



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1984

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1984

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GATT ACTION URGED ON U.S. ORIGIN RULES
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THE PROPOSED U.S. RULES OF ORIGIN ON TEXTILE EXPORTS TO AMERICA WILL AFFECT ALL EXPORTERS OF TEXTILES ADVERSELY, HONG KONG'S DIRECTOR OF TRADE, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, TOLD THE EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE TEXTILES COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE (GATT), IN GENEVA TODAY (TUESDAY).

MR MACLEOD SAID HONG KONG CONSIDERED THE PROPOSED U.S. REGULATIONS WERE IN CLEAR BREACH OF THE MULTI-FIBRE ARRANGEMENT (MFA) AND THE UNITED STATES-HONG KONG BILATERAL AGREEMENT, AND THAT THEY MADE SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO THE ESTABLISHED RULES OF ORIGIN.

THEREFORE, HE CALLED FOR THE REGULATIONS TO BE RESCINDED.

THE DIRECTOR RECORDED HONG KONG'S FULL AGREEMENT WITH THE CLEAR AND WELL-AGREED STATEMENT MADE ON BEHALF OF DEVELOPING EXPORTERS OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING BY THE MEXICAN REPRESENTATIVE, MR DELGADO.

MR MACLEOD SOUNDED A WARNING THAT AN UNFORTUNATE TREND WHICH APPEARED TO BE DEVELOPING FOR +EVER MORE RESTRICTIVE MEASURES TO BE INTRODUCED UNILATERALLY TO APPEASE THE U.S. TEXTILE INDUSTRY+ HAD IMPLICATIONS BEYOND THE ISSUES DISCUSSED BY THE TEXTILES COMMITTEE.

+THIS TYPE OF ACTION, IN DISREGARD OF INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS, WEAKENS THE CREDIBILITY OF THE WHOLE FRAMEWORK OF ORDERLY TRADE UNDER THE MULTI-FIBRE ARRANGEMENT, AND THERE IS NO ASSURANCE THAT SUCH ATTITUDES WILL NOT IN DUE COURSE RESULT IN SIMILARLY RESTRICTIVE MEASURES IN OTHER SECTORS OF TRADE,+ MR MACLEOD SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT ANY SIGNIFICANT CHANGE TO THE RULES UNDER THE BILATERAL TEXTILES AGREEMENT MUST BE BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT.

IF THE UNITED STATES DID, IN FACT, HAVE LEGITIMATE CONCERNS ABOUT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF BILATERAL AGREEMENTS OR ABOUT CIRCUMVENTION THEN, MR MACLEOD SAID, THE APPROPRIATE AVENUE FOR DEALING WITH SUCH CONCERNS WAS TO SEEK CONSULTATIONS WITH A VIEW TO ARRIVING AT MUTUALLY-AGREED SOLUTIONS.

+HOWEVER, I MUST COMMENT THAT THE REAL INTENTION BEHIND THE REGULATIONS APPEARS TO US TO BE NOT SO MUCH TO PREVENT CIRCUMVENTION OF THE EXISTING RULES AS TO CHANGE THOSE RULES,+ THE DIRECTOR SAID.

+AND BY SO DOING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, TO CHANGE THE COVERAGE OF CATEGORIES OF TEXTILE PRODUCTS SUBJECT TO QUOTA.

/+ONE SPECIFIC

+ONE SPECIFIC CHANGE WORTH HIGHLIGHTING IS THAT THE REGULATIONS SPECIFY FOUR PROCESSES WHICH WILL ON THEIR OWN NOT QUALIFY AS SUBSTANTIAL TRANSFORMATION.

+IN THE CASE OF HONG KONG, THIS MEANS THAT A MAJORITY OF OUR EXPORTS OF PIECE-KNITTED GARMENTS AND FINISHED FABRICS IS LIKELY, IN FUTURE, NOT TO BE REGARDED AS OF HONG KONG ORIGIN BY THE U.S. -- A SERIOUS CHANGE OVER THE POSITION BOTH NOW AND WHEN THE BILATERAL AGREEMENT WAS NEGOTIATED,+ MR MACLEOD SAID.

