



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 1986

- 1 -

AG STRESSES MERITS OF COMMON LAW

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THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, MR MICHAEL THOMAS, TODAY STRESSED THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE COMMON LAW SYSTEM HAS BEEN ACCEPTED AND BUILT UPON BY THE HONG KONG COMMUNITY.

SPEAKING AT THE CLOSING BANQUET OF A SYMPOSIUM ON CHINESE AND EUROPEAN CONCEPTS OF LAW, MR THOMAS SAID THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG ARE RIGHT TO ATTACH IMPORTANCE TO THOSE PARTS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION WHICH PRESERVE THE LEGAL SYSTEM AND THE COMMON LAW.

HE SAID: +IN THE ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY YEARS DURING WHICH THIS TERRITORY HAS BEEN GOVERNED BY BRITAIN, THE COMMON LAW TRADITION HAS TAKEN ROOT AND FLOURISHED HERE. AT FIRST, WHEN HONG KONG WAS LITTLE MORE THAN A TRADING POST, THOSE WHO DID BUSINESS HERE BECAME FAMILIAR WITH THOSE AREAS OF MERCANTILE LAW WHICH HAD THEIR GOLDEN AGE IN ENGLAND IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

+IN THAT PERIOD, THE ENGLISH COURTS AND JURISTS DEVELOPED AND REFINED PRINCIPLES GOVERNING THE LAWS OF TRADE, BANKING, INSURANCE AND SHIPPING WHICH TO THIS DAY UNDERPIN NEARLY ALL THE WORLD'S TRADE AS A CONSEQUENCE OF BRITAIN'S FORMER IMPERIAL INFLUENCE. AND DURING THE LAST FORTY YEARS, DURING WHICH HONG KONG HAS GROWN FROM A WAR STRICKEN AREA WITH A POPULATION OF 600 000 TO AN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL CENTRE WITH A SUBSTANTIAL MANUFACTURING SECTOR AND A POPULATION OF 5-1/2 MILLION, ITS EXTRAORDINARY RECORD OF SUCCESS CAN IN THE SAME WAY BE ATTRIBUTED IN PART TO ITS LAWS AND ITS LEGAL SYSTEM.

+CAPITALISM IS NOT JUST AN ECONOMIC SYSTEM: IT IS BOUND UP WITH CONCEPTS OF LAW WHICH ARE ENTRENCHED IN THE TRADITION OF THE COMMON LAW, ITS EMPHASIS UPON INDIVIDUAL PERSONAL LIBERTY AND FREEDOM, ITS ACCEPTANCE OF LEGAL CORPORATE PERSONALITY WHEREBY INVESTMENT IS ENCOURAGED BY LIMITING THE RISK OF PERSONAL LOSS, ITS PROVISION FOR READY ACCESS TO COURTS OF LAW AND LEGAL REPRESENTATION SO THAT REMEDIES TO ENFORCE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS ARE READILY AVAILABLE.

+ALL THESE FEATURES OF THE COMMON LAW SYSTEM PROVIDED FERTILE GROUND FOR THE ENERGY, INVENTIVENESS AND ENTREPRENEURIAL DRIVE OF THE CHINESE PEOPLE WHO SETTLED IN HONG KONG.

+THE SUCCESS OF HONG KONG IS FOUNDED UPON THE VALUES ENSHRINED IN THE COMMON LAW, UPON FREE ENTERPRISE AND FREE TRADE AND UPON THE FREEDOM OF INDIVIDUALS TO MOVE ABOUT, TO TRAVEL AND TO CHOOSE THEIR OCCUPATION AND HOW BEST TO DEVELOP THEIR INDIVIDUAL TALENTS.

/+AND THE .....

+AND THE CULTURAL AND SOCIAL LIFE OF ITS PEOPLE IS FOUNDED UPON FREEDOM ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMON LAW, INCLUDING PERSONAL FREEDOM, FREEDOM OF BELIEF, FREEDOM OF SPEECH, AND FREEDOM OF THE PRESS.+

MR THOMAS STRESSED THAT ONE FACET OF THE COMMON LAW'S ACCEPTANCE IN HONG KONG IS THE IMPORTANCE OF THE RULE OF LAW CONCEPT. IT ENCOMPASSES THESE POINTS:-

- \* OFFICIALS CAN ONLY ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH LEGAL POWERS - OR ELSE THEY CAN BE SUED FOR DAMAGE.
- \* JUDGES INTERPRET THE LAW TO PREVENT ABUSE OF POWER BY OFFICIALS.
- \* THE CRIMINAL LAW IS REplete WITH NECESSARY SAFEGUARDS FOR THE ACCUSED.
- \* PEOPLE ARE EQUAL BEFORE THE LAW AND ALL ARE SUBJECT TO IT. SO LONG AS THEY DO NOT BREAK THE LAW, PEOPLE MAY CAMPAIGN TO HAVE UNPOPULAR LAWS OR POLICIES CHANGED.
- \* THE DEEPLY ENGRAINED COMMON LAW PHILOSOPHY OF LEGISLATORS, PUBLIC SERVANTS AND DRAFTSMEN AND COMMENTATORS IN THE COMMUNITY IS A DEFENCE AGAINST WHATEVER MIGHT BE DONE BY AN INSENSITIVE LEGISLATURE.

MR THOMAS ALSO SAID THAT WHILE IT WAS TRUE THAT A MODERN DEVELOPED ECONOMY REQUIRED THE ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION OF MANY STATUTES, STATUTE LAW WAS NOT REPLACING THE COMMON LAW. DESPITE THE 26 VOLUMES OF HONG KONG ORDINANCES, IT IS THE MANY VOLUMES OF REPORTED CASES FROM MANY COMMON LAW JURISDICTIONS WHICH SUPPLY THE UNDERLYING CONCEPTS AND LEGAL PRINCIPLES WHICH PERVADE THE LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WENT ON TO REVIEW MATTERS FLOWING FROM THE JOINT DECLARATION AND STRESSED:-

- \* THE BASIC LAW, A LAW OF CHINA UNDER THE CHINESE CONSTITUTION, WILL UNDERPIN THE SYSTEM IN PLACE OF THE LETTERS PATENT AND THE ROYAL INSTRUCTIONS. WHEN ENACTED, THERE WILL HAVE TO BE CONSEQUENTIAL CHANGES WHICH WILL REMOVE UNITED KINGDOM REFERENCES BUT WILL PRESERVE THE STRENGTHS OF THE COMMON LAW SYSTEM.
- \* STATUTES IN CHINESE LANGUAGE AS WELL AS ENGLISH ARE NOW A POLITICAL NECESSITY.

- \* PREFERABLY WELL BEFORE 1997 A FINAL COURT OF APPEAL SHOULD BE SET UP IN HONG KONG REPLACING APPEALS TO THE PRIVY COUNCIL.
- \* IN AREAS OF INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS, IT MAY BE DESIRABLE TO CODIFY THE COMMON LAW. IN DOING THIS WE SHOULD LOOK CAREFULLY AT THE LAWS OF OTHER JURISDICTIONS INCLUDING THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.
- \* THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP, IN IMPLEMENTING THE JOINT DECLARATION AND A SMOOTH TRANSITION IN 1997, HAS TO IDENTIFY HOW HONG KONG CAN CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE IN INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS ESSENTIAL TO TRADE AND THE ECONOMY AND THIS INVOLVES THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF INTERNATIONAL LAW AND ULTIMATELY A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF CONSEQUENTIAL LEGAL WORK.

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REPORT CALLS FOR INDEPENDENT HOSPITAL AUTHORITY  
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THE SETTING UP OF AN INDEPENDENT STATUTORY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY TO TAKE CHARGE OF ALL MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE DELIVERY OF MEDICAL SERVICES IN PUBLIC HOSPITALS IS AMONG RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN A REPORT PUBLISHED TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE REPORT IS THE RESULT OF A 10-MONTH REVIEW COMMISSIONED BY THE GOVERNMENT IN FEBRUARY 1985.

MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE, STAFFING AND INTERNAL ADMINISTRATION OF GOVERNMENT AND SUBVENTED HOSPITALS WERE MADE BY THE AUSTRALIAN CONSULTANCY FIRM, W.D. SCOTT AND CO PTY LTD, WHICH UNDERTOOK THE TASK.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT DURING THE REVIEW, THE CONSULTANTS WERE GUIDED BY A STEERING COMMITTEE CHAIRED BY THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE AND COMPRISING BOTH OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS.

