



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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EXPORT PRICES RISE
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MAY 1984 PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS ROSE, ON AVERAGE, BY 16 PER CENT AND 15 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY SO THAT FOR TOTAL EXPORTS, PRICES WERE UP BY 15 PER CENT AS COMPARED WITH MAY 1983, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE PRICES OF IMPORTS ROSE BY 16 PER CENT.

AS A RESULT, THE TERMS OF TRADE INDEX (EXPRESSED AS A RATIO OF THE TOTAL EXPORT PRICE INDEX TO THE IMPORT PRICE INDEX) DROPPED BY ONE PER CENT, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY 27 PER CENT AND 36 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY, SO THAT THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS INCREASED BY 30 PER CENT.

MEANWHILE, THE VOLUME OF IMPORTS INCREASED BY 16 PER CENT.

COMPARING FIGURES FOR THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1984 WITH THOSE FOR THE SAME PERIOD OF LAST YEAR, DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS GREW BY 27 PER CENT AND 34 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN VOLUME TERMS. THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS BOTH INCREASED BY 16 PER CENT. AFTER ALLOWING FOR THE EFFECT OF AN INCREASE OF 17 PER CENT IN PRICES, IMPORTS GREW BY 20 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS.

A COMPARISON OF FIGURES FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDING MAY THIS YEAR WITH THOSE FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDING MAY 1983, SHOWED THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS BOTH ROSE, ON AVERAGE, BY 14 PER CENT, AND THOSE OF IMPORTS BY 16 PER CENT. THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 22 PER CENT AND 27 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY, THUS GIVING A 24 PER CENT INCREASE IN THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS. MEANWHILE, THE VOLUME OF IMPORTS ROSE BY 16 PER CENT.

+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 SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY COMMODITY GROUP ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

AS SEEN FROM TABLE 1, THE EXPORT PRICES OF ALL COMMODITY GROUPS INCREASED, FROM FOUR PER CENT FOR ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS TO 28 PER CENT FOR TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES.

THE DOMESTIC EXPORT VOLUME OF ALL COMMODITY GROUPS INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY, THE MORE SUBSTANTIAL ONES BEING ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (+86%), FOOTWEAR (+42%), DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES (+38%), TEXTILE FABRICS (+25%), RADIOS OF ALL KINDS (+22%), CLOTHING (+20%) AND TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD (+16%).

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 2.

AS PRESENTED IN TABLE 2, IMPORT PRICES OF ALL END-USE CATEGORIES INCREASED, RANGING FROM 10 PER CENT FOR CAPITAL GOODS TO 21 PER CENT FOR RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES.

MANY OF THE MAJOR IMPORTED FOODSTUFFS DECLINED IN VOLUME TERMS, THE MORE SIGNIFICANT ONES BEING WHEAT AND FLOUR, SOYA BEAN OIL, PEANUT OIL AND LARD, CEREALS AND CEREAL PREPARATIONS OTHER THAN RICE, WHEAT AND FLOUR, LIVE POULTRY AND ANIMALS OF THE BOVINE SPECIES. HOWEVER, SLIGHT INCREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE REGISTERED FOR FISH AND FISH PREPARATIONS AND SWINE.

THE IMPORT VOLUME OF ALL CONSUMER GOODS INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY, THE MORE SUBSTANTIAL ONES BEING TOBACCO MANUFACTURES, PASSENGER MOTOR CARS, MISCELLANEOUS MADE-UP ARTICLES OF TEXTILE MATERIALS, RADIOS, TELEVISION SETS, GRAMOPHONES, RECORDS, TAPE RECORDERS AND AMPLIFIERS, CLOTHING AND WATCHES.

THE IMPORT VOLUME OF MOST OF THE RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES ROSE, AMONG WHICH MAN-MADE FIBRES, THERMIONIC CATHODE VALVES AND TUBES, DIODES, TRANSISTORS AND ELECTRICAL MICROCIRCUITS, YARN OF MAN-MADE FIBRES, SILK FABRICS, LEATHER AND DRESSED FUR SKINS, CHEMICAL ELEMENTS AND COMPOUNDS, WOVEN COTTON FABRICS, SPECIAL TEXTILE FABRICS FOR INDUSTRIAL PURPOSE, FABRICS OF MAN-MADE FIBRES AS WELL AS WATCH AND CLOCK MOVEMENTS, CASES AND PARTS INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY. HOWEVER, THE IMPORT VOLUME OF WOOD, LUMBER AND CORK AS WELL AS YARN OF WOOL AND MIXTURES DROPPED SIGNIFICANTLY.