SPEAKING ON ANOTHER ISSUE DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING - THE COUNTERVAILING DUTY PETITIONS - MR MACLEOD SAID THAT ALTHOUGH HONG KONG ITSELF WAS NOT MADE THE TARGET OF THE PETITIONS, HE AGREED WITH THE REMARKS MADE BY MR DELGADO OF MEXICO ON BEHALF OF DEVELOPING EXPORTERS OF TEXTILES AND GARMENTS AS WELL AS BY OTHER DELEGATIONS.

+THEY ARE A DELIBERATE DEVICE OF PROTECTIONIST ELEMENTS WITHIN THE U.S. DESIGNED TO HARASS AND DISRUPT LEGITIMATE TRADE,+ MR MACLEOD SAID.

+THE TEXTILES COMMITTEE SHOULD URGE THE UNITED STATES NOT TO ALLOW ITSELF, BY VIRTUE OF THE INVOCATION OF THESE COUNTERVAILING DUTY PROCEDURES, TO BE PUT IN A POSITION THAT IS IN ANY WAY INCONSISTENT WITH ITS INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS.+

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CIRCULAR SETS OUT U.S. TEXTILES RULES
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THE TRADE DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) ANNOUNCED FURTHER INFORMATION ON ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS RELATING TO IMPORTS OF TEXTILES AND TEXTILE PRODUCTS INTO THE UNITED STATES IN CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN CIRCULAR NO. 8/84 DATED SEPTEMBER 3.

EXPORTERS AND MANUFACTURERS ARE PARTICULARLY REQUESTED TO NOTE THAT THE TRADE DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE TO ISSUE CERTIFICATE OF HONG KONG ORIGIN AND LICENCES FOR EXPORT TO THE UNITED STATES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE EXISTING HONG KONG RULES AND ARRANGEMENTS.

COPIES OF THE CIRCULAR ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE RECEPTION COUNTER OF THE DEPARTMENT AT THE GROUND FLOOR OF OCEAN CENTRE, 5 CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON.

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GOVERNOR LEAVES FOR PEKING

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, LEFT FOR PEKING THIS (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON TO TAKE PART IN ANOTHER ROUND OF SINO-BRITISH TALKS ON THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG.

SIR EDWARD WAS SEEN OFF AT THE AIRPORT BY THE SENIOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR ROGER LOBO, AND THE VICE-CHIEF EDITOR OF THE XINHUA NEWS AGENCY (HONG KONG BRANCH), MR TAN GAN.

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FINANCIAL SECRETARY VISITS FACTORIES

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THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, SIR JOHN BREMRIDGE, CONTINUED HIS SERIES OF VISITS TO LOCAL FACTORIES TODAY (TUESDAY) AND WATCHED THE MAKING OF PRODUCTS RANGING FROM HIGH-PRECISION MACHINERY TO FURS.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR PETER JOHNSON, SIR JOHN VISITED ASM ASIA LTD. AND ASM ASSEMBLY AUTOMATION LTD. AT KUNG YIP STREET, KWAI CHUNG, WHERE THEY WERE WELCOMED BY THE MANAGING DIRECTOR, MR PATRICK LAM. THE TWO FACTORIES ARE SUBSIDIARIES OF ASM INTERNATIONAL IN THE NETHERLANDS.

ASM ASIA LTD. WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1975 TO PRODUCE HIGH-PRECISION METAL TOOLINGS AND MOULDS FOR MANUFACTURING SEMI-CONDUCTORS, AND TO PRODUCE PRECISION STAMPING OF LEAD FRAMES FOR MANUFACTURING INTEGRATED CIRCUITS; ASM ASSEMBLY AUTOMATION LTD., SET UP IN 1979, PRODUCES SEMI-AUTOMATIC AND AUTOMATIC EQUIPMENT FOR ASSEMBLING SEMI-CONDUCTOR AND CONSUMER ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS. THE COMPANIES' PRODUCTS ARE DISTRIBUTED WORLDWIDE, BUT MAINLY TO SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRIES.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY ALSO VISITED THE HONG KONG FUR FACTORY LIMITED, IN CHEUNG SHA WAN, AND WAS SHOWN ROUND THE FACTORY BY THE MANAGING DIRECTOR, MR MICHAEL SUN, AND OTHER SENIOR EXECUTIVES.

THE HONG KONG FUR FACTORY WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1971 BY LOCAL INTERESTS. IT PRODUCES FUR JACKETS AND COATS FOR EXPORT TO JAPAN, THE UNITED STATES AND EUROPE.

