DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 1987

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GOVERNMENT HAS NO PRECONCEIVED IDEAS ON POLITICAL REVIEW

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD NO PRECONCEIVED IDEAS ABOUT WHAT WAS GOING TO COME OUT OF THE REVIEW ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT.

SIR DAVID WAS ASKED BY REPORTERS ON ARRIVING AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BUILDING FOR A LUNCHEON WITH OMELCO MEMBERS TO COMMENT ON REMARKS MADE BY THE SENIOR EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBER, SIR S.Y. CHUNG, YESTERDAY.

SIR DAVID SAID HE THOUGHT THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION ON THE REVIEW HAD BEEN MADE VERY CLEAR A NUMBER OF TIMES.

+IT'S A REVIEW WHICH IS COVERING A WIDE RANGE OF ISSUES. THE GOVERNMENT HAS NO PRECONCEIVED IDEAS ABOUT WHAT'S GOING TO COME OUT OF IT. IN MAKING ITS DECISION AT THE END OF THE PROCESS OF REVIEW, THE GOVERNMENT HAS SAID THAT IT WOULD TAKE FULLY INTO ACCOUNT THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG ON ALL OF THOSE ISSUES,+ HE SAID.

MEANWHILE, THE DEPUTY CHIEF SECRETARY, MR JOHN CHAN, WAS ALSO INTERVIEWED BY RTHK TODAY ON SIR S.Y. CHUNG'S REMARKS.

WHEN ASKED FOR THE GOVERNMENT'S REACTIONS TO THE REMARKS, MR CHAN SAID:

+AS SIR S.Y. HAS HIMSELF MADE CLEAR, HE WAS STATING HIS PERSONAL VIEWS, AS MANY OTHERS IN HONG KONG HAVE DONE AND NO DOUBT WILL CONTINUE TO DO. INDEED THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE ENCOURAGING EVERYBODY TO STATE HIS VIEWS - THAT'S THE WHOLE PURPOSE OF THE GREEN PAPER EXERCISE, AND THAT'S THE WHOLE PURPOSE OF THE SURVEY OFFICE.+

ASKED WHETHER DIRECT ELECTIONS IN 1988 WAS EFFECTIVELY BEING RULED OUT, MR CHAN SAID:

+THE GOVERNMENT'S OWN POSITION ON THIS IS VERY CLEAR, AND HAS ALREADY BEEN REITERATED MANY TIMES AND I WOULD DO IT ONCE MORE: THE 1987 REVIEW WILL BE A GENUINE REVIEW, THERE ARE NO PRECONCEIVED IDEAS ON OUR PART, NO PRE-DETERMINATION OF THE OUTCOME AND FULL ACCOUNT WILL BE TAKEN OF THE VIEWS OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG.+

+THE OPTION OF INTRODUCING SOME ELEMENT OF DIRECT ELECTIONS IN 1988 WILL BE CONTAINED IN THE GREEN PAPER. SO WILL THE OPTION OF HAVING NO CHANGE. THERE WILL INDEED BE A NUMBER OF DIFFERENT OPTIONS.

+IN THE GREEN PAPER, WE WILL NOT BE LEADING PUBLIC OPINION TOWARDS, OR AWAY FROM, ANY OF THOSE OPTIONS.

/+LET'S NOT .....

+LET'S NOT FORGET TOO THAT DIRECT ELECTIONS IS NOT THE ONLY SUBJECT OF THE REVIEW - IT IS NOT.

