



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

SATURDAY, JULY 5, 1986

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PRICE, VOLUME MOVEMENTS OF APRIL EXTERNAL TRADE
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STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT INDICATED THAT THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS ROSE BY 5 PER CENT IN THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 1986 AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR. THE VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS, HOWEVER, DECLINED BY 4 PER CENT. THERE WAS THEREFORE AN OVERALL INCREASE OF 1 PER CENT IN THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS.

IMPORTS INCREASED BY 3 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS. ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS AND HENCE ALSO THOSE OF TOTAL EXPORTS REMAINED UNCHANGED.

PRICES OF IMPORTS, ON THE OTHER HAND, ROSE BY 3 PER CENT. AS A RESULT, THE TERMS OF TRADE INDEX (EXPRESSED AS A RATIO OF THE TOTAL EXPORT PRICE INDEX TO THE IMPORT PRICE INDEX) DROPPED BY 3 PER CENT.

PRICES ARE BASED ON UNIT VALUES WHICH DO NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT CHANGES IN THE COMPOSITION OR QUALITY OF GOODS TRADED, EXCEPT FOR SOME SELECTED COMMODITIES FOR WHICH SPECIFICATION PRICE INDEXES ARE COMPILED. THE VOLUME OF TRADE IS DERIVED FROM TRADE VALUES BY DISCOUNTING THE EFFECT OF PRICE CHANGES.

EXTENDING THE PERIOD OF COMPARISON TO THE 12 MONTHS ENDING APRIL 1986 WITH THE 12 MONTHS ENDING APRIL 1985, THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS DECREASED BY 3 PER CENT, WHILE THAT OF RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 10 PER CENT, GIVING AN INCREASE OF 2 PER CENT IN THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS.

THE VOLUME OF IMPORTS ROSE BY 4 PER CENT. OVER THE SAME PERIOD, PRICES OF RE-EXPORTS REMAINED UNCHANGED, WHILE THOSE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BOTH DROPPED BY 1 PER CENT.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY COMMODITY GROUP FOR APRIL 1986 AS COMPARED WITH APRIL 1985 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

AS CAN BE SEEN FROM TABLE 1, DOMESTIC EXPORT PRICES OF MOST COMMODITY GROUPS FELL IN APRIL 1986 COMPARED WITH APRIL 1985. THESE INCLUDED RADIOS OF ALL KINDS (-11 PER CENT); DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES (-7 PER CENT); METAL ORES AND SCRAP (-5 PER CENT); TEXTILE FABRICS (-3 PER CENT) AS WELL AS TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD (-2 PER CENT).

INCREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORT PRICES WERE, HOWEVER, RECORDED FOR TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES (+9 PER CENT); WATCHES AND CLOCKS (+5 PER CENT); FOOTWEAR (+2 PER CENT) AS WELL AS ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (+1 PER CENT).

/THE DOMESTIC

THE DOMESTIC EXPORT VOLUME OF MOST COMMODITY GROUPS INCREASED IN APRIL 1986 COMPARED WITH APRIL 1985, INCLUDING WATCHES AND CLOCKS (+41 PER CENT); TEXTILE FABRICS (+41 PER CENT); RADIOS OF ALL KINDS (+29 PER CENT); ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (+25 PER CENT); TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD (+25 PER CENT); CLOTHING (+23 PER CENT) TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES (+20 PER CENT); METAL MANUFACTURES (+9 PER CENT); DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES (+2 PER CENT) AS WELL AS FOOTWEAR (+1 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, DECREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORT VOLUME WERE RECORDED FOR METAL ORES AND SCRAP (-51 PER CENT) AS WELL AS TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES (-16 PER CENT).

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY FOR APRIL 1986 AS COMPARED WITH APRIL 1985 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 2.

