



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, APRIL 19, 1982

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DEPUTY TO THE GOVERNOR
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THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, HAS BEEN APPOINTED DEPUTY TO THE GOVERNOR WITH EFFECT FROM TODAY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

THE APPOINTMENT WAS MADE BY THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, WHO IS RESTING AND UNDER OBSERVATION IN QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL.

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GARDEN PARTY AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE
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THE GARDEN PARTY AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE IN CELEBRATION OF THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY WILL BE HELD AS SCHEDULED ON WEDNESDAY (APRIL 21).

LADY MACLEHOSE WILL BE PRESENT TO WELCOME THE 2 000 GUESTS, WITH THE DEPUTY TO THE GOVERNOR, SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, WHO WILL STAND IN FOR SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE.

SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE INTRODUCED IN THE VICINITY OF GOVERNMENT HOUSE BETWEEN 2 PM AND 7 PM ON WEDNESDAY.

METERED PARKING SPACES IN UPPER AND LOWER ALBERT ROAD AND THE OPEN-AIR CAR PARK BETWEEN KENNEDY ROAD AND GARDEN ROAD WILL BE SUSPENDED DURING THIS PERIOD.

EXTRA POLICE OFFICERS WILL BE ON DUTY TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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PRESENTATION OF INSIGNIA
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EIGHTY-SEVEN PEOPLE DECORATED BY THE QUEEN FOR SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY, RECEIVED THEIR INSIGNIA AT A PRESENTATION CEREMONY AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE THIS (MONDAY) EVENING.

THE DEPUTY TO THE GOVERNOR, SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, PRESIDED OVER THE CEREMONY IN THE ABSENCE OF THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, WHO IS IN HOSPITAL.

THE RECIPIENTS WERE:

CBE (COMMANDER OF THE ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE)

MR HENRY CHING

MR ERNEST IRFON LEE

THE HONOURABLE LO TAK-SHING

THE HONOURABLE ALAN JAMES SCOTT

OBE (OFFICER OF THE ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE)

DR THE HONOURABLE HO KAM-FAI

THE HONOURABLE DAVID KENNEDY NEWBIGGING

MR JOHN HUGH PAIN

PROFESSOR DAVID TODD

ISO (COMPANION OF THE IMPERIAL SERVICE ORDER)

MR DAVID LIN HUO-FU

MRS CONNIE SOO MOK SAU-HA

DR WONG CHEN-TA

MBE (MEMBER OF THE ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE)

MR TSE TSUN-HIM

MR KWAN TAK-HING

MR LAM TAT-YAN

MR STEPHEN LEE KI

MR FRANCIS DE SALES OZORIO

SISTER MOIRA RIEHL

SQ/N LDR JOHN GEOFFREY SHAWCROSS

/BEM (BRITISH EMPIRE MEDAL)

BEM (BRITISH EMPIRE MEDAL)

- MR AU LIM
- MR CHAN PUI-LAM
- MR KU SIU-LAM
- MR LAU KAI-SIN
- MR LEE HONG-YIP
- MR LI KAM-TONG
- MRS BRENDA DOREEN MCCORMACK
- MR PUN MAN-HING
- MR BHAGAT SINGH
- MR SIU KIT-WAH
- MR WONG CHEE-MING
- MR WONG SUN
- MRS BETTY YIP TANG LOCK-YUE

BEM (BRITISH EMPIRE MEDAL)(MILITARY)

- WARRANT OFFICER CL. II MAGANKUMAR CHHETRI
- STAFF SERGEANT PAUL RAYMOND CURTIS
- WARRANT OFFICER CL. I AJIMAN GURUNG
- WARRANT OFFICER CL. II CHEWANG NORBMU LAMA
- STAFF SERGEANT LEE YUK

CPM (COLONIAL POLICE MEDAL)

- MR AU LAM
- MR JOHN FRANKLIN BARNES
- MR CHAN KAI-WING
- MR CHAN KWAN-TO
- MR ROBERT CHENG
- MR CHIK TSANG
- MR JOHN BRIAN GOULDSMITH
- MR KEUNG YI-FU

