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DORWARD ATTACKS PROTECTIONISM IN THE U.S.
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HONG KONG'S COMMISSIONER IN THE UNITED STATES, MR BILL DORWARD, TOOK THE BATTLE AGAINST THE PROTECTIONIST JENKINS BILL TO THE WEST OF THE COUNTRY RECENTLY, WITH SPEECHES ATTACKING IT IN COLORADO SPRINGS, DENVER AND SAN FRANCISCO.

SPEAKING BEFORE THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN INSTITUTE FOR FOREIGN TRADE AND FINANCE IN DENVER, COLORADO, MR DORWARD OUTLINED THE DEMANDS FOR PROTECTION FROM THE AMERICAN TEXTILE AND APPAREL INDUSTRY.

+WITH THE HIGHEST PROTECTIVE TARIFFS AND A 25-YEAR HISTORY OF QUOTAS ON IMPORTS, THIS SECTOR HAS ENJOYED MORE AND LONGER PROTECTION THAN ANY SINCE THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION. BUT IT WANTS MORE AND TO GET IT IT IS SPENDING U.S. $500 000 A MONTH ON ONE OF THE MOST INTENSIVE LOBBYING CAMPAIGNS FOR PROTECTIONIST LEGISLATION WASHINGTON HAS EVER SEEN,+ MR DORWARD TOLD THE INSTITUTE.

HE SAID THE AIM OF THE BILL WAS, IN EFFECT, TO MAKE THE CONSUMER PAY U.S. $35 000 A YEAR FOR EVERY MARGINAL U.S. $10 000 A YEAR JOB IT PRESERVED.

+IT HAS ALL THE HALLMARKS OF THE KIND OF SHORT-SIGHTED PROTECTIONISM WHICH DEVASTATED THE WORLD ECONOMY IN THE THIRTIES.+

IF PASSED, MR DORWARD SAID, IT WOULD RESULT IN SERIOUS BREACHES OF U.S. INTERNATIONAL TREATIES, RETALIATION AGAINST U.S. EXPORTS, AND A REDUCTION IN THE ABILITY OF THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES TO SERVICE THEIR DEBTS AND IMPORT AMERICAN GOODS.

HE SAID THE PROTECTIONISTS SHOULD REMEMBER THE DICTUM OF THE PHILOSOPHER SANTAYANA: +THOSE WHO DO NOT LEARN FROM THE MISTAKES OF HISTORY ARE DOOMED TO REPEAT THEM.+

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NEW AIRPORT TRANSPORT TERMINUS TO OPEN

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A LANDSCAPED TERMINUS FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORT WILL BE OPEN FOR USE AT HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

THE $8 MILLION TRANSPORT TERMINUS IS THE FIRST IN HONG KONG TO INCORPORATE LANDSCAPING IN ITS DESIGN.

LOCATED TO THE WEST OF THE PASSENGER TERMINAL BUILDING, THE TERMINUS PROVIDES ARRIVING PASSENGERS WITH A COVERED AREA FOR TAXIS, MINI-BUSES, LIMOUSINES AND AIRPORT BUSES.

NOT ONLY DOES IT PROVIDE WAITING PASSENGERS WITH A MORE PLEASANT ENVIRONMENT, IT ALSO HELPS TO RELIEVE THE PRESSURE ON THE EXISTING ARRIVALS KERB.

THE TERMINUS HAS A TOTAL AREA OF 14 000 SQUARE METRES AND A SPACE FRAME ABOVE THE QUEUEING AREA.

A TAXI QUEUEING RANK FOR 50 TAXIS AND A LOADING BAY PROVIDES SPACE FOR SIMULTANEOUS LOADING BY UP TO FIVE TAXIS.

THE AIRPORT BUS-LOADING BAY IS LARGE ENOUGH FOR THREE VEHICLES AND AN EQUAL NUMBER CAN BE ACCOMMODATED IN THE HOLDING BAY.

THERE IS ALSO SUFFICIENT SPACE FOR LOADING BY MINI-BUSES AND LIMOUSINES.

OTHER FACILITIES AT THE TERMINUS INCLUDE TELEPHONES, PUBLIC TOILET, REFRESHMENT KIOSK AND SEATS.

WORK ON THE TRANSPORT TERMINUS BEGAN IN APRIL LAST YEAR.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT SAID THE TERMINUS FORMED PART OF THE $273 MILLION AIRPORT EXPANSION SCHEME KNOWN AS STAGE V DEVELOPMENT.

+THE OBJECTIVE OF STAGE V DEVELOPMENT IS TO INCREASE THE PASSENGER TERMINAL BUILDING CAPACITY FROM THE PRESENT 3 400 TO 5 300 PASSENGERS PER HOUR IN EACH DIRECTION,+ HE SAID.

WITH DEVELOPMENT OF THIS STAGE EARMARKED FOR COMPLETION IN EARLY 1988, THE PASSENGER HANDLING CAPACITY AT THE AIRPORT IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE FROM THE PRESENT 12 MILLION TO 18 MILLION PASSENGERS A YEAR, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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APRIL RETAIL SALES SURVEY RESULTS RELEASED

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THE VALUE OF RETAIL SALES IN APRIL 1985, ESTIMATED AT $5 406 MILLION, WAS ONE PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN APRIL 1984, WHILE THEIR VOLUME WAS ONE PER CENT LOWER, ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONAL SURVEY RESULTS RELEASED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

RETAIL SALES FOR THE THREE-MONTH PERIOD FEBRUARY - APRIL 1985, WHEN COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1984, ROSE BY 10 PER CENT IN VALUE AND EIGHT PER CENT IN VOLUME.

