONSTITUENCIES FOR THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS ON THE BASIS OF THE STATUTORY CRITERIA PRESCRIBED UNDER THE LAW.

"THE MAIN CRITERION IS THE POPULATION FACTOR. OTHER FACTORS WHICH THE COMMISSION CONSIDERS INCLUDE COMMUNITY IDENTITIES, PRESERVATION OF LOCAL TIES, PHYSICAL FEATURES, ACCESSIBILITY AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE RELEVANT AREAS. THE COMMISSION APPLIES THESE CRITERIA FAIRLY AND CONSISTENTLY IN ITS DELINEATION OF THE PROPOSED CONSTITUENCIES," HE SAID.

MR JUSTICE WOO POINTED OUT THAT AS DISTINCT FROM THE DEMARCATION OF THE DB CONSTITUENCIES, THE NUMBER OF MUNICIPAL COUNCIL CONSTITUENCIES PROPOSED BY THE BEC MUST BE EQUAL TO THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS THAT MAY BE ELECTED TO THE PUBLIC BODY CONCERNED, THAT IS, 32 FOR THE URBAN COUNCIL AND 27 FOR THE REGIONAL COUNCIL.

"THE COMMISSION HAS NO DISCRETION TO INCREASE OR REDUCE THE NUMBER AND HENCE THERE IS NO FLEXIBILITY WHATSOEVER IN THIS RESPECT. FURTHERMORE, EACH PROPOSED MUNICIPAL COUNCIL CONSTITUENCY HAS TO BE A COMBINATION OF TWO OR MORE WHOLE NEW DB CONSTITUENCIES.

"THE COMMISSION'S PROVISIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS HAVE BEEN DRAWN UP AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION AND BALANCE OF ALL THE RELEVANT FACTORS.

"TO PRESERVE THE INTEGRITY AND COMMUNITY TIES OF INDIVIDUAL DISTRICTS AND TO AVOID FORMING PROPOSED CONSTITUENCY WITH DB CONSTITUENCIES FROM DIFFERENT DISTRICTS, THE COMMISSION FINDS IT DESIRABLE THAT THREE OF THE PROPOSED CONSTITUENCIES SHOULD DEVIATE FROM THE POPULATION QUOTA BEYOND THE +/- 25 PER CENT LIMIT," MR JUSTICE WOO SAID.

A NOTICE OF THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION WILL BE GAZETTED ON FRIDAY (MARCH 4).

MAPS SHOWING THE DELINEATION OF THE PROPOSED CONSTITUENCY AREAS AND DESCRIPTION TABLES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION BETWEEN MARCH 4 AND APRIL 6 AT OVER 440 LOCATIONS IN THE TERRITORY. THEY INCLUDE:

- \* REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL OFFICE ON THE 10TH FLOOR IN HARBOUR CENTRE AT 25 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI;
- \* THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION HEADQUARTERS AT SOUTHOEN CENTRE, 130 HENNESSY ROAD; DISTRICT OFFICES AND SUB-OFFICES;
- \* ESTATE OFFICES OF ALL PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES;

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- \* ALL URBAN COUNCIL AND REGIONAL COUNCIL PUBLIC LIBRARIES;
- \* ALL POST OFFICES; AND
- \* THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE ON THE GROUND FLOOR IN GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL.

WRITTEN REPRESENTATIONS, WITH NAMES AND ADDRESSES, SHOULD BE SENT ON OR BEFORE SATURDAY, APRIL 2 TO THE BOUNDARY AND ELECTION COMMISSION SECRETARIAT ON THE 10TH FLOOR IN HARBOUR CENTRE AT 25 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG.

MR JUSTICE WOO EXPLAINED THAT THE BOUNDARY AND ELECTION COMMISSION ORDINANCE ALLOWED ONLY 30 DAYS FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION AND THAT SUBMISSIONS MADE AFTER APRIL 2 WOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED.

DURING MARCH 21 - 26, MR JUSTICE WOO WILL MEET, BY APPOINTMENT, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO MAKE VERBAL REPRESENTATIONS AT THE COMMISSION'S OFFICE. APPOINTMENTS MAY BE MADE AT 827 7144 ON OR BEFORE MARCH 16, 1994. THESE MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

ENQUIRIES REGARDING THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE WITH THE BOUNDARY AND ELECTION COMMISSION SECRETARIAT AT 827 7144.

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#### VEGETABLES FOUND PESTICIDE-TAINTED

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A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TODAY (THURSDAY) CONFIRMED THAT TWO VEGETABLE SAMPLES WERE TESTED POSITIVE FOR THE PESTICIDE, METHAMIDOPHOS.

THE SAMPLES OF MATRIMONY VINE OR GAU GEI WERE TAKEN FROM CHEUNG SHA WAN VEGETABLE WHOLESALE MARKET ON TUESDAY (MARCH 1).

