



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 1975.

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STUDY OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION AND CONTROL LEGISLATION

THE STUDY OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION AND CONTROL LEGISLATION IN HONG KONG RECENTLY LAUNCHED BY THE GOVERNMENT REPRESENTS +ONE OF THE MOST THOUGHTFUL AND FAR-REACHING APPROACHES TO IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE EVER UNDERTAKEN BY A GOVERNMENT ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD+.

THIS IS THE VIEW OF MRS. FLORENCE FISHER, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES LTD. (ERL), LONDON, THE CONSULTING ORGANISATION RETAINED TO ASSIST THE GOVERNMENT IN CARRYING OUT THE 18-MONTH STUDY.

MRS. FISHER IS PRESENTLY IN HONG KONG WITH ERL MEMBERS REPRESENTING SOME OF THE LEGAL, TECHNICAL, ECONOMIC AND COMMUNICATIONS DISCIPLINES ON THE PROJECT TEAM.

ACCORDING TO MR. ALAN ARMSTRONG-WRIGHT, DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT: +THIS STUDY IS UNIQUE. ALTHOUGH MANY OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE EXAMINED POLLUTION PROBLEMS AND PRODUCED APPROPRIATE LEGISLATION, NOWHERE ELSE HAS A STUDY BEEN CARRIED OUT CONSIDERING ALL ASPECTS OF POLLUTION SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH A VIEW TO PREPARING COMPREHENSIVE LEGISLATION AND CONTROL MECHANISMS. IT IS PROBABLY THE FIRST TIME THAT ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION ISSUES HAVE BEEN EXAMINED IN THIS TOTAL FASHION.+

THIS CONCEPT, MRS. FISHER BELIEVES, IS AN OUTGROWTH OF THE AWARENESS OF THE GOVERNMENT, WORKING CLOSELY WITH HONG KONG'S ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMITTEE (EPCOM), OF FIVE FUNDAMENTAL FACTORS:

1. THE NEED TO ESTABLISH MINIMUM BASE-LINE STANDARDS FOR ALL ASPECTS OF POLLUTION — ON LAND AND SEA, IN THE AIR, AND FROM EXCESSIVE NOISE.
2. KNOWLEDGE OF THE INTEGRAL INTER-RELATIONSHIPS AMONG ALL FORMS OF POLLUTION.
3. THE DESIRE OF THE GOVERNMENT TO SECURE WIDE-RANGING ACCEPTANCE OF BASIC STANDARDS OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BEFORE THE FACT, THUS LAYING THE GROUNDWORK FOR GENERAL APPROVAL FOR CONTINUOUS UPGRADING OF LEGISLATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF LAW.
4. RECOGNITION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE NEED TO ACHIEVE A PRACTICAL BALANCE BETWEEN ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND THE CONTINUED EXPANSION OF INDUSTRY, COMMERCE AND TOURISM.
5. HONG KONG'S SMALL SIZE RELATIVE TO OTHER INDUSTRIALISED AREAS, SUCH AS JAPAN, THE EEC, THE UNITED STATES, WHICH MAKES IT FEASIBLE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS TO BE EXAMINED +WHOLE+.

/ERL IS

ERL IS DEPLOYING A MULTI-DISCIPLINARY TEAM TO WORK ON THE ASSIGNMENT, IN RECOGNITION OF THE INTRICATE INTER-RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN VARIOUS FACETS OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY.

CONSULTANTS NOW IN HONG KONG INCLUDE MR. J.M. SIDWICK, TECHNICAL- DR. ROBIN BIDWELL, RESEARCH AND ECONOMICS- AND PROF. J.M. MCLOUGHLIN, LAW. A COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST, WILLIAM FISHER, FORMER PUBLIC AFFAIRS ADVISOR IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY, IS ALSO IN HONG KONG WITH THE ERL TEAM. HIS MISSION IS TO WORK WITH THE GOVERNMENT TO KEEP INDUSTRY, COMMERCE AND THE COMMUNITY CONTINUOUSLY INFORMED ON THE TEAM'S PROGRESS, FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS.

MR. SIDWICK, DR. BIDWELL AND MRS. FISHER ARE DIRECTORS OF ERL. AND PROFESSOR MCLOUGHLIN, AN ERL ASSOCIATE, IS FROM THE LAW FACULTY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER.

