



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
BRIGHT FUTURE FOR N.T. PREDICTED	1
MBA STUDENTS TOLD OF NEED FOR ANALYTICAL SKILLS	2
GOVERNOR TO INSPECT CSD ANNUAL PARADE	3
APPEAL FOR MORE U.C. ELECTION CANDIDATES	3
POLYTECHNIC GRADUATES IN DEMAND	4
QUARTERLY SURVEY OF WAGES, SALARIES AND BENEFITS	6
CONTRACTORS URGED TO KEEP UP SAFETY EFFORTS	10
CHILDREN'S MARCHING BAND TO EXPAND	11
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT CLEARANCE AT WONG TAI SIN	12
FLORAL ART COMPETITION FOR STUDENTS	13
KELLET BAY SITES OFFERED FOR SHORT TERM TENANCY	14
SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN SHA TIN	14

- 1 -

BRIGHT FUTURE FOR N.T. PREDICTED
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VIGOROUS INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE AND A STABLE ADMINISTRATION ARE TWO MAIN ELEMENTS IN A PICTURE OF THE NEW TERRITORIES PAINTED TODAY BY THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR NEW TERRITORIES, MR IAN MACPHERSON.

IN A LUNCHEON SPEECH TO THE ROTARY CLUB OF KOWLOON, HE NOTED THAT THE INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE, BY BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR, WOULD BE UNDETERRED BY THE CURRENT ECONOMIC RECESSION AND WOULD NOT BE DISTRACTED BY CONSIDERATION OF THE POLITICAL FUTURE.

BUT RATHER, IT WOULD BE COMPLEMENTED BY A MASSIVE AND DEDICATED EFFORT TO CREATE COMMUNITIES IN THE NEW TOWNS IN WHICH HUGE NUMBERS OF PEOPLE WERE CONTENT TO LIVE AND BRING UP THEIR CHILDREN, HE SAID.

+ALL THIS IS IN THE CONTEXT OF A WELL ORDERED LEGAL AND FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK AND A STABLE ADMINISTRATION WHICH IS ALL TOO FREQUENTLY TAKEN FOR GRANTED,+ HE SAID.

MR MACPHERSON SAID GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME WOULD BE MAINTAINED AND INCREASED IN THE COMING FINANCIAL YEAR AT 20 PER CENT ABOVE THE CURRENT YEAR'S \$3.1 BILLION.

HOWEVER, HE POINTED OUT THAT THIS DID NOT INCLUDE THE COST OF PUBLIC HOUSING BEING PROVIDED BY THE HOUSING AUTHORITY, NOR DID IT INCLUDE THE COST OF COMMITTED PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT.

+JUST LOOKING AT A FEW OF THE COMMITTED NEW TOWN PRIVATE-SECTOR PROJECTS, I ADDED UP CAPITAL COSTS OF SEVERAL HUNDRED BILLION DOLLARS,+ HE SAID.

MR MACPHERSON POINTED OUT THAT OVER 40 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL N.T. LAND MASS WAS COUNTRY PARK OR WATER CATCHMENT WHICH COULD NOT BE DEVELOPED.

+ONE OF THE PLEASING THINGS IS THAT WE ARE NOW MOVING BEYOND THE PURE PROVISION OF CONCRETE AND BITUMEN INTO THE CREATION OF PARKS AND OPEN SPACES, RECREATIONAL AND AMENITY FACILITY, TREE PLANTING AND LANDSCAPING ALL AIMED AT PRODUCING A PLEASANT LIVING ENVIRONMENT.+

CRUCIAL TO ALL THIS WAS THE TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE AND THIS PROGRAMME TOO WAS PRESSING AHEAD BOTH IN TERMS OF CURRENT PROJECTS AND FUTURE PLANNING, HE SAID.

IN THIS CONTEXT, HE POINTED TO THE COMPLETION OF THE TUEN MUN HIGHWAY AND THE ELECTRIFICATION OF THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY UP TO THE BORDER, PLUS THE TSUEN WAN AND YUEN LONG BYPASSES, AND THE NEW TERRITORIES CIRCULAR ROAD WHICH WOULD LINK UP WITH THE NEW BRIDGE TO BE BUILT JOINTLY WITH THE SHENZHEN AUTHORITIES.

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- 2 -

MBA STUDENTS TOLD OF NEED FOR ANALYTICAL SKILLS

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IF ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION IS TO DEVELOP REAL MOMENTUM IN HONG KONG, CERTAIN ANALYTICAL SKILLS ARE REQUIRED TO IDENTIFY NEW POSSIBILITIES AND TO DEFINE RELEVANT RESOURCES.

THIS WAS STATED TODAY BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE TOWN CENTRE OF THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY'S THREE-YEAR MBA PROGRAMME.

