



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 6, 1983

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GOVERNOR TO GIVE PRESS CONFERENCE

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE AND THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WILL RETURN FROM LONDON ON FLIGHT CX 200, ETA 9 AM ON THURSDAY (JULY 7).

SIR EDWARD WILL GIVE A PRESS CONFERENCE WITH SIR S.Y. CHUNG ON THEIR ARRIVAL AT THE VIP PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM.

PLEASE ADVISE THOSE COVERING THE EVENT TO ASSEMBLE IN THE PRESS ROOM ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE ARRIVAL HALL NOT LATER THAN 7.30 AM. GIS OFFICERS WILL THEN ESCORT NEWSMEN TO THE VIP PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE FIRST FLOOR.

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MONETARY STATISTICS FOR MAY 1983

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THERE CONTINUED TO BE SOME SHIFT OUT OF HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS TO FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS DURING MAY, ACCORDING TO MONETARY STATISTICS FOR THE MONTH PUBLISHED TODAY.

WITH THE EXCEPTION OF DEMAND DEPOSITS WITH BANKS, ALL OTHER HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS WITH BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES FELL. BY CONTRAST, FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY, ALTHOUGH PART OF THE INCREASE REFLECTED THE VALUATION EFFECT OF THE DEPRECIATION OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR OVER THE MONTH.

(THE MONETARY STATISTICS ARE PRESENTED IN HONG KONG DOLLARS, REPORTING INSTITUTIONS HAVING CONVERTED FOREIGN CURRENCY AMOUNTS AT THE RELEVANT EXCHANGE RATE ON THE REPORTING DAY.)

REFLECTING THESE CHANGES, AND A DROP IN THE PUBLIC'S HOLDING OF NOTES AND COINS, HONG KONG DOLLAR MONEY SUPPLY ON ALL DEFINITIONS FELL AND TOTAL MONEY SUPPLY ON THE BROADER DEFINITIONS (TOTAL M2 AND TOTAL M3) RECORDED SOME INCREASE.

THERE WAS HEALTHY GROWTH IN TOTAL LOANS AND ADVANCES IN MAY. LOANS FOR FINANCING HONG KONG'S VISIBLE TRADE GREW SUBSTANTIALLY ALONG WITH THE RECOVERY IN EXPORTS. GROWTH OF OTHER LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG WAS, HOWEVER, RELATIVELY MODERATE.

AS THE END OF THE TWO-YEAR TRANSITIONAL PERIOD FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE THREE-TIER MONETARY SYSTEM DREW NEAR, THERE WAS DURING THE MONTH A FURTHER SHIFT OF DEPOSITS AWAY FROM REGISTERED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES.

/HONG KONG

HONG KONG DOLLAR MONEY SUPPLY

THE HK\$ MONEY SUPPLY ON ALL DEFINITIONS FELL FURTHER IN MAY. THE NARROWEST DEFINITION, HK\$M1 DROPPED BY 0.8 PER CENT FOLLOWING A DROP OF 1.6 PER CENT IN APRIL. THE BROADER DEFINITIONS, HK\$M2 AND HK\$M3 DROPPED BY 0.6 PER CENT AND 1.1 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY, FOLLOWING FALLS OF 1.2 PER CENT IN APRIL.

IN THE THREE MONTHS TO MAY, HK\$M1 FELL BY 4.8 PER CENT, HK\$M2 BY 3.1 PER CENT AND HK\$M3 BY 3.7 PER CENT. OVER THE TWELVE MONTHS, INCREASES WERE RECORDED, AT 11.2 PER CENT, 15.8 PER CENT AND 1.2 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

TOTAL MONEY SUPPLY

TOTAL M1 FELL BY 0.1 PER CENT FOLLOWING A 1.0 PER CENT FALL IN APRIL. TOTAL M2 AND TOTAL M3 GREW BY 2.3 PER CENT AND 1.9 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY, COMPARED WITH VIRTUALLY NO CHANGE IN APRIL. IN THE THREE MONTHS TO MAY, TOTAL M1 FELL BY 4.3 PER CENT WHILE TOTAL M2 AND TOTAL M3 GREW BY 4.0 PER CENT AND 3.5 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY. OVER THE TWELVE MONTHS, THE CORRESPONDING GROWTH RATES WERE 10.6 PER CENT, 46.8 PER CENT AND 30.1 PER CENT.

