



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
MEASURES TO ENSURE SAFETY IN SCHOOL LABORATORIES	1
GOVERNMENT BUILDING FOR TO KWA WAN	2
AIRBORNE MERCHANDISE TRADE IN JANUARY-JUNE 1981	3
OFF TO TEXTILE TALKS	5
TWO TSUEN WAN BLOCKS TO BE CLEARED FOR ROAD PROJECT	5
MORE LAND PLANNED FOR TAI PO ESTATE	6
MORE TANNERIES LICENSED	6

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- 1 -

MEASURES TO ENSURE SAFETY IN SCHOOL LABORATORIES
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SUPERVISORS, SCHOOL HEADS, SCIENCE TEACHERS AND LABORATORY TECHNICIANS ARE URGED TO PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO SAFETY IN SCHOOL LABORATORIES.

IF A SCIENCE LABORATORY IS USED AS A CLASSROOM FOR NON-SCIENCE LESSONS DUE TO FLOATING ARRANGEMENTS, THE TEACHER INVOLVED SHOULD SEE TO IT THAT THE STUDENTS DO NOT ENTER THE LABORATORY UNLESS HE IS PRESENT AND THAT THEY DO NOT DISTURB OR REMOVE ANY OF THE SCIENCE MATERIALS IN THE LABORATORY.

EVERY LABORATORY SHOULD BE EQUIPPED WITH AT LEAST ONE APPROPRIATE FIRE EXTINGUISHER WHICH IS EASILY ACCESSIBLE, A FIRE BLANKET AND A BUCKET OF SAND, AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE ALSO SUGGESTED THAT ALL SCIENCE TEACHERS SHOULD CONDUCT AT LEAST ONE LESSON ON THE GENERAL ASPECTS OF LABORATORY SAFETY WITH EACH CLASS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.

PAST RECORDS REVEALED THAT ACCIDENTS IN SCHOOL LABORATORIES WERE MOSTLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE PREPARATION AND BURNING OF HYDROGEN, MIXING WATER WITH CONCENTRATED SULPHURIC ACID, MIXING CONCENTRATED ACIDS WITH POTASSIUM PERMANGANATE GRINDING OR WARMING A MIXTURE OF AN OXIDISING AGENT WITH CARBON OR SULPHUR, PREPARATION OF CHLORINE AND HYDROGEN SULPHIDE, AND HANDLING OF BROMINE.

+SCIENCE TEACHERS, LABORATORY STAFF AND STUDENTS ARE THEREFORE STRONGLY ADVISED TO EXERCISE SPECIAL CARE AND TAKE NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS WHEN PERFORMING THESE EXPERIMENTS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE ATTENTION OF SCIENCE TEACHERS AND LABORATORY TECHNICIANS IS ALSO DRAWN TO THE USE OF BENZENE, WHICH IS A SUSPECTED CARCINOGEN.

+CARCINOGENS CAN ENTER THE BODY NOT ONLY BY INGESTION, BUT ALSO BY INHALATION AND SKIN ABSORPTION. IN GENERAL, EFFECTS OF CHEMICAL CARCINOGENS ARE LONG-TERM AND INSIDIOUS, RATHER THAN IMMEDIATE AND OBVIOUS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+BASED ON SAFETY GROUNDS, THE STORAGE, ISSUE AND USE OF CORROSIVE, POISONOUS AND CARCINOGENIC SUBSTANCES SUCH AS BROMINE, CONCENTRATED ACIDS AND ALKALIS, AND BENZENE SHOULD ALWAYS BE SUPERVISED BY THE SENIOR SCIENCE TEACHERS OF SCHOOLS,+ HE ADDED.

/AN OUTLINE

AN OUTLINE OF THE ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR MINIMISING THE POSSIBILITY OF ACCIDENTS IN A SCIENCE LABORATORY IS CONTAINED IN THE PAMPHLET +SAFETY IN THE LABORATORY+ PUBLISHED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

THE SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT SOME LOCAL SCIENCE PUBLICATIONS CARRIED MANY CHEMISTRY EXPERIMENTS WHICH CAN BE PERFORMED AT HOME BY SCHOOL CHILDREN.

+SOME OF THESE EXPERIMENTS ARE POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS AND IT IS ESSENTIAL TO REMIND STUDENTS REPEATEDLY THAT SUCH HAZARDOUS EXPERIMENTS SHOULD NOT BE PERFORMED BY THEMSELVES AT HOME,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

GREAT CARE MUST BE TAKEN TO ENSURE THAT EVEN IF STUDENTS ARE TO CARRY OUT SIMPLE EXPERIMENTS ON THEIR OWN OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL, THEY SHOULD FIRST SEEK THE ADVICE OF THEIR SCIENCE TEACHERS ON THE NATURE OF THESE EXPERIMENTS, HE SAID.

