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DIGEST OF STATISTICS FOR SEPTEMBER PUBLISHED

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THE SEPTEMBER 1980 ISSUE OF THE HONG KONG MONTHLY DIGEST OF STATISTICS IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE IN THE GPO BUILDING AT $14 A COPY.

THE ISSUE CONTAINS A REVIEW ARTICLE ANALYSING SOME SELECTED STRUCTURAL AND OPERATING RATIOS FOR HONG KONG'S WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS.

SPECIAL REFERENCE IS MADE TO THOSE ESTABLISHMENTS ENGAGING 20 OR MORE PERSONS WHICH WERE IN OPERATION DURING THE ENUMERATION PERIOD OF THE 1977 CENSUS OF WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS.

THE ANALYSIS COMPARES THE DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES (WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES) AS A WHOLE WITH MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS OF SIMILAR EMPLOYMENT SIZE OPERATING IN 1978.

IN 1977, TOTAL SALES OF ESTABLISHMENTS ENGAGING 20 OR MORE PERSONS IN DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES AMOUNTED TO $47 884 MILLION WHEREAS TOTAL GROSS MANUFACTURING OUTPUT BY ESTABLISHMENTS OF SIMILAR SIZE IN 1978 WAS $55 013 MILLION.

THE CONTRIBUTION TO THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT OF DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES WAS ABOUT ONE THIRD OF THAT OF THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR. OF $4 213 MILLION CONTRIBUTED TO THE GDP, IMPORT/EXPORT TRADE ACCOUNTED FOR THE LARGEST PROPORTION (68.6%).

THE NATIONAL ACCOUNTS VALUE ADDED CONTENT IN SALES FOR VARIOUS GROUPS OF TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS RANGED FROM 3.1 PER CENT TO 55.2 PER CENT, WITH AN OVERALL AVERAGE OF 8.8 PER CENT FOR DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES, A RELATIVELY LOW FIGURE WHEN COMPARED WITH 28.3 PER CENT OBSERVED IN ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.

OF EVERY DOLLAR OF SALES IN DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES, ONLY 5.6 CENTS WENT TO PRIMARY FACTORS OF PRODUCTION, THAT IS, LABOUR COST, RENTAL AND INTEREST PAYMENTS AND DEPRECIATION OF FIXED ASSETS= COST OF GOODS SOLD HOWEVER CONSTITUTED THE LARGEST INPUT CONTENT AMOUNTING TO 86.1 CENTS.

IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, 59.8 CENTS WERE SPEND ON CONSUMPTION OF MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES, AND 22.7 CENTS ON LABOUR, RENTAL AND DEPRECIATION OF FIXED ASSETS FOR EACH DOLLAR'S WORTH OF OUTPUT.

RESTAURANTS ENGAGING 20 OR MORE PERSONS EMPLOYED OVER 80 000 PERSONS IN 1977, MORE THAN THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED IN SIMILAR SIZE ESTABLISHMENTS IN ALL DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES.

LABOUR CONTENT FOR RESTAURANTS OUTPUT AT 25.4 PER CENT WAS THE HIGHEST AMONG WHOLESALE, RETAIL, IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS. ON THE OTHER HAND, HOTELS/BOARDING HOUSES HAD RELATIVELY HIGH INPUT CONTENTS OF RENTAL AND INTEREST PAYMENTS, AND DEPRECIATION OF FIXED ASSETS AT 9.3 PER CENT AND 4.6 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

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OUTPUT PER PERSON ENGAGED IN TERMS OF SALES IN DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES WAS $656 000, BEING SEVENFOLD MORE THAN THAT OBSERVED IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR. THIS MAY BE ATTRIBUTED TO THE HIGH INPUT CONTENT OF COST OF GOODS SOLD.

IMPORT/EXPORT BUSINESS YIELDED THE HIGHEST PER CAPITA OUPUT AT $957 000. RESTAURANTS AS WELL AS HOTELS/BOARDING HOUSES RECORDED LOW OUTPUT YIELDS AT $52 000 AND $70 000 RESPECTIVELY.

AN AVERAGE EMPLOYEE IN DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES EARNED AROUND $1 900 PER MONTH, INCLUSIVE OF ALL FORMS OF FRINGE BENEFITS WHILE MANUFACTURING WORKERS EARNED A SLIGHTLY LOWER RATE OF $1 300. THOSE EMPLOYED IN THE IMPORT/EXPORT OF CAPITAL GOODS RECEIVED THE HIGHEST REMUNERATION. IMPORT/EXPORT TRADE PAID ABOVE AVERAGE REMUNERATION TO EMPLOYEES.