IMPORTS OF FUELS ROSE BY 10 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS.

IN THE CAPITAL GOODS CATEGORY, THE IMPORT VOLUME OF NEARLY ALL COMMODITIES INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY, THE MORE REMARKABLE ONES BEING OFFICE MACHINES AND INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY. HOWEVER, THE IMPORT VOLUME OF TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT DROPPED SIGNIFICANTLY.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 3.

AS DEPICTED IN TABLE 3, THE RE-EXPORT VOLUME OF ALL END-USE CATEGORIES INCREASED; RANGING FROM SIX PER CENT FOR FOODSTUFFS TO 65 PER CENT FOR CAPITAL GOODS.

FURTHER DETAILS ARE CONTAINED IN THE MAY 1984 ISSUE OF THE +HONG KONG TRADE INDEX NUMBERS+, WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT HK\$2 PER COPY LATER THIS MONTH.

TABLE 1: COMPARISON OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY COMMODITY GROUP
BETWEEN MAY 1984 AND MAY 1983

<u>COMMODITY GROUP</u>	<u>EXPORT VALUE</u>	<u>EXPORT UNIT VALUE</u>	<u>EXPORT VOLUME</u>
CLOTHING	+49%	+24%	+20%
TEXTILE FABRICS	+52%	+22%	+25%
TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD	+33%	+15%	+16%
TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES	+25%	+19%	+ 5%
RADIOS OF ALL KINDS	+39%	+13%	+22%
ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS	+93%	+ 4%	+86%
FOOTWEAR	+58%	+11%	+42%
METAL MANUFACTURES	+36%	+20%	+13%
METAL ORES AND SCRAP	+ 9%	+ 7%	+ 2%
WATCHES AND CLOCKS	+23%	+ 7%	+15%
TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES	+32%	+28%	+ 3%
DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES	+51%	+ 9%	+38%
ALL COMMODITIES	+46%	+16%	+27%

TABLE 2: COMPARISON OF IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY
BETWEEN MAY 1984 AND MAY 1983

<u>END-USE CATEGORY</u>	<u>IMPORT VALUE</u>	<u>IMPORT UNIT VALUE</u>	<u>IMPORT VOLUME</u>
FOODSTUFFS	+12%	+16%	- 4%
CONSUMER GOODS	+35%	+13%	+20%
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	+45%	+21%	+20%
FUELS	+26%	+15%	+10%
CAPITAL GOODS	+29%	+10%	+17%
ALL COMMODITIES	+35%	+16%	+16%

/TABLE 3:

TABLE 3: COMPARISON OF RE-EXPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY
BETWEEN MAY 1984 AND MAY 1983

<u>END-USE CATEGORY</u>	<u>RE-EXPORT VALUE</u>	<u>RE-EXPORT UNIT VALUE</u>	<u>RE-EXPORT VOLUME</u>
FOODSTUFFS	+24%	+18%	+ 6%
CONSUMER GOODS	+40%	+12%	+24%
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	+71%	+19%	+44%
FUELS	+30%	+18%	+10%
CAPITAL GOODS	+85%	+12%	+65%
ALL COMMODITIES	+56%	+15%	+36%

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MORE APARTMENT SALE AGREEMENTS REGISTERED
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THE NUMBER OF SALE AGREEMENTS ON FLATS INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY IN THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR, COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD OF 1983, ACCORDING TO FIGURES RELEASED TODAY BY THE LAND OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

A TOTAL OF 15 548 SUCH AGREEMENTS WERE REGISTERED, UP 40 PER CENT OVER THE YEAR-EARLIER FIGURE.

IN THE SAME PERIOD, 27 003 ASSIGNMENTS OF FLATS WERE REGISTERED, COMPARED WITH 22 371 IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1983.

A TOTAL OF 4 419 ASSIGNMENTS OF FLATS WERE COMPLETED BY THE LAND OFFICE ON BEHALF OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY UNDER THE GOVERNMENT'S HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME. THE YEAR-EARLIER FIGURE WAS 4 910.

TWENTY-NINE BUILDING MORTGAGES AND 22 083 OTHER MORTGAGES WERE REGISTERED, COMPARED WITH 29 AND 18 437 RESPECTIVELY IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1983.

THERE WERE 213 ASSIGNMENTS OF LOTS AND SECTIONS, 13.8 PER CENT LESS THAN IN THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

SEARCHES IN THE LAND OFFICE BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WERE 348 148, UP BY 8.8 PER CENT.

