



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1985

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1985

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BE PATIENT ON POLITICAL STRUCTURE, CS SAYS

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HONG KONG PEOPLE SHOULD BE PATIENT AND ALLOW TIME FOR REFLECTION AND ADJUSTMENT TO THE EXISTING NEW POLITICAL STRUCTURE BEFORE PRONOUNCING ON THE NEXT, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID THIS (THURSDAY) EVENING.

SPEAKING AT THE ANNUAL DINNER OF THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY, SIR DAVID SAID THERE WAS NOW AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT ATTITUDE TO, AND INTEREST IN, GOVERNMENT'S ORGANISATION AND STRUCTURE, JUST AS THERE HAD BEEN GREAT CHANGES IN THE PHYSICAL FACE OF HONG KONG.

+THIS CONTINUING PUBLIC DEBATE AND ENDLESS PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS WILL, I AM EQUALLY CONFIDENT, END IN A SATISFACTORY STRUCTURE EVOLVING,+ HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID THAT AT THE SAME TIME WE MUST NOT LOSE SIGHT OF ALL THOSE OTHER THINGS IN OUR SOCIETY WHICH WERE IN NEED OF DEEP THOUGHT AND ATTENTION.

THESE INCLUDED THE FUTURE COURSE OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT; THE EXPANSION OF TERTIARY EDUCATION; THE NEED OF THE SICK, THE OLD AND THE DISABLED; THE PLANNING OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT TO RESPOND TO A MORE SERVICE-ORIENTED ECONOMY, AND, ABOVE ALL ELSE, GENERATING THE RESOURCES TO PAY FOR THE PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT WE HOPED TO ACHIEVE.

+SO MANY IMPORTANT PROBLEMS, SO MUCH TO BE DONE, TACKLING THEM, FINDING SOLUTIONS TO THESE PRACTICAL ISSUES IS ALSO AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE CONTINUING PROCESS OF BUILDING A STABLE AND PROSPEROUS SOCIETY,+ HE SAID.

SIR DAVID RECALLED THAT HONG KONG WAS +DOWN IN THE DUMPS+ WHEN HE LAST ATTENDED THE ASSOCIATION'S DINNER THREE YEARS AGO.

+TODAY, JUST THREE YEARS LATER, THE STOCK MARKET HAS FOR SOME MONTHS BEEN OVER THE 1 600 MARK, DOUBLE ITS LEVEL THREE YEARS AGO.

+FOR OVER TWO YEARS THE HONG KONG DOLLAR HAS BEEN STABLE, THANKS TO THE INGENIOUS LINK TO THE U.S. DOLLAR,+ HE SAID.

PEOPLE WERE NOW ONCE MORE INVESTING IN ALL KINDS OF PROPERTY, AND MOST OF THE PROJECTS THAT DEMONSTRATED HONG KONG WAS STILL IN BUSINESS, SUCH AS THE ISLAND LINE, THE EASTERN CORRIDOR, THE TOLO HARBOUR HIGHWAY, THE NEW HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI BANK HEADQUARTERS AND THE ACADEMY FOR PERFORMING ARTS, WERE NOW THERE FOR ALL TO SEE, HE ADDED.

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1985

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CONSORTIUM FOR EASTERN HARBOUR CROSSING ANNOUNCED
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THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, MR IAN MACPHERSON, TODAY ANNOUNCED THAT GOVERNMENT HAD ACCEPTED AN OFFER FROM NEW HONG KONG TUNNEL CO. LTD. TO FINANCE, BUILD AND OPERATE THE EASTERN HARBOUR CROSSING. THIS WILL BE A JOINT ROAD AND MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY FACILITY RUNNING FROM QUARRY BAY TO CHA KWO LING, EAST KOWLOON.

THE MAIN INVESTORS IN THE NEW HONG KONG TUNNEL CO. LTD. ARE KUMAGAI GUMI CO. LTD., LILLEY CONSTRUCTION CO. LTD., PAUL Y. CONSTRUCTION CO. LTD. AND CHINA INTERNATIONAL TRUST AND INVESTMENT CORPORATION.

MR MACPHERSON SAID THAT THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE OFFER WAS CONDITIONAL ONLY UPON LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ENACTING THE EASTERN HARBOUR CROSSING ORDINANCE WHICH WOULD GIVE THE NECESSARY STATUTORY AUTHORITY TO THE FRANCHISES. HE SAID THE NEW ORDINANCE WOULD BE BROADLY SIMILAR TO THE EXISTING CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL ORDINANCE.

MR MACPHERSON SAID THERE WOULD BE TWO SEPARATE FRANCHISES: ONE FOR THE ROAD OF 30 YEARS AND ONE FOR THE RAIL PORTION OF 22 YEARS, UNDER WHICH THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION WILL OPERATE THE RAIL TUNNEL, INCLUDING ALL ROLLING STOCK.

THE PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO COMMENCE IN EARLY 1986 AND BE COMPLETED IN LATE 1989. AT THE OPENING OF THE ROAD CROSSING, THE TOLL FOR PRIVATE CARS AND TAXIS WILL BE \$10. IT HAS BEEN AGREED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO PASSAGE TAX ON THE NEW ROAD TUNNEL FOR AT LEAST FIVE YEARS.

THE RAIL CROSSING WILL BE AN EXTENSION OF THE KWUN TONG LINE FROM KWUN TONG STATION TO QUARRY BAY AND THE FORECAST NET INCREMENTAL REVENUE ARISING WILL MORE THAN COVER THE COST OF THE PAYMENTS.

MR MACPHERSON SAID THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH A SHORT LIST OF THREE CONSORTIA HAD TAKEN EIGHT MONTHS AND THAT THE FINAL PACKAGE WAS BENEFICIAL BOTH TO MOTORISTS AND THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION.

THE PRIME CONCERN OF GOVERNMENT IN THE EXERCISE HAD BEEN TO MAXIMISE THE BENEFIT TO THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC. HE SAID ALL THE SHORTLISTED PROPOSALS WERE OF A VERY HIGH STANDARD AND THAT IT HAD BEEN A CLOSE DECISION.

THE PROJECT EXPRESSED IN A VERY TANGIBLE FORM LONG TERM INVESTOR CONFIDENCE IN HONG KONG'S FUTURE.

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1985

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TRAVEL AGENTS LICENSING SCHEME TO START SOON

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PREPARATION AND PLANNING WORK FOR THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE TRAVEL AGENTS LICENSING SCHEME IS NOW AT ITS FINAL STAGE, DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MR GERRY HIGGINSON, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

HE SAID THAT DRAFT TRAVEL AGENTS REGULATIONS WHICH SET OUT DETAILED PROCEDURES AND METHOD OF APPLICATIONS AND THE FEES REQUIRED WOULD SHORTLY BE CONSIDERED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

HE TOLD THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG NORTH: +IF APPROVED, THE REGULATIONS WILL BE GAZETTED AND THE TRAVEL AGENTS REGISTRY WILL BE READY FOR BUSINESS.+

GIVING ADVANCE NOTICE TO ALL EXISTING TRAVEL AGENTS TO COME FORWARD TO APPLY FOR LICENCES, MR HIGGINSON SAID SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE TRAVEL AGENTS REGULATIONS, THE TRAVEL AGENTS REGISTRY AIMED TO COMMENCE DISTRIBUTION OF THE APPLICATION FORMS AT ITS OFFICE ON DECEMBER 16.

+WE ALSO INTEND TO DISTRIBUTE INFORMATION LEAFLETS AND APPLICATION FORMS THROUGH MAJOR TRAVEL ASSOCIATIONS, THE TRAVEL INDUSTRY COUNCIL AND THE HONG KONG TOURIST ASSOCIATION.

+AS WE HOPE TO COMPLETE THE LICENSING WORK OF ALL EXISTING BONA FIDE TRAVEL AGENTS BEFORE LUNAR NEW YEAR, AND AS IT WILL TAKE SEVERAL WEEKS TO PROCESS EACH APPLICATION, IT IS IN THE INTEREST OF ALL EXISTING AGENTS THAT THEY SHOULD APPLY AS SOON AS THE TRAVEL AGENTS REGISTRY COMMENCES OPERATION -- IN LESS THAN TWO WEEKS TIME,+ HE SAID.

HE ADDED THAT TRAVEL AGENTS WHO SUBMITTED APPLICATIONS TOO LATE, SAY AFTER MID-JANUARY, MIGHT NOT BE GRANTED LICENCES IN TIME FOR THE FULL OPERATION OF THE TRAVEL AGENTS ORDINANCE.

+AGENTS WITHOUT A LICENCE WILL NO LONGER BE ABLE TO CONTINUE THEIR BUSINESS AFTER THE APPOINTED DAY -- WHICH WE HOPE WILL BE FEBRUARY 1, 1986,+ HE SAID.

SPEAKING OF THE TIMING OF THE LICENSING PROGRAMME, HE SAID MANY WOULD WISH TO KNOW WHETHER THE PROGRAMME COULD BE COMPLETED BEFORE THE NEXT LUNAR NEW YEAR -- A BUSY PERIOD FOR HOLIDAY TOURS.

