



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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JANUARY TO JULY STATISTICS FOR HK'S EXTERNAL TRADE

HONG KONG'S TOTAL VALUE OF TRADE FOR THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF THIS YEAR AMOUNTED TO \$85 478 MILLION, AN INCREASE OF 40 PER CENT COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD OF 1978, ACCORDING TO EXTERNAL TRADE FIGURES RELEASED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY).

DOMESTIC EXPORTS ROSE BY 36 PER CENT TO \$28 577 MILLION, RE-EXPORTS BY 57 PER CENT TO \$10 849 MILLION AND IMPORTS BY 38 PER CENT TO \$46 053 MILLION. EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TOGETHER ROSE BY 41 PER CENT.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO 10 MAJOR OVERSEAS MARKETS ARE AS FOLLOWS :

| | JAN.-JULY 79 (HK\$ MN) | JAN.-JULY 78 (HK\$ MN) | INCREASE (HK\$ MN) | PERCENTAGE CHANGE |
|-----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| U.S.A. | 9 670 | 8 142 | +1 528 | +19 |
| F.R. OF GERMANY | 3 198 | 2 175 | +1 023 | +47 |
| U.K. | 3 104 | 1 888 | +1 216 | +64 |
| JAPAN | 1 429 | 822 | + 607 | +74 |
| AUSTRALIA | 909 | 744 | + 165 | +22 |
| CANADA | 872 | 682 | + 190 | +28 |
| SINGAPORE | 749 | 542 | + 207 | +38 |
| NETHERLANDS | 707 | 464 | + 243 | +52 |
| SWEDEN | 507 | 280 | + 227 | +81 |
| SWITZERLAND | 471 | 385 | + 86 | +22 |

GROWTH IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE U.S. MARKET REMAINED RATHER SLOW. INCREASES WERE REGISTERED MAINLY IN CLOTHING (\$3 798 MILLION, +12%), PLASTIC TOYS AND DOLLS (\$861 MILLION, +37%), ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (\$749 MILLION, +46%), AND WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$503 MILLION, +37%). SLIGHT DECLINES WERE RECORDED IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF RADIO BROADCAST RECEIVERS (\$299 MILLION, -11%).

DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY CONTINUED ON A STEADY UPWARD TREND WITH SIGNIFICANT GROWTH IN CLOTHING (\$1 899 MILLION, +48%), TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (\$328 MILLION, +38%) AS WELL AS WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$214 MILLION, +134%).

DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE U.K. ALSO SHOWED REMARKABLE INCREASES, PARTICULARLY IN CLOTHING (\$1 582 MILLION, +60%), TEXTILES (\$313 MILLION, +54%), TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (\$202 MILLION, +115%), AND WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$183 MILLION, +84%).

INCREASES WERE ALSO REGISTERED IN SHIPMENTS OF CLOTHING (\$384 MILLION, +89%) AND WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$125 MILLION, +115%) TO JAPAN AND IN TEXTILES (\$235 MILLION, +32%) TO AUSTRALIA.

AN ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION IS PRESENTED AS FOLLOWS :

| | <u>JAN.-JULY 79</u> <u>(HK\$ MN)</u> | <u>JAN.-JULY 78</u> <u>(HK\$ MN)</u> | <u>INCREASE</u> <u>(HK\$ MN)</u> | <u>PERCENTAGE</u> <u>CHANGE</u> |
|--|---|---|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES | 10 629 | 8 204 | +2 425 | +30 |
| MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY PLASTIC TOYS AND DOLLS) | 4 736 | 3 397 | +1 339 | +39 |
| PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS | 2 439 | 1 509 | + 930 | +62 |
| TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS | 2 099 | 1 455 | + 644 | +44 |
| TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT | 1 944 | 1 476 | + 468 | +32 |
| ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (MAINLY TRANSISTORS AND DIODES AND HOUSEHOLD TYPE APPLIANCES) | 1 633 | 1 102 | + 531 | +48 |

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A MORE DETAILED BREAKDOWN REVEALED THAT SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$2 051 MILLION, +66%), PLASTIC TOYS AND DOLLS (\$1 828 MILLION, +41%), TEXTILE FABRICS (\$1 619 MILLION, +49%) AS WELL AS HOUSEHOLD TYPE, ELECTRICAL AND NON-ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT (\$586 MILLION, +48%).