/MR LAI SHEUNG-HUNG

MR LAI SHEUNG-HUNG
MR LAU TO-YEE
MR LAWRENCE LEE CHUNG-FU
MR LI SUNG
MR GEOFFREY WILLIAM ROPER
MR KEITH TIDEY
MR KWAN IP
MR LEE KIN-BIU
MR MA SZE
MR SIT CHE-HUNG

BADGE OF HONOUR

MR CHAN KA-KWUN
MR MICHAEL CHENG TAK-KIN
MRS MABEL CHOW
MR CHOW PUI-CHUN
MR JOHN HO TUNG-CHING
MR KWOK CHEONG
MR JOSEPH KWOK SHEUNG-LEUNG
MR DAVID LAI KAM-MAN
MR LAM HANG-FAI
MISS LUCY LEUNG CHIH-AN
MR LI HUNG-CHEONG
MR LIU CHING-LEUNG
MR LIU KOON-SHING
MR LIU LIT-FOR
MR MAK YAT-LAM
MADAM PO WAI-CHING
MR POON CHEUNG
MR TAM KANG-FAT
MRS IVY WU KWOK SAU-PING

QUEEN'S GALLANTRY MEDAL

MR NICHOLAS ALEXANDRE WILLIAM MCQUEEN

QUEEN'S COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

MR CHAN SHU-FAI

ORDER OF ST JOHN

OFFICER BROTHER

MR CHU SHIU-LUN

CAPTAIN MARK TENNANT

SERVING BROTHER

MR LAI PAK-LEUNG

MR WONG FAT-KEE

DR PAUL Y K LAM

MR CHIU SZE-HOI

MR WONG KWAI

THE HONOURABLE CHEUNG YAN-LUNG

SERVING SISTER

MISS HO SUI-KING

MISS SIU WAI-MAN

MISS LEE YUET-YAU

MRS WONG TSUI YAK-YIN

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PRICE AND VOLUME MOVEMENTS OF EXTERNAL TRADE FOR JANUARY 1982
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PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS ROSE BY NINE PER CENT AND THOSE OF IMPORTS BY 14 PER CENT IN JANUARY 1982 AS COMPARED WITH JANUARY 1981, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

AS A RESULT, THE TERMS OF TRADE INDEX (EXPRESSED AS A RATIO OF THE DOMESTIC EXPORT PRICE INDEX TO THE IMPORT PRICE INDEX) DECLINED BY FOUR PER CENT.

THE VOLUME OF IMPORTS DROPPED BY 18 PER CENT AND THAT OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY TEN PER CENT.

THE PRICES OF RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY 13 PER CENT, BUT VOLUME FELL BY 12 PER CENT, SO THAT FOR TOTAL EXPORTS, PRICES WERE UP BY TEN PER CENT AND VOLUME WAS DOWN BY 11 PER CENT.

FOR THE TWELVE-MONTH PERIOD TO JANUARY 1982 AS COMPARED WITH THE TWELVE MONTHS TO JANUARY 1981, THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS ROSE BY NINE PER CENT, THOSE OF IMPORTS BY 12 PER CENT AND THOSE OF RE-EXPORTS BY NINE PER CENT. THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS EXPANDED BY SIX PER CENT AND THAT OF RE-EXPORTS BY 23 PER CENT, GIVING AN 11 PER CENT INCREASE IN THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS AS AGAINST AN EIGHT PER CENT INCREASE IN THE VOLUME OF IMPORTS.

PRICES ARE BASED ON UNIT VALUES WHICH DO NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT CHANGES IN THE COMPOSITION OR QUALITY OF GOODS TRADED. CHANGES IN THE VOLUME OF TRADE ARE DERIVED FROM CHANGES IN TRADE VALUES, AFTER DISCOUNTING THE EFFECT OF PRICE CHANGES.