/THE TOTAL

THE TOTAL VALUE OF CONSIDERATIONS IN ASSIGNMENTS OF LOTS AND SECTIONS DECLINED BY 72 PER CENT FROM \$3.205 BILLION TO \$0.893 BILLION, WHILE THAT FOR THE ASSIGNMENT OF FLATS DROPPED BY 1.4 PER CENT FROM \$11.910 BILLION TO \$11.741 BILLION.

THE TOTAL AMOUNT SECURED UNDER BUILDING MORTGAGES REGISTERED IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1984 FELL BY ABOUT 62 PER CENT, FROM \$481 MILLION TO \$181 MILLION.

THE AMOUNT UNDER MORTGAGES OTHER THAN BUILDING MORTGAGES DECREASED BY 70.5 PER CENT, FROM \$28.224 BILLION TO \$8.336 BILLION.

REPAYMENTS UNDER MORTGAGES OF ALL KINDS, AS EVIDENCED BY REASSIGNMENTS AND CERTIFICATES OF SATISFACTION, WERE UP BY 14.8 PER CENT, FROM \$5.716 BILLION TO \$6.562 BILLION.

BUT THE REGISTRAR GENERAL, MR NOEL GLEESON, CAUTIONED THAT THE VARIOUS FIGURES CITED DID NOT INCLUDE TRANSACTIONS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES AND THUS DID NOT COVER THE TOTAL PROPERTY MARKET.

OF THE EIGHT NT DISTRICT LAND REGISTRIES, ONLY THREE HAVE BEEN TAKEN OVER BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT. IT IS INTENDED THAT THE DEPARTMENT WILL TAKE OVER THE REST BY STAGES.

SIGNIFICANT GOVERNMENT LAND TRANSACTIONS COMPLETED IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1984 INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING:

- * THE GRANT OF THE 16-HECTARE SITE AT KORNHILL TO THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION THROUGH LAND EXCHANGE WITH A PREMIUM OF \$292 015 000 FOR RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES.
- * THE SALE OF THE ADMIRALTY II SITE AT QUEENSWAY TO FIRST PROFIT INVESTMENT LTD AT A PREMIUM OF \$380 000 000 FOR COMMERCIAL-HOTEL PURPOSES.
- * THE GRANT BY PRIVATE TREATY OF A SITE AT QUEENSWAY TO THE BANK OF CHINA AT A PREMIUM OF \$1 000 MILLION.

IN ALL, 124 LAND GRANTS AND MODIFICATIONS OF LEASE CONDITIONS WERE COMPLETED, UP FROM 117 IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1983, WHILE THE TOTAL PREMIUM INVOLVED ROSE BY 240 PER CENT FROM \$593 MILLION TO \$2 015 MILLION.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, SURRENDERS AND RESUMPTIONS OF LAND DROPPED BY 41.4 PER CENT FROM 186 TO 109, WITH THE AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION DECREASING BY 68.9 PER CENT FROM \$213 MILLION TO \$66 MILLION.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PROPERTY OWNERS THROUGHOUT HONG KONG ROSE BY 49 365, FROM 653 422 IN DECEMBER 1982 TO 702 787 IN DECEMBER 1983, AND AGAIN BY 25 155 TO 727 942 IN JUNE 1984.

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DB MEMBERS BACK TOUGH STANCE ON HAWKER ACCIDENTS

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URBAN DISTRICT BOARDS CONSULTED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL'S WORKING PARTY TO REVIEW HAWKER AND RELATED POLICIES ARE ALL CONCERNED ABOUT THE RISING NUMBER OF HAWKER ACCIDENTS, IN PARTICULAR THE DEATH OF AN 80-YEAR-OLD WOMAN KNOCKED DOWN IN SHAM SHUI PO AND THE DANGER CAUSED BY COOKED-FOOD HAWKERS USING BOILING COOKING FAT.

AND WHILE INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS HAVE A LARGE RANGE OF VIEWS ON THE HAWKER PROBLEM, AND HOW TO AMELIORATE IT, THEY ARE IN WIDE BUT NOT OF COURSE UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT THAT THE COUNCIL IS RIGHT TO CONTINUE TO ORDER STEPPED-UP ACTION AGAINST HAWKERS.

VIEWS EXPRESSED BY DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AT RECENT MEETINGS WITH THE COUNCIL'S WORKING PARTY WERE DISCUSSED AT THE LAST MEETING OF THE COUNCIL'S DISTRICT RELATIONS SELECT COMMITTEE, CHAIRED BY MISS CECILIA YEUNG.