THE CHANGES IN IMPORTS FROM 10 MAJOR SOURCES ARE SUMMARISED AS FOLLOWS :

| | <u>JAN.-JULY 79</u> <u>(HK\$ MN)</u> | <u>JAN.-JULY 78</u> <u>(HK\$ MN)</u> | <u>INCREASE</u> <u>(HK\$ MN)</u> | <u>PERCENTAGE</u> <u>CHANGE</u> |
|--------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| JAPAN | 10 536 | 7 646 | +2 890 | +38 |
| CHINA | 7 665 | 5 370 | +2 295 | +43 |
| U.S.A. | 5 682 | 4 173 | +1 509 | +36 |
| TAIWAN | 3 198 | 2 175 | +1 023 | +47 |
| SINGAPORE | 2 509 | 1 760 | + 749 | +43 |
| U.K. | 2 332 | 1 507 | + 825 | +55 |
| F.R. OF GERMANY | 1 514 | 1 102 | + 412 | +37 |
| SWITZERLAND | 1 448 | 1 052 | + 396 | +38 |
| REP. OF KOREA (SOUTH KOREA) | 1 369 | 955 | + 414 | +43 |
| AUSTRALIA | 887 | 677 | + 210 | +31 |

TEXTILES (\$1 610 MILLION, +20%) REMAINED THE PRINCIPAL PRODUCT SUPPLIED BY JAPAN EVEN THOUGH A DECLINE WAS REGISTERED IN IMPORTS OF TEXTILE YARN (\$242 MILLION, -17%).

OTHER MAJOR PRODUCTS FROM JAPAN WERE ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (\$1 043 MILLION, +65%), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$952 MILLION, +45%), TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (\$912 MILLION, +70%) AND ROAD VEHICLES (\$633 MILLION, +34%).

INCREASES IN IMPORTS FROM CHINA WERE MAINLY REGISTERED IN TEXTILES (\$1 598 MILLION, +61%), PETROLEUM AND RELATED PRODUCTS (\$721 MILLION, +88%), CLOTHING (\$457 MILLION, +65%), AND FISH, CRUSTACEANS AND MOLLUSCS, AND PREPARATIONS THEREOF (\$293 MILLION, +43%).

IMPORTS FROM THE U.S. ALSO SHOWED STEADY INCREASES IN PEARLS, PRECIOUS AND SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES (\$497 MILLION, +30%), OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (\$476 MILLION, +39%), ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (\$465 MILLION, +37%), AND VEGETABLES AND FRUITS (\$350 MILLION, +25%).

INCREASES WERE ALSO REGISTERED IN IMPORTS OF TEXTILES (\$1 277 MILLION, +44%) FROM TAIWAN AND PETROLEUM AND RELATED PRODUCTS (\$1 378 MILLION, +34%) FROM SINGAPORE.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE ILLUSTRATES THE MORE IMPORTANT CHANGES IN IMPORTS BY COMMODITY SECTION :

| | <u>JAN.-JULY 79</u> (HK\$ MN) | <u>JAN.-JULY 78</u> (HK\$ MN) | <u>INCREASE</u> (HK\$ MN) | <u>PERCENTAGE</u> <u>CHANGE</u> |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIAL (MAINLY TEXTILE PRODUCTS AND DIAMONDS) | 14 645 | 10 615 | +4 030 | +38 |
| MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT | 10 223 | 6 490 | +3 733 | +58 |
| MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY WATCHES AND CLOCKS, ARTICLES OF APPAREL) | 6 561 | 4 448 | +2 113 | +48 |
| FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS CHIEFLY FOR FOOD | 5 166 | 4 489 | + 677 | +15 |
| CHEMICALS AND RELATED PRODUCTS | 3 592 | 2 448 | +1 144 | +47 |
| MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS | 2 416 | 1 749 | + 667 | +38 |

SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN IMPORTS OF TEXTILE FABRICS (\$4 256 MILLION, +50%), ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (\$3 073 MILLION, +55%), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$2 313 MILLION, +47%), PETROLEUM AND RELATED PRODUCTS (\$2 343 MILLION, +38%), AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (\$1 774 MILLION, +79%).

