



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONEY SUPPLY AND FINANCIAL STATISTICS

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THE MONEY SUPPLY AND FINANCIAL STATISTICS FOR OCTOBER 1981 ARE PUBLISHED TODAY. TOTAL CREDIT TO THE ECONOMY ROSE IN OCTOBER BY MUCH LESS THAN IN SEPTEMBER, PARTLY IN REACTION TO HIGHER DOMESTIC INTEREST RATES, AND THERE WAS AN INFLOW OF FUNDS INTO THE HONG KONG MONETARY SECTOR DURING THE MONTH, PRESUMABLY ON THE SAME CONSIDERATION, WHICH CONTRIBUTED TO A LARGER GROWTH IN THE MONEY SUPPLY (HK\$M3) THAN IN THE PREVIOUS MONTH.

IN THE FIRST TEN MONTHS OF 1981 (THE LONGEST PERIOD FOR WHICH THE SERIES IS AVAILABLE) HK\$M3 HAS RISEN BY 17.2 PER CENT, EQUIVALENT TO AN ANNUAL RATE OF SOME 21 PER CENT, WHILE LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG HAVE RISEN BY 33.4 PER CENT (AN ANNUAL RATE OF SOME 41 PER CENT).

TABLE 1 SETS OUT THE DETAILED FIGURES FOR OCTOBER 1981, AND FOR EARLIER MONTHS, FROM THE NEW SERIES OF STATISTICS NOW BEING COLLECTED UNDER THE MONETARY STATISTICS ORDINANCE 1980. THE NEW SERIES IS BEING PUBLISHED EACH MONTH. TABLE 2 SETS OUT THE FIGURES FOR OCTOBER 1981 FROM THE ORIGINAL SERIES OF MONEY AND BANKING FIGURES, COLLECTED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING/COMMISSIONER OF DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES.

MONEY SUPPLY - NEW SERIES

THE MONEY SUPPLY ON THE BROADEST DEFINITIONS IN THE NEW SERIES CONTINUED TO RISE IN OCTOBER, WITH M3 - TOTAL UP BY 1.5 PER CENT AND HK\$M3 UP BY 1.2 PER CENT, AFTER INCREASING BY 0.9 PER CENT AND 0.3 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN SEPTEMBER. IN THE LAST THREE MONTHS M3 - TOTAL ROSE BY 5.8 PER CENT AND HK\$M3 BY 4.2 PER CENT, AS COMPARED TO THEIR RESPECTIVE INCREASES OF 8.0 PER CENT AND 5.0 PER CENT IN THE PREVIOUS THREE MONTHS.

LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG - NEW SERIES

LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG BY BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ROSE IN OCTOBER BY 0.9 PER CENT, DOWN FROM AN INCREASE OF 3.5 PER CENT IN SEPTEMBER. THE GROWTH RATE OF LOANS BY BANKS IN OCTOBER, AT 0.1 PER CENT, WAS MUCH LESS THAN THAT OF 3.7 PER CENT IN SEPTEMBER, WHILE THE GROWTH OF LOANS BY DTCS, AT 3.0 PER CENT, WAS UNCHANGED FROM THAT IN THE PREVIOUS MONTH. IN THE LAST THREE MONTHS TOTAL LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG ROSE BY 9.1 PER CENT, FOLLOWING A 11.0 PER CENT RISE IN THE PRECEDING THREE MONTHS.

/FOREIGN ASSETS

FOREIGN ASSETS

THE NET IDENTIFIABLE FOREIGN ASSETS OF ALL BANKS (CALCULATED ON THE ORIGINAL SERIES OF STATISTICS) FELL IN OCTOBER BY \$500MN BUT THOSE OF DTCS INCREASED BY \$1 195MN, INDICATING A NET INFLOW OF FUNDS INTO THE HONG KONG MONETARY SECTOR OF \$695MN, AFTER A NET INFLOW OF \$2 332MN IN THE PREVIOUS MONTH.