THEY ALSO MADE CONTACT WITH A WHOLE RANGE OF INDIVIDUALS, PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS, AND STAFF ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED IN THE HEALTH CARE FIELD BEFORE SUBMITTING THEIR FINAL REPORT IN DECEMBER LAST YEAR.

/THE SPOKESMAN .....

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL HAD RECENTLY DIRECTED THAT THE REPORT SHOULD BE PUBLISHED AS A CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT.

THE REPORT, A BULKY DOCUMENT, IS SUMMARISED IN THE EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW IN THE FIRST 11 PAGES. THE SUCCEEDING CHAPTERS THEN ADDRESS THE TERMS OF REFERENCE BEFORE CONCLUDING WITH A SUMMARY OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS.

THE CONSULTANTS NOTED IN THE REPORT THAT THERE HAVE BEEN A NUMBER OF NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS OVER THE PAST DECADE AND THAT THE RESULTS IN TERMS OF PUBLIC HEALTH HAVE BEEN IMPRESSIVE.

HOWEVER, THEIR EXAMINATION HAS REVEALED SOME CRITICAL IMPLICATIONS FOR THE FUTURE AND STRONG PRESSURES FOR CHANGE. THESE IMPLICATIONS INCLUDE THE INCREASING COST OF PROVIDING HOSPITAL MEDICAL SERVICES, RISING COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS, GROWING CONCERN AMONG THE SUBVENTED ORGANISATIONS OVER STAFF FRINGE BENEFITS AND OVER THE GENERAL LOWER OVERALL LEVEL OF FUNDING WHEN COMPARED WITH GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS, PROBLEMS ARISING FROM DIFFICULTIES IN IDENTIFYING EXPENDITURE PRIORITIES AND WEAKNESSES IN THE REGIONALISATION STRUCTURE.

THE MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE REPORT ARE:

- (A) AN INDEPENDENT STATUTORY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY, LARGELY FUNDED BY THE GOVERNMENT, SHOULD BE SET UP WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE DELIVERY OF MEDICAL SERVICES IN PUBLIC HOSPITALS (I.E. THE EXISTING GOVERNMENT AND SUBVENTED HOSPITALS). (PAGE 5-14)
- (B) EVENTUALLY ALL AUTHORITY STAFF SHOULD WORK UNDER COMMON TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE, OUTSIDE THE CIVIL SERVICE. (PAGE 5-17)
- (C) SEVEN REGIONS (EVENTUALLY NINE) SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED FOR MEDICAL SERVICES AND EACH REGION SHOULD HAVE A LOCAL BOARD OF MANAGEMENT. (PAGE 5-22)
- (D) THERE SHOULD BE A CHIEF EXECUTIVE WITH OVERALL AUTHORITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EACH MAJOR HOSPITAL. THE CONSULTANTS CONSIDERED THAT, AT LEAST INITIALLY, CHIEF EXECUTIVES WOULD BE MEDICALLY QUALIFIED. IN EACH HOSPITAL A CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER, A CHIEF NURSING OFFICER AND A CHIEF HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATOR WOULD REPORT TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE. (PAGE 6-37)
- (E) THE NUMBER OF BEDS MANAGED BY ONE CONSULTANT SHOULD BE REDUCED TO BETWEEN 60 AND 80 IN MOST NORMAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL WARDS. (PAGE 6-38)

/(F) THERE .....

- (F) THERE SHOULD BE AN IMPROVED NURSING STRUCTURE, WITH ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES BEING PLACED ON NURSING STAFF WITH BETTER ARRANGEMENTS FOR TRAINING AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT. (PAGES 6-42 AND 6-43)
- (G) THE CHIEF HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATOR SHOULD BE GIVEN AN ENHANCED ROLE IN HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATION. (PAGES 6-44 AND 6-46)
- (H) ALL STAFF, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF SENIOR EXECUTIVES, SHOULD BE APPOINTED BY THE HOSPITAL, SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE REGIONAL BOARD OF MANAGEMENT. (PAGE 6-46)
- (I) TO REDUCE OVERCROWDING, ADDITIONAL OBSERVATION BEDS SHOULD BE INTRODUCED ADJACENT TO ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS FOR WHICH PATIENTS WOULD NOT REQUIRE FORMAL ADMISSION; BETTER SUPPORT SERVICES SHOULD BE PROVIDED IN ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS; THERE SHOULD BE A BETTER SYSTEM OF ALLOCATING PATIENTS TO UNITS WITHIN THE HOSPITAL; AND GREATER USE MADE OF TRANSFERS FROM ACUTE TO CONVALESCENT WARDS. (PAGES 7-11 TO 7-14)
- (J) TO IMPROVE THE WORKING ENVIRONMENT, STAFF ROLES AND RELATIONSHIPS SHOULD BE MADE CLEARER, THERE SHOULD BE MORE FLEXIBLE STAFFING AND EMPLOYMENT POLICIES DESIGNED TO MAKE BETTER USE OF SKILLED AND QUALIFIED STAFF, IMPROVED PROCEDURES FOR INTERSTAFF COMMUNICATION AND IMPROVED TEACHING AND RESEARCH FACILITIES. (PAGES 8-11 TO 8-20)
- (K) OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONTRACT EMPLOYMENT AND/OR SESSIONAL ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD BE PROVIDED TO SELECTED SENIOR CLINICIANS, AS WELL AS LIMITED RIGHTS OF PRIVATE PRACTICE FOR SPECIALIST DOCTORS IN THE NEW AUTHORITY. (PAGES 9-19 AND 9-20)
- (L) THERE SHOULD BE EXTENDED ARRANGEMENTS FOR IDENTIFYING THE AREAS OF MAJOR COST AND FOR DEMONSTRATING THAT VALUE HAS BEEN RECEIVED FOR MONEY SPENT. (PAGES 10-14 TO 10-16)
- (M) THE BASIS ON WHICH THE STANDARD BED DAY CHARGE IS CALCULATED SHOULD BE CHANGED FROM THE EXISTING NOTIONAL FOOD COSTS TO A BROADER BASE, AND OTHER CHARGES SHOULD BE INTRODUCED FOR HOSPITAL SERVICES. (PAGE 11-15)
- (N) THERE SHOULD BE PILOT SCHEMES TO INTRODUCE A NEW CLASS OF HOSPITAL BED WHICH WOULD BE OF A HIGHER STANDARD THAN A THIRD-CLASS BED BUT LESS COSTLY THAN THE PRESENT FIRST AND SECOND-CLASS BEDS. A SURVEY SHOULD BE CONDUCTED TO ESTABLISH THE POTENTIAL MARKET FOR THIS TYPE OF HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION. (PAGE 11-23)

- (O) IF THE PILOT SCHEME IS SUCCESSFUL, PRIVATE INSURANCE COMPANIES SHOULD BE INVITED TO OFFER INSURANCE COVER FOR THIS HIGHER STANDARD OF ACCOMMODATION WITHIN GUIDELINES ESTABLISHED BY THE GOVERNMENT. (PAGE 11-29)

CHAPTER 5 OF THE REPORT SETS OUT THE COST IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OVER THE FIRST FIVE YEARS. THE CONSULTANTS ESTIMATED THAT THESE WOULD BE IN THE ORDER OF:

## ADDITIONAL COSTS:

	ONCE OFF (5 YRS)	RECURRENT (PER ANNUM)
SETTING UP COSTS	200M	-
STAFF COSTS	450M	100M
UPGRADING FACILITIES	300M	30M
	----	----
	950M	130M

## REDUCED COSTS

## BETTER USAGE OF FACILITIES

. REDUCED BUILDINGS	400M	-
. REDUCED STAFF COST	200M	60M
IMPROVED EFFICIENCY	360M	120M
	----	----
	960M	180M

THE CONSULTANTS HAVE THUS CONCLUDED THAT FIVE YEARS AFTER THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NEW AUTHORITY THE COSTS OF IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE REPORT WOULD HAVE BEEN COVERED. IN ARRIVING AT THIS CONCLUSION A NUMBER OF MAJOR ASSUMPTIONS WERE MADE AND THESE WILL BE CLOSELY EXAMINED BY THE GOVERNMENT DURING ITS DETAILED CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT.

/THE SPOKESMAN .....

