



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, JANUARY 31, 1983

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR DECEMBER 1982	1
VIEWS ON FACTORY AND JOB LOCATIONS BEING SURVEYED	3
TIME LIMIT FOR OBJECTING PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENTS	5
NEW SCHOOL FOR TSUEM WAN	6
ISLANDS DISTRICT BOARD TO HOLD SIXTH MEETING	6
ADVANCE COURSE IN EDUCATION FOR NON-GRADUATE TEACHERS	7
LUNAR NEW YEAR DECORATIONS IN TSUEN WAN	8
TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF VICTORIA PARK ROAD FLYOVER	9
WATER FIGURES	9

MONDAY, JANUARY 31, 1983

- 1 -

PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR DECEMBER 1982
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THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS FOR DECEMBER 1982 WAS \$12 887 MILLION, MADE UP OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AT \$8 391 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS AT \$4 496 MILLION, ACCORDING TO PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES PUBLISHED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY.

WITH IMPORTS AT \$14 045 MILLION, THE VISIBLE TRADE DEFICIT FOR DECEMBER WAS \$1 158 MILLION.

FOR 1982 AS A WHOLE, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS WAS \$127 385 MILLION, MADE UP OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AT \$83 032 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS AT \$44 353 MILLION. WITH IMPORTS AT \$142 894 MILLION, THE VISIBLE TRADE DEFICIT FOR 1982 WAS \$15 509 MILLION.

A COMPARISON OF 1982 WITH 1981 SHOWS THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS INCREASED BY \$5 222 MILLION OR FOUR PER CENT, COMPRISING INCREASES OF \$2 609 MILLION OR THREE PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND \$2 613 MILLION OR SIX PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS. THE VALUE OF IMPORTS INCREASED BY \$4 519 MILLION OR THREE PER CENT. THE VISIBLE TRADE GAP (THAT IS THE PROPORTION OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS NOT COVERED BY THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS) NARROWED TO 10.9 PER CENT FROM 11.7 PER CENT IN 1981.

COMMENTING ON THE FIGURES, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT, INFLUENCED BY THE WORLD RECESSION, THE GROWTH RATES OF THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS AND OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS HAD BOTH SLOWED DOWN IN 1982. BUT AS THE GROWTH RATE OF THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS WAS STILL SLIGHTLY FASTER THAN THAT OF IMPORTS, THE VISIBLE TRADE GAP HAD NARROWED.

A COMPARISON OF DECEMBER 1982 WITH DECEMBER 1981 SHOWS THE FOLLOWING INCREASES IN VALUE: \$593 MILLION OR EIGHT PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, \$594 MILLION OR 15 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS, \$1 187 MILLION OR 10 PER CENT FOR TOTAL EXPORTS AND \$1 028 MILLION OR EIGHT PER CENT FOR IMPORTS.

THESE PERCENTAGE INCREASES WERE HIGHER THAN THE CORRESPONDING AVERAGES FOR THE WHOLE YEAR.

ALTHOUGH THIS COULD BE TAKEN AS THE FIRST SIGN OF RECOVERY, THE GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN CAUTIONED THAT TOO MUCH SHOULD NOT BE READ INTO ONE MONTH'S FIGURES. THE VISIBLE TRADE GAP WAS 8.2 PER CENT IN DECEMBER 1982, COMPARED WITH 10.1 PER CENT IN DECEMBER 1981.

/THE FOLLOWING

THE FOLLOWING ARE PROVISIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FIGURES FOR
DECEMBER, 1982:

MERCHANDISE:	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	:	\$ 8 391 MILLION
	RE-EXPORTS	:	\$ 4 496 MILLION
	TOTAL EXPORTS	:	\$12 887 MILLION
	IMPORTS	:	\$14 045 MILLION
	TRADE BALANCE	:	\$ 1 158 MILLION
			(IN DEFICIT)

