



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1988

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1988

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EXPORTERS URGED TO SEEK OPPORTUNITIES FOR DIVERSIFICATION

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, TODAY (WEDNESDAY) URGED EXPORTERS TO LOOK FOR OPPORTUNITIES FOR GREATER DIVERSIFICATION, BOTH IN TERMS OF PRODUCTS AND MARKETS, AS THEY FACED UP TO THE CHALLENGES THAT LAY AHEAD.

SIR DAVID WAS SPEAKING AT THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCH OF THE HONG KONG EXPORTERS' ASSOCIATION.

HE SAID THAT THOUGH HONG KONG HAD A PHENOMENAL GROWTH OF 37 PER CENT IN TOTAL EXPORTS LAST YEAR, AND EXPORT STATISTICS SO FAR THIS YEAR HAD ALSO BEEN IMPRESSIVE, THE PROSPECTS FOR 1989 MIGHT NOT BE SO BRIGHT.

A GENERAL SLOWDOWN IN THE WORLD ECONOMY HAD BEEN WIDELY FORECAST, WHICH WOULD MEAN STIFFER COMPETITION, AND THERE WAS A GROWING AND CONTINUING THREAT OF PROTECTIONISM IN SOME MAJOR MARKETS.

HOWEVER, HONG KONG'S EXPORTERS HAD FACED AND OVERCOME SIMILAR PROBLEMS IN THE PAST, AND HE WAS SURE THAT THEY WOULD BE ABLE TO DEAL WITH FUTURE CHALLENGES.

SIR DAVID SAID THE GOVERNMENT'S TRADITIONAL POLICY HAD BEEN TO LET EXPORTERS GET ON WITH THE JOB.

"EXPERIENCE HAS SHOWN THAT ATTEMPTS TO INTERFERE WITH MARKET FORCES ARE LIKEY TO DO MORE HARM THAN GOOD," HE SAID.

BUT IT WAS NOT A TOTALLY HANDS-OFF POLICY.

"IN RECENT YEARS, MUCH EFFORT HAS BEEN PUT INTO ENCOURAGING THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW PRODUCTS AND THE OPENING UP OF NEW MARKETS. AND WE HAVE HAD SOME SUCCESS IN THIS," HE SAID.

"IN TERMS OF PRODUCTS, THERE IS A CONTINUING SHIFT FROM OUR TRADITIONALLY HEAVY RELIANCE ON TEXTILES AND CLOTHING TO OTHER ITEMS."

THE SHARE OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING IN HONG KONG'S TOTAL DOMESTIC EXPORTS HAD DROPPED FROM 42 PER CENT LAST YEAR TO 38 PER CENT DURING THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR.

EXPORTS OF TOYS AND GAMES HAD ALSO FALLEN AS A RESULT OF THE FINANCIAL PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED BY SOME OF THE MAJOR U.S. BUYERS.

SIR DAVID NOTED THAT EXPORTS OF NEW PRODUCTS SUCH AS TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, TELEVISION RECEIVERS, AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING MACHINES, OFFICE EQUIPMENT AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY HAD SHOWN TREMENDOUS GROWTH.

/"OUR EXPORTS .....

"OUR EXPORTS OF THESE ITEMS INCREASED BY BETWEEN 28 PER CENT AND 129 PER CENT BETWEEN JANUARY AND SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR. THEIR TOTAL SHARE OF OUR DOMESTIC EXPORTS HAS NOW REACHED 14 PER CENT," HE SAID.

"AND OTHER PRODUCTS SUCH AS JEWELLERY, WATCHES AND CLOCKS HAVE ALSO SUSTAINED A RAPID GROWTH RATE."

SIR DAVID SAID THAT IN ORDER TO STAY COMPETITIVE, HONG KONG MUST CONTINUE TO MOVE TOWARDS HIGH VALUE-ADDED, TECHNOLOGY BASED PRODUCTION AND REDUCE ITS DEPENDENCE ON THE LABOUR-INTENSIVE SECTOR.

ON THE ISSUE OF IMPORTATION OF FOREIGN WORKERS, SIR DAVID STRESSED THAT THE EXISTING POLICY DID ALLOW FOR SKILLED WORKERS TO BE IMPORTED IF THEIR SKILLS WERE NOT AVAILABLE LOCALLY.