COMPARING APRIL 1985 WITH MARCH 1985, AND BEARING IN MIND THAT THIS COMPARISON IS AFFECTED BY SEASONAL FACTORS, RETAIL SALES DECREASED BY THREE PER CENT IN VALUE AND FOUR PER CENT IN VOLUME.

IN APRIL 1985, RETAIL SALES OF FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO ROSE BY FOUR PER CENT IN BOTH VALUE AND VOLUME TERMS WHEN COMPARED WITH APRIL 1984. FUELS ALSO INCREASED BY TWO PER CENT IN BOTH VALUE AND VOLUME TERMS. CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS SHOWED AN INCREASE OF EIGHT PER CENT IN SALES VALUE BUT A DECREASE OF ONE PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME. BOTH CONSUMER DURABLES AND +OTHER CONSUMER GOODS+ DROPPED BY TWO PER CENT IN SALES VALUE, WHILE THEIR DECREASES IN SALES VOLUME WERE FOUR PER CENT AND THREE PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

COMPARING THE PERIOD FEBRUARY - APRIL 1985 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1984, RETAIL SALES OF CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS INCREASED BY 22 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 13 PER CENT IN VOLUME. THOSE OF FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO ROSE BY 11 PER CENT IN BOTH VALUE AND VOLUME TERMS.

CONSUMER DURABLES SHOWED AN INCREASE OF NINE PER CENT IN VALUE AND SIX PER CENT IN VOLUME. RETAIL SALES OF +OTHER CONSUMER GOODS+ AND FUELS INCREASED BY EIGHT PER CENT AND TWO PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN BOTH VALUE AND VOLUME TERMS.

WHEN COMPARED WITH MARCH 1985, RETAIL SALES OF CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS ROSE BY FOUR PER CENT IN VALUE AND ONE PER CENT IN VOLUME. ON THE OTHER HAND, RETAIL SALES OF FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO AND FUELS DECREASED BY ONE PER CENT IN BOTH VALUE AND VOLUME TERMS. CONSUMER DURABLES DECREASED BY TWO PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND THREE PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME, WHILE +OTHER CONSUMER GOODS+ FELL BY SIX PER CENT IN VALUE AND SEVEN PER CENT IN VOLUME.

/ANALYSED BY .....

ANALYSED BY SELECTED TRADES, RETAIL SALES OF MOTOR VEHICLES ROSE SUBSTANTIALLY IN BOTH VALUE AND VOLUME TERMS WHEN COMPARED WITH APRIL 1984. SUPERMARKETS ALSO SHOWED MODERATE INCREASES. HOWEVER, SALES OF DEPARTMENT STORES AND CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES DROPPED IN BOTH VALUE AND VOLUME.

COMPARING THE PERIOD FEBRUARY - APRIL 1985 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1984, RETAIL SALES OF MOTOR VEHICLES ROSE CONSIDERABLY IN BOTH VALUE AND VOLUME TERMS. SUPERMARKETS AND DEPARTMENT STORES ALSO SHOWED LARGE INCREASES IN BOTH VALUE AND VOLUME TERMS. HOWEVER, CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES RECORDED NO CHANGE IN BOTH SALES VALUE AND VOLUME.

WHEN COMPARED WITH MARCH 1985, RETAIL SALES OF MOTOR VEHICLES INCREASED MODERATELY IN BOTH VALUE AND VOLUME TERMS. HOWEVER, SUPERMARKETS, DEPARTMENT STORES AND CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES ALL RECORDED DECREASES IN BOTH VALUE AND VOLUME TERMS.

TABLE 1 PRESENTS THE REVISED TOTAL SALES FIGURE FOR MARCH 1985 AND THE PROVISIONAL FIGURE FOR APRIL 1985.

TABLE 2 SHOWS THE VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF RETAIL SALES BY MAJOR TRADE GROUPS AND SELECTED TRADES (WHICH FORM PART OF THE RELEVANT MAJOR TRADE GROUPS), WITH AVERAGE MONTHLY RETAIL SALES IN 1980 TAKEN AS 100.

COMPARISONS OF APRIL 1985 RESULTS WITH THOSE OF MARCH 1985 AND APRIL 1984 AND COMPARISONS OF RETAIL SALES IN THE THREE-MONTH PERIOD FEBRUARY - APRIL 1985 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1984 ARE ALSO GIVEN.

GRAPHS 1 AND 2 DEPICT THE INDEX MOVEMENTS OF TOTAL RETAIL SALES FROM JANUARY 1983 TO MARCH 1985.

THE REPORT CONTAINING THE ANALYSIS OF THE APRIL 1985 SURVEY RESULTS IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE, CONNAUGHT PLACE, AT $1 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. : 3-7216024).

/TABLE 1 : .....

TABLE 1 : TOTAL RETAIL SALES

Total Retail Sales for April 1985 (Provisional Figure) = HK$5 406 million
for March 1985 (Revised Figure) = HK$5 543 million

TABLE 2 : VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF RETAIL SALES FOR MARCH AND APRIL 1985