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

<u>LATEST 3 MONTHS</u>	OCT.-DEC. 1982	OCT.-DEC. 1981	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	22 608 ^r	22 334	+ 274	+ 1.2
RE-EXPORTS	12 039	11 526	+ 513	+ 4.5
TOTAL EXPORTS	34 647	33 860	+ 787	+ 2.3
IMPORTS	38 456	37 516	+ 940	+ 2.5
TRADE BALANCE	- 3 809	- 3 656	- 153	

<u>SAME MONTH LAST YEAR</u>	DECEMBER 1982	DECEMBER 1981	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	8 391 (65.1%)	7 798 (66.6%)	+ 593	+ 7.6
RE-EXPORTS	4 496	3 902	+ 594	+15.2
TOTAL EXPORTS	12 887	11 700	+1 187	+10.1
IMPORTS	14 045	13 017	+1 028	+ 7.9
TRADE BALANCE	- 1 158	- 1 317	+ 159	

/LAST MONTH

LAST MONTH	DECEMBER 1982	NOVEMBER 1982	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	8 391 (65.1%)	7 148 (64.5%)	+1 243	+17.4
RE-EXPORTS	4 496	3 940	+ 556	+14.1
TOTAL EXPORTS	12 887	11 088	+1 799	+16.2
IMPORTS	14 045	12 199	+1 846	+15.1
TRADE BALANCE	- 1 158	- 1 111	- 47	
LAST 12 MONTHS	JAN.-DEC. 1982	JAN.-DEC. 1981	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	83 032 (65.2%)	80 423 (65.8%)	+2 609	+ 3.2
RE-EXPORTS	44 353	41 740	+2 613	+ 6.3
TOTAL EXPORTS	127 385 ^r	122 163	+5 222	+ 4.3
IMPORTS	142 894	138 375	+4 519	+ 3.3
TRADE BALANCE	-15 509	-16 212	+ 703	

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VIEWS ON FACTORY AND JOB LOCATIONS BEING SURVEYED

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A SURVEY IS TO BE COMMISSIONED BY THE GOVERNMENT ON ESTABLISHED MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES TO FIND OUT THE VIEWS OF INDUSTRIALISTS AND THEIR EMPLOYEES ON THE PROS AND CONS OF INDUSTRIAL JOB DECENTRALISATION.

THE SIX-MONTH SURVEY, WHICH WILL BEGIN TOMORROW, WILL BE CONDUCTED BY THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY CENTRE IN ASSOCIATION WITH ROGER TYM AND PARTNERS.

AN AGREEMENT FOR THE UNDERTAKING WAS SIGNED THIS AFTERNOON BY THE GOVERNMENT TOWN PLANNER OF THE STRATEGIC PLANNING UNIT OF THE LANDS AND WORKS BRANCH, DR TED PRYOR, AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY CENTRE, MR S.K. CHAN.

DR PRYOR SAID THAT A RANDOM SAMPLE OF MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS WOULD BE SELECTED FROM TUEN MUN NEW TOWN AS WELL AS DEVELOPED INDUSTRIAL ZONES IN THE URBAN AREA.

/+ABOUT

+ABOUT 900 INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS AND 3 500 WORKERS EMPLOYED IN THESE COMPANIES WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE SURVEY WHICH WILL COVER VARIOUS GROUPS OF MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, RANGING FROM LIGHT ELECTRONIC INDUSTRY TO HEAVIER ELECTRICAL MACHINERY INDUSTRY,+ HE ADDED.

INFORMATION SOUGHT FROM INDUSTRIALISTS WILL INCLUDE THEIR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT PROSPECTS, PLANS AND VIEWS ON DECENTRALISATION IN A NEW TOWN INDUSTRIAL ZONE, REASONS FOR LOCATIONAL CHOICES, PAST MOBILITY RECORDS, MAJOR PROBLEMS THAT HAVE BEEN ENCOUNTERED IN SETTING UP OPERATIONS IN NEW TOWNS AND THE IMPACT OF SUCH A MOVE ON PRODUCTION INVESTMENT AND WORKER RETENTION AND RELATIONS.

