



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1988

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HK PLAYS VITAL PART IN GATT GROUP

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A HONG KONG TRADE OFFICIAL IS IN GENEVA THIS WEEK TO CHAIR A MEETING OF AN IMPORTANT GROUP INVOLVED IN LAYING THE GROUNDWORK FOR THE FUTURE WORLD INTERNATIONAL TRADING SYSTEM.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR MICHAEL CARTLAND, IS CHAIRING A MEETING OF THE NEGOTIATING GROUP LOOKING AT SUBSIDIES AND COUNTERVAILING DUTIES AS PART OF THE URUGUAY ROUND OF TALKS UNDER THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE (GATT).

COMPLICATED NEGOTIATIONS WERE INVOLVED BEFORE THE GATT NATIONS AGREED TO THE CHAIRMANSHIPS OF THE 14 GROUPS ESTABLISHED TO COVER A WHOLE RANGE OF SUBJECTS.

THE FACT THAT HONG KONG CHAIRED SUCH AN IMPORTANT GROUP WAS AN INDICATION THAT IT WAS WELL REGARDED AND WAS SEEN AS BEING IMPARTIAL ON MANY ISSUES, MR CARTLAND SAID.

"SUBSIDIES HAS BEEN AN AREA OF MUCH DISPUTE OVER THE YEARS, IT CONTAINS SOME FAIRLY INTRACTABLE PROBLEMS," HE SAID.

"SUBSIDY WARS MAY BREAK OUT BETWEEN LARGE NATIONS OR GROUPS BUT THESE ALSO CREATE PROBLEMS FOR SMALLER SUPPLIES WHO ARE DISPLACED FROM THESE MARKETS AND FROM THIRD COUNTRY MARKETS."

MR CARTLAND EXPLAINED THAT THE GROUP WAS LOOKING AT BOTH SUBSIDIES, AND AT COUNTERVAILING DUTIES WHICH WERE USED BY NATIONS TO COUNTER THE EFFECTS OF SUBSIDIES BY OTHERS. THE GROUP HAD BEEN MEETING REGULARLY OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS AND THIS WEEK'S MEETING WAS THE FIFTH THIS YEAR.

"THE MAIN PURPOSE THIS WEEK IS TO REACH AGREEMENT ON A GROUP REPORT WHICH, ALONG WITH THE REPORTS OF THE OTHER GROUPS, WILL BE SENT TO THE MONTREAL MID-TERM REVIEW OF THE URUGUAY ROUND IN DECEMBER," HE SAID.

EACH OF THE GROUPS WORKED OUT A NEGOTIATING PLAN AT THE START OF THE ROUND.

THE SUBSIDIES GROUP STARTED ITS WORK BY EXAMINING ALL THE BACKGROUND MATERIAL AND TAKING SUBMISSIONS FROM DELEGATIONS, AS WELL BACKGROUND MATERIAL AND TAKING SUBMISSIONS FROM DELEGATIONS, AS WELL

"NOW THE GROUP HAS IDENTIFIED FROM THIS MATERIAL A COMPENDIUM OF ISSUES FOR NEGOTIATION," MR CARTLAND SAID.

"DURING THIS WEEK'S MEETING WE WILL BE DRAWING UP A REPORT IN WHICH WE WILL STATE FACTUALLY WHAT WE HAVE DONE SO FAR AND HOW WE WILL PROCEED IN THE NEXT TWO YEARS WHEN WE WILL ENGAGE IN THE SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS.

/"THE DIFFICULTY

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"THE DIFFICULTY IS THAT SOME OF THE PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE NEGOTIATIONS HAVE DIAMETRICALLY OPPOSED VIEWS.

"IT IS DIFFICULT TO DEMONSTRATE PROGRESS WHEN CONSTANTLY TRYING TO SQUARE OPPOSING POSITIONS - BUT AS LONG AS THE SEARCH FOR NEGOTIATED SOLUTIONS CONTINUES, THE DANGER OF DAMAGING UNILATERAL TRADE ACTION IS REDUCED.

"THIS IS ONE OF THE MAJOR FUNCTIONS AND BENEFITS OF THE MULTILATERAL PROCESS."

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LINK BETWEEN INDUSTRY AND HIGHER EDUCATION EMPHASISED

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THE GOVERNMENT HOPES TO FOSTER CLOSER LINKS BETWEEN INDUSTRY AND THE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION BECAUSE OF THE NEED FOR A GREATER EMPHASIS ON THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN INDUSTRY, THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR K.Y. YEUNG SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF A NEW PLANT OF CHIAPHUA-SHINKO COPPER ALLOY CO. LTD., MR YEUNG SAID THE EXPERT KNOWLEDGE EMBEDDED IN THE TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS NEEDS TO BE HARNESSSED TO HELP INDUSTRY MAKE THE TRANSITION FROM LABOUR INTENSIVE TO TECHNOLOGY INTENSIVE MANUFACTURING.

"INDEED ONE OF THE PRIMARY REASONS FOR THE CHOICE OF JUNK BAY AS THE SITE FOR THE THIRD INDUSTRIAL ESTATE WAS THE CLOSE PROXIMITY OF THE NEW UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

"THE GOVERNMENT IS ALSO EXPLORING WAYS TO IMPROVE THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONTRACT RESEARCH TO BE CARRIED OUT BY THE TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS ON BEHALF OF INDUSTRY.

"ANOTHER OPTION BEING CONSIDERED IS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SCIENCE PARKS AND TECHNOLOGY CENTRES WHERE BRIGHT IDEAS CAN, BY COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS AND INDUSTRIALISTS, BE TURNED INTO PRACTICAL WORTHWHILE PRODUCTS OR PROCESSES.

"IT IS POSSIBLE THAT, IN THE LONGER TERM, THERE MAY BE SCOPE FOR A SCIENCE PARK OR TECHNOLOGY CENTRE TO BE LOCATED IN JUNK BAY."