"I HOPE YOU WILL TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF THAT," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID HE RECOGNISED THAT LABOUR SHORTAGE HAD CREATED PROBLEMS; HOWEVER IT DID HAVE THE EFFECT OF FORCING THE ECONOMY TO MOVE IN THE DIRECTION IT HAD TO GO IF HONG KONG WAS TO SURVIVE AND PROSPER - THE DIRECTION OF AUTOMATION AND HIGH TECHNOLOGY.

ON DIVERSIFICATION OF MARKETS, SIR DAVID SAID IT WAS AN ENCOURAGING TREND THAT THE PROPORTION OF HONG KONG'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES, ITS LARGEST MARKET, HAD DROPPED, FROM 44 PER CENT IN 1985 TO 37 PER CENT LAST YEAR. AND TO 33 PER CENT IN THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR.

REFERRING TO THE CREATION OF A SINGLE MARKET IN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY BY 1992, SIR DAVID SAID DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO FOUR COMMUNITY COUNTRIES HE HAD BEEN REPEATEDLY ASSURED THAT THERE WAS NO DANGER OF EXTERNAL TRADE BARRIERS BEING CREATED IN THE PROCESS.

"EVEN IF THE REALITY TURNS OUT TO BE NOT QUITE AS SIMPLE AND STRAIGHT FORWARD AS THIS, I SEE GREAT OPPORTUNITIES IN EUROPE FOR HONG KONG EXPORTERS," HE SAID.

OUTLINING THE REMARKABLE GROWTH IN TRADE BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CHINA, SIR DAVID SAID THERE WAS STILL GREAT POTENTIAL FOR GROWTH IN THE CHINESE MARKET, EVEN THOUGH THE SPEED AND TIMING OF THE GROWTH WAS GOING TO DEPEND ON HOW SUCCESSFULLY CHINA TACKLED ITS PRESENT PROBLEMS OF THE ECONOMY AND OF INFLATION.

SIR DAVID ALSO NOTED THAT JAPAN, TAIWAN, AS WELL AS OTHER ASIAN COUNTRIES SUCH AS SINGAPORE, SOUTH KOREA AND THAILAND ALL PROVIDED EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR HONG KONG EXPORTERS.

"AND AFTER SOME DIFFICULTIES WE ARE BEGINNING TO MAKE IN-ROADS INTO THESE MARKETS," HE SAID.

ESCALATOR CONTRACTOR FINED FOR NEGLIGENCE

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A REGISTERED ESCALATOR CONTRACTOR HAS BEEN FINED A TOTAL OF \$50,000 BY A DISCIPLINARY BOARD IN CONNECTION WITH AN ESCALATOR INCIDENT AT THE KOWLOON RAILWAY STATION IN HUNG HOM IN JANUARY.

THE DISCIPLINARY BOARD, WHICH WAS APPOINTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES UNDER THE LIFTS AND ESCALATORS (SAFETY) ORDINANCE, COMPLETED ITS HEARINGS YESTERDAY (DECEMBER 20).

IT WAS CHAIRED BY THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, WORKS AND SERVICES, OF THE ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND CONSISTED OF FIVE PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS FROM THE DISCIPLINARY BOARD PANEL APPOINTED UNDER THE SAME ORDINANCE.

THE REGISTERED ESCALATOR CONTRACTOR SUMMONED BEFORE THE BOARD WAS THE GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY OF HONG KONG LTD.

THE CONTRACTOR WAS CHARGED WITH NEGLIGENCE ON OR ABOUT JANUARY 13, 1988 IN CONNECTION WITH THE MAINTENANCE OF ESCALATOR NO. E4 AT THE KOWLOON RAILWAY STATION, FOR FAILING:

- (A) TO ENSURE THAT THE BRAKING MECHANISM OF THE ESCALATOR WAS IN SOUND AND PROPER WORKING ORDER; AND
- (B) TO ENSURE THAT THE BRAKE LININGS AND SHOES OPENING OF THE ESCALATOR WERE CHECKED AND ADJUSTED AT TWO-MONTHLY INTERVALS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE MANUFACTURER.

THE DISCIPLINARY BOARD FOUND THE GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY OF HONG KONG LTD GUILTY OF THE ABOVE TWO CHARGES AND IMPOSED A FINE OF \$40,000 FOR (A) AND \$10,000 FOR (B).

THE BOARD ALSO ORDERED THAT THE CONTRACTOR SHOULD MEET A TOTAL COST OF \$18,520 FOR THE PROCEEDINGS.