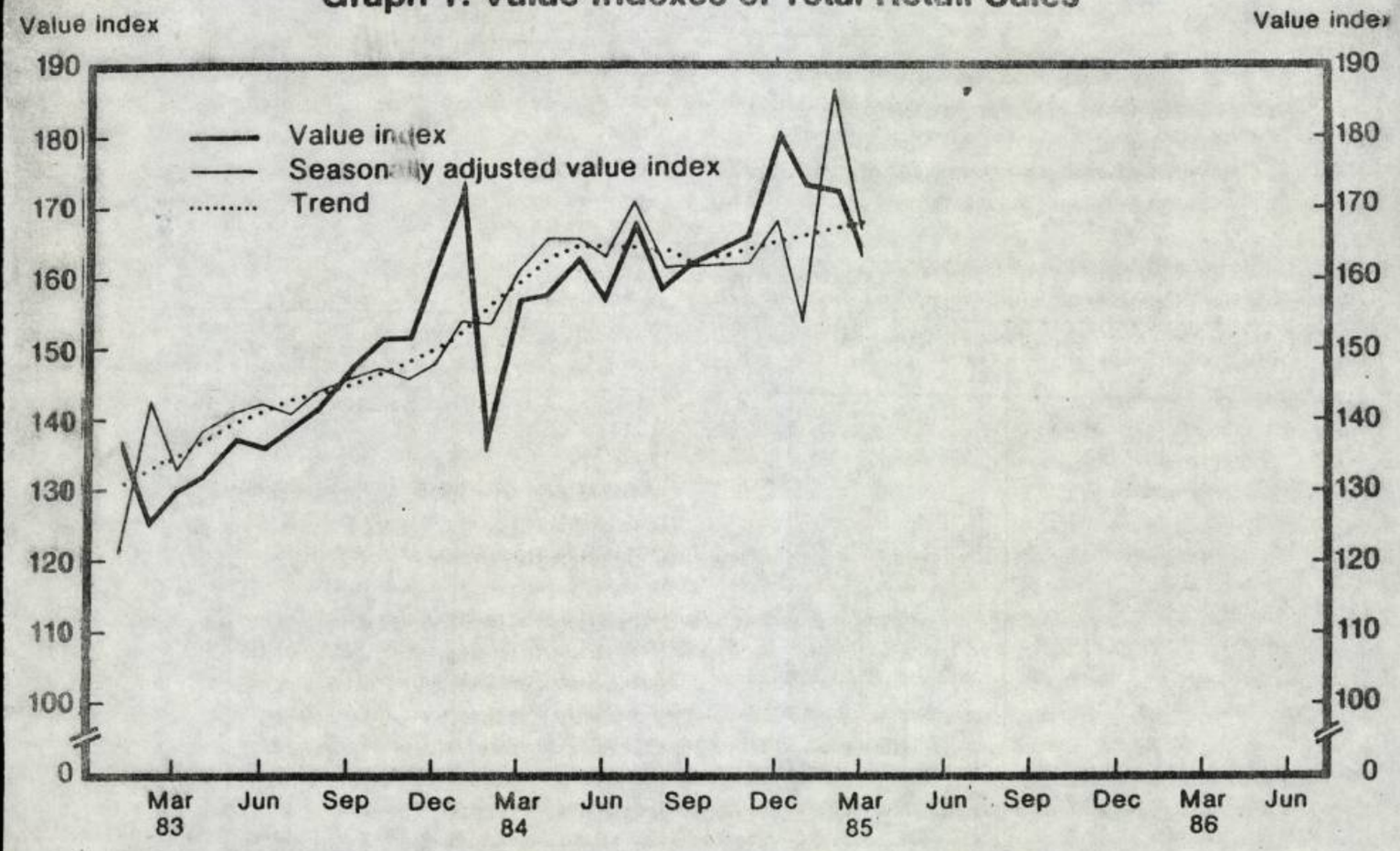
(Monthly average of 1980 = 100)

Item	Index of Retail Sales	March 1985 (Revised figures)	April 1985 (Provisional figures)	April 1985 compared with March 1985 Points	%	April 1985 compared with April 1984 Points	%	Feb. - April 1985 compared with Feb. - April 1984 Points	%
(A) FOR ALL RETAIL TRADES									
	Value	163	159	- 4	- 3	+ 1	+ 1	+ 15	+ 10
	Volume	113	109	- 4	- 4	- 1	- 1	+ 9	+ 8
(B) BY MAJOR TRADE GROUPS									
Foodstuffs, alcoholic drinks and tobacco	Value	179	178	- 1	- 1	+ 7	+ 4	+ 18	+ 11
	Volume	116	115	- 1	- 1	+ 4	+ 4	+ 11	+ 11
Fuels	Value	194	193	- 1	- 1	+ 4	+ 2	+ 4	+ 2
	Volume	124	123	- 1	- 1	+ 3	+ 2	+ 3	+ 2
Clothing, footwear and allied products	Value	191	199	+ 9	+ 4	+ 15	+ 8	+ 38	+ 22
	Volume	122	123	+ 1	+ 1	- 1	- 1	+ 15	+ 13
Consumer durables	Value	147	144	- 3	- 2	- 3	- 2	+ 12	+ 9
	Volume	109	105	- 3	- 3	- 5	- 4	+ 6	+ 6
Other consumer goods	Value	154	145	- 9	- 6	- 3	- 2	+ 11	+ 8
	Volume	111	103	- 8	- 7	- 3	- 3	+ 8	+ 8
(C) BY SELECTED TRADES									
Supermarkets	Value	293	289	- 4	- 1	+ 26	+ 10	+ 49	+ 19
	Volume	177	174	- 3	- 2	+ 13	+ 8	+ 28	+ 18
Motor vehicles	Value	82	89	+ 7	+ 8	+ 24	+ 37	+ 29	+ 51
	Volume	49	52	+ 4	+ 8	+ 13	+ 32	+ 15	+ 44
Consumer durables other than motor vehicles	Value	191	182	- 10	- 5	- 22	- 11	*	*
	Volume	150	142	- 8	- 5	- 16	- 10	*	*
Department stores	Value	154	136	- 19	- 12	- 3	- 2	+ 24	+ 18
	Volume	111	96	- 15	- 13	- 3	- 3	+ 17	+ 18