DEPOSITS

HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS FELL BY 0.9 PER CENT FOLLOWING A FALL OF 0.7 PER CENT IN APRIL. FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS GREW BY A SUBSTANTIAL 6.0 PER CENT AFTER A RISE OF 1.7 PER CENT IN APRIL. OVER THE THREE MONTHS, HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS FELL BY 3.3 PER CENT WHILE FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS ROSE BY 13.9 PER CENT. OVER THE TWELVE MONTHS, THE CORRESPONDING CHANGES WERE A DROP OF 0.1 PER CENT AND A RISE OF 97.4 PER CENT.

MUCH OF THE INCREASE IN FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS REPRESENTS AN ADDITION TO THE TOTAL DEPOSIT BASE, BUT SOME REFLECTS A SHIFT AWAY FROM HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS, PART OF WHICH REFLECTS, IN TURN, THE INCREASING POPULARITY OF SO-CALLED +SWAP+ DEPOSITS. THESE INVOLVE CUSTOMERS BUYING SPOT FOREIGN CURRENCY AND PLACING IT ON DEPOSIT WITH FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, BUT AT THE SAME TIME ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT TO SELL FORWARD SUCH FOREIGN CURRENCY BACK TO THE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS ON THE MATURITY OF THE DEPOSIT.

THESE +SWAPS+ HINDER INTERPRETATION OF THE MONETARY STATISTICS, SINCE FOR CERTAIN ANALYTICAL PURPOSES THEY SHOULD BE REGARDED AS HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS: FOR EXAMPLE, A SWAP TRANSACTION DOES NOT ITSELF EXERT PRESSURE ON THE EXCHANGE RATE IN THE WAY THAT AN OUTRIGHT FOREIGN EXCHANGE TRANSACTION MAY. HOWEVER, NO STATISTICS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE VOLUME OF SWAP DEPOSITS.

/LOANS AND

LOANS AND ADVANCES

TOTAL LOANS AND ADVANCES EXTENDED BY BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ROSE BY 2.3 PER CENT IN MAY, COMPARED WITH A RISE OF 1.3 PER CENT IN APRIL. IN THE THREE MONTHS TO MAY, THEY ROSE BY 5.9 PER CENT AND OVER THE TWELVE MONTHS BY 25.8 PER CENT. LOANS TO FINANCE HONG KONG'S VISIBLE TRADE GREW FURTHER BY A RAPID 4.7 PER CENT, FOLLOWING A GROWTH OF 3.8 PER CENT IN APRIL. IN THE THREE MONTHS TO MAY, THE INCREASE WAS 7.7 PER CENT AND OVER THE TWELVE MONTHS, 15.2 PER CENT. OTHER LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG GREW BY 1.2 PER CENT AFTER EXPERIENCING VIRTUALLY NO GROWTH IN APRIL. IN THE THREE MONTHS TO MAY, THEY ROSE BY 2.5 PER CENT AND OVER THE TWELVE MONTHS, 19.8 PER CENT.

FOREIGN CURRENCY POSITIONS

DURING MAY, BOTH THE SPOT FOREIGN CURRENCY ASSETS AND LIABILITIES OF THE MONETARY SECTOR INCREASED. THE NET SPOT FOREIGN CURRENCY POSITION SHOWED A LIABILITY OF \$23.7 BILLION AT THE END OF MAY COMPARED WITH \$23.9 BILLION AT THE END OF APRIL. BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES HAD NET LIABILITIES OF \$15.3 BILLION AND \$8.4 BILLION RESPECTIVELY. STATISTICS COLLECTED (ON THE BASIS OF SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT DEFINITIONS) BY THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES SHOW THAT AT THE END OF MAY, THE MONETARY SECTOR HAD NET FORWARD FOREIGN CURRENCY ASSETS AMOUNTING TO \$46.8 BILLION, WHICH MORE THAN COVERED THE NET SPOT FOREIGN CURRENCY LIABILITIES OF \$24.6 BILLION.

