



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1979

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DORWARD REVIEWS HK'S TRADE PROBLEMS IN 1979

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THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS, MR. WILLIAM DORWARD TODAY (WEDNESDAY) REVIEWED THE TRADE PROBLEMS THAT HAVE FACED HONG KONG IN 1979 AND THE POSITIVE STEPS TAKEN TO OVERCOME THEM.

SPEAKING AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE HONG KONG EXPORTERS' ASSOCIATION, MR. DORWARD SAID: +MOST OF HONG KONG'S TRADE PROBLEMS HAVE BEEN DUE TO OUR SUCCESS, NOT OUR FAILURE. IN 1979, DESPITE AS FORMIDABLE ARRAY AS EVER, EXPORTS LOOK LIKE MARKING UP GROWTH IN MONEY TERMS OF AROUND 35 PER CENT.

+STRONG MARKET DEMAND IN THE EEC, NOTABLY THE UK AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY WHO BETWEEN THEM TAKE ABOUT 85 PER CENT OF OUR EXPORTS TO THE COMMUNITY, SHOULD RESULT IN A SUBSTANTIALLY BETTER OUTTURN IN VOLUME AND VALUE TERMS IN 1979 AS COMPARED WITH 1978. WE EXPECT QUOTA UTILISATION TO BE ABOUT FIVE PERCENTAGE POINTS HIGHER THAN LAST YEAR.+

REFERRING TO TEXTILE TRADE WITH THE UNITED STATES, MR. DORWARD SAID THAT HONG KONG RESPONDED TO A PLEA TO HELP THE USA OVERCOME WHAT WERE ESSENTIALLY DOMESTIC POLITICAL PROBLEMS BY AGREEING, FOR 1979, TO VOLUNTARILY WAIVING OUR RIGHTS TO CERTAIN FLEXIBILITY PROVISIONS IN THE BILATERAL AGREEMENT.

+UNFORTUNATELY THE INK WAS BARELY DRY ON THAT EXCHANGE OF LETTERS BEFORE ANOTHER U.S. REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE WAS RECEIVED, THIS TIME FOR 1980,+ HE SAID.

+CONSULTATIONS ON THIS HAVE BEEN PROTRACTED AND DIFFICULT. IN MANILA, GENEVA, HONG KONG AND NOW LONDON, NEGOTIATORS FROM BOTH SIDES HAVE SOUGHT A FORMULA WHICH WOULD MEET U.S. CONCERNS WITHOUT DOING DAMAGE TO THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS AND TRADE EXPECTATIONS OF HONG KONG, BOTH NOW AND FOR THE FUTURE,+ SAID MR. DORWARD.

IN NOVEMBER HE WENT TO WASHINGTON TO SEE GOVERNOR REUBIN ASKEW, THE PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL TRADE REPRESENTATIVE, IN AN ATTEMPT TO FIND A BASIS WHEREBY CONCESSIONS HONG KONG WAS PREPARED TO MAKE, WITHOUT COMPENSATION, MIGHT BE CONSIDERED ADEQUATE BY THE UNITED STATES.

+DESPITE ALL THESE EFFORTS I AM SORRY TO SAY NO AGREEMENT HAS YET BEEN REACHED. FOR OUR PART WE ARE PREPARED TO CONTINUE TO TRY, CALMLY, PATIENTLY AND CONSTRUCTIVELY, TO FIND AN ACCOMMODATION WHILE AT THE SAME TIME PROTECTING OUR BASIC AND VITAL INTERESTS,+ SAID MR. DORWARD.

+OVERALL USA IMPORTS OF TEXTILES FROM ALL SOURCES SHOWED A DECLINE IN THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF 1979 OF 21 PER CENT, A FACT WHICH ONE MIGHT HOPE WOULD TO SOME EXTENT EASE THEIR CONCERN OVER THE SUBJECT OF OUR UNCOMPLETED CONSULTATIONS,+ HE SAID.

/IN VOLUME .....

