



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN BUS REVIEW
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THE PUBLIC WILL BE CONSULTED WIDELY ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF BUS SERVICES DURING THE CURRENT REVIEW OF THE BUS OPERATIONS OF THE CHINA MOTOR BUS AND KOWLOON MOTOR BUS COMPANIES.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THIS WOULD BE DONE IN SEVERAL WAYS:

- * THE INVOLVEMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN THE REVIEW-
- * SEEKING THE VIEWS OF RESIDENTS ON THEIR LOCAL BUS SERVICES-
- * INVITING COMMENTS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC ON THE MATTERS COVERED BY THE REVIEW.

ONE OF THE OBJECTIVES OF THE REVIEW IS TO RE-EXAMINE THE EXISTING NETWORK OF BUS SERVICES AND THE ROUTE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME WITH A VIEW TO REDUCING UNDER-UTILISED SERVICES AND OPTIMISING EFFICIENCY.

PARTICULAR AREAS WHICH WILL BE CONSIDERED IN DETAIL INCLUDE:

- * THE BUS NETWORK AS A WHOLE-
- * THE REDEPLOYMENT OF BUSES FROM UNDER-UTILISED ROUTES TO OVERCROWDED ROUTES-
- * CONVERSION OF SERVICES FROM SINGLE DECKER TO DOUBLE DECKER BUSES-
- * WITHDRAWING LIGHTLY USED ROUTES AND REPLACING THEM WITH MAXICAB SERVICES-
- * REDUCTIONS IN SERVICE DURING OFF-PEAK PERIODS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID COPIES OF A DRAFT ROUTE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME HAD BEEN CIRCULATED TO CITY DISTRICT OFFICERS AND DISTRICT OFFICERS AND THE VIEWS OF THE PUBLIC ON THESE PROPOSALS, AS WELL AS ON OTHER ASPECTS OF THE REVIEW, WOULD BE SOUGHT THROUGH DISTRICT BOARDS, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND OTHER SIMILAR CHANNELS.

THE PROGRAMME HAS BEEN PRODUCED ANNUALLY BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT FOR MANY YEARS BUT WAS FORMALISED UNDER THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING SIGNED BY THE GOVERNMENT AND THE TWO BUS COMPANIES IN FEBRUARY 1980.

+IN PROVIDING FOR THE FUTURE NEEDS OF THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID, +MANY VARIABLES HAD TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN DEVISING THE PROGRAMME SUCH AS THE DEVELOPMENT OF HOUSING ESTATES AND NEW TOWNS, OTHER TRANSPORT MODES AND NEW ROADS AND TUNNELS.

/+MUCH OF

+MUCH OF THE EXPANSION IN BUS SERVICES IN 1980 TOOK PLACE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WHILE CONDITIONS IN KOWLOON WERE EASED BY THE NEW CAPACITY OF THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY. A ROUTE BY ROUTE STUDY WILL NOW BE MADE TO IDENTIFY AREAS FOR ECONOMIES ON A TERRITORY-WIDE BASIS.+

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE STUDY WOULD ALSO LOOK AT BUS SERVICES IN RELATION TO PUBLIC TRANSPORT AS A WHOLE AND AT THE QUESTION OF FEEDER ROUTES WHERE THERE WERE OTHER MAJOR TRANSPORT MODES INVOLVED.

+IT IS THROUGH CONSULTATION WITH THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC THAT THE GOVERNMENT HOPES TO ASCERTAIN THE DESIRED LEVEL OF SERVICE ON INDIVIDUAL ROUTES, GIVEN THE COSTS AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS INVOLVED,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE ASSISTED IN THE REVIEW BY UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE, THREE OF WHOM HAVE BEEN CO-OPTED ONTO THE COMMITTEE ESPECIALLY FOR THIS EXERCISE.

THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN THE DIFFERENT AREAS OF THE REVIEW IS AS FOLLOWS:

- * ROUTE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (MRS ELSIE ELLIOTT AND MR STEPHEN WONG)=
- * BUS MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME (MR F.K. HU AND MRS GRACE HO)=
- * DEPOT REQUIREMENTS (MR H.M.G. FORSGATE AND MR STEVEN CHEONG)=
- * SPARE PARTS STOCK (MR P.K. CHAN AND MR K.C. CHAN)=
- * PROFIT CONTROL SCHEME (MR T.S. LO AND MR LEO GOODSTADT).

