DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1983

CONTENTS PAGE NO.

HONG KONG'S JANUARY - OCTOBER EXTERNAL TRADE 1

+MODIFIED FACTOR+ RENT SYSTEM STARTS 7

PROGRAMME TO CLEAR UP ILLEGAL STRUCTURES 8

FIRE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN FOR SQUATTER AREAS 9

IMPORTANT WEEKEND FOR REHABILITATION 10

YUEN LONG ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN ENDS 11

ABERDEEN SITE FOR TENDER 11

HOME SECURITY EXHIBITION IN SHAM SHUI PO 12

REFRESHMENT KIOSKS FOR TENDER 12

DB TO DISCUSS PROPOSED PLB BAN 13

LUNAR NEW YEAR FAIR SITES FOR BIDDING 14

FUN DAY FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE 14

PUPILS' CREATIVE WORKS ON DISPLAY 15

TENNIS COURSES FOR CHILDREN 15

LANTAO BUS FRANCHISE EXTENDED 16

RESTRICTED ZONE ON CANTON ROAD 16

HONG KONG'S JANUARY - OCTOBER EXTERNAL TRADE

* * * * * *

TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FOR JANUARY - OCTOBER 1983, VALUED AT $266 908 MILLION, SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 21 PER CENT OVER THE SAME PERIOD IN 1982 ACCORDING TO STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (SUNDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS ROSE BY 23 PER CENT TO $83 091 MILLION, IMPORTS BY 20 PER CENT TO $139 486 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS BY 23 PER CENT TO $44 331 MILLION.

THE CHANGES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE 10 MAJOR OVERSEAS MARKETS ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE U.S.A. ROSE BY 37 PER CENT IN VALUE.

SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN CLOTHING (BY $3 576 MILLION OR 37 PER CENT); TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY $1 761 MILLION OR 103 PER CENT); AND OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY $1 429 MILLION OR 109 PER CENT).

ON THE OTHER HAND, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN PLASTIC TOYS AND DOLLS (BY $271 MILLION OR 10 PER CENT) AND TRANSISTORS AND DIODES (BY $94 MILLION OR 50 PER CENT).

INCREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM WERE REGISTERED FOR METALLIFEROUS ORES AND METAL SCRAP (BY $634 MILLION OR 1 723 PER CENT); OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY $154 MILLION OR 265 PER CENT); AND TEXTILES (BY $106 MILLION OR 28 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR CLOTHING (BY $30 MILLION OR 1 PER CENT) AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY $20 MILLION OR 6 PER CENT).

MOST COMMODITIES EXPORTED TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY INCREASED IN VALUE, INCLUDING CLOTHING (BY $148 MILLION OR 4 PER CENT AND OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY $147 MILLION OR 344 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF DECREASED BY $25 MILLION OR 9 PER CENT.

SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE REGISTERED IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CHINA OF TEXTILES (BY $516 MILLION OR 70 PER CENT) AND FEEDING STUFF FOR ANIMALS (BY $105 MILLION OR 228 PER CENT); AND IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO JAPAN OF METALLIFEROUS ORES AND METAL SCRAP (BY $94 MILLION OR 53 PER CENT).

THE CHANGES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS ARE PRESENTED IN TABLE 2.

THE CHANGES IN IMPORTS FROM THE 10 MAJOR SOURCES ARE SUMMARISED IN TABLE 3.

/DEMAND FOR .....

DEMAND FOR IMPORTED GOODS FROM CHINA REMAINED STRONG.

INCREASES WERE RECORDED MAINLY IN TEXTILES (BY $2 002 MILLION OR 43 PER CENT); CLOTHING (BY $1 254 MILLION OR 33 PER CENT); VEGETABLES AND FRUIT (BY $265 MILLION OR 20 PER CENT); MEAT AND MEAT PREPARATIONS (BY $229 MILLION OR 24 PER CENT); AND CRUDE ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE MATERIALS (BY $216 MILLION OR 33 PER CENT).

AS FOR IMPORTS FROM JAPAN, INCREASES WERE NOTED FOR ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY $1 775 MILLION OR 68 PER CENT); AND TEXTILES (BY $1 157 MILLION OR 33 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR ROAD VEHICLES (INCLUDING AIR CUSHION VEHICLES) (BY $446 MILLION OR 19 PER CENT), AND GENERAL INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT, AND MACHINE PARTS (BY $175 MILLION OR 13 PER CENT).

INCREASES IN IMPORTS FROM THE U.S.A. WERE MOSTLY OF ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY $1 249 MILLION OR 91 PER CENT), PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS (BY $546 MILLION OR 629 PER CENT); AND OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY $341 MILLION OR 30 PER CENT).

ON THE OTHER HAND, DECREASES WERE REGISTERED IN IMPORTS OF GENERAL INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT, AND MACHINE PARTS (BY $144 MILLION OR 24 PER CENT); AND PEARLS, PRECIOUS AND SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES UNWORKED OR WORKED (BY $96 MILLION OR 14 PER CENT).

