



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MARCH EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL STATISTICS RELEASED

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THERE WERE 864,900 PERSONS ENGAGED IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR IN MARCH 1987, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 2.8 PER CENT IN COMPARISON WITH MARCH 1986, ACCORDING TO FIGURES RELEASED TODAY (SUNDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR, AT 620,000 IN MARCH 1987, WAS 4.2 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN MARCH 1986.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR, AT 197,200, WAS UP BY 6.2 PER CENT.

EMPLOYMENT ON BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION SITES INCREASED BY 8.7 PER CENT COMPARED WITH MARCH 1986.

A DEPARTMENTAL SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE STATISTICS FOR SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY IN MARCH 1987 WERE DERIVED FROM THE SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL CONDUCTED EVERY QUARTER BY THE DEPARTMENT.

THESE SECTORS COVER THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR; THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR; AND THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR. THERE IS A SEPARATE EMPLOYMENT SURVEY COVERING BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION SITES.

THE OVERALL EMPLOYMENT FIGURES FOR MARCH 1987 IN THESE SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS, BY COMPARISON WITH THE CORRESPONDING FIGURES FOR MARCH 1986 AND DECEMBER 1986, ARE AS FOLLOWS:-

SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY	PERSONS ENGAGED (EMPLOYMENT) IN			PERCENTAGE CHANGE*	
	MAR. 86	DEC. 86	MAR. 87	MAR. 87 ON MAR. 86	MAR. 87 ON DEC. 86
MANUFACTURING	841,500	865,600	864,900	+2.8	-0.1
BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION (MANUAL WORKERS ON SITES ONLY)	66,000	70,800	71,800	+8.7	+1.4
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	595,300	620,100	620,000	+4.2	**

/FINANCING,

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FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES	185,700	194,300	197,200	+6.2	+1.5
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* BASED ON UNROUNDED EMPLOYMENT FIGURES.
** LESS THAN 0.05%

COMPARING MARCH 1987 WITH DECEMBER 1986, EMPLOYMENT IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR DECREASED BY 0.1 PER CENT. OVER THE SAME PERIOD, EMPLOYMENT IN THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR REMAINED FAIRLY STABLE. ON THE OTHER HAND, EMPLOYMENT IN THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR AND ON BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION SITES INCREASED BY 1.5 PER CENT AND 1.4 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

THE SURVEY ALSO PROVIDES VACANCY STATISTICS FOR THESE SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS, OTHER THAN FOR BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION. THE OVERALL FIGURES BY SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS, TOGETHER WITH A COMPARISON WITH THE CORRESPONDING FIGURES FOR MARCH 1986 AND DECEMBER 1986, ARE AS FOLLOWS:

SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY	NUMBER OF REPORTED VACANCIES IN			PERCENTAGE CHANGE*	
	MAR. 86	DEC. 86	MAR. 87	MAR. 87 ON MAR. 86	MAR. 87 ON DEC. 86
MANUFACTURING	25,880	25,760	47,790	+84.7	+85.5
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	8,110	10,850	16,000	+97.2	+47.5
FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES	3,050	3,300	5,280	+72.8	+60.0

* BASED ON UNROUNDED VACANCY FIGURES.

RELATIVE TO MARCH 1986, THE NUMBER OF REPORTED VACANCIES FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR; THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR AND THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR INCREASED BY 84.7 PER CENT, 97.2 PER CENT AND 72.8 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

/COMPARED WITH

COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1986, THE NUMBER OF REPORTED VACANCIES INCREASED BY 85.5 PER CENT, 47.5 PER CENT AND 60 PER CENT FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR; THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR; AND THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR RESPECTIVELY. THE INCREASE IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR WAS PARTICULARLY RAPID.

ALSO AVAILABLE FROM THE SURVEY ARE STATISTICS ON MONTHLY PAYROLL OUTLAYS IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR; THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR; AND THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR. QUARTERLY TOTALS FOR EACH OF THESE SECTORS ARE SHOWN IN THE FOLLOWING TABLE:

SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY	TOTAL QUARTERLY PAYROLL IN		% CHANGE*
	1ST QTR. 1986	1ST QTR. 1987	1ST QTR. 1987 ON 1ST QTR. 1986
	----- HK\$ MN	----- HK\$ MN	-----
MANUFACTURING	8,369	9,471	+13.2
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	6,713	7,795	+16.1
FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES	3,216	3,802	+18.2

* BASED ON UNROUNDED PAYROLL FIGURES.

COMPARED WITH THE SAME QUARTER A YEAR AGO, PAYROLL OUTLAYS IN THE ABOVE THREE SECTORS INCREASED BY 13.2 PER CENT, 16.1 PER CENT AND 18.2 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1987.

AFTER ADJUSTMENT FOR VARIATIONS IN TOTAL MONTHLY PAYROLL OUTLAYS IN MARCH 1986 AND MARCH 1987, ARISING FROM CHANGES IN THE LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT, A NOMINAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED IS OBTAINED. TO ALLOW FOR THE EFFECTS OF PRICE CHANGES, THE NOMINAL INDEX IS DEFLATED BY THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) TO GIVE THE REAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED. THESE TWO INDICES FOR MARCH 1986 AND MARCH 1987 ARE GIVEN IN THE TABLES BELOW:

/NOMINAL INDEX

NOMINAL INDEX OF
PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED
(JUNE 1980 = 100)

SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY	NOMINAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED (JUNE 1980 = 100)		% CHANGE
	MAR. 86	MAR. 87	MAR. 87 ON MAR. 86
MANUFACTURING	203.6	227.3	+11.6
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	201.8	227.6	+12.8
FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES	195.7	219.2	+12.0

REAL INDEX OF
PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED
(JUNE 1980 = 100)

SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY	REAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED (JUNE 1980 = 100)		% CHANGE
	MAR. 86	MAR. 87	MAR. 87 ON MAR. 86
MANUFACTURING	126.9	135.8	+7.0
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	125.8	136.0	+8.1
FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES	122.0	130.9	+7.3

/BETWEEN MARCH

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BETWEEN MARCH 1986 AND MARCH 1987, INCREASES OF 11.6 PER CENT, 12.8 PER CENT AND 12.0 PER CENT WERE REGISTERED IN THE NOMINAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR; THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES, AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR; AND THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR, RESPECTIVELY. OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE CORRESPONDING INCREASES IN THE REAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED WERE 7.0 PER CENT, 8.1 PER CENT AND 7.3 PER CENT.

