



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 1987

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
GREEN PAPER MOTION ON LEGCO AGENDA	1
FINANCE COMMITTEE TO VET VARSITY COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY GRANT .	1
MORE COUNTRIES RECOGNISE BN(O)	2
AVIATION TEAM LEAVES FOR PEKING	3
CENTRAL ALLOCATION OF PRIMARY ONE PLACES	3
EDUCATION MUST MEET THE NEEDS OF CHANGING SOCIETY	5
FIRST QUARTER EXPORTS STATISTICS BY INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN RELEASED	6
RETAIL SALES SURVEY FOR MARCH RELEASED	9
GOVERNOR TO VISIT CENTRAL AND WESTERN	13
GMB STOPS PILOT SCHEME TO BE INTRODUCED	13
INTEREST ON TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES	14
SUBSIDIES OFFERED FOR SPECIAL STUDIES	16
PAK MONG PIER RE-OPENS	17
DEATH SENTENCES COMMUTED	17
CONTRACTORS URGED TO FENCE OFF EDGES	18
ROUTE 5 SHA TIN CONNECTION CONTRACT AWARDED	18
SITTING OUT AREA AT WONG CHUK HANG RESERVOIR	19
IMPROVEMENTS TO LO WAI ROAD PROPOSED	20
NEW FLUSHING SYSTEM FOR WAN CHAI	20
RESTRICTED ZONE IN CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD	21
SAN PO KONG WATER CUT	21
WATER STORAGE FIGURE	21

TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 1987

- 1 -

GREEN PAPER MOTION ON LEGCO AGENDA

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THE SENIOR MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, THE HON LYDIA DUNN, WILL MOVE A MOTION URGING THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THE GREEN PAPER ON THE 1987 REVIEW OF DEVELOPMENTS IN REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE CHIEF SECRETARY, THE HON DAVID FORD, WILL MAKE A STATEMENT IN RESPONSE.

ANOTHER MOTION WILL BE MOVED BY THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, THE HON MICHAEL LEUNG, TO AMEND THE ROAD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO ASK FIVE QUESTIONS AND CONSIDER THREE BILLS DURING TOMORROW'S MEETING.

AMONG THE THREE BILLS, THE PENSION BENEFITS BILL 1987 WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS, WHILE THE POWERS OF ATTORNEY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1987 AND THE OCEAN PARK CORPORATION BILL 1987 WILL GO THROUGH COMMITTEE STAGE AND THIRD READING.

IN ADDITION, SEVEN MEMBERS WILL SPEAK AT AN ADJOURNMENT DEBATE ON SOCIAL WELFARE SUBVENTION POLICY. THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, THE HON JOHN CHAMBERS WILL ANSWER THE POINTS RAISED.

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FINANCE COMMITTEE TO VET VARSITY COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY GRANT

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THE FINANCE COMMITTEE WILL BE ASKED AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) TO APPROVE A NEW NON-RECURRENT COMMITMENT OF \$4 239 000 COVERING THE THREE FINANCIAL YEARS 1987-88 TO 1989-90 FOR IMPLEMENTING A CO-ORDINATED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME ON COMPUTER-AIDED-DESIGN AND COMPUTER-AIDED-MANUFACTURE TECHNOLOGY AT THE TWO UNIVERSITIES.

THE TECHNOLOGY WILL ENABLE COMPUTERS TO BE USED AS TOOLS IN DESIGN AND MANUFACTURING, AND IT IS PARTICULARLY USEFUL IN IMPROVING PRODUCT QUALITY AND REDUCING PRODUCTION COSTS BY SHORTENING PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION CYCLE TIMES AND INCREASING PRODUCTIVITY.

UNDER THE CO-ORDINATED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME, THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG AND THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY WOULD UNDERTAKE TO DEVELOP THE HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE OF THE NEW TECHNOLOGY FOR USE IN LOCAL INDUSTRIES.

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TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 1987

- 2 -

OTHER ITEMS THAT THE FINANCE COMMITTEE WILL BE ASKED TO APPROVE ARE:

- * PREPAYMENT IN FULL THE \$240 MILLION OUTSTANDING BALANCE OF THE TERM LOAN EXTENDED TO THE CITY POLYTECHNIC OF HONG KONG FOR THE PURCHASE OF ITS TEMPORARY PREMISES AT ARGYLE CENTRE AND TERMINATION OF THE INTEREST RATE EXCHANGE AGREEMENT;
- * SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISION OF \$2.56 MILLION TO MEET GRANTS TO COVER INTEREST FORGONE IN 1987-88 FOR CITY POLYTECHNIC TEMPORARY PREMISES;
- * EARLY REPAYMENT OF THE FOUR OUTSTANDING LOANS AMOUNTING TO ABOUT \$400 MILLION TO THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK;
- * RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ESTABLISHMENT SUB-COMMITTEE AND PUBLIC WORKS SUB-COMMITTEE.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO NOTE THE CHANGES TO THE APPROVED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE APPROVED UNDER DELEGATED POWERS DURING THE FINAL QUARTER OF 1986-87 IN PURSUANCE OF SECTION 8 OF THE PUBLIC FINANCE ORDINANCE.

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MORE COUNTRIES RECOGNISE BN(O)
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A SPOKESMAN FOR THE GOVERNMENT SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT WELCOMES THE ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE KOREAN CONSUL-GENERAL ON THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA'S RECOGNITION OF THE BRITISH NATIONAL (OVERSEAS) STATUS AND THE PASSPORT THAT GOES WITH IT.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY HAS ALSO BEEN INFORMED BY THE CONSUL-GENERAL OF PORTUGAL THAT PORTUGAL WILL RECOGNISE THE BN(O) PASSPORT. THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT WELCOMES THIS MOVE BY THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT.

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TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 1987

- 3 -

AVIATION TEAM LEAVES FOR PEKING

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THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MR RAFAEL HUI, AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (AIR SERVICES) OF CIVIL AVIATION, MR PETER LOK, LEFT FOR PEKING TODAY (TUESDAY) AS MEMBERS OF THE BRITISH DELEGATION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM-CHINA AVIATION TALKS.

THE DELEGATION WILL BE LED BY U.K. UNDER SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT, MR HANDLEY STEVENS.

THE TALKS, WHICH START TOMORROW, WERE ANNOUNCED ON MAY 9 BY THE BRITISH MINISTER FOR AVIATION MR MICHAEL SPICER AFTER A WEEK-LONG VISIT TO CHINA.

AT THAT TIME MR SPICER SAID THE DISCUSSIONS WILL BE ON MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST BETWEEN CHINA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM AND PARTICULARLY MATTERS ABOUT HONG KONG. THE TALKS WILL LAST UNTIL JUNE 5.

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CENTRAL ALLOCATION OF PRIMARY ONE PLACES

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RESULTS OF THE CENTRAL ALLOCATION OF PRIMARY ONE PLACES AVAILABLE IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR UNDER THE PRIMARY ONE ADMISSION SYSTEM WILL BE RELEASED ON SATURDAY (JUNE 6).

