



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1981

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LANDLORD AND TENANT BILL  
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THE LANDLORD AND TENANT (CONSOLIDATION) (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1981 WAS INTRODUCED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE SECRETARY FOR HOUSING, THE HON DONALD LIAO, IN MOVING THE SECOND READING OF THE BILL, SAID IT WOULD PROVIDE A SYSTEM FOR GIVING REASONABLE SECURITY OF TENURE TO TENANTS OF PREMISES EXCLUDED FROM THE RENT CONTROL LEGISLATION.

IT WOULD ALSO EXTEND TO SUB-TENANTS OF POST-WAR PREMISES THE SAME DEGREE OF RENT CONTROL AS WAS ENJOYED BY PRINCIPAL TENANTS, HE SAID.

MR LIAO SAID THE JURISDICTION OF THE LANDS TRIBUNAL WOULD BE EXPANDED TO PROVIDE A REASONABLE DEGREE OF SECURITY OF TENURE FOR A SITTING TENANT WHOSE LEASE WAS ABOUT TO EXPIRE, AND WHO WAS NOT OTHERWISE PROTECTED, BUT WHO WAS PREPARED TO PAY A FAIR MARKET RENT.

+IN ESSENCE, THE LANDS TRIBUNAL WOULD DECIDE WHETHER A FURTHER TENANCY SHOULD BE GRANTED, AND THE TERMS OF THE NEW TENANCY, WHERE THESE CANNOT BE AGREED BETWEEN LANDLORD AND TENANT,+ HE SAID.

THE NEW PROVISIONS APPLY TO ANY DOMESTIC TENANCY EXCLUDED FROM EITHER PARTS I OR II OF THE ORDINANCE AND WILL MAINLY AFFECT TENANTS OF PREMISES COMPLETED ON OR AFTER JUNE 19, 1981, AND OF PREMISES HAVING A VERY HIGH RATEABLE VALUE.

MR LIAO STRESSED THAT THE PROPOSED SYSTEM WAS NOT ANOTHER FORM OF RENT CONTROL.

+IT SIMPLY SEEKS TO SAFEGUARD A SITTING TENANT OF PREMISES EXCLUDED FROM RENT CONTROL AGAINST AN UNREASONABLE LANDLORD WHO MAY SEEK TO TAKE UNDUE ADVANTAGE OF HIS POSITION BY DEMANDING MORE THAN A FAIR MARKET RENT.+

HE SAID IT WAS INTENDED THAT THESE NEW PROVISIONS WOULD COME INTO OPERATION ON DECEMBER 19, 1981.

ON POSSESSION OF PREMISES FOR REBUILDING, MR LIAO SAID THE BILL WOULD INTRODUCE RESTRICTIONS TO STOP ANY TENDENCY FOR LANDLORDS TO SEEK TO DEMOLISH BUILDINGS SIMPLY TO RID THEMSELVES OF UNWELCOME PROTECTED TENANTS.

IF AN ORDER WAS GRANTED, HE SAID, COMPENSATION WOULD BE PAYABLE TO TENANTS AND SUB-TENANTS, AND OTHER CONDITIONS MIGHT ALSO BE IMPOSED.

/OTHER MATTERS . . . . .

OTHER MATTERS COVERED BY THE BILL INCLUDE :

- \* THE BRINGING INTO LINE OF THE RENT INCREASE PROVISIONS FOR PRE-WAR PREMISES WITH THOSE FOR POST-WAR PREMISES WHERE IMPROVEMENTS HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT BY THE LANDLORD=
- \* THE RIGHTS OF LANDLORDS AND TENANTS OF CONTROLLED POST-WAR TENANCIES DURING THE CONTRACTUAL PERIOD OF A TENANCY, AND DURING THE STATUTORY PERIOD=
- \* THE RIGHTS OF SUB-TENANTS WHERE THE LANDLORD APPLIES FOR POSSESSION OR OPPOSES THE GRANT OF A NEW TENANCY= AND
- \* JURISDICTION UNDER THE ORDINANCE, AND COSTS IN JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS.

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#### PLANS TO RELIEVE TRAFFIC CONGESTION

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS COMPREHENSIVE PLANS TO RELIEVE SERIOUS TRAFFIC CONGESTION DURING RUSH HOURS, THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, THE HON ALAN ARMSTRONG-WRIGHT TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

REPLYING TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON ANDREW SO, MR ARMSTRONG-WRIGHT SAID GOVERNMENT'S BROAD STRATEGY ON TRANSPORT PLANNING AND POLICY IS LAID DOWN IN THE WHITE PAPER ON INTERNAL TRANSPORT.

IT COVERS:

- \* THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE ROAD SYSTEM=
- \* THE EXPANSION AND IMPROVEMENT OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT, IN PARTICULAR OFF-ROAD SYSTEMS SUCH AS THE MTR AND KCR= AND
- \* THE MORE ECONOMIC USE OF ROAD SYSTEMS INCLUDING TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT MEASURES.

+IN KEEPING WITH THIS STRATEGY, A WHOLE SERIES OF PROJECTS IN THE PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME IS BEING IMPLEMENTED, PRIORITIES ARE KEPT UNDER REGULAR REVIEW AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE MACHINERY MONITORS PROGRESS AND OVERSEES TRANSPORT PLANNING,+ HE SAID.

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LAW GOVERNING MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIANS  
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SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION GOVERNING MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIANS UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTARY MEDICAL PROFESSIONS ORDINANCE WILL BE ENACTED DURING THE CURRENT SESSION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, THE DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, DR THE HON K.L. THONG, SAID TODAY.

HE SAID THE DRAFT SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION GOVERNING MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIANS WAS NOW IN AN ADVANCED STAGE OF PREPARATION FOR PRESENTATION TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

DR THONG WAS ANSWERING A QUESTION BY THE HON ALEX WU.

SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION GOVERNING THE OTHER THREE PARA-MEDICAL PROFESSIONS -- RADIOGRAPHY, PHYSIOTHERAPY AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY -- WAS BEING CONSIDERED BY THE RESPECTIVE BOARDS AND WILL BE ENACTED AS SOON AS PROPER PROCEDURES ARE COMPLETED.

DR THONG EXPLAINED THE PROCEDURES THROUGH WHICH SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION UNDER THE ORDINANCE IS PROCESSED BEFORE PRESENTING TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL.

HE SAID GUIDELINES CONCERNING SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION RELEVANT TO A PARTICULAR PARA-MEDICAL PROFESSION WILL FIRST HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED AND DRAFTED BY ITS BOARD AND PUT TO THE SOCIAL SERVICES BRANCH FOR DRAFTING APPROVAL.

