# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1981

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

## GOVERNOR TO VISIT SHENZHEN ECONOMIC ZONE

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AT THE INVITATION OF THE SHENZHEN AUTHORITIES, THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE WILL BE VISITING THE SHENZHEN ECONOMIC ZONE TO SEE INDUSTRIAL AND TOURIST DEVELOPMENTS ON DECEMBER 30 AND 31.

SIR MURRAY WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE SECRETARY FOR CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, AND THE POLITICAL ADVISER, MR ROBIN MCLAREN.

THE PARTY WILL LEAVE BY HOVERFERRY FROM THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT PIER, NEXT TO THE OUTLYING DISTRICT FERRY PIER, AT 9 AM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY). THERE WILL BE A PHOTOGRAPHIC FACILITY AT THE PIER AND REPRESENTATIVES ASSIGNED TO COVER THE EVENT ARE REQUESTED TO MEET GIS OFFICERS THERE AT 8.30 AM.

SIR MURRAY AND HIS PARTY ARE SCHEDULED TO RETURN TO HONG KONG LATE THURSDAY MORNING.

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## PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR NOVEMBER

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY PUBLISHED THE PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR HONG KONG'S VISIBLE TRADE IN NOVEMBER 1981. THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS FOR NOVEMBER WAS $10 984 MILLION, MADE UP OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AT $7 037 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS AT $3 947 MILLION. WITH IMPORTS AT $12 497 MILLION, THE VISIBLE TRADE DEFICIT FOR NOVEMBER WAS $1 513 MILLION.

COMPARED WITH NOVEMBER 1980, THERE WERE THE FOLLOWING INCREASES BY VALUE: $1 144 MILLION OR 19.4 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, $1 013 MILLION OR 34.5 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS, $2 157 MILLION OR 24.4 PER CENT FOR TOTAL EXPORTS AND $1 597 MILLION OR 14.6 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS. THE VISIBLE TRADE +GAP+, THAT IS THE PROPORTION OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS NOT COVERED BY THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS, WAS 12.1 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER THIS YEAR, COMPARED WITH 19.0 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER 1980.

COMMENTING ON THE NOVEMBER TRADE FIGURES, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE GROWTH RATE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF 19.4 PER CENT IN MONEY TERMS WAS EQUIVALENT TO ABOUT 8 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS. THIS, HE SAID, WAS A VERY RESPECTABLE GROWTH RATE CONSIDERING THE GENERALLY UNFAVOURABLE ECONOMIC CONDITIONS PREVAILING IN HONG KONG'S MAIN MARKETS. HE ADDED THAT THE GROWTH RATE OF 8 PER CENT WAS COMPARABLE TO THOSE RECORDED IN RECENT MONTHS AND WAS HIGHER THAN THAT RECORDED IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1981, OF LESS THAN 6 PER CENT.

/AS REGARDS .....

AS REGARDS IMPORTS, THE SPOKESMAN DREW ATTENTION TO THE CONTINUED SLOWING DOWN IN THEIR GROWTH RATE. AS RE-EXPORTS HAVE CONTINUED TO GROW RAPIDLY, THE SLOWING DOWN WAS EVEN MORE MARKED IN RESPECT OF IMPORTS RETAINED IN HONG KONG. THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT FURTHER THAT ACCORDING TO DETAILED BREAKDOWNS OF IMPORT FIGURES UP TO OCTOBER, THE SLOWING DOWN IN THE GROWTH RATE OF RETAINED IMPORTS WAS CONCENTRATED MAINLY ON CONSUMER GOODS. THE GROWTH RATE OF RETAINED IMPORTS OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES HAS IN FACT BEEN ACCELERATING.

COMPARING THE TRADE FLOWS IN THE FIRST ELEVEN MONTHS OF 1981 WITH THOSE IN THE FIRST ELEVEN MONTHS OF 1980, THE GROWTH RATE OF IMPORTS, AT 24.9 PER CENT, WAS ONLY MARGINALLY HIGHER THAN THE GROWTH RATE OF TOTAL EXPORTS, AT 24.3 PER CENT. AS A CONSEQUENCE, THE VISIBLE TRADE +GAP+ ONLY WIDENED SLIGHTLY FROM 11.5 PER CENT IN THE FIRST ELEVEN MONTHS OF 1980 TO 11.9 PER CENT IN THE FIRST ELEVEN MONTHS OF 1981.

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## NEW YEAR'S EVE TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN CENTRAL

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NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE INTRODUCED IN CENTRAL ON NEW YEAR'S EVE AS HEAVY CONGESTION IS EXPECTED IN THE AREA.