MRS. FISHER BELIEVES +IT IS RARE TO FIND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES SO HIGHLY AWARE BOTH OF THE INTER-RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN A HOST OF ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES, AND THE NEED TO SECURE WIDESPREAD ACCEPTANCE THROUGH A PURPOSEFUL PROGRAMME OF CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION.+

THE CONSULTANTS' FIRST TASK WILL BE TO COLLECT AND EVALUATE ALL EXISTING DATA ON POLLUTION IN HONG KONG, INCLUDING EXISTING STATUTES AND REGULATIONS AND ENFORCING AGENCIES AND THEIR WORK. THE ERL TEAM WILL USE THIS DATA, PLUS PROJECTIONS OF INDUSTRIAL, AGRICULTURAL, TOURISM AND POPULATION GROWTH IN THE AREA, TO ADVISE ON THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES TO BE INCORPORATED INTO A GENERAL DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ORDINANCE COVERING ALL ASPECTS OF POLLUTION.

+ONCE THESE DRAFT PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN AGREED BY THE GOVERNMENT, THE SECOND PHASE WILL BEGIN WITH THE PREPARATION OF DETAILED CONTROL MEASURES INCLUDING DRAFTING INSTRUCTIONS FOR LEGISLATION AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CONTROL AUTHORITIES AND CONTROL SYSTEMS,+ MR. ARMSTRONG-WRIGHT SAID.

+MUCH OF OUR EXISTING POLLUTION LEGISLATION IS FRAGMENTED AND OLD FASHIONED. IT IS NOT GEARED TO CONDITIONS OF DENSE POPULATION AND TRAFFIC, THE INTENSE INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT. IN ORDER TO RECTIFY THIS AND TO BROADEN HONG KONG'S INDUSTRIAL BASE, WITHOUT DETRIMENT TO THE ENVIRONMENT, CAREFULLY FORMULATED CONTROLS SHOULD BE STIPULATED IN LEGISLATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.+

ERL — ONE OF FOUR INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN FIRMS INVITED TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT — WILL BE IN CONTINUOUS CONSULTATION WITH GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, EPCOM MEMBERS AND ORGANISATIONS REPRESENTING INDUSTRIAL, AGRICULTURAL, TOURISM, FINANCIAL AND SCIENTIFIC INTERESTS.

ITS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACHIEVING MINIMUM ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY STANDARDS THROUGH LEGISLATION AND ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES WILL TAKE ACCOUNT NOT ONLY OF HONG KONG'S SPECIAL SITUATION, BUT ALSO THE MEASURES AND INSTITUTIONS ADOPTED IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD.

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+NO TWO ENVIRONMENTS ARE EXACTLY ALIKE+ ACCORDING TO MR. SIDWICK, TECHNICAL CO-ORDINATOR FOR THE PROJECT. +THEREFORE NO TWO SETS OF SOLUTIONS WILL BE ALIKE. WE SHALL STUDY THE MOST EFFECTIVE AND PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY OTHER COUNTRIES AND AREAS, BUT IN THE END OUR RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE PARTICULAR TO HONG KONG AND ITS DEVELOPMENT.+

ADDS MRS. FISHER: +HONG KONG ENJOYS A UNIQUE ROLE IN WORLD COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND FINANCE. WE SEE OUR MISSION AS CENTERING ON THE PRESERVATION OF THIS ROLE, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME CATERING FOR HONG KONG'S FUTURE DEVELOPMENT, AND GENERALLY HELPING THE GOVERNMENT TO ENSURE THAT HONG KONG WILL CONTINUE TO BE AN ENVIRONMENTALLY SUITABLE PLACE IN WHICH TO LIVE, WORK OR VISIT.+

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EARLY PAYDAYS FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
OVER LUNAR NEW YEAR PERIOD

PEOPLE RECEIVING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND/OR THE DISABILITY AND INFIRMITY ALLOWANCES WHOSE PAYDAYS FALL WITHIN THE LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS, WILL BE ABLE TO GET THEIR MONEY EARLIER, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY).

