



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1984

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CONSTRUCTION WORK VALUE PUBLISHED
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THE TOTAL GROSS VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK PERFORMED BY ALL BUILDING AND CIVIL ENGINEERING CONTRACTORS (INCLUDING MAIN CONTRACTORS AND SUB-CONTRACTORS) WAS \$8 557 MILLION IN THE FIRST QUARTER THIS YEAR, ACCORDING TO SURVEY RESULTS RELEASED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY.

THIS REPRESENTED DECREASES OF SEVEN PER CENT FROM THE PREVIOUS QUARTER AND TWO PER CENT FROM THE SAME QUARTER LAST YEAR.

SINCE SUB-CONTRACTING IS A COMMON PRACTICE IN CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY, THERE IS A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF DOUBLE-COUNTING IN THE TOTAL GROSS VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK PERFORMED BY ALL CONTRACTORS, A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED.

FOR THIS REASON, THE SURVEY RESULTS GIVE A DISTINCTION BETWEEN OUTPUT VALUES OF MAIN CONTRACTORS AND SUB-CONTRACTORS.

FOR MAIN CONTRACTORS, AN INDEX OF VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK PERFORMED WAS COMPUTED WITH THE QUARTERLY OUTPUT AVERAGE OF 1982 TAKEN AS 100.

ACCORDING TO THE RESULTS, THE INDEX OF VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK PERFORMED BY MAIN CONTRACTORS WAS 94.4 IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1983, DROPPING TO 89.1 AND 87.6 IN THE SECOND AND THIRD QUARTERS RESPECTIVELY. THE DROP WAS HALTED IN THE FOURTH QUARTER AS THE INDEX REBOUNDED TO 94.9. HOWEVER, THE UPTURN DID NOT LAST LONG AND THE INDEX FELL BACK TO 91.9 IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1984.

THE DEPARTMENT INTRODUCED A NEW SERIES OF QUARTERLY SURVEYS OF CONSTRUCTION OUTPUT IN EARLY 1983 WITH THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING A PROMPT INDICATOR OF CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS AND OUTPUT TRENDS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY. BESIDES ANNOUNCING THE RESULTS FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1984, THE DEPARTMENT TODAY RELEASED, FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE FINDINGS FOR THE FOUR QUARTERS OF 1983.

AS IN THE PAST, THE LATEST SURVEY DISTINGUISHES CONSTRUCTION WORK PERFORMED AT BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION SITES, AT OTHER MINOR NEW CONSTRUCTION WORK LOCATIONS, AND AT ERECTED BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES.

IN THE CASE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK PERFORMED BY MAIN CONTRACTORS AT BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION SITES, FURTHER BREAKDOWN INTO PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PROJECTS, AND ANALYSIS BY END USE OF BUILDING OR STRUCTURE, BY NATURE OF CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY AND BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION OF SITE ARE ALSO AVAILABLE.

THE OUTPUT VALUE OF PUBLIC PROJECTS IN THE FIRST THREE QUARTERS OF 1983 AVERAGED AROUND \$2 300 MILLION, RISING BY 16 PER CENT TO \$2 628 MILLION IN THE FOURTH QUARTER.

IT DROPPED, HOWEVER, TO \$2 489 MILLION IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1984, WHICH WAS STILL EIGHT PER CENT HIGHER THAN THAT IN THE SAME QUARTER LAST YEAR.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE OUTPUT VALUE OF PRIVATE PROJECTS HAD BEEN IN GENERAL DECLINING GRADUALLY SINCE THE START OF THE SURVEY. THE OUTPUT VALUES IN THE FOUR QUARTERS OF 1983 WERE \$3 062 MILLION, \$2 674 MILLION, \$2 611 MILLION, AND \$2 631 MILLION RESPECTIVELY, FURTHER FALLING TO \$2 549 MILLION IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1984.

THE SURVEY ALSO PROVIDES STATISTICS ON OUTPUT VALUES IN RESPECT OF END-USE OF BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES. RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS, COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS AND TRANSPORT STRUCTURES WERE THE MOST IMPORTANT CATEGORIES OF NEW CONSTRUCTION.