PAYMENTS IN KIND AND WELFARE SERVICES ACCOUNTED FOR 12.1 PER CENT OF TOTAL LABOUR COST IN DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES, COMPARED WITH 3.8 PER CENT IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR. A RELATIVELY HIGH PERCENTAGE (14.4%) WAS FOUND IN HOTELS/BOARDING HOUSES.

EACH PERSON ENGAGED IN THE DISTRIBUTIVE TRADE SECTOR CONTRIBUTED AN AVERAGE OF $58 000 TO THE GDP, COMPARED WITH $25 000 FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR. IMPORT/EXPORT TRADE HAD THE HIGHEST NATIONAL ACCOUNTS VALUE ADDED PER PERSON AT $78 000, FOLLOWED BY HOTELS/ BOARDING HOUSES AT $39 000.

IN DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES, THE RATIO OF SALES TO CAPITAL STOCK IN 1977 WAS 21. LABOUR COST, OPERATING COSTS, AND RENTAL AND INTEREST PAYMENTS AS A PROPORTION OF CAPITAL STOCK IN DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES WERE 74.8 PER CENT, 118.9 PER CENT AND 34.7 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY, WHEREAS NET OPERATING SURPLUS WAS 90.0 PER CENT OF CAPITAL STOCK.

IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, THE LABOUR COST PERCENTAGE WAS AS HIGH AS 111.6 PER CENT, WHEREAS THE PERCENTAGE FOR RENTAL PAYMENTS WAS REMARKABLY LOW AT 11.9 PER CENT, WITH NET OPERATING SURPLUS AT 32.6 PER CENT.

PURCHASES OF GOODS FOR SALE PER PERSON ENGAGED IN DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES AMOUNTED TO $577 000. THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR HOWEVER SPENT $54 000 PER PERSON ON PURCHASES OF MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES.

MEASURED IN TERMS OF THE RATIOS OF PURCHASES OF GOODS TO LABOUR COST, OPERATING COSTS AND RENTAL AND INTEREST PAYMENTS, WHOLESALE RANKED FIRST AMONG ALL DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES, FOLLOWED BY IMPORT/EXPORT TRADE.

PURCHASES OF GOODS WERE 8.4 TIMES THE VALUE OF AVERAGE STOCKS OF GOODS AND 18.4 TIMES CAPITAL STOCK, COMPARED WITH 4.6 AND 3.7 TIMES RESPECTIVELY IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR.

RELATIVELY LOW RATIOS OF PURCHASES OF GOODS TO CAPITAL STOCK WERE FOUND IN RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS/BOARDING HOUSES, WHICH RANGED FROM 0.1 IN HOTELS TO 2.9 IN CHINESE RESTAURANTS.

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OLD TSUEN WAN SCHOOLS RE-ESTABLISHED
IN SHEK WAI KOK ESTATE

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TWO SCHOOLS IN TSUEN WAN, WHICH WERE DEMOLISHED LAST YEAR TO MAKE WAY FOR THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY EXTENSION, WERE RE-OPENED TODAY BY THE TOWN MANAGER TSUEN WAN, DR JAMES HAYES.

THE SCHOOLS, TSUEN WAN PUBLIC SCHOOL AND HO CHUEN YIU MEMORIAL COLLEGE, WERE PREVIOUSLY LOCATED AT THE BOTTOM OF ROUTE TWISK. THEY HAVE BEEN RE-ESTABLISHED IN THE NEWLY COMPLETED SHEK WAI KOK ESTATE.

DR HAYES SAID THE TWO SCHOOLS HAD A PARTICULAR PLACE IN THE HISTORY OF EDUCATION IN TSUEN WAN DISTRICT.

TSUEN WAN PUBLIC SCHOOL WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1923, AMALGAMATING THREE PRIVATE SCHOOLS - NAM YUEN SHUE SHE OF SAM TUNG UK, TSUI PING SHUE SHE OF LO WAI, AND KAM CHUEN SHUE SUK OF HOI PA.

IN 1940, IT BECAME A SUBSIDISED SCHOOL.

EVEN DURING THE JAPANESE OCCUPATION FROM 1941 TO 1945, IT HAD GONE ON OPERATING.