FROM 8 PM ON THURSDAY (DECEMBER 31) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING MORNING, A NUMBER OF ROADS WILL BE TEMPORARILY CLOSED AND SEVERAL TRAFFIC DIVERSIONS WILL BE INCLUDED.

ROAD CLOSURES INCLUDE:

* BANK STREET

* ICE HOUSE STREET BETWEEN QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL AND CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL

* PEDDER STREET

* POTTINGER STREET (EXCEPT FOR FRANCHISED BUSES)

* DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL BETWEEN QUEEN VICTORIA STREET AND JACKSON ROAD (EXCEPT FOR FRANCHISED BUSES AND TRAMS)

* DOUGLAS STREET

* CHATER ROAD

/TRAFFIC DIVERSIONS .....

TRAFFIC DIVERSIONS INCLUDE:

* NORTHBOUND ON ICE HOUSE STREET DIVERTED WEST AT QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL

* NORTHBOUND TRAFFIC ON WYNDHAM STREET DIVERTED WEST AT QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL

* EASTBOUND TRAFFIC ON DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL DIVERTED NORTH AT QUEEN VICTORIA STREET

* NORTHBOUND TRAFFIC ON QUEEN VICTORIA STREET BANNED FROM TURNING EAST INTO DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL

* WESTBOUND TRAFFIC IN QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL BANNED FROM TURNING NORTH INTO PEDDER STREET

* WESTBOUND TRAFFIC ON CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL BANNED FROM TURNING SOUTH INTO ICE HOUSE STREET

IN ADDITION, PARKING IN THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 4 PM ON THURSDAY (DECEMBER 31) TO 6 AM ON FRIDAY (JANUARY 1, 1982).

* QUEEN VICTORIA STREET (LOADING AND UNLOADING)

* CHATER ROAD (TAXI STAND)

A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ALSO URGED MOTORISTS TO AVOID CAUSEWAY BAY AREA BECAUSE LARGE CROWDS ARE EXPECTED ON NEW YEAR EVE.

EXTRA POLICE OFFICERS WILL BE ON DUTY TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WERE, MEANWHILE, URGED BY A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN TO EXERCISE THE FULLEST RESTRAINT AND TO SHOW CONSIDERATION FOR OTHERS IF THEY SHOULD BE AMONG THE EXPECTED LARGE CROWDS OUT TO SEE THE HOLIDAY LIGHTS.

+THE SPECIAL LIGHTING DISPLAYS HAVE BEEN SET UP FOR ALL TO ENJOY DURING THE HOLIDAYS,+ HE SAID.

HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THERE WOULD BE MANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE TO VIEW THE LIGHTS IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS. THERE WAS NO NEED, HE SAID, FOR PEOPLE TO RUSH TO VIEW THEM.

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## NOVEMBER CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES

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THE NEW CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) AND THE NEW CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (B) FOR NOVEMBER 1981 WERE 124 AND 123 RESPECTIVELY, EACH BEING THE SAME AS THAT FOR THE PRECEDING MONTH, THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT REPORTED TODAY (TUESDAY).

WHEN COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING MONTH IN 1980, THE NEW C.P.I. (A) INCREASED BY 17 POINTS OR 15.9 PER CENT AND THE NEW C.P.I. (B) BY 16 POINTS OR 15 PER CENT.

DECREASES IN FOOD PRICES IN THE MONTH, ESPECIALLY THOSE OF FRESH VEGETABLES, WERE OFFSET TO A LARGE EXTENT BY INCREASES IN THE PRICES OF NEWSPAPERS AND WINTER CLOTHING.

THE NEW C.P.I. (A) AND C.P.I. (B) ARE BASED ON THE EXPENDITURE PATTERNS OF 50 PER CENT AND 30 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY, OF URBAN HOUSEHOLDS IN HONG KONG, WHICH WERE DERIVED FROM THE 1979/80 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY. AT THAT TIME, THE NEW C.P.I. (A) REFERRED TO HOUSEHOLDS SPENDING BETWEEN $1 000 AND $3 499 A MONTH AND THE NEW C.P.I. (B) TO HOUSEHOLDS SPENDING BETWEEN $3 500 AND $6 499 A MONTH.

THE INDEXES FOR NOVEMBER 1981 IN RESPECT OF THE NINE COMMODITY/SERVICE SECTIONS IN THE TWO CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES ARE GIVEN BELOW, TOGETHER WITH THOSE FOR OCTOBER 1981 AND NOVEMBER 1980.