ENQUIRIES CONCERNING SAFETY IN THE LABORATORY CAN BE MADE AT THE SCIENCE SUBJECTS SECTION, ADVISORY INSPECTORATE, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, LEE GARDENS, HYSAN AVENUE, HONG KONG, AND BY TELEPHONING THE SECTION ON 5-774001 EXT 37, 38 OR 41.

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GOVERNMENT BUILDING FOR TO KWA WAN
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A COMBINED GOVERNMENT OFFICE-AND-MARKET BUILDING IS TO BE BUILT IN TO KWA WAN, KOWLOON.

TENDERS FOR THE PROJECT, WHICH WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL OFFICE ACCOMMODATION FOR THE GOVERNMENT AND ALSO REPLACE THE EXISTING MARKET IN TO KWA WAN, ARE NOW BEING INVITED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THAT THE ELEVEN-STOREY BUILDING WOULD BE CONSTRUCTED ON A 3 400 SQUARE-METRE SITE AT KOWLOON CITY ROAD.

+MARKET FACILITIES WILL BE PROVIDED IN THE BASEMENT, GROUND AND FIRST FLOORS, AND THE UPPER NINE FLOORS WILL BE OFFICE SPACES TO ACCOMMODATE AN URBAN COUNCIL LIBRARY AND OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS,+ HE SAID.

+PART OF THE SECOND FLOOR WILL BE USED FOR A REPROVISIONED AND ENLARGED HUNG HOM CLINIC TO PROVIDE BETTER SERVICE TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE DENSELY-POPULATED AREA.+

IN ADDITION, PARKING SPACES WILL BE PROVIDED IN THE BASEMENT FOR GOVERNMENT VEHICLES.

WORK ON THE PROJECT WILL START IN NOVEMBER AND TAKE ABOUT TWO YEARS TO COMPLETE.

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AIRBORNE MERCHANDISE TRADE IN JANUARY-JUNE 1981

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AIRBORNE MERCHANDISE TRADE IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1981 WAS VALUED AT \$25 765 MILLION, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 29 PER CENT OVER THE FIRST HALF OF 1980.

AIRBORNE DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE VALUED AT \$9 186 MILLION (UP 29%), AIRBORNE IMPORTS AT \$11 864 MILLION (UP 29%), AND AIRBORNE RE-EXPORTS AT \$4 715 MILLION (UP 29%). IN THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR, 26% BY VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS, 18% OF IMPORTS AND 24% OF RE-EXPORTS WERE DESPATCHED BY AIR.

HOWEVER, IN TERMS OF WEIGHT, AIRBORNE CARGO REPRESENTED ONLY 1-1/2% OF TOTAL EXPORTS (INCLUSIVE OF ONWARD TRANSHIPMENTS), AND 1/2% OF TOTAL IMPORTS (INCLUSIVE OF INWARD TRANSHIPMENTS).

SUMMARY TRADE STATISTICS ON AIRBORNE MERCHANDISE TRADE FOR JANUARY-JUNE 1981 WERE RELEASED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE ILLUSTRATES THE RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF THE SIX MAJOR MARKETS FOR HONG KONG'S AIRBORNE DOMESTIC EXPORTS:-

	JAN - JUNE 1981 (HK\$ MN.)	JAN - JUNE 1980 (HK\$ MN.)	INCREASE (HK\$ MN.)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
USA	4 010	2 740	+1 270	+46
FR OF GERMANY	907	841	+ 66	+ 8
UK	631	616	+ 15	+ 2
JAPAN	555	373	+ 182	+49
SWITZERLAND	273	245	+ 28	+11
FRANCE	268	211	+ 57	+27

BY COMMODITY, INCREASES IN AIRBORNE DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE REGISTERED MAINLY IN CLOTHING (BY \$853 MILLION OR 44%), PARTS AND ACCESSORIES OF OFFICE MACHINES AND OF DATA PROCESSING MACHINES, INCLUDING ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (BY \$565 MILLION OR 107%) AS WELL AS WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$403 MILLION OR 17%).

HOWEVER, DECLINES WERE RECORDED FOR CONCENTRATES, WASTE, SCRAP AND SWEEPINGS OF PRECIOUS METALS (OTHER THAN OF GOLD) (BY \$74 MILLION OR 47%) AS WELL AS THERMIONIC, COLD CATHODE AND PHOTO-CATHODE VALVES AND TUBES, PHOTOCELLS AND TRANSISTORS (BY \$116 MILLION OR 17%).

