



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES  
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 1986

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
GOVERNOR TO ATTEND TDC DINNER IN LONDON .....	1
EXPORT-LED GROWTH WITH LOW UNEMPLOYMENT, STABLE PRICES .....	1
TOPPING OUT OF HOSPITAL .....	5
U.S. WITHDRAWS CATEGORY 611 CALL .....	5
CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES FOR JULY .....	6
FS VISITS ELECTRONICS FACTORY .....	8
VARIETY SHOW TO CLOSE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME .....	8
SURVEY OF MACHINE SHOP, METAL WORKING INDUSTRY MANPOWER .....	9
TRANSPORT PLAN TO BE DISCUSSED .....	10
DETAILS ON YOUTH BEHAVIOUR SURVEY .....	10
HEALTH DAY ORGANISED FOR TUNG CHUNG .....	11
WATER STORAGE FIGURE .....	11
NEW WATER MAINS FOR ABERDEEN, AP LEI CHAU .....	11
DRY TAPS IN TUEN MUN .....	12
TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN CENTRAL .....	12

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 1986

- 1 -

GOVERNOR TO ATTEND TDC DINNER IN LONDON

\*\*\*\*\*

THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, WILL BE VISITING LONDON TO ATTEND THE DINNER TO BE HELD BY THE TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL ON SEPTEMBER 11.

SINCE SOME MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WILL ALSO BE ATTENDING THE DINNER, THE OPPORTUNITY WILL BE TAKEN FOR ALL UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO ACCOMPANY THE GOVERNOR TO LONDON.

THEY WILL CALL ON THE PRIME MINISTER, THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS AND THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR HONG KONG, MR TIMOTHY RENTON.

THE PURPOSE WILL BE TO REVIEW GENERALLY THE DEVELOPMENTS IN HONG KONG AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JOINT DECLARATION SINCE THEIR LAST VISIT.

- - - - 0 - - - -

EXPORT-LED GROWTH WITH LOW UNEMPLOYMENT, STABLE PRICES

\*\*\*\*\*

ECONOMIC GROWTH IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1986 WAS EXPORT-LED, WITH DOMESTIC EXPORTS PROVIDING THE MAIN IMPETUS TO GROWTH. THE RECOVERY IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS HAS GATHERED MOMENTUM SINCE MARCH 1986.

FOR THE FIRST HALF AS A WHOLE, DOMESTIC EXPORTS GREW BY AN ESTIMATED 8 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR, MADE UP OF GROWTH RATES OF 1 PER CENT IN THE FIRST QUARTER AND OF ABOUT 14 PER CENT IN THE SECOND QUARTER, ACCORDING TO THE HALF-YEARLY ECONOMIC REPORT 1986 PUBLISHED TODAY BY THE GOVERNMENT.

THE IMPROVED EXPORT PERFORMANCE AND CONTINUED GROWTH IN DOMESTIC DEMAND HAS HELPED TO KEEP THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AT A LOW LEVEL, AT 3.0 PER CENT IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1986, BUT HAS NOT GENERATED MUCH PRESSURE ON THE GENERAL PRICE LEVEL, WITH THE YEAR-ON-YEAR RATE OF INCREASE IN THE CPI(A) STAYING LOW AT 2-3 PER CENT IN THE FIRST HALF OF THE YEAR.

LATEST FIGURES ON THE ORDER-BOOK POSITIONS IN MANUFACTURING AND ON RETAINED IMPORTS OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES SUGGEST A CONTINUED GROWTH IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY IN THE COMING MONTHS.

/AS REGARDS .....

AS REGARDS DOMESTIC DEMAND, PRIVATE CONSUMPTION DEMAND ALSO SHOWED SOME IMPROVEMENT IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1986 OVER A YEAR AGO, AS INDICATED BY THE GROWTH RATES IN REAL TERMS OF ABOUT 10 PER CENT IN RETAINED IMPORTS OF CONSUMER GOODS AND OF ABOUT 13 PER CENT IN RETAINED IMPORTS OF FOODSTUFFS.

