



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 19, 1988

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GOVERNOR REAFFIRMS POLICY ON BOAT PEOPLE

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, TODAY REAFFIRMED THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY THAT VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE WHO HAVE ARRIVED AFTER JUNE 16 THIS YEAR AND FOUND NOT TO BE GENUINE REFUGEES ARE TO BE TREATED AS ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS AND KEPT IN DETENTION CENTRES UNTIL THEIR EVENTUAL REPATRIATION TO VIETNAM.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AT THE AIRPORT ON HIS RETURN FROM LONDON THIS (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON, SIR DAVID SAID THE TRAGEDY OF WHAT WAS HAPPENING AT THE MOMENT WAS HUNDREDS AND THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WERE SETTING OUT BY UNSAFE BOATS LOOKING FOR RESETTLEMENT ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD WHICH WAS JUST NOT A REAL POSSIBILITY.

FOR THOSE WHO ARRIVED BEFORE THE CHANGE OF POLICY, THE REGIME WOULD GRADUALLY BE LIBERALISED, SIR DAVID NOTED.

THEY WOULD BE TREATED AS REFUGEES AND THE INTENTION WOULD BE TO TRY TO SEEK RESETTLEMENT PLACES FOR THEM OVERSEAS, HE SAID.

"AFTER ALL, THAT IS WHAT THEY WANT TO DO. THEY DIDN'T COME HERE HOPING TO STAY IN HONG KONG. THEY CAME HERE HOPING TO GO ELSEWHERE," THE GOVERNOR ADDED.

SIR DAVID SAID THAT HE HAD TALKED WITH FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIALS ON THE DISCUSSIONS THAT HAD TAKEN PLACE ABOUT VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE.

THE GOVERNOR SAID HE WAS ENCOURAGED BY THE FACT THAT WE HAD BEEN ABLE TO HAVE DIRECT DISCUSSIONS WITH VIETNAM ON THIS ISSUE.

HOWEVER, HE CAUTIONED THAT THERE WOULD BE A LONG WAY TO GO BEFORE WE ACTUALLY SOLVED THE PROBLEM.

HE SAID: "THERE ARE TWO KEY ISSUES IN SOLVING IT. ONE IS THE OUTFLOW OF BOAT PEOPLE FROM VIETNAM SHOULD STOP. IT IS ENCOURAGING THAT THERE HAS BEEN SOME DROP IN NUMBERS RECENTLY BUT THE PROBLEM IS STILL A VERY BIG ONE.

"THE SECOND POINT OBVIOUSLY IS TO START THE RETURN OF PEOPLE WHO ARE DEFINED AS NOT BEING GENUINE REFUGEES.

"I DON'T IMAGINE THAT THIS IS GOING TO HAPPEN VERY QUICKLY. BUT AT LEAST WE HAVE STARTED THE PROCESS OF TALKING TO VIETNAM ABOUT THE PROBLEM AND THAT HAS SOME ENCOURAGEMENT IN IT."

ASKED IF THE GOVERNMENT WOULD PAY FOR THE RETURN OF THE VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE, SIR DAVID SAID THERE HAD BEEN NO DISCUSSION SO FAR ABOUT ANY PAYMENT.

/HE SAID:

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HE SAID: "I THINK IT IS VERY EARLY IN THE STATE OF THE DISCUSSIONS TO TALK ABOUT WHAT ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD BE MADE FOR RETURNING PEOPLE. THE KEY IS THAT PEOPLE SHOULD GO BACK.

"WE AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY WILL WANT ASSURANCES THAT THOSE PEOPLE WILL BE REASONABLY TREATED. BUT THE DISCUSSIONS ARE STILL AT A VERY EARLY STATE."

ON THE ISSUE OF FOREIGN LAW FIRMS, THE GOVERNOR SAID: "THE SUGGESTION ABOUT CHANGING THE POLICY IS TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE FACT THAT HONG KONG IS NOW INCREASINGLY A MAJOR CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE. HONG KONG LAW WILL CONTINUE TO BE PRACTISED BY HONG KONG LAWYERS.

"THERE IS NOTHING IN THE SUGGESTIONS THAT HAD BEEN MADE FOR IMPROVING OUR PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS WHICH WILL BE IN CONFLICT WITH THE JOINT DECLARATION."

RETURNING WITH THE GOVERNOR WERE LADY WILSON AND THEIR TWO SONS PETER AND ANDREW. THEY WERE GREETED BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID FORD; AND OMELCO MEMBERS SIR Q.W. LEE AND MR PETER C. WONG.

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\$120M TO HELP INSTITUTIONS DEVELOP RESEARCH CAPABILITY

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS EARMARKED \$120 MILLION DURING 1988-91 TO ASSIST THE FIVE TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS TO DEVELOP THEIR RESEARCH CAPABILITY TO THE POINT WHERE THEY WILL BE ABLE TO UNDERTAKE CONTRACT RESEARCH WORK ON BEHALF OF INDUSTRY, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR PIERS JACOBS, SAID THIS (FRIDAY) EVENING.

SPEAKING AT A GRADUATION CEREMONY AT SHUE YAN COLLEGE, MR JACOBS SAID PERHAPS THE MOST IMPORTANT AREA FOR COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE INDUSTRIAL COMMUNITY AND TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS WAS IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

"IF HONG KONG IS TO MOVE AWAY FROM ITS TRADITIONAL RELIANCE ON LABOUR INTENSIVE ASSEMBLY WORK, MANUFACTURERS WILL HAVE TO DEVOTE A GREATER PROPORTION OF THEIR EFFORTS AND RESOURCES TO PRODUCT INNOVATION AND DEVELOPMENT, AS WELL AS RESEARCH INTO PROCESSES TO INCREASE EFFICIENCY AND OUTPUT," HE SAID.

/ "QUALITY ASSURANCE

"QUALITY ASSURANCE WILL ALSO HAVE A SIGNIFICANT PART TO PLAY: HERE AGAIN, RESEARCH WILL BE OF THE UTMOST ASSISTANCE IN DETERMINING HOW QUALITY STANDARDS CAN BE IMPROVED," HE ADDED.

MR JACOBS SAID THE GOVERNMENT COULD PLAY, AND INDEED WAS ALREADY PLAYING, AN IMPORTANT PART IN PROMOTING THE INTERACTION OF INDUSTRY AND THE TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS.

