



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1979.

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RENT CONTROL TO BE EXTENDED  
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LEGISLATION IS TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL EARLY IN THE NEW YEAR WHICH WOULD BRING UNDER RENT CONTROL ALL EXISTING DOMESTIC RENTED ACCOMMODATION.

IF APPROVED, THE LEGISLATION WOULD TAKE EFFECT FROM TODAY, DECEMBER 18.

ANNOUNCING THIS A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT ALL EXISTING UNCONTROLLED TENANCIES WOULD BE BROUGHT UNDER RENT CONTROL.

THIS WILL LIMIT INCREASES TO 21 PER CENT EVERY TWO YEARS AND WILL PROVIDE SECURITY OF TENURE FOR TENANTS.

THE LEGISLATION WILL PROPOSE IN RESPECT OF NEW AND FRESH LETTINGS THAT THERE WILL BE NO RESTRICTION ON THE AMOUNT OF RENTS THAT MAY BE AGREED BETWEEN LANDLORDS AND TENANTS.

BUT SUBSEQUENTLY THE PERMITTED INCREASES IN RENT WILL BE GOVERNED BY THE LEGISLATION.

THE FOLLOWING TENANCIES WHICH ARE PRESENTLY EXCLUDED WILL BE BROUGHT UNDER RENT CONTROL:

- (A) LEASES OF THREE YEARS DURATION OR MORE-
- (B) GOVERNMENT OR COMPANY LEASES.

IT IS ALSO PROPOSED THAT TENANCIES WITH RATEABLE VALUE OF \$30 000 AT 1973 VALUATION WHICH ARE NOT AT PRESENT LIMITED TO THE 21 PER CENT PERMITTED INCREASE EVERY TWO YEARS, WILL BE SUBJECT TO SUCH LIMITATION UNDER THE NEW LEGISLATION.

DURING THE PERIOD BETWEEN NOW AND THE TIME OF ENACTMENT OF THE NEW LEGISLATION LANDLORDS AND TENANTS ARE ADVISED NOT TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS WHICH MAY BE AFFECTED BY THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION.

COMMENTING ON THE PROPOSALS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD WEIGHED CAREFULLY ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF INTRODUCING RENT CONTROL LEGISLATION AT THIS STAGE.

+THE STRONG PUBLIC INTEREST AND THE ANXIETY OF PEOPLE AFFECTED AS WELL AS THE POSSIBLE ADVERSE EFFECTS WERE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

+THE CONTINUING STRONG DEMAND FOR DOMESTIC PROPERTY SHOULD, IT IS CONSIDERED, CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE DEVELOPERS IN THEIR HIGH RATE OF PRODUCTION.

+GOVERNMENT RECOGNISES THE BASIC AND DURABLE LONG TERM ANSWER IS TO INCREASE THE SUPPLY OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

COMMENTING ON PROPOSALS AIMED AT CURBING SPECULATION ON DOMESTIC PROPERTIES THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT SEVERAL MEASURES ARE PRESENTLY UNDER CONSIDERATION BUT NO DECISION HAS BEEN TAKEN AT THIS STAGE.

HK'S GROWING GARMENT INDUSTRY MEANS  
GOOD PROSPECTS FOR UK TEXTILE EXPORTS  
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THE HONG KONG COMMISSIONER IN LONDON, MR. DENIS BRAY, TOLD THE WOOL TEXTILE MANUFACTURERS FEDERATION AT THEIR ANNUAL DINNER IN LEEDS, UK, LAST FRIDAY (DECEMBER 14) THAT A VIGOROUSLY GROWING GARMENT INDUSTRY IN HONG KONG WAS GOOD FOR THEIR EXPORT PROSPECTS.

HE SAID: +ALTHOUGH WE EXPORT AN APPRECIABLE VOLUME OF TEXTILES WE IMPORT FAR MORE TEXTILES THAN WE EXPORT.

+WE ARE THE THIRD LARGEST NET IMPORTER OF TEXTILES IN THE WORLD, AND WHEN IT COMES TO WOOL, WE BUY BRITISH. IN 1978, HONG KONG WAS BRITAIN'S LARGEST EXPORT MARKET FOR FABRICS OF SYNTHETIC FIBRE MIXED WITH WOOL, AND FOURTH LARGEST FOR WORSTED CLOTH.

+THE MARKET FOR YOUR TEXTILES IS OUR GARMENT INDUSTRY. WE ARE THE WORLD'S LARGEST NET EXPORTER OF GARMENTS. IN 1978, WE EXPORTED 1 500 MILLION POUNDS WORTH OF GARMENTS, DOUBLE THE AMOUNT WE EXPORTED FIVE YEARS AGO.

