



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1986

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CLOTHING INDUSTRY MUST ADAPT TO CHANGES -- GOVERNOR
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FIERCE COMPETITION AND THE PRESENT PROTECTIONIST MOOD IN MANY OF HONG KONG'S OVERSEAS MARKETS MAKE IT ALL THE MORE IMPORTANT FOR THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY TO CONTINUE TO ADAPT TO CHANGING MARKET CONDITIONS AND TO KEEP ABREAST OF EVER-CHANGING TECHNOLOGY, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID THIS (TUESDAY) EVENING.

THE SETTING UP OF A CLOTHING TECHNOLOGY ACCESS UNIT BY THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY TRAINING AUTHORITY TO ACQUIRE AND DEMONSTRATE THE MOST ADVANCED TECHNOLOGICAL METHODS AND MACHINES WAS THUS A SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT, HE ADDED.

SPEAKING AT THE AUTHORITY'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER, SIR EDWARD RECALLED THAT IN THE EARLY 1970'S, THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY WAS HINDERED BY A SERIOUS SHORTAGE OF SKILLED PERSONNEL, PARTICULARLY AT THE OPERATIVE LEVEL.

HE SAID MANY EMPLOYERS HAD DIFFICULTY IN RECRUITING PROPERLY TRAINED WORKERS, AND IN PROVIDING THE NECESSARY TRAINING ON THE JOB DUE TO LACK OF FACILITIES AND THE INEVITABLE DISRUPTION THAT THIS CAUSED TO THE PRODUCTION PROCESS ITSELF.

HE POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS TO OVERCOME THIS OBSTACLE TO THE GROWTH OF HONG KONG'S LARGEST EXPORT INDUSTRY THAT THE AUTHORITY WAS ESTABLISHED.

THE FIRST CLOTHING INDUSTRY TRAINING CENTRE AT KWAI CHUNG WAS COMPLETED IN 1977 AND A SECOND, AND LARGER, TRAINING CENTRE AT KOWLOON BAY WAS OPENED IN 1984.

BETWEEN THEM, THESE TWO CENTRES HAD SO FAR PROVIDED TRAINING FOR NEARLY 37 000 WORKERS.

SIR EDWARD ALSO SAID THAT UNDER MARKET CONDITIONS, WHICH WERE CHANGING RAPIDLY, THE PLANNING OF TRAINING PROGRAMMES WAS A CHALLENGING TASK.

BUT HE SAID IT WAS A CHALLENGE TO WHICH THE AUTHORITY WOULD RISE IN THE FUTURE AS IT HAD RISEN SO SUCCESSFULLY IN THE PAST.

SIR EDWARD SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD PROVIDED THE LAND FOR THE TWO TRAINING CENTRES, BUT THE AUTHORITY WAS OTHERWISE FINANCIALLY INDEPENDENT, ITS WORK BEING FUNDED BY A LEVY ON CLOTHING EXPORTS.

+THE INDUSTRY AS A WHOLE CAN THEREFORE TAKE PRIDE IN HAVING SHARED DIRECTLY IN WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED,+ HE SAID.

SIR EDWARD THEN PAID TRIBUTE TO MR FRANCIS TIEN IN HIS ABSENCE WHO HAD BEEN CHAIRMAN OF THE AUTHORITY SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 1975.

HE SAID HE REGRETTED THAT MR TIEN HAD TENDERED HIS RESIGNATION FROM THE AUTHORITY ON THE GROUNDS OF ILL HEALTH, BUT WAS SURE THAT MR S.K. CHAN WOULD BE A WORTHY SUCCESSOR.

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FIFTH JLG MEETING IN PEKING NEXT WEEK
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THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT LIAISON GROUP WILL TAKE PLACE IN PEKING FROM NOVEMBER 25 TO 28.

THE BRITISH TEAM WILL BE LED BY THE SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE, DR DAVID WILSON, ASSISTANT UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE (ASIA), FCO. THE OTHER MEMBERS ON THE BRITISH SIDE WILL BE MR ERIC HO (SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, HONG KONG), MR JOHN BOYD (POLITICAL ADVISER, HONG KONG), MR PETER THOMSON (COUNSELLOR, BRITISH EMBASSY, PEKING) AND MR CHRISTOPHER HUM (HEAD OF HONG KONG DEPARTMENT, FCO).

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EXPERTS FOR JLG MEETING
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THE FOLLOWING EXPERTS FROM HONG KONG WOULD ATTEND THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT LIAISON GROUP IN PEKING:

MR D.R. FORD	SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE
MR F. BURROWS	LAW OFFICER (SPECIAL DUTIES)
MR A.J. CARTER	DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION
MR J.F. MATHEWS	CROWN SOLICITOR
MR K.O. SHIPLEY	PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE (STAFF PLANNING)
MR R.C. WILSON	PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR GENERAL DUTIES

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GOVT AIMS AT MAINTAINING BANKING STABILITY

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GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION IN THE BANKING SECTOR DOES NOT ALWAYS INVOLVE A LIABILITY ON PUBLIC FUNDS, NOR DOES IT REPRESENT A SAFETY NET FOR SHAREHOLDERS AND MANAGERS.

WHAT THE GOVERNMENT SEEKS TO ACHIEVE IS THE STABILITY OF THE SYSTEM COUPLED WITH THE PROTECTION OF DEPOSITORS.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR PIERS JACOBS, IN AN ADDRESS TO THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF BANKS THIS (TUESDAY) EVENING.

MR JACOBS SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD HAD TO INTERVENE IN THE AFFAIRS OF TWO SMALL BANKS IN RECENT MONTHS.

+WE WERE QUITE PREPARED TO SEE THEM GO INTO ORDERLY LIQUIDATION, AND I STRESS THE WORD 'ORDERLY'. BUT IN THE EVENT VIABLE COMMERCIAL SOLUTIONS WERE FOUND WITHOUT ANY LONG-TERM COMMITMENT ON THE EXCHANGE FUND,+ HE SAID.

MR JACOBS SAID THAT TWO OF THE THREE GOVERNMENT-OWNED BANKS HAD RETURNED TO PROFITABILITY AND THEY WOULD BE RETURNED TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR AT THE RIGHT TIME.