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RETAIL SALES VALUE INDEX DOWN
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THE VALUE OF SALES FOR THE RETAIL TRADE SECTOR IN JUNE THIS YEAR WAS ESTIMATED TO BE \$5 393 MILLION, ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONAL SURVEY RESULTS RELEASED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

AT 159, THE OVERALL RETAIL SALES VALUE INDEX DECREASED BY FOUR POINTS OR THREE PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH THE MAY 1984 FIGURE, BUT INCREASED BY 23 POINTS OR 17 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH JUNE 1983. THE OVERALL RETAIL SALES VOLUME INDEX, AT 110, WAS FOUR POINTS OR THREE PER CENT LOWER THAN THAT FOR MAY 1984, BUT FIVE POINTS OR FIVE PER CENT HIGHER THAN THAT FOR JUNE 1983.

COMPARED WITH MAY 1984, FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO RECORDED INCREASES IN BOTH SALES VALUE AND VOLUME, AT THREE PER CENT AND TWO PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, RETAIL SALES OF CONSUMER DURABLES AND FUELS DECREASED BY TWO PER CENT AND THREE PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN BOTH VALUE AND VOLUME TERMS, WHILE THOSE OF OTHER CONSUMER GOODS DROPPED BY THREE PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS AND FOUR PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS.

RETAIL SALES OF CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS WENT DOWN BY 15 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS OR 16 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS.

COMPARED WITH JUNE 1983 SALES, BOTH CONSUMER DURABLES AND FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO RECORDED THE LARGEST INCREASE IN SALES VALUE, AT 22 PER CENT EACH. IN TERMS OF SALES VOLUME, CONSUMER DURABLES INCREASED BY NINE PER CENT AND FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO BY EIGHT PER CENT. RETAIL SALES OF CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS INCREASED BY 19 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS OR SIX PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS. RETAIL SALES OF OTHER CONSUMER GOODS INCREASED BY 12 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS OR TWO PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS WHILE THOSE OF FUELS ROSE BY SEVEN PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS OR ONE PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS.

ANALYSED BY SELECTED TRADES, RETAIL SALES OF SUPERMARKETS IN JUNE 1984 RECORDED LARGE INCREASES IN BOTH VALUE AND VOLUME TERMS WHEN COMPARED WITH MAY 1984, BUT MOTOR VEHICLES, DEPARTMENT STORES AND CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES SHOWED DECREASES. WHEN COMPARED WITH JUNE 1983, RETAIL SALES OF SUPERMARKETS ROSE SUBSTANTIALLY BOTH IN VALUE AND VOLUME TERMS. THOSE OF CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES AND DEPARTMENT STORES RECORDED LARGE INCREASES IN VALUE TERMS BUT SMALLER INCREASES IN VOLUME TERMS. MOTOR VEHICLES RECORDED A MODERATE INCREASE IN SALES VALUE AND A SLIGHT INCREASE IN SALES VOLUME.

/THE REVISED

THE REVISED FIGURE FOR MAY 1984 AND THE PROVISIONAL FIGURE FOR JUNE 1984 OF TOTAL SALES ARE PRESENTED BELOW. THE VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF RETAIL SALES BY MAJOR GROUPS AND SELECTED TRADES (WHICH FORM PART OF THE RELEVANT MAJOR TRADE GROUPS), WITH AVERAGE MONTHLY RETAIL SALES IN 1980 TAKEN AS 100, ARE ALSO TABULATED.

COMPARISON OF JUNE 1984 RESULTS WITH THOSE OF MAY 1984 AND JUNE 1983 ARE ALSO GIVEN.

THE REPORT CONTAINING THE ANALYSIS OF THE JUNE 1984 SURVEY RESULTS IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE, CONNAUGHT PLACE, AT \$1.00 EACH.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. NO. 3-7216024).