TURNING TO THE RECENT MOVEMENT OF LABOUR INTENSIVE MANUFACTURING OPERATIONS TO CHINA, MR YEUNG POINTED OUT THAT IF THE TREND CONTINUED, IT WOULD POSE A CHALLENGE FOR LOCAL MANUFACTURERS IN THE LONGER TERM.

"HONG KONG'S INDUSTRIES MUST UPGRADE TO COMPETE FOR A GREATER SHARE OF THE EXPANDING PROFITS THAT ARE BEING MADE BY OTHER REGIONAL MANUFACTURERS OF HIGHER PRICED AND MORE TECHNOLOGY INTENSIVE PRODUCTS," HE SAID.

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TRIANGULAR LINK OFFERS GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY FOR TRADE

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THE TRIANGULAR LINK BETWEEN AUSTRALIA, HONG KONG AND CHINA OFFERS A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY FOR TRADE, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR ANDREW LEUNG, SAID IN MELBOURNE YESTERDAY (MONDAY).

MR LEUNG SAID THE LINK FORMED A GOLDEN TRIANGLE FOR TRADE, CUTTING ACROSS THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION WHICH WAS ONE OF THE MOST ECONOMICALLY VIBRANT REGIONS OF THE WORLD.

IN ADDITION, THE REGION WAS HEADING TOWARDS AN EVEN MORE PROMINENT POSITION IN WORLD TRADE BY THE YEAR 2000, MR LEUNG SAID IN AN ADDRESS TO THE HONG KONG-AUSTRALIA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION.

DURING HIS WEEK-LONG VISIT TO AUSTRALIA, MR LEUNG IS MEETING REPRESENTATIVES FROM A NUMBER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS, INCLUDING THE AUSTRALIAN CHAMBER OF MANUFACTURERS AND THE CANBERRA DEVELOPMENT BOARD.

HE DESCRIBED HONG KONG AS AN IDEAL LOCATION FOR AUSTRALIAN BUSINESSMEN TO SET UP A MANUFACTURING BASE, WITHIN EASY REACH OF THEIR MAJOR EXPORTING DESTINATIONS SUCH AS JAPAN, CHINA, SOUTH KOREA AND TAIWAN.

"TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE IMPORTANT ASIA-PACIFIC MARKET FOR AUSTRALIA AND THE ALREADY WELL-ESTABLISHED AUSTRALIAN PRESENCE IN HONG KONG IN OTHER AREAS OF BUSINESS, THERE ARE REAL PROSPECTS FOR MORE AUSTRALIAN MANUFACTURERS TO SET UP OPERATION," HE SAID.

MR LEUNG EMPHASISED THAT HONG KONG BELIEVED IN FREE TRADE AND A FREE ECONOMY AS THE CORNERSTONE OF ITS ECONOMIC SUCCESS AND THE GOVERNMENT HAD SUPPORTED INDUSTRY IN TWO MAIN AREAS, NAMELY INFRASTRUCTURAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL.

"IN LINE WITH CREATING A FAVOURABLE INFRASTRUCTURE, THE GOVERNMENT CONSTANTLY IMPROVED THE FRAMEWORK WITHIN WHICH MANUFACTURING ENTERPRISE CAN OPERATE SUCCESSFULLY AND BECOME MORE COMPETITIVE," HE ADDED.

HE ALSO SAID THAT AS CHINA'S INDUSTRIALISATION GATHERED PACE, THE SYMBIOTIC RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CHINA NOT ONLY REINFORCED HONG KONG'S POSITION AS A MAJOR INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL CENTRE BUT ALSO UNDERLAY ITS DEVELOPMENT IN SUCH TYPES OF MANUFACTURING AS THOSE INVOLVING HIGH QUALITY, HIGH VALUE-ADDED AND CAPITAL AND TECHNOLOGY INTENSIVE PROCESSES.

"FOR THIS DEVELOPMENT, HONG KONG OFFERS AN EXCELLENT INFRASTRUCTURE. AUSTRALIAN ENTREPRENEURS ARE WELL-PLACED IN TERMS OF GEOGRAPHY, TECHNICAL EXPERTISE, AND EXPERIENCE OF OPERATING IN HONG KONG TO GRASP THE BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES," HE SAID.

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TURNING TO HONG KONG'S FUTURE, MR LEUNG SAID THAT THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION PRESERVED THE ESSENTIAL INGREDIENTS WHICH ACCOUNTED FOR THE TERRITORY'S SUCCESS AS A LEADING INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL AND MANUFACTURING CENTRE.

MR LEUNG WILL ALSO GIVE AN ADDRESS TO THE HONG KONG-AUSTRALIA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION IN SYDNEY TOMORROW.

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SMA ASSURES CHICAGO INVESTORS ABOUT HK MARKETS

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SECRETARY FOR MONETARY AFFAIRS, DAVID NENDICK, YESTERDAY (MONDAY) ASSURED A GROUP OF LEADING CHICAGO BUSINESSMEN THAT REFORMS IN THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES MARKETS WHICH HAD BEEN INSTITUTED SINCE THE WORLDWIDE STOCK MARKET CRASH LAST YEAR, MADE IT EXTREMELY UNLIKELY THAT A REPETITION OF EVENTS THAT FORCED THE CLOSURE OF THE HONG KONG STOCK MARKET WOULD EVER OCCUR AGAIN.

SPEAKING BEFORE AN AUDIENCE OF THE MID-AMERICA COMMITTEE, A GROUP COMPRISING THE CHIEF EXECUTIVES OF LEADING MIDWESTERN UNITED STATES MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES, MR NENDICK OUTLINED THE VARIOUS MEASURES ALREADY ADOPTED, OR WHICH WERE IN THE COURSE OF BEING IMPLEMENTED, FOLLOWING THE REPORT OF THE SECURITIES REVIEW COMMITTEE PUBLISHED LAST JUNE.