INVESTMENT DEMAND WAS HOWEVER WEAK, AS INDICATED BY THE DECLINE OF ABOUT 5 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS IN RETAINED IMPORTS OF CAPITAL GOODS. OVERALL, RETAINED IMPORTS GREW BY ABOUT 10 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS OVER THIS PERIOD.

THE REPORT NOTES THAT INCREASED ECONOMIC ACTIVITY HAD LED TO IMPROVEMENT IN THE UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT SITUATION IN THE SECOND QUARTER COMPARED WITH THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1986.

THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AND THE UNDER-EMPLOYMENT RATE IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1986, AT 3.0 PER CENT AND 1.9 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY, WERE LOWER THAN THE RATES OF 3.2 PER CENT AND 2.3 PER CENT IN THE PREVIOUS QUARTER. THE CORRESPONDING FIGURES FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1985 WERE 2.9 PER CENT AND 1.5 PER CENT.

THE RATE OF INFLATION ALSO REMAINED LOW IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1986. THE YEAR-ON-YEAR RATE OF INCREASE IN THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) WAS 2.5 PER CENT IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1986, COMPARED WITH 2.6 PER CENT IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR AND 3.3 PER CENT IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1985. THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (B) WAS ON AVERAGE 3.3 PER CENT HIGHER IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1986, WHILE THE HANG SENG CONSUMER PRICE INDEX WAS 4.9 PER CENT HIGHER.

THE REPORT ASSESSES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1986 USING SUCH STATISTICS AS ARE AVAILABLE. IT ALSO UPDATES THE ANALYSIS OF THE ECONOMY WHICH WAS GIVEN IN THE FIRST QUARTER ECONOMIC REPORT 1986 PUBLISHED IN MAY.

APART FROM GIVING AN OVERALL VIEW, THE REPORT ALSO CONTAINS INDIVIDUAL CHAPTERS ON THE EXTERNAL SECTOR, THE FINANCIAL SECTOR, THE LABOUR SECTOR, ACTIVITY IN SELECTED SECTORS AND PRICES.

ON THE EXTERNAL SECTOR, THE REPORT NOTES THAT DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO ALL MAJOR MARKETS, APART FROM CHINA, GREW IN THE FIRST HALF. WHILE DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CHINA DECREASED BY ABOUT 9 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1986 OVER THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR, THOSE TO THE UNITED STATES, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, THE UNITED KINGDOM AND JAPAN GREW BY ABOUT 5 PER CENT, 29 PER CENT, 7 PER CENT AND 12 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN REAL TERMS.

THE DEPRECIATION OF THE U.S. DOLLAR, AND HENCE OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR DUE TO THE LINKED EXCHANGE RATE SYSTEM, AGAINST MOST MAJOR CURRENCIES DURING MOST OF 1985 AND IN THE EARLY MONTHS OF 1986 HAS ENHANCED THE COMPETITIVENESS OF HONG KONG'S EXPORTS AND WAS PROBABLY THE MAIN FACTOR BEHIND THE RECOVERY IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 1986

- 3 -

CONTINUED ECONOMIC GROWTH IN SOME INDUSTRIALISED COUNTRIES AND STOCK REPLENISHMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ALSO CONTRIBUTED. DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CHINA, HOWEVER, CONTINUED TO BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY CHINA'S TIGHTENING OF CONTROL OVER THE USE OF ITS FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES.

COMPARING THE FIRST HALF OF 1986 WITH THE FIRST HALF OF 1985, RE-EXPORTS SHOWED NO CHANGE IN REAL TERMS, WITH A DECREASE IN RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA OFFSETTING THE INCREASES IN RE-EXPORTS TO OTHER MARKETS. HOWEVER, IMPORTS GREW BY ABOUT 5 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS, AND RETAINED IMPORTS GREW BY ABOUT 10 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS.

THE REPORT FURTHER POINTS OUT THAT OVER THIS PERIOD, THE GROWTH RATE OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, AT 9 PER CENT, WAS FASTER THAN THAT OF TOTAL EXPORTS (DOMESTIC EXPORTS PLUS RE-EXPORTS), AT 5 PER CENT.