IN CONCLUSION, THE BOARD EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT RELIANCE ON WORKERS TO PERFORM MAINTENANCE WORK WITHOUT SUITABLE SUPERVISION BY MANAGEMENT/CONTRACTOR COULD RESULT IN A POOR QUALITY OF MAINTENANCE WHICH MIGHT IN TURN RENDER THE EQUIPMENT UNSAFE.

IT RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMPANY SHOULD TAKE IMMEDIATE STEPS TO STRENGTHEN ITS SUPERVISION AND INSPECTION IN CONNECTION WITH MAINTENANCE WORK CARRIED OUT ON ESCALATORS.

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GOVERNOR VISITS HK TOURIST ASSOCIATION

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, VISITED THE HONG KONG TOURIST ASSOCIATION THIS (WEDNESDAY) AFTERNOON TO UPDATE HIMSELF ON THE SCOPE OF ITS WORK AND SERVICES.

ON ARRIVAL AT THE HEAD OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATION IN CONNAUGHT CENTRE, SIR DAVID WAS MET BY ITS CHAIRMAN, MR MARTIN BARROW, AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MR EUGENE SULLIVAN, WHO BRIEFED HIM ON THE WORK OF THE ASSOCIATION AND THE IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION THAT THE TOURIST INDUSTRY MAKES TO HONG KONG'S ECONOMY.

SIR DAVID WAS TOLD THAT TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM TOURISM IN 1988 WERE EXPECTED TO BE MORE THAN \$30 BILLION AND THAT THE CONTRIBUTION BY THE INDUSTRY AMOUNTED TO 7.1 PER CENT OF HONG KONG'S GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT LAST YEAR.

THE \$25 BILLION THAT THE INDUSTRY EARNED IN 1987 AMOUNTED TO \$4,500 FOR EVERY MAN, WOMAN AND CHILD LIVING IN THE TERRITORY.

SIR DAVID WAS ALSO TOLD THAT ABOUT 5.5 MILLION TOURISTS ARE EXPECTED TO VISIT HONG KONG BY THE END OF THIS YEAR, AN INCREASE OF 22 PER CENT OVER 1987.

THE GOVERNOR THEN VISITED THE VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE ASSOCIATION, INCLUDING THE VISITOR INFORMATION SERVICE, THE MARKETING, PLANNING AND SERVICES AND THE HONG KONG CONVENTION AND INCENTIVE TRAVEL BUREAU.

SIR DAVID WAS ALSO SHOWN AN AUDIO-VISUAL PRESENTATION ON THE HONG KONG TOURIST INDUSTRY.

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INTERNATIONAL THEME AT CHILDREN'S HOME CHRISTMAS PARTY

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"INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN" WAS THE THEME OF A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION PARTY AT THE CHUK YUEN CHILDREN'S RECEPTION CENTRE TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

DRESSED IN DIFFERENT NATIONAL COSTUMES, THE CHILDREN SANG AND DANCED TO THE DELIGHT OF THE MANY GUESTS THERE TO SHARE THE JOY OF THE FESTIVE SEASON WITH THEM.

THE GUESTS INCLUDED THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS ELIZABETH WONG, AND VOLUNTEER GROUPS.

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THERE WAS ALSO A FOLK DANCE PERFORMANCE BY GUEST PERFORMERS FROM CHILD CARE CENTRES RUN BY VOLUNTARY AGENCIES.

ASSISTED BY SANTA CLAUS, MRS WONG DISTRIBUTED CHRISTMAS GIFTS TO THE CHILDREN.

THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR ALFRED CHUI, PRESENTED SOUVENIRS TO THE VOLUNTEER GROUPS TO THANK THEM FOR THEIR HELP IN ORGANISING ACTIVITIES REGULARLY FOR THE CHILDREN.

THE CHUK YUEN CENTRE IS OPERATED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE TEMPORARY CARE TO CHILDREN WHO ARE ABANDONED, ORPHANED OR OTHERWISE IN NEED OF CARE AND PROTECTION.

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KWUN TONG DB MEMBERS TO SING CAROLS

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KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS ARE ENTERING INTO THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS BY SINGING CAROLS FOR SENIOR RESIDENTS AND DISABLED PERSONS.

IN ORDER TO SHOW THEIR CONCERN AND CARE, AND TO BRING CHRISTMAS JOY TO SENIOR RESIDENTS AND THE DISABLED IN KWUN TONG DISTRICT, THE MEMBERS WILL VISIT FOUR WELFARE ORGANISATIONS TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

THE ORGANISATIONS ARE THE SOCIETY OF HOMES FOR THE HANDICAPPED - SHUN LEE ADULT TRAINING CENTRE; TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS, PONG WING SHIU SOCIAL CENTRE FOR THE ELDERLY; SHENG KUNG HUI DIOCESAN WELFARE COUNCIL, GOOD SHEPHERD HOME FOR THE ELDERLY; AND PO LEUNG KUK KO CHIU ROAD CENTRE.

