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## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, MARCH 21, 1988

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GOVERNOR EXPLAINS VALUE OF HK-CHINA ECONOMIC TIES

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THE HIGH DEGREE OF ECONOMIC INTERDEPENDENCE THAT NOW EXISTS BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CHINA IS A RELATIONSHIP OF IMMENSE VALUE TO BOTH SIDES, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID IN LONDON TODAY (MONDAY).

IN A WIDE-RANGING ADDRESS TO THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, SIR DAVID EXPLAINED THAT MUCH OF HONG KONG'S RECENT SUCCESS -- VERY HIGH GROWTH RATES, BOOMING PORT BUSINESS -- WAS BECAUSE OF THE INCREASING IMPORTANCE OF CHINA TO THE HONG KONG ECONOMY.

FOR CHINA, THIS ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP MIGHT ACCOUNT FOR AS MUCH AS ONE THIRD OF ALL FOREIGN EXCHANGE EARNINGS.

"IT IS AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND THAT ONE HAS TO SEE THE 1984 SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION ON THE QUESTION OF HONG KONG," SIR DAVID SAID.

"THE POINT I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE IS THAT THE ECONOMIC SUCCESS OF HONG KONG, AND ITS INCREASING VALUE TO CHINA, IS THE BEST GUARANTEE OF ITS FUTURE."

IN HIS SPEECH ON "HONG KONG IN TRANSITION", SIR DAVID SAID THE RESUMPTION OF CHINESE SOVEREIGNTY IN 1997 HAD NOT SURPRISINGLY COME TO DOMINATE INTERNATIONAL COVERAGE OF THE TERRITORY, BUT IT WAS IN FACT ONLY ONE OF MANY IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS.

HE POINTED TO THE GREAT CHANGES THAT HAD TAKEN PLACE IN HONG KONG SINCE THE 1960'S AND 1970'S.

"IT HAS GROWN, DEVELOPED, MATURED FAR FASTER THAN PERHAPS ANY OTHER SOCIETY ON EARTH. IT IS CONTINUING TO DEVELOP AND TO CHANGE AT A GREAT PACE," HE SAID.

"IT IS IN THIS CONTEXT THAT WE SHOULD LOOK AT HONG KONG. WHAT IT IS NOW. HOW IT IS CHANGING. AND WHAT IT WILL BE IN 1997 AND BEYOND."

ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, SIR DAVID DESCRIBED THE POSTWAR GROWTH OF THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY, AND HOW THE ECONOMY HAD EXPANDED AMAZINGLY SINCE THE 1960'S.

CITING FIGURES, HE REFERRED TO THE NEARLY TWENTY-FOLD INCREASE IN THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT -- FROM US\$2.5 BILLION IN 1967 TO OVER US\$46 BILLION IN 1987.

TOTAL VISIBLE TRADE HAD RISEN THIRTY-FOLD -- FROM US\$3.3 BILLION IN 1967 TO US\$97 BILLION IN 1987; IN REAL TERMS AMOUNTING TO NEARLY 12 PER CENT GROWTH YEARLY FOR 20 YEARS.

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HONG KONG NOW RANKED 13TH IN THE WORLD'S TRADING ECONOMIES; AND IN A RECENT DEVELOPMENT ITS CONTAINER PORT HAD BECOME THE WORLD'S BUSIEST, OVERTAKING ROTTERDAM.

"THIS GROWTH IS CONTINUING," SIR DAVID SAID, AND THOUGH 1988 WOULD NOT MATCH LAST YEAR'S 13 PER CENT ECONOMIC GROWTH RATE, A STRONG PERFORMANCE WAS STILL EXPECTED.

THE GOVERNOR POINTED OUT HOW NOT ONLY THE SIZE BUT THE NATURE OF THE ECONOMY HAD CHANGED RADICALLY, AND SO HAD THE PATTERN OF TRADE.

"HONG KONG IS NOW A WORLD LEADER IN WATCHES AND CLOCKS, ELECTRONIC GOODS AND FASHIONABLE CLOTHES, PRINTING AND DESIGN.

