



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20, 1980

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20, 1980

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GREEN PAPER PROPOSALS FURTHER STEP FORWARD
SAYS GOVERNOR
* * * *

THE PROPOSALS IN THE GREEN PAPER ON DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION ARE A +FURTHER STEP FORWARD+, THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, SAID TODAY.

THE GOVERNOR WAS SPEAKING AT THE INAUGURATION OF THE 24TH TERM OF THE HEUNG YEE KUK AT TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL.

HE SAID THE PROCESS OF CONSULTATION AT DISTRICT LEVEL HAD BEEN STRENGTHENED WITH THE FORMATION OF DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARDS.

+NOW YOUR GOVERNMENT IS PROPOSING A FURTHER STEP FORWARD,+ SIR MURRAY SAID.

+WHILE MAINTAINING THE PRINCIPAL FEATURES OF THE PRESENT COMPOSITION OF DISTRICT BOARDS, THE GREEN PAPER ON DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION PROPOSES THE ADDITION OF A DIRECTLY ELECTED ELEMENT SO AS TO GIVE THEM GREATER AUTHORITY, TO STRENGTHEN THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY, AND TO INCREASE THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE BOARD AS A WHOLE.

+THESE PROPOSALS HAD BEEN RECEIVED WITH INTEREST AND IN THE NEW TERRITORIES THEY WERE GENERALLY WELL SUPPORTED.+

SIR MURRAY PAID TRIBUTE TO THE KUK WHO HE SAID RECOGNISED THE NEED TO EVOLVE NEW CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION WITH THE LARGE NUMBER OF NEW ARRIVALS IN THE TOWNS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES AND WHO REALISED HOW VITALLY IMPORTANT IT WAS TO CREATE A SENSE OF LOCAL CONCERN TO THE WAY THE TOWNS, THEIR AMENITIES AND THEIR HOUSING ESTATES WERE MANAGED AND DEVELOPED.

+WE ARE CLOSELY WATCHING REACTIONS TO THOSE PARTS OF OUR PROPOSALS WHICH INVOLVE ELECTIONS AND WILL BE GUIDED BY THEM,+ THE GOVERNOR SAID.

+BUT IN ANY CASE OUR AIM IS A SATISFYING LIFE IN A SATISFACTORY COMMUNITY AND THIS ONLY PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT AND RESPONSIBLE CITIZENSHIP CAN CREATE.

+WE BELIEVE THIS PARTNERSHIP WILL BE DIFFICULT TO CULTIVATE UNLESS THOSE PEOPLE WHO WANT TO - HOWEVER SELECTED - ARE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO INVOLVE THEMSELVES DIRECTLY IN THOSE ASPECTS WHICH INTEREST THEM OF THE ADMINISTRATION AND LEADERSHIP OF THE COMMUNITY IN WHICH THEY LIVE, AND USE THE OPPORTUNITY WITH ENERGY AND RESPONSIBILITY.+

HOWEVER, SAID SIR MURRAY, STRENGTHENING DISTRICT BOARDS WOULD SERVE NO PURPOSE UNLESS THE GOVERNMENT ITSELF WAS ABLE TO REACT POSITIVELY TO ADVICE RECEIVED EITHER BY TAKING ACTION OR BY PROVIDING SOUND EXPLANATION WHY NOT.

/REGIONAL OFFICES

REGIONAL OFFICES MUST THEREFORE BE PROGRESSIVELY STAFFED BY OFFICERS WITH SUFFICIENT EXPERIENCE, AUTHORITY AND RESOURCES TO SOLVE LOCAL PROBLEMS.

THERE WOULD BE IMPLICATIONS TOO FOR THE WAY IN WHICH DEPARTMENTS WERE ORGANISED= WITH A NEW EMPHASIS ON A REGIONAL OR DISTRICT BASE.

IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, SOME, LIKE THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION ITSELF, THE POLICE AND THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT WERE ALREADY LARGELY SO DEPLOYED.

OTHERS WOULD HAVE TO ADJUST AND THIS WOULD TAKE TIME BUT IT MUST HAPPEN AND WAS HAPPENING.

FOR INSTANCE THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAD ALREADY SET UP THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT AS AN INDEPENDENT COMPONENT WITH REGIONAL OFFICERS APPOINTED AT THE LEVEL OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR.

SIMILARLY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN REORGANISED ON A REGIONAL BASIS.

