



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1987

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REVIEW SHOWS RISE IN DOMESTIC PREMISES VACANCY RATE
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PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF THE 1987 PROPERTY REVIEW INDICATE THAT VACANCY RATES IN ALL NON-DOMESTIC SECTORS OF THE PROPERTY MARKET HAVE FALLEN, BUT THE VACANCY RATE FOR PRIVATE DOMESTIC PREMISES HAS RISEN SLIGHTLY, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY.

FOLLOWING ARE SOME DETAILS:

PRIVATE DOMESTIC (ALL PREMISES)

JUST OVER 30 000 DOMESTIC UNITS WERE TAKEN UP DURING 1986. THE FIGURE SHOWED A SLIGHT INCREASE OVER THE 1985 TAKE-UP OF 29 500 UNITS.

SUPPLY IN 1986 ROSE SIGNIFICANTLY OVER THAT IN 1985, ALTHOUGH IT WAS STILL BELOW THE FORECAST COMPLETION MADE EARLY LAST YEAR. COMPLETION OF 34 100 UNITS DURING THE YEAR, EXCEEDED THE RECORD FIGURE OF 33 500 IN 1981, AND AS A RESULT VACANCIES INCREASED FROM 22 100 UNITS AT THE END OF 1985 TO 24 700 AT THE END OF 1986, REPRESENTING 3.9 PER CENT OF TOTAL STOCK.

THE SUPPLY OF NEW DOMESTIC FLATS IN 1987 IS EXPECTED TO REACH AN EVEN HIGHER LEVEL.

PRIVATE DOMESTIC (LARGER UNITS - 100 SQ. M AND OVER)

TAKE-UP OF LARGE DOMESTIC FLATS IN 1986 DROPPED FOR THE SECOND YEAR IN SUCCESSION, TO 1 800 UNITS. AGAINST THIS, SUPPLY INCREASED FROM 1 950 UNITS IN 1985 TO 2 550 UNITS IN 1986. RESULTANT VACANCIES ROSE FROM 2 750 UNITS AT THE END OF 1985 TO 3 300 UNITS AT THE END OF 1986, REPRESENTING 6.6 PER CENT OF TOTAL STOCK.

TWO THOUSAND NINE HUNDARD NEW LARGE FLATS ARE EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN 1987.

COMMERCIAL

SUPPLY OF COMMERCIAL SPACE IN 1986 FELL BELOW FORECAST AND WAS THE LOWEST IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS. TAKE-UP ALSO DECREASED FROM 264 000 SQ. METRES IN 1985 TO 213 000 SQ. METRES IN 1986, BUT WAS STILL 22 PER CENT HIGHER THAN THE YEAR'S COMPLETIONS. CONSEQUENTLY VACANCIES FELL FROM 9.0 PER CENT AT THE END OF 1985 TO 7.8 PER CENT OF TOTAL STOCK AT THE END OF 1986.

/SUPPLY OF

SUPPLY OF NEW COMMERCIAL PREMISES IN 1987 IS EXPECTED TO EXCEED THE 1986 FIGURE BY ABOUT 70 PER CENT.

FLATTED FACTORIES

TAKE-UP OF FLATTED FACTORY SPACE IN 1986 WAS NEARLY DOUBLE THAT IN 1985. AT 787 000 SQ. METRES, THE 1986 TAKE-UP CONSIDERABLY EXCEEDED THE YEAR'S COMPLETIONS OF 611 000 SQ. METRES. CONSEQUENTLY, VACANCIES FELL TO 516 000 SQ. METRES AT THE END OF 1986, OR ONLY 3.8 PER CENT OF TOTAL STOCK.

COMPLETIONS IN 1986 WERE WELL BELOW FORECAST BUT STILL SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 34 PER CENT OVER THOSE IN 1985.

THE SUPPLY OF NEW FLATTED FACTORIES IN 1987 IS FORECAST TO BE 800 000 SQ. METRES.

OFFICES

SUPPLY IN 1986 SHOWED A DRAMATIC FALL COMPARED WITH 1985. OF THE 46 000 SQ. METRES OF NEW OFFICE SPACE, ONLY ONE-THIRD WAS IN THE ESTABLISHED COMMERCIAL DISTRICTS.

