



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1979

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PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR JANUARY, 1979

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) PUBLISHED THE PROVISIONAL FIGURES FOR HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL MERCHANDISE TRADE DURING JANUARY 1979.

THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS FOR JANUARY WAS \$3,817 MILLION, IMPORTS, \$5,358 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS, \$1,299 MILLION. THE TRADE DEFICIT FOR JANUARY WAS \$242 MILLION.

THE NOVEMBER 1978 TO JANUARY 1979 FIGURES (LATEST THREE MONTHS) SHOWED INCREASES, BY VALUE, COMPARED WITH THE SAME NOVEMBER 1977 TO JANUARY 1978 PERIOD OF 27.4 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, 37.4 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS AND 43.1 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TOGETHER ROSE BY 31 PER CENT.

COMPARED WITH THE SAME MONTH IN 1978, INCREASES, BY VALUE, OF \$1,096 MILLION OR 40.3 PER CENT IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS, \$1,069 MILLION OR 24.9 PER CENT IN IMPORTS AND \$417 MILLION OR 47.2 PER CENT IN RE-EXPORTS WERE RECORDED.

THE SHORT TERM CHANGES, JANUARY 1979 COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1978, SHOWED DECREASES OF \$488 MILLION OR 11.3 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND \$1,451 MILLION OR 21.3 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS, AND AN INCREASE OF \$80 MILLION OR 6.6 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS.

THE FIGURES FOR THE 12-MONTH PERIOD FROM FEBRUARY 1978 TO JANUARY 1979 COMPARED WITH THOSE OF THE PREVIOUS 12-MONTH PERIOD SHOWED INCREASES, BY VALUE, OF 19.3 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, 30.4 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS AND 37.9 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS.

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT HAS RELEASED THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FIGURES FOR JANUARY:-

<u>MERCHANDISE:</u>	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	:	\$3,817 MILLION
	IMPORTS	:	\$5,358 MILLION
	RE-EXPORTS	:	\$1,299 MILLION
	TRADE BALANCE	:	\$ 242 MILLION (IN DEFICIT)

COMPARATIVE .....

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

<u>LATEST 3 MONTHS</u>	NOVEMBER 1978 TO JANUARY 1979	NOVEMBER 1977 TO JANUARY 1978	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	11,920	9,353	+ 2,566	+ 27.4
IMPORTS	18,586	13,530	+ 5,057	+ 37.4
RE-EXPORTS	3,901	2,725	+ 1,175	+ 43.1
TRADE BALANCE	- 2,765	- 1,452	- 1,313	
<u>SAME MONTH LAST YEAR</u>	JANUARY 1979	JANUARY 1978	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	3,817 (74.6%)	2,721 (75.5%)	+ 1,096	+ 40.3
IMPORTS	5,358	4,288	+ 1,069	+ 24.9
RE-EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	1,299 (25.4%)	882 (24.5%)	+ 417	+ 47.2
TRADE BALANCE	- 242	- 685	+ 443	
<u>LAST MONTH</u>	JANUARY 1979	DECEMBER 1978	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	3,817 (74.6%)	4,305 (77.9%)	- 488	- 11.3
IMPORTS	5,358	6,809	- 1,451	- 21.3
RE-EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	1,299 (25.4%)	1,218 (22.1%)	+ 80	+ 6.6
TRADE BALANCE	- 242	- 1,286	+ 1,044	
<u>LAST 12 MONTHS</u>	FEBRUARY 1978 TO JANUARY 1979	FEBRUARY 1977 TO JANUARY 1978	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	41,807	35,035	+ 6,772	+ 19.3
IMPORTS	64,125	49,158	+14,967	+ 30.4
RE-EXPORTS	13,614	9,871	+ 3,743	+ 37.9
TRADE BALANCE	- 8,704	- 4,252	- 4,452	

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS FOR NOVEMBER

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THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS FOR NOVEMBER LAST YEAR SHOW A SURPLUS OF \$714.6 MILLION, COMPARED WITH A SURPLUS OF \$697.6 MILLION IN THE PREVIOUS NOVEMBER.

THIS WAS RESULTED IN AN ACCUMULATED SURPLUS OF \$862.5 MILLION FOR THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF THIS FINANCIAL YEAR, COMPARED WITH A SURPLUS OF \$190.0 MILLION FOR THE LAST FISCAL YEAR.