+I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT AS A RESULT OF OUR ACTIONS AND THE POLICIES WE HAVE FOLLOWED THE FINANCIAL SECTOR HAS BEEN MADE MORE SECURE, AND AT A MODEST COST TO THE PUBLIC PURSE IF ONE CONSIDERS WHAT WAS AT RISK.+

TURNING TO THE DEVELOPING NEXUS BETWEEN FINANCIAL SERVICES AND INDUSTRY, MR JACOBS SAID MANUFACTURING REMAINED AN IMPORTANT PILLAR OF THE ECONOMY, WHICH ACCOUNTED FOR SOME 25 PER CENT OF GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT AND 36 PER CENT OF TOTAL EMPLOYMENT.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE GOVERNMENT DID NOT SEEK TO INTERVENE IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR BECAUSE THE MARKET, NOT THE GOVERNMENT, WAS FAR MORE EFFICIENT IN ALLOCATING RESOURCES.

HE SAID THAT WHAT THE GOVERNMENT TRIED TO ENSURE WAS THAT HONG KONG HAD AN EFFICIENT INFRASTRUCTURE AND SUPPORTED ORGANISATIONS WHICH IN TURN SUPPORTED AND FACILITATED THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE INDUSTRIAL BASE, WITHOUT TARGETTING SPECIFIC INDUSTRIES.

MR JACOBS MENTIONED A PROPOSAL ADVOCATED BY A RECENT CONSULTANCY REPORT ON THE PLASTICS CONVERSION INDUSTRY ON THE SETTING UP OF AN INDUSTRIAL LOAN FUND, WITH PARTICIPATION FROM BANKS, TO MAKE LOANS EXCLUSIVELY TO MANUFACTURING COMPANIES AT COMPETITIVE INTEREST RATES.

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+GIVEN OUR OPEN AND COMPETITIVE BANKING SYSTEM AND THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE WITHIN IT, I PERSONALLY DO NOT SEE THE NEED FOR AN INDUSTRIAL LOAN FUND OR AN INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK,+ HE SAID.

+IN ANY EVENT, IT IS LIKELY THAT THE LIGHT LABOUR INTENSIVE INDUSTRIES WHICH PREDOMINATE IN HONG KONG REQUIRE LESS IN THE WAY OF LONG-TERM FINANCING THAN THE HEAVY CAPITAL INTENSIVE INDUSTRIES WHICH EXIST IN MANY OTHER PLACES.+

MR JACOBS ALSO EXPLAINED THAT HE SAW LITTLE EVIDENCE TO SUGGEST THAT AN ENTREPRENEUR WITH A VIABLE BORROWING PROPOSITION WAS UNABLE TO OBTAIN THE LOAN CAPITAL HE REQUIRED ON TERMS AND AT A COST WHICH ENABLE HIM TO COMPETE EFFECTIVELY WITH HIS RIVALS OVERSEAS.

+I DO NOT SEE THAT AN INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK, WITHOUT PUBLIC SUBSIDY, WOULD BE ABLE TO ACHIEVE MUCH MORE,+ HE SAID.

ON WHETHER BANKS HAD A SPECIAL ROLE IN SUPPORTING HONG KONG'S FURTHER INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, MR JACOBS SAID THAT WITH BANK LOANS TO THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR AVERAGING ONLY ABOUT 10 PER CENT OF ALL BANK LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG, OTHER THAN THOSE FOR FINANCING VISIBLE TRADE, THERE WAS PROBABLY SCOPE FOR DEVELOPMENT.

APART FROM PROVIDING FUNDS, A LENDER COULD ALSO CONTRIBUTE BY MAKING BUSINESS KNOWLEDGE AVAILABLE, PARTICULARLY TO SMALLER CONCERNS, FOR EXAMPLE, FINANCIAL AND ACCOUNTING GUIDANCE.

NOTING THAT MANY LARGER COMPANIES NOW TURNED TO THE CAPITAL MARKETS FOR MUCH OF THEIR NEEDS WHILE BANKS REMAINED BASICALLY THE ONLY AVAILABLE SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR SMALLER BUSINESS CONCERNS, MR JACOBS SAID THE PARTICULAR EMPHASIS NOW BEING GIVEN TO LENDING TO SMALL INDUSTRIAL CONCERNS WAS TIMELY.

HE MENTIONED A +WELCOME INITIATIVE+ TAKEN RECENTLY BY ONE OF THE MEDIUM-SIZED LOCAL BANKS WHICH LAUNCHED AN INDUSTRIAL LOAN SCHEME FOR SMALL INDUSTRIES A FEW MONTHS AGO, THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF EACH LOAN BEING \$300 000.

+IT HAS HAD A MARKED AND THOROUGHLY DESERVED SUCCESS. WITHIN THREE MONTHS ALMOST 200 APPLICATIONS HAD BEEN APPROVED, FOR FACILITIES TOTALLING OVER \$25 MILLION. I AM AWARE THAT SEVERAL BANKS ARE UNDERTAKING SIMILAR INITIATIVES AND THIS MAY SERVE TO ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO FOLLOW SUIT,+ HE SAID.

ON WHETHER THERE WAS A ROLE FOR THE GOVERNMENT AND BANKS IN PROMOTING THE CONCEPT OF VENTURE CAPITAL, WHICH WAS A WAY OF CHANNELLING INWARD INVESTMENT INTO HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, MR JACOBS SAID:

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+WHAT THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT STANDS READY TO DO, IS TO ACT AS AN HONEST BROKER, ASSISTING VENTURE CAPITAL FIRMS IN IDENTIFYING THOSE OVERSEAS MANUFACTURING FIRMS THAT ARE INTERESTED IN INVESTING IN HONG KONG AND HAVE USEFUL TECHNOLOGY TO OFFER.+

HE ALSO SAID THAT IT WOULD BE PRESUMPTUOUS OF HIM TO ADVISE BANKS AS TO HOW THEY SHOULD RESPOND TO THE PROVISION OF VENTURE CAPITAL, ADDING THAT WHETHER A VENTURE SHOULD BE BY WAY OF LOAN OR MAYBE PARTICIPATION WAS A MATTER OF JUDGMENT BY INDIVIDUAL BANKS.