ON THE OTHER HAND, DECLINES WERE REGISTERED IN IMPORTS OF TEXTILE FIBRES (\$1 060 MILLION, -12%).

RE-EXPORTS CONTINUED TO SHOW ACCELERATED GROWTH. MAJOR MARKETS INCLUDED JAPAN (\$1 578 MILLION, +34%), U.S.A. (\$1 093 MILLION, +70%), TAIWAN (\$1 002 MILLION, +60%), SINGAPORE (\$971 MILLION, +30%) AND INDONESIA (\$905 MILLION, +28%).

DEMAND REMAINED ACTIVE FOR RE-EXPORTS OF TEXTILES (\$1 538 MILLION, +87%), PEARLS, PRECIOUS AND SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES (\$1 364 MILLION, +42%), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$645 MILLION, +36%), AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (\$636 MILLION, +92%).

THE TRADE INDEX NUMBERS FOR JUNE 1979 (1973 = 100) WERE RELEASED AS FOLLOWS :

| | VALUE INDEX | UNIT VALUE INDEX | QUANTUM INDEX |
|------------------|----------------|---------------------|------------------|
| DOMESTIC EXPORTS | 283 | 163 | 174 |
| IMPORTS | 288 | 168 | 171 |

THE TERMS OF TRADE INDEX FOR JUNE 1979 WAS 97.

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CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES TO BE UPDATED
HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY BEGINS NEXT MONTH
* * *

A NEW SET OF CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES - C.P.I. (A) AND C.P.I. (B) - WILL BE PUBLISHED BY APRIL, 1981 TO REPLACE THE EXISTING SERIES WHICH WERE COMPILED IN 1973/74.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (TUESDAY) AT A NEWS CONFERENCE, THE COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS, MR. COLIN GREENFIELD, SAID THAT IT WAS THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY TO REVISE THE INDEXES EVERY FEW YEARS TO ENSURE THAT THEY REALISTICALLY REFLECTED PRICE CHANGES AFFECTING CONSUMERS.

THE REVISION OF INDEXES WILL BE BASED ON THE FINDINGS OF A HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY WHICH BEGINS NEXT MONTH AND WILL TAKE ABOUT 12 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

MR. GREENFIELD POINTED OUT THAT AS A RESULT OF THE REVISION, THE EXPENDITURE RANGES OF C.P.I. (A) AND C.P.I. (B), WHICH ARE NOW \$400 - \$1 499 AND \$1 500 - \$2 999 RESPECTIVELY, WOULD BE RAISED.

+IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO SAY WHAT THE NEW EXPENDITURE RANGES WILL BE UNTIL THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY ARE AVAILABLE,+ MR. GREENFIELD SAID.

THE NEW SET OF C.P.I. (A) AND C.P.I. (B) WILL REFLECT THE PRICE CHANGES EXPERIENCED BY THE MAJORITY OF HOUSEHOLDS IN HONG KONG.

AS FOR THE HIGHER INCOME HOUSEHOLDS, THEY WILL BE COVERED BY THE HANG SENG CONSUMER PRICE INDEX WHICH WILL ALSO BE UPDATED IN A SIMILAR SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE HANG SENG BANK DURING THE SAME PERIOD.

THE HANG SENG CONSUMER PRICE INDEX IS FOR HOUSEHOLDS SPENDING BETWEEN \$3 000 AND \$9 999 A MONTH AND IT WAS FIRST COMPILED IN 1973 AT THE INVITATION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE PURPOSE OF THE TWO SURVEYS, WHICH FORM AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE REVISION PROJECT, IS TO INVESTIGATE THE CONSUMPTION PATTERN OF HOUSEHOLDS IN THE ONE-YEAR PERIOD IN ORDER TO PROVIDE A BASIS FOR UPDATING THE BASKETS OF GOODS AND SERVICES OF THE INDEXES AS WELL AS THE WEIGHTS ATTACHED TO THEM.

