



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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/OUTLINE ZONING

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE GOVERNOR'S MEDIA SESSION

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FOLLOWING IS THE TRANSCRIPT OF THE MEDIA SESSION BY THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, AFTER OFFICIATING AT THE SECOND CONGREGATION OF THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TODAY (FRIDAY):

GOVERNOR: NATURALLY, I'M PLEASED, AS I AM SURE EVERYONE IN HONG KONG IS, BY THE SIGNING OF THE MINUTE ON THE AIRPORT THIS MORNING. PEOPLE IN HONG KONG HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY PATIENT AS THE TALKS HAVE GONE ON AND ON AND ON, BUT I'M SURE EVERYBODY IS PLEASED THAT WE HAVE MADE THIS IMPORTANT STEP FORWARD. AND NOW WHAT WE NEED TO DO IS TO MAKE AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE THE AGREEMENTS ON FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR BOTH THE MTRC AND THE PROVISIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY. I WOULD LIKE ON THIS PARTICULAR OCCASION TO PAY A TRIBUTE TO THOSE WHO, WHILE THE NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEEN WINDING ON, HAVE ROLLED UP THEIR SLEEVE AND GOT WITH THE JOB OF BUILDING THE AIRPORT, BECAUSE WHILE IT'S TRUE THAT WE HAVEN'T HAD AN OVERALL AGREEMENT ON THE AIRPORT, WE HAVE BEEN BUILDING IT VERY RAPIDLY. THERE ARE 11,000 PEOPLE IN THIS COMMUNITY, MEN AND WOMEN WHO EVERY DAY GO TO WORK TO GET THIS AIRPORT AND ALL THE PROJECTS ASSOCIATED WITH IT FINISHED. ALTOGETHER THEY ARE WORKING ON ABOUT 70 PROJECTS AT A COST OF 50 BILLION HONG KONG DOLLARS WHICH AMOUNTS TO THE BIGGEST CIVIL ENGINEERING PROJECT IN THE WORLD. THEY HAVE BEEN DOING A TERRIFIC JOB OVER THE LAST YEARS WHILE THE TALKING HAS GONE ON, AND I HOPE WE CAN ALL NOW ENSURE THAT THEY GET THE SUPPORT THAT THEY REQUIRE TO FINISH THE JOB AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. SO IT'S AN IMPORTANT STEP FORWARD. IT'S NOT THE END OF THE JOURNEY, BUT I HOPE THAT WE WILL SEE THE END OF THAT JOURNEY BEFORE TOO LONG.

QUESTION: MR GOVERNOR DO WE HAVE AN AIRPORT BY THE MID 1997, IF NOT WHAT IS THE KEY FACTOR ?

GOVERNOR: WELL WE'LL BUILD AN AIRPORT AS QUICKLY AS WE CAN. I THINK THAT WHEN PEOPLE LOOK AT WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED ALREADY. THANKS TO THE WORK OF 11,000 PEOPLE HERE IN THE COMMUNITY, AND THANKS TO THE FACT THAT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLORS HAVE GONE ON VOTING THE FUNDS. I THINK WHEN PEOPLE SEE WHAT HAS BEEN DONE ALREADY, THEY RECOGNISE THAT NOBODY COULD HAVE DONE IT ANY FASTER. WE'LL FINISH THE AIRPORT AS QUICKLY AS WE CAN, BUT I DON'T THINK THAT WE SHOULD CUT ANY CORNERS. I THINK WE SHOULD GET THE JOB DONE AS WELL AS POSSIBLE, AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE. NOBODY DOUBTS THAT HONG KONG NEEDS THIS AIRPORT, NEEDS THE RAILWAY, AND ONE OF THE IMPORTANT FEATURES OF TODAY'S AGREEMENT IS THAT WE CAN NOW GET ON WITH THE BUILDING OF THE RAILWAY, WHICH I THINK IS NOT ONLY IMPORTANT IN RELATION TO THE AIRPORT, BUT ALSO IMPORTANT IN RELATION TO EASING TRAFFIC AROUND THE CITY.

QUESTION: THE CHINESE SIDE HAS BEEN ASKING FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE NEW NAVAL BASE ABOUT THE TENDERING PROCEDURES, AND WILL THE GOVERNMENT BE COOPERATIVE ENOUGH TO PROVIDE THIS INFORMATION.

/GOVERNOR:

GOVERNOR: WELL, AS OF 2.45 WHEN I LEFT THE OFFICE I DON'T THINK WE HAD RECEIVED ANY REQUESTS, ANY SPECIFIC REQUESTS, THOUGH I AM SURE WE WOULD WANT TO RESPOND TO THEM. THE POSITION IS THIS, WHEN WE WERE NEGOTIATING THE DEFENCE LANDS' AGREEMENT, WE MADE ABSOLUTELY CLEAR IN THE TALKS WHAT OUR RE-PROVISIONING PROCEDURES WOULD BE. WE EXPLAINED WHAT OUR TENDERING PROCEDURES WERE. BUT THE CHINESE OFFICIALS WOULD LIKE US TO SET OUT THOSE ONCE AGAIN, WE WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO DO SO. AS WE'VE SEEN WITH THE AIRPORT AND AS WE'VE SEEN WITH OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT AROUND THE COMMUNITY, WE HAVE A VERY GOOD AND TRIED AND FAIR WAY OF ALLOCATING PROJECTS, AND GRANTS AND FRANCHISES IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG AND THE TAXPAYERS OF HONG KONG.

QUESTION: MR PATTEN, THE LEGAL PROFESSION URGED YOU TO OPEN UP CONSULTATION ON THE PART OFSO ARE YOU GOING TO DISAPPOINT THEM, OR ARE YOU GOING TO HANDLE IT DIFFERENTLY.

GOVERNOR: I'M GOING TO REPEAT WHAT I SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL YESTERDAY.

QUESTION: NOW THE FINANCIAL PAPERS HAVE BEEN SIGNED, DOES IT MEAN THAT WE WILL SEE A BETTER SINO-BRITISH RELATIONSHIP IN THE COMING YEAR?

GOVERNOR: WELL, I SPELT OUT IN MY SPEECH TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OUR DETERMINATION TO BE AS POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE AND CO-OPERATIVE AS POSSIBLE. THAT'S ALWAYS BEEN OUR POSITION. I VERY MUCH HOPE THAT WE'LL SEE SOME RESPONSE FROM CHINESE OFFICIALS SO THAT WE CAN WORK TOGETHER IN THE INTERESTS OF HONG KONG. IT'S NOT IN THE INTERESTS OF HONG KONG FOR US TO BE CONSTANTLY ARGUING. IT'S NOT IN THE INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG TO DEAFEN THEM WITH MEGAPHONE DIPLOMACY. WHAT WE WANT TO DO IS WORK CALMLY AND QUIETLY TOGETHER. WE'VE GOT A VERY BIG JOB TO DO. IT'S A DIFFICULT JOB. BUT WE WANT TO BRING IT OFF AS SUCCESSFULLY AS POSSIBLE.

QUESTION: GOVERNOR, DID YOU HAVE OTHER ENGAGEMENTS THIS MORNING AT THE TIME OF SIGNING THE AGREEMENT?

