



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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GATT, MFA AMONG FIRST JLG TASKS, GOVERNOR SAYS  
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THE NEED TO SECURE QUICKLY HONG KONG'S FUTURE POSITION IN SUCH BODIES AS THE GATT AND THE MFA WOULD BE ONE OF THE FIRST TASKS OF THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT LIAISON GROUP, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE TOLD MEMBERS OF THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES TONIGHT.

SIR EDWARD WAS SPEAKING AT THE FEDERATION'S SILVER JUBILEE DINNER.

REFERRING ALSO TO WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS +A LEGITIMATE CONCERN+ OF THE FEDERATION ABOUT THE IMPACT OF LABOUR AND POLLUTION LEGISLATION ON INDUSTRY, THE GOVERNOR SAID:

+I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT THE GOVERNMENT DOES AND WILL CONTINUE TO WEIGH VERY CAREFULLY THE ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES OF SUCH LEGISLATION BEFORE ITS INTRODUCTION.+

THE FEDERATION, SIR EDWARD SAID, FACED A NEW CHALLENGE, AS IT WOULD BE ONE OF THE FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES FOR ELECTIONS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN SEPTEMBER.

THIS UNDERSCORED THE IMPORTANT ROLE WHICH THE FEDERATION WOULD CONTINUE TO HAVE IN SHAPING THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG.

+I HAVE EVERY CONFIDENCE THAT THE FEDERATION, WITH ITS SOLID 25 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE, WILL RISE TO THE CHALLENGES OF THE FUTURE,+ HE SAID, WISHING IT EVERY SUCCESS.

SIR EDWARD SAID THAT HE WAS VERY PLEASED TO CELEBRATE THE SILVER JUBILEE WITH MEMBERS OF ONE OF THE OLDEST AND LARGEST INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS IN HONG KONG.

THE FEDERATION WAS TO BE CONGRATULATED ON ITS MANY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG INDUSTRY DURING THE 25 YEARS.

+TO QUOTE ONLY A FEW EXAMPLES -- THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HONG KONG INDUSTRIAL DESIGN COUNCIL AND THE HONG KONG PACKAGING COUNCIL, AND THE HONG KONG +Q-MARK+ QUALITY ASSURANCE SCHEME.

+IT IS ALSO AN EFFECTIVE AND RESPECTED VOICE FOR INDUSTRY,+ HE SAID.

THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, HE SAID, REMAINED THE BACKBONE OF THE ECONOMY, DESPITE THE EXPANSION AND GROWING IMPORTANCE OF HONG KONG'S SERVICES SECTOR.

THERE HAD BEEN A PHENOMENAL GROWTH IN MANUFACTURING IN HONG KONG, AND A SIGNIFICANT TRANSFORMATION OF THE LIGHT INDUSTRIAL STRUCTURE -- FROM THE LABOUR-INTENSIVE PRODUCTS OF THE SIXTIES TO THE TECHNOLOGY-INTENSIVE, HIGH QUALITY PRODUCTS OF TODAY.

/THIS HAD .....

THIS HAD MEANT MORE HONG KONG CONTENT IN MANUFACTURES, MANIFESTED IN THE VERY SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN THE VALUE-ADDED PER MANUFACTURING WORKER IN THE LAST DECADE.

THE ENVIRONMENT UNDER WHICH HONG KONG MANUFACTURERS HAD TO OPERATE HAD NOT ALWAYS BEEN CONGENIAL, SIR EDWARD SAID.

+RISING COSTS, COMPETITION FROM COUNTRIES WITH LOWER LABOUR COSTS, THE FICKLENESS OF FASHION ARE CHALLENGES WHICH OUR MANUFACTURERS FACE EVERY DAY.

+AND THEY HAVE ALSO TO OPERATE UNDER THE EVER-PRESENT THREAT OF PROTECTIONIST PRESSURES IN SOME OF OUR MAJOR MARKETS.

+ALL THIS MEANS THAT OUR INDUSTRY MUST ALWAYS BE SEEKING TO DIVERSIFY AND TO UPGRADE NOT ONLY ITS PRODUCTS, BUT ALSO ITS MARKETS,+ HE SAID.

POINTING OUT THAT THIS REQUIRED REGULAR INVESTMENT AND REINVESTMENT IN NEW PLANT AND EQUIPMENT, SIR EDWARD SAID HE WAS PLEASED TO NOTE THAT THE SLACKNESS IN INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT AND REINVESTMENT OF 1982 AND 1983 HAD NOW BEEN REVERSED.

IN 1984, THE VALUE OF RETAINED IMPORTS OF INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY INCREASED BY 26.3 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS COMPARED WITH THE YEAR BEFORE.

THE GOVERNMENT, SIR EDWARD SAID, INTENDED TO CONTINUE THE WELL PROVEN POLICIES ON WHICH HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC SUCCESS HAD BEEN BASED OF PROVIDING INDUSTRY WITH AN EFFICIENT INFRASTRUCTURE, AND THEN ALLOWING IT TO FUNCTION WITH MINIMUM INTERFERENCE.

AND, IN DRAWING UP ITS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES, IT ALSO PLACED GREAT IMPORTANCE ON CONSULTATION WITH INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS, LIKE THE FEDERATION, TO ENSURE THAT THE NEEDS OF INDUSTRY WERE FULLY TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN THE PLANNING PROCESS, HE SAID.

+VOTER REGISTRATION GOING VERY MUCH BETTER+

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID TODAY THAT THE FINAL REGISTRATION OF VOTERS IN THE FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES FOR THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTION WAS GOING VERY MUCH BETTER, AND HE HOPED THAT AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE WOULD PARTICIPATE.

+PEOPLE HAVE UNTIL MONDAY EVENING IN ORDER TO COMPLETE THEIR REGISTRATION,+ HE SAID, +I HOPE WE SHALL HAVE A LAST-MINUTE RUSH BECAUSE THESE ELECTIONS ARE VERY IMPORTANT.

/+WE HAVE .....

+WE HAVE AFTERALL NOW GOT ALL THE FRAMEWORK FOR THE NEW LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND THE ELECTIONS ALL IN PLACE AND I AM HOPING AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE WILL PARTICIPATE.+

HE WAS SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER OPENING THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING DEPARTMENT'S NEW PREMISES IN QUARRY BAY TODAY.

ASKED IF THE ELECTIONS WOULD BE A MAJOR TOPIC OF HIS DISCUSSION WITH BRITISH MINISTERS IN LONDON, SIR EDWARD SAID: +I DON'T THINK THAT WILL BE A MAJOR TOPIC OF DISCUSSION, BECAUSE AFTERALL WHAT HAPPENS NOW IN THE ELECTIONS IS UP TO THE REGISTERED ELECTORS.+

ASKED WHAT EXACTLY HE WOULD BE DOING IN LONDON, SIR EDWARD SAID, +I SHALL BE DOING QUITE A LOT OF NOTHING FOR AS MUCH OF THE TIME AS I CAN.

+I SHALL CALL IN AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE.

+I SHALL REVIEW QUITE A LARGE NUMBER OF ISSUES WITH THEM. BUT I SHAN'T BE SPENDING VERY LONG THERE AT THE BEGINNING BECAUSE I AM HOPING TO GET A LITTLE BIT OF HOLIDAY.

+AND BEFORE I COME BACK, I WILL CALL IN AGAIN AND I WILL SEE HOW THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP HAS GOT ON, AND I SHALL SEE HOW THEIR THINKING IS DEVELOPING ON ALL THE OTHER ISSUES WHICH ARE RAISED IN THE JOINT DECLARATION.+

REPLYING TO A QUESTION ON WHY IT WAS NECESSARY FOR HIM TO BE IN LONDON WHEN THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP HELD THEIR FIRST MEETING, SIR EDWARD SAID THE ONLY REASON HE WOULD BE IN LONDON WAS BECAUSE HE WAS GOING ON HOLIDAY.

+IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP. IF I WASN'T ON HOLIDAY, I WOULDN'T BE IN LONDON AT THAT TIME,+ HE SAID.

ASKED WHY IT WAS NECESSARY TO GIVE DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES TO CHINESE MEMBERS OF THE LAND COMMISSION, SIR EDWARD SAID THESE WERE PERFECTLY NORMAL WAYS OF CONDUCTING THIS KIND OF BUSINESS.

+WHEN THERE ARE COMMISSIONS AND GROUPS OF THIS KIND, IT IS PERFECTLY NORMAL TO GIVE THE PEOPLE WHO COME HERE FROM OTHER PLACES CERTAIN IMMUNITIES SO THAT THEY CAN CONDUCT THEIR WORK EFFICIENTLY.

+THERE IS NOTHING SURPRISING OR UNUSUAL.+

ASKED WHETHER IT MEANT THAT THE LAND COMMISSION HAD BEEN UPGRADED TO A DIPLOMATIC BODY, HE SAID, +NO, I DON'T THINK IT IS CALLED A DIPLOMATIC BODY. IT'S GOT A VERY SPECIFIC FUNCTION WORKING ON LAND MATTERS.

/+BUT THE .....