+AS SOON AS WE COMMENCE TO RECEIVE AND PROCESS APPLICATIONS, WE WILL START TO ESTABLISH THE IDENTITY OF APPLICANTS WHO INTEND TO CARRY ON BUSINESS AS A TRAVEL AGENT.

+I KNOW THAT THE INTENTION TO CARRY ON BUSINESS AS A TRAVEL AGENT IS ONE THING, WHEREAS WHETHER THE APPLICATION WILL BE SUCCESSFUL, RESULTING IN THE GRANT OF A LICENCE, IS AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT THING.

/+NEVERTHELESS,

+NEVERTHELESS, A TRAVEL AGENT WHO DOES NOT APPLY FOR A LICENCE BEFORE, SAY, MID-JANUARY, MAY WELL HAVE NO INTENTION OF CARRYING ON BUSINESS AS A LICENCED AGENT; THIS IN ITSELF SHOULD FLASH A WARNING LIGHT TO POTENTIAL CUSTOMERS,+ HE SAID, ADDING THAT NOTICE OF EACH APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION AT THE TRAVEL AGENTS REGISTRY AT SIXTH FLOOR, HENNESSY CENTRE, EAST WING.

+WE BELIEVE THAT THE LICENSING OF ALL EXISTING BONA FIDE TRAVEL AGENTS BEFORE FEBRUARY NEXT YEAR IS POSSIBLE AND WOULD BE WELCOMED BY THE COMMUNITY.

+IF THIS PROVES TO BE SO, THEN BY EARLY FEBRUARY, WE WILL BE ABLE PUBLICLY TO GAZETTE THE NAMES OF ALL LICENSED TRAVEL AGENTS, WHOSE CUSTOMERS WILL BE AFFORDED PROTECTION UNDER THE ORDINANCE,+ HE SAID.

MR HIGGINSON CALLED ON MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO TAKE SPECIAL CARE IN SELECTING TRAVEL AGENTS DURING THE NEXT FEW MONTHS AND SUGGESTED THAT THEY COULD SEEK GUIDANCE FROM THE CONSUMER COUNCIL IF IN DOUBT OF THEIR CHOICE.

+I BELIEVE THAT ACTION NOW PROPOSED TO BE SET IN TRAIN TO IMPLEMENT THE TRAVEL AGENTS LICENSING SCHEME, TOGETHER WITH PUBLIC VIGILANCE AND THE CO-OPERATION FROM BONA FIDE MEMBERS OF THE TRAVEL INDUSTRY, WILL LAY A SOUND FOUNDATION ON WHICH THE TRAVEL INDUSTRY CAN WORK TOWARDS ACHIEVING BETTER CREDIBILITY OF THE TRADE AND AFFORDING GREATER PROTECTION FOR THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC,+ HE SAID.

ON THE QUESTION OF FEES TO BE PAID BY AGENTS, MR HIGGINSON SAID THE INTENTION WAS THAT THREE TYPES OF FEES WOULD BE PAYABLE BEFORE A LICENCE WAS GRANTED.

+THESE WOULD COMPRISE AN INITIAL APPLICATION FEE, THE ACTUAL FEE FOR THE LICENCE AND THE LEVY TO THE RESERVE FUND ALREADY FIXED AT \$2 500 UNDER SECTION 33 OF THE TRAVEL AGENTS ORDINANCE.

+ONLY THE APPLICATION FEE WILL BE PAYABLE AT THE TIME OF THE APPLICATION: THERE IS NO NEED FOR AN APPLICANT TO PAY A LICENCE FEE OR THE LEVY UNTIL AND UNLESS HIS APPLICATION IS APPROVED AND A LICENCE IS READY TO BE ISSUED,+ HE SAID.

TURNING TO THE PERIOD OF VALIDITY FOR A LICENCE, HE SAID THE ORDINANCE PROVIDED THAT A LICENCE MIGHT BE VALID FOR A PERIOD OF 12 MONTHS OR SUCH LESSER PERIOD AS MIGHT BE SPECIFIED.

+FOR ADMINISTRATIVE REASONS AND TO AVOID A CONCERTINA EFFECT ON RENEWALS, IT IS INTENDED, AT LEAST AT THE INITIAL STAGE, THAT SOME OF THE LICENCES ISSUED WILL BE FOR A SHORTER PERIOD, SAY SIX MONTHS.

/+THIS SHOULD

+THIS SHOULD IN NO WAY BE TAKEN AS A REFLECTION ON THE STATUS OF A LICENSEE. OF COURSE, A LESSER AMOUNT OF LICENCE FEE WOULD BE PAYABLE IN SUCH CASES,+ MR HIGGINSON SAID.

MR HIGGINSON ALSO EXPLAINED BRIEFLY THE APPLICATION PROCEDURE, THE TWO DIFFERENT TYPES OF APPLICATION FORMS AND PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN THE HONG KONG TRAVEL AGENTS ORDINANCE 1985 TO DETER UNSCRUPULOUS ELEMENTS FROM TRYING TO OBTAIN A LICENCE BY MIS-REPRESENTATION.

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PRICE, VOLUME CHANGES IN SEPTEMBER EXTERNAL TRADE
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COMPARING THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 1985 WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR, THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS DECLINED BY SEVEN PER CENT WHILE THAT OF RE-EXPORTS GREW BY 32 PER CENT, GIVING AN INCREASE OF SIX PER CENT IN THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

IMPORTS INCREASED BY SEVEN PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS. OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY ONE PER CENT AND TWO PER CENT RESPECTIVELY WHILE THOSE OF IMPORTS DROPPED BY THREE PER CENT.

PRICES ARE BASED ON UNIT VALUES WHICH DO NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT CHANGES IN THE COMPOSITION OR QUALITY OF GOODS TRADED, EXCEPT FOR SOME SELECTED COMMODITIES FOR WHICH SPECIFICATION PRICE INDEXES ARE COMPILED. VOLUMES OF TRADE ARE DERIVED FROM TRADE VALUES BY DISCOUNTING THE EFFECT OF PRICE CHANGES.

COMPARING SEPTEMBER 1985 WITH SEPTEMBER 1984, THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS SHOWED NO CHANGE, WITH AN INCREASE OF 17 PER CENT IN THE VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS OFFSETTING A DECLINE OF NINE PER CENT IN THAT OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS. IMPORTS INCREASED BY TWO PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS.

PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS DROPPED BY THREE PER CENT AND ONE PER CENT RESPECTIVELY, SO THAT FOR TOTAL EXPORTS, PRICES DECREASED BY TWO PER CENT. PRICES OF IMPORTS DECREASED BY FOUR PER CENT. AS A RESULT, THE TERMS OF TRADE INDEX (EXPRESSED AS A RATIO OF THE TOTAL EXPORT PRICE INDEX TO THE IMPORT PRICE INDEX) ROSE BY TWO PER CENT.

EXTENDING THE PERIOD OF COMPARISON TO THE 12 MONTHS ENDING SEPTEMBER 1985 WITH THE 12 MONTHS ENDING SEPTEMBER 1984, THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS DECREASED BY FOUR PER CENT, WHILE THAT OF RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 31 PER CENT, GIVING AN INCREASE OF EIGHT PER CENT IN THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS.

MEANWHILE, THE VOLUME OF IMPORTS ROSE BY SEVEN PER CENT. PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS ROSE, ON AVERAGE, BY THREE PER CENT AND FOUR PER CENT RESPECTIVELY, WHILE THAT OF IMPORTS DROPPED BY ONE PER CENT.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY COMMODITY GROUP FOR SEPTEMBER AND FOR JANUARY-SEPTEMBER OF 1985 AS COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING PERIODS IN 1984 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

AS CAN BE SEEN FROM TABLE 1, DOMESTIC EXPORT PRICES OF MANY COMMODITY GROUPS FELL IN SEPTEMBER 1985 COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER 1984. THESE INCLUDED DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES (-12 PER CENT); METAL ORES AND SCRAP (-11 PER CENT); RADIOS OF ALL KINDS (-10 PER CENT); WATCHES AND CLOCKS (-NINE PER CENT); FOOTWEAR (-SEVEN PER CENT); TEXTILE FABRICS (-SEVEN PER CENT); CLOTHING (-THREE PER CENT) AS WELL AS TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES (-TWO PER CENT).

INCREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORT PRICES WERE RECORDED FOR SOME COMMODITY GROUPS SUCH AS ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (+THREE PER CENT); TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD (+TWO PER CENT); METAL MANUFACTURES (+ONE PER CENT) AS WELL AS TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES (+ONE PER CENT).

THE DOMESTIC EXPORT VOLUME OF MANY COMMODITY GROUPS DECREASED IN SEPTEMBER 1985 COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER 1984, THE MORE SUBSTANTIAL ONES BEING ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (-33 PER CENT); METAL ORES AND SCRAP (-32 PER CENT); RADIOS OF ALL KINDS (-31 PER CENT); TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES (-27 PER CENT); TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES (-10 PER CENT); DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES (-10 PER CENT); METAL MANUFACTURERS (-EIGHT PER CENT) AS WELL AS CLOTHING (-SEVEN PER CENT).