A VISIBLE TRADE GAP (THE PROPORTION OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS OF GOODS NOT COVERED BY RECEIPTS FROM EXPORTS OF GOODS) OF 4.0 PER CENT WAS RECORDED IN THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR, COMPARED WITH A VISIBLE TRADE SURPLUS, EQUIVALENT TO 0.2 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1985.

ON THE FINANCIAL SECTOR, THE REPORT NOTES THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENTS. FIRST, THE EXCHANGE RATE OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR AGAINST THE U.S. DOLLAR REMAINED CLOSE TO THE LINKED RATE OF HK\$7.80 TO U.S.\$1 FOR MOST OF THE TIME DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 1986.

HOWEVER, REFLECTING THE CONTINUING DECLINE IN THE EXCHANGE RATE OF THE U.S. DOLLAR AGAINST OTHER MAJOR CURRENCIES, THE EFFECTIVE EXCHANGE RATE INDEX OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR FELL BY 7 PER CENT OVER THE PERIOD.

SECOND, HONG KONG DOLLAR MONEY MARKET INTEREST RATES WERE FAIRLY STABLE THROUGHOUT THE FIRST HALF OF THE YEAR. EXCEPT FOR A SHORT PERIOD IN LATE APRIL WHEN THE FLOATATION OF THE CATHAY PACIFIC SHARES CAUSED CONSIDERABLE FLUCTUATIONS IN LOCAL INTEREST RATES, PARTICULARLY THOSE AT THE SHORTER END, HONG KONG DOLLAR INTEREST RATES WERE SLIGHTLY BELOW THOSE OF THE U.S. DOLLAR FOR MOST OF THE PERIOD.

THIRD, ADMINISTERED INTEREST RATES WERE REVISED ON TWO OCCASIONS: AN UPWARD REVISION IN EARLY APRIL AND A DOWNWARD REVISION IN MID-MAY, WITH THE CONSEQUENCE THAT AT THE END OF JUNE 1986 THEY WERE SLIGHTLY HIGHER THAN THE LEVELS AT THE END OF DECEMBER 1985.

FOURTH, CONSISTENT WITH THE RECOVERY IN ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES, THE DEMAND FOR LOANS BECAME FAIRLY BUOYANT IN THE FIRST HALF.

NEVERTHELESS, THE .....

NEVERTHELESS, THE GROWTH RATES OF HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS AND OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR MONEY SUPPLY DURING THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR WERE STILL LESS THAN THOSE FOR THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

ON THE LABOUR SECTOR, THE REPORT OBSERVES THAT TOTAL EMPLOYMENT SHOWED SOME INCREASE IN MARCH 1986 OVER MARCH 1985. OVER THIS PERIOD, EMPLOYMENT IN THE SERVICES SECTORS - PARTICULARLY IN THE FINANCE, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR AND IN THE WHOLESALE, RETAIL, IMPORT-EXPORT TRADES - INCREASED, WHILE EMPLOYMENT IN MANUFACTURING, IN RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS, AND ON BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION SITES DECLINED.

THE REPORT FURTHER SAYS THAT DURING THE 12 MONTHS ENDING MARCH 1986, EARNINGS IN THE MANUFACTURING AND THE SERVICES SECTORS, IN TERMS OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED, INCREASED QUITE RAPIDLY BOTH IN MONEY TERMS AND IN REAL TERMS, REFLECTING THE FAVOURABLE EFFECT ON INCOMES OF THE IMPROVED ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE IN RECENT MONTHS. CONSTRUCTION WAGE RATES ALSO RECORDED SOME INCREASE IN REAL TERMS.

