



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 1974

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DAILY GUIDE TO WHOLESALE PRICES AND SUPPLY OF BASIC FOOD
COMMODITIES

FRIEDAY, JULY 21, 1974

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STIFF PENALTIES FOR DRUG OFFENDERS
NEW BILLS PROPOSE \$1 MILLION FINES AND CANING
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MAXIMUM FINES OF \$1 MILLION FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING AND CORPORAL PUNISHMENT FOR THOSE CONVICTED OF DRUG OFFENCES COMMITTED FOR PROFIT, THESE ARE THE PROPOSALS IN DRAFT LEGISLATION PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY.

THE LEGISLATION, THE DANGEROUS DRUGS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1974 AND THE CORPORAL PUNISHMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL 1974, RESULT FROM THE PUBLICATION OF THE WHITE PAPER 'THE PROBLEM OF DANGEROUS DRUGS IN HONG KONG' IN MARCH THIS YEAR.

IT INCLUDES AN AMENDMENT TO CLOSE A PRESENT LOOPHOLE IN LEGISLATION CONCERNING THE PREPARATION OF DANGEROUS DRUGS. IT CREATES THE OFFENCE OF OFFERING TO DO, OR DOING ANY ACT IN PREPARATION TO THE MANUFACTURE OF A DANGEROUS DRUG.

ALL THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO COMBAT THE ILLICIT DRUG TRADE IN HONG KONG HAVE THE SUPPORT OF THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS (ACAN).

THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE DANGEROUS DRUGS ORDINANCE (CHAPTER 134) ARE :-

- * IN SECTION 4, THE MAXIMUM PENALTY FOR TRAFFICKING IN A DANGEROUS DRUG IS RAISED ON INDICTMENT FROM LIFE IMPRISONMENT AND \$100,000 TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT AND \$1 MILLION, AND ON SUMMARY CONVICTION FROM THREE YEARS AND \$50,000 TO THREE YEARS AND \$500,000.
- * THE MAXIMUM PENALTY FOR MANUFACTURING A DANGEROUS DRUG IN SECTION 6 IS INCREASED FROM LIFE IMPRISONMENT AND \$100,000 TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT AND \$1 MILLION. ALL CASES ARE TRIED ON INDICTMENT.
- * THE MAXIMUM PENALTIES IN SECTION 7, POSSESSION OF A DANGEROUS DRUG FOR THE PURPOSE OF TRAFFICKING, ARE RAISED ON INDICTMENT FROM LIFE IMPRISONMENT AND \$100,000 TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT AND \$1 MILLION, AND ON SUMMARY CONVICTION FROM THREE YEARS AND \$50,000 TO THREE YEARS AND \$500,000.
- * THE MAXIMUM PENALTIES IN SECTION 35 FOR KEEPING A DIVAN ARE RAISED FROM 15 YEARS AND \$100,000 ON INDICTMENT TO 15 YEARS AND \$1 MILLION, AND ON SUMMARY CONVICTION FROM THREE YEARS AND \$10,000 TO THREE YEARS AND \$500,000.
- * IN SECTION 37, WILFULLY PERMITTING A PREMISES TO BE USED AS A DIVAN, OR FOR UNLAWFUL TRAFFICKING IN, OR FOR THE UNLAWFUL MANUFACTURE OR STORAGE OF A DANGEROUS DRUG, THE MAXIMUM PENALTY ON INDICTMENT IS INCREASED FROM 10 YEARS AND \$50,000 TO 15 YEARS AND \$1 MILLION, AND ON SUMMARY CONVICTION FROM THREE YEARS AND \$10,000 TO THREE YEARS AND \$500,000.

/s/ IN SECTION

- * IN SECTION 38(4) THE FINE IS INCREASED FROM \$10,000 TO \$500,000. THIS REFERS TO A PERSON OR COMPANY IN CONTROL OF A PREMISES WHO OR WHICH, HAVING BEEN NOTIFIED IN WRITING THAT THEY HAVE BEEN USED IN RESPECT OF AN OFFENCE UNDER SECTIONS 4, 6, 7, 35 OR 37 OF THE ORDINANCE, KNOWINGLY PERMITS THEM TO BE USED FOR ANY OF THESE OFFENCES AGAIN WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF RECEIVING THE NOTICE.
- * SECTION 6 IS AMENDED BY CREATING THE OFFENCE OF OFFERING TO DO, OR DOING ANY ACT PREPARATORY TO OR FOR THE PURPOSE OF MANUFACTURING A DANGEROUS DRUG.

UNDER THE CORPORAL PUNISHMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL 1974 MALE PERSONS CONVICTED OF THE MAJOR DRUG OFFENCES WHICH ARE GENERALLY COMMITTED FOR PROFIT WILL BECOME SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE CORPORAL PUNISHMENT ORDINANCE.

THE BILL ALSO AUTHORIZES THE CORPORAL PUNISHMENT OF MALE PERSONS WHO, WHILE IN THE CUSTODY OF THE COMMISSIONER OF PRISONS, ARE GUILTY OF POSSESSING, OR SMOKING, INHALING, INGESTING OR INJECTING, A DANGEROUS DRUG, OR OF POSSESSING PARAPHERNALIA FOR THE PURPOSE OF DOING SO.

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TONG MI ROAD BEING EXTENDED

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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IS CONSTRUCTING AN EXTENSION OF TONG MI ROAD ON THE RECLAMATION ALONG THE WATERFRONT ADJACENT TO THE YAU HA TEI-TYPHOON ANCHORAGE TO CONNECT THE PRESENT TONG MI ROAD WITH FERRY STREET.

THIS ROAD, TOGETHER WITH OTHER ELEVATED ROADS NOW UNDER PLANNING, FORMS THE WEST KOWLOON CORRIDOR SCHEME AND WILL CONSTITUTE AN ARTERIAL ROUTE IN WEST KOWLOON TO INTER-CONNECT THIS AREA WITH KWAI CHUNG AND TSUEN WAN TO THE NORTH.

THE ROAD WILL RUN PARALLEL TO NATHAN ROAD AND WILL HELP TO DISTRIBUTE TRAFFIC FROM THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL TO AREAS IN WEST KOWLOON AND THUS EASE THE PRESENT TRAFFIC CONGESTION IN THIS AREA. IT WILL ALSO SERVE AS A RELIEF ROUTE WHEN THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION ALONG NATHAN ROAD.

A VITAL LINK TO CATER FOR THE EAST AND WEST TRAFFIC MOVEMENT BETWEEN HONGKOK AND TAI KOK TSUI AND ALSO TO SERVE AS A DIRECT CONNECTION TO TONG MI ROAD EXTENSION WILL BE PROVIDED BY MAKING ARGYLE STREET A THROUGH ROAD BETWEEN SHANCHUN STREET AND TONG MI ROAD.

TO IMPLEMENT THE PROJECT, THE SECTION OF SHANCHUN STREET NORTH OF ARGYLE STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC.

A NOTICE PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE CALLS ON ANYONE OBJECTING TO THE PROPOSED EXTENSION OF ARGYLE STREET AND THE CLOSURE OF PART OF SHANCHUN STREET TO WRITE TO THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS BEFORE JULY 21, 1974. ANY CLAIMS FOR COMPENSATION MUST BE MADE BY AUGUST 21, 1974.