+A SCHOOL OF BUSINESS STUDIES CLEARLY HAS A ROLE TO PLAY IN DEVELOPING SUCH ANALYTICAL SKILLS, ALTHOUGH LET US NOT DISCOUNT THE ROLE OF INSTINCT AND PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE IN BUSINESS,+ HE SAID.

SIR PHILIP SAID HE SAW THE UNIVERSITY'S MBA PROGRAMME AS HAVING A REAL INFLUENCE ON THE FUTURE PATTERN AND SPEED OF DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG'S ECONOMY.

+IT TAKES MORE THAN ENTREPRENEURIAL VISION, DETERMINATION AND CAPITAL TO EXPLORE NEW AREAS WITH WHICH, BY DEFINITION, ANY GIVEN GENERATION OF BUSINESSMEN IS UNFAMILIAR,+ SIR PHILIP SAID.

IN TODAY'S INCREASINGLY COMPLEX AND SOPHISTICATED WORLD, NATURAL APTITUDE MUST BE SUPPORTED BY THE WILLING ACCEPTANCE OF NEW TECHNOLOGY AND TRAINING AND RETRAINING PROGRAMMES, HE SAID.

+IT IS IN THIS CONTEXT THAT THE ROLE OF STUDIES IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION MUST BE CONSIDERED,+ HE ADDED.

WHILE BUSINESS EDUCATION SHOULD NOT BE A SUBSTITUTE FOR GENERAL EDUCATION, PROVEN LITERACY AND NUMERACY MUST BE PRE-REQUISITES FOR ANY ASPIRING STUDENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, SIR PHILIP SAID.

HE STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF PLAIN LANGUAGE IN BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS AS JARGON COULD BE +VERY UNATTRACTIVE AND ALMOST UNINTELLIGIBLE+.

+AS FOR NUMERACY, THERE CAN REALLY BE FEW SUCCESSFUL BUSINESSMEN WITHOUT A NATURAL FACILITY FOR HANDLING ARITHMETIC MATERIAL.

+NEVERTHELESS, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT ANY MBA PROGRAMME SHOULD EQUIP STUDENTS TO ACQUIRE A REAL UNDERSTANDING OF HOW STATISTICS CAN BE USED HONESTLY AND EFFICIENTLY,+ HE SAID.

SIR PHILIP SAID HE WAS HAPPY TO SEE THAT THE PROGRAMME INCLUDES AN EMPHASIS ON COMPUTER-RELATED ASSIGNMENTS.

A KNOWLEDGE OF HOW COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY CAN BE APPLIED IN THE MODERN BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT IS SELF-EVIDENTLY NECESSARY THESE DAYS, HE ADDED.

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 1983

- 3 -

GOVERNOR TO INSPECT CSD ANNUAL PARADE

THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, WILL INSPECT THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES' ANNUAL PARADE TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT THE PARADE GROUND OF THE DEPARTMENT'S STAFF TRAINING INSTITUTE IN STANLEY.

SIR EDWARD WILL ALSO PRESENT COLONIAL PRISON SERVICE MEDALS AWARDED FOR 18 YEARS' EXEMPLARY SERVICE TO 31 OFFICERS DURING THE CEREMONY.

SEVEN CONTINGENTS COMPRISING 200 OFFICERS FROM VARIOUS INSTITUTIONS WILL TAKE PART IN THE PARADE COMMANDED BY SENIOR SUPERINTENDENT, MR WONG WAH-CHIU.

THE CAPE COLLINSON MARCHING BAND AND THE TAI TAM GIRLS PIPERS AND PRECISION MARCHING TEAM WILL PERFORM.

THE ANNUAL PARADE IS ONE OF THE MAJOR EVENTS OF THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL PARADE WHICH WILL BE INSPECTED BY THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, AT THE PARADE GROUND OF THE STAFF TRAINING INSTITUTE ON FRIDAY (JANUARY 21) AT 4.15 PM.

PRESS TRANSPORT WILL LEAVE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S HEADQUARTERS AT GUARDIAN HOUSE, 32 01 KWAN ROAD, WAN CHAI AT 3.15 PM SHARP.

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APPEAL FOR MORE U.C. ELECTION CANDIDATES

TWENTY-FOUR CANDIDATES, INCLUDING SEVEN SERVING URBAN COUNCILLORS AND FIVE ELECTED DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS, HAVE COME FORWARD TO STAND IN THE NEXT URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS SINCE NOMINATIONS BEGAN A FORTNIGHT AGO.

THEY WILL BE CONTESTING IN 12 OF THE 15 CONSTITUENCIES FOR THE MARCH 8 ELECTIONS. OF THE 12, FOUR CONSTITUENCIES -- CENTRAL AND WESTERN, WAN CHAI, KOWLOON CITY WEST AND KWUN TONG WEST -- HAVE ONLY ONE CANDIDATE EACH SO FAR.

THE FOUR SEATS WILL BE UNCONTESTED UNLESS MORE CANDIDATES REGISTER BEFORE NOMINATIONS CLOSE ON JANUARY 28.

