



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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## HK-U.S. TEXTILES AGREEMENTS INITIALLED

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A +MODIFICATION AND EXTENSION+ OF THE HK-U.S. BILATERAL TEXTILES AGREEMENT WAS INITIALLED IN THE EARLY HOURS OF MONDAY, JUNE 30, IN WASHINGTON.

HONG KONG'S CHIEF TEXTILES NEGOTIATOR, DIRECTOR OF TRADE, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, DESCRIBED THE NEW AGREEMENT AS +YET ANOTHER STEP TO TIGHTEN RESTRAINTS ON HONG KONG'S EXPORTS.+

HE ATTRIBUTED THE RIGID STANCE OF THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION TO THE STRONG PROTECTIONIST FEELING IN THE U.S.A. AND THE THREAT OF PROTECTIONIST LEGISLATION SUCH AS THE THURMOND-JENKINS BILL. THIS SITUATION WAS REFLECTED IN THE NEGOTIATIONS THEMSELVES.

+ALTHOUGH THE AGREEMENT REACHED IS NOT AS RESTRICTIVE AS THE ORIGINAL U.S.A. PROPOSAL, IT INVOLVES OVERALL LIMITS AT 1985 TRADE LEVELS, WITH VERY LOW GROWTH RATES. WHILE WE ALSO ACHIEVED SOME IMPROVEMENTS IN FLEXIBILITY AND GROWTH PROVISIONS THESE CERTAINLY DO NOT COMPENSATE FOR THE NEW RESTRICTIVE ELEMENTS IN THE AGREEMENT,+ HE SAID.

THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR E.P. HO, ALSO IN WASHINGTON TOGETHER WITH THE ENTIRE TEXTILES ADVISORY BOARD, COMMENTED THAT THE PRESENCE OF THE BOARD THROUGHOUT THE NEGOTIATIONS ENABLED THE TRADE EFFECTS OF THE U.S. PROPOSAL ON THE ENTIRE TEXTILES AND GARMENT INDUSTRIES IN HONG KONG TO BE ASSESSED ON THE SPOT.

HE ADDED THAT THE HONG KONG TEAM HAD FOUGHT HARD, AND WON SOME USEFUL IMPROVEMENT OVER EARLIER PROPOSALS, INCLUDING MODEST IMPROVEMENTS ON FLEXIBILITY PROVISIONS. BUT IN THE END, THE POLITICAL REALITIES HAD TO BE FACED.

THE MAIN FEATURES OF THE AGREEMENT, WHICH EXTENDS TO 1991, ARE:

- (A) EXTENSION OF COVERAGE TO SILK AND VEGETABLE FIBRES (ALTHOUGH BLENDS WITH A HIGH PROPORTION OF SILK ARE EXCLUDED);
- (B) INTRODUCTION OF GROUP LIMITS FOR THREE MAIN GROUPS OF CATEGORIES -- THE EXISTING COTTON, WOOL, AND MAN-MADE FIBRE CATEGORIES BEING SPLIT INTO APPAREL AND NON-APPAREL, AND A NEW APPAREL GROUP BEING FORMED FOR PREVIOUSLY UNRESTRAINED VEGETABLE FIBRES.

FURTHER DETAILS WILL BE ISSUED TO THE INDUSTRY, AND IMPLEMENTATION DETAILS WILL BE WORKED OUT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE TEXTILES ADVISORY BOARD, TO MINIMISE UNAVOIDABLE DISRUPTION TO THE TRADE.

/ALTHOUGH .....

ALTHOUGH THE PACKAGE INVOLVES A MODIFICATION TO THE CURRENT BILATERAL AGREEMENT COVERING TRADE IN COTTON, WOOL, AND MAN-MADE FIBRE TEXTILES, THERE IS NO REDUCTION TO QUOTAS ISSUED FOR THE EXISTING RESTRAINED CATEGORIES.

THE RESTRAINTS ON PREVIOUSLY UNRESTRAINED CATEGORIES OF SILK AND VEGETABLE FIBRE WILL TAKE EFFECT FROM AUGUST 1.

EXPORT LICENCES FOR THESE NEWLY RESTRAINED CATEGORIES WILL BE SUSPENDED WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT ALTHOUGH SHIPMENTS AGAINST LICENSES ALREADY ISSUED WILL CONTINUE TO BE ALLOWED. THE ISSUE OF THESE LICENCES WILL BE RESUMED AS SOON AS THE CALCULATION OF QUOTA ENTITLEMENTS HAS BEEN COMPLETED.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

A PRELIMINARY PRESS BRIEFING ON THE MODIFICATION OF THE HK-U.S. TEXTILES AGREEMENT WILL BE HELD AT 3 PM TODAY (TUESDAY) AT THE TRADE DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS, 15TH FLOOR, OCEAN CENTRE, TSIM SHA TSUI.

THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR E.P. HO, WILL RETURN TO HONG KONG, TOGETHER WITH MEMBERS OF THE TEXTILES ADVISORY BOARD, BY JAL 1 AT 9.30 PM TODAY. A PRESS POSITION WILL BE SET UP ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE VIP SUITE AT THE AIRPORT.

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LEGCO TO DISCUSS LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SYSTEM  
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THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL SOON DISCUSS A BILL WHICH WILL EMPOWER THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY CORPORATION (KCRC) TO CONSTRUCT AND OPERATE THE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT (LRT) SYSTEM IN THE NORTH-WESTERN NEW TERRITORIES.

THE BILL - TO BE PRESENTED TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON JULY 16 - WILL ALSO ENABLE THE KCRC TO OPERATE BUS SERVICES WITHIN THE NORTH-WEST TRANSIT SERVICE AREA (TSA) WHICH ENCOMPASSES TUEN MUN DISTRICT AND YUEN LONG DISTRICT WEST OF THE EXISTING EASTERN ROUNDABOUT.

/DETAILS OF .....

DETAILS OF THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY CORPORATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1986 WERE ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, MR DAVID H.T. LAN.

THE \$1.16 BILLION CONTRACT FOR PHASE I OF THE SYSTEM - A LIGHT RAIL LINK BETWEEN TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG TO BE IN OPERATION IN AUGUST 1988 - WAS AWARDED LAST YEAR TO AN AUSTRALIAN CONSORTIUM HEADED BY LEIGHTON CONTRACTOR (ASIA) LTD AND THE METROPOLITAN TRANSIT AUTHORITY OF VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA.

MR LAN SAID THAT IN LINE WITH THE PRESENT POLICY TOWARDS THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY AND THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY, THE KCRC WOULD HAVE POWERS TO DETERMINE FARES, ROUTES AND FREQUENCIES OF BOTH THE LRT AND INTERNAL BUS SERVICES.

HE ADDED THAT CONSUMER INTERESTS IN THE SETTING OF FARES AND PROVISION OF SERVICES WOULD BE PROTECTED BY KCRC'S BOARD WHICH CONSISTED OF A MAJORITY OF UNOFFICIALS WHO WERE DRAWN FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND OTHER ADVISORY BODIES.

IT WAS THEREFORE NOT NECESSARY FOR THE CORPORATION TO BE SUBJECT TO THE SAME KIND OF CONTROLS ON FARES, ROUTES AND FREQUENCIES WHICH APPLIED TO SOME OTHER PUBLIC TRANSPORT OPERATORS.

FARES BETWEEN TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG ON THE LRT WOULD ONLY BE MARGINALLY HIGHER THAN THE CURRENT KMB BUS SERVICE. THE SMALL PREMIUM PROVIDED FOR A FAST AND MODERN MODE OF TRANSPORT WITH AIR-CONDITIONED COACHES. AND BECAUSE IT WAS ELECTRONICALLY OPERATED, IT WOULD REDUCE POLLUTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT.

MR LAN SAID THE ACCOUNTS OF KCRC WERE MADE PUBLIC AND THE CORPORATION HAD A GOOD RECORD OF REASONABLE FARE POLICY.

HE WENT ON : +UNLIKE THE MTR WHICH IS BUILT AS AN ADDITIONAL MODE SERVING BUSY CORRIDORS OF HIGH PASSENGER DEMAND, THE LRT IS TO BE BUILT AS THE PRIME PEOPLE-MOVER IN THE GROWING REGION OF THE WESTERN NEW TERRITORIES WHERE THERE IS INSUFFICIENT INTERNAL DEMAND TO SUPPORT A VARIETY OF MODES.

+TO ALLOW UNRESTRICTED COMPETITION FROM OTHER MODES WOULD SERIOUSLY UNDERMINE THE VIABILITY OF THE PROJECT. THE LRT WAS DESIGNED AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO CONVENTIONAL ROAD PASSENGER TRANSPORT. THE LRT AND ITS FEEDER BUSES WILL OPERATE A COMPREHENSIVE NETWORK OF ROUTES PROVIDING SUFFICIENT CAPACITY TO COPE WITH TRAFFIC DEMAND WITHIN THE SERVICE AREA.

+ALLOWING UNRESTRICTED COMPETITION FROM OTHER MODES WOULD ERODE THE POTENTIAL TRAFFIC OF ALL MODES RESULTING IN PRESSURE TO RAISE FARES.+

/A CLAUSE .....

