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CONTENTS PAGE NO.

COUNTRY AND COMMODITY BREAKDOWN FIGURES FOR HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE FOR JANUARY-OCTOBER 1981 1

ISLANDS DISTRICT ATHLETICS MEETING 5

POLIO CLAIMS ONE LIFE 6

FIRE PROTECTION BUREAU GETS NEW REGIONAL OFFICE 7

NEW BOOKLET CAPTURES SCENIC BEAUTY OF HONG KONG'S COUNTRY PARKS 8

TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN WESTERN DISTRICT 9

NT SWIMMING POOL WATER FOR STREET WASHING 10

LEARN-TO-ROLLER-SKATE COURSE 11

LABOUR RELATIONS PROMOTION UNIT MOVES OFFICE 11

COUNTRY AND COMMODITY BREAKDOWN FIGURES FOR HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE FOR JANUARY-OCTOBER 1981

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TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FOR JANUARY TO OCTOBER 1981, VALUED AT $212 429 MILLION, SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 25 PER CENT AS COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD IN 1980.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS ROSE BY 17 PER CENT TO $65 616 MILLION, IMPORTS BY 26 PER CENT TO $112 912 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS BY 41 PER CENT TO $33 901 MILLION. DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TOGETHER SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 24 PER CENT.

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DOMESTIC EXPORTS FOR OCTOBER 1981, VALUED AT $7 414 MILLION, SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 3.3 PER CENT OVER SEPTEMBER. SEASONALLY ADJUSTED IMPORTS DECLINED BY 0.6 PER CENT TO $11 723 MILLION, WHILST RE-EXPORTS FELL BY 4.1 PER CENT TO $3 635 MILLION. SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TOGETHER ROSE BY 0.8 PER CENT.

THE FIGURES WERE RELEASED TODAY (SUNDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

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

	JAN-OCT 81 (HK$ MN)	JAN-OCT 80 (HK$ MN)	INCREASE/ DECREASE (HK$ MN)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
U.S.A.	23 906	18 961	+4 945	+26
U.K.	6 227	5 464	+ 763	+14
F.R. OF GERMANY	5 649	6 022	- 373	- 6
JAPAN	2 422	1 902	+ 520	+27
CHINA	2 221	1 197	+1 024	+86
AUSTRALIA	2 145	1 627	+ 518	+32
CANADA	1 933	1 438	+ 495	+34
SINGAPORE	1 421	1 490	- 69	- 5
NETHERLANDS	1 283	1 275	+ 8	+ 1
FRANCE	1 170	1 088	+ 82	+ 8

DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE U.S. CONTINUED TO GROW. SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN CLOTHING (BY $2 060 MILLION OR 30 PER CENT), ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (BY $811 MILLION OR 46 PER CENT), ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS AND PARTS FOR COMPUTERS (BY $697 MILLION OR 69 PER CENT) AND PLASTIC TOYS AND DOLLS (BY $409 MILLION OR 28 PER CENT). ON THE OTHER HAND, DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF OFFICE MACHINES DECLINED BY $71 MILLION OR 32 PER CENT.

/INCREASES WERE .....

INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM OF CLOTHING (BY $277 MILLION OR 11 PER CENT), PLASTIC TOYS AND DOLLS (BY $227 MILLION OR 86 PER CENT), AS WELL AS ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (BY $123 MILLION OR 48 PER CENT).

MOST COMMODITIES EXPORTED TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY DECREASED IN VALUE, INCLUDING WATCHES AND CLOCKS (DECLINED BY $94 MILLION OR 18 PER CENT) AS WELL AS TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (DECLINED BY $103 MILLION OR 18 PER CENT). THE DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES INCREASED STEADILY (BY $21 MILLION OR 10 PER CENT).

SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE REGISTERED IN THE DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF CLOTHING TO JAPAN (BY $335 MILLION OR 57 PER CENT), AND IN THE DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY $209 MILLION OR 241 PER CENT) AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS (BY $205 MILLION OR 148 PER CENT) TO CHINA.