HOWEVER, INCREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORT VOLUME WERE RECORDED FOR TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD (+16 PER CENT); WATCHES AND CLOCKS (+14 PER CENT); FOOTWEAR (+13 PER CENT) AS WELL AS TEXTILE FABRICS (+SIX PER CENT).

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY FOR SEPTEMBER AND FOR JANUARY-SEPTEMBER OF 1985 AS COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING PERIODS IN 1984 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 2.

AS PRESENTED IN TABLE 2, IMPORT PRICES OF NEARLY ALL END-USE CATEGORIES DECREASED IN SEPTEMBER 1985 AS COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER 1984, RANGING FROM ONE PER CENT FOR CAPITAL GOODS TO EIGHT PER CENT FOR FOODSTUFFS. THE IMPORT PRICES OF CONSUMER GOODS IN SEPTEMBER 1985 REMAINED THE SAME AS IN SEPTEMBER 1984.

MANY OF THE MAJOR IMPORTED FOODSTUFFS INCREASED IN VOLUME TERMS IN SEPTEMBER 1985 COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER 1984. SIGNIFICANT GROWTH WAS RECORDED FOR SOYA BEAN OIL, PEANUT OIL AND LARD; LIVE POULTRY; CEREAL AND CEREAL PREPARATIONS, OTHER THAN RICE, WHEAT AND FLOUR; MILK, BUTTER, CHEESE AND EGGS; VEGETABLES; SUGAR; FRUIT; RICE AS WELL AS SWINE. HOWEVER, DECREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE REGISTERED FOR TEA AND COFFEE, ANIMALS OF THE BOVINE SPECIES, WHEAT AND FLOUR AS WELL AS FISH AND FISH PREPARATIONS.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE IMPORT VOLUME OF MANY CONSUMER GOODS INCREASED, THE MORE SUBSTANTIAL ONES BEING CAMERAS, FLASHLIGHT APPARATUS AND SUPPLIES FOR PHOTOGRAPHY; FOOTWEAR; WATCHES; TOBACCO MANUFACTURES; MISCELLANEOUS MADE-UP ARTICLES OF TEXTILE MATERIALS AS WELL AS CLOTHING.

HOWEVER, DECREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE REGISTERED FOR PASSENGER MOTOR CARS; RADIOS, TELEVISION SETS, GRAMOPHONES, RECORDS, TAPE RECORDERS AND AMPLIFIERS; ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AS WELL AS HOUSEHOLD TYPE ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES.

THE IMPORT VOLUME OF SOME RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES FELL IN SEPTEMBER 1985 COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER 1984, INCLUDING WOOL AND OTHER ANIMAL HAIR; THERMIONIC CATHODE VALVES AND TUBES, DIODES, TRANSISTORS AND ELECTRICAL MICROCIRCUITS; RAW COTTON; LEATHER AND DRESSED FUR SKINS; CRUDE ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE MATERIALS AS WELL AS WOOL, LUMBER AND CORK.

INCREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE NOTED FOR SILK FABRICS; SPECIAL TEXTILE FABRICS FOR INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES; FABRICS OF WOOL AND MIXTURES; WATCH AND CLOCK MOVEMENTS, CASES AND PARTS; BASE METALS, EXCLUDING IRON AND STEEL; YARN OF MAN-MADE FIBRES; MAN-MADE FIBRES; DYEING, TANNING AND COLOURING MATERIALS AS WELL AS FABRICS OF MAN-MADE FIBRES.

IMPORTS OF FUELS DROPPED BY 16 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS IN SEPTEMBER 1985 COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER 1984.

IN THE CAPITAL GOODS CATEGORY, THE IMPORT VOLUME OF SOME COMMODITIES DECREASED IN SEPTEMBER 1985 OVER SEPTEMBER 1984, THE SUBSTANTIAL ONES BEING OFFICE MACHINES, TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY. INCREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE RECORDED FOR INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY OTHER THAN ELECTRICAL MACHINERY AS WELL AS SCIENTIFIC, MEDICAL, OPTICAL, MEASURING AND CONTROLLING INSTRUMENTS AND APPARATUS.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY FOR SEPTEMBER AND FOR JANUARY-SEPTEMBER OF 1985 AS COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING PERIODS IN 1984 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 3.

AS DEPICTED IN TABLE 3, THE RE-EXPORT VOLUME OF NEARLY ALL THE END-USE CATEGORIES INCREASED IN SEPTEMBER 1985 WHEN COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER 1984, RANGING FROM SIX PER CENT FOR CAPITAL GOODS TO 39 PER CENT FOR FOODSTUFFS. HOWEVER, THE VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS OF FUELS DECREASED BY 24 PER CENT.

FURTHER DETAILS ARE CONTAINED IN THE SEPTEMBER 1985 ISSUE OF THE +HONG KONG TRADE INDEX NUMBERS+, AVAILABLE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE ON DECEMBER 10 AT \$2 PER COPY.

Table 1 : Changes in domestic exports by commodity group

| <u>Commodity group</u> | <u>Comparing September 1985 with September 1984</u> | | | <u>Comparing Jan.-Sep. 1985 with Jan.-Sep. 1984</u> | | |
|--|---|--------------|---------------|---|--------------|---------------|
| | <u>Unit</u> | | | <u>Unit</u> | | |
| | <u>Value</u> | <u>Value</u> | <u>Volume</u> | <u>Value</u> | <u>Value</u> | <u>Volume</u> |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Clothing | -10 | -3 | -7 | -8 | +4 | -11 |
| Textile fabrics | -1 | -7 | +6 | -14 | -3 | -11 |
| Textile yarn and thread | +19 | +2 | +16 | -25 | +4 | -27 |
| Textile made-ups and related articles | -12 | -2 | -10 | -6 | +7 | -12 |
| Radios of all kinds | -38 | -10 | -31 | -28 | -3 | -27 |
| Electronic components | -31 | +3 | -33 | -23 | -1 | -22 |
| Footwear | +5 | -7 | +13 | -4 | -5 | +1 |
| Metal manufactures | -7 | +1 | -8 | -7 | +5 | -11 |
| Metal ores and scrap | -39 | -11 | -32 | -13 | -18 | +7 |
| Watches and clocks | +3 | -9 | +14 | +1 | -9 | +11 |
| Travel goods, handbags and similar articles | -26 | +1 | -27 | -23 | +6 | -27 |
| Domestic electrical appliances | -21 | -12 | -10 | -11 | -7 | -4 |
| All commodities | -12 | -3 | -9 | -7 | +1 | -7 |

/Table 2 :

Table 2 : Changes in imports by end-use category

| <u>End-use category</u> | <u>Comparing September 1985 with September 1984</u> | | | <u>Comparing Jan.-Sep. 1985 with Jan.-Sep. 1984</u> | | |
|---|---|--------------|---------------|---|--------------|---------------|
| | Unit | | | Unit | | |
| | <u>Value</u> | <u>Value</u> | <u>Volume</u> | <u>Value</u> | <u>Value</u> | <u>Volume</u> |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Foodstuffs | +10 | -8 | +20 | -2 | -7 | +5 |
| Consumer goods | +6 | * | +7 | +15 | * | +16 |
| Raw materials and semi- manufactures | -5 | -5 | * | -4 | -3 | -1 |
| Fuels | -22 | -6 | -16 | -13 | -6 | -7 |
| Capital goods | -7 | -1 | -7 | +19 | -2 | +21 |
| All commodities | -2 | -4 | +2 | +4 | -3 | +7 |

Table 3 : Changes in re-exports by end-use category

| <u>End-use category</u> | <u>Comparing September 1985 with September 1984</u> | | | <u>Comparing Jan.-Sep. 1985 with Jan.-Sep. 1984</u> | | |
|---|---|--------------|---------------|---|--------------|---------------|
| | Unit | | | Unit | | |
| | <u>Value</u> | <u>Value</u> | <u>Volume</u> | <u>Value</u> | <u>Value</u> | <u>Volume</u> |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Foodstuffs | +39 | * | +39 | +13 | +1 | +12 |
| Consumer goods | +14 | -1 | +15 | +32 | +1 | +30 |
| Raw materials and semi- manufactures | +19 | -2 | +21 | +28 | +2 | +25 |
| Fuels | -20 | +5 | -24 | -20 | +6 | -25 |
| Capital goods | +8 | +2 | +6 | +69 | +4 | +62 |
| All commodities | +16 | -1 | +17 | +34 | +2 | +32 |

* Insignificant, i.e. less than 0.5%

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1985

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SINO-BRITISH LAND COMMISSION
* * * * *

THE TWO SIDES OF THE SINO-BRITISH LAND COMMISSION HAVE AGREED THAT THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE COMMISSION WILL BE HELD ON DECEMBER 12. THE MEETING WILL DISCUSS THE QUESTION OF THE AVERAGE COST OF LAND PRODUCTION.

