



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, MAY 26, 1986

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GOVERNOR: GREAT SCOPE FOR DEVELOPING TRADE WITH JAPAN
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HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC SYSTEM IS WELL GEARED, NOW AND IN THE FUTURE, TO FACE UP TO THE PROBLEMS CONFRONTING THE WORLD'S TRADING ECONOMIES AND TO GROW FURTHER, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE NINTH JOINT SESSION OF THE HONG KONG-JAPAN AND JAPAN-HONG KONG BUSINESS CO-OPERATION COMMITTEES IN TOKYO, SIR EDWARD SAID: +AS JAPAN TRIES TO READJUST ITS ECONOMY AND BALANCE ITS EQUATION ON A GLOBAL BASIS, HONG KONG IS WELL PLACED AND IN THE RIGHT STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT TO HELP.

+THERE IS THEREFORE GREAT SCOPE FOR DEVELOPING FURTHER THE ECONOMIC LINKS BETWEEN HONG KONG AND JAPAN TO OUR MUTUAL BENEFIT.+

HE NOTED THAT HONG KONG WAS WIDELY RECOGNISED AS A SUCCESSFUL AND STABLE ECONOMY, BUT TO REMAIN SUCCESSFUL +WE NEED NOT ONLY A STABLE AND PROSPEROUS PRESENT, BUT ALSO CONFIDENCE IN OUR FUTURE.+

SIR EDWARD SAID THE JOINT DECLARATION ON THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG PROVIDED FOR THE CONTINUATION AFTER 1997 OF THOSE ELEMENTS WHICH WERE ESSENTIAL TO HONG KONG'S SUCCESS - A FREE-ENTERPRISE CAPITALIST ECONOMY, FREE-CONVERTIBILITY OF ITS CURRENCY WITHOUT EXCHANGE CONTROLS, THE MAINTENANCE OF A WELL TRIED LEGAL SYSTEM, GUARANTEES OF PERSONAL RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS, INCLUDING THE FREEDOM TO TRAVEL AND MANY OTHER FEATURES.

HE SAID: +LET ME TELL YOU THAT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JOINT DECLARATION IS PROCEEDING SMOOTHLY AND THAT A NUMBER OF PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS HAVE BEEN FOUND TO PRACTICAL PROBLEMS.

+A PARTICULARLY VALUABLE SOLUTION WAS ANNOUNCED ONLY A FEW WEEKS AGO THAT HONG KONG'S POSITION IN THE GATT WOULD BE MAINTAINED. THIS IS ONE OF THE KEY FEATURES FOR HONG KONG WHICH DEPENDS SO MUCH ON ITS INTERNATIONAL TRADING POSITION. BUT THAT IS ONLY ONE OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OVER THE PAST YEAR.

+THERE HAVE BEEN SOLUTIONS TO LAND PROBLEMS WHICH ARE SO IMPORTANT FOR PROPERTY PRICES AND SOLUTIONS TO PASSPORT PROBLEMS WHICH ARE SO IMPORTANT TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG WHO VALUE THE ABILITY TO TRAVEL FREELY FOR BUSINESS AND OTHER PURPOSES.

+IN ALL THESE RESPECTS WE HAVE MADE A VERY GOOD START. IT IS ON THE BASIS OF THAT SATISFACTORY POSITION THAT I PLAN TO ADDRESS YOU TODAY.+

/DESCRIBING

DESCRIBING THE ESSENTIALS OF HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC SYSTEM, SIR EDWARD SAID THE TERRITORY HAD FEW NATURAL RESOURCES, BUT IT HAD AN EXCELLENT HARBOUR; A GOOD LOCATION ON THE SOUTH CHINA COAST AND IN RELATION TO THE ASIAN REGION'S TRADE ROUTES; EXCELLENT MAN-MADE COMMUNICATIONS; AN INDUSTRIOUS AND HARD-WORKING POPULATION; AND A MATURE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRE.

+WE PRACTISE FREE TRADE AND OPEN OUR MARKETS TO ALL. THERE ARE NO TARIFF OR NON-TARIFF BARRIERS TO IMPORTS INTO HONG KONG. NOR ARE THERE ANY BARRIERS OF INSTITUTIONAL PREJUDICE. WE BUY THE BEST PRODUCT AVAILABLE AT THE BEST AVAILABLE PRICE WHEREVER WE CAN FIND IT,+ HE SAID.

HE ADDED THAT COMPETITION IN HONG KONG WAS FREE AND FAIR AND AN OPEN ENVIRONMENT WAS MAINTAINED IN THE SERVICE SECTOR.

SIR EDWARD SAID THAT FOLLOWING THE SHARP APPRECIATION OF THE YEN IN RECENT MONTHS AND THE CONCERN EXPRESSED BY SOME OF JAPAN'S TRADING PARTNERS OVER ITS HUGE TRADE SURPLUSES, OVERSEAS INVESTMENT WOULD BECOME OF INCREASING INTEREST TO JAPANESE COMPANIES.

JAPANESE MANUFACTURERS WERE NO DOUBT EXPLORING POSSIBILITIES FOR MOVING SOME OF THEIR MANUFACTURING ACTIVITIES OFF-SHORE IN ORDER TO REMAIN COMPETITIVE, HE SAID.

IN THIS CONNECTION, SIR EDWARD SAID, HONG KONG OFFERED AN ECONOMIC SYSTEM WHICH SHOULD ATTRACT INVESTMENT ON A CONTINUING BASIS AND CONDUCIVE TO COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

THE 18-1/2 PER CENT PROFITS TAX WAS EXTREMELY LOW COMPARED WITH INDUSTRIALISED ECONOMIES IN THE WORLD WHILE THE PERSONAL TAX WAS AT A MAXIMUM OF 17 PER CENT.

