



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1975

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TELEPHONE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY NAMED

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A FORMER SENIOR PUISNE JUDGE OF HONG KONG, SIR ALASTAIR BLAIR-KERR, WAS TODAY NAMED TO HEAD THE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY APPOINTED TO EXAMINE THE AFFAIRS OF THE TELEPHONE COMPANY.

SIR ALASTAIR, A MUCH RESPECTED JUDGE WHO SPENT MORE THAN 27 YEARS IN HONG KONG, WILL BE ASSISTED BY FIVE MEMBERS.

THEY ARE MR. GORDON MACWHINNIE, THE FOUNDER CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG SOCIETY OF ACCOUNTANTS AND SENIOR PARTNER OF THE FIRM OF PEAT, MARWICK, MITCHELL AND COMPANY- MR. JOHN SOONG, CHAIRMAN AND MANAGING DIRECTOR OF MOBIL OIL HONG KONG- MR. C.P. HUNG, PRESIDENT OF THE CHINESE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION- DR. L.K. DING, A MEDICAL PRACTITIONER- AND MISS LYDIA DUNN, A DIRECTOR OF SWIRE AND MACLAINE (FAR EAST) LTD. AND GENERAL MANAGER OF ITS EXPORT DIVISION. THE SECRETARY IS MR. DONALD TSANG OF THE COLONIAL SECRETARIAT.

THE WIDE-RANGING TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMISSION ARE : -

1. TO EXAMINE THE AFFAIRS OF THE HONG KONG TELEPHONE COMPANY INCLUDING :
 - (A) ITS MANAGEMENT AND ORGANISATION, ITS DEBT LIABILITIES AND ITS PROFITABILITY-
 - (B) THE CAUSES OF ITS PRESENT CASH FLOW PROBLEM-
 - (C) ITS PLANS FOR EXPANSION AND THE IMPLICATIONS FOR ITS FINANCES-
 - (D) THE ADEQUACY, EFFICIENCY AND QUALITY OF THE SERVICE WHICH IT PROVIDES AND IS PLANNING TO PROVIDE.

2. IN THE LIGHT OF THE FOREGOING TO RECOMMEND :
 - (A) WHAT STEPS SHOULD BE TAKEN TO RENDER THE HONG KONG TELEPHONE COMPANY FINANCIALLY VIABLE HAVING REGARD TO :
 - (I) ITS FINANCIAL POSITION AND PROSPECTS-
 - (II) THE NEED TO MAINTAIN AN ADEQUATE AND EFFICIENT SERVICE OF PROPER QUALITY-
 - (III) WHAT IS EQUITABLE TO TELEPHONE USERS-
 - (IV) THE ROLE OF THE TELEPHONE SERVICE IN HONG KONG.
 - (B) WHAT MEASURES SHOULD BE TAKEN TO ENSURE
 - (I) THAT PUBLIC CONTROL OVER THE OPERATIONS OF THE COMPANY IS ADEQUATE, HAVING REGARD TO ITS CHARACTER AS A PRIVATE COMPANY PROVIDING A MONOPOLY PUBLIC UTILITY-
 - (II) THAT A PROPER BALANCE IS STRUCK BETWEEN THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR THE FUTURE MAINTENANCE AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMPANY'S SERVICE AND A REASONABLE RETURN TO SHAREHOLDERS ON THEIR INVESTMENTS.

/THE COMMISSION

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THE COMMISSION HAS BEEN ASKED TO SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR WITHIN SIX MONTHS.

AT THE SAME TIME, IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE ACCOUNTANT GENERAL, MR. DOUGLAS BLYE, HAS BEEN APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR TO THE BOARD OF THE HONG KONG TELEPHONE COMPANY.

THE APPOINTMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT DIRECTOR, WHOSE MAIN RESPONSIBILITY WILL BE TO REPRESENT THE PUBLIC INTEREST, WAS MADE POSSIBLE FOLLOWING LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL APPROVAL OF A BILL ON WEDNESDAY.

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BUDGET - "NO SOFT OPTIONS" THIS YEAR

THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR. DENIS BRAY, PREDICTED TODAY THAT THE FORTHCOMING BUDGET WOULD ENABLE THE GOVERNMENT AND THE COMMUNITY TO CONTINUE THEIR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES.

