



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1974

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DAILY GUIDE TO WHOLESALE PRICES AND SUPPLIES OF BASIC FOOD
COMMODITIES

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NEW CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES INTRODUCED

TWO NEW CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES DESIGNED TO PROVIDE AN UP-TO-DATE REFLECTION OF THE MOVEMENTS OF HONG KONG'S COST OF LIVING ARE NOW AVAILABLE.

LABELLED AS CPI(A) AND CPI(B), THE NEW INDEXES SERVE TO REPLACE THE EXISTING ONES - THE GENERAL CONSUMER PRICE INDEX AND THE MODIFIED CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - WHICH HAVE BEEN USED FOR OVER A DECADE.

THE NEW INDEXES ARE BASED ON UP-TO-DATE HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE AND PRICING SURVEYS CONDUCTED BETWEEN JULY 1973 AND JUNE 1974. THE SURVEYS COVERED 2,864 HOUSEHOLDS, 3,600 ITEMS OF COMMODITIES AND SERVICES AND 2,000 RETAIL OUTLETS AND SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS.

OF THE HOUSEHOLDS SURVEYED, 1,456 WERE IN THE EXPENDITURE RANGE OF \$400-\$1,500 WHILE 1,408 IN THE \$1,500-\$3,000 BRACKET. THE CPI(A) IS BASED ON RESULTS FROM THE FIRST GROUP WHILE CPI(B) ON THE SECOND.

THE NEW INDEXES ALSO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE CHANGES IN THE GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLDS OVER THE YEARS AND COVERED FAMILIES IN SATELLITE TOWNS.

MR. DAVID WHITELEGGE, THE COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS, SAID THAT THE INDEXES WERE DESIGNED TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF STABLE URBAN HOUSEHOLDS. IN THIS CONNECTION, HOUSEHOLDS COMPRISING OLD PERSONS, SINGLE PERSONS, HOUSEHOLDS IN TEMPORARY STRUCTURE AND MARINE HOUSEHOLDS ARE NOT INCLUDED.

ALSO EXCLUDED ARE DISTRICTS EITHER WHERE HOUSEHOLDS WERE WIDELY SCATTERED OR WHERE THE MAJORITY OF THEM CAN BE EXPECTED TO BE OUTSIDE THE EXPENDITURE RANGE SURVEYED.

EXPLAINING THE WORKINGS OF THE NEW INDEXES, MR. WHITELEGGE SAID THAT THE HOUSEHOLDS COVERED IN THE EXPENDITURE BRACKET REPRESENTED ABOUT 80 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL IN HONG KONG.

HE NOTED THAT THE PRESENT EXPENDITURE BRACKETS AND THOSE OF TEN YEARS AGO WHEN THE CURRENT CONSUMER PRICE INDEX WAS DRAWN UP WERE NOT EXACTLY THE SAME.

HOWEVER GENERALLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE PATTERNS SEEMED NOT TO HAVE CHANGED TOO MUCH. OBVIOUSLY CHANGES THERE WERE, FOR HOUSEHOLDS TENDED NOW TO SPEND LARGER PROPORTIONS OF THEIR TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON FOOD AND TRANSPORT, AND SMALLER PROPORTIONS ON SERVICES, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO.

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IT IS ENVISAGED THAT THE EXISTING GENERAL CONSUMER PRICE INDEX AND MODIFIED CONSUMER PRICE INDEX WILL BE PUBLISHED SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH THE NEW ONES FOR A PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS TO GIVE USERS TIME TO CHANGE OVER.

+IT IS TOO EARLY TO SAY HOW MOVEMENTS OF THE NEW INDEXES COMPARE WITH THOSE OF THE EXISTING ONES. HOWEVER, AFTER THE 6 MONTHS PERIOD IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO MAKE SOME COMPARISONS,+ SAID MR. WHITELEGGE.

THE COMMISSIONER POINTED OUT THAT THE LIST OF COMMODITIES USED IN THE CALCULATION OF THE NEW INDEXES WOULD BE REVISED FROM TIME TO TIME TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF CHANGES IN CONSUMER PREFERENCES AND OF INTRODUCTION OF NEW COMMODITIES.

