



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
TRADE STATISTICS FOR MAY PUBLISHED .....	1
KEEN OVERSEAS INTEREST IN HK INSURANCE MARKET .....	8
LABORATORY ACCREDITATION SCHEME EXPANDED .....	10
SEMINARS ON GREEN PAPER .....	11
TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR ELDERLY SERVICES COMMITTEE AGREED ...	12
NEW MATERNITY LEGISLATION BECOMES EFFECTIVE .....	13
FOURTH RABIES CASE CONFIRMED .....	13
SCS SEES AFD'S WORK .....	14
CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION RECEIVED .....	15
VILLAGE BUILDINGS, STRUCTURES DECLARED DANGEROUS .....	16
RECLAMATION PROPOSED AT WEST TSING YI .....	17
RESITE HOUSES TO BE BUILT IN TAI PO .....	17
BUILDING MANAGEMENT CAMPAIGN STARTS TOMORROW .....	18
RECRUITMENT DRIVE FOR FIREMEN STARTS .....	18
ROAD USERS' CODE PUBLISHED .....	19
COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB TO CELEBRATE 10TH ANNIVERSARY .....	20
SUMMER FUN FOR YOUTHS IN NORTH DISTRICT .....	21
KOWLOON CITY SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME OPENS .....	22
SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME IN EASTERN DISTRICT .....	22
SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME CARNIVAL .....	23
BUS TOURS TUEN MUN TO PROMOTE SUMMER ACTIVITIES .....	24
SHA TIN SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME OPENS ON SUNDAY .....	24
CLEAN BEACH DAY IN TUEN MUN .....	25
TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD NORTHBOUND .....	26
ROADS IN YUEN LONG CLOSED FOR FLYOVER CONSTRUCTION .....	26
BUS-ONLY LANE LIFTED .....	27

## TRADE STATISTICS FOR MAY PUBLISHED

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TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE IN MAY THIS YEAR AMOUNTED TO \$62,301 MILLION, REPRESENTING A GROWTH OF 40 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS WHEN COMPARED WITH MAY 1986, ACCORDING TO TRADE STATISTICS RELEASED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (FRIDAY).

COMPARED WITH MAY 1986, DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASED IN VALUE TERMS BY 33 PER CENT TO \$16,436 MILLION IN MAY 1987 WHILE RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY 49 PER CENT TO \$14,690 MILLION, BRINGING TOTAL EXPORTS IN MAY 1987 TO \$31,126 MILLION, WHICH WAS 40 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN MAY 1986.

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, IMPORTS INCREASED IN VALUE TERMS BY 39 PER CENT TO \$31,174 MILLION IN MAY 1987.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO ALL MAJOR MARKETS INCREASED IN VALUE TERMS BETWEEN MAY 1986 AND MAY 1987, SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH WAS RECORDED IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO JAPAN (+75 PER CENT), THE NETHERLANDS (+68 PER CENT), CHINA (+56 PER CENT), FRANCE (+49 PER CENT) AND THE UNITED KINGDOM (+41 PER CENT).

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM ALL MAJOR SUPPLIERS INCREASED, ESPECIALLY THOSE FROM THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (+82 PER CENT), SWITZERLAND (+56 PER CENT), CHINA (+47 PER CENT), SINGAPORE (+42 PER CENT), AND TAIWAN (+39 PER CENT).

RE-EXPORTS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, TAIWAN AND THE U.S.A. INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY IN VALUE TERMS BY 169 PER CENT, 104 PER CENT, 70 PER CENT, 58 PER CENT AND 45 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY. ON THE OTHER HAND, RE-EXPORTS TO INDONESIA DECREASED BY 9 PER CENT.

TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE IN JANUARY TO MAY 1987, AT \$274,961 MILLION, INCREASED BY 40 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1986. ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASED BY 32 PER CENT TO \$69,503 MILLION WHILE RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 51 PER CENT TO \$65,430 MILLION. THUS, THE VALUE TERMS BY 40 PER CENT TO \$134,932 MILLION. IMPORTS INCREASED IN VALUE TERMS BY 39 PER CENT TO \$140,029 MILLION.

COMPARED JANUARY TO MAY 1987 WITH THE SAME FIVE MONTHS IN 1986, DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO ALL MAJOR MARKETS INCREASED IN VALUE TERMS. THE MARKETS WITH THE FASTEST GROWTH IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCLUDED JAPAN (+72 PER CENT), CHINA (+70 PER CENT), THE NETHERLANDS (+68 PER CENT), FRANCE (+48 PER CENT), AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (+40 PER CENT). DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO HONG KONG'S LARGEST MARKET, THE U.S.A., GREW BY 15 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS.

IMPORTS IN JANUARY TO MAY 1987 FROM ALL MAJOR SUPPLIERS INCREASED IN VALUE TERMS WHEN COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1986. SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN IMPORTS FROM THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (+80 PER CENT), CHINA (+50 PER CENT), TAIWAN (+49 PER CENT), ITALY (+49 PER CENT) AND SWITZERLAND (+35 PER CENT).

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, RE-EXPORTS TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE U.S.A., THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND TAIWAN INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY IN VALUE TERMS BY 101 PER CENT, 99 PER CENT, 70 PER CENT, 65 PER CENT AND 56 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

ALL TRADE STATISTICS PRESENTED HERE ARE MEASURED AT CURRENT PRICES AND NO ACCOUNT HAS BEEN TAKEN OF THE CHANGES IN PRICES BETWEEN THE PERIODS OF COMPARISON, A SEPARATE ANALYSIS OF THE PRICE AND VOLUME MOVEMENTS OF EXTERNAL TRADE IN MAY 1987 WILL BE RELEASED IN EARLY AUGUST 1987.

THE CHANGES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO HONG KONG'S TEN MAJOR MARKETS ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

COMPARING THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1987 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1986, INCREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN VALUE TERMS WERE RECORDED IN ALL MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS. THE MORE NOTABLE ONES INCLUDE CLOTHING (BY \$4,512 MILLION OR 25 PER CENT); MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, INCLUDING MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS (BY \$2,508 MILLION OR 30 PER CENT); TEXTILES (BY \$2,471 MILLION OR 68 PER CENT); AS WELL AS TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$1,926 MILLION OR 54 PER CENT).

ON THE OTHER HAND, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT OTHER THAN ROAD VEHICLES (BY \$36 MILLION OR 45 PER CENT); AS WELL AS VEGETABLES AND FRUIT (BY \$28 MILLION OR 30 PER CENT).

TABLE 2 ILLUSTRATES THE CHANGES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION.

THE CHANGES IN IMPORTS FROM HONG KONG'S TEN MAJOR SUPPLIERS ARE SUMMARISED IN TABLE 3.

COMPARING THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1987 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1986, INCREASES IN IMPORTS IN VALUE TERMS WERE REGISTERED FOR TEXTILES (BY \$6,433 MILLION OR 41 PER CENT); ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$4,610 MILLION OR 57 PER CENT); CLOTHING (BY \$3,442 MILLION OR 53 PER CENT); AS WELL AS TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$3,255 MILLION OR 73 PER CENT). HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS (BY \$416 MILLION OR 13 PER CENT); AS WELL AS COAL, COKE AND BRIQUETTES (BY \$110 MILLION OR 13 PER CENT).

TABLE 4 ILLUSTRATES THE CHANGES IN IMPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION.

THE CHANGES IN RE-EXPORTS TO HONG KONG'S TEN MAJOR MARKETS ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 5.

