



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 1988

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1987 BUSY YEAR FOR COMPANIES REGISTRY

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MAJOR INCREASES OF ACTIVITY IN MOST AREAS AND MINOR DECREASES IN OTHERS WERE RECORDED FOR 1987 BY THE COMPANIES REGISTRY OF THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

THE COMPANIES REGISTRY FIGURES RELEASED TODAY (FRIDAY) SHOWED THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF COMPANIES NOW REGISTERED UNDER THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE HAD INCREASED BY 15 PER CENT FROM 161,986 IN 1986 TO 185,588 LAST YEAR.

THE NUMBER OF NEW COMPANIES REGISTERED DURING THE YEAR HAD INCREASED DRAMATICALLY BY 58 PER CENT FROM 16,743 TO 26,380.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF OVERSEAS COMPANIES WHICH HAD AN ESTABLISHED PLACE OF BUSINESS IN HONG KONG UNDER PART XI OF THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE AT THE END OF THE YEAR INCREASED BY 2 PER CENT FROM 2,238 TO 2,289.

THE NUMBER OF NEW OVERSEAS COMPANIES ESTABLISHING A PLACE OF BUSINESS IN HONG KONG UNDER PART XI DURING 1987 WAS 240, A DECREASE OF 17 PER CENT OVER THE NUMBER OF SUCH COMPANIES IN 1986.

NO SEPARATE STATISTICS ARE MAINTAINED ON HOW MANY OVERSEAS COMPANIES INCORPORATE LOCAL SUBSIDIARIES OR TAKE UP A MAJORITY SHAREHOLDING IN A HONG KONG COMPANY.

EXISTING COMPANIES INCREASED THEIR NOMINAL CAPITAL BY \$48,995 MILLION, AN INCREASE OF 187 PER CENT OVER THE INCREASE OF \$17,079 MILLION IN 1986.

THE NOMINAL CAPITAL OF NEW COMPANIES INCORPORATED DURING THE YEAR INCREASED BY 23 PER CENT FROM \$3,356 MILLION TO \$4,133 MILLION.

THE TOTAL AMOUNT SECURED BY CHARGES REGISTERED ON THE ASSETS OF COMPANIES INCREASED BY 15 PER CENT FROM \$56,786 MILLION TO \$65,487 MILLION WHILE THE AMOUNT REPAID ON CHARGES, AS EVIDENCED BY CERTIFICATES OF SATISFACTION, DECREASED BY 19 PER CENT FROM \$11,492 MILLION TO \$9,349 MILLION.

DURING THE YEAR A TOTAL OF 155 PROSPECTUSES OF PUBLIC COMPANIES, INCLUDING 68 IN RESPECT OF MUTUAL FUNDS, WERE APPROVED AS AGAINST 106 PROSPECTUSES, INCLUDING 55 IN RESPECT OF MUTUAL FUNDS, DURING THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF DOCUMENTS RECEIVED FOR FILING DURING THE YEAR INCREASED BY 19 PER CENT FROM 477,912 TO 566,815.

THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FOR THE RESERVATION OF NEW COMPANY NAMES DURING 1987 WAS 188,360 WHICH WAS A 37 PER CENT INCREASE OVER 137,515 IN 1986.

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ON THE SUBJECT OF COMPANY NAMES GENERALLY, THE REGISTRAR GENERAL, MR NOEL GLEESON, EXPRESSED DISSATISFACTION WITH THE PRESENT SYSTEM AS LAID DOWN IN THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE.

"THIS ESTABLISHED A PROCEDURE WHEREBY A COMPANY NAME CAN BE RESERVED BEFORE THE COMPANY IS INCORPORATED.

"IDEALLY THIS WAS A GOOD SYSTEM BUT IN PRACTICE IT INVOLVED A DELAY OF FOUR OR FIVE WEEKS BEFORE THE NAME COULD BE REJECTED OR RESERVED," MR GLEESON SAID.

THIS WAS BECAUSE OF THE VOLUME OF APPLICATIONS AND THE NEED FOR STAFF TO CHECK EACH AND EVERY NEW NAME AGAINST THE NAMES OF THE EXISTING 185,000 REGISTERED COMPANIES AND MAKE A SUBJECTIVE JUDGMENT IN EACH AND EVERY CASE TO SEE IF THE NEW NAME WAS IDENTICAL WITH AN EXISTING COMPANY NAME OR "SO NEARLY RESEMBLES THAT NAME AS TO BE CALCULATED TO DECEIVE", HE ADDED.

THE REST OF THE PROCEDURE FOR INCORPORATION OF A NEW COMPANY TOOK ABOUT TWO WEEKS, SO THE WHOLE PROCEDURE, ASSUMING EVERYTHING WAS IN ORDER, NOW TOOK ABOUT SIX WEEKS OR MORE.

THIS WAS DESPITE STAFF INCREASES, OVERTIME AND COMPUTERISATION, AND THERE WAS NOW A BACKLOG OF SOME 8,000 COMPANY NAMES APPLICATIONS.

HE SAID THIS WAS NOT IN THE INTEREST OF HONG KONG DOMESTICALLY AND MIGHT EVEN AFFECT HONG KONG'S COMPETITIVE POSITION INTERNATIONALLY SINCE IN OTHER COMMERCIAL CENTRES IT WAS POSSIBLE TO INCORPORATE A COMPANY IN MUCH LESS TIME, IN SOME CASES WITHIN A FEW DAYS.

MR GLEESON SAID CONTINUED STAFF INCREASES WAS NOT THE ANSWER AND HE WAS LOOKING INSTEAD AT OTHER SYSTEMS, NOTABLY IN THE UNITED KINGDOM WHERE A NEW NAME WAS REFUSED ONLY WHERE IT WAS IDENTICAL WITH AN EXISTING NAME.

HOWEVER, THAT SYSTEM TOO HAD ITS DISADVANTAGES AND HE HAD REFERRED THE PROBLEM TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMPANY LAW REFORM.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PROSECUTIONS TAKEN BY THE REGISTRAR OF COMPANIES AGAINST COMPANIES AND THEIR DIRECTORS FOR BREACHES OF THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE, MAINLY FOR FAILURE TO FILE ANNUAL RETURNS WITH ACCOUNTS, LAST YEAR WAS 216.

ANOTHER 208 SUMMONSES WERE OUTSTANDING FROM 1986.

OF THIS TOTAL OF 424 SUMMONSES, 261 RESULTED IN CONVICTIONS (COMPARED WITH 233 IN 1986) AND 85 REMAIN TO BE HEARD BY THE COURT.

THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF FINES IMPOSED FOR CONVICTIONS IN 1987 WAS \$343,413, COMPARED WITH \$477,923 IN 1986.

MR GLEESON SAID THE FIGURES FOR 1987 INDICATED A SIGNIFICANT EXPANSION OF HONG KONG'S ECONOMY IN THE MAIN AREAS THAT CONCERNED HIS DEPARTMENT: LAND, COMPANIES, TRADE MARKS AND PATENTS, INSURANCE AND INSOLVENCY, DURING THE YEAR.

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OCTOBER PRICE AND VOLUME MOVEMENTS OF EXTERNAL TRADE

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THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS GREW BY 25 PER CENT AND 47 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN THE FIRST 10 MONTHS OF 1987 AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR, STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT INDICATED.

HENCE, THERE WAS AN OVERALL INCREASE OF 34 PER CENT IN THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS.

IMPORTS INCREASED BY 32 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS.

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY 3 PER CENT AND 2 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY, SO THAT THE PRICES OF TOTAL EXPORTS INCREASED BY 3 PER CENT.