GOVERNOR: I'LL TELL YOU EXACTLY WHAT I WAS DOING. I WAS HAVING A MEETING WITH SENIOR OFFICIALS - THAT IS, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY AND ALL OTHER SECRETARIES - WHILE THE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED BETWEEN THE MEMBERS OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP TEAMS. BUT I THINK THAT WE DON'T WANT TO PRETEND THAT WITH THIS AGREEMENT ALL OUR PROBLEMS ARE AT AN END. WE'VE STILL GOT DIFFICULT DECISIONS TO MAKE. WE'VE STILL GOT PROBLEMS WHICH REQUIRE CO-OPERATION IF WE'RE TO TACKLE THEM SUCCESSFULLY.

QUESTION: GOVERNOR, WAS THE SIGNING HELD UP, DO YOU THINK, ... SEVERAL TIMES ... ?

GOVERNOR: I DON'T KNOW. YOU'LL HAVE TO ASK THE PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN PEKING. I CAN'T IMAGINE THAT ANYBODY WOULD MAKE DECISIONS WHICH ARE SO FUNDAMENTAL TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG, ON GROUNDS AS SLIM AS THAT. I WOULD, THOUGH, LIKE TO PAY TRIBUTE TO AMBASSADOR GUO AND TO WISH HIM A LONG AND VERY HAPPY RETIREMENT. AFTER THE HARD WORK HE HAS DONE, I'M SURE HE DESERVES IT. THANKS VERY MUCH INDEED.

FC APPROVAL TO BE SOUGHT FOR AIRPORT RAILWAY EQUITY FUNDING

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THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, SIR HAMISH MACLEOD, TODAY (FRIDAY) WELCOMED THE SIGNING OF THE AGREED MINUTE ON FINANCING FOR THE AIRPORT AND AIRPORT RAILWAY BY THE BRITISH AND CHINESE TEAM LEADERS OF THE AIRPORT COMMITTEE.

HE ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSED TO ASK THE FINANCE COMMITTEE LATER THIS MONTH TO APPROVE THE BALANCE OF THE GOVERNMENT'S \$23.7 BILLION EQUITY INJECTION INTO THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION (MTRC) FOR THE AIRPORT RAILWAY.

SIR HAMISH SAID: "THIS IS GOOD NEWS FOR HONG KONG. THE SIGNING OF THE AGREED MINUTE CONSTITUTES AN IMPORTANT STEP FORWARD ON THE FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS FOR BOTH THE NEW AIRPORT AND THE AIRPORT RAILWAY.

"IT CONTAINS FINANCING FIGURES FOR THE TWO PROJECTS - \$60.3 BILLION OF GOVERNMENT EQUITY AND \$23 BILLION OF PRIVATE SECTOR DEBT - AND IT ALSO COVERS OTHER ISSUES THAT WE HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING WITH THE CHINESE SIDE OF THE AIRPORT COMMITTEE.

"THE \$60.3 BILLION EQUITY WILL BE DIVIDED BETWEEN \$36.6 BILLION FOR THE AIRPORT AND \$23.7 BILLION FOR THE AIRPORT RAILWAY, WHILE THE \$23 BILLION DEBT WILL BE DIVIDED BETWEEN \$11.6 BILLION FOR THE AIRPORT AND \$11.4 BILLION FOR THE AIRPORT RAILWAY.

"BY CONFIRMING THE LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT EQUITY, THE AGREED MINUTE CLEARS THE WAY FOR US TO ASK FINANCE COMMITTEE TO APPROVE AN INJECTION OF \$23 BILLION EQUITY FOR THE AIRPORT RAILWAY. THIS IS THE BALANCE OF THE PROJECT'S \$23.7 BILLION TOTAL GOVERNMENT EQUITY, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT \$715 MILLION VOTED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE EARLIER THIS YEAR FOR THE IMMERSSED TUBE TUNNEL.

"THE EQUITY INJECTION WILL FACILITATE THE START OF MAJOR WORKS, ENABLING THE MTRC TO TAKE UP OPTION LETTERS THAT IT HAS SIGNED ON KEY CONTRACTS.

"WE NOW NEED TO MOVE AHEAD URGENTLY WITH THE CHINESE SIDE ON THE TWO PROJECTS' FINANCIAL SUPPORT AGREEMENTS (FSAS), WHICH FORM AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE OVERALL FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS.

"THE MINUTE RECOGNISES THE IMPORTANCE OF THE FSAS FOR THE PROVISIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY (PAA) AND THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION. IT SAYS THAT THEY WILL BE ANNOUNCED AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE SO THAT THE BODIES CAN GO OUT AND BORROW IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE," HE SAID.

ON LAND ISSUES, SIR HAMISH SAID A COMMON VIEW HAD BEEN REACHED ON THE PRINCIPLES FOR THE USE OF LAND FOR THE NEW AIRPORT AND AIRPORT RAILWAY.

"THE SPECIFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED AFTER THEY HAVE BEEN FINALISED BY THE SINO-BRITISH LAND COMMISSION AT A MEETING WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE SOON.

"WE ALSO NEED TO MOVE AHEAD QUICKLY WITH THE AIRPORT BILL AND THE FRANCHISES FOR THE AIRPORT. THE FASTER WE CAN RESOLVE ALL THESE ISSUES, THE FASTER WE WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE PROGRESS ON THESE IMPORTANT PROJECTS.

"THE AIRPORT AND AIRPORT RAILWAY ARE ESSENTIAL PARTS OF THE AIRPORT CORE PROGRAMME (ACP) WHICH WILL HELP TO PROVIDE HONG KONG WITH THE STRONG INFRASTRUCTURAL BASE IT NEEDS FOR ECONOMIC SUCCESS IN THE YEARS AHEAD;" HE SAID.

OVERALL, A TOTAL OF 73 MAJOR CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS WORTH NEARLY \$53 BILLION HAVE BEEN AWARDED ON THE AIRPORT CORE PROGRAMME BY THE GOVERNMENT, THE PAA, MTRC AND THE WESTERN HARBOUR CROSSING FRANCHISEE.

THESE CONTRACTS HAVE BEEN AWARDED WITHIN BUDGET ESTIMATES, AND THE CONSTRUCTION WORKS ARE PROGRESSING EXTREMELY WELL - INVOLVING A VERY LARGE WORKFORCE OF SOME 11,000 PEOPLE.

"THE GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE WITH ITS AIM OF COMPLETING THE PROJECTS SPEEDILY AND EFFICIENTLY, IN LINE WITH THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING," SAID SIR HAMISH.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE PAA HAD ALREADY RECEIVED SUBSTANTIAL ADVANCE FUNDING TALLING \$31.4 BILLION, AND IT WOULD NOT REQUIRE FURTHER FUNDING TILL EARLY NEXT YEAR.

THE AIRPORT RAILWAY HOWEVER WAS IN URGENT NEED OF FUNDS SO THAT IT COULD IMMEDIATELY AWARD CONTRACTS FOR WHICH IT WAS HOLDING OPTION LETTERS, AND GO AHEAD WITH TENDERING AND EVALUATION OF FURTHER CONTRACTS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE AGREEMENT RECOGNISED THE CONTINUING NEED FOR COSTS TO BE MONITORED AND CONTROLLED CAREFULLY AND FOR CONTRACTUAL CLAIMS TO BE MINIMISED.

"THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT IS EXTREMELY CONSCIOUS OF THE NEED FOR COST CONTROL AND MONITORING. WE HAVE SET UP VERY EFFECTIVE SYSTEMS ON THE AIRPORT CORE PROGRAMME TO CARRY OUT THIS WORK, AND WE HAVE ALSO SET UP SPECIAL PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING CLAIMS," SAID THE SPOKESMAN.