SPEAKING AT THE KOWLOON NORTH ROTARY CLUB LUNCHEON, MR. BRAY SAID THAT THERE WOULD BE "NO SOFT OPTIONS" THIS YEAR. HONG KONG DID NOT HAVE ENOUGH RESERVES TO GIVE AWAY TAXES AND KEEP SPENDING ON SOCIAL SERVICES.

AT THE SAME TIME, +WE CANNOT JACK UP TAXES TO DO ALL THE WONDERFUL THINGS WE ARE SO OFTEN CRITICISED FOR NOT DOING. NOR CAN GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE BE SLASHED WITHOUT STOPPING DOING SOME OF THE THINGS PEOPLE EXPECT THE GOVERNMENT TO DO,+ MR. BRAY SAID.

HONG KONG, HE ADDED, IS A +LITTLE PLACE IN A BIG ROUGH WORLD GOING THROUGH AN ECONOMIC RECESSION. WE ARE DOING REMARKABLY WELL IN SUCH A SITUATION.+

REFERRING TO RECENT MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT THE BUDGET, THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS SAID THAT PUBLIC FINANCE SEEMED TO BE ONE SUBJECT ON WHICH +PEOPLE HAVE THE ODDEST IDEAS+.

IT IS A BIG AND DIFFICULT SUBJECT, HE SAID. MOST PEOPLE HAVE SOME UNDERSTANDING ABOUT THEIR OWN FAMILY FINANCES. +BUT WHEN IT COMES TO PUBLIC FINANCES WE SEEM TO THINK EVERYTHING WORKS DIFFERENTLY.+

MR. BRAY EXPLAINED THAT IN BIG COUNTRIES SUCH AS AMERICA OR BRITAIN IT WAS TRUE THE GOVERNMENT OUGHT TO SPEND MORE AND TAX LESS DURING TIMES OF DEPRESSION.

+YOU CAN GET THINGS GOING INTERNALLY WITHOUT WORRYING TOO MUCH WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM, BUT OTHER PEOPLE'S IMPORTS HAVE TO BE PAID FOR,+ HE SAID.

EXTERNAL TRADE WAS OF MUCH LESS IMPORTANCE TO BRITAIN OR AMERICA THAN TO HONG KONG. +IF WE THREW GOVERNMENT MONEY AROUND OUR BALANCE OF PAYMENTS WOULD BE TURNED UPSIDE DOWN OVER-NIGHT.+

MR. BRAY SAID THE HONG KONG ECONOMY WAS MORE LIKE A FAMILY ECONOMY THAN THAT OF A LARGE DEVELOPED COUNTRY. IF A PRIVATE ECONOMY WAS IN RECESSION ONE COULD NOT INDULGE IN A SPENDING SPREE.

/SPEAKING ABOUT

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SPEAKING ABOUT THE RESERVES, MR. BRAY SAID THAT IF THE GOVERNMENT HAD VAST RESERVES AND FELT SURE THAT HONG KONG WAS IN FOR A SHORT BAD PERIOD, WE COULD REASONABLY AND DELIBERATELY DRAW ON THEM.

+BUT,+ HE SAID, +WE DO NOT HAVE VAST RESERVES AND WE DO NOT KNOW EXACTLY WHEN THINGS WILL TURN UP.+

IN FACT, BECAUSE NO ONE CAN REALLY FORECAST THAT TIMES CANNOT POSSIBLY GET WORSE, +IT WOULD BE JUST AS WELL TO ALLOW FOR A LITTLE BAD LUCK, RATHER THAN DEPENDING ON GOOD LUCK.+

MR. BRAY NOTED THAT HONG KONG WOULD HAVE TO DRAW ON ABOUT \$400 MILLION OF ITS RESERVES BECAUSE OF THE EXPECTED DEFICIT BASED ON SEPTEMBER'S FIGURES.