PRICES OF IMPORTS, ON THE OTHER HAND, ROSE BY 4 PER CENT.

AS A RESULT, THE TERMS OF TRADE INDEX (EXPRESSED AS A RATIO OF THE TOTAL EXPORT PRICE INDEX TO THE IMPORT PRICE INDEX) DROPPED BY 1 PER CENT.

COMPARING OCTOBER 1987 WITH OCTOBER 1986, THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 16 PER CENT AND 35 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

HENCE, TOTAL EXPORTS GREW BY 24 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS.

IMPORT VOLUME INCREASED BY 19 PER CENT.

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS ROSE BY 2 PER CENT; RE-EXPORT PRICES ROSE BY 3 PER CENT WHILE IMPORT PRICES ROSE BY 4 PER CENT.

PRICES ARE BASED ON UNIT VALUES WHICH DO NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT CHANGES IN THE COMPOSITION OR QUALITY OF GOODS TRADED, EXCEPT FOR SOME SELECTED COMMODITIES FOR WHICH SPECIFICATION PRICE INDEXES ARE COMPILED.

THE VOLUME OF TRADE IS DERIVED FROM TRADE VALUES BY DISCOUNTING THE EFFECT OF PRICE CHANGES.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY COMMODITY GROUP FOR OCTOBER 1987 AS COMPARED WITH OCTOBER 1986 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

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

/THESE INCLUDED

THESE INCLUDED METAL ORES AND SCRAP (+12 PER CENT); TEXTILE FABRICS (+8 PER CENT); TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD (+7 PER CENT); CLOTHING (+7 PER CENT); RADIOS OF ALL KINDS (+7 PER CENT); FOOTWEAR (+6 PER CENT); TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES (+3 PER CENT); METAL MANUFACTURES (+3 PER CENT); TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES (+2 PER CENT) AS WELL AS DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES (+1 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, A DECREASE IN DOMESTIC EXPORT PRICES WAS RECORDED IN WATCHES AND CLOCKS (-1 PER CENT).

THE PRICES OF ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS REMAINED ALMOST UNCHANGED.

THE DOMESTIC EXPORT VOLUME OF MOST COMMODITY GROUPS INCREASED IN OCTOBER 1987 COMPARED WITH OCTOBER 1986, INCLUDING METAL ORES AND SCRAP (+37 PER CENT); TEXTILE FABRICS (+24 PER CENT); ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (+23 PER CENT); WATCHES AND CLOCKS (+19 PER CENT); CLOTHING (+18 PER CENT); METAL MANUFACTURES (+15 PER CENT); TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES (+11 PER CENT); TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES (+6 PER CENT); FOOTWEAR (+5 PER CENT) AS WELL AS DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES (+4 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, DECREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORT VOLUME WERE RECORDED IN RADIOS OF ALL KINDS (-14 PER CENT) AS WELL AS TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD (-2 PER CENT).

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

AS PRESENTED IN TABLE 2, IMPORT PRICES OF ALL END-USE CATEGORIES ROSE IN OCTOBER 1987 AS COMPARED WITH OCTOBER 1986, RANGING FROM 2 PER CENT FOR FOODSTUFFS TO 20 PER CENT FOR FUELS, WHICH WAS PARTLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE RELATIVELY LOW IMPORT PRICES OF FUELS IN OCTOBER 1986.

IMPORTED FOODSTUFFS INCREASED BY 3 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS IN OCTOBER 1987 COMPARED WITH OCTOBER 1986.

SIGNIFICANT GROWTH WAS RECORDED IN SUGAR, FRUIT AS WELL AS VEGETABLES.

HOWEVER, DECREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE REGISTERED FOR FISH AND FISH PREPARATIONS AS WELL AS RICE.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE IMPORT VOLUME OF CONSUMER GOODS INCREASED BY 26 PER CENT.

THE COMMODITIES WITH MORE SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES INCLUDED HOUSEHOLD TYPE ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES; PASSENGER MOTOR CARS AS WELL AS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.

THE IMPORT VOLUME OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES ROSE BY 22 PER CENT IN OCTOBER 1987 COMPARED WITH OCTOBER 1986.

THE MAJOR INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN CRUDE ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE MATERIALS; FABRICS OF WOOL AND MIXTURES; WOOD, LUMBER AND CORK; RAW COTTON AS WELL AS YARN OF WOOL AND MIXTURES.

A DECREASE IN IMPORT VOLUME WAS RECORDED IN IRON AND STEEL.

IMPORTS OF FUELS INCREASED BY 28 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS IN OCTOBER 1987 AS COMPARED WITH OCTOBER 1986.

FOR THE CAPITAL GOODS CATEGORY, THE IMPORT VOLUME INCREASED BY 6 PER CENT IN OCTOBER 1987 WHEN COMPARED WITH OCTOBER 1986.

THERE WERE SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES IN ELECTRICAL MACHINERY AS WELL AS OFFICE MACHINES.

DECREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE RECORDED IN TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT AS WELL AS CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY.

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

AS DEPICTED IN TABLE 3, THE RE-EXPORT VOLUME OF MANY END-USE CATEGORIES INCREASED IN OCTOBER 1987 WHEN COMPARED WITH OCTOBER 1986, RANGING FROM 29 PER CENT FOR RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES TO 47 PER CENT FOR CONSUMER GOODS. HOWEVER, THE VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS OF FUELS AND FOODSTUFFS DECREASED BY 46 PER CENT AND 10 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

FURTHER DETAILS ARE CONTAINED IN THE OCTOBER 1987 ISSUE OF THE "HONG KONG TRADE INDEX NUMBERS" AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AROUND JANUARY 12 AT HK\$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. NO. : 5-8428802) AND ENQUIRIES ON TRADE INDEXES TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. NO. : 5-8234918).

/TABLE 1:

TABLE 1: INCREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY COMMODITY GROUP.

COMMODITY GROUP	COMPARING JAN-OCT 1987 WITH JAN-OCT 1986			COMPARING OCTOBER 1987 WITH OCTOBER 1986		
	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
CLOTHING	29	8	20	26	7	18
TEXTILE FABRICS	57	6	48	33	8	24
TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD	42	5	36	5	7	-2
TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES	11	4	7	12	2	11
RADIOS OF ALL KINDS	19	3	16	-8	7	-14
ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS	13	-2	16	23	*	23
FOOTWEAR	20	4	16	11	6	5
METAL MANUFACTURES	28	2	25	18	3	15
METAL ORES AND SCRAP	59	4	53	54	12	37
WATCHES AND CLOCKS	18	*	18	18	-1	19
TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES	4	4	-1	10	3	6
DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES	19	3	15	5	1	4
ALL COMMODITIES	29	3	25	18	2	16

NOTES FOR TABLES 1 TO 3:

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

PERCENTAGE CHANGES ARE CALCULATED FROM TRADE INDEXES TAKEN TO MORE DECIMAL PLACES THAN THOSE TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE "HONG KONG TRADE INDEX NUMBERS". THEY MAY THEREFORE DIFFER FROM THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES TO BE COMPUTED FROM THE PUBLISHED FIGURES.

