



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1977

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DEMAND FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORT CONTINUES TO GROW

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THE DEMAND FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORT FACILITIES CONTINUES TO GROW AND THE NUMBER OF PASSENGERS USING FRANCHISED BUS SERVICES IN THE FIRST TEN MONTHS THIS YEAR HAS REACHED A RECORD HIGH.

ACCORDING TO STATISTICS COMPILED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, OVER 1,140 MILLION PASSENGERS WERE CARRIED IN BUSES, FERRIES, TRAMS AND THE RAILWAY DURING THE TEN-MONTH PERIOD.

THIS SHOWS AN INCREASE OF 91.7 MILLION PASSENGERS OR 8.7 PER CENT OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF 1976. MOST OF THE INCREASE WAS ON FRANCHISED BUS SERVICES. THE THREE MAJOR BUS COMPANIES ARE NOW CARRYING 2.9 MILLION PASSENGERS A DAY COMPARED TO 2.6 MILLION IN THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD OF LAST YEAR.

THE KOWLOON MOTOR BUS COMPANY, WITH A FLEET OF 1,712 BUSES INTRODUCED 10 ADDITIONAL ROUTES DURING THE YEAR AND NOW CARRIES AN AVERAGE OF 2.2 MILLION PASSENGERS A DAY ON 158 ROUTES. THE NUMBER OF PASSENGERS INCREASED BY 13.3 PER CENT COMPARED TO THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

THE 10 NEW ROUTES INCLUDE FIVE SERVING NEW HOUSING ESTATES, INCLUDING CHEUNG CHING, LAI YIU AND TAI HING.

IN ADDITION, THE FREQUENCY AND CARRYING CAPACITY HAVE BEEN INCREASED ON 17 ROUTES SERVING EXISTING HOUSING ESTATES. THE 16 EXPRESS COACH SERVICES NOW CARRY AN AVERAGE OF 31,400 PASSENGERS PER DAY: 3,300 USE THE TWO AIRPORT COACH SERVICES. ONE NEW COACH ROUTE CONNECTING STAR FERRY AND LAI YIU WAS INTRODUCED DURING THE YEAR.

THE DAILY AVERAGE TOTAL MILEAGE RUN BY K.M.B. BUSES IS 200,000, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 5.3 PER CENT OVER SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

THE CHINA MOTOR BUS COMPANY WITH A FLEET OF 744 BUSES HAS INTRODUCED FOUR NEW ROUTES DURING THE YEAR AND NOW CARRIES AN AVERAGE OF 654,000 PASSENGERS A DAY ON 70 ROUTES.

PASSENGER VOLUME HAS SHOWN A 4.5 PER CENT INCREASE OVER THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR DUE MAINLY TO THE INCREASED USE OF LARGER CAPACITY BUSES. IMPROVEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE ON EIGHT ROUTES INCLUDING THE ONE TO WAH FU ESTATE.

THE DAILY AVERAGE TOTAL MILEAGE RUN BY THE COMPANY'S BUSES IS 70,200, REPRESENTING A DECLINE OF 2.5 PER CENT OVER THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

DEMAND FOR THE CROSS HARBOUR BUS SERVICES CONTINUES TO GROW AND THE 14 ROUTES JOINTLY OPERATED BY K.M.B. AND C.M.B. NOW CARRY 347,700 PASSENGERS A DAY.

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TRAFFIC ON THE TWO ALL-NIGHT CROSS HARBOUR SERVICES AND THE RECREATION ROUTE BETWEEN SHA TIN AND ABERDEEN HAS CONTINUED TO INCREASE. A NEW CROSS HARBOUR ROUTE BETWEEN NORTH POINT AND SHA TIN IS BEING PLANNED IN ANTICIPATION OF THE OPENING OF THE SHA TIN RACE COURSE.