ALTHOUGH TAKE-UP DROPPED FROM 385 000 SQ. METRES IN 1985 TO 256 000 SQ. METRES IN 1986, IT REPRESENTED MORE THAN FIVE TIMES THE YEAR'S SUPPLY, AND THIS LED TO A SIGNIFICANT DROP IN VACANCIES TO 266 000 SQ. METRES AT THE END OF 1986, REPRESENTING 6 PER CENT OF TOTAL STOCK.

COMPLETION OF NEW OFFICE SPACE IN 1987 IS FORECAST TO INCREASE SUBSTANTIALLY, TO A LEVEL OF ABOUT 250 000 SQ. METRES.

A SUMMARY OF SUPPLY, TAKE-UP AND VACANCIES IN THE MAIN SECTORS IS SET OUT BELOW.

THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT THE FIGURES QUOTED ARE PRELIMINARY FULL DETAILS WILL BE PRESENTED IN THE PROPERTY REVIEW 1987, WHICH IS EXPECTED TO BE PUBLISHED IN APRIL.

THE DEFINITIONS OF FLOOR AREA FOR THE 1987 PROPERTY REVIEW WILL BE THE SAME AS THOSE FOR THE 1986 EDITION.

PRIVATE DOMESTIC (ALL PREMISES)

	(NO. OF UNITS)			
	<u>SUPPLY</u>	<u>TAKE-UP</u>	<u>VACANCY</u>	<u>%*</u>
1984	22 300	23 500	22 400	4.0
1985	29 900	29 500	22 100	3.7
1986	34 100	30 300	24 700	3.9
1987	(38 600)			

'PRIVATE DOMESTIC' EXCLUDES FLATS BUILT UNDER THE HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION SCHEME.

* VACANCY AT THE END OF THE YEAR AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL STOCK.

PRIVATE DOMESTIC (LARGER UNITS - 100 SQ. M AND OVER)

	(NO. OF UNITS)			
	<u>SUPPLY</u>	<u>TAKE-UP</u>	<u>VACANCY</u>	<u>%</u>
1984	1 400	2 850	2 900	6.4
1985	1 950	2 000	2 750	5.8
1986	2 550	1 800	3 300	6.6
1987	(2 900)			

COMMERCIAL

	('000 SQ. M)			
	<u>SUPPLY</u>	<u>TAKE-UP</u>	<u>VACANCY</u>	<u>%</u>
1984	255	229	550	9.9
1985	249	264	524	9.0
1986	174	213	466	7.8
1987	(300)			

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FLATTED FACTORIES

	('000 SQ. M)			
	<u>SUPPLY</u>	<u>TAKE-UP</u>	<u>VACANCY</u>	<u>%</u>
1984	429	857	657	5.2
1985	456	397	716	5.5
1986	611	787	516	3.8
1987	(800)			

OFFICES (ALL)

	('000 SQ. M)			
	<u>SUPPLY</u>	<u>TAKE-UP</u>	<u>VACANCY</u>	<u>%</u>
1984	219	449	561	13.8
1985	308	385	484	11.1
1986	46	256	266	6.0
1987	(250)			

OFFICES (SECTORAL ANALYSIS)

	('000 SQ. M)			
	<u>SUPPLY</u>	<u>TAKE-UP</u>	<u>VACANCY</u>	<u>%</u>
<u>SECTOR I CENTRAL, GRADE A OFFICES</u>				
1984	30	33	91	12.2
1985	163	153	101	11.1
1986	7	60	40	4.4
1987	(69)			

SECTOR II SHEUNG WAN, WAN CHAI, CAUSEWAY BAY AND TSIM SHA TSUI,
GRADE A + CENTRAL, GRADE B OFFICES

1984	11	139	107	8.9
1985	93	90	110	8.5
1986	9	89	30	2.3
1987	(114)			

SECTOR III REMAINDER

1984	178	277	363	17.2
1985	52	142	273	12.6
1986	30	107	196	8.9
1987	(67)			