HE ALSO CLEARED UP ANY MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT THE RESERVES BY DESCRIBING AS +ABSOLUTE RUBBISH+ SUGGESTIONS THAT THEY WERE JUST +SQUEEZED OUT OF HONG KONG TO KEEP ENGLAND GOING.+

+HONG KONG IS A GREAT PLACE, BUT BY NO STRETCH OF THE IMAGINATION CAN ANYONE TAKE SERIOUSLY THE CLAIM THAT IT IS HARD-WORKING HONG KONG THAT KEEPS DECADENT ENGLAND GOING. WE COULDN'T ANY MORE THAN WE COULD SUSTAIN ANY OTHER COUNTRY TENS OR HUNDREDS OF TIMES OUR SIZE.+

HE SAID MOST PEOPLE REALISED NOW THAT THE SURPLUSES WERE HONG KONG'S SAVINGS AND WERE NOT JUST GIVEN AWAY TO WHOEVER LOOKED AFTER THEM. THEY ARE BANKED IN A NUMBER OF PLACES AND ARE EARNING INTEREST, JUST AS HOUSEHOLD SAVINGS WERE MUCH MORE USEFUL WHEN BANKED.

MR. BRAY ADDED THAT THE VALUE OF THE RESERVES HAD CERTAINLY BEEN ERODED BY DEVALUATION ABROAD, BUT THERE WAS NOTHING DELIBERATE OR FOOLISH ABOUT THE LOSSES.

+INDEED, SIR JOHN COWPERTHWAITTE PIONEERED THE CONCEPT OF THE STERLING GUARANTEE FROM WHICH ALL OTHER STERLING HOLDERS BENEFITED. AS THE GUARANTEE WAS ERODED BY THE CHANGING NATURE OF WORLD MONETARY ARRANGEMENTS SO OUR RESERVES HAVE BEEN DIVERSIFIED. NOT THAT TO MOVE OUT OF STERLING INTO, SAY, THE U.S. DOLLAR MEANS THE AVOIDANCE OF EXCHANGE RISKS,+ HE SAID.

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REVISED DRAFT PLAN FOR WAN CHAI
PERMITS WIDER VARIATIONS OF LAND USE

PROPERTY DEVELOPERS WILL BE ABLE TO APPLY FOR A WIDER RANGE OF LAND USE VARIATIONS IN WAN CHAI UNDER THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD'S REVISED DRAFT PLAN FOR WAN CHAI AREA PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE.

WHILE THE REVISED PLAN DOES NOT PROPOSE ANY AMENDMENTS TO THE ZONED USE OF LAND IN WAN CHAI, IT COMPRISES A REVISED SET OF NOTES WHICH LAY DOWN USES THAT MAY BE AUTOMATICALLY PERMITTED IN A SPECIFIC ZONE, AND OTHER USES WHICH MAY BE PERMITTED ON APPLICATION TO THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD.

THE NEW NOTES IN THE DRAFT PLAN ALLOW FOR SPECIFIC DEPARTURES FROM ALL ZONED USES ON THE PLAN. FOR EXAMPLE, IN THE RESIDENTIAL ZONE THERE IS NOW PROVISION FOR SUCH USES AS OFFICES, HOTELS AND PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT IF ACCEPTABLE TO THE BOARD.

THE BOARD ALSO PROVIDES IN THE NOTES FOR CERTAIN COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL USES IN GOVERNMENT, INSTITUTION AND COMMUNITY AND OPEN SPACES ZONES. THIS IS TO ALLOW GREATER FLEXIBILITY WHERE DEVELOPERS EXPRESS AN INTEREST IN UNDERTAKING COMPOSITE PROJECTS ON LAND ZONED FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES WHILE DEVOTING ADEQUATE SPACE WITHIN SUCH PROJECTS FOR GOVERNMENT, INSTITUTION OR COMMUNITY USE.

THE INCLUSION OF THE NEW NOTES IN THE DRAFT PLAN FOR WAN CHAI AREA WAS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE ENACTMENT OF THE TOWN PLANNING AMENDMENT AND VALIDATION ORDINANCE LAST AUGUST.