DETAILED BREAKDOWNS OF THE ABOVE STATISTICS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE QUARTERLY REPORT OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL STATISTICS, MARCH 1987, WHICH IS AVAILABLE AT \$11 PER COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, CONNAUGHT PLACE, HONG KONG AND AT THE SALES COUNTER OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT AT 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER I, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WANCHAI, HONG KONG.

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HOME SAFETY CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

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THE DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION SERVICES, MRS IRENE YAU, TODAY (SUNDAY) URGED THE PUBLIC TO PAY MORE ATTENTION TO SAFETY AT HOME IN ORDER TO AVOID ACCIDENTS.

MRS YAU REVEALED AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE HOME SAFETY CAMPAIGN AT THE NEW TOWN PLAZA, SHA TIN, THAT IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF THE YEAR, 55 PEOPLE HAD DIED IN ACCIDENTS OCCURRED IN THEIR HOMES.

THESE FATAL ACCIDENTS INCLUDED FALLS, BURNS AND CHOKING FROM FOOD.

"IT IS EASY TO OVERLOOK POSSIBLE HIDDEN DANGERS IN HOMES AS PEOPLE FEEL BEING FAMILIAR WITH THE DOMESTIC ENVIRONMENT THEY ARE USED TO AND TAKE FOR GRANTED THAT EVERYTHING IS SAFE," MRS YAU SAID.

EFFORTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO PROMOTE THE HOME SAFETY CONCEPTS SINCE THE HOME SAFETY CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE WAS SET UP TWO YEARS AGO FOLLOWING THE INCREASE OF DEATHS RESULTING FROM ACCIDENTS OCCURRED AT HOME AS DEFINED BY THE CORONER'S COURT.

ACTIVITIES AT THE NEW TOWN PLAZA TODAY INCLUDED A VARIETY SHOW, AN EXHIBITION AND A COMPUTER QUIZ THROUGH WHICH HINTS OF HOME SAFETY WERE DELIVERED.

THE EXHIBITION COVERS VARIOUS ASPECTS OF HOME SAFETY AND ILLUSTRATES THE POTENTIAL DANGERS IN A HOME ENVIRONMENT INCLUDING DROWNING, FIRE HAZARDS, ELECTRICITY SHOCK AND SUFFOCATING. IT WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC TILL JULY 20 AT THE VENUE.

/THE VARIETY

THE VARIETY SHOW, FEATURING USEFUL HINTS OF HOME SAFETY THROUGH LIVE ENTERTAINMENT AND GAMES, WAS PRODUCED AND BROADCAST LIVE BY THE COMMERCIAL RADIO CHANNEL ONE.

HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE VISITED THE COMPUTER QUIZ CORNER AT THE OTHER SIDE OF THE VENUE, MANY TOOK THE CHANCE TO TEST THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF HOME SAFETY AND WERE AWARDED A HOME SAFETY HANDBOOK.

SPECTATORS ALSO LEARNED ABOUT FIRST-AID METHODS AT A DEMONSTRATION GIVEN BY THE AUXILIARY MEDICAL SERVICES.

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SAFETY OF SCAFFOLDERS TO BE DISCUSSED

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAS INVITED REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TRAINING AUTHORITY AND THE HONG KONG BAMBOO SCAFFOLDING MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION TO ATTEND THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY SAFETY SUB-COMMITTEE (CISS) MEETING ON TUESDAY (JULY 14) TO DISCUSS THE SAFETY PROBLEMS IN THE TRADE.

THIS FOLLOWS THE SPATE OF ACCIDENTS INVOLVING SCAFFOLDERS IN THE PAST TWO WEEKS.

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT MAINTAINED CONSTANT DIALOGUE WITH PROFESSIONALS AND THE MANAGEMENT AND WORKERS IN THE INDUSTRY, IT HOPED TO GET MORE UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION WITH A VIEW TO FINDING SOME WAYS AND MEANS TO PREVENT FURTHER ACCIDENTS.

THE CISS, FORMED UNDER THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD'S INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AND HEALTH COMMITTEE, AIMS TO PROMOTE A VOLUNTARY SAFETY MOVEMENT IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY WHICH HAS MADE TREMENDOUS PROGRESS IN HONG KONG IN RECENT YEARS.

BUT THE INCREASED ACTIVITIES OF THE INDUSTRY HAVE ALSO BROUGHT ABOUT A CORRESPONDENTLY HIGH ACCIDENT RATE.

STATISTICS SHOW THAT THREE WORKERS INVOLVED IN SCAFFOLDING ACCIDENTS WERE KILLED IN 1985, EIGHT IN 1986 AND EIGHT SO FAR THIS YEAR.

THE SPOKESMAN CALLED ON CONTRACTORS AND WORKERS TO MAKE SURE THAT ALL SCAFFOLDS MUST BE OF GOOD CONSTRUCTION, MADE OF STRONG AND SOUND MATERIALS, AND FREE FROM PATENT DEFECTS.

/THEY SHOULD

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THEY SHOULD ALSO BE FIXED, SECURED OR PLACED IN SUCH A MANNER AS TO PREVENT ACCIDENTAL DISPLACEMENT.

AS FOR SLUNG SCAFFOLDS, THEY MUST BE PROPERLY AND SECURELY FASTENED TO SAFE ANCHORAGE OR SUPPORTING POINTS TO ENSURE STABILITY. ONLY WIRE ROPES SHOULD BE USED FOR THE SUSPENSION OF THIS TYPE OF SCAFFOLDS.

"MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL, HOWEVER, IS THAT ONLY COMPETENT WORKMEN WITH ADEQUATE EXPERIENCE AND UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A COMPETENT PERSON SHALL ERECT, ALERT OR DISMANTLE SCAFFOLDS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"FURTHERMORE, ALL SCAFFOLDS MUST BE INSPECTED BY A COMPETENT PERSON MONTHLY, OR AFTER EXPOSURE TO WEATHER CONDITIONS LIKELY TO HAVE AFFECTED ITS STRENGTH OR STABILITY OR AFTER IT HAS BEEN ALTERED," HE ADDED.