+CLEARLY THE SKILLS SOME BANKERS HAVE IN MANAGING SHAREHOLDINGS, ASSESSING CREDIT-WORTHINESS, AND ANALYSING MARKET PROSPECTS COULD WELL CONTRIBUTE TO ANY NEW VENTURE. BUT THIS DEGREE OF PARTICIPATION MUST BE LEFT TO THE DECISION OF INDIVIDUAL BANKS.+

HE SAID HE WAS AWARE THAT THE ASSOCIATION HAD ESTABLISHED A WORKING PARTY ON THE SUBJECT WITH BALANCED REPRESENTATION FROM BANKS, INDUSTRY AND THE GOVERNMENT ITSELF.

+THIS WORKING PARTY IS CONSIDERING THE WHOLE ISSUE. I WELCOME THIS INITIATIVE AND LOOK FORWARD TO STUDYING ITS FINDINGS,+ HE ADDED.

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IMPORTANCE OF EFFICIENT HK PORT STRESSED
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HONG KONG HAS TO MAINTAIN A PORT WITH SUFFICIENT CAPACITY AND A HIGH LEVEL OF OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY TO SUPPORT THE GROWTH OF ITS ECONOMY, THE CHINA TRADE AND THE TRADING REQUIREMENTS OF THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN REGION.

THIS WAS STATED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MR JOHN YAXLEY, WHEN HE ADDRESSED THE SECOND DAY MEETING OF THE 1986 SEATRADE HONG KONG CONFERENCE.

HE POINTED OUT THAT IN 1985 HONG KONG'S OVERALL EXTERNAL TRADE WAS WORTH HK\$476 BILLION AND THE GROSS VALUE WOULD BE EVEN HIGHER IF TRANSHIPMENT WAS INCLUDED.

IN TERMS OF WEIGHT, TOTAL INWARD AND OUTWARD CARGO CARRIED BY ALL MODES OF TRANSPORT AMOUNTED TO OVER 58 MILLION TONNES. OVER 90 PER CENT OF THIS TOTAL TONNAGE WAS HANDLED AT THE PORT, REFLECTING THE DOMINANT ROLE PLAYED BY SEA TRANSPORT, MR YAXLEY SAID.

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+OVER THE LAST TEN YEARS THE CARGO THROUGHPUT AT THE PORT GREW BY AN AVERAGE OF 11 PER CENT PER ANNUM IN TONNAGE TERMS. OUR PORT FACILITIES AND THE SHIPPING SERVICES THAT COMPLEMENT THEM ARE THEREFORE OF CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE TO THE VITALITY OF THE HONG KONG ECONOMY,+ HE SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE MAGNITUDE AND DIRECTION OF HONG KONG'S TRADE FLOWS IN RECENT YEARS AS A RESULT OF CHANGING MARKET CONDITIONS AND THE OPENING UP OF CHINA HAD SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS FOR HONG KONG'S PORT FACILITIES.

+THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS REGARDING IMPORTS, RE-EXPORTS AND TRANSHIPMENT PARTICULARLY FROM CHINA, HIGHLIGHTED THE NEED FOR HONG KONG TO MAINTAIN THE MULTI-MODAL NATURE OF THE PORT INFRASTRUCTURE.

WHILE CONTAINER TERMINAL FACILITIES WERE REQUIRED FOR HANDLING CARGO TRAFFIC FROM COUNTRIES AS THE UNITED STATES, THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA, LIGHTERAGE AND WATERFRONT CARGO-WORKING FACILITIES WERE REQUIRED FOR THE FREQUENT ARRIVAL OF CONVENTIONAL OCEAN VESSELS FROM THE MANY NON-CONTAINERISED PORTS AS WELL AS RIVER VESSELS FROM CHINA.

HE CAUTIONED THAT SOME OF THE CHINA TRADE COULD BE LOST IF HONG KONG'S RELATIVELY MORE ADVANCED AND MORE EFFICIENT PORT FACILITIES WAS NOT A MAIN FACTOR BEHIND CHINA'S INCREASING USE OF HONG KONG AS AN INTERMEDIARY FOR DELIVERING ITS EXPORTS.

MR YAXLEY STRESSED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS ALWAYS SEEKING TO ENSURE THAT HONG KONG'S PORT FACILITIES COULD MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF HONG KONG'S GROWING TRADE.

+IT DOES SO THROUGH A PROCESS OF LONG-TERM PLANNING WHICH IDENTIFIES THE NEEDS AND FROM WHICH THE DEVELOPMENT CRITERIA, DESIGN CONFIGURATIONS AND IMPLEMENTATION PLANS ARE SYSTEMATICALLY DERIVED.

+THE ACTUAL FINANCING, CONSTRUCTION AND EVENTUAL OPERATION OF THE FACILITIES IS LEFT TO PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVE. THE GOVERNMENT'S ROLE IS IN THE PROVISION OF THE NECESSARY SITES ON COMMERCIAL TERMS AND THE MONITORING OF PROGRESS TO ENSURE TIMELY COMPLETION BY THE DEVELOPER,+ MR YAXLEY SAID.

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MANAGEMENTS URGED TO ENFORCE NO SMOKING AREA BAN
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MANAGEMENTS RESPONSIBLE FOR NO SMOKING AREAS ARE URGED TODAY (TUESDAY) TO TAKE ENFORCEMENT ACTION AGAINST PERSONS SMOKING IN THESE AREAS.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE REMINDER WAS ISSUED AS PART OF THE 1986-87 ANTI-SMOKING PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN.

ALTHOUGH THE LAW HAD BEEN IN FORCE FOR THREE YEARS, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED, SOME STAFF ON THE GROUND, SUCH AS CINEMA OPERATORS AND EMPLOYEES OF BUS COMPANIES, MIGHT NOT BE AWARE OF THE POWERS OF ENFORCEMENT WITH WHICH THEY HAD BEEN ENTRUSTED.