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HK-EEC TEXTILES AGREEMENT EXTENDED
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THE CURRENT HONG KONG-EEC TEXTILES AGREEMENT WILL BE EXTENDED TO COVER EXPORTS OF COTTON, WOOL AND MAN-MADE FIBRE TEXTILES TO SPAIN AND PORTUGAL FOLLOWING THEIR ACCESSION TO THE EEC WITH EFFECT FROM JANUARY 1, 1986.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (THURSDAY), A TRADE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID ON THE ADVICE OF THE TEXTILES ADVISORY BOARD, THE FOLLOWING ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED:

- * ENTITLEMENTS TO QUOTA WILL BE CALCULATED ON THE BASIS OF SHIPMENTS LICENSED IN THE REFERENCE PERIOD FROM JULY 1, 1984 TO JUNE 30, 1985.
- * ALLOCATIONS WILL BE SHARED ON A 50-50 BASIS BETWEEN THE EXPORTERS AND MANUFACTURERS. IN THE CASE OF FINISHED PIECE-GOODS, QUOTAS WILL BE ALLOCATED ON A 40-30-30 BASIS AMONG EXPORTERS, FINISHERS AND WEAVERS. WHERE THE FINISHED FABRICS ARE PROCESSED FROM IMPORTED GREY FABRICS, THE SHARING WILL BE ON A 50-50 BASIS BETWEEN EXPORTERS AND FINISHERS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID: +ANY QUOTAS REMAINING AFTER ALLOCATION, INCLUDING THE ENTIRE 1986 RESTRAINT LIMITS OF THOSE CATEGORIES WHERE THERE WAS NO TRADE REGISTERED DURING THE REFERENCE PERIOD, WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE TRADE IN A FREE QUOTA EXPORT AUTHORISATION SCHEME TO BE ANNOUNCED LATER.+

TO FACILITATE CALCULATIONS OF 1986 QUOTAS, EXPORTERS, INCLUDING MANUFACTURERS SHIPPING ON THEIR OWN BEHALF, ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT TO THE DEPARTMENT A RETURN SHOWING THEIR COMPLETE SCHEDULE OF SHIPMENTS OF ALL QUOTA ITEMS TO SPAIN AND PORTUGAL WHICH WERE LICENSED DURING THE REFERENCE PERIOD FROM JULY 1, 1984 TO JUNE 30, 1985.

+INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THE RETURNS MUST BE TRUE AND CORRECT. ANY COMPANY FOUND TO HAVE SUPPLIED FALSE OR MISLEADING INFORMATION IS LIABLE TO PROSECUTION UNDER THE IMPORT AND EXPORT ORDINANCE,+ THE SPOKESMAN WARNED.

/RETURNS MUST

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RETURNS MUST REACH COUNTER NO. 3 OF THE EEC TEXTILES CONTROL BRANCH ON 15TH FLOOR, OCEAN CENTRE, CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON NOT LATER THAN DECEMBER 16. LATE RETURNS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED EXPORTERS AND MANUFACTURERS THAT IN ORDER TO RECEIVE QUOTA ALLOCATION, COMPANIES MUST BE REGISTERED WITH THE DEPARTMENT FOR TEXTILE CONTROLS PURPOSES.

EXPORTS OF RESTRAINED TEXTILES TO SPAIN AND PORTUGAL ARE SUBJECT TO THE SAME CONTROL ARRANGEMENTS AS THE REST OF THE EEC.

A NOTICE TO EXPORTERS CONTAINING DETAILS OF ALL THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS IS AVAILABLE AT THE TRADE DEPARTMENT'S EEC TEXTILES CONTROL BRANCH ON 15TH FLOOR, OCEAN CENTRE, CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON.

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LDC'S STAND AT GATT MEETING BACKED

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HONG KONG SUPPORTED A STATEMENT BY DEVELOPING NATIONS AT YESTERDAY'S MEETING OF THE TEXTILES COMMITTEE OF GATT WHICH EXPRESSED CONCERN AT THE PROGRESS OF THE JENKINS BILL AND THE POSSIBILITY OF TRADE-OFFS TAKING PLACE SHOULD IT BE VETOED.

THE DEVELOPING NATIONS SAID THAT THERE HAD BEEN INTENSIVE DELIBERATIONS IN GATT RECENTLY AIMED AT LIBERALISATION OF TRADE AND THE STRENGTHENING OF THE DISCIPLINES OF THE MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM.

+THE SITUATION IN TEXTILES AND CLOTHING AND, PARTICULARLY, THE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE U.S. CONGRESS ARE IN STARK CONTRAST TO THESE EFFORTS,+ THE STATEMENT SAID.

REFERRING TO THE PASSAGE OF THE JENKINS BILL IT SAID: +WE FIND IT DIFFICULT TO CONCEIVE HOW DISCUSSIONS ON THE FUTURE OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN TEXTILES AND CLOTHING COULD ADVANCE FURTHER UNTIL THERE IS A CLEAR REJECTION OF THIS BILL WITHOUT ANY EQUALLY DAMAGING COMMITMENT TO ACHIEVE THE SAME OBJECTIVES BY OTHER MEANS.+

HONG KONG'S DIRECTOR OF TRADE, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, TOLD THE MEETING IN GENEVA THAT THE TERRITORY FULLY SUPPORTED THE STATEMENT AND SHARED THE CONCERN +IN PARTICULAR ABOUT THE DANGER THAT A PRICE MIGHT BE SOUGHT FOR NOT ENACTING THE BILL. SUCH A PRICE COULD HAVE JUST AS DAMAGING AN EFFECT AS THE ENACTMENT OF THE BILL ITSELF.+

/THE LDC

THE LDC (LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES) STATEMENT REPEATED THE KEY QUESTIONS FACING THE TEXTILES COMMITTEE ON WHETHER TO EXTEND, MODIFY OR DISCONTINUE THE MULTI-FIBRE ARRANGEMENT WHICH EXPIRES IN MID-1986. THEY ARE: +WHETHER CONTINUED PROTECTION TO DEVELOPED COUNTRY TEXTILES AND CLOTHING INDUSTRIES IS JUSTIFIABLE, WHETHER THESE INDUSTRIES CAN CONTINUE TO CLAIM SPECIAL TREATMENT IN THE FORM OF A DEROGATION FROM GATT RULES, AND WHETHER A CONVINCING CASE CAN BE MADE TO JUSTIFY PERSISTENT DISCRIMINATION AGAINST DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.+

MR MACLEOD SAID THE COMMITTEE IS ENGAGED IN A SELF-CONTAINED EXERCISE WHICH IS NOT PART OF THE GATT WORK PROGRAMME STEMMING FROM THE MINISTERIAL DECLARATION OF 1982.

+NEVERTHELESS, IT MUST BE RECOGNISED THAT THE OBJECTIVES OF TRADE LIBERALISATION WHICH HAVE BEEN THE SUBJECT OF INTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS IN GATT DIRECTED TOWARDS THE LAUNCHING OF A NEW ROUND OF MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD, IN PRINCIPLE, APPLY EQUALLY TO TEXTILES AND CLOTHING AS TO ALL OTHER SECTORS.

+IF THERE IS NO DEMONSTRATION OF WILLINGNESS TO MOVE AWAY FROM THE LONG-STANDING INSTITUTIONALISED PROTECTION IN THE TEXTILES SECTOR - AND THE TEXTILES COMMITTEE PROCESS PROVIDES THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE SUCH A DEMONSTRATION - THEN THE EXPECTATIONS OF WHAT MIGHT BE ACHIEVED IN NEGOTIATIONS IN OTHER AREAS MIGHT PROVE TO BE SIMILARLY LIMITED.

+AT THE VERY LEAST IT SHOULD BE EXPECTED THAT ANY SUCCESSOR ARRANGEMENT THAT MIGHT EMERGE FROM THE PRESENT PROCESS SHOULD BE BASED UPON A COMMITMENT TOWARDS FULL LIBERALISATION AND ULTIMATE RETURN TO THE FULL APPLICATION OF GATT RULES AND SHOULD THUS PROVIDE, BOTH AT THE MULTILATERAL AND BILATERAL LEVELS, FOR CONCRETE MEASURES TOWARDS ACHIEVING THESE AIMS,+ SAID MR MACLEOD.

MR MACLEOD WELCOMED THE EEC COMMISSION STATEMENT THAT THE EEC HAD CALLED ON PRESIDENT REAGAN TO VETO THE JENKINS BILL.

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REPORT ON HOUSING GREEN PAPER TO BE MADE PUBLIC
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THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING SUBSIDY TO TENANTS OF PUBLIC HOUSING TODAY WAS ASKED TO FURTHER STUDY PUBLIC OPINION AND COMMENTS ON THE GREEN PAPER AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY IN DUE COURSE.

AT ITS MEETING THIS MORNING MEMBERS OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY CONSIDERED A REPORT ON PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE GREEN PAPER, AND NOTED THAT THERE WAS A GENERAL SUPPORT FOR THE PRINCIPLE OF THE GREEN PAPER.

/THEY DECIDED

THEY DECIDED THAT THE PRINCIPLE OF THE GREEN PAPER SHOULD BE TAKEN AS BEING ACCEPTABLE BUT WOULD LIKE THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING SUBSIDY TO CONSIDER THE DETAILS OF COMMENTS MADE.

+IT WAS APPRECIATED THAT THE COMMITTEE WILL NEED SOME TIME TO ACCOMPLISH THE TASK OF SCRUTINISING ALL DETAILS OF MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS,+ THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR (ESTATE MANAGEMENT), MR FUNG TUNG SAID.

