



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 1990

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PRICE AND VOLUME MOVEMENTS OF EXTERNAL TRADE IN MARCH

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THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS DECREASED BY 5 PER CENT, WHILE THAT OF RE-EXPORTS GREW BY 6 PER CENT IN THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF 1990 AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1989, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (SUNDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

TAKING THEM TOGETHER, THERE WAS AN OVERALL INCREASE OF 2 PER CENT IN THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS. IMPORTS SHOWED LITTLE CHANGE IN VOLUME TERMS.

THE GROWTH IN THE VOLUME OF TRADE IS DERIVED FROM THE GROWTH IN TRADE VALUES, HAVING DISCOUNTED THE EFFECT OF PRICE CHANGES.

AS REGARDS PRICE CHANGES OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY 2 PER CENT AND 4 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY, WHILE THOSE OF IMPORTS ROSE BY 2 PER CENT. AS A RESULT, THE TERMS OF TRADE INDEX (EXPRESSED AS A RATIO OF TOTAL EXPORT PRICE INDEX TO IMPORT PRICE INDEX) INCREASED BY 1 PER CENT.

PRICES ARE BASED ON UNIT VALUES WHICH DO NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT CHANGES IN THE COMPOSITION OR QUALITY OF GOODS TRADED, EXCEPT FOR SOME SELECTED COMMODITIES FOR WHICH SPECIFICATION PRICE INDEXES ARE AVAILABLE.

COMPARING THE MONTH OF MARCH 1990 WITH MARCH 1989, THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS DECREASED BY 2 PER CENT, WHILE THAT OF RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 12 PER CENT. AS SUCH, THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS INCREASED BY 6 PER CENT. THE VOLUME OF IMPORTS INCREASED BY 4 PER CENT.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY 2 PER CENT AND 4 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY. IMPORT PRICES INCREASED BY 2 PER CENT.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY PRINCIPAL COMMODITY GROUP FOR MARCH 1990 AS COMPARED WITH MARCH 1989 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF MOST COMMODITY GROUPS DECREASED IN MARCH 1990 AS COMPARED WITH MARCH 1989, INCLUDING DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES (-34 PER CENT); METAL ORES AND SCRAP (-22 PER CENT); RADIOS OF ALL KINDS (-20 PER CENT); FOOTWEAR (-16 PER CENT); TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES (-16 PER CENT); METAL MANUFACTURES (-14 PER CENT); TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD (-7 PER CENT); AND WATCHES AND CLOCKS (-3 PER CENT).

ON THE OTHER HAND, INCREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORT VOLUME WERE RECORDED IN ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (+14 PER CENT); TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES (+10 PER CENT); CLOTHING (+6 PER CENT); AND TEXTILE FABRICS (+3 PER CENT).

/THE PRICES

THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF MOST COMMODITY GROUPS INCREASED IN MARCH 1990 COMPARED WITH MARCH 1989. THESE INCLUDED TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES (+5 PER CENT); METAL MANUFACTURES (+5 PER CENT); TEXTILE FABRICS (+4 PER CENT); TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD (+4 PER CENT); DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES (+3 PER CENT); ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (+2 PER CENT); FOOTWEAR (+2 PER CENT); TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES (+1 PER CENT); AND CLOTHING (+1 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, DECREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORT PRICES WERE RECORDED IN METAL ORES AND SCRAP (-7 PER CENT); WATCHES AND CLOCKS (-2 PER CENT); AND RADIOS OF ALL KINDS (-1 PER CENT).

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY FOR MARCH 1990 AS COMPARED WITH MARCH 1989 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 2.

IMPORTS OF FOODSTUFFS DECREASED BY 2 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS IN MARCH 1990 COMPARED WITH MARCH 1989. DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE IMPORT VOLUME OF RICE; SUGAR; AND VEGETABLES. INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE IMPORT VOLUME OF MEAT AND MEAT PREPARATIONS; WHEAT AND FLOUR; AND MILK, BUTTER, CHEESE AND EGGS.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE IMPORT VOLUME OF CONSUMER GOODS INCREASED BY 11 PER CENT. COMMODITY ITEMS WITH CONSIDERABLE INCREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME INCLUDED FOOTWEAR; RADIOS, TELEVISION SETS, GRAMOPHONES, RECORDS, TAPE RECORDERS AND AMPLIFIERS; AND CLOTHING.

DECREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE RECORDED FOR CAMERAS, FLASHLIGHT APPARATUS AND SUPPLIES FOR PHOTOGRAPHY; PASSENGER MOTOR CARS; AND ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.

THE IMPORT VOLUME OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES DECREASED BY 5 PER CENT IN MARCH 1990 COMPARED WITH MARCH 1989. THE MAJOR DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE IMPORT VOLUME OF WOOL AND OTHER ANIMAL HAIR; MAN-MADE FIBRES; AND COTTON YARN AND THREAD.

INCREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE NOTED FOR FABRICS OF MAN-MADE FIBRES; THERMIONIC CATHODE VALVES AND TUBES, DIODES, TRANSISTORS AND ELECTRICAL MICROCIRCUITS; AND DYEING, TANNING AND COLOURING MATERIALS.

IMPORTS OF FUELS DECREASED BY 29 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS IN MARCH 1990 AS COMPARED WITH MARCH 1989.

AS REGARDS CAPITAL GOODS, THE IMPORT VOLUME INCREASED BY 20 PER CENT IN MARCH 1990 OVER MARCH 1989. INCREASES IN THE IMPORT VOLUME WERE RECORDED FOR TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT, OFFICE MACHINES AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY. ON THE OTHER HAND, IMPORT VOLUME OF TEXTILE MACHINERY; AND OTHER INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY (OTHER THAN TEXTILE MACHINERY AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY) SHOWED SOME DECREASES.

COMPARING MARCH 1990 WITH MARCH 1989, THE IMPORT PRICES OF MOST END-USE CATEGORIES INCREASED: FUELS (+8 PER CENT); CONSUMER GOODS (+5 PER CENT); FOODSTUFFS (+3 PER CENT); AND CAPITAL GOODS (+1 PER CENT). THE IMPORT PRICES OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES SHOWED LITTLE CHANGE.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY FOR MARCH 1990 AS COMPARED WITH MARCH 1989 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 3.

THE VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS OF FUELS INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY BY 145 PER CENT, WHILE THOSE OF CONSUMER GOODS AND CAPITAL GOODS INCREASED BY 30 PER CENT AND 9 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN MARCH 1990 AS COMPARED WITH MARCH 1989. HOWEVER, THE RE-EXPORT VOLUME OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES DECREASED BY 5 PER CENT AND THAT OF FOODSTUFFS BY 14 PER CENT.

PRICES OF RE-EXPORTS OF ALL END-USE CATEGORIES INCREASED IN MARCH 1990 COMPARED WITH MARCH 1989: FUELS (+12 PER CENT); CONSUMER GOODS (+4 PER CENT); RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES (+4 PER CENT); CAPITAL GOODS (+3 PER CENT) AND FOODSTUFFS (+1 PER CENT).

FURTHER DETAILS ARE PUBLISHED IN THE MARCH 1990 ISSUE OF THE "HONG KONG TRADE INDEX NUMBERS" WHICH WILL BE ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AROUND JUNE 14 AT \$3 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES REGARDING REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION TO THIS REPORT MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, HONG KONG (TEL. NO.: 842 8802) AND ENQUIRIES ON TRADE INDEXES TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. NO.: 823 4918).

TABLE 1: CHANGES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY PRINCIPAL COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY GROUP	COMPARING MAR 1990 WITH MAR 1989			COMPARING JAN-MAR 1990 WITH JAN-MAR 1989		
	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
CLOTHING	7	1	6	-1	2	-3
TEXTILE FABRICS	7	4	3	9	4	5
TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD	-4	4	-7	-7	4	-11
TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES	11	1	10	-4	4	-7

RADIOS OF ALL KINDS	-21	-1	-20	-29	*	-29
ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS	17	2	14	12	1	10
FOOTWEAR	-15	2	-16	-22	1	-23
METAL MANUFACTURES	-10	5	-14	-18	6	-22
METAL ORES AND SCRAP	-27	-7	-22	-29	-5	-25
WATCHES AND CLOCKS	-4	-2	-3	-1	-2	1
TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES	-12	5	-16	-17	4	-20
DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES	-32	3	-34	-34	2	-35
ALL COMMODITIES	-1	2	-2	-3	2	-5