+THE REVIEW WILL BE WIDE-RANGING, IT WILL LOOK AT ALL THREE LEVELS OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT, AND THE METHOD OF ELECTING MEMBERS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IS BUT ONE OF THE ASPECTS TO BE DISCUSSED.+

MR CHAN WAS FURTHER ASKED WHETHER PEOPLE COULD BELIEVE THE GOVERNMENT WHEN THE SENIOR MEMBER OF EXCO WAS INTIMATING THAT THE DIRECT ELECTIONS WERE BEING RULED OUT, HE SAID:

+I DO NOT AGREE THAT WHAT SIR S.Y. SAID SHOULD BE TAKEN AS RULING OUT ANYTHING. WE MUST REMEMBER THAT THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IS A CORPORATE BODY. WHEN THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CONSIDERS IMPORTANT MATTERS MEMBERS TAKE ALL FACTORS INTO ACCOUNT, AND THEY TAKE DECISIONS IN THE INTERESTS OF HONG KONG AS A WHOLE.

+ALSO, AS I HAVE SAID BEFORE AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE, THE SURVEY OFFICE REPORT WILL BE MADE PUBLIC. THE JUDGMENT WHICH THE GOVERNMENT MAKES, ON THE BASIS OF THAT REPORT, WILL ALSO BE PUBLISHED IN A WHITE PAPER. SO EVENTUALLY, THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG WILL BE ABLE TO JUDGE FOR THEMSELVES WHETHER THEIR VIEWS HAVE BEEN TAKEN ADEQUATELY INTO ACCOUNT.+

ASKED WHETHER RECENT REMARKS BY THE CHINESE LEADER, MR DENG XIAOPING, ON THE SUBJECT HAD REINFORCED SIR S.Y. CHUNG'S, MR CHAN SAID:

+WHAT MR DENG SAID IS CLEARLY VERY IMPORTANT AND CLEARLY IT HAS NOT PASSED UNNOTICED IN HONG KONG. BUT I DO NOT THINK IT IS FOR ME TO TRY AND ANTICIPATE WHAT EFFECT MR DENG'S REMARKS - OR ANYBODY ELSE'S REMARKS FOR THAT MATTER - MAY HAVE ON THE OUTCOME OF THE REVIEW. WE'LL HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE WHAT THE OUTCOME IS.+

THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, ON MEETING THE REPORTERS OUTSIDE THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BUILDING SAID IT WAS NICE TO SEE THEM ALL AGAIN.

+I DON'T SEEM TO HAVE SEEN YOU FOR AGES. I'VE BEEN STUCK IN GOVERNMENT HOUSE, MEETING A LARGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE AND SEEING SOMETHING OF HONG KONG FROM THE AIR. SO THAT'S PROBABLY WHY I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU, BUT I HOPE OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS I'LL BE GETTING AROUND MUCH MORE IN SEEING HONG KONG ON THE GROUND.+

+AND IT'S VERY NICE TO BE COMING TODAY TO HAVE LUNCH WITH OMELCO. OMELCO PLAYS A VERY IMPORTANT ROLE IN OUR COMMUNITY. SO IT'LL BE NICE I HAVE LUNCH TODAY AND TALK TO MEMBERS,+ SIR DAVID SAID.

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GOVERNMENT POSITION ON FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPERS CLARIFIED

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COMMENTING ON AN ARTICLE CONCERNING GOVERNMENT EASING CURBS OVER MAIDS WHICH APPEARED IN TODAY'S (FRIDAY) PRESS, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION IS PREPARED TO ALLOW FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPERS WHOSE CONTRACTS EXPIRED A FEW WEEKS BEFORE LAST WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE REVISED CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT, TO EXTEND THEIR STAY FOR A SHORT WHILE BEYOND THE PERIOD SPECIFIED IN THEIR VISAS.

THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT WILL CONSIDER ATTESTING NEW CONTRACTS SUBMITTED BY THESE FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPERS IF THE PREVIOUS ONES HAVE RUN THEIR COURSE. AS REGARDS THOSE WHO HAVE BROKEN THEIR PREVIOUS CONTRACTS, IN PRINCIPLE, NEW CONTRACTS WILL NOT BE ATTESTED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT BEFORE THE HELPERS LEAVE THE TERRITORY.

