



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 1983

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HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORT TRADE FOR JANUARY TO JUNE

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THE VALUE OF HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORT TRADE REACHED HK\$23 975 MILLION FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY TO JUNE, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF \$2 559 MILLION OR 12 PER CENT, AS COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD LAST YEAR.

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT RELEASED TODAY A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF RE-EXPORTS BY MARKET AND BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN FOR THE FIRST HALF OF 1983.

RE-EXPORTS BY MARKET

THE CHANGES IN RE-EXPORTS BY 10 MAJOR MARKETS ARE GIVEN IN TABLE 1 AT THE END OF THIS PRESS RELEASE.

CHINA WAS AGAIN THE LARGEST MARKET FOR HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS, WITH A SLIGHT INCREASE OF \$182 MILLION OR FOUR PER CENT. INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN IRON AND STEEL (BY \$93 MILLION OR 119 PER CENT) AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS, APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS (BY \$86 MILLION OR 55 PER CENT). ON THE OTHER HAND, DECREASES WERE REGISTERED IN TEXTILES (BY \$256 MILLION OR 17 PER CENT) AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$66 MILLION OR 26 PER CENT).

SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN RE-EXPORTS TO THE U.S.A. (BY \$729 MILLION OR 28 PER CENT), THE SECOND LARGEST MARKET FOR HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS. THE COMMODITIES WITH SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE CLOTHING (BY \$381 MILLION OR 63 PER CENT) AND MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, MAINLY BASKET WORK, WICKERWORK AND WORK OF PLAITING MATERIALS (BY \$58 MILLION OR 19 PER CENT), AND TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR CONTAINERS (BY \$57 MILLION OR 86 PER CENT). NOTABLE DECREASES IN RE-EXPORTS TO THE U.S.A. WERE RECORDED FOR FISH, CRUSTACEANS AND MOLLUSCS, AND PREPARATIONS (BY \$35 MILLION OR 34 PER CENT) AND PEARLS, PRECIOUS AND SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES (BY \$34 MILLION OR 13 PER CENT).

A DECREASE WAS RECORDED FOR ROAD VEHICLES (INCLUDING AIR CUSHION VEHICLES) (BY \$207 MILLION OR 24 PER CENT) TO INDONESIA. INCREASES WERE REGISTERED IN RE-EXPORTS OF CRUDE ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE MATERIALS (BY \$47 MILLION OR 285 PER CENT), OIL SEEDS AND OLEAGINOUS FRUIT (BY \$39 MILLION OR 52 PER CENT), AND IRON AND STEEL (BY \$18 MILLION OR 44 PER CENT).

AN OVERALL INCREASE OF \$368 MILLION OR 22 PER CENT IN RE-EXPORTS WAS REGISTERED FOR SINGAPORE. COMMODITIES WITH SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$74 MILLION OR 75 PER CENT) AND WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$64 MILLION OR 24 PER CENT). A DECREASE OF \$24 MILLION OR 51 PER CENT WAS RECORDED FOR PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS.

SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE REGISTERED IN RE-EXPORTS OF ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS (BY \$87 MILLION OR 30 PER CENT) AND DYEING, TANNING AND COLOURING MATERIALS (BY \$20 MILLION OR 35 PER CENT) TO TAIWAN. A DECREASE OF \$35 MILLION OR 30 PER CENT WAS RECORDED FOR NON-FERROUS METALS.

RE-EXPORTS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

RE-EXPORTS BY 10 MAJOR COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN ARE GIVEN IN TABLE 2.

CHINA REMAINED THE LARGEST SOURCE OF HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS. INCREASES IN RE-EXPORTS WERE NOTED FOR CLOTHING (BY \$583 MILLION OR 50 PER CENT), WOVEN FABRICS OF MAN-MADE FIBRES (BY \$91 MILLION OR 37 PER CENT), SILK (BY \$87 MILLION OR 168 PER CENT), TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR CONTAINERS (BY \$86 MILLION OR 55 PER CENT), MISCELLANEOUS CRUDE VEGETABLE MATERIALS, MAINLY PLANTS AND SEEDS USED IN PERFUMERY OR IN PHARMACY (BY \$73 MILLION OR 26 PER CENT), AND OIL SEEDS AND OLEAGINOUS FRUIT, WHOLE OR BROKEN, OF A KIND USED FOR THE EXTRACTION OF 'SOFT' FIXED VEGETABLE OILS (BY \$66 MILLION OR 66 PER CENT).