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+BUT THE CHINESE SIDE NATURALLY WILL NEED CERTAIN FACILITIES IN ORDER TO CONDUCT THEIR WORK AND THERE IS NOTHING UNUSUAL ABOUT GIVING IT TO THEM.+

ASKED IF IT WOULD VIOLATE THE JOINT DECLARATION, HE SAID, +ON THE CONTRARY IT'S IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE JOINT DECLARATION THAT WE SHOULD MAKE THE WHOLE ARRANGEMENT WORK AS EFFICIENTLY AS WE CAN.+

ASKED WHETHER IT WAS NECESSARY TO AMEND THE JOINT DECLARATION, SIR EDWARD SAID, +NO. THE JOINT DECLARATION IS NOW IN FORCE. IT IS RATIFIED. IT IS REGISTERED. IT IS THERE.+

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION ON WHETHER THIS MEANT THAT HONG KONG PEOPLE WOULD HAVE DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES IN HONG KONG SINCE SOME CHINESE MEMBERS OF THE LAND COMMISSION ARE HONG KONG PEOPLE, HE SAID, +I AM NOT SURE WHAT YOU MEAN BY HONG KONG PEOPLE. IT USUALLY DEPENDS ON THESE OCCASIONS WHAT KIND OF PASSPORT THEY HAVE.+

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GOVERNMENT PRINTING NOTED FOR HIGH STANDARD  
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THE PRINTING DEPARTMENT, ALTHOUGH WORKING ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE GOVERNMENT, HAD EARNED A REPUTATION BOTH LOCALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY FOR ITS HIGH STANDARDS, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID THIS (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON.

AND IT WAS UNIQUE AMONG GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS IN THAT IT WAS A LEADING EMPLOYER IN SUCH AN INDUSTRY.

OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING OF THE DEPARTMENT'S NEW PREMISES, COVERING EIGHT FLOORS IN CORNWALL HOUSE, 28 TONG CHONG STREET, QUARRY BAY, SIR EDWARD SAID: +THE DEPARTMENT PRODUCES MANY FINE PUBLICATIONS AND ALSO A WIDE RANGE OF STATIONERY WITHOUT WHICH THE CONDUCT OF MUCH OF OUR EVERYDAY BUSINESS WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE.+

HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT GOVERNMENT'S NEED FOR MORE AND BETTER QUALITY PRINTED MATERIAL WOULD INEVITABLY CONTINUE TO INCREASE AS THE LOCAL POPULATION GREW.

SIR EDWARD REFERRED TO THE DEPARTMENT'S +IMPRESSIVE RECORD IN MEETING CHALLENGE+, AND SAID ITS STAFF COULD BE PROUD OF THEIR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS LAST YEAR, WHEN IN DIFFICULT CONDITIONS, +THEY PRODUCED AT HIGH SPEED AND EFFICIENTLY ENORMOUS NUMBERS OF COPIES OF THE WHITE PAPER ON THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG, AND OF THE ASSESSMENT REPORT.+

/+THE DEPARTMENT .....

+THE DEPARTMENT NOW HAS PLANS TO UPDATE AND IMPROVE ITS PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY AND IN PARTICULAR TO ARRANGE FOR CHINESE LANGUAGE TYPESETTING, TO BE COMPUTERISED. I AM SURE THAT WHEN COMPLETED THESE MEASURES WILL GREATLY ENHANCE THE DEPARTMENT'S ABILITY TO COPE EVEN MORE EFFICIENTLY WITH THE DEMANDS ON THEIR SERVICE,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

THE NEED FOR NEW PREMISES WAS RECOGNISED SEVERAL YEARS AGO, AND ITS COMPLETION WOULD PROVIDE STAFF WITH BETTER WORKING CONDITIONS AND ENABLE THE DEPARTMENT TO EXPAND AND IMPROVE ITS SERVICE.

IN HIS SPEECH WELCOMING THE GOVERNOR, THE GOVERNMENT PRINTER, MR HARRIS MYERS, SAID THAT SINCE THE CREATION OF THE DEPARTMENT IN 1952 IT HAD BEEN CHARGED WITH PRODUCING ALL THE PRINTING REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT WITH TWO NOTABLE EXCEPTIONS - POSTAGE STAMPS AND BANK NOTES.

HE SAID THAT AS A MEASURE OF OPERATING EFFICIENCY, THE DEPARTMENT HAD EXPANDED ITS STAFF FROM 121 IN 1952 TO THE PRESENT 383.

+THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF TONNES OF MATERIALS PROCESSED EACH YEAR HAS BEEN REMARKABLE, GROWING FROM 190 TONNES IN 1952 TO OVER 4 600 LAST YEAR, WITH AN INCREDIBLE INCREASE IN OUTPUT IN THE LAST TWO YEARS OF 41 PER CENT PER PERSON EMPLOYED,+ MR MYERS SAID.

THE NEW PREMISES, MR MYERS SAID, WAS DECIDED UPON OVER 30 OTHER SITES AT A TIME WHEN THE QUESTION OF WHETHER GOVERNMENT SHOULD RETAIN ITS OWN PRINTING FACILITY WAS BEING SERIOUSLY EXAMINED.

+GOVERNMENT WAS HOWEVER COMPLETELY SATISFIED WITH THE MERITS OF HAVING CONTROL OF ITS OWN PRINTING FACILITIES, A DECISION DEMONSTRABLY PROVED RIGHT DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS WHEN THE DEPARTMENT MADE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE HISTORIC EVENTS WHICH TOOK PLACE IN HONG KONG,+ HE SAID.

THE NEW PREMISES WOULD NOT ONLY BRING THE WHOLE DEPARTMENT TOGETHER WITH ITS SUPPORTING SERVICES, WHICH HAD BEEN SEPARATED EARLIER BY A LACK OF SPACE, BUT WOULD PROVIDE ROOM TO PRODUCE MORE EFFICIENTLY THE EVER-CHANGING AND GROWING NEEDS OF GOVERNMENT.

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PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR MAY 1985

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THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS (DOMESTIC EXPORTS PLUS RE-EXPORTS) IN MAY 1985, AT \$20 144 MILLION, GREW BY \$1 775 MILLION OR NEARLY 10 PER CENT COMPARED WITH MAY 1984, ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES PUBLISHED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

WITHIN TOTAL EXPORTS, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS DECREASED BY \$896 MILLION OR 7.7 PER CENT, WHILE THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS GREW BY \$2 671 MILLION OR 40 PER CENT.

THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, AT \$19 216 MILLION IN MAY 1985, WAS TWO PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN MAY 1984.

AS THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS GREW AT A MUCH FASTER RATE THAN THAT OF IMPORTS, A VISIBLE TRADE SURPLUS EQUIVALENT TO FIVE PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS WAS RECORDED IN MAY 1985, COMPARED WITH A VISIBLE TRADE GAP (THE PROPORTION OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS NOT COVERED BY THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS) OF THREE PER CENT IN MAY 1984.

PUTTING THE MONTH'S TRADE FIGURES INTO CONTEXT, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS FOR THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1985 WAS \$93 752 MILLION, MADE UP OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF \$49 451 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS OF \$44 301 MILLION.

COMPARED WITH THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1984, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS AND OF RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY 16 PER CENT AND 45 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY, WHILE THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS FELL BY TWO PER CENT.

THE VALUE OF IMPORTS GREW BY EIGHT PER CENT TO \$93 014 MILLION. A VISIBLE TRADE SURPLUS EQUIVALENT TO 0.8 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS WAS RECORDED FOR THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR, COMPARED WITH A VISIBLE TRADE GAP OF SIX PER CENT IN THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

COMMENTING ON THESE FIGURES, A GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE YEAR-ON-YEAR GROWTH RATE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS, AFTER PEAKING IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1984, SLOWED DOWN DURING THE REST OF THE YEAR, AND THIS TREND CONTINUED INTO THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1985.

THE SLOWING DOWN IN THE GROWTH RATE OF THE UNITED STATES ECONOMY IN THE FIRST QUARTER AND THE RELATIVE STRENGTH OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR BOTH CONTRIBUTED TO THE RELATIVELY POOR PERFORMANCE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR.

/RE-EXPORTS, .....

RE-EXPORTS, ON THE OTHER HAND, CONTINUED TO EXPAND.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE PRESENTS THE PROVISIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FIGURES FOR MAY 1985:

<u>MERCHANDISE:</u>	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	:	\$10 816 MILLION
	RE-EXPORTS	:	\$ 9 328 MILLION
	TOTAL EXPORTS	:	\$20 144 MILLION
	IMPORTS	:	\$19 216 MILLION
	TRADE BALANCE	:	\$ 928 MILLION (IN SURPLUS)

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

<u>LATEST 3 MONTHS</u>	<u>MARCH - MAY 1985</u>	<u>MARCH - MAY 1984</u>	<u>INCREASE OR DECREASE</u>	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	28 906	32 662	- 3 756	- 11.5
RE-EXPORTS	27 906	19 400	+ 8 506	+ 43.8
TOTAL EXPORTS	56 812	52 062	+ 4 750	+ 9.1
IMPORTS	58 930	55 532	+ 3 398	+ 6.1
TRADE BALANCE	- 2 118	- 3 470	+ 1 352	
<u>SAME MONTH LAST YEAR</u>	<u>MAY 1985</u>	<u>MAY 1984</u>	<u>INCREASE OR DECREASE</u>	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	10 816 (53.7%)	11 712 (63.8%)	- 896	- 7.7
RE-EXPORTS	9 328	6 657	+ 2 671	+ 40.1
TOTAL EXPORTS	20 144	18 369	+ 1 775	+ 9.7
IMPORTS	19 216	18 867	+ 349	+ 1.8
TRADE BALANCE	+ 928	- 498	+ 1 426	

/LAST MONTH .....

