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PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR NOVEMBER

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THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS GREW BY $717 MILLION OR 9 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER 1985 OVER NOVEMBER 1984 TO REACH $8 724 MILLION, WHILE THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS FELL BY $251 MILLION OR 2 PER CENT TO $11 450 MILLION, ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES PUBLISHED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

TAKING DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TOGETHER, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS INCREASED BY $466 MILLION OR 2 PER CENT TO $20 174 MILLION IN NOVEMBER 1985. MEANWHILE, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS GREW BY $586 MILLION OR 3 PER CENT TO $20 333 MILLION.

IN CONSEQUENCE, A VISIBLE TRADE GAP (THAT IS, THE PROPORTION OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS NOT COVERED BY THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS) OF 0.8 PER CENT WAS RECORDED IN NOVEMBER 1985, COMPARED WITH 0.2 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER 1984.

PUTTING THE MONTH'S TRADE FIGURES INTO CONTEXT, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS FOR THE FIRST 11 MONTHS OF 1985 WAS $213 362 MILLION, MADE UP OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF $117 556 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS OF $95 806 MILLION.

COMPARED WITH THE FIRST 11 MONTHS OF 1984, THE VALUES OF TOTAL EXPORTS AND OF RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY 6 PER CENT AND 29 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY, WHILE THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS FELL BY 7 PER CENT. OVER THIS PERIOD THE VALUE OF IMPORTS GREW BY 3 PER CENT TO $209 256 MILLION.

A VISIBLE TRADE SURPLUS, EQUIVALENT TO 2 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, WAS RECORDED FOR THE FIRST 11 MONTHS OF THIS YEAR, COMPARED WITH A VISIBLE TRADE GAP OF 1 PER CENT IN THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

COMMENTING ON THESE FIGURES, A GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE RELATIVELY LOW GROWTH RATES OF THE ECONOMIES OF HONG KONG'S EXPORT MARKETS, IN PARTICULAR THE UNITED STATES, HAVE LARGELY CONTRIBUTED TO THE SLUGGISH DOMESTIC EXPORT PERFORMANCE SO FAR THIS YEAR.

HOWEVER, HE NOTED THAT THE DECLINE IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS APPEARED TO HAVE BOTTOMED OUT AND THAT THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS SHOWED ONLY A SMALL DECLINE IN NOVEMBER 1985 COMPARED WITH NOVEMBER 1984.

MEANWHILE, THE GROWTH RATE OF RE-EXPORTS HAS ALSO SLOWED DOWN IN RECENT MONTHS, REFLECTING CHINA'S MORE STRINGENT CONTROLS ON FOREIGN EXCHANGE SPENDING.

/THE FOLLOWING .....

THE FOLLOWING TABLE PRESENTS THE PROVISIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FIGURES FOR NOVEMBER 1985 -

MERCHANDISE:	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	: $11 450 MILLION
	RE-EXPORTS	: $ 8 724 MILLION
	TOTAL EXPORTS	: $20 174 MILLION
	IMPORTS	: $20 333 MILLION
	TRADE BALANCE	: $ 159 MILLION (IN DEFICIT)

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

LATEST 3 MONTHS	SEPT - NOV 1985	SEPT - NOV 1984	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	$ MN.	$ MN.	$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	33 590	36 588	- 2 998	- 8.2
RE-EXPORTS	25 444	23 045	+ 2 399	+10.4
TOTAL EXPORTS	59 034	59 633	- 599	- 1.0
IMPORTS	58 508	57 955	+ 553	+ 1.0
TRADE BALANCE	+ 526	+ 1 678	- 1 152	

SAME MONTH LAST YEAR	NOVEMBER 1985	NOVEMBER 1984	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	$ MN.	$ MN.	$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	11 450 (56.8%)	11 701 (59.4%)	- 251	- 2.1
RE-EXPORTS	8 724	8 007	+ 717	+ 9.0
TOTAL EXPORTS	20 174	19 708	+ 466	+ 2.4
IMPORTS	20 333	19 747	+ 586	+ 3.0
TRADE BALANCE	- 159	- 39	- 120	

/LAST MONTH .....

