



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 1986

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
CHAMBERS CLARIFIES MEDICAL ISSUES	1
U.S. GSP DELEGATION TO VISIT HK	2
WARNING ON IMPORT OF ENDANGERED SPECIES	3
1985 AIRBORNE MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS RELEASED	4
JOBLESS RATE REMAINS STABLE	9
NEW BOOST FOR CIVIC AWARENESS	10
CIVIC EDUCATION DRIVE IN KOWLOON CITY	12
SEMINAR ON RADIATION PROTECTION	13
APRIL 30 DEADLINE FOR MEDICAL SCHEME	13
THREE SHA TIN COMMITTEES TO MEET	14
ENTRIES SOUGHT FOR DRAGON BOAT RACE	15
KWAI CHUNG, TSUEN WAN RESTRICTED ZONES	15
RIGHT-TURN BAN IN KWUN TONG	16
LOWER SHING MUN ROAD IMPROVEMENT PLANNED	16
NEW PARKING METERS FOR KWAI CHUNG	16

TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 1986

- 1 -

CHAMBERS CLARIFIES MEDICAL ISSUES

* * * *

THE GOVERNMENT HAS NO INTENTION OF DEPARTING FROM ITS PRESENT POLICY OF PROVIDING MEDICAL CARE FOR ALL PEOPLE AT A PRICE THEY CAN AFFORD, SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MR JOHN CHAMBERS, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE QUITE MODEST NEW AND INCREASED CHARGES PROPOSED IN THE RECENTLY PUBLISHED CONSULTANTS' REPORT ON THE DELIVERY OF MEDICAL SERVICES IN HOSPITALS WOULD IN NO WAY PRECLUDE THE UNDERPRIVILEGED FROM GAINING ACCESS TO PUBLIC HOSPITALS.

ADDRESSING A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG NORTHWEST, MR CHAMBERS SAID THE CHARGES WERE INTENDED BY THE CONSULTANTS TO SECURE MORE EFFICIENT USE OF THE OVERCROWDED FACILITIES IN THE MAJOR HOSPITALS.

CLARIFYING ANOTHER MISCONCEPTION, HE SAID THERE HAD IN RECENT MONTHS BEEN A NUMBER OF REFERENCES TO PROPOSALS ALLEGEDLY MADE BY THE CONSULTANTS FOR THE +PRIVATISATION+ OF PUBLIC HOSPITAL SERVICES.

+THE USE OF THIS RATHER EMOTIVE WORD IS UNFORTUNATE, TO SAY THE LEAST, SINCE IT GIVES THE QUITE WRONG IMPRESSION THAT OUR HOSPITALS ARE TO BE SOLD OFF TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER LIKE BRITISH AIRWAYS, TO BE OPERATED ON A PURELY COMMERCIAL BASIS, WITH CONSEQUENTIAL SHARP INCREASES IN CHARGES, WHICH MIGHT EVEN PUT HOSPITAL SERVICES BEYOND THE REACH OF MANY OF OUR LESS WELL-OFF CITIZENS.

+THIS IS CERTAINLY NOT THE CASE, AND THERE IS NOTHING IN EITHER THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OR THE CONSULTANTS' RECOMMENDATIONS TO SUPPORT THIS IDEA,+ HE ADDED.

EMPHASISING THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD NOT YET TAKEN ANY FIRM VIEWS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS, MR CHAMBERS SAID, HOWEVER, THAT HE HAD ALREADY SET UP A GROUP WITHIN THE ADMINISTRATION TO IMMEDIATELY START LOOKING AT THE RECOMMENDATIONS.

+THE FIRST TASK OF THIS GROUP WILL BE TO DIVIDE THE RECOMMENDATIONS INTO TWO CATEGORIES - THOSE WHICH ARE CLOSELY LINKED TO THE MAJOR PROPOSAL FOR A HOSPITAL AUTHORITY, AND THOSE WHICH COULD BE IMPLEMENTED IN ADVANCE OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AUTHORITY OR EVEN IF IT WERE DECIDED NOT TO PROCEED WITH THE MAJOR REORGANISATION,+ HE SAID.

HE NOTED THAT THERE WERE A NUMBER OF QUITE PRACTICAL AND LESS CONTROVERSIAL RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH COULD PERHAPS BE PUT INTO EFFECT QUITE QUICKLY, UNLIKE THE MAJOR REORGANISATION WHICH WOULD CLEARLY TAKE A CONSIDERABLE TIME TO IMPLEMENT.

/ON ANOTHER

ON ANOTHER VERY IMPORTANT POINT - THE COST IMPLICATIONS - MR CHAMBERS SAID THE CONSULTANTS ESTIMATED THAT THE CAPITAL COST OF IMPLEMENTING THE REPORT'S RECOMMENDATIONS, OVER A FIVE-YEAR PERIOD, WOULD BE OF THE ORDER OF \$950 MILLION, WITH ADDITIONAL RECURRENT EXPENDITURE OF \$130 MILLION PER ANNUM.

+ON THE OTHER HAND, THE REPORT ESTIMATES THAT THIS MONEY COULD BE RECOVERED OVER THE SAME FIVE-YEAR PERIOD, BY BETTER USES OF FACILITIES AND IMPROVED EFFICIENCY.