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<u>LAST MONTH</u>	MAY 1985	APRIL 1985	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	10 816 (53.7%)	9 660 (50.4%)	+ 1 156	+ 12.0
RE-EXPORTS	9 328	9 499	- 171	- 1.8
TOTAL EXPORTS	20 144	19 159	+ 985	+ 5.1
IMPORTS	19 216	19 799	- 583	- 2.9
TRADE BALANCE	+ 928	- 640	+ 1 568	
<u>CALENDAR YEAR TO-DATE</u>	JANUARY - MAY 1985	JANUARY - MAY 1984	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	49 451 (52.7%)	50 275 (62.3%)	- 824	- 1.6
RE-EXPORTS	44 301	30 469	+13 832	+ 45.4
TOTAL EXPORTS	93 752	80 744	+13 008	+ 16.1
IMPORTS	93 014	86 179	+ 6 835	+ 7.9
TRADE BALANCE	+ 738	- 5 435	+ 6 173	
<u>LAST 12 MONTHS</u>	JUNE 1984 TO MAY 1985	JUNE 1983 TO MAY 1984	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	137 113	120 439	+16 674	+ 13.8
RE-EXPORTS	97 336	67 177	+30 159	+ 44.9
TOTAL EXPORTS	234 449	187 616	+46 833	+ 25.0
IMPORTS	230 205	200 026	+30 179	+ 15.1
TRADE BALANCE	+ 4 244	- 12 410	+16 654	

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IMMUNITIES FOR CHINESE MEMBERS PROPOSED  
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THE GOVERNMENT IS PROPOSING TO ACCORD APPROPRIATE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES TO EXPERTS DESIGNATED BY THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT FOR THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT LIAISON GROUP, TO CHINESE MEMBERS OF THE LAND COMMISSION, AND TO THE SUPPORTING STAFF OF BOTH BODIES.

THIS IS TO FACILITATE THE WORK OF THE TWO BODIES WHEN THEY MEET IN HONG KONG.

THE PROPOSAL FOLLOWS DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE BRITISH AND CHINESE GOVERNMENTS AND IS CONTAINED IN A BILL TO AMEND THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES (JOINT LIAISON GROUP) ORDINANCE, WHICH WAS ENACTED ON MAY 2 TO PROVIDE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES FOR CHINESE MEMBERS OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP.

RECIPROCAL PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES WILL BE GRANTED BY THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT TO THE BRITISH SIDE.

THE FIRST READING OF THE AMENDMENT BILL IS SCHEDULED FOR JULY 10. PUBLIC COMMENTS MAY BE SENT TO UMELCO AT SWIRE HOUSE, 12TH FLOOR, CHATER ROAD, OR TO THE SECRETARY (GENERAL DUTIES) AT THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG.

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PROVISIONAL COUNCIL SETS OUT BUDGET FORECAST  
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THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL TODAY EXAMINED THE FORECAST OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE FIVE YEARS FROM 1985/86 TO 1989/90, PREPARED BY THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

THE FORECAST, BASED ON EXPERIENCE IN PAST YEARS, WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE FINANCE BRANCH NEXT MONTH FOR CONSIDERATION.

AS THE REGIONAL COUNCIL WILL BECOME FINANCIALLY AUTONOMOUS ON APRIL 1 NEXT YEAR, THE FORECAST HAS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT ASPECTS NOT APPLICABLE TO NORMAL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, SUCH AS STAFF ON-COSTS AND SERVICES PROVIDED BY AND TO OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

ACCORDING TO THE FORECAST, THE ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL AND THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR 1986/87 WILL BE ABOUT \$829 MILLION, RISING TO ABOUT \$913 MILLION AT THE END OF THE FIVE-YEAR PERIOD.

THE REVENUE TO BE COLLECTED WILL AMOUNT TO \$99 MILLION IN 1986/87 RISING TO \$139 MILLION IN 1989/90.

THE FORECAST, HOWEVER, DOES NOT INCLUDE EXPENDITURE ON CAPITAL PROJECTS, WHICH IS THE SUBJECT OF A SEPARATE PAPER.

/THE FORECAST .....

THE FORECAST EXPENDITURE FOR CAPITAL WORKS FOR THE PERIOD 1986/87 TO 1989/90 WILL RANGE FROM \$364 MILLION TO \$612 MILLION.

THIS REPRESENTS THE TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE PAID TO CONTRACTORS FOR THE COUNCIL'S CAPITAL PROJECTS, AS ESTIMATED BY THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT AND THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

ON TOP OF THIS, 16 PER CENT OF THE AMOUNT PAID WILL HAVE TO BE ADDED AS ON-COSTS INCURRED BY THE GOVERNMENT, IN LINE WITH THE EXISTING ARRANGEMENTS WITH URBAN COUNCIL. THIS WILL RANGE FROM \$53 MILLION IN 1986/87 TO \$98 MILLION IN 1989/90.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL ALSO AGREED TO RETAIN THE EXISTING PROCEDURE WHEREBY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY WILL, ON RECEIPT OF FORECASTS FROM VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, CONSIDER THE LATEST FORECASTS OF GOVERNMENT'S OVERALL FINANCES, TAKE A VIEW ON OVERALL EXPENDITURE LIMITS FOR THE FORECAST PERIOD AND DECIDE ON THE PROVISIONAL ACCEPTABLE LEVEL FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1986/87 FOR EACH DEPARTMENT TO OBSERVE IN PREPARING ITS BUDGET FOR THAT YEAR.

THE EFFECT OF DOING THIS WOULD BE THAT THE ANNUAL BUDGET WOULD BE PREPARED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE PAL FIGURE APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL.

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#### SELECT COMMITTEES SET UP \* \* \*

THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL TODAY APPOINTED THREE SELECT COMMITTEES FOR THE BETTER DISCHARGE OF ITS FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

THEY ARE THE WAYS AND MEANS SELECT COMMITTEE, WHICH WILL BE HEADED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL, MR CHEUNG YAN-LUNG- THE RECREATION AND CULTURE SELECT COMMITTEE TO BE CHAIRED BY DR HO MAN-WUI, AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE SELECT COMMITTEE TO BE CHAIRED BY DR PANG HOK-TUEN.

THE SELECT COMMITTEES WILL ADVISE THE COUNCIL ON POLICY ISSUES AND THEIR MEMBERSHIP IS RESTRICTED TO MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

THE RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE THREE SELECT COMMITTEES ARE FOR

- THE WAYS AND MEANS SELECT COMMITTEE TO DEAL WITH FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION AND CAPITALS;
- THE ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE SELECT COMMITTEE TO DEAL WITH ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS, PUBLIC HEALTH, SANITATION AND HYGIENE, AND
- THE RECREATION AND CULTURE SELECT COMMITTEE TO DEAL WITH RECREATION, SPORTS AND CULTURE, INCLUDING THE MANAGEMENT OF RELATED FACILITIES AND SERVICES.

/THE MEMBERSHIP .....

THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE SELECT COMMITTEES ARE:

- THE WAYS AND MEANS SELECT COMMITTEE WITH 13 MEMBERS:

THE HON CHEUNG YAN-LUNG (CHAIRMAN), MR MA NING-HEI (VICE CHAIRMAN), MR CHAN LAU-FONG, MR CHAU CHUN-WING, MR CHEUNG HON-KAU, MR CHEUNG KUEN, MR CHONG KAM-NING, DR HO MAN-WUI, MR HO SUN-KUEN, MRS LAU KIN-YEE, MR LAU WONG-FAT, MR LIU CHING-LEUNG, AND MR WAN YUET-KAU.

- THE RECREATION AND CULTURE SELECT COMMITTEE WITH 11 MEMBERS:

DR HO MAN-WUI (CHAIRMAN), MRS LAU KIN-YEE (VICE CHAIRMAN), MR MA NING-HEI, MR CHAU CHUN-WING, MR CHEUNG KUEN, MR CHONG KAM-NING, MR LAM KIN-MING, MR LAU HON-KIT, MR LIU CHING-LEUNG, MR TANG NAI-MAN, AND MR TANG PUI-TAT.

- THE ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE SELECT COMMITTEE WITH 13 MEMBERS:

DR PANG HOK-TUEN (CHAIRMAN), MR TANG NAI-MAN (VICE CHAIRMAN), MR CHAN LAU-FONG, MRS CHAN HO ON-NEI, MR CHEUNG HON-KAU, MR FONG LOI, MR LAU WONG-FAT, MR TANG CHI-LEUNG, MR YOUNG WING-YAU, MR TANG PUI-TAT, MR TSANG LIN, MR WAI HON-LEUNG, AND MR WAN YUET-KAU.

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REGIONAL COUNCIL TO ASSUME LIQUOR LICENSING JOB  
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THE REGIONAL COUNCIL WOULD ASSUME STATUTORY RESPONSIBILITY FOR LIQUOR LICENSING IN THE NON-URBAN AREA, IT WAS DECIDED AT THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING TODAY.

THE DECISION WAS MADE BECAUSE THE COUNCIL WAS OF THE OPINION THAT LIQUOR LICENSING WAS SUFFICIENTLY RELATED TO THE FUTURE REGIONAL COUNCIL, SINCE UNDER PRESENT POLICY THE ISSUE OF LIQUOR LICENCES IS TIED UP WITH THE ISSUE OF RESTAURANT LICENCES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL SAID.

THE REASON FOR THE PROVISIONAL RC TO MAKE A DECISION AT THIS STAGE IS DICTATED BY THE FACT THAT STATUTORY RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS FUNCTION IS WRITTEN INTO THE REGIONAL COUNCIL BILL TO BE ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHORTLY. THE PROVISION COULD BE DELETED FROM THE BILL AT THE COMMITTEE STAGE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHOULD THE MEMBERS SO DECIDE.