+BUT ALL DEPARTMENTS WHOSE ACTIVITIES DIRECTLY IMPINGE UPON THE DAILY LIFE OF PEOPLE IN THE DISTRICT HAVE BEEN ASKED TO EXAMINE HOW THEY CAN ADAPT THEMSELVES TO THIS NEW ORDER, SO THAT THEY WILL BE IN A BETTER POSITION BOTH TO RECEIVE AND TO RESPOND TO THE ADVICE AND REQUESTS OF THE RESIDENTS OF EACH DISTRICT QUICKLY AND CONSTRUCTIVELY,+ THE GOVERNOR SAID.

SIR MURRAY SAID IN THE SHORT TIME SINCE HE HAD ATTENDED THE 1978 INAUGURATION THE PACE OF DEVELOPMENT AND CHANGE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES HAD VISIBLY QUICKENED, SO MUCH SO THAT THERE WAS HARDLY A PLACE IN THE LOWLAND AREAS WHICH WAS NOT AFFECTED.

IT WAS NOW NOT SUFFICIENT MERELY TO TALK OF OUR THREE NEW TOWNS BECAUSE THE SWEEP OF DEVELOPMENT EXTENDED TO TAI PO, FANLING AND YUEN LONG, AND AT ALL THESE PLACES WORK WAS IN PROGRESS ON LAND RECLAMATION, HOUSING ESTATES AND INDUSTRIAL AREAS.

+IN ORDER TO MITIGATE THE FAR-REACHING EFFECT THESE DENSELY POPULATED URBAN CENTRES WILL HAVE ON THE SURROUNDING LOW-LYING LAND YOUR GOVERNMENT HAS INITIATED DEVELOPMENT AND LANDSCAPE STUDIES BY SPECIALIST CONSULTANTS AND THESE REPORTS WILL BE A GREAT HELP IN DETERMINING FUTURE MEASURES TO PLAN THE WAY THESE LOW-LYING AREAS SHOULD THEMSELVES DEVELOP= HOW WE SHOULD PRESERVE AND PROTECT THE MOST VALUABLE AND BEAUTIFUL FEATURES OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT - THE HILLS, TREES AND VILLAGES= HOW THE ORDERLY EXPANSION OF VILLAGES MAY TAKE PLACE= AND THE NEED FOR MORE EFFECTIVE ACTION TO REDUCE POLLUTION OF THE LAND AND WATERCOURSES,+ THE GOVERNOR SAID.

IN THIS CONNECTION, HE SAID, HE WAS GLAD THAT THE KUK CHAIRMAN, MR LAU WONG-FAT, HAD MADE HIS CASE FOR MORE ACTIVE ATTENTION TO BE PAID TO VILLAGE EXTENSION AREAS.

THE SMALL HOUSE POLICY WAS FORMULATED TO HELP VILLAGERS IN NEED TO BUILD HOUSES FOR THEMSELVES.

THE LANDSCAPE STUDIES TO WHICH HE REFERRED HAD SUGGESTED WAYS IN WHICH THIS COULD BE ACHIEVED IN PLACES WHERE LAND RESOURCES WERE LIMITED.

+BUT AS YOU ALL KNOW THE LAND NEEDED FOR VILLAGE EXPANSION AND EXTENSION IS OFTEN PRIVATELY OWNED, AND ONE OF THE SOLUTIONS TO THIS PROBLEM IS TO FIND A MEANS TO ACQUIRE IT AND THEN TO ENSURE THAT THE SUBSEQUENT DEVELOPMENT IS PROPERLY PLANNED WITH THE NECESSARY PATHS, DRAINS AND ACCESS,+ SIR MURRAY SAID.

+I UNDERSTAND FROM THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES THAT A JOINT WORKING GROUP WILL BE ESTABLISHED TO EXAMINE THIS PROBLEM AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS.+

SIR MURRAY SAID COUNTRY PARKS COVERING THE WHOLE OF THE UPLAND AND REMOTE AREAS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES HAD BEEN FORMALLY ESTABLISHED. THERE WAS ALREADY VISIBLE IMPROVEMENT IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE PARKS AND OF MEASURES BEING TAKEN TO EXPAND THEIR CAPACITY TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR RECREATION AND ENJOYMENT.

+I AM GRATEFUL FOR THE HELP AND COOPERATION OF THE RURAL COMMITTEES AND THE HEUNG YEE KUK IN SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETING THIS PROGRAMME= AND, ON THE RELATED SUBJECT, THEIR HELP AND ADVICE IN DEALING WITH THE PERENNIAL PROBLEM OF HILL FIRES.+

THE LEADERS OF THE HEUNG YEE KUK HAD THROUGHOUT ITS HISTORY GIVEN THE GOVERNMENT USEFUL ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE, SIR MURRAY SAID.