THE REPORT OBSERVES THAT AFTER A DECLINE OF 5 PER CENT IN 1985, THE QUANTITY INDEX OF MANUFACTURING OUTPUT INCREASED BY 7 PER CENT IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1986 COMPARED WITH A YEAR AGO. MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY CONTINUED TO EXPAND IN THE SECOND QUARTER, AS EVIDENCED BY THE FIGURES ON DOMESTIC EXPORTS, THE ORDER-BOOK POSITIONS OF A SELECTION OF LARGE MANUFACTURERS, RETAINED IMPORTS OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES, AND THE QUANTITY OF ELECTRICITY CONSUMED BY THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR.

ON THE PROPERTY SECTOR, THE REPORT NOTES THAT AFTER A STRONG RECOVERY IN 1985, THE PROPERTY MARKET SEEMS TO HAVE ENTERED A PERIOD OF CONSOLIDATION IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1986. PRICES AND RENTALS FOR MOST CLASSES OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY REMAINED STEADY, WITH SOME DECREASES RECORDED FOR LARGE UNITS.

THE DEMAND FOR BETTER-MANAGED ARCADE SHOPS HELD FIRM, WITH THE EARLIER OVER-SUPPLY SITUATION LARGELY BEING ABSORBED. THE MARKET IN OFFICE ACCOMMODATION REMAINED STRONG, PARTICULARLY FOR HIGH QUALITY OFFICES IN THE PRIME LOCATIONS.

THE DEMAND FOR INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY ALSO REMAINED FIRM, WITH PRICES AND RENTALS GENERALLY SHOWING SOME MILD INCREASES DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 1986.

AS REGARDS BUILDING INTENTIONS, PLANNED DEVELOPMENTS OF ALL MAJOR TYPES OF PROPERTY INCREASED IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1986 COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1985.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 1986

- 5 -

ON PRICES, THE REPORT SAYS THAT THE LOW RATE OF INFLATION WAS DUE TO A NUMBER OF FAVOURABLE DOMESTIC AND EXTERNAL FACTORS. FOR EXAMPLE, AGGREGATE DEMAND IN THE ECONOMY WAS NOT PARTICULARLY STRONG, THE RATES OF INFLATION IN HONG KONG'S MAJOR TRADING PARTNERS REMAINED MODERATE, AND WORLD COMMODITY PRICES GENERALLY AND OIL PRODUCT PRICES IN PARTICULAR REMAINED SOFT.

HOWEVER, WITH THE DEPRECIATION IN THE TRADE-WEIGHTED EXCHANGE RATE AND THE FIRING UP OF IMPORT PRICES IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1986, SOME INCREASE IN THE RATE OF INFLATION IN THE SECOND HALF OF 1986 SEEMS LIKELY.

THE REPORT IS ON SALE FROM TOMORROW AT \$12 A COPY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

#### TOPPING OUT OF HOSPITAL

\* \* \*

THE TOPPING OUT OF TUEN MUN HOSPITAL WILL TAKE PLACE ON THURSDAY (AUGUST 28) AT 3 PM AND WILL BE PERFORMED BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES.

THE HOSPITAL IS THE LARGEST HOSPITAL PROJECT CURRENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD.

- - -

#### NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CEREMONY. TRANSPORT WILL LEAVE FROM THE CAR PARK AT MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, BY 1 PM.

- - - - 0 - - - -

#### U.S. WITHDRAWS CATEGORY 611 CALL

\* \* \* \* \*

THE UNITED STATES HAS WITHDRAWN A CALL MADE ON CATEGORY 611 - MAN-MADE FIBRE, SPUN CELLULOSIC FABRIC, WOVEN - FOLLOWING CONSULTATIONS LAST WEEK IN WASHINGTON, A TRADE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY.

HOWEVER, LIMITS HAVE BEEN IMPOSED ON TWO OTHER CATEGORIES - CATEGORY 314 - COTTON BROADCLOTH; AND PART OF CATEGORY 320, COTTON POPLIN.

- - - - 0 - - - -

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 1986

- 6 -

CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES FOR JULY  
\* \* \* \* \*

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) PUBLISHED THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES FOR JULY 1986. THE NEW CPI(A) AND NEW CPI(B) (OCTOBER 84/SEPTEMBER 85 = 100) FOR JULY 1986 WERE 104.4 AND 104.5 RESPECTIVELY.

