



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SUNDAY, JULY 1, 1990

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PROVISIONAL RESULTS OF RETAIL SALES SURVEY FOR APRIL RELEASED

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THE VALUE OF TOTAL RETAIL SALES IN APRIL 1990, ESTIMATED AT \$8,783 MILLION, INCREASED BY 4 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH APRIL 1989 WHILE THEIR VOLUME DECREASED BY 2 PER CENT, ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONAL RESULTS OF A SURVEY RELEASED TODAY (SUNDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

IN MARCH 1990, THE VALUE AND THE VOLUME OF TOTAL RETAIL SALES INCREASED BY 8 PER CENT AND 1 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY OVER MARCH 1989.

COMPARED WITH APRIL 1989, FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO ROSE BY 9 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 2 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME, WHILE RETAIL SALES OF FUELS INCREASED BY 13 PER CENT IN VALUE BUT DECREASED BY 4 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, RETAIL SALES OF CONSUMER DURABLES DECREASED BY 1 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 4 PER CENT IN VOLUME. SALES OF CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS DROPPED BY 3 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 10 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

RETAIL SALES OF OTHER CONSUMER GOODS ROSE BY 4 PER CENT IN VALUE BUT FELL BY 2 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

ANALYSED BY SELECTED TRADES, RETAIL SALES BY SUPERMARKETS INCREASED BY 24 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 12 PER CENT IN VOLUME. CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS WENT UP BY 5 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 3 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME. DEPARTMENT STORES SALES ROSE BY 7 PER CENT IN VALUE BUT DROPPED BY 1 PER CENT IN VOLUME. RETAIL SALES OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS DECREASED BY 8 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 14 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

COMPARING THE PERIOD JANUARY TO APRIL 1990 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1989, TOTAL RETAIL SALES INCREASED BY 2 PER CENT IN VALUE BUT DECREASED BY 4 PER CENT IN VOLUME. FUELS WENT UP BY 18 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 2 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME. SALES OF FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO ROSE BY 11 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 4 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS DROPPED BY 2 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 8 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME. SALES OF CONSUMER DURABLES WENT DOWN BY 6 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 9 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

SALES OF OTHER CONSUMER GOODS INCREASED BY 1 PER CENT IN VALUE BUT DECREASED BY 5 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

ANALYSED BY SELECTED TRADES, RETAIL SALES BY SUPERMARKETS INCREASED BY 21 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 11 PER CENT IN VOLUME, WHILE THOSE OF DEPARTMENT STORES ROSE BY 8 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 1 PER CENT IN VOLUME. CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS DECREASED BY 2 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 4 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME. SALES OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS DROPPED BY 10 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 16 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

/COMPARED WITH

COMPARED WITH MARCH 1990, AND BEARING IN MIND THAT THIS COMPARISON MAY BE AFFECTED BY SEASONAL FACTORS, TOTAL RETAIL SALES FOR APRIL 1990 DECREASED BY 5 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 7 PER CENT IN VOLUME. FUELS WENT DOWN BY 2 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 3 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME. FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO DROPPED BY 9 PER CENT IN BOTH SALES VALUE AND SALES VOLUME.

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, RETAIL SALES OF CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS WENT UP BY 5 PER CENT IN VALUE BUT REMAINED ALMOST UNCHANGED IN VOLUME, WHILE THOSE FOR CONSUMER DURABLES DROPPED BY 9 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 10 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

SALES OF OTHER CONSUMER GOODS DECREASED BY 5 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 6 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

ANALYSED BY SELECTED TRADES, DEPARTMENT STORES SALES REMAINED ALMOST UNCHANGED IN VALUE BUT DROPPED BY 3 PER CENT IN VOLUME. SALES OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS DECREASED BY 7 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 9 PER CENT IN VOLUME. SUPERMARKET SALES WENT DOWN BY 8 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 9 PER CENT IN VOLUME, WHILE CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS RECORDED A DECREASE OF 10 PER CENT IN BOTH SALES VALUE AND VOLUME.

THE ACCOMPANYING TABLE 1 PRESENTS THE REVISED TOTAL RETAIL SALES FIGURE FOR MARCH 1990 AND THE PROVISIONAL FIGURE FOR APRIL 1990.

TABLE 2 SHOWS THE VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF RETAIL SALES IN MARCH 1990 AND APRIL 1990 (A) FOR ALL RETAIL TRADES, (B) BY MAJOR TRADE GROUPS AND (C) BY SELECTED TRADES (WHICH FORM PART OF THE RELEVANT MAJOR TRADE GROUPS), WITH AVERAGE RETAIL SALES FROM OCTOBER 1984 TO SEPTEMBER 1985 TAKEN AS 100.