A CIRCULAR LETTER HAS THEREFORE BEEN SENT BY THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE RECENTLY TO MANAGEMENTS OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT, CINEMAS AND AUDITORIUMS AND PUBLIC LIFTS, EXPLAINING THE LEGISLATION AND ENCOURAGING THEM TO TAKE ACTION WHERE NECESSARY.

+ENFORCEMENT IS NOT DIFFICULT AND CAN BE CARRIED OUT BY OPERATIONAL STAFF,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+ANYONE WHO IS SMOKING IN A NO SMOKING AREA CAN BE ASKED TO CEASE AND IF THEY REFUSE, THEN STAFF HAVE A RIGHT TO DEMAND THEIR IDENTITY CARDS AND REPORT THEM TO THE POLICE,+ HE ADDED.

HE SAID THAT REFUSAL TO PRODUCE PROOF OF IDENTITY IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES WAS A SERIOUS OFFENCE WITH A MAXIMUM PENALTY OF \$3 000.

+THIS IS AN UNUSUAL TYPE OF LAW,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID, +SUITED TO AN UNUSUAL TYPE OF OFFENCE WHICH IS ON THE ONE HAND MINOR AND YET ON THE OTHER HAND A SERIOUS NUISANCE AS WELL AS POSING A HEALTH RISK.+

HE POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT THE MANAGEMENT STAFF OF BUILDINGS AND TRANSPORT USED BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC HELP TO STOP ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR OF THIS KIND.

ATTACHED TO THE CIRCULAR LETTER IS A SIMPLE FORM WHICH CAN BE USED BY STAFF TO BRING OFFENDERS TO JUSTICE.

+WE HOPE THAT THIS REMINDER WILL STOP SMOKING IN NO SMOKING AREAS,+ THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED.

+BUT THERE IS STILL A NEED FOR MORE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION BY THE PUBLIC, IN DEALING WITH THOSE WHO PERSIST IN IGNORING THE HARM THEY ARE DOING TO OTHERS QUITE APART FROM THEMSELVES,+ HE ADDED.

HE URGED THE PUBLIC TO MAKE USE OF THE SIMPLE ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES AVAILABLE, BY DRAWING THE ATTENTION OF MANAGEMENT TO SUCH OFFENDERS.

VARIOUS GOVERNMENT ACTIONS AND THE PUBLICITY STEPPED UP IN THIS YEAR'S ANTI-SMOKING CAMPAIGN AIM TO INCREASE THE PUBLIC'S UNDERSTANDING OF THE DANGERS OF SMOKING, WHICH IS ESTIMATED TO BE THE CAUSE OF 3 000 PREMATURE DEATHS A YEAR IN HONG KONG.

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QUARTERLY BUSINESS SURVEY RESULTS RELEASED
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THE MAJORITY OF FIRMS IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR REPORTED AN IMPROVEMENT IN THE GENERAL BUSINESS SITUATION IN THE THIRD QUARTER AS COMPARED WITH THE SECOND QUARTER, ACCORDING TO THE SURVEY RESULTS RELEASED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

FOR THE SECTOR AS A WHOLE, IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE BUSINESS SITUATION IN THE FOURTH QUARTER WILL CONTINUE TO SHOW IMPROVEMENT, THOUGH THE PROSPECTS OF INDIVIDUAL INDUSTRIES VARY.

FIRMS IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR REPORTED A CONTINUED UPTREND IN BUSINESS DURING THE THIRD QUARTER AND THE BUSINESS SITUATION IN THE NEXT QUARTER IS EXPECTED TO IMPROVE FURTHER.

THE MAJORITY OF FIRMS IN THE WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT-EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR INDICATED THAT THE GENERAL BUSINESS SITUATION HAD IMPROVED IN THE THIRD QUARTER AND EXPECT THE CONDITION IN THE FOURTH QUARTER TO BE EVEN MORE FAVOURABLE.

SIMILARLY, AN IMPROVEMENT IN THE BUSINESS SITUATION WAS GENERALLY REPORTED BY FIRMS IN THE TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND COMMUNICATION, BANKS AND REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED SERVICES TRADES. THEY ARE OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE BUSINESS OUTLOOK FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER.

ABOUT 1 000 FIRMS FROM VARIOUS INDUSTRIES AND BUSINESSES, FORMING A CROSS-SECTION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY, PARTICIPATED IN THE SURVEY AND WERE ASKED ABOUT THEIR BUSINESS EXPERIENCES AND EXPECTATIONS.

WITHIN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, ALL INDUSTRIES, IN PARTICULAR THE +FOOD, BEVERAGE AND TOBACCO+, +PLASTICS+, +FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS+, +ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPLIANCES AND SUPPLIES+ AND +ELECTRONICS+ INDUSTRIES, REPORTED AN IMPROVED BUSINESS SITUATION IN THE THIRD QUARTER.

REGARDING THE BUSINESS OUTLOOK FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER, THE +WEARING APPAREL+ INDUSTRY ON THE WHOLE EXPECTS LITTLE CHANGE WHILE THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY EXPECTS SOME DETERIORATION. ALL OTHER INDUSTRIES LOOK FORWARD TO SOME IMPROVEMENT IN THE BUSINESS SITUATION IN THE FOURTH QUARTER.

THE MAJORITY OF THE RESPONDING FIRMS IN THE +WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT-EXPORT TRADES+ AND +RESTAURANTS+ BUSINESSES REPORTED THAT THE GENERAL BUSINESS SITUATION IN THE THIRD QUARTER HAD IMPROVED. THE HOTELS BUSINESS, AS A WHOLE, HOWEVER, EXPERIENCED LITTLE CHANGE DURING THE QUARTER. ALL THREE TRADES SHOW CONFIDENCE IN A BETTER BUSINESS SITUATION IN THE FOURTH QUARTER.

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WITH REGARD TO THE +OTHER SERVICES+ SECTOR, BOTH THE +BANKS+ AND THE +REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED SERVICES+ BUSINESSES EXPERIENCED A CONTINUED UPTREND IN BUSINESS. THE +TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND COMMUNICATION+ BUSINESS ALSO EXPERIENCED SOME IMPROVEMENT IN THIS RESPECT IN THE THIRD QUARTER. ALL THREE TRADES SHARED AN OPTIMISTIC VIEW ABOUT THE BUSINESS OUTLOOK IN THE FOURTH QUARTER.