INITIAL INVESTIGATION REVEALED THAT THESE TWO BATCHES OF VEGETABLE WERE IMPORTED FROM THE SHENZHEN AND GUANGZHOU AREAS.

THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES HAVE BEEN INFORMED OF THE FINDINGS FOR THEIR NECESSARY ACTION, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE ADDED THAT THE DEPARTMENT WOULD TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION AT THE MAN KAM TO BORDER CHECKPOINT.

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LABOUR IMPORT APPLICATIONS CLOSE ON MARCH 25

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EMPLOYERS WHO WISH TO IMPORT WORKERS UNDER THE IMPORTATION OF LABOUR SCHEME HAVE UNTIL MARCH 25 TO SEND IN PRELIMINARY APPLICATIONS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT SAID THEY SHOULD SUBMIT THEIR APPLICATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

"LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ENTERTAINED," HE ADDED.

APPLICATION FORMS AND GUIDANCE NOTES CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT, THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT OR DISTRICT OFFICES.

ABOUT 11,000 QUOTAS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR RE-USE THIS YEAR.

"IT IS IN THE INTEREST OF EMPLOYERS TO SUBMIT THEIR APPLICATIONS IN THE FIRST AVAILABLE OPPORTUNITY IF THEY WANT TO AVOID LAST-MINUTE RUSH," HE SAID.

ENQUIRIES ON IMMIGRATION-RELATED MATTERS MAY BE MADE OF THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT BY TELEPHONE ON 829 3220 AND 829 3225.

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SAN PO KONG ILLEGAL BUILDING WORKS TO BE CLOSED

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS SEEKING TO CLOSE THE UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS IN THE BASEMENT OF A BUILDING IN SAN PO KONG UNTIL ITS FIRE SAFETY MEASURES MEET THE CODE OF PRACTICE FOR MEANS OF ESCAPE IN A FIRE AND OTHER RELEVANT REGULATIONS.

SAN PO KONG MANSION IS LOCATED AT 84-114 CHOI HUNG ROAD, 2-32 YIN HING STREET AND 6-14 TSEUK LUK STREET.

A NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER FROM THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE ON MARCH 31 WAS POSTED ON THE BUILDING TODAY (THURSDAY).

DEMOLITION WORK IS EXPECTED TO START ONCE THE TEMPORARY CLOSURE ORDER IS ISSUED. THE ORDER WILL BE LIFTED WHEN THE NECESSARY WORKS ARE COMPLETED.

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WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICER CALLS FOR SUPPORT OF BUDGET

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WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR PETER MANN, HAS CALLED ON DISTRICT DIGNITARIES AND LOCAL RESIDENTS TO SUPPORT THE NEWLY RELEASED 1994/95 BUDGET.

SPEAKING AT THE WAN CHAI KAIFONG SPRING RECEPTION CUM ELDERLY NIGHT THIS (THURSDAY) EVENING, HE SAID THE BUDGET WAS GENEROUS, WITH AN INCREASE IN PERSONAL ALLOWANCES AND A NEW ALLOWANCE INTRODUCED FOR DEPENDENT GRANDPARENTS.

"UNDER THE PROPOSALS, ABOUT 420,000 TAXPAYERS WILL DROP OUT OF THE TAX NET WHILE A FURTHER 1,130,000 SANDWICH CLASS PEOPLE WILL PAY LESS TAX," HE SAID.

EXPRESSING THANKS TO THE WAN CHAI KAIFONG ASSOCIATION FOR ITS VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION IN THE PAST YEAR, MR MANN HOPED IT WOULD CONTINUE TO GIVE FULL BACKING TO GOVERNMENT POLICIES.

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AFD DIRECTOR COMMENDS STAFF ON SUGGESTIONS SCHEME

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THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE, TODAY (THURSDAY) COMMENDED 15 COLLEAGUES FOR THEIR MERITORIOUS AND INNOVATIVE IDEAS UNDER THE DEPARTMENTAL STAFF SUGGESTIONS SCHEME.

AT A CEREMONY HELD AT THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT (AFD) THIS MORNING, DR LEE PRESENTED AWARDS AND CASH PRIZES, TOTALLING \$23,200, TO THE 15 DEPARTMENTAL STAFF MEMBERS.

DR LEE THANKED THE STAFF FOR THEIR INITIATIVES, SAYING THAT THE AFD STAFF SUGGESTIONS SCHEME HAD BEEN A SUCCESS SINCE ITS INTRODUCTION LAST YEAR.

HE ALSO CALLED ON ALL MEMBERS OF THE DEPARTMENT TO MAKE SUGGESTIONS SO AS TO MAKE ITS OPERATIONS MORE EFFICIENT AND COST-EFFECTIVE.