HE LISTED OTHER FEATURES:

- * NO RESTRICTION ON IMPORTS OF MATERIAL, EQUIPMENT AND PRODUCTS;
- * PROFITS AND CAPITAL CAN BE FREELY CONVERTED AND REMITTED;
- * THE BANKING AND FINANCIAL SYSTEM CAN BE RELIED UPON TO BACK COMMERCIALLY SOUND PROJECTS;
- * HONG KONG PRODUCTS ENJOY MOST FAVOURED NATION TREATMENT IN WORLD MARKETS AND HAVE EARNED A REPUTATION FOR QUALITY AND RELIABILITY;
- * EXCELLENT COMMUNICATION, TRANSPORT AND OTHER INFRASTRUCTURAL FACILITIES;

* A GOVERNMENT FULLY COMMITTED TO A FREE MARKET ECONOMY WITH NO UNNECESSARY INTERFERENCE IN ANY SECTOR OF THE ECONOMY;

* INDUSTRIOUS AND QUICK-TO-LEARN WORKERS; AND

* WELL TRAINED AND EXPERIENCED MANAGEMENT EXECUTIVES WHO ARE FULLY FAMILIAR WITH INTERNATIONAL TRADING AND COMMERCIAL PRACTICES.

SIR EDWARD ADDED THAT HONG KONG COULD PROVIDE A CONVENIENT AND EFFECTIVE BASE FOR TRADE AND INVESTMENT IN CHINA, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO ITS SOUTHERN REGIONS NEAR HONG KONG.

+HONG KONG IS WELL PLACED TO ASSIST IN FACILITATING JAPANESE TRADE AND INVESTMENT WITH CHINA, TO THE MUTUAL BENEFIT OF ALL CONCERNED,+ HE SAID.

REFERRING TO MUCH IMPROVED TECHNOLOGICAL FACILITIES, SIR EDWARD EMPHASISED THE OPPORTUNITIES WHICH HONG KONG OFFERED TO JAPAN AS A BASE FOR OFF-SHORE MANUFACTURING OPERATIONS INVOLVING HIGHER TECHNOLOGICAL PROCESSES RATHER THAN SIMPLY AS A BASE FOR ASSEMBLY WORK.

GIVEN HONG KONG'S ENHANCED ABILITY TO PRODUCE QUALITY PRODUCTS, GOOD INDUSTRIAL DESIGN AND HIGH STANDARD EQUIPMENT CALIBRATION SERVICES, HE URGED JAPANESE MANUFACTURERS TO INVEST IN THE METALS, LIGHT ENGINEERING AND PLASTICS INDUSTRIES WHICH HAD GOOD EXPORT PROSPECTS BOTH DIRECTLY AND BY SUPPLYING HONG KONG ELECTRONIC INDUSTRIES.

HE ADDED THAT JAPANESE MANUFACTURERS OF ELECTRONIC MEASUREMENT EQUIPMENT WOULD ALSO FIND GOOD OPPORTUNITIES IN HONG KONG AS ITS ELECTRONIC FIRMS PROVIDED A READY LOCAL CLIENTELE.

ON HONG KONG'S TRADE WITH JAPAN, SIR EDWARD SAID THERE WAS CONCERN ABOUT THE GAP THAT EXISTED.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE VALUE OF TRADE BETWEEN HONG KONG AND JAPAN HAD INCREASED BY 67 PER CENT IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS TO OVER US\$8.1 BILLION IN 1985, BUT THE RATIO OF IMPORTS FROM JAPAN TO DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO JAPAN HAD INCREASED FROM 10 TO ONE IN 1983 TO 12 TO ONE IN 1985.

HE SAID AS A FIRM BELIEVER OF FREE TRADE, HONG KONG MADE NO COMPLAINT ABOUT JAPANESE EXPORTS TO IT, BUT THERE WAS DEEP CONCERN OVER THE GREAT DIFFICULTY OF OBTAINING ENTRY FOR HONG KONG PRODUCTS INTO THE JAPANESE MARKET.

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+WE FOR OUR PART MUST INCREASE OUR EFFORTS TO PROMOTE EXPORTS TO JAPAN AND SEEK A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE REQUIREMENTS AND PREFERENCES OF THE JAPANESE MARKET.

+AT THE SAME TIME THERE ARE POSITIVE MEASURES WHICH JAPAN ON ITS PART COULD TAKE TO ALLEVIATE THIS SEVERE IMBALANCE IN TRADE,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID ONE WAY WAS FOR JAPANESE MANUFACTURERS TO SPEED UP THE ESTABLISHMENT OF OFF-SHORE MANUFACTURING PROCESSES IN HONG KONG.

+THE SALE OF THESE MANUFACTURED OR SEMI-MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS FROM THESE BASES BACK TO JAPAN FOR CONSUMPTION SHOULD HELP REDUCE THE MARKETING PROBLEMS WHICH HONG KONG PRODUCTS FACE IN JAPAN AND HELP REDUCE THE TRADE IMBALANCE,+ HE SAID.

THE PROCESS COULD ALSO AT THE SAME TIME PROVE TO BE VERY PROFITABLE FOR THE JAPANESE INVESTORS, FOR THE JAPANESE CONSUMER AND GOOD FOR JAPAN, HE ADDED.

IN THE MORE IMMEDIATE TERM, SIR EDWARD SAID JAPANESE TARIFF RATES FOR ITEMS OF INTEREST TO HONG KONG COULD BE FURTHER REDUCED.

ON TOYS, HE NOTED THAT SATISFACTORY PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE SINCE HIS LAST VISIT IN ACQUIRING THE +ST+ (SAFETY TOY) MARK FOR HONG KONG TOY EXPORTS TO JAPAN.

HE SAID THE JAPAN TOY ASSOCIATION HAD FORMALLY RECOGNISED CERTAIN STANDARDS AND CALIBRATION CENTRES IN HONG KONG AS BEING COMPETENT TO PROVIDE TESTING FACILITIES IN HONG KONG FOR OBTAINING THE +ST+ MARK.

