



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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EXPANSION PROJECT AT KAI TAK AIRPORT

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THE GOVERNMENT IS TO EMBARK ON A MULTI-BILLION DOLLAR PROJECT TO EXPAND THE KAI TAK AIRPORT AND TO IMPROVE ITS INTERNAL AND CONNECTING ROAD NETWORK, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

THE FULL RANGE OF EXPANSION AND IMPROVEMENTS, ESTIMATED TO COST SOME \$3.6 BILLION, IS BEING PLANNED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE KAI TAK CONSULTANCY ON THE DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL OF THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT COMPLETED IN NOVEMBER 1988.

"THE CONSULTANTS HAD FORECAST THAT THE AIRPORT, AS IT IS NOW, WILL REACH ITS CAPACITY IN 1992 AND THEREAFTER EXPANSION AND IMPROVEMENTS WILL BE REQUIRED IF KAI TAK IS TO CONTINUE TO MEET THE NEED FOR AIR TRANSPORTATION UNTIL 1996," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"OTHERWISE, HONG KONG WILL SUFFER SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC DISBENEFITS," HE SAID.

THE AIRCRAFT MOVEMENT THROUGHPUT RATE IS INCREASING. AS A RESULT, PRIORITY IS BEING GIVEN TO EXPANDING THE AIRCRAFT PARKING APRONS TO ACCOMMODATE THIS DEMAND.

TOTAL INTERNATIONAL AIRCRAFT MOVEMENTS HAVE INCREASED BY 13.3 PER CENT PER YEAR BETWEEN 1987 AND 1989, WHICH IS MORE THAN DOUBLE THE RATE FORECAST BY THE CONSULTANTS.

"THIS HAS RESULTED IN A SHORTFALL IN APRON CAPACITY BEING ADVANCED TO 1990 AND AIRLINES HAVE ALREADY HAD DIFFICULTIES IN SCHEDULING SOME OF THEIR SERVICES TO HONG KONG BECAUSE OF INSUFFICIENT PARKING SPACE.

"THE PROBLEM IS EXPECTED TO BECOME MORE ACUTE IN THE NEAR FUTURE AND IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT ADDITIONAL PARKING BAYS ARE MADE AVAILABLE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO MEET FORECAST DEMAND," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE CONSULTANTS, HAVING CONSIDERED THE PHYSICAL CONSTRAINTS OF THE AIRPORT AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS ARISING FROM INCREASED AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS, HAVE RECOMMENDED TO EXPAND THE EXISTING LONG TERM PARKING APRON FURTHER TO THE NORTH-EAST OF THE EXISTING BOUNDARY AND TO THE SOUTH ON THE KOWLOON BAY RECLAMATION.

THIS WILL PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL 13 TO 14 AIRCRAFT PARKING BAYS.

THE SPOKESMAN EMPHASISED THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS WELL AWARE OF THE CONCERN ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF THE EXPANSION PROGRAMME.

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"HOWEVER, THE CONSULTANTS HAVE ADVISED THAT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NOISE MITIGATION MEASURES AS RECOMMENDED IN THE STUDY OF THE NOISE IMPACT OF GROUND OPERATIONS AT HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (THE GROUND NOISE STUDY) IN 1988 WILL GO A LONG WAY IN REDUCING ANY NOISE IMPACT ON ADJACENT RESIDENTIAL AREAS," HE SAID.

UNDER THE EXPANSION PROGRAMME, FIXED GROUND POWER INSTALLATION WILL BE PROVIDED AT EVERY AIRCRAFT PARKING BAY. THIS IS SIMILAR TO THE WORK BEING CARRIED OUT ON THE EXISTING APRONS EAST OF THE KAI TAK NULLAH.

"THIS MEASURE IS A RECOMMENDATION OF THE GROUND NOISE STUDY AND WILL OBVIATE MOST OF THE TIME THE NEED TO USE THE AIRCRAFT'S NOISY AUXILIARY POWER UNITS (APU'S) AND THE MOBILE GROUND UNITS, WHICH ARE THE TWO MAIN SOURCES OF GROUND NOISE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE INSTALLATION OF FIXED GROUND POWER FOR THE EXISTING MAINTENANCE APRON, CARGO APRON AND LONG TERM PARKING APRON AND EXTENSION IS BEING CARRIED OUT IN TWO PHASES.