COMPARING THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1987 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1986, INCREASES IN RE-EXPORTS IN VALUE TERMS WERE REGISTERED FOR TEXTILES (BY \$3,495 MILLION OR 49 PER CENT); CLOTHING (BY \$3,354 MILLION OR 78 PER CENT); MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, INCLUDING MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS (BY \$2,439 MILLION OR 79 PER CENT); AS WELL AS ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$2,063 MILLION OR 59 PER CENT). HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT OTHER THAN ROAD VEHICLES (BY \$344 MILLION OR 72 PER CENT); AS WELL AS COFFEE, TEA, COCOA, SPICES, AND MANUFACTURES THEREOF (BY \$138 MILLION OR 35 PER CENT).

TABLE 6 ILLUSTRATES THE CHANGES IN RE-EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION.

DETAILED STATISTICS ON TRADE VALUE BY COMMODITY AND BY COUNTRY ARE AVAILABLE IN TRADE STATISTICS REPORTS.

THE MAY 1987 ISSUE OF THE "HONG KONG TRADE STATISTICS SUMMARY" WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SALE AROUND JULY 20, 1987, AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT \$5.50 PER COPY.

A MORE COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, "HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE", WITH A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS IN MAY 1987 WILL BE AVAILABLE IN EARLY AUGUST AT \$15 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES REGARDING REGULAR SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THESE REPORTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT BASKERVILLE HOUSE, HONG KONG ON 5-214375 AND ENQUIRIES ON TRADE STATISTICS TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON 5-8234915.

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/TABLE 1: .....

TABLE 1: DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY TEN MAJOR MARKETS

MAJOR MARKET	JAN-MAY 1987 (HKD MN.)	JAN-MAY 87 OVER JAN-MAY 86 (%)	MAY 1987 (HKD MN.)	MAY 87 OVER MAY 86 (%)
U.S.A.	25,819	+15	6,539	+24
CHINA	10,109	+70	2,251	+56
F.R.OF GERMANY	5,326	+46	1,083	+31
U.K.	4,379	+29	1,129	+41
JAPAN	3,323	+72	785	+75
CANADA	1,952	+12	440	+21
NETHERLANDS	1,498	+68	305	+63
SINGAPORE	1,360	+33	320	+23
FRANCE	1,343	+48	335	+49
AUSTRALIA	1,326	+10	282	+19

TABLE 2: DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION

COMMODITY DIVISION	JAN-MAY 1987 (HKD MN.)	JAN-MAY 87 OVER JAN-MAY 86 (%)	MAY 1987 (HKD MN.)	MAY 87 OVER MAY 86 (%)
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	22,215	+25	5,545	+40
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS)	10,813	+30	2,556	+21
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	6,117	+68	1,131	+64

TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	5,484	+54	1,162	+26
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	5,462	+18	1,324	+21
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	5,430	+36	1,247	+39

TABLE 3: IMPORTS FROM TEN MAJOR SUPPLIERS

MAJOR SUPPLIER	JAN-MAY 1987 (HKD MN.)	JAN-MAY 87 OVER JAN-MAY 86 (%)	MAY 1987 (HKD MN.)	MAY 87 OVER MAY 86 (%)
CHINA	42,116	+50	9,646	+47
JAPAN	27,229	+29	6,162	+33
TAIWAN	12,512	+49	2,769	+39
U.S.A.	11,750	+32	2,436	+39
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	6,543	+80	1,535	+82
SINGAPORE	5,351	+23	1,116	+42
U.K.	4,455	+22	938	+10
F.R. OF GERMANY	3,863	+29	903	+33
SWITZERLAND	2,677	+35	723	+56
ITALY	2,350	+49	464	+32

/TABLE 4: .....

TABLE 4: IMPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION

COMMODITY DIVISION	JAN-MAY 1987 (HKD MN.)	JAN-MAY 87 OVER JAN-MAY 86 (%)	MAY 1987 (HKD MN.)	MAY 87 OVER MAY 86 (%)
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	22,133	+41	5,288	+37
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	12,750	+57	2,882	+44
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	9,962	+53	2,113	+46
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	7,723	+73	1,760	+75
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	7,678	+28	1,734	+39
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS)	7,377	+52	1,701	+43

TABLE 5: RE-EXPORTS BY TEN MAJOR MARKETS

MAJOR MARKET	JAN-MAY 1987 (HKD MN.)	JAN-MAY 87 OVER JAN-MAY 86 (%)	MAY 1987 (HKD MN.)	MAY 87 OVER MAY 86 (%)
CHINA	21,195	+48	4,683	+42
U.S.A.	12,430	+70	2,628	+45
TAIWAN	3,609	+56	804	+58

REPUBLIC OF KOREA	3,508	+65	822	+70
JAPAN	3,146	+34	696	+39
SINGAPORE	2,430	+19	508	+14
F.R. OF GERMANY	1,693	+101	421	+104
U.K.	1,385	+99	389	+169
MACAU	1,313	+27	291	+31
INDONESIA	1,011	+13	204	-9

TABLE 6: RE-EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION

COMMODITY DIVISION	JAN-MAY 1987 (HKD MN.)	JAN-MAY 87 OVER JAN-MAY 86 (%)	MAY 1987 (HKD MN.)	MAY 87 OVER MAY 86 (%)
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	10,647	+49	2,484	+48
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	7,629	+78	1,505	+46
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	5,551	+59	1,303	+60
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS)	5,510	+79	1,340	+63
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	3,909	+92	974	+99
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	3,117	+54	705	+64

## KEEN OVERSEAS INTEREST IN HK INSURANCE MARKET

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THE REGISTRAR GENERAL, MR NOEL GLEESON, SAID TODAY THAT DURING THE FIRST HALF-YEAR OF 1987 (FROM JANUARY 1 TO JUNE 30), SIX NEW COMPANIES, FOUR OF WHICH WERE OVERSEAS COMPANIES AND TWO LOCAL, WERE AUTHORISED TO CARRY ON INSURANCE BUSINESS AND 12 EXISTING INSURERS HAD THEIR AUTHORISATION WITHDRAWN FOLLOWING THE CESSATION AND ORDERLY RUN-OFF OF THEIR INSURANCE BUSINESS IN HONG KONG.

AS AT JUNE 30, 1987 THERE WERE 282 AUTHORISED INSURERS OPERATING IN HONG KONG. OF THESE, 127 WERE INCORPORATED IN HONG KONG. THE REMAINING 155 INSURERS CAME FROM 28 COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE UNITED KINGDOM (45), THE UNITED STATES (28), BERMUDA (11), JAPAN (8), SINGAPORE (7), SWITZERLAND (7), CANADA (6) AND FRANCE (5).

AS AT JUNE 30, 1987, THERE WERE 14 PENDING APPLICATIONS FOR AUTHORISATION FROM NEW INSURERS. THE KEEN INTEREST OF OVERSEAS INSURERS IN THE HONG KONG INSURANCE MARKET WAS AGAIN DEMONSTRATED BY THE FACT THAT 12 OF THE 14 PENDING APPLICATIONS WERE MADE BY OVERSEAS INSURANCE COMPANIES.

MR GLEESON INDICATED THAT ALL NEW APPLICATIONS WERE SUBJECT TO VERY CAREFUL SCRUTINY BY THE INSURANCE AUTHORITY TO ENSURE THAT ONLY INSURERS OF GOOD REPUTATION WHO MEET ALL THE CRITERIA OF THE INSURANCE COMPANIES ORDINANCE WERE ADMITTED.

THE PROCESSING OF APPLICATIONS FOR AUTHORISATION WAS THEREFORE TIME CONSUMING, AND THE NUMBER OF NEW AUTHORISATIONS IN THE FORTHCOMING SIX MONTHS WOULD NOT BE GREAT.

MR GLEESON ALSO SAID THAT, DURING THE FIRST HALF-YEAR, HE HAD EXERCISED HIS POWERS OF INTERVENTION AS INSURANCE AUTHORITY IN RESPECT OF 12 INSURERS FOR THE BETTER PROTECTION OF POLICY HOLDERS, INCLUDING THE PETITION FOR THE WINDING-UP OF ONE INSURANCE COMPANY ENGAGED MAINLY IN FIRE AND MARINE BUSINESS. THE PETITION IN THAT CASE WAS DUE TO BE HEARD IN THE HIGH COURT ON JULY 27, 1987.

