



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 1982

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## ECONOMY AFFECTED BY WORLD RECESSION

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THE WORLD ECONOMIC RECESSION HAS BEEN EXERTING AN UNFAVOURABLE INFLUENCE ON THE HONG KONG ECONOMY, TO THE EXTENT THAT THE EIGHT PER CENT GROWTH RATE FOR THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT FORECAST AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR NOW LOOKS TOO HIGH, IT IS STATED IN THE HALF-YEARLY ECONOMIC REPORT FOR 1982 PUBLISHED BY THE GOVERNMENT TODAY.

THE REPORT REVIEWS PRIMARILY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR.

THE EXPORT SECTOR WAS THE MOST AFFECTED, WITH DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR BEING TWO PER CENT LESS IN REAL TERMS THAN IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1981, THE REPORT STATES.

THE REPORT POINTS OUT, HOWEVER, THAT THE EXPORT SECTOR APPEARS WELL POISED TO BENEFIT FROM ANY RECOVERY THAT MAY OCCUR IN THE ECONOMIES OF HONG KONG'S MAIN MARKETS. THIS IS BECAUSE THE PRICES OF HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS HAVE REMAINED RELATIVELY STABLE IN RECENT MONTHS AS THE PRESSURE FROM PROPERTY PRICES AND RENTALS, INTEREST COSTS AND IMPORT PRICES HAVE EASED FURTHER.

COMMENTING ON THE ECONOMIC SITUATION AS REVIEWED IN THE REPORT, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE HONG KONG ECONOMY IS HOLDING UP EXTREMELY WELL CONSIDERING THAT THE WORLD IS UNDERGOING THE WORST RECESSION SINCE THE 1930S. HE SAID THAT THE ECONOMY IS STILL GROWING, WITH THE GROWTH IMPETUS COMING FROM DOMESTIC DEMAND AND ACTIVITY IN THE TERTIARY SERVICES SECTORS. THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE HAS ONLY INCREASED MARGINALLY TO 3.5 PER CENT IN MARCH THIS YEAR AND THE RATE OF INFLATION IS DEFINITELY SLOWING DOWN, IN TERMS OF CONSUMER PRICES, FROM 15 PER CENT LAST YEAR TO 13 PER CENT IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR AND 11 PER CENT IN THE SECOND QUARTER.

APART FROM GIVING AN OVERALL VIEW, THE REPORT 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 POINTS OUT THAT THE DECLINE IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY TWO PER CENT IN REAL TERMS IN THE FIRST HALF WAS DUE TO THE WEAK DEMAND FROM HONG KONG'S MAIN MARKETS. AS THERE ARE STILL NO CONVINCING INDICATIONS OF RECOVERY IN THE ECONOMIES OF THESE MARKETS, A MAJOR IMPROVEMENT IN EXPORT PERFORMANCE IN THE NEAR FUTURE APPEARS UNLIKELY.

THE RELATIVELY LOW LEVEL OF RETAINED IMPORTS OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES INTO HONG KONG IN THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR IS CONSISTENT WITH THIS VIEW.

THE REPORT FURTHER POINTS OUT THAT IMPORTS IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1982 WERE IN REAL TERMS LESS THAN IN THE FIRST HALF OF LAST YEAR AND THIS WAS TRUE FOR BOTH IMPORTS RETAINED IN HONG KONG AND IMPORTS SUBSEQUENTLY RE-EXPORTED. AS A CONSEQUENCE, THE VISIBLE TRADE +GAP+ IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1982 AT 14 PER CENT WAS NARROWER THAN IN THE SAME PERIOD OF 1981.

ON THE FINANCIAL SECTOR, THE REPORT SHOWS THAT THE UNDERLYING GROWTH RATES OF THE MONEY SUPPLY AND OF DOMESTIC CREDIT WERE SLOWING DOWN.

FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS IN HONG KONG SHOWED A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 1982, LARGELY AS A RESULT OF THE ABOLITION OF THE 15 PER CENT WITHHOLDING TAX ON INTEREST PAID ON SUCH DEPOSITS AS FROM FEBRUARY 25, WHILE HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS SHOWED A SLIGHT DECREASE. THERE WAS ALSO A MARKED SHIFT OF DEPOSITS FROM DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES TO BANKS.

THE REPORT ALSO NOTES THAT DOMESTIC INTEREST RATES REMAINED RELATIVELY STABLE IN THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR. WHILE THE EXCHANGE VALUE OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR AS MEASURED BY THE TRADE-WEIGHTED EXCHANGE RATE INDEX STRENGTHENED, IT DEPRECIATED SLIGHTLY IN TERMS OF THE US DOLLAR.