(AVERAGE DURING THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1979 TO SEPTEMBER 1980 = 100)

| SECTION | NEW C.P.I.(A) | | | NEW C.P.I.(B) | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | NOV 80 | OCT 81 | NOV 81 | NOV 80 | OCT 81 | NOV 81 |
| FOODSTUFFS | 107 | 129 | 126 | 108 | 128 | 126 |
| HOUSING | 104 | 119 | 119 | 105 | 119 | 119 |
| FUEL AND LIGHT | 110 | 139 | 135 | 110 | 139 | 136 |
| ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO (FOR HOME CONSUMPTION) | 104 | 117 | 117 | 104 | 116 | 117 |
| CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR | 109 | 117 | 124 | 109 | 118 | 125 |
| DURABLE GOODS | 102 | 108 | 108 | 102 | 109 | 110 |
| MISCELLANEOUS GOODS | 106 | 112 | 119 | 107 | 113 | 116 |
| TRANSPORT AND VEHICLES | 113 | 134 | 135 | 112 | 131 | 131 |
| SERVICES | 109 | 124 | 125 | 108 | 123 | 124 |
| ALL ITEMS | 107 | 124 | 124 | 107 | 123 | 123 |

/THE INDEX .....

THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS DECREASED BY THREE POINTS IN THE NEW C.P.I. (A) AND BY TWO POINTS IN THE NEW C.P.I. (B). DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF FRESH VEGETABLES, SALT-WATER FISH AND LIVE POULTRY. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF PORK AND MEALS BOUGHT IN RESTAURANTS WENT UP. THE EFFECTS OF MOVEMENTS IN THE RETAIL PRICES OF OTHER FOOD ITEMS ON THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS WERE INSIGNIFICANT.

THE INDEX FOR FUEL AND LIGHT DECREASED BY FOUR POINTS IN THE NEW C.P.I. (A) AND BY THREE POINTS IN THE NEW C.P.I. (B) AS A RESULT OF LOWER CHARGES FOR ELECTRICITY.

THE SEVEN-POINT INCREASE IN THE INDEX FOR CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR IN BOTH THE NEW C.P.I. (A) AND C.P.I. (B) WAS ATTRIBUTABLE TO HIGHER PRICES FOR WINTER OUTERCLOTHING AND CLOTHING MATERIALS.

THE INDEX FOR MISCELLANEOUS GOODS INCREASED BY SEVEN POINTS IN THE NEW C.P.I. (A) AND BY THREE POINTS IN THE NEW C.P.I. (B) BECAUSE OF HIGHER PRICES FOR NEWSPAPERS, MEDICINES, TOILET REQUISITES AND COSMETICS. THE EFFECT OF THE INCREASES WAS PARTLY OFFSET BY DECREASES IN THE PRICES OF JEWELLERY. THE DIFFERENT RATES OF INCREASE RECORDED BETWEEN THE NEW C.P.I. (A) AND C.P.I. (B) WERE MAINLY A RESULT OF THE DIFFERENT WEIGHTS ASSIGNED TO THEM FOR NEWSPAPERS AND JEWELLERY.

THE INDEX FOR SERVICES INCREASED BY ONE POINT IN BOTH THE NEW C.P.I. (A) AND C.P.I. (B) AS A RESULT OF HIGHER CHARGES FOR PACKAGE TOURS, MEDICAL TREATMENT, HAIRDRESSING AND HOUSEHOLD SERVICES.

PRICE MOVEMENTS IN OTHER SECTIONS WERE INSIGNIFICANT.

DETAILS OF THESE PRICE MOVEMENTS ARE GIVEN IN THE +CONSUMER PRICE INDEX REPORT+ FOR NOVEMBER 1981, WHICH IS NOW AVAILABLE ON SALE AT $2 A COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, CONNAUGHT PLACE, HONG KONG.

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## PAYROLL STATISTICS

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) PUBLISHED FOR THE FIRST TIME STATISTICS ON PAYROLL OUTLAYS WHICH SHOW THE AMOUNT OF CASH PAYMENTS MADE BY EMPLOYERS TO THEIR EMPLOYEES.

MONTHLY PAYROLL STATISTICS ARE OBTAINED FROM QUARTERLY SURVEYS OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL COVERING MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY, INCLUDING MANUFACTURING= WHOLESALE/ RETAIL, IMPORT/EXPORT AND RESTAURANTS/HOTELS= AND FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES.

PAYROLL FIGURES AVAILABLE TO DATE COVER THE PERIOD FROM APRIL 1980 TO JUNE 1981. QUARTERLY TOTALS FOR MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS ARE GIVEN IN THE FOLLOWING TABLE :

/TOTAL QUARTERLY .....