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

	JAN-OCT 81 (HK$ MN)	JAN-OCT 80 (HK$ MN)	INCREASE (HK$ MN)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	22 877	19 081	+3 796	+20
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY PLASTIC TOYS AND DOLLS)	10 831	9 274	+1 557	+17
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	6 612	5 731	+ 881	+15
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (MAINLY TRANSISTORS AND DIODES AND HOUSEHOLD TYPE APPLIANCES)	4 798	3 693	+1 105	+30
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	4 553	4 154	+ 399	+10
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	4 331	3 669	+ 662	+18

/THE CHANGES .....

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

	JAN-OCT 81 (HK$ MN)	JAN-OCT 80 (HK$ MN)	INCREASE (HK$ MN)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
JAPAN	26 370	20 477	+5 893	+29
CHINA	23 609	17 342	+6 267	+36
U.S.A.	12 027	10 866	+1 161	+11
TAIWAN	8 787	6 255	+2 532	+40
SINGAPORE	8 710	5 692	+3 018	+53
U.K.	5 023	4 362	+ 661	+15
REPUBLIC OF KOREA (SOUTH KOREA)	4 496	3 010	+1 486	+49
F.R. OF GERMANY	2 773	2 405	+ 368	+15
SWITZERLAND	2 327	2 314	+ 13	+ 1
AUSTRALIA	1 669	1 412	+ 257	+18

LOCAL DEMAND FOR JAPANESE GOODS REMAINED STRONG. INCREASES WERE NOTED PARTICULARLY FOR WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY $810 MILLION OR 45 PER CENT), ROAD VEHICLES (BY $792 MILLION OR 44 PER CENT), ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (BY $695 MILLION OR 35 PER CENT), TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY $694 MILLION OR 38 PER CENT) AND TEXTILES (BY $618 MILLION OR 21 PER CENT).

AS FOR IMPORTS FROM CHINA, INCREASES WERE RECORDED MAINLY IN TEXTILES (BY $1 479 MILLION OR 47 PER CENT), CLOTHING (BY $1 190 MILLION OR 69 PER CENT), VEGETABLES AND FRUIT (BY $443 MILLION OR 53 PER CENT), MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES - MAINLY BASKETWORK, WICKERWORK AND OTHER ARTICLES OF PLAITING MATERIALS (BY $265 MILLION OR 36 PER CENT) AND LIVE ANIMALS CHIEFLY FOR FOOD (BY $244 MILLION OR 19 PER CENT).

INCREASES IN IMPORTS FROM THE U.S. WERE LARGELY OF ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (BY $337 MILLION OR 38 PER CENT), VEGETABLES AND FRUIT (BY $196 MILLION OR 31 PER CENT), TOBACCO AND TOBACCO MANUFACTURES (BY $132 MILLION OR 32 PER CENT), AS WELL AS OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY $131 MILLION OR 12 PER CENT). ON THE OTHER HAND, DECREASES WERE REGISTERED IN THE IMPORTS OF TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT (EXCLUDING ROAD VEHICLES) (BY $125 MILLION OR 20 PER CENT) AND TEXTILE FIBRES AND WASTES (BY $387 MILLION OR 45 PER CENT).

SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE IMPORTS OF TEXTILES (BY $1 068 MILLION OR 46 PER CENT) FROM TAIWAN, AND OF PETROLEUM AND RELATED PRODUCTS (BY $2 405 MILLION OR 66 PER CENT) FROM SINGAPORE.

/THE FOLLOWING .....