LAST MONTH	NOVEMBER 1985	OCTOBER 1985	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	$ MN.	$ MN.	$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	11 450 (56.8%)	11 164 (57.0%)	+ 286	+ 2.6
RE-EXPORTS	8 724	8 434	+ 290	+ 3.4
TOTAL EXPORTS	20 174	19 598	+ 576	+ 2.9
IMPORTS	20 333	19 966	+ 367	+ 1.8
TRADE BALANCE	- 159	- 368	+ 209	

CALENDAR YEAR TO-DATE	JAN - NOV 1985	JAN - NOV 1984	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	$ MN.	$ MN.	$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	117 556 (55.1%)	126 063 (62.9%)	- 8 507	- 6.7
RE-EXPORTS	95 806	74 485	+21 321	+28.6
TOTAL EXPORTS	213 362	200 548	+12 814	+ 6.4
IMPORTS	209 256	202 440	+ 6 816	+ 3.4
TRADE BALANCE	+ 4 106	- 1 892	+ 5 998	

LAST 12 MONTHS	DEC 1984 TO NOV 1985	DEC 1983 TO NOV 1984	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	$ MN.	$ MN.	$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	129 429	136 985	- 7 556	- 5.5
RE-EXPORTS	104 826	80 700	+24 126	+29.9
TOTAL EXPORTS	234 255	217 685	+16 570	+ 7.6
IMPORTS	230 186	221 363	+ 8 823	+ 4.0
TRADE BALANCE	+ 4 069	- 3 678	+ 7 747	

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COMMUNITY ROLE IN PROTECTING ENVIRONMENT STRESSED

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ALL SECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY HAVE A ROLE TO PLAY IN PROTECTING HONG KONG'S ENVIRONMENT AND THEREBY REDUCING THE POTENTIAL ADVERSE EFFECTS ON OUR HEALTH AND WELFARE, ACCORDING TO THE RECENTLY PUBLISHED ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY.

FOR EXAMPLE, THE REPORT SAYS, THE PUBLIC IN GENERAL CAN CONTRIBUTE BY NOT DROPPING LITTER ON BEACHES AND STREETS AND COMMERCE CAN CONTRIBUTE BY ENSURING THAT ROAD VEHICLES ARE PROPERLY MAINTAINED AND DO NOT EMIT BLACK SMOKE AND OTHER HARMFUL POLLUTANTS.

THE INDUSTRY, ON THE OTHER HAND, CAN PLAY AN IMPORTANT PART BY ADOPTING CLEAN AND EFFICIENT MANUFACTURING PROCESSES AND UP-TO-DATE CONTROL TECHNOLOGY.

IN ADDITION, THE GOVERNMENT MUST PLAY ITS PART BY PROVIDING OVERALL PLANNING, COORDINATION AND ADVICE AS WELL AS BY ESTABLISHING ANY LEGAL CONTROLS THAT MAY BE NECESSARY, THE REPORT SAYS.

THE REPORT SAYS THAT FIRST PRIORITY MUST BE GIVEN TO LIMITING THE CONCENTRATION OF POLLUTANTS IN THE ENVIRONMENT TO A LEVEL THAT ADEQUATELY PROTECTS OUR HEALTH.

+STILL IMPORTANT, BUT OF LOWER PRIORITY, IS THE NEED TO PROTECT AGAINST NUISANCE AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY THAT CAN BE CAUSED BY POLLUTION.+

THE REPORT ADDS THAT THE CONCENTRATION OF POLLUTANTS IN THE ENVIRONMENT MAY BE LIMITED BY PREVENTING THEIR BEING EMITTED IN THE FIRST PLACE.

+THIS CAN BE DONE BY, FOR EXAMPLE, CUTTING DOWN ON THE AMOUNT OF SULPHUR IN FUEL OIL AS WE ALREADY DO FOR THE POWER STATION AT HOK UN, OR BY REDUCING THE PIG POPULATION TO CUT DOWN ON ANIMAL WASTES REQUIRING DISPOSAL OR BY IMPROVED MAINTENANCE OF DIESEL-ENGINED TAXIS OR MINIBUSES TO PREVENT SMOKE EMISSIONS.

