



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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HK IS AN ECONOMIC PHENOMENON - SIR MURRAY
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HONG KONG IS AN ECONOMIC PHENOMENON WHOSE +DEFIANT SUCCESS+ CONTINUES TO PROVIDE A MODEL FOR THE DEBATE OF THEORETICIANS, THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, SAID TODAY.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF +HOLLAND EXPO 1981+, A FLOATING EXHIBITION ORGANISED BY THE NETHERLANDS COUNCIL FOR TRADE PROMOTION, SIR MURRAY STRESSED THAT OUR SUCCESS IS +NO CONJURING TRICK+.

+IT HAS NOT BEEN DONE WITH MIRRORS,+ HE EXPLAINED, +BUT BY HARD WORK, REALISM, STRONG MARKETING OF THE PRODUCTS OF AN EFFICIENT INDUSTRY, A SUPERB NATURAL HARBOUR WITH THE FASTEST TURN-AROUND IN ASIA, AND A STRONG FINANCIAL SECTOR.

+WE LEVY NO PROTECTIONIST TARIFFS ON IMPORTS, AND MAINTAIN NO OTHER CONTROLS ON TRADE THAN THOSE THAT INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS OR CONSIDERATIONS OF HEALTH, SAFETY AND SECURITY REQUIRE.+

ADDRESSING THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN TRADE OF THE NETHERLANDS, H.E. DR K.H. BEYEN= THE CONSUL-GENERAL IN HONG KONG, MR C.S. VAN STRATEN, AND TRADERS AND INDUSTRIALISTS AT THE OPENING OF THE EXHIBITION, SIR MURRAY SAID COMMERCIAL LINKS BETWEEN THE NETHERLANDS AND HONG KONG WERE ALREADY STRONG.

+TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT ARE SUBSTANTIAL AND SHIPPING AND BANKING FIRMLY ESTABLISHED, BUT THERE IS PLENTY OF ROOM FOR EXPANSION,+ SIR MURRAY SAID.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH:-

+SECRETARY OF STATE, CONSUL-GENERAL, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

+I AM HONOURED TO OPEN THIS EXHIBITION BY THE NETHERLANDS COUNCIL FOR TRADE PROMOTION.

+SIR Y.K. KAN, CHAIRMAN OF OUR OWN TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, HAS TOLD ME HOW WARMLY HE WAS RECEIVED BY YOU IN THE HAGUE AND HOW IMPRESSED HE WAS BY YOUR KEEN APPRECIATION OF THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXPANDING TRADE WITH HONG KONG.

+YOU HAVE COME TO SELL AND TO CONSIDER INVESTMENT= YOU ARE JUST AS WELCOME AS IF YOU HAD COME TO BUY. WE LONG AGO DISCOVERED THAT THE BEST SORT OF TRADE IS TWO-WAY.

+YOU ARE NO STRANGERS IN HONG KONG, YOUR ARRIVAL IN THIS FLOATING EXHIBITION SEIZES THE IMAGINATION, AND WE WISH YOU EVERY SUCCESS.

/+FOR SOME

+FOR SOME TIME THE EYES OF THE WORLD HAVE BEEN TURNING AGAIN TO THE FAR EAST AND PARTICULARLY TO THAT CIRCLE OF COUNTRIES ON THE PACIFIC'S WESTERN SHORE WHICH INCLUDES THE TERRITORY OF HONG KONG. IT IS AN AREA WHOSE RECORD OF ECONOMIC GROWTH OVER THE LAST DECADE AND A HALF IS EXTRAORDINARY, AND WHICH HAS BEEN ENCOURAGED RECENTLY BY THE EMERGENCE OF NEW ECONOMIC POLICIES IN CHINA. BUT MY INTENTION TODAY IS TO TALK ONLY ABOUT TRADE BETWEEN THE NETHERLANDS AND HONG KONG. HONG KONG IS A FOCAL POINT IN THIS GROWTH AREA - AN ECONOMIC PHENOMENON WHOSE DEFIANT SUCCESS CONTINUES TO PROVIDE A MODEL FOR THE DEBATE OF THE THEORETICIANS. IT IS NO CONJURING TRICK. IT HAS NOT BEEN DONE WITH MIRRORS BUT BY HARD WORK, REALISM, STRONG MARKETING OF THE PRODUCTS OF AN EFFICIENT INDUSTRY, A SUPERB NATURAL HARBOUR WITH THE FASTEST TURN-AROUND IN ASIA, AND A STRONG FINANCIAL SECTOR.