## TOTAL QUARTERLY PAYROLLS IN

| SECTOR OF THE ECONOMY | SECOND QUARTER 1980 | THIRD QUARTER 1980 | FOURTH QUARTER 1980 | FIRST QUARTER 1981 | SECOND QUARTER 1981 | % CHANGE SECOND QUARTER 1981 ON SECOND QUARTER 1980 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | HK$MN | HK$MN | HK$MN | HK$MN | HK$MN | |
| MANUFACTURING | 3 919 | 4 074 | 4 228 | 4 704 | 4 654 | +18.8 |
| WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS | 1 981 | 2 085 | 2 339 | 2 847 | 2 438 | +23.1 |
| FINANCE, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES | 909 | 964 | 1 211 | 1 282 | 1 241 | +36.5 |

TOTAL PAYROLL OUTLAYS ROSE IN ALL SECTORS THROUGHOUT THE PERIOD COVERED. THE RISE WAS PARTICULARLY RAPID IN THE FINANCE, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR, WHICH REGISTERED A 36.5 PER CENT INCREASE IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1981 AS COMPARED TO THE SAME TIME A YEAR AGO. OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE INCREASES IN THE MANUFACTURING AND WHOLESALE/RETAIL, IMPORT/EXPORT AND RESTAURANTS/HOTELS SECTORS WERE 18.8 PER CENT AND 23.1 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY. IT SHOULD ALSO BE NOTED THAT THE PEAK LEVELS OCCURRED AROUND THE FOURTH AND THE FIRST QUARTERS WHEN DOUBLE PAY AND YEAR-END BONUSES WERE PAID BY EMPLOYERS.

THE AMOUNT OF PAYROLL OUTLAYS IS AFFECTED BY A NUMBER OF FACTORS, SUCH AS THE LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT AND THE LEVEL OF WAGE RATE. TO DISCOUNT FOR CHANGES IN PAYROLL OUTLAYS ARISING PURELY FROM CHANGES IN EMPLOYMENT LEVELS, A NOMINAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED IS PREPARED. THIS GIVES AN INDICATION OF THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES OF GROSS CASH EARNINGS PER PERSON ENGAGED IN PARTICULAR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY. FURTHER, TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF CHANGES IN PURCHASING POWER, THE NOMINAL INDEX IS ADJUSTED BY THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) TO GIVE THE REAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED. THESE INDICES REFER ONLY TO THE THIRD MONTH OF EACH QUARTER, AS DATA ON THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED ARE AVAILABLE ONLY EVERY THREE MONTHS IN MARCH, JUNE, SEPTEMBER AND DECEMBER. MOVEMENTS IN THESE TWO INDICES IN MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY ARE SUMMARISED IN THE TABLE BELOW :

/SECTOR OF .....

| SECTOR OF THE ECONOMY | NOMINAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED (JUNE 1980 = 100) | | | | REAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED (JUNE 1980 = 100) | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | SEP 80 | DEC 80 | MAR 81 | JUN 81 | SEP 80 | DEC 80 | MAR 81 | JUN 81 |
| MANU-FACTURING | 104.7 | 114.8 | 115.3 | 119.1 | 99.8 | 107.7 | 102.9 | 102.9 |
| WHOLESALE/ RETAIL, IMPORT/ EXPORT AND RES-TAURANTS/ HOTELS | 104.1 | 127.4 | 116.5 | 119.1 | 99.2 | 119.5 | 103.9 | 102.9 |
| FINANCE, INSURANCE REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES | 100.6 | 152.2 | 111.9 | 117.2 | 95.9 | 142.8 | 99.8 | 101.3 |

AS COMPARED WITH JUNE 1980, THE NOMINAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED IN JUNE 1981 REGISTERED INCREASES OF BETWEEN 17 PER CENT AND 19 PER CENT IN ALL THREE SECTORS. THE INCREASE IN THE NOMINAL INDEX IN THE FINANCE, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR, AT 17.2 PER CENT, WAS MUCH LESS THAN THE INCREASE IN TOTAL PAYROLL BECAUSE THE LARGE INCREASE IN TOTAL PAYROLL IN THIS SECTOR WAS IN PART DUE TO RAPID GROWTH IN EMPLOYMENT. AFTER ADJUSTING THE NOMINAL INDEX TO INDICATE CHANGES IN PURCHASING POWER, THE REAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED SHOWED A MUCH MORE MODERATE GROWTH. AS COMPARED WITH JUNE 1980, THE INCREASES IN THE INDEX WERE 2.9 PER CENT, 2.9 PER CENT AND 1.3 PER CENT IN THE MANUFACTURING- WHOLESALE/RETAIL, IMPORT/EXPORT AND RESTAURANTS/HOTELS- AND FINANCE, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTORS RESPECTIVELY.