THE FIRST PHASE IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1990 AND THE SECOND PHASE BETWEEN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1991 AND THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1992.

SIMILAR WORKS FOR THE NEW APRONS WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN PARALLEL WITH THE CIVIL ENGINEERING WORKS WHICH ARE PLANNED FOR COMPLETION IN MID-1992 FOR THE NORTH-EASTERN EXPANSION AREA AND IN 1993 FOR THE SOUTHERN EXPANSION AREA.

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THE COST FOR THE EQUIPMENT AND INSTALLATION WILL BE MORE THAN \$110 MILLION.

IN ADDITION, THE GOVERNMENT IS ALSO PREPARING LEGISLATION TO FURTHER CONTROL THE NOISE GENERATED BY APRON ACTIVITIES. THE MEASURES INCLUDE:

- * EXTENSION OF THE EXISTING AUXILIARY POWER UNIT (APU) CONTROLLED AREA TO THE NEW APRON EXPANSION AREAS WITHIN WHICH APU OPERATIONS ARE COMPLETELY PROHIBITED AT NIGHT;
- * MANDATORY USE OF FIXED GROUND POWER;
- * PROHIBITION OF ENGINE GROUND RUNS IN THE EVENING AND NIGHT WITHIN THE APRON EXTENSION AREA; AND
- * RELOCATION OF ENGINE GROUND RUNS AT NIGHT FROM THE EAST OF THE NULLAH.

THE NEW LEGISLATION IS PLANNED TO BE BROUGHT INTO FORCE IN 1991.

/ENGINE GROUND

ENGINE GROUND RUNS, WHICH ARE CITED AS THE SINGLE MOST NOISE GENERATING ACTIVITY AT NIGHT IN THE GROUND NOISE STUDY, WERE PREVIOUSLY CARRIED OUT MAINLY TO THE EAST OF KAI TAK NULLAH NEAR THE AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE HANGARS.

"FOLLOWING THE ADOPTION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE GROUND NOISE STUDY, MOST OF THESE ACTIVITIES HAVE NOW BEEN RELOCATED TO THE WEST OF THE NULLAH.

"AT PRESENT, ABOUT 72 PER CENT OF THE ENGINE GROUND RUNS ARE CONDUCTED TO THE WEST OF THE NULLAH COMPARED TO SOME 32 PER CENT A YEAR AGO.

"IT IS HOPED THAT THE SITUATION WILL CONTINUE TO IMPROVE WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW LEGISLATION," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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JANUARY ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL FIGURES RELEASED
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IN JANUARY 1990, THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND REPORTED BY THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURING COMPANIES SHOWED LITTLE CHANGE WHEN COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1989 BUT DECREASED BY 3 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH JANUARY 1989, ACCORDING TO THE RESULTS OF A SURVEY RELEASED TODAY (SATURDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1989, THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND IN JANUARY 1990 INCREASED SLIGHTLY IN THE TEXTILES AND THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES.

ON THE OTHER HAND, SLIGHT DECREASES IN ORDERS WERE RECORDED IN THE WEARING APPAREL AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE ORDERS POSITION REMAINED ALMOST UNCHANGED IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY.

COMPARING JANUARY 1990 WITH JANUARY 1989, THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND INCREASED SLIGHTLY IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS AND TEXTILES INDUSTRIES. ON THE OTHER HAND, ORDERS DECREASED MODERATELY IN THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRY AND SLIGHTLY IN THE WEARING APPAREL AND THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES.

THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND IS MEASURED IN TERMS OF THE NUMBER OF MONTHS AND REFERS TO ORDERS OUTSTANDING AS AT THE END OF THE REFERENCE MONTH.

