DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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ELECTIONS - IMPORTANT STEP TOWARDS REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT

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THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS WILL BE AN IMPORTANT STAGE IN HONG KONG'S PROGRESS TOWARDS MORE REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID THIS (THURSDAY) EVENING.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AT THE AIRPORT ON HIS RETURN FROM LONDON, SIR EDWARD SAID THE PRIME PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT WAS TO BRIEF MINISTERS AND MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT ON THE PREPARATIONS BEING MADE FOR THE ELECTIONS.

+I FOUND, AS I EXPECTED, A GREAT DEAL OF INTEREST IN THIS, BOTH AMONG MINISTERS AND AMONG MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT WHO ASKED ME QUITE A LOT OF QUESTIONS ABOUT THE WAY WE WERE GOING ABOUT IT,+ HE SAID.

GIVING AN ACCOUNT OF HIS THREE-DAY TALKS IN LONDON, THE GOVERNOR SAID HE HAD MET THE PRIME MINISTER, THE SECRETARY OF STATE, MR RICHARD LUCE, SENIOR OFFICIALS OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE, AND A NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT WHO WERE INTERESTED PARTICULARLY IN HONG KONG.

SIR EDWARD SAID THERE WAS A GREAT DEAL OF INTEREST IN THE SCORRI REPORT ON VIETNAMESE REFUGEES WHICH CAME OUT LAST WEEK.

+I MADE CLEAR THAT WE WELCOME ANY MEASURES WHICH CAN SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCE THE NUMBER OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES HERE.

+AND I THINK IT WILL TAKE A CONCERTED AND COMPREHENSIVE EFFORT ON THE PART OF EVERYBODY CONCERNED -- THAT IS THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT, THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AND PARTICULARLY THE RESETTLEMENT COUNTRIES -- IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THAT.

+THAT REPORT IS NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION BOTH HERE IN HONG KONG AND IN LONDON, WHERE IT WILL BE FOR THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO REPLY TO PARLIAMENT,+ HE SAID.

SIR EDWARD SAID HE ALSO HAD VERY GOOD DISCUSSIONS WITH OFFICIALS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE ON THE DANGERS OF PROTECTIONISM WHICH SEEMED TO BE RISING.

+I MADE VERY CLEAR OUR INTERESTS AS A MAJOR TRADING TERRITORY IN RESISTING THAT TREND TOWARDS PROTECTIONISM.+

THE GOVERNOR ADDED THAT HE ALSO DISCUSSED THE PREPARATIONS BEING MADE FOR THE COMING INTO EFFECT OF THE SINO-BRITISH AGREEMENT.

+THAT INCLUDED, OF COURSE, THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP, AMONG OTHER THINGS,+ HE SAID.

/IN REPLY .....

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION ON THE LATEST DEVELOPMENT REGARDING THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP, SIR EDWARD SAID: +I HAVE NOTHING NEW TO TELL YOU ON THAT. THE DISCUSSIONS ARE STILL GOING ON BETWEEN THE BRITISH AND CHINESE GOVERNMENTS.+

HE ADDED THAT THE JLG WAS NOT THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT TO LONDON.

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION ON WHEN THE JOINT DECLARATION WILL BE RATIFIED, HE SAID: +IT HAS TO BE RATIFIED BEFORE THE 30TH OF JUNE. BUT THE EXACT DATE HASN'T YET BEEN ANNOUNCED.+

ASKED ABOUT THE PRIME MINISTER'S OPINION ON THE IDEA OF INCLUDING A LOCAL CHINESE MEMBER ON THE JLG, SIR EDWARD REPLIED: +ALL I CAN TELL YOU AT THE MOMENT IS THAT ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COMING INTO EFFECT OF THE AGREEMENT ARE STILL UNDER DISCUSSION AND OF COURSE I DON'T REVEAL THE CONTENT OF MY DISCUSSIONS WITH THE PRIME MINISTER.+

SIR EDWARD WAS MET AT THE AIRPORT BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE; THE SENIOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, SIR S.Y. CHUNG; AND THE SENIOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, SIR ROGER LOBO.

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PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR MARCH

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THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN MARCH 1985, AT $8 430 MILLION, DECREASED BY 20 PER CENT OR $2 072 MILLION COMPARED WITH MARCH 1984, WHILE THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS GREW BY 36 PER CENT OR $2 424 MILLION TO $9 078 MILLION, ACCORDING TO PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES PUBLISHED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

TAKING DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TOGETHER, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS, AT $17 508 MILLION, WAS TWO PER CENT OR $352 MILLION HIGHER THAN A YEAR EARLIER.