COMPARISONS OF APRIL 1990 RESULTS WITH THOSE FOR MARCH 1990 AND WITH THOSE FOR APRIL 1989, AND COMPARISONS OF RETAIL SALES IN THE PERIOD JANUARY TO APRIL 1990 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1989, ARE ALSO GIVEN.

THE REPORT CONTAINING THE ANALYSIS OF APRIL 1990 SURVEY RESULTS IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, AT \$1 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. 556 5240).

NOTE TO EDITORS:

TABLES 1 AND 2 WILL BE SENT BY FACSIMILE.

/TABLE 1

TABLE 1 : TOTAL RETAIL SALES

Total Retail Sales for April 1990 (Provisional Figure) = HK\$ 8,783 million
 for March 1990 (Revised Figure) = HK\$ 9,290 million

TABLE 2 : VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF RETAIL SALES
FOR MARCH 1990 AND APRIL 1990

(Monthly average of Oct. 84 - Sept. 85 = 100)

Item	Index of Retail Sales	March 1990	April 1990	April 1990 compared with March 1990		April 1990 compared with April 1989		Jan.-Apr. 1990 compared with Jan.-Apr. 1989	
		(Revised figures)	(Provisional figures)	Points	%	Points	%	Points	%
(A) FOR ALL RETAIL TRADES									
	Value	166	157	-9	-5	+5	+4	+3	+2
	Volume	124	116	-8	-7	-3	-2	-5	-4
(B) BY MAJOR TRADE GROUPS									
Foodstuffs, alcoholic drinks and tobacco	Value	158	144	-14	-9	+12	+9	+15	+11
	Volume	118	108	-10	-9	+2	+2	+4	+4
Fuels	Value	119	117	-2	-2	+14	+13	+17	+18
	Volume	105	102	-3	-3	-4	-4	+2	+2
Clothing, footwear and allied products	Value	178	187	+9	+5	-6	-3	-3	-2
	Volume	126	126	*	*	-14	-10	-12	-8
Consumer durables	Value	159	145	-14	-9	-1	-1	-10	-6
	Volume	117	105	-12	-10	-4	-4	-11	-9
Other consumer goods	Value	178	168	-9	-5	+6	+4	+1	+1
	Volume	132	125	-8	-6	-2	-2	-6	-5
(C) BY SELECTED TRADES									
(see note 1 below)									
Supermarkets	Value	208	192	-16	-8	+37	+24	+35	+21
	Volume	150	137	-13	-9	+15	+12	+14	+11
Motor vehicles and parts	Value	286	264	-21	-7	-21	-8	-33	-10
	Volume	182	164	-17	-9	-26	-14	-33	-16
Consumer durables other than motor vehicles and parts	Value	120	108	-12	-10	+5	+5	-2	-2
	Volume	97	87	-10	-10	+2	+3	-4	-4
Department stores	Value	201	201	-1	*	+12	+7	+18	+8
	Volume	143	138	-5	-3	-1	-1	+2	+1

NOTES : 1. In order to analyse the sales of certain trades WITHIN major trade groups, the value and volume indexes in respect of the following selected trades are compiled :

- "Supermarkets" - a trade in the "Foodstuffs, alcoholic drinks and tobacco" group.
- "Motor vehicles and parts" - a trade in the "Consumer durables" group.
- "Consumer durables other than motor vehicles and parts" - a trade in the "Consumer durables" group.
- "Department stores" - a trade in the "Other consumer goods" group.

2. Figures denoting changes are derived from the unrounded index figures.

3. "*" denotes a figure within ± 0.5 .

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPT COMES INTO OPERATION

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THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT WILL COME INTO OPERATION TOMORROW (MONDAY) TO TAKE OVER FROM THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE REGISTRATION OF THE TRADE MARKS FOR GOODS AND PATENTS AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT WAS PROMPTED BY A NEED TO ENSURE THAT HONG KONG'S INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTION REGIME WAS COMMENSURATE WITH ITS STATUS AS AN INTERNATIONAL TRADING AND FINANCIAL CENTRE.

"A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF HONG KONG'S INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY REGIME IS ALREADY UNDER WAY UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION AND DIFFERENT GOVERNMENT BRANCHES AND DEPARTMENTS.

"THE NEW DEPARTMENT WILL PROVIDE A FOCAL POINT FOR THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG'S INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTION REGIME," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

AS A PRIORITY TASK, THE DEPARTMENT WILL CONSIDER THE INTRODUCTION OF A NEW SYSTEM OF REGISTRATION OF TRADE MARKS FOR SERVICES.

"THIS WILL BE THE BEGINNING OF A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMME TO MODERNISE AND LOCALISE HONG KONG'S EXISTING INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTION REGIME.

