



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

THURSDAY, JULY 18, 1985

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BANKS' MOVE WELCOMED  
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FOLLOWING THE STATEMENT ISSUED EARLIER TODAY BY THE COMMITTEE OF THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF BANKS ANNOUNCING FURTHER REDUCTIONS IN INTEREST RATES, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR PIERS JACOBS, SAID HE WELCOMED THIS MOVE.

HE SAID THE LINKED EXCHANGE RATE SYSTEM TRANSFERS UPWARD OR DOWNWARD PRESSURES ON THE EXCHANGE RATE ONTO DOMESTIC INTEREST RATES. HE EXPLAINED THAT THIS MEANS THAT WHEN THE MARKET EXCHANGE RATE IS WEAK IN RELATION TO THE LINKED RATE INTEREST RATES RISE.

ON THE OTHER HAND, WHEN THE MARKET EXCHANGE RATE IS STRONGER THAN THE LINKED RATE AS AT PRESENT, THEN INTEREST RATES DECLINE UNTIL THE MARKET RATE MOVES CLOSE TO THE LINKED RATE. TODAY'S DECISION OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF BANKS IS A REFLECTION OF THIS PROCESS.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY RE-EMPHASISED GOVERNMENT'S DETERMINATION TO MAINTAIN THE LINKED EXCHANGE RATE SYSTEM.

ASKED WHETHER HE THOUGHT INTEREST RATES COULD GO EVEN LOWER, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPLIED THAT NEGATIVE INTEREST RATES HAVE IN THE PAST BEEN OFFERED TO DEPOSITORS IN SOME FINANCIAL CENTRES AND ALTHOUGH HE WOULD NOT LIKE TO SEE THIS HAPPEN HERE, THE POSSIBILITY OF EVEN LOWER INTEREST RATES RESULTING FROM THE LINKED RATE ADJUSTMENT MECHANISM COULD NOT BE RULED OUT.

ASKED WHETHER SUCH LOW INTEREST RATES WERE UNFAIR TO SMALL SAVERS, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT BELIEVED THAT THE COMMUNITY OF HONG KONG AS A WHOLE DERIVES CONSIDERABLE BENEFITS FROM A STABLE EXCHANGE RATE, AND THIS MUST BE THE GOVERNMENT'S PRIME OBJECTIVE.

ASKED ABOUT THE INFLATIONARY EFFECTS OF MAINTAINING THE LINK AT HK\$7.80 TO US\$1 AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF A DEPRECIATING U.S. DOLLAR, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPEATED THAT THE IMPORTANT THING WAS TO MAINTAIN A STABLE EXCHANGE RATE.

LONG TERM MOVEMENTS IN EXCHANGE RATES, AS MANY PROFESSIONAL FORECASTERS HAD HAD TO ADMIT, WERE DIFFICULT TO PREDICT, AND NO ONE COULD BE SURE THAT THE U.S. DOLLAR WOULD NOT RECOVER SOME OF THE VALUE LOST RECENTLY.

IN ANY CASE, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY SAID, HONG KONG'S CURRENT RATE OF INFLATION REMAINS LOW AT AROUND 3.5 PER CENT, AND TAKING LOWER INTEREST COSTS INTO ACCOUNT, NO DRAMATIC CHANGES ARE EXPECTED.

ALSO A WEAKER EXCHANGE RATE SHOULD IMPROVE HONG KONG'S COMPETITIVE POSITION IN INTERNATIONAL MARKETS GENERALLY AND IN THE LIGHT OF THE RECENT DECLINE IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS THIS COULD BE REGARDED AS A FAVOURABLE DEVELOPMENT, HE CONCLUDED.

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SIR DAVID LOOKS INTO WELFARE WORK  
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THE ACTING GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON VISITED THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS IN WORLD TRADE CENTRE, CAUSEWAY BAY.

STARTING OFF WITH A TOUR OF THE GENERAL OFFICE, SIR DAVID, ACCOMPANIED BY THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS ANSON CHAN WENT ON TO SEE THE DEVELOPMENT BRANCH, THE SUBVENTIONS BRANCH AND THE PAYMENTS CONTROL SECTION.

SIR DAVID ALSO MET SENIOR STAFF AND DISCUSSED WITH THEM THE WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT.

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TALKS HELD ON BANK BUMIPUTRA PROBE  
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THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, MR MICHAEL THOMAS TODAY CONFIRMED THAT HE HAD DISCUSSIONS WITH THE MALAYSIAN ATTORNEY GENERAL, TAN SRI ABU TALIB OTHMAN, ON THE INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE AFFAIRS OF BANK BUMIPUTRA MALAYSIA FINANCE LIMITED, AND IN PARTICULAR LOANS GRANTED BY THE COMPANY IN HONG KONG.

