



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1987

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FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPERS CONDITIONS REVISED
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THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MR DAVID JEAFFRESON, TODAY (THURSDAY) ANNOUNCED REVISED CONDITIONS OF SERVICE FOR FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPERS, WHICH COVER CONDITIONS OF STAY, CHANGE OF EMPLOYMENT, RENEWAL OF CONTRACT, WAGE LEVEL, PART-TIME WORK AND INSURANCE POLICIES.

THESE WERE APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL RECENTLY FOLLOWING A REVIEW CONDUCTED BY THE SECURITY BRANCH LAST YEAR AND WILL BE IMPLEMENTED ON APRIL 21, 1987.

AS REGARDS THE ENTRY POLICY, THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL DECIDED THAT THE NUMBER OF FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPERS IN HONG KONG SHOULD NOT BE REDUCED OR LIMITED FOR THE TIME BEING.

EXPLAINING THE REVISED CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT, MR JEAFFRESON SAID FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPERS, MOSTLY FROM THE PHILIPPINES, ARE AT PRESENT ADMITTED INTO HONG KONG ON SIX-MONTHLY PERIODS OF STAY.

+THIS HAS LED TO SOME FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPERS BREAKING CONTRACTS EARLY IN THE SIX-MONTH PERIOD TO WORK ILLEGALLY FOR ANOTHER EMPLOYER OR IN OTHER JOBS UNTIL THE PERIOD OF STAY IS UP,+ HE SAID.

THE NEW CONDITION OF STAY WILL STIPULATE THAT WHEN A FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPER'S CONTRACT IS TERMINATED, SHE WILL ONLY BE ALLOWED TO STAY IN HONG KONG FOR THE REMAINDER OF HER CURRENT SIX MONTHS OR FOR TWO WEEKS AFTER THE TERMINATION OF HER CONTRACT, WHICHEVER IS THE SHORTER.

THE DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION COULD ADJUST THIS REQUIREMENT TO SUIT THE PARTICULAR CIRCUMSTANCES OF A PARTICULAR CASE.

ON CHANGE OF EMPLOYMENT, MR JEAFFRESON SAID THAT AS THIS WAS NORMALLY ALLOWED IN THE SECOND YEAR OF A TWO-YEAR CONTRACT IT HAD LED TO FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPERS JOB-HOPPING AFTER COMPLETING THE FIRST YEAR OF THE CONTRACT.

UNDER THE NEW ARRANGEMENT, CHANGE OF EMPLOYMENT WILL NO LONGER BE ALLOWED IN THE FIRST OR SECOND YEAR OF AN EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT EXCEPT IN EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES SUCH AS WHEN THE EMPLOYER IS UNABLE TO CONTINUE WITH THE CONTRACT BECAUSE OF EXTERNAL TRANSFER, DEATH OR FOR FINANCIAL REASONS.

IT HAS ALSO BEEN DECIDED THAT A FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPER WILL BE ALLOWED TO SUBMIT A NEW AND VALID CONTRACT BEFORE SHE LEAVES HONG KONG IF HER FORMER CONTRACT HAS RUN ITS COURSE.

+HOWEVER, IN THE CASE OF FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPERS WHO HAVE BROKEN THEIR CONTRACTS, THEY WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO SUBMIT A NEW AND VALID CONTRACT BEFORE THEY LEAVE THE TERRITORY,+ MR JEAFFRESON SAID.

/AS REGARDS

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AS REGARDS WAGE LEVEL, THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL DECIDED THAT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE WAGE FOR NEWLY ARRIVED FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPERS SHOULD BE NO LESS THAN \$2 300 PER MONTH AND BE SUBJECTED TO REGULAR REVIEW.

IT IS CONSIDERED THAT THE PRESENT WAGE RANGE OF BETWEEN \$1 900 AND \$2 050 APPLICABLE TO FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPERS SHOULD BE REVISED, SO THAT THE WAGE OF NEWLY ARRIVED FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPERS WOULD BE COMPARABLE TO LOCAL FULL-TIME DOMESTIC HELPERS. THE NEW WAGE WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON APRIL 21 AND WILL APPLY TO NEW CONTRACTS AS FROM THAT DATE.

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ALSO NOTED THAT SOME FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPERS WORK AS PART-TIME HELPERS FOR OTHERS ON THEIR DAY-OFF OR DURING NORMAL WORKING HOURS WHEN THEY SHOULD BE WORKING FOR THE EMPLOYER WHO IS PARTY TO THEIR CONTRACT.

MR JEAFFRESON WARNED THAT SUCH PRACTICES ARE AGAINST THE CONDITIONS OF STAY IMPOSED ON FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPERS AND IT IS AGAINST THE LAW TO EMPLOY, FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME, FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPERS WHO HAVE BEEN PERMITTED TO STAY IN HONG KONG TO WORK FOR ANOTHER PERSON.

+PERSONS WHO ASSIST FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPERS TO BREAK THE LAW COMMIT AN OFFENCE WHILE FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPERS WHO TAKE PART-TIME OR FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT IN THIS MANNER MAY BE REMOVED FOR BEING IN BREACH OF CONDITIONS OF STAY.

+PERSONS SO REMOVED WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO RE-ENTER HONG KONG TO WORK AS FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPERS,+ HE SAID.

HE ADDED THAT LOCAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICES OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO EMPLOYERS WISHING TO FIND DOMESTIC HELPERS, FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME, AND EMPLOYEES LOOKING FOR SUCH WORK.

IN THE MEANTIME, THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO INVESTIGATE COMPLAINTS OF FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPERS TAKING UP EMPLOYMENT OTHER THAN DOMESTIC SERVICE, CONTRARY TO THEIR CONDITIONS OF STAY.

MR JEAFFRESON ALSO REMINDED EMPLOYERS THAT THEY ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE OUT INSURANCE POLICIES FOR THEIR FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPERS TO COVER ACCIDENTS ARISING OUT OF AND IN THE COURSE OF EMPLOYMENT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROVISIONS OF THE EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION ORDINANCE.

+EMPLOYERS WILL NOT BE OBLIGED TO PROVIDE GENERAL MEDICAL INSURANCE FOR THEIR EMPLOYEES SINCE EMPLOYERS OF LOCAL WORKERS ARE NOT OBLIGED TO DO SO.

+FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPERS ARE ENTITLED TO SEEK MEDICAL TREATMENT FROM GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS, THE EXPENSES OF WHICH SHOULD BE BORNE BY EMPLOYERS UNDER THE EXISTING CONTRACT,+ MR JEAFFRESON ADDED.

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QUICKER AMBULANCE RESPONSE TIME ADOPTED
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THE GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO ADOPT IN PRINCIPLE TEN MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS PUT FORWARD BY CONSULTANTS WHO WERE ENGAGED TO STUDY THE AMBULANCE SERVICE IN HONG KONG, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

THIS FOLLOWS DELIBERATIONS BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND PROVIDES FOR CLEAR POLICY GUIDELINES AS TO HOW THE SERVICE SHOULD DEVELOP.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT A ONE-YEAR CONSULTANCY STUDY WAS UNDERTAKEN BY THE HEALTH OPERATIONAL RESEARCH UNIT (HORU), A UK FIRM WITH EXTENSIVE WORLDWIDE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE IN THE FIELD OF AMBULANCE SERVICES, UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF A GOVERNMENT INTER-DEPARTMENTAL AMBULANCE SERVICES REVIEW STEERING GROUP.

THE STUDY WAS INITIATED IN 1985 TO SEE HOW THE SERVICE COULD BE MADE MORE EFFICIENT. IN FACT, GIVEN THE HIGH LEVEL OF DEMAND AND THE UNIQUE ENVIRONMENT OF HONG KONG, THE CONSULTANTS CONSIDERED THAT THE AMBULANCE COMMAND OF THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT WAS INDEED PROVIDING A HIGH STANDARD OF SERVICE TO THE HONG KONG PUBLIC.