DURING THE GOODWILL VISITS, MEMBERS WILL SING CAROLS TO ENTERTAIN RESIDENTS OF THESE HOMES AND CENTRES, AND ALSO DISTRIBUTE CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WISHING TO COVER THE VISITS ARE ADVISED TO ARRIVE BEFORE 2 PM TOMORROW (THURSDAY) AT ROOM 105 ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE IN TUNG YAN STREET. THE DISTRICT INFORMATION OFFICER WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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LIGHT GOODS VEHICLE DRIVING TEST NEXT YEAR

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A LIGHT GOODS VEHICLE DRIVING TEST WILL BE INTRODUCED IN JUNE NEXT YEAR TO ENSURE THAT LEARNER DRIVERS WHO WISH TO DRIVE A LIGHT GOODS VEHICLE WILL BE TRAINED AND TESTED ON THE NECESSARY SKILLS, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE TEST IS BEING INTRODUCED IN THE INTEREST OF ROAD SAFETY.

AT PRESENT, AN AUTOMATIC ENDORSEMENT TO DRIVE A LIGHT GOODS VEHICLE UP TO 5.5 TONNES IS GIVEN TO ALL PERSONS WHO PASS THE PRIVATE CAR DRIVING TEST.

IN VIEW OF THE HIGH ACCIDENT RATE OF LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES, AND THE HIGHER LEVEL OF DRIVING SKILLS REQUIRED FOR THE CONTROL OF SUCH VEHICLES, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT CONSIDERED THAT A SEPARATE DRIVING TEST SHOULD BE INTRODUCED, THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, MR BRIAN COAK, SAID.

DURING THE FIRST THREE QUARTERS OF THIS YEAR, A TOTAL OF 4,627 LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES WERE INVOLVED IN TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS, REPRESENTING A 25 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VEHICLES INVOLVED IN ACCIDENTS DURING THIS PERIOD.

THE NUMBER OF LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES INVOLVED IN ACCIDENTS LAST YEAR WAS 5,606, ACCOUNTING FOR 23.4 PER CENT OF ALL VEHICLES INVOLVED IN ACCIDENTS.

THE RATE IN 1986 WAS 20.6 PER CENT.

AS SOME OF THE CANDIDATES ALREADY ON THE WAITING LIST FOR THE PRIVATE CAR DRIVING TEST MAY WISH TO DRIVE LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES, THE DEPARTMENT CONSIDERED THAT THOSE WHO ARE ON THE WAITING LIST ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31 THIS YEAR SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE ISSUED WITH AN AUTOMATIC ENDORSEMENT TO DRIVE LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES IF THEY PASS THE PRIVATE CAR DRIVING TEST BEFORE THE END OF DECEMBER NEXT YEAR.

THIS WILL ALLOW A REASONABLE PERIOD FOR THOSE WHO FAIL THE TEST THE FIRST TIME TO SEEK A RE-TEST.

FROM NEXT MONTH, NEW CANDIDATES WHO WANT TO DRIVE LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES MUST APPLY TO TAKE THE LIGHT GOODS VEHICLE DRIVING TEST.

AS IT REQUIRES A MORE DEMANDING TECHNIQUE TO DRIVE A LIGHT GOODS VEHICLE THAN DRIVING A PRIVATE CAR, CANDIDATES WHO PASS THE LIGHT GOODS VEHICLE DRIVING TEST WILL BE GIVEN AN AUTOMATIC ENDORSEMENT TO DRIVE PRIVATE CARS.

MR COAK SAID THE TEST WILL COMPRISE THE STANDARD WRITTEN TEST AND A ROAD TEST IN A PARTIALLY LOADED LIGHT GOODS VEHICLE.

APPLICANTS WILL HAVE TO PASS ALL PARTS OF THE ROAD TEST TO OBTAIN A LICENCE. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL MEAN A COMPLETE RE-TEST ON ALL PARTS OF THE ROAD TEST.

CURRENTLY, PRIVATE CAR DRIVING LICENCE APPLICANTS CAN PARTIALLY FAIL AND CAN BE RE-TESTED ON THE PART THEY FAIL.