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THIRD QUARTER CONSTRUCTION OUTPUT STATISTICS RELEASED

THE TOTAL GROSS VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK PERFORMED BY ALL CONTRACTORS IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1986 AMOUNTED TO \$10 181 MILLION, WHICH WAS 8 PER CENT HIGHER THAN THE PRECEDING QUARTER AND 13 PER CENT HIGHER THAN THE SAME QUARTER OF 1985, ACCORDING TO THE RESULTS OF THE QUARTERLY SURVEY OF CONSTRUCTION OUTPUT RELEASED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

CONSTRUCTION WORK PERFORMED BY MAIN CONTRACTORS (INCLUDING WORK CARRIED OUT AT CONSTRUCTION SITES, ERECTED BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES, AND OTHER MINOR WORK LOCATIONS) IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1986 WAS \$6 406 MILLION, WHICH WAS 5.3 PER CENT HIGHER THAN THE PREVIOUS QUARTER AND 8.9 PER CENT HIGHER THAN THE SAME QUARTER OF 1985. THIS GAVE AN INDEX OF 97.2. THE QUARTERLY AVERAGE OF 1982 WAS TAKEN AS 100 FOR THE INDEX.

/THE FIGURES

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THE FIGURES FOR MAIN CONTRACTORS ARE FREE FROM THE EFFECT OF DOUBLE-COUNTING OF CONSTRUCTION VALUE DUE TO THE SUB-CONTRACTING PRACTICE IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY. THEY ARE, THEREFORE, DIFFERENT FROM THE FIGURES ON CONSTRUCTION WORK PERFORMED BY ALL CONTRACTORS.

THE GROSS VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK PERFORMED BY MAIN CONTRACTORS AT CONSTRUCTION SITES IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1986 AMOUNTED TO \$5 091 MILLION, WHICH WAS 7.2 PER CENT AND 13.6 PER CENT HIGHER THAN THE PRECEDING QUARTER AND THE SAME QUARTER OF 1985 RESPECTIVELY.

OF THIS, \$1 653 MILLION WAS CONSTRUCTION OUTPUT OF PUBLIC PROJECTS, WHICH RECORDED AN INCREASE OF 8.5 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH THE PRECEDING QUARTER, OR 7.8 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH THE SAME QUARTER OF 1985.

IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR, THE CONSTRUCTION OUTPUT AT SITES, AT \$3 438 MILLION, SHOWED INCREASES OF 6.5 PER CENT AND 16.5 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH THE PRECEDING QUARTER AND THE SAME QUARTER OF 1985 RESPECTIVELY.

THE OUTPUT VALUE OF RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1986 WAS \$1 896 MILLION. THIS REPRESENTED AN INCREASE OF 2.8 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH THE PRECEDING QUARTER AND 23.4 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH THE SAME QUARTER OF 1985.

THE OUTPUT VALUE OF COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS WAS \$527 MILLION, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 11.2 PER CENT IN COMPARISON WITH THE PRECEDING QUARTER BUT A DROP BY 29.2 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH THE SAME QUARTER OF 1985.

THE OUTPUT VALUE OF COMMERCIAL-RESIDENTIAL (COMPOSITE) BUILDINGS IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1986 WAS \$670 MILLION, WHICH WAS 7.5 PER CENT AND 54 PER CENT ABOVE THE PRECEDING QUARTER AND THE SAME QUARTER OF 1985 RESPECTIVELY.

THE OUTPUT VALUE OF INDUSTRIAL AND STORAGE BUILDINGS IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1986 WAS \$384 MILLION, WHICH WAS 20.3 PER CENT BELOW THE PRECEDING QUARTER BUT 3.5 PER CENT ABOVE THE SAME QUARTER OF 1985.

THE OUTPUT VALUE OF TRANSPORT PROJECTS WAS \$691 MILLION. THIS REPRESENTED AN INCREASE OF 56.7 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH THE PRECEDING QUARTER AND AN INCREASE OF 42.2 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH THE SAME QUARTER OF 1985. THE SIGNIFICANT INCREASE WAS DUE IN PART TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF WORK ON THE EASTERN HARBOUR CROSSING.