ACCORDING TO THE DEFINITION ADOPTED IN THE SURVEY, PAYROLL OUTLAYS INCLUDE WAGES AND SALARIES- OVERTIME PAY- VARIOUS CASH ALLOWANCES, BONUSES AND GRATUITIES- SEVERANCE AND TERMINATION PAY AND PAY IN LIEU OF LEAVE, ETC. EMPLOYERS' CONTRIBUTIONS TO SOCIAL SECURITY AND PENSION SCHEMES AND ALSO BENEFITS RECEIVED BY EMPLOYEES UNDER THESE SCHEMES ARE HOWEVER EXCLUDED. ALSO EXCLUDED ARE PROFITS EARNED BY PROPRIETORS AND BUSINESS PARTNERS, PENSIONS, PAYMENTS TO OUTWORKERS AND PAYMENTS IN KIND. CONSEQUENTLY TOTAL PAYROLL SHOULD BE INTERPRETED AS THE AMOUNT OF DIRECT CASH PAYMENTS EMPLOYEES RECEIVE FROM THEIR EMPLOYERS.

/THE CENSUS AND .....

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT WOULD LIKE TO CAUTION USERS OF PAYROLL STATISTICS NOT TO CONFUSE +PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED+ WITH OTHER QUANTITIES LIKE AVERAGE INCOME OF PAID EMPLOYEES. IN ARRIVING AT THE FORMER QUANTITY, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF +PERSONS ENGAGED+ ON A PARTICULAR REFERENCE DATE IS USED. APART FROM PAID EMPLOYEES, +PERSONS ENGAGED+ ALSO INCLUDES WORKING PROPRIETORS, BUSINESS PARTNERS, FAMILY MEMBERS ETC. WHO NORMALLY ARE NOT ON THE PAYROLL. MOREOVER, THE +NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED+ ON THE REFERENCE DATE CAN ONLY BE CONSIDERED AS AN ESTIMATE OF THE AVERAGE LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT DURING THE MONTH IN WHICH IT FALLS. CONSEQUENTLY, THE TIME PERIOD COVERED BY EMPLOYMENT FIGURES IS NOT THE SAME AS THAT COVERED BY MONTHLY PAYROLL FIGURES, WHICH ARE OBTAINED BY AGGREGATING CASH PAYMENTS MADE OVER THE WHOLE MONTH. FURTHERMORE, AS FAR AS INCOME IS CONCERNED, EMPLOYEES' INCOME USUALLY IS NOT JUST LIMITED TO CASH PAYMENTS FOR WORK AS REFLECTED IN PAYROLL OUTLAYS. FINALLY, BECAUSE OF THE FACT THAT +PERSONS ENGAGED+ INCLUDES SOME WHO ARE NOT ON THE PAYROLL AND THE RELATIVE MAGNITUDE OF SUCH PERSONS VARIES BETWEEN SECTORS, PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED CANNOT BE USED TO COMPARE AVERAGE EARNINGS OF PAID EMPLOYEES BETWEEN SECTORS.

THE DEPARTMENT ALSO WOULD LIKE TO DRAW THE PUBLIC'S ATTENTION TO THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PAYROLL STATISTICS AND WAGE STATISTICS WHICH ARE PUBLISHED AT HALF-YEARLY INTERVALS. ESSENTIALLY, WAGE STATISTICS ARE CONCERNED WITH WAGE RATES OR RATES OF PAY. THEY INDICATE THE AMOUNT OF REMUNERATION (INCLUDING FRINGE BENEFITS) WORKERS RECEIVE PER UNIT OF TIME WORKED. ON THE OTHER HAND, PAYROLL STATISTICS ARE CONCERNED WITH THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF CASH EARNINGS WORKERS RECEIVE DURING A PARTICULAR PERIOD. FURTHERMORE, SINCE THE DATA ARE DERIVED FROM TWO DIFFERENT SURVEYS DESIGNED TO SERVE DIFFERENT PURPOSES, ITEMS OF EMPLOYEE EARNINGS COVERED IN THE TWO SURVEYS ARE ALSO DIFFERENT TO SOME EXTENT. FOR EXAMPLE, CERTAIN BENEFITS IN KIND (AS OPPOSED TO PAYMENTS IN CASH) SUCH AS FREE MEALS AND TRANSPORTATION ARE REFLECTED IN WAGE RATES INCLUDING FRINGE BENEFITS BUT ARE LEFT OUT IN PAYROLL FIGURES. ON THE OTHER HAND, CERTAIN IRREGULAR ITEMS SUCH AS OVERTIME ALLOWANCE, SEVERANCE PAY AND PAY IN LIEU OF LEAVE ARE CONSIDERED TO BE PART OF CASH EARNINGS BUT ARE EXCLUDED FROM THE CALCULATION OF WAGE RATES.