BALANCE SHEET RATIOS

THE AVERAGE LIQUIDITY RATIO (AS DEFINED IN S. 18 OF THE BANKING ORDINANCE) FOR ALL BANKS IN HONG KONG ROSE IN OCTOBER TO 53.9 PER CENT FROM 52.1 PER CENT IN SEPTEMBER. THE RATIO OF THEIR LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG TO THEIR DEPOSITS ROSE TO 96.0 PER CENT AT THE END OF OCTOBER FROM 95.7 PER CENT AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER.

THE AVERAGE LIQUIDITY RATIO (AS DEFINED IN S. 24A OF THE DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ORDINANCE) FOR ALL DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES FELL TO 46.5 PER CENT IN OCTOBER FROM 46.7 PER CENT IN SEPTEMBER. THE RATIO OF THEIR LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG TO THEIR DEPOSITS FELL TO 60.8 PER CENT AT THE END OF OCTOBER FROM 61.2 PER CENT AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER.

NUMBER OF REPORTING INSTITUTIONS

THE NUMBER OF REPORTING BANKS ROSE BY 1 IN OCTOBER TO 118. THE NUMBER OF REPORTING DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES REMAINED UNCHANGED IN THE MONTH AT 348.

TABLE 1MONETARY STATISTICS - NEW SERIES : END OF OCTOBER 1981 (HK\$ MN)

<u>MONEY SUPPLY</u>	<u>OCT 1981</u>	<u>FIGURES FOR EARLIER MONTHS (% CHANGE)</u>	
		<u>SEPT 1981</u>	<u>JULY 1981</u>
M1 - TOTAL	23 671	24 311 (-2.6%)	23 596 (+0.3%)
HK\$	22 570	23 233 (-2.9%)	22 702 (-0.6%)
M2 - TOTAL	108 330	108 112 (+0.2%)	104 937 (+3.2%)
HK\$	90 390	91 042 (-0.7%)	89 706 (+0.8%)
M3 - TOTAL	170 601	168 129 (+1.5%)	161 201 (+5.8%)
HK\$	141 196	139 514 (+1.2%)	135 518 (+4.2%)

/BANKS' BALANCE

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BANKS' BALANCE SHEETS

DEPOSITS	96 956	97 161 (-0.2%)	94 430 (+2.7%)
NEGOTIABLE CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT OUTSTANDING	3 903	3 568 (+9.4%)	3 192 (+22.3%)
LOANS AND ADVANCES:			
FOR USE IN HK	93 109	93 022 (+0.1%)	87 190 (+6.8%)
FOR USE OUTSIDE HK	27 519	28 915 (-4.8%)	26 824 (+2.6%)

DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES' BALANCE SHEETS

DEPOSITS	61 367	59 207 (+3.6%)	55 767 (+10.0%)
NEGOTIABLE CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT OUTSTANDING	1 353	1 245 (+8.7%)	823 (+64.4%)
LOANS AND ADVANCES:			
FOR USE IN HK	37 311	36 213 (+3.0%)	32 318 (+15.4%)
FOR USE OUTSIDE HK	31 557	30 768 (+2.6%)	28 699 (+10.0%)

TABLE 2

MONEY AND BANKING FIGURES - END OF OCTOBER 1981 (IN \$MILLION)

	OCT 1981	FIGURES FOR EARLIER MONTHS (% CHANGE)		
		SEPT 1981	JULY 1981	OCT 1980
M1	23 522	24 159 (-2.6%)	23 418 (+0.4%)	25 575 (-8.0%)
M2	110 326	109 879 (+0.4%)	106 552 (+3.5%)	95 636 (+15.4%)
M3	172 939	170 038 (+1.7%)	163 025 (+6.1%)	131 311 (+31.7%)