THE GUIDELINES ARE THEN FORWARDED TO THE LAW DRAFTSMAN WHO WILL TRANSLATE THEM INTO DRAFT LEGISLATION. THE FINAL DRAFT IS RETURNED TO THE SUPPLEMENTARY MEDICAL PROFESSIONS COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION AND AGREEMENT BEFORE BEING PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL.

DR THONG SAID THAT THE SOONER THE BOARDS COMPLETE THEIR WORK, THE EARLIER CAN DRAFT LEGISLATION BE PROCESSED AND TABLED BEFORE THE COUNCIL.

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DETERRENT EXTENDED  
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THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY) APPROVED A MOTION EXTENDING SECTIONS OF THE MERCHANT SHIPPING (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1979 WHICH PROVIDE FOR THE FORFEITURE OF A VESSEL IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES INVOLVING THE CARRIAGE OF EXCESS PASSENGERS.

IN MOVING THE MOTION, THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, THE HON LEWIS DAVIES SAID THE PROVISIONS WOULD EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 1981 UNLESS THEY WERE EXTENDED BY RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL.

+THESE PROVISIONS,+ HE SAID, +ARE AN IMPORTANT DETERRENT AND THE GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS THAT THEY ARE STILL REQUIRED.+

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+FIRST ASYLUM+ POLICY STILL STANDS  
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THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, THE HON LEWIS DAVIES, SAID TODAY HONG KONG WOULD NEED TO CONSIDER ITS POLICY OVER VIETNAMESE REFUGEES IN THE LIGHT OF CHANGES IN THE AGREEMENT REACHED AT THE GENEVA CONFERENCE IN JULY 1979.

HE WAS REPLYING TO A QUESTION FROM DR THE HON HO KAM-FAI WHO WANTED TO KNOW WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONSIDER CHANGING ITS +PORT OF FIRST CALL+ POLICY IN VIEW OF THE INCREASING DIFFICULTIES IN RESETTLING VIETNAMESE REFUGEES OVERSEAS AND INDICATIONS THAT MANY ARE SIMPLY ECONOMIC ADVENTURERS.

MR DAVIES SAID THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY OVER VIETNAMESE REFUGEES IS TO CONTINUE TO CARRY OUT THE AGREEMENT REACHED AT THE GENEVA CONFERENCE, UNDER WHICH COUNTRIES OF FIRST ASYLUM UNDERTAKE TO ALLOW REFUGEES TO STAY TEMPORARILY, PENDING THEIR RESETTLEMENT OVERSEAS.

FOR ITS PART, HE ADDED, THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSION FOR REFUGEES UNDERTAKES TO USE ITS BEST ENDEAVOURS TO SECURE SUCH RESETTLEMENT.

+SHOULD ANY CHANGES IN THE JULY 1979 ARRANGEMENTS BE MADE, OR CONTEMPLATED, THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT WOULD NEED TO CONSIDER ITS POSITION IN THE LIGHT OF SUCH DEVELOPMENTS,+ SAID MR DAVIES.

MEANWHILE, MEASURES CONTAINED IN THE IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE AND THE MERCHANT SHIPPING ORDINANCE TO COMBAT ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION AND TO DEAL WITH VIETNAMESE REFUGEES HAVE BEEN EXTENDED FOR ANOTHER YEAR, UNTIL THE END OF 1982.

THE MEASURES -- WHICH WERE DUE TO EXPIRE AT THE END OF THIS YEAR -- RELATE TO THE TRAFFICKING OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS, MAKE VIETNAMESE REFUGEES SUBJECT TO REMOVAL FROM HONG KONG AT ANY TIME, AND PROVIDE FOR THE FORFEITURE OF VESSELS CARRYING EXCESS PASSENGERS.

STRESSING THE NEED FOR EXTENDING THE VARIOUS PROVISIONS IN THE TWO ORDINANCES, MR DAVIES, SAID THEY PROVIDED AN IMPORTANT DETERRENT WHICH IT WOULD BE UNWISE NOT TO RETAIN DURING 1982.

WHILE THERE HAD NOT BEEN ANY MAJOR INFLUX OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES OF THE KIND EXPERIENCED IN 1979, HE SAID, +ARRIVALS CONTINUE AT AN UNCOMFORTABLE HIGH RATE.+

THE 8 154 BOAT REFUGEES WHO HAD ARRIVED DIRECT FROM VIETNAM SO FAR THIS YEAR REPRESENTED AN UNWELCOME INCREASE OVER THE 6 788 ARRIVALS LAST YEAR.

AS A RESULT THERE ARE STILL 13 328 VIETNAMESE REFUGEES IN HONG KONG AWAITING RESETTLEMENT. THIS INCLUDED 880 WHO HAD BEEN RESCUED AT SEA BY OCEAN-GOING VESSELS.

HE ALSO NOTED THAT DURING THE FIRST TEN MONTHS THIS YEAR, 6 493 ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS FROM CHINA HAD BEEN ARRESTED AND 23 FROM MACAU. IN ADDITION, 1 116 AND 12 EVADERS FROM CHINA AND MACAU RESPECTIVELY HAD BEEN ARRESTED DURING THE SAME PERIOD.

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TRANSFER OF POWERS APPROVED  
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A MOTION WAS PASSED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY PROVIDING FOR THE TRANSFER OF CERTAIN STATUTORY POWERS RESULTING FROM THE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO RE-ORGANISE ITS INTERNAL ADMINISTRATION.

MOVING THE MOTION, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, THE HON SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE SAID CERTAIN STATUTORY POWERS NEEDED TO BE TRANSFERRED TO AND FROM VARIOUS OFFICERS SO THAT THE NEW SECRETARY FOR CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION AND THE NEW-STYLE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS COULD ASSUME THEIR NEW ROLES FROM DECEMBER 1.

SIR PHILIP SAID THE MOTION ENSURED THAT THE REPLACEMENT OF THE POST OF SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES BY THE NEW POST OF SECRETARY FOR CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION DID NOT INVALIDATE ANY INSTRUMENTS OR CONTRACTS RELATING TO LAND IN THE NT ISSUED OR ENTERED INTO BY THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES.

HE SAID THAT FOLLOWING THE DISMANTLING OF THE ENVIRONMENT BRANCH AND THE INTENDED DE-FEDERALISATION OF THE PWD, IT WAS DECIDED TO BRING RESPONSIBILITY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION THROUGHOUT HONG KONG UNDER THE SECRETARY FOR CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION.

+IN EFFECT,+ HE SAID, +THIS POST IS THE SUCCESSOR POST OF SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES AND WILL BE SUPPORTED BY TWO POSTS OF REGIONAL SECRETARY, ONE FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES AND ONE FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON.+

AT THE SAME TIME, IT WAS DECIDED THAT THE HOME AFFAIRS BRANCH SHOULD ABSORB THE INFORMATION BRANCH AND TAKE OVER RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL ASPECTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AT PRESENT LOCATED IN THE ADMINISTRATION BRANCH, HE SAID.

