



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1982

CONTENTS

PAGE NO.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING:

COORDINATING MACHINERY TO OVERSEE MANAGEMENT PRODUCTIVITY	1
TICD TO BE DE-FEDERALISED	2
TOTAL REVENUE EXPECTED TO BE \$34 BILLION	5
PURPOSE OF FISCAL SYSTEM	6
DOMESTIC EXPORT GROWTH MAY NOT REACH FORECAST 7 PER CENT .	8
CONCERN FELT OVER LACK OF UNIVERSITY PLACES	9
AIDED SCHOOLS TO RETAIN FREEDOM: HAYE ASSURES	11
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION MOVES INTO NEW ERA	14
CONFIDENCE IN EDUCATION A VITAL ISSUE	16
CONSULTATION INVOLVES PARTNERS NOT ADVERSARIES	17
GOVERNOR'S DEPARTURE - PRESS ARRANGEMENTS	18
IMPRESSIVE LOCAL SUPPORT FOR BACH CHOIR FINAL CONCERT	18
HONG KONG/EEC TEXTILE TALKS	19
TREE PLANTING IN NT	19
NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS	20
NO SPECIAL TRAINS TO SHA TIN RACECOURSE	20
TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT IN CAINE ROAD	21

THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1982

- 1 -

COORDINATING MACHINERY TO OVERSEE MANAGEMENT PRODUCTIVITY
* * * * *

JOINT COORDINATING MACHINERY WILL BE SET UP IN THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT WHICH WILL OVERSEE THOSE ASPECTS OF PRODUCTIVITY PARTICULARLY AFFECTING THE MANAGEMENT OF THE CIVIL SERVICE.

THIS WILL REPORT TO THE CHIEF SECRETARY, THE SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE, THE HON MARTIN ROWLANDS TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

MR ROWLANDS SAID THAT, AS FROM APRIL 1, SOME 80 MANAGEMENT SERVICES STAFF PREVIOUSLY WORKING UNDER THE FORMER ADMINISTRATION BRANCH HAD JOINED THE FINANCE BRANCH, WORKING PRINCIPALLY ON +VALUE-FOR-MONEY+ STUDIES, INCLUDING ESTABLISHMENT REVIEWS.

FOR ITS PART, THERE IS MUCH THAT CIVIL SERVICE BRANCH CAN DO, AND IS DOING, TO HELP IMPROVE PRODUCTIVITY, HE SAID.

+THE RIGHT RANK STRUCTURE, RECRUITMENT OF THE BEST PEOPLE, EFFECTIVE TRAINING, IMPROVED STAFF MANAGEMENT, BETTER MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS, AND GOOD STAFF RELATIONS ALL PLAY THEIR PART.+

MR ROWLANDS SAID THE DECISION TO SET UP THE JOINT COORDINATING MACHINERY WAS MADE BECAUSE THE INTERESTS OF FINANCE BRANCH AND CIVIL SERVICE BRANCH IN PRODUCTIVITY WERE OVERLAPPING, ESPECIALLY NOW THAT THE FINANCE BRANCH HAD ACQUIRED A MANAGEMENT SERVICES CAPABILITY.

RESPONDING TO COMMENTS MADE BY UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS ON THE DEPARTMENTAL ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEES, THE SECRETARY FOR CIVIL SERVICE SAID: +THE DEC'S OCCUPY A PIVOTAL POSITION IN OUR MACHINERY FOR REGULATING THE GROWTH OF THE CIVIL SERVICE, AND IT IS VITAL THAT THEY SHOULD BE EFFECTIVE.+

MR ROWLANDS SAID BOTH HE AND THE DEPUTY FINANCIAL SECRETARY TOOK A PERSONAL INTEREST IN THE WORK OF THE DEC'S AND BOTH HAD REPRESENTATIVES IN ATTENDANCE AS FULL MEMBERS AT ALL MEETINGS OF DEC'S.

+OUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO BE CRITICAL IN EXAMINING DEPARTMENTAL PROPOSALS FOR NEW POSTS; CONSTRUCTIVE IN SUGGESTING ALTERNATIVES SUCH AS REDEPLOYMENT, REORGANISATION OF WORK AND SO FORTH; AND CONSERVATIVE IN ENDORSING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE CREATION OF POSTS.+

HE SAID ON THE WHOLE, DEPARTMENTAL ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEES WERE DISCHARGING THEIR DUTIES PROPERLY AND WITH A DUE SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY.

+I AGREE WITH THOSE MEMBERS WHO SPOKE ON THIS SUBJECT EARLIER IN THE DEBATE THAT WE DO NEED TO REVIEW AND REFINE THE ASSOCIATED PROCEDURES. THIS WE ARE DOING,+ MR ROWLANDS SAID.

HE ASSURED MEMBERS THAT THERE WERE NO GROUNDS FOR FEARING THAT IN DEC'S THE GOVERNMENT HAD INVENTED ONE OF THOSE SCREEN MONSTERS WHICH OVERPOWERED ITS CREATOR.

/EARLIER, MR ROWLANDS

THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1982

- 2 -

EARLIER, MR ROWLANDS ALSO SPOKE ON PAY AND FRINGE BENEFITS IN THE CIVIL SERVICE, STAFF EFFICIENCY, PLANNING AND TRAINING AND THE POLICY ON LOCALISATION.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD ACCEPTED THE CONCEPT OF THE TOTAL PAY PACKAGE AND WAS NOW WORKING OUT HOW TO APPLY IT, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE STANDING COMMISSION ON CIVIL SERVICE SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE.

MR ROWLANDS SAID THE ISSUES WERE COMPLEX BUT HE WAS OPTIMISTIC THAT WITH HELP FROM THE STAFF SIDE AND WITH FURTHER ADVICE FROM THE STANDING COMMISSION, IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO REPORT BACK TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL BEFORE THE SUMMER RECESS.

ON STAFF TRAINING, HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS NOW SPENDING SOME \$400 MILLION EACH YEAR ON CIVIL SERVICE TRAINING, INCLUDING LARGE SUMS DEVOTED TO OVERCOMING SHORTAGES OF PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL SKILLS.

HOWEVER, MR ROWLANDS SAID IT SHOULD BE RECOGNISED THAT IN MANY CASES THE LEAD TIME WAS EXTREMELY LONG, AND IT WOULD BE MANY YEARS BEFORE EVEN ALL BASIC REQUIREMENTS WERE MET FROM LOCAL HOME-GROWN SOURCES.

HE SAID IT REMAINED THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY TO RECRUIT OVERSEAS ONLY WHEN SUITABLE LOCAL CANDIDATES WERE NOT AVAILABLE IN SUFFICIENT NUMBERS, EXCEPT IN THE CASES OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS AND POLICE INSPECTORS WHERE IT WAS THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY TO CONTINUE RECRUITING A PROPORTION OF OFFICERS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM.

- - - - 0 - - - -

TICD TO BE DE-FEDERALISED
* * * * *

THE TRADE INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT IS TO BE RESTRUCTURED INTO THREE SEPARATE AND INDEPENDENT DEPARTMENTS, SUBJECT TO FINANCE COMMITTEE APPROVAL, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, THE HON SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, ANNOUNCED IN THE RESUMED BUDGET DEBATE TODAY.

THE THREE NEW DEPARTMENTS WOULD BE THE TRADE DEPARTMENT, THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT AND THE CUSTOMS AND CONTROLS DEPARTMENT -- THE HEADS OF WHICH WILL BECOME CONTROLLING OFFICERS WITH THEIR OWN SEPARATE VOTES IN THE ESTIMATES.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE EXISTING POST OF DIRECTOR OF TRADE INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS WILL BE ABOLISHED AND A NEW POST OF SECRETARY WILL BE CREATED TO HEAD UP A NEW BRANCH OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT TO WHICH WILL BE TRANSFERRED POLICY RESPONSIBILITY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY AND SEVERAL OTHER SUBJECTS FROM THE ECONOMIC SERVICES BRANCH.

/SIR PHILIP

THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1982

- 3 -

SIR PHILIP SAID IT WOULD TAKE SOME TIME TO WORK OUT DETAILED ARRANGEMENTS TO IMPLEMENT THE DECISIONS, BUT THE INTENTION WAS THAT THE NEW BRANCH AND THE NEWLY INDEPENDENT DEPARTMENTS SHOULD BE OPERATIONAL BY JULY.