MR. GREENFIELD EXPECTED THAT THE HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY CONDUCTED BY HIS DEPARTMENT WILL EVENTUALLY INCLUDE SOME 4 000 SELECTED HOUSEHOLDS IN THE URBAN AREAS OF HONG KONG, KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES.

ONE SIGNIFICANT FEATURE, HE ADDED, IS THE INCLUSION IN THE C.P.I.'S OF THE URBAN AREAS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES. THE PRESENT C.P.I.'S HAVE ONLY COVERED AREAS IN HONG KONG, KOWLOON AND THE NEW KOWLOON.

TO ENSURE THAT SEASONAL PATTERNS OF HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE ARE COVERED, HE ADDED, THE 4 000 HOUSEHOLDS INCLUDED IN THE SAMPLE WILL BE SPREAD EVENLY OVER THE 12-MONTH PERIOD OF THE SURVEY.

+EACH HOUSEHOLD IN THE SAMPLE WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE SURVEY FOR A PERIOD OF TWO WEEKS,+ HE SAID.

THEY WILL NEED TO KEEP A DAILY RECORD, USING STATIONERY PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT, OF THEIR EXPENDITURE FOR TWO CONSECUTIVE WEEKS.

HOUSEHOLDS SELECTED FOR THE SURVEY WILL BE INFORMED BY LETTERS ONE WEEK BEFORE OFFICERS FROM THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT WILL CALL ON THEM TO EXPLAIN THE NECESSARY DETAILS.

THE COMMISSIONER APPEALED TO THESE HOUSEHOLDS TO CO-OPERATE BY SUPPLYING THE INFORMATION REQUIRED SO THAT THE C.P.I.'S COULD BE ACCURATELY COMPILED.

HE STRESSED THAT THE INDEXES ARE VERY IMPORTANT ECONOMIC INDICATORS AFFECTING BOTH EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES.

MANY EMPLOYERS, INCLUDING THE GOVERNMENT, HE SAID, USED THEM TO ADJUST THE WAGES AND SALARIES AND VARIOUS KINDS OF LIVING ALLOWANCE FOR THEIR EMPLOYEES.

MR. GREENFIELD ASSURED THAT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY INDIVIDUAL HOUSEHOLDS IN THE SURVEY WOULD BE KEPT IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND IT WOULD BE USED SOLELY FOR PRODUCING TABULATIONS FROM WHICH PARTICULARS COULD NOT BE IDENTIFIED.

GOVERNMENT SUBVENTION ON ADULT EDUCATION PROJECTS PLANNED
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A PILOT SCHEME TO SUBVENT NON-PROFIT-MAKING ORGANISATIONS TO OPERATE ADULT EDUCATION COURSES WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN 1980-81 IF SUFFICIENT FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (FURTHER), MR. A.J. REEVE SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ADULT EDUCATION HELD AT THE CARITAS HOUSE ON THE GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSED ADULT EDUCATION SUBVENTION SCHEME AS OUTLINED IN THE WHITE PAPER ON SENIOR SECONDARY AND TERTIARY EDUCATION.

MR. REEVE SAID THAT ALL THE PROPOSALS IN THE WHITE PAPER WERE SUBJECT TO A REGULAR REVIEW OF THE OVERALL RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO THE GOVERNMENT.

+SHOULD SUFFICIENT FUNDS BE AVAILABLE FOR VARIOUS PRIORITIES INCLUDING ADULT EDUCATION THEN WE SHALL BE ABLE TO GO AHEAD WITH A PILOT SCHEME IN 1980-81 OF ADULT EDUCATION SUBVENTION.

+BUT WE NEED TO ENSURE THAT IT IS SUCCESSFUL SO THAT GOVERNMENT WILL BE PREPARED TO SUBSIDISE MORE PROJECTS IN THE FIELD OF ADULT EDUCATION IN FUTURE YEARS,+ HE SAID.