+THE ROLE OF THE ADMINISTRATION BRANCH IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE SCHEME OF THINGS IN THE FUTURE IS NOW UNDER MY CONSIDERATION,+ SIR PHILIP SAID.

+WHILST THE DETAILED ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS OF THIS RESHUFFLING OF FUNCTIONS HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF A GOOD DEAL OF WORK ALREADY, IT WILL BE SOME TIME YET BEFORE THE ACTUAL LAYOUT OF THE NEW CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION AND THE NEW HOME AFFAIRS BRANCH ON THE GROUND, IN TERMS OF BOTH PERSONNEL AND OFFICES, BECOMES APPARENT,+ HE ADDED.

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COMPULSORY HARBOUR PILOTAGE PLANNED

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THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MR D.G. JEAFFRESON SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO START TO PHASE IN WITHIN THE COMING THREE YEARS, THE INTRODUCTION OF COMPULSORY PILOTAGE OF ALL OCEAN-GOING VESSELS ENTERING AND LEAVING HONG KONG WATERS.

THE PHASE IN WILL START WITH SUCH VESSELS CARRYING HAZARDOUS CARGOES AS OIL TANKERS AND L.P.G. CARRIERS.

REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY MR WONG LAM IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, HE SAID THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE WAS PREPARING DRAFTING INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE NECESSARY AMENDMENTS TO THE PILOTAGE ORDINANCE, WITH THE INTENTION THAT THE AMENDMENTS BE PASSED INTO LAW WHEN THE HONG KONG PILOTS ASSOCIATION HAS TRAINED SUFFICIENT HARBOUR PILOTS TO MAKE THIS FEASIBLE.

PILOTS IN HONG KONG ARE EMPLOYED BY THE HONG KONG PILOTS ASSOCIATION, OF WHICH THEY BECOME MEMBERS, HE EXPLAINED.

THE IDEA OF COMPULSORY PILOTAGE WAS ENDORSED IN 1978 AND THE ASSOCIATION WAS ENCOURAGED TO TRAIN MORE PILOTS FOR THIS.

AS A RESULT THE NUMBER OF LICENSED HARBOUR PILOTS INCREASED STEADILY FROM 27 IN 1976 TO 40 IN 1981 IN ADDITION TO TWO APPRENTICE PILOTS ON THE REGISTER. THEY ARE NOW BEING EMPLOYED ON 95 PER CENT OF ALL OCEAN-GOING SHIPS ENTERING AND LEAVING THE HARBOUR.

HE SAID IT WAS LATER AGREED WITH THE PILOTS ASSOCIATION THAT THE BOUNDARY OF THE AREA IN WHICH SHIPS HAVE TO USE PILOTS SHOULD BE EXTENDED TO PO TOI SO AS TO INCLUDE THE EAST LAMMA CHANNEL.

+THIS WILL INVOLVE THE PILOTS IN THE PURCHASE OF AT LEAST TWO AND POSSIBLY FOUR ALL-WEATHER LAUNCHES. IT WILL ALSO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PILOTS NECESSARY TO INTRODUCE COMPULSORY PILOTAGE,+ HE SAID.

MR JEAFFRESON ALSO DISCLOSED THAT THE INCIDENTS INVOLVING OCEAN-GOING VESSELS IN COLLISION OR GROUNDING (OTHER THAN IN TYPHOONS) SHOW THAT MOST TOOK PLACE WHEN THERE WERE NO PILOTS ON BOARD.

+SO THE INCREASE IN THE AVAILABILITY OF PILOTS ALONE SHOULD HELP TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS, EVEN IF WE HAVE NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO MAKE PILOTAGE COMPULSORY,+ HE SAID.

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LIGHT SCHOOL BUS MODELS STUDIED  
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THE VARIOUS MODELS OF VEHICLES TO BE RECLASSIFIED AS PRIVATE LIGHT BUSES FOR SCHOOL PASSENGERS, HAVE BEEN EXAMINED AND TYPE APPROVALS HAVE BEEN GRANTED, SAID THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, THE HON ALAN ARMSTRONG-WRIGHT TODAY.

REPLYING TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON PETER WONG, HE SAID THAT THE PROCESSING OF APPLICATIONS FOR THE RE-REGISTRATION OF THE INDIVIDUAL VEHICLES INVOLVED, STARTED EARLIER THIS MONTH.

APPLICATIONS IN HAND SHOULD BE CLEARED WITHIN TWO TO THREE WEEKS. MORE APPLICATIONS CAN BE EXPECTED AND THESE WILL BE DEALT WITH AS THEY ARE RECEIVED.

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TAX RELIEF SOUGHT FOR DONATIONS TO UC  
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A BILL INTENDED TO PROVIDE RELIEF FROM TAX AND ESTATE DUTY ON DONATIONS TO THE URBAN COUNCIL WAS INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY. (WEDNESDAY).

MOVING THE SECOND READING OF THE URBAN COUNCIL (DONATIONS) BILL 1981, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, THE HON JOHN BREMIDGE, SAID UNDER THE INLAND REVENUE ORDINANCE, A PERSON WHO DONATES MONEY TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR A CHARITABLE PURPOSE MAY BE GRANTED TAX RELIEF, BUT THIS DOES NOT APPLY IF THE DONATION IS MADE TO THE URBAN COUNCIL ALBEIT FOR A SIMILAR PURPOSE.

UNDER THE ESTATE DUTY ORDINANCE, HE SAID, ESTATE DUTY IS NOT PAYABLE IN RESPECT OF PROPERTY DEvised OR BEQUEATHED BY A DECEASED PERSON TO A CHARITABLE INSTITUTION OR TRUST OF A PUBLIC CHARACTER, OR TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR CHARITABLE PURPOSES.

THIS IS NOT THE CASE, HOWEVER, IF THE DEVICE OF BEQUEST IS MADE TO THE URBAN COUNCIL, MR BREMIDGE SAID.

THE PRESENT TREATMENT OF DONATIONS TO THE URBAN COUNCIL AND TO THE GOVERNMENT UNDER THE INLAND REVENUE ORDINANCE AND THE ESTATE DUTY ORDINANCE IS THUS INCONSISTENT, AND AMENDMENTS TO THE TWO ORDINANCES ARE THEREFORE PROPOSED TO RECTIFY THE INCONSISTENCY, HE SAID.

+CLAUSE 4 OF THE BILL AMENDS THE INLAND REVENUE ORDINANCE BY INCLUDING DONATIONS OF MONEY TO THE URBAN COUNCIL FOR CHARITABLE PURPOSES IN THE DEFINITION OF APPROVED CHARITABLE DONATIONS.