"ONE POSITIVE STEP IS ALREADY BEING TAKEN BY THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT THROUGH THE INTRODUCTION OF AN INDUSTRIAL EXTENSION SERVICE SCHEME.

"ONE OF THE AIMS OF THE SCHEME, WHICH INVOLVES MANY VISITS TO INDUSTRIALISTS BY OFFICERS OF THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT, IS TO PROMOTE THE SERVICES OF THE TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS, INCLUDING THE OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO INDUSTRY FOR CONTRACT RESEARCH," HE SAID.

MR JACOBS SAID THE INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD, WHICH HE CHAIRED, WAS ALSO AWARE OF THE POTENTIAL FOR MOBILISING TALENT WITHIN THE TERTIARY EDUCATION SECTOR TO ASSIST THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRY, AND IT HAD COMMISSIONED A NUMBER OF RESEARCH PROJECTS TO HELP IN THIS.

"ONE OF THE MOST RECENT PROJECTS CONCERNS A PROGRAMME TO BE UNDERTAKEN JOINTLY BY THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG AND THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY TO DEVELOP HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE FOR USE BY LOCAL INDUSTRY IN COMPUTER-AIDED DESIGN AND MANUFACTURE."

ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD, HE SAID, THE HONG KONG PLASTICS TECHNOLOGY CENTRE COMPANY WAS SET UP WITHIN THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC TO PROVIDE ADVICE AND SUPPORT TO THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY.

"ANOTHER LONGER TERM PROPOSAL OF THE INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD INVOLVES THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A TECHNOLOGY CENTRE IN HONG KONG TO CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT ESPECIALLY GEARED TO THE NEEDS OF NEW KNOWLEDGE-BASED BUSINESSES," HE SAID.

MR JACOBS SAID HE EXPECTED INDUSTRY TO MOVE AWAY FROM LABOUR INTENSIVE METHODS TO THOSE INVOLVING HIGHER LEVELS OF TECHNOLOGY AND RELYING LESS ON LARGE NUMBERS OF RELATIVELY UNSKILLED WORKERS.

"THE KEY TO THE TRANSITION WILL BE THE READY AVAILABILITY OF KNOWLEDGE AND AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF HIGHLY TRAINED MANPOWER. THE QUEST FOR HIGHER PRODUCTIVITY AND IMPROVED EFFICIENCY MUST CONTINUE.

"ONLY IN THIS WAY WILL WE BE ABLE TO RETAIN THE COMPETITIVENESS OF OUR INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL BASE AND THUS ENSURE THAT OUR PRESENT PROSPERITY WILL CONTINUE," HE SAID.

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50 KPH SPEED LIMIT ON LRV TRIAL RUNNING TO BE LIFTED

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THE GOVERNMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED THAT THE EXISTING 50 KPH SPEED RESTRICTION IMPOSED ON THE TRIAL RUNNING OF LIGHT RAIL VEHICLES (LRV'S) ON THE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT (LRT) SYSTEM BETWEEN TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG WILL BE LIFTED ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 21.

THIS MEANS THAT THE SPEED OF THE LRV'S WILL BE INCREASED PROGRESSIVELY TO 70 KPH. AT CERTAIN JUNCTIONS AND LOCATIONS LOCAL SPEED RESTRICTIONS WILL APPLY.

THE LIFTING OF THE RESTRICTION FOLLOWS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CERTAIN IMPROVEMENT MEASURES UNDERTAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT AND THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY CORPORATION ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE UK RAILWAY INSPECTOR, MR ALAN COOKSEY.

THESE IMPROVEMENTS WERE RECOMMENDED FOR IMPLEMENTATION BEFORE THE LIFTING OF THE EXISTING 50 KPH SPEED RESTRICTION.

IN HIS SAFETY REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE CHIEF SECRETARY, MR COOKSEY MADE A NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BOTH TECHNICAL AND OPERATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS TO BE MADE.

THESE INCLUDED THE REMOVAL OF POTENTIALLY CONFUSING SECONDARY SIGNALS AT CERTAIN JUNCTIONS; REPOSITIONING OF CERTAIN BUS STOPS AWAY FROM THE LRT TRACK; IMPOSITION OF LOCAL SPEED LIMITS AT CERTAIN JUNCTIONS; AND INCREASED PUBLICITY TO MAKE MOTORISTS AND PEDESTRIANS MORE AWARE OF THE NEED FOR CARE WHEN CROSSING THE LRT.

A TEAM OF GOVERNMENT AND LRT OFFICIALS LED BY THE APPOINTED INSPECTOR IN HONG KONG, MR BRYAN MORGAN, CARRIED OUT ON-SITE INSPECTIONS OF THE VARIOUS IMPROVEMENT WORKS AND FOUND THAT THEY HAD BEEN SATISFACTORILY IMPLEMENTED.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS FULLY SATISFIED THAT THE FIRST SET OF RECOMMENDED IMPROVEMENT MEASURES ON THE LRT SYSTEM HAD BEEN SATISFACTORILY IMPLEMENTED AND THAT IT WOULD CONTINUE MONITORING TO ENSURE THAT THE OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS ARE ALSO IMPLEMENTED IN DUE COURSE.

SUBJECT TO THE SATISFACTORY COMPLETION OF THE THREE-WEEK TRIAL RUNNING PERIOD, AND TO THE SATISFACTORY IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REMAINING IMPROVEMENTS, THE LRT SYSTEM COULD BE OPENED PROGRESSIVELY ON A ROUTE BY ROUTE BASIS FOR THE CARRIAGE OF PASSENGERS FROM ABOUT MID-SEPTEMBER, HE ADDED.

IN THE MEANTIME, THE SPOKESMAN WARNED MOTORISTS AND PEDESTRIANS IN TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG TO BE ALERT AND TAKE CARE AS THE LRV'S WILL BE RUNNING TO SCHEDULED SPEEDS.

"PEDESTRIANS SHOULD NOT WALK ALONG THE LRT TRACKS. BOTH MOTORISTS AND PEDESTRIANS SHOULD FOLLOW THE TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND SIGNS WHEN CROSSING THE LRT JUNCTIONS," HE SAID.