THE TRADE INDEXES ARE REBASED TO 1981 (I.E. 1981 = 100) COMMENCING JANUARY 1982. TRADE INDEXES BEFORE JANUARY 1982 (1973 BASED) ARE SPLICED TO THE NEW SERIES USING THE 1981 PUBLISHED TRADE INDEXES. HOWEVER, THE TWO SERIES ARE NOT STRICTLY COMPARABLE DUE TO THE RECLASSIFICATION OF SOME ITEMS AND SLIGHT CHANGES IN ITEM COVERAGE.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY COMMODITY GROUP ARE SHOWN BELOW :-

/CHANGES COMPARING

CHANGES COMPARING JANUARY 1982 WITH JANUARY 1981

	EXPORT VALUE	EXPORT UNIT VALUE	EXPORT VOLUME
CLOTHING (EXCEPT FUR)	- 8%	+ 9%	-16%
TEXTILE FABRICS	- 3%	+11%	-12%
TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD	+ 7%	+ 3%	+ 5%
TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES	INSIGNIFICANT	+27%	-21%
ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS	-28%	+ 1%	-28%
FOOTWEAR	+26%	+12%	+13%
METAL MANUFACTURES	-22%	+ 5%	-26%
METAL ORES AND SCRAP	-42%	-18%	-30%
WATCHES AND CLOCKS	- 7%	-20%	+15%
ALL COMMODITIES	- 2%	+ 9%	-10%

EXPORT PRICES OF MOST COMMODITY GROUPS INCREASED, FROM ONE PER CENT FOR ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS TO 27 PER CENT FOR TEXTILE MADE-UPS. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE EXPORT PRICES OF METAL ORES AND SCRAP, AS WELL AS WATCHES AND CLOCKS, DECLINED BY 18 PER CENT AND 20 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

THE EXPORT VOLUME OF MOST COMMODITIES DECLINED. CONSIDERABLE DECREASES IN THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE REGISTERED FOR METAL MANUFACTURES (-26 PER CENT), ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (-28 PER CENT) AND METAL ORES AND SCRAP (-30 PER CENT). ON THE OTHER HAND, MODERATE GROWTH IN THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WAS RECORDED FOR WATCHES AND CLOCKS (+15 PER CENT) AND FOOTWEAR (+13 PER CENT).

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY ARE SHOWN BELOW :-

/CHANGES COMPARING

CHANGES COMPARING JANUARY 1982 WITH JANUARY 1981

	<u>IMPORT VALUE</u>	<u>IMPORT UNIT VALUE</u>	<u>IMPORT VOLUME</u>
FOODSTUFFS	+ 5%	+16%	- 9%
CONSUMER GOODS	- 7%	+ 8%	-14%
FUELS	- 4%	+10%	-13%
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	-14%	+15%	-25%
CAPITAL GOODS	+11%	+25%	-11%
ALL COMMODITIES	- 6%	+14%	-18%

WITH THE EXCEPTION OF CAPITAL GOODS, THE PRICES OF WHICH JUMPED BY 25 PER CENT, THE PRICES OF IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY INCREASED MODERATELY, RANGING FROM EIGHT PER CENT FOR CONSUMER GOODS TO 16 PER CENT FOR FOODSTUFFS.

ONLY SOME MAJOR IMPORTED FOODSTUFFS ROSE IN VOLUME TERMS, THE MORE SIGNIFICANT ONES BEING LIVE POULTRY AND SUGAR. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE IMPORT VOLUME OF FRUIT, RICE, WHEAT AND FLOUR AS WELL AS TEA AND COFFEE DECLINED.

IN THE CONSUMER GOODS CATEGORY, SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE REGISTERED FOR TOBACCO MANUFACTURES. THE IMPORT VOLUME OF PASSENGER MOTOR CARS AS WELL AS RADIOS, TELEVISION SETS, GRAMOPHONES, RECORDS, TAPE RECORDERS AND AMPLIFIERS FELL CONSIDERABLY.

IMPORTS OF FUELS DROPPED BY 13 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS.

THE IMPORT VOLUME OF MOST RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES DECLINED, AMONG WHICH RAW COTTON, IRON AND STEEL, YARN OF WOOL AND MIXTURES AND MAN-MADE FIBRES DECREASED SUBSTANTIALLY. THE IMPORT VOLUME OF WOOL AND OTHER ANIMAL HAIR ROSE.