MR. DAVID CHOW, DEPUTY SECRETARY (OPERATIONS), SAID AS IN PREVIOUS YEARS, ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEEN MADE WITH THE POST OFFICE, NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICT OFFICES AND TREASURY OFFICES, TO ENABLE RECIPIENTS TO CASH THEIR VOUCHERS EARLIER SO THAT THEY WILL HAVE MONEY FOR THE OCCASION.

THOSE WHOSE PAYDAYS FALL ON FEBRUARY 11, 12 AND 13 WILL BE ABLE TO GET THEIR MONEY ON FEBRUARY 6, 7 AND 8 OR 10 RESPECTIVELY.

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GOVT. REPRESENTATIVE TO BE APPOINTED
TO TELEPHONE COMPANY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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THE APPOINTMENT OF A GOVERNMENT DIRECTOR TO THE BOARD OF THE HONG KONG TELEPHONE COMPANY IS ONE OF THE TWO PROVISIONS IN A BILL PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY.

IF PASSED, THE TELEPHONE (AMENDMENT) BILL WILL ENABLE THE GOVERNOR TO APPOINT AN ADDITIONAL DIRECTOR TO THE BOARD WHOSE MAIN RESPONSIBILITY WILL BE TO REPRESENT THE INTERESTS OF THE PUBLIC.

THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION ENSURES THAT THE NEW DIRECTOR WILL HAVE ACCESS TO ALL MATERIAL CONCERNING THE AFFAIRS OF THE COMPANY AND WILL BE TREATED AS IF HE HAD BEEN APPOINTED TO THE BOARD AT A GENERAL MEETING OF THE COMPANY. HOWEVER, HE MAY NOT BE REMOVED FROM THE BOARD EXCEPT BY THE GOVERNOR.

THE BILL ALSO PROVIDES FOR WAIVING OF ANY ROYALTY PAID BY THE COMPANY TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR THE CALENDAR YEARS 1974 AND 1975.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR. PHILIP HADDON-CAVE TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL LAST WEEK THAT APPROVAL WOULD BE SOUGHT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE MEASURES IF THEY WERE AGREED TO BY THE TELEPHONE COMPANY.

THEY FORMED PART OF AN +IMMEDIATE PACKAGE OF MEASURES+ PROPOSED BY THE GOVERNMENT IN RESPONSE TO THE +URGENT AND DIFFICULT SITUATION FACED BY THE COMPANY AND THE PUBLIC ALIKE+. THE PACKAGE INCLUDED A PROPOSED 30 PER CENT INCREASE IN TELEPHONE RENTALS, INSTEAD OF THE 70 PER CENT APPLIED FOR BY THE COMPANY, AND THAT NO DIVIDEND PAYMENTS WOULD BE MADE BY THE COMPANY IN 1975.

IN HIS STATEMENT, IN WHICH HE ALSO ANNOUNCED THE SETTING UP OF A COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY, MR. HADDON-CAVE SAID +TO REFUSE ANY INCREASE IN CHARGES AT THIS TIME WOULD PRECIPITATE A CRISIS IN THE COMPANY'S AFFAIRS WHICH WOULD NOT BE IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST.+

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CHARITY SHOW TO HELP THE AGED

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FIVE YOUTH GROUPS ATTACHED TO THE WESTERN DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE WILL BE STAGING A VARIETY SHOW ON SATURDAY EVENING (FEBRUARY 1) TO RAISE FUNDS FOR A LUNAR NEW YEAR PARTY FOR OLD PEOPLE IN THE DISTRICT.

THE SHOW WILL BE HELD AT KING'S COLLEGE IN BONHAM ROAD FROM 7.30 TO 10 P.M., AND WILL INCLUDE FOLK SONGS, A MAGIC SHOW, CHINESE CLASSICAL DANCES AND TWO PLAYS AMONG OTHER ITEMS OF ENTERTAINMENT.

TICKETS AT \$3 AND \$5 CAN BE OBTAINED AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE IN WESTERN STREET, HONG KONG.

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VALUE OF DECEMBER EXPORTS DROP

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THE VALUE OF HONG KONG'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN DECEMBER LAST YEAR AMOUNTED TO \$1,733 MILLION, ACCORDING TO PROVISIONAL FIGURES RELEASED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THIS REPRESENTED A DECREASE OF \$227 MILLION OR 11.6 PER CENT COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1973.

