# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 1985

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## SIR EDWARD TAKES A LOOK AT VILLAGE LIFE

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VILLAGERS OF KAT O TURNED UP IN FORCE TO GREET THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, TODAY (SATURDAY) WHEN HE VISITED THE REMOTE ISLAND TO OFFICIATE AT A CEREMONY TO MARK THE COMPLETION OF A WATER SUPPLY PROJECT.

THE ORIGINAL MAINS WATER SUPPLY TO THE ISLAND WAS INSTALLED IN 1963 WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE ARMED FORCES.

BECAUSE OF THE EROSION OF THE PIPES, THE SUBMARINE SECTION OF THE MAINS WAS REPLACED BY THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT AND THE PROJECT WAS COMPLETED TWO MONTHS AGO.

AFTER PERFORMING A RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY, SIR EDWARD TOURED THE ISLAND AND VISITED THE 300-YEAR-OLD TIN HAU TEMPLE WHICH HAD RECENTLY BEEN RENOVATED.

EARLIER, THE GOVERNOR ALSO VISITED ANOTHER REMOTE ISLAND, TAP MUN, TO LOOK AT VILLAGE LIFE.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR NEW TERRITORIES, DR JAMES HAYES, SIR EDWARD FLEW THERE BY HELICOPTER.

HE TOURED THE ISLAND AND VISITED THE KING LAM PRIMARY SCHOOL, THE TAP MUN RURAL COMMITTEE, AND THE 200-YEAR-OLD TIN HAU TEMPLE.

SIR EDWARD LATER CALLED ON THE FAMILY OF MR LAI LIN-KUN, WHO MOVED ASHORE TWO YEARS AGO AFTER HAVING BEEN A FISHERMAN FOR MORE THAN 30 YEARS.

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## GOVERNOR TO VISIT NANKING, SHANGHAI

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, TOLD REPORTERS TODAY (SATURDAY) THAT HE WOULD BE GOING TO CHINA EARLY NEXT MONTH SPENDING ABOUT A WEEK VISITING NANKING AND SHANGHAI.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER VISITING TWO OUTLYING ISLANDS, TAP MUN AND KAT O, SIR EDWARD SAID HE EXPECTED TO LEAVE HONG KONG SOMEWHERE AROUND ABOUT THE SECOND OR THIRD OF MAY.

ASKED IF THERE WOULD BE OFFICIALS FROM NCNA ACCOMPANYING HIM, HE SAID HE EXPECTED THERE WOULD BE.

/IN RESPONSE .....

IN RESPONSE TO ANOTHER QUESTION ON WHETHER THE SIZE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY IN HONG KONG AND THE RECENT DISCUSSIONS ABOUT ITS RECRUITMENT WAS SOMETHING TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT, SIR EDWARD SAID:

+NO, I DO NOT THINK THERE IS ANYTHING NEW ABOUT THE PEOPLE IN HONG KONG, BUT AS I SAID THE OTHER DAY, I THINK THIS IS A MATTER FOR INDIVIDUALS RATHER THAN FOR THE GOVERNMENT.+

QUESTIONED IF THE NAMES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE BRITISH SIDE OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP WOULD BE READY BEFORE JULY 1 WHEN THE SINO-BRITISH AGREEMENT WAS RATIFIED, SIR EDWARD TOLD THE REPORTERS THAT THEY WOULD HAVE TO AWAIT THE DECISION OF THE TWO GOVERNMENTS +BECAUSE IT IS FOR THE CHINESE AND BRITISH GOVERNMENTS TO ANNOUNCE THE TWO SIDES.+

SPEAKING ABOUT HIS TRIP TO TAP MUN AND KAT O, THE GOVERNOR SAID HE HAD BEEN HAVING A LOOK AROUND AT THE PROBLEMS AND THE INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE WHO LIVED ON THOSE ISLANDS.

+THEY ARE MAINLY FISHERMEN AS YOU KNOW, BUT THEY DO HAVE THINGS THAT THEY WANT TO SAY ABOUT THE HOUSING AND HOUSING POLICY ON THE ISLANDS AND ABOUT IMPROVEMENT OF COMMUNICATION. IN FACT, ALL THE THINGS WHICH YOU WOULD EXPECT PEOPLE TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT IN LIVING IN PLACES OF THIS KIND.+

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## FEBRUARY EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS RELEASED

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TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FOR JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1985, VALUED AT $71 025 MILLION, SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 20 PER CENT COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1984, ACCORDING TO TRADE STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT. ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, DOMESTIC EXPORTS ROSE BY 17 PER CENT TO $20 546 MILLION, IMPORTS BY 11 PER CENT TO $34 085 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS BY 48 PER CENT TO $16 395 MILLION. DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TOGETHER INCREASED BY 29 PER CENT.