THESE INCLUDED THE RECONSTITUTION OF THE STOCK EXCHANGE COMMITTEE AND INTERNAL MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE, FORTHCOMING CHANGES AT THE FUTURES EXCHANGE AND THE NEW AUTONOMOUS SUPERVISORY STRUCTURE NOW BEING PUT INTO PLACE BY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT.

TRACING THE BACKGROUND TO LAST OCTOBER'S CLOSURE OF THE MARKETS IN HONG KONG, MR NENDICK NOTED THAT SINCE THE UNIFIED STOCK EXCHANGE BEGAN OPERATING IN APRIL 1986 ITS TRADING VOLUME HAD INCREASED 20-FOLD AND MARKET CAPITALISATION INCREASED TWO-AND-A-HALF TIMES UP TO OCTOBER 1987.

HE ESTIMATED FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN THE HONG KONG STOCK EXCHANGE HAD CLIMED TO MORE THAN HALF OF THIS TOTAL.

HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT TRADING OF THE HANG SENG STOCK INDEX FUTURES ON THE HONG KONG FUTURES EXCHANGE HAD BECOME THE WORLD'S MOST ACTIVELY TRADED SUCH CONTRACT OUTSIDE OF ITS EQUIVALENT IN CHICAGO.

"FRANKLY, THE REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT AND STRUCTURE OF OUR MARKETS COULD NOT KEEP PACE WITH THESE CHANGES," HE SAID.

/"FURTHER, THERE

"FURTHER, THERE WAS SUCH A BACKLOG OF SETTLEMENTS DURING THE CRASH THAT IT WAS DECIDED THAT A BREATHER WAS REQUIRED. IT WAS THEN THAT THE PROBLEMS OF THE FUTURES MARKET--BASICALLY, IT WAS TECHNICALLY INSOLVENT--BECAME APPARENT."

MR NENDICK OUTLINED THE MEASURES AND THE RESCUE PACKAGE THAT THE GOVERNMENT PUT TOGETHER TO SAVE THE MARKETS FOR HONG KONG'S LONG TERM FUTURE AS A MAJOR INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTER.

HE DESCRIBED THE BANK OF CHINA'S PARTICIPATION IN THE RESCUE PACKAGE AS A REFLECTION OF CHINA'S COMMITMENT TO HONG KONG AND PARTICULARLY TO HONG KONG AS AN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTER.

EARLIER IN THE DAY, MR NENDICK VISITED THE CHICAGO BOARD OF TRADE WHERE HE WAS TAKEN ON A TOUR OF THE TRADING FLOOR BY LAWRENCE C. DORF, A MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

HE ALSO HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER SENIOR OFFICIALS AT THE BOARD OF TRADE INCLUDING THE DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS AND PLANNING, MR THOMAS C. COLEMAN.

IN THE AFTERNOON, MR NENDICK ALSO HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH THE BRITISH CONSUL GENERAL IN CHICAGO, MR RAY MINGAY, AND LATER IN THE EVENING HE WAS THE GUEST OF HONOUR AT A DINNER HOSTED BY THE NORTHERN TRUST BANK AND ATTENDED BY A GROUP OF SENIOR CORPORATE AND BUSINESS EXECUTIVES.

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PRICE, VOLUME MOVEMENTS OF EXTERNAL TRADE IN AUGUST
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THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS GREW BY 8 PER CENT AND 43 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF 1988 AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

TAKING THEM TOGETHER, THERE WAS AN OVERALL INCREASE OF 25 PER CENT IN THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS. IMPORTS ALSO INCREASED BY 25 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS.

THE GROWTH IN THE VOLUME OF TRADE IS DERIVED FROM THE GROWTH IN TRADE VALUES, HAVING DISCOUNTED THE EFFECT OF PRICE CHANGES.

AS REGARDS PRICE CHANGES OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS BOTH ROSE BY 3 PER CENT, WHILE THOSE OF IMPORTS ROSE BY 4 PER CENT. AS A RESULT, THE TERMS OF TRADE INDEX (EXPRESSED AS A RATIO OF TOTAL EXPORT PRICE INDEX TO IMPORT PRICE INDEX) DROPPED BY 1 PER CENT.

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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 INDEXES ARE AVAILABLE.

COMPARING THE MONTH OF AUGUST 1988 WITH AUGUST 1987, THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 10 PER CENT AND 53 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY. HENCE, TAKING DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TOGETHER, TOTAL EXPORTS GREW BY 30 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS. IMPORT VOLUME INCREASED BY 32 PER CENT.

DURING THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY 1 PER CENT AND 3 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY. PRICES OF IMPORTS ROSE BY 4 PER CENT.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY COMMODITY GROUP FOR AUGUST 1988 AS COMPARED WITH AUGUST 1987 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

AS CAN BE SEEN FROM TABLE 1, THE DOMESTIC EXPORT VOLUME OF MANY COMMODITY GROUPS INCREASED IN AUGUST 1988 COMPARED WITH AUGUST 1987.

THESE INCLUDED ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (+53 PER CENT); METAL MANUFACTURES (+31 PER CENT); WATCHES AND CLOCKS (+19 PER CENT); TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES (+15 PER CENT); TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD (+11 PER CENT); AND FOOTWEAR (+4 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, DECREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORT VOLUME WERE RECORDED IN RADIOS OF ALL KINDS (-35 PER CENT); DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES (-10 PER CENT); TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES (-9 PER CENT); TEXTILE FABRICS (-8 PER CENT); METAL ORES AND SCRAP (-3 PER CENT); AND CLOTHING (-1 PER CENT).

PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF MANY COMMODITY GROUPS INCREASED IN AUGUST 1988 COMPARED WITH AUGUST 1987.