IN VOLUME TERMS TEXTILE EXPORTS TO USA MIGHT BE DOWN BY ABOUT 60 MILLION SQUARE YARDS COMPARED TO LAST YEAR - MAINLY DUE TO SLACK DEMAND FOR FABRICS AND YARN. BUT GARMENT EXPORTS WERE ONLY SLIGHTLY DOWN IN VOLUME TERMS, REACHING ABOUT 92 PER CENT OF THE LIMIT FOR COTTON AND MAN-MADE FIBRE APPAREL, AND ABOUT 82 PER CENT FOR WOOLLEN APPAREL.

+GARMENT EXPORTS WILL SHOW AN INCREASE IN VALUE TERMS, ALTHOUGH BY HOW MUCH IT IS TOO EARLY TO SAY,+ HE SAID.

+I CAN ONLY ASSUME THAT AS EXPORTERS YOU MUST BE DOING SOMETHING RIGHT AND I AM CONFIDENT THAT YOU WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO,+ HE CONCLUDED.

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RESULTS OF SEPTEMBER EMPLOYMENT SURVEY OUT  
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ACCORDING TO THE LATEST EMPLOYMENT SURVEY CONDUCTED FOR THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1979 BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT IN THAT PERIOD WAS ALMOST THE SAME AS THAT OF THE PRECEDING QUARTER.

A TOTAL OF 879 742 PERSONS WERE ENGAGED IN MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS AS AT SEPTEMBER 14, 1979. THIS REPRESENTED AN INCREASE OF ABOUT 2 400 PERSONS OR 0.3 PER CENT COMPARED WITH 877 384 PERSONS ENGAGED IN JUNE 1979. WHEN COMPARED WITH 791 073 PERSONS ENGAGED IN SEPTEMBER 1978, THERE WAS AN INCREASE OF ABOUT 88 700 PERSONS OR 11.2 PER CENT.

THERE WERE A TOTAL OF 42 199 MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS IN OPERATION IN SEPTEMBER 1979. THIS REPRESENTED AN INCREASE OF 701 ESTABLISHMENTS WHEN COMPARED WITH 41 498 ESTABLISHMENTS IN JUNE 1979- AND AN INCREASE OF 3 450 ESTABLISHMENTS WHEN COMPARED WITH 38 749 ESTABLISHMENTS IN SEPTEMBER 1978.

IN TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT, THE FIVE LARGEST MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES WERE WEARING APPAREL- ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPLIANCES AND SUPPLIES- TEXTILES- PLASTIC PRODUCTS- AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS. A COMPARISON OF EMPLOYMENT IN THESE INDUSTRIES BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 1979 AND JUNE THIS YEAR IS AS FOLLOWS:-

INDUSTRY GROUPS	PERSONS ENGAGED IN SEPT. 1978	PERSONS ENGAGED IN JUNE 1979	PERSONS ENGAGED IN SEPT. 1979	CHANGE OF SEPT. 79 OVER JUNE 79	
				PERSONS ENGAGED	% CHANGE
WEARING APPAREL	263 960	283 798	281 886	-1 912	-0.7

/ELECTRICAL .....

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ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPLIANCES AND SUPPLIES, INCLUDING ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	94 207	114 000	118 225	+4 225	+3.7
TEXTILES	95 365	101 172	100 865	- 307	-0.3
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	85 507	94 765	91 596	-3 169	-3.3
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	74 283	84 030	84 243	+ 213	+0.3

THE MORE SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN EMPLOYMENT AT THE INDUSTRY SECTOR LEVEL BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 1979 AND JUNE THIS YEAR ARE AS FOLLOWS:-

INDUSTRY SECTOR	PERSONS ENGAGED IN SEPT. 1978	PERSONS ENGAGED IN JUNE 1979	PERSONS ENGAGED IN SEPT. 1979	CHANGE OF SEPT. 79 OVER JUNE 79	
				PERSONS ENGAGED	% CHANGE
ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	71 887	86 878	90 454	+3 576	+4.1
ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES AND HOUSEWARES	10 721	13 288	15 205	+1 917	+14.4
WATCHES AND CLOCKS	20 152	28 896	30 610	+1 714	+5.9
PAPER AND PAPER PRODUCTS	9 352	10 624	11 349	+ 725	+6.8
PLASTIC TOYS	45 202	51 491	49 186	-2 305	-4.5
WOOLLEN KNITTING	13 555	12 716	11 123	-1 593	-12.5
GARMENT, EXCEPT KNITWEAR FROM YARN	205 695	216 942	215 787	-1 155	-0.5

ALSO RELEASED AT THE SAME TIME WERE THE RESULTS OF THE EMPLOYMENT SURVEY ON FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES. THERE WERE 109 877 PERSONS ENGAGED IN THIS SECTOR OF BUSINESS AS AT AUGUST 15, 1979.

