



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1985

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1985

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INITIAL IMPACT OF MTR ISLAND LINE REVEALED

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PATRONAGE ON VARIOUS PUBLIC TRANSPORT MODES HAS FALLEN AS A RESULT OF THE OPENING OF THE MTR ISLAND LINE ON MAY 31, WITH COASTAL FERRY SERVICE AND EXPRESS BUS SERVICES OPERATING ALONG THE NORTHERN CORRIDOR OF HONG KONG ISLAND BEING THE HARDEST HIT, A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT'S SITUATION REPORT FOR JUNE AND JULY REVEALED.

THE REPORT, BASED LARGELY ON TRAFFIC RETURNS SUBMITTED BY OPERATORS AND SUPPLEMENTED BY RESULTS OF SURVEYS CONDUCTED BY THE DEPARTMENT, ALSO SHOWED THAT THE AVERAGE DAILY RIDERSHIP ON THE MTR HAD INCREASED BY 20 PER CENT IN JUNE COMPARED WITH MARCH THIS YEAR. IN JULY, THE FIGURE ROSE FURTHER TO 28 PER CENT.

FOR HONG KONG ISLAND INTERNAL BUS ROUTES, AN OVERALL PASSENGER LOSS OF 16 PER CENT WAS RECORDED IN JUNE AND 14 PER CENT IN JULY COMPARED WITH THE MARCH VOLUME.

CMB CORRIDOR EXPRESS SERVICES, WHICH INCLUDE ROUTES SUCH AS 10M, 20, 20M, 21, 22M AND 80, SUFFERED THE GREATEST PATRONAGE LOSS OF 40 PER CENT IN JUNE AND 46 PER CENT IN JULY. AS A RESULT, ROUTES 10M, 20M, 22M AND 83A HAD ALREADY BEEN WITHDRAWN.

THE AVERAGE DECREASE REGISTERED BY CMB BUS SERVICES OPERATING VIA THE ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR WAS 34 PER CENT IN JUNE AND 33 PER CENT IN JULY, WHILE URBAN BUS SERVICES SUCH AS ROUTES NO. 2, 16 AND 82 WHICH RUN PARALLEL TO THE ISLAND LINE REPORTED AN AVERAGE DROP OF 18 PER CENT IN DAILY PASSENGER VOLUME IN JUNE AND A SLIGHTLY LOWER DROP OF 15 PER CENT IN JULY.

FOR ROUTES WHICH ARE ONLY PARTLY PARALLEL WITH THE ISLAND LINE, SUCH AS NO. 5A, 5B AND 10, AN AVERAGE PASSENGER DECLINE OF 12 TO 14 PER CENT WAS RECORDED DURING THE TWO MONTHS.

PATRONAGE LOSS IN JUNE AND JULY ON CMB AND KMB CROSS-HARBOUR SERVICES RUNNING IN THE EASTERN PART OF THE ISLAND, INCLUDING ROUTES NO. 102, 106, 112 AND 116, RANGED FROM 16 TO 34 PER CENT.

THE AVERAGE DAILY PASSENGER FIGURES ON HYF'S CROSS-HARBOUR FERRY ROUTES IN JUNE WERE NINE PER CENT BELOW THE MARCH FIGURES. IN JULY, THE PATRONAGE DROP WAS SIX PER CENT.

OF ALL THE HYF ROUTES, THE NORTH POINT TO CENTRAL COASTAL SERVICE OPERATED AS PART OF THE NORTH POINT TO TSUEN WAN ROUTE WAS THE MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED BY THE ISLAND LINE.

THE SERVICE, WHICH EXPERIENCED A 43 PER CENT DROP IN PASSENGER VOLUME IN THE TWO MONTHS, SUBSEQUENTLY HAD ITS NORTH POINT TO CENTRAL SECTION TRUNCATED IN MID-AUGUST.