THE VALUE OF IMPORTS AT \$2,542 MILLION WAS 16.9 PER CENT LESS THAN THAT OF DECEMBER 1973, WHILE RE-EXPORTS WERE DOWN BY 15.2 PER CENT TO \$527 MILLION.

COMMENTING ON THE PROVISIONAL FIGURES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT NOTED THAT, IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES ELSEWHERE, HONG KONG'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS IN THE LAST QUARTER OF 1974 DECLINED BY 13 PER CENT AND IMPORTS BY 17 PER CENT AS COMPARED WITH THE LAST QUARTER OF 1973.

HE POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, THAT THE VALUE FIGURES FOR 1974 AS A WHOLE SHOWED AN INCREASE OVER THOSE FOR 1973 TO THE EXTENT OF 17.7 PER CENT FOR EXPORTS, 9.2 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS AND 17.6 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS.

NOTE TO EDITORS : THE FOLLOWING TABLE WITH COMPARATIVE FIGURES IS GIVEN FOR YOUR EASY REFERENCE :

DOMESTIC EXPORTS :	\$1,733 MILLION
IMPORTS :	\$2,542 MILLION
RE-EXPORTS :	\$ 527 MILLION

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

	DECEMBER 1974	DECEMBER 1973	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	1,733 (76.7%)	1,960 (75.9%)	- 227	-11.6
IMPORTS	2,542	3,057	- 516	-16.9
RE-EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	527 (23.3%)	621 (24.1%)	- 94	-15.2

/DOMESTIC EXPORTS

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	<u>OCT.-DEC.</u> 1974	<u>OCT.-DEC.</u> 1973	<u>INCREASE OR</u> <u>DECREASE</u>	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	5,168	5,794	- 626	-10.8
IMPORTS	7,570	9,108	-1,539	-16.9
RE-EXPORTS	1,614	2,022	- 408	-20.2
	<u>JAN.-DEC.</u> 1974	<u>JAN.-DEC.</u> 1973	<u>INCREASE OR</u> <u>DECREASE</u>	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	22,912 (76.3%)	19,474 (74.9%)	+3,438	+17.7
IMPORTS	34,120	29,005	+5,115	+17.6
RE-EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	7,124 (23.7%)	6,525 (25.1%)	+ 599	+ 9.2

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RHK TO BROADCAST ARTS FESTIVAL CONCERTS

RADIO HONG KONG IS ABOUT TO EMBARK ON THE MOST AMBITIOUS SERIES OF LIVE MUSIC BROADCASTS IN ITS HISTORY.

FOURTEEN OF THE 1975 HONG KONG ARTS FESTIVAL CONCERTS ARE TO BE RELAYED DIRECT FROM THE CONCERT HALL OF THE CITY HALL TO LISTENERS IN THEIR HOMES.

THE FIRST BROADCAST WILL BE ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 3) AT 7.25 P.M. (THE OPENING NIGHT OF THE FESTIVAL) WHEN THE ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA CONDUCTED BY RAYMOND LEPPARD WILL BE PLAYING BACH'S BRANDENBURG CONCERTO NO. 1 IN F, NO. 3 IN G AND NO. 4 IN G AND BACH'S HARPSICHORD CONCERTO NO. 4.

THE LAST OF THESE CONCERTS WILL BE HEARD ON SUNDAY, 2ND MARCH. EIGHT OF THE BROADCASTS WILL BE ON RHK 4 (THE ENGLISH FM RADIO SERVICE) AND SIX ON RHK 2 (THE CHINESE FM RADIO SERVICE).

DETAILS OF THESE BROADCASTS WILL APPEAR IN THE DAILY PRESS (BOTH CHINESE AND ENGLISH) BUT THEY WILL COVER FOUR CONCERTS BY THE ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA, SIX BY THE ORCHESTRE NATIONAL FRANCAIS, AND TWO EACH BY THE SPANISH NATIONAL ORCHESTRA AND HONG KONG PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA.

