DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 1991

CONTENTS — PAGE NO.

THE GOVERNOR VISITS NEW URBAN COUNCIL FACILITIES 1

ONE MILLION PAY LESS TAX UNDER NEW BUDGET 1

INVESTOR PROTECTION OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE -- FS 3

HONG KONG HAS LEADING GLOBAL AND REGIONAL ROLE 5

AWARD OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS FOR CT8 6

INFORMAL INT'L MEETING ON VM'S NEXT WEEK 6

FRONTLINE TEACHERS SHOULD HELP STUDENTS RESOLVE DEVELOPMENTAL PROBLEMS 7

THREE NOMINATIONS RECEIVED TODAY FOR UC/RC ELECTIONS 8

CHILDREN DRAWING COMPETITION ON SUNDAY 10

FUNDS FOR KWAI TSING SUMMER YOUTH ACTIVITIES 11

UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS TO BE CLOSED 11

THE GOVERNOR VISITS NEW URBAN COUNCIL FACILITIES

* * * * *

THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, VISITED THE URBAN COUNCIL'S HONG KONG PARK AND SHEUNG WAN COMPLEX TODAY (THURSDAY). HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE URBAN COUNCIL, MR GERRY FORSGATE, THE VICE CHAIRMAN, MR STEPHEN LAU, AND THE DIRECTOR OF URBAN SERVICES, MR JAMES SO.

THE GOVERNOR BEGAN HIS VISIT BY CALLING AT HONG KONG PARK WHICH IS NOW IN THE FINAL STAGES OF PREPARATION AT THE FORMER VICTORIA BARRACKS SITE IN CENTRAL AT AN ESTIMATED COST OF $390 MILLION.

DURING HIS TOUR OF THE PARK, SIR DAVID WAS BRIEFED ON THE MANY FACILITIES WHICH THE NEW PARK WILL OFFER TO THE PUBLIC WHEN IT IS OPENED IN MAY. HE SAW THE PROGRESS BEING MADE IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF A WALK-THROUGH AVIARY, WITH A STAINLESS STEEL MESH ENVELOPE TO HOUSE A COLLECTION OF MORE THAN 600 BIRDS FROM THE MALESIAN FOREST.

SIR DAVID THEN VISITED THE URBAN COUNCIL'S SHEUNG WAN COMPLEX WHICH PROVIDES A WIDE VARIETY OF MODERN MUNICIPAL FACILITIES UNDER ONE ROOF INCLUDING A MARKET, A COOKED-FOOD CENTRE, AN INDOOR GAMES HALL AND A CIVIC CENTRE.

HE WAS BRIEFED ON THE OPERATION OF THE URBAN COUNCIL'S 14 MULTIPLE-FACILITY COMPLEXES AND ON PROGRESS TOWARDS OPENING A FURTHER 13 WITHIN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

SIR DAVID CONCLUDED HIS VISIT BY MEETING SOME OF THE URBAN COUNCILLORS AND SENIOR STAFF OF THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT A TEA RECEPTION IN THE COMPLEX.

- - - - 0 - - - -

ONE MILLION PAY LESS TAX UNDER NEW BUDGET

* * * * * *

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, SIR PIERS JACOBS, SAID THIS (THURSDAY) EVENING THAT ALTHOUGH HE HAS INCREASED A NUMBER OF INDIRECT TAXES IN THIS YEAR'S BUDGET, HE HAS DONE QUITE A BIT TO SOFTEN THE BLOW INSOFAR AS THE LESS WELL TO DO ARE CONCERNED.

"HENCE THE RAISING OF TAX ALLOWANCES AND ADJUSTING THE TAX BANDS SO THAT ONE MILLION PEOPLE PAY LESS THAN WOULD OTHERWISE BE THE CASE; HENCE ALSO THE NEW RATE RELIEF MEASURES," HE SAID.

SPEAKING AT THE ANNUAL SPRING DINNER OF THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES, SIR PIERS SAID HE HAS A DISTINCT FEELING THIS YEAR THAT THE BUDGET DEBATE IS FOCUSING ON INDIVIDUAL MEASURES IN ISOLATION RATHER THAN ISSUES OF OVERALL SUBSTANCE.