SIR EDWARD SAID HONG KONG HAD A WIDE RANGE OF PRODUCTS WHICH COULD BE OF INTEREST TO THE JAPANESE CONSUMER, AT A COMPETITIVE PRICE, AND OF A QUALITY WHICH COULD MEET JAPANESE REQUIREMENTS.

IT WAS HOPED THAT THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS WOULD IDENTIFY FURTHER MEANS BY WHICH ANY OBSTACLES TO THE ENTRY OF SUCH PRODUCTS COULD BE OVERCOME, WHETHER THESE OBSTACLES BE REAL OR PSYCHOLOGICAL, HE SAID.

+OUR PRODUCTS ARE GOOD, OUR PRICES INCREASINGLY COMPETITIVE AND SUCH IMPORTS WOULD REDUCE JAPAN'S OVERALL TRADE SURPLUS WHICH IS OF SUCH CONCERN TO THE REST OF THE WORLD,+ SIR EDWARD ADDED.

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IMPROVED DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN FIRST QUARTER
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THE DECLINE IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS DURING MOST OF 1985 APPEARS TO HAVE STOPPED, AS INDICATED BY THE GROWTH RATE (ON A YEAR-ON-YEAR COMPARISON) OF ABOUT 1 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS IN BOTH THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1985 AND THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1986, ACCORDING TO THE FIRST QUARTER ECONOMIC REPORT 1986 PUBLISHED TODAY.

LATEST FIGURES ON THE ORDER-BOOK POSITIONS IN MANUFACTURING AND ON RETAINED IMPORTS OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES SUGGEST A CONTINUED IMPROVEMENT IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY IN THE SECOND QUARTER.

DOMESTIC DEMAND ALSO SHOWED SOME IMPROVEMENT IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1986 COMPARED WITH THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1985. REFLECTING THIS, RETAINED IMPORTS OF CONSUMER GOODS GREW BY 6 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS, OF FOODSTUFFS BY 16 PER CENT, AND OF CAPITAL GOODS BY 3 PER CENT.

THE REPORT NOTES THAT THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE REMAINED LARGELY STABLE WHILE THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE ROSE A LITTLE DURING THE 12 MONTHS ENDING MARCH 1986.

ACCORDING TO THE NEW SERIES OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT STATISTICS COMPILED SINCE JANUARY 1985, THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1986 WAS 3.2 PER CENT, COMPARED WITH THE RATE OF 3.1 PER CENT RECORDED IN BOTH THE FIRST AND THE FOURTH QUARTERS OF 1985.

THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE, AT 2.3 PER CENT, WAS THE SAME AS IN THE PRECEDING QUARTER BUT HIGHER THAN IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1985, AT 1.5 PER CENT.

THE RATE OF INFLATION REMAINED AT A LOW LEVEL IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1986. THE YEAR-ON-YEAR RATE OF INCREASE IN THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) WAS 2.6 PER CENT, COMPARED WITH 3.4 PER CENT IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1985 AND 2.9 PER CENT IN THE FOURTH QUARTER.

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (B) WAS ON AVERAGE 3.2 PER CENT HIGHER IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR THAN IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1985, WHILE THE HANG SENG CONSUMER PRICE INDEX WAS 4.6 PER CENT HIGHER.

THE REPORT ASSESSES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1986 USING SUCH STATISTICS AS ARE CURRENTLY AVAILABLE. IT ALSO UPDATES THE ANALYSIS OF THE ECONOMY WHICH WAS GIVEN IN THE 1985 ECONOMIC BACKGROUND PUBLISHED ON BUDGET DAY.

APART FROM GIVING AN OVERALL VIEW, THE REPORT ALSO CONTAINS INDIVIDUAL CHAPTERS ON THE EXTERNAL SECTOR, THE FINANCIAL SECTOR, THE LABOUR SECTOR, ACTIVITY IN SELECTED SECTORS AND PRICES.

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ON THE EXTERNAL SECTOR, THE REPORT NOTES THAT THE PERFORMANCE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO HONG KONG'S MAJOR MARKETS VARIED. WHILE DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO MOST MAJOR MARKETS RECORDED SOME GROWTH IN REAL TERMS IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1986, THOSE TO CHINA AND TO THE UNITED KINGDOM DECLINED.

IMPROVED ECONOMIC GROWTH AND STOCK REPLENISHMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AS WELL AS THE DEPRECIATION OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR AGAINST MOST MAJOR CURRENCIES LIKE THE DEUTSCHEMARK AND THE YEN WERE PROBABLY THE MAIN FACTORS BEHIND THE RECOVERY IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES, JAPAN AND SOME EUROPEAN MARKETS.

HOWEVER, DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CHINA CONTINUED TO BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY CHINA'S INCREASED CONTROLS OVER ITS FOREIGN EXCHANGE SPENDING.

COMPARING THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1986 WITH THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1985, RE-EXPORTS DECLINED BY AN ESTIMATED 6 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS, WITH MOST OF THE DECREASE OCCURRING IN RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA. HOWEVER, IMPORTS GREW BY ABOUT 1 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS, AND RETAINED IMPORTS GREW BY ABOUT 7 PER CENT.

THE REPORT FURTHER POINTS OUT THAT OVER THIS PERIOD, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS (DOMESTIC EXPORTS PLUS RE-EXPORTS) DECLINED BY 2 PER CENT, WHILE THE VALUE OF IMPORTS GREW BY 3 PER CENT.

AS A RESULT A VISIBLE TRADE GAP OF 5 PER CENT WAS RECORDED IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR, COMPARED WITH A VISIBLE TRADE SURPLUS EQUIVALENT TO 1 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1985.