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DB COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

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THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE OF THE MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS AT A MEETING TOMORROW (THURSDAY) NEW MINOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS IN MONG KOK FOR 1989-90.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS WILL ALSO GIVE THEIR VIEWS ON WHETHER THE MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 1989 AND THE FORM OF ACTIVITIES TO BE ORGANISED IN THE DISTRICT.

ANOTHER AGENDA ITEM IS THE PROGRESS OF THE 1988-89 ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE PROGRAMME.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE OF THE MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD TO BE HELD TOMORROW (THURSDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICE, FIRST FLOOR, 157 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD, KOWLOON. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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HOLIDAY CLINIC SERVICES

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EIGHT GOVERNMENT OUT-PATIENT CLINICS WILL STAY OPEN FROM 9 AM TO 1 PM ON DECEMBER 26 AND 27, THE TWO PUBLIC HOLIDAYS FOLLOWING CHRISTMAS DAY.

THE RIGHT CLINICS ARE THE VIOLET PEEL POLYCLINIC AND SHAU KEI WAN JOCKEY CLUB CLINIC ON HONG KONG ISLAND; KWUN TONG JOCKEY CLUB HEALTH CENTRE, ROBERT BLACK HEALTH CENTRE AND YAU MA TEI JOCKEY CLUB CLINIC IN KOWLOON; LADY TRENCH POLYCLINIC, YUEN LONG JOCKEY CLUB HEALTH CENTRE AND SHEK WU HUI JOCKEY CLUB CLINIC IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

ALL OTHER OUT-PATIENT AND EVENING CLINICS WILL BE CLOSED.

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ASIAN SOCCER COMES OF AGE: SMS  
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THOUGH SOCCER HAD BEEN DOMINATED BY THE CONTINENTS OF EUROPE AND SOUTH AMERICA, THE SITUATION WAS CHANGING, AND CHANGING FAST, THE SECRETARY FOR MUNICIPAL SERVICES, MR AUGUSTINE CHUI, SAID THIS (WEDNESDAY) MORNING.

"THE ACHIEVEMENT OF SOUTH KOREA IN THE LAST WORLD CUP FINALS IN MEXICO IN 1986, DRAWING WITH BULGARIA AND ONLY NARROWLY LOSING TO THREE-TIME CHAMPIONS ITALY, SHOWED THAT ASIA HAS COME OF AGE IN WORLD FOOTBALL," HE SAID.

MR CHUI WAS SPEAKING AT THE KICK-OFF CEREMONY OF THE 17TH ASIAN SCHOOLS FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT AT MONG KOK STADIUM.

MR CHUI ENCOURAGED THE YOUNG FOOTBALLERS TO STRIVE TO ACHIEVE HIGH STANDARDS AND SAID THEY WOULD HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROGRESS AND SUCCEED.

HE EXTENDED A WELCOME TO THE PARTICIPANTS WHO COME FROM 10 COUNTRIES AND MACAU AND HONG KONG.

THE TOURNAMENT, ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG SCHOOLS SPORTS COUNCIL, WILL CONTINUE UNTIL DECEMBER 31.

THE VISITING TEAMS COME FROM BRUNEI, CHINA, INDIA, INDONESIA, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, MALAYSIA, MACAU, PHILIPPINES, SINGAPORE, SRI LANKA, AND THAILAND.

MR CHUI DESCRIBED THE ASIAN SCHOOLS FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT AS AN OCCASION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN ASIA TO COME TOGETHER IN A DISPLAY OF SOCCER TALENT.

"IT IS A CHANCE FOR BUDDING YOUNG PLAYERS TO TRY OUT THEIR SKILL AT JUNIOR LEVEL AS A STEPPING STONE FOR BETTER THINGS IN FUTURE," HE ADDED.

THOSE PRESENT AT THE CEREMONY INCLUDED THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR Y.T. LI, WHO IS ALSO THE PRESIDENT OF THE HONG KONG SCHOOLS SPORTS COUNCIL, AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE AMATEUR SPORTS FEDERATION AND OLYMPIC COMMITTEE OF HONG KONG, MR A. DE O. SALES.

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YOUTH BAND FESTIVAL BEGINS ON FRIDAY

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THE 1988 HONG KONG YOUTH BAND FESTIVAL, ORGANISED BY THE MUSIC OFFICE TO PROVIDE ENTERTAINMENT TO THE PUBLIC DURING THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS, WILL BEGIN ON FRIDAY (DECEMBER 23).

OVER THE NINE-DAY PERIOD, A NUMBER OF CONCERTS AND SYMPHONIC BAND CONTESTS WILL BE CONDUCTED THROUGH THE TERRITORY.