THE VALUE OF IMPORTS GREW BY 10 PER CENT OR $1 778 MILLION OVER MARCH 1984 TO REACH $19 915 MILLION.

AS THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS GREW AT A SLOWER RATE THAN THAT OF IMPORTS, THE VISIBLE TRADE GAP, THAT IS THE PROPORTION OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS NOT COVERED BY THAT OF TOTAL EXPORTS, WIDENED TO 12 PER CENT IN MARCH 1985 FROM FIVE PER CENT IN MARCH 1984.

/PUTTING THE .....

PUTTING THE MONTH'S TRADE FIGURES INTO CONTEXT, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1985 WAS $54 449 MILLION, MADE UP OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF $28 976 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS OF $25 473 MILLION.

COMPARED WITH THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1984, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS GREW BY $8 612 MILLION OR 19 PER CENT, DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY $861 MILLION OR THREE PER CENT, AND RE-EXPORTS BY $7 751 MILLION OR 44 PER CENT. THE VALUE OF IMPORTS GREW BY $5 216 MILLION, OR 11 PER CENT, TO $54 000 MILLION. AS THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS WAS GREATER THAN THAT OF IMPORTS, THE VISIBLE TRADE ACCOUNT RECORDED A SURPLUS OF $449 MILLION IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1985.

COMMENTING ON THESE COMPARATIVE FIGURES, A GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT TRADE FIGURES FOR MARCH CONTINUED TO BE INFLUENCED BY THE TIMING OF THE CHINESE NEW YEAR, WHICH FELL IN THE SECOND HALF OF FEBRUARY THIS YEAR.

HE NOTED THAT WHILE THE GROWTH RATE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS CONTINUED TO SLACKEN, THE GROWTH RATE OF RE-EXPORTS REMAINED STRONG. FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE DECEMBER 1958, THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS EXCEEDED THAT OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE PRESENTS THE PROVISIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FIGURES FOR MARCH 1985 -

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT HAS RELEASED THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FIGURES FOR MARCH :-

MERCHANDISE:	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	: $ 8 430 MILLION
	RE-EXPORTS	: $ 9 078 MILLION
	TOTAL EXPORTS	: $17 508 MILLION
	IMPORTS	: $19 915 MILLION
	TRADE BALANCE	: $ 2 407 MILLION (IN DEFICIT)

/COMPARATIVE FIGURES .....

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

LATEST 3 MONTHS	JAN-MAR 1985	JAN-MAR 1984	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	$MN.	$MN.	$MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	28 976 (53.2%)	28 115 (61.3%)	+ 861	+ 3.1
RE-EXPORTS	25 473	17 722	+7 751	+43.7
TOTAL EXPORTS	54 449	45 837	+8 612	+18.8
IMPORTS	54 000	48 784	+5 216	+10.7
TRADE BALANCE	+ 449	- 2 947	+3 396	

SAME MONTH LAST YEAR	MARCH 1985	MARCH 1984	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	$MN.	$MN.	$MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	8 430 (48.1%)	10 502 (61.2%)	-2 072	-19.7
RE-EXPORTS	9 078	6 654	+2 424	+36.4
TOTAL EXPORTS	17 508	17 156	+ 352	+ 2.1
IMPORTS	19 915	18 137	+1 778	+ 9.8
TRADE BALANCE	- 2 407	- 981	-1 426	

LAST MONTH	MARCH 1985	FEBRUARY 1985	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	$MN.	$MN.	$MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	8 430 (48.1%)	9 380 (55.8%)	- 950	-10.1
RE-EXPORTS	9 078	7 437	+1 641	+22.1
TOTAL EXPORTS	17 508	16 817	+ 691	+ 4.1
IMPORTS	19 915	14 966	+4 949	+33.1
TRADE BALANCE	- 2 407	+ 1 851	-4 258	

/LAST 12 .....

LAST 12 MONTHS	APRIL 1984 TO MARCH 1985	APRIL 1983 TO MARCH 1984	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	$MN.	$MN.	$MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	138 797	113 892	+24 905	+21.9
RE-EXPORTS	91 256	62 864	+28 392	+45.2
TOTAL EXPORTS	230 053	176 756	+53 297	+30.2
IMPORTS	228 586	190 086	+38 500	+20.3
TRADE BALANCE	+ 1 467	-13 330	+14 797	

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SIR PHILIP AT EASTERN BOARD MEETING

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DEPUTY TO THE GOVERNOR, SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, TODAY (THURSDAY) ATTENDED THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD MEETING CHAIRED BY ITS NEW CHAIRMAN, MR SHUM CHOI-SANG.