+WE EXPORT OUR CLOTHING MAINLY TO AMERICA, GERMANY AND BRITAIN. OF COURSE, WE SHOULD LIKE TO EXPORT MORE TO THESE PLACES, AND CONSUMERS IN ALL OF THEM WOULD LIKE TO BUY MORE, BUT OUR EXPORTS ARE UNDER RESTRAINT. IN 1977, FIRST THE AMERICANS, THEN THE EEC IMPOSED THE TOUGHEST RESTRICTIONS WE HAVE SEEN YET - THE EEC CUTTING QUOTA OF SOME OF OUR PRINCIPAL EXPORTS BY ANYTHING UP TO 30 PER CENT BELOW THE ACTUAL LEVEL OF TRADE IN 1976.

+OUR EXPORTS OF WOOLLEN CLOTHING TO AMERICA, OUR BIGGEST MARKET, HAVE BEEN SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECTED BY THE MFA, PARTICULARLY SINCE THE END OF 1978. THE EFFECT OF THESE AND SIMILAR RESTRICTIONS OVER THE YEARS HAS BEEN TO FORCE US TO TRADE UP. IF YOU CAN ONLY SELL 100 SHORTS THEN YOU MIGHT AS WELL SELL THE 40 POUND VARIETY AS THE CHEAP ONES. WE BUY THE SHORTS WE WEAR FROM CHINA.

+IN BRITAIN, THE SO-CALLED GLOBAL RESTRICTIONS OF THE MFA HAVE NOT STOPPED IMPORTS OF GARMENTS BECAUSE, OF COURSE, THEY ARE NOT GLOBAL. INDEED, GARMENT IMPORTS ARE AT A RECORD LEVEL. THE RESTRICTIONS HAVE, HOWEVER, LED TO THE DISPLACEMENT OF EXPORTS FROM POORER PLACES LIKE HONG KONG BY IMPORTS FROM THE RICHER COUNTRIES, BOTH IN AND OUT OF THE EEC.

+YOU MIGHT CONSIDER WHETHER, SINCE THESE GARMENT IMPORTS ARE COMING IN ANYWAY, YOU WOULD RATHER HAVE THEM COME IN FROM HONG KONG MADE WITH BRITISH CLOTH THAN FROM EASTERN OR SCANDINAVIAN. WE ARE SHIPPING RIGHT UP TO QUOTA THIS YEAR AND THE MFA IS BITING. PRICES OF CLOTHING HAVE BEEN PUSHED UP IN BRITAIN - IN FACT, THE WHOLE POINT OF A RESTRICTIVE AGREEMENT LIKE THE MFA IS TO PUSH UP PRICES.

+QUOTAS ON GARMENT EXPORTS FROM COUNTRIES WHERE INDUSTRIES HAVE REAL GROWTH PROSPECTS ARE BOUND TO ERODE YOUR EXPORT PERFORMANCE IN THE LONG RUN. THE BEST OF BRITISH WOOL TEXTILES ARE OF A QUALITY THAT IS UNCHALLENGED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. YOUR INTERESTS LIE IN THE GROWTH OF THE WORLD'S GARMENT INDUSTRIES. THE GROWTH GARMENT INDUSTRIES ARE NOT, I AM AFRAID, TO BE FOUND IN THE INDUSTRIALLY DEVELOPED COUNTRIES - THEY ARE IN THE LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, AND IT IS THEIR GROWTH YOU SHOULD BE ENCOURAGING AND TAKING ADVANTAGE OF.

+ I APPRECIATE THAT THE WOOL TEXTILE INDUSTRY IN BRITAIN HAS ITS UPS AND DOWNS, BUT I HOPE YOU WILL LISTEN TO ADVOCATES OF PROTECTIONISM WITH GREAT CAUTION. SOME HAVE BEEN HEARD EVEN WITHIN THE BRITISH WOOL CONFEDERATION. DON'T GET HOOKED ON PROTECTIONISM, THE GARMENT PEOPLE HAVE, AND LIKE ANY ADDICT THEY ASK FOR MORE EVERY TIME A TEMPORARY AGREEMENT FOR A BREATHING SPACE EXPIRES. THEY ARE AFTER A TOUGHER MFA ALREADY, AND THE PRESENT ONE DOES NOT EXPIRE FOR TWO YEARS, + MR. BRAY SAID.

IN RESPONSE TO A SPEECH PROPOSING THE HEALTH OF THE GOVERNMENT, THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDUSTRY, SIR KEITH JOSEPH ASKED THOSE PRESENT TO PUT ASIDE TEXTILES FOR A MOMENT AND REFLECT ON THE MARVEL OF HONG KONG. DID THEY NOT GET THE IMPRESSION OF A DYNAMIC ECONOMY? THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT HAD SUCCEEDED BY KEEPING ITS HANDS OFF BUSINESS. HE COULD NOT UNDERSTAND HOW THE SAME SORT OF PEOPLE WHO HAD PRESIDED OVER GROWTH IN HONG KONG HAD MANAGED TO ERODE IT IN BRITAIN.