COMPARING THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF 1985 WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR, DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE U.S.A. ROSE BY 15 PER CENT IN VALUE. ANALYSED BY COMMODITIES, INCREASES WERE RECORDED MAINLY IN CLOTHING (BY $925 MILLION OR 31 PER CENT), PLASTIC TOYS AND DOLLS (BY $116 MILLION OR 31 PER CENT) AND WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY $92 MILLION OR 25 PER CENT). ON THE OTHER HAND, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY $175 MILLION OR 25 PER CENT) AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY $51 MILLION OR EIGHT PER CENT).

/MOST COMMODITIES .....

MOST COMMODITIES EXPORTED TO CHINA INCREASED IN VALUE, PARTICULARLY OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY $380 MILLION OR 1 981 PER CENT), TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY $288 MILLION OR 178 PER CENT), AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY $155 MILLION OR 271 PER CENT). HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR TEXTILES (BY $23 MILLION OR EIGHT PER CENT) AND FEEDING STUFF FOR ANIMALS (BY $5 MILLION OR 44 PER CENT).

INCREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY WERE REGISTERED FOR METALLIFEROUS ORES AND METAL SCRAP (BY $32 MILLION OR 619 PER CENT), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY $27 MILLION OR 31 PER CENT) AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY $11 MILLION OR 19 PER CENT). ON THE OTHER HAND, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN CLOTHING (BY $83 MILLION OR NINE PER CENT) AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY $48 MILLION OR 47 PER CENT).

MEANWHILE, INCREASES WERE REGISTERED IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM OF CLOTHING (BY $98 MILLION OR 18 PER CENT) AND METALLIFEROUS ORES AND METAL SCRAP (BY $37 MILLION OR 110 PER CENT)= AND IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CANADA OF CLOTHING (BY $59 MILLION OR 24 PER CENT).

DEMAND FOR GOODS IMPORTED FROM CHINA DECREASED SLIGHTLY IN THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF 1985 COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR. DECREASES WERE MAINLY RECORDED IN TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS (BY $397 MILLION OR 19 PER CENT), AND MEAT AND MEAT PREPARATIONS (BY $101 MILLION OR 32 PER CENT). NEVERTHELESS, INCREASES WERE STILL RECORDED IN CLOTHING (BY $186 MILLION OR 15 PER CENT), TEXTILE FIBRES (OTHER THAN WOOL TOPS) AND THEIR WASTES (BY $130 MILLION OR 49 PER CENT), HIDES, SKINS AND FURSKINS, RAW (BY $89 MILLION OR 1 340 PER CENT), TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY $88 MILLION OR 63 PER CENT) AND TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR CONTAINERS (BY $88 MILLION OR 61 PER CENT).

AS FOR IMPORTS FROM JAPAN, INCREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY $480 MILLION OR 73 PER CENT) AND ROAD AND AIR CUSHION VEHICLES (BY $377 MILLION OR 84 PER CENT). HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR TEXTILES (BY $124 MILLION OR 13 PER CENT) AND IRON AND STEEL (BY $70 MILLION OR 17 PER CENT).

INCREASES IN IMPORTS FROM THE U.S.A. WERE MOSTLY OF TOBACCO AND TOBACCO MANUFACTURES (BY $201 MILLION OR 107 PER CENT), OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY $165 MILLION OR 47 PER CENT), AND MANUFACTURES OF METAL (BY $63 MILLION OR 136 PER CENT). ON THE OTHER HAND, DECREASES WERE REGISTERED IN TEXTILE FIBRES (OTHER THAN WOOL TOPS) AND THEIR WASTES (BY $72 MILLION OR 49 PER CENT) AND ORGANIC CHEMICALS (BY $29 MILLION OR 21 PER CENT).

/MEANWHILE, DECREASES .....

MEANWHILE, DECREASES WERE REGISTERED IN IMPORTS FROM TAIWAN OF VEGETABLES AND FRUIT (BY $18 MILLION OR 26 PER CENT) AND IN IMPORTS FROM SINGAPORE OF TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT OTHER THAN ROAD AND AIR CUSHION VEHICLES (BY $28 MILLION OR 98 PER CENT). HOWEVER, IMPORTS OF ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF FROM TAIWAN INCREASED (BY $191 MILLION OR 58 PER CENT), AS DID IMPORTS OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT FROM SINGAPORE (BY $127 MILLION OR 250 PER CENT).

SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA (BY $4 492 MILLION OR 153 PER CENT), U.S.A. (BY $534 MILLION OR 32 PER CENT), JAPAN (BY $278 MILLION OR 41 PER CENT), MACAU (BY $108 MILLION OR 35 PER CENT), THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (SOUTH KOREA) (BY $54 MILLION OR 11 PER CENT), ITALY (BY $53 MILLION OR 141 PER CENT), PHILIPPINES (BY $43 MILLION OR 22 PER CENT) AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (BY $37 MILLION OR 24 PER CENT). ON THE OTHER HAND, DECLINES WERE REGISTERED IN RE-EXPORTS TO INDONESIA (BY $207 MILLION OR 32 PER CENT) AND SINGAPORE (BY $115 MILLION OR 16 PER CENT).

MOST COMMODITIES RE-EXPORTED THROUGH HONG KONG EXHIBITED STRONG GROWTH, THE MORE SIGNIFICANT ONES BEING TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY $893 MILLION OR 210 PER CENT), OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY $674 MILLION OR 242 PER CENT), ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY $577 MILLION OR 54 PER CENT), AND TEXTILES (BY $520 MILLION OR 32 PER CENT). DECREASES WERE REGISTERED IN RE-EXPORTS OF VEGETABLES AND FRUIT (BY $52 MILLION OR 19 PER CENT), PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS (BY $47 MILLION OR 35 PER CENT), AND FEEDING STUFF FOR ANIMALS (NOT INCLUDING UNMILLED CEREALS) (BY $36 MILLION OR 71 PER CENT).

THE FEBRUARY 1985 ISSUE OF THE +HONG KONG TRADE STATISTICS - SUMMARY+ WILL BE ON SALE LATER THIS MONTH AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT $5 PER COPY.

A MORE COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, +HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE+, WITH A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS IN FEBRUARY 1985 WILL BE AVAILABLE IN EARLY MAY 1985 AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT $13 PER COPY. ENQUIRIES CONCERNING SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THESE REPORTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT BASKERVILLE HOUSE, HONG KONG (TEL. NO.: 5-214375).

ENQUIRIES CONCERNING TRADE STATISTICS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. NO.: 5-444436).

/FOLLOWING ARE .....

FOLLOWING ARE STATISTICAL TABLES:-

TABLE 1: DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY TEN MAJOR MARKETS

| MAJOR MARKETS | JAN.-FEB. 1985 ($ MN) | JAN.-FEB. 1984 ($ MN) | INCREASE(+)/ DECREASE(-) ($ MN) | PERCENTAGE CHANGE (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| U.S.A. | 8 679 | 7 542 | +1 137 | + 15 |
| CHINA | 2 535 | 1 199 | +1 336 | +111 |
| F.R. OF GERMANY | 1 385 | 1 441 | - 56 | - 4 |
| U.K. | 1 385 | 1 338 | + 46 | + 3 |
| CANADA | 650 | 583 | + 67 | + 11 |
| AUSTRALIA | 649 | 556 | + 93 | + 17 |
| JAPAN | 608 | 609 | - 1 | - * |
| NETHERLANDS | 379 | 351 | + 28 | + 8 |
| SINGAPORE | 366 | 373 | - 7 | - 2 |
| SWITZERLAND | 301 | 281 | + 19 | + 7 |

* LESS THAN 0.5 PER CENT

TABLE 2: DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS

| COMMODITY DIVISIONS | JAN.-FEB. 1985 ($ MN) | JAN.-FEB. 1984 ($ MN) | INCREASE(+) ($ MN) | PERCENTAGE CHANGE (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES | 7 560 | 6 211 | +1 349 | + 22 |

/MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED .....

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY PLASTIC TOYS AND DOLLS, JEWELLERY, GOLDSMITHS' AND SILVERSMITHS' WARES, AND PLASTIC ARTICLES) | 2 760 | 2 315 | + 446 | + 19 |
| ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (MAINLY HOUSEHOLD TYPE APPLIANCES AND SEMI-CONDUCTOR INTEGRATED CIRCUITS) | 1 745 | 1 470 | + 274 | + 19 |
| TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT | 1 506 | 1 358 | + 147 | + 11 |
| PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES AND OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS | 1 478 | 1 312 | + 166 | + 13 |
| OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT | 1 275 | 1 128 | + 147 | + 13 |

TABLE 3: IMPORTS FROM TEN MAJOR SOURCES

| MAJOR SOURCES | JAN.-FEB. 1985 ($ MN) | JAN.-FEB. 1984 ($ MN) | INCREASE(+)/ DECREASE(-) ($ MN) | PERCENTAGE CHANGE (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| CHINA | 8 056 | 8 060 | - 5 | - * |
| JAPAN | 8 043 | 6 730 | +1 313 | + 20 |
| U.S.A. | 3 747 | 3 207 | + 540 | + 17 |
| TAIWAN | 2 980 | 2 200 | + 780 | + 35 |

/SINGAPORE .....

