



---

## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

---

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

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1983

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
NOVEMBER EXPORTS SHOW BIG RISE .....	1
SOCIAL SECURITY RATES TO GO UP .....	3
EMPLOYERS REMINDED ABOUT COMPULSORY INSURANCE .....	5
DB TO DISCUSS SIGNBOARD PROBLEMS .....	6
PRODUCTIVE POTENTIAL SEEN IN PRISONS .....	7
RESIDENTS ADVISED ABOUT PORK PURCHASE .....	7
NEW PIER FOR FERRY SERVICES TO SHENZHEN .....	8
TEN LOCAL OFFICERS PROMOTED TO SURVEYOR .....	9
SAI KUNG BAZAAR CONTRACTS SIGNED .....	9

- 1 -

NOVEMBER EXPORTS SHOW BIG RISE  
\* \* \* \*

DOMESTIC EXPORTS, AT \$10 393 MILLION IN NOVEMBER 1983, WERE 45 PER CENT OR \$3 245 MILLION HIGHER THAN IN THE SAME MONTH A YEAR AGO, ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES PUBLISHED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

RE-EXPORTS ALSO INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY, BY 46 PER CENT OR \$1 809 MILLION, TO REACH \$5 749 MILLION.

TAKING DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TOGETHER, TOTAL EXPORTS ROSE BY 46 PER CENT OR \$5 054 MILLION TO \$16 142 MILLION IN NOVEMBER.

IMPORTS REACHED \$17 036 MILLION, AN INCREASE OF 40 PER CENT OR \$4 837 MILLION. THE VISIBLE TRADE DEFICIT FOR NOVEMBER THIS YEAR WAS \$894 MILLION, COMPARED WITH \$1 111 MILLION IN NOVEMBER LAST YEAR AND \$1 425 MILLION IN OCTOBER THIS YEAR.

AS A RESULT, THE VISIBLE TRADE GAP, THAT IS THE PROPORTION OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS NOT COVERED BY THAT OF TOTAL EXPORTS, NARROWED CONSIDERABLY TO FIVE PER CENT, FROM NINE PER CENT IN NOVEMBER LAST YEAR.

PUTTING THE MONTH'S TRADE FIGURES INTO CONTEXT, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS IN THE FIRST ELEVEN MONTHS OF 1983 WAS 25 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD LAST YEAR. THIS OVERALL INCREASE WAS MADE UP OF AN INCREASE OF 25 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND AN INCREASE OF 26 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS.

AS THE GROWTH RATE OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS WAS LOWER, AT 21 PER CENT, THE VISIBLE TRADE GAP IN THE FIRST ELEVEN MONTHS OF THIS YEAR, AT EIGHT PER CENT, WAS NARROWER THAN THAT IN THE SAME PERIOD OF 1982, AT 11 PER CENT.

COMMENTING ON THESE COMPARATIVE FIGURES, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT DOMESTIC EXPORTS EXCEEDED THE \$10 000 MILLION MARK FOR THE SECOND MONTH RUNNING. HE ALSO SAID THAT THE SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN IMPORTS IN NOVEMBER, WHICH WAS PROBABLY LARGELY ATTRIBUTABLE TO AN INCREASE IN IMPORTS OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES, IN ENCOURAGING AND INDICATES CONTINUED GOOD SHORT-TERM PROSPECTS FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS.

FOLLOWING ARE THE PROVISIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FIGURES FOR NOVEMBER 1983:

<u>MERCHANDISE:</u>	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	:	\$10 393 MILLION
	RE-EXPORTS	:	\$ 5 749 MILLION
	TOTAL EXPORTS	:	\$16 142 MILLION
	IMPORTS	:	\$17 036 MILLION
	TRADE BALANCE	:	\$ 894 MILLION (IN DEFICIT)

/COMPARATIVE FIGURES .....

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

<u>LASTEST 3 MONTHS</u>	SEPT.-NOV. 1983	SEPT.-NOV. 1982	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	30 505	21 414	+ 9 091	+42.5
RE-EXPORTS	16 531	11 258	+ 5 273	+46.8
TOTAL EXPORTS	47 036	32 672	+14 364	+44.0
IMPORTS	50 145	36 230	+13 915	+38.4
TRADE BALANCE	- 3 109	- 3 558	+ 449	