HE SAID INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS IN THE WOOL TEXTILE INDUSTRY WERE A MODEL AND THEIR DESIGN WAS A SHINING EXAMPLE. HE APPRECIATED LIFE WAS MADE HARDER FOR EXPORTERS BY THE STRENGTH OF STERLING, BUT IT WAS ALSO MADE EASIER BY THE MFA. THE GOVERNMENT HAD SAID THAT THEY FORESAW A CONTINUED NEED FOR SOME ORDERLY MARKETING ARRANGEMENTS ON THE EXPIRY OF THE MFA. PLACES LIKE HONG KONG SOLD TEXTILES BUT THEY ALSO BOUGHT.

THE GOVERNMENT, FOR ITS PART, WOULD CONTINUE BATTERING AWAY AT TARIFFS AND WOULD WANT FAIR TRADE FOR THOSE WHO IMPORT. HE RECOGNISED THE DOMINANT ROLE OF THE RETAIL BUSINESSES OF BRITAIN, BUT THESE PROVIDED FAIR ACCESS TO MARKETS FOR BOTH DOMESTIC AND IMPORTED GOODS.

SIR KEITH DISTINGUISHED SHARPLY BETWEEN STATE TRADING COUNTRIES AND COUNTRIES THAT MAY BE DESCRIBED AS MARKET COUNTRIES, PLACES SUCH AS HONG KONG OR KOREA.

HE DID NOT THINK LOW WAGES WERE AN UNFAIR TRADING PRACTICE FOR JUST AS BRITISH WAGES WERE LOWER THAN THOSE IN GERMANY, SO WAGES IN KOREA OR HONG KONG WERE LOWER THAN IN BRITAIN. IF UNFAIR SUBSIDIES WERE BEING PAID IN OTHER COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY EEC COUNTRIES, HE WAS PREPARED TO TAKE THIS UP IF HE WAS GIVEN THE EVIDENCE. HE REQUIRED HARD EVIDENCE, NOT GOSSIP.

BRITAIN WAS ALREADY USING THE COMMON MARKET PROCEDURES TO TACKLE THE AMERICAN SUBSIDY IN OIL PRICES BUT IT WAS NOW NECESSARY TO TAKE ANTI-DUMPING MEASURES THROUGH BRUSSELS.

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APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR THE YEAR OF THE MONKEY GOLD COIN  
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A LIMITED QUANTITY OF \$1 000 GOLD COINS WILL BE ISSUED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO COMMEMORATE THE COMING LUNAR NEW YEAR, THE YEAR OF THE MONKEY.

THE COIN IS THE FIFTH IN A SERIES THAT THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO ISSUE TO MARK THE 12 LUNAR YEARS WHICH FALL IN THE WESTERN CALENDAR YEARS 1976-87.

PREVIOUS ISSUES IN THE SERIES HAVE BEEN STRICTLY LIMITED TO NOT MORE THAN 30 000 COINS, BUT IN VIEW OF ANTICIPATED STRONG DEMAND FOR THE MONKEY COIN AND BECAUSE THE MARKET FOR THESE COINS HAS EXPANDED NOW THAT UK RESIDENTS MAY OWN GOLD COINS, THE NUMBER TO BE MINTED HAS BEEN INCREASED TO 40 000, COMPRISING 13 000 PROOF AND 27 000 UNCIRCULATED COINS.

THE PROOF COINS WHICH HAVE A FROSTED RELIEF ON A MIRROR FINISH BACKGROUND WILL BE SOLD AT \$2 400 AND THE BRILLIANT UNCIRCULATED VERSION AT \$1 600.

IN THE PAST, UNCIRCULATED COINS HAVE BEEN SOLD AT THEIR FACE VALUE OF \$1 000 WHILE THE PROOF VERSION HAS BEEN SOLD FOR AN ADDITIONAL \$500.

THE PREMIUM OVER THE FACE VALUE OF THE UNCIRCULATED VERSION AND THE HIGHER PRICE FOR THE PROOF COIN REFLECT THE MASSIVE INCREASE IN THE PRICE OF GOLD WHICH HAS RISEN FROM US\$133 AN OUNCE IN 1976 WHEN THE DRAGON COIN WAS ISSUED TO WELL ABOVE US\$400.

APPLICATION FORMS WILL BE AVAILABLE TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) FROM ALL OFFICES OF THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION AND FROM THE MERCANTILE BANK LIMITED. THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS JANUARY 4, 1980.

