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HONG KONG COUNCIL FOR ACADEMIC ACCREDITATION APPROVED

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THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS APPROVED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A HONG KONG COUNCIL FOR ACADEMIC ACCREDITATION (HKCAA) TO VALIDATE DEGREE COURSES AT THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, THE CITY POLYTECHNIC OF HONG KONG AND THE HONG KONG BAPTIST COLLEGE.

THE DECISION WAS MADE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE PLANNING COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AWARDS CHAIRED BY DR DAVID BETHEL WHO IS THE DIRECTOR OF THE LEICESTER POLYTECHNIC AND A MEMBER OF THE UNIVERSITY AND POLYTECHNIC GRANTS COMMITTEE SINCE 1982.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (THURSDAY), A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT HONG KONG NEEDS ITS OWN ACADEMIC ACCREDITATION BODY TO KEEP PACE WITH THE DEVELOPMENT AT THE THREE LOCAL NON-UNIVERSITY INSTITUTIONS.

"THE HKCAA, AN INDEPENDENT STATUTORY BODY, WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR GIVING PUBLIC ASSURANCE OF THE CONTINUED INTERNATIONAL ACCEPTABILITY OF DEGREES AWARDED BY THESE INSTITUTIONS IN HONG KONG," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

SUBJECT TO THE PROVISION OF THE NECESSARY FUNDS BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, A PROVISIONAL HKCAA WILL BE SET UP TO PREPARE FOR THE FORMAL ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HKCAA. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE FORMER PLANNING COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AWARDS WILL BE APPOINTED TO THE PROVISIONAL HKCAA.

THE FULL COUNCIL OF 14 MEMBERS WILL MEET TWICE A YEAR IN HONG KONG, AND AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF ITS HONG KONG MEMBERS CHAIRED BY THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN WILL MEET ON TWO ADDITIONAL OCCASIONS EACH YEAR IF NECESSARY, TO FACILITATE THE QUICK AND EFFICIENT WORK OF THE COUNCIL.

IN ADDITION TO PROMINENT LOCAL LAY MEMBERS, THE COUNCIL AND ITS VALIDATION TEAMS WILL CONSIST OF INTERNATIONALLY EMINENT SPECIALISTS IN THEIR OWN FIELD SOME OF WHOM WILL ALSO BE EXPERIENCED IN ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL ACCREDITATION.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE PROVISIONAL HKCAA WILL HAVE A SECRETARIAT STAFFED BY CIVIL SERVANTS AND THIS WILL BE SET UP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO WORK IN CLOSE CO-OPERATION WITH THE UNITED KINGDOM COUNCIL FOR NATIONAL ACADEMIC AWARDS (CNAA) AND THE UNIVERSITY AND POLYTECHNIC GRANTS COMMITTEE IN EFFECTING TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR IMPLEMENTING A HONG KONG SYSTEM OF VALIDATION, WITHOUT INTERRUPTING THE EXISTING PLANS FOR VALIDATING DEGREE COURSES OF THE NON-UNIVERSITY INSTITUTIONS IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

/"THE PROVISIONAL .....

"THE PROVISIONAL HKCAA WILL ENSURE THAT WHEN THE STATUTORY BODY IS ESTABLISHED, IT WILL BE CAPABLE OF UNDERTAKING FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE VALIDATION PROGRAMME THEREAFTER," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT THE PROVISIONAL HKCAA HAS AS MUCH TIME AS IT NEEDS TO UNDERSTUDY THE CNAA AND TO GAIN EXPERIENCE TO THE FULLEST EXTENT POSSIBLE IN THE CONDUCT OF ACADEMIC ACCREDITATION, NO TARGET DATE HAS BEEN SET FOR THE FORMAL ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HKCAA. THIS WILL BE DETERMINED IN THE LIGHT OF A PROGRESS REPORT BY THE PROVISIONAL HKCAA," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

HE POINTED OUT THAT HKCAA AS AN INDEPENDENT STATUTORY BODY WOULD DERIVE ITS INCOME FROM VALIDATION FEES WHICH SHOULD MEET THE COST OF RUNNING THE COUNCIL AND ITS SECRETARIAT. IF NECESSARY, THE GOVERNMENT WILL ALSO PROVIDE AN ANNUAL DISCRETIONARY GRANT, TO MEET ANY BALANCE OF THE COST OF RUNNING THE HKCAA.

"BEFORE HKCAA IS FULLY OPERATIONAL AND CAPABLE OF UNDERTAKING THE FULL PROGRAMME OF VALIDATIONS WITHOUT THE ASSISTANCE OF THE CNAA, THE GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO MEET THE OPERATIONAL COSTS OF THE PROVISIONAL HKCAA," HE ADDED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT ALTHOUGH NO RADICAL CHANGE IN THE METHODOLOGY OF EXTERNAL COURSE VALIDATION WAS ENVISAGED IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE UNDER THE HKCAA, CHANGES IN THE EMPHASIS ON THE PART OF VALIDATION TEAMS, AND TO SOME OF THE PROCEDURES BY WHICH THE COURSE VALIDATION HAD OPERATED, WOULD BE MADE IN THE INTERESTS OF GREATER EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY.