TOTAL EXPENDITURE, AT \$838.3 MILLION, WAS \$200.2 MILLION MORE THAN IN NOVEMBER, 1977.

TOTAL REVENUE AND RECEIPTS, AT \$1,552.9 MILLION, WAS \$217.2 MILLION MORE THAN FOR THE SAME MONTH IN 1977.

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ACCENT ON YOUTH FOR ROYAL VISIT TO YUEN LONG

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THE ACCENT WILL BE ON YOUTH WHEN HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES VISITS YUEN LONG ON MARCH 5.

NEARLY 1,000 YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE BEEN REHEARSING A COLOURFUL DISPLAY OVER THE LAST THREE WEEKS WHICH THEY WILL STAGE FOR PRINCE CHARLES AT THE YUEN LONG STADIUM.

THE STADIUM WILL BE PACKED WITH ABOUT 5,000 SCHOOL STUDENTS FOR THE VISIT AND THOUSANDS MORE WILL LINE THE ROUTE OF THE ROYAL MOTORCADE FROM SEK KONG TO YUEN LONG.

LOCAL COMMUNITY LEADERS ARE ALSO WORKING HARD TO ENSURE A WARM WELCOME FOR THE ROYAL VISIT --- A +PAI LAU+ COSTING ABOUT \$40,000 IS BEING ERECTED AND FLAGS AND BUNTING WILL DECORATE THE TOWN.

+YUEN LONG IS FAMOUS FOR PUTTING ON A GOOD SHOW,+ THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR. MICHAEL CARTLAND SAID TODAY (FRIDAY), +AND WE HOPE TO TURN ON SOMETHING SPECIAL FOR PRINCE CHARLES.+

MR. CARTLAND NOTED THAT IN ORDER TO ALLOW AS MANY YOUNG PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE TO HAVE A CHANCE TO SEE THE PRINCE AND TO ENJOY THE DAY, STUDENTS OF YUEN LONG WOULD BE GIVEN THE DAY OFF.

/IN ADDITION .....

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IN ADDITION TO THE STUDENTS WHO WILL PACK THE STADIUM, SEATS HAVE BEEN RESERVED FOR MEMBERS OF LOCAL YOUTH GROUPS.

TO NAME A FEW, THEY ARE THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD SCHEME WINNERS, AUXILIARY MEDICAL SERVICES, CIVIL AID SERVICES, ST. JOHN'S AMBULANCE BRIGADE, THE YUEN LONG FOOTBALL TEAM AND ROAD SAFETY PATROL.

ON MARCH 5, PRINCE CHARLES WILL ARRIVE AT THE STADIUM ABOUT 3.10 P.M. TO A QUADRAPHONIC FANFARE OF TRUMPETS PROVIDED BY THE COMBINED YOUTH SYMPHONIC BAND OF HONG KONG, COMPRISING 450 PLAYERS FROM 14 DIFFERENT YOUTH BANDS.

HE WILL BE INVITED TO DOT THE EYES OF A 145-FOOT-LONG SILVER DRAGON SIGNALLING THE START OF THE AFTERNOON'S ACTIVITIES BEFORE SETTLING BACK TO ENJOY THE DISPLAY STAGED BY 1,000 YOUNG PEOPLE DRAWN FROM ALL OVER HONG KONG.

THE PROGRAMME WILL FEATURE A FLAG PATTERN, FAN DANCE, AND GYMNASTIC DISPLAY LASTING 30 MINUTES.

FROM THE STADIUM PRINCE CHARLES WILL PROCEED TO THE YUEN LONG TOWN HALL WHERE HE WILL WATCH A SERIES OF TAI CHI CHUAN AND JUDO ACTIVITIES IN THE PLAYGROUND BEFORE MEETING A NUMBER OF LOCAL COMMUNITY LEADERS.

INSIDE THE HALL, THE AIR WILL BE FILLED WITH SOUND OF MUSIC BY THE YUEN LONG CHINESE ORCHESTRA WHICH WAS FORMED ONLY IN 1974 BUT ALREADY ENJOYS A HIGH REPUTATION WELL BEYOND THE DISTRICT.