ALTHOUGH THE INSURANCE COMPANIES ORDINANCE HAD BEEN FOUND TO BE GENERALLY EFFECTIVE IN PROVIDING A SUITABLE LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK FOR THE REGULATION OF INSURANCE COMPANIES CARRYING ON BUSINESS IN HONG KONG, IT WAS UNDER CONTINUOUS REVIEW TO SEE IF LEGISLATIVE CHANGES WERE NECESSARY FOR THE BETTER PROTECTION OF POLICY HOLDERS AND/OR TO PROVIDE MORE FLEXIBILITY TO INSURERS IN COMPLYING WITH STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS.

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FRIDAY, JULY 10, 1987

- 9 -

ONE SUCH CHANGE WAS INTRODUCED BY THE INSURANCE COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE NO. 4 OF 1987, WHICH WAS ENACTED ON JANUARY 16. THAT AMENDMENT ORDINANCE INTRODUCED, INTER ALIA, A NEW SECTION 22A TO ENABLE OVERSEAS INSURERS WHO CANNOT COMPLY WITH THE EXISTING REQUIREMENT TO SEPARATE THE ASSETS AND LIABILITIES IN RESPECT OF THEIR WORLD-WIDE LONG TERM BUSINESS TO APPLY TO THE INSURANCE AUTHORITY FOR AUTHORISATION TO EFFECT THE SEPARATION IN RESPECT OF THEIR HONG KONG BUSINESS ONLY.

ANOTHER LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENT WAS THE INSURANCE COMPANIES (AMENDMENT)(NO. 2) BILL 1987, GAZETTED ON JUNE 12, 1987. THE BILL WAS ENACTED ON JULY 3 AND IT NOW GIVES THE INSURANCE AUTHORITY WIDER DISCRETIONARY POWER TO REFUSE APPLICATIONS FOR AUTHORISATION WHILE PROVIDING AN AVENUE OF APPEAL AGAINST ANY SUCH REFUSAL.

IN GENERAL, MR GLEESON SAID, THE INSURANCE INDUSTRY IN HONG KONG CONTINUES TO MAINTAIN STEADY GROWTH WITH AN INCREASING VOLUME OF PREMIUM INCOME IN MANY TYPES OF INSURANCE BUSINESS, ESPECIALLY LIFE INSURANCE. PENSION FUND MANAGEMENT BUSINESS OPERATED BY INSURANCE COMPANIES HAS ALSO EXPERIENCED SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH.

THE INCREASING VOLUME OF INSURANCE BUSINESS AND THE NUMBER OF OVERSEAS COMPANIES COMING TO THE MARKET INDICATED CONTINUING CONFIDENCE IN HONG KONG'S FUTURE AND ITS GROWING IMPORTANCE AS A CENTRE OF INSURANCE IN THE REGION.

ALONG WITH THE INCREASING NUMBER OF INSURANCE COMPANIES, AND NOTWITHSTANDING THE INCREASING VOLUME OF INSURANCE BUSINESS, THERE WAS KEEN COMPETITION FOR BUSINESS AMONG THE INSURANCE COMPANIES.

IF SUCH COMPETITION INTENSIFIES WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF PRUDENT UNDERWRITING, IT COULD HAVE AN ADVERSE EFFECT ON THE FINANCIAL STABILITY OF SOME INSURANCE COMPANIES. THE POSITION WAS BEING CLOSELY MONITORED BY THE INSURANCE AUTHORITY.

THE INSURANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE, UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE SECRETARY FOR MONETARY AFFAIRS, HAD CONTINUED ITS DELIBERATIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE INSURANCE COMPANIES ORDINANCE, AND THE INSURANCE AUTHORITY WAS IN CONSULTATION FROM TIME TO TIME WITH THE INSURANCE COUNCIL OF HONG KONG, THE LIFE INSURANCE COUNCIL, AND OTHER INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS ON MATTERS OF MUTUAL CONCERN.

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FRIDAY, JULY 10, 1987

- 10 -

LABORATORY ACCREDITATION SCHEME EXPANDED

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THE COMPETENCE OF LABORATORIES INVOLVED IN TESTING CONCRETE AND REINFORCING STEEL IN HONG KONG CAN NOW BE ASSESSED INDEPENDENTLY UNDER THE HONG KONG LABORATORY ACCREDITATION SCHEME (HOKLAS).

AS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY), THE SCHEME HAS BEEN EXPANDED WITH EFFECT FROM JUNE 1 TO INCLUDE A CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS COMMODITY GROUP.

THE EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR OF HOKLAS, MR ERNIE EVANS, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT AT PRESENT THIS GROUP ONLY CATERS FOR CONCRETE AND REINFORCING STEEL TESTING BUT AT A LATER STAGE IT MAY ALSO INCLUDE OTHER MATERIALS.

MR EVANS, AN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT, IS THE CO-ORDINATOR OF ALL ACCREDITATION ACTIVITIES.

HOKLAS IS A VOLUNTARY SCHEME PROVIDING FOR THE ASSESSMENT AND ACCREDITATION OF LABORATORIES IN HONG KONG. LABORATORIES WHICH FULFIL ALL THE CRITERIA ARE ACCEPTED FOR ACCREDITATION AND ARE ELIGIBLE TO USE THE HOKLAS ENDORSEMENT ON THEIR TEST REPORTS.

LABORATORIES TESTING PRODUCTS FOR EXPORT HAVE THE ADVANTAGE THAT HOKLAS ENDORSED CERTIFICATES ISSUED BY THEM MAY BE ACCEPTED BY OVERSEAS AUTHORITIES, THEREBY OBTAINING THE NEED FOR FURTHER TESTING OF HONG KONG PRODUCTS IN THE COUNTRY OF IMPORT.

PREVIOUSLY, HOKLAS ONLY COVERED ASSESSMENTS IN FIVE COMMODITY GROUPS, NAMELY: ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS, TEXTILES AND GARMENTS, TOYS, FOOD PRODUCTS AND CALIBRATION SERVICES.

WHEN HOKLAS WAS IMPLEMENTED IN MAY 1985 UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT WHOSE STAFF PROVIDE THE EXECUTIVE, PROFESSIONAL AND SECRETARIAL FUNCTIONS, THE ACCREDITATION OF LABORATORIES SERVING COMMODITY GROUPS OTHER THAN THE FIVE AS MENTIONED ABOVE WAS ALSO CONSIDERED. IN VIEW OF THE LARGE VOLUME OF CONCRETE TESTING IN HONG KONG AND ITS SIGNIFICANCE TO THE LOCAL CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY THE TESTING OF BUILDING MATERIALS IS BEING INTRODUCED.

TO PREPARE FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE SCHEME, THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF TESTING AUTHORITIES (NATA) OF AUSTRALIA HAS BEEN RETAINED AS CONSULTANTS TO HOKLAS, IN ORDER TO ADVISE AND ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN THE ASSESSMENT OF SOME 20 CONCRETE AND REINFORCING STEEL TESTING LABORATORIES.

INITIALLY, LOCAL SPECIALIST ASSESSORS WILL WORK ALONGSIDE THOSE PROVIDED BY NATA TO CARRY OUT THE LABORATORY ASSESSMENT WORK. AT A LATER STAGE IN THE PROGRAMME THE LOCAL ASSESSORS WILL WORK INDEPENDENTLY.

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FRIDAY, JULY 10, 1987

- 11 -

AS PART OF THE INITIAL PROGRAMME OF WORK HOKLAS OFFICIALS ACCOMPANIED BY NATA'S CONCRETE SPECIALISTS VISITED A NUMBER OF HONG KONG'S LEADING CONCRETE TESTING LABORATORIES LAST YEAR. THESE LABORATORIES HAVE BEEN ALERTED TO THE OPERATIONAL AREAS IN NEED OF IMPROVEMENT UPON WHICH EVENTUAL ACCREDITATION MAY DEPEND.