ON EMPLOYMENT, THE MANUFACTURERS SURVEYED REPORTED THAT THEIR TOTAL WORKFORCE IN JANUARY 1990 DECREASED BY 2 PER CENT AND 10 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1989 AND JANUARY 1989 RESPECTIVELY.

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COMPARING JANUARY 1990 WITH DECEMBER 1989, EMPLOYMENT DECREASED MODERATELY IN THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY AND TO A LESSER EXTENT IN ALL THE OTHER MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES SURVEYED.

COMPARED WITH JANUARY 1989, EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY 1990 DECREASED SIGNIFICANTLY IN MOST MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES SURVEYED, WITH THE LARGEST DECREASE RECORDED IN THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY.

ON THE OTHER HAND, A SLIGHT INCREASE IN EMPLOYMENT WAS RECORDED IN THE FOOD AND DRINKS INDUSTRY.

IN JANUARY 1990, PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN THE MANUFACTURING COMPANIES SURVEYED INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY IN MONEY TERMS, WHEN COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1989. HOWEVER, CAUTION SHOULD BE TAKEN IN INTERPRETING THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN THIS ROUND OF THE SURVEY RESULTS.

THE MAIN FACTOR BEHIND THE LARGE INCREASES BETWEEN DECEMBER 1989 AND JANUARY 1990 WAS THE ISSUE OF DOUBLE PAY AND YEAR-END BONUSES AHEAD OF THE LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS BY MANY COMPANIES SURVEYED IN JANUARY THIS YEAR. THE INCREASE WAS PARTICULARLY LARGE IN THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS AND PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES.

ON THE OTHER HAND, A SLIGHT DECREASE IN PER CAPITA EARNINGS WAS RECORDED IN THE FOOD AND DRINKS INDUSTRY, FOLLOWING THE ISSUE OF DOUBLE PAY AND YEAR-END BONUSES IN DECEMBER 1989 BY SOME COMPANIES SURVEYED IN THIS INDUSTRY.

COMPARING JANUARY 1990 WITH JANUARY 1989, PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN THE MANUFACTURING COMPANIES SURVEYED INCREASED BY 19 PER CENT IN MONEY TERMS. SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES IN PER CAPITA EARNINGS WERE RECORDED IN MOST MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES SURVEYED.

THE LARGEST INCREASE WAS RECORDED IN THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRY, WHICH WAS LARGELY DUE TO THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1989 AND 1990 IN THE TIMING FOR THE ISSUE OF DOUBLE PAY AND YEAR-END BONUSES BY SOME MANUFACTURERS SURVEYED.

IN THE CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES SURVEYED, EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY 1990 DECREASED SLIGHTLY WHEN COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1989 AND JANUARY 1989. PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN JANUARY 1990 INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY OVER DECEMBER 1989 DUE TO THE ISSUE OF DOUBLE PAY AND YEAR-END BONUSES IN JANUARY BY MOST COMPANIES SURVEYED.

COMPARING JANUARY 1990 WITH JANUARY 1989, PER CAPITA EARNINGS ALSO INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT FIGURES FOR THIS SECTOR COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY; SITE WORKERS EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS ARE NOT INCLUDED.

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IN THE SELECTED SERVICE SECTORS, THE OVERALL EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY 1990 AS REPORTED BY THE COMPANIES SURVEYED DECREASED SLIGHTLY WHEN COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1989, BUT INCREASED SLIGHTLY WHEN COMPARED WITH JANUARY 1989.

PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN JANUARY 1990 INCREASED MODERATELY OVER DECEMBER 1989, WITH THE LARGEST INCREASE RECORDED IN HOTELS, MAINLY DUE TO THE ISSUE OF DOUBLE PAY AND YEAR-END BONUSES BY MOST HOTELS SURVEYED.

DECREASES IN PER CAPITA EARNINGS WERE RECORDED IN BANKS AND PUBLIC UTILITIES MAINLY DUE TO THE ISSUE OF DOUBLE PAY AND YEAR-END BONUSES IN DECEMBER 1989 BY A NUMBER OF COMPANIES SURVEYED IN THESE TWO SECTORS.