/BANKS

BANKS

DEPOSITS	100 976	100 716 (+0.3%)	97 624 (+3.4%)	87 407 (+15.5%)
LOANS AND ADVANCES IN HONG KONG	121 743	122 752 (-0.8%)	115 779 (+5.2%)	85 278 (+42.8%)
LOAN/DEPOSIT RATIO	120.6%	121.9%	118.6%	97.6%
AVERAGE LIQUIDITY RATIO	53.9%	52.1%	49.8%	46.8%

DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES

DEPOSITS	62 613	60 159 (+4.1%)	56 473 (+10.9%)	35 675 (+75.5%)
LOANS AND ADVANCES IN HONG KONG	45 513	43 435 (+4.8%)	39 676 (+14.7%)	27 149 (+67.6%)
LOAN/DEPOSIT RATIO	72.7%	72.2%	70.2%	76.1%
AVERAGE LIQUIDITY RATIO	46.5%	46.7%	44.4%	47.9%

BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES:

TOTAL LOANS AND ADVANCES IN HONG KONG	167 256	166 187 (+0.6%)	155 455 (+7.6%)	112 427 (+48.8%)
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CLEARWAYS IN NORTH POINT

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TWO SECTIONS OF MODEL LANE IN NORTH POINT WILL BE DESIGNATED AS RESTRICTED ZONES FROM 10 AM ON TUESDAY (DECEMBER 8) TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW.

NO VEHICLES, EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES, WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS BETWEEN 7 AM AND 10 AM AND BETWEEN 4 PM AND 7 PM DAILY.

THE RESTRICTED ZONES WILL BE IDENTIFIED BY TRAFFIC SIGNS AND CARRIAGEWAY MARKINGS.

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SHA TIN CYCLE TRACK OPENED TODAY
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THE FIRST 11 KILOMETRES OF CYCLE TRACK IN SHA TIN WERE OFFICIALLY OPENED TODAY (SUNDAY).

THE TRACK, WHICH IS PLANNED FOR BOTH ROAD SAFETY AND RECREATIONAL PURPOSES, RUNS FROM MEI LAM ESTATE, THROUGH TAI WAI, SHA TIN TAU, SHA TIN TOWN CENTRE, LEK YUEN AND WO CHE HOUSING ESTATES, ENDING AT FO TAN INDUSTRIAL AREA.

IT WILL EXTEND OVER A DISTANCE OF 47.5 KILOMETRES IN AND AROUND THE NEW TOWN WHEN FULLY DEVELOPED.

CONSTRUCTION WORK FOR THE FIRST STAGE OF THE TRACK NETWORK INVOLVED BUILDING 19 TUNNELS AND TWO BRIDGES.

THE GENERAL WIDTH IS 3.5 METRES, RUNNING ON DIFFERENT LEVELS PARALLEL TO THE MAIN CARRIAGEWAYS.

IT HAS ITS OWN SIGNPOSTS AND IS FOR THE USE OF CYCLISTS ONLY.

THE SECRETARY FOR CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, WHO WAS PERFORMING THE JOINT OPENING OF THE SHA TIN ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN AND THE CYCLE TRACK, SAID IT WAS HIGHLY SIGNIFICANT THAT THE TWO EVENTS WERE TAKING PLACE ON THE SAME DAY BECAUSE THEY WERE BOTH CONNECTED WITH ROAD SAFETY.

+ON THE ONE HAND WE HAVE TO MAKE PEOPLE MORE AWARE OF THE SIMPLE RULES OF ROAD SAFETY AND ON THE OTHER TO ENSURE THAT BY INTELLIGENT CONSTRUCTION OF ROADS AND OTHER FACILITIES WE AVOID CAUSING UNNECESSARY DANGER AND ADOPT MEASURES WHICH HELP ELIMINATE ACCIDENTS,+ HE SAID.