+HOWEVER THE CONSULTANTS ADMIT THAT THEY MADE A NUMBER OF VERY BROAD ASSUMPTIONS IN THESE CALCULATIONS AND IT IS CLEAR THAT A GREAT DEAL OF MORE DETAILED WORK WILL NEED TO BE DONE ON THE COST ASPECTS BEFORE A REALISTIC ESTIMATE OF THE COSTS AND BENEFITS CAN BE ARRIVED AT, AND THIS WILL BE PUT IN HAND AS SOON AS POSSIBLE,+ HE SAID.

MEANWHILE, THE CONSULTATION PROCESS WAS FIRMLY UNDERWAY, MR CHAMBERS SAID, AND COPIES OF THE REPORT HAD BEEN WIDELY DISTRIBUTED TO INTERESTED PARTIES, INCLUDING SUBVENTED MEDICAL ORGANISATIONS, STAFF ASSOCIATIONS IN THE GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL SYSTEM AND ALL DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS.

A SUMMARY OF THE REPORT HAD BEEN SEPARATELY PUBLISHED AND COPIES WERE AVAILABLE AT ALL DISTRICT OFFICES.

MR CHAMBERS SAID THAT STAFF FROM HIS BRANCH AND THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT WOULD BE PREPARED TO HELP IN DISCUSSIONS ON THE REPORT, AND VIEWS OR COMMENTS SHOULD BE SENT TO THE BRANCH BEFORE THE END OF AUGUST.

+WE LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIVING MANY THOUGHTFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE VIEWS, WHICH WILL HELP US TO REACH THE RIGHT DECISIONS ON THIS IMPORTANT REPORT,+ HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

U.S. GSP DELEGATION TO VISIT HK
* * * *

A UNITED STATES DELEGATION WILL VISIT HONG KONG LATER THIS MONTH AS PART OF A PRESIDENTIAL REVIEW OF THE AMERICAN GENERALISED SCHEME OF PREFERENCES.

UNDER THE 1984 TRADE AND TARIFF ACT THE PRESIDENT IS REQUIRED TO REVIEW THE ENTIRE GSP PROGRAMME ON A PRODUCT-BY-PRODUCT AND A BENEFICIARY-BY-BENEFICIARY BASIS. THIS REVIEW HAS BEEN UNDER WAY SINCE FEBRUARY 1985 WITH SUBMISSIONS BEING MADE BY ALL THE PARTIES INVOLVED, INCLUDING HONG KONG.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF TRADE, MR ROBERT FOOTMAN, SAID THAT THE ACT REQUIRED THE REVIEW TO DETERMINE APPROPRIATE COMPETITIVE NEED LEVELS FOR EACH BENEFICIARY APPLICABLE TO EACH PRODUCT.

/TWO COMPETITIVE

TWO COMPETITIVE NEED LEVELS WERE PROVIDED FOR, EACH BASED ON ABSOLUTE VALUE OF IMPORTS OR SHARE OF IMPORTS ACHIEVED BY A BENEFICIARY FOR ANY PRODUCT.

THE REVIEW ALSO PROVIDED FOR WAIVER OF COMPETITIVE NEED LEVELS WHERE APPROPRIATE IN RESPECT OF CERTAIN PRODUCTS FROM CERTAIN BENEFICIARIES.

IN CONSIDERING COMPETITIVE NEED LEVELS THREE FACTORS HAVE TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT: THE GENERAL LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT OF EACH BENEFICIARY, INCLUDING PER CAPITA GNP, LIVING STANDARDS AND OTHER FACTORS, TRADE PRACTICES, INCLUDING MARKET ACCESS, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS, TRADE-DISTORTING INVESTMENT PRACTICES, BARRIERS TO TRADE IN SERVICES, WORKERS RIGHTS, THE SPECIFIC PRODUCT COMPETITIVENESS OF THE BENEFICIARY, INCLUDING SHARE OF U.S. IMPORTS, SHARE OF U.S. CONSUMPTION AND PRICE COMPETITIVENESS.

IN CONSIDERING WAIVER OF COMPETITIVE NEED LEVELS THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE BENEFICIARY'S MARKET IS OPEN TO U.S. EXPORTS AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTION MUST ALSO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.

THE EXACT DATES FOR THE VISIT WERE NOT YET FINALISED. MR FOOTMAN SAID THAT HONG KONG HAS MADE VARIOUS SUBMISSIONS UNDER THE REVIEW MAKING PROPOSALS FOR WAIVER OF COMPETITIVE NEED LEVELS, EXPLAINING HONG KONG'S GOOD TRADE PRACTICES AND OPEN MARKET, AND REACTING TO POINTS PUT FORWARD BY OTHER PARTIES.

DURING THE VISIT BY THE AMERICAN TEAM IT IS EXPECTED THAT HONG KONG'S SUBMISSIONS, AND SUBMISSIONS MADE BY OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES, WOULD BE DISCUSSED.

THE RESULT OF THE REVIEW WOULD BE MADE PUBLIC BY THE UNITED STATES IN JANUARY 1987.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WARNING ON IMPORT OF ENDANGERED SPECIES

* * * * *

THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) WARNED THAT IMPORTATION OR POSSESSION OF ANY ENDANGERED ANIMALS AND PLANTS WITHOUT A VALID PERMIT ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT IS AN OFFENCE IN LAW, PUNISHABLE WITH HEAVY FINES AND IMPRISONMENT.