THE PRINCE WILL CONCLUDE HIS VISIT BY VIEWING A PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION DEPICTING THE DISTRICT'S HISTORY, COMMUNITY LIFE, COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENT.

ENTITLED '+YUEN LONG - THE SPIRIT OF PROGRESS+', THE EXHIBITION WILL BE OPENED TO THE PUBLIC BETWEEN MARCH 6 AND 12.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE DRESS REHEARSAL OF THE YOUTH RALLY AT YUEN LONG STADIUM ON SUNDAY (FEBRUARY 25) AT 3.10 P.M.

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES COVERING THE REHEARSAL ARE REQUESTED TO ASSEMBLE AT THE ENTRANCE OF THE STADIUM ON ARRIVAL.

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SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDUSTRY  
VISITS TSUEN WAN NEW TOWN  
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THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDUSTRY, THE RT. HON. ERIC VARLEY TODAY (FRIDAY) VISITED TSUEN WAN, HONG KONG'S FASTEST GROWING INDUSTRIAL TOWN.

THE MINISTER AND HIS PARTY WENT TO THE ROOF OF ONE OF TSUEN WAN'S NEWEST BUILDINGS, THE 22-STORY FU WAH CENTRE, WHERE THEY HAD A BIRD'S EYEVUE OF THE TOWN'S DEVELOPMENT, AND BRIEFINGS FROM THE TSUEN WAN TOWN MANAGER, MR. JAMES HAYES AND THE PROJECT MANAGER, MR. EDDIE SHORT.

MR. VARLEY WAS TOLD THAT TSUEN WAN WAS THE CRADLE OF HONG KONG'S POST-WAR INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION WHEN INDUSTRIALISTS SET UP TEXTILES AND GARMENT MANUFACTURING PLANTS IN THE EARLY 50'S.

+TSUEN WAN HAS NOT STOPPED GROWING SINCE AND ITS PRESENT POPULATION OF AROUND 500,000 WILL BE ALMOST DOUBLED BY THE MIDDLE OF THE NEXT DECADE,+ MR. HAYES SAID.

HE ADDED THAT MR. VARLEY SEEMED VERY IMPRESSED BY THE TREMENDOUS GROWTH RATE OF THE INDUSTRY IN TSUEN WAN.

+IN THE LAST FOUR YEARS THE NUMBER OF INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS HAS ALMOST DOUBLED FROM 3,208 TO 6,227,+ MR. HAYES SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT FACTORY FLOOR SPACE WAS ALSO BECOMING AVAILABLE IN DRAMATICALLY INCREASING QUANTITIES. BETWEEN 1974-78 THE FLATTED FACTORY FLOOR SPACE SUPPLY IN TSUEN WAN AND KWAI CHUNG HAD REACHED JUST OVER ONE MILLION SQUARE METRES.

HOWEVER, IN THE NEXT TWO YEARS, IT IS EXPECTED THAT SOME 1.2 MILLION SQUARE METRES WILL COME ON STREAM.

+APART FROM THIS TSING YI ISLAND IS QUICKLY DEVELOPING AS THE TERRITORY'S HEAVY INDUSTRIAL BASE WITH THREE MAJOR SHIPYARDS UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND THE VARIETY OF OTHER SPECIALIST INDUSTRIES IN OPERATION.

+THE CONTAINER PORT AT KWAI CHUNG, WHICH HANDLED MOST OF HONG KONG'S OVERSEAS TRADE, COMPLETES THE PICTURE OF A VERY PROGRESSIVE AND GROWING INDUSTRIAL TOWN,+ MR. HAYES SAID.

LATER IN THE MORNING, MR. VARLEY TOOK A CLOSE LOOK AT HOW HONG KONG'S ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY WORKS.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS, MR. DAVID JORDAN, THE MINISTER TOURED TWO KWAI CHUNG MULTI-STORY FACTORIES OF PHILIPS HONG KONG LTD.

IN THE FIRST FACTORY MR. VARLEY'S PARTY WAS SHOWN THE ENTIRE SERIES OF MANUFACTURING PROCESSES REQUIRED IN PRODUCING TRANSISTORS, DIODES AND OTHER SEMI-CONDUCTORS.

/MR. VARLEY .....

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MR. VARLEY ALSO PAID A SHORT VISIT TO THE SECOND FACTORY WHICH MANUFACTURES RADIOS AND RADIO KITS.

