



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1987

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SUFFICIENT TIME TO BRING IN ANY CHANGES
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THE PUBLICATION OF THE WHITE PAPER ON THE 1987 REVIEW AROUND THE END OF THE YEAR WOULD ENABLE HONG KONG TO HAVE SUFFICIENT TIME TO BRING IN ANY CHANGES TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL THAT MIGHT BE RECOMMENDED IN TIME FOR THE 1988 SESSION, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, MR DAVID FORD, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

MR FORD WAS SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER THE OPENING OF THE SHA TIN CENTRAL LIBRARY.

ASKED IF THE GOVERNMENT HAD SHELVED PLANS TO SET UP AN ASSESSMENT OFFICE, MR FORD SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS STILL CONSIDERING HOW PUBLIC OPINIONS MIGHT BE COLLECTED AND ASSESSED.

IT WAS HOPED THAT AN ANNOUNCEMENT ON THIS WOULD BE MADE IN ONE MONTH'S TIME, HE SAID.

ON THE QUESTION WHETHER CHINA WAS AGAINST DIRECT ELECTIONS BEFORE 1997, MR FORD SAID IT WOULD NOT BE WISE TO SPECULATE ON WHAT PEOPLE'S VIEWS MIGHT BE.

+AS I HAVE SAID MANY TIMES, I THINK THE ANSWER IS NOT TO TAKE NOTICE OF WHAT SPECULATION THERE IS ABOUT, SIMPLY TO GIVE THE VIEWS WHEN THE TIME COMES FOR CONSULTATION TO GIVE YOUR VIEWS, THE PUBLIC TO GIVE THEIR VIEWS FREELY,+ HE SAID.

+I DON'T THINK ANY PURPOSE IS SERVED BY TRYING TO, AT THIS STAGE, TRYING TO SPECULATE ABOUT WHAT THE POSITION MIGHT BE. AFTER ALL, WE HAVEN'T YET ISSUED THE GREEN PAPER,+ MR FORD ADDED.

ASKED WHETHER HONG KONG WOULD BE AFFECTED BY TRADE PROTECTIONISM WITH THE APPROACH OF 1997, MR FORD SAID IT WAS ONE OF THE PROBLEMS THAT HONG KONG CERTAINLY WOULD HAVE TO FACE DURING 1987.

+WE ARE VERY CONSCIOUS OF THE NEED TO MAINTAIN OUR STRONG TRADING POSITION. AND YOU CAN REST ASSURED THAT IT WILL BE A HIGH PRIORITY FOR US TO DO ALL WE CAN TO INFLUENCE PEOPLE AGAINST ANY PROCESS TOWARDS TRADE PROTECTIONISM IN 1987,+ HE SAID.

ASKED ABOUT PLANS FOR A NEW BRANCH FOR ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, MR FORD SAID: +WE HAVE YET TO COME TO A DECISION ON THAT. I DARESAY IT WILL TAKE US A COUPLE OF MONTHS.+

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MACLEOD EXPRESSES CONCERN OVER U.S. TEXTILES BILL

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THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, SAID THIS (FRIDAY) EVENING THAT AN INITIAL READING OF THE NEW TEXTILES BILL INTRODUCED INTO THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS YESTERDAY (THURSDAY) SHOWS THAT IT GOES MUCH FURTHER THAN ITS SPONSORS HAVE REVEALED AND WOULD BE IN STARK CONFLICT WITH INTERNATIONAL TRADE RULES.

COMMENTING ON THE BILL, MR MACLEOD SAID: +CLEARLY WE NEED TO STUDY THE DETAILS FURTHER, AND ALSO ASSESS ANY FURTHER STATEMENTS MADE BY THE SPONSORS OR OTHERS IN THE UNITED STATES. HOWEVER, SOME PRELIMINARY COMMENTS CAN BE MADE NOW.

+FIRST, IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO SEE HOW THE PROVISIONS OF THE BILL COULD BE IMPLEMENTED WITHOUT ABANDONING THE MULTI-FIBRE ARRANGEMENT AND ALL THE BILATERAL TEXTILE AGREEMENTS SO PAINFULLY NEGOTIATED RECENTLY. WHAT WOULD REPLACE THIS SYSTEM IS NOT MADE CLEAR BUT, FOR EXAMPLE, OPTIONS COULD INCLUDE IMPORT QUOTAS, WHICH WOULD BE A RADICAL DEPARTURE FROM EXISTING ARRANGEMENTS.

+SECONDLY, ALTHOUGH THE BILL IS PRESENTED AS IF IT COULD BE JUSTIFIED UNDER THE GATT, I CANNOT SEE ANY WAY IN WHICH THIS COULD IN FACT BE SO. FOR EXAMPLE, THE BILL INVOLVES A BLANKET ASSUMPTION OF SERIOUS INJURY ACROSS AN ENTIRE INDUSTRY, BYPASSING THE MACHINERY WHICH EXISTS IN THE UNITED STATES FOR ASSESSING INJURY, AND MAKING NO ATTEMPT TO CARRY OUT SUCH AN ASSESSMENT - PERHAPS WISELY, SINCE THE FACTS DO NOT SUPPORT SUCH AN ASSUMPTION.

+THE BILL ALSO UNILATERALLY PRE-LIMITS THE COMPENSATION WHICH COULD BE PAID, AND IGNORES THE FACT THAT IF SUCH COMPENSATION IS NOT MUTUALLY AGREED THEN UNDER THE GATT, RETALIATION IS THE NEXT OPTION AVAILABLE.

+LIKE ITS PREDECESSOR, THE JENKINS BILL, THIS PROPOSAL IF IMPLEMENTED WOULD PUT AT RISK THE WORLD TRADING SYSTEM - PARADOXICALLY, TEARING UP INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS AT THE VERY TIME WHEN A DETERMINED EFFORT IS BEING MADE IN GENEVA TO DO THE VERY OPPOSITE AND TO STRENGTHEN THE INTERNATIONAL TRADING SYSTEM.

+AN URGENT APPRAISAL OF THE FULL IMPLICATIONS OF THE BILL AND OF HOW BEST TO COMBAT IT IS BEING CARRIED OUT IN CONSULTATION WITH OUR STAFF AND ADVISERS BOTH HERE AND IN THE UNITED STATES.+

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ANNUAL REPORT ON HK PRESENTED TO PARLIAMENT
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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND THE COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS HAD PRESENTED TO PARLIAMENT YESTERDAY (THURSDAY) THE SECOND ANNUAL REPORT ON HONG KONG 1985-86, AND THE REPORT IS BEING PUBLISHED IN THE FORM OF WHITE PAPER IN LONDON TODAY (FRIDAY).

+HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT AGREED IN 1985, DURING THE PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES ON THE HONG KONG BILL, TO PRODUCE ANNUAL REPORTS ON HONG KONG AND TO LAY THEM BEFORE PARLIAMENT. THE PURPOSE OF THIS SERIES OF REPORTS IS TO KEEP PARLIAMENT INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS IN HONG KONG,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+THIS IS THE SECOND ANNUAL REPORT. THE FIRST RECORDED EVENTS FROM THE INITIALLING OF THE DRAFT SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION ON THE QUESTION OF HONG KONG, IN SEPTEMBER 1984, TO THE END OF OCTOBER 1985. THE PRESENT REPORT COVERS THE PERIOD FROM OCTOBER 30, 1985 TO DECEMBER 31, 1986. IT IS HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION THAT EACH SUBSEQUENT REPORT SHOULD COVER A CALENDAR YEAR,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE REPORT CONTAINS A GENERAL SURVEY OF THE MAIN EVENTS IN HONG KONG DURING THIS 14-MONTH PERIOD.

IT COVERS THE VISIT TO THE TERRITORY OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, THE PROGRESS MADE IN IMPLEMENTING THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION, PROGRESS TOWARDS MORE REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT, CIVIL SERVICE MATTERS, LOCAL REACTIONS TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE DAYA BAY NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, THE STATE OF THE ECONOMY, SOCIAL AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES PROPOSED BY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT, VIETNAMESE REFUGEES AND SECURITY.