/FOR STAR

FOR STAR FERRY SERVICES, A SEVEN PER CENT PATRONAGE LOSS WAS RECORDED IN JUNE COMPARED WITH MARCH FIGURES, BUT IN JULY, THE DECREASE WAS ONLY TWO PER CENT. MEANWHILE, PATRONAGE ON TRAMS CLIMBED BACK TO THE PRE-ISLAND LINE OPENING LEVEL IN JULY AFTER EXPERIENCING A SIX PER CENT LOSS IN PASSENGERS IN JUNE.

THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAILY PASSENGERS CARRIED BY GREEN MINIBUSES ON HONG KONG ISLAND FELL BY THREE PER CENT IN JUNE WHEN COMPARED WITH MARCH. PATRONAGE LOSS WAS HEAVIEST ON THOSE ROUTES WHICH PREVIOUSLY CARRIED A SIZABLE PROPORTION OF THE ISLAND CORRIDOR TRAFFIC, ESPECIALLY THAT BETWEEN ADMIRALTY AND CAUSEWAY BAY. HOWEVER, FEEDER MINIBUS SERVICES MANAGED TO ATTRACT NEW PASSENGERS.

AS FOR RED PUBLIC LIGHT BUS OPERATIONS ON THE ISLAND, AN INITIAL SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE DEPARTMENT SHORTLY AFTER THE ISLAND LINE OPENING FOUND A DROP IN BOTH THE NUMBER OF PLB TRIPS OPERATED AND PASSENGERS CARRIED.

THE DECLINE IN PASSENGERS WAS HIGHEST ON WESTBOUND TRIPS DURING THE MORNING PEAK AND A GENERAL LOWERING OF PLB FARES RANGING FROM 50 CENTS TO \$2 WAS ALSO OBSERVED. THE COMBINATION OF LOWER FARES AND FEWER VEHICLE TRIPS HAD ENABLED PLB OCCUPANCY RATES TO BE MAINTAINED AT ROUGHLY THE PREVIOUS LEVELS.

A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE DEPARTMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE ACTUAL AND LONGER-TERM IMPACT OF THE ISLAND LINE ON OTHER PUBLIC TRANSPORT MODES. ON FUTURE TRENDS, HE DID NOT EXPECT THE RETURN OF SCHOOL TRAFFIC IN SEPTEMBER TO BRING BACK A DRASTIC INCREASE IN BUS PASSENGER FIGURE IN VIEW OF THE COMPETITIVE CONCESSIONARY FARES FOR STUDNETS OFFERED BY THE MTR.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE SUBSTANTIAL PATRONAGE DROP IN BUS SERVICES ALONG THE NORTHERN CORRIDOR OF THE ISLAND HAD PROMPTED THE DEPARTMENT TO LOOK INTO THE NEED OF REVISING THE AFFECTED SERVICES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

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SECOND QUARTER EXPORTS STATISTICS RELEASED

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IN TERMS OF THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1985, THE SIX MOST IMPORTANT INDUSTRY GROUPS WERE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS, WEARING APPAREL, TEXTILES, PLASTIC PRODUCTS, PROFESSIONAL AND OPTICAL EQUIPMENT, AND BASIC METALS AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS.

THEY TOGETHER ACCOUNTED FOR 83 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL VALUE OF MERCHANDISE DOMESTIC EXPORTS.

/INDUSTRIES HAVING

INDUSTRIES HAVING RECORDED THE LARGEST INCREASES IN ABSOLUTE VALUE OVER THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1984 WERE NON-ELECTRICAL MACHINERY (+\$323 MILLION), TOBACCO (+\$75 MILLION), PAPER AND PAPER PRODUCTS, PRINTING AND PUBLISHING (+\$56 MILLION), BEVERAGES (+\$49 MILLION), FOOTWEAR (+\$38 MILLION), AND ELECTRICITY (+\$35 MILLION).

IN RELATIVE TERMS, INDUSTRIES WITH THE LARGEST PERCENTAGE INCREASES OVER THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1984 WERE BEVERAGES (+134 PER CENT), TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT (+80 PER CENT), NON-ELECTRICAL MACHINERY (+76 PER CENT), ELECTRICITY (+63 PER CENT), TOBACCO (+61 PER CENT), AND FOOTWEAR (+32 PER CENT).