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

	JAN-OCT 81 (HK$ MN)	JAN-OCT 80 (HK$ MN)	INCREASE (HK$ MN)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIAL (MAINLY TEXTILE PRODUCTS, DIAMONDS, IRON AND STEEL, AND PAPER)	32 788	26 901	+5 887	+22
MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	26 485	20 090	+6 395	+32
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY WATCHES AND CLOCKS, ARTICLES OF APPAREL)	18 812	13 928	+4 884	+35
FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS CHIEFLY FOR FOOD	11 233	9 293	+1 940	+21
MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	8 965	6 270	+2 695	+43
CHEMICALS AND RELATED PRODUCTS	7 427	6 571	+ 856	+13

SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH WAS RECORDED IN RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA (BY $3 021 MILLION OR 89 PER CENT), U.S.A. (BY $1 524 MILLION OR 64 PER CENT), INDONESIA (BY $1 212 MILLION OR 55 PER CENT), SINGAPORE (BY $623 MILLION OR 31 PER CENT), JAPAN (BY $407 MILLION OR 22 PER CENT), REPUBLIC OF KOREA (BY $389 MILLION OR 52 PER CENT), MACAU (BY $356 MILLION OR 46 PER CENT), PHILIPPINES (BY $295 MILLION OR 39 PER CENT), NIGERIA (BY $236 MILLION OR 37 PER CENT), AND ISRAEL (BY $219 MILLION OR 135 PER CENT). ON THE OTHER HAND, DECLINES WERE REGISTERED IN RE-EXPORTS TO BELGIUM AND LUXEMBOURG (BY $40 MILLION OR 15 PER CENT) AND SWITZERLAND (BY $185 MILLION OR 34 PER CENT).

MOST COMMODITIES RE-EXPORTED THROUGH HONG KONG EXHIBITED STRONG GROWTH, THE MORE SIGNIFICANT ONES BEING TEXTILES (BY $2 333 MILLION OR 69 PER CENT), ROAD VEHICLES (BY $992 MILLION OR 109 PER CENT), ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (BY $889 MILLION OR 55 PER CENT), TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY $674 MILLION OR 69 PER CENT), AND CLOTHING (BY $543 MILLION OR 43 PER CENT).

THE OCTOBER 1981 ISSUE OF THE +HONG KONG TRADE STATISTICS - SUMMARY+, BEING A SUMMARY REPORT ON HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE IN OCTOBER 1981, WILL SOON BE ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT HK$3 PER COPY.

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

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

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ISLANDS DISTRICT ATHLETICS MEETING

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THE REGIONAL SECRETARY (NEW TERRITORIES), MR IAN MACPHERSON, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) THAT IN RECENT YEARS GOVERNMENT HAD MADE EFFORTS TO IMPROVE FACILITIES FOR SPORTS IN ISLANDS DISTRICT.

SPEAKING AT THE PRIZE-PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE DISTRICT'S 4TH ANNUAL ATHLETICS MEETING HELD AT WONG CHUK HANG SPORTS GROUND, MR MACPHERSON SAID TUNG CHUNG SOCCER PITCH HAD BEEN COMPLETED AND WORK ON STAGE II OF CHEUNG CHAU RECREATION GROUND HAD COMMENCED.

+I HOPE THAT YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE DISTRICT WILL FIND THESE FACILITIES USEFUL IN DEVELOPING THEIR INTEREST AND POTENTIAL IN SPORTS,+ HE SAID.

MR MACPHERSON SAID THE PURPOSE OF HOLDING THE ATHLETICS MEETING WAS TO PROMOTE GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP AND ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION IN THE VARIOUS TRACK AND FIELD SPORTS, AS WELL AS TO PROVIDE A SENSE OF TOGETHERNESS AMONG RESIDENTS OF ISLANDS DISTRICT. HE WAS GLAD TO SEE THAT MORE THAN 300 COMPETITORS HAD PARTICIPATED.

UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP OF ISLANDS DISTRICT BOARD, TODAY'S EVENT WAS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICE, THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE AND THE EIGHT RURAL COMMITTEES.

+THIS IS AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE LOCAL COMMUNITY, AND I SINCERELY HOPE THAT THIS SPIRIT WILL CONTINUE, NOT ONLY IN THE ORGANISATION OF SPORTS ACTIVITIES, BUT IN OTHER PURSUITS AS WELL,+ HE SAID.

THERE WERE ALTOGETHER 15 TRACK AND FIELD EVENTS.

