



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 1978

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HONG KONG'S VALUE OF EXPORTS FOR JANUARY-JUNE
UP 11 PER CENT
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HONG KONG'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE VALUED AT \$17,468 MILLION IN THE FIRST HALF THIS YEAR, AN INCREASE OF 11 PER CENT OVER THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD OF 1977, ACCORDING TO TRADE FIGURES RELEASED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY.

THE FIGURES ALSO SHOWED THAT THE VALUE OF IMPORTS ROSE BY 21 PER CENT TO \$28,254 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS BY 29 PER CENT TO \$5,928 MILLION COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD LAST YEAR.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO 10 MAJOR OVERSEAS MARKETS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

	<u>JAN.-JUNE 77</u> <u>(HK\$ MN.)</u>	<u>JAN.-JUNE 78</u> <u>(HK\$ MN.)</u>	<u>INCREASE/ DECREASE</u> <u>(HK\$ MN.)</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE CHANGE</u>
U.S.A.	6,033	6,757	+724	+12%
F.R. OF GERMANY	1,636	1,785	+149	+ 9%
UNITED KINGDOM	1,357	1,558	+202	+15%
JAPAN	589	679	+ 89	+15%
AUSTRALIA	587	616	+ 29	+ 5%
CANADA	536	581	+ 44	+ 8%
SINGAPORE	394	456	+ 63	+16%
THE NETHERLANDS	355	380	+ 26	+ 7%
SWITZERLAND AND LIECHENSTEIN	281	327	+ 46	+16%
NIGERIA	176	303	+127	+72%

EXPORTS TO THE U.S. ROSE BY 12 PER CENT MAINLY DUE TO INCREASED SHIPMENTS OF ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES (\$2,793 MILLION, +14 PER CENT) AND WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$305 MILLION, +50 PER CENT), WHICH MORE THAN OFFSET THE DECLINES IN EXPORTS OF RADIO BROADCAST RECEIVERS (\$279 MILLION, -35 PER CENT) AND OF PLASTIC TOYS AND DOLLS (\$490 MILLION, -3 PER CENT).

EXPORTS TO U.K. PICKED UP BRISKLY BECAUSE OF A SIGNIFICANT UPTURN IN DELIVERIES OF ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES (\$816 MILLION, +22 PER CENT).

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EXPORTS SALES TO WEST GERMANY, JAPAN AND CANADA WERE BOOSTED BY INCREASED DELIVERIES OF CLOTHING.

AN ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS IS PRESENTED BELOW:

	<u>JAN.-JUNE 77</u> <u>(HK\$ MN.)</u>	<u>JAN.-JUNE 78</u> <u>(HK\$ MN.)</u>	<u>INCREASE/ DECREASE</u> <u>(HK\$ MN.)</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE CHANGE</u>
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	6,308	6,761	+453	+ 7%
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY PLASTIC TOYS AND DOLLS)	2,553	2,773	+221	+ 9%
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	830	1,265	+435	+52%
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	1,261	1,232	- 29	- 2%
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	1,267	1,229	- 38	- 3%
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (MAINLY TRANSISTORS AND DIODES AND HOUSEHOLD TYPE EQUIPMENT)	778	931	+153	+20%

/BY COMMODITY,

BY COMMODITY, PROMINENT ADVANCES WERE RECORDED IN EXPORTS OF ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES (\$6,761 MILLION, +7 PER CENT), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$1,030 MILLION, +60 PER CENT), ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS AND PARTS FOR COMPUTERS, (\$347 MILLION, +15 PER CENT), TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR CONTAINERS (\$398 MILLION, +18 PER CENT).

DEMAND FOR RADIO BROADCAST RECEIVERS (\$689 MILLION, -29 PER CENT) DROPPED SIGNIFICANTLY. EXPORTS OF TEXTILE YARN, VALUED AT \$171 MILLION, DECLINED BY 11 PER CENT.