+IT IS A SAD FACT THAT WHILE THE POPULATION OF THE NEW TERRITORIES HAS GROWN 37 PER CENT IN THE PAST FOUR YEARS THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SERIOUS ACCIDENTS ON THE ROADS HAS GROWN BY THE SAME AMOUNT - 37 PER CENT.+

CYCLE TRACKS ON THIS SCALE HAD NOT PREVIOUSLY BEEN INTRODUCED INTO HONG KONG, MR AKERS-JONES SAID.

+OUR INTENTION IN SHA TIN WAS TO PROVIDE A QUICK, CHEAP AND SAFE METHOD OF LINKING UP PARTS OF THE TOWN, PARTICULARLY THE RESIDENTIAL AND INDUSTRIAL AREAS,+ HE SAID.

SHA TIN CYCLE TRACKS WOULD EVENTUALLY LINK WITH TAI PO AND TAI PO TO THE PAT SIN COUNTRY PARK.

+IN ADDITION WE ARE, WHEREVER POSSIBLE, SEPARATING PEDESTRIANS AND VEHICLES BY THE CONSTRUCTION, FROM THE VERY BEGINNING IN THE NEW TOWNS, OF SUBWAYS AND BRIDGES AND PODIUM DECKS,+ HE SAID.

THE ENVIRONMENT OF WO CHE AND LEK YUEN ESTATES WAS A FINE EXAMPLE OF THIS NEW APPROACH TO THE BUILDING OF PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES.

+BUT IT IS STILL NECESSARY TO IMPRESS ON ALL OUR RESIDENTS, AND PARTICULARLY THE YOUNG, THE NEED FOR SAFE BEHAVIOUR ON THE ROADS,+ MR AKERS-JONES SAID.

THE OPENING INCLUDED A PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY FOR ROAD SAFETY SLOGAN AND POSTER COMPETITIONS ORGANISED BY SHA TIN ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE- A DEMONSTRATION BY THE HONG KONG CYCLING ASSOCIATION- A LION DANCE BY TAI WAI YOUTH ASSOCIATION- AND A TOUR OF A MINI ROAD SAFETY TOWN AT LEK YUEN PLAYGROUND.

ALSO OFFICIATING TODAY WERE THE DIRECTOR OF NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT, MR JOHN DON- THE DISTRICT POLICE COMMANDER NEW TERRITORIES, MR MIKE ILLINGWORTH- SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICER, DR PATRICK HASE- AND THE CHAIRMAN OF SHA TIN ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, MR WAI HON-LEUNG.

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MORE STUDENTS GRADUATE FROM TECHNICAL INSTITUTES * * * *

A TOTAL OF 7 140 STUDENTS GRADUATED LAST JULY FROM THE FIVE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 3.3 PER CENT OVER LAST YEAR'S FIGURES.

+OF THIS NUMBER, 1 720 ATTENDED FULL-TIME COURSES, 2 401 ATTENDED PART-TIME COURSES AND THE REMAINDER ATTENDED EVENING COURSES,+ AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

THEY HAVE GRADUATED FROM 12 MAIN DISCIPLINES RUN BY THE FIVE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES, NAMELY MORRISON HILL, KWAI CHUNG, KWUN TONG, HAKING WONG AND LEE WAI LEE.

ON THE ACADEMIC LEVEL OF THE GRADUATES, THE SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT 2 663 OR 37.3 PER CENT HAD COMPLETED TECHNICIAN OR COMPARABLE COURSES, AND THE REST COMPLETED CRAFT OR COMPARABLE LEVEL COURSES.

AT PRESENT THE FIVE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES ARE RUNNING 236 COURSES COVERING THE 12 MAIN DISCIPLINES, INCLUDING HOTEL-KEEPING AND TOURISM STUDIES, COMMERCIAL STUDIES, CONSTRUCTION, ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, MECHANICAL ENGINEERING, GENERAL STUDIES, INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY, PRINTING, TEXTILE INDUSTRIES, CLOTHING INDUSTRIES, MARINE AND FABRICATION, AND DESIGN.