HE SPENT ABOUT AN HOUR LISTENING TO DISCUSSIONS BY BOARD MEMBERS ON A NUMBER OF ISSUES, INCLUDING A TALK ON THE PROMOTION OF TOURISM IN THE DISTRICT.

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SOUTHERN BOARD TO DISCUSS FUND ALLOCATION

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THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS THE FORMATION OF COMMITTEES UNDER THE BOARD, AND THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROJECTS AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

MEMBERS WILL CONSIDER THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDS TO PUBLISH THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT ANATOMY REPORT 1985, AS WELL AS FUNDS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR ACTIVITIES AND ANNUAL PROGRAMMES FOR THE DISTRICT'S RECREATION AND SPORTS COUNCIL AND ARTS AND CULTURE ASSOCIATION.

/OTHER ITEMS .....

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE A PROGRESS REPORT ON OUTSTANDING ITEMS OF THE PREVIOUS DISTRICT BOARD AND ITS COMMITTEES, AND PEDESTRIAN CROSSING FACILITIES ON ABERDEEN MAIN ROAD.

A PAPER ON PRIVATE ROADS, AND ANOTHER ON VARIOUS ISSUES OF CONCERN IN THE DISTRICT WILL ALSO BE TABLED. A REVIEW OF THE WORK OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD (1982-85) AND ITS COMMITTEES AND THE REPORT OF THE MEETINGS OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, WILL ALSO BE SUBMITTED AT THE MEETING.

THE BOARD WILL ALSO REVIEW THE +MEET THE PUBLIC+ AND THE +RESIDENTS' SUGGESTIONS TO THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD+ SCHEMES, IN WHICH RESIDENTS HAVE BEEN ABLE TO REFLECT THEIR VIEWS TO THE AUTHORITIES.

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GREATER DEMANDS SEEN ON SOCIAL WORKERS

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THE DEMANDS ON SOCIAL WORKERS ARE BOUND TO CONTINUE TO INCREASE AS WILL THE CHALLENGES THEY FACE IN MEETING NEW AND CHANGING NEEDS IN SOCIETY, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS ANSON CHAN, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SHE WAS SPEAKING ON THE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF SOCIAL WORKERS AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY.

+FEW CAREERS CAN OFFER SUCH A RANGE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR BOTH PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL FULFILLMENT,+ SHE SAID.

SHE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE SOCIAL WORK PROFESSION WOULD CONTINUE TO ATTRACT HIGHLY MOTIVATED, ENERGETIC AND SELFLESS YOUNG PEOPLE INTO ITS RANKS.

REFERRING TO THE ROLE OF THE SOCIAL WORKER AS +CARER,+ MRS CHAN SAID THAT IN THE SOCIAL WORK FIELD THE WORD +CARE+ COULD TAKE ON DIFFERENT MEANINGS.

FOR EXAMPLE, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE HAS STATUTORY RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CARE AND PROTECTION OF MANY CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAVE EITHER BEEN ORPHANED OR ABANDONED BY THEIR NATURAL PARENTS OR WHOSE PARENTS CANNOT OR WILL NOT TAKE ADEQUATE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR PHYSICAL OR MORAL WELL-BEING.

/HOWEVER, THE .....

HOWEVER, THE CONCEPT OF +CARE+ ALSO EMBRACED A +MORE PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT IN THE WELFARE OF INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES,+ MRS CHAN SAID.

SOCIAL WORKERS IN CHILD CARE CENTRES, CHILDREN'S HOMES AND HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY OR SEVERELY HANDICAPPED MUST NOT ONLY ENSURE THE BEST POSSIBLE STANDARDS OF PHYSICAL CARE, BUT MUST ALSO STRIVE, IN THE CASE OF CHILDREN IN CARE, TO HELP THEM THROUGH THE PROBLEMS OF ADJUSTMENT TO INSTITUTIONAL LIVING AND DEPRIVATION OF PARENTAL LOVE.

IN THE CASE OF VERY OLD PEOPLE, OR OF THE SEVERELY HANDICAPPED WHO MAY FEEL THEY HAVE NOTHING TO LIVE FOR, THE EMPHASIS IS TO ENRICH THEIR LIVES AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE THROUGH ACTIVITY AND CONTINUING INVOLVEMENT WITH THEIR FAMILY AND THE COMMUNITY.