THE CHANGES IN IMPORTS FROM 10 MAJOR SOURCES ARE SUMMARISED AS FOLLOWS:

	JAN.-JUNE 77 (HK\$ MN.)	JAN.-JUNE 78 (HK\$ MN.)	INCREASE/ DECREASE (HK\$ MN.)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
JAPAN	5,471	6,406	+935	+17%
CHINA	3,685	4,582	+897	+24%
U.S.A.	3,095	3,631	+536	+17%
TAIWAN	1,650	1,837	+187	+11%
SINGAPORE	1,416	1,500	+ 84	+ 6%
UNITED KINGDOM	1,010	1,272	+262	+26%
F.R. OF GERMANY	671	935	+264	+39%
SWITZERLAND AND LIECHENSTEIN	608	882	+274	+45%
SOUTH KOREA	834	828	- 7	- 1%
AUSTRALIA	445	576	+131	+29%

IMPORTS FROM JAPAN ADVANCED BY 17 PER CENT BECAUSE OF INCREASED ARRIVALS OF TEXTILE FABRICS (\$887 MILLION, +17 PER CENT), TEXTILE YARN (\$267 MILLION, +29 PER CENT), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$533 MILLION, +28 PER CENT) AND ROAD VEHICLES (\$402 MILLION, +66 PER CENT).

THE PROMINENT INCREASES IN IMPORTS FROM CHINA OCCURRED MOSTLY IN TEXTILE FABRICS (\$469 MILLION, +64 PER CENT), PETROLEUM AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTS (\$320 MILLION, +90 PER CENT) AND CLOTHING (\$238 MILLION, +36 PER CENT).

IN ADDITION, INCREASES IN THE IMPORTS OF FOODSTUFFS FROM CHINA WERE RECORDED. THESE INCLUDED A 16 PER CENT INCREASE IN VEGETABLES AND FRUITS (\$305 MILLION) AND A 23 PER CENT INCREASE IN MEAT AND MEAT PREPARATIONS (\$230 MILLION).

A SIGNIFICANT LEVEL OF INCREASE IN THE IMPORTS OF PEARLS, PRECIOUS AND SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES (\$327 MILLION, +63 PER CENT) FROM THE U.S. WAS REGISTERED.

IMPORTS FROM F.R. OF GERMANY, SWITZERLAND AND AUSTRALIA WERE SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER THAN THE FIRST HALF OF 1977 BECAUSE OF MORE IMPORTS OF WATCHES AND CLOCKS AND DYEING, TANNING AND COLOURING MATERIALS.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE ILLUSTRATES THE CHANGES IN IMPORTS BY COMMODITY SECTIONS:

	<u>JAN.-JUNE 77</u> <u>(HK\$ MN.)</u>	<u>JAN.-JUNE 78</u> <u>(HK\$ MN.)</u>	<u>INCREASE/ DECREASE</u> <u>(HK\$ MN.)</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE CHANGE</u>
MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIAL (MAINLY TEXTILE PRODUCTS AND DIAMONDS)	7,045	8,916	+1,871	+27%
MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	4,642	5,499	+ 857	+18%
FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS CHIEFLY FOR FOOD	3,486	3,844	+ 358	+10%
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY WATCHES AND CLOCKS, ARTICLES OF APPAREL)	2,773	3,744	+ 972	+35%
CHEMICALS AND RELATED PRODUCTS	1,774	2,075	+ 302	+17%

ACCELERATED INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE IMPORTS OF MAJOR RAW MATERIALS AND CONSUMER GOODS, INCLUDING PEARLS, SEMI-PRECIOUS AND PRECIOUS STONES (\$1,798 MILLION, +65 PER CENT), TEXTILE FABRICS (\$2,390 MILLION, +25 PER CENT), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$1,300 MILLION, +33 PER CENT), IRON AND STEEL (\$856 MILLION, +26 PER CENT).

IN ADDITION, IMPORTS OF ROAD VEHICLES (\$657 MILLION, +47 PER CENT) AND OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (\$562 MILLION, +41 PER CENT) OBSERVED SIZEABLE INCREASES.