THE SPOKESMAN CONFIRMED THAT THE CONSUL-GENERAL OF THE PHILIPPINES HAD REQUESTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD RECONSIDER REVISING ITS PROCEDURES FOR THOSE FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPERS WHO HAVE BROKEN THEIR CONTRACTS, IN PARTICULAR THAT THEY BE ALLOWED TO HAVE A NEW CONTRACT ATTESTED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT BEFORE THEY RETURNED TO MANILA. BUT THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT WHILE THE DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION HAD NOTED THE REQUEST, NO DECISION HAS YET BEEN TAKEN.

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SURVEYS TO BE CONDUCTED ON ASBESTOS IN BUILDINGS

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THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT IS PREPARING TO ENGAGE A PRIVATE CONSULTANT TO CONDUCT A SURVEY TO LOOK INTO THE EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM OF ASBESTOS PRODUCTS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO GOVERNMENT ON STEPS TO BE TAKEN, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (AIR AND NOISE) OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT, MR ROBERT LAW, TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE SURVEY WAS EXPECTED TO COMMENCE THIS YEAR AND TAKE 12 MONTHS TO COMPLETE, MR LAW SAID.

HOWEVER, AT THE SAME MEETING THE PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE LANDS AND WORKS BRANCH, MR HUGH PHILLIPSON, SAID ASBESTOS PRODUCTS, WHICH MIGHT BE FOUND IN EXISTING PRIVATE BUILDINGS, POSED NO HEALTH PROBLEM PROVIDED THEY ARE IN GOOD CONDITION AND UNDISTURBED.

/+IT IS .....

+IT IS ONLY THE HIGH RISK BUILDING PRODUCTS SUCH AS SPRAYED ACOUSTIC PLASTER AND PIPE LAGGING WHICH PRESENT A PROBLEM WHEN DAMAGED,+ MR PHILLIPSON SAID.

MEANWHILE, AN EARLIER SURVEY ON THE PRESENCE OF ASBESTOS COVERING 333 AIDED SECONDARY AND PREVOCATIONAL SCHOOLS REVEALED 61 OF THEM REQUIRED ROUTINE MONITORING WHILE 13 NEEDED REMEDIAL ACTION, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, MR PAUL CORSER, SAID.

THE GOVERNMENT HAS ALSO STARTED A SURVEY RECENTLY OF ALL PUBLIC BUILDINGS TO IDENTIFY ASBESTOS PRODUCTS AND THEIR CONDITION. THE SURVEY WILL COVER OVER 5 000 BUILDINGS AND TAKE THREE YEARS TO COMPLETE.

+IF HIGH RISK ASBESTOS PRODUCTS ARE UNDAMAGED, THEY ARE LEFT IN PLACE AND REGULARLY REINSPECTED. SO FAR, ONLY FOUR GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS HAVE REQUIRED ACTION TO REMOVE DAMAGED ASBESTOS ACOUSTIC PLASTER,+ MR CORSER ADDED.

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1986 RE-EXPORT FIGURES ANALYSED

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HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS, VALUED AT $122 546 MILLION IN 1986, INCREASED BY 16 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS AS COMPARED WITH 1985, ACCORDING TO A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF RE-EXPORTS BY MARKET AND BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN, RELEASED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

RE-EXPORTS BY MARKET

CHINA, THE U.S.A., JAPAN, TAIWAN AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA WERE THE TOP FIVE MARKETS FOR HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS, AND THEY SHARED 33 PER CENT, 18 PER CENT, 5 PER CENT, 5 PER CENT AND 5 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY OF THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS IN 1986.

CHINA REMAINED THE LARGEST MARKET FOR HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS IN 1986. BUT, WHEN COMPARED WITH 1985, RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA DECREASED BY $5 130 MILLION OR 11 PER CENT.

ANALYSED BY COMMODITY, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY $2 097 MILLION OR 43 PER CENT); ROAD VEHICLES, INCLUDING AIR CUSHION VEHICLES (BY $2 081 MILLION OR 75 PER CENT) AS WELL AS ELETRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY $1 580 MILLION OR 38 PER CENT).