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SOUNDED THE WARNING FOLLOWING THREE RECENT CASES HEARD AT FANLING MAGISTRACY, IN WHICH THREE MEN WERE FINED A TOTAL OF \$6 830 FOR ILLEGALLY IMPORTING AND POSSESSING ENDANGERED ANIMALS, BIRDS AND FISH, AND FOR CRUELTY TO THEM.

/THE ANIMALS,

THE ANIMALS, BIRDS AND FISH INVOLVED IN THESE CASES INCLUDED TWO MONKEYS, A LEOPARD CAT, FOUR KESTRELS AND AN OTTER AND 78 ASIATIC BONEY TONGUE FISH. THEY WERE FORFEITED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT DESPITE REPEATED APPEALS, SOME PEOPLE STILL VIOLATED THE ANIMALS AND PLANTS (PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES) ORDINANCE BY IMPORTING INTO HONG KONG ENDANGERED ANIMALS WITHOUT PRIOR AUTHORISATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT.

+IN 1985, 314 PROSECUTIONS WERE TAKEN OUT AGAINST OFFENDERS, RESULTING IN FINES AMOUNTING TO \$149 000.

+SO FAR THIS YEAR, 58 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN PROSECUTED FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE LAW AND FINED A TOTAL OF \$20 500,+ HE SAID.

MOST CASES ARE CONNECTED WITH THE ILLEGAL IMPORTATION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES OF ANIMALS INCLUDING OWLS, KESTRELS, BUZZARDS, MONKEYS, PANGOLINS AND STUFFED SPECIMENS OF SEA TURTLES AND CROCODILES.

THE SPOKESMAN ADVISED RESIDENTS MAKING TRIPS ABROAD NOT TO BRING BACK ANY ENDANGERED SPECIES OF ANIMALS, BIRDS OR PLANTS ON THEIR RETURN.

+FAILURE TO DO SO MAY LEAD TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$5 000 FOR THE FIRST OFFENCE AND \$10 000 AND SIX MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT FOR A REPEAT OFFENCE,+ HE WARNED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

1985 AIRBORNE MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS RELEASED
* * * * *

TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE BY AIR IN 1985, VALUED AT \$97 228 MILLION, DECREASED BY 7 PER CENT AS COMPARED WITH 1984, ACCORDING TO SUMMARY STATISTICS ON AIRBORNE MERCHANDISE TRADE RELEASED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

IN 1985, 26 PER CENT OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS, 20 PER CENT OF IMPORTS AND 17 PER CENT OF RE-EXPORTS, ALL BY VALUE, WERE CARRIED BY AIR. IN TERMS OF WEIGHT, AIRBORNE IMPORTS AMOUNTED TO 182 841 TONNES OR 0.5 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL IMPORT TONNAGE, WHILE TOTAL AIRBORNE EXPORTS TOTALLED 236 977 TONNES OR 1.3 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL EXPORT TONNAGE.

AIRBORNE DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO MAJOR MARKETS ARE GIVEN IN TABLE 1.

/ANALYSED BY

ANALYSED BY COMMODITY CATEGORIES, DECREASES IN AIRBORNE DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE RECORDED MAINLY IN OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY \$2 508 MILLION OR 37 PER CENT); CLOTHING (BY \$690 MILLION OR 5 PER CENT); ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$601 MILLION OR 18 PER CENT) AS WELL AS MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, INCLUDING MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS (BY \$489 MILLION OR 13 PER CENT).

INCREASES IN VALUE WERE RECORDED IN AIRBORNE DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF FISH, CRUSTACEANS AND MOLLUSCS, AND PREPARATIONS THEREOF (BY \$12 MILLION OR 8 PER CENT); FOOTWEAR (BY \$11 MILLION OR 10 PER CENT) AS WELL AS PAPER, PAPERBOARD, AND ARTICLES OF PAPER PULP, OF PAPER OR OF PAPERBOARD (BY \$3 MILLION OR 25 PER CENT).

FURTHER ANALYSIS BY COUNTRY WITHIN COMMODITY CATEGORIES REVEALED DECREASES IN AIRBORNE DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT TO THE U.S. (BY \$1 503 MILLION OR 35 PER CENT) AND TO THE UNITED KINGDOM (BY \$770 MILLION OR 75 PER CENT); CLOTHING TO JAPAN (BY \$419 MILLION OR 25 PER CENT) AND TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (BY \$360 MILLION OR 23 PER CENT); ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF TO TAIWAN (BY \$214 MILLION OR 63 PER CENT) AS WELL AS MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, INCLUDING MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS TO THE U.S. (BY \$290 MILLION OR 14 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN AIRBORNE DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF FISH, CRUSTACEANS AND MOLLUSCS, AND PREPARATIONS THEREOF TO TAIWAN (BY \$11 MILLION OR 350 PER CENT) AND TO JAPAN (BY \$2 MILLION OR 1 PER CENT); FOOTWEAR TO THE U.S. (BY \$17 MILLION OR 20 PER CENT) AS WELL AS PAPER, PAPERBOARD, AND ARTICLES OF PAPER PULP, OF PAPER OR OF PAPERBOARD TO THE U.S. (BY \$2 MILLION OR 45 PER CENT).

AIRBORNE IMPORTS FROM MAJOR SUPPLIERS ARE PRESENTED IN TABLE 2.

DECREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR AIRBORNE IMPORTS OF ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$3 602 MILLION OR 26 PER CENT); OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY \$528 MILLION OR 11 PER CENT); LEATHER, LEATHER MANUFACTURES AND DRESSED FURSKINS (BY \$303 MILLION OR 20 PER CENT) AS WELL AS INORGANIC CHEMICALS (BY \$177 MILLION OR 27 PER CENT).

IN CONTRAST, INCREASES WERE NOTED IN IMPORTS OF PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES AND OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$735 MILLION OR 9 PER CENT); TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT (NOT INCLUDING AIR CUSHION VEHICLES) (BY \$553 MILLION OR 108 PER CENT) AS WELL AS TEXTILES (BY \$331 MILLION OR 24 PER CENT).

DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN AIRBORNE IMPORTS OF ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF FROM THE U.S. (BY \$1 405 MILLION OR 36 PER CENT) AND JAPAN (BY \$1 123 MILLION OR 26 PER CENT); OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT FROM THE U.S. (BY \$489 MILLION OR 17 PER CENT) AND JAPAN (BY \$119 MILLION OR 16 PER CENT); LEATHER, LEATHER MANUFACTURES AND DRESSED FURSKINS (BY \$317 MILLION OR 43 PER CENT) AND INORGANIC CHEMICALS (BY \$126 MILLION OR 35 PER CENT) FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM.

ON THE OTHER HAND, INCREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR AIRBORNE IMPORTS OF PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES AND OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS FROM JAPAN (BY \$451 MILLION OR 11 PER CENT) AND SWITZERLAND (BY \$109 MILLION OR 7 PER CENT); TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT (NOT INCLUDING AIR CUSHION VEHICLES) FROM THE U.S. (BY \$422 MILLION OR 116 PER CENT) AS WELL AS TEXTILES FROM CHINA (BY \$92 MILLION OR 75 PER CENT).

AIRBORNE RE-EXPORTS TO MAJOR MARKETS ARE DEPICTED IN TABLE 3.

DECREASES IN VALUE OF AIRBORNE RE-EXPORTS WERE REGISTERED FOR ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$1 267 MILLION OR 23 PER CENT); PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES AND OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$316 MILLION OR 10 PER CENT); MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, INCLUDING MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS (BY \$50 MILLION OR 4 PER CENT) AS WELL AS METALLIFEROUS ORES AND METAL SCRAP (BY \$38 MILLION OR 93 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, INCREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR AIRBORNE RE-EXPORTS OF CLOTHING (BY \$403 MILLION OR 37 PER CENT); OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY \$208 MILLION OR 20 PER CENT) AND NON-METALLIC MINERAL MANUFACTURES (BY \$162 MILLION OR 10 PER CENT).

DECREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR AIRBORNE RE-EXPORTS OF ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF TO TAIWAN (BY \$590 MILLION OR 36 PER CENT) AND SINGAPORE (BY \$240 MILLION OR 32 PER CENT); PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES AND OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS TO THE NETHERLANDS (BY \$97 MILLION OR 85 PER CENT) AND SAUDI ARABIA (BY \$68 MILLION OR 19 PER CENT); MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, INCLUDING MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS TO THE U.S. (BY \$223 MILLION OR 40 PER CENT) AS WELL AS METALLIFEROUS ORES AND METAL SCRAP TO THE UNITED KINGDOM (BY \$34 MILLION OR 100 PER CENT).

/HOWEVER, INCREASES

HOWEVER, INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN AIRBORNE RE-EXPORTS OF CLOTHING TO THE U.S. (BY \$405 MILLION OR 58 PER CENT) AND JAPAN (BY \$24 MILLION OR 33 PER CENT); OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT TO CHINA (BY \$134 MILLION OR 30 PER CENT) AND NON-METALLIC MINERAL MANUFACTURES TO THE U.S. (BY \$120 MILLION OR 25 PER CENT).

FURTHER DETAILS ARE CONTAINED IN THE COMPREHENSIVE REPORT +HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE, DECEMBER 1985+ WHICH IS AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE.

TABLE 1 : AIRBORNE DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY MAJOR MARKETS

	1985 (\$ MN.)	1984 (\$ MN.)	DECREASE (-) (\$ MN.)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE (%)
U.S.A.	18 731	19 972	-1 241	- 6
F.R. OF GERMANY	2 471	3 101	- 630	-20
JAPAN	2 325	2 830	- 505	-18
UNITED KINGDOM	1 684	2 831	-1 147	-41
CANADA	1 123	1 215	- 92	- 8
NETHERLANDS	721	950	- 229	-24
SWITZERLAND	661	800	- 138	-17
SINGAPORE	648	747	- 99	-13
FRANCE	624	757	- 133	-18
AUSTRALIA	449	544	- 95	-17

TABLE 2 : AIRBORNE IMPORTS FROM MAJOR SUPPLIERS

	1985 (\$ MN.)	1984 (\$ MN.)	INCREASE (+)/ DECREASE (-) (\$ MN.)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE (%)
JAPAN	10 958	11 519	- 561	- 5
U.S.A.	9 500	10 707	-1 207	-11
UNITED KINGDOM	2 693	3 046	- 352	-12

/SWITZERLAND

- 8 -

SWITZERLAND	2 663	2 368	+ 294	+12
F.R. OF GERMANY	2 293	1 971	+ 322	+16
TAIWAN	2 023	2 437	- 415	-17
SINGAPORE	1 915	2 230	- 315	-14
ITALY	1 633	1 402	+ 231	+16
REP. OF KOREA	1 572	1 718	- 146	- 9
FRANCE	1 308	1 266	+ 42	+ 3

