



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1987

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FUTURE IN OUR HANDS -- GOVERNOR

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NOW THE FRAMEWORK FOR OUR FUTURE IS IN PLACE, IT IS UP TO US ALL TO MAKE SURE IT WORKS, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT A CEREMONY MARKING THE OPENING OF THE REGIONAL MEETING OF THE ASIA PACIFIC COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE, SIR DAVID SAID: "THE JOINT DECLARATION SEEKS TO ENSURE THAT, WHEN HONG KONG BECOMES A SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION OF CHINA ON JULY 1, 1997, ALL THOSE FACTORS WHICH HAVE MADE HONG KONG'S SUCCESS POSSIBLE WILL CONTINUE.

"THESE INCLUDE, FOR EXAMPLE, CONTINUITY OF THE FREE ENTERPRISE CAPITALIST ECONOMY; CONTINUITY OF HONG KONG'S STATUS AS A SEPARATE CUSTOMS TERRITORY; CONTINUITY OF THE LEGAL SYSTEM; FREE CONVERTIBILITY OF THE HONG KONG CURRENCY WITHOUT EXCHANGE CONTROLS; AND GUARANTEES OF PERSONAL RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS."

SIR DAVID SAID QUESTIONS WERE, OF COURSE, STILL ASKED ABOUT HOW ALL THESE ARRANGEMENTS WOULD WORK OUT IN PRACTICE.

"BUT THE IMPORTANT POINT IS THAT THE FRAMEWORK FOR THE FUTURE IS NOW IN PLACE. IT IS NOW UP TO US ALL TO MAKE SURE THAT IT WORKS," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID NOTED THAT GOOD PROGRESS WAS ALREADY BEING MADE IN IMPLEMENTING THE PROVISIONS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION, CITING HONG KONG'S STATUS AS A SEPARATE CONTRACTING PARTY TO THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE AS WELL AS ITS MEMBERSHIP OF THE CUSTOMS COOPERATION COUNCIL.

TURNING TO TRADE, THE GOVERNOR STRESSED: "WE IN HONG KONG ARE FIRM BELIEVERS IN FREE TRADE."

HE SAID DURING HIS VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES LATER THIS MONTH HE WOULD MEET ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS, CONGRESSMEN AND BUSINESS LEADERS.

"ONE OF THE MESSAGES THAT I SHALL TRY TO GET ACROSS IS THE OPENNESS OF HONG KONG'S ECONOMY AND THE SCOPE FOR EXPANSION IN OUR BILATERAL TRADE AND ECONOMIC TIES," HE SAID.

ON HONG KONG'S CLOSE ECONOMIC TIES WITH THE U.S., SIR DAVID SAID: "LAST YEAR THE U.S. WAS OUR LARGEST OVERSEAS MARKET AND OUR FOURTH MOST IMPORTANT SUPPLIER.

"IT WAS THE SINGLE LARGEST SOURCE OF OVERSEAS INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG."

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HE NOTED THAT AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN WERE VERY ACTIVE IN OUR SERVICES SECTOR, ADDING THAT U.S. BANKS, FOR EXAMPLE, CONSTITUTED THE SECOND LARGEST GROUP OF FOREIGN BANKS IN HONG KONG.

"DESPITE ITS SMALL SIZE, HONG KONG IS A VALUABLE MARKET FOR U.S. EXPORTS," SIR DAVID SAID.

"IN 1986 WE IMPORTED ABOUT U.S.\$3 BILLION WORTH OF U.S. GOODS."

THIS MEANT THAT EVERY PERSON IN HONG KONG BOUGHT ABOUT U.S.\$521 WORTH OF U.S. GOODS LAST YEAR, WHILE IN THE EEC THE CORRESPONDING FIGURE WAS U.S.\$157 AND IN JAPAN IT WAS U.S.\$189, HE NOTED.

"IT MAY ALSO SURPRISE SOME OF YOU TO KNOW THAT HONG KONG IS THE SECOND LARGEST ASIAN INVESTOR IN THE U.S.," THE GOVERNOR SAID.

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UPSURGE OF INVESTMENT PROVES A POINT - TSAO

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THE SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND INFORMATION, MR PETER TSAO, REITERATED THAT ALL INDICATIONS IN HONG KONG POINTED TO A SMOOTH TRANSITION TO 1997 AND EVERY LIKELIHOOD THAT HONG KONG WOULD CONTINUE TO FUNCTION AS IT WAS DOING NOW.