AS PRESENTED IN TABLE 2, IMPORT PRICES OF SOME END-USE CATEGORIES ROSE IN APRIL 1986 AS COMPARED WITH APRIL 1985, RANGING FROM 2 PER CENT FOR RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES TO 14 PER CENT FOR CAPITAL GOODS. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE IMPORT PRICES OF FUELS AND FOODSTUFFS DECREASED BY 32 PER CENT AND 2 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

MANY OF THE MAJOR IMPORTED FOODSTUFFS INCREASED IN VOLUME TERMS IN APRIL 1986 COMPARED WITH APRIL 1985. SIGNIFICANT GROWTH WAS RECORDED IN VEGETABLES; LIVE POULTRY; FRUIT; TEA AND COFFEE; MEAT AND MEAT PREPARATIONS AS WELL AS FISH AND FISH PREPARATIONS.

HOWEVER, DECREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE REGISTERED FOR RICE; CEREALS AND CEREAL PREPARATIONS, OTHER THAN RICE, WHEAT AND FLOUR; MILK, BUTTER, CHEESE AND EGGS; WHEAT AND FLOUR AS WELL AS ANIMALS OF THE BOVINE SPECIES.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE IMPORT VOLUME OF MANY CONSUMER GOODS INCREASED, THE MORE SUBSTANTIAL ONES BEING WATCHES; CLOTHING; MISCELLANEOUS MADE-UP ARTICLES OF TEXTILE MATERIALS AS WELL AS FOOTWEAR.

HOWEVER, DECREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE REGISTERED FOR HOUSEHOLD TYPE ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES; RADIOS, TELEVISION SETS, GRAMOPHONES, RECORDS, TAPE RECORDERS AND AMPLIFIERS; TOBACCO MANUFACTURES AS WELL AS PASSENGER MOTOR CARS.

THE IMPORT VOLUME OF MOST RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES ROSE IN APRIL 1986 COMPARED WITH APRIL 1985. THE MAJOR INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN COTTON YARN AND THREAD; CLAY AND REFRACTORY CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS, BUILDING MATERIALS, ETC., EXCEPT GLASS; WATCH AND CLOCK MOVEMENTS, CASES AND PARTS; CHEMICAL ELEMENTS AND COMPOUNDS; DYEING, TANNING AND COLOURING MATERIALS; RAW COTTON YARN OF WOOL AND MIXTURES; PAPER AND PAPERBOARD; FABRICS OF MAN-MADE FIBRES; CRUDE ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE MATERIALS; YARN OF MAN-MADE FIBRES AS WELL AS IRON AND STEEL.

DECREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE MAINLY NOTED FOR WOOL AND OTHER ANIMAL HAIR AS WELL AS BASE METALS, EXCLUDING IRON AND STEEL.

IMPORTS OF FUELS ROSE BY 67 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS IN APRIL 1986 AS COMPARED WITH APRIL 1985.

IN THE CAPITAL GOODS CATEGORY, THE IMPORT VOLUME OF SOME COMMODITIES DECREASED IN APRIL 1986 WHEN COMPARED WITH APRIL 1985, THE SUBSTANTIAL ONES BEING TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT= OFFICE MACHINES= CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY= SCIENTIFIC, MEDICAL, OPTICAL, MEASURING AND CONTROLLING INSTRUMENTS AND APPARATUS AS WELL AS OTHER INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY.

INCREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE RECORDED FOR TEXTILE MACHINERY AS WELL AS ELECTRICAL MACHINERY.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY FOR APRIL 1986 AS COMPARED WITH APRIL 1985 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 3.

AS DEPICTED IN TABLE 3, THE RE-EXPORT VOLUME OF SOME END-USE CATEGORIES INCREASED IN APRIL 1986 WHEN COMPARED WITH APRIL 1985, RANGING FROM 6 PER CENT FOR RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES TO 229 PER CENT FOR FUELS. HOWEVER, THE VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS OF CAPITAL GOODS AND CONSUMER GOODS DECREASED BY 23 PER CENT AND 1 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

FURTHER DETAILS ARE CONTAINED IN THE APRIL 1986 ISSUE OF THE +HONG KONG TRADE INDEX NUMBERS+ AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AROUND JULY 10 AT \$2.50 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ON REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION TO THIS REPORT AND ON TRADE INDEXES MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT BASKERVILLE HOUSE, HONG KONG (TEL. 5-214375) AND THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. 5-444584).