A CLAUSE IN THE BILL EMPOWERS THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL TO AMEND THE EXISTING FRANCHISE OF BUS COMPANIES. THIS IS REQUIRED TO TERMINATE THE INTERNAL BUS ROUTES CURRENTLY OPERATED BY KMB AND TO INTRODUCE BOARDING AND ALIGHTING RESTRICTIONS ON KMB'S EXTERNAL BUS SERVICES. THE CLAUSE ALSO PROVIDES FOR FULL AND FAIR COMPENSATION TO BE PAID TO KMB FOR A PECUNIARY LOSS OR DAMAGE TO THE COMPANY AS A RESULT OF THE NEW SYSTEM.

MR LAN SAID IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO CANCEL KMB'S ROUTES IN THE TRANSIT SERVICE AREA BECAUSE OF THE UNFAVOURABLE ECONOMIC SITUATION INVOLVED IN HAVING LRT AND BUS SERVICES RUNNING PARALLEL TO EACH OTHER. THE LRT WOULD BE A RELATIVELY HIGH CAPACITY MODE AND, ON ECONOMIC GROUNDS, POTENTIAL RIDERSHIP SHOULD BE MAXIMISED.

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NEW MEMBERS APPOINTED TO EXCO  
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WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE, THE GOVERNOR HAS APPOINTED FOUR NEW MEMBERS TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND EXTENDED THE TERMS OF TWO CURRENT MEMBERS.

THE TERMS OF OFFICE OF SIR MICHAEL SANDBERG AND MR OSWALD CHEUNG, WHICH WERE DUE TO EXPIRE ON AUGUST 31, HAVE BEEN EXTENDED TO DECEMBER 31.

MR PETER C. WONG, DR CHIU HIN-KWONG AND DR DANIEL TSE HAVE BEEN APPOINTED TO THE COUNCIL FOR A TERM OF APPROXIMATELY TWO YEARS FROM OCTOBER 1 UNTIL AUGUST 31, 1988.

MR WILLIAM PURVES HAS BEEN APPOINTED TO THE COUNCIL WITH EFFECT FROM JANUARY 1, 1987 UNTIL AUGUST 31, 1989.

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HONG KONG OPENS NEW OFFICE IN U.S.  
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THE GOVERNMENT TODAY ESTABLISHED A FIRM Foothold ON THE WEST COAST OF THE UNITED STATES WITH THE OPENING OF AN ECONOMIC AFFAIRS OFFICE IN SAN FRANCISCO.

THE OPENING OF THE OFFICE REFLECTS THE GROWING IMPORTANCE OF THE AMERICAN MARKET TO HONG KONG AND WILL COMPLEMENT THE EAST COAST EFFORTS OF THE EXISTING REPRESENTATIVE OFFICES IN NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON.

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HEADING THE OFFICE AS DIRECTOR IS MR BILLY LAM, A 38-YEAR-OLD STAFF GRADE B OFFICER WHO HAS JUST COMPLETED THE 10-MONTH SLOAN PROGRAMME AT CALIFORNIA'S STANFORD UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS.

MR LAM SAYS THE MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THE OFFICE WILL BE TO MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC, COMMERCIAL AND OTHER INTERESTS BY CREATING A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE TERRITORY IN AREAS WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.

+AS WELL AS DISSEMINATING INFORMATION ABOUT HONG KONG, WE WILL ESTABLISH AND DEVELOP CONTACTS WITH INFLUENTIAL INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANISATIONS IN BOTH THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS,+ HE SAID.

+WE WILL ALSO WORK CLOSELY WITH THE OTHER HONG KONG ORGANISATIONS HERE -- SUCH AS THE INDUSTRIAL PROMOTION OFFICE, TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AND TOURIST ASSOCIATION -- TO OPTIMISE HONG KONG'S OVERALL PROMOTION EFFORTS,+ HE ADDED.

MR LAM SERVED AS DISTRICT OFFICER OF TUEN MUN DURING ITS FORMATIVE YEARS AND WAS ALSO A CITY DISTRICT OFFICER, AT KOWLOON CITY. OTHER POSTINGS INCLUDED THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT AND THE SECRETARIAT. HIS LAST POST WAS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES.

THE DIRECTOR IS ASSISTED BY SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER MR HERMAN CHO COMING FROM THE TRADE DEPARTMENT AND PRINCIPAL INFORMATION OFFICER MR PETER RANDALL OF GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES.

LOCATED AT 180 SUTTER STREET IN THE HEART OF SAN FRANCISCO'S FINANCIAL DISTRICT, THE NEW OFFICE ALSO ACCOMMODATES THE INDUSTRIAL PROMOTION OFFICE HEADED BY MR BOB ASHWORTH, A PRINCIPAL CONSULTANT OF THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT.