"IT IS THE FATE OF ALL BUDGETS TO BE GREETED BY SQUEALS OF PAIN FROM THOSE WHO CAN IMMEDIATELY IDENTIFY THINGS THEY WILL HAVE TO PAY MORE FOR, AND WITH SILENCE FROM THOSE WHO KNOW OR SENSE THAT THEY MAY ACTUALLY PAY LESS," HE SAID.

IN RESPONSE .....

IN RESPONSE TO COMMENTS ON INDIRECT TAX INCREASES, SIR PIERS POINTED OUT THAT ONE OF HIS KEY STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES HAS BEEN TO REDRESS THE BALANCE BETWEEN DIRECT AND INDIRECT TAXATION.

"INDIRECT TAXES HAVE THE VIRTUE OF BEING MORE STABLE; AND, IN MOST CASES THEY ALSO ALLOW CONSUMER CHOICE TO SOME EXTENT.

"IT WOULD HAVE BEEN PERFECTLY SIMPLE TO PUT AN EXTRA PERCENTAGE POINT OR TWO ON DIRECT TAXATION, AND IT MIGHT HAVE ATTRACTED LESS CRITICISM. BUT I BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN THE WRONG MOVE THIS YEAR -- AN ARGUMENT THAT I MAY WISH TO DEVELOP IN THE BUDGET DEBATE ITSELF!"

ON THE QUESTION OF INFLATION, SIR PIERS STRESSED THAT HE HAS ATTACHED IMPORTANCE TO TACKLING INFLATION, AND MEASURES ARE BEING TAKEN TO TACKLE IT.

"IN PARTICULAR WE ARE DOING IT BY STRICTLY CONTAINING THE GROWTH OF PUBLIC SECTOR SPENDING.

"IN THIS YEAR'S RESOURCE ALLOCATION EXERCISE, BELIEVE ME, THERE HAS BEEN BLOOD ON THE FLOOR. OVERALL, THERE IS LITTLE GROWTH. INDIVIDUAL DEPARTMENTS HAVE HAD TO FIND SIGNIFICANT SAVINGS. THE RESULT WILL BE A LEANER AND MORE EFFICIENT PUBLIC SECTOR," HE ADDED.

BACK TO THE MAIN TOPIC OF HIS SPEECH -- "HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY: THROUGH THE 90'S AND BEYOND", SIR PIERS HIGHLIGHTED THE ROLE OF TECHNOLOGY IN MAINTAINING THE LONG-TERM COMPETITIVENESS OF OUR MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN THE FACE OF EVER-INCREASING COMPETITION IN THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL AND THE LABOUR SHORTAGE LOCALLY.

"WHILE THE NEED FOR UPGRADING TECHNOLOGY HAS MY FULL SUPPORT, ANY GOVERNMENT EFFORT IN THIS RESPECT SHOULD BE IN KEEPING WITH OUR INDUSTRIAL POLICY TO FACILITATE RATHER THAN TO DIRECT DEVELOPMENT," HE SAID.

"NEVERTHELESS, THERE IS A CLEAR ROLE FOR THE GOVERNMENT AND WE NEED TO DO MORE TO IDENTIFY AND PUBLICISE WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING.

"TO ACHIEVE THE UPGRADING OF TECHNOLOGY IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, THERE HAVE FOR SOME TIME BEEN ONGOING PROGRAMMES INITIATED BY THE GOVERNMENT AND ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS. I BELEIVE THAT WHAT WE ARE DOING REPRESENTS A GOOD INDICATION OF THE PREFERRED WAY FORWARD."

AMONG THE MORE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS ARE TECHNOLOGY CENTRES AND SCIENCE PARKS WHICH SERVE THE PURPOSE OF PROMOTING TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATIONS WHICH FACILITATE THE COMMERCIAL APPLICATION OF NEW IDEAS.

TECHNOLOGY CENTRES ARE PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH PROVIDING AN ENVIRONMENT TO ENCOURAGE THE INITIAL PHASE OF THE SO-CALLED "PRE-NEW TECHNOLOGY-BASED FIRMS". AND SCIENCE PARKS WILL ENCOURAGE THE PROCESS BY PROVIDING THE FACILITIES TO ASSIST THE ESTABLISHMENT AND GROWTH OF THE SO-CALLED "NEW TECHNOLOGY-BASED FIRMS".

"THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS ALREADY ENDORSED THE PROPOSAL TO SET UP A TECHNOLOGY CENTRE IN YAU YAT TSUEN," SIR PIERS SAID.

/"FOR THE .....

"FOR THE TIME BEING ITS DEVELOPMENT IS BEING PLANNED AND DRIVEN BY A LIMITED COMPANY WITH THE NECESSARY FUNDING ALREADY APPROVED, BUT IN DUE COURSE, WE WILL ESTABLISH A STATUTORY CORPORATION WITH A HIGH DEGREE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY TO MANAGE THE CENTRE."

AS TO THE SCIENCE PARK, THE GOVERNMENT NOW CONSIDERS IT DESIRABLE TO EARMARK A SUITABLE SITE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

"THIS COURSE OF ACTION HAS BEEN ENDORSED RECENTLY BY THE INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD, AND GOVERNMENT IS NOW LOOKING ACTIVELY AT THE PROPOSAL," HE SAID.

SIR PIERS ALSO MENTIONED THE CONTRIBUTION BY THE TERTIARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND OUTLINED THE PROGRESS IN THE STUDY ON THE TECHNOLOGY ROAD MAP FOR HONG KONG WHICH DRAWS ON THE TALENTS AVAILABLE AT THE SIX LOCAL TERTIARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

"THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE ROAD MAPS WILL BE OF USE BOTH TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN CONSIDERING HONG KONG FOR INVESTMENT PURPOSES, AND TO THE GOVERNMENT IN DEVELOPING ITS POLICIES IN RELATION TO THE PROVISION OF FURTHER TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE," HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

INVESTOR PROTECTION OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE -- FS

* * * * * *

MAINTAINING THE INTEGRITY OF OUR MARKETPLACE AND THE PROTECTION OF OUR INVESTORS MUST BE OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, SIR PIERS JACOBS SAID THIS (THURSDAY) EVENING WHEN ASKED TO COMMENT ON JARDINE MATHESON'S ANNOUNCEMENT YESTERDAY.

"THE COMPANY IS HAVING DISCUSSIONS WITH OURSELVES AND WITH THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION. WE WILL HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE HOW THINGS GO," HE SAID WHEN SPEAKING TO MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA AT THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES' SPRING DINNER.

WHILE IT IS REALLY THE COMPANY'S DECISION WHERE IT CHOOSES TO BE LISTED, WHAT ARRANGEMENTS ARE MADE INSOFAR AS HONG KONG IS CONCERNED IS A MATTER FOR DISCUSSION BETWEEN THE COMPANY, THE GOVERNMENT AND THE SFC, SIR PIERS ADDED.

"THERE ARE A NUMBER OF ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED. IT WILL TAKE SOME TIME," HE SAID.

ASKED ABOUT THE CONTENT OF THE DISCUSSIONS, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY SAID HE COULD NOT REVEAL THEM, BUT SAID THEY HAVE SPOKEN ABOUT EXEMPT LISTING AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE TAKEOVER CODE.

ASKED WHETHER THE REMOVAL OF JARDINE'S PRIMARY LISTING STATUS HERE WOULD HAVE AN IMPACT ON HONG KONG'S POSITION AS A FINANCIAL CENTRE, SIR PIERS SAID HE DID NOT THINK SO.

/"THE IMPORTANT .....

"THE IMPORTANT THING IS TO GET THE RULES RIGHT SO HONG KONG DOES NOT SUFFER," HE SAID.

ASKED ABOUT COMPLAINTS OVER THE 200 PER CENT RISE IN TOBACCO TAX, SIR PIERS SAID AS HE HAD POINTED OUT IN THE BUDGET SPEECH, THE INCREASE WAS FOR HEALTH REASONS.

"THERE IS A GREAT DEAL OF EVIDENCE TO SAY THAT IT IS DAMAGING TO HEALTH," HE SAID. "IF THEY REDUCE SMOKING OR EVENTUALLY GIVE IT UP, THEY WILL FEEL BETTER."