COMPARING JANUARY 1990 WITH JANUARY 1989, PER CAPITA EARNINGS INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY IN MOST SERVICE SECTORS SURVEYED.

THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS ARE SHOWN IN TABLES 1 TO 3.

THE SURVEY COVERED A PANEL OF THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURING COMPANIES AND THE 50 LARGEST COMPANIES IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND SELECTED SERVICE SECTORS, CHOSEN BY REFERENCE TO THEIR EMPLOYMENT SIZES IN SEPTEMBER 1986.

THE DEPARTMENT CAUTIONED THAT AS THE SURVEY IS NOT BASED ON A SCIENTIFICALLY SELECTED SAMPLE, THE MAGNITUDES OF CHANGE INDICATED BY THE SURVEY RESULTS ARE MERELY A REFLECTION OF THE EXPERIENCE OF THE COMPANIES SURVEYED.

HOWEVER, GIVEN THE COMPOSITION OF THE PANEL, IT SHOULD BE ABLE TO PROVIDE A USEFUL INDICATION OF THE DIRECTION OF CHANGE FOR MAKING A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF DEVELOPMENT IN THE ECONOMY IN THE SHORT TERM.

THE SURVEY REPORT FOR JANUARY 1990 IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, AND AT THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER 1, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, AT \$2.50 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE MADE TO THE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL. 823 4820.

/TABLE 1

TABLE 1: ORDERS-ON-HAND IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

INDUSTRY	ORDERS-ON-HAND		
	AS AT THE END OF JANUARY 1990 (MONTHS)	CHANGE WHEN COMPARED WITH DEC. 89 JAN. 89 (%) (%)	
ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	4.27	*	-3
WEARING APPAREL	4.60	-1	-3
TEXTILES	2.45	+3	+1
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	3.09	*	+2
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	4.30	-1	-7
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	5.14	+1	-1
OTHERS	4.14	+1	-2

* CHANGES WITHIN +/- 0.5%

TABLE 2: EMPLOYMENT

PERSONS ENGAGED AT THE END OF JANUARY 1990

INDUSTRY/SERVICES	CHANGE WHEN COMPARED WITH DEC. 89 JAN. 89 (%) (%)	
	ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	-2
FOOD AND DRINKS	-1	+ 2
WEARING APPAREL	-1	-11
TEXTILES	-1	- 4
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	-2	-13
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	-1	-10
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	-4	-17
OTHERS	-2	*
CONSTRUCTION#	-1	-3
SERVICES	-1	+2
BANKS	-1	+1
HOTELS	-2	-2
PUBLIC UTILITIES	*	+1
OTHERS	*	+6

* CHANGES WITHIN +/- 0.5%

PERSONS ENGAGED COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY; SITE WORKERS EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS ARE NOT INCLUDED.

TABLE 3: PER CAPITA EARNINGS

INDUSTRY/SERVICES	PER CAPITA EARNINGS		
	AVERAGE AS IN JANUARY 1990	CHANGE WHEN COMPARED WITH	
	(HK\$)	DEC. 89	JAN. 89
		(%)	(%)
ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	8,663	+40	+19
FOOD AND DRINKS	8,775	- 2	+17
WEARING APPAREL	6,049	+18	+10
TEXTILES	8,315	+48	+12
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	9,636	+72	+26
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	9,672	+89	+36
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	7,848	+24	+20
OTHERS	12,995	+73	+19
CONSTRUCTION#	10,545	+33	+24
SERVICES	13,677	+ 6	+18
BANKS	12,770	-11	+23
HOTELS	19,509	+188	+16
PUBLIC UTILITIES	12,190	- 5	+15
OTHERS	15,357	+16	+18

PER CAPITA EARNINGS COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY; SITE WORKERS EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS ARE NOT INCLUDED.

