



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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EMPHASIS ON TWO SYSTEMS IMPORTANT: GOVERNOR
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THE EMPHASIS ON THE TWO SYSTEMS IDEA IS A VERY IMPORTANT THING FOR HONG KONG. THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

SIR DAVID MADE THE REMARKS WHEN ASKED IF HE THOUGHT THE SPEECH YESTERDAY BY THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY GENERAL SECRETARY, MR JIANG ZEMIN, WOULD HELP RESTORE HONG KONG PEOPLE'S CONFIDENCE IN THE FUTURE.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER OFFICIATING AT THE BREAKTHROUGH CEREMONY OF THE TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL, THE GOVERNOR SAID ALTHOUGH HE HAD NOT READ THE TRANSCRIPT OF THE SPEECH, HE HAD NOTICED THAT MR JIANG MADE A NUMBER OF POINTS, ONE OF WHICH WAS THE EMPHASIS ON THE TWO SYSTEMS IDEA.

"WE HAVE OUR OWN SYSTEM. WE HAVE OUR OWN FREEDOMS, OUR OWN LAWS WHICH ARE VERY IMPORTANT TO US." HE SAID.

"THAT'S WHAT I THINK MOST PEOPLE IN HONG KONG WOULD LIKE TO SEE. BOTH OUR FREEDOMS AND THOSE FREEDOMS USED WITH A SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY." SIR DAVID SAID.

ASKED WHAT HE THOUGHT OF MR JIANG'S WARNING THAT HONG KONG MIGHT BE A BASE FOR ANTI-COMMUNIST AND ANTI-CHINESE ACTIVITIES, THE GOVERNOR SAID: "WE HERE IN HONG KONG PRIZE AND ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO OUR OWN FREEDOMS UNDER OUR OWN LEGAL SYSTEM."

"WE DON'T WISH, WE DON'T INTEND THAT HONG KONG SHOULD BE USED AS A BASE FOR SUBVERSION. WE DO INTEND THAT OUR OWN FREEDOMS SHOULD BE PRESERVED." SIR DAVID SAID.

TURNING TO THE TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL PROJECT, THE GOVERNOR SAID THAT IN ADDITION TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE PROJECT, IT SHOULD ALSO BE REMEMBERED THAT IT INVOLVED AN IMMENSE AMOUNT OF GOVERNMENT WORK OUTSIDE THE TUNNEL WORTH ABOUT \$3.4 BILLION.

"SO THIS IS AN EXAMPLE OF BOTH PRIVATE SECTOR AND GOVERNMENT CO-OPERATION. BUT ABOVE ALL IT SHOWS THE AMOUNT THAT WE ARE BUILDING THE INFRASTRUCTURE OF HONG KONG FOR THE FUTURE." SIR DAVID SAID.

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TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, NOTED THAT THE TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL, WHEN COMPLETED BY MID 1991, WOULD PROVIDE A FURTHER MUCH NEEDED LINK BETWEEN KOWLOON AND SHA TIN, AND THUS RELIEVE TRAFFIC CONGESTION IN THE PRESENT LION ROCK TUNNEL.

SIR DAVID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) OFFICIATED AT THE BREAKTHROUGH OF THE TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL.

"THIS IS REMARKABLE PROGRESS," HE SAID, "THE CONTRACTORS ARE ALREADY TWO MONTHS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE ON THE \$2 BILLION PROJECT."

THE TUNNEL, WHEN COMPLETED, WILL BE THE LONGEST ROAD TUNNEL IN HONG KONG AT A LENGTH OF 3.9 KILOMETRES.

THE GOVERNOR WAS BRIEFED IN DETAIL ON THE PROGRESS OF THE PROJECT, WHICH WAS A FULLY PRIVATISED ONE. THE FRANCHISE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF THE TUNNEL WAS AWARDED LAST YEAR TO THE TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL COMPANY, AN INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIUM FORMED BY JAPANESE, CHINESE, BRITISH AND LOCAL COMPANIES.

"THIS VENTURE EMPHASISES THE CONTINUED STRENGTH OF INVESTORS' CONFIDENCE IN THE TERRITORY'S FUTURE," SIR DAVID SAID.

SIR DAVID NOTED THAT A NUMBER OF GOVERNMENT ROAD PROJECTS WOULD BE COMPLETED IN MID 1991 TO CATER FOR THE TRAFFIC GENERATED BY THE TUNNEL.

THESE PROJECTS, FORMING PART OF THE ROUTE 6, INCLUDED KWUN TONG BY-PASS PHASES II AND III (PHASE I BEING ALREADY OPENED TO TRAFFIC), THE PRINCE EDWARD ROAD INTERCHANGE, THE HAMMER HILL ROAD/LUNG CHEUNG ROAD INTERCHANGE, THE SHA TIN T5, T6 TRUNK ROADS AND THE BRIDGE OVER SHING MUN RIVER NORTH OF THE RACE COURSE.

THE TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL WOULD THUS FORM PART OF A NEW TRUNK ROUTE LINKING QUARRY BAY IN HONG KONG WITH MA ON SHAN IN SHA TIN VIA THE EASTERN HARBOUR CROSSING AND THE KWUN TONG BY-PASS.

"AT A TOTAL COST OF \$3.1 BILLION, THESE PROJECTS REFLECT ALSO THE GOVERNMENT'S CONTINUING COMMITMENT TO IMPROVE THE ROAD SYSTEM AND TO INVEST IN OUR TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUSTAIN HONG KONG'S SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC GROWTH IN THE FUTURE," THE GOVERNOR ADDED.

THE BREAKTHROUGH CEREMONY AT SHA TIN WAS ALSO ATTENDED BY THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, MR MICHAEL LEUNG; THE DIRECTOR OF HIGHWAYS, MR HAROLD BEATON; THE CONSUL GENERAL OF JAPAN, MR Y. SATO; AND THE PRESIDENT OF NISHIMATSU CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, MR T. SHIBATA.

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NON-VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION THE LOGICAL OUTCOME: S FOR S
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THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MR GEOFFREY BARNES, TODAY (WEDNESDAY) STRESSED THAT NON-VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION WAS THE LOGICAL OUTCOME OF THE SCREENING PROCESS FOR THOSE VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE (VBP) WHO HAD BEEN CLASSIFIED AS NON-REFUGEES AND WHO DID NOT VOLUNTEER TO RETURN.

"FOR SUCH PEOPLE THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE TO REPATRIATION IS TO STAY INDEFINITELY IN CAMPS IN HONG KONG -- AN OPTION AS INHUMANE AS IT IS IMPRACTICAL," HE SAID.

MR BARNES WAS GIVING A LUNCHEON TALK ON "VBP: THE SEARCH FOR A SOLUTION" TO THE BRITISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN WHICH HE DISCUSSED THE VBP PROBLEM, THE BACKGROUND, THE FACTORS AFFECTING THE PROBLEM AND THE SOLUTIONS.