/HOWEVER, ...

HOWEVER, INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN TEXTILES (BY $1 634 MILLION OR 17 PER CENT) AND PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS (BY $504 MILLION OR 228 PER CENT).

RE-EXPORTS TO THE U.S.A., THE SECOND LARGEST MARKET FOR HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS, RECORDED AN INCREASE OF $7 657 MILLION OR 52 PER CENT. COMMODITIES WITH SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE CLOTHING (BY $3 834 MILLION OR 98 PER CENT); MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, INCLUDING MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS (BY $1 780 MILLION OR 52 PER CENT) AS WELL AS TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR CONTAINERS (BY $394 MILLION OR 32 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, NOTABLE DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN MEDICINAL AND PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS (BY $61 MILLION OR 66 PER CENT) AS WELL AS CRUDE ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE MATERIALS (BY $50 MILLION OR 30 PER CENT).

RE-EXPORTS TO JAPAN INCREASED BY $1 190 MILLION OR 22 PER CENT. ANALYSED BY COMMODITY, INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN FISH, CRUSTACEANS AND MOLLUSCS AND PREPARATIONS THEREOF (BY $392 MILLION OR 68 PER CENT) AS WELL AS MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, INCLUDING MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS (BY $244 MILLION OR 98 PER CENT). A DECREASE WAS RECORDED IN NON-FERROUS METALS (BY $327 MILLION OR 75 PER CENT).

RE-EXPORTS TO TAIWAN SHOWED AN INCREASE OF $1 614 MILLION OR 37 PER CENT. SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY $906 MILLION OR 78 PER CENT) AS WELL AS TEXTILES (BY $122 MILLION OR 46 PER CENT). BUT A DECREASE WAS RECORDED IN NON-FERROUS METALS (BY $107 MILLION OR 28 PER CENT).

RE-EXPORTS TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA GREW BY $1 971 MILLION OR 51 PER CENT. SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN TEXTILES (BY $614 MILLION OR 61 PER CENT) AS WELL AS ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY $489 MILLION OR 94 PER CENT) BUT A DECREASE WAS REGISTERED FOR COFFEE, TEA, COCOA, SPICES, AND MANUFACTURES THEREOF (BY $32 MILLION OR 54 PER CENT).

RE-EXPORTS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

AS SOURCES OF HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS, CHINA, JAPAN, THE U.S.A., TAIWAN AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA CONTRIBUTED 42 PER CENT, 15 PER CENT, 8 PER CENT, 7 PER CENT AND 3 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN VALUE TERMS IN 1986.

CHINA CONTINUED TO BE THE LARGEST SOURCE OF HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS IN 1986, WITH A GROWTH OF 49 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS IN SUCH TRADE COMPARED WITH 1985.

/ANALYSED .....

ANALYSED BY COMMODITY, INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN CLOTHING (BY $5 574 MILLION OR 78 PER CENT); MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, INCLUDING MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS (BY $3 081 MILLION OR 67 PER CENT) AS WELL AS TEXTILES (BY $2 923 MILLION OR 42 PER CENT). HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN TEXTILE FIBRES (OTHER THAN WOOL TOPS) AND THEIR WASTES (BY $269 MILLION OR 15 PER CENT) AS WELL AS IN NON-FERROUS METALS (BY $259 MILLION OR 44 PER CENT).

JAPAN REMAINED THE SECOND LARGEST SOURCE OF HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS IN 1986, THOUGH WITH A DECLINE OF 17 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS IN SUCH TRADE. DECREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR ROAD VEHICLES, INCLUDING AIR CUSHION VEHICLES (BY $2 333 MILLION OR 75 PER CENT); OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY $971 MILLION OR 55 PER CENT) AS WELL AS TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY $812 MILLION OR 20 PER CENT). INCREASES WERE, HOWEVER, RECORDED IN ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY $309 MILLION OR 11 PER CENT) AS WELL AS TEXTILES (BY $247 MILLION OR 18 PER CENT).

THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS OF U.S.A. ORIGIN INCREASED BY 10 PER CENT IN 1986 WHEN INCREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY $351 MILLION OR 26 PER CENT) AS WELL AS TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT OTHER THAN ROAD VEHICLES (BY $242 MILLION OR 96 PER CENT). BUT A DECREASE WAS RECORDED IN PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES AND OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY $310 MILLION OR 45 PER CENT).

THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS OF TAIWAN ORIGIN DECREASED BY 9 PER CENT. THE COMMODITIES WITH SIGNIFICANT DECREASES WERE ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY $626 MILLION OR 41 PER CENT) AS WELL AS NON-FERROUS METALS (BY $226 MILLION OR 72 PER CENT). HOWEVER, AN INCREASE WAS RECORDED IN TEXTILES (BY $134 MILLION OR 3 PER CENT).

THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS ORIGINATING IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA ALSO DECREASED BY 2 PER CENT, PARTICULARLY FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY $491 MILLION OR 74 PER CENT) AS WELL AS NON-FERROUS METALS (BY $77 MILLION OR 41 PER CENT). BUT AN INCREASE WAS RECORDED IN TEXTILES (BY $173 MILLION OR 15 PER CENT).

FURTHER DETAILS ARE CONTAINED IN THE COMPREHENSIVE REPORT +HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE, DECEMBER 1986+ WHICH IS NOW AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT $13.50 PER COPY. ENQUIRIES MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT AT TEL. NO. 5-8234915.

/TABLE 1: .....

TABLE 1: RE-EXPORTS BY TEN MAJOR MARKETS

MAJOR MARKET	JAN-DEC 1986 (HKD MN.)	JAN-DEC 1985 (HKD MN.)	INCREASE (HKD MN.)	PERCENTAGE INCREASE (%)
CHINA	40 894	46 023	-5 130	-11
U.S.A.	22 362	14 705	7 657	52
JAPAN	6 676	5 486	1 190	22
TAIWAN	5 939	4 325	1 614	37
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	5 843	3 872	1 971	51
SINGAPORE	5 259	4 388	871	20
F.R. OF GERMANY	2 688	1 554	1 134	73
MACAU	2 584	2 556	28	1
U.K.	2 489	1 233	1 256	102
INDONESIA	2 407	2 301	106	5

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

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	JAN-DEC 1986 (HKD MN.)	JAN-DEC 1985 (HKD MN.)	INCREASE (HKD MN.)	PERCENTAGE INCREASE (%)
CHINA	51 597	34 628	16 969	49
JAPAN	18 579	22 504	-3 926	-17
U.S.A.	10 411	9 474	938	10
TAIWAN	8 681	9 561	-880	-9
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	3 596	3 667	-71	-2
F.R. OF GERMANY	2 424	2 039	384	19
U.K.	1 920	1 731	189	11
SWITZERLAND	1 862	1 417	444	31
FRANCE	1 476	1 252	223	18
ITALY	1 100	1 079	21	2

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FOUR SITES OFFERED TO LAND ENTITLEMENTS HOLDERS

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THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING REGISTERED HOLDERS OF LAND EXCHANGE ENTITLEMENTS (LETTERS A AND B) TO TENDER FOR THREE PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL AND ONE NON-INDUSTRIAL SITES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE THREE RESIDENTIAL SITES ARE IN YUEN LONG, SHA TIN AND TUEN MUN, WHILE THE NON-INDUSTRIAL LOT SITUATES IN TAI PO.

THE YUEN LONG SITE, IN MA TIN, IS ABOUT 2 475 SQUARE METRES. THE SUCCESSFUL TENDERER HAS TO COMPLETE A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 4 901 SQUARE METRES BY JUNE 30, 1991.

