



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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EXPORT-LED ECONOMIC RECOVERY SUSTAINED  
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THE EXPORT-LED ECONOMIC RECOVERY WAS WELL SUSTAINED IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1984, ACCORDING TO THE HALF-YEARLY ECONOMIC REPORT 1984 PUBLISHED TODAY BY THE GOVERNMENT.

REFLECTING THE CONTINUED IMPROVEMENT IN THE ECONOMIES OF SEVERAL OF HONG KONG'S MAJOR EXPORT MARKETS, DOMESTIC EXPORTS GREW BY 45 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS OR ABOUT 25 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS IN THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR, COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

NOTWITHSTANDING PREDICTIONS OF A GRADUAL SLOWING DOWN IN THE GROWTH RATE OF THE UNITED STATES ECONOMY, THE REPORT SAYS THAT THE SHORT-TERM PROSPECTS FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS ARE LIKELY TO REMAIN ENCOURAGING, IN VIEW OF THE SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN REAL TERMS IN RETAINED IMPORTS OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES AND THE STRONG ORDER-BOOK POSITIONS OF MANY INDUSTRIES IN THE FIRST HALF.

FOLLOWING THE IMPROVEMENTS IN EXPORT ACTIVITIES AND IN THE LABOUR MARKET SITUATION, DOMESTIC DEMAND RECOVERED IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1984.

COMPARED WITH THE FIRST HALF OF 1983, RETAINED IMPORTS OF CONSUMER GOODS AND OF CAPITAL GOODS GREW BY ABOUT EIGHT PER CENT AND 24 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN REAL TERMS. THESE INCREASES COMPARE FAVOURABLY WITH THE CORRESPONDING DECLINES OF ONE PER CENT AND FIVE PER CENT IN 1983.

THE REPORT SAYS THAT THE UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT SITUATION FOR THE LABOUR FORCE AS A WHOLE IMPROVED FURTHER IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF THIS YEAR, AFTER CONSIDERABLE IMPROVEMENT IN THE MIDDLE OF 1983 AND RELATIVE STABILITY IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1984. WITH THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AT 3.5 PER CENT IN THE SECOND QUARTER, THE LABOUR FORCE WAS EFFECTIVELY FULLY EMPLOYED.

THE RATE OF INFLATION (AS MEASURED BY THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX A) SLOWED DOWN TO NINE PER CENT IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1984, FROM A YEAR-ON-YEAR RATE OF INCREASE OF 11 PER CENT IN THE FIRST QUARTER.

IN ANNUALISED TERMS, THE RATE OF INCREASE WAS 5.1 PER CENT DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 1984, COMPARED WITH 13.2 PER CENT DURING THE SECOND HALF OF 1983.

THIS DECELERATION IN THE RATE OF INCREASE IN CONSUMER PRICES SUGGESTS THAT THE SHARP DEPRECIATION OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR UP TO SEPTEMBER 1983 IS NO LONGER HAVING AN ADVERSE EFFECT ON THE RATE OF INCREASE OF RETAIL PRICES.

/THE REPORT .....

THE REPORT REVIEWS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1984 USING SUCH STATISTICS AS ARE CURRENTLY AVAILABLE. IT ALSO UPDATES THE ANALYSIS OF THE ECONOMY IN THE FIRST QUARTER ECONOMIC REPORT 1984 PUBLISHED IN MAY. APART FROM GIVING AN OVERALL VIEW, THE REPORT ALSO CONTAINS INDIVIDUAL CHAPTERS ON THE EXTERNAL SECTOR, THE FINANCIAL SECTOR, THE LABOUR SECTOR, ACTIVITY IN SELECTED SECTORS AND PRICES.

ON THE EXTERNAL SECTOR, THE REPORT POINTS OUT THAT THE YEAR-ON-YEAR GROWTH RATE IN REAL TERMS OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS ACCELERATED TO ABOUT 25 PER CENT IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1984, FROM NINE PER CENT IN THE FIRST HALF AND 19 PER CENT IN THE SECOND HALF OF 1983.

IN PARTICULAR, DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CHINA GREW BY ABOUT 57 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS IN THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR, WITH THE RESULT THAT CHINA HAS OVERTAKEN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AS HONG KONG'S THIRD LARGEST EXPORT MARKET (AFTER THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNITED KINGDOM).

IMPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS ALSO ROSE RAPIDLY, BY ABOUT 19 PER CENT AND 34 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN REAL TERMS IN THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR. THESE GROWTH RATES WERE AGAIN HIGHER THAN THOSE RECORDED IN THE FIRST AND SECOND HALVES OF 1983.

THE REPORT POINTS OUT THAT THE GROWTH RATE OF THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS (DOMESTIC EXPORTS PLUS RE-EXPORTS) IN THE FIRST HALF, AT 49 PER CENT, WAS FASTER THAN THAT OF IMPORTS, AT 39 PER CENT. THE VISIBLE TRADE GAP THUS NARROWED TO FIVE PER CENT IN THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR, COMPARED WITH 12 PER CENT IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1983.

ON THE FINANCIAL SECTOR, THE REPORT NOTES THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENTS DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 1984.

FIRST, THE EXCHANGE VALUE OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR, IN TERMS OF ITS LINKED RATE WITH THE US DOLLAR, REMAINED LARGELY STABLE UNDER THE LINKED EXCHANGE RATE SYSTEM. HOWEVER, IN TERMS OF THE TRADE-WEIGHTED EXCHANGE RATE INDEX, THERE WAS AN APPRECIATION, REFLECTING THE GLOBAL STRENGTH OF THE US DOLLAR.

SECOND, THE GROWTH RATE OF THE MONEY SUPPLY SLOWED DOWN DURING THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1984, AFTER THE ACCELERATION IN THE FIRST QUARTER, LARGELY DUE TO THE SLOWER GROWTH IN LOANS AND ADVANCES. BUT THE FOREIGN CURRENCY COMPONENT OF THE MONEY SUPPLY GREW AT A FASTER RATE THAN ITS HONG KONG DOLLAR COUNTERPART.