HE SAID: "WE BELIEVE THAT NON-VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION WILL NOT ONLY ACT AS THE ESSENTIAL DETERRENT WHICH HONG KONG NEEDS TO STOP ARRIVALS BUT WILL ALSO STIMULATE THOSE WHO ARE ALREADY HERE INTO VOLUNTEERING TO GO BACK TO VIETNAM.

"WE SEE NON-VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION AS BEING ENCOMPASSED BY THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF ACTION (CPA) ENDORSED IN GENEVA AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE.

"WE SEE THE RETURN OF NON-REFUGEES TO THEIR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN AS BEING IN THE SAME CATEGORY AS THE DEPORTATION OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS ANYWHERE ELSE IN THE WORLD, THE ONLY DIFFERENCES BEING THAT WE WOULD ENSURE ARRANGEMENTS FOR REINTEGRATION ASSISTANCE, FOR MONITORING AFTER THEIR RETURN AND FOR ASSURANCES OF NON-PERSECUTION OF RETURNEES FROM THE VIETNAMESE AUTHORITIES.

"WE SEE NON-VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION AS BEING COMPLEMENTARY TO VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION, AND FOR BOTH MODES CONTINUING IN PARALLEL WITH EACH OTHER."

MR BARNES SAID VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION WAS ONE OF THE MAIN COMPONENTS OF THE CPA AND ITS ADVANTAGES WERE ITS ACCEPTABILITY AND FLEXIBILITY.

HOWEVER, HE POINTED OUT: "ITS DISADVANTAGES ARE THAT IT IS SLOW, IT IS NOT A DETERRENT AND, ON ITS OWN, WILL NEVER PROVIDE THE SOLUTION TO HONG KONG'S PROBLEM WITHIN THE SORT OF TIMEFRAME WHICH WOULD BE REALISTIC AND ACCEPTABLE FOR HONG KONG."

TURNING TO THE ABANDONMENT OF FIRST ASYLUM, MR BARNES NOTED THAT IT WAS A COURSE OF ACTION SEEN BY MANY PEOPLE IN HONG KONG AS A SOLUTION TO THE VBP PROBLEM.

"IT IS, UNFORTUNATELY, A VIEW WHICH IS SELDOM ACCOMPANIED BY ANY REAL UNDERSTANDING OF THE IMPLICATIONS OF WHAT THE ABANDONMENT OF FIRST ASYLUM WOULD ACTUALLY MEAN," HE SAID.

"ABANDONING FIRST ASYLUM WOULD MEAN DIRECTING THE MARINE POLICE AND THE ROYAL NAVY TO PREVENT VIETNAMESE BOATS, AND THEIR OCCUPANTS, FROM LANDING IN HONG KONG.

"THIS WOULD INVOLVE TOWING BOATS OUT TO SEA, WITH THE ATTENDANT POSSIBILITIES OF BOATS BEING SWAMPED, OR BEING SUNK BY THE OCCUPANTS, OR BOAT PEOPLE THROWING THEMSELVES INTO THE SEA.

"A COURSE OF ACTION SUCH AS THIS, IF IT ENDANGERED LIFE, OR IF IN THE COURSE OF ITS EXECUTION IT PROHIBITED THE SAVING OF LIFE, IS OBVIOUSLY SOMETHING WHICH RAISES FUNDAMENTAL MORAL AND PRACTICAL QUESTIONS.

"IT WOULD ALSO AROUSE INTERNATIONAL CONDEMNATION AND THE LIKELIHOOD THAT HONG KONG WOULD BE REGARDED AS HAVING REPUDIATED THE CPA, THEREBY RISKING FOREGOING THE BENEFITS OF RESETTLEMENT AND REPATRIATION ASSISTANCE UNDER THE AGREEMENT."

MR BARNES SAID HE SAW THE CPA PROVIDING THE ANSWERS TO THE DEPARTURE FROM HONG KONG OF VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE, BOTH BY MEANS OF RESETTLEMENT FOR REFUGEES AND BY THE VOLUNTARY AND INVOLUNTARY RETURN OF NON-REFUGEES.

"FOR STOPPING DEPARTURES FROM VIETNAM, I SEE AS VITAL FACTORS THE DETERRENCE PROVIDED BY INVOLUNTARY REPATRIATION, THE EFFORTS OF THE VIETNAMESE AUTHORITIES THEMSELVES AND, IN THE LONGER TERM, THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY OF VIETNAM.

"THE NEED FOR ACTION IS CRITICAL. TIME IS NOT ON OUR SIDE," HE SAID.

EARLIER MR BARNES CITED THE ATTITUDES OF SOME OF THE MAJOR PLAYERS AS SOME OF THE FACTORS HAVING BEARINGS ON THE VBP PROBLEM.

HE SAID U.S. OFFICIAL ATTITUDES WERE RELATIVELY MORE COMPLEX AND POINTED OUT THAT THE VIEW EXPRESSED BY THE U.S. REPRESENTATIVE IN THE GENEVA CONFERENCE OPPOSING FORCED REPATRIATION WAS DISTINCTLY UNHELPFUL.

HE DESCRIBED THE STATEMENT BY THE U.S. REPRESENTATIVE AS "ARGUABLY AT VARIANCE NOT ONLY WITH THE VERY PRINCIPLES OF THE CPA WHICH THE U.S. WERE AT GENEVA TO ENDORSE, AND DID ENDORSE, BUT ALSO WITH AMERICA'S OWN DEPORTATION PRACTICES TO MEXICO, HAITI AND OTHER LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES".

ANOTHER FACTOR AFFECTING THE VBP PROBLEM, MR BARNES SAID, WAS HONG KONG'S RELATIVELY TINY AND CROWDED TERRITORY WITH A POPULATION DENSITY OF SOME 5,192 PERSONS PER SQUARE KILOMETRE, ONE OF THE HIGHEST IN THE WORLD.

"THIS COMPARES WITH 22 PERSONS PER SQUARE KILOMETRE IN THE UNITED STATES AND 230 PER SQUARE KILOMETRE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM." HE SAID.

"ON A COMPARISON OF POPULATION DENSITIES, OUR PRESENT VIETNAMESE POPULATION OF 56,000 WOULD BE THE EQUIVALENT IN THE UNITED STATES OF OVER 13 MILLION, AND IN THE UNITED KINGDOM OF OVER ONE MILLION, OVER HALF OF WHOM WOULD HAVE ARRIVED THIS YEAR.

"THE FEELING IN HONG KONG IS THAT WE HAVE BORNE THIS BURDEN LONG ENOUGH, AND THAT IT IS NOW UP TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, THE UK AND THE UNHCR TO RELIEVE US OF PRESSURES WHICH ARE BECOMING INTOLERABLE.

"CERTAINLY WITHOUT RELIEF OF SOME SORT HONG KONG COULD NOT STAND ANOTHER YEAR SUCH AS 1989."

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HK FACILITATING CHINA'S OPEN DOOR POLICIES: SES

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DEVELOPMENTS TO DATE INDICATE THAT HONG KONG WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN FACILITATING CHINA'S OPEN DOOR POLICIES AND MODERNISATION PROGRAMMES, THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MRS ANSON CHAN, SAID.

