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1983 EXPECTED TO BE RECORD YEAR FOR SHIPPING TRADE

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THE VOLUME OF CARGO HANDLED BY THE PORT OF HONG KONG SOARED IN THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF THIS YEAR, AND 1983 LOOKS SET TO BE A RECORD YEAR FOR HONG KONG'S SHIPPING TRADE, A MARINE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

OUTBOUND CARGO BY OCEAN-GOING SHIPS TOTALLED 5.9 MILLION TONNES, AN INCREASE OF 21.5 PER CENT OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF LAST YEAR, WHILE CARGO DISCHARGED INCREASED BY 7.4 PER CENT TO MORE THAN 14.9 MILLION TONNES.

ALTHOUGH THE NUMBER OF OCEAN-GOING SHIPS ENTERING HONG KONG DURING THE PERIOD INCREASED BY ONLY 2.5 PER CENT, THEIR AVERAGE TONNAGE WAS CONSIDERABLY HIGHER, THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT.

OUTGOING CARGO BY RIVER TRADE VESSELS TOPPED 540 000 TONNES, UP MORE THAN 39 PER CENT OVER THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF LAST YEAR, WITH DISCHARGED CARGO GROWING BY OVER 30 PER CENT TO ABOUT 2.45 MILLION TONNES.

THE TOTAL VOLUME OF INCOMING AND OUTGOING CARGO HANDLED BY THE PORT REACHED 23.8 MILLION TONNES, AN INCREASE OF OVER 13 PER CENT.

+JUDGING BY THE GROWTH MOMENTUM FOR THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS, WE EXPECT OUR PORT TO SET AN ALL-TIME RECORD FOR ITS THROUGHPUT THIS YEAR,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

LAST YEAR, THE TOTAL THROUGHPUT WAS 37.1 MILLION TONNES.

TO MEET THIS RAPID GROWTH IN PORT ACTIVITIES, THE MARINE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN PLANNING THE PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL PUBLIC CARGO WORKING AREAS, THE FIRST OF WHICH WILL BE OPENED IN TSUEN WAN NEXT MONTH (SEPTEMBER).

+AT PRESENT, THE FRONTAGE OF THE EXISTING AREAS IN TSUEN WAN IS 340 METRES. THE NEW AREA WILL PROVIDE A SEA FRONTAGE OF SOME 610 METRES,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

A NEW AREA MEASURING SOME 500 METRES IN LENGTH IS EXPECTED TO OPEN IN CHAI WAN NEXT JANUARY. TO BE READY AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME WILL BE AN ADDITIONAL AREA IN RAMBLER CHANNEL, WHICH WILL INCREASE THE EXISTING FRONTAGE THERE FROM 500 METRES TO 1 040 METRES.

+THIS EXPANSION WILL INCREASE THE SEA FRONTAGE OF PUBLIC CARGO WORKING AREAS THROUGHOUT HONG KONG BY OVER 30 PER CENT, FROM 4 336 METRES TODAY TO 5 646 METRES BY NEXT JANUARY,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR JULY 1983

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IN JULY 1983, DOMESTIC EXPORTS GREW BY 28 PER CENT OR $2 173 MILLION OVER THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR, TO REACH $9 853 MILLION, ACCORDING TO PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES PUBLISHED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

RE-EXPORTS, AT $4 718 MILLION, GREW BY 32 PER CENT OR $1 140 MILLION.

TOTAL EXPORTS -- DOMESTIC EXPORTS PLUS RE-EXPORTS -- REACHED $14 571 MILLION IN JULY, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 29 PER CENT OR $3 313 MILLION OVER THE SAME MONTH IN 1982.

WITH IMPORTS AT $15 184 MILLION, AN INCREASE OF 23 PER CENT OR $2 808 MILLION, THE VISIBLE TRADE DEFICIT FOR JULY THIS YEAR WAS $613 MILLION.

THE VISIBLE TRADE GAP -- THE PROPORTION OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS NOT COVERED BY THAT OF TOTAL EXPORTS -- NARROWED SIGNIFICANTLY TO FOUR PER CENT FROM NINE PER CENT IN JULY LAST YEAR.

PUTTING LAST MONTH'S TRADE FIGURES INTO CONTEXT, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS IN THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF 1983 WAS 16 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD A YEAR AGO.

THIS OVERALL INCREASE WAS MADE UP OF AN INCREASE OF 17 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND AN INCREASE OF 15 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS.