THE KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE OF THE KUK AND THE RURAL COMMITTEES WOULD PLAY AN IMPORTANT PART AT THIS TIME OF TRANSITION AND CHANGE IN ENSURING THE GROWTH OF A STABLE AND PROSPEROUS COMMUNITY IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

SIR MURRAY SAID IN THE MIDST OF THIS +EXCITING PHYSICAL AND SOCIAL CHANGE+ HE HAD TO THANK MR LAU FOR HIS TIMELY ADVICE NOT TO OVERLOOK THE NEEDS OF VILLAGES.

+I AM GLAD TO SAY ELECTRICITY IS BEING CONNECTED TO SOME OF THE FEW REMAINING VILLAGES IN SAI KUNG WITHOUT A SUPPLY, AND THAT THE STREET LIGHTING, WATER SUPPLY AND LOCAL PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMMES, WHICH ARE SO VITAL TO THE WELL BEING OF VILLAGES, WILL CONTINUE.+

THE HEUNG YEE KUK WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1926 AND MADE A STATUTORY BODY IN 1960. MR LAU WONG-FAT WHO IS CHAIRMAN OF TUEN MUN RURAL COMMITTEE WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN AT THE 24TH TERM ELECTIONS HELD AT THE END OF MAY, SUCCEEDING MR STEPHEN WONG. MR LIU YUN-SUM WAS ELECTED FIRST VICE-CHAIRMAN AND MR TSANG LIN SECOND VICE-CHAIRMAN.

HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE IN FIRST HALF YEAR
* * * * *

TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FOR JANUARY TO JUNE 1980, VALUED AT \$96 332 MILLION, SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 35 PER CENT AS COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD IN 1979. DOMESTIC EXPORTS ROSE BY 33 PER CENT TO \$31 122 MILLION, IMPORTS BY 35 PER CENT TO \$51 973 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS BY 44 PER CENT TO \$13 237 MILLION. DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TOGETHER SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 36 PER CENT.

THESE AND OTHER DETAILED STATISTICAL TRADE FIGURES WERE RELEASED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY.

CHANGES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO TEN MAJOR OVERSEAS MARKETS ARE AS FOLLOWS :

	JAN - JUNE 80 (HK\$ M.)	JAN - JUNE 79 (HK\$ M.)	INCREASE/ DECREASE (HK\$ M.)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
U.S.A.	10 414	7 838	+ 2 576	+ 33
F.R. OF GERMANY	3 391	2 640	+ 751	+ 28
U.K.	3 128	2 618	+ 510	+ 19
JAPAN	1 036	1 188	- 152	- 13
AUSTRALIA	895	753	+ 142	+ 19
SINGAPORE	828	622	+ 206	+ 33
NETHERLANDS	737	579	+ 158	+ 27
CANADA	762	707	+ 55	+ 8
CHINA	680	164	+ 516	+ 315
SWITZERLAND	633	391	+ 242	+ 62

GROWTH IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE U.S. MARKET REMAINED BUOYANT, WITH SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES IN CLOTHING (BY \$718 MILLION OR 23 PER CENT), ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (BY \$340 MILLION OR 56 PER CENT), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$286 MILLION OR 71 PER CENT), TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$251 MILLION OR 60 PER CENT), AND OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY \$193 MILLION OR 46 PER CENT).

/SIGNIFICANT

SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE NOTED IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF CLOTHING (BY \$410 MILLION OR 27 PER CENT), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$66 MILLION OR 35 PER CENT) AS WELL AS ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (BY \$56 MILLION OR 76 PER CENT) TO THE WEST GERMAN MARKET.

GROWTH IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO U.K. WAS RECORDED IN CLOTHING (BY \$161 MILLION OR 12 PER CENT), AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$70 MILLION OR 43 PER CENT). HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE REGISTERED IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF TEXTILES (BY \$56 MILLION OR 21 PER CENT) TO THIS MARKET.

THE DOWNWARD TREND IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO JAPAN CONTINUED. MARKED DECREASES WERE NOTED MAINLY FOR FISH, CRUSTACEANS AND MOLLUSCS, AND THEIR PREPARATIONS (BY \$60 MILLION OR 37 PER CENT) AND CLOTHING (BY \$56 MILLION OR 19 PER CENT).