IN LOCATING THREE OUT OF THE FOUR SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES IN GUANGDONG, AND IN PLACING GUANGDONG PROVINCE AT THE FOREFRONT OF ITS OPEN DOOR POLICIES AND ECONOMIC REFORMS, CHINA HAD ACKNOWLEDGED THE IMPORTANT ROLE WHICH HONG KONG WAS PLAYING IN BRINGING CHINA INTO THE 21ST CENTURY, SHE ADDED.

SPEAKING AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE HONG KONG CANADA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION IN MONTREAL, CANADA YESTERDAY (TUESDAY), MRS CHAN POINTED OUT THAT THE GROWING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CHINA WAS VERY MUCH ONE OF INTERDEPENDENCE.

"AT THE SAME TIME THAT CHINA IS BENEFITTING FROM HONG KONG WE ARE ALSO PROSPERING FROM THE OPENING UP OF CHINA.

"THIS STEMS FROM THE INCREASED FLOW OF GOODS THROUGH HONG KONG AND THE INCREASED DEMAND FOR HONG KONG'S SERVICES AND FACILITIES, AS WELL AS FROM CHINA EMERGING AS A MARKET FOR HONG KONG'S GOODS AND AS A PLACE FOR EXTENDING OUR MANUFACTURING CAPACITY," SHE SAID.

MRS CHAN, WHO IS CURRENTLY IN MONTREAL FOR THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANISATION, SAID THAT THESE ACTIVITIES HAD COME ABOUT LARGELY THROUGH PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVES, WITH THE GOVERNMENT PLAYING A SUPPORTING ROLE.

ASSESSING THE IMPACT OF RECENT EVENTS IN CHINA, SHE SAID THESE WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY HAVE NEGATIVE EFFECTS FOR THE ASIAN REGION AS A WHOLE AND THE IMPACT ON HONG KONG WAS SWIFT AND SHARP.

/SHE NOTED

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SHE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT FEEDBACK FROM VARIOUS SOURCES INDICATED THAT THREE MONTHS AFTER THE TIANANMEN EVENTS, MOST OF THE REGULAR BUSINESS ACTIVITIES IN HONG KONG, INCLUDING THOSE INVOLVING CHINA, HAD RETURNED TO NORMAL.

SHE POINTED OUT THAT THE RECENT TURMOIL IN CHINA HAD LED MANY TO QUESTION THE BASIC ASSUMPTIONS UNDERLYING THE JOINT DECLARATION AND THUS THE BASIC LAW.

"THIS HAS TO DO WITH CONFIDENCE," SHE SAID, ADDING THAT THERE WAS NO DOUBT THAT CONFIDENCE HAD TAKEN A SEVERE KNOCK AND IT WOULD TAKE TIME AND SUSTAINED TANGIBLE EFFORTS ON THE PART OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT, THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT AND THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT TO RESTORE IT.

HOWEVER, FOR NOW OUR ECONOMY APPEARED TO HAVE WEATHERED THE IMMEDIATE STORM RATHER BETTER THAN MANY WOULD HAVE EXPECTED, SHE SAID.

"WE ARE SLOWLY COMING OUT OF THE INITIAL DOOM AND GLOOM SCENARIO," SHE ADDED.

"WHATEVER THE DIFFICULTIES FACING CHINA AT PRESENT FOLLOWING THE TIANANMEN EVENTS, ITS LEADERS HAVE STRESSED THAT ECONOMICALLY IT HAS EMBARKED ON A COURSE FROM WHICH THERE CAN BE NO TURNING BACK EVEN IF THE PACE IS AT TIMES BUMPY.

"CHINA'S CURRENT AUSTERITY MEASURES WILL PROBABLY TAKE TIME TO WORK THROUGH IN ORDER TO MEET THE OBJECTIVES OF RESTRAINING DEMAND AND CONTAINING INFLATION," SHE NOTED.

"MEASURES CAN ALSO BE EXPECTED FROM THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES TO ECONOMISE ON THE USE OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE.

"THUS IN SHORT TERM SOME CONSOLIDATION IN DEMAND FOR IMPORTS IN CHINA SEEMS LIKELY," SHE SAID.

HOWEVER, THE CHINA MARKET STILL POSSESSED A VAST UNTAPPED POTENTIAL WHICH MUST BE PROGRESSIVELY UNLEASHED TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD, SHE SAID.

"ON CHINA'S PART, CONTINUED ACCESS TO PRODUCTS, SERVICES AND TECHNOLOGIES FROM OVERSEAS IS CLEARLY DESIRABLE FOR MEETING ITS DEVELOPMENT NEEDS.

"OPERATING BETWEEN FOREIGN SUPPLIERS AND INVESTORS AND THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT AND BUSINESS ENTITIES AND WITH WHAT WE CAN OFFER BY WAY OF RESOURCES AND BUSINESS EXPERTISE, HONG KONG'S ROLE ESPECIALLY FOR SOUTHERN CHINA COULD BE PIVOTAL," SHE ADDED.

TURNING TO WHAT HONG KONG SHOULD DO TO FACILITATE CHINA'S OPEN DOOR POLICIES, MRS CHAN SAID THAT HONG KONG'S INFRASTRUCTURE MUST REMAIN CAPABLE OF HANDLING THE TRAFFIC FLOWS GENERATED BY BOTH ITS OWN ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES AND BY ITS GROWING TRADE WITH CHINA.

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"THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT HAS COMMISSIONED A SERIES OF CONSULTANCY STUDIES TO HELP IT DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY FOR EXPANDING THE NECESSARY INFRASTRUCTURE, INCLUDING NOTABLY A NEW AIRPORT AND ADDITIONAL PORT FACILITIES," MRS CHAN SAID.

"IN PARALLEL WITH OUR INFRASTRUCTURAL PROGRAMME, WE ARE CONSCIOUS OF THE NEED TO IMPROVE OUR ENVIRONMENT AND THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR OUR COMMUNITY.

"AT THE SAME TIME, WE MUST EXPAND OUR EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES BOTH TO REPLACE THE NUMBERS WHO ARE LEAVING AND TO ENSURE THAT FUTURE GENERATION OF WORKERS ARE EQUIPPED WITH THE SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE THAT WILL MEET HONG KONG'S CHANGING REQUIREMENTS." SHE SAID.

SHE TOLD THE CANADIAN AUDIENCE THAT THE JOINT DECLARATION REMAINED THE BEST BASIS FOR OUR FUTURE GROWTH AND STABILITY.

"WHAT WE MUST DO NOW IS TO ENSURE THAT ITS PROVISIONS ARE FAITHFULLY REFLECTED IN THE BASIC LAW WHICH IS NOW BEING DRAFTED BY THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT TAKING INTO ACCOUNT HONG KONG PEOPLE'S VIEW," SHE SAID.

