



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 1985

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APPOINTED DB MEMBERS ANNOUNCED SOON - GOVERNOR
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT THE NAMES OF APPOINTED DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN THE NEXT DAY OR TWO.

SIR EDWARD WAS REPLYING TO QUESTIONS FROM REPORTERS WHEN HE VISITED PENG CHAU THIS AFTERNOON.

ON THE SUBJECT OF THE TRIAL OF COMMERCIAL CRIMES BILL, HE SAID THAT ONE OF THE OBJECTS OF PUTTING THINGS INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WAS THAT THEY SHOULD RECEIVE FULL PUBLIC DEBATE ON A VERY WIDE BASIS FOR +THIS KIND OF MEASURE AFFECTS QUITE A WIDE GROUP OF PEOPLE, NOT ONLY LAWYERS+.

HE POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS A GOVERNMENT PROPOSAL BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WHO HAD MADE A VERY REASONED ACCOUNT AND EXPLANATION FOR THE BILL.

+IF YOU LOOK CAREFULLY AT THE STATEMENT HE MADE THEN, HE HAS ALREADY ANSWERED MANY OF THE POINTS WHICH HAVE BEEN RAISED IN RECENT DAYS,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

ASKED IF HE CONSIDERED AS AN ENCOURAGING DEVELOPMENT THE RECENT EMERGENCE OF TWO BROADLY-BASED POLITICAL PARTIES, HE REPLIED: +I WOULD NOT CALL THEM POLITICAL PARTIES YET. I THINK THEY ARE ASSOCIATIONS OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE GOT TOGETHER AND WHO HAVE SIMILAR VIEWS ON MANY ISSUES. I THINK THAT IS QUITE A HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT.

+IT IS NOT A SORT OF DUAL-PARTY SYSTEM. IT IS STILL, I THINK, A DEVELOPMENT OF THE SYSTEM WHICH HAS BEEN GOING ON IN HONG KONG FOR SOME TIME.

+IT IS NOT THE FIRST TIME THAT THERE HAS BEEN A POLITICAL ASSOCIATION. THERE ARE SOME QUITE OLD-ESTABLISHED POLITICAL ASSOCIATIONS. IT IS VERY NATURAL THAT PEOPLE SHOULD GET TOGETHER WHEN THEY HAVE SIMILAR VIEWS.+

ON A PROPOSAL TO ALLOW CIVIL SERVANTS TO STAND FOR ELECTIONS, HE SAID: +WE HAVE GOT TO HAVE TO LOOK AT THAT, BECAUSE IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO MAINTAIN A NON-POLITICAL CIVIL SERVICE. THAT IS ONE OF THE FEATURES OF THE HONG KONG SYSTEM, AS IT IS IN THE SYSTEM OF MANY PARTS OF THE WORLD.+

AS PART OF HIS TOUR SIR EDWARD MET RURAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND WAS ALSO HANDED A PETITION BY A GROUP OF RESIDENTS.

HE TOLD

HE TOLD REPORTERS THAT HE HAD A USEFUL DISCUSSION ON THE THINGS WHICH WERE OF CONCERN TO THE PEOPLE OF PENG CHAU. +...THE OLDER PEOPLE WANT A CEMETERY HERE ON PENG CHAU, OTHERS WANT MORE SITTING OUT FACILITIES AND THEY WOULD LIKE A FULL TIME DOCTOR IF THAT COULD BE ARRANGED.

+WHAT I HAVE TOLD THEM IS THAT SOME OF THESE THINGS ARE OF COURSE THE CONCERN OF DISTRICT BOARDS AND SOME OF THE LOCAL COMMITTEE AND SOME OF THE GOVERNMENT. BUT I ALWAYS LISTEN VERY CAREFULLY TO WHAT THEY SAY ON THESE OCCASIONS AND I WILL ENSURE THAT THEY GET AN ANSWER TO ALL THE POINTS THEY HAVE RAISED IN DUE COURSE. I WILL GET A REPORT ON EACH OF THEM AND THEN I WILL MAKE SURE THEY GET AN ANSWER TO ALL OF THEM.+

SIR EDWARD SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THEY WERE TOLD AN ADDITIONAL PUBLIC CEMETERY WAS BEING PLANNED AT MUI WO AND WOULD BE OPENED TO PENG CHAU VILLAGERS, THEY STILL WISHED TO HAVE ONE OF THEIR OWN.

+IT IS NOT POSSIBLE OF COURSE TO HAVE CEMETERIES EVERYWHERE IN THE TERRITORY BUT THEY HAVE GIVEN ME A PETITION AND THEY WILL RECEIVE A REPLY TO THAT PETITION WHEN IT HAS BEEN STUDIED IN DUE COURSE.+

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GOVERNOR LOOKS AT VILLAGE LIFE
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, TODAY (WEDNESDAY) TOURED THREE OUTLYING ISLANDS TO SEE THE LATEST DEVELOPMENT AND MEET LOCAL RESIDENTS.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DONALD LIAO, SIR EDWARD FLEW BY HELICOPTER FROM CENTRAL TO MA WAN, PENG CHAU AND LAMMA.