TO ENSURE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY, THE COINS WILL BE RESTRICTED TO ONE COIN PER APPLICATION. COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS SHOULD EITHER BE MAILED TO THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, CASH DEPARTMENT, BOX 64, G.P.O., HONG KONG OR PRESENTED AT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING BRANCH OFFICES:

- 1, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG
- 306, KING'S ROAD, NORTH POINT, HONG KONG
- 40-45, DES VOEUX ROAD WEST, HONG KONG
- 42, WONG CHUK HANG ROAD, ABERDEEN, HONG KONG
- 82, NATHAN ROAD (WAYFOONG HOUSE), KOWLOON
- 673, NATHAN ROAD, MONG KOK, KOWLOON
- 1, YUE MAN SQUARE, KWUN TONG, KOWLOON

/150, CASTLE .....

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150, CASTLE PEAK ROAD, YUEN LONG, NEW TERRITORIES

455-457, CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN, NEW TERRITORIES

OR AT THE MERCANTILE BANK LIMITED, 7, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,  
HONG KONG.

THE COINS ARE MADE OF 22 CARAT GOLD, HAVE A STANDARD WEIGHT  
OF 15.976 GRAMMES AND A DIAMETER OF 28.4 MM (1.118 INCHES).

THE OBVERSE CARRIES A PORTRAIT OF THE QUEEN, WHILE THE  
REVERSE DEPICTS THE MONKEY. THE DESIGN FOR THE REVERSE WAS  
SPECIALLY COMMISSIONED FOR THIS ISSUE. EACH COIN WILL BE PACKAGED  
IN A PLASTIC SCREW-TOP CAPSULE AND SUPPLIED WITH A PRESENTATION  
CASE AND A DESCRIPTIVE BOOKLET.

GOLD COINS WITH A FACE VALUE OF \$1 000 WERE MADE LEGAL TENDER  
ON MAY 5, 1975.

THE YEAR OF THE MONKEY BEGINS ON FEBRUARY 16, 1980 AND ENDS  
ON FEBRUARY 4, 1981. THE MONKEY IS, THEREFORE, THE BIRTHDAY ANIMAL  
FOR ANY CHILD BORN BETWEEN THESE DATES AND FOR ANYONE BORN IN A  
PREVIOUS MONKEY YEAR.

THIS CENTURY THE MONKEY ALSO RULED DURING THE FOLLOWING  
PERIODS:

FEBRUARY 2, 1908 TO JANUARY 21, 1909-

FEBRUARY 20, 1920 TO FEBRUARY 7, 1921-

FEBRUARY 6, 1932 TO JANUARY 25, 1933-

JANUARY 25, 1944 TO FEBRUARY 12, 1945-

FEBRUARY 12, 1956 TO JANUARY 30, 1957-

JANUARY 30, 1968 TO FEBRUARY 16, 1969.

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HIGHER IMPORT DUTY ON HK'S WEARING APPAREL TO CANADA  
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THE CANADIAN AUTHORITIES HAVE ADVISED THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT THAT AS FROM DECEMBER 14 THE VALUE ON WHICH DUTY IS CALCULATED ON IMPORTS OF WEARING APPAREL FROM HONG KONG HAS BEEN INCREASED BY 25 PER CENT ABOVE THE SHIPPER'S SELLING PRICE.

COMMENTING ON THIS ACTION THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS, MR. WILLIAM DORWARD, SAID HE WAS BOTH SURPRISED AND DISAPPOINTED.

+I WENT TO OTTAWA IN OCTOBER FOR URGENT DISCUSSIONS WHEN WE FIRST HEARD THAT SOMETHING OF THIS KIND WAS CONTEMPLATED,+ MR. DORWARD SAID.

+AT THAT TIME WE WERE TOLD THE INCREASE WAS LIKELY TO BE ABOUT ONE-THIRD.+

DISCUSSIONS HELD IN OTTAWA THEN BROUGHT ABOUT A DELAY IN THE DUTY INCREASE. THE HONG KONG REPRESENTATIVES ARGUED THAT THE BASIS FOR THE ACTION WAS UNSOUND.

+THE CANADIAN AUTHORITIES WERE PREPARING TO ACT ON DATA WHICH HAD BEEN COLLECTED IN HONG KONG OVER A YEAR AGO. I ARGUED THEN, AND STILL MAINTAIN, THAT IT WAS HOPELESSLY OUT-OF-DATE AND IN ANY CASE DID NOT JUSTIFY ANY SUCH ACTION.+

THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS HAD CO-OPERATED WITH CANADIAN CUSTOMS OFFICIALS WHO VISITED HONG KONG IN 1978. THE INFORMATION THEY COLLECTED RELATED TO TRADE WHICH HAD BEEN CONDUCTED SEVERAL MONTHS BEFORE.