NOTES TO TABLES 1-3: UNLIKE "ORDERS-ON-HAND" AND "PER CAPITA EARNINGS", WHICH ARE AVERAGE FIGURES AMONGST THE COMPANIES SURVEYED, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED BY THE COMPANIES SURVEYED IS NOT MEANINGFUL INFORMATION ON ITS OWN (BECAUSE THIS IS A PANEL SURVEY) AND IS THEREFORE NOT SHOWN.

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JEWELLERY INDUSTRY WILL ADVANCE FURTHER: LADY WILSON
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HONG KONG'S JEWELLERY INDUSTRY WILL MAKE FURTHER STRIDES IN THE NINETIES, ESPECIALLY WHEN NEW TRADE DIMENSIONS IN ASIA AND OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD HAVE EMERGED, LADY WILSON SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE 1990 HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL JEWELLERY SHOW ORGANISED BY THE TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, LADY WILSON SAID THAT FOR A DECADE, THE INDUSTRY HAD SEEN UNINTERRUPTED GROWTH IN WORLD EXPORTS, REACHING OVER \$4.5 BILLION LAST YEAR AND HONG KONG WAS NOW ONE OF THE LARGEST JEWELLERY EXPORTERS IN THE WORLD.

SHE POINTED OUT THAT HONG KONG WAS ALSO AN IMPORTANT MARKET FOR JEWELLERY AND AN INTERNATIONAL SHOWCASE, AND A LEADING DISTRIBUTION CENTRE IN ASIA.

"DURING THE PAST YEAR, IMPORTS OF JEWELLERY HAVE ALSO GROWN ENORMOUSLY," SHE SAID.

NOTING THAT THIS YEAR'S FAIR WAS SIGNIFICANTLY LARGER THAN PREVIOUS ONES, LADY WILSON SAID THIS POSITIVE RESPONSE SHOWED THAT THE FAIR WAS RECEIVING WORLDWIDE INTEREST, AND IT WAS ENCOURAGING TO SEE THE LARGE ATTENDANCE OF FOREIGN EXHIBITORS AND BUYERS.

"IT IS A CLEAR DEMONSTRATION OF THE FACT THAT THE HONG KONG JEWELLERY INDUSTRY IS NOW WIDELY RECOGNISED, AND THAT HONG KONG HAS NOW BECOME A MAJOR JEWELLERY CENTRE," SHE SAID.

LADY WILSON POINTED OUT THAT THE EXPANSION OF TRADE FAIRS IN HONG KONG, SUCH AS THIS JEWELLERY FAIR, COULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT A PROPER EXHIBITION VENUE.

SHE SAID THAT THE OPENING OF THE HONG KONG CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE HAD HELPED A GREAT DEAL IN ALLOWING HONG KONG TO DEVELOP INTO A REGIONAL TRADE FAIR CENTRE.

"PLANS ARE IN HAND TO DOUBLE THE CENTRE'S FACILITIES, IN ORDER TO CATER TO THE GROWING NEEDS OF THE TRADE FAIR INDUSTRY," SHE ADDED.

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CSD SETS UP TEMPORARY RECRUITMENT CENTRES

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THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT (CSD) HAS SET UP TWO TEMPORARY RECRUITMENT CENTRES IN TSUEN WAN AND KOWLOON TO ENABLE POTENTIAL APPLICANTS TO JOIN THE DEPARTMENT AS OFFICERS AND ASSISTANT OFFICERS.

THEY ARE THE TSUEN WAN RECRUITMENT CENTRE AT PRINCESS ALEXANDRA COMMUNITY CENTRE, TAI HO ROAD, TSUEN WAN AND THE OI MAN RECRUITMENT CENTRE AT OI MAN SHOPPING ARCADE, OI MAN ESTATE, KOWLOON.

THE DEPARTMENT'S ACTING SENIOR SUPERINTENDENT (PERSONNEL), MR LAM CHUNG-PANG, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY) THAT THE SETTING UP OF TEMPORARY RECRUITMENT CENTRES WAS THE LATEST MOVE TO STEP UP RECRUITMENT IN THE CURRENT MAJOR RECRUITMENT EXERCISE.