AFTER THE WAR, EVERY EFFORT HAD BEEN MADE TO RAISE FUNDS TO HELP MEET THE COST OF BUILDING A NEW AND LARGER SCHOOL, WHICH WAS EVENTUALLY OPENED IN 1959.

IN DUE COURSE, PROVISION FOR SECONDARY CLASSES WAS ADDED TO THE PRIMARY INSTITUTION, AND NAMED AFTER MR HO CHUEN YIU, ONE OF THE BEST KNOWN OF THE FORMER GENERATION OF NEW TERRITORIES' LEADERS.

DR HAYES SAID: +FOR 20 YEARS THE NEW SCHOOL SERVED THE CHILDREN OF TSUEN WAN VILLAGES UNTIL, IN 1979, THE BUILDING HAD TO BE DEMOLISHED FOR THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY EXTENSION.

+IT WAS REPLACED BY THESE FINE PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL BUILDINGS IN THE NEW SHEK WAI KOK ESTATE, LEASED FROM THE HOUSING AUTHORITY, AND FITTED OUT WITH A SPECIAL GOVERNMENT GRANT.

+TODAY'S CEREMONY MARKS A NEW AND IMPORTANT PHASE IN THE EDUCATION OF TSUEN WAN'S OLDER POPULATION, AND IS AN APPROPRIATE POINT FOR TAKING STOCK OF PAST ACHIEVEMENTS,+ HE SAID.

AMONG ITS FORMER PUPILS ARE MANY ABLE PERSONS WHO HAVE LONG PLAYED A LEADING PART IN COMMUNITY WORK FOR THE NEW TOWN POPULATION.

THEY HAVE A GOOD UNDERSTANDING OF THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY AND THE WAYS IN WHICH THEY COULD BE MET, AND THEY ARE ABLE TO INFLUENCE FELLOW CITIZENS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ALIKE THROUGH THEIR DEEP KNOWLEDGE, THEIR KEEN INTEREST IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND GENERAL ABILITY.

+I CONSIDER THAT IT IS NO ACCIDENT THAT THEY HAVE DONE SO WELL, SINCE SOUND TEACHING AND THE TRADITIONAL MORAL PRECEPTS INCULCATED IN THEIR HOMES HAVE COMBINED TO PRODUCE A TYPE OF PERSON MUCH NEEDED IN THE NEW TOWN TODAY,+ DR HAYES SAID.

AT PRESENT, TSUEN WAN PUBLIC SCHOOL HAS 16 CLASSES AND 640 STUDENTS= HO CHUEN YIU MEMORIAL COLLEGE HAS 26 CLASSES AND 1 200 STUDENTS.

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DEVELOPMENT IN TECHNICAL EDUCATION UNRIVALLED

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THE RATE OF GROWTH IN TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN HONG KONG DURING THE PAST DECADE IS PROBABLY UNMATCHED BY ANY OTHER COUNTRY IN THE WORLD, MR J.R. DEVEREUX, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (TECHNICAL) SAID TODAY.

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE CHINESE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION AT WHICH 240 STUDENTS FROM VARIOUS INSTITUTIONS RECEIVED AWARDS.

AT THE BEGINNING OF THE 1970'S, THE TECHNICAL COLLEGE TOGETHER WITH ONE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE OFFERED ABOUT 3 000 FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT PLACES IN DAY COURSES.

+TODAY WE HAVE THE POLYTECHNIC AND FIVE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES OFFERING BETWEEN THEM OVER 16 000 EQUIVALENT DAY PLACES AND A VERY LARGE NUMBER OF EVENING PLACES,+ MR DEVEREUX SAID.

HE NOTED THAT WHEN THE TECHNICAL COLLEGE MOVED TO ITS HUNG HOM SITE IN 1957, THE CHINESE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION DONATED $1 MILLION TOWARDS THE COST OF THE PROJECT.

+THE STRONG PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR HAS CONTINUED TO BE A NOTABLE CHARACTERISTIC OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN HONG KONG,+ HE SAID.

IN ADDITION, HE SAID, THE CHINESE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION WAS INVOLVED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF PREVOCATIONAL SCHOOLS WHOSE SUCCESS COULD BE SEEN FROM THE LARGE NUMBER OF APPLICANTS AND THE ENTHUSIASTIC RESPONSE OF INDUSTRY FOR THEIR GRADUATES.