ON THE LABOUR SECTOR, THE REPORT INDICATES THAT THERE WAS A MARGINAL INCREASE IN THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE TO 3.5 PER CENT IN MARCH 1982 FROM 3.1 PER CENT IN DECEMBER 1981.

THE REPORT POINTS OUT THAT WHILE EMPLOYMENT IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR SHOWED NO NET INCREASE IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1982, WAGE RATES IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR SHOWED SOME IMPROVEMENT IN REAL TERMS AS THE RATE OF INFLATION SLOWED DOWN. EMPLOYMENT IN THE TERTIARY SERVICES SECTORS CONTINUED TO INCREASE, AS DID SALARIES IN THESE SECTORS.

ACCORDING TO THE REPORT, THE SLIGHT DECLINES IN EMPLOYMENT IN MANUFACTURING, IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN REAL TERMS AND IN RETAINED IMPORTS OF RAW MATERIALS, SEMI-MANUFACTURES AND CAPITAL GOODS INDICATE THAT ACTIVITY IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR HAS NOT GROWN IN THE FIRST HALF OF THE YEAR. THE REPORT FURTHER COMMENTS THAT THE SHORT-TERM OUTLOOK FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR APPEARS TO BE UNFAVOURABLE AND THAT ANY RECOVERY IS LIKELY TO BE SLOW. THIS VIEW WAS CONFIRMED BY THE RESULTS OF THE QUARTERLY BUSINESS SURVEY CONDUCTED IN APRIL 1982 AND THE ORDER-BOOK POSITION OF A SELECTION OF LARGE MANUFACTURERS INCLUDED IN THE MONTHLY SURVEY ON EMPLOYMENT, PAYROLL AND ORDERS-ON-HAND.

ON THE PROPERTY SECTOR, THE REPORT NOTES THAT COMPLETIONS, ALTHOUGH LESS THAN IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1981, REMAINED SUBSTANTIAL. BUILDING ACTIVITY ALSO REMAINED SUBSTANTIAL BUT FEWER BUILDING PLANS WERE APPROVED. WHILE THE PRICES AND RENTALS FOR PROPERTY IN GENERAL WERE EITHER THE SAME AS OR LOWER THAN IN THE SECOND HALF OF 1981, THE PRICES OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY HAVE DECREASED SUBSTANTIALLY SINCE THE SECOND HALF OF 1981. MORTGAGE RATES ALSO EASED, LEADING TO A SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION IN MONTHLY MORTGAGE PAYMENTS. POTENTIAL BUYERS, HOWEVER, REMAINED CAUTIOUS IN ANTICIPATION OF A FURTHER DROP IN FLAT PRICES, AND IN VIEW OF THE UNCERTAINTIES CONCERNING GENERAL ECONOMIC CONDITIONS AND THE UNFAVOURABLE INFLUENCE ON WEALTH OF A SLUGGISH STOCK MARKET.

ON PRICES, THE REPORT OBSERVES THAT THE RATE OF INFLATION AS INDICATED BY THE VARIOUS CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES CONTINUED TO EASE OFF, FOLLOWING THE TREND THAT EMERGED IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1981.

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THE REPORT ATTRIBUTES THE SLOWING DOWN IN THE RATE OF INFLATION TO THE EASING OF BOTH INFLATION RATES ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD AND THE PRESSURE ON PRICES FROM AGGREGATE DEMAND IN THE ECONOMY. THE STRENGTHENING OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR AND A SLOWING DOWN IN THE GROWTH RATE OF THE MONEY SUPPLY ALSO CONTRIBUTED.

THE HALF-YEARLY ECONOMIC REPORT 1982 IS NOW ON SALE AT \$20 A COPY.

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## EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED TWO NEW APPOINTMENTS TO THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS.

MISS LYDIA DUNN, A MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SINCE 1976, HAS BEEN APPOINTED TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL. SHE REPLACES THE REVEREND P.T. MCGOVERN, WHO WILL, HOWEVER, CONTINUE TO SERVE ON THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

DR HENRIETTA IP MAN-HING HAS BEEN APPOINTED AN UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL. SHE REPLACES MR D.K. NEWBIGGING, WHO WILL, HOWEVER, CONTINUE TO SERVE ON THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

DR IP IS 36 YEARS OLD AND SINGLE. SHE WAS BORN IN HONG KONG AND WAS EDUCATED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL. A PAEDIATRICIAN IN PRIVATE PRACTICE, SHE IS CURRENTLY CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED AND IS IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH THE DISADVANTAGED POOR THROUGH HER RESEARCH WORK AT THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY MEDICAL UNIT. DR IP IS A FORMER PRESIDENT OF ZONTA.