UNDER THIS LEGISLATION, THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD IS ALLOWED FOR THE FIRST TIME TO GRANT PERMISSION FOR USE OF LAND NOT STRICTLY IN COMPLIANCE BUT COMPATIBLE WITH THAT SHOWN ON STATUTORY PLANS, IN CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE THE BOARD FEELS THAT DEPARTURES MAY BE AUTHORISED AND WHERE THE NOTES PROVIDE FOR THE GRANT OF PERMISSION.

ALTHOUGH THE ORDINANCE PROVIDES FOR THE BOARD TO AMEND PLANS SO AS TO INCLUDE THE NEW NOTES WITHOUT OPENING THE PLANS FOR PUBLIC OBJECTION, THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD HAS DECIDED TO ALLOW OBJECTION TO THESE NOTES IN THE INTEREST OF THE COMMUNITY.

THE PROVISION OF NOTES WILL BE EXTENDED PROGRESSIVELY TO OTHER STATUTORY PLANS. IN THE COMING MONTHS, THE BOARD WILL BE REVISING ALL DRAFT AND APPROVED PLANS IN THE SAME MANNER.

APPLICATIONS FOR THE USES LISTED IN THE SECOND OR +PERMISSIVE+ COLUMN OF THE NOTES IN THE WAN CHAI DRAFT PLAN SHOULD BE MADE TO THE SECRETARY, TOWN PLANNING BOARD, ON APPROVED APPLICATION FORMS. COPIES OF THESE FORMS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE TOWN PLANNING OFFICE AT MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD.

THE PUBLIC SHOULD NOTE THAT APPLICATIONS WOULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED FOR USES SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED IN THE SECOND COLUMN OF THE NOTES.

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TRADE OFFICIALS LEAVE FOR IMPORTANT TALKS IN EUROPE
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TWO SENIOR OFFICIALS OF THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT WILL LEAVE FOR EUROPE TOMORROW (SATURDAY) FOR TRADE TALKS WITH AUSTRIA AND EEC MEMBER STATES.

MR. LAWRENCE MILLS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT, IN CHARGE OF COMMERCIAL RELATIONS, WILL FLY INITIALLY TO GENEVA WHERE HE WILL HOLD CONSULTATIONS WITH OFFICIALS OF THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT ON ITS REQUEST FOR RESTRAINTS ON THE EXPORTS OF HONG KONG SHIRTS TO THAT COUNTRY.

HE WILL THEN SEE TRADE OFFICIALS IN BRUSSELS AND IN THE OTHER EEC MEMBER STATES AS WELL AS HONG KONG'S TWO REPRESENTATIVES IN EUROPE, MR. CLAUDE BURGESS AND MR. PAT DODGE.

MR. MILLS' LATEST VISIT TO EUROPE IS HIS SECOND IN THREE WEEKS AND IS BEING MADE TO HELP HIM PUT HONG KONG'S NEGOTIATING BRIEF INTO FINAL PROSPECTIVE FOR THE FORTHCOMING TEXTILE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE EEC. THESE ARE LIKELY TO BE HELD IN ABOUT A MONTH'S TIME.

MR. PETER TSAO, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR IN-CHARGE OF COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH THE COMMON MARKET AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE ORGANISATIONS, WILL ATTEND IN GENEVA A MEETING OF THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE GATT. THE COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS WAYS OF REDUCING - ON A MUTUAL BASIS - TARIFF AND NON-TARIFF BARRIERS TO WORLD TRADE.

BEFORE THIS, HOWEVER, MR. TSAO WILL ATTEND AN INFORMAL MEETING OF THE DEVELOPING MEMBERS OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND PACIFIC (ESCAP) IN CONNECTION WITH THE GATT MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS TO BE HELD LATER THIS YEAR.

THE PURPOSE OF THE INFORMAL TALKS IS TO ENABLE THE DEVELOPING MEMBERS OF ESCAP TO DISCUSS HOW THEY MIGHT PREPARE THEMSELVES FOR THE FORTHCOMING NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AT THE GATT MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS.

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DANGEROUS BUILDINGS
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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY INTENDS TO APPLY FOR CLOSURE ORDERS FOR A GROUP OF NINE STRUCTURES IN SAI TAU TSUEN, KOWLOON CITY, SOME OF WHICH WERE DAMAGED IN A RECENT FIRE.