AS FOR CAPITAL GOODS, MAJOR INCREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE RECORDED FOR OFFICE MACHINES AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT, WHEREAS SUBSTANTIAL DECREASE WAS REGISTERED IN THE IMPORT VOLUME OF ELECTRICAL MACHINERY.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY ARE SHOWN BELOW :-

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CHANGES COMPARING JANUARY 1982 WITH JANUARY 1981

	RE-EXPORT VALUE	RE-EXPORT UNIT VALUE	RE-EXPORT VOLUME
FOODSTUFFS	+41%	+13%	+24%
CONSUMER GOODS	INSIGNIFICANT	+ 7%	- 6%
FUELS	+172%	+28%	+112%
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	-13%	+17%	-25%
CAPITAL GOODS	+25%	+24%	+ 1%
ALL COMMODITIES	INSIGNIFICANT	+13%	-12%

THE CHANGES IN RE-EXPORT VOLUME VARIED AMONG THE FIVE END-USE CATEGORIES, RANGING FROM A 25 PER CENT DECREASE FOR RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES TO A 112 PER CENT INCREASE FOR FUELS.

FURTHER DETAILS ARE CONTAINED IN THE JANUARY 1982 ISSUE OF THE +HONG KONG TRADE INDEX NUMBERS+, AVAILABLE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT HK\$2 PER COPY.

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APPLICATIONS FOR LICENCES PROCESSED IN KWUN TONG

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FROM THURSDAY (APRIL 22), ALL APPLICATIONS FOR LICENCES BY REGISTERED POST WILL BE CENTRALISED AND PROCESSED IN THE KWUN TONG LICENSING OFFICE, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY.

ALL APPLICATIONS BY POST SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE KWUN TONG LICENSING OFFICE AT HIU KWONG COURT, 26-38 HIU KWONG STREET, 1/F, KWUN TONG.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE BY CALLING 3-356835.

THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT THE NEW ARRANGEMENT WAS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE A MORE EFFICIENT SERVICE FOR RENEWING DRIVING LICENCES, INTERNATIONAL DRIVING PERMITS, TRANSFER OF VEHICLE OWNERSHIP, RENEWAL OF VEHICLE LICENCE, DUPLICATE REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS AND DUPLICATE VEHICLE LICENCES.

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WEATHER IN MARCH

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THE WEATHER IN HONG KONG LAST MONTH WAS ON THE WHOLE WARMER, CLOUDIER AND MORE HUMID THAN USUAL WITH A TOTAL OF 30.6 MM OF RAINFALL RECORDED -- 24.2 MM BELOW NORMAL.

THIS BROUGHT THE ACCUMULATED RAINFALL SINCE JANUARY 1 TO 69.7 MM, WHICH IS 53.9 MM BELOW AVERAGE.

DURING THE MONTH THERE WERE THREE TROPICAL CYCLONES OVER THE WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC AND SOUTH CHINA SEA.

THE CYCLONES -- TROPICAL STORM MAMIE AND TYPHOONS NELSON AND ODESSA -- ALL DEVELOPED NEAR THE CAROLINE ISLANDS.

MAMIE FORMED ON MARCH 15 AND CROSSED MINDANAO ON MARCH 19 AND 20.

FIFTY-FOUR PEOPLE WERE KILLED AND 36 000 MADE HOMELESS IN THE PHILIPPINES. THE STORM LATER DISSIPATED NEAR HO CHI MINH CITY ON MARCH 25.

TYPHOON NELSON DEVELOPED ON MARCH 19 AND STRUCK THE CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES ON MARCH 26 KILLING 56 PEOPLE WHILE 165 000 WERE EVACUATED FROM DANGER AREAS.

NELSON WAS DISSIPATING NEAR NANSHA DAO AT THE END OF THE MONTH WHILE ODESSA FORMED ON MARCH 29 AND WAS CENTRED NEAR THE MARSHALL ISLANDS ON MARCH 31.

IN HONG KONG THUNDERSTORMS OCCURRED EARLY ON MARCH 1 AND THE WEATHER BECAME COOLER WITH PATCHES OF RAIN ON MARCH 2.

THE MINIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 12.9 DEGREES AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY WAS THE LOWEST OF THE MONTH.

COASTAL FOG DEVELOPED ON MARCH 3 AND PERSISTED UNTIL MARCH 7. DURING THIS PERIOD CONDITIONS INSIDE VICTORIA HARBOUR WERE MISTY WITH SOME DRIZZLE.