EIGHT UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS ON THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAVE BEEN REAPPOINTED. THEY ARE SIR S.Y. CHUNG, MR OSWALD CHEUNG, MR R.H. LOBO, MR LI FOOK-WO, DR HARRY FANG SIN-YANG, MR M.G.R. SANDBERG, MR LO TAK-SHING AND MR D.K. NEWBIGGING. THE OFFICIAL MEMBER, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SECRETARY FOR CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, HAS ALSO BEEN REAPPOINTED.

UNOFFICIALS REAPPOINTED TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ARE MR R.H. LOBO, DR HARRY FANG SIN-YANG, MR LO TAK-SHING, MR FRANCIS TIEN YUAN-HAO, REVEREND JOYCE M. BENNETT, MR CHEN SHOU-LUM, MISS LYDIA DUNN, DR HENRY HU HUNG-LICK, REVEREND P.T. MCGOVERN, MR PETER C. WONG, MR WONG LAM, DR HO KAM-FAI, MR ALLEN LEE PENG-FEI AND MR ANDREW SO KWOK-WING.

THE TWO NEW APPOINTMENTS OF UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS AND ALL REAPPOINTMENTS TO THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS WILL BE EFFECTIVE FROM NEXT WEDNESDAY (SEPTEMBER 1). THE APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS WILL BE FOR ONE YEAR, EXCEPT IN THE CASE OF MR AKERS-JONES, WHOSE APPOINTMENT AS THE OFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IS FOR TWO YEARS.

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**HIGH ESPRIT DE CORPS AT CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT**  
**\* \* \* \* \***

THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT SINCE AUGUST 1 HAD ADDED SUBSTANTIALLY TO THE ESPRIT DE CORPS OF THE SERVICE, THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE, MR DOUGLAS JORDAN, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

ADDRESSING THE LIONS CLUB OF HONG KONG ISLAND, MR JORDAN REMARKED THAT WHEN THE DEPARTMENT WAS PART OF THE FORMER FEDERAL TRADE INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT, IT LACKED THE IDENTITY OF A SELF-CONTAINED ORGANISATION FULFILLING ITS OWN FUNCTION IN THE GOVERNMENT.

+THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT AS A WHOLE WILL BE STAFFED BY PROFESSIONAL OFFICERS FROM TOP TO BOTTOM, OFFICERS WIDELY EXPERIENCED IN ALL ASPECTS OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE WORK,+ HE SAID.

RECOUNTING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT AND THE DEVELOPMENTS LEADING TO ITS ESTABLISHMENT AS A NEW INDEPENDENT SERVICE, MR JORDAN SAID: +I CAME HERE IN LATE 1977 FROM THE BRITISH CUSTOMS SPECIFICALLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF REORGANISING AND MODERNISING THE SERVICE. THE TIMING COULD NOT HAVE BEEN MORE APPROPRIATE.+

HE RECALLED THAT THE HONG KONG CUSTOMS AND EXCISE HAD MADE GREAT PROGRESS IN THE 1970'S IN ANTI-NARCOTICS LAW ENFORCEMENT AND IN DESTROYING TERRITORY-WIDE PRODUCTION AND SALE OF COUNTERFEIT GOODS.

IT HAD COPED WITH ITS PROBLEMS OF MEETING NEW DEMANDS ON ITS STAFFING, THE NEW KWAI CHUNG CONTAINER TERMINAL, THE RAPID EXPANSION OF TRAFFIC AT KAI TAK AND TO MACAU, AND THE DEMANDS ON ITS INVESTIGATIVE FORCES TO DEAL WITH ITS INCREASING ANTI-NARCOTICS RESPONSIBILITIES, HE RECALLED.

HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT ALL THIS HAD BEEN DONE BY REDEPLOYMENT OF STAFF AND BY EXCESSIVE DEMANDS ON THE EXISTING STAFF AND ORGANISATION.

+IT RECEIVED ITS FAIR SHARE OF SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE UNDER THE FEDERAL UMBRELLA OF THE TRADE INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT. BUT FUNDAMENTALLY WHAT WAS WRONG WAS ITS OWN ORGANISATION BOTH FOR OPERATIONAL PURPOSES IN THE FIELD AND TO ENABLE EFFECTIVE ADMINISTRATION TO BE APPLIED CENTRALLY AT HEADQUARTERS.

+BY AND LARGE THE ORGANISATION WAS MUCH AS IT HAD BEEN FOR MANY YEARS PREVIOUSLY. ONLY THE PROBLEMS HAD CHANGED - AND GROWN BOTH IN SIZE AND NUMBER,+ HE SAID.

/THE RAPID .....

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THE RAPID DEVELOPMENTS IN TRADE AND TRAFFIC FOLLOWING THE OPEN DOOR POLICY OF CHINA HAVE ADDED EVEN HEAVIER WORKLOADS.