THESE INCLUDED METAL MANUFACTURES (+5 PER CENT); DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES (+4 PER CENT); METAL ORES AND SCRAP (+4 PER CENT); TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES (+4 PER CENT); WATCHES AND CLOCKS (+3 PER CENT); AND FOOTWEAR (+1 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, DECREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORT PRICES WERE RECORDED IN ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (-5 PER CENT); TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES (-4 PER CENT); RADIOS OF ALL KINDS (-2 PER CENT); AND TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD (-1 PER CENT). PRICES OF CLOTHING AND TEXTILE FABRICS REMAINED UNCHANGED.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY FOR AUGUST 1988 AS COMPARED WITH AUGUST 1987 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 2.

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AS PRESENTED IN TABLE 2, IMPORTED FOODSTUFFS INCREASED BY 14 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS IN AUGUST 1988 COMPARED WITH AUGUST 1987.

SIGNIFICANT GROWTH WAS RECORDED IN TEA AND COFFEE; AND WHEAT AND FLOUR. HOWEVER, DECREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE REGISTERED FOR SOYA BEAN OIL, PEANUT OIL AND LARD; AND CEREALS AND CEREAL PREPARATIONS OTHER THAN RICE, WHEAT AND FLOUR.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE IMPORT VOLUME OF CONSUMER GOODS INCREASED BY 35 PER CENT. THE COMMODITY ITEMS WITH MORE SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES INCLUDED PASSENGER MOTOR CARS; AND RADIOS, TELEVISION SETS, GRAMOPHONES, RECORDS, TAPE RECORDERS AND AMPLIFIERS. A DECREASE IN IMPORT VOLUME WAS RECORDED IN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.

THE IMPORT VOLUME OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES ROSE BY 30 PER CENT IN AUGUST 1988 COMPARED WITH AUGUST 1987.

THE MAJOR INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN SILK FABRICS; BASE METALS OTHER THAN IRON AND STEEL; PLASTIC MOULDING MATERIALS; AND THERMIONIC CATHODE VALVES AND TUBES, DIODES, TRANSISTORS AND ELECTRICAL MICROCIRCUITS.

DECREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE NOTED FOR MAN-MADE FIBRES, COTTON YARN AND THREAD; WOOL AND OTHER ANIMAL HAIR; AND RAW COTTON.

IMPORTS OF FUELS INCREASED BY 29 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS IN AUGUST 1988 AS COMPARED WITH AUGUST 1987.

IN THE CAPITAL GOODS CATEGORY, THE IMPORT VOLUME INCREASED BY 42 PER CENT IN AUGUST 1988 OVER AUGUST 1987. THERE WERE SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES IN THE IMPORT VOLUME OF CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY; OFFICE MACHINES; AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY.

IMPORT PRICES OF MOST END-USE CATEGORIES ROSE IN AUGUST 1988 AS COMPARED WITH AUGUST 1987, WITH THE PERCENTAGE INCREASES RANGING FROM 3 PER CENT FOR FOODSTUFFS TO 5 PER CENT FOR CAPITAL GOODS. HOWEVER, PRICES OF IMPORTS OF FUELS DECREASED BY 7 PER CENT.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY FOR AUGUST 1988 AS COMPARED WITH AUGUST 1987 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 3.

AS DEPICTED IN TABLE 3, THE RE-EXPORT VOLUME OF ALL END-USE CATEGORIES INCREASED IN AUGUST 1988 WHEN COMPARED WITH AUGUST 1987, WITH THE PERCENTAGE INCREASE RANGING FROM 38 PER CENT FOR FOODSTUFFS TO 173 PER CENT FOR FUELS.

PRICES OF RE-EXPORTS OF CAPITAL GOODS INCREASED BY 6 PER CENT IN AUGUST 1988 WHEN COMPARED WITH AUGUST 1987. RE-EXPORT PRICES OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES INCREASED BY 4 PER CENT. PRICES OF FOODSTUFFS ROSE BY 3 PER CENT, WHILE THOSE OF CONSUMER GOODS INCREASED BY 2 PER CENT. ON THE OTHER HAND, PRICES OF RE-EXPORTS OF FUELS DROPPED BY 18 PER CENT.

/FURTHER DETAILS

FURTHER DETAILS ARE CONTAINED IN THE AUGUST 1988 ISSUE OF THE "HONG KONG TRADE INDEX NUMBERS" WHICH WILL BE ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, AROUND NOVEMBER 10 AT \$2.50 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES REGARDING REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION TO THIS REPORT MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, HONG KONG (TEL. 5-8428802) AND ENQUIRIES ON TRADE INDEXES TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. 5-8234918).

TABLE 1: INCREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY COMMODITY GROUP.

COMMODITY GROUP	COMPARING AUGUST 1988 WITH AUGUST 1987			COMPARING JAN-AUG 1988 WITH JAN-AUG 1987		
	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
CLOTHING	-1	*	-1	*	3	-3
TEXTILE FABRICS	-8	*	-8	-2	3	-5
TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD	10	-1	11	-4	2	-6
TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES	20	4	15	1	5	-4
RADIOS OF ALL KINDS	-36	-2	-35	-31	2	-32
ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS	46	-5	53	39	-2	41
FOOTWEAR	4	1	4	2	4	-2
METAL MANUFACTURES	38	5	31	29	5	23
METAL ORES AND SCRAP	1	4	-3	22	5	17
WATCHES AND CLOCKS	23	3	19	24	3	21
TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES	-12	-4	-9	-8	1	-9
DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES	-6	4	-10	2	2	*
ALL COMMODITIES	11	1	10	11	3	8

/NOTES FOR

NOTES FOR TABLES 1 TO 3:

* INSIGNIFICANT, I.E. LESS THAN 0.5 PER CENT

PERCENTAGE CHANGES ARE CALCULATED FROM TRADE INDEXES WITH DECIMAL PLACES. THEY MAY DIFFER FROM THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES COMPUTED DIRECTLY FROM THE ROUNDED FIGURES IN THE PUBLICATION "HONG KONG TRADE INDEX NUMBERS".