NO FIRM DECISION HAD YET BEEN TAKEN AS TO WHICH BRANCH OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT SHOULD ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CUSTOMS AND CONTROLS DEPARTMENT, BUT THE SECURITY BRANCH AND FINANCE BRANCH WERE TWO OBVIOUS CANDIDATES.

IT HAD ALSO BEEN DECIDED, SIR PHILIP SAID, THAT ALL DIRECTORATE POSTS IN THE NEW TRADE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENTS SHOULD BE CONVERTED TO STAFF GRADE POSTS IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE, WHILE DIRECTORATE POSTS IN THE CUSTOMS AND CONTROLS DEPARTMENT WILL BE PROGRESSIVELY CONVERTED TO PROFESSIONAL POSTS IN THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICE.

+ALL DEPARTMENTAL DIRECTORATE OFFICERS IN THE TRADE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENTS WILL BE OFFERED TRANSFER TERMS TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE IN RANKS EQUIVALENT TO THEIR EXISTING RANKS,+ HE SAID.

THEY WOULD BE ELIGIBLE FOR PROMOTION WITHIN THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE AND LIABLE TO POSTING TO ANY POST DESIGNATED AS AN ADMINISTRATIVE POST.

EQUALLY, HE ADDED, ALL PRESENT STAFF GRADE MEMBERS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE MAY BE POSTED TO DIRECTORATE POSTS IN THESE TWO NEW DEPARTMENTS.

+THIS DECISION IS IN LINE WITH THE POLICY OF PROGRESSIVELY MAKING ALL DIRECTORATE LEVEL POSTS, WHEREVER PRACTICABLE, OPEN TO ALL SENIOR OFFICERS, BE THEY MEMBERS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE OR OF DEPARTMENTAL CADRES,+ SIR PHILIP SAID.

SIR PHILIP ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT A WORKING PARTY IS TO BE SET UP TO EXAMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A FULL-TIME IN-SERVICE COMMAND AND MANAGEMENT COURSE ON AN EXPERIMENTAL BASIS FOR MID-CAREER OFFICERS IN BOTH COMMON SERVICE AND DEPARTMENTAL CADRES AND IN THE UNIFORMED SERVICES WITH A VIEW TO PREPARING SUCH OFFICERS FOR DIRECTORATE LEVEL RESPONSIBILITIES.

THE WORKING PARTY IS TO BE CHAIRED BY MR LI FOOK-KOW, CHAIRMAN OF THE PUBLIC SERVICES COMMISSION. DETAILS OF ITS COMPOSITION AND TERMS OF REFERENCE WILL BE ANNOUNCED SHORTLY, SIR PHILIP SAID.

RESPONDING TO CONCERN EXPRESSED DURING THE BUDGET DEBATE BY UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS ON THE GROWTH AND SIZE OF THE CIVIL SERVICE, SIR PHILIP ASSURED THE COUNCIL THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS NOT COMPLACENT ABOUT THE COST-EFFICIENCY OF DEPARTMENTAL ESTABLISHMENTS.

THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1982

- 4 -

THE GOVERNMENT WAS CONSCIOUS OF THE NEED TO TAKE A DYNAMIC VIEW OF THE ORGANISATION OF ITS INTERNAL ADMINISTRATION.

HE ALSO ASSURED MEMBERS THAT THE ADDITIONAL POSTS FOR WHICH THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY WAS SEEKING FUNDS IN HIS BUDGET WOULD ONLY BE CREATED IF DEPARTMENTAL ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEES (DEC'S) WERE SATISFIED THAT A PROPERLY ARGUED CASE WERE MADE OUT.

+ALTHOUGH, IN THEORY, PROVISION IS BEING SOUGHT FOR AN ADDITIONAL 16 500 POSTS, I AM CONFIDENT THAT, IN PRACTICE, A LESSER NUMBER WILL BE CREATED EVEN IF SO MANY COULD BE RECRUITED AND ABSORBED,+ HE SAID.

HE EMPHASISED THAT DEC'S -- AND PARTICULARLY THE FINANCE BRANCH AND CIVIL SERVICE BRANCH REPRESENTATIVES ON THEM -- WOULD BE AT PAINS TO ENSURE THAT THE SCOPE FOR THE REDEPLOYMENT OF STAFF IN EXISTING POSTS HAD BEEN FULLY EXPLORED.

AND THE ESTABLISHMENT SUB-COMMITTEE, IN ITS PROGRAMME OF REGULAR REVIEWS OF DEPARTMENTAL ESTABLISHMENTS, WOULD DOUBTLESS CHECK THAT THIS HAD BEEN DONE, HE ADDED.

REFERRING TO THE HON MISS LYDIA DUNN'S QUESTION ABOUT THE CONTINUING RELEVANCE OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT CONCEPT, SIR PHILIP SAID: +RATHER THAN DISMANTLE THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT IN FAVOUR OF ANOTHER SET OF ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR FORMULATING AND DIRECTING AND COORDINATING POLICIES IN OUR VARIOUS PROGRAMME AREAS, I THINK IT IS WISER TO SEEK TO ADAPT THE PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS WITH A VIEW TO SPEEDING UP THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS, IMPROVING THE SERVICING OF THE NETWORK OF BOARDS AND COMMITTEES ASSOCIATED WITH THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AND DEVELOPING A MORE RESPONSIVE AND MORE COHERENT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN POLICY BRANCHES AND BETWEEN POLICY BRANCHES AND DEPARTMENTS.+

HE ALSO MENTIONED THAT MORE ATTENTION SHOULD BE PAID TO THE WAY IN WHICH DEPARTMENTS WERE ACCOMMODATED.

+THERE ARE TOO MANY INSTANCES OF DEPARTMENTS IN SCATTERED AND UNSUITABLE PREMISES, WHICH UNTIDY SITUATIONS ARE NOT CONDUCIVE TO EFFICIENCY,+ SIR PHILIP SAID.

THE GOVERNMENT, HE ADDED, WAS PURSUING THE SEARCH FOR SERVICES WHICH MIGHT BE CONTRACTED OUT AND FOR SUITABLE CANDIDATES FOR HIVING-OFF AS COMMERCIAL OR QUASI-COMMERCIAL VENTURES TO OPERATE AS PUBLIC CORPORATIONS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/5

TOTAL REVENUE EXPECTED TO BE \$34 BILLION
* * * * *

THE GOVERNMENT'S TOTAL REVENUE FOR 1981-82, HAVING REGARD TO PERFORMANCE OVER THE PAST THREE MONTHS, IS NOW EXPECTED TO BE \$34 BILLION, ABOUT \$800 MILLION LESS THAN THE \$34.8 BILLION GIVEN IN THE REVISED ESTIMATES OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE SAME YEAR.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, THE HON JOHN BREMRIDGE, IN HIS SPEECH CONCLUDING THE BUDGET DEBATE IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY, SAID THE UPDATED ASSESSMENT OF TOTAL EXPENDITURE, HOWEVER, FORTUITOUSLY REMAINED UNCHANGED (AT \$27.1 BILLION), ALTHOUGH ITS MAKE-UP WAS SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT.

ON THIS BASIS, HE SAID, LAST YEAR'S OPERATIONS WOULD RESULT IN A REDUCED SURPLUS OF \$6.9 BILLION INSTEAD OF THE \$7.7 BILLION INDICATED IN THE REVISED ESTIMATES.

RECURRENT EXPENDITURE WOULD BE ABOUT \$129 MILLION LOWER THAN PREVIOUSLY ESTIMATED, BECAUSE THE REQUIREMENT FOR PENSION PAYMENTS WAS OVER-STATED. BUT TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE WOULD BE ABOUT \$134 MILLION HIGHER.

MR BREMRIDGE SAID EXPENDITURE ON LAND ACQUISITION IN PARTICULAR WAS NOW ESTIMATED AT \$1.9 BILLION RATHER THAN \$1.6 BILLION, BUT THERE HAD BEEN SOME OFFSETTING SAVINGS IN OTHER COMPONENTS OF THE CAPITAL ACCOUNT.

RECURRENT REVENUE WAS EXPECTED TO BE \$363 MILLION LESS THAN PREVIOUSLY ESTIMATED, HE SAID, LARGELY BECAUSE OF RATHER LOWER YIELDS FROM EARNINGS AND PROFITS TAX AND FROM STAMP DUTIES; AND CAPITAL REVENUE WAS EXPECTED TO BE \$369 MILLION LESS, RESULTING ENTIRELY FROM A DROP IN THE YIELD FROM LAND PRÉMIA AS A RESULT OF LOWER PRICES BEING FETCHED BY THE SALE OF LAND.

