



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, MAY 2, 1975

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MARCH EXPORTS DOWN BY \$249 MILLION

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THE VALUE OF HONG KONG'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH WAS \$1,621 MILLION, REPRESENTING A DECREASE OF \$249 MILLION OR 13.3 PER CENT BY VALUE, COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING MONTH IN 1974.

ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES PUBLISHED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS ALSO DECREASED BY 20.9 PER CENT AND 12.6 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY, COMPARED TO MARCH 1974.

HOWEVER, TRADE FIGURES FOR THE 12-MONTH PERIOD FROM APRIL 1974 TO MARCH 1975 SHOW INCREASES OF 5.7 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, 5.4 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS OVER THOSE OF THE PREVIOUS 12-MONTH PERIOD ENDING MARCH, 1974. THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS FOR THE 12-MONTH PERIOD DECREASE BY 3.9 PER CENT.

FOR THE PERIOD FROM JANUARY TO MARCH 1975 TRADE FIGURES SHOW DECREASES BY VALUE OF 14.1 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, 13.7 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS AND 13.3 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS, COMPARED TO THE SAME PERIOD IN 1974.

FOLLOWING ARE PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH, 1975 :-

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

	MARCH 1975	MARCH 1974	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	1,621 (74.4%)	1,870 (74.5%)	- 249	-13.3
IMPORTS	2,435	3,079	- 645	-20.9
RE-EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	558 (25.6%)	639 (25.5%)	- 80	-12.6
	JAN.-MAR. 1975	JAN.-MAR. 1974	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	4,529 (74.4%)	5,272 (74.5%)	- 744	-14.1
IMPORTS	6,994	8,065	-1,071	-13.3
RE-EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	1,558 (25.6%)	1,805 (25.5%)	- 246	-13.7

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	APRIL 1974 TO MARCH 1975	APRIL 1973 TO MARCH 1974	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	22,168	20,978	+1,190	+ 5.7
IMPORTS	33,049	31,362	+1,687	+ 5.4
RE-EXPORTS	6,878	7,153	- 275	- 3.9

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NEW BILL TO ENABLE GOVERNMENT TO RAISE LOANS

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THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE ABLE TO RAISE LOANS TO FINANCE THE 1975-76 DEFICIT BUDGETTED BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY IF DRAFT LEGISLATION PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S (FRIDAY) GAZETTE IS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THE NEED TO BORROW MONEY OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS WAS STATED BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR. PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, IN HIS BUDGET SPEECH. IN IT HE MENTIONED THAT THE AIM WOULD BE TO BORROW AS CHEAPLY AS POSSIBLE AND +FOR OUR REQUIREMENTS IN 1975-76 WE ARE CURRENTLY AND ACTIVELY CONSIDERING SEVERAL POSSIBILITIES.+

AMONG THESE POSSIBILITIES ARE THE THREE SOURCES OF BORROWING --- THE EURO-CURRENCY MARKET, SUPPLIERS' CREDITS AND PRIVATE PLACEMENTS -- FOR WHICH LEGAL AUTHORITY IS NOW BEING SOUGHT BY THE NEW BILL.

UNDER THE BILL, KNOWN AS THE LOANS BILL 1975, THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE GIVEN LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY TO BORROW MONEY FOR ANY PURPOSE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY RESOLUTION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THIS WILL PROVIDE THE NECESSARY POWER AND AUTHORITY TO BORROW MONEY IN THE EURO-CURRENCY CREDIT MARKET AND THROUGH LINES OF CREDIT AND OTHER SIMILAR FACILITIES. AT THE SAME TIME, LOAN AGREEMENTS ARE ALSO REQUIRED BY THE BILL TO BE LAID BEFORE THE COUNCIL AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE.

THE GOVERNMENT WILL ALSO BE EMPOWERED BY THE BILL TO ISSUE SUCH BONDS, PROMISSORY NOTES AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO GIVE EFFECT TO A LOAN AGREEMENT.

ANOTHER PROVISION OF THE BILL STIPULATES THAT THE LOAN PROCEEDS, AFTER DEFRAYING ANY EXPENSES INCURRED IN RAISING THE LOAN WILL HAVE TO BE APPLIED TO THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH THEY WERE BORROWED.