ON THE FINANCIAL SECTOR, THE REPORT NOTES THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENTS. FIRST, THE EXCHANGE RATE OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR REMAINED STEADY AGAINST THE U.S. DOLLAR AND MOVED WITHIN THE NARROW RANGE OF HK\$7.80 TO HK\$7.82 PER U.S. DOLLAR THROUGHOUT THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1986, NOTWITHSTANDING THE GLOBAL WEAKNESS OF THE U.S. DOLLAR DURING MOST OF THIS PERIOD.

SECOND, HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS CONTINUED TO RECORD A STABLE GROWTH RATE IN THE FIRST QUARTER, WHILE FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS CONTINUED TO GROW RAPIDLY, REFLECTING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG AS AN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRE. THE MONEY SUPPLY SHOWED SIMILAR CHANGES.

THIRD, HONG KONG DOLLAR MONEY MARKET RATES WERE SLIGHTLY BELOW THE CORRESPONDING U.S. DOLLAR INTEREST RATES THROUGHOUT THE FIRST QUARTER BUT THE GAP NARROWED TOWARDS THE END OF THE QUARTER.

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ON THE LABOUR SECTOR, THE REPORT OBSERVES THAT, COMPARING DECEMBER 1985 WITH DECEMBER 1984, EMPLOYMENT IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR AND ON BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION SITES DECREASED WHILE EMPLOYMENT IN THE EXTERNAL AND DISTRIBUTIVE TRADE SECTORS AND IN THE FINANCE AND OTHER RELATED BUSINESS SERVICES SECTORS INCREASED. IN CONSEQUENCE, TOTAL EMPLOYMENT SHOWED LITTLE CHANGE DURING 1985, FOLLOWING AN INCREASE OF 5 PER CENT DURING 1984.

THE REPORT FURTHER SAYS THAT COMPARING DECEMBER 1985 WITH DECEMBER 1984, EARNINGS IN THE MANUFACTURING AND THE SERVICES SECTORS, IN TERMS OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED, INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY IN MONEY TERMS AND IN REAL TERMS. CONSTRUCTION WAGE RATES, WHICH HAD BEEN ON A DECLINING TREND FOR SOME TIME, ALSO RECORDED A SMALL INCREASE.

THE REPORT OBSERVES THAT MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY SLOWED DOWN IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1985, SO THAT FOR THE YEAR AS A WHOLE, THE QUANTITY OF MANUFACTURING OUTPUT WAS 5 PER CENT LOWER THAN IN 1984. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE TEXTILES INDUSTRY, PRODUCTION IN ALL MAJOR INDUSTRIES DECREASED IN 1985.

ON THE PROPERTY SECTOR, THE REPORT NOTES THE FOLLOWING FEATURES. FIRST, THE RATE OF TAKE-UP FOR MOST TYPES OF FINISHED PROPERTY REMAINED AT A REASONABLY HIGH LEVEL IN 1985. APART FROM FLATTED FACTORIES, THE VACANCY RATES FOR ALL MAIN TYPES OF PROPERTY AT THE END OF 1985 WERE LOWER THAN A YEAR AGO.

SECOND, THE UPTREND IN PRICES AND RENTALS OF PROPERTY, WHICH STARTED IN MID-1984, APPEARS TO HAVE CONTINUED, ALBEIT AT A SLOWER RATE, IN LATE 1985 AND IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1986.

THIRD, DEMAND FOR PROPERTY APPEARS TO HAVE REMAINED FAIRLY STRONG, NOTWITHSTANDING THE SLOWER ECONOMIC GROWTH IN 1985.

ON PRICES, THE REPORT SAYS THAT THE LOW RATE OF INFLATION IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1986 WAS DUE TO A NUMBER OF FAVOURABLE DOMESTIC AND EXTERNAL FACTORS. FOR EXAMPLE, AGGREGATE DEMAND IN THE ECONOMY WAS NOT SO STRONG AS TO IMPOSE UNDUE PRESSURE ON THE AGGREGATE SUPPLY OF RESOURCES, THE RATES OF INFLATION IN HONG KONG'S MAJOR TRADING PARTNERS WERE MODERATE, AND WORLD COMMODITY PRICES GENERALLY AND PRICES OF CRUDE OIL AND OIL PRODUCTS IN PARTICULAR REMAINED SOFT.

NEVERTHELESS, THE REPORT CAUTIONED THAT TWO OTHER DEVELOPMENTS COULD HAVE ADVERSE EFFECTS ON THE PRICES OF IMPORTS INTO HONG KONG, AND HENCE ON CONSUMER PRICES.

FIRST, SINCE THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1985, THE HONG KONG DOLLAR, BECAUSE OF ITS LINK WITH THE U.S. DOLLAR, HAS BEEN DEPRECIATING AGAINST MOST MAJOR CURRENCIES, WITH THE IMPORTANT EXCEPTION OF THE RENMINBI.

SECOND, CHINA'S RECENT SUCCESS IN CONTROLLING EXPORTS TO HONG KONG THROUGH UNOFFICIAL CHANNELS, WHICH TEND TO BE CHEAPER THAN THOSE TRADED THROUGH OFFICIAL CHANNELS, COULD OFFSET TO SOME EXTENT THE FAVOURABLE IMPACT ON PRICES OF IMPORTS FROM CHINA RESULTING FROM THE DEPRECIATION OF THE RENMINBI.

THE FIRST QUARTER ECONOMIC REPORT 1986 IS ON SALE AT \$8 A COPY.

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WARNING OF LUNCH BOXES WITH HOT CONTENTS
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THE GROWING COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE OF LUNCH BOXES, SPECIALLY FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS, MEANS THAT THE FOOD TRADE HAS AN ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE THAT THE CONTENTS ARE NOT TAINTED.