/MORE DETAILED

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MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ON CONSTRUCTION OUTPUT IS GIVEN IN THE +REPORT ON THE QUARTERLY SURVEY OF CONSTRUCTION OUTPUT, THIRD QUARTER 1986+ RELEASED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE QUARTERLY SURVEY REPORT IS PRICED AT \$2 A COPY. IT MAY BE BOUGHT AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT CENTRE OR AT THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER, KAI TAK COMMERCIAL BUILDING, 317 DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL. REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION MAY ALSO BE ARRANGED.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON 3-7224490 (BEFORE FEBRUARY 15) AND 5-8234860 (AFTER FEBRUARY 15).

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CALL TO UTILISE ABANDONED VILLAGE SCHOOLS
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A LARGE NUMBER OF VILLAGE SCHOOLS LYING ABANDONED COULD BE CONVERTED INTO RURAL EDUCATION CENTRES FOR THE STUDY OF THE COUNTRYSIDE OR YOUTH HOSTELS TO ENABLE YOUNG PEOPLE TO LEARN AND APPRECIATE THE BEAUTY OF THE COUNTRYSIDE, THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, DR JAMES HAYES, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

A MUCH REDUCED POPULATION IN MANY REMOTE VILLAGES OF THE NEW TERRITORIES OVER THE PAST THREE DECADES HAD RESULTED IN THE ABANDONMENT OF NUMEROUS VILLAGE SCHOOLS, SOME OF WHICH STILL HAVE BASIC UTILITIES SUCH AS WATER SUPPLY AND ELECTRICITY, HE SAID.

SPEAKING AT A MEETING OF THE NEW TERRITORIES ROTARY CLUB, DR HAYES SAID THE FACTORS WHICH HAD LED TO THE ABANDONMENT OF THE VILLAGES, WHICH IN MOST CASES WERE CENTURIES OLD, WERE PROBABLY IRREVERSIBLE BUT SOMETHING SHOULD BE DONE ABOUT THE VILLAGE SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

+BEING LOCATED IN THE COUNTRY PARKS, PERHAPS THEY COULD BE USED IN CONNECTION WITH COUNTRY PARK ACTIVITIES,+ DR HAYES SAID.

+THERE IS ALSO THE PROSPECT THEY MIGHT BE USED AS RURAL EDUCATION CENTRES FOR THE STUDY OF THE COUNTRYSIDE, PROVIDING OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATION IN REMOTE PLACES OF GREAT BEAUTY WHERE CHILDREN OR ADULTS COULD BENEFIT FROM THE EXPERIENCE.

+SOME, TOO, MIGHT BE CAPABLE OF CONVERSION AS YOUTH HOSTELS,+ HE SAID.

+ANYTHING IS BETTER THAN LETTING THEM MOULDER AWAY, AS IS HAPPENING AT PRESENT,+ HE ADDED.

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YEAR OF SUCCESS FOR CUSTOMS
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THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT HAD A SUCCESSFUL YEAR IN ALL AREAS OF ENFORCEMENT IN 1986.

APART FROM A RECORD SEIZURE OF 152 KILOGRAMS OF HEROIN BASE, REMARKABLE RESULTS WERE ACHIEVED IN THE AREA OF PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY RIGHTS.

THE SEIZURE OF COUNTERFEIT GOODS ALMOST DOUBLED THAT OF 1985 AND THE SELLING OF SUCH GOODS AT STREET LEVEL WAS SHARPLY CURTAILED.

LAST YEAR THE DEPARTMENT SEIZED GOODS WORTH A TOTAL OF \$243 MILLION AND PROSECUTED 5 769 PERSONS AND FIRMS IN CONNECTION WITH OFFENCES RELATED TO VARIOUS LAWS ENFORCED BY THE DEPARTMENT. FINES TOTALLING \$25 MILLION WERE IMPOSED BY THE COURTS.

THESE REPRESENTED INCREASES OF 190 PER CENT, 12.5 PER CENT AND 78.5 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY OVER 1985.

THE SEIZURES INCLUDED 406 KILOGRAMS OF DRUGS AND 77 355 MANDRAX TABLETS WITH A TOTAL VALUE OF \$163 MILLION= COUNTERFEIT GOODS WORTH \$66 MILLION= SMUGGLED MERCHANDISE WORTH \$12 MILLION AND DUTIABLE COMMODITIES WORTH \$2.1 MILLION.