THIRD, LARGELY IN RESPONSE TO CHANGES IN THE DEMAND FOR, AND THE SUPPLY OF, FINANCIAL CAPITAL IN THE LOCAL MONEY MARKET AS WELL AS TO MOVEMENTS IN US DOLLAR INTEREST RATES, LOCAL ADMINISTERED INTEREST RATES WERE ADJUSTED DOWNWARDS ON FOUR OCCASIONS AND SUBSEQUENTLY UPWARDS ON FIVE OCCASIONS, SO THAT AT THE END OF JUNE, THEY WERE LITTLE CHANGED FROM THE LEVELS PREVAILING AT THE END OF DECEMBER 1983.

ON THE LABOUR SECTOR, THE REPORT OBSERVES THAT THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AND THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE BOTH FELL IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF THIS YEAR, TO 3.5 PER CENT AND ONE PER CENT RESPECTIVELY. THE CORRESPONDING FIGURES FOR THE PREVIOUS QUARTER WERE FOUR PER CENT AND 1.5 PER CENT.

AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF THE CONTINUED STRONG PERFORMANCE OF THE EXPORT SECTOR, MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT INCREASED DURING THE 12 MONTHS TO MARCH 1984.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE TERTIARY SERVICES SECTOR, PARTICULARLY IN RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS, ALSO SHOWED SOME INCREASE.

EMPLOYMENT ON BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION SITES, ON THE OTHER HAND, SHOWED A FURTHER DECLINE DURING THE SAME PERIOD, ALTHOUGH A SLIGHT IMPROVEMENT WAS RECORDED DURING THE FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR.

THE REPORT ALSO MENTIONS THAT DURING THE 12 MONTHS TO MARCH 1984, EARNINGS IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, IN TERMS OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED, INCREASED BOTH IN MONEY AND REAL TERMS.

EARNINGS IN THE TERTIARY SERVICES SECTOR IMPROVED IN MONEY TERMS BUT WERE UNCHANGED IN REAL TERMS.

REFLECTING THE DEPRESSED STATE OF THE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY, CONSTRUCTION WAGE RATES FELL IN REAL TERMS, ALTHOUGH IN MONEY TERMS THEY SHOWED A SLIGHT INCREASE.

THE REPORT FURTHER OBSERVES THAT MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY CONTINUED TO EXPAND IN THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR, AS EVIDENCED BY THE LATEST STATISTICS ON DOMESTIC EXPORTS, RETAINED IMPORTS OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES, OUTWARD CARGO MOVEMENTS BY SEA AND BY AIR, AND THE QUANTITY OF ELECTRICITY CONSUMED BY THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR.

ALTHOUGH NO DIRECT MEASURE OF PRODUCTIVITY GROWTH IS POSSIBLE, THE REPORT POINTS OUT THAT THE HIGH LEVEL OF MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY AND MANUFACTURING EXPORTS IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1984 WAS PROBABLY ACCOMPANIED BY A FURTHER IMPROVEMENT IN LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY, MEASURED IN TERMS OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS PER PERSON ENGAGED IN MANUFACTURING. SUCH IMPROVEMENT WAS DUE IN PART TO AN INCREASE IN OVERTIME WORK.

ON THE PROPERTY SECTOR, THE REPORT NOTES THAT APART FROM SMALL RESIDENTIAL FLATS, THE DEMAND FOR PROPERTY GENERALLY REMAINED WEAK.

THE SUPPLY OF NEW PRIVATE-SECTOR PROPERTY, IN TERMS OF TOTAL USABLE FLOOR AREA OF ALL BUILDINGS COMPLETED, FELL BY 43 PER CENT IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1984, COMPARED WITH THE FIRST HALF OF 1983.

PRICES AND RENTALS OF FINISHED PROPERTY IN GENERAL EITHER STABILISED OR EASED SLIGHTLY.

IN OVERALL TERMS, THE BUILDING INTENTIONS OF PRIVATE DEVELOPERS RECOVERED IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1984, AS EVIDENCED BY AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF BUILDING PLANS WITH CONSENT TO COMMENCE WORK OVER THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR. THE SITUATION, HOWEVER, VARIED WITH THE TYPE OF PROPERTY, WITH A VERY SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE FOR RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY BEING OFFSET BY DECREASES FOR COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY.

ON PRICES, THE REPORT SAYS THAT THE RATE OF INFLATION EXHIBITED A FALLING UNDERLYING TREND.

THE LINKED EXCHANGE RATE SYSTEM NOW IN OPERATION, TOGETHER WITH SEVERAL FAVOURABLE FACTORS, SUCH AS THE MODERATE RATE OF INFLATION IN THE ECONOMIES OF HONG KONG'S MAJOR TRADING PARTNERS AND MODEST RATE OF CREDIT EXPANSION, SHOULD AUGUR WELL FOR A FURTHER SLOWING DOWN IN THE RATE OF INFLATION IN THE COMING MONTHS.

THE ENGLISH EDITION OF THE REPORT IS NOW ON SALE AT \$12 A COPY. THE CHINESE EDITION WILL BE AVAILABLE SHORTLY.

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DB ELECTIONS - FOUNDATIONS OF NEW STRUCTURE  
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THE CONCEPT AND OBJECTIVE OF HONG KONG PEOPLE GOVERNING THEMSELVES IS ONE TO WHICH THE TERRITORY MUST WORK WITH REALISM, THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

NEXT YEAR'S DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS ARE A STEP TOWARDS THIS PROCESS, HE TOLD A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG.

+WE CANNOT SAY NOW EXACTLY ALL THE CHANGES THAT WILL TAKE PLACE AS THE CONCEPT DEVELOPS, BUT TO BE PART OF THAT DEVELOPING SCENE AND TO HAVE A SHARE IN THE SYSTEM AS IT DEVELOPS, PEOPLE MUST REGISTER AS VOTERS NOW,+ HE SAID.