AT MA WAN, HE VISITED THE HOME OF MR CHAN KAM-KONG WHO, AT THE AGE OF 71 YEARS, IS ONE OF THE OLDEST RESIDENTS ON THE ISLAND.

THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT COMMISSIONER, MR S.J. CHAN, AND DISTRICT OFFICER, MR K.K. FUNG, LATER INTRODUCED THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MA WAN RURAL COMMITTEE, MR CHAN KWONG-CHUEN, AND OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO THE GOVERNOR FOR A BRIEF MEETING.

/SIR EDWARD

SIR EDWARD THEN FLEW TO PENG CHAU WHERE HE WAS BRIEFED BY THE ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICER, MR WILLIAM YAP, AND THE GOVERNMENT ENGINEER, NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT BRANCH, MR NG YEE-YUM, ON VARIOUS PROJECTS RECENTLY COMPLETED.

THESE INCLUDE THE NEW PENG CHAU FERRY PIER, THE RECLAMATION AND FORMATION OF LAND TO PROVIDE SITES FOR A PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE, VILLAGE TYPE HOUSING, A SECONDARY SCHOOL, AND INDUSTRIAL, GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY BUILDINGS, AS WELL AS A BRIDGE LINKING TAI LEI ISLAND TO PENG CHAU.

THE GOVERNOR LATER WENT TO CHI YAN SCHOOL WHERE HE MET THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PENG CHAU RURAL COMMITTEE, MR LAM WAI-KEUNG, AND OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

SIR EDWARD ALSO TOURED THE SCHOOL AND TALKED TO TEACHERS AND PUPILS BEFORE LEAVING THE ISLAND FOR YUNG SHUE WAN ON LAMMA.

AFTER LANDING ON LAMMA, MR YAP AND MR NG BRIEFED THE GOVERNOR ON GENERAL FEATURES AND THE DEVELOPMENT ON THE ISLAND.

SIR EDWARD LATER MET THE CHAIRMEN OF THE NORTH AND THE SOUTH LAMMA RURAL COMMITTEES, MR FONG LOI AND MR CHAU YUK-TONG, AND EXECUTIVE MEMBERS OF THE TWO COMMITTEES.

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HK'S ECONOMY WILL CONTINUE TO GROW
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THE ECONOMY OF HONG KONG WILL GROW STEADILY WITH RELATIVELY FULL EMPLOYMENT AND CONTAINED INFLATION DURING THE NEXT FEW YEARS, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR PETER JOHNSON, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

HE SAID THIS AT THE ARIZONA WORLD TRADE ASSOCIATION IN PHOENIX DURING HIS PROMOTIONAL VISITS TO THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT'S OVERSEAS PROMOTIONAL OFFICES IN THE U.S. AND JAPAN.

MR JOHNSON SAID THE SINO-BRITISH AGREEMENT ON HONG KONG PROVIDED A CLEAR AND COMPREHENSIVE FRAMEWORK ON THE BASIS OF WHICH HONG KONG COULD HAVE CONTINUOUS STABILITY AND PROSPERITY WELL INTO THE NEXT CENTURY.

/THE AGREEMENT,

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THE AGREEMENT, AMONG OTHER THINGS, PROVIDED FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF HONG KONG'S EXISTING ECONOMIC, FINANCIAL, AND LEGAL SYSTEMS FOR 50 YEARS= THAT IS THE RETENTION OF THOSE FEATURES OF THE PRESENT HONG KONG SET-UP WHICH HAVE HELPED IT TO BE SO SUCCESSFUL.

MR JOHNSON SAID HONG KONG'S DEVELOPING ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP WITH CHINA WAS ALSO OF PARTICULAR INTEREST IN THIS CONTEXT.

+THE ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CHINA IS A LONG-STANDING ONE WHICH HAS BROUGHT SUBSTANTIAL BENEFITS TO BOTH SIDES,+ HE SAID.

+CHINA DERIVES SOMETHING LIKE ONE-THIRD OF ALL HER FOREIGN EXCHANGE EARNINGS EITHER FROM OR THROUGH HONG KONG AND IT IS NOW THE SECOND LARGEST MARKET FOR OUR DOMESTIC EXPORTS AFTER THE U.S. TAKING US\$1.45 BILLION OF SUCH EXPORTS IN 1984.

+ON THE INDUSTRIAL FRONT, A LARGE NUMBER OF HONG KONG COMPANIES, BOTH LOCAL AND OVERSEAS OWNED, HAVE MANUFACTURING OPERATIONS IN CHINA. IN THE OTHER DIRECTION, IT IS ESTIMATED THAT DURING THE PAST FOUR YEARS CHINA HAS INVESTED SOMETHING LIKE US\$4 BILLION IN HONG KONG IN A NUMBER OF FIELDS, INCLUDING TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, CONSTRUCTION, REAL ESTATES, MANUFACTURING AND FINANCIAL SERVICES.+

ON OTHER OVERSEAS INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG, MR JOHNSON SAID OVERSEAS INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG INDUSTRY HAD CONTINUED AT A GRATIFYINGLY HIGH LEVEL DESPITE THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC UNCERTAINTIES OF THE PAST FEW YEARS.