RE-EXPORT ACTIVITIES CONTINUED TO DISPLAY REMARKABLE GROWTH IN VIEW OF STRONG DEMANDS FROM JAPAN (\$996 MILLION, +39 PER CENT), SINGAPORE (\$640 MILLION, +29 PER CENT), INDONESIA (\$619 MILLION, +63 PER CENT) AND THE U.S. (\$549 MILLION, +36 PER CENT).

THE FAVOURABLE DEMAND FOR RE-EXPORTS ORIGINATED MAINLY IN PEARLS, SEMI-PRECIOUS AND PRECIOUS STONES (\$844 MILLION, +53 PER CENT), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$412 MILLION, +29 PER CENT), TEXTILE FABRICS (\$304 MILLION, +27 PER CENT), TEXTILE MADE-UP ARTICLES (\$247 MILLION, +33 PER CENT) AND ROAD VEHICLES (\$136 MILLION, +126 PER CENT).

THE TRADE INDEX NUMBERS FOR APRIL 1978 WERE RELEASED AS FOLLOWS:

	VALUE INDEX	UNIT VALUE INDEX	QUANTUM INDEX	(1973 = 100)
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	187	135	139	
IMPORTS	206	140	147	

THE TERMS OF TRADE INDEX FOR APRIL WAS 96.

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ADMINISTRATION OF SCHOOLS FURTHER STREAMLINED * * * * *

THE ADMINISTRATION OF HONG KONG SCHOOLS, WHICH WAS RE-ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT A YEAR AGO, HAS BEEN FURTHER STREAMLINED TO IMPROVE CONTACTS AND CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION WITH SUPERVISORS, HEADS, TEACHERS AND PARENTS, AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY.

THE SPOKESMAN RECALLED THAT IN THE ORIGINAL RE-ORGANISATION, WHICH CAME INTO EFFECT ON SEPTEMBER 1, 1977, THE TERRITORY WAS DIVIDED INTO THREE GEOGRAPHICAL REGIONS -- HONG KONG ISLAND, KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES -- TO ENABLE THE THEN NEWLY-FORMED SCHOOLS DIVISION TO CARRY OUT ITS ADMINISTRATION TASKS.

EACH OF THE THREE REGIONS WAS LOOKED AFTER BY A TEAM OF MEN AND WOMEN HEADED BY AN OFFICER-IN-CHARGE. THE REGIONS WERE SUB-DIVIDED INTO AREAS, EACH UNDER THE CHARGE OF A SENIOR EDUCATION OFFICER. THE AREAS, IN TURN, WERE FURTHER SPLIT INTO DISTRICTS CONTROLLED BY A DISTRICT EDUCATION OFFICER.

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THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT, FROM TOMORROW (TUESDAY), THE AREAS WOULD BE DIVIDED INTO EVEN SMALLER DISTRICTS.

+THE MAIN AIM OF THE RE-DEMARCATON OF THE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES IS TO MAKE THE NUMBER OF SCHOOLS IN EACH DISTRICT AS SMALL AS POSSIBLE, THUS PAVING THE WAY FOR IMPROVED LIAISON BETWEEN THE DISTRICT EDUCATION OFFICER AND THE SCHOOLS IN HIS OR HER DISTRICT,+ HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE ONLY SCHOOLS EXEMPTED FROM REGIONAL ADMINISTRATION WOULD BE GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOLS, JUNIOR ENGLISH SCHOOLS AND THOSE RUN BY THE ENGLISH SCHOOLS FOUNDATION, PREVOCATIONAL SCHOOLS AND SPECIAL SCHOOLS.

+THE KEY FIGURE IN THE REGIONAL SYSTEM WILL CONTINUE TO BE THE DISTRICT EDUCATION OFFICER,+ HE SAID.

+IT IS TO THIS OFFICER THAT SUPERVISORS AND HEADS SHOULD TURN, REGARDLESS OF THE LEVEL OF THE SCHOOL, THE NATURE OF ITS CURRICULUM OR ITS MODE OF FINANCING.

+DISTRICT EDUCATION OFFICERS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MAKE SCHOOL VISITS AND TO DISCUSS ANY MATTER.+

THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT, FROM NOW ON, SCHOOL CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO DISTRICT EDUCATION OFFICERS IN AREA OFFICES INSTEAD OF EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS.