THE OFFICE WILL BE OFFICIALLY OPENED ON JULY 15 BY THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, DURING HIS OFFICIAL 13-DAY VISIT TO NORTH AMERICA.

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DEBATE RESUMES ON LANDLORD AND TENANT BILL  
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DEBATE ON THE LANDLORD AND TENANT (CONSOLIDATION) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1986 WILL RESUME WHEN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETS TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

FOUR OTHER BILLS: THE BANKRUPTCY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1986, THE REHABILITATION OF OFFENDERS BILL 1986, THE BUILDING ORDINANCE (APPLICATION TO THE NEW TERRITORIES) BILL 1986 AND THE EASTERN HARBOUR CROSSING BILL 1986 WILL BE INTRODUCED AND READ A SECOND TIME.

IN ADDITION, 10 QUESTIONS WILL BE RAISED BY UNOFFICIALS TO DEAL WITH SUCH MATTERS AS THE MONITORING OF AIR QUALITY IN KWUN TONG, THE SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK SCHEME, COMPLAINTS AGAINST TAXI MALPRACTICE AND PROTECTION OF NON-SMOKERS FROM SMOKERS.

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BOARD TO DISCUSS DAYA BAY PROJECT  
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THE KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS THE SAFETY ASPECTS OF THE DAYA BAY NUCLEAR PLANT PROJECT AT ITS MEETING ON THURSDAY (JULY 3).

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE WORK PROGRESS OF THE TSING YI NORTH BRIDGE AND THE MAINTENANCE OF THE SOUTH BRIDGE AFTER THE COMPLETION OF THE NORTH BRIDGE.

QUESTIONS WILL BE RAISED ON THE SITUATION OF GOVERNMENT CLINICS ON TSING YI AND EVENING CLINIC SERVICE AND ON THE KWOK AH-NUI CASE.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A CIVIC CENTRE IN KWAI CHUNG AND A PROPOSAL THAT THE HOUSING AUTHORITY SHOULD SEEK THE BOARD'S VIEWS BEFORE THE FINAL PROPOSALS BY THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING SUBSIDY TO TENANTS OF PUBLIC HOUSING GREEN PAPER ARE ENDORSED.

/PAPERS ON .....

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PAPERS ON THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES OF THE SEVEN COMMUNITY CENTRES IN THE DISTRICT AND A PROGRESS REPORT ON THE +MEET THE PUBLIC SCHEME+ WILL BE TABLED FOR MEMBERS VIEWS AND DISCUSSION.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI DISTRICT BOARD MEETING AT 2.30 PM ON THURSDAY IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI DISTRICT OFFICE, 10TH FLOOR, KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 166-174 HING FONG ROAD, KWAI CHUNG.

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KOWLOON CITY DB TO DISCUSS TRIAD REPORT  
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KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL MEET ON THURSDAY (JULY 3) TO DISCUSS THE DOCUMENT ON OPTIONS FOR CHANGES IN LAW AND IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAW TO COUNTER THE TRIAD PROBLEM.

PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MR MICHAEL STONE, AND SENIOR CROWN COUNSEL OF THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT, MR ANDREW BRUCE, WILL ATTEND THE MEETING AND WILL EXPLAIN THE DOCUMENT AND LISTEN TO THE VIEWS OF MEMBERS.

THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT (KOWLOON), MRS DOROTHY CHAN, WILL ALSO INTRODUCE A PAPER ON THE ROLE OF THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT AND THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT IMPROVEMENT PLAN IN THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE CURRENT LAND USE PROPOSALS ON TO KWA WAN RECLAMATION AND THE PROPOSED PLAN FOR A BETTER KOWLOON CITY PREPARED BY THE KOWLOON CITY AND SAI TAU AREA COMMITTEE WORKING GROUP.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD MEETING IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE AT 141 KAU PUI LUNG ROAD, TO KWA WAN, AT 2.15 PM ON THURSDAY.

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AMERICAN INVESTORS HAVE IMPORTANT ROLE  
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THE AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY HAS ALWAYS BEEN IMPORTANT TO HONG KONG AND THE UNITED STATES IS THE LARGEST OVERSEAS INVESTOR IN THE TERRITORY'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY, THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR STEUART WEBB-JOHNSON, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

MR WEBB-JOHNSON SAID THE UNITED STATES ACCOUNTED FOR OVER 50 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL OVERSEAS INVESTMENT IN THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

+MORE THAN 800 COMPANIES WITH UNITED STATES CONNECTIONS ARE REGISTERED IN HONG KONG, INCLUDING 89 WHOLLY-OWNED AND 53 JOINT VENTURE MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS EMPLOYING SOME 40 000 WORKERS,+ HE SAID, WHEN OPENING TEKTRONIX HONG KONG LIMITED IN CAUSEWAY BAY.