+THIS WAS CONFIRMED BY A SURVEY OF OVERSEAS INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG WE CARRIED OUT IN SUMMER 1984, WHICH REVEALED THAT DURING THE PRECEDING THREE YEARS SUCH INVESTMENT HAD INCREASED FROM UNDER US\$1 BILLION TO US\$1.5 BILLION, AND THAT THE NUMBER OF COMPANIES INVOLVED HAS INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY AS WELL.+

+MY OWN OBSERVATIONS IN THE COURSE OF MY DAY-TO-DAY WORK INDICATE THAT INTEREST INCREASED IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS, AND HAS BEEN MATCHED BY A RESURGENCE IN INVESTMENT BY THE LOCAL, HONG KONG CHINESE MANUFACTURERS WHO ACCOUNT FOR THE BULK OF THE MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY IN HONG KONG,+ MR JOHNSON SAID.

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WORKING PARTY TO REVIEW JSEA SYSTEM

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A WORKING PARTY HAS BEEN SET UP BY THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION TO UNDERTAKE AN OPERATIONAL REVIEW OF THE JUNIOR SECONDARY EDUCATION ASSESSMENT (JSEA) SYSTEM AS RECOMMENDED BY THE EDUCATION COMMISSION IN ITS REPORT NO. 1.

AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT SINCE THE JSEA SYSTEM HAD BEEN IN OPERATION FOR ALMOST FIVE YEARS, IT WAS NOW TIMELY TO REVIEW IT IN THE LIGHT OF PAST EXPERIENCE.

+THE GOVERNMENT HAS ACCEPTED THE EDUCATION COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION THAT THE JSEA SHOULD BE PHASED OUT BY 1991. THE WORKING PARTY WILL EXAMINE THE OPERATION OF THE SYSTEM WITH A VIEW TO RECOMMENDING IMPROVEMENTS, INCLUDING WAYS AND MEANS OF LIGHTENING THE ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN ON PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS,+ HE SAID.

THE WORKING PARTY WILL ALSO CONSIDER A NEW METHOD OF PLACEMENT FOR FORM 3 LEAVERS AFTER THE JSEA HAS BEEN PHASED OUT.

THIS NEW METHOD IS NECESSARY BECAUSE SOME SCHOOLS HAVE FEWER PLACES IN FORM 4 THAN IN FORM 3. A NEW PLACEMENT SYSTEM WILL THEREFORE BE NEEDED AFTER 1991 TO ENSURE A SMOOTH TRANSITION OF STUDENTS FROM FORM 3 TO FULL-TIME GENERAL OR VOCATIONAL EDUCATION IN SENIOR SECONDARY FORMS, TECHNICAL INSTITUTES OR INDUSTRIAL TRAINING CENTRES.

THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT THE WORKING PARTY WOULD NOT BE CONCERNED WITH JSEA POLICY, WHICH HAD ALREADY BEEN THOROUGHLY REVIEWED BY THE EDUCATION COMMISSION AND WHOSE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THIS REGARD HAD BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE WORKING PARTY IS THE SENIOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT), MR JOHN WINFIELD.

MEMBERS INCLUDE PRINCIPALS AND TEACHERS OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR SCHOOLS PARTICIPATING IN THE JSEA SYSTEM AND EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICERS CONCERNED WITH THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SYSTEM.

THE WORKING PARTY WILL HOLD ITS FIRST MEETING LATER THIS MONTH AND MEET THEREAFTER ONCE A MONTH. IT IS EXPECTED TO COMPLETE ITS TASK IN ABOUT ONE YEAR.

ITS UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS, IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER, ARE:

MR DAVID C.K. CHEUNG, PRINCIPAL, CARMEL ENGLISH COLLEGE

MR HO CHAK-KIN, TEACHER, PUI CHING MIDDLE SCHOOL

MR HO KWOK-KEUNG, PRINCIPAL, CHINESE YMCA COLLEGE

/Mr Peter

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MR PETER S.T. LEE, PRINCIPAL, CARITAS ST. FRANCIS PREVOCATIONAL SCHOOL

MR ALBERT LI SZE-BAY, PRINCIPAL, LOK SIN TONG YU KAN HING SCHOOL

MR PAUL LUI, PRINCIPAL, TANG SHIU KIN VICTORIA TECHNICAL SCHOOL

MRS SUEN CHUNG SIU-FAN, TEACHER, ST. FRANCIS CANOSSIAN COLLEGE

MR M.K. TAM, PRINCIPAL, YUEN LONG PAK KAU ENGLISH SCHOOL

SR. MARGARET WONG, PRINCIPAL, ST. PAUL'S SECONDARY SCHOOL

ITS OFFICIAL MEMBERS, IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER, ARE:

MR W.C. CHAN, DEPUTY SECRETARY, HONG KONG EXAMINATIONS AUTHORITY

MR T.Y. CHUI, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINING (INDUSTRIAL TRAINING)