AS A LONGER TERM OBJECTIVE, THE DEPARTMENT WILL DEVELOP PROPOSALS FOR THE PROTECTION OF OTHER FORMS OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY SUCH AS INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS, INTEGRATED CIRCUITS AND PETTY PATENTS.

MS ALICE TAI YUEN-YING HAS BEEN APPOINTED AS THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY.

"SHE HAS REPLACED THE REGISTRAR GENERAL AS THE REGISTRAR OF PATENTS AND REGISTRAR OF TRADE MARKS, AND ASSUMED ALL THE STATUTORY RESPONSIBILITIES AND POWERS PREVIOUSLY EXERCISED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL UNDER THE REGISTRATION OF PATENTS ORDINANCE AND THE TRADE MARKS ORDINANCE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

MS TAI IS ASSISTED BY A DEPUTY DIRECTOR AND TWO ASSISTANT DIRECTORS IN THE RUNNING OF THE NEW DEPARTMENT.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE NEW DEPARTMENT WAS STAFFED BY A NEW PROFESSIONAL GRADE OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY EXAMINERS WHO REPLACED THE ASSISTANT REGISTRARS IN THE TRADE MARKS AND PATENTS REGISTRY.

/"THE CREATION

"THE CREATION OF THE NEW GRADE IS TO REFLECT MORE FULLY THE SPECIALISATION OF THE NEW DEPARTMENT AND TO ENABLE IT TO RECRUIT AND RETAIN STAFF OF AN APPROPRIATE CALIBRE IN TERMS OF PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED FOR THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTION IN HONG KONG," HE SAID.

THE NEW DEPARTMENT IS TEMPORARILY ACCOMMODATED ON THE 21ST, 20TH, AND 15TH FLOORS (TRADE MARKS AND PATENTS REGISTRY) OF QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 66 QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG.

INVESTIGATION AND LAW ENFORCEMENT IN RELATION TO INFRINGEMENT OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS WILL NOT BE AFFECTED BY THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NEW DEPARTMENT AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE CARRIED OUT BY THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT.

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ADULT EDUCATION - FROM EARLY 50'S TO TODAY
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ADULT EDUCATION FOR THE THOUSANDS OF IMMIGRANTS FROM CHINA, MOST OF WHOM WERE ILLITERATE, BEGAN IN THE EARLY 50'S WITH THE BOOK OF A THOUSAND CHINESE CHARACTERS.

POST-WAR HONG KONG WAS THEN A CITY FILLED WITH THESE IMMIGRANTS WHO LIVED A HAND-TO-MOUTH EXISTENCE.

IN ORDER TO HELP THESE PEOPLE, THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ALSO RAN BUDGET-SAVING NON-FORMAL COURSES - SEWING AND DRESS-MAKING - FOR HOUSEWIVES SO THAT THEY COULD MAKE CLOTHES FOR THE FAMILY.

"IN THOSE EARLY YEARS, THEIR EARNINGS WERE POOR AND TO FURTHER HELP THEM, THE NON-FORMAL OR DO-IT-YOUSELF COURSES WERE EXTENDED TO KNITTING, CROCHET, COOKERY AND FOR MEN, WOODWORK SO THAT THEY COULD REPAIR THEIR FURNITURE," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

CLASSES WERE HELD IN SCHOOL PREMISES, HE SAID.

THESE CLASSES COULD BE DESCRIBED AS THE FORERUNNER OF COMMUNITY CENTRES AND THE WIDE VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES ORGANISED FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC IN THEIR OWN DISTRICTS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

ADULT EDUCATION FOLLOWED THE SUCCESS OF HONG KONG TO RISE FROM THE RAVAGES OF WAR TO BECOME A LEADING FINANCIAL, INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL CENTRE - FROM THE BOOK OF A THOUSAND CHINESE CHARACTERS, THE BASIC LITERACY COURSE BECAME THE GENERAL BACKGROUND COURSE WHICH COMPRISED CHINESE, ENGLISH, MATHEMATICS AND SOCIAL STUDIES.

/"THESE CLASSES

"THESE CLASSES, FOR PEOPLE AGED 18 OR ABOVE, ARE EQUIVALENT TO PRIMARY 3 TO 6. NO TUITION IS CHARGED, WHICH IS IN LINE WITH THE FREE PRIMARY INITIAL EDUCATION POLICY, AND NO ENTRANCE TEST IS REQUIRED FOR ADMISSION," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

ON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF PRIMARY 6 LEVEL, THEY MAY BE RECOMMENDED FOR DIRECT ENTRY TO THE GOVERNMENT EVENING SECONDARY SCHOOL COURSE STARTING FROM SECONDARY 1.

FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS, THE COURSE HAS BEEN OFFERED IN 17 CENTRES IN BORROWED SCHOOL PREMISES IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE TERRITORY.