DECREASES WERE REGISTERED IN IMPORTS FROM TAIWAN OF IRON AND STEEL (BY $20 MILLION OR 6 PER CENT) AND IN IMPORTS FROM SINGAPORE OF PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS (BY $953 MILLION OR 16 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, IMPORTS OF ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF FROM TAIWAN INCREASED (BY $369 MILLION OR 28 PER CENT); AND IMPORTS OF ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF FROM SINGAPORE ALSO INCREASED (BY $365 MILLION OR 65 PER CENT).

TABLE 4 ILLUSTRATES THE MORE IMPORTANT CHANGES IN IMPORTS BY COMMODITY SECTIONS.

INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA (BY $2 454 MILLION OR 37 PER CENT); U.S.A. (BY $1 651 MILLION OR 36 PER CENT); SINGAPORE (BY $759 MILLION OR 26 PER CENT); REPUBLIC OF KOREA (SOUTH KOREA) (BY $603 MILLION OR 44 PER CENT); TAIWAN (BY $524 MILLION OR 24 PER CENT); SAUDI ARABIA (BY $386 MILLION OR 51 PER CENT); JAPAN (BY $351 MILLION OR 17 PER CENT); AND THAILAND (BY $286 MILLION OR 44 PER CENT).

ON THE OTHER HAND, DECLINES WERE REGISTERED IN RE-EXPORTS TO INDONESIA (BY $448 MILLION OR 12 PER CENT) AND NIGERIA (BY $282 MILLION OR 39 PER CENT).

THE CHANGES IN RE-EXPORTS TO THE 10 MAJOR MARKETS ARE GIVEN IN TABLE 5.

/MOST COMMODITIES .....

MOST COMMODITIES RE-EXPORTED THROUGH HONG KONG EXHIBITED STRONG GROWTH, THE MORE SIGNIFICANT ONES BEING CLOTHING (BY $1 198 MILLION OR 49 PER CENT); ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY $1 020 MILLION OR 37 PER CENT); PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS AND WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY $817 MILLION OR 32 PER CENT); AND TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS (BY $751 MILLION OR 14 PER CENT).

DECREASES WERE REGISTERED IN THE RE-EXPORTS OF ROAD VEHICLES (INCLUDING AIR CUSHION VEHICLES) (BY $324 MILLION OR 17 PER CENT); METALLIFEROUS ORES AND METAL SCRAP (BY $146 MILLION OR 54 PER CENT); AND NON-METALLIC MINERAL MANUFACTURES (BY $18 MILLION OR 1 PER CENT).

THE CHANGES IN RE-EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS ARE GIVEN IN TABLE 6.

THE OCTOBER 1983 ISSUE OF +HONG KONG TRADE STATISTICS - SUMMARY+ ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT HK$5 PER COPY.

A MORE COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, +HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE+, WITH A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS IN OCTOBER 1983, WILL BE AVAILABLE IN EARLY JANUARY 1984 AT THE CENTRE AT HK$10 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES CONCERNING SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THESE REPORTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES AT BASKERVILLE HOUSE, HONG KONG (TEL. NO. : 5-214375). FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT TRADE STATISTICS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. NO. : 5-444436).

TABLE 1 DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY TEN MAJOR MARKETS

MAJOR MARKET	JAN.-OCT. 1983 ($ MN)	JAN.-OCT. 1982 ($ MN)	INCREASE/ DECREASE ($ MN)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
U.S.A.	35 061	25 514	+9 548	+37
U.K.	6 746	5 727	+1 019	+18
F.R. OF GERMANY	6 211	5 544	+ 667	+12
CHINA	4 809	3 051	+1 758	+58
JAPAN	3 102	2 646	+ 456	+17
CANADA	3 028	2 132	+ 896	+42
AUSTRALIA	2 231	2 350	- 119	- 5
SINGAPORE	1 783	1 590	+ 192	+12
NETHERLANDS	1 530	1 321	+ 210	+16
FRANCE	1 313	1 203	+ 110	+ 9

/TABLE 2 : .....

TABLE 2 : DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS

COMMODITY DIVISIONS	JAN.-OCT. 1983 ($ MN)	JAN.-OCT. 1982 ($ MN)	INCREASE/ DECREASE ($ MN)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	27 351	23 394	+3 957	+17
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY PLASTIC TOYS AND DOLLS, JEWELLERY, GOLD-SMITHS' AND SILVERSMITHS' WARES, AND ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS)	13 487	13 030	+ 457	+ 4
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIP-MENT, SUPPLIES AND OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	7 535	6 389	+1 146	+18
TELECOMMUNI-CATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	6 617	4 727	+1 890	+40
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (MAINLY TRANSISTORS AND DIODES AND HOUSEHOLD TYPE APPLIANCES)	6 527	4 954	+1 573	+32
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	5 576	4 032	+1 545	+38

/TABLE 3 : .....