* LESS THAN 0.5%

TABLE 2: CHANGES IN IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY

END-USE CATEGORY	COMPARING MAR 1990 WITH MAR 1989			COMPARING JAN-MAR 1990 WITH JAN-MAR 1989		
	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
FOODSTUFFS	1	3	-2	*	3	-3
CONSUMER GOODS	16	5	11	13	5	8
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	-6	*	-5	-7	*	-7
FUELS	-23	8	-29	-5	12	-15
CAPITAL GOODS	21	1	20	3	1	1
ALL COMMODITIES	6	2	4	2	2	*

* LESS THAN 0.5%

TABLE 3: CHANGES IN RE-EXPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY

END-USE CATEGORY	COMPARING MAR 1990 WITH MAR 1989			COMPARING JAN-MAR 1990 WITH JAN-MAR 1989		
	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
FOODSTUFFS	-13	1	-14	-11	2	-12
CONSUMER GOODS	36	4	30	28	5	22
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	-2	4	-5	-5	4	-9
FUELS	175	12	145	89	17	62
CAPITAL GOODS	12	3	9	3	4	-1
ALL COMMODITIES	16	4	12	11	4	6

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NEWSLETTER GIVES DETAILS ON TOY TESTING ISSUE

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THE DELAY IN REACHING AN UNDERSTANDING WITH THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY (EC) ON THE RECOGNITION OF APPROVED LOCAL TESTING BODIES IS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN TO THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT AND LOCAL TOY MANUFACTURERS.

THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT ESTIMATES THAT THE END OF 1990 IS THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME FOR HONG KONG TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE EC TO GET LOCAL TESTING LABORATORIES IN THE HONG KONG LABORATORY ACCREDITATION SCHEME (HOKLAS) RECOGNISED AS "APPROVED BODIES" TO DO THEIR OWN NEW EC-TYPE EXAMINATIONS ON TOYS.

PROGRESS OF THIS ISSUE IS GIVEN IN THE "QUALITY QUEST" NEWSLETTER RELEASED TODAY (SUNDAY). THIS NEWLY-LAUNCHED, COLOUR PUBLICATION OF SIX PAGES IS PUBLISHED BY THE QUALITY SERVICES DIVISION OF THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT AND AIMS TO KEEP LOCAL MANUFACTURERS ABREAST OF THE LATEST IN QUALITY-RELATED EVENTS.

"QUALITY QUEST" REPORTS THAT THE GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR EUROPEAN POLICY ON CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT WERE APPROVED BY THE EC COUNCIL ONLY IN JANUARY 1990.

/DETAILED MANDATES

DETAILED MANDATES FOR NEGOTIATION WITH NON-EC COUNTRIES, BASED UPON THESE GUIDING PRINCIPLES, WERE STILL BEING PREPARED.

HONG KONG MANUFACTURERS ARE EXPECTED TO PROVIDE EC IMPORTERS WITH COMPREHENSIVE INFORMATION ON MANUFACTURING AND QUALITY ASSURANCE METHODS TO ENABLE CONFORMITY WITH HARMONISED STANDARDS TO BE CHECKED.

THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT CALLED ON MANUFACTURERS NOT CURRENTLY PRACTISING QUALITY ASSURANCE TO SERIOUSLY CONSIDER MAKING ACTUAL IMPROVEMENTS IN QUALITY OF THEIR PRODUCTS TO MINIMISE PRODUCT LIABILITY RISKS.

ALSO REPORTED IN "QUALITY QUEST" IS THE STORY OF HOW THE GOVERNMENT, BY MUTUAL AGREEMENTS, HAS CUT RED TAPE ON THOSE "IRRITATING, TIME-CONSUMING AND SOMETIMES COSTLY DOUBLE CHECKS" ON EXPORTERS' ESSENTIAL TEST CERTIFICATES WITH TWO MORE OF HONG KONG'S IMPORTANT TRADING PARTNERS, THE UNITED STATES AND AUSTRALIA WITH WHOM IT HAS RECENTLY SIGNED MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING.