"IT IS INTENDED, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT COURSE VALIDATION TEAMS WILL FOCUS MORE UPON COURSE DELIVERY AND THE INSTITUTIONS' ABILITY TO ESTABLISH AND MONITOR THEIR OWN ACADEMIC STANDARDS, AS WELL AS DETAILS OF COURSE CONTENT AND DESIGN. THESE DEVELOPMENTS REFLECT A WORLD-WIDE TREND IN THE METHODS BY WHICH PUBLIC ASSURANCE OF THE MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED DEGREE STANDARDS IS ACHIEVED BY WAY OF EXTERNAL PEER REVIEW," HE SAID.

"IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE HKCAA WILL ENSURE THE MAINTENANCE OF THE HIGHEST STANDARDS AND QUALITY OF DEGREES AT THE LOCAL NON-UNIVERSITY INSTITUTIONS AND, WITHOUT SACRIFICING QUALITY, WILL HELP DEVELOP GREATER SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN HONG KONG'S HIGHER EDUCATION, AND SERVE THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL NEEDS OF HONG KONG," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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CONFIDENCE ONLY INDUCED BY DEEDS, NOT WORDS

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NOT ONLY WAS THE SIGNING IN 1984 OF THE SINO-BRITISH AGREEMENT ON THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG A TONIC FOR THE TERRITORY AT A TIME OF WANING CONFIDENCE, BUT THE LAST THREE YEARS HAVE PROVEN THAT IT WORKS, THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR GENERAL DUTIES, MR DONALD TSANG, SAID IN WINNIPEG, CANADA, YESTERDAY (WEDNESDAY).

SPEAKING BEFORE THE WINNIPEG CHAPTER OF THE HONG KONG-CANADA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION, MR TSANG SAID THAT THE AGREEMENT HAD LAID A SOLID FOUNDATION FOR STABILITY AND GROWTH.

AS EVIDENCE, HE POINTED TO THE NUMEROUS INDICATIONS OF A VIBRANT ECONOMY FOUND IN HONG KONG TODAY: THE HEALTHY PROPERTY MARKET, THE RECORD-BREAKING STOCK PRICES, GROWING FOREIGN INVESTMENT, LOW UNEMPLOYMENT AND INFLATION, AND BOOMING EXPORTS.

"THE HONG KONG COMMUNITY IS RESOURCEFUL, INVENTIVE AND FLEXIBLE. GIVEN GOOD SENSE AND ENTERPRISE THE NEXT CENTURY WILL NO DOUBT SEE HONG KONG REACHING EVEN MORE ENVIABLE GOALS," HE SAID.

MR TSANG SAID THAT THE CHANGE IN 1997 WOULD BE SIGNIFICANT AND PREPARING FOR IT IS A MAJOR CHALLENGE, WITH MUCH WORK REMAINING TO BE DONE. AND CONFIDENCE, HE SAID, CANNOT BE INDUCED BY WORDS, ONLY BY DEEDS.

"FOR SOMEONE LIKE MYSELF, 1997 IS THE GREATEST CHALLENGE I CAN EVER HOPE TO WITNESS IN A LIFETIME. NOTHING ELSE ON EARTH CAN MOVE ME AWAY FROM SEEING IT THROUGH SMOOTHLY," MR TSANG SAID.

WITH THE APPROACH OF 1997, THERE WOULD BE THE STRONGEST POSSIBLE MOTIVE TO WORK FOR FAITHFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT, WHICH WAS IN THE INTEREST OF A MODERNISING CHINA, AND EQUALLY IN THE INTEREST OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT, HE SAID.

"ON THE EVIDENCE SO FAR THERE IS ROOM FOR CONSIDERABLE ENCOURAGEMENT. THE BASIC HONG KONG DYNAMISM, PERSEVERANCE AND PRAGMATISM STILL RUN STRONG. BUT THERE IS A STRONG TRADITION OF CONSENSUS AND AN UNWILLINGNESS TO PREJUDICE THE MAJOR ELEMENTS IN HONG KONG'S PAST SUCCESSES.

"THERE IS A WILL ON THE PART OF ALL CONCERNED TO SECURE CONTINUITY OF SYSTEMS AND TO AVOID A BREAK IN CONTINUITY IN 1997," MR TSANG SAID.

TURNING TO HONG KONG'S PRESENT RELATIONS WITH CHINA, MR TSANG SAID THAT THEY HAD BEEN DEVELOPING AT AN EXTRAORDINARY SPEED.

THE OPENING OF CHINA'S ECONOMY HAD ADDED A NEW DIMENSION TO HONG KONG'S COMMERCIAL AND SOCIAL LIFE, AND ALTHOUGH HONG KONG HAS TRADITIONALLY GENERATED A LARGE PART OF CHINA'S FOREIGN EXCHANGE EARNINGS, THE COMMERCIAL RELATIONSHIP WHICH HAS DEVELOPED IN THE LAST FEW YEARS COULD BEST BE DESCRIBED AS SYMBIOSIS, HE SAID.

/"HONG KONG .....

"HONG KONG IS IN MANY WAYS THE KEY TO CHINA'S MODERNISATION PROCESS. IT GENERATES THE CAPITAL AND SKILLS THAT ARE ESSENTIAL TO THAT PROCESS. BY SOME ESTIMATES, 80 PER CENT OF NEW INVESTMENT IN GUANGDONG PROVINCE COMES FROM HONG KONG. THE PROPORTION IN SOUTH CHINA GENERALLY IS IMPRESSIVE. THE PEARL RIVER DELTA, HONG KONG'S HINTERLAND, IS GROWING AT A REMARKABLE RATE," MR TSANG SAID.