ON THE OTHER HAND, SIGNIFICANT DECREASES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS FROM THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1984 WERE RECORDED FOR ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS (-\$1 455 MILLION OR -17 PER CENT), TEXTILES (-\$956 MILLION OR -15 PER CENT), WEARING APPAREL (-\$924 MILLION OR -12 PER CENT), PLASTIC PRODUCTS (-\$337 MILLION OR -11 PER CENT), AND BASIC METALS AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS (-\$169 MILLION OR -10 PER CENT). SIGNIFICANT PERCENTAGE DECREASES WERE ALSO OBSERVED IN AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTION (-43 PER CENT), MINING AND QUARRYING (-28 PER CENT), RUBBER PRODUCTS (-21 PER CENT), AND NON-METALLIC MINERAL PRODUCTS (-20 PER CENT).

THE ABOVE ARE SOME OF THE STATISTICS RELEASED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) ON DOMESTIC EXPORTS ANALYSED BY INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1985. THIS SERIES IS DERIVED BY RE-GROUPING ALL SIX-DIGIT MERCHANDISE EXPORT ITEMS UNDER THE PRESENT EXTERNAL TRADE CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM ACCORDING TO THE INDUSTRIES IN WHICH THESE MERCHANDISE ITEMS ARE NORMALLY PRODUCED. TRANSACTIONS IN GOLD AND SPECIE ARE EXCLUDED.

THE CLASSIFICATION OF MERCHANDISE EXPORT ITEMS BY INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN IS STRUCTURED UPON THE UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL STANDARD INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION OF ALL ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES (I.S.I.C.), AS DISTINCT FROM THE UNITED NATIONS STANDARD INTERNATIONAL TRADE CLASSIFICATION (S.I.T.C.) WHICH IS ADOPTED IN THE REGULAR TRADE STATISTICS REPORTS.

WHEN REFERRING TO THESE RE-CLASSIFIED FIGURES, A POINT OF CAUTION IS RELEVANT. CERTAIN MERCHANDISE EXPORT ITEMS MAY REQUIRE SEVERAL INTERMEDIATE PROCESSING STAGES FOR THEIR PRODUCTION. IN SUCH CASES, THE INDUSTRY IN WHICH AN ITEM IS FINALLY PRODUCED IS NOT REALLY THE SOLE CONTRIBUTOR TO THE VALUE. NEVERTHELESS, STATISTICALLY, THE OVERALL VALUE OF THE ITEM IS WHOLLY ALLOCATED TO THAT INDUSTRY.

BESIDES, THE CLASSIFICATION OF A MERCHANDISE EXPORT ITEM TO A PARTICULAR INDUSTRY DOES NOT IMPLY THAT THE ENTIRE VALUE OF THE ITEM IS ACTUALLY PRODUCED BY ESTABLISHMENTS OF THAT INDUSTRY, SINCE SOME MAY BE SECONDARY PRODUCTS PRODUCED BY ESTABLISHMENTS CLASSIFIED UNDER OTHER INDUSTRIES.

FURTHER DETAILS OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS STATISTICS FOR MERCHANDISE RE-CLASSIFIED BY INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN MAY BE SEEN IN THE ATTACHED TABLE WHICH IS OBTAINABLE FROM THE INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (AT TEL. NO. 3-7224504).

A TABLE ON THESE STATISTICS FOR SELECTED INDUSTRIES IS ALSO INCLUDED IN THE REPORT +HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE, JUNE 1985+.

VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS FOR MERCHANDISE, RECLASSIFIED BY INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1984 AND OF 1985

(HK\$'000)

INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN OF THE COMMODITIES EXPORTED	MERCHANDISE DOMESTIC EXPORTS			
	2ND QTR. 1984	2ND QTR. 1985	VALUE CHANGE	% CHANGE
<u>AGRICULTURAL, FORESTRY AND FISHING</u>				
AGRICULTURAL, LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTION	3 113	1 778	-1 335	-43
FORESTRY AND LOGGING	-	-	-	-
OCEAN AND COASTAL FISHING	57 794	66 422	8 628	15
MINING AND QUARRYING	656	473	- 183	-28
<u>MANUFACTURING</u>				
FOOD	335 375	287 161	-48 214	-14
BEVERAGES	36 819	86 232	49 413	134
TOBACCO	122 440	197 074	74 634	61
TEXTILES (INCLUDING KNITTING)	6 516 166	5 560 476	-955 690	-15
WEARING APPAREL, EXCEPT FOOTWEAR AND KNITWEAR	7 787 652	6 863 548	-924 104	-12
LEATHER AND LEATHER PRODUCTS	124 808	140 241	15 433	12
FOOTWEAR	120 692	158 879	38 187	32

WOOD AND CORK PRODUCTS, FURNITURE AND FIXTURES	208 127	177 172	- 30 955	-15
PAPER AND PAPER PRODUCTS, PRINTING AND PUBLISHING	505 452	561 396	55 944	11
CHEMICALS AND CHEMICAL PRODUCTS	366 881	364 345	- 2 536	- 1
PRODUCTS OF PETROLEUM AND COAL	741	858	117	16
RUBBER PRODUCTS	53 203	42 171	- 11 032	-21
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	3 014 713	2 677 380	-337 333	-11
NON-METALLIC MINERAL PRODUCTS	139 214	111 379	- 27 835	-20
BASIC METALS AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	1 718 487	1 549 425	-169 062	-10
MACHINERY, EXCEPT ELECTRICAL	426 626	749 791	323 165	76
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	8 397 970	6 942 474	-1 455 496	-17
TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	31 704	57 082	25 378	80
PROFESSIONAL AND OPTICAL EQUIPMENT	2 552 457	2 542 609	- 9 848	*
OTHER MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	1 931 024	2 189 173	258 149	13
ELECTRICITY	56 376	91 685	35 309	63
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MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS				
(E.G. DEVELOPED PHOTOGRAPHIC PLATES AND FILM, ANTIQUES, AND WORKS OF ART)	16 761	12 596	- 4 165	-25
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TOTAL	34 525 253	31 431 821	-3 093 432	- 9
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INDIVIDUAL ENTRIES OF A COLUMN MAY NOT ADD UP EXACTLY TO THE CORRESPONDING TOTAL DUE TO ROUNDING.

* CHANGE OF LESS THAN 1 PER CENT.

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INTEREST ON TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES INCREASED
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FROM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) SEPTEMBER 4, THE NEW ANNUAL RATE OF INTEREST PAYABLE ON TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES WILL BE 3.36 PER CENT (TAX FREE) AS AGAINST THE CURRENT RATE OF 2.76 PER CENT (TAX FREE).

AN INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED TODAY THAT INTEREST ON TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES IS CALCULATED IN MONTHLY STEPS AND THE NEW RATE WILL BE \$0.28 PER MONTH PER \$100. +INTEREST WILL BE CREDITED AS BEFORE IN RESPECT OF COMPLETE MONTHS BETWEEN PURCHASE AND SURRENDER IN PAYMENT OF TAX,+ HE SAID.

INTEREST IS ONLY CREDITED WHEN CERTIFICATES ARE USED TO PAY TAX AND NO INTEREST IS DUE WHERE THE PRINCIPAL VALUE OF A CERTIFICATE IS REPAID BY A CHEQUE.

THE NEW RATE WILL APPLY TO ALL CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER SEPTEMBER 4, 1985.