THE REPORT IS BEING PUBLISHED SIMULTANEOUSLY IN HONG KONG TODAY AND WILL BE TABLED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON FEBRUARY 25.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY OBTAIN A FREE COPY OF THE REPORT, AVAILABLE BILINGUALLY, FROM ALL DISTRICT OFFICES FROM MONDAY (FEBRUARY 23), AND FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE IN CONNAUGHT PLACE AND THE GIS PUBLISHING SUB-DIVISION, SECOND FLOOR, BASKERVILLE HOUSE, CENTRAL, FROM TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

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EFFECTIVE CIVIL SERVICE NEEDED FOR CHALLENGES AHEAD
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HONG KONG HAS ENTERED INTO A MOST IMPORTANT PERIOD IN ITS HISTORY AND A RESPONSIBLE AND EFFECTIVE GOVERNMENT IS NEEDED FOR THE CHALLENGING TIMES AHEAD, THE SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE, MR HARNAM GREWAL, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING AT AN ANNUAL SPRING RECEPTION HE HOSTED FOR REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CIVIL SERVICE STAFF ASSOCIATIONS, MR GREWAL SAID: +AND MORE THAN EVER BEFORE, THE CIVIL SERVICE WILL BE CALLED UPON TO SHOW ITS METTLE AND CONTINUE TO PROVIDE THE COMMUNITY WITH A RESPONSIVE, EFFICIENT AND STABLE ADMINISTRATION.

+THIS IS A HEAVY BURDEN BUT I AM SURE WE CAN AND SHALL RISE TO THE CHALLENGE.+

MR GREWAL SAID HE WAS KEENLY AWARE THAT THERE WERE A NUMBER OF BURNING ISSUES THAT WERE OF DEEP CONCERN TO THE CIVIL SERVICE.

+I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT THE ADMINISTRATION WILL DEAL WITH THESE ISSUES IN A SENSIBLE AND FAIR MANNER, HAVING REGARD TO THE ASPIRATIONS AND CONCERNS OF THE CIVIL SERVICE AND THE WIDER PUBLIC INTEREST,+ HE SAID.

ABOUT 250 GUESTS REPRESENTING CIVIL SERVICE STAFF ASSOCIATIONS, SECRETARIAT BRANCHES AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS ATTENDED THE RECEPTION.

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PARTICIPATION THE KEY IN DEVELOPING CIVIC EDUCATION
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A VITAL INGREDIENT IN CIVIC EDUCATION IS PARTICIPATION, THE SENIOR MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MISS LYDIA DUNN, TOLD A CONFERENCE ON CIVIC EDUCATION TODAY (FRIDAY).

+IT (CIVIC EDUCATION) CANNOT BE DONE BY EDUCATION IN THE CLASSROOM OR BY THE CREATION OF NEW POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS ALONE, IMPORTANT THOUGH THE THEORY OF HOW A SOCIETY WORKS AND THE FRAMEWORK IN WHICH IT WORKS MAY BE.

+THE VITAL INGREDIENT OF CIVIC EDUCATION IS PARTICIPATION, AND IN THIS SENSE CIVIC EDUCATION IS AS PRACTICAL AN ACTIVITY AS SPORT OR MUSIC,+ SHE SAID DURING THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE DAY-LONG CONFERENCE.

/SHE SAID

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SHE SAID PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS TOOK MANY FORMS AND WAS NOT RESTRICTED TO CASTING VOTES AND HOLDING MEETINGS. THE AIM WOULD BE TO FIND OUT HOW BEST A CITIZEN MIGHT CONTRIBUTE TO SOCIETY AND BENEFIT FROM IT AND HOW THE CITIZEN MIGHT BEST PREPARE FOR, AND HAVE AN INFLUENCE ON, CHANGES IN SOCIETY, SHE ADDED.

MISS DUNN SAID MANY PEOPLE WERE ALREADY CONTRIBUTING TO IMPROVING SOCIETY AND LEARNING THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN THE DISCUSSIONS WITHIN THE DISTRICTS ON PROPOSALS FOR CHANGES IN GOVERNMENT POLICY.

SHE CITED THE DISCUSSION DOCUMENT ON THE TRIAD PROBLEM AS A GOOD EXAMPLE.

+MY COLLEAGUES ON THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND I RECEIVED A VERY CLEAR IMPRESSION OF THE THOUGHTFULNESS AND CONSTRUCTIVENESS BEHIND THE COMMENTS MADE BY ORDINARY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ON THESE PROPOSALS, AND I BELIEVE THAT THE CHANGES IN THIS AREA NOW BEING IMPLEMENTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OWE A GREAT DEAL TO THE BALANCED, RESPONSIBLE AND JUDICIOUS ADVICE RECEIVED FROM THE COMMUNITY,+ SHE SAID.

MISS DUNN SAID HONGKONG NOW HAD A COMMUNITY OF CITIZENS WHO WERE READY AND WILLING TO PLAY AN ACTIVE PART IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CITY AS A LIVELY, FREE, AND CARING SOCIETY, AND THE PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION HAD CONTRIBUTED MUCH TO IT.

+CIVIC EDUCATION, ORGANISED IN AN IMAGINATIVE AND FLEXIBLE MANNER, IS, TOGETHER WITH A REPRESENTATIVE AND OPEN GOVERNMENT, A MEANS OF ENSURING THAT ALL OUR CITIZENS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONTRIBUTE IN A HEALTHY AND POSITIVE WAY,+ SHE ADDED.

IN A CLOSING ADDRESS, THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DONALD LIAO, CALLED FOR A DYNAMIC APPROACH IN THE PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION TO COPE WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIETY.

MR LIAO SAID THE PEOPLE'S CONCEPTION OF CIVIC RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS WOULD CHANGE IN THE COURSE OF TIME AS SOCIETY DEVELOPED.

HE SAID THE THEME OF THE CONFERENCE REFLECTED THIS DYNAMIC APPROACH IN PROMOTING CIVIC EDUCATION.

MR LIAO ALSO SPOKE ON THE IMPORTANCE OF CO-OPERATION FROM RESIDENTS AND THE NEED FOR THEM TO EXCHANGE EXPERIENCES WITH THE GOVERNMENT TO STRIVE FOR THE GOAL AND IDEAL OF CIVIC EDUCATION.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD GIVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO VIEWS EXPRESSED IN THE CONFERENCE IN FORMULATING FUTURE POLICIES AND DIRECTIONS IN CIVIC EDUCATION.

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THE CONFERENCE WAS ORGANISED BY THE COMMITTEE ON THE PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION TO PROVIDE A FORUM FOR DISCUSSING AND FORMULATING FUTURE STRATEGIES.

FOCUSSING ON THE THEME OF +CIVIC EDUCATION, ITS DIRECTION AND SIGNIFICANCE+, THE CONFERENCE DREW NEARLY 200 PARTICIPANTS FROM A WIDE RANGE OF BACKGROUNDS.

THEY INCLUDED EDUCATIONALISTS, SOCIAL WORKERS AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS, URBAN COUNCIL, REGIONAL COUNCIL AND DISTRICT BOARDS.

MAIN SPEAKERS INCLUDED MR DAVID CHEUNG CHI-KWONG, MRS RITA FAN, MR STEPHEN CHENG PO-HONG, DR MARGARET NG, DR C.Y. HUANG AND MR ANTHONY NEOH.

TOPICS INCLUDED THE CO-ORDINATION OF CIVIC EDUCATION INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE EDUCATION SYSTEM; PROMOTION OF PUBLIC CONCERN ABOUT CIVIC RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES AT BOTH CENTRAL AND DISTRICT LEVELS; HOW TO BLEND HONG KONG'S UNIQUE CULTURE WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF CIVIC EDUCATION; AND CIVIC EDUCATION AND THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIETY AND CIVIC RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

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AG CALLS FOR GREATER COMMUNAL AWARENESS OF LAW
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THE LAW IS THERE TO SERVE THE PEOPLE AND IT IS IMPORTANT THAT ORDINARY PEOPLE HAVE ACCESS TO IT, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, MR MICHAEL THOMAS, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

+WE NEED TO BUILD UP A GREATER COMMUNAL AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE LAW,+ MR THOMAS SAID IN AN ADDRESS TO POLITICAL SCIENCE STUDENTS OF THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

+AND TO BE ABLE TO MEET THE NEEDS OF ORDINARY PEOPLE, I THINK WE NEED NOT ONLY MORE LAWYERS, BUT AS A COMMUNITY, WE NEED TO BE BETTER EDUCATED ABOUT THE LEGAL SYSTEM.