TROPHIES AND MEDALS WERE PRESENTED TO WINNERS WHO WILL REPRESENT ISLANDS DISTRICT IN THE NEW TERRITORIES INTER-DISTRICT TOURNAMENT EARLY NEXT YEAR.

FUNDS FOR TODAY'S MEETING WERE PROVIDED BY ISLANDS DISTRICT BOARD AND THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE.

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POLIO CLAIMS ONE LIFE

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POLIOMYELITIS, A COMMUNICABLE DISEASE AMONG CHILDREN THAT HAS BEEN NON-EXISTENT IN HONG KONG FOR SEVEN YEARS SINCE 1973, HAS REARED ITS UGLY HEAD AGAIN.

FIVE CHILDREN, ALL UNDER THREE YEARS OLD HAVE CONTRACTED THE DISEASE IN THE PAST 20 MONTHS WITH ONE FATALITY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT POINTED OUT THAT ALL FIVE VICTIMS HAVE NOT COMPLETED THE FULL COURSE OF IMMUNISATION AGAINST THE DISEASE.

HE ADVISED THE PUBLIC THAT THE BEST PREVENTIVE METHOD FOR POLIOMYELITIS IS TO VACCINATE ALL NEWBORNS.

HE URGED PARENTS TO COOPERATE BY BRINGING THEIR CHILDREN TO THE DEPARTMENT'S FAMILY HEALTH CENTRES FOR THE ORAL VACCINE IF THEY HAVE NOT DONE SO AND TO ENSURE THAT THEY COMPLETE THE FULL COURSE.

UNDER THE PRESENT IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME, A NEWBORN BABY IS GIVEN ORAL POLIO VACCINE WITHIN THE FIRST WEEK OF BIRTH, A SECOND DOSE WHEN HE IS TWO TO FOUR MONTHS OLD, A THIRD DOSE WHEN FOUR TO SIX MONTHS OLD, AND A BOOSTER DOSE AT THE AGE OF ONE AND A HALF YEARS.

AN EXTENDED VACCINATION PROGRAMME WAS INTRODUCED BY THE DEPARTMENT TWO YEARS AGO TO STRENGTHEN CHILDREN'S IMMUNITY AGAINST THE DISEASE WHEREBY CHILDREN ARE GIVEN TWO ADDITIONAL BOOSTER DOSE AT PRIMARY ONE AND PRIMARY SIX.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT BECAUSE POLIOMYELITIS HAD DISAPPEARED FOR A LONG TIME, THE HERD IMMUNITY IN HONG KONG WAS GETTING LOW WITH CHILDREN BECOMING MORE SUSCEPTIBLE TO INFECTION.

POLIO IS LARGELY A DISEASE OF CHILDREN, IN HONG KONG, 93.1 PER CENT OF THE CASES IN THE PAST OCCURRED IN CHILDREN UNDER 15. THE ONE TO FOUR AGE GROUP IS MOST VULNERABLE, ACCOUNTING FOR TWO-THIRDS OF THE CASES.

THE DISEASE FIRST BECAME NOTIFIABLE IN HONG KONG IN JULY 1948. THE INCIDENCE OF POLIO REACHED ITS PEAK IN 1962 WITH 363 CASES RESULTING IN 52 DEATHS. POLIO IN THAT YEAR RANKED FOURTH IN THE MAJOR CAUSES OF DEATH AMONG COMMUNICABLE DISEASES.

WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF THE ORAL VACCINE TO HONG KONG IN 1963, POLIO WAS PUT UNDER CONTROL.

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FIRE PROTECTION BUREAU GETS NEW REGIONAL OFFICE

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THE HONG KONG REGIONAL OFFICE OF THE FIRE PROTECTION BUREAU (FPB), HAS MOVED TO ITS NEW OFFICE AT THE SHEUNG WAN DIVISIONAL FIRE HEADQUARTERS IN CENTRAL.

ALL COMPLAINTS AND ENQUIRIES ON HONG KONG ISLAND SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE NEW REGIONAL OFFICE AT THE MEZZANINE FLOOR OF SHEUNG WAN DIVISIONAL FIRE STATION IN CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL.