TO CREATE AN EVEN BETTER ENVIRONMENT TO ENCOURAGE INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG, MR WEBB-JOHNSON SAID THE GOVERNMENT IN RECENT YEARS HAD FINANCED A NUMBER OF PROJECTS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE TECHNOLOGICAL FACILITIES IN SUPPORT OF MANUFACTURING.

+EXAMPLES ARE THE GOVERNMENT STANDARDS AND CALIBRATION LABORATORY AND THE GOVERNMENT'S FINANCING OF PROGRAMMES BEING UNDERTAKEN BY THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL TO PROMOTE INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION AND TO PROVIDE AN IMPROVED AND EXPANDED PRECISION TOOLING SERVICE.+

MR WEBB-JOHNSON SAID THE GOVERNMENT ALSO INVESTED HEAVILY IN MANPOWER TRAINING THROUGH ITS EDUCATION PROGRAMMES AND IN THE PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE THROUGH INDUSTRIAL LAND FORMATION AND PUBLIC WORKS.

+AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND, THE GOVERNMENT IS HOPEFUL THAT WHEN OVERSEAS MANUFACTURERS, PARTICULARLY THOSE POSSESSING ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY, ARE LOOKING FOR A SUITABLE OFFSHORE MANUFACTURING BASE IN THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION, THEY WILL SEE HONG KONG AS A PLACE WHERE THEY MAY NOT ONLY ACHIEVE SUBSTANTIAL PROFITS BUT ALSO FIND ADEQUATE INFRASTRUCTURE AND TECHNOLOGICAL SUPPORT FOR THEIR OPERATIONS,+ HE ADDED.

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JAPANESE INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG SIGNIFICANT  
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THERE HAVE BEEN MORE CASES OR PROJECTS OF JAPANESE INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG THAN IN ANY OTHER ASIAN ECONOMY, THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR K.Y. YEUNG, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

SPEAKING AT A SYMPOSIUM ORGANISED BY THE JAPAN EXTERNAL TRADE ORGANISATION IN TOKYO, MR YEUNG POINTED OUT THAT HONG KONG'S SHARE AMOUNTED TO SOME 2 299 CASES (OR 21 PER CENT) OUT OF AN ASIAN TOTAL OF 10 844.

+AND THE VALUE OF TOTAL JAPANESE INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG, ESTIMATED AT U.S.\$2 799 MILLION, IS LARGER THAN THAT IN ANY EUROPEAN COUNTRY, OR IN SINGAPORE, TAIWAN, SOUTH KOREA, MEXICO AND BRAZIL.+

+ADMITTEDLY, A GOOD DEAL OF THIS INVESTMENT IS IN HONG KONG'S FINANCIAL SERVICES SECTOR, BUT THE INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IS STILL SIGNIFICANT.

+THIS INVESTMENT IS REPRESENTED BY 127 FACTORIES INCLUDING 67 JOINT VENTURES, AND BY AN AGGREGATE INVESTMENT VALUE OF SOME U.S.\$380 MILLION AS AT THE END OF MARCH 1986.

+MORE IMPORTANTLY THE QUALITY OF THE INVESTMENT HAS ALSO IMPROVED.+

MR YEUNG SAID THE REASONS FOR HONG KONG BEING AN IDEAL PLACE FOR INVESTMENT INCLUDED THE EXCELLENT BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT WHICH THE GOVERNMENT HAD CREATED AND NURTURED, THE MARKET OPPORTUNITIES CREATED BY CHINA'S MODERNISATION AND HONG KONG'S POSITION AS A WINDOW TO THAT MARKET; AND THE APPRECIATION IN EXCHANGE VALUE OF THE YEN IN RECENT MONTHS.

TURNING TO HONG KONG'S SIZE AS AN EXPORT MARKET, HE SAID:  
+DURING 1985 HONG KONG IMPORTED U.S.\$6.8 BILLION WORTH OF RAW MATERIALS, SEMI-MANUFACTURES AND FINISHED PRODUCTS FROM JAPAN, OF WHICH U.S.\$6.1 BILLION WAS RETAINED.+

+TAKEN ALL TOGETHER JAPANESE FIRMS MANUFACTURING IN HONG KONG REPORTED IN 1984 THAT NO LESS THAN 41 PER CENT OF THEIR TOTAL OUTPUT, WORTH U.S.\$361 MILLION, WAS CONSUMED LOCALLY.