IT ALSO ENABLES EXPENDITURE FOR A PROJECT IN RESPECT OF WHICH NO PROVISION IS MADE IN THE ESTIMATES TO BE MET INITIALLY FROM GENERAL REVENUES WHERE LOAN FUNDS ARE NOT IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE WITH SUBSEQUENT RE-IMBURSEMENT FROM THE LOAN FUNDS WHEN RECEIVED. THE REPAYMENT OF A LOAN IS CHARGED BY THE BILL UPON THE GENERAL REVENUES AND ASSETS OF HONG KONG.

IF PASSED, THE BILL WILL ENABLE THE GOVERNOR TO REMIT ANY TAX, DUTY, CHARGE OR FEE IN RESPECT OF A LOAN AGREEMENT AND ANY OTHER INSTRUMENTS CONNECTED WITH THE BORROWING.

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HIGHER RATES FOR SUBSIDISED QUARTERS PROPOSED

TWO DIRECT TAX INCREASE PROPOSALS ANNOUNCED BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY IN HIS BUDGET SPEECH ARE TO BE IMPLEMENTED WITH RETROSPECTIVE EFFECT AS FROM APRIL 1 THIS YEAR UNDER AN AMENDING BILL GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE FIRST PROPOSAL CONCERNS THE VALUE, FOR SALARIES TAX PURPOSES, OF QUARTERS PROVIDED BY AN EMPLOYER FOR HIS EMPLOYEES AND THE OTHER RELATES TO CORPORATION PROFITS TAX.

UNDER THE INLAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT) (NO. 3) BILL 1975 -- WHICH WILL BE INTRODUCED SHORTLY INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL -- THE RATE USED IN ASSESSING THE VALUE OF FREE OR SUBSIDISED QUARTERS PROVIDED FOR AN EMPLOYEE BY HIS EMPLOYER WILL BE RAISED FROM THE PRESENT 7-1/2 PERCENT OF THE EMPLOYEE'S INCOME TO 10 PERCENT.

THE INCREASE IS MADE ON THE GROUND THAT THE TRUE MARKET VALUE OF SUCH RESIDENCE IS INVARIABLY ABOVE 7-1/2 PER CENT OF THE EMPLOYEE'S INCOME.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE BILL PROVIDES FOR PROPORTIONATE INCREASES FOR PERSONS OCCUPYING HOTEL, HOSTEL, BOARDING-HOUSE OR OTHER ACCOMMODATIONS.

IF PUT INTO EFFECT, THIS TAX PROPOSAL IS EXPECTED TO YIELD TO THE REVENUE SOME \$3.5 MILLION A YEAR.

THE BILL ALSO STIPULATES THAT FREE OR SUBSIDISED QUARTERS PROVIDED FOR EMPLOYEES BY A PERSON ASSOCIATED WITH THE EMPLOYER WILL ALSO BE VALUED SIMILARLY FOR THE PURPOSES OF SALARIES TAX.

THIS PROVISION SEEKS TO FORESTALL ANY EVASION OF ASSESSMENT WHICH IS NOW COMMONLY PRACTISED. UNDER EXISTING LAW, ONLY A PLACE OF RESIDENCE PROVIDED DIRECTLY BY AN EMPLOYER IS SUBJECT TO CHARGE. AS A RESULT AVOIDANCE OF ASSESSMENT IS ACHIEVED BY ENSURING THAT ONE PERSON PAYS THE EMPLOYEE'S SALARY WHILE AN ASSOCIATED CORPORATION PROVIDES THE FREE QUARTERS.

THE AMENDING LEGISLATION ALSO PROVIDES FOR AN INCREASE IN THE RATE OF CORPORATION PROFITS TAX FROM THE CURRENT 15 PERCENT TO 16-1/2 PERCENT STARTING FROM APRIL 1 THIS YEAR.

IT IS ENVISAGED THAT THE INCREASE WILL BE A TEMPORARY MEASURE PENDING DETAILED CONSIDERATION AND DRAFTING OF LEGISLATION FOR A DIVIDENDS WITHHOLDING TAX.

THE ONE-AND-A-HALF-PERCENT TAX INCREASE SHOULD PRODUCE \$100 MILLION IN 1975-76.

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ARRANGEMENTS FOR PUBLIC TO SEE FIREWORKS DISPLAY
IN WAN CHAI AND HUNG HOM
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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WILL BE ABLE TO WATCH THE FIREWORKS DISPLAY, ONE OF THE MANY SPECTACULAR PROGRAMMES TO CELEBRATE THE VISIT OF THE QUEEN AND THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH, AT A CLOSE DISTANCE ON BOTH SIDES OF THE HARBOUR ON MAY 5.

