DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 5-8428777

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1990

CONTENTS

	PAGE NO.
HK SHOULD GET ON WITH MAKING POLITICAL STRUCTURE WORK: GOVERNOR	1
DECISION ON SECOND GENERATION CORDLESS TELEPHONES SOON	2
REVIEW COMMITTEE TO DEVELOP REHAB PROGRAMME INTO THE 90'S	4
INSURERS TO LAUNCH CLAIMS COMPLAINTS BUREAU	6
MORE THAN 100 COMPLAINTS ABOUT INACCURATE WEIGHING INSTRUMENTS	6
REGIONAL COUNCIL BY-ELECTION ON THURSDAY	7
NINE QUESTIONS, FIVE BILLS ON LEGCO AGENDA	8
YUEN LONG DB TO DISCUSS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME	8
DB COMMITTEE TO BE BRIEFED ON TRANSPORT WHITE PAPER	9
DB COMMITTEE TO STUDY WELFARE SERVICES	10
INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS SEMINAR FOR SAI KUNG RESIDENTS	10
BUILDING MANAGEMENT SEMINAR FOR SAI YING PUN RESIDENTS	11
DB FUNDS OPEN TO APPLICATION	11
DTC REGISTRATION REVOKED	12
AUCTION OF SPECIAL CAR NUMBERS	12
TEMPORARY LANE CLOSURE ON TAI PO ROAD, SHA TIN	13
WATER CUT IN KWUN TONG	13

HK SHOULD GET ON WITH MAKING POLITICAL STRUCTURE WORK: GOVERNOR

* * * * * * * * * * *

WHAT HONG KONG SHOULD NOW DO IS TO GET ON WITH MAKING THE POLITICAL STRUCTURE SECTION OF THE BASIC LAW WORK, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID THIS (TUESDAY) EVENING.

NOTING THAT HUGE CHANGES WOULD BE BROUGHT IN NEXT YEAR TO HONG KONG'S POLITICAL STRUCTURE, SIR DAVID SAID WE WANTED TO MAKE SURE THAT THOSE WORKED EFFECTIVELY AND EFFICIENTLY.

"WE CAN SHOW THAT THEY ARE GOOD FOR HONG KONG AND THEN LATER ON WE CAN DISCUSS WHETHER IN THE LIGHT OF THAT EXPERIENCE WE THINK IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA THAT THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT SHOULD MAKE SOME CHANGES," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS NOT SOMETHING FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE, BUT FOR AFTER THE 1991 ELECTIONS AND WHEN WE WOULD BE ABLE TO SHOW THAT THAT DEGREE OF DEMOCRACY WAS GOOD FOR HONG KONG.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER ATTENDING THE CNTA SPRING RECEPTION, THE GOVERNOR SAID A LOT OF DECISIONS ABOUT THE POLITICAL PACKAGE FOR 1991 WOULD HAVE TO BE TAKEN.

"WE'VE MADE THE DECISION ON 18 DIRECTLY ELECTED SEATS. WE'VE GOT TO MAKE A DECISION ON HOW MANY APPOINTED MEMBERS, HOW MANY FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCY MEMBERS AND WHAT WE SHOULD DO WITH OFFICIALS.

HE SAID WHAT WE WOULD BE TRYING TO DO WAS TO START MOVING GRADUALLY FROM THE PRESENT SITUATION, THAT WAS THE PRESENT STRUCTURE OF LEGCO, TO THE NEW STRUCTURE IN 1995.

"SO WE HAVE A NUMBER OF DECISIONS TO MAKE AND ONE OF THEM WILL BE SIZE OF CONSTITUENCIES AND HOW WE SHOULD ORGANISE THAT. WE ARE WORKING ON IT AT THE MOMENT AND WE WILL MAKE A FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT IT AS SOON AS WE CAN, AND WELL IN ADVANCE OF WHEN IT'S NECESSARY FOR PEOPLE TO START PREPARING FOR THE 1991 ELECTIONS," HE ADDED.

ON THE SIZE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, SIR DAVID SAID BY 1995 THERE WOULD BE 60 SEATS.

"SO WE WILL WANT TO WORK OUT HOW MANY WE SHOULD HAVE IN THE INTERIM PERIOD. WE HAVEN'T WORKED OUT ALL THE DETAILS YET," HE SAID.

IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION ON WHETHER THE PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHOULD BE ELECTED, SIR DAVID SAID THAT IN 1997 THE PRESIDENT WOULD BE ELECTED AND IT WOULD BE SENSIBLE TO BRING IN AN ELECTED PRESIDENT OF LEGCO IN 1995.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE TO WORK OUT THE TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS WHEN LOOKING AT THE WHOLE PACKAGE OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR 1991.

/"IT IS .....

"IT IS POSSIBLE FOR THE GOVERNOR BOTH TO BE THERE AND TO HAVE SOMEBODY WHO ACTS FOR HIM SOME OF THE TIME. THIS IS THE SORT OF QUESTION WE'VE GOT TO LOOK AT THE MOMENT, WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF BY 1995 HAVING AN ELECTED PRESIDENT.

"BUT THE GENERAL IMPRESSION ONE GETS FROM THE PUBLIC WHEN WE DID THE SURVEY IN 1987 FOR INSTANCE, IS THAT THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE DOESN'T WANT TO MOVE THERE TOO QUICKLY. THEY WOULD PROBABLY WANT TO GO THROUGH A TRANSITIONAL PHASE FIRST," SIR DAVID SAID.

WHEN ASKED HOW HE THOUGHT THE 20 PER CENT NATIONALITY RESTRICTION WOULD BE IMPLEMENTED IN 1995, THE GOVERNOR SAID IT WAS QUITE DIFFICULT TO WORK OUT PRECISELY HOW TO DO IT, AND HE DID NOT KNOW, AT THE MOMENT, HOW THAT WAS GOING TO BE WORKED OUT IN PRACTICE.

ASKED IF HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE RIGHT FOR THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL TO RESIGN, SIR DAVID SAID: "THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL HAS A VERY DIFFICULT JOB TO DO. HE HAS TO MAKE DECISIONS ON A WHOLE NUMBER OF VERY COMPLEX ISSUES, AND THE ONE THING I WOULD SAY TO YOU IS THAT HE HAS MY FULL SUPPORT IN DOING IT."

HE SAID THAT IT WAS ABSOLUTELY NOT TRUE THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS NOW SEARCHING FOR A NEW ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

- - - - 0 - - - -

DECISION ON SECOND GENERATION CORDLESS TELEPHONES SOON

* * * * *

A DECISION WOULD BE TAKEN WITHIN THREE MONTHS ON A SECOND GENERATION OF CORDLESS TELEPHONES WHICH COULD OPERATE WITHIN THE VICINITY OF RADIO RELAY STATIONS ALMOST ANYWHERE IN HONG KONG, THE POSTMASTER GENERAL AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY, MR DOMINIC S.W. WONG, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

SPEAKING AT A LUNCH OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG NORTHWEST, MR WONG SAID INCORPORATING A RADIO PAGER INTO CORDLESS TELEPHONES TO MAKE THEM MORE ATTRACTIVE WAS AN IDEA FOR THE ENTERPRISING BUSINESSMAN.

"THE TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS ARE NOW AT AN ADVANCED STAGE, AND I WOULD EXPECT A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT TO BE MADE AROUND MAY OR JUNE THIS YEAR, AND APPLICATIONS WILL BE INVITED," HE SAID.

LAST MONTH, THE POST OFFICE INVITED APPLICATIONS FOR NEW RADIO PAGING NETWORKS TO MEET GROWING DEMAND, AND UP TO 60 NEW CHANNELS WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR THIS PURPOSE AND OTHER RELATED BUT INNOVATIVE SERVICES, MR WONG SAID.

/HE ALSO .....

HE ALSO SAID THAT NEW DIGITAL TECHNIQUES WERE BEING EXAMINED IN THE FIELD OF CELLULAR MOBILE RADIOTELEPHONES, WHICH WOULD PERMIT A HIGHER DENSITY OF RADIOTELEPHONES AND FURTHER IMPROVED PERFORMANCE TO BE PROVIDED IN HONG KONG. THIS, HE SAID, WOULD PROBABLY MATERIALISE IN ABOUT TWO YEARS' TIME.

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL POINTED OUT THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD IN THE PAST FEW YEARS GRADUALLY AND PROGRESSIVELY DEREGULATED AND INTRODUCED COMPETITION IN THE SUPPLY OF TELECOMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT AND IN VALUE ADDED NETWORK SERVICES AS THE TELECOMMUNICATION INFRASTRUCTURE REACHED MATURITY.

MR WONG SAID THIS NEW APPROACH HAD BORNE FRUIT AND THE EFFECTS WERE APPARENT.