IN ORDER TO KEEP PRIVATE RENTAL MOVEMENTS UNDER REVIEW A SPECIAL RENT SURVEY WILL BE CONDUCTED QUARTERLY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT. AT THE SAME TIME, PRICES ARE COLLECTED ON A CONTINUING BASIS.

MEANWHILE, THE FULL REPORT OF THE 1973/74 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY IS BEING COMPILED AND WILL BE PUBLISHED EARLY NEXT YEAR.

THE REPORT WILL INCLUDE A DETAILED ACCOUNT ON HOW THE EXPENDITURE SURVEY WAS BEING CONDUCTED, METHODOLOGY ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES, AN ANALYSIS OF THE SURVEY RESULTS AND A COMPREHENSIVE SET OF TABLE SHOWING THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

COPIES OF TWO TABLES SHOWING THE WEIGHTS OF COMMODITY AND SERVICE AND ALSO THE ACTUAL LEVELS OF THE NEW INDEXES FOR THE MONTHS OF JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER ARE BOXED FOR COLLECTION.

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STATEMENT ON TRADE TALKS IN LONDON.

THE DIRECTOR OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, MR. DAVID JORDAN, ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT ON HIS RETURN TO HONG KONG THIS (MONDAY) EVENING AFTER HOLDING TRADE TALKS IN LONDON WITH BRITISH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS:

+ I WENT TO LONDON FOR THE THIRD IN A SERIES OF MEETINGS WE HOLD WITH BRITISH OFFICIALS, CONCERNED WITH MATTERS AFFECTING HONG KONG'S TRADE.

+ ON THESE OCCASIONS WE GATHER TOGETHER ALL HONG KONG'S OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVES IN EUROPE AND HAVE A JOINT MEETING WITH OFFICIALS OF THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE AND THE DEPARTMENTS OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

+ THE PRINCIPAL SUBJECTS WE HAD TO DISCUSS ON THIS OCCASION WERE AGAIN HONG KONG'S TREATMENT UNDER THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY'S GENERALISED SCHEME OF PREFERENCES AND FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS FOR HONG KONG'S TEXTILE EXPORTS TO THE COMMUNITY.

+ IN NOVEMBER LAST YEAR MR. JOHN DAVIES TOLD THE COMMUNITY'S COUNCIL OF MINISTERS THAT BRITAIN WOULD PRESS STRONGLY FOR THE REMOVAL OF THE PRESENT DISCRIMINATION AGAINST HONG KONG'S TEXTILE AND FOOTWEAR EXPORTS IN THE E.E.C.'S G.S.P.

+ THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION SUBSEQUENTLY RECOMMENDED THAT HONG KONG'S FOOTWEAR SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE SCHEME FOR 1975.

+ IN JUNE THIS YEAR THE FOREIGN SECRETARY, MR. CALLAGHAN, SAID IN THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS THAT THE UNITED KINGDOM WAS SEEKING SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT IN THE POSITION OF HONG KONG UNDER THE SCHEME.

+ SINCE THEN OFFICIALS OF THE COMMISSION AND THE MEMBER STATES HAVE BEEN HAVING REGULAR DISCUSSIONS ON THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSALS FOR 1975. IN THESE DISCUSSIONS THE BRITISH OFFICIALS INVOLVED HAVE BEEN PRESSING HARD FOR CHANGES IN THE SCHEME THAT WOULD IMPROVE THE PROSPECTS FOR HONG KONG.

+ THIS SEEMED A GOOD TIME TO GO TO LONDON BECAUSE THESE DISCUSSIONS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY HAVE NOW CRYSTALLISED SUFFICIENTLY FOR BRITISH MINISTERS TO BE READY TO TAKE DECISIONS ON THE LINE THAT SHOULD BE TAKEN ON THE 1975 SCHEME WHEN IT COMES ON THE AGENDA OF THE COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES AND SUBSEQUENTLY OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ITSELF.

+ THE BRITISH OFFICIALS CONCERNED WISHED TO BE SURE THAT BEFORE THESE DECISIONS WERE TAKEN, WE IN HONG KONG SHOULD HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT AGAIN, IN THE LIGHT OF THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS.