"THE GOVERNMENT WILL GIVE THE AIRPORT COMMITTEE BRIEFINGS ON PROGRESS ON A QUARTERLY BASIS, AND THERE WILL BE A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRESS REVIEW IN THE SECOND HALF OF 1996. THE GOVERNMENT WILL ALSO PROVIDE UPDATED INFORMATION ON PROJECT PROGRESS, FINANCING AND COSTS TO THE AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE, AND LISTEN TO MEMBERS' REASONABLE VIEWS AND PROPOSALS."

REGARDING THE SEVEN GOVERNMENT-FUNDED ACP PROJECTS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID IT HAD ALSO BEEN AGREED IN THE MINUTE THAT SUFFICIENT FUNDING WOULD BE BUDGETED BY THE GOVERNMENT, SHOULD ANY ONE OF THESE PROJECTS NOT BE COMPLETED BY JUNE 1997. THESE PROJECTS WERE HOWEVER PROCEEDING WELL, BOTH IN TERMS OF TIMING AND COST, AND THE GOVERNMENT DID NOT ENVISAGE ANY SUCH PROBLEMS.

FOLLOWING IS THE DEBT/EQUITY STRUCTURE FOR THE AIRPORT AND AIRPORT RAILWAY:

	EQUITY *	DEBT *
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AIRPORT	.\$36.6 BILLION	\$11.6 BILLION
AIRPORT RAILWAY	\$23.7 BILLION	\$11.4 BILLION
TOTAL	\$60.3 BILLION	\$23 BILLION

(* ALL FIGURES IN MONEY OF THE DAY)

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CIVIL SERVANTS' LOYALTY - HK'S INHERENT STRENGTH
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THE QUALITY AND LOYALTY OF CIVIL SERVANTS IS ONE OF THE INHERENT STRENGTHS OF HONG KONG, THE HONG KONG COMMISSIONER IN LONDON, SIR DAVID FORD, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE FORMER CHIEF SECRETARY WAS SPEAKING AFTER BEING CONFERRED AN HONORARY DEGREE BY THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

"LOYALTY IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE MEANS NOT ONLY LOYALTY TO OUR COLLEAGUES BUT JUST AS IMPORTANTLY, TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG WHOM WE SERVE AND ALSO, TO THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT OF WHICH WE ARE A PART.

"IT EXTENDS TO COLLEAGUES SENIOR AND JUNIOR WHO ARE BOUND BY THE COMMON PURPOSE OF DOING THEIR BEST FOR THE COMMUNITY.

"IT IS FUNDAMENTAL TO THE COHESION OF THE GOVERNMENT. LACK OF IT WOULD LEAD TO FACTIONALISM, UNCERTAINTY, AND ULTIMATELY A BREAKDOWN IN THE ADMINISTRATION AS A WHOLE," HE SAID.

NOTING THAT LOYALTY CANNOT BE TRIMMED TO THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE MOMENT, HE SAID: "IT SHOULD NOT BE COMPROMISED."

IT IS THE GLUE WHICH HOLDS TOGETHER A WORKING TEAM, A FAMILY AND INDEED ANY PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP, SIR DAVID SAID.

HAVING BEEN AWAY FROM HONG KONG FOR NEARLY A YEAR, SIR DAVID IS INTENSELY AWARE HOW MUCH HONG KONG'S QUALITIES ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF ITS SUCCESS.

SIR DAVID SAID THE UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WAS SYMBOLIC OF ALL THAT WAS GREAT ABOUT HONG KONG.

"A TREMENDOUS WILL TO GET THINGS DONE, A BELIEF IN THE VALUE OF EXCELLENCE, THE COMMITMENT OF PUBLIC-SPIRITED PEOPLE IN BUSINESS AND THE PROFESSIONS, TO MAKE A PERSONAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE FUTURE SUCCESS OF HONG KONG;

"AND ABOVE ALL A REFLECTION OF THE ENTHUSIASM AND DEDICATION OF OUR YOUNG PEOPLE IN WANTING TO MAKE THE MOST OF THEIR TALENTS," HE ADDED.

"I BELIEVE WE SHOULD TAKE PRIDE IN AND COMFORT FROM THOSE FUNDAMENTAL STRENGTHS AND, IN OUR SUCCESS TOO."

"IT MIGHT DO US NO HARM AS A COMMUNITY TO COUNT OUR BLESSINGS FROM TIME TO TIME RATHER THAN TO FOCUS SO MUCH ON OUR POLITICAL FUTURE," HE SAID.

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GOVERNMENT INTRODUCES LAND TITLES BILL

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THE GOVERNMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE A BILL THAT SEEKS TO INTRODUCE A NEW REGISTRATION SYSTEM TO PROVIDE CERTAINTY OF TITLE FOR REGISTERED PROPERTY OWNERS AND MORE PROTECTION FOR PROPERTY BUYERS.

THE LAND TITLES BILL IS EXPECTED TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON NOVEMBER 16.

OUTLINING THE MAIN FEATURES OF THE BILL AT A PRESS CONFERENCE THIS AFTERNOON, THE LAND REGISTRAR, MR KENNETH PANG, SAID: "THE OBJECT OF THE BILL IS TO REPLACE THE PRESENT SYSTEM OF REGISTERING LAND DEEDS WITH A NEW SYSTEM OF REGISTERING THE TITLE TO LAND AND INTERESTS IN LAND SO AS TO PROVIDE PROPERTY OWNERS AND PURCHASERS WITH GREATER CERTAINTY OF TITLE TO LAND."

MR PANG POINTED OUT THAT THE PRESENT LAND DOCUMENT REGISTRATION SYSTEM DID NOT CONFER ON A REGISTERED DEED ANY VALIDITY IT DID NOT OTHERWISE HAVE.

AS A RESULT, EVEN IF A PERSON IS REGISTERED IN THE LAND REGISTER AS THE OWNER OF A PROPERTY, HE MAY NOT NECESSARILY BE THE REAL LEGAL OWNER, OR THERE MAY BE SOME UNCERTAINTY IN HIS TITLE, OR HIS TITLE MAY BE SUBJECT TO THE CLAIM OF SOME OTHER PERSONS WHICH DOES NOT APPEAR ON THE LAND REGISTER.

THIS UNCERTAINTY OF TITLE WAS UNSATISFACTORY FOR PROPERTY OWNERS AND ALSO PLACED PURCHASERS AT RISK.

THE FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE THE LAND TITLES BILL SEEKS TO MAKE IS - TO ESTABLISH THE LAND REGISTER AS CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE IN LAW AS TO THE TITLE OF THE PROPERTY REGISTERED.

THIS WILL PROVIDE CERTAINTY OF TITLE FOR EXISTING REGISTERED OWNERS AND A MUCH HIGHER DEGREE OF PROTECTION FOR PURCHASERS THAN THAT UNDER THE PRESENT SYSTEM.

MR PANG SAID THE MAIN FEATURES OF THE NEW REGISTRATION SYSTEM WERE:

- * REGISTRATION OF A PERSON IN THE LAND REGISTER AS OWNER WOULD CONFER FULL AND ABSOLUTE TITLE TO THE PROPERTY ON HIM;
- * THE LAND REGISTER WOULD BE CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE IN RESPECT OF TITLE OF A PROPERTY;
- * ANY RIGHT IN OR CLAIM AGAINST THE PROPERTY THAT WAS NOT PROTECTED BY AN ENTRY IN THE LAND REGISTER WOULD BE VOID AS AGAINST A PURCHASER OF THE PROPERTY;
- * CONVEYANCING PROCEDURES AND PROTECTION OF PROPERTY RIGHTS WOULD BE SIMPLIFIED AS SOLICITORS WOULD NOT HAVE TO LOOK BEHIND THE LAND REGISTER OR FORM AN OPINION BASED ON A READING OF OLD TITLE DEEDS; AND
- * THE GOVERNMENT WOULD PROVIDE INDEMNITY UP TO A LIMIT FOR PEOPLE WHO SUFFERED LOSS AS A RESULT OF PROPERTY FRAUD.