THE ENQUIRY ON WORKERS WILL COVER SUCH MATTERS AS THEIR PRINCIPAL SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS, PAST MOBILITY RECORDS, VIEWS ON BENEFITS OR DISADVANTAGES OF THE PRESENT JOB, PREFERENCE FOR WORKING IN A NEW TOWN INDUSTRIAL ZONE, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CRITERIA FOR CHOOSING FUTURE JOBS AND EXISTING KNOWLEDGE ABOUT EMPLOYMENT, HOUSING AND OTHER CONDITIONS IN NEW TOWNS.

+THE DATA COLLECTED WILL BE HANDLED IN THE STRICTEST CONFIDENCE AND NO RESULTS OR FINDINGS OF THE SURVEY CAN BE IDENTIFIED TO INDIVIDUAL RESPONDENTS,+ DR PRYOR STRESSED.

+QUESTIONNAIRES CONTAINING SUCH DATA WILL BE DESTROYED AFTER ANALYSIS OF THE SURVEY RESULTS HAS BEEN COMPLETED.+

THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY ARE EXPECTED TO THROW NEW LIGHT ON THE NUMEROUS ISSUES RELATING TO NEW TOWN PLANNING, SUCH AS TO WHAT EXTENT INDUSTRIALISTS WOULD BE WILLING TO RELOCATE THEIR FACTORIES TO NEW TOWNS IN RESPONSE TO GOVERNMENT'S HOUSING PROGRAMMES.

IT WILL ALSO HELP ASCERTAIN TO WHAT EXTENT PEOPLE WHO HAVE MOVED INTO NEW TOWNS WOULD BE WILLING TO GIVE UP THEIR PRESENT JOBS IN THE URBAN AREAS TO TAKE UP LOCAL EMPLOYMENT.

DR PRYOR URGED INDUSTRIALISTS AND WORKERS, WHO WERE SELECTED FOR INTERVIEWS, TO COOPERATE IN PROVIDING THE NECESSARY ANSWERS AS THE FINDINGS FROM THE SURVEY WOULD PROVIDE GOVERNMENT WITH A SOLID BASE FOR HELPING TO DETERMINE ITS DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY AND VARIOUS INVESTMENT PRIORITIES.

THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY CENTRE HAS BEEN CHOSEN TO UNDERTAKE THIS LARGE-SCALE STRATEGIC STUDY BECAUSE OF ITS LONG EXPERIENCE IN CARRYING OUT LOCAL INDUSTRIAL SURVEYS AND TECHNO-ECONOMIC STUDIES.

IN VIEW OF THE IMPORTANCE AND THE SPECIALISED NATURE OF THE PROJECT, THE CENTRE WILL REINFORCE ITS RESEARCH CAPABILITIES BY ENLISTING THE SERVICES OF ROGER TYM AND PARTNERS (HK), A U.K. BASED CONSULTANCY RENOWNED FOR ITS SUCCESS IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING RESEARCH FOR CENTRAL, REGIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT BODIES.

TIME LIMIT FOR OBJECTING PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENTS

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THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT TODAY (MONDAY) REMINDED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC THAT IF THEY OBJECT TO PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENTS THEY SHOULD DO SO WITHIN ONE MONTH OF THE DATE OF THE NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT.

AS TO CLAIMS FOR PROPERTY TAX REFUND, THE TIME LIMIT IS 90 DAYS AFTER THE END OF THE RELEVANT YEAR OF ASSESSMENT, OR 90 DAYS AFTER THE PROPERTY TAX NOTICE IS GIVEN, WHICHEVER IS THE LATER.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID OBJECTIONS AND CLAIMS FOR REFUND FOR OWNER-OCCUPIED PROPERTY AND UNOCCUPIED PREMISES SHOULD BE MADE IN WRITING WITHIN THESE TIME LIMITS TO THE COMMISSIONER OF INLAND REVENUE.