+THE TRANSFER OF THE 1981-82 SURPLUS, AS NOW ASSESSED, TO THE GENERAL REVENUE BALANCE WILL BRING OUR FISCAL RESERVES AT THE BEGINNING OF 1982-83 TO ABOUT \$22.4 BILLION,+ HE SAID.

ALLOWING (ON THE BASIS OF A GEARING OF THREE) \$6.5 BILLION AS COVER FOR OUR CONTINGENT LIABILITIES, OUR +FREE+ FISCAL RESERVES AT APRIL 1, 1982 SHOULD BE ABOUT \$15.9 BILLION, MR BREMRIDGE SAID.

PURPOSE OF FISCAL SYSTEM

* * *

THE GENERAL PURPOSE OF THE GOVERNMENT'S FISCAL SYSTEM IS TO FINANCE EXPENDITURE REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT AGREED PROGRAMMES. THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, THE HON JOHN BREMIDGE TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

IN HIS SPEECH CONCLUDING THE BUDGET DEBATE, MR BREMIDGE SAID: +THE GOVERNMENT HAS NEVER TRIED TO PURSUE SOCIAL JUSTICE THROUGH TAX MEASURES ANCILLARY TO OVERALL POLICY, THOUGH THERE IS CLEARLY A DEGREE OF REDISTRIBUTION IN FOR EXAMPLE THE PUBLIC HOUSING FIELD AND IN THE STRUCTURE OF THE SALARIES TAX.+

MR BREMIDGE SAID HE BELIEVED THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICIES WERE PROPERLY DESIGNED TO MAKE THE POOR RICHER- AND NOT THE RICH POORER.

+THEY HAVE CLEARLY DONE SO. I DO NOT INTEND TO REPEAT THE MANY RELEVANT PASSAGES FROM MY BUDGET SPEECH, BUT I EMPHASISE MY BELIEF THAT LESS GOVERNMENT TENDS TO BE MORE EFFICIENT GOVERNMENT,+ HE SAID.

HONG KONG'S EXPERIENCE OVER RECENT YEARS PROVIDED SOME FIRM EVIDENCE OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF HIS PREDECESSORS' CONSISTENT POLICIES, MR BREMIDGE SAID, ADDING THAT UNOFFICIALS IN THE COURSE OF THIS YEAR'S DEBATE HAD AGAIN GENERALLY ACCEPTED THE VIRTUES OF APPROPRIATE DEGREES OF THRIFT, CREATIVITY, COMMONSENSE AND ABOVE ALL PLAIN DECENCY IN CONTRIBUTING TO THE IMPROVING LIVING STANDARDS OF OUR PEOPLE AND TO THE PRUDENT FREEDOM SUCCESSFULLY ENJOYED BY OUR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY.

IN HIS SPEECH, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY ALSO RESPONDED TO MORE SPECIFIC POINTS RAISED BY UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL DURING THE DEBATE.

ON CONTROL OF PUBLIC SECTOR EXPENDITURE, MR BREMIDGE SAID THE +ASTRINGENT ADVICE+ GIVEN BY THE HON LYDIA DUNN, THE HON CHARLES YEUNG, THE HON WONG LAM, DR THE HON RAYSON HUANG, THE HON WILLIAM BROWN AND THE HON STEPHEN CHEONG WAS HELPFUL.

HE SAID HE WAS PLEASED THAT THEY AGREED THAT THE GROWTH RATE IN REAL TERMS OF PUBLIC SECTOR EXPENDITURE ON CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNT SHOULD REFLECT AS CLOSELY AS PRACTICABLE THE GROWTH RATE OF THE GDP.

+NOTHING THAT I SHALL SAY REPRESENTS NEW POLICY. ONLY LAST YEAR SIR PHILIP IN THIS DEBATE SAID: 'THE NEED FOR SELF IMPOSED RESTRAINT IS SELF EVIDENT'+

+THE PRINCIPLE IS I AM SURE, GENERALLY ACCEPTED- BUT, ALAS, THE PRACTICE IS MORE DIFFICULT, AND IT WOULD BE DEMAGOGIC FOR ME TO PRETEND OTHERWISE,+ MR BREMIDGE SAID.

SETTING ASIDE ANY DEBATE ON COMPETING PRIORITIES, HE SAID, PROBLEMS TO BE FACED INCLUDED THE DIFFICULTY OF DECIDING REASONABLY ACCURATELY EACH YEAR WHAT THE GROWTH RATE OF THE GDP WOULD BE IN THE FOLLOWING YEAR.

MOREOVER IN THE YEAR 1981-82 THE ACTUAL GROWTH RATE OF PUBLIC SECTOR EXPENDITURE GROWTH IN REAL TERMS ON CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNT WAS 21.8 PER CENT.

/+SUBSEQUENTLY FOR

- 7 -

+SUBSEQUENTLY FOR 1982-83 TO ADVOCATE AN IMMEDIATE REDUCTION TO AN EIGHT PER CENT GROWTH RATE IS QUITE UNREALISTIC WITHOUT ACCEPTING A CUT OF EXISTING PROGRAMMES,+ HE SAID.

MR BREMRIDGE SAID HE WOULD FIND IT DIFFICULT TO JUSTIFY FURTHER CUTBACKS IN THE GROWTH RATE OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1982-83 ON TOP OF THE PROPOSED REDUCTION OF ELEVEN PERCENTAGE POINTS IN GROWTH ON CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNT, AGAINST A BACKGROUND OF LARGE RESERVES AND A CONSIDERABLE BUDGETARY SURPLUS.

HOWEVER, HE SAID HE SENSED A CONTINUED CONCERN AT THE GROWTH RATE OF PUBLIC SECTOR EXPENDITURE AND WOULD BEAR IT IN MIND. HE ADDED THAT HE WOULD WELCOME MEMBERS' SUPPORT WHEN DIFFICULT DECISIONS HAD TO BE MADE.

ON TAXATION, MR BREMRIDGE SAID WE HAD LOW TAXATION IN HONG KONG AND IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT IT SHOULD REMAIN NEUTRAL IN EFFECT AND NOT BE UNDULY DISTORTED IN FAVOUR OF PARTICULAR CLASSES. HE WAS REFERRING TO PLEAS BY UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS FOR TAX RELIEF ESPECIALLY FOR HOME MORTGAGE PAYMENTS AND FOR FURTHER CONCESSIONS FOR NEW CAPITAL-INTENSIVE EQUIPMENT.

ON CAPITAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY SAID A PLANNING UNIT MIGHT BE SET UP SOON IN FINANCE BRANCH WHICH WOULD WORK ON MODELS FOR PROJECTION OVER A FIVE-YEAR PERIOD TO SEE WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO FUTURE BUDGETS IN THE LIGHT OF VARIED ASSUMPTIONS.

HOWEVER, MR BREMRIDGE SAID ALTHOUGH THIS SOUNDED PRETTY SIMPLE, HE DOUBTED IF IT WOULD PROVE TO BE SO IN PRACTICE.

HE WAS REPLYING TO QUERIES RAISED BY MISS DUNN AND MR BROWN ON POSSIBLE FUTURE PROBLEMS WITH REGARD TO THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND CAPITAL REVENUE AND THE ALLIED POSSIBILITY OF FALLING REVENUE FROM LAND SALES.

MR BREMRIDGE SAID THERE WAS NOT MUCH THAT HE COULD DO IN ADVANCE ABOUT SUCH HYPOTHETICAL HORRORS, BEYOND CONSTANTLY BEING ON GUARD.

ON ASSISTANCE TO INDUSTRY, MR BREMRIDGE REPEATED THAT HE WAS WELL AWARE OF THE MANY PROBLEMS THAT INDUSTRY CURRENTLY FACED ESPECIALLY AS OUR OVERSEAS MARKETS WERE CURRENTLY AFFECTED BY RECESSION.

+BUT I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THE RIGHT WAY TO SOLVE THESE PROBLEMS IS BY CROSS PAYMENTS FROM OTHERS. INDUSTRIALISTS REALLY MUST STAND ON THEIR OWN FEET AND ADAPT TO CONDITIONS AS THEY ALWAYS SUCCESSFULLY HAVE DONE, WHILE LOOKING TO GOVERNMENT FOR IMPROVED BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE.+

ON RELATIONS WITH CHINA, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY SAID HE WAS PLEASED THAT THE HON WONG PO-YAN AND MR CHEONG UNDERLINED THE HIGHLY IMPORTANT ISSUE OF OUR TRADE LINKS WITH CHINA.

