



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 1985

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FS'S STATEMENT ON O.T.B.
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THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT
TONIGHT:

+THE DIRECTORS OF OVERSEAS TRUST BANK LIMITED THIS AFTERNOON ADVISED THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING THAT THE BANK WAS INSOLVENT AND THEREFORE UNABLE TO CARRY ON BUSINESS. AFTER CONSULTING ME THE COMMISSIONER IMMEDIATELY TOOK STEPS TO EXERCISE HIS POWERS OF CONTROL UNDER S.13(1) OF THE BANKING ORDINANCE AND HAS DIRECTED THE BANK AND ITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO DESIST FROM UNDERTAKING ANY BUSINESS WHATSOEVER IN ITS BRANCHES AND OFFICES IN HONG KONG OR ELSEWHERE OVERSEAS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. AS A RESULT THE BANK AND ITS BRANCHES WILL NOT BE OPEN FOR BANKING BUSINESS TOMORROW (FRIDAY) OR ON SATURDAY.

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WILL BE MEETING TOMORROW AFTERNOON IN ORDER TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF THE BANK AND THE STEPS THAT WILL BE TAKEN TO PROTECT DEPOSITORS, PARTICULARLY SMALL DEPOSITORS. A FURTHER ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE MADE TOMORROW EVENING.

THIS DEVELOPMENT FOLLOWED AN INTENSIVE AUDIT OF THE OVERSEAS TRUST BANK'S BOOKS BY TEAMS OF EXAMINERS FROM THE BANKING COMMISSION DURING THE PAST TWO MONTHS. AT THE COMMISSIONER'S REQUEST THE BOARD HAS BEEN ADVISED SINCE LAST MONDAY BY A MERCHANT BANKER. THERE HAVE BEEN PROLONGED CONSULTATIONS WITH EXECUTIVES AND DIRECTORS OF THE BANK.+

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY SAID THAT HE BELIEVES THAT THE BANK'S PROBLEMS GO BEYOND IMPRUDENT MANAGEMENT OR MISFORTUNE AND THAT THERE ARE SERIOUS MATTERS WHICH WARRANT INVESTIGATION BY THE COMMERCIAL CRIMES BUREAU. THAT INVESTIGATION HAS ALREADY BEGUN.

THE GOVERNMENT REMAINS COMMITTED TO ITS POLICY OF SAFEGUARDING THE EXCHANGE RATE OF THE HK DOLLAR AND THE STABILITY AND REPUTATION OF THE BANKING SYSTEM.

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COMPANIES SUSPENDED
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THE COMMISSIONER OF DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ANNOUNCED THAT HE HAS TODAY (THURSDAY) SUSPENDED THE REGISTRATION OF O.T.B. FINANCE LTD. AND EXPRESS FINANCE AND INVESTMENT LIMITED AS DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES, ON THE GROUND THAT THE BUSINESS OF THE COMPANIES IS BEING CARRIED ON IN A MANNER DETRIMENTAL TO THE INTERESTS OF THEIR DEPOSITORS.

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DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ATTACK PROTECTIONISM
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THE JENKINS BILL, WHICH COULD LEAD TO CUTS OF WELL OVER 50 PER CENT IN THE EXPORTS OF TEXTILES AND APPAREL TO THE UNITED STATES BY SOME SUPPLIERS, IS IN DIRECT CONTRADICTION OF U.S. COMMITMENTS UNDER THE MULTI-FIBRE ARRANGEMENT (MFA), BILATERAL AGREEMENTS AND OTHER DECLARATIONS.

THIS WAS SAID BY MR MOHAMMED BAJWA OF PAKISTAN, WHO MADE A STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHICH EXPORT TEXTILES AND CLOTHING, AT A SPECIAL MEETING OF GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE (GATT) IN GENEVA YESTERDAY (JUNE 5).

THERE ARE 28 MEMBERS IN THE GROUP WHICH BACKS A PROGRAMME OF COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND EXPORTERS OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING. HONG KONG, A MEMBER OF THE GROUP, SUPPORTED THE STATEMENT IN THE GATT MEETING.

THE STATEMENT STRONGLY ATTACKED PROTECTIONIST TRADE TENDENCIES BEING DISPLAYED BY SOME DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

+THE MOUNTING PROTECTIONIST PRESSURES CAN BEST BE EXEMPLIFIED IN THE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO THE LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL IN THE U.S. CONGRESS, THE TEXTILE AND APPAREL TRADE ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1985, BETTER KNOWN AS THE JENKINS BILL.

+THIS BILL, WHICH WAS INTRODUCED INTO THE CONGRESS ON MARCH 19, SEEKS TO ROLLBACK TRADE SUBSTANTIALLY FROM DEVELOPING SUPPLIERS. IF ENACTED, OVERALL TEXTILE AND APPAREL IMPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES IN 1985 WOULD BE CUT 20 TO 30 PER CENT FROM THE 1984 LEVEL, AND FOR SOME INDIVIDUAL SUPPLIERS, REDUCTIONS WOULD BE WELL OVER 50 PER CENT.

+YOU CAN SEE THAT WHILE SOME OF US ARE ROMANTICALLY SINGING THE PRAISES OF A NEW ROUND OF TRADE NEGOTIATIONS, OTHERS ARE BUSY SHARPENING THE GUILLOTINE TO ACHIEVE NEW TRADE RESTRICTIONS.

+WE HAVE SEEN THE USE OF SUCH PRESSURE TACTICS ON THE EVE OF MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS ENOUGH TIMES BEFORE. WE NOTE THAT THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION IS ALREADY ON RECORD AS OPPOSING THE BILL. WE ARE NEVERTHELESS DEEPLY CONCERNED THAT THIS BILL HAS BEEN INITIATED AND PUSHED DESPITE ITS BEING IN DIRECT CONTRADICTION WITH U.S. COMMITMENTS UNDER THE MFA, THE BILATERAL AGREEMENTS AND THE MINISTERIAL DECLARATION,+ SAID THE STATEMENT.