+IT WILL APPLY TO THE YEAR OF ASSESSMENT COMMENCING APRIL 1, 1981 AND TO SUBSEQUENT YEARS OF ASSESSMENT,+ HE SAID.

+CLAUSES 2 AND 3 AMEND THE ESTATE DUTY ORDINANCE BY EXCLUDING FROM CHARGE TO ESTATE DUTY A DECEASED PERSON'S PROPERTY WHICH IS DEvised OR BEQUEATHED TO THE URBAN COUNCIL FOR CHARITABLE PURPOSES.

+IT WILL APPLY TO ESTATES OF PERSONS DYING ON OR AFTER THE DATE OF ENACTMENT OF THIS BILL,+ THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY ADDED.

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'METRIC' SYSTEM NOW MORE WIDELY USED HERE  
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EFFORTS TO HAVE THE METRIC SYSTEM -- MORE CORRECTLY THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM OF UNITS -- USED IN HONG KONG ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS RATHER THAN BY LAW HAVE PRODUCED EXCELLENT RESULTS, SAID THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, THE HON D.G. JEAFFRESON, AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THIS WAS ACHIEVED THROUGH PLACING EMPHASIS ON EDUCATION, PERSUASION AND PUBLICITY, HE SAID.

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION RAISED BY THE HON ANDREW SO ON THE PROGRESS MADE IN ENCOURAGING THE ADOPTION OF THE METRIC SYSTEM IN HONG KONG, MR JEAFFRESON SAID THAT A METRICATION COMMITTEE WAS SET UP IN JANUARY 1978 TO ENCOURAGE THE USE OF THE METRIC SYSTEM ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS RATHER THAN BY LAW.

IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR, ALL PROJECTS OF BUILDING CONSTRUCTION AND CIVIL ENGINEERING MUST NOW BE SPECIFIED, AND MOST ARE EXECUTED, IN THE METRIC SYSTEM.

WITH REGARD TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND SERVICES, THE PETROL COMPANIES AND THE POWER COMPANIES HAVE ADOPTED THE METRIC SYSTEM WHILE THE GAS COMPANY IS LOOKING INTO IT.

IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, THOSE PRODUCING SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS, OPTICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS, TOBACCO, PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS AND PAINTS ARE NOW USING THE METRIC SYSTEM.

+FOR THE REMAINDER, ONE PROBLEM IS THAT HONG KONG CANNOT ADOPT THE SYSTEM WITHOUT REGARD TO THE UNITS USED BY ITS TRADING PARTNERS,+ HE SAID. +BUT THE COMMITTEE EXPECTS THAT MOST INDUSTRIES WILL BE INVOLVED IN THE METRIC SYSTEM BY 1985.+

HE POINTED OUT THAT CONSUMER GOODS AND SERVICES PRESENTED IN MANY RESPECTS MORE DIFFICULTIES THAN INDUSTRY UNDER A SYSTEM OF PERSUASION RATHER THAN OF LAW.

NEVERTHELESS MANY OUTLETS FOR CONSUMER GOODS AND SERVICES WILL BE USING THE METRIC SYSTEM BY THE END OF 1983.

IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR, 15 GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS HAVE EFFECTIVELY ADOPTED THE METRIC SYSTEM. THEY ARE EDUCATION, PUBLIC WORKS, ROYAL OBSERVATORY, POST OFFICE, AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, CIVIL AVIATION, GOVERNMENT LABORATORY, HOUSING, IMMIGRATION, KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY, MEDICAL AND HEALTH, RATING AND VALUATION, CENSUS AND STATISTICS, URBAN SERVICES AND PRISONS.

PLANS ARE WELL ADVANCED FOR FOUR OTHER DEPARTMENTS -- FIRE SERVICES, MARINE, TRANSPORT AND TRADE INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS -- TO IMPLEMENT COMPLETELY THE METRIC SYSTEM BY 1983.

MR JEAFFRESON NOTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT WAS NOT YET ABLE TO ADOPT THE METRIC SYSTEM, AND THAT MUCH OF ITS PROGRESS WILL DEPEND ON THE UNITS USED BY THE SOURCES OF ITS PURCHASES.

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### DUTIES OF REGISTRAR

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THE DUTIES OF THE REGISTRAR OF THE SUPREME COURT UNDER THE COMPANIES (WINDING UP) RULES MAY BE CARRIED OUT BY AN ASSISTANT REGISTRAR, IN ADDITION TO A DEPUTY REGISTRAR.

THIS IS PROVIDED IN THE COMPANIES (WINDING UP) (AMENDMENT) RULES 1981 UNDER SECTION 296 OF THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE MADE BY THE CHIEF JUSTICE ON NOVEMBER 5, AND APPROVED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY. THESE RULES SEEK TO DELETE RULE 4(2), THE SECRETARY ADDED.

MOVING THE MOTION, THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, THE HON DAVID JEAFFRESON SAID DIFFICULTIES HAD ARISEN RECENTLY OVER THE INTERPRETATION OF RULE 4(2) OF THE COMPANIES (WINDING UP) RULES IN RELATION TO THE GIVING OF LEAVE TO WITHDRAW A PETITION TO WIND UP A COMPANY.

IT WAS A STRAIGHTFORWARD COPY OF AN EQUIVALENT UNITED KINGDOM PROVISION AND MADE REFERENCE TO THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF A MASTER, REGISTRAR, OR TAXING MASTER, AND HAD NO APPLICATION TO HONG KONG, HE SAID.

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### HONG KONG INDUSTRIAL ESTATES CORPORATION

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THE PERCENTAGE OF APPLICATIONS FOR SITES APPROVED BY THE HONG KONG INDUSTRIAL ESTATES CORPORATION HAS BEEN RISING STEADILY FROM 11 PER CENT IN EARLY 1977 TO MORE THAN 50 PER CENT IN THE LAST TWO YEARS, THE HON WONG PO-YAN TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THIS MUST BE SEEN AS INDICATING A BETTER UNDERSTANDING BY APPLICANTS OF THE OBJECTIVES OF THE INDUSTRIAL ESTATES, HE SAID.

SPEAKING AT THE TABLING OF THE HONG KONG INDUSTRIAL ESTATES CORPORATION ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31 THIS YEAR, MR WONG SAID: +HOWEVER, WITH THE PRESENT AVAILABILITY OF LAND AT YUEN LONG IN ADDITION TO TAI PO, THE CORPORATION HOPES MORE APPLICATIONS WILL BE RECEIVED AS A DIRECT RESULT OF THE INCREASED PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES, NOW BEING UNDERTAKEN BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS.