"FOR EXAMPLE, TODAY OUR SMALL BUT COSMOPOLITAN CITY HAS FOUR CELLULAR MOBILE RADIOTELEPHONE SYSTEMS WITH A CAPACITY FOR ABOUT 130,000 USERS; 17 RADIO PAGING OPERATORS CATERING FOR 600,000 SUBSCRIBERS; 80,000 FACSIMILE LINES; A HUGE VARIETY OF VERY EFFICIENT EQUIPMENT AT RELATIVELY LOW PRICES; AND A SECOND, WIRED, TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK SOMETIME NEXT YEAR;" HE SAID.

"AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND OF SUCCESS AND AS FAR AS POSSIBLE, IT IS OUR INTENTION TO CONTINUE WITH THE POLICY OF ALLOWING GREATER AND FAIR COMPETITION, AND WITH THE 'OPEN DOOR' POLICY FOR FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS FIELD," HE ADDED.

MR WONG SAID WITH THE ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT OF MODERN TECHNOLOGY IN HONG KONG, THE PACE OF LIFE AND THE STYLE OF OPERATION WERE SUCH THAT TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES AND FACILITIES WERE A NECESSITY IN CONDUCTING DAILY BUSINESS TO RECEIVE VITAL INFORMATION AND TO RESPOND QUICKLY TO SITUATIONS.

NOTING THAT TECHNOLOGICAL PROGRESS IN HONG KONG HAD DEVELOPED DRAMATICALLY IN THE LAST TWO DECADES, HE SAID HONG KONG HAD BECOME AN IMPORTANT FOCAL POINT FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS IN THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION.

"WE MUST NOT BE COMPLACENT AND WILL CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR TELECOMMUNICATION INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES TO MEET CHANGING NEEDS," MR WONG SAID.

"LET US NOT FORGET THAT IN MANY COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES, TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEVELOPED INITIALLY UNDER A FULL MONOPOLY. HONG KONG WAS NO EXCEPTION.

"THIS APPROACH HAD A CLEAR ADVANTAGE AND ENSURED THE ORDERLY DEVELOPMENT OF A RELIABLE, EFFICIENT AND RENOWNED INTERNAL TELEPHONE SERVICE AND EXTERNAL TELEPHONE, TELEGRAPH AND TELEX SERVICES AND CIRCUITS FOR HONG KONG," HE ADDED.

THERE ARE NOW MORE THAN THREE MILLION TELEPHONES SERVED BY 2.2 MILLION DIRECT LINES, GIVING HONG KONG ONE OF THE HIGHEST TELEPHONE DENSITIES IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA. THERE ARE 53 TELEPHONES OR 40 LINES PER 100 POPULATION, WHICH MEANS THERE IS NOW A TELEPHONE IN ALMOST EVERY HOUSEHOLD IN HONG KONG.

/"NO WONDER .....

"NO WONDER THAT HONG KONG RECORDED OVER 750 MILLION MINUTES PER YEAR FOR INTERNATIONAL TELEPHONE CALLS," MR WONG SAID.

TURNING TO POSTAL SERVICES, MR WONG SAID HE EXPECTED A SOPHISTICATED LETTER SORTING SYSTEM CURRENTLY UNDER TRIAL WOULD BE OPERATIONAL IN MAY, THUS ENABLING THE POST OFFICE GRADUALLY TO REDEPLOY ITS STAFF TO AREAS EXPERIENCING MANPOWER SHORTAGE.

THE MECHANISED LETTER SORTING SYSTEM, COSTING $120 MILLION, IS THE FIRST IN THE WORLD USING MODERN OPTICAL CHARACTER RECOGNITION AND VIDEO CODING TECHNOLOGY WITHOUT POST CODES OR ZIP CODES, BECAUSE IT CAN ELECTRONICALLY SCAN THE LAST FOUR LINES OF A HONG KONG ADDRESS TYPED OR MACHINE PRINTED IN ROMAN TYPE.

"LETTERS WITH ADDRESSES WHICH CANNOT BE READ OR ARE HANDWRITTEN WILL BE DELIVERED TO VIDEO CODING DESKS WHERE OPERATORS WILL READ THE ADDRESS AND TYPE THE ABBREVIATED CODES ON THE ENVELOPES, BEFORE THEY GO THROUGH THE NORMAL PROCESS.