CLIVE SIMPSON, HEAD OF SERIOUS MUSIC PROGRAMMES AT RADIO HONG KONG, SAID: +THIS IS BY FAR THE MOST EXTENSIVE SERIES OF LIVE BROADCASTS WE HAVE EVER UNDERTAKEN, AND IT PROMISES TO BE A RICH AND EXCITING PERIOD. THE SERIOUS MUSIC DEPARTMENT OF THE ENGLISH RADIO SERVICE IS VERY BUSY ALL THE YEAR ROUND, PRODUCING AS IT DOES 50 PROGRAMMES A WEEK NON-STOP, BUT FEBRUARY THIS YEAR IS GOING TO BE AN EXTREMELY EXHAUSTING MONTH FOR ALL OF US. IT'S GOING TO TAX OUR MANPOWER RESOURCES TO THE FULL, BOTH ON THE PRODUCTION AND TECHNICAL SIDES.

+THE BROADCASTS WILL BE BY SPECIAL VHF LINK FROM THE ROOF OF THE CITY HALL AND THE CONCERTS WILL BE HEARD ON EITHER RHK 2 OR RHK 4, ALTHOUGH NOT SIMULTANEOUSLY AS IN THE PAST. SIMULTANEOUS BROADCASTS ARE NOT IMPOSSIBLE BUT THEY DO PRESENT CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTIES, ESPECIALLY AT THE CITY HALL ITSELF WHERE ACCOMMODATION IS SEVERELY RESTRICTED.+

MR. SIMPSON FEELS THAT THESE +LIVE+ BROADCASTS WON'T HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT UPON TICKET SALES AS RADIO HONG KONG WON'T BE ADVERTISING WHICH CONCERTS ARE GOING TO BE BROADCAST UNTIL QUITE CLOSE TO THE ACTUAL DATE.

HE ADDED THAT HE FELT THE IDEA OF RIVALRY OR CONFLICT IN THIS MATTER WAS LARGELY IN THE MINDS OF CONCERT PROMOTERS AND IMPRESARIOS.

/+IN THE SERVICE

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+IN THE SERVICE OF MUSIC WE HAVE TO REMEMBER THAT THERE ARE QUITE A LOT OF MUSIC-LOVERS WHO CANNOT GET TO THE CONCERTS FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS - THE POOR, THE AGED AND THE SICK, FOR EXAMPLE, AND MANY YOUNG COUPLES WHO ARE UNABLE TO LEAVE THEIR CHILDREN,+ HE SAID.

+THERE IS ALSO A DEEP INTEREST IN MUSIC AMONG BLIND PEOPLE IN HONG KONG AND EACH MONTH THE SERIOUS MUSIC PROGRAMME SCHEDULES OF RHK 4 ARE TRANSLATED INTO BRAILLE FOR THEIR ENJOYMENT BY DEDICATED VOLUNTARY WELFARE WORKERS. IT IS MAINLY FOR THESE PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY THAT WE HAVE ARRANGED SUCH AN EXTENSIVE BROADCAST COVERAGE OF THE ARTS FESTIVAL THIS YEAR.+

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FACTORY ESTATE TENANTS PETITION HOUSING DEPARTMENT

ABOUT 80 FACTORY ESTATE TENANTS TODAY (FRIDAY) CALLED AT THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS TO HAND IN A PETITION URGING THE GOVERNMENT TO GRANT THEM THE SAME TENANCY TERMS AS ENJOYED BY GROUP B SHOP TENANTS.

THE LETTER ASKED THE GOVERNMENT TO AMEND AND RECONSIDER A NUMBER OF EXISTING AGREEMENTS CONCERNING THE TRANSFER AND INHERITANCE OF TENANCY IN FACTORY ESTATES.

THE GROUP CLAIMED TO REPRESENT TENANTS OF ALL EIGHT FACTORY ESTATES IN HONG KONG AND KOWLOON AND WERE MET BY MR. WILLIAM NORMAN, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (ADMINISTRATION) AND MR. LAM WING-SUN, DEPARTMENTAL SECRETARY.

MR. NORMAN TOLD THE DELEGATION THAT HE WOULD BRING THE MATTER TO THE ATTENTION OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY AND PROMISED TO GIVE THEM A REPLY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

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NEW TENDERS INVITED FOR LION ROCK ROPEWAY
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THE LION ROCK AERIAL ROPEWAY IS AGAIN OPEN TO TENDER.