NEW TRADE RESTRICTIONS AND RECOURSE TO TRADE MEASURES OUTSIDE THE MULTILATERAL FRAMEWORK ESTABLISHED BY GATT GAVE RISE TO SERIOUS EROSION OF CONFIDENCE IN THE MULTILATERAL TRADING ITSELF.

/MINISTERS OF

MINISTERS OF GATT MEMBER NATIONS HAD COMMITTED THEMSELVES IN 1982 TO LIBERALISING TRADE IN TEXTILES AND CLOTHING - SECTORS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. +YET IT IS PRECISELY THOSE SECTORS WHICH HAVE WITNESSED, AS FEW OTHER SECTORS, A MULTIPLICATION OF PROTECTIONIST MEASURES AND INTENSIFICATION OF THOSE ALREADY IN PLACE,+ SAID THE STATEMENT.

DESPITE THE FACT THAT THE TEXTILES SURVEILLANCE BODY (TSB) HAD FOUND THAT MANY CALLS ON DEVELOPING COUNTRY EXPORTERS BY THE UNITED STATES WERE UNJUSTIFIED AND SHOULD BE RESCINDED, THE CALLS HAVE CONTINUED.

DESPITE PROTESTS THE FINAL U.S. CUSTOMS REGULATIONS RELATING TO COUNTRY OF ORIGIN RULES FOR TEXTILES AND CLOTHINGS HAD BEEN ENACTED WITH LITTLE CHANGE FROM THEIR ORIGINAL FORM - EVEN THOUGH THE TSB HAD RULED THAT THEY UPSET THE BALANCE OF RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS UNDER A BILATERAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE U.S. AND A DEVELOPING EXPORTER.

+ANOTHER SERIOUS DEVELOPMENT HAS BEEN THE U.S. COUNTERVAILING DUTY INVESTIGATIONS ON TEXTILES AND CLOTHING IMPORTS FROM 13 DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THEIR SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS FOR THE MFA AND THE INTERNATIONAL TRADING SYSTEM HAVE BEEN REITERATED AT MEETINGS HELD LAST YEAR AT THE GATT, BOTH AT THE COUNCIL AND THE TEXTILES COMMITTEE.

+THE DISCRIMINATORY IMPACT OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS CAN BE GAUGED BY THE FACT THAT BETWEEN OCTOBER 1984 AND MARCH 1985, IMPORTS FROM MFA DEVELOPING COUNTRIES DECLINED BY FOUR PER CENT, WHEREAS IMPORTS FROM NON-RESTRAINED ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT COUNTRIES, EXCLUDING JAPAN AND TURKEY, INCREASED BY 35 PER CENT,+ SAID THE STATEMENT.

SUPPORTING THE STATEMENT THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, SAID OF THE JENKINS BILL: +THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE USE OF SUCH BILLS AS A MEANS OF EXTRACTING CONCESSIONS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION, PERHAPS INCLUDING COMMITMENTS RELATING TO WHAT SHOULD SUCCEED THE MFA AFTER IT EXPIRES IN JULY NEXT YEAR, CANNOT BE UNDERESTIMATED.

+UNLESS SUCCESSFULLY RESISTED, SUCH PRESSURES MAY RESULT IN NEW PROTECTIONIST MEASURES WHICH COULD NOT ONLY FURTHER IMPAIR THE EXISTING TRADING SYSTEM BUT MIGHT ALSO NULLIFY ANY FUTURE ATTEMPTS TO RESTORE THE CREDIBILITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE MULTILATERAL DISCIPLINES AND TO STRENGTHEN THE LIBERAL TRADING SYSTEM.+

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PRICE, VOLUME CHANGES IN MARCH EXTERNAL TRADE
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COMPARING THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1985 WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR, THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS DECLINED BY ONE PER CENT WHILE THAT OF RE-EXPORTS GREW BY 36 PER CENT, GIVING A 13 PER CENT INCREASE IN THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

IMPORTS INCREASED BY 11 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY FOUR PER CENT AND SIX PER CENT RESPECTIVELY WHILE THOSE OF IMPORTS REMAINED AT ABOUT THE SAME LEVEL.

COMPARING MARCH 1985 WITH MARCH 1984, THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS DECREASED BY TWO PER CENT. WITHIN TOTAL EXPORTS, THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS DECREASED BY 22 PER CENT WHILE THAT OF RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY 30 PER CENT. IMPORTS INCREASED BY 12 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS.

PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY THREE PER CENT AND FIVE PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN MARCH 1985 COMPARED WITH MARCH 1984, SO THAT FOR TOTAL EXPORTS, PRICES INCREASED BY FIVE PER CENT.

PRICES OF IMPORTS, ON THE OTHER HAND, DECREASED BY TWO PER CENT. AS A RESULT, THE TERMS OF TRADE INDEX (EXPRESSED AS A RATIO OF THE TOTAL EXPORT PRICE INDEX TO THE IMPORT PRICE INDEX) ROSE BY SEVEN PER CENT.

EXTENDING THE PERIOD OF COMPARISON TO THE 12 MONTHS ENDING MARCH 1985 WITH THE 12 MONTHS ENDING MARCH 1984, THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 11 PER CENT AND 31 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY, GIVING A 17 PER CENT INCREASE IN THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS. MEANWHILE, THE VOLUME OF IMPORTS ROSE BY 12 PER CENT. PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS, RE-EXPORTS AND IMPORTS ROSE, ON AVERAGE, BY 10 PER CENT, 11 PER CENT AND SEVEN PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

PRICES ARE BASED ON UNIT VALUES WHICH DO NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT CHANGES IN THE COMPOSITION OR QUALITY OF GOODS TRADED. CHANGES IN THE VOLUME OF TRADE ARE DERIVED FROM CHANGES IN TRADE VALUES, AFTER DISCOUNTING THE EFFECT OF PRICE CHANGES.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE OF VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY COMMODITY GROUP FOR MARCH AND FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1985 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

/AS SHOWN

AS SHOWN IN TABLE 1, THE EXPORT PRICES OF MANY COMMODITY GROUPS INCREASED IN MARCH 1985 COMPARED WITH MARCH 1984, RANGING FROM ONE PER CENT FOR RADIOS OF ALL KINDS TO 13 PER CENT FOR TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES. DECREASES IN EXPORT PRICES WERE REGISTERED FOR COMMODITY GROUPS SUCH AS METAL ORES AND SCRAP (-20 PER CENT), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (-10 PER CENT), FOOTWEAR (-9 PER CENT), ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (-4 PER CENT) AND DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES (-3 PER CENT).