/OF THESE, .....

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OF THESE, 37 752 PERSONS WERE ENGAGED IN MONETARY INSTITUTIONS INCLUDING BANKS, 16 603 PERSONS IN REAL ESTATE COMPANIES/AGENCIES AND 15 392 PERSONS IN OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

WHEN COMPARED WITH 104 736 PERSONS ENGAGED IN MAY 1979, THE INCREASE WAS ABOUT 5 100 PERSONS OR 4.9 PER CENT. THE MAIN INCREASES FROM MAY 1979 TO AUGUST 1979 OCCURRED IN MONETARY INSTITUTIONS INCLUDING BANKS, OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, REAL ESTATE COMPANIES/AGENCIES AND ACCOUNTING, AUDITING AND BOOK-KEEPING SERVICES- AS SHOWN BELOW :-

INDUSTRY GROUP	PERSONS ENGAGED IN AUG 1978	PERSONS ENGAGED IN MAY 1979	PERSONS ENGAGED IN AUG 1979	CHANGE OF AUG 79 OVER MAY 79	
				PERSONS ENGAGED	% CHANGE
MONETARY INSTITUTIONS INCLUDING BANKS	32 638	35 549	37 752	+2 203	+6.2
OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS	11 704	14 357	15 392	+1 035	+7.2
REAL ESTATE COMPANIES/AGENCIES	14 041	15 897	16 603	+ 706	+4.4
ACCOUNTING, AUDITING AND BOOK-KEEPING SERVICES	4 534	4 632	5 217	+ 585	+12.6

DETAILED FIGURES OF EMPLOYMENT FOR OTHER INDUSTRY GROUPS AND BREAKDOWNS BY INDUSTRY SECTORS ARE OBTAINABLE ON REQUEST FROM THE EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

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LARGEST CONTRACT FOR TAI PO DEVELOPMENT SIGNED

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THE LARGEST CONTRACT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF TAI PO NEW TOWN WAS SIGNED TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE CONTRACT WORTH ABOUT \$75 MILLION WAS AWARDED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TO GAMMON (HK) LTD.

THE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED BY MR. J.W. THOMAS, PROJECT MANAGER OF THE TAI PO AND FANLING DEVELOPMENT OFFICE AND MR. D.A. MORRIS AND MR. H.L. CHAU OF THE COMPANY.

SPEAKING AFTER THE SIGNING CEREMONY, MR. THOMAS SAID THE CONTRACT FORMED PART OF THE GOVERNMENT'S PLAN TO DEVELOP THE TOWN INTO A MODERN, SELF-CONTAINED COMMUNITY WITH AN EVENTUAL POPULATION OF 220 000.

WORK ON THE CONTRACT WILL BEGIN NEXT WEEK AND WILL TAKE ABOUT 24 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

MR. THOMAS SAID THAT IT WOULD INCLUDE THE FORMATION OF ABOUT 44 HECTARES OF LAND IN CENTRAL TAI PO, TOGETHER WITH ASSOCIATED BRIDGE WORKS, RIVER WALLS AND MAIN DRAINAGE CULVERTS.

+WHEN COMPLETED, PART OF THE RECLAIMED LAND, ABOUT 14 HECTARES, WILL BE USED FOR A NEW PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE NEAR ISLAND HOUSE.+

+THE REMAINING AREAS WILL PROVIDE LAND FOR COMMERCIAL OR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AND A VARIETY OF GOVERNMENT, INSTITUTION OR COMMUNITY FACILITIES ADJACENT TO THE EXISTING TOWN.+

HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT SUFFICIENT AREAS WOULD BE FORMED TO ENABLE THE FUTURE CONSTRUCTION OF NEW ROADS TO BYPASS THE EXISTING TOWN FOR ACCESS TO THE NEW INDUSTRIAL ESTATE AND TO REDUCE PRESENT TRAFFIC CONGESTION ON KWONG FUK ROAD.