CLOSELY RELATED TO THE ROLE OF +CARER+ WAS THE ROLE OF THE SOCIAL WORKER AS +HELPER,+ MRS CHAN SAID.

IN MANY AREAS OF WELFARE SERVICES, SHE SAID, INCREASING EMPHASIS WAS BEING PUT ON COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES TO HELP PEOPLE TO HELP THEMSELVES AND CARRY ON COPING INDEPENDENTLY FOR AS LONG AS POSSIBLE.

+THIS EMPHASIS IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT IN THE FACE OF INCREASING PRESSURES UPON THE FAMILY WITH THE ATTENDANT PROBLEMS OF MARITAL BREAKDOWNS AND SINGLE-PARENT FAMILIES,+ SHE SAID.

SHE NOTED THAT COMMUNITY SUPPORT WAS ALSO VITAL FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE AND THE DISABLED LIVING ON THEIR OWN OR IN NEED OF HELP DURING THE DAY WHEN OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS WERE AT WORK.

SHE SAID THAT MORE OFTEN THAN NOT, BOTH PRACTICAL AND EMOTIONAL SUPPORT WAS REQUIRED.

TURNING TO THE ROLE OF THE SOCIAL WORKER AS AN +ENABLER,+ MRS CHAN SAID THAT THIS ROLE WAS ASSUMING GROWING IMPORTANCE AS THE COMPLEXITY OF THE PROBLEMS HE WAS FACING INCREASED AND IN THE LIGHT OF RESOURCE CONSTRAINTS.

+MANY OF THE CASES HANDLED BY SOCIAL WORKERS INVOLVE A NUMBER OF PROBLEMS AND, IN SOME CASES, THE WORKER CAN DO LITTLE MORE THAN TO OFFER GUIDANCE ON THE OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO HIS CLIENTS TO RESOLVE THEIR DIFFICULTIES,+ SHE SAID.

ANOTHER ROLE OF SOCIAL WORKERS WAS THAT OF +CUSTODIANS+ OF YOUNG PEOPLE, THE DIRECTOR SAID.

TRAINED SOCIAL WORKERS IN THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SERVE THE COURTS IN MANY AREAS OF STATUTORY WORK LIKE PROBATION.

/SOCIAL WORKERS .....

SOCIAL WORKERS ARE ALSO DEPLOYED IN THE RESIDENTIAL TRAINING OF YOUNG OFFENDERS AND OF CERTAIN GROUPS OF YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE REQUIRED TO UNDERGO A PERIOD OF RESIDENTIAL SUPERVISION UNDER THE TERMS OF A CARE AND PROTECTION ORDER.

ON THE EMERGING ROLE OF THE SOCIAL WORKER AS A +CO-ORDINATORS,+ MRS CHAN SAID THAT SOCIAL WORKERS NOW OFTEN WORKED CLOSELY AS A TEAM WITH OTHER PROFESSIONALLY QUALIFIED PEOPLE.

+THIS IS PARTICULARLY SO IN THE FIELD OF REHABILITATION SERVICES WHERE MANY SERVICES FOR DISABLED CHILDREN AND ADULTS INVOLVE INPUTS FROM A RANGE OF SKILLED STAFF INCLUDING PHYSIOTHERAPISTS, OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS, SPEECH THERAPISTS, CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS AND NURSES,+ SHE SAID.

SHE NOTED THAT SOCIAL WORKERS WERE ALSO PLAYING AN INCREASING ROLE IN WORK WITH MENTAL PATIENTS IN HOSPITALS AND IN THE AFTERCARE AND REHABILITATION OF EX-MENTAL PATIENTS.

IN MANY INSTANCES, SHE WENT ON, THE SOCIAL WORKER WAS EXPECTED TO FILL THE ROLE OF +GO-BETWEEN.+ HE WOULD BE EXPECTED TO EXPLAIN THE PURPOSE OF TREATMENT TO THE PATIENT AND ENCOURAGE HIM TO CO-OPERATE WITH IT AND TO INVOLVE THE FAMILY AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE AND ENCOURAGE THEM TO PROVIDE THE CONTINUING SUPPORT NEEDED BY THE PATIENT.

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INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION SURVEY UNDERWAY

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT IS NOW CONDUCTING A SURVEY OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION TO COLLECT DATA ON 1984.