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COCKEREL GOLD COINS OVERSUBSCRIBED

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MORE THAN 105 000 APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FOR THE YEAR OF THE COCKEREL GOLD COINS, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY.

OF THIS TOTAL, 48 000 APPLICATIONS WERE FOR THE PROOF COIN WHILE THE REMAINING 57 000 FOR THE BRILLIANT UNCIRCULATED VERSION.

HOWEVER, ONLY 14 000 PROOF COINS AND 18 000 UNCIRCULATED COINS ARE BEING OFFERED TO HONG KONG RESIDENTS. EACH COIN HAS A FACE VALUE OF $1.000. THE BRILLIANT UNCIRCULATED VERSION IS SOLD AT $2 200 WHILE THE PROOF COIN IS SOLD AT $3 300.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FOR THE COCKEREL GOLD COINS WAS LOWER THAN THAT FOR THE MONKEY GOLD COINS LAST YEAR. THIS WAS PROBABLY DUE TO THE STRICTER APPLICATION PROCEDURES WHICH WERE DESIGNED TO ASSIST GENUINE COLLECTORS TO OBTAIN A COIN AND TO DISCOURAGE SPECULATORS.

HE ADDED: +FURTHERMORE, IT HAS BEEN MADE CLEAR IN PRESS ADVERTISEMENTS, NEWSPAPER REPORTS AND IN THE APPLICATION FORMS, THAT IN THE EVENT OF OVERSUBSCRIPTION FOR EITHER OR BOTH VERSIONS, ONLY ONE APPLICATION FORM FROM EACH IDENTITY CARD HOLDER FOR EACH VERSION OF THE COIN WOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE BALLOT.

/+THIS .....

+THIS, TOGETHER WITH THE CHANGES IN PROCEDURES, HAS AS EXPECTED SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCED THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS.+

ANOTHER REASON FOR THE VERY HEAVY DEMAND FOR THE MONKEY GOLD COINS WAS DUE TO AN INCREASE OF OVER 30 PER CENT IN THE PRICE OF GOLD WHEN APPLICATIONS OPENED.

+THIS RESULTED IN A LARGE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FROM PEOPLE WHO WERE MORE INTERESTED IN THE GOLD VALUE RATHER THAN THE NUMISMATIC VALUE OF THE COIN,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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HK SENDS YOUNG SWIMMERS TO INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

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A GROUP COMPRISING HONG KONG'S MOST PROMISING YOUNG SWIMMERS IS LEAVING ON CHRISTMAS DAY FOR HAWAII TO TAKE PART IN A FOUR-DAY SWIMMING COMPETITION FROM DECEMBER 27 TO 30.

THE YOUNGSTERS, WITHIN THE AGE GROUP 9 TO 12, WILL TAKE PART IN THE 10TH ANNUAL AULEA INVITATIONAL SWIM MEET AT KIALUA NEAR HONOLULU.

THEY WILL COMPETE WITH SWIMMERS FROM JAPAN, GUAM AND TOP HAWAIIAN SWIMMERS AND NATIONAL AGE GROUP RECORD HOLDERS FROM THE UNITED STATES.

THE HONG KONG DELEGATION OF 17 SWIMMERS, LED BY THREE OFFICIALS, IS FUNDED BY A GRANT OF $50 000 FROM THE COUNCIL FOR RECREATION AND SPORT, THE HONG KONG AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION (HKASA) AND A DONATION FROM GRINDLAY'S DAO HENG BANK, WITH SUPPORT FROM OTHER WELL-WISHERS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE COUNCIL SAID THE COUNCIL WAS PARTICULARLY KEEN ON ENCOURAGING PARTICIPATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN POPULAR SPORTS. IT EXPECTED TO FUND MORE SUCH TEAMS IN 1981 ON OVERSEAS COMPETITIONS TO BROADEN THE EXPERIENCE OF OUR UP AND COMING SPORTSMEN AND WOMEN.

THE AGE GROUP COMMITTEE OF THE HKASA HAS CO-ORDINATED THE EFFORT TO SEND THIS FIRST-EVER AGE GROUP TEAM OVERSEAS AS PART OF A DEVELOPMENT SCHEME TO ENCOURAGE MORE HONG KONG YOUNGSTERS TO JOIN THE ALL-YEAR PROGRAMME OF COMPETITIVE SWIMMING NOW OFFERED LOCALLY.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE AGE GROUP COMMITTEE, MR BRIAN COAK, SAID THE PRESIDENT OF THE HKASA, MR A. DE O. SALES WAS VERY ENTHUSIASTIC AND HAD GIVEN GREAT ENCOURAGEMENT FOR THIS DEVELOPMENT SCHEME WHICH AIMED AT PARTICIPATION BUT AT THE SAME TIME GROOMED TALENTED YOUNGER SWIMMERS FOR INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS.