A NOTICE CALLING FOR BIDS FOR A FRANCHISE TO OPERATE AN AERIAL ROPEWAY RUNNING FROM SHA TIN PASS ROAD TO A PEAK TO THE EAST OF LION ROCK, IS PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE, TENDERS CLOSE AT 12 NOON ON APRIL 11, 1975.

MEANWHILE, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN DISCLOSED THAT SEVERAL OTHER AERIAL ROPEWAY PROJECTS WERE ALSO BEING CONSIDERED AND NEW SAFETY LEGISLATION IS BEING PREPARED TO COVER ALL AERIAL ROPEWAY OPERATIONS.

THE FRANCHISE FOR THE LION ROCK SYSTEM WAS PREVIOUSLY TENDERED IN MID-1973 BUT NONE OF THE THREE PROPOSALS SUBMITTED THEN WAS ACCEPTABLE TO THE GOVERNMENT.

AS IN THE PREVIOUS TENDER, THE SUCCESSFUL TENDERER WILL BE GRANTED THE LEASE OF A LOT COMPRISING AN UPPER STATION OF 64,000 SQ.FT. AND A LOWER STATION OF 72,000 SQ.FT. WITH A WAYLEAVE FOR A ROPEWAY BETWEEN THEM.

THE PROPOSED ROUTE AND THE LOCATION OF THE TWO STATIONS REMAIN THE SAME AND THE PREMIUM AND ANNUAL RENTAL OF THE LAND LOT HAVE NOT BEEN REVISED. THE FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS IN THE NEW TENDER HAVE BEEN RE-STRUCTURED HOWEVER.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE AERIAL ROPEWAY, THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN HONG KONG, WOULD PROVIDE ANOTHER TOURIST ATTRACTION AS WELL AS FURTHER RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

+BOTH STATIONS WILL HAVE RESTAURANTS AND SHOPS, AND PARKING WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE LOWER STATION TO FACILITATE VISITORS USING CARS, BUSES AND TAXIS.

+CARE HAS BEEN TAKEN IN THE CHOICE OF THE ROUTE AND THE LOCATION OF THE UPPER STATION TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT OF THE HILLSIDES AND THE FAMOUS LION ROCK ITSELF.

+THE ROPEWAY WILL PROVIDE EXCELLENT PANORAMIC VIEWS OF THE HARBOUR AREA OF KOWLOON AND HONG KONG AND OVER THE SHA TIN VALLEY AND WILL OPEN UP FINE HILLSIDE WALKS,+ HE SAID.

FULL TENDER DOCUMENTS AND CONDITIONS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FROM THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE, MURRAY BUILDING, 19TH FLOOR, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG, AND FROM THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 405 NATHAN ROAD, 10TH FLOOR, KOWLOON.

ENQUIRIES MAY ALSO BE MADE AT THESE TWO OFFICES.

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INAUGURATION OF KMB ROUTE 206

THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, MR. IAN MACPHERSON, THIS (FRIDAY) MORNING CUT THE RIBBON AT A CEREMONY TO MARK THE INAUGURATION OF THE KOWLOON MOTOR BUS COMPANY'S URBAN EXPRESS COACH SERVICES SPECIALLY DESIGNED TO PROVIDE AN ACCEPTABLE ALTERNATIVE TO PRIVATE CARS.

THE NEW SERVICE - ROUTE NO. 206 - WHICH OPERATES BETWEEN MEI FOO SUN CHUEN AND TSIM SHA TSUI IS DUE TO START TOMORROW. IT IS THE FIRST OF A NUMBER OF SUCH SERVICES PLANNED MAINLY FOR AREAS WHERE PEOPLE AT PRESENT HAVE TO DEPEND ON THEIR PRIVATE CARS.

SPEAKING AT THE INAUGURAL CEREMONY HELD AT THE LAI CHI KOK BRIDGE BUS TERMINUS, MR. MACPHERSON SAID THAT ROAD CONGESTION, PARTICULARLY AT PEAK HOURS WHEN EVERYONE WAS TRYING TO GET TO WORK OR RETURN HOME FROM WORK, WAS A PROBLEM IN HONG KONG AS IT WAS IN MOST CITIES OF THE WORLD.