THE THREE CONSTITUENCIES WHICH STILL DO NOT HAVE ANY CANDIDATE NOMINATED ARE KOWLOON CITY EAST, WONG TAI SIN SOUTH AND WONG TAI SIN NORTH.

/A SPOKESMAN

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION TODAY APPEALED TO CIVIC-MINDED CITIZENS INTERESTED IN THE WORK OF THE URBAN COUNCIL TO SUBMIT THEIR NOMINATIONS BEFORE FRIDAY (JANUARY 28).

THE URBAN COUNCIL PLAYS AN IMPORTANT PART IN THE DAY TO DAY MANAGEMENT OF THE CITY, HE SAID.

+WE ARE LOOKING FOR PEOPLE OF CALIBRE, HAVING THE WELFARE OF THE PUBLIC AT HEART AND WILLING TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY TO STAND IN THE ELECTIONS,+ HE ADDED.

UNDER THE NEW SYSTEM, THE ELECTED URBAN COUNCILLORS WILL AUTOMATICALLY SERVE ON DISTRICT BOARDS.

THIS WILL BE THE FIRST CONSTITUENCY-BASED URBCO ELECTIONS WITH ONE CANDIDATE TO BE ELECTED FROM EACH OF THE 15 CONSTITUENCIES.

THERE ARE 708 119 REGISTERED VOTERS FOR THE COMING ELECTIONS. FOR THE LAST URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS TWO YEARS AGO, THERE WERE ONLY 34 000 PEOPLE REGISTERED AS VOTERS.

AS THE SIZE OF THE REGISTERED ELECTORATE IN EACH URBCO CONSTITUENCY IS NOW MUCH LARGER THAN THAT OF AN AVERAGE DISTRICT BOARD CONSTITUENCY, THE EXPECTED VOTER TURNOUT SHOULD BE CORRESPONDINGLY GREATER, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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POLYTECHNIC GRADUATES IN DEMAND

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DESPITE A SIGNIFICANT EXPANSION IN THE GRADUATE OUTPUT OF THE POLYTECHNIC, ITS STUDENTS ARE VERY MUCH SOUGHT AFTER BY EMPLOYERS IN ALL FIELDS.

THIS IS EASILY DEMONSTRATED BY THE SPEEDY MANNER WITH WHICH THEY OBTAIN THEIR JOBS AND THE INCREASED STARTING SALARIES THEY RECEIVE EACH YEAR.

THIS WAS STATED BY SIR S.Y. CHUNG, CHAIRMAN OF THE POLYTECHNIC COUNCIL, AT THE OPENING OF THE FIFTH CIVIL SERVICE CAREERS EXHIBITION AT THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC THIS (THURSDAY) MORNING.

ELABORATING ON HIS FIRST POINT, SIR S.Y. SAID BETWEEN 93 TO 96 PER CENT OF THE POLYTECHNIC GRADUATES WERE EITHER IN GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT OR PURSUING FURTHER STUDIES WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF THEIR GRADUATION.

ONLY 183 OR 7.2 PER CENT OF THE 2 558 STUDENTS WHO GRADUATED LAST YEAR CLAIM TO BE STILL UNEMPLOYED. AND THIS IS PARTLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE FACT THAT GRADUATES NOWADAYS TEND TO BE MORE SELECTIVE ABOUT THEIR JOBS AND EMPLOYERS AND HENCE TAKE LONGER TO SETTLE DOWN IN FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT.

- 5 -

TURNING TO OVERALL STARTING SALARIES FOR GRADUATES, SIR S.Y. NOTED THAT THE AVERAGE INCREASE BETWEEN 1976 AND 1982 WAS OVER 17 PER CENT PER YEAR AND EVEN IN THE RECESSION YEAR OF 1982, IT WAS 15.4 PER CENT.

HIGHER INCREASES WERE ALSO RECORDED IN SOME AREAS, HE ADDED.

+FOR EXAMPLE, PROFESSIONAL DIPLOMA HOLDERS RECEIVED IN 1982 SALARIES NEARLY 19 PER CENT HIGHER THAN THAT IN 1981 AND IN 1981 NEARLY 24 PER CENT MORE THAN THAT IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR.+

SIR S.Y., WHO IS ALSO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE STANDING COMMISSION ON CIVIL SERVICE SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE, TOLD THE GATHERING THAT THE GOVERNMENT OFFERS VERY GOOD SALARIES AND ATTRACTIVE CONDITIONS OF SERVICE TO ITS EMPLOYEES.

+EVIDENCE OBTAINED BY THE PAY INVESTIGATION UNIT IN GOVERNMENT INDICATES THAT CIVIL SERVICE STARTING SALARIES COMPARE FAVOURABLY WITH, AND IN SOME CASES ARE CONSIDERABLY HIGHER THAN, THOSE IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR ON JOBS REQUIRING THE SAME QUALIFICATIONS,+ HE SAID.