WINDS WERE SOUTHEASTERLY ON MARCH 5 AND 6 AND FOG WAS REPORTED AT THE AIRPORT EVERY MORNING BETWEEN MARCH 5 AND 7. VISIBILITY AT THE AIRPORT WAS REDUCED TO 400 METRES EARLY ON MARCH 5 AND BOTH AIR TRAFFIC AND FERRY SERVICES WERE AFFECTED.

EASTERLY WINDS FRESHENED ON MARCH 7 AND CHANGED TO NORTHERLY AFTER THE PASSAGE OF A COLD FRONT ON MARCH 8. THE WEATHER BECAME COOLER AND CLOUDY WITH RAIN UNTIL MARCH 11.

COASTAL FOG WAS AGAIN REPORTED EVERY DAY FROM MARCH 11 TO 18 EXCEPT ON MARCH 16. IT SPREAD INTO THE HARBOUR ON MARCH 12 BUT THE WEATHER WAS SUNNY DURING THE DAY. FOLLOWING TWO CLOUDY DAYS ON MARCH 13 AND 14, THE WEATHER WAS MAINLY FINE BETWEEN MARCH 15 AND 18.

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IN THE EVENING OF MARCH 18, EASTERLY WINDS FRESHENED WITH TRACES OF RAIN BUT THE FOLLOWING FIVE DAYS WERE SUNNY AND WARM.

THE MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE FOR THE MONTH OF 27.2 DEGREES CELSIUS WAS RECORDED ON MARCH 21.

THERE WAS SOME RAIN DURING THE EVENINGS OF MARCH 23 AND 24. EASTERLY WINDS STRENGTHENED ON MARCH 25 AS THE CONTINENTAL ANTICYCLONE SPREAD SOUTHWARDS.

THE WEATHER BECAME COOLER AND THERE WAS MORE RAIN. IT REMAINED CLOUDY UNTIL MARCH 28 AND TURNED SUNNY AND MILD ON MARCH 29 UNTIL MARCH 31.

THE YELLOW FIRE DANGER WARNING WAS IN EFFECT ON MARCH 14, 21 AND 28.

THE STRONG MONSOON SIGNAL WAS HOISTED ONCE DURING THE MONTH -- ON MARCH 25 AT 5 AM AND LOWERED AT 4.25 PM THE SAME DAY.

THE MONTH'S FIGURES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL WERE:

SUNSHINE	100.8 HOURS	= 0.6 HOURS BELOW NORMAL
RAINFALL	30.6 MM	= 24.2 MM BELOW NORMAL
CLOUDINESS	81 PER CENT	= 5 PER CENT MORE THAN NORMAL
RELATIVE HUMIDITY	85 PER CENT	= 3 PER CENT HIGHER THAN NORMAL
MEAN MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE	21.7 DEG C	= 0.4 DEG C ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN TEMPERATURE	19.2 DEG C	= 0.7 DEG C ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN MINIMUM TEMPERATURE	17.3 DEG C	= 1 DEG C ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN DEW POINT	16.5 DEG C	= 1.5 DEG C ABOVE NORMAL
TOTAL EVAPORATION	91.9 MM	= 11.6 MM BELOW NORMAL

THE MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 27.2 DEG C WAS RECORDED ON MARCH 21 WHILE THE MINIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 12.9 DEG C WAS RECORDED ON MARCH 2.

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DISTRICT BOARD BRINGS ELECTRICITY SUPPLY TO GOOD HOPE VILLAGE
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RESIDENTS OF GOOD HOPE VILLAGE IN CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD WILL HAVE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY ON FRIDAY (APRIL 23) AFTER A SPECIAL SWITCH-ON CEREMONY.

OFFICIATING WILL BE WONG TAI SIN CITY DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS STELLA FAN AND THE CONSUMER SERVICES ENGINEER OF THE CHINA LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY, MR P.G. WILLIAMSON.

AT THE CEREMONY THE MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE WILL ALSO PRESENT SOUVENIRS TO THE HONOURABLE GUESTS IN APPRECIATION OF THEIR SUPPORT AND CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS MAKING THE SCHEME A SUCCESS.