THE SHA TIN SITE, MEASURING ABOUT 8 100 SQUARE METRES, IS AT TAI CHUNG KIU ROAD.

UNDER THE BUILDING COVENANT, A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 24 300 SQUARE METRES HAS TO BE COMPLETED BY JULY 31, 1991.

THE TUEN MUN SITE, LOCATED AT 19 MILESTONE, CASTLE PEAK ROAD, COVERS AN AREA OF ABOUT 7 813 SQUARE METRES.

AT LEAST 15 470 SQUARE METRES OF GROSS FLOOR AREA MUST BE COMPLETED ON THE SITE BY SEPTEMBER 30, 1991.

THE NON-INDUSTRIAL SITE IN TAI PO OLD MARKET MEASURES ABOUT 4 270 SQUARE METRES.

A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 15 100 SQUARE METRES MUST BE COMPLETED BY JUNE 30, 1991 WITH THE LOWEST FOUR FLOORS FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL (EXCLUDING GODOWN AND RESIDENTIAL) PURPOSES AND FOR A PUBLIC CAR PARK, AND THE REMAINING FLOORS FOR PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATION IS NOON ON MAY 22.

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RSD DIRECTOR TO JOIN CEMETERIES BOARD

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A BILL HAS BEEN PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TO INCLUDE THE DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL SERVICES AS AN EX-OFFICIO MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT OF THE CHINESE PERMANENT CEMETERIES TO PROVIDE A MORE COMPREHENSIVE OPERATION OF PRIVATE CEMETERIES THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY.

THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT OPERATES THREE CEMETERIES AT ABERDEEN, TSUEN WAN AND CHAI WAN, AND A NEW SITE AT JUNK BAY WAS GRANTED RECENTLY TO THE BOARD FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW CEMETERY.

/AT PRESENT, ...

AT PRESENT, THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DONALD LIAO, IS THE EX-OFFICIO CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD WHILE THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS AND THE DIRECTOR OF URBAN SERVICES ARE EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE SPOKEMAN EXPLAINED THAT BY VIRTUE OF THE PRIVATE CEMETERIES (URBAN COUNCIL) BY-LAWS, THE DIRECTOR OF URBAN SERVICES EXERCISED SUPERVISORY CONTROL ON BEHALF OF THE URBAN COUNCIL OVER PRIVATE CEMETERIES IN THE URBAN AREA.

IN APRIL 1985, THE PRIVATE CEMETERIES (NEW TERRITORIES) REGULATIONS WAS ESTABLISHED AND THE DIRECTOR OF URBAN SERVICES WAS ALSO EMPOWERED TO SUPERVISE PRIVATE CEMETERIES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

+FOLLOWING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL LAST YEAR, THE PRIVATE CEMETERIES (NEW TERRITORIES) REGULATIONS WAS REPLACED BY THE PRIVATE CEMETERIES (REGIONAL COUNCIL) BY-LAWS, AND AS A RESULT THE DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL SERVICES BECAME RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SUPERVISION OF PRIVATE CEMETERIES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

+AS THE BOARD NOW MANAGES A CEMETERY IN TSUEN WAN AND ITS NEW CEMETERY IN JUNK BAY IS EXPECTED TO BECOME OPERATIONAL IN 1989, THE DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL SERVICES IS EXPECTED TO BECOME INCREASINGLY INVOLVED IN THE BOARD'S ACTIVITIES,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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YAU MA TEI DB TO HEAR VIEWS FROM RESIDENTS

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THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT BOARD IS ORGANISING A SEMINAR THIS SUNDAY (APRIL 26) TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH LOCAL BODIES ON DISTRICT MATTERS.

AT THE SEMINAR, THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD WILL REPORT ON THEIR WORK AND DISTRICT ACTIVITIES IN THE PAST YEAR.