THE LAM TSUEN AND TAI PO RIVERS WOULD BE CHANNELLED THROUGH THE NEWLY FORMED LAND AND WOULD EVENTUALLY FORM A MAJOR FEATURE OF THE PROPOSED PARKLAND AREA THROUGH THE CENTRE OF THE NEW TOWN, HE SAID.

+WHEN TAI PO IS FULLY DEVELOPED, IT WILL BECOME A MODERN URBAN CENTRE WITH ALL MANNER OF FACILITIES -- PRIVATE AND PUBLIC HOUSING, INDUSTRY, SHOPPING AND COMMERCIAL AREAS, TOWN PARKS, CULTURAL, SPORTING AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AS WELL AS A WHOLE RANGE OF COMMUNITY AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES.+

THE WORKS FOR THE CONTRACT HAVE BEEN DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTION WILL BE SUPERVISED BY MAUNSELL CONSULTANTS ASIA FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

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SHA TIN SITES FOR SALE  
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TWO RESIDENTIAL SITES IN SHA TIN NEW TOWN WILL BE PUT UP FOR SALE IN AN AUCTION TO BE HELD IN THE SHA TIN GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL TOMORROW (THURSDAY) AT 11 AM.

ONE OF THE SITES IS AT LOK LO HA MEASURING 2 579 SQUARE METRES WITH A BUILDING COVENANT OF \$1 440 000 TO BE FULFILLED WITHIN 36 MONTHS. THE SITE WILL BE CONNECTED BY ROAD WITH THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY PODIUM DEVELOPMENT IN SHA TIN AND FO TAN RAILWAY STATION. IT HAS A PLOT RATIO OF 1.

THE OTHER SITE AT KAU TO MEASURES 1 010 SQUARE METRES WITH A BUILDING COVENANT OF \$160 000 TO BE FULFILLED WITHIN THE SAME PERIOD. IT HAS A PLOT RATIO OF ONLY 0.4 AND COMMANDS A FULL VIEW OF THE TOLO CHANNEL.

BOTH SITES ARE FORMED AND ARE FOR LOW DENSITY DEVELOPMENT.

SEVEN OTHER RESIDENTIAL AND TWO INDUSTRIAL SITES IN SHA TIN NEW TOWN ARE TO BE DISPOSED OF BY LETTER A AND B TENDER NEXT MONTH.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND YOUR REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE LAND AUCTION IN SHA TIN TOMORROW (THURSDAY). PRESS TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED. A GOVERNMENT VAN, AM 2088, WILL LEAVE THE KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER FOR SHA TIN AT 10.15 AM.

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LABOUR DEPARTMENT TO HELP THE DISABLED FIND JOBS  
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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT IS PLANNING TO ESTABLISH A SELECTIVE PLACEMENT SERVICE FOR DISABLED PEOPLE NEXT YEAR.

THIS WAS DISCLOSED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR. NEIL HENDERSON TODAY (WEDNESDAY) AT THE OPENING OF A LABOUR OFFICER IN-SERVICE TRAINING COURSE ON SELECTIVE PLACEMENT OF DISABLED PERSONS.

THE PRIME OBJECTIVE OF THE NEW SERVICE, HE EXPLAINED, IS TO PLACE DISABLED PEOPLE IN JOBS WHERE THEY WILL BE HAPPY AND IN WHICH THEY WILL STAY IN THE LONG TERM.

MR. HENDERSON SAID THE TRAINING COURSE WAS AIMED AT GIVING THE PARTICIPATING OFFICERS AN OPPORTUNITY TO ACQUIRE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF REHABILITATION SERVICES FOR DISABLED PEOPLE IN PREPARATION FOR THE TASK AHEAD.

IN AN ADDRESS TO THE GATHERING, DR. HARRY FANG, CHAIRMAN OF THE REHABILITATION DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, SAID THAT FOR SOME YEARS THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR HAD BEEN URGING THE GOVERNMENT TO TRANSFER RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE PLACEMENT OF DISABLED JOB SEEKERS FROM THE SOCIAL WELFARE TO THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

/+NOW WE .....

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+NOW WE ARE ON THE THRESHOLD OF THIS TRANSFER,+ HE NOTED.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR, IN PARTICULAR THE DISABLED COMMUNITY, GREATLY APPRECIATED THE SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT WAS PROVIDING IN SETTING UP THE NEW SERVICE.