+THERE IS ALSO EVIDENCE THAT THE VALUE OF FRINGE BENEFITS IN THE CIVIL SERVICE IS SUBSTANTIALLY HIGHER THAN THE VALUE IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

+INDEED, EXPRESSED AS A PERCENTAGE OF BASIC SALARY, CIVIL SERVICE FRINGE BENEFITS HAVE AT LEAST TWICE THE VALUE OF THE CORRESPONDING BENEFITS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR.+

QUOTING STATISTICS, SIR S.Y. SAID THAT GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ON THE MASTER PAY SCALE HAD THEIR SALARIES DOUBLED IN THE PAST THREE YEARS. FOR EXAMPLE, HE CITED A FRESH POLYTECHNIC DIPLOMA GRADUATE WHO JOINED THE GOVERNMENT IN APRIL 1979 AT POINT 14 ON THE MASTER PAY SCALE OR \$2 060 PER MONTH WAS THREE YEARS LATER GETTING MPS 17 OR \$4 165 PER MONTH IN APRIL 1982.

SIMILARLY, A HIGHER DIPLOMA GRADUATE'S SALARY WOULD HAVE INCREASED FROM MPS 17 OR \$2 465 IN APRIL 1979 TO MPS 20 OR \$4 870 PER MONTH IN APRIL 1982.

HE CALLED ON STUDENTS OF BOTH THE POLYTECHNIC AND THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES TO VISIT THE CAREERS EXHIBITION AND TO SEEK MORE INFORMATION NOT ONLY ABOUT THE NATURE AND REMUNERATION OF THE JOB ITSELF, BUT ALSO ABOUT SUCH MATTERS AS THE ORGANISATION OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, THE WORKING ENVIRONMENT, THE CAREER PROSPECTS AND THE EXPECTATIONS OF THE EMPLOYER.

THE TWO-DAY EXHIBITION IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE GOVERNMENT'S CIVIL SERVICE BRANCH AND THE POLYTECHNIC'S STUDENT AFFAIRS UNIT.

TWENTY-SIX GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS ARE PARTICIPATING IN THE EXHIBITION WHICH WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC BETWEEN 10 AM AND 6.30 PM DAILY.

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QUARTERLY SURVEY OF WAGES, SALARIES AND BENEFITS
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FROM 1964 TILL MARCH 1982, THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT COMPILED AND PUBLISHED WAGE INDEXES TO MEASURE THE CHANGES IN WAGE RATES OF MANUAL WORKERS IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, BASED ON FINDINGS OF A HALF-YEARLY WAGE SURVEY.

IN THE SIX-MONTH PERIOD BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 1981 AND MARCH 1982, THE NOMINAL WAGE INDEX, FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, INCLUDING FRINGE BENEFITS, INCREASED BY EIGHT PER CENT.

THE REAL WAGE INDEX INCREASED BY 1.5 PER CENT DURING THE SAME PERIOD.

IN MARCH 1982, A NEW QUARTERLY SURVEY OF WAGES, SALARIES AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS WAS INTRODUCED, REPLACING THE HALF-YEARLY WAGE SURVEY, AND INCORPORATING A NUMBER OF IMPROVEMENTS.

THESE IMPROVEMENTS INCLUDE THE COLLECTION OF STATISTICS ON WAGE RATES AT MORE FREQUENT INTERVALS AND THE USE OF A LARGER SAMPLE OF ABOUT 2 000 ESTABLISHMENTS TO ACHIEVE A HIGHER DEGREE OF PRECISION IN THE ESTIMATES FOR EACH INDUSTRY COVERED, AS WELL AS AN EXTENSION IN COVERAGE TO INCLUDE THE NON-MANUFACTURING SECTORS AND NON-MANUAL WORKERS SO AS TO MAKE THE STATISTICS MORE REPRESENTATIVE.

EMPLOYEES AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROFESSIONAL LEVELS ARE, HOWEVER, STILL EXCLUDED.

BASED ON THE FINDINGS OF THE NEW SURVEY, A NOMINAL WAGE INDEX AND A REAL WAGE INDEX WERE COMPILED.

THESE WAGE INDEXES MEASURE THE CHANGES IN WAGE RATES BY HOLDING THE STRUCTURAL PATTERN OF THE LABOUR FORCE WITH RESPECT TO INDUSTRY, OCCUPATION, SEX AND MODE OF PAYMENT THE SAME AS THAT OF MARCH 1982, WHICH IS THE BASE PERIOD OF THE WAGE INDEXES. WHILE THE NOMINAL WAGE INDEX MEASURES THE CHANGES IN WAGE RATES IN MONEY TERMS, THE REAL WAGE INDEX, WHICH IS OBTAINED BY DEFLATING THE NOMINAL WAGE INDEX BY THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A), MEASURES THE CHANGES IN THE PURCHASING POWER OF THE AMOUNT OF MONEY EARNED.