ALTHOUGH THE WAGE RATE DETERMINES TO SOME EXTENT THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF CASH EARNINGS A WORKER RECEIVES DURING A SPECIFIED PERIOD, IT IS NOT THE SOLE DETERMINANT. TOTAL CASH EARNINGS DEPEND UPON THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF WORK PERFORMED (SAY, IN NUMBER OF DAYS OR HOURS FOR TIME-RATED WORKERS), THE CORRESPONDING RATES OF PAY (WAGE RATES) AND ANY OTHER SPECIAL PAYMENTS APPLICABLE. THEREFORE, A WAGE RATE INCREASE DOES NOT NECESSARILY LEAD TO A CORRESPONDING INCREASE IN TOTAL EARNINGS AS REFLECTED IN PAYROLL OUTLAYS. IN FACT, A DECREASE IN HOURS WORKED MAY CAUSE TOTAL EARNINGS TO DROP DESPITE A WAGE RATE INCREASE. SIMILARLY, AN INCREASE IN TOTAL PAYROLL OUTLAY OR PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED DOES NOT NECESSARILY IMPLY A CORRESPONDING INCREASE IN WAGE RATES.

PAYROLL STATISTICS ARE CONTAINED IN THE REPORT OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL STATISTICS PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT AND WILL SOON BE AVAILABLE ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE. ENQUIRIES CAN BE DIRECTED TO THE EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

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## EXAMINATION OF PRIVATE CARS

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ALL PRIVATE CARS MANUFACTURED PRIOR TO JANUARY 1, 1971, WILL REQUIRE A CERTIFICATE OF ROADWORTHINESS BEFORE A NEW LICENCE IS ISSUED, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE INSPECTIONS WILL BEGIN AT KOWLOON BAY VEHICLE EXAMINATION CENTRE AS FROM FEBRUARY 1, 1982.

THE MANDATORY REQUIREMENT OF A CERTIFICATE WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON APRIL 1, 1982.

THIS CERTIFICATE MUST BE ISSUED WITHIN FOUR MONTHS BEFORE THE DATE ON WHICH THE NEW LICENCE IS TO COMMENCE.

APPLICATION FORMS FOR EXAMINATION APPOINTMENT MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT'S LICENSING OFFICES AND VEHICLE EXAMINATION CENTRES.

DETAILS OF THE EXAMINATION AND DIRECTIONS TO THE KOWLOON BAY VEHICLE EXAMINATION CENTRE ARE ALSO AVAILABLE FROM THESE OFFICES.

A FEE OF $60 WILL BE CHARGED FOR EACH EXAMINATION. THE PURPOSE OF THE EXAMINATION IS TO ASSESS THAT THE CAR IS ROAD-WORTHY AND COMPLIES WITH THE ROAD TRAFFIC (CONSTRUCTION AND USE) REGULATIONS.

APPOINTMENT TIMES WILL BE RETURNED BY POST TO THE REGISTERED OWNER OF THE VEHICLE WHO SHOULD ALLOW A SUFFICIENT PERIOD TO COVER DELAYS AND THE POSSIBILITY OF A RE-EXAMINATION BEING REQUIRED.

ENQUIRIES REGARDING THIS INSPECTION SCHEME SHOULD BE MADE TO THE KOWLOON BAY VEHICLE EXAMINATION CENTRE ON 3-7597522.

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## TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT IN BROADWOOD ROAD

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A SECTION OF BROADWOOD ROAD IN HAPPY VALLEY NEAR HAPPY VIEW TERRACE WILL REMAIN CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FOR ANOTHER MONTH.

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BUDDHA STATUE EARTH-BREAKING CEREMONY

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THE REGIONAL SECRETARY (NEW TERRITORIES), MR IAN MACPHERSON, OFFICIATED AT THE EARTH-BREAKING CEREMONY FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SOUTH-EAST ASIA'S TALLEST BUDDHA STATUE ON LANTAU ISLAND TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE STATUE WILL RISE MORE THAN 35 METRES (ABOUT 110 FEET) ABOVE THE NGONG PING PLATEAU OVERLOOKING PO LIN MONASTERY.

+I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT VISITORS WILL COME FROM FAR AND WIDE TO MARVEL AT IT AND TO ENJOY THE SURROUNDING PLEASURE GARDEN,+ MR MACPHERSON SAID.

+THE PO LIN MONASTERY WAS FOUNDED ABOUT 100 YEARS AGO AND IS A FAVOURITE PLACE FOR LOCAL BUDDHISTS TO WORSHIP.

+THE MONASTERY HAS IN RECENT YEARS TAKEN AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN COMMUNITY WORK AND EVENTS. A SIGNIFICANT EXAMPLE IS THE RUNNING OF THE BUDDHIST FAT HO MEMORIAL COLLEGE IN TAI O,+ HE SAID.

THERE WERE TWO MAIN REASONS WHY PEOPLE CAME TO PO LIN MONASTERY, HE SAID.