+WE LEVY NO PROTECTIONIST TARIFFS ON IMPORTS, AND MAINTAIN NO OTHER CONTROLS ON TRADE THAN THOSE THAT INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS OR CONSIDERATIONS OF HEALTH, SAFETY AND SECURITY REQUIRE.

+IN THE DEVELOPED WORLD PROTECTIONIST CLOUDS ARE LOOMING - NOT SURPRISING IN VIEW OF THE HIGH LEVELS OF UNEMPLOYMENT. NEVERTHELESS WE BELIEVE PROFOUNDLY THAT CURRENT ECONOMIC ILLS OF THE DEVELOPED WORLD WILL NOT BE CURED BY FURTHER PROTECTION, BUT ARE FAR MORE LIKELY TO BE AGGRAVATED BY IT. AND WHEN THE RENEWAL OF THE MFA AND THE BILATERALS WITH THE EEC COME TO BE CONSIDERED THIS YEAR AND NEXT, WE TRUST THAT, AS IN THE PAST, THE VOICE OF THE NETHERLANDS WILL BE RAISED AGAINST FURTHER RESTRICTION AND IN FAVOUR OF THE EXPANSION OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE.

+COMMERCIAL LINKS BETWEEN THE NETHERLANDS AND HONG KONG ARE ALREADY STRONG. TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT ARE SUBSTANTIAL AND SHIPPING AND BANKING FIRMLY ESTABLISHED, BUT THERE IS PLENTY OF ROOM FOR EXPANSION. MOREOVER YOU WILL FIND OUR INDUSTRIALISTS THIRSTY FOR NEW TECHNOLOGY AND NEW MANUFACTURING TECHNIQUES AS THEY MOVE STEADILY TOWARDS MORE SOPHISTICATED PRODUCTION.

+SIR, WE IN HONG KONG BELIEVE THAT SUPERFLUOUS GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION IMPEDES BUSINESS. SO I HAVE KEPT MY SPEECH SHORT LEST IT DELAY YOUR GOVERNMENT AND BUSINESS COLLEAGUES FROM GETTING TO KNOW THEIR COUNTERPARTS IN HONG KONG. I CONGRATULATE YOU ON YOUR IMAGINATIVE ENTERPRISE AND WISH YOU EVERY SUCCESS IN DOING BUSINESS WITH US.+

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BREAKDOWN TRADE FIGURES FOR JANUARY - NOVEMBER 1980

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TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FOR JANUARY TO NOVEMBER 1980, VALUED AT \$189 244 MILLION, SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 30 PER CENT AS COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD IN 1979.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS ROSE BY 23 PER CENT TO \$61 914 MILLION, IMPORTS BY 30 PER CENT TO \$100 375 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS BY 49 PER CENT TO \$26 955 MILLION. DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TOGETHER SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 30 PER CENT.

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY RELEASED THE DETAILED BREAKDOWN FIGURES.

/CHANGES IN

CHANGES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE TEN MAJOR OVERSEAS
MARKETS ARE AS FOLLOWS :

	JAN - NOV 80 (HK\$M)	JAN - NOV 79 (HK\$M)	INCREASE/ DECREASE (HK\$M)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
U.S.A.	20 744	17 043	+ 3 701	+ 22
F.R. OF GERMANY	6 634	5 600	+ 1 034	+ 18
U.K.	6 068	5 358	+ 710	+ 13
JAPAN	2 131	2 466	- 335	- 14
AUSTRALIA	1 795	1 623	+ 172	+ 11
SINGAPORE	1 640	1 287	+ 353	+ 27
CANADA	1 596	1 457	+ 139	+ 10
NETHERLANDS	1 408	1 223	+ 185	+ 15
CHINA	1 373	509	+ 864	+170
FRANCE	1 254	871	+ 383	+ 44

DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE U.S. CONTINUED TO GROW. SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN CLOTHING (BY \$900 MILLION OR 14%), ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (BY \$579 MILLION OR 42%), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$504 MILLION OR 52%), OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY \$473 MILLION OR 53%), AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$346 MILLION OR 35%).

SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE NOTED IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO WEST GERMANY OF CLOTHING (BY \$616 MILLION OR 20%), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$123 MILLION OR 27%) AS WELL AS ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (BY \$94 MILLION OR 65%).

AS FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE U.K., INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN CLOTHING (BY \$264 MILLION OR 10%), AND WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$70 MILLION OR 19%). HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE REGISTERED IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF TEXTILES (BY \$141 MILLION OR 26%).

THE DOWNWARD TREND IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO JAPAN CONTINUED. DECREASES WERE NOTED MAINLY FOR FISH, CRUSTACEANS AND MOLLUSCS, AND THEIR PREPARATIONS (BY \$88 MILLION OR 28%), AND CLOTHING (BY \$104 MILLION OR 14%).