LIQUIDITY RATIOS

THE AVERAGE LIQUIDITY RATIO (AS DEFINED IN S.18 OF THE BANKING ORDINANCE) FOR ALL BANKS ROSE IN MAY TO 48.3 PER CENT FROM 47.0 PER CENT IN APRIL. THE AVERAGE LIQUIDITY RATIO (AS DEFINED IN S24A OF THE DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ORDINANCE) FOR ALL DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ALSO ROSE TO 62.8 FROM 62.3 PER CENT IN APRIL.

NUMBER OF REPORTING INSTITUTIONS

THE NUMBER OF REPORTING LICENSED BANKS INCREASED BY 2 TO 132. THE NUMBER OF LICENSED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES REMAINED UNCHANGED AT 22, AND THE NUMBER OF REGISTERED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES INCREASED BY 1 TO 336.

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Monetary Statistics - May, 1983

Earlier months
(% change to May 1983)

HK\$mn

	May 1983	April 1983	February 1983	May 1982
<u>Money Supply</u>				
M1 - HK\$	26,317	26,531 (- 0.8%)	27,649 (- 4.8%)	23,675 (+ 11.2%)
Foreign Currency	1,971	1,782 (+10.6%)	1,919 (+ 2.7%)	1,895 (+ 4.0%)
Total	28,288	28,313 (- 0.1%)	29,568 (- 4.3%)	25,570 (+ 10.6%)
M2 - HK\$	120,083	120,794 (- 0.6%)	123,940 (- 3.1%)	103,727 (+ 15.8%)
Foreign Currency	103,992	98,333 (+ 5.8%)	91,443 (+13.7%)	48,864 (+112.8%)
Total	224,075	219,127 (+ 2.3%)	215,383 (+ 4.0%)	152,591 (+ 46.8%)
M3 - HK\$	145,437	147,048 (- 1.1%)	151,002 (- 3.7%)	143,737 (+ 1.2%)
Foreign Currency	121,894	115,200 (+ 5.8%)	107,274 (+13.6%)	61,772 (+ 97.3%)
Total	267,330	262,248 (+ 1.9%)	258,276 (+ 3.5%)	205,509 (+ 30.1%)
<u>Deposits</u>				
- Demand deposits	16,724	16,318 (+ 2.5%)	16,846 (- 0.7%)	15,613 (+ 7.1%)
4 Savings deposits	68,172	68,361 (- 0.3%)	69,804 (- 2.3%)	53,799 (+ 26.7%)
- Time deposits with banks	122,368	117,207 (+ 4.4%)	111,019 (+10.2%)	70,035 (+ 74.7%)
Time deposits with dtcs	42,082	41,951 (+ 0.3%)	41,717 (+ 0.9%)	51,870 (- 18.9%)
All HK\$ deposits	131,375	132,540 (- 0.9%)	135,838 (- 3.3%)	131,551 (- 0.1%)
All foreign currency deposits	117,971	111,297 (+ 6.0%)	103,548 (+13.9%)	59,766 (+ 97.4%)
Total	249,347	243,837 (+ 2.3%)	239,386 (+ 4.2%)	191,317 (+ 30.3%)
<u>Loans and advances</u>				
To finance Hong Kong's visible trade	28,346	27,073 (+ 4.7%)	26,323 (+ 7.7%)	24,606 (+ 15.2%)
To finance merchandising trade not touching Hong Kong	2,633	2,483 (+ 6.0%)	2,173 (+21.2%)	3,092 (- 14.8%)
Other loans for use in Hong Kong	197,828	195,532 (+ 1.2%)	193,079 (+ 2.5%)	165,196 (+ 19.8%)
Other loans for use outside Hong Kong	113,333	109,606 (+ 3.4%)	102,649 (+10.4%)	79,182 (+ 43.1%)
Other loans where the place of use is not known	16,030	15,314 (+ 4.7%)	14,137 (+13.4%)	12,716 (+ 26.1%)
All loans in HK\$	189,730	188,016 (+ 0.9%)	185,213 (+ 2.4%)	167,523 (+ 13.3%)
All loans in foreign currencies	168,440	161,992 (+ 4.0%)	153,147 (+10.0%)	117,269 (+ 43.6%)
Total	358,170	350,008 (+ 2.3%)	338,360 (+ 5.9%)	284,792 (+ 25.8%)