TABLE 3 : IMPORTS FROM TEN MAJOR SOURCES

MAJOR SOURCES	JAN.-OCT. 1983 ($ MN)	JAN.-OCT. 1982 ($ MN)	INCREASE/ DECREASE ($ MN)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
CHINA	33 198	26 581	+6 618	+25
JAPAN	32 034	25 719	+6 314	+25
U.S.A.	15 542	12 675	+2 867	+23
TAIWAN	9 869	8 397	+1 471	+18
SINGAPORE	8 432	8 548	- 116	- 1
U.K.	6 051	5 627	+ 425	+ 8
REPUBLIC OF KOREA (SOUTH KOREA)	3 991	3 703	+ 289	+ 8
F.R. OF GERMANY	3 726	2 833	+ 893	+32
SWITZERLAND	2 571	2 149	+ 422	+20
AUSTRALIA	2 197	1 911	+ 287	+15

TABLE 4: IMPORTS BY COMMODITY SECTIONS

COMMODITY SECTIONS	JAN.-OCT. 1983 ($ MN)	JAN.-OCT. 1982 ($ MN)	INCREASE/ DECREASE ($ MN)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIAL (MAINLY TEXTILE PRODUCTS, DIAMONDS, IRON AND STEEL, AND PAPER)	38 992	32 563	+6 429	+20
MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	31 534	26 394	+5 139	+19
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY WATCHES AND CLOCKS, ARTICLES OF APPAREL)	25 247	20 013	+5 234	+26
FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS CHIEFLY FOR FOOD	14 958	13 090	+1 867	+14

/CHEMICALS AND .....

CHEMICALS AND RELATED PRODUCTS, N.E.S.	10 299	7 778	+2 522	+32
MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	9 583	9 491	+ 91	+ 1

TABLE 5 : RE-EXPORTS BY TEN MAJOR MARKETS

MAJOR MARKETS	JAN.-OCT. 1983 ($ MN)	JAN.-OCT. 1982 ($ MN)	INCREASE/ DECREASE ($ MN)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
CHINA	9 004	6 550	+2 454	+37
U.S.A.	6 273	4 622	+1 651	+36
SINGAPORE	3 643	2 884	+ 759	+26
INDONESIA	3 231	3 679	- 448	-12
TAIWAN	2 734	2 211	+ 524	+24
JAPAN	2 455	2 105	+ 351	+17
REPUBLIC OF KOREA (SOUTH KOREA)	1 973	1 370	+ 603	+44
MACAU	1 515	1 270	+ 245	+19
PHILIPPINES	1 393	1 190	+ 204	+17
SAUDIA ARABIA	1 137	751	+ 386	+51

TABLE 6 : RE-EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS

COMMODITY DIVISIONS	JAN.-OCT. 1983 ($ MN)	JAN.-OCT. 1982 ($ MN)	INCREASE/ DECREASE ($ MN)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	6 118	5 367	+ 751	+14
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES	3 792	2 772	+1 020	+37

/ARTICLES OF .....

ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	3 638	2 439	+1 198	+49
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES AND OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	3 377	2 559	+ 817	+32
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES	2 490	1 896	+ 594	+31
NON-METALLIC MINERAL MANUFACTURES	2 091	2 108	- 18	- 1

- - - - 0 - - - -

+MODIFIED FACTOR+ RENT SYSTEM STARTS

* * *

AS FROM TOMORROW (MONDAY), THE +MODIFIED FACTOR SYSTEM+ REGULATING RENT INCREASES BECOMES OPERATIVE AND DOMESTIC TENANCIES OF PREMISES WITH A RATEABLE VALUE OF $50 000 AND ABOVE ARE EXCLUDED FROM PART II OF THE LANDLORD AND TENANT (CONSOLIDATION) ORDINANCE.

THESE AMENDMENTS WERE ENACTED IN JUNE THIS YEAR AND COME INTO EFFECT ON DECEMBER 19, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT EXPLAINED TODAY.

HE SAID THAT PRIOR TO DECEMBER 19, THE PERMITTED INCREASE IN RENT, DETERMINED BY THE FACTOR SYSTEM, IS HALF OF THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE PREVAILING MARKET RENT AND THE CURRENT RENT, LIMITED TO 30 PER CENT OF THE CURRENT RENT.

THIS SYSTEM IS NOW MODIFIED TO THE EFFECT THAT ANY INCREASE IN RENT SO CALCULATED SHOULD RESULT IN A NEW RENT OF NOT LESS THAN 30 PER CENT OF THE PREVAILING MARKET RENT. FOR EXAMPLE, IF THE PREVAILING MARKET RENT OF A FLAT IS $5 000 AND THE CURRENT RENT $1 000, THE INCREASE DETERMINED BY THE FACTOR SYSTEM WOULD BE LIMITED TO 30 PER CENT OF $1 000, THAT IS, $300. UNDER THE MODIFIED SYSTEM, THE PERMITTED INCREASE IN THIS EXAMPLE WOULD BE $500 WHICH IS THE AMOUNT NECESSARY TO BRING THE CURRENT RENT ($1 000) UP TO 30 PER CENT OF THE PREVAILING MARKET RENT ($1 500).