TO COPE WITH THE CHANGES, A NEW REGIONAL ORGANISATION WAS INTRODUCED IN 1981, BASED ON ITS DIVISION BETWEEN HONG KONG ISLAND, KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES.

EACH REGION HAD A LARGE DEGREE OF AUTONOMY UNDER ITS COMMANDER AND MATTERS WERE ARRANGED TO AVOID REFERENCE TO HEADQUARTERS, WHEREVER POSSIBLE, HE SAID.

+ INTER-CHANGEABILITY AND ROTATION OF STAFF BETWEEN THE CONSTITUENT UNITS OF EACH REGION WAS INTRODUCED TO MAKE FOR EARLIEST AND WIDEST EXPERIENCE. IN THIS WE HAD AN EYE TO DEVELOPING SENIOR OFFICERS OF THE FUTURE, + HE SAID.

HE SAID THAT THE DEPARTMENT NOW HAD A REGIONAL FIELD ORGANISATION COMMENSURATE WITH THE NEEDS OF HONG KONG IN THE EIGHTIES.

+ ONE MOST SUCCESSFUL INNOVATION IS THAT OF A TECHNICAL BUREAU - A THINK-TANK OFFICE OF BOFFINS WHICH CONSTANTLY REVIEWS OUR PROCEDURES, PROPOSES CHANGES IN THE LAW TO MEET WEAKNESSES DISCOVERED IN OUR CONTROLS AND ENSURES THAT THE THREE REGIONS, WHILE LARGELY AUTONOMOUS IN DAY-TO-DAY MATTERS, CONFORM TO AN OVERALL UNIFORM APPROACH TO THE WORK, + MR JORDAN SAID.

IN ADDITION, THE CUSTOMS INVESTIGATION BUREAU, FORMING PART OF THE CENTRAL HEADQUARTERS, HAD BEEN THOROUGHLY REORGANISED AND RESTAFFED, HE SAID.

THIS, TOGETHER WITH THE ENTHUSIASTIC ENERGETIC EFFORTS OF THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE STAFF BOTH IN THE BUREAU AND IN THE FIELD, HAS PRODUCED THE EXCELLENT RESULTS WE ARE ACHIEVING IN COUNTERING THE INSIDIOUS NARCOTICS TRAFFIC, MR JORDAN REMARKED.

IN LINE WITH THE REORGANISATION, THE DEPARTMENT SOUGHT TO IMPROVE THE TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT FOR INVESTIGATION AND OTHER PURPOSES.

SUCH EQUIPMENT AS ADDITIONAL X-RAY MACHINES AND WALK-THROUGH DETECTOR GATES WILL BE INTRODUCED LATER THIS YEAR, WHILE THE EXPANSION AND MODERNISATION OF THE LAUNCH FLEET IS NOW BEING CONSIDERED.

+ IN THIS NEW INDEPENDENCE AND IN CONSEQUENCE OF ALL THE REORGANISATIONAL CHANGES MADE WE SHALL NOT ONLY PROVIDE A USEFUL AND SATISFYING CAREER FOR ALL OUR OFFICERS BUT PROVIDE THE SERVICE WHICH A DYNAMIC PLACE SUCH AS HONG KONG DESERVES, + MR JORDAN CONCLUDED.

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COMPENSATION BILL WELL RECEIVED  
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THE BILL WHICH INTRODUCES COMPULSORY INSURANCE AND OTHER COMPENSATION MEASURES FOR EMPLOYEES HAS RECEIVED GOOD GENERAL SUPPORT FROM VARIOUS QUARTERS OF THE COMMUNITY AND IS SEEN AS A SIGNIFICANT STEP TO FURTHER PROTECT THE INTERESTS OF EMPLOYEES INJURED AT WORK AND THEIR DEPENDANTS.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE ACTING ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR YIU YAN-NANG, IN A TALK ON THE EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1982 AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE LIONS CLUB OF HONG KONG SOUTH TODAY (FRIDAY).

MR YIU POINTED OUT THAT SINCE THE BILL WAS PUBLISHED, IT HAD ATTRACTED COMMENTS FROM A WIDE CROSS-SECTION OF THE COMMUNITY, INCLUDING EMPLOYERS' ORGANISATIONS, TRADE UNIONS, INSURERS, BANKERS AND SOCIAL GROUPS.

HE ALSO REFERRED TO CRITICAL REMARKS ABOUT LACK OF CONSULTATIONS, DELAY IN INTRODUCING THE BILL, LACK OF A CENTRAL FUND TO COVER DEFAULT CASES, AND THE NEED TO RAISE THE LEVELS OF COMPENSATION.

ON THE ISSUE OF CONSULTATIONS, HE EXPLAINED THAT THE BILL, REPRESENTED THE SECOND STAGE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF AN INTER-DEPARTMENTAL WORKING PARTY.