TABLE 2: INCREASES IN IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY

END-USE CATEGORY	COMPARING AUGUST 1988 WITH AUGUST 1987			COMPARING JAN-AUG 1988 WITH JAN-AUG 1987		
	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
FOODSTUFFS	18	3	14	21	3	17
CONSUMER GOODS	40	4	35	34	3	29
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	35	4	30	29	5	23
FUELS	19	-7	29	5	*	6
CAPITAL GOODS	49	5	42	37	6	29
ALL COMMODITIES	37	4	32	31	4	25

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

END-USE CATEGORY	COMPARING AUGUST 1988 WITH AUGUST 1987			COMPARING JAN-AUG 1988 WITH JAN-AUG 1987		
	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
FOODSTUFFS	42	3	38	45	1	43
CONSUMER GOODS	60	2	57	47	2	44
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	50	4	45	49	4	42
FUELS	122	-18	173	29	-7	39
CAPITAL GOODS	73	6	63	52	4	46
ALL COMMODITIES	57	3	53	48	3	43

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1988

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LEGCO TO DEBATE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS

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FORTY-FIVE MEMBERS ARE LISTED TO SPEAK IN THE POLICY DEBATE TO BEGIN IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE DEBATE, ON A MOTION OF THANKS FOR THE GOVERNOR'S ANNUAL ADDRESS, WILL CONTINUE ON THURSDAY.

TWENTY-TWO MEMBERS ARE LISTED TO SPEAK TOMORROW AND 23 ON THURSDAY.

THE MOTION, TO BE MOVED BY THE SENIOR MEMBER, THE HON ALLEN LEE, READS: "THAT THIS COUNCIL THANKS THE GOVERNOR FOR HIS ADDRESS".

IN ADDITION, THE HON SZETO WAH WILL ALSO MOVE A MOTION WHICH READS: "THAT THE PERIOD REFERRED TO IN SECTION 34(2) OF THE INTERPRETATION AND GENERAL CLAUSES ORDINANCE FOR AMENDING SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE COUNCIL BE EXTENDED IN RELATION TO THE FILM CENSORSHIP REGULATIONS 1988 FOR A FURTHER PERIOD OF 21 DAYS UNTIL 30TH NOVEMBER 1988".

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CENTRAL KOWLOON TRAFFIC STUDY COMMISSIONED

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS COMMISSIONED A STUDY TO ASSESS THE REQUIREMENTS FOR TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SCHEMES IN CENTRAL KOWLOON TO COPE WITH DEVELOPMENTS IN THE AREA.

THE \$2.3 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE STUDY, WHICH WAS AWARDED TO MVA CONSULTANCY, WAS SIGNED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, MR RICHARD SCURFIELD, AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CONSULTANCY, MR FRED BROWN.

THE STUDY AREA COVERS THE WHOLE OF CENTRAL KOWLOON WHICH EXTENDS EAST TO THE COASTLINE; NORTH TO BOUNDARY STREET LINKING WITH OLYMPIC AVENUE AND SUNG WONG TOI ROAD; AND WEST TO KCR LINE INCLUDING THE HUNG HOM INTERCHANGE AND THE KOWLOON STATION.

THE STUDY ALSO AIMS AT DEVELOPING A SUB-REGIONAL TRAFFIC MODEL FOR FUTURE UPDATING OF TRAFFIC CIRCULATION AND FORMULATION OF NEW IMPROVEMENT MEASURES. IT WILL COVER THE DESIGN YEARS OF 1991 AND 1996.

THE STUDY WILL START IN THE MIDDLE OF NOVEMBER AND WILL TAKE ABOUT ONE YEAR TO COMPLETE.

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1988

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NEW BUS SERVICE FOR CHINA FERRY TERMINAL

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A NEW CIRCULAR COACH SERVICE WILL BE INTRODUCED TO TIE IN WITH THE OPERATION OF THE NEW CHINA FERRY TERMINAL, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE NEW SERVICE, WHICH WILL COME INTO OPERATION ON NOVEMBER 16 (WEDNESDAY) AT THE LATEST, WILL LINK THE NEW CHINA FERRY TERMINAL WITH THE JORDAN ROAD BUS TERMINUS, THE TSIM SHA TSUI MTR STATION AND THE STAR FERRY BUS TERMINUS.

THE CIRCULAR ROUTE WILL OPERATE FROM 6.30 AM TO 10.30 PM DAILY AT A 12-MINUTE FREQUENCY. THE FARE WILL BE \$1.50 PER SINGLE JOURNEY.

IN ADDITION, A NEW BUS STOP IN CANTON ROAD, OUTSIDE THE TERMINAL, WILL BE DESIGNATED FOR THE EXISTING BUS ROUTE 8A WHICH OPERATES BETWEEN JORDAN ROAD FERRY AND WHAMPOA GARDENS. THE BUS STOP WILL COME INTO OPERATION NEXT MONDAY.

MEANWHILE, THE TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE INSIDE THE TERMINAL HAS PROVISIONS FOR NON-FRANCHISED COACH SERVICES AND TAXIS TO FACILITATE MOVEMENT OF FERRY PASSENGERS.

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL MONITOR THE SITUATION CLOSELY AND WILL STRENGTHEN PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES IF NECESSARY, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT BEGAN IMPLEMENTING A NUMBER OF TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT MEASURES SEVERAL MONTHS AGO TO COPE WITH THE EXPECTED ADDITIONAL TRAFFIC GENERATED BY THE OPENING OF THE FERRY TERMINAL.

IN MAY, THE SECTION OF CANTON ROAD BETWEEN KOWLOON PARK DRIVE AND HAIPHONG ROAD WAS CONVERTED TO ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND TO ENABLE MOTORISTS TO BECOME FAMILIAR WITH THE NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT.