THE MODIFICATION WILL AFFECT ONLY ABOUT FIVE PER CENT OF PROTECTED TENANCIES, BEING THOSE WHERE THE TENANTS ARE PAYING RELATIVELY LOW RENTS. THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT APPLICATIONS FOR A CERTIFICATE OF RENT INCREASE RECEIVED BY THE DEPARTMENT BEFORE DECEMBER 19 WILL NOT BE AFFECTED.

/THE SPOKESMAN .....

THE SPOKESMAN FURTHER COMMENTED THAT ABOUT 1 100 DOMESTIC TENANCIES OF PREMISES WITH A RATEABLE VALUE OF $50 000 AND ABOVE WILL BE EXCLUDED FROM RENT INCREASE CONTROL UNDER PART II. THEY WILL, HOWEVER, BE PROTECTED UNDER PART IV WHICH AFFORDS SECURITY OF TENURE AT THE PREVAILING MARKET RENT. UNDER PART IV, A SIX-MONTH NOTICE MUST BE GIVEN BY THE LANDLORD BEFORE HE MAY TERMINATE A TENANCY BUT THE TENANT CAN SEEK A RENEWAL IF HE DOES NOT INTEND TO LEAVE.

IF AGREEMENT CANNOT BE REACHED BETWEEN THE PARTIES, THE TENANT CAN APPLY TO THE LANDS TRIBUNAL FOR THE GRANT OF A NEW TENANCY. WITH AN IMPROVED SUPPLY OF LARGE FLATS AND THE SOFTENING OF THE PROPERTY MARKET, SUCH TENANTS SHOULD NOW HAVE A FAIRLY GOOD CHOICE OF ACCOMMODATION AT RENTS CONSIDERABLY BELOW THAT OBTAINING 2-3 YEARS AGO.

ANY PERSON WHO HAS QUERIES ON THESE AMENDMENTS SHOULD CONTACT THE RENT OFFICERS OF THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT OR THE STAFF AT ANY OF THE DISTRICT OFFICES.

- - - - o - - - -

PROGRAMME TO CLEAR UP ILLEGAL STRUCTURES

* * * *

A MAJOR THREE-YEAR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME TO CLEAR ILLEGAL STRUCTURES IN KWUN TONG WILL BEGIN ON TUESDAY (DECEMBER 20).

THE PROGRAMME, CODE-NAMED +OPERATION FAR-FLING+, WILL INVOLVE THE REMOVAL OF SOME 1 100 STRUCTURES ON PAVEMENTS AS WELL AS SIDE AND REAR LANES.

CLEARANCES WILL BE CONDUCTED ABOUT TWICE A MONTH IN THE 11 OPERATIONAL AREAS COVERING THE WHOLE DISTRICT.

OPERATION FAR-FLING IS INITIATED BY THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOLLOWING FULL CONSULTATION WITH THE DISTRICT BOARD.

IT WILL BE A JOINT EFFORT OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE, THE POLICE AND VARIOUS OTHER DEPARTMENTS, INCLUDING HOUSING, LANDS, FIRE SERVICES, CITY SERVICES, LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE.

THE DISTRICT OFFICER AND CHAIRMAN OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD, MR KEVIN MAK, POINTED TO TWO MAIN PROBLEM PLACES: THE TING HONG AREA WITH 339 ILLEGAL STRUCTURES, AND THE TOWN CENTRE AREA WITH 334.

+THEREFORE, THE TWO AREAS WILL BE TACKLED FIRST AND THESE STRUCTURES ARE EXPECTED TO BE CLEARED WITHIN 18 MONTHS,+ HE SAID.

THE OTHER NINE OPERATIONAL AREAS ARE EAST NGAU TAU KOK, INDUSTRIAL AREA, WEST NGAU TAU KOK, YAU TONG, SZE SHAN, SAU MAU PING, LAM TIN, PING SHEK AND TSUI PING.

/TO START .....

TO START OFF THE OPERATION, 23 ILLEGAL STRUCTURES IN THE TING HONG AREA AT THE JUNCTION OF KWUN TONG ROAD AND TING ON STREET AND AT THE REAR LANE OF 19-21 TING ON STREET WILL BE DEMOLISHED ON TUESDAY MORNING.

MR MAK NOTED THAT APART FROM BEING A SERIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL NUISANCE, ILLEGAL STRUCTURES CAUSE OBSTRUCTION AND POSE FIRE RISKS.

IN VIEW OF THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE PROBLEM, THE DISTRICT BOARD IS GIVING FIRM SUPPORT TO THE OPERATION, WHICH WILL COST THE BOARD ABOUT $200 000 A YEAR.

MR MAK POINTED OUT THAT ABOUT 1 200 PEOPLE FROM SOME 400 STRUCTURES WOULD BE AFFECTED BY THE OPERATION.

+DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED WILL OFFER MAXIMUM ASSISTANCE POSSIBLE TO THE CLEAREES+, HE SAID.

HE EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT, WITH THE EXPERIENCE GAINED FROM THE 16-MONTH OPERATION TORCH LAUNCHED IN FEBRUARY 1982, AND GIVEN THE STAUNCH SUPPORT OF THE RESIDENTS, OPERATION FAR-FLING WOULD ALSO BE A SUCCESS.

DURING OPERATION TORCH, ABOUT 240 REAR-LANE STRUCTURES IN KWUN TONG'S INDUSTRIAL AREA WERE CLEARED.

- - - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS :

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE FIRST CLEARANCE OF OPERATION FAR-FLING WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 9.30 AM ON TUESDAY (DECEMBER 20) AT THE JUNCTION OF TING ON STREET AND KWUN TONG ROAD.

- - - - o - - - -

FIRE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN FOR SQUATTER AREAS

* * * *

A FIRE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN FEATURING TALKS, A QUIZ AND REFRESHER COURSES FOR FIRE-WATCH TEAMS HAS BEEN LAUNCHED FOR SQUATTERS IN 13 HILLSIDE VILLAGES IN SHAU KEI WAN.

ORGANISED BY THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, THE DRIVE AIMS AT PASSING ON TO THE RESIDENTS KNOWLEDGE OF FIRE FIGHTING AND PREVENTION. RESIDENTS WILL ALSO BE TOLD OF THE HIGH FIRE RISKS DURING THE DRY SEASON.

A DISTRICT OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT ALL EFFORTS WERE NECESSARY IN ORDER TO HELP PREVENT HILL AND SQUATTER FIRES IN THE DRY WEATHER.

+IT IS HOPED THAT THROUGH THESE ACTIVITIES, HILLSIDE VILLAGERS WILL LEARN MORE ABOUT FIRE PRECAUTIONS AND EXERCISE SPECIAL CARE AND VIGILANCE,+ HE SAID.

/+WE ALSO .....

+WE ALSO HOPE TO ORGANISE SIMILAR FIRE PREVENTION ACTIVITIES FOR CHAI WAN AND CAUSEWAY BAY SQUATTER RESIDENTS SOON,+ HE ADDED.

POSTERS AND BANNERS WITH FIRE PREVENTION MESSAGES HAVE BEEN MOUNTED AT VARIOUS VANTAGE POINTS IN THE VILLAGES.

A SERIES OF REFRESHER COURSES FOR THE AREA'S 12 FIRE-WATCH TEAMS AT THE SHAU KEI WAN FIRE STATION HAVE BEEN ORGAINSED FOR FOUR CONSECUTIVE SUNDAYS, BEGINNING ON NOVEMBER 27.

THE COURSES WILL BE REPEATED ON ANOTHER FOUR CONSECUTIVE SUNDAYS, STARTING ON JANUARY 8, 1984.

ALSO, OFFICERS FROM THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL GIVE EIGHT TALKS ON FIRE PREVENTION AT VARIOUS MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE OFFICES, STARTING AT 8.30 PM NIGHTLY ON DECEMBER 19, 20, 22, 23, 28, AND 29, AND ON JANUARY 3 AND 4.

ADMISSION TO THE TALKS IS FREE OPEN TO ALL VILLAGERS.

A QUIZ ON FIRE PREVENTION WAS HELD LAST WEEK AT THE YMCA WONG CHUEN KIN CENTRE FOR MORE THAN 30 VILLAGERS.

IN ADDITION, FIRE PREVENTION HANDBOOKS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO PARTICIPANTS OF EACH EVENT AND TO OTHER RESIDENTS THROUGH VARIOUS MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES.

- - - - 0 - - - -

IMPORTANT WEEKEND FOR REHABILITATION

* * * * *

DR HARRY FANG, CHAIRMAN OF THE REHABILITATION DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) THAT THIS WEEKEND HAD BEEN IMPORTANT FOR REHABILITATION GENERALLY.

+YESTERDAY, WE ORGANISED TWO SEMINARS, ONE ON MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS AND ANOTHER ON THE CONCEPT OF INTEGRATION OF THE DISABLED INTO OUR COMMUNITY. THIS MORNING, WE WITNESSED THE EFFORT OF A PERSON WHO HAS SINGLE-HANDEDLY RAISED A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF MONEY FOR DISABLED ATHLETES BY RUNNING FROM BEIJING TO HONG KONG.

+WE CAN SAFELY SAY THAT MOST PEOPLE IN HONG KONG THIS WEEKEND WILL BE AWARE OF THE NEED TO INTEGRATE HONG KONG'S DISABLED INTO OUR SOCIETY,+ HE SAID.

DR FANG MADE HIS OBSERVATION AT A PRIZE-PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF A REHABILITATION POSTER COMPETITION CO-ORDINATED BY COMPERE (COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC EDUCATION IN REHABILITATION).