MR JOHN HEYWOOD, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBLE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS, SAID THIS AT TODAY'S PRESS CONFERENCE ON THE RECENT CASES OF FOOD POISONING.

MR HEYWOOD SAID THAT NEW PATTERNS OF EATING FOOD WERE EMERGING IN THE COMMUNITY THROUGH THE RAPID GROWTH OF FAST-FOOD OUTLETS.

FOR EXAMPLE, IT WAS BECOMING THE NORM NOWADAYS FOR SCHOOLS TO SEND OUT TO NEARBY RESTAURANTS FOR LUNCH BOXES FOR THEIR STUDENTS, RATHER THAN HAVING COOKS PREPARE LUNCHES IN SCHOOL CANTEENS.

WHILE THIS WAS ACCEPTABLE IN PRINCIPLE, HEALTH PROBLEMS COULD ARISE IF HOT MEALS WERE COOKED AND BOXED BEFORE MID-MORNING, AND LEFT SEALED BEFORE DELIVERY TO SCHOOLS AT LUNCH-TIME.

IF SUCH LUNCH BOXES WITH THEIR HOT CONTENTS WERE LEFT STANDING FOR SOME HOURS, THE RISK OF BACTERIAL GROWTH WAS VERY REAL, HE SAID.

HE SINGLED OUT AS SUSPECT ANY RESTAURANTS WHICH MIGHT PREPARE FOOD BOXES IN THE MORNING AND LEAVE THEM SEALED FOR SOME HOURS WHILE THE RESTAURANT GOT ON WITH PREPARATIONS FOR ITS NORMAL LUNCH-HOUR TRADE ON ITS OWN PREMISES.

ON MOBILE ICE-CREAM VANS, MR HEYWOOD SAID THAT SPOT INSPECTIONS OF THESE FOOD SUPPLIERS WOULD BE STEPPED UP AS PART OF THE GENERAL REINFORCEMENT ACTION TO BE TAKEN BY THE USD.

/THESE VENDORS

THESE VENDORS WERE PROHIBITED BY LAW FROM RE-USING ANY ICE-CREAM LEFT OVER FROM THE PREVIOUS DAY'S TRADING.

HEALTH INSPECTORS WOULD BE TAKING A CLOSE LOOK IN FUTURE AT THE OPERATIONS OF THESE VANS, OF WHICH FOUR OPERATE ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND 14 IN KOWLOON, SAID MR YEWOOD.

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JAPANESE FIRMS TOLD OF OPPORTUNITIES

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JAPAN ACCOUNTS FOR JUST OVER 21 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF OVERSEAS INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES BUT THIS REPRESENTS ONLY A PART OF THE OPPORTUNITIES WHICH HONG KONG NOW OFFERS TO JAPANESE FIRMS, THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR K.Y. YEUNG SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE YKK FACTORY BUILDING IN TUEN MUN, MR YEUNG SAID DURING THE PAST 15 MONTHS, NINE JAPANESE FIRMS HAD EITHER COME TO HONG KONG FOR THE FIRST TIME OR EXPANDED THEIR OPERATIONS HERE, AND SIX OTHERS WERE KNOWN TO BE PLANNING TO SET UP MANUFACTURING OPERATIONS THIS YEAR.

+TOTAL NEW INVESTMENT FROM JAPAN IN 1985 AND 1986 IS LIKELY TO REACH \$800 MILLION,+ HE SAID.

IN OUTLINING THE OPPORTUNITIES WHICH HONG KONG COULD OFFER TO JAPANESE INVESTORS, MR YEUNG SAID HONG KONG WAS A WORTHWHILE MARKET IN ITSELF FOR INVESTMENT IN THE MANUFACTURE OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS.

+GROSS MANUFACTURING OUTPUT IN 1983 WAS \$160 BILLION AND IT HAS INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY SINCE THEN. THIS REPRESENTS A SUBSTANTIAL MARKET FOR LOCAL MANUFACTURING.+

MR YEUNG NOTED THAT THE SAME POINT HELD TRUE AS REGARDS THE MARKET FOR CONSUMER GOODS AS HONG KONG'S POPULATION HAD AN ANNUAL PER CAPITA GDP OF OVER U.S.\$6 000, REPRESENTING CONSIDERABLE PURCHASING POWER.

+HONG KONG IS THEREFORE A POTENTIAL PROFIT CENTRE, RATHER THAN SIMPLY SOMEWHERE WHERE JAPANESE FIRMS CAN MANUFACTURE MORE CHEAPLY THAN AT HOME+, HE SAID.

THERE WERE OTHER AREAS INVOLVING MORE MATURE TECHNOLOGIES FOR WHICH HONG KONG OFFERED GOOD OPPORTUNITIES FOR INVESTMENT SUCH AS PRECISION METAL WORKING AND PRECISION PLASTIC MOULDING, PRODUCING PRECISION PARTS FOR OUR ELECTRONICS, ELECTRICAL, PHOTOGRAPHIC, WATCH AND TOY INDUSTRIES.

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+AN INCREASED DOMESTIC SUPPLY OF HIGH QUALITY PRECISION PARTS WOULD GIVE A BOOST TO OUR LOCAL DESIGNERS AND MANUFACTURERS, WOULD BROADEN THE RANGE OF HONG KONG PRODUCTS, AND WOULD BENEFIT OUR EXPORTS.+

MR YEUNG SAID A THIRD PRODUCT AREA WAS THE MANUFACTURE OF ELECTRONIC PRECISION TESTING EQUIPMENT.