THE PARTY IN THE COURSE OF ITS DELIBERATIONS HAD CONSULTED A NUMBER OF INTERESTED BODIES, INCLUDING THE MAJOR EMPLOYERS' ORGANISATIONS AND THE ACCIDENT INSURANCE INDUSTRY.

THE REPORT OF THE PARTY HAD BEEN PRESENTED TO THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD WHICH ENDORSED ALL ITS RECOMMENDATIONS AND HAD BEEN DISTRIBUTED FOR COMMENTS TO ALL REGISTERED TRADE UNIONS, MAJOR EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATIONS AND OTHER INTERESTED BODIES.

ON CRITICISMS OF DELAY, MR YIU NOTED THAT THE BILL COVERED SUBJECTS SOME OF WHICH WERE DIFFICULT TO DRAFT WHILE OTHERS WERE CONTROVERSIAL AND TOOK MORE TIME TO RESOLVE.

MR YIU POINTED OUT THAT COMPULSORY INSURANCE SHOULD NOT IMPOSE ANY ADDITIONAL COSTS ON EMPLOYERS WHO HAD ALREADY TAKEN OUT INSURANCE.

FOR THOSE WHO HAD NOT YET BEEN INSURED, THE INSURANCE PREMIUMS REQUIRED WHEN COMPULSORY INSURANCE COMES INTO FORCE WOULD BE THE PRICE TO COVER THEIR LIABILITY, WHICH SHOULD NOT BE REGARDED AS AN ADDITIONAL COST, HE SAID.

THE REAL ADDITIONAL COST THAT MIGHT FALL ON EMPLOYERS WOULD BE THE RESULT OF THE ADDITIONAL BENEFITS INTRODUCED BY THE BILL, SUCH AS LEAVE WITH PAY FOR ATTENDING MEDICAL EXAMINATION OR ASSESSMENT BOARD.

/BUT THIS .....

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BUT THIS COST WAS NEGLIGIBLE, HE ADDED.

REFERRING TO THE LACK OF A CENTRAL FUND TO COVER DEFAULTED CASES, MR YIU SAID THIS WOULD BE EXAMINED AGAIN AFTER COMPULSORY INSURANCE HAD BEEN IN FORCE FOR A PERIOD OF TIME.

HE POINTED OUT THAT EXPERIENCE HAD SHOWN THAT EVEN WITHOUT COMPULSORY INSURANCE THERE WERE LESS THAN TEN CASES OF DEFAULT A YEAR, AND ALL THESE CASES EVENTUALLY RECEIVED CASH ASSISTANCE FROM THE BREWIN TRUST FUND.

ON CALLS TO RAISE THE LEVELS OF COMPENSATION, MR YIU POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS HIS DEPARTMENT'S CURRENT POLICY TO REVIEW THE LEVELS EVERY TWO YEARS IN ORDER TO MAKE ADJUSTMENTS FOR INFLATION.

SUCH A REVIEW WAS DUE TOWARDS THE END OF THIS YEAR.

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LETTERS A AND B TENDERS INVITED FOR SIX NT SITES  
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THE LANDS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING APPLICATIONS FROM REGISTERED OWNERS OF LAND EXCHANGE ENTITLEMENTS (LETTERS A AND B) FOR SIX NEW TERRITORIES SITES.

THE SITES, HAVING A TOTAL AREA OF 12 560 SQUARE METRES, ARE FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL, RESIDENTIAL AND INDUSTRIAL/GODOWN DEVELOPMENT.

OF THE SITES, THREE ARE IN SHA TIN NEW TOWN AND THE OTHER THREE IN YUEN LONG NEW TOWN.

ONE OF THE SHA TIN SITES, MEASURING 2 223 SQUARE METRES, IS FOR PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES ONLY, WHILE THE REMAINING TWO (1 870 SQUARE METRES AND 230 SQUARE METRES) ARE TO BE USED FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES.

TWO YUEN LONG SITES (2 384 SQUARE METRES AND 3 471 SQUARE METRES) ARE FOR INDUSTRIAL OR GODOWN PURPOSES OR BOTH WHILE THE REMAINING 2 382 SQUARE METRES SITE IS FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL (EXCLUDING RESIDENTIAL) PURPOSES ONLY.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS SEPTEMBER 24.

APPLICATION FORMS, APPLICATION NOTICES AND CONDITIONS OF GRANT MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE LANDS DEPARTMENT, MURRAY BUILDING, 5TH FLOOR, GARDEN ROAD; THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE (KOWLOON WEST), 10TH FLOOR, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 405 NATHAN ROAD; AND THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES OF SHA TIN, TUEN MUN, YUEN LONG, TSUEN WAN, TAI PO, NORTH, AND SAI KUNG.

SALES PLANS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION AT THESE OFFICES.