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REPORT ON CIGARETTE SMOKING PUBLISHED
PUBLIC INVITED TO GIVE THEIR VIEWS
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A SPECIAL COMMITTEE SET UP TO ADVISE THE GOVERNMENT ON CERTAIN ASPECTS OF CIGARETTE SMOKING HAS MADE A NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH COULD HAVE FAR REACHING IMPLICATIONS ON THE FUTURE OF CIGARETTE SMOKING IN HONG KONG.

IN A 26-PAGE REPORT PUBLISHED TODAY, THE COMMITTEE TAKES A FIRM STAND ON SMOKING AND SAYS THAT +UNLESS STEPS ARE TAKEN TO DRAW PUBLIC ATTENTION TO THE RISKS INVOLVED, THE NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM LUNG CANCER MUST BE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE TO INCREASE.+

THE REPORT, WHICH HAS NOT BEEN ADOPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT, IS BEING PUBLISHED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.

THE COMMITTEE SAYS IT VIEWS THE RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH CIGARETTE SMOKING AS A SERIOUS MATTER OF COMMUNITY HEALTH AND +ONE IN WHICH IT IS THE GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO GIVE A CLEAR LEAD+.

HOWEVER, IT SAYS THAT WHILE THE INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO CONTROL SMOKING IS NOT CONTEMPLATED AT THIS STAGE, IT MAY BE AT SOME LATER DATE.

THE RIGHT APPROACH, IT SAYS, IS TO SEEK TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC TO UNDERSTAND AND APPRECIATE THE DANGERS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SMOKING HABIT.

NEVERTHELESS AMONG THE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS ARE :-

- * THE PRINTING OF HEALTH WARNINGS ON CIGARETTE PACKETS, WITH CIGARETTE ADVERTISEMENTS DRAWING ATTENTION TO THIS FACT=
- * THE FURTHER STUDY OF A CANADIAN REPORT ON THE PHASED WITHDRAWAL OF ALL CIGARETTE PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES WITH THE AIM OF INTRODUCING SIMILAR COMPREHENSIVE AND PROGRESSIVE RESTRAINTS IN HONG KONG.
- * THEATRE AND CINEMA OWNERS SHOULD ENCOURAGE PATRONS TO OBSERVE VOLUNTARY RESTRAINTS ON SMOKING, BUT IF THIS IS NOT SUCCESSFUL CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO THE IMPOSITION OF MANDATORY MEASURES= AND
- * THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SPECIAL BOARD TO OVERSEE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MEASURES PROPOSED IN THE REPORT.

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ON THE QUESTION OF ADVERTISING, THE COMMITTEE FEELS THAT VERY LARGE SUMS OF MONEY ARE BEING SPENT ON CIGARETTE ADVERTISING +WHICH EMPLOYED THE MOST SUBTLE FORMS OF PERSUASION AND APPEAL.+

IN THE COMMITTEE'S VIEW A SERIOUS DANGER LAY IN YOUNG PEOPLE IDENTIFYING THEMSELVES WITH GLAMOUR ASSOCIATED WITH SMOKING AND IN THIS WAY +ENCOURAGING THEM TO EXPERIMENT AND TO DEVELOP THE SMOKING HABIT BEFORE THEY ARE ABLE TO APPRECIATE THE RISKS INVOLVED.+

ALTHOUGH THE REPORT SAYS THERE IS LITTLE EVIDENCE OF SIGNIFICANT NUMBERS OF CHILDREN WHO SMOKE, THE COMMITTEE WAS ADVISED THAT CHILDREN BEGIN TO EXPERIMENT WITH CIGARETTES IN THE UPPER CLASSES OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND THE LOWER FORMS IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

BECAUSE OF THIS, IT SAYS, THE MAJOR EFFORT SHOULD BE DIRECTED AT CHILDREN IN THIS AGE GROUP.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT THE ATTENTION OF ALL PRIMARY SCHOOLS SHOULD BE DRAWN TO THE TOPIC +TOBACCO SMOKING+ IN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S SUGGESTED HEALTH EDUCATION SYLLABUS FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS, WHILE ALL SECONDARY SCHOOLS SHOULD INCLUDE IN THEIR TEACHING SYLLABUS APPROPRIATE AND ADEQUATE EDUCATION ON THE FACTS AVAILABLE AND THE DANGERS INVOLVED.

THE COMMITTEE ACCEPTS THAT RESTRAINTS ARE IMPOSED ON CIGARETTE ADVERTISING ON TELEVISION DURING CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES, BUT IT FEELS THAT FURTHER RESTRAINTS AND A MORE +RIGOROUS CONTROL SYSTEM+ ARE NEEDED TO AVOID INFLUENCING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE.

THE COMMITTEE NOTED +WITH INTEREST+ A CANADIAN CIGARETTE ADVERTISING CODE UNDER WHICH ALL CIGARETTE PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES WOULD HAVE BEEN ELIMINATED OVER A PERIOD OF FOUR YEARS. IT RECOMMENDS THAT THIS CODE SHOULD BE EXAMINED FURTHER AT AN EARLY DATE +WITH THE AIM OF INTRODUCING SIMILAR COMPREHENSIVE AND PROGRESSIVE RESTRAINTS IN HONG KONG ON AN APPROPRIATE TIME SCALE.+

IT SAYS THAT SUCH A SCHEME MIGHT BE DEVELOPED ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS THROUGH DISCUSSION WITH THE TOBACCO AND ADVERTISING INDUSTRIES, BUT RECOMMENDS THAT LEGISLATION SHOULD BE INTRODUCED IF NECESSARY.

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TURNING TO SMOKING IN PUBLIC PLACES, THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT AS AN INITIAL STEP, THE OWNERS OF THEATRES AND CINEMAS SHOULD ENCOURAGE PATRONS TO OBSERVE VOLUNTARY RESTRAINTS. SUCH A SCHEME WOULD INCLUDE POSTING NOTICES REQUESTING PEOPLE IN THE AUDIENCE TO REFRAIN FROM SMOKING.

HOWEVER, IT ADDS THAT THE SUCCESS OF MEASURES OF THIS KIND SHOULD BE ASSESSED AFTER A PERIOD OF SAY 18 MONTHS, WITH A VIEW TO FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF MANDATORY MEASURES.

THE COMMITTEE BELIEVES THAT GREATER EFFORTS COULD ALSO BE MADE IN ENFORCING BY-LAWS DEALING WITH SMOKING ON ALL FORMS OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT AND THAT CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO PROHIBITING SMOKING ON THE FUTURE MASS TRANSIT SYSTEM - PARTICULARLY IN UNDERGROUND OR ENCLOSED AREAS.

IN CONCLUSION, THE COMMITTEE CONSIDERS THAT A SINGLE BODY SHOULD BE SET UP AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE WITH TERMS OF REFERENCE RELATING TO THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A SUITABLE PROGRAMME OF HEALTH EDUCATIONAL MEASURES, THE SUPERVISION OF CIGARETTE ADVERTISING STANDARDS AND THE PROPOSED SCHEME FOR A PHASED REDUCTION OF CIGARETTE SALES PROMOTION.

THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES, MR. PETER WILLIAMS, TODAY EMPHASISED THAT THE REPORT HAD NOT BEEN ADOPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT BUT WAS BEING PUBLISHED SO THAT PUBLIC OPINION COULD BE GATHERED AND TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION WHEN FORMULATING AN OVERALL POLICY ON SMOKING.