THE MAJORITY OF THE FULL-TIME GRADUATES FOUND JOBS WITHIN A FEW WEEKS OF THEIR GRADUATION, AND SOME OF THEM HAD GONE ON TO FURTHER STUDIES, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

AN EMPLOYMENT SURVEY IS BEING CONDUCTED TO OBTAIN FURTHER DETAILS OF THE SITUATION.

THE PART-TIME STUDENTS HAVE ATTENDED COURSES RELEVANT TO THEIR FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT, THUS ENHANCING THEIR PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION AND PROMOTION PROSPECTS.

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TUEN MUN TANG SHIU KIN SPORTS GROUND OPENING
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THE \$8 MILLION TUEN MUN TANG SHIU KIN SPORTS GROUND WILL BE OPENED NEXT WEEK TO PROVIDE A MUCH NEEDED PROPER VENUE FOR SPORTS COMPETITIONS, TRACK AND FIELDS EVENTS FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE RAPIDLY DEVELOPING TUEN MUN.

TO MARK THE OPENING, THE SECRETARY FOR CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, AND THE DIRECTOR OF NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES, MR JIMMY SWEETMAN, WILL OFFICIATE AT A CEREMONY.

SIR SHIU-KIN TANG WHO HAS GENEROUSLY DONATED \$2 MILLION TOWARDS THE PROJECT WHICH WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN ADVANCING THE CONSTRUCTION WORK OF PHASE ONE OF THE SPORTS GROUND WILL ALSO ATTEND.

THE SPORTS CENTRE, LOCATED ON A THREE-HECTARE SITE NEAR TAI HING ESTATE IN THE NEW TOWN, WAS BUILT BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT AND IS MANAGED BY THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

THE SPORTS GROUND COMPRISES A FULL-SIZE GRASS FOOTBALL PITCH, AN EIGHT-LANE 400 METRE ALL-WEATHER RUNNING TRACK FOR ALL FIELDS AND TRACKS ACTIVITIES.

AS AN ACTIVE RECREATIONAL VENUE FOR THE DISTRICT, FLOODLIGHTING AND WOODEN STANDS FOR 3 000 SPECTATORS ENABLE THE SPORTS GROUND TO BE MORE FULLY UTILISED.

OTHER FACILITIES INCLUDE CHANGING ROOMS, TOILETS, STORE ROOMS FOR ATHLETICS EQUIPMENT, OFFICE, SPECIAL CHANGING FACILITIES AND TOILETS FOR THE DISABLED ARE ALSO AVAILABLE.

BOOKING FOR THE USE OF THE FACILITIES CAN NOW BE MADE AT THE OFFICE SITUATED AT THE SPORTS GROUND, SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

CONSTRUCTION OF PHASE TWO OF THE SPORTS GROUND TO FURTHER EXPAND IT INTO A MULTI-PURPOSE RECREATIONAL AND SPORTS CENTRE WILL SOON START, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

IT WILL INCLUDE CONCRETE SPECTATOR STANDS, BASKETBALL AND MINI-SOCCER PITCHES AND A CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND AT AN ADJACENT SITE.

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IMPROVEMENT IN SERVICES FOR DISABLED

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THE SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES, MR ERIC HO, TODAY (SUNDAY) POINTED OUT THAT SOME SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT HAD BEEN MADE IN THE PROVISION OF SERVICES FOR THE DISABLED OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

ADDRESSING THE INAUGURAL SESSION OF THE 5TH ASIAN CONFERENCE ON MENTAL RETARDATION, HE SAID : +THERE HAVE BEEN BETTER PREVENTIVE AND IDENTIFICATION SERVICES, MUCH IMPROVED SOCIAL WELFARE AND MEDICAL FACILITIES, PROVISION OF MORE PRE-SCHOOL CARE CENTRES, SPECIAL SCHOOLS AND RESIDENTIAL HOMES, TO NAME A FEW OF THE SERVICE AREAS OF PARTICULAR RELEVANCE TO THE MENTALLY RETARDED.+

MR HO SAID THAT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF ITS REHABILITATION POLICY THE GOVERNMENT HAD DRAWN UP A COMPREHENSIVE 10-YEAR REHABILITATION PROGRAMME PLAN IN 1976.