THE NEW SYSTEM WOULD SIMPLIFY THE ESTABLISHMENT OF LEGAL TITLE TO LAND AND CONVEYANCING PROCEDURES AS TITLE TO LAND WOULD BE ASCERTAINED BY REFERENCE TO A REGISTER ESTABLISHED UNDER STATUTORY LAW INSTEAD OF, AS AT PRESENT, BY REFERENCE TO OLD TITLE DEEDS AND JUDICIAL DECISIONS.

MR PANG EXPECTED THAT THE LAND TITLES BILL WOULD BE ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL NEXT YEAR.

IF ENACTED, THE LAND TITLES ORDINANCE WOULD COME INTO OPERATION ON A DAY TO BE APPOINTED BY THE SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS BY NOTICE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE.

THIS WOULD GIVE TIME FOR THE LAND REGISTRY TO PREPARE ITS STAFF AND COMPUTER SYSTEM FOR THE NEW PROCEDURES, AND FOR CONVEYANCING SOLICITORS TO FAMILIARISE THEMSELVES WITH THE OPERATIONAL FEATURES OF THE NEW SYSTEM.

MR PANG ESTIMATED THAT A LEAD-IN PERIOD OF ABOUT 12 MONTHS AFTER ENACTMENT OF THE BILL WOULD BE REQUIRED.

THE LEAD-IN PERIOD WOULD ALSO GIVE PEOPLE, WHO MIGHT HAVE UNREGISTERED PROPERTY RIGHTS OR CLAIMS, TIME TO REGISTER THEIR RIGHTS OR CLAIMS.

MR PANG STRESSED THAT THOSE WHO HAD AN INTEREST IN OR RIGHT OVER PROPERTY REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF ANOTHER PERSON SHOULD CONSULT THEIR SOLICITOR AND TAKE STEPS TO PROTECT THEIR RIGHT AND INTEREST.

HE SAID FAILURE TO DO SO WOULD INVOLVE THE RISK OF FORFEITING SUCH RIGHT OR CLAIM AGAINST THE PROPERTY IF THE EXISTING REGISTERED OWNER SOLD THE PROPERTY.

HIS ADVICE TO EXISTING REGISTERED OWNERS OF PROPERTIES WAS THAT THEIR TITLE WOULD BE GUARANTEED BY THE GOVERNMENT ONCE THE NEW SYSTEM CAME INTO OPERATION.

THERE WOULD BE NO NEED FOR THEM TO TAKE ANY ACTION UNLESS THEY HAD REASONS TO SUSPECT THAT THEY HAD NOT BEEN PROPERLY REGISTERED AS OWNERS OF THEIR PROPERTIES.

MR PANG SAID THE BILL WAS A VERY IMPORTANT ONE FOR ABOUT 1.6 MILLION EXISTING PROPERTY OWNERS AND ALSO FOR PEOPLE INTERESTED IN PURCHASING PROPERTY.

AN INFORMATION LEAFLET ABOUT THE NEW SYSTEM WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AT ALL LAND REGISTRY OFFICES AND DISTRICT OFFICES.

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CORRUPT AND ILLEGAL PRACTICES (AMENDMENT)
(NO. 2) BILL 1994 GAZETTED
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THE CORRUPT AND ILLEGAL PRACTICES (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1994 WHICH SEEKS TO EXTEND THE CORRUPT AND ILLEGAL PRACTICES ORDINANCE (CIPO) TO RURAL COMMITTEE ELECTIONS WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE HAS ALSO BEEN GIVEN BY THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL FOR AN ELECTION EXPENSES ORDER ON RURAL COMMITTEE ELECTIONS TO BE MADE LATER, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THE EXTENSION OF THE ORDINANCE TO COVER THE ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS, CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN OF THE RURAL COMMITTEES IS IN LINE WITH THE SPIRIT OF ENSURING FAIR AND OPEN ELECTIONS.

"THIS IS DESIRABLE BECAUSE OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL LINKS BETWEEN THE RURAL COMMITTEE ELECTIONS AND THE THREE-TIER REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE," HE SAID.

UNDER THE BILL, THE GENERAL OFFENCE PROVISIONS OF BRIBERY, PERSONATION, TREATING, ELECTION PUBLICITY AND OFFENCES IN RELATION TO NOMINATION AND BALLOT PAPER UNDER CIPO WILL BE EXTENDED TO RURAL COMMITTEE ELECTIONS.

SOME ELECTION FEATURES UNDER CIPO THAT DO NOT EXIST UNDER THE RURAL COMMITTEE ELECTIONS AT PRESENT WILL ALSO BE INTRODUCED .

"ONE OF THESE FEATURES IS THE INTRODUCTION OF AN ELECTION EXPENSES CEILING OF \$10,000 TO RURAL COMMITTEE ELECTIONS - A LIMIT WHICH IS THE SAME AS THAT FOR THE HEUNG YEE KUK," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

FURTHERMORE, CANDIDATES OF A RURAL COMMITTEE ELECTION WILL BE ALLOWED TO APPOINT AUTHORISED PERSONS TO INCUR ELECTION EXPENSES ON THEIR BEHALF AFTER THEY SUBMIT A REQUIRED NOTIFICATION ON THE APPOINTMENT TO THE RETURNING OFFICER.

THEY WILL ALSO HAVE TO FILE A RETURN ON ELECTION EXPENSES AND DONATIONS TO THE RETURNING OFFICER WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER THE RELEVANT ELECTION.

HOWEVER, THE SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT A FEW PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE MECHANISM OF ELECTION PETITION UNDER CIPO WOULD NOT BE EXTENDED TO RURAL COMMITTEE ELECTIONS FOR THE TIME BEING.

THE MECHANISM, WHICH IS A JUDICIAL PROCESS DESIGNED FOR PUBLIC ELECTIONS, CANNOT BE ADOPTED WITHOUT A COMPLEX PROCESS OF ADAPTATION WHICH TAKES TIME TO COMPLETE, HE SAID.

"THE ADMINISTRATION IS SATISFIED THAT THE ABSENCE OF SUCH A MECHANISM FOR THE TIME BEING SHOULD NOT COMPROMISE THE PRINCIPLE OF FAIR AND OPEN RURAL COMMITTEE ELECTIONS.

"A SEPARATE ELECTION PETITION MECHANISM SUITABLE TO THE SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF RURAL COMMITTEES AND THE HEUNG YEE KUK WILL BE DEVISED AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THOSE BODIES," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THERE WAS URGENCY IN HAVING THE BILL PASSED IN TIME BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR TO COVER THE 25 RURAL COMMITTEE ELECTIONS TO BE HELD EARLY NEXT YEAR.

HE SAID THE CURRENT EXERCISE HAD THE SUPPORT OF THE HEUNG YEE KUK.

THE BILL WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON NOVEMBER 16 THIS YEAR.