THE DOMESTIC EXPORT VOLUME OF NEARLY ALL COMMODITY GROUPS DECREASED IN MARCH 1985 COMPARED WITH MARCH 1984, THE MORE SUBSTANTIAL ONES BEING TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD (-47 PER CENT), TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES (-45 PER CENT), RADIOS OF ALL KINDS (-39 PER CENT), CLOTHING (-38 PER CENT), AND TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES (-36 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, A SLIGHT INCREASE IN DOMESTIC EXPORT VOLUME WAS RECORDED FOR METAL ORES AND SCRAP (+2 PER CENT).

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY FOR MARCH AND FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1985 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 2.

AS SHOWN IN TABLE 2, IMPORT PRICES OF NEARLY ALL THE END-USE CATEGORIES DECREASED IN MARCH 1985 AS COMPARED WITH MARCH 1984, RANGING FROM -2 PER CENT FOR RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES TO -6 PER CENT FOR FOODSTUFFS. HOWEVER, THE IMPORT PRICES OF CONSUMER GOODS REMAINED THE SAME AS IN MARCH 1984.

MANY OF THE MAJOR IMPORTED FOODSTUFFS DECLINED IN VOLUME TERMS IN MARCH 1985 COMPARED WITH MARCH 1984, THE MORE SIGNIFICANT ONES BEING SWINE; MILK, BUTTER, CHEESE AND EGGS; TEA AND COFFEE; SUGAR; VEGETABLES AND FRUIT. HOWEVER, SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE REGISTERED FOR SOYA BEAN OIL, PEANUT OIL AND LARD; FISH AND FISH PREPARATIONS AS WELL AS CERÉALS AND CEREAL PREPARATIONS, OTHER THAN RICE, WHEAT AND FLOUR.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE IMPORT VOLUME OF MANY CONSUMER GOODS INCREASED, THE MORE SUBSTANTIAL ONES BEING HOUSEHOLD TYPE ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES; RADIOS, TELEVISION SETS, GRAMOPHONES, RECORDS, TAPE RECORDERS AND AMPLIFIERS; PASSENGER MOTOR CARS; CAMERAS, FLASHLIGHT APPARATUS AND SUPPLIES FOR PHOTOGRAPHY AS WELL AS TOBACCO MANUFACTURES. HOWEVER, DECREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE REGISTERED FOR MISCELLANEOUS MADE-UP ARTICLES OF TEXTILE MATERIALS, ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, CLOTHING AND WATCHES.

THE IMPORT VOLUME OF SOME OF THE RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES ROSE IN MARCH 1985 COMPARED WITH MARCH 1984, AMONG WHICH SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE RECORDED FOR WOOL AND OTHER ANIMAL HAIR; BASE METALS, EXCLUDING IRON AND STEEL; WATCH AND CLOCK MOVEMENTS, CASES AND PARTS; CLAY AND REFRACTORY CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS, BUILDING MATERIALS, ETC., EXCEPT GLASS AS WELL AS PLASTIC MOULDING MATERIALS.

/HOWEVER, THE

HOWEVER, THE IMPORT VOLUME OF COTTON YARN AND THREAD; MAN-MADE FIBRES; RAW COTTON; WOVEN COTTON FABRICS; LEATHER AND DRESSED FUR SKINS; WOOD, LUMBER AND CORK AS WELL AS YARN OF WOOL AND MIXTURES DECREASED SIGNIFICANTLY.

IMPORTS OF FUELS DROPPED BY EIGHT PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS IN MARCH 1985.

IN THE CAPITAL GOODS CATEGORY, THE IMPORT VOLUME OF ALL THE COMMODITIES INCREASED OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE MORE NOTABLE ONES BEING OFFICE MACHINES, TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT AS WELL AS SCIENTIFIC, MEDICAL, OPTICAL, MEASURING AND CONTROLLING INSTRUMENTS AND APPARATUS.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY FOR MARCH AND FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1985 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 3.

AS SHOWN IN TABLE 3, THE RE-EXPORT VOLUME OF NEARLY ALL THE END-USE CATEGORIES INCREASED IN MARCH 1985 WHEN COMPARED WITH MARCH 1984, RANGING FROM FOUR PER CENT FOR FOODSTUFFS TO 95 PER CENT FOR CAPITAL GOODS. HOWEVER, THE RE-EXPORT VOLUME OF FUELS REMAINED THE SAME AS IN MARCH 1984.

FURTHER DETAILS ARE CONTAINED IN THE MARCH 1985 ISSUE OF THE +HONG KONG TRADE INDEX NUMBERS+, AVAILABLE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE ON JUNE 10 AT HK\$2 PER COPY.

TABLE 1: CHANGES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY GROUP	COMPARING MARCH 1985 WITH MARCH 1984		
	EXPORT VALUE	EXPORT UNIT VALUE	EXPORT VOLUME
CLOTHING	- 32%	+10%	- 38%
TEXTILE FABRICS	- 29%	INSIGNIFICANT	- 29%
TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD	- 42%	+ 8%	- 47%
TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES	- 28%	+13%	- 36%
RADIOS OF ALL KINDS	- 39%	+ 1%	- 39%
ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS	- 15%	- 4%	- 12%

/FOOTWEAR

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FOOTWEAR	- 31%	- 9%	- 24%
METAL MANUFACTURES	- 28%	+ 7%	- 33%
METAL ORES AND SCRAP	- 18%	-20%	+ 2%
WATCHES AND CLOCKS	- 11%	-10%	- 1%
TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES	- 41%	+ 8%	- 45%
DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES	- 12%	- 3%	- 9%
ALL COMMODITIES	- 20%	+ 3%	- 22%