"THIS CONFIDENCE IS MIRRORED IN THE MASSIVE UPSURGE OF CAPITAL INVESTMENT IN THE TERRITORY SINCE THE SIGNING OF THE JOINT DECLARATION," MR TSAO SAID WHEN HE ADDRESSED THE HONG KONG BUSINESS ASSOCIATION OF THE MID-WEST IN CHICAGO ON WEDNESDAY (CHICAGO TIME).

NOTING THAT MUCH OF THIS INVESTMENT WILL NOT BEAR FRUIT TO INVESTORS UNTIL WELL BEYOND 1997, MR TSAO SAID IT WAS NOTEWORTHY THAT A VERY CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF IT CAME FROM CHINA.

"IF THIS ALL-ROUND CONFIDENCE PROVES TO BE MISPLACED IT MEANS THAT AN AWFUL LOT OF HITHERTO-WISE INVESTORS FROM AROUND THE WORLD HAVE GOT IT WRONG," HE SAID.

HE DREW THE ATTENTION OF HONG KONG BUSINESSMEN IN THE UNITED STATES TO THE FACT THAT SOME MEDIA REPORTS MIGHT HAVE PRESENTED A DISTORTED PICTURE ABOUT HONG KONG.

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"HONG KONG'S IMPRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT HAS NOT BEEN WITHOUT ITS DETRACTORS. ITS ENVIABLE SUCCESS MAKES FOR A GOOD STORY BUT POOR NEWS. JOURNALISTS SEEM THEREFORE TO BE OBLIGED TO 'KNOCK' ITS SUCCESS BY DREAMING UP DRAMATIC 'NEWS ITEMS', MOST OF WHICH ARE DERIVED FROM THE SO-CALLED 1997 SYNDROME," HE SAID.

COMMENTING ON ALLEGATIONS THAT 'HONG KONG IS SUFFERING FROM INCREASING BRAIN DRAIN' AND 'HONG KONG FACES MASS EMIGRATION', MR TSAO ADMITTED THAT IT IS A FACT THAT SOME ARE EMIGRATING, BUT NOTED THAT A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER HAVE RETURNED.

"WE ARE ALSO FORTUNATE IN THAT OUR ECONOMY AND STRATEGIC POSITION ALLOWS US TO OFFSET ANY LOCAL LOSS WITH AN INCREASING NUMBER OF 'OVERSEAS BRAINS', MANY OF WHOM ARE AMERICAN," HE SAID.

ON THE COMMENT THAT HONG KONG IS FACING A HEAVY CAPITAL OUTFLOW, MR TSAO REMARKED THAT IT WAS A COMMON FEATURE OF ANY STRONG ECONOMY TO DIVERSIFY ITS INVESTMENTS.

"OUR OUTFLOW HAS BEEN MORE THAN BALANCED BY A MARKED INCREASE OF FOREIGN CAPITAL COMING INTO HONG KONG. THE BULK OF HONG KONG'S OUTWARD INVESTMENT HAS BEEN TO CHINA.

"IT DEFIES LOGIC TO SAY THAT MONEY IS LEAVING HONG KONG BECAUSE OF THE IMMINENCE OF 1997, WHEN THE BULK OF THAT MONEY IS GOING TO CHINA. MONEY IS NOT RUNNING AWAY FOR FEAR OF CHINA. MONEY IS RUNNING INTO CHINA," HE SAID.

REFERRING TO CLAIMS BY SOME CYNICS THAT HONG KONG IS ADMINISTERED BY A 'LAME-DUCK' ADMINISTRATION CONSTANTLY LOOKING OVER ITS SHOULDER TOWARDS ITS FUTURE MASTER, CHINA, MR TSAO ASSURED HIS AUDIENCE CATEGORICALLY THAT THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT IS COMMITTED TO RUNNING HONG KONG UNTIL JUNE 30, 1997 IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF ITS PEOPLE.

"GOVERNMENT HAS COMMITTED ITSELF TO MASSIVE INFRASTRUCTURAL INVESTMENTS IN THE FORM OF PORT EXPANSION, A NEW UNIVERSITY, ROAD AND RAIL IMPROVEMENTS AND POSSIBLY A NEW AIRPORT. ALL OF THESE INVESTMENTS REPRESENT A COMMITMENT WHICH GOES WELL BEYOND 1997," MR TSAO SAID.