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PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR AUGUST RELEASED

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IN AUGUST, THE YEAR-ON-YEAR GROWTH RATE OF RE-EXPORTS, THOUGH STILL SUBSTANTIAL, SHOWED SOME DECELERATION. THE GROWTH RATE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS SLACKENED FURTHER, WHILE THE GROWTH RATE OF IMPORTS WAS ROUGHLY THE SAME AS IN JULY.

THIS IS SHOWN IN THE PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES RELEASED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN AUGUST 1989 WAS \$21.226 MILLION, \$557 MILLION OR 2.7 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN AUGUST 1988, WHILE THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY \$6,399 MILLION OR 25.2 PER CENT TO \$31.828 MILLION.

THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS (DOMESTIC EXPORTS PLUS RE-EXPORTS), AT \$53,054 MILLION IN AUGUST 1989, WAS THUS \$6,956 MILLION OR 15.1 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN AUGUST 1988.

THE VALUE OF IMPORTS GREW BY 9.5 PER CENT OR \$4,142 MILLION OVER A YEAR EARLIER, TO \$47,969 MILLION IN AUGUST 1989.

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AS THE GROWTH RATE OF IMPORTS WAS SLOWER THAN THAT OF TOTAL EXPORTS, A VISIBLE TRADE SURPLUS OF \$5,085 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 10.6 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, WAS RECORDED IN AUGUST 1989. THIS COMPARES WITH A SURPLUS OF \$2,271 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 5.2 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, RECORDED IN AUGUST 1988. THE SIGNIFICANT SURPLUS RECORDED IN THE MONTH OF AUGUST IS MAINLY SEASONAL.

PUTTING THESE TRADE FIGURES IN PERSPECTIVE, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS IN THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF 1989 WAS \$368,743 MILLION, MADE UP OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF \$144.388 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS OF \$224.355 MILLION.

COMPARED WITH THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF 1988, IN VALUE TERMS TOTAL EXPORTS GREW BY \$65.596 MILLION OR 21.6 PER CENT, DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY \$7.966 MILLION OR 5.8 PER CENT, AND RE-EXPORTS BY \$57.630 MILLION OR 34.6 PER CENT.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS GREW BY \$63.404 MILLION OR 20.5 PER CENT, TO \$373.316 MILLION.

A VISIBLE TRADE DEFICIT OF \$4,573 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 1.2 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, WAS RECORDED IN THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF 1989. THIS COMPARES WITH A DEFICIT OF \$6,765 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 2.2 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, RECORDED IN THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF 1988.

COMMENTING ON THESE FIGURES, A GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT SPOKESMAN SAID THE PERFORMANCE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN AUGUST VARIED AMONG MAJOR MARKETS.

PRELIMINARY INDICATIONS WERE THAT THE GROWTH RATE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CHINA DECELERATED MARKEDLY. THIS MIGHT SUGGEST A SETBACK IN OUTWARD PROCESSING ACTIVITIES IN CHINA, IN LINE WITH THE SLUGGISH PERFORMANCE OF HONG KONG'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CERTAIN OVERSEAS MARKETS.

WHILE DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO JAPAN CONTINUED TO SHOW STRONG GROWTH, THOSE TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND THE UNITED KINGDOM DECLINED. DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES, HONG KONG'S LARGEST EXPORT MARKET, SHOWED A SLIGHT REVIVAL.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE VALUE OF RETAINED IMPORTS IN AUGUST CONTINUED TO FALL ON A YEAR-ON-YEAR BASIS. THIS SUGGESTED THAT DOMESTIC DEMAND WAS SLACKENING FURTHER.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE PRESENTS THE PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR AUGUST 1989.

/MERCHANDISE: DOMESTIC

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MERCHANDISE:	DOMESTIC EXPORTS :	\$21,226	MILLION	
	RE-EXPORTS	\$31,828	MILLION	
	TOTAL EXPORTS	\$53,054	MILLION	
	IMPORTS	\$47,969	MILLION	
	TRADE BALANCE	\$5,085	MILLION	(IN SURPLUS)

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

LATEST 3 MONTHS	JUN 89 TO AUG 89 HK\$ MN.	JUN 88 TO AUG 88 HK\$ MN.	INCREASE	
			HK\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	61,286	58,924	2,362	4.0
RE-EXPORTS	93,145	71,768	21,377	29.8
TOTAL EXPORTS	154,431	130,692	23,739	18.2
IMPORTS	146,746	131,406	15,340	11.7
TRADE BALANCE	7,685	-714	8,399	

SAME MONTH LAST YEAR	AUGUST 1989 HK\$ MN.	AUGUST 1988 HK\$ MN.	INCREASE	
			HK\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	21,226	20,669	557	2.7
(% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	(40.0%)	(44.8%)		
RE-EXPORTS	31,828	25,429	6,399	25.2
TOTAL EXPORTS	53,054	46,098	6,956	15.1
IMPORTS	47,969	43,827	4,142	9.5
TRADE BALANCE	5,085	2,271	2,814	

LAST MONTH	AUGUST 1989 HK\$ MN.	JULY 1989 HK\$ MN.	INCREASE	
			HK\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	21,226	21,104	122	0.6
(% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	(40.0%)	(40.2%)		
RE-EXPORTS	31,828	31,431	397	1.3
TOTAL EXPORTS	53,054	52,535	519	1.0
IMPORTS	47,969	48,723	-754	-1.5
TRADE BALANCE	5,085	3,812	1,273	

CALENDAR YEAR TO-DATE	JAN-AUG 1989 HK\$ MN.	JAN-AUG 1988 HK\$ MN.	INCREASE	
			HK\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	144,388	136,422	7,966	5.8
(% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	(39.2%)	(45.0%)		
RE-EXPORTS	224,355	166,725	57,630	34.6
TOTAL EXPORTS	368,743	303,147	65,596	21.6
IMPORTS	373,316	309,912	63,404	20.5
TRADE BALANCE	-4,573	-6,765	2,192	

LAST 12 MONTHS	SEP 88 TO	SEP 87 TO	INCREASE	
	AUG 89	AUG 88	HK\$ MN.	%
	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.		
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	225,629	208,380	17,249	8.3
RE-EXPORTS	333,035	236,931	96,104	40.6
TOTAL EXPORTS	558,664	445,311	113,353	25.5
IMPORTS	562,202	450,476	111,726	24.8
TRADE BALANCE	-3,538	-5,165	1,627	

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TANG SHIU KIN HOSPITAL EXTENSION OPENS

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THE HOSPITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE TO UPGRADE ITS EXISTING SERVICES AND SEEK IMPROVEMENTS AS FAR AS POSSIBLE WITHIN THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE DIRECTOR OF HOSPITAL SERVICES, DR T.Y. CHAU, AT A CEREMONY TODAY (WEDNESDAY) TO MARK THE OPENING OF THE TANG SHIU KIN HOSPITAL EXTENSION.

AT THE OPENING CEREMONY, A BUST OF THE LATE SIR SHIU-KIN TANG WAS UNVEILED. ALSO OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WAS MR RICHARD TANG, SON OF SIR SHIU-KIN.