THE SPOKESMAN ELABORATED THAT BASICALLY, THE CONSULTANTS HAD RECOMMENDED THAT THE TARGET TRAVEL TIME, I.E. THE INTERVAL BETWEEN MOBILISING A VEHICLE AND ITS ARRIVAL AT THE SCENE OF AN ACCIDENT, SHOULD BE SET AT THE LEVEL OF TEN MINUTES WITHIN WHICH 95 PER CENT OF EMERGENCY CALLS IN THE URBAN AREAS INCLUDING THE NEW TOWNS MUST FALL. THIS TEN-MINUTE TARGET TIME MEANS THAT 50 PER CENT OF THE CALLS WILL BE MET IN ABOUT FOUR TO FIVE MINUTES ONLY.

AT PRESENT, 95 PER CENT OF EMERGENCY CALLS IN THE URBAN AREAS ARE MET WITHIN TRAVEL TIMES OF 14 TO 15 MINUTES. THEREFORE, THE PROPOSED TEN-MINUTE TARGET TIME FOR URBAN AREAS REPRESENTS A SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT. IT ALSO REPRESENTS A BETTER LEVEL OF SERVICE THAN THAT AIMED FOR IN THE URBAN AREAS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, WHICH HAS ADOPTED IN PRINCIPLE A STANDARD OF AN ELEVEN-MINUTE TRAVEL TIME.

FOR RURAL AREAS, THE CONSULTANTS CONSIDER THAT IT IS NOT REALISTIC TO EXPECT A BETTER PERFORMANCE THAN THE CURRENT STANDARD OF SERVICE, I.E. 95 PER CENT OF RURAL CALLS ARE REACHED WITHIN 30-35 MINUTES. THIS IS BECAUSE OF THE GEOGRAPHY OF THE AREAS.

NEW AMBULANCE DEPOTS WILL BE SO LOCATED AND BUILT IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS GRADUALLY TO MEET THE TEN-MINUTE TARGET TIME. MEANWHILE THE AMBULANCE SERVICE HAS ALREADY TAKEN TEMPORARY MEASURES TO IMPROVE THE TIME IT TAKES TO REACH AN INCIDENT, SUCH AS BY OUTPOSTING OF AMBULANCES AT ADDITIONAL FIRE STATIONS.

/IN ADDITION,

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IN ADDITION, THE CONSULTANTS HAVE MADE A NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS IN RELATION TO THE OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS AND THE MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE OF THE AMBULANCE COMMAND. THE GOVERNMENT WILL CARRY OUT A DETAILED STUDY TO EXAMINE AND IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATIONS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE CONSULTANTS HAD NOT BEEN BRIEFED TO LOOK AT TRAINING ASPECTS AS THIS WAS NOT THEIR SPECIALTY. BUT HE SAID THE AMBULANCE SERVICES REVIEW STEERING GROUP WAS ALREADY LOOKING AT THIS AREA AND PLANS WERE IN HAND TO RAISE THE STANDARD OF THE BASIC TRAINING SIGNIFICANTLY.

THE GROUP WOULD ALSO BE LOOKING AT THE QUESTION OF ADVANCED TRAINING AND WHETHER THIS MIGHT BE INTRODUCED IN HONG KONG.

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CS STATEMENT ON SECOND AIRPORT PROPOSALS

FOLLOWING IS A STATEMENT BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY, MR DAVID FORD, AFTER A MEETING THIS (THURSDAY) MORNING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF A CONSORTIUM LED BY MR GORDON WU OF HOPEWELL HOLDINGS:

THE SECOND MEETING WITH MR GORDON WU HAS BEEN VERY USEFUL. THE VARIOUS COMPONENTS OF THE PROPOSAL HAS BEEN EXAMINED IN DETAIL. IN THE VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT MR WU'S PLANS CONCERN MEDIUM-TERM DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND AS SUCH, MUST BE LOOKED AT AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF GOVERNMENT'S OVERALL STRATEGY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AIRPORT, THE PORTS AND ROAD DEVELOPMENTS.

WE ARE ALL AGREED THAT THERE IS A LONG-TERM NEED FOR A NEW AIRPORT IN HONG KONG. THE QUESTION OF TIMING IS THE CRUCIAL ELEMENT IN THE DECISION TO BUILD IT.

IN THE MEANTIME THE GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL TO EXAMINE KAI TAK INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AND ITS GROWTH IN DEMAND WITH A VIEW TO REACHING A DEFINITIVE DECISION AS TO THE MAXIMUM USEFUL LIFE OF THE EXISTING FACILITIES.

IT WAS ALSO NECESSARY TO CONSIDER WHETHER ANY WORK COULD BE DONE TO EXTEND THAT USEFUL LIFE. OBVIOUSLY IT IS IN THE INTEREST OF THE COMMUNITY TO MAKE THE BEST USE OF THE MAJOR INVESTMENT WHICH HAS ALREADY BEEN MADE IN KAI TAK.

IN PARALLEL WITH THIS STUDY, POLICY OPTIONS IN RELATION TO A REPLACEMENT AIRPORT ARE UNDER CONSIDERATION. THIS INCLUDES THE PREVIOUS STUDY ON CHEK LAP KOK.

AS TO THE REMAINING COMPONENTS OF THE PROPOSAL, THE GOVERNMENT INDICATED ITS PREFERENCE FOR A PHASED APPROACH. A WORKING GROUP UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF THE STRATEGIC PLANNING UNIT OF LANDS AND WORKS BRANCH, WILL BE ESTABLISHED TO WORK WITH MR GORDON WU'S PLANNERS TO DETERMINE HOW THE VARIOUS PROPOSED COMPONENTS COULD FIT INTO THE OVERALL GOVERNMENT STRATEGY. THIS CO-OPERATIVE EFFORT SHOULD RESULT IN THE IDENTIFICATION OF PREFERRED OPTIONS FOR GOVERNMENT'S INTENDED LONG TERM DEVELOPMENTS.

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FUTURE OF KAI TAK AIRPORT BEING STUDIED
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A DECISION ON THE FUTURE OF KAI TAK AIRPORT WOULD BE MADE WITHIN THE NEXT COUPLE OF YEARS, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, MR DAVID FORD, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER THE SECOND MEETING WITH MR GORDON WU OVER PLANS FOR A REPLACEMENT AIRPORT AND OTHER RELATED PROJECTS, MR FORD SAID A WORKING GROUP WOULD BE ESTABLISHED TO WORK WITH MR WU'S PROPOSED PLANNERS TO DETERMINE HOW THE VARIOUS PROPOSED COMPONENTS COULD FIT INTO THE OVERALL GOVERNMENT STRATEGY.

THESE PLANNERS WOULD GET DOWN TO WORK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND THEIR WORK WOULD TAKE SEVERAL MONTHS, HE ADDED.

MR FORD SAID THAT AT THE SAME TIME THAT KAI TAK WAS BEING LOOKED AT, PLANS FOR REPLACEMENT AIRPORTS, INCLUDING CHEK LAP KOK AND MR WU'S PROPOSAL, WOULD BE LOOKED AT IN PARALLEL, +SO THAT WHEN WE HAVE A DECISION ON KAI TAK, WE'LL THEN BE IN A POSITION TO MAKE A DECISION ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE SECOND AIRPORT AT THE SAME TIME+.

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PRIVATE CONSORTIA TO BE INVITED FOR TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL
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THE GOVERNMENT WILL SOON INVITE INTERESTED CONSORTIA TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS REGARDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL AS A PRIVATE SECTOR PROJECT FOLLOWING A RECENT DECISION BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

+A NOTICE WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE IN LATE MAY TO INVITE INTERESTED PARTIES TO SUBMIT THEIR PROPOSALS TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT BEFORE THE END OF SEPTEMBER,+ A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE PROPOSED TUNNEL LINKING EAST KOWLOON WITH SHA TIN WILL RUN FOR SOME 3.9 KILOMETRES UNDER TATE'S CAIRN BETWEEN DIAMOND HILL AND SIU LEK YUEN. IT IS SCHEDULED TO OPEN IN 1992.