MR. DORWARD SAID HE HAD POINTED OUT IN OTTAWA THAT TRADING CIRCUMSTANCES HAD CHANGED SUBSTANTIALLY SINCE THEN. +FOR A START,+ HE SAID; +THE IMPORT CONTROLS CANADA OPERATED IN 1978 WERE REPLACED THIS YEAR BY EXPORT CONTROLS AND THAT ALMOST INVARIABLY HAS THE EFFECT OF INCREASING SELLING PRICES. AND THERE HAVE ALSO BEEN CHANGES IN EXCHANGE RATES, RAW MATERIAL PROCESS AND SO ON. DATA COLLECTED ON TRADE WHICH TOOK PLACE UP TO TWO YEARS AGO IS OBVIOUSLY AN UNREALISTIC BASIS FOR DUTY ASSESSMENT.+

THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT IS TO ASK CANADA TO DO AN URGENT, UP-TO-DATE ENQUIRY ON HONG KONG EXPORT PRICES.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT IF SUCH AN ENQUIRY IS DONE WITH FAIR REGARD TO THE TRADING CIRCUMSTANCES OF HONG KONG THERE SHOULD BE AMPLE EVIDENCE TO JUSTIFY THE REMOVAL OF THIS ARBITRARY INCREASE IN VALUATION.

+THE ABSENCE OF SUBSIDIES, TAX REBATES AND THE LIKE MEANS THAT THE HONG KONG EXPORT PRICE REPRESENTS THE TRUE MARKET VALUE AND SHOULD BE RECOGNISED AS SUCH IN CANADA OR ANYWHERE ELSE,+ HE SAID.

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MULTI-MILLION-DOLLAR TAI PO DEVELOPMENT CONTRACT  
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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT WILL AWARD A MULTI-MILLION-DOLLAR CONTRACT TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF TAI PO.

THE CONTRACT, THE BIGGEST FOR THE PROJECT SO FAR, FORMS PART OF THE GOVERNMENT'S PLAN TO DEVELOP THE TOWN INTO A MODERN, SELF-CONTAINED COMMUNITY.

IT WILL BE SIGNED IN THE OFFICE OF THE TAI PO AND FANLING DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT BRANCH IN SHA TIN.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND YOUR REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE CONTRACT SIGNING CEREMONY IN THE OFFICE OF THE TAI PO AND FANLING DEVELOPMENT, SHA TIN GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 6 TUNG LO WAN HILL ROAD, SECOND FLOOR, SHA TIN AT 3 PM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

AFTER THE SIGNING CEREMONY, OFFICERS OF THE TAI PO AND FANLING DEVELOPMENT OFFICE WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEWS IN BOTH CHINESE AND ENGLISH.

PRESS TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WISHING TO MAKE USE OF THIS FACILITY ARE REQUESTED TO ASSEMBLE AT THE OPEN CAR PARK OUTSIDE THE RECEPTION OFFICE, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, NOT LATER THAN 1.45 PM.

OFFICERS OF THE PWD'S PUBLICITY UNIT WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST THE PRESS.

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WATER SUPPLIES TALKS  
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AT THE INVITATION OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE WATER CONSERVANCY AND ELECTRIC POWER BUREAU OF GUANGDONG PROVINCE, THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, MR. DAVID MCDONALD AND THE DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES, MR. WILLIAM TUCKER TOGETHER WITH OTHER OFFICIALS, ARE VISITING GUANGZHOU FOR DISCUSSIONS ON FUTURE WATER SUPPLIES.

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TSUEN WAN ARTS FESTIVAL  
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THE SECOND TSUEN WAN ARTS FESTIVAL WILL BE HELD DURING THE LUNAR NEW YEAR TO COINCIDE WITH THE OPENING OF THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL WHERE MOST OF THE PROGRAMMES WILL TAKE PLACE.

THE FESTIVAL WILL BE HELD BETWEEN FEBRUARY 23 AND MARCH 16. IT IS JOINTLY PRESENTED BY THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD, THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL, THE TSUEN WAN CULTURE AND RECREATION CO-ORDINATING ASSOCIATION AND THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE.

MR. J. W. HAYES, PRESIDENT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE SECOND TSUEN WAN ARTS FESTIVAL, ANNOUNCED DETAILS OF THE FESTIVAL AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (TUESDAY).

BOTH LOCAL AND FOREIGN GROUPS WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE FESTIVAL.

THIS YEAR'S PROGRAMME HAS BEEN EXPANDED FROM LAST YEAR'S 36 EVENTS TO A TOTAL OF 45 INCLUDING OUTDOOR PERFORMANCES.

THIS HAS BEEN MADE POSSIBLE BY EXTENDING THE DURATION OF THE FESTIVAL FROM 16 TO 23 DAYS AND BY USING THE NEW TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL AS WELL AS OUTDOOR VENUES.

THE TOTAL ATTENDANCE AT LAST YEAR'S FESTIVAL WAS NEARLY 37 000.

THIS YEAR OUTDOOR VENUES WILL INCLUDE PLAYGROUNDS AT KWAI CHUNG ESTATE, KWAI SHING ESTATE, LAI YIU ESTATE, KWAI FONG ESTATE, SHEK LEI ESTATE, LEI MUK SHUE ESTATE, SHA TSUI ROAD AND TSING YI ISLAND.