+IT FOLLOWS THAT ANY MEASURES WHICH WILL HELP IN REDUCING THIS CONGESTION ARE TO BE WELCOMED, WHETHER THEY INVOLVE THE STAGGERING OF WORKING TIMES TO SPREAD THE PEAK TRAVELLING LOAD, OR THE PROVISION OF OFF-ROAD FACILITIES SUCH AS FASTER AND MORE FREQUENT FERRIES, OR ARE DESIGNED TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF VEHICLES ON THE ROAD BY INTRODUCING BUS SERVICES WHICH OFFER A SUITABLE ALTERNATIVE TO THE PRIVATE CAR,+ HE SAID.

OBVIOUSLY, HE ADDED, THE FEWER THE VEHICLES ON THE ROAD, THE BETTER WILL BE THE JOURNEY TIMES ACHIEVED BY PUBLIC ROAD TRANSPORT IN GENERAL.

AFTER THE CEREMONY MR. MACPHERSON AND A NUMBER OF GUESTS WERE INVITED TO TRAVEL ON ONE OF THE NEW COACHES.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

COPIES OF A PHOTOGRAPH SHOWING MR. MACPHERSON OFFICIATING AT THE INAUGURAL CEREMONY ARE DISTRIBUTED IN THE G.I.S. PRESS BOXES THIS EVENING.

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EXTENSION OF CANAL ROAD FLYOVER
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THE CANAL ROAD FLYOVER IN WAN CHAI, WHICH FORMS PART OF THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL ROAD CONNECTIONS, WILL BE EXTENDED TO PROVIDE A LINK WITH THE PROPOSED ABERDEEN TUNNEL BY WAY OF A HIGH CAPACITY DUAL TWO-LANE ELEVATED ROAD.

THE FLYOVER WILL BE EXTENDED FROM CANAL ROAD FOLLOWING THE LINE OF LEIGHTON ROAD, MORRISON HILL ROAD, AND WONGNEICHONG ROAD, TO THE PORTAL OF THE PROPOSED ABERDEEN TUNNEL SITUATED WITHIN THE COLONIAL CEMETERY IN HAPPY VALLEY.

ACCESS RAMPS TO THE NEW FLYOVER IN MORRISON HILL ROAD AND WONGNEICHONG ROAD WILL ALSO BE CONSTRUCTED.

AT THE SAME TIME, PEDESTRIAN SUBWAYS WILL BE CONSTRUCTED ACROSS MORRISON HILL ROAD, WONGNEICHONG ROAD AND QUEEN'S ROAD EAST FOR COMPLETE SEGREGATION OF PEDESTRIANS AND VEHICLES.

OTHER MODIFICATIONS TO THE EXISTING CANAL ROAD FLYOVER WILL BE THE REMOVAL OF THE LOCKHART ROAD RAMPS AND THE WIDENING OF THE TWO EXISTING CARRIAGEWAYS.

WORKS WILL ALSO BE CARRIED OUT ON WIDENING, REALIGNING, AND REGRADING SECTIONS OF LEIGHTON ROAD, MORRISON HILL ROAD, WONGNEICHONG ROAD, AND QUEEN'S ROAD EAST IN THE VICINITY OF THE NEW FLYOVER.

NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO CARRY OUT THE PROJECT IS PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE. ANY PERSON OBJECTING TO THE PROJECT SHOULD SEND IN HIS OBJECTIONS IN WRITING TO THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS NOT LATER THAN FEBRUARY 28, 1975. ANY CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION SHOULD ALSO BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING NOT LATER THAN MARCH 31, 1975.

PLANS OF THE ABOVE WORKS CAN BE INSPECTED AT THE WAN CHAI CITY DISTRICT OFFICE, 201, HENNESSY ROAD, THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY COUNTER ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, OR AT THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE, MURRAY BUILDING, 19TH FLOOR, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG.

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SERVICE RECORD BOOKS FOR HONG KONG SEAMEN

EVERY SEAMAN WHO IS RESIDENT IN HONG KONG WILL BE REQUIRED TO HOLD A SERVICE RECORD BOOK UNDER PROPOSED LEGISLATION PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE.

THIS IS ONE OF THE PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN THE MERCHANT SHIPPING (RECRUITING OF SEAMEN) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1975 WHICH AIMS TO PUT THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ISSUE AND CONTROL OF SERVICE RECORD BOOKS ON A LEGAL FOOTING ALONG THE LINES OF U.K. LEGISLATION.