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PROPER USE OF AIR-CONDITIONERS SAVE MONEY

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PROPER INSTALLATION AND REGULAR MAINTENANCE OF AIR-CONDITIONERS NOT ONLY ABATE NUISANCES SUCH AS DRIBBLING AND EMISSION OF EXCESSIVE NOISE BUT ALSO SAVE COSTS IN REPAIRS IN THE LONG TERM.

THE ADVICE CAME FROM THE HEALTH EDUCATION UNIT OF THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES BRANCH AMID THE GROWING USE OF AIR-CONDITIONERS IN THE HOT SUMMER MONTHS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE UNIT SAID THAT DRIBBLING FROM THE MACHINE COULD BE AVOIDED IF A WATER BASIN WAS FIXED AT THE BOTTOM OF THE MACHINE TO COLLECT WATER, THUS DIVERTING IT TO A CONTAINER OR THE OPENING OF A DRAINAGE THROUGH A PIPE.

TO REDUCE THE EMISSION OF NOISE, HE SAID THAT RUBBER TUBING FILLING THE SPACE BETWEEN A WINDOW-TYPE AIR-CONDITIONER AND THE WINDOW FRAMES WOULD SERVE THE PURPOSE OF A CUSHION.

SOUND-PROOF AND HEAT-PROOF MATERIALS SHOULD BE USED FOR LARGE AIR-CONDITIONING UNITS, HE ADDED.

HE POINTED OUT THAT EXCESSIVE GREASE AND DUST ACCUMULATED IN THE EXHAUST FAN WOULD MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR THE SHAFT TO MOVE PROPERLY.

/"FRICTION CAN

"FRICTION CAN BE REDUCED AND NOISE NUISANCES MINIMISED BY ALWAYS KEEPING THE EXHAUST FAN CLEAN AND BY APPLYING LUBRICATING OIL TO IT REGULARLY," HE SAID.

HE CALLED ON THE PUBLIC TO TAKE EXTRA CARE WHEN CHOOSING AN AIR-CONDITIONER. "BESIDES THE PRICE AND THE THERMAL UNITS, OTHER FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED ARE WHETHER THE UNIT IS OF A LESS NOISY TYPE AND WHETHER IT MAY DRIBBLE."

UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES ORDINANCE, IT IS AN OFFENCE TO CAUSE NUISANCES LIKE DRIBBLING AND EMISSION OF EXCESSIVE NOISE OR HEAT FROM AIR-CONDITIONERS AND THE MAXIMUM PENALTY IS A FINE OF \$10,000.

THE HEALTH EDUCATION UNIT HAS PRODUCED LEAFLETS OUTLINING SOME GENERAL GUIDELINES ON CHOOSING, INSTALLING AND MAINTAINING AN AIR-CONDITIONER. THESE WOULD BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE MANAGERMENTS OF COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS WITH AIR-CONDITIONED SHOPPING ARCADES, RESTAURANTS, HOTELS, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, OWNERS' CORPORATIONS AND MANAGEMENT OFFICES OF LARGE PRIVATE HOUSING ESTATES.

MEANWHILE, THE SPOKESMAN APPEALED TO SUPPLIERS OF AIR-CONDITIONERS TO ATTACH A LEAFLET TO THE BILL OR WARRANTY FOR CUSTOMERS' INFORMATION.

THE LEAFLETS WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE AT DISTRICT OFFICES OF THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT, REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION.

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CONCERTED EFFORTS NEEDED TO COMBAT DRUG ABUSE

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RECENT TRENDS SHOW THAT PSYCHOTROPIC DRUG ABUSE AMONG ADOLESCENTS IS ON THE INCREASE AND APART FROM GOVERNMENT EFFORTS, CARE, GUIDANCE AND COUNSELLING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE FROM THEIR FAMILIES, TEACHERS, FRIENDS AND SOCIAL WORKERS WILL HELP COMBAT THIS PROBLEM, DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS ELIZABETH WONG, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CARITAS LOK HEEP CLUB, MRS WONG SAID THAT THE SITUATION WAS BEING MONITORED CLOSELY BY THE GOVERNMENT WHO WAS CONDUCTING IN-DEPTH STUDIES INTO THE PROBLEM AS WELL AS ORGANISING PREVENTIVE EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGNS FOR SCHOOLS AND FOR THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE.

MRS WONG NOTED THAT THE ABUSE OF HEROIN AND OPIUM, A SERIOUS SOCIAL PROBLEM IN HONG KONG FOR MANY YEARS, HAD BEEN BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL IN RECENT YEARS WITH NO SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF ABUSERS.

/"ACCORDING TO

"ACCORDING TO THE REPORT OF THE CENTRAL REGISTRY OF DRUG ABUSE, THERE WERE 2,747 FIRST REGISTRATIONS RELATING TO DRUG PROBLEMS LAST YEAR, REPRESENTING A DROP OF 22 PER CENT FROM THE 3,523 FIRST REGISTRATIONS IN 1985. THE FIRST REGISTRATIONS OF DRUG ABUSERS UNDER 21 ALSO DECREASED BY 17.5 PER CENT FROM 949 IN 1985 TO 783 IN 1986," SHE SAID.

"THE SUCCESS IN CONTAINING THE HEROIN AND OPIUM ABUSE PROBLEM IS A RESULT OF THE UNCEASING COOPERATION AND EFFORTS OF THE GOVERNMENT AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES IN LAW ENFORCEMENT, TREATMENT, REHABILITATION AND PREVENTION AND THE LOK HEEP CLUB HAS MADE REMARKABLE CONTRIBUTION IN REHABILITATION WORK," SHE ADDED.

MRS WONG CONCEDED THAT PUBLIC DISCRIMINATION AGAINST DRUG ADDICTS DURING THEIR REHABILITATION PROCESS MIGHT PREVENT THEIR RE-INTEGRATION INTO THE COMMUNITY AND CONCERTED EFFORTS FROM ALL SECTORS WERE NEEDED TO QUASH SUCH DISCRIMINATION.

"FOR THE EX-DRUG ADDICTS, THEY SHOULD WORK HARD, MAINTAIN THEIR PERSONAL INTEGRITY AND SHOULDER THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TOWARDS THEIR FAMILIES AND THE COMMUNITY.