APART FROM BASIC WAGES AND SALARIES, WAGE RATE IS DEFINED TO INCLUDE ALSO COST-OF-LIVING ALLOWANCE, MEAL BENEFITS, COMMISSION AND TIPS, GOOD ATTENDANCE BONUS, NIGHT SHIFT ALLOWANCE, YEAR-END BONUS AND OTHER GUARANTEED AND REGULAR BONUSES AND ALLOWANCES.

THE OVERALL NOMINAL WAGE INDEX WAS 102 FOR JUNE 1982 AND 103 FOR SEPTEMBER 1982. THE INDEX FOR SEPTEMBER 1982 THUS SHOWED INCREASES OF ONE PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH JUNE 1982, AND OF THREE PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH MARCH 1982.

THE NOMINAL WAGE INDEXES FOR JUNE AND SEPTEMBER 1982 FOR
SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS ARE GIVEN BELOW :-

NOMINAL WAGE INDEXES BY SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS

SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS	INDEXES (MARCH 1982 = 100)	
	JUNE 1982	SEPT 1982
MANUFACTURING	102	103
WHOLESALE/RETAIL, IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	100	102
TRANSPORT SERVICES	106	110
BUSINESS SERVICES	102	103
PERSONAL SERVICES	102	103
ALL SECTORS ABOVE	102	103

COMPARING SEPTEMBER 1982 WITH MARCH 1982, THE NOMINAL WAGE INDEXES FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR INCREASED BY THREE PER CENT (PLEASE REFER TO THE ATTACHED TABLE FOR MORE DETAILED BREAKDOWNS), FOR THE WHOLESALE/RETAIL, IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR BY TWO PER CENT, FOR THE TRANSPORT SERVICES SECTOR BY 10 PER CENT, FOR THE BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR BY THREE PER CENT AND FOR THE PERSONAL SERVICES SECTOR BY THREE PER CENT.

THE OVERALL REAL WAGE INDEX WAS 99 FOR BOTH JUNE AND SEPTEMBER 1982. THE INDEX FOR SEPTEMBER 1982 THUS DECLINED BY ONE PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH MARCH 1982.

/THE REAL

THE REAL WAGE INDEXES FOR JUNE AND SEPTEMBER 1982 FOR SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS ARE GIVEN BELOW :-

REAL WAGE INDEXES BY SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS

SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS	INDEXES (MARCH 1982 = 100)	
	JUNE 1982	SEPT 1982
MANUFACTURING	99	98
WHOLESALE/RETAIL, IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	98	97
TRANSPORT SERVICES	103	105
BUSINESS SERVICES	99	98
PERSONAL SERVICES	99	98
ALL SECTORS ABOVE	99	99

COMPARING SEPTEMBER 1982 WITH MARCH 1982, THE REAL WAGE INDEXES FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR DECLINED BY TWO PER CENT, FOR THE WHOLESALE/RETAIL, IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR BY THREE PER CENT, FOR THE BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR BY TWO PER CENT AND FOR THE PERSONAL SERVICES SECTOR BY TWO PER CENT.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE REAL WAGE INDEX FOR THE TRANSPORT SERVICES SECTOR INCREASED BY FIVE PER CENT.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT POINTED OUT THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE WAGE INDEXES AND THE PER-CAPITA PAYROLL INDEXES WHICH ARE ALSO PUBLISHED AT QUARTERLY INTERVALS.

ESSENTIALLY, THE WAGE INDEXES, WHICH MEASURES THE CHANGES IN THE PRICE OF LABOUR, ARE CONCERNED WITH THE MOVEMENTS OF WAGE RATES WHICH INDICATE THE AMOUNT OF REMUNERATION FOR NORMAL TIME OF WORK. ON THE OTHER HAND, PER-CAPITA PAYROLL INDEXES REFLECT THE CHANGES IN THE AMOUNT OF CASH EARNINGS WORKERS RECEIVE DURING A PARTICULAR PERIOD.

THE MOVEMENTS OF THE PER-CAPITA PAYROLL INDEXES ARE AFFECTED BY CHANGES IN WAGE RATES, AS WELL AS CHANGES IN SUCH OTHER FACTORS AS THE AMOUNT OF TIME ACTUALLY WORKED, THE COMPOSITION OF THE LABOUR FORCE AND THE INCIDENCE OF THE PAYMENT OF BONUSES AND BACK-PAY. AS A RESULT, THE MOVEMENTS OF THE WAGE INDEXES DO NOT NECESSARILY AGREE WITH THOSE FOR PER-CAPITA PAYROLL.

THE METHODOLOGY ADOPTED IN THE NEW SURVEY AND THE DIFFERENCES COMPARED WITH THE OLD ONE, ARE GIVEN IN THE QUARTERLY REPORT OF WAGES, SALARIES AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS STATISTICS FOR MARCH, JUNE AND SEPTEMBER 1982, VOLUME 1+. DETAILS OF THE WAGE MOVEMENTS ARE ALSO GIVEN.