+THAT IS A PROCESS THAT MUST BEGIN IN THE SCHOOLS. IT IS JUST AS VALUABLE TO KNOW ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF THE LAW AS IT IS TO KNOW ABOUT MONEY, TRADE, HYGIENE AND HEALTH.+

/MR THOMAS

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MR THOMAS STRESSED THAT HE WAS NOT INTENDING THAT PEOPLE WERE TO BE ENCOURAGED TO GO TO THE COURTS AT THE FIRST SIGN OF TROUBLE, AND COMMENTED THAT HE DID NOT THINK HONG KONG PEOPLE WERE LITIGIOUS BY NATURE.

+THEY WISH, MORE OFTEN THAN NOT, TO SETTLE DISPUTES WITHOUT RECOURSE TO THE LAW IN A WAY THAT AVOIDS CONFRONTATION AND PRESERVES MUTUAL RESPECT. THERE ARE, HOWEVER, OCCASIONS WHEN RIGHTS HAVE TO BE ENFORCED IF THEY ARE TO BE ENJOYED.+

MR THOMAS SAID THAT SINCE JOINING THE GOVERNMENT HE HAD NOTICED A LACK OF LAWYERS IN DEPARTMENTS OUTSIDE HIS CHAMBERS AND THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

WHILE IT MIGHT NOT BE NECESSARY OR ALWAYS DESIRABLE FOR GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS TO HAVE THEIR OWN IN-HOUSE PRACTISING LAWYERS, IT WAS SURELY BENEFICIAL FOR VARIOUS DISCIPLINES TO HAVE WITHIN THEIR RANKS PEOPLE WITH LEGAL BACKGROUNDS AND EXPERIENCE.

+LAWYERS ARE TO BE FOUND THROUGHOUT THE RANKS OF THE CIVIL SERVICE ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD AND I THINK THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE GOVERNMENT WOULD BE MORE EFFECTIVELY DISCHARGED IF THERE WAS IN HONG KONG MORE WIDESPREAD LEGAL KNOWLEDGE THROUGHOUT THE ADMINISTRATION,+ HE SAID.

ON HOW TO MEET THE NEEDS THAT AT PRESENT EXISTED IN THE COMMUNITY FOR GREATER PROVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES, MR THOMAS WELCOMED THE RECENT DECISION BY THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG TO STEP UP ITS INTAKE OF LAW GRADUATES FROM 125 TO 150 NEXT YEAR. HE ALSO WELCOMED THE PLANS OF THE CITY POLYTECHNIC TO ESTABLISH A SECOND GRADUATE LAW SCHOOL BY 1988.

HE POINTED OUT THAT IF HONG KONG WAS TO RETAIN ITS POSITION AS A LEADING INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL AND TRADING CENTRE, THERE WOULD BE A CONTINUING NEED FOR LAW FIRMS FROM OVERSEAS TO OPERATE IN THE TERRITORY TO SERVICE THE INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL COMMUNITY.

HONG KONG ALSO NEEDED TO KEEP EXPERIENCED EXPATRIATE LAWYERS BECAUSE IT WAS STILL DEPENDENT ON THEM TO MAKE UP FOR THE SHORTAGE OF EXPERIENCED LOCAL LAWYERS.

+BUT THE THRUST OF POLICY MUST BE TO ENCOURAGE THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF MORE CHINESE SPEAKING LAWYERS TO MEET THE COMMUNITY'S NEEDS,+ HE ADDED.

IN THIS, THE UNIVERSITIES AND OTHER TEACHING INSTITUTIONS HAD A VITAL ROLE TO PLAY, AND PERHAPS THE MOST IMPORTANT AND PRESSING NEED WAS TO ENCOURAGE MORE OF THE BEST LOCAL LAW GRADUATES TO STAY ON TO TEACH LAW TO UNDERGRADUATES.

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INDUSTRY STUDY FOCUSES ON PHOTOGRAPHIC, OPTICAL GOODS
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HONG KONG'S PHOTOGRAPHIC AND OPTICAL GOODS INDUSTRY HAS COME UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT IN A STUDY CONDUCTED BY THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT.

THE STUDY REPORT, WHICH HAS JUST BEEN PUBLISHED, SHOWS THAT ALTHOUGH IT IS ONE OF HONG KONG'S FASTEST GROWING INDUSTRIES, THE PHOTOGRAPHIC AND OPTICAL GOODS INDUSTRY SUFFERS FROM STRONG COMPETITION, SHORTAGE OF EXPERIENCED PRODUCT DESIGNERS, AND DIFFICULTIES OVER BREAKING INTO THE HIGH-END OF THE MARKET.

THE REPORT CITES A NUMBER OF REASONS FOR THE INDUSTRY'S RAPID GROWTH OVER THE PAST TWO DECADES AND THESE INCLUDE: EFFORTS BY MANUFACTURERS TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF THEIR PRODUCTS AS WELL AS THE EFFICIENCY OF THEIR PRODUCTION METHODS= THE AVAILABILITY OF A PRODUCTIVE AND RELATIVELY CHEAP LABOUR FORCE= THE INCREASED POPULARITY OF PHOTOGRAPHIC INSTRUMENTS= AND A WELL-ESTABLISHED SYSTEM OF SUB-CONTRACTING SUPPORT FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF OPTICAL GOODS.

THE REPORT NOTES THAT HONG KONG'S PHOTOGRAPHIC AND OPTICAL GOODS ARE NOW WELL ACCEPTED IN OVERSEAS MARKETS, AND THAT +ACCORDING TO INDUSTRY SOURCES, THE TERRITORY IS THE LARGEST MANUFACTURER OF HIGH-END PRISMATIC BINOCULARS IN THE WORLD AND IS CONSISTENTLY THE LEADING EXPORTER.+

BUT THE STUDY ALSO IDENTIFIES A NUMBER OF PROBLEMS FACING THE INDUSTRY.

IN THE CASE OF PHOTOGRAPHIC GOODS, THE REPORT SAY: +ALTHOUGH LOCAL COMPETITION IS NOT KEEN BECAUSE OF THE SMALL NUMBER OF MANUFACTURERS (40 ESTABLISHMENTS WITH 7 799 WORKERS) ENGAGED IN THIS INDUSTRY, HONG KONG ENCOUNTERS STRONG COMPETITION FROM TAIWAN AND SOUTH KOREA FOR MARKETS OF LOW-PRICED CAMERAS OR FLASHLIGHTS WITH SIMPLE DESIGNS, AND FROM JAPAN IN RESPECT OF THE MORE SOPHISTICATED HIGHER-END PRODUCTS.

+IN ORDER TO REMAIN COMPETITIVE, LOCAL MANUFACTURERS HAVE BEEN FORCED TO CUT PRICES AND LOWER PROFIT MARGINS.+

AS FOR OPTICAL GOODS, THE STUDY BLAMES STRONG COMPETITION, IN THIS CASE BOTH INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL, FOR STEADILY DROPPING PRICES OF SPECTACLES AND FRAMES IN RECENT YEARS.

AGAIN THE TOUGHEST COMPETITION COMES FROM SOUTH KOREA AND TAIWAN IN THE MARKET FOR LOWER-PRICED PRODUCTS, WHILE JAPAN LEADS IN THE HIGHER-PRICED MARKET.

/THE STUDY

THE STUDY QUOTES BRAND-NAMES AND CUSTOMER PREJUDICE AS THE CHIEF BARRIER TO HIGH-END MARKETS. IT ALSO HIGHLIGHTS THE LACK OF EXPERIENCED PRODUCT DESIGNERS IN THE INDUSTRY WHICH MEANS THAT LOCAL DESIGNS LACK CREATIVITY.