SOME OF THESE VIEWS INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING:

- * THE COUNCIL HAS BEEN +TOO LENIENT+ WITH HAWKERS. STRINGENT CONTROLS SHOULD BE INTRODUCED TO +DRIVE THEM BACK TO THE FACTORIES.+ IN THIS RESPECT, HONG KONG SHOULD FOLLOW THE TOUGH EXAMPLE OF SINGAPORE.
- * HAWKING NOT ONLY DISCOURAGED YOUNG PEOPLE FROM TAKING UP WORK IN FACTORIES, BUT ALSO ENCOURAGE THEM NOT TO PURSUE A PROPER EDUCATION BECAUSE IN THE SHORT TERM HAWKERS COULD MAKE AN EASY LIVING.
- * IT WAS GENERALLY ACCEPTED THAT HAWKERS CREATED NUISANCES AND OBSTRUCTIONS AND AFFECTED LEGITIMATE TRADERS; THEREFORE THEY SHOULD BE +DRIVEN OFF THE STREETS.+
- * DRASTIC ACTION HAD TO BE TAKEN URGENTLY AGAINST COOKED-FOOD HAWKERS NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF THE DANGER TO PUBLIC SAFETY, BUT ALSO BECAUSE OF THE MENACE TO PUBLIC HEALTH.
- * HAWKERS PROVIDE UNFAIR COMPETITION AGAINST TAX-PAYING AND RATE-PAYING SHOPKEEPERS. IN NO WAY SHOULD THE AUTHORITIES CONSIDER GIVING ILLEGAL HAWKERS ANY LEGITIMATE STANDING BECAUSE OF THE LENGTH OF TIME THEY HAD BEEN ILLEGAL HAWKERS.
- * BESIDES TOTALLY BANNING COOKED-FOOD HAWKERS, THE COUNCIL SHOULD BAN ALL HAWKERS SELLING CUT FRUIT, FOR HEALTH REASONS. AND MORE ACTION SHOULD ALSO BE TAKEN AGAINST HAWKERS SELLING MEAT.
- * PEOPLE WHO PATRONISED ILLEGAL HAWKERS, PARTICULARLY COOKED-FOOD HAWKERS, SHOULD BE PENALISED FOR AIDING AND ABETTING OBSTRUCTION AND ILLEGAL TRADING.

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- * HAWKER OFFENDERS SHOULD BE COMPUTERISED IN THE SAME WAY AS LITTERBUGS. THE COURTS SHOULD BE GIVEN FULL INFORMATION ON PREVIOUS OFFENCES SO THAT A SUITABLE PENALTY COULD BE IMPOSED.
- * THE PRESENT PENALTIES WERE TOO LIGHT. OFFENCES SHOULD BE CATEGORISED AND A SLIDING SCALE OF PENALTIES IMPOSED WITH REGARD TO THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE OFFENCE, VIS A VIS OPERATING WITH A WOK FULL OF BOILING FAT.
- * HEAVIER FINES AND EVEN IMPRISONMENT SHOULD BE IMPOSED ON ILLEGAL HAWKERS WHOSE TRADE POSED A DANGER TO PEDESTRIANS.
- * THERE SHOULD BE FIXED PENALTIES FOR HAWKING OFFENCES, WHILE LICENCES SHOULD BE ISSUED DAILY, ON A TEMPORARY BASIS.
- * BOTH FINES ON ILLEGAL HAWKERS AND LICENCE FEES PAID BY LEGAL HAWKERS SHOULD BE INCREASED BECAUSE IN EACH CASE THE HAWKER WAS NOT PAYING ANY TAX, AND HAWKING WAS A LUCRATIVE BUSINESS.
- * HAWKERS SHOULD PAY BUSINESS REGISTRATION AND INCOME TAX. THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT SHOULD DEVISE A MEANS TO IMPOSE TAX ON HAWKERS TO MAKE THEIR BUSINESS LESS ATTRACTIVE.
- * THE EXISTING LEGISLATION SHOULD BE AMENDED TO EMPOWER THE STAFF TO ARREST HAWKERS HAVING IN THEIR POSSESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF SALE ANY COMMODITY INTENDED FOR HAWKING.
- * THE GDT'S SHOULD BE MADE A DISCIPLINED FORCE AND THEIR WORKING HOURS SHOULD BE MORE FLEXIBLE TO SPREAD THEIR ENFORCEMENT ACTION.
- * BECAUSE HAWKERS WERE A +FURIOUS BREED+ WHEN APPROACHED BY OFFICIALS, MEMBERS OF GD TEAMS SHOULD BE ARMED WITH BATONS.
- * SURPRISE RAIDS SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE CONDUCTED, OTHERWISE HAWKERS WOULD FIND WAYS TO EVADE LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTION. THE USD SHOULD CONTINUE TO CONFISCATE THE BARROWS AND PARAPHERNALIA OF ILLEGAL HAWKERS.
- * PROGRESS ON SOLVING THE HAWKER PROBLEM IS TOO SLOW. WORK ON MARKET PROJECTS TO GET HAWKERS OFF THE STREETS SHOULD BE SPEEDED UP.