THE PRACTICAL DO-IT-YOURSELF COURSES, CURRENTLY HELD IN 29 CENTRES, LAST FROM SIX MONTHS TO A YEAR EACH. TUITION FEES RANGE FROM \$80 TO \$290.

THERE ARE ALSO CULTURAL, RECREATIONAL AND SPORTING ACTIVITIES AT 19 ADULT EDUCATION AND RECREATION CENTRES. THE ACTIVITIES INCLUDE ELEMENTARY ENGLISH, PUTONGHUA AND JAPANESE COURSES, TAI CHI, AEROBICS AND HAIR-DRESSING.

THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMICAL CONDITIONS OF HONG KONG 40 YEARS AGO CANNOT BE COMPARED TO TODAY'S AFFLUENCE AND PROGRESS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HONG KONG TODAY HAS MANY ORGANISATIONS, COMMERCIAL OR OTHERWISE, RUNNING SIMILAR COURSES - SUCH AS COOKING - NOT FOR ECONOMICAL REASONS AS IN THE PAST, BUT BECAUSE OF A DESIRE TO ENHANCE THE FAMILY DINNER.

"FORTY YEARS HAVE PASSED AND IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE AT THIS TIME TO REVIEW THE SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT SOME OF THEM ARE DUPLICATED BY COMMERCIAL AND SUBVENTED ORGANISATIONS AND THE TWO MUNICIPAL COUNCILS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE CITED TAI CHI AND AEROBICS AS EXAMPLES - THESE ARE AVAILABLE AT AFFORDABLE RATES AT THE INDOOR SPORTS CENTRES RUN BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCILS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE REVIEW TO CONSOLIDATE AND RATIONALISE SERVICES RESULTED IN:

- * GOVERNMENT EVENING SECONDARY SCHOOLS: THE NUMBER OF CENTRES RUNNING GOVERNMENT EVENING SECONDARY COURSES WILL BE REDUCED FROM 15 TO 12 AS THREE OF THEM ARE RUNNING ONLY A FEW CLASSES. COURSES RUN BY THESE CENTRES WILL BE COMBINED AT THE REMAINING CENTRES WHICH WILL BENEFIT APPLICANTS AS THEY WILL HAVE A WIDER SELECTION OF THE CURRICULUM SUCH AS THE CHOICE OF SCIENCE, ARTS OR COMMERCIAL SUBJECTS.

/* PRACTICAL, NON-FORMAL

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* PRACTICAL, NON-FORMAL COURSES: THE 29 CENTRES RUNNING COURSES SUCH AS SEWING, KNITTING, COOKERY AND WOODWORK WILL BE CLOSED FROM SEPTEMBER 1990 SINCE THE NECESSITY TO RUN THEM FOR ECONOMICAL REASONS HAS CHANGED. HOWEVER, THE DEPARTMENT WILL TRANSFER, DEPENDING ON DEMAND, WOODWORK AND OTHER PRACTICAL COURSES TO THE ADULT EDUCATION AND RECREATION CENTRES.

* ADULT EDUCATION AND RECREATION CENTRES: THE 19 CENTRES WILL BE REDUCED TO 14 BECAUSE OF INADEQUATE USAGE.

"BUT THE DEPARTMENT WILL STILL MAINTAIN THE ELEMENTARY LANGUAGE COURSES AS THERE IS STILL A NEED TO PROVIDE NEW IMMIGRANTS FROM CHINA WITH BASIC KNOWLEDGE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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PRAISE FOR WORK OF AMS IN NEW TOWN

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SINCE TSEUNG KWAN O NEW TOWN CAME INTO BEING, THE AUXILIARY MEDICAL SERVICES (AMS) HAS PROVIDED MEDICAL SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR RESIDENTS THERE ON MANY OCCASIONS, SUCH AS DURING CARNIVALS, RECREATIONAL AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES, AND CHARITY FUNCTIONS.

THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR FREDERICK TONG, SAID THIS AT THE SERVICES' SAI KUNG DISTRICT PARADE INSPECTION AND RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN HELD AT PO LAM ESTATE TODAY (SUNDAY).

"TSEUNG KWAN O IS A FAST DEVELOPING AREA WHERE THE PRESENT POPULATION OF ABOUT 60,000 IS EXPECTED TO RISE TO 150,000 BY 1995. WITH SUCH A PACE OF DEVELOPMENT, THERE WILL BE A GROWING DEMAND FOR AMS SERVICES ARISING FROM MORE COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES FOR THE RESIDENTS IN THE NEAR FUTURE," MR TONG SAID.

"THE AMS IS A MEDICAL CIVIL DEFENCE CORPS WITH DEDICATED MEMBERS COMING FROM DIFFERENT SECTORS OF SOCIETY. THEY ARE TRAINED TO HELP IN PROVIDING FIRST AID SERVICE AND CARE FOR THE SICK.