THE PRESENT LIQUOR LICENSING REGULATIONS CAME INTO EFFECT IN 1954 AND HAVE BEEN ADMINISTERED SINCE THEN IN THE NON-URBAN AREAS BY THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION. IN THE URBAN AREAS, THE URBAN COUNCIL ASSUMED THE FUNCTION IN 1973.

/FOR THE .....

FOR THE GRANTING OF A LIQUOR LICENCE, FOUR BASIC CONSIDERATIONS ARE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. THESE ARE :

- (A) PUBLIC OPINION - ANY AFFECTED MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC CAN OBJECT TO THE ISSUE OF A LIQUOR LICENCE. THE APPLICANT OR 20 PERSONS RESIDING WITHIN A RADIUS OF 400 METRES FROM THE PREMISES LICENSED OR TO BE LICENSED MAY APPEAL BY WAY OF PETITION TO THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL AGAINST A DECISION OF THE BOARD TO REFUSE AN APPLICATION OR TO GRANT IT CONDITIONALLY.
- (B) SUITABILITY OF PREMISES - THIS CONSIDERATION RELATES TO THE LOCATION AND SUITABILITY OF THE PREMISES FOR USE AS A BAR/RESTAURANT, ETC.
- (C) SUITABILITY OF OPERATOR - THIS IS BASICALLY A LAW AND ORDER MATTER TO MAKE SURE THAT THE OPERATOR IS, FOR INSTANCE, NOT A TRIAD MEMBER OR PERSON WITH A CRIMINAL RECORD.
- (D) HYGIENE - THIS IS A PUBLIC HEALTH MATTER TO MAKE SURE THAT THE PREMISES CONFORM TO PROPER HYGIENE STANDARDS IN ORDER TO SAFEGUARD THE PUBLIC WHO USE THE PREMISES. THE MAIN CRITERIA TO BE MET IN THIS REGARD ARE ADEQUATE VENTILATION, ADEQUATE PROVISION OF TOILETS AND THE PROVISION OF ADEQUATE WASHING FACILITIES IN THOSE TOILETS.

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PENALTIES PROPOSED FOR JOB CONTRACT OFFENCES  
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THE CONTRACTS FOR OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL 1985 WHICH SEEKS TO INTRODUCE OFFENCES AND PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE WITH CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE ORDINANCE AND TO CHANGE ITS TITLE, WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE BILL PROPOSES THAT A FINE OF \$50 000 BE PRESCRIBED AGAINST AN EMPLOYER OR HIS AGENT IN HONG KONG FOR FAILURE TO PRESENT A CONTRACT FOR ATTESTATION AND FOR INDUCEMENT TO EVADE THE ORDINANCE.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THIS MEANS THAT AN EMPLOYER OR HIS AGENT COMMITS AN OFFENCE IF HE FAILS TO OBTAIN A WRITTEN CONTRACT OR FAILS TO PRESENT A CONTRACT FOR ATTESTATION BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR OR INDUCES A WORKER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WHICH DOES NOT COMPLY WITH THE ORDINANCE, OR TO DEPART FROM HONG KONG TO TAKE UP EMPLOYMENT BEFORE THE CONTRACT IS ATTESTED.

/THE MAXIMUM .....

THE MAXIMUM PENALTY FOR EACH OFFENCE IS A FINE OF \$50 000.

THE BILL ALSO SEEKS TO CHANGE THE TITLE OF THE ORDINANCE FROM +CONTRACTS FOR OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE+ TO +CONTRACTS FOR EMPLOYMENT OUTSIDE HONG KONG ORDINANCE+ SO AS TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT THE ORDINANCE APPLIES TO A CONTRACT FOR EMPLOYMENT AS A MANUAL WORKER ANYWHERE OUTSIDE HONG KONG, WHETHER OR NOT +OVERSEAS+.

OTHER PROPOSALS INCLUDE AN AMENDMENT TO THE SECTION OF THE ORDINANCE WHICH REFERS TO THE QUALIFICATION OF REPATRIATION OF WORKER TO ENSURE THAT A WORKER IS ENTITLED TO REPATRIATION IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES ON THE TERMINATION OF A CONTRACT TO WHICH THE ORDINANCE APPLIES.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD HAS BEEN CONSULTED ON THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT AND HAS AGREED TO THEM.

THE BILL WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FOR THE FIRST AND SECOND READING ON JULY 10 AND IS EXPECTED TO RECEIVE ITS THIRD READING ON JULY 24.

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BILL TO CLARIFY EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION  
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THE EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1985, WHICH SEEKS TO CLARIFY THE INTENTION OF THE PRINCIPAL ORDINANCE IN ASSESSING COMPENSATION CASES, WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID UNDER THE PRESENT SYSTEM, COMPENSATION FOR SCHEDULED INJURIES IS BASED ON THE DEGREE OF LOSS OF EARNING CAPACITY SPECIFIED IN THE FIRST SCHEDULE OF THE ORDINANCE.

FOR UNSCHEDULED INJURIES, THE DEGREE OF LOSS OF EARNING CAPACITY IS ASSESSED BY AN APPOINTED EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION BOARD, HE SAID.

THE SYSTEM IS APPLICABLE WHETHER THE INJURED WORKER COULD FIND A JOB AT A SALARY EQUIVALENT TO WHAT HE WAS EARNING BEFORE THE INJURY, WHICH IMPLIES THAT HE MAY LOSE HIS ENTITLED COMPENSATION IF HE COULD.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE PURPOSE OF THE BILL IS TO CLARIFY THAT LOSS OF EARNING CAPACITY INCLUDES BOTH PRESENT AND FUTURE REDUCTION OF EARNING CAPACITY OF THE WORKER AT THE TIME OF HIS INJURY, SO THAT LOSS OF POTENTIAL AS WELL AS ACTUAL EARNING CAPACITY CAN BE COVERED.

/THE BILL .....

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THE BILL ALSO PROVIDES THAT IN ASSESSING THE LOSS OF EARNING CAPACITY, THE ASSESSMENT BOARD MAY - BUT DOES NOT HAVE TO - GIVE WEIGHT TO ANY ACTUAL EARNINGS OF THE INJURED WORKER AFTER THE ACCIDENT.

ANOTHER AMENDMENT IS TO PROVIDE THAT A COMBINATION OF UNSCHEDULED INJURIES, OR A COMBINATION OF SCHEDULED AND UNSCHEDULED INJURIES, RESULTING IN AN AGGREGATE PERCENTAGE LOSS OF EARNING CAPACITY OF 100 PER CENT OR MORE SHALL BE DEEMED TO RESULT IN PERMANENT TOTAL INCAPACITY.

HE ADDED THAT OTHER AMENDMENTS IN THE BILL ARE MAINLY TECHNICAL RE-ARRANGEMENTS OF PROVISIONS IN THE ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR GREATER DRAFTING CLARITY.

THE BILL IS EXPECTED TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FOR FIRST AND SECOND READING ON JULY 10, 1985.

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WOMEN'S COUNCIL FORMED  
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A CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR ALL YIN NGAI SOCIETIES HAS BEEN FORMED TO PROVIDE BETTER CO-ORDINATION FOR THE 25 YIN NGAI SOCIETIES AND THEIR 3 000 MEMBERS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY.

OFFICIATING AT THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF THE YIN NGAI CENTRAL COUNCIL TONIGHT (FRIDAY), THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES SAID: +THE CONCEPT OF YIN NGAI WAS TO SET UP WOMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES, IN PARTICULAR IN THE NEW TOWNS, WHERE HOUSEWIVES WERE FACING BOREDOM AND INVOLUNTARY ISOLATION IN A NEW ENVIRONMENT WITH UNFAMILIAR NEIGHBOURS.+

+AN ASSOCIATION WOULD PROVIDE AVENUES FOR HOUSEWIVES TO GET TOGETHER, EXCHANGE VIEWS IN HOUSECRAFT, HELP ONE ANOTHER AND BETTER USE THEIR SPARE TIME,+ HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID THAT +YIN+ REPRESENTED ALL THAT WAS GOOD IN THE PAST, AND +NGAI+ REPRESENTED DRIVE AND DETERMINATION INTO THE FUTURE.

+TOGETHER THEY MAKE UP THE QUALITIES OF A MODERN DAY WOMAN,+ HE ADDED.

SINCE THE YIN NGAI MOVEMENT BEGAN, IT HAD SPREAD FROM THE NEW TOWN INTO THE OLDER URBAN AREA, AND THE CENTRAL COUNCIL HAD BEEN SET UP TO MAINTAIN THE SOLIDARITY OF THE YIN NGAI SOCIETIES AS THE ORGANISATION GREW.

AT THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY, THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DONALD LIAO, PRESENTED CERTIFICATES OF APPOINTMENT TO THE OFFICE BEARERS OF THE YIN NGAI CENTRAL COUNCIL.

/THE TWELVE .....

THE TWELVE OFFICE BEARERS OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL WERE ELECTED FROM THE VARIOUS YIN NGAI SOCIETIES. THE CHAIRWOMAN AND VICE-CHAIRWOMAN OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL ARE MRS SO CHIU LAI-CHING AND MRS YUEN LAI LAI-PING.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE FUNCTION WERE MRS CHRISTINE LIAO- THE DEPUTY REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR ALBERT LAM- THE DEPUTY REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR PETER NG- AND PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, MRS FANNY LAW.