OF THE 36 029 CHILDREN WHO PARTICIPATE IN THE CENTRAL ALLOCATION, 23 066 (64 PER CENT) WILL BE ALLOCATED TO SCHOOLS OF THEIR PARENTS' FIRST THREE CHOICES, SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

PARENTS CONCERNED ARE ADVISED TO RETURN TO THEIR OWN DISTRIBUTION/COLLECTION CENTRE ON SATURDAY (JUNE 6) OR SUNDAY (JUNE 7) BETWEEN 9 AM AND 4 PM TO COLLECT AN +ALLOCATION SLIP+.

THE +ALLOCATION SLIP+ WILL SHOW THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE SCHOOL TO WHICH THEIR CHILD IS ALLOCATED, TOGETHER WITH THE DATES FOR REGISTRATION AND SOME NOTES TO PARENTS.

PARENTS ARE REQUESTED TO BRING THEIR CHILD TO THE SCHOOL TO COMPLETE REGISTRATION FORMALITIES ON THE SPECIFIED DATES ON JUNE 10 OR 11.

REGISTRATION HOURS FOR AM SCHOOLS ARE BETWEEN 9 AM AND 12 NOON= AND FOR PM SCHOOLS BETWEEN 2 PM AND 5 PM. FOR WHOLE-DAY SCHOOLS, THE REGISTRATION HOURS ARE FROM 9 AM TO 12 NOON AND FROM 2 PM TO 4 PM.

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TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 1987

- 4 -

IN THE EVENT THAT PARENTS WHO FOR SOME PERSONAL REASONS CANNOT REGISTER WITH THE SCHOOL TO WHICH THEIR CHILD IS ALLOCATED, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THEY MUST CONTACT THE SCHOOL DIRECT OR THE PRIMARY ONE ADMISSION UNIT OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT BEFOREHAND FOR ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS.

FAILURE TO REGISTER THEIR CHILD WITH THE SCHOOL WOULD BE DEEMED TO HAVE GIVEN UP THE PLACE ALLOCATED, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

UPON REGISTRATION, THE +ALLOCATION SLIP+ SHOULD BE SURRENDERED TO THE SCHOOL AND PARENTS MUST NOTE THAT ALL PLACES ALLOCATED ARE FINAL AND NO RE-ALLOCATION IS POSSIBLE.

IN CASE PARENTS HAVE SPECIAL DIFFICULTIES, SUCH AS HAVING MOVED TO ANOTHER DISTRICT RESULTING IN THE SCHOOL BEING TOO FAR AWAY FROM THEIR NEW HOME, THEY ARE ADVISED TO GO IN PERSON TO THE PRIMARY ONE ADMISSION UNIT AT 269 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, 2ND FLOOR, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG TO SEEK ASSISTANCE.

+THEY SHOULD BRING ALONG SUPPORTING DOCUMENTARY PROOF SUCH AS RENTAL RECEIPTS, RATES DEMAND NOTES, WATER BILLS, ELECTRICITY BILLS BEARING THE NAME OF THE PARENT OR THE GUARDIAN OF THE CHILD.+

+IF THEIR REQUEST IS JUSTIFIED, THE PRIMARY ONE ADMISSION UNIT WOULD DO THEIR BEST TO FIND ANOTHER PLACE FOR THEIR CHILD AT A SCHOOL NEARER TO THEIR NEW HOME,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+SHOULD PARENTS FIND IT NECESSARY TO CHANGE SCHOOL AFTER REGISTRATION, THEY ARE ADVISED TO GET SOME ASSURANCE OF ACCEPTANCE FROM ANOTHER SCHOOL BEFORE THEY RETRIEVE THE +ALLOCATION SLIP+ FROM THE ORIGINAL SCHOOL BECAUSE RETRIEVAL OF THE SLIP MEANS CANCELLATION OF THE PLACE,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

PARENTS OF ALL CHILDREN WHO HAVE SECURED A DISCRETIONARY PLACE AND HAVE ALREADY REGISTERED WITH A SCHOOL EARLIER LAST YEAR NEED NOT REPEAT REGISTRATION FORMALITIES.

PARENTS WHO WISH TO MAKE FURTHER ENQUIRIES MAY CONTACT THE PRIMARY ONE ADMISSION UNIT ON 5-724383 DURING OFFICE HOURS STARTING SATURDAY (JUNE 6).

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/5

TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 1987

- 5 -

EDUCATION MUST MEET THE NEEDS OF CHANGING SOCIETY
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EDUCATION MUST BE PREPARED TO MEET THE GROWING EXPECTATIONS OF THE COMMUNITY AND TO KEEP PACE WITH THE RAPIDLY CHANGING AND PROGRESSIVE SOCIETY OF HONG KONG, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (CHIEF INSPECTORATE), MR SO FAI-CHO, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY FOR THE FIFTH COMMERCIAL SUBJECTS PROJECT COMPETITION, MR SO SAID YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE 80'S WERE GROWING UP IN A WORLD IN WHICH MODERN TECHNOLOGY WAS CONSTANTLY IMPINGING UPON THEIR LIVES.

+THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT THAT COMMERCIAL SUBJECTS HAVE MUCH TO OFFER IN PREPARING STUDENTS FOR THESE CHANGES,+ HE SAID.

NOTING THAT THE NUMBER OF SCHOOLS OFFERING COMMERCIAL SUBJECTS IN SENIOR SECONDARY FORMS WAS NOW RAPIDLY INCREASING, MR SO SAID THAT SOME 20 000 CANDIDATES ENTERED FOR THIS YEAR'S HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION IN PRINCIPLES OF ACCOUNTS.

THE STUDY OF PRINCIPLES OF ACCOUNTS AND COMMERCE SHOWED STUDENTS HOW THE WORLD OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE OPERATED AND HELPED THEM APPRECIATE HOW AND WHY CERTAIN FINANCIAL DECISIONS WERE MADE, MR SO ADDED.

+IF ONE LOOKS AT THE INCREASING IMPORTANCE OF KEYBOARD SKILLS, FOR EXAMPLE, BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE RAPID DEVELOPMENT OF MICRO-ELECTRONIC TECHNOLOGY, THEN IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT THESE WILL PLAY AN EVER-INCREASING ROLE IN FURTHER STUDY, IN THE HOME AND ART WORK,+ MR SO SAID.

+HENCE, BASIC TRAINING IN TYPEWRITING IS OBVIOUSLY A VALUABLE SKILL FOR ANY STUDENTS,+ HE CONTINUED.

BY INVOLVING STUDENTS IN REALISTIC TASKS IN THE COMPETITION THAT BROUGHT THEM INTO DIRECT CONTACT WITH THE COMMERCIAL WORLD, MR SO SAID, IT ALSO MADE A VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO CIVIC EDUCATION.