DR. FANG SAID THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAD A SIGNIFICANT ROLE TO PLAY IN REHABILITATION SERVICES.

+I WELCOME YOUR DEPARTMENT MORE CLOSELY INTO OUR REHABILITATION FAMILY. YOUR PROFESSIONAL SKILLS IN THIS FIELD OF PLACING DISABLED JOB SEEKERS IN EMPLOYMENT WILL BE WELCOME,+ HE SAID.

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#### EARLY PAYMENT FOR SOCIAL SECURITY \* \* \* \*

THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT HAS MADE SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS TO ADVANCE PAYMENTS TO RECIPIENTS OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCES WHOSE COUPONS ARE DATED FOR PAYMENT DURING THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THOSE WITH COUPONS FOR PAYMENT ON DECEMBER 25 AND 26 COULD CASH THEM ON OR AFTER DECEMBER 21 AND 22 RESPECTIVELY.

HE SAID THE ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEEN MADE WITH POST OFFICES, TREASURY OFFICES AND NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICT OFFICES WHERE THE COUPONS ARE CASHED.

HE ADVISED THOSE INVOLVED TO TAKE NOTE OF THEIR OWN CASHING DATES SO THAT THEY COULD GET THEIR PAYMENTS BEFORE THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY.

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CHRISTMAS PARTIES FOR THE DISABLED  
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THREE REHABILITATION CENTRES OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT WILL TOMORROW (THURSDAY) HOLD CHRISTMAS PARTIES FEATURING A VARIETY OF PROGRAMMES FOR THEIR DISABLED TRAINEES.

THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, WILL ATTEND THE CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR THE DISABLED TRAINEES OF THE WORLD REHABILITATION FUND DAY CENTRE. IT WILL TAKE PLACE AT 2.30 PM AT THE KWUN TONG RECREATION GROUND IN TSUI PING ROAD, KWUN TONG.

THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS. ANSON CHAN, WILL SHARE THE FESTIVAL JOY WITH DISABLED TRAINEES OF THE ABERDEEN REHABILITATION CENTRE AND THE KAI CHI CHILDREN'S CENTRE AT THEIR JOINT PARTY WHICH WILL START AT 2.30 PM AT THE ABERDEEN REHABILITATION CENTRE IN WELFARE ROAD, WONG CHUK HANG.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND YOUR REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE CHRISTMAS PARTY AT THE WORLD REHABILITATION FUND DAY CENTRE AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (THURSDAY) AT THE KWUN TONG RECREATION GROUND, TSUI PING ROAD, AND THE PARTY FOR TRAINEES OF ABERDEEN REHABILITATION CENTRE AND KAI CHI CHILDREN'S CENTRE WHICH WILL ALSO START AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW AT THE ABERDEEN REHABILITATION CENTRE IN WELFARE ROAD, WONG CHUK HANG.

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STUDY CHOICE SHOULD BE BASED ON INDIVIDUAL ABILITY  
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STUDENTS WISHING TO FURTHER THEIR STUDIES SHOULD CONSIDER THEIR OWN ABILITIES AND CONSULT THEIR PARENTS AND TEACHERS BEFORE MAKING A DECISION, MR. KENNETH TOPLEY, DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE 6TH SPEECH DAY OF POPE PAUL VI COLLEGE IN TSUEN WAN. THE OCCASION ALSO MARKED THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COLLEGE.

+EVERYONE HAS ONE'S OWN KIND OF ABILITY, AND UNIVERSITIES ARE NOT DESIGNED FOR EVERYONE,+ MR. TOPLEY SAID.

IN ORDER TO CATER FOR THIS DIVERSITY OF ABILITIES, HE SAID THERE ARE DIFFERENT TYPES OF TERTIARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, BOTH TECHNICAL AND ACADEMIC, TO SUIT THE NEEDS OF EVERYONE.

+SO, DO TRY TO KNOW YOUR STRENGTH AND WEAKNESSES AND MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE IN CONSULTATION WITH YOUR PARENTS AND TEACHERS BEFORE LEAVING YOUR SCHOOL.