COMPARED WITH JUNE 1986 AND BEARING IN MIND THAT THIS COMPARISON MAY BE AFFECTED BY SEASONAL FACTORS, THE NEW CPI(A) INCREASED BY 0.5 PER CENT AND THE NEW CPI(B), BY 0.3 PER CENT.

THE 1979-80-BASED CPI(A) AND CPI(B) FOR JULY 1986 WERE 165.1 AND 166.2 RESPECTIVELY, REPRESENTING INCREASES OF 3.5 PER CENT AND 4.0 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY OVER JULY 1985. COMPARED WITH JUNE 1986, CPI(A) INCREASED BY 0.5 PER CENT AND CPI(B), BY 0.3 PER CENT.

THE AVERAGE CPI(A) AND AVERAGE CPI(B) FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED JULY 1986, AT 162.3 AND 163.2 RESPECTIVELY, WERE 2.8 PER CENT AND 3.3 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY HIGHER THAN THE AVERAGE FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED JULY 1985.

PRICE MOVEMENTS DESCRIBED BELOW ARE BASED ON THE NEW CPI SERIES.

DURING THE THREE-MONTH PERIOD ENDED JULY 1986, THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED NEW CPI(A) INCREASED AT AN AVERAGE RATE OF 0.5 PER CENT PER MONTH AND THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED NEW CPI(B), AT 0.4 PER CENT PER MONTH.

DURING JULY, RETAIL PRICES OF FRESH VEGETABLES AND CHARGES FOR MEALS IN RESTAURANTS AND OTHER EATING PLACES INCREASED. ON THE OTHER HAND, RETAIL PRICES OF FRESH FRUIT, LIVE POULTRY, CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR DECREASED.

THE NEW CPI(A) AND THE NEW CPI(B) ARE BASED ON THE EXPENDITURE PATTERNS OF 50 PER CENT AND 30 PER CENT, RESPECTIVELY, OF URBAN HOUSEHOLDS IN HONG KONG, WHICH WERE DERIVED FROM THE 1984-85 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY.

THE NEW CPI(A) REFERS TO HOUSEHOLDS SPENDING BETWEEN \$2 000 AND \$6 499 A MONTH AT THAT TIME AND THE NEW CPI(B) BETWEEN \$6 500 AND \$9 999 A MONTH.

CHANGES IN THE INDEXES FOR JULY 1986 IN RESPECT OF THE NINE COMMODITY-SERVICE SECTIONS IN THE TWO NEW CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES, AS COMPARED WITH JUNE 1986, ARE GIVEN BELOW.

/(OCTOBER 1984 .....

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 1986

- 7 -

(OCTOBER 1984 TO SEPTEMBER 1985 AVERAGE = 100)

SECTION	NEW CPI(A)		NEW CPI(B)	
	INDEX FOR JUL. 86	% CHANGE OVER JUN. 86	INDEX FOR JUL. 86	% CHANGE OVER JUN. 86
FOODSTUFFS	103.3	+1.2	103.3	+0.9
HOUSING	104.7	+0.1	104.2	+0.1
FUEL AND LIGHT	89.3	-0.0*	89.9	+0.2
ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO (FOR HOME CONSUMPTION)	110.4	+0.0*	110.1	+0.1
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	107.8	-0.4	108.8	-0.4
DURABLE GOODS	105.7	+0.1	105.0	-0.0*
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS	103.7	+0.3	104.5	+0.2
TRANSPORT AND VEHICLES	106.8	+0.1	106.0	+0.1
SERVICES	108.7	+0.0*	108.3	-0.0*
ALL ITEMS	104.4	+0.5	104.5	+0.3

\* LESS THAN 0.05 PER CENT

COMPARED WITH JUNE 1986, THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS INCREASED BY 1.2 PER CENT IN NEW CPI(A) AND 0.9 PER CENT IN NEW CPI(B). THIS WAS MAINLY DUE TO THE INCREASES IN THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF FRESH VEGETABLES AND IN THE AVERAGE CHARGES FOR MEALS IN RESTAURANTS AND OTHER EATING PLACES, WHICH MORE THAN OFFSET THE DECREASES IN THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF FRESH FRUIT AND LIVE POULTRY.