COMPARING 1ST QUARTER 1985 WITH 1ST QUARTER 1984

COMMODITY GROUP	EXPORT VALUE	EXPORT UNIT VALUE	EXPORT VOLUME
CLOTHING	+ 3%	+12%	- 8%
TEXTILE FABRICS	- 15%	+ 3%	- 17%
TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD	- 37%	+ 7%	- 41%
TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES	+ 2%	+14%	- 10%
RADIOS OF ALL KINDS	- 14%	+ 1%	- 15%
ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS	- 12%	- 4%	- 8%
FOOTWEAR	+ 1%	- 4%	+ 5%
METAL MANUFACTURES	- 1%	+ 8%	- 8%
METAL ORES AND SCRAP	+ 13%	-23%	+ 46%
WATCHES AND CLOCKS	+ 3%	- 8%	+ 12%
TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES	- 14%	+13%	- 24%
DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES	+ 9%	- 3%	+ 12%
ALL COMMODITIES	+ 3%	+ 4%	- 1%

/TABLE 2:

TABLE 2: CHANGES IN IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY

COMPARING MARCH 1985 WITH MARCH 1984

<u>END-USE CATEGORY</u>	<u>IMPORT VALUE</u>	<u>IMPORT UNIT VALUE</u>	<u>IMPORT VOLUME</u>
FOODSTUFFS	- 7%	- 6%	INSIGNIFICANT
CONSUMER GOODS	+ 24%	INSIGNIFICANT	+ 24%
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	- 1%	- 2%	INSIGNIFICANT
FUELS	- 11%	- 3%	- 8%
CAPITAL GOODS	+ 42%	- 4%	+ 47%
ALL COMMODITIES	+ 10%	- 2%	+ 12%

COMPARING 1ST QUARTER 1985 WITH 1ST QUARTER 1984

<u>END-USE CATEGORY</u>	<u>IMPORT VALUE</u>	<u>IMPORT UNIT VALUE</u>	<u>IMPORT VOLUME</u>
FOODSTUFFS	- 6%	- 4%	- 2%
CONSUMER GOODS	+ 26%	+ 2%	+ 25%
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	- 1%	INSIGNIFICANT	- 1%
FUELS	- 5%	- 4%	- 2%
CAPITAL GOODS	+ 39%	- 2%	+ 42%
ALL COMMODITIES	+ 11%	INSIGNIFICANT	+ 11%

/TABLE 3:

TABLE 3: CHANGES IN RE-EXPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY

COMPARING MARCH 1985 WITH MARCH 1984

END-USE CATEGORY	RE-EXPORT VALUE	RE-EXPORT UNIT VALUE	RE-EXPORT VOLUME
FOODSTUFFS	+ 5%	+ 1%	+ 4%
CONSUMER GOODS	+ 32%	+ 3%	+ 28%
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	+ 23%	+ 6%	+ 16%
FUELS	+ 3%	+ 3%	INSIGNIFICANT
CAPITAL GOODS	+108%	+ 7%	+ 95%
ALL COMMODITIES	+ 36%	+ 5%	+ 30%

COMPARING 1ST QUARTER 1985 WITH 1ST QUARTER 1984

END-USE CATEGORY	RE-EXPORT VALUE	RE-EXPORT UNIT VALUE	RE-EXPORT VOLUME
FOODSTUFFS	+ 6%	+ 2%	+ 4%
CONSUMER GOODS	+ 44%	+ 5%	+ 37%
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	+ 30%	+ 7%	+ 21%
FUELS	- 33%	+ 5%	- 36%
CAPITAL GOODS	+110%	+ 8%	+ 94%
ALL COMMODITIES	+ 44%	+ 6%	+ 36%

HOSPITAL AND CLINIC FEES REVISED
* * * * *

CHARGES AT ALL GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS AND CLINICS WILL BE INCREASED FROM JULY 1, THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE DAILY RATE IN THE GENERAL WARD OF ALL HOSPITALS WILL BE INCREASED FROM \$15 TO \$18.

PATIENTS REQUIRING SPECIAL ASIAN DIET AND EUROPEAN DIET WILL HAVE TO PAY THE NEW CHARGES OF \$36 AND \$54 PER DAY. EXISTING CHARGES FOR THESE DIETS ARE \$30 AND \$45 RESPECTIVELY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT EXPLAINED THAT THE DAILY MAINTENANCE CHARGE FOR A GENERAL WARD BED IS BASED ON THE COST OF MEALS FOR EACH PATIENT.

+THE DAILY CHARGE COVERS THE COST OF FOOD, DRUGS, SURGERY, LABORATORY TESTS, X-RAY AND SPECIAL TREATMENT,+ HE SAID.

THIS MEANS THAT EACH PATIENT IN THE GENERAL WARD WILL STILL BE HEAVILY SUBSIDISED BY THE GOVERNMENT AS THE AVERAGE BED-DAY COST IN MAJOR HOSPITALS IS IN THE REGION OF \$600 TO \$700.

+IN THE CASE OF GENUINE HARDSHIP, HOSPITAL FEES CAN BE WAIVED ALTOGETHER,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

AT THE SAME TIME, DAILY CHARGES FOR FIRST AND SECOND CLASS BEDS WILL ALSO BE REVISED FROM \$600 TO \$750 AND FROM \$400 TO \$500 RESPECTIVELY.

FOR THE SPECIAL CLASS WARD IN TSAN YUK HOSPITAL THE NEW CHARGE WILL BE \$335.

PATIENTS STAYING IN FIRST CLASS AND SECOND CLASS WARDS OF THE TWO PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS - CASTLE PEAK HOSPITAL AND KWAI CHUNG HOSPITAL - WILL BE CHARGED \$240 AND \$160 EACH DAY. THE EXISTING FEES ARE \$195 AND \$130 RESPECTIVELY.

HOWEVER, UNLIKE THE GENERAL WARD, PATIENTS IN THE FIRST CLASS, SECOND CLASS AND SPECIAL WARDS WILL, IN ADDITION TO THE DAILY CHARGE, HAVE TO PAY EXTRA FOR MEDICAL CONSULTATIONS, OPERATIONS, TREATMENT OR SPECIAL LABORATORY INVESTIGATIONS.