+I ENTIRELY AGREED WITH WHAT BOTH MEN HAVE SAID, PARTICULARLY ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES, AND I WELCOME THE CONSIDERATION THAT I UNDERSTAND IS BEING GIVEN TO A VISIT BY THE TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL TO CHINA,+ HE ADDED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

DOMESTIC EXPORT GROWTH MAY NOT REACH FORECAST 7 PER CENT
* * * * *

THERE IS NOW A HIGHER RISK OF THE ACTUAL GROWTH IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS FOR 1982 AS A WHOLE NOT REACHING THE FORECAST OF SEVEN PER CENT, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, THE HON JOHN BREMRIDGE SAID TODAY.

THIS HIGHER RISK ALSO APPLIES TO THE FORECAST GROWTH RATE OF EIGHT PER CENT FOR THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT, MR BREMRIDGE TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN HIS SPEECH CONCLUDING THE DEBATE ON THE SECOND READING OF THE APPROPRIATION BILL, 1982.

HOWEVER, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY SAID THAT BECAUSE HE HAD CONFIDENCE IN THE ABILITY OF MANUFACTURERS TO OVERCOME PROBLEMS AND BECAUSE THE SERVICES AND FINANCIAL SECTORS WERE DOING WELL, HE DID NOT INTEND FORMALLY TO REVISE HIS FORECASTS.

+BUT I AM UNDER NO ILLUSION THAT THE TASK OF OVERCOMING THESE DIFFICULTIES WILL BE EASY. AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO WATCH VERY CLOSELY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE UNITED STATES,+ HE SAID.

MR BREMRIDGE SAID DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES IN THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF THIS YEAR WERE SLIGHTLY LOWER THAN EXPECTED, AND WERE PROBABLY ABOUT TWO PER CENT LESS IN REAL TERMS THAN IN THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD IN 1981.

FURTHERMORE THE EFFECT ON HONG KONG'S EXPORTS OF THE UNITED STATES RECOVERY, WHEN IT HAPPENS, HAS BEEN COMPLICATED BY THE OUTCOME OF THE RECENT NEGOTIATIONS IN RESPECT OF RESTRAINTS ON EXPORTS OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING TO THE UNITED STATES.

MR BREMRIDGE ESTIMATED THAT THE NEW AGREEMENT COULD REDUCE THE FORECAST GROWTH RATE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES BY ABOUT ONE PERCENTAGE POINT, AND THE FORECAST GROWTH RATE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AS A WHOLE BY LESS THAN HALF A PERCENTAGE POINT.

+THESE REDUCTIONS IN FORECAST GROWTH RATE DO NOT APPEAR TO BE VERY LARGE, AND UNTIL THE MID-YEAR REVIEW I DO NOT INTEND TO CONSIDER REVISION OF MY 1982 FORECASTS,+ HE SAID.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY SAID THE LATEST FIGURES ALSO INDICATED THAT DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO ALL MARKETS IN THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF THIS YEAR WERE IN REAL TERMS ABOUT TWO PER CENT LESS THAN IN THE SAME PERIOD IN 1981. ON THE SAME COMPARISON RETAINED IMPORTS OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURERS WERE ABOUT FIVE PER CENT LESS.

EXPORT PRICES IN FOREIGN CURRENCY TERMS, HOWEVER, HAD HARDLY INCREASED SINCE SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR, HE SAID.

HE ALSO SAID THAT NEGOTIATIONS ON TEXTILES AND CLOTHING WITH THE EEC WERE DUE TO START SOON AND IF THE EEC COULD NOT BE SHIFTED FROM THEIR DECLARED INTENTION, WE WOULD FACE EVEN MORE RESTRICTIVE CUTBACKS IN OUR EXPORTS TO THAT MARKET.

BUT THE OUTCOME WAS UNLIKELY TO AFFECT 1982 EXPORT PROSPECTS, MR BREMRIDGE ADDED.

THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1982

- 9 -

CONCERN FELT OVER LACK OF UNIVERSITY PLACES

* * * *

THE SHORTAGE OF UNIVERSITY PLACES, REFERRED TO BY THE HON PETER WONG, WAS A MATTER OF CONCERN TO THE GOVERNMENT, THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION, THE HON KENNETH TOPLEY, SAID AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

THIS CONCERN WAS PARTICULARLY FELT +AS THE GREAT EXPANSION OF SECONDARY EDUCATION IN RECENT YEARS WILL INCREASE THE NUMBERS OF YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ASPIRE TO HIGHER EDUCATION,+ MR TOPLEY SAID.

HE ALSO SAID: +THE INCREASE IN OVERSEAS STUDENT TUITION FEES IN BRITAIN AND IN SOME PROVINCES IN CANADA HAS REMINDED US THAT WE MUST LOOK TO OUR OWN RESOURCES IN MEETING THIS DEMAND.+

REFERRING TO MR WONG'S OBSERVATION THAT ONLY TWO PER CENT OF THE RELEVANT AGE GROUP GO ON TO UNIVERSITY EDUCATION IN HONG KONG, MR TOPLEY SAID IT SHOULD BE REMEMBERED THAT +WE ARE MUCH STRONGER AT NON-UNIVERSITY LEVELS OF POST-SCHOOL EDUCATION.+

THERE WAS A GOOD RANGE OF COURSES LEADING TO HIGHER DIPLOMAS AND DIPLOMAS AT THE POLYTECHNIC AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTES, THE DIPLOMAS OF THE POST-SECONDARY COLLEGES, OR TO SPECIFIC QUALIFICATIONS RELATED TO TEACHING, NURSING AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL REQUIREMENTS, HE POINTED OUT.

MR TOPLEY ALSO SAID THAT THE PROPORTION RECEIVING DEGREES SHOULD INCREASE SUBSTANTIALLY OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS, THROUGH CONTINUING EXPANSION OF THE UNIVERSITIES, COUPLED WITH THE DECREASE OF NUMBERS IN THE AGE GROUP, AND THROUGH NEW MEASURES SUCH AS THE INTRODUCTION OF DEGREE PROGRAMMES AT THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC.

MR TOPLEY ALSO REFERRED TO THE SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN FINANCIAL SUPPORT GIVEN TO THE HONG KONG BAPTIST COLLEGE, POINTING OUT THAT FOUR YEARS AGO IT RECEIVED NO RECURRENT ASSISTANCE FROM THE GOVERNMENT BUT THIS YEAR WILL RECEIVE \$25 MILLION.

HE SAID IT WAS THE INTENTION THAT THE BAPTIST COLLEGE SHOULD, LIKE THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, EVENTUALLY OFFER A MIX OF DEGREE AND NON-DEGREE COURSES.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES WOULD BE REQUIRED FROM THE GOVERNMENT -- IN ADDITION TO TIME -- FOR THE STANDARD OF THE DEGREE COURSES OFFERED TO BE COMPARABLE TO THOSE OF THE UNIVERSITIES, AND IT WAS NECESSARY FOR THE RESOURCES THAT ARE DEPLOYED +TO SHOW BENEFICIAL EFFECT+, HE SAID.

MR TOPLEY SAID THAT CAREFUL ATTENTION TO PLANNING THE NEW PROFILE FOR THE DEGREE COURSES WOULD BE REQUIRED ON THE PART OF THE COLLEGE STAFF.

/AND THE

THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1982

- 10 -

AND THE COLLEGE AUTHORITIES FULLY ACKNOWLEDGED THE NEED FOR CERTAIN MEASURES TO BE TAKEN BEFORE HIGHER LEVEL COURSES WERE INTRODUCED, HE SAID.

+I AM BOUND TO SAY THAT I BELIEVE THAT THE COLLEGE SHOULD EMBARK ON DEGREE COURSES ONLY AFTER ADEQUATE PREPARATION OF A SECURE BASIS FOR WORK AT THIS LEVEL.

+IN PRACTICAL TERMS THIS WOULD MEAN THAT PERHAPS TWO OR THREE DEGREE COURSES COULD START IN FOUR YEARS OR SO FROM NOW.

+I BELIEVE THAT THE STAFF AND STUDENTS OF THE COLLEGE SHOULD LOOK TOWARDS THE FUTURE WITH HOPE BUT HOPE THAT IS FULLY REALISTIC.+

THESE DEVELOPMENTS WOULD FORM AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE EXPANSION PROGRAMME FOR HIGHER EDUCATION, HE SAID.