THE SURVEY ALSO COVERED BUSINESS PROBLEMS FACED BY FIRMS.

FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, HIGH MATERIAL PRICES AND PRICE COMPETITION FROM FIRMS IN HONG KONG CONTINUED TO BE RATHER IMPORTANT PROBLEMS IN THE THIRD QUARTER AND ARE EXPECTED TO REMAIN PROMINENT IN THE FOURTH QUARTER.

WHILE THE PROBLEMS OF PRICE COMPETITION FROM FIRMS OVERSEAS AND UNCERTAINTIES THROUGH EXCHANGE RATE FLUCTUATIONS HAD BECOME LESS EXTENSIVE, THERE WAS A GRADUALLY INCREASING NUMBER OF FIRMS REPORTING A SHORTAGE OF SKILLED LABOUR AS A MAJOR PROBLEM.

AS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR, THERE WAS A CHARACTERISTICALLY HIGH PROPORTION OF FIRMS QUOTING PRICE COMPETITION FROM FIRMS IN HONG KONG AS A SIGNIFICANT PROBLEM FOR BOTH THE THIRD AND FOURTH QUARTERS. THE PROBLEM OF PRICE COMPETITION FROM FIRMS OVERSEAS ALSO REMAINED EXTENSIVE AMONG CONSTRUCTION FIRMS.

AS FOR THE +WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT-EXPORT TRADES+ BUSINESS, PRICE COMPETITION CONTINUED TO BE THE MOST PROMINENT PROBLEM FACED IN THE THIRD QUARTER. FIRMS ALSO CONSIDERED UNCERTAINTIES THROUGH EXCHANGE RATE FLUCTUATIONS AS A SIGNIFICANT PROBLEM. BOTH OF THESE ARE EXPECTED TO PREVAIL IN THE FOURTH QUARTER.

RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS BUSINESSES WERE AFFECTED EXTENSIVELY BY THE CONTINUOUS PROBLEMS OF PRICE COMPETITION AND HIGH STAFF COSTS. WHILE RESTAURANTS REPORTED INSUFFICIENT BUSINESS AS A SIGNIFICANT PROBLEM, THIS PROBLEM WAS NOT CONSIDERED SERIOUS BY HOTELS IN THE THIRD QUARTER.

AS FOR THE +OTHER SERVICES+ SECTOR, PRICE COMPETITION WAS A MAJOR PROBLEM SHARED BY THE +TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND COMMUNICATION+, +BANKS+ AND +REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED SERVICES+ TRADES.

IN ADDITION, BANKS STARTED TO INDICATE UNCERTAINTIES THROUGH EXCHANGE RATE FLUCTUATIONS IN THE THIRD QUARTER.

THE +REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED SERVICES+ TRADE CONTINUED TO BE AFFECTED BY THE PROBLEM OF HIGH STAFF COSTS IN THE THIRD QUARTER.

ACCORDING TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, THE SURVEY RESULTS, OBTAINED WITH A MINIMUM TIME LAG, ARE INTENDED TO PROVIDE A SOURCE OF REFERENCE FOR MAKING A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF THE CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION OF HONG KONG.

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IN THE SURVEY, PARTICIPATING FIRMS WERE ASKED TO INDICATE WHETHER, IN THEIR OPINION, THE GENERAL BUSINESS SITUATION AND LEVEL OF CAPACITY UTILISATION HAD +IMPROVED+, +REMAINED THE SAME+ OR +DETERIORATED+ IN THE QUARTER JUST ENDED AS COMPARED WITH THE PRECEDING QUARTER.

FOR THE FORTHCOMING QUARTER, THEY WERE ALSO ASKED TO INDICATE WHETHER THE SITUATION WOULD +IMPROVE+, +REMAIN THE SAME+ OR +DETERIORATE+.

THE BALANCE OF OPINIONS OF RESPONDENTS WERE TABULATED AND ANALYSED.

THE SURVEY REPORT CONTAINS A SECTION ON THE BUSINESS PROBLEMS EXPERIENCED AND EXPECTED BY FIRMS IN DIFFERENT ECONOMIC SECTORS AND A BREAKDOWN OF THE VIEWS OF FIRMS BY SIZE GROUPS.

THE DEPARTMENT CAUTIONED THAT, IN A SURVEY OF THIS NATURE, THE RESULTS SHOULD BE INTERPRETED WITH CARE AS IT IS DIFFICULT TO ESTABLISH PRECISELY THE EXTENT TO WHICH RESPONDENTS' PERCEPTION OF THE PAST AND THE FUTURE ACCORDS WITH THE UNDERLYING TRENDS.

COPIES OF THE REPORT, CONTAINING AN ANALYSIS OF THE SURVEY FINDINGS AND STATISTICAL TABLES, HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED TO FIRMS TAKING PART IN THE SURVEY AND TO OTHER BUSINESS ORGANISATIONS. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY OBTAIN COPIES FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, AT \$3 PER COPY.

FURTHER DETAILS OF THE QUARTERLY BUSINESS SURVEY MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE NATIONAL INCOME BRANCH OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT AT 5-423401.

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EIGHT TO SPEAK IN LEGCO ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY
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EIGHT MEMBERS WILL SPEAK IN AN ADJOURNMENT DEBATE ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY). THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, THE HON RON BRIDGE, WILL WIND UP THE DEBATE.

DURING THE MEETING, FOUR BILLS AND ONE MOTION WILL BE INTRODUCED AND NINE QUESTIONS WILL BE ASKED. DEBATE WILL RESUME ON THREE OTHER BILLS.

IN ADDITION, THE ACTING CHIEF SECRETARY, THE HON PIERS JACOBS, WILL MAKE A STATEMENT ON THE SCOPE OF GOVERNMENT AUDIT.

MR JACOBS, IN HIS CAPACITY AS FINANCIAL SECRETARY, WILL THEN MAKE A STATEMENT ON CHANGES TO THE APPROVED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE 1986-87 SECOND QUARTER.