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EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN TRANSPORT SERVICES BEFORE LRT OPENS

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THE KOWLOON MOTOR BUS COMPANY AND THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY CORPORATION HAVE AGREED TO AN ARRANGEMENT THAT WILL ENSURE THE CONTINUITY OF BUS SERVICES IN THE TUEN MUN/YUEN LONG AREA UNTIL THE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT OPENS.

THE AGREEMENT WAS REACHED TODAY (FRIDAY) AT A MEETING CHAIRED BY THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, MR RICHARD MEAKIN, AND ATTENDED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COMPANY AND THE CORPORATION.

AT THE MEETING, MR MEAKIN ADVISED THAT THE LRT SYSTEM WAS LIKELY TO OPEN TO PASSENGER SERVICE PROGRESSIVELY FROM THE MIDDLE OF SEPTEMBER.

"THE OPENING PROGRAMME HAS YET TO BE FIXED, PENDING THE PROGRESS OF THE MODIFICATION WORKS RECOMMENDED BY THE UK RAILWAY INSPECTOR, MR ALAN COOKSEY, IN HIS SAFETY REPORT," HE SAID.

"IT IS THEREFORE ESSENTIAL TO PROVIDE SUFFICIENT BUS SERVICES TO LOCAL RESIDENTS BEFORE THE LRT OPENS."

REPRESENTATIVES OF BOTH KMB AND KCRC INDICATED THAT THEY ACCEPTED THE NECESSITY OF CONTINUING TO OPERATE THESE BUS SERVICES UNTIL THE OPENING OF THE LRT SYSTEM.

UNDER THE AGREED ARRANGEMENT, KMB WILL CONTINUE TO OPERATE ROUTES 59, 61A AND 63 IN TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG, WHILE THE OTHER SIX ROUTES - NO. 55, 56, 59B, 61, 62 AND 63B - WILL CONTINUE TO BE RUN BY THE KCRC.

BOTH OPERATORS NOTED THAT THE RESUMPTION OF THE SCHOOL TERM IN THE FIRST WEEK OF SEPTEMBER WOULD INCREASE DEMAND FOR ALL BUS SERVICES, AND SOME CAPACITY INCREASES, BY THE SUBSTITUTION OF DOUBLE DECKERS FOR SINGLE DECKERS, WOULD ENABLE THESE DEMANDS TO BE FULLY MET.

THE KCRC POINTED OUT THAT A NUMBER OF THE BUSES CURRENTLY HIRED TO OPERATE THE SHA TIN AND TAI PO FEEDER SERVICES AND INTERNAL TRANSIT SERVICE AREA SERVICES WOULD REVERT TO SCHOOL CONTRACTS IN SEPTEMBER.

KMB HAD AGREED TO HIRE OUT 10 OR MORE DOUBLE DECK BUSES TO KCRC IN ORDER TO ENHANCE THE CORPORATION'S BUS FLEET CAPACITY.

KCRC WOULD ACCELERATE THE LICENSING OF ITS NEW DOUBLE DECKER BUSES.

/KMB HAD

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KMB HAD INSUFFICIENT DRIVERS AVAILABLE TO MAN THE BUSES HIRED OUT TO KCRC BUT CITYBUS HAD MADE AVAILABLE ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCED DRIVERS.

MEANWHILE, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT HAS DISCUSSED WITH OPERATORS OF THE THREE GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES IN TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG AND REQUESTED THEIR CO-OPERATION IN CONTINUING THEIR PRESENT LEVEL OF SERVICES UNTIL THE LRT OPENS.

THE THREE GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES ARE ROUTES NO. 44 (LUNG KWU TAN TO TUEN MUN TOWN CENTRE), 45 (SHAN KING ESTATE TO ON TING ESTATE) AND 74A (LONG PING ESTATE TO YUEN LONG FOOK HONG STREET).

MR MEAKIN PAID TRIBUTE TO KCRC, KMB, CITYBUS AND THE GREEN MINIBUS OPERATORS FOR THEIR CO-OPERATION IN THIS JOINT EXERCISE TO MAINTAIN THE LEVEL OF SERVICES IN THE TUEN MUN/YUEN LONG AREA.

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DISSOLUTION OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF HONG KONG

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THE GOVERNOR HAS APPOINTED AUGUST 25, 1988 AS THE DATE ON WHICH THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL BE DISSOLVED.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE DISSOLUTION, WHICH WAS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY), WOULD FACILITATE THE HOLDING OF ELECTIONS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON SEPTEMBER 22 THIS YEAR.

"THE ROYAL INSTRUCTIONS PROVIDE THAT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHALL STAND DISSOLVED IN THE THIRD YEAR AFTER THE LATEST ELECTION FOR ALL ELECTED MEMBERS," HE SAID.

THE FIRST MEETING OF THE NEW LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IS SCHEDULED TO BE HELD ON OCTOBER 12 THIS YEAR.

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FS VISITS INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT

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THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR PIERS JACOBS, CALLED AT THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT AT WINDSOR HOUSE, CAUSEWAY BAY THIS (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON TO GET FIRST-HAND KNOWLEDGE OF ITS DAILY OPERATIONS.

HE WAS FIRST GIVEN AN IN-DEPTH BRIEFING BY THE COMMISSIONER OF INLAND REVENUE, MR ANTHONY AU YEUNG, ON THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE DEPARTMENT.

MR AU YEUNG THEN SHOWED HIM AROUND THE COLLECTION HALL AND THE CENTRAL ENQUIRY COUNTER TO SEE STAFF AT WORK.

MR JACOBS LEARNED THAT THE CENTRAL ENQUIRY COUNTER, WHICH WAS SET UP IN APRIL THIS YEAR, HAD FACILITATED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC IN OBTAINING TAX INFORMATION DIRECT FROM A CENTRALISED LOCATION.

THE COUNTER IS AT PRESENT HANDLING ENQUIRIES AND REQUESTS MADE BY AN AVERAGE OF ABOUT 1,500 VISITORS A DAY.

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JUNE ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT, PAYROLL FIGURES RELEASED

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IN JUNE 1988, THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND REPORTED BY THE 200 LARGEST FIRMS IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR REMAINED AT ABOUT THE SAME LEVEL AS IN MAY 1988, BUT SHOWED A DECREASE OF 3 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH JUNE 1987.