"WHILE FAMILY MEMBERS SHOULD GIVE THESE EX-ADDICTS MORAL SUPPORT AND CARE, EMPLOYERS SHOULD PROVIDE THEM WITH JOB OPPORTUNITIES.

"THE SERVICES FOR EX-DRUG ADDICTS PROVIDED BY LOK HEEP CLUB IN THE PAST YEARS, WHICH HAD ALWAYS BEEN SUPPORTED BY THE GOVERNMENT, DEMONSTRATE THAT THE COMMUNITY DO SUPPORT REHABILITATION OF EX-DRUG ABUSERS," SHE SAID.

THE CARITAS LOK HEEP CLUB, SET UP IN 1968, HAS A MEMBERSHIP OF 1,500. MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES ARE ASSISTED AND SUPPORTED THROUGH CASEWORK COUNSELLING, GROUP WORK SERVICE, RECREATIONAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES AND EMPLOYMENT ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE AIM OF HELPING THEM SOLVE THEIR PERSONAL PROBLEMS AND PREVENTING RELAPSE DURING AND AFTER THEIR REHABILITATION PROCESS.

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JUNE DRIER THAN USUAL

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JUNE 1987 WAS DRIER THAN USUAL WITH ONLY 231.2 MM OF RAINFALL RECORD WHICH WAS ONLY 54 PER CENT OF THE LONG TERM MEAN, THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY SAID TODAY.

HOWEVER, AS EARLY SEASON RAIN HAS BEEN PLENTIFUL, THE CUMULATIVE RAINFALL FROM JANUARY TO JUNE AMOUNTED TO 1,226.9 MM, WHICH WAS STILL SOME 24 PER CENT ABOVE THE HALF YEAR NORMAL.

/TROPICAL CYCLONE

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TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNING SIGNALS WERE HOISTED FOR THE FIRST TIME THIS YEAR DURING THE APPROACH OF TROPICAL STORM RUTH ON JUNE 18.

UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF A TROUGH OF LOW PRESSURE WHICH CROSSED THE SOUTH CHINA COAST ON THE EVENING OF JUNE 1, THE FIRST DAY OF THE MONTH WAS CLOUDY WITH OCCASIONAL THUNDERY SHOWERS. TWO FINE DAYS FOLLOWED BEFORE WEATHER TURNED OVERCAST WITH THUNDERY SHOWERS AGAIN. AN UPPER-AIR DISTURBANCE MOVED IN FROM THE WEST AND BROUGHT A TOTAL OF 87.3 MM OF RAIN TO THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY ON JUNE 4 AND 5. MINOR LANDSLIPS WERE REPORTED AT WONG TAI SIN, SAI KUNG AND HAPPY VALLEY ON JUNE 5.

THESE NOTWITHSTANDING, HONG KONG WAS SPARED OF THE TORRENTIAL RAIN THAT SOMEHOW STOPPED SHORT TO OUR WEST.

ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, HEAVY RAIN IN THE WESTERN PART OF GUANGDONG PROVINCE FROM JUNE 4 TO 6 CAUSED WIDESPREAD FLOODING AND DAMAGE. A TOTAL OF 70,700 HECTARES OF FARMLAND WERE INUNDATED WITH 80,000 HOUSES DESTROYED. IT WAS ALSO REPORTED THAT 22 PEOPLE WERE KILLED AND 268 INJURED.

A TROUGH OF LOW PRESSURE DEVELOPED OVER CENTRAL CHINA ON JUNE 5. IT MOVED STEADILY SOUTHWARDS AND INTENSIFIED INTO A COLD FRONT ON THE MORNING OF JUNE 7 BEFORE CROSSING THE SOUTH CHINA COAST LATER THAT EVENING, GIVING RISE TO THUNDERSTORMS IN HONG KONG.

AFTER THIS COLD FRONT PASSAGE, TEMPERATURES DROPPED TO A MINIMUM OF 21.4 DEGREES CELSIUS MAKING THE MORNING OF JUNE 8 THE COOLEST OF THE MONTH. WEATHER IMPROVED SLOWLY AND IT REMAINED MAINLY CLOUDY ON JUNE 8 AND 9. THEREAFTER, FINE AND SUNNY WEATHER PREVAILED IN HONG KONG, FROM JUNE 10 TO 15.

ANOTHER TROUGH OF LOW PRESSURE DEVELOPED OVER CENTRAL CHINA ON JUNE 13. IT LATER TURNED INTO A WEAK COLD FRONT TO CROSS THE SOUTH CHINA COAST BY JUNE 15. WEATHER IN HONG KONG WAS SHOWERY DURING THE NEXT THREE DAYS.

TROPICAL STORM RUTH FORMED OVER THE NORTHERN PART OF THE SOUTH CHINA SEA ON JUNE 18. IT MOVED NORTHWESTWARDS AND CROSSED THE SOUTH CHINA COAST ABOUT 290 KM TO THE WEST OF HONG KONG ON THE FOLLOWING DAY. DURING THE APPROACH OF RUTH THERE WERE GUSTY WINDS AND HEAVY SHOWERS AND NECESSITATED THE HOISTING OF THE STAND BY SIGNAL NO. 1.

FROM JUNE 21 TO 30, WEATHER WAS MAINLY FINE APART FROM SOME ISOLATED SHOWERS. AFTERNOONS WERE VERY HOT AND TEMPERATURES ON JUNE 30 ROSE TO A MAXIMUM OF 33.4 DEGREES CELSIUS, THE HIGHEST OF THE MONTH.

TWO TROPICAL CYCLONES OCCURRED OVER THE SOUTH CHINA SEA AND THE WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC DURING THE MONTH. RUTH FORMED AS A TROPICAL DEPRESSION OVER THE SOUTH CHINA SEA ON THE MORNING OF JUNE 18, WAS SHORT-LIVED AND MADE LANDFALL IN WESTERN GUANGDONG ON JUNE 19.