CERTIFICATES ISSUED BEFORE SEPTEMBER 4, 1985 WILL CONTINUE TO EARN INTEREST AS FOLLOWS:

- 9.6 % PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER AUGUST 31, 1984 AND BEFORE OCTOBER 5, 1984;
- 8.52% PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 5, 1984 AND BEFORE OCTOBER 31, 1984;
- 8.04% PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 31, 1984 AND BEFORE NOVEMBER 28, 1984;
- 7.56% PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER NOVEMBER 28, 1984 AND BEFORE DECEMBER 28, 1984;
- 7.08% PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER DECEMBER 28, 1984 AND BEFORE JANUARY 16, 1985;
- 6.6 % PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JANUARY 16, 1985 AND BEFORE JANUARY 30, 1985;
- 5.52% PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JANUARY 30, 1985 AND BEFORE APRIL 3, 1985;
- 5.04% PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER APRIL 3, 1985 AND BEFORE APRIL 24, 1985;
- 4.56% PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER APRIL 24, 1985 AND BEFORE MAY 22, 1985;

/4.08%

- 4.08% PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER MAY 22, 1985 AND BEFORE JUNE 27, 1985;
- 3.6 % PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JUNE 27, 1985 AND BEFORE JULY 17, 1985;
- 3.36% PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JULY 17, 1985 AND BEFORE JULY 23, 1985; AND
- 2.76% PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JULY 23, 1985 AND BEFORE SEPTEMBER 4, 1985

BUT ALWAYS SUBJECT TO THE GENERAL RULE THAT INTEREST CEASES TO ACCRUE AFTER 36 COMPLETE MONTHS WITHOUT SURRENDER FOR PAYMENT OF TAX.

EXAMPLE: \$1 000 CERTIFICATES PURCHASED ON SEPTEMBER 4, 1985, OCTOBER 4, 1985 AND NOVEMBER 4, 1985 RESPECTIVELY, SURRENDERED IN PAYMENT OF TAX DUE ON DECEMBER 3, 1985 WILL HAVE INTEREST CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

ON \$1 000, SEPTEMBER 4, 1985 TO DECEMBER 3, 1985 3 COMPLETE MONTHS AT \$2.80 PER MONTH	=\$8.40
ON \$1 000, OCTOBER 4, 1985 TO DECEMBER 3, 1985 2 COMPLETE MONTHS AT \$2.80 PER MONTH	=\$5.60
ON \$1 000, NOVEMBER 4, 1985 TO DECEMBER 3, 1985 1 COMPLETE MONTH AT \$2.80 PER MONTH	=\$2.80
	\$16.80
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TRAINING COURSE OFFERED FOR SCHOOL LIBRARIANS
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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL AGAIN BE ORGANISING A TWO-YEAR IN-SERVICE TRAINING COURSE FOR NEWLY-APPOINTED LIBRARIANS OF GOVERNMENT AND AIDED SCHOOL NEXT MONTH.

THE FREE COURSE IS ALSO OFFERED TO LIBRARIANS WORKING FULL-TIME IN A SCHOOL LIBRARY IN CAPUT AND ASSISTED PRIVATE SECONDARY SCHOOL IF THEY MEET THE MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE OF CERTIFICATED MASTER OR MISTRESS AND HAVE TWO YEARS OF RECOGNISED TEACHING EXPERIENCE.

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THE AIMS OF THE COURSE ARE TO INTRODUCE SCHOOL LIBRARIANS TO THE BASIC PRINCIPLES AND TECHNIQUES OF LIBRARY MANAGEMENT, CURRICULUM SUPPORT ACTIVITIES, AND TO ACQUAINT THEM WITH INFORMATION SKILLS FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING PURPOSES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID.

A CERTIFICATE WILL BE AWARDED TO EACH PARTICIPANT WHO HAS SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED THE COURSE.

ON THE REQUIREMENT FOR SCHOOL LIBRARIANS TO ATTEND THE TRAINING COURSE, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THIS REFLECTED THE IMPORTANCE WHICH THE DEPARTMENT ATTACHED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF LIBRARY SERVICES.

THE YEAR I COURSE WILL BE HELD EVERY THURSDAY BETWEEN OCTOBER AND MAY NEXT YEAR DURING THE FIRST YEAR WHILE THE YEAR II COURSE WILL BE ORGANISED ON MONDAYS DURING THE SAME PERIOD FOR THOSE WHO HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED A PREVIOUS YEAR I COURSE.