ALL MEMBERS, HE SAID, AGREED THE REPORT WAS COMPREHENSIVE AND FACTUAL.

MR FUNG SAID THAT THE REPORT WILL BE PRINTED IN CHINESE AND ENGLISH AND PUT ON SALE FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC INTERESTED IN THE SUBJECT.

HE POINTED OUT THAT FOR VARIOUS REASONS, CHIEF OF WHICH BEING REQUESTS FOR CONFIDENTIALITY, SUBMISSIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS CANNOT BE MADE PUBLIC.

+HOWEVER, THESE WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION BY MEMBERS OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY AND UMELCO,+ HE ADDED.

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SPECIAL TAVA FUND FOR ACCIDENT VICTIMS
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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY) DETAILS OF A SPECIAL FUND TO PAY COMPENSATION TO THIRD PARTY VICTIMS OF TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS INVOLVING MOTOR VEHICLES INSURED WITH INSURANCE COMPANIES WHICH HAVE BECOME INSOLVENT.

THE FUND, APPROVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL YESTERDAY, IS A ONE-OFF SUPPLEMENT TO THE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS ASSISTANCE SCHEME DESIGNED TO COVER TRAFFIC ACCIDENT CLAIMS AGAINST FIVE INSOLVENT COMPANIES, NAMED AS SINGAPORE INSURANCE CO. LTD., KYOTO INSURANCE LTD., SCOTLAND INSURANCE CO. LTD., CHINA UNDERWRITERS LIFE AND GENERAL INSURANCE CO. LTD., AND BEDFORD INSURANCE CO. LTD.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT ANY THIRD PARTY WHO HAS AN OUTSTANDING CLAIM FOR INJURIES OR (IN THE CASE OF A DEPENDENT) DEATH ARISING FROM A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT INVOLVING A MOTOR VEHICLE INSURED WITH ONE OF THESE COMPANIES, AND WHO HAS NOT RECEIVED THE FULL DAMAGES DUE TO HIM FROM THE INSURANCE COMPANY, IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR AN EX-GRATIA PAYMENT UNDER THE SCHEME.

ALL APPLICATIONS ARE BEING PROCESSED BY THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT AND WILL BE SUBMITTED TO A COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION AND ASSESSMENT OF THE AMOUNT OF THE CLAIM. HOWEVER, NO EX-GRATIA PAYMENT WILL EXCEED THE AMOUNT LEGALLY PAYABLE BY THE INSURER IF THE INSURER HAD BEEN SOLVENT.

APPLICANTS SHOULD APPROACH THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT ON THE FIFTH FLOOR OF THE SINCERE BUILDING, DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL, TAKING ALL RELEVANT DOCUMENTS IN SUPPORT OF THEIR CLAIM, IF POSSIBLE, THEY SHOULD MAKE AN APPOINTMENT BY TELEPHONING 5-457036 EXTENSION 206.

THE SPOKESMAN EMPHASISED THAT EVEN THOSE WHO HAVE CLAIMS AGAINST THE INSURANCE COMPANIES OR INSURED DRIVERS PENDING WITH THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AID OR WITH PRIVATE SOLICITORS, MUST STILL APPLY UNDER THE TERMS OF THE SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEME IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR PAYMENT.

WHERE AN INSURED DRIVER HAS PERSONALLY PAID A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIM ALL OR A PART OF DAMAGES AWARDED BY THE COURT, THE ACCIDENT VICTIM WILL BE REQUIRED TO REIMBURSE FULLY THE INSURED DRIVER FROM THE PAYMENT HE HAS RECEIVED UNDER THE SCHEME.

THIS SUPPLEMENT TO THE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS ASSISTANCE SCHEME COMPLEMENTS THE AGREEMENT SIGNED BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE MOTOR INSURERS' BUREAU (MIB) ON NOVEMBER 1. UNDER THIS AGREEMENT THE MIB UNDERTOOK TO ESTABLISH AND OPERATE AN INSOLVENCY FUND TO PROVIDE PROTECTION AGAINST THE INSOLVENCY OF ANY MOTOR INSURER WHICH MAY OCCUR IN THE FUTURE.

UNDER THIS SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEME FINANCIAL PROTECTION IS AVAILABLE TO TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS AFFECTED BY INSURERS WHO ARE NOW INSOLVENT.

TAKEN TOGETHER, THESE TWO SCHEMES PROVIDE A COMPREHENSIVE PACKAGE OF FINANCIAL PROTECTION AND COMPENSATION FOR THE UNFORTUNATE VICTIMS OF TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS WHO, THROUGH NO FAULT OF THEIR OWN, ARE UNABLE TO RECOVER ANY OF THE DAMAGES DUE TO THEM BECAUSE THE INSURER CONCERNED HAS BECOME INSOLVENT.

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ANNUAL INSPECTION FOR PRIVATE LIGHT BUSES

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PRIVATE LIGHT BUSES MANUFACTURED BEFORE 1983 WHICH REQUIRE A NEW LICENCE ON OR AFTER APRIL 1 NEXT YEAR WILL BE REQUIRED TO UNDERGO VEHICLE INSPECTION PRIOR TO RE-LICENSING.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT THE MEASURE WOULD COME INTO EFFECT ON JANUARY 2, 1986 AND WOULD INCLUDE THOSE LIGHT BUSES PROVIDING SCHOOL SERVICES.

PRIVATE CARS AND CONTRACT HIRE CARS COME UNDER THE PRIVATE CAR INSPECTION SCHEME ANNOUNCED ON NOVEMBER 28.

THERE ARE CURRENTLY 2 100 PRIVATE LIGHT BUSES WITH BETWEEN EIGHT AND 14 SEATS, OF WHICH 1 444 ARE LICENSED TO CARRY STUDENTS.

OWNERS OF PRIVATE LIGHT BUSES THAT WILL BE AFFECTED ARE ADVISED TO PRESENT THEIR VEHICLES FOR INSPECTION AT THE KOWLOON BAY VEHICLE EXAMINATION CENTRE AT CHEUNG YIP STREET.

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ALL-TIME HIGH FOR AIR PASSENGER TRAFFIC
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FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE HISTORY OF THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, ITS ANNUAL PASSENGER THROUGHPUT IS EXPECTED TO EXCEED THE 10-MILLION MARK, PROBABLY OVER THE CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR PERIOD.

+THAT WILL BE A MILESTONE IN THE LIFE OF KAI TAK,+ SAID THE DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION, MR TREVOR THORPE, TODAY.

+IT IS ALSO NOW 50 YEARS SINCE THE SITE, DEVELOPED BY MR HO KAI AND MR AU TAK IN THE 1920'S, RECEIVED THE FIRST EVER SCHEDULED AIR SERVICE CONNECTING HONG KONG TO EUROPE,+ MR THORPE SAID.

TO COPE WITH THE CONTINUING INCREASE IN AIR PASSENGERS, A MAJOR PROJECT TO DEVELOP THE FACILITIES AT KAI TAK HAS TAKEN A FURTHER STEP FORWARD FOLLOWING THE SIGNING OF A CONTRACT LAST WEEK FOR A SUBSTANTIAL EXTENSION TO THE PASSENGER TERMINAL BUILDING.

+CONSTRUCTION WORK FOR THE PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO COMMENCE ON SITE BEFORE CHRISTMAS, AND JUST ABOUT THE SAME TIME AS THE 10-MILLIONTH PASSENGER ARRIVES,+ MR THORPE SAID.

THE WHOLE PROJECT IS SCHEDULED TO BE COMPLETED IN 30 MONTHS' TIME BY 1988, WHEN THE TOTAL ANNUAL CAPACITY OF KAI TAK WILL BE INCREASED FROM THE PRESENT 12 MILLION TO 18 MILLION.

THE STAGE V DEVELOPMENT INVOLVES THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN EXTENSION OF THE TERMINAL BUILDING TO THE EAST TO PROVIDE A 50 PER CENT INCREASE IN PASSENGER PROCESSING CAPABILITY, INTERFACING AT BOTH ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES LEVELS WITH THE EXISTING BUILDING.

MR THORPE SAID: +AT DEPARTURES LEVEL, MAJOR FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED INCLUDE TWO MORE CHECK-IN ISLANDS PROVIDING A TOTAL OF 60 ADDITIONAL CHECK-IN COUNTERS, A SYSTEM FOR HANDLING GROUP AND OUTSIZE BAGGAGE, A NEW RESTAURANT AND NEW AIRLINE INFORMATION DESKS.

+THE ENLARGED AIRSIDE LOUNGE AREA WILL HAVE ADDITIONAL OUTBOUND IMMIGRATION CONTROL DESKS, SECURITY SEARCH CUBICLES AND AIRSIDE CONCESSION FACILITIES.+

AT THE ARRIVALS LEVEL, INBOUND IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS CHECK FACILITIES WILL BE SIGNIFICANTLY EXPANDED. TWO NEW BAGGAGE RECLAIM LOOPS WILL BE PROVIDED.

THE BUFFER HALL WILL BE ENLARGED TO PROVIDE A WAITING AREA FOR GROUP PASSENGERS.