AN ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION IS PRESENTED BELOW :

	JAN - JUNE 80 (HK\$ M.)	JAN - JUNE 79 (HK\$ M.)	INCREASE (HK\$ M.)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	10 588	8 679	+ 1 909	+ 22
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY PLASTIC TOYS AND DOLLS)	5 082	3 828	+ 1 254	+ 33
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	3 026	2 000	+ 1 026	+ 51
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	2 361	1 575	+ 786	+ 50
TEXTILE: YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	2 158	1 761	+ 397	+ 23
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (MAINLY TRANSISTORS AND DIODES AND HOUSEHOLD TYPE APPLIANCES)	2 025	1 341	+ 684	+ 51

CHANGES IN IMPORTS FROM TEN MAJOR SOURCES ARE SUMMARIZED AS FOLLOWS :

	JAN - JUNE 80 (HK\$ M.)	JAN - JUNE 79 (HK\$ M.)	INCREASE (HK\$ M.)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
JAPAN	11 654	8 908	+ 2 746	+ 31
CHINA	9 629	6 408	+ 3 221	+ 50
U.S.A.	6 479	4 597	+ 1 882	+ 41
TAIWAN	3 652	2 733	+ 919	+ 34
SINGAPORE	3 376	2 023	+ 1 353	+ 67
U.K.	2 536	1 910	+ 626	+ 33
R. OF KOREA	1 751	1 153	+ 598	+ 52
F.R. OF GERMANY	1 443	1 289	+ 154	+ 12
SWITZERLAND	1 341	1 189	+ 152	+ 13
THAILAND	801	624	+ 177	+ 28

IN CONTRAST WITH DECLINING DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO JAPAN, LOCAL DEMAND FOR JAPANESE GOODS REMAINED STRONG. INCREASES WERE NOTED PARTICULARLY FOR ROAD VEHICLES (BY \$485 MILLION OR 93 PER CENT), TEXTILES (BY \$328 MILLION OR 24 PER CENT), ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (BY \$273 MILLION OR 31 PER CENT), TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$277 MILLION OR 36 PER CENT), AND IRON AND STEEL (BY \$271 MILLION OR 52 PER CENT).

INCREASES IN IMPORTS FROM CHINA WERE MAINLY PETROLEUM AND RELATED PRODUCTS (BY \$550 MILLION OR 91 PER CENT), TEXTILES (BY \$453 MILLION OR 34 PER CENT), CLOTHING (BY \$430 MILLION OR 118 PER CENT), LIVE ANIMALS CHIEFLY FOR FOOD (BY \$148 MILLION OR 27 PER CENT), AND MEAT AND MEAT PREPARATIONS (BY \$115 MILLION OR 46 PER CENT).

INCREASES IN IMPORTS FROM THE U.S. WERE LARGELY OF ARTIFICIAL RESINS AND PLASTIC MATERIALS, AND CELLULOSE ESTERS AND ETHERS (BY \$391 MILLION OR 164 PER CENT), TEXTILE FIBRES AND THEIR WASTES (BY \$278 MILLION OR 70 PER CENT), OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY \$204 MILLION OR 51 PER CENT), AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (BY \$130 MILLION OR 33 PER CENT).

SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE SUPPLY OF PETROLEUM AND RELATED PRODUCTS (BY \$1 092 MILLION OR 101 PER CENT) FROM SINGAPORE AS WELL AS ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (BY \$183 MILLION OR 68 PER CENT), AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$108 MILLION OR 58 PER CENT) FROM TAIWAN.

/THE FOLLOWING

THE FOLLOWING TABLE ILLUSTRATES THE MORE IMPORTANT CHANGES
IN IMPORTS BY COMMODITY SECTION :

	JAN - JUNE 80 (HK\$ M.)	JAN - JUNE 79 (HK\$ M.)	INCREASE (HK\$ M.)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIAL (MAINLY TEXTILE PRODUCTS, DIAMONDS, IRON AND STEEL, AND PAPER)	15 690	12 446	+ 3 244	+ 26
MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	11 486	8 357	+ 3 129	+ 37
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY WATCHES AND CLOCKS, ARTICLES OF APPAREL)	7 495	5 456	+ 2 039	+ 37
FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS CHIEFLY FOR FOOD	5 171	4 346	+ 825	+ 19
CHEMICALS AND RELATED PRODUCTS	4 264	3 008	+ 1 256	+ 42
MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	3 682	1 965	+ 1 717	+ 87

AS FOR RE-EXPORTS, SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH WAS RECORDED IN THOSE TO CHINA (BY \$1 218 MILLION OR 274 PER CENT), INDONESIA (BY \$466 MILLION OR 61 PER CENT), U.S.A. (BY \$345 MILLION OR 38 PER CENT), TAIWAN (BY \$339 MILLION OR 39 PER CENT), THE U.K. (BY \$286 MILLION OR 276 PER CENT), NIGERIA (BY \$186 MILLION OR 170 PER CENT), MACAU (BY \$171 MILLION OR 65 PER CENT), AND THE F.R. OF GERMANY (BY \$144 MILLION OR 84 PER CENT). ON THE OTHER HAND, A SIGNIFICANT DECLINE WAS REGISTERED IN RE-EXPORTS TO JAPAN (BY \$285 MILLION OR 21 PER CENT).