CRITERIA SET BY HOKLAS REQUIRES LABORATORIES SEEKING ACCREDITATION TO HAVE A SYSTEMATIC APPROACH TO THE CALIBRATION OF THEIR MEASURING DEVICES. THEY ARE THEREFORE REQUIRED TO SEND THEIR INSTRUMENTS TO THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT STANDARDS AND CALIBRATION LABORATORY FOR PERIODIC CALIBRATION.

LIKewise LABORATORIES WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCREDITED UNDER HOKLAS FOR CONCRETE AND REINFORCING STEEL TESTING WILL BE REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE IN PERIODIC PROFICIENCY TESTING PROGRAMMES AS A MEANS OF MONITORING THEIR PERFORMANCE.

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#### SEMINARS ON GREEN PAPER

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THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD WILL ORGANISE A SERIES OF SEMINARS AND HOLD A SPECIAL OPEN-AIR MEET-THE-PUBLIC SESSION TO ENCOURAGE RESIDENTS TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THE GREEN PAPER ON THE REVIEW OF DEVELOPMENTS IN REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT.

ORGANISED UNDER THE BOARD'S CIVIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN, SEMINARS WILL BE HELD IN THE DISTRICT'S SIX CONSTITUENCIES FROM EARLY AUGUST TO DISCUSS THE DOCUMENT.

THE SIX AREA COMMITTEES OF SOUTHERN DISTRICT WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE GREEN PAPER AT THEIR MEETINGS.

AREA COMMITTEES MEMBERS WILL ALSO BE MOBILISED TO VISIT MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND OWNERS' CORPORATIONS AND COLLECT RESIDENTS' VIEWS ON THE GREEN PAPER.

A ROUND-UP SEMINAR WILL THEN BE HELD IN MID-SEPTEMBER TO CONSOLIDATE THE VIEWS COLLECTED.

THE DISTRICT BOARD WILL HOLD A SPECIAL OPEN-AIR MEET-THE-PUBLIC SESSION SO THAT RESIDENTS CAN EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS TO DB MEMBERS.

/THE PUBLIC .....

FRIDAY, JULY 10, 1987

- 12 -

THE PUBLIC VIEWS COLLECTED IN THE SEMINARS AND THE MEET-THE-PUBLIC SESSION WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE SURVEY OFFICE.

THE DISTRICT BOARD EARLIER SENT OUT MORE THAN 4,000 COPIES OF A POSTAGE-FREE POSTGRAMME TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS INVITING RESIDENTS TO SEND IN THEIR VIEWS ON THE GREEN PAPER.

ANOTHER 5,000 COPIES OF THE POSTGRAMMES ARE AVAILABLE IN MORE THAN 70 DISTRIBUTION OUTLETS THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT, INCLUDING VARIOUS GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND PRIVATE BUSINESS PREMISES.

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TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR ELDERLY SERVICES COMMITTEE AGREED

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THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE ON SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY HELD ITS FIRST MEETING TODAY (FRIDAY) UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE ACTING DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MISS LOLLY CHIU.

AT THE MEETING, MEMBERS ENDORSED THE FOLLOWING TERMS OF REFERENCE:

- (A) TO REVIEW POLICY ON SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY WITH REFERENCE TO THE PROGRAMME PLAN TAKING INTO ACCOUNT CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS;
- (B) TO MONITOR PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY IN HONG KONG AND TO DISCUSS ANY PROBLEMS ARISING THEREFROM;
- (C) TO CO-ORDINATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY IN GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND WELFARE AGENCIES; AND
- (D) TO MAKE PERIODIC REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE AND THE SOCIAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AS APPROPRIATE.

THE COMMITTEE COMPRISES REPRESENTATIVES OF THE HEALTH AND WELFARE BRANCH, SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, HOUSING DEPARTMENT, MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT, HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE AND WELFARE AGENCIES OPERATING ELDERLY SERVICES.

A PROGRAMME OF WORK HAS ALSO BEEN AGREED. THE COMMITTEE WILL REVIEW THE VARIOUS SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY INCLUDING RESIDENTIAL CARE, ACCOMMODATION, MEDICAL AND HEALTH CARE, COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES, TRANSPORT AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION, ETC. IT IS PLANNED THAT THE REVIEW WILL BE COMPLETED WITHIN ONE YEAR.

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/13 .....

FRIDAY, JULY 10, 1987

- 13 -

NEW MATERNITY LEGISLATION BECOMES EFFECTIVE

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THE LEGISLATION WHICH GIVES PREGNANT WORKERS GREATER PROTECTION FROM DISMISSAL DUE SOLELY TO PREGNANCY BECOMES EFFECTIVE TODAY (FRIDAY).

A NOTICE TO THIS EFFECT WAS PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE.

THE LEGISLATION PROVIDES THAT A FEMALE EMPLOYEE WHO HAS WORKED FOR THE SAME EMPLOYER UNDER A CONTINUOUS CONTRACT FOR A PERIOD OF NOT LESS THAN 26 WEEKS MAY SERVE NOTICE OF HER INTENTION TO TAKE MATERNITY LEAVE ONCE HER PREGNANCY HAS BEEN CERTIFIED BY A MEDICAL PRACTITIONER.

SUCH MATERNITY LEAVE NORMALLY BEGINS FOUR WEEKS BEFORE THE EXPECTED DATE OF CONFINEMENT AND ENDS SIX WEEKS AFTER THE ACTUAL DATE OF CONFINEMENT.

HOWEVER, SHE IS REQUIRED TO INFORM HER EMPLOYER AS SOON AS IS PRACTICABLE IF HER PREGNANCY HAS CEASED OTHERWISE THAN BY REASON OF DELIVERY OF A CHILD.

THE LAW ALSO PROHIBITS A FEMALE WORKER TO GIVE NOTICE OF RESIGNATION DURING HER MATERNITY LEAVE JUST AS AN EMPLOYER IS NOT ALLOWED TO TERMINATE HER EMPLOYMENT DURING THIS PERIOD.

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FOURTH RABIES CASE CONFIRMED

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ANOTHER INDIGENOUS CANINE RABIES CASE WAS CONFIRMED TODAY (FRIDAY), BRINGING TO FOUR THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RABIES CASES SO FAR THIS YEAR.

THE INCIDENT TOOK PLACE LAST SUNDAY (JULY 5) WHEN A 49-YEAR-OLD CHINESE WOMAN CHOW CHAU-MUI, WAS BITTEN BY A THREE-MONTH-OLD ROTTWEILER PUPPY OWNED BY HER SON, IN SHUI LAU TIN VILLAGE, SITUATED JUST ABOUT ONE KILOMETRE AWAY FROM LAI UK TSUEN WHERE THE LAST OUTBREAK WAS UNCOVERED.

ANNOUNCING THE LATEST RABIES CASE, THE SENIOR VETERINARY OFFICER OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, DR NORMAN CHENG, SAID THAT THE CASE OCCURRED ON THE SAME DAY AS THE LAST OUTBREAK BUT DIFFERENT ANIMALS WERE INVOLVED.

/"AFTER THE .....

FRIDAY, JULY 10, 1987

- 14 -

"AFTER THE BITING INCIDENT, THE BITER ANIMAL WAS IMMEDIATELY TAKEN TO THE SHEK WU HUI GOVERNMENT KENNEL FOR OBSERVATION BUT IT DIED THREE DAYS LATER.

"LABORATORY EXAMINATION OF THE CARCASS CONDUCTED BY THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT CONFIRMED THIS AFTERNOON THAT IT WAS A RABID ANIMAL," DR CHENG SAID.