MR THORPE SAID: +A TWO-STOREY OFFICE BLOCK WILL BE CONSTRUCTED ON TOP OF THE TERMINAL BUILDING EXTENSION TO PROVIDE 2 200 SQUARE METRES OFFICE ACCOMMODATION FOR GOVERNMENT USE AND FOR RENTING TO AIRLINES.+

OVER THE PAST 20 MONTHS ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE PROJECT HAVE CONCENTRATED ON THE NECESSARY REPROVISIONING OF THOSE OPERATIONAL FACILITIES WHICH WERE LOCATED ON THE SITE ITSELF EARMARKED FOR THE EXTENSION PROJECT.

THE REPROVISIONING EXERCISES INCLUDED THE AIRPORT STORES, INTER-LINE BAGGAGE AND CONTAINER STORAGE AREAS, REPLACEMENT ACCOMMODATION FOR GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, A COACH HOLDING AREA, AND AN ELECTRICAL SUB-STATION.

WITHIN THIS PERIOD, MR THORPE SAID LANDSIDE ACCESS WAS ALSO IMPROVED, NOTABLY WITH THE COMMISSIONING OF THE TRANSPORT TERMINUS AND THE WIDENING OF OLYMPIC AVENUE IN JULY AND SEPTEMBER RESPECTIVELY.

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BUILDING NO. 3 JOINS NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME
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SINCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME IN WAN CHAI UNDER THE DISTRICT'S FIGHT CRIME CAMPAIGN LAST MONTH, THE RESPONSE FROM RESIDENTS HAS BEEN MOST ENCOURAGING, WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ROGER GARCIA SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE LAUNCHING CEREMONY OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME AT EVERWIN MANSION IN JOHNSTON ROAD, MR GARCIA SAID THE BUILDING WAS THE THIRD IN THE DISTRICT TO JOIN THE SCHEME.

ALL 151 HOUSEHOLDS OF THE BUILDING HAVE JOINED THE SCHEME TO FORM A TOTAL OF 24 NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH UNITS.

MR GARCIA STRESSED AGAIN THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SCHEME IN HELPING THE POLICE TO PREVENT BURGLARIES AND ROBBERIES IN RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS. HE ALSO PRAISED RESIDENTS' DETERMINATION TO FIGHT CRIME BY SUPPORTING THE SCHEME.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE CEREMONY WERE THE WAN CHAI POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDER, MR LAU TO-YEE; DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MRS PEGGY LAM; CHAIRMAN OF THE WAN CHAI WEST AREA COMMITTEE, MR HSU CHUNG-CHI, AND CHAIRMAN OF THE EVERWIN MANSION OWNERS' CORPORATION, MR HUI HEE-MING.

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WORK ON NEW BORDER LINK TO START
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WORK ON THE LOK MA CHAU VEHICULAR BORDER LINK AND STAGE TWO OF THE NEW TERRITORIES CIRCULAR ROAD IN SAN TIN WILL START SHORTLY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LANDS DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT LAND FOR THE PROJECTS WAS DULY REVERTED TO GOVERNMENT BY RESUMPTION UNDER THE ROADS (WORKS, USE AND COMPENSATION) ORDINANCE ON SEPTEMBER 2 AND OCTOBER 2, 1985.

HE ADDED THAT EX-OWNERS' RIGHT AND TITLE TO THE LAND CEASED ON THOSE DATES AND WAS REPLACED BY AN ENTITLEMENT TO COMPENSATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ORDINANCE.

THE SPOKESMAN REFUTED ALLEGATIONS THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD NOT ACQUIRED TITLE TO THE LAND INVOLVED.

HE ADDED THAT LAND OWNERS WHO, SUBJECT TO ENDORSEMENT BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, STOOD TO BENEFIT FROM AMENDMENTS TO THE ZONAL EX-GRATIA PAYMENT RATES APPROVED ON NOVEMBER 26, 1985 BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, HAVE ALREADY BEEN ADVISED OF THE REVISED PAYMENTS.

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KWUN TONG FESTIVAL LAUNCHED
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LARGE-SCALE VARIETY SHOWS, EXHIBITIONS, COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES, COMPETITIONS AND SPORTS ALL FORM PART OF THE KWUN TONG FESTIVAL '85, IN THE COMING THREE WEEKS.

ANNOUNCING DETAILS OF THE FESTIVAL AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (THURSDAY), THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FESTIVAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE, MR EDDIE LAMB, SAID THE FESTIVAL WOULD BE LAUNCHED ON DECEMBER 14 (SATURDAY) WITH AN ALL-STAR VARIETY SHOW PRODUCED AND BROADCAST LIVE FROM THE TSUI PING ROAD PLAYGROUND BY ASIA TELEVISION.

+THE FESTIVE ATMOSPHERE OF THE DISTRICT WILL BE SUSTAINED WITH A FOUR-HOUR DISCO NIGHT ON CHRISTMAS EVE PERFORMED BY DISC JOCKEYS FROM RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG+, HE SAID.

A POPULAR MUSIC CARNIVAL WILL ALSO BE HELD DURING THE THREE-WEEK FESTIVAL.

+THE CLOSING CEREMONY ON JANUARY 4 WILL BE TELECAST BY RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG+, MR LAMB SAID.

DURING THE FESTIVAL PERIOD, AN EXHIBITION ABOUT KWUN TONG WILL BE MOUNTED AND GO AROUND THE DISTRICT WITH THE AIM OF ENHANCING RESIDENTS' UNDERSTANDING ABOUT THEIR OWN DISTRICT, AND PUBLICISING THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION SCHEME.

A SPECIAL AWARD SCHEME HAS RECENTLY BEEN LAUNCHED TO SELECT COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS. ANOTHER AWARD SCHEME WILL SELECT THREE MODEL FAMILIES, MODEL STUDENTS AND MODEL WORKERS OF KWUN TONG.

A THREE-DAY CIVIC EDUCATION CAMP AND AN ESSAY COMPETITION ENTITLED 'KWUN TONG UNDER MY EYES' HAVE BEEN PLANNED FOR STUDENTS IN THE DISTRICT.

+TO FOSTER RESPECT FOR THE ELDERLY, WE HAVE ENLISTED SOME 200 VOLUNTEERS TO KNIT SCARFS, GLOVES AND HATS AS GIFTS FOR RESIDENTS OF A LOCAL HOSTEL FOR THE ELDERLY,+ MR LAMB SAID.

A FAMILY COOKING COMPETITION, A MODEL-CAR RACING CONTEST AND A SERIES OF BALL GAMES HAVE ALSO BEEN ORGANISED AS PART OF THE FESTIVAL.

+WITH THE INCREASE IN POPULATION FROM 600 000 IN 1980 TO THE PRESENT 700 000 AND THE VAST HOUSING AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE DISTRICT, WE FELT THAT THERE IS A NEED TO ORGANISE A LARGE SCALE FESTIVAL TO ENHANCE A SENSE OF BELONGING AMONG LOCAL RESIDENTS,+ MR LAMB SAID.

KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR KEVIN MAK, WHO IS ALSO PRESIDENT OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE, SAID THE FESTIVAL WAS AN EXAMPLE THAT COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS AND THE GOVERNMENT COULD USE THEIR RESOURCES TO BENEFIT LOCAL PEOPLE, AND IT WAS HOPED THAT IN RETURN RESIDENTS WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE COMMUNITY.

LEAFLETS CONTAINING A FULL PROGRAMME OF THE KWUN TONG FESTIVAL '85 ARE AVAILABLE AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS SUB-OFFICES. ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 3-416315.

SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD AND VARIOUS COMMUNITY LEADERS, THE FESTIVAL IS ORGANISED BY THE KWUN TONG FESTIVAL '85 ORGANISING COMMITTEE, AND CO-ORGANISED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL, THE DISTRICT OFFICE, THE POLICE AND THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

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NEW CHILDREN'S CENTRE PROVIDES HOME CARE

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THE NEW SHA KOK CHILDREN'S HOME WILL HELP MEET THE DEMAND FOR TEMPORARY RESIDENTIAL CARE FOR CHILDREN UNABLE TO ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF A NORMAL FAMILY LIFE, LADY YOUDE SAID THIS (THURSDAY) MORNING.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE HOME, THE SECOND OF ITS KIND OPERATED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, SHE SAID: +IT IS SO IMPORTANT TO CREATE A WARM AND HAPPY ATMOSPHERE FOR THESE CHILDREN TO HELP GIVE THEM A BETTER CHANCE IN LIFE AND I FEEL THAT THE PLANNERS OF THIS HOME TOGETHER WITH ITS DEDICATED STAFF WILL SUCCEED ADMIRABLY IN DOING THIS.+

LADY YOUDE SAID THAT THE 40 PLACES PROVIDED IN THE HOME FOR CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF THREE AND EIGHT WOULD BE A WELCOME ADDITION AS THERE WAS A PRESSURE FOR SUCH PLACES AT THE CHUK YUEN CHILDREN'S RECEPTION CENTRE -- THE FIRST CHILDREN'S HOME RUN BY THE DEPARTMENT.

CHILDREN IN THE HOME WOULD ATTEND LOCAL SCHOOLS WITH THOSE FROM SHA KOK ESTATE, AS WELL AS ENJOYING THE SAME FACILITIES OFFERED IN THE ESTATE.