AT PRESENT, HONG KONG SEAMEN ARE REQUIRED TO PRODUCE A DISCHARGE BOOK ISSUED BY THE SEAMEN'S RECRUITING OFFICE AT THE TIME OF RECRUITMENT AND FOR ENDORSEMENT OF CERTIFICATES OF DISCHARGE ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO STATUTORY REQUIREMENT TO HOLD SUCH A DOCUMENT.

APART FROM MAKING IT OBLIGATORY FOR A HONG KONG SEAMAN WHOSE NAME APPEARS ON PART I OF THE REGISTER OF SEAMEN KEPT UNDER THE PRINCIPAL ORDINANCE TO HOLD A SERVICE RECORD BOOK, THE BILL WILL ALSO ENABLE THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL TO MAKE REGULATIONS FOR THE ISSUE OF SERVICE RECORD BOOKS AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

ANOTHER PROVISION OF THE BILL WILL MAKE ENTRIES IN OFFICIAL LOG BOOKS OF SHIPS AND CERTIFIED COPIES OF SUCH ENTRIES PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE OF THE MATTER REFERRED TO.

THIS SAME PROVISION ALSO ENLARGES THE LIST OF PERSONS WHO MAY CERTIFY SUCH COPIES AND SO HELPS TO MINIMIZE THE DIFFICULTY NOW EXPERIENCED BY SHIPMASTERS IN OBTAINING THE CERTIFICATION OF SUCH DOCUMENTS. THIS WILL IN TURN ENABLE THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE TO PURSUE OFFICIAL ENQUIRIES WITH MINIMAL DELAY.

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NOVEMBER ACCOUNTS SHOW \$174 M. SURPLUS

THE GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 1974 SHOW A SURPLUS OF \$174 MILLION COMPARED WITH A SURPLUS OF \$168 MILLION IN NOVEMBER 1973.

THIS HAS REDUCED THE ACCUMULATED DEFICIT TO \$806 MILLION FOR THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF THIS FINANCIAL YEAR.

TOTAL REVENUE FOR THE MONTH AT \$708 MILLION WAS \$127 MILLION MORE THAN IN NOVEMBER 1973.

TOTAL EXPENDITURE WAS \$534 MILLION -- \$122 MILLION MORE THAN NOVEMBER 1973.

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 1975,

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD FLYOVER

MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED THAT THE WHOLE LENGTH OF PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD FLYOVER IN KOWLOON WILL BE TEMPORARILY CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FOR FIVE HOURS FROM 1 AM ON TUESDAY (FEBRUARY 4) TO ENABLE WORK ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE ARGYLE STREET FLYOVER TO BE CARRIED OUT.

DURING THIS PERIOD, NORTHBOUND TRAFFIC FROM PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD TO WATERLOO ROAD SHOULD TURN LEFT INTO ARGYLE STREET, MAKE A U-TURN IN FRONT OF THE OFFICES OF THE CHINA LIGHT AND POWER CO. LTD., AND RE-ENTER WATERLOO ROAD VIA A SLIP ROAD.

SOUTHBOUND TRAFFIC SHOULD CONTINUE ALONG WATERLOO ROAD, TURN LEFT INTO ARGYLE STREET, MAKE A U-TURN IN FRONT OF MANDARIN COURT, AND RE-ENTER PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD.

IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE INTRODUCED FROM MONDAY (FEBRUARY 3) TO TUESDAY (FEBRUARY 11) IN YUEN LONG IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHINESE NEW YEAR FAIR TO BE HELD THERE.

ON NING ROAD BETWEEN MA MIU ROAD AND TAI KIU ROAD, AND THE WHOLE LENGTH OF KIK YUEN ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC DURING THAT PERIOD.

ON HONG KONG ISLAND, STARTING FROM 10 AM ON FEBRUARY 3, MINOR TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE INTRODUCED TO FACILITATE LOCAL TRAFFIC CIRCULATION IN NORTH POINT.

HEALTHY STREET CENTRAL FROM TSAT TSE MUI ROAD TO KING'S ROAD WILL BE ROUTED ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND, AND HEALTHY STREET WEST BETWEEN KING'S ROAD AND PAK FUK ROAD WILL BE ROUTED ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND.

TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE POSTED TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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