+THE TUNNEL WILL PROVIDE TRAFFIC RELIEF TO LION ROCK TUNNEL AND WILL BE LINKED WITH THE EASTERN HARBOUR CROSSING AND THE PROPOSED KWUN TONG BYPASS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE EXPLAINED THAT THE CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF NORTHEAST NEW TERRITORIES HAD GENERATED MUCH ADDITIONAL TRAFFIC THROUGH LION ROCK TUNNEL, THE CAPACITY OF WHICH WAS NOW REACHING SATURATION.

/+THE NEED

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+THE NEED FOR AN ADDITIONAL STRATEGIC ROAD LINK BETWEEN EAST SHA TIN AND KOWLOON WAS IDENTIFIED IN THE NORTHEAST NEW TERRITORIES STUDY (NENTS) COMPLETED IN 1982.

+PARALLEL INVESTIGATIONS BY THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE INDICATED THAT A TUNNEL STARTING IN THE REGION OF DIAMOND HILL QUARRY COULD BE DRIVEN UNDER TATE'S CAIRN TO SHA TIN,+ HE SAID.

IN APRIL 1986, THE GOVERNMENT APPOINTED CONSULTANTS TO CONDUCT AN ENGINEERING FEASIBILITY STUDY TO ESTABLISH THE ALIGNMENT OF THE TUNNEL AND ITS CONNECTING ROADS AND TO PREPARE PRELIMINARY DESIGNS. THE CONSULTANTS' FINDINGS HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED AS A SATISFACTORY BASIS FOR DETAILED DESIGN.

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NO LETDOWN ON GUARD AGAINST CERTIFICATION SYSTEM ABUSE
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THE TRADE AND CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENTS TAKE A SERIOUS VIEW OF COMPANIES WHICH BREACH ANY OF THE CONDITIONS OF THE TEXTILES CERTIFICATION AND LICENSING SYSTEM.

THIS WAS STATED BY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF TRADE (SYSTEMS), MR ALAN LAI, AT A MEETING WITH MEMBERS OF THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY WORKERS GENERAL UNION THIS EVENING (APRIL 16).

THE MEETING WAS ARRANGED FOLLOWING ALLEGATIONS BY THE UNION THAT SOME MANUFACTURERS WERE CONTRACTING THE LINKING AND LOOPING PROCESSES AND THE MANUFACTURE OF KNITWEAR GARMENTS TO FACTORIES IN CHINA. A SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE UNION CLAIMED THAT SOME WORKERS WERE ASKED TO ACT IN COLLUSION WITH MANUFACTURERS TO GIVE FALSE INFORMATION ABOUT THE ORIGIN OF THE FINISHED PRODUCTS.

MR LAI SAID THE MEETING HAD BEEN USEFUL AND HAD CLARIFIED CERTAIN MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT THE NEED FOR CERTIFICATION, AND THE NEED TO CARRY OUT OPERATIONS IN HONG KONG IN ALL CASES.

MR LAI ADDED THAT CERTIFICATION WAS NOT REQUIRED IN RESPECT OF ITEMS WHICH WERE MADE FOR THE HONG KONG MARKET, OR FOR OVERSEAS MARKETS WHICH DID NOT REQUIRE CERTIFICATION. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, LINKING AND LOOPING COULD LEGITIMATELY BE PERFORMED ELSEWHERE.

MR LAI EXPLAINED THAT KNITWEAR IS ELIGIBLE FOR A CERTIFICATE OF HONG KONG ORIGIN ONLY IF THE PROCESS OF LINKING AND LOOPING, WHICH IS REGARDED BY HONG KONG AS THE PRINCIPAL MANUFACTURING PROCESSES, HAS BEEN CARRIED OUT IN HONG KONG.

/MR LAI

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MR LAI SAID THAT IF A MANUFACTURER FALSELY DECLARES THAT LINKING AND LOOPING HAS BEEN DONE IN HONG KONG (WHILE IN FACT IT HAS BEEN OUTSIDE HONG KONG), IT WOULD CONSTITUTE A CRIMINAL OFFENCE UNDER THE RULES FOR THE ISSUE OF CERTIFICATES OF HONG KONG ORIGIN.

HE SAID BOTH DEPARTMENTS WERE DETERMINED TO CARRY OUT A FULL INVESTIGATION AND HE URGED THE UNION MEMBERS TO ASSIST THE AUTHORITIES BY SUPPLYING SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON WHERE THEY THOUGHT MALPRACTICES MIGHT BE TAKING PLACE. THIS REQUEST FOR SPECIFIC INFORMATION HAD BEEN PASSED ON IN PREVIOUS MEETINGS WITH WORKERS IN 1985 AND 1986.

THE CUSTOMS OFFICIALS PRESENT AT THE MEETING REQUESTED THOSE UNION MEMBERS WHO ARE AWARE OF SPECIFIC MALPRACTICE TO COME FORWARD AND GIVE INFORMATION TO ASSIST IN THEIR INVESTIGATION.

MR LAI STRESSED THAT BOTH DEPARTMENTS HAVE ALWAYS TAKEN VERY STRINGENT ACTION TO MAINTAIN THE INTEGRITY OF THE TEXTILES CERTIFICATION AND LICENSING SYSTEM.

COMMENTING FURTHER ON HONG KONG'S EFFORTS TO CONTROL MALPRACTICES, MR LAI ADDED THAT IN 1986, A TOTAL OF 655 COMPANIES WERE SUCCESSFULLY PROSECUTED BY THE CUSTOMS FOR ALL TYPES OF OFFENCES AGAINST HONG KONG'S TEXTILES CERTIFICATION AND LICENSING SYSTEM RESULTING IN FINES OF \$11 659 686. THIS COMPARES WITH 490 PROSECUTIONS IN 1985 AND FINES OF \$6 384 100.

THE IMPORT AND EXPORT ORDINANCE PROVIDES FOR A MAXIMUM PENALTY OF A FINE OF \$500 000 AND IMPRISONMENT FOR UP TO TWO YEARS FOR SUCH OFFENCE.

+BOTH DEPARTMENTS TAKE VERY SERIOUSLY THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTAINING THE INTEGRITY OF THE TEXTILES CERTIFICATION AND LICENSING SYSTEM AND WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF LETTING OUR GUARD DOWN,+ MR LAI SAID.

IN ADDITION TO CRIMINAL PROSECUTION, THE TRADE DEPARTMENT ALSO IMPOSES ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS AGAINST OFFENDING COMPANIES.

IN 1986, FOR INSTANCE, THE TRADE DEPARTMENT TOOK ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION IN 472 INSTANCES AGAINST TEXTILES CERTIFICATION AND LICENSING MALPRACTICE. SUCH ACTIONS INCLUDED PERMANENT SURRENDER OF QUOTAS, INVALIDATING THE EXPORT LICENCE CONCERNED, NULLIFICATION OF PERFORMANCE FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUTURE QUOTA ALLOCATION, DEBARMENT FROM PARTICIPATION IN THE FREE QUOTA ALLOCATION SCHEME AND DENIAL OF LICENSING FACILITIES.

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NEW LIFT AND ESCALATOR SAFETY MEASURES PROPOSED
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A BILL WHICH SEEKS TO IMPROVE THE OPERATIONAL SAFETY AND UPGRADE THE MAINTENANCE STANDARD OF LIFTS AND ESCALATORS WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE LIFTS AND ESCALATORS (SAFETY) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1987 WAS ENDORSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ON APRIL 7 AFTER EXTENSIVE CONSULTATION WITH THE LIFT AND ESCALATOR CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION.

IT WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON MAY 6, 1987.

AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE BILL DEALS WITH THE REGISTRATION OF LIFT AND ESCALATOR ENGINEERS, REPORTING OF ACCIDENTS, PREVENTION OF UNAUTHORISED INTERFERENCE WITH LIFTS OR ESCALATORS, COMPETENCY OF LIFT AND ESCALATOR WORKERS, AND EXTENDS THE LIFTS AND ESCALATORS (SAFETY) ORDINANCE TO COVER THE CONTROL OF PASSENGER CONVEYORS AND SERVICE LIFTS IN NON-INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS.