+THE ONLY EXCEPTION WOULD BE MATTERS CONCERNED WITH ACCOUNTING OR REGISTRATION, WHICH SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE REFERRED TO HEADQUARTERS,+ HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT THE REDEFINED EDUCATIONAL DISTRICTS WERE NOT THE SAME AS THE SCHOOL NETS USED IN THE SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES ALLOCATION SYSTEM BECAUSE THE NETS WOULD HAVE TO BE ADJUSTED ANNUALLY TO MAINTAIN A PROPER BALANCE OF PLACES.

+THE PRESENT DISTRICT COUNCIL SECRETARIES WILL THEREFORE CONTINUE TO SERVE INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL NETS DURING THE ALLOCATION OF SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES,+ HE SAID.

THE SUPERVISORS AND HEADS OF ALL SCHOOLS AFFECTED BY THE REDEFINED EDUCATIONAL DISTRICTS HAVE BEEN GIVEN FULL DETAILS OF THE NEW CHANGE IN A SPECIAL CIRCULAR ISSUED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

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TALKS WITH UNITED STATES ON FOOTWEAR AND
TEXTILES START TOMORROW

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THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, MR. LAWRENCE MILLS, ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT CONSULTATIONS WITH U.S. OFFICIALS WERE SCHEDULED TO BEGIN IN HONG KONG TOMORROW (TUESDAY) ON EXPORTS OF CERTAIN NON-RUBBER FOOTWEAR FROM HONG KONG TO THE UNITED STATES.

THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION WILL BE LED BY MR. STEVE LANDE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES' SPECIAL TRADE REPRESENTATIVE IN WASHINGTON.

+THESE TALKS HAVE BEEN SCHEDULED FOR SOME TIME BUT IT WAS DIFFICULT TO FIND A MUTUALLY CONVENIENT TIME AND PLACE FOR THEM,+ MR. MILLS SAID.

+AS A CONSEQUENCE, OUR OVERSEAS CONSULTATION COMMITMENTS ARE BEGINNING TO PILE UP,+ MR. MILLS ADDED.

ANOTHER HONG KONG DELEGATION WILL LEAVE ON FRIDAY (AUGUST 18) FOR THE UNITED STATES TO RESUME CONSULTATIONS ON VARIOUS ISSUES LEFT UNRESOLVED WHEN MR. MIKE SMITH, THE U.S. CHIEF TEXTILE NEGOTIATOR AND HIS TEAM VISITED HONG KONG FROM JULY 17 - 21.

+I HOPE THAT WE SHALL BE ABLE TO FINALISE THESE OUTSTANDING MATTERS IN WASHINGTON NEXT WEEK IN ORDER TO CLEAR THE DECKS FOR OTHER IMPORTANT ENGAGEMENTS WHICH WE HAVE SCHEDULED. THESE INCLUDE FURTHER MEETINGS WITH CANADIAN OFFICIALS ON TEXTILES AND OTHER MATTERS REQUESTED BY CANADA EARLIER THIS YEAR, AND A CONTINUATION OF THE TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS WITH EUROPEAN COMMISSION OFFICIALS FROM BRUSSELS ON CERTIFICATION OF ORIGIN AND CLASSIFICATION PRACTICES. FURTHERMORE WE HAVE NOW ASKED THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT FOR CONSULTATIONS UNDER ARTICLE XIX OF THE GATT FOLLOWING THE REPLACEMENT BY NORWAY OF ITS SELECTIVE RESTRAINTS AGAINST HONG KONG WITH GLOBAL RESTRICTIONS UNDER GATT ARTICLE XIX,+ MR. MILLS SAID.

MEANWHILE MR PETER TSAO, COUNSELLOR FOR HONG KONG AFFAIRS IN GENEVA WILL BE RETURNING THERE SHORTLY TO HEAD THE HONG KONG TEAM IN THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH ARE EXPECTED TO RESUME IN GENEVA IN EARLY SEPTEMBER.