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'NO UK PRESSURE ON BILL'

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THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID TONIGHT (FRIDAY) THAT THERE HAD BEEN +NO PRESSURE AT ALL+ FROM THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT EARLIER THIS WEEK FOR THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT TO CONSULT LAWYERS WHO WERE OPPOSED TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL (POWERS AND PRIVILEGES) BILL, 1985.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER THE YIN NGAI CENTRAL COUNCIL INAUGURATION CEREMONY, SIR DAVID SAID THE MINISTER RESPONSIBLE HAD ASKED THE GOVERNOR TO ARRANGE FOR A MEMBER OF THE ADMINISTRATION TO SEE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION.

ASKED IF HE CONSIDERED IT AN UNUSUAL THING TO DO, SIR DAVID SAID: +NOT AT ALL REALLY. IT BRINGS THE QUESTION QUITE RIGHTLY BACK TO HONG KONG WHICH IS WHERE OF COURSE, MR TISDALL, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE LAW SOCIETY, SAID THAT IT BELONGED.+

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EMPLOYMENT, PAYROLL SURVEY GOING ON

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT IS CONDUCTING THE JUNE 1985 SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL IN MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY.

THE SURVEY IS CONDUCTED QUARTERLY AND THE RESULTS ARE USEFUL IN PROVIDING SHORT-TERM ECONOMIC INDICATORS AS WELL AS INFORMATION ON THE STRUCTURAL CHANGES IN THE LOCAL LABOUR MARKET.

THE SURVEY COVERS 140 000 ESTABLISHMENTS DRAWN AT RANDOM FROM THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR (MINING AND QUARRYING, MANUFACTURING, ELECTRICITY AND GAS) AND SERVICES SECTOR (TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND COMMUNICATION, FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES, COMMUNITY, SOCIAL AND PERSONAL SERVICES). THOSE IN THE DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES SECTOR (WHOLESALE, RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS) ARE ALSO INCLUDED.

QUESTIONNAIRES HAVE BEEN MAILED TO INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS.

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS ORDER 1982 (LEGAL NOTICE NO. 69 OF 1982, GAZETTED ON MARCH 5, 1982), ESTABLISHMENTS RECEIVING QUESTIONNAIRES ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE AND RETURN THEM TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT WITHIN THE SPECIFIED PERIOD.

+RESPONDENTS WHO FIND IT DIFFICULT TO COMPLETE THE FORMS SHOULD CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT FOR ASSISTANCE AT THE FOLLOWING TELEPHONE NUMBERS: 5-436551, 5-444301, 5-455661 AND 5-455668,+ HE SAID.

+ESTABLISHMENTS KNOWN TO THE DEPARTMENT DURING THE APRIL-JUNE SURVEY WILL ALSO BE ENUMERATED IN ORDER TO MAKE THE SURVEY RESULTS COMPLETE.

+FIELD OFFICERS BEARING A GOVERNMENT IDENTITY CARD WILL CALL ON THESE ESTABLISHMENTS FOR INFORMATION ON THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED, EXISTING VACANCIES, TYPE OF OWNERSHIP, NATURE OF BUSINESS AND DATE ON WHICH BUSINESS COMMENCED. IN CASE OF ANY ENQUIRIES REGARDING THESE FIELD VISITS, PLEASE CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT AT 5-444364,+ HE ADDED.

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ELIGIBLE ELECTORS URGED TO SIGN UP

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ELIGIBLE ELECTORS IN THE FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES SHOULD MAKE USE OF THE LATE REGISTRATION PERIOD TO REGISTER AS VOTERS FOR THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTION IN SEPTEMBER, WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ROGER GARCIA, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

+THIS WEEKEND WILL BE THE LAST FEW DAYS IN THE LATE VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE,+ HE ADDED.

+DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION HAS TAKEN ROOT IN HONG KONG, AND WE ARE NOW PREPARING FOR A NEW ERA IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT WHICH REQUIRES THE SUPPORT OF THE COMMUNITY,+ HE SAID.

MR GARCIA MADE THE REMARKS DURING A COURTESY CALL ON MEMBERS OF THE WAN CHAI KAIFONG ASSOCIATION.

HE NOTED THAT THE ASSOCIATION HAD PLAYED AN IMPORTANT PART IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE DISTRICT AND CONTRIBUTED MUCH IN ORGANISING ACTIVITIES FOR RESIDENTS.

HE ALSO THANKED THE ASSOCIATION FOR ITS SUPPORT IN THE MANY EVENTS ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD AND THE DISTRICT OFFICE.

FOLLOWING THE VISIT, MR GARCIA OFFICIATED AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE SUMMER FREE MEDICARE SERVICE SCHEME SPONSORED BY THE KAIFONG ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL SCHEME, PROVIDES FREE CHINESE HERBAL MEDICARE SERVICE TO NEEDY RESIDENTS IN THE DISTRICT.

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8 017 LATE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED  
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UP TO 4 PM TODAY (FRIDAY), 8 017 LATE APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION AS ELECTORS IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED. AS A RESULT OF THE EARLIER REGISTRATION EXERCISE, 34 531 ELECTORS HAVE ALREADY BEEN INCLUDED IN THE PROVISIONAL REGISTER PUBLISHED ON JUNE 21.

A STATISTICAL BREAKDOWN IS AS FOLLOWS:

	ESTIMATED SIZE OF ELECTORATE <u>                    </u> (REVISED)	NUMBER OF ELECTORS ON PROVISIONAL REGISTER <u>                    </u>	LATE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED <u>                    </u>
<u>ELECTORAL COLLEGE</u>	434	428	5
<u>FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES</u>			
COMMERCIAL I	2 347	681	560
COMMERCIAL II	5 512	1 730	868
INDUSTRIAL I	772	364	93
INDUSTRIAL II	2 267	913	269
FINANCIAL	141	119	10
LABOUR	393	285	11
SOCIAL SERVICES	155	129	17
MEDICAL	4 548	2 109	663
LEGAL	1 511	727	211
TEACHING	49 047	25 337	4 738
ENGINEERING, ARCHITECTURAL, SURVEYING AND PLANNING	2 890	1 709	572
<u>TOTAL</u>	70 017	34 531	8 017

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## YOUTHS URGED TO DISCUSS YOUTH MATTERS

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YOUNG PEOPLE WILL NOW HAVE THE CHANCE TO DISCUSS MATTERS RELATING TO THEMSELVES AND TO COMMENT ON VIEWS EXPRESSED BY EXPERTS RECENTLY ON TOPICS THAT CONCERN THEM.

ABOUT 270 YOUNG PEOPLE FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE WILL TAKE PART IN THE SECOND STAGE OF THE CONFERENCE ON +YOUTH POLICIES IN PERSPECTIVE+, TO BE HELD AT THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC ON JULY 28 AND 29.

THE TWO-DAY SEMINAR, ORGANISED BY THE CENTRAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE ON 1985 INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR (CCCIYY) IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE HONG KONG FEDERATION OF STUDENTS (HKFS), IS A FOLLOW-UP EVENT TO THE FIRST CONFERENCE HELD IN APRIL.

ANNOUNCING DETAILS OF THE EVENT TODAY (FRIDAY), THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ACTIVITIES SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE CCCIYY, MR LO KING-MAN, SAID A PRELIMINARY REPORT SUMMARISING THE DISCUSSIONS AMONG SOME 80 REPRESENTATIVES FROM GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND PRIVATE ORGANISATIONS, DURING THE FIRST CONFERENCE WILL SERVE AS THE GROUNDWORK FOR STAGE II DISCUSSIONS.

MR LO SAID AFTER EXAMINING THE EXISTING PROVISIONS AND SERVICES FOR YOUTH IN HONG KONG, THE GROUP OF EXPERTS HAD MADE SOME RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT, AND NOW WAS THE TIME FOR YOUTH AGED BETWEEN 15 AND 28 TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THESE RECOMMENDATIONS.

+TO FACILITATE THEIR DISCUSSIONS, SOME OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE STAGE I CONFERENCE WILL ALSO BE INVITED TO GIVE INTRODUCTORY TALKS ON THE VARIOUS TOPICS TO SERVE AS A LINK BETWEEN THE TWO STAGES AS WELL AS TO STIMULATE THE THOUGHTS OF PARTICIPANTS,+ HE SAID.

THE MAJORITY OF PARTICIPANTS IN THE STAGE II CONFERENCE WILL BE SELECTED FROM A RANGE OF NOMINATING ORGANISATIONS, INCLUDING VARIOUS YOUTH BODIES AND STUDENTS' ORGANISATIONS.

+A PROPORTION OF NOMINATIONS WILL BE OPEN TO INTERESTED PERSONS ASSOCIATED WITH SCHOOLS OR ANY REGISTERED BODIES,+ MR LO SAID.

A DISTINCT FEATURE OF THE SECOND STAGE CONFERENCE IS THE ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT OF THE HKFS IN THE PLANNING AND ORGANISATION PROCESS.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE HKFS, MR FUNG WAI-KWONG, SAID THAT THE FUNCTION OF THE CONFERENCE WAS +TO STIMULATE DISCUSSIONS AND CREATE A DRIVING FORCE AMONG THE YOUTH+.

+THE YEAR 1985 MARKS THE BEGINNING OF A TRANSITIONAL PERIOD FOR HONG KONG,+ HE SAID. +THE ROUTE TAKEN BY TODAY'S YOUTH WILL CERTAINLY HAVE A GREAT IMPACT ON THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT.+

PARTICIPANTS WILL BE DIVIDED INTO 18 GROUPS AND THE TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED WILL INCLUDE +FAMILY+, +EDUCATION+, +WORK AND EMPLOYMENT+, +COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION+, +POLITICAL PARTICIPATION+ AND +THE MASS MEDIA+.