"AND FRANKLY, EVEN AFTER THE TAX INCREASES, A PACKET OF CIGARETTES IN HONG KONG IS STILL MUCH CHEAPER THAN IT IS IN CANADA, CHEAPER THAN IT IS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM. I ACCEPT THAT IT IS MORE EXPENSIVE THAN IN SOME OTHER PLACES IN THE REGION, BUT FRANKLY OTHER PLACES IN THE REGION ARE NOW BEGINNING TO LOOK AT WHAT HONG KONG IS DOING AND THEY WOULD PROBABLY BE PUTTING UP THEIR DUTY.

"I'VE HAD MORE LETTERS OF CONGRATULATION OVER THAT MEASURE THAN OVER ANYTHING ELSE I'VE EVER DONE SINCE I'VE BEEN FINANCIAL SECRETARY. AND THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF HONG KONG ARE ALSO PRAISING US, BECAUSE THEY WANT TO BE HEALTHY."

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION ABOUT SALES TAX, SIR PIERS SAID THE GOVERNMENT IS OPEN FOR IDEAS.

"WE ARE DOING A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF PLANNING, AND THE MAIN POINT I'VE BEEN TRYING TO MAKE THROUGHOUT MY FIVE YEARS IS THAT WE DO NEED SOME FORM OF BROAD-BASED CONSUMPTION TAX.

"WELL, I'VE EXPRESSED THE PREFERENCE ON THE BASIS OF OUR STUDIES SO FAR FOR TAX AT THE WHOLESALE LEVEL BECAUSE I THINK IT'S EASIER TO ADMINISTER, AND I THINK IT'S PROBABLY FAIRER, AND THERE ARE LESS POINTS OF COLLECTION OF THE TAX.

"BUT FRANKLY AS OUR DISCUSSIONS CONTINUE, WE MAY THINK OF OTHER ARRANGEMENTS. I'LL HAVE TO LEAVE THAT TO MY SUCCESSOR. THE IMPORTANT THING IS TO MAKE OUR TAX BASE MORE STABLE SO THAT AS WE GET DIPS IN THE ECONOMY FROM TIME TO TIME, WE DON'T HAVE TO CURTAIL OUR EXPENDITURE. THAT'S ALL IT'S ABOUT. IT'S NOT ABOUT FINDING OTHER WAYS OF TAKING MORE MONEY FROM YOU," HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/5 .....

HONG KONG HAS LEADING GLOBAL AND REGIONAL ROLE
* * * * *

HONG KONG HAS AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN BOTH REGIONAL AND GLOBAL BUSINESS, THE DIRECTOR OF THE HONG KONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE, MR PETER JOHNSON SAID IN HOUSTON, TEXAS, YESTERDAY (WEDNESDAY).

ADDRESSING A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE ASIA SOCIETY, MR JOHNSON SAID WHILE STRONG TIES AND DEPENDENCIES BETWEEN ASIA AND THE U.S. REMAIN, INTRA-ASIA COMMERCE IS INCREASING.

"AT THE LAST COUNT, BETWEEN 30 AND 40 PER CENT OF ASIAN EXPORTS WERE DESTINED FOR OTHER COUNTRIES WITHIN THE REGION," HE TOLD AN AUDIENCE OF BUSINESS EXECUTIVES.

"IN HONG KONG'S CASE THE PROPORTION IS MUCH HIGHER, DUE LARGELY TO SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES IN OUR TRADE WITH CHINA AND TO THE GROWTH OF OUTWARD PROCESSING ON THE TERRITORY'S BEHALF IN SOUTHERN CHINA."

ACKNOWLEDGING THAT JAPAN IS FAR OUTSPENDING THE U.S. IN TERMS OF INVESTMENT IN ASIA, MR JOHNSON EXPRESSED THAT A CONTINUING INCREASING U.S. PRESENCE IN ASIA IS DESIRABLE FROM HONG KONG'S POINT OF VIEW.