ON TRADE MALPRACTICES, 759 PROSECUTIONS WERE TAKEN OUT FOR OFFENCES RELATING TO CONTRAVENTIONS OF FACTORY REGISTRATION CONDITIONS, SUPPLYING OF FALSE INFORMATION IN APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN, EXPORTS OF HIGH TECHNOLOGY PRODUCTS WITHOUT VALID LICENCES, UNDER-VALUATION OF IMPORT AND EXPORT DECLARATIONS AND TEXTILE LICENSING FRAUD. THIS REPRESENTED AN INCREASE OF 36.3 PER CENT OVER 1985.

IN REVENUE COLLECTION, THE DEPARTMENT COLLECTED ABOUT \$3.44 BILLION ON DUTIABLE GOODS AS FOLLOWS:

	1985	1986	% INCREASE
	-----	-----	-----
HYDROCARBON-OILS	\$1 111 193 940	\$1 251 272 394	+ 12.61
TOBACCO	1 009 189 544	1 166 144 137	+ 15.55
LIQUOR	578 930 848	725 676 636	+ 25.35
NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	124 146 792	170 040 292	+ 36.97
COSMETICS	75 217 644	126 423 462	+ 68.08

/METHYL ALCOHOL

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METHYL ALCOHOL	344 571	375 855	+ 9.08
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TOTAL	\$2 899 023 345	\$3 439 932 776	+ 18.66
	=====	=====	=====

IN ADDITION, THE DEPARTMENT COLLECTED \$277.04 MILLION IN AD VALOREM CHARGES ON IMPORT AND EXPORT DECLARATIONS AND \$16.81 MILLION IN CLOTHING INDUSTRY TRAINING LEVIES - AN INCREASE OF 18.7 PER CENT AND 20.4 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY OVER 1985.

A SPOKESMAN SAID THAT IN 1987 THE DEPARTMENT WOULD BE CONTINUING ITS EFFORTS IN THE SUPPRESSION OF NARCOTIC DRUGS, SMUGGLING BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CHINA AND COUNTERFEITING ACTIVITIES.

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ALL-OUT EFFORT TO PROMOTE CIVIC EDUCATION
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THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE IS MAKING AN ALL-OUT EFFORT TO PROMOTE CIVIC EDUCATION IN THE DISTRICT, THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ALEX FONG, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE DISTRICT'S SPRING RECEPTION, MR FONG SAID THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT CIVIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN ORGANISING COMMITTEE HAD TAKEN THE LEAD IN LAUNCHING THE YEAR-LONG CIVIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN SINCE LAST APRIL TO COINCIDE WITH POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE TERRITORY.

IN ADDITION, A +CIVIC AMBASSADOR SCHEME+ HAD ALSO BEEN INTRODUCED TO HELP PROMOTE CIVIC AWARENESS AMONG RESIDENTS IN THE DISTRICT AND TO FOSTER A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AMONG THEM.

+THE ULTIMATE AIM OF THESE ACTIVITIES IS TO AROUSE RESIDENTS' CONCERN ABOUT CIVIC RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES WITH A VIEW TO IMPROVE DISTRICT AFFAIRS,+ MR FONG SAID.

+EVERY CITIZEN, THEREFORE, HAS HIS OWN ROLE TO PLAY TOWARDS MAKING THE DISTRICT A BETTER COMMUNITY TO LIVE IN,+ HE ADDED.

/MR FONG

MR FONG ALSO TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO THANK THE DISTRICT'S AREA COMMITTEES, VARIOUS WELFARE AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, INCLUDING KAIFONG ASSOCIATIONS, FOR THEIR SUPPORT AND CO-OPERATION IN PROMOTING THE WELFARE OF RESIDENTS.

IN PARTICULAR, HE SAID, THE DISTRICT BOARD AND ITS MEMBERS HAD BEEN PLAYING AN ACTIVE PART IN ADVISING THE GOVERNMENT ON ALL MATTERS AFFECTING THE LIVELIHOOD OF RESIDENTS.

MORE THAN 300 PEOPLE INCLUDING THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR T.H. CHAU, MEMBERS OF THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD, AREA COMMITTEES, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, OWNERS' CORPORATIONS AND KAIFONG ASSOCIATIONS, LOCAL COMMUNITY LEADERS AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS ATTENDED THE RECEPTION.