MR W.K. KWOK, SENIOR EDUCATION OFFICER (JSEA)

MR T.L. LAM, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (SCHOOLS)

MR PAUL LEE, SENIOR EDUCATION OFFICER (EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH ESTABLISHMENT)

MR ROBERT LO, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (PLANNING AND BUILDING)

THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE WORKING PARTY ARE:

- (1) HAVING REGARD TO THE EDUCATION COMMISSION'S REPORT NO. 1, THE EXPERIENCE GAINED TO DATE AND THE VIEWS OF THOSE INVOLVED IN THE SYSTEM, TO REVIEW THE OPERATION OF THE JUNIOR SECONDARY EDUCATION ASSESSMENT SYSTEM; AND HAVING REGARD TO THE NEEDS AND LEGITIMATE INTERESTS OF THE STUDENTS AND SCHOOLS, TO RECOMMEND TO THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION ANY IMPROVEMENTS OF THE CURRENT SYSTEM, PRIOR TO ITS BEING PHASED OUT IN 1991;
- (2) TO RECOMMEND TO THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION A NEW MEANS OF PLACEMENT FOR FORM III LEAVERS AFTER THE JSEA SYSTEM IS PHASED OUT; AND
- (3) TO MAKE SUCH OTHER OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS AS THE WORKING PARTY MAY CONSIDER RELEVANT TO THE ABOVE.

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CENTRAL ALLOCATION OF PRIMARY ONE PLACES
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CHILDREN WHO HAVE APPLIED FOR A PUBLIC SECTOR PRIMARY ONE PLACE BUT HAVE NOT SECURED A DISCRETIONARY PLACE WILL BE CENTRALLY ALLOCATED A PLACE IN A GOVERNMENT OR AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID PARENTS WOULD RECEIVE A LETTER FROM THE PRIMARY ONE ADMISSION UNIT OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT REQUESTING THEM TO GO TO A SPECIFIED DISTRIBUTION/COLLECTION CENTRE TO COLLECT A +CHOICE OF SCHOOLS+ FORM AND A LIST OF ALL GOVERNMENT AND AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN THEIR OWN SCHOOL DISTRICT FROM MARCH 24 (SUNDAY) TO MARCH 27 (WEDNESDAY) BETWEEN 9 AM AND 4 PM.

+COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE SAME CENTRE WITHIN THE SAME PERIOD+, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE REMINDED PARENTS THAT IF THEY HAD NOT RECEIVED THE LETTER FROM THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT BY MARCH 24, THEY SHOULD CONTACT THE PRIMARY ONE ADMISSION UNIT ON 5-724383 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

DUE TO THE UNEVEN DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLIC SECTOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS, A NUMBER OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS WHICH DID NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT PLACES HAD BEEN ASSIGNED PLACES FROM SCHOOLS IN NEIGHBOURING DISTRICTS TO MAKE GOOD THE SHORTFALL, HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN ASSURED PARENTS THAT THIS ARRANGEMENT WAS NECESSARY AND PLANNED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO ENABLE CHILDREN TO BE ALLOCATED TO A SCHOOL AS NEAR TO THEIR HOME AS POSSIBLE.

THE CENTRAL ALLOCATION WAS SOLELY BASED ON PARENTS' CHOICES WITH NO REFERENCE TO THE POINTS SYSTEM, HE SAID.

HOWEVER, WHEN A SCHOOL WAS OVERSUBSCRIBED, A RANDOMISATION METHOD WOULD BE USED TO ENSURE FAIRNESS TO ALL.

PARENTS WHO HAD MOVED HOUSE RECENTLY OR WERE PLANNING TO MOVE HOUSE IN THE NEAR FUTURE MUST INFORM THE PRIMARY ONE ADMISSION UNIT SO THAT ARRANGEMENTS COULD BE MADE TO ALLOCATE A PLACE TO THEIR CHILDREN IN THEIR NEW HOME DISTRICT.

RESULTS OF THE CENTRAL ALLOCATION OF PLACES WOULD BE ANNOUNCED IN JUNE, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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WORKING GROUPS PROGRESS REVIEWED

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DELEGATIONS REPRESENTING THE HONG KONG AND SHENZHEN GOVERNMENTS, LED RESPECTIVELY BY THE POLITICAL ADVISER, MR JOHN BOYD, AND THE DEPUTY MAYOR OF SHENZHEN, MR ZHEN XIPEI, MET THIS AFTERNOON.

THE MEETING WAS THE LATEST IN A SERIES WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE OVER THE THREE YEARS SINCE THE SIGNING OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN HONG KONG AND SHENZHEN IN 1982, ON THE OPENING OF NEW LINKS BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES.

THE MEETINGS TAKE PLACE AT APPROXIMATELY SIX-MONTHLY INTERVALS, ALTERNATIVELY IN HONG KONG AND SHENZHEN.

THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETINGS IS TO REVIEW THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE JOINT EXPERT WORKING GROUPS ESTABLISHED UNDER THE 1982 AGREEMENT. THESE WORKING GROUPS COVER: LAND TRAFFIC LINKS; FERRY SERVICES BETWEEN SHA TIN AND MEISHA; CONTROLS AT ENTRY/EXIT POINTS; AND REGULATION OF THE SHENZHEN RIVER.

AT THIS AFTERNOON'S MEETING, BOTH SIDES EXPRESSED THEIR SATISFACTION WITH THE PROGRESS MADE BY THE WORKING GROUPS SINCE LAST REVIEW.

THEY WELCOMED THE OPENING OF THE NEW BORDER CROSSING AT SHA TAU KOK, AND THE SECOND BRIDGE AT MAN KAM TO. THE TWO SIDES REVIEWED THE PROGRESS OF REDEVELOPMENT AT LOWU AND AT MAN KAM TO, AND LOOKED FORWARD TO THE EARLY COMMENCEMENT OF WORK ON A NEW BORDER CROSSING AT LOK MA CHAU.

THE DELEGATIONS FURTHER WELCOMED THE PROGRESS MADE IN FORMULATING PLANS TO CONTROL FLOODING OF THE SHENZHEN RIVER, AND TO CONTROL POLLUTION OF THE RIVER.

THE DELEGATIONS NOTED THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE SHA TIN-MEISHA FERRY SERVICE LAST AUGUST. THE TWO SIDES AGREED THAT THEIR WORK WAS A CONTINUING PROCESS AND THEY IDENTIFIED FURTHER AREAS OF WORK IN THE VARIOUS FIELDS DESIGNED TO FACILITATE CROSS-BORDER MOVEMENTS IN A PRACTICAL WAY.

BOTH SIDES WELCOMED THE FRIENDLY AND COOPERATIVE RELATIONS EXISTING BETWEEN THE MEMBERS OF THE VARIOUS WORKING GROUPS, AND LOOK FORWARD TO THE NEXT REVIEW MEETING TO BE HELD IN SHENZHEN IN DUE COURSE.

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LATEST STATISTICS ON ORDERS-ON-HAND OUT
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THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND IN TERMS OF MONTHS IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR DECLINED SLIGHTLY IN JANUARY 1985 COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS MONTH, ACCORDING TO THE FIGURES RELEASED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

WHILE A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN ORDERS WAS REPORTED IN THE FABRICATED METAL INDUSTRY, SOME DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE WEARING APPAREL, TEXTILES AND PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES.

COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS MONTH, EMPLOYMENT IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR AS A WHOLE REMAINED STABLE. A SLIGHT INCREASE IN EMPLOYMENT WAS REPORTED IN THE FOOD AND DRINKS INDUSTRY. HOWEVER, DECLINES WERE REPORTED IN THE WEARING APPAREL, TEXTILES AND PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES.

INCREASES IN PAYROLL AND IN PER CAPITA EARNINGS WERE REPORTED BY ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES BECAUSE OF THE PAYMENT OF ANNUAL BONUS AND DOUBLE PAY.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR DECLINED SLIGHTLY WHILE THAT IN THE SERVICES SECTORS REMAINED UNCHANGED.

INCREASES IN PAYROLL AND IN PER CAPITA EARNINGS WERE ALSO REPORTED BY RESPONDENTS IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND SERVICES SECTORS BECAUSE OF DOUBLE PAY AND YEAR-END BONUS. WITHIN THE SERVICES SECTORS, HOWEVER, REPORTED DECLINES IN BOTH PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS BECAUSE SOME BANKS SURVEYED HAD ALREADY DISTRIBUTED THEIR BONUS IN DECEMBER.

THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS FOR THE LAST THREE MONTHS ARE SHOWN IN THE TABLES BELOW.

THE SURVEY COVERED A PANEL OF THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURING COMPANIES AND THE 50 LARGEST COMPANIES IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND SELECTED SERVICES SECTORS CHOSEN BY REFERENCE TO THEIR EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH 1983.

AS THE SAMPLE WAS NOT DRAWN ON A RANDOM BASIS, THE DEPARTMENT CAUTIONED THAT RESULTS ON MAGNITUDE OF CHANGE MIGHT NOT REFLECT THE EXPERIENCE OF THE ECONOMY AS A WHOLE, ALTHOUGH THEY SHOULD GIVE A USEFUL INDICATION OF THE DIRECTION OF CHANGE FOR A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ECONOMY IN THE SHORT TERM.

THE SURVEY REPORT FOR JANUARY 1985 IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, AND THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER, KAI TAK COMMERCIAL BUILDING, AT 1.50 PER COPY.

/ENQUIRIES ABOUT

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE MADE TO THE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION STATISTICS SECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT AT 3-7212768.