THE AFFECTED STRUCTURES ARE NOS. 2A SHING LUNG STREET, 2, 2A AND 12B CARPENTER ROAD, 2B AND 2C SAI TAU TSUEN FIRST STREET - ALL OF WHICH ARE IN A DANGEROUS CONDITION - AND NOS. A2 CARPENTER ROAD, 2A SAI TAU TSUEN FIRST STREET, AND THE BUILDING OVER-RIDING SAI TAU TSUEN FIRST STREET ADJACENT TO CARPENTER ROAD, WHICH ARE LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS.

THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING SURVEYOR SAID IN A STATEMENT THIS MORNING THAT THE ROOFS OF FOUR OF THIS GROUP OF SUB-STANDARD STRUCTURES WERE CLOSED FOLLOWING A RECENT FIRE. +FOLLOW UP INSPECTIONS HAVE REVEALED THAT THE LOWER GROUND FLOOR AREAS SHOW EXTENSIVE SIGNS OF DECAY TO SEVERAL MAIN TIMBER SUPPORTS AND SOME SUBSIDENCE OF THE GROUP HAS ALREADY TAKEN PLACE.+

AS THERE IS A RISK OF COLLAPSE, HE SAID, IT WAS NECESSARY TO CLOSE AND DEMOLISH THIS WHOLE GROUP OF INTER-COMMUNICATING STRUCTURES.

NOTICES OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR CLOSURE ORDERS WERE POSTED ON THE STRUCTURES TODAY. THE APPLICATIONS WILL BE HEARD IN KOWLOON DISTRICT COURT AT 9.30 AM ON FEBRUARY 28.

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NEW YEAR FETE FOR CHAI WAN CHILDREN
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FIVE HUNDRED CHILDREN FROM CHAI WAN WILL BE ENTERTAINED AT A LUNAR NEW YEAR FAIR THIS SUNDAY (FEBRUARY 9) AFTERNOON AT THE CHAI WAN COMMUNITY CENTRE.

THE MAIN ATTRACTION WILL BE TWELVE GAME STALLS WHICH PROMISES TO GIVE THE CHILDREN A FUN-FILLED THREE HOURS FROM 2 P.M. THAT DAY.

TO ENCOURAGE ORIGINALITY IN THE DESIGN OF THE STALLS - ALL TO BE SET UP AND MANNED BY YOUTH MEMBERS OF COMMUNITY ORGNISATION - PRIZES DONATED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CHAI WAN KAIFONG ASSOCIATION, MR. SO CHING, WILL BE AWARDED TO THE THREE BEST DESIGNS.

THE NEW YEAR FAIR IS ORGANISED BY THE CHAI WAN FIRSHERMEN'S RECREATION CLUB, THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (EASTERN), THE NEIGHBOURHOOD ADVICE COUNCIL, THE BOYS' AND GIRLS' CLUBS ASSOCIATION AND THE CHAI WAN COMMUNITY CENTRE.

IN ADDITION, THE HONG KONG PLAYGROUND ASSOCIATION AND THE CHONG GENE HANG SCHOOL WILL BE HELPING IN SETTING UP AND RUNNING THE STALLS.

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SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM FOR MA HANG

THE GOVERNMENT PLANS TO BUILD A SUBMARINE OUTFALL AT MA HANG IN STANLEY TO DISPOSE OF SEWAGE AWAY FROM THE SHORE AND AVOID POLLUTION.

THE OUTFALL PIPE WHICH WILL CARRY THE SEWAGE WILL BE PERMANENTLY BURIED IN THE SEABED AND WILL BE PROTECTED BY RUBBLE THROUGHOUT ITS LENGTH.

AT PRESENT MA HANG IS INHABITED BY SEVERAL THOUSAND SQUATTERS WHO OPERATE A FEW HUNDRED PIGSTIES. THE MAIN STREAM SERVING THE AREA FLOWS INTO THE SEA AT A BEACH AT THE WEST END OF STANLEY BAY.