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1983 SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME STARTS
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INCREASING DISTRICT INVOLVEMENT AND PARTICIPATION HAS ENABLED HONG KONG TO HAVE A MORE BALANCED SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME THIS YEAR TO CATER FOR INDIVIDUAL NEEDS OF EACH DISTRICT.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 1983 SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME HELD AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM IN WAN CHAI THIS (WEDNESDAY) EVENING, THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES SAID, +LAST YEAR, I MENTIONED THAT THE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME WOULD BE EXPANDED WITH INCREASED LOCAL INITIATIVE. THIS HAS BEEN DONE.+

THIS YEAR, MORE THAN 8 000 INDOOR AND OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES ARE BEING ORGANISED AT TERRITORY-WIDE AND DISTRICT LEVELS FOR YOUNGSTERS THROUGHOUT HONG KONG. THESE ACTIVITIES NOT ONLY PROVIDE HEALTHY RECREATIONAL OUTLET FOR YOUTHS IN THE LONG HOT SUMMER MONTHS BUT ALSO AIM AT DEVELOPING THEIR INDIVIDUAL TALENTS AND ABILITIES.

MORE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS ARE BUILT INTO THE PROGRAMME TO TIE IN WITH THIS YEAR'S THEME OF 'BETTERING ONESELF THROUGH COMMUNITY SERVICE'.

AT THE CEREMONY, MR AKERS-JONES THANKED MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR YOUTH RECREATION (CCCYR) FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO THE ANNUAL SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME. ITS MEMBERS INCLUDE THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB (CHARITIES) LTD., HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE, CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT, INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT, URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

HE THANKED THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB IN PARTICULAR FOR ITS \$4.5 MILLION DONATION TOWARDS THIS YEAR'S PROGRAMME.

A SOUVENIR WAS PRESENTED TO SIR SIDNEY GORDON, STEWARD OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB IN APPRECIATION OF THE CLUB'S GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION.

THE OPENING CEREMONY WAS FOLLOWED BY A ONE-AND-A-HALF HOUR VARIETY SHOW WHICH WAS ATTENDED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND MORE THAN 1 000 YOUNGSTERS.

THE SHOW WAS JOINTLY PRODUCED BY THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES AND RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG (TV DIVISION) AS THE FIRST EPISODE OF THE +SWINGING SUMMER+ T.V. SERIES.

/THE ENTERTAINMENT

THE ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMME INCLUDED A RHYTHM DRILL BY ONE HUNDRED STUDENTS AND A PARADE BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM SIX CCCYR MEMBER DEPARTMENTS, FOLLOWED BY LEAD-IN PERFORMANCES SUCH AS TAEKWONDO, FENCING, SKIPPING, ROLLER SKATING, SKATE BOARDING AND CYCLING. THE AUDIENCE WAS THEN TREATED TO SONGS AND DANCES BY FAMOUS SINGERS INCLUDING ELIZA CHAN, ANITA MUI, LESLIE CHEUNG AND STEPHEN CHANG.

THE MOST ATTRACTIVE AND EXCITING PART OF THE PROGRAMME WAS THE +BUMP-BUMP-CART HOCKEY COMPETITION+, +AMERICAN FOOTBALL MATCH+ AND +THE GREAT RESCUE+ IN WHICH MANY ENTERTAINMENT AND SPORTS PERSONALITIES TOOK PART. THE OVERALL CHAMPION TEAM OF THE THREE GAMES RECEIVED A TROPHY FROM MRS AKERS-JONES.

THE VARIETY SHOW WILL BE SCREENED ON TVB JADE ON SATURDAY (JULY 9) AT 9.35 PM.

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YOUTHS TOLD OF HIGHER DEATH RATE FROM SMOKING

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THE DEATH RATE AMONG PEOPLE WHO START TO SMOKE BEFORE THE AGE OF 15 IS INCREASED BY TWO TO THREE TIMES THAT OF NON-SMOKERS, THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MR GEOFFREY BARNES, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

MR BARNES SAID THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON REPORTED THAT ABOUT 80 PER CENT OF CHILDREN WHO SMOKE REGULARLY CONTINUE TO DO SO WHEN THEY GROW UP AND THAT THE EARLIER IN LIFE A PERSON STARTS TO SMOKE REGULARLY THE GREATER IS THE RISK OF EARLY DEATH.