PEOPLE WHO WISH TO CONTRIBUTE THEIR VIEWS ARE INVITED TO WRITE TO THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT AT P.O. BOX 1899.

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NEW G.I.S. NEWS FACILITY FOR CHINESE MEDIA

A NEW FACSIMILE SERVICE, WHICH ENABLES FAST AND DIRECT TRANSMISSION OF CHINESE NEWS ITEMS TO THE CHINESE MEDIA, WAS OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED TODAY BY THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES.

THE NEW SERVICE WAS INTRODUCED ABOUT A MONTH AGO ON A TRIAL BASIS AND PROVED AN IMMEDIATE SUCCESS.

IT NOW LINKS THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE POLICE PUBLIC RELATIONS BUREAU WITH 26 CHINESE NEWSPAPERS AND RADIO AND TELEVISION STATIONS.

THE OBVIOUS ADVANTAGES OF THE NEW SYSTEM ARE ITS SPEED, ACCURACY AND SIMPLICITY.

SUBSCRIBERS CAN NOW RECEIVE G.I.S. NEWS ITEMS AND INFORMATION IN CHINESE DIRECTLY IN THEIR OWN OFFICES, THUS ELIMINATING DELAY AND INCONVENIENCE BY HAVING TO TRANSLATE COPY COMING THROUGH THE TELEPRINTER OR CALLING AT THE G.I.S. OFFICES TO COLLECT THE CHINESE VERSION OF GOVERNMENT PRESS RELEASES.

IN THE PAST, THE DEPARTMENT'S ONLY MEANS OF DIRECT TRANSMISSION OF OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS ITEMS WAS THROUGH THE TELEPRINTER SERVICE. WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW SYSTEM, NEWS ITEMS CAN NOW BE ISSUED SIMULTANEOUSLY IN CHINESE, THROUGH THE FACSIMILE NETWORK, AND IN ENGLISH VIA THE TELEPRINTER LINKS.

THE SYSTEM CONSISTS OF TWO HELLFAX TRANSMITTERS -- ONE IN THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE OTHER IN THE PPRB -- AND 27 RECEIVERS. TRANSMISSION AND RECEPTION IS INSTANTANEOUS. TRANSMISSION OF A PRINTED FOOLSCAP-SIZE PAPER TAKES ABOUT SIX MINUTES.

THE FACSIMILE OPERATES ON THE RADIO-PHOTO PROCESS THROUGH THE TELEPHONE CABLE NETWORK, AND ANY WRITTEN OR PICTORIAL INFORMATION CAN BE TRANSMITTED AND RECEIVED.

TO TRANSMIT ON THE HELLFAX, THE ITEM IS PLACED ON A REVOLVING TRANSMITTER DRUM. THE MACHINE SCANS THE ORIGINAL COPY ELECTRICALLY TO PRODUCE AN INSTANTANEOUS AND EXACT FACSIMILE AT THE RECEIVING END.

COMMENTING ON THE NEW SERVICE, THE DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION SERVICE, MR. DAVID FORD, SAID IT MARKED ANOTHER STEP FORWARD IN IMPROVING THE DISSEMINATION OF GOVERNMENT NEWS.

+A CHINESE VERSION OF ALL MAJOR GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS ITEMS ISSUED BY THE G.I.S. HAS BEEN AVAILABLE IN THE PAST,+ HE SAID, +BUT THE NEW SERVICE WILL MAKE IT MUCH MORE CONVENIENT FOR THE CHINESE MEDIA AND GAIN THEM PRECIOUS TIME IN PLANNING THEIR PAGES, PARTICULARLY WHEN THEIR DEADLINE APPROACHES.+

THE FACSIMILE RECEIVERS WERE INSTALLED BY JEBSEN AND CO., LOCAL AGENTS FOR HELLFAX.

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NEW RULES ON COMPANY ACCOUNTS PROPOSED
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COMPANY DIRECTORS WILL BE REQUIRED TO GIVE MUCH FULLER INFORMATION ABOUT THEIR COMPANY AFFAIRS, UNDER DRAFT LEGISLATION PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE.

THIS IS PROVIDED FOR IN THE COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1974 WHICH SEEKS TO GIVE EFFECT TO A NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE SECOND REPORT OF THE COMPANIES LAW REVISION COMMITTEE RELATING TO COMPANY ACCOUNTS AND DIRECTORS' REPORTS.

THE BILL DEALS ONLY WITH ACCOUNTANCY MATTERS OF GENERAL PRACTICAL BUSINESS APPLICATION AND AIMS AT BRINGING THE ACCOUNTS PROVISION GENERALLY INTO LINE WITH THOSE NOW IN FORCE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

IT PROVIDES THAT COMPANY BALANCE SHEETS AND PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS MUST GIVE A TRUE AND FAIR VIEW OF THE STATE OF THE COMPANY AND OF ITS PROFIT OR LOSS. PROVISION IS MADE FOR CERTAIN SMALL PRIVATE COMPANIES TO OPT OUT OF SOME OF THE NEW REQUIREMENTS. WHERE A COMPANY EXERCISES THIS OPTION, THE EXISTING REQUIREMENTS OF THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE WILL CONTINUE TO APPLY INSTEAD OF THE NEW REQUIREMENTS.

THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION ALSO REQUIRES A COMPANY HAVING SUBSIDIARIES TO PREPARE GROUP ACCOUNTS DEALING WITH THE STATE OF AFFAIRS AND PROFIT AND LOSS OF THE COMPANY AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES.

THESE GROUP ACCOUNTS MUST GIVE +A TRUE AND FAIR VIEW+ OF THE STATE OF AFFAIRS AND PROFITS OR LOSS OF THE COMPANY AND THE SUBSIDIARIES AS A WHOLE.

ANOTHER FEATURE OF THE BILL IS THAT IT REQUIRES THE ATTACHMENT TO A COMPANY'S BALANCE SHEET OF A COMPREHENSIVE REPORT BY ITS DIRECTORS WITH RESPECT TO ITS PROFIT OR LOSS, THE STATE OF AFFAIRS, ITS PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES, PROPOSED DIVIDEND, TRANSFER TO RESERVES, DONATIONS, CHANGES IN FIXED ASSETS, ISSUES OF SHARES AND DEBENTURES, ITS DIRECTORS, AND ANY OTHER MATTERS MATERIAL FOR THE APPRECIATION BY ITS MEMBERS OF THE STATE OF ITS AFFAIRS.

THE BILL FOLLOWS CONSULTATION WITH THE ACCOUNTANCY AND OTHER BODIES WHICH HAD EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT HONG KONG SHOULD ADOPT THE BRITISH REQUIREMENTS AS TO ACCOUNTS, WHEREVER FEASIBLE.

THE HONG KONG SOCIETY OF ACCOUNTANTS AND LOCAL CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE WERE CONSULTED ON THE DRAFT LEGISLATION AND THEY SUPPORTED THE PROPOSALS.

THE BILL IS EXPECTED TO BE INTRODUCED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHORTLY AND, IF ENACTED, WILL TAKE EFFECT FROM JANUARY 1, 1975.

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FIRE PROBLEM BLAMED ON CARELESSNESS AND COMPLACENCY
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COMPLACENCY AND CARELESSNESS ARE THE BASIS OF THE FIRE PROBLEM IN HONG KONG, ACCORDING TO MR. HARRY WOOD, DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES.