ON LANTAU ISLAND, THE NEW LANTAU BUS COMPANY WITH A FLEET OF 45 BUSES NOW CARRIES AN AVERAGE OF 5,500 PASSENGERS A DAY. ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS TRAFFIC INCREASES BY 87 PER CENT TO 10,300. TOTAL DAILY AVERAGE MILEAGE RUN AT 2,600 IS AN INCREASE OF 10 PER CENT OVER THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

THE NUMBER OF PASSENGERS CARRIED ON THE STAR FERRY COMPANY'S SERVICES FROM CENTRAL TO TSIM SHA TSUI AND HUNG HOM HAS REMAINED STEADY AT 137,400 PASSENGERS A DAY. THE CENTRAL TO HUNG HOM ROUTE HAS SHOWN AN IMPROVED RATE OF INCREASE OVER THE LAST EIGHT MONTHS.

ALTHOUGH FARES WERE INCREASED IN JULY THIS YEAR, TRAFFIC ON THE 14 CROSS HARBOUR PASSENGER FERRY SERVICES OPERATED BY THE HONGKONG AND YAUMATI FERRY COMPANY WENT DOWN BY ONLY 2.7 PER CENT (AS COMPARED WITH AN EIGHT PER CENT DECLINE FOR THE SAME PERIOD OF 1976 OVER 1975). THESE SERVICES NOW CARRY 317,000 PASSENGERS PER DAY.

HOVERFERRY SERVICE WAS INTRODUCED IN MAY DURING OFF-PEAK HOURS IN THE KWUN TONG TO CENTRAL ROUTE. THE USE OF THE SHAU KEI WAN TO CENTRAL HOVERFERRY SERVICE REMAINED STEADY SINCE ITS RESUMPTION FROM OCTOBER LAST YEAR.

THE NUMBER OF MOTOR VEHICLES CARRIED ON THE THREE CROSS HARBOUR VEHICULAR ROUTES INCREASED BY 6.5 PER CENT AND THEY NOW CARRY 10,000 VEHICLES A DAY.

FOLLOWING THE FARE INCREASE, THE NUMBER OF PASSENGERS CARRIED BY HONGKONG TRAMWAYS LIMITED WENT DOWN BUT TRAFFIC OVER THE PAST TEN MONTHS HAS SHOWN A 6.1 PER CENT INCREASE OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF 1976. THE NUMBER OF AVERAGE DAILY PASSENGERS DURING THIS PERIOD WAS 368,000.

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THE 4,350 PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES ARE NOW CARRYING AN AVERAGE OF 1.7 MILLION PASSENGERS A DAY. THIS PASSENGER VOLUME INCLUDES THE EIGHT 'MAXICAB' ROUTES OPERATING ON HONG KONG ISLAND WHICH CONTINUE TO PROVE POPULAR. THE 54 'MAXICABS' NOW CARRY 16,200 PASSENGERS A DAY, REPRESENTING A 51 PER CENT INCREASE IN PASSENGER VOLUME OVER THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR. THE AVERAGE DAILY MILEAGE RUN FOR THE LAST 10 MONTHS IS 9,800, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 56 PER CENT.

THE FIRST BATCH OF NEW TERRITORIES TAXIS COMMENCED OPERATION IN OCTOBER 1976 : 738 ARE NOW OPERATING IN THE RURAL AREAS TO THE NORTH OF TSUEN WAN AND SHA TIN.

THERE ARE NOW 120,577 REGISTERED PRIVATE MOTOR CARS COMPARED TO 113,665 AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR. THE INCREASE IN BUILDING CONSTRUCTION WORK HAS CONTINUED TO STIMULATE DEMAND FOR GOODS VEHICLES AND THERE ARE NOW 42,071 GOODS VEHICLES - REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 16.7 PER CENT IN THE LAST YEAR.

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ANNUAL SCHOOL ROAD SAFETY PATROL REVIEW
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ROAD SAFETY PATROLS OVERSEE THE SAFETY OF MORE THAN 150,000 STUDENTS AND EVERY YEAR AT THEIR REVIEW THE PROUD BOAST IS MADE THAT NO YOUNGSTER HAS EVEN BEEN KILLED, MAIMED OR EVEN SUFFERED THE SLIGHTEST INJURY WHEN UNDER THE PROTECTION OF A PATROL.