ON COOKED-FOOD HAWKERS LIABLE TO SCALD PASSERS-BY IF THEY RAN AWAY SUDDENLY ALONG A CROWDED FOOTPATH, SOME DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS SUGGESTED THAT:

- * THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG SHOULD RECOGNISE THAT BY CONTINUING TO PATRONISE SUCH HAWKERS THEY WERE PERPETUATING THIS DANGER; THEREFORE THE PUBLIC SHOULD HENCEFORTH BOYCOTT ALL COOKED-FOOD HAWKERS.

/* EVEN IF

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- * EVEN IF A COOKED-FOOD HAWKER HAD COVERED UP HIS BARROW WITH A PIECE OF CLOTH, THE USD STAFF SHOULD BE EMPOWERED TO ARREST THE HAWKER AND SEIZE HIS BARROW.

DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WHO TOOK OTHER LINES OF THOUGHT EXPRESSED THESE VIEWS:

- * RATHER THAN ARRESTING HAWKERS ON THE SPOT AND CONFISCATING THEIR BARROWS, THEY SHOULD BE SERVED WITH SUMMONSES AND SUBSEQUENTLY GIVEN A HEAVY PENALTY.
- * ILLEGAL HAWKERS SHOULD BE TREATED LENIENTLY SINCE THEY WERE MERELY TRYING TO EARN A DECENT LIVING IN TIMES OF ECONOMIC RECESSION. EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE TO ORGANISE ILLEGAL HAWKERS AND ENCOURAGE THEM TO DISCIPLINE THEMSELVES.
- * ALL ILLEGAL HAWKERS, APART FROM COOKED-FOOD HAWKERS, SHOULD BE LICENSED.
- * HAWKER LICENCES SHOULD ONLY BE GIVEN TO THE AGED OR HANDICAPPED, OR OTHER WORTHY VULNERABLE GROUPS.
- * HAWKERS SHOULD BE LICENSED AND CONTROLLED ON A DISTRICT BASIS. THE SCALE OF LICENCE FEES SHOULD REFLECT THE LIKELY BUSINESS IN THAT PARTICULAR DISTRICT. HAWKERS SO LICENSED SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO CROSS THE +BORDERS+ FROM ONE DISTRICT TO ANOTHER.
- * LONG-ESTABLISHED ILLEGAL HAWKERS SHOULD BE LICENSED, PROVIDED THEY WERE AGED OVER 40. YOUNG HAWKERS SHOULD BE REFUSED LICENCES.
- * SINCE HAWKING WAS A SOCIAL PROBLEM, THE SOLUTION LAY WITH THE GOVERNMENT TO CREATE MORE JOB OPPORTUNITIES AND PROVIDE MORE SERVICES TO THE AGED.
- * HAWKERS WOULD NOT EXIST IF THERE WERE NOT A DEMAND FOR THEM. THEREFORE A THOROUGH STUDY SHOULD BE CONDUCTED TO FIND OUT THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS OF HAWKING.
- * THE COUNCIL SHOULD EDUCATE THE PUBLIC NOT TO BUY FROM ILLEGAL HAWKERS, RATHER THAN TAKING DIRECT ACTION AGAINST THEM.
- * THE DESIGN OF MARKETS WAS GENERALLY UNSATISFACTORY. RATHER THAN LEASING STALLS, PEOPLE PREFERRED TO HAWK ILLEGALLY IN THE VICINITY.
- * GD TEAMS WERE GENERALLY INEFFICIENT AND INEFFECTIVE. THEY SHOULD BE BETTER CONTROLLED.

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EXTRA ENQUIRY HOURS FOR FORM FIVE LEAVERS
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THE CAREERS EDUCATION CENTRE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL EXTEND ITS OFFICE HOURS FROM AUGUST 9 TO 15 TO MEET THE ANTICIPATED SURGE OF ENQUIRIES FROM STUDENTS FOLLOWING THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATIONS RESULTS ON AUGUST 9.

THE CENTRE WILL BE OPEN ON WEEKDAYS DURING THIS PERIOD FROM 8.30 AM TO 6 PM WITHOUT LUNCH BREAKS, AND FROM 9 AM TO 12 NOON ON SATURDAY. IT WILL BE CLOSED ON SUNDAY.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE MAJORITY OF FORM 5 LEAVERS WILL BE SEEKING INFORMATION ON SCHOOLS FOR THEIR FURTHER STUDIES OR ADVICE ON CAREERS.