OTHER GUESTS OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY INCLUDED MRS JENNIFER YU OF THE BANK OF CREDIT AND COMMERCE AND MRS HUNG LEUNG WAI-CHING, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DISABLED COMMUNITY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/11 .....

YUEN LONG ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN ENDS

* * *

MORE THAN 1 000 PEOPLE THIS (SUNDAY) EVENING ATTENDED A VARIETY SHOW FEATURING PERFORMANCES BY POPULAR SINGERS AND LOCAL YOUNGSTERS WHICH MARKED THE END OF A TWO-WEEK YUEN LONG ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CAMPAIGN'S ORGANISING COMMITTEE, MR MA NING-HEI, SAID THAT THROUGH A SERIES OF EDUCATIONAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES, YOUNG PEOPLE WERE NOW BETTER EDUCATED TO STAY AWAY FROM, OR EXPERIMENTING WITH, DRUGS.

+APART FROM DRIVING HOME THE ANTI-NARCOTICS MESSAGE, WE HAVE ALSO PUBLICISED TREATMENT FACILITIES AVAILABLE TO DRUG ADDICTS,+ HE ADDED.

AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY, WINNERS OF THE ANTI-NARCOTICS SLOGAN COMPETITION AND POSTER DESIGN COMPETITION AND THE CHAMPION TEAM OF THE ANTI-NARCOTICS CUP BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT WERE PRESENTED WITH PRIZES.

PRESENT AT THE CEREMONY WERE THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR JAMES WILSON, AND THE DISTRICT COMMANDER, YUEN LONG POLICE DISTRICT, MR M.J. WATSON.

- - - - 0 - - - -

ABERDEEN SITE FOR TENDER

* * * *

THE LANDS DEPARTMENT IS TO OFFER A SITE IN ABERDEEN FOR HANDLING AGGREGATE AND CEMENT.

THE SITE, MEASURING 3 528 SQUARE METRES, IS IN TIN WAN PRAYA ROAD AND WILL BE OFFERED FOR SALE BY TENDER.

IT CAN ALSO BE USED FOR BATCHING READY-MIXED CONCRETE AND FOR CONSTRUCTING ANCILLARY STORAGE SPACE AND AN OFFICE.

THE BUILDING COVENANT IS $1.5 MILLION TO BE MET BEFORE MARCH 31, 1988.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF TENDERS IS JANUARY 27.

TENDER FORMS, NOTICES AND CONDITIONS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE LANDS DEPARTMENT, MURRAY BUILDING, 5TH FLOOR, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG; DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE (KOWLOON WEST), KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 10TH FLOOR, 405 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON; AND THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES OF SHA TIN, TAI PO, NORTH, YUEN LONG, TUEN MUN, TSUEN WAN, SAI KUNG, AND ISLANDS.

TENDER PLANS MAY ALSO BE INSPECTED AT THESE LOCATIONS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/12 .....

HOME SECURITY EXHIBITION IN SHAM SHUI PO

* * *

SHAM SHUI PO RESIDENTS TODAY (SUNDAY) WERE SHOWN PREVENTIVE MEASURES AGAINST CRIME IN THEIR HOMES AND BUILDINGS THROUGH AN EXHIBITION ON HOME SECURITY.

THE EXHIBITION, TOGETHER WITH A VARIETY SHOW, WAS ORGANISED BY THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE AND THE POLICE AT A BASKETBALL COURT IN UN CHAU ESTATE.

SPEAKING AT AN OPENING CEREMONY, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EXHIBITION ORGANISING COMMITTEE, MR ENG SOON-CHAO, SAID THE THEME OF THE EXHIBITION WAS SPECIALLY DIRECTED AT THE RECENT SPATE OF MASS HOLD-UPS IN MULTI-STOREY RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS.

+APART FROM PROBLEMS ARISING FROM DEFECTIVE LAYOUTS AND INEFFICIENT MANAGEMENT OF SOME OF THE BUILDINGS, RESIDENTS' NEGLIGENCE AND CARELESSNESS ARE ALSO A SIGNIFICANT CAUSE TO DOMESTIC CRIME,+ MR ENG SAID.

+WHILE IT IS NECESSARY TO STEP UP POLICE EFFORT, RESIDENTS' SELF-VIGILANCE CAN ALSO PLAY A KEY ROLE IN THE PREVENTION OF SUCH CRIME,+ HE SAID.

ON DISPLAY AT THE EXHIBITION WERE A SELECTION OF PHOTOGRAPHS WHICH ILLUSTRATED VARIOUS MEASURES OF DOMESTIC SECURITY, AND SOME PAMPHLETS TEACHING THE PUBLIC THE PROPER PROCEDURE TO REPORT CRIME.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE OPENING CEREMONY WERE THE POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDER (SHAM SHUI PO), MR PETER LEE; THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS REBECCA KO; AND AN UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, MRS SOPHIA HO.