"OUR MAIL TRAFFIC HAS BEEN INCREASING AT THE SUBSTANTIAL RATE OF 10 PER CENT PER YEAR COMPOUND IN RECENT YEARS. THIS IS EXTREMELY HIGH BY WORLD STANDARDS WHERE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES' MAIL GROW BY ABOUT FIVE PER CENT A YEAR," MR WONG SAID.

"OUR VOLUME OF MAIL IS SO HIGH THAT THE HONG KONG POST OFFICE NOW HANDLES ABOUT 770 MILLION ITEMS A YEAR: THIS REPRESENTS 2.2 MILLION ITEMS A DAY," HE ADDED.

DURING THE CHRISTMAS RUSH PERIOD IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER THE POST OFFICE HANDLED NEARLY THREE MILLION ITEMS A DAY WHICH MEANT THE MAIL TRAFFIC WENT UP BY 35 PER CENT COMPARED WITH A NORMAL MONTH, HE SAID.

"DESPITE LARGE INCREASES IN THE VOLUME OF MAIL HANDLED IN RECENT YEARS, IT REMAINS OUR AIM TO PROVIDE A RELIABLE AND EFFICIENT POSTAL SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG," MR WONG SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

REVIEW COMMITTEE TO DEVELOP REHAB PROGRAMME INTO THE 90'S

* * * * *

A REVIEW COMMITTEE HAS BEEN SET UP TO DEVELOP A BALANCED AND COMPREHENSIVE REHABILITATION PROGRAMME WHICH WILL BE RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS OF THE DISABLED INTO THE 1990'S.

SPEAKING AT THE REHABILITATION DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE (RDCC) MEETING TODAY (TUESDAY), THE COMMISSIONER FOR REHABILITATION, MR ALAN WONG, SAID: "THE COMMITTEE IS EXPECTED TO FORMULATE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT TARGETS, IDENTIFY DEFICIENCIES IN THE PRESENT SYSTEM, STREAMLINE SERVICE PROVISIONS AND WORK TOWARDS A SMOOTH AND WELL CO-ORDINATED SERVICE DELIVERY SYSTEM."

/HE EXPLAINED .....

HE EXPLAINED THAT A REPORT SUMMARISING THE MAIN DISCUSSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE WOULD THEN BE SUBMITTED TO THE RDCC FOR ENDORSEMENT IN DECEMBER THIS YEAR.

"IN ADDITION, THE DRAFT CHAPTERS WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE RDCC FOR DISCUSSION AS SOON AS THEY ARE APPROVED BY THE REVIEW COMMITTEE IN THE COURSE OF THE YEAR."

THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE COMPRISES: THE COMMISSIONER FOR REHABILITATION AS CHAIRMAN, AND MEMBERS WHO ARE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE, SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, HOSPITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINING DEPARTMENT, TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, LABOUR DEPARTMENT, AND THE FINANCE BRANCH.

THE COMMITTEE MAY CO-OPT OTHER MEMBERS FROM THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR AND RELEVANT GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS DEPENDING ON THE PROGRAMME AREA UNDER DISCUSSION.

THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE ARE TO REVIEW THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS MADE IN THE 1987 REVIEW OF THE REHABILITATION PROGRAMME PLAN; TO UPDATE THE VARIOUS STATISTICAL PROJECTIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF SERVICE AND MANPOWER PLANNING; AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE ON THE FOLLOWING ASPECTS:

* AREAS WHERE REVISION TO PLANNING TARGETS IS FOUND TO BE NECESSARY; AND

* EXISTING OR PROPOSED SERVICE AREAS AND POLICIES WHICH REQUIRE FURTHER STUDY AND/OR DEVELOPMENT OUTSIDE THE CONTEXT OF THE MAJOR REVIEW.

IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE LAST WHITE PAPER ON REHABILITATION WAS PUBLISHED IN 1977, RDCC MEMBERS GENERALLY FELT THAT IT WAS ABOUT TIME TO PRODUCE A NEW WHITE PAPER ON REHABILITATION SERVICES AND POLICIES.

MEMBERS RECOMMENDED THAT A REQUEST BE PUT FORWARD TO THE GOVERNMENT TO FORMULATE A NEW WHITE PAPER ON REHABILITATION BEFORE 1992.

RDCC MEMBERS ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN ON THE PROPOSED WHITE PAPER ON SOCIAL WELFARE POLICIES AND SERVICES INTO THE 1990'S AND BEYOND.