DR. RICHARD BUTLER, DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, SAID THIS TODAY (SUNDAY) AT THE 13TH ANNUAL REVIEW OF SCHOOL ROAD SAFETY PATROLS, HELD AT THE GOVERNMENT STADIUM, AT WHICH HE TOOK THE SALUTE.

PATROLS FROM 105 SCHOOLS WITH A TOTAL MEMBERSHIP OF 4,500 WERE REPRESENTED AT THE CEREMONY.

DR. BUTLER SAID: +OVER THE 10 YEARS THAT I HAVE BEEN IN HONG KONG I HAVE SEEN THE PATROLS MORE THAN DOUBLE IN STRENGTH FROM A MEMBERSHIP OF 2,000 IN 1968 TO THEIR PRESENT LEVEL.

+EVERY YEAR AT THIS REVIEW THE PROUD BOAST IS MADE THAT NO ACCIDENT HAS EVER OCCURRED WHERE AND WHEN THE PATROLS ARE ON DUTY.

+THIS YEAR IS NO EXCEPTION AND I CONGRATULATE YOU ON THE MAINTENANCE OF YOUR UNBLEMISHED RECORD. LONG MAY IT CONTINUE.+

HE PRAISED THE POLICE IN HELPING TO TRAIN +YOU HIGHLY DISCIPLINED YOUNG PEOPLE+ AND SAID THIS WAS SOMETHING FOR WHICH THE COMMUNITY OWED THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE A GREAT DEBT.

DR. BUTLER SAID HE WAS IN FAVOUR OF AN EXPANSION OF THE GOVERNMENT'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE ROAD SAFETY ASSOCIATION.

+AT PRESENT THE COSTS OF UNIFORMS FOR THE PATROLS ARE PROVIDED BY THE STUDENTS AND CLEARLY THIS MUST BE A DETERRENT TO ESTABLISHING PATROLS IN SCHOOLS WHERE THE STUDENTS' PARENTS HAVE BELOW AVERAGE INCOMES,+ HE SAID.

+IT SEEMS JUSTIFIABLE TO SPEND PUBLIC FUNDS TO HELP PROVIDE UNIFORMS IN SUCH INSTANCES AND I WOULD SUPPORT DOING SO.+

DR. BUTLER SAID A FLEET OF 10,000 BUSES, MINI-BUSES AND TRAMS ON OUR ROADS CARRIED FIVE MILLION PASSENGERS A DAY AND WERE INVOLVED, IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1977, IN 900 ACCIDENTS.

HE CONTRASTED THIS WITH THE FACT THAT A FLEET OF 140,000 TAXIS, PUBLIC CARS, MOTOR CYCLES AND PRIVATE CARS, CARRYING LESS THAN TWO MILLION PEOPLE A DAY IN 1977, WAS INVOLVED IN 2,500 ACCIDENTS DURING THE SECOND QUARTER OF THE YEAR.

+IS IT NOT CLEAR THAT PURELY FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF ROAD SAFETY THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD ENCOURAGE ITS CITIZENS TO USE PUBLIC TRANSPORT?

+YOU WILL CONCLUDE THAT COLLECTIVE PASSENGER MOVEMENT REDUCES COSTS, CONGESTION AND CARNAGE,+ HE REMARKED.

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NEW CARGO HANDLING AREA IN WESTERN PROPOSED
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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT INTENDS TO BUILD A NEW CARGO HANDLING AREA IN WESTERN TO REPLACE THE PRESENT ONE WHICH WILL DISAPPEAR WHEN THE WESTERN RECLAMATION IS COMPLETED.

A BREAKWATER SIMILAR TO THE ONE AT THE WAN CHAI CARGO HANDLING BASIN IS TO BE BUILT IN VICTORIA HARBOUR AT SHEK TONG TSUI TO PROVIDE FACILITIES FOR BOTH THE DISPLACED CARGO HANDLERS AND FOR A NEW WHOLESALE MARKET TO REPLACE THE KENNEDY TOWN MARKET.