AS THE GROWTH RATE OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS WAS 13 PER CENT, THE VISIBLE TRADE GAP IN THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF THIS YEAR NARROWED TO 10 PER CENT, FROM 13 PER CENT RECORDED IN THE SAME PERIOD IN 1982.

COMMENTING ON THESE COMPARATIVE FIGURES, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE JULY TRADE FIGURES CONFIRM A RECOVERY IN THE EXPORT SECTOR, WHICH HAS GATHERED STRENGTH SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THIS YEAR.

EVEN AFTER DISCOUNTING THE EFFECTS OF PRICE INCREASES, DOMESTIC EXPORTS STILL SHOWED A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN REAL TERMS.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE GIVES THE PROVISIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FIGURES FOR JULY 1983:

MERCHANDISE:	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	:	$ 9 853 MILLION
	RE-EXPORTS	:	$ 4 718 MILLION
	TOTAL EXPORTS	:	$14 571 MILLION
	IMPORTS	:	$15 184 MILLION
	TRADE BALANCE	:	$ 613 MILLION (IN DEFICIT)

/COMPARATIVE FIGURES .....

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

LATEST 3 MONTHS	MAY - JULY 1983	MAY - JULY 1982	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	$ MN.	$ MN.	$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	26 773	21 456	+ 5 317	+24.8
RE-EXPORTS	13 371	10 776	+ 2 595	+24.1
TOTAL EXPORTS	40 144	32 232	+ 7 912	+24.5
IMPORTS	43 591	35 353	+ 8 238	+23.3
TRADE BALANCE	- 3 447	- 3 121	- 326	

SAME MONTH LAST YEAR	JULY 1983	JULY 1982	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	$ MN.	$ MN.	$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	9 853 (67.6%)	7 680 (68.2%)	+ 2 173	+28.3
RE-EXPORTS	4 718	3 578	+ 1 140	+31.9
TOTAL EXPORTS	14 571	11 258	+ 3 313	+29.4
IMPORTS	15 184	12 376	+ 2 808	+22.7
TRADE BALANCE	- 613	- 1 118	+ 505	

LAST MONTH	JULY 1983	JUNE 1983	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	$ MN.	$ MN.	$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	9 853 (67.6%)	8 920 (67.0%)	+ 933	+10.5
RE-EXPORTS	4 718	4 389	+ 329	+ 7.5
TOTAL EXPORTS	14 571	13 309	+ 1 262	+ 9.5
IMPORTS	15 184	14 481	+ 703	+ 4.9
TRADE BALANCE	- 613	- 1 172	+ 559	

/CALENDAR YEAR .....

CALENDAR YEAR TO-DATE	JANUARY - JULY 1983	JANUARY - JULY 1982	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	$ MN.	$ MN.	$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	53 014 (64.9%)	45 497 (64.5%)	+ 7 517	+16.5
RE-EXPORTS	28 693	24 990	+ 3 703	+14.8
TOTAL EXPORTS	81 707	70 487	+11 220	+15.9
IMPORTS	91 260	81 064	+10 196	+12.6
TRADE BALANCE	- 9 553	-10 577	+ 1 024	

LAST 12 MONTHS	AUGUST 1982 TO JULY 1983	AUGUST 1981 TO JULY 1982	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	$ MN.	$ MN.	$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	90 548	82 965	+ 7 583	+ 9.1
RE-EXPORTS	48 057	43 816	+ 4 241	+ 9.7
TOTAL EXPORTS	138 605	126 781	+11 824	+ 9.3
IMPORTS	153 088	141 517	+11 571	+ 8.2
TRADE BALANCE	-14 483	-14 736	+ 253	

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DRIVE STEPPED UP AGAINST ILLICIT DRUG DEALINGS

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THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT HAS STEPPED UP ACTION TO COMBAT ILLICIT DEALINGS IN PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS, RESULTING IN A RECORD NUMBER OF PROSECUTIONS IN THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF THIS YEAR.

THE DEPARTMENT'S FORENSIC PHARMACY DIVISION HAS INITIATED A TOTAL OF 83 PROSECUTIONS AGAINST SELLERS AND DEALERS FOR ALLEGED INFRINGEMENTS OF THE PHARMACY AND POISONS ORDINANCE -- COMPARED WITH 55 CASES FOR THE WHOLE OF 1982.