+SINCE THE ADOPTION OF THE 1977 WHITE PAPER THIS PROGRAMME PLAN HAS BEEN REVIEWED ANNUALLY AND ROLLED FORWARD ONE YEAR EACH TIME, SO THAT WE CONTINUALLY KEEP UP A 10-YEAR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME,+ HE ADDED.

MR HO ALSO STRESSED THE PART PLAYED BY THE FAMILY IN THE REHABILITATION AND RE-INTEGRATION OF ITS DISABLED MEMBERS.

+ALTHOUGH MOST FAMILIES HAVE LITTLE OR NO PROFESSIONAL TRAINING, THE FACT THAT THEY ARE UNDER THE SAME ROOF MEANS THAT THEY ARE IN THE FRONT-LINE TO PROVIDE NEEDED ASSISTANCE AND SERVICE TO THEIR DISABLED MEMBERS,+ HE SAID.

HE TOLD THE DELEGATES THAT HK'S REHABILITATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE POLICIES WERE GEARED IN THIS DIRECTION.

+WE HAVE LAUNCHED A GENERAL FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION PROGRAMME, EXPANDED OUR PARENTAL COUNSELLING SERVICES AND INTEND TO MAINTAIN AN INTENSIVE PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN TO EDUCATE THE COMMUNITY ON WHAT THEY CAN AND SHOULD DO TO HELP THE DISABLED ACHIEVE INTEGRATION,+ HE SAID.

MR HO NOTED THAT OTHER THAN THE EXCHANGE OF IDEAS AND EXPERIENCES THE CONFERENCE WOULD ALSO PROVIDE FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF COMMON GOALS AND THE DRAWING UP OF PLANS FOR IMPLEMENTATION.

+I WISH YOU EVERY SUCCESS IN THIS FORMIDABLE BUT MEANINGFUL TASK WHICH IS ALSO IN ACCORD WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF DISABLED PERSONS FOR A LONG-TERM PLAN OF ACTION BEYOND 1981.+

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SEVENTH REPORT OF HK TRAINING COUNCIL PUBLISHED
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DRAFTING OF THE NECESSARY LEGISLATION FOR A STATUTORY ORGANISATION TO REPLACE THE HONG KONG TRAINING COUNCIL IS IN AN ADVANCED STAGE, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL, MR FRANCIS TIEN, REVEALED TODAY (SUNDAY).

ANNOUNCING THE PUBLICATION OF THE SEVENTH REPORT OF THE COUNCIL, MR TIEN SAID THE NEW STATUTORY BODY WOULD ADMINISTER MANPOWER TRAINING AND WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE NOT ONLY FOR THE CURRENT ADVISORY FUNCTIONS OF THE COUNCIL BUT ALSO THE EXECUTIVE FUNCTION OF MANAGING TRAINING SCHEMES.

IT SHOULD BE CONCERNED NOT ONLY WITH MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS BUT ALSO IMPLEMENTING THEM AS WELL, HE SAID.

DURING THE YEAR UNDER REVIEW, MR TIEN POINTED OUT, THE COUNCIL HAD ALSO SUBMITTED PROPOSALS TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF TRAINING SCHEMES FOR THE ELECTRONICS, PLASTICS, TEXTILES AND THE HOTEL INDUSTRIES AS WELL AS SCHEMES FOR PROVIDING BASIC TRAINING IN KEY ENGINEERING TRADES AND POST-GRADUATE TRAINING FOR ENGINEERING GRADUATES.

ALL HAD BEEN ACCEPTED BY GOVERNMENT FOR IMPLEMENTATION, AND ALL THE SCHEMES WOULD BE ACCOMMODATED IN TWO PROPOSED TRAINING CENTRE COMPLEXES.