IN HONG KONG THE ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY NOW RANKS SECOND ONLY TO THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY. LAST YEAR, EXPORTS OF ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS WERE VALUED AT \$4,741 MILLION --- REPRESENTING 11.6 PER CENT OF HONG KONG'S TOTAL DOMESTIC EXPORTS.

MR. VARLEY'S PROGRAMME FOR TODAY INCLUDED A VISIT TO THE CHINA LIGHT AND POWER CO'S POWER STATION ON TSING YI ISLAND AND A TOUR OF THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY'S OFFICES AT KOWLOON BAY DEPOT.

MR. VARLEY AND HIS PARTY LEAVES HONG KONG FOR PEKING TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

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#### PHARMACISTS REMINDED TO OBTAIN CERTIFICATES

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ALL REGISTERED PHARMACISTS, BOTH IN PRIVATE PRACTICE AND PUBLIC SERVICE, ARE REMINDED TO APPLY FOR THEIR ANNUAL PRACTICISING CERTIFICATES.

+FAILURE TO APPLY FOR THE CERTIFICATE RENDERS THE PHARMACISTS TO HAVE HIS OR HER NAME REMOVED FROM THE REGISTER OF PHARMACISTS,+ THE SECRETARY OF THE PHARMACY AND POISONS BOARD, MR. D.J. COMBES SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

THIS APPLIES TO ANY PHARMACIST WHO CONTINUES TO PRACTISE IN HONG KONG FOR SIX MONTHS FROM JANUARY 1 WITHOUT THE ANNUAL CERTIFICATE.

+FURTHERMORE, BY NOT OBTAINING THE CERTIFICATE IN GOOD TIME, THE PHARMACIST BECOMES LIABLE TO CIVIL ACTION,+ MR. COMBES WARNED.

HE ALSO STRESSED THAT WITHOUT THE CERTIFICATE, THE PHARMACIST IS NOT ENTITLED TO RECOVER ANY FEES, COSTS OR OTHER REMUNERATIONS CONNECTED WITH HIS PRACTICE.

APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE SENT NOW TO THE SECRETARY, PHARMACY AND POISONS BOARD, BONAVENTURE HOUSE, 81 LEIGHTON ROAD, THIRD FLOOR, HONG KONG.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

GOVERNMENT STATEMENT ON TUNG WAH  
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REFERRING TO RECENT PRESS REPORTS ON PROPOSALS BY DOCTORS WORKING IN THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS THAT THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD TAKE OVER THE MEDICAL SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE GROUP, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY (FRIDAY) SAID THAT THE PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE HOSPITALS WERE SET OUT IN A FORMAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE TUNG WAH GROUP, WHICH WAS CONCLUDED IN 1971.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD AT PRESENT NO INTENTION OF INITIATING ANY CHANGE IN THE MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS.

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TENDERS FOR LAYING WATER MAIN  
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TENDERS WERE INVITED TODAY (FRIDAY) FOR LAYING ABOUT ONE KILOMETRE WATER MAIN IN WESTERN DISTRICT, HONG KONG ISLAND.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT SAID THE MAIN WOULD BE LAID IN THE TELEGRAPH BAY AND POKFULAM AREAS.

+PART OF THE CONTRACT IS A DUPLICATION OF THE EXISTING 200 MM DISTRIBUTION MAIN NEAR CHI FU FA YUEN,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+IT AIMS TO CATER FOR THE INCREASED DEMAND GENERATED BY DEVELOPMENT IN THE SURROUNDING AREA.+

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START AT THE END OF APRIL AND WILL TAKE ABOUT NINE MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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YUNG SHUE WAN RECLAMATION

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THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO ALLOW THE HONG KONG ELECTRIC CO. TO RECLAIM 2,600 SQUARE METRES OF FORESHORE AND SEA BED AT YUNG SHUE WAN, LAMMA ISLAND.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT MOST OF THIS AREA WILL BE USED AS PUBLIC RECREATIONAL OPEN SPACE.

+A HELICOPTER LANDING PAD WILL ALSO BE BUILT ON THE RECLAMATION NEAR THE EXISTING LOCAL CLINIC TO FACILITATE EMERGENCY RESCUE WORK,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE EXTENT OF FORESHORE AND SEA BED INVOLVED WAS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE IN TODAY'S GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

OBJECTIONS OR ANY CLAIM OF PRIVATE RIGHT SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS WITHIN TWO MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THE NOTIFICATION.