THIS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY AN OPEN DISCUSSION ON DISTRICT PROBLEMS AND ISSUES RAISED BY THE PARTICIPANTS WHO WILL INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES FROM AREA COMMITTEES, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, OWNERS CORPORATIONS AND KAIFONG ASSOCIATIONS.

+THE TWO-WAY COMMUNICATION SHOULD ENABLE THE BOARD TO OBTAIN FIRST HAND INFORMATION AND VIEWS FROM RESIDENTS ON DISTRICT MATTERS WHILE RESIDENTS CAN AT THE SAME TIME HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORK OF THE BOARD,+ SAID DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR YIP WAH, WHO WILL CHAIR THE SEMINAR.

/THE SEMINAR .....

THE SEMINAR WILL START AT 3.30 PM AT THE GA WO RESTAURANT, THIRD FLOOR, 343 NATHAN ROAD.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SEMINAR AT 3.30 PM ON SUNDAY (APRIL 26) AT THE GA WO RESTAURANT, THIRD FLOOR, 343 NATHAN ROAD. THE SEMINAR WILL BE CONDUCTED IN CHINESE.

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ROUTE 5 TSUEN WAN CONNECTIONS CONTRACT AWARDED

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A $161.3 MILLION CONTRACT WAS TODAY (FRIDAY) AWARDED BY THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO CARRY OUT A NUMBER OF WORKS PROJECTS ASSOCIATED WITH VARIOUS ROUTE 5 TSUEN WAN CONNECTIONS.

THE WORKS WILL INVOLVE THE CONSTRUCTION OF TWO UNDERPASSES TO CONNECT SHEK WAI KOK ROAD TO WAI TSUEN ROAD UNDER TEXACO ROAD AND TO CONNECT YI PEI CHUN ROAD TO SHEK WAI KOK ROAD UNDER CHEUNG PEI SHAN ROAD.

IT WILL INCLUDE EXTENDING CHEUNG PEI SHAN ROAD EASTWARDS TO THE TOLL PLAZA AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE WO YI HOP INTERCHANGE, FIVE FOOTBRIDGES AND TWO SUBWAYS.

IMPROVEMENTS WILL ALSO BE MADE TO THE TSUEN KAM ROUNDABOUT, SHEK WAI KOK, YI PEI CHUN AND SAM TUNG UK ROADS AND THE EXISTING CHEUNG PEI SHAN ROAD WILL BE UPGRADED TO TRUNK ROAD STANDARDS.

WORK ON THE CONTRACT WILL COMMENCE NEXT WEEK AND TAKE 24 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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CUSTOMS CHIEF TO MEET THE MEDIA

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THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE, MR PATRICK WILLIAMSON, WILL HOLD A MEET-THE-MEDIA SESSION AT 3 PM ON MONDAY (APRIL 27) IN THE FUNCTION ROOM OF THE DEPARTMENT'S SENIOR OFFICERS' MESS, RUMSEY STREET CARPARK BUILDING, 9/F, CENTRAL, HONG KONG.

A PRESS TOUR OF THE CUSTOMS CONTROL POINT AT THE MACAU FERRY TERMINAL IN CENTRAL HAS ALSO BEEN ARRANGED AT 2 PM ON THE SAME DAY.

/FACILITIES .....

FACILITIES WILL BE PROVIDED FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES TO TAKE PICTURES OF THE CUSTOMS POINT THERE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND BOTH EVENTS.

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WISHING TO JOIN THE MACAU FERRY TERMINAL TOUR SHOULD ASSEMBLE OUTSIDE THE NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE OFFICE, NEXT TO THE FEDERAL RESTAURANT ON 3/F, SHUN TAK CENTRE, CENTRAL, AT 1.45 PM.