IN HIS SPEECH MR. REEVE ALSO LISTED SOME GUIDELINES FOR NON-PROFIT-MAKING VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS WHICH WOULD BE INVITED TO PROPOSE SUITABLE ADULT EDUCATION COURSES.

+CONSIDERATION WILL BE LIMITED TO PROPOSALS FOR ACTIVITIES WHICH ARE NOT ALREADY PROVIDED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OR FOR ACTIVITIES WHICH, ALTHOUGH ALREADY PROVIDED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, DO NOT MEET CURRENT DEMAND FOR PLACES FROM ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS,+ HE SAID.

THE PROPOSED ACTIVITIES SHOULD ALSO MEET A DEMONSTRABLE PUBLIC DEMAND FROM LOW-INCOME GROUPS AND BE OF BENEFIT TO THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE, AND BE OF A +RETRIEVAL+ NATURE, THAT IS, DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THOSE WHO DO NOT HAVE THE ADVANTAGE OF A STRONG FORMAL EDUCATION.

+PROPOSED ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE PROVIDED ON A STRICTLY NON-PROFIT-MAKING BASIS,+ MR. REEVE SAID.

HOWEVER, HE ADDED THAT +NO PROJECT WILL BE SUBVENTED UNLESS STUDENTS PAY FEES TOWARDS PART OF THE COST OF THE COURSE.+

SUBVENTION WILL BE CONSIDERED ON A PROJECT BASIS AND NOT ON A RECURRENT ANNUAL BASIS. THE RENEWAL OF SUBVENTION ARRANGEMENTS, HOWEVER, WOULD BE CONSIDERED ON AN ANNUAL BASIS.

NOTING THAT SOME PEOPLE MIGHT FEEL THE GUIDELINES TO BE TOO RESTRICTIVE, MR. REEVE SAID IT SHOULD BE APPRECIATED THAT +GOVERNMENT IS BEING PRUDENT AND CAUTIOUS IN ENSURING THAT A SUBVENTION SCHEME SUCH AS THIS, WHICH MAY WELL ENTAIL EVENTUALLY A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF PUBLIC MONEY, WILL BE WORTHWHILE, EFFICIENT AND MAKE THE MOST EFFECTIVE USE OF OUR RESOURCES.+

TUEN MUN INDUSTRIAL SITE SOLD FOR \$25.8M

AN INDUSTRIAL SITE IN THE FAST-GROWING TUEN MUN NEW TOWN FETCHED A RECORD \$25.8 MILLION AT A PUBLIC AUCTION TODAY (TUESDAY).

IT REALISED THE EQUIVALENT OF \$8 437 PER SQUARE METRE — \$437 HIGHER THAN THE PREVIOUS RECORD OF \$8 000 FOR A SIMILAR SITE IN TUEN MUN SOLD LAST MONTH.

THE 3 058-SQUARE-METRE SITE CONVENIENTLY LOCATED IN THE NEW TOWN'S INDUSTRIAL AREA AND FRONTING SHEK PAI TAU ROAD IS THE THIRD INDUSTRIAL LOT SOLD BY WAY OF AUCTION THIS YEAR.

THE SENIOR ESTATE SURVEYOR OF TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE, MR. VICTOR LEUNG WHO CONDUCTED THE AUCTION AT THE ST. SIMON LUI MING CHOI SECONDARY SCHOOL IN TUEN MUN, INVITED AN OPENING BID OF \$12 MILLION AND STEADY BIDDINGS QUICKLY FOLLOWED.

THERE WERE SIX TO SEVEN KEEN BIDDERS BUT WHEN THE PRICE REACHED \$25 MILLION THE NUMBER NARROWED TO TWO.

HAMMER FELL ON THE HIGHEST BID OF \$25.8 MILLION — MORE THAN DOUBLE THE OPENING BID — OFFERED BY WALGIN INVESTMENT LTD.

MR. LEUNG SAID AFTER THE AUCTION THAT HE WAS VERY PLEASED WITH TODAY'S PRICE WHICH WAS A CLEAR INDICATION OF THE CONFIDENCE OF INDUSTRIALISTS IN THE INVESTMENT PROSPECT OF TUEN MUN.