+IN THIS WAY, STUDENTS' UNDERSTANDING OF THE COMMUNITY ESPECIALLY ON THE ASPECT OF HONG KONG AS AN INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND FINANCIAL CENTRE IS FOSTERED AND A WIDE RANGE OF INTER-PERSONAL SKILLS DEVELOPED.+

THE COMMERCIAL SUBJECTS PROJECT COMPETITION WAS ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND SPONSORED BY THE CHINESE GOLD AND SILVER EXCHANGE SOCIETY TO STIMULATE INTEREST AMONG SECONDARY STUDENTS IN VARIOUS COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES IN HONG KONG.

/THERE WERE

THERE WERE 212 ENTRIES FROM MORE THAN 1 400 SECONDARY STUDENTS OF 30 SCHOOLS.

THE FIRST PRIZE WENT TO THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS SUN HOI DIRECTORS' COLLEGE WHILE BOTH THE SECOND AND THIRD PRIZES WERE WON BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IN CHINA ROTARY PREVOCATIONAL SCHOOL.

ALSO OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WAS THE PRESIDENT OF THE CHINESE GOLD AND SILVER EXCHANGE SOCIETY, MR YIP SHIU-MING.

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FIRST QUARTER EXPORTS STATISTICS
BY INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN RELEASED
* * * * *

THE SIX MOST IMPORTANT INDUSTRY GROUPS IN TERMS OF THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR WERE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS, WEARING APPAREL, TEXTILE, PROFESSIONAL AND OPTICAL EQUIPMENT, PLASTIC PRODUCTS, AND BASIC METALS AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS.

TOGETHER THEY ACCOUNTED FOR 83 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL VALUE OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE EXPORTS DURING THE PERIOD.

AMONG ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, THE LARGEST INCREASES IN ABSOLUTE VALUE OVER THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1986 WERE RECORDED IN ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS (+\$2 644 MILLION), TEXTILES (+\$1 956 MILLION), WEARING APPAREL (+\$1 602 MILLION), PLASTIC PRODUCTS (+\$588 MILLION), PROFESSIONAL AND OPTICAL EQUIPMENT (+\$550 MILLION) AND BASIC METALS AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS (+\$322 MILLION).

IN PERCENTAGE TERMS, INDUSTRIES WITH THE LARGEST INCREASES OVER THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1986 WERE TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT (+158 PER CENT), LEATHER AND LEATHER PRODUCTS (+64 PER CENT), TOBACCO (+53 PER CENT), ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS (+43 PER CENT), NON-METALLIC MINERAL PRODUCTS (+41 PER CENT) AND NON-ELECTRICAL MACHINERY (+41 PER CENT).

/ON THE

TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 1987

- 7 -

ON THE OTHER HAND, A SLIGHT DECREASE COMPARED WITH THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1987 WAS RECORDED IN THE BEVERAGES INDUSTRY (-\$3 MILLION OR -5 PER CENT).

BESIDES THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, DOMESTIC EXPORTS ORIGINATING FROM OCEAN AND COASTAL FISHING ROSE SUBSTANTIALLY FROM THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1987 (+98 PER CENT), WHILE THOSE FROM AGRICULTURAL, LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTION WENT UP BY 23 PER CENT.

THE INFORMATION WAS DERIVED FROM STATISTICS RELEASED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) ON DOMESTIC EXPORTS ANALYSED BY INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1987.

THIS SERIES IS DERIVED BY REGROUPING ALL SIX-DIGIT MERCHANDISE EXPORT ITEMS UNDER THE PRESENT EXTERNAL TRADE CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM ACCORDING TO THE INDUSTRIES IN WHICH THESE MERCHANDISE ITEMS ARE NORMALLY PRODUCED.

TRANSACTIONS IN GOLD AND SPECIE ARE EXCLUDED.

THE CLASSIFICATION OF MERCHANDISE EXPORT ITEMS BY INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN IS STRUCTURED UPON THE UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL STANDARD INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION OF ALL ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES (ISIC), AS DISTINCT FROM THE UNITED NATIONS STANDARD INTERNATIONAL TRADE CLASSIFICATION (SITC) WHICH IS ADOPTED IN THE REGULAR TRADE STATISTICS REPORTS.

WHEN REFERRING TO THESE RE-CLASSIFIED FIGURES, SOME CAUTION IS NECESSARY. CERTAIN MERCHANDISE EXPORT ITEMS MAY REQUIRE SEVERAL INTERMEDIATE PROCESSING STAGES FOR THEIR PRODUCTION. IN SUCH CASES, THE INDUSTRY IN WHICH AN ITEM IS FINALLY PRODUCED IS NOT REALLY THE SOLE CONTRIBUTOR TO THE VALUE. NEVERTHELESS, STATISTICALLY, THE OVERALL VALUE OF THE ITEM IS WHOLLY ALLOCATED TO THAT INDUSTRY.

BESIDES, THE CLASSIFICATION OF A MERCHANDISE EXPORT ITEM TO A PARTICULAR INDUSTRY DOES NOT IMPLY THAT THE ENTIRE VALUE OF THE ITEM IS ACTUALLY PRODUCED BY ESTABLISHMENTS OF THAT INDUSTRY, SINCE SOME MAY BE SECONDARY PRODUCTS PRODUCED BY ESTABLISHMENTS CLASSIFIED UNDER OTHER INDUSTRIES.

A TABLE SHOWING DOMESTIC EXPORTS STATISTICS FOR MERCHANDISE RECLASSIFIED BY INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN IS OBTAINABLE FROM THE INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (AT TEL. NO. 5-8234832). A TABLE ON THESE STATISTICS FOR SELECTED INDUSTRIES IS ALSO INCLUDED IN THE REPORT +HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE, MARCH 1987+.

/Value of

Value of domestic exports for merchandise,
reclassified by industrial origin for the first quarter of 1987

(HK\$ '000)

Industrial origin of the commodities exported	Merchandise domestic exports			
	1st qtr. 1987	1st qtr. 1986	Value change	% change
<u>Agricultural, Forestry and Fishing</u>				
Agricultural, livestock and poultry production	1,589	1,297	292	23
Ocean and coastal fishing	131,110	66,238	64,872	98
<u>Mining and Quarrying</u>	1,499	1,369	130	9
<u>Manufacturing</u>				
Food	301,070	271,371	29,699	11
Beverages	51,011	53,780	-2,769	-5
Tobacco	344,803	225,472	119,331	53
Textiles (including knitting)	7,598,615	5,642,578	1,956,037	35
Wearing apparel, except footwear and knitwear	8,367,282	6,765,556	1,601,726	24
Leather and leather products	112,578	68,502	44,076	64
Footwear	222,413	183,561	38,852	21
Wood and cork products, furniture and fixtures	185,565	159,347	26,218	16
Paper and paper products, printing and publishing	760,429	549,268	211,161	38
Chemicals and chemical products	417,564	308,658	108,906	35
Rubber products	41,333	39,782	1,551	4
Plastic products	2,616,353	2,028,201	588,152	29
Non-metallic mineral products	161,941	114,826	47,115	41
Basic metals and fabricated metal products	1,586,976	1,264,648	322,328	25
Machinery, except electrical	790,065	561,131	228,934	41
Electrical and electronic products	8,810,228	6,165,761	2,644,467	43
Transport equipment	35,152	13,628	21,524	158
Professional and optical equipment	3,108,454	2,558,292	550,162	22
Other manufacturing industries	2,722,083	1,958,411	763,672	39
<u>Electricity</u>	146,842	131,193	15,649	12
<u>Miscellaneous items</u>				
(e.g. developed photographic plates and film, antiques, and works of art)	12,812	12,984	-172	-1
Total	38,527,765	29,145,851	9,381,914	32

Individual entries of a column may not add up exactly to the corresponding total due to rounding.