IN THE SAME PERIOD, THE INSPECTION AND LICENSING SECTION OF THE DIVISION CARRIED OUT 6 183 INSPECTIONS, COMPARED WITH 5 743 FOR THE WHOLE OF LAST YEAR.

+SO FAR, OF THE 83 PROSECUTIONS, WE HAVE ACHIEVED 51 CONVICTIONS, COMPARED WITH 68 FOR 1982,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT SAID.

/+OUR EFFORTS .....

+OUR EFFORTS ARE MAKING IT INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO BUY ILLICIT DRUGS OVER THE COUNTER WITHOUT A DOCTOR'S PRESCRIPTION,+ HE SAID.

+WE CONSTANTLY MONITOR THE SITUATION AND MAKE RANDOM INSPECTIONS TO ENSURE THAT PRESCRIBED DRUGS ARE NOT SOLD IN THIS WAY,+ HE ADDED.

WHILE MOST CASES ARISE FROM DIRECT INVESTIGATION BY OFFICERS OF THE SECTION, A FEW ARE AS A RESULT OF COMPLAINTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, AND CO-OPERATION WITH THE POLICE AND CUSTOMS AND EXCISE.

THE INSPECTION AND LICENSING SECTION ALSO CARRIES OUT CHECKS ON HERBAL MEDICINE TO ENSURE THAT IT IS NOT ADULTERATED WITH WESTERN MEDICINE.

+WE CHECK TO FIND OUT WHETHER SOME HERBAL MEDICINES CONTAIN HEAVY METALS SUCH AS ARSENIC, MERCURY AND LEAD,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS, OFFICERS OF THE FORENSIC PHARMACY DIVISION HAVE BEEN UNDERGOING TRAINING IN INVESTIGATION METHODS, WHICH HAVE PROVED HELPFUL IN THEIR WORK.

+WE NOW HAVE MORE PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE IN THE FIELD OF INVESTIGATION AND DETECTION,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+HIGH MORALE WITHIN THE DIVISION IS ANOTHER REASON FOR OUR GREATER SUCCESS IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS,+ HE ADDED.

+THE OFFICERS RECOGNISE THAT THEY HAVE ONE GOAL -- TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC FROM THE UNDESIRABLE EFFECTS OF SUB-STANDARD PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS AVAILABLE ON THE MARKET, AS WELL AS ILLEGAL DEALINGS WITHIN THE INDUSTRY,+ HE SAID.

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RESIDENTS TOLD OF WORK SITE DANGERS

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TAI PO RESIDENTS WERE TODAY (TUESDAY) BEING URGED TO STAY AWAY FROM CONSTRUCTION SITES WHICH HAVE BEEN USED BY MANY PEOPLE AS SHORT CUTS FROM ONE PLACE TO ANOTHER.

THE CALL CAME FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR THOMAS CHAN, WHO SAID THAT PEOPLE ENTERING THESE SITES WOULD FACE SUCH LIKELY DANGERS AS FALLING OBJECTS AND POOLS OF WATER.

+THEY WILL HAVE ONLY THEMSELVES TO BLAME IN CASE OF ANY MISHAP. ALSO, THEY WILL BE TREATED AS TRESPASSERS,+ HE SAID.

THERE ARE MANY CONSTRUCTION SITES IN TAI PO AS THE NEW TOWN IS UNDERGOING MASSIVE DEVELOPMENT.

MR CHAN ALSO ADVISED PARENTS TO STOP THEIR CHILDREN FROM SWIMMING IN THE LAM TSUEN RIVER OR IN THE WATER ALONG THE COASTAL AREA BETWEEN SHA TIN AND TAI PO WHERE CONSTRUCTION WORKS ARE UNDER WAY.

HE SAID THE DISTRICT OFFICE HAD ALREADY ADVISED CONTRACTORS TO TAKE PREVENTIVE MEASURES TO KEEP PEOPLE OUT OF CONSTRUCTION SITES.

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STUDENT TRAVEL CARDS AVAILABLE

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FULL-TIME STUDENTS AGED 12 TO 25 MAY APPLY FOR THE CONCESSIONARY STUDENT TRAVEL CARD WHEN THE NEW SCHOOL TERM BEGINS ON THURSDAY (SEPTEMBER 1).

THEY SHOULD SUBMIT APPLICATIONS THROUGH THEIR SCHOOLS.

THE CARD, ISSUED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT AT A FEE OF $10 AND VALID FOR 13 MONTHS, ENTITLES THE HOLDER TO TRAVEL ON BUSES, TRAMS, FERRIES, TRAINS AND MTR AT CONCESSIONARY RATES.