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| SINGAPORE | 2 010 | 1 721 | + 289 | + 17 |
| REPUBLIC OF KOREA (SOUTH KOREA) | 1 291 | 905 | + 386 | + 43 |
| U.K. | 1 219 | 1 415 | - 196 | - 14 |
| F.R. OF GERMANY | 967 | 732 | + 235 | + 32 |
| FRANCE | 539 | 461 | + 78 | + 17 |
| SWITZERLAND | 452 | 491 | - 39 | - 8 |

* LESS THAN 0.5 PER CENT

TABLE 4: IMPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY SECTIONS

| COMMODITY SECTIONS | JAN.-FEB. 1985 ($ MN) | JAN.-FEB. 1984 ($ MN) | INCREASE(+)/ DECREASE(-) ($ MN) | PERCENTAGE CHANGE (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT | 10 154 | 7 198 | +2 956 | + 41 |
| MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIAL (MAINLY TEXTILE PRODUCTS, DIAMONDS, IRON AND STEEL, AND PAPER) | 8 457 | 8 987 | - 530 | - 6 |
| MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY WATCHES AND CLOCKS, ARTICLES OF APPAREL) | 6 020 | 5 081 | + 939 | + 18 |
| FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS CHIEFLY FOR FOOD | 2 931 | 3 189 | - 258 | - 8 |
| CHEMICALS AND RELATED PRODUCTS | 2 183 | 2 197 | - 14 | - 1 |
| MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS | 1 752 | 1 799 | - 47 | - 3 |

/TABLE 5: .....

TABLE 5: RE-EXPORTS BY TEN MAJOR MARKETS

| MAJOR MARKETS | JAN.-FEB. 1985 ($ MN) | JAN.-FEB. 1984 ($ MN) | INCREASE(+)/ DECREASE(-) ($ MN) | PERCENTAGE CHANGE (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| CHINA | 7 423 | 2 931 | +4 492 | +153 |
| U.S.A. | 2 205 | 1 671 | + 534 | + 32 |
| JAPAN | 964 | 686 | + 278 | + 41 |
| TAIWAN | 626 | 701 | - 76 | - 11 |
| SINGAPORE | 604 | 720 | - 115 | - 16 |
| REPUBLIC OF KOREA (SOUTH KOREA) | 547 | 492 | + 54 | + 11 |
| INDONESIA | 429 | 636 | - 207 | - 32 |
| MACAU | 420 | 311 | + 108 | + 35 |
| PHILIPPINES | 240 | 197 | + 43 | + 22 |
| AUSTRALIA | 206 | 218 | - 12 | - 5 |

TABLE 6: RE-EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS

| COMMODITY DIVISIONS | JAN.-FEB. 1985 ($ MN) | JAN.-FEB. 1984 ($ MN) | INCREASE(+) ($ MN) | PERCENTAGE CHANGE (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS | 2 151 | 1 630 | + 520 | + 32 |
| ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES | 1 639 | 1 061 | + 577 | + 54 |

/TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND .....

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT | 1 319 | 426 | + 893 | +210 |
| ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES | 1 189 | 980 | + 209 | + 21 |
| MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES | 966 | 573 | + 393 | + 69 |
| OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT | 952 | 278 | + 674 | +242 |

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SIMPLIFIED PROCEDURE TO ENFORCE COMPULSORY INSURANCE

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAS ADOPTED A SIMPLIFIED PROCEDURE TO ENFORCE COMPULSORY INSURANCE UNDER THE EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION ORDINANCE, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE LAW REQUIRED THAT AN EMPLOYER MUST TAKE OUT AN INSURANCE POLICY TO COVER THE FULL AMOUNT OF HIS LIABILITIES FOR THE DEATH OR INJURY OF HIS EMPLOYEES DUE TO ACCIDENTS AT WORK.

UNDER THE SIMPLIFIED PROCEDURE, INSTEAD OF ASKING EMPLOYERS TO PRODUCE THE ORIGINAL INSURANCE POLICY WHICH MIGHT NOT BE KEPT IN THE OFFICE, THE DEPARTMENT WOULD ACCEPT AS PROOF ANY OF THE SEVERAL SPECIFIED DOCUMENTS, THAT AN INSURANCE HAD BEEN TAKEN OUT.