+IT IS NECESSARY,+ SAID MR COAK, +TO LOOK MORE LONG TERM. THE YOUNGER ELEMENT REQUIRES GRADUAL EXPOSURE AND BETTER COMPETITION IN ORDER TO GAIN EXPERIENCE TO BE COMPETITIVE AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL. CONSEQUENTLY, THE ASSOCIATION IS MAKING A POSITIVE START BY SENDING THIS TEAM TO THE AULEA MEET.+

THE HONG KONG TEAM WILL BE LED BY TEAM MANAGER, MR BRIAN COAK, WITH MR TANG NAI CHU AS ASSISTANT TEAM MANAGER AND MRS PAT WONG AS CHAPERONE.

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ANTI-DRUG FUN DAY
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HUNDREDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE AND CHILDREN WILL BE ENTERTAINED AT A +WATER CARNIVAL+ IN THE NEW TERRITORIES AND A +GAMES DAY+ IN MONG KOK THIS SATURDAY (DECEMBER 20).

THE FUNCTIONS ARE HELD IN SUPPORT OF THE ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGNS IN THE TWO DISTRICTS.

THE WATER CARNIVAL, TO BE HELD AT THE FANLING PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL, IS PART OF THE CURRENT NORTH DISTRICT CRIME PREVENTION AND ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN.

IT IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS, THE NORTH DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE, THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE DISTRICT OFFICE, NORTH.

THE EVENT IS THE FIRST OF ITS KIND TO BE HELD AT A HEATED SWIMMING POOL. IT IS AIMED AT ENCOURAGING YOUNG PEOPLE TO SPEND THEIR LEISURE TIME AND ENERGY IN HEALTHY ACTIVITIES TO REDUCE THE RISK OF THEIR EXPERIMENTING WITH DRUGS.

THERE WILL BE A BAND DISPLAY, A SWIMMING RELAY COMPETITION, CANOE POLO DEMONSTRATION, GAMES AND A +SPLASH-IN+ SESSION FOR ALL.

THE CARNIVAL WILL BEGIN AT 1.30 PM FOLLOWING A RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY. OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE MR PETER LEE, COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR CHEUNG YAN-LUNG, CHAIRMAN OF THE NORTH DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, MR P.E. JOHNSON, DISTRICT OFFICER, NORTH, TOGETHER WITH RURAL COMMITTEE LEADERS AND GUESTS.

IN MONG KOK, THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE HAS ORGANISED A CHILDREN'S GAMES DAY TO BE HELD AT 1.30 PM AT MACPHERSON PLAYGROUND IN SUPPORT OF THE DISTRICT'S ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN.

THE FUNCTION WILL NOT ONLY BE ENTERTAINING BUT ALSO EDUCATIONAL. GAME STALLS WILL BE DECORATED WITH ANTI-NARCOTICS POSTERS AND DRAWINGS AND GAMES WILL BE SPECIALLY DESIGNED TO CONVEY ANTI-NARCOTICS MESSAGES.

A VARIETY SHOW FEATURING DANCING, SINGING AS WELL AS A MAGIC SHOW WILL ALSO BE PERFORMED.

OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE MR C.M. LEUNG, ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, AND MRS STELLA HUNG, CITY DISTRICT OFFICER (MONG KOK) TOGETHER WITH COMMUNITY LEADERS.

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ROAD IMPROVEMENTS AT YUEN CHAU TSAI
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WORK WILL START NEXT WEEK ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF ROADS AND BRIDGES AT YUEN CHAU TSAI, FORMING PART OF AN INTERCHANGE FOR THE FUTURE COASTAL TRUNK ROAD BETWEEN SHA TIN AND TAI PO NEW TOWNS.

A $47 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION WORK, NEAR THE LEVEL CROSSING BETWEEN TAI PO ROAD AND KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY, WAS LET TODAY TO LEIGHTON CONTRACTORS PTY LTD.

THE CONTRACT WAS SIGNED THIS AFTERNOON BY MR GEORGE CHIEN, CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE TAI PO AND FANLING NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COMPANY.