THEY ARE WELCOME TO USE THE FACILITIES AT THE CENTRE LOCATED AT ROOM 405, LEE GARDENS, HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY, HONG KONG. TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 5-8392538 OR 5-8392540.

A NEW HANDBOOK CONTAINING A LIST OF SCHOOLS WITH FORM 6 OR MIDDLE 6 CLASSES AND THEIR ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS WILL BE PARTICULARLY USEFUL. PAMPHLETS EXPLAINING OTHER EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE.

FOR THOSE IN NEED OF PERSONAL COUNSELLING, SPECIAL COUNSELLING SESSIONS WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF CAREERS MASTERS AT WHICH TEACHER-COUNSELLORS WILL MEET WITH STUDENTS.

THESE SESSIONS WILL BE HELD FROM 3 PM TO 5 PM ON AUGUST 9 AND 10 AT TWO CENTRES.

ONE OF THESE CENTRES IS LOCATED AT ROOM 431, LEE GARDENS, HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY, AND THE OTHER, AT LOK SIN TONG WONG CHUNG MING SECONDARY SCHOOL, LOK SIN ROAD, SAN PO KONG, KOWLOON.

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APPROVED GAS TUBING ON DISPLAY
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LIQUID PETROLEUM GAS CONSUMERS IN HONG KONG WILL SOON HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO FIND OUT WHETHER OR NOT THE RUBBER TUBING THEY ARE USING IS THE SAFE TYPE.

SAMPLES OF GOVERNMENT APPROVED GAS TUBING WILL BE DISPLAYED IN 164 HOUSING ESTATES' MANAGEMENT OFFICES AND 65 DISTRICT OFFICES FROM TOMORROW (MONDAY).

RUBBER TUBING IS USED FOR L.P.G. APPLIANCES, WHETHER PIPED OR CYLINDERED. IT IS THEREFORE IMPORTANT THAT ALL CONSUMERS SHOULD MAKE SURE THAT THE TYPE OF TUBING BEING USED MEETS THE REQUIRED STANDARD.

/A SPOKESMAN

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A SPOKESMAN FOR THE GAS ADVISER'S OFFICE SAID, +SUB-STANDARD OR DEFECTIVE TUBING MAY LEAD TO GAS LEAKAGE OR EVEN EXPLOSION.

+TO AVOID SUCH ACCIDENTS, CONSUMERS SHOULD LEARN HOW TO IDENTIFY THE SAFE TYPES OF RUBBER TUBING.+

VISITORS TO THE DISPLAY WILL ALSO BE GIVEN COPIES OF A COMPREHENSIVE EXPLANATORY PAMPHLET ON GAS TUBING SAFETY.

TO INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS, A TELEVISION API (ANNOUNCEMENT OF PUBLIC INTEREST), A POSTER AND RADIO MESSAGES ON THE SAFETY OF RUBBER TUBING ARE BEING PRODUCED AS PART OF THIS YEAR'S GAS SAFETY PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN.

IN THE INTEREST OF PUBLIC SAFETY, THE GAS ADVISER'S OFFICE WILL ALSO PROVIDE LPG DEALERS WITH A LIST OF MANUFACTURERS AND IMPORTERS FROM WHOM APPROVED GAS TUBING CAN BE PURCHASED.

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WORK LAWS UPDATED IN CHINESE

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AN UPDATED CHINESE VERSION OF THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, AT \$12.5 EACH.

IT INCLUDES AMENDMENTS MADE TO THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE UP TO THE END OF MAY THIS YEAR.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) THAT THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE WAS LAST TRANSLATED INTO CHINESE AND PUBLISHED IN 1968. SINCE THEN, HOWEVER, THERE HAD BEEN A NUMBER OF MAJOR AMENDMENTS AIMED AT IMPROVING THE WELFARE OF THE WORKING FORCE.

+THE DEPARTMENT HAS, FOR QUITE SOME YEARS, BEEN UNDER CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE FROM TRADE UNIONS, WORKERS AND EMPLOYERS FOR A MORE UP-TO-DATE CHINESE VERSION OF THE ORDINANCE,+ HE SAID.

IN ITS PRESENT FORM, THE ORDINANCE APPLIES TO ALL MANUAL WORKERS AND NON-MANUAL WORKERS EARNING UP TO \$8 500 A MONTH AND COVERS ABOUT 98 PER CENT OF ALL SALARIED EMPLOYEES AND WAGE EARNERS IN HONG KONG.