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REGISTRATION FOR LEGAL AID

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THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT TODAY REGISTERED 45 APPLICATIONS FOR LEGAL ASSISTANCE IN CONNECTION WITH A WALL COLLAPSE INCIDENT IN WESTERN ON JULY 18.

UNDER AN ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT AND THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, A TEAM OF LEGAL AID OFFICERS WENT TO THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (CENTRAL AND WESTERN) TO CARRY OUT THE REGISTRATION. THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AID, MR. D. O'R. MAYNE WAS ALSO PRESENT.

MR. MAYNE SAID THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT WOULD DO ALL IT COULD TO OBTAIN COMPENSATION FOR DEPENDENTS OF THE DECEASED, THOSE INJURED AND THOSE HAVING SUFFERED PROPERTY LOSS AS A RESULT OF THE INCIDENT.

HE SAID HIS DEPARTMENT WAS GATHERING EVIDENCE FROM ALL SIDES TO DECIDE IF LEGAL ACTION WAS NECESSARY.

+OUR DEPARTMENT HAS GIVEN TOP PRIORITY TO THIS CASE TO HELP THE VICTIMS OBTAIN THE COMPENSATION THEY DESERVE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE,+ MR. MAYNE SAID.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (CENTRAL AND WESTERN) SAID THE VICTIMS WHO COULD NOT COME TODAY SHOULD GO TO THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT'S OFFICE FOR REGISTRATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

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CONCERTED EFFORTS VITAL FOR THE REHABILITATION OF THE DEAF
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COMMUNICATION BARRIER, THE GREATEST OBSTACLE IN THE PROCESS OF INTEGRATING THE DEAF INTO THE HEARING COMMUNITY, COULD ONLY BE OVERCOME BY CONCERTED EFFORTS AMONG PROFESSIONALS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

SPEAKING AT A DINNER MEETING OF THE Y'S MEN'S CLUB OF VICTORIA THIS EVENING, MISS OPHELIA CHAN, OFFICER-IN-CHARGE OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S DEAF WELFARE UNIT SAID THIS GROUP OF PEOPLE SUFFERED FROM A +HIDDEN+ HANDICAP.

+THE ABSENCE OF SPEECH LIMITED DEAF PEOPLE'S ABILITY TO CREATE NATURAL TIES AND FRIENDSHIP, THE LACK OF WHICH OFTEN LED TO MISUNDERSTANDING, MUTUAL SUSPICION, A SENSE OF ISOLATION, DEPRESSED FEELING, AND OTHER FORMS OF SOCIAL MALADJUSTMENT,+ SHE SAID.

RECOGNISING THEIR NEED FOR SPECIAL CARE AND ATTENTION, MISS CHAN SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT, WITH THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR, HAD EFFECTED TREMENDOUS IMPROVEMENTS IN THE PROVISION OF SERVICES, FOR THE REHABILITATION OF THE DEAF.

+RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE EXPANSION OF SPEECH AND AUDITORY TRAINING, AUDIOMETRIC SCREENING PROGRAMMES, AND PRE-SCHOOL CARE AS CONTAINED IN THE REHABILITATION WHITE PAPER, ARE VITAL TO FACILITATING THEIR DAILY ADAPTATION,+ SHE SAID.

ANOTHER URGENT REQUIREMENT, MISS CHAN SAID, WAS THE TRAINING OF MORE SOCIAL WORKERS AND COUNSELLORS WHO PLAY ESSENTIAL ROLES IN BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN THE DEAF AND THE HEARING COMMUNITY.

ILLUSTRATING HER STATEMENT, MISS CHAN SAID THAT THERE WERE NUMEROUS SITUATIONS WHEN DEAF PEOPLE NEEDED GUIDANCE AND ENCOURAGEMENT, FROM FRIENDS AND RELATIVES, BUT FAILED TO GET THEM DUE TO THE COMMUNICATION GAP.