MR CHIEN SAID WORK ON THE MAIN CONTRACT OF THE COASTAL TRUNK ROAD WAS EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN APRIL NEXT YEAR.

+WHEN WORK ON THE PRESENT CONTRACT IS COMPLETED, IT WILL PROVIDE A GRADE-SEPARATED CROSSING BETWEEN TAI PO ROAD AND THE RAILWAY.

+ELIMINATION OF THE EXISTING LEVEL CROSSING IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ELECTRIFICATION AND MODERNISATION PROGRAMME OF THE KCR BY 1982,+ HE EXPLAINED.

MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL, MR CHIEN SAID, IT WILL RELIEVE THE TRAFFIC CONGESTION EXPERIENCED DURING PEAK HOURS ON THIS SECTION OF TAI PO ROAD.

THE CONSTRUCTION WORK WILL TAKE ABOUT 18 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE PROJECT HAS BEEN DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTION WILL BE SUPERVISED BY PETER FRAENKEL AND PARTNERS (ASIA), CONSULTING ENGINEERS FOR THE PWD NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

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CONTRACTS LET FOR RECREATION PROJECTS
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THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TODAY LET TWO BUILDING CONTRACTS TOTALLING SOME $40 MILLION FOR RECREATION PROJECTS IN KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE FIRST CONTRACT, WORTH ABOUT $39 MILLION, IS FOR A RECREATION GROUND ON A 5.5-HECTARE SITE IN KO SHAN ROAD, TO KWA WAN.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE RECREATION GROUND WOULD FEATURE A 3 000-SEAT OPEN AIR THEATRE, A MINI-SOCCER PITCH, FOUR TENNIS COURTS, A CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND AND A LANDSCAPED REST GARDEN WITH FOUNTAINS.

+THE THEATRE WILL BE EQUIPPED WITH THE LATEST LIGHTING AND SOUND SYSTEM AND WILL BE USED FOR STAGE PLAYS, OPERAS AND CONCERTS.

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+OF THE 3 000 SEATS, 1 000 WILL BE UNDER COVER WHILE THE MINI-SOCCER PITCH WILL BE FLOODLIT AND SEAT 800 PEOPLE,+ HE SAID.

THE TENNIS COURTS, HE ADDED, WILL HAVE FLOODLIGHTING FACILITIES AND CHANGING ROOMS. THERE WILL ALSO BE TOILETS AND REFRESHMENT KIOSKS.

THE WHOLE PROJECT WILL TAKE ABOUT 24 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE SECOND CONTRACT, VALUED AT ABOUT $950 000, IS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF TWO SQUASH COURTS AT FANLING RECREATION GROUND.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE COURTS WOULD BE THE FIRST ONES TO BE BUILT TO IMPROVED STANDARD, WITH AIR-CONDITIONING AND MAPLE FLOORING.

ANOTHER FEATURE IS THAT ONE OF THE COURTS WILL BE GLASS-BACKED FOR GROUP COACHING.

A SPECTATOR STAND WILL BE PUT UP TO MAKE THEM AVAILABLE FOR CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES.

WORK ON THIS PROJECT WILL TAKE ABOUT NINE MONTHS.

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NT SCHOOLS SPORTS ASSOCIATION PRAISED

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THE NEW TERRITORIES SCHOOLS SPORTS ASSOCIATION HAS BEEN COMMENDED BY THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR AUGUSTINE CHUI KAM, FOR ITS INVALUABLE SERVICES TO LOCAL STUDENTS.

MR CHUI WAS SPEAKING TODAY AT THE PRIZE-PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE 21ST INTER-DISTRICT PRIMARY SCHOOLS ATHLETICS MEETING ORGANISED BY THE ASSOCIATION AT MONG KOK STADIUM.

HE SAID A SPORTS MEETING WAS A MEANINGFUL MASS ACTIVITY, AMALGAMATING TEAM WORK, CIVIL TRAINING AND SPORTSMANSHIP.

CLOSE CO-OPERATION IS CALLED FOR RIGHT THROUGH THE PREPARATORY STAGE TO THE ACTUAL DAY, BOTH AMONG ORGANISERS AND COMPETITORS.

+DURING THE COURSE OF RACES, WE COMPETE WITH EACH OTHER FAIRLY, FOLLOWING THE REGULATIONS= AND EQUAL EMPHASIS IS PLACED ON 'PARTICIPATING' AND 'WINNING'. THIS SPIRIT PLAYS A PART IN CITIZENSHIP UPBRINGING,+ HE ADDED.