/SPERRY DEVELOPED

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SPERRY DEVELOPED OVER THE PACIFIC ON JUNE 27 ABOUT 250 KM NORTH-NORTHWEST OF THE ISLAND OF YAP. IT INTENSIFIED TO A TROPICAL STORM ABOUT 12 HOURS AFTER FORMATION AND MOVED STEADILY NORTH-NORTHWESTWARDS. ON THE MORNING OF JUNE 29, IT FURTHER INTENSIFIED INTO A SEVERE TROPICAL STORM. SPERRY TURNED ON A NORTHERLY TRACK EARLY ON JUNE 30 WHEN THE CENTRE WAS ABOUT 370 KM TO THE EAST OF OKINAWA. SHORTLY AFTERWARDS IT WEAKENED INTO A TROPICAL STORM.

DURING THE MONTH, 12 AIRCRAFT WERE DIVERTED FROM HONG KONG DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER. THUNDERSTORM WARNINGS WERE ISSUED ON JUNE 1, 4, 5, 6 AND 7. FLOOD WARNINGS WERE ISSUED ON JUNE 4 AND 19.

THE ONLY SIGNAL HOISTED DURING THE MONTH WAS AS FOLLOWS:

WEATHER SYSTEM	SIGNAL	DATE AND TIME OF HOISTING	DATE AND TIME OF LOWERING
TROPICAL STORM RUTH	1	JUNE 18 3.45 PM	JUNE 19 11.15 AM

THE MONTH'S FIGURES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL WERE:

SUNSHINE	147.8 HOURS ; 11.4 HOURS BELOW NORMAL
GLOBAL SOLAR RADIATION	15.09 MJ/SQM ; 1.66MJ/SQM BELOW NORMAL
RAINFALL	231.2 MM ; 200.6 MM BELOW NORMAL
CLOUDINESS	77% ; 2% MORE THAN NORMAL
RELATIVE HUMIDITY	82% ; 2% LOWER THAN NORMAL
MEAN MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE	29.7 DEGREES CELSIUS ; 0.7 DEGREE CELSIUS BELOW NORMAL
MEAN TEMPERATURE	27.5 DEGREES CELSIUS ; 0.2 DEGREE CELSIUS BELOW NORMAL
MEAN MINIMUM TEMPERATURE	25.8 DEGREES CELSIUS ; 0.2 DEGREE CELSIUS ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN DEW POINT	24.1 DEGREES CELSIUS ; 0.4 DEGREE CELSIUS BELOW NORMAL
TOTAL EVAPORATION	119.9 MM ; 28.8 MM BELOW NORMAL

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SCHOOL COMMUNITY MORE AWARE OF AIDS

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THE GOVERNMENT IS MAKING INROADS IN ENHANCING THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY'S AWARENESS OF THE SPREAD OF AND PREVENTION AGAINST AIDS AND OTHER BLOOD-BORNE DISEASES.

SINCE THE TERRITORY-WIDE PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN AGAINST AIDS WAS LAUNCHED LAST APRIL, MORE THAN 1,200 TEACHERS, SCHOOL HEADS AND STAFF OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HAVE ATTENDED A SERIES OF SEMINARS ON THE SUBJECT JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID THE SEMINARS RECEIVED VERY POSITIVE RESPONSE. IN GENERAL, THE PARTICIPANTS SHOWED A KEEN INTEREST IN LEARNING HOW THE VIRUS OF AIDS AND OTHER BLOOD-BORNE DISEASES INCLUDING VIRAL HEPATITIS B WAS TRANSMITTED, SYMPTOMS OF THESE DISEASES AND PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES.

"THE SEMINARS WOULD CERTAINLY HELP PROMOTE A HEALTHY AND SENSIBLE ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE AIDS CAMPAIGN AMONG THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

TO FURTHER ASSIST TEACHERS TO PASS THEIR KNOWLEDGE ON THE SUBJECT TO STUDENTS, THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HAS ALSO GATHERED A GOOD COLLECTION OF RESOURCE MATERIALS INCLUDING FILMS, TEACHING PACKAGES, BOOKS AND JOURNALS ON BLOOD-BORNE DISEASES AT THE SEX EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTRE AND THE AUDIO VISUAL EDUCATION CENTRE WHICH ARE OPEN TO TEACHERS.

THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT ARE WORKING JOINTLY ON A SET OF GUIDELINES ON PREVENTION OF AIDS AND OTHER BLOOD-BORNE DISEASES FOR SCHOOL USE. IT IS EXPECTED THE GUIDELINES WILL BE READY FOR DISTRIBUTION TO SCHOOLS IN THE COMING SCHOOL YEAR.

IN ADDITION, THE COLLEGES OF EDUCATION ARE EXPLORING THE FEASIBILITY OF INCLUDING THE TOPIC IN THE TEACHER TRAINING PROGRAMME IN SEPTEMBER.

ALSO IN STORE ARE PLANTS TO INCORPORATE THE TOPIC IN THE CURRICULUM OF SOCIAL STUDIES AND OTHER RELATED SUBJECTS IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND TO PRODUCE AN ETV PROGRAMME ON AIDS FOR SENIOR SECONDARY STUDENTS, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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FUNDS FOR CIVIC EDUCATION PROJECTS

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A TOTAL OF \$500,000 HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION TO SUBSIDISE 23 COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION PROJECTS ON CIVIC EDUCATION THIS YEAR.

"THIS IS DOUBLE THE AMOUNT GRANTED UNDER THE FIRST TERRITORY-WIDE CIVIC EDUCATION COMMUNITY PROJECTS SCHEME ORGANISED LAST YEAR," CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION SUB-COMMITTEE, MR MAK HOI-WAH SAID.

"THE RESPONSE TO THE SCHEME THIS YEAR WAS VERY ENCOURAGING AND OVER 100 APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED, REQUESTING FOR A TOTAL SUBSIDY OF MORE THAN \$2 MILLION," MR MAK ADDED.

AFTER CAREFUL VETTING, 23 PROJECTS WERE SELECTED BASED ON THE CONTENT OF THE PROJECT, THE TARGET GROUP AND NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS, THE AMOUNT OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE REQUIRED AND THE FEASIBILITY AND COST EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROGRAMME.

"WE EXPECT OVER 400,000 PEOPLE TO BENEFIT FROM THESE PROJECTS WHICH INCLUDED EXHIBITIONS, VOLUNTEER TRAINING SCHEMES, DRAMAS, SEMINARS, SURVEYS, PRODUCTION OF AUDIO VISUAL AIDS, PUBLICATION OF HANDBOOKS ON CIVIC EDUCATION, CARNIVALS AND MANY OTHER DIFFERENT TYPES OF ACTIVITIES," MR MAK SAID.