MR THOMAS SAID THAT TAN SRI ABU TALIB OTHMAN EXPRESSED HIS SATISFACTION WITH THE MANNER IN WHICH THE HONG KONG AUTHORITIES WERE DEALING WITH ALLEGATIONS OF SUSPECTED WRONGDOING MADE BY THE PRESENT CHAIRMAN OF THE BANK BUMIPUTRA MALAYSIA BERHAD IN APRIL.

THE MALAYSIAN ATTORNEY GENERAL HAD ASSURED MR THOMAS THAT THE MALAYSIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD CO-OPERATE FULLY IN THE INVESTIGATIONS.

FOLLOWING THEIR MEETING MR THOMAS AND TAN SRI ABU TALIB OTHMAN WERE HOPEFUL THAT BY EARLY NEXT YEAR THE INVESTIGATIONS WOULD HAVE BEEN COMPLETED AND FINAL DECISIONS COULD BE TAKEN AS TO THE ACTUAL OFFENCES COMMITTED AND BY WHOM.

AS THE INVESTIGATIONS WERE STILL UNDER WAY NO FURTHER DETAILS COULD BE GIVEN AT THIS STAGE.

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CAR CHECKS BY PRIVATE GARAGES PROPOSED  
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A BILL PROPOSING TO AUTHORISE PRIVATE GARAGES TO UNDERTAKE THE ANNUAL EXAMINATION OF PRIVATE CARS WILL BE GAZETTED TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

UNDER THE SCHEME, WHICH IS PROVIDED FOR IN THE ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) BILL 1985, A PRIVATE CAR MORE THAN SIX YEARS OLD WOULD HAVE TO PASS AN EXAMINATION AT A GOVERNMENT-APPROVED CAR TESTING CENTRE BEFORE IT COULD BE RE-LICENSED FOR ANOTHER YEAR.

THE PRIVATISATION PLAN, DRAWN UP IN CONSULTATION WITH THE MOTOR TRADERS ASSOCIATION (MTA) AND THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION, WAS ENDORSED BY THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL. BARRING UNFORESEEN DELAYS, THE SCHEME COULD BE IMPLEMENTED BY DECEMBER THIS YEAR.

EXPLAINING THE SCHEME, A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE OBJECTIVE OF EXAMINING ANNUALLY PRIVATE CARS OVER SIX YEARS OLD WAS SET OUT IN THE 1979 WHITE PAPER ON INTERNAL TRANSPORT. THE AIM OF THE SCHEME WAS TO IMPROVE ROAD SAFETY BY REDUCING THE LIKELIHOOD OF ACCIDENTS.

THE ANNUAL EXAMINATION OF CARS OVER SIX YEARS OLD WOULD MEAN ABOUT 60 000 INSPECTIONS IN 1986, GRADUALLY RISING TO 100 000 IN 1988.

+AT PRESENT THE GOVERNMENT IS NOT ABLE TO CONDUCT ANY ANNUAL INSPECTION ON PRIVATE CARS BECAUSE OF THE NEED TO GIVE PRIORITY TO THE EXAMINATION OF PASSENGER SERVICE VEHICLES AND OLDER GOODS VEHICLES,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+AND IF THE GOVERNMENT WAS TO EXAMINE CARS OVER SIX YEARS OLD, IT WILL NEED TO BUILD TWO NEW VEHICLE EXAMINATION CENTRES IN ADDITION TO FOUR CENTRES WHICH ARE ALREADY UNDER PLANNING.+

+THE PRIVATISATION SCHEME WILL THEREFORE ALLOW THE OBJECTIVE OF ANNUAL CAR INSPECTIONS OF OVER SIX YEARS OLD CARS TO BE MET MUCH EARLIER THAN WOULD OTHERWISE BE POSSIBLE AND WILL ALSO ENABLE FUTURE EXAMINATION CENTRES TO CONCENTRATE ON THE EXPANDING FLEET OF PASSENGER SERVICE VEHICLES AND GOODS VEHICLES,+ HE CONTINUED.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT AT LEAST 12 GARAGES WOULD BE DESIGNATED AS CAR TESTING CENTRES AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE SCHEME. THESE GARAGES, BEING LOCATED IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE TERRITORY AND WITH SOME OF THEM OFFERING WEEKEND CHECKS AS WELL, WOULD GIVE CAR OWNERS A WIDER CHOICE OF EXAMINATION CENTRES THAN THE GOVERNMENT COULD ITSELF PROVIDE.

/THE SPOKESMAN .....

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THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT A GARAGE WOULD BE DESIGNATED AS A CAR TESTING CENTRE ONLY AFTER ITS PREMISES HAD BEEN INSPECTED TO ESTABLISH THE SUITABILITY OF ITS FACILITIES AND THE TECHNICAL COMPETENCE OF ITS STAFF. THE DESIGNATION WOULD BE VALID INITIALLY FOR THREE YEARS.