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO MAKE SUGGESTIONS OR COMMENT ON ANY OF THESE SUBJECTS MAY DO SO BY WRITING TO THE SECRETARY, REVIEW OF BUS OPERATIONS, FIFTH FLOOR, GUARDIAN HOUSE, 32 01 KWAN ROAD, WANCHAI, HONG KONG BY JUNE 30.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE VIEWS EXPRESSED WOULD BE INCLUDED IN A REPORT OF THE REVIEW FOR DUE CONSIDERATION BY THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL.

GOVERNOR THANKS ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT
* * * *

THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE TODAY (SUNDAY) THANKED THE HONG KONG ROYAL REGIMENT (THE VOLUNTEERS) FOR THEIR SERVICE DURING THE RECENT PERIOD OF LIMITED CALL-OUT AND ESPECIALLY THEIR MAGNIFICENT RESPONSE TO THE FULL CALL-OUT LAST OCTOBER.

SPEAKING AT THE REGIMENT'S PASSING OFF PARADE, SIR MURRAY ALSO THANKED EMPLOYERS FOR ALLOWING VOLUNTEERS LEAVE OF ABSENCE WHEN NEEDED. +THE SUCCESSFUL OPERATION OF THE REGIMENT OWES MUCH TO THEIR PUBLIC SPIRIT AND SUPPORT,+ HE SAID.

SIR MURRAY SAID THE REGIMENT HAS A FINE TRADITION AND MEMBERS SHOULD HAVE PRIDE IN IT AND IN THEIR WORK FOR IT. LIKE THE REGIMENT, THEY WILL SERVE HONG KONG WELL.

THE GOVERNOR PRAISED THE TRAINING CADRE FOR HAVING THE HIGHEST ATTENDANCE ON RECORD, EXCELLENT PROFICIENCY AND FITNESS, AND CONGRATULATED IT ON HAVING MADE SUCH AN EXCELLENT START.

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

+I AM HONOURED TO REVIEW YOUR PASSING OFF PARADE TODAY.

+THE ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT HAS A FINE REPUTATION, AND COMPETITION TO JOIN IT IS KEEN. SO IT IS NO MEAN ACHIEVEMENT TO HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED AT ALL, AND I CONGRATULATE YOU ON YOUR SUCCESS.

+I UNDERSTAND YOU ARE A STAR TRAINING CADRE, WITH THE HIGHEST ATTENDANCE ON RECORD, EXCELLENT PROFICIENCY AND FITNESS, AND THAT YOUR INSTRUCTORS ARE PROUD OF YOU. SO I CONGRATULATE YOU ON HAVING MADE SUCH AN EXCELLENT START IN THE REGIMENT.

+IT IS A FINE REGIMENT WITH A FINE TRADITION. IT IS PART OF THE BRITISH ARMY. YOU WILL SERVE ALONGSIDE UNITS OF THAT ARMY AND THEY HAVE THEIR TRADITIONS AND BATTLE HONOURS. SO HAS OUR REGIMENT. SO HAVE PRIDE IN IT, AND IN YOUR WORK FOR IT, AND THUS LIKE THE REGIMENT, YOU WILL SERVE HONG KONG WELL. HONG KONG NEEDS SUCH SERVICE AND IT NEEDS THE ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT.

+I WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL MEMBERS OF THE REGIMENT FOR THEIR SERVICE DURING THE RECENT PERIOD OF LIMITED CALL-OUT AND ESPECIALLY THEIR MAGNIFICENT RESPONSE TO THE FULL CALL-OUT LAST OCTOBER. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK THEIR EMPLOYERS. THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE REGIMENT THROUGH ALLOWING VOLUNTEERS LEAVE OF ABSENCE WHEN NEEDED, IS VERY GREATLY APPRECIATED. THE SUCCESSFUL OPERATION OF THE REGIMENT OWES MUCH TO THEIR PUBLIC SPIRIT AND SUPPORT.