TOTAL RETAIL SALES FOR JUNE 1984 (PROVISIONAL FIGURE)
= HK\$5 393 MILLION

FOR MAY 1984 (REVISED FIGURE)
= HK\$5 533 MILLION

VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF RETAIL SALES
FOR MAY AND JUNE 1984

(MONTHLY AVERAGE OF 1980 = 100)

ITEM	INDEX OF RETAIL SALES	MAY 1984	JUNE 1984	JUNE 1984 COMPARED WITH MAY 1984		JUNE 1984 COMPARED WITH JUNE 1983	
		(REVISED FIGURES)	(PROVISIONAL FIGURES)	POINTS	%	POINTS	%
(A) FOR ALL RETAIL TRADES							
	VALUE	163	159	- 4	- 3	23	17
	VOLUME	113	110	- 4	- 3	5	5
(B) BY MAJOR TRADE GROUPS							
FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO	VALUE	173	179	6	3	32	22
	VOLUME	112	113	2	2	9	8

/FUELS

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FUELS	VALUE	197	191	- 6	- 3	13	7
	VOLUME	126	122	- 4	- 3	2	1
CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS	VALUE	190	161	-29	-15	26	19
	VOLUME	126	106	-20	-16	6	6
CONSUMER DURABLES	VALUE	161	157	- 3	- 2	29	22
	VOLUME	120	118	- 2	- 2	10	9
OTHER CONSUMER GOODS	VALUE	150	145	- 5	- 3	15	12
	VOLUME	107	103	- 4	- 4	2	2

(C) BY SELECTED
TRADES

SUPER- MARKETS	VALUE	299	329	30	10	103	46
	VOLUME	182	201	19	10	44	23
MOTOR VEHICLES	VALUE	69	66	- 3	- 5	8	14
	VOLUME	42	40	- 2	- 5	1	1
CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES	VALUE	224	220	- 3	- 1	43	25
	VOLUME	173	171	- 3	- 1	16	10
DEPART- MENT STORES	VALUE	145	135	-10	- 7	25	22
	VOLUME	104	96	- 8	- 8	10	12

NOTES:

- (1) +FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO+ INCLUDES +SUPERMARKETS+.
- (2) +CONSUMER DURABLES+ INCLUDES +MOTOR VEHICLES+.
- (3) +OTHER CONSUMER GOODS+ INCLUDES +DEPARTMENT STORES+.
- (4) FIGURES DENOTING CHANGES ARE DERIVED FROM THE UNROUNDED INDEX FIGURES.

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SHA TIN HOSPITAL OPENS EMERGENCY UNIT
* * *

THE ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT OF THE PRINCE OF WALES HOSPITAL IN SHA TIN WILL OPEN ON SEPTEMBER 10.

INITIALLY, THE DEPARTMENT WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR 12 HOURS A DAY FROM 8 AM TO 8 PM.

THE ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY SERVICE FORMS PART OF PHASE II OF THE HOSPITAL PROJECT, THE FIRST STAGE OF WHICH WAS OPENED AT THE END OF APRIL THIS YEAR UNDER 378 BEDS WERE PUT IN USE.

WITH THE SECOND PHASE OPENING, THE HOSPITAL WILL HAVE SOME 800 BEDS IN SERVICE.

THE UNITS NOW IN OPERATION INCLUDE SURGICAL, PAEDIATRICS, MEDICAL, ORTHOPAEDICS, PSYCHIATRY, GYNAECOLOGY, OBSTETRICS AND INTENSIVE CARE.

THE 1 446-BED HOSPITAL IS SCHEDULED TO OPEN IN FOUR PHASES, THE FINAL TWO OF WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE IN 1985.

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AIRCRAFT RESCUE EXERCISE
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AN AIRCRAFT CRASH-AND-RESCUE EXERCISE, ORGANISED BY THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT, WILL BE HELD THIS WEEK AT HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.

THE EXERCISE WILL TEST COMMUNICATIONS AND CO-ORDINATION PROCEDURES BETWEEN ALL THOSE WHO WOULD BE INVOLVED IN THE EVENT OF AN AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT.

IT WILL ALSO PROVIDE CONTINUATION TRAINING AND FAMILIARISATION IN CRASH-AND-RESCUE TECHNIQUES.

THE DATE AND TIME OF THE EXERCISE ARE BEING WITHHELD TO TEST THE ALERTNESS OF THE EMERGENCY SERVICES STAFF.

TAKING PART IN THE EXERCISE WILL BE THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT, THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE, MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT, IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT, CIVIL AID SERVICES, AUXILIARY MEDICAL SERVICES AND THE AIRLINE OPERATORS COMMITTEE.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN EXPRESSED REGRET FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE CAUSED TO THE PUBLIC BY POSSIBLE TEMPORARY DIVERSIONS OF ROAD TRAFFIC. BUT HE STRESSED THAT INCONVENIENCE WOULD BE KEPT TO A MINIMUM.