+STUDIES CAN THEN BE A PLEASURE AND MAY BECOME A LIFE-LONG INTEREST,+ MR. TOPLEY SAID.

HE ENCOURAGED THOSE WHO ARE GOING TO START WORK TO KEEP UP THEIR STUDIES BY ATTENDING PART-TIME COURSES AND INTEREST GROUP ACTIVITIES RUN BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, THE TWO UNIVERSITIES AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES.

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YOUNG PEOPLE URGED TO CARE FOR THE COMMUNITY

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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S REGIONAL OFFICER FOR HONG KONG ISLAND, MR. KWOK KA-CHI, TODAY (WEDNESDAY) CALLED ON YOUNG PEOPLE TO PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE IN CARING FOR THE COMMUNITY.

MR. KWOK SAID IT COULD BEST BE DONE BY ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN VARIOUS VOLUNTEER SERVICES ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES.

HE WAS SPEAKING AT A PRIZE-PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE COGNITIO COLLEGE'S 17TH ATHLETIC MEET AT THE SOUTH CHINA ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION STADIUM.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN VOLUNTEER SERVICES, YOUNG PEOPLE COULD NOT ONLY CONTRIBUTE USEFULLY TO THE WELL-BEING OF THE SOCIETY BUT ALSO BETTER UNDERSTAND AND DEVELOP THEIR OWN INTERESTS AND POTENTIALS.

YOUNG PEOPLE, HE SAID, CAN ALWAYS JOIN THE VARIOUS SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES RUN BY THE DEPARTMENT'S COMMUNITY CENTRES, COMMUNITY HALLS AND YOUTH CENTRES, OR THOSE RUN BY VOLUNTARY AGENCIES.

+I AM SURE THAT WITH WHAT THEY HAVE LEARNED IN SCHOOLS AND WITH THEIR DRIVE, YOUNG PEOPLE CAN HELP IN PLANNING AND PROMOTING COMMUNITY SERVICES, FOR EXAMPLE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, ANTI-CRIME AND ANTI-LITTER ACTIVITIES, AND RECREATIONAL PROGRAMMES FOR THE ELDERLY AND THE DISABLED,+ HE SAID.

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SWD THANKS EMPLOYERS OF DISABLED PERSONS

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THE JOB PLACEMENT UNIT OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT TODAY (WEDNESDAY) FORMALLY SAID +THANK YOU+ TO 32 LOCAL LEADING EMPLOYERS WHO HAD OFFERED JOBS TO HUNDREDS OF DISABLED PERSONS IN PAST YEARS.

THE EMPLOYERS WERE EACH PRESENTED WITH A CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR STAUNCH SUPPORT IN HELPING THE DEPARTMENT RE-INTEGRATE THE DISABLED INTO THE COMMUNITY.

THE PRESENTATION WAS MADE AT A CEREMONY HELD IN THE IMPERIAL HOTEL BY MRS. EVELYN DOE, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE. MISS DAPHNE HO, A VETERAN SOCIAL WORKER IN REHABILITATION SERVICES WHO HAS RECENTLY RETIRED FROM THE DEPARTMENT WAS ALSO PRESENT AT THE CEREMONY.

IN ACTIVE RESPONSE TO SEARCHES FOR JOBS BY THE JOB PLACEMENT UNIT, THE 32 COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL FIRMS HAD OFFERED EMPLOYMENT TO 461 DISABLED PERSONS - 199 PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED, 115 DEAF, 74 BLIND, 40 MENTALLY RETARDED AND 33 EX-MENTAL PATIENTS.

/OF THESE .....

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OF THESE FIRMS, ATLAS ELECTRONICS CORP. LTD., SYLVANIA FAR EAST LTD., UNIVERSAL OPTICAL INDUSTRIES LTD. AND THE HONG KONG TELEPHONE COMPANY HAVE EACH EMPLOYED MORE THAN 50 DISABLED PERSONS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY THIS REFLECTED THE GROWING PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE ABILITIES OF THE DISABLED AND THE USEFUL CONTRIBUTIONS THEY COULD MAKE.

HE SAID THE JOB PLACEMENT UNIT WAS SET UP IN 1967 TO PROVIDE VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE TO THE DISABLED, TAP EMPLOYMENT RESOURCES AND PLACE SUITABLE DISABLED PERSONS IN OPEN EMPLOYMENT.