THIS YEAR, THE AFD STAFF SUGGESTIONS SCHEME'S TOP HONOUR HAS BEEN AWARDED TO MR WOO TING-KWONG, A FIELD OFFICER I OF THE MA ON SHAN MANAGEMENT CENTRE. HIS ASSISTANTS, MR LIN YAT-SANG AND MR CHEUNG TAK-SHING, WERE ALSO AWARDED.

MR WOO'S NEW DESIGN OF BARBECUE PIT HAS BEEN JUDGED AS MORE DURABLE AND EASY TO INSTALL. IT IS SPECIALLY TAILORED TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM OF EXPANSION CAUSED BY HEAT, WHICH IN TURN WILL SAVE A LOT OF MANPOWER AND RESOURCES IN REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE. AS AN ESTIMATED \$175,000 IS EXPECTED TO BE SAVED ANNUALLY, THIS NEW FACILITY HAS BEEN RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION IN ALL COUNTRY PARKS.

/A "SUBSTANTIAL .....

A "SUBSTANTIAL AWARD" TOGETHER WITH A CASH PRIZE OF \$8,000 WAS GIVEN TO MR WOO AND HIS ASSISTANTS IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR CREATION FOR IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC.

THE TWO RECIPIENTS OF THE "MODERATE AWARD" ARE SENIOR FIELD ASSISTANT MR MAK KOON-LAU AND FIELD OFFICER I MR LAM WAI-MING. CASH AWARDS AT \$3,500 AND \$2,600 WERE PRESENTED TO THEM RESPECTIVELY THIS MORNING.

MR MAK'S MODIFIED TREE CLIMBING TECHNIQUE FOR TREE FELLING, KNOWN AS "LEG STROPS", HAS BEEN PROVED TO BE USEFUL AND SAFE FOR TREE CLIMBERS. THIS TECHNIQUE IS EXPECTED TO BE ADOPTED IN ALL COUNTRY PARKS AS IT ENHANCES THE EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE TREE FELLING TEAMS.

MR LAM'S SUGGESTION IN THE USE OF COMPUTER CARTOON CHARACTERS AND FEATURES FOR THE PRODUCTION OF NOTICES AND POSTERS HAS ALSO BEEN CONSIDERED AS INGENIOUS AND PRACTICABLE IN CONVEYING SIMPLE MESSAGES TO COUNTRY PARK VISITORS.

TEN OTHER AFD STAFF MEMBERS WERE EACH PRESENTED A NOMINAL OR AN ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD WITH CASH PRIZES RANGING FROM \$300 TO \$2,500.

AT TODAY'S CEREMONY, DR LEE PRESENTED LETTERS OF COMMENDATION TO THE SENIOR MANAGER OF VEGETABLE MARKETING ORGANISATION, MR EDWARD LAI AND FOUR STAFF MEMBERS OF AFD'S AGRICULTURE BRANCH IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR GOOD WORK.

DR LEE ALSO PRESENTED SOUVENIRS TO 45 COLLEAGUES WHO HAVE RETIRED OR DUE TO RETIRE IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR LONG AND MERITORIOUS SERVICE IN THE DEPARTMENT.

AMONG THE RECIPIENTS WERE THE FORMER ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (FISHERIES), DR TOMMY YIP KAE-SANG AND ANOTHER RETIRING ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, MR ROY CHILVERS.

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**CONTRACTORS REMINDED OF FIRE SAFETY  
IN HANDLING FLAMMABLE SUBSTANCES**

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CONTRACTORS ARE REMINDED TO COMPLY WITH THE LAW IN TAKING SAFETY PRECAUTIONS TO GUARD AGAINST FIRE HAZARDS WHEN USING FLAMMABLE SUBSTANCES, ESPECIALLY ON BOARD GONDOLAS.

THE SAFETY ADVICE AND THE REQUIRED MEASURES WERE SET OUT IN A LETTER ISSUED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT RECENTLY TO ALL CONTRACTORS IN THE WAKE OF THE FIRE ON A GONDOLA IN YUEN LONG EARLIER THIS YEAR.

THE DEPUTY CHIEF FACTORY INSPECTOR, MR KAN HON-SANG, POINTED OUT THAT CONTRACTORS AND WORKERS SHOULD AVOID USING FLAMMABLE SUBSTANCES ON GONDOLAS IF POSSIBLE.

WHEN THE USE OR HANDLING OF FLAMMABLE SUBSTANCES IS INDISPENSABLE, A NUMBER OF SAFETY MEASURES MUST BE OBSERVED.

UNDER THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS (DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES) REGULATIONS, EVERY CONTAINER HOLDING FLAMMABLE SUBSTANCES SHOULD BE PROPERLY LABELLED AND KEPT IN NON-SPILLABLE METAL CONTAINERS WITH SELF-CLOSING LIDS.