AN AD HOC GROUP HAS BEEN FORMED TO STUDY REHABILITATION SERVICES IN THE SOCIAL WELFARE FIELD. ITS VIEWS WILL BE CONVEYED TO THE RELEVANT SUB-COMMITTEES OF THE WORKING PARTY ON THE PROPOSED SOCIAL WELFARE WHITE PAPER FOR CONSIDERATION.

- - - - 0 - - - -

INSURERS TO LAUNCH CLAIMS COMPLAINTS BUREAU

* * * * *

THE INSURANCE CLAIMS COMPLAINTS BUREAU, TOGETHER WITH THE STATEMENTS OF PRACTICE FOR LIFE AND GENERAL INSURANCE BUSINESS ADOPTED BY THE HONG KONG FEDERATION OF INSURERS, REPRESENT A SIGNIFICANT STEP IN THE SELF-REGULATION OF THE INSURANCE INDUSTRY.

THE SECRETARY FOR MONETARY AFFAIRS, MR DAVID NENDICK, SAID THIS AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TO LAUNCH THE INSURANCE CLAIMS COMPLAINTS BUREAU THIS (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON.

MR NENDICK SAID THE BUREAU REPRESENTED AN IMPORTANT MEASURE OF CONSUMER PROTECTION IN THE AREA OF PERSONAL INSURANCE.

"THE BUREAU WILL PROVIDE AN INDEPENDENT AVENUE OF COMPLAINT AND REMEDY FOR INDIVIDUALS INSURED IN A PRIVATE CAPACITY WHO FEEL THAT THEIR CLAIMS HAVE NOT BEEN FAIRLY SETTLED," HE SAID.

LIKENING THE ROLE OF THE BUREAU TO THAT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OMBUDSMAN, MR NENDICK SAID HE WAS SURE THAT THE BUREAU WOULD BE WIDELY WELCOMED BY EXISTING AND POTENTIAL POLICY-HOLDERS.

HE HOPED THAT ALL AUTHORISED INSURERS WOULD SUBMIT TO THE JURISDICTION OF THE BUREAU.

POINTING OUT THAT THE BUREAU WAS THE PRODUCT OF TWO YEARS HARD WORK BY THE HONG KONG FEDERATION OF INSURERS, MR NENDICK SAID THAT THIS WAS NO EASY TASK AND THAT THE FEDERATION SHOULD BE COMMENDED ON THE SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME.

HE NOTED THAT THE FEDERATION'S READY WILLINGNESS TO MAINTAIN CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE GOVERNMENT ON MATTERS SUCH AS SELF-REGULATION WAS PARTICULARLY WELCOMED.

"THE FEDERATION WILL ALSO HAVE AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN THE REGULATION OF ACTIVITIES OF INSURANCE INTERMEDIARIES," MR NENDICK ADDED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

MORE THAN 100 COMPLAINTS ABOUT INACCURATE WEIGHING INSTRUMENTS

* * * * * *

THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED MORE THAN 100 COMPLAINTS ABOUT INACCURATE WEIGHING INSTRUMENTS SINCE THE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ORDINANCE CAME INTO EFFECT ON JANUARY 1 LAST YEAR.

THE ACTING PRINCIPAL TRADE CONTROLS OFFICER OF THE DEPARTMENT'S TRADING STANDARDS INVESTIGATION BUREAU, MR ANDREW WONG, SAID OF THE 103 COMPLAINTS RECEIVED, 13 HAD RESULTED IN COURT CASES AND FINES TOTALLING $36,250 BEING IMPOSED.

/TWO RECENT .....

TWO RECENT CASES WHICH AROSE FROM PUBLIC COMPLAINTS INVOLVED A SEAFOOD RETAILER AND A FRUIT RETAILER, WHO WERE FINED $2,250 AND $1,000 RESPECTIVELY.

THE SEAFOOD RETAILER, CHAN CHIN-YAU, OF CHAN KONG KEE SEAFOOD, ADMITTED THE CHARGE AT KWUN TONG MAGISTRACY LAST THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 15).

THE COURT HEARD THAT OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT VISITED THE DEFENDANT'S STALL AT SHUI WO STREET NEW MARKET, KWUN TONG, ON SEPTEMBER 7 LAST YEAR.

THREE CHINESE STEELYARDS USED IN THE SELLING OF SEAFOOD WERE FOUND TO BE AS HIGH AS 31.25 PER CENT, 12.5 PER CENT AND 7.8 PER CENT INACCURATE IN GOVERNMENT LABORATORY TESTS.

IN THE SECOND CASE, DEFENDANT CHENG MEI-LIN OF MEI LIN FRUIT SHOP, PLEADED GUILTY AT WESTERN MAGISTRACY TODAY (TUESDAY).

OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT INSPECTED THE DEFENDANT'S SHOP AT CANAL ROAD EAST, WAN CHAI, ON OCTOBER 20 LAST YEAR. PRELIMINARY CHECKS ON TWO SPRING BALANCES USED IN SELLING FRUIT SHOWED THAT THEY WERE INACCURATE BY AS MUCH AS 20.75 PER CENT AND 20.22 PER CENT.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID ANY PERSON WANTING TO COMPLAIN ABOUT MALPRACTICES IN RESPECT OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES SHOULD CONTACT EITHER THE TRADING STANDARDS INVESTIGATION BUREAU OF THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT (TEL. NO. 7146146) OR THE CONSUMER COUNCIL.

COMPLAINTS MAY ALSO BE MADE TO DUTY OFFICERS OF THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT ON 8523185 AFTER NORMAL OFFICE HOURS.

TO HELP PUBLICISE THE COMPLAINTS HOTLINES, THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT IS DISPLAYING POSTERS IN PROMINENT PLACES IN ALL RETAIL AND WHOLESALE MARKETS IN THE TERRITORY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

REGIONAL COUNCIL BY-ELECTION ON THURSDAY

* * * * *

ELECTORS IN THE ISLANDS DISTRICT ARE URGED TO TURN OUT IN FULL FORCE TO VOTE IN THE REGIONAL COUNCIL BY-ELECTION ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 22).

THERE ARE FOUR CANDIDATES -- MR FUNG CHI-KANG, MR FUNG PAK-TAI, MR DAVID KAM SHUI-YUNG AND MR LIU KWONG-SANG.

POLLING WILL TAKE PLACE BETWEEN 7.30 AM AND 10.30 PM. ELECTORS SHOULD BRING ALONG THEIR IDENTITY CARD AND POLL CARD, IF AVAILABLE, TO THE POLL.

/AS THERE .....

AS THERE IS ONLY ONE VACANCY, ELECTORS SHOULD SIMPLY RECORD THEIR VOTE BY MARKING A CROSS IN THE BOX ALONGSIDE THE NAME OF THE CANDIDATE OF THEIR CHOICE.

FOR ENQUIRIES, ELECTORS MAY CONTACT THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL OFFICE ON TEL. 5270369 OR 5270380.

----0----

NINE QUESTIONS, FIVE BILLS ON LEGCO AGENDA

* * * * *

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL ASK A TOTAL OF NINE QUESTIONS AND CONSIDER FIVE BILLS IN THE COUNCIL'S MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE URBAN COUNCIL (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990 AND THE REGIONAL COUNCIL (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990 WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS.

SECOND READING DEBATES ON THE INLAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990, THE STAMP DUTY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990 AND THE PUBLIC FINANCE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990 WILL RESUME. WHEN THESE ARE COMPLETED EACH BILL IS DUE TO GO THROUGH THE COMMITTEE STAGE AND BE GIVEN A THIRD READING.

----0----

YUEN LONG DB TO DISCUSS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

* * * * *

THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS THE 1989 EDITION OF THE TIN SHUI WAI - YUEN LONG DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME PREPARED BY THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT AT A MEETING ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 22).

DURING THE MEETING, MEMBERS WILL ALSO BE CONSULTED ON THE STAGE I PHASE I WORKS OF THE PROPOSED MAIN DRAINAGE CHANNELS FOR YUEN LONG AND KAM TIN.

IN ADDITION, THERE WILL BE A BRIEFING ON THE ROLE OF THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED PLANNING DEPARTMENT AND THE TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG DISTRICT PLANNING OFFICE.

/A MEMBER .....

A MEMBER WILL RAISE QUESTIONS CONCERNING CLEANING OF STREETS AND SITTING-OUT AREAS IN THE DISTRICT.

- - - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 22) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM, 13TH FLOOR, YUEN LONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 2 KIU LOK SQUARE, YUEN LONG. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 9.30 AM.

- - - - 0 - - - -

DB COMMITTEE TO BE BRIEFED ON TRANSPORT WHITE PAPER

* * * * *

A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL BRIEF THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD'S TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE ON THE WHITE PAPER ON TRANSPORT POLICY IN HONG KONG AT THE COMMITTEE'S MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

REQUESTED BY A MEMBER, THE BRIEFING WILL FOCUS ON THE WHITE PAPER AND ITS IMPLICATION ON THE TERRITORY'S FUTURE TRANSPORT POLICY.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE FEASIBILITY OF SETTING UP MORE BUS STOPS AT AREA 16.