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BILL ON MEDICAL AND RELATED PROFESSIONALS GAZETTED

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS PROPOSED AN AMENDMENT BILL TO UPDATE VARIOUS PROVISIONS IN SIX ORDINANCES GOVERNING THE MEDICAL AND RELATED PROFESSIONALS.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY (FRIDAY) SAID WITH THE CHANGES IN CIRCUMSTANCES OVER A PERIOD OF TIME, CERTAIN PROVISIONS IN THE DENTISTS REGISTRATION ORDINANCE, MEDICAL REGISTRATION ORDINANCE, MIDWIVES REGISTRATION ORDINANCE, NURSES REGISTRATION ORDINANCE, SUPPLEMENTARY MEDICAL PROFESSIONS ORDINANCE AND PHARMACY AND POISONS ORDINANCE WOULD NEED TO BE AMENDED.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT SINCE 1992, A UNIVERSAL LICENSING EXAMINATION HAD BEEN INTRODUCED BY STAGES FOR THE REGISTRATION OF DENTAL PRACTITIONERS IN HONG KONG, IRRESPECTIVE OF WHERE THE PRACTITIONER RECEIVED HIS OR HER TRAINING IN DENTISTRY.

THE MEDICAL AND RELATED PROFESSIONAL (REGISTRATION) (MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS) BILL 1994 GAZETTED TODAY SEEKS TO AMEND THE DENTIST REGISTRATION ORDINANCE TO REFLECT THE CHANGE IN LICENSING POLICY.

BY AMENDING THE MEDICAL REGISTRATION ORDINANCE, THE BILL SEEKS TO STANDARDISE THE FEES CHARGED FOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR MEDICAL AND RELATED PROFESSIONALS, IN RESPECT OF REGISTRATION AND THE ISSUANCE OF PRACTISING CERTIFICATES.

THE BILL PROPOSES TO INTRODUCE A SYSTEM STIPULATING THAT REGISTERED/ENROLLED NURSES MUST OBTAIN A PRACTISING CERTIFICATE FROM THE NURSING BOARD BEFORE THEY CAN PRACTISE NURSING IN HONG KONG.

"AT PRESENT, REGISTERED/ENROLLED NURSES ARE NOT REQUIRED TO POSSESS A PRACTISING CERTIFICATE. THE PURPOSE OF THIS AMENDMENT IS TO KEEP AN UP-TO-DATE RECORD OF PRACTISING NURSES IN HONG KONG. THIS IS IN LINE WITH THE PRACTICE OF OTHER RELATED PROFESSIONALS, SUCH AS DOCTORS, DENTISTS AND PHARMACISTS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE BILL ALSO PROPOSES TO REMOVE AN OUTDATED PRACTICE IN WHICH A \$3 STAMP DUTY IS CHARGED FOR STATUTORY DECLARATIONS USED IN DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS RELATING TO THE MEDICAL, DENTAL AND NURSING PROFESSIONS.

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YUEN LONG SOUTHERN BYPASS HELPS NW NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT
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THE COMPLETION OF THE YUEN LONG SOUTHERN BYPASS FORMS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE AND SUPPORTS THE CONTINUING DEVELOPMENT OF THE NORTHWEST NEW TERRITORIES, THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF HIGHWAYS, MR YEUNG KIM-CHOY, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 3.5-KILOMETRE HIGHWAY, MR YEUNG SAID IT EXTENDED THE YUEN LONG HIGHWAY AT THE WEST TO LINK UP THE CASTLE PEAK ROAD NEAR POK OI HOSPITAL AT THE EAST.

"THE NEW HIGHWAY WILL PROVIDE AN ALTERNATIVE ROUTE TO BYPASS THE YUEN LONG TOWN AND REDUCES THE AVERAGE JOURNEY TIME BETWEEN THE TONG YAN SAN TSUEN INTERCHANGE AND THE AU TAU ROUNDABOUT FROM 10 TO THREE MINUTES. THE DIVERSION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC WILL ALSO RELIEVE TRAFFIC CONGESTION INSIDE THE YUEN LONG TOWN CENTRE," HE SAID.

JOINTLY OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WERE LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR MR LAU WONG-FAT; THE CHAIRMAN OF YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD, MR TAI KUEN; AND THE CHAIRMAN OF TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE, PROFESSOR LEUNG CHI-KEUNG.

THE \$396 MILLION PROJECT HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED BY THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT AND IS ONE OF SEVERAL MAJOR HIGHWAYS PROJECTS BEING UNDERTAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT IN THE NORTHWEST NEW TERRITORIES.

THE SOUTHERN BYPASS COMPRISES A DUAL TWO-LANE CARRIAGEWAY. THE 2.3-KILOMETRE LONG SECTION ON THE WEST IS BUILT TO EXPRESSWAY STANDARD WHILE THE REMAINING 1.2-KILOMETRE LONG SECTION ON THE EAST CONSISTS OF TWO DISTRIBUTOR ROADS.

THE MAIN WORKS OF THE SOUTHERN BYPASS HAVE TAKEN 34 MONTHS TO COMPLETE. THE MAJORITY OF THE ROAD RESTS ON EARTHFILL EMBANKMENTS CONSTRUCTED FROM 1.5 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF MATERIALS. TWO MAJOR INTERCHANGES, FIVE HIGHWAY BRIDGES, 15 UNDERPASSES FOR PEDESTRIAN OR COMBINED PEDESTRIAN/VEHICULAR USES HAVE BEEN BUILT.

MR YEUNG POINTED OUT THAT SPECIAL ATTENTION HAD BEEN GIVEN TO IMPROVEMENT OF DRAINAGE FACILITIES AND MEETING THE ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS.

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LOOKING AHEAD, MR YEUNG SAID CONSTRUCTION OF THE ADDITIONAL CLIMBING LANES ON THE TUEN MUN HIGHWAY HAD BEGAN. CONSTRUCTION OF THE ROUTE 3 COUNTRY PARK SECTION CONNECTING TSING YI TO YUEN LONG IS SCHEDULED TO START EARLY NEXT YEAR FOR COMPLETION IN LATE 1998.

"THE GOVERNMENT ALSO HAS PLANS TO IMPROVE THE EXISTING KAM TIN ROAD," HE ADDED.

"THESE PROJECTS WILL SERVE THE TRANSPORT NEEDS OF THE NORTHWEST NEW TERRITORIES WELL INTO THE NEXT CENTURY," HE SAID.

THE YUEN LONG SOUTHERN BYPASS WILL BE OPENED TO TRAFFIC AT 11 AM TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

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BEC ISSUES TWO MORE CENSURE

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THE BOUNDARY AND ELECTION COMMISSION (BEC) TODAY (FRIDAY) ISSUED TWO PUBLIC CENSURE, ONE AGAINST THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF AN INCORPORATED OWNERS AND THE OTHER AGAINST A CANDIDATE, MR YIM CHUN-MING, FOR IMPROPER CONDUCT DURING THE SEPTEMBER DISTRICT BOARD ELECTION.

THE BEC CHAIRMAN, MR JUSTICE WOO KWOK-HING, SAID THE CONDUCT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE INCORPORATED OWNERS OF YEE CHING COURT AND MR YIM CHUN-MING, CANDIDATE FOR CHEUNG SHA WAN CONSTITUENCY, VIOLATED THE PRINCIPLE OF A FAIR AND OPEN ELECTION.

THERE WERE TWO CANDIDATES IN THE CHEUNG SHA WAN CONSTITUENCY. THEY WERE MR YIM AND MR LAM KA-FAI.