ON THE ONE HAND THERE WAS THE RELIGIOUS INSPIRATION WHICH HAD MADE IT A FAVOURITE PLACE FOR WORSHIP AND CONTEMPLATION= ON THE OTHER HAND THERE WAS THE COOL AND PLEASANT COUNTRYSIDE WITH ITS MANY THINGS TO SEE AND DO.

+THESE TWO SIDES TO THE CHARACTER OF THE MONASTERY WILL BE EPITOMISED IN THE STATUE WHICH WILL FILL A DUAL ROLE OF RELIGIOUS MONUMENT AND TOURIST ATTRACTION,+ MR MACPHERSON SAID.

HE SAID, IN CONCEIVING AND PLANNING THE STATUE, THE DIRECTORS OF THE PO LIN MONASTERY AND THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE HAD DISPLAYED THE IMAGINATION AND THE ENTERPRISE FOR WHICH HONG KONG WAS FAMOUS.

THE STATUE, WITH A BASE DIAMETER OF 52 METRES (ABOUT 170 FEET), WILL COST MORE THAN $20 MILLION TO BUILD AND BE COMPLETED IN FOUR OR FIVE YEARS. THE MONEY IS BEING CONTRIBUTED BY HONG KONG BUDDHISTS.

IT WILL BE MADE OF A REINFORCED CONCRETE FRAMEWORK AND COVERED WITH GRANITE.

IT WILL BE IN SITTING FORM ABOVE A THREE-STOREY CHINESE-STYLE ALTAR WITH A 92-METRE (ABOUT 300 FEET) BASE DIAMETER.

THE PROJECT INCLUDES CONSTRUCTION OF A SURROUNDING PLEASURE GARDEN AND OTHER LANDSCAPING, OCCUPYING A TOTAL AREA OF ABOUT 7 000 SQUARE METRES.

STEPS WILL BE PROVIDED UP TO THE BASE OF THE STATUE.

BEFORE THE START OF TODAY'S CEREMONY, A PRAYER AND WATER SPRINKLING CEREMONY WAS HELD BY THE REVERENDS OF THE MONASTERY.

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REMEMBER TO REGISTER BIRTHS ON TIME, PUBLIC ARE ADVISED

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ABOUT 12 OUT OF EVERY HUNDRED BIRTHS ARE NOT REGISTERED WITHIN THE STATUTORY 42 DAYS, ACCORDING TO FIGURES OBTAINED FROM THE REGISTRAR OF BIRTHS.

LAST YEAR, OF THE 85 406 REGISTERED BIRTHS, ONLY 88 PER CENT WERE REGISTERED WITHIN 42 DAYS.

PEOPLE WHO DO NOT REGISTER WITHIN THE 42 DAYS, BUT DO SO WITHIN ONE YEAR OF THE CHILD'S BIRTH, HAVE TO PAY A FEE OF $5.

THIS FEE IS RAISED TO $30 AFTER ONE YEAR. BUT BY THEN A BIRTH CAN BE REGISTERED ONLY WITH THE CONSENT OF THE REGISTRAR OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE REGISTRAR'S OFFICE SAID.

PARENTS ARE THEREFORE ADVISED THAT THEY WILL SAVE A GREAT DEAL OF TROUBLE AND EXPENSE FOR THEMSELVES LATER IF THEY ADHERE AS CLOSELY TO THE LAW AS POSSIBLE.

+THIS IS PARTICULARLY SO WHEN A CHILD COMES OF SCHOOL AGE, MUST OBTAIN AN IDENTITY CARD, OR REQUIRES A TRAVEL DOCUMENT,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

THE PROCESS OF REGISTRATION IS QUITE SIMPLE. PARENTS SHOULD BRING ALONG THEIR IDENTITY CARDS, AND IF AVAILABLE, THEIR MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES AS WELL.

HOWEVER, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE CAUTIONED ABOUT THE NEED FOR CORRECT INFORMATION TO BE FURNISHED DURING THE APPLICATION, FOR IT IS AN OFFENCE TO GIVE FALSE INFORMATION AND THE PENALTY CAN AMOUNT TO A FINE OF $250 ON SUMMARY CONVICTION AND UP TO SEVEN YEARS' IMPRISONMENT IF A CASE IS HEARD IN A HIGHER COURT.

PEOPLE WHO ARE IN DOUBT ABOUT FURNISHING INFORMATION IN THE APPLICATION OF BIRTH REGISTRATION SHOULD APPROACH THE ENQUIRIES SECTION OF THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT FOR ADVICE.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT OFFSPRING OF UNMARRIED COUPLES COULD ALSO BE REGISTERED FOR BIRTH CERTIFICATES.