THE INDEX FOR CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR DECREASED BY 0.4 PER CENT IN BOTH NEW CPI(A) AND NEW CPI(B) DUE TO LOWER PRICES OF MEN'S AND WOMEN'S OUTERCLOTHING.

PRICE MOVEMENTS IN OTHER SECTIONS OF THE NEW CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES WERE INSIGNIFICANT.

(FIGURES HEREIN REFER TO CPI SERIES NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED. ALL PERCENTAGE CHANGES ARE DERIVED FROM CPI FIGURES TO MORE THAN 1 DECIMAL PLACE.)

/MORE DETAILS .....

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 1986

- 8 -

MORE DETAILS ARE GIVEN IN THE +CONSUMER PRICE INDEX REPORT+ FOR JULY 1986, WHICH IS AVAILABLE AT \$3 PER COPY FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, CONNAUGHT PLACE, HONG KONG; OR FROM THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, ROOM 1904, KAI TAK COMMERCIAL BUILDING, 317 DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG; OR FROM THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT, BASKERVILLE HOUSE, DUDELL STREET, HONG KONG FOR LOCAL AND OVERSEAS MAILINGS.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE INDEXES CAN BE MADE WITH THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT AT 3-7216512.

-----0-----

FS VISITS ELECTRONICS FACTORY  
\*\*\*\*\*

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR PIERS JACOBS, TODAY (TUESDAY) VISITED AN ELECTRONICS FACTORY WHICH MANUFACTURES PARTS FOR THE U.S. SPACE SHUTTLE PROGRAMME.

THE TEK DEVICES LIMITED PRODUCES CORE AND SEMI-CONDUCTOR MEMORIES AND SYSTEMS WITH MILITARY AND INDUSTRIAL APPLICATIONS. SOME OF ITS PRODUCTS CAN BE FOUND, FOR EXAMPLE, IN THE +BLACK BOX+ OF AIRCRAFT, ON OFF-SHORE OIL RIGS, AS WELL AS DEEP SEA RESEARCH AND MILITARY PROJECTS.

MR JACOBS WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR STEUART WEBB-JOHNSON. HIS VISIT IS PART OF A PROGRAMME OF FAMILIARISATION VISITS TO FACTORIES, EACH REPRESENTING A MAJOR SECTOR OF LOCAL INDUSTRY.

THE ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY IS HONG KONG'S SECOND LARGEST EXPORT EARNER, AFTER TEXTILES AND GARMENT, AND IT ACCOUNTS FOR 20.8 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS.

IN 1985, DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF ELECTRONICS PRODUCTS WERE VALUED AT \$27 000 MILLION OF WHICH 45 PER CENT WENT TO THE UNITED STATES. OTHER MAJOR MARKETS INCLUDE CHINA, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND THE UNITED KINGDOM.

-----0-----

7 VARIETY SHOW TO CLOSE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME  
\*\*\*\*\*

A VARIETY SHOW WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY (AUGUST 28) MORNING AT THE CITY HALL CONCERT HALL TO MARK THE CLOSING OF THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME.

THE SHOW WILL FEATURE SINGING, MAGIC AND CHINESE MARTIAL ARTS PERFORMANCES BY SINGERS, TELEVISION ARTISTES, JUNIOR POLICE CALL MEMBERS AND THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN CHILDREN'S CHOIR.

/OFFICIATING AT .....

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 1986

- 9 -

OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR VINCENT KO, THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS ELIZABETH TSE, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT'S SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, MR WONG CHUNG-YING.

FREE ADMISSION TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE AT HARBOUR BUILDING, THE SUB-OFFICES AT CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, ICE HOUSE STREET AND 82 BELCHER'S STREET, AND THE WESTERN DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 36 WESTERN STREET.