THE CHAIRMAN SAID THE COMMITTEE ACTED UNFAIRLY TO MR LAM, DESPITE AN EXPRESS STATEMENT TO THE COMMISSION THAT IT HAD COMPLIED WITH THE SPIRIT OF FAIR ELECTION AND HAD TREATED ALL CANDIDATES FAIRLY.

"ACCORDING UNFAIR AND UNEQUAL TREATMENT TO CANDIDATES AND AT THE SAME TIME KEPT ON BRAGGING ON GIVING FAIR TREATMENT TO ALL IS HYPOCRITICAL AND AN AFFRONT TO THE SENSE OF FAIRNESS," HE SAID.

THE COMMISSION CONSIDERED THAT IT WAS UNREASONABLE THAT THE COMMITTEE SHOULD HAVE ALLOWED MR LAM TO DISPLAY TWO POSTERS IN EACH OF THE THREE BUILDINGS OF THE COURT WHILE MR YIM COULD DISPLAY SIX EACH.

MR LAM WAS ALSO NOT ALLOWED TO DISTRIBUTE LEAFLETS ON SEPTEMBER 16, 17 AND 18 WHILE MR YIM COULD DISTRIBUTE LEAFLETS AND SHAKE HANDS WITH ELECTORS ON THOSE DAYS, AND TO SET UP PROMOTIONAL CARTON BOXES INSIDE YEE CHING COURT ON THE ELECTION DAYS.

THE COMMISSION HAS DIRECTED THAT A COPY OF THE PUBLIC CENSURE TO BE SENT TO THE RESIDENTS IN THE COURT TO INFORM THEM OF THE SITUATION.

/THE CHAIRMAN

- 12 -

THE CHAIRMAN ALSO CENSURED MR YIM FOR ATTENDING A MEETING HELD BY MR FUNG KIN-KEE IN LAI KOK ESTATE WITH THE INTENT TO PROMOTE HIS CANDIDACY WHEN MR YIM HIMSELF FAILED TO OBTAIN APPROVAL FROM THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT TO HOLD AN ELECTION MEETING AT THE SAME VENUE.

THE HOLDING OF THE MEETING WAS CONSIDERED UNFAIR TO MR LAM.

MR FUNG'S MEETING WAS PURPORTED TO BE FOR REPORTING HIS PERFORMANCE AS LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR AND ON HIS WORK IN SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT.

AS IT TURNED OUT, A LARGE BACKDROP BANNER SHOWING MR YIM'S NAME IN LARGE CHARACTERS AND HIS CANDIDATE NUMBER WAS DISPLAYED AT THE MEETING.

"MR YIM SHOULD HAVE APPRECIATED THAT BY ATTENDING THE MEETING WITH THAT INTENT AND PUTTING UP THE BANNER, HE WOULD HAVE AN UNFAIR ADVANTAGE OVER MR LAM."

THE CHAIRMAN SAID: "MR FUNG SHOULD NOT HAVE ALLOWED MR YIM TO PUT UP THE BANNER TO PROMOTE MR YIM'S CANDIDACY. MR FUNG ACTED IMPROPERLY TO ASSIST MR YIM IN OBTAINING AN UNFAIR ADVANTAGE OVER MR LAM IN ELECTIONEERING."

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INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLING CRUCIAL FOR HK TO REMAIN COMPETITIVE

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INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLING IS SIGNIFICANT FOR HONG KONG TO MAINTAIN ITS ATTRACTIVENESS AS A FIRST CLASS INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL CENTRE.

THE CHIEF SECRETARY, MRS ANSON CHAN, SAID THIS TODAY (FRIDAY) AT THE DEDICATION CEREMONY OF THE NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL BUILDING OF THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL.

"APART FROM CONSTANTLY UPGRADING OUR INFRASTRUCTURAL FACILITIES SUCH AS OUR PORT, AIRPORT AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES, THE GOVERNMENT IS WELL AWARE OF THE NEED TO PROVIDE A DIVERSITY OF EDUCATION PROGRAMMES REQUIRED BY THE EVER GROWING EXPATRIATE COMMUNITY IN HONG KONG AND THE MANY RETURNED EMIGRANTS," MRS CHAN SAID.

SHE SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD ALREADY COMMISSIONED A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE PROVISION OF INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL PLACES TO ENSURE THAT SUPPLY WILL NOT LAG BEHIND FUTURE DEMAND.

BESIDES, THE GOVERNMENT, LOCAL CONSULATES, CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND THE EXPATRIATE COMMUNITY WILL WORK CLOSELY FOR BETTER PLANS TO MEET THE INCREASING EDUCATIONAL NEEDS FOR THE LOCAL NON-CHINESE AND EXPATRIATE COMMUNITY.

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RECLAMATION WORK FOR SHAM TSENG

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THE GOVERNMENT PLANS TO CONSTRUCT A SEAWALL AND CARRY OUT RECLAMATION WORKS AT SHAM TSENG TO PROVIDE LAND FOR A SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT, AN OPEN SPACE, AN ELECTRIC SUBSTATION AND A WATERFRONT PROMENADE, AS WELL AS FOR ROAD WIDENING AND REALIGNMENT OF THE CASTLE PEAK ROAD.

THE WORKS WILL BE CARRIED OUT WITHIN AN AREA OF ABOUT 9.14 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEA-BED AT SHAM TSENG.

THE WORK WILL BEGIN IN EARLY 1996 FOR COMPLETION BY MID-1997.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA AFFECTED IS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE NOTICE AND ITS RELATED PLAN CAN BE SEEN ON NOTICE BOARDS NEAR THE SITE.

THE PLAN CAN ALSO BE SEEN AT THE LANDS DEPARTMENT SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD; AND AT THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE, FIRST FLOOR, TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK BUILDING, 174-208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN. THE PLAN CAN BE PURCHASED AT THE SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE.

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HE HAS AN INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEA-BED INVOLVED MAY SUBMIT A WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE DIRECTOR OF LANDS ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 4, 1995.

THE NOTICE OF SUCH OBJECTION SHALL DESCRIBE THE INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT OF THE OBJECTOR AND THE MANNER IN WHICH HE WILL BE AFFECTED.

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WORKS PROPOSED FOR WAN CHAI RECLAMATION

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THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSES TO CARRY OUT ROAD WORKS FOR PHASE I OF THE WAN CHAI RECLAMATION TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO THE PROPOSED EXTENSION OF THE HONG KONG CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE.

THE WORKS CONSIST OF:

- * CONSTRUCTION OF A GREEN MINIBUS STAND, A TAXI STAND, A BUS STOP AND COACH PARKING BAYS ALONG THE EASTERN EDGE OF THE RECLAMATION;
- * CONSTRUCTION OF A COVERED WALKWAY;
- * CONSTRUCTION OF TWO LINK BRIDGES; AND
- * CONSTRUCTION OF ASSOCIATED PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS, STREET FURNITURE, LANDSCAPING AND ANCILLARY ROADS AND DRAINAGE WORKS.

/DETAILS OF

DETAILS OF THE PROPOSAL ARE GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY). THE NOTICE CAN BE SEEN ON NOTICE BOARD POSTED NEAR THE SITE.

A PLAN SHOWING THE PROPOSED WORKS CAN BE SEEN AT THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, GROUND FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG; WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE, GROUND FLOOR, 2 O'BRIEN ROAD, WAN CHAI; AND AT THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, HONG KONG WEST, 19TH FLOOR, SOUTHOEN CENTRE, 130 HENNESSY ROAD, WAN CHAI, DURING OFFICE HOURS.