IN HER WELCOMING ADDRESS, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE MRS ANSON CHAN SAID SHA KOK CHILDREN'S HOME WOULD NOT ACCEPT DIRECT ADMISSIONS, BUT ONLY CHILDREN REFERRED FROM THE CHUK YUEN CENTRE WHO COULD NOT BE PROMPTLY DISCHARGED.

SUCH CHILDREN INCLUDED THOSE WHOSE PARENTS COULD NOT CARE FOR THEM OR THOSE FOUND ABANDONED AND THOSE IN NEED OF CARE AND PROTECTION.

+WHILE THE CHILDREN ARE IN CARE, SOCIAL WORKERS FROM THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT WILL LOOK INTO THEIR BACKGROUND AND SPECIAL NEEDS.

+THE EVENTUAL AIM IS TO REUNITE THE CHILDREN WITH THEIR FAMILIES, BUT IF THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE, REFERRALS WILL BE MADE TO OTHER CENTRES PROVIDING LONGER TERM CARE, AND FOR THOSE FOUND SUITABLE, WE WILL ARRANGE ADOPTION, EITHER LOCALLY OR OVERSEAS,+ MRS CHAN SAID.

ABOUT HALF THE ADMISSION TO CHUK YUEN CHILDREN'S RECEPTION CENTRE COULD BE DISCHARGED WITHIN SIX MONTHS.

FOR THOSE WHO MUST REMAIN IN CARE LONGER, THE NEW HOME AT SHA KOK WOULD PROVIDE A MORE HOME-LIKE ENVIRONMENT, SHE ADDED.

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ASSISTANT LABOUR COMMISSIONER RETIRES * * * *

AN ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MRS SOO MOK SAU-HA, HAS RETIRED THIS WEEK AFTER 32 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH THE GOVERNMENT.

MRS SOO FIRST JOINED THE CIVIL SERVICE IN 1953 AS A CO-OPERATIVE OFFICER OF THE THEN CO-OPERATIVE AND MARKETING DEPARTMENT.

THREE YEARS LATER, SHE WAS APPOINTED AS LABOUR OFFICER AND PROMOTED TO SENIOR LABOUR OFFICER IN 1969. SHE HAS BEEN AN ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER SINCE 1979.

MRS SOO IS SUCCEEDED BY MR ALFRED CHAN WING-KIT, REGISTRAR OF TRADE UNIONS, WHO WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MATTERS CONCERNING LABOUR RELATIONS, WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS, DEVELOPMENT, PROSECUTION AND ADMINISTRATION.

MR MAK SAI-YIU, A SENIOR LABOUR OFFICER, HAS BEEN APPOINTED AS THE REGISTRAR OF TRADE UNIONS.

OTHER RECENT STAFF CHANGES IN THE DEPARTMENT INCLUDE THE APPOINTMENTS OF MR CHOW TUNG-SHAN AS CHIEF LABOUR OFFICER IN CHARGE OF LABOUR RELATIONS, AND MR YIP YUK-LUN AS CHIEF FACTORY INSPECTOR. THEIR APPOINTMENTS FOLLOWED THE RESPECTIVE RETIREMENTS OF MR DONALD CHAN AND MR CHAN SHIU-LAP.

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POLMET DELEGATES VISIT SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT

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A GROUP OF 26 DELEGATES TO THE POLMET CONFERENCE ON URBAN POLLUTION YESTERDAY (WEDNESDAY) VISITED THE SHA TIN SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS.

DURING THEIR TOUR THEY WERE TOLD THAT THE PLANT IS CAPABLE OF TREATING SEWAGE FROM THE 300 000 PEOPLE CURRENTLY LIVING IN SHA TIN. WHEN THE SECOND STAGE OF THE WORKS IS COMPLETED THE PLANT WILL BE ABLE TO TREAT SEWAGE FROM 600 000 PEOPLE.

THEY ALSO LEARNED THAT THE PLANT DERIVES 50 PER CENT OF ITS OWN POWER FROM BURNING METHANE PRODUCED AS A BY-PRODUCT OF THE SEWAGE TREATMENT.

ON SATURDAY A VIP PARTY FROM POLMET CONSISTING OF ENVIRONMENTALISTS FROM CHINA WILL VISIT THE PLANT.

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ROAD MACHINE ON DISPLAY

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ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR THE PRESS TO SEE THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT'S DEFLECTOGRAPH PROGRAMME IN OPERATION TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE PROGRAMME INVOLVES A SLOW MOVING TRUCK, KNOWN AS ROAD DEFLECTION DATA LOGGING MACHINE, WHICH IS ABLE TO GAUGE THE CONDITION OF BITUMINOUS ROADS IN THE TERRITORY.

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE JUNCTION OF POK FU LAM RESERVOIR ROAD AND POK FU LAM ROAD (NEAR THE POK FU LAM PUBLIC RIDING SCHOOL) AT 11 AM.

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TENANCY SOUGHT FOR ABERDEEN SITE

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TENDERS ARE BEING INVITED FOR A SHORT-TERM TENANCY OF A SITE AT SHUM WAN ROAD FACING PO CHONG WAN IN ABERDEEN.

THE 1 050-SQUARE-METRE SITE IS TO BE USED FOR BATCHING READY-MIXED CONCRETE, INCLUDING THE HANDLING OF AGGREGATE AND CEMENT.

/TENANCY IS

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TENANCY IS FOR ONE YEAR, RENEWABLE QUARTERLY THEREAFTER.

CLOSING DATE FOR ACCEPTANCE OF TENDERS IS NOON ON DECEMBER 20.

FORM OF TENDER, TENDER NOTICE, AND CONDITIONS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM, AND TENDER PLAN INSPECTED AT, THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE/ HONG KONG (SOUTH), 12TH FLOOR, HARBOUR CENTRE, 25 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG= THE LANDS DEPARTMENT, SURVEY DIVISION, MURRAY BUILDING, FIFTH FLOOR, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG= AND THE KOWLOON DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE YAU MA TEI CAR PARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON.

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ANTI-CRIME CAMPAIGN SLOGAN COMPETITION ORGANISED

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RESIDENTS, WORKERS AND STUDENTS IN KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI ARE INVITED TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR CREATIVE TALENT IN A CRIME PREVENTION CAMPAIGN SLOGAN COMPETITION.

THE COMPETITION, ORGANISED BY THE KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, IS AIMED AT ENCOURAGING RESIDENTS TO ATTACH IMPORTANCE AND TO ACTIVELY TAKE PART IN FIGHT CRIME ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT.

THE COMPETITION IS DIVIDED INTO TWO GROUPS : A SENIOR GROUP FOR THOSE AGED 16 AND ABOVE AND A JUNIOR GROUP FOR THOSE AGED 15 AND BELOW.

COMPETITORS ARE REQUESTED TO SUBMIT THEIR SLOGAN IN CHINESE, WHICH SHOULD NOT BE MORE THAN 14 WORDS. THE THEME OF THE SLOGAN SHOULD RELATE TO CRIME PREVENTION.

THERE WILL BE THREE WINNING PRIZES AND FIVE MERIT PRIZES FOR EACH GROUP. WINNERS WILL RECEIVE VALUABLE PRESENTS AND SOUVENIRS.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS DECEMBER 13 AND APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI DISTRICT OFFICE.

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DTC REGISTRATION REVOKED

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THE COMMISSIONER OF DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ANNOUNCED THAT THE REGISTRATION OF IMEX FINANCE LIMITED AS A DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANY HAS BEEN REVOKED AT ITS OWN REQUEST UNDER SECTION 14(2) OF THE DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ORDINANCE.

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1985

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NT ENTRIES TO SPEECH FESTIVAL UP 150 TIMES

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THE NUMBER OF ENTRIES FROM NEW TERRITORIES SCHOOLS TO THE ANNUAL HONG KONG SCHOOLS SPEECH FESTIVAL HAS INCREASED BY OVER 150 TIMES IN THE PAST 22 YEARS.

THIS WAS DISCLOSED BY THE DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL SERVICES, MR TONY HAMMOND, TODAY (THURSDAY) WHEN HE PRESENTED PRIZES TO NEW TERRITORIES WINNERS OF THE 37TH ANNUAL EVENT.

HE SAID THAT WHEN THE FESTIVAL WAS FIRST HELD IN 1963, THERE WERE ONLY 29 ENTRIES. TODAY, 22 YEARS LATER, THE NUMBER OF ENTRIES HAS SOARED TO 4 400.

MR HAMMOND CONGRATULATED THE ORGANISERS OF THE FESTIVAL AND THE NEW TERRITORIES SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE HONG KONG SCHOOLS MUSIC AND SPEECH ASSOCIATION ON THE HARD WORK DONE IN MAKING THE EVENT SO POPULAR AND SUCCESSFUL.

HE SAID THAT THIS WAS THE FIRST OCCASION ON WHICH THE NEWLY-FORMED REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN ABLE TO ASSIST IN MAKING VENUES AVAILABLE SUCH AS THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL, THE LUT SAU HALL AT YUEN LONG, AND THE NEWLY-OPENED CIVIC CENTRE AT TAI PO.