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NEW ROYAL OBSERVATORY CALENDAR ON SALE

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THE 1987 EDITION OF THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY CALENDAR, FEATURING 12 COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE WEATHER AND THE ENVIRONMENT OF HONG KONG, IS NOW ON SALE.

THE WALL CALENDAR, WHICH MAKES AN ATTRACTIVE GIFT, IS AVAILABLE AT \$30 A COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AND THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY, 134A NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

AS IN PREVIOUS ISSUES, THE BILINGUAL CALENDAR CONTAINS USEFUL METEOROLOGICAL INFORMATION AND INCLUDES THE TRADITIONAL CHINESE CALENDAR AND PROVIDES INFORMATION ON TIMES OF DAILY SUNRISE, SUNSET, MOONRISE, MOONSET, HIGH AND LOW TIDES.

THOSE BUYING THE CALENDAR WILL HAVE THE OPTION OF PURCHASING A COPY OF THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY'S CENTENARY PUBLICATION, ENTITLED '+FROM TIME BALL TO ATOMIC CLOCK+', AT A REDUCED PRICE OF \$19.

THE BOOK, WHICH NORMALLY SELLS \$34 A COPY, TRACES THE HISTORY OF THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY AND ITS ACHIEVEMENTS OVER A CENTURY.

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ILLEGAL STRUCTURES REMOVED FROM LANES

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WORK BEGAN IN TSIM SHA TSUI TODAY (TUESDAY) TO CLEAR 18 ILLEGAL STRUCTURES IN REAR LANES BOUNDED BY NATHAN ROAD, CAMERON ROAD AND CARNARVON ROAD.

THE OPERATION, CO-ORDINATED BY THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT OFFICE, IS BEING JOINTLY CARRIED OUT BY THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, POLICE, HOUSING DEPARTMENT AND URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

+AMONG THE STRUCTURES TO BE CLEARED, SIX WERE USED AS SHOPS WHILE THE OTHERS INVOLVED CANOPIES AND STORAGE PLACES,+ A DISTRICT OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID.

EX-GRATIA PAYMENTS, AMOUNTING TO \$17 493, WERE MADE TO ALL ELIGIBLE BUSINESS OPERATORS, HE ADDED.

CLEARANCE WORK IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY THURSDAY. IT HAS BEEN UNDERTAKEN AS PART OF A STREET MANAGEMENT SCHEME INITIATED BY THE DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

SINCE THE SCHEME WAS IMPLEMENTED IN 1982, 43 OPERATIONS HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT TO CLEAR 834 ILLEGAL STRUCTURES IN 72 BACK LANES.

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1986

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THREE ISLAND SITES TO BE SOLD
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THREE HONG KONG ISLAND SITES WILL BE OFFERED FOR SALE BY THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT AT AN AUCTION TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AT 2.30 PM.

THE FIRST LOT, AT THE JUNCTION OF TIN HAU TEMPLE ROAD AND BRAEMAR HILL ROAD IN NORTH POINT, IS FOR PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT.

THE OTHER SITES, BOTH NON-INDUSTRIAL, ARE AT 20, NAM ON STREET, SHAU KEI WAN, AND 34, NEW MARKET STREET, SHEUNG WAN.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE AUCTION IN THE CITY HALL THEATRE.

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FLOOD PROTECTION FOR TIN SHUI WAI VILLAGES
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TENDERS ARE INVITED BY THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE FLOOD PROTECTION FACILITIES TO FOUR LOW-LYING VILLAGES NEAR TIN SHUI WAI WHERE A NEW TOWN IS TO BE BUILT.

THE VILLAGES ARE LO UK TSUEN, SIK KONG TSUEN, SIK KONG WAI AND KIU TAU WAI.

WORK ON THE PROJECT WILL INCLUDE CONSTRUCTION OF FLOOD PROTECTION EMBANKMENTS AROUND THE VILLAGES, CHANNELS AND CULVERTS, FOUR FLOOD CONTROL PONDS, ONE PUMPING STATION FOR EACH VILLAGE, TWO BRIDGES, AND A NUMBER OF FOOTBRIDGES AND ASSOCIATED ROADS.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN MID-FEBRUARY NEXT YEAR AND TAKE 17 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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FOOTBRIDGE TO BE BUILT ACROSS NULLAH
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A 19-METRE-LONG FOOTBRIDGE IS TO BE BUILT ACROSS TAI TONG ROAD NULLAH IN YUEN LONG, ADJACENT TO THE EXISTING ROAD BRIDGE.

THE PRE-STRESSED CONCRETE BRIDGE OF ABOUT TWO METRES WIDE WILL PROVIDE A SEGREGATED PEDESTRIAN CROSSING FOR NEARBY RESIDENTS.

ALSO INCLUDED IN THE PROJECT IS REPLACEMENT OF THE EXISTING ROAD BRIDGE FENCING WITH VEHICLE PARAPET FENCING TO ENHANCE ROAD SAFETY.

TENDERS ARE BEING INVITED FOR THE PROJECT, WORK ON WHICH WILL START IN JANUARY AND TAKE SIX MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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BUS ACCIDENT ON COMMITTEE'S AGENDA
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THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE WILL MEET ON THURSDAY (NOVEMBER 20) TO REQUEST THAT A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION INTO THE TUEN MUN DOUBLE-DECKER BUS ACCIDENT BE CARRIED OUT AND TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF THE PEDESTRIANS AND PASSENGERS.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MR CHAN CHI-KWAN, WILL URGE THE GOVERNMENT TO FIND OUT THE CAUSE OF THE ACCIDENT WHICH CLAIMED FIVE LIVES AND 58 INJURIES IN TUEN MUN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO ELECT A VICE-CHAIRMAN AT THE MEETING. THE POST HAD BEEN LEFT VACANT FOLLOWING THE RESIGNATION OF A DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER THREE MONTHS AGO.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO PUT FORWARD CERTAIN IMMEDIATE PROPOSALS TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC SITUATION IN HUNG HOM AND TO KWA WAN, AND WILL CALL FOR AN EARLY PROVISION OF MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY SERVICE IN THE AREA AS A LONG-TERM SOLUTION.