FURTHER ANALYSIS OF COMMODITY BY COUNTRY REVEALED SIGNIFICANT GROWTH IN AIRBORNE DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF CLOTHING TO THE US (BY \$482 MILLION OR 60%), JAPAN (BY \$120 MILLION OR 105%) AND THE FR OF GERMANY (BY \$86 MILLION OR 20%) - IN AIRBORNE DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF WATCHES AND CLOCKS TO THE US (BY \$108 MILLION OR 18%) - AND IN AIRBORNE DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF PARTS AND ACCESSORIES OF OFFICE MACHINES AND OF DATA PROCESSING MACHINES, INCLUDING ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS, TO THE US (BY \$584 MILLION OR 132%).

AIRBORNE IMPORTS FROM THE SIX MAJOR SUPPLIERS ARE SHOWN BELOW:--

	JAN - JUNE 1981 (HK\$ MN.)	JAN - JUNE 1980 (HK\$ MN.)	INCREASE (HK\$ MN.)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
JAPAN	2 803	2 025	+778	+38
USA	2 438	2 012	+426	+21
SWITZERLAND	1 122	1 007	+115	+11
UK	673	438	+235	+54
TAIWAN	633	441	+192	+44
REP. OF KOREA	599	395	+204	+52

INCREASES WERE REGISTERED IN AIRBORNE IMPORTS OF WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$1 124 MILLION OR 47%), PEARLS, PRECIOUS AND SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES (BY \$262 MILLION OR 31%), AS WELL AS THERMIONIC, COLD CATHODE AND PHOTO-CATHODE VALVES AND TUBES, PHOTOCELLS AND TRANSISTORS (BY \$178 MILLION OR 12%). IN CONTRAST, DECREASES WERE NOTED IN THE SUPPLY, BY AIR, OF OFFICE MACHINES (BY \$45 MILLION OR 68%), AS WELL AS OTHER INORGANIC CHEMICALS AND COMPOUNDS OF PRECIOUS METALS (BY \$56 MILLION OR 26%).

GROWTH WAS RECORDED IN AIRBORNE IMPORTS OF WATCHES AND CLOCKS FROM JAPAN (BY \$569 MILLION OR 64%) AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (BY \$179 MILLION OR 143%).

AMONG THE SIX MAJOR SUPPLIERS, THE US WAS THE LARGEST SUPPLIER, BY AIR, OF PEARLS, PRECIOUS AND SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES, SHOWING AN INCREASE OF \$43 MILLION OR 56%.

GROWTH WAS ALSO RECORDED IN AIRBORNE IMPORTS OF THERMIONIC, COLD CATHODE AND PHOTO-CATHODE VALVES AND TUBES, PHOTOCELLS AND TRANSISTORS FROM JAPAN (BY \$31 MILLION OR 10%), AND THE US (BY \$31 MILLION OR 8%).

AIRBORNE RE-EXPORTS CONTINUED TO GROW IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1981. MAJOR RE-EXPORT ITEMS WITH SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES WERE CONCENTRATES, WASTE, SCRAP AND SWEEPINGS OF PRECIOUS METALS (OTHER THAN OF GOLD) (BY \$273 MILLION OR 215%), THERMIONIC, COLD CATHODE AND PHOTO-CATHODE VALVES AND TUBES, PHOTOCELLS AND TRANSISTORS (BY \$254 MILLION OR 52%), AS WELL AS WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$131 MILLION OR 15%).

ON THE OTHER HAND, AIRBORNE RE-EXPORTS OF SILVER, PLATINUM AND OTHER METALS OF THE PLATINUM GROUP DECLINED SUBSTANTIALLY (BY \$180 MILLION OR 82%).

THE US WAS THE LARGEST MARKET FOR HONG KONG'S AIRBORNE RE-EXPORTS, WITH A VALUE OF \$623 MILLION (AN INCREASE OF \$233 MILLION OR 60%). INCREASES WERE ALSO REGISTERED IN AIRBORNE RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA (BY \$188 MILLION OR 297%), TAIWAN (BY \$136 MILLION OR 28%), SINGAPORE (BY \$118 MILLION OR 26%), ISRAEL (BY \$99 MILLION OR 135%) AND THE UK (BY \$98 MILLION OR 34%). AIRBORNE RE-EXPORTS TO JAPAN CONTINUED TO DECLINE (BY \$88 MILLION OR 15%).

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1981

- 5 -

OFF TO TEXTILE TALKS

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THE COMMISSIONER OF TRADE, MR LAWRENCE MILLS, LEAVES ON CATHAY PACIFIC AIRWAYS CX201 TOMORROW (SEPTEMBER 15) FOR THE WEEK-LONG TEXTILE COMMITTEE MEETING, STARTING IN GENEVA ON SEPTEMBER 21, AT WHICH DISCUSSIONS WILL BE RESUMED ON THE RENEWAL OF THE MULTI-FIBRE ARRANGEMENT.