A SHARP DROP IN THE CONSTRUCTION OUTPUT VALUE OF COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS OCCURRED IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1983 AS OUTPUT SLIPPED FROM THE FIRST QUARTER BY 36 PER CENT TO \$897 MILLION. QUARTERLY OUTPUT IN THE REST OF 1983 REMAINED AT A LOW LEVEL BUT THEN FELL FURTHER TO \$692 MILLION IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1984.

AS FOR RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS, THE CONSTRUCTION OUTPUT VALUE SHOWED SOME INCREASE IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1983 AND AGAIN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1984, WITH INCREASES OF EIGHT PER CENT AND FOUR PER CENT RESPECTIVELY FROM THE PRECEDING QUARTER ALTHOUGH, AT \$1 384 MILLION IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1984, IT WAS STILL THREE PER CENT BELOW THAT IN THE SAME QUARTER OF 1983.

CONSTRUCTION WORK ON TRANSPORT STRUCTURES AND FACILITIES REMAINED AT A RELATIVELY HIGH LEVEL IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1984, AT \$1 340 MILLION WHICH WAS MORE OR LESS UNCHANGED FROM THE PREVIOUS QUARTER BUT 21 PER CENT HIGHER THAN THAT IN THE SAME QUARTER LAST YEAR.

INFORMATION IN GREATER DETAIL AND OTHER STATISTICS, SUCH AS VALUE OF WORK IN TERMS OF CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES LIKE SITE FORMATION AND ERECTION OF SUPER-STRUCTURES, AND VALUE OF WORK PERFORMED BY GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION, ARE CONTAINED IN A SURVEY REPORT. THE CURRENT ISSUE OF THIS REPORT COVERS RESULTS OF THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1983 TO THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1984. SUBSEQUENT ISSUES WILL BE PUBLISHED AT QUARTERLY INTERVALS TO UPDATE THE FIGURES.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THE QUARTERLY SERIES OF DATA WAS TO PROVIDE A QUICK INDICATOR ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY AND THIS SUPPLEMENTED THE SERIES OF ANNUAL SURVEYS WHICH PROVIDE MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE PERFORMANCE, OPERATING CHARACTERISTICS AND COST STRUCTURE OF THE INDUSTRY.

THE SURVEY REPORT IS ON SALE AT \$2 A COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT CENTRE, OR AT THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER, KAI TAK COMMERCIAL BUILDING, 317 DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL. REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION MAY ALSO BE ARRANGED.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE DEPARTMENT'S BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE STATISTICS SECTION AT TELEPHONE 3-7224490.

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PROVIDENT FUND FOR THE ELDERLY RECOMMENDED
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A CENTRAL PROVIDENT FUND SYSTEM SHOULD BE SET UP TO ENSURE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE ELDERLY.

THIS IS RECOMMENDED BY A STUDY ON THE NEEDS OF SENIOR CITIZENS IN CENTRAL AND WESTERN.

IT SAYS THE SYSTEM WILL HELP REDUCE DIRECT PAYMENTS THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS TO PAY TO ELDERLY PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CASES IN FUTURE.

THE STUDY REPORT, MADE PUBLIC AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (TUESDAY), ALSO SUGGESTS THAT FOUR SOCIAL CENTRES AND A DAY-CARE CENTRE FOR THE ELDERLY BE OPENED IN THE DISTRICT, PREFERABLY IN THE AREA BETWEEN THE EASTERN END OF KENNEDY TOWN AND THE WESTERN END OF SHEUNG WAN.

ACCORDING TO THE SURVEY, MOST OF THE ELDERLY IN THE DISTRICT USE BUS OR TRAM AS THEIR MAJOR MODE OF TRANSPORTATION. IT PROPOSES THAT SEATS BE DESIGNATED ON BUSES AND TRAMS AND THAT OFF-PEAK-HOUR CONCESSION FARES BE GIVEN TO OLD PEOPLE.

IT ALSO RECOMMENDS THAT THE HOUSING NEED OF SINGLE OLD PEOPLE AND ELDERLY COUPLES BE CONSIDERED IN REVIEWING THE PRESENT HOUSING POLICIES, AND GREATER EFFORT BE MADE TO PUBLICISE THE AVAILABILITY OF SOCIAL AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES.