FEES TO ENABLE THE ADMINISTRATION TO RECOVER COSTS OF SERVICES UNDER THE AMENDED ORDINANCE ARE SPECIFIED IN THE LIFTS AND ESCALATORS (SAFETY) (FEES) REGULATIONS 1987. THE FEES HAVE BEEN APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

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BOARDS PAY \$4.82 MILLION INJURIES COMPENSATION
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THE CRIMINAL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT INJURIES COMPENSATION (CLEIC) BOARDS LAST YEAR PAID OUT \$4.82 MILLION IN COMPENSATION TO VICTIMS OR THEIR DEPENDENTS, ACCORDING TO THE BOARDS' 1985-86 ANNUAL REPORT.

THIS REPRESENTED AN INCREASE OF 13.4 PER CENT OVER COMPENSATION PAYMENTS OF \$4.25 MILLION IN THE PRECEDING YEAR. THESE PAYMENTS WERE GIVEN TO 822 CRIMINAL INJURIES CASES AND FOUR LAW ENFORCEMENT INJURIES DURING THE YEAR UNDER REVIEW.

THE AMOUNT OF CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION ACCOUNTED FOR ABOUT 87 PER CENT OR \$4.21 MILLION OF THE TOTAL AWARDS DURING THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW.

IT ALSO BROUGHT THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF GRANTS AWARDED SINCE THE INCEPTION OF THE CLEIC SCHEME IN 1973 TO \$26.85 MILLION.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARDS, MR MARTIN LEE, SAID THAT THE PUBLIC'S INCREASED AWARENESS OF THE SCHEME AND AN INCREASE IN THE CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION RATES BY 6.8 PER CENT WITH EFFECT FROM JANUARY 1986 HAD CONTRIBUTED TO THE HIGHER PAY OUT.

/MR LEE

MR LEE SAID THAT 1 329 APPLICATIONS WERE RECEIVED IN 1985-86, REPRESENTING ABOUT 16.9 PER CENT OF THE 7 824 CASES OF CRIMINAL INJURIES REPORTED TO THE POLICE IN THE YEAR.

SIMILAR TO THE PATTERN OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR, VICTIMS OF ASSAULT AND WOUNDING AS WELL AS ROBBERY, THEFT AND BURGLARY MADE UP THE MAJORITY, ABOUT 93 PER CENT, OF THE APPLICANTS.

THERE WAS A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN APPLICATIONS ARISING FROM CASES OF FALLING OBJECTS WITH 27 APPLICATIONS AS COMPARED WITH 18 IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

APPLICATIONS RELATED TO HOMICIDE, MURDER AND MANSLAUGHTER CASES ROSE marginally TO 46 AS AGAINST 44.

DURING THE YEAR, THERE WAS NO APPLICATION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT INJURIES COMPENSATION.

OF ALL THE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR, 951 WERE REFERRED BY THE POLICE WHILE 361 WERE SUBMITTED BY THE VICTIMS THEMSELVES OR THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS.

DURING THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW, THE HIGHEST SINGLE PAYMENT OF \$596 294 WAS GRANTED AS THE FINAL AWARD TO A LAW ENFORCEMENT INJURIES VICTIM INJURED IN A GOLDSMITH SHOP ROBBERY IN 1984. BEFORE THIS, HE HAD ALREADY RECEIVED INTERIM AWARDS AMOUNTING TO \$45 555.

IN GRANTING THE COMPENSATION, THE BOARDS TOOK INTO CONSIDERATION THE SERIOUSNESS OF A VICTIM'S INJURY, HIS SUFFERING, RESIDUAL DISABILITY AND LOSS OF EARNINGS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BASIS OF COMMON LAW DAMAGES, MR LEE SAID.

HE SAID THAT THE CLEIC SCHEME WAS CONSTANTLY REVIEWED TO MEET CHANGING NEEDS AND THE BOARDS HAD PROPOSED TO EXTEND THE MAXIMUM PAYMENT PERIOD FROM THREE MONTHS TO SIX MONTHS IN RESPECT OF INJURY GRANT AND INTERIM ADJUSTMENT GRANT TO VICTIMS OF SERIOUS INJURIES.

ANOTHER PROPOSAL WAS TO GIVE THE BOARDS DISCRETIONARY POWER TO INCREASE THE AWARDS TO RAPE VICTIMS, AND TO VICTIMS WHO HAD DEMONSTRATED EXEMPLARY EFFORTS IN ASSISTING THE POLICE IN THE IDENTIFICATION AND ARREST OF CRIMINALS IN SPITE OF PERSONAL EMBARRASSMENT, INCONVENIENCE OR FEAR.

THE REPORT NOTED THAT THESE PROPOSALS WOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FOR ACCEPTANCE OF THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS, WHILE THE PROPOSAL FOR A BEREAVEMENT GRANT WAS STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE ADMINISTRATION.

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MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION BOARD APPOINTMENTS

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THE GOVERNOR HAS APPOINTED MR ROBERT GAFF AND HAS REAPPOINTED SIR OSWALD CHEUNG, MR YEUNG PO-KWAN AND MR G.M. MACWHINNIE TO THE BOARD OF THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS FROM MAY 1, 1987.

MR ROBERT GAFF IS REPLACING MR C.H. TUNG, WHO HAS SERVED ON THE BOARD FOR THREE YEARS SINCE 1984. MR GAFF CURRENTLY SERVES ON THE HONG KONG LOTTERIES BOARD, SUBVENTIONS AND LOTTERIES FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE, COMMUNITY CHEST OF HONG KONG AND THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE. HE IS ALSO PRESIDENT OF THE HONG KONG SOCIETY OF ACCOUNTANTS.

THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE BOARD, WHICH IS CHAIRED BY MR C.W. NEWTON, ARE MR P.J. WRANGHAM, MR DAVID NENDICK (SECRETARY FOR MONETARY AFFAIRS), THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS AND THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT.

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EDUCATION COMMISSION MEMBERS REAPPOINTED

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THE GOVERNOR HAS REAPPOINTED MEMBERS OF THE EDUCATION COMMISSION FOR A FURTHER ONE YEAR TERM UNTIL MARCH 31, 1988.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE REAPPOINTMENT, PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY, WOULD ENSURE CONTINUITY IN THE COMMISSION'S WORK PROGRAMME.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE COMMISSION IS AT PRESENT CONSIDERING PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITS SECOND REPORT.

+DURING THE NEXT PHASE OF ITS WORK, UNDER THE CONTINUED CHAIRMANSHIP OF DR Q.W. LEE, THE COMMISSION WILL EXAMINE CIVIC EDUCATION AND THE FUTURE OF THE COLLEGES OF EDUCATION.

+THE COMMISSION'S CONCLUSIONS ON THESE SUBJECTS WILL BE INCLUDED IN ITS THIRD REPORT, WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO BE PUBLISHED BEFORE THE END OF THIS YEAR,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION WILL ALSO SHORTLY BEGIN A STUDY OF THE IMPORTANT QUESTION OF THE STRUCTURE OF THE TERTIARY EDUCATION SYSTEM AND THE IMPLICATIONS OF ANY CHANGES THERETO FOR THE SECONDARY SCHOOLS. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THIS STUDY WILL BE COMPLETED IN 1988.

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FOURTH QUARTER RESTAURANT SURVEY RESULTS RELEASED

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THE VALUE OF TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE ENTIRE RESTAURANT SECTOR IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1986, ESTIMATED AT \$5 590 MILLION, WAS 12 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN THE SAME QUARTER OF 1985, WHILE THE VOLUME OF SALES WAS 9 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN THE SAME QUARTER OF 1985, ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONAL RESULTS OF A SURVEY RELEASED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE PROVISIONAL ESTIMATE OF TOTAL PURCHASES BY RESTAURANTS IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1986 WAS \$2 447 MILLION, WHICH WAS 14 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1985.