+ALTERNATIVELY, THE CONCENTRATION OF POLLUTANTS CAN BE LIMITED BY FIRST TREATING EMISSIONS, AS IN A SEWAGE WORKS, OR BY ENSURING THAT ANY POLLUTING EMISSIONS ARE DISPERSED AND DILUTED QUICKLY AS SOON AS THEY ENTER THE ENVIRONMENT.+

ACCORDING TO THE REPORT, AN EXAMPLE OF THIS APPROACH IS THE USE OF TALL CHIMNEYS, SUCH AS THE 250-METRE-HIGH ONE AT TAP SHEK KOK THAT DISPERSES AIR POLLUTANTS FROM THE BURNING OF COAL AT THE ELECTRICITY GENERATING STATION.

THE PIPING OF SEWAGE TO WHERE THE SEA IS DEEP AND FAST FLOWING ACHIEVES SIMILAR END RESULT SINCE THE POLLUTANTS ARE NOT ONLY DILUTED BUT, IN TIME, RENDERED PRACTICALLY HARMLESS BY THE NATURAL PROCESSES THAT OCCUR IN THE SEA, IT SAYS.

/THE REPORT .....

THE REPORT SAYS EXCESSIVE LEVELS OF CERTAIN TYPES OF POLLUTION CAN AFFECT OUR HEALTH EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY.

+SULPHUR DIOXIDE AND SMOKE, EMITTED INTO THE AIR FROM FURNACES AND BOILERS BURNING OIL OR COAL, CAN AFFECT OUR LUNGS; CARBON MONOXIDE FROM PETROL-ENGINED VEHICLES CAN ADVERSELY AFFECT THE HEART AND SMOKE FROM DIESEL-ENGINED VEHICLES MAY GIVE RISE TO CANCER.

+SIMILARLY, UNTREATED HUMAN AND ANIMAL WASTES THAT ENTER BATHING WATERS MAY GIVE RISE TO STOMACH PROBLEMS OR AFFECT THE LIVER= LEAD AND CADMIUM EMITTED FROM CERTAIN INDUSTRIAL PROCESSES CAN ACCUMULATE IN OYSTERS AND OTHER SEAFOOD AND CAUSE VARIOUS TYPES OF POISONING.+

POLLUTION IS SOMETHING THAT AFFECTS ALL OF US, THE REPORT SAYS.

+IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, ALL OF US ARE THE CAUSE OF IT AND EQUALLY WE CAN ALL CONTRIBUTE TO AVOIDING OR REDUCING IT,+ IT SAYS.

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NEW FEES FOR ENTRY CLEARANCE FOR U.K.

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THE UNITED KINGDOM GOVERNMENT HAS ANNOUNCED THAT NEW FEES FOR THE U.K. ENTRY CLEARANCE WILL BE CHARGED WITH EFFECT FROM JANUARY 1, 1986.

AMONG THE NEW CHARGES, THE FEE FOR AN ORDINARY ENTRY CLEARANCE WILL BE RAISED FROM 10 POUND STERLING TO 12 POUND STERLING, AND FROM 20 POUND STERLING TO 24 POUND STERLING FOR A MULTIPLE ENTRY CLEARANCE, AN IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE FEES WILL BE COLLECTED IN LOCAL CURRENCY AT AN OFFICIAL RATE OF EXCHANGE.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE NEW FEES ARE UNIFORMLY IMPOSED WORLDWIDE AND ARE NECESSARY TO KEEP UP WITH ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS OF PROVIDING SUCH SERVICES.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO MAKE ENQUIRIES MAY TELEPHONE 3-7333111.

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REGISTRAR GENERAL OFFICES MOVING TO NEW PREMISES

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THE SIX OFFICES OF THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT WILL BE MOVING TO THE 10TH TO 15TH FLOORS OF THE QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES (QGO) AT 66 QUEENSWAY, STARTING FROM THIS FRIDAY (DECEMBER 27).

THESE OFFICES ARE THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER'S OFFICE, INSURANCE DIVISION, COMPANIES REGISTRY, TRADE MARKS AND PATENTS REGISTRY, THE HOME OWNERSHIP SECTION AND FINANCIAL SECRETARY INCORPORATED SCHEME SECTION, AND THE MONEY LENDERS REGISTRY.