TWO LARGE AREAS OF LAND AT THE WAN CHAI AND HUNG HOM RECLAMATIONS HAVE BEEN SET ASIDE FOR THIS PURPOSE.

THE 25-MINUTE FIREWORKS DISPLAY WILL BE LAUNCHED AT 8.30 P.M. FROM A PONTOON SITUATED BETWEEN HUNG HOM AND THE ROYAL HONG KONG YACHT CLUB.

THE AREA AT THE WAN CHAI RECLAMATION IS A LARGE STRETCH OF LAND FACING THE WATERFRONT FROM THE WAN CHAI FERRY PIER TO THE FLYOVER BEFORE THE ENTRY TO THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL.

THREE VIEWING SITES ARE PROVIDED IN THIS AREA. ONE IS AT THE OLD C.M.A. EXHIBITION GROUND OPPOSITE THE WAN CHAI FERRY PIER AND IS ACCESSIBLE BY AN ENTRANCE AT TONNOCHY ROAD.

THE SECOND SITE, SIMILAR IN SIZE TO THE FIRST ONE, IS A PIECE OF VACANT GROUND BOUNDED BY TONNOCHY ROAD, HUNG HING ROAD AND MARSH ROAD. THIS SITE WILL HAVE THREE ENTRANCES, ONE AT EACH OF THE THREE ROADS.

THE THIRD SITE IS A SMALLER PIECE OF VACANT LAND CLOSE TO A FOOTBRIDGE AND IS BOUNDED BY HUNG HING ROAD AND WAN SHING STREET. THE ENTRANCE WILL BE AT HUNG HING ROAD FACING THE STEPS OF THE FOOTBRIDGE.

THE THREE SITES WILL BE OPEN FROM 5.30 P.M. ON MAY 5 TO 8.00 A.M. THE NEXT DAY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (WAN CHAI) ADVISED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO GO TO THE WAN CHAI SITES TO WATCH THE FIREWORKS DISPLAY TO MAKE USE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT AS FAR POSSIBLE AS THERE WOULD BE ONLY A LIMITED NUMBER OF METERED PARKING SPACES IN FRONT OF THE WAN CHAI FERRY PIER AND HARBOUR ROAD.

HE POINTED OUT THAT EXCEPT THE METERED PARKING SPACES, PARKING WOULD BE PROHIBITED IN THE THREE SITES AND THEIR VICINITY.

IN KOWLOON, PEOPLE CAN WATCH THE FIREWORKS DISPLAY AT A VIEWING SITE AT THE PORTION OF THE HUNG HOM RECLAMATION OFF THE NEW RAILWAY TERMINUS. THE SITE LIES TO THE SOUTHERN END OF THE ENTRANCE TO THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL AND STRETCHES TOWARDS TSIM SHA TSUI.

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TO ADD TO THE FESTIVE ATMOSPHERE, THE SITE WILL BE ILLUMINATED BY 10 FLOODLIGHTS ALONG ITS PERIMETER.

THROUGH THE ARRANGEMENT OF THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, THE KOWLOON MOTOR BUS COMPANY WILL BE PROVIDING A SPECIAL BUS SERVICE, PLYING BETWEEN THE JORDAN ROAD FERRY CONCOURSE AND THE VIEWING SITE.

THE BUS SERVICE WILL START AT 7.30 P.M. AND THE FARE WILL BE 50 CENTS A PERSON. THE FREQUENCY WILL DEPEND ON DEMAND.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (KOWLOON CITY) EXPLAINED THAT THIS TEMPORARY BUS ROUTE WHICH BRINGS PASSENGERS TO THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF THE VIEWING SITE THROUGH AN AREA AROUND THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL ENTRANCE WOULD NOT BE OPENED TO ANY OTHER VEHICLES.

THE PUBLIC IS ADVISED TO MAKE USE OF THIS SPECIAL SERVICE WHICH IS THE MOST CONVENIENT WAY TO VISIT THE SITE.

PEOPLE WHO GO TO THE VIEWING SITE IN PRIVATE CARS, TAXIS OR PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES FROM THE DIRECTION OF CHATHAM ROAD OR PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD WILL BE DIVERTED TO THE SITE THROUGH YUK CHOI ROAD. PASSENGERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO ALIGHT AT SOME DISTANCE FROM THE SITE, AND THEN PROCEED ON FOOT.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THERE WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS TO WARN MOTORISTS OFF THE NEW ACCESS ROAD IN THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL ENTRANCE AREA. SIGNS WILL BE PLACED AT SUITABLE LOCATIONS TO GUIDE PEOPLE WHO COME IN BY OTHER MEANS OF TRANSPORT OTHER THAN THE SPECIAL BUS SERVICE.