THE NOTICE (IN BOTH ENGLISH AND CHINESE) WITH ITS RELATED PLAN CAN BE SEEN ON NOTICE BOARDS POSTED NEAR THE SITE.

THE PLAN SHOWING THE AREA OF FORESHORE AND SEA BED INVOLVED MAY ALSO BE SEEN AT THE PORT WORKS DIVISION, FIRST FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG OR THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE, 19TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, OR THE DISTRICT OFFICE, ISLANDS, INTERNATIONAL BUILDING, FOURTH FLOOR, 141 DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG.

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**MORE TSUEN WAN STREETS TO BE AFFECTED BY MTR WORK**  
**\* \* \* \* \***

SOME STREETS IN TSUEN WAN WILL HAVE TO BE CLOSED PERMANENTLY FROM APRIL 1 TO MAKE WAY FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY DEPOT, ACCORDING TO A NOTICE PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S (FRIDAY) GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

THE STREETS INCLUDE A NUMBER OF LANES, FOOTPATHS AND PASSAGES IN SAI LAU KOK AND IN THE VICINITY OF TIN HAU TEMPLE. HOWEVER, PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO THE TEMPLE WILL BE MAINTAINED FROM THE NORTH.

PLANS SHOWING THE AREAS AFFECTED BY THE PROJECT CAN BE INSPECTED AT THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE, FU WAH CENTRE, 310 CASTLE PEAK ROAD- THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN CITY DISTRICT OFFICE INQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, WEST WING ENTRANCE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, HONG KONG, OR THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE, 10TH FLOOR, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 405 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON, BETWEEN 9.30 A.M. AND 4.30 P.M. ON ANY DAY EXCEPT SATURDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

THE NOTICE STIPULATED THAT ANY CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION RESULTING FROM CLOSURE OF THE STREETS MUST BE MADE IN WRITING TO THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS.

CLAIMS MUST BE LODGED WITHIN A YEAR OF THE CLOSURE OF THE STREET OR COMPLETION OF THE SUBSTANTIAL ALTERATION ALLEGED TO HAVE CAUSED PECUNIARY LOSS OR DAMAGE.

WORK ON THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY DEPOT STARTED LAST OCTOBER AND IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED LATE IN 1982.

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**FIREMEN'S EFFICIENCY TESTED**  
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A MOCK EXERCISE DESIGNED TO BOOST THE EFFICIENCY OF FIREMEN DEALING WITH FIRES INVOLVING INFLAMMABLE GOODS WAS HELD THIS (FRIDAY) MORNING AT THE KWUN TONG SHELL-OIL INSTALLATION.

MORE THAN 60 OFFICERS AND FIREMEN FROM THE EAST DIVISION OF THE KOWLOON COMMAND TOOK PART.

+VALUABLE LESSONS WERE LEARNED FROM TODAY'S EXERCISE,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY.

+IT ENABLED FIREMEN TO FAMILIARISE THEMSELVES WITH THE SPECIAL EQUIPMENT NEEDED TO TACKLE FIRES INVOLVING OIL INSTALLATIONS,+ HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE EXERCISE WAS ALSO AIMED AT IMPROVING TEAM WORK AND CO-OPERATION BETWEEN STATIONS IN HANDLING MAJOR INCIDENTS.

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30 PWD PROJECTS COMPLETED

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THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT COMPLETED 30 PROJECTS DURING THE LAST THREE MONTHS OF LAST YEAR WHILE ANOTHER 81 WERE UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

THE COMPLETED PROJECTS INCLUDED DIVISIONAL POLICE STATIONS IN HOMANTIN AND SHA TIN, POLICE QUARTERS IN KWAI CHUNG, NON-DEPARTMENTAL QUARTERS IN BROADCAST DRIVE IN KOWLOON, THE NEW WAN CHAI SPORTS GROUND ON THE WATERFRONT, A TEMPORARY MARKET IN WONG TAI SIN AND TEMPORARY COOKED FOOD STALLS IN PAK TIN.