+IN THE YEARS AHEAD WE HAVE TO BUILD A NEW STRUCTURE OF GOVERNMENT; GENTLY AND GRADUALLY TO TRANSFER THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR GOVERNMENT TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG; TO MAINTAIN THE BOARD AGREEMENTS AND CONSENSUS TO MANAGE OUR ECONOMY; TO INCREASE OUR PROSPERITY AND IMPROVE OUR LIVING STANDARD.

+WE WANT NO SUDDEN EXCITEMENTS, NO CONFLICTS AND NO CONFRONTATIONS.

+THE DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS ARE THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE STRUCTURE WE HAVE TO BUILD.+

SPEAKING ON THE SIGNIFICANCE OF DB ELECTIONS, HE SAID THE BOARDS WERE THE VOICE OF THE MAN IN THE DISTRICT: +KWUN TONG SPEAKING TO LOWER ALBERT ROAD+.

+IF FROM INDIFFERENCE OR NEGLECT ONLY A FEW REGISTER, ONLY A FEW STAND AS CANDIDATES, ONLY A FEW VOTE; IF WE LET THE SITUATION GO BY DEFAULT, WE HAVE ONLY OURSELVES TO BLAME IF IN FUTURE YEARS THE ADVICE GIVEN AND WORK DONE BY DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES IS NOT WHAT WE WISH TO HEAR OR BEAR.

+THE DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS ARE DIRECT ELECTIONS ALTHOUGH THEY ARE NOT DIRECT ELECTIONS TO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL. DIRECT ELECTIONS TO LEGCO ARE A DISTINCT AND SEPARATE MATTER, NEED TO BE SEPARATELY ARGUED WITH DIFFERENT REASONS.+

ALTHOUGH MR AKERS-JONES APPRECIATED THAT IT WAS NOT ALWAYS EASY FOR PEOPLE TO RELATE A VOTE IN ELECTIONS TO MATTERS AFFECTING THEIR PERSONAL LIVES, HE DID NOT AGREE WITH THE UNIVERSAL TENDENCY OF +LEAVING IT TO THE NEXT MAN+.

THE MORE ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE COULD SPEAK WITH THE AUTHORITY OF A PERSON WHO HAD EMERGED FROM AN ELECTION WHICH WAS STRONGLY SUPPORTED AND PARTICIPATED IN BY THE PUBLIC, THE MORE AUTHORITY HE WOULD HAVE.

+HOW MUCH BETTER THAT WE AS A COMMUNITY CAN SAY 'HERE ARE THE DISTRICT BOARDS, THEY SPEAK FOR THE GRASSROOT.'

+HOW MUCH BETTER IF WE IN HONG KONG STAND UP IN THE NEXT ELECTIONS WITH A MILLION PEOPLE VOTING, AND THE REPRESENTATIVES ARE ELECTED AND CAN SPEAK WITH THAT DEGREE OF AUTHORITY,+ HE SAID.

HE NOTED THAT ALL THE BOARDS WERE ALREADY PERFORMING AN EXTREMELY USEFUL FUNCTION.

+THEY INCREASE AWARENESS OF PUBLIC OFFICERS OF LOCAL NEEDS; THEY HAVE ADDED STRENGTH TO THE VITAL WORK OF CLEANING UP OUR CITY; THEY INCREASE CIVIC PRIDE AND BEGIN TO PUSH BACK THE FEELING OF HELPLESSNESS AS URBAN BLIGHT SETTLES ON THE CITY; THEY INCREASE A SENSE OF INVOLVEMENT AND BELONGING.

+THEY BRING SENSE OF PURPOSE, UNITY, CONCERN AND ENTHUSIASM,+ HE ADDED.

AFTER NEXT YEAR'S ELECTIONS, HE SAID THE MAJORITY OF DB MEMBERS WOULD BE ELECTED, WITH EACH BOARD HAVING AN UNOFFICIAL AS ITS CHAIRMAN.

+THERE WILL BE 19 CHAIRMEN OF DISTRICT BOARDS WALKING THE STREETS OF THE DISTRICTS, FAMILIAR FIGURES, KNOWN TO THE MAN IN THE STREET. THE BOARDS AND THEIR CHAIRMEN WILL SPEAK WITH GREATER AUTHORITY, GREATER INDEPENDENCE.

+MOREOVER THEY WILL BECOME PART OF A PROCESS OF ELECTING MEMBERS TO LEGCO ANNOUNCED IN THE GREEN PAPER.+

MR AKERS-JONES DESCRIBED AS +NOT TRUE+ CRITICISMS THAT DB MEMBERS WERE IRRESPONSIBLE +POLITICAL ACTIVISTS, PRESSURE GROUPERS, FREE-LUNCHERS+.

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HE POINTED OUT THAT AT THE LAST DB ELECTIONS, 132 PEOPLE WERE ELECTED, COMPRISING 58 BUSINESSMEN, 22 TEACHERS, FIVE PROFESSIONALS, FOUR SOCIAL WORKERS AND 43 OTHERS.

LAST TIME 900 000 PEOPLE REGISTERED AND 300 000 VOTED.  
+IT WAS A SMALL PROPORTION BUT A BIG STEP FOR HONG KONG.+

IN RESPONSE TO REMARKS THAT THE DISTRICT BOARDS HAD NO +EXECUTIVE POWERS+, HE SAID THE BOARDS WERE NOT INTENDED AS A LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY IN ARCHETYPE WESTERN STYLE SINCE THE URBAN COUNCIL WAS ALREADY PERFORMING NECESSARY MUNICIPAL FUNCTIONS SUCH AS STREET SWEEPING AND CONTROL OF HAWKERS.

+SIMILARLY WE CANNOT EXPECT BOARDS TO HAVE POWERS TO OVERRIDE AND FRUSTRATE CENTRALLY-DECIDED POLICIES FOR THE PUBLIC AND GENERAL BENEFIT. HONG KONG IS TOO SMALL TO HAVE 18 SEPARATE LOCAL AUTHORITIES,+ HE ADDED.