ADDRESSING THE ROTARY CLUB OF KOWLOON NORTH, MR. WOOD SAID: +THE BASIS OF THE FIRE PROBLEM IN HONG KONG IS TWO THINGS: COMPLACENCY INDUCED BY A FEELING THAT 'IT COULD NEVER HAPPEN TO ME' AND CARELESSNESS.+

THE DIRECTOR WONDERED WHAT THE POPULATION HAD TO BE COMPLACENT ABOUT WHEN THE NUMBER OF FIRES WAS INCREASING. +HOWEVER, THEY ARE UNDOUBTEDLY COMPLACENT AND THERE ARE A HUNDRED AND ONE MANIFESTATIONS OF IT.+ THESE INCLUDED KEROSENE FIRES LEFT UNGUARDED, ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES LEFT ON DURING ABSENCES, MATCHES LEFT LYING AROUND TO ATTRACT THE ATTENTION OF YOUNGSTERS, ELECTRICAL POINTS BEING HEAVILY OVERLOADED, DANGEROUS GOODS BEING HANDLED WITH NONCHALANCE AND PORTABLE COOKING STOVES IN UNSECURE POSITIONS.

MR. WOOD SAID COMPLACENCY LED TO FIRE BEING REGARDED TOO EASILY AS SOMEBODY ELSE'S BUSINESS, UNTIL IT WAS TOO LATE. +I AM AFRAID THAT IT APPEARS JUST TOO MUCH OF A BOTHER FOR MOST OF THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE HERE TO PAY VERY MUCH ATTENTION TO FIRE PREVENTION, ALTHOUGH SOME MEASURES ARE BASIC IN MY OPINION, BEARING IN MIND THE LIVING CONDITIONS OF MANY OF THE PEOPLE,+

+IT WOULD SOON OPEN PEOPLE'S EYES IF THEY COULD SPEND A WEEK IN A FIRE STATION AND SEE SOME OF THE TRAGEDIES MY MEN HAVE TO DEAL WITH ALL TOO FREQUENTLY. THEY WOULD QUICKLY COME TO SEE THE FOOLHARDINESS OF NOT TAKING PROPER PRECAUTIONS.+

QUOTING 106 DEATHS AND 3,801 INJURIES DURING THE LAST TWO FINANCIAL YEARS, MR. WOOD SAID: +GIVEN THESE FIGURES, IT IS DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND WHY SO MANY PEOPLE'S PHILOSOPHY IN HONG KONG IS: 'FIRE COULD NEVER HAPPEN TO ME'. THE FACTS QUITE CLEARLY SHOW THE CONTRARY -- THAT THE ODDS OF BECOMING A FIRE VICTIM, AND SUFFERING AGONISING INJURY, OR EVEN DEATH, ARE SHORTENING EACH YEAR.+

MR. WOOD REVEALED THAT, FROM 1972 TO 1974, THERE WERE 223,000 FIRE AND AMBULANCE CALLS, 20 PER CENT UP ON THE FIGURE FOR THE PREVIOUS TWO YEARS. THIS LEVEL OF INCREASE WAS REGARDED AS +NORMAL+ BY THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, BASED ON PAST EXPERIENCE. FOR EVERY TWO FIRES IN 1968/70, THERE WERE THREE IN 1972/74.

/HE SAID

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HE SAID THAT SOME CLUBS OR RESTAURANTS COULD BE SEEN TO BE COMPLYING WITH FIRE PREVENTION REGULATIONS WHEN VISITED BY OFFICERS FROM THE DEPARTMENT, BUT STRUCTURAL ALTERATIONS WERE EASILY CARRIED OUT AND THE FIRE PICTURE COULD BE MADE TO LOOK +VASTLY DIFFERENT+ WITHIN A SHORT TIME OF THE FIRE SERVICES VISIT. +THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A QUICK BUCK CAN OFTEN OVERRIDE ANY 'CONCERN' FOR THE FIRE SAFETY OF AN ESTABLISHMENT AND IT IS NECESSARY FOR THE SERVICE TO BE CONSTANTLY VIGILANT,+ HE SAID.

FACTORY MANAGERMENTS, HE NOTED, KNEW BEYOND ANY SHADOW OF DOUBT THAT REGULAR MAINTENANCE OF THEIR ELECTRICAL PLANT WAS ESSENTIAL IF FIRE WAS TO BE AVOIDED, BUT TOO MANY CHOSE TO TAKE RISKS, WITH INEVITABLE CONSEQUENCES. +THEY ARE POSSIBLY QUITE PREPARED TO SPEND LARGE SUMS ON MEASURES TO KEEP VILLAINS OUT, BUT 'WASTING' MONEY ON PREVENTING SOMETHING WHICH ONLY HAPPENS TO THE OTHER FELLOW IS A DIFFERENT MATTER ALTOGETHER.+

THE DIRECTOR SAID THEIR ATTITUDE MIGHT CONCEIVABLY BE DIFFERENT IF THEY WERE ALL MADE AWARE THAT 80 PER CENT OF HONG KONG'S FIRE LOSSES (\$99.6 MILLION FOR THE TWO YEARS 1972/74) WERE IN FACTORY FIRES, WHICH REPRESENTED ONLY SIX PER CENT OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF FIRES.

MR. WOOD SAID HE MIGHT SOUND PESSIMISTIC, BUT DECLARED: +MY PESSIMISM IS A RESULT OF TOO MANY YEARS IN THIS BUSINESS= OF SEEING TOO MANY TOTALLY UNNECESSARY FIRES WHICH COULD HAVE BEEN EASILY AVOIDED IF JUST A SMALL AMOUNT OF CARE HAD BEEN TAKEN.+

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TRADE MARKS REGISTRY FEES TO BE DOUBLED
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FEES FOR COMMERCIAL SERVICES COLLECTED BY THE TRADE MARKS REGISTRY ARE TO BE DOUBLED WITH EFFECT FROM JULY 1, THIS YEAR.

THE TRADE MARKS (AMENDMENT) RULES 1974 PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE CONTAIN A REVISION OF THE FEES SET OUT IN SCHEDULE I TO THE PRINCIPAL RULES.

THE INCREASE IN FEES BY 100 PER CENT WAS RECOMMENDED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL FOLLOWING A COST STUDY OF THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT BETWEEN JULY AND SEPTEMBER 1973. IT WAS ESTIMATED THAT ON THE BASIS OF THE CURRENT FEES, THE GOVERNMENT WOULD SUFFER A CONSIDERABLE LOSS FOR THE YEAR 1973-74.

THE INCREASE WILL ENABLE THE TRADE MARKS REGISTRY TO BREAK EVEN AFTER ALLOWING FOR SOME ESCALATION OF THE 1973-74 COSTS.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID: +THE LAST GENERAL REVISION OF FEES CHARGED UNDER THE TRADE MARKS ORDINANCE WAS CARRIED OUT IN 1964. SOME OF THE FEES WERE AGAIN INCREASED IN 1968 TO MATCH SIMILAR INCREASES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.+

HE EXPLAINED THAT THE INCREASE WAS CONSIDERED NECESSARY BECAUSE THERE WAS NO REASON FOR THIS SERVICE TO THE COMMERCIAL SECTOR TO BE SUBSIDISED BY THE GOVERNMENT. THE COST OF AN APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF A TRADE MARK FORMS ONLY A MINIMAL PART OF THE COST OF MARKETING GOODS AND SO IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE INCREASE IN FEES WOULD CAUSE A CORRESPONDING INCREASE IN THE RETAIL COST OF GOODS.