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+WE MADE IT CLEAR THAT WHILE WE WELCOMED THE PROPOSAL TO INCLUDE OUR FOOTWEAR, ITS EFFECT WOULD BE SLIGHT AS COMPARED WITH THE CONTINUED EXCLUSION OF OUR TEXTILES. WE WERE THEREFORE VERY GLAD TO LEARN THAT ON 10TH OCTOBER SIR MICHAEL PALLISER, THE BRITISH PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE IN BRUSSELS, HAD MADE ANOTHER STRONGLY-WORDED STATEMENT TO THE COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES, IN WHICH HE EXPRESSED THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S EXTREME DISAPPOINTMENT AT THE FACT THAT THE COMMISSION EXPECTS TO PROPOSE 'NO CHANGE' FOR TEXTILES IN 1975 AND URGED THE COMMISSION TO THINK AGAIN AND TO PROPOSE THE INCLUSION OF AT LEAST SOME CATEGORIES OF HONG KONG TEXTILES AS A FIRST STAGE TOWARDS THE ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION.

+WE ALSO MADE IT VERY CLEAR TO THE BRITISH OFFICIALS THAT WE WERE CONCERNED ABOUT THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSAL NOT TO INCREASE ACCESS UNDER THE SCHEME FOR PARTICULAR PRODUCTS COMING FROM BENEFICIARY COUNTRIES THAT HAVE DEMONSTRATED THEIR ABILITY TO FILL THEIR SHARE OF THE PRESENT TARIFF QUOTAS.

+OUR BRITISH COLLEAGUES ASSURED US THAT THEY HAVE BEEN WORKING HARD IN HONG KONG'S INTERESTS AND I AM QUITE SURE THEY WILL GO ON DOING SO. THEY FULLY UNDERSTAND OUR CONCERN NOT ONLY ABOUT THE EXISTING DISCRIMINATION AGAINST HONG KONG BUT ALSO ABOUT THE DISCRIMINATORY EFFECT OF THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSALS THAT I HAVE JUST REFERRED TO. THEY HAVE PROMISED TO PUT OUR VIEWS BEFORE THE MINISTERS CONCERNED.

+WE MUST REMEMBER HOWEVER THAT BRITAIN IS ONLY ONE MEMBER AMONGST NINE AND THAT, WHILE THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAS SAID THAT IT WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS STRONGLY FOR THE REMOVAL OF EXISTING DISCRIMINATION AND TO PREVENT THE INTRODUCTION OF NEW DISCRIMINATION, THEY CANNOT GUARANTEE SUCCESS.

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+THE BRITISH OFFICIALS CONCERNED WISHED TO BE SURE THAT BEFORE THESE DECISIONS WERE TAKEN, WE IN HONG KONG SHOULD HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT AGAIN, IN THE LIGHT OF THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS.

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LAI SING COURT RESIDENTS MAY RETURN HOME
RE-ENTRY ALLOWED - ON CONDITIONS

AFTER FURTHER INSPECTIONS THIS (MONDAY) MORNING BY STAFF OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, IT WAS DECIDED TO ALLOW THE OCCUPANTS OF LAI SING COURT, TAI HANG ROAD, TO GO BACK INTO THE BUILDING AND RESUME RESIDENCE THERE FROM 4 P.M. TODAY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE EXPLAINED THAT ALTHOUGH RE-ENTRY WAS BEING ALLOWED, THE OFFICIAL CLOSURE ORDER WAS NOT BEING LIFTED FOR THE TIME BEING. AND HE EMPHASISED THAT RE-ENTRY WAS BEING PERMITTED SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

- (1) THE LOWER CAR DECK AND THE REAR PART OF THE UPPER CAR DECK ARE TO BE KEPT BARRICADED, AND NO ACCESS TO THESE AREAS IS TO BE ALLOWED-
- (2) IT MUST BE ACCEPTED THAT IN THE EVENT OF A HEAVY RAINSTORM WARNING OR A TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNING SIGNAL HIGHER THAN NO.3 BEING HOISTED, IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO EVACUATE THE BUILDING AT SHORT NOTICE.

THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN CARRYING OUT CLEARANCE WORK ON THE SLOPES AT THE TOP OF THE ROCK FACE BEHIND THE BUILDING OVER THE WEEKEND.

THIS WORK, TOGETHER WITH INSPECTIONS OF THE HILLSIDE AND SLOPES, WILL CONTINUE. AND A SCHEME IS BEING DRAWN UP FOR ANY FURTHER NECESSARY REMEDIAL WORK TO THE STRUCTURE AND THE SLOPES.

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WATER SITUATION REPORT

THE TOTAL WATER STORAGE IN ALL RESERVOIRS AS AT 9 A.M. TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 48,714 MILLION GALLONS, REPRESENTING 72.4 PER CENT OF THE FULL CAPACITY OF 67,300 MILLION GALLONS. AT THIS TIME LAST YEAR THERE WERE 61,697 MILLION GALLONS IN STORE.

THIS MORNING'S STORAGE AT PLOVER COVE WAS 32,575 MILLION GALLONS, COMPARED WITH 47,868 MILLION GALLONS ON THE SAME DAY LAST YEAR. PLOVER COVE'S PRESENT STORAGE REPRESENTS 64.5 PER CENT OF ITS FULL CAPACITY OF 50,500 MILLION GALLONS.

NO RAINFALL WAS RECORDED AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY DURING THE PAST 24 HOURS ENDING AT 9 A.M. TODAY. TOTAL RAINFALL RECORDED SO FAR THIS YEAR IS 1,865.9 MM (73.46 IN).

THE MEAN AVERAGE RAINFALL SINCE JANUARY 1 STANDS AT 2,084.5 MM (82.07 IN), REPRESENTING A SHORTFALL OF 10.5 PER CENT.

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GOVERNOR OPENS CHAK YAN CENTRE

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, TODAY OFFICIALLY OPENED THE CHAK YAN CENTRE IN KOWLOON OPERATED BY THE SOCIETY OF BOYS' CENTRES.

THE NEW CENTRE, LOCATED AT 47 CORNWALL ROAD, WILL CATER FOR 160 BOYS BETWEEN THE AGES OF EIGHT AND 16 IN NEED OF CARE AND PROTECTION. THE CENTRE OFFERS A WIDE RANGE OF SERVICES, INCLUDING FORMAL EDUCATION, VOCATIONAL TRAINING, MORAL EDUCATION THROUGH INFORMAL COUNSELLING, AND PHYSICAL TRAINING.

IN HIS OPENING ADDRESS, SIR MURRAY PAID TRIBUTE TO THE SOCIETY FOR ITS SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION IN THIS FIELD AND COMMENDED IT FOR ITS THOROUGHNESS AND PROFESSIONALISM.

FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH:

+I HAVE MUCH PLEASURE TO BE HERE TO OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THIS NEW CHAK YAN CENTRE.

+FOR MORE THAN TWENTY YEARS, THE SOCIETY OF BOYS' CENTRES HAS BEEN WORKING FOR BOYS IN NEED OF CARE AND PROTECTION. IT HAS DONE EXCELLENT WORK IN ITS FIRST CENTRE IN SHANGHAI STREET, AND SHING TAK STREET AND IN ITS HOSTEL IN UN CHAU STREET. NOW THIS NEW CENTRE, WITH A CAPACITY OF 160 PLACES FOR BOYS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 8 AND 16, WILL ENABLE THE SOCIETY TO EXTEND ITS VALUABLE SERVICES.

+I AM GLAD TO SEE THAT THIS CENTRE OFFERS A WIDE RANGE OF SERVICES TO ITS INMATES INCLUDING FORMAL EDUCATION, VOCATIONAL TRAINING, MORAL EDUCATION THROUGH INFORMAL COUNSELLING, AND PHYSICAL TRAINING. THIS IS TYPICAL OF THE THOROUGHNESS AND PROFESSIONALISM OF THIS SOCIETY. WE HAVE ALL WOKEN UP TO THE FACT THAT HONG KONG HAS A VERY YOUNG POPULATION, LIVING IN EXCEPTIONALLY DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES, AND THAT THERE IS AN URGENT SOCIAL AND MORAL REQUIREMENT TO TAKE ACTION TO OCCUPY, TEACH AND HELP YOUNG PEOPLE. LAST WEDNESDAY IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, I REPORTED TO MEMBERS ON THE THINGS THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT IS DOING.

+UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF MR. MICHAEL CHAN, THE CHAIRMAN, AND HIS COMMITTEE MEMBERS, I AM SURE THE SOCIETY OF BOYS' CENTRES WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE ITS OWN SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION TO THIS WORK. I CONGRATULATE ALL THOSE WHO HAVE WORKED SO HARD TO BRING THIS NEW CENTRE INTO BEING, AND I WISH THE SOCIETY EVERY SUCCESS IN THE FUTURE.

+I NOW DECLARE THE CHAK YAN CENTRE OFFICIALLY OPEN.+

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PUBLIC ENQUIRY CENTRES KEPT BUSY

WHEN MRS. CHAN ARRIVED AT THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY CENTRE IN THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, SHE WAS STILL GRIEF-STRICKEN, FEARING THAT HER LANDLORD MIGHT "KICK HER OUT".

BUT HALF AN HOUR LATER, HER GRIEF TURNED INTO RELIEF AND SHE LEFT THE THE OFFICE FULL OF CONFIDENCE, HAVING BEEN ASSURED BY THE STAFF BEHIND THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY COUNTER THAT THE LANDLORD COULD NOT EVICT HER AT ALL, BECAUSE HER TENANCY WAS UNDER THE PROTECTION OF THE LANDLORD AND TENANT (CONSOLIDATION) (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1973.

EVERY DAY, STAFF OF THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY CENTRES OPERATED IN THE 19 CITY DISTRICT OFFICES, SUB-OFFICES AND IN THE HEADQUARTERS INFORMATION SECTION INTERVIEW AN AVERAGE OF 2,605 PEOPLE WHO COME TO THE CENTRES WITH ALL KINDS OF ENQUIRIES AND PROBLEMS.

THE LANDLORD AND TENANT (CONSOLIDATION) (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1973 CAME INTO OPERATION NINE MONTHS AGO, BUT MANY ENQUIRIES ARE STILL MADE ON TENANCY MATTERS RELEVANT TO THIS ORDINANCE.

ABOUT 79,213 ENQUIRIES ON TENANCY MATTERS HAVE BEEN ANSWERED FROM JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR, COMPRISING NEARLY 11 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL OF 711,145 ENQUIRIES HANDLED SO FAR DURING THE PAST NINE MONTHS.

OTHER ENQUIRIES RELATED TO TRAVEL DOCUMENTS (58,446), PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES (46,846), VACANCIES IN THE GOVERNMENT (24,374), FURTHER EDUCATION AND SCHOLARSHIP (71,793). THE LAST THREE TYPES OF ENQUIRIES WERE MOSTLY MADE BY SCHOOL LEAVERS DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS.

ENQUIRIES ON WEATHER AND TYPHOON ALSO SHOT UP DURING THE PERIOD BETWEEN JUNE AND SEPTEMBER, WHICH IS THE TYPHOON SEASON. A TOTAL OF 16,891 TYPHOON ENQUIRIES WERE ANSWERED DURING THESE MONTHS.

A TOTAL OF 505,298 FORMS WERE DISTRIBUTED AT THE 20 PUBLIC ENQUIRY CENTRES DURING THE NINE MONTHS.

NEARLY ALL KINDS OF GOVERNMENT, AND SOMETIMES NON-GOVERNMENT FORMS ARE DISTRIBUTED BY THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY CENTRES. OUT OF THE 505,298 FORMS DISTRIBUTED, THE MOST POPULAR ONES WERE APPLICATION FORMS FOR GOVERNMENT POSTS, PUBLIC HOUSING, PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS AND ENROLMENT FORMS FOR VARIOUS GOVERNMENT EDUCATION INSTITUTES.

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CAUSEWAY BAY TRAFFIC CHANGES

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT TODAY ANNOUNCED NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS TO BE INTRODUCED IN CAUSEWAY BAY ON HONG KONG ISLAND TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW IN THE AREA.

THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS, INVOLVING THE TRAFFIC RE-ROUTING OF SEVERAL ROAD SECTIONS, WILL COME INTO FORCE AT 10.30 A.M. ON THURSDAY (OCTOBER 31).

THE SECTION OF WHITFIELD ROAD BETWEEN HING FAT STREET AND WATSON ROAD, AND THE SECTION OF KING MING ROAD BETWEEN GLASS STREET AND WATSON ROAD, WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY WEST.

RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY SOUTH WILL BE THE SECTION OF HING FAT STREET BETWEEN WHITFIELD ROAD AND GORDON ROAD, AND THE SECTION OF GLASS STREET BETWEEN KING MING ROAD AND WHITFIELD ROAD.

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE RE-ROUTING WAS TO REDUCE VEHICULAR CONFLICTS AT THE ROAD JUNCTIONS, THUS ENABLING TRAFFIC TO MOVE MORE SMOOTHLY IN THE AREA.

MEANWHILE, IN TSIM SHA TSUI, KOWLOON, THE SECTION OF ASHLEY ROAD BETWEEN MIDDLE ROAD AND SALISBURY ROAD WILL BE PERMANENTLY CLOSED FROM 10 A.M. ON FRIDAY TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION WORK OF A PEDESTRIAN SUBWAY THERE. THE CARRIAGEWAY OF THE ROAD SECTION WILL THEN BE TURNED INTO A PEDESTRIAN WAY AFTER THE SUBWAY IS BUILT.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE POSTED TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

NOTE OF EDITORS:

COPIES OF A SKETCH MAP SHOWING THE NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN CAUSEWAY BAY AREA ARE DISTRIBUTED IN THE G.I.S. PRESS BOXES.

NEW DEADLINE FOR CHRISTMAS SEA MAIL TO NEW ZEALAND

THE LATEST ACCEPTANCE DATE FOR CHRISTMAS MAIL AND PARCELS BY SURFACE MAIL TO NEW ZEALAND HAS BEEN ADVANCED TO 12 NOON ON OCTOBER 31.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY, A SPOKESMAN SAID THE POST OFFICE WAS FORCED TO TAKE THIS MOVE DUE TO SHIPPING PROBLEMS OUTSIDE ITS CONTROL. THE SPOKESMAN EXPRESSED HIS REGRET FOR THE SHORT NOTICE.

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FARMERS REGISTER TYPHOON LOSSES
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A TOTAL OF 10,842 NEW TERRITORIES FARMERS AFFECTED BY TYPHOON CARMEN HAVE REGISTERED AT THE 16 REGISTRATION CENTRES SET UP BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT LAST WEEK.

THESE CENTRES WERE SET UP IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES FROM OCTOBER 21 TO 25 TO REGISTER THE LOSSES OF FARMERS CAUSED BY TYPHOON CARMEN. APPLICATIONS FOR AGRICULTURAL REHABILITATION GRANTS FROM THE EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND WERE ALSO ACCEPTED.

APART FROM THE 16 CENTRES, 11 MOBILE TEAMS WERE SENT OUT BY THE DEPARTMENT TO PING CHAU, CHEUNG CHAU AND OTHER REMOTE AREAS.

OF THE TOTAL NUMBER REGISTERED, 4,197 WERE REGISTERED AT YUEN LONG CENTRE, 4,542 AT TAIPO CENTRE AND 2,103 AT THE REMAINING CENTRES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THAT JUDGING FROM THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED, HE HAD REASONS TO BELIEVE THAT ALL THOSE FARMERS WHO WERE IN NEED HAD ALREADY MADE USE OF THESE FACILITIES IN THE PAST WEEK TO REGISTER THEIR LOSSES.

INVESTIGATION ON THESE APPLICATIONS STARTED LAST SATURDAY (OCTOBER 26) AND SO FAR 762 CASES HAVE BEEN APPROVED. GRANTS TOTALING \$107,000 WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE FARMERS TOMORROW. INVESTIGATION WORK AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE FUND WILL CONTINUE DURING THE NEXT TEN DAYS.

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OPENING OF SAI KUNG RURAL COMMITTEE BUILDING
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NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR. DAVID AKERS-JONES, WILL PERFORM THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE NEW SAI KUNG RURAL COMMITTEE PREMISES AT 3 PM TOMORROW, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29.