IT IS HOPED THAT THROUGH THE PUBLICATION OF THE NEW CHINESE VERSION, MORE WORKERS AND EMPLOYERS WILL COME TO KNOW THEIR RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE ORDINANCE.

+THE NEW PUBLICATION MAY ALSO BE USEFUL IN HELPING TO IMPROVE LABOUR RELATIONS IN HONG KONG,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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PROMOTING CIVIC SPIRIT
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FOUR HUNDRED KOWLOON CITY RESIDENTS REPRESENTING THE EIGHT AREA COMMITTEES OF KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT THIS (SUNDAY) MORNING COMPETED IN A FUN-FILLED TELEMATCH HELD AT THE KO SHAN ROAD PARK IN TO KWA WAN.

THE GAMES DAY WAS A MAJOR EVENT IN THE TWO-WEEK LONG KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT RECREATION AND SPORTS FESTIVAL LAUNCHED LAST SUNDAY (JULY 29).

THE FESTIVAL IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE RECREATION AND SPORTS SERVICE OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT AND THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT RECREATION AND SPORTS COUNCIL, WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD AND THE URBAN COUNCIL.

THE COMMISSIONER FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR CLIVE OXLEY WAS AMONG THE OFFICIATING GUESTS, WHO INCLUDED THE CHAIRMAN AND PRESIDENT OF THE FESTIVAL'S ORGANISING COMMITTEE, MR TANG TAI-CHUEN AND MR HUI IN-YING AND THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ROGER GARCIA.

ADDRESSING THE GATHERING, MR OXLEY SAID THAT HE BELIEVED THAT COMPETITION WOULD HELP FOSTER COMMUNICATION AND COOPERATION AMONG THE RESIDENTS.

THIS WOULD PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR OLD AND NEW ACQUAINTANCES TO COME TOGETHER AND TO WORK TOWARDS BUILDING A BETTER COMMUNITY, MR OXLEY SAID.

THE 400 PARTICIPANTS, DIVIDED INTO EIGHT TEAMS, TOOK PART IN A VARIETY OF TELEMATCH GAMES, SPECIALLY DESIGNED TO HIGHLIGHT THE THEME OF COMMUNITY BUILDING.

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KWUN TONG TO HAVE INDOOR GAMES HALL
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AN INDOOR GAMES HALL IS TO BE BUILT ON AN 8 000-SQUARE-METRE SITE AT THE JUNCTION OF HIP WO STREET AND HIU KWONG STREET, KWUN TONG.

IT WILL HAVE A GAMES AREA MEASURING 36 SQUARE METRES, THREE SQUASH COURTS, A STAND FOR 400 SPECTATORS AND CHANGING FACILITIES, AS WELL AS A CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND AND REST GARDEN.

TENDERS FOR THE WORK ARE BEING INVITED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

BUILDING WORK WILL START IN OCTOBER AND BE COMPLETED IN ONE YEAR.

THE INDOOR GAMES HALL WILL BE THE THIRD IN KWUN TONG DISTRICT WHICH HAS A POPULATION OF 660 000. THE OTHER TWO ARE AT NGAU TAU KOK ROAD.

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LANTERN DESIGN COMPETITION

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RESIDENTS AND STUDENTS IN KWUN TONG ARE BEING INVITED TO TAKE PART IN A LANTERN-DESIGN COMPETITION.

THE IDEA IS TO PROMOTE RESIDENTS' INTEREST IN THE FORTHCOMING MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LOCAL DISTRICT BOARD SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

APPLICATION FORMS FOR THE COMPETITION MAY BE COLLECTED FROM THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE OR ITS SUB-OFFICES.

THE WINNING ENTRIES WILL BE DISPLAYED AT A MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL LANTERN CARNIVAL IN TSUI PING ROAD PLAYGROUND ON SEPTEMBER 8.

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FOOTBRIDGE FOR WAN CHAI

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A COVERED FOOTBRIDGE IS TO BE BUILT ALONG O'BRIEN ROAD BETWEEN HENNESSY ROAD AND THE NORTHERN SIDE OF GLOUCESTER ROAD.

IT WILL PROVIDE A DIRECT LINK BETWEEN THE ENTRANCE TO WAN CHAI MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY STATION AND WAN CHAI RECLAMATION.

ESCALATORS WILL BE INSTALLED AT THE STATION ENTRANCE AND AT BOTH THE NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN SIDES OF GLOUCESTER ROAD.

AS PART OF THE PROPOSAL, THE SECTION OF O'BRIEN ROAD BETWEEN HENNESSY ROAD AND LOCKHART ROAD WILL BE TURNED INTO A LANDSCAPED PEDESTRIAN AREA, WHILE THE SECTION BETWEEN LOCKHART ROAD AND GLOUCESTER ROAD WILL BE REDUCED TO TWO-LANE TRAFFIC.