MR BARNES WAS OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF AN INTER-SCHOOL +SMOKING CONTROL+ POSTER DESIGN EXHIBITION AT THE OCEAN TERMINAL MAIN CONCOURSE IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE ANTI-SMOKING PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN STEERING COMMITTEE.

THE EXHIBITION, WHICH LASTS FOR TWO DAYS, IS THE FIRST OF THREE DISPLAYS ORGANISED BY THE COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB SECRETARIAT OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AS PART OF THE GOVERNMENT'S ANTI-SMOKING PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN.

THE OTHER TWO EXHIBITIONS WILL BE HELD IN TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL IN MID-JULY AND AT THE LANDMARK IN EARLY AUGUST.

ALSO OFFICIATING AT TODAY'S OPENING CEREMONY WERE THE DEPUTY CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS, MRS LOUISE MOK, AND SENIOR MEDICAL AND HEALTH OFFICER, DR S.C. LEUNG.

MR BARNES ADVISED YOUNG PEOPLE, PARTICULARLY CHILDREN, NOT TO START SMOKING.

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+WHEN YOU REMEMBER THAT TOBACCO SMOKING IS A FORM OF DRUG DEPENDENCE DIFFERENT FROM, BUT NO LESS STRONG THAN, THAT OF OTHER ADDICTIVE DRUGS, THE MESSAGE WHICH EMERGES IS CLEAR: YOUR CHANCES OF A HEALTHY AND LONGER LIFE ARE MUCH BETTER IF YOU NEVER START TO SMOKE IN THE FIRST PLACE,+ HE SAID.

TALKING ABOUT THE REASONS WHY PEOPLE START TO SMOKE, MR BARNES SAID THAT A SURVEY CONDUCTED IN 1981 IN HONG KONG INDICATED THAT BY FAR THE MAJORITY PICKED UP THE HABIT EITHER FROM FRIENDS AND FAMILY MEMBERS OR AS A RESULT OF CURIOSITY.

+THE PRESSURE ARE OFTEN PARTICULARLY STRONG ON YOUNG PEOPLE WHO OFTEN WANT TO APPEAR MORE MATURE IN THEIR BEHAVIOUR, OR WHO DO NOT WANT TO SEEM UNADVENTUROUS TO THEIR FRIENDS, OR WHO ARE NATURALLY CURIOUS,+ HE ADDED.

MR BARNES POINTED OUT THAT THE MAIN DANGER YEARS FOR THIS TYPE OF EXPERIMENTATION SEEMED TO BE BETWEEN THE AGES OF 10 AND 15.

HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT IT WOULD BE WRONG TO TRY TO PUT THE BLAME ENTIRELY ON THE CHILDREN THEMSELVES.

+YOUNG PEOPLE, AFTER ALL, LEARN FROM THEIR ELDERS, AND IN THE MATTER OF SMOKING ARE ALSO SUBJECTED TO INFLUENCES THROUGH MEDIA ADVERTISING, THROUGH THE SPONSORSHIP BY TOBACCO COMPANIES OF SPORTING EVENTS, AND FROM THE EXAMPLES SET BY PUBLIC FIGURES,+ MR BARNES SAID.

+THE INFLUENCE OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS ARE PROBABLY AMONGST THE STRONGEST, AND I WISH TO MAKE A SPECIAL APPEAL TO THEM TO UNDERSTAND HOW IMPORTANT IT IS THAT YOUNG PEOPLE SHOULD NOT PICK UP THE SMOKING HABIT.

+THE GOOD EXAMPLES PARENTS AND TEACHERS CAN SET THEMSELVES WILL NOT ONLY GUIDE CHILDREN ALONG A PATH TO A HEALTHIER AND LONGER LIFE, BUT WILL ALSO ENABLE THEM TO WITHSTAND BETTER THE PRESSURE TO START SMOKING FROM FRIENDS AND CLASSMATES IN SCHOOL.+

HE STRESSED THAT THE AIM MUST BE TO ENSURE THAT THE IMAGE CHILDREN OBTAINED OF SMOKING +IS NOT SOMETHING WHICH IS GROWN UP, SOPHISTICATED AND GLAMOROUS, BUT SOMETHING WHICH IS IMITATIVE, UNATTRACTIVE, UNHEALTHY AND UNNECESSARY+.