Industrial Research Section, (Tel. : 5-8234832)
Census & Statistics Department,
Hong Kong.

May 1987

RETAIL SALES SURVEY FOR MARCH RELEASED
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THE VALUE OF TOTAL RETAIL SALES IN MARCH 1987, PROVISIONALLY ESTIMATED AT \$6 548 MILLION, WAS 15 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN MARCH 1986 WHILE THEIR VOLUME WAS 10 PER CENT HIGHER, ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONAL RESULTS OF A SURVEY RELEASED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

COMPARED WITH MARCH 1986, RETAIL SALES OF +CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS+ AND +CONSUMER DURABLES+ BOTH INCREASED BY 19 PER CENT IN VALUE. THEIR RESPECTIVE INCREASES IN SALES VOLUME WERE 13 PER CENT AND 10 PER CENT. +OTHER CONSUMER GOODS+ WENT UP BY 18 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 11 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME, WHILE THE CORRESPONDING INCREASES FOR FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO WERE 8 PER CENT AND 5 PER CENT.

FUELS DECREASED BY 2 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE BUT INCREASED BY 6 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME. RETAIL SALES OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS ROSE VERY SUBSTANTIALLY IN BOTH VALUE AND VOLUME.

SALES BY SUPERMARKETS RECORDED CONSIDERABLE INCREASES IN BOTH VALUE AND VOLUME. DEPARTMENT STORES INCREASED CONSIDERABLY IN SALES VALUE AND MODERATELY IN SALES VOLUME.

CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS REGISTERED A MODERATE INCREASE IN SALES VALUE AND A SLIGHT INCREASE IN SALES VOLUME.

COMPARING THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1987 WITH THE SAME QUARTER IN 1986, TOTAL RETAIL SALES INCREASED BY 13 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 8 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

RETAIL SALES OF +OTHER CONSUMER GOODS+ ROSE BY 18 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 11 PER CENT IN VOLUME. CONSUMER DURABLES WENT UP BY 14 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 5 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME.

FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO INCREASED BY 11 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 8 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME, WHILE THE CORRESPONDING INCREASES FOR CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS WERE 8 PER CENT AND 2 PER CENT.

FUELS DROPPED BY 9 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE BUT INCREASED BY 3 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME.

RETAIL SALES OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS ROSE SUBSTANTIALLY IN VALUE AND CONSIDERABLY IN VOLUME, WHILE SALES BY SUPERMARKETS INCREASED CONSIDERABLY IN BOTH VALUE AND VOLUME.

DEPARTMENT STORES EXPERIENCED A CONSIDERABLE INCREASE IN SALES VALUE AND A MODERATE INCREASE IN SALES VOLUME. CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS RECORDED A MODERATE INCREASE IN SALES VALUE AND A SLIGHT INCREASE IN SALES VOLUME.

WHEN COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 1987, AND BEARING IN MIND THAT THIS COMPARISON IS AFFECTED BY SEASONAL FACTORS, TOTAL RETAIL SALES FOR MARCH 1987 INCREASED BY 12 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 11 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

RETAIL SALES OF CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS WENT UP BY 34 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 32 PER CENT IN VOLUME.

FUELS ROSE BY 19 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 17 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME. +CONSUMER DURABLES+ AND +FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO+ INCREASED BY 14 PER CENT AND 8 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN BOTH SALES VALUE AND VOLUME.

+OTHER CONSUMER GOODS+ INCREASED BY 9 PER CENT IN SALES VALUE AND 8 PER CENT IN SALES VOLUME. RETAIL SALES OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY IN BOTH VALUE AND VOLUME.

+CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS+ AND +SUPERMARKETS+ RECORDED CONSIDERABLE INCREASES IN BOTH SALES VALUE AND VOLUME.

DEPARTMENT STORES EXPERIENCED A MODERATE INCREASE IN SALES VALUE AND A SLIGHT INCREASE IN SALES VOLUME.

THE REPORT CONTAINING THE ANALYSIS OF THE MARCH 1987 SURVEY RESULTS IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATION SALES CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, AT \$1 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON 5-8234941.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

COPIES OF TABLES AND GRAPHS SHOWING THE MARCH RETAIL SALES SURVEY WILL BE SENT BY FACSIMILE NETWORK AND ALSO BOXED FOR COLLECTION.

TABLE 1 PRESENTS THE REVISED TOTAL RETAIL SALES FIGURE FOR FEBRUARY 1987 AND THE PROVISIONAL FIGURE FOR MARCH 1987.

TABLE 2 SHOWS THE VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF RETAIL SALES IN FEBRUARY 1987 AND MARCH 1987 (A) FOR ALL RETAIL TRADES, (B) BY MAJOR TRADE GROUPS AND (C) BY SELECTED TRADES (WHICH FORM PART OF THE RELEVANT MAJOR TRADE GROUPS), WITH AVERAGE RETAIL SALES FROM OCTOBER 1984 TO SEPTEMBER 1985 TAKEN AS 100. COMPARISONS OF MARCH 1987 RESULTS WITH THOSE FOR FEBRUARY 1987 AND WITH THOSE FOR MARCH 1986 AND COMPARISONS OF RETAIL SALES IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1987 WITH THE SAME QUARTER IN 1986 ARE ALSO GIVEN.

GRAPHS 1 AND 2 DEPICT, RESPECTIVELY, THE MOVEMENTS OF THE VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF TOTAL RETAIL SALES FROM OCTOBER 1984 TO MARCH 1987 AND THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED INDEXES AND TRENDS FROM OCTOBER 1984 TO FEBRUARY 1987.