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT IT WAS TOO EARLY TO COMMENT ON THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE INDIVIDUAL RECOMMENDATIONS, MANY OF WHICH WERE COINED IN BROAD TERMS. IT WOULD ONLY BE POSSIBLE TO ARRIVE AT ACCURATE COSTINGS, WHICH WOULD BE ESSENTIAL, WHEN DECISIONS HAD BEEN MADE ON HOW PRECISELY THE RECOMMENDATIONS MIGHT BE IMPLEMENTED. HOWEVER, HE NOTED THAT THE CONSULTANTS' FIGURES DID NOT INCLUDE ADDITIONAL STAFF AND OTHER COSTS THAT WOULD BE INCURRED IN IMPLEMENTING A NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS. ON THE OTHER HAND, NEITHER HAD THEY TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT ANY INCREASED REVENUE FROM THE INTRODUCTION OF THE PROPOSED NEW AND INCREASED CHARGES OR SAVINGS FROM IMPROVEMENTS TO COST CONTROL PROCEDURES.

THERE WERE OBVIOUS DIFFICULTIES IN ARRIVING AT ANY ACCURATE ESTIMATE OF THE LIKELY SAVINGS TO BE DERIVED FROM THE AUTHORITY STRUCTURE. FURTHERMORE, IT APPEARED THAT VERY CONSIDERABLE UP-FRONT COSTS WOULD HAVE TO BE INCURRED BEFORE ANY SAVINGS COULD BE MADE, AND THIS IN TURN SUGGESTED THAT IT WAS UNLIKELY THAT SAVINGS OF THE ORDER INDICATED BY THE CONSULTANTS WOULD ARISE WITHIN FIVE YEARS OF THE AUTHORITY'S ESTABLISHMENT.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT WELCOMED THE REPORT. THE LAST DECADE HAD SEEN AN ENORMOUS EXPANSION OF MEDICAL SERVICES AND THIS EXPANSION WOULD CONTINUE IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

RAPID EXPANSION OF ANY SYSTEM WAS LIKELY TO CREATE ORGANISATIONAL PROBLEMS AND IT WAS AGAINST THAT BACKGROUND THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD DECIDED TO CONDUCT THE REVIEW. IN PARTICULAR IT WAS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT GREATER VALUE FOR MONEY COULD BE OBTAINED WITH BETTER INTEGRATION BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND SUBVENTED HOSPITALS AND A MORE EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE IN ALL PUBLIC HOSPITALS.

THE CONSULTANTS HAD MADE RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOW IMPROVEMENTS COULD BE MADE AND THESE CONSTITUTED A FIRM BASE ON WHICH TO FORMULATE PLANS FOR THE REORGANISATION OF THE HOSPITAL STRUCTURE. HOWEVER, THE GOVERNMENT WAS NOT YET IN A POSITION TO ENDORSE ANY SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATION IN THE REPORT. IT WAS NECESSARY FIRST TO SEEK THE VIEWS OF THE PUBLIC AND IN PARTICULAR THOSE INVOLVED IN THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM.

MANY OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS HAD FAR REACHING IMPLICATIONS. THE PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A STATUTORY AUTHORITY WITH OVERALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR HOSPITALS WOULD HAVE AN ENORMOUS IMPACT ON HONG KONG'S MEDICAL SERVICES AND WOULD HAVE TO BE DISCUSSED IN DETAIL WITH THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DELIVERY OF MEDICAL SERVICES IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR, INCLUDING STAFF ASSOCIATIONS AND THE BOARDS OF MANAGEMENT OF SUBVENTED HOSPITALS.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT EXTENSIVE CONSULTATION WOULD ALSO HAVE TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN RELATION TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH TOUCHED ON THE INTERNAL ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT COPIES OF THE ENGLISH AND CHINESE VERSIONS OF THE FULL REPORT WOULD BE WIDELY DISTRIBUTED TO ASSOCIATIONS AND ORGANISATIONS IN THE GOVERNMENT AND SUBVENTED MEDICAL SECTORS. ALL DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL ALSO RECEIVE A COPY OF THE REPORT.

COPIES OF THE EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW HAD BEEN PRINTED AS A SEPARATE DOCUMENT AND WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE THROUGH DISTRICT OFFICES AND OTHER CHANNELS. THE PUBLIC WOULD BE INVITED TO CONVEY THEIR COMMENTS ON THE REPORT TO THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE BEFORE THE END OF AUGUST.

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REVISED FARE SCALE FOR CMB  
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THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS APPROVED A REVISED FARE SCALE FOR THE CHINA MOTOR BUS COMPANY TO TAKE EFFECT ON APRIL 1, 1986. CMB'S LAST GENERAL FARE INCREASE WAS IN JANUARY 1984.

IN MONEY TERMS, 14.4 PER CENT OF THE PASSENGERS WILL HAVE TO PAY 10 CENTS MORE PER TRIP, 61.7 PER CENT 20 CENTS MORE, 17.3 PER CENT 40 CENTS MORE, 3.8 PER CENT 50 CENTS MORE AND 0.3 PER CENT WILL PAY AN ADDITIONAL FARE OF 80 CENTS. SOME 2.5 PER CENT OF PASSENGERS ARE UNAFFECTED AND WILL CONTINUE TO PAY EXISTING FARES.

FARES ON CROSS-HARBOUR TUNNEL ROUTES OPERATED JOINTLY BY CMB AND KOWLOON MOTOR BUS GENERALLY REMAIN UNCHANGED. HOWEVER, THE +AFTER TUNNEL+ SECTION FARES OF THESE SERVICES HAVE BEEN INCREASED.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THE OVERALL FARE INCREASE APPROVED WAS LESS THAN HAD BEEN REQUESTED BY CMB AND TOOK INTO ACCOUNT THE ADVICE OF THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE AS WELL AS THE RECENT AND PROJECTED REDUCTIONS IN THE COST OF FUEL OIL.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE FINANCIAL AND OTHER DATA WHICH HAD BEEN SUBMITTED BY CMB IN SUPPORT OF ITS APPLICATION FOR A FARE INCREASE HAD BEEN GIVEN VERY CLOSE SCRUTINY BY THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND THE GOVERNMENT.

HE ALSO NOTED THAT THERE HAD BEEN SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENTS IN THE STANDARD OF CMB'S SERVICES, PARTICULARLY OVER THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS WHEN THE COMPANY'S PERFORMANCE HAD BEEN CLOSELY MONITORED BY THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

THE REVISED FARE SCALE WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE ON MARCH 27 (THURSDAY).

THE EXISTING AND REVISED FARE SCALES OF CMB ARE AS FOLLOWS:-

<u>GROUP OF ROUTES</u>	<u>JOURNEY DISTANCE NOT EXCEEDING: KM</u>	<u>EXISTING FARE SCALE</u>	<u>REVISED FARE SCALE EFFECTIVE 1 APRIL 1986</u>
I URBAN	10	80¢	\$1.00
	16	\$1.00	\$1.20
II URBAN EXPRESS	7	\$1.00	\$1.20
	10	\$1.30	\$1.50
	14	\$1.50	\$1.70
III SUBURBAN	4	80¢	\$1.00
	5	\$1.00	\$1.20
	8	\$1.30	\$1.50
	13	\$1.60	\$2.00
	20	\$2.50	\$3.00
	21	\$3.00	\$3.50
IV SUBURBAN EXPRESS (VIA ABERDEEN TUNNEL)	6	\$1.30	\$1.50
	11	\$1.70	\$2.10
	16	\$2.50	\$3.00
	21	\$3.00	\$3.50
V SUBURBAN RECREATION	8	\$1.70	\$2.20
	16	\$2.70	\$3.50
VI EXPRESS COACH	10	\$2.00	\$2.50
	13	\$3.00	\$3.60
	17	\$4.00	\$4.80
VII CROSS-HARBOUR (A) URBAN	24	\$2.50	\$2.50
		(\$1.00 ON LEAVING CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL)	(\$1.20 ON LEAVING CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL)
(B) SUBURBAN AND EXPRESS (NEW ROUTE GROUP)	24	-	\$3.00
(C) RECREATION AND ALL-NIGHT SERVICES	14	\$4.00	\$4.00
	22	\$4.50	\$4.50
		(\$1.80 ON LEAVING CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL)	(\$2.00 ON LEAVING CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL)
(D) NEW TERRITORIES	20	\$4.00	\$4.00
	34	\$5.00	\$5.00
	48	\$7.00	\$7.00

ROUTE 170

DIRECTION :

TO WAH FU

- AFTER LION ROCK TUNNEL	\$4.00	\$4.00
- AFTER CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL	\$2.00	\$2.70
- AFTER ABERDEEN TUNNEL	\$1.20	\$1.20

DIRECTION :

TO SHA TIN

- AFTER ABERDEEN TUNNEL	\$4.00	\$4.00
- AFTER CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL	\$2.20	\$2.20
- AFTER KOWLOON TONG (SUFFOLK ROAD)	\$1.40	\$1.40

(E) SHA TIN RACECOURSE  
RECREATION 30

\$12.00	\$12.00
(\$4.00	(\$4.00
ON LEAVING	ON LEAVING
CROSS HARBOUR	CROSS HARBOUR
TUNNEL)	TUNNEL)

VIII ISLAND EASTERN  
CORRIDOR EXPRESS

11	\$1.80	\$1.80
16	\$2.20	\$2.20

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CMB'S OVERALL PERFORMANCE IN MAINTENANCE ASSESSED

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THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC), AT ITS MEETING TODAY (TUESDAY) CONSIDERED THE TENTH PROGRESS REPORT AND THE FINAL ASSESSMENT OF CMB'S PERFORMANCE IN IMPLEMENTING THE REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP OF THE TAC ON CMB MAINTENANCE.

MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORTS HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED TO TAC SINCE JUNE LAST YEAR TO INFORM MEMBERS OF CMB'S PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE REPORT.

IN OCTOBER 1985, TAC MEMBERS ADVISED THAT CMB'S PERFORMANCE SHOULD BE MONITORED FOR ANOTHER FIVE MONTHS.

IN THIS FINAL ASSESSMENT, MEMBERS NOTED THAT CMB HAD IMPLEMENTED MOST OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE REPORT.

THE REPORT SHOWED THAT THE BUS COMPANY HAD MADE CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS IN UPGRADING ITS MAINTENANCE STANDARDS AND IN IMPROVING THE ORGANISATION AND MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE OF ITS ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT.

IN TERMS OF FACILITIES, CMB HAD PURCHASED NEW EQUIPMENT AND TOOLS TO IMPROVE THE STANDARD OF SERVICING AND MAINTENANCE OF BUSES. FACILITIES AT EXISTING DEPOTS IN WONG CHUK HANG, CHAI WAN, NORTH POINT AND JAVA ROAD HAD BEEN UPGRADED WHILE A NEW MULTI-STOREY DEPOT HAD OPENED IN WONG CHUK HANG.

WITH REGARD TO WORKING PROCEDURES, CMB HAD STREAMLINED ITS SERVICING AND MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES TO ENABLE EARLY DETECTION OF FAULTS ON BUSES AND PROMPT RECTIFICATION OF THESE FAULTS.

BUSES WERE NOW SERVICED AT REGULAR INTERVALS OF NO MORE THAN 30 DAYS AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE QUALITY CONTROL SECTION HAD HELPED ENSURE THAT THE QUALITY OF SERVICING AND MAINTENANCE WORK DONE ON BUSES WERE UP TO STANDARD.

IN THE FIELD OF STAFF TRAINING, CMB HAD UPGRADED AND INCREASED THE THROUGHPUT OF THE TRAINING PROGRAMMES FOR ITS WORKFORCE AT ALL LEVELS. THE BUS COMPANY'S TRAINING SCHOOL AT CHAI WAN DEPOT HAD BEEN EXPANDED AND TRAINING PROGRAMMES HAD BEEN ARRANGED WITH INSTITUTIONS SUCH AS THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC AND THE INSTITUTE OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS TO HELP CMB STAFF OBTAIN PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS.

THE SAFETY STANDARD OF CMB BUSES HAD IMPROVED SIGNIFICANTLY OVER THE PAST YEAR AND WAS NOW MAINTAINED AT A LEVEL OF BELOW 0.5 SAFETY DEFECT PER BUS SPOT CHECKED. BREAKDOWN TOWED-IN CASES HAD ALSO DROPPED BY NEARLY HALF FROM 12.5 IN JANUARY 1985 TO 6.4 CASES LAST DECEMBER.

AS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF CMB'S ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, SIGNS OF IMPROVEMENT WERE OBVIOUS, ESPECIALLY AFTER THE APPOINTMENT OF THE ENGINEERING MANAGER IN MID-JANUARY THIS YEAR. YET IT WOULD BE SOME TIME BEFORE THE FULL IMPACT OF HIS APPOINTMENT WAS FELT AND BEFORE CMB COULD FULLY IMPLEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE ORGANISATION AND METHOD CONSULTANT REPORT WHICH PROVIDED THE FRAMEWORK FOR STREAMLINING AND RESTRUCTURING THE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT'S MANAGEMENT.

MOREOVER, THERE WERE INDICATIONS THAT CMB'S SENIOR MANAGEMENT WAS BECOMING MORE RESPONSIVE TO THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT'S SUGGESTIONS. THE COMPANY'S LIAISON WITH THE DEPARTMENT AT BOTH THE PLANNING AND OPERATIONAL LEVELS WAS ALSO GETTING CLOSER AND MORE CONSTRUCTIVE.

WHILE CMB'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAD PAID MORE ATTENTION ON MANAGEMENT ISSUES, THE FLOW OF INFORMATION FROM SENIOR MANAGEMENT UPWARD TO THE BOARD AND DOWNWARD TO MIDDLE MANAGEMENT STAFF HAD BECOME MORE EFFECTIVE.

THE TAC NOTED THAT THESE IMPROVEMENTS WOULD BRING LONG-TERM BENEFITS AND WAS HAPPY TO SEE WILLINGNESS ON THE PART OF CMB TO SUSTAIN THE IMPROVEMENT ACHIEVED.

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AT TODAY'S MEETING, MEMBERS WERE ALSO INFORMED OF THE PROGRESS OF THE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SYSTEM.

IN A PROGRESS REPORT PRESENTED TO THE TAC, IT WAS RECAPPED THAT CONTRACT FOR PHASE 1 OF THE PROJECT, MADE UP OF 22.5 KILOMETRES OF TRACK, WAS AWARDED IN AUGUST 1985.

WORK HAS ALREADY STARTED ON THE GROUND AND THE SYSTEM IS SCHEDULED TO START OPERATION IN AUGUST 1988.

MEMBERS WERE TOLD THAT SINCE THE SECOND PHASE OF THE SYSTEM WOULD HAVE TO TIE IN WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF TIN SHUI WAI, THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY CORPORATION WAS PLANNING TO APPOINT CONSULTANTS TO STUDY THE PROGRAMME SHORTLY.

IN VIEW OF PUBLIC INTEREST IN THE LINKING UP OF THE LRT WITH TSUEN WAN, THE CORPORATION WILL ASK THE CONSULTANTS TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF EXTENDING THE LRT TO THE METROPOLITAN AREA AND OTHER PARTS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES.

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PLANS FOR NEW HK OFFICE IN SAN FRANCISCO  
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A PROPOSAL TO STRENGTHEN HONG KONG'S REPRESENTATION IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO COUNTER THE RECENT GROWTH IN PROTECTIONIST SENTIMENTS WILL BE PUT BEFORE THE FINANCE COMMITTEE TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE PLAN INCLUDES THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW HONG KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICE IN SAN FRANCISCO, AND THE PROVISION OF AN ADDITIONAL DIRECTORATE OFFICER FOR THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICE IN WASHINGTON.

SAN FRANCISCO HAS BEEN CHOSEN AS THE LOCATION FOR THE NEW OFFICE BECAUSE IT IS THE ACCEPTED COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL CENTRE FOR THE UNITED STATES' TWO-WAY TRADE WITH THE PACIFIC RIM, HAS A RANGE OF WELL ESTABLISHED COMMERCIAL AND TRADE ORGANISATIONS, AND IS GENERALLY MORE INTERNATIONALLY ORIENTED BECAUSE OF ITS TRADITIONALLY STRONGER TIES WITH THE PACIFIC RIM.

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN OFFICE THERE WILL ENABLE A FULLER AND BETTER REPRESENTATION OF HONG KONG'S INTERESTS IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE NEW OFFICE, IF APPROVED, WILL BE HEADED BY AN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER STAFF GRADE C, WHO WILL BE SUPPORTED BY A SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER AND A PRINCIPAL INFORMATION OFFICER.

/FOR THE .....

FOR THE EXISTING HONG KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICE IN WASHINGTON, THE PLAN PROVIDES FOR AN ADDITIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER STAFF GRADE C TO TAKE ON MAJOR COMMERCIAL RELATIONS SUBJECTS SUCH AS THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN REGULATIONS, AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR HONG KONG'S COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH CANADA.