+THE ANNUAL SPORTS MEETING IS A WISE MOVE. I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY SPECIAL GRATITUDE TO THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE INVALUABLE SERVICES WHICH BENEFIT NEW TERRITORIES STUDENTS,+ MR CHUI SAID.

THE NEW TERRITORIES SPORTS ASSOCIATION WAS FORMED 28 YEARS AGO TO PROMOTE SPORTS AND CULTIVATE FRIENDSHIP AMONG SCHOOLS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES. IT NOW HAS 14 DISTRICT BRANCHES AND OVER 450 MEMBER SCHOOLS.

/BESIDES .....

BESIDES COMPETITIONS IN ATHLETICS, SWIMMING AND BALL GAMES, THE ASSOCIATION ALSO HOLDS REGULAR TRAINING COURSES FOR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS.

A TOTAL OF 620 CONTESTANTS TOOK PART IN TODAY'S EVENTS, ALL OF WHOM WERE WINNERS OF DISTRICT SCHOOLS COMPETITIONS HELD EARLIER.

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ADDITIONAL TRAINS FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS

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THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY WILL OPERATE ADDITIONAL TRAINS BETWEEN THIS SATURDAY (DECEMBER 20) AND JANUARY 4.

SINCE VERY HEAVY TRAFFIC BETWEEN KOWLOON AND LO WU IS EXPECTED DURING THIS FESTIVE PERIOD, NO SPECIAL RACE TRAINS WILL BE OPERATED TO SHA TIN RACECOURSE ON DECEMBER 28.

FOR THE SAME REASON, ADVANCE SEAT BOOKINGS BETWEEN DECEMBER 22 AND 24 WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE.

A KCR SPOKESMAN APPEALED TO CHINA-BOUND PASSENGERS TO BUY RETURN ORDINARY CLASS TICKETS -- VALID FOR TWO WEEKS FROM THE DATE OF ISSUE -- TO ENABLE THEM TO BOARD TRAINS FOR KOWLOON WITHOUT HAVING TO QUEUE UP FOR TICKETS AT LO WU.

TIMETABLES ARE DISPLAYED AT ALL STATIONS FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF PASSENGERS.

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DIRECT MAILING OF TICD CERTIFICATION BRANCH CIRCULARS

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THE TRADE INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT WILL FROM FEBRUARY 1, 1981, OPERATE A 'DIRECT MAILING SYSTEM' FOR ITS CERTIFICATION BRANCH CIRCULARS, THAT IS, CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN CIRCULARS AND CERTIFICATE OF PREFERENCE CIRCULARS.

THE ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION FEE FOR THIS SERIES OF CIRCULARS IS $30.

DETAILS OF THE SUBSCRIPTION SYSTEM ARE ANNOUNCED IN THE DEPARTMENT'S CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN CIRCULAR NO. 10/80 DATED NOVEMBER 18, 1980.

COPIES OF THE CIRCULAR ARE AVAILABLE AT THE RECEPTION COUNTER OF THE DEPARTMENT ON THE GROUND FLOOR, OR THE GENERAL OFFICES AND FILING REGISTRY OF THE CERTIFICATION BRANCH ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF OCEAN CENTRE, 5 CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON.

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BOOST TO PRINTING TRAINING SCHOLARSHIP

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THE DAI NIPPON PRINTING SCHOLARSHIP WHICH WAS SET UP IN 1975 RECEIVED A FURTHER DONATION OF $10 000 TODAY.

THE SCHOLARSHIP AIMS TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF PRINTING IN HONG KONG BY PROVIDING OVERSEAS TRAINING FOR TEACHING STAFF IN THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

IT WAS SET UP WITH AN INITIAL DONATION OF $50 000 FROM THE DAI NIPPON PRINTING CO. (HK) LTD.

MR R. KITAMI, VICE-CHAIRMAN AND MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE COMPANY, AND MR ALEX WU, VICE-CHAIRMAN, TODAY HANDED OVER THE $10 000 TO MR COLVYN HAYE, DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION.

THE ADDITIONAL DONATION WAS MADE IN MEMORY OF THE LATE MR ORIE KITAJAMA, CO-FOUNDER OF THE COMPANY WHO DIED SEVERAL MONTHS AGO.

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PHOTOGRAPH OF EDUCATION DIRECTOR

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

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