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COMPUTER FOR HOUSING DEPARTMENT

THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT IS TO PURCHASE A SMALL COMPUTER TO HELP EASE THE HEAVY WORKLOAD ON THE STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING SECTION OF THE CONSTRUCTION BRANCH.

THE COMPUTER WILL BE USED FOR STRUCTURAL CALCULATIONS AND AUTOMATIC PLOTTING OF ENGINEERING DRAWINGS.

+AS THE 10-YEAR HOUSING PROGRAMME GATHERS MOMENTUM, THE WORKLOAD WILL LIKELY INCREASE AND THE COMPUTER WILL BE INVALUABLE,+ A HOUSING DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY.

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+THE MANY ADVANTAGES INCLUDE SPEEDING UP CALCULATION, SOLVING INTRICATE ENGINEERING PROBLEMS, PREPARING ENGINEERING DRAWINGS AND ABOVE ALL IT WOULD ALSO RESULT IN OVERALL SAVING.+

TENDERS FOR THE SUPPLY OF A COMPUTER SYSTEM SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BEFORE 12 NOON ON AUGUST 9, 1974.

FURTHER PARTICULARS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY (CONSTRUCTION), HOUSING DEPARTMENT, 1 MA TAU KOK ROAD, KOWLOON.

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WARNING LETTER PROPOSED AS MINIMUM PUNISHMENT
IN DISCIPLINARY ACTION AGAINST DOCTORS
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THE MEDICAL COUNCIL OF HONG KONG HAS SUGGESTED THAT, IN ADDITION TO THE PUNISHMENTS IT IS AT PRESENT EMPOWERED TO METE OUT, THERE SHOULD BE A NEW AND LESSER PUNISHMENT IN THE FORM OF A WARNING LETTER WHICH MAY, OR MAY NOT, BE PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE, AT THE COUNCIL'S DISCRETION.

A BILL EMBODYING THIS PROPOSAL IS TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHORTLY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE COUNCIL SAID TODAY THAT, UNDER SECTION 21 OF THE MEDICAL REGISTRATION ORDINANCE, THE MINIMUM PUNISHMENT WHICH THE MEDICAL COUNCIL WAS AT PRESENT EMPOWERED TO METE OUT IN THE EXERCISE OF ITS DISCIPLINARY POWERS WAS A REPRIMAND, AND IT WAS A LEGAL REQUIREMENT THAT THIS DECISION BE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE.

+IT IS CONSIDERED THAT ON OCCASIONS A REPRIMAND AND ITS PUBLICATION IN THE GAZETTE IS TOO WEIGHTY A PUNISHMENT, AND IT IS DESIRABLE FOR THE COUNCIL TO HAVE POWERS TO METE OUT A LESSER PUNISHMENT,+ HE EXPLAINED.

+ON THE ADVICE OF THE MEDICAL COUNCIL, THE BILL CONSEQUENTLY SEEKS TO AMEND THE ORDINANCE TO EMPOWER THE COUNCIL, AFTER DUE ENQUIRY, TO ORDER THE ISSUE OF A WARNING LETTER TO THE MEDICAL PRACTITIONER, AND TO EXERCISE ITS DISCRETION REGARDING PUBLICATION IN THE GAZETTE. THE POWER TO ISSUE A REPRIMAND WILL STILL BE RETAINED.+

THE PROPOSAL IS IN LINE WITH THE PROVISION OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE (PROCEDURE) RULES 1970 IN THE UNITED KINGDOM UNDER WHICH THE GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL OF THE UNITED KINGDOM MAY ISSUE SIMILAR WARNING LETTERS.

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HOLIDAY POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS
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THERE WILL BE ONLY ONE DELIVERY OF MAIL ON MONDAY (JUNE 24) WHICH IS A PUBLIC HOLIDAY.

A NUMBER OF POST OFFICES WILL CLOSE FOR THE DAY, BUT FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF THE PUBLIC SOME 30 POST OFFICES WILL REMAIN OPEN FROM 9 A.M. TO 12 NOON.

THESE INCLUDE THE GENERAL POST OFFICE IN PEDDER STREET, THE KOWLOON CENTRAL POST OFFICE, THE TSIM SHA TSUI POST OFFICE, AND THE TAIPO, YUEN LONG AND CHEUNG CHAU POST OFFICES, AMONG OTHERS.

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FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 1974

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HEALTH REPORT FOR MAY
INCIDENCE OF MEASLES CONTINUES TO DROP
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HEALTH RETURNS FOR MAY ISSUED TODAY BY THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT SHOW THAT SEVEN CHILDREN DIED FROM MEASLES, A DROP OF ONE COMPARED WITH THE EIGHT DEATHS RECORDED IN APRIL.

NOTIFICATIONS OF MEASLES DURING THE MONTH DROPPED TO 102, COMPARED WITH THE 307 IN APRIL, 349 IN MARCH, AND 384 IN FEBRUARY.

COMMENTING ON THESE FIGURES, A SPOKESMAN SAID THEY SHOWED THAT THE YEAR'S FIRST ANTI-MEASLES CAMPAIGN WHICH ENDED IN MAY HAD PRODUCED A SATISFACTORY RESPONSE -- BUT THERE WAS STILL NO ROOM FOR COMPLACENCY.

+FREE ANTI-MEASLES VACCINE IS AVAILABLE AT ALL MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH CENTRES, NOT ONLY DURING CAMPAIGN PERIODS, BUT ALSO THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

+PARENTS OF SUSCEPTIBLE CHILDREN BETWEEN SIX MONTHS AND FIVE YEARS SHOULD HAVE THEM IMMUNISED, + HE STRESSED.

OF THE 100 OTHER DEATHS RECORDED DURING MAY, 92 WERE CAUSED BY TUBERCULOSIS -- A RISE FROM THE 81 DEATHS FROM THE SAME DISEASE RECORDED IN APRIL -- ONE BY CEREBROSPINAL MENINGITIS, TWO BY TYPHOID, TWO BY VIRAL HEPATITIS, TWO BY TETANUS, AND ONE BY TETANUS NEONATORUM.

THERE WERE INCREASES IN THE NOTIFICATIONS OF BOTH ENTERIC FEVER AND VIRAL HEPATITIS -- 40 OF THE FIRST DISEASE AS COMPARED WITH 26 IN APRIL, AND 65 OF THE SECOND AS COMPARED WITH 52. THERE WAS ALSO AN INCREASE IN FOOD POISONING CASES INVOLVING 47 VICTIMS COMPARED WITH THE 26 RECORDED IN THE PREVIOUS MONTH.

BUT BACILLARY DYSENTERY AND CHICKENPOX CASES DECLINED CONSIDERABLY FROM 40 AND 211 IN APRIL TO 17 AND 145 IN MAY.

NO CASES OF DIPHTHERIA WERE RECORDED. THE RECORD FOR POLIOMYELITIS ALSO REMAINED CLEAN WITH NO CASES NOTIFIED. THE INCIDENCE OF OTHER COMMUNICABLE DISEASES SHOWED NO APPRECIABLE VARIATION.

DURING THE MONTH, HONG KONG REMAINED FREE FROM CHOLERA AND OTHER QUARANTINABLE DISEASES.