OTHER FINISHED INCLUDED A DENTAL THERAPIST TRAINING SCHOOL, PEST CONTROL STORE OFFICES AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE OPERATING THEATRE AT TANG SHIU KIN HOSPITAL.

THE GURKHA FAMILIES COMMUNITY-WELFARE CENTRE AND MEDICAL CENTRE AND THE VEHICLE WASH DOWN IN GUN CLUB HILL BARRACKS WERE COMPLETED.

+THE WORKS WERE OBVIOUSLY VARIED AND PROGRESS WAS GENERALLY VERY SATISFACTORY,+ A PWD SPOKESMAN SAID.

SOME OF THE MANY JOBS UNDER CONSTRUCTION INCLUDED THE DIVISIONAL FIRE STATION AND THE NEW TERRITORIES FIRE COMMAND HEADQUARTERS IN SHA TIN, A FIRE STATION AT SAN HUI, AMBULANCE DEPOTS AT TUEN MUN AND NGAU CHI WAN AND THE MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK AT KAI TAK AIRPORT.

THE FIRST STAGE OF THE KOWLOON TONG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE AND A SECONDARY SCHOOL IN TSUEN WAN WERE BOTH PROGRESSING WELL.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT WORK ON THE PERMANENT SPECTATORS' STANDS AT THE EXHIBITION TENNIS COURTS IN VICTORIA PARK, A SWIMMING POOL AND PARK IN CHAI WAN AND THE SECOND PHASE OF THE SECOND MENTAL HOSPITAL WAS ALSO MOVING ALONG.

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## 26 FIRE WATCH PATROLS FORMED

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REPRESENTATIVES FROM 26 FIRE WATCH PATROLS FORMED IN SQUATTER AREAS AND VILLAGES IN VARIOUS PARTS OF HONG KONG WERE TODAY (FRIDAY) COMMENDED FOR THEIR CIVIC-MINDEDNESS AT AN INAUGURATION CEREMONY HELD AT THE FIRE SERVICES TRAINING SCHOOL IN PAT HEUNG, YUEN LONG.

THE TEAMS ARE VOLUNTARY BODIES FORMED UNDER THE FIRE WATCH SCHEME JOINTLY PLANNED AND IMPLEMENTED BY THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION AND THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AS PART OF THE PROMOTION FOR THE CURRENT FIRE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN.

SPEAKING AT THE CEREMONY, THE HONOURABLE CHARLES YEUNG SIU-CHO, LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBER, POINTED OUT THE SCHEME WAS A PILOT ONE AND THAT ITS AIMS WERE TO AROUSE THE AWARENESS OF RESIDENTS OF THE DANGERS OF FIRE AND TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO JOIN FORCES IN HELPING TO PREVENT ITS OUTBREAK.

IN THE INITIAL PERIOD, HE SAID, THE SCHEME IS INTRODUCED IN VILLAGES AND SQUATTER AREAS AND IT IS PLANNED TO HAVE THE SCHEME EXTENDED GRADUALLY TO OTHER AREAS IN A JOINT EFFORT BY THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE.

IN APPRECIATION OF THE WARM RESPONSE FROM THE FIRST 26 TEAMS FORMED UNDER THE SCHEME, MR. YEUNG ANNOUNCED THAT A SET OF FIRE ALARM AND FIRE-FIGHTING EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING GONGS, FIRE EXTINGUISHERS AND SAND BUCKETS WILL BE DONATED TO THEM BY THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE.

THE SHELL COMPANY OF HONG KONG HAS ALSO DONATED 100 OIL DRUMS TO BE USED AS WATER CONTAINERS IN THESE VILLAGES AND SQUATTER AREAS.

THE MAIN DUTIES OF THE FIRE WATCH PATROLS ARE TO HELP TO ELIMINATE FIRE HAZARDS AND TO CARRY OUT FIRE PREVENTION MEASURES IN THEIR AREAS UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF THE LOCAL CITY DISTRICT OFFICE OR DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU.

AFTER MR. YEUNG'S ADDRESS, EACH OF THE 26 FIRE WATCH TEAMS WAS PRESENTED WITH A SOUVENIR PLAQUE.

THE PRESENTATIONS WERE MADE BY MR. NICHOLAS NG WING-FUI, ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES- MR. H.H.T. BARMA, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS- MR. A.J. JONES, CHIEF FIRE OFFICER AND MR. PETER MOSS, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION SERVICES.