<u>SAME MONTH LAST YEAR</u>	NOVEMBER 1983	NOVEMBER 1982	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	10 393 (64.4%)	7 148 (64.5%)	+ 3 245	+45.4
RE-EXPORTS	5 749	3 940	+ 1 809	+45.9
TOTAL EXPORTS	16 142	11 088	+ 5 054	+45.6
IMPORTS	17 036	12 199	+ 4 837	+39.7
TRADE BALANCE	- 894	- 1 111	+ 217	

<u>LAST MONTH</u>	NOVEMBER 1983	OCTOBER 1983	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	10 393 (64.4%)	10 478 (64.7%)	- 85	- 0.8
RE-EXPORTS	5 749	5 715	+ 34	+ 0.6
TOTAL EXPORTS	16 142	16 193	- 51	- 0.3
IMPORTS	17 036	17 618	- 582	- 3.3
TRADE BALANCE	- 894	- 1 425	+ 531	

/CALENDAR YEAR .....

CALENDAR YEAR TO-DATE	JAN.-NOV. 1983	JAN.-NOV. 1982	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	93 484 (65.1%)	74 641 (65.2%)	+18 843	+25.2
RE-EXPORTS	50 080	39 857	+10 223	+25.6
TOTAL EXPORTS	143 564	114 498	+29 066	+25.4
IMPORTS	156 522	128 849	+27 673	+21.5
TRADE BALANCE	- 12 958	- 14 351	+ 1 393	

LAST 12 MONTHS	DEC. 1982 TO NOV. 1983	DEC. 1981 TO NOV. 1982	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	101 875	82 423	+19 452	+23.6
RE-EXPORTS	54 576	43 756	+10 820	+24.7
TOTAL EXPORTS	156 451	126 179	+30 272	+24.0
IMPORTS	170 566	141 846	+28 720	+20.2
TRADE BALANCE	- 14 115	- 15 667	+ 1 552	

- - - - 0 - - - -

### SOCIAL SECURITY RATES TO GO UP \* \* \* \*

THE BASIC SCALE RATES OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCES WILL BE INCREASED BY ABOUT 13 PER CENT FROM FEBRUARY 1, THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THAT PERIODIC REVIEWS OF THE LEVELS OF CASH BENEFITS UNDER THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SCHEME WERE CARRIED OUT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MOVEMENT OF THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE INDEX.

+THE PRESENT ADJUSTMENT IS INTENDED TO RESTORE THE REAL VALUE OF THE BASIC RATE OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE,+ HE SAID.

THIS WILL BE THE NINTH INCREASE IN PAYMENT RATES SINCE THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SCHEME WAS EXPANDED IN 1972. THE LAST REVISION WAS MADE IN JUNE 1982 WHEN THE BASIC SCALE RATES WERE RAISED BY 29 PER CENT TO MAINTAIN THEIR PURCHASING VALUE.

THE INCREASES WILL MEAN AN ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE OF \$160 MILLION FOR A FULL YEAR, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE NEW PAYMENT RATES PER MONTH ARE AS FOLLOWS:

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

<u>BASIC RATES</u>	<u>EXISTING RATE</u>	<u>NEW RATE</u>
FOR A SINGLE PERSON LIVING ALONE	\$450	\$510
FOR A FAMILY:		
FIRST THREE ELIGIBLE MEMBERS	\$325 EACH	\$370 EACH
NEXT THREE ELIGIBLE MEMBERS	\$280 EACH	\$315 EACH
EACH ADDITIONAL ELIGIBLE MEMBER THEREAFTER	\$215	\$245
<u>SUPPLEMENTS</u>	<u>EXISTING RATE</u>	<u>NEW RATE</u>
OLD AGE SUPPLEMENT (FOR ANY RECIPIENT OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AGED 60 AND ABOVE)	\$225	\$255
DISABILITY SUPPLEMENT (FOR ANY PUBLIC ASSISTANCE RECIPIENT WHO IS PARTIALLY DISABLED)	\$225	\$255
ANNUAL, LONG-TERM SUPPLEMENT (FOR THOSE IN RECEIPT OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FOR 12 MONTHS OR MORE)		
(A) FOR A SINGLE PERSON	\$570	\$645
(B) FOR A FAMILY	\$1 140	\$1 290
<u>SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCES</u>		
OLD AGED ALLOWANCE	\$225	\$255
DISABILITY ALLOWANCE	\$450	\$510

AT THE SAME TIME, THE SAVINGS LIMIT UNDER THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SCHEME WILL GO UP BY THE SAME PERCENTAGE. IT WILL BE INCREASED FROM THE \$5 700 TO \$6 450 FOR A SINGLE PERSON, AND FROM \$3 800 TO \$4 300 FOR A PERSON IN A FAMILY.