+I WOULD FINALLY LIKE TO CONGRATULATE YOU AND YOUR EVERY SMART TURN OUT AND DRILL AND ON YOUR BEARING ON PARADE THIS MORNING. I WISH YOU EVERY SUCCESS IN YOUR CAREER WITH THE VOLUNTEERS.+

PRICE CHANGES AND TRADE VOLUME MOVEMENTS, MARCH 1981
* * * * *

ACCORDING TO STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (SUNDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND IMPORTS ROSE BY 8 PER CENT AND 10 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN MARCH 1981 COMPARED WITH MARCH 1980.

AS A RESULT, THE TERMS OF TRADE INDEX (EXPRESSED AS A RATIO OF THE DOMESTIC EXPORT PRICE INDEX TO THE IMPORT PRICE INDEX) DECLINED BY 2 PER CENT. A LARGER INCREASE IN VOLUME WAS REGISTERED FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS (+17%) THAN FOR IMPORTS (+15%). THE PRICES OF RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 9 PER CENT, WITH VOLUME UP BY 38 PER CENT, SO THAT FOR TOTAL EXPORTS, PRICES ROSE BY 8 PER CENT AND VOLUME ROSE BY 20 PER CENT.

PRICES ARE BASED ON UNIT VALUES WHICH DO NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT CHANGES IN THE COMPOSITION OR QUALITY OF GOODS TRADED. CHANGES IN THE VOLUME OF TRADE ARE DERIVED FROM CHANGES IN TRADE VALUES, AFTER DISCOUNTING THE EFFECT OF PRICE CHANGES.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY COMMODITY GROUP ARE SHOWN BELOW:

CHANGES COMPARING MARCH 1981 WITH MARCH 1980

	EXPORT VALUE	EXPORT UNIT VALUE	EXPORT VOLUME
CLOTHING (EXCEPT FUR)	+38%	+ 8%	+29%
TEXTILE FABRICS	+22%	+ 4%	+18%
TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD	- 9%	+ 7%	-15%
TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES	+14%	+13%	+ 1%
ALL TRANSISTORIZED RADIOS	- 1%	+ 8%	- 9%
ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS	+61%	+17%	+38%
FOOTWEAR	+44%	- 1%	+45%
METAL MANUFACTURES	- 1%	+10%	-10%
METAL ORES AND SCRAP	+46%	- 2%	+49%
WATCHES AND CLOCKS	+29%	- 5%	+36%
ALL COMMODITIES	+26%	+ 8%	+17%

THE EXPORT PRICES OF MOST COMMODITY GROUPS INCREASED, FROM 4 PER CENT FOR TEXTILE FABRICS TO 17 PER CENT FOR ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE EXPORT PRICES OF FOOTWEAR, METAL ORES AND SCRAP, AND WATCHES AND CLOCKS DECLINED BY 1 PER CENT, 2 PER CENT AND 5 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

CONSIDERABLE GROWTH IN THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WAS NOTED FOR METAL ORES AND SCRAP (49%), FOOTWEAR (+45%), AND ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (+38%). HOWEVER, DECLINES WERE REGISTERED IN THE EXPORT VOLUMES OF TRANSISTORIZED RADIOS (-9%), METAL MANUFACTURES (-10%), AND TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD (-15%).

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY ARE SHOWN BELOW:

CHANGES COMPARING MARCH 1981 WITH MARCH 1980

	IMPORT VALUE	IMPORT UNIT VALUE	IMPORT VOLUME
FOODSTUFFS	+18%	+17%	+ 1%
CONSUMER GOODS	+40%	+ 6%	+33%
FUELS	+70%	+42%	+20%
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	+13%	+ 7%	+ 6%
CAPITAL GOODS	+34%	+ 7%	+25%
ALL COMMODITIES	+26%	+10%	+15%

WITH THE EXCEPTION OF FUELS, THE PRICE OF WHICH JUMPED BY 42 PER CENT, THE PRICES OF IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY INCREASED MODERATELY, RANGING FROM 6 PER CENT FOR CONSUMER GOODS, TO 17 PER CENT FOR FOODSTUFFS.