THE ADDITIONAL POST WILL ENABLE THE EXISTING COUNSELLOR FOR HONG KONG COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS IN WASHINGTON TO CONCENTRATE ON INCREASING LOBBYING ACTIVITIES AND LIAISON WITH UNITED STATES OFFICIALS TO SAFEGUARD HONG KONG'S TRADING INTERESTS.

IF THE PLAN CAN BE IMPLEMENTED BY JULY 1 THIS YEAR, IT WILL COST \$5 214 000 IN 1986-87, AND \$6 231 000 ANNUALLY THEREAFTER.

ALSO TO BE PUT TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE TOMORROW WILL BE A PROPOSAL FOR THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDS TO IMPLEMENT A SPECIAL PAY ADJUSTMENT OF ABOUT 2.7 PER CENT FOR ALL NON-DIRECTORATE CIVIL SERVANTS WITH RETROSPECTIVE EFFECT FROM JANUARY 1 THIS YEAR.

MEMBERS WILL AT THE SAME TIME BE INVITED TO APPROVE A SIMILAR ADJUSTMENT TO SCALES AND RATES FOR EMPLOYEES OF SUBVENTED ORGANISATIONS THAT ARE NORMALLY ADJUSTED IN LINE WITH CIVIL SERVICE PAY.

THE COST OF THESE PROPOSALS IS ESTIMATED TO BE IN THE REGION OF \$460 MILLION FOR A FULL YEAR. AS 15 MONTHS' PAYMENTS WILL BE REQUIRED IN 1986-87, INCLUDING RETROSPECTIVE PAYMENTS FOR THE MONTHS OF JANUARY TO MARCH 1986, THE ACTUAL COST FOR THE 86-87 FINANCIAL YEAR WILL BE UP TO ABOUT \$565 MILLION.

THIS PACKAGE OFFER IS AN INTERIM MEASURE PENDING THE OUTCOME OF A PAY LEVEL SURVEY OF COMPARABLE NON-DIRECTORATE JOBS WITHIN THE PRIVATE SECTOR WHICH WILL BE CONDUCTED IN THE COMING FINANCIAL YEAR.

OTHER ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED AT TOMORROW'S MEETING ARE:

- \* SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS FOR SPECIAL LEGAL EXPENSES FOR THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT, AND FOR CABLE AND WIRELESS SERVICES FOR RTHK;
- \* A REVISED SCALE OF FEES PAYABLE TO EXAMINERS APPOINTED BY THE AUTHORISED PERSONS' AND STRUCTURAL ENGINEER'S REGISTRATION COMMITTEE;
- \* REVISED BASIC RATES OF PRIVATE TENANCY ALLOWANCES;
- \* ANTICIPATED COSTS OF FINANCIAL CONSULTANCY SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE EASTERN HARBOUR CROSSING;
- \* AN APPLICATION FOR THE WRITE-OFF OF FEES FOR THE STORAGE IN POLICE ARMOURIES OF CERTAIN PRIVATE ARMS AND AMMUNITION

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- \* FUNDS FOR THE HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMME;
- \* A PROPOSED GRANT FROM THE LOTTERIES FUND TO THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED FOR ESTABLISHING A SHELTERED WORKSHOP IN TAI PO; AND
- \* AN EXTENSION OF THE AMBIT TO COVER ANY NET OBLIGATIONS OF THE CITY POLYTECHNIC OF HONG KONG THAT MAY ARISE FROM AN INTEREST RATE SWAP AGREEMENT IN RESPECT OF A SUM OF \$130 MILLION, WHICH IS HALF OF A COMMERCIAL LOAN FOR THE PURCHASE OF ITS TEMPORARY PREMISES AT ARGYLE CENTRE.

THE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO BE ASKED TO APPROVE VARIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ESTABLISHMENT SUB-COMMITTEE AND THE PUBLIC WORKS SUB-COMMITTEE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

COPIES OF THE AGENDA FOR TOMORROW'S MEETING, WHICH WILL BE HELD AFTER THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING, WILL BE BOXED FOR COLLECTION.

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EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES, PAYROLL SURVEY STARTS  
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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT HAS STARTED THE MARCH 1986 ROUND OF THE SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL IN MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY TO COLLECT INFORMATION ON EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL IN RESPECT OF THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1986.

THE SURVEY IS CONDUCTED QUARTERLY AND RESULTS ARE USEFUL IN PROVIDING SHORT-TERM ECONOMIC INDICATORS AS WELL AS INFORMATION ON THE STRUCTURAL CHANGES IN THE LABOUR MARKET IN HONG KONG.

THIS ROUND OF THE SURVEY COVERS ABOUT 80 000 ESTABLISHMENTS DRAWN FROM VARIOUS SECTORS INCLUDING THE DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES SECTOR (WHOLESALE, RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS), THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR (MINING AND QUARRYING; MANUFACTURING ELECTRICITY AND GAS), WITH FULL ENUMERATION OF ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE SERVICES SECTOR (TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND COMMUNICATION; FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES; COMMUNITY, SOCIAL AND PERSONAL SERVICES).

INFORMATION ON NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED AND EXISTING VACANCIES ON MARCH 27, 1986 WILL BE SOUGHT FROM EACH SAMPLE ESTABLISHMENT.

/SOME 10 000 .....

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SOME 10 000 ESTABLISHMENTS ARE RANDOMLY SELECTED FROM THIS SAMPLE TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON PAYROLL IN EACH OF THE THREE MONTHS DURING THE REFERENCE PERIOD OF JANUARY-MARCH 1986.

ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE SERVICES SECTOR WILL ALSO BE ASKED TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON THE MAJOR KIND OF BUSINESS ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS ENDING MARCH 1986.

QUESTIONNAIRES ARE BEING MAILED TO INDIVIDUAL SAMPLE ESTABLISHMENTS. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS ORDER 1982 (LEGAL NOTICE NO. 69 OF 1982, GAZETTED ON MARCH 5, 1982), ESTABLISHMENTS RECEIVING QUESTIONNAIRES ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE AND RETURN THEM TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT WITHIN THE SPECIFIED PERIOD.

RESPONDENTS WITH DIFFICULTY COMPLETING THE FORMS, SHOULD CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT FOR ASSISTANCE AT THE FOLLOWING TELEPHONE NUMBERS (PRINTED AT THE BACK OF THE QUESTIONNAIRES) : 5-436551, 5-444301, 5-455661 AND 5-455668.

AS FOR THOSE ESTABLISHMENTS KNOWN TO THIS DEPARTMENT DURING JANUARY - MARCH 1986, THEY WILL ALSO BE ENUMERATED IN ORDER TO MAKE THE SURVEY RESULTS COMPLETE. FIELD OFFICERS OF THIS DEPARTMENT, EACH BEARING A GOVERNMENT IDENTITY CARD, WILL CALL ON THESE ESTABLISHMENTS TO SOLICIT INFORMATION ON NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED, EXISTING VACANCIES, TYPES OF OWNERSHIP, NATURE OF BUSINESS AND DATE ON WHICH BUSINESS COMMENCED. IN CASE OF ANY ENQUIRIES REGARDING THESE FIELD VISITS, CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT FOR ASSISTANCE AT 5-444364.

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RABIES CASE CONFIRMED  
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A 68-YEAR OLD WOMAN WHO DIED IN PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL YESTERDAY HAS BEEN CONFIRMED AS A CASE OF RABIES, A MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE CASE HAS BEEN CLASSIFIED AS AN IMPORTED CASE SINCE THE DECEASED, MAN KAR-SHEUNG, A RESIDENT IN YUEN LONG, HAD SUSTAINED A DOG BITE ON HER LEFT HAND ABOUT A MONTH AGO DURING A VISIT TO CHINA, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

AFTER HER RETURN TO HONG KONG ON MARCH 11, SHE BEGAN TO SUFFER FROM FEVER, VOMITING AND WEAKNESS IN HER LEFT UPPER LIMB. SHE WAS TREATED BY A PRIVATE DOCTOR TWICE BUT SHOWED NO IMPROVEMENT.

ON MARCH 19, SHE WAS ADMITTED TO POK OI HOSPITAL. ON MARCH 21, AS HER CONDITION WAS DETERIORATING, SHE WAS TRANSFERRED TO PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL AS A CASE OF SUSPECTED RABIES AND DIED THREE DAYS LATER.

/A POST .....

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A POST MORTEM CONFIRMED THAT THE PATIENT HAD DIED FROM RABIES.