/TABLE 1

TABLE 1 : TOTAL RETAIL SALES

Total Retail Sales for March 1987 (Provisional Figure) = HK\$6 548 million
for February 1987 (Revised Figure) = HK\$5 828 million

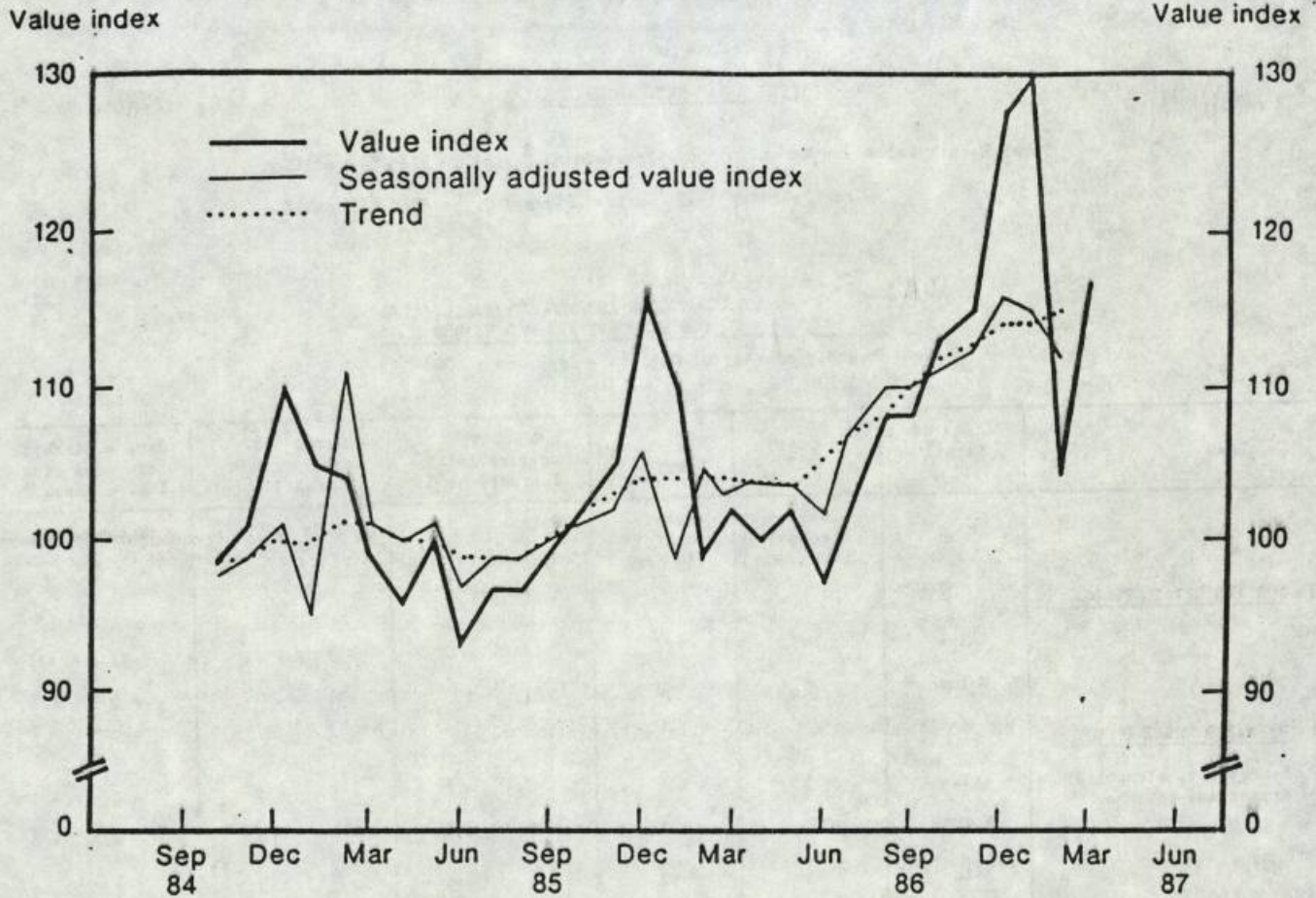
TABLE 2 : VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF RETAIL SALES
FOR FEBRUARY AND MARCH 1987

(Monthly average of Oct. 84 - Sept. 85 = 100)

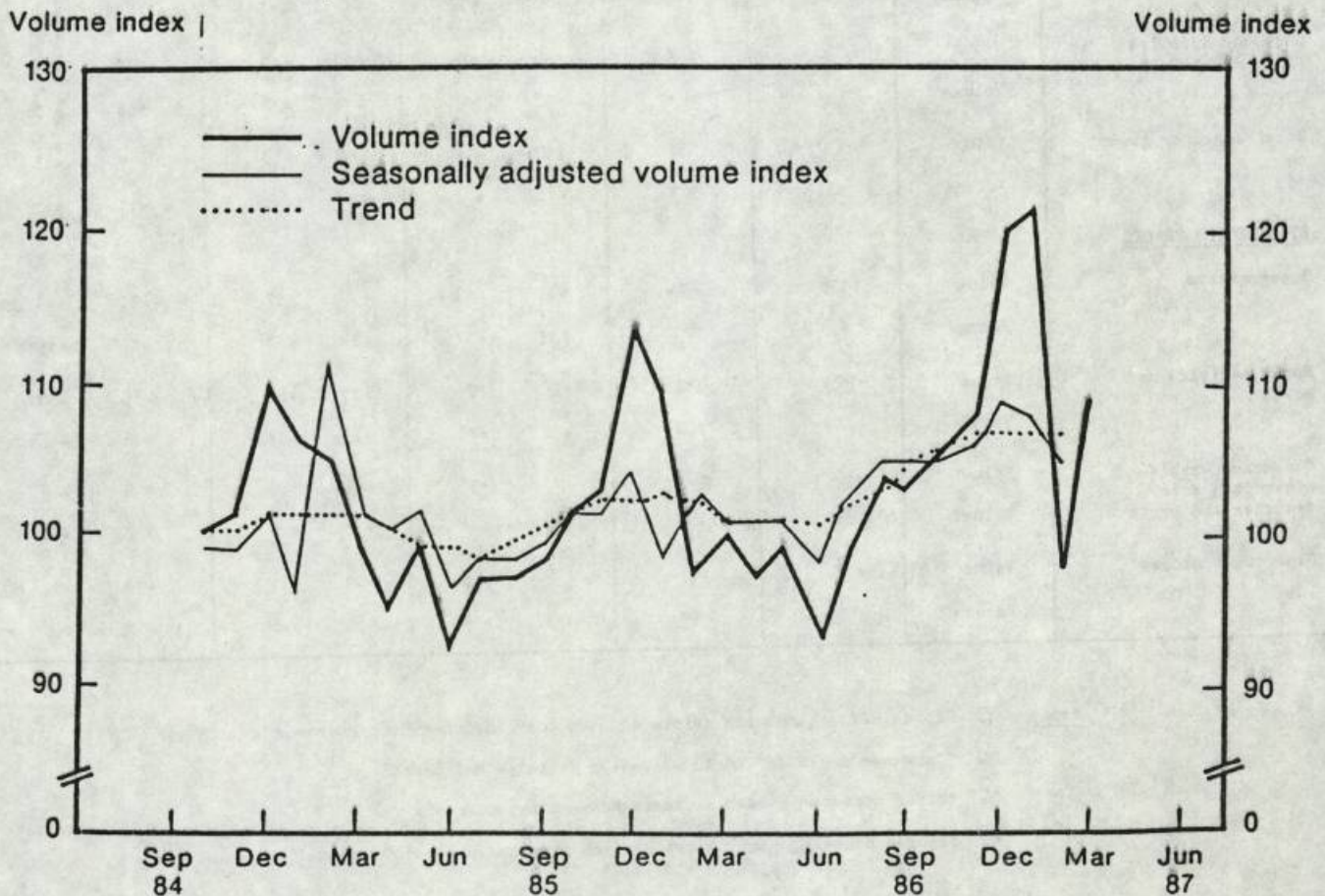
Item	Index of Retail Sales	February 1987	March 1987	March 1987 compared with February 1987		March 1987 compared with March 1986		Jan. - March 87 compared with Jan. - March 86	
		(Revised figures)	(Provisional figures)	Points	%	Points	%	Points	%
(A) FOR ALL RETAIL TRADES									
	Value	104	117	+13	+12	+15	+15	+13	+13
	Volume	98	109	+11	+11	+10	+10	+8	+8
(B) BY MAJOR TRADE GROUPS									
Foodstuffs, alcoholic drinks and tobacco	Value	105	113	+8	+8	+9	+8	+12	+11
	Volume	102	110	+8	+8	+5	+5	+8	+8
Fuels	Value	82	97	+15	+19	-2	-2	-9	-9
	Volume	92	108	+16	+17	+6	+6	+3	+3
Clothing, footwear and allied products	Value	94	126	+32	+34	+20	+19	+9	+8
	Volume	88	116	+28	+32	+14	+13	+3	+2
Consumer durables	Value	103	117	+15	+14	+19	+19	+14	+14
	Volume	92	104	+13	+14	+10	+10	+5	+5
Other consumer goods	Value	110	120	+10	+9	+18	+18	+19	+18
	Volume	101	109	+8	+8	+11	+11	+11	+11
(C) BY SELECTED TRADES									
Supermarkets	Value	115	127	+12	+10	+18	+17	+21	+18
	Volume	110	121	+11	+10	+14	+13	+17	+15
Motor vehicles and parts	Value	121	149	+28	+24	+51	+52	+33	+30
	Volume	97	120	+22	+23	+33	+37	+16	+16
Consumer durables other than motor vehicles and parts	Value	97	108	+11	+11	+9	+9	+8	+8
	Volume	90	100	+10	+11	+3	+3	+2	+2
Department stores	Value	97	103	+6	+6	+11	+11	+13	+12
	Volume	91	94	+3	+4	+5	+6	+7	+7