JAPAN WAS THE SECOND MAJOR SOURCE OF RE-EXPORTS. INCREASES WERE REGISTERED IN WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$289 MILLION OR 48 PER CENT), TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$116 MILLION OR 22 PER CENT), THERMIONIC, COLD CATHODE AND PHOTO-CATHODE VALVES AND TUBES, PHOTOCELLS, DIODES, TRANSISTORS AND PARTS (BY \$85 MILLION OR 50 PER CENT) AND MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, PARTS AND ACCESSORIES (BY \$73 MILLION OR 56 PER CENT).

OVERSEAS PURCHASES OF U.S.A. PRODUCTS THROUGH HONG KONG REMAINED ACTIVE FOR THE FIRST HALF OF 1983. INCREASES WERE REGISTERED IN AIRCRAFT AND ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT, AND PARTS (BY \$69 MILLION OR 121 PER CENT), MANUFACTURED TOBACCO (BY \$62 MILLION OR 98 PER CENT) AND PARTS AND ACCESSORIES OF OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY \$37 MILLION OR 22 PER CENT).

ON THE OTHER HAND, RE-EXPORTS OF TAIWAN ORIGIN DECLINED. SIGNIFICANT DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN WOVEN FABRICS OF MAN-MADE FIBRES (BY \$277 MILLION OR 65 PER CENT), TEXTILE YARN (BY \$86 MILLION OR 35 PER CENT) AS WELL AS TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$46 MILLION OR 62 PER CENT).

RE-EXPORTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (SOUTH KOREA) ORIGIN ALSO DECLINED PARTICULARLY FOR WOVEN FABRICS OF MAN-MADE FIBRES (BY \$84 MILLION OR 40 PER CENT).

RE-EXPORTS BY ORIGIN AND DESTINATION

WHEN ANALYSED BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN AND THEN BY DESTINATION, INCREASES WERE REGISTERED IN RE-EXPORTS OF CHINA ORIGIN TO THE U.S.A. (BY \$637 MILLION OR 40 PER CENT), SAUDI ARABIA (BY \$180 MILLION OR 87 PER CENT), CHINA (BY \$162 MILLION OR 72 PER CENT) AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (SOUTH KOREA) (BY \$159 MILLION OR 60 PER CENT).

INCREASES IN RE-EXPORTS OF JAPAN ORIGIN WERE MAINLY TO CHINA (BY \$244 MILLION OR 31 PER CENT), SINGAPORE (BY \$190 MILLION OR 44 PER CENT) AND NETHERLANDS (BY \$110 MILLION OR 504 PER CENT).

SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES WERE ALSO NOTED IN RE-EXPORTS OF U.S.A. ORIGIN TO CHINA (BY \$94 MILLION OR 20 PER CENT) AND U.S.A. (BY \$48 MILLION OR 13 PER CENT).

TABLE 1 : RE-EXPORTS BY 10 MAJOR MARKETS

	JAN-JUNE 1983 (HK\$ MN.)	JAN-JUNE 1982 (HK\$ MN.)	INCREASE/ DECREASE (HK\$ MN.)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
CHINA	4 301	4 119	+ 182	+ 4
U. S. A.	3 342	2 613	+ 729	+28
INDONESIA	2 036	2 194	- 158	- 7
SINGAPORE	2 005	1 637	+ 368	+22
TAIWAN	1 432	1 275	+ 157	+12
JAPAN	1 309	1 280	+ 29	+ 2
REPUBLIC OF KOREA (SOUTH KOREA)	1 137	804	+ 332	+41
MACAU	878	734	+ 144	+20
PHILIPPINES	744	712	+ 32	+ 4
SAUDI ARABIA	646	398	+ 248	+62

TABLE 2 : RE-EXPORTS BY 10 MAJOR COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN

	JAN-JUNE 1983 (HK\$ MN.)	JAN-JUNE 1982 (HK\$ MN.)	INCREASE/ DECREASE (HK\$ MN.)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
CHINA	8 403	6 918	+1 485	+21
JAPAN	5 061	4 227	+ 834	+20
U. S. A.	2 591	2 334	+ 257	+11
TAIWAN	1 034	1 482	- 448	-30
REPUBLIC OF KOREA (SOUTH KOREA)	584	778	- 195	-25
SWITZERLAND	528	545	- 17	- 3
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY	496	381	+ 115	+30
UNITED KINGDOM	388	327	+ 60	+18
MALAYSIA, WEST	290	276	+ 14	+ 5
FRANCE	283	200	+ 83	+42

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OVER 500 COMMENTS ON EDUCATION NOTED

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A TOTAL OF 523 COMMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE BY 315 INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANISATIONS ON THE REPORT BY THE PANEL OF VISITORS WHO CONDUCTED AN OVERALL REVIEW OF EDUCATION IN HONG KONG.

THE REPORT WAS PUBLISHED IN MAY THIS YEAR AND THE PUBLIC WERE INVITED TO COMMENT ON THE WIDE-RANGE OF ISSUES IT RAISED BY THE END OF AUGUST.