IN HIS OPENING ADDRESS, DR CHAU POINTED OUT THAT THE RAPID GROWTH OF HONG KONG'S POPULATION OVER THE YEARS HAD IMPOSED A HEAVY STRAIN ON MEDICAL SERVICES.

"DESPITE THIS PRESSURE, THE GENERAL HEALTH OF THE COMMUNITY, AS REFLECTED IN THE MAJOR INTERNATIONAL HEALTH INDICES, SUCH AS THE INFANT MORTALITY RATE, MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE, LIFE EXPECTANCY ETC, IS VERY SATISFACTORY BY ANY STANDARD.

"THIS IS AN ACHIEVEMENT IN ITSELF. BUT WE WILL CONTINUE TO UPGRADE OUR EXISTING SERVICES AND SEEK IMPROVEMENTS AS FAR AS POSSIBLE WITHIN THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO US," HE SAID.

THE TANG SHIU KIN HOSPITAL, WHICH WAS INAUGURATED IN 1969, HAD PROVIDED VALUABLE SERVICES TO RESIDENTS, DR CHAU SAID.

WITH THE PASSAGE OF TIME, HOWEVER, IT HAD BECOME NECESSARY TO EXPAND THE HOSPITAL SERVICES IN ORDER TO MEET THE INCREASE IN POPULATION AND THE COMMUNITY'S RISING ASPIRATIONS FOR BETTER PROVISION OF SERVICES.

DR CHAU SPOKE OF SIR SHIU-KIN'S GENEROSITY AND CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS IMPROVING MEDICAL AND HEALTH FACILITIES IN HONG KONG.

/"THIS HOSPITAL

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"THIS HOSPITAL EXTENSION IS BUT ONE AMONGST THE MANY OTHER IMPORTANT SOCIAL SERVICES WHICH HAVE BENEFITTED FROM HIS DONATIONS."

MR RICHARD TANG SAID HE WAS VERY GLAD TO SEE THE COMPLETION AND OPENING OF THE HOSPITAL EXTENSION WHICH, HE BELIEVED, WOULD GO A LONG WAY TOWARDS MEETING THE NEEDS OF THE PUBLIC.

THE TANG SHIU KIN HOSPITAL EXTENSION, WHICH COST ABOUT \$83 MILLION, CONSISTS OF 10 STOREYS.

IT WILL PROVIDE 40 BEDS IN A FULLY-FLEDGED ORTHOPAEDIC UNIT, AND NEW OPERATING THEATRES AND A WIDE RANGE OF SUPPORTING SERVICES, SUCH AS CLINICAL PATHOLOGY, X-RAY, OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY, PHYSIOTHERAPY, AND PROSTHETIC-ORTHOTIC SERVICES.

THE ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT WILL ALSO BE EXPANDED AND STRENGTHENED.

THE TANG SHIU KIN HOSPITAL NOW PROVIDES 80 BEDS.

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REHABILITATION SERVICES FOR DISABLED EXPANDED

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REHABILITATION SERVICES IN HONG KONG HAVE BEEN CONTINUALLY EXPANDING TO TAKE CARE OF ALL TYPES OF DISABLED PERSONS. THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR STEPHEN LAW, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NEW LIFE PSYCHIATRIC REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION, MR LAW SAID THESE SERVICES INCLUDED ACTIVITY CENTRES, SHELTERED WORKSHOPS, HALF-WAY HOUSES, VARIOUS TYPES OF HOSTELS, HOME-BASE TRAINING, SOCIAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES AS WELL AS COUNSELLING.

"A CENTRAL REFERRAL SYSTEM FOR DISABLED ADULTS WAS ESTABLISHED LAST YEAR TO HELP IN THE EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE USE OF REHABILITATION FACILITIES," HE SAID.

APART FROM PROVIDING SERVICES DIRECTLY AND THROUGH SUBVENTED AGENCIES, MR LAW SAID THE GOVERNMENT ALSO PROVIDED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO DISABLED PERSONS AND THEIR FAMILIES THROUGH THE VARIOUS SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEMES.

"THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SCHEME IS DESIGNED TO BRING THE INCOME OF INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES SUFFERING FINANCIAL HARDSHIP TO THE PRESCRIBED LEVEL WHERE BASIC NEEDS SUCH AS FOOD AND CLOTHING CAN BE MET," HE SAID.

"APART FROM SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTS FOR OLD AGE AND DISABILITY, THE SCHEME ALSO PROVIDES SPECIAL PAYMENTS TOWARDS RENT, TRAVELLING, SCHOOL FEES AND SCHOOL-RELATED EXPENSES, AND MEDICALLY RECOMMENDED DIETS," HE ADDED.

/ABOUT 5,200

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ABOUT 5,200 PUBLIC ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS, OR EIGHT PER CENT OF THE TOTAL CASELOAD, WERE FROM DISABLED PERSONS, MR LAW SAID, ADDING THAT, AMONG THESE, OVER 2,900 WERE MENTALLY ILL.

"THE SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCES SCHEME PROVIDES FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE SEVERELY DISABLED AND PEOPLE OVER 67 TO MEET SPECIAL NEEDS ARISING FROM THEIR DISABILITIES OR OLD AGE SO AS TO REDUCE THE BURDEN ON THEIR FAMILIES." MR LAW EXPLAINED.

"OF THE 61,000 DISABILITY ALLOWANCE (DA) RECIPIENTS, 40.5 PER CENT ARE MENTALLY ILL OR HANDICAPPED, 51.7 ARE PHYSICALLY DISABLED AND 7.8 ARE DEAF," HE SAID.

"IN ADDITION, A HIGHER DISABILITY ALLOWANCE (HDA), WHICH DOUBLES THE RATE OF THE DA, HAS BEEN INTRODUCED IN STAGES SINCE APRIL 1, 1988 TO ASSIST THOSE SEVERELY DISABLED PERSONS WHO ARE IN NEED OF CONSTANT CARE BUT WHO ARE NOT RESIDING IN A GOVERNMENT OR SUBVENTED INSTITUTION," HE ADDED.

OVER 5,300 PERSONS WERE RECEIVING THIS HDA, WHICH WAS APPLICABLE TO SEVERELY DISABLED PERSONS OVER 16 AT PRESENT BUT WOULD BE APPLICABLE TO ALL AGE GROUPS FROM APRIL 1, 1990.

"THESE SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEMES HELP ENHANCE THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE DISABLED AND REDUCE THEIR RELIANCE ON THEIR FAMILIES AND HENCE, THE CONCEPT OF COMMUNITY CARE CAN BE FURTHER PROMOTED," MR LAW SAID.

HE CALLED FOR UNDERSTANDING AND COMPASSION FROM THE COMMUNITY TOWARDS REHABILITATION OF THE DISABLED AND STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF SUPPORTING THEIR FAMILIES.