+IF OUR CHILDREN CAN BE TAUGHT HOW TO SAY 'NO' WHEN IT COMES TO SMOKING, THE HONG KONG OF TOMORROW WILL BE A HEALTHIER PLACE,+ MR BARNES CONCLUDED.

ON DISPLAY AT THE EXHIBITION ARE 40 PRIZE WINNING POSTER DESIGNS AND 36 OTHERS OF MERIT, CHOSEN FROM 1 100 ENTRIES FROM SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT HONG KONG.

COPIES OF THE WINNING DESIGNS HAVE BEEN SENT FOR DISPLAY AT THE FIFTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON SMOKING AND HEALTH TO BE HELD FROM JULY 10 TO 15 IN WINNIPEG, CANADA.

THE EXHIBITION WILL CONTINUE UNTIL 4 PM TOMORROW. ADMISSION IS FREE.

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UN OFFICIAL VISITS CHI MA WAN

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THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES' DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION, MR PAUL-MICHEL NEGIB MOUSSALLI, TODAY VISITED REFUGEES LIVING IN THE CHI MA WAN CLOSED CENTRE.

HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY MR RICHARD HIGGINBOTTOM, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES; MR CLINTON LEEKS, PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR SECURITY (REFUGEES); AND UNHCR OFFICIALS.

MR MOUSSALLI LATER FLEW BY HELICOPTER TO STANLEY, WHERE HE WAS MET BY THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, MR THOMAS GARNER.

HE THEN VISITED THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S STAFF TRAINING INSTITUTE AND ITS NEWLY OPENED EXTENSION, AND SAW OFFICERS UNDERGOING TRAINING.

AFTER LUNCH AT THE DEPARTMENT'S OFFICERS' CLUB IN STANLEY, MR MOUSSALLI WENT TO THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT FOR TALKS WITH SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ABOUT THE REFUGEE SITUATION HERE.

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60 BUILDING PLANS APPROVED IN MAY

SIXTY NEW BUILDING PLANS WERE APPROVED BY THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE OF THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IN MAY THIS YEAR, COMPARED WITH 63 IN MAY LAST YEAR AND 39 IN APRIL THIS YEAR.

OF THESE NEW PLANS, 27 WERE FOR NEW BUILDINGS ON HONG KONG ISLAND, NINE FOR KOWLOON AND 24 FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THEY INCLUDE A MARKET AND CLINIC IN TAI PO ROAD, A SCHOOL EXTENSION IN KWAI SHING CIRCUIT, KWAI CHUNG, A CARE AND ATTENTION HOME FOR YAN CHAI HOSPITAL AND AN EXTENSION FOR POK OI HOSPITAL.

THE DECLARED COST OF ALL THESE NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED DURING THE MONTH WAS \$482.7 MILLION, COMPARED WITH \$704.9 MILLION IN MAY LAST YEAR.

THE USABLE FLOOR AREA TOTALS 193 974.5 SQUARE METRES, COMPRISING 164 431.0 SQUARE METRES OF NON-DOMESTIC AND 29 543.5 SQUARE METRES OF DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA.

THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE ALSO GAVE CONSENT FOR WORK TO START ON 43 PROJECTS. THEY INCLUDE A SCHOOL EXTENSION IN WONG MA KOK ROAD AND A MEDICAL REHABILITATION CENTRE AT SANDY BAY.

/ALTOGETHER, 47

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ALTOGETHER, 47 OCCUPATION PERMITS WERE ISSUED FOR NEWLY-COMPLETED BUILDINGS IN MAY.

THEY COMPRISE A POWER STATION IN WONG NAI CHUNG GAP ROAD, A HOME FOR THE AGED AT THE JUNCTION OF KUNG LOK ROAD AND HONG LEE ROAD IN KWUN TONG, AN ELECTRICITY SUBSTATION AT THE JUNCTION OF CONTAINER PORT ROAD AND KWAI HONG STREET IN KWAI CHUNG AND AN INDOOR SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE IN TUEN MUN.

THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE THIS MONTH ALSO GAVE PERMISSION FOR 40 BUILDINGS TO BE DEMOLISHED.