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IT RECOMMENDED THE SETTING UP OF SUCH A CENTRE AFTER STUDYING A RECENTLY CONCLUDED +1983 MANPOWER SURVEY REPORT ON INSURANCE+, AND THIS HAS BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL.

THE BOARD NOTED THAT THE ONLY COURSES OF INSURANCE EDUCATION NOW AVAILABLE ARE A THREE-YEAR FULL TIME COURSE OFFERED BY THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, WITH AN ANNUAL INTAKE OF 20, AND A ONE-YEAR, PART-TIME DAY RELEASE COURSE FOR NEW RECRUITS OR RELATIVELY JUNIOR STAFF OFFERED BY THE POLYTECHNIC AND THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE. THE ANNUAL INTAKE IS 160.

WHILE FULLY APPRECIATING THE WORK BEING DONE BY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND INDEPENDENT BODIES IN HONG KONG, THE BOARD SAID IT FELT THAT +FAR MORE+ TRAINING COURSES OF THE +TOPPING-UP+ TYPE WOULD BE NEEDED +TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF THE FUTURE+.

+NOT ONLY DO THE PLACES AVAILABLE FALL FAR SHORT OF THE NEEDS OF THE INDUSTRY, BUT SUCH COURSES DO NOT MEET THE SHORT-TERM NEEDS OF THE INDUSTRY NOR OF THE PEOPLE WORKING IN THE INDUSTRY.

+THEY CANNOT BE RELIED ON TO EQUIP STAFF IN A SHORT TIME WITH THE SKILLS THEY NEED TO FUNCTION EFFECTIVELY AND PRODUCTIVELY IN THEIR PARTICULAR WORK STATIONS,+ THE BOARD STATED.

FOR THIS REASON TRAINING OF STAFF HAS HAD TO BE CARRIED OUT EITHER:

- * OVERSEAS, UNDER EMPLOYER SPONSORSHIP,
- * LOCALLY, THROUGH COURSES ARRANGED BY THE HONG KONG INSURANCE INSTITUTE FOR THE CHARTERED INSURANCE INSTITUTE, AUSTRALIAN INSURANCE INSTITUTE AND THE NEW ZEALAND INSURANCE INSTITUTE EXAMINATIONS,
- * LOCALLY, BY ARRANGEMENT WITH THE LIFE UNDERWRITERS ASSOCIATION, OR
- * ON THE JOB.

THE SURVEY, CONDUCTED IN JUNE LAST YEAR SHOWED THAT THERE WERE 8 780 EMPLOYEES AT THE TIME. THIS NUMBER WAS NEARLY 40 PER CENT MORE THAN THE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES SHOWN IN THE FIRST SURVEY, CONDUCTED IN 1981.

THE NUMBER OF SALES PERSONNEL, PARTICULARLY IN THE LIFE INSURANCE SECTOR, ROSE FROM 1 451 AS SHOWN IN THE 1981 SURVEY, TO 2 453 LAST YEAR.

+THIS REFLECTED THAT THE INDUSTRY HAS BECOME MORE AGGRESSIVE,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRAINING BOARD SAID.

IT WAS ESTIMATED IN THE SURVEY THAT THE DEMAND FOR ADDITIONAL INSURANCE STAFF WOULD BE ABOUT 950 BY THIS YEAR.

THE REPORT IS PUBLISHED IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE, AND IS ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT \$14.8 A COPY.

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\$57.5M TENDER ACCEPTED FOR LOWER WONG TAI SIN ESTATE
* * * *

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY'S BUILDING COMMITTEE HAS JUST APPROVED A TENDER OF \$57.5 MILLION TO EMBARK ON FURTHER REDEVELOPMENT OF THE LOWER WONG TAI SIN ESTATE IN CENTRAL KOWLOON.

WORK INCLUDES THE CONSTRUCTION OF ONE 26/28-STOREY DOUBLE-H AND ONE 26-STOREY H BLOCKS TO PROVIDE MODERN HOMES FOR 5 000 PEOPLE IN 1 142 SELF-CONTAINED FLATS BY 1987.

THIS MARKS THE FOURTH PHASE OF THE ESTATE'S REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME TO IMPROVE THE LIVING CONDITIONS AND RELIEVE OVERCROWDING FOR TENANTS.