FOR THE OPTICAL GOODS INDUSTRY THE PROBLEM IS EXACERBATED BY A SHORTAGE OF SKILLED LABOUR. SAYS THE REPORT, +LOW WAGES AND AN UNFAVOURABLE WORKING ENVIRONMENT HAVE DETERRED PEOPLE FROM JOINING THE INDUSTRY. A MAJORITY OF THE WORKERS ARE MIDDLE-AGED AND HAVE BEEN IN THE INDUSTRY FOR OVER 10 YEARS.+

STUDIES ON SPECIFIC INDUSTRIAL SECTORS SUCH AS THIS COMPLEMENT THE CONTINUING PROGRAMME OF TECHNO-ECONOMIC AND MARKETING STUDIES ON MAJOR INDUSTRIAL GROUPS COMMISSIONED BY THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT AND UNDERTAKEN BY OUTSIDE CONSULTANTS.

THE STUDY WAS BASED ON FINDINGS OBTAINED FROM RESEARCH AND INTERVIEWS WITH LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHIC AND OPTICAL GOODS MANUFACTURERS, IT EXAMINES THE PRODUCTION, DEVELOPMENT AND EXPORT PROSPECTS OF THE INDUSTRY. THE AIM IS TO GIVE AN INDICATION OF THE PRESENT STATE OF THE INDUSTRY AND TO SUGGEST FUTURE TRENDS.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC AND OPTICAL GOODS INDUSTRY HAS EXPERIENCED CONSIDERABLE GROWTH IN RECENT YEARS AND ACCOUNTED FOR \$1 692 MILLION OR 1.3 PER CENT OF HONG KONG'S TOTAL DOMESTIC EXPORT IN 1985. THE VALUE OF EXPORTS REPRESENTED INCREASES OF 7.2 PER CENT OVER 1984 AND 110.4 PER CENT OVER 1980.

THE UNITED STATES HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE LARGEST MARKET FOR HONG KONG'S PHOTOGRAPHIC AND OPTICAL GOODS TAKING UP 37 PER CENT (\$625 MILLION) OF THE INDUSTRY'S EXPORTS IN 1985. OTHER MAJOR MARKETS INCLUDE THE UNITED KINGDOM, CHINA AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY.

LOOKING AHEAD TO LIKELY FUTURE TRENDS FOR THE OPTICAL GOODS INDUSTRY, THE REPORT SAID: +HONG KONG WILL CONTINUE TO FACE KEEN COMPETITION FROM TAIWAN AND SOUTH KOREA IN THE PRODUCTION OF SPECTACLES AND FRAMES FOR THE LOWER-END MARKET AND FROM JAPAN IN RESPECT OF THE HIGHER-END MARKET.

+AS IS THE CASE WITH THE PHOTOGRAPHIC GOODS INDUSTRY, THESE COUNTRIES HAVE THE ADVANTAGE OF EITHER LOWER PRODUCTION COSTS OR MORE SOPHISTICATED TECHNOLOGICAL SUPPORT.+

HOWEVER, CHINA WITH ITS VAST POPULATION IS CONSIDERED A BIG POTENTIAL MARKET FOR HONG KONG'S PHOTOGRAPHIC AND OPTICAL GOODS.

THE REPORT FORECASTS THAT THE TWO SECTORS WILL CONTINUE TO LIMIT THEIR ACTIVITIES TO THE ASSEMBLY OF COMPONENT PARTS AND TO BE FAIRLY LABOUR-INTENSIVE.

+LARGE-SCALE AUTOMATION IS UNLIKELY MAINLY BECAUSE OF THE HEAVY CAPITAL INVESTMENT REQUIRED AND THE LACK OF SOPHISTICATED TECHNOLOGICAL SUPPORT,+ IT SAID.

THE STUDY REPORT ALSO POINTS OUT THAT SOME MANUFACTURERS ARE TRANSFERRING PART OF THEIR OPERATIONS TO CHINA TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF CHEAP LABOUR AND LAND THERE.

THE NEXT STUDY IN THE SERIES WILL BE ON THE TOYS INDUSTRY. PREPARATIONS HAVE ALREADY BEGUN AND AN OUTSIDE CONSULTANT HAS BEEN ENGAGED TO PROVIDE MARKET RESEARCH INFORMATION SO THAT THE REPORT WILL INCLUDE AN ANALYSIS OF THE PRESENT AND LIKELY FUTURE TRENDS IN HONG KONG'S MAJOR MARKETS.

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FRENCH QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS LIFTED
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A TRADE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT NOTICE HAD BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE FRENCH AUTHORITIES THAT THE RESIDUAL QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS OF DIGITAL QUARTZ WATCHES, TOYS AND RADIOS FROM HONG KONG HAD BEEN LIFTED WITH EFFECT FROM JANUARY 1, 1987.

HONG KONG'S EXPORTS TO FRANCE IN THESE ITEMS AMOUNTED TO \$188 MILLION IN 1986.

FRANCE HAD BEEN MAINTAINING QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS AGAINST IMPORTS OF A NUMBER OF ITEMS FROM HONG KONG SINCE THE 1960'S.

AS A RESULT OF HONG KONG'S REPRESENTATIONS THROUGH BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS WITH THE EEC AND IN THE GATT, THE NUMBER OF ITEMS HAD BEEN GRADUALLY REDUCED OVER THE YEARS.

COMMENTING ON THE RECENT LIFT OF RESTRICTIONS ON THE THREE PRODUCTS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT HE WAS VERY PLEASED THAT THE LIBERALISATION OF THE FRENCH RESTRICTIONS AGAINST IMPORTS FROM HONG KONG HAD BEEN FINALLY COMPLETED.

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DECEMBER ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT, PAYROLL FIGURES OUT
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THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND (IN TERMS OF MONTHS) IN THE 200 LARGEST FIRMS IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR INCREASED IN DECEMBER 1986 COMPARED WITH THAT IN DECEMBER 1985 AS WELL AS THAT IN NOVEMBER 1986, ACCORDING TO THE RESULTS OF A SURVEY RELEASED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

COMPARING DECEMBER 1986 WITH THE SAME MONTH IN 1985, SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN THE VOLUME OF ORDERS WERE REPORTED IN THE WEARING APPAREL, TEXTILES AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES AND, TO A LESSER EXTENT IN THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY RECORDED A DROP IN ITS ORDERS POSITION.

COMPARED WITH NOVEMBER 1986, THE VOLUME OF ORDERS IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS, FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS AND ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES INCREASED, WHILE THAT IN THE WEARING APPAREL AND TEXTILES INDUSTRIES REMAINED STABLE.

THE LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR AS A WHOLE WAS UNCHANGED IN DECEMBER 1986 COMPARED WITH THAT IN DECEMBER 1985 AS WELL AS THAT IN NOVEMBER 1986. WITHIN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, SEVERAL INDUSTRIES RECORDED INCREASES IN EMPLOYMENT OVER DECEMBER 1985, INCLUDING THE FOOD AND DRINKS AND ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES.

HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE RECORDED FOR THE WEARING APPAREL AND PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES. WHEN COMPARED WITH NOVEMBER 1986, EMPLOYMENT IN THE FOOD AND DRINKS INDUSTRY WENT UP SLIGHTLY WHILE THAT IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS AND ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES RECORDED SOME DECLINE.

ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES SURVEYED, EXCEPT THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCT INDUSTRY, RECORDED SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN PAYROLL AND IN PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN DECEMBER 1986 OVER THE SAME MONTH IN 1985.

COMPARED WITH NOVEMBER 1986, SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN BOTH PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS WERE RECORDED FOR ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES SURVEYED EXCEPT THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY.

PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS WERE HIGHER IN THE MONTH OF DECEMBER DUE TO THE PAYMENT OF BONUSES AND MORE OVERTIME WORK IN SOME OF THE FACTORIES SURVEYED.

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IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR, THE LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT REMAINED STABLE WHEN COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS MONTH. OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THERE WERE INCREASES IN BOTH PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS DUE TO OVERTIME PAYMENTS AND BONUSES. COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1985, EMPLOYMENT SHOWED A MODERATE INCREASE, WHILE PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY.

IN THE SERVICES SECTORS, THE LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT WAS SIMILAR TO THAT IN THE PREVIOUS MONTH WHILE SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE RECORDED FOR BOTH PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS DUE TO THE PAYMENT OF YEAR-END BONUSES.

COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1985, THE SERVICES SECTORS TAKEN TOGETHER EXPERIENCED AN INCREASE IN EMPLOYMENT, PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS. HOWEVER, A SLIGHT DECLINE IN EMPLOYMENT WAS RECORDED IN HOTELS AND IN PUBLIC UTILITIES.

THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS ARE SHOWN IN TABLES WHICH HAVE BEEN SENT BY FACSIMILE NETWORK AND ALSO BOXED FOR COLLECTION.

THE SURVEY COVERED A PANEL OF THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURING COMPANIES AND THE 50 LARGEST COMPANIES IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND SELECTED SERVICES SECTORS, CHOSEN BY REFERENCE TO THEIR EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH 1983.

AS THE SAMPLE WAS NOT DRAWN ON A RANDOM BASIS, THE DEPARTMENT CAUTIONED THAT RESULTS ON THE MAGNITUDE OF CHANGE MIGHT NOT REFLECT THE EXPERIENCE OF THE ECONOMY AS A WHOLE. NEVERTHELESS, THESE RESULTS ARE EXPECTED TO PROVIDE A USEFUL INDICATION OF THE DIRECTION OF CHANGE FOR A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF DEVELOPMENT IN THE ECONOMY IN THE SHORT TERM.

THE SURVEY REPORT FOR DECEMBER 1986 IS ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, AND AT THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER, KAI TAK COMMERCIAL BUILDING, AT \$1.50 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE MADE TO THE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION STATISTICS SECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT ON 5-8234820.

/A. Orders-on-hand

A. Orders-on-hand in manufacturing industries

<u>Industry</u>	<u>Orders-on-hand</u>		
	<u>in terms of months for December 1986</u>	<u>Nov. 86</u>	<u>Dec. 85</u>
Wearing apparel	4.86	*	10
Textiles	2.90	*	18
Plastic products	3.57	9	-6
Fabricated metal products	4.32	6	37
Electrical and electronic products	5.08	1	5
Others	4.43	*	1
<u>All above industries</u>	<u>4.48</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>

B. Employment and earnings

<u>Industry/Services</u>	<u>Persons engaged at the end of December 1986</u>		<u>Per capita earnings</u>		
	<u>% increase/ decrease over</u>		<u>as in December 1986 (HK\$)</u>	<u>% increase/ decrease over</u>	
	<u>Nov. 86</u>	<u>Dec. 85</u>		<u>Nov. 86</u>	<u>Dec. 85</u>
<u>Manufacturing</u>	*	*	<u>3 786</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>
Food and drinks	1	5	4 685	21	14
Wearing apparel	*	-9	3 362	14	18
Textiles	*	2	4 176	21	15
Plastic products	-1	-2	3 078	-1	13
Fabricated metal products	*	1	3 140	3	-1
Electrical and electronic products	-2	5	3 505	13	14
Others	*	3	4 955	11	9
<u>Construction**</u>	*	2	<u>5 113</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>Services</u>	*	2	<u>8 409</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>14</u>
Banks	*	6	9 135	68	9
Hotels	*	-2	5 122	31	2
Public utilities	*	-1	8 033	37	24
Others	*	4	9 582	35	8

* Changes within $\pm 0.5\%$

** Persons engaged cover company employees only; site workers employed by labour-only sub-contractors not included.

Note : Unlike "orders-on-hand" and "per capita earnings" which are average figures, the total no. of persons engaged by the firms surveyed is not meaningful information on its own because this is a panel survey and is therefore not shown.

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REGIMENT DELVES INTO ITS HISTORY

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THE ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT (THE VOLUNTEERS) TODAY (FRIDAY) LAUNCHED A MAJOR APPEAL SEEKING UNIFORMS, MEDALS, EQUIPMENT, BOOKS AND OTHER ITEMS TO ASSIST IT IN SETTING UP A MUSEUM.

+THE STORY OF THE REGIMENT IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE STORY OF HONG KONG,+ SAID HONORARY COLONEL, MR JOHN HEYWOOD, AT A PRESS CONFERENCE. +THE VOLUNTEERS OF TODAY CAN DIRECTLY TRACE THEIR HISTORY BACK TO 1854 ONLY 13 YEARS AFTER HONG KONG WAS FOUNDED.+

THE BRAVERY OF THE CHINESE, PORTUGUESE, ENGLISH AND OTHER NATIONALITY SOLDIERS OF THE HONG KONG VOLUNTEER DEFENCE CORPS IN THE 1941 BATTLE AGAINST THE JAPANESE IS INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN, SAID MR HEYWOOD.

TODAY THE ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT CARRIES ON THE PROUD TRADITIONS OF VOLUNTEERING IN HONG KONG.

+FOR SOME YEARS WE HAVE FELT THE NEED TO ESTABLISH A PROPER MUSEUM IN WHICH HISTORICAL ITEMS CAN BE PROPERLY DISPLAYED AND WHERE THE STORY OF THE REGIMENT CAN BE TOLD,+ HE SAID. +WE WOULD BE MOST INTERESTED TO HEAR FROM ANYONE WHO HAS SOMETHING WHICH THEY MIGHT BE OF INTEREST.+

MR HEYWOOD SAID THAT WHILE A LOCATION FOR THE MUSEUM HAD NOT YET BEEN FINALISED, IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT A START BE MADE ON COLLECTING ITEMS.

+UNFORTUNATELY, ALL REGIMENTAL RECORDS AND ITEMS OF INTEREST WERE LOST DURING THE JAPANESE OCCUPATION OF HONG KONG FROM 1941 TO 1945. I WOULD LIKE, THEREFORE, TO APPEAL FOR HELP IN BUILDING UP A COLLECTION OF MEMORABILIA AND RECORDS.

+WE ARE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN PHOTOGRAPHS, UNIFORMS, EQUIPMENT, REGIMENTAL SILVER, LETTERS, DOCUMENTS, BOOKS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS, BADGES AND MEDALS.

+UNDERSTANDABLY, INDIVIDUALS MAY NOT WISH TO PART WITH SOME ITEMS AND, THEREFORE, WE WOULD, IF POSSIBLE MAKE COPIES BEFORE RETURNING THEM TO THEIR OWNERS.+

IN ADDITION TO THE SETTING UP OF A MUSEUM WORK IS NOW PROCEEDING ON THE OFFICIAL HISTORY OF THE REGIMENT. MR PHILLIP BRUCE HAS BEEN COMMISSIONED BY THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION TO PRODUCE THIS AND IS NOW ENGAGED IN RESEARCH.

MR HEYWOOD SAID THAT ANYONE WITH MATERIAL WHICH THEY FELT WOULD INTEREST THE REGIMENT'S MUSEUM SHOULD CONTACT THE COMMANDING OFFICER, LT. COL. J. HUTCHINS, ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT (THE VOLUNTEERS) SPORTS ROAD, HAPPY VALLEY, ON 5-761371.

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KWAI CHUNG CONTAINER PORT TO BE EXPANDED
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THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO DREDGE AND RECLAIM ABOUT 263.7 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEA-BED AT LAI CHI KOK AS PART OF THE FURTHER EXPANSION OF KWAI CHUNG CONTAINER PORT.

THE EXISTING CONTAINER TERMINALS WITH SIX BERTHS AT KWAI CHUNG ALREADY RANK AS THE LEADING CONTAINER PORT IN ASIA AND AMONG THE TOP THREE IN THE WORLD IN TERMS OF THROUGHPUT.

WORK ON THE NEW TERMINAL NO. 6 IS WELL UNDERWAY AND ONE OF ITS THREE BERTHS WILL BE READY FOR OPERATION IN 1989.

THE PROPOSED RECLAMATION AND DREDGING WORK AT LAI CHI KOK IS FOR TERMINAL NO. 7 AND ITS BACK-UP AREAS.

WORK, INCLUDING DREDGING OF THE SEA-BED FOR MARINE APPROACHES, IS EXPECTED TO START IN APRIL 1988 AND BE COMPLETED IN EARLY 1993.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA AFFECTED IS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE NOTICE TOGETHER WITH ITS RELATED PLAN CAN BE SEEN ON NOTICE BOARDS POSTED NEAR THE SITE.