+TO ENSURE UNIFORMITY OF STANDARDS, CAR TESTING CENTRES WILL HAVE TO COMPLY WITH A CODE OF PRACTICE SETTING OUT THE DETAILED PROCEDURES AND SPECIFYING THE EQUIPMENT TO BE USED FOR CHECKS. IN PARTICULAR, INSPECTIONS WILL HAVE TO BE CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH A TESTER'S MANUAL DEVELOPED FROM THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT'S VEHICLE EXAMINATION PROCEDURES, + THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+IN ADDITION, GARAGE STAFF WILL HAVE TO ATTEND A TRAINING COURSE AT A GOVERNMENT VEHICLE EXAMINATION CENTRE AND BE ASSESSED FOR COMPETENCE IN ORDER TO QUALIFY THEMSELVES AS 'APPROVED CAR TESTERS'.+

CAR TESTING CENTRES WOULD ISSUE A CERTIFICATE OF ROADWORTHINESS FOR ANY PRIVATE CAR WHICH HAD PASSED AN INSPECTION. HOWEVER, THE CERTIFICATE MUST BE PRESENTED TO THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WITHIN FOUR MONTHS OF THE ISSUE DATE FOR RE-LICENSING A VEHICLE. OTHERWISE ITS VALIDITY WILL LAPSE.

SHOULD A CAR OWNER DISAGREE WITH THE RESULT OF AN INSPECTION, HE COULD APPEAL TO THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT FOR A FRESH, INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION. ALTERNATIVELY, HE COULD TRY ANOTHER CAR TESTING CENTRE.

THE EXAMINATION FEE FOR CAR INSPECTIONS WOULD BE FIXED AT \$160 AND A RE-CHECK FEE OF \$50 WOULD BE CHARGED WHEN DEFECTS FOUND AT THE ORIGINAL INSPECTION WERE REMEDIED AND EXAMINED WITHIN 14 DAYS. IN CASES OF SPECIFIED MINOR FAULTS, THE RE-CHECK WOULD BE FREE OF CHARGE.

+THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL CLOSELY MONITOR ACTUAL CAR INSPECTIONS TO ENSURE THAT THE LEVEL OF STANDARDS IS MAINTAINED, + THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

MOREOVER, THE ICAC WOULD ALSO CARRY OUT PERIODIC CHECKS ON THE EFFICACY OF OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES.

+AS A FORM OF CONTROL ON THE CAR TESTING CENTRES, AUTHORISATION WILL BE WITHDRAWN IMMEDIATELY FROM ANY GARAGE WHICH ISSUED CERTIFICATES OF ROADWORTHINESS JUST TO PROMOTE THE SALE OF ITS OWN VEHICLES OR ENGAGED ITSELF IN OTHER FORMS OF MALPRACTICE. AUTHORISATION WILL ALSO LAPSE IMMEDIATELY ON THE FIRM CEASING TO TRADE OR BECOMING INSOLVENT, + HE SAID.

MEANWHILE, THE EXAMINATION OF NEW CARS FOR TYPE APPROVAL PRIOR TO REGISTRATION WOULD CONTINUE TO BE CONDUCTED AT GOVERNMENT VEHICLE EXAMINATION CENTRES.

THE BILL IS EXPECTED TO BE INTRODUCED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON WEDNESDAY (JULY 24).

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APPLICATIONS FOR 3 778 HOS FLATS OPEN TOMORROW

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THE HOUSING AUTHORITY WILL TOMORROW (FRIDAY) INVITE APPLICATIONS FOR THE PURCHASE OF 3 778 FLATS AT THREE PROJECTS UNDER PHASE 7C OF THE HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME.

+THE FLATS ARE AT SUI HEI COURT PHASE I IN TUEN MUN, MING NGA COURT IN TAI PO AND NEPTUNE TERRACE IN CHAI WAN,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE AUTHORITY SAID TODAY.

BEING BUILT IN TWO PHASES, SIU HEI COURT IS SITUATED NEXT TO WU KING AND BUTTERFLY ESTATES AT THE BURGEONING BUTTERFLY BEACH AREA, COMMANDING PICTURESEQUE VIEWS OF THE SEA AND GREEN SURROUNDINGS.

ITS FIRST TWO 34/38-STOREY BLOCKS, NOW BEING OFFERED FOR SALE, WILL HAVE A TOTAL OF 1 120 ONE-BEDROOM AND TWO-BEDROOM FLATS WITH GROSS AREAS VARYING BETWEEN 42.9 AND 52.7 SQUARE METRES.