-----

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME ON THURSDAY AT 10.30 AM AT THE CITY HALL CONCERT HALL.

----- 0 -----

SURVEY OF MACHINE SHOP, METAL WORKING INDUSTRY MANPOWER  
\*\*\*\*\*

THE MACHINE SHOP AND METAL WORKING INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL WILL BE CONDUCTING A MANPOWER SURVEY IN SEPTEMBER, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE SURVEY BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 2 AND 12 IS TO COLLECT THE LATEST INFORMATION ON MANPOWER AND TRAINING NEEDS OF THE INDUSTRY.

QUESTIONNAIRES AND EXPLANATORY NOTES WERE SENT TWO WEEKS AGO TO ESTABLISHMENTS COVERED IN THE SURVEY. OFFICERS FROM THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT WILL VISIT EMPLOYERS TO ASSIST COMPLETING THE QUESTIONNAIRES. EMPLOYERS ARE URGED TO COOPERATE BY SUPPLYING ACCURATE INFORMATION.

INFORMATION COLLECTED WILL BE HANDLED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND WILL ONLY BE RELEASED IN STATISTICAL SUMMARIES WITHOUT REFERRING TO INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS.

----- 0 -----

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 1986

- 10 -

TRANSPORT PLAN TO BE DISCUSSED

\* \* \* \* \*

THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD WILL MEET TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) TO DISCUSS THE DRAFT 1987-88 TRANSPORT SERVICE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR SHA TIN AND MA ON SHAN.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE SETTING UP OF A WORKING GROUP FOR THE ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN AND THE APPLICATION FOR FUNDS TO ORGANISE ACTIVITIES IN THE CAMPAIGN.

THEY WILL CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS ON VARIOUS BUS ROUTES, THE TRAINING OF LEARNER BUS DRIVERS, THE PROVISION OF CAR PARKING SPACES FOR VILLAGERS, THE PARKING OF LORRIES LOADED WITH LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS AT TAI WAI ROAD AND THE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SCHEME ASSOCIATED WITH OPENING OF TAI WAI KCR STATION.

-----

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE TO BE HELD AT THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE, SIXTH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE KCR HOUSE TOMORROW AT 9.30 AM.

-----0-----

DETAILS ON YOUTH BEHAVIOUR SURVEY

\* \* \* \* \*

A PRESS CONFERENCE TO INTRODUCE THE SURVEY REPORT + A STUDY ON THE BEHAVIOURS AND ATTITUDES OF YOUTHS IN KWUN TONG+ WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AFTERNOON IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE.

THE SURVEY, INITIATED BY THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD, AND CONDUCTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG'S SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT, IS AIMED AT FINDING OUT THE CHARACTERISTICS, BEHAVIOURS AND ATTITUDES OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE DISTRICT.

DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR LAM HANG-FAI, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD'S WORKING GROUP ON PROBLEM YOUTH IN KWUN TONG, MR MA YAT-CHEUNG, AND THE UNIVERSITY'S SOCIAL WORK LECTURER, MR LAW CHI-KWONG, WILL ATTEND THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

-----

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRESS CONFERENCE TOMORROW AT 2.30 PM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE, 6, TUNG YAN STREET, THIRD FLOOR, KWUN TONG DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICES BUILDING.

-----0-----

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 1986

- 11 -

HEALTH DAY ORGANISED FOR TUNG CHUNG  
\* \* \* \* \*

ELDERLY RESIDENTS OF TUNG CHUNG ARE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO OBTAIN FREE MEDICAL CHECK-UPS TODAY (TUESDAY) AND TOMORROW FROM THE MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

AS DIABETES AND HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE ARE COMMON DISEASES FOR THE ELDERLY, THE MEDICAL TEAM FROM THE UNIVERSITY CONCENTRATED ITS EFFORTS ON CHECKING BLOOD PRESSURE AND SCREENING FOR DIABETES AT THE SERVICE CENTRE SET UP IN THE LOCAL AUXILIARY MEDICAL SERVICES OFFICE.

