



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ANTI-CORRUPTION LAWS

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HONG KONG'S ANTI-CORRUPTION LAWS MAY BE FURTHER STRENGTHENED WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF A NUMBER OF AMENDMENTS TO THE TWO PRINCIPAL ORDINANCES UNDER WHICH THE ICAC OPERATES.

THE PROPOSED CHANGES ARE CONTAINED IN THE PREVENTION OF BRIBERY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1987 AND THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1987 WHICH WERE PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY.

AN ICAC SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT THE COMMISSION REGULARLY REVIEWS THE TWO ORDINANCES AND FROM TIME TO TIME, WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, PROPOSES GENERAL AMENDMENTS WITH A VIEW TO IMPROVING AND ENSURING THE CONTINUING EFFECTIVENESS OF THE LEGISLATION.

THE PRESENT PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN DRAWN UP FOLLOWING FULL CONSULTATION WITH THE JUDICIARY, THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE, THE OMELCO STANDING PANEL ON SECURITY, THE BAR ASSOCIATION, THE LAW SOCIETY AND THE SIX EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS LISTED IN THE PREVENTION OF BRIBERY ORDINANCE'S SCHEDULE OF PUBLIC BODIES.

ONE OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS PROVIDES FOR A CLEARER DEFINITION OF +PUBLIC SERVANT.+

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT AT PRESENT ANY +MEMBER OF A PUBLIC BODY+ IS A +PUBLIC SERVANT+ FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE PREVENTION OF BRIBERY ORDINANCE, AND IN PARTICULAR FOR THE PURPOSES OF VARIOUS OFFENCES INVOLVING THE OFFERING OR ACCEPTANCE OF ADVANTAGES. THE TERM +MEMBER+ IS EXTREMELY WIDE WHEN APPLIED TO CLUBS, ASSOCIATIONS AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, SEVERAL OF WHICH ARE +PUBLIC BODIES+ UNDER THE ORDINANCE.

ANY PERSON WITH A RIGHT TO VOTE, AND SOMETIMES EVEN UPON PAYMENT OF A SUBSCRIPTION, MAY BE A MEMBER OF A CLUB OR ASSOCIATION WHICH IS A PUBLIC BODY; AND ALL UNDERGRADUATES AND GRADUATES OF A UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE, MAY BE MEMBERS OF THAT INSTITUTION.

+IT IS CONTRARY TO THE SPIRIT OF THE LEGISLATION THAT SUCH PERSONS SHOULD BE AT RISK OF COMMITTING AN OFFENCE BASED UPON SO TENUOUS A CONNECTION WITH THE PUBLIC BODY AS MEMBERSHIP ALONE,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

/ACCORDINGLY, IT

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE DEFINITION OF +PUBLIC SERVANT+ BE AMENDED TO PROVIDE THAT IN THE CASE OF A CLUB OR ASSOCIATION WHICH IS A PUBLIC BODY, ONLY OFFICE HOLDERS AND PERSONS WITH MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES ARE PUBLIC SERVANTS. IN THE CASE OF AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION WHICH IS A PUBLIC BODY, ANY OFFICE HOLDER AND ANY MEMBER OF ANY BOARD, COMMITTEE OR OTHER BODY OF THE INSTITUTION WHICH IS ESTABLISHED UNDER THE INSTITUTION'S LEGISLATION, AND IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONDUCT OR MANAGEMENT OF THE AFFAIRS OF THE INSTITUTION, WILL BE A PUBLIC SERVANT.

THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS ALSO SEEK TO CLARIFY THE PROCEDURES GOVERNING THE SURRENDER AND RETURN OF A SUSPECT'S TRAVEL DOCUMENTS AND TO MAKE THEM BOTH FAIR AND FLEXIBLE.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE EXISTING LEGISLATION, WHICH EMPOWERS A MAGISTRATE TO ORDER A SUSPECT TO SURRENDER HIS TRAVEL DOCUMENTS TO THE ICAC, LENDS ITSELF TO PUBLIC CRITICISM ALTHOUGH IT HAS PROVED A VERY EFFECTIVE AID TO THE INVESTIGATION OF CORRUPTION OFFENCES.