SPEAKING AT THE NEWS CONFERENCE TODAY, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD'S SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE, MR CHOW WAI-KEUNG, SAID THE SURVEY FINDINGS WOULD HELP PROMOTE THE WELL-BEING OF THE ELDERLY PEOPLE WHO ACCOUNT FOR ONE-EIGHTH OF THE DISTRICT'S TOTAL POPULATION.

SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD, THE STUDY WAS CONDUCTED BY THE COMMITTEE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

ABOUT 700 PEOPLE AT THE AGE OF 60 AND ABOVE WERE INTERVIEWED BY MORE THAN 200 VOLUNTEERS AND SECONDARY AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS.

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IMPORTANCE OF ARTS SPONSORSHIP STRESSED
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SPONSORSHIP IS OF GROWING IMPORTANCE TO THE ARTISTIC WORLD AND OFFERS CONSIDERABLE SCOPE FOR EXPANSION IN HONG KONG, THE COMMISSIONER FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR CLIVE OXLEY, SAID TODAY.

HE SAID THERE WAS PERHAPS A NEED IN HONG KONG TO CONSIDER AFRESH THE POSSIBILITY OF CREATING A HONG KONG BUSINESS SPONSORSHIP ASSOCIATION ALONG THE LINES OF SIMILAR ORGANISATIONS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND AUSTRALIA.

MR OXLEY, WHO IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL FOR PERFORMING ARTS, WAS SPEAKING AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG NORTHWEST.

HE SAID THAT SUCH AN ASSOCIATION COULD PROVIDE A SERVICE TO POTENTIAL SPONSORS BY, FOR EXAMPLE, SEEKING EVENTS FOR THEM.

+IT COULD ALSO ACT AS A CHANNEL OF COMMUNICATION FOR BUSINESS ORGANISATIONS WITH ARTS BODIES AND GROUPS,+ HE ADDED.

+COULD I SUGGEST THAT THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY MIGHT BE THE DRIVING FORCE IN THIS VENTURE? IF IT THINKS THE FORMATION OF SUCH AN ASSOCIATION WOULD BE USEFUL, I AM SURE THE COUNCIL FOR PERFORMING ARTS WOULD EXPLORE WAYS OF GETTING IT UP AND RUNNING,+ MR OXLEY SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT SPONSORSHIP OF THE ARTS AS A MEANS OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE HAD BECOME INCREASINGLY POPULAR IN THE DEVELOPED WORLD BOTH FOR ARTISTIC ORGANISATIONS AND FOR THE COMPANIES OFFERING THE SPONSORSHIP.

+THE EXTENT TO WHICH SPONSORSHIP CONTRIBUTES TO THE OVERALL FUNDING OF THE ARTS VARIES MARKEDLY FROM TERRITORY TO TERRITORY,+ HE POINTED OUT.

IN BRITAIN, FOR EXAMPLE, ARTISTIC ORGANISATIONS RELY HEAVILY ON PUBLIC SECTOR FINANCING. ABOUT 90 PER CENT OF ARTS FUNDING COMES FROM THE PUBLIC PURSE AND 10 PER CENT IS DERIVED PRIVATELY, SOME BY DONATION BUT MOST OF IT BY SPONSORSHIP.

NOTING THAT THE REVERSE IS TRUE IN THE UNITED STATES, MR OXLEY SAID, +THE FIGURES I HAVE TO HAND INDICATE THAT ONLY SEVEN PER CENT OF ARTS FUNDING IS DERIVED FROM THE PUBLIC PURSE WITH 93 PER CENT BEING DERIVED FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR, VERY LARGELY THROUGH SPONSORSHIP.+

HE SAID THAT IN HONG KONG, FIGURES INDICATED TOO GREAT A RELIANCE ON PUBLIC FUNDING.

+IF WE EXCLUDE CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB, CURRENTLY ONLY SOME THREE PER CENT OF THE FUNDING OF THE ARTS COMES FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN THE FORM OF DONATIONS AND BUSINESS SPONSORSHIP, WITH THE REMAINING 97 PER CENT COMING FROM PUBLIC FUNDS.

/+I REGARD

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+I REGARD THIS AS SLIGHTLY ALARMING AS THE CUSHIONING PROVIDED BY PRIVATE SPONSORSHIP IS SO VERY THIN.