THE SURVEY IS CONDUCTED ANNUALLY AND REPRESENTS PART OF A CONTINUOUS PROGRAMME TO COLLECT ECONOMIC STATISTICS ON THE STRUCTURE AND PERFORMANCE OF THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

+THE AIM OF THE SURVEY IS TO OBTAIN DATA FOR UPDATING THE ESTIMATES OF THE RELEVANT SECTORS' CONTRIBUTION TO HONG KONG'S GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT AND TO ASCERTAIN THE OPERATING CHARACTERISTICS OF DIFFERENT INDUSTRIES,+ HE SAID.

+RESULTS OF THE SURVEY WILL BE USEFUL TO THE GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS STATISTICAL USERS OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC,+ HE ADDED.

ABOUT 7 500 ESTABLISHMENTS WILL BE ENUMERATED IN THE SECTORS OF MANUFACTURING, MINING AND QUARRYING, AND ELECTRICITY, GAS AND WATER.

/INFORMATION SOUGHT .....

INFORMATION SOUGHT IN THE SURVEY INCLUDES TYPE OF OWNERSHIP, COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OF INVESTMENT, FLOOR AREA, EMPLOYMENT, MAN-HOURS WORKED, COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES (I.E. WAGES, SALARIES AND OTHER EMPLOYEE BENEFITS), CONTRACT AND COMMISSION WORK, PURCHASES OF MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES, OTHER EXPENSES, SALES AND WORK DONE, OTHER RECEIPTS, STOCKS AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.

THE SURVEY IS BEING CONDUCTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS (ANNUAL SURVEY OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION) ORDER 1984, WHICH WAS MADE UNDER THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS ORDINANCE (CHAPTER 316) AND ISSUED AS LEGAL NOTICE NO. 15 IN THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT GAZETTE OF JANUARY 13, 1984.

SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRES ARE BEING SENT BY RECORDED DELIVERY TO THE ESTABLISHMENTS CONCERNED. MANAGEMENTS ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE AND RETURN THEM TO THE DEPARTMENT BY THE END OF JULY 1985.

UPON REQUEST, OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT MAY VISIT ESTABLISHMENTS AND ASSIST IN COMPLETING THE QUESTIONNAIRE. THESE OFFICERS WILL CARRY GOVERNMENT IDENTITY CARDS WHILST ON DUTY.

THE COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS APPEALED TO MANAGEMENTS TO RETURN THE COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRES PROMPTLY AND TO CO-OPERATE WITH OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT, THUS FULFILLING THEIR LEGAL AS WELL AS SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.

THE COMMISSIONER STRESSED THAT INFORMATION RELATING TO INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS WOULD BE TREATED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND WOULD ONLY BE USED IN AN AGGREGATE FORM FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES.

HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT AUDITED ACCOUNTS WERE NOT ESSENTIAL FOR PROVIDING INFORMATION RELATING TO INCOME AND EXPENDITURE. THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ACCEPTS FIGURES BASED ON PRELIMINARY ACCOUNTS OR ESTIMATES WHICH ARE CORRECT TO THE BEST OF THE RESPONDENTS' KNOWLEDGE AT THE TIME OF SUBMISSION OF RETURNS. THIS APPROACH IS NECESSARY TO AVOID THE DELAY THAT WOULD OTHERWISE RESULT FROM WAITING FOR AUDITED ACCOUNTS.

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U.S. INVESTORS TOLD ABOUT 'UNIQUE OFFER'

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HONG KONG WAS PERFECTLY PLACED TO OFFER A UNIQUE SERVICE TO FOREIGN BUSINESSMEN SEEKING TO ESTABLISH CONTACTS WITH CHINA FOR THE FIRST TIME AS THE TERRITORY HAD A LONG HISTORY OF DOING BUSINESS WITH CHINA, THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR JOHN YAXLEY SAID.

HE WAS ADDRESSING THE HONG KONG BAY AREA ASSOCIATION IN SAN FRANCISCO TODAY (THURSDAY).

MR YAXLEY IS CURRENTLY IN SAN FRANCISCO AS PART OF HIS MONTH-LONG PROMOTIONAL TOUR TO THE UNITED KINGDOM, EUROPE AND THE UNITED STATES WHICH STARTED AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS MONTH.

THE DIRECTOR ALSO HAD DISCUSSIONS WITH THE OFFICIALS OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE IN SAN FRANCISCO AND VISITED THE SILICONIX INC. IN SILICON VALLEY.