BY THE TIME NEXT YEAR'S SPEECH FESTIVAL TAKES PLACE, MR HAMMOND ADDED, TWO MORE CIVIC CENTRES WOULD HAVE BEEN COMPLETED AT SHA TIN AND TUEN MUN.

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SHA TIN TA CHIU CEREMONY

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THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, DR JAMES HAYES WILL OFFICIATE AT A TA CHIU CEREMONY IN SHA TIN TOMORROW (FRIDAY) MORNING.

TA CHIU, A TAOIST FESTIVAL OF PEACE AND RENEWAL OF FAITH, WAS LAST HELD IN SHA TIN IN 1975.

DURING TOMORROW'S CEREMONY, DR HAYES, TOGETHER WITH DISTRICT OFFICER, MR W.K. LAM, AND MEMBERS OF THE DISTRICT BOARD AND SHA TIN RURAL COMMITTEE WILL MAKE OFFERINGS AND JOIN IN A VEGETARIAN LUNCH WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.

THE SHA TIN TA CHIU CELEBRATIONS, HELD EVERY 10 YEARS, IS ORGANISED BY THE RURAL COMMITTEE AT A COST OF MORE THAN \$1 MILLION.

/THE CELEBRAOENS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1985

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THE CELEBRAOENS FEATURE FOUR DAYS AND NIGHTS OF OPERA PERFORMANCES AND PRAYERS STARTING YESTERDAY (DECEMBER 4).

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT 11 AM AT AREA 17 NEXT TO THE SHA TIN RECREATION CYCLE PARK AT TIN SUM.

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BOARD TO DISCUSS NOISE NUISANCE
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POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO THE NOISE PROBLEM GENERATED FROM THE AIR-CONDITIONING SYSTEM AT PRUDENTIAL CENTRE, NATHAN ROAD WILL BE DISCUSSED AT THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE NOISE NUISANCE HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF COMPLAINTS BY RESIDENTS IN TAK HING STREET FOR MORE THAN TWO YEARS.

DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL ALSO COMMENT ON AIR POLLUTION AND HEALTH PROBLEMS CAUSED BY THE BURNING OF INCENSE ON PAVEMENTS NEAR A NUMBER OF TAOIST INSTITUTIONS LOCATED AT THE JUNCTION OF PORTLAND STREET, HAMILTON STREET AND PITT STREET AND TUNG ON STREET.

THE REVIEW OF THE +MEET-THE-PUBLIC+ SCHEME, THE HANDLING OF COMPLAINTS AND SUGGESTIONS LODGED WITH THE DISTRICT BOARD AND THE PREPARATION OF A DISTRICT BOARD STUDY TOUR IN 1986 WILL ALSO BE TABLED FOR DISCUSSION.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE THE EMPLOYMENT BILL 1985, APPLICATIONS FOR DB FUNDS FOR THE IYY PEACE RALLY, THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF DB FUNDS AND PROGRESS REPORTS OF THE BUILDING MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATION TEAM AND VARIOUS COMMITTEES.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT OFFICE, 490-492 NATHAN ROAD, HOP FAT COMMERCIAL CENTRE.

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ART GROUP PRAISED FOR COMMUNITY ROLE

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WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ROGER GARCIA, TODAY (THURSDAY) PRAISED THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT ARTS, CULTURAL, RECREATIONAL AND SPORTS ASSOCIATION THEATRE FOR PLAYING AN ACTIVE ROLE IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS.

SPEAKING AT THE ANNUAL DRAMA PERFORMANCE OF THE THEATRE THIS (THURSDAY) EVENING, MR GARCIA SAID THE AMATEUR GROUP WAS ESTABLISHED TWO YEARS AGO UNDER THE DISTRICT'S ARTS, CULTURAL RECREATIONAL AND SPORTS ASSOCIATION.

ITS OBJECTIVES WERE TO PROMOTE INTEREST IN DRAMA AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE DISTRICT AND TO PROVIDE TRAINING FOR ITS MEMBERS, HE SAID.

THE THEATRE HAD PERFORMED ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS IN DISTRICT FUNCTIONS AND HAD RECENTLY PUT UP A SPECIAL PLAY FOR THE DISTRICT'S FIGHT CRIME CAMPAIGN. IT WOULD ALSO PERFORM IN THE COMING WAN CHAI FESTIVAL IN JANUARY NEXT YEAR, MR GARCIA ADDED.

FOR ITS ANNUAL PERFORMANCE, THE THEATRE HAD PRODUCED TWO SPECIAL CREATIVE PLAYS AND WOULD PERFORM FOR TWO EVENINGS AT THE ARTS CENTRE.

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SPECIAL TRAFFIC CHANGES FOR CHARITY WALK

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SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE INTRODUCED ON HONG KONG ISLAND ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 8) TO FACILITATE THE COMMUNITY CHEST'S WALK FOR MILLIONS.

UNDER THE ARRANGEMENTS, THE FOLLOWING REROUTEING MEASURES WILL BE IMPLEMENTED BETWEEN 7.30 AM AND 5.30 PM:

- * EASTERN HOSPITAL ROAD BETWEEN HONG KONG STADIUM AND TUNG LO WAN ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND.
- * CAROLINE HILL ROAD BETWEEN HOI PING ROAD AND HONG KONG STADIUM WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY EASTBOUND, TRAFFIC BEING RESTRICTED TO THE EASTSIDE LANE.
- * BROADWOOD ROAD BETWEEN TAI HANG ROAD AND LINK ROAD WILL BECOME ONE-WAY UPHILL, TRAFFIC BEING RESTRICTED TO THE NEAR SIDE UPHILL LANE.
- * TRAFFIC ENTERING TAI HANG ROAD FROM STUBBS ROAD WILL BE DIVERTED NORTH DOWN BLUE POOL ROAD.
- * LEFT TURNS FROM BLUE POOL ROAD INTO TAI HANG ROAD WILL BE BANNED.

- * TAI HANG ROAD BETWEEN BROADWOOD ROAD AND BLUE POOL ROAD WILL BE REROUTED ONE-WAY WESTBOUND AND TRAFFIC WILL BE RESTRICTED TO THE NEAR SIDE LANE.
- * MOUNT BUTLER ROAD BETWEEN TAI HANG ROAD AND HENDERSON ROAD WILL BECOME ONE-WAY UPHILL AND TRAFFIC WILL BE RESTRICTED TO THE NEAR SIDE LANE.
- * THE UPHILL SECTION OF WONG NAI CHUNG GAP ROAD BETWEEN THE URBAN COUNCIL TENNIS COURTS AND THE ENTRANCE TO THE HONG KONG CRICKET CLUB WILL BE RESTRICTED TO ONE LANE TRAFFIC.
- * LINK ROAD BETWEEN BROADWOOD ROAD AND CAROLINE HILL ROAD WILL BE REROUTED ONE-WAY DOWNHILL, TRAFFIC BEING RESTRICTED TO THE NEAR SIDE LANE. THE ROAD SECTION WILL BE CLOSED BETWEEN 8.45 AM AND 9.30 AM.

FROM 9.30 AM TO 5.30 PM, DOWNHILL TRAFFIC ON MOUNT BUTLER ROAD WILL BE DIVERTED NORTH VIA PERKINS ROAD.

THE FOLLOWING ROAD SECTIONS WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC:

- * BLUE POOL ROAD SOUTH OF TAI HANG ROAD WILL BE CLOSED BETWEEN 8 AM AND NOON.
- * TAI TAM RESERVOIR ROAD, EXCEPT A SHORT SECTION AT ITS WESTERN END, WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL VEHICLES EXCEPT THOSE OF RESIDENTS FROM 8 AM TO 3 PM.
- * LINK ROAD WILL BE CLOSED BETWEEN 8.45 AM AND 9.30 AM.
- * MOUNT BUTLER DRIVE AND PRICE ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL VEHICLES EXCEPT THOSE OF RESIDENTS FROM 9.30 AM UNTIL ABOUT 5.30 PM.
- * MOUNT PARKER ROAD AT ITS JUNCTION WITH KING'S ROAD WILL BE CLOSED FROM 9 AM UNTIL ABOUT 2.30 PM.

ALL PARKING SPACES ON HONG KONG STADIUM SLIP ROAD, TAI TAM RESERVOIR ROAD, PRICE ROAD AND MOUNT BUTLER DRIVE WILL BE SUSPENDED BETWEEN 6 AM AND 6 PM.

BUSES ON CMB ROUTES 11, 41 AND 62 AND GREEN MINIBUS ON ROUTES 5, 14M, 24M, 28 AND 30 WILL BE DIVERTED AS A RESULT OF THE ABOVE ROAD REROUTING AND CLOSURE MEASURES.

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SLIP ROAD IN KWUN TONG CLOSED

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THE SLIP ROAD LINKING WAI YIP STREET AND KAI CHEUNG ROAD IN KWUN TONG WILL BE CLOSED FROM 12.30 AM TO 5.45 AM ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 8) AND DECEMBER 9 TO FACILITATE MAINTENANCE WORKS.

MOTORISTS ON KWUN TONG ROAD HEADING FOR KOWLOON BAY AND THE AIRPORT TUNNEL WILL BE DIVERTED TO USE WAI YIP STREET AND KAI FUK ROAD.

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