+ALL IS NOT GLOOMY, HOWEVER, FOR IN RECENT YEARS, MORE AND MORE COMPANIES BASED IN HONG KONG HAVE BEGUN TO TAKE AN INTEREST IN SPONSORSHIP NOT JUST IN THE ARTS BUT IN A RANGE OF ACTIVITIES WHICH BEST FIT THE IMAGE WHICH THE COMPANY WISHES TO PROJECT.

+SOME BUSINESSMEN WILL NEVERTHELESS NEED CONVINCING THAT SPONSORSHIP IS NOT ONLY OF BENEFIT TO THE RECIPIENT BUT ALSO TO HIS COMPANY. BUT FOR MANY BUSINESSMEN THE SUPPORT OF A WIDE RANGE OF ARTISTIC PERFORMANCES IS ITS OWN REWARD AND MANY WOULD ASK FOR NOTHING MORE,+ HE SAID.

MR OXLEY EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT MORE COMPANIES WOULD SPONSOR ARTISTIC VENTURES.

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TEXTILES TALKS USEFUL BUT INCONCLUSIVE -- MACLEOD
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A HONG KONG TRADE DELEGATION YESTERDAY (MONDAY) MET WITH THE UNITED STATES OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS PROBLEMS ARISING FROM THE RECENTLY PUBLISHED PROPOSED AMERICAN TEXTILE IMPORT REGULATIONS.

MR HAMISH MACLEOD, DIRECTOR OF TRADE AND LEADER OF THE HONG KONG DELEGATION, SAID THAT THE SESSION HAD BEEN USEFUL BUT INCONCLUSIVE AND THAT THE TALKS WOULD RESUME TODAY (TUESDAY) WHEN A US RESPONSE TO SOME OF THE POINTS RAISED BY HONG KONG WAS EXPECTED.

+IT WOULD NOT BE PROPER AT THIS STAGE FOR ME TO COMMENT ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THE TALKS, OTHER THAN TO SAY THAT HONG KONG'S CONCERNS HAVE BEEN MADE VERY CLEAR.

+THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT ABOUT OUR POSITION THAT THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS VIOLATE THE MULTI-FIBRE ARRANGEMENT AND OUR BILATERAL TEXTILES AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES, AND THAT THE REGULATIONS SHOULD BE RESCINDED,+ HE SAID.

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TRAINING KEY TO CLOTHING INDUSTRY'S GROWTH
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THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY SHOULD IMPROVE ITS ORGANISED MANPOWER TRAINING IN ORDER TO REMAIN VIABLE AND COMPETITIVE IN INTERNATIONAL MARKETS.

THIS IS THE MAJOR RECOMMENDATION PUT FORTH IN THE 1983 MANPOWER SURVEY REPORT OF THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY JUST PUBLISHED BY THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL.

+PROVIDING ITS WORKERS WITH PROPER TRAINING, THE INDUSTRY WILL NOT ONLY BE ABLE TO UPGRADE THE QUALITY OF ITS PRODUCT BUT ALSO BE IN A BETTER POSITION TO ATTRACT NEW AND RETAIN ITS EXISTING WORKERS,+ DR FRANCIS Y.H. TIEN, CHAIRMAN OF THE TRAINING BOARD, SAID.

THE SURVEY, CONDUCTED IN SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR, SHOWED THAT THE INDUSTRY WOULD NEED AN ADDITIONAL 160 TECHNOLOGISTS, 670 TECHNICIANS, 460 CRAFTSMEN AND 15 300 OPERATIVES A YEAR TO MEET ITS GROWTH FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS. THE INDUSTRY'S TOTAL EMPLOYMENT HAD INCREASED BY 12 PER CENT TO ABOUT 271 000 SINCE THE PREVIOUS STUDY IN SEPTEMBER 1981.

THE SURVEY ALSO SHOWED THERE HAD BEEN SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES OF EMPLOYMENT AT THE TECHNICIAN LEVEL.

+THIS IS DUE TO THE GROWTH IN BUSINESS REQUIRING A LARGE NUMBER OF SUPERVISORY AND FLOOR PRODUCTION PERSONNEL,+ DR TIEN SAID.

+THE GROWTH MAY ALSO BE ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE INCREASING USE OF MODERN, SOPHISTICATED MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT,+ HE ADDED.