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CHARACTERISTICS OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE RECIPIENTS

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A RECENT STUDY SHOWS THAT RELATIVELY MORE SINGLE PERSONS THAN FAMILIES APPLY FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE, ACCORDING TO A SPECIAL REVIEW ARTICLE IN THE APRIL ISSUE OF THE HONG KONG MONTHLY DIGEST OF STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY.

THE ARTICLE, ENTITLED "CHARACTERISTICS OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE RECIPIENTS IN HONG KONG", TAKES A LOOK AT THE REASONS FOR APPLICATION, AREA OF RESIDENCE, TYPE OF HOUSING, AND FAMILY SIZES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT SAID THE STATISTICAL REFERENCES WERE TAKEN FROM A 10 PER CENT SAMPLE STUDY OF CASES WHICH WERE ACTIVE AS AT JUNE 20, 1973 AS RECORDED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

THE REVIEW POINTS OUT THAT ABOUT 64 PER CENT OF ALL RECIPIENT HOUSEHOLDS ARE SINGLE PERSONS. THIS AMOUNTS TO ROUGHLY NINE PER CENT OF ALL SINGLE PERSON HOUSEHOLDS IN HONG KONG. THE RATIO OF WOMAN RECIPIENTS TO MAN IS 1.47 TO 1, AND 44 PER CENT OF ALL SINGLE-PERSON RECIPIENTS ARE BETWEEN 55 AND 69 YEARS OLD, WITH ANOTHER 44 PER CENT OVER THE AGE OF 70.

THE DIFFERENT REASONS FOR APPLICATION LISTED INCLUDE OLD AGE, LOW EARNINGS, ILL HEALTH, WIDOWER) WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN, BLIND, DEAF, MENTALLY ILL OR PHYSICALLY DISABLED, AMONG OTHERS.

THE MAIN CAUSE WAS SEEN TO BE OLD AGE, WHICH AMOUNTED TO 61 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES, FOLLOWED BY ILL HEALTH AND LOW EARNINGS, WHICH ACCOUNTED FOR 13 PER CENT EACH.

WITH REGARD TO FAMILY SIZES, THE REVIEW REVEALED THAT FAMILIES OF DIFFERENT SIZES APPLIED FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FOR DIFFERENT REASONS. THE MAJORITY OF FAMILIES WITH TWO TO THREE MEMBERS APPLIED BECAUSE OF OLD AGE AND ILL HEALTH. BUT FAMILIES WITH FOUR TO SIX PERSONS APPLIED DUE TO LOW EARNINGS AND WIDOWER) WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN, WHILE FAMILIES WITH MORE THAN SEVEN MEMBERS APPLIED MAINLY BECAUSE OF LOW EARNINGS AND ILL HEALTH.

THE MONTHLY DIGEST OF STATISTICS IS AVAILABLE FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATION CENTRE, STAR FERRY CONCOURSE, HONG KONG, AT \$5 PER COPY.

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FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 1974

CAREER SEMINARS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS
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ANOTHER TWO CAREER SEMINARS WILL BE HELD TO PROVIDE MORE INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE TO SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN CHOOSING A CAREER.

THE SEMINARS ARE BEING ORGANISED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S YOUTH WORK UNIT, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT AND THE HANG SENG BANK, FOR JULY AND AUGUST. ONE WILL DEAL WITH EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS AND THE OTHER WITH FURTHER EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.

THE CAREER SEMINAR ON EMPLOYMENT WILL INCLUDE AN INTRODUCTION AND DISCUSSION ON JOBS WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT AND IN THE COMMERCIAL FIELD, HOW TO APPLY FOR A JOB, AND THE APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING SCHEME. THIS WILL TAKE PLACE ON JULY 10 AND 11 AT THE DIOCESAN YOUTH CENTRE IN POKFULAN, AND IS INTENDED FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE STILL STUDYING IN FORMS 4 TO 7. IT IS EXPECTED TO ACCOMMODATE SIXTY STUDENTS WHO WILL HAVE TO PAY A \$15 FEE TO COVER MEALS AND BOARD. CLOSING DATE FOR APPLYING FOR THIS COURSE IS JULY 1.

THE SEMINAR ON FURTHER EDUCATION IS BEING PLANNED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE EDUCATION ADVISORY SERVICE OF THE HANG SENG BANK. THIS WILL BE DIVIDED INTO TWO PARTS, ONE CONCENTRATING ON OVERSEAS STUDY GUIDANCE AND THE OTHER ON LOCAL STUDY GUIDANCE. IT WILL BE HELD ON AUGUST 14 AND 15, AND THE VENUE WILL AGAIN BE THE DIOCESAN YOUTH CENTRE. THE ENROLMENT AND FEE WILL BE SIMILAR TO THAT OF THE FIRST SEMINAR. THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLYING FOR THIS SEMINAR IS AUGUST 3.

APPLICATION FORMS FOR BOTH SEMINARS CAN BE OBTAINED PERSONALLY OR BY POST (WITH AN ENCLOSED SELF-ADDRESSED AND STAMPED ENVELOPE) FROM THE YOUTH WORK UNIT'S OFFICE, ON THE TOP FLOOR OF THE GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING AT 405, NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON, OR ROOM 908, CAUSEWAY BAY MAGISTRACY BUILDING.

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NEW LAND RESUMPTION COMPENSATION TERMS

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IN FUTURE WHEN VILLAGE LOTS IN NEW KOWLOON SURVEY DISTRICTS ARE RESUMED BY THE GOVERNMENT FOR COMMUNITY PROJECTS, THE COMPENSATION WILL INCLUDE PROVISION FOR AN EX-GRATIA PAYMENT.

THIS IS IN ADDITION TO THE NORMAL SUM ASSESSED FOR THE FULL MARKET VALUE OF THE LOTS.

THE CHANGE WAS ANNOUNCED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY.

EXPLAINING THE MOVE, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID: +THE DECISION TO GIVE EX-GRATIA PAYMENTS WAS TAKEN BECAUSE IT IS NO LONGER POSSIBLE FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE THE PRACTICE OF OFFERING PIECES OF LAND ELSEWHERE IN LIEU OF CASH COMPENSATION.+

THE REASON IS THAT THERE IS A SHORTAGE OF LAND SUITABLE FOR DEVELOPMENT IN THE NEW KOWLOON AREA AND MUCH OF THE LAND AVAILABLE IS NEEDED URGENTLY FOR HOUSING AND SIMILAR PROJECTS TO HELP MEET THE GOVERNOR'S 10-YEAR HOUSING TARGET, HE EXPLAINED.

MOREOVER, THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH GAVE RISE TO THE ORIGINAL LAND EXCHANGE POLICY TEND NO LONGER TO APPLY.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT ALTHOUGH MANY OWNERS HAD OPTED FOR THE EXCHANGE TERMS IN THE PAST, THE NEW POLICY WENT FAR BEYOND THE GOVERNMENT'S LEGAL OBLIGATION TO THE OWNERS OF SUCH LOTS.

+I THINK MOST OF THE COMMUNITY WILL AGREE THAT THE EX-GRATIA PROVISION IS GENEROUS IN ITSELF, AND THAT THE INTENTION BEHIND IT IS TO GIVE AS MUCH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AS POSSIBLE TO THE PEOPLE WHOSE PROPERTY IS TO BE RESUMED+ HE SAID.

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NEW LIST OF CHARITY ORGANISATIONS
EXEMPT FROM TAX

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A REVISED LIST OF CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS AND TRUSTS, WHICH HAVE BEEN RECOGNISED AS BEING EXEMPT FROM TAX, IS PUBLISHED IN A SUPPLEMENT TO TODAY'S GAZETTE.