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### VOTER REGISTRATION

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THE ANNUAL REGISTRATION OF VOTERS WILL BEGIN ON TUESDAY (AUGUST 31), AND WILL CONTINUE UNTIL OCTOBER 11.

+THIS IS AN ANNUAL EXERCISE AND ALL ELIGIBLE PERSONS WHO HAVE NOT REGISTERED MAY REGISTER NOW,+ THE REGISTRATION OFFICER, MR GEORGE HO, SAID TODAY.

+PERSONS WHO REGISTER NOW CAN VOTE IN THE URBAN COUNCIL ELECTION IN MARCH 1983 AND IN ALL FUTURE ELECTIONS OF THE DISTRICT BOARDS, BUT THEY MAY NOT VOTE IN THE UPCOMING URBAN DISTRICT BOARD ELECTION ON SEPTEMBER 23,+ HE POINTED OUT.

ANYONE WHO WOULD HAVE REACHED THE AGE OF 21 BY NOVEMBER 30 WILL BE ABLE TO REGISTER IF HE HAS LIVED IN HONG KONG FOR AT LEAST SEVEN YEARS.

FORMS FOR REGISTRATION ARE AVAILABLE FROM ALL POST OFFICES, URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S GAMES HALLS AND CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICT OFFICES.

COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED, EITHER IN PERSON OR BY POST, TO THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL OFFICE, 18TH FLOOR, NEW MERCURY HOUSE, 22 FENWICK STREET, WAN CHAI.

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### TEACHERS BRIEFED ON CAREERS EDUCATION

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MORE THAN 150 CAREERS TEACHERS WERE BRIEFED ON THE INTEGRATION OF CAREERS EDUCATION INTO THE SCHOOL CURRICULUM AT LA SALLE COLLEGE THIS (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON.

THE BRIEFING WAS GIVEN AT THE PRESENTATION SESSION OF A SEMINAR ON CAREERS EDUCATION WHICH WAS HELD FOR SOME 60 OTHER CAREERS TEACHERS IN THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG IN JULY.

DURING THE SESSION, THE PARTICIPANTS WERE TOLD THAT CAREERS EDUCATION COULD BE INTEGRATED INTO THE SCHOOL CURRICULUM WITH VARYING DEGREE OF SUCCESS AND THAT A CAREFULLY PLANNED INTEGRATION WILL AROUSE STUDENTS' AWARENESS OF CAREERS AND HELP THEM IN EXPLORING CAREERS AND MAKING PREPARATIONS BEFORE CHOOSING CAREERS.

THE TWO-DAY SEMINAR WAS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT ADVISORY SERVICE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF CAREERS MASTERS.

IT CONCLUDED TODAY WITH THE PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF ATTENDANCE TO THE 60 TEACHERS BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR J.N. HENDERSON, AND THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR C.H. HAYE.

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**FIREMEN - A FRIEND IN NEED**

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A FIREMAN WAS A FRIEND IN NEED TO EVERY CITIZEN AS LONG AS HE PERFORMED HIS DUTIES WITH EFFICIENCY, THE DEPUTY CHIEF FIRE OFFICER OF THE KOWLOON FIRE COMMAND, MR LAM LOK-BUN, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING TO TWO SQUADS OF NEWLY GRADUATED FIREMEN AT THE PASSING-OUT PARADE AT THE FIRE SERVICES TRAINING SCHOOL AT PAT HEUNG, NEW TERRITORIES, HE SAID THAT FIRE-FIGHTING OPERATIONS HAD NEVER BEEN SIMPLE MATTERS.

+THEY CALL FOR HIGHLY PROFESSIONAL SKILLS AND TECHNIQUES AND DEVOTION TO MEANINGFUL DUTIES,+ HE SAID.

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**STREETS TO BE CLOSED FOR MTR PROJECT**

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TWO STREETS WILL BE CLOSED TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY ISLAND LINE, ACCORDING TO THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE PUBLISHED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE DATES FOR THE CLOSURES WILL BE ANNOUNCED LATER.

THE STREETS ARE MONG LUNG STREET IN SHAU KEI WAN AND THE UNNAMED ROAD JOINING THE NORTH END OF NING PO STREET IN CHAI WAN.

THE CARRIAGEWAY AND FOOTPATH FROM THE SOUTHERN BUILDING LINE OF YUEN HING LANE TO A POINT 70 METRES NORTHWARDS ALONG MONG LUNG STREET WILL BE CLOSED TEMPORARILY.

A TEMPORARY TRAFFIC DIVERSION WILL BE PROVIDED, CONNECTING THE NORTH-WESTERN END OF MONG LUNG STREET WITH NAM ON STREET.

FOOTPATHS LINKING MONG LUNG STREET TO KENG SHAN LANE AND YUEN HING LANE WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED.