SIGNS WILL ALSO BE PUT UP AT THE ENTRANCES TO THE PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE LEADING FROM HUNG HOM FERRY CONCOURSE TO THE RECLAMATION AREA, HE ADDED.

ON BOTH SIDES OF THE HARBOUR THE VIEWING SITE WILL SERVE AS ONE-NIGHT HAWKER BAZAAR ON THAT DAY.

HAWKERS WHO WANT TO PLY THEIR TRADE ON THE SITES CAN DO SO WITHOUT HAVING TO APPLY FOR ANY LICENCE IN ADVANCE.

AT THE WAN CHAI RECLAMATION, ALL THE THREE VIEWING SITES WILL BE OPENED TO HAWKERS BUT AT THE HUNG HOM SITE, HAWKERS WILL ONLY BE ALLOWED TO TRADE IN A SPECIAL HAWKER ZONE AT THE WESTERN SIDE OF THE SITE.

THE SPOKESMAN FOR THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE ASKED THE HAWKERS GOING TO THE SITE ON HONG KONG ISLAND TO CO-OPERATE BY KEEPING AS FAR AWAY AS POSSIBLE FROM THE ENTRANCES.

FOR HAWKERS INTENDING TO OPERATE IN THE HUNG HOM SITE ON THAT NIGHT, THEY ARE ADVISED TO MOVE INTO THE SPECIAL HAWKER ZONE BETWEEN 4 P.M. - 6.30 P.M. TO AVOID CONGESTION.

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REDUCTION OF RATEABLE VALUES SOUGHT
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THE COMMISSIONER OF RATING AND VALUATION RECEIVED ONLY 12 PROPOSALS FOR ALTERATION OF ENTRIES IN THE VALUATION LISTS FOR 1975-76 IN THE 21-DAY PERIOD -- MARCH 8 TO 28 -- WHEN THE LISTS WERE OPEN FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION.

A RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT ALL OF THEM CONCERNED THE REDUCTION OF ASSESSED RATEABLE VALUES AND THAT MOST WERE IN RESPECT OF SHOP PREMISES IN KOWLOON THE TENANTS OF WHICH HAD RECENTLY NEGOTIATED REDUCED RENTALS.

+TEN OF THE PROPOSALS HAD SO FAR BEEN DEALT WITH AND IN FIVE CASES THE DEPARTMENT HAD AGREED TO REDUCE THE RATING ASSESSMENTS FOR THE ENSUING YEAR,+ HE SAID.

THE REMAINDER IS STILL BEING CONSIDERED AND A DECISION SHOULD BE MADE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT A RIGHT OF APPEAL TO THE LANDS TRIBUNAL STILL LIES AGAINST THE DECISION OF THE COMMISSIONER OF RATING AND VALUATION FOLLOWING THE MAKING OF A PROPOSAL.

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SPECIAL TRAIN SERVICES DURING ROYAL VISIT
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A SPOKESMAN FOR THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT SPECIAL TRAIN SERVICES WILL BE OPERATED TO FACILITATE PASSENGERS TRAVELLING TO AND FROM THE NEW TERRITORIES DURING THE ROYAL VISIT ON MONDAY AND TUESDAY.

ON MONDAY, THERE WILL BE SEVEN UP TRAINS RUNNING FROM TSIM SHA TSUI TO TAI PO MARKET, FANLING OR LO WU BETWEEN 9.49 AM AND MIDNIGHT, AND SIX DOWN TRAINS FROM THE NEW TERRITORIES TO TSIM SHA TSUI BETWEEN 11.04 AM AND 8.39 PM. THESE SERVICES ARE IN ADDITION TO THE NORMAL SCHEDULE TRAINS.

ON TUESDAY, A SPECIAL UP TRAIN WILL DEPART FROM TSIM SHA TSUI FOR LO WU AT 11 PM TO FACILITATE N.T. PEOPLE WHO WILL TRAVEL TO KOWLOON TO WATCH THE CARNIVAL PROCESSION.