LAST YEAR, 474 800 STUDENT TRAVEL CARDS WERE ISSUED.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE TRAVEL SCHEME MAY BE MADE ON 5-7954631.

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COURT'S CIVIL JURISDICTION RAISED

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THE CIVIL JURISDICTION OF THE DISTRICT COURT WILL BE RAISED FROM THURSDAY (SEPTEMBER 1), ENABLING THE COURT TO HEAR CASES WITH MONETARY CLAIMS UP TO $40 000.

CASES WITH AN ANNUAL RENT OR RATEABLE VALUE NOT EXCEEDING $30 000 WHERE THE CLAIMS ARE FOR RECOVERY OF LAND WILL ALSO BE HEARD IN THE DISTRICT COURT.

THE NEW JURISDICTION WILL COME INTO EFFECT AS A RESULT OF THE PASSING OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE (MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS) ORDINANCE, 1981.

UNTIL THEN, MONETARY CLAIMS UP TO $20 000 OR $15 000 WHEN INVOLVING LAND ARE BEING HEARD BY THE DISTRICT COURT.

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CONCERT TO HELP ANTI-NARCOTICS DRIVE

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A BEACH CONCERT AND AN EXHIBITION TO HIGHLIGHT THE ISLANDS DISTRICT ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY (SEPTEMBER 4) AT TUNG WAN ON CHEUNG CHAU.

THE TWO-HOUR CONCERT WILL FEATURE DRAMAS, SONGS AND GAMES BY POPULAR SINGERS, TELEVISION PERSONALITIES, AND DISC JOCKEYS TO DRIVE HOME THE ANTI-NARCOTICS MESSAGE. IT WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE ON RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG, STARTING AT 2 PM.

ON THE SAME AFTERNOON, THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO VISIT A LAUNCH BERTHED AT THE CHEUNG CHAU PUBLIC PIER WHERE A PHOTO EXHIBITION ON DRUG SEIZURE AND RAIDS WILL BE HELD.

WINNING ENTRIES OF THE COLOURING, ESSAY-WRITING, AND CROSSWORD PUZZLE COMPETITIONS, HELD IN JUNE FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS, WILL ALSO BE PUT ON DISPLAY, TOGETHER WITH INFORMATION ON DRUGS PROVIDED BY THE SOCIETY FOR THE AID AND REHABILITATION OF DRUG ABUSERS (SARDA).

/THE DISTRICT .....

THE DISTRICT OFFFCER, MR WILLIAM YAP; THE ACTING COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR LAM KAM KWONG; THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE, MR KWONG PING-YAU; AND THE HEAD OF THE CHINESE PROGRAMME SERVICE OF RTHK, MR CHU PUI-HING WILL OFFICIATE AT A PRIZE-PRESENTATION CEREMONY AT 1.30 PM, PRIOR TO THE CONCERT.

ABOUT $63 000 HAS BEEN SPENT ON THE CAMPAIGN, OF WHICH $30 000 COMES FROM THE DISTRICT BOARD.

THE CAMPAIGN IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE, THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS, RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG, AND THE ISLANDS DISTRICT ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN ORGANISING COMMITTEE.

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NEW BUILDING PLANS APPROVED

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FORTY-TWO BUILDING PLANS WERE APPROVED BY THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE OF THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IN JULY THIS YEAR, COMPARED WITH 66 IN THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR.

THESE NEW PLANS COVER NINE NEW BUILDINGS ON HONG KONG ISLAND, SIX IN KOWLOON AND 27 IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THEY INCLUDE PHASE IIB OF THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, A PETROL FILLING STATION IN SHA TIN, A SQUASH CENTRE AND A HOTEL AT TAI LONG WAN ON LANTAU ISLAND, A POWER SUBSTATION AT WO YI HOP ROAD, KWAI CHUNG, A CONTAINER FREIGHT STATION FOR THE KWAI CHUNG CONTAINER TERMINAL AND A FOOTBRIDGE IN TUEN MUN.

THE DECLARED COST OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED DURING THE MONTH WAS $1 269.6 MILLION, COMPARED WITH $532.2 MILLION IN JULY LAST YEAR.

THE USABLE FLOOR AREA TOTALLED 290 953.9 SQUARE METRES, COMPRISING 214 571.3 SQUARE METRES OF NON-DOMESTIC AND 76 382.6 SQUARE METRES OF DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA.