"THE OPENING UP OF CHINA'S ECONOMY IN RECENT YEARS HAS MEANT THE RESURGENCE OF HONG KONG'S ROLE AS AN ENTREPOT, A TRANSHIPMENT CENTRE; AND A GATEWAY FOR CHINA TRADE."

AS A RESULT, CHINA WAS HONG KONG'S SECOND LARGEST EXPORT MARKET, AFTER THE UNITED STATES.

BUT HE EMPHASISED THAT OTHER ASIAN ECONOMIES WERE ALSO TAKING A MUCH GREATER PROPORTION OF HONG KONG TRADE, AND HEADWAY AT LAST WAS BEING MADE IN JAPAN.

"WE LOOK FORWARD TO MUCH MORE TRADE BETWEEN HONG KONG AND OUR NEAR NEIGHBOURS IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION, TO BALANCE OUR TRADITIONAL MARKETS IN NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE," HE SAID.

HE POINTED TO THE EVOLUTION OF HONG KONG'S ROLE IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION AS A MOST IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN THE TERRITORY'S ECONOMIC TRANSITION.

"AS WELL AS A TRADING AND A MANUFACTURING CENTRE, WE HAVE BECOME, PARTICULARLY OVER THE LAST DECADE OR SO, A CENTRE FOR BUSINESS SERVICES.

"HONG KONG HAS BECOME A PLACE THROUGH WHICH TO DO BUSINESS WITH THE COUNTRIES OF THE WHOLE REGION -- A PLACE TO HAVE ONE'S REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS," HE SAID, NOTING THAT OVER 2,200 INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES NOW OPERATED IN THE TERRITORY.

SIR DAVID ALSO REFERRED TO HONG KONG'S EMERGENCE AS AN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRE, A ROLE FOR WHICH IT WAS ADMIRABLY SUITED, WITH MORE THAN 400 LICENSED BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING INSTITUTIONS HAVING SET UP OPERATIONS HERE.

SUCH A RAPID ECONOMIC TRANSITION DID CREATE SOME PROBLEMS, SIR DAVID SAID. MANUFACTURERS HAD CONSTANTLY TO LOOK FOR WAYS TO STAY COMPETITIVE AND TRADERS FACED THREATS OF PROTECTIONISM IN OLD MARKETS AND EXISTING BARRIERS IN NEW ONES.

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IN THE FINANCIAL SECTOR, THE STOCK MARKET WAS BUFFETTED LAST YEAR, AS HAPPENED ELSEWHERE, AND WEAKNESSES WERE SHOWN UP THAT WERE PARTLY THE RESULT OF THE SPEED AT WHICH THE STOCK AND FUTURES MARKETS HAD DEVELOPED.

IT WAS CLEAR THAT A HARD LOOK NEEDED TO BE TAKEN AT THE WHOLE SECURITIES SYSTEM, AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF HONG KONG'S NEW AND DEVELOPING ROLE AS AN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRE, AND A REVIEW COMMITTEE DOING THAT WOULD REPORT IN MAY.

TURNING TO SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, SIR DAVID OUTLINED THE PROGRESS MADE IN EDUCATION, HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES, AND POINTED OUT THAT "WITH INCREASED AFFLUENCE AND THE SATISFACTION OF BASIC NEEDS COME INCREASED DEMANDS" FOR EVEN BETTER SERVICES.

"THE CHALLENGE FOR THE GOVERNMENT IS TO MEET THESE GROWING ASPIRATIONS -- AND AT THE SAME TIME TO KEEP TAXES LOW SO AS NOT TO CONSTRAIN THE INDIVIDUAL DRIVE AND INITIATIVE WHICH HAVE PUT HONG KONG WHERE IT IS TODAY," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID REFERRED TO HOW THESE CHANGING ASPIRATIONS WERE ALSO REFLECTED IN SUPPORT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF MORE REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT. THERE WAS NOW STRONG INTEREST IN POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT, PARTICULARLY AMONG THE NEW LARGE PROFESSIONAL AND MIDDLE CLASS.