LOCAL MANUFACTURERS WHO ARE INTERESTED TO LEARN DETAILS OF THE ABOVE CAN CALL 737 2217 FOR A FREE COPY OF "QUALITY QUEST", WHICH IS TO BE PUBLISHED TWICE EVERY YEAR.

THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT HAS RECENTLY COMMISSIONED A 16-MINUTE DRAMA ON VIDEO CASSETTE FOR USE IN ITS QUALITY AWARENESS CAMPAIGN. COPIES, WITH EITHER CANTONESE OR ENGLISH VOICE-OVER, CAN BE BORROWED ALSO BY TELEPHONING 737 2217.

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ENROLMENT OPEN FOR LABOUR RELATIONS COURSES

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (SUNDAY) INVITED APPLICATIONS FOR ENROLMENT IN A SERIES OF LABOUR RELATIONS CERTIFICATE COURSES TO BE HELD IN JULY AND AUGUST.

DESIGNED MAINLY FOR EMPLOYERS, MANAGEMENT STAFF, TRADE UNION OFFICIALS AND INDIVIDUAL EMPLOYEES, THE COURSES AIM TO PROVIDE PARTICIPANTS WITH A COMPREHENSIVE KNOWLEDGE OF LABOUR LEGISLATION AND WAYS TO IMPROVE MANAGEMENT SKILLS AND TOOLS.

EACH COURSE COMPRISES SIX HALF-DAY SESSIONS ON VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF THE EMPLOYMENT, EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION, AND CONTRACT FOR EMPLOYMENT OUTSIDE HONG KONG ORDINANCES AND THE WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS (INDUSTRY) AND EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN REGULATIONS.

THEY ALSO COVER SUCH TOPICS AS LABOUR RELATIONS IN HONG KONG, EMPLOYER-EMPLOYEE COMMUNICATION, GRIEVANCE AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES, DISPUTE RESOLUTION AND PREVENTION AND PREPARATION OF EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS AND EMPLOYEE HANDBOOKS.

THE COURSES WILL BE CONDUCTED IN CANTONESE AND THE FEE FOR EACH COURSE IS \$350 PER PERSON.

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IN VIEW OF THE OVERWHELMING RESPONSE TO SIMILAR COURSES OFFERED EARLIER, PEOPLE INTERESTED ATTENDING ARE ADVISED TO APPLY IMMEDIATELY TO THE DEPARTMENT'S LABOUR RELATIONS PROMOTION UNIT ON 12TH FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, PIER ROAD, CENTRAL.

ENROLMENT WILL BE ACCEPTED ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS, ALTHOUGH PRIORITY WILL BE GIVEN TO APPLICANTS SPONSORED BY THEIR EMPLOYERS OR TRADE UNIONS.

FURTHER ENQUIRIES ON THE COURSES CAN BE MADE ON TEL. 852 3511.

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1,239 TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS IN MAY

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A TOTAL OF 1,668 CASUALTIES WAS REPORTED IN 1,239 TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS WHICH OCCURRED THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY LAST MONTH.

A POLICE SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) THAT 305 OF THESE ACCIDENTS OCCURRED ON HONG KONG ISLAND, 606 IN KOWLOON AND 328 IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE PROVISIONAL FIGURES FOR MAY SHOWED THAT 20 PERSONS WERE KILLED, 337 PEOPLE WERE SERIOUSLY INJURED AND 1,311 SLIGHTLY INJURED IN THESE ACCIDENTS.

THE NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS AND CASUALTIES REPRESENTED A DECREASE OF 6.6 PER CENT AND 4.8 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY OVER THE PREVIOUS MONTH.

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FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES IN SOUTHERN

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ORGANISATIONS IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT ARE INVITED TO APPLY TO THE DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING AND AFFAIRS COMMITTEE FOR FUNDS FOR ORGANISING COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS.

A DISTRICT BOARD SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) THAT DISTRICT-BASED ACTIVITIES AIMED AT ENHANCING COMMUNITY SPIRIT, SOCIAL COHESION, SENSE OF BELONGING AND WELL-BEING OF LOCAL RESIDENTS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING.