SEVERAL FREE CONCERTS WILL BE PRESENTED BY THE MUSIC OFFICE'S DISTRICT BANDS AT TAIKOO SHING ON FRIDAY AND AT THE OCEAN TERMINAL AND TAI PO SHOPPING CENTRES ON SATURDAY.

IN SUPPORT OF THE FESTIVAL, SYMPHONIC BANDS FROM A NUMBER OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS WILL TAKE PART IN THE BAND MUSIC INTERFLOW AND SYMPHONIC BAND CONTEST TO BE HELD AT THE SHA TIN TOWN HALL NEXT TUESDAY (DECEMBER 27).

THE SCHOOLS INCLUDE THE TAK CHING PRIMARY SCHOOL, COTTON SPINNERS ASSOCIATION PREVOCAIONAL SCHOOL, ST MARK'S SCHOOL, SALESIAN ENGLISH SCHOOL, KEI WAN PRIMARY SCHOOL AND ST BONAVENTURE PRIMARY SCHOOL.

MEANWHILE, YOUNG MUSICIANS FROM HO FUNG COLLEGE, C.M.A. PREVOCAIONAL SCHOOL AND TRUE LIGHT GIRLS' COLLEGE WILL PERFORM AT THE MARCHING BAND CONTEST TO BE HELD AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM ON WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 28) BEGINNING AT 2.30 PM.

FREE ADMISSION COUPONS FOR THE EVENTS CAN BE OBTAINED AT ALL MUSIC CENTRES OF THE MUSIC OFFICE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MUSIC OFFICE SAID THE PROGRAMMES ARRANGED FOR THE FESTIVAL WILL BRING THE PUBLIC A WIDE SELECTION OF BAND MUSIC.

TICKETS FOR THE "FAMILY CAROLS CONCERT", TO BE STAGED AT THE CONCERT HALL OF THE ACADEMY FOR PERFORMING ARTS ON FRIDAY, ARE ALREADY SOLD OUT.

THE CLIMAX OF THE FESTIVAL WILL BE A GALA FINALE AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM ON FRIDAY (DECEMBER 30).

SOME 500 MEMBERS OF SEVEN SYMPHONIC BANDS AND TWO CHOIRS OF THE MUSIC OFFICE, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE TAKAOKA COMMERCIAL HIGH SCHOOL SYMPHONIC BAND FROM JAPAN, WILL PERFORM.

THE FESTIVAL IS ORGANISED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE TOM LEE MUSIC COMPANY LTD. TICKETS AT \$10 AND \$15 EACH FOR THE GALA FINALE ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL URBIX OUTLETS. TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 3-7967537.

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PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES EXTENDED FOR CHRISTMAS

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SPECIAL PUBLIC TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED DURING THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS TO COPE WITH THE FESTIVE CROWDS, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED.

ON CHRISTMAS EVE, THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY (MTR), THE STAR FERRY SERVICE BETWEEN EDINBURGH PLACE AND KOWLOON POINT, AND TRAM SERVICES (EXCEPT THOSE ROUND THE HAPPY VALLEY LOOP) WILL RUN ALL NIGHT.

ALSO OPERATING OVERNIGHT WILL BE KOWLOON MOTOR BUS (KMB) ROUTES 5, 6, 80M AND 82M AS WELL AS GREEN MINIBUS (GMB) ROUTES 18 AND 37M IN KOWLOON AND ROUTE 61M IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE HONG KONG AND YAUMATI (HYF) FERRY SERVICE BETWEEN CENTRAL AND JORDAN ROAD WILL BE EXTENDED TO 1 AM.

SUPPLEMENTARY FERRY SERVICES FROM CENTRAL TO MUI WO (VIA PENG CHAU) AND FROM CENTRAL TO CHEUNG CHAU (VIA YUNG SHUE WAN, LAMMA ISLAND) WILL BE OPERATED AT 1 AM AND 1.15 AM RESPECTIVELY.

BOTH THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY (KCR) AND THE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT (LRT) WILL RUN UNTIL 1 AM WHILE THE PEAK TRAM SERVICE WILL BE EXTENDED TO 1.30 AM.

MEANWHILE, SERVICES ON MANY BUS AND GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES ON BOTH SIDES OF THE HARBOUR WILL FINISH LATER THAN USUAL.

ON HONG KONG ISLAND, THE LAST DEPARTURES FROM CENTRAL OF CHINA MOTOR BUS (CMB) ROUTES 4, 70 AND 90 WILL BE AT 1 AM.