AFTER THE MEETING, MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP ON TRANSPORT NEEDS OF THE DISABLED IN KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT WILL GIVE A PRESS CONFERENCE ON RESULTS OF A SURVEY.

THE AIM OF THE SURVEY IS TO FIND OUT THE SPECIAL TRANSPORT NEEDS OF THE DISABLED AND DEFICIENCY OF EXISTING TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS, SO THAT A BETTER SERVICE COULD BE PROVIDED FOR THEM.

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THE SURVEY ALSO CONTAINED RECOMMENDATIONS TO RELEVANT DEPARTMENTS FOR IMPROVING THE TRANSPORT SERVICE FOR THE DISABLED.

THE SURVEY WAS CONDUCTED BY THE TRANSPORT PROJECT COMMITTEE OF THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF SENIOR LECTURER, MR STEPHEN CHENG WUI-YAU, AND LECTURER, ALFRED LAO WAI-CHEOK.

MR CHENG WILL ATTEND THE PRESS CONFERENCE TO PRESENT THE RESULT OF THE SURVEY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING AT 2.15 PM ON THURSDAY AND THE PRESS CONFERENCE AT ABOUT 4 PM TO ANNOUNCE THE RESULTS OF A SURVEY ON THE TRANSPORT NEEDS OF THE DISABLED IN KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT. BOTH EVENTS WILL BE HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE AT 141 KAU PUI LUNG ROAD, TO KWA WAN. THERE WILL BE NO SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION SERVICE AT THE MEETING.

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CASH AID FOR FAMILY OF ACCIDENT VICTIMS

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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT HAS ALLOCATED \$52 830 IN CASH GRANTS UNDER THE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS ASSISTANCE (TAVA) SCHEME TO THE FAMILY OF THE FIVE VICTIMS IN A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT WHICH OCCURRED IN KWAI CHUNG LAST WEDNESDAY.

THE CASH AID FROM THE TAVA FUND INCLUDED DEATH GRANT, INTERIM ADJUSTMENT GRANT, BURIAL GRANTS AND INJURIES GRANTS.

IN ADDITION TO THE CASH ASSISTANCE, THE DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH THE FAMILY AND RENDER COUNSELLING AND OTHER SERVICES WHEN REQUIRED.

A 46-YEAR-OLD MAN AND HIS TWO SONS DIED WHILE ANOTHER SON AND A DAUGHTER WERE INJURED IN THE ACCIDENT ON CASTLE PEAK ROAD, KWAI CHUNG.

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1986

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COMMUNITY PROGRAMME FOR ELDERS ORGANISED
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A VEGETARIAN FEAST FOR 1 000 PARTICIPANTS AND CARNIVAL ARE AMONG SOME OF THE COMMUNITY PROGRAMMES ORGANISED BY THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT RESPECT THE ELDERS 86 COMMITTEE IN NOVEMBER.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE, MR SIU KWONG-YU, SAID THE VEGETARIAN FEAST WILL BE HELD AT THE YUEN YUEN INSTITUTE TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AND THE CARNIVAL AT THE HING FONG ROAD PLAYGROUND ON NOVEMBER 30.

THE FEAST IS SPONSORED BY THE KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI DISTRICT BOARD AND HANG SENG BANK. PART OF THE DONATIONS ARE FROM LOCAL LEADERS, HE SAID.

OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE FEAST WILL BE THE DISTRICT OFFICER OF KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICE, MR BRIAN COAK, CHAIRMAN OF THE KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI DISTRICT BOARD, MR HO TUNG-CHING, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD'S COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, MR YAU HON-KEE, AND THE HONORARY PRESIDENT OF THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT RESPECT THE ELDERS 86 COMMITTEE, MR LAM YAU-KWONG.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY AT NOON TOMORROW. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WISHING TO COVER THE EVENT SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT 11.30 AM AT THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICE (NEXT TO KWAI HING MTR STATION), 166-174, HING FONG ROAD, KWAI CHUNG. A PRESS LUNCHEON WILL BE ARRANGED AT THE YUEN YUEN INSTITUTE AT 1 PM.

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HAYES TO OPEN CHAN'S ANCESTRAL HALL
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THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, DR JAMES HAYES, WILL OFFICIATE AT A CEREMONY TO MARK THE OPENING OF THE NEW CHAN'S ANCESTRAL HALL AT SAM TUNG UK RESITE VILLAGE IN TSUEN WAN TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE ANCESTRAL HALL IS SITUATED CLOSE TO THE VILLAGE OF SAM TUNG UK. THE VILLAGE, WHICH HAS A LONG HISTORY, WAS RESITED IN THE EARLY 1980'S TO MAKE WAY FOR THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING OF THE CHAN'S ANCESTRAL HALL AT 12.30 PM TOMORROW AT SAM TUNG UK ROAD, TSUEN WAN.

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1986

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SOUTHERN DISTRICT TO HOLD CARNIVAL ON SUNDAY
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A CARNIVAL ENTITLED +SOUTHERN DISTRICT - YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW+ WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY (NOVEMBER 23) BETWEEN 1 PM AND 6 PM AT THE ABERDEEN PROMENADE REST GARDEN.

THE CARNIVAL, OFFERING STAGE PERFORMANCES, CRAFTS STALLS, EXHIBITIONS AND STALL GAMES, IS ONE OF THE MAJOR EVENTS ORGANISED AS PART OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT FESTIVAL. THROUGH THE VARIOUS ACTIVITIES, ORGANISERS HOPED TO PROJECT THE DISTRICT AS A FAST-MOVING AND DEVELOPING COMMUNITY.

PROGRAMMES INCLUDE A LION DANCE BY THE FISHERMEN'S SPORTS ASSOCIATION, BRASS BAND PERFORMANCE, MAGIC SHOW, CANTONESE OPERA, SINGING, FOLK SONGS AND DANCES, AND BALLET AND CHILDREN'S DANCES PERFORMED BY KINDERGARTENS, SCHOOLS, RESIDENTS ASSOCIATIONS AND OTHER GROUPS.