HE SAID THE DEPARTMENT AIMED AT RECRUITING 1,200 YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN TO FILL VACANCIES IN THE OFFICER AND ASSISTANT OFFICER RANKS.

THE CENTRES ARE THE FIRST TWO SET UP THIS YEAR WITH HELP FROM THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE, THE HOUSING AUTHORITY AND THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT.

"TEMPORARY CENTRES WERE SET UP AT THE SAME VENUES LAST YEAR AND HAD RECEIVED GOOD RESPONSE FROM JOB-SEEKERS," MR LAM NOTED.

"THEREFORE, THE CENTRES ARE SET UP MUCH EARLIER THIS YEAR TO FACILITATE APPLICANTS," HE SAID.

EACH OF THE TEMPORARY CENTRES HAS THREE EXHIBITION PANELS EXPLAINING THE WORK OF THE RECRUITMENT DEPARTMENT. CORRECTIONAL SERVICES OFFICERS MANNING THE CENTRES WILL ASSIST APPLICANTS AND ANSWER ENQUIRIES.

"WE ARE LIAISING WITH THE HOUSING AUTHORITY AND THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT IN THE HOPE TO SET UP MORE RECRUITMENT CENTRES AT VARIOUS SHOPPING ARCADES IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES SOON," MR LAM SAID.

YOUNG PEOPLE WHO WISH TO JOIN THE CSD CAN NOW APPLY AT THE TSUEN WAN AND OI MAN RECRUITMENT CENTRES. THEY CAN ALSO APPLY AT THE CENTRAL RECRUITMENT CENTRE AT THE DEPARTMENT'S HEADQUARTERS, 23RD FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER 1, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL. 527 5951.

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HK's FIRST COUNTRYSIDE CENTRE SOON BE DEVELOPED

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HONG KONG'S FIRST COUNTRYSIDE CENTRE, WHICH COMPRISES BOTH INDOOR AND OUTDOOR EDUCATIONAL DISPLAYS AS WELL AS ASSOCIATED RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, WILL SOON BE DEVELOPED IN THE TSIU HANG SPECIAL AREA OF SAI KUNG.

THE CENTRE IS PRIMARILY FOR THE PURPOSE OF NATURE EDUCATION AND RECREATION FOR THE PUBLIC, NATURE CONSERVATION, SCIENTIFIC STUDIES AND SCHOOL FIELD STUDIES.

THE TSIU HANG SPECIAL AREA OCCUPIES A TOTAL AREA OF 34 HECTARES OF LAND, AND ACCOMMODATES A FORMER FARM OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT (AFD) IN SAI KUNG. IT HAS ALREADY A RICH COLLECTION OF VARIETIES OF FRUIT TREES, FLOWERING TREES AS WELL AS LOCAL MEDICINAL PLANTS.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRYSIDE CENTRE INVOLVES BUILDING A NEW EXHIBITION CENTRE AND UPGRADING EXISTING FACILITIES.

A SPECIAL EVENT, "THE LIONS WALK AND GROW 89-90", WILL BE ORGANISED BY THE LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 303, HONG KONG AND MACAU, IN TSIU HANG TOMORROW (SUNDAY) TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE PROJECT.

THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE FUNCTION WHICH STARTS AT 10.30 AM.

MORE THAN 1,000 LIONS CLUB MEMBERS WILL TAKE PART IN TREE PLANTING AND A TRAIL WALK DURING THE DAY WITH THE AIM OF RAISING \$5 MILLION FOR CONSTRUCTING THE EXHIBITION HALLS OF THE CENTRE.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO COVER THE "LIONS WALK AND GROW 89-90" TOMORROW (SUNDAY). A PRESS TOUR OF THE EXISTING ORCHARDS, ARBORETUM AND WOODLAND IN THE COUNTRYSIDE CENTRE SITE WILL BE ARRANGED.

MEDIA TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED AND WILL LEAVE THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS, CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 393 CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON AT 9 AM THAT DAY.