HE SAID STRINGENT RABIES CONTROL MEASURES INCLUDING MASSIVE STRAY SWEEPING OPERATIONS HAD BEEN STEPPED UP WITHIN THE AREA SINCE THE OUTBREAK AT SHEK TAU WAI ON JUNE 19 AND WERE CONTINUING.

"UP TO YESTERDAY, A TOTAL OF 659 STRAY DOGS AND 22 CATS HAD BEEN ROUNDED UP AND PUT DOWN," HE SAID.

THIS IS THE 41ST RABIES CASE SINCE THE RESURGENCE OF THE DISEASE IN THE TERRITORY IN OCTOBER 1980.

DR CHENG SAID THAT AS SHUI LAU TIN IS WITHIN THE EXISTING RABIES INFECTED AREA OF KAM TIN AND PAT HEUNG, IT WAS NOT CONSIDERED NECESSARY TO EXTEND THE RABIES INFECTED AREA BOUNDARIES.

HOWEVER, HE APPEALED TO THE PUBLIC, PARTICULARLY THOSE IN THE RABIES INFECTED AREAS FOR THEIR FULL CO-OPERATION TO SURRENDER UNINOCULATED AND UNWANTED DOGS TO THE DEPARTMENT AND TO REPORT STRAYS AS AND WHEN THEY ARE SIGHTED.

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SCS SEES AFD'S WORK  
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THE SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE, MR HARNAM GREWAL, THIS (FRIDAY) MORNING VISITED THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT TO ACQUAINT HIMSELF WITH THE VARIOUS FACETS OF THE DEPARTMENT'S WORK.

ON ARRIVAL AT THE DEPARTMENT'S HEADQUARTERS, HE WAS MET BY THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE, AND THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DR THOMAS YIP.

MR GREWAL WAS THEN TAKEN ON A TOUR OF THE DEPARTMENT'S FOUR OPERATIONAL BRANCHES RESPONSIBLE FOR DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION; MARKETING AND FISHERIES; AGRICULTURE, AND CONSERVATION AND COUNTRY PARKS MANAGEMENT.

/MR GREWAL .....

FRIDAY, JULY 10, 1987

- 15 -

MR GREWAL WAS INTRODUCED TO THE ASSISTANT DIRECTORS AND SENIOR STAFF OF THE RESPECTIVE BRANCHES AND WAS BRIEFED ON A WIDE RANGE OF DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES TO ASSIST THE FARMING AND FISHING INDUSTRIES TO ACHIEVE GREATER PRODUCTIVITY THROUGH INCREASED TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC EFFICIENCY, TO PROVIDE ORDERLY AND EFFICIENT WHOLESALE MARKETING OF FRESH FOOD, AND TO DEVELOP COUNTRY PARKS FACILITIES TO MEET THE INCREASING NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY.

DURING THE VISIT, MR GREWAL SPOKE WITH STAFF IN THE GENERAL AND PERSONNEL REGISTRIES AND THE ACCOUNTS SECTIONS, AND LOOKED AT THEIR WORKING ARRANGEMENTS.

HE CONCLUDED HIS VISIT WITH A MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DEPARTMENT'S STAFF COMMITTEES AND ASSOCIATIONS FOR AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON STAFFING MATTERS.

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CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION RECEIVED

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A SOUVENIR HAS BEEN SENT BY THE CHINESE MINISTRY OF FORESTRY TO THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT IN APPRECIATION OF THE DONATION OF \$5 MILLION OF RELIEF SUPPLIES FOR VICTIMS OF THE RECENT FOREST FIRE DISASTER IN NORTHEAST CHINA.

THE CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION, BOUND IN CHINESE BROCADE, ARRIVED EARLY THIS MONTH AND CARRIED THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE:

"THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT YOU HAVE GENEROUSLY DONATED GOODS WORTH OF HK\$5 MILLION TO SUPPORT THE SUPPRESSION OF THE HUGE FOREST FIRES WHICH BROKE OUT IN DAXING'ANLING, NORTHEAST OF CHINA AND THE REHABILITATION OF THE LIVELIHOOD OF THE VICTIMS."

THREE CONSIGNMENTS OF RELIEF ARTICLES, COMPRISING RICE, CANNED MEAT, BISCUITS, BLANKETS, DISPOSABLE SYRINGES, HOSPITAL AIR MATTRESSES, MEDICINE AND BLEACHING AGENT HAD BEEN SENT TO COLLECTION POINTS OF THE PROJECT FOR RECEIVING FOREST DISASTER RELIEF UNDER THE MINISTRY OF FORESTRY BY AIR AND RAILWAY LAST MONTH.

THIS FOLLOWED APPROVAL FOR \$5 MILLION OF RELIEF FUNDS BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE IN RESPONSE TO AN APPEAL BY THE CHINESE MINISTRY OF FORESTRY TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO HELP THE 50,000 MADE HOMELESS BY THE FIRES AND THE THOUSANDS INJURED IN COMBATTING THE FIRES.

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FRIDAY, JULY 10, 1987

- 16 -

VILLAGE BUILDINGS, STRUCTURES DECLARED DANGEROUS

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY TODAY (FRIDAY) DECLARED 17 BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES IN A WONG TAI SIN VILLAGE TO BE IN A DANGEROUS CONDITION OR LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS.

THOSE IN DANGEROUS CONDITION ARE NOS. 1, 37, 48, 53, 54, 61, 62, 63, 64, 73 AND 73A, CHUK YUEN UNITED VILLAGE, WHILE THE NOS. OF THOSE LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS ARE 8, 9, 49, 52, 54B, 55 AND 107B.

THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING SURVEYOR SAID SOME OF THE BUILDINGS WERE ONE OR TWO-STORY VILLAGE-TYPE BUILDINGS AND SOME WERE TEMPORARY STRUCTURES ERECTED WITH SHORT-LIFE MATERIALS AND OF FLIMSY CONSTRUCTION.

"THE BUILDINGS ARE GENERALLY IN AN ADVANCED STAGE OF DILAPIDATION AND DETERIORATION," HE SAID.

APART FROM THE TEMPORARY STRUCTURES, THERE WERE NUMEROUS CRACKS ON THE WALLS, SOME OF WHICH WERE CONSTRUCTED OF STONE RUBBLE, BRICKS AND BLOCKS OF EARTH, WITH A NUMBER OF OPEN JOINTS OR WHOLLY PLAIN MUD WITH AREAS OF EROSION.

WHERE THE BUILDINGS WERE PARTIALLY CONSTRUCTED OF REINFORCED CONCRETE, EXTENSIVE AREAS OF SPALLED CONCRETE WERE FOUND TO THE CEILINGS AND THE UNDERSIDE OF BALCONIES, AND ALSO TO BEAMS AND LINTELS.

WHERE THE FLOORS AND ROOFS WERE CONSTRUCTED OF TIMBER, SIGNS OF TIMBER DECAY AND TERMITE ATTACK WERE COMMON.

SOME OF THE BUILDINGS HAD INADEQUATE FIRE ESCAPES.

HE SAID A PORTION OF THE ROOF AT THE REAR OF NO. 63 COLLAPSED SOME TIME AGO AND A PARTIAL COLLAPSE OF A SIDE WALL OF NO. 56 HAD RENDERED NO. 55 LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS.

"ALL THESE BUILDINGS ARE CONSIDERED TO HAVE REACHED THE END OF THEIR USEFUL LIFE AND ARE BEYOND REASONABLE REPAIR," HE SAID,

NOTICES OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR CLOSURE ORDERS IN HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT IN AUGUST ON ALL BUILDINGS EXCEPT NOS. 1, 37, 48, 54 AND 73A, WHICH ARE ON GOVERNMENT LAND, WERE POSTED THIS MORNING.

IN THESE OTHER CASES CROWN LAND NOTICES WILL BE GIVEN.