SILICONIX IS A LEADING HIGH-TECHNOLOGY COMPANY MANUFACTURING ADVANCED SEMI-CONDUCTOR DEVICES. THE COMPANY HAS HAD A SUBSTANTIAL MANUFACTURING OPERATION IN HONG KONG FOR OVER TEN YEARS.

MR YAXLEY ALSO VISITED HIS DEPARTMENT'S INDUSTRIAL PROMOTION OFFICE IN SAN FRANCISCO.

HE IS SCHEDULED TO RETURN TO HONG KONG ON SUNDAY.

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EMPLOYERS URGED TO SUBMIT RETURNS

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EMPLOYERS ARE REMINDED TO COMPLETE AND SUBMIT THE RETURN OF REMUNERATION AND PENSIONS BEFORE APRIL 30.

MORE THAN 58 000 EMPLOYER'S RETURNS FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1985 HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO EMPLOYERS AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS MONTH, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

+EMPLOYERS IN HONG KONG ARE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE US ACCURATE INFORMATION CONCERNING THEIR EMPLOYEES AND PARTICULARS OF EMPLOYEES' INCOME INCLUDING SALARY, COMMISSION, BONUS, ALL OTHER REWARDS, ALLOWANCES OR PERQUISITES, ETC.,+ HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN WARNED THAT FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE COMPLETED RETURNS WITHIN THE PRESCRIBED PERIOD IS AN OFFENCE AND MAY RESULT IN THE IMPOSITION OF PENALTIES.

/HEAVY PENALTIES .....

HEAVY PENALTIES MAY BE IMPOSED ON ANY EMPLOYER WHO MAKES INCORRECT RETURN WITH A FRAUDULENT INTENT TO EVADE TAX, OR TO ASSIST ANY OTHER PERSON TO EVADE TAX.

ANY EMPLOYER WHO HAS NOT RECEIVED THE RETURN FORMS SHOULD WRITE TO THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT, G.P.O. BOX 132 OR TELEPHONE 5-79592030.

EMPLOYERS, WHEN FILLING THE RETURN, ARE ADVISED TO READ AND FOLLOW THE ENCLOSED NOTES AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IF THEY HAVE ANY ENQUIRIES, THEY SHOULD WRITE TO OR CALL AT THE ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER MENTIONED ABOVE.

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GOODS VEHICLE PARKING SITE OFFERED

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NINE MONTHS' TENANCY OF A 4 325-SQUARE-METRE SITE AT THE JUNCTION OF TAI PAK TIN STREET AND LEI MUK ROAD, KWAI CHUNG, IS BEING OFFERED BY TENDER BY THE LANDS DEPARTMENT.

THE SITE IS FOR FEE PAYING PUBLIC PARKING OF GOODS VEHICLES, EXCEPT CONTAINER TRACTORS AND TRAILERS.

TENDER MUST BE SUBMITTED NOT LATER THAN NOON ON MAY 10, 1985.

TENDER FORM, NOTICE AND CONDITIONS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM, AND TENDER PLAN INSPECTED AT THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, TSUEN WAN, 10TH FLOOR, TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK BUILDING, 174-208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN, NEW TERRITORIES; THE LANDS DEPARTMENT, SURVEY DIVISION, MURRAY BUILDING, 5TH FLOOR, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG AND THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, KOWLOON, YAU MA TEI CAR PARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON.

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NEW TEXTILE IMPORT FORM USED

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THE TRADE DEPARTMENT HAS RECENTLY INTRODUCED A REVISED IMPORT LICENCE (TEXTILES) FORM TRA 23 FOR APPLICATIONS COVERING IMPORTS OF TEXTILE PRODUCTS.

THE REVISED FORM WILL PROVIDE A SPACE AT THE TOP RIGHT-HAND CORNER FOR THE PAYMENT OF APPLICATION FEE OF HK$20 PER APPLICATION, WHICH IS TO BE PAID IN THE FORM OF ADHESIVE POSTAGE STAMPS OR IMPRESSED POSTAGE STAMPS.

HOWEVER, UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, APPLICATIONS FOR IMPORT LICENCE COVERING IMPORTS OF TEXTILE PRODUCTS ON EXISTING FORM TRA 23 WILL CONTINUE TO BE ACCEPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

THE REVISED LICENCE FORMS ARE ON SALE AT $12 PER PAD AT THE FOLLOWING ADDRESSES:

(A) THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE,
GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING,
G/F, CONNAUGHT PLACE,
HONG KONG.

(B) TRADE DEPARTMENT,
OCEAN CENTRE, G/F,
CANTON ROAD,
KOWLOON.