THE WIDE EXTENTION OF OUTDOOR VENUES WILL GUARANTEE MORE FREE ENTERTAINMENT AND ATTRACT GREATER ATTENDANCE.

PROGRAMMES OF THE FESTIVAL INCLUDE AN OPENING CONCERT OF CHINESE ART SONGS, THE NEW ZEALAND SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, THE KEFKA MIME TROUPE OF WEST GERMANY, THE LIM KEK HAN CONCERT ORCHESTRA AND A SERIES OF SIX DIFFERENT CANTONESE OPERA PRODUCTIONS STARRING LI PO YING AND LAW KAR YING.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS INCLUDE THE HONG KONG CHILDREN'S CHOIR, A CANTONESE DRAMA, FOLK DANCES OF VARIOUS NATIONS AND A DANCE DRAMA CALLED +LADY GENERAL LIANG HONG JU.+

LECTURES ON ORIENTAL FOLK DANCES, CHINESE PAINTING AND CALLIGRAPHY, TECHNIQUES AND APPRECIATION OF PHOTOGRAPHY, CHINESE MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, LATE CHING IMPERIAL CERAMICS, ORCHESTRAL MUSIC APPRECIATION, CANTONESE OPERA APPRECIATION, FLOWER ARRANGEMENT TECHNIQUES AND ORIENTAL FOLK DANCES WILL ALSO BE PRESENTED.

THERE WILL BE FOUR EXHIBITIONS CONSISTING OF AN ANCIENT CHINESE COINS EXHIBITION, A FLOWER SHOW, A GUANGXU IMPERIAL PORCELAIN EXHIBITION AND A BOOK EXHIBITION ON FINE ARTS.

THE HIGHEST TICKET PRICE IS \$30. STUDENT TICKETS AT \$3 ARE AVAILABLE FOR MOST PERFORMANCES.

/POSTAL BOOKINGS .....

POSTAL BOOKINGS FOR PERFORMANCES IN THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL AUDITORIUM WILL BE ACCEPTED FROM TODAY UNTIL JANUARY 14. LECTURE ROOM ADMISSION IS FREE.

PROGRAMME AND BOOKING FOLDERS ARE AVAILABLE FROM CITY DISTRICT OFFICES, DISTRICT OFFICES OF THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION AND ALL PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

DETAILS OF THE OUTDOOR PROGRAMME WILL BE CONTAINED IN THE FESTIVAL DIARY, WHICH WILL BE ISSUED WHEN THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL BOX OFFICE OPENS ON JANUARY 19.

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LOCAL INDIAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTES TO HK'S ECONOMY  
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A REASONABLE ESTIMATE OF THE INDIAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY'S SHARE OF HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE IN THE FIRST TEN MONTHS THIS YEAR AMOUNTED TO ABOUT \$13 000 MILLION — OR ONE-TENTH OF THE TOTAL EXTERNAL TRADE.

THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS, MR. WILLIAM DORWARD, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE COMMUNITY'S CONTRIBUTION TO HONG KONG WAS NOT ALWAYS FULLY APPRECIATED. BESIDES CONSIDERABLE INVOLVEMENT IN THE IMPORT, EXPORT AND RETAIL FIELDS, THE COMMUNITY HAD OTHER SUBSTANTIAL VENTURES IN THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES AND THE SERVICE SECTORS, NOTABLY IN HOTELS AND BANKING.

SPEAKING TO COMMITTEE MEMBERS AT AN INDIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LUNCHEON, MR. DORWARD SAID: +DIVERSIFICATION, WHICH IS VERY MUCH IN OUR THOUGHT AT THE MOMENT, DOES NOT MERELY MEAN DIVERSIFICATION OF INDUSTRIES. IT ALSO MEANS THE SEEKING OUT AND DEVELOPMENT OF NEW MARKETS TO REDUCE OUR DEPENDENCE ON THE HANDFUL OF MAJOR DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO WHOM THE BULK OF OUR EXPORT FLOW.

+IT IS VERY WELL TO TALK OF DEVELOPING NEW MARKETS, BUT IT IS NOT THAT SIMPLE. THERE IS TRADE TO BE DONE, A GREAT DEAL OF IT IN, FOR EXAMPLE, WEST AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST— BUT THESE ARE NOT MARKETS FOR THE UNINITIATED. THEY HAVE THEIR PECULIARITIES, NOT ONLY IN WHAT THEY REQUIRE BUT ALSO IN THE WAY THEY DO BUSINESS,+ HE SAID.

IT WAS VERY LARGELY THANKS TO THE EFFORTS OF HONG KONG'S INDIAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY THAT OUR EXPORTS TO THESE MARKETS HAD BEEN CLIMBING STEADILY IN RECENT YEARS.