THIS IS SHOWN BY THE RESULTS OF A SURVEY RELEASED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

ON EMPLOYMENT, THE MANUFACTURERS SURVEYED REPORTED THAT THE JUNE 1988 LEVEL WAS 3 PER CENT ABOVE THAT IN MAY 1988, BUT WAS LOWER BY 5 PER CENT COMPARED WITH JUNE 1987. THE INCREASE OVER MAY 1988 WAS MAINLY DUE TO THE EMPLOYMENT OF SUMMER WORKERS IN SOME INDUSTRIES SURVEYED.

IN JUNE 1988, PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN THE MANUFACTURING FIRMS SURVEYED DECREASED, IN CURRENT PRICE TERMS, BY 2 PER CENT COMPARED WITH MAY 1988, PARTLY BECAUSE OF THE LOWER WAGES OF SUMMER WORKERS. ON THE ORDER HAND, AN INCREASE OF 15 PER CENT IN PER CAPITA EARNINGS WAS RECORDED WHEN COMPARED WITH JUNE 1987.

/COMPARING JUNE

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COMPARING JUNE 1988 WITH MAY 1988, THE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND INCREASED SLIGHTLY IN THE WEARING APPAREL AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES, BUT DECREASED QUITE SIGNIFICANTLY IN THE TEXTILES AND PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES.

COMPARED WITH JUNE 1987, THE ORDERS POSITION IN JUNE 1988 DROPPED SUBSTANTIALLY IN THE TEXTILES INDUSTRY, AND TO A LESSER EXTENT IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS AND WEARING APPAREL INDUSTRIES, WHILE THAT IN THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRY INCREASED SLIGHTLY.

THE ORDERS POSITION IN THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY IN JUNE 1988 SHOWED LITTLE CHANGE WHEN COMPARED WITH MAY 1988 AND JUNE 1987.

THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND IS MEASURED IN TERMS OF THE NUMBER OF MONTHS AND REFERS TO ORDERS OUTSTANDING AS AT THE END OF THE REFERENCE MONTH.

COMPARED WITH MAY 1988, EMPLOYMENT INCREASED MODERATELY IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS AND THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES AND SLIGHTLY IN THE FOOD AND DRINKS AND THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES IN JUNE 1988.

COMPARING JUNE 1988 WITH JUNE 1987, EMPLOYMENT DECREASED SUBSTANTIALLY IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY AND MODERATELY IN THE WEARING APPAREL INDUSTRY, WHILE THAT IN THE TEXTILES AND THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES DECREASED SLIGHTLY.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, A SLIGHT INCREASE IN EMPLOYMENT WAS RECORDED IN THE FOOD AND DRINKS AND THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES.

COMPARED WITH MAY 1988, PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN JUNE 1988 INCREASED MODERATELY IN THE FOOD AND DRINKS INDUSTRY AND SLIGHTLY IN THE WEARING APPAREL INDUSTRY, BUT DECREASED MODERATELY IN THE TEXTILES AND PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES AND SLIGHTLY IN THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY.

COMPARING JUNE 1988 WITH JUNE 1987, PER CAPITA EARNINGS INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY IN ALL THE INDUSTRIES SURVEYED.

IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR, EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE 1988 WAS AT ABOUT THE SAME LEVEL AS IN MAY 1988 BUT DECREASED SLIGHTLY WHEN COMPARED WITH JUNE 1987. ON THE OTHER HAND, PER CAPITA EARNINGS INCREASED SLIGHTLY OVER MAY 1988 AND SUBSTANTIALLY OVER JUNE 1987.

IT IS TO BE NOTED THAT, FOR THIS SECTOR, THE EMPLOYMENT FIGURES COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY; SITE WORKERS EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS ARE NOT INCLUDED.

IN THE SERVICE SECTORS SURVEYED, THE OVERALL LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE 1988 INCREASED SLIGHTLY WHEN COMPARED WITH MAY 1988 AND JUNE 1987. PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN JUNE 1988 REMAINED AT ABOUT THE SAME LEVEL AS IN MAY 1988 BUT INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY, PARTICULARLY IN HOTELS, WHEN COMPARED WITH JUNE 1987.

^THE PERCENTAGE

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THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS ARE SHOWN IN THE ACCOMPANYING TABLES 1 TO 3.

THE SURVEY COVERED A PANEL OF THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURING COMPANIES AND 50 LARGEST COMPANIES IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND SELECTED SERVICE SECTORS, CHOSEN BY REFERENCE TO THEIR EMPLOYMENT SIZES IN SEPTEMBER 1986.

AS THE SAMPLE WAS NOT DRAWN ON A RANDOM BASIS, THE DEPARTMENT CAUTIONED THAT THE MAGNITUDES OF CHANGES INDICATED BY THE SURVEY RESULTS MIGHT NOT REFLECT THE EXPERIENCE OF THE ECONOMY AS A WHOLE.

NEVERTHELESS, THESE ARE EXPECTED TO PROVIDE A USEFUL INDICATION OF THE DIRECTION OF CHANGE OF A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ECONOMY IN THE SHORT TERM.

THE SURVEY REPORT FOR JUNE IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CENTRAL, AND AT THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER I, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, AT \$1.50 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE MADE TO THE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL. 5-8234820.

TABLE 1: ORDERS-ON-HAND IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

INDUSTRY	ORDERS-ON-HAND		
	AS AT THE END OF JUNE 1988 (MONTHS)	CHANGE WHEN COMPARED WITH	
		MAY 88 (%)	JUN. 87 (%)
ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	4.33	*	-3
WEARING APPAREL	4.73	+1	-5
TEXTILES	2.32	-8	-18
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	3.15	-7	-11
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	4.58	+2	+1
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	5.07	*	*
OTHERS	4.17	*	-3

* CHANGES WITHIN +/- 0.5%

/TABLE 2:

TABLE 2: EMPLOYMENT

INDUSTRY/SERVICES	PERSONS ENGAGED AT THE END OF JUNE 1988	
	CHANGE WHEN COMPARED WITH	
	MAY 88	JUN. 87
	(%)	(%)
ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	+3	-5
FOOD AND DRINKS	+2	+1
WEARING APPAREL	*	-7
TEXTILES	*	-3
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	+7	-19
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	+1	+1
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	+6	-2
OTHERS	+1	-2
CONSTRUCTION [#]	*	-1
SERVICES	+1	+3
BANKS	+1	+2
HOTELS	+1	*
PUBLIC UTILITIES	*	-1
OTHERS	+2	+11

* CHANGES WITHIN +/- 0.5%

PERSONS ENGAGED COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY; SITE WORKERS EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS ARE NOT INCLUDED.