THE BASIC CONTENT OF THESE PROJECTS COVERED 'RESPONSIBLE CITIZENSHIP', CIVIC RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, POLITICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEMS IN HONG KONG AND UNDERSTANDING CHINA'S PAST AND PRESENT.

"WITH INCREASED RESOURCES THIS YEAR, THE COMMITTEE IS ABLE TO RAISE THE MAXIMUM SUBSIDY PER PROJECT TO \$50,000 AND WE HAVE SUCCEEDED IN ATTRACTING PROJECTS OF A LARGER SCALE AND TERRITORY-WIDE IN NATURE", HE ADDED.

THE SUBSIDY FOR EACH PROJECT RANGES FROM A FEW THOUSAND DOLLARS TO OVER \$45,000. SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL BE INFORMED NEXT WEEK.

ALL PROJECTS SUBSIDISED BY THE SCHEME COULD ALSO TAKE PART IN AN OUTSTANDING CIVIC EDUCATION AWARD SCHEME TO BE HELD EARLY NEXT YEAR.

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MORE COMMUNITY FACILITIES FOR
TUEN MUN CIVIC AND CULTURAL COMPLEX

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A LIBRARY AND POST OFFICE BUILDING, TOGETHER WITH A LANDSCAPED GARDEN, WILL BE BUILT IN THE CENTRAL AREA OF TUEN MUN AS PART OF THE CIVIC AND CULTURAL COMPLEX DEVELOPMENT.

THE PROJECT, COVERING AN AREA OF ABOUT 4.4 HECTARES, IS BEING DEVELOPED IN THREE PHASES TO PROVIDE SOCIAL, CULTURAL, RECREATIONAL AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES FOR THE NEW TOWN'S GROWING POPULATION.

THE FIRST TWO PHASES, COMPRISING AN AUDITORIUM, AN EIGHT-STOREY GOVERNMENT OFFICES BLOCK, A LAW COURTS BUILDING, A BUS STATION AND A PODIUM GARDEN, HAVE ALREADY BEEN COMPLETED.

A FOUR-STOREY LIBRARY AND POST OFFICE BUILDING, A LANDSCAPED GARDEN AND ANOTHER MULTI-STOREY OFFICES BLOCK WILL BE INCLUDED IN THIS LAST PHASE TO BE BUILT IN TWO STAGES.

TENDERS ARE BEING INVITED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE LIBRARY AND POST OFFICE BUILDING AND THE GARDEN, WORK ON WHICH IS EXPECTED TO COMMENCE IN OCTOBER AND TAKE ABOUT TWO YEARS TO COMPLETE.

A TOTAL FLOOR AREA OF 3,250 SQUARE METRES, MAINLY ON THE UPPER FLOORS OF THE BUILDING, WILL BE USED FOR A STANDARD LIBRARY PROVIDING REFERENCE, INFORMATION, AUDIO-VISUAL AND STUDY FACILITIES.

THE POST OFFICE, TO BE LOCATED AT GROUND FLOOR AND PODIUM LEVELS, WILL OCCUPY ABOUT 1,100 SQUARE METRES. UPON COMPLETION, IT WILL REPLACE EXISTING FACILITIES IN TUEN MUN SAN HUI AND SERVE TO MEET RAPID EXPANSION OF DELIVERY REQUIREMENTS ARISING FROM DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW TOWN AND THE INTRODUCTION OF A DOOR-TO-DOOR DELIVERY SERVICE TO VILLAGES IN THE DISTRICT.

THE GARDEN IS PLANNED TO BE A FOCAL POINT OF THE COMPLEX, LINKING THE LIBRARY AND POST OFFICE BUILDING WITH THE BUS STATION, AUDITORIUM, OFFICE BLOCKS AND LAW COURTS BUILDING.

IT WILL HAVE AN OPEN SPACE OF ABOUT ONE HECTARE WITH PAVED AREAS, LANDSCAPED TERRACES, SITTING-OUT AREAS, FOUNTAINS AND PLANT BOXES.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING TENDERS IS NOON ON JULY 31.

THE COMPLEX WILL BE FULLY COMPLETED IN THE EARLY 1990'S.

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FACILITIES FOR ABERDEEN WATERFRONT PUBLIC LANDING AREA
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A NEW ROAD AND CAR PARKING FACILITIES ARE TO BE PROVIDED AT THE ABERDEEN WATERFRONT PUBLIC LANDING AREA TO IMPROVE VEHICULAR ACCESS THERE.

THE WORK COMPRISES CONSTRUCTION OF A 7.6-METRE WIDE, TWO-LANE CONCRETE CARRIAGEWAY, A FOOTWAY AND ASSOCIATED DRAINAGE WORKS NEAR THE WHOLESALE FISH MARKET.

A TOTAL OF 13 METERED PARKING SPACES AND A LOADING AND UNLOADING PLACE FOR GOODS VEHICLES AND COACHES WILL ALSO BE INCLUDED.

THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT IS NOW INVITING TENDERS FOR THE PROJECT, WORK ON WHICH WILL COMMENCE IN SEPTEMBER AND BE COMPLETED WITHIN NINE MONTHS. THEY SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY NOON ON JULY 31.

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YOUTH'S SOCIAL AWARENESS GROWS WITH CIVIC EDUCATION
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THE PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE IS BEGINNING TO PAY OFF AS EVIDENCED BY AN OBVIOUS TREND THAT THEY ARE SHOWING MORE CONCERN FOR THEIR SOCIETY, CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR LAM KAM-KWONG SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE DISTRICT'S SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME AT THE CHATER ROAD PEDESTRIAN PRECINCT, MR LAM SAID THAT AMONG SOME 500 EVENTS ORGANISED THIS YEAR, MANY WERE GEARED TO PROMOTING SOCIAL AWARENESS AND TO ENHANCE YOUNG PEOPLE'S INTERESTS IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT.

HE ALSO ENCOURAGED THOSE WHO WOULD HAVE REACHED 21 YEARS OF AGE BY THE END OF THIS YEAR TO REGISTER AS ELECTORS SO THAT THEY COULD EXERCISE THEIR CIVIC RIGHTS AND VOTE IN DISTRICT BOARD, URBAN COUNCIL OR REGIONAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

MR LAM STRESSED THAT IT WAS AN IMPORTANT STEP FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO ACCEPT GREATER SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.