+HONG KONG'S STANDARDS AND CALIBRATION LABORATORY, WHICH PROVIDES CALIBRATION AND CERTIFICATION SERVICES FOR SUCH EQUIPMENT, WILL SOON BE ACCREDITED BY THE BRITISH CALIBRATION SERVICES, AND THUS BE ABLE TO PROVIDE INTERNATIONALLY TRACEABLE PRIMARY PHYSICAL STANDARDS NOT ONLY FOR MANUFACTURERS OF ELECTRONIC CONSUMER PRODUCTS AND COMPONENTS BUT ALSO FOR MAKERS OF MEASUREMENT EQUIPMENT.+

ON THE GOVERNMENT'S PART, MR YEUNG SAID IT ALREADY INVESTED HEAVILY IN MANPOWER TRAINING, THROUGH ITS EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME, AND IN CAPITAL INFRASTRUCTURE, THROUGH THE PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME.

+IN ADDITION TO THIS THE GOVERNMENT IS BEGINNING TO INVEST HEAVILY IN THE CREATION OF TECHNOLOGICAL FACILITIES IN SUPPORT OF OUR MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.

+AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND IT IS HOPEFUL THAT, WHEN OVERSEAS MANUFACTURERS HAVING USEFUL TECHNOLOGY START LOOKING AROUND FOR A SUITABLE OFF-SHORE MANUFACTURING BASE IN THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION, THEY WILL SEE IN HONG KONG A PLACE IN WHICH THEY MAY NOT ONLY ACHIEVE SUBSTANTIAL PROFITS BUT ALSO FIND ADEQUATE INFRASTRUCTURAL SUPPORT FOR THEIR OPERATIONS,+ MR YEUNG ADDED.

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AUCTION OF VICTORIA BARRACKS SITE
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THE LAST SITE FOR SALE IN VICTORIA BARRACKS WILL BE AUCTIONED TOMORROW (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON.

THE 16 150-SQUARE-METRE SITE AT SUPREME COURT ROAD, KNOWN AS INLAND LOT NO. 8582, IS NEXT TO THE PLOT SWIRE PROPERTIES BOUGHT FOR \$703 MILLION IN APRIL LAST YEAR FOR HOTEL-OFFICE DEVELOPMENT.

IT IS FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL (EXCLUDING GODOWN) DEVELOPMENT.

THE PURCHASER WILL BE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE AT LEAST 96 000 SQUARE METRES OF GROSS FLOOR AREA ON THE SITE BEFORE JUNE 30, 1992.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE AUCTION AT THE CITY HALL THEATRE STARTING AT 2.30 PM.

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REVISED FARES FOR MORE GREEN MINIBUS SERVICES
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT HAS GIVEN APPROVAL FOR ANOTHER SIX GREEN MINIBUS PACKAGES IN KOWLOON, COMPRISING 13 ROUTES, TO INCREASE THEIR FARES FROM SUNDAY (JUNE 1).

THESE ROUTES OPERATE IN MONG KOK, HUNG HOM, TO KWA WAN, KOWLOON CITY, KOWLOON TONG, KWUN TONG, TSIM SHA TSUI AND SHAM SHUI PO. THE FARE INCREASES RANGE FROM 20 TO 50 CENTS AND TEN OF THEM WILL CHARGE UP TO THE NEW FARE CEILINGS.

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID APPROVAL WAS GIVEN AFTER CAREFUL EXAMINATION OF THE OPERATING DETAILS AND FINANCIAL RETURNS SUBMITTED BY THE GREEN MINIBUS OPERATORS.

APPROVAL HAS NOW BEEN GIVEN FOR 12 GREEN MINIBUS PACKAGES IN KOWLOON, COVERING 25 ROUTES, TO INCREASE THEIR FARES SINCE THE FARE CEILINGS FOR GREEN MINIBUS SERVICES WERE REVISED IN FEBRUARY. FARES FOR SIX GREEN MINIBUS PACKAGES, COMPRISING 12 ROUTES, WERE REVISED ON MAY 1.

THE OPERATORS ARE REQUIRED TO INFORM PASSENGERS OF THE FARE REVISION BY PUTTING NOTICES AT GREEN MINIBUS TERMINI AND INSIDE THE VEHICLES, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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MACAU GOVERNOR ARRIVING
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THE NEW MACAU GOVERNOR, DR JOAQUIM PINTO MACHADO, WILL ARRIVE IN HONG KONG TOMORROW (TUESDAY) BY FLIGHT BA3, ETA 3.45 PM.

HE WILL LEAVE FOR MACAU ON WEDNESDAY (MAY 28).

NOTE TO EDITORS:

A PHOTOGRAPHIC FACILITY HAS BEEN ARRANGED FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER DR MACHADO'S ARRIVAL. THOSE COVERING THE EVENT SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE AIRPORT PRESS ROOM BY 3.15 PM.

GIS OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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MONDAY, MAY 26, 1986

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DB MEMBERS BRIEFED ON FIRE FIGHTING
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KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS TODAY (MONDAY) HAD A CLOSE LOOK AT THE WORK OF THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT WHEN THEY VISITED THE TSIM SHA TSUI FIRE STATION AND THE KOWLOON COMMUNICATION CENTRE.

THE VISIT WAS PART OF A CONTINUING PROGRAMME ARRANGED BY THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE FOR BOARD MEMBERS TO FAMILIARISE THEMSELVES WITH THE OPERATIONS OF VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

ACCOMPANIED BY STAFF OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE, THE DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR WONG SIK-KONG, AND BOARD MEMBERS FIRST WENT TO THE TSIM SHA TSUI FIRE STATION IN CANTON ROAD WHERE THEY WERE MET BY THE KOWLOON CHIEF OFFICER, MR JOHN BREADBURY, AND THE DEPUTY CHIEF OFFICER, MR WOO KWAN-KUEN.

MEMBERS WERE BRIEFED BY THE ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL FIRE OFFICER OF TSIM SHA TSUI FIRE STATION, MR AU YEUNG SHIU-SHING, ON THE WORK AND ORGANISATION OF THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

THEY THEN VISITED THE FIRE SERVICES COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE TO SEE HOW THE DEPARTMENT DEALT WITH EMERGENCY CALLS AND HOW FIRE ENGINES AND AMBULANCES WERE DISPATCHED TO THE SCENE WITHIN THE MINIMUM TIME SET ACCORDING TO THE CATEGORY OF RISK.