THE MEETING WILL STUDY A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT REPORT ON KMB BUS SERVICES, LRT FEEDER BUS SERVICES AND TRAFFIC FLOW IN RESTRICTED ZONES FOR THE LAST TWO MONTHS OF 1989.

- - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD'S TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE TO BE HELD TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM, THIRD FLOOR, TUEN MUN GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 1 TUEN HI ROAD, TUEN MUN.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/10 .....

DB COMMITTEE TO STUDY WELFARE SERVICES

* * * * *

MEMBERS OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE WILL GIVE THEIR VIEWS ON THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF WELFARE SERVICES AT A MEETING ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 22).

THE REGIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER (HONG KONG), MR KWOK NAI-SIK, WILL BE PRESENT TO HEAR THEIR OPINIONS AND TO ANSWER QUESTIONS.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO REVIEW THE COMMITTEE'S SCHEME OF PAYING GOODWILL VISITS TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS.

VISITS UNDER THE SCHEME WERE MADE FROM NOVEMBER TO JANUARY, TO FORGE CLOSER TIES WITH LOCAL BODIES AND TO SEEK VIEWS ON COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES.

\- - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 22) AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, FIRST FLOOR, 880-886 KING'S ROAD.

THE MEETING WILL START AT 2.30 PM.

\- - - - 0 - - - -

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS SEMINAR FOR SAI KUNG RESIDENTS

* * * * *

SAI KUNG RESIDENTS ARE INVITED TO TAKE PART IN A SEMINAR ON INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS IN HONG KONG WITH AN INTRODUCTION TO THE WORK OF THE LABOUR TRIBUNAL.

THE SEMINAR WILL BE HELD BETWEEN 2.30 PM AND 5 PM ON SUNDAY (FEBRUARY 25) AT THE CLEAR WATER BAY GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB.

ORGANISED BY THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT CIVIC EDUCATION PROMOTION COMMITTEE, THE SEMINAR WILL BE A MAJOR ACTIVITY OF THE TERRITORY-WIDE CIVIC EDUCATION DAY.

THE MODERATOR WILL BE A LECTURER OF THE CITY POLYTECHNIC'S DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED SOCIAL STUDIES, MR FUNG WAI-WAH.

THE SPEAKERS WILL INCLUDE A PRINCIPAL LABOUR OFFICER OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, MR YEUNG CHI-KIN; A TRIBUNAL OFFICER OF THE LABOUR TRIBUNAL, MR CHAN KA-PIU; AND A SENIOR LECTURER FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT STUDIES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

RESIDENTS WHO WISH TO ATTEND THE SEMINAR CAN CONTACT MR DAVID TSANG ON TEL. 7924455 EXT. 42 OR MISS SUSAN YEUNG ON EXT. 56 FOR DETAILS.

\- - - - 0 - - - -

/11 .....

BUILDING MANAGEMENT SEMINAR FOR SAI YING PUN RESIDENTS

* * * * * *

A SEMINAR ON BUILDING MANAGEMENT FOR SAI YING PUN RESIDENTS WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 22) EVENING AT THE WESTERN DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE IN WESTERN STREET.

JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE SAI YING PUN AREA COMMITTEE, THE SEMINAR IS THE LAST IN A SERIES FOR DISTRICT RESIDENTS THIS FINANCIAL YEAR.

THE HEAD OF THE DISTRICT'S BUILDING MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATION TEAM, HOUSING MANAGER MR LEE CHI-SHING, WILL TALK ON THE IMPORTANCE OF PROPERLY MAINTAINING MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS.

A LABOUR OFFICER, MRS YEUNG YEUNG SIU-PING, WILL SPEAK ON THE LABOUR LAWS RELATING TO BUILDING MANAGEMENT.

ALSO ATTENDING THE SEMINAR WILL BE THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS MONICA CHEN.

- - - - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SAI YING PUN BUILDING MANAGEMENT SEMINAR WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 8 PM ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 22) AT THE WESTERN DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE, 36A WESTERN STREET.

- - - - 0 - - - -

DB FUNDS OPEN TO APPLICATION

* * * * *

THE COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE OF THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD IS INVITING LOCAL ORGANISATIONS TO APPLY FOR SUBSIDIES FOR ACTIVITIES TO BE HELD BETWEEN APRIL AND JUNE OR BETWEEN JULY AND NOVEMBER.