OF THE COMMENTS RECEIVED BY THE END OF TODAY, 145 WERE WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS, 266 WERE NEWS REPORTS OF VIEWS GIVEN IN SEMINARS AND OTHER PUBLIC OCCASIONS, AND 112 WERE EDITORIALS AND FEATURE ARTICLES.

THE COMMENTS DEALT MOSTLY WITH THE SETTING UP OF AN EDUCATION COMMISSION, USE OF MOTHER TONGUE AS THE LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION, ABOLITION OF JUNIOR SECONDARY EDUCATION ASSESSMENT, AND MAKING KINDERGARTEN EDUCATION A PART OF THE AIDED SECTOR.

OTHER COMMENTS WERE ON THE NEED FOR THE MORE AND BETTER TRAINING FOR KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS, MORE RESOURCES FOR THE TRAINING OF TEACHERS, SUBSIDISED POST-COMPULSORY EDUCATION UP TO FORM V FOR ALL WHO WANT IT, AND EXPANSION OF STUDY OPPORTUNITIES AT DEGREE AND HIGHER TECHNICIAN LEVEL.

THE EDUCATION AND MANPOWER BRANCH HAS ALREADY BEEN COLLATING THESE PUBLIC VIEWS AND DISCUSSIONS WITHIN THE ADMINISTRATION WILL SOON BEGIN TO COMPLETE THE PROCESS OF CONSULTATION WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT, WITH A VIEW TO FINALISING A COMPREHENSIVE BRIEF TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR ITS ADVICE BEFORE THE END OF THIS YEAR.

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SEAT BELT DEADLINE - OCTOBER 1

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FROM OCTOBER 1, DRIVERS OF PRIVATE CARS REGISTERED AFTER MID-1976 WILL HAVE TO WEAR SEAT BELTS.

THE NEW REQUIREMENT ALSO APPLIES TO FRONT-SEAT PASSENGERS.

EACH YEAR, MORE THAN 4 000 CAR DRIVERS AND FRONT-SEAT PASSENGERS ARE KILLED OR INJURED IN TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS IN HONG KONG, AND IT IS BELIEVED THE NEW SEAT-BELT LAW WILL HELP SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE THIS TOLL.

+ALTHOUGH SEAT BELTS MUST BE WORN BY MANY PEOPLE BY LAW FROM OCTOBER 1, COMMON SENSE SHOULD BE ENOUGH TO CONVINCE EVERYONE TO BELT-UP AND CUT THE CHANCES OF THEIR BEING KILLED OR SERIOUSLY INJURED IN AN ACCIDENT,+ SAID A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN.

/SEAT BELTS

SEAT BELTS WILL HAVE TO BE WORN BY DRIVERS AND FRONT-SEAT PASSENGERS OF PRIVATE CARS FIRST REGISTERED ON OR AFTER AUGUST 1, 1976. SUCH VEHICLES HAVE BEEN REQUIRED, SINCE THAT DATE, TO HAVE BELTS FITTED BUT THERE WAS NO OBLIGATION THAT THEY BE WORN.

THE LAW DOES ALLOW SOME EXEMPTIONS.

ONE EXEMPTION IS WHERE REVERSING IS INVOLVED, IF A CAR WAS MANUFACTURED BEFORE MID-1964 BUT WAS NOT REGISTERED UNTIL AFTER AUGUST 1, 1976 - AS MIGHT HAPPEN WITH A VINTAGE CAR.

ANOTHER IS IF A PERSON IS SITTING IN THE MIDDLE POSITION OF A BENCH-TYPE SEAT. AND THERE IS PROVISION FOR CERTAIN MEDICAL EXEMPTIONS.

DRIVERS MUST ENSURE THAT THEY, AND THE FRONT-SEAT PASSENGER, WEAR BELTS.

OFFENDERS ARE LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$500 AND IMPRISONMENT FOR UP TO THREE MONTHS ON FIRST CONVICTION.

ON SUBSEQUENT CONVICTION, THIS COULD RISE TO A MAXIMUM OF \$1 000 AND IMPRISONMENT FOR UP TO SIX MONTHS.

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TEXTBOOKS ASSISTANCE CONTINUES

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THE SCHOOL TEXTBOOKS ASSISTANCE SCHEME, WHICH WAS INTRODUCED LAST YEAR WITH GREAT SUCCESS, WILL CONTINUE TO BE ADMINISTERED IN THE 1983-84 SCHOOL YEAR, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY.