TABLE 1: INCREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY GROUP	COMPARING JAN-APR 1986 WITH JAN-APR 1985			COMPARING APRIL 1986 WITH APRIL 1985		
	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
CLOTHING	8	-2	11	22	*	23
TEXTILE FABRICS	21	-5	27	37	-3	41

/TEXTILE YARN

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TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD	14	-3	18	22	-2	25
TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES	4	-2	6	20	*	20
RADIOS OF ALL KINDS	-9	-10	1	15	-11	29
ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS	-1	7	-8	27	1	25
FOOTWEAR	11	1	10	4	2	1
METAL MANUFACTURES	3	-1	4	9	*	9
METAL ORES AND SCRAP	-36	-5	-33	-53	-5	-51
WATCHES AND CLOCKS	26	2	24	48	5	41
TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES	-12	6	-17	-9	9	-16
DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES	-19	-9	-11	-5	-7	2
ALL COMMODITIES	5	*	5	17	1	17

TABLE 2: INCREASES IN IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY

END-USE CATEGORY	COMPARING JAN-APR 1986 WITH JAN-APR 1985			COMPARING APRIL 1986 WITH APRIL 1985		
	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
FOODSTUFFS	14	-3	17	13	-2	15
CONSUMER GOODS	8	7	1	20	10	9

/RAW MATERIALS

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RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	9	*	9	17	2	15
FUELS	3	-19	27	13	-32	67
CAPITAL GOODS	-7	13	-18	-5	14	-16
ALL COMMODITIES	6	3	3	14	4	9

TABLE 3: INCREASES IN RE-EXPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY

END-USE CATEGORY	COMPARING JAN-APR 1986 WITH JAN-APR 1985			COMPARING APRIL 1986 WITH APRIL 1985		
	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
FOODSTUFFS	30	1	29	28	1	27
CONSUMER GOODS	-3	3	-5	2	3	-1
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	2	-5	7	2	-4	6
FUELS	65	-17	100	131	-30	229
CAPITAL GOODS	-28	8	-33	-14	11	-23
ALL COMMODITIES	-4	*	-4	1	2	-1

NOTE: * INSIGNIFICANT, I.E. LESS THAN 0.5 PER CENT.

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IMPORTANT COGS IN DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION * * * * *

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION HELPS CO-ORDINATE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GOVERNMENT POLICIES AND SPEED UP RESPONSES TO PUBLIC NEEDS, THE MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICER, MRS BRENDA FUNG, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

MRS FUNG WAS EXPLAINING THE MODEL OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AT A RESIDENTS' SEMINAR ORGANISED BY THE TAI KOK TSUI AREA COMMITTEE AND THE MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICE.

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+THE DISTRICT BOARD AND THE DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE ARE COMPATIBLE PARTNERS WORKING HAND IN HAND TO MANAGE THE DISTRICT,+ SHE SAID.

+THE DISTRICT BOARD REFLECTS RESIDENTS' VIEWS TO THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, WHILE THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE SOLICITS RESIDENTS' VIEWS ON GOVERNMENT POLICIES THROUGH THE DISTRICT BOARD,+ SHE ADDED.

MRS FUNG SAID AREA COMMITTEES HAD AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN GATHERING VIEWS FOR THE BOARD, ESPECIALLY VIEWS FROM BUILDING MANAGEMENT ORGANISATIONS.

AREA COMMITTEES COMPRISED REPRESENTATIVES FROM LOCAL BODIES, VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND OWNERS' INCORPORATIONS AND WERE VITAL COMMUNICATION LINKS BETWEEN THE BOARD AND THE RESIDENTS.

SHE SAID THE TAI KOK TSUI AREA COMMITTEE HAD BEEN VERY ACTIVE IN REFLECTING PUBLIC VIEWS.

THE COMMITTEE HAD EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT VARIOUS LOCAL ISSUES, INCLUDING ERECTION OF BUS STOP SHELTERS, PROVISION OF LORRY PARKING SPACES, PROPOSALS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS, AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE TAI KOK TSUI TEMPORARY MARKET. THE GOVERNMENT'S DOCUMENT ON THE TRIAD PROBLEM HAD ALSO BEEN DISCUSSED.