LICENCE IDEA ENDORSED  
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A PROPOSAL TO INTRODUCE A NEW CATEGORY OF RESTAURANT LICENCE, KNOWN AS A BEVERAGE RESTAURANT LICENCE, FOR BARS WHICH SELL ONLY DRINKS AND PRE-PACKED INSTANT FOOD, WAS ENDORSED IN PRINCIPLE TODAY BY THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL.

THE NEW CATEGORY ENTITLES THE OPERATOR TO SELL DRINKS AND LIGHT FOOD ITEMS SUCH AS POTATO CHIPS OR PEANUTS, BUT FORBIDS PREPARATION OF FOOD ON THE PREMISES.

AN RSD SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE BEVERAGE RESTAURANT LICENCE WOULD NOT ABSOLVE THE OPERATOR FROM THE NEED TO OBTAIN A LIQUOR LICENCE UNDER THE DUTIABLE COMMODITIES (LIQUOR) REGULATIONS.

THE LICENCE FEE FOR A BEVERAGE RESTAURANT WOULD BE THE SAME AS THAT FOR A LIGHT REFRESHMENT RESTAURANT, BECAUSE THE ADMINISTRATION AND SUPERVISION COSTS INCURRED WOULD BE SIMILAR.

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FAREWELL FOR CORRECTIONAL SERVICES CHIEF  
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THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT HELD A PARADE TODAY TO SAY FAREWELL TO THE COMMISSIONER, MR THOMAS GARNER, WHO WILL BE RETIRING NEXT MONTH.

SEVEN CONTINGENTS, COMPRISING MORE THAN 200 OFFICERS FROM VARIOUS CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS, TOOK PART IN THE PARADE HELD AT THE DEPARTMENT'S STAFF TRAINING INSTITUTE IN STANLEY.

AFTER INSPECTING THE PARADE, MR GARNER PRESENTED COLONIAL PRISON SERVICE MEDAL CLASPS TO 36 CORRECTIONAL SERVICES STAFF FOR LONG SERVICE.

THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY A MARCH PAST OF THE CONTINGENTS, AND A PERFORMANCE BY THE TAI TAM GIRLS' PIPERS AND PRECISION MARCHING TEAM.

ADDRESSING THE PARADE AFTERWARDS, MR GARNER SAID THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES WAS +SECOND TO NONE,+ AND THAT THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT STOOD OUT AS A WORLD LEADER IN THE FIELD OF CORRECTIONS, ENSURING THAT ALL THE HUMANITARIAN PRINCIPLES IN THE CARE AND CUSTODY OF OFFENDERS HAD BEEN FULLY MET.

HE THANKED THE STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENT AND MEMBERS OF VARIOUS OTHER ORGANISATIONS AND BODIES FOR THEIR UNFAILING SUPPORT OF THE WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT.

AFTER THE ADDRESS, MR GARNER WAS PRESENTED WITH A COMMISSIONER'S BATON BY THE PARADE COMMANDER, ON BEHALF OF THOSE ON PARADE.

THE FAREWELL INCLUDED A FLY-PAST BY TWO HELICOPTERS AND THREE FIXED-WING AIRCRAFT OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG AUXILIARY AIR FORCE.

MR GARNER WILL BE RETIRING IN HONG KONG WITH HIS WIFE, AFTER 37-1/2 YEARS' SERVICE WITH THE DEPARTMENT, 13-1/2 OF THEM AS COMMISSIONER.

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MONG KOK KAIFONG PRAISED

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MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICER, MRS BRENDA FUNG, TODAY (FRIDAY) PAID A COURTESY CALL TO THE MONG KOK KAIFONG ASSOCIATION IN CHAN HING SOCIAL SERVICES CENTRE.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ASSOCIATION, MR CHO SHIU-CHUNG, SHE SAW VARIOUS FACILITIES PROVIDED IN THE CENTRE AND WAS BRIEFED ON THE WIDE RANGE OF SERVICES OFFERED BY THE ASSOCIATION, INCLUDING DAY-CARE SERVICES FOR ELDERLY, AND RECREATIONAL PROGRAMMES FOR THE YOUTHS AND THE CHILDREN.

THE ASSOCIATION WAS PRAISED FOR ITS CONTINUAL EFFORTS IN COMMUNITY BUILDING AND IN LOOKING AFTER THE WELFARE OF THE RESIDENTS.

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IMPROVEMENTS TO ROADS IN CENTRAL PLANNED

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THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PROPOSES TO CARRY OUT ROADWORKS IN CENTRAL TO IMPROVE VEHICULAR AND PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC.

WORK IN QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL INVOLVES IMPROVEMENT TO THE JUNCTIONS OF WYNDHAM STREET, ICE HOUSE STREET AND PEDDER STREET.

ALSO INCLUDED IN THE SCHEME IS IMPROVEMENT TO THE JUNCTIONS OF ALBANY ROAD AND UPPER ALBERT ROAD= AND GLENEALY, WYNDHAM STREET AND LOWER ALBERT ROAD.

THE FOOTPATH ON THE NORTHWEST SIDE OF GLENEALY WILL BE WIDENED AND A NEW FOOTPATH WILL BE CONSTRUCTED ON THE SOUTHEAST OF WYNDHAM STREET.

A TAXI STAND WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED AT PEDDER STREET.

THE DEPARTMENT ALSO PLANS TO RELOCATE SIX TRAM STOPS IN DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL, IN THE SECTION BETWEEN BANK STREET AND WING WO STREET AND TO ADD A NEW STOP AT BANK STREET.

THE PROJECT ALSO INCLUDES IMPROVEMENT TO PEDESTRIAN CROSSING FACILITIES IN DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL, THE REALIGNMENT OF TRAM TRACKS AT PEDDER STREET, AND THE WIDENING OF THE SECTION OF PEDDER STREET SOUTH OF DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL.

PLANS SHOWING THE PROPOSED WORKS CAN BE SEEN AT THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, HONG KONG= DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, HONG KONG NORTH, 12TH FLOOR, HARBOUR CENTRE, HARBOUR ROAD, HONG KONG, AND THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, GROUND FLOOR, 222-224 DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL.

OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSALS MUST BE SENT IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS NOT LATER THAN AUGUST 27.

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VALUE OF YOUTH ACTIVITIES STRESSED  
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PARTICIPATION IN ACTIVITIES AND KEEN CIVIC AWARENESS WERE IMPORTANT ELEMENTS IN THE HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE, WHO WERE THE FUTURE OF THE COMMUNITY, THE TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICER, MR THOMAS CHAN, SAID TONIGHT.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME, HE SAID YOUNG PEOPLE COULD DEVELOP THEIR TALENT AND LEADERSHIP BY TAKING PART IN THE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME.

THE DISTRICT'S CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, HE SAID, HAD ADOPTED THE IYY THEME +PARTICIPATION, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE+ IN ORGANISING THE MORE THAN 140 ACTIVITIES FOR YOUTHS.

THE PROGRAMME WAS A VERY MEANINGFUL SCHEME, WHICH PROVIDED HEALTHY ACTIVITIES FOR YOUTHS, AND ENCOURAGED THEM TO MAKE BETTER USE OF THEIR SPARE TIME.

+THEY CAN ENRICH THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND AT THE SAME TIME SERVE THE COMMUNITY THROUGH PARTICIPATION,+ HE SAID.

A PERFORMANCE BY THE HONG KONG ACADEMY OF BALLET MARKED THE OPENING OF THE TAI PO SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME.

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AMENDMENTS TO TWO DRAFT PLANS  
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THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED A NUMBER OF AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT OUTLINE ZONING PLANS FOR WANG TAU HOM AND TUNG TAU.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE BOARD SAID THE AMENDMENTS WERE NECESSARY TO BRING IT IN LINE WITH HOUSING DEPARTMENT'S REDEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS FOR THE WANG TAU HOM, LOK FU, TUNG TAU AND LOWER WONG TAI SIN ESTATES.

ACCORDING TO THE DEVELOPMENT LAYOUT PLAN, WANG TAU HOM ESTATE WILL BE EXTENDED WESTWARDS AND A SITE OF ABOUT 2.8 HECTARES AT LOK FU IS RESERVED FOR OPEN SPACE DEVELOPMENT.

THE EXISTING SITE FOR A HOUSING DEPARTMENT STAFF QUARTERS AT THE JUNCTION OF TUNG TAU TSUEN ROAD AND TAI SHING STREET IS TO BE INTEGRATED WITH ADJOINING SITES FOR A HOUSING DEVELOPMENT WITH OPEN SPACE AND MARKET FACILITIES.

OTHER AMENDMENTS INCLUDE THE INCORPORATION OF THE WESTERN ACCESS, A NEW ELEVATED ROAD ACROSS LUNG CHEUNG ROAD CONNECTING JUNCTION ROAD AND THE REALIGNED FU MEI STREET IN THE SOUTH WITH ROADS IN THE MA CHAI HANG AND CHUK YUEN AREAS; AND ALSO A REVISION OF THE LAND USE PROPOSALS IN THE AREA TO THE NORTH OF LUNG CHEUNG ROAD.

/ANY PERSON .....

ANY PERSON AFFECTED BY THE AMENDMENTS SHOULD SUBMIT HIS OBJECTION IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY OF TOWN PLANNING BOARD, C/O LANDS DEPARTMENT, FOURTH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG BEFORE JULY 18.

COPIES OF THE DRAFT PLAN ARE AVAILABLE AT THE SURVEY DIVISION, LANDS DEPARTMENT, FIFTH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG, OR THE KOWLOON MAP SALES OFFICE AT 382 NATHAN ROAD AT \$10 FOR UNCOLOURED COPY AND \$60 FOR COLOURED ONE.