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IMPROVED BENEFITS FOR ELDERLY

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS PROPOSED A PACKAGE OF SOCIAL WELFARE BENEFITS TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF THE ELDERLY WHO NEED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

THIS WAS ANNOUNCED BY THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MR JOHN CHAMBERS, TODAY (THURSDAY) AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TO ELABORATE ON VARIOUS SOCIAL WELFARE AND RELATED SUBJECTS COVERED IN THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL YESTERDAY.

HE POINTED OUT THAT ONE OF THE PROPOSALS IS TO LOWER THE MINIMUM AGE ELIGIBLE FOR THE OLD AGE ALLOWANCE FROM 70 TO 65 IN STAGES AND TO RAISE THE RATE OF ALLOWANCE PAID TO THOSE WHO ARE OVER 70.

"SECONDLY, WE PROPOSE THAT A HIGHER RATE OF DISABILITY ALLOWANCE SHOULD BE PAID TO PEOPLE WHO NEED TO BE LOOKED AFTER BY SOMEONE ELSE ON A FULL-TIME BASIS. THERE ARE ALSO A NUMBER OF FAIRLY MODEST IMPROVEMENTS TO THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SCHEME WHICH WILL HELP RECIPIENTS OF SOCIAL SECURITY GENERALLY, RATHER THAN THE ELDERLY AS SUCH," HE SAID.

IN ADDITION, IT IS PROPOSED TO INTRODUCE MEASURES TO PROTECT THE ASSETS OF PROVIDENT FUNDS FOR THE BENEFIT OF EMPLOYEES, AND TO EXTEND THE LONG SERVICE PAYMENT SCHEME TO COVER THOSE WHO HAVE RETIRED BECAUSE OF AGE OR ILL HEALTH. AT PRESENT, THE LONG SERVICE PAYMENT SCHEME ONLY COVERS WORKERS WHO ARE DISMISSED.

MR CHAMBERS REITERATED THAT THE DECISION NOT TO PROCEED WITH THE PROPOSAL TO SET UP A CENTRAL PROVIDENT FUND OR TO MAKE INDIVIDUAL PROVIDENT FUNDS COMPULSORY WAS MADE ON THE GROUND THAT EITHER OF THESE MEASURES COULD HAVE SERIOUS ADVERSE EFFECTS ON THE ECONOMY.

"IN ANY CASE, MANY OF THOSE WHOSE NEEDS ARE GREATEST WOULD BENEFIT LEAST, BECAUSE THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO BUILD UP A SUBSTANTIAL SUM IN A PROVIDENT FUND.

"MOREOVER, A PROVIDENT FUND NEEDS A LENGTHY PERIOD IN WHICH TO BUILD UP TO A LEVEL WHERE BENEFITS TO INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS ARE WORTHWHILE," HE SAID.

HE SAID THAT NO-ONE WHO HAS ALREADY RETIRED WOULD BENEFIT, AND EVEN IF A FUND WAS SET UP TOMORROW, IT WOULD NOT PROVIDE MUCH HELP TO THOSE WHO ARE AT PRESENT OVER 45.

"WE BELIEVE THE PROPOSED PACKAGE OF MEASURES WILL IMPROVE THE LOT OF THE ELDERLY; SOME OF THE MEASURES WILL HAVE AN IMMEDIATE EFFECT AND OTHERS WILL HELP IN THE LONGER TERM," MR CHAMBERS SAID.

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JULY PRICE AND VOLUME MOVEMENTS OF EXTERNAL TRADE

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THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS GREW BY 27 PER CENT AND 49 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF 1987 AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR, STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT INDICATE.

HENCE, THERE WAS AN OVERALL INCREASE OF 37 PER CENT IN VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS.

IMPORTS INCREASED BY 34 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS.

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY 3 PER CENT AND 1 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY, SO THAT THE PRICES OF TOTAL EXPORTS INCREASED BY 3 PER CENT.

PRICES OF IMPORTS, ON THE OTHER HAND, ROSE BY 4 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) DROPPED BY 1 PER CENT.

COMPARING JULY 1987 WITH JULY 1986, THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 28 PER CENT AND 52 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

HENCE, TOTAL EXPORTS GREW BY 38 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS. IMPORT VOLUME INCREASED BY 33 PER CENT.