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PSPS DEVELOPMENT TO BE BUILT IN TUEN MUN
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A PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION SCHEME DEVELOPMENT COMPRISING 2 200 TO 2 400 RESIDENTIAL UNITS IS TO BE BUILT ON A 22 240-SQUARE-METRE SITE AT TSING CHUNG KOON ROAD IN TUEN MUN.

THE LEASE ON THE LAND, WHICH WAS OFFERED FOR SALE BY TENDER, WAS BOUGHT FOR \$210 MILLION BY LEADCHOICE LIMITED. IT WAS SIGNED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICER, TUEN MUN, MR R.B.J. CROSS, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PURCHASER.

MR CROSS SAID THE SITE WAS LOCATED WITHIN EASY REACH OF TWO LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT STATIONS AND IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO TUEN MUN HOSPITAL, NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

THE DEVELOPMENT CONSISTS OF FIVE 36- TO 37-STOUREY BLOCKS. ABOUT HALF THE RESIDENTIAL FLATS WILL HAVE FLOOR AREAS OF BETWEEN 45.1 AND 55 SQUARE METRES EACH.

INDIVIDUAL FLOOR AREAS OF THE REMAINING UNITS WILL BE BETWEEN 35 AND 45 SQUARE METRES.

MR CROSS SAID AT LEAST HALF THE UNITS WOULD HAVE THREE BEDROOMS.

THERE WILL BE A THREE-STOUREY BLOCK PROVIDING 3 000 SQUARE METRES OF COMMERCIAL AREA AND 284 CAR PARKING SPACES.

THERE WILL ALSO BE A CLINIC, A KINDERGARTEN WITH A MINIMUM OF NINE CLASSROOMS, NURSERY AND RESIDENTS' MEETING AREAS.

LANDSCAPED OPEN SPACE AND SITTING-OUT AND RECREATIONAL AREAS, INCLUDING CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUNDS, TWO BADMINTON COURTS, A ROLLER SKATING RINK, AND A PUBLIC GARDEN WITH A POND AND A PAVILION ARE TO BE PART OF THE PROJECT.

WORK ON THE PROJECT WILL START IN MAY AND BE COMPLETED IN EARLY 1989. SALE OF UNITS WILL TAKE PLACE BY MID-1988.

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VARIETY SHOW TO PROMOTE CLEAN ENVIRONMENT
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A TWO-HOUR VARIETY SHOW, BLENDING LIGHT ENTERTAINMENT AND CLEAN ENVIRONMENT MESSAGES, WILL BE STAGED AT THE WILLOW STREET PLAYGROUND ON SUNDAY (FEBRUARY 15).

POPULAR DISC JOCKEYS, SINGERS AND TELEVISION ARTISTES WILL APPEAR IN THE SHOW THAT WILL FEATURE SINGING AND DANCING.

PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ABLE TO WIN PRIZES IN A LUCKY DRAW.

THE FUNCTION, WHICH MARKS THE CLOSING OF THE MONG KOK DISTRICT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT CAMPAIGN, IS SPONSORED BY THE MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD.

ADMISSION TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FREE FROM THE MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICE, 157 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD AND TAI KOK TSUI BRANCH OFFICE, 85 IVY STREET.

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SOUTHERN DISTRICT YOUTH CHOIR CONCERT
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THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT YOUTH CHOIR WILL HOLD ITS ANNUAL CONCERT AT 8 PM FEBRUARY 28 IN THE CITY HALL THEATRE.

THE CONCERT IS PRESENTED BY THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT ARTS AND CULTURE ASSOCIATION AND SPONSORED BY THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD AND THE URBAN COUNCIL.

THE TWO-HOUR SHOW WILL FEATURE A NUMBER OF CHINESE AND WESTERN FOLK AND CLASSICAL SONGS PERFORMED IN SOLO, DUET, GROUP OR MIXED CHORUS.

THE YOUTH CHOIR WAS FORMED IN 1983 UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE DISTRICT BOARD FOR MUSIC LOVERS OVER 16. MEMBERS HAVE WEEKLY PRACTICES AND HAVE FORMED THEIR OWN ROCK BAND.