THE PLAN CAN ALSO BE SEEN AT THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT'S SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE AT MURRAY BUILDING, WHERE COPIES CAN BE PURCHASED, AND AT SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE.

WRITTEN OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSAL SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS BY APRIL 19.

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HUNG HING ROAD FLYOVER OPENING
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A NEW FLYOVER IN WAN CHAI WILL BE OPEN TO TRAFFIC FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 23).

THE HUNG HING ROAD FLYOVER, WHICH PROVIDES A NEW LINK BETWEEN WAN CHAI AND CAUSEWAY BAY, IS EXPECTED TO EASE CONGESTION ON EASTBOUND GLOUCESTER ROAD.

THERE VEHICLES PROCEEDING TO THE EASTERN PART OF HONG KONG ISLAND ARE OFTEN HELD UP BY TRAFFIC QUEUES HEADING FOR THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL.

/FROM THEN

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FROM THEN ON, VEHICLES FROM WAN CHAI RECLAMATION HEADING FOR CAUSEWAY BAY AND NORTH POINT CAN TRAVEL VIA SEAFRONT ROAD, HUNG HING ROAD AND THE NEW FLYOVER TO JOIN VICTORIA PARK ROAD.

HOWEVER, NO VEHICLE WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP ON THE NEW FLYOVER FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS AT ANY TIME OF THE DAY.

TO COINCIDE WITH ITS OPENING, THE SECTION OF SEAFRONT ROAD BETWEEN FLEMING ROAD AND TONNOCHY ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM ONE-WAY WESTBOUND TO TWO-WAY OPERATION, WHILE WAN SHING STREET EXTENSION WILL BE RE-ROUTED TO ONE-WAY WESTBOUND.

AT THE SAME TIME, NO VEHICLE WILL BE ALLOWED TO TURN RIGHT FROM SEAFRONT ROAD EASTBOUND ON TO THE WAN CHAI FERRY PIER TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE OR TONNOCHY ROAD SOUTHBOUND.

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MONG KOK'S GOOD CITIZENS TO GET AWARDS
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THIRTY-SIX MONG KOK RESIDENTS WILL RECEIVE THE DISTRICT'S GOOD CITIZEN AWARDS AT A PRESENTATION CEREMONY TO BE HELD AT 3 PM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) IN QUEEN ELIZABETH SCHOOL.

PRIZES WILL ALSO BE PRESENTED TO WINNERS OF THE FIGHT CRIME PAINTING, COLOURING AND BOOKMARK DESIGN COMPETITIONS HELD LAST YEAR.

OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICER, MRS BRENDA FUNG= POLICE DEPUTY DISTRICT COMMANDER, MR LEUNG FUNG-SHUN= AND AN ART INSPECTOR FROM EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, MRS MARGARET MAN.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CEREMONY TO BE HELD AT 3 PM TOMORROW IN QUEEN ELIZABETH SCHOOL, SAI YEE STREET.

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ILLEGAL STRUCTURES CLEARED IN CAUSEWAY BAY
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A TOTAL OF 26 ILLEGAL STRUCTURES, AT THE BACK LANE OF TSING FUNG STREET AND THE SIDE LANE OF WING HING STREET IN CAUSEWAY BAY WERE PULLED DOWN TODAY (FRIDAY) IN A CLEARANCE OPERATION.

THE OPERATION WAS THE FIRST IN A SERIES OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT CLEARANCES AIMED AT ELIMINATING GAS LEAKAGE RISKS AND ENVIRONMENTAL BLACK SPOTS IN REAR LANES IN EASTERN DISTRICT.

THE ILLEGAL STRUCTURES INCLUDE ONE SHOP AND TWO WORKSHOPS, NINE STORAGE STRUCTURES AND SIX DOMESTIC UNITS. THE REMAINDER WERE USED AS KITCHENS AND CANOPIES.

NINE PERSONS WERE AFFECTED BY THE CLEARANCE. TWO FAMILIES DECLINED A REHOUSING OFFER FROM THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT AND TWO ACCEPTED A TEMPORARY HOUSING OFFER IN THE NEW TERRITORIES. TWO SINGLE PEOPLE ARE ELIGIBLE FOR PUBLIC HOUSING IN THE URBAN AREA.

CO-ORDINATED BY THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, THE OPERATION WAS JOINTLY CARRIED OUT BY THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, HOUSING DEPARTMENT, URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE POLICE.

THREE OTHER CLEARANCE OPERATIONS WILL BE CARRIED OUT AT BACK LANES OF TSAT TSZ MUI ROAD, KING'S ROAD AND CHUN YEUNG STREET LATER THIS MONTH.

IN ALL, 178 ILLEGAL STRUCTURES WILL BE CLEARED. OF THE 48 FAMILIES AFFECTED, 40 WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR REHOUSING IN EITHER PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES OR TEMPORARY HOUSING AREAS.

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KOWLOON ILLEGAL STRUCTURES TO BE DEMOLISHED
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ACTION IS TO BE TAKEN TO DEMOLISH TWO SETS OF ILLEGAL ROOFTOP STRUCTURES IN KOWLOON.

THE BUILDING AUTHORITY WILL APPLY IN THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT ON MAY 20 FOR CLOSURE ORDERS TO BE MADE AGAINST THE STRUCTURES ON THE MAIN ROOF OF 496 - 510 CHATHAM ROAD, AND 208 - 220A MA TAU WEI ROAD.

THE AUTHORITY POSTED NOTICES OF ITS INTENTION OF THE STRUCTURES TODAY (FRIDAY).

ORDERS TO DEMOLISH THE STRUCTURES WERE ISSUED TO OCCUPANTS UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE IN AUGUST, NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER OF 1985, BUT THEY WERE NOT COMPLIED WITH.

THEY WILL NOW BE DEMOLISHED ONCE THE COURT DECIDES TO MAKE THE CLOSURE ORDER. CLOSING THEM PRIOR TO DEMOLITION ENSURES THAT THERE IS NO DANGER TO THE OCCUPANTS OR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

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SOCCER FINAL TO CLOSE ANTI-DRUGS DRIVE
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THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT ANTI-NARCOTICS SOCCER TOURNAMENT FINAL AND PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT THE SAU NGA ROAD NO. 3 PLAYGROUND IN HIP WO STREET, KWUN TONG, BETWEEN 1 PM AND 5 PM ON SUNDAY (FEBRUARY 22).

THE EVENT, MARKING THE END OF THE TWO-MONTH ANTI-DRUG CAMPAIGN IN THE DISTRICT, IS BEING JOINTLY PRESENTED BY THE NARCOTICS DIVISION, THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE AND THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE.

OFFICIATING GUESTS WILL INCLUDE THE COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR GORDON MORTIMER; DISTRICT OFFICER, MR EDDY CHAN; CHAIRMAN OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD, MR LAM HANG-FAI; CHAIRMAN OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, MR MAU KEI-ON; AND CHAIRMAN OF THE CAMPAIGN ORGANISING COMMITTEE, MR LAM KIN-KWOK.

APART FROM MATCHES IN THE CHAMPIONSHIP, THERE WILL BE A PERFORMANCE BY THE CIVIL AID SERVICES BAND.

IN ADDITION, THERE WILL BE AN INVITATION MATCH BETWEEN THE WINNING TEAM AND A CELEBRITY TEAM COMPRISING POPULAR SINGERS, TV ARTISTES AND FILM STARS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

THE PRIZE-PRESENTATION CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT 3 PM WHILE THE INVITATION MATCH BETWEEN THE WINNING TEAM AND THE CELEBRITY TEAM IS SCHEDULED FOR 3.30 PM.

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FIRE PREVENTION EXHIBITION FOR TSIM SHA TSUI
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A FIRE PREVENTION EXHIBITION WILL BE HELD AT THE CENTENARY GARDEN IN TSIM SHA TSUI EAST THIS SUNDAY (FEBRUARY 22) TO SUSTAIN PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE NEED TO PREVENT FIRE IN THE PREVAILING DRY SEASON.

THE EXHIBITION, PART OF THIS YEAR'S FIRE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN WHICH CARRIES THE THEME +SMOKE KILLS+, WILL START FROM NOON TO 3 PM.