TO ENSURE A STEADY SUPPLY OF WELL-TRAINED TECHNICAL WORKFORCE IN THE INDUSTRY, DR TIEN URGED EMPLOYERS TO EMBARK ON THE TRAINING PROGRAMMES SET OUT IN THE REPORT.

THE REPORT, PUBLISHED IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE, IS NOW AVAILABLE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT \$9.50 A COPY.

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SIR JOHN VISITS FACTORY
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THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, SIR JOHN BREMRIDGE, TODAY (TUESDAY) TOURED A COMPUTER COMPONENT FACTORY IN TSUEN WAN AS PART OF HIS PROGRAMME OF VISITS TO LOCAL INDUSTRIES.

ACCOMPANIED BY MR PETER JOHNSON, ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, SIR JOHN ARRIVED AT THE CHINA DYEING WORKS FACTORY OF ASTEC COMPONENTS LTD, AND WAS WELCOMED BY MR WILLIAM WYLLIE, CHAIRMAN OF BSR INTERNATIONAL PLC, THE PARENT COMPANY, AND OTHER SENIOR EXECUTIVES.

/ASTEC COMPONENTS,

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ASTEC COMPONENTS, ESTABLISHED IN 1971, PRODUCES SWITCHING POWER SUPPLY UNITS - A KEY COMPONENT FOR CONVERTING NORMAL DOMESTIC ALTERNATING CURRENT (AC) TO DIRECT CURRENT (DC) REQUIRED BY ALL COMPUTERS, COMPUTER PERIPHERALS, TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, RADIO FREQUENCY PRODUCTS, AND APPLICATION SOFTWARE.

THE FACTORY IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S LEADING MANUFACTURERS OF SWITCHING POWER SUPPLY UNITS.

IT IS HIGHLY AUTOMATED WITH ITS INSTALLATION OF COMPUTERISED WINDING MACHINES, AUTO-INSERTION MACHINES, COMPUTERISED SEQUENCERS AND OTHER GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND VARIOUS KINDS OF ELECTRONIC TESTERS.

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PUBLIC REMINDED ABOUT NEW TRAFFIC LAWS
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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY (TUESDAY) REMINDED THE PUBLIC THAT THE NEW ROAD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON SATURDAY (AUGUST 25).

THE COMMENCEMENT DATE FOR THE NEW LEGISLATION WITH SEVEN SETS OF REGULATIONS WAS ANNOUNCED IN AN EXTRAORDINARY ISSUE OF THE GAZETTE PUBLISHED TODAY.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE SEVEN SETS, CONDENSED FROM THE 13 SETS IN THE OLD ORDINANCE, DEALS WITH THE CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF VEHICLES; REGISTRATION AND LICENSING OF VEHICLES; DRIVING LICENCES; TRAFFIC CONTROL; PARKING; PUBLIC SERVICES VEHICLES; AND SAFETY EQUIPMENT.

TO AVOID CONFUSION DURING THE CHANGEOVER OF SPEED LIMIT SIGNS, THE MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT ON ALL ROADS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY WILL BE RESTRICTED TO 50 KILOMETRES PER HOUR FROM MIDNIGHT ON AUGUST 24 TO MIDNIGHT ON AUGUST 27.

DIFFERENT SPEED LIMITS FOR CERTAIN ROADS, AS ANNOUNCED IN THE +ROAD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE VARIATION OF SPEED LIMITS NOTICE 1984+ GAZETTED TODAY, WILL TAKE EFFECT ON AUGUST 28.

THE REMAINING OF 13 LEGAL NOTICES IN THE GAZETTE DESIGNATED AUGUST 25 TO BE THE EFFECTIVE DATE FOR THE ROAD TRAFFIC (DRIVING-OFFENCE POINTS) ORDINANCE, THE FIXED PENALTY (TRAFFIC CONTRAVENTIONS)(AMENDMENT)(NO. 2) ORDINANCE AND REGULATIONS 1984 AND THE FIXED PENALTY (CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS) ORDINANCE 1984.

SUMMARIES OF THE NEW ROAD TRAFFIC LEGISLATION, PREPARED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, ARE NOW AVAILABLE FROM DISTRICT OFFICES, TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT'S LICENSING OFFICES AND THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE.