FOR OUTPATIENT SERVICES, CONSULTATION FEES WILL BE RAISED FROM \$7 TO \$9 IN THE GENERAL CLINICS AND FROM \$10 TO \$12 IN THE SPECIALIST CLINICS.

THE FEES FOR INJECTIONS AND DRESSINGS WILL ALSO GO UP FROM \$2 TO \$3 IN LINE WITH THE INCREASE IN CHARGES OF THE GENERAL OUTPATIENT CLINICS.

BUT CHARGES AT FAMILY PLANNING CLINICS AND METHADONE CLINICS WILL REMAIN AT \$1.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE PREVIOUS FEE INCREASE IN 1984 APPEARED TO HAVE CAUSED NO SIGNIFICANT HARDSHIP TO THE PUBLIC NOR DID IT DETER PEOPLE FROM SEEKING MEDICAL CARE.

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DISTRICT-LEVEL CRIME FIGHT ESSENTIAL - ANNING
* * * * *

THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, MR RAYMON ANNING, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT THE CENTRAL FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE CHAIRED BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY PLACES A GREAT DEAL OF IMPORTANCE ON THE LIAISON AND CO-OPERATION WITH DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEES ESPECIALLY TAKING INTO ACCOUNT OF THE EXPERIENCE AND INITIATIVE OF DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME ACTIVITIES.

DURING A MEETING WITH MEMBERS OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, MR ANNING SAID EVERY SUBMISSION BY DFCCS ARE ALL CAREFULLY LOOKED AT, TREATED WITH RESPECT AND THOROUGHLY CONSIDERED BY THE CENTRAL FCC.

THE VISIT BY MR ANNING TO A DFCC WAS THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN HIS CAPACITY AS A MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE.

MR ANNING, IN HIS OPENING ADDRESS TO THE MEETING, SAID IT IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE CENTRAL AND DISTRICT FCCS TO KEEP IN TOUCH NOT ONLY BY CORRESPONDENCE BUT BY PERSONAL MEETINGS WITH MEMBERS OF THE TWO COMMITTEES.

"MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE WILL VISIT DFCCS ON A ROSTER BASIS SO THAT THEY CAN PARTICIPATE AND OBSERVE THE WORK OF THE DFCCS." HE ADDED.

MR ANNING ALSO TOLD THE MEETING THAT THE PRESENT PREVENT CRIME CAMPAIGN WITH THE THEME OF "POLICE AND THE PEOPLE FIGHTING CRIME TOGETHER" WILL BE EXTENDED FROM ONE TO TWO YEARS.

"THE CAMPAIGN WILL CONTINUE WITH THE SAME CRIME PREVENTION THEME AND INCLUDE A NEW NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME WHICH IS AIMED AT MAKING PEOPLE MORE CONSCIOUS OF THE NEED TO SUPPORT EACH OTHER IN PREVENTING CRIME BY FORMING SMALL GROUPS WITHIN THEIR BUILDINGS," HE SAID.

"THE OVERALL CAMPAIGN WILL CENTRE ON RESIDENTIAL HIGH RISK AND BUSINESS PREMISES SECURITY AS WELL AS VEHICLE SECURITY," MR ANNING ADDED.

AS A MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE AND THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, MR ANNING EXPRESSED HIS THANKS TO THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE FOR ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME IN THE DISTRICT.

IN CLOSING, MR ANNING SAID HE LOOKS FORWARD TO A CONTINUING GOOD WORKING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE CENTRAL AND DISTRICT FCCS, LOCAL COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS, AND THE POLICE FORCE.

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HELP ELIMINATE MOSQUITO NUISANCE, PUBLIC URGED

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WITH THE APPROACH OF WARM AND HUMID MONTHS, THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT TODAY REMINDED THE PUBLIC OF THE NEED TO ELIMINATE MOSQUITO BREEDING PLACES.

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT ALTHOUGH AN ANTI-MOSQUITO CAMPAIGN WAS SUCCESSFULLY HELD THROUGHOUT THE URBAN AREAS IN APRIL THIS YEAR, THE PUBLIC MUST BE ON THE ALERT AT ALL TIMES NOT TO GIVE MOSQUITOES ANY CHANCE TO BREED.

PEST CONTROL STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE TO INSPECT BUILDING SITES, COMMON PARTS OF BUILDINGS, REFUSE BLACK SPOTS, HILLSIDES, STREAMS AND SEEPAGES TO IDENTIFY POTENTIAL BREEDING GROUNDS.

THEY WILL ALSO TAKE SAMPLES OF WATER FOR TESTS, SPRAY LARVICIDAL OIL AND INSECTICIDES, CLEAN UP REFUSE AND JUNK, AND ADVISE THE PUBLIC ON WAYS TO PREVENT THE NUISANCE.

DURING THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR, DISTRICT PEST CONTROL STAFF CARRIED OUT MORE THAN 165 800 INSPECTIONS OF SUCH PLACES. AS A RESULT, SOME 3 100 POTENTIAL BREEDING PLACES WERE FOUND AND DEALT WITH.

IN THE SAME PERIOD, THE DEPARTMENT TOOK OUT 131 PROSECUTIONS AGAINST OFFENDERS RESULTING IN TOTAL FINES OF MORE THAN \$141 000.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT MOSQUITOES BREED ONLY IN WATER AND THE BEST WAY TO STOP THEM FROM GROWING IS TO DENY THEM THE CHANCE.

+EMPTY TINS, JARS AND BOTTLES SHOULD BE DISCARDED AND ALL EMPTY RECEPTACLES SHOULD BE STORED IN INVERTED POSITION TO PREVENT ANY ACCUMULATION OF WATER,+ HE SUGGESTED.

+WATER STORAGE TANKS AND WELLS SHOULD BE COVERED AND CHOKED DRAINS AND ALL DRAIN INLETS SHOULD ALSO BE CLEARED OF REFUSE.+

UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND URBAN SERVICES ORDINANCE, IT IS AN OFFENCE TO ALLOW STAGNANT WATER TO LIE ABOUT THUS PROVIDING BREEDING GROUNDS FOR MOSQUITOES.