DURING THE TOUR, MEMBERS WATCHED A DEMONSTRATION INVOLVING VARIOUS FIRE FIGHTING APPLIANCES AND SPECIAL EQUIPMENT. THEY WERE ALSO SHOWN HOW FIRE BOATS FIGHT FIRES ON SHIPS.

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PRIZE WINNERS BOUND FOR SINGAPORE
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THREE SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS WHO WON THE TOP PRIZES IN THE LABORATORY SAFETY PROMOTION KIT CONTEST WILL LEAVE FOR SINGAPORE ON WEDNESDAY (MAY 28).

THE THREE WINNERS ARE CHUI CHI-HUNG OF TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS YAU TZE TIN MEMORIAL COLLEGE, CHEUNG CHOR-YIN OF CHENG CHEK CHEE SECONDARY SCHOOL, SAI KUNG AND HANG HAU DISTRICT, AND LUI TAK-KEUNG OF ST LOUIS SCHOOL. THEY WILL ATTEND THE SINGAPORE YOUTH SCIENCE FORTNIGHT DUE TO START LATER THIS WEEK.

THE ANNUAL EVENT AIMS AT GIVING YOUNG PEOPLE DEEPER INSIGHT INTO SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

/THE WINNERS

THE WINNERS HAVE ALSO BEEN AWARDED BOOK COUPONS RANGING FROM \$200 TO \$1 000 FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING ENTRIES.

THE COMPETITION, INTENDED TO PROMOTE AWARENESS OF LABORATORY SAFETY IN SCHOOLS AND TO DEVELOP PUPILS' COMMUNICATIVE SKILLS, WAS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP OF THE SHELL COMPANY OF HONG KONG LIMITED.

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WORKING GROUP TO DISCUSS TRAFFIC
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THE NEW TERRITORIES EAST INTER-DISTRICT WORKING GROUP ON LION ROCK TUNNEL TRAFFIC PROBLEMS, WILL MEET TOMORROW (TUESDAY) AT 2.30 PM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD, SIXTH FLOOR, KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN STATION.

MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP WILL CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS ON A PRE-PAID TUNNEL TICKET SCHEME, TRAFFIC FLOW ON LION ROCK TUNNEL ROAD, TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENT SCHEME FOR WATERLOO ROAD AND AN AUTO-TOLL AT THE LION ROCK TUNNEL.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE MEETING.

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DETAILS OF ANTI-NARCOTICS VARIETY SHOW
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A PRESS CONFERENCE TO ANNOUNCE DETAILS OF THE ANTI-NARCOTICS VARIETY SHOW 1986 WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY (MAY 28) AT 3 PM AT THE SAIL FISH ROOM, SECOND FLOOR, ABERDEEN MARINER CLUB, 8 SHUM WAN ROAD IN WONG CHUK HANG.

ORGANISED BY THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS AS THE MAIN EVENT IN ITS PREVENTIVE EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY PROGRAMME FOR THE YEAR, THE VARIETY SHOW WILL BE HELD ON JUNE 8 AT THE HONG KONG COLISEUM IN HUNG HOM.

THE CONCERT WILL BE PRODUCED AND BROADCAST LIVE BY HONG KONG TELEVISION BROADCASTS LTD.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRESS CONFERENCE ON WEDNESDAY AT 3 PM. TRANSPORT FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WILL LEAVE FOR THE ABERDEEN MARINER CLUB FROM THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES CAR PARK, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, BY 2.30 PM.

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SHORT INSURANCE COURSES TO BE OFFERED
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THE INSURANCE TRAINING CENTRE OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL WILL BECOME OPERATIONAL IN OCTOBER TO PROVIDE A BROAD RANGE OF COURSES FOR EMPLOYEES IN THE INSURANCE SECTOR.

THE WORK-BASED PART-TIME COURSES WOULD ENABLE EMPLOYEES TO FUNCTION EFFICIENTLY IN WORK SITUATION AT ALL STAGES OF THEIR CAREER, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE COUNCIL'S INSURANCE TRAINING BOARD, WHICH OVERSEES THE OPERATION OF THE CENTRE, SAID.

THESE COURSES COULD BE REGARDED AS SUPPLEMENTARY TO LONG-TERM INSURANCE COURSES OFFERED AT EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS AS WELL, HE ADDED.

THE NEED FOR TRAINING IN PART-TIME DAY RELEASE AND EVENING COURSES OF SHORT DURATION HAS BEEN STRESSED BY EMPLOYERS INTERVIEWED IN A MANPOWER SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE BOARD LAST JUNE.

AT THE TIME OF THE SURVEY, EMPLOYERS FORECAST THAT THE INDUSTRY WOULD REQUIRE 1 560 ADDITIONAL STAFF IN THE FOLLOWING 12 MONTHS.

IN VIEW OF EXISTING COMPANIES OPENING MORE BRANCHES AND MORE NEW COMPANIES MOVING TO HONG KONG, THE BOARD ESTIMATED THAT THE DEMAND FOR QUALIFIED AND WELL-TRAINED INSURANCE PERSONNEL WOULD BE GREATER IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

THE SURVEY ALSO REVEALED THAT THE WORKFORCE OF THE INDUSTRY HAD RISEN FROM 8 700 IN 1983 TO 9 400 IN 1985, REPRESENTING AN EIGHT PER CENT GROWTH RATE.

THE SURVEY REPORT IS AVAILABLE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE AT \$15 A COPY.