SOME IMPORTED FOODSTUFFS ROSE IN VOLUME TERMS, THE MORE SIGNIFICANT ONES BEING MILK, BUTTER, CHEESE AND EGGS, AND LIVE POULTRY. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE IMPORT VOLUMES OF CEREAL AND CEREAL PREPARATIONS, AS WELL AS MEAT AND MEAT PREPARATIONS FELL.

IN THE CONSUMER GOODS CATEGORY, SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE REGISTERED FOR CAMERAS AND APPARATUS FOR PHOTOGRAPHY, TEXTILE MADE-UPS, CLOTHING, HOUSEHOLD ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT, AS WELL AS RADIOS, TELEVISION SETS, GRAMOPHONES, RECORDS AND TAPE RECORDERS. THE IMPORT VOLUME OF SOAPS, CLEANSING AND POLISHING PREPARATIONS DECLINED.

IMPORTS OF FUELS INCREASED BY 20 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS.

THE IMPORT VOLUMES OF VARIOUS KINDS OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES SHOWED A MIXED TREND. WHEREAS PURCHASES OF FABRICS OF MAN-MADE FIBRES, WOOL AND ANIMAL HAIR, AND YARN OF MAN-MADE FIBRES ROSE SUBSTANTIALLY, DEMAND FOR RAW COTTON, WOOD, LUMBER AND CORK, AND PLASTIC MOULDING MATERIALS DECLINED.

/AS FOR

AS FOR CAPITAL GOODS, MAJOR INCREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE RECORDED FOR TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT AND OFFICE MACHINES.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY ARE SHOWN BELOW:

CHANGES COMPARING MARCH 1981 WITH MARCH 1980

	RE-EXPORT VALUE	RE-EXPORT UNIT VALUE	RE-EXPORT VOLUME
FOODSTUFFS	+57%	+11%	+42%
CONSUMER GOODS	+59%	+ 5%	+52%
FUELS	+109%	+47%	+42%
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	+39%	+12%	+24%
CAPITAL GOODS	+65%	+14%	+45%
ALL COMMODITIES	+51%	+ 9%	+38%

THE RE-EXPORT VOLUMES OF THE MAJOR END-USE CATEGORIES SHOWED SIGNIFICANT INCREASES, RANGING FROM 24 PER CENT FOR RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES TO 52 PER CENT FOR CONSUMER GOODS.

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BOAT FESTIVAL A STATUTORY HOLIDAY
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THE DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL, WHICH THIS YEAR FALLS ON SATURDAY, JUNE 6, IS ONE OF THE 10 STATUTORY HOLIDAYS APPOINTED UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) THAT UNDER THE ORDINANCE ALL MANUAL EMPLOYEES, INCLUDING DOMESTIC SERVANTS, IRRESPECTIVE OF THEIR EARNINGS, AND ALL NON-MANUAL EMPLOYEES EARNING NOT MORE THAN \$6 000 A MONTH, ARE ENTITLED TO THE HOLIDAY.

THEY MUST ALSO BE PAID FOR THE DAY OFF IF THEY HAVE WORKED CONTINUOUSLY FOR THREE MONTHS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY.

HOLIDAY PAY SHOULD BE EQUIVALENT TO THE EMPLOYEE'S EARNINGS, OTHER THAN OVERTIME PAY, ON A NORMAL WORKING DAY. WHERE THE EARNINGS VARY FROM DAY TO DAY, HOLIDAY PAY SHOULD BE THE AVERAGE OF THE DAILY EARNINGS DURING A PERIOD OF 28 DAYS PRECEDING THE HOLIDAY. PAYMENT SHOULD BE MADE ON THE NORMAL PAY DAY.

/IF AN

IF AN EMPLOYEE WAS REQUIRED TO WORK ON THE HOLIDAY, THE SPOKESMAN CONTINUED, HE MUST BE GIVEN AN ALTERNATIVE DAY OFF WITHIN 60 DAYS BEFORE OR AFTER THAT DAY.

IF THE ALTERNATIVE HOLIDAY WAS TO BE GRANTED BEFORE THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY, THE EMPLOYER MUST NOTIFY THE EMPLOYEE 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE ALTERNATIVE HOLIDAY. IN THE CASE WHERE AN ALTERNATIVE HOLIDAY WAS TO BE GIVEN AFTER STATUTORY HOLIDAY, THE EMPLOYEE MUST BE NOTIFIED OF THE ARRANGEMENT AT LEAST 48 HOURS BEFORE THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY.