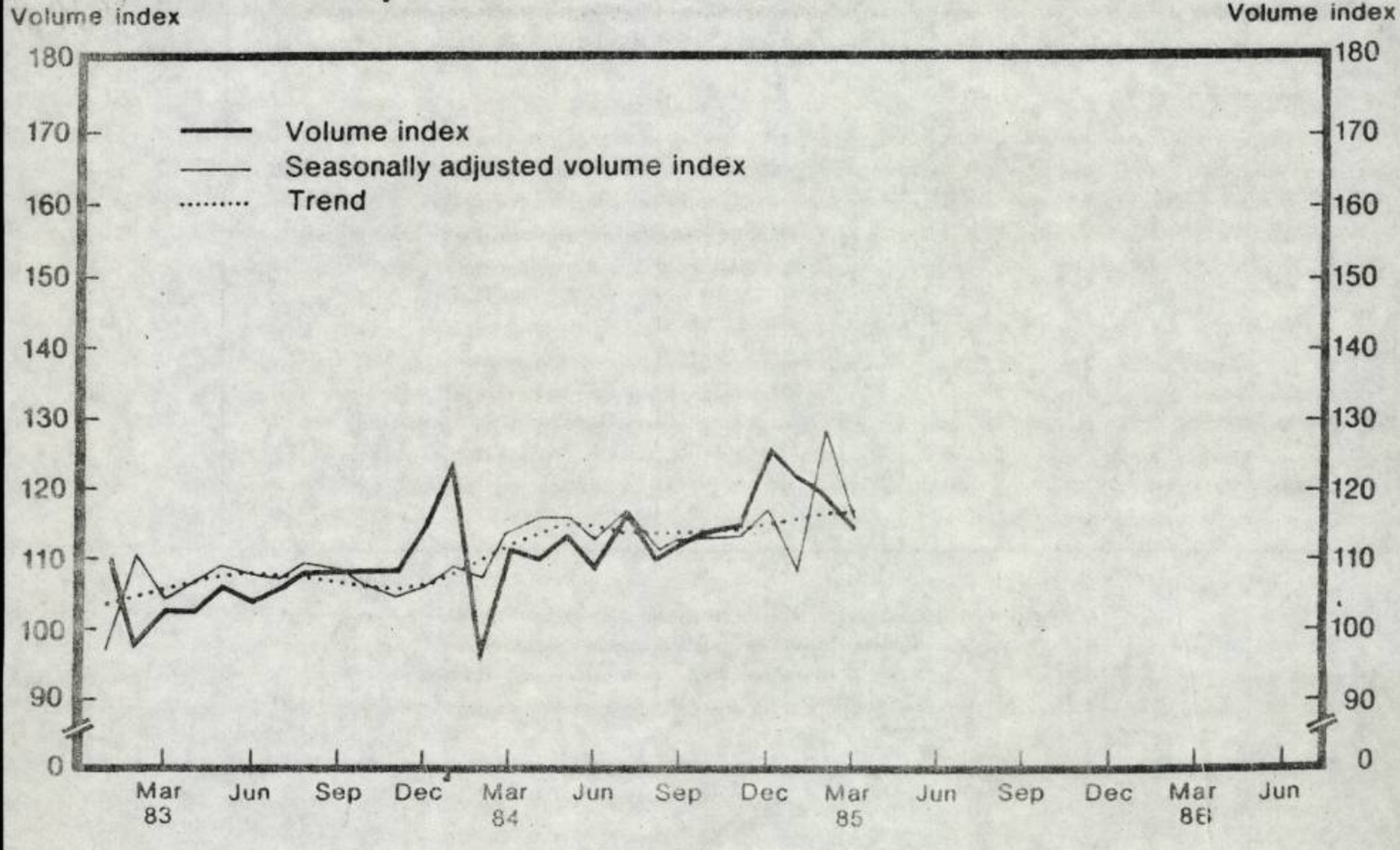
Notes : 1. "Foodstuffs, alcoholic drinks and tobacco" includes "supermarkets".
2. "Consumer durables" includes "motor vehicles".
3. "Other consumer goods" includes "department stores".
4. Figures denoting changes are derived from the unrounded index figures.
5. * denotes no change.

/GRAPH 1 : .....

Graph 1: Value Indexes of Total Retail Sales



Graph 2: Volume Indexes of Total Retail Sales



Notes: (1) Monthly average of 1980 = 100
(2) The seasonally adjusted value and volume indexes and Henderson trends are compiled using the X-11 variant seasonal adjustment program of the U.S. Bureau of the Census

THIRD QUARTER RATE PAYMENTS DUE

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RATEPAYERS ARE REMINDED THAT RATES FOR THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1985 MUST BE PAID BY 4 PM ON JULY 31.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TREASURY SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT LATE PAYMENTS MAY BE SUBJECT TO A FIVE PER CENT SURCHARGE AND A FURTHER SURCHARGE OF 10 PER CENT ON ACCOUNTS STILL OUTSTANDING SIX MONTHS AFTER THE DUE DATE.

HE SAID RATEPAYERS SHOULD HAVE BY NOW RECEIVED DEMAND NOTES.

THOSE WHO HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED DEMAND NOTES SHOULD APPLY FOR A COPY AT THE RATES SECTION OF THE TREASURY, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (WEST WING), NINTH FLOOR, 11 ICE HOUSE STREET, HONG KONG= THE YAU MA TEI SUB-TREASURY, FOURTH FLOOR, 405 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON= OR THE KOWLOON CITY SUB-TREASURY, MAN SANG COMMERCIAL BUILDING, FIRST FLOOR, 348-352 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD (CORNER OF PRINCE EDWARD ROAD AND JUNCTION ROAD), KOWLOON.

+WHETHER OR NOT THE DEMAND NOTE IS RECEIVED, IT DOES NOT ALTER THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE RATES SHOULD BE PAID BEFORE THE DUE DATE,+ HE POINTED OUT.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT RATES ARE PAYABLE ON VACANT PREMISES BUT ARE REFUNDABLE UNDER CONDITIONS SPECIFIED IN THE RATING ORDINANCE.