SO WHAT HAVE THE BOARDS ACHIEVED? MR AKERS-JONES CITED WAN CHAI AS AN EXAMPLE.

DURING THE LAST THREE MONTHS, THE BOARD HAS WORKED TO IMPROVE THE PROVISION OF STUDY ROOMS IN THE DISTRICT; SURVEYED THE NEEDS OF THE AGED AND DRAWN UP A PROGRAMME PLAN; PROMOTED DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AS A BASIS FOR CIVIC EDUCATION AND ARRANGED DISCUSSION FORUMS OF PUBLIC INTEREST, INCLUDING THE GREEN PAPER ON REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT; AND CARRIED OUT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS.

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#### COMPUTER SYSTEM HELPS WITH FUNDS CONTROL \* \* \* \*

GOVERNMENT FUNDS ARE NOW BETTER MANAGED AND CONTROLLED BOTH AT THE CENTRAL AND DEPARTMENTAL LEVEL THROUGH THE USE OF A NEW COMPUTER SYSTEM.

THE NEW PROJECT, KNOWN AS THE LEDGER ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION SYSTEM, OR LAFIS, IS BEING IMPLEMENTED IN STAGES TO MEET THE NEED FOR FINANCIAL CONTROL AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION.

+IN THE PAST, GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS HAD TO RELY HEAVILY ON MANUAL SYSTEMS TO MAINTAIN BUDGET CONTROL AND TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT,+ A CHIEF TREASURY ACCOUNTANT, MR PAUL EVANS, SAID.

+NOW, DEPARTMENTS CAN ACHIEVE THIS THROUGH THE USE OF VIDEO DISPLAY TERMINALS LOCATED IN THEIR OFFICES. THESE TERMINALS, WHICH ALLOW BOTH DATA ENTRY AND INFORMATION RETRIEVAL, ARE LINKED TO THE CENTRAL LAFIS DATABASE INSTALLED IN THE TREASURY,+ SAID MR EVANS, WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FINANCIAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS DIVISION AT THE TREASURY.

/LAFIS, WHICH .....

LAFIS, WHICH USES THE LATEST HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE TECHNIQUES, IS ALSO USED BY VARIOUS LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND BY ORGANISATIONS IN AUSTRALIA AND OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD.

IN HONG KONG, DESIGNING OF THE GOVERNMENT SYSTEM STARTED IN JANUARY 1982, AND THE FIRST STAGE WAS INTRODUCED IN APRIL 1983 IN THE FINANCE BRANCH AND THREE DEPARTMENTS: MEDICAL AND HEALTH, ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES AND PRINTING.

IN APRIL THIS YEAR, THE SYSTEM WAS EXTENDED TO THE LANDS AND WORKS BRANCH AND SEVEN MORE DEPARTMENTS: AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, EDUCATION, ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT, FIRE SERVICES, MARINE, NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT AND WATER SUPPLIES.

GOVERNMENT LAND TRANSPORT AGENCY, CIVIL SERVICE TRAINING CENTRE, IMMIGRATION, CUSTOMS AND EXCISE, AND TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL BE LINKED TO THE SYSTEM FROM APRIL 1985.

EXPLAINING THE USES OF LAFIS, MR EVANS SAID, +IT ENABLES DEPARTMENTS TO MONITOR AND CONTROL EXPENDITURE AGAINST THEIR BUDGETS, UNDERTAKE BETTER FINANCIAL PLANNING, AND IDENTIFY HOW MUCH THE SERVICES THEY OFFER ARE COSTING THEM.+

AS FOR TREASURY, LAFIS REPLACES THE OLD GENERAL LEDGER SYSTEM IN PROVIDING BALANCE SHEETS, STATEMENTS OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE AND OTHER CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTING REPORTS.

MORE IMPORTANTLY FOR TREASURY, ON-LINE ACCESS TO THE CENTRAL DATABASE EXPEDITES THEIR CLOSING OF MONTHLY ACCOUNTS AND ALLOWS THEM TO INSPECT DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE ACCOUNTS AT ANY TIME.

HE SAID IMMEDIATE RETRIEVAL OF UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION FROM LAFIS ALSO HELPS THE FINANCE BRANCH ANALYSE TRENDS AND PROJECT EXPENDITURE OUTTURNS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR. THIS ASSISTS PLANNING AND THE MANAGEMENT OF FUNDS.

+THE SYSTEM ALSO HELPS IN BUDGET PREPARATION. WORKING FIGURES ARE ENTERED AND CAN BE AUTOMATICALLY ADJUSTED BEFORE THE OVERALL ANNUAL BUDGET IS FINALISED,+ HE SAID.

SO FAR THE GOVERNMENT HAS SPENT \$1 MILLION ON SOFTWARE FOR THE SYSTEM, AND \$3.25 MILLION ON ADDITIONAL HARDWARE.

DESIGN WORK IN TREASURY HAS INVOLVED 230 MAN MONTHS OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANCY AND DATA PROCESSING STAFF.

+LAFIS,+ HE EXPLAINED, +IS CONTINUALLY BEING EXTENDED. FOR EXAMPLE, THE SYSTEM IS TO DEAL WITH THE COMPLEX REQUIREMENTS OF THE GOVERNMENT'S CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME.+

/+FUTURE PLANS,+ .....

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+FUTURE PLANS,+ HE SAID, +ALSO INCLUDE NEW FEATURES TO BE DEVELOPED TO ASSIST IN OTHER ASPECTS OF DEPARTMENTAL, TREASURY AND FINANCE BRANCH ACTIVITIES.+

+THESE INCLUDE COSTING, FORECASTING AND A MORE SOPHISTICATED BUDGET PREPARATION SYSTEM. WE ALSO PLAN TO INTRODUCE A LAFIS VIEWDATA SERVICE SO THAT INFORMATION IS MADE AVAILABLE ON TVS IN PLACES WHERE INSTALLATION OF A TERMINAL IS NOT COST-JUSTIFIED.