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FRIDAY, JULY 10, 1987

- 17 -

RECLAMATION PROPOSED AT WEST TSING YI

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THE GOVERNMENT IS CONSIDERING GRANTING HONG KONG UNITED DOCKYARD AND THE SHELL COMPANY OF HONG KONG LIMITED ABOUT 41.35 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEA BED ON TSING YI FOR RECLAMATION PURPOSES.

THE PROPOSED RECLAMATION, ON THE WEST COAST OF THE ISLAND, IS TO PROVIDE LAND FOR SHIPBUILDING, SHIP REPAIRING, HEAVY ENGINEERING, CONTAINER RELATED USES, BULK STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND PETROCHEMICALS, TOGETHER WITH CONSTRUCTION OF PIERS.

THE AFFECTED AREA, SUBJECT TO GOVERNMENT'S AGREEMENT TO GRANT THE LEASES TO THE TWO COMPANIES, IS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HE HAS AN INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEA-BED MAY SUBMIT A WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS BEFORE SEPTEMBER 9.

THE NOTICE AND A RELATED PLAN CAN BE SEEN ON NOTICE BOARDS POSTED NEAR THE SITE.

THE PLAN CAN ALSO BE VIEWED AT THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT'S SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE ON THE FIFTH FLOOR OF MURRAY BUILDING IN CENTRAL, AND AT KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICE ON THE 10TH FLOOR OF KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING IN KWAI CHUNG.

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RESITE HOUSES TO BE BUILT IN TAI PO

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FORTY-TWO THREE-STORY VILLAGE RESITE HOUSES ARE TO BE BUILT AT KAN SHEK SUN TSUEN, TAI PO, BY THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

THEY ARE THE THIRD AND LAST STAGE OF A DEVELOPMENT CARRIED OUT BY THE AUTHORITIES IN THE AREA TO HOUSE RESIDENTS AFFECTED BY CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC HOUSING PROJECTS AND ASSOCIATED FACILITIES NEAR TAI PO HUI RAILWAY STATION.

THE FIRST AND SECOND STAGES, COMPRISING A TOTAL OF 52 UNITS, WERE BUILT IN 1983 AND 1985.

TENDERS ARE BEING INVITED TO CARRY OUT THE WORK WHICH WILL START NEXT MONTH AND BE COMPLETED IN JULY NEXT YEAR.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING TENDERS IS NOON ON JULY 31.

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BUILDING MANAGEMENT CAMPAIGN STARTS TOMORROW

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AN EXHIBITION FOCUSING ON VARIOUS ASPECTS OF PRIVATE MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS MANAGEMENT WILL BE LAUNCHED BY THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT OFFICE TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AT THE NEW WORLD CENTRE.

THE EVENT WILL MARK THE OPENING OF THE DISTRICT'S PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN ON BUILDING MANAGEMENT.

"THE MONTH-LONG CAMPAIGN, OFFERING A SERIES OF EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES, AIMS AT ENHANCING RESIDENTS' KNOWLEDGE OF AND PARTICIPATION IN BUILDING MANAGEMENT," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CAMPAIGN'S ORGANISING COMMITTEE SAID.

AT TOMORROW'S EXHIBITION, 30 PANELS DISPLAYING PHOTOGRAPHS, DIAGRAMS AND ILLUSTRATIONS ON GENERAL INFORMATION OF BUILDINGS AND THE MANAGEMENT PROCESS WILL BE SET UP.

IN ADDITION, LEAFLETS SUMMARISING THE MAIN THEMES OF THE EXHIBITION WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO PARTICIPANTS.

OTHER ACTIVITIES DURING THE CAMPAIGN INCLUDE TWO SEMINARS AND A SYMPOSIUM TO ALLOW RESIDENTS, ACADEMICS AND PROFESSIONALS TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON MATTERS RELATING TO BUILDING MANAGEMENT.

OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING OF THE CAMPAIGN TOMORROW WILL BE ACTING SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR T.H. CHAU.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING OF THE CAMPAIGN TO BE HELD AT 2.15 PM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AT THE NEW WORLD CENTRE, TSIM SHA TSUI. INFORMATION OFFICER, MISS BRENDA CHAN, WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST THE MEDIA.

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RECRUITMENT DRIVE FOR FIREMEN STARTS

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THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL LAUNCH A THREE-WEEK RECRUITMENT EXERCISE FOR FIREMEN AND STATION OFFICERS STARTING TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

"WE ARE OFFERING A CAREER OF VARIETY, INTEREST AND OPPORTUNITY TO YOUNG PEOPLE WHO WISH TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

/APPLICANTS SHOULD .....

FRIDAY, JULY 10, 1987

- 19 -

APPLICANTS SHOULD HAVE GOOD PHYSIQUE WITH NORMAL EYESIGHT AND BE UNDER 30 YEARS OF AGE. ALL RECRUITS WILL BE TRAINED FOR GENERAL FIRE FIGHTING AND RESCUE WORK, WHILE STATION OFFICERS WILL ALSO BE REQUIRED TO PERFORM SUPERVISORY AND ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES.

THE MINIMUM ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION REQUIRED FOR FIREMEN IS FORM THREE LEVEL AND APPLICANTS FOR STATION OFFICER MUST POSSESS AT LEAST FIVE SUBJECTS INCLUDING ENGLISH LANGUAGE (SYLLABUS B) AT GRADE E OR ABOVE IN THE HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION.

THE STARTING SALARY FOR FIREMAN VARIES FROM \$3,895 TO \$4,290 DEPENDING ON QUALIFICATIONS AND RISES TO A MAXIMUM OF \$5,745. FOR STATION OFFICER, THE STARTING SALARY VARIES FROM \$7,560 TO \$9,355, AGAIN DEPENDING ON QUALIFICATIONS AND THE MAXIMUM SALARY IS \$16,625.

ON JOINING THE SERVICE, A RECRUIT WILL BE PUT ON PROBATION FOR THREE YEARS. HE WILL BE CONFIRMED TO THE PERMANENT AND PENSIONABLE ESTABLISHMENT AFTER HE HAS CARRIED OUT HIS DUTIES SATISFACTORILY AND PASSED THE REQUIRED EXAMINATIONS.

APPLICATION FORMS (GF 340) MAY BE OBTAINED FROM DISTRICT OFFICES AND SHOULD BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED TO THE RECRUITMENT UNIT, FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, 1 HONG CHONG ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI.

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#### ROAD USERS' CODE PUBLISHED

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THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, MR JAMES SO, AND THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR (TRAFFIC), ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE, MR GEOFFREY ROPER, WILL GIVE A PRESS CONFERENCE ON THE NEWLY-PUBLISHED ROAD USERS' CODE ON TUESDAY (JULY 14) AFTERNOON.

THE CODE, SET TO REPLACE THE HIGHWAY CODE, PROVIDES COMPREHENSIVE GUIDANCE FOR MOTORISTS AND PEDESTRIANS.

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#### NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRESS CONFERENCE TO BE HELD AT THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS CONFERENCE ROOM AT 28/F, HIGH BLOCK, QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 66 QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG AT 3 PM ON JULY 14 (TUESDAY).

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FRIDAY, JULY 10, 1987

- 20 -

COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB TO CELEBRATE 10TH ANNIVERSARY

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THE COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB (CYC) WILL CELEBRATE ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR WITH PAGEANTRY AND MORE AND BETTER SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY.

AS A CURTAIN-RAISER OF THE CELEBRATIONS, 24 OUTSTANDING CYC MEMBERS HAVE BEEN AWARDED A SEVEN-DAY TRIP UNDER A MERIT AWARD SCHEME TO SINGAPORE TO PROMOTE THE SPIRIT OF CYC AND TO ENRICH THEIR EXPERIENCE IN COMMUNITY WORK.