"HONG KONG IS, AND WILL REMAIN, AN UNBEATABLE GATEWAY TO THE CHINESE MARKET. IT IS HARD TO SEE HONG KONG'S FINANCIAL, INFRASTRUCTURAL AND LEGAL SERVICES BEING DISPLACED. THE RELATIONSHIP IS STRONGLY BENEFICIAL BOTH WAYS," HE SAID.

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HOSPITAL AND CLINIC FEES TO BE REVISED

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THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY) ANNOUNCED THAT THERE WILL BE AN INCREASE OF CHARGES AT PUBLIC HOSPITALS AND CLINICS AS FROM SEPTEMBER 1.

THE FEE REVISION IS THE RESULT OF AN ANNUAL ROUTINE REVIEW WHICH WAS CONDUCTED IN LINE WITH THE EXISTING PRACTICE FOR DETERMINING HOSPITAL AND CLINIC CHARGES.

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT PENDING THE DECISION ON THE PROPOSED HOSPITAL AUTHORITY, THE NEW FEES AND CHARGES SHOULD BE REGARDED AS AN INTERIM MEASURE.

FOR HOSPITALS, THE DAILY RATE IN GENERAL WARDS WILL BE INCREASED FROM $20 TO $23.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE GENERAL WARD WOULD CONTINUE TO BE HEAVILY SUBSIDISED BY THE GOVERNMENT. AT PRESENT, IT WAS SPENDING ON AVERAGE ABOUT $950 PER DAY TO MAINTAIN A REGIONAL HOSPITAL BED.

THE DAILY CHARGE PER BED IN THE GENERAL WARD WOULD INCLUDE FOOD, DRUGS, LABORATORY TESTS, SURGERY AND OTHER TREATMENTS.

IN CASES OF GENUINE HARDSHIP, CHARGES COULD BE WAIVED PARTIALLY OR IN FULL.

FOR FIRST AND SECOND CLASS PATIENTS, DAILY CHARGES WOULD GO UP FROM $820 TO $900 AND FROM $545 TO $600.

/CHARGES FOR .....

CHARGES FOR SPECIAL CLASS BEDS AT TSAN YUK HOSPITAL WOULD BE REVISED FROM $365 TO $460 DAILY.

FEES FOR THE FIRST AND SECOND CLASS OF WARDS OF THE TWO PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS -- CASTLE PEAK HOSPITAL AND KWAI CHUNG HOSPITAL -- REMAINS UNCHANGED AT $260 AND $175 RESPECTIVELY.

PATIENTS IN PRIVATE WARDS WOULD BE REQUIRED TO PAY EXTRA FOR MEDICAL CONSULTATIONS, SURGERY AND SPECIAL LABORATORY INVESTIGATIONS.

FOR OUT-PATIENTS, CONSULTATION FEES FOR GENERAL CLINIC WILL BE REVISED FROM $13 TO $18 PER VISIT.

MEANWHILE, CHARGES ARE REGULARISED FOR NON-ENTITLED PATIENTS WHO MAKE USE OF GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS OR CLINICS.

NON-ENTITLED PATIENTS ARE DEFINED AS THOSE PEOPLE WHO DO NOT HOLD A HONG KONG IDENTITY CARD OR A BRITISH PASSPORT.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT IT HAS BEEN THE GOVERNMENT'S PRACTICE NOT TO SUBSIDISE NON-EMERGENCY HOSPITAL AND CLINIC SERVICES FOR SUCH PATIENTS.

AN ALL-INCLUSIVE DAILY CHARGE OF $950 AND $350 WILL BE MADE TO NON-ENTITLED PATIENTS ADMITTED TO THE GENERAL AND PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL RESPECTIVELY.

CHARGES OF $65 AND $130 ARE MADE TO NON-ENTITLED PERSONS FOR ATTENDING THE OUT-PATIENT AND SPECIALIST CLINIC RESPECTIVELY.

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MAY EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS RELEASED

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THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS GREW BY 28 PER CENT AND 48 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1987 AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR, STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT INDICATED.

THESE BROUGHT AN OVERALL INCREASE OF 37 PER CENT IN THE 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 .....

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 MAY 1987 WITH MAY 1986, THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 30 PER CENT AND 48 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

HENCE, TOTAL EXPORTS GREW BY 37 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS. IMPORT VOLUME INCREASED BY 34 PER CENT.

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS ROSE BY 3 PER CENT; RE-EXPORT PRICES ROSE BY 1 PER CENT WHILE IMPORT PRICES ROSE BY 4 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 MAY 1987 WITH THE 12 MONTHS ENDING MAY 1986, THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASED BY 24 PER CENT WHILE THAT OF RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 35 PER CENT, GIVING AN INCREASE OF 29 PER CENT IN THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS. THE VOLUME OF IMPORTS ROSE BY 26 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 IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY COMMODITY GROUP FOR MAY 1987 AS COMPARED WITH MAY 1986 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

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

THESE INCLUDED CLOTHING (+7 PER CENT); TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD (+6 PER CENT); DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES (+6 PER CENT); TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES (+5 PER CENT); TEXTILE FABRICS (+5 PER CENT); FOOTWEAR (+3 PER CENT); RADIOS OF ALL KINDS (+3 PER CENT); TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES (+1 PER CENT); METAL MANUFACTURES (+1 PER CENT) AS WELL AS ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (+1 PER CENT). THE PRICES OF METAL ORES AND SCRAP AS WELL AS WATCHES AND CLOCKS REMAINED UNCHANGED.