THE CHOIR HAS HOSTED A NUMBER OF CONCERTS AND PERFORMED AT VARIOUS JOINT DISTRICT FUNCTIONS AND LOCAL VARIETY SHOWS.

TICKETS FOR THE CONCERT AT \$5 AND \$10 ARE AVAILABLE AT THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE IN ABERDEEN CENTRE AND AT THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT ARTS AND CULTURE ASSOCIATION AT LEE CHAK HOUSE, AP LEI CHAU ESTATE.

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SPRING FESTIVAL CARNIVAL FOR WAN CHAI
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A SPRING FESTIVAL CARNIVAL WILL BE HELD FOR WAN CHAI RESIDENTS AT 7.30 PM ON WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 11) AT THE SOUTHORN PLAYGROUND TO CELEBRATE THE CHINESE VALENTINE DAY.

THERE WILL BE SINGING, DRAMA, AND CANTONESE OPERATIC PERFORMANCES AS WELL AS A LUCKY DRAW.

IN ADDITION, THERE WILL BE VARIOUS GAMES STALLS FEATURING CHINESE CHESS, PALM READING, SHADOW CUTTING AND PORTRAIT DRAWING. ADMISSION IS FREE.

THE CARNIVAL IS ORGANISED BY THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT ARTS, CULTURAL, RECREATIONAL AND SPORTS ASSOCIATION WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE, AND SPONSORED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL AND THE DISTRICT BOARD.

OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ROGER GARCIA, DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MRS PEGGY LAM, DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER, MR LEE KON, AND CHAIRMAN OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE OF THE CARNIVAL, MR HO YUK-WING.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CARNIVAL ON WEDNESDAY AT 7.30 PM AT THE SOUTHORN PLAYGROUND.

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SOUTHERN DISTRICT SPRING RECEPTION
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THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE'S SPRING RECEPTION WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 11) FROM 3.30 PM TO 5.30 PM AT THE JUMBO FLOATING RESTAURANT.

GUESTS INVITED INCLUDE THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR T.H. CHAU, SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS, SOUTHERN DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND LOCAL COMMUNITY LEADERS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE RECEPTION ON WEDNESDAY AT 3.30 PM ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE RESTAURANT AT SHUM WAN, ABERDEEN.

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TRAFFIC CHANGES IN SHEUNG SHUI
* * * * *

SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN SHEUNG SHUI FROM 2.30 PM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO FACILITATE ROAD CONSTRUCTION WORK.

TRAFFIC BETWEEN KAM TSIN AND CHAU TAU WILL BE DIVERTED FROM THE NORTHERN CARRIAGEWAY OF THE NEW TERRITORIES CIRCULAR ROAD TO THE SOUTHERN CARRIAGEWAY OF THE ROAD.

THE SECTION OF ROAD SR6 NEAR ITS ACCESS TO CHAU TAU WILL BE CONVERTED TO A CUL-DE-SAC.

MEANWHILE, ACCESS TO CHAU TAU AND PAK SHEK AU WILL BE DIVERTED TO ROAD T3 AND ROAD SR6.

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WATER CUTS IN TWO AREAS
* * * * *

FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO PREMISES IN RENNIE'S MILL AND CLEAR WATER BAY PENINSULA WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 9 PM ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 12) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR MAINS WORK.

THE FOLLOWING WILL BE AFFECTED:

- * PREMISES IN RENNIE'S MILL AREA, INCLUDING THOSE IN MA YAU TONG, ALL VILLAGES ALONG PO LAM ROAD AND HAVEN OF HOPE HOSPITAL;
- * PREMISES IN CLEAR WATER BAY PENINSULA, INCLUDING THOSE IN ALL VILLAGES ALONG CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD FROM HIRAM'S HIGHWAY TO TAI O MUN, SHAW'S FILM STUDIO, SILVER STRAND ROAD, SILVER CREST ROAD, SILVER TERRACE ROAD, A KUNG WAN, HANG HAU AND YAU YUE WAN; AND
- * PREMISES AND VILLAGES ALONG HIRAM'S HIGHWAY BETWEEN CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD AND HO CHUNG.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE
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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 57.3 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 335.984 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 362.158 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 61.8 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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