THE CRAFTS STALLS WILL OFFER DEMONSTRATIONS BY CRAFTSMEN, PALM READING, LIVE SKETCHES, AND CHESS GAMES. THERE WILL BE A STALL DESIGN COMPETITION AND WINNERS WILL BE AWARDED HANDICRAFTS MADE DURING THE DEMONSTRATIONS.

TWO EXHIBITIONS, ON SOUTHERN DISTRICT'S HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT AND ON THE FISHING INDUSTRY, WILL BE HELD. OLD PHOTOGRAPHS WILL BE ON DISPLAY, IN ADDITION.

RESIDENTS CAN ALSO TAKE A LOOK AT MODERN FISHING EQUIPMENT ON BOARD A FISHING VESSEL MOORED ALONGSIDE THE PROMENADE.

THE PROGRAMMES HAVE BEEN DESIGNED TO SUIT THE INTERESTS OF PEOPLE OF ALL AGES. ADMISSION IS FREE.

TICKETS FOR THE STALL GAMES ARE OBTAINABLE FROM THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE AND SUB-OFFICES IN ABERDEEN CENTRE, WAH FU AND STANLEY. ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE TO THE DISTRICT OFFICE ON 5-540271.

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CEMETERY EXTENSION SCHEME TO BE CONSIDERED
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THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE OF THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD WILL MEET TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) TO CONSIDER AN EXTENSION PROJECT IN WO HOP SHEK CEMETERY.

THE SCHEME INVOLVES THE PROVISION OF NEW BURIAL TERRACES ACCOMMODATING 12 000 URNS, AND ALSO WORK ON AN ACCESS ROAD, PEDESTRIAN FOOTPATHS AND PARKING FACILITIES.

/MEMBERS

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MEMBERS WILL ALSO GIVE THEIR VIEWS ON WHETHER NEW TERRITORIES TAXIS SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO OPERATE IN MA ON SHAN.

OTHER MATTERS TO BE DISCUSSED INCLUDE PROHIBITION OF GOODS VEHICLES ALONG TING KOK ROAD, BRIDE'S POOL ROAD AND LUK KENG ROAD, AND IMPROVEMENTS TO JOCKEY CLUB ROAD.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE MEETING TOMORROW AT 2 PM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE, JOCKEY CLUB ROAD, FANLING.

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EASTERN DB TO EXAMINE EDUCATION ISSUES

EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL DISCUSS THE CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT ON THE REVIEW OF THE JUNIOR SECONDARY EDUCATION ASSESSMENT SYSTEM AT THEIR MEETING ON THURSDAY (NOVEMBER 20).

THEY WILL ALSO DISCUSS PROPOSALS PUT FORWARD BY A MEMBER, MR CHENG WUI-YAU, ON SECONDARY EDUCATION.

IN ADDITION, MEMBERS WILL DISCUSS A REPORT ON THE DISTRICT BOARD'S STUDY TOUR OF SINGAPORE AND MALAYSIA, AND A REQUEST MADE BY CHAI WAN FISHERMEN FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FISHING BOAT ANCHORAGE AND LANDING FACILITIES.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD AT 2.30 PM ON THURSDAY IN THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE'S CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE FIRST FLOOR, 880-886, KING'S ROAD.

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1986

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DB TO DISCUSS HANG HAU CLEARANCE
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PLANS FOR THE RESUMPTION AND CLEARANCE OF LAND AT HANG HAU WILL BE DISCUSSED BY SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AT THEIR MEETING ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 21).

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE EDUCATION COMMISSION REPORT AND THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION PAPER ON THE REVIEW OF THE JUNIOR SECONDARY EDUCATION ASSESSMENT SYSTEM.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE A REPORT BY THE BOARD'S REGIONAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE, MR WAN YUET-KAU, AND THE PROGRESS REPORT OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD MEETING AT 10 AM ON FRIDAY IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD, SECOND FLOOR, SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, MAN NIN STREET, SAI KUNG TOWN.

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COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS EDUCATION MATTERS
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TWO PAPERS ON EDUCATION MATTERS WILL BE DISCUSSED BY THE SOCIAL SERVICES AND COMMUNITY INFORMATION COMMITTEE OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

COMMITTEE MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE EDUCATION COMMISSION REPORT NO. 2 WHICH WAS PUBLISHED RECENTLY.

THEY WILL BE BRIEFED ON CONTENTS OF THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION PAPER ON REVIEW OF THE JUNIOR SECONDARY EDUCATION ASSESSMENT SYSTEM AND WILL BE ASKED TO GIVE THEIR VIEWS AND COMMENTS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE, FIRST FLOOR, TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK BUILDING, 174-208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD.

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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRESS FOR DISCUSSION
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MEMBERS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD WILL MEET TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) TO HEAR THE PROGRESS REPORT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND EMERGENCY REPAIR PROJECTS CARRIED OUT BY THE WORKS SECTION OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE THE REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT WORKING GROUP, AND A REVIEW OF THE CURRENT FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE DISTRICT BOARD IN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT ASPECTS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT ON THE THIRD FLOOR, TUEN MUN GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, NO. 1, TUEN HI ROAD, TUEN MUN.

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RESTRICTED ZONE ON PERKINS ROAD
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FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 21), THE SECTION OF PERKINS ROAD IN JARDINE'S LOOKOUT, BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH TAI HANG ROAD AND A POINT ABOUT 60 METRES SOUTH OF THE SAME JUNCTION, WILL BE DESIGNATED A 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY RESTRICTED ZONE.

WITHIN THE RESTRICTED ZONE, NO VEHICLES OTHER THAN FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS.

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NO FLUSHING WATER
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SALT WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN TSUEN WAN WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 21) TO 10 AM THE NEXT DAY FOR MAINS WORK.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT PREMISES BOUNDED BY YEUNG UK ROAD, MA TAU PA ROAD, FUI YIU KOK STREET, WANG LUNG STREET, LUNG TAK STREET, MA KOK LANE, MA KOK STREET AND TEXACO ROAD.

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