ON ROUTES 2, 7, 10, 23, 72, 92, 96 AND 97, THE LAST BUSES WILL LEAVE CENTRAL, WESTERN DISTRICT OR CAUSEWAY BAY AT 2 AM, 2.30 AM, 1.50 AM, 1.15 AM, 1.30 AM, MIDNIGHT, 12.27 AM AND 1 AM RESPECTIVELY.

IN KOWLOON, KMB ROUTES 1, 1A, 3C, 5C, 9, 14, 26, 28, 31M, 32M, 36M, 37M, 38A, 39M, 58M, 59M, 60M, 66M, 68M, 80K, 81K, 85K, 88K AND 93A WILL ALSO OPERATE EXTENDED SERVICES, RANGING FROM 30 MINUTES TO ONE HOUR AND 30 MINUTES.

ADDITIONAL TRIPS WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED ON CROSS-HARBOUR ALL-NIGHT BUS ROUTES 121 AND 122.

MEANWHILE, SERVICES ON KMB ROUTE 202 AND KOWLOON GMB ROUTES 1 AND 1M WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 8 PM ON CHRISTMAS EVE.

THESE SERVICES WILL ALSO BE SUSPENDED ON DECEMBER 25 AND 26 DEPENDING ON THE SITUATION. THE CHINA FERRY TERMINAL WILL BE SERVED BY ROUTE 208 EN-ROUTE.

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AS FOR GREEN MINIBUSES, IN KOWLOON, SERVICES ON ROUTE 53M WILL FINISH AT 1 AM; ON ROUTES 3, 8, 11M, 30A AND 30M AT 1.30 AM; ON ROUTES 6, 22M, 31M AND 51M AT 2 AM AND ON ROUTES 7, 16 AND 33M AT 3 AM.

IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, SERVICES ON GREEN MINIBUS ROUTE 67K WILL STOP RUNNING AT 11 PM AND ON ROUTES 65K AND 66K AT MIDNIGHT.

SERVICES ON ROUTES 20K, 22K AND 60K WILL CEASE OPERATION AROUND 1.30 AM AND ON ROUTES 81 AND 82 AT 2 AM.

ON CHRISTMAS DAY, THE KCR AND THE STAR FERRY SERVICE BETWEEN EDINBURGH PLACE AND KOWLOON POINT WILL OPERATE UP TO 1 AM.

SERVICES ON KMB ROUTES 5, 6 AND 85K WILL ALSO BE EXTENDED FOR ABOUT ONE HOUR.

GREEN MINIBUS SERVICES ON ROUTES 11M, 30A, 30M AND 31M IN KOWLOON AND ON ROUTES 65K, 66K, 67K IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WILL ALSO FINISH LATE AS ON CHRISTMAS EVE.

IN CENTRAL AND TSIM SHA TSUI, SERVICES ON THE FOLLOWING BUS AND GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES WILL BE DIVERTED DURING THE SPECIFIED PERIODS TO AVOID CLOSED ROADS IN THESE TWO DISTRICTS:

ROUTE	PERIOD OF DIVERSION
CMB ROUTES 5B, 10, 20, 21 AND 81M AND HK ISLAND GMB ROUTE 28	FROM 7 PM ON DECEMBER 24 TO 6 AM ON DECEMBER 28
CMB ROUTES 5, 5A, 10A, 22 AND 781	AFTER 7 PM ON CHRISTMAS EVE
CMB ROUTES 23A AND 26	FROM 6 PM ON DECEMBER 24 TO LAST DEPARTURE ON DECEMBER 27
CMB ROUTE 40M AND CROSS-HARBOUR ROUTE 103	FROM 6.30 PM ON DECEMBER 24 TO LAST DEPARTURE ON DECEMBER 27
AIRBUS A2	FROM 7 PM ON DECEMBER 24 TO LAST DEPARTURE ON DECEMBER 27
KMB ROUTES 1, 1A, 1K, 2, 2C, 2K, 3, 3C, 3E, 5, 5C, 6, 6A, 7, 8, 8A, 9, 13, 26, 28, 81, 208 AND AIRBUS A1 AND KOWLOON GMB ROUTES 3, 6, 7, 8 AND 31M.	FROM 8 PM ON DECEMBER 24 TO 1.30 AM THE NEXT DAY AND IF NECESSARY, ON DECEMBER 25 AND 26

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1988

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TWO LOTS TO LET BY TENDER

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THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT IS OFFERING TO LET BY TENDER TWO LOTS IN KOWLOON AND IN THE NEW TERRITORIES FOR STORAGE PURPOSES.