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FIRST GIRL GUIDE UNIT FOR INMATES

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THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL SET UP THE FIRST GIRL GUIDE UNIT FOR YOUNG FEMALE INMATES THIS WEEKEND. THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT TAI TAM GAP CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION, SHEK O ROAD, HONG KONG, AT 2 PM TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF THE HONG KONG GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION, LADY AKERS-JONES, IS TO OFFICIATE AT THE CEREMONY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT. PRESS TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED. PLEASE ASSEMBLE AT THE DEPARTMENT'S PUBLIC RELATIONS UNIT ON THE 23RD FLOOR, WAN CHAI TOWER 1, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG, AT 12.45 PM TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

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PART-TIME EVENING COURSE FOR WORKERS

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THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL IS INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR PART-TIME EVENING COURSES TO BE OFFERED AT ITS EIGHT TECHNICAL INSTITUTES, INCLUDING THE NEW CHAI WAN TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, IN THE NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR.

THE 125 COURSES IN 15 TEACHING DISCIPLINES ARE MAINLY AT CRAFT AND TECHNICIAN LEVELS PROVIDING COMPLEMENTARY TECHNICAL EDUCATION FOR WORKERS IN INDUSTRY, COMMERCE AND SERVICE SECTORS.

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THE 15 DISCIPLINES ARE: HOTEL-KEEPING AND TOURISM STUDIES, COMMERCIAL STUDIES, CONSTRUCTION, ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, MECHANICAL ENGINEERING, GENERAL STUDIES, INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY, PRINTING, TEXTILE INDUSTRIES, CLOTHING INDUSTRIES, MARINE ENGINEERING AND FABRICATION, DESIGN, MOTOR VEHICLE ENGINEERING, APPLIED SCIENCE AND COMPUTER STUDIES.

A NUMBER OF NEW COURSES SUCH AS STORE SUPERVISION, SUPERVISORY MANAGEMENT, FOOD TECHNOLOGY, ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND FOOD PROCESSING WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR THE FIRST TIME INTO THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE'S CURRICULUM.

EVENING COURSE STUDENTS ARE NORMALLY REQUIRED TO ATTEND CLASS ONE TO FOUR EVENINGS A WEEK IN THE DURATION RANGING ONE TO THREE YEARS.

DETAILS OF ALL PART-TIME EVENING COURSES WILL BE ADVERTISED IN LOCAL PAPERS TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

APPLICATION FORMS AND GUIDES TO APPLICANTS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM DISTRICT OFFICES AND THE FOLLOWING TECHNICAL INSTITUTES: MORRISON HILL, KWAI CHUNG, KWUN TONG, HAKING WONG, LEE WAI LEE, TUEN MUN AND SHA TIN TECHNICAL INSTITUTES.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATION IS SATURDAY, MAY 9, 1987. FORM 5 STUDENTS SITTING FOR THE 1987 HKCE EXAMINATION MAY ALSO APPLY.

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TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE IN ADMIRALTY

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TO FACILITATE ROAD WORKS, THE SECTION OF COTTON TREE DRIVE GROUND LEVEL BETWEEN DRAKE STREET AND QUEENSWAY, AND THE SOUTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF DRAKE STREET BETWEEN TAMAR STREET AND COTTON TREE DRIVE WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC DAILY BETWEEN 1 AM AND 6 AM ON APRIL 27 (MONDAY), 28, MAY 1 AND 2.

DURING THE PERIOD, WESTBOUND VEHICLES ON HARCOURT ROAD HEADING FOR QUEENSWAY WILL BE DIVERTED VIA COTTON TREE DRIVE FLYOVER, THE SLIP ROAD SOUTH OF ST. JOHN'S BUILDING AND GARDEN ROAD FLYOVER TO REJOIN QUEENSWAY, WHILE THOSE ON EASTBOUND HARCOURT ROAD HEADING FOR CENTRAL WILL HAVE TO TRAVEL VIA COTTON TREE DRIVE FLYOVER, THE SLIP ROAD SOUTH OF ST. JOHN'S BUILDING AND GARDEN ROAD.

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