UNDER THE SCHEME, THE GOVERNMENT WILL PAY, VIA BANK AUTOPAY SYSTEMS, A CASH GRANT TO THE PARENTS AND GUARDIANS OF ELIGIBLE PUPILS STUDYING IN PRIMARY AND JUNIOR SECONDARY CLASSES IN GOVERNMENT AND AIDED SCHOOLS AND THOSE OCCUPYING BOUGHT PLACES IN PRIVATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THOSE WHO ARE RECEIVING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE, HOWEVER, WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY. OLD AGE ALLOWANCE AND DISABILITY ALLOWANCE ARE NOT REGARDED AS PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID A FULL GRANT WILL BE \$135 PER PUPIL PER ANNUM FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL PUPILS AND \$325 PER PUPIL PER ANNUM FOR JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL PUPILS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE CUT-OFF DATE FOR APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT IS SEPTEMBER 15 FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 1983-84. THIS MEANS THAT ANY NEW PUPIL JOINING A SCHOOL AFTER THIS DATE WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR THE GRANT THIS YEAR.

SCHOOLS MAY AWARD FULL OR HALF GRANTS BASED ON A POINTS SYSTEM GIVEN IN A TEXTBOOKS ASSISTANCE RECKONER.

THE SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT SCHOOLS MAY AWARD GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE PUPILS UP TO 25 PER CENT OF THEIR ACTUAL TOTAL ENROLMENT. FOR SCHOOLS WITH BOUGHT PLACES, THE CEILING IS CALCULATED AT 25 PER CENT OF THE NUMBER OF BOUGHT PLACES IN THE CLASSES.

/HE SAID

HE SAID HEADS OF SCHOOLS MAY AT THEIR DISCRETION AWARD GRANTS FOR CASES OF EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY CIRCUMSTANCES INVOLVING HARDSHIP NOT COVERED BY THE RECKONER.

+THESE DISCRETIONARY GRANTS, HOWEVER, WILL HAVE TO BE WITHIN THE SCHOOL'S OVERALL 25 PER CENT ENTITLEMENT AND ARE SUBJECT TO AN OVERALL MAXIMUM NUMBER CALCULATED AT THE RATE OF THREE FULL GRANTS PER CLASS,+ HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT INDIVIDUAL SCHOOLS MAY, IN EXCEPTIONAL CASES, SEEK APPROVAL FROM THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO AWARD AN ADDITIONAL NUMBER OF GRANTS OVER THE 25 PER CENT CEILING. SUCH ADDITIONAL GRANT, HOWEVER, WILL ONLY BE POSSIBLE IF THERE ARE 'SAVINGS' RESULTING FROM SOME SCHOOLS NOT REQUIRING TO TAKE UP THEIR FULL QUOTA.

PUPILS WHO WISH TO BENEFIT FROM THE SCHEME CAN APPLY THROUGH THEIR SCHOOLS USING A STANDARDISED FORM TO BE COMPLETED AND SIGNED BY THEIR PARENTS OR GUARDIANS. THE GRANTS WILL BE PAID DIRECT TO THE BANK ACCOUNTS OF PARENTS OR GUARDIANS OF SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS AND NOT TO THE PUPILS THEMSELVES.

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FINANCIAL SECRETARY TOURS FACTORIES

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THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, SIR JOHN BREMRIDGE, TODAY (WEDNESDAY) VISITED AN ELECTRONICS FACTORY AND A CAN MANUFACTURING PLANT IN TAI PO.

ON ARRIVAL AT VIDEO TECHNOLOGY LTD., SIR JOHN, ACCOMPANIED BY THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR PETER KIANG, WAS WELCOMED BY THE COMPANY'S CHAIRMAN, MR STEPHEN LEUNG.

SIR JOHN WAS BRIEFED ON THE COMPANY'S EXPANSION SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT IN 1976 AND ITS DIVERSIFICATION FROM ELECTRONIC GAMES TO HOME COMPUTERS. THE COMPANY NOW OPERATES ON 9 300 SQUARE METRES OF FLOOR AREA AND EMPLOYS 1 000 WORKERS.

HE ALSO LEARNED THAT THE COMPANY HAD A STRONG TEAM TO DESIGN CIRCUITS, KEYBOARDS AND SOFTWARE AND MICROPROCESSOR APPLICATION.

THE COMPANY'S PRODUCTS, INCLUDING COMPUTERS, MICROPROCESSORS AND COMPUTER PERIPHERALS, AND TV GAMES, ARE MAINLY FOR EXPORT TO EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA.

SIR JOHN NEXT VISITED M.C. PACKAGING (HONG KONG) LTD. AT THE TAI PO INDUSTRIAL ESTATE AND TOURED THE PLANT IN THE COMPANY OF THE DIRECTOR AND GENERAL MANAGER, MR LO FOO-CHEUNG.