HOWEVER, THERE WILL BE NO REFUND IN THE CASE OF A VACANT TENEMENT LAST USED OR INTENDED TO BE USED WHOLLY OR PRIMARILY FOR DOMESTIC PURPOSES OR FOR THE PARKING OF VEHICLES, UNLESS IT IS VACANT BY REASON OF AN ORDER OF THE GOVERNMENT.

TO AVOID QUEUEING, RATEPAYERS ARE URGED TO PAY BY CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER SENT BY POST OR BY EARLY PERSONAL ATTENDANCE AT ANY OF THE OFFICES LISTED ON THE BACK OF THE DEMAND NOTE.

RATEPAYERS WHO HAVE ALREADY SUBMITTED THEIR AUTOPAY FORMS SHOULD READ THEIR DEMAND NOTES CAREFULLY TO SEE IF THEY CONTAIN THE WORDING 'PAYMENT BY AUTOPAY AS AUTHORISED'.

THE ABSENCE OF SUCH WORDING MEANS THEIR FORMS HAVE NOT YET BEEN PROCESSED, IN WHICH CASE THEY SHOULD CONTINUE TO PAY THEIR RATES IN THE NORMAL WAY -- IN PERSON OR BY CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER.

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POST OFFICE LOOKING FOR BETTER TV SOUND SYSTEM
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THE POST OFFICE IS HEAVILY INVOLVED IN THE SELECTION OF A SUITABLE SYSTEM FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF MULTIPLEX SOUND ON TELEVISION, THE DEPUTY POSTMASTER GENERAL, MR DAVID LAN, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

SPEAKING AT A LIONS CLUB OF BAYVIEW LUNCHEON, MR LAN SAID THAT IT WAS THE POST OFFICE'S RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE THAT THE SYSTEM TO BE ADOPTED COULD WORK SATISFACTORILY IN THE HONG KONG ENVIRONMENT AND THAT IT WAS COMPATIBLE TO EXISTING TELEVISION TRANSMISSIONS.

+THE SYSTEM SHOULD BE A WIDELY ADOPTED ONE IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD SO THAT THE DECODERS AND OTHER ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT COULD BE WIDELY AVAILABLE AT EASILY AFFORDABLE PRICES TO THE PUBLIC,+ HE ADDED.

EXPLAINING THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SIDE OF THE POST OFFICE'S WORK, HE SAID THE POSTMASTER GENERAL, AS THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY IN HONG KONG, WAS THE ADVISER TO GOVERNMENT ON THE TECHNICAL PERFORMANCES OF COMMERCIAL TELEVISION AND RADIO BROADCASTING COMPANIES.

THE POST OFFICE WAS HEAVILY INVOLVED, HE SAID, IN THE EXTENSION OF TELEVISION AND RADIO COVERAGES TO POOR RECEPTION AREAS. THIS INCLUDED THE FORMULATION OF TRANSMISSION PLANS AND THE CHOICE OF SITES AND FREQUENCIES.

EXTENSIVE WORK HAD BEEN DONE, HE ADDED, IN FORMULATING A TERRITORY-WIDE TRANSMISSION PLAN FOR THE EXTENSION OF FM BROADCASTING TO ALL PARTS OF HONG KONG.

IF IMPLEMENTED, THE PLAN COULD PROVIDE SEVEN FM SERVICES THROUGHOUT HONG KONG.

TURNING TO RADIO SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT, ANOTHER MAJOR AREA OF WORK FOR THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS BRANCH OF THE POST OFFICE, MR LAN SAID THAT THE RADIO WAVES WERE USED FOR ALL TYPES OF RADIO COMMUNICATIONS -- TELEVISION AND RADIO BROADCASTING, SATELLITES, WALKIE-TALKIES USED BY THE POLICE AND OTHER USERS, RADIO PAGERS, MOBILE RADIOS USED BY TAXIS AND LORRIES, AND EVEN TOYS FOR CHILDREN.

+ALL THESE USAGES OF RADIO REQUIRE A SLOT IN THE RADIO FREQUENCY SPECTRUM WHICH IS A LIMITED RESOURCE.

+IT IS THEREFORE IMPORTANT THAT THIS LIMITED RESOURCE IS MANAGED PROPERLY SO THAT IT CAN BE FULLY DEPLOYED IN THE MOST EFFICIENT MANNER.+

/WHILE CAREFUL .....

WHILE CAREFUL PLANNING WAS DONE IN CONSISTENCY WITH INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS AND IN CLOSE COLLABORATION WITH HONG KONG'S NEIGHBOURS, EACH INDIVIDUAL USE OF RADIO WOULD ALSO HAVE TO BE ASSIGNED A FREQUENCY FROM A CENTRAL RECORD KEPT BY THE POST OFFICE, SO THAT UNWANTED INTERFERENCE AMONG USERS COULD BE AVOIDED, HE SAID.

MOREOVER, THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS BRANCH ALSO HAD A RADIO MONITORING UNIT TO INVESTIGATE AND ELIMINATE RADIO FREQUENCY INTERFERENCE AND A HOT LINE HAD BEEN SET UP TO ACCEPT COMPLAINTS FROM THE PUBLIC, HE SAID.

AT PRESENT, THE POST OFFICE ISSUED 25 DIFFERENT TYPES OF TELECOMMUNICATION LICENCES WITH A TOTAL OF ABOUT 40 000 LICENCES CURRENTLY IN FORCE.

TURNING TO THE MORE FAMILIAR SERVICE OFFERED BY THE POST OFFICE, MR LAN SAID THAT POSTAL SERVICE IN HONG KONG HAD KEPT IN STEP WITH THE TIMES.

IN THE 1840S WHEN HONG KONG WAS FOUNDED, THE POST OFFICE HANDLED SOME 250 LETTERS A DAY AND THIS HAD GROWN TO 1.5 MILLION LETTERS AND PARCELS BEING PROCESSED DAILY TODAY.