THE TELEPHONE NUMBERS ARE 5-498104, 5-498214, 5-498269 AND 5-498298.

THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE FIRE PROTECTION BUREAU WILL REMAIN AT ASIAN HOUSE AT 1, HENNESSY ROAD, WAN CHAI.

EARLIER THIS YEAR, THE FPB WAS DIVIDED INTO THREE SEMI-AUTONOMOUS REGIONAL OFFICES -- HONG KONG ISLAND, KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES -- IN ORDER TO PROVIDE A BETTER AND MORE EFFICIENT SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC.

EACH REGIONAL OFFICE WILL DEAL WITH FIRE PROTECTION MATTERS RELATING TO COMPLAINTS, PROSECUTIONS, SCHOOLS AND FACTORIES IN THEIR RESPECTIVE AREAS.

+THESE REGIONAL OFFICES WILL ALSO DEAL WITH DANGEROUS GOODS LICENSING, TIMBER STORES LICENSING AND FIRE SERVICES INVOLVEMENT IN MATTERS CONCERNING PLACES OF PUBLIC ASSEMBLY,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE FIRE SERVICES SAID.

OFFICE HOURS ARE FROM 8.30 AM TO 1 PM AND FROM 2 PM TO 5 PM ON WEEKDAYS (EXCLUDING PUBLIC HOLIDAYS AND SUNDAYS) AND FROM 9 AM TO NOON ON SATURDAYS.

THE REGIONAL OFFICE IN KOWLOON IS SITUATED AT SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 5TH FLOOR, 692 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD AND THE OFFICE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES IS LOCATED AT THE SHA TIN FIRE STATION IN YUEN WO ROAD, SHA TIN.

THE TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF THE TWO OFFICES ARE 3-247307 AND 0-6047223 RESPECTIVELY.

THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED THE PUBLIC THAT THE DEPARTMENT ALSO OPERATES A 24-HOUR 'HOT-LINE' SERVICE FOR COMPLAINTS AND ENQUIRIES.

+ANY PERSON WISHING TO MAKE A COMPLAINT OR AN ENQUIRY MAY CALL 5-281224,+ HE SAID.

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NEW BOOKLET CAPTURES SCENIC BEAUTY OF
HONG KONG'S COUNTRY PARKS

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THE SCENIC BEAUTY OF HONG KONG'S COUNTRY PARKS IS CAPTURED IN FULL COLOUR IN A NEW BOOKLET WHICH DETAILS THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MAJOR PROGRAMME TO CONSERVE LARGE AREAS OF COUNTRYSIDE FOR THE BENEFIT OF AN EVER-EXPANDING POPULATION.

PRODUCED BY THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES FOR SALE TO THE PUBLIC, THE BILINGUAL BOOKLET NOTES THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS ESTABLISHED A CHAIN OF COUNTRY PARKS COVERING A TOTAL LAND AREA OF 41 296 HECTARES.

A COUNTRY PARKS AUTHORITY WAS FORMED IN 1976 TO DESIGNATE PARK AREAS, TO PROTECT THE VEGETATION AND WILDLIFE AND, WHERE APPROPRIATE, TO PROVIDE RECREATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES SUCH AS BARBECUE AND PICNIC PLACES, HIKING TRAILS, CAMPSITES, VARIOUS OTHER AMENITIES AND VISITOR CENTRES.

ENTITLED, +HONG KONG COUNTRY PARKS+, THE BOOKLET IS ON SALE FOR $13 AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, AND AT LEADING BOOKSHOPS.

IT HAS BEEN PREPARED IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES WHO, AS COUNTRY PARKS AUTHORITY, IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DESIGNATION, PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF COUNTRY PARKS.

A NUMBER OF INFORMATIVE MAPS PREPARED BY CARTOGRAPHERS IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT ARE INCLUDED IN THE BOOKLET, WHICH HAS BEEN PUBLISHED WITH THE BLESSING OF THE COUNTRY PARKS BOARD.