ANALYSED BY TYPE OF RESTAURANT, FAST FOOD SHOPS RECORDED THE LARGEST INCREASE (19 PER CENT) IN THE VALUE OF TOTAL RECEIPTS WHEN COMPARED WITH THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1985, FOLLOWED BY BARS (13 PER CENT), CHINESE RESTAURANTS (12 PER CENT), NON-CHINESE RESTAURANTS (8 PER CENT), AND OTHER EATING AND DRINKING PLACES (COMPRISING HERB TEA SHOPS, CREAMERIES AND OTHER OUTLETS SELLING BEAN CURD JELLY ETC.) (7 PER CENT).

IN VOLUME TERMS, THE TOTAL RECEIPTS OF FAST FOOD SHOPS; CHINESE RESTAURANTS; BARS; OTHER EATING AND DRINKING PLACES; AND NON-CHINESE RESTAURANTS WENT UP BY 16 PER CENT, 10 PER CENT, 7 PER CENT, 5 PER CENT AND 3 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

COMPARING THE WHOLE OF 1986 WITH THE WHOLE OF 1985, TOTAL RESTAURANT RECEIPTS ROSE BY 8 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 5 PER CENT IN VOLUME; AND THE TOTAL VALUE OF PURCHASES BY RESTAURANTS INCREASED BY 7 PER CENT.

FAST FOOD SHOPS RECORDED THE LARGEST GROWTH IN THE VALUE OF TOTAL RECEIPTS (15 PER CENT), FOLLOWED BY BARS (10 PER CENT), OTHER EATING AND DRINKING PLACES (9 PER CENT), CHINESE RESTAURANTS (7 PER CENT) AND NON-CHINESE RESTAURANTS (6 PER CENT).

IN VOLUME TERMS, THE TOTAL RECEIPTS OF FAST FOOD SHOPS AGAIN SHOWED THE LARGEST INCREASE, AT 13 PER CENT. THE GROWTH, IN VOLUME TERMS, RECORDED BY OTHER EATING AND DRINKING PLACES; CHINESE RESTAURANTS; BARS; AND NON-CHINESE RESTAURANTS WERE 6 PER CENT, 5 PER CENT, 4 PER CENT AND 2 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

COMPARING THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1986 WITH THE PRECEDING QUARTER -- AND BEARING IN MIND THAT THIS COMPARISON IS AFFECTED BY SEASONAL FACTORS -- TOTAL RESTAURANT RECEIPTS WENT UP BY 10 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 9 PER CENT IN VOLUME; AND THE VALUE OF PURCHASES BY RESTAURANTS INCREASED BY 12 PER CENT.

/BETWEEN

THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1987

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BETWEEN THOSE TWO QUARTERS, TOTAL RECEIPTS OF CHINESE RESTAURANTS INCREASED BY 15 PER CENT IN BOTH VALUE AND VOLUME TERMS- AND THOSE OF BARS INCREASED BY 13 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 12 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS.

BUT TOTAL RECEIPTS OF OTHER EATING AND DRINKING PLACES DECREASED BY 3 PER CENT IN BOTH VALUE AND VOLUME TERMS; THOSE OF FAST FOOD SHOPS BY 4 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 5 PER CENT IN VOLUME, AND THOSE OF NON-CHINESE RESTAURANTS BY 5 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 6 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

TABLE 1 PRESENTS THE REVISED FIGURES FOR TOTAL RECEIPTS OF AND TOTAL PURCHASES BY THE ENTIRE RESTAURANT SECTOR FOR THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1986 AND THE PROVISIONAL FIGURES FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1986.

TABLE 2 SHOWS THE VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF TOTAL RECEIPTS BY TYPE OF RESTAURANT, WITH THE QUARTERLY AVERAGE FROM OCTOBER 1984 TO SEPTEMBER 1985 TAKEN AS 100.

COMPARISONS OF THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1986 RESULTS WITH THOSE FOR THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1986 AND WITH THOSE FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1985, AND COMPARISONS OF TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE WHOLE YEAR OF 1986 WITH THOSE FOR 1985 ARE ALSO GIVEN.

CHART 1 DEPICTS THE MOVEMENTS OF THE VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF TOTAL RECEIPTS BY TYPE OF RESTAURANT FROM THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1983 TO THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1986.

THE REPORT ON THE QUARTERLY SURVEY OF RESTAURANT RECEIPTS AND PURCHASES FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1986 IS ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, AT \$1 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ON THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE WHOLESALE-RETAIL TRADE STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON 5-8234941.

/TABLE 1 :

TABLE 1 : TOTAL RESTAURANT RECEIPTS AND PURCHASES

		3rd qtr. 1986 (Revised figures)	4th qtr. 1986 (Provisional figures)
Total restaurant receipts	(in HK\$ million)	5 102	5 590
Total purchases by restaurants	(in HK\$ million)	2 194	2 447

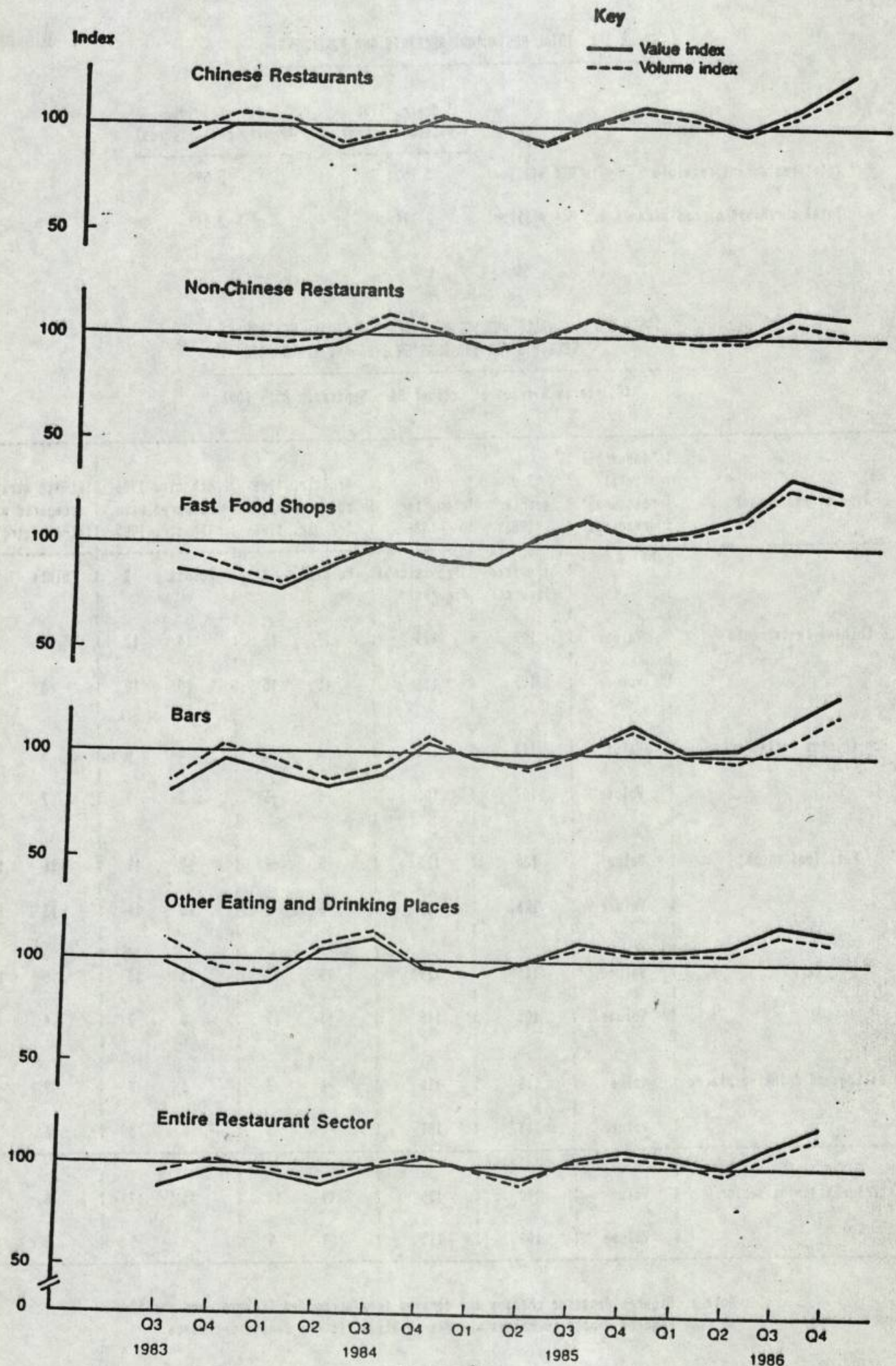
TABLE 2 : VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF TOTAL RESTAURANT RECEIPTS FOR 3RD QUARTER 1986 AND 4TH QUARTER 1986