THE POST OFFICE WAS CURRENTLY HANDLING SOME 530 MILLION POSTAL ITEMS EACH YEAR, WITH AN ANNUAL GROWTH RATE OF ABOUT 8 TO 10 PER CENT, HE SAID.

TO ENABLE HONG KONG TO PLAY AN EVEN MORE EFFECTIVE COMMERCIAL ROLE INTERNATIONALLY A NUMBER OF SPECIAL SERVICES FOR SPEEDY TRANSMISSION OF TIME-SENSITIVE DOCUMENTS HAD BEEN INTRODUCED, HE SAID.

THESE INCLUDED:

* ENLARGED PARCEL SERVICE WHICH ENABLED LARGER AND HEAVIER PARCELS OF 20 KILOGRAMS TO BE SENT BY SURFACE OR AIR TO OVER 60 COUNTRIES;

* SPEEDPOST SERVICE COVERING OVER 300 MAJOR CITIES IN 32 COUNTRIES INCLUDING CHINA, JAPAN, AND MANY EUROPEAN COUNTRIES; AND

* INTELPOST SERVICE WHICH WAS INTRODUCED IN LATE 1982 AND AVAILABLE TO 30 COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE UNITED STATES, FRANCE, WEST GERMANY, JAPAN AND SINGAPORE.

MR LAN SAID ANOTHER SERVICE BEING CONSIDERED BY THE POST OFFICE WAS THE PROVISION OF A NEW TYPE OF LICENCE WHICH WOULD ENABLE PLEASURE VESSELS TO CARRY AND USE RADIO EQUIPMENT WITH A MINIMUM DEGREE OF CONTROL.

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MORE LATE APPLICATIONS
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UP TO 4 PM TODAY (WEDNESDAY), 13 338 LATE APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION AS ELECTORS IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED. AS A RESULT OF THE EARLIER REGISTRATION EXERCISE, 34 531 ELECTORS HAVE ALREADY BEEN INCLUDED IN THE PROVISIONAL REGISTER PUBLISHED ON JUNE 21.

A STATISTICAL BREAKDOWN IS AS FOLLOWS:

	ESTIMATED SIZE OF ELECTORATE (REVISED)	NUMBER OF ELECTORS ON PROVISIONAL REGISTER	LATE APPLICATIONS
ELECTORAL COLLEGE	434	428	5
FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES			
COMMERCIAL I	2 347	681	621
COMMERCIAL II	5 512	1 730	1 079
INDUSTRIAL I	772	364	130
INDUSTRIAL II	2 324	913	419
FINANCIAL	141	119	16
LABOUR	393	285	21
SOCIAL SERVICES	155	129	23
MEDICAL	4 548	2 109	918
LEGAL	1 511	727	256
TEACHING	49 047	25 337	9 164
ENGINEERING, ARCHITECTURAL, SURVEYING AND PLANNING	2 890	1 709	686
TOTAL	70 074	34 531	13 338

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PLACEMENT OF REDUNDANT TEACHERS IN PROGRESS

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MORE THAN 220 OF THE 600 REDUNDANT AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS WHO REGISTERED WITH THE PLACEMENT SERVICE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFULLY PLACED IN VARIOUS SCHOOLS LAST MONTH (JUNE).

THE ANNUAL EXERCISE OF PLACING REDUNDANT TEACHERS INTO NEW POSTS STARTED IN MAY AND IS EXPECTED TO TAKE ANOTHER TWO MONTHS TO COMPLETE, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

TO SPEED UP THE PLACEMENT EXERCISE, HE URGED ALL AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL SUPERVISORS TO REPORT IMMEDIATELY TO THEIR RESPECTIVE DISTRICT EDUCATION OFFICE ALL AVAILABLE VACANCIES IN THEIR SCHOOLS, ARISING FROM NEW CLASSES, WASTAGE AND RETIREMENT.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO CALLED ON SCHOOL MANAGEMENT TO ACCEPT THE REDUNDANT TEACHERS REFERRED TO THEM BY THE PLACEMENT SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT.

+WITHOUT THE FULL SUPPORT OF SCHOOL MANAGEMENT, IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR THE PLACEMENT SERVICE TO PLACE ALL REDUNDANT TEACHERS AT AN EARLY DATE.+

+AS A RESULT, VACANCIES IN AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS WILL CONTINUE TO BE FROZEN,+ HE SAID.

IN THIS CONNECTION, SCHOOL SUPERVISORS ARE REMINDED THAT THEY SHOULD NOT ENTER INTO ANY EMPLOYMENT WITH OTHER TEACHERS BEFORE THE PLACEMENT SERVICE HAD COMPLETED ITS TASK.

FOR THE LAST 10 YEARS, THE DEPARTMENT HAD CARRIED OUT THE ANNUAL EXERCISE OF HELPING TO PLACE REDUNDANT AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS INTO NEW JOBS BECAUSE OF A DROP IN POPULATION OF PRIMARY SCHOOL AGE AND A SHIFT OF POPULATION FROM URBAN AREAS TO THE NEW TOWNS.

BETWEEN 1975 AND 1984, MORE THAN 3 500 AFFECTED TEACHERS HAD BEEN HELPED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO SECURE ALTERNATIVE TEACHING POSTS.

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MORE SPECIALISED VEHICLES FOR CLEANSING FLEET

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TO ACHIEVE GREATER EFFICIENCY IN CLEANSING WORK, THE URBAN COUNCIL IS TO BUY SIX HIGHLY SPECIALISED REFUSE COLLECTION VEHICLES.

THE ORDER, AT A COST OF OVER $1.9 MILLION, COMPRISES TWO TRACTORS AND FOUR ELECTRO-HYDRAULIC COMPACTION TRAILERS.