EN-ROUTE TO GENEVA, MR MILLS WILL HOLD INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS IN LONDON WITH OFFICIALS OF THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE, DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY.

MR MILLS WILL RETURN TO HONG KONG AT THE END OF THE MONTH.

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TWO TSUEN WAN BLOCKS TO BE CLEARED FOR ROAD PROJECT

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THE MAJORITY OF THE OWNERS OF FLATS AND COMMERCIAL PREMISES IN TWO TENEMENT BLOCKS AT TAI HO ROAD IN TSUEN WAN, WHICH ARE AFFECTED BY A ROAD PROJECT, HAVE ACCEPTED COMPENSATION OFFERED BY THE GOVERNMENT, ACTING TOWN MANAGER, MR LUI HAU-TUEN, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

THE TWO BLOCKS, CONTAINING 161 DOMESTIC UNITS AND 23 SHOPS OR FACTORIES, WILL BE CLEARED TO MAKE WAY FOR THE TAI HO ROAD INTERCHANGE WHICH FORMS PART OF THE TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENT SCHEME IN TSUEN WAN NEW TOWN.

SO FAR, 98 PER CENT OF DOMESTIC FLAT OWNERS AND 15 OF THE 23 SHOP OWNERS AFFECTED HAVE ACCEPTED ADVANCE PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION.

AND 753 OUT OF THE 793 FAMILIES PREVIOUSLY LIVING IN THE TWO BLOCKS HAVE ALREADY MOVED TO THE NEARBY SHEK WAI KOK PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE REMAINING OWNERS AND TENANTS ARE STILL GOING ON, MR LUI SAID.

MR LUI SAID HE GREATLY APPRECIATED THE RESPONSIBLE AND REASONABLE ATTITUDE OF THE OWNERS AND TENANTS TOWARDS THE CLEARANCE.

+EVERY EFFORT HAS BEEN MADE TO ENSURE THAT FAIR COMPENSATION WILL BE GIVEN TO ALL,+ HE STRESSED.

HE ADDED OWNERS NOT SATISFIED WITH THE COMPENSATION OFFER COULD APPROACH THE LANDS TRIBUNAL FOR ARBITRATION. IN ADDITION, THEY WERE ENTITLED TO SEEK ADVICE FROM PRIVATE SURVEYORS, THE COST OF WHICH WOULD BE MET BY THE GOVERNMENT.

THE BUILDING HAS TO BE VACATED BY OCTOBER 15, AND WORK ON THE INTERCHANGE WILL START IMMEDIATELY.

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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1981

- 6 -

MORE LAND PLANNED FOR TAI PO ESTATE

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ANOTHER TEN HECTARES OF LAND WILL SHORTLY BE FORMED FOR THE TAI PO INDUSTRIAL ESTATE.

TENDERS FOR THE WORK ARE NOW BEING INVITED BY THE CIVIL ENGINEERING OFFICE OF THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

THE WORK FORMS THE FIRST PHASE OF THE FINAL STAGE OF FORMATION OF LAND FOR THE ESTATE.

WHEN WORK ON THIS STAGE IS COMPLETED BY THE END OF 1984, IT WILL PROVIDE A TOTAL OF ABOUT 20 HECTARES OF LAND TO SUPPLEMENT THE 45 HECTARES ALREADY FORMED IN STAGES ONE AND TWO.

THE REST OF THE RECLAMATION, ALONG WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF 1 200 METRES OF RUBBLE MOUND, 260 METRES OF SEAWALL AND ROAD AND DRAINAGE WORKS, WILL BE DONE UNDER THE PHASE TWO CONTRACT, TENDERS FOR WHICH ARE EXPECTED TO BE CALLED IN MID-1982.

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MORE TANNERIES LICENSED

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SEVENTEEN APPLICANTS HAVE SO FAR SUCCESSFULLY BEEN GIVEN LICENCES TO OPERATE TANNERY FACTORIES IN TWO KWAI CHUNG INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS.

FIVE MORE LICENCES WILL BE GRANTED TO THE APPLICANTS AS SOON AS THEY ARE ABLE TO COMPLY WITH CERTAIN HEALTH REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND URBAN SERVICES ORDINANCES, SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

TWENTY-SEVEN APPLICATIONS FOR OFFENSIVE TRADE LICENCES TO OPERATE TANNERIES IN BOTH THE WING LOI INDUSTRIAL BUILDING AND WING SHING INDUSTRIAL BUILDING IN KWAI CHUNG HAVE SO FAR BEEN RECEIVED.

PEOPLE WISHING TO OPERATE TANNERIES MAY CONTACT THE LICENSING SECTION OF THE NTSD ON NINTH FLOOR, FOURSEAS BUILDING, 208-212 NATHAN ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI.

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