EXPLAINING HOW NEEDY PEOPLE ARE ASSISTED, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT UNDER THE EXISTING RATES, THE BASIC RATE FOR AN ELIGIBLE FOUR-MEMBER FAMILY IS \$1 255 A MONTH. WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW RATES, IT WILL BECOME \$1 425 A MONTH. INCLUDING RENT, SUPPLEMENTS AND OTHER ESSENTIAL EXPENSES WHICH ARE PROVIDED SEPARATELY, A FOUR-MEMBER HOUSEHOLD ON PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CAN RECEIVE UP TO ABOUT \$2 540 A MONTH.

AT THE END OF NOVEMBER, THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT HAD 54 428 PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CASES, 194 831 OLD AGE ALLOWANCE CASES AND 38 673 DISABILITY ALLOWANCE CASES ON ITS BOOKS.

EMPLOYERS REMINDED ABOUT COMPULSORY INSURANCE  
\* \* \* \*

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY) REMINDED EMPLOYERS THAT THE LEGISLATION ON COMPULSORY INSURANCE FOR EMPLOYEES INJURED OR KILLED AT WORK COMES INTO OPERATION ON SUNDAY (JANUARY 1).

HE WARNED: +AN EMPLOYER WHO EMPLOYS ANYONE WITHOUT AN INSURANCE POLICY COMMITS AN OFFENCE AND IS LIABLE ON CONVICTION TO A MAXIMUM PENALTY OF \$50 000 AND IMPRISONMENT FOR TWO YEARS.+

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT UNDER THE EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION ORDINANCE, AN EMPLOYER HAD TO TAKE OUT AN INSURANCE POLICY IN RESPECT OF ALL HIS EMPLOYEES FOR THE FULL AMOUNT OF HIS LIABILITIES FOR BOTH COMPENSATION UNDER THE ORDINANCE AND COMMON LAW DAMAGES FOR INJURIES AND DEATH AS A RESULT OF AN ACCIDENT AT WORK.

+THE PURPOSE OF REQUIRING AN EMPLOYER TO DO THIS IS TO ENSURE THAT AN EMPLOYEE WHO IS INJURED OR KILLED AT WORK WILL OBTAIN COMPENSATION TO WHICH HE IS ENTITLED UNDER THE ORDINANCE,+ HE STRESSED.

HAVING TAKEN OUT AN INSURANCE POLICY, THE SPOKESMAN CONTINUED, AN EMPLOYER MUST DISPLAY AT A CONSPICUOUS PLACE ON HIS WORK PREMISES A NOTICE, IN BOTH ENGLISH AND CHINESE, GIVING THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:-

- \* THE NAME OF THE EMPLOYER;
- \* THE NAME OF THE INSURER;
- \* THE POLICY NUMBER;
- \* THE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES INSURED; AND
- \* THE EXTENT OF THE LIABILITY INSURED.

THE PENALTY FOR FAILING TO PUT UP THE NOTICE IS \$10 000.

THIS NOTICE REQUIREMENT, HOWEVER, DOES NOT APPLY TO HOUSEHOLDS EMPLOYING DOMESTIC SERVANTS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID COPIES OF SUCH NOTICE WERE NOW AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE FROM THE EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION DIVISION AT THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:-

HONG KONG ISLAND

7TH FLOOR, HENNESSY CENTRE, 500 HENNESSY ROAD, CAUSEWAY BAY;

/KOWLOON .....

KOWLOON

9TH FLOOR, CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 393 CANTON ROAD, YAUMATI; AND 100 TING FU STREET, 3RD FLOOR, YAN HAU BUILDING, KWUN TONG;

THE NEW TERRITORIES

EAST ASIA COMMERCIAL CENTRE, 1ST FLOOR, TEXACO ROAD, TSUEN WAN; AND 167-173 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, 2ND FLOOR, CHEUNG YIU BUILDING, TSUEN WAN.

- - - - 0 - - - -

DB TO DISCUSS SIGNBOARD PROBLEMS

\* \* \* \*

THE FINDINGS OF A SURVEY ON PROBLEMS RELATED TO OVERHANGING SIGNBOARDS WILL BE DISCUSSED AT THE NINTH YAU MA TEI DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS A SCHEME INITIATED BY THE HONG KONG HOUSING SOCIETY TO PROVIDE ACCOMMODATION FOR BED-SPACE LODGERS IN THE DISTRICT, SPECIALLY SINGLE PEOPLE NOW LIVING IN SUB-STANDARD HOSTELS.