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MOVE TO IMPROVE VOLUNTEER SERVICE
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SIXTEEN VOLUNTARY YOUTH GROUPS FROM LOCAL SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND WELFARE AGENCIES IN WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT HAVE FORMED A COUNCIL TO PROVIDE BETTER CO-ORDINATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF VOLUNTARY COMMUNITY SERVICES IN THE AREA.

THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY YOUTH GROUPS AS IT IS KNOWN, IS SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT'S COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICE OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT. IT WAS ESTABLISHED LAST MONTH.

AS SUCH, ITS AIMS ARE TO OFFER OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE GROUPS TO EXCHANGE WORKING EXPERIENCES, POOL RESOURCES TO MEET COMMUNITY NEEDS ON A MASS SCALE, AND PROVIDE TRAINING PROGRAMMES FOR MEMBER YOUTH GROUPS AS WELL AS THOSE OF OTHER ORGANISATIONS, ACCORDING TO MRS. HENRIETTA CHEN, THE COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICER.

ONE OF ITS FIRST EFFORTS WAS A FUND-RAISING DRIVE FOR OUR LADY OF MARYKNOLL HOSPITAL IN WONG TAI SIN AT WHICH \$11,000 WAS COLLECTED.

TOMORROW (SATURDAY), IT WILL BE PURSUING ANOTHER OF ITS AIMS BY STARTING A TWO-DAY VOLUNTEER TRAINING PROGRAMME AT THE WONG TAI SIN COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 104 CHING TAK STREET STARTING AT 8 P.M. AND CONTINUING ON SUNDAY BETWEEN 2 AND 5 P.M.

ONE HUNDRED LOCAL YOUTH VOLUNTEERS, EIGHTY OF WHOM ARE FROM MEMBER GROUPS OF THE COUNCIL, WILL MEET FOR LECTURES ON THE BASIC CONCEPTS OF VOLUNTARY SERVICES AND THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH SOCIAL WORK, THE ROLE OF VOLUNTEERS AND THEIR WORKING ATTITUDE AND THE WORKING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN VOLUNTEERS AND AGENCY STAFF.

DISCUSSIONS WILL FOLLOW THE LECTURES WHICH WILL BE GIVEN BY EXPERIENCED SOCIAL WORKERS FROM THE ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTEERS FOR SERVICE AND CARITAS TUNG TAU CENTRE.

MRS. CHEN SAID THIS WAS THE FIRST OF THE TRAINING PROGRAMMES WHICH THE COUNCIL WAS ORGANISING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO DEVELOP YOUTH LEADERSHIP THROUGH STIMULATING THE SPIRIT OF SERVICE TO RAISE THE STANDARDS OF VOLUNTARY SERVICE.

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NEW MIDWIFERY TRAINING SCHOOL IN Q.E.
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THE MIDWIFERY TRAINING SCHOOL IN QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL WILL OPERATE IN PERMANENT PREMISES BY THE END OF THIS YEAR.

WORK WILL BEGIN LATER THIS MONTH TO CONVERT THE ROOF OF BLOCK A OF THE HOSPITAL INTO A PERMANENT MIDWIFERY TRAINING SCHOOL WITH THE AIM OF PROVIDING PROPER ACCOMMODATION FOR NURSES UNDERGOING MIDWIFERY TRAINING.

THE NEW TRAINING SCHOOL, WITH A TOTAL FLOOR AREA OF ABOUT 5,800 SQ. FT. WILL HAVE FOUR CLASSROOMS, A PRACTICAL DEMONSTRATION ROOM, A LIBRARY, THREE OFFICES FOR TUTORIAL STAFF AND A PANTRY.

WHEN COMPLETED, THE SCHOOL WILL ALSO PROVIDE ACCOMMODATION FOR RUNNING REFRESHER COURSES FOR SERVING MIDWIVES, NURSES AND SENIOR NURSING STAFF SO AS TO KEEP THEM ABREAST WITH THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN GENERAL AND MIDWIFERY NURSING.

THE NEW SCHOOL IS MUCH MORE SPACIOUS THAN THE EXISTING ONE WHICH IS TEMPORARILY HOUSED IN THE SITTING ROOM OF THE SISTERS QUARTERS IN THE HOSPITAL.

IT IS EXPECTED TO BE READY FOR OCCUPATION BY DECEMBER, 1975.