OFFENDERS ARE LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$10 000, THE SPOKESMAN WARNED.

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ESTATE PREMISES FOR DB OFFICES CONSIDERED
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THE HOUSING AUTHORITY WILL GIVE EVERY ASSISTANCE TO DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS TO LOCATE SITE AS OFFICE ACCOMMODATION IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES.

THIS WAS DECIDED BY THE HOUSING AUTHORITY'S MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE TODAY WHEN IT CONSIDERED THE LETTING OF ESTATE PREMISES TO DB MEMBERS AS OFFICES.

+THE COMMITTEE, WHILE APPRECIATING DB MEMBERS' SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC, CONSIDERS THAT IT WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE FOR THE AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE SUBSIDY IN THIS RESPECT. THEREFORE, FULL MARKET RENT WILL BE CHARGED FOR THESE OFFICES,+ SAID A HOUSING SPOKESMAN.

+THE LETTING OF THE PREMISES WILL BE OFFERED TO DB MEMBERS DURING THE TENURE OF OFFICE.+

DURING THE DISCUSSION, MEMBERS OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE SUGGESTED THAT DB MEMBERS SHOULD ALSO CONSIDER MAKING USE OF OTHER AVAILABLE FACILITIES, SUCH AS COMMUNITY CENTRES, TO MEET MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AS WELL AS TO PROVIDE THEIR SERVICES.

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RADIO AND TV TO PROMOTE MENTAL HEALTH
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ON-GOING EFFORTS TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH WILL BE STEPPED UP THIS MONTH (JUNE) THROUGH A NEW ROUND OF RADIO AND TELEVISION PROGRAMMES.

THE PROGRAMMES FORM PART OF THE 1985/86 REHABILITATION OF THE DISABLED PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN WHICH FOCUSES ON MENTAL DISABILITIES.

+THE SUPPORT OF THE MASS MEDIA IS ESSENTIAL IN PROMOTING A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF MENTAL HEALTH AMONG THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND IN CORRECTING CERTAIN COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT EX-MENTAL PATIENTS AND HALF-WAY HOUSES,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC EDUCATION IN REHABILITATION (COMPERE) SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

+WE ARE VERY PLEASED THAT BOTH HKTVB AND RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG ARE WILLING TO HELP SPREAD THIS VERY IMPORTANT MESSAGE THROUGH THEIR PROGRAMMES.+

/THE RADIO

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THE RADIO PROGRAMME ON HALF-WAY HOUSES CONSISTS OF SIX EPISODES WHICH WILL BE BROADCAST ON RTHK'S RADIO 1 AT 12.40 PM EVERY SATURDAY.

THE FIRST EPISODE, SCHEDULED FOR THIS SATURDAY (JUNE 8), WILL TELL THE HISTORY AND CONCEPT OF HALF-WAY HOUSE. THIS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY OTHER INTERESTING ASPECTS OF THE SCHEME IN THE REMAINING FIVE WEEKS.

DURING THE PROGRAMME MEDICAL EXPERTS, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, SOCIAL WORKERS, RESIDENTS OF HOUSING ESTATES AS WELL AS INMATES OF HALF-WAY HOUSES THEMSELVES WILL SHARE PROFESSIONAL VIEWS AND PERSONAL EXPERIENCES WITH THE AUDIENCE.

THIS IS THE SECOND SERIES OF RADIO PROGRAMMES PRODUCED ON THE SUBJECT OF MENTAL HEALTH. THE FIRST SERIES WAS LAUNCHED EARLY THIS YEAR, DURING WHICH EX-MENTAL PATIENTS, THEIR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS WERE ENCOURAGED TO EXPRESS THEIR FEELINGS AND THOUGHTS BY WRITING IN TO THE PROGRAMME. IN VIEW OF THE GOOD RESPONSE, IT WAS DECIDED TO DO A FOLLOW-UP SERIES.

THE TELEVISION PROGRAMME IS A DAILY SPECIAL DEVOTED TO MENTAL HEALTH AND WILL BE SCREENED ON TVB JADE'S +GOOD MORNING HONG KONG+ PROGRAMME BETWEEN JUNE 17-22.

PROMINENT PERSONALITIES IN THE FIELD OF MENTAL HEALTH CARE WILL BE INVITED TO SPEAK ON MENTAL HEALTH AT DIFFERENT STAGES OF LIFE, HOW TO COPE WITH STRESS, MISCONCEPTIONS AND FACTS ABOUT MENTAL ILLNESS, AND TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION.

+WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE MEDIA, WE HOPE THE PUBLIC WILL GRADUALLY DEVELOP AN UNDERSTANDING AND POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARDS MENTAL HEALTH AND EX-MENTAL PATIENTS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

OTHER PUBLICITY-EDUCATION PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES INCLUDE SEMINARS, TALKS, GROUP DISCUSSIONS AND EXHIBITIONS AT DISTRICT LEVELS. IN ADDITION, A SERIES OF FACT SHEETS AND A SIMPLE GUIDE ON MENTAL HEALTH ARE BEING PREPARED FOR FREE DISTRIBUTION TO THE PUBLIC.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR TAXI LICENCES
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR 100 URBAN TAXI LICENCES.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (THURSDAY), A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TENDER FORMS FOR THE NEW LICENCES WILL BE AVAILABLE TOMORROW (FRIDAY) FROM THE DEPARTMENT'S PUBLIC VEHICLE SECTION AT ROOMS 906-909, HUTCHISON HOUSE, 10 HARCOURT ROAD, CENTRAL, OR FROM THE SECTION'S KOWLOON OFFICES ON THE NINTH FLOOR, PARK-IN COMMERCIAL CENTRE, 56 DUNDAS STREET, MONG KOK.

TENDERERS MUST DEPOSIT \$25 000 WITH THE DIRECTOR OF ACCOUNTING SERVICES FOR EACH URBAN TAXI LICENCE THEY SEEK. ONE TENDER FORM MAY BE SUBMITTED FOR ANY NUMBER OF TAXI LICENCES NOT EXCEEDING 100.