BOTH COURSES WILL CONSIST OF LECTURES, PRACTICAL WORK, TUTORIALS AND VISITS.

SCHOOL HEADS ARE ADVISED TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS TO THE LIBRARY SECTION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, LEE GARDENS, FIFTH FLOOR, HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY, BEFORE SEPTEMBER 9.

MEANWHILE, THE DEPARTMENT WILL ALSO ORGANISE EIGHT IDENTICAL COURSES FOR PRIMARY TEACHERS ON CLASS LIBRARIES STARTING OCTOBER 1.

THESE COURSES ARE AIMED AT EQUIPPING PRIMARY 5 AND 6 TEACHERS WITH THE BASIC KNOWLEDGE OF MANAGING CLASS LIBRARIES AND SHOWING THEM HOW TO SELECT LIBRARY BOOKS AS WELL AS TO DEVISE RELEVANT ACTIVITIES.

PRIMARY SCHOOL HEADS WISHING TO NOMINATE ONE OF THEIR TEACHERS TO ATTEND THE COURSE ARE REQUESTED TO HAND IN THEIR APPLICATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT'S LIBRARY SECTION BEFORE SEPTEMBER 10.

THE TWO COURSES WILL BE HELD AT THE EXTRA-MURAL TOWN CENTRE, UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, WING ON CENTRE, EIGHTH FLOOR, 111 CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG.

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BIG RUSH FOR TRAINING IN TECHNICAL COMPLEX
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SIX THOUSAND APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FOR THE 4 100 PLACES BEING OFFERED BY THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL'S NEW KWAI CHUNG TRAINING CENTRE COMPLEX SINCE ENROLMENT OF TRAINEES STARTED LAST MONTH.

ABOUT 1 000 TRAINEES HAVE SO FAR BEEN ACCEPTED FOR A NUMBER OF BASIC TECHNICAL TRAINING COURSES WHICH BEGAN YESTERDAY (MONDAY), AND ENROLMENT IS CONTINUING.

THE \$120-MILLION COMPLEX COMPRISES SIX CENTRES PROVIDING PRACTICAL TRAINING UP TO OPERATIVE AND TECHNOLOGIST LEVELS IN THE AUTOMOBILE, ELECTRICAL, ELECTRONICS, MACHINE SHOP AND METAL WORKING, WELDING AND TEXTILE INDUSTRIES.

ALL CENTRES ARE FITTED AND EQUIPPED TO SIMULATE AS NEARLY AS POSSIBLE THE ACTUAL WORKING CONDITIONS IN INDUSTRY, MAKING IT EASIER FOR THE GRADUATES TO JOIN INDUSTRY.

+THE OVERWHELMING RESPONSE INDICATES THE WILLINGNESS OF YOUNG PEOPLE TO JOIN INDUSTRY THROUGH PROPER INDUSTRIAL TRAINING,+ THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COUNCIL, MR MORRIS MORGAN, SAID TODAY.

THE KWAI CHUNG TRAINING CENTRE COMPLEX, LOCATED AT 13 SAN KWAI STREET, IS ONE OF THE TWO CENTRE COMPLEXES NOW RUN BY THE COUNCIL. THE OTHER ONE, AT 46 TAI YIP STREET IN KOWLOON BAY, HAS ABOUT 900 TRAINEES AND COURSES ALSO BEGAN THERE YESTERDAY.

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MORE BOARD MEMBERS TO DISCUSS GREEN PAPER
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EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL DISCUSS THE GREEN PAPER ON HOUSING SUBSIDY TO TENANTS OF PUBLIC HOUSING AT THEIR MEETING ON THURSDAY (SEPTEMBER 5) AFTERNOON.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT, MR LIM YEW-GUAN, WILL ATTEND THE MEETING TO INTRODUCE THE PAPER AND LISTEN TO VIEWS ON THE ISSUE.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO CONSIDER ENVIRONMENTAL NUISANCES CAUSED BY PIG-BREEDERS IN TANNER HILL, AND WILL STUDY BOTH SHORT AND LONG-TERM MEASURES TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM.