IF BOTH EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYEE AGREE, ANY DAY WITHIN 30 DAYS OF A STATUTORY HOLIDAY OR ALTERNATIVE HOLIDAY COULD BE TAKEN BY THE EMPLOYEE AS A SUBSTITUTED HOLIDAY, HE SAID.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT STATUTORY HOLIDAYS COULD BE MADE TO THE NEAREST BRANCH OFFICE OF THE LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE. THE TELEPHONE NUMBERS ARE : FOR KOWLOON EAST 3-205638= KOWLOON WEST 3-201652= KWUN TONG 3-898520= TSUEN WAN 12-422096= TUEN MUN 12-818443 AND HONG KONG ISLAND 5-282523 EXT 60.

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TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD INFORMATION SUB-COMMITTEE
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A NEW SUB-COMMITTEE HAS BEEN SET UP WITHIN TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD TO HELP PROMOTE THE WORK OF LOCAL ORGANISATIONS.

KNOWN AS THE COMMUNITY INFORMATION SUB-COMMITTEE, IT WILL COVER A WIDE RANGE OF WORK, FROM PUBLICISING ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY LOCAL BODIES TO PRINTING INFORMATIVE AND EXPLANATORY MATERIAL.

IT WILL ALSO HELP PUBLICISE THE WORK OF THE DISTRICT BOARD AND ITS OTHER SUB-COMMITTEES.

THE NEW SUB-COMMITTEE WILL BE CHAIRED BY AN UNOFFICIAL DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER, MR HO TUNG-CHING, A SCHOOL PRINCIPAL. THERE ARE 17 UNOFFICIAL AND OFFICIAL MEMBERS.

IN VIEW OF NEXT YEAR'S DISTRICT BOARD ELECTION, THE SUB-COMMITTEE'S WORK WILL FOCUS ON PUBLICISING THE NEW DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION SCHEME.

AS A START, MEMBERS ARE NOW WORKING ON A BROCHURE, TO INTRODUCE THE WORK OF THE DISTRICT BOARD OVER THE PAST FOUR YEARS AND TO EXPLAIN TO LOCAL PEOPLE THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE FORTHCOMING ELECTION.

THE BROCHURE WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE EIGHT PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRES, COMMUNITY HALLS AND PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES IN TSUEN WAN. OFFICERS OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE, WHILE VISITING LEADING ORGANISATIONS, WILL ALSO DISTRIBUTE COPIES TO MEMBERS.

/WITH THE

WITH THE SETTING UP OF THE NEW SUB-COMMITTEE, THERE ARE ALTOGETHER SEVEN SUB-COMMITTEES UNDER THE DISTRICT BOARD RESPONSIBLE FOR FINANCE, CULTURAL ACTIVITIES, RECREATION AND SPORTS, SOCIAL SERVICES, ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENTS.

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MORE SHELTERED WORKSHOPS FOR THE DISABLED
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FACILITIES FOR DISABLED PEOPLE TO LEAD A USEFUL WORKING LIFE WILL MORE THAN DOUBLE BY 1984-85 AS PLANS ARE IN HAND TO SET UP 14 NEW SHELTERED WORKSHOPS.

THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT IS CO-ORDINATING PLANS FOR SEVEN SHELTERED WORKSHOPS TO BE RUN BY ITSELF AND ANOTHER SEVEN BY VOLUNTARY AGENCIES.

THE NEW WORKSHOPS WILL PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL 1 820 PLACES FOR DISABLED PERSONS WHO ARE NOT READY TO GO INTO OPEN EMPLOYMENT.

ONE IS EXPECTED TO COME INTO OPERATION BY MID-JUNE THIS YEAR WITH A CAPACITY FOR 140. IT IS THE PAK TIN SHELTERED WORKSHOP RUN BY THE DEPARTMENT.