ACTIVITIES THAT CAN PROMOTE LOCAL PEOPLE'S UNDERSTANDING OF THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION SCHEME WILL ALSO BE CONSIDERED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THESE ACTIVITIES CAN BE CULTURAL, RECREATIONAL, SPORTS AND FESTIVE ACTIVITIES, EXHIBITIONS, SEMINARS AND SURVEYS, AS WELL AS SOCIAL SERVICES PROJECTS FOR THE ELDERLY, DISABLED OR THOSE IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE ON FRIDAY (JUNE 15) AND WILL BE PROCESSED BY THE COMMITTEE AT ITS MEETING ON JULY 9. APPLICANTS WILL BE NOTIFIED BY POST OF THE RESULT OF THEIR APPLICATIONS.

/THE DEADLINES

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THE DEADLINES FOR THE REMAINING APPLICATION PERIODS IN THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR ARE AUGUST 13, OCTOBER 15 AND DECEMBER 10 RESPECTIVELY.

INTERESTED PARTIES MAY REFER TO THE GUIDELINES FOR THE APPLICATION FOR SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

COPIES OF THE GUIDELINES AND APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMITTEE, MISS WINNIE CHONG, SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE, SECOND FLOOR, MEI FUNG COURT, 7-11 NAM NING STREET, ABERDEEN CENTRE.

TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 554 0271.

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FACILITIES IN PRIVATE ESTATES ON DB COMMITTEE AGENDA
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THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD'S DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS THE PROVISION OF RECREATION AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES IN LARGE PRIVATE HOUSING ESTATES AT ITS MEETING ON TUESDAY (JUNE 12).

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE RECENT CONVERSION OF SOME RESIDENTIAL AREAS OF BELAIR GARDENS INTO COMMERCIAL PREMISES.

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS WILL INCLUDE THE PROGRESS OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF A PRIVATE HOSPITAL NEAR JULIMOUNT GARDEN, THE WORK PROGRAMMES OF THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT AND THE SHA TIN DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, AND PROPOSED MINOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD'S DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING COMMITTEE TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY (JUNE 12) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM, SIXTH FLOOR, KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN STATION, NEW TERRITORIES.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 9.30 AM.

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DB COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

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MEMBERS OF THE CULTURE, RECREATION AND SPORTS COMMITTEE OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD WILL CONSIDER ON TUESDAY (JUNE 12) THE ALLOCATION OF MORE THAN \$1 MILLION TO VARIOUS LOCAL ORGANISATIONS FOR CARRYING OUT CULTURAL, RECREATIONAL AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES THIS FINANCIAL YEAR.

THE LOCAL ORGANISATIONS INCLUDE THE SAI KUNG CULTURE AND RECREATIONAL ADVANCEMENT ASSOCIATION, SAI KUNG DISTRICT SPORTS ASSOCIATION, ASSOCIATION OF THE SAI KUNG CHILDREN'S CHOIR AND MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO EXAMINE THE COMMITTEE'S FINANCIAL POSITION.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD'S CULTURE, RECREATION AND SPORTS COMMITTEE MEETING ON TUESDAY (JUNE 12) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM, SECOND FLOOR, SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 34 CHAN MAN STREET, SAI KUNG TOWN.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 10 AM.

TENDERS INVITED FOR BUILDING SITTING OUT AREA

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THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A SITTING OUT AREA IN WAI YIP STREET, KWUN TONG.

OCCUPYING 800 SQUARE METRES, THE SITTING OUT AREA WILL HAVE A SINGLE-STOREY METEER/STORE ROOM, ARBOURS AND PLANTERS.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR AND WILL TAKE ABOUT SIX MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF TENDERS IS NOON ON JUNE 22.

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VOLUNTEERS RECRUITMENT DRIVE CONTINUES

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THE ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT (THE VOLUNTEERS) TODAY (SUNDAY) CALLED ON ENTHUSIASTIC YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN WHO WOULD LIKE TO FACE THE CHALLENGE AND SERVE THE COMMUNITY TO JOIN THE VOLUNTEERS BEFORE ITS RECRUITMENT EXERCISE CLOSES ON JUNE 30.

THIS YEAR, THE REGIMENT IS LOOKING FOR ABOUT 130 MALE RECRUITS AND 25 FEMALE RECRUITS.