+THE SORT OF PRODUCTS FOR WHICH THERE IS A SIZEABLE AND STABLE DEMAND IN HONG KONG INCLUDE HIGH QUALITY FABRICS, PRECISION TOOLS AND MOULDS, PRECISION METALS AND PLASTICS PARTS AND COMPONENTS WHICH WE REQUIRE FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF HIGHER QUALITY ELECTRONIC CONSUMER PRODUCTS, AND THE FULL RANGE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT+.

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ON THE ADVANTAGES WHICH HONG KONG HAD TO OFFER AS AN OPEN ECONOMY, MR YEUNG SAID PRICES AND WAGES IN HONG KONG WERE INFLUENCED EXCLUSIVELY BY MARKET FORCES.

THERE WERE ALSO READY AVAILABILITY OF CAPITAL AND A RANGE OF HIGHLY EFFICIENT SUPPORTING SERVICE INDUSTRIES, HE SAID.

THE GOVERNMENT FIRMLY BELIEVED IN ALLOWING BUSINESSMEN TO GET ON WITH THEIR BUSINESSES, BUT ALSO INVESTED HEAVILY IN MANPOWER TRAINING, CAPITAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND INDUSTRIAL SUPPORT FACILITIES, HE ADDED.

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EASTERN DISTRICT SETS UP TENDER BOARD  
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A TENDER BOARD HAS BEEN SET UP UNDER THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD TO SELECT PRIVATE CONTRACTORS TO CARRY OUT MINOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS IN THE DISTRICT.

+THE BOARD IS ACCOUNTABLE TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE DISTRICT BOARD REGARDING TENDERING MATTERS FOR MINOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS WITHIN THE RANGE OF \$2 000 AND \$50 000,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE SAID.

+THE FIRST JOB IS THE PURCHASE OF FLOWERS AND PLANTS FOR THE SITTING-OUT AREA AT LYEMUN BARRACKS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+MEANWHILE, THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE IS PLANNING TO COMPILE A LIST OF CONTRACTORS CAPABLE OF SUPPLYING PEAT AND PLANTS, AND FLOWER POTS, AS WELL AS SIMPLE CIVIL WORKS AND ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL WORKS,+ HE CONTINUED.

INVITATION LETTERS WILL BE SENT TO CONTRACTORS ON THE RELEVANT LIST WHEN THE COMMITTEE HAD DECIDED ON THE NEED TO FARM OUT ITS PROJECTS TO PRIVATE CONTRACTORS.

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TOWN SQUARE TO BE BUILT IN YUEN LONG  
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A SITE AT THE JUNCTION OF FAU TSOI STREET AND YAU SAN STREET IN YUEN LONG IS TO BE DEVELOPED INTO A TOWN SQUARE WITH RECREATIONAL FACILITIES.

OCCUPYING AN AREA OF ABOUT 5 000 SQUARE METRES, THE SQUARE WILL BE PROVIDED WITH CONCRETE PAVING AND A RAISED PLATFORM FOR PERFORMING ACTIVITIES.

ALSO INCLUDED ARE A CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA, WATER CASCADE, POOL, CLOCK TOWER, LANDSCAPED AREA AND ASSOCIATED LIGHTING.

CONCRETE SEATS, ARBOURS AND PAVILIONS WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED.

THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE PROJECT, WORK ON WHICH WILL START IN SEPTEMBER AND BE COMPLETED IN MAY NEXT YEAR.

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CONTRACT SIGNING CEREMONY  
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A CONTRACT TO DEMOLISH AND REPLACE THE EXISTING PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD FLYOVER WILL BE SIGNED AT 10 AM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) BETWEEN THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT AND NISHIMATSU CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED.

THE DIRECTOR OF HIGHWAYS, MR HAROLD BEATON, WILL SIGN FOR THE GOVERNMENT, WHILE MR YUKITOSHI YANAGISAWA, DIRECTOR AND GENERAL MANAGER, WILL SIGN FOR NISHIMATSU CONSTRUCTION CO. LTD.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SIGNING CEREMONY AT ROOM 911, EMPIRE CENTRE, TSIM SHA TSUI EAST.

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GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY CONTINUING  
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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE TO CONDUCT THE GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY IN JULY TO SEPTEMBER 1986.

THE SURVEY, CONDUCTED MONTHLY SINCE AUGUST 1981, COLLECTS INFORMATION ON EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT, AND THE GENERAL SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION.

ABOUT HALF OF THE HOUSEHOLDS INTERVIEWED THREE MONTHS AGO WILL BE SURVEYED AGAIN TO MEASURE MORE ACCURATELY THE CHANGES THAT HAVE OCCURRED SINCE THEN.

SOME 5 000 HOUSEHOLDS ARE SELECTED AT RANDOM EACH MONTH FROM ALL DISTRICTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE SURVEY.