THE ACTIVITIES SHOULD AIM AT PROMOTING COMMUNITY SPIRIT AMONG RESIDENTS AND ENHANCING THEIR SENSE OF BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.

MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, OWNERS CORPORATIONS, VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND OTHER DISTRICT BODIES ARE WELCOME TO APPLY FOR THE FUNDS TO ORGANISE CULTURAL, RECREATIONAL, SPORTS OR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES.

APPLICATION FORMS AND OTHER DETAILS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE AT 37-39 TONKIN STREET AND ITS FOUR SUB-OFFICES AT UN CHAU STREET, NAM SHAN ESTATE, UN CHAN ESTATE AND MEI FOO SUN CHUEN.

/COMPLETED FORMS .....

COMPLETED FORMS FOR ACTIVITIES TO BE HELD IN THE FIRST PERIOD SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE ABOVE PLACES BEFORE FEBRUARY 28 WHILE THE DEADLINE FOR THE SECOND BATCH IS APRIL 12.

THE VETTING SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE WILL MEET ON APRIL 20 AND MAY 3 TO CONSIDER THE APPLICATIONS. APPLIANTS WILL BE INFORMED OF THE RESULTS IN WRITING.

- - - - 0 - - - -

DTC REGISTRATION REVOKED

* * * * *

THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING ANNOUNCED THAT THE REGISTRATION OF SHUN SING FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED AS A DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANY HAS BEEN REVOKED AS AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS TODAY (TUESDAY) AT ITS OWN REQUEST UNDER SECTION 31(2) OF THE BANKING ORDINANCE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

AUCTION OF SPECIAL CAR NUMBERS

* * * * *

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL HOLD ANOTHER AUCTION OF SPECIAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION NUMBERS ON SATURDAY (FEBRUARY 24) AT THE CITY HALL RECITAL HALL. THE AUCTION WILL BEGIN AT 10 AM.

A TOTAL OF 40 SPECIAL CAR NUMBERS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR BIDDING. THEY ARE:

EE 6638	EE 2	EE 288	EE 338
EE 105	EE 983	EE 330	CC 5000
DY 9328	EE 880	EE 99	BR 6999
BZ 500	BM 325	EE 6618	EE 959
BM 730	3693	EE 103	EE 2220
EE 991	EE 110	BB 678	ED 645
EE 28	EE 280	EE 1300	EE 3378
EE 3299	EE 932	EE 220	EE 2331
EE 877	EC 119	EB 4	EE 1811
EE 388	EE 7	EE 320	EE 7333

SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS MUST PAY BY CHEQUE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE BIDDING.

A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN REMINDED BIDDERS THAT THE VEHICLE REGISTRATION NUMBER WOULD BE ASSIGNED ONLY TO A VEHICLE REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF THE AUCTION.

/THE CERTIFICATE .....

THE CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION MUST BE PRODUCED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE AUCTION IF THE VEHICLE REGISTRATION MARK IS TO BE REGISTERED UNDER THE NAME OF A BODY CORPORATE.

PROCEEDS OF THE AUCTION WILL AS USUAL GO TO THE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES FUND.

THE COMING AUCTION WILL BE THE 147TH ORGANISED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SINCE MAY 1973.

- - - - 0 - - - -

TEMPORARY LANE CLOSURE ON TAI PO ROAD, SHA TIN

* * * * *

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT ABOUT 300 METRES OF THE SLOW AND MIDDLE LANES OF TAI PO ROAD NORTHBOUND NEAR TOLO HIGHWAY IN SHA TIN WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 8 PM ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 22) TO 6 AM THE NEXT DAY BECAUSE OF ROAD MAINTENANCE WORK.

MOTORISTS ARE URGED TO DRIVE WITH CARE AND PATIENCE. APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC AIDS WILL BE PROVIDED TO GUIDE THEM.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WATER CUT IN KWUN TONG

* * * * *

FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN KWUN TONG WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 11 PM ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 22) TO 6 AM THE NEXT DAY TO FACILITATE LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT CERTAIN PREMISES INCLUDING KWUN TONG MARYKNOLL COLLEGE, BLOCK NUMBERS 7-10, KWUN TONG (TSUI PING ROAD) ESTATE, SAN ON HOUSE AND KUI ON HOUSE OF WO LOK ESTATE AND 20-28 HIU MING STREET.

- - - - 0 - - - -