- - - - O - - - -

REFRESHMENT KIOSKS FOR TENDER

* * *

TENDERS ARE BEING INVITED FOR THE OPERATION OF TWO LIGHT REFRESHMENT KIOSKS AT THE NEWLY COMPLETED SHA TIN SPORTS GROUND.

THE MULTI-PURPOSE MODERN RECREATION FACILITY WILL BE OPENED TO THE PUBLIC NEXT MONTH (JANUARY).

BUT THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER MAY START BUSINESS ON MARCH 1 NEXT YEAR ON A THREE-YEAR CONTRACT, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID.

THE SHA TIN SPORTS GROUND PROVIDES THE FIRST FULL-SIZE TURFED SOCCER PITCH IN THE NEW TOWN.

SURROUNDING THE PITCH IS A 400-METRE ALL-WEATHER ATHLETIC TRACK WITH EIGHT LANES.

/THE GROUND .....

THE GROUND CAN ALSO ACCOMMODATE LARGE-SCALE FESTIVAL CELEBRATIONS.

A COVERED STAND FOR 3 000 SPECTATORS IS PROVIDED.

TENDER FORMS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE SHA TIN URBAN SERVICES OFFICE ON LEVEL 4, KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY HOUSE, SHA TIN STATION.

COMPLETED FORMS MUST BE PLACED IN THE TENDER BOX AT THE NTSD HEADQUARTERS ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF SWIRE AND MACLAINE HOUSE, AUSTIN CENTRE, 19-23 AUSTIN AVENUE, TSIM SHA TSUI, BEFORE JANUARY 13 (FRIDAY).

----0----

DB TO DISCUSS PROPOSED PLB BAN

****

TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AT THEIR MEETING ON TUESDAY (DECEMBER 20) WILL REVIEW A TRIAL SCHEME BANNING PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES FROM RUNNING ALONG TING KOK ROAD.

AS THE THREE-MONTH TRIAL ENDED AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS MONTH, MEMBERS WILL BE REQUESTED TO ENDORSE A RECOMMENDATION FROM THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE TO DESIGNATE TING KOK ROAD A PERMANENT RED PLB PROHIBITED ZONE.

AT THE MEETING, THE PROJECT MANAGER OF TAI PO AND FANLING DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, MR BOB HANNA, WILL BRIEF MEMBERS ON THE +TAI PO DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME 1983+ AND TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS FOR TWO ROADS.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE PROGRESS REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMITTEES AND APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDS.

NOTE TO EDITORS :

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD AT 9.30 AM ON TUESDAY (DECEMBER 20) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF THE TAI PO COMMERCIAL CENTRE, TAI PO. A GOVERNMENT VAN WILL LEAVE KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER AT 8.30 AM FOR TAI PO.

----0----

/14 .....

LUNAR NEW YEAR FAIR SITES FOR BIDDING

* * * *

A TOTAL OF 922 SITES FOR ERECTING STALLS TO RETAIL FLOWERS, DRY GOODS, SNACKS AND BOTTLED DRINKS AT SEVEN LUNAR NEW YEAR FAIRS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WILL BE PUT UP FOR PUBLIC BIDDING ON SEVEN SEPARATE DAYS, STARTING MONDAY (DECEMBER 19).

THE SEVEN FAIRS WILL BE HELD AT YUEN LONG, TUEN MUN, TSUEN WAN, TAI PO, SHA TIN, SHEUNG SHUI AND KWAI CHUNG BETWEEN JANUARY 26 AND FEBRUARY 2 NEXT YEAR, SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

TOMORROW (DECEMBER 19), 209 DRY GOODS AND FLOWER STALLS FOR THE YUEN LONG FAIR WILL BE PUT UP FOR BIDDING AT THE PING SHAN RURAL COMMITTEE AT ON NING ROAD.

BIDDING FOR 100 STALLS FOR WET AND DRY GOODS AT THE TUEN MUN FAIR WILL BE HELD AT TAI HING COMMUNITY HALL IN TAI HING ESTATE ON TUESDAY (DECEMBER 20).

ON FRIDAY (DECEMBER 30), 208 STALLS FOR THE TSUEN WAN FAIR WILL BE OPEN TO BIDDING AT THE CULTURAL ACTIVITY HALL OF TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL.

ALL THESE BIDDINGS WILL BE HELD BETWEEN 9.30 AM AND 4.30 PM, AND THE UPSET RENTAL WILL BE $100 FOR EACH STALL.

BIDDING FOR THE REMAINING 405 STALLS AT THE FOUR FAIRS IN TAI PO, SHA TIN, SHEUNG SHUI AND KWAI CHUNG WILL BE HELD EARLY NEXT MONTH, STARTING ON JANUARY 4. DETAILS WILL BE ANNOUNCED LATER.

- - - - O - - - -

FUN DAY FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE

* * *

THE CHINESE TRADITIONAL RESPECT FOR AGED PEOPLE WAS MANIFESTED TODAY (SUNDAY) AT A FUN DAY WHICH BROUGHT HAPPINESS AND JOY TO MORE THAN 1 000 ELDERLY PEOPLE IN SAI KUNG.