MR TOPLEY SAID THE REV THE HON JOYCE BENNETT QUITE RIGHTLY EMPHASISED THE IMPORTANCE THAT TEACHER TRAINING SHOULD ASSUME WITHIN THE EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT PLANS.

+THE IMPORTANCE OF EFFECTIVE PRE-SERVICE AND IN-SERVICE TRAINING PROGRAMMES WAS BROUGHT HOME TO US FORCIBLY BY THE DISTINGUISHED TEAM OF EDUCATORS FROM OVERSEAS IN THE VERY USEFUL DISCUSSION ON EDUCATIONAL PRIORITIES THAT TOOK PLACE IN THIS CHAMBER AT THE END OF LAST MONTH.

+WE DO NEED TO REVIEW OUR TEACHER TRAINING PROGRAMMES VERY CAREFULLY, THOUGH AS THE COLLEGES OF EDUCATION ARE CURRENTLY OPERATING UNDER GREAT STRAIN IN PROVIDING THE ADDITIONAL TEACHERS NEEDED TO IMPROVE STAFFING STANDARDS IN SCHOOLS, THE PRESENT MAY NOT BE THE BEST TIME FOR ANY RADICAL UPHEAVAL TO TAKE PLACE,+ HE SAID.

MR TOPLEY SAID HE EXPECTED TO RECEIVE THE COMPLETED REPORT OF THE PANEL OF VISITORS BEFORE THE END OF THIS YEAR AND THE CHANGES REQUIRED IN TEACHER TRAINING APPEARED LIKELY TO FEATURE PROMINENTLY IN THAT REPORT.

HE BELIEVED THAT THEN WOULD BE THE TIME TO CONSIDER THE SHAPE OF THE TEACHER TRAINING ESTABLISHMENTS, INCLUDING THE POSSIBILITY OF REDUCING THE NUMBER OF SEPARATE UNITS.

UNTIL HE HAD THE PANEL'S FINAL REPORT, IT WOULD BE UNWISE TO COMMIT HIMSELF ONE WAY OR THE OTHER, EXCEPT TO NOTE THAT MUCH HAD ALREADY BEEN DONE TO ACHIEVE BETTER CO-ORDINATION BETWEEN THE COLLEGES, THOUGH STOPPING SHORT OF THEIR FULL AMALGAMATION, HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1982

- 11 -

AIDED SCHOOLS TO RETAIN FREEDOM: HAYE ASSURES
* * * * *

THE SUGGESTION THAT AIDED SCHOOLS WERE IN DANGER OF BEING DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM WAS EMPHATICALLY REFUTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, THE HON COLVYN HAYE, IN THE RESUMED BUDGET DEBATE AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON.

MR HAYE GAVE A FURTHER ASSURANCE THAT THE CODES OF AID, CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW, WOULD NOT, INDEED COULD NOT, IN THIS CLIMATE OF COOPERATION AND TRUST, BE UNILATERALLY ALTERED.

+AN UPDATING AND SIMPLIFICATION OF PROCEDURES IS IN MIND, AND I MUST CORRECT THE IMPRESSION THAT HAS BEEN GIVEN THAT AIDED SCHOOLS ARE BEING DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM TO INITIATE AND DEVELOP NEW PROJECTS TO BENEFIT THE PEOPLE,+ HE SAID.

THE DIRECTOR WAS REPLYING TO ALLEGATIONS BY THE REV THE HON JOYCE BENNETT THAT THE GOVERNMENT, AND IN PARTICULAR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, HAD BETRAYED THE TRUST OF SCHOOL SPONSORS BY IMPOSING A NUMBER OF NEW, RESTRICTIVE REGULATIONS AND UNILATERALLY ALTERING LONG ESTABLISHED AND ACCEPTED CODES OF AID.

WITH REGARD TO MISS BENNETT'S SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO THE GOVERNMENT'S +RECENT ATTEMPT+ TO INSPECT ALL THE ACCOUNTS OF SPONSORING BODIES, MR HAYE SAID HE WOULD ONLY COMMENT THAT THE DIRECTOR OF AUDIT WAS GIVEN RIGHT OF ACCESS TO THE BOOKS AND ACCOUNTS OF AIDED SCHOOLS AND SPONSORS IN 1978, ONLY AFTER THE VARIOUS SCHOOLS COUNCILS CONCERNED HAD BEEN FULLY CONSULTED.

ON THE THEME OF CONTROL, MR HAYE SAID HE WAS PUZZLED BY MISS BENNETT'S DEMAND FOR MORE, NOT LESS, CONTROL IN THE PROFESSIONAL CURRICULAR AREA COVERED BY GUIDELINES ON REMEDIAL TEACHING.

HE EXPLAINED THAT THE GUIDELINES HAD DELIBERATELY CONCENTRATED MORE ON WAYS OF ARRANGING, WITHIN THE CONSTRAINTS OF TIME-TABLES AND FACILITIES AVAILABLE, FOR THE REMEDIAL LANGUAGE TEACHING TO TAKE PLACE.

+AND EVEN IN THIS AREA IT WAS THOUGHT THAT DUE RECOGNITION HAD TO BE GIVEN TO THE NEED FOR INDIVIDUAL SCHOOLS TO BE LEFT WITH SUFFICIENT FREEDOM AND FLEXIBILITY TO MEET THEIR OWN PARTICULAR NEEDS.

+WITH REGARD TO CONTENT AND METHODS IT HAS BEEN ASSUMED THAT THE TEACHERS THEMSELVES ARE IN THE BEST POSITION TO ADJUST AND ADAPT TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE CHILDREN IN THEIR CHARGE. SPECIFIC PROBLEMS REQUIRE THEIR OWN REMEDIES AND CANNOT BE COVERED IN A CENTRALLY ISSUED SET OF GUIDELINES,+ MR HAYE SAID. +BUT LANGUAGE SECTIONS OF THE ADVISORY INSPECTORATE ARE ABLE AND PLEASED TO OFFER ASSISTANCE TO MEET SPECIFIC PROBLEMS,+ HE ADDED.

/THE DEPARTMENT'S

THE DEPARTMENT'S ADVISORY INSPECTORATE WAS BEING EXPANDED TO COPE WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 1981 WHITE PAPER PROPOSALS. PROBABLY OF MORE SIGNIFICANCE, MR HAYE ADDED, WAS THE FACT THAT THE STRUCTURE OF THE INSPECTORATE WAS BEING REVISED WHICH SHOULD LEAD TO A STRENGTHENING AND RE-SHAPING TO ENABLE IT MORE EFFECTIVELY TO CARRY OUT ITS MANY ADVISORY TASKS.

MR HAYE FULLY AGREED WITH THE HON SELINA CHOW ON THE IMPORTANCE OF CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT.

+HOWEVER, I MUST CORRECT MRS CHOW'S IMPRESSION OF THE SIZE OF THE EXISTING COMMITMENT TO CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT, WHICH, I CAN ASSURE HER, IS NOT LIMITED TO THE APPOINTMENT (AT A COST OF \$57 000) OF A KINDERGARTEN ADVISER,+ HE SAID.

+WITHIN THE ADVISORY INSPECTORATE THERE IS A CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT SECTION WITH A FULL-TIME STAFF OF TEN (SEVEN PROFESSIONAL AND THREE SUPPORTING STAFF). THE TASK OF THIS SECTION IS TO SERVICE AND COORDINATE THE WORK OF THE CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE WHICH CONSISTS OF A MAIN COMMITTEE OF SOME 30 MEMBERS, OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL, AND A TOTAL OF 60 SUBJECT COMMITTEES. ALL INSPECTORS OF SCHOOLS ARE INVOLVED, TO VARYING DEGREES, IN THE WORK OF CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT.

+THE PRESENT CDC SYSTEM IS BEING REVIEWED TO ASSESS ITS APPROPRIATENESS AND HOW IT CAN BE IMPROVED. ALSO, BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR WILL BE THE SETTING UP OF TEAMS OF TEACHERS, SECONDED FROM THE SCHOOLS, TO WORK ON CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS,+ HE SAID.

TURNING TO THE REMARKS OF UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS ABOUT THE SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACEMENT AND ALLOCATION PROCEDURES AND THE JSEA SYSTEM, MR HAYE AGREED THAT THERE WAS ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT.

AS A RESULT OF THE RECENT REPORT OF THE WORKING PARTY WHICH REVIEWED THE SSPA AND THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON IT, WAYS WERE NOW BEING STUDIED WITHIN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO EFFECT SOME REDUCTION IN THE ABILITY RANGES FOR WHICH THE SECONDARY SCHOOLS HAD TO PROVIDE.