/TABLE 2:

TABLE 2: INCREASES IN IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY

END-USE CATEGORY	COMPARING JAN-OCT 1987 WITH JAN-OCT 1986			COMPARING OCTOBER 1987 WITH OCTOBER 1986		
	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
FOODSTUFFS	11	1	10	4	2	3
CONSUMER GOODS	41	4	36	29	3	26
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	40	3	35	27	4	22
FUELS	6	1	5	54	20	28
CAPITAL GOODS	42	6	34	11	5	6
ALL COMMODITIES	37	4	32	24	4	19

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

END-USE CATEGORY	COMPARING JAN-OCT 1987 WITH JAN-OCT 1986			COMPARING OCTOBER 1987 WITH OCTOBER 1986		
	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
FOODSTUFFS	13	-1	14	-11	-1	-10
CONSUMER GOODS	58	2	55	50	2	47
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	48	3	44	36	5	29
FUELS	-2	9	-10	-36	18	-46
CAPITAL GOODS	45	*	45	39	*	39
ALL COMMODITIES	50	2	47	39	3	35

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BILL EXEMPTS DISCLOSURE OF LOAN DETAILS

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THE GOVERNMENT IS PROPOSING LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS TO EXEMPT AUTHORISED FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS FROM DISCLOSING IN THEIR ANNUAL ACCOUNTS, DETAILS OF LOANS ON NORMAL COMMERCIAL TERMS TO DIRECTORS AND OTHER OFFICERS.

INSTEAD, THEIR ACCOUNTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO CONTAIN AGGREGATE FIGURES FOR ANY SUCH LOANS BUT WILL STILL HAVE TO GIVE DETAILS OF ANY LOANS IN EXCESS OF HK\$10 MILLION MADE TO A DIRECTOR OR OTHER OFFICERS ON CONCESSIONARY TERMS.

DETAILS OF THE AMENDMENTS ARE CONTAINED IN THE COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1988 GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT UNDER THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE, ALL COMPANIES INCORPORATED IN HONG KONG WERE REQUIRED TO SET OUT IN THEIR ANNUAL ACCOUNTS INFORMATION CONCERNING LOANS MADE BY THE COMPANIES TO THEIR DIRECTORS AND OTHER OFFICERS.

THIS REQUIREMENT ALSO APPLIES TO BANK AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES INCORPORATED IN HONG KONG.

"BY THE VERY NATURE OF BANKING BUSINESS, LOANS TO DIRECTORS AND OTHER OFFICERS ARE NOT UNCOMMON.

"THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT WOULD REMOVE THE REQUIREMENT UPON BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES TO INCLUDE A CUMBERSOME AMOUNT OF DETAILS IN THEIR ACCOUNTS," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

HOWEVER, HE EMPHASISED THAT THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT WOULD NOT MEAN LESS DISCLOSURE BY BANKS OR DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES.

"BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES WILL INSTEAD BE REQUIRED TO KEEP A REGISTER CONTAINING FULL DETAILS OF LOANS TO DIRECTORS WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC FOR A PERIOD OF 14 DAYS BEFORE AND SEVEN DAYS AFTER THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

"IN ADDITION, THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING WILL BE OBTAINING INFORMATION ON A REGULAR BASIS FROM AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS OF LOANS TO THEIR DIRECTORS AND TO RELATED COMPANIES," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1988 IS SCHEDULED TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON JANUARY 20.

INTERESTED PARTIES WHO WISH TO COMMENT ON THE AMENDMENT BILL SHOULD WRITE TO OMELCO, 8 JACKSON ROAD, HONG KONG; OR TO THE SECRETARY FOR MONETARY AFFAIRS, 24TH FLOOR, ADMIRALTY CENTRE, TOWER II, 18 HARCOURT ROAD, HONG KONG.

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A RECORD IN NOMINATIONS OF DB CANDIDATES

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A RECORD NUMBER OF 218 NOMINATIONS WAS RECEIVED ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE NOMINATION PERIOD FOR THE 1988 DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS.

THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR T.H. CHAU, TODAY (FRIDAY) COMMENTED THAT THE RESPONSE WAS VERY ENCOURAGING.

THE NUMBER OF NOMINATIONS RECEIVED ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE NOMINATION PERIOD IN THE LAST DB ELECTIONS IN 1985 WAS 82.

"SOME OF THE CANDIDATES NOMINATED TODAY ARE INCUMBENT DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS, LEGCO MEMBERS, URBAN COUNCILLORS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS."

MR CHAU SAID HE WAS ALSO PLEASED TO SEE MANY NEW FACES BEING NOMINATED.

"THIS INDICATES THE PUBLIC'S ENTHUSIASM AND EAGERNESS TO PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS."

CANDIDATES NOMINATED INCLUDED EXECUTIVES, TEACHERS, SOCIAL WORKERS, FACTORY WORKERS, BUSINESSMEN AND HOUSEWIVES.

"I THINK MORE PEOPLE FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE WILL BE NOMINATED IN THE COMING WEEKS," MR CHAU SAID.

AMONG THE NOMINATIONS RECEIVED, 138 CANDIDATES ARE VYING FOR SEATS IN THE URBAN DISTRICT BOARDS AND 80 FOR SEATS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

STATISTICS ALSO SHOWED THAT THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT HAD RECEIVED THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF 26 NOMINATIONS.

THE FOLLOWING IS A BREAKDOWN OF NOMINATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DISTRICTS:-

URBAN DISTRICTS

CENTRAL AND WESTERN	(9)	YAU MA TEI	(12)
WAN CHAI	(10)	MONG KOK	(9)
EASTERN	(17)	KOWLOON CITY	(8)
SOUTHERN	(7)	WONG TAI SIN	(22)
SHAM SHUI PO	(26)	KWUN TONG	(18)

/NEW TERRITORIES

NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICTS

TUEN MUN	(20)	SAI KUNG	(4)
YUEN LONG	(4)	SHA TIN	(17)
TSUEN WAN	(3)	TAI PO	(3)
KWAI TSING	(15)	NORTH	(14)
ISLANDS	(NIL)		

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YMT RESIDENTS URGED TO SUPPORT ELECTION

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YAU MA TEI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR AUGUSTINE CHENG, TODAY (FRIDAY) URGED RESIDENTS TO NOMINATE ELIGIBLE CANDIDATES AND CAST THEIR VOTE IN THE COMING DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS.

"VOTERS SHOULD EXERCISE THEIR CIVIC RIGHT TO ELECT THEIR REPRESENTATIVES TO THE DISTRICT BOARD, WHICH ADVISES THE GOVERNMENT ON MATTERS AFFECTING THE WELL-BEING OF THE DISTRICT," HE SAID.

MR CHENG WAS ADDRESSING MEMBERS OF AREA COMMITTEES, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND OWNERS' CORPORATIONS AT A NEIGHBOURHOOD DINNER ORGANISED BY THE YAU MA TEI NORTH AREA COMMITTEE.

"THROUGH DB MEMBERS, RESIDENTS CAN CHANNEL THEIR VIEWS ON GOVERNMENT SERVICES AND POLICIES THAT AFFECT THE DISTRICT, AND HELP THE GOVERNMENT TO IDENTIFY THE DISTRICT'S NEEDS," MR CHENG SAID.

HE ALSO THANKED MEMBERS OF AREA COMMITTEES FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION IN PROMOTING LOCAL WELFARE AND CHANNELLING OPINION OF RESIDENTS.

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KWAI TSING TO REMOVE HAZARDOUS SIGNS

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THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT BOARD YESTERDAY (THURSDAY) ENDORSED AN ACTION PLAN BY THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE TO REMOVE SIGNS, BANNERS AND BOARDS WHICH POSE A POTENTIAL HAZARD TO PEDESTRIANS AND MOTORISTS.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE REMINDED THAT THEY SHOULD OBTAIN PERMISSION OF THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE FOR PUTTING UP SIGNS AND BANNERS ON CROWN LAND.