HE DESCRIBED HOW OVER THE PAST SEVEN YEARS A THREE-TIER SYSTEM OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN INTRODUCED: DISTRICT BOARDS, MUNICIPAL COUNCILS, AND THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A CONSULTATION EXERCISE THAT BEGAN LAST YEAR HAD SHOWN THAT A SUBSTANTIAL MAJORITY OF THE POPULATION WANTED SOME ELEMENT OF DIRECT ELECTIONS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, BUT VIEWS WERE SHARPLY DIVIDED ON WHEN THIS STEP SHOULD BE MADE.

IT HAD BEEN DECIDED THAT, FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE COUNCIL WOULD HAVE SOME ELECTED MEMBERS IN 1991; 10 SEATS, OR ABOUT 18 PER CENT OF THE COUNCIL.

"WHATEVER VIEWS ARE TAKEN, THIS MOVE SHOULD BE RECOGNISED FOR WHAT IT IS -- AN IMPORTANT, INDEED AN HISTORIC DECISION -- AND ONE WHICH HAS BEEN WIDELY WELCOMED IN HONG KONG," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID THERE WOULD CERTAINLY BE FURTHER CHANGE, AND HE ADDED THAT THE BASIC LAW NOW BEING DRAFTED BY THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT FOR THE FUTURE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION LOOKED CERTAIN TO PROVIDE FOR AT LEAST 25 PER CENT TO BE DIRECTLY ELECTED AND FOR FURTHER EVOLUTION BEYOND THAT POINT AFTER 1997.

THE GOVERNOR DISCUSSED THE RELATIONSHIP WITH CHINA AS THE THIRD ASPECT OF DEVELOPMENT WHICH MADE THE HONG KONG OF TODAY A GREATLY CHANGED PLACE.

SAYING "A LITTLE HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE TELLS A REMARKABLE STORY", HE EXPLAINED HOW EVEN ONLY A DECADE AGO CHINA WAS A MINOR MARKET FOR HONG KONG GOODS, WITH MAINLY FOOD COMING IN RETURN, AND THERE WAS LITTLE MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE ACROSS THE BORDER AT LO WU.

TODAY, HONG KONG WAS CHINA'S LARGEST MARKET AND ITS LARGEST SOURCE OF FOREIGN INVESTMENT, AND CHINA HAD HUGE AND GROWING INVESTMENTS IN HONG KONG.

HONG KONG PEOPLE NOW MADE AROUND 14 MILLION VISITS A YEAR TO CHINA, AND OVER 400,000 CHINESE VISITORS CAME ANNUALLY TO HONG KONG; AND TRANSPORT LINKS NOW INCLUDED FERRY SERVICES, AND AIR SERVICES TO OVER 20 CHINESE CITIES, BESIDES TRAINS.

"ONE NEEDS TO GO TO THE SHENZHEN ECONOMIC ZONE, ACROSS THE BORDER FROM HONG KONG, TO THE TOWNS OF THE PEARL RIVER DELTA, AND TO THE CITY OF CANTON ITSELF TO FULLY APPRECIATE WHAT IS HAPPENING," HE SAID.

HONG KONG INTERESTS WERE NOW ESTIMATED TO BE EMPLOYING, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, WELL OVER A MILLION WORKERS IN THE PEARL RIVER DELTA AREA.

"AND THE OTHER AREAS OF CHINA, INCLUDING THE KEY MUNICIPALITY OF SHANGHAI, ARE BECOMING MORE AND MORE INTERESTED IN CO-OPERATION WITH HONG KONG.

"AN INCREASING NUMBER OF CHINESE CITIES AND PROVINCES ARE DEVELOPING A CLOSE VESTED INTEREST IN HONG KONG'S CONTINUED ECONOMIC SUCCESS AND ECONOMIC AUTONOMY."

NOTING THAT THERE WERE THOSE WHO CAST DOUBT ON WHETHER CHINA WOULD ADHERE TO THE JOINT DECLARATION, SIR DAVID SAID HE BELIEVED THAT THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT WAS FULLY AWARE OF THE VALUE OF HONG KONG, AND OF THE BENEFITS THAT IT COULD AND DID OBTAIN FROM IT.