THE FLATS ARE PRICED FROM \$81 100 TO \$163 800 EACH.

FRONTING THE LAM CHUEN RIVER, MING NGA COURT WILL HAVE 1 680 ONE-BEDROOM AND TWO-BEDROOM FLATS IN THREE 36-STOREY BLOCKS WITH PANORAMIC VIEWS OF TOLO HARBOUR AND DISTANT HILLS.

WITH GROSS AREAS RANGING BETWEEN 42.5 AND 55.1 SQUARE METRES, THE FLATS ARE PRICED FROM \$101 400 TO \$217 000 EACH.

NEPTUNE TERRACE, A PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION SCHEME PROJECT, IS LOCATED NEAR CHAI WAN ROAD AND IS WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE FROM THE CHAI WAN MTR STATION.

MOST OF ITS 978 FLATS IN THREE 33-STOREY BLOCKS VARY IN GROSS AREAS BETWEEN 62.7 AND 74.6 SQUARE METRES AND HAVE TWO OR THREE BEDROOMS EACH.

FLAT PRICES RANGE FROM \$272 700 TO \$415 400.

ANOTHER TYPE OF THREE-BEDROOM FLATS, WITH A SIZE OF ABOUT 91.8 SQUARE METRES, HAS AN ADDITIONAL BATHROOM ATTACHED TO THE MASTER BEDROOM AND IS PRICED FROM \$359 500 TO \$450 500.

SAMPLE FLATS FOR THE THREE PROJECTS WILL BE OPEN FROM TOMORROW FOR VIEWING BY PROSPECTIVE HOME-PURCHASERS, GIVING THEM A CHANCE TO PERSONALLY ASSESS THE DESIGN AND VALUE OF THE FLATS.

FOR MING NGA COURT, TWO SAMPLE FLATS WILL BE SET UP ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF OI MAN COMMERCIAL CENTRE AND OPEN FROM 9 AM TO 7 PM ON WEEKDAYS AND SATURDAYS AND FROM 10 AM TO 7 PM ON SUNDAYS.

SAMPLE FLATS AT NEPTUNE TERRACE IN CHAI WAN WILL BE OPEN DAILY FROM 10 AM TO 6 PM WHILE THOSE AT SIU HEI COURT IN TUEN MUN WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC VIEWING FROM 10 AM TO 6 PM DURING WEEKENDS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

/FULL DETAILS .....

FULL DETAILS OF THE THREE PROJECTS WILL BE ON DISPLAY FROM TOMORROW AT THE HOME OWNERSHIP CENTRE ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF OI MAN COMMERCIAL CENTRE, HO MAN TIN FROM 9 AM TO 7 PM (10 AM TO 7 PM ON SUNDAYS).

APPLICATION FORMS WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE AT THE CENTRE IN ADDITION TO HOUSING DEPARTMENT'S APPLICATIONS SECTION AT MA TAU KOK ROAD, ESTATE OFFICES OF HOUSING AUTHORITY AND HOUSING SOCIETY AND DISTRICT OFFICES.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID: +THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF APPLICATION FORMS, GREEN AND WHITE, FOR DIFFERENT CATEGORIES OF APPLICANTS.

+GREEN FORMS ARE FOR PUBLIC HOUSING TENANTS INCLUDING TENANTS OF HOUSING SOCIETY ESTATES; RESIDENTS OF TEMPORARY HOUSING AND COTTAGE AREAS MANAGED BY THE HOUSING AUTHORITY; AND HOLDERS OF CERTIFICATES OF GREEN FORM STATUS ISSUED BY THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT TO FAMILIES FROM WAITING LIST, CLEAREES AND DISASTER VICTIMS AND JUNIOR CIVIL SERVANTS.

+WHITE FORMS ARE FOR APPLICANTS FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR, OR FAMILY GROUPS SPLIT FROM PUBLIC HOUSING TENANTS, WITH FAMILY INCOME NOT EXCEEDING \$7 500 A MONTH.

+TWO-PERSON FAMILIES MAY ALSO APPLY.+

HE SAID A TWO-PERSON FAMILY SHOULD COMPRISE HUSBAND AND WIFE; TWO CLOSELY RELATED PERSONS, E.G. PARENT AND CHILD, GRANDPARENT AND GRANDCHILD, BROTHER AND SISTER; OR APPLICANT AND RELATIVE, IF DEPENDENT ON AND LIVING TOGETHER WITH APPLICANT.

APPLICATIONS WILL CLOSE ON AUGUST 5.

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AVERAGE TAXI LICENCE PREMIUM UP  
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT HAS COMPLETED PROCESSING THE LATEST TENDERS FOR 100 URBAN TAXI LICENCES.