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO COVER THE EVENT.

A NINE-SEATER VAN, AM 2133, WILL BE AVAILABLE TO TAKE REPORTERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS THERE AND BACK. IT WILL LEAVE THE TSIM SHA TSUI SUB-POOL AT 2 PM.

REFRESHMENT WILL BE SERVED AFTER THE CEREMONY.

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Table I. Weights attached to each Section
of Commodity and Service

MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1974

CONSUMER ADVISORY SERVICE

THE FOLLOWING PRICES WERE REALISED TODAY (MONDAY) AT SALE UNDER THE RICE CONTROL SCHEME AND AT THE VEGETABLE MARKETING ORGANISATION WHOLESALE MARKET AND THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION WHOLESALE MARKET AT CHEUNG SHA WAN, KOWLOON:

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF RICE

<u>GRADE OF RICE</u>	<u>AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY</u>	<u>WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY) AVERAGE</u>
<u>CHINA RICE</u>		
SEE MEW	GOOD	2.02
S.C. JIEN	GOOD	1.86
PO NGAI	GOOD	-
CHU CHO	GOOD	-
<u>THAI RICE</u>		
100% WHOLE	GOOD	1.82
10-15% BROKENS	GOOD	1.65
A1 SUPER EXTRA	GOOD	1.70
A1 SUPER	GOOD	1.45
WHOLE GLUTINOUS	GOOD	1.75
U.S. RICE	GOOD	1.92
AUSTRALIAN RICE	GOOD	1.74
PAKISTAN RICE	GOOD	-
TAIWAN RICE	GOOD	-

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF SWINE

(ALL SOURCES)

AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	-	GOOD
WHOLESALE PRICES OF PORK (\$/PICUL-LIVE WEIGHT)	-	320 (AVERAGE)

/SUPPLIES AND

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SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF MARINE FISH

(FMO CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE FISH MARKET)

SPECIES	AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY)		
		HIGH	LOW	MODE
GOLDEN THREAD	NORMAL	6.00	1.90	4.50
BIG-EYES	NORMAL	3.40	1.60	2.20
SQUID	GOOD	5.00	0.80	3.20
HAIR-TAILS	NORMAL	3.00	1.00	1.60
LIZARD FISHES	NORMAL	4.50	1.00	3.00
CROAKERS	GOOD	2.60	0.70	1.70
CONGER-PIKE-EELS	LIMITED	3.20	2.20	2.80
MELON COAT	LIMITED	4.00	2.60	3.20
BREAMS	---		NO SALE	
YELLOW BELLY	---		NO SALE	
MACKERELS	LIMITED	5.50	2.80	4.00
RED GOAT FISH	---		NO SALE	
FORK-TAIL	NORMAL	1.60	0.50	1.20
HORSE-HEAD	LIMITED	6.50	2.40	4.50
MELON SEED	NORMAL	4.00	1.70	2.40
POMFRETS	SCARCE	8.50	7.50	8.00
GARROUPAS	LIMITED	12.00	7.00	9.50
YELLOW CROAKER	SCARCE	9.00	6.00	7.50

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF LOCALLY PRODUCED VEGETABLES

(V.M.O. CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE VEGETABLE MARKET)

TYPE OF VEGETABLE	AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY)		
		HIGH	LOW	MODE
FLOWERING CABBAGE	LIMITED	3.00	1.00	2.20
WHITE CABBAGE	LIMITED	2.20	0.80	1.50
CHINESE LETTUCE	SCARCE	2.20	0.80	1.50
WATER SPINACH	SCARCE	1.50	0.50	1.00
CHINESE KALE	LIMITED	3.00	1.00	2.20
STRING BEANS	SCARCE	2.80	1.00	2.00
SFRING ONION	LIMITED	2.50	0.40	1.40
SPINACH	SCARCE	3.50	1.00	2.50
WATER CRESS	SCARCE	4.50	2.50	3.50
LEAF MUSTARD CABBAGE	SCARCE	2.80	0.80	1.40
CHINESE SPINACH	SCARCE	1.60	0.40	1.00
TOMATO	SCARCE	4.50	2.20	3.50