A PUBLIC BALLOT MAY BE HELD TO DETERMINE THE ACCEPTANCE OF TENDERS WHICH OFFER THE SAME UNIT PREMIUM.

COMPLETED TENDER FORMS, TOGETHER WITH ORIGINAL DEPOSIT RECEIPTS, SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IN DUPLICATE IN SEALED ENVELOPES, ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN, CENTRAL TENDER BOARD, AND PLACED IN THE TENDER BOX ON THE LOWER GROUND FLOOR OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (EAST WING), LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG, BEFORE NOON ON JUNE 21.

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SUPERVISOR COMMENDED FOR ANTI-LITTER RECORD
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A CLEANSING SUPERVISOR OF THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT WAS COMMENDED BY THE DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL SERVICES, MR TONY HAMMOND, TODAY (THURSDAY) FOR TAKING ACTION AGAINST LITTERBUGS.

MR LI KWONG-KAN, A FOREMAN ATTACHED TO THE RSD'S TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE, RECEIVED HIS COMMENDATION AT A BRIEF CEREMONY HELD AT THE RSD HEADQUARTERS TODAY.

HE WAS COMMENDED FOR HIS EXEMPLARY RECORD IN BRINGING 225 LITTER OFFENDERS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES TO COURT BETWEEN LAST NOVEMBER AND APRIL THIS YEAR. THIS REPRESENTED THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF SUCCESSFUL CASES RECORDED BY A SINGLE OFFICER OF THE RSD DURING THE SIX-MONTH PERIOD.

MR HAMMOND PRAISED MR LI FOR HIS DILIGENCE IN CARRYING OUT LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTION AGAINST PEOPLE WHO DISCARDED REFUSE INDISCRIMINATELY.

MR LI HAD RECEIVED SIMILAR COMMENDATIONS ON TWO PREVIOUS OCCASIONS FOR HIS ANTI-LITTER ACTION.

MR HAMMOND URGED ALL STAFF TO KEEP VIGILANCE AGAINST LITTERBUGS SO THAT +OUR LIVING ENVIRONMENT WILL NOT BE SPOILT BY THE SELFISH ACTIONS OF SOME THOUGHTLESS INDIVIDUALS.+

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HOLIDAY REMINDER
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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE REMINDED AGAIN THAT THIS SATURDAY (JUNE 8) AND THE COMING MONDAY (JUNE 10) ARE NOT GENERAL HOLIDAYS AS GAZETTED IN JANUARY 1984.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THIS YEAR THE GENERAL HOLIDAYS FOR THE BIRTHDAY OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN AND THE MONDAY FOLLOWING THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY WILL NOT FALL ON THESE TWO DAYS BUT ON JUNE 15 AND 17.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE ALSO REMINDED THAT THERE WILL BE AN ADDITIONAL HOLIDAY THIS YEAR ON JULY 29, A MONDAY, SINCE CHING MING FESTIVAL AND GOOD FRIDAY, BOTH GENERAL HOLIDAYS, FELL ON THE SAME DAY.

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+MUSIC WHILE YOU WORK+ STARTS ON SATURDAY
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THE +MUSIC WHILE YOU WORK+ RADIO PROGRAMME, WHICH HAS BEEN SPECIALLY DESIGNED TO PROMOTE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AMONG WORKERS, WILL ENTER ITS THIRD YEAR THIS WEEK WITH A LIVE BROADCAST FROM THE KAI TAK EAST PLAYGROUND.

THE LIVE BROADCAST, THE FIRST IN A SERIES OF 15 ONE-HOUR EPISODES, WILL BE AIRED ON RTHK RADIO 1 BETWEEN 3 PM AND 4 PM ON SATURDAY (JUNE 8), FEATURING POPULAR SINGERS KEN CHOI AND LEE LAI-YUI.

THE REMAINING 14 EPISODES, WILL BE BROADCAST EVERY SATURDAY AT THE SAME TIME.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, WHICH CO-ORGANISED THE PROGRAMME WITH RTHK, SAID THE SERIES WILL COMPRISE THREE LIVE BROADCASTS AT INDUSTRIAL AREAS TO BRING ENTERTAINMENT AND INDUSTRIAL SAFETY MESSAGES TO WORKERS AT THEIR PLACE OF WORK.

FACTORY AND CONSTRUCTION WORKERS WILL BE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN A SAFETY QUIZ. AFTER SIX ROUNDS OF KEEN COMPETITION, THE THREE TEAMS WITH THE HIGHEST SCORES WILL BE AWARDED PRIZES AND SOUVENIRS.

PARTICIPATING WORKERS WILL ALSO HAVE THE CHANCE TO CHAT WITH THE GUEST SINGERS AND REQUEST SONGS.

LOCAL SINGERS AND CELEBRITIES HAVE ALSO BEEN INVITED TO INTERVIEW WORKERS IN FACTORIES AND AT CONSTRUCTION SITES TO INTRODUCE LISTENERS TO POINTS OF INTEREST IN CERTAIN TRADES AND THE SAFETY RULES INVOLVED.

/THE PROGRAMME

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THE PROGRAMME WILL INCLUDE A SEGMENT ON SAFETY MESSAGES, A SAFETY QUIZ AND A SAFETY SLOGAN CONTEST FOR LISTENERS.

AFTER SEPTEMBER 14, THE LAST DAY OF THE ONE-HOUR SERIES, THE PROGRAMME WILL BE CONDENSED TO 20 MINUTES AND AIRED FOR ANOTHER 14 WEEKS AT 10 AM ON SATURDAY.

IT WILL THEN CULMINATE IN A GALA NIGHT TO BE HELD AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM ON DECEMBER 27.

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E.R.P. LEAFLET PRODUCED
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THE TRANSPORT BRANCH HAS PRODUCED A LEAFLET WHICH SUMMARISES THE +RESULTS BRIEF/CONSULTATION DOCUMENT+ ON THE ELECTRONIC ROAD PRICING PILOT SCHEME.

THE LEAFLET CONTAINS SEVERAL ITEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO MOTORISTS EXTRACTED FROM THE DOCUMENT WHICH IS CURRENTLY BEING DISCUSSED BY DISTRICT BOARDS.