A SECTION OF THE UNNAMED ROAD BETWEEN THE NORTHERN BOUNDARY OF CHAI WAN V TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA AND ITS NORTHERN END WILL BE PERMANENTLY CLOSED AND REPLACED BY AN ALTERNATIVE ACCESS ROAD.

PLANS SHOWING THE AFFECTED AREAS ARE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION AT THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (CENTRAL AND WESTERN) AND ITS ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (EASTERN) AND ITS CHAI WAN SUB-OFFICE, AND THE SURVEY DIVISION OF THE LANDS DEPARTMENT.

ANY CLAIMS FOR COMPENSATION SHOULD BE MADE IN WRITING TO THE DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT WITHIN ONE YEAR AFTER THE PERMANENT CLOSURE OR, IN THE CASE OF A TEMPORARY CLOSURE, WITHIN ONE YEAR AFTER THE RE-OPENING OF THE STREET.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN SAI YING PUN

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TO IMPROVE THE TRAFFIC FLOW IN SAI YING PUN, NORTHBOUND VEHICLES ON POK FU LAM ROAD WILL BE BANNED FROM TURNING RIGHT INTO THIRD STREET FROM 10 AM ON SUNDAY (AUGUST 29).

AT THE SAME TIME, EASTBOUND VEHICLES ON THIRD STREET WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO TURN LEFT INTO POK FU LAM ROAD.

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LANTERN DESIGN COMPETITION

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PRIMARY AND SECONDARY STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO TAKE PART IN A LANTERN DESIGN COMPETITION TO MARK THE FORTHCOMING MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL.

THE COMPETITION, ORGANISED BY THE 1982 LANTERN CARNIVALS ORGANISING COMMITTEE, IS AIMED AT REVIVING PUBLIC INTEREST IN THE TRADITIONAL CHINESE ART OF LANTERN DESIGN.

ENTRIES SUBMITTED TO THE COMPETITION WILL BE DISPLAYED AT AN EXHIBITION AT THE CITY HALL FROM SEPTEMBER 24 TO 28.

THE COMPETITION WILL BE DIVIDED INTO A PRIMARY DIVISION AND A SECONDARY DIVISION AND EACH STUDENT CAN SUBMIT ANY NUMBER OF ENTRIES IN THE COMPETITION.

SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES SHOULD BE MADE THROUGH HEADS OF SCHOOLS WHO ARE REQUESTED TO SEND IN AN ENTRY FORM TO THE ENTERTAINMENT OFFICE OF URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S CULTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT ROOM 1109, NEW WORLD OFFICE BUILDING, 18-24 SALISBURY ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 10.

ALL ENTRIES MUST REACH THE EXHIBITION HALL OF THE CITY HALL BETWEEN 10 AM AND 5 PM ON SEPTEMBER 22.

JUDGING OF THE ENTRIES WILL TAKE PLACE ON SEPTEMBER 23 DURING WHICH 100 OUTSTANDING ENTRIES WILL BE SELECTED. EACH WINNER WILL BE AWARDED A CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AND A BOOK TOKEN WORTH \$200.

IN ADDITION, 20 PRIZES IN THE FORM OF CERTIFICATES OF MERIT WILL BE AWARDED TO SPONSORING SCHOOLS WHICH SUBMIT LANTERNS OF OUTSTANDING DESIGN.

ALL LANTERNS SUBMITTED CAN BE OF ANY MATERIAL BUT SHOULD NOT BE LARGER THAN ONE METRE IN ANY DIMENSION, AND NO ADVERTISING SLOGANS OF A COMMERCIAL OR POLITICAL NATURE WILL BE ACCEPTED.

FIRING PRACTICE AT HA TSUEN - CASTLE PEAK RANGE  
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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE HA TSUEN - CASTLE PEAK RANGE FOR 22 DAYS NEXT MONTH.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WARNED NOT TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN RED FLAGS ARE FLYING.