ONE OF THE MAIN ADVANTAGES OF THESE VEHICLES IS THAT THE TRACTOR CAN TAKE A TRAILER TO A DESIGNATED REFUSE COLLECTION POINT WHERE IT WILL BE UNCOUPLED AND CONNECTED TO AN AUXILIARY POWER PACK TO DRIVE THE COMPACTION UNIT READY FOR LOADING.

THIS WILL NOT ONLY REDUCE THE NOISE LEVEL AND ENGINE EXHAUST BUT ALSO LEAVE THE TRACTOR FREE TO PICK UP A SECOND TRAILER AT ANOTHER LOCATION FOR A SIMILAR TASK TO BE UNDERTAKEN.

IN FACT, THE COUNCIL HAS PUT ON TRIAL A TRACTOR AND TWO TRAILERS SINCE AUGUST 1983. IT HAS BEEN ASCERTAINED THAT THE SYSTEM OFFERS SUBSTANTIAL OPERATIONAL AND, PARTICULARLY, ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS.

AT PRESENT THE COUNCIL MAINTAINS SOME 780 VEHICLES, OF WHICH ABOUT 420 ARE SPECIALISED ONES SUCH AS REFUSE COLLECTION VEHICLES, STREET WASHERS, MEAT VANS, MECHANICAL SWEEPERS AND GULLY CESSPIT EMPTIERS. THE REST ARE GENERAL PURPOSE VEHICLES INCLUDING PICK-UP VANS, MOTOR CYCLES AND LORRIES.

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FOUR FIREMEN COMMENDED FOR RESCUE

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THE DRAMATIC RESCUE OF AN ELDERLY MAN WHO THREATENED TO JUMP FROM A BUILDING LAST MAY WAS AN EXAMPLE OF THE REPUTATION FOR PROFESSIONALISM AND EFFICIENCY ENJOYED BY THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, THE ACTING CHIEF FIRE OFFICER OF HONG KONG, MR LAM CHEK-YUEN, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

HE WAS SPEAKING AT A CEREMONY AT WAN CHAI FIRE STATION THIS MORNING AT WHICH A FIRE OFFICER AND THREE FIREMEN WERE PRESENTED WITH THE DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES' COMMENDATION FOR THE RESCUE OPERATION.

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+IT MAY LOOK LIKE A SIMPLE OPERATION, BUT TO CARRY IT OUT TO PERFECTION IS NOT EASY. IT CALLS FOR PROFESSIONAL SKILL AND GOOD TEAM-WORK WHICH CAN ONLY BE ACQUIRED THROUGH YEARS OF RIGOROUS TRAINING,+ MR LAM SAID.

THE INCIDENT OCCURRED LAST MAY WHEN AN 80-YEAR-OLD MAN SAT ON THE LEDGE OF A SIXTH FLOOR WINDOW AND THREATENED TO JUMP FROM THE WAN CHAI BUILDING. SENIOR STATION OFFICER CHAN CHOR-SING LED A TEAM OF FIREMEN, INCLUDING CHAN PING-WING, TAM YEE-KEUNG AND HAU KAM-PING, TO RESCUE THE DISTRESSED MAN.

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WORK STARTS ON FERRY PIER SUPERSTRUCTURE

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WORK HAS STARTED ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF A REINFORCED CONCRETE SUPERSTRUCTURE FOR THE TUEN MUN FERRY PIER.

THE PIER, ON THE SOUTHWEST TUEN MUN SEAFRONT NEAR BUTTERFLY AND WU KING ESTATES, WILL REPLACE THE EXISTING TEMPORARY STRUCTURE AT THE TYPHOON SHELTER.

THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT RECENTLY AWARDED THE $19.8 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE PROJECT WHICH IS EXPECTED TO TAKE 12 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

A FINGER PIER EXTENSION OF THE MAIN FERRY PIER WILL ALSO BE CONSTRUCTED SEAWARD TO PROVIDE BERTHING FACILITIES FOR HOVERFERRIES AND DOUBLE AND TRIPLE-DECK FERRIES.

ALSO INCLUDED IN THE CONTRACT ARE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A PROMENADE FROM MELODY GARDENS TO THE FERRY PIER, A TEMPORARY ACCESS ROAD FOR EMERGENCY AND SERVICE VEHICLES, A TAXI BAY, SITE FORMATION FOR A CARPARK AND AN EXTENSION TO THE EXISTING TEMPORARY BUS TERMINUS.

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DTC REGISTRATION REVOKED

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THE ACTING COMMISSIONER OF DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ANNOUNCED THAT HE HAS TODAY (WEDNESDAY) REVOKED THE REGISTRATION OF ATB FINANCE LIMITED AS A DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANY, ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE COMPANY HAS FAILED TO COMPLY WITH THE LIQUIDITY REQUIREMENT UNDER SECTION 24A OF THE DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ORDINANCE AND THE COMPANY HAS MADE A REPORT TO HIM UNDER SECTION 19(A) OF THE ORDINANCE THAT IT IS LIKELY TO BECOME UNABLE TO MEET ITS OBLIGATIONS.

THE ACTING COMMISSIONER ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT THE REGISTRATION OF K-REX FINANCE LIMITED AS A DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANY HAS BEEN REVOKED AT ITS OWN REQUEST UNDER SECTION 14(2) OF THE DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ORDINANCE.

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CARNIVAL LAUNCHES SAI KUNG SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME

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THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME 1985 WILL BE LAUNCHED THIS SATURDAY (JULY 6) WITH A CARNIVAL AT THE SAI KUNG MAN YEE REHOUSING ESTATE PLAYGROUND.

THE OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE OFFICIATED BY THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR KEVIN HO.

THE PROGRAMME IS ORGANISED BY THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, CO-ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE, AND SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD.