+THE CORPORATION HAS, IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT AND OTHER TRADE ORGANISATIONS, PARTICIPATED IN A VALUABLE SERIES OF SEMINARS IN HONG KONG, DESIGNED TO INCREASE THE AWARENESS OF LOCAL INDUSTRIALISTS TO THE OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED BY THE ESTATES, AND ALSO TO ATTRACT OVERSEAS INVESTMENT.+

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THE YEAR UNDER REVIEW SAW THE COMPLETION OF THE SECOND STAGE OF THE TAI PO ESTATE AND THE GOVERNMENT'S APPROVAL FOR THE THIRD STAGE, FOR WHICH THE INITIAL CONTRACT WILL BE LET SHORTLY, SAID MR WONG.

THE FIRST OF THE STANDARD FACTORY BLOCKS AT THE TAI PO ESTATE IS NOW VIRTUALLY COMPLETED, REPRESENTING AN IMPORTANT ALTERNATIVE FOR INDUSTRIALISTS WHO MEET THE CRITERIA AND WISH TO COMMENCE MANUFACTURING IMMEDIATELY AND WHOSE PROCESSES CAN BE ACCOMMODATED IN A PRE-BUILT FACTORY.

SO FAR, HE ADDED, 34 COMPANIES HAVE TAKEN SITES AT TAI PO COVERING MORE THAN HALF OF THE NET AREA OF THE ESTATE, AND 13 ARE IN PRODUCTION WITH A WORKFORCE OF 2 500.

+THE CONCEPT OF INDUSTRIAL ESTATES OFFERING LAND ON SPECIAL TERMS TO SELECTED INDUSTRIES WHICH MEET SPECIFIC CRITERIA IS A NOVEL ONE FOR HONG KONG, AND IT IS THEREFORE IMPORTANT TO GAUGE THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE ESTATES ARE CONTRIBUTING TO THE DIVERSIFICATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRY AND TO THE INTRODUCTION OF NEW TECHNIQUES AND PROCESSES,+ MR WONG SAID.

THE 34 COMPANIES LISTED IN THE ANNUAL REPORT COVER A VERY WIDE RANGE OF PRODUCTS AND INVOLVE THE MOST UP-TO-DATE TECHNOLOGY AVAILABLE IN THE WORLD TODAY.

AMONG THE PRODUCTS ARE MANY WHICH WILL CONTRIBUTE DIRECTLY TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF HONG KONG INDUSTRY AND INCREASE OUR EXPORT PERFORMANCE.

+ALL OF THESE COMPANIES HAVE BEEN ATTRACTED TO THE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE AND HAVE BEEN SELECTED AGAINST THE CRITERIA WHICH ESSENTIALLY HAVE REMAINED UNCHANGED SINCE THE CORPORATION WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1977.

+WITH THE LAND NOW AVAILABLE, THE CORPORATION WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY LIKE TO SEE MORE APPLICATIONS THAN IT HAS AT PRESENT IN THE PIPELINE.

+ON THE OTHER HAND, THE CORPORATION MUST ADHERE TO THE ESTABLISHED SELECTION CRITERIA TO ENSURE THERE IS NO DEVIATION FROM THE ORIGINAL OBJECTIVE,+ HE SAID.

AS FOR THE YUEN LONG INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, MR WONG NOTED THE PROBLEM OF OBTAINING FILL MATERIAL HAS BEEN OVERCOME AND DURING THE PAST YEAR WORK PROCEEDED MORE SATISFACTORILY.

+UNDER THE REVISED PROGRAMME IT IS DUE TO BE COMPLETED EARLY IN 1983, BUT LAND IS ALREADY AVAILABLE FOR BUILDING, AND FOLLOWING THE RECENT SIGNING OF THE GOVERNMENT GRANT CONDITIONS, THE CORPORATION EXPECTS TO LEASE THE FIRST SITE VERY SOON,+ HE ADDED.

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JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE

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THE JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE AT SHA TIN WHICH IS DUE TO OPEN IN MAY NEXT YEAR, WILL GIVE HONG KONG A NATIONAL COACHING CENTRE OF INTERNATIONAL QUALITY, THE HON DAVID NEWBIGGING SAID.

SPEAKING AT THE TABLING OF THE JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE BOARD ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, MR NEWBIGGING SAID: +IT WILL PROVIDE SPORTSMEN AND WOMEN WITH COACHING DESIGNED TO GIVE EVERYONE WITH TALENT THE CHANCE TO ACHIEVE HIS OR HER BEST.

+THE PURPOSE OF THE JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE IS TO OFFER THE PHYSICAL RESOURCES AND THE EXPERT TRAINING WHICH WILL RAISE THE STANDARD OF SPORT OVER THE WHOLE COMMUNITY.+

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE PILING CONTRACT FOR THE CENTRE WAS COMPLETED IN APRIL THIS YEAR, AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE MAIN BUILDING AND OTHER SPORTS FACILITIES IS NOW UNDERWAY AND PROGRESSING SMOOTHLY.

ITS MANY FACILITIES WILL INCLUDE THREE INDOOR SPORTS HALLS, ONE OF WHICH MEASURES 68 METRES BY 35 METRES AND IS CAPABLE OF ACCOMMODATING UP TO 50 DIFFERENT INDOOR SPORTS.

RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION CAN ALSO BE PROVIDED FOR OVER 80 ATHLETES IN TRAINING, HE ADDED.

MR NEWBIGGING NOTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS ALLOCATED A FURTHER \$30 MILLION TOWARDS THE CENTRE WHICH, TOGETHER WITH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB AND THE QUEEN'S SILVER JUBILEE FUND, BRINGS THE TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT TO \$150 MILLION.

IN ADDITION, HE SAID ANOTHER \$700 000 WAS DONATED BY PRIVATE SOURCES DURING THE YEAR.

ON THE COACHING SIDE, MR NEWBIGGING REPORTED THAT A SWIMMING COACH, A TENNIS COACH, AN ASSISTANT SOCCER COACH AND AN ASSISTANT BADMINTON COACH HAD BEEN APPOINTED DURING THE YEAR UNDER REVIEW.

+THE CENTRE NOW HAS SEVEN SPECIALIST COACHES AND THREE ASSISTANT COACHES,+ SAID MR NEWBIGGING.

+BY THE TIME THE CENTRE IS COMPLETED WE EXPECT TO HAVE A COACHING STAFF OF 40, WHO, WE HOPE WILL BE HELPING TO MAKE HONG KONG A SPORTING FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH.+

HE ALSO REVEALED THAT 3 335 COACHING SESSIONS WERE HELD DURING THE YEAR, OF WHICH 40 PER CENT WERE CONDUCTED IN CO-OPERATION WITH THE GOVERNING BODIES OF THE VARIOUS SPORTS IN HONG KONG. THE OTHERS WERE ARRANGED THROUGH SCHOOLS, SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS AND SPORTS CLUBS.