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS ROSE BY 3 PER CENT; RE-EXPORT PRICES ROSE BY 2 PER CENT WHILE IMPORT PRICES ROSE BY 3 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 INDICES ARE COMPILED.

THE VOLUME OF TRADE IS DERIVED FROM TRADE VALUES BY DISCOUNTING THE EFFECT OF PRICE CHANGES.

EXTENDING THE PERIOD OF COMPARISON TO THE 12 MONTHS ENDING JULY 1987 WITH THE 12 MONTHS ENDING JULY 1986, THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASED BY 26 PER CENT WHILE THAT OF RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 42 PER CENT, GIVING AN INCREASE OF 30 PER CENT IN THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS.

THE VOLUME OF IMPORTS ROSE BY 29 PER CENT.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS ROSE BY 3 PER CENT WHILE THOSE OF RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY 2 PER CENT. IMPORT PRICES ROSE BY 5 PER CENT.

/THE CHANGES

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THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY COMMODITY GROUP FOR JULY 1987 AS COMPARED WITH JULY 1986 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

AS CAN BE SEEN FROM TABLE 1, PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF MOST COMMODITY GROUPS INCREASED IN JULY 1987 COMPARED WITH JULY 1986.

THESE INCLUDED METAL ORES AND SCRAP (+11 PER CENT); CLOTHING (+8 PER CENT); TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES (+8 PER CENT); TEXTILE FABRICS (+8 PER CENT); RADIOS OF ALL KINDS (+5 PER CENT); TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES (+5 PER CENT); TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD (+5 PER CENT); FOOTWEAR (+4 PER CENT); DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES (+3 PER CENT); METAL MANUFACTURES (+2 PER CENT) AS WELL AS ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (+1 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, A DECREASE IN DOMESTIC EXPORT PRICES WAS RECORDED IN WATCHES AND CLOCKS (-1 PER CENT).

THE DOMESTIC EXPORT VOLUME OF MOST COMMODITY GROUPS INCREASED IN JULY 1987 COMPARED WITH JULY 1986, INCLUDING METAL ORES AND SCRAP (+85 PER CENT); TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD (+46 PER CENT); TEXTILE FABRICS (+40 PER CENT); CLOTHING (+29 PER CENT); FOOTWEAR (+24 PER CENT); WATCHES AND CLOCKS (+22 PER CENT); DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES (+22 PER CENT); METAL MANUFACTURES (+18 PER CENT); RADIOS OF ALL KINDS (+10 PER CENT); ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (+9 PER CENT) AS WELL AS TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES (+2 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, A DECREASE IN DOMESTIC EXPORT VOLUME WAS RECORDED IN TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES (-4 PER CENT).

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY FOR JULY 1987 AS COMPARED WITH JULY 1986 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 2.

AS PRESENTED IN TABLE 2, IMPORT PRICES OF ALL END-USE CATEGORIES ROSE IN JULY 1987 AS COMPARED WITH JULY 1986, RANGING FROM 2 PER CENT FOR BOTH FOODSTUFFS AND CONSUMER GOODS TO 24 PER CENT FOR FUELS, WHICH WAS PARTLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE RELATIVELY LOW IMPORT PRICES OF FUELS IN JULY 1986.

IMPORTED FOODSTUFFS INCREASED BY 12 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS IN JULY 1987 COMPARED WITH JULY 1986.

SIGNIFICANT GROWTH WAS RECORDED IN CEREALS AND CEREAL PREPARATIONS OTHER THAN RICE, WHEAT AND FLOUR; SOYA BEAN OIL, PEANUT OIL AND LARD AS WELL AS RICE.

HOWEVER, DECREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE REGISTERED FOR ANIMALS OF THE BOVINE SPECIES; LIVE POULTRY AS WELL AS VEGETABLES.

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OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE IMPORT VOLUME OF CONSUMER GOODS INCREASED BY 32 PER CENT. THE COMMODITIES WITH MORE SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES INCLUDE HOUSEHOLD TYPE ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES; FOOTWEAR; TOBACCO MANUFACTURES; RADIO, TELEVISION SETS, GRAMOPHONES, RECORDS, TAPE RECORDERS AND AMPLIFIERS AS WELL AS PASSENGER MOTOR CARS.