COPIES OF THIS REPORT MAY BE BOUGHT AT \$11 A COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, CONNAUGHT PLACE, HONG KONG.

FOR ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE WAGE INDEXES, PLEASE CONTACT THE WAGES AND LABOUR COSTS STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT AT TELEPHONE NO. 5-452703.

NOMINAL WAGE INDEXES FOR MAJOR INDUSTRIES
IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR

INDUSTRY	INDEXES (MARCH 1982 = 100)	
	JUNE 1982	SEPT 1982
GARMENTS	102	103
GLOVES	102	103
HANDBAGS	100	101
COTTON SPINNING/WEAVING	101	102
KNITTING	104	104
BLEACHING AND DYEING	102	103
WOODEN FURNITURE AND FIXTURES	102	103
PRINTING	104	105
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	102	102
METAL PRODUCTS	101	102
ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES	101	103
ELECTRONICS	101	103
WATCHES AND CLOCKS	100	103
MANUFACTURING	102	103

CONTRACTORS URGED TO KEEP UP SAFETY EFFORTS
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LOCAL BUILDING CONTRACTORS WERE URGED TODAY (THURSDAY) TO STEP UP EFFORTS FOR THE PROMOTION OF WORK SAFETY.

THE PLEA WAS MADE BY MR HO SAI-CHU, PRESIDENT OF THE BUILDING CONTRACTORS' ASSOCIATION AT THE OPENING OF A CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY SAFETY SEMINAR HELD AT THE CHINESE Y.M.C.A. IN WATERLOO ROAD.

AT THE SAME TIME, MR HO EMPHASISED THAT THE CONTRACTORS SHOULD NOT BE COMPLACENT ABOUT THE DROP IN INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY AND SHOULD NOT SLACKEN THEIR EFFORTS.

IN THE FIRST HALF OF LAST YEAR, THERE WERE 6 510 INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY AND 29 OF THEM WERE FATAL CASES. COMPARED WITH THE FIGURES FOR THE SIMILAR PERIOD IN 1981, THE INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS AND FATAL CASES REPRESENTED A DROP OF 7.3 PER CENT AND 17.1 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY, HE SAID.

+SOME HAVE ATTRIBUTED THIS ACHIEVEMENT TO THE FACT THAT THERE ARE FEWER PROJECTS HAVING TO MEET DEADLINES AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT IN THE CURRENT ECONOMIC RECESSION. THESE MAY BE, OF COURSE, PART OF THE REASONS.

+HOWEVER, I THINK THIS WAS MAINLY THE RESULTS OF THE JOINT EFFORTS BY THE GOVERNMENT, EMPLOYERS, INCLUDING CONTRACTORS AND WORKERS, TO CHECK THE INCREASE OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS,+ HE ADDED.

NOTING THAT INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY STILL TOP THE LIST, MR HO URGED EMPLOYERS TO PROVIDE A SAFE WORKING ENVIRONMENT AND SAFETY EQUIPMENT. HE ALSO CALLED ON WORKERS TO USE THE EQUIPMENT PROVIDED AND TO OBSERVE SAFETY LEGISLATION, AND THE GOVERNMENT TO ENFORCE THE LEGISLATION.

HE SAID THAT THE PROBLEM OF WORK SAFETY STILL EXISTED DESPITE THE CURRENT RECESSION.

+IT IS TRUE THAT COSTING IS LIMITED AND EXPENDITURE RESTRICTED BY DIFFICULTIES BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE PRESENT ECONOMIC CLIMATE; BUT IT WILL HELP THE LOCAL ECONOMY RECOVER IF UNNECESSARY LOSSES, SUCH AS LOST WORK-DAYS AND ABSENCE FROM WORK COULD BE AVOIDED BY REDUCING WORK ACCIDENTS,+ HE ADDED.

SPEAKERS AT THE SEMINAR WERE MR NICOLAS YEUNG, REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BUILDING CONTRACTORS' ASSOCIATION ON THE COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AND ACCIDENT PREVENTION; MR POON TO-CHUEN, SECRETARY, HONG KONG AND KOWLOON PAINTERS GENERAL UNION; MR DAVID Y.H. WONG, SAFETY ENGINEER; MR LI CHI-ON, SENIOR STATION OFFICER, FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT; MISS ELAINE TSANG, FIRST AID AND NURSING OFFICER OF HONG KONG RED CROSS AND MR CHAN HON-TING, DIVISIONAL FACTORY INSPECTOR OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

CHILDREN'S MARCHING BAND TO EXPAND
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THE HONG KONG CHILDREN'S MARCHING BAND OF THE MUSIC OFFICE IS LAUNCHING AN OPEN RECRUITMENT FOR MORE MEMBERS THIS MONTH, AFTER A SERIES OF WELL-RECEIVED PERFORMANCES.