THE NEW LIST SUPERSEDES ALL OTHERS PUBLISHED BEFORE MAY 31 THIS YEAR.

UNDER SECTION 88 OF THE INLAND REVENUE ORDINANCE, ANYONE WHO MAKES DONATIONS TO ANY OF THE CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS OR TRUSTS ON THE LIST MAY CLAIM TAX RELIEF.

CLAIMS FOR SUCH RELIEF MAY BE MADE WHEN COMPLETING RETURN FORMS REQUIRED FOR PROFIT TAX, SALARIES TAX OR PERSONAL ASSESSMENT, AND SHOULD BE SUPPORTED BY AN OFFICIAL RECEIPT ISSUED BY THE INSTITUTION OR TRUST.

RELIEF WILL ONLY BE GIVEN WHEN THE TOTAL APPROVED CHARITABLE DONATIONS AMOUNT TO \$100 OR MORE IN A YEAR.

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PROTECTION AGAINST COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT SUITS

RELAY OPERATORS OF THE SOUND AND TELEVISION SERVICES IN HONG KONG WILL BE GIVEN FURTHER PROTECTION AGAINST ACTIONS FOR INFRINGEMENT OF THE COPYRIGHT IN ANY WORK OR FILM COMPRISED IN THEIR BROADCASTING PROGRAMME.

THIS IS PROVIDED FOR IN THE COPYRIGHT (AMENDMENT) BILL 1974, GAZETTED TODAY FOR GENERAL INFORMATION.

THE BILL SEEKS TO MAKE FURTHER PROVISION WITH RESPECT TO THE LIABILITY OF THE OPERATOR OF A RELAY SERVICE IN RELATION TO THE COPYRIGHT IN ANY WORK OR FILM COMPRISED IN A PROGRAMME BROADCAST BY A SOUND OR TELEVISION BROADCASTING ORGANIZATION IN HONG KONG AND RELAYED BY THE RELAY SERVICES.

THE COPYRIGHT ORDINANCE, WHICH IS BASED ON THE UNITED KINGDOM COPYRIGHT ACT, AT PRESENT ONLY MAKES PROVISION FOR THE CASE WHERE THE WORK OR FILM COMPRISED IN A SOUND OR TELEVISION PROGRAMME IS BROADCAST WITH THE AUTHORITY OF THE OWNER OF THE COPYRIGHT IN THE WORK OR FILM.

THE NEW BILL ALSO SEEKS TO DELETE FROM THE COPYRIGHT ORDINANCE THE REFERENCES TO POLICE OFFICERS.

THIS MEANS THAT IN FUTURE THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE COPYRIGHT ORDINANCE WILL BE THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PREVENTIVE SERVICE OF THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT, WHICH HAS RECENTLY FORMED A SPECIAL UNIT FOR THIS PURPOSE.

UP TO NOW THE COMMERCIAL CRIME OFFICE OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN THE INVESTIGATION OF COPYRIGHT OFFENCES.

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DEPUTY COLONIAL SECRETARY TOURS WESTERN

THE DEPUTY COLONIAL SECRETARY, MR. MICHAEL CLINTON, SPENT A BUSY AFTERNOON TODAY VISITING THE SHEUNG WAN AND WESTERN DISTRICTS ON HONG KONG ISLAND TO SEE FOR HIMSELF THE PROBLEMS POSED BY FRUIT +LAANS+, THE TRAFFIC CONDITIONS AND VARIOUS PUBLIC WORKS DEVELOPMENTS IN THE AREAS.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS, MR. DAVID WONG, AND THE WESTERN CITY DISTRICT OFFICER, MR. ANTHONY WOO, THE DEPUTY COLONIAL SECRETARY FIRST INSPECTED CONDITIONS IN SHEUNG WAN STROLLING AMONG THE FRUIT +LAANS+ CONCENTRATED IN ON TAI, NEW MARKET AND TUNG LOI STREETS.

MR. CLINTON WAS INFORMED THAT THE SITE NOW OCCUPIED BY THESE LAANS HAS BEEN EARMARKED AS A WORK AREA FOR THE FUTURE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY. NEGOTIATIONS ARE UNDERWAY FOR THE REPROVISIONING OF THESE LAANS TO AN AREA IN KENNEDY TOWN WHERE THERE WILL BE WATER FRONTAGE TO FACILITATE LOADING AND UNLOADING.

HE ALSO SAW TRAFFIC CONDITIONS ALONG THE NEARBY WATERFRONT AND THE PROGRESS MADE SO FAR IN THE CENTRAL RECLAMATION STAGE V WHICH IS SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION BY AUGUST NEXT YEAR.

THE PARTY NEXT PROCEEDED ON FOOT TO HOLLYWOOD ROAD, UPPER LASCAR ROW, LOWER LASCAR ROW, TUNG STREET AND SAI STREET. THESE ARE PART OF THE AREAS INCLUDED IN THE URBAN RENEWAL PILOT SCHEME. THE WHOLE SCHEME COVERS 13 ACRES AFFECTING SOME 13,000 PEOPLE.

WHILE IN THE AREA, MR. CLINTON DROPPED INTO A DOMESTIC FLAT ON THE 1ST FLOOR OF NO. 46 LOWER LASCAR ROW TO CHAT WITH THE TENANTS SO AS TO GET A GENERAL PICTURE OF THEIR LIVING STANDARDS.

HIS NEXT STOP WAS AT KENNEDY TOWN NEW PRAYA. THERE, THE DEPUTY COLONIAL SECRETARY WAS TOLD OF THE GREAT PRESSURE CAUSED BY THE ON-STREET LOADING AND UNLOADING ACTIVITIES ON THE ALREADY CONGESTED ROADS NEARBY. A LARGE PERCENTAGE OF THE FRUITS AND VEGETABLES, FISH AND CRUSTACEA IMPORTED BY SEA ARE UNLOADED AT THE WATERFRONT AT THE KENNEDY TOWN NEW PRAYA AND THEN MARKETED BY THE WHOLESALERS IN THE KENNEDY TOWN WHOLESALE MARKET.

MR. CLINTON WAS TOLD THAT PLANS ARE CURRENTLY IN HAND TO CONSTRUCT A NEW MARKET FOR IMPORTED FRUIT, VEGETABLES, POULTRY AND FISH ON THE RECLAIMED LAND ON THE KENNEDY TOWN RECLAMATION STAGE II.

/LATER, THE

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LATER, THE PARTY WENT FURTHER WESTWARDS TO ABERDEEN WHERE THEY HAD AN ON-THE-SPOT DISCUSSION ABOUT THE PROPOSED ABERDEEN TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SCHEME ESPECIALLY WHERE IT AFFECTS THE HAWKERS.

BEFORE WINDING UP HIS TOUR, MR. CLINTON PAID A VISIT TO THE RECENTLY-OPENED ABERDEEN SUB-OFFICE OF THE WESTERN CITY DISTRICT OFFICE. THIS NEW SUB-OFFICE WAS OPENED ABOUT THREE MONTHS AGO TO CATER TO THE INCREASING NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY IN THE DISTRICT.

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HOUSEWIVES FORM 'COMFORT' GROUP
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A GROUP OF MORE THAN TWENTY HOUSEWIVES AND WORKING WOMEN IN KOWLOON CITY HAVE FORMED A COMFORTING MISSION TO PROVIDE AFTERCARE FOR VICTIMS OF DISASTERS.