TABLE 3: PER CAPITA EARNINGS

INDUSTRY/SERVICES	PER CAPITA EARNINGS		
	AVERAGE AS IN JUNE 1988 (HK\$)	CHANGE WHEN COMPARED WITH MAY 88 (%)	JUN. 87 (%)
ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	4,155	-2	+15
FOOD AND DRINKS	4,991	+4	+18
WEARING APPAREL	3,522	+1	+11
TEXTILES	4,466	-6	+10
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	3,644	-4	+18
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	4,072	*	+18
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	3,896	-2	+16
OTHERS	5,431	*	+16
CONSTRUCTION	5,909	+1	+17
SERVICES	7,016	*	+12
BANKS	7,182	+5	+18
HOTELS	4,904	+1	+24
PUBLIC UTILITIES	6,672	+1	+7
OTHERS	7,919	-5	+11

* CHANGES WITHIN +/- 0.5%

NOTES TO TABLES 1-3:

UNLIKE "ORDERS-ON-HAND" AND "PER CAPITA EARNINGS", WHICH ARE AVERAGE FIGURES AMONGST THE FIRMS SURVEYED, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED BY THE FIRMS SURVEYED IS NOT MEANINGFUL INFORMATION ON ITS OWN (BECAUSE THIS IS A PANEL SURVEY) AND IS THEREFORE NOT SHOWN.

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VOTER REGISTRATION EXERCISE STARTS IN YAU TSIM
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A CEREMONY TO LAUNCH A VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE IN YAU TSIM DISTRICT WILL BE HELD AT THE NEW WORLD PLAZA TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

THE EVENT WAS PUT OFF LAST SUNDAY OWING TO HEAVY RAIN.

AT THE CEREMONY, A GROUP OF YOUTHS WILL PIECE UP A PICTURE MEASURING 160 SQUARE FEET WHICH FEATURES DISTRICT LANDMARKS AND A SLOGAN URGING RESIDENTS TO BECOME VOTERS.

DISTRICT OFFICE STAFF WILL DISTRIBUTE REGISTRATION FORMS FOR THE GENERAL ELECTORAL REGISTER AT THE VENUE AND HELP THOSE ELIGIBLE TO FILL IN THE FORMS.

THE CEREMONY WILL BEGIN THE REGISTRATION EXERCISE WHICH WILL LAST UNTIL THE END OF NEXT MONTH.

DURING THIS PERIOD, DISTRICT OFFICE STAFF WILL CARRY OUT A SERIES OF DOOR-TO-DOOR VISITS TO URGE RESIDENTS TO REGISTER.

POSTERS, BANNERS AND LEAFLETS WITH A "SIGN-UP" SLOGAN HAVE ALSO BEEN PRINTED FOR DISPLAY AND DISTRIBUTION TO THE PUBLIC.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE LAUNCHING OF THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT'S VOTER REGISTRATION EXERCISE TO BE HELD AT THE NEW WORLD PLAZA AT 2.20 PM TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

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JOB PLACEMENT SERVICE FOR YOUNGSTERS
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THE APPRENTICE PLACEMENT UNIT OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL HAS PLACED ABOUT 1,800 YOUNGSTERS INTO PROPER APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING WITH EMPLOYERS IN THE INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCE AND THE SERVICES SECTORS LAST YEAR.

"THIS YEAR THE PLACEMENT UNIT CONTINUES TO ASSIST FORM 3 AND FORM 5 SCHOOL LEAVERS IN FINDING SUITABLE TRAINING PLACES AND EMPLOYERS TO SET UP PROPER TRAINING SCHEMES AND RECRUIT APPRENTICES," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE COUNCIL SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

/THE COUNCIL

THE COUNCIL CONSIDERS APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING THE BEST MEANS THROUGH WHICH YOUNG PEOPLE MAY BECOME QUALIFIED CRAFTSMEN AND TECHNICIANS.

AN APPRENTICESHIP SCHEME LASTS THREE TO FOUR YEARS AND CONSISTS OF PLANNED ON-THE-JOB TRAINING AND COMPLEMENTARY EDUCATION AT A TECHNICAL INSTITUTE.

FORM 3 GRADUATES MAY JOIN CRAFT APPRENTICESHIP SCHEMES WHILE FORM 5 GRADUATES WITH GRADE E OR ABOVE IN FOUR RELEVANT SUBJECTS IN THE HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION MAY JOIN TECHNICIAN APPRENTICESHIP SCHEMES.

A VARIETY OF TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE IN MAJOR INDUSTRIES INCLUDING AUTOMOBILE, BUILDING AND CIVIL ENGINEERING, CLOTHING, ELECTRICAL, ELECTRONICS, JEWELLERY, MACHINE SHOP AND METAL WORKING, PLASTICS, PRINTING, TEXTILE AND SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP REPAIR.

TRAINEESHIP SCHEMES IN INSURANCE AND ACCOUNTANCY CONSISTING OF PRACTICAL ON-THE-JOB TRAINING AND COMPLEMENTARY EDUCATION AT TECHNICAL INSTITUTES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE.

"SCHOOL-LEAVERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO MAKE USE OF THE PLACEMENT SERVICE OF THE COUNCIL TO FIND TRAINING PLACES IN INDUSTRY, COMMERCE AND SERVICES SECTORS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON APPRENTICESHIP AND TRAINEESHIP SCHEMES, PLEASE CONTACT THE APPRENTICE PLACEMENT UNIT OF THE COUNCIL AT 14TH FLOOR, HARBOUR CENTRE, 25 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG OR ON 5-8932341 EXT. 298.

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REMINDER ON YEAR'S SECOND FLOATING HOLIDAY

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) REMINDED EMPLOYERS THAT THE SECOND FLOATING HOLIDAY FOR THIS YEAR FALLS ON AUGUST 29, THE LAST MONDAY IN AUGUST.