"EACH DISTRICT HAS ITS RESCUE TEAM TO ENSURE THAT ORGANISED RESCUE SERVICE WILL BE AVAILABLE IN TIME OF EMERGENCIES."

MR TONG SAID THAT TO ENSURE THAT TSEUNG KWAN O WAS COVERED BY AMS SERVICE IN CASE OF EMERGENCIES, THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT UNIT OF THE AMS WAS TODAY BEGINNING A RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN IN THE NEW TOWN.

THE CAMPAIGN TODAY INCLUDED A FIRST AID DEMONSTRATION AND AN EXHIBITION, AS WELL AS A BAND PERFORMANCE, WITH THE HOPE THAT RESIDENTS WOULD GET TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE WORK OF THE CORPS, AND BE PREPARED TO JOIN.

/TWO MORE

TWO MORE TEAMS WOULD BE SET UP UNDER THE AMS SAI KUNG DISTRICT UNIT WITH A VIEW TO PROVIDING MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES FOR RESIDENTS OF TSEUNG KWAN O DURING EMERGENCIES, MR TONG SAID.

THE AUXILIARY MEDICAL SERVICES, INAUGURATED IN DECEMBER 1950, NOW HAS MORE THAN 5,800 VOLUNTEERS, AMONG WHOM ABOUT ARE 1,000 PROFESSIONALS, SUCH AS DOCTORS, NURSES, PHARMACISTS, DISPENSERS, RADIOGRAPHERS AND PARAMEDICAL PERSONNEL, ALL WORKING IN THE PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SECTORS.

MANY RESIDENTS IN TSEUNG KWAN O SHOWED INTEREST IN THE RECRUITMENT EXERCISE TODAY, AND ENQUIRED ABOUT APPLICATION PROCEDURES FOR JOINING.

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SWINGING SUMMER FORTNIGHT FOR SOUTHERN RESIDENTS
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SOUTHERN DISTRICT RESIDENTS WILL BE TREATED TO FUN AND GAMES AND OPERA SHOWS IN A "SWINGING SUMMER FORTNIGHT" TO BE HELD FROM JULY 14 TO 28.

THE PROGRAMME HAS BEEN ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES OF THE AP LEI CHAU COMMUNITY HALL AND THE LEI TUNG COMMUNITY HALL.

"THERE WILL BE A VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES FOR PEOPLE OF DIFFERENT INTERESTS AND AGES," A DISTRICT OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE CURTAIN-RAISER WILL BE AN OPENING CEREMONY AND CANTONESE OPERA NIGHT ON JULY 14 IN THE LEI TUNG COMMUNITY HALL. SENIOR RESIDENTS WILL BE ENTERTAINED BY THREE CANTONESE OPERA SHOWS PERFORMED BY THE WONG TAI SIN OPERA TROUPE.

FROM JULY 15 TO 27, THERE WILL BE A TABLE TENNIS COMPETITION IN THE AP LEI CHAU COMMUNITY HALL, AND A BADMINTON CONTEST IN THE LEI TUNG COMMUNITY HALL.

FOR CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN FOUR AND 14, A DRAWING COMPETITION WILL BE HELD ON JULY 22, FROM 2 PM TO 5 PM, IN BOTH COMMUNITY HALLS. ENTRIES IN THE COMPETITION CAN BE MADE ON THE SPOT AND EACH PARTICIPANT WILL BE GIVEN A SOUVENIR.

THE PROGRAMME WILL CLOSE ON JULY 28 WITH A CEREMONY AND A VARIETY SHOW IN THE AP LEI CHAU COMMUNITY HALL.

THE SHOW WILL FEATURE PERFORMANCES BY SINGERS AS WELL AS ACROBATIC AND MAGIC SHOWS. WINNERS OF THE VARIOUS CONTESTS WILL BE PRESENTED PRIZES DURING THE EVENT.

INFORMATION PAMPHLETS FOR THE "SWINGING SUMMER FORTNIGHT", FREE ADMISSION TICKETS AND ENTRY FORMS FOR THE VARIOUS CONTESTS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE TWO COMMUNITY HALLS AS WELL AS AT THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS SUB-OFFICES.

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SUMMER FUN FOR YAU TSIM YOUNGSTERS

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YOUNGSTERS IN YAU TSIM DISTRICT ARE INVITED TO "SHARE THE FUN, SERVE THE COMMUNITY" BY TAKING PART IN THE 1990 SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME.

THE PROGRAMME IS ORGANISED BY THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE WITH SPONSORSHIP FROM THE DISTRICT BOARD AND THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB.