TRAINEES OF THE FIRE SERVICES TRAINING SCHOOL ALSO GAVE A DEMONSTRATION ON FIRE FIGHTING DURING THE CEREMONY.

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**BUSY YEAR FOR PUBLIC ENQUIRY CENTRES**

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THE 24 PUBLIC ENQUIRY CENTRES OPERATED BY THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT IN THE URBAN AREA LAST YEAR HANDLED A RECORD OF 3,436,959 ENQUIRIES AND CASES, AN INCREASE OF 36.6 PER CENT OVER THE 1977 FIGURE OF 2,515,973.

THE MOST POPULAR ENQUIRIES WERE ON THE HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME (65,465), GOVERNMENT JOBS ON VACANCIES (52,417), APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC HOUSING (51,601), GOVERNMENT PROCEDURES AND ADDRESSES (48,828), AND PUBLIC ASSISTANCE ON WELFARE ALLOWANCE (45,226).

THE DEMAND FOR VARIOUS GOVERNMENT AND CERTAIN NON-GOVERNMENT FORMS AND PAMPHLETS ALSO ROSE FROM 1,345,503 IN 1977 TO 2,095,971 LAST YEAR.

THESE CONSISTED OF APPLICATION FORMS FOR GOVERNMENT VACANCIES (319,414)= WALKS FOR MILLIONS SPONSOR FORMS (184,529)= APPLICATION FORMS FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION (168,146)= HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME (145,859) AND PUBLIC EXTERNAL EXAMINATIONS (91,418).

LEAFLETS AND BROCHURES CONCERNING FUNCTIONS AND PROCEDURES OF VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS WERE ALSO VERY POPULAR, PARTICULARLY AMONG STUDENTS.

THE ALL-TIME HIGH FIGURE RECORDED LAST YEAR MAY BE REFLECTED BY THE INCREASING PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE VARIOUS SERVICES RENDERED BY THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY CENTRES IN THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICES.

APART FROM HANDLING ENQUIRIES, DEALING WITH PERSONAL OR GROUP CASES, ADMINISTERING STATUTORY DECLARATIONS, DISTRIBUTING INFORMATION MATERIALS AND GOVERNMENT FORMS, THESE CENTRES ALSO SERVE AS REFERRAL AGENCIES FOR THE FREE LEGAL ADVICE SCHEME OPERATED BY THE HONG KONG LAW SOCIETY AND THE RENT OFFICERS SCHEME OPERATED BY THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT.

IN VIEW OF THE GROWING DEMAND FOR ENQUIRY SERVICES, THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT HAS PLANS TO ESTABLISH MORE SUB-OFFICES IN THE URBAN AREAS.

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1979

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EXHIBITION ON HAPPY LIFE IN GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOLS  
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A JOINT GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOLS EXHIBITION WILL BE OPENED ON SATURDAY (FEBRUARY 24) AT QUEEN'S COLLEGE AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

THE THEME IS +HAPPY SCHOOL LIFE+ AND IS INTENDED TO COINCIDE WITH THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD.

THE EXHIBITION IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, THE UNION OF GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOLS HEADMASTERS AND HEAD-MISTRESSES, AND THE GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS NON-GRADUATE TEACHERS UNION.

+THE EXHIBITION IS TO PUBLICISE THE TYPE OF EDUCATION BEING PROVIDED IN GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOLS,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

HE SAID THE EXHIBITION WILL BE HELD AT QUEEN'S COLLEGE TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AND ON SUNDAY, AND IT WILL BE MOVED TO QUEEN ELIZABETH SCHOOL IN KOWLOON ON MARCH 3 AND 4.

TOPICS ON DISPLAY WILL INCLUDE HAPPY CHILDHOOD, CREATIVITY THROUGH UTILISATION OF DISCARDED ARTICLES, ACTIVITY APPROACH SCHEME, STUDENT GUIDANCE, GARDENING, SPECIMEN COLLECTION, OUT-DOOR EDUCATION CAMP, EDUCATIONAL VISITS, SCHOOL DISTRIBUTION MODEL, AN IDEAL SCHOOL IN THE EYES OF THE PUPILS, TEACHING AIDS AND AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIAL, PAST PUPILS' IMPRESSIONS, PARENT-TEACHER RELATIONS, PUPILS PERFORMANCES AND SPECIAL EDUCATION.