THE IMPORT VOLUME OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES ROSE BY 32 PER CENT IN JULY 1987 COMPARED WITH JULY 1986. THE MAJOR INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN WOOL AND OTHER ANIMAL HAIR; MAN-MADE FIBRES; RAW COTTON AS WELL AS SPECIAL TEXTILE FABRICS FOR INDUSTRIAL PURPOSE.

IMPORTS OF FUELS INCREASED BY 15 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS IN JULY 1987 AS COMPARED WITH JULY 1986.

FOR THE CAPITAL GOODS CATEGORY, THE IMPORT VOLUME INCREASED BY 57 PER CENT IN JULY 1987 WHEN COMPARED WITH JULY 1986.

THERE WERE SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES IN TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT, TEXTILE MACHINERY AS WELL AS OFFICE MACHINES.

A DECREASE IN IMPORT VOLUME WAS RECORDED IN CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY FOR JULY 1987 AS COMPARED WITH JULY 1986 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 3.

AS DEPICTED IN TABLE 3, THE RE-EXPORT VOLUME OF MOST END-USE CATEGORIES INCREASED IN JULY 1987 WHEN COMPARED WITH JULY 1986, RANGING FROM 23 PER CENT FOR FOODSTUFFS TO 62 PER CENT FOR CAPITAL GOODS. HOWEVER, THE VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS OF FUELS DECREASED BY 13 PER CENT.

FURTHER DETAILS ARE CONTAINED IN THE JULY 1987 ISSUE OF THE "HONG KONG TRADE INDEX NUMBERS" AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AROUND OCTOBER 12, 1987 AT HK\$ 2.50 PER COPY. ENQUIRIES REGARDING REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION TO THIS REPORT MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, HONG KONG (TEL. NO. : 5-8428802) AND ENQUIRIES ON TRADE INDICES TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. NO. : 5-8234918).

TABLE 1: INCREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY COMMODITY GROUP.

COMMODITY GROUP	COMPARING JAN-JUL 1987 WITH JAN-JUL 1986			COMPARING JULY 1987 WITH JULY 1986		
	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
CLOTHING	29	8	19	40	8	29
TEXTILE FABRICS	69	5	61	50	8	40
TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD	54	4	48	53	5	46
TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES	8	5	3	4	8	-4
RADIOS OF ALL KINDS	32	1	30	16	5	10
ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS	5	-3	8	11	1	9
FOOTWEAR	19	3	15	29	4	24
METAL MANUFACTURES	28	1	26	21	2	18
METAL ORES AND SCRAP	46	*	46	104	11	85
WATCHES AND CLOCKS	18	1	16	20	-1	22
TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES	4	4	*	7	5	2
DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES	25	4	20	25	3	22
ALL COMMODITIES	32	3	27	33	3	28

NOTES FOR TABLES 1 TO 3:

* INSIGNIFICANT, I.E. LESS THAN 0.5 PER CENT

PERCENTAGE CHANGES ARE CALCULATED FROM TRADE INDICES TAKEN TO MORE DECIMAL PLACES THAN THOSE TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE "HONG KONG TRADE INDEX NUMBERS". THEY MAY THEREFORE DIFFER FROM THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES TO BE COMPUTED FROM THE PUBLISHED FIGURES.

TABLE 2: INCREASES IN IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY

END-USE CATEGORY	COMPARING JAN-JUL 1987 WITH JAN-JUL 1986			COMPARING JULY 1987 WITH JULY 1986		
	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
FOODSTUFFS	12	1	10	13	2	12
CONSUMER GOODS	44	4	38	35	2	33
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	43	3	39	37	3	32
FUELS	-4	-8	5	43	24	15
CAPITAL GOODS	44	8	34	62	4	57
ALL COMMODITIES	39	4	34	38	3	33

TABLE 3: INCREASES IN RE-EXPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY

END-USE CATEGORY	COMPARING JAN-JUL 1987 WITH JAN-JUL 1986			COMPARING JULY 1987 WITH JULY 1986		
	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
FOODSTUFFS	18	-1	19	21	-2	23
CONSUMER GOODS	64	2	61	60	1	57
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	49	2	46	52	4	47
FUELS	11	3	7	8	24	-13
CAPITAL GOODS	41	*	41	59	-2	62
ALL COMMODITIES	52	1	49	54	2	52

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FOURTEENTH DISTRICT VISIT FOR GOVERNOR

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, WILL TOUR SHAM SHUI PO TOMORROW (FRIDAY), HIS 14TH VISIT TO THE DISTRICTS. HE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR T.H. CHAU; SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICER, MR GREGORY LEUNG, AND THE DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR CHENG PO HONG.