+THE SALE OF THE SITE IS INDEED A WELCOME BOOST TO THE INDUSTRIAL GROWTH WHICH IS ALREADY ADVANCING IN THE NEW TOWN,+ MR. LEUNG SAID.

+THE COMPETITIVE BIDDINGS AT THE AUCTION ALSO REFLECTED A CONTINUING DEMAND FOR INDUSTRIAL LAND IN TUEN MUN.+

EARMARKED FOR INDUSTRIAL OR GODOWN USE, THE SITE CARRIES A PLOT RATIO OF 9.5 ALLOWING FOR MULTI-STOREY DEVELOPMENT AND A BUILDING COVENANT OF \$4 840 000 OVER 36 MONTHS.

IN ADDITION, THE CONDITIONS OF SALE STIPULATE SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS ON ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL INCLUDING THE DISCHARGE OF TRADE EFFLUENT.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1979

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NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT CONTRACT SIGNED
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A CONTRACT WORTH MORE THAN \$13.2 MILLION FOR THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF YUEN LONG NEW TOWN WAS SIGNED TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE CONTRACT WAS AWARDED TO MCCONNELL DOWELL CONSTRUCTORS LTD. BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT AND INVOLVES BRIDGEWORKS FOR WHAT IS KNOWN AS PACKAGE 7 (INDUSTRIAL AREA) OF THE YUEN LONG TOWN DEVELOPMENT.

THE CONTRACT IS THE FIFTH TO BE LET FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF YUEN LONG NEW TOWN UNDER THE RURAL NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME, IMPLEMENTATION OF WHICH STARTED IN JUNE 1977.

IN JANUARY 1979 ENGINEERING WORKS STARTED ON THE PACKAGE 7 AREA. THIS WORK CONSISTS OF THE FORMATION OF ABOUT 23 HECTARES OF LAND, CONSTRUCTION OF ROADS, DRAINS AND SEWERS AND THE INSTALLATION OF ALL NECESSARY SERVICES.

THE SITE WILL BE USED FOR LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, PROVIDING JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR UP TO 17 000 WORKERS. AREAS WILL BE RESERVED WITHIN THE DEVELOPMENT FOR GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY USES, CAR AND LORRY PARKS, OPEN SPACE AND AMENITY AREAS.

WORKS UNDER THIS CONTRACT WILL PROVIDE VEHICULAR AND PEDESTRIAN ACCESS INTO THE AREA WHICH LIES TO THE NORTH OF THE TOWN.

THE WORKS INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF TWO ROAD BRIDGES, 70 METRES AND 15 METRES IN LENGTH LINKING THE INDUSTRIAL AREA WITH THE HONG KONG INDUSTRIAL ESTATE ACCESS ROAD ON ON LOK ROAD.

ALSO INCLUDED IS A 200-METRE LONG PEDESTRIAN/CYCLE BRIDGE LINKING THE TOWN CENTRE AT TAI KIU ROAD WITH THE EXTENSIVE FOOTWAY AND CYCLE TRACK NETWORKS WITHIN THE INDUSTRIAL AREA.

THE BRIDGEWORKS HAVE BEEN DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTION WILL BE SUPERVISED BY THE CONSULTING ENGINEERS, BINNIE AND PARTNERS (HONG KONG) FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1979

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D.S.W. VISITS CHILDREN'S TRAINING CENTRE AND DAY NURSERY
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THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, TODAY (TUESDAY) VISITED HONG KONG'S FIRST TRAINING CENTRE FOR SEVERELY MENTALLY RETARDED CHILDREN WHICH HE OFFICIALLY OPENED LAST YEAR.

MR. LEE FIRST CALLED ON THE KWAI SHING CHILDREN'S TRAINING CENTRE, THE FIRST OF ITS KIND SET UP BY PO LEUNG KUK FOLLOWING AN APPEAL BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT FOR THE PROVISION OF SUCH SERVICES.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR. CHENG KWAN-KUEN, HE SPENT ABOUT AN HOUR IN THE CENTRE MEETING THE STAFF AND INSPECTING THE SERVICES AND FACILITIES TO KEEP HIMSELF INFORMED OF ITS LATEST DEVELOPMENT.