+IT IS ENVISAGED THAT LAFIS WILL GRADUALLY BE EXTENDED TO MOST DEPARTMENTS, AND THAT BETTER FINANCIAL CONTROL AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION WILL THEREFORE BE ACHIEVED THROUGHOUT GOVERNMENT,+ HE SAID.

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TEXTILES BOARD BRIEFED ON OUTCOME OF WASHINGTON TALKS  
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THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, THIS (TUESDAY) MORNING BRIEFED THE TEXTILES ADVISORY BOARD (TEXTAB) ON THE OUTCOME OF THE RECENT CONSULTATIONS IN WASHINGTON.

THE TWO INDUSTRIAL ADVISERS, MR STEPHEN CHEONG AND MR KENNETH FANG, ALSO BRIEFED TEXTAB ON THEIR ACTIVITIES IN WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK.

SPEAKING TO THE MEDIA AFTER THE MEETING, MR MACLEOD SAID: +THE BOARD CONSIDERED THE NEXT STEPS TO TAKE. WE ARE CLEARLY IN A SITUATION WHICH IS STILL VERY FLEXIBLE. THERE COULD BE FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN THE U.S. OVER THE NEXT WEEK OR TWO. AND HENCE PRECISELY WHAT HAPPENS IN TERMS OF, FOR EXAMPLE, BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS, REMAIN TO BE SEEN IN THE LIGHT OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SHORT TERM.

+BUT CLEARLY THE NEXT FORMAL FORUM FOR PRESSURE, INFLUENCE, DISCUSSION, IS THE TEXTILE COMMITTEE MEETING IN GENEVA ON SEPTEMBER 4. APART FROM THAT, AS I HAVE SAID PREVIOUSLY, LOBBYING EFFORTS WILL CONTINUE NOT ONLY IN THE U.S. BUT THROUGH OUR OTHER OVERSEAS OFFICES IN LONDON, IN BRUSSELS AND, IN PARTICULAR, IN GENEVA.+

MR MACLEOD SAID HE WAS KEEPING UNDER REVIEW WHEN TO REVIVE THE BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS.

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION, MR MACLEOD SAID THE LOBBYING HAD BEEN GOING ON FOR A LONG TIME, PARTICULARLY THROUGH MR WILLIAM DORWARD, THE HONG KONG COMMISSIONER IN NEW YORK, WHO WAS VERY ACTIVE.

ON THE REACTION OF TEXTAB TO THE EFFORTS IN WASHINGTON BY THE HONG KONG DELEGATION, MR STEPHEN CHEONG SAID THAT WHILE THE BOARD WAS VERY CONCERNED, IT WAS +EXTREMELY PLEASED THAT THE DEPARTMENT AND ITS PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DISCHARGE THEIR NEGOTIATING BRIEF FULLY AND COMPETENTLY+.

/ON THE .....

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ON THE LACK OF POSITIVE RESULTS FROM THE UNITED STATES, MR CHEONG SAID THE AMERICAN AUTHORITIES WERE SO CONFUSED THAT THEY COULD NOT MAKE UP THEIR MINDS WHAT TO DO. HE ADDED THAT, ON THE OTHER HAND, HONG KONG'S POSITION WAS VERY CLEAR.

+THE UNITED STATES' UNILATERAL ACTION IS AGAINST BOTH THE SPIRIT AND THE LETTER OF THE BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS WHICH GOVERN NORMAL AND LEGAL TRADE BETWEEN THE TWO TERRITORIES.

+THERE ARE PROVISIONS WITHIN THESE AGREEMENTS THAT EITHER SIDE CAN REQUEST CONSULTATIONS IF THEY SEE ANY PROBLEMS ON ANY TRADE BETWEEN THE TWO TERRITORIES IN RESPECT OF TEXTILES. THERE IS NO ROOM FOR COMPROMISE AS FAR AS THAT IS CONCERNED, + MR CHEONG STRESSED.

AS TO WHEN HE WOULD BE GOING BACK TO WASHINGTON FOR FURTHER TALKS, MR MACLEOD SAID: +I DON'T HAVE ANY PARTICULAR DATE IN MIND BECAUSE IT VERY MUCH DEPENDS ON WHAT HAPPENS IN THE NEXT WEEK OR TWO.+

ASKED WHAT COULD THE GATT DO TO HELP OUT IN THE SITUATION, MR MACLEOD SAID, +AT THIS STAGE THE GATT REALLY MEANS THE TEXTILES COMMITTEE. AND THE TEXTILES COMMITTEE BASICALLY IS A FORUM FOR BRINGING OUT THE STRONG VIEWS OF A LARGE NUMBER OF COUNTRIES, HOPEFULLY TO INFLUENCE THE U.S. POSITION AND AGAIN HOPEFULLY TO GET SOME SORT OF ASSURANCES OR STATEMENTS FROM THE U.S. WHICH WILL HELP TO RESOLVE THIS PROBLEM.+

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#### TAC CONSIDERS ADVERTISING PROPOSAL

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THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE TODAY (TUESDAY) CONSIDERED A PROPOSAL BY OPERATORS OF TAXIS, PLB'S AND MAXICABS FOR DISPLAYING ADVERTISEMENTS ON THE OUTSIDE OF THEIR VEHICLES.

SIMILAR PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN MADE ON VARIOUS OCCASIONS IN THE PAST BUT WERE NOT PURSUED FOR TRAFFIC SAFETY AND AESTHETIC REASONS AND LIKELY CONTROL PROBLEMS.

THE LATEST PROPOSAL BY THE OPERATORS WAS SCRUTINISED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT AND ITS RECOMMENDATIONS SUBSEQUENTLY FOR PERMITTING A CONTROLLED FORM OF ADVERTISING ON THESE PUBLIC SERVICE VEHICLES WAS ENDORSED BY THE STANDING CONFERENCE ON ROAD USE LAST MONTH.