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COMMODITIES TRADING (AMENDMENT) BILL  
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THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS APPROVED THE INTRODUCTION OF A COMMODITIES TRADING (AMENDMENT) BILL 1985, WHICH INCORPORATES THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS PREVIOUSLY CONTAINED IN THE COMMODITIES TRADING (AMENDMENT) BILL 1984 GAZETTED IN AUGUST 1984.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SECURITIES AND COMMODITIES TRADING COMMISSION EXPLAINED THAT THE 1984 BILL PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ALLOW THE HONG KONG FUTURES EXCHANGE LTD TO REORGANISE ITS SHAREHOLDING AND MANAGEMENT, AND TO ALLOW TRADING IN STOCK INDICES AND FINANCIAL FUTURES. THESE AMENDMENTS TOGETHER WITH SOME FURTHER AMENDMENTS OF A TECHNICAL NATURE ARE IN THE PRESENT BILL.

THE MAJOR NEW PROPOSALS CONTAINED IN THE PRESENT BILL ARE RELATED TO THE COMPENSATION FUND.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THE PRESENT COMPENSATION FUND WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1977, TO PROVIDE SOME COMPENSATION TO CLIENTS OF MEMBERS OF THE FORMER HK COMMODITY EXCHANGE LTD WHO SUFFER PECUNIARY LOSS THROUGH THE DEFAULT OF A SHAREHOLDER.

HOWEVER DEFICIENCIES IN THE EXISTING COMPENSATION FUND PROVISIONS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED, MOST SERIOUSLY IN RELATION TO UNCERTAINTIES AS TO THE MEANING OF SOME KEY PROVISIONS. IT ALSO APPEARS LIKELY THAT THE FUND MAY BE EXHAUSTED IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

THE COMMODITIES TRADING COMMISSION HAS THEREFORE UNDERTAKEN A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE COMPENSATION FUND PROVISIONS AND RECOMMENDED A COMPLETE REVISION OF THE METHOD OF FUNDING AND OF THE METHOD FOR PROCESSING CLAIMS AGAINST THE FUND.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE PROPOSALS NOW BEING MADE WERE AIMED AT ENSURING THAT THE NEW FUND WOULD BE LARGELY SELF-SUSTAINING.

+THIS IS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH A NEW FUND BEING CREATED FROM DEPOSITS OF \$50 000 IN RESPECT OF EACH SHAREHOLDER OF THE EXCHANGE COMPANY.

+TO ASSIST IN BOTH BUILDING AND MAINTAINING THE FUND THE PROPOSALS ENVISAGE THE RETENTION OF PROFITS FROM INVESTMENT OF THE FUND AND ALLOW FOR A LEVY TO BE COLLECTED IN RESPECT OF EACH BUY OR SELL CONTRACT TRADED ON THE FUTURES EXCHANGE.

+THIS LEVY WILL BE SET BY THE COMMODITIES TRADING COMMISSION FROM TIME TO TIME AND CAN BE VARIED TO MEET THE NEED FOR MONIES IN THE FUND. THE COMMISSION HAS PROPOSED THAT INITIALLY THE LEVY WILL BE SET AT 50 CENTS FOR EACH BUY AND EACH SELL CONTRACT, THAT IS AT \$1 PER TRANSACTION.

+IF CLAIMS ARE SUCH THAT THE FUND IS INADEQUATE AT ANY TIME, THE EXCHANGE MAY BE LIABLE TO PAY A FURTHER \$50 000 PER SHAREHOLDER, IF THE COMMISSION REQUIRES,+ HE SAID.

THE COMMISSION HAS ALSO PROPOSED THAT THE MAXIMUM PAYOUT ON ANY DEFAULT BY A MEMBER OF THE EXCHANGE COMPANY SHOULD BE INCREASED TO \$2 MILLION, IN LINE WITH THE SECURITIES ORDINANCE.

+FURTHER, THE PROPOSALS ENVISAGE A STREAM-LINED PROCEDURE FOR THE LODGING AND PROCESSING OF CLAIMS AND MAKE NEW PROVISIONS FOR APPEALS AGAINST THE DISALLOWANCE OF CLAIMS.

+THE PROPOSALS ALSO CLEARLY DEFINE THE TYPE OF TRADING FOR WHICH COMPENSATION IS AVAILABLE. THIS WILL NOW BE CONFINED TO FUTURES TRADING EXECUTED ON THE FLOOR OF THE HONG KONG FUTURES EXCHANGE. COMPENSATION WILL BE AVAILABLE TO THE CLIENTS OF A DEFAULTING MEMBER, WHETHER THEY ARE RESIDENT IN HONG KONG OR ELSEWHERE,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

IF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACCEPTS THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS, IT IS INTENDED THAT THE NEW FUND WOULD COME INTO OPERATION UPON THE HONG KONG FUTURES EXCHANGE COMPLETING ITS INTERNAL REORGANISATION WITH WIDENED MEMBERSHIP AND COMMENCING TRADING OF NEW CONTRACTS.

+THE GOVERNMENT BELIEVES THAT THE PROVISIONS, WHEN OPERATED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE REGULAR MONITORING AND CONTROL OF MEMBERS BY THE HONG KONG FUTURES EXCHANGE, SHOULD ENSURE THAT THE NEW COMPENSATION FUND WILL PROVIDE A CONTINUING AND ADEQUATE SOURCE OF COMPENSATION FOR USERS OF THE EXCHANGE,+ HE SAID.

OTHER AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE BILL INCLUDE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SEPARATE APPEALS COMMITTEE, WHICH WILL BE EMPOWERED TO HEAR APPEALS ARISING THROUGH THE PROVISIONS OF THE ORDINANCE, AND WHICH SHOULD ALSO ALLOW A QUICK AND INEXPENSIVE AVENUE OF APPEAL FOR DISSATISFIED CLAIMANTS.

THE BILL WILL RECEIVE ITS FIRST READING ON JULY 10. ANYONE WHO WISHES TO COMMENT ON ITS PROVISIONS MAY WRITE TO UMELCO, AT SWIRE HOUSE, 12TH FLOOR OR TO THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES AT THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG.

LANGUAGE COURSES FOR JOURNALISTS  
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WORKING JOURNALISTS WISHING TO IMPROVE THEIR PUTONGHUA AND TRANSLATION SKILLS ARE INVITED TO JOIN COURSES OFFERED BY THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL.

TWO COURSES - CHINESE ORAL COMMUNICATION SKILLS FOR JOURNALISTS AND TRANSLATION FOR JOURNALISTS - ARE JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE COUNCIL'S JOURNALISM TRAINING BOARD AND THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC AS PART OF A SERIES OF COURSES TO UPGRADE THE STANDARD OF JOURNALISM.

LECTURES IN THE PUTONGHUA COURSE WILL BE HELD AT THE DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES OF THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC ON MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS BETWEEN AUGUST 12 AND SEPTEMBER 2.

THE TRANSLATION COURSE WILL BE CONDUCTED ON MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS BETWEEN AUGUST 12 AND SEPTEMBER 23. BOTH COURSES WILL BE HELD IN THE MORNING.

FEES FOR THE COURSE WILL BE \$900 FOR CHINESE ORAL COMMUNICATION SKILLS AND \$920 FOR TRANSLATION, BUT SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS NEED ONLY PAY A NOMINAL FEE OF \$150, THE BALANCE BEING BORNE BY THE COUNCIL.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE OF VTC, 14TH FLOOR, HARBOUR CENTRE, 25 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI. CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATION WILL BE JULY 26.

FURTHER ENQUIRIES ON THE COURSE COULD BE MADE TO THE SECRETARY OF THE JOURNALISM TRAINING BOARD, MR FRANK NG, AT 5-8932341 EXT. 283 DURING OFFICE HOURS.

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FESTIVAL TO LAUNCH EASTERN YOUTH PROGRAMME  
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A PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED AND ABLE BODIED FESTIVAL WILL LAUNCH THE 1985 EASTERN DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DAY'S ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMME WILL BE TWO TELEMATCH GAMES, ONE ON LAND AND THE OTHER IN WATER, FOR BOTH PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED AND ABLE BODIED YOUTHS.

OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME WILL BE THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR LUI HAU-TUEN, AND THE DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR SHUM CHOI-SANG.

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FRIDAY, JUNE 28, 1985

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PICTORIAL DATESTAMP INTRODUCED

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A PICTORIAL DATESTAMP BEARING THE WORDS +PHILATELIC BUREAU HONG KONG+ WILL BE USED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HONG KONG AND WILL BE AVAILABLE AT PHILATELIC COUNTERS OF SIX POST OFFICES ON MONDAY (JULY 1).

THE DATESTAMP, DESIGNED BY THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES AND PRODUCED BY THE POST OFFICE IN RESPONSE TO INCREASING PUBLIC INTEREST IN PICTORIAL IMPRESSIONS, IS A SINGLE RING STEEL HANDSTAMP DEPICTING A CHINESE JUNK WHICH IS A WELL-KNOWN HONG KONG SYMBOL.

IT WILL BE USED FOR POSTMARKING SOUVENIR COVERS PURCHASED FROM PHILATELIC COUNTERS, ITEMS POSTED AT THE PHILATELIC POSTING BOXES AND FIRST DAY COVERS COLLECTED FROM TEMPORARY POSTING BOXES OR PHILATELIC POSTING BOXES OF THE GENERAL POST OFFICE, PEAK POST OFFICE, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE POST OFFICE, TSIM SHA TSUI POST OFFICE, AIRPORT POST OFFICE AND GRANVILLE ROAD POST OFFICE.