COPIES OF THE LEAFLET ARE OBTAINABLE FROM TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT LICENSING OFFICES AND DISTRICT OFFICES STARTING TODAY (THURSDAY).

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NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN CENTRAL
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FOLLOWING THE COMPLETION OF ROAD WORK AT QUEEN VICTORIA STREET, NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN CENTRAL FROM 10 AM ON SUNDAY (JUNE 9).

THE ARRANGEMENTS ARE:

- * CLEARWAY HOURS WILL BE CHANGED AT SECTIONS OF QUEEN VICTORIA STREET BETWEEN QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL AND DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL. RESTRICTION HOURS AT THE SOUTHERN END OF THE ROAD SECTION WILL NOW BE BETWEEN 7 AM AND 7 PM DAILY, AND THOSE AT THE REST OF THE EASTERN KERBSIDE LANE FROM 7 AM TO 10 AM AND 4 PM TO 7 PM DAILY. CLEARWAY RESTRICTIONS AT THE NORTHERN END OF THE WESTERN KERBSIDE LANE WILL BE FOR 24 HOURS DAILY. NO VEHICLES OTHER THAN FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS DURING THE RESTRICTED PERIODS.

/* IMPLEMENTATION HOURS

- * IMPLEMENTATION HOURS OF THE BUS-ONLY LANE AT CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL EASTBOUND, EAST OF HARBOUR VIEW STREET, WILL BE CHANGED TO 7 AM TO 10 AM AND 4 PM TO 7 PM DAILY. NO VEHICLE OTHER THAN FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE SECTION OF THE TRAFFIC LANE DURING THE RESTRICTED PERIODS.

- * CMB ROUTES 20, 22 AND 720 WILL TERMINATE IN QUEEN VICTORIA STREET BETWEEN DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL AND QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL. BUSES ON ROUTES 20 AND 22 BOUND FOR CENTRAL WILL OPERATE VIA HARCOURT ROAD, COTTON TREE DRIVE, QUEENSWAY, DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL AND QUEEN VICTORIA STREET.

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DISABLED SPORTS TEAMS TO BE FETED
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THE SECRETARY FOR MUNICIPAL SERVICES, MR GRAHAM BARNES, WILL HOST A RECEPTION TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON FOR MEMBERS AND OFFICIALS OF THE MENTALLY-HANDICAPPED ICE SKATING TEAM AND THE HONG KONG JUNIOR WHEELCHAIR SPORTS TEAM.

THE ICE SKATING TEAM REPRESENTED HONG KONG IN THE 1985 INTERNATIONAL WINTER SPECIAL OLYMPICS HELD IN THE UNITED STATES IN MARCH AND WON FIVE MEDALS INCLUDING ONE GOLD.

THE JUNIOR WHEELCHAIR SPORTS TEAM TOOK PART IN THE THIRD AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL JUNIOR WHEELCHAIR GAMES LAST MONTH AND RETURNED WITH 19 MEDALS - SEVEN GOLD, EIGHT SILVER AND FOUR BRONZE.

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PUBLISHERS SHOW APPRECIATION
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IN APPRECIATION OF SUCCESSFUL OPERATIONS BY CUSTOMS OFFICERS AGAINST THE PIRACY OF TEXTBOOKS, REPRESENTATIVES OF THREE PUBLISHERS' ASSOCIATIONS WILL PRESENT A PLAQUE AND TWO BANNERS TO THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE, MR HARNAM GREWAL, TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY WILL BE HELD IN THE FUNCTION ROOM OF THE CUSTOMS' RUMSEY STREET OFFICE, NINTH FLOOR, RUMSEY STREET MULTI-STOREY CARPARK, AT 3 PM.

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NEW CLEAN HK CAMPAIGN
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A NEW KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN WILL BE LAUNCHED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE URBAN COUNCIL KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN COMMITTEE, MR WALTER M. SULKE, AND URBAN COUNCIL MEMBER MRS MARGARET LI AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TO BE HELD ON JUNE 10 (MONDAY) AT 2.30 PM IN THE GIS PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM, FIFTH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE.

THE TWO COUNCILLORS WILL BE UNVEILLING NEW THEMES AND SLOGANS TO BE USED IN THE YEAR 1985/86.

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POK FU LAM, CENTRAL TRAFFIC CHANGES
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THE EXISTING BUS-ONLY LANE AT POK FU LAM ROAD NORTHBOUND, FROM A POINT ABOUT 40 METRES NORTH OF BISNEY ROAD TO A POINT ABOUT 50 METRES SOUTH OF MOUNT DAVIS ROAD, WILL BE OPENED TO TRAFFIC FOR ABOUT FOUR MONTHS FROM 10 AM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO FACILITATE CABLE WORK ON THE OPPOSITE CARRIAGEWAY.

MEANWHILE, ALBANY ROAD IN CENTRAL WILL BE REROUTED ONE WAY FOR DOWNHILL TRAFFIC ONLY FROM 10 AM ON SUNDAY (JUNE 9). UPHILL TRAFFIC WILL BE DIVERTED VIA UPPER ALBERT ROAD AND COTTON TREE DRIVE.

THE MEASURE, TO FACILITATE ROAD WORK, WILL BE IN FORCE FOR ABOUT THREE MONTHS.

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HOLIDAY MAIL
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THERE WILL BE ONE MAIL DELIVERY ON SATURDAY (JUNE 15), THE BIRTHDAY OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, BUT NO MAIL DELIVERY ON MONDAY (JUNE 17), WHICH IS ALSO A HOLIDAY, THE POST OFFICE ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY).

THIRTY-EIGHT POST OFFICES, INCLUDING THE GENERAL POST OFFICE ON HONG KONG ISLAND, KOWLOON CENTRAL AND TSIM SHA TSUI POST OFFICES IN KOWLOON, TSUEN WAN, SHA TIN CENTRAL AND TAI PO POST OFFICES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, WILL BE OPEN FROM 9 AM TO NOON ON SATURDAY.

ALL POST OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY.

DETAILS ABOUT POSTAL SERVICES ON SATURDAY MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE POST OFFICE ENQUIRY BUREAU AT TEL. 5-231071-2.

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