IN THE SAME MONTH, THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE ALSO GAVE CONSENT FOR WORK TO START ON 29 PROJECTS.

THEY INCLUDE A SCHOOL AT BRAEMAR HILL ROAD, A HOME FOR THE AGED AT TUNG LO WAN HILL ROAD, SHA TIN, A PETROL FILLING STATION IN MUI WO, LANTAU ISLAND, A SCHOOL EXTENSION IN CHEUNG SHA WAN AND A STAFF QUARTER FOR POK OI HOSPITAL IN YUEN LONG.

ALTOGETHER, 40 OCCUPATION PERMITS WERE ISSUED FOR NEWLY COMPLETED BUILDINGS IN JULY.

THEY INCLUDE A SCHOOL EXTENSION AT STUBBS ROAD, BRIDGE LINKS AT THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, AN INDOOR SPORTS CENTRE AND A SCHOOL IN TAI PO AND A SWIMMING POOL IN SHEUNG SHUI.

THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE ALSO GAVE PERMISSION FOR 40 BUILDINGS TO BE DEMOLISHED IN JULY.

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RESITE HOUSES TO BE BUILT

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THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF FOUR BLOCKS OF THREE-STOREY HIGH VILLAGE RESITE HOUSES IN TAI PO NEAR SHEK KWU LUNG VILLAGE.

EACH BLOCK WILL CONSIST OF FOUR UNITS WITH A TOTAL GROSS AREA OF ABOUT 195 SQUARE METRES.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN OCTOBER AND BE COMPLETED IN AUGUST NEXT YEAR.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR FILTER WORKS

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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERING WORKS AT YAU KOM TAU TREATMENT WORKS IN TSUEN WAN.

THE PROJECT, WHICH FORMS PART OF STAGE I OF THE YAU KOM TAU WATER TREATMENT AND TRANSFER FACILITIES, MAINLY INVOLVES THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FILTER BLOCK WITH CLEAR WATER TANK BENEATH, A PUMPING STATION, WASHWATER RECOVERY TANKS, CHEMICAL HOUSE AND A SERVICE RESERVOIR.

THE STRUCTURES ARE INTERCONNECTED BY PIPEWORK, CHEMICAL AND SERVICE LINES AND REINSTATEMENT WILL INCLUDE SECURITY FENCING AND LIGHTING.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN DECEMBER AND WILL TAKE ABOUT 15 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE DEPARTMENT IS ALSO INVITING TENDERS FOR THE LAYING OF ABOUT 570 METRES OF MILD STEEL FLUSHING WATER MAINS NEAR THE SHA TIN SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT.

THESE WATER MAINS WILL FORM PART OF THE FLUSHING WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM TO SHA TIN NEW TOWN.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN OCTOBER AND WILL TAKE ABOUT THREE MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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NEW MAXICAB SERVICES FOR YUEN LONG

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THREE NEW MAXICAB ROUTES, NO. 33, 34 AND 35, WILL BE INTRODUCED IN YUEN LONG ON THURSDAY (SEPTEMBER 1), SERVING LAU FAU SHAN, PAK NAI AND SHA KIU.

ALL THE THREE ROUTES WILL START AT TAI FUNG STREET IN YUEN LONG TOWN AND RUN VIA SAI TAI STREET, KUK TING STREET, CASTLE PEAK ROAD, PING HA ROAD AND LAU FAU SHAN ROAD.

/ROUTE 34 .....

ROUTE 34 WILL TERMINATE IN LAU FAU SHAN. ROUTES 33 AND 35 WILL CONTINUE VIA DEEP BAY ROAD TO REACH PAK NAI AND SHA KIU RESPECTIVELY.

RETURN JOURNEYS ON ALL THE THREE ROUTES WILL BE VIA CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TUNG LOK STREET, ON NING ROAD, TAI KIU ROAD, ON LOK ROAD, WANG CHAU ROAD, ON NING ROAD, TAI HANG STREET, TUNG TAI STREET AND TAI FUNG STREET.

ROUTES 33 AND 35 WILL OPERATE FROM 5.45 AM TO 8.30 PM AND ROUTE 34 FROM 6 AM TO 10 PM. FARE WILL BE FROM $1 TO $2.20, DEPENDING ON THE DISTANCE TRAVELLED.