COLLECTORS WISHING TO OBTAIN AN IMPRESSION OF THE NEW PICTORIAL DATESTAMP SHOULD POST THEIR COVERS AT THE PHILATELIC POSTING BOXES AT ANY ONE OF THE SIX OFFICES FROM MONDAY.

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SEMINAR ON ECOLOGICAL METHODS, TECHNIQUES

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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR A ONE-DAY SEMINAR ON ECOLOGICAL METHODS AND TECHNIQUES FOR HIGHER LEVEL AND ADVANCED LEVEL BIOLOGY TEACHERS.

THE SEMINAR IN AUGUST WILL BE HELD AT THE DEPARTMENT'S FIELD STUDIES CENTRE OF THE ADVISORY INSPECTORATE IN SAI KUNG.

THE AIMS OF THE SEMINAR ARE TO ACQUAINT TEACHERS WITH THE ECOLOGICAL METHODS AND TECHNIQUES USED IN FIELD STUDIES, AND TO FAMILIARISE THEM WITH FACILITIES AND RESOURCES OF THE FIELD STUDIES CENTRE.

THERE WILL BE TALKS ON ECOLOGICAL METHODS AND TECHNIQUES ON MANGROVE HABITAT AND FIELD WORK ON MANGROVE HABITAT.

SECONDARY SCHOOL HEADS WISHING TO NOMINATE TEACHERS TO ATTEND THE SEMINAR SHOULD SUBMIT THEIR APPLICATIONS TO THE INSPECTOR, FIELD STUDIES CENTRE, PAK KONG, SAI KUNG, NEW TERRITORIES, BEFORE JULY 5.

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CLEARWAY RESTRICTIONS TO BE LIFTED  
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CLEARWAY RESTRICTIONS FOR ALL VEHICLES, INCLUDING PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES, AT VARIOUS SECTIONS OF ELECTRIC ROAD AND JAVA ROAD IN NORTH POINT WILL BE LIFTED AS FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY (JULY 1), THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY).

RESTRICTIONS ON SOME SECTIONS OF KING'S ROAD WESTBOUND WILL ALSO BE REMOVED FOR VEHICLES OTHER THAN PLBS.

A SENIOR TRANSPORT OFFICER, MR LOUIS HUNG, SAID THAT THE LIFTING OF RESTRICTIONS FOR PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES AT SECTIONS OF ELECTRIC ROAD, JAVA ROAD, NGAN MOK STREET AND TSAT TSZ MUI ROAD WOULD BENEFIT THE PLB TRADE.

+TRAFFIC FLOW IN NORTH POINT HAS CONSIDERABLY IMPROVED SINCE THE OPENING OF THE ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR.

+ABOUT 1 000 VEHICLES IN EACH DIRECTION HAVE BEEN DIVERTED TO THE IEC DURING EACH PEAK HOUR. JOURNEY SPEEDS ALONG KING'S ROAD WESTBOUND HAVE INCREASED BY SEVEN KILOMETRES PER HOUR WHILE THOSE ALONG ELECTRIC ROAD, JAVA ROAD AND KING'S ROAD EASTBOUND HAVE INCREASED BY TWO KILOMETRES AN HOUR, + HE SAID.

+THIS MEANS THAT THERE IS NOW SUBSTANTIAL SPARE CAPACITY ALONG THESE ROADS AND THE PEAK HOUR STOPPING RESTRICTIONS ON GENERAL TRAFFIC AT MANY SECTIONS ARE NO LONGER NECESSARY. +

THE RELAXATION PROPOSALS WERE ENDORSED BY THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD EARLIER THIS YEAR.

+ON KING'S ROAD, IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THE LIFTING OF RESTRICTIONS WILL INCREASE TRAFFIC VOLUME AT KING'S ROAD WESTBOUND, THUS IT IS ADVISABLE TO MAINTAIN THE PRESENT PLB ROUTING ON WESTBOUND JOURNEYS, WHICH IS ALONG TSAT TSZ MUI ROAD, + MR HUNG SAID.

+THE LIFTING OF PLB RESTRICTIONS ALONG TWO STRETCHES OF KING'S ROAD WESTBOUND AND CHAI WAN ROAD WILL BE CONSIDERED AT A LATER STAGE, + MR HUNG ADDED.

UNDER THE ARRANGEMENTS, URBAN CLEARWAY RESTRICTIONS FOR ALL VEHICLES AT THE FOLLOWING ROAD SECTIONS WILL BE LIFTED FROM MONDAY (JULY 1):

- \* THE SOUTHERN KERBSIDE OF TSAT TSZ MUI ROAD BETWEEN HEALTHY STREET EAST AND HEALTHY STREET WEST.
- \* THE WESTERN KERBSIDE OF NGAN MOK STREET BETWEEN YACHT STREET AND LAU LI STREET.
- \* THE NORTHERN KERBSIDE OF ELECTRIC ROAD FROM 35 METRES TO 70 METRES EAST OF POWER STREET.

/\* THE NORTHERN .....

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- \* THE NORTHERN KERBSIDE OF JAVA ROAD FROM 45 METRES EAST OF NORTH POINT ROAD TO 55 METRES EAST OF TIN CHIU STREET.

IN ADDITION, CLEARWAY RESTRICTIONS FOR ALL VEHICLES EXCEPT PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES ON THE FOLLOWING ROAD SECTIONS WILL ALSO BE LIFTED:

- \* KING'S ROAD WESTBOUND FROM 10 METRES EAST OF MANSION STREET TO 40 METRES EAST OF HEALTHY STREET WEST.
- \* KING'S ROAD WESTBOUND FROM 20 METRES WEST OF TIN CHIU STREET TO 50 METRES WEST OF KAM HONG STREET.
- \* KING'S ROAD WESTBOUND FROM 60 METRES EAST TO 40 METRES WEST OF NORTH VIEW STREET.
- \* KING'S ROAD WESTBOUND FROM 65 METRES WEST OF FORTRESS HILL ROAD TO 35 METRES EAST OF OIL STREET.
- \* KING'S ROAD WESTBOUND FROM TSING FUNG STREET TO 30 METRES WEST OF LAU LI STREET.
- \* THE NORTHERN KERBSIDE OF JAVA ROAD FROM 70 METRES EAST OF POWER STREET TO 45 METRES EAST OF NORTH POINT ROAD.
- \* THE NORTHERN KERBSIDE OF ELECTRIC ROAD FROM FOOK YUM ROAD TO 35 METRES EAST OF POWER STREET.

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## TUEN MUN ROAD CLOSURE

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THE KOWLOON BOUND SECTION OF TUEN MUN ROAD BETWEEN ROAD D9 ROUNDABOUT AND SIU LAM INTERCHANGE IN TUEN MUN WILL BE CLOSED BETWEEN 12.45 AM AND 5.30 AM ON MONDAY AND TUESDAY (JULY 1-2) TO FACILITATE CONSTRUCTION WORK.

TRAFFIC TO TSUEN WAN WILL BE DIVERTED TO USE ROAD D9 AND CASTLE PEAK ROAD.

KMB ROUTE 59S WILL ALSO OPERATE VIA CASTLE PEAK ROAD.

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## PROHIBITED ZONE SUSPENDED

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THE PROHIBITED ZONE ON THE KERBSIDE LANE OF JUNCTION ROAD SOUTHBOUND BETWEEN DUMBARTON ROAD AND NGA TSIN WAI ROAD IN KOWLOON CITY WILL BE TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY (JULY 1) FOR ABOUT FIVE WEEKS TO ALLOW ROAD RESURFACING WORK TO BE CARRIED OUT ON THE OTHER LANE OF THIS SECTION OF ROAD.

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SHAU KEI WAN TAPS OFF

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN SHAU KEI WAN WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 11 PM ON TUESDAY (JULY 2) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR LEAKAGE TEST.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY SHAU KEI WAN ROAD FROM SUN SING STREET TO CHURCH STREET, NAM ON STREET, NAM HONG STREET, NAM ON LANE, ALDRICH STREET, INCLUDING TSIN SHUI MA TAU VILLAGE AND ALDRICH VILLAGE.

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FUNDS APPROVED FOR TWO MINOR WORKS PROJECTS

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THE URBAN COUNCIL IS TO SPEND \$700 000 UNDER THE MINOR PROJECTS BLOCK VOTE TO MEET THE COSTS OF TWO PROJECTS IN KOWLOON.

THE FIRST PROJECT INVOLVES THE DEVELOPMENT OF A 210-SQUARE-METRE SITE AT THE JUNCTION OF BATTERY STREET AND SAIGON STREET INTO A SITTING-OUT AREA.

THE SITE IS CURRENTLY OCCUPIED BY BUILDINGS WHICH ARE SCHEDULED TO BE CLEARED LATER THIS YEAR. FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED INCLUDE A PAVILION, ARBOURS, BENCHES, CHESS TABLES AND STOOLS.

CONSTRUCTION WORK, ESTIMATED TO COST \$480 000, IS EXPECTED TO START IN MID-1986 AND BE COMPLETED IN EARLY 1987.

THE SECOND PROJECT IS THE CONSTRUCTION OF A TEMPORARY REFUSE COLLECTION POINT AT 292-294 RECLAMATION STREET AT A COST OF \$220 000. IT WILL SERVE THE CATCHMENT AREA BOUNDED BY NATHAN ROAD, WATERLOO ROAD, FERRY STREET AND DUNDAS STREET.

WORK IS DUE TO START EARLY NEXT YEAR AND WILL TAKE ABOUT SIX MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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