THESE INCLUDED THE INSURANCE POLICY OR ITS COPY; THE CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE OR ITS COPY; A NOTICE OF INSURANCE ENDORSED BY AN AUTHORISED INSURER; AND A DEBIT NOTE AND CORRESPONDING RECEIPT ISSUED BY AN INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT FOR GROUP COMPANIES OR COMPANIES WITH A NUMBER OF BRANCH OFFICES, DEPOTS OR RETAIL OUTLETS, WHICH MIGHT FIND IT DIFFICULT TO KEEP A COPY OF THE POLICY AT EACH OFFICE, THEY COULD SEND, BY POST, A COPY OF THE MASTER INSURANCE POLICY TOGETHER WITH A COMPLETE LIST OF SUBSIDIARIES OR BRANCHES COVERED, TO THE WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS DIVISION OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, 7TH FLOOR, HENNESSY CENTRE, HENNESSY ROAD, CAUSEWAY BAY, FOR INFORMATION.

/HE SAID .....

HE SAID AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT LETTER FROM THE DEPARTMENT WOULD THEN OBVIATE THE COMPANY FROM KEEPING THE INSURANCE POLICY AT THEIR BRANCHES FOR INSPECTION. HOWEVER, A NOTICE OF INSURANCE, COMPLETED IN BOTH CHINESE AND ENGLISH, WOULD STILL BE REQUIRED TO BE POSTED UP IN EACH PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT.

EMPLOYERS WHO HAVE FURTHER ENQUIRIES MAY CONTACT THE WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS DIVISION AT 5-7956407.

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## HOTLINE HANDLES OVER 90 000 CALLS

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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S HOTLINE HAS HANDLED MORE THAN 90 000 CALLS SINCE IT CAME INTO OPERATION IN OCTOBER 1980 TO PROVIDE INFORMATION AND PROFESSIONAL ADVICE TO THE PUBLIC ON SOCIAL WELFARE MATTERS.

+WE ARE HANDLING AN AVERAGE OF 20 000 CALLS EVERY YEAR,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

HE SAID THAT THE HOTLINE HAD PROVED TO BE EFFECTIVE IN SUPPLEMENTING SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S FAMILY SERVICES CENTRES, SOCIAL SECURITY FIELD UNITS AND OTHER OFFICES.

+IT IS ALSO AN IMPORTANT CHANNEL THROUGH WHICH WE GET TO KNOW OF CASES REQUIRING OUR ASSISTANCE,+ HE ADDED.

THE HOTLINE, AT 3-432255, OPERATES FROM 9 AM TO 10 PM ON WEEKDAYS AND SATURDAYS AND FROM 1 PM TO 10 PM ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS. OUTSIDE THESE HOURS, MESSAGES ARE RECORDED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID IT WAS ENCOURAGING TO NOTE THAT THE NUMBER OF CALLS RELEVANT TO THE SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN ON THE INCREASE.

IN 1983, 47 PER CENT OF THE CALLS RECEIVED WERE RELEVANT TO THE SERVICES OFFERED BY THE DEPARTMENT. THIS PERCENTAGE ROSE TO NEARLY 55 PER CENT IN 1984.

+FOR THE MONTHS OF JANUARY AND FEBRUARY THIS YEAR, THE PERCENTAGE CONTINUES TO REMAIN HIGH - AT 57 PER CENT AND 56 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

PROBLEMS DEALT WITH BY THE HOTLINE FALLS INTO FOUR MAIN CATEGORIES:

* DIFFICULTIES IN FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS;

* PROBLEMS RELATING TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE;

/* PROBLEMS ARISING .....

* PROBLEMS ARISING FROM POOR MENTAL OR PHYSICAL HEALTH; AND

* FINANCIAL PROBLEMS.

APART FROM ANSWERING GENERAL ENQUIRIES, STAFF MANNING THE HOTLINE REFER CASES TO FAMILY SERVICES CENTRES, SOCIAL SECURITY FIELD OFFICES AND OTHER SERVICE UNITS FOR FOLLOW-UP ACTION.

IN THE LAST TWO YEARS, MORE THAN 2 000 CASES WERE REFERRED TO THE RELEVANT UNITS FOR FOLLOW-UP ACTION.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THE HOTLINE OPERATED PRIMARILY AS AN ENQUIRY AND REFERRAL SERVICE, THERE WERE OCCASIONS UPON WHICH PROFESSIONAL STAFF MANNING THE SERVICE WOULD PROVIDE IMMEDIATE COUNSELLING TO THE CALLER ON THE TELEPHONE.

CITING AN EXAMPLE, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT A 28-YEAR-OLD WOMAN HAD BEEN CALLING THE HOTLINE OVER A TWO-MONTH PERIOD EARLIER THIS YEAR SEEKING HELP IN COPING WITH HER MARITAL PROBLEM.