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

	<u>JAN - NOV 80</u> (HK\$M)	<u>JAN - NOV 79</u> (HK\$M)	<u>INCREASE</u> (HK\$M)	<u>PERCENTAGE</u> <u>CHANGE</u>
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	20 904	18 053	+ 2 851	+ 16
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY PLASTIC TOYS AND DOLLS)	10 180	8 549	+ 1 631	+ 19
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	6 494	4 656	+ 1 838	+ 39
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	4 587	3 621	+ 966	+ 27
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (MAINLY TRANSISTORS AND DIODES AND HOUSEHOLD TYPE APPLIANCES)	4 104	2 930	+ 1 174	+ 40
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	4 074	3 643	+ 431	+ 12

/THE CHANGES

THE CHANGES IN IMPORTS FROM THE TEN MAJOR SOURCES ARE SUMMARIZED AS FOLLOWS :

	JAN - NOV 80 (HK\$M)	JAN - NOV 79 (HK\$M)	INCREASE/ DECREASE (HK\$M)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
JAPAN	22 897	17 386	+ 5 511	+ 32
CHINA	19 628	13 429	+ 6 199	+ 46
U.S.A.	11 968	9 465	+ 2 503	+ 26
TAIWAN	7 058	5 371	+ 1 687	+ 31
SINGAPORE	6 576	4 358	+ 2 218	+ 51
U.K.	4 961	4 033	+ 928	+ 23
R. OF KOREA	3 397	2 285	+ 1 112	+ 49
F.R. OF GERMANY	2 648	2 554	+ 94	+ 4
SWITZERLAND	2 591	2 332	+ 259	+ 11
AUSTRALIA	1 559	1 448	+ 111	+ 8

IN CONTRAST WITH DECLINING DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO JAPAN, LOCAL DEMAND FOR JAPANESE GOODS REMAINED STRONG. INCREASES WERE NOTED PARTICULARLY FOR ROAD VEHICLES (BY \$947 MILLION OR 91%), TEXTILES (BY \$698 MILLION OR 27%), TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$583 MILLION OR 39%), IRON AND STEEL (BY \$530 MILLION OR 48%), AND WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$482 MILLION OR 31%).

AS FOR IMPORTS FROM CHINA, INCREASES WERE RECORDED MAINLY IN CLOTHING (BY \$1 073 MILLION OR 114%), TEXTILES (BY \$922 MILLION OR 34%), PETROLEUM AND RELATED PRODUCTS (BY \$834 MILLION OR 64%), LIVE ANIMALS CHIEFLY FOR FOOD (BY \$311 MILLION OR 28%), AND MEAT AND MEAT PREPARATIONS (BY \$207 MILLION OR 40%).

INCREASES IN IMPORTS FROM THE U.S. WERE LARGELY OF OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY \$425 MILLION OR 49%), ARTIFICIAL RESINS AND PLASTIC MATERIALS, AND CELLULOSE ESTERS AND ETHERS (BY \$237 MILLION OR 41%), TEXTILE FIBRES AND THEIR WASTES (BY \$129 MILLION OR 18%), AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (BY \$133 MILLION OR 16%).

SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE SUPPLY OF PETROLEUM AND RELATED PRODUCTS (BY \$1 823 MILLION OR 74%) FROM SINGAPORE, AS WELL AS ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (BY \$266 MILLION OR 44%), AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$175 MILLION OR 45%) FROM TAIWAN.

/THE FOLLOWING

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

	JAN - NOV 80 (HK\$M)	JAN - NOV 79 (HK\$M)	INCREASE/ DECREASE (HK\$M)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIAL (MAINLY TEXTILE PRODUCTS, DIAMONDS, IRON AND STEEL, AND PAPER)	30 318	24 409	+ 5 909	+ 24
MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	22 442	16 908	+ 5 534	+ 33
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY WATCHES AND CLOCKS, ARTICLES OF APPAREL)	15 740	11 235	+ 4 505	+ 40
FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS CHIEFLY FOR FOOD	10 353	8 714	+ 1 639	+ 19
CHEMICALS AND RELATED PRODUCTS	7 251	6 107	+ 1 144	+ 19
MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	7 157	4 466	+ 2 691	+ 60

SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH WAS RECORDED IN RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA (BY \$2 844 MILLION OR 254%), INDONESIA (BY \$955 MILLION OR 63%), U.S.A. (BY \$931 MILLION OR 51%), SINGAPORE (BY \$645 MILLION OR 40%), TAIWAN (BY \$477 MILLION OR 30%), THE U.K. (BY \$432 MILLION OR 141%), NIGERIA (BY \$419 MILLION OR 132%), MACAU (BY \$310 MILLION OR 58%), AND THE F.R. OF GERMANY (BY \$186 MILLION OR 46%). ON THE OTHER HAND, A DECLINE WAS REGISTERED IN RE-EXPORTS TO JAPAN (BY \$326 MILLION OR 14%).