THE BOARD'S +MEET THE PUBLIC+ SCHEME WILL BE REVIEWED AND MEMBERS' ADVICE WILL BE SOUGHT ON POSSIBLE IMPROVEMENTS.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO BE BRIEFED ON THE ELECTRONIC ROAD PRICING SYSTEM, PARKING OPERATION ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS IN YAU MA TEI AND NOISE POLLUTION AT PRUDENTIAL CENTRE.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA WILL INCLUDE THE BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT AT MAN CHEONG STREET VEHICULAR FERRY PIER LANDING, WOOSUNG STREET COOKED-FOOD BAZAAR AND URBAN COUNCIL CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME FOR YAU MA TEI BETWEEN 1983-84 AND 1987-88.

- - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE NINTH YAU MA TEI DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF YAU MA TEI DISTRICT OFFICE ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF 490-492, NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON, AT 3 PM TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

- - - - 0 - - - -

- 7 -

PRODUCTIVE POTENTIAL SEEN IN PRISONS

\* \* \*

THERE IS +ENORMOUS PRODUCTIVE AND LEARNING POTENTIAL+ IN THE CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS, THE ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL, MR HORACE KNIGHT, SAID TODAY.

THE +WORKFORCE+ THERE CAN PRODUCE PRODUCTS AND ACQUIRE SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE WHICH ARE RELEVANT TO THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY, INSTEAD OF WHILING THE TIME AWAY IN BITTERNESS AND HOPELESSNESS, HE ADDED.

MR KNIGHT WAS SPEAKING AT A CEREMONY HELD TODAY AT PIK UK CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION DURING WHICH HE PRESENTED CERTIFICATES TO EIGHT YOUNG PRISONERS WHO PASSED THE CITY AND GUILDS EXAMINATION WITH HONOURS.

ELEVEN DISTINCTIONS, NINE CREDITS AND ONE PASS WERE OBTAINED BY THE EIGHT PEOPLE WHO SAT FOR THE CITY AND GUILDS OF LONDON INSTITUTE'S TELECOMMUNICATION TECHNICIANS LEVEL ONE EXAMINATION IN MAY THIS YEAR.

THE TELECOMMUNICATION TECHNICIANS COURSE COMPRISES CLASSROOM LECTURES AND WORKSHOP PRACTICE, COVERING PRACTICAL MATHEMATICS, ENGINEERING SCIENCE AND ELEMENTARY TELECOMMUNICATION PRACTICE.

IT WAS INTRODUCED IN PIK UK CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION IN 1978, AND SOME 60 PRISONERS HAVE SINCE THEN TAKEN THE EXAMINATIONS.

MOST OF THE DISCHARGED PRISONERS ARE NOW EMPLOYED IN THE ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY. SOME HAVE CONTINUED THEIR STUDIES AT HIGHER LEVELS, AND ONE OF THEM HAS EVEN SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE FOUR-YEAR COURSE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

RESIDENTS ADVISED ABOUT PORK PURCHASE

\* \* \* \*

TUEN MUN RESIDENTS WERE ADVISED TODAY IN THEIR OWN HEALTH INTERESTS TO BUY PORK ONLY FROM PROPER MARKET STALLS OR LICENSED SHOPS.

GIVING THE ADVICE, A NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT ALL THE 11 +TOLERATED+ UNLICENSED PRIVATE SLAUGHTER HOUSES WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM OPERATING FROM THE END OF THIS YEAR.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THE 11 UNLICENSED PRIVATE SLAUGHTER HOUSES AT TUEN MUN HAD BEEN TOLERATED SINCE JANUARY 1979, AS THEY HAD BEEN LONG-ESTABLISHED, BUT ONLY ON CONDITION THAT THEY COMPLIED WITH CERTAIN BASIC HEALTH REQUIREMENTS.

/+ADDITIONALLY, THEY .....

- 8 -

+ADDITIONALLY, THEY CATERED FOR THE NEEDS OF THE TUEN MUN RESIDENTS BY MAKING UP FOR THE SHORTFALL IN SUPPLY OF PORK FROM THE LEGAL SLAUGHTERING FACILITIES,+ HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO SAID THAT THE NEWLY-LICENSED TUEN MUN PRIVATE SLAUGHTERHOUSE HAS BEEN OPERATING SMOOTHLY SINCE LAST NOVEMBER, AND THERE HAS BEEN AMPLE FRESH MEAT FOR THE NEEDS OF THE NEW TOWN, INCLUDING TUEN MUN, TSUEN WAN AND KWAI CHUNG.