A. ORDERS-ON-HAND IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

<u>INDUSTRY</u>	(% CHANGE OVER THE PRECEDING MONTH)			ORDERS-ON-HAND (IN TERMS OF MONTHS) FOR JANUARY 1985
	NOV 1984	DEC 1984	JAN 1985	
WEARING APPAREL, EXCEPT FOOTWEAR	-1	-2	-2	4.55
TEXTILES, EXCEPT WEARING APPAREL	-2	*	-4	2.16
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	*	5	-1	4.22
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	1	1	6	3.51
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	2	-2	*	5.45
OTHERS	-1	*	*	4.33
<u>ALL ABOVE INDUSTRIES</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>-1</u>	<u>-1</u>	<u>4.45</u>

B. EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS

<u>INDUSTRY/SERVICES</u>	PERSONS ENGAGED BY THE COMPANIES SURVEYED			PER CAPITA EARNINGS			PER CAPITA EARNINGS FOR JANUARY 1985
	(% CHANGE OVER THE PRECEDING MONTH)						
	NOV 1984	DEC 1984	JAN 1985	NOV 1984	DEC 1984	JAN 1985	HK \$
<u>MANUFACTURING</u>	-2	-1	*	-1	8	15	3 380
FOOD AND DRINKS	-1	*	1	-4	6	48	5 414

/WEARING APPAREL,

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WEARING APPAREL, EXCEPT FOOTWEAR	-1	*	-1	-1	6	10	2 806
TEXTILE, EXCEPT WEARING APPAREL	*	*	-1	-1	14	2	3 141
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	-2	1	-2	-3	-3	10	2 740
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	-5	-1	*	1	2	30	3 122
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	-3	-2	*	*	10	12	3 176
OTHERS	*	*	2	*	10	20	4 967
CONSTRUCTION **	1	*	-1	*	6	13	4 871
<u>SERVICES</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>-2</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>7 439</u>
BANKS	*	*	-1	*	71	-7	6 993
HOTELS	*	*	*	*	32	58	6 630
PUBLIC UTILITIES	*	*	*	-3	7	35	7 375
OTHERS	1	*	1	-1	28	11	8 488

* CHANGES WITHIN + 0.5%

** PERSONS ENGAGED COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY= SITE WORKERS
EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS NOT INCLUDED.

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ROLE OF KAIFONG ASSOCIATIONS STRESSED

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KAIFONG ASSOCIATIONS PLAYED A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN INFLUENCING GOVERNMENT POLICY AND MANAGING DISTRICT AFFAIRS, THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICER, MR SYLVESTER TSE SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

+THEY HAVE ACHIEVED THIS BY ACTIVELY INVOLVING THEMSELVES IN DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION SCHEME WHICH WAS LAUNCHED THREE YEARS AGO,+ HE SAID.

SPEAKING AT THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF THE 20TH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE SHAM SHUI PO KAIFONG WELFARE ASSOCIATION, MR TSE SAID MORE THAN HALF OF THE INCUMBENT MEMBERS OF THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD WERE DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THE LOCAL KAIFONG ASSOCIATIONS.

HE SAID THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF KAIFONG ASSOCIATIONS ACCOUNTED FOR ABOUT 40 PER CENT OF THE NEWLY ELECTED LOCAL DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS.

MR TSE PAID TRIBUTE TO THE SHAM SHUI PO KAIFONG WELFARE ASSOCIATION FOR ITS LONG TIME CONTRIBUTION TO THE PROMOTION OF COMMUNITY INTEGRITY AND RESIDENTS' WELL-BEING.

THE SHAM SHUI PO KAIFONG WELFARE ASSOCIATION WAS THE FIRST KAIFONG ASSOCIATION ESTABLISHED IN HONG KONG 35 YEARS AGO AND IS NOW OPERATING A SCHOOL, A HEALTH AND DENTAL CLINIC AND AN ELDERLY CENTRE, AS WELL AS PROVIDING VARIOUS SERVICES TO RESIDENTS.

THERE ARE A TOTAL OF EIGHT KAIFONG ASSOCIATIONS IN THE DISTRICT, WHOSE MAIN OBJECTIVES ARE COMMUNITY BUILDING AND PROMOTION OF RESIDENTS' WELFARE.

ON THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF KAIFONG ASSOCIATIONS, MR TSE SAID THERE WAS A NEED TO REJUVENATE THE LEADERSHIP TO KEEP IN LINE WITH CHANGING TIMES.

+THE ASSOCIATIONS SHOULD AIM AT ABSORBING NEW BLOOD AND POTENTIAL SUCCESSORS SO THAT THE FUTURE LEADERSHIP COULD BE FILLED BY ENERGETIC YOUNG PEOPLE AS WELL AS RESOURCEFUL VETERANS,+ HE SAID.

MR TSE CALLED ON THE ASSOCIATIONS TO BROADEN THEIR GRASSROOTS BASE BY STRENGTHENING THEIR CONTACTS WITH RESIDENTS.

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 1985

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SEMINAR ON CAREERS IN FREIGHT INDUSTRY
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THE TRANSPORT AND PHYSICAL DISTRIBUTION TRAINING BOARD OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL WILL ORGANISE A SEMINAR ON CAREERS AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES IN THE FREIGHT TRANSPORT INDUSTRY ON MARCH 30 AT THE LEE WAI LEE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE.