THE DATES AND TIMES OF THE PRACTICE ARE AS FOLLOWS:-

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
SEPTEMBER 1 (WEDNESDAY)	8 AM - 6.30 PM
SEPTEMBER 2 (THURSDAY)	8 AM - 6.30 PM
SEPTEMBER 6 (MONDAY)	8 AM - 7 PM
SEPTEMBER 7 (TUESDAY)	8 AM - 7 PM
SEPTEMBER 8 (WEDNESDAY)	8 AM - 7.15 PM
SEPTEMBER 9 (THURSDAY)	8 AM - 7.15 PM
SEPTEMBER 10 (FRIDAY)	8 AM - 7.15 PM
SEPTEMBER 11 (SATURDAY)	8 AM - 7.15 PM
SEPTEMBER 13 (MONDAY)	8 AM - 7.15 PM
SEPTEMBER 14 (TUESDAY)	8 AM - 7.15 PM
SEPTEMBER 15 (WEDNESDAY)	8 AM - 11 PM
SEPTEMBER 16 (THURSDAY)	8 AM - 11 PM
SEPTEMBER 17 (FRIDAY)	8 AM - 11 PM
SEPTEMBER 18 (SATURDAY)	8 AM - 11 PM
SEPTEMBER 20 (MONDAY)	9 AM - 6.30 PM
SEPTEMBER 21 (TUESDAY)	8 AM - 6.30 PM
SEPTEMBER 22 (WEDNESDAY)	8 AM - 6 PM
SEPTEMBER 23 (THURSDAY)	8 AM - 4.30 PM
SEPTEMBER 24 (FRIDAY)	8 AM - 4.30 PM
SEPTEMBER 28 (TUESDAY)	8 AM - 11 PM
SEPTEMBER 29 (WEDNESDAY)	8 AM - 11 PM
SEPTEMBER 30 (THURSDAY)	8 AM - 4.30 PM.

**DRAWING COMPETITION FOR YOUNGSTERS**

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MORE THAN 400 CHILDREN, AGED BETWEEN SIX AND 14, WILL TAKE PART IN A PAINTING AND DRAWING COMPETITION IN SHA TIN ON SUNDAY (AUGUST 29) MORNING.

THE FAVOURITE THEME FOR THE CONTESTANTS IS EXPECTED TO BE +TIN SUM VALLEY THROUGH MY EYES+, AS MOST OF THEM ARE FAMILIAR WITH THE SCENIC SPOT.

THE JUDGING PANEL COMPRISES SIX TEACHERS FROM LOCAL SCHOOLS.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TIN SUM VALLEY AREA COMMITTEE, MR CHOY KAN-PUI, WILL PRESENT PRIZES AT THE END OF THE COMPETITION.

JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE TIN SUM VALLEY AREA COMMITTEE AND THE SHENG KUNG HUI SHA TIN SOCIAL SERVICES CENTRE, THE COMPETITION WILL BE HELD FROM 9 AM TO 11.30 AM AT THE PODIUM OF SUN TIN WAI PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE IN SHA TIN.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT AT THE PODIUM OF SUN TIN WAI PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE IN SHA TIN.

**CHILDREN SHUTTLECOCK TRAINING COURSE**

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CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN SEVEN AND 12 WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN TO PLAY SHUTTLECOCK.

THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT'S RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE HONG KONG AMATEUR SHUTTLECOCK ASSOCIATION IS OFFERING A SHUTTLECOCK TRAINING COURSE FOR CHILDREN.

AN RCD SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THE TRAINING COURSE WILL BE HELD AT THREE DIFFERENT VENUES.

THE CLASSES WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE HENNESSY ROAD GOVERNMENT SCHOOL ON HONG KONG ISLAND, TONG MEI ROAD GOVERNMENT SCHOOL IN KOWLOON AND YAN OI TONG TAI HING SPORTS CENTRE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES EVERY SATURDAY FROM SEPTEMBER 4 TO NOVEMBER 13.

SOUVENIRS WILL BE AWARDED TO THOSE WHO HAVE ATTENDED 10 SUCCESSIVE SESSIONS.

THE FEE IS \$8 AND ENROLMENT IS ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

APPLICATION FORMS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM RSS HEADQUARTERS OR ITS 19 DISTRICT OFFICES.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 1982

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**+SWINGING SUMMER+ GRAND FINALE  
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THE GRAND FINALE OF THIS YEAR'S +SWINGING SUMMER+ TV PROGRAMME WILL BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 2 AT THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL AT 7.30 PM.

FREE ADMISSION TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS FROM RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG AND THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL.

THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF BROADCASTING, MR HAROLD KWOK WILL OFFICIATE AT THE FUNCTION, JOINTLY PRESENTED BY THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES, RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG AND THE NT PRESENTATION OFFICE OF THE CULTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

THE FINALE, WILL HIGHLIGHT THE FINALS OF THE +SWINGING SUMMER+ FOLK GROUP SINGING COMPETITION AND AN INTER-DISTRICT FOLK DANCE CONTEST.

SIX SEMI-FINALIST TEAMS WILL COMPETE FOR THE GRAND CHAMPIONSHIP IN EACH OF THE COMPETITIONS.

THE SEMI-FINALISTS FOR THE FOLK DANCE CONTEST ARE REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS FROM TAI PO, YAU MA TEI, KWUN TONG, SHAM SHUI PO, MONG KOK AND SOUTHERN DISTRICTS.

THE SIX SEMI-FINALIST GROUPS FOR THE SINGING COMPETITION WERE SELECTED FROM 2 500 ENTRANTS.

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