"WHILE WORKERS FROM OUR FAMILY SERVICES CENTRES AND MEDICAL SOCIAL SERVICE UNITS HAVE CONTRIBUTED GREATLY TO THESE FAMILIES OVER THE REHABILITATION OF THEIR DISABLED MEMBERS, DEVELOPMENT OF SERVICES SUCH AS THE RESPITE SERVICE RECENTLY INTRODUCED AT THE DEPARTMENT'S CHEUNG HONG HOSTEL IS ALSO INDISPENSABLE," HE ADDED.

MR LAW COMMENDED THE ASSOCIATION FOR ITS EFFORTS IN ASSISTING THE RE-INTEGRATION OF RECOVERED MENTAL PATIENTS INTO THE COMMUNITY.

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NEW GAS SAFETY LAW IN PIPELINE
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THE GOVERNMENT IS WORKING HARD TO PRODUCE NEW LAW TO COVER ALL ASPECTS OF FUEL GAS SAFETY IN HONG KONG, THE DIRECTOR OF ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES, MR MIAO CHI, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

MR MIAO SAID THE NEW LAW WOULD INCLUDE THE REGISTRATION OF GAS SUPPLIERS AND GAS INSTALLERS, EXAMINATION AND APPROVAL OF GAS APPLIANCES, APPROVAL OF THE DESIGN AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF GAS INSTALLATIONS.

ADDRESSING A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE LIONS CLUB OF VICTORIA, HE SAID THE ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAD CONSULTED THE GAS INDUSTRY IN THE PAST THREE AND A HALF YEARS AND AN AGREEMENT WAS REACHED IN PRINCIPLE ON NEW GAS SAFETY LEGISLATION.

THE DEPARTMENT WAS NOW WORKING WITH THE LAW DRAFTSMAN TO PRODUCE THE LEGISLATION.

IT WAS ANTICIPATED THAT THIS PIECE OF NEW LEGISLATION WOULD SOON BE PUT BEFORE THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, MR MIAO SAID.

THE DEMAND FOR GAS INCREASED BY MORE THAN 300 PER CENT BETWEEN 1976 AND LAST YEAR.

IN THE SAME PERIOD, THE NUMBER OF TOWNGAS CUSTOMERS ROSE FROM 64,000 TO OVER 650,000.

THE NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS FOR LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS ALSO ROSE, FROM 15,000 TO ABOUT 200,000.

MR MIAO ALSO SAID HONG KONG WOULD SOON HAVE A NEW ELECTRICITY ORDINANCE IN AN ATTEMPT TO ACHIEVE MORE EFFECTIVE AND SAFE USE OF ELECTRICITY.

"SUBJECT TO THE PASSING OF THE BILL BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, THE PROPOSALS WILL TAKE EFFECT BY PHASES NEXT YEAR," HE SAID.

THE NEW ORDINANCE WOULD INCLUDE AMENDMENTS TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT ALL THE DEVELOPMENT SINCE 1911, WHEN THE EXISTING ELECTRICITY SUPPLY ORDINANCE AND ITS REGULATIONS WERE PROMULGATED.

IT WOULD ALSO HAVE FAR REACHING EFFECTS AS IT WOULD PRESCRIBE MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR LICENSED CONTRACTORS, ELECTRICIANS AND ENGINEERS.

STANDARDS AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS WOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS FOR ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS AS WELL AS FOR ELECTRICAL PRODUCTS.

THE BILL WAS INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN JUNE, FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS.

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LABOUR RELATIONS COURSES WELL-RECEIVED

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (WEDNESDAY) HELD A CERTIFICATE PRESENTATION CEREMONY FOR PARTICIPANTS IN ITS LABOUR RELATIONS COURSES THIS YEAR.

A TOTAL OF 12 CERTIFICATE COURSES FOR 560 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S LABOUR RELATIONS PROMOTION UNIT SO FAR THIS YEAR.

SPEAKING AT THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR JAMES YEUNG, SAID THAT THROUGH ITS ANNUAL PROGRAMME OF LABOUR RELATIONS COURSES WHICH STARTED IN 1984, THE DEPARTMENT HAD INSTILLED IN SOME 2,300 PEOPLE THE CONCEPT OF GOOD LABOUR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS.

"THE DEPARTMENT HAS ALSO ORGANISED 31 VARIOUS TYPES OF CERTIFICATE COURSES AND 25 SEMINARS ALONE OR IN CONJUNCTION WITH COMMERCIAL ORGANISATIONS AND TRADE UNIONS UP TO AUGUST THIS YEAR, ATTRACTING ALTOGETHER 2,800 PARTICIPANTS.

"IN ADDITION, IT MAKES USE OF OTHER CHANNELS TO PROMOTE LABOUR RELATIONS AND PUBLICISE LABOUR LEGISLATION, INCLUDING MOBILE EXHIBITIONS, PUBLICATION OF PAMPHLETS AND NEWSLETTERS, AND PUBLICITY THROUGH THE MASS MEDIA," MR YEUNG SAID.

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FEWER INCIDENTS OF DELINQUENT BEHAVIOUR IN SCHOOLS

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THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS OF DELINQUENT BEHAVIOUR RELATING TO GAMBLING AND SUSPECTED INVOLVEMENT IN TRIAD ACTIVITIES REPORTED BY SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN THE 1987-88 SCHOOL YEAR REGISTERED A DROP WHEN COMPARED WITH THE PRECEDING YEAR, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE FIGURES CONTAINED IN A SURVEY REPORT SHOWED THAT THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS OF INVOLVEMENT IN GAMBLING COMMITTED BY SECONDARY STUDENTS LAST SCHOOL YEAR WAS 2,181 (2,209 IN 1986-87) AND OF SUSPECTED INVOLVEMENT IN TRIAD ACTIVITIES IT WAS 637 (745 IN 1986-87).

THIS WAS THE SIXTH SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON UNRULY AND DELINQUENT BEHAVIOUR IN SCHOOLS.

THE 1987-88 SURVEY COVERED ALL SECONDARY DAY SCHOOLS IN THE TERRITORY FROM WHICH THERE WAS NEARLY A 100 PER CENT RESPONSE RATE.

/ON THE

ON THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS INVOLVING DELINQUENT BEHAVIOUR IN 1987-88, THE SPOKESMAN SAID A TOTAL OF 15,043 WERE REGISTERED, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 14.1 PER CENT FROM 13,186 WHEN COMPARED WITH 1986-87.

THE SURVEY INDICATED THAT AS IN THE PREVIOUS SURVEY THE THREE MORE COMMON CATEGORIES, NAMELY ACTS OF PHYSICAL VIOLENCE, STEALING AND INVOLVEMENT IN GAMBLING COMPRISED SOME 80 PER CENT OF ALL THE INCIDENTS OF DELINQUENT BEHAVIOUR.

APART FROM INVOLVEMENT IN GAMBLING, SUSPECTED INVOLVEMENT IN TRIAD ACTIVITIES, AND CONVICTION OF ONE OR MORE CRIMES, ALL OTHER TYPES OF DELINQUENT BEHAVIOUR WERE REPORTED TO HAVE INCREASED IN 1987-88 AS COMPARED WITH 1986-87.

SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE REGISTERED IN BOTH THE POSSESSION OF PORNOGRAPHIC MATERIALS (FROM 664 IN 1986-87 TO 1,298 IN 1987-88) AND INVOLVEMENT IN SEX OFFENCES (FROM 126 TO 219), THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HOWEVER, THE SURVEY SHOWED THAT THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS OF POSSESSION OF PORNOGRAPHIC MATERIALS WAS STILL LOWER THAN THAT IN 1984-85 (1,501).

THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS INVOLVING SEX OFFENCES WAS AT A LOW LEVEL AND REPRESENTED ONLY 1.5 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF INCIDENTS OF DELINQUENT BEHAVIOUR.

ON THE FIGURES FOR UNRULY BEHAVIOUR, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THERE WAS A 15.8 PER CENT INCREASE FROM 169,339 IN 1986-87 TO 196,108 IN 1987-88.

OF THE VARIOUS TYPES OF UNRULY BEHAVIOUR REPORTED, 72 PER CENT OF ALL SUCH INCIDENTS INVOLVED THE HABITUAL FAILURE TO HAND IN ASSIGNMENTS OR BRING TEXTBOOKS OR STATIONERY TO SCHOOLS (65,442 IN 1987-88), HABITUAL LATENESS (33,055), DISCIPLINARY OFFENCES TO ATTRACT ATTENTION (21,187) AND INSOLENT OR REBELLIOUS BEHAVIOUR (20,848).

TURNING TO THE TOTAL NUMBER OF 211,151 INCIDENTS OF UNRULY AND DELINQUENT BEHAVIOUR REPORTED IN 1987-88, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THIS REPRESENTED AN INCREASE OF 15.7 PER CENT OVER THE 182,525 INCIDENTS REPORTED IN 1986-87.

THE GREAT MAJORITY OF THE INCIDENTS REPORTED, ACCOUNTING FOR 93 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL, WERE IN THE LESS SERIOUS CATEGORY OF UNRULY BEHAVIOUR, WHILE ONLY A MINORITY (7 PER CENT) WERE IN THE MORE SERIOUS CATEGORY OF DELINQUENT BEHAVIOUR, THE SAME LEVEL AS IN THE PREVIOUS SURVEYS.

THE SURVEY ALSO SHOWED THAT STUDENTS IN SECONDARY 1 TO 3, IN PARTICULAR THOSE IN SECONDARY 1, REMAINED THE GROUP MOST PRONE TO COMMITTING UNRULY AND DELINQUENT BEHAVIOUR.

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THE SPOKESMAN SAID THERE CONTINUED TO BE A NEED FOR MORE INDIVIDUAL CARE AND GUIDANCE TO BE PROVIDED FOR JUNIOR SECONDARY STUDENTS AND FOR APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO BE TAKEN TO PREVENT SUCH MISBEHAVIOUR.

IN THIS CONNECTION, THE SPOKESMAN CALLED ON TEACHERS TO REFER TO THE GENERAL GUIDELINES ON MORAL EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS AND TO THE MORAL EDUCATION REFERENCE MATERIALS ISSUED TO SCHOOLS.

"TO ASSIST SCHOOLS TO TACKLE THE PROBLEM, THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HAS CONTINUED TO GIVE ADVICE TO SCHOOLS ON WAYS OF ORGANISING GUIDANCE AND COUNSELLING SYSTEMS WITHIN SCHOOLS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"IT HAS ALSO BEEN GIVING GUIDANCE TO SCHOOLS IN RESPECT OF REMEDIAL TEACHING AND HAS BEEN CO-OPERATING WITH THE HONG KONG EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES COORDINATORS' ASSOCIATION TO STRENGTHEN EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES IN SCHOOLS.

"THE SCHOOLS SUPPORT SCHEME HAS ALSO HELPED INDIVIDUAL SCHOOLS TO DEAL WITH BEHAVIOUR PROBLEMS," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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CHAIRMEN OF TAI PO DB COMMITTEES ELECTED

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THE CHAIRMEN OF THE FIVE COMMITTEES OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD WERE RE-ELECTED UNOPPOSED FOR A SECOND TERM AT A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD THIS (WEDNESDAY) MORNING.

THE FIVE CHAIRMEN ARE: MR YAU FOOK-PING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT AND WORKS COMMITTEE; MR KWONG KAI-TO OF THE PROMOTION AND PUBLICITY COMMITTEE; MR LEUNG WO-PING OF THE RECREATION, SPORTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE; MR MICHAEL LAI KAM-CHEUNG OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE; AND MR TANG PUI-TAT OF THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE.

THEIR TERM OF OFFICE WILL RUN FROM OCTOBER 1 TO MARCH 31, 1991.

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DB COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS NOISE REDUCTION PROPOSAL

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THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY WELFARE COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS A PROPOSAL TO PROVIDE AIR-CONDITIONING FACILITIES AT THE CHEUNG SHA WAN GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

IT IS HOPED THAT THE INSTALLATION OF AIR-CONDITIONING FACILITIES WOULD HELP REDUCE THE NOISE LEVEL AT THE SCHOOL WHICH IS SITUATED UNDER THE AIRPORT FLIGHT PATH AND IS AFFECTED BY NEARBY BUILDING REPAIR WORKS.

ALSO TO BE DISCUSSED ARE IMPROVEMENTS TO STUDY ROOM FACILITIES AT THE B.G.C.A. CHEUNG SHA WAN LIBRARY AND A REPORT PREPARED BY THE DB WORKING GROUP ON STUDY ROOM FACILITIES IN THE DISTRICT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY WELFARE COMMITTEE WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 2 PM TOMORROW (THURSDAY) AT THE SHEK KIP MEI COMMUNITY HALL, BLOCK 42, SHEK KIP MEI ESTATE, NAM CHEONG STREET.

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BUILDING MANAGEMENT SEMINAR FOR MID-LEVELS RESIDENTS

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A SEMINAR ON BUILDING MANAGEMENT FOR MID-LEVELS RESIDENTS WILL BE HELD AT THE CAINE ROAD HONG KONG BAPTIST CHURCH ON FRIDAY (SEPTEMBER 29), BEGINNING AT 8 PM.

THREE SPEAKERS FROM RELATED FIELDS WILL GIVE TALKS ON VARIOUS HOUSING MANAGEMENT TOPICS.

DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR AMBROSE LAU, WHO IS A MEMBER OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE BUILDING MANAGEMENT, WILL SPEAK ON ISSUES RELATING TO DEEDS OF MUTUAL COVENANT.

DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER MR LAM KIN-LAI, WHO IS AN ENGINEER BY PROFESSION, WILL REVIEW THE IMPORTANCE OF HAVING PROPER BUILDING EQUIPMENT.

HEAD OF THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BUILDING MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATION TEAM, HOUSING MANAGER MR LEE CHI-SANG WILL ANALYSE HUMAN RELATIONSHIP AS ONE OF THE PROBLEMS IN BUILDING MANAGEMENT.