ONE CRITICISM IS THAT AN APPLICATION FOR SUCH AN ORDER IS +EX PARTE,+ I.E. THERE IS NO OPPORTUNITY FOR THE OWNER OF THE DOCUMENTS TO APPEAR AND OPPOSE THE ORDER, BUT THERE IS NO PROVISION FOR APPEAL.

SECONDLY, THERE IS NO SATISFACTORY PROCEDURE FOR THE TEMPORARY RETURN OF THE TRAVEL DOCUMENTS TO THE HOLDER WHO MAY WELL HAVE URGENT AND JUSTIFIABLE REASONS FOR THEIR RETURN.

WHILE THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS CONFIRM THAT AN INITIAL APPLICATION FOR SURRENDER IS TO BE +EX PARTE+, THEY PROVIDE THAT REASONABLE NOTICE OF AN APPLICATION FOR A THREE-MONTH EXTENSION OF THE ORIGINAL SIX-MONTH DETENTION PERIOD BE GIVEN TO THE HOLDER OF THE TRAVEL DOCUMENTS.

THERE IS ALSO A NEW PROVISION ENABLING A SUSPECT TO APPLY TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR THE RETURN OF HIS TRAVEL DOCUMENT AT ANY TIME. IF HIS REQUEST IS REFUSED, OR IF IT IS GRANTED SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS, HE MAY APPEAL TO A MAGISTRATE. THE COMMISSIONER MAY ALSO ELECT TO REFER THE APPLICATION TO A MAGISTRATE FOR DETERMINATION IN THE FIRST INSTANCE.

THE RETURN OF A TRAVEL DOCUMENT BY EITHER THE COMMISSIONER OR A MAGISTRATE MAY BE UPON CONDITIONS AS TO THE FUTURE APPEARANCE OF THE HOLDER AND FURTHER SURRENDER OF THE DOCUMENT, AND THE HOLDER MAY BE REQUIRED TO GIVE SECURITY FOR COMPLIANCE WITH THOSE CONDITIONS, BY WAY OF ENTERING INTO A RECOGNIZANCE OR DEPOSITING ASSETS OR BOTH.

PROVISIONS EXIST FOR THE ICAC TO ARREST THE HOLDER WHEN HE HAS FAILED TO COMPLY WITH THE CONDITIONS, AND TO EMPOWER A MAGISTRATE TO MAKE AN ORDER FOR FORFEITURE OF ANY SECURITY PROVIDED.

ON THE SUBJECT OF ARRESTS, IT IS PROPOSED TO INSERT A NEW SECTION IN THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION ORDINANCE TO GIVE ICAC OFFICERS THE POWER TO ARREST PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN PREVIOUSLY ARRESTED AND GRANTED BAIL FOR CORRUPTION OR RELATED OFFENCES, IF THERE IS SOUND REASON TO BELIEVE THAT BAIL HAS BEEN, OR WILL BE, BROKEN.

+POLICE OFFICERS HAVE SIMILAR GENERAL POWERS UNDER THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE ORDINANCE,+ THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT.

+IT IS BOTH SENSIBLE AND PRACTICAL FOR COMMISSION OFFICERS TO BE ABLE TO EXERCISE THIS POWER IN RELATION TO CASES THEY ARE INVESTIGATING. AT PRESENT THE POLICE TAKE SUCH ACTION AT THE REQUEST OF THE COMMISSION BUT THIS INVARIABLY CAUSES UNNECESSARY DELAY,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

ANOTHER PROPOSED AMENDMENT CONCERNS THE CONFISCATION OF PROPERTY OF CORRUPT CROWN SERVANTS.

AT PRESENT, WHEN A CROWN SERVANT IS CONVICTED OF AN OFFENCE OF BEING IN CONTROL OF UNEXPLAINED PECUNIARY RESOURCES OR PROPERTY DISPROPORTIONATE TO HIS EMOLUMENTS, THE COURT MAY, IN ADDITION TO A SENTENCE OF IMPRISONMENT AND A FINE, MAKE AN ORDER FOR PAYMENT TO THE CROWN OF A SUM OF MONEY NOT EXCEEDING THE VALUE OF THE UNEXPLAINED RESOURCES OR PROPERTY.