MOST COMMODITIES RE-EXPORTED THROUGH HONG KONG EXHIBITED STRONG GROWTH, THE MORE SIGNIFICANT ONES BEING WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$407 MILLION OR 78 PER CENT), ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (BY \$369 MILLION OR 70 PER CENT), CLOTHING (BY \$281 MILLION OR 74 PER CENT), ROAD VEHICLES (BY \$268 MILLION OR 137 PER CENT), TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$228 MILLION OR 86 PER CENT), AND NON-FERROUS METALS (BY \$215 MILLION OR 151 PER CENT).

THE TRADE INDEX NUMBERS FOR MAY 1980 (1973 = 100) WERE AS FOLLOWS :

	VALUE INDEX -----	UNIT VALUE INDEX -----	QUANTUM INDEX -----
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	368	177	208
IMPORTS	391	181	216

THE TERMS OF TRADE INDEX, EXPRESSED AS A RATIO OF THE UNIT VALUE INDEX FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THAT FOR IMPORTS, FOR MAY 1980 WAS 98.

+THE HONG KONG TRADE STATISTICS - SUMMARY+, A REPORT ON HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE IN JUNE, 1980, WILL SOON BE ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT \$3 A COPY.

A MORE COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, +HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE+, WITH A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF THE MONTH'S IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS WILL BE PUBLISHED IN EARLY SEPTEMBER AND WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE AT THE CENTRE AT \$10 A COPY.

ENQUIRIES ON SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THESE REPORTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE SALES OF PUBLICATIONS SECTION OF THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT BASKERVILLE HOUSE, ICE HOUSE STREET, HONG KONG (TEL NO 5-214375).

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MORE STUDENTS OPTING FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION

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MORE YOUNG PEOPLE THAN EVER BEFORE ARE NOW EAGER TO JOIN TECHNICAL INSTITUTE COURSES AS THE IMAGE OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION IMPROVED OVER THE YEARS, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (TECHNICAL), MR DAN WATERS SAID TODAY.

SPEAKING AT THE REGULAR LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF KOWLOON WEST ON +THE DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN HONG KONG+, MR WATERS SAID THE NUMBER OF QUALIFIED APPLICANTS FOR EVERY SINGLE POST-FORM V FULL-TIME PLACE IN TECHNICAL INSTITUTES HAD JUMPED FROM 4.5 IN 1975 TO 10.4 IN SEPTEMBER 1979.

+CRAFT LEVEL COURSES HAVE NEVER BEEN QUITE SO POPULAR AS TECHNICIAN COURSES. HOWEVER, IN 1975 WE HAD 2.6 QUALIFIED APPLICANTS FOR EVERY SINGLE FULL-TIME CRAFT LEVEL PLACE. BY SEPTEMBER 1979 THIS FIGURE HAD INCREASED TO 3.6,+ HE ADDED.

RECALLING THE TIME WHEN HE JOINED THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT 26 YEARS AGO, MR WATERS SAID THERE WERE THEN ONLY 20 PEOPLE ENGAGED FULL-TIME IN VOCATIONAL TYPE TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN THE WHOLE OF HONG KONG COMPARED WITH WELL OVER 1 100 TODAY.

MORRISON HILL WAS THE FIRST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE BUT IN THE FIVE YEARS BETWEEN 1975 AND 1979, A FURTHER FOUR TECHNICAL INSTITUTES CAME ON STREAM.

+THERE MUST BE FEW PLACES IN THE WORLD THAT CAN BOAST THE GROWTH THAT TOOK PLACE IN TECHNICAL EDUCATION, AS DID HONG KONG, IN THE 1970'S,+ HE SAID.

MR WATERS RECALLED THAT IN THE EARLY 1970'S PEOPLE WERE RATHER PESSIMISTIC ABOUT THE PROPOSED EXPANSION OF PART-TIME DAY-RELEASE COURSES.

+THEY HAVE BEEN PROVED WRONG. IN 1970 WE HAD LESS THAN 600 PART-TIME DAY-RELEASE STUDENTS AT MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE. DURING THE LAST ACADEMIC YEAR, 1979/80, WE HAD A TOTAL OF ALMOST 8 000 PART-TIME DAY-RELEASE STUDENTS IN ALL OUR FIVE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES.