IN A PAPER PRESENTED TO THE TAC MEETING TODAY, THE DEPARTMENT EXPLAINED HOW THE VARIOUS PROBLEMS IDENTIFIED PREVIOUSLY COULD BE OVERCOME.

IT EXPLAINED THAT THERE WERE STILL GOOD REASONS FOR NOT ALLOWING ILLUMINATED ROOF-TOP AND BOOT-TOP SIGNS TO BE INSTALLED. HOWEVER, IT ACCEPTED THAT LIMITED DISPLAY OF ADVERTISEMENTS ON BOTH FRONT DOOR PANELS OF TAXIS AND ON THE TWO SIDES OF PLB'S AND MAXICABS BELOW THE WAIST BAND WOULD NOT CAUSE SUCH DISTRACTION TO ROAD USERS AS TO GIVE RISE TO TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS.

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FOR THE SAME REASON, THE DEPARTMENT AGREED THAT LIMITED EXTERNAL ADVERTISEMENTS WOULD BE UNLIKELY TO BE AESTHETICALLY OBJECTIONABLE TO THE MAJORITY OF THE PUBLIC.

AS REGARDS CONTROL PROBLEMS, THE DEPARTMENT POINTED OUT THAT THE MAIN INSTRUMENT OF ENFORCEMENT WOULD BE THE ANNUAL VEHICLE EXAMINATION AND THE HALF-YEARLY CHECKS. FURTHERMORE, ANY OFFENDING VEHICLE COULD BE CALLED UP FOR EXAMINATION AT ANY TIME.

TAC MEMBERS WERE INFORMED OF THE DETAILED STEPS WHICH THE DEPARTMENT WOULD TAKE TO IMPLEMENT THE PROPOSAL, BEGINNING WITH A SET OF STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES TO STIPULATE ITS REQUIREMENTS BEFORE APPROVAL WOULD BE GIVEN.

IT IS HOPED THAT THE SCHEME WILL BE IMPLEMENTED BY OCTOBER. THE SITUATION WILL BE CLOSELY MONITORED AND WILL BE REVIEWED IN 12 MONTHS TO SEE IF ADJUSTMENTS ARE WARRANTED.

AMONG OTHER TRANSPORT MATTERS DISCUSSED BY TAC MEMBERS TODAY WAS AN ITEM ON THE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SYSTEM PROPOSED FOR THE WESTERN NEW TERRITORIES. DISCUSSION OF THIS PROJECT WAS ACCOMPANIED BY A PRESENTATION. A JOINT PRESENTATION WILL BE MADE TO THE YUEN LONG AND TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARDS ON FRIDAY (AUGUST 31).

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#### TEMPORARY RECREATION GROUND FOR WESTERN DISTRICT

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A 2 500-SQUARE-METRE SITE IN THE WESTERN DISTRICT IS TO BE TURNED INTO A TEMPORARY RECREATION GROUND PENDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN URBAN COUNCIL COMPLEX.

LOCATED AT THE HEART OF THE EVER BUZZLING SHEK TONG TSUI, THE SITE AT CHUN SING STREET WILL BE DEVELOPED INTO A SITTING-OUT AREA WITH A CYCLING GROUND.

OTHER FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED INCLUDE CHILDREN'S PLAYBOARDS BENCHES AND FLOWER POTS.

+THIS IS A GOOD EXAMPLE TO SHOW THAT THE COUNCIL MAKES THE BEST USE OF AVAILABLE LAND RESOURCES TO THE BENEFIT OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY AS AND WHEN POSSIBLE,+ SAID A COUNCIL SPOKESMAN.

+IN VIEW OF A SERIOUS SHORTFALL IN THE PROVISION OF OPEN SPACE IN WESTERN DISTRICT, THE TEMPORARY RECREATION PLAYGROUND WILL SURELY BE WELCOMED AND EXTENSIVELY USED BY LOCAL RESIDENTS UPON COMPLETION.+

WORK ON THE SITE WILL BEGIN EARLY NEXT MONTH AND THE WHOLE PROJECT, ESTIMATED TO COST \$840 000, IS SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION BY THE END OF THE YEAR.

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FINANCIAL SECRETARY VISITS FACTORIES

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THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, SIR JOHN BREMRIDGE, TODAY (TUESDAY) VISITED TWO FACTORIES IN KWAI CHUNG.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR PETER JOHNSON, SIR JOHN FIRST VISITED THE MELITTA ELECTRIC (HONG KONG) LTD WHERE HE WAS WELCOMED BY THE MANAGING DIRECTOR, MR VON DER LUEHE AND OTHER SENIOR EXECUTIVES.

THE COMPANY, ESTABLISHED IN 1978, IS A SUBSIDIARY OF MELITTA-WERKE BENTZ AND SOHN OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY. THE COMPANY, WITH OVER 340 EMPLOYEES HERE, PRODUCES ELECTRIC COFFEE-MAKERS AND AIR CLEANERS FOR EXPORT TO EUROPE, AUSTRALIA AND THE UNITED STATES.

SIR JOHN NEXT VISITED THE G.P. ELECTRONICS LTD AND WAS SHOWN ROUND THE PRODUCTION FLOORS BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GOLD PEAK INDUSTRIES GROUP, MR KEVIN LO, AND THE EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN OF G.P. ELECTRONICS, MR PAUL LO.

G.P. ELECTRONICS LTD, ESTABLISHED IN 1974, IS A SUBSIDIARY OF GOLD PEAK INDUSTRIES (HOLDINGS) LTD. IT PRODUCES CAR AUDIO EQUIPMENT FOR MARKETS IN THE UNITED STATES, EUROPE, AUSTRALIA AND ASIA.

THE COMPANY WITH OVER 1 000 EMPLOYEES HAS RECENTLY INSTALLED AUTOMATIC ASSEMBLY EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING A MODERN MICROCHIP COMPONENTS ASSEMBLY ROBOT.