A TOTAL OF 45 NEW VENUES THROUGHOUT HONG KONG ISLAND, KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES WERE UTILISED, HE ADDED.

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PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR OCTOBER 1981

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THE EXPORT SECTOR CONTINUED TO PUT UP AN IMPRESSIVE PERFORMANCE IN OCTOBER. THIS IS REVEALED IN THE PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR THE MONTH PUBLISHED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS FOR OCTOBER WAS \$11 225 MILLION, MADE UP OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AT \$7 534 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS AT \$3 691 MILLION. WITH IMPORTS AT \$12 073 MILLION, THE VISIBLE TRADE DEFICIT FOR OCTOBER WAS \$848 MILLION.

COMPARED WITH OCTOBER 1980, THERE WERE THE FOLLOWING INCREASES BY VALUE: \$1 428 MILLION OR 23.4 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, \$792 MILLION OR 27.3 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS, \$2 220 MILLION OR 24.6 PER CENT FOR TOTAL EXPORTS AND \$2 501 MILLION OR 26.1 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS. THE VISIBLE TRADE +GAP+, THAT IS THE PROPORTION OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS NOT COVERED BY THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS, WAS SEVEN PER CENT IN OCTOBER THIS YEAR, COMPARED WITH 5.9 PER CENT IN OCTOBER 1980.

COMMENTING ON THE FIGURES, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE GROWTH RATE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN OCTOBER OF OVER 23 PER CENT IN MONEY TERMS WAS EQUIVALENT TO OVER 10 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS. THIS, HE SAID, REPRESENTED A FURTHER ACCELERATION IN THE YEAR-ON-YEAR GROWTH RATE IN REAL TERMS OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WHEN COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING GROWTH RATES OF LESS THAN SIX PER CENT IN THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR AND ABOUT EIGHT PER CENT IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF THIS YEAR.

AT A TIME WHEN ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN HONG KONG'S MAJOR MARKETS WERE UNFAVOURABLE, SUCH AN IMPRESSIVE PERFORMANCE WAS A CLEAR INDICATION THAT THE ECONOMY HAD BEEN ADJUSTING EFFICIENTLY, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

CONCERNING THE CONTINUING RAPID GROWTH OF IMPORTS THAT WERE RETAINED IN HONG KONG, THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT DETAILED BREAKDOWNS BY END-USE CATEGORIES OF RETAINED IMPORTS IN OCTOBER WERE NOT YET AVAILABLE FOR COMMENT. HE POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, THAT THOSE UP TO SEPTEMBER SHOWED AN ENCOURAGING PICTURE BOTH IN RESPECT OF OVERALL BALANCE IN THE ECONOMY AND OF IMMEDIATE EXPORT PROSPECTS.

THERE HAD BEEN A FAIRLY SHARP ACCELERATION IN THE GROWTH RATE OF RETAINED IMPORTS OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES AND AN EQUALLY SHARP DECELERATION IN THE GROWTH RATE OF RETAINED IMPORTS OF CONSUMER GOODS.

/COMPARING THE .....

COMPARING THE FIRST TEN MONTHS OF 1981 WITH THE FIRST TEN MONTHS OF 1980, THE GROWTH RATE OF IMPORTS, AT 26.2 PER CENT, WAS FASTER THAN THE GROWTH RATE OF TOTAL EXPORTS, AT 24.3 PER CENT. AS A CONSEQUENCE, THE VISIBLE TRADE +GAP+ WIDENED SLIGHTLY FROM 10.5 PER CENT IN THE FIRST TEN MONTHS OF 1980 TO 11.9 PER CENT IN THE FIRST TEN MONTHS OF 1981.

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT HAD RELEASED THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FIGURES FOR OCTOBER :-

MERCHANDISE:	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	:\$ 7 534 MILLION
	RE-EXPORTS	:\$ 3 691 MILLION
	TOTAL EXPORTS	:\$11 225 MILLION
	IMPORTS	:\$12 073 MILLION
	TRADE BALANCE	:\$ 848 MILLION (IN DEFICIT)

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

<u>LATEST 3 MONTHS</u>	<u>AUG - OCT 1981</u>	<u>AUG - OCT 1980</u>	<u>INCREASE OR DECREASE</u>	
	<u>\$ MN.</u>	<u>\$ MN.</u>	<u>\$ MN.</u>	<u>%</u>
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	22 667	18 829	+3 838	+20.4
RE-EXPORTS	10 991	8 367	+2 624	+31.4
TOTAL EXPORTS	33 659	27 196	+6 463	+23.8
IMPORTS	35 009	28 352	+6 657	+23.5
TRADE BALANCE	- 1 350	- 1 156	- 194	
<u>SAME MONTH LAST YEAR</u>	<u>OCTOBER 1981</u>	<u>OCTOBER 1980</u>	<u>INCREASE OR DECREASE</u>	
	<u>\$ MN.</u>	<u>\$ MN.</u>	<u>\$ MN.</u>	<u>%</u>
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	7 534 (67.1%)	6 106 (67.8%)	+1 428	+23.4
RE-EXPORTS	3 691	2 899	+ 792	+27.3
TOTAL EXPORTS	11 225	9 005	+2 220	+24.6
IMPORTS	12 073	9 572	+2 501	+26.1
TRADE BALANCE	- 848	- 567	- 281	

/LAST MONTH .....

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<u>LAST MONTH</u>	OCTOBER 1981	SEPTEMBER 1981	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	7 534 (67.1%)	7 659 (66.6%)	- 125	-1.6
RE-EXPORTS	3 691	3 836	- 145	-3.8
TOTAL EXPORTS	11 225	11 495	- 270	-2.3
IMPORTS	12 073	11 710	+ 363	+3.1
TRADE BALANCE	- 848	- 215	- 633	
<u>CALENDAR YEAR TO-DATE</u>	JAN - OCT 1981	JAN - OCT 1980	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	65 623 (65.9%)	56 030 (70.0%)	+ 9 593	+17.1
RE-EXPORTS	33 904	24 023	+ 9 881	+41.1
TOTAL EXPORTS	99 527	80 054	+19 474	+24.3
IMPORTS	112 931	89 482	+23 449	+26.2
TRADE BALANCE	- 13 404	- 9 428	- 3 976	
<u>LAST 12 MONTHS</u>	NOV 1980 TO OCT 1981	NOV 1979 TO OCT 1980	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	77 764	66 948	+10 816	+16.2
RE-EXPORTS	39 953	27 914	+12 039	+43.1
TOTAL EXPORTS	117 716	94 861	+22 855	+24.1
IMPORTS	135 100	106 011	+29 089	+27.4
TRADE BALANCE	- 17 384	-11 150	- 6 234	

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\$71-MILLION ROAD-IMPROVEMENT SCHEME

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THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TODAY AWARDED A \$71-MILLION CONTRACT TO FRANKI CONTRACTORS LTD. FOR A MAJOR ROAD IMPROVEMENT SCHEME AT THE JUNCTION OF TAI HO ROAD AND CASTLE PEAK ROAD IN TSUEN WAN NEW TOWN.