+THIS GIVES US AN EXPANSION OF SOMETHING LIKE THIRTEEN FOLD, IN THIS MODE OF STUDY, WITHIN A TEN-YEAR PERIOD,+ MR WATERS SAID.

AND WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN HONG KONG?

MR WATERS, ANSWERING HIS OWN QUESTION, EXPECTED THAT IT WOULD CONTINUE TO KEEP ON BUILDING UP AND AS A RESULT REMAIN AUSPICIOUS.

+EXTRA FLOORS AND ANNEXES WILL BE ADDED TO EXISTING TECHNICAL INSTITUTES AND THE SIXTH TECHNICAL INSTITUTE SHOULD COME ON STREAM, AT TUEN MUN, HOPEFULLY BY 1985.

+IN ADDITION, LARGE NUMBER OF DIPLOMA AND CERTIFICATE COURSES ARE PLANNED TO BE TRANSFERRED FROM THE POLYTECHNIC TO THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES OVER THE FOUR-YEAR PERIOD COMMENCING IN SEPTEMBER 1981.

+WITH RAPID ADVANCES BEING MADE IN TECHNOLOGY, TECHNICAL EDUCATION MUST INCREASE IN IMPORTANCE AND I CAN FORESEE CONSIDERABLE DEVELOPMENTS TAKING PLACE IN THE DECADE THAT LIES AHEAD,+ HE SAID.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20, 1980

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MONTHLY SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT, PAYROLL AND ORDERS-ON-HAND

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY RELEASED
ORDERS-ON-HAND STATISTICS AS FOLLOWS:

INDUSTRY GROUP	ORDERS-ON-HAND IN TERMS OF MONTHS	
	MAY 1980	JUNE 1980
WEARING APPAREL, EXCEPT FOOTWEAR	5.2	5.0
TEXTILES, EXCEPT WEARING APPAREL	2.6	2.6
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	4.5	4.2
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS, EXCEPT MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT	4.4	4.3
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC MACHINERY, APPARATUS, APPLIANCES AND SUPPLIES	4.9	5.2
OTHERS	4.0	3.8
ALL MANUFACTURING	4.5	4.4

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT EXPLAINED THAT THESE STATISTICS WERE BASED ON AN UPDATED AND ENLARGED PANEL OF THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURING COMPANIES SELECTED BY REFERENCE TO THEIR EMPLOYMENT SIZE IN SEPTEMBER 1979.

AS THE PANEL IS NOT A SCIENTIFICALLY DESIGNED SAMPLE, RESULTS OBTAINED WILL BE REPRESENTATIVE ONLY OF THE COMPANIES INCLUDED. IT IS HOPED HOWEVER THAT THEY WILL GENERALLY INDICATE THE DIRECTION OF CHANGE IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY AS A WHOLE, HE SAID.

THE MONTHLY SURVEY ALSO ASKS QUESTIONS ON EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL AND COVERS THE CONSTRUCTION AND SELECTED SERVICES SECTORS BESIDES THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

THE SURVEY REPORT FOR JUNE 1980 IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, AT \$1 A COPY. ENQUIRIES ON THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE MADE TO THE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION STATISTICS SECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT AT TELEPHONE NO 5-274203.

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20, 1980

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YOUTH CARNIVAL TICKETS SNAPPED UP

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THE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME CARNIVAL TO BE HELD THIS SUNDAY (AUGUST 24) AT SHA TIN RACE COURSE HAS RECEIVED OVERWHELMING RESPONSE FROM THE PUBLIC.

THE CARNIVAL IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES AND RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE AND THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE TO OFFER A DAY OF FUN TO ALL THOSE WHO ARE YOUNG AT HEART.

+THE POPULARITY OF THE PROGRAMME IS SUCH THAT ALL ADMISSION TICKETS WERE SNAPPED UP IN TWO DAYS,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE SAID.

THOSE WHO HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO OBTAIN TICKETS MAY HOWEVER STILL BE ABLE TO ENJOY THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROGRAMME AT HOME. THE POP CONCERT IN THE CARNIVAL FEATURING POPULAR LOCAL SINGER JENNY YAN WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE ON RADIO HONG KONG CHANNELS 1 AND 2 BEGINNING AT 6.04 PM THAT DAY.

THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED TICKET-HOLDERS THAT EACH TICKET ADMITS ONE PERSON ONLY, AND THIS APPLIES TO CHILDREN.