THE FUN DAY, HELD AT THE CHENG CHIK CHEE SECONDARY SCHOOL IN HANG HAU, ALSO MARKED THE CLOSING OF THE MONTH-LONG ELDERLY FESTIVAL WHICH WAS SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD.

TODAY'S PROGRAMME BEGAN WITH A SERIES OF GAMES, IN WHICH THE PARTICIPANTS PROVED THEMSELVES AS ENERGETIC AND RESOURCEFUL AS YOUTHS.

THEY WERE ALSO TREATED TO A FREE MEAL AND A CANTONESE OPERA SHOW.

AT THE SAME TIME, AN EXHIBITION WAS STAGED AT THE SCHOOL, DISPLAYING WINNING ENTRIES OF THREE COMPETITIONS - CHINESE PAINTING, CALLIGRAPHY AND KNIT WORKS - WHICH WERE ORGANISED AS PART OF THE ELDERLY FESTIVAL.

DURING THE FESTIVAL, FREE MEDICAL CHECK-UPS WERE PROVIDED FOR OLD PEOPLE, AND VOLUNTEERS ALSO HELPED TIDYING UP THE HOMES OF ELDERLY SINGLE PERSONS.

- - - - O - - - -

/15 .....

PUPILS' CREATIVE WORKS ON DISPLAY

* * * * *

TEACHERS AND PUPILS ARE WELCOME TO VISIT AN EXHIBITION OF CREATIVE WORKS BY STUDENTS OF FORM OR MIDDLE 5.

THE EXHIBITION WILL BE HELD FROM TOMORROW (MONDAY) TO JANUARY 7 AT THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S CULTURAL CRAFT CENTRE AT 4 PAK FUK ROAD, NORTH POINT.

THE EXHIBITION IS ORGANISED BY THE ART SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

THE ART WORKS ON DISPLAY SHOULD BE OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO TEACHERS AND TO PUPILS PREPARING FOR THE HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION IN ART, AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE EXHIBITION WILL BE OPEN FROM 9 AM TO 5 PM ON WEEKDAYS AND FROM 9 AM TO 12 NOON ON SATURDAYS.

IT WILL BE CLOSED ON SATURDAY AFTERNOONS, SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

ENQUIRIES CONCERNING THE EXHIBITION MAY BE MADE AT THE ART SECTION ON 5-621006.

- - - - 0 - - - -

TENNIS COURSES FOR CHILDREN

* * * * *

ELEMENTARY TENNIS COURSES FOR CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF EIGHT AND 14 WILL BE HELD AT THE JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE NEXT MONTH (JANUARY).

JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT, THE HONG KONG TENNIS ASSOCIATION AND THE JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE, THE +LEARN TO PLAY TENNIS+ COURSES WILL BE HELD DURING THREE WEEKENDS, STARTING FROM JANUARY 7.

A TOTAL OF NINE CLASSES, EACH CONSISTING OF 12 PLAYERS, WILL BE CONDUCTED.

THREE CLASSES WILL BE HELD FROM 9 AM TO 11 AM, AND THE REST FROM 2 PM TO 6 PM.

THE FEE FOR A COURSE IS $20 PER PERSON.

ENROLMENT IS ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

APPLICATION FORMS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE HEAD OFFICE AND ITS 19 DISTRICT OFFICES AS WELL AS THE HONG KONG TENNIS ASSOCIATION.

FURTHER ENQUIRIES MAY BE MADE BY DIALLING 5-458511, 5-741546 OR 0-6051212.

- - - - 0 - - -

/16 .....

LANTAO BUS FRANCHISE EXTENDED

* * *

THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL HAS APPROVED EXTENSION OF THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO THE NEW LANTAO BUS COMPANY LIMITED FOR A FURTHER PERIOD OF TWO YEARS UNTIL MARCH 31, 1989, A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

THE COMPANY'S PRESENT FRANCHISE EXTENDS TO MARCH 31, 1987.

FOUNDED IN 1973, THE COMPANY NOW OPERATES SIX ROUTES FROM MUI WO, SERVING TAI O, NGONG PING, TUNG CHUNG, TONG FUK, SHEK PIK AND PUI O.

IT HAS A LICENSED FLEET OF 47 SINGLE-DECK BUSES AND NINE DOUBLE-DECK BUSES.

- - - - O - - - -

RESTRICTED ZONE ON CANTON ROAD

* * *

FROM 10 AM ON TUESDAY (DECEMBER 20), THE SECTION OF CANTON ROAD BETWEEN KOWLOON PARK DRIVE AND A POINT ABOUT 75 METRES TO THE SOUTH OF ITS JUNCTION WITH PEKING ROAD WILL BE DESIGNATED A RESTRICTED ZONE FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM.

EXCLUDED FROM THIS ZONE IS A SHORT SECTION ON THE EASTERN KERBSIDE OF CANTON ROAD FROM BUILDINGS NOS. 68 TO 112.

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

- - - - O - - - -