HE SAID THE DEADLINE WOULD BE EXTENDED IF THE COMMISSIONER IS SATISFIED THAT, OWING TO ABSENCE FROM HONG KONG, SICKNESS OR OTHER REASONABLE CAUSE, THE PERSON OBJECTING TO ASSESSMENTS AND CLAIMING FOR REFUNDS WAS PREVENTED FROM DOING SO WITHIN THE SPECIFIED TIME.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID VACANCY CLAIMS CAN ALWAYS BE MADE WITHOUT SUPPORTING EVIDENCE TO MEET THE TIME LIMIT, BUT SUCH EVIDENCE WOULD BE NECESSARY SUBSEQUENTLY.

PROPERTY OWNERS, AGENTS AND OCCUPIERS OF DOMESTIC PREMISES SHOULD BE PREPARED TO FORWARD SUCH EVIDENCE AS ELECTRICITY, GAS AND WATER BILLS TO SUPPORT THEIR VACANCY CLAIMS.

FOR NON-DOMESTIC PREMISES, HE SAID, THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT WOULD ISSUE VACANCY CERTIFICATES IN ALL APPROPRIATE CASES AND THESE FORMS MUST BE PRODUCED TO SUPPORT CLAIMS FOR REFUND.

FURTHER INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE ASSESSOR (PROPERTY TAX) OF THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT AT 5-7959-5219 OR BY WRITING TO THE DEPARTMENT THROUGH GPO BOX 132, HONG KONG.

ADVICE, IN PERSON, MAY BE OBTAINED FROM INLAND REVENUE OFFICES AT WINDSOR HOUSE, 17TH FLOOR, 311 GLOUCESTER ROAD, CAUSEWAY BAY, HONG KONG; PARK-IN COMMERCIAL BUILDING, 12TH FLOOR, 56 DUNDAS STREET, MONG KOK, KOWLOON; AND FOU WAH CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, 210 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN, NEW TERRITORIES.

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MONDAY, JANUARY 31, 1983

- 6 -

NEW SCHOOL FOR TSUEN WAN
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THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS NOW INVITING TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SECONDARY SCHOOL IN TSUEN WAN.

THE SCHOOL, TO BE BUILT ON A SITE OF 0.56 HECTARE AT WO YI HOP ROAD NEAR LEI MUK SHUE ESTATE, WILL BE OF THE STANDARD 24-CLASSROOM TYPE.

IN ADDITION TO THE MAIN TEACHING BLOCK, IT WILL ALSO HAVE A SPECIAL BLOCK CATERING FOR VARIOUS SUBJECTS AND AN ASSEMBLY HALL WITH COVERED PLAYGROUND.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO COMMENCE IN APRIL AND BE COMPLETED IN 16 MONTHS.

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ISLANDS DISTRICT BOARD TO HOLD SIXTH MEETING
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A PROPOSED PROGRAMME TO PHASE OUT UNLICENSED FOOD BUSINESS IN UNDEVELOPED AREAS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WILL BE DISCUSSED AT THE ISLANDS DISTRICT BOARD'S SIXTH MEETING ON WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 2).

THE PROGRAMME FOLLOWS SIMILAR ACTION IN EARLY 1981 BY THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT ON ALL TOLERATED FOOD PREMISES IN DEVELOPED TOWNSHIPS AND NEW TOWNS.

BOARD MEMBERS WILL ALSO BE INFORMED OF THE NEED TO MAINTAIN FIRE SAFETY IN CONSIDERING THE PROVISION OF ON-STREET VEHICLE PARKING SPACES IN THE DISTRICT.

A TALK ON THE +ROLE AND FUNCTIONS OF THE STANDING CONFERENCE ON ROAD SAFETY+ WILL BE GIVEN BY THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR (TRAFFIC), ROYAL H.K. POLICE FORCE, MR R.C. SMALLSHAW AND THE CHIEF ENGINEER (ROAD SAFETY DIVISION), TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, MR D.G. WILLDAY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE ISLANDS DISTRICT BOARD TO BE HELD AT 2 PM ON WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 2) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICE, SINCERE BUILDING, 16TH FLOOR, 173 DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG.