IN SEPTEMBER, THE JUNCTION LAYOUT OF CANTON ROAD AND KOWLOON PARK DRIVE WAS MODIFIED, AND A SIGNAL CONTROLLED CROSSING AT THE ACCESS TO THE FERRY TERMINAL WAS INSTALLED TO FACILITATE MOVEMENT OF PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC.

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CLOSURE OF ILLEGAL STRUCTURES SOUGHT

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS TO SEEK THE CLOSURE OF ILLEGAL STRUCTURES ON THE MAIN ROOF OF NOS. 24 TO 26, TONKIN STREET, KOWLOON SO THAT THEY CAN BE DEMOLISHED WITHOUT DANGER TO THE OCCUPIERS AND THE PUBLIC.

THE CLOSURE IS PART OF AN EXERCISE TO ENFORCE THE ORDERS ISSUED UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE IN MAY 1988, MARCH 1988 AND MAY 1985 REQUIRING THE DEMOLITION OF THE ILLEGAL STRUCTURES.

NOTICES OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR CLOSURE ORDERS FROM THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT COURT ON MARCH 7, 1989 WERE POSTED ON CONSPICUOUS PARTS OF THE STRUCTURES TODAY (TUESDAY).

IT IS INTENDED THAT THE DEMOLITION WORK WILL BE CARRIED OUT IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CLOSURE ORDERS ARE OBTAINED.

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U.S. STUDY TOUR FOR LEADING FISHERMEN

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A GROUP OF 12 LEADING FISHERMEN WILL LEAVE FOR THE UNITED STATES NEXT WEEK TO STUDY THE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY AND MARKETING SYSTEM OF THEIR AMERICAN COUNTERPARTS.

THEY WILL LEAVE ON MONDAY (NOVEMBER 14) ON AN 11-DAY STUDY TOUR ORGANISED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT AND THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION.

THE STUDY TOUR IS THE SEVENTH ORGANISED SINCE 1981, AND THE FIRST TO THE UNITED STATES.

VISITS WERE MADE EARLIER TO SINGAPORE, SOUTH KOREA, JAPAN, CHINA, UNITED KINGDOM, NORWAY AND AUSTRALIA.

TO MARK THE DEPARTURE OF THE GROUP, THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE, THIS (TUESDAY) MORNING PRESENTED A BANNER TO THE DELEGATION LEADER AT THE DEPARTMENT'S CONFERENCE ROOM.

SPEAKING AT THE CEREMONY, DR LEE SAID THAT THESE TOURS PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY FOR LOCAL FISHERMEN TO VISIT OTHER COUNTRIES TO SEE THEIR MODERN FISHING TECHNOLOGIES AND MARKETING SYSTEMS AND TO EXCHANGE EXPERIENCE WITH THEIR COUNTERPARTS OVERSEAS.

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"I HOPE THAT THEY WILL MAKE GOOD USE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO GAIN UP-TO-DATE FISHING KNOWLEDGE AND TO SHARE THE EXPERIENCE WITH THEIR FELLOW FISHERMEN WHEN THEY RETURN," HE SAID.

THE DELEGATION WILL VISIT THE OCEANIC INSTITUTE OF HONOLULU, THE HONOLULU FISHERIES LABORATORY AND A WHOLESALE FISH MARKET IN HONOLULU.

THEY WILL ALSO CALL AT THE NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICES OFFICE, A FISHERMEN ASSOCIATION, SOME FISHING PORTS AND FISHING GEAR MANUFACTURERS AND SHOPS IN SEATTLE.

IN SAN DIEGO, THE FISHERMEN WILL VISIT FISH PROCESSING FACILITIES AND BOATYARDS AS WELL AS A PACIFIC MARINE EXPO.

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COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS ASBESTOS IN PUBLIC HOUSING

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MEMBERS OF THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE WILL MEET TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) TO DISCUSS THE PRESENCE OF ASBESTOS IN PUBLIC HOUSING.

TWO DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS - MR CHAN CHI-KWAN AND MRS SO CHIU LAI-CHING WILL ASK DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED TO EXPLAIN THE EFFECTS OF ASBESTOS ON HEALTH AND THE WAYS OF AVOIDING INHALING ASBESTOS FIBRES.

ANOTHER DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER, MS SIU YUEN-SHEUNG, WILL ASK HOW ENVIRONMENTAL AND SAFETY PROBLEMS CAUSED BY "COOLING TOWERS" ATTACHED TO THE EXTERNAL WALLS OF INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS IN HUNG HOM AREA WILL BE TACKLED.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE THE PROVISION OF AN ADDITIONAL RAINSHELTER AT KOWLOON TSAI PARK AND SITTING OUT FACILITIES AT KOWLOON CITY FERRY PIER.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING TO BEGIN AT 2.15 PM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE, 141 KAU PUI LUNG ROAD, TO KWA WAN.

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BEAUTIFYING CENTRAL WALKWAYS

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THE ENVIRONMENT AND WORKS COMMITTEE OF THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD WILL MEET ON THURSDAY (NOVEMBER 10) TO DISCUSS A MEMBER'S PROPOSAL FOR BEAUTIFYING THE ELEVATED WALKWAY SYSTEM IN CENTRAL WITH MORE PLANTS.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THE QUESTION OF PROVIDING TEMPORARY SITES FOR HAWKERS IN SAI YING PUN MARKET.

THE ISSUE OF THE DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE SYSTEM IN PRIVATE STREETS WILL ALSO BE DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING.

OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION INCLUDE THE PROPOSED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT IN ON WO LAN SITTING-OUT AREA, THE REVISED COST ESTIMATE FOR THE PROVISION OF A WATER POINT AT LUNG WAH LOWER LANE AND THE REPLACEMENT OF THE DISTRICT BOARD'S 'WELCOME' SIGNBOARD.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE ENVIRONMENT AND WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD WHICH BEGINS 2.30 PM ON THURSDAY (NOVEMBER 10) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE DISTRICT BOARD, 14TH FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL.