"I FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT THERE IS AN ENORMOUS RESERVOIR OF GOODWILL IN HONG KONG TOWARDS THE U.S., AN INCREASING U.S. PRESENCE SERVES AS EVIDENCE THAT U.S. BUSINESS IS STILL COMMITTED ON A GLOBAL BASIS AND IS NOT WITHDRAWING TO A 'FORTRESS AMERICA': SOMETHING THAT MAY BE A TEMPTATION GIVEN THE PROPOSED EXPANSION OF THE FTA TO INCLUDE MEXICO, THE AS-YET UNRESOLVED PROBLEMS OF THE URUGUAY ROUND AND A LESSENING OF EXPECTATIONS IN THE SOVIET UNION AND EASTERN EUROPE," MR JOHNSON SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT CURRENTLY THE U.S. IS THE LARGEST OVERSEAS INVESTOR IN HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY, AND POSSIBLY THE LARGEST INVESTOR OVERALL.

"U.S. FIRMS PROVIDE STRENGTH AND SUPPORT IN MANY WAYS," MR JOHNSON ADDED.

TURNING TO THE ECONOMY, MR JOHNSON SAID INTERNALLY HONG KONG CONTINUES TO PROSPER.

"IN 1990 REAL GDP GROWTH WAS 2.4 PER CENT, LESS THAN IN OTHER RECENT YEARS, BUT A BETTER PERFORMANCE THAN MOST. THE FORECAST FOR THIS YEAR IS 3.5 PER CENT. GDP PER HEAD IS FORECAST TO BE US$13,400 IN 1991.

"IF HONG KONG WERE A MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY THIS WOULD PUT US IMMEDIATELY BEHIND THE UK, AND POISED TO OVERTAKE THEM WITHIN THE NOT-TOO-DISTANT FUTURE," MR JOHNSON CONCLUDED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/6 .....

AWARD OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS FOR CT8

* * * * *

THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT THE DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS FOR HONG KONG'S NEXT CONTAINER TERMINAL, CONTAINER TERMINAL 8, WERE TO BE AWARDED TO A CONSORTIUM COMPRISING MODERN TERMINALS GROUP AND HONGKONG INTERNATIONAL TERMINALS GROUP.

IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE OPERATORS ARE IN DISCUSSION WITH THE CHINA OCEAN SHIPPING CORPORATION AND CHINA MERCHANTS HOLDINGS CO. LTD WITH REGARD TO THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN THE CONTAINER PORT OPERATION.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE GRANT WOULD BE MADE BY MEANS OF PRIVATE TREATY. CONTAINER TERMINALS 4, 5 AND 6 HAD BEEN DISPOSED OF IN THIS WAY, HE SAID.

HE EXPLAINED THAT A MIXTURE OF GRANTS BY PRIVATE TREATY AND PUBLIC TENDER HAD PROVED AN EFFECTIVE WAY FOR HONG KONG'S PORT INFRASTRUCTURE TO BE DEVELOPED WITHOUT THE MASSIVE INVESTMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS WHICH WOULD OTHERWISE BE REQUIRED.

CONTAINER TERMINAL 8 WILL OCCUPY AN AREA OF 58.47 HECTARES TO BE RECLAIMED ON NORTH WEST STONECUTTERS ISLAND. IT WOULD COMPRISE FOUR BERTHS AND HAVE A CAPACITY OF 1,600,000 TEU'S (20-FOOT EQUIVALENT UNITS). IT WOULD INCREASE HONG KONG'S CONTAINER TERMINAL CAPACITY TO 6.6 MILLION BY LATE 1995.

THE TERMINALS HANDLED 3.8 MILLION TEU'S IN 1990, IN ADDITION TO WHICH 1.2 MILLION WERE HANDLED IN THE STREAM.

THE NEW CONTAINER TERMINAL WILL HELP ENSURE THAT THE PORT WILL CONTINUE TO BE CAPABLE OF MEETING THE DEMANDS OF HONG KONG'S TRADE AND THAT OF ITS NATURAL HINTERLAND IN SOUTHERN CHINA.