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YOUTH ACTIVITIES PROMOTE CARE FOR COMMUNITY
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THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME STARTED TODAY (SATURDAY) WITH AN EXHIBITION ON +THE LIFE OF THE DEAF+ AT THE HENNESSY ROAD PLAYGROUND AND A TRAM PARADE IN THE DISTRICT.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY, WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ROGER GARCIA, SAID THE CENTRAL THEME OF THIS YEAR'S SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME WAS +CARING FOR THE COMMUNITY AND GETTING TO KNOW IT BETTER+.

HE SAID IT WAS HOPED THAT THROUGH THE ORGANISING OF AND PARTICIPATION IN SUMMER ACTIVITIES, YOUNG PEOPLE WOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO CARE MORE ABOUT THEIR COMMUNITY AND TO TAKE PART MORE ACTIVELY IN DISTRICT AFFAIRS.

HE SAID THAT MOST OF THE 130 ACTIVITIES UNDER THE DISTRICT'S PROGRAMME HAD BEEN DESIGNED TO INCORPORATE THE CENTRAL THEME, APART FROM THE RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL ASPECTS.

/THESE INCLUDED

THESE INCLUDED A TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR YOUNG REPORTERS, VISITS TO HOMES FOR THE AGED, LEADERSHIP TRAINING CAMPS, AND EXHIBITIONS AND QUIZ ON VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE COMMUNITY.

MR GARCIA POINTED OUT THAT THIS WAS ALSO PART OF THE CIVIC EDUCATION BEING PROMOTED EXTENSIVELY THIS YEAR.

THE DISTRICT OFFICE, TOGETHER WITH THE DISTRICT BOARD, AREA COMMITTEES AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS WOULD JOINTLY ORGANISE VARIOUS FUNCTIONS TO PROMOTE CIVIC EDUCATION AMONG THE DIFFERENT SECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY, MR GARCIA SAID.

ALSO OFFICIATING AT TODAY'S CEREMONY WERE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT'S SYP CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, MR STEPHEN WONG, DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER, MR LEE KON, MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE ON YOUTH, MR KWOK KA-MING, AND THE SUPERVISOR-IN-CHARGE OF ST. JAMES' SETTLEMENT, MISS KAY LAI.

AFTER THE CEREMONY, A GROUP OF VOLUNTEERS BOARDED A SPECIAL TRAM AND TOURED THE DISTRICT, STOPPING AT VARIOUS PLACES TO DISTRIBUTE PAMPHLETS CONTAINING THE DETAILS OF THE DISTRICT'S SYP TO THE PUBLIC.

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STEADY YEAR FOR CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT

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THE BUSINESS OF ALL CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES HAS CONTINUED TO BE STEADY LAST YEAR, THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE, SAID THIS (SATURDAY) EVENING.

ADDRESSING THE 64TH INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE DAY CELEBRATION DINNER IN HIS CAPACITY AS REGISTRAR OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES, DR LEE SAID THAT VEGETABLE MARKETING CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES CONTINUED TO PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE MARKETING OF VEGETABLES.

IN ADDITION, THE FEDERATION OF VEGETABLE MARKETING CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES HAD ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR IN ITS ANCILLARY OPERATIONS SUCH AS THE CO-OPERATIVE SALE OF ROTARY CULTIVATORS, PLASTIC BASKETS AND GOOD QUALITY PESTICIDES AT LOW PRICES.

DR LEE SAID THAT THE FEDERATION ALSO MADE FULL USE OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

+LAST YEAR, UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP OF THE FEDERATION AND THE VEGETABLE MARKETING ORGANISATION, 14 FARMERS VISITED THE UNITED STATES TO LEARN ABOUT VEGETABLE CULTIVATION AND MARKETING AND TO EXCHANGE EXPERIENCE AND INFORMATION WITH OVERSEAS COUNTERPARTS, + HE SAID.

/DR LEE

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DR LEE SAID THAT THE FEDERATION OF PIG RAISING CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES CONTINUED TO HELP MEMBERS UPGRADE THEIR BREEDING STOCK BY IMPORTING PEDIGREED ANIMALS FROM OVERSEAS, AND BY ORGANISING MONTHLY TECHNICAL DISCUSSION MEETINGS FOR MEMBERS.