AT PRESENT, THE DEPARTMENT OPERATES SEVEN SHELTERED WORKSHOPS AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES RUN 12, PROVIDING A TOTAL OF 1 660 PLACES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) THE PLANS IN HAND WERE TO MEET AN INCREASING NEED FOR SHELTERED WORKSHOP PLACES OFFERING THE DISABLED PRODUCTIVE AND REMUNERATIVE JOBS.

SHELTERED WORKERS ARE PRIMARILY ENGAGED IN ASSEMBLING WORK WHICH CAN BE PART-FINISHED, LABOUR-ADDED OR PACKING UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF TRADE INSTRUCTORS, HE SAID.

MATERIALS AND JOB ORDERS ARE SUPPLIED BY FIRMS AND MANUFACTURERS, HE ADDED.

SHELTERED WORKERS INCLUDE MENTALLY RETARDED, PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED, EX-MENTALLY ILL, BLIND OR MULTI-HANDICAPPED PERSONS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THEY WERE ASSIGNED TO DIFFERENT WORKSHOP CLASSES ON HANDICRAFT, MACHINE-SEWING OR METAL WORK ACCORDING TO THEIR ABILITIES.

APART FROM WAGES, HE SAID, SHELTERED WORKERS ARE GIVEN INCENTIVE PAYMENTS, FREE LUNCH AND, WHERE NECESSARY, SPECIAL BUS SERVICES.

WORKSHOP STAFF REGULARLY ORGANISE RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE WORKERS INCLUDING PICNICS, TEA PARTIES AND GATHERINGS.

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APPLICATION FORMS FOR MAINTENANCE GRANT AVAILABLE
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APPLICATION FORMS FOR GOVERNMENT MAINTENANCE GRANTS WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM TOMORROW (MONDAY) TO STUDENTS WISHING TO PURSUE FULL-TIME MATRICULATION COURSES.

NEEDY STUDENTS NOW STUDYING IN FORM/MIDDLE 5 OR FORM 6 WHO WISH TO APPLY FOR THE GRANT CAN OBTAIN THE FORMS FROM THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S OVERSEAS STUDENTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS SECTION, 77 LEIGHTON ROAD, ROOM 1522, LEIGHTON CENTRE, 15TH FLOOR, HONG KONG.

THE GRANT AMOUNTS TO ABOUT \$500 PER ANNUM PER STUDENT, AND AIMS TO HELP NEEDY STUDENTS WHO WISH TO CONTINUE WITH THEIR ADVANCED LEVEL OR HIGHER LEVEL EXAMINATIONS STUDIES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID.

FOR STUDENTS NOW STUDYING IN FORM/MIDDLE 5, THE FORMS MUST BE RETURNED THROUGH HEADS OF SCHOOLS TO THE SECRETARY, MAINTENANCE GRANTS COMMITTEE, NOT LATER THAN 10 DAYS AFTER THE PUBLICATION OF THE CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION RESULTS.

STUDENTS IN FORM 6 AND PROMOTING TO FORM 7 MUST RETURN THE APPLICATION FORMS THROUGH HEADS OF SCHOOLS TO THE SECRETARY NOT LATER THAN JULY 25.

+GRANTS ARE AWARDED ON A YEARLY BASIS AND RENEWAL IS NOT AUTOMATIC. IF A RECIPIENT IN FORM 6 WISHES TO BE CONSIDERED FOR A GRANT ON PROMOTION TO FORM 7, HE MUST APPLY AGAIN,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

STUDENTS IN FORM 6 WHO ARE NOT RECEIVING GRANTS IN THE CURRENT ACADEMIC YEAR ARE ALSO ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR GRANTS TO ENABLE THEM TO COMPLETE THE ADVANCED LEVEL EXAMINATION COURSE IN 1981/82, HE SAID.

GRANTS WILL BE PAID THROUGH HEADS OF SCHOOLS AT THE END OF EACH MONTH IN ARREARS FOR 10 MONTHS IN THE YEAR, AND THERE WILL BE NO PAYMENTS FOR JULY AND AUGUST.

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NEW EQUIPMENT FOR FIRE FIGHTING
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THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAS PLACED ORDERS FOR NEW FIRE FIGHTING APPLIANCES WORTH ABOUT \$16 MILLION.