"I BELIEVE THAT THEY ALSO RECOGNISE THAT THIS VALUE AND THESE BENEFITS WILL ONLY CONTINUE IF HONG KONG IS PERMITTED TO MAINTAIN ITS PRESENT WAY OF LIFE AND ITS PRESENT WAY OF DOING BUSINESS," HE SAID.

"I BELIEVE THAT IT IS FOR THIS REASON THAT THEY DEVISED THE IMAGINATIVE CONCEPT OF 'ONE COUNTRY, TWO SYSTEMS' AND WERE PREPARED TO SET OUT IN SUCH DETAIL HOW THE SEPARATENESS OF THE HONG KONG SAR WOULD BE PRESERVED FOR 50 YEARS AFTER 1997."

SIR DAVID ALSO REFERRED TO EMIGRATION, AND SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THIS HAD BEEN A FACT OF LIFE IN HONG KONG FOR MANY YEARS, WHAT HAD TO BE DONE NOW WAS TO ENSURE THAT HONG KONG REMAINED A PLACE IN WHICH PEOPLE WANTED TO LIVE, BOTH TODAY AND AFTER 1997.

"A CRUCIAL ELEMENT IN THIS WILL BE THE MAINTENANCE OF A STRONG ECONOMY," HE STRESSED.

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THIS WAS SO AT PRESENT, WITH TRADE BOOMING AND INVESTMENT BOUYANT, AND THERE WAS NO GREAT OUTFLOW OF CAPITAL.

"PIECE BY PIECE THE 1997 JIGSAW IS BEING PUT TOGETHER IN A WAY THAT WILL ALLOW HONG KONG'S PROSPERITY TO CONTINUE," HE SAID.

"INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS INTEREST IN HONG KONG IS STRONG, AS IS INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL SUPPORT FOR THE ARRANGEMENTS OVER THE FUTURE," SIR DAVID SAID, ADDING THAT THERE WAS NO SERIOUS RIVAL TO HONG KONG AS THE BUSINESS SERVICES CENTRE FOR THE REGION.

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#### LAND COMMISSION HOLDS 15TH MEETING

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THE 15TH MEETING OF THE SINO-BRITISH LAND COMMISSION WAS HELD IN HONG KONG TODAY (MONDAY).

THE TWO SIDES AGREED THAT THE LAND DISPOSAL PROGRAMME FOR THE 1988-89 FINANCIAL YEAR SHOULD AMOUNT TO 94.5 HECTARES.

THE PROGRAMME COMPRISES 22 HECTARES FOR COMMERCIAL RESIDENTIAL AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENTS; 22 HECTARES FOR HOME OWNERSHIP, PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION SCHEMES, HONG KONG HOUSING SOCIETY PUBLIC RENTAL HOUSING AND VILLAGE HOUSING; 19 HECTARES FOR PUBLIC UTILITIES, EDUCATIONAL, WELFARE, RELIGIOUS, RECREATIONAL AND OTHER USES; AND 31.5 HECTARES FOR CONTAINER TERMINAL 7 AS A SPECIAL REQUIREMENT.

IN ADDITION, THE LAND COMMISSION HAS AGREED THAT A FURTHER FIVE HECTARES OF LAND MAY BE RELEASED FOR COMMERCIAL, RESIDENTIAL AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE COURSE OF THE YEAR, IF THERE IS A DEMAND FOR IT.

THESE SITES WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE FORM OF A LAND APPLICATION LIST WHICH WILL BE REVIEWED QUARTERLY.

THE LAND COMMISSION RECOGNISED THE NEED TO PROCEED WITH THE THIRD UNIVERSITY PROJECT IN 1988-89 AND AGREED TO CONSIDER LAND ALLOCATION ONCE DETAILS OF REQUIREMENT HAVE BEEN FINALISED.

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CONTINUOUS GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO IMPROVE RURAL LIFE

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CONTINUOUS EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE BY THE AUTHORITIES TO CARRY OUT VARIOUS PROJECTS IN THE RURAL AREAS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE QUALITY OF LIFE THERE, THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR MICHAEL SUEN, SAID THIS (MONDAY) EVENING.