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MONDAY, JANUARY 31, 1983

- 7 -

ADVANCE COURSE IN EDUCATION FOR NON-GRADUATE TEACHERS
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NON-GRADUATE TEACHERS IN GOVERNMENT AND AIDED SECONDARY OR PRIMARY SCHOOLS ARE INVITED TO APPLY FOR AN ADVANCE COURSE OF TEACHER EDUCATION OFFERED BY THE THREE COLLEGES OF EDUCATION IN 1983/84.

TEACHERS AT PRESENT ON ATTACHMENT OR SECONDMENT TO GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS MAY ALSO APPLY FOR THE COURSE.

+TEACHERS IN AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS, HOWEVER, SHOULD NOTE THAT THEY WILL ONLY BE CONSIDERED IF A SPONSORING BODY IS ABLE TO GUARANTEE TRANSFER TO A TEACHING POST IN A SECONDARY SCHOOL ON COMPLETION OF THE COURSE,+ AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

EACH SUCCESSFUL APPLICANT FROM AIDED SCHOOLS WILL BE REQUIRED TO GIVE A FORMAL UNDERTAKING TO TEACH FULL-TIME FOR A PERIOD OF NOT LESS THAN THREE YEARS IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING SATISFACTORY COMPLETION OF THE COURSE, HE SAID.

THE COURSE WILL HAVE A CORE OF STUDIES IN EDUCATION, EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY, LANGUAGE SKILLS AND COMPLEMENTARY PROGRAMMES.

IN ADDITION, EACH STUDENT WILL STUDY IN DEPTH, ON AN ELECTIVE BASIS, ONE AREA OF SUBJECT SPECIALISATION.

APPLICANTS SHOULD BE TWO-YEAR TRAINED TEACHERS AND HAVE STUDIED THE SUBJECT APPLIED FOR THROUGHOUT THE TWO YEARS OF HIS COLLEGE OF EDUCATION COURSE. THEY SHOULD ALSO HAVE TWO YEARS FULL-TIME POST-TRAINING TEACHING EXPERIENCE.

THEY WILL BE REQUIRED TO DEMONSTRATE PROFICIENCY IN ENGLISH ADEQUATE TO PURSUE THE ADVANCE COURSE, AND EITHER TO SIT FOR A TEST OR ATTEND AN INTERVIEW DEPENDING ON THE SUBJECT APPLIED FOR.

GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION IS OFFERING COURSES IN ART AND DESIGN, AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION; NORTHCOTE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION IS OFFERING HOME ECONOMICS (HOME MANAGEMENT); SIR ROBERT BLACK COLLEGE OF EDUCATION IS OFFERING HOME ECONOMICS (DRESS AND DESIGN) AND MUSIC; WHILE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE IS OFFERING DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY.

+THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE PREPARED TO PAY THE SALARY OF A TEMPORARY TEACHER OF THE APPROPRIATE OR A LOWER GRADE, TO SUBSTITUTE FOR AN AIDED SCHOOL TEACHER ACCEPTED FOR A COURSE,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+DURING THE PERIOD OF THE COURSE, ALL SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL CONTINUE TO RECEIVE THEIR SALARY AND INCREMENT IN THE NORMAL WAY AND THE COURSE WILL COUNT AS SERVICE OR EXPERIENCE,+ HE SAID.

/APPLICATION

APPLICATION FORMS WILL BE AVAILABLE VIA HEADS OF SCHOOLS OR SECTIONS WHO MAY OBTAIN THE FORMS FROM THE THREE COLLEGES OF EDUCATION, THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE OR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS IN LEE GARDENS, CAUSEWAY BAY, HONG KONG.

NO FEES WHATSOEVER IS PAYABLE IN CONNECTION WITH THE APPLICATIONS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

IN THE CASE OF TEACHERS IN GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS OR ON SECONDMENT AND ATTACHMENT, COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED BY 5 PM ON MARCH 15 TO THE SENIOR EDUCATION OFFICER (SERVICING UNIT), SCHOOLS DIVISION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, LEE GARDENS, HONG KONG.