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE, EMPLOYEES SHALL BE GRANTED THE SECOND FLOATING HOLIDAY ON THE ABOVE DATE IF EMPLOYERS HAVE NOT ALREADY FIXED THE DATE FOR THAT HOLIDAY AND THEIR EMPLOYEES HAVE NOT REQUESTED IT TO BE ADDED TO THEIR PAID ANNUAL LEAVE.

/ "ALL MANUAL

"ALL MANUAL EMPLOYEES AND THOSE NON-MANUAL EMPLOYEES EARNING NOT MORE THAN \$11,500 A MONTH ARE ENTITLED TO BE PAID FOR THAT HOLIDAY IF THEY HAVE WORKED CONTINUOUSLY FOR THREE MONTHS PRECEDING THE HOLIDAY," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HOLIDAY PAY SHOULD BE EQUIVALENT TO AN EMPLOYEE'S EARNINGS ON A NORMAL WORKING DAY AND SHOULD INCLUDE BASIC WAGES AS WELL AS ALLOWANCES THAT CAN BE EXPRESSED IN MONEY TERMS SUCH AS MEALS AND COST OF LIVING ALLOWANCES.

WHERE THE EARNINGS VARY FROM DAY TO DAY, THE HOLIDAY PAY SHOULD BE THE AVERAGE DAILY EARNINGS DURING EVERY COMPLETE WAGE PERIOD, WHICH COULD BE BETWEEN 28 DAYS AND 31 DAYS, PRECEDING THE HOLIDAY.

IF AN EMPLOYEE IS REQUIRED TO WORK ON A STATUTORY HOLIDAY, HE OR SHE MUST BE GIVEN AN ALTERNATIVE DAY OFF WITHIN 60 DAYS BEFORE OR AFTER THAT DAY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT STATUTORY HOLIDAYS MAY BE MADE AT ALL BRANCH OFFICES OF THE LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE.

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VARIETY SHOW TO CLOSE NORTH SUMMER YOUTH ACTIVITIES

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RESIDENTS IN NORTH DISTRICT WILL BE ABLE TO ENJOY A NIGHT OF FREE ENTERTAINMENT AT A VARIETY SHOW TOMORROW (SATURDAY) NIGHT AT THE NORTH DISTRICT TOWN HALL.

JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE NORTH DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE AND THE REGIONAL COUNCIL, THE VARIETY SHOW WILL MARK THE CLOSE OF THE DISTRICT'S SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME WHICH WAS LAUNCHED IN JULY.

"RESPONSE TO THE ACTIVITIES WAS ENTHUSIASTIC WITH ABOUT 30,000 YOUNG PEOPLE PARTICIPATING IN 106 EVENTS ORGANISED BY 30 LOCAL COMMUNITY BODIES," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE SAID.

THE PROGRAMME FOR THE SHOW INCLUDES CHINESE ORCHESTRAL PERFORMANCE, ORIENTAL DANCE, CHILDREN'S CHOIR PERFORMANCE AND POPULAR MUSIC.

/AMONG GUESTS

- 15 -

AMONG GUESTS OFFICIATING AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY WILL BE THE ACTING NORTH DISTRICT OFFICER, MR TIM MILNES; CHAIRMAN OF THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD, MR RAYMOND PANG; AND THE ACTING POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDER, FRONTIER, MR CHEUNG CHI-KEUNG.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE NORTH DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME CLOSING CEREMONY AND VARIETY SHOW TOMORROW (SATURDAY) NIGHT AT THE NORTH DISTRICT TOWN HALL, LUNG SUM AVENUE, SHEUNG SHUI. THE SHOW WILL BEGIN AT 8 PM.

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BANKING LICENCE OF RAINIER INTERNATIONAL BANK REVOKED

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THE BANKING LICENCE OF RAINIER INTERNATIONAL BANK LIMITED HAS BEEN REVOKED WITH EFFECT FROM AUGUST 16 THIS YEAR, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE SPOKESMAN SAID RAINIER INTERNATIONAL BANK WAS GRANTED A BANKING LICENCE IN 1964 AND OPERATED NINE LOCAL BRANCHES.

"ITS HONG KONG BUSINESS WAS RECENTLY SOLD TO DAIWA BANK WHICH WOULD CONTINUE TO OPERATE THE RAINIER BRANCHES UNDER DAIWA'S NAME.

"THE VESTING OF RAINIER'S HONG KONG UNDERTAKING IN DAIWA BECAME EFFECTIVE ON JULY 18 THIS YEAR CONSEQUENT UPON THE ENACTMENT OF THE RAINIER INTERNATIONAL BANK (TRANSFER OF HONG KONG UNDERTAKING) ORDINANCE 1988.

"RAINIER HAS CEASED TO CARRY ON BANKING BUSINESS IN HONG KONG AS FROM THAT DATE.

"AS RAINIER HAS CEASED TO CARRY ON BANKING BUSINESS IN HONG KONG, ITS LICENCE IS ACCORDINGLY REVOKED UNDER SECTION 29(A)1 OF THE BANKING ORDINANCE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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FIRING PRACTICE IN SEPTEMBER

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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE HA TSUEN-CASTLE PEAK RANGE ON 17 DAYS NEXT MONTH.

THE PUBLIC IS WARNED NOT TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN RED FLAGS ARE HOISTED.

FOLLOWING ARE THE DATES AND TIMES THAT FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE:

DATE	TIME
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SEPTEMBER 5 (MONDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
SEPTEMBER 9 (FRIDAY)	9 AM - 5 PM
SEPTEMBER 12 (MONDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
SEPTEMBER 13 (TUESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
SEPTEMBER 14 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
SEPTEMBER 15 (THURSDAY)	8 AM - 5 PM
SEPTEMBER 16 (FRIDAY)	8 AM - 5 PM
SEPTEMBER 17 (SATURDAY)	8 AM - 5 PM
SEPTEMBER 19 (MONDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
SEPTEMBER 20 (TUESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
SEPTEMBER 21 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
SEPTEMBER 22 (THURSDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
SEPTEMBER 23 (FRIDAY)	8.30 AM - 11.59 PM
SEPTEMBER 24 (SATURDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
SEPTEMBER 28 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
SEPTEMBER 29 (THURSDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
SEPTEMBER 30 (FRIDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM

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HAUL ROAD TO BE BUILT FOR BORROW AREA

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THE GOVERNMENT WILL BUILD A HAUL ROAD FROM TAI TONG ROAD NEAR FRASER VILLAGE TO TAI TONG EAST BORROW AREA, YUEN LONG.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THE NEW HAUL ROAD WILL BE USED BY HAULAGE TRAFFIC FOR EXTRACTING FILLING MATERIAL FROM THE TAI TONG EAST BORROW AREA FOR THE YUEN LONG-TUEN MUN EASTERN CORRIDOR, YUEN LONG SOUTHERN BYPASS AND OTHER GOVERNMENT PROJECTS.