VISITORS TO THE CENTENARY GARDEN WILL BE ABLE TO LEARN ABOUT THE DANGER OF SMOKE FROM FIRES. THERE WILL ALSO BE DISPLAYS ON BOTH GENERAL FIRE AND COUNTRYSIDE FIRE.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC CAN PICK UP A LEAFLET CONTAINING USEFUL INFORMATION ON HOW TO MINIMISE HARM IN THE EVENT OF FIRE AND GIVE-AWAY ITEMS SPONSORED BY THE KWONG ON BANK.

THE NEXT EXHIBITION WILL BE HELD AT THE ABERDEEN CENTRE OPEN SQUARE ON MARCH 8.

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WINNING PHOTOS GO ON DISPLAY

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ABOUT 100 PHOTOGRAPHS DEPICTING THE SHA TIN FESTIVAL AND CHRISTMAS AND LUNAR NEW YEAR LIGHTINGS IN THE DISTRICT WILL BE ON DISPLAY AT THE RIVERSIDE PLAZA TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AND ON THE FOLLOWING DAY.

THE EXHIBITS WERE ENTRIES IN A PHOTOGRAPH COMPETITION JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE SHA TIN FESTIVAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE AND THE PLANNING COMMITTEE ON SHA TIN FESTIVE LIGHTINGS AND SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD AND TWO COMMERCIAL FIRMS.

PRIZES WILL ALSO BE PRESENTED TO CONTEST WINNERS AT A CEREMONY TOMORROW.

OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING OF THE EXHIBITION AND THE PRIZE-PRESENTATION CEREMONY WILL BE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR LEO KWAN WING-WAH, DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR NG CHAN-LAM, AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBER, MR ANDREW WONG.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EXHIBITION OPENING AND PRIZE-PRESENTATION CEREMONY AT 2 PM TOMORROW IN THE CORRIDOR ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF RIVERSIDE PLAZA.

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PAINTERS, CALLIGRAPHISTS TO DEMONSTRATE SKILLS
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MORE THAN 20 FAMOUS PAINTERS AND CALLIGRAPHISTS WILL DEMONSTRATE THEIR SKILLS AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT CHINESE CULTURAL FESTIVAL TO BE HELD AT THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE ON SUNDAY (FEBRUARY 22).

PARTICIPANTS WILL ALSO BE ABLE TO ENJOY FAVOURITE CHINESE TUNES PERFORMED BY A CHINESE ORCHESTRA.

IN ADDITION, AWARDS WILL BE GIVEN TO WINNERS OF THE OPEN CHINESE CHESS COMPETITION HELD DURING THE WEEK-LONG FESTIVAL.

/OFFICIATING

OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ROGER GARCIA, ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS CARMAN CHIU, DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MRS PEGGY LAM, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CULTURE AND RECREATION COMMITTEE, MR LEE KON.

NOTE TO EDITORS :

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE FESTIVAL AT THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, 01 KWAN ROAD, AT 2 PM ON SUNDAY.

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VOCATIONAL COURSES ADMISSION PROCEDURES MODIFIED

THE PROCEDURE FOR ADMISSION TO POST-FORM 3 COURSES IN TECHNICAL INSTITUTES AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINING CENTRES WILL BE MODIFIED TO SAFEGUARD THE INTEREST OF VOCATIONALLY-INCLINED STUDENTS.

AS FROM THE 1987-88 ACADEMIC YEAR, FORM 3 OR MIDDLE 3 STUDENTS TAKING PART IN THE JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL ASSESSMENT (JSEA) SYSTEM WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR ALLOCATION OF A SUBSIDISED FORM 4 PLACE IN A GRAMMAR SCHOOL IF THEY ARE SUCCESSFUL IN THEIR APPLICATION FOR A POST FORM 3 VOCATIONALLY-ORIENTED PLACE.

AN APPLICANT WHO HAS NOT BEEN OFFERED A PLACE IN SUCH A MANNER WILL STILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE ALLOCATION OF A FORM 4 PLACE UNDER THE JSEA SYSTEM.

AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE NEW ARRANGEMENT WAS DESIGNED TO IMPROVE THE CHANCES OF STUDENTS WITH A GENUINE INTEREST TO ENROL IN A VOCATIONALLY ORIENTED COURSE TO GAIN ADMISSION TO A TECHNICAL INSTITUTE OR AN INDUSTRIAL TRAINING CENTRE.

EXPERIENCE SHOWED THAT MANY SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS FOR SUCH COURSES DID NOT TAKE UP PLACES OFFERED TO THEM. AS A RESULT, OTHER VOCATIONALLY-INCLINED STUDENTS, WHO WISHED TO TAKE UP POST-FORM 3 COURSE PLACE, BUT WERE NOT EVEN SHORTLISTED FOR INTERVIEW, WERE DEPRIVED OF THE CHANCE, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

HE CALLED ON PARENTS AND GUARDIANS, IN PARTICULAR THOSE WITH CHILDREN PROGRESSING TO FORM 3 OR MIDDLE 3 NEXT YEAR IN SCHOOLS PARTICIPATING IN THE JSEA SYSTEM, TO PAY ATTENTION TO THE MODIFIED PROCEDURE UNDER WHICH THEY WOULD NOT BE REQUIRED TO SIGN ANY CONSENT FORM AFTER THEIR CHILDREN HAD BEEN SELECTED FOR A VOCATIONALLY-ORIENTED COURSE.

SCHOOLS PARTICIPATING IN THE JSEA HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED OF THE MODIFIED PROCEDURE IN A RECENT CIRCULAR ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT. PARENTS AND GUARDIANS WITH ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE NEW ARRANGEMENT SHOULD APPROACH INDIVIDUAL SCHOOLS.

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CRAFT COURSES OPEN TO FORM 3 STUDENTS
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FORM 3 STUDENTS ARE BEING INVITED TO APPLY, THROUGH THEIR SCHOOLS, FOR ENTRY INTO FULL-TIME CRAFT LEVEL COURSES OFFERED BY TECHNICAL INSTITUTES AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINING CENTRES OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL IN THE COMING ACADEMIC YEAR.

A TOTAL OF 39 POST FORM 3 COURSES, 22 FROM EIGHT TECHNICAL INSTITUTES AND 17 FROM EIGHT TRAINING CENTRES, WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR STUDENTS WHO WANT TO TAKE UP A CRAFT CAREER THROUGH TECHNICAL EDUCATION OR INDUSTRIAL TRAINING.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE COUNCIL SAID THAT FORM 3 OR MIDDLE 3 STUDENTS STUDYING IN TECHNICAL INSTITUTES WILL HAVE BETTER OPPORTUNITIES TO IMPROVE THEMSELVES WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF TECHNICIAN PREPARATORY COURSES IN MAJOR DISCIPLINES.

+THESE ONE-YEAR FULL-TIME TECHNICIAN PREPARATORY COURSES ARE DESIGNED AS BRIDGING COURSES FOR GRADUATES FROM POST FORM 3 COURSES, PROVIDING THEM WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO PROGRESS TO FULL-TIME TECHNICIAN LEVEL STUDIES WHICH ARE NORMALLY RESTRICTED TO POST FORM 5 STUDENTS.

+THESE BRIDGING COURSES ARE AVAILABLE IN THE DISCIPLINES OF COMMERCE, ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, MECHANICAL ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION,+ HE SAID.

AS FOR COURSES OFFERED AT THE EIGHT INDUSTRIAL TRAINING CENTRES, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THEY PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE PRACTICAL TRAINING FOR STUDENTS TO PREPARE THEM FOR EMPLOYMENT AFTER COMPLETION OF THEIR STUDIES.

+TRAINEES WHO HAD COMPLETED THEIR TRAINING AT INDUSTRIAL TRAINING CENTRES WOULD BE ABLE TO ENTER RELEVANT TRADES OR BECOME APPRENTICES AND RECEIVE FURTHER TRAINING ON THE JOB.+

THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES OFFER COURSES IN THE FOLLOWING DISCIPLINES : MECHANICAL ENGINEERING, MARINE ENGINEERING AND FABRICATION, MOTOR VEHICLE ENGINEERING, INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY, ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, CONSTRUCTION, PRINTING, DESIGN, CLOTHING, TEXTILE, COMMERCIAL STUDIES AND CHILD CARE.