THE DELEGATION, WHICH IS DUE TO LEAVE ON MONDAY, WAS PRESENTED THE COLOURS OF CYC BY THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR Y.T. LI TODAY (FRIDAY).

THEY ALSO RECEIVED THEIR AIR TICKETS FROM MR T.P. LAW OF THE LAW'S FOUNDATION WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED LAST YEAR PRIMARILY TO PROMOTE CYC ACTIVITIES.

THE OVERSEAS TRIP PRECEDES THE CYC 10TH ANNIVERSARY CAMP NEXT MONTH. ABOUT 700 CYC MEMBERS WILL SHARE THEIR CAMARADERIE IN A FOUR-DAY CAMP AT WU KAI SHA.

UNDER A NEW SLOGAN SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS, "10 YEARS DILIGENT CULTIVATION TO UPHOLD THE CYC SPIRIT", A TERRITORY-WIDE RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN WILL BE LAUNCHED IN THE NEXT SCHOOL YEAR TO ENLIST MORE STUDENTS INTO THE 200,000 STRONG BRIGADE.

THE CELEBRATIONS WILL REACH A CLIMAX WHEN 10,000 CYC MEMBERS CONVERGE AT THE COLISEUM ON NOVEMBER 20 FOR ITS ANNUAL PARADE WITH POMP AND COLOUR.

A SPOKESMAN FOR CYC SAID: "WE HAVE LINED UP A SPECTACULAR PARADE WITH MARCHING BANDS AND A TELESCREEN PRESENTATION OF CYC'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE PAST 10 YEARS."

TO MARK THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY, PLANS ARE IN HAND TO PROVIDE CYC WITH A PERMANENT HOME AT SHAM SHUI PO TO PROMOTE ITS ACTIVITIES.

SUPERVISORS AND LEADERS OF CYC WILL ALSO BE TAKEN CARE OF IN A NEW AWARD SCHEME TO BE LAUNCHED LATER THIS YEAR IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR SERVICES AND CONTRIBUTIONS.

IN LINE WITH THE CYC SPIRIT OF SERVING THE COMMUNITY, ELDERLY PEOPLE FROM THE 19 CYC DISTRICTS WILL BE TREATED TO A DAY OF FUNDS AND GAMES TO BE GIVEN BY CYC MEMBERS AROUND CHRISTMAS.

CYC HAS COME A LONG WAY SINCE IT WAS INAUGURATED 10 YEARS AGO WITH THE AIM TO MOBILISE SCHOOL CHILDREN TO PROMOTE THE CLEAN HONG KONG CAMPAIGN. ITS MEMBERSHIP HAS GROWN FROM A MODEST START OF 20,000 TO 205,800 TODAY.

/UNDER THE .....

FRIDAY, JULY 10, 1987

- 21 -

UNDER THE MOTTO "IN SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY", CYC MEMBERS HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO EVERY MAJOR CAMPAIGN FOR THE BETTERMENT OF HONG KONG.

APART FROM THEIR ON-GOING INVOLVEMENT IN THE CLEAN HONG KONG CAMPAIGN, CYC MEMBERS HAVE ALSO TAKEN PART IN COUNTRYSIDE CONSERVATION EXERCISES STAGED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, CULTURAL AND AMENITY ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY THE URBAN AND REGIONAL COUNCILS, AND YOUTH ACTIVITIES SPONSORED BY LEADING TRADE AND BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS, AS WELL AS CONSUMER EDUCATION PROGRAMMES OF THE CONSUMER COUNCIL.

THEY HAVE ALSO TAKEN PART IN FUND RAISING EXERCISES ORGANISED BY THE COMMUNITY CHEST. LAST YEAR, CYC RAISED MORE THAN \$1 MILLION FOR THE COMMUNITY CHEST.

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#### SUMMER FUN FOR YOUTHS IN NORTH DISTRICT

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YOUNG PEOPLE IN NORTH DISTRICT WILL BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN A SERIES OF RECREATIONAL, EDUCATIONAL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES THIS SUMMER.

THE NORTH DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME, FEATURING 64 EVENTS ORGANISED BY 31 LOCAL ORGANISATIONS, WILL BE LAUNCHED FROM NEXT WEEK TO THE END OF AUGUST.

ACTIVITIES, WHICH FOCUS ON THE THEME 'SHARE THE FUN, SERVE THE COMMUNITY', WILL INCLUDE OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES, SPORTS AND GAMES COMPETITIONS, SEMINARS AND TALKS, TRAINING COURSES, CARNIVALS AND VARIETY SHOWS.

THIS YEAR THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB HAS DONATED \$95,000 FOR THE DISTRICT SUMMER ACTIVITIES AND AN ESTIMATED 52,000 YOUNG PEOPLE AGED BETWEEN SIX AND 25 WILL PARTICIPATE.

A PAMPHLET GIVING DETAILS OF THE PROGRAMME IS NOW AVAILABLE AT THE NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICES CENTRES AT CHEUNG WAH PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE AND AT SAN FUNG AVENUE, SHEUNG SHUI.

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FRIDAY, JULY 10, 1987

- 22 -

KOWLOON CITY SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME OPENS

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THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME OPENING CEREMONY-CUM-CARNIVAL WILL BE HELD AT 4.15 PM ON SUNDAY (JULY 12) AT THE KO SHAN ROAD FOOTBALL PITCH, TO KWA WAN.

PROGRAMMES INCLUDE GAMES STALLS, CIVIC EDUCATION EXHIBITION AND THE PAINTING OF A FIVE BY FOUR METRE PICTURE HIGHLIGHTING THE CHARACTERISTICS OF KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT.

OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE CHAIRMAN OF THE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE ON YOUTH, MR PETER LEE; KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ALEX FONG; DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR WONG SIK-KONG; AND DISTRICT SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER (KOWLOON CITY), MR NG KAI-KIN.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

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SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME IN EASTERN DISTRICT

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THE 1987 EASTERN DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AT 8 PM IN THE CITYPLAZA, TAIKOO SHING.

TO TIE IN WITH THE THEME OF 'SHARE THE FUN AND SERVE THE COMMUNITY', THE EASTERN DISTRICT YOUTH RECREATION CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE HAS PLANNED AND CO-ORDINATED A SERIES OF HEALTHY AND MEANINGFUL PROGRAMMES FOR LOCAL YOUTHS BETWEEN SIX AND 25.

THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB HAS DONATED \$230,000 FOR LOCAL ORGANISATIONS, VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATIONS TO ORGANISE ABOUT 160 YOUTH ACTIVITIES DURING THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS.

THE PROGRAMME COVERS SOCIAL SERVICES AND YOUTH PROJECTS, SPORTS AND GAMES, RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES, VISITS AND OUTINGS, CARNIVALS, EXHIBITIONS AND SEMINARS.

THE PROGRAMME OF THE OPENING CEREMONY TOMORROW INCLUDE A VARIETY SHOW PERFORMED BY VARIOUS ARTISTES, LOCAL SCHOOLS AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES.

/OFFICIATING AT .....

FRIDAY, JULY 10, 1987

- 23 -

OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR GARY YEUNG; DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR SHUM CHOI-SANG; REGIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER (HK), MR KWOK NAI-SIK AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT YOUTH RECREATION CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, MRS JEANNIE CHOW.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY WHICH WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AT 8 PM ON 2ND FLOOR, CITYPLAZA, TAIKOO SHING. INFORMATION OFFICER, MISS LILLIAN CHAN WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST THE MEDIA.

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SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME CARNIVAL  
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THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME WILL BE LAUNCHED ON SUNDAY (JULY 12) AFTERNOON WITH A FREE VARIETY SHOW AND A FUN-FILLED CARNIVAL AT THE CHATER ROAD PEDESTRIAN PRECINCT.

DISTRICT OFFICER, MR LAM KAM-KWONG WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY.