TABLE 3 : AIRBORNE RE-EXPORTS TO MAJOR MARKETS

	1985 (\$ MN.)	1984 (\$ MN.)	INCREASE (+)/ DECREASE (-) (\$ MN.)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE (%)
U.S.A.	3 853	3 630	+223	+ 6
CHINA	2 188	1 447	+741	+51
TAIWAN	2 067	2 724	-657	-24
JAPAN	1 683	1 697	- 13	- 1
SINGAPORE	1 653	1 971	-317	-16
REP. OF KOREA	890	975	- 85	- 9
SWITZERLAND	403	324	+ 79	+24
UNITED KINGDOM	392	426	- 34	- 8
INDIA	374	298	+ 77	+26
MALAYSIA WEST	365	401	- 36	- 9

- - - - 0 - - - -

TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 1986

- 9 -

JOBLESS RATE REMAINS STABLE
* * * * *

THE UNEMPLOYMENT AND THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT SITUATION REMAINED STABLE IN THE QUARTER DECEMBER 1985-FEBRUARY 1986 COMPARED WITH THE QUARTER ENDING NOVEMBER 1985, ACCORDING TO THE LATEST LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR DECEMBER 1985-FEBRUARY 1986 WAS 3.2 PER CENT, COMPARED WITH THE RATE OF 3.4 PER CENT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING NOVEMBER 1985 AND 3.1 PER CENT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING FEBRUARY 1985. THE CHANGES IN THE RATE OVER THE PREVIOUS QUARTER AND THE QUARTER ENDING FEBRUARY 1985 ARE BOTH STATISTICALLY NOT SIGNIFICANT.

THE NUMBER OF THE UNEMPLOYED PERSONS IN THE QUARTER ENDING FEBRUARY 1986 WAS ESTIMATED TO BE 84 600, COMPARED WITH 88 900 FOR THE QUARTER ENDING NOVEMBER 1985 AND 82 100 FOR THE QUARTER ENDING FEBRUARY 1985.

THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE FOR DECEMBER 1985-FEBRUARY 1986 WAS 1.1 PER CENT, WHICH IS THE SAME AS THAT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING NOVEMBER 1985. THE RATE FOR DECEMBER 1984-FEBRUARY 1985 WAS 1.2 PER CENT.

THE DECREASE OF 0.1 PERCENTAGE POINT OVER THE QUARTER ENDING FEBRUARY 1985 IS STATISTICALLY NOT SIGNIFICANT.

THE ESTIMATED NUMBER OF UNDEREMPLOYED PERSONS FOR THE QUARTER ENDING FEBRUARY 1986 WAS 27 800, COMPARED WITH 30 100 FOR THE QUARTER ENDING NOVEMBER 1985 AND 31 800 FOR THE QUARTER ENDING FEBRUARY 1985.

CONSISTENT WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION (ILO), PERSONS WHO WORKED LESS THAN 35 HOURS A WEEK WERE REGARDED AS UNDEREMPLOYED ONLY IF THEY WERE SEEKING MORE WORK OR WERE NOT SEEKING MORE WORK BECAUSE THEY BELIEVED MORE WORK WAS NOT AVAILABLE.

COMMENTING UPON THESE FIGURES, THE COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS SAID THAT BECAUSE THE PROPORTION OF FIRST-TIME JOB SEEKERS (THAT IS, PEOPLE WHO HAVE JUST LEFT SCHOOL) VARIES FROM MONTH TO MONTH, THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATES WHICH HAD BEEN SEASONALLY ADJUSTED FOR THE VARIATION IN FIRST-TIME JOB SEEKERS SHOULD BE USED IN MAKING COMPARISONS OVER TIME.

HE ADDED THAT BASED ON A SYSTEM OF MANUAL EXTRACTION OF INFORMATION FROM SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRES FOR THE LATEST MONTH, PROVISIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATES COVERING THE LATEST MOVING THREE-MONTH PERIOD COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE WITHIN TWO WEEKS AFTER THE SURVEY.

/THESE PROVIDE

THESE PROVIDE AN EARLY INDICATION OF THE LATEST TREND IN THE UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT SITUATION.

THE PROVISIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED) FOR JANUARY 1986-MARCH 1986 WAS 3.3 PER CENT, AND THE PROVISIONAL UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE WAS 1.2 PER CENT. THE UNADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR DECEMBER 1985-FEBRUARY 1986 WAS 3.2 PER CENT.

THE UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT STATISTICS WERE OBTAINED FROM A CONTINUOUS GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY (GHS) CONDUCTED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT. THIS SURVEY COVERS A QUARTERLY SAMPLE OF SOME 14 000 HOUSEHOLDS OR 52 000 PERSONS, SELECTED SCIENTIFICALLY TO REPRESENT THE LAND-BASED CIVILIAN NON-INSTITUTIONAL POPULATION IN HONG KONG.

PERSONAL AND LABOUR FORCE DATA WERE OBTAINED IN THE SURVEY BY INTERVIEWING EACH INDIVIDUAL MEMBER AGED 15 AND ABOVE IN THE HOUSEHOLDS SAMPLED. IN THE SURVEY, THE DEFINITIONS USED IN MEASURING UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT FOLLOW CLOSELY THOSE RECOMMENDED BY THE ILO.