SHE SAID HER HUSBAND WAS HAVING AN EXTRA-MARITAL RELATIONSHIP WITH ANOTHER WOMAN, BUT SHE BELIEVED HE STILL LOVED HER AND THE CHILDREN.

WHEN THE WOMAN FIRST CALLED THE HOTLINE, SHE WAS VERY UNHAPPY AND DISPLAYED GREAT ANXIETY.

THROUGH COUNSELLING AND EMOTIONAL SUPPORT FROM STAFF OF THE HOTLINE, SHE BEGAN TO TAKE A MORE OPTIMISTIC VIEW OF HER SITUATION AND WAS MOTIVATED TO DISCUSS THE PROBLEM CALMLY WITH HER HUSBAND, WHO SUBSEQUENTLY SHOWED A POSITIVE CHANGE IN HIS ATTITUDE.

ON THE ADVICE OF THE HOTLINE STAFF, SHE LATER APPROACHED THE DEPARTMENT'S FAMILY SERVICES CENTRE IN HER DISTRICT FOR FURTHER SERVICES.

ANOTHER IMPORTANT ASPECT OF THE WORK OF THE HOTLINE IS TO RECEIVE REPORTS OF SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE CASES FROM THE PUBLIC.

LAST YEAR, THE HOTLINE RECEIVED 139 CALLS ON SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE CASES - 78 FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND 61 FROM THE POLICE.

MOST OF THESE WERE REFERRED TO THE DEPARTMENT'S NETWORK OF FAMILY SERVICES CENTRES FOR FURTHER ACTION. TWENTY-EIGHT OF THE CASES REFERRED TURNED OUT TO BE GENUINE CHILD ABUSE CASES.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT PROMPT ACTION IN REPORTING SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE CASES NOT ONLY MIGHT SAVE THE LIFE OF A CHILD BUT COULD ASSIST THE FAMILY BY BRINGING THEIR DIFFICULTIES TO THE ATTENTION OF THE AUTHORITIES WHO WERE IN A POSITION TO HELP THEM.

+THE EMPHASIS IS ON EARLY DETECTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION BY PROFESSIONAL PEOPLE,+ HE SAID.

IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS, HE SAID THE POLICE SHOULD BE CONTACTED AT ONCE.

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## TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS RECEIVE CASH ASSISTANCE

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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS ASSISTANCE SCHEME (TAVA) HAS AUTHORISED AN INITIAL PAYMENT OF $660 EACH TO FOUR PEOPLE WHO WERE INJURED IN A BUS ACCIDENT NEAR SHEK LEI PUI RESERVOIR ON WEDNESDAY (APRIL 10).

THIRTY-SEVEN PEOPLE WERE INJURED IN THE CRASH.

ON THURSDAY, STAFF FROM THE TAVA SECTION VISITED FIVE OF THE INJURED IN THE HOSPITAL. ONE OF THEM DECLINED ASSISTANCE.

FOR THE OTHER 32 INJURED, SIX DECLINED ASSISTANCE AND FOUR DID NOT QUALIFY, SOME ARE BEING PROCESSED WHILE A FEW HAVE NOT YET BEEN CONTACTED.

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## LADY YOUDE OPENS EXHIBITION FOR DISABLED DRIVERS

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LADY YOUDE, WIFE OF THE GOVERNOR, TODAY (SATURDAY) OPENED AN EXHIBITION ENTITLED +CIRCULATING PICTURE - EXHIBITION OF DISABLED DRIVERS' SCHOOL+ AT NEW TOWN SQUARE IN SHA TIN.

THE EXHIBITION IS PRESENTED BY THE HONG KONG FEDERATION OF HANDICAPPED YOUTH TO INTRODUCE THE DRIVERS' SCHOOL TO THE DISABLED AND TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO USE PRIVATE VEHICLES TO OVERCOME THEIR TRANSPORT PROBLEMS.

FOUNDED IN NOVEMBER 1979, THE DISABLED DRIVERS' SCHOOL IS AIMED AT HELPING THE DISABLED TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM OF MOBILITY BY PROVIDING SPECIALLY-ADAPTED VEHICLES AND TRAINING COURSES FOR THEM.

SINCE 1980, A TOTAL OF 440 DISABLED PERSONS HAVE ENROLLED FOR DRIVING TESTS AND 250 OF THEM PASSED.

AFTER THE OPENING CEREMONY, LADY YOUDE WALKED AROUND THE EXHIBITION WHERE A SERIES OF PHOTOGRAPHS SHOWING THE TRAINING FACILITIES AVAILABLE AT THE SCHOOL AND INFORMATION ON THE PROCEDURES TO OBTAIN DRIVING LICENCES WERE ON DISPLAY.