THOSE GOING TO THE CARNIVAL ARE URGED TO USE PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN VIEW OF LIMITED PARKING SPACES AT THE RACE COURSE.

FOR THEIR CONVENIENCE, THERE WILL BE TWO SPECIAL UP-TRAINS LEAVING HUNG HOM STATION AT 1.42 PM AND 2.01 PM AND ARRIVING AT THE RACE COURSE AT 2.01 PM AND 2.23 PM RESPECTIVELY.

TWO SPECIAL DOWN-TRAINS WILL LEAVE THE RACE COURSE AT 8.28 PM AND 8.50 PM. IN ADDITION, TWO NORMAL DOWN-TRAINS WILL STOP AT THE RACE COURSE AT 8.32 PM AND 9.03 PM TO PICK UP PASSENGERS RETURNING TO KOWLOON.

RETURN RAILWAY TICKETS AT \$4 EACH WILL BE ON SALE AT HUNG HOM STATION FROM TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

SPECTATORS MAY ALSO USE KMB SERVICE ROUTE NO. 888 WHICH WILL TAKE THEM FROM SHA TIN TOWN TO THE RACE COURSE AT 20-MINUTE INTERVALS SHA TIN TOWN IS EASILY ACCESSIBLE BY FEEDER BUS ROUTE NO. 70M FROM KOWLOON TONG MTR STATION.

IN THE EVENT OF BAD WEATHER, THE CARNIVAL WILL BE POSTPONED TO THE FOLLOWING DAY (MONDAY) WHICH IS A PUBLIC HOLIDAY. IF THIS IS NECESSARY, AN ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE MADE OVER THE RADIO ON SUNDAY AND TICKETS FOR THE SPECIAL TRAINS WILL BE REFUNDED.

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20, 1980

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AUCTION OF SPECIAL CAR NUMBERS
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ANOTHER BATCH OF SPECIAL CAR REGISTRATION NUMBERS WILL BE AUCTIONED ON SATURDAY (AUGUST 23) AT 10 AM IN THE CITY HALL LECTURE HALL.

THERE WILL BE 34 SPECIAL NUMBERS FOR BIDDING:

HK 6328	CF 632	CE 4200	CF 1081	CF 2238
CE 9995	CE 3218	AK 316	CH 8888	CF 635
CE 3900	AS 15	CG 2	CG 55	CF 987
CF 911	CF 3399	CH 88	CH 3388	CF 933
CE 9616	CC 222	CH 3	BM 323	CF 148
AY 1132	CC 300	CD 6060	CH 1	CF 283
CE 3280	CC 898	XX 564	CF 1789	

SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS MUST PAY IN CASH OR BY CHEQUE IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARDS.

A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN REMINDED BIDDERS THAT THE NUMBERS WOULD BE ASSIGNED ONLY TO VEHICLES REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF THE AUCTION.

PROCEEDS WILL AS USUAL GO TO THE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES FUND.

THE COMING AUCTION WILL BE THE 56TH ORGANISED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SINCE MAY 1973.

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20, 1980

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

PRESS CONFERENCE ON SHA TIN TOWN CENTRE DEVELOPMENT
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A PRESS CONFERENCE GIVING DETAILS OF THE SALE BY TENDER OF A 26 250 SQUARE METRE SITE ON WHICH A LARGE PART OF THE COMMERCIAL CENTRE OF SHA TIN NEW TOWN WILL BE BUILT WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM AT SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE ON FRIDAY (AUGUST 22) AT 10.30 AM.

THE TENDER, WHICH WILL BE RESTRICTED TO HOLDERS OF LAND EXCHANGE ENTITLEMENTS ISSUED BY THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, WILL CLOSE ON SEPTEMBER 19.

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND MEMBERS OF YOUR STAFF TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE. GOVERNMENT TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED TO TAKE THE PRESS TO SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE, LEAVING KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER AT 9.45 AM. FOR PRESS REPRESENTATIVES WISHING TO MAKE THEIR OWN WAY, THE DISTRICT OFFICE IS SITUATED IN TUNG LO WAN ROAD, SHA TIN.

MR DONALD STRANGE OF THE NTA PRESS UNIT WILL BE PRESENT AT THE CONFERENCE TO ASSIST AND ALSO TO ARRANGE PERSONAL INTERVIEWS.