THE CONTRACT WAS FORMALLY SIGNED THIS AFTERNOON (WEDNESDAY) BY MR C.N. FONG, PROJECT MANAGER OF TSUEN WAN NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT OFFICE AND MR R.J.C. HARTLEY, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF FRANKI CONTRACTORS LTD.

WORK ON THE CONTRACT INCLUDES THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FLYOVER, TWO FOOTBRIDGES ACROSS CASTLE PEAK ROAD AS WELL AS ASSOCIATED ROAD AND DRAINAGE WORKS.

THE FLYOVER WILL LINK TAI HO ROAD TO THE NEW MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY STATION AS WELL AS THE RECENTLY-DIVERTED ROUTE TWISK.

THE FOOTBRIDGES WILL ENABLE THE PEDESTRIANS TO CROSS CASTLE PEAK ROAD TO THE MTR STATION AND THE NEW BUS TERMINUS BUILDING NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

IN ADDITION, THE EXISTING SIGNAL-CONTROLLED JUNCTION WILL BE MODIFIED TO INCLUDE LANDSCAPED TRAFFIC ISLANDS AND A NEW ROAD, TO BE NAMED SAI LAU KOK ROAD, WILL BE BUILT PARALLEL TO CASTLE PEAK ROAD TO SERVE BOTH BUS AND MTR USERS.

WORK ON THE CONTRACT WILL TAKE ABOUT 26 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

SIR JACK LEAVING FOR NEW POST  
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SIR JACK CATER WILL LEAVE BY AIR FOR LONDON TOMORROW (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON TO TAKE UP HIS APPOINTMENT AS HONG KONG'S COMMISSIONER.

A PHOTOGRAPHIC FACILITY HAS BEEN ARRANGED FOR PRESS PHOTOGRAPHERS AND TV CAMERAMEN WISHING TO COVER SIR JACK'S DEPARTURE.

THEY ARE REQUESTED TO ASSEMBLE IN THE AIRPORT PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE TERMINAL BUILDING AT 2.45 PM. GIS OFFICERS WILL BE PRESENT TO ASSIST.

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TAC CHAIRMAN URGES MORE PEOPLE  
TO USE TRANSPORT COMPLAINTS UNIT  
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MORE PEOPLE SHOULD USE THE TRANSPORT COMPLAINTS UNIT SO THAT THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) CAN HAVE A COMPREHENSIVE VIEW OF +WHAT THE PUBLIC REALLY WANTS FROM HONG KONG'S PUBLIC TRANSPORT SYSTEM.+

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TAC, MR T.S. LO, SAID THIS TODAY (WEDNESDAY) AFTER HIS COMMITTEE ENDORSED THE FIRST ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRANSPORT COMPLAINTS UNIT (TCU).

THE REPORT, PREPARED BY THE TCU'S EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, MR JAMES KWAN, SAYS THAT, ALTHOUGH THE UNIT DOES NOT HAVE A BIG STAFF, IT MANAGED TO COMPLETE 2 800 OR 60 PER CENT OF THE CASES RECEIVED UP TO THE END OF SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR.

THE REPORT LISTS SEVEN MAIN AREAS OF COMPLAINT: BUS DRIVERS, BUSES NOT KEEPING TO SCHEDULES, NEED FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO BASIC BUS FREQUENCIES, TRAFFIC CONGESTION, PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS AND TRAFFIC LIGHTS, ILLEGAL PARKING AND ABANDONED VEHICLES, AND TAXI DRIVER MALPRACTICES.

THE REPORT IS NOW BEING PRINTED AND WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE MEDIA, DISTRICT BOARDS AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT OPERATORS FOR INFORMATION.

MR LO SAID HE WAS PLEASED WITH THE PERFORMANCE OF THE TCU BECAUSE THE UNIT HAD TO ESTABLISH ITS CREDIBILITY FROM ITS INCEPTION.

+THIS WAS BY NO MEANS AN EASY TASK AS SEVERAL MORE COMMONLY KNOWN CHANNELS OF COMPLAINT WERE IN EXISTENCE WHEN THE TCU WAS SET UP,+ HE ADDED.

THE TCU IS LOCATED AT ROOM 904, CAPITOL CENTRE, CAUSEWAY BAY. ITS HOTLINE FOR COMPLAINTS - 5-776866 - IS EQUIPPED WITH AN AUTOMATIC RECORDING DEVICE TO TAKE CALLS FROM THE PUBLIC OUTSIDE OFFICE HOURS.

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SHORT-TERM TENANCY OF SITES OFFERED  
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THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE SHORT-TERM TENANCY OF TWO SITES IN TSIM SHA TSUI EAST.

THE LARGER LOT, OF ABOUT 5 192 SQUARE METRES AT THE JUNCTION OF SCIENCE MUSEUM ROAD AND CHING YEE ROAD, IS FOR A FEE-PAYING PUBLIC CAR PARK.

THE SECOND LOT, MEASURING ABOUT 2 850 SQUARE METRES IN CHING YEE ROAD, IS FOR A FEE-PAYING COACH AND GOODS VEHICLE PARK.

THE TENANCY OF BOTH LOTS ARE FOR ONE YEAR AND THEREAFTER ON A QUARTERLY BASIS.

TENDERS WILL CLOSE AT NOON ON DECEMBER 18.

TENDER FORMS AND CONDITIONS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE, 19TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG AND 10TH FLOOR, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 405 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON. TENDER PLANS MAY ALSO BE INSPECTED AT THESE LOCATIONS.

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INDUSTRIAL SAFETY DRIVE BACKED  
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THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE BRITISH SAFETY COUNCIL, MR JAMES TYE, HAS GIVEN WHOLE-HEARTED SUPPORT TO THE AIMS OF THE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY CAMPAIGN IN HONG KONG.