FROM NEXT SUNDAY (JULY 8), A TOTAL OF 128 ACTIVITIES WILL BE ORGANISED BY VOLUNTARY GROUPS IN THE DISTRICT FOR THOSE AGED BETWEEN SIX AND 25.

COPIES OF A PAMPHLET LISTING THE VARIOUS ACTIVITIES CAN BE OBTAINED FROM YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICE IN MIDDLE ROAD AND ITS SUB-OFFICE IN CARNARVON ROAD, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICE SAID.

"THESE ACTIVITIES, BOTH EDUCATIONAL AND RECREATIONAL, INCLUDE LEADERSHIP TRAINING, READERS' AWARDS, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION WORKSHOPS AND ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPS.

"THIS IS TO ENABLE YOUNGSTERS TO DEVELOP THEIR CAPABILITIES AND SOCIAL SKILLS, CULTIVATE A SENSE OF BELONGING AS WELL AS TO UNDERSTAND THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES TOWARDS THE COMMUNITY," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

AN OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE HELD NEXT SUNDAY AT THE NEW WORLD PLAZA.

THIS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A VARIETY SHOW FEATURING A LION DANCE, MONGOLIAN DANCE, KARATE AND POP SONGS.

MORE THAN 20,000 YOUNGSTERS TOOK PART IN THE DISTRICT'S SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME LAST YEAR, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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RECRUITMENT DRIVE FOR COMMUNITY ORGANISERS

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THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION (CNTA) IS STILL RECRUITING COMMUNITY ORGANISERS IN 11 DISTRICTS TO ASSIST WITH VOTER REGISTRATION ACTIVITIES IN AUGUST.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CNTA SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) THAT COMMUNITY ORGANISERS WERE REQUIRED BY DISTRICT OFFICES IN WAN CHAI, EASTERN, CENTRAL AND WESTERN, SOUTHERN, SHAM SHUI PO, KWUN TONG, MONG KOK, SHA TIN, YUEN LONG, NORTH AND TAI PO.

/"EIGHT DISTRICTS

"EIGHT DISTRICTS HAVE RECRUITED THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF COMMUNITY ORGANISERS FOLLOWING THE LAST RECRUITMENT EXERCISE IN MAY," HE SAID.

APPLICANTS SHOULD HAVE COMPLETED FORM FIVE OR ABOVE AND HAVE WORKING EXPERIENCE, AND BE AGED BETWEEN 18 AND 45.

A COMMUNITY ORGANISER WILL BE REQUIRED TO WORK IRREGULAR HOURS, MAINLY IN THE AFTERNOONS AND EVENINGS. HE WILL ALSO HAVE TO WORK ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

THE MONTHLY SALARY FOR THE POST IS \$2,000.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL DISTRICT OFFICES.

COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE RESPECTIVE DISTRICT OFFICES FOR WHICH THE APPLICANTS WISH TO WORK.

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DB COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER LAUNCHING CLEANLINESS CAMPAIGN
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THE SQUATTER AREAS COMMITTEE OF THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD WILL CONSIDER ON TUESDAY (JULY 3) THE ALLOCATION OF \$40,000 FOR LAUNCHING A CLEANLINESS CAMPAIGN IN SQUATTER AREAS IN THE DISTRICT.

THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CAMPAIGN WILL INCLUDE IMPROVING DUMPING SITES, CLEARING BLOCKED DRAINS, AND INTRODUCING PEST CONTROL IN CROWDED HUTS AND AT DRAINS.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO CONSIDER THE ALLOCATION OF \$17,800 IN DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS TO CLEAR A CHANNEL AT WAH CHING PATH IN DIAMOND HILL, REMOVE RUBBISH AND SILT IN A STREAM IN DIAMOND NEW VILLAGE AND TO CUT GRASS AT LION ROCK UPPER VILLAGE.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING INCLUDE REPORTS ON THE PROGRESS OF MINOR WORKS PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED BY THE COMMITTEE, AND ON CASES OF LANDSLIPS, MUDSLIPS, STRUCTURAL FAILURE, FIRE AND OTHER HAPPENINGS IN SQUATTER AREAS IN THE DISTRICT.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD'S SQUATTER AREAS COMMITTEE TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY (JULY 3) IN THE DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, FOURTH FLOOR, SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, KING FUK STREET.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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CONTAINER DEPOT INSPECTIONS HELP PROMOTE SAFETY

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAS RECENTLY LAUNCHED TERRITORY-WIDE INSPECTIONS OF CONTAINER DEPOTS TO DRIVE HOME THE MESSAGE OF WORK SAFETY TO MANAGEMENT AND WORKERS IN THE CONTAINER HANDLING INDUSTRY.