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DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN - SUPPLEMENT

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

Wednesday, August 20, 1980

SPEECH BY H.E. THE GOVERNOR AT THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY
OF THE 24TH TERM OF THE HEUNG YEE KUK ON AUGUST 20, 1980
AT THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL

When I attended the inauguration ceremony of the 23rd Term of the Heung Yee Kuk in 1978, it was six years since I had attended a similar ceremony. This time the interval is only two years and in this short time the pace of development and change in the New Territories has visibly quickened, so much so that there is hardly a place in the lowland areas of the New Territories which is not affected. It is now not sufficient merely to talk of our three new towns because the sweep of development extends to Tai Po, Fanling and Yuen Long, and at all these places work is in progress on land reclamation, housing estates and industrial areas.

In order to mitigate the far-reaching effect these densely populated urban centres will have on the surrounding low-lying land, your Government has initiated development and landscape studies by specialist consultants and these reports will be a great help in determining future measures to plan development; how we should preserve and protect the most valuable and beautiful features of

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the natural environment - the hills, trees and villages; how the orderly expansion of villages may take place; and the need for more effective action to reduce pollution of the land and watercourses.

In this connection I am glad, Mr Lau, that you have made your case for more active attention to be paid to village extension areas. The small house policy was formulated to help villagers in need to build houses for themselves. The landscape studies to which I referred have suggested ways in which this could be achieved in places where land resources are limited. But as you all know, the land needed for village expansion and extension is often privately owned, and one of the solutions to this problem is to find a means to acquire it and then to ensure that the subsequent development is properly planned with the necessary paths, drains and access. I understand, from the Secretary for the New Territories, that a joint working group will be established to examine this problem and to make recommendations.

Since I last spoke to you, Country Parks covering the whole of the upland and remote areas of the New Territories have been established. There is already visible improvement in the management of the Parks and of measures being taken to expand their capacity to provide opportunities for recreation and enjoyment. I am grateful for the help and co-operation of the Rural Committee and the Heung Yee Kuk in successfully completing this formative part of the programme; and, on the related subject, their help and advice in dealing with the perennial problem of hill fires and litter.

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When I attended the inauguration ceremony of the 23rd Term of the Heung Yee Kuk in 1978, I mentioned that the processes of consultation at district level had been strengthened with the formation of the District Advisory Boards. Now your Government is proposing a further step forward. While maintaining the principal features of the present composition of District Boards, the Green Paper on district administration proposes the addition of a directly elected element so as to give them greater authority, to strengthen their relationship with the local community, and to increase the public accountability of the Board as a whole. These proposals have been received with interest and in the New Territories they are generally well supported. I must pay tribute to the Kuk who recognise the need to evolve new channels of communication with the large number of new arrivals in the towns of the New Territories and who realise how vitally important it is to create a sense of local concern about the way the towns, their amenities and their housing estates are managed and developed.

We are closely watching reactions to those parts of our proposals which involve elections and will take full account of them. Our aim is a satisfying life in a satisfactory community and only partnership between responsible government and responsible citizenship can create this. We believe this partnership will be difficult to cultivate unless those people who want to - however selected - are given an opportunity to involve themselves directly in the administration and leadership of the community in which they live, and use the opportunity with energy and responsibility.

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However, strengthening District Boards will serve no purpose unless the Government itself is able to react positively to advice received either by taking action or by providing a sound explanation why not. Regional Offices must therefore be progressively staffed by officers with sufficient experience, authority and resources to solve local problems.

There will be implications too for the way in which departments are organised; with a new emphasis on a regional or district base. In the New Territories some departments like the New Territories Administration itself, the Police and the Public Works Department are already largely so deployed. Some others will have to adjust and this will take time but it must happen and is happening. For instance the Urban Services Department has already set up the New Territories Services Department as an independent component with regional officers appointed at the level of Assistant Director. Similarly the Social Welfare Department has been reorganised on a regional basis. All departments whose activities directly impinge upon the daily life of people in each District have been asked to examine how they can adapt themselves to this new order, so that they will be in a better position both to receive and to respond to the advice and requests of the residents of each District quickly and constructively.

In the midst of these exciting physical and social changes I have to thank you, Mr Lau, for your timely advice, not to overlook the needs of villages. I am glad to say that electricity is being connected to some of the few remaining villages in Sai Kung without a supply, and

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that the street lighting, water supply and local public works programmes, which are so vital to the well-being of villages, will continue.

The leaders of the Heung Yee Kuk have throughout its history given the Government useful advice and assistance. The knowledge and experience of the Kuk and the Rural Committees will continue to play an important part at this time of transition and change in ensuring the growth of a stable and prosperous community in the New Territories.

Finally, I express my thanks to the outgoing Chairman and Members of the 23rd Term of the Kuk and to wish the new Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, and Councillors success, happiness and prosperity in the term ahead.