+TO EVERYONE LIVING IN HONG KONG, THE COUNTRYSIDE IS A PRECIOUS ASSET,+ THE BOOKLET OBSERVES. +IT MEANS RELAXATION, HEALTH AND ENJOYMENT AWAY FROM THE CROWDED CITY STREETS.+

+THE COUNTRYSIDE AND ITS FLORA AND FAUNA ARE WELL PROTECTED BY LAW, BUT EVEN SO THE PRESERVATION OF THIS BEAUTY AND GRANDEUR IS DEPENDENT ON THE CARE AND CONCERN OF ALL WHO GO OUT INTO THE COUNTRY OR WHO LIVE ON THE LAND.+

+ONLY WHEN EVERYONE APPRECIATES THIS, AND ACTS ACCORDINGLY, CAN HONG KONG BE CERTAIN THAT THERE WILL ALWAYS BE COUNTRYSIDE TO ENJOY.+

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN WESTERN DISTRICT
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NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE INTRODUCED IN WESTERN DISTRICT FROM 10 AM ON TUESDAY (DECEMBER 22) TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC CONDITION.

TO FACILITATE TRAFFIC FLOW, THE FOLLOWING WILL BE IMPLEMENTED:

* THE SECTION OF CENTRE STREET BETWEEN DES VOEUX ROAD WEST AND CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE WAY NORTHBOUND.

* THE SECTION OF EASTERN STREET BETWEEN DES VOEUX ROAD WEST AND CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE WAY SOUTHBOUND. SOUTHBOUND VEHICLES COMING OUT FROM THE SAME SECTION OF EASTERN STREET WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM TURNING INTO DES VOEUX ROAD WEST.

* ALL EASTBOUND VEHICLES ON DES VOEUX ROAD WEST EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM TURNING LEFT INTO CENTRE STREET.

* ALL WESTBOUND VEHICLES ON DES VOEUX ROAD WEST WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM TURNING RIGHT INTO CENTRE STREET.

* ALL EASTBOUND VEHICLES ON DES VOEUX ROAD WEST WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM TURNING RIGHT INTO EASTERN STREET.

* ALL EASTBOUND VEHICLES ON DES VOEUX ROAD WEST EXCEPT TRAMS WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM ENTERING THE SECTIONS OF TRAM TRACK ADJACENT TO:

(A) THE TRAM ISLAND AT THE JUNCTION OF DES VOEUX ROAD WEST AND EASTERN STREET.
(B) THE TRAFFIC ISLANDS AT THE JUNCTION OF DES VOEUX ROAD WEST AND WILMER STREET.

* ALL WESTBOUND VEHICLES ON DES VOEUX ROAD WEST EXCEPT TRAMS WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM ENTERING THE SECTION OF TRAM TRACK ADJACENT TO THE TRAM ISLAND AT THE JUNCTION OF DES VOEUX ROAD WEST AND EASTERN STREET.

* 24-HOUR CLEARWAY RESTRICTION WILL BE IMPOSED ON:

(A) THE SECTIONS OF EASTBOUND LANE OF DES VOEUX ROAD WEST BETWEEN HOUSE NOS. 105 AND 131 AND BETWEEN HOUSE NOS. 147 AND 185.
(B) THE WESTBOUND LANE OF DES VOEUX ROAD WEST BETWEEN HOUSE NOS. 142 AND 180.

SIGNS WILL BE PUT UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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NT SWIMMING POOL WATER FOR STREET WASHING

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A TOTAL OF 12 MILLION LITRES OF FALLOW SWIMMING POOL WATER IS BEING USED FOR STREET CLEANING THROUGHOUT THE NEW TERRITORIES SINCE THE START OF WATER RATIONING IN EARLY DECEMBER.

THE WATER CAN FILL 2 000 LOADS OF STREET WASHING VEHICLES HAVING A CAPACITY OF 6 000 LITRES EACH, SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

WITH THE HIGH PRESSURE WATER JET OF THE STREET WASHING VEHICLES, THE WATER CAN BE USED TO CLEAN UP 1 200 KILOMETRES OF ROAD SURFACE OF HIGHWAY, STREET AND SOIL PAVEMENT.