THE EQUIPMENT, COMPRISING THREE MAJOR PUMPS, FOUR RESERVE HEAVY PUMP CHASSIS AND 10 PUMP SNORKELS ARE DUE TO ARRIVE FROM U.K. BETWEEN JULY AND DECEMBER THIS YEAR.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE APPLIANCES ORDERED ARE FOR REPLACEMENTS AND FOR NEW FIRE STATIONS THAT ARE EXPECTED TO BECOME OPERATIONAL THIS YEAR.

/HE SAID

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HE SAID THAT MR PATRICK LAI, A MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEER FROM THE DEPARTMENT HAS JUST LEFT FOR BRITAIN TO COMMISSION AND TO INSPECT THE APPLIANCES BEFORE THEY ARE SHIPPED TO HONG KONG.

EACH OF THE THREE MAJOR PUMPS FOR CHAI WAN, POKFULAM AND SHEUNG WAN STATIONS COSTS MORE THAN \$600 000, WHILE THE PRICE FOR THE CHASSIS OF A RESERVE HEAVY PUMP IS MORE THAN \$360 000. THE MOST EXPENSIVE IS THE SNORKEL WHICH IS TAGGED AT ABOUT \$1.19 MILLION EACH.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE MAJOR PUMP, PRODUCED BY HESTAIR DENNIS LTD., HAS AN ALL STEEL FRAMEWORK GIVING EXTRA STRENGTH TO THE BODY OF THE APPLIANCE AND PROTECTION TO THE DRIVER AND CREW.

+WHEN COMPARED WITH THE PRESENT TYPE, WHICH IS A COMPOSITE OF STEEL AND WOOD, THE ONES ORDERED ARE MUCH SAFER AND MORE DURABLE,+ HE SAID.

OF THE 10 NEW SNORKELS, EACH OF WHICH IS FITTED WITH A 16-METRE ARM USED FOR RESCUE AND FIRE FIGHTING WORK, SIX ARE REPLACEMENTS FOR OLD PUMP-ESCAPES.

+THEY ARE EASIER TO CONTROL AND MORE SUITED FOR THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT WHERE RAPID AND PRECISE MANOEUVRING IN DENSELY BUILT-UP AREAS IS OFTEN VITAL IN PREVENTING FIRES FROM SPREADING OUT OF CONTROL,+ HE ADDED.

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SIR DAVID TRENCH FUND INVITES APPLICATIONS
FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS GRANTS

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APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS ARE NOW INVITED FROM VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS IN THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1981-82 FROM THE SIR DAVID TRENCH FUND FOR RECREATION.

THE FUND IS DESIGNED TO ASSIST IN PROVIDING FACILITIES FOR A WIDE RANGE OF RECREATIONAL, SPORTS AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES.

THIS YEAR, APPROXIMATELY \$1 MILLION IS AVAILABLE FOR SPECIFIC PROJECTS WHICH ARE PRINCIPALLY FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES AND ARE OF THE +BRICK AND MORTAR+ TYPE AND WHICH CANNOT BE FINANCED THROUGH NORMAL GOVERNMENT CHANNELS AND FOR WHICH FUNDS FROM OTHER SOURCES ARE UNAVAILABLE.

PROJECTS OF CONSTRUCTIVE AND LONG TERM BENEFIT, DESIGNED TO DEVELOP THE INDIVIDUAL AND ENCOURAGE PURPOSEFUL USE OF LEISURE TIME BY YOUNG PEOPLE, ARE GIVEN PRIORITY.

THE FUND IS ADMINISTERED BY THE COUNCIL FOR RECREATION AND SPORT.

/APPLICATION FORMS

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL CITY DISTRICT OFFICES, THE VARIOUS OFFICES OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION AND FROM THE COUNCIL FOR RECREATION AND SPORT.

COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS SHOULD BE SENT TO THE SECRETARY, COUNCIL FOR RECREATION AND SPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (WEST WING), 3RD FLOOR, ICE HOUSE STREET, HONG KONG BEFORE JULY 1, 1981.

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CUSTOMS DELEGATION BACK FROM KOREA

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A CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DELEGATION, LED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS AND CONTROLS, MR DOUGLAS JORDAN, RETURNED FROM SEOUL, KOREA TODAY (SUNDAY).