+SO LONG AS THE ORDER REMAINS ONLY A PERSONAL DEBT, A CONVICTED PERSON MAY ARRANGE HIS AFFAIRS SO AS TO PUT HIS ASSETS OUT OF REACH, WHILE RETAINING CONTROL, AND PLEAD POVERTY,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT PROVIDES FOR THE MAKING OF AN ORDER FOR THE CONFISCATION OF PARTICULAR PROPERTY FOUND AT THE TRIAL TO BE UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE CONVICTED CROWN SERVANT, WHETHER IT IS IN HIS POSSESSION OR IN THE HANDS OF A THIRD PARTY.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT SUCH POWER IS SUBJECT TO A NUMBER OF LIMITATIONS AND SAFEGUARDS. FIRSTLY, AN APPLICATION FOR AN ORDER MUST BE MADE BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WITHIN 28 DAYS AFTER THE CONVICTION.

SECONDLY, WHERE THE ASSETS ARE HELD BY A THIRD PARTY, THAT PARTY MUST BE GIVEN REASONABLE NOTICE OF THE ORDER AND AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHOW CAUSE WHY IT SHOULD NOT BE MADE.

THIRDLY, NO ORDER MAY BE MADE UPON ASSETS HELD BY A THIRD PARTY IF THE COURT IS SATISFIED THAT HE RECEIVED THE PROPERTY IN GOOD FAITH AND HAS SUBSEQUENTLY INCURRED SUCH EXPENSE OR OBLIGATIONS THAT IT WOULD BE UNJUST TO MAKE SUCH AN ORDER.

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LASTLY, A CONFISCATION ORDER AND A MONETARY PENALTY UNDER THE EXISTING PROVISIONS CANNOT BE IMPOSED IN RESPECT OF THE SAME ASSETS.

AS A FURTHER SAFEGUARD, THE PROPOSED NEW LAW PROVIDES THE THIRD PARTY WITH THE RIGHT OF APPEAL TO THE COURT OF APPEAL AGAINST SUCH AN ORDER. A CONVICTED PERSON MAY APPEAL UNDER THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE ORDINANCE.

THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT THE PROPOSED POWERS OF CONFISCATION ARE NARROWLY BASED IN THAT THEY APPLY SOLELY TO CROWN SERVANTS AND THOSE CLOSELY RELATED TO CROWN SERVANTS, AND TO THE ONE OFFENCE OF A CROWN SERVANT BEING IN CONTROL OF ASSETS DISPROPORTIONATE TO EMOLUMENTS, AND TO ASSETS WHICH HAVE ALREADY BEEN THE SUBJECT OF A TRIAL AND CONVICTION.

+SIMILAR POWERS OF CONFISCATION EXIST IN MANY COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE USA AND AUSTRALIA, WITH RESPECT TO THE PROCEEDS OF DRUG-TRAFFICKING, AND IN THE USA WITH RESPECT TO ORGANISED CRIME,+ THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT.

+THE CIVIL LAW COUNTRIES OF EUROPE HAVE, IN GENERAL, WIDE POWERS OF CONFISCATION IN CRIMINAL CASES, WITH SOME COUNTRIES, E.G. ITALY, EXTENDING THE POWER TO THE PROPERTY OF THIRD PARTIES.

+IN ENGLAND THE HODGSON COMMITTEE REPORT ON THE PROFITS OF CRIME AND THEIR RECOVERY (1984) RECOMMENDED THAT GENERAL POWERS OF CONFISCATION BE AVAILABLE TO UK COURTS. IT ALSO RECOMMENDED THAT THE POWER SHOULD EXTEND TO THE PROPERTY OF THIRD PARTIES WHICH COULD BE TRACED TO THE PROCEEDS OF THE OFFENCE, WITH CERTAIN LIMITATIONS AND WITH A RIGHT TO BE HEARD AND TO OPPOSE AN ORDER. A NUMBER OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS HAVE BEEN ADOPTED IN THE DRUG TRAFFICKING OFFENCES ACT 1986.+

THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS ALSO SEEK TO AMEND THE LAWS RELATING TO DEALINGS IN PROPERTY BY SUSPECTS UNDER INVESTIGATION AND BY THIRD PARTIES.

+UNDER EXISTING LEGISLATION, THE COMMISSIONER OF THE ICAC MAY ISSUE A NOTICE RESTRICTING DEALINGS IN PROPERTY BY SUSPECTS UNDER INVESTIGATION,+ THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED.