MOST COMMODITIES RE-EXPORTED THROUGH HONG KONG EXHIBITED STRONG GROWTH, THE MORE SIGNIFICANT ONES BEING TEXTILES (BY \$1 316 MILLION OR 52%), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$752 MILLION OR 67%), ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (BY \$702 MILLION OR 66%), ROAD VEHICLES (BY \$612 MILLION OR 148%), TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$565 MILLION OR 100%), CLOTHING (BY \$560 MILLION OR 67%), AND NON-FERROUS METAL (BY \$261 MILLION OR 90%).

+THE HONG KONG TRADE STATISTICS - SUMMARY+, A REPORT ON HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE IN NOVEMBER 1980, WILL SOON BE ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT \$3 A COPY.

A MORE COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, +HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE+, WITH DETAILED ANALYSIS OF THE MONTH'S IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS, WILL BE PUBLISHED IN EARLY FEBRUARY AND WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE AT THE CENTRE AT \$10.

ENQUIRIES CONCERNING SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THESE REPORTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE SALES OF PUBLICATIONS SECTION OF THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT BASKERVILLE HOUSE, HONG KONG (TEL. NO. 5-214375).

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DAB MEMBERS LEARN HOW RIVER GETS NEW LIFE

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TEN MEMBERS OF THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD TODAY LEARNED HOW HUNG SHUI KIU RIVER, WHICH RUNS IN YUEN LONG AND TUEN MUN DISTRICTS, WAS GIVEN A NEW LEASE OF LIFE.

THE MEMBERS TOURED SEVERAL SECTIONS OF THE 4.7 KILOMETRE RIVER AND WERE IMPRESSED BY THE PAINSTAKING EFFORTS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT IN FREEING THE STREAM COURSE OF POLLUTION.

THEY WERE TOLD BY MR CHAN WING-CHEUK, URBAN SERVICES OFFICER OF YUEN LONG WHO ACCOMPANIED THEM ON THE TOUR, THAT MORE THAN 300 LORRY-LOADS OF REFUSE, JUNK AND SOLID FARM WASTE WERE REMOVED FROM THE RIVER DURING A CLEAN-UP OPERATION BETWEEN LAST SEPTEMBER AND DECEMBER.

MR CHAN SAID SOME 350 PIG AND POULTRY FARMS OPERATING ALONG THE RIVER BANKS NOW MADE USE OF THE FARM WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE PROVIDED BY THE NTSD AND MORE AND MORE VILLAGERS WERE NOW LEAVING THEIR GARBAGE WITH THE REFUSE COLLECTION POINTS SPECIALLY SET UP FOR THEM.

HE STRESSED THAT ONLY THROUGH A GREATER PUBLIC COOPERATION COULD THE CLEANLINESS OF THE RIVER BE EFFECTIVELY PREVENTED FROM DETERIORATING AGAIN.

HE URGED RURAL LEADERS TO BRING HOME THE MESSAGE TO THEIR FELLOW VILLAGERS THAT THE ONLY WAY TO KEEP THE RIVER CLEAN WAS TO DROP THEIR HABIT OF DISCHARGING AGRICULTURAL WASTE AND REFUSE INTO THE STREAM.

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WEDDINGS LAST YEAR SET NEW RECORD
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THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO WERE MARRIED IN 1980 BROKE ALL PREVIOUS RECORDS AND EXCEEDED THE 100 000 MARK.

ACCORDING TO STATISTICS RELEASED BY THE MARRIAGE REGISTRY TODAY, A NEW RECORD OF 50 845 COUPLES WERE MARRIED LAST YEAR COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS TOTAL OF 45 222 IN 1979 WHICH WAS THEN ALSO A RECORD.

COMPARATIVE FIGURES OF MARRIAGES RECORDED BY THE MARRIAGE REGISTRY IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1975	36 192
1976	39 700
1977	40 383
1978	40 400
1979	45 222

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE REGISTRY ATTRIBUTED THE STEADY INCREASE TO THE GROWTH IN THE MARRIAGE AGE GROUP IN THE POPULATION IN RECENT YEARS AND TO THE SHORTER WAITING PERIOD FOR AN OFFICIAL MARRIAGE CEREMONY WHICH HAS BEEN SHORTENED FROM THREE MONTHS TO 17 DAYS.