THE INDUSTRIAL TRAINING CENTRES WHICH PROVIDE CRAFT LEVEL COURSES COVER AUTOMOBILES, ELECTRICAL, GAS, ELECTRONICS, MACHINE SHOP AND METAL WORKING, PLASTICS, PRINTING AND THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

STUDENTS CAN MAKE TWO CHOICES FROM ANY COURSES OPERATED IN THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINING CENTRES. COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO SCHOOLS BEFORE MARCH 10.

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BANQUET BOOST FOR WONG TAI SIN NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH
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A SPRING FESTIVAL BANQUET WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (SATURDAY) EVENING FOR ABOUT 700 PARTICIPANTS IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME IN WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT.

THE BANQUET HAS BEEN ORGANISED BY THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE TO PROMOTE TIES AMONG NEIGHBOURS AND TO REINFORCE THE SCHEME.

WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT HAS THE LARGEST NUMBER OF PARTICIPATING HOUSEHOLDS IN THE TERRITORY-WIDE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME.

SINCE THE SCHEME WAS BEGUN IN 1985, A TOTAL OF 5 131 HOUSEHOLDS FROM 17 HOUSING BLOCKS IN THE DISTRICT HAVE JOINED.

OFFICIATING GUESTS AT THE BANQUET WILL INCLUDE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE MEMBER, DR HO KAM-FAI; DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, MR K.H. LI; WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR NICHOLAS YEK; AND CHAIRMAN OF THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, MR ALBERT LI.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME SPRING FESTIVAL BANQUET TO BE HELD TOMORROW AT 8 PM AT THE DRAGON WAY RESTAURANT AT THE FIRST FLOOR OF WONG TAI SIN SHOPPING CENTRE (ABOVE THE WONG TAI SIN MTR STATION).

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TSING HONG YIN NGAI SOCIETY TWO YEARS OLD
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THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICER, MR BRIAN COAK, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE SECOND INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF THE TSING HONG YIN NGAI SOCIETY AT THE CHEUNG CHING ESTATE COMMUNITY CENTRE TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AFTERNOON.

THE TSING HONG YIN NGAI SOCIETY WAS THE FIRST WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION FORMED IN THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT. IT WAS ESTABLISHED WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF DISTRICT OFFICE AND HAS NOW ABOUT 150 MEMBERS.

AMONG THE EVENTS THE SOCIETY HAS ORGANISED ARE FAMILY ACTIVITIES SUCH AS PICNICS, VISITS AND INTEREST COURSES, AND BALLET LESSONS FOR YOUNG CHILDREN.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SECOND INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF THE TSING HONG YIN NGAI SOCIETY AT THE CHEUNG CHING ESTATE COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 2 PM TOMORROW.

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1987

- 23 -

VARIETY SHOW TO ENTERTAIN FANLING RESIDENTS
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RESIDENTS OF FANLING WILL BE ENTERTAINED AT A VARIETY SHOW AT THE CHEUNG WAH ESTATE CENTRAL PLAYGROUND TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

ORGANISED BY THE FANLING RURAL COMMITTEE WITH SPONSORSHIP FROM THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD, THE SHOW IS PART OF A SERIES OF LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION BEING HELD THROUGHOUT THE NORTH DISTRICT.

THE PROGRAMME WILL INCLUDE SINGING, ACROBATIC AND MAGIC SHOWS AND A LUCKY DRAW.

AMONG THE GUESTS OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING WILL BE THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR MATTHEW CHEUNG; DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR RAYMOND PANG; AND THE SHEUNG SHUI POLICE DIVISIONAL COMMANDER, MR NG HON-KWAN.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING OF THE VARIETY SHOW AT 7.30 PM TOMORROW AT THE CHEUNG WAH ESTATE CENTRAL PLAYGROUND, FANLING.

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SEMINAR FOR SPORTS LEADERS
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A SEMINAR ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE TERRITORY'S SPORTS ARENA WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (SATURDAY) BETWEEN 9 AM AND 1 PM AT THE OLD LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER.

THE SECRETARY FOR MUNICIPAL SERVICES, MR. A.K. CHUI, WILL OPEN THE SEMINAR AND ADDRESS DELEGATES.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL FOR RECREATION AND SPORT, MR. F.K. HU, WILL TAKE THE CHAIR IN THE OPEN FORUM.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SEMINAR.

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1987

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APPLICATIONS CALLED FOR COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDS

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LOCAL ORGANISATIONS IN YAU MA TEI WISHING TO ORGANISE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES OR PROJECTS BEFORE MID-MARCH CAN APPLY FOR SPONSORSHIP FROM THE DISTRICT BOARD.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT, 14TH FLOOR, 490 NATHAN ROAD.

COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE SECRETARIAT BY FEBRUARY 24 FOR THE BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER AT ITS MEETING ON FEBRUARY 26.

EACH APPLICATION FORM SHOULD BE USED TO APPLY FOR SPONSORSHIP OF ONE ACTIVITY ONLY.

FURTHER ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 3-7700424.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR LINK ROAD SECTION

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THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A SECTION OF THE MA ON SHAN-NAI CHUNG LINK ROAD FROM LOK WO SHA TO NAI CHUNG.

THE SECTION FORMS PART OF A SCHEME TO LINK SHA TIN AND MA ON SHAN WITH THE SAI KUNG PENINSULA.

THE CONTRACT WILL COMPRISE CONSTRUCTION OF ABOUT 1.6 KILOMETRES OF TWO-WAY ROAD, TOGETHER WITH FOOTPATHS AND A CYCLE TRACK.

A BRANCH ROAD WILL ALSO BE CONSTRUCTED TO THE BEACH AT LOK WO SHA. CAR AND COACH PARKING FACILITIES WILL BE BUILT NEAR THE BEACH.

THE EXISTING CAR PARK AT NAI CHUNG WILL BE ENLARGED TO PROVIDE A BUS TERMINUS, A MAXICAB STAND AND COACH AND CAR PARKING SPACES.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF TENDERS IS NOON ON MARCH 13.

CONSTRUCTION WORK IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN APRIL AND TAKE 16 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1987

- 25 -

ROADS IN ABERDEEN REMAIN CLOSED

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THE SECTION OF CHENGTU ROAD IN ABERDEEN BETWEEN ABERDEEN MAIN ROAD AND LOK YEUNG STREET AND THE SECTION OF LOK YEUNG STREET BETWEEN CHENGTU ROAD AND TUNG SING ROAD WILL REMAIN CLOSED UNTIL 10 AM ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 23). THEY HAD BEEN CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FOLLOWING A WATER MAIN BURST LAST FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 13).

DURING THE CLOSURE, CMB ROUTES 70, 70M, 72, 98 AND 107 HAVE BEEN DIVERTED VIA ABERDEEN MAIN ROAD WESTBOUND AND ABERDEEN PRAYA ROAD ON THEIR JOURNEYS TO ABERDEEN.

OTHER VEHICLES INCLUDING PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES AND GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES 4, 5, 26, 27 AND 35M HAVE TO USE ABERDEEN MAIN ROAD WESTBOUND, FUNG TIN STREET AND NAM NING STREET ON JOURNEYS TO CHENGTU ROAD.

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QUEEN STREET BAN ON HEAVY VEHICLES

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TO FACILITATE UTILITY DIVERSION WORK, NO VEHICLE EXCEEDING 5.5 TONNES GROSS WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE SECTION OF QUEEN STREET BETWEEN DES VOEUX ROAD WEST AND CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST IN WESTERN DISTRICT FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 23).

THE MEASURE WILL LAST FOR ABOUT TWO MONTHS.

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ROAD CLOSURE IN TAI PO

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ON PONG ROAD BETWEEN ITS NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN JUNCTIONS WITH ON TAI ROAD IN TAI PO WILL BE CLOSED FROM 8 AM ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 23) TO 8 PM ON FEBRUARY 25 TO FACILITATE DEMOLITION WORK IN THE AREA.

ALL VEHICLES, EXCEPT THOSE FOR LOCAL ACCESS, WILL BE DIVERTED TO ON TAI ROAD DURING THE CLOSURE.

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