SPEAKING AT A NEW TERRITORIES ROTARY CLUB MEETING, MR SUEN SAID WITH THE BASIC PLANNING FRAMEWORK NEAR COMPLETION, THE TIME HAD COME TO SPEED UP THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS, MOST OF WHICH WERE ENGINEERING WORK RELATED TO VILLAGE EXPANSION AND DRAINAGE AND FLOOD CONTROL.

HE NOTED THAT THE AUTHORITIES PLANNED TO ALLOCATE MORE FUNDS AND HAD ALREADY CARRIED OUT MANY PROJECTS TO IMPROVE THE WORKING AND LIVING ENVIRONMENT OF VILLAGERS.

IN 1987-88, THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION (CNTA) HAD COMPLETED 175 LOCAL PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS COSTING \$13 MILLION AND THE AUTHORITIES HAD SET ASIDE \$14 MILLION FOR 190 SIMILAR PROJECTS IN 1988-89, HE SAID.

THE CNTA WAS ALSO INVOLVED IN URBAN FRINGE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMMES UNDERTAKEN BY THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE CIVIL ENGINEERING SERVICES DEPARTMENT THE AND HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT.

THESE PROGRAMMES WERE FIRST IMPLEMENTED IN THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR DURING WHICH 22 PROJECTS COSTING \$5.8 MILLION HAD BEEN COMPLETED. THE AUTHORITIES HAD SET ASIDE \$21 MILLION FOR CARRYING OUT 24 OTHER PROJECTS IN 1988-89.

OUTLINING THE WATER SUPPLY SITUATION FOR VILLAGES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR SUEN SAID METERED WATER SUPPLY WAS NOW AVAILABLE TO 531 VILLAGES AND A FURTHER 25 VILLAGES WOULD BE ABLE TO ENJOY THIS FACILITY WHEN THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT COMPLETED THEIR WORKS IN HAND.

IN A FIVE-YEAR PLAN STARTING 1988-89, THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT WOULD SPEND \$30 MILLION TO PROVIDE METERED WATER SUPPLY TO 85 REMOTE VILLAGES, HE ADDED.

OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, INCLUDING THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT AND THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, WERE ALSO ENGAGED IN WORKS TO IMPROVE THE LIVELIHOOD OF VILLAGERS AND FARMERS.

PROJECTS BEING CARRIED OUT IN THE NEW TOWNS WOULD ALSO CONTRIBUTE TO THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE RURAL ENVIRONMENT.

"THE AUTHORITIES HAVE DRAWN UP A COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR RURAL AREAS AND SET UP A NUMBER OF WORKING GROUPS TO STUDY DETAILS OF THE VARIOUS PROPOSALS.

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"IT IS HOPED THAT THE GROUPS CAN FINISH THEIR STUDIES WITHIN ONE YEAR AND THEN SEEK THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL'S APPROVAL FOR THE PROGRAMMES AND THE PROVISION OF THE NECESSARY RESOURCES.

"THE HEUNG YEE KUK, RURAL COMMITTEES AND DISTRICT BOARDS WILL BE CONSULTED BEFORE THE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS ARE FINALISED," MR SUEN CONCLUDED.

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TUNG WAH'S SERVICES FOR ELDERLY PRAISED

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THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MR JOHN CHAMBERS, TODAY (MONDAY) PAID TRIBUTE TO THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS FOR ITS IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE PROVISION OF SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY.

HE WAS OFFICIATING AT THE FOUNDATION-STONE LAYING CEREMONY OF THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS' WU YORK YU CARE AND ATTENTION HOME FOR THE ELDERLY IN SHUEN WAN, TAI PO.

MR CHAMBERS DESCRIBED THE PROJECT AS YET ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF THE GROUP'S COMMITMENT TO THE NEEDS OF ELDERLY PEOPLE WHO WERE NO LONGER CAPABLE OF LOOKING AFTER THEMSELVES.