THE FACTORY WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1978 WITH HONG KONG AND SINGAPORE INTERESTS.

THE PLANT, LOCATED IN A 26 000-SQUARE METRE PURPOSE-BUILT INDUSTRIAL BUILDING, PRODUCES ON HIGHLY AUTOMATED MACHINERY ALUMINIUM CANS FOR SOFT DRINKS AND BEER, +PULL-RING+-TYPE EASY-TO-OPEN LIDS, CANISTERS AND PLASTIC CONTAINERS.

IT CATERS FOR THE LOCAL MARKET AS WELL AS SOUTHEAST ASIA, TAIWAN, CHINA AND THE MIDDLE EAST.

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RESIDENTS INTERESTS PROTECTED

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IMMENSE DEVELOPMENTS ARE TAKING PLACE IN TSUEN WAN AND AFFECTED RESIDENTS WILL HAVE THEIR INTERESTS PROTECTED, THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS ELAINE CHUNG, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THESE DEVELOPMENTS INCLUDE THE TSUEN WAN BY-PASS STAGE II NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION, THE RECLAMATION OF TSUEN WAN BAY WHICH WILL PROVIDE LAND FOR A NEW FERRY PIER, A BUS TERMINUS, AND GOVERNMENT OFFICES, AND THE PLANNED DEVELOPMENT OF SHAM TSENG INTO A TOWN CENTRE.

+WHILE THESE DEVELOPMENTS WILL BRING A NEW FACE TO TSUEN WAN, THEY WILL ALSO AFFECT SOME RESIDENTS IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER,+ SAID MISS CHUNG.

+THE GOVERNMENT WILL, AS IT HAS BEEN DOING ALL ALONG, ENSURE THAT THE INTERESTS OF THE AFFECTED RESIDENTS ARE PROTECTED,+ SHE ADDED.

MISS CHUNG WAS SPEAKING AT AN OPENING CEREMONY OF THE PAK TIN PA NEW VILLAGE AND ITS VILLAGE OFFICE. THE OLD PAK TIN PA VILLAGE WAS CLEARED IN 1979 TO MAKE WAY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY TSUEN WAN EXTENSION.

+FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC, THE VILLAGERS HAD MOVED OUT FROM THEIR VILLAGE OF MORE THAN 200 YEARS OLD.

+AT THAT TIME THEY HAD A LOT OF DIFFICULTIES AND PROBLEMS, AND IT WAS GRATIFYING TO SEE THAT ALL THESE PROBLEMS WERE SOLVED THROUGH SINCERE DISCUSSIONS AND CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE VILLAGERS AND THE GOVERNMENT,+ SHE SAID.

OTHER GUESTS ATTENDING TODAY'S CEREMONY INCLUDED A DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER, MR CHAN PO-FONG, THE ACTING CHAIRMAN OF THE TSUEN WAN RURAL COMMITTEE, MR HO WING-KWONG, AND THE VILLAGE REPRESENTATIVE, MR HO YAN-YAN.

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TWO DISTRICT BOARDS MEET TOMORROW

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YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL DISCUSS THE LONG-TERM PROVISION OF CAR PARKING FACILITIES IN THE TOWN CENTRE AT THEIR MEETING TOMORROW (THURSDAY) MORNING.

THEY WILL ALSO REVIEW THE +MEET-THE-PUBLIC SCHEME+ AND DISCUSS PREPARATORY WORK FOR THE FOURTH YUEN LONG ARTS FESTIVAL.

THE MEMBERS WILL ALSO BE BRIEFED ON A REPORT ON THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN EXISTING AND PLANNED COMMUNITY, WELFARE AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES IN THE DISTRICT.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA WILL INCLUDE NAMING OF STREETS IN THE YUEN LONG INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, AND THE REPORT +A PERSPECTIVE ON EDUCATION IN HONG KONG+.

IN THE AFTERNOON, THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL HEAR ABOUT THE CONSTRUCTION OF A MULTI-STOREY MARKET COMPLEX IN QUEEN STREET AT THEIR MEETING.

FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED IN THE COMPLEX WILL INCLUDE A MARKET, A COOKED FOOD CENTRE, AN INDOOR SPORTS ACTIVITIES ROOM, AN INDOOR GAMES HALL AND SQUASH COURTS.

AT THE MEETING, MEMBERS WILL ALSO LOOK INTO THE MATTER OF CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH CENTRES IN THE DISTRICT.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC INTERESTED IN ATTENDING THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD MEETING SHOULD CONTACT THE BOARD'S SECRETARY AT 5-450868 FOR SEATING ARRANGEMENTS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER:

- (A) THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARD MEETING AT 9.30 AM TOMORROW (THURSDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE, 296 CASTLE PEAK ROAD AND
- (B) THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD MEETING AT 4 PM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF WILLIE BUILDING, 222-224 DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL.