MR. LEE WAS MET ON ARRIVAL BY THE CHAIRMAN OF PO LEUNG KUK, MADAM SIU HON-SUM, AND STAFF OF THE TRAINING CENTRE.

WITH A CAPACITY OF 80, THE TRAINING CENTRE IN KWAI SHING ESTATE PROVIDES RESIDENTIAL AND DAY CARE SERVICES AS WELL AS SIMPLE TRAINING TO SEVERELY MENTALLY RETARDED CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN SIX AND 16 YEARS.

THROUGH VARIOUS PROGRAMMES, THE CHILDREN ARE TRAINED IN SELF-CARE SKILLS, THE WAY TO COMMUNICATE AND GET ALONG WITH OTHERS, AND TECHNIQUES WHICH CATER TO THEIR INDIVIDUAL NEEDS.

LATER, MR. LEE WENT ON TO VISIT THE JU CHING CHU CHILD CARE CENTRE -- A GOVERNMENT-SUBVENTED DAY NURSERY OPERATED BY YAN CHAI HOSPITAL IN SHEK YUM ESTATE.

HE WAS GREETED ON ARRIVAL BY THE CHAIRMAN OF YAN CHAI HOSPITAL, MADAM RITA LIU, AND SUPERVISORY STAFF OF THE NURSERY.

OPENED IN AUGUST LAST YEAR, THE JU CHING CHU CHILD CARE CENTRE CATERS FOR 100 CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN TWO AND SIX YEARS.

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1979

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OLD 50-CENT COINS WILL CEASE TO BE LEGAL TENDER
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THE PUBLIC ARE REMINDED THAT THE OLD, SILVER COLOURED 50-CENT COINS WILL CEASE TO BE LEGAL TENDER FROM NEXT MONTH. A PROCLAMATION TO THIS EFFECT WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE ON APRIL 27.

THIS MEANS THAT AS FROM OCTOBER 1, THE LEGAL OBLIGATION TO ACCEPT THESE COINS IN SATISFACTION OF DEBTS FOR AMOUNTS UP TO TWO DOLLARS IS REMOVED.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) ANY PERSON STILL OWNING ANY OF THESE CUPRO-NICKEL COINS AFTER OCTOBER 1 WOULD BE ABLE TO OBTAIN AN EQUIVALENT SUM OF CURRENT COINS OR NOTES WHEN THEY ARE PRESENTED AT A BANK.

A NEW SMALLER BRASS COLOURED 50-CENT COIN, MADE OF NICKEL-BRASS, WAS INTRODUCED ON AUGUST 15, 1977.

SINCE THEN, THE OLD CUPRO-NICKEL 50-CENT COINS WHICH HAVE BEEN LEGAL TENDER FROM JULY 6, 1951, HAVE BEEN GRADUALLY WITHDRAWN FROM CIRCULATION.

AS AT AUGUST 31 THIS YEAR, 211 MILLION 50-CENT COINS WERE IN CIRCULATION, AND OF THIS NUMBER 79 MILLION WERE OF THE OLD TYPE COINS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID ACTION WOULD BE TAKEN IN DUE COURSE TO DEMONETISE THE LARGE ONE DOLLAR COIN, FIRST ISSUED IN 1960, WHICH IS NOW GRADUALLY BEING DISPLACED BY A NEW SMALLER COIN WHICH WAS FIRST ISSUED IN AUGUST, 1978.

BOTH OF THESE CHANGES STEM FROM THE ACCEPTANCE BY THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COINAGE REVIEW COMMITTEE. AN ABRIDGED COPY OF THIS COMMITTEE'S REPORT WAS PUBLISHED IN NOVEMBER 1974.

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1979

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D.S.W. TO OPEN EXHIBITION ON PREVENTION OF CHILDREN'S DISEASES

THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, WILL TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) OFFICIALLY OPEN AN EXHIBITION WHICH GIVES PARENTS AN INSIGHT INTO HOW TO PREVENT CHILDREN FROM GETTING SICK OR INJURED IN HOUSEHOLD ACCIDENTS.