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VEHICLE SERVICING FACILITIES IN MONG KOK
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THE URBAN COUNCIL DEPOT AT SAI YEE STREET, MONG KOK, WILL HAVE ITS OWN VEHICLE SERVICING FACILITIES.

TWO CONTRACTS, WITH A TOTAL VALUE OF \$1.5 MILLION, HAVE BEEN AWARDED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROJECT.

THE FIRST CONTRACT WAS AWARDED TO HUNG KEE COMPANY FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE VEHICLE FACILITIES, AND THE SECOND, INVOLVING ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION WITHIN THE FACILITIES, TO MANDARIN ENGINEERING COMPANY (HONG KONG) LTD.

WORK ON THE PROJECT INVOLVES THE BUILDING OF A SINGLE-STOREY EXTENSION TO THE COMPOUND OF THE EXISTING DEPOT TO PROVIDE TWO REPAIR BAYS, THREE SERVICE PITS, A BATTERY ROOM, A TYRE-REPAIR WORKSHOP AND AN OFFICE.

THE DEPOT WILL THEN BE CAPABLE OF MAINTAINING THE URBAN COUNCIL'S FLEET OF SERVICE VEHICLES OPERATING IN KOWLOON, THUS REDUCING THE TIME TAKEN ON MINOR SERVICING.

WORK ON THE CONTRACT WILL START TOWARDS THE END OF THIS MONTH AND BE COMPLETED IN A YEAR'S TIME.

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MAN FINED FOR STEALING FRONDS
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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE TODAY WARNED NOT TO CUT OR DAMAGE ANY PLANTS WHEN THEY VISIT THE URBAN COUNCIL'S PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS.

THE WARNING WAS ISSUED FOLLOWING A 64-YEAR-OLD MAN WAS CAUGHT RED-HANDED RECENTLY FOR CUTTING FRONDS FROM SOME BAMBOO PALMS AT THE ZOOLOGICAL AND BOTANICAL GARDENS.

THE OFFENDER WAS LATER FINED \$150 AT THE WESTERN MAGISTRACY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID THAT THIS PARTICULAR OFFENCE OCCURRED ON A SUNDAY AFTERNOON WHEN THE OFFENDER PRESUMABLY BELIEVED STAFF WOULD NOT BE ON DUTY.

+OUR STAFF MEMBERS ARE CONSTANTLY ON THE LOOK-OUT FOR PEOPLE WHO THINK THEY CAN CUT AND STEAL FLOWERS OR SHRUBBERY FROM OUR PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS,+ HE SAID.

+SELFISH ACTIONS SUCH AS THESE SPOIL THE PLEASURE OF THE MANY PEOPLE VISITING THE PARKS, IN PARTICULAR THE ZOOLOGICAL AND BOTANICAL GARDENS, AND WE WILL REMAIN ON THE ALERT FOR FUTURE OFFENDERS, EVEN ON SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS.+

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HOUSING APPLICATIONS SECTION MOVES

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THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT'S APPLICATIONS SECTION AT THE HOUSING AUTHORITY HEADQUARTERS IN HO MAN TIN WILL MOVE TO A NEW OFFICE AT 1 MA TAU KOK ROAD IN TO KWA WAN FROM NEXT TUESDAY (AUGUST 28).

THE NEW OFFICE WILL OCCUPY A SIX-STOREY BUILDING ADJACENT TO THE MA TAU WAI ESTATE.

+IT WILL PROVIDE MORE SPACE AND IMPROVED WAITING FACILITIES FOR ATTENDING APPLICANTS AS WELL AS A BETTER WORKING ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL UNITS OF THE SECTION,+ SAID A HOUSING SPOKESMAN TODAY.

HE SAID APPLICANTS WISHING TO MAKE ENQUIRIES IN PERSON SHOULD IN FUTURE CALL AT THE SECTION'S NEW ENQUIRY COUNTER ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF THE BUILDING.

HOWEVER, THE CURRENT ENQUIRY TELEPHONE NO. 3-7129229 WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED AND THE KOWLOON CITY POST BOX NO. 89192 WILL CONTINUE TO BE USED.