- - - - 0 - - - -

INFORMAL INT'L MEETING ON VM'S NEXT WEEK

* * * * *

AN INFORMAL INTERNATIONAL MEETING ON VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS WILL BE HELD IN GENEVA ON MARCH 25 AND 26, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING, WHICH WILL BE AT WORKING LEVEL, WILL BE TO REVIEW PROGRESS WITH IMPLEMENTING THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF ACTION.

HONG KONG WILL BE REPRESENTED AT THE MEETING BY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT REFUGEE CO-ORDINATOR, MR CLINTON LEEKS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/7 .....

FRONTLINE TEACHERS SHOULD HELP STUDENTS
RESOLVE DEVELOPMENTAL PROBLEMS
* * * * * *

ALL TEACHERS ARE EXPECTED TO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN ASSISTING STUDENTS TO RESOLVE THEIR DEVELOPMENTAL PROBLEMS AND NOT RELYING SOLELY ON GUIDANCE TEACHERS AND SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS WORKING IN ISOLATION TO TACKLE PROBLEMS CASE BY CASE.

THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (SERVICES), MRS GRACE YUNG, SAID THIS TODAY (THURSDAY) IN OPENING A CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP ON THE WHOLE SCHOOL APPROACH TO SCHOOL DISCIPLINE WHICH WILL END ON SATURDAY (MARCH 23).

MORE THAN 400 PRINCIPALS, DISCIPLINE AND GUIDANCE TEACHERS ARE ATTENDING THE EVENTS BEING HELD AT GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION IN KOWLOON.

MRS YUNG TOLD THE GATHERING THAT IT WAS TIMELY FOR A STAFF DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY TO BE HELD NOW, WITH THE MEMORY OF THE UNFORTUNATE INCIDENTS THAT HAD OCCURRED RECENTLY TO TWO STUDENTS STILL FRESH IN MIND.

SHE SAID THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WAS FULLY AWARE OF THE GENERAL SITUATION THAT EXISTED IN SCHOOLS:

* TEACHERS COMPLAINING ABOUT HOW DIFFICULT IT WAS FOR THEM TO KEEP STUDENT DISCIPLINED AND HOW FRUSTRATING AN EXPERIENCE IT WAS TO TEACH STUDENTS TOTALLY UNMOTIVATED TO LEARN, AND

* GUIDANCE TEACHER HARD PRESSED FOR TIME TO HELP STUDENTS WHO BROUGHT WITH THEM EMOTIONAL PROBLEMS.

"SO FAR, IT APPEARED TO ME THAT OUR APPROACH HAS BEEN RATHER REACTIVE. TEACHERS TRIED HARD TO IDENTIFY STUDENTS WITH PROBLEMS AND ATTEMPTED TO HANDLE THEM CASE BY CASE," SHE SAID.

WHILE EFFORTS WERE FOCUSSED ON TAKING REMEDIAL MEASURES FOR A FEW STUDENTS, MRS YUNG SAID THE NEED OF THE MAJORITY OF ALL OTHER STUDENTS - WHO IN THE LACK OF APPROPRIATE CARE AND ATTENTION IS CUMULATING THEIR FRUSTRATION AND EMOTIONAL ENERGY TO CREATE YET ANOTHER PROBLEM CASE - MIGHT HAVE BEEN NEGLECTED.

"THE CONCEPT (OF THE WHOLE SCHOOL APPROACH TO SCHOOL DISCIPLINE) IS THAT INSTEAD OF GUIDANCE TEACHERS AND SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS WORKING IN ISOLATION TO TACKLE PROBLEMS CASE BY CASE, ALL TEACHERS IN SCHOOLS ARE EXPECTED TO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN ASSISTING STUDENTS TO RESOLVE THEIR DEVELOPMENTAL PROBLEMS," SHE SAID.

"WE BELIEVE THAT TEACHERS, BEING IN THE FRONTLINE, ARE IN A BETTER POSITION TO IDENTIFY STUDENTS' NEEDS, SETTING PRIORITY FOR TARGETS TO BE ACHIEVED AND IMPLEMENTING PROGRAMMES WHICH WOULD GREATLY REDUCE THE INCIDENCE OF LEARNING, EMOTIONAL AND BEHAVIOURAL PROBLEMS."

/MRS YUNG .....