ON THE JSEA, MR HAYE SAID: +NOW THAT WE HAVE COMPLETED THE FIRST FULL CYCLE AND STUDIED WHAT HAPPENED IT CAN BE SEEN THAT IT DID NOT CAUSE THE MAJOR UPHEAVAL AND MOVEMENT OF PUPILS THAT SOME HAD FEARED.

+WHAT NOW NEEDS TO BE FURTHER EMPHASISED IS THAT THIS IS NOT A PUBLIC EXAMINATION, BUT THAT IT IS A SYSTEM OF ALLOCATION BASED ON INTERNAL SCHOOL ASSESSMENTS WHICH ARE SCALED TO ENSURE COMPARABILITY OF SCHOOL STANDARDS.+

ON MISS BENNETT'S PROPOSAL THAT A NEW, CENTRALLY ORGANISED PUBLIC EXAMINATION BE INTRODUCED TO FILL THE FORM IV PLACES NOT FILLED BY THE SCHOOLS THEMSELVES, MR HAYE SAID HE BELIEVED SUCH A MEASURE WOULD NOT ONLY HAVE THE MOST UNFORTUNATE EDUCATIONAL EFFECTS BUT WOULD INTRODUCE AN UNACCEPTABLE DEGREE OF INEQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY AMONG OUR FORM III PUPILS.

THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1982

- 13 -

MR HAYE ALSO EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT THE PROPOSED SYSTEM WOULD RESULT IN ANY GREATER COST EFFECTIVENESS NOR CURE THE SO-CALLED PROBLEM OF VACANT FORM IV PLACES.

+I SAY 'SO-CALLED' AS THE NUMBER OF SUCH PLACES AS REPORTED SOON AFTER THE START OF THE CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR WAS ONLY ABOUT ONE PER CENT OF THE PLACES AVAILABLE IN THE SCHOOLS.

+SOME WASTAGE, RESULTING FROM SUCH FACTORS AS EMIGRATION AND THE DECISION TO DISCONTINUE SENIOR SECONDARY STUDIES TO GO OUT TO WORK HAS TO BE EXPECTED. AND VACANT PLACES MAY BE FILLED AT THE DISCRETION OF HEADS OF SCHOOLS,+ MR HAYE SAID.

THE DIRECTOR SAID NOTHING WOULD PLEASE HIM MORE THAN TO ABOLISH THE SSPA AND JSEA, WHEN THIS WAS POSSIBLE- BUT WHILE WE HAD THEM, +LET'S NOT MAKE THEM WORSE+.

+PARENTS ARE MORE WORRIED THAN PUPILS, BUT THIS IS NOT TO SAY THAT WE IN EDUCATION DO NOT CARE. OF COURSE I'M WORRIED WHEN A MOTHER LIKE MRS CHOW IS WORRIED- AND I AM CONCERNED WHEN TEACHERS TALK OF THE DISTORTION OF THE CURRICULUM BY THE SSPA ACADEMIC APTITUDE TEST AND JSEA SCALING TEST.

+I MUST APPEAL TO PARENTS NOT TO PASS ON THEIR FEARS TO THEIR CHILDREN, AND REMIND TEACHERS THAT THEY ARE THE ONES DISTORTING THE CURRICULUM BY UNNECESSARY DRILLING. THIS IS NO COUNSEL OF DESPAIR BUT A MATTER OF COMMONSENSE. PARENTS AND TEACHERS CAN MAKE THINGS BETTER, NOT WORSE,+ HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/14

THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1982

- 14 -

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION MOVES INTO NEW ERA

* * * *

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION IN THE NEW TERRITORIES MOVED INTO A NEW ERA TODAY WHEN THE APPOINTMENTS OF 58 UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS TO THE EIGHT DISTRICT BOARDS WERE ANNOUNCED.

THEIR APPOINTMENTS, TO BE GAZETTED TOMORROW (FRIDAY), WILL COMPLETE THE FULL COMPOSITION OF EACH DISTRICT BOARD FOLLOWING THE FIRST ELECTIONS HELD IN THE NEW TERRITORIES LAST MONTH.

THE SECRETARY FOR CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID: +THIS COMPLETES THE FIRST STAGE OF THE PROPOSALS WHICH WERE PUBLISHED IN THE WHITE PAPER IN 1981 AND FIRMLY ESTABLISHES THE AUTHORITY OF THE DISTRICT BOARDS.

+THE BOARDS' ADVICE ON ALL MATTERS AND PROBLEMS AFFECTING THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE IN THE DISTRICT WILL BE EXTREMELY VALUABLE IN DETERMINING HOW PROBLEMS ARE TO BE TACKLED.+

TODAY ALSO SAW THE FIRST MEETING OF A NEW DISTRICT BOARD, IN NORTH DISTRICT, ATTENDED BY ITS APPOINTED AND ELECTED UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS AND OFFICIAL MEMBERS.

THE 58 UNOFFICIALS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR COMPRISED SEVEN NEW FACES AND 51 OTHERS WHO WERE REAPPOINTED.

THE EIGHT DISTRICT BOARDS ALSO INCLUDED 27 EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS, WHO ARE THE CHAIRMEN OF RURAL COMMITTEES, AND 62 OFFICIAL MEMBERS.

TOGETHER WITH THE 56 MEMBERS WHO WERE ELECTED LAST MONTH, THEY WILL SERVE ON THE BOARDS FOR A THREE-YEAR TERM WHICH BEGAN ON APRIL 1.

THE LARGEST DISTRICT BOARD IS IN TSUEN WAN WHICH NOW HAS 38 MEMBERS, FOLLOWED BY YUEN LONG WITH 26 MEMBERS AND SHA TIN AND NORTH, BOTH HAVING 25 MEMBERS.

THE SEVEN NEW FACES ARE MR ANTHONY YUEN TAK-TIM (NORTH), MR ALEX BLUM (SAI KUNG), MR BENJAMIN NG PING-KIN (SHA TIN), MR CHAN WAY (SHA TIN), MRS CHA LIU BIE-JU (TSUEN WAN), MR YAU HON-TIM (TUEN MUN) AND MR YIP HING-CHUNG (TUEN MUN).

MR ANTHONY YUEN, AGED 29, IS AN EXECUTIVE OF AN INSURANCE FIRM AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE OWNERS CORPORATION OF ON KWOK VILLA WHERE HE LIVES. HE IS A CHINESE UNIVERSITY GRADUATE IN BUSINESS MANAGEMENT.

MR ALEX BLUM, 59, IS THE FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND A RESIDENT OF HANG HAU.

MR BENJAMIN NG PING-KIN, 31, IS CURRENTLY SERVING AS THE CHAIRMAN OF SHA TIN ARTS ASSOCIATION.

/MR CHAN

MR CHAN WAY, 53, IS A BUSINESSMAN AND THE PRESIDENT OF SHA TIN TOWN CENTRE AREA COMMITTEE AND CHIU KIU WELFARE ASSOCIATION, SHA TIN BRANCH.

MRS CHA LIU BIE-JU, 61, IS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE YAN CHAI HOSPITAL'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

MR YAU HON-TIM, 45, IS A BUSINESSMAN AND THE PERMANENT DIRECTOR AND GENERAL SECRETARY OF CHING CHUNG TAOIST ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG.

MR YIP HING-CHUNG, 61, IS AN INDUSTRIALIST AND A MEMBER OF THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY SUB-COMMITTEE OF TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD.

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE 51 RE-APPOINTED UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS ANNOUNCED TODAY:

ISLANDS - MISS LEE WAI-FONG AND MR YOUNG WING-YAU.

NORTH - MR CHEUNG KUEN, MR CHEUNG YAN-LUNG,
MR CHONG KAM-NING, MR KO KIM-CHING,
MR LIU YUN-SUM AND DR PANG HOK-TUEN.

SAI KUNG - MR CHAN KWAI-SANG, MR LEE HOK-MING,
MR LEE YUN-SAU AND MR WILLIAM WAN.

SHA TIN - MR ROGER LAU HON-KIT, MR NG CHAN-LAM,
DR MARGARET NG NGOI-YEE, MR FRANKLIN
SHAM TUNG-KEUNG, MR ANDREW WONG WANG-FAT
AND MR WONG PO-MING.

TAI PO - MR CHEUNG CHE-FAN, MR CARLOS CHEUNG HON-KAU,
MR HO YUNG-SANG, MR HUNG CHEUNG-HO,
MR MICHAEL LAI KAM-CHEUNG, MR STEPHEN
TANG LUNG-WAI, MR STEPHEN WONG YUEN-CHEUNG
AND MR ALFRED DONALD YAP.