MEANWHILE, STAFF FROM THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT ARE TRYING TO CONTACT HER FAMILY MEMBERS TO GIVE THEM HEALTH COUNSELLING AND APPROPRIATE MEDICAL TREATMENT IF NECESSARY.

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DEATH SENTENCES COMMUTED

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THE GOVERNOR, AFTER TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE ADVICE OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, HAS DECIDED THAT THE DEATH SENTENCE PASSED ON LEUNG KAM-WAH ON OCTOBER 12, 1984 SHOULD BE COMMUTED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT.

IT WAS ALSO DECIDED THAT THE DEATH SENTENCE PASSED ON LUK SIU-KEUNG ON MAY 26, 1982 SHOULD BE COMMUTED TO 10 YEARS' IMPRISONMENT.

LEUNG WAS FOUND GUILTY OF THE MURDER OF MADAM TANG SO-FOON ON NOVEMBER 19, 1983, WHILE LUK WAS FOUND GUILTY OF THE MURDER OF MR HO SIU-KEI ON JANUARY 22, 1981.

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42 TO SPEAK AT RESUMED BUDGET DEBATE

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DEBATE ON THE 1986-87 BUDGET WILL RESUME IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AND CONTINUE ON THURSDAY, WHEN 42 UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS WILL BE SPEAKING OVER THE TWO DAYS.

A MOTION WILL ALSO BE DEALT WITH.

THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, THE HON JOHN CHAMBERS, WILL MOVE A MOTION UNDER THE INTERPRETATION AND GENERAL CLAUSES ORDINANCE FOR THE TRANSFER FROM APRIL 1, OF CERTAIN FUNCTIONS EXERCISABLE BY A NUMBER OF OFFICERS, FOLLOWING THE RE-ORGANISATION NECESSARY WITH THE SET-UP OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT ON THE SAME DATE.

/UNOFFICIALS .....

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UNOFFICIALS SPEAKING TOMORROW WILL BE THE HON LYDIA DUNN, THE HON WONG PO-YAN, THE HON ALLEN LEE, THE HON STEPHEN CHEONG, THE HON PETER POON, THE HON KIM CHAM, THE HON JACKIE CHAN, THE HON CHENG HON-KWAN, THE HON LAU WONG-FAT, THE HON DAVID LI KWOK-PO, THE HON NGAI SHIU-KIT, THE HON POON CHI-FAI, THE HON HILTON CHEONG-LEEN, THE HON THOMAS CLYDESDALE, THE HON RICHARD LAI, THE HON PANG CHUN-HOI, PROF THE HON POON CHUNG-KWONG, THE HON HELMUT SOHMEN, THE HON TAM YIU-CHUNG, THE HON PETER C. WONG, THE HON YEUNG PO-KWAN AND THE HON MARTIN LEE.

SPEAKING ON THURSDAY WILL BE DR THE HON HO KAM-FAI, THE HON RITA FAN, THE HON PAULINE NG, THE HON SZETO WAH, DR THE HON DANIEL TSE CHI-WAI, THE HON MARIA TAM, DR THE HON HENRIETTA IP, DR THE HON CHIU HIN-KWONG, DR THE HON CONRAD LAM, THE HON TAI CHIN-WAH, THE HON F.K. HU, THE HON S.L. CHEN, THE HON SELINA CHOW, THE HON CHAN YING-LUN, THE HON HUI YIN-FAT, THE HON LIU LIT-FOR, THE HON ROSANNA TAM, THE HON CHEUNG YAN-LUNG, THE HON K.C. CHAN AND THE HON LEE YU-TAI.

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REVISED ARRANGEMENTS FOR WELFARE SUBVENTIONS  
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THE SOCIAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SWAC) ENDORSED AT A MEETING TODAY (TUESDAY) A PROPOSAL TO REVISE THE ALLOCATION OF SUBVENTION TO SERVICES ON STANDARD COST SYSTEM IN ORDER TO REDUCE FURTHER ACCUMULATION OF SURPLUSES.

THIS IS AN INTERIM MEASURE PENDING A REVIEW OF THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF THE STANDARD COST APPROACH AND CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS.

UNDER THE REVISED SYSTEM, PROVISIONS FOR PERSONAL EMOLUMENTS WILL STILL BE ASSESSED ON THE BASIS OF MID-POINT SALARIES OF A NOTIONAL STAFF ESTABLISHMENT, BUT THE ALLOCATION WILL BE DIVIDED INTO +UNCONDITIONAL+ AND +CONDITIONAL+ PORTIONS.

THE +UNCONDITIONAL+ PORTION WILL BE RELEASED AUTOMATICALLY ON A QUARTERLY BASIS, AND IF THIS IS INSUFFICIENT TO MEET A SERVICE UNIT'S ACTUAL REQUIREMENTS IN 1986-87, FURTHER RELEASES WILL BE MADE FROM THE +CONDITIONAL+ PORTION UPON APPLICATION.

THE SUBVENTED WELFARE SECTOR WILL BE CONSULTED ON THE REVISED ARRANGEMENTS THROUGH THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE.

THE MEETING ALSO ENDORSED A PROPOSAL TO RE-INSTA TE THE STANDARD COST SYSTEM FOR OUTREACHING SOCIAL WORK.

/AT PRESENT .....

AT PRESENT THE STANDARD COST SYSTEM IS IMPLEMENTED IN SEVEN SERVICES, NAMELY SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK, FAMILY CASEWORK, SMALL GROUP HOMES, FOSTER CARE, NEIGHBOURHOOD LEVEL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS, FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION AND POOL BUS FOR THE ELDERLY.

IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT SURPLUSES ACCUMULATED IN AGENCIES' ACCOUNTS IN 1983-84 AND 1984-85 WERE ESTIMATED TO BE \$17.5 MILLION, SWAC ENDORSED A PROPOSAL THAT SUCH SURPLUSES SHOULD BE RECOVERED FROM AGENCIES' RESERVE ACCOUNTS AS SOON AS THEY CAN BE IDENTIFIED.

THE RECOVERED FUNDS WOULD BE SPENT ON APPROVED SOCIAL WELFARE PURPOSES.

THE MEETING ALSO ADVISED THAT THE INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION SERVICE PROVIDED BY THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SERVICE (ISS) BE UPGRADED FROM CATEGORY II TO CATEGORY I. SUBVENTION WILL BE PROVIDED TO MEET 100 PER CENT OF THE RECOGNISED COSTS.

IN 1984-85 THE NUMBER OF WARDS OF THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE ADOPTED OVERSEAS WAS 54, FOR WHOM LOCAL ADOPTION COULD NOT BE ARRANGED.

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CERTIFICATE OF ACCREDITATION PRESENTED  
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AS CONSUMERS BECOME MORE QUALITY-CONSCIOUS AND MORE READY TO TAKE ACTION FOR PRODUCT LIABILITY AGAINST DEFICIENT GOODS, A TREND TO MOVE UP-MARKET IS INEVITABLE, THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR K.Y. YEUNG, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

MR YEUNG MADE THIS REMARK AT A CEREMONY WHEN A CERTIFICATE OF ACCREDITATION WAS PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNMENT LABORATORY -- THE FIRST RECIPIENT OF THE CERTIFICATE UNDER THE HONG KONG LABORATORY ACCREDITATION SCHEME (HOKLAS).

HE SAID INCREASING EMPHASIS WAS NOW BEING PLACED ON QUALITY AND ON TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE WITHIN MANY INDUSTRIES.

+THE LAST DECADE HAS WITNESSED THE EMERGENCE OF QUALITY CERTIFICATION SERVICES AND FOLLOWING THIS INTERNATIONAL TREND, THE HONG KONG LABORATORY ACCREDITATION SCHEME WAS LAUNCHED IN MAY 1985.

+HOKLAS CONFERS GOVERNMENT RECOGNITION ON COMPETENT LABORATORIES AND AIMS AT UPGRADING THE QUALITY OF THEIR TESTING SERVICES,+ HE SAID.

+AS HOKLAS IS INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNISED, PRODUCTS TESTED BY HOKLAS-ACCREDITED LABORATORIES WILL GENERATE CONFIDENCE THAT THEY HAVE BEEN TESTED TO INTERNATIONALLY TRACEABLE STANDARDS.

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+SINCE OUR ECONOMIC LIVELIHOOD IS DEPENDENT ON EXPORT EARNINGS, WE HAVE QUITE NATURALLY GIVEN PRIORITY TO THOSE TESTING SERVICES WHICH SUPPORT MANUFACTURING EXPORTERS.+

MR YEUNG EXPLAINED THAT THE GOVERNMENT LABORATORY WAS THE BUILDING CASE IN POINT, AS MUCH OF ITS WORK WAS IN SUPPORT OF A LARGE VARIETY OF FOOD AND OTHER PRODUCTS MUCH OF WHICH WAS EXPORTED.