/THE DOMESTIC .....

THE DOMESTIC EXPORT VOLUME OF MOST COMMODITY GROUPS INCREASED IN MAY 1987 COMPARED WITH MAY 1986, INCLUDING METAL ORES AND SCRAP (+66 PER CENT); TEXTILE FABRICS (+66 PER CENT); CLOTHING (+30 PER CENT); TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD (+29 PER CENT); METAL MANUFACTURES (+25 PER CENT); DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES (+21 PER CENT); WATCHES AND CLOCKS (+20 PER CENT); FOOTWEAR (+16 PER CENT); RADIOS OF ALL KINDS (+10 PER CENT); ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (+7 PER CENT) AS WELL AS TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES (+7 PER CENT). HOWEVER, A DECREASE IN DOMESTIC EXPORT VOLUME WAS RECORDED FOR TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES (-8 PER CENT).

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

AS PRESENTED IN TABLE 2, IMPORT PRICES OF ALL END-USE CATEGORIES ROSE IN MAY 1987 AS COMPARED WITH MAY 1986, RANGING FROM 2 PER CENT FOR FOODSTUFFS TO 8 PER CENT FOR CAPITAL GOODS.

MANY OF THE MAJOR IMPORTED FOODSTUFFS INCREASED IN VOLUME TERMS IN MAY 1987 COMPARED WITH MAY 1986. SIGNIFICANT GROWTH WAS RECORDED IN SUGAR; FRUIT AS WELL AS FISH AND FISH PREPARATIONS. HOWEVER, DECREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE REGISTERED FOR TEA AND COFFEE; RICE AS WELL AS WHEAT AND FLOUR.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE IMPORT VOLUME OF MOST CONSUMER GOODS INCREASED, THE MORE SUBSTANTIAL ONES BEING CAMERAS, FLASHLIGHT APPARATUS AND SUPPLIES FOR PHOTOGRAPHY; FOOTWEAR; MISCELLANEOUS MADE-UP ARTICLES OF TEXTILE MATERIALS AS WELL AS RADIOS, TELEVISON SETS, GRAMOPHONES, RECORDS, TAPE RECORDERS AND AMPLIFIERS. HOWEVER, A DECREASE WAS RECORDED IN THE IMPORT VOLUME OF TOBACCO MANUFACTURES.

THE IMPORT VOLUME OF MOST RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES ROSE IN MAY 1987 COMPARED WITH MAY 1986. THE MAJOR INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN WOOD, LUMBER AND CORK; CRUDE ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE MATERIALS; RAW COTTON; PLASTIC MOULDING MATERIALS; LEATHER AND DRESSED FUR SKINS AS WELL AS MAN-MADE FIBRES. DECREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE NOTED FOR IRON AND STEEL AS WELL AS COTTON YARN AND THREAD.

IMPORTS OF FUELS DECREASED BY 8 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS IN MAY 1987 AS COMPARED WITH MAY 1986.

IN THE CAPITAL GOODS CATEGORY, THE IMPORT VOLUME OF ALL COMMODITIES INCREASED IN MAY 1987 WHEN COMPARED WITH MAY 1986, THE SUBSTANTIAL ONES BEING TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT; TEXTILE MACHINERY; SCIENTIFIC, MEDICAL, OPTICAL, MEASURING AND CONTROLLING INSTRUMENTS AND APPARATUS; CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY AS WELL AS ELECTRICAL MACHINERY.

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

/AS DEPICTED .....

AS DEPICTED IN TABLE 3, THE RE-EXPORT VOLUME OF MOST END-USE CATEGORIES INCREASED IN MAY 1987 WHEN COMPARED WITH MAY 1986, RANGING FROM 11 PER CENT FOR FOODSTUFFS TO 56 PER CENT FOR CONSUMER GOODS. HOWEVER, THE VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS OF FUELS DECREASED BY 45 PER CENT.

FURTHER DETAILS ARE CONTAINED IN THE MAY 1987 ISSUE OF THE "HONG KONG TRADE INDEX NUMBERS" AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AROUND AUGUST 10 AT HK$2.5 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES REGARDING REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION TO THE REPORT MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT BASKERVILLE HOUSE ON 5-214375 AND ENQUIRIES ON TRADE INDICES TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON 5-8234918.

TABLE 1: INCREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY GROUP	COMPARING JAN-MAY 1987 WITH JAN-MAY 1986			COMPARING MAY 1987 WITH MAY 1986		
	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
CLOTHING	25	8	17	40	7	30
TEXTILE FABRICS	76	4	69	74	5	66
TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD	54	4	48	36	6	29
TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES	13	4	9	8	1	7
RADIOS OF ALL KINDS	37	*	38	13	3	10
ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS	3	-4	7	8	1	7
FOOTWEAR	14	3	11	19	3	16
METAL MANUFACTURES	30	1	29	27	1	25
METAL ORES AND SCRAP	32	-3	36	66	*	66

/WATCHES AND .....