A TOTAL OF 292 TENDERS HAD BEEN RECEIVED WHEN THE OFFER CLOSED ON JUNE 21. THE HIGHEST TENDER ACCEPTED WAS \$223 100, AND THE LOWEST \$217 936.

THE AVERAGE PREMIUM OF \$219 771.40 MARKED AN INCREASE OF 10.3 PER CENT, COMPARED WITH THE LAST TENDER EXERCISE IN JANUARY.

DETAILS OF SUCCESSFUL TENDERERS AND THE AMOUNTS OFFERED WILL BE PUBLISHED IN TOMORROW'S (FRIDAY) GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

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WARNING ABOUT ENDANGERED SPECIES  
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THE PUBLIC WERE REMINDED AGAIN TODAY THAT IT IS AN OFFENCE TO POSSESS, IMPORT OR EXPORT ANY ENDANGERED SPECIES OF ANIMALS AND PLANTS WITHOUT PRIOR AUTHORISATION OF THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES.

THE REMINDER WAS GIVEN BY A SPOKESMAN FOR THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, FOLLOWING A RECENT COURT CASE IN WHICH A MAN HAD BEEN FINED \$2 500 AT FANLING MAGISTRACY FOR ILLEGALLY POSSESSING 17 OWLS.

THE BIRDS WERE CONFISCATED.

SO FAR THIS YEAR, 165 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN PROSECUTED FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE ANIMALS AND PLANTS (PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES) ORDINANCE. MOST OF THE CASES CONCERNED THE ILLEGAL IMPORTATION OF OWLS, KESTRELS, BUZZARDS, PANGOLINS AND STUFFED SPECIMENS OF SEA TURTLES AND CROCODILES.

FINES TOTALLED \$74 000.

THE SPOKESMAN URGED PEOPLE GOING ABROAD IN THE SUMMER VACATION PERIOD NOT TO BRING BACK ANY ENDANGERED SPECIES OF ANIMALS AND PLANTS.

+FAILURE TO OBSERVE THE ANIMALS AND PLANTS (PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES) ORDINANCE MAY LEAD TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$5 000 ON CONVICTION FOR THE FIRST OFFENCE, AND \$10 000 AND SIX MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT FOR THE SECOND AND SUBSEQUENT OFFENCES,+ HE WARNED.

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CONTROLS SOUGHT ON LIVE POULTRY, REPTILES, FISH AS FOOD  
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LEGISLATION IS BEING PROPOSED TO AMEND THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND URBAN SERVICES ORDINANCE SO THAT LIVE POULTRY, LIVE REPTILES AND LIVE FISH CAN BE REGARDED AS FOOD FOR THE PURPOSES OF PUBLIC HEALTH CONTROL.

IF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND URBAN SERVICES (AMENDMENT)(NO. 2) BILL 1985 IS APPROVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE REGULATIONS TO COVER THESE THREE FOOD CATEGORIES, THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR MUNICIPAL SERVICES, MR LEUNG PAK-CHUNG EXPLAINED.

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THE AMENDMENT IS INTENDED TO PROVIDE FURTHER CONSUMER PROTECTION IN THE AREA OF PUBLIC HEALTH, AND IS PROMPTED BY THE NEED TO PROHIBIT THE IMPORTATION AND SALE OF POULTRY WHICH HAS RESIDUES OF CERTAIN NOXIOUS HORMONES.

IT IS HOPED TO INTRODUCE THE REGULATIONS SHORTLY, MR LEUNG SAID.

THE AMENDMENT BILL WILL BE GAZETTED TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AND WILL RECEIVE ITS FIRST AND SECOND READINGS ON WEDNESDAY (JULY 24). IF APPROVED, THE LEGISLATION IS EXPECTED TO BE IMPLEMENTED AROUND THE END OF AUGUST.

PUBLIC COMMENTS MAY BE SENT TO UMELCO, AT SWIRE HOUSE, 12TH FLOOR, CHATER ROAD, OR TO THE SECRETARY FOR MUNICIPAL SERVICES, AT HARBOUR CENTRE, HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG.

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ANTI-NARCOTICS EFFORTS SHOW RESULTS  
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THE DECLINE IN THE NUMBER OF PERSONS NEWLY REPORTED FOR INVOLVEMENT IN DRUGS RECORDED IN 1984, CONTINUED IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR.

THIS WAS DISCLOSED TODAY (THURSDAY) AT THE 57TH MEETING OF THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS (ACAN).

IN THE FIRST QUARTER, 867 PERSONS WERE NEWLY REPORTED TO THE CENTRAL REGISTRY OF DRUG ABUSE (CRDA) FOR INVOLVEMENT IN DRUGS. THIS WAS A DECREASE OF 4.9 PER CENT COMPARED WITH THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1984 WHEN 912 NEW CASES WERE REPORTED.