(Quarterly average of October 84 - September 85 = 100)

Type of restaurant	Index of total restaurant receipts	3rd quarter 1986	4th quarter 1986	4th qtr. 1986 compared with 3rd qtr. 1986		4th qtr. 1986 compared with 4th qtr. 1985		1st-4th qtr. 1986 compared with 1st-4th qtr. 1985	
		(Revised figures)	(Provisional figures)	Points	%	Points	%	Points	%
Chinese restaurants	Value	107	123	17	15	14	12	7	7
	Volume	103	119	15	15	10	10	5	5
Non-Chinese restaurants	Value	113	108	-6	-5	8	8	6	6
	Volume	107	101	-6	-6	3	3	2	2
Fast food shops	Value	130	125	-5	-4	19	19	16	15
	Volume	126	120	-6	-5	16	16	13	13
Bars	Value	115	129	15	13	15	13	10	10
	Volume	105	118	13	12	8	7	4	4
Other eating and drinking places	Value	118	114	-4	-3	8	7	9	9
	Volume	113	109	-4	-3	5	5	6	6
Entire restaurant sector	Value	110	120	11	10	13	12	8	8
	Volume	106	115	9	9	9	9	5	5

Note : Figures denoting changes are derived from unrounded figures, and positive figures denote increases whereas negative figures denote decreases.

Chart 1: Value and Volume Indexes of Restaurant Receipts
(Quarterly average of Oct. 1984 - Sept. 1985 = 100)



WAGE INDEXES FOR DECEMBER PUBLISHED
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THE OVERALL NOMINAL WAGE INDEX FOR DECEMBER 1986, AT 137.7, INCREASED BY 7.1 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1985 AND BY 1.1 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER 1986, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS PUBLISHED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

A COMPARISON OF THE DECEMBER 1986 AND DECEMBER 1985 INDEXES SHOWS THAT THE NOMINAL WAGE INDEX FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR INCREASED BY 6.8 PER CENT FOR THE WHOLESALE-RETAIL, IMPORT-EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR BY 6.1 PER CENT FOR THE TRANSPORT SERVICES SECTOR BY 8.0 PER CENT FOR THE BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR BY 9.6 PER CENT AND FOR THE PERSONAL SERVICES SECTOR BY 6.9 PER CENT.

A COMPARISON OF THE DECEMBER 1986 AND SEPTEMBER 1986 INDEXES SHOWS THAT THE NOMINAL WAGE INDEX FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR INCREASED BY 1.2 PER CENT FOR THE WHOLESALE-RETAIL, IMPORT-EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR BY 1.4 PER CENT FOR THE TRANSPORT SERVICES SECTOR BY 0.6 PER CENT AND FOR THE PERSONAL SERVICES SECTOR BY 2.4 PER CENT WHILE THAT FOR THE BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR DECREASED BY 0.1 PER CENT.

THE NOMINAL WAGE INDEXES FOR THE PERIOD DECEMBER 1985 TO DECEMBER 1986 FOR SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS ARE GIVEN IN TABLE 1. DETAILED BREAKDOWNS FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR ARE GIVEN IN TABLE 2.

THE OVERALL REAL WAGE INDEX, AT 104.5 IN DECEMBER 1986, WAS 3.2 PER CENT HIGHER THAN THAT IN DECEMBER 1985 AND 0.6 PER CENT HIGHER THAN THAT IN SEPTEMBER 1986.

FROM DECEMBER 1985 TO DECEMBER 1986, THE REAL WAGE INDEX FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR INCREASED BY 3.1 PER CENT; FOR THE WHOLESALE-RETAIL, IMPORT-EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR BY 2.4 PER CENT; FOR THE TRANSPORT SERVICES SECTOR BY 4.2 PER CENT; FOR THE BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR BY 5.8 PER CENT; AND FOR THE PERSONAL SERVICES SECTOR BY 3.1 PER CENT.

COMPARING DECEMBER 1986 WITH SEPTEMBER 1986, THE REAL WAGE INDEX FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR INCREASED BY 0.7 PER CENT; FOR THE WHOLESALE-RETAIL, IMPORT-EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR BY 1.0 PER CENT; FOR THE TRANSPORT SERVICES SECTOR BY 0.1 PER CENT; AND FOR THE PERSONAL SERVICES SECTOR BY 1.9 PER CENT; WHILE THAT FOR THE BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR DECREASED BY 0.5 PER CENT.

THE REAL WAGE INDEXES FOR THE PERIOD DECEMBER 1985 TO DECEMBER 1986 FOR SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS ARE GIVEN IN TABLE 3.

THESE NOMINAL AND REAL WAGE INDEXES ARE DERIVED FROM THE SURVEY OF WAGES, SALARIES AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CONDUCTED EACH QUARTER BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, COVERING BOTH MANUAL AND NON-MANUAL WORKERS (EXCLUDING WORKERS AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROFESSIONAL LEVELS) IN SELECTED INDUSTRIES IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, THE WHOLESALE-RETAIL, IMPORT-EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR, THE TRANSPORT SERVICES SECTOR, THE BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR AND THE PERSONAL SERVICES SECTOR.

SUCH INDEXES MEASURE CHANGES IN WAGE RATES BY HOLDING THE STRUCTURAL PATTERN OF THE LABOUR FORCE WITH RESPECT TO INDUSTRY, OCCUPATION, SEX AND MODE OF PAYMENT THE SAME AS THAT OF MARCH 1982, WHICH IS THE BASE PERIOD OF THE WAGE INDEXES.

WHILE THE NOMINAL WAGE INDEX MEASURES CHANGES IN WAGE RATES IN MONEY TERMS, THE REAL WAGE INDEX, WHICH IS OBTAINED BY DEFLATING THE NOMINAL WAGE INDEX BY THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A), MEASURES CHANGES IN THE PURCHASING POWER OF THE WAGES RECEIVED.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT DREW ATTENTION TO THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE WAGE INDEXES AND THE INDEXES OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED WHICH ARE ALSO PUBLISHED AT QUARTERLY INTERVALS.

HE POINTED OUT THAT WHILE WAGE RATES PROVIDE A MEASURE OF THE UNIT PRICE OF LABOUR, PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED IS A MEASURE OF PER CAPITA EARNINGS.

WAGES RATES REPRESENT THE AMOUNT OF REMUNERATION FOR NORMAL HOURS OF WORK, AND ARE DEFINED TO INCLUDE BASIC WAGES AND SALARIES, COST-OF-LIVING ALLOWANCE, MEAL BENEFITS, COMMISSION AND TIPS, GOOD ATTENDANCE BONUS AND NIGHT SHIFT ALLOWANCE.

IN ADDITION, YEAR-END BONUS AND OTHER GUARANTEED AND REGULAR BONUSES AND ALLOWANCES THAT ARE PAID LESS FREQUENTLY THAN MONTHLY, ARE CONVERTED TO AN EQUIVALENT MONTHLY RATE WHEN COMPILING THE WAGE RATE INDEXES.