THE SECTION DEALS WITH ALL MATTERS IN CONNECTION WITH THE WAITING LIST, LETTING AND REHOUSING OF PUBLIC HOUSING UNITS; AS WELL AS TRANSFER AND MUTUAL EXCHANGE OF ESTATE FLATS FOR EXISTING TENANTS.

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ARCHERY SEMINAR IN SAI KUNG

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ARCHERY ENTHUSIASTS ARE BEING INVITED TO A SEMINAR CAMP TO BE HELD IN SAI KUNG NEXT MONTH.

THE TWO-DAY CAMP, ORGANISED JOINTLY BY THE RECREATION AND SPORTS SERVICE OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT AND THE HONG KONG ARCHERY ASSOCIATION, WILL BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 22 AND 23 (SATURDAY AND SUNDAY) AT THE LADY MACLEHOSE HOLIDAY VILLAGE.

THE CAMP'S PROGRAMMES WILL CONSIST OF A SEMINAR CONDUCTED BY COACHES AND EXPERIENCED ARCHERS, GROUP DISCUSSIONS AND PRACTICAL SESSIONS.

+CAMPERS WILL BE ABLE TO EXCHANGE THEIR IDEAS AND EXPERIENCE ON ARCHERY AND SHARPEN THEIR SKILLS DURING THESE TWO DAYS,+ AN RSS SPOKESMAN SAID.

ENROLMENT IS LIMITED TO 130 PERSONS AND THE CAMP FEE IS \$30 PLUS ANOTHER \$22 FOR MEALS.

/THOSE WHO

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THOSE WHO ARE INTERESTED AND HAVE EXPERIENCE IN ARCHERY MAY APPLY NOW.

APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED AT THE RECREATION AND SPORTS SERVICE HEAD OFFICE IN WING ON CENTRE, CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL OR FROM ITS 19 DISTRICT OFFICES THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY.

THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION IS SEPTEMBER 7.

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FORUMS ON GREEN PAPER
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TUEN MUN RESIDENTS ARE BEING INVITED TO ATTEND FOUR OPEN FORUMS ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE TO COLLECT PUBLIC OPINIONS ON PROPOSALS CONTAINED IN THE GREEN PAPER ON REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT.

LEADERS FROM LOCAL ORGANISATIONS, RURAL COMMITTEES, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, OWNERS' CORPORATIONS AND SCHOOL HEADMASTERS WILL ALSO ATTEND THE FORUMS WHICH WILL BE HELD AT DIFFERENT VENUES FROM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR RICKY FUNG, AND THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MR CHRISTOPHER WONG, WILL BE THE SPEAKERS AT THE FORUMS.

TOMORROW'S MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE AT 8 PM AT THE CASTLE PEAK CATHOLIC SCHOOL.

THE OTHERS WILL BE HELD AT 8 PM ON THURSDAY (AUGUST 23) AT BUDDHIST WONG SE WAI MEMORIAL SCHOOL, AT 8 PM ON FRIDAY (AUGUST 24) AT THE ON TING-YAU OI COMMUNITY CENTRE, AND AT 2.30 PM ON SEPTEMBER 1 (SATURDAY) AT THE DANCE STUDIO OF THE YAN OI TONG COMMUNITY AND INDOOR SPORTS CENTRE.

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KOWLOON CITY DB TO HOLD MEETING
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THE GREEN PAPER ON REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT WILL BE DISCUSSED AT THE NEXT KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD MEETING ON THURSDAY (AUGUST 23).

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DISTRICT BOARDS, AREA COMMITTEES AND MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES WILL ALSO BE DISCUSSED.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE THE ALLOCATION OF DB FUNDS TO BUILD 10 BUS PASSENGER SHELTERS AND TO ORGANISE A DISTRICT ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN.

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MAINS WORK IN TUEN MUN

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO SOME AREAS IN TUEN MUN WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 9 PM ON FRIDAY (AUGUST 24) TO 8 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR MAINS WORK.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT PREMISES ALONG CASTLE PEAK ROAD FROM PUI TO ROAD TO TAI LAM CHUNG, INCLUDING PEROWNE CAMP, GORDON HARD, PEARL ISLAND, SO KWUN WAT, SO KWUN TAN, THE DESALTING PLANT, SIU LAM AND SAM SHING ESTATE.

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