FOLLOWING ARE DETAILS OF THE REMOVAL:

OFFICIAL RECEIVER'S OFFICE

THE SUB-OFFICE IN ADMIRALTY CENTRE WILL BE CLOSED ON FRIDAY AND SERVICES WILL RESUME ON THE 12TH FLOOR OF QGO ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 28).

THE SUB-OFFICE IN MELBOURNE PLAZA WILL BE CLOSED ON SATURDAY AND WILL RESUME SERVICES ON THE 12TH FLOOR OF QGO FROM DECEMBER 30.

THE MAIN OFFICE AT SUTHERLAND HOUSE WILL REMAIN OPEN DURING THE REMOVAL OF THE TWO SUB-OFFICES.

ALL OFFICES WILL RESUME NORMAL OPERATION AT THE NEW ACCOMMODATION NEXT MONDAY (DECEMBER 30).

THE NEW ENQUIRY NUMBERS WILL BE:

GENERAL ENQUIRIES	5-8622448
ENQUIRIES ON DISTRIBUTION OF DIVIDENDS	5-8622537

INSURANCE DIVISION

AT PRESENT LOCATED IN WING ON CENTRE, THIS OFFICE WILL MOVE TO THE 12TH FLOOR OF QGO ON DECEMBER 30. NO PUBLIC SEARCH SERVICE WILL BE PROVIDED ON THAT DAY BUT FULL SERVICES WILL RESUME THE NEXT DAY (DECEMBER 31).

COMPANIES REGISTRY

THE MAIN OFFICE OF THE REGISTRY, NOW LOCATED IN KAYAMALLY BUILDING, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, WILL MOVE TO THE 13TH AND 14TH FLOOR OF QGO ON JANUARY 18 AND 19.

/TO FACILITATE .....

TO FACILITATE THE TRANSFER OF RECORDS, THE PUBLIC SEARCH SECTION AND THE PHOTOSTAT SECTION OF THE OFFICE WILL CEASE TO PROVIDE SERVICES AS FROM JANUARY 17. SERVICES WILL RESUME AT THE NEW PREMISES FROM JANUARY 20.

THE SHROFF'S OFFICE AND THE RECEIPT AND DESPATCH COUNTER WILL REMAIN OPEN ON JANUARY 17 AND 18 AS USUAL. FEES SHOULD BE PAID AT, AND CORRESPONDENCE SENT TO, THE NEW PREMISES FROM JANUARY 20.

THE REGISTRY'S SUB-OFFICE, LOCATED IN NEW WORLD TOWER, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, WILL MOVE TO THE 13TH AND 14TH FLOORS OF QGO ON JANUARY 25 AND 26.

THE NAME SECTION, THE PUBLIC SEARCH SECTION AND THE PHOTOSTAT SECTION IN NEW WORLD TOWER WILL CLOSE ON JANUARY 24 AND 25 AND SERVICES WILL RESUME AT THE NEW PREMISES ON JANUARY 27.

THE NEW ENQUIRY NUMBER OF THE COMPANIES REGISTRY WILL BE 5-8622600.

TRADE MARKS AND PATENTS REGISTRY

THE TRADE MARKS AND PATENTS REGISTRY WILL MOVE FROM UNITED CENTRE TO THE 15TH FLOOR OF QGO ON DECEMBER 31.

IT WILL BE CLOSED FOR GENERAL BUSINESS ON DECEMBER 31 EXCEPT FOR RECEIVING DOCUMENTS SUCH AS TRADE MARK APPLICATIONS CLAIMING CONVENTION PRIORITY, NOTICES OF OPPOSITION TO ADVERTISED TRADE MARK APPLICATIONS AND RELATED DOCUMENTS AND PATENT APPLICATIONS FILED WITHIN FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE OF GRANT IN THE UK OR FROM ITS TAKING EFFECT IN THE UK.

NORMAL SERVICES WILL RESUME FROM JANUARY 2.

THE NEW ENQUIRY NUMBER WILL BE 5-8622628.

THE HOME OWNERSHIP SECTION AND FINANCIAL SECRETARY INCORPORATED SCHEME SECTION

THESE TWO SECTIONS OF THE LAND OFFICE WILL MOVE FROM WING ON CENTRE TO THE 15TH FLOOR OF QGO NEXT MONDAY (DECEMBER 30).