AND THE PROCEDURE FOR SUCH CASES IS QUITE SIMPLE - THE PARENTS NEED ONLY GO TO THE REGISTRATION OFFICE AND SIGN THE DOCUMENTS TOGETHER.

IN CASES OF UNKNOWN PARENTAGE, SUCH AS WHEN INFANTS OR CHILDREN ARE FOUND ABANDONED IN THE STREETS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, SUCH CHILDREN ARE GIVEN BIRTH CERTIFICATES ON DETERMINATION BY A DOCTOR THAT THEY ARE UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

THE NAMES OF THE CHILDREN WILL BE GIVEN BY THE INSTITUTION WHICH LOOKS AFTER THEM OR ADOPTS THEM, AND FOR REGISTRATION IN SUCH CASES. NO NAMES ARE REQUIRED UNDER THE 'PARENTS' COLUMN.

/DISCUSSING ANOTHER .....

DISCUSSING ANOTHER MATTER WHICH CREATES PROBLEMS, THE SPOKESMAN ADVISED PEOPLE NOT TO LAMINATE THEIR CERTIFICATES WITH PLASTIC COVERS.

THIS IS BECAUSE REGISTRATION OFFICERS MUST ADD OR AMEND DETAILS ON THE FRONT AND THE BACK OF THE CERTIFICATES WHEN PEOPLE APPLY FOR VARIOUS DOCUMENTS, SUCH AS IDENTITY CARDS AND TRAVEL DOCUMENTS.

THE LAMINATION WILL PREVENT THIS BEING DONE, AND WILL THEN HAVE TO BE REMOVED, HE EXPLAINED.

PEOPLE MAY OBTAIN CERTIFIED CERTIFICATES FROM THE REGISTRY AT A COST OF $5, HE SAID.

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## TOP ORCHESTRA TO PLAY AT TSUEN WAN ARTS FESTIVAL

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SWITZERLAND'S ZURICH TONHALLE ORCHESTRA WILL PLAY ON FEBRUARY 6, 1982 AT THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL AUDITORIUM AT 8 PM, AS PART OF THE 4TH TSUEN WAN ARTS FESTIVAL AS WELL AS A CONTRIBUTION PROGRAMME FROM THE HONG KONG ARTS FESTIVAL SOCIETY.

FORMED IN 1868, THE ZURICH TONHALLE ORCHESTRA IS ONE OF THE BEST IN THE WORLD AND HAS IMPRESSED AUDIENCES EVERYWHERE.

UNDER THE BATON OF FERDINAND LEITNER, THE ORCHESTRA WILL PLAY BEETHOVEN'S +CONCERTO FOR VIOLIN AND ORCHESTRA IN D OP. 61+, HUBER'S +LITANIA INSTRUMENTALIS+ AND HAYDN'S +SYMPHONY NO. 102 IN B FLAT+.

THE VIOLIN SOLOIST WILL BE MIRIAM FRIED, THE FIRST WOMAN TO WIN FIRST PRIZE IN THE QUEEN ELIZABETH OF BELGIUM COMPETITION.

TICKETS AT $10, $20 AND $30 ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL BOX OFFICE, SPACE MUSEUM ASTRONOMY BOOKSHOP, AS WELL AS THE NEW TERRITORIES MOBILE LIBRARY.

THE TSUEN WAN ARTS FESTIVAL DIARIES ARE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION AT THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL, THE HONG KONG ARTS CENTRE, THE MUSIC OFFICE, THE BRITISH COUNCIL, ALLIANCE FRANCAISE, GOETHE INSTITUTE, NEW TERRITORIES PUBLIC LIBRARIES, ALL DISTRICT OFFICES OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION.

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## NT TAXI LICENCES BALLOT

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A PUBLIC BALLOT WILL BE HELD AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (DECEMBER 30) TO DETERMINE THE ALLOCATION OF TWO NEW TERRITORIES TAXI LICENCES TO APPLICANTS OFFERING AN IDENTICAL UNIT PREMIUM OF $35 000.

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT HAD RECENTLY INVITED TENDERS FOR 207 NEW TERRITORIES TAXI LICENCES.

OF THESE, 205 WERE ALLOCATED TO TENDERS OFFERING A UNIT PREMIUM IN EXCESS OF $35 000.

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## WATER VALVE WORK

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN TUEN MUN WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR NINE HOURS FROM 10 PM ON THURSDAY (DECEMBER 31) TO 7 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY (JANUARY 1) FOR VALVE REPLACEMENT WORK.

AFFECTED WILL BE PREMISES AT AREAS 37A, 37B, 10 AND 34, TUEN MUN NEW TOWN, ON TING ESTATE, YAU OI ESTATE, SAN FAT ESTATE INCLUDING THE TUEN MUN TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA AND TUEN MUN CLINIC.

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