TOTAL PAYROLL, ON THE OTHER HAND, IS THE AMOUNT OF DIRECT CASH PAYMENTS THAT EMPLOYEES RECEIVE FROM EMPLOYERS. APART FROM THE ABOVE MENTIONED CASH RECEIPTS, IT ALSO INCLUDES OVERTIME PAY AND OTHER NON-GUARANTEED AND IRREGULAR BONUSES AND ALLOWANCES.

HENCE, STATISTICS ON PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED TEND TO BE SENSITIVE TO CHANGES IN THE NUMBER OF HOURS ACTUALLY WORKED, THE TIMING OF THE PAYMENT OF BONUSES AND BACK-PAY, AND THE COMPOSITION OF THE LABOUR FORCE.

/AS A RESULT,

AS A RESULT, MOVEMENTS IN WAGE RATES DO NOT NECESSARILY CONFORM WITH THOSE IN PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED.

THE SURVEY FINDINGS ARE PUBLISHED IN A REPORT OF WAGES, SALARIES AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS STATISTICS VOL. 1, DECEMBER 1986 WHICH WILL BE ON SALE SHORTLY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE.

THE VOL. II ISSUE OF THE REPORT CONTAINING DETAILED OCCUPATIONAL STATISTICS, SUCH AS WAGE RATES, NUMBER OF NORMAL HOURS OF WORK AND NUMBER OF STANDARD WORKING DAYS IS EXPECTED TO BE AVAILABLE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE IN EARLY MAY 1987.

FOR ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE WAGE INDEXES, CONTACT THE WAGES AND LABOUR COSTS STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON 5-8234746 OR 5-8234747.

/Table 1 :

Table 1 : Nominal Wage Indexes by Selected Major Economic Sectors

Selected Major Economic Sectors	Indexes (March 1982 = 100)				
	Dec.	Mar.	Jun.	Sept.	Dec.
	1985	1986	1986	1986	1986
Manufacturing	128.1	131.2	133.7	135.2	136.8
Wholesale/Retail, Import/Export trades and Restaurants and Hotels	122.6	124.1	125.4	128.3	130.1
Transport Services	145.6	151.7	154.4	156.4	157.3
Business Services	131.0	135.4	139.8	143.7	143.6
Personal Services	124.5	125.8	130.2	130.0	133.1
All Sectors Above	128.6	131.6	134.0	136.2	137.7

Table 2 : Nominal Wage Indexes for Major Industries in the
Manufacturing Sector

Industry	Indexes (March 1982 = 100)				
	Dec.	Mar.	Jun.	Sept.	Dec.
	1985	1986	1986	1986	1986
Garments	121.0	122.9	125.7	126.1	127.0
Gloves	138.9	140.8	142.0	144.4	145.7
Handbags	124.2	124.9	125.8	128.9	131.9
Cotton Spinning/Weaving	129.6	135.5	139.8	144.3	148.1
Knitting	130.8	134.2	137.4	138.8	138.5
Bleaching and Dyeing	134.0	139.1	144.9	148.4	150.0
Printing	133.3	135.7	139.9	141.5	142.6
Plastic Products	127.9	132.2	134.1	135.6	136.7
Metal Products	130.5	135.3	137.2	139.3	140.8
Electrical Appliances	136.5	143.3	145.7	148.2	151.5
Electronics	132.8	136.2	137.2	140.3	143.5
Watches and Clocks	134.7	141.8	145.0	144.8	147.9
Manufacturing	128.1	131.2	133.7	135.2	136.8

Table 3 : Real Wage Indexes by Selected Major Economic Sectors

Selected Major Economic Sectors	Indexes (March 1982 = 100)				
	Dec.	Mar.	Jun.	Sept.	Dec.
	1985	1986	1986	1986	1986
Manufacturing	100.8	102.3	102.7	103.2	103.9
Wholesale/Retail, Import/Export trades and Restaurants and Hotels	96.5	96.7	96.4	97.8	98.8
Transport Services	114.6	118.2	118.7	119.3	119.4
Business Services	103.1	105.5	107.5	109.6	109.1
Personal Services	98.1	98.1	100.1	99.2	101.1
All Sectors Above	101.3	102.6	103.0	103.9	104.5

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SPECIAL REVIEW ON SALARY STATISTICS
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A SPECIAL REVIEW ARTICLE, ENTITLED '+SALARY STATISTICS OF MIDDLE-LEVEL MANAGERIAL AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES+', IS INCLUDED IN THE JANUARY ISSUE OF THE HONG KONG MONTHLY DIGEST OF STATISTICS.

BEFORE 1984, ONLY EMPLOYEES UP TO THE SUPERVISORY LEVEL IN DIFFERENT BUSINESS UNDERTAKINGS WERE COVERED IN THE REGULAR WAGE SURVEYS CARRIED OUT BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT. AS A RESULT, WAGE STATISTICS FOR MIDDLE-LEVEL MANAGERIAL STAFF AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES WERE NOT AVAILABLE.

NOW, WITH THE EXTENSION OF EMPLOYEE COVERAGE, THE WAGE STATISTICS SYSTEM BECOMES MORE COMPLETE FOR ECONOMIC ANALYSIS AND POLICY FORMULATION.

THE ARTICLE DESCRIBES THE OBJECTIVES, COVERAGE AND GENERAL METHODOLOGY OF THE SURVEY OF SALARIES AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS (MANAGERIAL AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES -- EXCLUDING TOP MANAGEMENT) WHICH HAS BEEN CONDUCTED BY THE DEPARTMENT ONCE EVERY YEAR SINCE 1984.

ALSO CONTAINED IN THE ARTICLE IS A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE MOVEMENTS OF THE SALARY LEVELS STARTING FROM JUNE 1983, THE ABSOLUTE SALARY RATES OF A NUMBER OF OCCUPATIONS FOR JUNE 1986 AND THE ENTITLEMENTS TO VARIOUS FRINGE BENEFITS FOR JUNE 1986.

THE HONG KONG MONTHLY DIGEST OF STATISTICS IS ON SALE AT \$28 PER COPY. PURCHASES CAN BE MADE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATION SALES CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, OR THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATION SALES COUNTER, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER 1, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI.

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CS LOOKS AT WORK OF AFD
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THE CHIEF SECRETARY, MR DAVID FORD, VISITED THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON TO FAMILIARISE HIMSELF WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S WORK.

MET BY THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE, MR FORD WAS THEN BRIEFED ON THE WHOLESALING SYSTEM IN THE MARKETING OF FRESH FOOD PRODUCE IN HONG KONG.

HE WAS ALSO TOLD THE EXISTING TEMPORARY AND PERMANENT WHOLESALE FACILITIES AND THE WORK DONE BY THE DEPARTMENT TO IMPROVE SUCH FACILITIES BY REPROVISIONING OLD MARKETS AND BUILDING NEW ONES.

/MR FORD

THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1987

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MR FORD NOTED THAT A TEMPORARY POULTRY MARKET HAD BEEN BUILT AT WESTERN RECLAMATION AND WOULD BE OPERATIONAL IN JULY THIS YEAR. THE NEW MARKET WILL REPLACE THE KENNEDY TOWN POULTRY MARKET AT FORBES STREET WHICH IS CREATING ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRAFFIC PROBLEMS IN THE AREA.

HE WAS ALSO TOLD THAT PLANS WERE IN HAND FOR CONSTRUCTING TWO LARGE WHOLESALE MARKET COMPLEXES AT WESTERN AND CHEUNG SHA WAN RESPECTIVELY WHICH WERE EXPECTED TO COME ON STREAM IN THE 1990S.

MR FORD ALSO MET THE FOUR ASSISTANT DIRECTORS IN CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT'S OPERATIONAL BRANCHES AND DISCUSSED WITH THEM DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES AND PLANS FOR THE FUTURE.