WITH THE ADVENT OF THE TYPHOON SEASON, THE DEPARTMENT'S FACTORY INSPECTORATE CONDUCTED INSPECTIONS LAST MONTH OF ALL 81 CONTAINER DEPOTS IN THE TERRITORY, 58 OF WHICH ARE LOCATED IN THE NORTHERN PART OF THE NEW TERRITORIES.

"THE OPERATION FOCUSED PARTICULARLY ON THE SAFE USE OF MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT, SLING OPERATORS WORKING AT HEIGHT, CONDITIONS OF THE GROUND, STACKING HEIGHT OF CONTAINERS AND HOW THEY WERE STACKED UP AND PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN AGAINST STRONG WINDS," AN ACTING DEPUTY CHIEF FACTORY INSPECTOR, MR KAN HON-SANG, EXPLAINED.

"TO HELP CONTAINER INDUSTRY PERSONNEL UNDERSTAND THE PROVISION WHICH IMPOSES GENERAL DUTIES ON PROPRIETORS AND WORKERS WITH REGARD TO SAFETY AND HEALTH AT WORK, FACTORY INSPECTORS ALSO TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLAIN TO THEM THE SPIRIT AND DETAILS OF THE LEGISLATION," HE SAID.

THE PROVISION UNDER THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1989 WILL BE IMPLEMENTED TOWARDS THE END OF THE YEAR.

PUBLICATIONS ON THE NEW PROVISION AND CONTAINER HANDLING SAFETY, INCLUDING THE BOOKLET "SAFE PRACTICES FOR CONTAINER HANDLING" PUBLISHED BY THE CENTRAL CONTAINER HANDLING SAFETY COMMITTEE, WERE DISTRIBUTED DURING THE INSPECTIONS.

MR KAN NOTED THAT MOST OF THE DEPOTS HAD APPOINTED SUPERVISORS TO LOOK AFTER SAFETY MATTERS, WHILE SOME 30 DEPOTS WERE EQUIPPED WITH MODERN CONTAINER STACKING EQUIPMENT TO SAVE THE NEED FOR SLING OPERATORS, WHICH SHOULD HELP IN IMPROVING SAFETY STANDARDS AT CONTAINER DEPOTS.

TO PREVENT ACCIDENTS, HE SUGGESTED THE MANAGEMENT TOOK THE FOLLOWING PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES:

- ALL MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT IN CONTAINER YARDS SHOULD BE IN GOOD ORDER AND PROPERLY MAINTAINED BY COMPETENT TECHNICIANS;
- ALL LIFTING APPLIANCES AND LIFTING GEAR SHOULD BE TESTED AND THOROUGHLY EXAMINED BY A COMPETENT EXAMINER AND BE ISSUED WITH RELEVANT CERTIFICATES;
- ALL LIFTING APPLIANCES SHOULD BE OPERATED BY COMPETENT PERSONS;

- WHERE A PERSON OPERATING A LIFTING APPLIANCE DOES NOT HAVE A CLEAR AND UNRESTRICTED VIEW OF ITS VICINITY, THERE SHOULD BE ANOTHER PERSON TO GIVE EFFECTIVE SIGNALS TO THE OPERATOR;
- THE DEPOT MANAGEMENT SHOULD PROVIDE SUITABLE SAFETY BELTS OR HARNESSSES, INDEPENDENT LIFELINES OR FALL ARRESTING DEVICES TO THOSE WORKING AT HEIGHT WHO ARE REQUIRED TO MAKE USE OF ALL SAFETY EQUIPMENT PROVIDED;
- THE GROUND SHOULD BE FIRM, LEVEL AND COMPACT;
- CONTAINER STACKING HEIGHT SHOULD BE AS LOW AS POSSIBLE;
- WHEN STRONG WIND SIGNALS ARE HOISTED, THE STACKING HEIGHT SHOULD BE REDUCED AND CONTAINERS ARE TO BE PROPERLY LASHED, AND STEPS SHOULD ALSO BE TAKEN FOR POSSIBLE CLOSURE OF THE DEPOT; AND
- AT LEAST ONE MANAGEMENT LEVEL STAFF MEMBER SHOULD BE APPOINTED TO LOOK AFTER SAFETY MATTERS IN EACH DEPOT.

IN ADDITION, MR KAN ALSO CALLED FOR GREATER CO-OPERATION BETWEEN MANAGEMENT AND WORKERS IN THE INDUSTRY IN THEIR JOINT EFFORT TO CURB ACCIDENTS.

"THE MANAGEMENT SHOULD PROVIDE A SAFE WORKING ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY EQUIPMENT AND SAFETY TRAINING FOR ITS STAFF, WHILE THE LATTER SHOULD COMPLY WITH THE SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS AND USE THE SAFETY EQUIPMENT PROVIDED," HE SAID.

ENQUIRIES ON CONTAINER HANDLING SAFETY MAY BE MADE AT ANY BRANCH OFFICE OF THE FACTORY INSPECTORATE.