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FIGHT CRIME SEMINAR IN SAI KUNG DISTRICT

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RESIDENTS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF VILLAGES, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, OWNERS CORPORATIONS AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS IN THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT WILL ATTEND A FIGHT CRIME SEMINAR ON THURSDAY (NOVEMBER 10).

THE SEMINAR IS ORGANISED BY THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE WITH THE AIM OF ENHANCING RESIDENTS' UNDERSTANDING OF CRIME PREVENTION AND ENCOURAGING THEM TO MAINTAIN CLOSER CO-OPERATION WITH THE POLICE.

DURING THE SEMINAR, DIVISIONAL COMMANDER OF SAI KUNG DIVISIONAL POLICE STATION, MR TO KIN-CHUNG AND CRIME PREVENTION OFFICER OF WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT, MR CHEUNG YUK-HUNG WILL BE PRESENT TO BRIEF RESIDENTS ON WAYS TO PREVENT CRIME AND THE PROCEDURES FOR CRIME REPORTING.

THEY WILL ALSO DISCUSS AND EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH RESIDENTS ON THE LATEST CRIME SITUATION IN THE DISTRICT. SLIDES AND VIDEOS WILL BE SHOWN TO SPREAD THE FIGHT CRIME MESSAGE.

THE SEMINAR WILL START AT 8 PM IN THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM, SECOND FLOOR, SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES, CHAN MAN STREET, SAI KUNG TOWN.

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RESIDENTS TO DISCUSS DISTRICT MATTERS

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THE WONG CHUK HANG AREA COMMITTEE WILL HOLD A SEMINAR ON THURSDAY (NOVEMBER 10) FOR REPRESENTATIVES OF LOCAL RESIDENTS' ORGANISATIONS TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON DISTRICT AFFAIRS.

THE SEMINAR, JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE AREA COMMITTEE, WILL BE HELD FROM 8.30 PM TO 10.30 PM AT THE TANG SHIU KIN PRIMARY SCHOOL IN WONG CHUK HANG ESTATE.

SOUTHERN ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MR DAVID LEUNG, WILL GIVE A SPEECH AT THE OPENING OF THE SEMINAR AND CHAIRMAN OF THE WONG CHUK HANG AREA COMMITTEE, MR KO KAM-CHEUNG, WILL REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE AREA COMMITTEE.

THE SEMINAR WILL ALSO FEATURE A VIDEO PROGRAMME ENTITLED "HAPPY AND SWEET HOME IN SOUTHERN DISTRICT" PRODUCED BY THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD TO INTRODUCE THE DISTRICT CHARACTERISTICS AND VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE BOARD'S WORK.

THIS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY GROUP DISCUSSIONS ON TRANSPORT, ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT AND COMMUNITY BUILDING MATTERS. ALL THE ISSUES RAISED DURING THE DISCUSSIONS WILL BE NOTED AND FOLLOWED UP BY THE AREA COMMITTEE.

ABOUT 60 REPRESENTATIVES FROM MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, OWNERS' CORPORATIONS AND RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATIONS ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND THE SEMINAR ALONG WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

ALL RESIDENTS OF THE WONG CHUK HANG AREA ARE ALSO WELCOME TO ATTEND.

A SIMILAR SEMINAR WAS HELD FOR THE WAH FU AREA EARLIER THIS WEEK AND BE ORGANISED FOR THE REMAINING CONSTITUENCIES OF SOUTHERN DISTRICT IN COMING MONTHS TO STRENGTHEN TIES AMONG LOCAL ORGANISATIONS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE SEMINAR WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 8.30 PM ON THURSDAY (NOVEMBER 10) IN TANG SHUI KIN PRIMARY SCHOOL IN WONG CHUK HANG ESTATE.

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COMPETITIONS TO PROMOTE CIVIC EDUCATION

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THE WONG TAI SIN WORKING GROUP ON THE PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION IS ORGANISING PHOTOGRAPHIC, POSTER-DESIGN AND SLOGAN COMPETITIONS WITH THE AIM OF FOSTERING A SPIRIT OF MUTUAL HELP AMONG WONG TAI SIN RESIDENTS.

ENTRY FORMS FOR THE COMPETITIONS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS SAN PO KONG, CHOI WAN, LOK FU AND TSZ WAN SHAN SUB-OFFICES.

EACH COMPETITION IS DIVIDED INTO TWO SECTIONS - ONE FOR THOSE AGED OVER 21 WHO LIVE OR STUDY IN WONG TAI SIN, AND THE OTHER FOR THOSE BELOW THE AGE OF 21.

EACH SECTION CARRIES THREE PRIZES, AND THE WINNERS AND RUNNERS-UP WILL BE INFORMED INDIVIDUALLY.

ENTRIES FOR THE COMPETITIONS SHOULD BE HANDED IN AT THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICE OR ITS SUB-OFFICES BEFORE DECEMBER 9.

FOR THE POSTER-DESIGN COMPETITION, THE SIZE OF AN ENTRY IS LIMITED TO 38.1 BY 50.8 CENTIMETRES (15 BY 20 INCHES), AND THERE IS NO LIMIT ON THE USE OF COLOURS.

AS REGARDS THE SLOGAN COMPETITION, EACH ENTRY SHOULD CARRY NOT MORE THAN 20 CHINESE CHARACTERS.

PARTICIPANTS IN BOTH COMPETITIONS CANNOT SUBMIT MORE THAN ONE ENTRY.

ENTRIES TO THE PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION MUST BE IN COLOUR PRINTS, AND THEIR SIZES MAY BE IN THE RANGE OF 3R TO 20.32 BY 25.4 CENTIMETRES (EIGHT BY 10 INCHES).