THE IDEA TO USE THE PIECE OF LAND IN SAM MUN CHAI ROAD, OVERLOOKING SCENIC PLOVER COVE, TO PROVIDE CARE AND ATTENTION PLACES FOR THE ELDERLY WAS CONCEIVED SOME 10 YEARS AGO.

"JUNE 1985 SAW THE COMPLETION OF STAGE I OF THIS PROJECT, WHEN THE PAO SIU LOONG CARE AND ATTENTION BUILDING WITH ACCOMMODATION FOR 188 ELDERLY RESIDENTS WAS OPENED," MR CHAMBERS SAID.

"TODAY'S CEREMONY MARKS THE START OF WORK ON PHASE II OF THIS PROJECT WHICH WILL, IN DUE COURSE, PROVIDE ANOTHER CARE AND ATTENTION HOME WITH SOME 250 PLACES.

"THIS DEVELOPMENT IS BY FAR THE LARGEST OF ITS KIND IN HONG KONG AND WILL MAKE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE PROVISION OF CARE AND ATTENTION PLACES FOR THE ELDERLY."

MR CHAMBERS POINTED OUT THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD LONG PROMOTED THE CONCEPT OF "CARE IN THE COMMUNITY" AND PROVIDED SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT FOR FAMILIES TO CONTINUE TO CARE FOR THEIR ELDERLY MEMBERS IN THEIR OWN HOMES.

"SOMETIMES THIS IS NO LONGER POSSIBLE EITHER BECAUSE OF THE INCREASING FRAILITY OF THE ELDERLY OR BECAUSE OF THE INABILITY OF THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY CARE AND SUPPORT," HE SAID.

"IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES PLACEMENT IN A RESIDENTIAL HOME BECOMES THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE."

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RESIDENTS REMINDED NOT TO OVERLOAD LIFTS  
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RESIDENTS ARE REMINDED THAT THEY SHOULD NOT OVERLOAD LIFTS.

THE REMINDER WAS GIVEN TODAY (MONDAY) BY A SPOKESMAN FROM THE ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

"ALL LIFTS, BE THEY PASSENGER, CARGO OR SERVICE LIFTS, ARE DESIGNED TO CARRY A CERTAIN WEIGHT AND IT COULD BE DANGEROUS IF THIS LIMIT IS EXCEEDED," HE STRESSED.

TO ALERT THE PUBLIC TO THE DANGER OF LIFT OVERLOADING, THE GOVERNMENT HAS PRODUCED A POSTER AND A STICKER. A SIMILAR MESSAGE WILL ALSO BE BROADCAST OVER THE RADIO.

IN ADDITION, A LEAFLET ADVISING ON THE SAFE USE OF LIFTS AND ESCALATORS HAS ALSO BEEN PRODUCED. COPIES ARE AVAILABLE FROM ALL DISTRICT OFFICE ENQUIRY COUNTERS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE MAIN POINTS LISTED IN THE LEAFLET WERE BASICALLY COMMON SENSE AND THE PUBLIC SHOULD HAVE NO DIFFICULTY IN FOLLOWING THEM.

THE LEAFLET ALSO OUTLINED THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF OWNERS OF LIFTS AND ESCALATORS, INCLUDING CARGO AND SERVICE LIFTS, AS REQUIRED UNDER THE AMENDMENTS TO THE LIFTS AND ESCALATORS (SAFETY) ORDINANCE.

THE AMENDMENTS, WHICH CAME INTO EFFECT LAST NOVEMBER, REQUIRE OWNERS TO KEEP A LOG BOOK FOR LIFTS AND ESCALATORS TO RECORD DETAILS OF ALL MAINTENANCE WORK, CARRY OUT ANNUAL EXAMINATION ON SERVICE LIFTS AND REPORT ACCIDENTS INVOLVING LIFTS AND ESCALATORS.

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RECRUITMENT OF TEMPORARY LIFE GUARDS  
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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT IS RECRUITING TEMPORARY LIFE GUARDS FOR THE URBAN SERVICES AND THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENTS, TO MAN GAZETTED BEACHES AND SWIMMING POOLS OVER THE TERRITORY DURING THE SWIMMING SEASON THIS YEAR.