THE BREAKWATER, TOGETHER WITH THE WALL RETAINING THE RECLAMATION, WILL PROVIDE 842 METRES OF WATERFRONT AREA WITH SUFFICIENT BREAK-UP SPACE TO FORM A SELF-CONTAINED +CONTROLLED CARGO-HANDLING AREA+.

THE AREA AFFECTED IS ABOUT 2.77 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED.

THE PLAN SHOWING THE AREA AFFECTED MAY BE SEEN AT THE PORT WORKS DIVISION, 5TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, OR THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE, 19TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING.

ANYONE OBJECTING TO THE PLAN OR HAVING A CLAIM OF PRIVATE RIGHT CAN LODGE THEIR OBJECTION OR CLAIM WITH THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS WITHIN TWO MONTHS.

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LODGE TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES EARLIER - TAXPAYERS TOLD

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AN INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATE HOLDERS COULD MINIMISE INCONVENIENCE TO THEMSELVES IF THEY LODGED THEIR CERTIFICATES, WITH THEIR DEMAND NOTES, SOME THREE OR FOUR WEEKS BEFORE THE DUE DATE FOR PAYMENT OF THEIR TAX.

THE SPOKESMAN EMPHASISED THAT TAXPAYERS SENDING IN THEIR TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES AT ANY TIME UP TO ONE MONTH BEFORE THE DUE DATE WOULD NOT SUFFER LOSS OF INTEREST.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID : +EXPERIENCE HAS SHOWN THAT VERY MANY TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATE HOLDERS SEND IN THEIR CERTIFICATES AND DEMAND NOTES JUST A FEW DAYS BEFORE THEIR TAX IS DUE, WITH CASH OR A CHEQUE FOR THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE FACE VALUE OF THE CERTIFICATES AND THE ACTUAL TAX DUE.

+THIS MEANS THAT A REFUND HAS TO BE MADE TO THEM, AFTER THE NECESSARY CALCULATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE, IN RESPECT OF THE INTEREST ACCRUED ON THE CERTIFICATES SURRENDERED.+

HE DESCRIBED THE ABOVE PROCEDURE AS 'A SOURCE OF INCONVENIENCE AND DELAY FOR BOTH THE TAXPAYER AND THE DEPARTMENT'.

+BY SENDING IN THEIR TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES, WITH THEIR DEMAND NOTES, SOME THREE OR FOUR WEEKS AHEAD OF THE DUE DATE, THEY WILL ALLOW THE COLLECTION OFFICE TIME TO MAKE ALL NECESSARY CALCULATIONS AND TO ADVISE THEM WELL BEFORE THE DUE DATE OF THE EXACT AMOUNT REMAINING DUE, FOR SETTLEMENT BY CASH OR CHEQUE,+ HE ADDED.

HOWEVER, HE POINTED OUT THAT THOSE CERTIFICATES LODGED MORE THAN A MONTH BEFORE THE DUE DATE COULD ONLY EARN INTEREST UP TO THE DATE OF SURRENDER.

THE DEPARTMENT'S TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES SECTION WILL BE FACING A VERY BUSY PERIOD AS INCREASING NUMBERS OF PEOPLE ARE PURCHASING TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES NOWADAYS, AND MANY SALARIES TAX DEMAND NOTES BEGIN TO FALL DUE IN MID-JANUARY, 1978.

IN THE PAST EIGHT MONTHS, ENDING NOVEMBER 30, TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES TO THE VALUE OF 117.5 MILLION DOLLARS HAVE BEEN PURCHASED, COMPARED WITH 60.1 MILLION DOLLARS WORTH IN THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

CERTIFICATES MAY BE BOUGHT BY TAXPAYERS FROM THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT EITHER DIRECTLY OR THROUGH THEIR BANKERS.

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GOLD COIN APPLICATION FORMS AVAILABLE

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APPLICATION FORMS FOR THE YEAR OF THE HORSE GOLD COIN WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM TOMORROW (MONDAY) AT ALL BRANCHES OF THE HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION AND THE MERCANTILE BANK LTD.

THE FORMS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THREE WEEKS UNTIL JANUARY 7 WHEN APPLICATIONS CLOSE.