A GOVERNMENT VAN, AM 5797, WILL LEAVE KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER AT 8.15 AM FOR YUEN LONG.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

BOARD MEMBERS TO MEET VILLAGERS

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THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR DONALD TSANG, AND FOUR DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL VISIT FIVE VILLAGES IN TIN SUM VALLEY ON FRIDAY (SEPTEMBER 2) MORNING.

BOARD MEMBERS WILL MEET VILLAGE REPRESENTATIVES AND ENQUIRE ABOUT THEIR LIVING CONDITIONS AND ANY PROBLEMS THEY MAY ENCOUNTER.

THIS WILL BE THE SECOND OF A SERIES OF VISITS TO MAINTAIN CLOSE CONTACT BETWEEN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AND THE VILLAGERS.

THE FIVE VILLAGES ARE HIN TIN, SHEUNG KENG HAU, HA KENG HAU, KAK TIN AND TIN SUM.

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WHO WISH TO JOIN THE TOUR SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT 8.45 AM AT THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT OFFICE IN SAU CHUEN HOUSE, LEK YUEN ESTATE.

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 1983

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PRESS INVITED TO JOIN SEMINARS ON LIBEL, ETHICS

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WORKING JOURNALISTS ARE INVITED TO ENROL IN TWO SEMINARS - ONE ON THE LAW OF LIBEL TO BE HELD IN OCTOBER, AND THE OTHER ON PRESS ETHICS TO BE HELD IN NOVEMBER.

THE TWO SEMINARS, CONDUCTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION, HONG KONG BAPTIST COLLEGE, ARE PART OF A TRAINING PROGRAMME SERIES FOR JOURNALISTS ORGANISED BY THE JOURNALISM TRAINING BOARD OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL.

THE SYLLABUS OF THE SEMINAR ON LAW OF LIBEL CONSISTS OF 11 LECTURES, AND TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION WILL INCLUDE CIVIL LIBEL, SLANDER, CRIMINAL LIBEL, LOCAL AND OVERSEAS PRECEDENT LIBEL CASES AND THE DEFENCE OF LIBEL CASES.

CODES AND ENFORCIBILITY OF ETHICS, AS WELL AS INTERESTING CASES INVOLVING THE OBSERVANCE AND BREAKING OF PROFESSIONAL PRINCIPLES, ARE TOPICS TO BE COVERED IN THE TEN TALKS IN THE SECOND SEMINAR ON PRESS ETHICS.

THE SEMINARS ARE OPEN TO JOURNALISTS WHO ARE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND AND, PREFERABLY, SPEAK ENGLISH.

AND THOSE WHO WISH TO ENROL IN THE SEMINAR ON THE LAW OF LIBEL SHOULD HAVE AT LEAST THREE YEARS' REPORTING OR EDITING EXPERIENCE.

PARTICIPANTS WILL PAY A NOMINAL FEE OF \$100 EACH - AS THE REST OF THE SEMINAR FEES, WHICH IS \$1,000 PER PERSON, WILL BE BORNE BY THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL.

HOWEVER, PARTICIPANTS MAY HAVE TO PAY FOR THE FULL COURSE FEES IF THEIR ATTENDANCE RATE IS LESS THAN 70 PER CENT, A JOURNALISM TRAINING BOARD SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT.

APPLICATION FORMS SHOULD REACH THE BAPTIST COLLEGE'S COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT BY SEPTEMBER 20.

ENQUIRIES SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE DEPARTMENT, AT 3-374161 OR 3-370265 DURING OFFICE HOURS.

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ELECTRIC WIRES AND CABLES INDUSTRY GOING METRIC
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THE ELECTRIC WIRES AND CABLES INDUSTRY IS JOINING OTHER LOCAL INDUSTRIES IN GOING METRIC.

THE METRICATION COMMITTEE ANNOUNCED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT FROM TOMORROW, METRIC UNITS WILL BE USED IN THE ELECTRIC WIRES AND CABLES TRADE.

AS AN AID FOR TECHNICIANS AND APPRENTICES OF THE TRADE AND THE CUSTOMERS, A REFERENCE CARD ON 'METRIC SIZED WIRES AND CABLES' HAS BEEN PRODUCED BY THE COMMITTEE. ITS PRINTING IS SPONSORED BY AN ELECTRICAL COMPANY.