APPLICANTS SHOULD BE PREFERABLY AGED UNDER 35, OF GOOD PHYSIQUE AND GOOD EYE-SIGHT AND SHOULD POSSESS A BRONZE MEDALLION CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY THE ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY.

THE JOB, OFFERING A MONTHLY SALARY OF \$3,795 OR A DAILY WAGE OF \$153, IS OPEN TO BOTH MEN AND WOMEN.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO ARE INTERESTED IN THE POST MAY APPROACH ANY OF THE LOCAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE BRANCH OFFICES OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT OR TELEPHONE 5-270622, 3-695525, 3-265123 AND 0-4920154.

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PROPOSED DREDGING AT LANTAU AND MA WAN

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THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSED TO DREDGE WITHIN THREE AREAS OF FORESHORE AND SEABED AT LANTAU ISLAND AND MA WAN TO EXTRACT MARINE SAND TO SERVE AS FILL FOR THE RECLAMATION AT THE WESTERN COAST OF TSING YI ISLAND.

TWO AREAS OF FORESHORE AND SEABED AT NORTH LANTAU, MEASURING 249.01 HECTARES AND 99.25 HECTARES, AND AN AREA OF 93.542 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED TO THE SOUTH OF MA WAN, WILL BE AFFECTED.

THE EXTENTS OF THE AREAS AFFECTED HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED IN THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE GAZETTE.

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HE HAS AN INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED MAY SUBMIT HIS OBJECTION IN WRITING TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS ON OR BEFORE MAY 17.

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QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL MORTUARY TO BE EXPANDED

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WORK TO UPGRADE AND EXPAND THE MORTUARY AT QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL WILL START EARLY NEXT MONTH.

THIS WAS ANNOUNCED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT WHICH HAS JUST AWARDED A \$10 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE IMPROVEMENT WORKS WHICH WOULD CONSTITUTE PART OF QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL EXTENSIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS, STAGE III.

LIAISON ARCHITECT, MR WILSON LEE, SAID THE WORK WOULD INVOLVE MAINLY INTERNAL REFURBISHMENT AND SERVICES UPGRADING OF THE EXISTING MORTUARY AND THE ADDITION OF A THREE-STORY PLANT ROOM EXTENSION.

THE HOSPITAL IS UNDERGOING A MAJOR EXTENSION PROGRAMME WHICH BEGAN IN 1982. LAST APRIL, A \$389 MILLION EXTENSION TO THE HOSPITAL WAS TOPPED OUT.

ON COMPLETION OF THE STAGE II OF THE PROGRAMME IN MID-1989, 844 BEDS WILL BE ADDED TO THE HOSPITAL, BRINGING THE TOTAL NUMBER TO OVER 2,100.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 45.4 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 266.044 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 307.279 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 52.4 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CHANGES IN HUNG HOM

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TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF MA TAU WAI ROAD FLYOVER, SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN HUNG HOM BETWEEN MARCH 24 (THURSDAY) AND 27.

FROM 11 PM TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY ON MARCH 24, 25 AND 26, MAN LOK STREET AND MAN YUE STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC EXCEPT THOSE FOR LOCAL ACCESS.

MOTORISTS ON MA TAU WAI ROAD SOUTHBOUND HEADING FOR FAT KWONG STREET WILL BE DIVERTED VIA WUHU STREET, DOCK STREET, BULKELEY STREET, MARSH STREET, WUHU STREET AND MA TAU WAI ROAD NORTHBOUND.

IN ADDITION, THE SECTION OF FAT KWONG STREET EASTBOUND BETWEEN WO CHUNG STREET AND MA TAU WAI ROAD WILL BE CLOSED BETWEEN 12.30 AM AND 6 AM ON MARCH 25, 26 AND 27.

VEHICLES TRAVELLING ALONG FAT KWONG STREET EASTBOUND HEADING FOR MA TAU WAI ROAD WILL HAVE TO TRAVEL VIA WO CHUNG STREET, CHATHAM ROAD NORTH AND WUHU STREET.

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