HE NOTED THAT THE FEDERATION WAS PLANNING TO PRODUCE A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER TO FACILITATE THE DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION ON MODERN PIG PRODUCTION TECHNIQUES.

DR LEE SAID THAT FARMERS' CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF AGRICULTURAL CREDIT.

+DURING 1985-86, OF \$19.5 MILLION LOANED TO FARMERS FROM THE VARIOUS LOAN FUNDS ADMINISTERED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, 19 PER CENT WERE CHANNELLED THROUGH THESE SOCIETIES,+ HE SAID.

IN ADDITION, THE SOCIETIES ISSUED \$430 000 FROM THEIR OWN REVOLVING LOAN FUNDS TO MEET A WIDE RANGE OF FARM CREDIT NEEDS BY MEMBERS.

DURING THE SAME PERIOD, FISHERMEN'S SOCIETIES LOANED OUT ABOUT \$12 MILLION TO MEMBERS FOR BUILDING NEW VESSELS, PURCHASING FISHING GEAR AND REPAIRING ENGINE AND HULL.

LAST YEAR, HE ADDED, THE DEPARTMENT AND THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION SPONSORED TEN FISHERMEN ON A 12-DAY STUDY TOUR TO THE UNITED KINGDOM AND NORWAY TO LEARN OF THE LATEST DEVELOPMENT IN FISHING TECHNOLOGY.

REFERRING TO URBAN CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES, DR LEE SAID A REVIEW OF LOCAL CIVIL SERVANTS CO-OPERATIVE BUILDING SOCIETIES WAS COMPLETED LAST YEAR.

GOVERNMENT HAD AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO PERMIT THE TRANSFER OF THE LEGAL TITLE TO FLATS AND LAND FROM SUCH SOCIETIES TO THEIR MEMBERS AND TO PERMIT THE SALE, LETTING OR OTHER DISPOSAL OF SUCH PROPERTIES SUBJECT TO CERTAIN PRESCRIBED CONDITIONS.

HE SAID THAT THREE CONSUMERS' SOCIETIES WERE REGISTERED IN THE PAST YEAR, BRINGING THE TOTAL TO TEN.

DR LEE THEN PRESENTED CERTIFICATES TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ABERDEEN MECHANISED CONGER PIKE SMALL LONG LINER FISHERMEN'S CREDIT CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY UNLIMITED, MR LAI MUK-KAM, COMMITTEE MEMBER OF THE TSUI KENG VEGETABLE MARKETING CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED, MR YEUNG YEE-HOI, AND SECRETARY OF THE HUNG SHUI KIU TIN SAI PIG RAISING CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED, MR WONG HON-SING.

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IMPORTANCE OF MAC'S STRESSED

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MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES (MAC'S) ARE THE CORNERSTONE OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION THROUGH WHICH THE GOVERNMENT CAN KEEP ITS FINGERS ON THE PULSE OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES, YUEN LONG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR JAMES WILSON, SAID.

THIS WAS THE MESSAGE, HE ADDED, HE HAD BEEN BRINGING ACROSS SINCE HE STARTED HIS EVENING VISIT EVERY THURSDAYS TO MAC'S AND OWNERS CORPORATIONS IN THE DISTRICT TWO MONTHS AGO.

+ALTHOUGH THE DISTRICT OFFICE IS IN CLOSE AND CONSTANT CONTACT WITH THE MAC'S, CALLING ON THEM IN THE EVENING HAS ENABLED ME AND THE DISTRICT OFFICE TO SEE HOW THEY ACTUALLY OPERATE SINCE MOST MAC ACTIVITIES ARE CARRIED OUT AFTER MEMBERS RETURN HOME FROM WORK.

+MORE IMPORTANTLY, IT ALLOWS US TO HAVE MORE IN-DEPTH DISCUSSIONS ON LOCAL ISSUES,+ HE SAID.

MR WILSON SAID THAT SINCE MAC MEMBERS WERE IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH RESIDENTS OF THEIR OWN BUILDINGS, THEY WERE IN AN IDEAL POSITION TO REFLECT THE VIEWS AND CONCERN OF THE PEOPLE, NOT ONLY ON LOCAL AFFAIRS, BUT ALSO ON GOVERNMENT POLICIES IN GENERAL.