AT THE SECOND CUSTOMS COOPERATION CONFERENCE WITH THE KOREAN DELEGATION, WHICH VISITED HONG KONG LAST YEAR, THEY DISCUSSED NEW TRENDS IN THE SMUGGLING OF NARCOTICS, THE LATEST TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENTS AVAILABLE TO CUSTOMS OFFICIALS, AND THE ROLE OF CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATIONS IN THE FACILITATION OF TRADE.

+IT IS IMPORTANT THAT CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATIONS, ESPECIALLY IN THE SOUTH-EAST ASIA REGION, KEEP IN TOUCH WITH EACH OTHER AND THESE CONFERENCES, IN WHICH WE DISCUSS THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN OUR FIELD, ARE INVALUABLE,+ SAID MR JORDAN.

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NEW ADDRESSES FOR CUSTOMS AND CONTROLS DEPARTMENT

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FROM TOMORROW (MONDAY), VARIOUS UNITS IN THE CUSTOMS AND CONTROLS DEPARTMENT OF THE TRADE INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT WILL MOVE TO NEW PREMISES.

THE KOWLOON AND NEW TERRITORIES REGIONAL OFFICES OF THE OPERATIONS BRANCH, TRADE CONTROLS DIVISION, WILL MOVE FROM OCEAN CENTRE TO 3RD FLOOR, EMPIRE CENTRE, TSIM SHA TSUI.

THE NEW TELEPHONE NUMBERS WILL BE 3-7211441 (6 LINES), 3-7211554, 3-7211604, 3-7211942 AND 3-7211706.

THE HEADQUARTERS AND THE HONG KONG REGIONAL OFFICE OF THE OPERATIONS BRANCH, TRADE CONTROLS DIVISION, WILL MOVE FROM OCEAN CENTRE TO 22ND FLOOR, SUN HUNG KAI CENTRE, HARBOUR ROAD, HONG KONG.

SUNDAY, MAY 31, 1981

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THE NEW TELEPHONE NUMBERS WILL BE 5-757232 (6 LINES), 5-748997 AND 5-748752.

THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WILL MOVE FROM RUMSEY STREET MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK BUILDING TO 22ND FLOOR, SUN HUNG KAI CENTRE.

THE NEW TELEPHONE NUMBERS WILL BE 5-757260 (6 LINES), 5-741004, 5-744171 AND 5-744795.

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF SECTION OF STUBBS ROAD
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ABOUT 300 METRES OF STUBBS ROAD, NORTH OF THE STUBBS ROAD AND TAI HANG ROAD ROUNDABOUT, WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC BETWEEN 12.30 AM AND 5.30 AM FROM TUESDAY (JUNE 2) TO FRIDAY (JUNE 5).

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (SUNDAY), A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE TEMPORARY CLOSURE WAS NECESSARY TO ALLOW WORK ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FLYOVER.

DURING THE CLOSURE, MOTORISTS TRAVELLING TO TUNG SHAN TERRACE AND CRAIGMOUNT WILL BE DIVERTED TO QUEEN'S ROAD EAST AND STUBBS ROAD. OTHER TRAFFIC WILL BE DIVERTED TO TAI HANG ROAD.

TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE PUT UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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TAPS OFF FOR MAINS WORK
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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN KOWLOON CITY AND YAU MA TEI WILL BE SUSPENDED FOR SEVERAL HOURS ON TUESDAY (JUNE 2) FOR WATER MAINS WORK.

IN KOWLOON CITY, SUPPLY WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR SEVEN HOURS FROM 9 AM TO 4 PM ON TUESDAY.

THE PREMISES TO BE AFFECTED ARE BETWEEN SA PO ROAD AND KAI TAK ROAD.

IN YAU MA TEI, SUPPLY WILL BE CUT OFF FOR NINE HOURS FROM 9 PM ON TUESDAY TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY.

THE AREA TO BE AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY NATHAN ROAD TO SHANGHAI STREET AND PAK HOI STREET TO NING PO STREET, INCLUDING SAIGON STREET, PARKES STREET, WOOSUNG STREET AND TEMPLE STREET.

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