THE TOLERATED SLAUGHTERHOUSES HAD BEEN ADVISED SINCE APRIL 1980 THAT THEY WOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO OPERATE AFTER THE TSUEN WAN PRIVATE SLAUGHTER HOUSE BEGAN TO OPERATE FULLY, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

MEANWHILE, ALL 73 FRESH MEAT RETAIL OUTLETS, INCLUDING MARKET STALL AND FRESH PROVISION SHOP OPERATORS, HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED THAT THE MEAT THEY SELL MUST COME EITHER FROM GOVERNMENT ABATTOIRS OR LICENSED SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

- - - - 0 - - - -

#### NEW PIER FOR FERRY SERVICES TO SHENZHEN

\* \* \*

WORK HAS STARTED ON A TEMPORARY FERRY TERMINAL NEAR THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG AT SHA TIN TO RUN SERVICES LINKING HONG KONG WITH HOLIDAY RESORTS AT DAI XIAO MEI SHA, SHENZHEN.

THE PROJECT INVOLVES CONSTRUCTING A SINGLE-STOREY TERMINAL BUILDING WITH OFFICE ACCOMMODATION FOR THE POLICE AND IMMIGRATION, MARINE AND CUSTOMS DEPARTMENTS.

THERE WILL ALSO BE AN ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE HALL AS WELL AS A BUS AND TAXI LAY-BY AREA IN FRONT OF THE BUILDING.

THE WORK IS BEING UNDERTAKEN BY THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT AND WILL BE COMPLETED IN MAY NEXT YEAR.

THE PROJECT COSTS \$4.2 MILLION.

- - - - 0 - - - -

- 9 -

TEN LOCAL OFFICERS PROMOTED TO SURVEYOR

\*\*\*

TEN LOCAL OFFICERS IN THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT HAVE RECENTLY BEEN PROMOTED TO THE FULL PROFESSIONAL RANK OF RATING AND VALUATION SURVEYOR.

THE OFFICERS, ALL FORMER VALUATION ASSISTANTS, PASSED THE ROYAL INSTITUTION OF CHARTERED SURVEYORS FINAL EXAMINATIONS IN 1981 AND UPON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE INSTITUTION'S TEST OF PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE WERE ELECTED ASSOCIATE MEMBERS OF THE INSTITUTION EARLY THIS YEAR.

ELEVEN OTHER LOCAL OFFICERS IN THE DEPARTMENT ARE IN THE FINAL STAGES OF THEIR PROFESSIONAL TRAINING. IT IS EXPECTED THAT, WHEN ELECTED TO MEMBERSHIP OF THE INSTITUTION, THEY WILL ALSO BE RECOMMENDED FOR PROMOTION TO FULL SURVEYOR STATUS NEXT YEAR.

+FOR MANY YEARS NOW THE DEPARTMENT HAS HAD A TRAINING PROGRAMME TO ENABLE LOCAL OFFICERS TO QUALIFY AS CHARTERED SURVEYORS. DURING THIS TIME A TOTAL OF 91 OFFICERS HAVE QUALIFIED, AND OF THESE 68 ARE STILL WITH THE DEPARTMENT, AND 11 HAVE TRANSFERRED TO OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, + A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

SAI KUNG BAZAAR CONTRACTS SIGNED

\*\*\*\*

THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT HAS AWARDED TWO CONTRACTS WORTH ABOUT \$1 MILLION IN CONNECTION WITH THE SAI KUNG MARKET BAZAAR PROJECT.

THEY ARE FOR INSTALLING LIGHTS AND AN ESCALATOR, PLUS A LIFT FOR USE BY THE HANDICAPPED AND FOR CARRYING GOODS.

THE TWO-STOREY MARKET IS LOCATED ON A 2 200-SQUARE-METRE SITE AT YI CHUN STREET.

THERE WILL BE 70 STALLS AND 150 MINI-STALLS.

OTHER FACILITIES WILL INCLUDE A REFUSE COLLECTION CHAMBER AND AN ICE STOREROOM.

RAMPS WILL BE CONSTRUCTED SO THAT THE DISABLED WILL BE ABLE TO ENTER THE MARKET.

WORK UNDER THE TWO CONTRACTS WILL START NEXT MONTH AND BE COMPLETED IN ABOUT 10 MONTHS.

THE TOTAL COST OF THE BAZAAR IS \$6.6 MILLION.

- - - - 0 - - - -