MRS YUNG POINTED OUT THAT AS SCHOOL LEADERS, PRINCIPALS WOULD HAVE A MAJOR ROLE TO PLAY IN MOBILISING ALL TEACHERS TO INVOLVE THEMSELVES IN CREATING A POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT IN THE SCHOOLS.

TEACHERS, SHE SAID, SHOULD ALWAYS BE ENCOURAGED TO RESPOND TO STUDENTS' PROBLEMS IN A POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE MANNER.

SHE SAID THE MAIN IDEA WAS THAT THE SCHOOLS SHOULD BE MADE TO BECOME:

* AN INVITING PLACE FOR THE STUDENTS;

* A PLACE WHICH THE STUDENTS IDENTIFY WITH, FEEL PROUD OF;

* A PLACE FOR SCHOOL LIFE WHICH THEY SHARE AND ENJOY; AND

* A PLACE WHICH IS REALLY CONDUCIVE TO THEIR PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, SOCIAL ADAPTATION AND ADJUSTMENT.

SHE SAID THAT THIS, IN FACT, WAS THE APPROACH RECOMMENDED IN THE EDUCATION COMMISSION REPORT NO. 4 LAST NOVEMBER.

"TO INTRODUCE THE WHOLE SCHOOL APPROACH AND TO SET THE CLIMATE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE EDUCATION COMMISSION REPORT NO. 4 IS THE FIRST OF A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES TO BE ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT," MRS YUNG SAID.

CONDUCTING THE CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP ARE TWO ADVOCATES OF THE WHOLE SCHOOL APPROACH, MR CHRIS WATKINS, A LECTURER IN PSYCHOLOGY OF EDUCATION AND COURSE TUTOR IN PASTORAL CARE IN THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON; AND MISS PATSY WAGNER, THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL, EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST AT THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA.

- - - - 0 - - - -

THREE NOMINATIONS RECEIVED TODAY FOR UC/RC ELECTIONS

* * * * * *

THREE NOMINATIONS FOR THE URBAN COUNCIL AND REGIONAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS IN MAY WERE RECEIVED TODAY (THURSDAY).

ONE WAS FOR THE URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS AND TWO FOR THE REGIONALCOUNCIL ELECTIONS.

THIS BRINGS TO 35 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF NOMINATIONS FOR THE ELECTIONS.

SO FAR, THERE ARE 10 CONSTITUENCIES EACH WITH TWO NOMINATIONS. THEY ARE THE WAN CHAI, SHAU KEI WAN, KOWLOON CITY WEST, KWUN TONG WEST, KWUN TONG EAST, MONG KOK, WONG TAI SIN SOUTH, YAU TSIM, ISLANDS AND YUEN LONG CONSTITUENCIES.

/NOMINATION OF .....

NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES WILL LAST UNTIL MONDAY (MARCH 25).

CANDIDATES WILL BE CONTESTING 27 SINGLE SEAT CONSTITUENCIES - 15 IN THE URBAN COUNCIL AREA AND 12 IN THE REGIONAL COUNCIL AREA.

FOLLOWING ARE THE PERSONAL PARTICULARS OF THE CANDIDATES WHOSE NOMINATION FORMS WERE RECEIVED TODAY:

URBAN COUNCIL CONSTITUENCY AREA	NAME	SEX	AGE	OCCUPATION	CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER
MONG KOK	LAW WING-CHEUNG	M	31	CHEMIST	112 8073 CALL 1608

REGIONAL COUNCIL CONSTITUENCY AREA	NAME	SEX	AGE	OCCUPATION	CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER
TSUEN WAN	CHAN WAI-YIP, ALBERT	M	36	SOCIAL WORKER	411 3107
YUEN LONG	CHAN YAT-TUNG	M	52	EDUCATION (HEADMASTER)	475 0010 478 2740

FOLLOWING IS A STATISTICAL BREAKDOWN OF THE NOMINATIONS RECEIVED SO FAR:

URBAN COUNCIL CONSTITUENCY AREA	NO. OF NOMINATIONS RECEIVED
1. CENTRAL AND WESTERN	NIL
2. WAN CHAI	2
3. NORTH POINT	1
4. SHAU KEI WAN	2
5. SOUTHERN	1
6. KOWLOON CITY WEST	2
7. KOWLOON CITY EAST	1
8. KWUN TONG WEST	2
9. KWUN TONG EAST	2
10. MONG KOK	2
11. SHAM SHUI PO EAST	1
12. SHAM SHUI PO WEST	1
13. WONG TAI SIN SOUTH	2
14. WONG TAI SIN NORTH	1
15. YAU TSIM	2
SUB-TOTAL:	22

/REGIONAL COUNCIL .....