LADY YOUDE ALSO SAW TWO SPECIALLY-ADAPTED VEHICLES WITH MODERN FACILITIES LIKE POWER-STEERING AND HAND-CONTROL BRAKE AND ACCELERATOR FOR DISABLED LEARNER DRIVERS.

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SPECIAL REPROVISIONING ARRANGEMENTS

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THE HOUSING AUTHORITY'S MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HAS APPROVED SPECIAL REPROVISIONING ARRANGEMENTS FOR SHOP TENANTS AFFECTED BY THE REDEVELOPMENT OF KWAI FONG ESTATE.

THEY WILL EACH BE GRANTED AN EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE EQUIVALENT TO 12 MONTHS' CURRENT RENT UPON THE SURRENDER OF THEIR EXISTING TENANCIES.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE AUTHORITY SAID BLOCKS 9, 10 AND 11 OF KWAI FONG WILL BE REDEVELOPED AFTER MID-1987. A TOTAL OF 20 SHOPS, TWO CLINICS, 33 SHOPSTALLS IN A MARKET AND A CHINESE RESTAURANT WILL BE AFFECTED.

UNDER THE TERMS OF THEIR EXISTING TENANCY AGREEMENTS, THESE SHOP PREMISES AT KWAI FONG ARE LEASED AT COMMERCIAL RENT FOR A FIXED TERM OF THREE YEARS. THE TENANCY CAN BE TERMINATED WITHOUT COMPENSATION BY EITHER PARTY GIVING THREE-MONTHS' NOTICE TO THE OTHER.

+HOWEVER, THE AUTHORITY'S MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS AFTER A LENGTHY DISCUSSION, TOOK THE VIEW THAT KWAI FONG SHOULD BE TREATED AS A SPECIAL CASE AND DECIDED TO GRANT EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE TO ALL SHOP TENANTS CONCERNED, INCLUDING THE MAJORITY WHOSE TENANCIES WILL EXPIRE BEFORE THE BLOCKS ARE REQUIRED FOR DEMOLITION.+

UNDER THE NEW RULING, THE SPOKESMAN CITED AS EXAMPLES THE EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE OF $5 746 TO $30 000 FOR MARKET STALLS, $72 000 FOR A PROVISION STORE, $176 700 FOR A CAFE AND $498 840 FOR THE ONLY CHINESE RESTAURANT.

+IN ADDITION, TO ASSIST THESE OPERATORS IN RE-ESTABLISHING THEIR BUSINESSES, THEY WILL ALSO BE GIVEN A CONCESSION TO TAKE PART IN RESTRICTED TENDERS FOR SHOPS/SHOPSTALLS IN THE SAME ESTATE OR IN OTHER ESTATES.

+A CERTAIN NUMBER OF NEW SHOP PREMISES AT CONVERTED TAI WO HAU ESTATE, WONG TAI SIN ESTATE AND LOK WAH ESTATE HAVE BEEN EARMARKED FOR RESTRICTED TENDERING BY THE SHOP TENANTS OF KWAI FONG.

+FURTHERMORE, THE CURRENT RENT FOR THEIR EXISTING PREMISES WILL BE FROZEN AND ANY STAGED ANNUAL RENT INCREASES, EVEN IF AGREED, WILL NO LONGER BE IMPLEMENTED,+ HE SAID.

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## DB MEMBERS HOLD DISCUSSION WITH HOUSING OFFICIALS

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THIRTY-ONE ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD TODAY GOT TOGETHER FOR A CASUAL DISCUSSION WITH SENIOR HOUSING OFFICIALS.

AT A TEA RECEPTION HOSTED BY THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT IN THEIR HONOUR, VIEWS AND IDEAS ON A WIDE SPECTRUM SUBJECTS INCLUDING PUBLIC HOUSING WERE EXCHANGED BEWTEEN BOTH PARTIES.

THIS WAS THE FIRST OF A SERIES OF GATHERINGS TO BE ORGANISED TO PROMOTE MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND TO ESTABLISH A BETTER RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT AND NEW DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS.

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## MORE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS FOR FANLING

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THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR A PACKAGE OF PROJECTS AS PART OF THE CONTINUING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME OF FANLING NEW TOWN.

IT INVOLVES THE FORMATION OF APPROXIMATELY 12 HECTARES OF LAND INCLUDING ROADS AND DRAINS WORK IN WO HOP SHEK AREA.

THE WORKS COMPRISE SITE FORMATION, EXCAVATION IN CORPS RIDGE BORROW AREA, CONSTRUCTION OF CULVERTS, STORMWATER AND FOUL DRAINAGE, DISTRIBUTOR ROADS, A PEDESTRIAN ELEVATED WALKWAY SYSTEM, A PEDESTRIAN SUBWAY, FOOTPATHS, CYCLE TRACKS AND STREET FURNITURE.