WATCHES AND CLOCKS	16	2	14	20	*	20
TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES	3	4	-1	-3	5	-8
DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES	25	4	20	28	6	21
ALL COMMODITIES	32	3	28	33	3	30

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-MAY 1987 WITH JAN-MAY 1986			COMPARING MAY 1987 WITH MAY 1986		
	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
FOODSTUFFS	11	1	10	7	2	6
CONSUMER GOODS	47	5	40	44	4	39
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	45	3	41	43	3	39
FUELS	-15	-16	2	-3	5	-8
CAPITAL GOODS	38	9	27	45	8	35
ALL COMMODITIES	39	4	34	39	4	34

/TABLE 3: .....

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

END-USE CATEGORY	COMPARING JAN-MAY 1987 WITH JAN-MAY 1986			COMPARING MAY 1987 WITH MAY 1986		
	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
FOODSTUFFS	14	-1	15	9	-1	11
CONSUMER GOODS	66	2	62	58	1	56
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	48	1	46	51	1	49
FUELS	15	-5	20	-37	15	-45
CAPITAL GOODS	35	1	34	38	-1	40
ALL COMMODITIES	51	1	48	49	1	48

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COMMUNITY MORE SYMPATHETIC TO MENTAL PATIENTS

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PEOPLE IN HONG KONG ARE BECOMING MORE SYMPATHETIC TOWARDS THE MENTALLY ILL AND MORE AWARE OF MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEM COMPARED WITH FIVE YEARS AGO, REGIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER (HONG KONG), OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, MR KWOK NAI-SIK, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG HARBOUR, MR KWOK SAID THAT WITH THE JOINT EFFORTS OF THE GOVERNMENT AND VOLUNTARY SECTOR THROUGH IMPROVEMENT IN SERVICES AND THE EFFORTS IN PUBLIC EDUCATION, PEOPLE IN HONG KONG HAD BEEN MORE AWARE OF THE MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEM AND THEIR ACCEPTANCE TOWARDS MENTAL ILLNESS HAD MUCH ENHANCED.

MR KWOK NOTED THAT THERE WERE NOW 15 HALF-WAY HOUSES IN HONG KONG, CATERING FOR 515 DISCHARGED PATIENTS, AS COMPARED WITH THE NINE HALF-WAY HOUSES WITH 200-ODD PLACES FIVE YEARS AGO.

"IN ANOTHER FIVE YEARS' TIME, THERE WILL BE 12 MORE HALF-WAY HOUSES FOR 670 DISCHARGED PATIENTS," HE SAID.

/HE SAID .....

HE SAID IN THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR ALONE THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT WOULD SPEND $110,000 IN PROMOTING PUBLIC EDUCATION.

"A NUMBER OF DISTRICT CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEES HAVE BEEN FORMED TO DISSEMINATE INFORMATION ON MENTAL HEALTH IN THE FORM OF SEMINARS, TALKS, EXHIBITIONS AND VARIETY SHOWS," HE ADDED.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE GENERAL PUBLIC COULD HELP THEIR FRIENDS MAINTAIN GOOD MENTAL HEALTH AND PREVENT THE ONSET OF MENTAL ILLNESS WHEN THE LATTER COME ACROSS PERSONAL DIFFICULTIES OR STRESS BY OFFERING TIMELY HELP TO THEM BY DIRECT INTERVENTION THROUGH REASSURANCES OR PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT OR BY MEANS OF MAKING REFERRALS FOR PROFESSIONAL HELP.

HE SAID MENTAL ILLNESS WAS NOT A PROBLEM WHICH COULD BE DEALT WITH BY THE PROFESSIONALS ALONE AND SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE FROM THE COMMUNITY WAS NECESSARY.

MR KWOK APPEALED TO EMPLOYERS TO TAKE ON DISCHARGED MENTAL PATIENTS AS EMPLOYEES TO GIVE THEM AN OPPORTUNITY TO START THEIR LIFE AGAIN.

HE ALSO URGED THE COMMUNITY TO SUPPORT THE VOLUNTARY AGENCIES WHICH HAD MADE GREAT CONTRIBUTIONS IN MENTAL HEALTH CARE.

HE COMMENDED THE ROTARY CLUB FOR ITS CONCERN AND SUPPORT TOWARDS THE MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAMME TO BE CARRIED OUT IN THE WESTERN AND WAN CHAI DISTRICT.

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INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS

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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL HOLD ITS THIRD INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS IN DECEMBER.

THE THEME OF THIS YEAR'S SEMINAR IS "LANGUAGES IN EDUCATION IN BI-LINGUAL OR MULTI-LINGUAL SETTING."

THE INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR, ORGANISED BY THE INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION OF THE DEPARTMENT, WILL BE HELD AT THE SHANGRI-LA HOTEL, TSIM SHA TSUI EAST, FROM DECEMBER 15 TO 17.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, MRS RITA FAN, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY.

/THE OBJECTIVES .....

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE SEMINAR ARE TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR TEACHER TRAINERS, LINGUISTS AND APPLIED LINGUISTS, LANGUAGE TEACHERS AND EDUCATIONAL PLANNERS TO EXAMINE THE ISSUES INVOLVED IN RAISING LANGUAGE AWARENESS AND IDENTIFYING GOOD TEACHING PRACTICES, AND LANGUAGE PLANNING IN EDUCATION.