THIS ELECTRICITY SUPPLY PROJECT REPRESENTS PART OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT EFFORTS INITIATED AND CO-ORDINATED BY THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD TO UPGRADE THE LIVING CONDITIONS IN SQUATTER AREAS IN THE DISTRICT.

IN SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR, GOOD HOPE VILLAGE RECEIVED \$10 000 FROM THE DISTRICT BOARD FOR THE REPAIR OF FOOT-PATHS WHICH WAS COMPLETED TWO MONTHS LATER.

WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE DISTRICT BOARD, THE VILLAGERS ALSO HAD NEW PUBLIC LATRINES INSTALLED AND OTHER PROJECTS, SUCH AS THE INSTALLATION OF WATER STANDPIPES AND STREET LIGHTING, PROVISION OF POSTAL SERVICES AND A DOOR-TO-DOOR REFUSE COLLECTION SCHEME ARE NOW UNDERWAY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SWITCH-ON CEREMONY WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE OPEN SPACE AT THIRD GULLY, GOOD HOPE VILLAGE, CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD, NEAR THE GOOD HOPE SCHOOL, AT 3 PM ON FRIDAY (APRIL 23).

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WATER FIGURES
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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 204.145 MILLION CUBIC METRES OR 35.3 PER CENT OF CAPACITY, EQUIVALENT TO 162 DAYS' CONSUMPTION.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 230.236 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 39.8 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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CONTRACTS FOR VILLAGE CLEANSING AWARDED
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FOUR AGREEMENTS TOTALLING \$475 000 WERE TODAY (MONDAY) AWARDED TO FOUR RURAL ORGANISATIONS FOR TAKING UP THE CLEANSING SERVICES AT FOUR VILLAGES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE CONTRACTING OUT OF THE CLEANSING SERVICES IS A PILOT SCHEME AIMED AT ENLISTING A GREATER COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND PUBLIC SUPPORT IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CURRENT CLEAN HONG KONG CAMPAIGN. IT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED FROM MAY 1 AND WILL LAST FOR NINE MONTHS.

THE DIRECTOR OF NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES, MR JIMMY SWEETMAN, SIGNED THE AGREEMENTS TODAY WITH FOUR RURAL ORGANISATIONS REPRESENTING TAI PO TSAI VILLAGE AND HANG HAU TOWN IN SAI KUNG, LUNG KWU TAAN IN TUEN MUN AND WANG TOI SHAN IN YUEN LONG AT THE NTSD HEADQUARTERS.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE AGREEMENT SIGNING WERE THE CHAIRMAN OF HEUNG YEE KUK, MR LAU WONG-FAT, THE CHAIRMAN OF PAT HEUNG RURAL COMMITTEE, MR TANG TAK-KOU, AND VILLAGE REPRESENTATIVES FROM RESPECTIVE AREAS TAKING PART.

ALL SELECTED VILLAGES JOINING THE EXERCISE ARE LED BY PROMINENT COMMUNITY LEADERS OR CREDIBLE ORGANISATIONS AND HAVE THE SUPPORT OF THE RESPECTIVE DISTRICT BOARDS AND RURAL COMMITTEES.

UNDER THE AGREEMENTS, THE RURAL ORGANISATIONS WILL PERFORM THE NORMAL DUTIES OF NTSD CLEANSING STAFF.

THEY INCLUDE DAILY SWEEPINGS OF VILLAGE ROADS, PATHS AND PUBLIC AREAS, EMPTYING LITTER CONTAINERS, CLEAN-UP OF PUBLIC TOILETS, CLEARING REFUSE COLLECTION POINTS AND BIN-SITES AND REMOVING ALL COLLECTED GARBAGE TO DESIGNATED REFUSE COLLECTION POINTS FOR COLLECTION BY NTSD VEHICLES.

THE RURAL ORGANISATIONS ARE ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR KEEPING THE BEACHES, OPEN DITCHES, SURFACE CHANNELS, NULLAHS, STREAM AND RIVER COURSES FREE OF REFUSE.

MEANWHILE, THE NTSD WILL CONTINUE TO UNDERTAKE SPECIAL JOBS SUCH AS THE DESLUDGING OF AQUA PRIVIES AND RENOVATION OF CLEANSING FACILITIES.

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