ARRANGEMENTS ARE NOW BEING MADE TO REMOVE SIGNS, BANNERS OR BOARDS WHICH OBSTRUCT OR MAY INTERFERE WITH ANY TRAFFIC SIGN; AND THOSE ERECTED AT BUS STOPS, FLYOVERS, LAMPPOSTS, BRIDGES AND ON GUARDRAILS AT BUS TERMINI OR WITHIN 20 METRES OF A PEDESTRIAN CROSSING.

CANDIDATES FOR THE FORTHCOMING DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS ARE REMINDED THAT THESE CONDITIONS ALSO APPLY TO THEIR ELECTION BANNERS AND THAT THEY SHOULD COMPLY WITH THE GUIDANCE NOTES GIVEN TO THEM ON THE DISPLAY OF BANNERS.

ACTION WILL BE TAKEN SOON TO REMOVE ELECTION BANNERS WHICH POSE A POTENTIAL THREAT TO TRAFFIC AND OTHER HAZARDOUS SIGNS WHICH HAVE BEEN SURVEYED IN THE DISTRICT.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 0-4908376.

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TUEN MUN FOOTBRIDGE TO BE IMPROVED

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THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSES TO IMPROVE AN EXISTING FOOTBRIDGE CONNECTING AREAS 10 AND 26 IN TUEN MUN NEW TOWN, ACROSS TUEN MUN ROAD AND CASTLE PEAK ROAD (SAN HUI), BY THE PROVISION OF RAMPS AT THE TWO ENDS OF THE FOOTBRIDGE.

DETAILS OF THE PROPOSAL WERE PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S (FRIDAY) GOVERNMENT GAZETTE AND A NOTICE, BOTH IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE, CAN BE SEEN ON THE NOTICE BOARDS POSTED NEAR THE SITE OF THE PROPOSED WORKS.

A COPY OF THE PLAN OF THE PROPOSED WORKS CAN BE SEEN AT THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY, HONG KONG; AT THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, TUEN MUN, TUEN MUN GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 6TH FLOOR, 1 TUEN HI ROAD, TUEN MUN, NEW TERRITORIES; AND AT THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE, SECOND FLOOR, TUEN MUN GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 1 TUEN HI ROAD, TUEN MUN, NEW TERRITORIES DURING OFFICE HOURS.

ANY PERSON WHO OBJECTS TO THE PROPOSAL SHOULD SEND HIS OBJECTION IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG BEFORE MARCH 8, 1988.

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NEW SECTION FOR SHA TIN STREET

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THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSES TO BUILD A NEW SECTION OF PAI TAU STREET IN SHA TIN TO REPLACE A 50 METRE-LONG SECTION OF EXISTING PAI TAU STREET.

CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW SECTION, WHICH IS ABOUT 85 METRES LONG, WILL ENABLE THE TWO SITES ADJOINING THE EXISTING PAI TAU STREET TO BE AMALGAMATED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL CHAMBER AND REGIONAL SERVICES HEADQUARTERS.

A NOTICE CONCERNING THE PROPOSED ROAD WORKS WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

A PLAN SHOWING THE PROPOSED WORKS CAN BE SEEN AT THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY, HONG KONG; SHA TIN DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, 2 TUNG LO WAN HILL ROAD, SHA TIN; AND THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE, SIXTH FLOOR, K.C.R. HOUSE, SHA TIN, DURING OFFICE HOURS.

ANY PERSON OBJECTING TO THE PROPOSAL SHOULD SEND HIS OBJECTION IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG BEFORE MARCH 8, 1988.

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CFPA ACQUIRES LOGO

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THE COUNCIL FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS (CFPA) HAS NOW ACQUIRED A LOGO WHICH IS REPRESENTATIVE OF ITS FUNCTION AND JURISDICTION FOLLOWING AN OPEN LOGO DESIGN COMPETITION.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (FRIDAY), CHAIRMAN OF THE CFPA LOGO DESIGN COMPETITION ORGANISING COMMITTEE, MR LEO LEE, SAID THE MAIN THEME OF THE WINNING LOGO DESIGN WAS A STAGE SYMBOLISING THE WORK OF THE CFPA IN THE SUPPORT AND PROMOTION OF PERFORMING ARTS IN THE TERRITORY.

"IT WILL BE ADOPTED FOR USE AS THE COUNCIL'S OFFICIAL LOGO AND WILL BE USED ON ALL FUTURE PUBLICITY POSTERS OF PERFORMING ARTS ORGANISATIONS WHO ARE IN RECEIPT OF THE COUNCIL'S SUBSIDIES," MR LEE NOTED.

HE SAID THAT FROM A TOTAL OF 842 ENTRIES RECEIVED IN THE LOGO DESIGN COMPETITION, THREE WERE SELECTED WINNERS AND SEVEN GAINED MERITORIOUS AWARDS.

/THE NINE-MEMBER

THE NINE-MEMBER PANEL OF JUDGES COMPRISED HEAD OF THE SWIRE SCHOOL OF DESIGN, HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, MR M.B. FARR; ARCHITECT AND INTERIOR DESIGNER, MR KENNETH KO; DESIGNER, MR ALAN ZIE YONGDER; CHAIRMAN OF THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS, MRS TERESA LAU PO WING-KAM; DIRECTOR OF BROADCASTING, MISS CHEUNG MAN-YEE; HEAD OF THE CREATIVE SUB-DIVISION, INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT, MR E.A. HACKER; CHAIRMAN OF THE BUSINESS SPONSORSHIP AND PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE, CFPA, MR LEO T.H. LEE; EX-MEMBER OF THE BUSINESS SPONSORSHIP AND PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE, CFPA, MR LAWRENCE H.L. FUNG; AND EX-COMMISSIONER FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MRS ELIZABETH WONG.

THE PANEL OF JUDGES SELECTED THE 10 BEST DESIGNS BASED ON REPRESENTATIVENESS OF CFPA'S FUNCTIONS; ORIGINALITY; ARTISTIC APPEAL; SIMPLICITY; AND FUNCTIONAL ADAPTABILITY.

THE WINNER OF THE COMPETITION, MR CHOI CHI-KIT, WILL BE AWARDED A CASH PRIZE OF \$10,000 AND A CFPA LOGO COMPETITION WINNER CERTIFICATE.

THE SECOND PRIZE WINNER, MR SOO KONG-YUEN, AND THE THIRD PRIZE WINNER, MISS YUEN MAN, WILL BE AWARDED CASH PRIZES OF \$5,000 AND \$2,000 RESPECTIVELY, TOGETHER WITH A CERTIFICATE.

SEVEN WINNERS OF THE MERITORIOUS AWARDS ARE MR CHEUNG WAI-MING, MR HO WING-CHOI, MR LEUNG CHIU, MR SZETO KIN-CHIU, MR CHANG YUM-KEUNG, MR TAM KA-FUNG AND MR CHEUNG SHIU-MING WHO WILL EACH BE AWARDED A CERTIFICATE OF MERIT.

A PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT CORAL ROOM, FURAMA HOTEL, AT 3 PM ON TUESDAY (JANUARY 12).

LADY WILSON WILL PRESENT PRIZES AND CERTIFICATES TO THE WINNERS.

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'CAREERS DAYS' PROVIDE VALUABLE INFORMATION ON JOB OPPORTUNITIES

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THE ABILITY AND HARD WORK OF HONG KONG PEOPLE IS PRIMARILY ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE TERRITORY'S FLOURISHING ECONOMIC ACHIEVEMENT, THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR HAROLD KWOK, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

"IN TIMES OF RAPID ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND FULL EMPLOYMENT THERE IS AN EVEN GREATER NEED TO BETTER UTILISE THE SKILLS AND TALENTS OF OUR WORKFORCE," HE ADDED.