PARTICIPANTS WILL ALSO HAVE THE CHANCE TO EXPLORE THE CRITERIA FOR SUCCESSFUL INDIVIDUAL BI-LINGUAL, BI-DIALECTAL, AND MULTI-LINGUAL LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AS WELL AS THE ISSUES INVOLVED IN THE EFFECTIVE USE OF LANGUAGE AS A TOOL FOR CLASSROOM LEARNING.

IN ADDITION, THE SEMINAR WILL PROVIDE A VENUE FOR THE PARTICIPANTS TO IDENTIFY THE FACTORS WHICH FOSTER A SUPPORTIVE RELATIONSHIP IN THE TEACHING AND LEARNING OF THE VARIOUS LANGUAGES AND DIALECTS WITHIN ANY GIVEN SOCIETY IN AN EDUCATIONAL CONTEXT AS WELL AS THE CRITERIA FOR SUCCESSFUL CLASSROOM LANGUAGE LEARNING.

A NUMBER OF OVERSEAS LEADING EXPERTS ON BI-LINGUAL EDUCATION AND ON LANGUAGE LEARNING WILL TAKE PART IN THE SEMINAR.

THEY INCLUDE PROFESSOR MICHAEL HALLIDAY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY, PROFESSOR JIM CUMMINS OF THE ONTARIO INSTITUTE FOR STUDIES IN EDUCATION, DR PHILIP RILEY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NANCY IN FRANCE, DR CHEW CHENG-HAI OF THE SINGAPORE INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION, PROFESSOR NI BAOYUAN OF HUANGZHOU UNIVERSITY, MR LIU GUOZHENG OF THE PEOPLE'S EDUCATION PRESS IN BEIJING, PROFESSOR JOHN BIGGS OF SCHOOL OF EDUCATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG AND DR N.S. PRABHU OF THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE.

APPLICATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SEMINAR ARE NOW INVITED. DETAILS AND FORMS ARE OBTAINABLE FROM THE INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION, PARK-IN COMMERCIAL CENTRE, 21ST FLOOR, 56 DUNDAS STREET, MONG KOK, KOWLOON, OR TELEPHONE 3-7719486 DURING OFFICE HOURS.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATION IS SEPTEMBER 30.

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BOOKLET FOR NEW IMMIGRANTS PUBLISHED

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THE COMMITTEE ON THE PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION HAS PUBLISHED A "BOOKLET FOR NEW IMMIGRANTS" AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS YEAR'S CIVIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN.

THE BOOKLET WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO RECENT ARRIVALS THROUGH THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS OFFICE AT THE QUEENSWAY BRANCH OF THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT, STARTING TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE, MRS RITA FAN, TODAY (THURSDAY) SAID: "THE BOOKLET SERVES TO PROVIDE BASIC INFORMATION ON THE VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE COMMUNITY WHICH IS CONDUCIVE TO HELPING RECENT ARRIVALS ADAPT TO THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT."

AMONG THE WIDE-RANGING TOPICS CONTAINED IN THE 17-PAGE PUBLICATION ARE THE VARIOUS FACETS OF LIFE IN HONG KONG SUCH AS HOUSING, SOCIAL WELFARE, EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

A TELEPHONE MEMORANDUM IS ALSO INCORPORATED TO FACILITATE FURTHER ENQUIRIES.

COMPRISING GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES, THE 22-MEMBER COMMITTEE WAS TASKED WITH THE OBJECTIVES OF INCULCATING A SENSE OF CIVIC MINDEDNESS AND ARDENT PARTICIPATION AMONG THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

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MORTUARY BEING BUILT AT SHA TIN

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A PUBLIC MORTUARY IS BEING BUILT AT FU SHAN, SHA TIN, FOLLOWING THE RECENT AWARD OF A $7.6 MILLION CONTRACT BY THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

THE PROJECT CALLS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A FOUR-STOREY BUILDING OF ABOUT 2,500 SQUARE METRES NEAR LOWER SHING MUN ROAD.

BESIDES THE MORTUARY, THE DEVELOPMENT WILL INCLUDE A PUBLIC RECEPTION AREA, LABORATORIES AND OFFICES ON THE LOWER FLOORS AND STAFF QUARTERS ON THE UPPER FLOORS.

THE DEPARTMENT HAS ALSO AWARDED TWO CONTRACTS OF MORE THAN $2.69 MILLION FOR THE ELECTRICAL, AIR-CONDITIONING, VENTILATION AND OTHER INSTALLATIONS FOR THE BUILDING.

THE WORK WILL BE COMPLETED IN 13 MONTHS.

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LIGHTING UP BOWEN ROAD

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JOGGERS AND MORNING WALKERS WHO FREQUENT BOWEN ROAD WILL FIND THEIR ROUTE SAFER AND MORE CONVENIENT FOLLOWING THE COMPLETION OF INSTALLATION OF STREET LIGHTS AT THE SECTION OF THE ROAD BETWEEN STUBBS ROAD AND WAN CHAI GAP ROAD PROVIDING LIGHTS ALONG THE ENTIRE LENGTH OF THE ROAD.

WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ROGER GARCIA, TODAY (THURSDAY) SAID THIS WAS PART OF THE DISTRICT'S STREET LIGHTING PROGRAMME TO IMPROVE LOCAL FACILITIES FOR ROAD USERS AS BOWEN ROAD HAD BECOME A VERY POPULAR PLACE FOR JOGGING AND LEISURE WALKING.

STREET LIGHTS HAD EARLIER BEEN INSTALLED IN OTHER SECTIONS OF BOWEN ROAD, MR GARCIA NOTED, AND THERE WERE INCREASING DEMANDS FROM RESIDENTS FOR MORE LIGHTS ALONG THE WHOLE ROAD.

THE WORK WAS CARRIED OUT BY THE LIGHTING DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT IN CONJUNCTION WITH HONG KONG ELECTRIC COMPANY.

MR GARCIA ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD HAD PROVIDED A NUMBER OF FACILITIES ALONG BOWEN ROAD FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF THE RESIDENTS OVER THE YEARS.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE DISTRICT BOARD HAD ALLOCATED $14,000 FOR THE PROVISION OF SIX CONCRETE MILESTONES AT EVERY HALF KILOMETRE ALONG THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT SECTION OF BOWEN ROAD FOR THE BENEFIT OF JOGGERS.

IN ADDITION, THE COMMITTEE HAD SPENT $68,000 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF 11 RAIN SHELTERS WITH BENCHES AT VARIOUS PLACES ALONG THE ROAD, MR GARCIA SAID.

ALL THESE, TOGETHER WITH THE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES ALREADY INSTALLED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL AT VARIOUS POINTS ALONG THE ROAD, WOULD CERTAINLY MAKE IT MORE PLEASANT FOR JOGGERS AND LEISURE WALKERS, MR GARCIA SAID.

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TUEN MUN HEALTH FORTNIGHT FOR THE ELDERLY

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A HEALTH FORTNIGHT FEATURING A CARNIVAL, TOUR EXHIBITION, FREE MEDICAL CHECK-UPS AND LECTURES WILL BE LAUNCHED ON SATURDAY (AUGUST 8)TO EMPHASISE THE IMPORTANCE OF HEALTH AND TO PROMOTE HEALTH AWARENESS AMONG SENIOR RESIDENTS OF THE DISTRICT.

THE FORTNIGHT IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE TUEN MUN RESPECT FOR THE AGED ASSOCIATION AND TUEN MUN DISTRICT ELDERLY SERVICE CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE, AND SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD.

AN OPENING CEREMONY AND CARNIVAL WILL BE HELD AT 10.30 AM ON SATURDAY IN THE YAN OI TONG COMMUNITY AND INDOOR SPORTS CENTRE TO LAUNCH THE PROJECT.

THERE WILL BE MEDICAL CHECK-UPS, INCLUDING BLOOD PRESSURE AND URINE TESTS, FOR THE ELDERLY, WHILE VISITORS TO THE VENUE CAN ALSO LEARN MORE ABOUT HEALTH THROUGH VARIOUS GAMES STALLS.

THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MR EDWARD YAU; DISTRICT SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER, MR HO KIN-CHUNG; VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE TUEN MUN RURAL COMMITTEE, MR CHAN WING-HING; AND CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG EVANGELICAL CHURCH, REVEREND CHOW KA-SING WILL OFFICIATE AT THE CEREMONY.

AN EXHIBITION ENTITLED "THE KNOWLEDGE OF HEALTH" WILL BE HELD ON A ROTATORY BASIS AT DIFFERENT LOCATIONS IN THE DISTRICT - INCLUDING THE YAN OI SQUARE (AUGUST 9 AND 10), TAI HING COMMUNITY HALL (AUGUST 11 AND 12), SHAN KING COMMUNITY HALL (AUGUST 13 AND 14), BUTTERFLY ESTATE COMMUNITY CENTRE (AUGUST 15 TO 17), AND ON TING AND YAU OI ESTATE COMMUNITY CENTRE (AUGUST 18 AND 19).

MEANWHILE, FREE MEDICAL CHECK-UPS WILL BE PROVIDED FOR THE ELDERLY AT THE YAN OI TONG FROM 10.30 AM TO 4 PM ON AUGUST 8. SIMILAR CHECK-UPS HAVE BEEN ARRANGED AT THE TAI HING COMMUNITY HALL, SIU HONG COURT ESTATE OFFICE, SHAN KING COMMUNITY HALL AND BUTTERFLY ESTATE COMMUNITY CENTRE FROM 9 AM TO 12 NOON ON AUGUST 11, 12, 14 AND 15 RESPECTIVELY, WHILE SENIOR RESIDENTS CAN HAVE FREE CHECK-UPS AT THE ON TING AND YAU OI ESTATE COMMUNITY CENTRE FROM 2 PM TO 5 PM ON AUGUST 18.

IN ADDITION, TWO LECTURES ON COMMON ILLNESS OF THE ELDERLY WILL BE HELD AT 10 AM AT THE ON TING AND YAU OI ESTATE COMMUNITY CENTRE ON AUGUST 14 AND BUTTERFLY ESTATE COMMUNITY CENTRE ON AUGUST 17.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT HEALTH FORTNIGHT FOR THE ELDERLY AT 10.30 AM ON SATURDAY (AUGUST 8) AT THE YAN OI TONG COMMUNITY AND INDOOR SPORTS CENTRE, YAN CHING CIRCUIT, TUEN MUN. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WISHING TO USE GOVERNMENT TRANSPORT ARE REQUESTED TO ASSEMBLE AT THE KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER, TSIM SHA TSUI, AT 9.15 AM SHARP.