HE ALSO URGED THEM TO READ THE GREEN PAPER AND TO SUBMIT THEIR VIEWS TO THE SURVEY OFFICE.

AFTER THE OPENING CEREMONY, A CARNIVAL FEATURING POP MUSIC, CHORAL SINGING, AND DANCE PERFORMANCE AS WELL AS GAMES STALLS WAS HELD.

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SUMMER YOUTH ACTIVITIES IN SOUTHERN DISTRICT

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SOME 20,000 YOUNG PEOPLE IN SOUTHERN DISTRICT WOULD BENEFIT FROM MORE THAN 150 ACTIVITIES ORGANISED FOR THE DISTRICT'S SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME THIS YEAR, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, MR YUNG CHEK-CHOW SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME, MR YUNG SAID THAT WITH THE THEME OF "SHARE THE FUN, SERVE THE COMMUNITY", A GOOD DEAL OF ACTIVITIES IN SOUTHERN DISTRICT WERE INCORPORATED WITH AN ELEMENT OF SERVING THE COMMUNITY.

"THIS YEAR'S ACTIVITIES INCLUDE THE ORGANISATION OF CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR SQUATTER AREAS AND TEMPORARY HOUSING AREAS BY YOUNG PEOPLE THEMSELVES, VISITS TO THE DISABLED AND THE ELDERLY AND COUNSELLING SERVICES FOR PROBLEMS STUDENTS AND YOUTHS," MR YUNG SAID.

OTHER ACTIVITIES INCLUDE SEMINARS, CONTESTS, RECREATIONAL AND TRAINING CAMPS, CARNIVALS AND EXHIBITIONS.

THESE ACTIVITIES WILL BE PROVIDED BY 31 PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS COMPRISING VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, SCHOOLS, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATIONS AND OTHER LOCAL BODIES.

THE PROGRAMME COST, AMOUNTING TO ABOUT \$200,000, WAS DONATED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB, WHICH GAVE \$180,000, AND THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG SOUTH.

ALSO ATTENDING TODAY'S OPENING CEREMONY WERE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR SIMON LORD; ABERDEEN CARITAS SOCIAL CENTRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, MR ALBERT POON; POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICER (WESTERN), MR LAU WAI-CHUNG; RECREATION AND SPORTS OFFICER (SOUTHERN), MRS SIMMY WHITTAKER; YOUTH AND COMMUNITY OFFICER (SOUTHERN), MR PETER TAM; AND DISTRICT EDUCATION OFFICER (SOUTHERN), MR LAW KWAN-HUN.

IT WAS FOLLOWED BY A CARNIVAL ORGANISED BY THE ABERDEEN CARITAS SOCIAL CENTRE, WHICH FEATURED PERFORMANCES AND GAME STALLS ATTRACTING HUNDREDS OF YOUNGSTERS.

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COLOURFUL SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME GETS UNDERWAY

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A TWO-MONTH LONG SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME IN SHA TIN BEGAN TODAY (SUNDAY) AT THE NEW CITY PLAZA IN COLOURFUL STYLE AS SOME 300 YOUNG PEOPLE PAINTED THE CONCEPTION OF THEIR HOMES IN SHA TIN AND THE JOY OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT.

THE PARTICIPANTS WERE COMPETING IN A PAINTING COMPETITION WHICH WAS PART OF THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE PROGRAMME.

OUTSTANDING WORKS WERE ADDED TO A SUMMER-YOUTH-PROGRAMME-CUM CAREER EXHIBITION BEING STAGED IN THE NEW CITY PLAZA.

MORE THAN 500 ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN ORGANISED FOR YOUTHS IN THE DISTRICT THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY, LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, MRS ROSANNA TAM PRAISED THE SHA TIN SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR PROVIDING A FULL RANGE OF ACTIVITIES, WHICH WOULD HELP YOUNG PEOPLE TO INTEGRATE WITH THE DEVELOPING NEW TOWN.

SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR VICTOR YUNG POINTED OUT THAT AN IMPORTANT DIMENSION IN THESE ACTIVITIES WAS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO LEARN TO BE CIVIC-MINDED. HE ALSO CALLED ON SHA TIN RESIDENTS TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THE GREEN PAPER AND TO REGISTER AS VOTERS IN THE COMING VOTER REGISTRATION CAMPAIGN.

THE SHA TIN SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME WAS SPONSORED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB WITH A BUDGET OF SOME \$109,000.

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ACTIVITIES FOR YOUTHS IN YAU MA TEI

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THE PRIME OBJECTIVE OF ORGANISING SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMMES WAS TO PROVIDE HEALTHY AND MEANINGFUL PURSUITS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGED BETWEEN SIX AND 25 DURING THEIR SUMMER HOLIDAYS, CHAIRMAN OF THE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME COMMITTEE, MR PETER LEE SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME AT THE NEW WORLD PLAZA, MR LEE SAID, " WE HOPE THE ACTIVITIES WILL HELP YOUNG PEOPLE DEVELOP THEIR POTENTIAL, BETTER UNDERSTAND HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS AND ENHANCE THEIR SENSE OF BELONGING AND RESPONSIBILITY TO THE COMMUNITY."

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HE NOTED THAT MORE THAN 100 ACTIVITIES, INCORPORATING THE CENTRAL THEME OF 'SHARE THE FUN, SERVE THE COMMUNITY' WERE BEING ORGANISED IN YAU MA TEI DISTRICT THIS SUMMER.

THEY INCLUDED OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES, TRAINING COURSES, EXHIBITIONS, CARNIVALS, FILM SHOWS AND VARIETY SHOWS.

THIS YEAR, A SUM OF \$190,000 HAS BEEN ALLOCATED TO THE PROGRAMME, WITH \$155,400 FROM THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB AND THE REST MET BY DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS AND PRIVATE DONATIONS.

AMONG THOSE OFFICIATING AT TODAY'S OPENING CEREMONY WERE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR AUGUSTINE CHENG AND DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR YIP WAH.

AFTER THE OPENING CEREMONY, A VARIETY SHOW FEATURING BAND PERFORMANCE, CHINESE DANCE AND MARTIAL ARTS WAS STAGED BY LOCAL VOLUNTARY AGENCIES.