AN OFFICIAL LETTER, IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE, HAS BEEN SENT TO THE SAMPLED HOUSEHOLDS TO EXPLAIN THE PURPOSE OF THE SURVEY AND TO SEEK THEIR COOPERATION.

ASSISTANT CENSUS AND SURVEY OFFICERS, EACH CARRYING AN IDENTITY CARD ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT, WILL VISIT THESE HOUSEHOLDS TO COLLECT THE REQUIRED INFORMATION.

ALL INFORMATION COLLECTED WILL BE TREATED CONFIDENTIALLY AND WILL NOT BE REVEALED TO ANY PERSON OR ORGANISATION OUTSIDE THE DEPARTMENT.

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LONG SERVICE PAYMENT SCHEME SET FOR REVIEW  
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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT IS TO CONDUCT AN OVERALL REVIEW ON THE LONG SERVICE PAYMENT LEGISLATION EARLY NEXT YEAR, THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR DARWIN CHEN, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE LONG SERVICE PAYMENT SYMPOSIUM ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS ASSOCIATION, MR CHEN SAID THE REVIEW WOULD COVER AGE, LENGTH OF SERVICE AND TERMINATION OF WORK DUE TO OLD AGE AND SICKNESS.

+THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT IS COLLECTING VIEWS ON IT SO THAT PUBLIC OPINION AND PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE COULD BE REFLECTED AND TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN THE REVIEW,+ HE SAID.

/MR CHEN .....

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MR CHEN NOTED THAT THE LONG SERVICE PAYMENT SCHEME WHICH CAME INTO OPERATION IN JANUARY THIS YEAR, HAD HELPED SOLVE SOME PROBLEMS ARISING OUT OF SEVERANCE PAYMENT AND THE SO-CALLED +UNFAIR DISMISSAL+ BY EMPLOYERS.

ALL IN ALL, HE ADDED, THE SCHEME PROVIDED OLD AGE WORKERS WITH ADDED PROTECTION +SINCE IT IS MORE DIFFICULT FOR THEM THAN THEIR YOUNGER COUNTERPARTS TO SECURE ANOTHER JOB AFTER BEING DISMISSED.+

MR CHEN ALSO SPOKE OF GOOD LABOUR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONSHIP. HE POINTED OUT THAT ONE WAY OF GOING ABOUT THIS WAS FOR EMPLOYERS TO SET UP THEIR OWN COMPANY PROVIDENT FUND SCHEMES.

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WINNING ENTRIES ON DISPLAY  
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A COMMERCIAL SUBJECTS PROJECTS EXHIBITION, JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE CHINESE GOLD AND SILVER EXCHANGE SOCIETY AND THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, WILL BE HELD FROM THURSDAY (JULY 3) TO WEDNESDAY (JULY 9).

SCHOOL CHILDREN AND TEACHERS ARE WELCOME TO VISIT THE EXHIBITION AT THE CULTURAL CRAFT CENTRE AT PAK FUK ROAD, NORTH POINT, BETWEEN 9 AM AND 4.30 PM ON WEEKDAYS AND FROM 9 AM TO 11.45 AM ON SATURDAY.

ON DISPLAY WILL BE WINNING AND OTHER COMMENDABLE ENTRIES IN THE COMMERCIAL SUBJECTS PROJECT COMPETITION HELD EARLY THIS YEAR.

THE THEME OF THE COMPETITION WAS +COMMERCE AND CIVIC EDUCATION+ WHICH WAS AIMED AT AROUSING THE INTEREST OF SECONDARY STUDENTS IN BUSINESS.

EARLIER THIS MONTH, 440 STUDENTS OF 55 SECONDARY SCHOOLS WERE AWARDED PRIZES AND CERTIFICATES OF MERITS FOR THEIR GOOD WORK.

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SEMINAR ON REMEDIAL ENGLISH TEACHING  
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THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING CENTRE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS ORGANISING A SEMINAR ON TEACHING ENGLISH AS A SECOND OR FOREIGN LANGUAGE. SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

THE SEMINAR WILL BE HELD AT THE TEACHING CENTRE AT 9A BONHAM ROAD ON SATURDAY, JULY 12.

A SENIOR LECTURER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, DR KEITH JOHNSON, WILL GIVE A TALK ON REMEDIAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

HE WILL ALSO PRESENT A PAPER ON THE PRESENT SITUATION AND FUTURE POSSIBILITIES OF REMEDIAL ENGLISH TEACHING, BASED ON RESEARCH INTO REMEDIAL LANGUAGE TEACHING IN 100 SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

SECONDARY HEADS WISHING TO NOMINATE TEACHERS TO TAKE PART IN THE SEMINAR SHOULD APPLY TO THE TEACHING CENTRE BY JULY 7.