MR KWOK WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE FIRST OF EIGHT 'CAREERS DAYS' JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT AND THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL THIS YEAR.

/MR KWOK

MR KWOK SAID THE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT ADVISORY SERVICE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT PLAYED A KEY ROLE IN HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE TO OBTAIN VALUABLE INFORMATION ON CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES IN MANY TRADES AND PROFESSIONS.

AT PRESENT, THE SERVICE OPERATES THREE CAREERS INFORMATION CENTRES IN HONG KONG, KOWLOON AND TSUEN WAN, EACH EQUIPPED WITH A REFERENCE LIBRARY AND AUDIO-VISUAL RECORDINGS OF INFORMATION ON EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES.

"I AM HAPPY TO SAY THAT A FOURTH CENTRE WILL BE ESTABLISHED IN SHA TIN THIS YEAR TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN THE CAREERS SERVICE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE FAST-GROWING PART OF THE NEW TERRITORIES," MR KWOK SAID.

AS REGARDS THE 'CAREERS DAYS', MR KWOK SAID THEY WERE AIMED AT PROVIDING SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ON DIFFERENT TRADES AND INDUSTRIES AS WELL AS TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE AT THE VARIOUS TRAINING CENTRES AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTES.

THE EVENT FEATURES SPECIALIST TALKS ON EMPLOYMENT, AUDIO-VISUAL SHOWS AND EXHIBITIONS.

"IT SHOULD HELP INSPIRE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE YET UNDECIDED ON THEIR FUTURE CAREER, OR THOSE WHO HAVE SOMEHOW SET THEIR MINDS ON A LIMITED CHOICE, TO LOOK FURTHER AFIELD AND DISCOVER MORE ABOUT JOB OPPORTUNITIES WHICH MIGHT MATCH THEIR RANGE OF INTERESTS," MR KWOK ADDED.

ALSO OFFICIATING AT TODAY'S OPENING CEREMONY WAS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL, MR CHAN KAM-CHUEN.

THE SCHEDULE OF THE OTHER SEVEN CAREERS DAYS THIS YEAR ARE AS FOLLOWS:

* TUEN MUN TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	JANUARY 12
* SHA TIN TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	FEBRUARY 5
* MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	MARCH 4
* KWAI CHUNG TRAINING CENTRE	MARCH 22
* LEE WAI LEE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	MARCH 25
* HAKING WONG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	APRIL 15
* CHAI WAN TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	APRIL 19

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CUSTOMS' COPYRIGHT PROTECTION WORK COMMENDED

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THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT WAS COMMENDED TODAY (FRIDAY) FOR ITS ACHIEVEMENTS IN PROTECTING THE COPYRIGHT OF EDUCATIONAL VIDEO TAPES OF A U.S. COMPANY.

THE COMMENDATION CAME FROM THE NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL MEDIA (NEM), A MAJOR U.S. PRODUCER OF EDUCATIONAL VIDEO TAPES ON TRAINING PROGRAMMES RELATING TO SALES, HOTEL SERVICES, SECURITY, COOKERY, VEHICLE DRIVING AND TELEPHONE MANNERS.

AT A CEREMONY THIS AFTERNOON, THE LOCAL NEM REPRESENTATIVE, MR FRANK KNIGHT, PRESENTED A PLAQUE TO THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE, MR PATRICK WILLAMSON, IN APPRECIATION OF THE DEPARTMENT'S EFFORTS.

ACTING ON COMPLAINT FROM NEM, ACTION WAS TAKEN BY THE DEPARTMENT IN 1986 AGAINST A LOCAL DISTRIBUTOR OF VIDEO TAPES. THIS RESULTED IN THE SEIZURE OF SOME GENUINE AND PIRATED FILMS OF WHICH COPYRIGHT WAS OWNED BY NEM.

IT WAS ALSO THE FIRST TIME THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAD TAKEN ACTION AGAINST COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT ON EDUCATIONAL VIDEO TAPES.

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ANTI-DRUG MESSAGE IN COOKIES

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VISITORS TO THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT ANTI-NARCOTICS CARNIVAL ON SUNDAY (JANUARY 10) WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO WIN A NICE SURPRISE - A UNIQUE AND DELICIOUS "CHINESE FORTUNE COOKIE".

EACH OF THESE COOKIES CONTAINS A PAPER SLIP TELLING ONE'S LUCK AND CARRYING AN ANTI-NARCOTICS MESSAGE. THEY ARE SPECIALLY DESIGNED AND PRODUCED AS ONE OF THE MANY PRIZES TO BE GIVEN OUT DURING THE CARNIVAL.

"TEN DIFFERENT ANTI-DRUG MESSAGES IN CHINESE HAVE BEEN PRINTED AND INSERTED INTO THESE COOKIES," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NARCOTICS DIVISION OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

"WE EXPECT TO GIVE AWAY ABOUT 10,000 OF THESE FORTUNE COOKIES," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

/JOINTLY ORGANISED

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JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS AND THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, THE CARNIVAL WILL BE HELD FROM 10 AM TO 4 PM AT THE URBAN COUNCIL CENTENARY GARDEN IN TSIM SHA TSUI EAST.

IT WILL START WITH A DEMONSTRATION OF DRUG SEARCHING BY THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT'S DOG UNIT.

GAMES STALLS WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AFTER THE DEMONSTRATION, AND GAMES COUPONS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AT THE CARNIVAL.

THERE WILL ALSO BE DISPLAYS OF ANTI-NARCOTICS MATERIALS AND WINNING ENTRIES OF THE ANTI-NARCOTICS COMIC STRIP COMPETITION.

THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE EVENT, A POP CONCERT PRODUCED BY THE SANCITY ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY AND FEATURING PERFORMANCES BY POPULAR GROUPS 'RAIDAS' AND 'FRIENDS CONNECTION' AS WELL AS SINGER PRISCILLA CHAN, WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE ON RADIO 2 FROM 2 PM TO 4 PM.

THE COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR GARETH MULLOY, WILL GIVE A SPEECH BEFORE THE CONCERT STARTS.

ALSO PRESENT WILL BE THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR AUGUSTINE CHENG; POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDER, MR J.S. MAIN; CHAIRMAN OF THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, MR WU MAN-KEUNG; DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR YIP WAH; AND CHAIRMAN OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE, MR IP KWOK-WAI.

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POSTFAX SERVICE TO ICELAND

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THE POST OFFICE HAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE POSTFAX SERVICE, A JOINT POST OFFICE AND CABLE AND WIRELESS (HK) LTD. PUBLIC FACSIMILE SERVICE, WILL BE EXTENDED TO INCLUDE ICELAND ON MONDAY (JANUARY 11).

POSTFAX ITEMS HANDED IN AT GENERAL POST OFFICE BEFORE 6 PM WILL BE ACCORDED SAME-DAY DELIVERY IN ICELAND.

DOCUMENTS (HAND-WRITTEN OR TYPED), DRAWINGS AND DIAGRAMS UP TO A4 SIZE ARE ACCEPTED FOR TRANSMISSION.

ALL POSTFAX ITEMS ARE HANDLED WITH CARE AND CONFIDENTIALITY.

AFTER ACCEPTANCE, THEY WILL BE SCANNED, CONVERTED INTO HIGH-SPEED ELECTRONIC IMPULSES AND TRANSMITTED DIRECT TO THE RECEIVING GATEWAY IN THE DISTANT COUNTRY.