THE SUBJECTS OF INTEREST WHICH WERE DISCUSSED DURING MR FORD'S VISIT INCLUDED THE MANAGEMENT OF COUNTRY PARKS AND THE REVIEW UNDERTAKEN BY THE DEPARTMENT TO FORECAST THE FUTURE NEED FOR SUCH FACILITIES, THE CONTROL OF PESTICIDES AND RABIES, AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MARICULTURE INDUSTRY IN HONG KONG.

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VISIT TO ENHANCE MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING

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THE SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE, MR HARNAM GREWAL, TODAY (THURSDAY) MET STAFF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT.

THE MEETING WAS PART OF MR GREWAL'S SERIES OF VISITS TO GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS TO ENHANCE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN CIVIL SERVICE BRANCH AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND STAFF ASSOCIATIONS OF DEPARTMENTS.

MR GREWAL DESCRIBED HIS TALKS WITH THE WATER SUPPLIES STAFF AS +PART OF AN ONGOING EFFORT TO PROMOTE MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND WORKING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CIVIL SERVICE BRANCH AND DEPARTMENTS.+

+OUR DISCUSSIONS COVERED A NUMBER OF CIVIL SERVICE MATTERS. I THINK THE VISITS ARE MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL IN THAT THEY PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR DEPARTMENTAL STAFF TO BRING THEIR CONCERNS ABOUT CIVIL SERVICE MATTERS TO MY ATTENTION AND ENABLE ME IN TURN TO SEE THEM WORKING ON THE GROUND AT FIRST HAND,+ HE ADDED.

AFTER THE MEETING AT WATER SUPPLIES HEADQUARTERS, MR GREWAL, ACCOMPANIED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES, MR TOM TOMLINSON, LEFT FOR THE SHA TIN WATER TREATMENT WORKS, WHERE HE TOURED THE FACILITY AND MET WSD SITE STAFF AT WORK.

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THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1987

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LAND EXECUTIVES PASS POLYTECHNIC COURSE
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TEN LAND EXECUTIVES OF THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT WHO HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED A TWO-YEAR PART-TIME DAY-RELEASE HIGHER CERTIFICATE PROGRAMME IN LAND ADMINISTRATION RECEIVED THEIR CERTIFICATES TODAY (THURSDAY).

OFFICIATING AT THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY, THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS, MR CHAU CHAM-SON, SAID THE COURSE, JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT AND THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, HAD PROVED TO BE A VERY SUCCESSFUL TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR LAND EXECUTIVES OVER THE YEARS.

+SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 1974, A TOTAL OF 231 LAND EXECUTIVES HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE COURSE WITH MORE THAN HALF OF THEM ACHIEVING EXCELLENT EXAMINATION RESULTS.

+THE PART-TIME DAY-RELEASE COURSE PROVIDES FORMALISED TRAINING IN LAND ADMINISTRATION FOR NEWLY-RECRUITED LAND EXECUTIVES,+ MR CHAU SAID.

PASSING THE COURSE, HELD ONE DAY A WEEK AT THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, IS A REQUIREMENT FOR CONFIRMATION TO THE GOVERNMENT'S PERMANENT AND PENSIONABLE ESTABLISHMENT.

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.

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TRAINING COURSE FOR STAFF OF DB MEMBERS' OFFICES
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THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE WILL ORGANISE A TRAINING COURSE FOR THE STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS OF UNOFFICIAL DB MEMBERS' OFFICES FROM APRIL 27 TO JULY 24 TO ENHANCE THEIR STANDARD OF SERVICE AND THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION.

THE COURSE IS DIVIDED INTO SIX LECTURES: AN INTRODUCTION TO THE STRUCTURE OF HONG KONG GOVERNMENT; THE PLANNING AND USE OF GOVERNMENT FINANCE; AN INTRODUCTION OF THE LAWS OF HONG KONG; AN INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY; THE TECHNIQUE OF INTERVIEWING THE PUBLIC AND THE PROCEDURES OF HANDLING COMPLAINTS; AND THE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME OF THE DISTRICT.

LECTURERS INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE, CNTA, NT/NW DEVELOPMENT OFFICE (TUEN MUN), HONG KONG LAW SOCIETY, AND BAPTIST COLLEGE.

THE COURSE IS FREE OF CHARGE. A CERTIFICATE WILL BE AWARDED TO PARTICIPANTS WHO ATTEND THE WHOLE COURSE.

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FUNDS FOR TAI PO SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME
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ABOUT \$270 000 WILL BE SPENT ON THIS YEAR'S SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME IN TAI PO, CHAIRMAN OF THE NEWLY-FORMED TAI PO DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE 1987, MR HO YUNG-SANG, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

MR HO ALSO INVITED LOCAL ORGANISATIONS AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES TO APPLY FOR FUND TO ORGANISE ACTIVITIES THIS SUMMER FOR YOUTHS AGED BETWEEN SIX AND 25.

HE ADDED THAT ABOUT \$140 000 WOULD COME FROM THE DISTRICT BOARD FUND AND THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB WHILE THE REMAINDER WOULD BE FROM LOCAL DONATIONS.

MR HO SAID LETTERS WOULD SOON BE SENT TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES TO ENCOURAGE THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAMME.

APPLICATION FORMS FOR FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICE AT 1 TING KOK ROAD. COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE OFFICE BY MAY 15.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 0-6577111 EXTENSION 244.

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LAUNCHING OF AIDS PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN
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THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY ON AIDS WILL HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE NEXT TUESDAY (APRIL 21) TO ANNOUNCE THE LAUNCHING OF A PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ON AIDS.

CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY ON AIDS, DR S.H. LEE, CONSULTANT OF THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS, DR E.K. YEOH, AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES (PUBLICITY), MR PETER MOSS, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE AT 3 PM ON TUESDAY AT THE GIS PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM, FIFTH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

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THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1987

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TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE IN WAN CHAI
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TO FACILITATE ROAD WORKS, ST FRANCIS STREET IN WAN CHAI
WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 10 AM ON SATURDAY (APRIL 18)
TO 7 AM ON TUESDAY (APRIL 21).

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SPECIAL FERRY SERVICES FOR TIN HAU FESTIVAL
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SPECIAL FERRY SERVICES BETWEEN NORTH POINT (EAST) FERRY PIER
AND JOSS HOUSE BAY WILL BE OPERATED BY THE HONGKONG AND YAUMATI
FERRY CO. LTD. DURING THE TIN HAU FESTIVAL.

THE SPECIAL FERRIES WILL START RUNNING AT 8.30 AM ON SUNDAY
(APRIL 19) AND OPERATE OVERNIGHT UNTIL 4 PM THE FOLLOWING DAY.
THE FREQUENCY RANGES FROM 60 TO 90 MINUTES AND WILL BE INCREASED
TO 45 MINUTES BETWEEN 10 AM AND 4 PM ON MONDAY. THE LAST DEPARTURE
FROM NORTH POINT TO JOSS HOUSE BAY IS SCHEDULED FOR 2.30 PM ON
MONDAY.

FARES CHARGED PER SINGLE JOURNEY WILL BE \$17 FOR ADULTS AND
\$11 FOR CHILDREN ON DELUXE CLASS AND \$12 AND \$7 RESPECTIVELY FOR
THOSE RIDING ON ORDINARY CLASS.

IN ADDITION, FERRY SERVICES LINKING NORTH POINT WITH KOWLOON
CITY AND HUNG HOM RESPECTIVELY WILL BE EXTENDED TO OPERATE UNTIL
MIDNIGHT ON SUNDAY.

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TSUEN WAN WATER CUT
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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN TSUEN WAN WILL BE
TURNED OFF BETWEEN 9 AM AND 6 PM ON SUNDAY (APRIL 19) FOR MAINS
WORK.

THE AFFECTED PREMISES ARE BOUNDED BY 116-142 YEUNG UK ROAD,
FUI YUI KOK STREET AND WANG LUNG STREET.

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