THE NUMBER OF THE YEAR OF THE HORSE GOLD COINS WILL BE STRICTLY LIMITED TO NOT MORE THAN 30,000. OF THESE NOT MORE THAN 10,000 PROOFS WILL BE STRUCK.

THE OBLVERSE SIDE OF THE COIN CARRIES A PORTRAIT OF THE QUEEN AND THE REVERSE DEPICTS THE HORSE.

THE COIN IS MADE OF 22 CARAT GOLD AND HAS A STANDARD WEIGHT OF 15.976 GRAMMES AND A DIAMETER OF 28.4 MILIMETERS.

EACH COIN HAS A FACE VALUE OF \$1,000 AND THE BRILLIANT UNCIRCULATED VERSION WILL BE SOLD AT THIS PRICE. THE PROOF QUALITY COINS WHICH HAVE A FROSTED RELIEF ON A MIRROR BACKGROUND FINISH ARE PRICED AT \$1,500.

THE COIN WILL BE PACKAGED IN A PRESENTATION CASE AND ACCOMPANIED BY A DESCRIPTIVE BOOKLET.

MEANWHILE, SCORES OF FORMS HAVE BEEN FILLED IN BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE EXPRESSING INTEREST IN A GOLD COIN COLLECTORS CABINET.

THE PROTOTYPE CABINET WILL BE WITHDRAWN FROM PUBLIC DISPLAY AT THE END OF DECEMBER AND THE GOVERNMENT WILL DECIDE WHETHER DEMAND JUSTIFIES LARGE SCALE PRODUCTION.

THE CABINET HAS 14 WELLS TO ACCOMMODATE SCREW TOP PLASTIC COIN CONTAINERS AS WELL AS A RECESS FOR THE BOOKLETS WHICH ACCOMPANY EACH COIN.

GOLD COINS MARKING THE YEAR OF THE DRAGON (1976), THE YEAR OF THE SNAKE (1977) AND THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO THE TERRITORY IN 1975 HAVE ALREADY BEEN ISSUED.

GOVERNMENT EXPECTS TO ISSUE A \$1,000 GOLD COIN EVERY YEAR UNTIL THE LUNAR NEW YEAR CYCLE OF 12 ANIMALS IS COMPLETE.

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BOOK ON BIRDS IN HK
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HONG KONG IS HOME TO 400 DIFFERENT SPECIES OF BIRDS AND THE ONE PERCHED ON YOUR WINDOW SILL COULD BE THE MOST COMMON OR THE RAREST IN THE TERRITORY.

TO HELP PEOPLE FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THIS SUBJECT THE GOVERNMENT HAS JUST PUBLISHED A BOOK, IN ENGLISH, ENTITLED +A COLOUR GUIDE TO HONG KONG BIRDS+.

WRITTEN BY CLIVE VINEY AND CONTAINING 48 PAGES OF FULL-COLOUR BIRD ILLUSTRATIONS BY KAREN PHILLIPPS, THE BOOK IS A USEFUL GUIDE FOR BIRD WATCHERS. IT IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE AT \$20 EACH.

THE 122-PAGE BOOK CONTAINS A WEALTH OF INFORMATION ON THE KIND OF BIRDS THAT ARE TO BE FOUND AROUND HONG KONG ISLAND, KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES. IT ALSO GIVES DETAILS OF WHERE THEY LIVE AND THE TIME OF THE YEAR WHEN RARE SPECIES ARRIVE FROM THE NORTH FOR THE WINTER.

THE BOOK ALSO ADVISES INTERESTED BIRD WATCHERS ON WHAT KIND OF EQUIPMENT TO USE ON EXPEDITIONS, HOW TO BEHAVE, AND TO IDENTIFY EACH BIRD BY ITS KNOWN CHARACTERISTICS - COLOURING, SIZE AND BEHAVIOUR. THE BIRDS HAVE BEEN SEPARATED INTO FAMILIES WITH GENERAL NOTES TO DESCRIBE EACH SPECIES.