THE BAND WAS FORMED IN THE MUSIC CAMP 1981, WHEN 60 CHILDREN WERE SELECTED FROM THE PRIMARY INSTRUMENTAL TRAINEES OF THE MUSIC OFFICE TO JOIN THE CAMP.

WITH MEMBERS NOW AGED BETWEEN 9 AND 14, IT HAS PERFORMED AT MAJOR MUSIC EVENTS AND IMPORTANT CIVIC FUNCTIONS IN HONG KONG. THESE EVENTS INCLUDED THE NINTH HONG KONG ARTS FESTIVAL, THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION CONCERT, THE FOURTH AND FIFTH BAND FESTIVALS AND THE THIRD HONG KONG YOUTH MUSIC CAMP WITH EXTENSIVE INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION.

+BECAUSE OF THIS INITIAL SUCCESS, WE HOPE TO RECRUIT MORE CHILDREN WITH MUSICAL TALENT TO JOIN THE CHILDREN'S MARCHING BAND,+ THE MANAGER OF THE BAND, MR SAMSON WONG, SAID.

CHILDREN OF THE BAND RECEIVE TRAINING IN INSTRUMENTAL AND DRILL DURING THEIR LEISURE HOURS. THREE MUSIC INSTRUCTORS AND A DRILL MASTER ARE ASSIGNED TO TRAIN THE BAND.

COMMENTING ON THE YOUNG AGE OF MANY MEMBERS, MR WONG SAID, +MUSIC TRAINING IS MOST EFFECTIVE WHEN THE TRAINEE'S MIND IS SUPPLE AND HIS FINGERS ARE NIMBLE.+

+THE SPECTACLE OF CHILDREN PLAYING BAND INSTRUMENTS AND PERFORMING MARCHING DISPLAYS WITH COLOURFUL UNIFORMS ON OPEN GROUND HAVE PROVED TO BE HIGHLY ENTERTAINING TO THE PUBLIC,+ MR WONG SAID.

+BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, GROUP PERFORMANCES HAVE TAUGHT THE CHILDREN TEAM SPIRIT AND CO-OPERATION AND GIVEN THEM MUCH FUN AND CONFIDENCE IN THEIR FORMATIVE YEARS,+ HE ADDED.

THOSE WHO CANNOT PAY OUTRIGHT FOR THEIR INSTRUMENTS CAN TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE HIRE-PURCHASE SCHEME OFFERED BY THE MUSIC OFFICE. FOR \$10 A MONTH, MEMBERS MAY TAKE INSTRUMENTS HOME FOR PRACTICE AND WILL OWN THEM ONCE THE COST IS PAID UP.

TO AVOID DISRUPTION TO THEIR TRAINING, MEMBERS REACHING THE AGE OF 14 ARE ENCOURAGED TO TRANSFER TO DISTRICT BANDS OR TO THE HONG KONG YOUTH SYMPHONIC BAND ADMINISTERED BY THE MUSIC OFFICE.

+BECAUSE THEY HAVE DEVELOPED A KEEN INTEREST IN MUSIC, MOST OF THE CHILDREN ARE ANXIOUS ANYWAY TO ADVANCE TO THESE BANDS AFTER THEY HAVE REACHED 14,+ MR WONG SAID.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 1983

- 12 -

ANY CHILD WHO HAS MORE THAN ONE YEAR'S EXPERIENCE IN PLAYING A MUSIC INSTRUMENT AND IS BELOW THE AGE OF 12 MAY APPLY. FOR YOUNG BASS DRUM, BARITONE, TROMBONE AND TUBA PLAYERS, THE AGE LIMIT CAN BE EXTENDED TO 14.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL THE MUSIC CENTRES OF THE MUSIC OFFICE.

COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED BY FEBRUARY 28, TO THE YAU MA TEI MUSIC CENTRE, SECOND FLOOR, GOLDEN GATE COMMERCIAL BUILDING, 136-138 AUSTIN ROAD, KOWLOON.

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS MAY BE AUDITIONED AT A LATER DATE. ENQUIRIES MAY BE MADE BY TELEPHONING 3-7149255.

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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT CLEARANCE AT WONG TAI SIN
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THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON CARRIED OUT ITS 50TH ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT CLEARANCE OF ILLEGAL STRUCTURES AND EXTENSIONS ON UNLEASED CROWN LAND IN TSZ WAN SHAN, WONG TAI SIN.

SEVENTEEN STRUCTURES, INCLUDING NINE STORAGE HOUSES AND A BOUTIQUE, WERE CLEARED IN THE OPERATION IN THE SIDELANE BETWEEN TSZ WAH LANE AND FONG WAH LANE.

AMONG THOSE PRESENT AT THE CLEARANCE OPERATION TODAY WERE THE DIRECTOR OF LANDS, MR JOHN TODD; THE DISTRICT OFFICER (WONG TAI SIN), MR IAN STRACHAN AND MEMBERS OF THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD.