THE COMMISSIONER FURTHER POINTED OUT THAT TO CONFORM TO THE LATEST STANDARDS RECOMMENDED BY THE ILO, THE GHS DEFINITIONS OF +UNEMPLOYMENT+ AND +UNDEREMPLOYMENT+ HAVE BEEN MODIFIED SINCE JANUARY 1985.

HOWEVER, A COMPLETE CONVERSION WILL ONLY BE INTRODUCED IN MAY 1986 WHEN A SUFFICIENTLY LONG SERIES OF THE STATISTICS UNDER THE NEW DEFINITIONS IS AVAILABLE.

USING THE NEW DEFINITIONS THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR DECEMBER 1985-FEBRUARY 1986 WAS 3.0 PER CENT, AND THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE WAS 2.0 PER CENT.

DETAILED ANALYSIS OF LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS IS GIVEN IN THE REPORT ON THE GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY WHICH IS PUBLISHED FOUR TIMES A YEAR. THE NEXT REPORT COVERING THE QUARTER ENDING MARCH 1986 SHOULD BE AVAILABLE FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE NEXT WEEK.

- - - - 0 - - - -

NEW BOOST FOR CIVIC AWARENESS

* * *

A NEW PROGRAMME SERIES ENTITLED +INFORMATION '86+ AND AIMED AT PROMOTING CIVIC AWARENESS AMONG HONG KONG RESIDENTS WILL BEGIN THIS MONTH.

THIS WAS ANNOUNCED AT A PRESS CONFERENCE HELD THIS (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON BY THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT (ISD) AND RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG (RTHK).

THE NEW SERIES TAKES THE FORM OF LIVE OUTDOOR PRESENTATIONS PROMOTING VARIOUS GOVERNMENT PUBLICITY CAMPAIGNS WHICH WILL BE RECORDED AND BROADCAST BY RTHK.

INTRODUCING THE 14 SHOWS SCHEDULED FROM THIS MONTH TO MARCH NEXT YEAR, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (PUBLICITY) OF ISD, MR GEORGE YUEN, SAID THAT MANY TIMES IN THE PAST THE TWO DEPARTMENTS HAD WORKED TOGETHER IN ORGANISING DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE GOVERNMENT CAMPAIGNS. HE ADDED THAT THEY WERE NOW JOINING HANDS AGAIN IN THIS NEW VENTURE TO DISSEMINATE CAMPAIGN MESSAGES.

+INFORMATION '86 COMPRISES 14 EPISODES, EACH FEATURING A SUBJECT OF PUBLIC CONCERN, INCLUDING ANTI-NARCOTICS, ANTI-SMOKING, ROAD SAFETY, HOME SAFETY, CLEAN HONG KONG, HEALTH EDUCATION, FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION, FIRE PREVENTION AND FIGHT CRIME,+ MR YUEN SAID.

HE EXPLAINED THAT +INFORMATION '86+ WAS AN EXTENSION OF THE ISD'S MOBILE STREET THEATRE ESTABLISHED SOME TEN YEARS AGO, BUT WITH A NEW CONCEPT.

+THROUGH BOTH PUBLIC PARTICIPATION DURING THE EVENT AND THE SUBSEQUENT RADIO BROADCAST, WHAT WAS BEFORE CONFINED TO A DISTRICT LEVEL WILL NOW BE ABLE TO PENETRATE EVERY HOUSEHOLD ON A TERRITORY-WIDE SCALE,+ HE ADDED.

THE HEAD OF RTHK'S CHINESE PROGRAMME SERVICE, MR RAYMOND NG, SAID THAT APART FROM JOINT PROJECTS, RTHK ALSO SUPPORTED GOVERNMENT CAMPAIGNS BY BROADCASTING ON THE AVERAGE OVER 1 000 GOVERNMENT APIS (ANNOUNCEMENTS OF PUBLIC INTEREST) EACH MONTH, COVERING MORE THAN 50 TOPICS.

+THIS YEAR'S EMPHASIS WILL BE ON PRODUCING MORE PROGRAMMES OF A CIVIC EDUCATION NATURE,+ MR NG SAID.

A THEME SONG HAD BEEN SPECIALLY COMPOSED FOR +INFORMATION '86+ WITH LYRICS ABOUT LOOKING AHEAD AND CARING MORE FOR THE COMMUNITY.

ON THE SAME NOTE, MR NG HOPED THAT MESSAGES PUT ACROSS BY THESE PROMOTIONAL EVENTS WOULD HELP INCULCATE A SENSE OF MORE ACTIVE LISTENING, SEEING AND PARTICIPATING.

TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 1986

- 12 -

CIVIC EDUCATION DRIVE IN KOWLOON CITY
* * * *

A YEAR-LONG CIVIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN WILL BEGIN IN KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT NEXT WEEK TO PROMOTE CIVIC AWARENESS AMONG RESIDENTS AND TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO PARTICIPATE IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

OVER THE NEXT 11 MONTHS A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES WILL BE ORGANISED BY A SPECIALLY-FORMED CIVIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE TO PROMOTE THE THEMES OF CONCERN FOR THE COMMUNITY, PARTICIPATION BY THE PUBLIC, COURTESY AND CIVIC MINDEDNESS, AND NEIGHBOURLINESS AND PEACE.