THE LOT IN KOWLOON IS OFF CHAK ON ROAD, TAI WO PING AND HAS AN AREA OF ABOUT 560 SQUARE METRES. IT IS FOR OPEN STORAGE (EXCLUDING CONTAINERS) PURPOSES ONLY.

THE OTHER LOT IN THE NEW TERRITORIES IS IN SHA TAU KOK WITH AN AREA OF ABOUT 62 SQUARE METRES. IT IS FOR A DANGEROUS GOODS STORE FOR THE STORAGE OF LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS CYLINDERS.

THE LEASES FOR BOTH LOTS ARE FOR THREE YEARS AND RENEWABLE QUARTERLY.

TENDERS FOR THE TWO SITES WILL CLOSE AT NOON NEXT JANUARY 6.

FORMS OF TENDER, TENDER NOTICES AND CONDITIONS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE RESPECTIVE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES AS WELL AS THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT. THE TENDER PLANS MAY ALSO BE INSPECTED THERE.

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CLOSURE OF ILLEGAL STRUCTURES SOUGHT

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS TO SEEK A CLOSURE ORDER AGAINST ILLEGAL STRUCTURES AT A BUILDING IN KOWLOON SO THAT THEY CAN BE DEMOLISHED WITHOUT DANGER TO THE OCCUPIERS AND THE PUBLIC.

THE STRUCTURES ARE ON THE FLAT ROOF ADJACENT TO FLAT A, SECOND FLOOR OF NO.9 HAU FOOK STREET.

THE CLOSURE IS PART OF AN EXERCISE TO ENFORCE AN ORDER ISSUED UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE IN MAY LAST YEAR REQUIRING THE DEMOLITION OF THE ILLEGAL STRUCTURES. HOWEVER, THE OWNER FAILED TO COMPLY WITH THE ORDER.

A NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER FROM THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT ON JANUARY 12, 1989 WAS POSTED ON A CONSPICUOUS PART OF THE STRUCTURES TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

IT IS EXPECTED THAT DEMOLITION WILL START AS SOON AS A CLOSURE ORDER IS MADE.

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1988

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF SOUTH WALL ROAD

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT SOUTH WALL ROAD BETWEEN CARPENTER ROAD AND NGA TSIN WAI ROAD IN KOWLOON CITY HAS BEEN CLOSED TO TRAFFIC OWING TO A WATER MAIN BURST.

THE CLOSURE IS EXPECTED TO LAST UNTIL MONDAY (DECEMBER 26) WHILE REPAIR WORKS ARE CARRIED OUT.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN YUEN LONG, TUEN MUN

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT CASTLE PEAK ROAD (NGAU TAM MEI) FROM A POINT ABOUT 330 METRES WEST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH FAIRVIEW PARK BOULEVARD TO A POINT ABOUT 400 METRES EAST OF THE SAME JUNCTION, YUEN LONG, WILL BE CLOSED FROM 10 AM ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 24).

THIS ARRANGEMENT WILL FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF PHASE III OF THE NEW TERRITORIES CIRCULAR ROAD.

AT THE SAME TIME, TWO NEW ROADS CALLED SR-1 AND SR-3A WILL BE OPEN TO TRAFFIC.

DURING THE CLOSURE, AFFECTED VEHICLES, INCLUDING KMB ROUTE 76K AND GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES 75 AND 76 WILL BE DIVERTED VIA THESE NEW ROADS.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD (LAM TEI) IN TUEN MUN WILL BE DESIGNATED URBAN CLEARWAYS ROUND-THE-CLOCK:

- \* THE NORTHWESTERN KERBSIDE SECTION FROM A POINT APPROXIMATELY 65 METRES SOUTHWEST OF THE SOUTHERN ACCESS ROAD LEADING TO THE TSING CHUEN WAI TO A POINT APPROXIMATELY 60 METRES NORTHEAST OF THE SAME ACCESS ROAD; AND
- \* THE NORTHWESTERN KERBSIDE SECTION FROM A POINT APPROXIMATELY 55 METRES SOUTHWEST OF THE NORTHERN ACCESS ROAD LEADING TO THE TSING CHUEN WAI TO A POINT APPROXIMATELY 70 METRES NORTHEAST OF THE SAME ACCESS ROAD.

NO VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS WITHIN THE RESTRICTED AREAS.

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