IT IS PROPOSED TO AMEND THE LAW FIRSTLY TO CLARIFY THAT A NOTICE WILL APPLY ALSO TO INCOME FROM A SPECIFIED PROPERTY UNLESS OTHERWISE PROVIDED, AND SECONDLY TO PROVIDE THAT ONCE A PROSECUTION IS COMMENCED, A NOTICE WILL REMAIN IN FORCE UNTIL PROCEEDINGS, INCLUDING PROCEEDINGS RELATING TO ANY PENALTY OR CONFISCATION ORDER, ARE CONCLUDED.

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AT PRESENT A NOTICE LAPSES AFTER TWELVE MONTHS UNLESS A FURTHER ORDER IS MADE. THE NEW PROVISION PREVENTS A NOTICE FROM BEING INADVERTENTLY ALLOWED TO LAPSE AT A TIME WHEN RESTRICTION IS MOST NECESSARY, AND IT CONSIDERABLY SIMPLIFIES THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESS.

AS FOR ORDERS RESTRAINING DEALINGS IN PROPERTY BY THIRD PARTIES, IT IS SIMILARLY PROPOSED THAT SUCH AN ORDER MAY ALSO APPLY TO INCOME FROM A SPECIFIED PROPERTY AND THAT IT WILL REMAIN IN FORCE UNTIL A CONFISCATION OR MONETARY PENALTY ORDER MADE ON THE CONVICTION OF A SUSPECTED PERSON IS COMPLIED WITH.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THERE IS EXISTING PROVISION IN THE LAW FOR A PERSON TO APPLY TO THE COURT TO REVIEW A NOTICE OR A RESTRAINING ORDER WHICH HAS BEEN SERVED ON HIM.

THE BILLS ALSO PROPOSE TO INCREASE THE MAXIMUM FINES FOR A NUMBER OF OFFENCES UNDER THE TWO ORDINANCES, NOTABLY THE OFFENCE OF CROWN SERVANTS LIVING BEYOND THEIR OFFICIAL MEANS OR BEING IN POSSESSION OF UNEXPLAINED ASSETS.

+THERE HAS BEEN JUDICIAL CRITICISM THAT THE LEVEL OF MAXIMUM FINES FOR THIS PARTICULAR OFFENCE IS TOO LOW IN VIEW OF THE SUMS FREQUENTLY INVOLVED,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN THEIR DETERRENT EFFECT IT IS PROPOSED TO INCREASE THE MAXIMUM FINE FROM \$500 000 TO \$1 MILLION ON INDICTMENT AND FROM \$100 000 TO \$500 000 ON SUMMARY CONVICTION.+

OTHER PROPOSED AMENDMENTS INCLUDE MINOR REFINEMENTS TO THE POWERS OF ICAC INVESTIGATING OFFICERS, SECURITY FOR BAIL, CERTIFICATES OF STATUS AND EMOLUMENTS OF CROWN SERVANTS, AND AMENDMENTS TO THE ICAC (TREATMENT OF DETAINED PERSONS) ORDER RECOGNISING THE EXISTENCE OF ICAC'S PURPOSE-BUILT DETENTION CENTRE.

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COLOURFUL SPECTACULAR LAUNCHES KEEP HK CLEAN CAMPAIGN

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, PERFORMED A SWITCH ON CEREMONY TONIGHT (FRIDAY) AT THE HONG KONG COLISEUM TO OFFICIALLY LAUNCH THE \$5.5 MILLION KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN.

THE 1987-88 CAMPAIGN, THE LARGEST EVER STAGED SINCE ITS LAUNCHING 15 YEARS AGO, WAS A JOINT EFFORT OF THE URBAN AND REGIONAL COUNCILS, WITH SUPPORT FROM VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, PRIVATE ORGANISATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS.

/SPEAKING AT

SPEAKING AT THE LAUNCHING SPECTACULAR, CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT URBAN-REGIONAL COUNCIL KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN STEERING COMMITTEE, MR CARLOS CHEUNG, THANKED THE POPULAR SINGERS AND CELEBRITIES WHO TOOK THE LEAD TO SUPPORT THE CAMPAIGN BY APPEARING IN THE LAUNCHING MUSIC VIDEO AND FOR TAKING PART IN THE SPECTACULAR.