THE EXHIBITION IS PART OF A SERIES OF PROGRAMMES ORGANISED BY CARITAS-HONG KONG, IN RESPONSE TO THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD.

EXHIBITS WILL SHOW THE COMMON DISEASES AND HOUSEHOLD ACCIDENTS INVOLVING CHILDREN. THERE WILL ALSO BE DEMONSTRATIONS, FILMS AND SLIDE SHOWS ON MENTAL HEALTH AND CHILD CARE SERVICE, HOME ENVIRONMENT AND IMMUNISATION FOR CHILDREN.

DURING THE EXHIBITION, PAEDIATRIC DOCTORS AND NURSES WILL GIVE TALKS AND EXPLAIN TO VISITORS ABOUT THE EXHIBITS.

THE DAY-LONG EXHIBITION, OPENING BETWEEN 9.30 A.M. AND 6 P.M., WILL BE HELD IN THE CARITAS MEDICAL CENTRE IN PO ON ROAD, SHAM SHUI PO.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE EXHIBITION ON PREVENTION OF CHILDREN'S DISEASES ORGANISED BY CARITAS-HONG KONG.

THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE CEREMONY WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE AT 9.30 A.M. TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AT THE CARITAS MEDICAL CENTRE AT PO ON ROAD, SHAM SHUI PO.

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1979

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF
WO YI HOP ROAD AND SHING MUN ROAD JUNCTION
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THE WO YI HOP ROAD-SHING MUN ROAD JUNCTION WILL BE CLOSED TO MOTOR VEHICLES FROM 10 A.M. ON THURSDAY (SEPTEMBER 20) FOR A PERIOD OF ABOUT FIVE MONTHS TO FACILITATE ROAD CONSTRUCTION WORKS THERE.

DURING THE CLOSURE PERIOD, THE FOLLOWING TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL COME INTO OPERATION:-

- * VEHICLES TRAVELLING FROM WO YI HOP ROAD TO TSUEN WAN WILL BE DIVERTED VIA CHEUNG PEI SHAN ROAD, CHEUNG SHAN ESTATE ROAD WEST, AND CHEUNG SHAN ESTATE ROAD EAST TO REJOIN SHING MUN ROAD SOUTHBOUND-
- * VEHICLES TRAVELLING FROM WO YI HOP ROAD TO SHING MUN RESERVOIR WILL BE DIVERTED VIA CHEUNG PEI SHAN ROAD, LO WAI ROAD, AND TUNG PO TO ROAD TO REJOIN SHING MUN ROAD NORTHBOUND- AND
- * VEHICLES INCLUDING K.M.B. ROUTE NO. 32B TRAVELLING ALONG CHEUNG SHAN ESTATE ROAD WEST TO WO YI HOP ROAD WILL BE DIVERTED VIA CHEUNG PEI SHAN EASTBOUND.

TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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WATER CUT
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WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN MONG KOK AND NORTH POINT WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR SEVERAL HOURS ON THURSDAY (SEPTEMBER 20) FOR LEAKAGE TESTS.

IN MONG KOK, SUPPLY WILL BE SUSPENDED FOR SIX HOURS FROM MIDNIGHT ON THURSDAY TO 6 A.M. THE FOLLOWING DAY.

THE AREA TO BE AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY ARGYLE STREET, YAU MA TEI STATION OF KOWLOON CANTON RAILWAY, PRINCE EDWARD ROAD, NATHAN ROAD, SAI YEE STREET, NULLAH ROAD, TUNG CHOI STREET INCLUDING FIFE STREET, MONG KOK ROAD AND LUEN WAN ROAD.

IN NORTH POINT, THE SUPPLY WILL BE CUT OFF FOR SEVEN HOURS FROM 11 P.M. ON THURSDAY TO 6 A.M. THE FOLLOWING DAY.

THE AREA TO BE AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY NORTH POINT ROAD SEAFRONT, SHU KUK STREET AND NORTH SIDE OF KING'S ROAD.

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