EACH PARTICIPANT MAY NOT SUBMIT MORE THAN TWO ENTRIES.

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APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR TOURISM TRAINING COURSES

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TOURISM PERSONNEL ARE BEING INVITED TO ENROL IN TWO COURSES TO BE OFFERED BY THE DIVISION OF CONTINUED EDUCATION OF HONG KONG BAPTIST COLLEGE AT THE REQUEST OF THE HOTEL, CATERING AND TOURISM TRAINING BOARD OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL.

THE "TRAVEL AGENCY OPERATION AND PROFESSIONAL TOUR GUIDING" COURSE IS DESIGNED FOR NEW ENTRANTS OF THE INDUSTRY. CLASSES WILL BEGIN ON DECEMBER 7 AND MEET EVERY WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY EVENINGS FOR 25 TIMES.

THE OTHER COURSE IS THE "TRAVEL AGENCY OPERATION AND AIRLINE TICKETING AND TARIFF" WHICH INCLUDES 12 MEETINGS TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY EVENINGS STARTING ON DECEMBER 9.

ALL APPLICATIONS SHOULD HAVE COMPLETED FORM 5 AND BE SPONSORED BY EMPLOYERS.

AN ATTENDANCE CERTIFICATE WILL ALSO BE AWARDED TO SATISFACTORY PARTICIPANTS UPON COMPLETION OF THE COURSES. CLOSING DATE FOR ENROLMENT IS NOVEMBER 29.

FURTHER DETAILS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE BOARD, MISS CHAN, ON 5-8932341, EXT. 282.

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TEMPORARY LANE CLOSURE ON LION ROCK TUNNEL ROAD

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TO FACILITATE WATERWORKS, A 120-METRE STRETCH ALONG THE SLOW LANE OF LION ROCK TUNNEL ROAD SOUTHBOUND NEAR SUN TIN WAI ESTATE WILL BE CLOSED FROM 9.30 PM ON THURSDAY (NOVEMBER 10) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED.

MOTORISTS ARE URGED TO DRIVE WITH CARE AND PATIENCE. APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC AIDS WILL BE PROVIDED TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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TEMPORARY URBAN CLEARWAYS IN WESTERN DISTRICT

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT THE FOLLOWING ROAD SECTIONS IN WESTERN DISTRICT WILL BE DESIGNATED URBAN CLEARWAYS FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 11) TO FACILITATE WATERMAIN DIVERSION WORKS:

- * THE SOUTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST BETWEEN EASTERN STREET AND WILMER STREET WILL BECOME A PEAK HOUR (I.E. 7 - 10 AM AND 4 - 7 PM) DAILY URBAN CLEARWAY FOR ABOUT TWO WEEKS.
- * THE NORTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH WILMER STREET TO A POINT ABOUT 50 METRES WEST OF THE SAME JUNCTION WILL BE MADE 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY URBAN CLEARWAY FOR ABOUT SIX WEEKS.

NO VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS WITHIN THE RESTRICTED AREAS.

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URBAN CLEARWAYS IN YUEN LONG

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT TWO ROAD SECTIONS IN YUEN LONG WILL BE DESIGNATED 7 AM TO MIDNIGHT DAILY URBAN CLEARWAYS FROM FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 11).

THEY ARE:

- * THE SOUTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF KIK YEUNG ROAD FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH CASTLE PEAK ROAD (YUEN LONG) TO A POINT ABOUT 20 METRES NORTH OF THE SAME JUNCTION; AND
- * THE NORTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF KIK YEUNG ROAD FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH CASTLE PEAK ROAD (YUEN LONG) TO A POINT ABOUT 90 METRES NORTH OF THE SAME JUNCTION.

NO VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS WITHIN THE RESTRICTED AREAS.

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MASTER CLASSES AND CONCERT BY RENOWNED CHINESE MUSICIANS

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A SERIES OF MASTER CLASSES ON YANG-QIN, SAN-XIAN, ERHU AND DONG-XIAO WILL BE ORGANISED BY THE MUSIC OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES BRANCH TO ADD COLOUR TO THE 1988 HONG KONG YOUTH CHINESE FESTIVAL WHICH BEGAN ON SATURDAY (NOVEMBER 5).

THE MASTER CLASSES WILL BE CONDUCTED BY FOUR RENOWNED MUSICIANS FROM CHINA, MR LI XIAO GANG, MR XIAO JIAN SHENG, MR QU AN HUA AND MR SUN GUI SHENG AT VARIOUS MUSIC CENTRES OF THE MUSIC OFFICE TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AFTERNOON.

APART FROM CONDUCTING MASTER CLASSES, THE MUSICIANS, TOGETHER WITH THE YOUTH CHINESE ORCHESTRA OF THE MUSIC OFFICE, WILL PERFORM AT THE "JING YING" CONCERT TO BE STAGED AT THE CITY HALL THEATRE AT 8 PM ON THURSDAY (NOVEMBER 10).

THE AUDIENCE WILL BE TREATED TO A SUPERB PROGRAMME INCLUDING COMPOSITIONS SUCH AS "THE GENERAL'S ORDER", "GENTLE BREEZE" AND "SPRING DRIZZLE".

THE MASTER CLASSES ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. ADMISSION IS FREE. A LIMITED NUMBER OF TICKETS FOR THE JING YING CONCERT AT \$10 AND \$15 EACH ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT ALL URBTIX OUTLETS.

FURTHER ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 5-283257.

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INTERRUPTION TO FRESH WATER SUPPLY

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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) ANNOUNCED THAT SOME PREMISES IN TSIM SHA TSUI WILL BE SUBJECTED TO WEAK WATER PRESSURE FROM 10 PM ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 11) TO 7 AM THE NEXT DAY TO FACILITATE WATER WORKS.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY AUSTIN ROAD, NATHAN ROAD, SALISBURY ROAD AND CHEONG WAN ROAD.

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