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ROYAL VISIT PRESS ARRANGEMENT
FOR BEACON HILL VIEW POINT EVENT
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NOTE TO EDITORS:

REPORTERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS ACCREDITED FOR THE BEACON HILL VIEW POINT IN THE ROYAL VISIT PROGRAMME WILL NOT (REPEAT NOT) BE ABLE TO GO THERE FROM MORSE PARK. YOU WILL HAVE TO ASSIGN SEPARATE STAFF MEMBERS TO COVER THESE EVENTS, IF YOUR NEWSPAPER HAS BEEN ACCREDITED FOR BOTH. OFFICIAL TRANSPORT FOR BEACON HILL WILL LEAVE HILTON HOTEL AT 9.30 A.M. SHARP ON MONDAY (MAY 5).

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REPAIR WORK ON DRAINAGE SYSTEM
AT KOWLOON BAY LICENSED AREA
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HOUSING DEPARTMENT STAFF ARE NOW CARRYING OUT EXTENSIVE WORK AT THE KOWLOON BAY LICENSED AREA TO ENSURE THAT FLOODING OF THE AREA WILL NOT RECUR.

THE WORK INCLUDES CLEARING A LARGE QUANTITY OF DEBRIS BLOCKING THE CATCHPIT AND THE OUTLET CULVERT AS WELL AS ENLARGING THE LATTER.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MAINTENANCE DIVISION ASSURED THAT THE DRAINAGE SYSTEM WAS QUITE ADEQUATE TO COPE WITH FLOOD WATER UNDER NORMAL CONDITION.

+FLOODING OCCURRED LAST WEDNESDAY PARTLY DUE TO THE BLOCKAGE OF THE NULLAH AND PARTLY TO THE UNUSUAL HEAVY RAIN,+ HE SAID.

BETWEEN 12 NOON AND 1 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, A TOTAL OF 92.4 MM OR NEARLY FOUR INCHES OF RAIN WAS RECORDED. THIS WAS THE FIFTH HIGHEST AMOUNT OF RAINFALL EVER RECORDED IN THE PERIOD OF ONE HOUR BY THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY.

THE SPOKESMAN WARNED THAT THE DRAINS COULD BE BLOCKED AGAIN DESPITE ACTION BY THE MANAGEMENT STAFF IF RESIDENTS DISCARD THEIR RUBBISH INDISCRIMINATELY.

HE APPEALED TO TENANTS FOR THEIR CO-OPERATION IN KEEPING THE DRAINAGE CLEAR AND TO PARENTS TO KEEP THEIR CHILDREN AWAY FROM THE NULLAH DURING A HEAVY DOWNFALL.

+THE FORCE OF THE FLOWING WATER COULD EASILY SWEEP A MAN OFF HIS FEET NOT TO MENTION LITTLE CHILDREN,+ HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE TRAGIC DEATH OF THE LITTLE GIRL ON WEDNESDAY WAS MOST REGRETTABLE. THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT IS NOW IN TOUCH WITH THE BEREAVED FAMILY.

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APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR ONE-YEAR TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COURSE
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YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN WITH INDUSTRIAL EXPERIENCE ARE INVITED TO ENROL IN THE ONE YEAR FULL-TIME COURSE COMMENCING IN SEPTEMBER 1975 AT THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE.

THE COURSE IS INTENDED FOR MATURE STUDENTS WITH SOME YEARS OF INDUSTRIAL EXPERIENCE WHO ARE INTERESTED IN THE TEACHING PROFESSION AND IN PASSING ON THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS TO STUDENTS IN TECHNICAL EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

INDUCEMENT GRANTS WILL BE GIVEN TO STUDENTS ON THIS COURSE AT THE MINIMUM OF \$1,070 PER MONTH UP TO THE MAXIMUM OF \$1,640 PER MONTH, CALCULATED ACCORDING TO THE NUMBER OF YEARS OF POST-QUALIFICATION INDUSTRIAL EXPERIENCE.

APPLICANTS MUST HAVE SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED A TWO-YEAR FULL-TIME ORDINARY DIPLOMA/TECHNICIAN DIPLOMA COURSE, OR AN EQUIVALENT PART-TIME COURSE, IN THE TECHNICAL COLLEGE/POLYTECHNIC/MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, OR AN EQUIVALENT COLLEGE, IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING DISCIPLINES : MECHANICAL ENGINEERING, ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, TEXTILES, GARMENT-MAKING, BUILDING, PRINTING, AND PLASTIC MOULD-MAKING.

APPLICATION FORMS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE, 373, QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG.

ALL COMPLETED FORMS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE COLLEGE BY MAY 19, 1975.

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