+I KNOW THAT THIS IS, IN PART AT LEAST, MADE POSSIBLE BY THE WIDE NETWORK OF FAMILIES AND BUSINESS CONNECTION WHICH YOUR ENTERPRISING FELLOW COUNTRYMEN HAVE ESTABLISHED ALL OVER THE WORLD. IT IS A REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENT, AND ONE FOR WHICH HONG KONG OWES YOU A DEBT OF GRATITUDE,+ SAID MR. DORWARD.

WHEN THE INDIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WAS FOUNDED AT THE END OF 1952 IT HAD LESS THAN 60 MEMBERS. MEMBERSHIP NOW STANDS AT ABOUT 500.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

SWD THANKS EMPLOYERS OF DISABLED PERSONS  
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THIRTY-TWO LEADING EMPLOYERS, WHO HAVE OFFERED JOBS TO HUNDREDS OF DISABLED PERSONS, WILL BE FORMALLY THANKED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT AT A CEREMONY TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

MISS DAPHNE HO, A PIONEER IN REHABILITATION SERVICES WHO HAS RETIRED FROM THE DEPARTMENT, WILL PRESENT CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION TO THE EMPLOYERS FOR THEIR STAUNCH SUPPORT IN HELPING RE-INTEGRATE THE DISABLED INTO THE COMMUNITY.

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY, WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE AT 3.15 PM IN THE IMPERIAL HOTEL, FIRST FLOOR, 32 NATHAN ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI.

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TEACHERS TO LEARN ABOUT PLANT RESOURCES AND PROTECTION  
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A TWO-HOUR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION SEMINAR ON HONG KONG PLANT RESOURCES AND THEIR PROTECTION WILL BE HELD THIS SATURDAY (DECEMBER 22).

THE SEMINAR IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE SCIENCE SUBJECTS SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, THE CHINESE MEDICINAL MATERIALS RESEARCH CENTRE OF THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, AND THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT.

AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID: +THIS SEMINAR WILL BE OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO TEACHERS OF SCIENCE, GEOGRAPHY, AND ECONOMIC AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS. THEY ARE ALL WELCOME TO ATTEND AND THERE IS NO NEED TO APPLY FOR PARTICIPATION.+

ILLUSTRATED TALKS IN CANTONESE AND DISCUSSIONS WILL BE HELD AT THE SEMINAR, HE SAID.

THERE WILL BE TWO SPEAKERS, DR. PAUL BUT OF THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG AND MR. S.P. LAU OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT.

THEY ARE BOTH EXPERTS IN THE FIELD OF PLANT RESOURCES AND WILL PROVIDE PARTICIPANTS WITH VALUABLE FIRST-HAND INFORMATION, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

DR. BUT WILL BE SPEAKING ON PLANT RESOURCES WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO MEDICINAL PLANTS, AND MR. LAU ON THE PROTECTION OF HABITATS AND THE CONSERVATION OF SPECIES.

THEY WILL ALSO DRAW THE PARTICIPANTS' ATTENTION TO THE IMPORTANCE OF FIRE PREVENTION IN THE COUNTRYSIDE.

/THE DISCUSSIONS .....

THE DISCUSSIONS WILL BE CHAIRED BY MR. JOHN TAAM, PRINCIPAL INSPECTOR OF THE SCIENCE SUBJECTS SECTION.

THE SEMINAR WILL BE HELD IN THE LECTURE THEATRE OF THE GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, GASCOIGNE ROAD, KOWLOON, FROM 10 AM TO 12 NOON.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE AT THE SCIENCE SUBJECTS SECTION OF EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ON TELEPHONE 5-774001 EXT. 37, 38 OR 46.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE WELCOME TO SEND YOUR REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION SEMINAR ON DECEMBER 22 (SATURDAY). IT WILL BE HELD BETWEEN 10 AM AND 12 NOON IN THE LECTURE THEATRE OF THE GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AT GASCOIGNE ROAD, KOWLOON.

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URBAN CLEARWAY AND PLB RESTRICTIONS  
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TWO SECTIONS OF PORTLAND STREET IN MONG KOK WILL BE DESIGNATED RESTRICTED ZONES FOR ALL MOTOR VEHICLES, EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES FROM FRIDAY (DECEMBER 21).

THE RESTRICTIONS WILL BE FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY, AND THE TWO SECTIONS INVOLVED ARE THE EAST SIDE OF PORTLAND STREET BETWEEN MONG KOK ROAD AND ARGYLE STREET, AND THE WEST SIDE OF PORTLAND STREET BETWEEN ARGYLE STREET AND A POINT ABOUT 25 METRES TO THE NORTH OF THE JUNCTION OF ARGYLE STREET AND PORTLAND STREET.