AT PRESENT, THERE ARE 194 MAC'S AND 26 OWNERS CORPORATIONS IN YUEN LONG AND THE NUMBER IS EXPECTED TO GROW AS THE DISTRICT TRANSFORMS FROM A RURAL AREA INTO A SATELLITE TOWN WITH MORE AND MORE BUILDINGS COMING UP EVERY DAY.

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PAMPHLET EXPLAINS LANGUAGE POLICY TO PARENTS

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AN INFORMATION PAMPHLET HAS BEEN PRODUCED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO HELP PARENTS OF SECONDARY SCHOOL PUPILS OBTAIN A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE POLICY ON ENCOURAGING WIDER USE OF CHINESE AS THE TEACHING MEDIUM.

THE PAMPHLET, ENTITLED +INFORMATION FOR PARENTS ON THE USE OF CHINESE AS THE TEACHING MEDIUM IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS+, IS BEING DISTRIBUTED TO 400 000 PARENTS THROUGH THEIR CHILDREN IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

IT EXPLAINS HOW THE POLICY ON THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION CAME INTO BEING, MEASURES TO BE TAKEN TO ENCOURAGE SCHOOLS TO ADOPT WIDER USE OF CHINESE WITHOUT SACRIFICING PUPILS' ENGLISH STANDARD, AND HOW PARENTS MAY CONVEY THEIR VIEWS ON THE ISSUE TO SCHOOLS.

/KEY FEATURES

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KEY FEATURES OF THE LANGUAGE MEASURES ARE THE PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL TEACHERS OF ENGLISH AND OTHER RESOURCES, SUCH AS A GRANT FOR THE PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL READING MATERIALS IN ENGLISH AND OF OTHER TEACHING AIDS, TO MAINTAIN AND FURTHER IMPROVE THE STANDARD OF ENGLISH IN SCHOOLS WHICH PLAN TO USE CHINESE MORE EXTENSIVELY.

ALL EXISTING CHINESE MIDDLE SCHOOLS WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR THESE ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AUTOMATICALLY. THEY WILL ALSO BE GIVEN TO GRAMMAR SCHOOLS, TECHNICAL SCHOOLS AND PREVOCATION SCHOOLS IF THEY MAKE WIDER USE OF CHINESE.

PARENTS WILL ALSO NOTE IN THE PAMPHLET THAT SCHOOLS WILL BE ENCOURAGED TO REMOVE FROM THEIR REGISTERED NAMES ANY REFERENCE TO THE LANGUAGE MODE THEY USE IN TEACHING, SUCH AS THE TERMINOLOGY +ANGLO-CHINESE+ OR +CHINESE MIDDLE+. THIS IS ANOTHER MEASURE INTENDED TO ELIMINATE THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN ENGLISH AND CHINESE SCHOOLS.

THE PAMPHLET ALSO ADVISES PARENTS THAT THE LANGUAGE MEDIUM INDICATOR WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION WITH EFFECT FROM 1986 AND THAT CONSIDERATION IS GIVEN TO MAKING THE HONG KONG ADVANCED LEVEL EXAMINATION AVAILABLE IN THE MEDIUM OF CHINESE.

PARENTS WHO WISH TO CONVEY THEIR VIEWS ON THE ISSUE TO SCHOOLS OR TO LEARN MORE ABOUT IT ARE ADVISED TO CONTACT DIRECTLY THE SCHOOL THAT THEIR CHILDREN ARE ATTENDING.

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SCOUTING EXPERIENCE FOR TRAINING CENTRE INMATES * * * * *

ABOUT 80 YOUNG INMATES OF THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S TRAINING CENTRES TODAY (SATURDAY) BECAME SCOUTS FOLLOWING THE INAUGURATION OF THE 221ST HONG KONG GROUP.

THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY WAS HELD AT THE LAI KING TRAINING CENTRE AND WAS OFFICIATED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, MR CHAN WA-SHEK, AND THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF SCOUTS, MR CHAU CHAM-SON. ALL GROUP MEMBERS ARE TRAINING CENTRE INMATES AGED 14 TO 21.