/THE CHARGES

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THE CHARGES FOR THE SERVICE TO ICELAND WILL BE :

'SHORT MESSAGE' FACILITY	\$60
FOR THE FIRST SIDE OF AN A4 SHEET OF PAPER	\$85
FOR EACH SUBSEQUENT A4 SIDE SENT TO THE SAME ADDRESSEE AT THE SAME TIME	\$40

CUSTOMERS WISHING TO MAKE USE OF THIS SERVICE CAN HAND IN THEIR DOCUMENTS AT ANY ONE OF THE 30 ACCEPTANCE POST OFFICES OR THE TWO CABLE AND WIRELESS SALES OFFICES AT THE EXCHANGE SQUARE AND HERMES HOUSE.

POSTFAX SERVICE IS NOW OFFERING HIGH-SPEED FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION BETWEEN HONG KONG AND OVER 70 COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD.

ALL THE IMPORTANT TRADING PARTNERS OF HONG KONG ARE INCLUDED IN THE SERVICE NETWORK, SUCH AS THE U.S.A., THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, CHINA, JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA.

FOR SPEEDIER TRANSMISSION AND AT NO EXTRA COST, FACSIMILE MACHINE OWNERS IN HONG KONG CAN FAX THEIR MESSAGES TO THE POST OFFICE UNDER SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR ONWARD TRANSMISSION TO ADDRESSEES ABROAD WHO DO NOT HAVE THEIR OWN FACSIMILE EQUIPMENT.

FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE SERVICE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE POSTFAX MANAGER ON 5-8471148.

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FIRST KWAI TSING DISTRICT ARTS FESTIVAL TO BEGIN

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THE FIRST KWAI TSING DISTRICT ARTS FESTIVAL WILL BEGIN TOMORROW (SATURDAY) WITH A SPECTACULAR SHOW TO BE BROADCAST LIVE ON TELEVISION.

LOCAL CULTURAL AND ARTS ASSOCIATIONS WILL PERFORM AT THE ONE-AND-A-HALF-HOUR VARIETY SHOW. THEY INCLUDE THE KWAI TSING BALLET GROUP, CANTONESE OPERA CLUB AND THE CHILDREN'S CHOIR.

WINNERS OF SINGING AND DANCING COMPETITIONS RECENTLY HELD IN THE DISTRICT WILL ALSO GIVE PERFORMANCES.

ONE SEGMENT OF THE SHOW WILL BE A GENERAL ACCOUNT OF KWAI TSING DISTRICT AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF CULTURAL ACTIVITIES THERE. CHILDREN WILL BE INVITED TO DRAW PICTURES DEPICTING SPECIAL FEATURES OF THE DISTRICT.

/POPULAR SINGERS

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POPULAR SINGERS AND ARTISTES WILL TAKE PART IN THE VARIOUS SEGMENTS AND PERFORM WITH KWAI TSING RESIDENTS.

THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR NEW TERRITORIES, MR MICHAEL SUEN; KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICER, MR BRIAN COAK; DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR HO TUNG-CHING; CHAIRMAN OF THE ARTS FESTIVAL, MR CHEN WING-CHUN; AND VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT CULTURE AND ARTS CO-ORDINATING ASSOCIATION, MR LO YAN-SHING, WILL ATTEND THE OPENING CEREMONY TO BE HELD AT 7.30 PM TOMORROW AT THE JU CHING CHU ENGLISH COLLEGE.

RESIDENTS WISHING TO ATTEND THE VARIETY SHOW MAY OBTAIN ADMISSION TICKETS FROM THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICE. LIVE BROADCAST OF THE SHOW WILL START AT 8 PM ON ATV-GOLD.

MORE THAN 30 PROGRAMMES WILL BE LAUNCHED DURING THE ARTS FESTIVAL WHICH WILL LAST UNTIL JANUARY 30. THESE INCLUDE DRAMA, CANTONESE OPERAS, MOVIES, CHINESE ORCHESTRA CONCERT, PUPPET SHOW, AND EXHIBITIONS OF CALLIGRAPHY, PAINTINGS AND PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE DISTRICT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WISHING TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE FIRST KWAI TSING DISTRICT ARTS FESTIVAL MAY TAKE A COACH WHICH WILL LEAVE KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING (NEXT TO KWAI HING MTR STATION) AT 7 PM TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

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HOME BEAUTIFICATION AND SAFETY EXHIBITION

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AN EXHIBITION TO PROMOTE A BETTER AND SAFER LIVING ENVIRONMENT WILL BE HELD FROM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) TO JANUARY 17 AT THE NEW WORLD PLAZA, TSIM SHA TSUI EAST.

AS PART OF THE YAU MA TEI/TSIM SHA TSUI ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT CAMPAIGN, THE EXHIBITION WILL PROVIDE THE LATEST INFORMATION ON IMPROVING HOUSEHOLD ENVIRONMENT IN TERMS OF SAFETY, SECURITY AND DECORATION.

MORE THAN 30 BOOTHS WILL BE SET UP BY LOCAL COMPANIES AND MANUFACTURERS TO DISPLAY SUCH PRODUCTS AS ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES, FURNITURE AND CARPETS.

SOME GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS WILL ALSO TAKE PART IN THE EXHIBITION TO PUBLICISE ANTI-BURGLARY AND FIRE PREVENTION MEASURES.

/YAU MA

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YAU MA TEI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR AUGUSTINE CHENG, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY WHICH BE FOLLOWED BY A LION DANCE.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE HOME BEAUTIFICATION AND SAFETY EXHIBITION AT 11 AM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AT THE NEW WORLD PLAZA, TSIM SHA TSUI EAST.

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PRIZE PRESENTATION FOR ANTI-TRIAD COMPETITIONS
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A TOTAL OF 12 WINNING ENTRANTS OF THE COMPOSITION AND DRAWING COMPETITIONS HELD DURING THE RECENT ISLANDS DISTRICT ANTI-TRIAD CAMPAIGN WILL BE PRESENTED WITH PRIZES AT A CEREMONY TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

THE TWO COMPETITIONS WERE HELD IN NOVEMBER LAST YEAR AND ENTRIES WERE SOUGHT FROM STUDENTS OF THE SECONDARY AND PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICT.

REPRESENTATIVES OF ISLANDS DISTRICT BOARD, ISLANDS DISTRICT SCHOOLS LIAISON COMMITTEE, ISLANDS DISTRICT POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS SECTION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICE WERE ADJUDICATORS FOR THE COMPETITIONS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICE TODAY (FRIDAY) SAID: "THE CAMPAIGN WAS AIMED AT ENCOURAGING THE ISLANDERS TO UNDERSTAND THE BAD EFFECTS OF TRIAD ACTIVITIES ON THE COMMUNITY AND YOUNG PEOPLE, RAISING THE ALERTNESS OF SCHOOLS TO THE PENETRATION BY TRIAD MEMBERS AND SEEKING A SOLUTION FOR THE PROBLEM."

"DURING THE CAMPAIGN PERIOD, OFFICERS OF THE ISLANDS DISTRICT POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS SECTION WERE ALSO INVITED TO GIVE TALKS IN SCHOOLS OF THE DISTRICT ON TRIAD ACTIVITIES," HE ADDED.

ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICER, MR JONATHAN NG; AND ISLANDS DISTRICT ANTI-TRIAD CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MR YU YUEN-HEI; WILL OFFICIATE AT TOMORROW'S CEREMONY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE ISLANDS DISTRICT ANTI-TRIAD CAMPAIGN PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY TO BE HELD AT THE ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM AT 38 PIER ROAD, HARBOUR BUILDING, 20/F, CENTRAL AT 11.15 AM TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

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CARNIVAL TO SPREAD FIGHT CRIME MESSAGE

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A CARNIVAL TO DRIVE HOME THE FIGHT CRIME MESSAGE WILL BE HELD AT 2.30 PM ON SUNDAY (JANUARY 10) AT THE HONG NING ROAD PLAYGROUND IN KWUN TONG.