- Notes : 1. "Foodstuffs, alcoholic drinks and tobacco" includes "supermarkets".
2. "Consumer durables" includes "motor vehicles and parts".
3. "Other consumer goods" includes "department stores".
4. Figures denoting changes are derived from the unrounded index figures.

Graph 1: Value Indexes of Total Retail Sales



Graph 2: Volume Indexes of Total Retail Sales



Notes: (1) Monthly average of Oct. 84 - Sept. 85 = 100

(2) The seasonally adjusted value and volume indexes and Henderson trends are compiled using the X-11 variant seasonal adjustment program of the U.S. Bureau of the Census

TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 1987

- 13 -

GOVERNOR TO VISIT CENTRAL AND WESTERN
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, WILL VISIT CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT ON THURSDAY (JUNE 4) AFTERNOON.

SIR DAVID AND LADY WILSON WILL BEGIN THEIR TOUR IN SHEUNG WAN TO LOOK AT TRADITIONAL WHOLESALE BUSINESS THERE.

THEY WILL THEN VISIT A CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND AT SUNG HING LANE, KWUN LUNG LAU AND TOUR SMITHFIELD IN KENNEDY TOWN.

THE GOVERNOR AND LADY WILSON WILL ALSO ATTEND A TEA RECEPTION AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND MEET DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AND LOCAL COMMUNITY LEADERS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE GOVERNOR'S VISIT TO CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT THIS THURSDAY (JUNE 4). GOVERNMENT TRANSPORT WILL LEAVE THE CGO CARPARK AT LOWER ALBERT ROAD, CENTRAL, AT 1.45 PM SHARP.

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GMB STOPS PILOT SCHEME TO BE INTRODUCED
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A PILOT SCHEME TO ASSESS THE FEASIBILITY OF DESIGNATING STOPPING PLACES FOR GREEN MINIBUSES (GMB) IN RESTRICTED ZONES WILL BE IMPLEMENTED FROM FRIDAY (JUNE 5), A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY.

GMB'S ARE NOW OPERATING ALONG FIXED ROUTES AND SCHEDULES OF SERVICES AND ARE PERMITTED TO STOP AT APPROVED LOCATIONS IN RESTRICTED ZONES TO PICK UP OR SET DOWN PASSENGERS. THE FACT THAT GMB STOPPING PLACES CANNOT BE IDENTIFIED HAVE SOMETIMES CAUSED CONFUSION TO PASSENGERS.

+THE DESIGNATION OF STOPS FOR GMB'S WILL ENABLE THE DEPARTMENT TO BETTER REGULATE THE KERBSIDE ACTIVITIES OF GMB'S IN RESTRICTED AREAS AND TO PROVIDE MORE INFORMATION ON GMB ROUTES TO PASSENGERS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

INITIALLY, TEN LOCATIONS EACH ON HONG KONG ISLAND, IN KOWLOON AND IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, MOSTLY IN RESTRICTED AREAS OF BUSY DISTRICTS, HAVE BEEN CHOSEN FOR THE SCHEME.

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THE FIRST THREE GMB STOPS TO BECOME OPERATIONAL ARE IN TSE WAN SHAN ROAD FOR ROUTES 18, 19 AND 37M; SOARES AVENUE FOR ROUTES 5M, 27M AND 28M; AND IN TAI SHING STREET FOR ROUTE 52. THE OTHER GMB STOPS WILL COME INTO OPERATION SHORTLY.

AT PRESENT, THERE ARE ABOUT 1 180 GMB'S OPERATING 170 APPROVED ROUTES WITH A DAILY PATRONAGE OF ABOUT 546 000. THERE ARE ABOUT 700 APPROVED GMB STOPPING PLACES IN RESTRICTED ZONES. OF THESE, ABOUT 200 EACH ARE ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND IN KOWLOON WHILE THE OTHER 300 ARE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

+THE SCHEME, WHICH ALSO GAINS SUPPORT FROM THE GMB TRADE, WILL BE REVIEWED IN THREE MONTHS AFTER ALL THE 30 DESIGNATED GMB STOPS HAVE COME INTO OPERATION. THE SCHEME WILL BE EXTENDED IF PROVED TO BE SUCCESSFUL,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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INTEREST ON TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY HAS AUTHORISED AN INCREASE IN THE RATE OF INTEREST PAYABLE ON TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES.

AS FROM JUNE 4, 1987, THE NEW ANNUAL RATE OF INTEREST WILL BE 3.84 PER CENT (TAX FREE) AS AGAINST THE CURRENT RATE OF 3.36 PER CENT (TAX FREE), ACCORDING TO A LEGAL NOTICE IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE PUBLISHED TODAY (TUESDAY).