WITHOUT A PROPER DISPOSAL SYSTEM, THE WASTE DISCHARGE FROM SQUATTERS AS WELL AS THE PIGSTIES MAY FIND ITS WAY INTO THE STREAM AND POLLUTE THE BEACH, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE PROPOSED SUBMARINE OUTFALL, TOGETHER WITH OTHER BUILDING WORKS ON LAND, WILL SATISFACTORILY DISPOSE OF THE SEWAGE INTO DEEP WATER AT A POINT WHERE IT WILL BE ADEQUATELY DILUTED AND DISPERSED BY CURRENTS, HE ADDED.

THE EXTENT OF THE FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED IN THE BUILDING PROJECT IS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE IN THE GAZETTE TODAY.

ANYONE WHO HAS OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSAL OR CLAIMS OF PRIVATE RIGHT MAY SUBMIT THEM IN WRITING TO THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS WITHIN THE NEXT TWO MONTHS.

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TAXI DRIVERS WARNED NOT TO RAISE FARES
DURING LUNAR NEW YEAR

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT TODAY REMINDED TAXI DRIVERS THAT THEY WOULD BE COMMITTING AN OFFENCE IF THEY CHARGED FARES HIGHER THAN THE APPROPRIATE SCALE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THERE HAD BEEN REPORTS DURING THE LAST CHINESE NEW YEAR OF TAXI DRIVERS DEMANDING +LUCKY+ MONEY OR HIGHER FARES FROM THEIR PASSENGERS.

HE WARNED THAT ANY PERSON COMMITTING SUCH AN OFFENCE WAS LIABLE IN THE CASE OF FIRST CONVICTION TO A FINE OF \$500 AND AN IMPRISONMENT FOR THREE MONTHS.

NO TAXI DRIVER IS ALLOWED TO CHARGE A FARE EXCEEDING THE APPROPRIATE SCALE OF FARES SET DOWN IN THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATIONS, HE SAID.

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MORE CARE AND ATTENTION NEEDED FOR ELDERLY
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THERE IS STILL A NEED FOR MORE CARE AND ATTENTION PLACES FOR SENILE PEOPLE, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

HE NOTED THAT WHILE HONG KONG HAD A LONG HISTORY OF PROVIDING REGULAR HOMES FOR THE AGED, THE NUMBER OF CARE AND ATTENTION PLACES STILL FELL SHORT OF DEMAND.

ONE POSSIBLE WAY OF GETTING CLOSER TO MEETING THIS DEMAND, HE FELT, WAS FOR EXISTING OLD PEOPLE'S HOMES TO DEVELOP CARE AND ATTENTION SECTIONS.

BUT UNTIL THIS HAPPENED CARE HAD TO BE TAKEN TO ENSURE THAT AVAILABLE PLACES WERE GIVEN TO THOSE WHO NEEDED THEM, HE STRESSED.

MR. LEE MADE THESE REMARKS WHEN HE SPOKE AT THE DEDICATION AND OPENING OF THE SALVATION ARMY'S NEW CARE AND ATTENTION HOME AT KAM TIN IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

HE SAID IT WAS A CREDIT TO THE HARD WORKING MEN AND WOMEN OF THE SALVATION ARMY THAT IN LESS THAN A YEAR AFTER THE FIRST CARE AND ATTENTION HOME WAS OPENED ANOTHER VALUABLE SERVICE WAS BEING MADE AVAILABLE TO INFIRM PEOPLE.

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COMPENSATION RULES FOR BREACH OF EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS
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NEW LEGISLATION RESTORING THE RIGHT OF EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES TO CLAIM LIQUIDATED DAMAGES FOR WAGES IN LIEU OF NOTICE CAME INTO FORCE TODAY.

THE EMPLOYMENT (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1975 PROVIDES THAT WHERE A CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT IS WRONGFULLY TERMINATED BY EITHER PARTY, A LIQUIDATED SUM EQUAL TO WAGES IN LIEU OF NOTICE IS PAYABLE TO THE OTHER PARTY.

THE NEW LEGISLATION BECOMES SECTION 8A OF THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE.

THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR. IAN PRICE SAID: +THIS IS A TECHNICAL AMENDMENT TO RESTORE THE LEGAL POSITION TO WHAT IT WAS ALWAYS THOUGHT TO BE.+

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