SOME 10 000 TENANTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN REHOUSED TO THREE MODERN BLOCKS COMPLETED IN THE FIRST TWO PHASES OF REDEVELOPMENT, WHILST CONSTRUCTION ON ANOTHER NEW BLOCK IN THE THIRD PHASE IS IN GOOD PROGRESS.

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ROOFTOP STRUCTURES GO
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TEN ILLEGAL ROOFTOP STRUCTURES WERE DEMOLISHED IN SHA TIN TODAY (TUESDAY) AT THE START OF A THREE-DAY CLEARANCE OPERATION IN THE AREA.

THE OPERATION, CARRIED OUT BY THE LEASE ENFORCEMENT TEAM OF THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE (SHA TIN), CONCENTRATED ON THE AREAS OF FO TAN AND TAI WAI AND FOLLOWED THE ISSUE OF 142 WARNING LETTERS TO OWNERS OF UNAUTHORISED ROOFTOP STRUCTURES IN THE AREA DURING THE PAST SIX MONTHS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE OFFICE SAID MOST OWNERS HAD BEEN VERY CO-OPERATIVE AND HAD +REMOVED THEIR STRUCTURES WITHIN THE SPECIFIED PERIOD+.

THE OWNERS OF STRUCTURES INCLUDED IN YESTERDAY'S CLEARANCE, HOWEVER, HAD REPEATEDLY IGNORED THE WARNING LETTERS.

THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF ADHERING STRICTLY TO LEASE CONDITIONS AND OF OBTAINING WRITTEN APPROVAL FROM EITHER THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OR THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE BEFORE CONSTRUCTING ANY ADDITIONAL STRUCTURES.

THE NEXT DEMOLITION OPERATION WOULD BE HELD IN EARLY 1985, HE ADDED.

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CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS PROMOTED
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SEVENTEEN ASSISTANT OFFICERS I OF THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT WHO WERE RECENTLY PROMOTED TO THE RANK OF OFFICER, RECEIVED THEIR APPOINTMENT LETTERS TODAY FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, MR THOMAS GARNER.

THE CEREMONY WAS HELD AT THE DEPARTMENT'S STAFF TRAINING INSTITUTE IN STANLEY.

THE NEWLY PROMOTED OFFICERS HAVE BEEN SERVING WITH THE DEPARTMENT FOR AN AVERAGE OF EIGHT YEARS.

THEY ARE ALL ENROLLED NURSES AND HAD RECEIVED TWO YEARS OF TRAINING IN NURSING ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

THIRTEEN OF THEM HAVE BEEN TRAINED IN GENERAL NURSING, AND THE OTHERS IN PSYCHIATRIC NURSING.

THEY ARE NOW WORKING AT HOSPITALS AND SICK BAYS OF THE DEPARTMENT'S VARIOUS INSTITUTIONS.

EARLIER TODAY, MR GARNER HAD OFFICIATED AT THE OPENING OF A COMMAND COURSE FOR SUPERINTENDENTS AT THE INSTITUTE. THE COURSE IS ALSO PART OF THE DEPARTMENT'S CONTINUOUS IN-SERVICE TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR OFFICERS.

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CHOI HUNG WATER CUT
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THE FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN CHOI HUNG ESTATE WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 11 PM ON THURSDAY (SEPTEMBER 6) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR LEAKAGE TESTS TO BE CARRIED OUT.

THE AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY CHOI HUNG ESTATE, INCLUDING HUNG MUI AVENUE, LUK LAU AVENUE, CHANG FA AVENUE, CHING YEUNG AVENUE, LAM CHUNG AVENUE, WONG KUK AVENUE, TSE WAI AVENUE, HUNG NGOK HOUSE, KAM HON HOUSE, KAM WAN HOUSE, KAM PIK HOUSE, CHUI KING HOUSE, PAK SUET HOUSE, TAN FUNG HOUSE, KAM WAH HOUSE, LUK CHING HOUSE AND CHI MEI HOUSE.

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YAU MA TEI WATER CUT
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THE FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN YAU MA TEI WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 10.30 AM TO 5 PM ON FRIDAY (SEPTEMBER 7) FOR MAINS WORK.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY GASCOIGNE ROAD, JORDAN ROAD AND NATHAN ROAD.

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STREET RE-ROUTED
* * *

BOUNDARY STREET BETWEEN FA YUEN STREET AND SAI YEE STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY, EASTBOUND, FROM 10 AM ON THURSDAY (SEPTEMBER 6) TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC CIRCULATION.

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