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U.K.-INDONESIA AIR TALKS TO BE HELD
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MR TREVOR THORPE, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION, WILL BE GOING ON A SHORT LEAVE FROM TOMORROW. HE WILL RESUME OFFICE ON SEPTEMBER 2.

DURING HIS ABSENCE, MR N. LATHAM, WILL ACT AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR.

WHILE IN LONDON, MR THORPE WILL REPRESENT THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT IN AIR SERVICES TALKS BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND INDONESIAN AERONAUTICAL AUTHORITIES.

THE TALKS ARE TO BEGIN ON JULY 18, AND ARE A CONTINUATION OF THE LAST ROUND OF DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES HELD IN JAKARTA IN MAY.

CATHAY PACIFIC AIRWAYS HAS A LONG STANDING REQUIREMENT FOR ACCESS TO BALI AND THE OPPORTUNITY WILL BE TAKEN TO SEEK THE NECESSARY TRAFFIC RIGHTS, A CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

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YOUTH HEALTH PROJECT UNDERWAY

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YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES ARE BEING GIVEN A CHANCE TO SHOW THEIR TALENTS IN COMPETITIONS TO PROMOTE GOOD HEALTH.

ORGANISED BY THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT, THE ADOLESCENT HEALTH PROJECT FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES WILL COMPRISE PHOTOGRAPHIC, POSTER DESIGN AND ESSAY COMPETITIONS.

THE PROJECT IS A PILOT SCHEME TO AROUSE INTEREST IN ADOLESCENT HEALTH AND TO PROMPT YOUNGSTERS TO ACQUIRE POSITIVE HEALTH HABITS.

THE SHA TIN HEALTH EDUCATION CENTRE, WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CONDUCTING THE PROJECT, BEGAN SENDING OUT ENTRY FORMS THROUGHOUT THE NEW TERRITORIES LAST MONTH.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC CONTEST IS DIVIDED INTO TWO SECTIONS - A JUNIOR SECTION FOR YOUTHS UNDER 15 YEARS OF AGE, AND A SENIOR SECTION FOR THOSE BETWEEN 16 AND 20 YEARS.

THE POSTER DESIGN COMPETITION IS DESIGNED FOR CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF 10 AND 14 AND FOR YOUTHS BETWEEN 15 AND 19.

PRIZES WORTH FROM \$200 TO \$500 WILL BE AWARDED TO WINNERS OF THE DIFFERENT SECTIONS IN BOTH COMPETITIONS.

THE ESSAY COMPETITION IS DIVIDED INTO PRIMARY SCHOOL AND SECONDARY SCHOOL SECTIONS.

STUDENTS FROM PRIMARY 5 AND PRIMARY 6 ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THE PRIMARY SCHOOL SECTION. STUDENTS FROM FORM 1 TO FORM 3 MAY ENTER THE JUNIOR SECTION OF THE SECONDARY SCHOOL SECTION, WHILE STUDENTS FROM FORM 4 TO FORM 6 MAY JOIN THE SENIOR SECTION.

PRIZES FOR THE ESSAY COMPETITION WILL BE WORTH FROM \$100 TO \$500.

ALL WINNING ENTRIES WILL BE DISPLAYED AT A MAJOR EXHIBITION IN OCTOBER THIS YEAR.

PARTICIPANTS SHOULD GIVE THEIR NAME, AGE, SEX, TELEPHONE NUMBER, ADDRESS, NAME OF SCHOOL AND CLASS ATTENDED AND SEND ALL ENTRIES TO THE SHA TIN HEALTH EDUCATION UNIT AT LEK YUEN HEALTH CENTRE, 2ND FLOOR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30.

FURTHER DETAILS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE SHA TIN HEALTH EDUCATION UNIT OR NO. 0-633211 EXT. 213.

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BOARD TO DISCUSS DEVELOPMENT PLANS
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LAYOUT PLANS FOR VILLAGE TYPE DEVELOPMENT IN PAK KONG AND JUNK BAY WILL BE TABLED FOR DISCUSSION AT THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD MEETING ON FRIDAY (JULY 8) MORNING.

AT THE MEETING, MEMBERS WILL ALSO BE BRIEFED ON THE PROPOSED PUBLIC LIGHT BUS TERMINUS, BUS BAY, ZEBRA CROSSING AND ROAD WIDENING AT PAK SHA WAN AND A LOADING AND UNLOADING AREA AND A REFUSE COLLECTION POINT AT FUNG ON VILLAGE.