SIGNPOSTS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID ALL MOTOR VEHICLES, EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES, WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM PICKING UP OR SETTING DOWN PASSENGERS AND LOADING OR UNLOADING GOODS IN THE RESTRICTED ZONES.

FROM 6 AM THE SAME DAY (FRIDAY), PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ENTER SAI YEUNG CHOI STREET BETWEEN MONG KOK ROAD AND ARGYLE STREET, THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE ROAD BARRIER ON MONG KOK ROAD BETWEEN NATHAN ROAD AND TUNG CHOI STREET, AND FIFE STREET BETWEEN NATHAN ROAD AND TUNG CHOI STREET.

IN HUNG HOM FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY, THE FERRY BUS TERMINUS WILL BE DESIGNATED A PROHIBITED ZONE FOR ALL MOTOR VEHICLES OTHER THAN FRANCHISED BUSES.

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1979

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SPECIAL TRAINS FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS  
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THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY WILL OPERATE ADDITIONAL PASSENGER TRAINS DURING THE CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS.

ON DECEMBER 22 AND CHRISTMAS EVE, THERE WILL BE TWO EXTRA UP TRAINS LEAVING HUNG HOM STATION AT 9.22 AM AND 10.28 AM AND TWO MORE DOWN TRAINS LEAVING LOWU AT 11.21 AM AND 12.20 PM.

ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 23) THERE WILL BE TWO SPECIAL UP TRAINS LEAVING AT 9.27 AM AND 10.32 AM AND THREE DOWN TRAINS DEPARTING AT 11.21 AM, 12.20 PM AND 12.45 PM. ANOTHER SPECIAL TRAIN WILL LEAVE HUNG HOM STATION FOR FANLING ONLY AT 11.32 AM.

ON CHRISTMAS DAY, ONE SPECIAL UP TRAIN WILL LEAVE HUNG HOM AT 11.32 AM WHILE A DOWN TRAIN WILL DEPART LOWU AT 1.27 PM.

ON NEW YEAR'S DAY, TWO ADDITIONAL UP TRAINS WILL LEAVE AT 11.32 AM AND 2.41 PM WHILE THE DEPARTURE TIMES FOR THE TWO SPECIAL DOWN TRAINS ARE 1.27 PM AND 4.52 PM.

A SPOKESMAN FOR KCR SAID ORDINARY CLASS RETURN TICKETS FROM KOWLOON TO LOWU WILL BE SOLD AT HUNG HOM STATION FROM THURSDAY (DECEMBER 20) TO JANUARY 10.

THESE RETURN TICKETS WILL BE VALID FOR ONE NORTHBOUND JOURNEY ON THE DATE OF ISSUE AND ONE SOUTHBOUND JOURNEY ON ANY DAY FROM THE DATE OF ISSUE UNTIL JANUARY 10.

AT THE SAME TIME, HE SAID, FIRST-CLASS RESERVATION SEATS FOR DECEMBER 22 AND 24 WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR NORTHBOUND TRAINS LEAVING KOWLOON BETWEEN 5.30 AM AND 2.05 PM ON THESE TWO DAYS.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN YAU MA TEI AND SAI YING PUN  
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THE JUNCTION OF MAN MING LANE AND ARTHUR STREET IN YAU MA TEI WILL BE RE-OPENED TO TRAFFIC FROM 10 AM ON THURSDAY (DECEMBER 20).

WITH THE RE-OPENING OF THE JUNCTION, ARTHUR STREET BETWEEN MAN MING LANE AND HI LUNG LANE WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND= AND MAN MING LANE BETWEEN SHANGHAI STREET AND ARTHUR STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY EASTBOUND.

IN SAI YING PUN, HONG KONG ISLAND, NORTHBOUND TRAFFIC ALONG WATER STREET BETWEEN QUEEN'S ROAD WEST AND DES VOEUX ROAD WEST WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM TURNING LEFT INTO DES VOEUX ROAD WEST FROM 10 AM THE SAME DAY (THURSDAY).

THE ARRANGEMENT IS TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW IN THE AREA.

TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP IN THE TWO AREAS TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1979

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WATER CUT IN KWAI CHUNG  
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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN KWAI CHUNG WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR EIGHT HOURS FROM 10 PM ON THURSDAY (DECEMBER 20) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY TO FACILITATE WATER MAIN CONNECTION WORK.

THE PREMISES TO BE AFFECTED ARE THOSE AT THE JUNCTION OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD AND KWAI CHUNG ROAD, KWONG FAI CIRCUIT, WO TONG TSUI STREET, BLOCKS 19-42 KWAI CHUNG ESTATE, KWAI HING ESTATE, KWAI CHUNG FACTORY BUILDING, KWAI CHUNG CENTRE, THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY SITE IN TAI WO HAU ROAD, AND 507-547 CASTLE PEAK ROAD.

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