FROM 8 AM ON THE SAME DAY, TAI FUNG STREET, PING HA ROAD AND TIN HA ROAD IN YUEN LONG WILL BE PROHIBITED TO ALL PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES EXCEPT THOSE AUTHORISED IN WRITING BY THE AUTHORITY.

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CHAI WAN TRAFFIC PLANS

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TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE INTRODUCED IN CHAI WAN BETWEEN 0.15 AM AND 6.15 AM ON THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY (SEPTEMBER 1, 2 AND 3) TO FACILITATE CONSTRUCTION WORK ON THE MTR ISLAND LINE.

DURING THOSE HOURS, KUT SHING STREET, ALONG WITH A SECTION OF LEE CHUNG STREET BETWEEN NING FOO STREET AND CHAI WAN ROAD, WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC.

AND THE SECTION OF HONG MAN STREET BETWEEN CHEUNG LEE STREET AND LEE CHUNG STREET, AND THE SECTION OF LEE CHUNG STREET BETWEEN HONG MAN STREET AND HING WAH ROAD, WILL BE RE-ROUTED TWO WAY.

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TRAFFIC CHANGES FOR FLYOVER WORK

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TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN CAUSEWAY BAY FROM 10 AM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) FOR THE FINAL STAGE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK AT THE TAI HANG ROAD FLYOVER.

AS A RESULT, TAI HANG ROAD, SOUTHBOUND BETWEEN THE TAI HANG ROAD FLYOVER AND TUNG LO WAN ROAD, WILL BE CLOSED. UPHILL TRAFFIC FROM TUNG LO WAN ROAD WILL ENTER TAI HANG ROAD VIA THE NEW FLYOVER'S SLIP ROAD WHICH IS ALREADY OPEN.

TUNG LO WAN ROAD BETWEEN MORETON TERRACE AND THE ABOVE-MENTIONED SLIP ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED TWO WAYS.

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URBAN CLEARWAY EXTENDED

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FROM 10 AM ON THURSDAY (SEPTEMBER 1), THE EXISTING URBAN CLEARWAY RESTRICTION IN UN CHAU STREET WILL BE EXTENDED BY ABOUT 50 METRES TO COVER THE SOUTHERN SECTION OF THE U-SHAPED ROAD STARTING FROM THE ENTRANCE OF THE UN CHAU ESTATE ROAD TO ITS JUNCTION WITH UN CHAU STREET.

ALL MOTOR VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES AND THOSE AUTHORISED IN WRITING BY THE AUTHORITY WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM PICKING UP AND SETTING DOWN PASSENGERS, OR LOADING AND UNLOADING GOODS. WITHIN THE RESTRICTED ZONE.

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NEW BUS ROUTE FOR LANTAU

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A NEW BUS ROUTE BETWEEN MUI WO AND PUI O ON LANTAU ISLAND WILL BE IN SERVICE FROM THURSDAY (SEPTEMBER 1).

THE NEW ROUTE, NO. 7, WILL RUN VIA SOUTH LANTAU ROAD BETWEEN 8.15 AM AND 5 PM ON WEEKDAYS, CHARGING $1.

THE SERVICE WILL BE FROM 8.30 AM TO 6 PM ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS, CHARGING $1.7.

PASSENGERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO PAY THE EXACT FARE AS THERE WILL BE NO CONDUCTOR FOR THE BUSES ON THIS ROUTE.

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BUILDINGS DECLARED IN DANGEROUS CONDITION

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY TODAY DECLARED THREE BUILDINGS -- NOS. 119, 121 AND 123 ON QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL TO BE IN A DANGEROUS CONDITION.

IN A STATEMENT ISSUED THIS MORNING, THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING SURVEYOR SAID THAT THESE THREE-STOREY, PRE-WAR BUILDINGS, CONSTRUCTED WITH LOAD-BEARING BRICK WALLS WITH REINFORCED CONCRETE FLOORS AND ROOF IN NOS. 119 AND 121 QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL AND TIMBER FLOORS AND ROOF IN NO. 123, HAD BEEN UNDER SURVEILLANCE SINCE 1975.

+RECENT INSPECTION HAS SHOWN THAT THE EXTERNAL BRICK WALLS OF NOS. 119 AND 121 WERE BADLY BULGED WITH VERTICAL FRACTURE. NEW FRACTURES IN NO. 123 QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL INDICATED RECENT MOVEMENT.