SPEAKING AT THE CEREMONY, MR CHAN SAID SCOUTING WOULD HELP YOUNG PEOPLE TO DEVELOP THEIR CHARACTER.

/+THE INCLUSION

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+THE INCLUSION OF SUCH AN ACTIVITY IN THE TRAINING CENTRES WILL SUBSTANTIALLY HELP TO ACHIEVE THE DESIRED RESULTS OF CORRECTIONAL PROGRAMMING.

+I HOPE THEY WILL 'BE PREPARED' TO ACCEPT THE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES WHICH LIE AHEAD. BY HOLDING THEIR HEADS HIGH, THEY WILL LEARN TO BECOME USEFUL MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY ON THEIR RELEASE.+

MR CHAU SAID HE WAS HAPPY TO SET UP THE NEW GROUP JOINTLY WITH THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

+BY PROMOTING SCOUTING, MORE YOUNG PEOPLE CAN SPEND THEIR TIME AND ENERGY ON MORE MEANINGFUL ACTIVITIES,+ HE SAID.

A TOTAL OF 78 INMATES WERE AFFIRMED AS SCOUTS OR VENTURE SCOUTS DURING THE CEREMONY. THEY WERE SELECTED FROM MORE THAN 200 APPLICANTS IN THE LAI KING TRAINING CENTRE AND THE CAPE COLLINSON CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION.

NINETEEN CORRECTIONAL SERVICES STAFF WHO HAD BEEN TRAINED AS SCOUT LEADERS WERE ALSO FORMALLY APPOINTED.

SCOUTING ACTIVITIES HAS EXISTED IN CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS AS EARLY AS IN 1950, WHEN THE 8TH HONG KONG GROUP WAS FOUNDED AT THE THEN STANLEY TRAINING CENTRE WITH ABOUT 40 MEMBERS. THE GROUP WAS DISBANDED IN 1973 FOLLOWING THE CLOSURE OF THE CENTRE.

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TECHNICAL STUDENTS EXCEL IN UK EXAMS
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FIVE STUDENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL WON HIGH HONOURS IN THE LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRIES EXAMINATIONS CONDUCTED LAST YEAR.

IN THE WORLD AGGREGATE EXAMINATION RESULTS RELEASED RECENTLY, FOK YUEN-BING OF THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE CAME SECOND IN THE HIGHER COST ACCOUNTING PAPER FOR SPRING 1985.

TSANG PUI-YI, ALSO FROM THE INSTITUTE'S COMMERCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT, WAS PLACED SECOND IN THE INTERMEDIATE BOOK-KEEPING EXAMINATION FOR SUMMER 1985.

CHAU PUI-SIM, A CLASSMATE OF MISS TSANG, GAINED THE HIGHEST MARK IN THE INTERMEDIATE ECONOMICS EXAMINATION FOR SUMMER 1985.

/AND ON

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AND ON GRADING ON REGIONAL BASIS, LAU SIU-MING FROM THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE AND NG HIN-TAO FROM THE LEE WAI LEE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE LAST YEAR ALSO TOPPED THE HONG KONG CENTRE'S SCORE LISTS IN THE INTERMEDIATE TYPEWRITING AND HIGHER BUSINESS STATISTICS PAPERS RESPECTIVELY.

THEY HAVE BEEN AWARDED MEDALLIONS AND CERTIFICATES FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IN THE EXAMINATIONS.

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KWUN TONG SUMMER ACTIVITIES BEGIN TOMORROW
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THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR BRIAN CHAU, WILL OPEN THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME AT THE HIU KWONG STREET INDOOR STADIUM TOMORROW (SUNDAY) AFTERNOON.

A LARGE-SCALE VARIETY SHOW, FEATURING THE VITALITY OF YOUTHS, AND A TELEMATCH BETWEEN THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED AND THE ABLE-BODIED YOUTHS WILL BE HELD TO MARK THE LAUNCHING OF SUMMER ACTIVITIES.

PROGRAMMES FOR THE AFTERNOON INCLUDE PERFORMANCES BY POPULAR SINGERS AND DISC JOCKEYS, A BRASS BAND, A FOLK DANCE TEAM AND A HARMONICA BAND.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME OPENING CEREMONY TO BE HELD TOMORROW AT 2 PM AT HIU KWONG STREET INDOOR STADIUM IN KWUN TONG.