ANY PERSON WISHING TO OBJECT TO THE WORKS MAY SEND HIS OBJECTION IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT NOT LATER THAN JANUARY 3, 1995.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF RADIO SYSTEM

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THE ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF A NEW RADIO SYSTEM FOR THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

THE NEW SYSTEM, WHICH WILL REPLACE THE EXISTING ONE, WOULD PROVIDE FULL COVERAGE OF THE TERRITORY, INCLUDING ROADS, TUNNELS, WATERS, THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY CORPORATION AND THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION AREAS.

IT WOULD PROVIDE EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT DATA AND VOICE COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE FIRE SERVICES COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE AND SOME 1,200 MOBILE AND PORTABLE TRANSCEIVERS OF FIRE AND AMBULANCE OFFICERS.

A NOTICE OF THE TENDER INVITATION WAS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

TENDER FORMS AND FURTHER PARTICULARS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DEPARTMENT'S CONTRACT SECTION, ROOM 811, 98 CAROLINE HILL ROAD, CAUSEWAY BAY.

THE TENDER CLOSING DATE IS NOON ON JANUARY 6, 1995.

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EFFLUENT DISCHARGE PIPE WORK PROPOSED FOR TSING LUNG TAU

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THE GOVERNMENT PLANS TO PERMIT A CONTRACTOR TO CARRY OUT LAYING OF EFFLUENT DISCHARGE PIPE WORK AT TSING LUNG TAU IN TSUEN WAN.

THE WORKS WILL INVOLVE DREDGING THE SEABED AND LAYING OF AN EFFLUENT DISCHARGE DRAINAGE SYSTEM WITHIN AN AREA OF ABOUT 94.5 SQUARE METRES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED.

THE WORKS WILL COMMENCE IMMEDIATELY AFTER AUTHORISATION IS GIVEN AND WILL BE COMPLETED IN SIX MONTHS.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA AFFECTED IS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE NOTICE AND ITS RELATED PLAN CAN BE SEEN ON NOTICE BOARDS POSTED NEAR THE SITE.

THE PLAN CAN ALSO BE SEEN AT THE LANDS DEPARTMENT'S SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, AND AT THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE, FIRST FLOOR, TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK BUILDING, 174-208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN.

THE PLAN CAN ALSO BE PURCHASED AT THE SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE.

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HE HAS AN INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED MAY SUBMIT A WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE DIRECTOR OF LANDS ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 4, 1995.

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KWUN TONG (SOUTH) OUTLINE ZONING PLAN AMENDED

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THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED AN AMENDMENT TO THE DRAFT KWUN TONG (SOUTH) OUTLINE ZONING PLAN (NO. S/K14S/2).

THE AMENDMENT IS TO REZONE A SITE ABUTTING HONG NING ROAD AND WAN HON STREET FROM 'GOVERNMENT/INSTITUTION/COMMUNITY' AND 'ROAD' TO 'RESIDENTIAL (GROUP A)' FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY AND SMALL HOUSEHOLDS.

THE AMENDMENT PLAN (NO. S/K14S/3) IS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION UNTIL NOVEMBER 25 FROM:

- * PLANNING DEPARTMENT,
16TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING,
GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG;
- * KOWLOON DISTRICT PLANNING OFFICE,
11TH FLOOR, LEIGHTON CENTRE,
77 LEIGHTON ROAD, HONG KONG; AND
- * KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE,
GROUND FLOOR,
KWUN TONG DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICES BUILDING,
TUNG YAN STREET, KWUN TONG,
KOWLOON.

ANY PERSON AFFECTED BY THE AMENDMENT PLAN MAY SUBMIT WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD, C/O PLANNING DEPARTMENT, 13TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, BEFORE NOVEMBER 25.

COPIES OF THE DRAFT PLAN CAN BE BOUGHT AT THE SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, AND KOWLOON MAP SALES OFFICE, GROUND FLOOR, 382 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

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OUTLINE ZONING PLAN AMENDED FOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

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THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT TSZ WAN SHAN/DIAMOND HILL/SAN PO KONG OUTLINE ZONING PLAN (NO. S/K11/6).

THE AMENDMENTS INCLUDE THE REZONING OF AN AREA ADJACENT TO A SITE AT HAMMER HILL ROAD FROM 'ROAD' AND 'GREEN BELT' TO 'RESIDENTIAL (GROUP A)' (R(A)) FOR PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION SCHEME HOUSING DEVELOPMENT, AND A SITE AT THE JUNCTION OF LUNG POON STREET AND FUNG TAK ROAD FROM 'GOVERNMENT/INSTITUTION/COMMUNITY' (GIC) TO 'R(A)' FOR SANDWICH CLASS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT.

THE AMENDMENT PLAN (NO. S/K11/7) IS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION UNTIL NOVEMBER 25 FROM:

- * PLANNING DEPARTMENT,
16TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING,
GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG;
- * KOWLOON DISTRICT PLANNING OFFICE,
11TH FLOOR, LEIGHTON CENTRE,
77 LEIGHTON ROAD, HONG KONG; AND
- * WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICE,
GROUND FLOOR, SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING,
KING FUK STREET, SAN PO KONG,
KOWLOON.

ANY PERSON AFFECTED BY THE AMENDMENT PLAN MAY SUBMIT WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD, C/O PLANNING DEPARTMENT, 13TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, BEFORE NOVEMBER 25.

COPIES OF THE DRAFT PLAN CAN BE BOUGHT AT THE SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, AND KOWLOON MAP SALES OFFICE, GROUND FLOOR, 382 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

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RECREATION GROUND FOR WONG TAI SIN

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THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A RECREATION GROUND WITH AN AREA OF 29,800 SQUARE METRES IN MA CHAI HANG, WONG TAI SIN.

THE RECREATION GROUND WILL HAVE A SOCCER-CUM-RUGBY PITCH, TENNIS COURTS, JOGGING TRACKS, BIRD CAGES, CHILDREN'S PLAY AREAS, FOOTPATHS, PLANTERS, ARBOURS, PAVILIONS, FITNESS EXERCISE AREA AND SERVICE BUILDINGS.

WORKS ARE EXPECTED TO START IN JANUARY FOR COMPLETION BY MARCH 1996.

TENDER FORMS AND FURTHER PARTICULARS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, 34TH FLOOR, QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 66 QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG.

TENDER OFFER WILL CLOSE AT NOON ON DECEMBER 2.

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HK PROJECT WINS YOUTH SERVICE AWARD

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A HONG KONG PROJECT ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, THE "GREEN EXPRESS", HAS WON THIS YEAR'S COMMONWEALTH YOUTH SERVICE AWARD.

IT WAS RUN BY 14 YOUNG VOLUNTEERS AND 20 DELINQUENTS AGED BETWEEN 14 AND 16 FROM BEGONIA ROAD BOYS' HOME.

THE "GREEN EXPRESS" HAS ENABLED THESE BOYS, WHO HAVE ONCE GONE ASTRAY, TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE COMMUNITY THROUGH A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES.

THE THEME OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IS PARTICULARLY STIMULATING FOR IT HAS ENGAGED THE BOYS IN THE ACTIVE PURSUIT OF A BETTER WORLD AND PEACEFUL INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIP.