/OTHER ITEMS

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OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE THE DISTRIBUTION OF NEW SECONDARY SCHOOLS, THE CHAI WAN INDOOR GAMES HALL, AND PROGRESS REPORTS FROM THE BOARD'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE AND THE DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD MEETING AT 2.30 PM ON THURSDAY (SEPTEMBER 5) IN THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE FIRST FLOOR, 880-886, KING'S ROAD.

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YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA BEING STREAMLINED
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THE HONG KONG YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, SET UP BY THE MUSIC OFFICE IN 1978, AND ITS ORCHESTRAL TRAINING WILL BE STREAMLINED.

IN FUTURE THERE WILL BE ONLY ONE ORCHESTRA, INSTEAD OF THE PRESENT TWO, WITH THE ASSISTANT MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR, MR THOMAS WANG, AS THE MUSIC DIRECTOR, AND MR JOHN LAU FROM THE HONG KONG PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA AS THE PRINCIPAL GUEST CONDUCTOR FOR 1985/86.

GIVING DETAILS OF THE LATEST MOVE TODAY (TUESDAY), THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR, MRS DORIS HO, SAID MEMBERS OF THE YOUTH ORCHESTRA WERE RECRUITED BY OPEN AUDITIONS EACH YEAR.

THIS MEANT THAT ONLY THE MOST TALENTED MUSICIANS WOULD BE RECRUITED INTO THE NEW ORCHESTRA, SHE SAID.

MRS HO SAID THAT AN INTENSIVE ANNUAL TRAINING PROGRAMME HAD BEEN DRAWN UP WHICH WOULD INCLUDE REHEARSALS, RELATED ACTIVITIES AND CONCERTS.

+RENOWNED MUSICIANS WILL ALSO BE INVITED TO CONDUCT REHEARSALS, CONCERTS, MASTER CLASSES AND LECTURES,+ SHE SAID.

IN THE PROPOSED TRAINING SCHEDULE, THERE WOULD BE SOME REHEARSALS ON SUNDAYS. HOWEVER, TO MINIMISE INTERFERENCE WITH THE ACADEMIC STUDIES OR WORK COMMITMENTS OF MEMBERS, THREE INTENSIVE TRAINING SESSIONS, EACH LASTING THREE TO FOUR DAYS, WOULD BE CONDUCTED DURING THE CHRISTMAS, CHINESE NEW YEAR AND EASTER HOLIDAYS, SHE SAID.

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HONG KONG TO TAKE PART IN AUSTRALIA'S FLOWER SHOW
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FIVE RARE SPECIES OF LOCAL FLOWERS CULTIVATED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL HAVE BEEN SENT TO AUSTRALIA TO TAKE PART IN THE BRISBANE RED CROSS CHELSEA FLOWER AND GARDENING SHOW BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 6 AND 8.

THE FIVE SPECIES ARE IXORA CHINENSIA, LYCORIS AUREA, POLIANTHUS TUBEROSA, HEDYCHIUM CORONARIUM AND CHRYSANTHEMUM. AS IN THE PAST, THE FLOWERS WERE FLOWN TO BRISBANE FREE BY QANTAS AIRWAYS AS A GOOD WILL GESTURE.

THE URBAN COUNCIL HAS PARTICIPATED IN THE BRISBANE FLOWER SHOW FOR MANY YEARS AS A WAY TO FOSTER A BETTER UNDERSTANDING AND FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO CITIES, SAID A COUNCIL SPOKESMAN TODAY.

A LARGE COLLECTION OF ROSES OF DIFFERENT COLOUR WERE SPECIALLY FLOWN IN FROM AUSTRALIA FOR DISPLAY AT THE URBAN COUNCIL FLOWER SHOW EARLIER THIS YEAR, HE ADDED.