A TOTAL OF 47 EVENTS HAS BEEN ARRANGED BY THE CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE AND 15 LOCAL ORGANISATIONS. THESE INCLUDE A CARICATURE COMPETITION, A FAMILY GAMES DAY AND YOUTH AND FAMILY LIFE EXHIBITION, A FUN DAY FOR ABLED AND DISABLED, A FILM SHOW FOR FAMILIES, A HOME HELP SERVICE PROJECT AND VARIOUS SERVICE PROJECTS FOR VILLAGE CHILDREN.

THE AIM OF THE CARICATURE COMPETITION IS TO PROMOTE CIVIC EDUCATION AMONG YOUTHS THROUGH PARTICIPATION. THE DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS AUGUST 15 AND THE WINNING CARICATURES WILL BE EXHIBITED AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME IN SEPTEMBER AT THE SAI KUNG MAN YEE REHOUSING ESTATE PLAYGROUND.

THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME BOOKLETS WITH DETAILED INFORMATION OF ALL FUNCTIONS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE.

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PARTICIPANTS FOR MASS PAINTING EXERCISE SOUGHT

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YOUNG PEOPLE IN MONG KOK ARE BEING INVITED TO TAKE PART IN A MASS PAINTING EXERCISE FOR 1 000 PARTICIPANTS WHICH WILL LAUNCH THE DISTRICT'S SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME AT MACPHERSON PLAYGROUND LATER THIS MONTH.

THE CREATIVE PAINTING EVENT WILL HIGHLIGHT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE PROGRAMME ON JULY 21.

THE THEME OF THE PAINTING EXERCISE CENTRES ON THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR'S THESIS OF +PARTICIPATION, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE+.

EACH PARTICIPANT WILL BE GIVEN A PIECE OF RUBBER FOAM MEASURING 66 CM BY 100 CM AND WILL BE REQUIRED TO PAINT A PICTURE WITH THE COLOURS AND THEME OF THE IYY.

/+THE PROGRAMME, ...

+THE PROGRAMME, WHICH LASTS TILL THE END OF AUGUST, PROVIDES A WIDE RANGE OF RECREATIONAL AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE, GIVING THEM THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEND THEIR HOLIDAYS MEANINGFULLY AND ENJOYABLY,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MONG KOK DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE SAID.

THE FINISHED PIECES WILL BE PUT TOGETHER ON THE GROUND TO FORM A 600-SQUARE-METRE PAINTING, AND PARTICIPANTS WILL BE GIVEN PERSONAL PRINTS OF A GROUP PHOTOGRAPH TO COMMEMORATE THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE EXERCISE.

ENTRY FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICE AT 157 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD.

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SEARCH FOR A 'SHORT TENNIS' CHAMPION

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THE KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI DISTRICT BOARD, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE HONG KONG TENNIS ASSOCIATION AND THE JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE, IS INTRODUCING A NEW SPORTS - SHORT TENNIS - FOR CHILDREN UNDER 12 YEARS OLD.

+SHORT TENNIS+ IS SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR SMALL HALLS. THE SIZE OF THE COURT, NET AND RACKET ARE MINIATURISED AND A LIGHT SPONGE BALL IS USED TO ENABLE CHILDREN TO PLAY WITH SOME DEGREE OF SKILL AND ENTHUSIASM.

A SERIES OF COACHING SESSIONS WILL BE INTRODUCED IN THE SEVEN AREAS OF THE KWAI CHUNG DISTRICT, FOLLOWED BY AN AREA COMPETITION, THE WINNERS OF WHICH WILL COMPETE FOR THE DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP.

A PRESS CONFERENCE, ANNOUNCING DETAILS OF THE SCHEME WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY (JULY 5) AT 3.30 PM IN THE GAMES ROOM OF THE OSMAN RAMJU SADICK MEMORIAL GAMES HALL AT 176 HING FONG ROAD, KWAI CHUNG.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI DISTRICT BOARD, MR HO TUNG-CHING, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SHORT TENNIS PROMOTION COMMITTEE, MR CHENG WING-CHUN, AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE HONG KONG TENNIS ASSOCIATION WILL INTRODUCE THE SCHEME.

A TEAM FROM THE HONG KONG TENNIS ASSOCIATION WILL DEMONSTRATE THE GAME AFTER THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

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CLEAN BEACH CEREMONY AT STANLEY

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A CLEAN BEACH CEREMONY WHICH INCLUDES ENTERTAINMENT WILL BE HELD ON JULY 6 (SATURDAY) AT NOON AT STANLEY MAIN BEACH, WITH A MEMBER OF THE URBAN COUNCIL KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN COMMITTEE, MRS MARGARET LI, OFFICIATING.

A BEACH CLEAN-UP WILL FOLLOW THE CEREMONY. MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB, ST. JAMES' SETTLEMENT AND VARIOUS DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL ALSO BE TAKING PART.

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D'AGUILAR STREET ROAD WORK

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D'AGUILAR STREET BETWEEN WYNDHAM STREET AND WELLINGTON STREET IN CENTRAL WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 1 PM ON SATURDAY (JULY 6) TO 6 AM ON JULY 8 AND FROM 1 PM ON JULY 13 TO 6 AM ON JULY 15 FOR ROAD WORK.

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TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE

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SUTHERLAND STREET BETWEEN CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST AND DES VOEUX ROAD WEST IN SAI YING PUN WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 2 PM TO 6 PM ON SATURDAY (JULY 6) FOR DRAINAGE WORK.

DURING THE CLOSURE, VEHICLES ON CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST EASTBOUND HEADING FOR THE WESTBOUND LANE OF DES VOEUX ROAD WEST WILL HAVE TO TURN RIGHT AT THE JUNCTION WITH WING LOK STREET.

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