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MAN KAM TO ROAD TO BE FURTHER IMPROVED
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TENDERS ARE BEING INVITED FOR THE SECOND AND FINAL STAGE OF A PROJECT TO IMPROVE THE ROAD LINK WITH CHINA AT MAN KAM TO.

WORK INVOLVES WIDENING ABOUT 500 METRES OF JOCKEY CLUB ROAD AND MAN KAM TO ROAD FROM SIX METRES TO 10.3 METRES TO ACCOMMODATE THREE LANES OF TRAFFIC.

/TWO EXISTING

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TWO EXISTING SUB-STANDARD BRIDGES IN THE AREA ARE TO BE DEMOLISHED AND REBUILT INTO A FOUR-CELL BOX CULVERT AND A REINFORCED CONCRETE BRIDGE.

THE PROJECT INCLUDES LANDSCAPING, ROAD DRAINAGE WORKS AND THE PROVISION OF RETAINING WALLS.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN SEPTEMBER AND BE COMPLETED IN 18 MONTHS.

LAST WEEK, THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT AWARDED AN \$18 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE FIRST STAGE OF THE IMPROVEMENT SCHEME.

UNDER THIS, THE CONTRACTOR, HENRYVICY CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED, WILL WIDEN THREE KILOMETRES OF MAN KAM TO ROAD BETWEEN JOCKEY CLUB ROAD AND LIN MA HANG.

THE CONTRACT ALSO INCLUDES CONSTRUCTION OF A 1.6-METRE-WIDE FOOTPATH ALONG THE CARRIAGEWAY, RETAINING WALLS AND ASSOCIATED DRAINAGE.

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JOINT UC-RC CAMPAIGN TO BE LAUNCHED

THE FIRST URBAN COUNCIL AND REGIONAL COUNCIL JOINT CAMPAIGN -- THE CLEAN BEACH PHASE OF THE KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN -- IS TO BE LAUNCHED TOMORROW (SUNDAY) BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED UC-RC KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN STEERING COMMITTEE, MR WALTER M. SULKE, AT REPULSE BAY BEACH OUTSIDE THE MCDONALD'S RESTAURANT STARTING 2 PM.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT. TRANSPORT FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE AVAILABLE OUTSIDE THE UC CHAMBERS AT EDINBURGH PLACE AT 12.30 PM.

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POSTAL SERVICES RESUME
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THE POST OFFICE ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE INDUSTRIAL DISPUTE AT THE MELBOURNE POST OFFICE IN AUSTRALIA HAD BEEN RESOLVED.

ALL POSTAL SERVICES FROM HONG KONG TO VICTORIA WERE BACK TO NORMAL. HOWEVER, IN THE NEXT WEEK OR SO DELIVERY OF SURFACE MAILS MIGHT STILL BE SUBJECT TO DELAY.

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MORE PARKING METERS FOR KWAI CHUNG
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SEVEN MORE PARKING METERS IN KWAI CHUNG WILL BECOME OPERATIONAL FROM TUESDAY (JULY 8).

THE TWO-HOUR METERS, WHICH ARE INSTALLED ON HING FONG ROAD OUTSIDE BLOCK 2 KWAI HING ESTATE, ARE FOR VEHICLES OTHER THAN MEDIUM AND HEAVY GOODS VEHICLES, BUSES, MOTOR-CYCLES AND BICYCLES.

THE OPERATING HOURS WILL BE FROM 8 AM TO MIDNIGHT EXCEPT ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS. THE FEE WILL BE \$1 FOR 30 MINUTES.

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PLB RESTRICTION ON CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD
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FROM 10 AM ON TUESDAY (JULY 8), WESTBOUND CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD IN LAI CHI KOK, FROM A POINT ABOUT 33 METRES WEST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH TAI NAN WEST STREET TO KOM TSUN STREET, WILL BE DESIGNATED A PUBLIC LIGHT BUS RESTRICTED ZONE FROM 7 AM TO 12 MIDNIGHT DAILY.

NO PLB'S WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS WITHIN THE RESTRICTED AREA.

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