REGIONAL COUNCIL CONSTITUENCY AREA	NO. OF NOMINATIONS RECEIVED
1. ISLANDS	2
2. NORTH	1
3. SAI KUNG	1
4. SHA TIN EAST	1
5. SHA TIN WEST	1
6. TAI PO	NIL
7. TSUEN WAN	1
8. TUEN MUN EAST	1
9. TUEN MUN WEST	1
10. YUEN LONG	2
11. KWAI CHUNG EAST	1
12. KWAI CHUNG WEST AND TSING YI	1
SUB-TOTAL:	13

- - - - 0 - - - -

CHILDREN DRAWING COMPETITION ON SUNDAY

* * * * * *

A CHILDREN DRAWING AND PAINTING COMPETITION WILL BE HELD AT THE PIAZZA OF THE HONG KONG CULTURAL CENTRE IN TSIM SHA TSUI ON SUNDAY (MARCH 24).

THE COMPETITION IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT CULTURAL AND ARTS ASSOCIATION AND THE URBAN COUNCIL TO ENHANCE YOUNGSTERS' INTEREST IN ART.

THE DRAWING THEME IS "YAU TSIM SCENES".

CHILDREN WILL BE DIVIDED INTO THREE SECTIONS - JUNIOR FOR THOSE AGED BELOW SIX; MIDDLE FOR SEVEN TO NINE AND SENIOR FOR THOSE AGED 10 TO 13.

ENROLMENT IS OPEN TO ALL CHILDREN ON THE SPOT. CRAYONS AND PAPERS WILL BE PROVIDED FREE OF CHARGE.

OFFICIATING AT THE PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY WILL BE THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS ANNIE TANG; DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR YIP WAH; AND URBAN COUNCILLOR, MR WONG KWOK-TUNG.

- - - - - -

ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE COMPETITION. THE CONTEST WILL BEGIN AT 12.30 PM WHILE THE PRIZE PRESENTATION WILL START AT 5 PM.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/11 .....

FUNDS FOR KWAI TSING SUMMER YOUTH ACTIVITIES

* * * *

THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE IS INVITING LOCAL ORGANISATIONS TO APPLY FOR FUNDS FOR ACTIVITIES TO BE HELD BETWEEN JULY 1 AND AUGUST 30 THIS YEAR.

A TOTAL OF $550,000 WILL BE DONATED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB FOR SUMMER YOUTH ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT PROJECTING THE THEME OF "SHARING THE FUN AND SERVING THE COMMUNITY".

THESE MAY BE RECREATIONAL, CULTURAL AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES AS WELL AS COMMUNITY SERVICES, AND CAN ALSO BE EDUCATIONAL IN NATURE.

THE MAXIMUM SUBSIDY FOR EACH EVENT WILL BE $3,000. APPLICATION FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICE AT 10TH FLOOR, KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, AND ITS SUB-OFFICES.

COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE DISTRICT OFFICE BY APRIL 20.

- - - - 0 - - - -

UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS TO BE CLOSED

* * * * *

THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS SEEKING TO CLOSE THE UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS ON THE ROOF OVER 7 ARTHUR STREET, MONG KOK SO THAT THEY CAN BE DEMOLISHED WITHOUT DANGER TO THE OCCUPIERS AND THE PUBLIC.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER FROM THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT ON MAY 7 WAS POSTED ON THE PREMISES TODAY (THURSDAY).

IT IS EXPECTED THAT DEMOLITION WORK WILL START ONCE THE CLOSURE ORDER IS GRANTED.

- - - - 0 - - - -