+IN TIME, HOKLAS WILL ALSO CONSIDER SERVING THE NON-EXPORT ORIENTED SECTOR OF OUR MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES,+ HE ADDED.

AT TODAY'S CEREMONY, THE GOVERNMENT CHEMIST, MR N. S. LEE, ALSO STRONGLY RECOMMENDED HOKLAS TO OTHER LABORATORY MANAGERS.

+WE HAVE BENEFITTED IN NO SMALL MEASURE FROM THE MANY EXCHANGES OF EXPERIENCE AND IDEAS ON LABORATORY MANAGEMENT OCCASIONED THROUGHOUT THE EXERCISE,+ SAID MR LEE.

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**APLIU STREET BUILDING DECLARED DANGEROUS**  
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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY TODAY (TUESDAY) DECLARED THE BUILDING AT NO. 171 APLIU STREET TO BE DANGEROUS AND THAT AT NO. 169 LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS.

IN A STATEMENT THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING SURVEYOR SAID THEY WERE THREE-STOURED PRE-WAR BUILDINGS WITH REINFORCED CONCRETE FLOORS AND ROOFS ON BRICK-AND-STONE RUBBLE LOAD BEARING WALLS.

THE SPALLED PLASTERING REVEALED VERY WEAK CEMENT MORTAR JOINTS. THERE WAS A DIAGONAL CRACK, SIX TO SEVEN MILLIMETRES WIDE, AT THE PARTY WALL BETWEEN NOS. 169 AND 171 AND THERE WERE SEVERAL CRACKS ON THE VERANDAH FLOORS AT FIRST AND SECOND FLOORS.

THE GENERAL DILAPIDATED STATE OF THE BUILDING AND THE BREAKING OF THE VERANDAH FROM THE MAIN BUILDING GAVE SUFFICIENT JUSTIFICATION FOR CLOSING AND DECLARING NO. 171 AS BEING DANGEROUS.

THE OTHER BUILDING, WHICH IS OF SIMILAR CONSTRUCTION AND CONDITION, IS UNLIKELY TO WITHSTAND THE EFFECT OF DEMOLITION OF NO. 171. THEREFORE IT WAS CONSIDERED TO BE LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS AND HAD TO BE CLOSED AND DEMOLISHED IN ONE OPERATION WITH NO. 171.

NOTICES OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR CLOSURE ORDERS IN KOWLOON DISTRICT COURT AT 9.30 AM ON APRIL 22 WERE POSTED TODAY.

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CLOSURE OF ILLEGAL ROOFTOP STRUCTURES  
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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS SEEKING THE CLOSURE OF A NUMBER OF ILLEGAL STRUCTURES ON THE ROOF OF A BUILDING AT 224-238 JAFFE ROAD, WAN CHAI, SO THAT THEY CAN BE DEMOLISHED.

THIS FOLLOWS THE OWNERS FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH ORDERS ISSUED UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE IN DECEMBER 1984 REQUIRING THE DEMOLITION OF THE STRUCTURES.

A NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER IN THE VICTORIA DISTRICT COURT AT 9.30 AM ON MAY 20 WAS POSTED ON THE STRUCTURES TODAY (TUESDAY).

DEMOLITION WORK WILL BE CARRIED OUT IMMEDIATELY THE CLOSURE ORDER IS OBTAINED.

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WAN CHAI BANQUET FOR ELDERLY, HANDICAPPED  
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MORE THAN 200 ELDERLY RESIDENTS AND HANDICAPPED PEOPLE OF WAN CHAI ATTENDED A BANQUET THIS (TUESDAY) EVENING ORGANISED BY THE HAPPY VALLEY AND CANAL ROAD KAIFONG ASSOCIATION.

SPEAKING AT THE BANQUET, WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ROGER GARCIA, SAID THE ELDERLY AND THE HANDICAPPED COULD MAKE VALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SOCIETY THE SAME WAY OTHER MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC DO.

HE PRAISED THE ASSOCIATION FOR SHOWING ITS CONCERN FOR THE WAN CHAI COMMUNITY AND HELPING TO CULTIVATE A SENSE OF BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.

WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER, MR LEE KON, WHO IS ALSO A PRESIDENT OF THE KAIFONG ASSOCIATION SAID THE ASSOCIATION'S AIM WAS TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY, AND THEY WERE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THE WELFARE OF THE ELDERLIES AND THE UNDER-PRIVILEGED.

THE PARTICIPANTS AT THE BANQUET WERE ENTERTAINED WITH CANTONESE OPERATIC SINGING.

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OVERSEAS TRAINING CHANCE FOR YOUNG MUSICIAN  
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A TALENTED YOUNG STRING INSTRUMENTALIST WILL HAVE THE CHANCE TO RECEIVE INTENSIVE TRAINING IN SYMPHONIC MUSIC BY BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE WORLD YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA IN THE 1986 NATIONAL MUSIC CAMP TO BE HELD IN INTERLOCHEN, MICHIGAN, THE UNITED STATES, FROM JUNE 22 TO AUGUST 18.

THE MUSIC OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES BRANCH IS INVITING MUSICIANS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 14 AND 18 (BY JUNE 22, 1986) TO APPLY FOR THIS RARE OPPORTUNITY TO RECEIVE OVERSEAS TRAINING.

A MUSIC OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID APPLICANTS MUST HAVE RESIDED IN HONG KONG FOR NOT LESS THAN THREE YEARS, AND HAD ATTAINED GRADE VIII (PRACTICAL) IN THE ROYAL SCHOOLS OF MUSIC EXAMINATION OR EQUIVALENT.

PREFERENCE WOULD BE GIVEN TO THOSE WITH ORCHESTRAL EXPERIENCE AND APPLICANTS WOULD ALSO HAVE TO PASS AN AUDITION BY THE MUSIC OFFICE TOWARDS THE END OF APRIL.

THE MUSIC OFFICE WOULD PROVIDE THE SUCCESSFUL APPLICANT WITH ROUND TRIP PASSAGE AND INSURANCE FOR HIS OR HER MUSICAL INSTRUMENT WITH FUNDS FROM THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB MUSIC FUND.

FEES FOR THE NATIONAL MUSIC CAMP WOULD BE MET BY THE CAMP ORGANISER, BUT THE CANDIDATE WOULD HAVE TO PAY FOR HIS OR HER PERSONAL INSURANCE ABROAD, AND TO PLACE A SUM OF U.S. \$190 IN THE CANDIDATE'S PERSONAL ACCOUNT WITH THE NATIONAL MUSIC CAMP TO MEET PERSONAL EXPENSES.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE OBTAINABLE AT ALL MUSIC CENTRES OF THE MUSIC OFFICE, AND SHOULD BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED TO THE SHA TIN MUSIC CENTRE, LEVEL 4, KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN STATION, BY APRIL 15.

THE FINAL DECISION RESTS WITH THE MUSIC OFFICE.

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NEW DISTRICT YOUTH CHOIR FORMED  
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A YOUTH CHOIR WILL BE INAUGURATED IN SHAM SHUI PO NEXT MONTH TO PROVIDE YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE DISTRICT WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO GAIN FORMAL TRAINING IN CHORAL MUSIC.

AT A CEREMONY THIS (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON, MR TONG KWOK-WAH OF THE CHINESE TEMPLE COMMITTEE, THE EXECUTIVE ARM OF THE GENERAL CHINESE CHARITY FUND, HANDED A CHEQUE FOR \$25 000 TO MR KWOK CHEONG, CHARIMAN OF THE SHAM SHUI PO ARTS ASSOCIATION, AS SPONSORSHIP FOR THE CHOIR.

/FORMED UNDER .....

FORMED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE ARTS ASSOCIATION, THE YOUTH CHOIR AIMS AT FOSTERING A MUSICAL INTEREST AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE, DEVELOPING SINGING POTENTIAL AND OFFERING THEM OPPORTUNITIES TO PERFORM PUBLICLY.

MR KWOK SAID THE IDEA OF A YOUTH CHOIR STEMMED FROM THE SUCCESS OF THE SHAM SHUI PO CHILDREN'S CHOIR.

+SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 1981, THE CHILDREN'S CHOIR HAS BECOME ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS IN THE DISTRICT. IN VIEW OF THIS, THE ASSOCIATION SUGGESTED ORGANISING A YOUTH CHOIR TO INCLUDE A WIDER AGE GROUP,+ MR KWOK SAID.

YOUNG PEOPLE AGED OVER 16, WHO LIVE, WORK OR STUDY IN SHAM SHUI PO CAN APPLY TO JOIN THE CHOIR. THE ENTRANCE FEE IS \$30, WITH A MONTHLY SUBSCRIPTION OF \$20.

UPON ENROLMENT, CHOIR MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE WEEKLY TWO HOURS OF VOCAL TRAINING AT 7.30 PM ON FRIDAYS AT THE CHEUNG SHA WAN COMMUNITY CENTRE.

DR LI CHAU-YUAN, A LOCAL COMPOSER AND A LECTURER AT NORTHCOTE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, HAS BEEN APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF THE CHOIR AND WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR TRAINING AND CONDUCTING THE SINGERS.

APPLICATION FORMS FOR THE YOUTH CHOIR ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE AND SUB-OFFICES, AND THE SHAM SHUI PO ARTS ASSOCIATION AT S14 AT LAI FU HOUSE IN LAI KOK ESTATE.

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FREE CONCERTS BY AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR  
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THE KENAI CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL CONCERT CHOIR FROM ALASKA WILL GIVE FREE CONCERTS IN THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL AT 8 PM ON APRIL 7 AND IN THE TAI PO CIVIC CENTRE AT 7.30 PM THE FOLLOWING DAY.

SECOND-PRIZE WINNER AT THE TULIP TIME INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL IN HOLLAND IN 1980, THE CHOIR WILL SING HANDEL'S +MESSIAH+, MOZART'S +REQUIEM MASS+ AND A NUMBER OF AMERICAN FOLK SONGS.

FREE ADMISSION TICKETS CAN BE OBTAINED AT THE TWO VENUES ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

THE CONCERTS ARE BEING PRESENTED BY THE NEW REGIONAL COUNCIL.

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TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 1986

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LAUNCHING OF TREE PLANTING SCHEME  
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THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR. LAWRENCE LEE, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 1986 COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING SCHEME IN TAI MO SHAN COUNTRY PARK AT 10.30 AM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

DR. LEE WILL THEN LEAD A PARTY OF DISTINGUISHED GUESTS AND 1 500 STUDENTS AND YOUTHS TO PLANT THE FIRST TREES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CEREMONY. TRANSPORT FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WILL LEAVE AFD HEADQUARTERS, CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 393, CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON, BY 9.40 AM.

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ROUTE FIVE CONTRACT SIGNING  
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A PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON THE 21ST FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, AT 11 AM ON THURSDAY (MARCH 27) TO ANNOUNCE THE CONTRACT SIGNING FOR ROUTE FIVE LINKING SHA TIN TO TSUEN WAN.

THIS IS A MAJOR TUNNELLING AND HIGHWAYS PROJECT THAT WILL REDUCE TRAVELLING TIME BETWEEN THE TWO NEW TOWNS.

THE CONTRACT WILL BE SIGNED BY THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT HIGHWAYS ENGINEER, MR HAROLD BEATON, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONTRACTORS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

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TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 1986

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DETAILS OF LAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
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THE DIRECTOR OF LANDS, MR JOHN TODD, WILL ANNOUNCE DETAILS OF THE FORMATION OF THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) MORNING.

IT WILL BE HELD AT THE GIS PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM, FIFTH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, AT 11 AM.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

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CENTRAL, WESTERN TRAFFIC CHANGES  
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A NUMBER OF TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN CENTRAL TO FACILITATE ROAD WORKS:

- \* FROM 8 AM ON FRIDAY (MARCH 28), VEHICLES EXCEEDING 5.5 TONNES GROSS ON QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ENTER MORRISON STREET FOR ABOUT FOUR DAYS. AFFECTED VEHICLES WILL BE DIVERTED TO QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL AND JERVOIS STREET TO REJOIN MORRISON STREET.
- \* THE SLIP ROAD FROM COTTON TREE DRIVE TO GARDEN ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC BETWEEN 7 PM ON THURSDAY (MARCH 27) AND 6 AM THE NEXT MORNING. AFFECTED VEHICLES WILL BE DIVERTED TO KENNEDY ROAD TO REJOIN GARDEN ROAD. THE MEASURE WILL BE REPEATED DAILY FROM 7 PM TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY ON MARCH 28 AND MARCH 30.
- \* VEHICLES EXCEEDING 5.5 TONNES GROSS ON GARDEN ROAD WILL BE BANNED FROM ENTERING LOWER ALBERT ROAD BETWEEN 10 PM ON MONDAY (MARCH 31) AND 6 AM THE NEXT MORNING. AFFECTED VEHICLES WILL HAVE TO TRAVEL VIA UPPER ALBERT ROAD, ARBUTHNOT ROAD AND WYNDHAM STREET TO REJOIN LOWER ALBERT ROAD. THE RESTRICTION WILL BE IN FORCE AGAIN DAILY BETWEEN 10 PM AND 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY ON APRIL 1 AND APRIL 2.
- \* THE SLIP ROAD FROM GARDEN ROAD TO COTTON TREE DRIVE WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC BETWEEN 8 PM ON APRIL 3 AND 6 AM THE NEXT MORNING. AFFECTED VEHICLES WILL HAVE TO USE THE SLIP ROAD ADJOINING THE PEAK TRAM TERMINUS TO REJOIN COTTON TREE DRIVE.

/IN ADDITION, .....

TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 1986

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IN ADDITION, FROM 9 AM ON FRIDAY (MARCH 28) TO 7 AM THE NEXT DAY, EDINBURGH PLACE NORTH BETWEEN QUEEN'S PIER AND HMS TAMAR WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC IN CONNECTION WITH THE EASTER FAIR ORGANISED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF ROUND TABLES IN HONG KONG.

FROM 7 AM ON FRIDAY (MARCH 28), THE WESTBOUND KERBSIDE LANE OF CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST FROM A POINT ABOUT 57 METRES WEST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH MORRISON STREET TO A POINT ABOUT 110 METRES WEST OF THE SAME JUNCTION WILL BE MADE A DAILY URBAN CLEARWAY BETWEEN 7 AM AND 7 PM FOR ABOUT ONE WEEK.

NO VEHICLES OTHER THAN FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP WITHIN THE RESTRICTED ZONE FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS.

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TUEN MUN TRAFFIC CHANGES  
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YAN OI TONG STREET IN TUEN MUN WILL BE CONVERTED FROM THE EXISTING ONE-WAY CLOCKWISE TRAFFIC TO ONE-WAY ANTI-CLOCKWISE FROM 11 AM ON THURSDAY (MARCH 27) FOLLOWING THE OPENING OF BOTH CARRIAGEWAYS OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD BETWEEN ROAD D1 AND ROAD 4B.

THE PUBLIC LIGHT BUS STAND IN YAN OI TONG STREET WILL BE RELOCATED TO THE SIDE STREET OPPOSITE TO THE EXISTING STAND.

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KWUN TONG, TSUEN WAN TRAFFIC CHANGES  
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A SECTION OF THE UNNAMED ROAD LINKING HOW MING STREET AND HOI BUN ROAD IN KWUN TONG, FROM A POINT ABOUT 68 METRES WEST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH HOW MING STREET TO A POINT ABOUT 138 METRES WEST OF THE SAME JUNCTION, IS NOW CLOSED TO TRAFFIC TO FACILITATE EMERGENCY ROAD REPAIR WORKS.

THE OTHER SECTIONS OF THE UNNAMED ROAD ARE REROUTED FROM ONE-WAY WESTBOUND TO TWO-WAY TRAFFIC.

THE MEASURE WILL LAST FOR ABOUT THREE WEEKS.

IN ANOTHER ARRANGEMENT, THE KOWLOON-BOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF TSUEN WAN ROAD, BETWEEN THE ROUNDABOUT AT TEXACO ROAD AND KWAI TSING ROUNDABOUT, WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 12.15 AM TO 5 AM ON MARCH 28 AND 29 TO FACILITATE THE RELOCATION OF A TRAFFIC SIGN.

TRAFFIC ON TSUEN WAN ROAD HEADING FOR KOWLOON AND KWAI CHUNG WILL BE DIVERTED VIA THE ROUNDABOUT AT TEXACO ROAD, TEXACO ROAD, TEXACO ROAD INTERCHANGE, CASTLE PEAK ROAD AND KWAI CHUNG ROAD.

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