+HAVING ESTABLISHED A RELATIONSHIP OF MUTUAL TRUST AND UNDERSTANDING WITH THE DEAF, SOCIAL WORKERS WOULD BE ABLE TO OFFER ASSISTANCE TO SOLVE PROBLEMS IN SOCIALISATION, FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS, AND EMPLOYMENT,+ SHE SAID.

DESCRIBING THE PROVISION OF JOB OPPORTUNITIES AS THE DEAF PEOPLES' ONLY WAY TO ECONOMIC-INDEPENDENCE AND SELF-RESPECT, MISS CHAN URGED MORE EMPLOYERS TO EXERCISE PATIENCE AND ACCEPT THE WORKING ABILITY OF THE DEAF.

SHE STRESSED THAT MANY DEAF PEOPLE ARE CAPABLE OF DOING WORK ON EQUAL TERMS WITH THE REST OF THE LABOUR FORCE, AND THEIR WORKING POTENTIAL WOULD BE IMPROVED WITH EXPANSION IN VOCATIONAL TRAINING FACILITIES.

MISS CHAN SAID THAT APART FROM A HARMONIOUS FAMILY AND A SATISFYING JOB, THE DEAF ALSO NEED RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES TO TRAIN THEIR PHYSICAL AND INTELLECTUAL FACULTIES. SHE ADDED THAT PLANS FOR MORE SOCIAL AND RECREATIONAL CENTRES FOR THE DEAF WOULD BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

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SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AT KAI TAK
FOR DISCIPLINED SERVICES

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TEMPORARY USE OF THE SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES LEFT BEHIND WHEN THE ROYAL AIR FORCE VACATED KAI TAK AT THE END OF JUNE HAVE BEEN GRANTED TO DISCIPLINED SERVICES PERSONNEL AND THEIR FAMILIES.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE FACILITIES, WHICH INCLUDE A PLAYING FIELD AND SWIMMING POOL, MAY BE USED BY THE DISCIPLINED SERVICES FROM TODAY (MONDAY).

HE SAID USE WOULD BE ON A TEMPORARY BASIS AS THE AREA IS DUE TO BE DEVELOPED EVENTUALLY AS AN EXTENSION TO KAI TAK AIRPORT TO PROVIDE FURTHER MAINTENANCE AND CARGO FACILITIES. +NEVERTHELESS, IN THE MEANTIME, MUCH NEEDED SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES WILL BE AVAILABLE TO DISCIPLINED SERVICES MEMBERS AND THEIR IMMEDIATE FAMILIES,+ HE SAID.

THE DISCIPLINED SERVICES ARE THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE, THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICE, THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT AND THE PRISONS DEPARTMENT.

HOWEVER, HE SAID, IN VIEW OF THE EXTENSIVE PUBLIC WORKS NOW GOING ON IN THE AREA, ACCESS WOULD HAVE TO BE RESTRICTED.

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LAST CURTAIN CALLS FOR HONG KONG DANCERS

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FOUR STANDING OVATIONS BROUGHT THE HONG KONG SCHOOLS CHINESE DANCE TEAM BACK TO THE STAGE OF THE ORPHEUM THEATRE, VANCOUVER, FOR REPEATED CURTAIN CALLS AT THE END OF THE FINAL PERFORMANCE OF THEIR CANADIAN TOUR.

AN AUDIENCE OF 2,500, WHICH INCLUDED THE MAYOR OF VANCOUVER, MANY OF THE CITY'S LEADING DIGNITARIES AND A LARGE SHARE OF THE RESIDENT CHINESE COMMUNITY, FOLLOWED THE LEAD OF OTHER ASSEMBLIES WHO HAVE WITNESSED THE TEAM IN ACTION SINCE THEIR ARRIVAL IN EDMONTON TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COMMONWEALTH ARTS FESTIVAL. THEY WERE LOATH TO SEE THE SHOW CLOSE.

AFTER THIS FAREWELL PERFORMANCE, IN AID OF THE CHINESE CULTURAL CENTRE IN VANCOUVER, THE YOUNG HONG KONG DANCERS ADJOURNED TO A RESTAURANT FOR A CELEBRATION.