INTEREST ON TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES IS CALCULATED IN MONTHLY STEPS AND THE NEW RATE WILL BE \$0.32 PER MONTH PER \$100. INTEREST WILL BE CREDITED AS BEFORE IN RESPECT OF COMPLETE MONTHS BETWEEN PURCHASE AND SURRENDER IN PAYMENT OF TAX.

INTEREST IS ONLY CREDITED WHEN CERTIFICATES ARE USED TO PAY TAX AND NO INTEREST IS DUE WHERE THE PRINCIPAL VALUE OF A CERTIFICATE IS REPAID BY A CHEQUE.

THE NEW RATE WILL APPLY TO ALL CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JUNE 4, 1987.

/CERTIFICATES WHICH

TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 1987

- 15 -

CERTIFICATES WHICH WERE ISSUED BEFORE JUNE 4, 1987 WILL CONTINUE TO EARN INTEREST AS FOLLOWS:

- 5.04 PER CENT PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER APRIL 3, 1985 AND BEFORE APRIL 24, 1985;
- 4.56 PER CENT PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER APRIL 24, 1985 AND BEFORE MAY 22, 1985;
- 4.08 PER CENT PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER MAY 22, 1985 AND BEFORE JUNE 27, 1985;
- 3.60 PER CENT PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JUNE 27, 1985 AND BEFORE JULY 17, 1985;
- 3.36 PER CENT PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JULY 17, 1985 AND BEFORE JULY 23, 1985;
- 2.76 PER CENT PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JULY 23, 1985 AND BEFORE SEPTEMBER 4, 1985;
- 3.36 PER CENT PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER SEPTEMBER 4, 1985 AND BEFORE APRIL 3, 1986;
- 4.32 PER CENT PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER APRIL 3, 1986 AND BEFORE MAY 14, 1986;
- 4.08 PER CENT PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER MAY 14, 1986 AND BEFORE AUGUST 19, 1986;
- 3.36 PER CENT PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER AUGUST 19, 1986 AND BEFORE JANUARY 19, 1987;
- 2.52 PER CENT PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JANUARY 19, 1987 AND BEFORE MARCH 4, 1987;
- 3.00 PER CENT PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER MARCH 4, 1987 AND BEFORE APRIL 9, 1987, AND
- 3.36 PER CENT PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER APRIL 9, 1987 AND BEFORE JUNE 4, 1987.

BUT ALWAYS SUBJECT TO THE GENERAL RULE THAT INTEREST CEASES TO ACCRUE AFTER 36 COMPLETE MONTHS WITHOUT SURRENDER FOR PAYMENT OF TAX.

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SUBSIDIES OFFERED FOR SPECIAL STUDIES
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THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SCHOLARSHIP FUND AND THE MARINE FISH SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

MORE THAN \$440 000 WILL BE AVAILABLE THIS YEAR FOR SCHOLARSHIPS, GRANTS AND INTEREST-FREE LOANS FROM THE TWO FUNDS ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE CURRENTLY AVAILABLE FROM THE DEPARTMENT'S HEADQUARTERS ON THE 12TH FLOOR OF CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 393, CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON, AND FROM VARIOUS DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL AND FISHERIES LIAISON OFFICES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID: + THE FUNDS ARE TO HELP PEOPLE WISHING TO SERVE THE LOCAL AGRICULTURAL AND FISHERIES INDUSTRIES OR RELATED TRADES ON COMPLETION OF THEIR STUDIES, AND ALSO THOSE EMPLOYED IN THE INDUSTRIES WHO WISH TO PURSUE FURTHER TRAINING.

+THE FUNDS ALSO AIM AT ASSISTING CHILDREN OF FARMING AND FISHING FAMILIES TO COMPLETE THEIR SECONDARY SCHOOLING AS A PREREQUISITE FOR TERTIARY EDUCATION.+

APPLICATIONS FOR TERTIARY EDUCATION SUBSIDIES WILL CLOSE ON JULY 17 WHILE THOSE FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS WILL CLOSE ON AUGUST 14.

THE AWARDS WILL BE TENABLE AT ANY UNIVERSITY IN HONG KONG, THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, CITY POLYTECHNIC, BAPTIST COLLEGE, ANY TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, ANY ACCEPTABLE OVERSEAS INSTITUTION AND AT ANY SECONDARY SCHOOL IN HONG KONG.

APPLICANTS IN TERTIARY EDUCATION SHOULD BE HONG KONG RESIDENTS UNDER 30 YEARS OF AGE WHILE SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICANTS SHOULD BE STUDENTS IN FORMS 4 TO 7, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

APPROVED COURSES FOR TERTIARY EDUCATION INCLUDE THOSE ON AGRICULTURE, VETERINARY SCIENCE, MARINE BIOLOGY OR ANY APPLIED SCIENCE RELEVANT TO THE LOCAL AGRICULTURAL OR FISHERIES INDUSTRIES AND RELATED TRADES.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE FUNDS AND APPLICATION PROCEDURES CAN BE MADE TO THE SECRETARY OF THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND MARINE FISH SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE AT 3-7332227.

PAK MONG PIER RE-OPENS

ALLOCATIONS TO THE LOCAL PUBLIC WORKS FUND OF ISLANDS DISTRICT HAS INCREASED 60 PER CENT TO \$3.5 MILLION SO THAT MORE WORKS PROJECTS CAN BE CARRIED OUT TO IMPROVE THE LIVING CONDITIONS OF ISLANDERS, THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MR JOHN SHERWIN, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE NEWLY RE-CONSTRUCTED PAK MONG PIER, MR SHERWIN POINTED OUT THAT THE PAK MONG PROJECT WAS AN ILLUSTRATION OF HOW CO-OPERATION COULD GET THINGS DONE.

THE TWO-MONTH PROJECT, WHICH WAS INITIATED AND FUNDED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE, WAS CARRIED OUT BY THE E TROOP, 68TH GURKHA FIELD SQUADRON OF THE QUEEN'S GURKHA ENGINEERS.

THE 30-METRE LONG PIER WILL PROVIDE THE ONLY SEA LINK FOR VILLAGERS FROM PAK MONG, NGAU KWU LONG AND TAI HO IN NORTHEASTERN LANTAU WITH MARKETS IN KOWLOON WHERE THEIR AGRICULTURAL GOODS ARE SOLD.

MR SHERWIN SAID HE HOPED THIS KIND OF CO-OPERATION WOULD CONTINUE IN THE FUTURE.

AFTER A RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY, THE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF MUI WO RURAL COMMITTEE, MR LAM KUT-SHING, PRESENTED SOUVENIRS TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ARMY TO THANK THEM FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE.

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DEATH SENTENCES COMMUTED

THE GOVERNOR, AFTER TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE ADVICE OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, HAS DECIDED THAT THE DEATH SENTENCES PASSED ON ZEE KIM-HUNG AND WONG CHI-SHING ON OCTOBER 10, 1984 SHOULD BE COMMUTED TO SENTENCES OF LIFE IMPRISONMENT. ZEE AND WONG WERE FOUND GUILTY OF THE MURDER OF CHENG CHIU.