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ILLEGAL STRUCTURES CLEARED IN KWUN TONG

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A TOTAL OF 12 ILLEGAL STRUCTURES AT SIDE LANE AND REAR LANE OF 21-69, SHUI WO STREET IN KWUN TONG WAS CLEARED IN AN OPERATION THIS (THURSDAY) MORNING.

THEY INCLUDED A DOMESTIC STRUCTURE AND 11 STORAGE STRUCTURES AND COMMERCIAL UNDERTAKINGS.

TODAY'S OPERATION WAS PART OF THE ON-GOING "OPERATION FAR-FLING" PROGRAMME TO IMPROVE THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT IN KWUN TONG.

CO-ORDINATED BY THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE, THE OPERATION WAS JOINTLY CARRIED OUT BY THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT, THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE POLICE.

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INDUSTRIAL SAFETY EXHIBITION OPENS IN SHA TIN

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THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, MR RON BRIDGE, AND THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR YIU YAN-NANG, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY EXHIBITION JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS AND THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT ON SATURDAY (AUGUST 8).

OTHER OFFICIATING GUESTS INCLUDE CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE FEDERATION, MR CHENG YIU-TONG AND MR TAM YIU-CHUNG.

THE TWO-DAY EXHIBITION, TO BE HELD AT THE SHA TIN NEW TOWN PLAZA, FEATURES SAFETY PRECAUTIONS IN "WORKING AT HEIGHT" AND "HANDLING OF DANGEROUS CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES".

APART FROM STATIC DISPLAYS, THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT WILL ALSO STAGE A "SAFETY EXTRAVAGANZA" WHICH IS A 15-MINUTE MULTI-SCREEN SLIDE SHOW ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY THROUGHOUT THE EXHIBITION PERIOD.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY WHICH WILL BE HELD AT 10 AM ON SATURDAY ON LEVEL 3 OF THE NEW TOWN PLAZA, SHA TIN.

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SAI KUNG DB TO DISCUSS N.T. PLANNING

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MEMBERS OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD WILL MEET TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO DISCUSS THE SOUTH EASTERN NEW TERRITORIES SUB-REGIONAL PLANNING STATEMENT.

REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE TOWN PLANNING OFFICE OF THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT WILL BRIEF MEMBERS ON THE DOCUMENT.

MEANWHILE, PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY (HONG KONG AND KOWLOON) OF CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, MR FRANKIE LUI, WILL ALSO BRIEF MEMBERS ON TWO PROPOSED MEASURES TO IMPROVE THE MANAGEMENT OF PRIVATE MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE A REPORT BY THE BOARD'S REGIONAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE, MR WAN YUET-KAU, THE PROGRESS REPORT OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND APPLICATIONS FOR DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

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

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LRT MONITORING COMMITTEE MEETS TOMORROW

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MEMBERS OF THE TUEN MUN/YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARDS' JOINT COMMITTEE ON MONITORING LRT SERVICE WILL MEET TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO DISCUSS MEASURES TO CURB POSSIBLE NOISE NUISANCE FROM THE LRT.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE PEDESTRIAN CROSSING FACILITIES AND TRACK SAFETY FACILITIES WITHIN THE SERVICE AREA; PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AT SIU HONG COURT; THE LRT'S OPERATION UNDER NORMAL, EMERGENCY AND BREAKDOWN SITUATIONS; AND TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENT OF KMB BUS SERVICES AND KCRC/LRT BUS SERVICES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE COMMITTEE MEETING TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT 10.30 AM IN THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM ON 3/F., TUEN MUN GOVERNMENT OFFICES, NO. 1, TUEN HI ROAD.

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TSUEN WAN DB ON OVERSEAS VISIT

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THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD WILL GO ON A STUDY TOUR TO THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD WILL STUDY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT AND TRANSPORT MATTERS DURING THE VISIT.

TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR WILLIAM SHIU, WILL ACCOMPANY THE STUDY TOUR AS AN ADVISER.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

A PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD TO ANNOUNCE DETAILS OF THE FORTHCOMING TOUR AT 4 PM AT THE MAXIM'S RESTAURANT, LUK YEUNG SUN CHUEN NEAR TSUEN WAN MTR STATION TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER.

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FIGHT CRIME CAMPAIGN STARTS TOMORROW

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A SEMINAR ON CRIME PREVENTION AND SECURITY MEASURES FOR GOLDSMITH AND JEWELLERY SHOP OPERATORS IN THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO MARK THE OPENING OF THE DISTRICT'S FIGHT CRIME CAMPAIGN.

THE SEMINAR WILL START AT 7.30 PM IN THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT POLICE HEADQUARTERS.

SPEAKERS AT THE SEMINAR WILL INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE CRIME PREVENTION BUREAU, INSURANCE FIRMS AND JEWELLERY TRADE.

OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR AUGUSTINE CHENG AND DISTRICT POLICE COMMANDER, MR J.H. WALKER.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY AND THE SEMINAR WHICH WILL START AT 7.30 PM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT THE OFFICERS' MESS, 9/F,YAU MA TEI DISTRICT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, 213 NATHAN ROAD.

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