THE PROJECT COVERED WORKSHOPS FOR THE DELINQUENT BOYS, TALKS ON POLLUTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, BEACH-CLEANING, TREE-PLANTING AS WELL AS THE PRODUCTION OF A HUGE MURAL PAINTING MEASURING 390 SQUARE METRES IN NAM SHAN CHUEN.

SPEAKING AT THE AWARD-PRESENTATION CEREMONY TODAY (FRIDAY), THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION ON YOUTH, MR ERIC LI KA-CHEUNG, SAID THE PROJECT HAD SUCCESSFULLY CONVEYED THE MESSAGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

"IT HAS ALSO PROVIDED A GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR THESE YOUNG OFFENDERS TO TAKE PART IN COMMUNITY SERVICES, WHICH IN TURN HAS HELPED THEM ESTABLISH A POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARDS LIFE," HE ADDED.

ORGANISED BY THE COMMONWEALTH YOUTH PROGRAMME IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE AWARDS ARE PRESENTED TO YOUNG PEOPLE WHOSE OUTSTANDING TEAMWORK HAS SET A MODEL OR INSPIRATION TO OTHER LOCALITIES, BOTH NATIONALLY AND COMMONWEALTH-WIDE.

THE "GREEN EXPRESS" WAS SELECTED FROM A TOTAL OF 19 ENTRIES FROM NINE COUNTRIES.

THE GROUP HAS WON A CASH GRANT OF 1,000 POUNDS STERLING, A CERTIFICATE AND MEDALLIONS.

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SIXTH FIGHT CRIME CONFERENCE TO OPEN TOMORROW

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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING OF THE SIXTH FIGHT CRIME CONFERENCE AT THE REGENT HOTEL BALLROOM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) MORNING.

THE BIENNIAL EVENT AIMS TO FOSTER COMMUNITY INTEREST IN FIGHTING CRIME AND TO PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE (FCC) AND THE 19 DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEES (DFCC) TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF PUBLIC CONCERN.

IT WILL BE ATTENDED BY SOME 400 FCC AND DFCC MEMBERS. TOP GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, INCLUDING THE CHIEF SECRETARY, ATTORNEY GENERAL, SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON/NEW TERRITORIES AS WELL AS THE COMMISSIONER OF THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION WILL ALSO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE.

THE PARTICIPANTS WILL DISCUSS THE FINDINGS OF SIX PRE-CONFERENCE DISCUSSION SESSIONS FOCUSING ON "GREATER PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT", "SOCIAL CAUSES OF JUVENILE CRIMES", "PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR CORRUPTION", "MULTI-AGENCY APPROACH TO TACKLE CRIME", "WITNESS REASSURANCE" AND "ORGANISED AND SERIOUS CRIMES".

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

A FIXED PRESS POSITION WILL BE ARRANGED FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE GOVERNOR'S OPENING SPEECH. INTERESTED REPORTERS ARE REQUESTED TO ARRIVE AT THE REGENT HOTEL BALLROOM BY 8.30 AM AND ARE ADVISED TO BRING ALONG TELEPHOTO LENS. INFORMATION OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

AFTER THE OPENING SESSION, MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WILL HAVE TO LEAVE THE VENUE AS THE CONFERENCE WILL NOT BE OPEN TO THE PRESS.

AT 1 PM IN THE REGENT HOTEL BALLROOM, THE CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN, MRS MIRIAM LAU, TOGETHER WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, MR JEREMY MATHEWS; THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MR ALISTAIR ASPREY; AND THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, MR EDDIE HUI KI-ON, WILL HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE ON SUBJECTS DISCUSSED DURING THE CONFERENCE.

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

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SECONDARY STUDENTS LEARN WORK OF MARINE DEPARTMENT

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A GROUP OF SECONDARY STUDENTS HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO ACQUIRE FIRST-HAND INFORMATION ON THE NATURE OF WORK AND THE WORKING CONDITION IN THE MARINE DEPARTMENT DURING A VISIT THIS (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON.

THE VISIT WAS PART OF THE "VISITS TO WORK PLACES" PROGRAMME ORGANISED FROM OCTOBER TO DECEMBER BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT FOR SENIOR SECONDARY STUDENTS TO BETTER PLAN THEIR FUTURE CAREERS.

DURING THE VISIT, 31 FORMS FIVE TO SEVEN STUDENTS FROM CHRISTIAN ALLIANCE CHENG WING GEE COLLEGE WERE BRIEFED ON THE WORK AND ORGANISATION OF THE MARINE DEPARTMENT.

STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENT ALSO PROVIDED THEM WITH INFORMATION ABOUT THE NATURE OF WORK, QUALITIES AND QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED, AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES AND PROMOTION PROSPECTS OF MARINE INSPECTORS.

THE STUDENTS WERE THEN TAKEN ON GUIDED TOURS TO YAU MA TEI PUBLIC CARGO WORKING AREA AND THE VESSEL TRAFFIC CENTRE AT MACAU FERRY TERMINAL.

AT YAU MA TEI PUBLIC CARGO WORKING AREA, THE STUDENTS SAW FOR THEMSELVES HOW CARGOES WERE LOADED AND UNLOADED AND HOW MARINE INSPECTORS MANAGED THE CARGO WORKING AREA.

THE GROUP LATER VISITED THE VESSEL TRAFFIC CENTRE WHICH MONITORS AND REGULATES VESSEL MOVEMENTS, AND GIVES INFORMATION AND OFFER ADVICE TO MARINERS THROUGH A VERY HIGH FREQUENCY NETWORK ON PREVAILING NAVIGATIONAL CONDITIONS IN HONG KONG WATERS.

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NEW GREEN MINIBUS SERVES YAU MA TEI

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A NEW GREEN MINIBUS PLYING BETWEEN MAN WUI STREET AND NEW WORLD CENTRE WILL START OPERATION FROM TOMORROW (SATURDAY), THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE ROUTE NO.43 WILL TRAVEL VIA MAN WUI STREET, FERRY STREET, SAIGON STREET, WAI CHING STREET, JORDAN ROAD, GASCOIGNE ROAD, KANSU STREET, CANTON ROAD, PUBLIC SQUARE STREET, SHANGHAI STREET, SALISBURY ROAD, KOWLOON PARK DRIVE, MAN CHEONG STREET AND MAN SING STREET.

IT WILL RUN FROM 8 AM TO 8 PM DAILY FROM MONDAYS TO SATURDAYS AT INTERVALS OF 15 TO 20 MINUTES.

NO SERVICE WILL BE PROVIDED ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS. THE FARE FOR EACH TRIP IS \$3.50.

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1994

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HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	\$ MILLION	TIME (HOURS)	CUMULATIVE CHANGE (\$ MILLION)
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OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	3,083	0930	+574
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,961	1000	+459
CHANGE ATTRIBUTABLE TO :		1100	+419
MONEY MARKET ACTIVITY	+419	1200	+419
LAF TODAY	-1,541	1500	+419
		1600	+419
LAF RATE 3.00 BID/5.00 OFFER		TWI 120.9	**+0.1* 4.11.94

HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY

EF BILLS

EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	3.80	19 MONTHS	2605	6.35	99.87	6.54
1 MONTH	4.36	22 MONTHS	2608	6.15	95.21	6.94
3 MONTHS	5.01	30 MONTHS	3704	6.15	97.70	7.31
6 MONTHS	5.35	33 MONTHS	3710	7.25	99.40	7.62
12 MONTHS	5.99	59 MONTHS	5909	7.45	97.30	8.29

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 24,935 MN

CLOSED 4 NOVEMBER 1994

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