THE NUMBER OF NEWLY REPORTED YOUNG PEOPLE UNDER THE AGE OF 21 FELL BY 3.8 PER CENT FROM 236 IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1984 TO 227 IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1985.

A DECREASE IN THE NUMBER OF PERSONS PROSECUTED FOR MAJOR AND MINOR DRUG OFFENCES WAS ALSO RECORDED. IN THE FIRST QUARTER, 2 825 PERSONS WERE PROSECUTED FOR DRUG OFFENCES, REPRESENTING A 4.7 PER CENT DECREASE COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS QUARTER.

AS A RESULT OF THE COMBINED EFFORTS OF THE POLICE FORCE AND THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT, SOME 180 KILOGRAMMES OF ILLICIT OPIATES, MAINLY HEROIN BASE, WERE SEIZED IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1985.

AT TODAY'S MEETING ACAN ENDORSED A NEW PUBLICITY STRATEGY FOR THE 1985-86 CAMPAIGN WHICH WILL -

- (1) FOCUS ATTENTION ON DRUG PUSHERS AND THE DESTRUCTION THEY CAUSE TO PEOPLE'S LIVES,

/(2) ENCOURAGE THE .....

(2) ENCOURAGE THE PUBLIC TO REPORT DRUG PEDDLING ACTIVITIES, AND

(3) BE TARGETED AT PARENTS, PUTTING ACROSS THE MESSAGE THAT 'YOUR SON OR DAUGHTER COULD BE THE NEXT VICTIM. REPORT DRUG ACTIVITIES'.

EFFORTS WILL CONTINUE TO BE MADE TO REACH OUT TO YOUNG PEOPLE, WHO ARE MOST EXPOSED TO THE DANGERS OF DRUG ABUSE, AND TO PREVENT THEM FROM GETTING INVOLVED IN DRUGS.

WITH THIS OBJECTIVE IN MIND, THE HELP OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS AND COMMUNITY SOCIAL WORKERS HAS BEEN ENLISTED AND DRUG EDUCATION TALKS IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS ARE BEING GIVEN BY THE SCHOOL TALKS TEAM OF THE NARCOTICS DIVISION OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT.

TO DATE, 408 TALKS HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO SOME 120 000 SECONDARY STUDENTS IN 221 SCHOOLS.

DISTRICT CAMPAIGNS WITH COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT CONTINUE THIS YEAR. FOLLOWING THE OPENING OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN WITH A BEACH CONCERT HELD ON JULY 14 AT REPULSE BAY, DISTRICT CAMPAIGNS WILL BE MOUNTED IN KWAI CHUNG, SHA TIN AND KOWLOON CITY LATER THIS YEAR.

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#### PROVISIONAL RC MEMBERS VISIT TAI PO DB

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THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL, MR CHEUNG YAN-LUNG, CALLED ON THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD TO SUPPORT THE COUNCIL IN IMPROVING THE MUNICIPAL FACILITIES AND SERVICES FOR THE RAPIDLY DEVELOPING INDUSTRIAL CENTRE.

THE CALL WAS MADE THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON WHEN MR CHEUNG AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL PAID A VISIT TO THE BOARD.

TAI PO HAS BECOME A MAJOR INDUSTRIAL CENTRE AND MANY RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS WERE BUILT IN THE NEW TOWN IN RECENT YEARS, MR CHEUNG SAID.

HE ADDED THAT THE TOWN WOULD BE BETTER LINKED WITH THE URBAN AREAS WHEN THE TAI PO-SHA TIN COASTAL ROAD WAS COMPLETED LATER THIS YEAR.

AT A MEETING HELD DURING THE VISIT, SOME MEMBERS OF THE BOARD SUGGESTED THAT THE RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL PROGRAMMES FOR THE RESIDENTS IN TAI PO SHOULD BE FAMILY ORIENTATED. THEY ADDED THAT THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN THE 0-12 AGE GROUP IN THE DISTRICT ARE COMPARATIVELY HIGHER THAN THOSE IN OTHER DISTRICTS.

THE BOARD MEMBERS ALSO ASKED THAT MORE CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL PROGRAMMES SHOULD BE PROVIDED FOR THE RESIDENTS IN THE RURAL AREAS.

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GENERAL DUTIES MEN PRAISED

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THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE) OF THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, MR ARTHUR JOHNSON, TODAY PRAISED FOUR MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL DUTIES TEAM, WHO WERE WOUNDED WHILE CARRYING OUT ENFORCEMENT ACTION AGAINST ILLEGAL HAWKERS IN KWAI CHUNG YESTERDAY, FOR THEIR DEVOTION TO DUTY.

MR JOHNSON WAS VISITING TWO OF THE INJURED OFFICERS IN PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL.