THE SEMINAR HAS BEEN JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE MID-LEVELS (CENTRAL AND WESTERN) AREA COMMITTEES WITH SPONSORSHIP FROM THE DISTRICT BOARD.

/SIMILAR SEMINARS

SIMILAR SEMINARS WILL BE HELD IN THE AREAS OF SAI YING PUN, KENNEDY TOWN, AS WELL AS CHUNG WAN AND SHEUNG WAN IN THE NEXT FOUR MONTHS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MID-LEVELS BUILDING MANAGEMENT SEMINAR WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 8 PM ON FRIDAY (SEPTEMBER 29) IN ROOM 1009, HONG KONG BAPTIST CHURCH, 56 CAINE ROAD, CENTRAL.

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THREE SNAKE SPECIES MAY BE LISTED AS ENDANGERED

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THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT TODAY (WEDNESDAY) ADVISED TRADERS IN LIVE SNAKES AND SNAKE PRODUCTS THAT THREE SPECIES OF SNAKE MIGHT BE SUBJECT TO STRICT LICENSING CONTROL SHOULD THEY BE LISTED IN THE INTERNATIONAL SCHEDULE OF ENDANGERED SPECIES.

THESE THREE SNAKE SPECIES ARE THE COMMON RAT SNAKE, THE COBRA AND THE KING COBRA.

IN A CIRCULAR TO THESE TRADERS, THE DEPARTMENT'S SENIOR CONSERVATION OFFICER, MR M.K. CHEUNG, SAID PROPOSALS HAD RECENTLY BEEN MADE TO THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA (CITES) FOR THE ADDITION OF THESE THREE SPECIES IN APPENDIX II OF ITS ENDANGERED SPECIES LIST.

THE CITES APPENDIX I COVERS HIGHLY ENDANGERED SPECIES IN WHICH TRADE IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN. SPECIES LISTED IN APPENDIX II ARE THOSE IN WHICH TRADE IS ALLOWED SUBJECT TO STRICT LICENSING CONTROL.

MR CHEUNG SAID: "THESE PROPOSALS WILL BE CONSIDERED IN THE FORTHCOMING CITES CONFERENCE TO BE HELD NEXT MONTH IN SWITZERLAND.

"IF THE PROPOSALS ARE ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE, INTERNATIONAL TRADE, INCLUDING IMPORT AND EXPORT, IN THESE SNAKE SPECIES AS WELL AS THEIR SKIN, MEAT AND PRODUCTS WILL BE STRICTLY CONTROLLED AND RESTRICTED TO SPECIMENS WITH THE APPROVAL FROM THE CITES AUTHORITIES OF THE EXPORTING COUNTRIES."

HE SAID THAT IN HONG KONG, THE NECESSARY LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENT TO INCLUDE THESE SPECIES INTO THE SCHEDULES OF THE ANIMALS AND PLANTS (PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES) ORDINANCE WOULD BE CONSIDERED IN THE EVENT THAT THE PROPOSALS WERE ADOPTED BY CITES.

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UNDER THE ORDINANCE, THE IMPORT, EXPORT OR POSSESSION OF SCHEDULED SPECIES AND THEIR PARTS AND DERIVATIVES ARE PROHIBITED EXCEPT UNDER A LICENSE ISSUED IN ADVANCE BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT.

OFFENDERS ARE LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$25,000 FOR THE FIRST OFFENCE AND \$50,000 PLUS SIX MONTHS' JAIL SENTENCE FOR A REPEATED OFFENCE IN ADDITION TO THE MANDATORY FORFEITURE OF THE SPECIMENS.

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TWO GOVT LOTS IN NT TO LET BY TENDER
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THE BUILDING AND LANDS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE SHORT TERM TENANCY OF TWO SITES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE FIRST LOT, A 2,000-SQUARE-METRE SITE AT AREA 30, KWAI CHUNG CREEK RECLAMATION, KWAI CHUNG, IS TO BE USED FOR THE OPERATION OF A CONCRETE BATCHING PLANT.

THE TENANCY IS FOR THREE YEARS, RENEWABLE QUARTERLY AFTERWARDS.

THE SECOND LOT IS AT WANG YIP STREET WEST, TUNG TAU INDUSTRIAL AREA, YUEN LONG, WITH AN AREA OF ABOUT 2,057 SQUARE METRES. IT IS FOR A FEE-PAYING OPEN CARPARK.

THE TENANCY IS FOR ONE YEAR, RENEWABLE QUARTERLY AFTERWARDS.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR ACCEPTANCE OF TENDERS FOR BOTH SITES IS NOON ON OCTOBER 13.

FORM OF TENDER, TENDER NOTICE AND CONDITIONS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM AND TENDER PLAN INSPECTED AT THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES AT KWAI TSING AND YUEN LONG; THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG; AND THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES KOWLOON, 10TH FLOOR, YAU MA TEI CARPARK BUILDING, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON.

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ILLEGAL STRUCTURE IN HUNG HOM TO BE CLOSED
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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS SEEKING TO CLOSE AN ILLEGAL STRUCTURE IN HUNG HOM SO THAT IT CAN BE DEMOLISHED WITHOUT DANGER TO THE OCCUPIERS AND TO THE PUBLIC.

IT IS AT FLAT C, SECOND FLOOR, JUNCTION OF 264-268 CHATHAM ROAD AND 183-187 BULKELEY STREET.

/THE CLOSURE

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THE CLOSURE IS PART OF AN EXERCISE TO ENFORCE AN ORDER ISSUED UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE IN DECEMBER 1985 REQUIRING THE DEMOLITION OF THE STRUCTURE.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER FROM THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT ON NOVEMBER 29 THIS YEAR WAS POSTED ON A CONSPICUOUS PART OF THE STRUCTURE TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

IT IS EXPECTED THAT DEMOLITION WORK WILL START ONCE THE CLOSURE ORDER IS OBTAINED.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN CENTRAL, WESTERN

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (SEPTEMBER 29), QUEEN VICTORIA STREET BETWEEN CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL AND DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND TO ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND.

AT THE SAME TIME, THIS ROAD SECTION WILL ALSO BE OPENED TO OTHER VEHICLES IN ADDITION TO FRANCHISED BUSES.

ALSO FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY, THE SOUTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST BETWEEN WATER STREET AND CHIU KWONG STREET WILL BE DESIGNATED AN URBAN CLEARWAY FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY.

THIS MEASURE WILL LAST FOR ABOUT TWO MONTHS TO FACILITATE ROAD AND DRAINAGE WORKS.

NO VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS THERE.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT IN KWUN TONG

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (SEPTEMBER 29), THE RIGHT TURN FROM KWUN TONG ROAD WESTBOUND ON TO ELEGANCE ROAD WILL BE BANNED.

MOTORISTS TRAVELLING ON KWUN TONG ROAD WESTBOUND HEADING FOR ELEGANCE ROAD WILL BE DIVERTED TO TRAVEL VIA HOI YUEN ROAD, WAI YIP STREET AND LAI YIP STREET.

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