THE FUNCTION IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE, KWUN TONG POLICE DISTRICT, SAU MAU PING POLICE DISTRICT AND THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE (DFCC).

OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR EDDY CHAN; THE POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDER (KWUN TONG), MR M.N.W. PELLY; THE POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDER (SAU MAU PING), MR LAU YUK-KUEN; AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE KWUN TONG DFCC, MR MAU KEI-ON.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE SAID THE CARNIVAL WOULD BE THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE DISTRICT'S FIGHT CRIME CAMPAIGN.

THE PROGRAMMES OF THE CARNIVAL WILL INCLUDE AN INTER-SCHOOL DEBATE COMPETITION, A VARIETY SHOW AND GAMES STALLS, ALL FOCUSING ON THE ANTI-TRIAD AND CRIME PREVENTION THEME.

AT A CEREMONY HELD DURING THE CARNIVAL, EIGHT PEOPLE WILL BE PRESENTED THE "KWUN TONG GOOD RESIDENTS AWARD" FOR BRAVE ACTIONS AND OTHER EFFORTS IN COMBATTING CRIME.

WINNERS OF THE INTER-SCHOOL DEBATE COMPETITION AND THE KWUN TONG DFCC LOGO DESIGN COMPETITION WILL ALSO RECEIVE THEIR PRIZES.

WINNING ENTRIES IN THE LOGO DESIGN COMPETITION AND SUMMARIES OF THE BRAVE ACTIONS OF THE GOOD RESIDENTS AWARD RECIPIENTS, AS WELL AS INFORMATION ON CRIME PREVENTION WILL BE EXHIBITED AT THE VENUE.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME CARNIVAL AT 2.30 PM ON SUNDAY (JANUARY 10) AT THE HONG NING ROAD PLAYGROUND.

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TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL WORKING GROUP HOLDS SPECIAL MEETING

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THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD'S WORKING GROUP ON TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL WILL MEET ON MONDAY (JANUARY 11) TO DISCUSS EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES FOR AFFECTED COMMERCIAL OPERATORS.

THE MEETING IS SPECIALLY HELD IN RESPONSE TO THE CONCERN EXPRESSED BY THE COMMERCIAL OPERATORS AFFECTED BY THE CLEARANCE FOR THE PROJECT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD'S WORKING GROUP ON TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL TO BE HELD AT 2.30 PM ON MONDAY (JANUARY 11) IN THE DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, FOURTH FLOOR, SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, KING FUK STREET, SAN PO KONG.

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REMINDER TO PAY FIRST QUARTER RATES

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RATEPAYERS ARE REMINDED THAT RATES FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1988 MUST BE PAID BY NOON ON JANUARY 30, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TREASURY SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

LATE PAYMENTS MAY BE SUBJECT TO A FIVE PER CENT SURCHARGE AND A FURTHER SURCHARGE OF 10 PER CENT ON ACCOUNTS STILL OUTSTANDING SIX MONTHS AFTER THE DUE DATE.

HE SAID RATEPAYERS SHOULD HAVE BY NOW RECEIVED DEMAND NOTES.

THOSE WHO HAVE NOT RECEIVED DEMAND NOTES SHOULD APPLY FOR A COPY AT THE RATES SECTION OF THE TREASURY, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (WEST WING), NINTH FLOOR, 11 ICE HOUSE STREET, HONG KONG; THE YAU MA TEI SUB-TREASURY, FOURTH FLOOR, 405 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON; AND THE KOWLOON CITY SUB-TREASURY, MAN SANG COMMERCIAL BUILDING, FIRST FLOOR, 348-352 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD (CORNER OF PRINCE EDWARD ROAD AND JUNCTION ROAD), KOWLOON.

NON-RECEIPT OF THE DEMAND NOTE DID NOT ALTER THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE RATES MUST BE PAID BEFORE THE DUE DATE, HE SAID.

HE ADDED THAT RATES WERE PAYABLE ON VACANT PROPERTIES BUT WERE REFUNDABLE UNDER CONDITIONS SPECIFIED IN THE RATING ORDINANCE.

/"HOWEVER, THERE

"HOWEVER, THERE WILL BE NO REFUNDS IN THE CASE OF A VACANT TENEMENT LAST USED OR INTENDED TO BE USED WHOLLY OR PRIMARILY FOR DOMESTIC PURPOSE OR FOR THE PARKING OF VEHICLES, UNLESS IT IS VACANT BY REASON OF AN ORDER OF THE GOVERNMENT," HE SAID.

TO AVOID QUEUEING, RATEPAYERS ARE URGED TO PAY BY CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER SENT BY POST OR BY EARLY PERSONAL ATTENDANCE AT ANY OF THE OFFICES LISTED ON THE BACK OF THE DEMAND NOTE.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO POINTED OUT THAT RATEPAYERS WHO HAD ALREADY SUBMITTED A VALID DIRECT DEBIT AUTHORISATION SHOULD MAKE PAYMENT BY POST OR IN PERSON AS STIPULATED IN THE DEMAND NOTE UNLESS THE WORDING "PAYMENT WILL BE MADE BY AUTOPAY" WAS SHOWN IN THE NOTE.

IN THIS CASE, THEIR PAYMENT WILL BE MADE BY DIRECT DEBIT TO THEIR BANK ACCOUNTS ON JANUARY 30, 1988.

IN THIS CONNECTION, RATEPAYERS SHOULD ENSURE THAT THEIR BANK ACCOUNTS CONTAIN THE NECESSARY FUNDS ON THAT DATE, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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VOLUNTEERS RECRUIT JUNIOR LEADERS

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BOYS AGED BETWEEN 14 AND 16 WITH SOUND PHYSIQUE AND GOOD MORAL CHARACTER CAN NOW APPLY TO BECOME JUNIOR LEADERS OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT (THE VOLUNTEERS).

THE ANNUAL RECRUITMENT DRIVE FOR THE REGIMENT'S JUNIOR LEADERS CORPS HAS STARTED AND ABOUT 140 NEW MEMBERS WILL BE SELECTED.

THE APPLICANTS SHOULD HAVE A REASONABLE KNOWLEDGE OF ENGLISH AND CHINESE AND BE WILLING TO ACCEPT DISCIPLINE AND TRAINING. THEY MUST ALSO OBTAIN CONSENT FROM THEIR PARENTS OR GUARDIANS.

SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL RECEIVE A PROGRESSIVE FOUR-YEAR TRAINING PROGRAMME WHICH IS AIMED AT DEVELOPING AND STRENGTHENING THEIR CHARACTER AND SELF-RELIANCE, AND PROMOTING A SENSE OF COMMUNITY RESPONSIBILITY AND LEADERSHIP.

THE TRAINING PROGRAMME WILL INCLUDE SUBJECTS SUCH AS FOOT DRILL, CAMPING, MAP READING, ORIENTEERING, FIRST AID, COMMUNICATION, MARKSMANSHIP, SWIMMING, CANOEING AND LIFE SAVING.

THE RECRUITS WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED WITH UNIFORMS AND RATIONS DURING THE TRAINING PERIOD.

APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE GUARD ROOM OF THE REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS AT 1 SPORTS ROAD, HAPPY VALLEY. ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 5-761371.

THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION IS JANUARY 31.