ACCOMPANYING MR JOHNSON ON THE VISIT WERE THE SENIOR SUPERINTENDENT (ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE), MR CHAN TING-PO; THE KWAI CHUNG DISTRICT HYGIENE SUPERINTENDENT, MR LEE SHEUNG-YEE; AND THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY (STAFF WELFARE) OF THE RSD, MISS KATIE CHING.

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ISLANDS SET UP SPORTS EVENTS FOR ALL

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THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS TO ORGANISE A WIDE RANGE OF OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES ON THE ISLANDS DISTRICT THIS YEAR FOR RESIDENTS AND YOUNGSTERS WHO FLOCK TO VARIOUS OUTLYING ISLANDS ON WEEKENDS AND HOLIDAYS.

THERE WILL BE MORE THAN 30 RECREATION AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING CAMPING, HORSE RIDING, FISHING, FAMILY CAMP, DAY CAMP, BOAT ROWING, RUNNING AND A VARIETY SHOW.

THE ACTIVITIES, WHICH WILL LAST TILL JANUARY NEXT YEAR, WILL BE LAUNCHED AT A CEREMONY AT THE SILVERMINE BAY BEACH ON LANTAU ISLAND ON SATURDAY (JULY 20) AT 3 PM.

OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ISLANDS DISTRICT BOARD, MR LAM WAI-KEUNG; THE DISTRICT OFFICER OF ISLANDS, MR RAYMOND WONG; THE CHIEF LEISURE MANAGER OF THE RSD, MR JOHN YEUNG, AND THE ISLANDS DISTRICT LEISURE MANAGER, MR TAM PAK-HANG.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DAY WILL INCLUDE FUN GAMES AND LIFE-SAVING DEMONSTRATION.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO TAKE PART IN THE FUN GAMES FOR WHICH NO ADMISSION TICKETS ARE REQUIRED.

TO INTRODUCE THE ACTIVITIES TO THE PUBLIC, THE RSD HAS PUBLISHED A COMPREHENSIVE PAMPHLET OUTLINING THE VENUE, DATE AND TIME OF EACH INDIVIDUAL EVENT.

/COPIES OF .....

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COPIES OF THE PAMPHLET, TOGETHER WITH APPLICATION FORMS, ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION AT RSD'S ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICE, ALL SUB-OFFICES OF THE ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICE AND ALL RURAL COMMITTEES OF THE ISLANDS DISTRICT.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY AT SILVERMINE BAY BEACH ON SATURDAY (JULY 20) AT 3 PM.

A GOVERNMENT LAUNCH WILL BE AVAILABLE TO TAKE MEMBERS OF THE PRESS WHO WISH TO COVER THE EVENT. FOR RESERVATIONS, PLEASE CONTACT MRS LEE CHAN YUEN-NUI, ASSISTANT RECREATION AND SPORT OFFICER OF ISLANDS DISTRICT ON TELEPHONE 5-423085 BEFORE 5 PM ON FRIDAY (JULY 19).

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SEMINAR DEALS WITH MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS  
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MODERN CORPORATION MANAGEMENT AND THE PROBLEMS ARISING FROM THE STRUCTURE OF COMPLEX GROUPS WILL BE DISCUSSED AT A SEMINAR TO BE LED BY DR ROBERT I. TRICKER, DIRECTOR OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL'S MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT CENTRE OF HONG KONG, ON SATURDAY (JULY 20).

THE SEMINAR IS AN ANNUAL EVENT OF THE +MANAGEMENT FOR EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME+ OF THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

DR TRICKER WILL ALSO GIVE TWO LECTURES ON HOW A MODERN CORPORATION IS DIRECTED, SUPERVISED, CONTROLLED AND HELD ACCOUNTABLE.

THE THEME OF THE ONE-DAY SEMINAR IS +DIRECTING THE MODERN CORPORATION - ISSUES IN STRATEGY, STRUCTURE AND CONTROL+.

ANYONE INTERESTED IN THE SEMINAR MAY TELEPHONE 5-278626.

DR TRICKER OF HARVARD AND OXFORD WAS THE DIRECTOR OF THE CORPORATE POLICY GROUP AT NUFFIELD COLLEGE, OXFORD, WHERE HE HELD A RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP UNDERTAKING STUDIES INTO THE WORK OF COMPANY DIRECTORS. PRIOR TO THAT, HE DIRECTED THE OXFORD CENTRE FOR MANAGEMENT STUDIES FOR 10 YEARS. HE WAS ALSO THE FIRST PROFESSOR OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS IN BRITAIN, AT WARWICK UNIVERSITY.