THERE WILL BE SINGING BY POP SINGER, PANG KIN-SUN AND THE DISTRICT'S CHILDREN'S CHOIR, LION DANCES, ORIENTAL DANCES AND PIPE BAND PERFORMANCES.

PARTICIPANTS MAY ALSO TAKE PART IN VARIOUS STALL GAMES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME OPENING AND CARNIVAL STARTING AT 2:30 PM ON SUNDAY (JULY 12) AT THE CHATER ROAD PEDESTRIAN PRECINCT. INFORMATION OFFICER, MISS VALENTINA CHAN, WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST THE MEDIA.

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FRIDAY, JULY 10, 1987

- 24 -

BUS TOURS TUEN MUN TO PROMOTE SUMMER ACTIVITIES  
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A DECORATED BUS WILL TOUR TUEN MUN TOMORROW (SATURDAY) TO PUBLICISE THE DISTRICT'S SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME TO BE HELD LATER THAT AFTERNOON.

THE VEHICLE WILL START ITS JOURNEY FROM BUTTERFLY ESTATE FROM 11 AM AND TOUR VARIOUS PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES IN THE DISTRICT THROUGHOUT THE AFTERNOON WITH A LAST STOP AT SAN HUI BEFORE THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE PROGRAMME AT 4.30 PM.

THE OPENING CEREMONY FEATURING GAMES STALLS WILL BE HELD AT THE YAN OI TOWN SQUARE IN YAN CHING CIRCUIT.

AMONG THE GUESTS OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR LAU WONG-FAT AND DISTRICT OFFICER, MR STEPHEN SELBY.

SOME 500 ACTIVITIES WHICH ARE GEARED TO THE THEME OF 'SHARE THE FUN AND SERVE THE COMMUNITY' HAVE BEEN ORGANISED FOR YOUTHS IN THE DISTRICT UNTIL MID-SEPTEMBER.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING OF THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME AT 4.30 PM AT THE YAN OI TOWN SQUARE AT YAN CHING CIRCUIT ON SATURDAY.

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SHA TIN SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME OPENS ON SUNDAY  
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YOUNG PEOPLE IN SHA TIN WILL HAVE AN EVENTFUL SUMMER AS MORE THAN 500 ACTIVITIES RANGING FROM FUN DAYS, EXHIBITIONS, VARIETY SHOWS TO LEADERSHIP TRAINING AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROJECTS WILL BE ORGANISED AS PART OF THE DISTRICT'S SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME.

LAUNCHING THE SERIES OF ACTIVITIES WILL BE A LARGE-SCALE PAINTING COMPETITION AND A CAREER-CUM-SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME EXHIBITION TO BE STAGED AT THE ROMAN FOUNTAIN AREA IN THE NEW CITY PLAZA ON SUNDAY (JULY 12).

SOME 300 PARTICIPANTS WILL TAKE PART IN THE PAINTING COMPETITION STARTING 10 AM AND OUTSTANDING WORKS WILL BE SELECTED AND DISPLAYED IN THE EXHIBITION IN THE AFTERNOON.

/DISTRICT OFFICERS, .....

FRIDAY, JULY 10, 1987

- 25 -

DISTRICT OFFICER, MR VICTOR YUNG,; SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER MR ANDREW WONG; AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR MRS ROSANNA TAM WILL OFFICIATE AT THE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME OPENING CEREMONY AT THE ROMAN FOUNTAIN AREA AT 10.30 AM.

WITH A BUDGET OF SOME \$109,000, THE SHA TIN DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME IS SPONSORED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB AND CO-ORDINATED BY A SPECIAL COMMITTEE COMPRISING DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AS WELL AS LOCAL AND VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS. DETAILED PROGRAMMES CAN BE OBTAINED AT THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE, VARIOUS COMMUNITY HALLS AND YOUTH CENTRES IN THE DISTRICT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME AT THE ROMAN FOUNTAIN AREA IN THE NEW CITY PLAZA, SHA TIN, AT 10.30 AM ON SUNDAY (JULY 12).

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CLEAN BEACH DAY IN TUEN MUN  
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SOME 300 STUDENTS WILL HELP DRIVE HOME THE MESSAGE TO KEEP HONG KONG'S BEACHES CLEAN AT A CLEAN BEACH DAY TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AT BUTTERFLY BEACH IN TUEN MUN.

THE EVENT IS SPONSORED BY THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD TO REMIND RESIDENTS TO KEEP THE BEACHES CLEAN IN THE DISTRICT.

ACTIVITIES OF THE DAY WILL INCLUDE A REFUSE COLLECTION COMPETITION AND A QUIZ.

THE ACTIVITIES WILL START FROM 11 AM WITH A PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY OFFICIATED BY TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR LAU WONG-FAT AND ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MR EDWARD YAU.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

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FRIDAY, JULY 10, 1987

- 26 -

TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD NORTHBOUND

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PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD NORTHBOUND BETWEEN PUI CHING ROAD AND ARGYLE STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC ON MONDAY (JULY 13), JULY 15 AND JULY 17 FROM 10 PM TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR THE PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD FLYOVER RECONSTRUCTION.

DURING THE CLOSURE, VEHICLES ON PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD NORTHBOUND HEADING FOR WATERLOO ROAD WILL BE DIVERTED VIA THE SLIP ROAD TO PUI CHING ROAD AND WATERLOO ROAD.

HOWEVER, ACCESS TO THE PREMISES ALONG THIS SECTION OF PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD NORTHBOUND WILL BE MAINTAINED. MOTORISTS ON PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD NORTHBOUND HEADING FOR THESE PREMISES MAY USE EITHER OF THE FOLLOWING DIVERSION ROUTES:

- \* PUI CHING ROAD, SHEUNG SHING STREET, SHEK KU STREET, PERTH STREET AND THE ACCESS ROAD UNDERNEATH THE PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD FLYOVER; OR
- \* PUI CHING ROAD, WATERLOO ROAD NORTHBOUND, U-TURN LOOP NEAR THE JUNCTION OF WATERLOO ROAD AND PRINCE EDWARD ROAD, WATERLOO ROAD SOUTHBOUND, PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD SOUTHBOUND AND THE ACCESS ROAD UNDERNEATH THE FLYOVER OPPOSITE PERTH STREET.

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ROADS IN YUEN LONG CLOSED FOR FLYOVER CONSTRUCTION

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TRAFFIC LANES ON A NUMBER OF ROADS IN YUEN LONG WILL BE CLOSED BETWEEN 10 AM AND 4 PM FROM MONDAY (JULY 13) FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF FLYOVER.

FROM JULY 13 TO 16, ABOUT 35 METRES OF THE SECTION OF LONG YIP STREET WEST OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD/LONG YIP STREET/ON LOK ROAD JUNCTION WILL BE REDUCED FROM THREE LANE TO ONE LANE TRAFFIC.

FROM JULY 17 TO 18 AND FROM JULY 20 TO 21, ABOUT 45 METRES OF THE SECTION OF WESTBOUND CASTLE PEAK ROAD EAST OF THE SAME JUNCTION WILL BE REDUCED FROM THREE LANE TO TWO LANE TRAFFIC, WHILE ABOUT A 12-METRE SECTION OF ON LOK ROAD WEST OF THE JUNCTION WILL BE REDUCED FROM THREE LANE TO ONE LANE TRAFFIC.

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FRIDAY, JULY 10, 1987

- 27

**BUS-ONLY LANE LIFTED**

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THE BUS-ONLY LANE RESTRICTION ALONG A 90-METRE STRETCH OF CANAL ROAD EAST NORTH OF ITS JUNCTION WITH LEIGHTON ROAD WILL BE LIFTED FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY (JULY 13).

THE MEASURE, TO BE IN FORCE FOR FOUR DAYS, IS TO FACILITATE WORKS ON THE TRAM TRACK ADJACENT TO THE BUS-ONLY LANE.

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