

\$15 billion war to ease ^{3.4} crisis

THE Government would spend \$15 billion over the next 10 years to help solve Hongkong's pollution problems, said the Governor, Sir David Wilson.

The Government was firmly committed to taking resolute action to deal with the situation, Sir David said as he opened World Environment Day, Hongkong 1988, and the environmental photographic exhibition at the Hongkong Bank headquarters in Central at the weekend.

As part of the environmental improvement program, the Government will ban pig farming on Hongkong Island and in Kowloon later this month, and take action to control the pollution this type of farming causes in three areas in the New Territories, he said.

"We will designate the south side of Hongkong Island as our second water control zone. We will step up our controls on the pollution of the atmosphere and introduce new controls on noise.

"We will continue to strengthen the Environmental Protection Department and ensure that the environmental implications of future developments are given special consideration in the

planning process," said Sir David.

However, he pointed out that the issue of environmental protection could not be left to the Government alone.

"All members of the public must play their part if the fight against pollution is to be successful," he said.

"Members of the public playing their part means picnickers taking their litter home with them. It means industrialists taking proper measures to process the effluent that their factories cause.

"It means being prepared to see large amounts of public funds being spent on improving our environment. And many members of the public have been prepared to play their part," said Sir David.

He cited the Keep Hongkong Clean Campaign as an example of what could be done to make a lasting improvement to the cleanliness of the territory.

"Another encouraging sign has been the public response to the recent territory-wide tree planting campaign. We now need as a community to make a similar effort to protect the rest of our environment," he said.