COMMENTED TEAM OFFICIAL MR. RAY BIRD: +OUR WHOLE TOUR HAS BEEN GREETED WITH DELIGHTED SURPRISE. AUDIENCES HAVE COME, EXPECTING TO SEE TALENTED BUT AMATEUR SCHOOLCHILDREN, AND INSTEAD HAVE FOUND A STANDARD OF PROFESSIONALISM THEY NEVER EXPECTED.+

AS A RESULT, NUMEROUS INVITATIONS HAVE BEEN HEAPED ON THE TEAM TO APPEAR IN OTHER ENGAGEMENTS, OR TO MAKE RETURN VISITS. ONE INVITATION CAME FROM MEMBERS OF THE KENYAN TEAM IN THE COMMONWEALTH ARTS FESTIVAL, WHO ASKED THEIR HONG KONG COUNTERPARTS TO THE INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS SCHEDULED IN NAIROBI IN DECEMBER.

FOR THE MOMENT, THE TEAM MEMBERS ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO A WELL EARNED BUT BRIEF SPELL OF RELAXATION AND SIGHTSEEING IN VANCOUVER BEFORE RETURNING TO HONG KONG LATER THIS WEEK.

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AMBULANCE DEPOT FOR NGAU CHI WAN
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A NEW AMBULANCE DEPOT IS TO BE BUILT AT NGAU CHI WAN TO COPE WITH THE INCREASING DEMAND FOR AMBULANCE SERVICES IN THE DENSELY POPULATED AREA.

TENDERS FOR THE WORK ARE BEING INVITED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

MR. FRED WOO, P.W.D.'S ACTING CHIEF ARCHITECT, SAID THE NEW DEPOT WOULD BE SITUATED AT THE CORNER OF WAI YIP STREET AND SIU YIP STREET.

+THE TWO-STOREY AMBULANCE DEPOT WILL COMPRISE BAYS FOR FOUR AMBULANCES, DUTY AND SERVICE ROOMS, OFFICES, A RECREATION AND DINING ROOM, BARRACK ACCOMMODATION FOR THE ESSENTIAL OPERATIONAL STAFF ON DUTY, ABLUTION FACILITIES AND A DRILL YARD,+ HE SAID.

+ANCILLARY FACILITIES INCLUDE A ONE-STOREY DANGEROUS GOODS STORE AND AIR COMPRESSOR ROOM, FUEL STORAGE TANKS AND A WASHING BAY.+

MR. WOO SAID WORK WOULD BEGIN IN OCTOBER AND TAKE ABOUT 10 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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EXTENSION OF KWUN TONG CARGO WORKING AREA
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THE MARINE DEPARTMENT'S KWUN TONG PUBLIC CARGO WORKING AREA AT HOI BUN ROAD HAS BEEN EXTENDED BY 65 METRES TO THE SOUTHEAST OF THE EXISTING AREA.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE NEW SECTION PROVIDES AN ADDITIONAL 79 UNIT BERTHS AND 74 EXTRA PARKING SPACES TO THE AREA.

CONTROL MEASURES AND FEE STRUCTURE OF THE KWUN TONG PUBLIC CARGO WORKING AREA ALSO APPLY TO THE NEW EXTENSION, HE SAID.

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TAI PO AND TAI TAM ROAD WATER CUT
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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN TAI PO, THE NEW TERRITORIES WILL BE STOPPED FOR SIX HOURS FROM MIDNIGHT WEDNESDAY (AUGUST 16) TO 6 A.M. ON THURSDAY TO FACILITATE LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE PREMISES TO BE AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY KWONG FUK ROAD, TUNG CHEUNG STREET, PLOVER COVE ROAD, PO HEUNG STREET AND PO YICK STREET INCLUDING LUK HEUNG LANE AND ON FU ROAD.

MEANWHILE, FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO HOUSE NOS. 9 TO 46 TAI TAM ROAD, INCLUDING THE TURTLE COVE VILLAS ON THE ISLAND WILL BE CUT OFF FOR SEVEN HOURS FROM 11 P.M. ON THURSDAY (AUGUST 17) TO FACILITATE LEAKAGE TESTS.

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