AT LEAST 15 DAYS PUBLIC NOTICE OF A MARRIAGE IS REQUIRED UNDER THE MARRIAGE ORDINANCE IN CASE THERE ARE OBJECTIONS TO THE MARRIAGE.

ANOTHER REASON FOR THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF MARRIAGES WAS THE INTRODUCTION OF GROUP WEDDINGS LAST OCTOBER WHICH PROVED QUITE POPULAR, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE BIGGEST EVER OF THESE GROUP WEDDINGS IN HONG KONG WILL TAKE PLACE AT YAU TONG AT THE END OF THIS MONTH WHEN 50 COUPLES WILL MARRY IN TIME FOR THE LUNAR NEW YEAR.

THERE ARE AT PRESENT 17 MARRIAGE REGISTRIES LOCATED ALL OVER HONG KONG.

TO PROVIDE BETTER SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC, THE CITY HALL MARRIAGE REGISTRY WILL FROM JANUARY 25 OPEN SEVEN DAYS A WEEK, EXCEPT ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS, INSTEAD OF CLOSING ON SATURDAY AFTERNOONS AND SUNDAYS.

THE KOWLOON MARRIAGE REGISTRY IN YAU MA TEI AND THE TAI PO MARRIAGE REGISTRY WILL ALSO OPEN ON SUNDAY MORNINGS BETWEEN 9 AM AND 1 PM FROM THAT DAY.

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NAMES WANTED FOR NEW TAI PO ROADS

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NAMES ARE BEING SOUGHT FOR THREE ROADS CURRENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN TAI PO NEW TOWN.

A COMMITTEE OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND CIVIC ORGANISATIONS IS ORGANISING A ROAD NAMING COMPETITION AS PART OF TAI PO'S LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS.

ANYONE LIVING, WORKING, OR STUDYING IN TAI PO IS WELCOME TO ENTER. PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED FOR THE BEST FOUR NAMES FOR EACH ROAD.

THE FIRST ROAD IS BEING BUILT ALONG THE NORTHERN BANK OF THE LOWER LAM TSUEN RIVER, LINKING TAI PO TAU, THE TOWN CENTRE AND THE RECLAMATION NEAR THE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE.

THE SECOND, ABOUT 1.4 KILOMETRES LONG, WILL LINK THE ISLAND HOUSE INTERCHANGE WITH TING KOK ROAD.

THE THIRD, WHICH IS ABOUT TWO KILOMETRES LONG, WILL JOIN THE NEW TAI PO RAILWAY STATION WITH TING KOK ROAD.

A TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID THE ROADS WOULD BE THE NEW TOWN'S MAJOR ROADS AND MAIN ARTERIES IN ITS TRANSPORT SYSTEM.

+WE HOPE RESIDENTS CAN SUGGEST NAMES WHICH REFLECT THE CHARACTERISTICS AND TRADITIONS OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY,+ HE ADDED.

SUGGESTED NAMES WILL BE PASSED TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR OFFICIAL ADOPTION.

THE DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS FEBRUARY 9. THEY SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICE, TING KOK ROAD, WHERE MAPS SHOWING THE LOCATIONS OF THE THREE ROADS ARE AVAILABLE.

PRIZES WILL BE PRESENTED AT THE CLOSING OF THE TAI PO LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS ON FEBRUARY 19.

BESIDES A ROAD-NAMING COMPETITION, OTHER ACTIVITIES BEING ORGANISED TO CELEBRATE NEW YEAR INCLUDE CHINESE COUPLET WRITING, LANTERN DESIGN, AND CLEAN BUILDING COMPETITIONS, A FLOWER SHOW, PICNICS, A DINNER FOR THE ELDERLY, FILM SHOWS AND CAMPS.

FUNDS FOR THE CELEBRATIONS ARE BEING PROVIDED BY TAI PO DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD.

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CHEAP RETREADS ARE DANGEROUS
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OWNERS AND OPERATORS OF COMMERCIAL VEHICLES ARE URGED TODAY TO CHECK RETREADS CAREFULLY AND BUY THEM ONLY FROM REPUTABLE DEALERS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT MADE THE APPEAL FOLLOWING A NUMBER OF SERIOUS TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS RECENTLY CAUSED BY THE FAILURE OF RETREADS ON TRUCKS.

HE WARNED: +CHEAP, SUB-STANDARD RETREADS DO NOT OFFER VALUE FOR MONEY AND MAY WELL PLACE LIVES AT RISK.+

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