SUB-COMMITTEES COMPRISING MEMBERS OF THE THREE ORGANISING BODIES WERE FORMED TO PREPARE THE VARIOUS TOPICS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+EACH SUB-COMMITTEE WILL MOUNT A STALL AT THE EXHIBITION AND USE GRAPHS AND PICTURES TO ILLUSTRATE ITS TOPIC.+

MR. Q.W. LEE, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AND MR. KENNETH TOPLEY, THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, WILL ADDRESS THE GATHERING.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE JOINT GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOLS EXHIBITION ON +HAPPY SCHOOL LIFE+ WHICH WILL BE HELD AT 10 A.M. TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AT QUEEN'S COLLEGE.

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1979

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INAUGURATION OF NEW SCOUT GROUP  
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EIGHTEEN CHILDREN FROM THE TAI HANG TUNG DISTRICT IN KOWLOON, WHO HAVE JUST FINISHED MONTHS OF SCOUT TRAINING, WILL TOMORROW (SATURDAY) GIVE THE TRADITIONAL +GRAND HOWL+ AT AN INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF THEIR SCOUT GROUP.

THE GROUP IS THE FIRST SET UP BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S TAI HANG TUNG COMMUNITY CENTRE AS PART OF ITS LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR YOUNGSTERS IN THE DISTRICT.

THE +GRAND HOWL+ IS TO PLEDGE TO THE SCOUTING MOVEMENT SPIRIT. RECEIVING IT WILL BE MR. LAM KWOK-WAN, PRINCIPAL SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER OF THE DEPARTMENT'S GROUP AND COMMUNITY WORK DIVISION.

TO COMPLETE ITS INAUGURATION, THE NEW SCOUT GROUP WILL BE PRESENTED WITH A CERTIFICATE AND SCOUT FLAG BY THE KOWLOON TSAI DISTRICT SCOUT COMMISSIONER, MR. FOK WING-KWONG.

THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY, WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, WILL BE FOLLOWED BY SONGS AND MARTIAL ART DEMONSTRATION.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF THE FIRST SCOUT GROUP SET UP BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S TAI HANG TUNG COMMUNITY CENTRE IN TONG YAM STREET, SHAM SHUI PO AT 3 P.M. TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1979

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ONE-LANE TRAFFIC

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ONE-LANE TRAFFIC WILL BE IN OPERATION IN WONG NAI CHUNG GAP ROAD NEAR ITS JUNCTION WITH STUBBS ROAD BETWEEN MIDNIGHT AND 6.30 A.M. ON SUNDAY AND MONDAY.

THIS IS TO ENABLE WORKMEN TO ERECT TEMPORARY STEELWORK FOR BUILDING THE NEW FLYOVER.

ONE-LANE TRAFFIC WILL ALSO BE IN OPERATION IN TAI HANG ROAD, ABOUT 300 METRES FROM THE JUNCTION WITH STUBBS ROAD FROM MONDAY BETWEEN 7.30 P.M. AND 6.30 A.M.

THIS TEMPORARY ARRANGEMENT IS EXPECTED TO LAST FOR ABOUT TWO WEEKS TO ALLOW THE HONG KONG AND CHINA GAS CO. TO LAY A NEW MAIN ACROSS TAI HANG ROAD.

DURING THE DAY THIS STRETCH OF ROAD WILL BE OPEN TO TWO-WAY TRAFFIC AND IN THE EVENINGS AND EARLY MORNING HOURS THE ROAD WILL BE CONTROLLED BY TRAFFIC LIGHTS.

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WATER CUT

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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN CAUSEWAY BAY WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 11 P.M. ON MONDAY TO 6 A.M. ON TUESDAY FOR NIGHT LEAKAGE TESTS.

PREMISES AFFECTED ARE BOUNDED BY TUNG LO WAN ROAD, LIN FA KUNG STREET EAST, LIN FA KUNG STREET WEST, LILY STREET, LUNG KAI TERRACE, WU SHA STREET, BROWN STREET, JONES STREET, SCHOOL STREET, FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD LANE, SHEPHARD STREET, SUN CHUN STREET AND KWONG MING TERRACE.

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