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THIRTY VOLUNTEERS COMMENDED FOR SERVICES TO OFFENDERS

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A TOTAL OF 30 VOLUNTEERS WERE COMMENDED FOR THEIR VALUABLE SERVICES TO OFFENDERS AT A CERTIFICATE PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE VOLUNTEER SCHEME FOR PROBATIONERS TODAY (SATURDAY).

THE SCHEME WAS INTRODUCED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT IN 1976 TO PROMOTE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE REHABILITATION OF OFFENDERS.

DURING THE SERVICE PERIOD, VOLUNTEERS ASSISTED PROBATIONERS AND RESIDENTS OF PROBATION HOMES AND REFORMATORY SCHOOLS IN MANY WAYS. THEY TUTORED THEM IN THEIR SCHOOLWORK, GUIDED THEM TO MAKE BETTER USE OF THEIR LEISURE, AND CULTIVATED THEIR INTEREST IN HOBBIES, SPORTS AND OTHER WORTHWHILE ACTIVITIES.

OFFICIATING AT THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR MICHAEL CARTLAND, SAID 334 VOLUNTEERS FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE HAD PARTICIPATED IN THE SCHEME SINCE IT STARTED.

"THEY HAVE WILLINGLY GIVEN UP THEIR LEISURE TIME TO PROVIDE VARIOUS KINDS OF SERVICES TO INDIVIDUAL PROBATIONERS MATCHED TO THEM," HE SAID.

"THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE CARE, CONCERN, FRIENDSHIP AND MORAL SUPPORT OFFERED BY THE VOLUNTEERS HAS GIVEN GREAT ENCOURAGEMENT TO PROBATIONERS AND BOLSTERED THEIR DETERMINATION TO REFORM AND MAKE A FRESH START.

"VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE HAS OVER THE YEARS BECOME AN INTEGRAL COMPONENT OF PROBATION SUPERVISION AND RESIDENTIAL TRAINING," HE ADDED.

NOTING THAT THERE ARE ABOUT 75 PROBATION OFFICERS WORKING OUT OF 11 OFFICES TO SERVE THE COURTS AND MOST, IF NOT ALL, OF THEM COULD MAKE USE OF THE SERVICES OF VOLUNTEERS, MR CARTLAND SAID THE DEPARTMENT WAS PLANNING TO WIDEN THE SCOPE OF THE VOLUNTEER SCHEME AND TO TRY TO DRAW MORE VOLUNTEERS INTO IT.

"IN THE FIRST INSTANCE, WHEN WE LAUNCH OUR ANNUAL RECRUITMENT OF NEW VOLUNTEERS ON MONDAY (MARCH 19), WE WILL BE HOPING TO DOUBLE THE PRESENT NUMBER FROM 30 TO 60," HE SAID.

THE DEPARTMENT ALSO HELD A SPRING RECEPTION THIS EVENING FOR THE VOLUNTEERS WHO HAVE HELPED IN THE PAST OR ARE STILL SERVING TO GET TOGETHER TO SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCE, VIEWS AND FEELINGS.

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APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR YUEN LONG SYP
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LOCAL ORGANISATIONS AND YOUTH CENTRES IN YUEN LONG INTENDING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 1990 SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME SHOULD SEND IN THEIR APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

A SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (SATURDAY) THAT AS IN PREVIOUS YEARS, FUNDS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR ORGANISATIONS TO HOLD VARIOUS SOCIAL, RECREATIONAL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES DURING THE SUMMER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AGED BETWEEN SIX AND 25.

"THE CRITERIA FOR ALLOCATING FUNDS ARE THAT THESE ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE ABLE TO HELP YOUNG PEOPLE DEVELOP THEIR SKILLS AND POTENTIAL, AND HEALTHY INTERESTS; UNDERSTAND AND APPRECIATE HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS; GET TO KNOW THE COMMUNITY IN WHICH THEY LIVE; AND ENHANCE THEIR SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY TO THE COMMUNITY.