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REMINDER ON DANGER OF USING DEFECTIVE TYRES
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TYRES HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR UP TO 50 PER CENT OF TOTAL DEFECTS FOUND DURING RECENT EXAMINATIONS OF VEHICLES INVOLVED IN TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS, A POLICE SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY.

LAST YEAR, A TOTAL OF 657 VEHICLES WITH DEFECTIVE TYRES INVOLVED IN TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS, REPRESENTING A 20 PER CENT INCREASE OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

WARNING AGAINST THE DANGER OF USING DEFECTIVE TYRES, THE SPOKESMAN SAID: "IF THE TYRE TREADS ARE ALL WORN AND THE ROAD SURFACE IS WET, THE MAXIMUM ADHESION POSSIBLE MAY BE AS LOW AS 15 PER CENT, AS COMPARED TO THE NORMAL DRAG FACTOR OF 45 TO 80 PER CENT.

"FOR SAFETY'S SAKE, MOTORISTS SHOULD PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE FREQUENCY OF PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE OF TYRES," HE ADDED.

ALL MOTOR VEHICLES MUST BE FITTED WITH PNEUMATIC TYRES WHICH ARE COVERED BY TREADS WITH AT LEAST ONE MM IN DEPTH AND ARE CORRECTLY INFLATED TO THE RECOMMENDED PRESSURE.

THE TYRES SHOULD BE FREE FROM DAMAGE AND ARE RECUT ONLY TO THE EXTENT THAT THE FABRIC IS NOT EXPOSED.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO REMINDED MOTORISTS THAT TYRES OF DIFFERENT TYPES OF STRUCTURE MUST NOT BE FITTED TO THE SAME AXLE. CROSS-PLY TYRES SHOULD BE FITTED AT THE FRONT WHILE RADIAL-PLY TYRES AT THE REAR AXLE.

"BETTER AND MORE FREQUENT MAINTENANCE OF TYRES WOULD CONSIDERABLY REDUCE PEDESTRIAN CASUALTIES AND THE LOSS OF LIFE," HE SAID.

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RECLAMATION FOR GAS TURBINE POWER STATION
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AUTHORISATION HAS BEEN GIVEN FOR THE RECLAMATION OF LAND AND DREDGING OF SEABED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A GAS TURBINE POWER STATION AT CHOK KO WAN, LANTAU ISLAND, BY CHINA LIGHT AND POWER CO LTD.

THE POWER STATION WILL BE BUILT WITHIN AN AREA OF ABOUT 6.58 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED AT CHOK KO WAN.

THE AREA WILL BE USED AS WORKS AREA FOR RECLAMATION OF LAND, DREDGING OF SEABED AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE POWER STATION.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA AFFECTED HAS BEEN DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE OF AUTHORISATION PUBLISHED IN THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE GAZETTE.

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HIS INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED WILL BE INJURIOUSLY AFFECTED BY THE ABOVE UNDERTAKING MAY DELIVER TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS A WRITTEN CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION ON OR BEFORE JUNE 28, 1991.

HE SHOULD STATE IN HIS SUBMISSION THE SUM OF MONEY WHICH HE IS WILLING TO ACCEPT IN FULL AND FINAL SETTLEMENT OF HIS CLAIM AND SHOULD SUBMIT SUCH PARTICULARS WHICH HE POSSESSES TO SUBSTANTIATE HIS CLAIM.

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SUNDAY, JULY 1, 1990

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REFUSE COLLECTION POINT FOR HUNG HOM

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A \$6.2 MILLION CONTRACT HAS RECENTLY BEEN AWARDED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A REFUSE COLLECTION POINT AND PUBLIC TOILETS IN HUNG HOM.

LOCATED IN HOK YUEN STREET, THE PROJECT INCLUDES THE CONSTRUCTION OF A TWO-STOREY REFUSE COLLECTION POINT AND PUBLIC TOILETS WITH ANCILLARY FACILITIES SUCH AS AN OFFICE, A STOREROOM, A SWITCH ROOM, PUMP ROOMS AND A WATER SCRUBBER.

WORK HAS STARTED AND IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN SEPTEMBER NEXT YEAR.

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WATER CUTS IN WESTERN DISTRICT AND STANLEY

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN WESTERN WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 9 AM TO 5 PM ON TUESDAY (JULY 3) DUE TO TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF ELECTRICITY SUPPLY.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT ALL PREMISES IN NGA CHOI HANG VILLAGE AND TAI WAN SHAN VILLAGE.

FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO ALL PREMISES IN STANLEY WILL ALSO BE SUSPENDED FROM 11 PM ON TUESDAY (JULY 3) TO 5 AM THE NEXT DAY TO FACILITATE WATER WORKS.

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