(C) TRADE DEPARTMENT,
HONG KONG OFFICE,
1/F, ASIAN HOUSE,
1 HENNESSY ROAD,
HONG KONG.

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+THANK YOU+ PLAQUE FOR CUSTOMS

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THE HEAD OF THE TRADE INVESTIGATION BUREAU OF THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT, MR JOHN HOWARD, WILL RECEIVE A PLAQUE AND A BANNER FROM THE TRADEMARK OWNER AND LOCAL DISTRIBUTOR OF +PUMA+ FOR THE EFFORTS BEING DONE AGAINST COUNTERFEITS.

A PRESENTATION CEREMONY WILL TAKE PLACE AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT THE BUREAU'S HEADQUARTERS ON 5/F, HENNESSY CENTRE, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG.

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SCHOOLS QUIZ PUT ON TV TAPE

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THE INTER-SCHOOL ACADEMIC QUIZ COMPETITION WHICH BROUGHT TOGETHER STUDENTS FROM 27 SECONDARY SCHOOLS HAS BEEN PRODUCED INTO A TELEVISION SERIES FOR SCREENING.

THE STUDENTS WERE QUIZZED ON GENERAL KNOWLEDGE AND ACADEMIC MATTERS, AS WELL AS NEWS AND CURRENT AFFAIRS SUBJECTS, SUCH AS GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE, DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS, LABOUR WELFARE AND OTHER SOCIAL PROBLEMS.

ORGANISED BY RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG, THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION AND ROTARY INTERNATIONAL 345, THE QUIZ WAS THE FINAL PROGRAMME OF THE 1984-85 HONG KONG YOUTH CULTURAL AND ARTS COMPETITIONS SPONSORED BY CNTA.

+IT WAS HOPED THAT THE TV QUIZ WOULD HELP PROMOTE CIVIC EDUCATION AMONG CHILDREN AND ENRICH THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF CURRENT AFFAIRS SO AS TO HELP THEM ADAPT TO CHANGING TIMES,+ A CNTA SPOKESMAN SAID.

TO HIGHLIGHT THE TV SHOW, A MEMBER OF EITHER THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, OR THE URBAN COUNCIL APPEARED ON EACH OF THE PROGRAMMES TO PUT QUESTIONS TO THE STUDENTS ON CIVIC EDUCATION.

THE 13-PART QUIZ SHOW WILL BE AIRED EVERY SUNDAY ON ATV CHINESE CHANNEL FROM 8.30 PM TO 9 PM STARTING APRIL 28 AND ON TVB JADE EVERY SATURDAY FROM 4.30 PM TO 5 PM STARTING MAY 4.

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LAND EXECUTIVES GET CERTIFICATES

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THIRTY-NINE LAND EXECUTIVES, INCLUDING THREE WOMEN, TODAY (THURSDAY) RECEIVED CERTIFICATES FROM THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF LANDS, MR PATRICK WARD, UPON COMPLETION OF A TWO-YEAR COURSE IN LAND ADMINISTRATION.

SPEAKING AT THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY, MR WARD SAID THAT THE CERTIFICATE WAS A WELL-DESERVED AWARD FOR ALL THE HARD WORK WHICH THE LAND EXECUTIVES HAD PUT IN WHILE ATTENDING THE COURSE AS IT REQUIRED A GREAT DEAL OF DETERMINATION, SELF-DISCIPLINE AND LONG HOURS OF STUDY.

HE SAID THAT WHAT THEY HAD ACHIEVED WOULD STAND THEM IN GOOD STEAD IN THEIR FUTURE CAREER.

/THE PART-TIME .....

THE PART-TIME DAY-RELEASE COURSE IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE LANDS DEPARTMENT AND THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC.

IT PROVIDES FORMAL TRAINING IN LAND ADMINISTRATION TO NEWLY-RECRUITED LAND EXECUTIVES. SUBJECTS COVERED INCLUDE PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE OF LOCAL SERVICES; LAND SURVEYING AND MAP INTERPRETATION; VALUATION OF LAND AND BUILDINGS; LAW RELATED TO LAND ADMINISTRATION; BUILDING CONSTRUCTION; LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT; ORGANISATION AND MANAGEMENT; AND ECONOMICS.

SINCE THE COURSE STARTED IN 1974, A TOTAL OF 219 SERVING LAND EXECUTIVES, INCLUDING THE PRESENT 39, HAVE COMPLETED IT SUCCESSFULLY AND ANOTHER 12 ARE ATTENDING IT.