FIFTY THOUSAND COPIES OF THIS REFERENCE CARD WILL BE DISTRIBUTED MAINLY THROUGH THE HONG KONG AND KOWLOON ELECTRICAL TRADE ASSOCIATION AND THE HONG KONG AND KOWLOON ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS' ASSOCIATION TO THEIR MEMBERS AND THROUGH THE LOCAL ELECTRIC WIRES AND CABLES MANUFACTURERS AND RETAILERS TO THEIR CUSTOMERS. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ALSO GET COPIES FROM THE METRICATION COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT AT 31/F, UNITED CENTRE, 95 QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG.

+THE ELECTRIC WIRES AND CABLES INDUSTRY IS ONE OF THE IMMEDIATE TARGETS OF OUR METRICATION PROGRAMME,+ SAID A METRICATION COMMITTEE SPOKESMAN.

+IT IS MOST ENCOURAGING TO SEE THAT THE MANUFACTURERS AND RETAILERS OF THE INDUSTRY HAVE REALISED THE IMPORTANCE AND ADVANTAGES OF GOING METRIC,+ HE SAID.

A PANEL CONSISTING OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE INDUSTRY WAS FORMED UNDER THE METRICATION COMMITTEE IN AUGUST 1979 TO COORDINATE MATTERS ARISING FROM THE TRADE'S CHANGEOVER PROCESS.

+THE PANEL HAS MADE A LOT OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND EFFORTS IN THIS MATTER. WITHOUT ITS SUPPORT, THE TRADE'S METRICATION PROGRAMME COULD NOT HAVE PROCEEDED SO SMOOTHLY,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE ADDED THAT THE TWO LOCAL POWER COMPANIES HAD ALSO HELPED BY ISSUING A CIRCULAR TO CONTRACTORS, REAL ESTATE DEVELOPERS, CONSULTANT ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND OTHER RELATED PROFESSIONALS, ENCOURAGING THEM TO ADOPT THE METRIC UNITS WHERE ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS ARE INVOLVED.

+AT THE PRESENT RATE OF PROGRESS, I AM OPTIMISTIC THAT THE ELECTRIC WIRES AND CABLES INDUSTRY WILL BE FULLY METRICATED BY THE LATTER HALF OF 1984,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

LABOUR LAW BREACHES LEAD TO FINES

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A TOTAL OF 649 PROSECUTIONS TAKEN OUT LAST MONTH BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT FOR BREACHES OF LABOUR LAWS RESULTED IN CONVICTIONS AND FINES OF MORE THAN \$559 000 BEING IMPOSED BY THE COURTS.

MOST OF THE CASES CONCERNED BREACHES OF THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS ORDINANCE AND ITS VARIOUS SUBSIDIARY REGULATIONS, THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE AND THE WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS (INDUSTRY) REGULATIONS.

THERE WERE 252 CASES CONCERNING VIOLATIONS OF SAFETY REGULATIONS, WITH \$293 650 BEING IMPOSED IN FINES. THESE INCLUDED 119 CASES (WITH \$145 500 IN FINES) FOR BREACH OF THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS (GUARDING AND OPERATION OF MACHINERY) REGULATIONS AND 29 CASES (WITH \$55 500 IN FINES) FOR BREACH OF THE CONSTRUCTION SITES (SAFETY) REGULATIONS.

THERE WERE 316 CASES RELATING TO BREACHES OF THE WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS (INDUSTRY) REGULATIONS, WITH \$220 100 IN FINES IMPOSED FOR THE OFFENCES.

OF THE OTHER PROSECUTIONS, SIX CASES WERE RELATED TO FAILURE TO KEEP RECORDS OF EMPLOYEES, LEADING TO \$3 250 IN FINES.

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TWO LAND LOTS FOR RENT

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THE LANDS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE SHORT-TERM TENANCIES OF TWO PIECES OF CROWN LAND.

ONE SITE, SITUATED AT THE JUNCTION OF SCIENCE MUSEUM ROAD AND MODY ROAD IN TSIM SHA TSUI EAST, IS FOR THE PARKING OF FEE-PAYING COACHES AND GOODS VEHICLES. IT HAS AN AREA OF ABOUT 2 875 SQUARE METRES.

THE TENANCY OFFERED IS FOR SIX MONTHS, AND THEREAFTER MONTHLY.

THE OTHER SITE, MEASURING ABOUT 755 SQUARE METRES, IS AT TUNG TAU INDUSTRIAL AREA, YUEN LONG, AND IS FOR THE REPAIR OR MAINTENANCE (INCLUDING PAINT SPRAYING) OF MOTOR VEHICLES.

THE TENANCY OF THIS SITE IS FOR TWO YEARS AND THEREAFTER QUARTERLY.

THE DEADLINE FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF TENDERS FOR BOTH SITES IS NOON ON SEPTEMBER 16.