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CONTRACTORS URGED TO FENCE OFF EDGES
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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) URGED BUILDING CONTRACTORS TO PROVIDE SUITABLE GUARDRAILS AT FLOOR EDGES AND STAIRCASES OF BUILDINGS UNDER CONSTRUCTION TO PREVENT ACCIDENTS.

THIS FOLLOWS THE CONCLUSION RECENTLY OF A COURT CASE BEFORE THE KWUN TONG MAGISTRACY IN WHICH A BUILDING CONTRACTOR WAS FINED \$40 000 FOR FAILING TO PROVIDE SUITABLE GUARDRAILS IN A BUILDING UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

IN PASSING SENTENCE, THE MAGISTRATE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THE DEFENDANT HAD NO PREVIOUS CONVICTION RECORD, A DETERRENT FINE HAD TO BE IMPOSED TO BRING THE ATTENTION OF OTHER CONTRACTORS TO THE SAFETY LEGISLATION.

A LABOUR DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT UNDER THE CONSTRUCTION SITES (SAFETY) REGULATIONS, FLOOR EDGES, BALCONIES, LIFT SHAFT OPENINGS AND OTHER DANGEROUS PLACES FROM WHICH A PERSON IS LIABLE TO FALL MUST BE SECURELY FENCED OFF.

THE REGULATIONS ALSO SPECIFIED CERTAIN PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES TO BE TAKEN TO ENSURE THE SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE OF WORKERS ON CONSTRUCTION SITES, HE ADDED.

ANY EMPLOYER WHO CONTRAVENES THE REGULATIONS IS LIABLE, ON CONVICTION, TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$50 000.

ENQUIRIES CONCERNING THE REGULATIONS MAY BE MADE TO ANY BRANCH OFFICES OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S FACTORY INSPECTORATE DIVISION.

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ROUTE 5 SHA TIN CONNECTION CONTRACT AWARDED
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THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT HAS AWARDED A \$209 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SHA TIN CONNECTION FOR ROUTE 5.

THE SHA TIN CONNECTION WILL START NEAR THE BOUNDARY OF SHA TIN NEW TOWN, NORTH OF HEUNG FAN LIU, AND JOIN THE EXISTING TAI PO ROAD NEAR SHA TIN TOWN CENTRE.

THE CONTRACT WILL BE SIGNED TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) BY THE DIRECTOR OF TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT, MR KENNETH KWOK, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONTRACTOR, HARBOUR CONSTRUCTION LTD.

THE WORK, WHICH WILL START IN THE MIDDLE OF THE MONTH, WILL INCLUDE CONSTRUCTION OF A 2.2 KILOMETRE DUAL TWO-LANE CARRIAGEWAY, THREE FLYOVERS, CYCLETRACKS, FOOTPATHS AND ANCILLARY FACILITIES.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE CONTRACT SIGNING CEREMONY WILL TAKE PLACE AT 3 PM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AT THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS, 151, GLOUCESTER ROAD, TIAN AN CENTRE, 8TH FLOOR, WAN CHAI. YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND YOUR REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE EVENT.

SITTING OUT AREA AT WONG CHUK HANG RESERVOIR

A 2 200 SQUARE METRE SITTING OUT AREA ABOVE WONG CHUK HANG SERVICE RESERVOIR IN NAM LONG SHAN ROAD IS TO BE BUILT FOR MORNING WALKERS AND LOCAL RESIDENTS.

A CONTRACT FOR THE PROJECT, WORTH \$1.67 MILLION, WAS SIGNED RECENTLY BETWEEN THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND HUNG LEE CONSTRUCTION AND DECORATION COMPANY.

FACILITIES WILL INCLUDE A 125-METRE JOGGING TRACK, FITNESS STATIONS, SITTING AREAS, ARBOUR, PLANTING AREAS AND A PAVILION.

A SMALLER SEPARATE SITTING OUT AREA WILL BE BUILT AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE RESERVOIR CONSISTING OF A TOILET, BENCHES AND PLANTS.

THE PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED NEXT JANUARY WHEN IT WILL BE HANDED OVER TO THE URBAN COUNCIL FOR MANAGEMENT.

TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 1987 .

- 20 -

IMPROVEMENTS TO LO WAI ROAD PROPOSED
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A SECTION OF LO WAI ROAD IN TSUEN WAN IS TO BE IMPROVED TO ENHANCE TRAFFIC CIRCULATION IN THE AREA.

WORK WILL BE CARRIED OUT ON THE ROAD BETWEEN HILLTOP ROAD AND THE VILLAGE AREA NEAR YUEN YUEN INSTITUTE, WHICH IS NOW SUBSTANDARD AND IN A POOR STATE OF REPAIR.

THE 600-METRE LONG STRETCH OF ROAD WILL BE RECONSTRUCTED AND WIDENED TO 6.75 METRES, WITH PROVISION OF FOOTPATHS, DRAINS AND UTILITY SERVICES.

OTHER WORK WILL INVOLVE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE EXISTING ROAD BRIDGE AND CONSTRUCTION OF A PARKING AREA NEAR YUEN YUEN INSTITUTE.

OBJECTIONS IN WRITING MUST REACH THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT BY JULY 28.

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NEW FLUSHING SYSTEM FOR WAN CHAI
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A NEW SALT WATER FLUSHING SYSTEM IS TO BE PROVIDED FOR WAN CHAI, HAPPY VALLEY, CAUSEWAY BAY AND TAI HANG TO REDUCE THE DEMAND FOR FRESH AND WELL WATER FOR THIS PURPOSE IN THE AREAS.

THE PROJECT, TO BE CARRIED OUT IN STAGES, WILL BE COMPLETED IN 1989 AT AN ESTIMATED COST OF \$30 MILLION.

THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE FIRST MAINLAYING WORK FOR WAN CHAI, WHICH WILL INVOLVE LAYING 4 000 METRES OF 200 TO 700-MILLIMETRE DIAMETER SALT WATER MAINS FROM KENNEDY ROAD TO QUEEN'S ROAD EAST AND THEN RUNNING MAINLY ALONG JOHNSTON AND JAFFE ROADS.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO COMMENCE IN SEPTEMBER AND TAKE ABOUT 18 MONTHS.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING TENDERS IS JUNE 19.

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/21

TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 1987

- 21 -

RESTRICTED ZONE IN CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD
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FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (JUNE 5), CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD BETWEEN NEW CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD AND CHOI FUNG PATH WILL BE DESIGNATED RESTRICTED ZONE FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY.

NO VEHICLE WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS WITHIN THE RESTRICTED AREA.

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SAN PO KONG WATER CUT

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SALT WATER SUPPLY TO SAN PO KONG WILL BE TURNED OFF ON FRIDAY (JUNE 5) FROM 10 AM TO 10 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR MAINS WORK.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT ALL PREMISES IN THE SAN PO KONG.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (TUESDAY) STOOD AT 58.4 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 342.510 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 269.940 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 46.1 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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