IN WELCOMING THE VISIT OF THE FIVE WINNERS OF THE RECENTLY-CONCLUDED +SAFETY AT WORK+ COMPETITION FROM HONG KONG, MR TYE SAID YESTERDAY :+ONLY BY CHANGING ATTITUDES THROUGH SAFETY TRAINING AND INVOLVING THE WORK FORCE IN SAFETY CAMPAIGNS AND COMPETITIONS WILL IMPROVEMENTS IN INDUSTRIAL SAFETY BE MADE.+

+EVEN IN BRITAIN, WHICH HAS ONE OF THE BEST INDUSTRIAL SAFETY RECORDS IN THE WORLD, OVER TWO BILLION POUNDS STERLING ARE NEEDLESSLY WASTED EVERY YEAR THROUGH PREVENTABLE ACCIDENTS,+ HE SAID.

THE FIVE WINNERS ARE IN BRITAIN ON AN EIGHT-DAY VISIT AS PART OF THE PRIZE FOR THE +SAFETY AT WORK+ COMPETITION SPONSORED JOINTLY BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, RTHK, THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES AND BRITISH CALEDONIAN AIRWAYS.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE CHIEF FACTORY INSPECTOR OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, MR CHAN SIU-LAP, THE GROUP YESTERDAY TOURED THE BRITISH SAFETY COUNCIL'S TRAINING SHIP AT LONDON'S ST KATHERINE'S DOCK.

AFTER SEEING THE WORK OF THE SAFETY COUNCIL, THE GROUP VISITED THE GIANT CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AT THE THAMES BARRIER.

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BUS DRIVER FATIGUE REPORT COMPLETED

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THE REPORT ON BUS DRIVER FATIGUE PREPARED BY THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY'S DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING HAS BEEN SUBMITTED TO THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT.

A SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT IS NOW STUDYING THE REPORT IN CONSULTATION WITH OTHER RELEVANT GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND WILL INCLUDE THE TWO BUS COMPANIES IN THESE DISCUSSIONS.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE REPORT WILL THEN BE DISCUSSED BY THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE, WHEREUPON A FURTHER ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE MADE.

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TSUEN WAN VILLAGE GETS WATER SUPPLY

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RESIDENTS OF PAI MIN KOK VILLAGE IN SHAM TSENG, TSUEN WAN, ARE HAVING THEIR OWN WATER SUPPLY IN PLACE OF A STANDPIPE.

A PUMP AND SUMP SYSTEM AND A WATER TANK HAVE BEEN BUILT IN THE VILLAGE AND INDIVIDUAL WATER METERS WERE INSTALLED IN THE 27 VILLAGE HOUSES.

WATER IS BEING PUMPED INTO EACH VILLAGE HOUSE FROM THE MAINS AT CASTLE PEAK ROAD BY MEANS OF PIPES.

THE NEW SYSTEM WAS BROUGHT ABOUT THROUGH THE JOINT EFFORTS OF THE VILLAGERS, TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE, WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT AND THE ELECTRIC COMPANY.

PREVIOUSLY, VILLAGERS USED A STANDPIPE FOR DRINKING WATER AND WELL WATER FOR WASHING AND OTHER PURPOSES.

AT TODAY'S SWITCH-ON CEREMONY, THE TSUEN WAN TOWN MANAGER, DR JAMES HAYES, SAID HE HOPED THE NEW SYSTEM WOULD BE OF CONVENIENCE TO THE VILLAGERS.

HE SAID HIS STAFF HAD PAID REGULAR VISITS AND FOUND THAT BOTH SQUATTER AREA AND VILLAGES IN THE DISTRICT, DEPENDING ON STANDPIPES OR STREAM WATER, WERE NOT ADVERSELY AFFECTED.

+NEVERTHELESS, WE ARE KEEPING A CLOSE WATCH AND ANY PROBLEM THAT ARISES WILL BE DEALT WITH PROMPTLY,+ HE SAID.

THE COST OF THE ENTIRE PROJECT WAS \$82 000, OF WHICH \$15 000 WAS CONTRIBUTED BY THE VILLAGERS.

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1981

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SCHOOL CHILDREN URGED TO HELP OUT

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SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS COULD CONTRIBUTE SOME OF THEIR EFFORTS TO THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION SCHEME, SAID MR C.C. WAN, CITY DISTRICT OFFICER (CAUSEWAY BAY/NORTH POINT) AT A SEMINAR HELD AT CLEMENTI MIDDLE SCHOOL THIS (WEDNESDAY) AFTERNOON.

THEY COULD HELP BY JOINING EDUCATIONAL COMPETITIONS ORGANISED BY GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY GROUPS, TAKING PART IN PUBLICITY DRIVES, AND PASSING ON THE MESSAGE TO THEIR FAMILIES, RELATIVES AND FRIENDS AS WELL AS PERSUADING THEM TO REGISTER AS VOTERS, HE SAID.

THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION SCHEME AIMED AT STRENGTHENING COMMUNICATION BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL RESIDENTS, ENHANCING CO-ORDINATION AND IMPROVING EFFICIENCY IN ALL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, MR WAN EXPLAINED.

HE THEREFORE URGED RESIDENTS TO TAKE PART IN THE SCHEME AND TO AIR THEIR OPINIONS.

IN HIS TALK, MR WAN ALSO EXPLAINED TO THE STUDENTS THE STRUCTURE AND POWERS OF DISTRICT BOARDS AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES AS WELL AS THE QUALIFICATION AND RIGHTS OF VOTERS AND CANDIDATES.

THE SEMINAR WAS ONE OF A SERIES OF PROMOTION ACTIVITIES ON DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION ORGANISED BY CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (EASTERN) TO PUBLICISE THE SCHEME TO SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY GROUPS IN THE DISTRICT.

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1981

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AUCTION OF SPECIAL CAR NUMBERS  
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL HOLD ANOTHER AUCTION OF SPECIAL CAR REGISTRATION NUMBERS AT 10 AM ON SATURDAY (NOVEMBER 28) IN THE CITY HALL RECITAL HALL.

THIRTY-FIVE SPECIAL CAR NUMBERS WILL BE OFFERED FOR BIDDING. THEY ARE:

CM 7808	CN 208	CN 786	CN 618	CN 308
CN 750	CM 8688	CM 8768	XX 283	CR 8
CN 7879	CP 4000	CS 23	AE 1	CN 328
AA 279	BK 707	AA 3	1003	CN 7888
CM 8178	CS 85	CP 8888	HK 100	CN 923
CN 3363	HK 7219	CN 280	CN 380	CP 7386
CM 7321	CN 6168	AE 308	AR 8213	CN 8882

SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS MUST PAY IN CASH OR BY CHEQUE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE BIDDING.

A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN REMINDED BIDDERS THAT THE VEHICLE REGISTRATION NUMBER WOULD BE ASSIGNED ONLY TO A VEHICLE REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF THE AUCTION.

PROCEEDS OF THE AUCTION WILL AS USUAL GO TO THE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES FUND.

THE COMING AUCTION WILL BE THE 69TH ORGANISED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SINCE MAY 1973.

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