THOSE WHO ARE INTERESTED SHOULD BE 18 YEARS OLD OR ABOVE, HAVE COMPLETED SECONDARY EDUCATION AND HAVE A REASONABLE KNOWLEDGE OF SPOKEN ENGLISH. THEY SHOULD ALSO HAVE REGULAR EMPLOYMENT AND SHOULD HAVE OBTAINED THEIR EMPLOYERS' CONSENT FOR JOINING THE FORCE.

"SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL RECEIVE TRAINING IN BASIC MILITARY SKILLS, INCLUDING DRILL, HANDLING RIFLES, SUB-MACHINE GUNS, AND USE OF VEHICLES AND ASSAULT BOATS," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE VOLUNTEERS SAID.

"TRAINING IN OPERATING RADIO EQUIPMENT, AND IN MAP READING AND FIRST AID IS ALSO GIVEN.

"THIS NO DOUBT HELPS IN BUILDING UP ONE'S PHYSIQUE AS WELL AS CULTIVATING A MORE MATURE AND CAPABLE PERSONALITY.

"VOLUNTEERS WILL ALSO GAIN VALUABLE EXPERIENCE IN SUPERVISORY SKILLS, JUDGEMENT AND DECISION-MAKING."

TRAINING FOR NEW RECRUITS WILL BE CARRIED OUT ON FOUR EVENINGS AND ONE WEEKEND PER MONTH FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE MONTHS. THEY WILL ALSO HAVE TO ATTEND TWO NINE-DAY TRAINING CAMPS BEFORE PASSING OUT.

THE MAJORITY OF TRAINING WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE SCENIC COUNTRY PARKS OF HONG KONG ISLAND AND THE NEW TERRITORIES.

ON COMPLETION OF BASIC TRAINING, VOLUNTEERS WILL TRAIN TWO EVENINGS AND ONE WEEKEND A MONTH. THERE ARE TWO CAMP PERIODS, ONE OF WHICH IS SPENT ON MANNING THE HONG KONG-CHINA BORDER.

APPLICATION FORMS AND INFORMATION LEAFLETS ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL DISTRICT OFFICES AND THE REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS AT SPORTS ROAD, HAPPY VALLEY.

FURTHER INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE VOLUNTEERS' HEADQUARTERS ON TEL. 576 1371.

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TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE IN SHA TIN

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT BETWEEN 1 AM AND 6 AM ON TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY (JUNE 12 AND 13), THE SECTION OF SHA TIN WAI ROAD WESTBOUND BETWEEN NGAU PEI SHA STREET AND NGAN SHING STREET WILL BE TEMPORARILY CLOSED TO ALL VEHICULAR TRAFFIC TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD T5 IN SHA TIN.

DURING THE HOURS OF CLOSURE, MOTORISTS ON SHA TIN WAI ROAD WESTBOUND AND NGAU PEI SHA STREET NORTHBOUND HEADING FOR SHA TIN WAI ROAD WESTBOUND WILL BE DIVERTED VIA NGAU PEI SHA STREET NORTHBOUND, CHAP WAI KON STREET WESTBOUND AND NGAN SHING STREET SOUTHBOUND TO REJOIN SHA TIN WAI ROAD WESTBOUND.

MOTORISTS ARE URGED TO DRIVE WITH CARE AND PATIENCE. APPROPRIATE TEMPORARY TRAFFIC AIDS WILL BE PROVIDED TO GUIDE THEM.

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TEMPORARY LONG VEHICLE BAN ZONES IN TUEN MUN

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT TO FACILITATE THE REMOVAL OF STRUCTURAL FALSEWORK, ALL VEHICLES EXCEEDING 10 METRES IN LENGTH WILL BE BANNED FROM ENTERING THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD FROM 1.30 AM TO 5.30 AM ON SPECIFIED DATES:

- * THE SECTION OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD NORTHBOUND BETWEEN TUEN HING ROAD AND PUI TO ROAD FROM TUESDAY (JUNE 12) TO THURSDAY (JUNE 14); AND
- * THE SECTION OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD SOUTHBOUND BETWEEN PUI TO ROAD AND TUEN SHING STREET FROM FRIDAY (JUNE 15) TO SUNDAY (JUNE 17).

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