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DELEGATION MEETS TRADE AND INDUSTRY CHIEF

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A VISITING TOP-LEVEL SWEDISH TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL DELEGATION, LED BY THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN TRADE, MR MATS HELLSTROEM, TODAY (TUESDAY) CALLED ON THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR E.P. HO.

BOTH SIDES EXCHANGED VIEWS ON A WIDE RANGE OF TOPICS, INCLUDING TRADE RELATIONS AND INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATIONS BETWEEN HONG KONG AND SWEDEN.

VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE IN LAI TAK TSUEN  
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FORTY VOLUNTEERS FROM THE LAI TAK YOUTH CENTRE IN CAUSEWAY BAY WILL JOIN A VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE IN EASTERN DISTRICT THIS (TUESDAY) EVENING.

DRESSED IN WHITE T-SHIRTS, PRINTED WITH REGISTRATION MESSAGES AND THE PICTURE OF A MAIL BOX TO REMIND RESIDENTS TO POST COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORMS, THE YOUTHS WILL SET OUT TO ENCOURAGE MORE PEOPLE TO REGISTER.

THEY WILL TEAM UP WITH OVER 80 MEMBERS FROM SIX MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, THE LAI TAK YIN NGAI SOCIETY, THE CAUSEWAY BAY SOUTH AREA COMMITTEE, TEMPORARY COMMUNITY ORGANISERS AND DISTRICT OFFICE STAFF TO CONDUCT DOOR-TO-DOOR VISITS TO RESIDENTS IN LAI TAK TSUEN.

THE GROUP, WHICH WILL BE LED BY MR STEPHEN NG, ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, WILL VISIT ABOUT 2 000 FAMILIES IN LAI KIT, TAK TSUEN AND TSUEN WING HOUSES, WHICH HAVE A POPULATION OF OVER 10 000.

MR NG SAID THEY WOULD COVER THESE HOUSEHOLDS TONIGHT AND TOMORROW EVENING.

MR NG COMMENDED THE VOLUNTEERS, LOCAL AND KAIFONG LEADERS FOR THEIR COMMUNITY SPIRIT, THEIR KEEN INTEREST IN DISTRICT MATTERS, AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMMUNITY BUILDING.

+THEIR PARTICIPATION IS A GOOD ILLUSTRATION OF CO-OPERATION AND CONCERTED EFFORTS BETWEEN THE PUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT. THEIR SUPPORT FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND NEXT YEAR'S DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS IS HIGHLY APPRECIATED,+ HE ADDED.

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ELECTION DAY FOR EMPLOYEES' REPRESENTATIVES  
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THE ELECTION OF EMPLOYEES' REPRESENTATIVES TO THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD WILL TAKE PLACE BY SECRET BALLOT AT THE SCHOOL HALL OF QUEEN ELIZABETH SCHOOL AT 10.30 AM ON THURSDAY (AUGUST 30).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT SAID THAT NINE CANDIDATES HAD BEEN NOMINATED FOR ELECTION AND THEIR NAMES HAD BEEN SENT TO ALL REGISTERED EMPLOYEES' UNIONS FOR CONSIDERATION.

THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD IS A NON-STATUTORY BODY WHICH ADVISES THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR ON LABOUR MATTERS INCLUDING LEGISLATION AND THE APPLICATION OF INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONVENTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS. IT COMPRISES SIX EMPLOYERS' REPRESENTATIVES AND SIX EMPLOYEES' REPRESENTATIVES, WITH THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR AS CHAIRMAN.

/THE SPOKESMAN .....

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THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT STARTING FROM 1985, FOUR OF THE EMPLOYEES' REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE ELECTED BY REGISTERED EMPLOYEES' UNIONS AND THE OTHER TWO WILL BE DIRECTLY APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR.

HE REMINDED ALL REGISTERED EMPLOYEES' UNIONS THAT IF THEY WISH TO VOTE, THEY MUST SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO THE ELECTION.

THE REPRESENTATIVE MUST BRING WITH HIM HIS HONG KONG IDENTITY CARD, A LETTER OF AUTHORISATION FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF HIS UNION AND A COPY OF THE CIRCULAR LETTER DATED AUGUST 9, 1984 FROM THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT ON THE SUBJECT.

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METAL WORKING INDUSTRY SURVEY STARTING  
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A MAJOR SURVEY TO UPDATE MANPOWER STATISTICS AND IDENTIFY FUTURE TRAINING NEEDS OF THE METAL WORKING INDUSTRY BEGINS TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE BIENNIAL STUDY, ORGANISED BY THE MACHINE SHOP AND METAL WORKING INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL, COVERS THE FOLLOWING INDUSTRIES: TIMEPIECES, BASIC METAL, NON-ELECTRICAL MACHINERY AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS OTHER THAN MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT.

THE PLANT MAINTENANCE SECTIONS OF THE BEVERAGE, FOOD AND TOBACCO PROCESSING INDUSTRIES ARE ALSO INCLUDED IN THE SURVEY.

+THE INFORMATION TO BE COLLECTED IS CRUCIAL IN DRAWING UP TRAINING PLANS,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRAINING BOARD SAID, +EMPLOYERS ARE REQUESTED TO SUPPLY THE LATEST FIGURES ON EMPLOYEES, WORKERS UNDER TRAINING, EXISTING VACANCIES AND A PROJECTION OF ADDITIONAL STAFF NEEDS IN THE NEXT 12 MONTHS.+

ALL INFORMATION WILL BE TREATED IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, AND WILL BE PUBLISHED ONLY IN THE FORM OF STATISTICAL ABSTRACTS WITHOUT REFERRING TO ANY INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS. ASSISTING IN THE SURVEY ARE THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINING DEPARTMENT, THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT AND THE GOVERNMENT DATA PROCESSING AGENCY.

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TUESDAY, AUGUST 28, 1984

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AUSTRALIAN AND LOCAL STUDENTS TO MAKE MUSIC  
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AUSTRALIAN AND HONG KONG MUSIC STUDENTS WILL GIVE A LUNCH-TIME CONCERT IN THE LANDMARK ON MONDAY.