TWO SITES, ONE IN KOWLOON BAY AND THE OTHER IN KWAI CHUNG, HAD BEEN TENTATIVELY RESERVED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THESE COMPLEXES.

THE SIX SCHEMES WOULD TOGETHER TRAIN MORE THAN 7 300 TRAINEES A YEAR AND INVOLVE A CAPITAL AND ANNUAL RECURRENT EXPENDITURE IN EXCESS OF \$110 MILLION AND \$55 MILLION RESPECTIVELY, MR TIEN ADDED.

THE REPORT ALSO OUTLINES THE PROGRESS MADE BY THE TRAINING COUNCIL, ITS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND VARIOUS INDUSTRY/COMMERCE AND SERVICE TRAINING BOARDS AND COMMITTEES DURING THE PERIOD FROM APRIL 1980 TO MARCH 1981.

THE AMENDED APPRENTICESHIP ORDINANCE AND REGULATIONS WERE BROUGHT INTO FORCE IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 1980. FOR THE FIRST TIME, A +NON-INDUSTRIAL+ TRADE - +HOTEL COOK - WESTERN STYLE+ WAS DESIGNATED UNDER THE APPRENTICESHIP ORDINANCE, BRINGING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF DESIGNATED TRADES TO 37.

THE COUNCIL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ADVISING THE GOVERNOR ON MEASURES NECESSARY TO ENSURE THAT THERE IS A COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF MANPOWER TRAINING GEARED TO THE DEVELOPING NEEDS OF HONG KONG'S ECONOMY.

THE REPORT, PUBLISHED IN BOTH CHINESE AND ENGLISH, IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATION CENTRES AT \$11 A COPY.

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INVEST IN TUEN MUN CALL BY SIR S.Y. CHUNG
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A CALL TO INVESTORS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF TUEN MUN WAS MADE TODAY (SUNDAY).

THE SENIOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, SIR S.Y. CHUNG, SPEAKING AT THE CLOSING OF TUEN MUN FESTIVAL, SAID THE NEW TOWN OFFERED EXCELLENT POTENTIAL FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT.

+WITH A POPULATION OF 130 000, MANY OF WHOM ARE YOUNG SKILLED LABOURERS, THERE IS AN ABUNDANT SUPPLY OF MANPOWER AMONGST EXISTING RESIDENTS,+ HE SAID.

+THE EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL TRANSPORT NETWORK IS BEING SUBSTANTIALLY IMPROVED, AND EXCELLENT SUPPORTING ANCILLARY SERVICES, SUCH AS BANKING AND POSTAL COMMUNICATIONS, HAVE BEEN WELL PROVIDED.+

ABOVE ALL, THERE WAS A PLENTIFUL SUPPLY OF LAND FOR INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT BEING PUT ON THE MARKET FOR PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT, SIR S.Y. SAID.

ALL THESE FACTORS PROVED THAT TUEN MUN, ONE OF THE MOST RAPIDLY DEVELOPING OF THE NEW TOWNS, HAD EXCELLENT POTENTIAL FOR PRIVATE INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT.

SIR S.Y. SAID THE POPULATION OF TUEN MUN HAD DOUBLED IN THE PAST THREE YEARS AND EVERY EFFORT WAS BEING MADE BY GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS TO BUILD A HARMONIOUS AND INTEGRATED COMMUNITY.

THE FESTIVAL OPENED ON NOVEMBER 21 AND INCLUDED 22 EVENTS ALL OF WHICH WERE WELL ATTENDED. THE COST WAS \$300 000.

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PRISONS DEPARTMENT HELPS PREVENT COUNTRY FIRE
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WHILE STAFF OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT ARE CONSTANTLY ON THE LOOKOUT FOR FIRES IN THE COUNTRYSIDE, INVALUABLE ASSISTANCE IS ALSO RENDERED BY THE PRISONS DEPARTMENT.