"ADEQUATE INFORMATION, TRAINING IN FIRST-AID, FIRE-FIGHTING AS WELL AS INSTRUCTION AND SUPERVISION SHOULD BE PROVIDED TO EVERY PERSON WHO WORKS WITH OR IS LIKELY TO COME INTO CONTACT WITH A FLAMMABLE SUBSTANCE," MR KAN SAID.

"SMOKING OR USE OF NAKED FLAME SHOULD BE STRICTLY PROHIBITED AND SERVICEABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS SHOULD BE PROVIDED.

"IF THERE IS A RISK OF INDISCRIMINATE DROPPING OF HEATING ELEMENTS SUCH AS CIGARETTE BUTTS FROM UPPER FLOORS, OCCUPANTS OF THE BUILDING UNDER SERVICE SHOULD BE WARNED OF THE HAZARD OR CONSPICUOUS WARNING SIGNS SHOULD BE PUT UP AT SUITABLE PLACES," HE ADDED.

UNDER THE GENERAL DUTIES PROVISION OF THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS ORDINANCE, AN EMPLOYER IS REQUIRED TO PROVIDE AND MAINTAIN A SAFE SYSTEM OF WORK WHICH INCLUDED AN ASSESSMENT OF THE HAZARDS INVOLVED AND AN EMERGENCY PLANNING.

"FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS WILL BE LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM PENALTY OF \$200,000 AND IMPRISONMENT FOR SIX MONTHS," HE ADDED.

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#### ACTING MARINE DIRECTOR WELCOMES INAUGURAL VOYAGE

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THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF MARINE, MR IAN DALE, TODAY (THURSDAY) WELCOMED THE "SEABOURN SPIRIT" ON HER INAUGURAL VOYAGE TO HONG KONG, THE BIGGEST CONTAINER PORT AND ONE OF THE BEST NATURAL HARBOURS IN THE WORLD.

SPEAKING AT A CEREMONY TO MARK THE INAUGURAL CRUISE OF THE SHIP, MR DALE SAID: "YOUR PASSENGERS NO DOUBT ENJOY THE SUPERB FACILITIES AND EXOTIC DESTINATIONS THIS VESSEL OFFERS, BUT THEY RARELY SEE ITS MOST IMPORTANT ATTRIBUTES - ITS SAFETY SYSTEMS."

MR DALE POINTED OUT THAT THE SEA WAS A WONDERFUL WAY TO TRAVEL, BUT SHE CAN BE CRUEL AND FICKLE TO THOSE WHO DO NOT PROTECT THEMSELVES FROM HER WILDER MOMENTS.

REGISTERED IN NORWAY, THE "SEABOURN SPIRIT" MAINTAINED THE HIGHEST STANDARDS IN INTERNATIONAL MARINE SAFETY, HE SAID.

/HE ADDED .....

HE ADDED THAT THERE WERE MANY SHIPS PLYING THE OCEANS THAT OPERATED WELL BELOW BASIC SAFETY LEVEL, POSING DANGER TO THEIR PASSENGERS AND CREW, AND A THREAT TO THE ENVIRONMENT, BUT THE "SEABOURN SPIRIT" WAS CERTAINLY NOT ONE OF THEM.

MR DALE WISHED THE COMPANY OF THE VESSEL, SEABOURN CRUISE LINE, EVERY SUCCESS IN THE EXCITING VENTURE AND THE PASSENGERS AN ENJOYABLE VISIT TO THE THRIVING AND VIBRANT PORT CITY OF HONG KONG.

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186 VIETNAMESE RETURN HOME

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A GROUP OF 186 VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS TODAY (THURSDAY) RETURNED TO VIETNAM UNDER A VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION PROGRAMME OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES.

COMPRISING 75 MEN, 54 WOMEN, 33 BOYS AND 24 GIRLS, THEY WERE THE 205TH BATCH TO GO BACK UNDER THE PROGRAMME.

THIS GROUP BROUGHT TO 3,099 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS WHO HAD RETURNED VOLUNTARILY THIS YEAR, AND TO 41,712 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RETURNEES SINCE THE PROGRAMME STARTED IN MARCH 1989.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND  
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	\$ MILLION
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OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,825
REVERSAL OF LAF	+1,175
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	3,000
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	-730
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,270
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER	TWI 125.5 *-0.1* 3.3.94

/HONG KONG .....

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS

EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	3.73	18 MONTHS	2508	4.625	99.98	4.69
1 MONTH	3.72	21 MONTHS	2511	4.15	98.85	4.91
3 MONTHS	3.77	24 MONTHS	2602	4.40	98.82	5.10
6 MONTHS	3.88	32 MONTHS	3610	4.20	97.21	5.41
12 MONTHS	4.32	35 MONTHS	3701	4.60	97.66	5.56

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 14,798 MN

CLOSED 3 MARCH 1994

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