THEY WILL ARRIVE AT PEI HO STREET AT 2.40 PM TO LOOK AT HAWKER PROBLEMS IN THE DISTRICT. SIR DAVID WILL BE BRIEFED BY THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF URBAN SERVICES, MR T.K. CHOY, ON THE REDEVELOPMENT OF SHAM SHUI PO MARKET.

THE GOVERNOR WILL THEN WALK ACROSS TO NAM CHEONG STREET TO LOOK AT THE NEWLY COMPLETED AMENITY AREA AND TO VISIT PIECE-GOODS SHOPS ALONG KI LUNG STREET.

THE PARTY WILL THEN VISIT HONG KONG INDUSTRIAL CENTRE AT CASTLE PEAK ROAD AND A PORCELAIN FACTORY IN THE BUILDING.

THE NEXT STOP WILL BE AT THE CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE VEGETABLE MARKET WHERE SIR DAVID WILL HAVE A LOOK AT THE WHOLESALE OPERATION.

A TEA RECEPTION WILL BE HELD AT THE CHEUNG SHA WAN COMMUNITY CENTRE WHERE SIR DAVID AND LADY WILSON WILL MEET DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AND AREA COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE VISIT. REPORTERS WISHING TO USE TRANSPORT PROVIDED SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER, TSIM SHA TSUI, AT 1.30 PM SHARP.

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NEW ROAD TO BE BUILT AT ABERDEEN WATERFRONT

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A \$1.4 MILLION CONTRACT FOR BUILDING A NEW ROAD AND CAR PARKING FACILITIES AT THE ABERDEEN WATERFRONT PUBLIC LANDING AREA HAS BEEN AWARDED BY THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT.

THE WORK INVOLVES CONSTRUCTION OF A 7.6-METRE WIDE, TWO-LANE CONCRETE CARRIAGEWAY, A FOOTWAY AND ASSOCIATED DRAINAGE WORKS NEAR THE WHOLESALE FISH MARKET.

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A TOTAL OF 13 METERED PARKING SPACES AND A LOADING AND UNLOADING AREA FOR GOODS VEHICLES AND COACHES WILL ALSO BE INCLUDED.

CONSTRUCTION WORK STARTED LAST WEEK AND WILL TAKE NINE MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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BOOK-MARK DESIGNS ON CIVIC EDUCATION

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PRIMARY AND SECONDARY STUDENTS OF TAI PO DISTRICT ARE BEING INVITED TO SHOW THEIR ARTISTIC TALENT IN A BOOK-MARK DESIGN COMPETITION TO PROMOTE CIVIC EDUCATION IN THE DISTRICT.

THE COMPETITION, ORGANISED BY THE TAI PO DISTRICT CIVIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE AND SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD, IS AIMED AT ENHANCING CIVIC-MINDEDNESS AMONG LOCAL SCHOOL CHILDREN.

DESIGNS WITH THE THEME "CARE FOR YOUR COMMUNITY, WORK FOR YOUR COMMUNITY AND BE A GOOD TAI PO CITIZEN" SHOULD BE SKETCHED ON 19CM X 29.5 CM DRAWING PAPER.

TROPHIES WILL BE AWARDED TO WINNERS AND THEIR WORKS WILL BE CONSIDERED AS THE DESIGN FOR PRODUCING BOOK-MARKS PROMOTING THE CAMPAIGN IN TAI PO.

ENTRY FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT ROOM 233 OF THE TAI PO GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING AT NO. 1 TING KOK ROAD.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS OCTOBER 16. FURTHER ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 0-6586520 OR 0-6577111 EXTENSION 257.

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DFCC TO PROMOTE ANTI-TRIAD MESSAGE

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THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE (DFCC) WILL ORGANISE A POSTER DESIGN COMPETITION FOR STUDENTS AND A SEMINAR TO PROMOTE THE 'ANTI-TRIAD' MESSAGE.