COMMUNITY SPIRIT WHICH WAS MUCH EMPHASISED IN THIS YEAR'S CAMPAIGN WAS MANIFESTED IN THE EVENT TONIGHT WHEN HUNDREDS OF PERFORMERS AND THE CAPACITY CROWD SANG THE KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN THEME SONG WHICH HAS ALREADY BECOME A HOUSEHOLD TUNE.

THE TWO-HOUR PROGRAMME, FEATURING SINGING PERFORMANCES, DRAMA, GAMES AND GAGS, CENTRED AROUND THE THEME OF THIS YEAR'S CAMPAIGN -- +WE'RE PITCHING IN TO KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN+.

THE OBJECTIVE OF THIS YEAR'S CAMPAIGN IS TO INTRODUCE THE CONCEPT OF +PRIDE IN A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT+ TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG AND TO REMIND THEM THAT KEEPING THE CITY CLEAN IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EVERYONE.

APPEALING TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG TO SUPPORT THE CAMPAIGN, MR CHEUNG URGED EVERYONE TO PITCH IN AND MAKE A COMMITMENT TO KEEP THE CITY CLEAN.

FOLLOWING THE OPENING, A NUMBER OF ACTIVITIES CATERING FOR DIFFERENT TARGET GROUPS WILL BE ORGANISED BY THE COMMITTEE TO ENCOURAGE MORE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT.

+MAY I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO APPEAL TO YOU ALL TO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN THE KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN ACTIVITIES WE HAVE PLANNED IN THE COMING MONTHS AND TO HELP SPREAD THE MESSAGE WHENEVER AND WHEREVER POSSIBLE+, MR CHEUNG SAID.

THE LAUNCHING SPECTACULAR, ATTENDED BY MORE THAN 6 000 PEOPLE FROM DIFFERENT SECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY, WAS PRODUCED BY TELEVISION BROADCASTS LIMITED AND TELECAST LIVE ON TVB JADE TONIGHT.

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AIRPORT CONCESSION CONTRACT AWARDED

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THE CONCESSION FOR THE SALE OF LIQUOR AND TOBACCO AT THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT HAS BEEN OFFERED TO KIU FAT INVESTMENT CORPORATION LTD. FOLLOWING AN OPEN TENDER EXERCISE.

THE DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION, MR TREVOR THORPE TODAY (FRIDAY) SIGNED AN AGREEMENT WITH THE COMPANY FOR FIVE YEARS FROM SEPTEMBER 1 THIS YEAR, AND A FURTHER THREE YEARS SUBJECT TO SATISFACTORY PERFORMANCE.

THE NATURE OF BUSINESS TO BE CONDUCTED BY THE CONCESSIONAIRE WILL BE FOR THE SALE OF A WIDE RANGE OF DUTY FREE LIQUOR, WINES, BEER, CIGARETTES, CIGARS AND PIPE TOBACCO.

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FIRST JOINT MEETING ON SIR EDWARD YOUDE FUND
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LADY YOUDE WILL RETURN TO HONG KONG ON WEDNESDAY (MAY 20) TO ATTEND THE FIRST JOINT MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND THE COUNCIL OF THE SIR EDWARD YOUDE MEMORIAL FUND, BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR LEE QUE-WEI, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE JOINT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY (MAY 23).

MR LEE WAS SPEAKING AT A CHEQUE PRESENTATION CEREMONY THIS MORNING AT THE ANTE CHAMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BUILDING, WHEN HE RECEIVED TWO DONATIONS TOTALLING \$97 430 FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE, MR RAYMON ANNING, AND THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT OF THE HONG KONG JUNIOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, MISS CHENG PIK-NIN.

HE THANKED MEMBERS OF THE POLICE FORCE AND THE CHAMBER FOR THEIR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS OF \$87 410 AND \$10 020 RESPECTIVELY TO THE FUND.

THE CONTRIBUTION BY THE POLICE FORCE IS ONE OF THE BIGGEST SO FAR MADE BY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

+THE GOOD RESPONSE BY CIVIL SERVANTS TO APPEAL FOR DONATIONS TO THE FUND REFLECTS NOT ONLY THEIR CONCERN ABOUT EDUCATIONAL MATTERS IN HONG KONG, BUT ALSO THEIR PROFOUND RESPECT FOR THE LATE GOVERNOR,+ HE SAID.