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YOUTHS' VIEWS SOUGHT ON DISTRICT MATTERS
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YOUNG PEOPLE IN SHA TIN ARE BEING INVITED TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ABOUT THEIR DISTRICT BY TAKING PART IN A PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION AND A QUIZ ON SHA TIN DISTRICT MATTERS.

BOTH THE COMPETITION AND THE QUIZ ARE PART OF THE ACTIVITIES ORGANISED FOR YOUTHS BY THE SHA TIN INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR AND SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME ORGANISING COMMITTEE.

A FILM FESTIVAL WAS HELD RECENTLY, AND THE COMMITTEE WILL ORGANISE A YOUTH CAMP AND A VARIETY SHOW LATER IN THE YEAR.

+THE DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IN BOTH COMPETITIONS IS SEPTEMBER 10,+ SAID DR FANNY CHEUNG, WHO HEADS THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE.

+YOUNG PEOPLE INTERESTED IN PHOTOGRAPHY AND DISTRICT MATTERS SHOULD MAKE USE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY AND SUBMIT THEIR ENTRIES ON TIME,+ SHE SAID.

INFORMATION LEAFLETS AND FORMS FOR THE QUIZ MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE SHA KOK CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRE, SAND MARTIN HOUSE IN SHA KOK ESTATE; AND THE SUN TSUI YOUTH CENTRE IN SUN YUET HOUSE AT SUN TSUI ESTATE.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION AND THE QUIZ ARE SPONSORED BY THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD.

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KWAI CHUNG, TSING YI DISTRICT BOARD MEETING
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KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL DISCUSS PUBLIC WORK PROJECTS IN THE DISTRICT AND HIGHWAY DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS IN TSUEN WAN, KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI AT THEIR MEETING ON THURSDAY (SEPTEMBER 5) AFTERNOON.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE THE ADOPTION OF THE DISTRICT BOARD STANDING ORDERS, THE DISTRICT BOARD LOGO, AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF NEW SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

BOARD MEMBERS WILL RAISE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE NUMBER OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS, THE KWAI CHUNG PARK PROJECT, FUTURE PLANS FOR TEMPORARY HOUSING AREAS ON TSING YI, AND THE NUMBER OF +OUTREACHING SOCIAL WORKERS+ IN THE DISTRICT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI DISTRICT BOARD MEETING AT 2.30 PM TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY (SEPTEMBER 5) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF KWAI CHUNG SUB-DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS, 10TH FLOOR, KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICES (NEXT TO THE KWAI HING MTR STATION), 166-174 HING FONG ROAD, KWAI CHUNG.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR TWO FOOTBRIDGES
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TENDERS ARE INVITED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF FOOTBRIDGES IN NGAU CHI WAN, KOWLOON, AND WONG CHUK HANG ON HONG KONG ISLAND TO ENHANCE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IN THE TWO AREAS.

THE FIRST PROJECT INVOLVES THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 30-METRE FOOTBRIDGE ACROSS NEW CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD WITH ONE END LINKED TO THE EXISTING PEDESTRIAN SYSTEM SERVING CHOI WAN ESTATE.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN NOVEMBER AND TAKE 11 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE OTHER FOOTBRIDGE WILL BE BUILT ACROSS WONG CHUK HANG ROAD, WEST OF THE JUNCTION WITH NAM LONG SHAN ROAD IN ABERDEEN.

THE 28-METRE BRIDGE, WITH STAIRCASES AT BOTH ENDS, WILL PROVIDE A SAFE CROSSING FOR PEDESTRIANS FROM NEARBY INDUSTRIAL AREAS AND ALSO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW.

CONSTRUCTION WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN DECEMBER AND TAKE 15 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1985

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KOWLOON TONG TAPS OFF
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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN KOWLOON TONG WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM MIDNIGHT TO 6 AM ON SATURDAY (SEPTEMBER 7) FOR MAINS WORK.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY THE NORTHERN PART OF LUNG CHEUNG ROAD (FROM THE JUNCTION OF TAI PO ROAD TO THE JUNCTION OF LION ROCK TUNNEL ROAD) AND RHONDDA ROAD.

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