MR TODD EXPRESSED HIS THANKS TO MEMBERS OF THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD FOR THEIR EXCELLENT CO-OPERATION WITHOUT WHICH +THE CLEARANCE OPERATIONS WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN SO SUCCESSFUL+.

HE SAID THAT THIS DEMONSTRATED FULLY THE EFFECTIVENESS OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND THE CLEARANCE OPERATION TODAY WAS ONE GOOD EXAMPLE OF HOW THE DISTRICT BOARD HAD MADE THE GOVERNMENT JOB EASIER.

MR TODD ADDED THAT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT WAS A TIME-CONSUMING JOB, REQUIRING A LOT OF PLANNING.

HOWEVER, HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT WITH THE CLOSE CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE BOARD AND VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS THE PROBLEM COULD STEADILY BE OVERCOME.

MR STRACHAN SAID THAT THE ILLEGAL STRUCTURES IN THE DISTRICT HAD BEEN AN EYE-SORE AND A HEALTH HAZARD FOR QUITE SOME TIME.

+THE PRESENT SERIES OF ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE OPERATIONS WILL END IN JULY WHEN ALL ILLEGAL STRUCTURES AND EXTENSIONS IN THE SIDELANES AND BACKLANES IN THE WHOLE OF WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT WILL HAVE BEEN CLEARED,+ HE SAID.

+AFTER THAT ANOTHER CYCLE OF TIDY-UP OPERATIONS WILL BEGIN.+

MR STRACHAN ADDED THAT ALTHOUGH THE PROBLEM HAD NOT BEEN ELIMINATED, THE ENVIRONMENT IN PARTS OF THE DISTRICT HAD BEEN IMPROVED CONSIDERABLY SINCE CLEARANCE OPERATIONS BEGAN TWO YEARS AGO.

TODAY'S CLEARANCE OPERATION, CO-ORDINATED BY THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, INVOLVED THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICE, THE FIRE SERVICES, LANDS AND URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENTS, THE POLICE AS WELL AS THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE OF THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

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FLORAL ART COMPETITION FOR STUDENTS

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STUDENTS UNDER THE AGE OF 16 ARE INVITED TO TAKE PART IN A FLORAL ART COMPETITION.

THE COMPETITION IS ORGANISED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL IN CONNECTION WITH ITS ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW WHICH WILL BE HELD FROM MARCH 18 TO 20 THIS YEAR.

IT WILL BE DIVIDED INTO TWO CLASSES CATERING FOR CHILDREN UNDER 12 AND THOSE BETWEEN 12 AND 16.

THE THEME FOR THE JUNIOR CATEGORY IS +TOMORROW'S WORLD+ WHILE THAT FOR THE SENIOR CATEGORY IS +SPACE FANTASY+.

ENTRY FORMS AND INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMPETITION ARE AVAILABLE NOW FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, HONG KONG; ALL DISTRICT OFFICES; THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S KOWLOON PARK OFFICE AND THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S CULTURAL CRAFTS CENTRE AT 4 PAK FUK ROAD, NORTH POINT.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES WILL BE FEBRUARY 28.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE COMPETITION MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S ART SECTION OF THE ADVISORY INSPECTORATE ON TELEPHONE 5-621006 OR THE CITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT ON 5-95598.

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 19

- 14 -

KELLET BAY SITES OFFERED FOR SHORT TERM TENANCY

THE LANDS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE SHORT TERM TENANCY OF TWO SITES IN KELLET BAY, ABERDEEN.

THE SITES, MEASURING ABOUT 335 AND 280 SQUARE METRES, ARE FOR LOG STORAGE PURPOSES.

THE TENANCIES ARE FOR ONE YEAR AND THEREAFTER RENEWABLE QUARTERLY.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF TENDERS IS 12 NOON ON JANUARY 28.

TENDER FORMS, NOTICES AND CONDITIONS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM, AND TENDER PLAN INSPECTED AT, THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE (HONG KONG SOUTH), 16-18 QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, ROOM 601, NEW WORLD TOWER, CENTRAL, HONG KONG; THE LANDS DEPARTMENT, 5TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG; AND THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE (KOWLOON WEST), KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 405 NATHAN ROAD, 10TH FLOOR, KOWLOON.

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SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN SHA TIN

SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE INTRODUCED IN SHA TIN FROM 8.30 AM TO 1.30 PM ON SATURDAY (JANUARY 22) FOR A MARATHON RACE.

TAI CHUNG KIU ROAD BETWEEN SHA TIN RURAL COMMITTEE ROAD AND SIU LEK YUEN ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES AND MAXICABS.

THIS WILL ALSO APPLY TO FO TAN BRIDGE AND ROAD J7 FROM TAI PO ROAD TO TAI CHUNG KIU ROAD.

POLICE OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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