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YOUTHS ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNITY

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YOUTHS IN THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT WERE TODAY (SUNDAY) ENCOURAGED TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY THROUGH PARTICIPATION.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE DISTRICT'S SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME, WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR MICHAEL CHENG SAID YOUTHS SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE SUMMER ACTIVITIES TO SHARE THE FUN AND TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY.

MORE THAN 600 RECREATIONAL, EDUCATIONAL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES HAD BEEN PLANNED FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE DISTRICT THIS SUMMER, HE SAID.

THE DISTRICT BOARD HAD ENDORSED A SPONSORSHIP OF \$20,000. THE CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR CO-ORDINATING THE ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS, HE SAID.

THE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME WILL BE CARRIED OUT UNTIL THE END OF SEPTEMBER. DETAILS OF THE PROGRAMME CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS BRANCHES.

ALSO PRESENT AT TODAY'S OPENING CEREMONY WERE CHAIRMAN OF THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT'S SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, MISS MARGARET HONG AND THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR NG HON-WAH.

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KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME OPENS

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YOUNG PEOPLE SHOULD ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AT A TIME WHEN HONG KONG WAS EXPERIENCING NUMEROUS ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND POLITICAL CHANGES, CHAIRMAN OF THE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME SUB-COMMITTEE OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE ON YOUTH, MR PETER LEE, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME OPENING CARNIVAL AT THE KO SHAN ROAD FOOTBALL PITCH, MR LEE SAID: "THROUGH HEALTHY RECREATION AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES, YOUNG PEOPLE WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO RELAX AND WIDEN THEIR SCOPE OF LEARNING."

"BY TAKING PART IN COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES, YOUNG PEOPLE WILL BE ABLE TO REALISE THEIR CIVIC RESPONSIBILITIES AND FURTHER DEVELOP THEIR POTENTIAL IN BUILDING A BETTER SOCIETY," HE SAID.

THE THEME OF THIS YEAR'S SUMMER PROGRAMME IS "SHARE THE FUN, SERVE THE COMMUNITY".

THE CARNIVAL WAS ORGANISED BY THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE AND SPONSORED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB AND THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD.

THE PROGRAMME INCLUDED GAMES STALLS, A CIVIC EDUCATION EXHIBITION AND THE PAINTING OF A SIX BY FOUR METRE PICTURE HIGHLIGHTING THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE KOWLOON CITY.

THIS YEAR, ABOUT 360 ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN ORGANISED BY LOCAL VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND SCHOOLS. THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB AND THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD HAVE ALLOCATED MORE THAN \$300,000 FOR THESE ACTIVITIES.

ACTIVITIES IN THE PROGRAMME WILL INCLUDE CAMPINGS, OUTINGS, VISITS TO ELDERLY CENTRES, SEMINARS, GAMES, SPORTS, SUMMER CLASSES FOR PRIMARY STUDENTS AND TRAINING COURSES.

ALSO ATTENDING TODAY'S SUMMER YOUTH OPENING CARNIVAL WERE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ALEX FONG; DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR WONG SIK-KONG; AND DISTRICT SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER, MR NG KAI-KIN.

ABOUT 36,000 YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE DISTRICT ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE PART IN THESE ACTIVITIES WHICH WILL LAST UNTIL THE END OF AUGUST.

A BOOKLET CONTAINING DETAILED INFORMATION OF THE ACTIVITIES CAN BE OBTAINED AT THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE, ITS TWO SUB-OFFICES AND ORGANISING AGENCIES.

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ISLANDS DISTRICT SWIMMING GALA

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MORE THAN 120 ISLANDERS TOOK PART IN THE 12TH ISLANDS DISTRICT SWIMMING GALA AT THE SHA TIN JOCKEY CLUB PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL THIS (SUNDAY) AFTERNOON.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE SWIMMING GALA, THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR JONATHAN NG, SAID THAT AS SPORTING ACTIVITIES HAD BECOME A PART OF THE ISLANDERS' DAILY LIVING, THE GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS HAD WORKED TOGETHER TO PROMOTE ACTIVELY SPORTS IN RECENT YEARS.

"VARIOUS SPORTS TRAINING SESSIONS AND COMPETITIONS ARE HELD EVERY YEAR IN ORDER TO RAISE THE STANDARD OF SPORT IN THE DISTRICT.

"THE SUCCESS OF THE ANNUAL SWIMMING GALA PROVES THAT COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS IS FRUITFUL," MR NG SAID.

HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THROUGH THE SWIMMING COMPETITION, COMMUNICATIONS AMONG DIFFERENT AREAS WITHIN THE DISTRICT WOULD BE ENHANCED.

THE SWIMMING GALA IS AN ANNUAL EVENT ORGANISED BY THE ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICE, THE ISLANDS DISTRICT BOARD, THE ISLANDS DISTRICT SPORTS ASSOCIATION, THE REGIONAL COUNCIL AND THE EIGHT RURAL COMMITTEES OF THE DISTRICT.

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TAI PO NEW TOWN FAMILY SERVICES ON AGENDA

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MEMBERS OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD WILL MEET TOMORROW (MONDAY) TO DISCUSS THE PROVISION OF FAMILY SERVICES IN THE NEW TOWN.

AT THE MEETING THEY WILL ALSO STUDY THE PROGRESS REPORT ON THE KWONG FUK HALFWAY HOUSE.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE PROGRESS REPORTS ON THE STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENTS OF TAI PO IN 1990'S, THE 1987/88 ANTI-SMOKING PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN AND THE ICAC WANG FUK COURT INVOLVEMENT PROGRAMME.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF THE TAI PO COMMERCIAL CENTRE AT 152-172 KWONG FUK ROAD.

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ROAD CLOSURE IN WAN CHAI
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THE SOUTHBOUND SLIP ROAD LINKING FENWICK PIER STREET TO HARCOURT ROAD IN WAN CHAI WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 10 AM ON WEDNESDAY (JULY 15) FOR ABOUT TWO MONTHS TO FACILITATE ROAD WORK.

DURING THE CLOSURE, WESTBOUND VEHICLES ON HARBOUR ROAD HEADING FOR GLOUCESTER ROAD WILL HAVE TO USE FENWICK STREET.

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