PERFORMING WILL BE 87 STUDENTS FROM THE PERTH MODERN SCHOOL - ONE OF TWO SPECIAL MUSIC HIGH SCHOOLS IN THE CITY - AND TRAINEES OF HONG KONG'S MUSIC OFFICE.

THE CONCERT WILL RUN FOR AN HOUR STARTING AT 12.30 PM ON MONDAY (SEPTEMBER 3).

THE PERTH GROUP, COMPRISING A BAND, A STRING ENSEMBLE AND A CHOIR, ARRIVED LAST FRIDAY NIGHT ON A TOUR OF HONG KONG AND CHINA AIMED AT FOSTERING FRIENDSHIP THROUGH MUSIC.

UNDER THE BATON OF THEIR CONDUCTOR, MR JOHN EMBLETON, THE PERTH STUDENTS WASTED NO TIME AND SPENT LAST SUNDAY (AUGUST 26) REHEARSING WITH YOUNG HONG KONG MUSICIANS AT A PERFORMANCE WORKSHOP HELD AT THE YAU MA TEI MUSIC CENTRE.

THE GROUP LEFT FOR CHINA YESTERDAY (AUGUST 27) TO GIVE THREE CONCERTS AT THE CHILDREN'S PALACE IN KWEILIN, THE ACADEMY OF ART IN CANTON AND THE CANTON TRADE FAIR HALL. IT WILL RETURN HERE FOR THE LANDMARK CONCERT AND WILL ALSO GIVE THREE SCHOOL CONCERTS, ONE EACH IN HONG KONG, KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MUSIC OFFICE SAID MOST OF THE PERTH STUDENTS HAVE NOT TRAVELLED OVERSEAS BEFORE AND THE TOUR IS REGARDED AS A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR CULTURAL, MUSICAL AND EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE BETWEEN YOUNG PEOPLE OF DIFFERENT NATIONS.

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DB TO DISCUSS PARK DEVELOPMENT SCHEME  
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A COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT SCHEME FOR KOWLOON PARK WILL BE DISCUSSED IN THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AFTERNOON.

THE 14 HECTARES OF OPEN SPACE IMMEDIATELY WEST OF NATHAN ROAD, STRETCHING FROM HAIPHONG ROAD TO AUSTIN ROAD, IS THE ONLY SITE IN YAU MA TEI LARGE ENOUGH TO ACCOMMODATE A COMBINATION OF RECREATIONAL FACILITIES.

A REPORT ON THE FINDINGS REGARDING THE CANTON ROAD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SCHEME WILL ALSO BE TABLED FOR DISCUSSION.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE THE GREEN PAPER ON REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT, PROGRESS REPORT ON THE +MEET-THE-PUBLIC+ SCHEME AS WELL AS REPORTS OF THE BOARD'S VARIOUS COMMITTEES.

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TUESDAY, AUGUST 28, 1934

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NEW AIRPORT TRANSPORT TERMINUS  
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A NEW TRANSPORT TERMINUS IS TO BE BUILT ON A 2 500 SQUARE-METRE SITE NEXT TO THE KAI TAK AIRPORT TERMINAL BUILDING UNDER STAGE V OF THE AIRPORT'S DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME.

A \$3.5 MILLION CONTRACT FOR DESIGNING, SUPPLYING AND ERECTING THE ROOF SUPPORTING SYSTEM FOR THE TERMINUS HAS BEEN AWARDED TO ASSOCIATED ENGINEERS LTD BY THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

THE SYSTEM WILL BE MADE OF GALVANISED MILD STEEL BARS, AND A METAL ROOF DECK WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED.

WORK STARTED LAST WEEK AND WILL TAKE SIX MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE TRANSPORT TERMINUS WILL HAVE TAXI STANDS, HIRE CAR STANDS, AIRPORT BUS STOPS, SERVICING AREAS AND A KIOSK.

THE AREA WILL BE EXTENSIVELY LANDSCAPED.

TENDERS FOR BUILDING THE SUPERSTRUCTURE FOR THE TERMINUS WILL BE INVITED LATER THIS YEAR.

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NIGHT CLOSURE OF TUEN MUN ROAD  
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THE KOWLOON-BOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF TUEN MUN ROAD BETWEEN TUEN MUN TOWN CENTRE AND SIU LAM INTERCHANGE WILL BE CLOSED BETWEEN 10.30 PM AND 5.30 AM FROM THURSDAY (AUGUST 30) TO SEPTEMBER 5, AND FROM SEPTEMBER 13 TO 19.

MOTORISTS WISHING TO GO TO TSUEN WAN OR KOWLOON WILL HAVE TO USE CASTLE PEAK ROAD AND THEN PROCEED TO TUEN MUN ROAD.

THE TUEN MUN-BOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF THE SAME SECTION OF TUEN MUN ROAD WILL BE CLOSED DURING THE SAME HOURS FROM SEPTEMBER 6 TO 12.

MOTORISTS HEADING FOR TUEN MUN OR YUEN LONG WILL BE DIVERTED ONTO CASTLE PEAK ROAD.

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TUESDAY, AUGUST 28, 1984

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WATER FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (TUESDAY) STOOD AT 85.7 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 502.382 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 523.476 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 89.3 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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LEAKAGE TEST IN CENTRAL

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN CENTRAL DISTRICT WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 11 PM ON FRIDAY (AUGUST 31) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE AFFECTED PREMISES ARE BOUNDED BY SHING WONG STREET, HOLLYWOOD ROAD, LADDER STREET AND CIRCULAR PATHWAY.

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MAINS WORK IN WESTERN

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN WESTERN DISTRICT WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 9 PM ON FRIDAY (AUGUST 31) TO 7 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR MAINS WORK.

THE AREA AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST, WILMER STREET, QUEEN'S ROAD WEST, EASTERN STREET, HIGH STREET, POK FU LAM ROAD AND HILL ROAD, INCLUDING SOUTH LANE AND WO HOP STREET.

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