MR LEE SAID FOLLOWING THE ENACTMENT OF THE SIR EDWARD YOUDE MEMORIAL FUND ORDINANCE IN APRIL, A HOARD OF TRUSTEES, EMPOWERED TO INVEST ANY MONEYS OF THE FUND, AND A COUNCIL, TASKED TO APPLY THE INCOME OF THE FUND FOR THE FURTHERANCE OF EDUCATION, WERE ESTABLISHED.

HE MENTIONED THE FUND HAS CONTINUED TO GROW AND SO FAR \$81.5 MILLION INCLUDING THIS MORNING'S CONTRIBUTIONS HAS BEEN COLLECTED.

MR LEE HOPED THE PUBLIC WOULD CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE FUND AND DONATIONS COULD STILL BE MADE AT ANY DISTRICT OFFICES OR TREASURY OFFICES, AS WELL AS BRANCHES OF THE HONG KONG BANK, THE HANG SENG BANK AND THE HANG LUNG BANK.

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NEW EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER AND OFFICES APPROVED
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THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS APPROVED A SCHEME TO CONSTRUCT A NEW COUNCIL CHAMBER AND ANCILLARY OFFICES, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE EXISTING COUNCIL CHAMBER WAS TOO SMALL TO SEAT MEMBERS COMFORTABLY, AND SUFFERED FROM POOR ACOUSTICS. SPACE WAS ALSO LIMITED IN THE ATTENDEES' WAITING ROOM AND THE OFFICES OF THE COUNCILS DIVISION, HE ADDED.

THE NEW FACILITY WOULD BE LOCATED ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT TO THE EAST OF THE EXISTING CHAMBER. IT WOULD INCLUDE A NEW AND LARGER CHAMBER WITH FACILITIES FOR VISUAL PRESENTATIONS AND A SOUND ENHANCEMENT SYSTEM, A MORE SPACIOUS ATTENDEES' ROOM, LARGER WASHROOMS AND LARGER ANCILLARY OFFICES.

+THE SCHEME IS EXPECTED TO COST AROUND \$8.2 MILLION, AND FUNDS WILL BE SOUGHT FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE ADDED THAT THE SCHEME, WHICH WOULD TAKE ABOUT 15 MONTHS TO COMPLETE, WAS PART OF AN ONGOING PROJECT TO REFURBISH THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT.

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PROPORTION OF LOWER TAR CIGARETTES UP AGAIN
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THE PROPORTION OF LOWER TAR CIGARETTES WAS GOING UP AGAIN, ACCORDING TO LATEST FIGURES PUBLISHED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THE TAR AND NICOTINE CONTENT OF CIGARETTES SOLD IN HONG KONG.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THIS WAS A CONTINUATION OF AN ENCOURAGING TREND.

+MEDICAL OPINION IS COMPARATIVELY FIRM ON THE LESSER RISKS OF LOWER TAR,+ HE EXPLAINED.

HOWEVER, THE AVERAGE YIELD OF NICOTINE, THE ADDICTIVE ELEMENT IN CIGARETTES, HAD GONE UP SLIGHTLY AFTER FALLING FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS.

AND THERE WERE MORE BRANDS ON THE MARKET, DESPITE THE OVERALL DECLINE IN SMOKERS.

+THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN NOT SMOKING AT ALL AND SMOKING LOW TAR IS FAR MORE SIGNIFICANT THAN THAT BETWEEN SMOKING LOW AND HIGH TAR CIGARETTES,+ HE STRESSED.

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TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS COMMENDED FOR EDUCATION SERVICES
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THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR Y.T. LI, TODAY (FRIDAY) COMMENDED THE NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS FOR THEIR EFFORTS IN PROVIDING EDUCATION SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY.

MR LI MADE THE REMARKS WHEN THE NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GROUP, LED BY THE CHAIRMAN, MRS THERESA LAU PO WING KAM, PAID A COURTESY CALL ON THE DIRECTORATE OFFICERS OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AT ITS HEADQUARTERS.

MR LI PAID TRIBUTE TO THE GROUP FOR ITS DEDICATION IN RUNNING 12 SECONDARY SCHOOLS, ONE PREVOCATIONAL SCHOOL, 16 PRIMARY SCHOOLS, ONE SPECIAL EDUCATION SCHOOL AND SEVEN KINDERGARTENS WITH A TOTAL ENROLMENT OF MORE THAN 25 000 STUDENTS.