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MORE URBCO PROJECTS COME ON STREAM

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THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR WITNESSED THE COMPLETION OF 12 PROJECTS UNDER THE URBAN COUNCIL'S HUGE CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME.

THESE PROJECTS, COSTING SOME $21 MILLION, PROVIDE A WIDE RANGE OF FACILITIES TO CATER TO THE NEEDS OF LOCAL RESIDENTS.

AMONG THE COMPLETIONS WERE A TWO-STOREY COOKED-FOOD CENTRE IN TSUN YIP STREET IN KWUN TONG, A TEMPORARY MARKET IN MONG KOK ROAD AND A JOGGING AND FITNESS TRACK AT MAGAZINE GAP ROAD SERVICE RESERVOIR.

OTHER COMMUNITY FACILITIES COMPLETED DURING THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW WERE A REFUSE COLLECTION POINT AT MOON STREET (WAN CHAI), AN EXTENSION TO THE EXISTING REFUSE COLLECTION POINT AT MANSION STREET (NORTH POINT), A PUBLIC TOILET AT THE NEW SHAM SHUI PO BUS AND FERRY CONCOURSE, A PUBLIC TOILET IN CHUN WAH ROAD AND A REFUSE COLLECTION POINT AT YUET WAH STREET (BOTH IN KWUN TONG), AND THE REDEVELOPMENT OF THE PORTLAND STREET PUBLIC TOILET AND BATHHOUSE (MONG KOK).

IN ADDITION, A TEMPORARY RECREATION GROUND AT CHUN SING STREET (WESTERN), A REST GARDEN IN KO CHIU ROAD (KWUN TONG) AND A SITTING-OUT AREA AND CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND NEAR THE AP LEI CHAU BRIDGE (SOUTHERN) WERE ALSO COMPLETED THUS FURTHER WIDENING THE SCOPE OF THE EXTENSIVE RANGE OF SPORTING AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES NOW PROVIDED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL.

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OVER 86 600 ANTI-MOSQUITO INSPECTIONS IN FIRST QUARTER

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AS PART OF ITS CONTINUING EFFORTS TO PREVENT MOSQUITO BREEDING, THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S DISTRICT PEST CONTROL STAFF INSPECTED 86 639 HOUSES AND 11 468 BUILDING SITES AND OPEN SPACES IN THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR.

AS A RESULT, 1 425 BREEDING PLACES WERE FOUND AND ACTION TAKEN TO ERADICATE THESE SOURCES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

DURING THE SAME PERIOD, 45 COMPLAINTS OF MOSQUITO BREEDING PLACES WERE RECEIVED RESULTING IN THE ISSUE OF 20 SUMMONSES AGAINST THE OFFENDERS.

MEANWHILE, DISTRICT PEST CONTROL STAFF POISONED 7 228 RODENTS AND TRAPPED SOME 5 409 RODENTS BETWEEN JANUARY AND MARCH THIS YEAR.

SOME 619 COMPLAINTS OF RODENT INFESTATION WERE ALSO RECEIVED.

AND IN A BID TO ELIMINATE RODENTS, 167 BLOCK DISINFESTATIONS AND 144 HOLE-BAITING TREATMENTS WERE CARRIED OUT.

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WATER CUT

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT WILL BE SUSPENDED FOR NINE HOURS FROM 9 PM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) FOR MAINS WORK.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT ALL PREMISES IN WONG CHUK HANG, AP LEI CHAU AND SHUM WAN, INCLUDING 1-9 AND 2-12 SHOUSON HILL ROAD.

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BRIDGE WORK

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FOR THREE ONE-HOUR PERIODS ON SUNDAY (APRIL 28), TSING YI BRIDGE WILL BE OPEN TO TRAFFIC AT INTERVALS OF FIVE MINUTES ONLY.

THESE ONE-HOUR PERIODS WILL START FROM 12 MIDNIGHT, 6.30 AM AND 3 PM.

THIS IS TO ENABLE CONSULTANTS TO CARRY OUT INVESTIGATIVE WORK.

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EARLY MORNING ROAD CLOSURE

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THE KWUN TONG ROAD VEHICULAR UNDERPASS, UNDER THE KWUN TONG MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY STATION, WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 12.01 AM TO 6 AM ON SUNDAY (APRIL 28) TO FACILITATE MAINTENANCE WORK.

DURING CLOSURE, TRAFFIC WILL BE DIVERTED TO USE THE GROUND LEVEL CARRIAGEWAYS OF KWUN TONG ROAD.

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