FOR AIDED SCHOOL TEACHERS, COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED BY THE SAME TIME TO THE CHAIRMAN, JOINT SELECTION BOARD, C/O GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, 42-44 GASCOIGNE ROAD, KOWLOON.

SELECTION OF APPLICANTS WILL BE CONDUCTED BY THE COLLEGES OF EDUCATION JOINT SELECTION BOARD.

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LUNAR NEW YEAR DECORATIONS IN TSUEN WAN
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SEASONAL DECORATIONS, INCLUDING TWO FIVE-METRE-TALL +GODS OF PROSPERITY+, AND LIGHT DISPLAYS IN THE SHAPES OF A PIG AND A POT OF PEACH BLOSSOMS, WILL BE PUT UP IN TSUEN WAN TO GREET THE LUNAR NEW YEAR.

COSTING \$90 000 AND FUNDED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD, THE LIGHTS AND DECORATIONS WILL BE SWITCHED ON BETWEEN 6 PM AND MIDNIGHT EVERY DAY FROM FEBRUARY 9 TO 27.

A DISTRICT OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID THE LIGHTS AND ACTIVITIES STAGED DURING CHRISTMAS WERE WELCOMED BY LOCAL RESIDENTS. SIMILAR ARRANGEMENTS, WITH AN ADDITIONAL ARRAY OF SEASONAL ITEMS, WOULD BE PUT ON FOR THE COMING FESTIVITY.

THE DECORATIONS WILL INCLUDE :

- * TWO +GODS OF PROSPERITY+ PAINTED ON WOOD AND PERCHED ON BOTH SIDES OF THE PEDESTRIAN FOOTBRIDGE OUTSIDE THE FOU WAH CENTRE AND A PAIR OF CHINESE NORTHERN LIONS AT THE WALKWAY ACROSS KWAI CHUNG ROAD;
- * LIGHT DISPLAYS IN THE FORM OF A POT OF PEACH BLOSSOMS AT THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL ROUNDABOUT, AND IN THE SHAPE OF A PIG, THE SYMBOL FOR THE COMING LUNAR NEW YEAR, AT THE KWAI CHUNG ROUNDABOUT;
- * SOME 30 PAIRS OF ILLUMINATED RED AND GOLD LANTERNS ALONG TAI HO ROAD FROM THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY TERMINUS TO THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL; AND

* COLOURFUL BANNERS WITH SEASONAL GREETINGS AND CHINESE LANTERNS ALONG SAI LAU KOK ROAD, A SECTION OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD BETWEEN TAI HO ROAD AND KWAI CHUNG ROAD, AND ON TSING YI BRIDGE.

THE UNVEILING OF THE TWO +GODS OF PROSPERITY+ AND A SWITCH-ON CEREMONY WILL BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 9.

THIS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY SOME 60 ACTIVITIES TO BE STAGED AT THE DISTRICT'S TOWN HALL, PLAYGROUNDS AND COMMUNITY HALLS UNTIL MARCH 3.

THE PROGRAMME WILL INCLUDE CONCERTS, HORSE RIDING AT SHA TIN, A NEW YEAR WALK, FUNFAIR, CAMPINGS, FLOWER EXHIBITION, DINNERS FOR THE ELDERLY AND A VARIETY SHOW TO BE STAGED BY A LOCAL TELEVISION STATION.

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF VICTORIA PARK ROAD FLYOVER

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THE FLYOVER LEADING FROM VICTORIA PARK ROAD EASTBOUND TO GLOUCESTER ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC BETWEEN 11 PM AND 6.30 AM DAILY FROM TUESDAY (FEBRUARY 1) FOR ROAD WORKS.

THE ARRANGEMENT WILL LAST 10 DAYS, DURING WHICH PERIOD TRAFFIC ON GLOUCESTER ROAD HEADING FOR CAUSEWAY BAY WILL BE DIVERTED VIA CANAL ROAD FLYOVER.

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WATER FIGURES

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 72.0 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 415.769 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 251.304 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 43.5 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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