LEARNING THAT A NUMBER OF EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS WERE IN THE HANDS OF THE GROUP, MR LI ASSURED THE BOARD MEMBERS THAT HIS DEPARTMENT WOULD WORK CLOSELY WITH THEM TO IMPLEMENT THE SERVICES IN EDUCATION.

AMONG THE NEW PROJECTS, THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS SIN CHU WAN PRIMARY SCHOOL AT TAI WAI IN SHA TIN AND THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS LO KON TING MEMORIAL COLLEGE AT LONG PING ESTATE IN YUEN LONG WILL BE OPEN IN THE COMING ACADEMIC YEAR IN SEPTEMBER TO PROVIDE MORE SCHOOL PLACES IN THE NEW TOWNS.

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MANPOWER SURVEY ON JEWELLERY INDUSTRY PLANNED
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THE JEWELLERY INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL WILL CONDUCT A MANPOWER SURVEY BETWEEN MAY 19 AND JUNE 9 TO UPDATE INFORMATION ON THE INDUSTRY'S MANPOWER AND EMPLOYMENT SITUATIONS.

QUESTIONNAIRES AND EXPLANATORY NOTES HAVE BEEN SENT OUT TO 540 SELECTED JEWELLERY MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS WHICH EMPLOY SKILLED WORKERS IN THE CUTTING, SETTING OF PRECIOUS STONES AND THE MAKING OF GOLD AND SILVER JEWELLERY.

EMPLOYERS ARE ASKED TO CO-OPERATE BY SUPPLYING ACCURATE INFORMATION WHICH IS IMPORTANT FOR THE DRAWING UP OF TRAINING PLANS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE INDUSTRY.

OFFICERS OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT WILL VISIT THESE ESTABLISHMENTS TO ASSIST IN COMPLETING THE QUESTIONNAIRE.

INFORMATION COLLECTED WILL BE HANDLED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND PUBLISHED ONLY IN THE FORM OF STATISTICAL SUMMARIES WITHOUT REFERENCE TO ANY INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENT.

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SIR DENYS JOINS STREET CLEANING OPERATION
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THE CHIEF JUSTICE, SIR DENYS ROBERTS, WILL JOIN HANDS WITH KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGNERS IN A CLEAN-UP OPERATION AT YAU MA TEI TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

SIR DENYS WILL START CLEANING UP A SECTION OF SHANGHAI STREET BETWEEN MARKET STREET AND KANSU STREET IN FRONT OF THE YAU MA TEI LIBRARY AT 9 AM.

ACCOMPANYING SIR DENYS IN THE OPERATION WILL BE CHAIRMAN OF THE URBAN COUNCIL AND REGIONAL COUNCIL, MR GERRY FORSGATE AND MR CHEUNG YAN-LUNG; THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT UC/RC KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN STEERING COMMITTEE, MR CARLOS CHEUNG, AND THE VICE-CHAIRMAN, MR WALTER SULKE.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT. PRESS REPRESENTATIVES WISHING TO TAKE POOL TRANSPORT SHOULD ARRIVE AT 8.10 AM AT THE UC CHAMBERS, EDINBURGH PLACE. GIS OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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AIDS PRESS BRIEFING
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THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT WILL HOLD A PRESS BRIEFING ON MONDAY (MAY 18) AT 3 PM TO ANNOUNCE THE STATISTICS ON THE AIDS SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMME FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1987.

THE PRESS BRIEFING WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE MHD CONFERENCE ROOM, 9TH FLOOR SUNNING PLAZA, HYSAN AVENUE.

DR. S.H. LEE, DEPUTY DIRECTOR (HEALTH SERVICES AND PLANNING) AND DR. E.K. YEOH, CONSULTANT, WILL SPEAK AT THE BRIEFING.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO ATTEND THE BRIEFING.

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DB TO DISCUSS PUBLIC TRANSPORT PROGRAMME
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CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD'S TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC COMMITTEE WILL MEET ON MONDAY (MAY 18) TO DISCUSS A DETAILED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME ON PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES FOR THE DISTRICT.

THE PROGRAMME IS DRAWN UP BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE THE BASIC GUIDELINES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF BUS AND FERRY SERVICES IN THE COMING TWO YEARS.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO STUDY A HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT'S FEASIBILITY REPORT CONCERNING A WATERFRONT HIGHWAY AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE ELEVATED ROUTE 7 PROJECT ALONG CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST.