THE CAMPAIGN, SPONSORED BY THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD, WILL START ON APRIL 25 WITH A VARIETY SHOW STAGED BY RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG AT THE BAPTIST COLLEGE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY HALL.

OTHER ACTIVITIES BEING ORGANISED INCLUDE A LOVE YOUR FAMILY PROJECT, COURTESY CAMPAIGN, CIVIC AMBASSADOR SCHEME, MODEL STUDENT AWARD, AND AN OUTSTANDING CITIZEN AWARD.

A PRESS CONFERENCE ABOUT THE CAMPAIGN WILL BE HELD AT 3 PM ON THURSDAY (APRIL 17) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE AT 141 KAU PUI LUNG ROAD, TO KWA WAN.

PRESENT AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT CIVIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN ORGANISING COMMITTEE, MR WU SHING-SHUEN; ASSISTANT KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS DIANA TONG; PROGRAMME SUB-COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MR WONG WING-PIU; PUBLICITY SUB-COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MR LAU CHI-SUM AND FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MR HUI IN-YING.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRESS CONFERENCE AT 3 PM ON THURSDAY IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE AT 141 KAU PUI LUNG ROAD, TO KWA WAN.

----- 0 -----

/13

TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 1986

- 13 -

SEMINAR ON RADIATION PROTECTION
* * * * *

SCIENCE TEACHERS IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS ARE INVITED TO TAKE PART IN TWO SEMINARS ON RADIATION PROTECTION AT THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC EARLY NEXT MONTH.

ORGANISED JOINTLY BY THE RADIATION HEALTH UNIT OF THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT, THE DIAGNOSTIC RADIOGRAPHY SECTION OF THE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH CARE OF HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, AND THE PHYSICS SECTION OF THE ADVISORY INSPECTORATE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, THE SEMINARS WILL BE HELD ON MAY 3 AND MAY 10.

THERE WILL BE TALKS ON BASIC PRINCIPLES OF RADIATION PROTECTION IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND DEMONSTRATIONS ON +LEAKAGE TENT+ FOR SEALED RADIOACTIVE SOURCES.

DISCUSSIONS ON THE EFFECTS OF IONISING RADIATION, THE CHARACTERISTICS OF RADIOACTIVE SOURCES USED IN SCHOOLS, THE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS IN HANDLING AND USING THESE SOURCES AND STEPS TO BE TAKEN IN CASE OF ACCIDENTS WILL BE HELD AT THE SEMINARS.

PRIORITY WILL BE GIVEN TO RADIOACTIVE SOURCE CUSTODIANS IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

SCHOOL HEADS SHOULD SUBMIT THEIR NOMINATIONS TO THE PRINCIPAL INSPECTOR (PHYSICS), ADVISORY INSPECTORATE, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, LEE GARDENS, HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY, BEFORE APRIL 21.

- - - - 0 - - - -

APRIL 30 DEADLINE FOR MEDICAL SCHEME
* * * * *

SENIOR RESIDENTS IN TAI PO WHO WISH TO JOIN THE REDUCED-RATE MEDICAL SCHEME FOR THE ELDERLY SHOULD APPLY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AS THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS APRIL 30, A DISTRICT BOARD SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE SCHEME, WHICH WAS INTRODUCED BY THE COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKING GROUP UNDER THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD'S SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE, ENABLES SENIOR RESIDENTS TO GET REDUCED RATES FOR MEDICAL SERVICES FROM 26 DOCTORS AND DENTISTS IN THE DISTRICT.

A LIST OF THE PARTICIPATING MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS IS AVAILABLE FROM THE TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICE OR THE DISTRICT BOARD.

/RESIDENTS IN

RESIDENTS IN TAI PO, AGED 60 OR OVER, MAY APPLY FOR A PRIVILEGE CARD, WHICH IS VALID FOR ONE YEAR, FROM THE TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS SUB-OFFICES OR THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD.

ABOUT 1 300 ELDERLY PEOPLE HAVE JOINED THE SCHEME SINCE IT BEGAN IN NOVEMBER LAST YEAR.

PEOPLE APPLYING TO JOIN SHOULD BRING ALONG THEIR IDENTITY CARDS OR RELATED DOCUMENTS. THEY MAY SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO ACT ON THEIR BEHALF IF UNABLE TO APPLY PERSONALLY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

THREE SHA TIN COMMITTEES TO MEET
* * * * *

THREE COMMITTEES OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD WILL HOLD MEETINGS TO DISCUSS VARIOUS ISSUES IN THE NEXT THREE DAYS STARTING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS THE CONTROL OF BILLIARD ESTABLISHMENTS, THE PROVISION OF CHILD AND YOUTH CENTRES IN SHA TIN AND THE SETTING UP OF THE THIRD UNIVERSITY.

THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS THE LACK OF SIGNBOARDS AND DIRECTION SIGNS AT SCENIC SPOTS, THE REVIEW OF THE WORKING GROUPS AND THE CO-OPTING OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION BY THE DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING COMMITTEES INCLUDE THE NUMBER OF BICYCLES IN SHA TIN, THE ROAD LINK AT MA ON SHAN AND NAI CHUNG, A SURVEY ON SHOPPING CENTRES AND THE PEDESTRIAN NETWORK IN SHA TIN.