THE SEMINAR IS INTENDED TO BRIEF CAREERS TEACHERS FROM SECONDARY SCHOOLS ON JOBS AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES IN THE FREIGHT TRANSPORT INDUSTRY, AND THAT RELEVANT INFORMATION ON CAREERS PROSPECTS IN THIS FIELD CAN BE DELIVERED TO SECONDARY SCHOOL-LEAVERS.

THE BOARD HAS INVITED FIVE EXECUTIVES AND EXPERTS OF FREIGHT TRANSPORT AND EDUCATION ESTABLISHMENTS TO SPEAK ON THE OPERATION OF SHIPPING AND CARGO HANDLING TERMINALS, THE BUSINESS OF FORWARDING AGENTS, TRUCKING AND WAREHOUSING AS WELL AS THE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE IN THE INDUSTRY.

CAREERS TEACHERS ARE WELCOME TO TAKE PART IN THE SEMINAR. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE SEMINAR, PLEASE CONTACT THE SECRETARY OF THE BOARD MR N. WONG ON 5-8932341 EXT. 254.

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LADY YOUDE TO OPEN FLOWER SHOW
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A WIDE VARIETY OF FLOWERS, SOME OF WHICH ARE RARE IN HONG KONG, WILL BE ON DISPLAY AT THE 9TH ANNUAL NORTH DISTRICT FLOWER SHOW TO BE HELD AT THE FANLING PLAYGROUND BETWEEN MARCH 23 AND 25.

LADY YOUDE, THE WIFE OF THE GOVERNOR, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING OF THE SHOW AT 11 AM ON SATURDAY (MARCH 23).

DETAILS OF THE SHOW WILL BE GIVEN AT A PRESS CONFERENCE AT 3.30 PM ON FRIDAY (MARCH 22) IN THE FANLING PLAYGROUND.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SHOW'S ORGANISING COMMITTEE, MR LIU CHING-LEUNG, WILL BE PRESENT.

THE TOTAL EXPENDITURE OF THE SHOW IS ABOUT \$200 000, OF WHICH \$110 000 COMES FROM THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE NORTH DISTRICT FLOWER SHOW PRESS CONFERENCE AT 3.30 PM ON FRIDAY (MARCH 22) IN THE FANLING PLAYGROUND.

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 1985

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 1985

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PRESS CONFERENCE ON METRICATION

A PRESS CONFERENCE TO ANNOUNCE THE DETAILS OF A METRIC TV GAMES SHOW WILL BE HELD AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (THURSDAY) AT RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG, BROADCAST DRIVE, KOWLOON.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE METRICATION COMMITTEE, MR JAMES M.H. WU, AND HEAD OF GENERAL PROGRAMMES, TELEVISION DIVISION, RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG, MISS MARIA WAN WILL BE PRESENT.

MR WU WILL ALSO GIVE A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE PROGRESS MADE BY VARIOUS TRADES IN THE CONVERSION PROGRAMME AND THE PUBLICITY EFFORTS DURING THE PAST YEAR.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRESS CONFERENCE. PRESS MEMBERS WILL BE MET BY GIS OFFICERS IN THE LOBBY OF RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG AT 2.15 PM.

CAS PASSING-OUT PARADE

THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR NEW TERRITORIES, DR JAMES HAYES, WILL INSPECT THE CIVIL AID SERVICES 31ST RECRUITS PASSING-OUT PARADE ON SATURDAY (MARCH 23) AT THE SHA TSUI ROAD PLAYGROUND IN TSUEN WAN AT 8 PM.

OVER 250 MEN AND WOMEN RECRUITS WHO HAVE JUST COMPLETED BASIC TRAINING IN FOOT DRILL, DISCIPLINE, FIRST AID, LIGHT RESCUE, FOREST FIRE FIGHTING, COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND TYPHOON DUTIES, WILL TAKE PART IN THE PARADE.

THE NEW RECRUITS WILL BE POSTED TO VARIOUS CAS UNITS IN HONG KONG, KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES.

NOTE TO EDITORS:
...../DR HAYES

DR HAYES WILL ALSO PRESENT SPECIAL CERTIFICATES TO THREE OUTSTANDING RECRUITS AND CIVIL DEFENCE LONG SERVICE CLASPS TO 19 SERVING CAS MEMBERS.

THE COMMISSIONER OF CIVIL AID SERVICES, SIR ROGER LOBO, WILL PRESENT THE COMMISSIONER'S COMMENDATION CERTIFICATES TO EIGHT CAS VOLUNTEER OFFICERS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CIVIL AID SERVICES PASSING-OUT PARADE ON SATURDAY (MARCH 23) AT THE SHA TSUI ROAD PLAYGROUND, TSUEN WAN AT 8 PM.

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PUBLIC HOUSING DRAWS WORDS OF PRAISE
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THE STANDARD OF HONG KONG'S PUBLIC HOUSING TODAY DREW WORDS OF PRAISE FROM A VISITING DELEGATION FROM CHINA DURING ITS TOUR OF MEI LAM ESTATE AND SUI WO COURT IN SHA TIN.