A REVIEW ON THE DISTRICT'S EXISTING PARKING FACILITIES WILL ALSO BE PRESENTED TO THE COMMITTEE FOR COMMENTS.

THE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO CONSIDER A PROPOSAL TO LAUNCH A COURTESY CAMPAIGN AMONG PEDESTRIANS AND PASSENGERS OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT.

IN ADDITION, MEMBERS WILL GIVE THEIR VIEWS ON MEASURES TO IMPROVE A PEDESTRIAN CROSSING AT QUEEN'S ROAD WEST NEAR CENTRE STREET WHICH HAS BEEN A TRAFFIC BLACKSPOT.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO BE INFORMED OF THE PROGRESS OF THE WESTERN DISTRICT TRAFFIC STUDY AND PHASE TWO OF THE COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORT STUDY AS WELL AS THE LATEST DEVELOPMENT OF THE UPGRADING AND DUALLING OF CONNAUGHT ROAD PROJECT.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE COMMITTEE MEETING STARTING AT 2.30 PM ON MONDAY (MAY 18) AT THE CONFERENCE ROOM, 14/F, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL.

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COOKED FOOD CENTRE FOR MONG KOK
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TENDERS ARE BEING INVITED FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A TEMPORARY COOKED FOOD CENTRE IN MONG KOK, KOWLOON.

OCCUPYING A SITE OF 160 SQUARE METRES AT THE JUNCTION OF SHANGHAI STREET AND SOY STREET, THE SINGLE-STOREY CENTRE WILL ACCOMMODATE 15 COOKED FOOD STALLS TO BE RESITED FROM SOY STREET AND SHANTUNG STREET.

WORK WILL START IN JUNE AND BE COMPLETED NEXT JANUARY.

FRIDAY, MAY 15, 1987

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PLAN TO RESUME HAVEN STREET FOR REPAIR

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THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT PROPOSES TO RESUME HAVEN STREET IN CAUSEWAY BAY SO THAT THE ROAD AND DRAINS CAN BE REPAIRED AND MAINTAINED TO A PROPER STANDARD.

THE PROPOSED WORK INVOLVES REPAIRING THE DEFECTIVE CARRIAGEWAY, FOOTPATH AND DRAINS WITHIN THE PRIVATE STREET.

THE WIDTH OF THE CARRIAGEWAY WILL BE REDUCED FROM NINE METRES TO 7.3 METRES, WHILE THE WIDTH OF THE FOOTWAY ON EACH SIDE OF THE STREET WILL BE INCREASED FROM 1.5 METRES TO 2.35 METRES.

HAVEN STREET IS NOW UNDER PRIVATE MULTIPLE OWNERSHIP AND IS NOT PROPERLY MANAGED AND MAINTAINED, A SITUATION WHICH HAS CAUSED CONSIDERABLE ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRAFFIC PROBLEMS.

WRITTEN OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSED WORK SHOULD BE SENT IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT BY JULY 14.

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TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE IN WAN CHAI

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PART OF ARSENAL STREET IN WAN CHAI WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC NEXT WEEK FOR ROAD WORKS.

THE NORTHBOUND SECTION OF ARSENAL STREET BETWEEN LOCKHART ROAD AND INNER GLOUCESTER ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC DAILY FROM 9.30 PM UNTIL 6 AM THE FOLLOWING MORNING ON MONDAY (MAY 18) AND TUESDAY (MAY 19).

VEHICLES HEADING FOR CENTRAL WILL BE DIVERTED TO LOCKHART ROAD, FENWICK STREET AND INNER GLOUCESTER ROAD.

IN ADDITION, FROM 9 PM ON WEDNESDAY (MAY 20) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY, THE SOUTHBOUND LANE OF ARSENAL STREET BETWEEN LOCKHART ROAD AND INNER GLOUCESTER ROAD WILL BE CLOSED. VEHICLES ON INNER GLOUCESTER ROAD WILL HAVE TO USE FENWICK STREET TO REJOIN LOCKHART ROAD.

THE SAME MEASURE WILL BE IN FORCE AGAIN BETWEEN 9 PM ON THURSDAY (MAY 21) AND 6 AM THE FOLLOWING MORNING.

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