'THE COMPETITION IS AIMED AT ENHANCING YOUNG PEOPLE'S VIGILANCE AGAINST TRIADS SO THAT THEY WILL NOT FALL PREY TO BAD ELEMENTS EASILY,' THE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MR WONG CHUNG-YING, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE COMPETITION IS DIVIDED INTO TWO SECTIONS FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS.

THOSE STUDYING IN THE DISTRICT ARE INVITED TO TAKE PART AND THEY SHOULD SUBMIT THEIR ENTRIES WITH THE 'ANTI-TRIAD' MESSAGE TO THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DFCC SECRETARY AT 11/F, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, BY OCTOBER 26. EACH PARTICIPANT MAY SUBMIT MORE THAN ONE ENTRY.

ADJUDICATION WILL START IN LATE OCTOBER AND WINNERS OF EACH SECTION WILL BE AWARDED PRIZES IN EARLY NOVEMBER.

THE COMMITTEE WILL PRODUCE A POSTER FROM THE WINNING ENTRIES WITH THE POLICE ANTI-TRIAD HOTLINE TELEPHONE NUMBER FOR DISTRIBUTION TO ALL SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICT.

A SEMINAR WILL ALSO BE HELD AT 2 PM ON NOVEMBER 21 AT HONG KONG CARITAS IN CAINE ROAD.

POLICE FROM THE ANTI-TRIAD SECTION, CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVE, AN OUTREACH SOCIAL WORKER AND A RESIDENT WHO HAD BEEN VICTIMISED BY TRIADS WILL SPEAK ON THE OCCASION.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE ABOVE ACTIVITIES CAN BE MADE ON 5-8523478.

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SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE OPENS ENQUIRY COUNTER IN MA ON SHAN

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TO FACILITATE COMMUNITY SERVICES IN THE FAST DEVELOPING MA ON SHAN AREA, THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE WILL OPEN AN ENQUIRY COUNTER WITH PROVISION OF STATUTORY DECLARATION SERVICES TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT ITS MA ON SHAN SUB-OFFICE IN HENG ON ESTATE COMMUNITY CENTRE.

"OPENING HOURS OF THE COUNTER WILL BE 8.45 AM TO 5.15 PM BETWEEN MONDAY AND FRIDAY AND 9 AM TO 12 NOON ON SATURDAY," SAID A DISTRICT OFFICE SPOKESMAN TODAY (THURSDAY).

/"STATUTORY DECLARATION

"STATUTORY DECLARATION SERVICES WILL BE PROVIDED EVERY TUESDAY MORNING."

THE SPOKESMAN SAID OTHER FACILITIES AT THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE MA ON SHAN SUB-OFFICE, SUCH AS THE COMMUNITY HALL, WOULD BE OPENED FOR PUBLIC USE NEXT MONTH.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SERVICES CAN BE MADE AT 0-6425025 STARTING TOMORROW.

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RECORD APPLICATIONS FOR TOLO HARBOUR SWIM
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THE NUMBER OF SWIMMERS WHO HAVE APPLIED FOR THE 20TH CROSS TOLO HARBOUR RACE IN TAI PO ON SUNDAY (OCTOBER 11) MORNING HAS SET A RECORD.

AT THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS ON SEPTEMBER 20, MORE THAN 2,500 APPLICATION FORMS WERE RECEIVED, EXCEEDING LAST YEAR'S RETURNS BY 700.

APPLICANTS INCLUDE SOME 2,000 MEN AND 500 WOMEN, WITH THE YOUNGEST ENTRANT BEING 12 YEARS OLD AND THE OLDEST 84.

THE RACE IS ORGANISED BY THE TAI PO SPORTS ASSOCIATION AND CO-SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD AND A BREWERY.

IT WILL START AT 10.30 AM AT SHA LAN BEACH IN SHUEN WAN AND WILL FINISH AT THE TAI MEI TUK WATER SPORTS CENTRE, COVERING A DISTANCE OF 2,400 METRES.

TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICER, MR JOHN BURRETT, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE STARTING CEREMONY.

THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, DR JAMES HAYES, WILL PRESENT PRIZES TO WINNERS AT A CEREMONY TO BE HELD AT THE WATER SPORTS CENTRE AT 12.10 PM.