TENDER FORMS, NOTICES AND CONDITIONS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM, AND TENDER PLANS INSPECTED AT THE LANDS DEPARTMENT, MURRAY BUILDING, 5TH FLOOR, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG, AND THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE (KOWLOON WEST), KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 10TH FLOOR, 405 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON. PARTICULARS OF THE YUEN LONG SITE MAY ALSO BE OBTAINED FROM THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE (YUEN LONG) AT CASTLE PEAK ROAD, YUEN LONG.

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 1983

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CONTRACT SIGNED FOR LIGHTING SCHEME

THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TODAY (WEDNESDAY) AWARDED A \$1.16-MILLION CONTRACT TO GENERAL ELECTRIC CO. OF HONG KONG LTD. FOR THE INSTALLATION OF HIGH MAST LIGHTING FOR AN INTERCHANGE OF THE FANLING BYPASS CURRENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

THE CONTRACT WAS SIGNED BY THE CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE TAI PO AND FANLING DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, MR M.G. GARRETT, AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COMPANY.

THE WORK INVOLVES THE FABRICATION AND ERECTION OF A 30-METRE HIGH MAST LIGHT SCHEME TOGETHER WITH ASSOCIATED CABLING AND ELECTRICAL WORKS.

IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT A TOTAL OF 13 HIGH MAST UNITS WILL BE INSTALLED.

WORK WILL START IN SEPTEMBER AND BE COMPLETED IN STAGES BY APRIL 1985.

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TWO HOUSES SOLD AT AUCTION

TWO HOUSES AT NGAU CHI WAN VILLAGE WERE SOLD AT AN AUCTION HELD BY THE LANDS DEPARTMENT AT THE CHOI WAN ESTATE COMMUNITY CENTRE THIS (WEDNESDAY) AFTERNOON.

THE FIRST HOUSE, WITH A SITE AREA OF ABOUT 74.9 SQUARE METRES, WAS SOLD FOR \$850 000.

THE OTHER HOUSE, WITH A SITE AREA OF ABOUT 56 SQUARE METRES, WAS SOLD FOR \$700 000.

BOTH HOUSES ARE FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL USES.

FIVE OTHER HOUSES, WITH A SITE AREA OF 56 SQUARE METRES EACH, WERE WITHDRAWN BECAUSE THERE WERE NO BIDDERS.

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ABERDEEN TUNNEL COMPUTER TESTS

THE ABERDEEN TUNNEL IS TO BE CLOSED BETWEEN 0.30 AM AND 5.30 AM ON SEPTEMBER 2, 6 AND 7 FOR TESTS ON THE COMPUTER AND TRAFFIC SIGNALS.

DURING THE CLOSURE, NORTHBOUND TRAFFIC MAY USE NAM FUNG ROAD WHILE SOUTHBOUND TRAFFIC MAY USE STUBBS ROAD. MAXICAB ROUTE 4 AND CMB ROUTES 38 AND 72 WILL BE DIVERTED VIA NAM FUNG ROAD, DEEP WATER BAY ROAD, WONG NAI CHUNG GAP ROAD AND STUBBS ROAD.

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 1983

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NOTE TO EDITORS :

SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS PRESENTING PRIZES
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THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR DENIS BRAY, WILL PRESENT PRIZES TO WINNERS OF THE 1983 CHAMPION CLUB FOR ROWING AT THE FIRE SERVICES RECREATION CLUB AT THE KAI TAK AIRPORT ON FRIDAY (SEPTEMBER 2).

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRIZE-PRESENTATION CEREMONY, STARTING AT 2.45 PM. THE FIRE SERVICES RECREATION CLUB'S ENTRANCE IS NEAR THE H.A.E.C.O. AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE COMPLEX.

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF TSING YI BRIDGE
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TO FACILITATE RADIOGRAPHIC INSPECTION, TSING YI BRIDGE WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC EVERY ALTERNATIVE 20 MINUTES BETWEEN 1 AM AND 5.30 AM ON VARIOUS DAYS IN SEPTEMBER.

THESE DAYS ARE SEPTEMBER 2, SEPTEMBER 6 TO 9, SEPTEMBER 13 TO 16, SEPTEMBER 20 TO 22, AND SEPTEMBER 27 TO 30.

DURING THE HOURS OF CLOSURE, THE BRIDGE WILL BE OPEN FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES.

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SECOND CARRIAGEWAY TO OPEN
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THE SECOND CARRIAGEWAY OF ROAD D7 BETWEEN SHEK PAI TAU ROAD AND PUI TO ROAD IN TUEN MUN WILL BE OPEN TO NORTHBOUND TRAFFIC FROM FRIDAY (SEPTEMBER 2).

SOUTHBOUND TRAFFIC WILL CONTINUE TO USE THE EXISTING CARRIAGEWAY OF ROAD D7.

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