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NEW ID CARDS FOR MEN BORN IN 1959/60

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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT MEN BORN IN 1959 AND 1960 WOULD BE REQUIRED TO APPLY FOR NEW IDENTITY CARDS FROM JANUARY 18 TO MARCH 5.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT SAID: "MEN OF THIS AGE GROUP CAN CALL AT ANY ONE OF THE EIGHT NEW I.D. CARD ISSUE OFFICES DURING THIS PERIOD.

"THEY ARE ALSO WELCOME TO USE THE PHONE-IN SERVICE TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT BY CALLING THE OFFICE OF THEIR CHOICE."

THE ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF THE ISSUE OFFICES ARE:

- HONG KONG : BASEMENT, 151 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI.
TEL. NO. 5-747070
- EAST KOWLOON : AMOY GARDEN PLAZA, SECOND FLOOR, 77 NGAU TAU
KOK ROAD.
TEL. NO. 3-7553679
- WEST KOWLOON : CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, SECOND FLOOR,
393 CANTON ROAD, YAU MA TEI.
TEL. NO. 3-7232424
- TSUEN WAN : EAST ASIA COMMERCIAL CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR,
29-37 TSUEN FU STREET.
TEL. NO. 0-4981259
- SHA TIN : SHA TIN CENTRE, PODIUM FLOOR, 2-16 WANG POK
STREET.
TEL. NO. 0-6059108
- YUEN LONG : HOP YICK CENTRE, SECOND FLOOR, 31 HOP YICK
ROAD.
TEL. NO. 0-793291
- TUEN MUN : CHI LOK COMMERCIAL CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR,
CHI LOK FA YUEN.
TEL. NO. 0-4580862
- SHEUNG SHUI : TSUEN WO TAI LAU, GROUND FLOOR, 82-84 SAN
FUNG AVENUE, SHEK WU HUI.
TEL. NO. 0-927155

THESE OFFICES ARE OPEN FROM 8 AM TO 9.30 PM DAILY, EXCEPT SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

/THE SPOKESMAN

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 1988

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THE SPOKESMAN ALSO REMINDED MEN BORN IN 1961 AND 1962 WHO HAVE NOT APPLIED FOR THEIR NEW I.D. CARDS TO COME FORWARD WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY AS THERE IS ONLY ONE WEEK LEFT BEFORE THE CURRENT PHASE CLOSES ON JANUARY 16.

HE POINTED OUT THAT ANYONE FOUND TO BE IN POSSESSION OF AN INVALID I.D. CARD WOULD BE LIABLE TO PROSECUTION.

HE REITERATED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO AMNESTY FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

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LAYING OF GAS PIPELINE AT TAI SHUI HANG

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THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO APPROVE THE LAYING OF A GAS PIPELINE WITHIN AN AREA OF ABOUT 300 SQUARE METRES OF FORESHORE AND SEA-BED AT TAI SHUI HANG, SHA TIN, BY THE HONG KONG AND CHINA GAS COMPANY.

THIS IS FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUPPLYING GAS TO MA ON SHAN.

THE WORK IS EXPECTED TO COMMENCE IN MARCH AND BE COMPLETED IN JUNE.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA AFFECTED WAS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HE HAS AN INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEA-BED INVOLVED MAY SUBMIT HIS OBJECTIONS IN WRITING TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS BEFORE MARCH 7.

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TRAFFIC CHANGES IN KOWLOON AND NT

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TWO ROAD SECTIONS IN MONG KOK AND HUNG HOM WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM MONDAY (JANUARY 11).

THE DETAILS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- * FROM 7.30 PM ON MONDAY TO 4 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY, CHEUNG WONG ROAD IN MONG KOK WILL BE CLOSED TO FACILITATE THE DELIVERY OF A TRANSFORMER BY THE CHINA LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY LIMITED.
- * TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF MA TAU WAI ROAD FLYOVER IN HUNG HOM, THE SECTION OF FAT KWONG STREET EASTBOUND BETWEEN WO CHUNG STREET AND MA TAU WAI ROAD WILL BE CLOSED DAILY FROM 11 PM TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY BETWEEN MONDAY AND SATURDAY (JANUARY 16).

DURING THE CLOSURE, VEHICLES ON FAT KWONG STREET EASTBOUND HEADING FOR MA TAU WAI ROAD, INCLUDING KMB ROUTES NO. 41 AND 45, WILL BE DIVERTED VIA WO CHUNG STREET, CHATHAM ROAD NORTH, WUHU STREET AND MA TAU WAI ROAD.

AT THE SAME TIME, KMB ROUTES NO. 7B AND 8 ON THEIR JOURNEYS TO HUNG HOM FERRY AND TSIM SHA TSUI RESPECTIVELY WILL HAVE TO OPERATE VIA WO CHUNG STREET, CHATHAM ROAD NORTH, WUHU STREET, DOCK STREET AND BULKELEY STREET TO REJOIN MING ON STREET.

MEANWHILE, BETWEEN 9 PM AND 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FROM JANUARY 11 TO JANUARY 18, A SHORT SECTION OF THE TSING YI-BOUND LANE OF THE TSING YI SOUTH BRIDGE WILL BE CLOSED FOR REPAIR WORKS ON THE BRIDGE.

DURING THE CLOSURE, ONE-LANE TWO-WAY TRAFFIC WILL BE MAINTAINED AND MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED TO WATCH OUT FOR THE DIRECTION OF TRAFFIC LIGHTS.

IN YUEN LONG, FROM 10 AM ON JANUARY 11, NO VEHICLE ON CASTLE PEAK ROAD (YUEN LONG SECTION) WESTBOUND WILL BE ALLOWED TO TURN LEFT ON TO TAI YUK ROAD SOUTHBOUND.

AT THE SAME TIME, FUNG NIN ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND INTO TWO-WAY TRAFFIC.

THE MEASURE WILL BE IN FORCE FOR ABOUT TWO WEEKS TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SYSTEM.

VEHICLES ON CASTLE PEAK ROAD HEADING FOR TAI YUK ROAD WILL HAVE TO MAKE USE OF FUNG NIN ROAD AND KAU YUK ROAD.

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 1988

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TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT ON MONG KOK ROAD

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THE BUS-ONLY LANE ON MONG KOK ROAD WESTBOUND IS SUSPENDED WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT TO FACILITATE ROAD WORKS AT IVY STREET, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY).

AT THE SAME TIME, VEHICLES ARE ALLOWED TO TURN RIGHT FROM MONG KOK ROAD WESTBOUND ON TO TONG MEI ROAD NORTHBOUND.

THE MEASURE WILL BE IN FORCE UNTIL ROAD WORKS AT IVY STREET IS COMPLETED.

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TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT IN WAN CHAI

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A SECTION OF CHAN TONG LANE IN WAN CHAI NEAR ITS JUNCTION WITH WAN CHAI ROAD WILL BE CLOSED FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY (JANUARY 11).

THIS MEASURE WILL BE IN FORCE FOR ABOUT TWO WEEKS FOR ROAD WORK.

AT THE SAME TIME, CHAN TONG LANE WILL BE CONVERTED INTO A CUL-DE-SAC AND VEHICLES SHOULD USE MORRISON HILL ROAD, SHARP STREET WEST FOR ACCESS.

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF EDINBURGH PLACE NORTH

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NO VEHICLES EXCEPT EMERGENCY VEHICLES AND THOSE WITH LABELS ISSUED BY THE JUDICIARY WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER EDINBURGH PLACE NORTH BETWEEN QUEEN'S PIER AND H.M.S. TAMAR FROM 3 PM TO 9 PM ON MONDAY (JANUARY 11).

THE CLOSURE IS NEEDED TO FACILITATE THE CEREMONIAL OPENING OF THE LEGAL YEAR 1988.

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