ENTRANTS ARE REMINDED THAT THEY HAVE TO REPORT TO THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE AT THE FUNG SHUI SQUARE OF TIN HAU TEMPLE ON TING KOK ROAD BY 8:30 AM.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE HARBOUR RACE IN TAI PO ON SUNDAY (OCTOBER 11). A COACH TAKING MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES TO THE STARTING POINT AT SHA LAN WILL LEAVE THE TAI PO SPORTS ASSOCIATION'S LI FOOK LAM INDOOR SPORTS CENTRE AT 2 ON CHEUNG ROAD, TAI PO AT 9.30 AM. THOSE TRAVELLING ON THEIR OWN SHOULD GATHER AT A PIER NEAR THE ROUNDABOUT OF SAM MUN TSAI ROAD (I.E. NEAR THE LUEN YICK SEAFOOD HOUSE) IN THE LUEN YICK FISHERMEN VILLAGE BY 10 AM. INFORMATION OFFICER, PATRICK WONG, WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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NEW GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES TO STRENGTHEN SERVICES

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APPLICATIONS WILL BE INVITED FOR OPERATING 18 NEW GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY, A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN REMINDED TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE NEW GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES ARE IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF HONG KONG, KWUN TONG, WONG TAI SIN, MONG KOK, SHAM SHUI PO, SAI KUNG, NORTH DISTRICT, TUEN MUN, SHA TIN AND YUEN LONG.

DETAILS OF THESE ROUTES WILL BE PUBLISHED IN TOMORROW'S GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

APPLICATION MUST BE MADE ON THE APPROPRIATE APPLICATION FORM OBTAINABLE FROM THE FOLLOWING OFFICES FROM TOMORROW (FRIDAY):

- * THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS AT 28/F, HIGH BLOCK, QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 66 QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG.
- * THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT KOWLOON AND N.T. REGIONAL OFFICES AT 25/F, PARK-IN COMMERCIAL CENTRE, 56 DUNDAS STREET, KOWLOON.
- * THE HONG KONG LICENSING OFFICE AT G/F, 2 MURRAY ROAD, HONG KONG.
- * THE KOWLOON LICENSING OFFICE AT 9/F, PARK-IN COMMERCIAL CENTRE, 56 DUNDAS STREET, KOWLOON.
- * THE KWUN TONG LICENSING OFFICE AT 5/F, KOWLOON EAST GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 12 LEI YUE MUN ROAD, KOWLOON.
- * THE SHA TIN LICENSING OFFICE AT 5/F, KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN STATION, SHA TIN.
- * ALL THE DISTRICT OFFICES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS MUST BE RETURNED BY REGISTERED POST TO REACH THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS NOT LATER THAN NOVEMBER 6, 1987. APPLICATIONS BY ANY OTHER MEANS OR LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

"APPLICATIONS WILL THEN BE PROCESSED AND THE NEW ROUTES ARE EXPECTED TO BE INTRODUCED EARLY NEXT YEAR," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1987

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PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICE DEVELOPMENT FOR SAI KUNG
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MEMBERS OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD'S TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE WILL MEET TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO DISCUSS THE DRAFT 1988-89 PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR SAI KUNG DISTRICT.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE SAI KUNG TOWN DEVELOPMENT PACKAGE V ENGINEERING WORKS (PHASE I) AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FOOTBRIDGE NEAR PO LAM ESTATE (PHASE 3) IN JUNK BAY.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE ROAD SAFETY AT MAN NIN STREET NEAR SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING AND THE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT IN HIRAM'S HIGHWAY NEAR NAM WAI.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE MEETING TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT 10 AM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD, SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, MAN NIN STREET, SAI KUNG TOWN.

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SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS ON THE PEAK
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IN CONNECTION WITH THE MATILDA HOSPITAL SEDAN CHAIR RACE TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY (OCTOBER 10) ON THE PEAK, THE SECTION OF MOUNT KELLETT ROAD FROM HOUSE NO. 22 WILL BE TEMPORARILY ROUTED ONE-WAY IN CLOCKWISE DIRECTION, FROM 9 AM TO 5 PM ON THAT DAY.

THE JARDINES CORNER BRIDGE CONNECTING MOUNT KELLETT ROAD AND PLUNKETT'S ROAD WILL BE OPENED FOR SEDEN CHAIR RACE TRAFFIC ONLY BETWEEN 10.30 AM AND 11 AM.

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