/IT WILL

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IT WILL ALSO SERVE RESIDENTS AND VILLAGERS LIVING ALONG THE EXISTING NULLAH.

THE HAUL ROAD WILL BE IN TWO PARTS. THE FIRST INVOLVES CONSTRUCTION OF A 1.3 KILOMETRE TWO-LANE KAPE TWO-WAY CARRIAGEWAY ON VIRGIN GROUND LEADING TO TAI TONG EAST BORROW AREA.

THE SECOND INVOLVES RECONSTRUCTION AND WIDENING OF A 1.4 KILOMETRE ROAD ALONG THE NULLAH NEAR TAI SHUI HA ROAD EAST AND THE PROVISION OF A FOOTPATH ON ONE SIDE.

THE ASSOCIATED WORKS INCLUDE CONSTRUCTION OF A THREE-CELL BOX CULVERT, EXTENSION OF EXISTING NULLAH, DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS, LANDSCAPING, AND ROAD LIGHTING WORKS.

THE WORKS HAVE BEEN DESIGNED BY THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT, WHICH WILL ALSO SUPERVISE CONSTRUCTION.

CONSTRUCTION WILL BEGIN LATE THIS YEAR AND BE COMPLETED IN STAGES BETWEEN LATE NEXT YEAR AND MID-1990.

A NOTICE CONCERNING INVITATION OF TENDERS FOR THE PROJECT WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

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NEW ACCESS ROADS TO VILLAGES NEAR HUNG SHUI KIU

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THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PROPOSES TO BUILD NEW ROADS, BRIDGES, FOOTBRIDGES, FOOTPATHS AND CYCLE TRACKS TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO THE VILLAGES NEAR HUNG SHUI KIU.

THE PROPOSED WORKS ARE CONNECTED WITH THE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT WORKS TO THE STREAM COURSES IN THE AREA.

DETAILS OF THE PROPOSAL WERE PUBLISHED IN A NOTICE IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY) AND A NOTICE, BOTH IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE, CAN BE SEEN ON NOTICE BOARDS POSTED NEAR THE SITE OF THE PROPOSED WORKS.

/THE PLANS

THE PLANS AND SCHEME CAN BE INSPECTED AT THE FOLLOWING PLACES:

- * CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY, HONG KONG.
- * YUEN LONG DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, YUEN LONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES, NINTH TO 11TH FLOORS, 2 KIU LOK SQUARE, YUEN LONG.
- * TUEN MUN DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE AND TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE, TUEN MUN GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 1 TUEN HI ROAD, TUEN MUN.
- * YUEN LONG DISTRICT OFFICE, YUEN LONG DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICES BUILDING, 269 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, YUEN LONG.

ANY PERSON WHO OBJECTS TO THE PROPOSED WORKS SHOULD WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG, NOT LATER THAN OCTOBER 18 THIS YEAR.

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AMENDMENT TO FUK KWAN AVENUE PROJECT

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THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSES TO AMEND THE GAZETTED WORKS FOR REPAIRING THE DEFECTIVE CARRIAGEWAY, FOOTPATH AND DRAINAGE OF FUK KWAN AVENUE, TAI HANG, ON HONG KONG ISLAND.

THE WORKS WERE ORIGINALLY DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE IN APRIL AND MAY LAST YEAR.

THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT INVOLVES THE DELETION OF PORTION OF LOT NO. I.L. 5864 S.A.R.P. FROM THE SCHEDULE OF LOTS ORIGINALLY INTENDED TO BE RESUMED.

A NOTICE ON THE AMENDMENT WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE PLAN AND SCHEME MAY BE INSPECTED AT THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY, HONG KONG.

IT MAY ALSO BE SEEN AT THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, HONG KONG WEST, 12TH FLOOR, HARBOUR CENTRE, HARBOUR ROAD, HONG KONG; AND AT THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE, 201 HENNESSY ROAD, GROUND FLOOR, HONG KONG.

ANY PERSON WHO OBJECTS TO THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT SHOULD WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG, NOT LATER THAN OCTOBER 18 THIS YEAR.

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ACCESS ROAD FOR MA HANG PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE

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THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT PROPOSES TO BUILD A NEW ROAD AS AN EXTENSION OF CAPE ROAD FROM CHUNG HOM KOK TO MA HANG IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE MA HANG VILLAGE REDEVELOPMENT PUBLIC HOUSING SCHEME IN STANLEY.

THE NEW TWO-WAY 700-METRE LONG ROAD WITH FOOTWAYS WILL PROVIDE ACCESS TO THE HOUSING ESTATE.

IT WILL BE CONSTRUCTED UNDER PHASE I OF THE PUBLIC HOUSING SCHEME SCHEDULED TO COMMENCE IN APRIL NEXT YEAR.

WHEN COMPLETED IN 1996, THE MA HANG VILLAGE REDEVELOPMENT WILL PROVIDE PUBLIC HOUSING FOR ABOUT 8,000 PEOPLE.

A NOTICE ON THE PROPOSED WORKS IS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE PLAN AND SCHEME MAY BE INSPECTED AT THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:

- * THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY, HONG KONG;
- * THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE/HONG KONG SOUTH, 12TH FLOOR, HARBOUR CENTRE, HARBOUR ROAD, HONG KONG; AND
- * THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE, STANLEY SUB-OFFICE, 88 STANLEY VILLAGE ROAD, STANLEY, HONG KONG.

ANY PERSON WHO WISHES TO OBJECT TO THE PROPOSED WORKS SHOULD WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG NOT LATER THAN OCTOBER 18 THIS YEAR.