ALSO INCLUDED IN THE PROJECT ARE THE EXTENSION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE EXISTING WO HOP SHEK ROAD, IMPROVEMENT TO THE WEST ACCESS TO WO HOP SHEK CEMETERY AND DEMOLITION OF THE EXISTING TEMPORARY ROAD BRIDGE ADJACENT TO THE FANLING KCR STATION.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE PROJECT WAS ESSENTIAL FOR THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF A PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE, SCHOOLS, RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS, GOVERNMENT INSTITUTION AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES.

CONSTRUCTION WORK WILL START IN JUNE AND WILL TAKE ABOUT 27 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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## WARNING AGAINST ILLEGAL SLAUGHTERING

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NEW TERRITORIES VILLAGERS INVOLVED IN ILLEGAL SLAUGHTERING ARE TODAY WARNED TO STOP THEIR BUSINESS IMMEDIATELY, OR THEY WOULD BE LIABLE TO PROSECUTION.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID SUSTAINED EFFORTS WERE NOW BEING CARRIED OUT IN THE NEW TERRITORIES TO STAMP OUT THE ILLEGAL ACTIVITY.

THE APPEAL WAS ISSUED AFTER TWO NEW TERRITORIES RESIDENTS, ONE IN YUEN LONG AND THE OTHER IN SAI KUNG, WERE RECENTLY BROUGHT TO COURT FOR RELATED OFFENCES.

THE OFFENDER IN YUEN LONG WAS FINED $5 000 -- $3 500 FOR AN OFFENCE OF OPERATING AN UNLICENSED SLAUGHTERHOUSE AND $1 500 FOR A CHARGE OF POSSESSION OF PROHIBITED FOOD FOR SALE -- AT THE FANLING MAGISTRACY.

THE SECOND OFFENDER WAS FINED $750 EACH FOR THE ABOVE TWO OFFENCES AT THE KWUN TONG MAGISTRACY.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE MAXIMUM PENALTY FOR OPERATING A SLAUGHTERHOUSE WITHOUT A LICENCE IS $10 000 WHILE THAT OF POSSESSING PROHIBITED FOOD FOR SALE IS $2 000.

MEANWHILE, THE SPOKESMAN ALSO ADVISED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC NOT TO BUY MEAT FROM ON-STREET HAWKERS AS THEIR MEAT, WHICH WERE MOSTLY SUPPLIED BY UNLICENSED SLAUGHTERHOUSES, WERE NOT HYGIENICALLY PREPARED AND WOULD PROBABLY BE UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.

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## NEW FERRY PIER FOR TSING YI

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THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FERRY PIER ON TSING YI ISLAND.

THE WORKS INCLUDE THE BUILDING OF A SUPERSTRUCTURE ON A RECLAIMED SITE OF 1 400 SQUARE METRES, A PUBLIC TOILET AND CANOPIES TO THE BUS TERMINUS.

ON COMPLETION, FERRY OPERATIONS WILL BE TRANSFERRED FROM THE PRESENT TSING YI BAY PIER WHERE FURTHER RECLAMATION WILL BE CARRIED OUT.

THE PROJECT IS SCHEDULED TO COMMENCE IN EARLY JUNE AND IS EXPECTED TO TAKE SIX MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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## MARKET STALLS FOR LEASE BY AUCTION

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SIXTY-FOUR VACANT STALLS AT TAK WAH STREET TEMPORARY MARKET AND SHAM TSENG TEMPORARY MARKET IN TSUEN WAN WILL BE PUT UP FOR LEASE BY PUBLIC AUCTION NEXT WEDNESDAY (APRIL 17).

THE AUCTION WILL BE HELD AT THE CULTURAL ACTIVITIES HALL OF TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL AT 9.30 AM. THE UPSET MONTHLY RENTAL OF THE STALLS RANGES FROM $900 TO $4 500.

SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS CAN START BUSINESS ON MAY 1 ON A THREE-YEAR CONTRACT.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC INTENDING TO BID FOR THE STALLS ARE ADVISED TO BRING ALONG FIVE PHOTOGRAPHS WHEN ATTENDING THE AUCTION.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS, PLEASE CALL THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT ON 0-444281 EXT. 361.

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## FIRING PRACTICE

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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE HA TSUEN-CASTLE PEAK RANGE FROM MONDAY (APRIL 15) TO SATURDAY (APRIL 20) BETWEEN 8 AM TO 5 PM.

THE PUBLIC ARE WARNED NOT TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN THE RED FLAGS ARE HOISTED.

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