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MONDAY, MAY 26, 1986

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CIVIC ACTIVITIES FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
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THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD WILL SPONSOR A SERIES OF CIVIC EDUCATION ACTIVITIES TO ENHANCE CIVIC AWARENESS AMONG PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN THE DISTRICT.

ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT'S SCHOOL LIAISON COMMITTEE, ACTIVITIES WILL INCLUDE AN URBAN ORIENTEERING COMPETITION, AN EDUCATION CAMP, INTER-SCHOOL DEBATES, DRAWING COMPETITIONS, CAREER VISITS AND A CARNIVAL.

THE FIRST ACTIVITY, THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT CIVIC EDUCATION URBAN ORIENTEERING COMPETITION, WILL BE HELD ON JUNE 7.

THE COMPETITION IS SPECIALLY DESIGNED TO WIDEN THE KNOWLEDGE OF STUDENTS ON THE SOCIAL SERVICE FACILITIES PROVIDED IN THE DISTRICT.

IN THE COMPETITION, STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO VISIT SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS IN THE DISTRICT WITHIN A SET TIME LIMIT. THE TEAM OF STUDENTS THAT VISITS THE MOST NUMBER OF ORGANISATIONS WILL WIN.

PARTICIPATION ARE INVITED FROM PRIMARY 5 TO 6 AND FORM 1 TO 4 STUDENTS. THOSE WISHING TO TAKE PART IN THE EVENT MAY APPLY THROUGH THEIR SCHOOLS. ENTRIES CLOSE ON THURSDAY (MAY 29).

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PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE TO BE BUILT AT SHA TIN
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A PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE AND CYCLE TRACK IS TO BE BUILT IN WESTERN SHA TIN AS PART OF CONTINUING DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW TOWN.

THEY WILL CONNECT WITH NEWLY-CONSTRUCTED CYCLE TRACKS ALONG THE PROMENADE ON BOTH SIDES OF FO TAN NULLAH.

OTHER WORKS INCLUDED IN THE PROJECT ARE CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITIONAL PEDESTRIAN-CYCLE TRACK LINKS AND ROAD SURFACING IN VARIOUS AREAS WITHIN THE NEW TOWN.

THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE PROJECT WHICH IS EXPECTED TO START IN JULY AND BE COMPLETED IN 12 MONTHS.

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MONDAY, MAY 26, 1986

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NEW ROAD FOR SHAU KEI WAN

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A SECTION OF SHAU KEI WAN MAIN STREET EAST IS TO BE REPLACED BY A NEW ONE-WAY ROAD TO BE CONSTRUCTED BETWEEN TAM KUNG TEMPLE AND A KUNG NGAM ROAD.

THE NEW ROAD, MEASURING 100 METRES, WILL BE CONSTRUCTED TO THE SOUTH OF THE EXISTING STREET.

A HIGHWAYS OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID THE REPLACEMENT ROAD WAS NEEDED IN CONNECTION WITH CONSTRUCTION OF SHAU KEI WAN SEWAGE SCREENING PLANT.

OTHER WORKS INCLUDE CONSTRUCTION OF A TWO-WAY CARRIAGEWAY BETWEEN THE TEMPLE AND SEA-FRONT, AND THE REPROVISIONING OF A SHRINE AT A SITE ADJACENT TO A KUNG NGAM VILLAGE ROAD.

THE PLAN AND SCHEME ARE PUBLISHED IN THE LATEST GAZETTE AND ANYONE OBJECTING TO THEM SHOULD WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS BY JULY 22.

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SMITHFIELD CATTLE DEPOT VACATED

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THE GOVERNMENT'S CATTLE QUARANTINE DEPOT AT SMITHFIELD ON HONG KONG ISLAND WAS VACATED THIS (MONDAY) MORNING THREE WEEKS BEFORE ITS OFFICIAL CLOSURE ON JUNE 17.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT SAID THE OWNERS CONCERNED SPENT JUST UNDER TWO HOURS IN REMOVING ALL THEIR CATTLE FROM THE DEPOT.

+DEPARTMENT STAFF ARE CLEANING UP THE DEPOT AND MAKING IT READY FOR HANDING OVER TO THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE DEPOT'S FUNCTIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN OVER BY THE KENNEDY TOWN ABATTOIR.

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MONDAY, MAY 26, 1986

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FIVE-MONTH CLOSURE OF HUNG HING ROAD

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TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF HUNG HING ROAD FLYOVER, THE SECTION OF HUNG HING ROAD BETWEEN THE EXIT OF THE WAN CHAI CARGO HANDLING BASIN AND THE NEWLY OPENED ROAD CONNECTING WAN CHING STREET AND HUNG HING ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FOR ABOUT FIVE MONTHS FROM 10 AM ON THURSDAY (MAY 29).

DURING THE CLOSURE, THE SECTION OF HUNG HING ROAD EAST OF THE ENTRANCE OF THE CARGO HANDLING BASIN WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY WESTBOUND.

VEHICLES ON HUNG HING ROAD HEADING FOR ROYAL HONG KONG YACHT CLUB AND POLICE OFFICERS' CLUB WILL HAVE TO TRAVEL VIA WAN SHING STREET SOUTHBOUND AND THE NEWLY OPENED ROAD CONNECTING WAN SHING STREET AND HUNG HING ROAD.

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TAI PO WATER CUT

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN TAI PO WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 11 PM ON THURSDAY (MAY 29) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR NIGHT LEAKAGE TEST.

THE AFFECTED PREMISES ARE BOUNDED BY PLOVER COVE ROAD, PO YICK STREET, TSING YUEN STREET, KWONG FUK ROAD, AND TUNG CHEONG STREET, INCLUDING LUK HEUNG LANE, ON FU ROAD, PO HEUNG STREET, TUNG MAU SQUARE, TUNG SAU SQUARE AND TUNG FAT SQUARE.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 46.5 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 272.482 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 320.648 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 54.7 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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