THE DATES AND TIMES OF THE MEETINGS ARE:

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE COMMITTEE	APRIL 16 (WEDNESDAY)	2.30 PM
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE	APRIL 17 (THURSDAY)	4.00 PM
DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING COMMITTEE	APRIL 18 (FRIDAY)	9.30 AM

ALL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE, SIXTH FLOOR, KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN RAILWAY STATION.

- - - - 0 - - - -

TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 1986

- 15 -

ENTRIES SOUGHT FOR DRAGON BOAT RACE
* * * *

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FOR TEAMS TO TAKE PART IN THE TAI PO DRAGON BOAT RACE TO BE HELD DURING THE TUEN NG FESTIVAL, JUNE 11.

THE RACE WILL TAKE PLACE ALONG THE WATERFRONT OF TOLO HARBOUR NEAR THE TAI PO INDUSTRIAL ESTATE.

A MAXIMUM OF 50 TEAMS CAN TAKE PART, EACH WITH 27 MEMBERS COMPRISING A PADDLING CREW OF 24, A DRUMMER, A GONG-BEATER AND A COXSWAIN.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICES OF THE TAI PO RURAL COMMITTEE, TAI PO SPORTS ASSOCIATION LIMITED AND THE DISTRICT OFFICE. COMPLETED FORMS MUST BE RETURNED BY MAY 7 WITH AN ENTRY FEE OF \$500.

- - - - 0 - - - -

KWAI CHUNG, TSUEN WAN RESTRICTED ZONES
* * * *

A NUMBER OF ROADS IN KWAI CHUNG AND TSUEN WAN WILL BE DESIGNATED RESTRICTED ZONES FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (APRIL 18).

IN KWAI CHUNG, LEI MUK ROAD BETWEEN WO YI HOP ROAD AND CASTLE PEAK ROAD AND WO YI HOP ROAD BETWEEN LEI MUK ROAD AND A POINT ABOUT 170 METRES EAST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH CASTLE PEAK ROAD WILL BE DESIGNATED RESTRICTED ZONES FROM 7 AM TO 10 AM AND FROM 4 PM TO 7 PM DAILY.

THE SOUTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD FROM A POINT ABOUT 60 METRES SOUTH OF ITS JUNCTION WITH WO YI HOP ROAD TO A POINT ABOUT 60 METRES NORTH OF THE SAME JUNCTION AND WO YI HOP ROAD BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH CASTLE PEAK ROAD TO A POINT ABOUT 170 METRES EAST OF THE SAME JUNCTION WILL BE MADE 24-HOUR DAILY RESTRICTED ZONES. NO VEHICLES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS WITHIN THE RESTRICTED AREAS.

IN TSUEN WAN, SHA TSUI ROAD BETWEEN TEXACO ROAD AND CHUNG ON STREET WILL BE MADE PUBLIC LIGHT BUS RESTRICTED ZONE 24-HOUR DAILY. SHA TSUI ROAD BETWEEN CHUNG ON STREET AND TAI HO ROAD WILL BE DESIGNATED PLB RESTRICTED ZONE FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY. NO PLB'S WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS WITHIN THE RESTRICTED AREAS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 1986

- 16 -

RIGHT-TURN BAN IN KWUN TONG
* * * * *

VEHICLES COMING FROM THE KWUN TONG ROAD-HOI YUEN ROAD ROUNDABOUT WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM TURNING RIGHT FROM KWUN TONG ROAD WESTBOUND ONTO HONG NING ROAD NORTHBOUND FROM 10 AM ON THURSDAY (APRIL 17) TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW IN KWUN TONG ROAD.

VEHICLES IN HOI YUEN ROAD HEADING FOR HONG NING ROAD WILL BE DIVERTED TO KWUN TONG ROAD, HIP WO STREET, TUNG YAN STREET, YUE MAN SQUARE AND HONG NING ROAD.

-----0-----

LOWER SHING MUN ROAD IMPROVEMENT PLANNED
* * * * *

LOWER SHING MUN ROAD, BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH TAI PO ROAD AND THE SHA TIN CREMATORIUM ENTRANCE, WILL SOON BE IMPROVED.

THE PROJECT INCLUDES CONSTRUCTION OF THREE ADJOINING MINOR ROADS AND THREE SMALL OPEN-AIR CAR PARKS WHICH HAVE BEEN DESIGNED TO SERVE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AREA.

IT INVOLVES CONSTRUCTION OF A CONCRETE CARRIAGEWAY, FOOTPATH, RETAINING WALLS, EARTHWORK, DRAINAGE FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE EXISTING LOWER SHING MUN ROAD AND OTHER ANCILLARY WORKS FOR THE ACCESS ROADS AND CAR PARKS.

TENDERS ARE INVITED FOR THE WORK, WHICH IS EXPECTED TO START IN JUNE AND TAKE ABOUT 15 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

-----0-----

NEW PARKING METERS FOR KWAI CHUNG
* * * * *

FORTY NEWLY-INSTALLED PARKING METERS IN SHEK YI ROAD IN KWAI CHUNG WILL BECOME OPERATIONAL FROM FRIDAY (APRIL 18), THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED.

THE METERS ARE FOR TWO HOURS AND ARE FOR VEHICLES OTHER THAN MEDIUM AND HEAVY GOODS VEHICLES, BUSES, MOTORCYCLES AND BICYCLES.

OPERATING HOURS OF THESE METERS WILL BE FROM 8 AM TO MIDNIGHT EXCEPT SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS AND PARKING FEE WILL BE \$1 FOR 30 MINUTES.

-----0-----