THE MEDICAL TEAM ALSO VISITED REMOTE VILLAGES SUCH AS SHEK MUN KAP, MOK KA TSUEN AND SHEK LAU PO TO PROVIDE DOOR-TO-DOOR SERVICES DURING THE DAY.

THE PROJECT WAS ORGANISED BY THE ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICE WITH ASSISTANCE FROM THE TUNG CHUNG RURAL COMMITTEE.

THE HEALTH DAY PROGRAMME WILL CONTINUE TOMORROW AT THE TOWN CENTRE TO SERVE PEOPLE FROM MA WAN CHUNG AND OTHER VILLAGES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DISTRICT OFFICE SAID: +THE HEALTH DAY IS AN EXPERIMENTAL SCHEME. IF SUCH SERVICES PROVE HELPFUL TO THE ELDERLY, WE WILL EXTEND IT TO OTHER AREAS.+

-----  
WATER STORAGE FIGURE  
\* \* \* \* \*

STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (TUESDAY) STOOD AT 70.2 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 411.242 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 393.515 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 67.1 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

----- 0 -----  
NEW WATER MAINS FOR ABERDEEN, AP LEI CHAU  
\* \* \* \* \*

FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO AREAS OF ABERDEEN AND AP LEI CHAU WILL BE IMPROVED WHEN MAINS LAYING WORK IS COMPLETED NEXT YEAR.

THE WORK INVOLVES LAYING ABOUT 400 METRES OF 700-MILLIMETRE DIAMETER FRESH WATER MAINS ALONG ABERDEEN PRAYA ROAD BETWEEN ITS JUNCTIONS WITH SHEK PAI WAN ROAD AT TIN WAN.

/IT IS .....

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 1986

- 12 -

IT IS THE FINAL PART OF A SCHEME TO IMPROVE THE SUPPLY SITUATION IN AREAS OF ABERDEEN AND AP LEI CHAU.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN OCTOBER AND TAKE ABOUT SIX MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE PROJECT TO BE SUBMITTED BY SEPTEMBER 12.

-----O-----

DRY TAPS IN TUEN MUN  
\*\*\*\*\*

FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN TUEN MUN WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 9 AM TO 5 PM ON FRIDAY (AUGUST 29) FOR MAINS WORK.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT ALL PREMISES ALONG ROAD LD4 FROM YAU TSZ TIN MIDDLE SCHOOL TO SAN HING TSUEN, INCLUDING YAU TSZ TIN MIDDLE SCHOOL AND SAN HING TSUEN.

IT WILL ALSO AFFECT ALL PREMISES ALONG CASTLE PEAK ROAD FROM FU TEI TSUEN TO SHUN FUNG WAI, INCLUDING FU TEI TSUEN, CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S BOWRING CLOSED CENTRE, LAM TEI SAN TSUEN, LAM TEI ROAD, TO YUEN WAI, MIU FAT BUDDHIST MONASTERY, NAI WAI, TSING CHUEN WAI, TUEN TSZ WAI AND SHUN FUNG WAI.

MEANWHILE, SALT WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN TSUEN WAN WILL BE STOPPED FROM 11 PM ON FRIDAY TO 6 AM THE NEXT DAY FOR LEAKAGE TEST.

THE AFFECTED PREMISES ARE BOUNDED BY CASTLE PEAK ROAD, MEI WAN STREET AND SAI LAU KOK ROAD, INCLUDING KWU UK LANE.

-----O-----

TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN CENTRAL  
\*\*\*\*\*

BONHAM STRAND BETWEEN CLEVERLY STREET AND HILLIER STREET WILL BE TEMPORARILY RE-ROUTED FROM ONE-WAY TO TWO-WAY TRAFFIC FOR ABOUT NINE WEEKS FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (AUGUST 29) FOR ROAD WORKS.

NO VEHICLE EXCEEDING 5.5 TONNES GROSS WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE SECTION OF HILLIER STREET BETWEEN BONHAM STRAND AND WING LOK STREET FOR ABOUT NINE WEEKS FROM THE SAME TIME.

-----O-----