OVER THE PAST 12 YEARS, WITH INCREASING SUPPORT FROM EMPLOYERS, THE UNIT HAS FOUND JOBS FOR 3 760 DISABLED PERSONS, HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT RE-INTEGRATING THE DISABLED INTO NORMAL WORKING LIFE MEANT THEIR ECONOMIC USEFULNESS COULD BE FULLY RESTORED AND THEY COULD BECOME CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY.

+WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF MORE COMPREHENSIVE REHABILITATION SERVICES, PARTICULARLY IN THE FIELDS OF EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING, DISABLED PERSONS ARE NOW BETTER PREPARED AND EQUIPPED FOR MORE COMPETITIVE AND DIVERSIFIED EMPLOYMENTS,+ HE SAID.

HE EMPHASISED THAT THE PROGRESS IN REHABILITATING THE DISABLED AND RE-INTEGRATING THEM INTO THE SOCIETY DEPENDED LARGELY ON THE CONTINUED SUPPORT OF LOCAL EMPLOYERS.

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#### SECTION OF NEW CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD OPENS ON FRIDAY

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A SECTION OF THE NEW CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD BETWEEN CHOI WAN ESTATE AND SHUN LEE ESTATE WILL OPEN TO TWO-WAY TRAFFIC FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (DECEMBER 21).

WITH THE OPENING OF THE NEW ROAD THE FOLLOWING TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED:-

- \* A SECTION OF CHOI WAN ESTATE ACCESS ROAD BETWEEN THE OLD CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD AND THE ESTATE ENTRANCE WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND-
- \* TRAFFIC ON THE NORTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF CHOI WAN ESTATE ACCESS ROAD WILL BE REQUIRED TO MAKE A LEFT TURN INTO THE OLD CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD- AND
- \* TRAFFIC ON THE SOUTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF CHOI WAN ESTATE ACCESS ROAD WILL BE REQUIRED TO MAKE A LEFT TURN INTO THE NEW CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD.

IN MONG KOK, THE BUS STOP IN TUNG CHOI STREET BETWEEN ARGYLE STREET AND FIFE STREET WILL BE RELOCATED TO SAI YEUNG CHOI STREET FROM 6 AM ON FRIDAY.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE PUBLIC LIGHT BUS STAND IN SAI YEUNG CHOI STREET WILL BE RESITED TO TUNG CHOI STREET. IN ADDITION, A NEW PLB STAND WILL BE SET UP IN PORTLAND STREET BETWEEN ARGYLE STREET AND FIFE STREET FOR NT-BOUND PLBS.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN MONG KOK AND CENTRAL  
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A SECTION OF FIFE STREET BETWEEN SAI YEUNG CHOI STREET AND TUNG CHOI STREET IN MONG KOK WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM ONE-WAY WESTBOUND TO ONE-WAY EASTBOUND FROM 6 AM ON FRIDAY (DECEMBER 21).

AT THE SAME TIME, ALL MOTOR VEHICLES ON SOUTHBOUND JOURNEYS ALONG NATHAN ROAD WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM MAKING RIGHT TURN INTO ARGYLE STREET WESTBOUND.

MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED TO USE THE ALTERNATIVE ROUTE VIA NATHAN ROAD, MONG KOK ROAD AND SAI YEUNG CHOI STREET TO GET TO ARGYLE STREET WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY.

ON HONG KONG ISLAND, THE EASTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL BETWEEN JUBILEE STREET AND PEDDER STREET WILL BE CLOSED BETWEEN 1.15 AM AND 5.30 AM DAILY FROM FRIDAY TO SUNDAY (DECEMBER 21 TO 23) TO FACILITATE ROAD WORK.

DURING THE TEMPORARY CLOSURE, TRAFFIC WILL BE DIVERTED VIA JUBILEE STREET, DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL AND PEDDER STREET.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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WATER CUT  
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WATER SUPPLY TO ALL PREMISES IN CHOI HUNG ESTATE WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR SIX HOURS FROM MIDNIGHT ON FRIDAY (DECEMBER 21) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY (SATURDAY).

THE INTERRUPTION IN SUPPLY IS TO FACILITATE A LEAKAGE TEST IN THE AREA.

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