A NOTICE CONCERNING THE PROPOSED WORK IS PUBLISHED IN THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

THE RELATED PLAN CAN BE SEEN AT THE FOLLOWING PLACES:

- * CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICE, WEST WING ENTRANCE, HONG KONG ;
- * DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE (HONG KONG NORTH), HARBOUR CENTRE, 12TH FLOOR, HARBOUR ROAD, HONG KONG; AND
- * WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE, TUNG WAH MANSION, GROUND FLOOR, 201 HENNESSY ROAD, HONG KONG.

ANY OBJECTION SHOULD BE IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS BEFORE OCTOBER 2.

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DUCT NETWORK FOR TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM

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TENDERS FOR CONSTRUCTING A DUCT NETWORK FOR THE AREA TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM ON HONG KONG ISLAND ARE BEING INVITED BY THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE.

THE NETWORK, RUNNING FROM KENNEDY TOWN TO CAUSEWAY BAY, WILL HOLD CABLES LINKING TRAFFIC CONTROL EQUIPMENT TO A CONTROL CENTRE AT RUMSEY STREET, CENTRAL.

CONSTRUCTION IS EXPECTED TO START IN OCTOBER AND TAKE ABOUT 11 MONTHS.

TENDERS MUST REACH THE CENTRAL TENDER BOARD BY AUGUST 24.

ONLY CONTRACTORS ON THE APPROVED CONTRACTORS FOR PUBLIC WORKS: BUILDING, CIVIL ENGINEERING AND WATER WORKS LIST I IN GROUPS B AND C FOR ROADS AND DRAINAGE WORKS WILL BE PERMITTED TO TENDER.

THE WORKS HAVE BEEN DESIGNED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT AND CONSTRUCTION WILL BE SUPERVISED BY THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE OF THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

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TENDERS SOUGHT FOR KIOSK

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TENDERS ARE NOW BEING INVITED FOR THE OPERATION OF A LIGHT REFRESHMENT KIOSK AT THE ROOF-TOP PLAYGROUND OF SAN HUI MARKET IN TUEN MUN IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE ROOF-TOP PLAYGROUND IS A CONVENIENT AMENITY AREA FOR NEARBY RESIDENTS, SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

FACILITIES AT THE PLAYGROUND INCLUDE BENCHES, CHESS TABLES, TABLE-TENNIS TABLES AND PLAY EQUIPMENT FOR YOUNG CHILDREN, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

BUSINESS MAY BE STARTED FOR TWO YEARS FROM OCTOBER 1.

TENDER FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE NTSD HEADQUARTERS ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF SWIRE AND MACLAINE HOUSE (AUSTIN CENTRE), 19-23 AUSTIN AVENUE, TSIM SHA TSUI, OR TUEN MUN URBAN SERVICES OFFICE ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF 'TOP COURT', 60-70 TAK CHING COURT, TUEN MUN, NEW TERRITORIES.

INTERESTED PERSONS MAY CONTACT THE TUEN MUN URBAN SERVICES OFFICE ON TELEPHONE 0-820800 EXT. 301 FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 5, 1984

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SHA TIN MARKET STALLS FOR LEASE

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SEVEN STALLS AT SHA TIN MARKET IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WILL BE PUT UP FOR THREE-YEAR LEASE BY AUCTION AT 10 AM ON WEDNESDAY (AUGUST 8), AT THE LEK YUEN COMMUNITY HALL AT LEK YUEN ESTATE IN SHA TIN, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID.

OF THE STALLS TO BE LEASED, TWO ARE FOR FISH, FOUR FOR WET GOODS AND ONE FOR DRY GOODS. THE UPSET MONTHLY RENTAL RANGES FROM \$2 300 TO \$5 000.

BUSINESS MAY BE STARTED ON SEPTEMBER 1.

FURTHER DETAILS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE HAWKERS AND MARKETS SECTION OF SHA TIN URBAN SERVICES OFFICE ON TELEPHONE 0-6065745.

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TAPS BRIEFLY OFF

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN KOWLOON CITY WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 10 AM TO 3 PM ON WEDNESDAY (AUGUST 8) FOR MAINS WORK.

THE AFFECTED PREMISES ARE BOUNDED BY KOWLOON CITY ROAD, TO KWA WAN ROAD, SAN SHAN ROAD, SHEUNG HEUNG ROAD, LOK SHAN ROAD, HA HEUNG ROAD AND CHEUNG NING STREET.

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