"THE CENTRAL THEME OF THIS YEAR'S SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME IS 'SHARE THE FUN, SERVE THE COMMUNITY'," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM ROOM 410, YUEN LONG DISTRICT OFFICE, CASTLE PEAK ROAD, YUEN LONG.

COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE DISTRICT OFFICE BY APRIL 12.

INTERESTED PARTIES ARE WELCOME TO TELEPHONE MISS ELISE LEUNG MEI-CHING ON 479 2261 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

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FIRE PREVENTION EXHIBITION ON TSING YI
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MESSAGES ON FIRE PREVENTION WILL BE PUT ACROSS TO RESIDENTS OF TSING YI ISLAND THROUGH AN EXHIBITION TO BE HELD TOMORROW (SUNDAY) FROM 11 AM TO 3.30 PM AT THE CHEUNG FAT COMMERCIAL COMPLEX.

THIS IS THE LAST IN A SERIES OF NINE FIRE PREVENTION EXHIBITIONS ORGANISED BY THE FIRE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN PUBLICITY WORKING GROUP IN 1989-90.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE WORKING GROUP SAID THE EXHIBITIONS AIM TO AROUSE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF FIRE PREVENTION AND THE POTENTIAL HAZARD OF ELECTRIC FAULT WHICH REMAINS A MAJOR CAUSE OF DOMESTIC AND INDUSTRIAL FIRES.

"ELECTRIC FAULTS CAN BE AVOIDED IF REGULAR MAINTENANCE OF POWER POINTS AND APPLIANCES ARE CARRIED OUT BY PROFESSIONALS," HE SAID.

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"IN ORDER TO HELP THE PUBLIC BETTER UNDERSTAND THE SUBJECT, OFFICERS FROM THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL BE PRESENT AT TOMORROW'S EXHIBITION TO ANSWER QUESTIONS," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT WILL ALSO TAKE PART IN THE EXHIBITION TO ADVISE THE PUBLIC ON HOW TO PREVENT HILL FIRES.

VISITORS TO THE EXHIBITION WILL RECEIVE A BOOKLET ON THE PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC FIRES AND SOUVENIRS SPONSORED BY KWONG ON BANK.

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TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT IN WESTERN

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY (MARCH 19), ALL VEHICLES TRAVELLING ON KA ON STREET SOUTHBOUND IN WESTERN WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM TURNING RIGHT ONTO DES VOEUX ROAD WESTBOUND FOR ONE WEEK TO FACILITATE TRAM TRACK RENEWAL.

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TEMPORARY URBAN CLEARWAY IN WESTERN

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY (MARCH 19), DES VOEUX ROAD WEST FROM HOUSE NO. 400 TO ITS JUNCTION WITH KA ON STREET WILL BE DESIGNATED AN URBAN CLEARWAY 24 HOURS DAILY FOR TWO WEEKS TO FACILITATE TRAM TRACK RENEWAL.

NO VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS THERE.

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TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES IN TAI PO

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT TWO ROAD SECTIONS IN TAI PO WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC ON MARCH 19 AND 20 (MONDAY AND TUESDAY) RESPECTIVELY TO FACILITATE ROAD MAINTENANCE WORKS.

THE OUTERMOST LANE OF KWONG FUK EAST VIADUCT LEADING FROM YUEN SHIN ROAD TO TOLO HIGHWAY WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY.

THE OUTERMOST LANE OF KWONG FUK WEST VIADUCT LEADING FROM TOLO HIGHWAY TO YUEN SHIN ROAD WILL BE CLOSED THE NEXT DAY (TUESDAY).

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF TSUEN WAN ROAD

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT THE FAST AND CENTRE LANES OF THE TUEN MUN BOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF TSUEN WAN ROAD BETWEEN KWAI CHUNG ROAD AND TEXACO INTERCHANGE WILL BE CLOSED FROM MONDAY (MARCH 19).

THE CLOSURE WILL LAST FROM 10 PM TO 4 AM THE NEXT DAY DAILY FROM MARCH 19 TO 23 FOR PAINTING ROAD MARKING.

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