THE NEW ENQUIRY NUMBERS WILL BE:

HOME OWNERSHIP SECTION	5-8622641
FINANCIAL SECRETARY INCORPORATED SCHEME SECTION	5-8622639

/MONEY LENDERS .....

MONEY LENDERS REGISTRY

THE MONEY LENDERS REGISTRY WILL MOVE FROM YU YUET LAI BUILDING IN WYNDHAM STREET TO THE 15TH FLOOR OF QGO ON MONDAY (DECEMBER 30).

THE NEW ENQUIRY NUMBER WILL BE 5-8622634.

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DISCO WELCOME FOR CHRISTMAS IN KWUN TONG

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KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR KEVIN MAK, CALLED ON YOUNG PEOPLE THIS (TUESDAY) EVENING TO SHOW CONCERN FOR THEIR NEIGHBOURS AND TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY.

OFFICIATING AT THE KWUN TONG FESTIVAL CHRISTMAS EVE DISCO NITE, HE SAID: +DURING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON OF LOVE AND WARMTH, IT IS PARTICULARLY HEARTENING TO NOTE THAT THERE ARE MANY YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE WILLING TO HELP OTHERS.

+I WISH TO TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO THANK THE MANY YOUNG VOLUNTEERS WHO HAD CONTRIBUTED THEIR SERVICES DURING THE PAST YEAR.+

ABOUT 2 000 YOUNGSTERS TOOK PART IN TONIGHT'S CHRISTMAS EVE DISCO, AND 400 OF THEM WERE INVITED AS GUESTS FOR CONTRIBUTING THEIR SERVICES DURING THE PAST YEAR.

THE DISCO WAS HOSTED BY NINE DISC JOCKEYS FROM RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG, AND A POP GROUP CALLED THE +SMALL ISLAND+.

JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE KWUN TONG FESTIVAL '85 ORGANISING COMMITTEE AND RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG, THE DISCO WAS SPONSORED BY THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD.

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BIDS CALLED FOR UC BRIDGE TOURNAMENT

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BRIDGE PLAYERS ARE BEING INVITED TO TEAM UP FOR THE URBAN COUNCIL OPEN TEAM BRIDGE TOURNAMENT 1986 TO BE HELD AT THE QUEEN ELZABETH STADIUM ON JANUARY 5.

THE TOURNAMENT IS JOINTLY PRESENTED BY THE COUNCIL AND THE HONG KONG CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION.

/A COUNCIL .....

A COUNCIL SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT ENTRIES ARE LIMITED TO 50 TEAMS ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

+APPLICATIONS WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 30. ENTRY FEES ARE $100 PER TEAM.+

ENTRY FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FROM THE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM AND ALL URBAN COUNCIL PUBLIC LIBRARIES. FURTHER DETAILS CAN BE OBTAINED ON 5-756793.

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TAI HING ESTATE TRAFFIC CHANGES

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TAI FONG STREET BETWEEN TSUN WEN ROAD AND TAI HING STREET WILL BE REROUTED ONE-WAY WESTBOUND FOR ABOUT SIX MONTHS TO FACILITATE THE LAYING OF WATERMAINS STARTING 10 AM ON DECEMBER 27 (FRIDAY).

THE RIGHT-TURN MOVEMENT FROM TAI HING STREET ONTO TAI FONG STREET WILL BE PROHIBITED.

TRAFFIC AND KMB ROUTES 59, 61, 61A, 62, 66 AND 66M WILL BE DIVERTED TO USE SHEK PAI TAU ROAD AND TSUN WEN ROAD.

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HENNESSY ROAD RESTRICTED ZONE

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THE EXISTING 24-HOUR RESTRICTED ZONE ON THE EASTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF HENNESSY ROAD BETWEEN ABOUT 15 METRES WEST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH ARSENAL STREET AND 135 METRES EAST OF THE SAME JUNCTION WILL BE EXTENDED TO ITS JUNCTION WITH FENWICK STREET FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (DECEMBER 27).

WITHIN THE RESTRICTED ZONE, ALL VEHICLES OTHER THAN FRANCHISED BUSES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS.

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