EVERY YEAR AROUND THE FIRE SEASON, INMATES OF THE PENAL INSTITUTIONS HELP THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT PREVENT FIRES BY CUTTING UNDERGROWTH INSIDE COUNTRY PARKS.

FOR THE PAST COUPLE OF MONTHS, INMATES OF THE TAI LAM CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION HAVE BEEN TRIMMING GRASS IN THE TAI LAM CHUNG COUNTRY PARK IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

GRASS CUTTING IS ESSENTIAL FOR FIRE PREVENTION IN THE COUNTRYSIDE, ESPECIALLY NEAR PLANTATION AREAS, SO THAT FIRE BREAKS CAN BE MADE IN ORDER TO PREVENT FIRES FROM SPREADING.

/THE GRASS

THE GRASS CUTTING OPERATION, LAUNCHED IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST FROM THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, IS ALSO PART OF THE PRISONS DEPARTMENT'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY.

SUCH EXERCISE ALSO GIVES THE COUNTRYSIDE A TIDY AND NEAT APPEARANCE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT SAID DURING LAST YEAR THERE WERE ALMOST 300 FIRES INSIDE COUNTRY PARKS AND MOST OF WHICH COULD HAVE BEEN AVOIDED.

HE URGED THE PUBLIC TO TAKE EXTRA PRECAUTIONS WHILE BARBECUING IN THE COUNTRYSIDE DURING THE DRY SEASON, AND REMINDED THAT IT IS AN OFFENCE TO BARBECUE OUTSIDE DESIGNATED AREAS.

HE SAID HILLFIRES COST MONEY BOTH TO MEET THE COST OF THE FIRE-FIGHTING ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED, AND IN TERMS OF LOSS ON THE CAPITAL INVESTMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS FOR PLANTATION AND COUNTRY PARKS.

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BUILDING PLANS APPROVED IN OCTOBER

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A TOTAL OF 53 NEW BUILDING PLANS WERE APPROVED BY THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE IN OCTOBER THIS YEAR, COMPARED WITH 63 IN OCTOBER LAST YEAR.

OF THESE NEW PLANS, 23 WERE FOR NEW BUILDINGS ON HONG KONG ISLAND, 6 FOR KOWLOON AND 24 FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THEY INCLUDE A BUS DEPOT IN YUEN LONG, A CARPARK AND QUARTERS IN THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, TWO SCHOOL EXTENSIONS AT SYCAMORE STREET AND YUK WAH STREET, TSZ WAN SHAN, AN ELECTRICITY SUBSTATION AT TAI PAK TIN STREET, KWAI CHUNG AND A CHURCH AT TAI PO ROAD.

THE DECLARED COST OF ALL NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED DURING THE MONTH WAS \$375.5 MILLION, COMPARED WITH \$1 029 MILLION IN THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR.

THEIR TOTAL USABLE FLOOR AREA AMOUNTED TO 186 583.1 SQUARE METRES, COMPRISING 101 595.2 SQUARE METRES OF NON-DOMESTIC AND 84 987.9 SQUARE METRES OF DOMESTIC FLOOR SPACE.

THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE ALSO GAVE CONSENT FOR WORK TO START ON 55 PROJECTS INCLUDING A DORMITORIES EXTENSION AT CUMBERLAND ROAD AND AN ELECTRICITY SUBSTATION AT HONG LOK YUEN, TAI PO, A HOLIDAY CENTRE AT CASTLE PEAK ROAD, PING SHAN AND AN OIL TANK ON LAMMA ISLAND.

ALTOGETHER, 51 NEWLY COMPLETED BUILDINGS WERE CERTIFIED FOR OCCUPATION IN OCTOBER, INCLUDING TWO SCHOOLS AT HING FAT STREET AND POK FU LAM ROAD AND A TEMPLE AT CHUK YUEN.

THE OFFICE ALSO AGREED TO THE DEMOLITION OF 70 BUILDINGS.

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