THE AUTHOR, CLIVE VINEY, HAS LIVED IN HONG KONG FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS AND IS AN AVID BIRD WATCHER. IT TOOK HIM A YEAR TO COLLATE INTO ITS PUBLISHED FORM ALL THE INFORMATION HE HAS GATHERED THROUGH THE YEARS.

KAREN PHILLIPPS IS A PAINTER WHO SPECIALISES IN BIRDS AND OTHER SUBJECTS OF INTEREST TO NATURE LOVERS.

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CALL FOR EARLY RETURN OF EMPLOYMENT SURVEY CARDS
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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY URGED THE MANagements OF SOME 20,000 MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS, WHICH HAVE NOT YET FURNISHED THEIR EMPLOYMENT RETURNS FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER THIS YEAR, TO DO SO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID REMINDERS HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THESE ESTABLISHMENTS AND NOTED THAT PROMPT RETURN OF THE COMPLETED EMPLOYMENT ENQUIRY CARDS WOULD FACILITATE THE EARLY RELEASE OF SURVEY RESULTS.

ENQUIRY CARDS WERE FIRST MAILED TO INDIVIDUAL MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS ON DECEMBER 2. MANagements WERE REQUESTED TO COMPLETE THE CARDS WITH THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED AND EXISTING VACANCIES AS AT DECEMBER 5, AND TO RETURN THEM TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT NOT LATER THAN DECEMBER 12.

THE FULL SCALE MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT SURVEY NOW IN PROGRESS COVERS SOME 42,000 MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS. INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM THE SURVEY WILL PROVIDE NOT ONLY BENCHMARK DATA FOR THE ANALYSIS OF EMPLOYMENT LEVELS AND TRENDS BUT ALSO AN UP-TO-DATE DIRECTORY OF MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS FOR CONDUCTING SAMPLE SURVEYS IN THE SUBSEQUENT QUARTERS.

AT THE SAME TIME, ENQUIRIES ARE ALSO BEING MADE ABOUT EMPLOYMENT AND VACANCIES IN THE IMPORT/EXPORT, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADES, RESTAURANTS, HOTELS AND OTHER SELECTED TRADES AND SERVICES.

THE COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS APPEALED TO ALL SUCH ESTABLISHMENTS FOR CO-OPERATION IN THE EMPLOYMENT SURVEY.

HE STRESSED THAT INFORMATION FURNISHED BY INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS WOULD BE TREATED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND WOULD BE USED SOLELY FOR COMPILING STATISTICAL TABLES.

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NEW IMPORTS AND EXPORTS CLASSIFICATION LIST NOW AVAILABLE
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A NEW EDITION OF THE HONG KONG IMPORTS AND EXPORTS CLASSIFICATION LIST HAS BEEN PUBLISHED AND IS NOW AVAILABLE ON SALE AT \$11 A COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE IN NEW GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE.

A SPOKESMAN OF THE TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT SAID THE NEW CLASSIFICATION LIST, WHICH WOULD BE EFFECTIVE ON JANUARY 1 NEXT YEAR, CONTAINED SOME CHANGES IN COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION AND A CHANGEOVER TO METRIC UNITS OF QUANTITY.

THE NEW LIST IS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC BEFORE ITS EFFECTIVE DATE IN ORDER TO GIVE PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO ARE TO COMPLETE TRADE DECLARATIONS, TIME TO FAMILIARISE THEMSELVES WITH THESE CHANGES.

UNDER THE IMPORT AND EXPORT (REGISTRATION) REGULATIONS, IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS ARE REQUIRED TO LODGE WITH THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS COMPLETE AND ACCURATE DECLARATIONS OF ALL ARTICLES IMPORTED INTO, OR EXPORTED FROM HONG KONG.

THE CLASSIFICATIONS OF COUNTRIES AND COMMODITIES PUBLISHED IN THE NEW IMPORTS AND EXPORTS CLASSIFICATION LIST, AND THE APPROPRIATE CODE NUMBERS LISTED AGAINST THESE CLASSIFICATIONS, ARE TO BE USED FOR COMPLETING TRADE DECLARATION FORMS ON AND AFTER JANUARY 1 NEXT YEAR.

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