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AUTHORISATION GIVEN FOR SAI KUNG PROJECTS

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RECLAMATION WORK AND THE ERECTION OF A BEACON WILL BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT IN SAI KUNG FOLLOWING AUTHORISATION OF THE PROJECTS.

AUTHORISATION HAS BEEN GIVEN BY THE GOVERNOR FOR RECLAMATION WORK TO PROCEED WITHIN AN AREA OF APPROXIMATELY 20.10 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED IN JUNK BAY.

THIS WILL PROVIDE LAND FOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HOUSING, SCHOOLS, OPEN SPACE AND ROADS - ALL PART OF THE CONTINUING DEVELOPMENT OF JUNK BAY NEW TOWN.

THE WORK WILL BEGIN NEXT MONTH AND BE COMPLETED OVER A PERIOD OF ABOUT FIVE YEARS.

THE GOVERNMENT HAS ALSO BEEN AUTHORISED TO ERECT A BEACON IN SAI KUNG HOI (INNER PORT SHELTER) ON TOP OF A SUBMERGED ROCK WHICH IS HAZARDOUS TO NAVIGATION.

THE BEACON WILL AID NAVIGATION OF VESSELS IN THE VICINITY.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREAS AFFECTED WERE DESCRIBED IN NOTICES OF AUTHORISATION PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HIS INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED WILL BE INJURIOUSLY AFFECTED BY THE ABOVE UNDERTAKINGS MAY DELIVER TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS A WRITTEN CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 18 NEXT YEAR.

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NEW IDENTITY CARDS FOR WOMEN BORN IN 1965-66

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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT WOMEN BORN IN 1965 OR 1966 WOULD BE REQUIRED TO APPLY FOR NEW IDENTITY CARDS BETWEEN AUGUST 30 AND OCTOBER 1.

"WOMEN OF THE ABOVE AGE GROUP CAN CALL AT ANY ONE OF THE EIGHT NEW ID CARD ISSUE OFFICES DURING THIS PERIOD," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT SAID.

/THE OFFICES

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THE OFFICES ARE OPEN FROM 8 AM TO 9.30 PM DAILY, EXCEPT SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

"THE ISSUE OFFICES ARE VERY CROWDED IN THE EVENINGS. TO AVOID HAVING TO QUEUE UP FOR A LONG TIME AT THE ISSUE OFFICES OR TO COME BACK ON ANOTHER DAY, APPLICANTS ARE ADVISED TO GO TO THESE OFFICES IN THE MORNINGS AND AFTERNOONS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

APPLICANTS MAY ALSO MAKE USE OF THE PHONE-IN SERVICE TO ARRANGE FOR AN APPOINTMENT BY CALLING THE OFFICE OF THEIR CHOICE.

THE ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF THE ISSUE OFFICES ARE:

HONG KONG : BASEMENT, 151 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI.
TEL. NO. 5-747070

EAST KOWLOON : AMOY PLAZA, SECOND FLOOR, 77 NGAU TAU KOK ROAD.
TEL. NO. 3-7553679

WEST KOWLOON : CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, SECOND FLOOR, 393 CANTON ROAD, YAU MA TEI.
TEL. NO. 3-7232424

TSUEN WAN : EAST ASIA COMMERCIAL CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, 29-37 TSUEN FU STREET.
TEL. NO. 0-4981259

SHA TIN : SHA TIN CENTRE, PODIUM FLOOR, 2-16 WANG POK STREET.
TEL. NO. 0-6059108

YUEN LONG : HOP YICK CENTRE, SECOND FLOOR, 31 HOP YICK ROAD.
TEL. NO. 0-793291

TUEN MUN : CHI LOK COMMERCIAL CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, CHI LOK FA YUEN.
TEL. NO. 0-4580862

SHEUNG SHUI : TSUEN WO TAI LAU, GROUND FLOOR, 82-84 SAN FUNG AVENUE, SHEK WU HUI.
TEL. NO. 0-927191

THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED WOMEN BORN IN 1967, 1968 AND 1969 WHO HAVE NOT APPLIED FOR THEIR NEW IDENTITY CARDS TO COME FORWARD WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY AS THERE IS ONLY ONE MORE WEEK LEFT BEFORE THE CURRENT PHASE CLOSES ON AUGUST 26.

HE POINTED OUT THAT FAILURE TO APPLY FOR A NEW IDENTITY CARD WITHIN THE SPECIFIED PERIOD IS AN OFFENCE WHICH MAKES THE OFFENDER LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$3,000.

THE SPOKESMAN REITERATED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO AMNESTY FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

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CLOSURE OF VEHICULAR ACCESS TO MARRIAGE REGISTRY

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VEHICULAR ACCESS TO THE COTTON TREE DRIVE MARRIAGE REGISTRY WILL BE COMPLETELY CLOSED FROM SEPTEMBER 1 UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE BECAUSE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK IN ITS VICINITY, THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE PUBLIC IS REQUESTED TO USE THE PEDESTRIAN WALKWAY, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

"HOWEVER, A SMALL NUMBER OF TEMPORARY PARKING SPACES NEAR THE REGISTRY ARE RESERVED FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF BRIDAL CARS," HE SAID.

"GUESTS ATTENDING THE CEREMONIES ARE ADVISED TO USE PUBLIC TRANSPORT."

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URBAN CLEARWAY RESTRICTIONS IN KOWLOON

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT CERTAIN ROAD SECTIONS IN MONG KOK SHAM SHUI PO WILL BE MADE URBAN CLEARWAYS FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY (AUGUST 22).

IN MONG KOK, THE NORTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF WATERLOO ROAD BETWEEN DUNDAS STREET AND YIM PO FONG STREET WILL BECOME A PEAK-HOUR (7 AM TO 10 AM AND 4 PM TO 7 PM) DAILY URBAN CLEARWAYS.

THE MEASURE IS INTENDED TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW IN THE AREA.

IN SHAM SHUI PO, TO FACILITATE ROAD RECONSTRUCTION WORKS, UN CHAU STREET BETWEEN NAM CHEONG STREET AND PEI HO STREET WILL BE DESIGNATED A 7 AM TO MIDNIGHT DAILY URBAN CLEARWAY FOR ABOUT TWO MONTHS.

NO VEHICLES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP WITHIN THE URBAN CLEARWAYS FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS.

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