+THE ARCHITECTURAL DESIGNS ARE SIMPLY AMAZING,+ SAID MR HU LIJIAO WHO HEADED THE DELEGATION FROM THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS. HE IS CHAIRMAN OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE.

HE SAID HE WAS NOT SURPRISED WHEN TOLD THE TWO ESTATES HAD WON AN AWARD FOR ARCHITECTURAL EXCELLENCE.

+THE ESTATES HAVE WIDE-RANGING FACILITIES AND AMPLE OPEN SPACES AND THEY ARE CERTAINLY NICE PLACES TO LIVE IN.+

BEFORE THE TOUR, THE VISITORS FIRST CALLED ON THE DIRECTOR OF HOUSING, MR FRED PANG, AT THE HOUSING AUTHORITY HEADQUARTERS WHERE THEY WERE BRIEFED ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG'S PUBLIC HOUSING IN THE EXHIBITION HALL.

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 1985

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EXPORT AUTHORISATIONS OF RED LINEN SUSPENDED

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THE TRADE DEPARTMENT TODAY (WEDNESDAY) ANNOUNCED THAT PENDING CONSULTATION WITH THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT, THE DEPARTMENT HAS SUSPENDED WITH EFFECT FROM 2 PM TODAY THE ISSUE OF FURTHER EXPORT AUTHORISATIONS IN RESPECT OF RED LINEN (GROUP 13).

THE DEPARTMENT WILL HOWEVER CONTINUE TO APPROVE AND ISSUE EXPORT LICENCES FOR THE ABOVE GROUP AGAINST VALID EXPORT AUTHORISATIONS APPROVED PRIOR TO THE SUSPENSION.

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URBCO INVITES TENDERS FOR RESTAURANTS

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THE URBAN COUNCIL IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE OPERATION OF TWO LIGHT REFRESHMENT RESTAURANTS AT KAI TAK EAST PLAYGROUND AND SHEK KU LUNG ROAD PLAYGROUND IN KOWLOON.

THE TWO PLAYGROUNDS PROVIDE A WIDE RANGE OF RECREATION AND SPORTS FACILITIES FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS.

THE 1.52-HECTARE KAI TAK EAST PLAYGROUND IS BOUNDED BY TSAT PO STREET, LUK HOP STREET AND KING FUK STREET IN SAN PO KONG WHILE THE 1.3-HECTARE SHEK KU LUNG ROAD PLAYGROUND, DUE TO BE OPENED SOON, IS BOUNDED BY LOK SIN ROAD, TUNG LEI ROAD AND PRINCE EDWARD ROAD EAST IN KOWLOON CITY.

SUCCESSFUL TENDERER FOR THE KAI TAK EAST PLAYGROUND RESTAURANT WILL BE GIVEN A THREE-YEAR CONTRACT AND THAT FOR THE SHEK KU LUNG ROAD PLAYGROUND RESTAURANT WILL BE AWARDED A ONE-YEAR CONTRACT, BOTH STARTING FROM JUNE 1, 1985.

TENDER FORMS AND FURTHER PARTICULARS ARE OBTAINABLE FROM THE CITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICE AT 692 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD EAST, 3RD FLOOR, SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, KOWLOON.

COMPLETED TENDER FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN DUPLICATE AND PLACED IN THE TENDER BOX AT THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT RECEPTION COUNTER, 12TH FLOOR, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (WEST WING), ICE HOUSE STREET, HONG KONG, BEFORE 9 A.M. ON FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 1985.

LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 1985

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FLOWER STALLS SNAPPED UP
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ALL 24 COMMERCIAL STALLS FOR THE SALE OF FLOWERS, PLANTS AND HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTS AT THE FORTHCOMING URBAN COUNCIL FLOWER SHOW WERE SOLD OUT THIS MORNING AT HIGH PRICES.

ABOUT A HUNDRED POTENTIAL BIDDERS PACKED THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE VICTORIA PARK TENNIS COURT WHERE THE AUCTIONING OF THE STALLS TOOK PLACE.

THE UPSET PRICE FOR A NINE-SQUARE-METRE STALL WAS \$200 AND THAT FOR AN 18-SQUARE-METRE ONE WAS \$400.

HOWEVER, BIDS OFFERED RAN EXCEPTIONALLY HIGH ONE AFTER ANOTHER WITH THE RESULTANT PRICE FOR A SMALL STALL RANGED BETWEEN \$1 600 AND \$3 000, AND FOR A LARGE ONE BETWEEN \$2 900 AND \$8 500.

MEANWHILE, PLANT LOVERS ARE REMINDED THAT APPLICATIONS FOR THIS YEAR'S URBAN COUNCIL FLOWER SHOW WILL CLOSE ON FRIDAY.

THE SHOW WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE MEMORIAL GARDEN AND THE EXHIBITION HALL OF THE CITY HALL BETWEEN APRIL 19 AND 21.

LAST YEAR, A RECORD NUMBER OF 32 482 PEOPLE VISITED THE SHOW AND 1 345 COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS FROM 553 INDIVIDUALS WERE PUT ON DISPLAY.

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