THEY WILL ALSO GIVE THEIR VIEWS ON EXTENDING THE MEET-THE-PUBLIC SCHEME TO HANG HAU AND RENNIE'S MILL. AT PRESENT THE WEEKLY SESSION IS BEING HELD IN SAI KUNG TOWN CENTRE ONLY.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA WILL INCLUDE BRIEFINGS ON THE HONG KONG LAW SOCIETY'S FREE LEGAL ADVICE SCHEME, THE REPORT +A PERSPECTIVE ON EDUCATION IN HONG KONG+ AND PROGRESS REPORTS BY THE VARIOUS COMMITTEES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD MEETING AT 10 AM ON FRIDAY (JULY 8) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE BOARD'S SECRETARIAT ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF AMOY PLAZA, 77 NGAU TAU KOK ROAD, KOWLOON.

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EDUCATION DIRECTOR PRAISES BRITISH COUNCIL
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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OWED A GREAT DEAL TO THE BRITISH COUNCIL FOR RUNNING COURSES FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS OF ENGLISH, THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR COLVYN HAYE, SAID TODAY.

MR HAYE WAS PRESENTING GRADUATION CERTIFICATES TO PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS WHO HAD ATTENDED THE MOST RECENT REFRESHER TRAINING COURSE LASTING 12 WEEKS.

REFRESHER COURSES FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY TEACHERS STARTED FOUR YEARS AGO WHEN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE BRITISH COUNCIL COLLABORATED IN AN AMBITIOUS PROGRAMME OF RETRAINING. THERE WAS A COMMON REALISATION THAT THE KEY TO BETTER ENGLISH IN TEACHING LAY IN RETRAINING TEACHERS OF ENGLISH IN LOCAL SCHOOLS.

THE FIRST PILOT COURSE FOR 25 TEACHERS HAS BEEN EXPANDED BY 300 PER CENT AND TO DATE 750 PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND ABOUT 650 SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS HAVE ATTENDED BRITISH COUNCIL COURSES.

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PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE BRITISH COUNCIL, THE DIRECTOR SAID THAT THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION WOULD CARRY THE BURDEN OF TEACHER RETRAINING IN FUTURE YEARS BUT THAT THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO WORK VERY CLOSELY WITH THE BRITISH COUNCIL IN THIS VITAL FIELD.

+WHAT WE DO IS COMPLEMENTARY,+ MR HAYE EXPLAINED. +BUT WE SHALL CONTINUE TO RELY ON THE COUNCIL FOR VITAL INPUT, RESEARCH AND SUPPORT IN THE YEARS AHEAD,+ HE ADDED.

+THE GOVERNMENT IS HAPPY TO PAY FOR THE SERVICES OF THE COUNCIL UNTIL IT IS ABLE TO UNDERWRITE ALL TEACHER RETRAINING IN LANGUAGE,+

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PROPERTY TAX

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A PRESS CONFERENCE TO ANNOUNCE THE NEW PROPERTY TAX ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE HELD AT 4 PM ON FRIDAY (JULY 8) IN THE GIS THEATRE, FIFTH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, CENTRAL.

PRESENT WILL BE THE COMMISSIONER OF INLAND REVENUE, MR VICTOR LADD, AND THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, MR ANTHONY AUYEUNG.

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

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STREET TO BE REOPENED

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KWAI YUE STREET BETWEEN KWAI HEI STREET AND KWAI TAI ROAD IN KWAI CHUNG WILL BE RE-OPENED TO ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND TRAFFIC FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (JULY 8).

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CAUSEWAY BAY CLEARWAY

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MORETON TERRACE, BETWEEN TUNG LO WAN ROAD AND CAUSEWAY ROAD, WILL BE DESIGNATED AS AN URBAN CLEARWAY FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (JULY 8).

UNDER THE ARRANGEMENT, ALL VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS FROM 7 AM TO 12 MID-NIGHT DAILY.

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WATER MAINS WORK

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO ALL PREMISES AND VILLAGES IN SHAM TSENG AND TSING LUNG TAU WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 10 PM ON SATURDAY (JULY 9) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR WATER MAINS WORK.

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