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SPECIAL CONCERTS FOR PRIMARY PUPILS  
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THE INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC ENSEMBLE OF THE MUSIC OFFICE WILL GIVE TWO DEMONSTRATION CONCERTS ON FRIDAY (JULY 4) FOR PRIMARY PUPILS AGED BETWEEN SIX AND 12 LIVING IN THE TAI PO DISTRICT.

THE CONCERTS, AIMED AT PROMOTING INTEREST IN MUSIC AMONG SCHOOL CHILDREN, WILL BE HELD AT THE LEUNG SING TAK PRIMARY SCHOOL AND THE TAI PO PUBLIC SCHOOL, AT 10 AM AND 11.30 AM RESPECTIVELY.

BOTH CONCERTS WILL FEATURE POPULAR QUARTET AND QUINTET MUSIC. THE ENSEMBLE WILL ALSO INTRODUCE TO THE AUDIENCES THE HISTORY AND PLAYING TECHNIQUES OF VARIOUS STRING INSTRUMENTS AND THE FRENCH HORN.

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TENDERS SOUGHT FOR WATERWORKS MAINTENANCE

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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT IS CALLING TENDERS FOR A MULTI-MILLION-DOLLAR CONTRACT FOR MAINTENANCE OF WATERWORKS IN DISTRICT NO. 1 WHICH COVERS HONG KONG ISLAND AND AP LEI CHAU.

THE CONTRACT WILL RUN FROM SEPTEMBER 1 UNTIL AUGUST 31, 1989.

THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTAINING WATER MAINS, CATCHWATERS, SERVICE RESERVOIRS, BUILDINGS AND SEAWATER INTAKES AS WELL AS FOR PIPELAYING AND REDECORATION OF PUMPING STATIONS.

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TRAFFIC CHANGES IN SHEUNG SHUI

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TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED ON JOCKEY CLUB ROAD IN SHEUNG SHUI FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (JULY 4) TO FACILITATE ROAD CONSTRUCTION WORK.

THE SECTION OF JOCKEY CLUB ROAD BETWEEN FUNG KAI SCHOOL AND ROAD D4 WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC WHICH WILL BE DIVERTED TO A NEW ROAD PARALLEL TO THE CLOSED SECTION OF JOCKEY CLUB ROAD.

MEANWHILE, KMB ROUTE 73K WILL BE DIVERTED TO OPERATE ALONG THE NEWLY-CONSTRUCTED ROAD.

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WESTERN, EASTERN DISTRICT TRAFFIC CHANGES

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT, THE WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF KING'S ROAD BETWEEN SAI WAN TERRACE AND HOUSE NO. 1094, BO FUNG GARDENS, WILL BE CLOSED TO FACILITATE ROAD WORK.

WESTBOUND TRAFFIC TRAVELLING ON KING'S ROAD WILL HAVE TO TRAVEL ON THE UNNAMED NEW ROAD LINKING SAI WAN TERRACE AND BO FUNG GARDENS SOUTH OF KING'S ROAD.

MEANWHILE, FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (JULY 4), NO VEHICLE EXCEEDING 5.5 TONNES GROSS ON SECOND STREET WILL BE ALLOWED TO TURN LEFT INTO WESTERN STREET FOR ABOUT A WEEK TO FACILITATE TRENCH REINSTATEMENT WORK.

AFFECTED VEHICLES WILL BE DIVERTED TO POK FU LAM ROAD AND THIRD STREET TO REJOIN WESTERN STREET.

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WONG NAI CHUNG GAP ROAD TEMPORARY CLOSURE  
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TO FACILITATE ROAD MAINTENANCE WORK, THE SECTION OF WONG NAI CHUNG GAP ROAD WESTBOUND BETWEEN THE EASTERN END OF THE WONG NAI CHUNG GAP ROAD FLYOVER AND THE UNNAMED ACCESS ROAD EAST OF STUBBS ROAD ROUNDABOUT WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL TRAFFIC, EXCEPT FOR LOCAL ACCESS, FOR FOUR NIGHTS ON JULY 3, 4, 6 AND 7, BETWEEN 8 PM AND 6 AM THE NEXT DAY.

DURING THE CLOSURE, VEHICLES ON WESTBOUND WONG NAI CHUNG GAP ROAD HEADING FOR TAI HANG ROAD OR THE PEAK WILL BE DIVERTED VIA THE WONG NAI CHUNG GAP ROAD FLYOVER, THE UNNAMED LOOP ROAD OUTSIDE LING NAM COLLEGE, STUBBS ROAD EASTBOUND AND THE STUBBS ROAD ROUNDABOUT.

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