WHILE FLUSHING ON MAIN ROADS, THE STREET WASHING VEHICLES CAN COVER SIX LOADS ON EIGHT WORKING HOURS.

THE WATER IS ALSO USED FOR WATERING OF PLANTS IN ROADSIDE FLOWER BEDS, TURFED SPORTS GROUND AND OTHER AMENITY PLOTS, SAID THE SPOKESMAN.

THE WATER IS FROM THE TWO PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS AT SHA TIN AND KWAI CHUNG, WHICH WERE CLOSED ON DECEMBER 1 TO FACILITATE ANNUAL MAINTENANCE WORK. THEY BECOME LARGE RESERVOIRS FOR THE STREET WASHING FLEET OF THE NTSD.

THE ARRANGEMENT IS AIMED AT SUPPORTING WATER RESTRICTION AND SAVING WATER, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

STARTING JANUARY, WATER AT THE FANLING PUBLIC SWIMMNG POOL WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SIMILAR PURPOSE WHEN THE HEATED POOL IS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC FOR OVERHAUL.

AT THIS STAGE, STREET WASHING VEHICLES IN TSUEN WAN AND KWAI CHUNG CAN GET THEIR WATER FROM THE KWAI SHING SWIMMING POOL WHILE THOSE IN SHA TIN AND TAI PO FROM THE SHA TIN JOCKEY CLUB PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL.

AS FOR OTHER DISTRICTS WHERE NO POOL WATER IS AVAILABLE, THE PRACTICE OF USING WELL AND STREAM WATER TO WASH STREETS HAS TO BE CONTINUED.

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LEARN-TO-ROLLER-SKATE COURSE

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THE FIRST LEARN-TO-ROLLER-SKATE COURSE ORGANISED BY THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL BEGIN ON DECEMBER 27 AT THE SKATING RINK AT FANLING RECREATION GROUND.

CHILDREN AND ADULTS ARE WELCOME TO TAKE PART IN THE FREE COACHING COURSE ON SUNDAYS BETWEEN DECEMBER AND FEBRUARY 21 NEXT YEAR FROM 2.30 PM TO 4.30 PM.

THE COACHING SESSIONS ARE AIMED AT TRAINING ROLLER SKATERS TO JOIN THE 1982 HONG KONG ROLLER SKATING OPEN COMPETITION WHICH WILL BE JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD AND THE NTSD IN MARCH.

ALTHOUGH MANY DISTRICT IN HONG KONG ARE CURRENTLY HIT BY 'ROLLER SKATING CRAZE', THE SKATING RINK AT FANLING RECREATION GROUND BUILT IN 1972 ATTRACTED ONLY A SMALL NUMBER OF ROLLER SKATERS.

IT IS HOPED THAT THE FREE COACHING SESSIONS TO BE PROVIDED AT THE SKATING RINK WOULD GIVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO THE YOUNGSTERS TO JOIN THE HEALTHY SPORT AND ENJOY FUN.

THREE LEADING SKATERS WILL COACH THE LEARN-TO-ROLLER-SKATE PLAYERS THROUGHOUT THE TRAINING COURSE.

DETAILS OF THE 1982 HONG KONG ROLLER-SKATING OPEN COMPETITION WILL BE ANNOUNCED LATER.

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LABOUR RELATIONS PROMOTION UNIT MOVES OFFICE

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THE PROMOTION UNIT OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE (LRS) HAS MOVED TO NEW RODNEY BLOCK, EAST WING, GROUND FLOOR, QUEENSWAY, WAN CHAI.

THE NEW TELEPHONE NUMBERS ARE 5-281000 OR 5-282523 EXT. 71 FOR THE SENIOR LABOUR OFFICER AND 5-282523 EXT. 58 FOR GENERAL ENQUIRIES.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF THE LABOUR OFFICER OF THE LRS (HONG KONG EAST) HAVE CHANGED TO 5-270096 AND 5-282523 EXT. 62.

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