THE WOMEN ARE MEMBERS OF THE HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, THE KOWLOON HOP YAT CHURCH AND THE LING LIANG EVANGELISTIC CHURCH.

THEY STARTED THE PROJECT ON THE INITIATION OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S KOWLOON CITY COMMUNITY AND YOUTH WORK OFFICE WHICH WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR HELPING THEM CO-ORDINATE THEIR VISITS TO PEOPLE IN HOSPITALS, CARING FOR UNATTENDED CHILDREN AND GIVING ASSISTANCE GENERALLY TO VICTIMS IN TEMPORARY RELIEF SHELTERS. THE GROUP WILL ALSO ARRANGE COLLECTIONS FOR DISASTER VICTIMS IF THE NEED ARISES.

TO FAMILIARIZE THE GROUP WITH NATURAL DISASTER RELIEF WORK THE OFFICE HAS ARRANGED A SYMPOSIUM FOR THEM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AFTERNOON FROM 3 P.M. TO 5 P.M. AT THE HOLY TRINITY CHURCH IN MA TAU KOK ROAD, KOWLOON.

MR. ALFRED TSUI, THE COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICER FOR KOWLOON CITY, WILL MAKE THE OPENING ADDRESS.

THE GROUP WILL THEN BE BRIEFED ABOUT EMERGENCY RELIEF WORK DURING NATURAL DISASTERS BY MR. CHARLES CHAN, ASSISTANT CITY DISTRICT OFFICER (KOWLOON CITY)= MR. MUI KAN-KIT, THE COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICER FOR CENTRAL DISTRICT, AND BY MISS MAN SIU-MEI, THE ASSISTANT COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICER FOR KOWLOON CITY.

A DISCUSSION WILL FOLLOW THE TALKS. THE SYMPOSIUM WILL END WITH VISITS TO SAI TAU VILLAGE AND THE LOK SIN TONG SECONDARY SCHOOL WHICH HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS A TEMPORARY SHELTER.

NOTE TO EDITORS: YOU ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE SYMPOSIUM TOMORROW AFTERNOON.

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INAUGURATION OF KOWLOON CITY YOUTH SERVICES COUNCIL
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THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT YOUTH SERVICES COUNCIL, WHICH AIMS AT PROMOTING YOUTH RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT ON A YEAR ROUND BASIS, WILL BE INAUGURATED TOMORROW (SATURDAY) EVENING.

OFFICIATING WILL BE MR. DAVID T.K. WONG, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS. THE CEREMONY TAKES PLACE AT 7.30 P.M. AT THE CARITAS SOCIAL CENTRE AT PRINCE EDWARD ROAD, KOWLOON.

THE COUNCIL WAS INITIATED BY THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE AND CONSISTS OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, INCLUDING THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE, AND THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT, AS WELL AS VOLUNTARY AND CIVIC GROUPS.

THE COUNCIL WILL CO-ORDINATE THE SERVICES OF VOLUNTARY BODIES AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS IN THE FIELD OF YOUTH RECREATION IN KOWLOON CITY.

AFTER THE OPENING CEREMONY, MR. WONG WILL DRAW LOTS FOR THE WINNING NUMBERS OF A FUND RAISING RAFFLE, AND THIS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A VARIETY SHOW OF DRAMA, SINGING AND MUSICAL PERFORMANCES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: REPORTERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE OCCASION. OFFICERS FROM THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST THEM.

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CONSUMER ADVISORY SERVICE
R R R R R

THE FOLLOWING PRICES WERE REALISED TODAY (THURSDAY) AT SALE UNDER THE RICE CONTROL SCHEME AND AT THE VEGETABLE MARKETING ORGANISATION WHOLESALE MARKET AND THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION WHOLESALE MARKET AT CHEUNG SHA WAN, KOWLOON:

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF RICE

<u>GRADE OF RICE</u>	<u>AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY</u>	<u>WHOLESALE PRICES(\$/CATTY) AVERAGE</u>
<u>CHINA RICE</u>		
SEE ITEM		
- OLD CROP	--	-
- NEW CROP	--	-
<u>S.C. JEN</u>		
- OLD CROP	--	-
- NEW CROP	GOOD	2.15
PO HOAI	GOOD	1.57
CHU CHU	GOOD	1.42
<u>THAI RICE</u>		
100% WHOLE	GOOD	1.92
10-15% BROKENS	GOOD	1.91
A1 SUPER EXTRA	GOOD	1.77
A1 SUPER	GOOD	1.55
WHOLE CONTINUOUS	GOOD	1.85
<u>U.S. RICE</u>		
	--	-
<u>AUSTRALIAN RICE</u>		
	GOOD	1.91
<u>PAKISTAN RICE</u>		
	--	-
<u>TAIWAN RICE</u>		
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SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF SWINE

(CALL SOURCES)

AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	-	NORMAL
WHOLESALE PRICES OF PORK (\$/PIG-LIVE WEIGHT)	-	310 (AVERAGE)

/SUPPLIES AND

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SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF MARINE FISH

(CFHO CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE FISH MARKET)

SPECIES	AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY)		
		HIGH	LOW	MODE
GOLDEN THREAD	NORMAL	4.60	2.80	3.80
BIG-EYES	GOOD	2.80	0.70	1.80
SQUID	LIMITED	7.50	2.00	5.50
HAIR-TAILS	NORMAL	2.50	0.80	1.70
LIZARD FISHES	NORMAL	2.70	1.30	1.80
CROAKERS	LIMITED	2.00	0.70	1.20
CONGER-PIKE-EELS	LIMITED	2.80	1.20	2.00
MELON COAT	NORMAL	2.80	1.60	1.80
BREAMS	LIMITED	5.30	3.20	4.80
YELLOW BELLY	GOOD	2.20	0.50	1.20
MACKERELS	LIMITED	5.00	4.50	4.80
RED GOAT FISH	---	---	---	---
FORK-TAIL	NORMAL	1.40	0.70	1.00
HORSE-HEAD	NORMAL	6.20	3.00	4.50
MELON SEED	NORMAL	2.00	1.00	1.50
POMFRETS	SCARCE	13.00	11.00	12.00
GARROUPAS	LIMITED	11.00	8.00	9.00
YELLOW CROAKER	LIMITED	9.80	7.00	8.50

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF LOCALLY PRODUCED VEGETABLES

(V.M.O. CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE VEGETABLE MARKET)

TYPE OF VEGETABLE	AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY)		
		HIGH	LOW	MODE
FLOWERING CABBAGE	LIMITED	1.40	0.50	1.00
WHITE CABBAGE	LIMITED	0.70	0.20	0.50
CHINESE LETTUCE	LIMITED	0.70	0.30	0.50
WATER SPINACH	GOOD	0.40	0.10	0.30
CHINESE KALE	SCARCE	1.20	0.50	0.80
STRING BEANS	LIMITED	1.50	0.40	1.00
SPRING ONION	GOOD	0.80	0.20	0.50
SPINACH	---	---	---	---
WATER CRESS	SCARCE	1.20	0.40	0.80
LEAF MUSTARD CABBAGE	LIMITED	0.80	0.20	0.60
CHINESE SPINACH	LIMITED	0.80	0.30	0.60
TOMATO	SCARCE	2.80	1.20	2.20