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THURSDAY, JULY 18, 1985

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1 000 YOUTHS IN SUNDAY PAINTING EVENT  
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ONE THOUSAND YOUTHS WILL BE TAKING PART IN A CREATIVE PAINTING EVENT AT THE MACPHERSON PLAYGROUND ON SUNDAY (JULY 21), CENTERING ON THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR'S THESIS OF 'PARTICIPATION, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE'.

THE EVENT WILL START OFF THE MONG KOK DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME.

AN UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MRS SELINA CHOW; MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICER, MRS BRENDA FUNG, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MONG KOK DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, MR CLEMENT TAO WILL OFFICIATE AT THE CEREMONY.

ABOUT 80 EVENTS HAVE BEEN ARRANGED THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT FOR YOUTHS, INCLUDING FAMILY OUTINGS AND CAMPINGS, WATER SPORTS, COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION LECTURES AND SEMINARS, TRAINING CLASSES ON SPORTS AND MUSIC, CONCERTS AND TALENT SHOWS.

PAMPHLETS ABOUT THE PROGRAMME MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE TAI KOK TSUI BRANCH OFFICE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE MONG KOK DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME AT 4.30 PM ON SUNDAY (JULY 21) AT MACPHERSON PLAYGROUND, SAI YEE STREET.

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CORRECTIONAL CHIEF TO MEET THE MEDIA  
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THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, MR CHAN WA-SHEK, WILL MEET THE MEDIA IN THE GIS PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, AT 3 PM TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

MR CHAN ASSUMED THE POST ON JULY 1. HE IS THE FIRST CHINESE TO HEAD THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

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THURSDAY, JULY 18, 1985

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OUTDOOR VARIETY SHOW  
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AN OUTDOOR VARIETY SHOW FEATURING POPULAR SINGERS WILL BE JOINTLY PRESENTED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT AND RTHK AT SHA TSUI ROAD PLAYGROUND, TSUEN WAN, ON SATURDAY (JULY 20) FROM 3 PM TO 4 PM.

THE ONE-HOUR EPISODE, WHICH WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE ON RTHK RADIO ONE, IS PART OF THE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY RADIO PROGRAMME SERIES +MUSIC WHILE YOU WORK+.

TAIWANESE SINGER, MISS CAI XING JUAN AND TWO LOCAL SINGERS, MR ALBERT AU AND MISS ANNABELLA LUI WILL PERFORM AT THE SHOW.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

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RAILWAY GOODS YARD BEING BUILT  
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THE RAILWAY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT HAS AWARDED AN \$11.3 MILLION CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A RAILWAY GOODS YARD AT MONG KOK.

THE PROJECT WILL PROVIDE LOADING AND UNLOADING FACILITIES FOR THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY. IT IS PART OF THE RECONSTRUCTION OF MONG KOK STATION UNDER KCR'S MODERNISATION AND ELECTRIFICATION SCHEME.

WORK ON THE PROJECT WILL INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A RAILWAY LOOP LINE, A SHUNT NECK AND SIX SIDINGS FOR MARSHALLING THE WAGONS. OTHER ASSOCIATED WORKS WILL INVOLVE DRAINAGE AND ROAD CONSTRUCTION, FENCING AND THE PROVISION OF AN AMENITY BLOCK NEAR THE STATION.

THE SITE AREA MEASURES ABOUT 25 HECTARES.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START EARLY NEXT MONTH AND BE COMPLETED IN 12 MONTHS.

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THURSDAY, JULY 18, 1985

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ANTI-MOSQUITO CAMPAIGN IN CENTRAL  
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PEST CONTROL STAFF FROM THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S CENTRAL DISTRICT OFFICE BRAVED THE RAINY WEATHER THIS MORNING (THURSDAY) TO LAUNCH THE SECOND PHASE OF THE ANTI-MOSQUITO CAMPAIGN IN THE DISTRICT.

THE CAMPAIGN PERIOD WILL LAST UNTIL THE END OF NEXT WEEK. DURING THIS PERIOD, PEST CONTROL STAFF FROM THE DISTRICT WILL CHECK AND IDENTIFY ALL POTENTIAL MOSQUITO BREEDING PLACES IN COMMON PARTS OF BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION SITES, PUBLIC PLACES, LANES AND YARDS IN THE DISTRICT.

THEY WILL ALSO TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION TO ELIMINATE POTENTIAL MOSQUITO BREEDING GROUNDS FOUND DURING INSPECTIONS AND ADVISE THE PUBLIC ON HOW TO PREVENT MOSQUITO BREEDING.

THE FIRST PHASE OF THE CAMPAIGN, AIMED AT THE ELIMINATION OF POTENTIAL BREEDING PLACES ON HILLSLOPES IN THE PEAK AND UPPER LEVELS AREA, WAS CONDUCTED EARLIER THIS YEAR.

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