TSUEN WAN - MR CHAN PO-FONG, MR CHAU HOW-CHEN,
MRS ALICE CHONG YUK TAK-FUN, MR HO TUNG-CHING,
MR HO TZE-PING, DR ALEXANDER LAI MING-WAH,
MR LAM KIN-MING, MRS LAM MOK SAU-HING,
MR LAM YAU-KWONG, MR TSOI YUK-WAH,
MR WONG DAI-HEI AND MR WONG KAI-FU.

TUEN MUN - MR CHAN WU-CHING, MR CHAN YAT-SAN,
MR CHEUNG KAM-HUNG, MR HO SUN-KUEN,
MR LAU CHI-YUEN AND MR TANG TUNG-CHIU.

YUEN LONG - MR STEPHEN CHIU SHU-FAN, MADAM LEUNG SING-TAK,
MR NATHAN MA NING-HEI, MR TANG NAI-MAN,
MR TANG YING-KEI, MR WONG CHUNG-CHUEN
AND MR CHARLES YEUNG SIU-CHO.

THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1982

- 16 -

CONFIDENCE IN EDUCATION A VITAL ISSUE

* * * *

THE ISSUE OF CONFIDENCE IN EDUCATION WAS A VITAL ONE, THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION, MR KENNETH TOPLEY, SAID TODAY. HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE FIRST CONFERENCE FOR EDUCATIONAL WORKERS' UNIONS, ORGANISED BY THE GOVERNMENT SCHOOL NON-GRADUATE TEACHERS UNION.

+PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN EDUCATION IS CLOSELY LINKED WITH PARENTS' CONFIDENCE IN TEACHERS. IF TEACHERS LOSE THE RESPECT OF PARENTS AND OF CITIZENS GENERALLY THEN THE WHOLE PUBLIC SYSTEM OF EDUCATION MUST SUFFER,+ MR TOPLEY SAID. +THIS MEANS THAT UNIONS OF EDUCATIONAL WORKERS BEAR A RESPONSIBILITY NOT ONLY TOWARDS THEIR OWN MEMBERS BUT TOWARDS THE PUBLIC AT LARGE. WHAT IS MORE, THE UNIONS IN REGARDING THE INTERESTS OF THEIR OWN MEMBERS HAVE TO CONSIDER AT ALL TIMES THE EFFECT OF THEIR ACTIONS ON THE PUBLIC.+

MR TOPLEY POINTED OUT THAT PUBLIC CONFIDENCE HAD UNDERGONE DAMAGE FROM THE IMAGE PROJECTED BY SOME EDUCATIONAL WORKERS' UNIONS IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD WHERE THE NEEDS OF THE TEACHING SERVICE HAD BECOME CONFUSED IN THE EYES OF THE PUBLIC WITH THE INTERESTS OF TEACHERS UNIONS.

CYNICISM AND DISTRUST OF EDUCATIONAL WORKERS UNIONS COULD THWART PLANS FOR QUITE GENUINE AND PROGRESSIVE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE EDUCATION SYSTEM, MR TOPLEY SAID. +THIS MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO HAPPEN IN HONG KONG BECAUSE IT WILL NOT ONLY HINDER THE QUALITATIVE IMPROVEMENTS TO WHICH THE GOVERNMENT HAS SET ITS HAND AND MIND, IT WILL ALSO DAMAGE THE STATUS OF TEACHERS.

+IN THE LONG RUN RESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOUR MUST BE THE BEST POLICY,+ HE ADDED.

MR TOPLEY CONGRATULATED THE GOVERNMENT SCHOOL NON-GRADUATE TEACHERS UNION ON THEIR INITIATIVE IN ORGANISING THE CONFERENCE AND WELCOMED THE PARTICIPANTS. IT WAS PARTICULARLY APPROPRIATE, HE SAID, THAT THIS CONFERENCE SHOULD TAKE PLACE NOW WHEN HONG KONG EDUCATION WAS UNDERGOING AN OVERALL REVIEW- THIS WAS A FIRST-CLASS OPPORTUNITY FOR EDUCATIONAL WORKERS' UNIONS TO REVIEW THEIR OWN ROLE IN EDUCATION AND IN THE COMMUNITY.

HE WISHED THE CONFERENCE EVERY SUCCESS, SAYING THAT IT MUST REACH ITS OWN CONCLUSIONS AND HE WOULD LIMIT HIS COUNSEL TO ONE ITEM. +DO NOT ALLOW YOUR THINKING TO BECOME SET ON LINES WHICH ARE TOO NARROW,+ HE SAID. +TAKE A BROAD VIEW AND YOU WILL AVOID MANY PITFALLS.+

- - - - 0 - - - -

CONSULTATION INVOLVES PARTNERS NOT ADVERSARIES

* * * *

PARTIES ENGAGED IN CONSULTATION, WHETHER STAFF OR MANAGEMENT, ARE EQUAL PARTNERS IN DISCUSSION, NOT ADVERSARIES IN MELODRAMATIC CONFRONTATION, THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR COLVYN HAYE SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING ON +CONSULTATION: RIGHT ATTITUDES AND RIGHT ARRANGEMENTS+ AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE FIRST CONFERENCE FOR EDUCATIONAL WORKERS UNIONS, MR HAYE SAID PARTICIPANTS MUST CONTRIBUTE TO THE CONSULTATIVE PROCESS BY EXPRESSING THEIR VIEWS FULLY - NOT JUST AS A SERIES OF ASSERTIONS, BUT WITH FACTS AND WITH THOROUGHLY CONSIDERED ARGUMENTS.

+ABOVE ALL, THEY MUST BE PREPARED TO LISTEN, TO CONSIDER, TO SEE THE OTHER POINT OF VIEW.+

MR HAYE SAID THE RIGHT ATTITUDES ALONE WERE NOT SUFFICIENT WITHOUT THE RIGHT ARRANGEMENTS, THE RIGHT MACHINERY.

HE LISTED FOUR REQUIREMENTS WHICH, HE SAID, MUST BE MET BY ANY CONSULTATIVE ARRANGEMENT OF THIS KIND.

- * IT MUST GIVE STAFF FULL OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON PROPOSED CHANGES WHICH AFFECT THEM;
- * STAFF REPRESENTATIVES MUST BE GIVEN ALL THE INFORMATION THEY REQUIRE TO ENABLE THEM TO PARTICIPATE EFFECTIVELY IN DISCUSSIONS;
- * MANAGERS MUST TAKE AN ACTIVE PART IN THE DISCUSSIONS; AND
- * STAFF MUST BE ABLE TO FEEL CONFIDENT THAT THEY ARE PROPERLY REPRESENTED AND THAT EVERYTHING IS REPORTED BACK TO THEM FULLY AND ACCURATELY.

MR HAYE THEN DESCRIBED IN SOME DETAIL THE CONSTITUTION AND FUNCTIONS OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL (EDCC) WHICH, HE SAID, FULLY MET THE FOUR REQUIREMENTS.

BESIDES FORMAL CONTACTS THROUGH THE EDCC, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTORS OF EDUCATION MOST DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE WORK AND WELFARE OF PARTICULAR DEPARTMENTAL GRADES NOW HOLD REGULAR AND INFORMAL MEETINGS WITH THE REPRESENTATIVES OF STAFF ASSOCIATIONS OR UNIONS TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST.

+FORMALITIES ARE KEPT TO A MINIMUM AT THESE MEETINGS AND THEY HAVE SHOWN THEMSELVES TO BE A MOST USEFUL FORUM IN WHICH THE STAFF CAN RAISE MATTERS OF CONCERN, AND BY MEANS OF WHICH I AS DIRECTOR CAN ENSURE THAT I AM FULLY INFORMED AS TO WHAT THESE MATTERS ARE,+ MR HAYE SAID.

FOR EXCEPTIONAL PROBLEMS, HE SAID, HIS DOOR WAS ALWAYS OPEN TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE VARIOUS ASSOCIATIONS AND UNIONS, AND IN THE PAST HIS DIALOGUE WITH STAFF HAD PROVED VERY SUCCESSFUL. +THE RIGHT SPIRIT, THE RIGHT ATTITUDES AND THE RIGHT ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD PRODUCE THE RIGHT RESULTS IN FUTURE,+ HE SAID.

THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1982

- 18 -

GOVERNOR'S DEPARTURE - PRESS ARRANGEMENTS

* * *

NOTE TO EDITORS:

DETAILS OF PRESS ARRANGEMENTS FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE DEPARTURE FROM HONG KONG OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, AND LADY MACLEHOSE ARE CONTAINED IN COPIES OF A SUPPLEMENT TO THE DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN WHICH WILL BE DISTRIBUTED IN THE GIS PRESS BOXES THIS EVENING.

APPLICATION FORMS FOR PRESS FACILITIES TO COVER THE FUNCTION ARE ATTACHED TO THE SUPPLEMENT. YOU ARE REQUESTED TO COMPLETE THE FORMS AND RETURN THEM TO THE PRESS OFFICER, GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES, BY 5 PM ON MONDAY, APRIL 19.

- - - - 0 - - - -

IMPRESSIVE LOCAL SUPPORT FOR BACH CHOIR FINAL CONCERT

* * *

OVER 640 PERFORMERS WILL BE ON STAGE AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM TOMORROW NIGHT (FRIDAY APRIL 16) IN THE FIRST-EVER PERFORMANCE IN HONG KONG OF THE MASSIVE +REQUIEM+ WRITTEN BY HECTOR BERLIOZ CONDUCTED BY SIR DAVID WILLCOCKS.

THIS PERFORMANCE WILL BE THE FINAL CONCERT GIVEN BY THE 150-STRONG BACH CHOIR, WHO WILL BE AUGMENTED BY SINGERS AND MUSICIANS DRAWN FROM ALL OVER HONG KONG TO APPEAR IN THIS SPECTACULAR, BUT RARELY PERFORMED WORK.

IT MARKS THE CULMINATION OF MANY MONTHS OF PREPARATION BY THE LOCAL CHOIRS INVOLVED, WHO HAVE BEEN REHEARSING REGULARLY SINCE LAST OCTOBER AND WHOSE 300 ADDITIONAL VOICES ARE DRAWN FROM THE HONG KONG BACH CHOIR, THE HONG KONG ORATORIO SOCIETY, CECILIA SINGERS, PRO MUSIC SINGERS, SILVER JUBILEE SINGERS AND THE ISLAND YOUTH CHOIR OF THE MUSIC OFFICE OF RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT.

TO MEET THE DEMANDS OF BERLIOZ'S SCORE, FOUR-BRASS BANDS WITH A TOTAL OF 72 PLAYERS HAVE BEEN SELECTED FROM THE 1/2 GURKHA RIFLES REGIMENTAL BAND, THE ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT (VOLUNTEERS) BAND, THE MUSIC OFFICE'S YOUTH SYMPHONIC BAND AS WELL AS STUDENTS FROM THE HONG KONG CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC, AND SEVERAL SCHOOL BANDS.

THE HONG KONG PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA, LED BY CONCERTMASTER CARL PINI, WILL BE PLAYING AT A STRENGTH OF 117 MUSICIANS, MAKING THIS CONCERT ONE OF THE LARGEST TO HAVE BEEN STAGED IN HONG KONG.

- - - - 0 - - - -

THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1982

- 19 -

HONG KONG/EEC TEXTILE TALKS

* * *

A FOUR-MAN DELEGATION FROM THE EEC COMMISSION WILL BE ARRIVING IN HONG KONG OVER THE WEEKEND FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE STARTING ON MONDAY (APRIL 19).

THE DISCUSSIONS WILL BE PRELIMINARY IN NATURE AND CONCENTRATE ON THE EEC'S POSITION ON A NUMBER OF ISSUES RELATING TO THE FUTURE OF THE CURRENT TEXTILES AGREEMENT GOVERNING HONG KONG'S EXPORT OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING PRODUCTS TO THE EEC. THE AGREEMENT EXPIRES ON DECEMBER 31 THIS YEAR.

THE MAIN NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE HELD AT THE BEGINNING OF JUNE IN BRUSSELS.

THE EEC TEAM, LED BY MR H. KRENZLER, THE EEC'S CHIEF TEXTILE NEGOTIATOR, WILL BE IN HONG KONG FOR ABOUT FOUR DAYS. THE TEAM WILL BE HAVING MEETINGS WITH A TEAM FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE, LED BY MR LAWRENCE MILLS, COMMISSIONER OF TRADE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

TREE PLANTING IN NT

* * *

THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL PLANT 200 000 TREES AND SHRUBS AT VARIOUS LOCATION THROUGHOUT THE NEW TERRITORIES AND OUTLYING ISLANDS DURING THE NEXT FEW MONTHS TO COINCIDE WITH THE 'MEI FA' (BEAUTIFY) PHASE OF THE CLEAN HONG KONG CAMPAIGN.

THE TREES AND SHRUBS WILL BE PLANTED IN PARKS, AMENITY PLOTS AND ALONG ROADSIDES, SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT.

HE SAID THE TREES WILL EVENTUALLY PRESENT A GREEN PROFILE IN CONTRAST TO THE CUT-SLOPES AND HIGH-RISE BUILDINGS.

HEADING THE NT AREAS IN THE TREE PLANTING EXERCISE WILL BE KWAI CHUNG WHERE A TREE PLANTING CEREMONY WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON BY DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AND A GROUP OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

SOME 100 EVERGREEN TREES WILL BE PLANTED ALONG KWAI CHUNG ROAD NEAR LAI KING CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL.

- - - - 0 - - - -

THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1982

- 20 -

NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS
* * *

NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE INTRODUCED IN CHUEN LUNG STREET AND SAN TSUEN STREET IN TSUEN WAN FROM 10 AM ON SATURDAY (APRIL 17) TO FACILITATE MAXICAB OPERATION.

UNDER THE NEW ARRANGEMENT, ALL MOTOR VEHICLES EXCEPT MAXICABS WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM ENTERING CHUEN LUNG STREET FROM SAN TSUEN STREET.

CONSEQUENTLY, THE SECTION OF SAN TSUEN STREET BETWEEN TAI UK STREET AND CHUEN LUNG STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE WAY WESTBOUND AND THE SECTION OF CHUEN LUNG STREET BETWEEN SAN TSUEN STREET AND HO PUI STREET ONE WAY NORTHBOUND.

THE PROHIBITED SECTION OF CHUEN LUNG STREET WILL SERVE AS A NEW TERMINUS FOR MAXICABS ROUTES 83, 85 AND 86.

MEANWHILE, ON HONG KONG ISLAND VEHICLES TRAVELLING ALONG NORTHBOUND CHAI WAN ROAD WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO TURN RIGHT INTO A KUNG NGAM ROAD FROM 6 AM ON SATURDAY (APRIL 17) TO 6 AM ON MONDAY (APRIL 19) FOR ROAD WORKS.

THE SAME ARRANGEMENT WILL BE ENFORCED FOR PERIODS OF UP TO 24 HOURS FROM 6 AM ON WEDNESDAY (APRIL 21) AND FROM 6 AM ON SATURDAY (APRIL 24).

SIGNS WILL BE PUT UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

NO SPECIAL TRAINS TO SHA TIN RACECOURSE
* * *

THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY WILL NOT RUN SPECIAL PASSENGER TRAINS TO THE SHA TIN RACECOURSE ON SATURDAY (APRIL 17) BECAUSE MORE TRAINS WILL BE NEEDED TO TAKE PASSENGERS BACK FROM LO WU.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (THURSDAY), A SPOKESMAN FOR THE KCR SAID LARGE CROWDS ARE STILL EXPECTED TO RETURN FROM CHINA ON THAT DAY, FOLLOWING THE CHING MING AND EASTER HOLIDAYS.

+MORE SPECIAL PASSENGER TRAINS WILL THEREFORE BE REQUIRED TO OPERATE FROM LO WU TO KOWLOON,+ HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1982

- 21 -

TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT IN CAINE ROAD

A TRAFFIC LANE ON THE SECTION OF CAINE ROAD IN THE MID-LEVELS BETWEEN SHELLEY STREET AND PEEL STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 2 PM ON SATURDAY (APRIL 17) TO 6 AM ON MONDAY (APRIL 19) FOR THE LAYING OF TELEPHONE CABLES.

DURING THE CLOSURE, ONE-LANE, TWO-WAY TRAFFIC WILL BE MAINTAINED IN THE ADJACENT LANE WHICH WILL BE CONTROLLED BY SIGNALS.

IN ADDITION, THE BUS-ONLY LANE ON THE SAME ROAD SECTION WILL BE TEMPORARILY RESCINDED.

----- 0 -----