+AS THERE IS A SERIOUS RISK OF COLLAPSE IT IS NECESSARY TO CLOSE AND DEMOLISH THESE BUILDINGS,+ HE SAID.

ACCORDINGLY, NOTICES OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR CLOSURE ORDERS IN VICTORIA DISTRICT COURT AT 9.30 AM ON SEPTEMBER 27, WERE POSTED TODAY.

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WATER MAINS WORK IN THREE AREAS

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN CENTRAL DISTRICT, SHA TIN AND NORTH DISTRICT IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR SEVERAL HOURS BETWEEN FRIDAY (SEPTEMBER 2) AND SATURDAY FOR WATER MAINS WORK.

IN CENTRAL DISTRICT, SUPPLY TO PREMISES ON BOTH SIDES OF HOLLYWOOD ROAD BETWEEN SHIN HING STREET AND LADDER STREET, INCLUDING CIRCULAR PATHWAY AND CENTRAL MANSION WILL BE STOPPED FROM 11 PM ON FRIDAY TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR LEAKAGE TESTS.

IN SHA TIN, SUPPLY WILL BE INTERRUPTED FROM 9 PM ON FRIDAY TO 6 AM THE NEXT DAY FOR WATER MAINS WORK.

THE INTERRUPTION WILL AFFECT THOSE ON-ROUTE VILLAS, VILLAGES AND ALL PREMISES ALONG TAI PO ROAD FROM WO CHE ESTATE TO THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, INCLUDING FO TAN INDUSTRIAL AREA, FO TAN VILLAGE, WO LIU HANG TSUEN, MAFOO QUARTERS, SHA TIN RACE COURSE, SHA TIN SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS, SEAVIEW VILLA, RED BRIDGE BUNGALOWS, AND THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

IN NORTH DISTRICT, SUPPLY WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 10 PM ON FRIDAY TO 6 AM THE NEXT DAY FOR WATER MAINS WORK.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT THOSE ON-ROUTE VILLAS, VILLAGES AND ALL PREMISES ALONG: SHA TAU KOK ROAD BETWEEN FANLING ROUND-ABOUT AND SHA TAU KOK MARKET, INCLUDING LUEN WO MARKET AND ON LOK TSUEN; AND PING CHE ROAD BETWEEN SHA TAU KOK AND TA KWU LING POLICE STATION.

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TRAINING CENTRE YOUTHS DO WELL IN EXAMS

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SEVEN YOUTHS WHO RECENTLY PASSED THE PITMAN ELEMENTARY ENGLISH EXAMINATION WERE PRESENTED WITH CERTIFICATES BY A TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER, MR CHOW SUM AT A CEREMONY HELD AT THE LAI KING TRAINING CENTRE TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE YOUTHS, WHO ARE BETWEEN 17 AND 19 YEARS OF AGE, HAD TAKEN THE ELEMENTARY COURSE IN THE +PITMAN EXAMINATIONS INSTITUTE ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE+ IN MAY THIS YEAR. THREE OF THEM HAVE SINCE BEEN DISCHARGED FROM THE INSTITUTION.

THE COURSE WAS INTRODUCED AT THE LAI KING TRAINING CENTRE IN 1982 IN LINE WITH THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S CONTINUOUS EFFORTS TO IMPROVE CORRECTIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMMES FOR YOUNG OFFENDERS BY PROVIDING THEM WITH EDUCATIONAL AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING.

/CLASSES FOR .....

CLASSES FOR INMATES ARE CONDUCTED BY QUALIFIED TEACHERS AND THE SUBJECTS TAUGHT INCLUDE CHINESE, ENGLISH, MATHEMATICS AND SOCIAL STUDIES. THE STANDARDS OF THE CLASSES RANGE FROM PRIMARY TO SECONDARY LEVEL.

THE DEPARTMENT HAS ALSO ORGANISED OTHER COURSES, SUCH AS THE CITY AND GUILDS OF LONDON INSTITUTE TELECOMMUNICATION TECHNICIANS COURSE AND THE LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRIES EXAMINATION ON ELEMENTARY BOOK-KEEPING, FOR INMATES OF OTHER INSTITUTIONS.

TODAY'S CEREMONY WAS ALSO ATTENDED BY OFFICERS AND MASTERS OF THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT AS WELL AS PARENTS AND RELATIVES OF THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES.

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WATER FIGURES

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (TUESDAY) STOOD AT 90.6 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 523.219 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 462.192 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 80.0 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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