



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 1979

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HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE FOR JANUARY - APRIL 1979

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TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FOR JANUARY - APRIL 1979 WAS \$44,742 MILLION, AN INCREASE OF 38 PER CENT COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD OF 1978 ACCORDING TO FIGURES RELEASED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY).

EXPORTS WERE VALUED AT \$20,065 MILLION, A RISE OF 39 PER CENT. THIS WAS ATTRIBUTED TO INCREASES IN BOTH DOMESTIC EXPORTS (\$14,270 MILLION, + 33 PER CENT) AND RE-EXPORTS (\$5,795 MILLION, + 59 PER CENT). IMPORTS ROSE BY 37 PER CENT, REACHING \$24,676 MILLION.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO 10 MAJOR OVERSEAS MARKETS ARE AS FOLLOWS :

	JAN.-APR. 79 (HK\$ MN)	JAN.-APR. 78 (HK\$ MN)	INCREASE (HK\$ MN)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
U.S.A.	4,584	4,003	+ 581	+ 15
F.R. OF GERMANY	1,659	1,135	+ 524	+ 46
U.K.	1,646	922	+ 724	+ 79
JAPAN	752	429	+ 323	+ 75
AUSTRALIA	501	406	+ 95	+ 23
CANADA	418	349	+ 69	+ 20
SINGAPORE	392	293	+ 99	+ 34
NETHERLANDS	366	239	+ 127	+ 53
SWEDEN	250	146	+ 104	+ 71
FRANCE	237	136	+ 101	+ 74

DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE U.S. ROSE BY 15 PER CENT, MAINLY DUE TO INCREASED DELIVERIES OF CLOTHING (\$1,697 MILLION, + NINE PER CENT), PLASTIC TOYS AND DOLLS (\$366 MILLION, + 40 PER CENT), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$241 MILLION, + 25 PER CENT) AS WELL AS ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS AND PARTS FOR COMPUTERS (\$201 MILLION, + TWO PER CENT).

THE INCREASE IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE F.R. OF GERMANY WAS ATTRIBUTED MAINLY TO HIGHER DEMANDS FOR CLOTHING (\$969 MILLION, + 52 PER CENT), TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING EQUIPMENT (\$178 MILLION, + 26 PER CENT), AND WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$109 MILLION, + 113 PER CENT).

SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE U.K. WERE REGISTERED IN CLOTHING (\$882 MILLION, + 80 PER CENT), TEXTILES (\$169 MILLION, + 76 PER CENT), AND WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$86 MILLION, + 112 PER CENT).

INCREASES WERE ALSO RECORDED IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF CLOTHING (\$176 MILLION, + 81 PER CENT) TO JAPAN AND OF TEXTILES (\$129 MILLION, + 34 PER CENT) TO AUSTRALIA.

AN ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS IS PRESENTED AS FOLLOWS :

	JAN.-APR. 79 (HK\$ MN)	JAN.-APR. 78 (HK\$ MN)	INCREASE (HK\$ MN)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	5,190	4,048	+ 1,142	+ 28
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY PLASTIC TOYS AND DOLLS)	2,274	1,666	+ 608	+ 36
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	1,192	797	+ 395	+ 50
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	1,141	782	+ 359	+ 46
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS	955	778	+ 177	+ 23
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (MAINLY TRANSISTORS AND DIODES AND HOUSEHOLD TYPE APPLIANCES)	828	583	+ 245	+ 42

DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$995 MILLION, + 55 PER CENT), TEXTILE FABRICS (\$890 MILLION, + 54 PER CENT), AND PLASTIC TOYS AND DOLLS (\$828 MILLION, + 41 PER CENT) SHOWED PROMINENT INCREASES. SALES OF RADIO RECEIVERS (\$470 MILLION, + 10 PER CENT) PICKED UP GRADUALLY AFTER HAVING DECLINED FOR SEVERAL MONTHS.

ON THE OTHER HAND, SHIPMENTS OF ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS AND PARTS FOR COMPUTERS (\$231 MILLION, - THREE PER CENT), PROFESSIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CONTROLLING INSTRUMENTS (\$24 MILLION, - 53 PER CENT) AS WELL AS CRUDE ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE MATERIALS (\$23 MILLION, - 32 PER CENT) CONTINUED ON A DOWNWARD TREND.

THE CHANGES IN IMPORTS FROM 10 MAJOR SOURCES ARE SUMMARISED AS FOLLOWS :

	<u>JAN.-APR. 79</u> <u>(HK\$ MN)</u>	<u>JAN.-APR. 78</u> <u>(HK\$ MN)</u>	<u>INCREASE</u> <u>(HK\$ MN)</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE</u> <u>CHANGE</u>
JAPAN	5,594	4,072	+ 1,522	+ 37
CHINA	3,985	2,912	+ 1,073	+ 37
U.S.A.	2,849	2,297	+ 552	+ 24
TAIWAN	1,719	1,150	+ 569	+ 49
SINGAPORE	1,295	984	+ 311	+ 32
U.K.	1,191	794	+ 397	+ 50
F.R. OF GERMANY	840	605	+ 235	+ 39
SWITZERLAND	798	539	+ 259	+ 48
REP. OF KOREA (SOUTH KOREA)	742	539	+ 203	+ 38
FRANCE	457	312	+ 145	+ 46

IMPORTS FROM JAPAN WERE BOOSTED BY INCREASED ARRIVALS OF TEXTILES (\$868 MILLION, + 17 PER CENT), ELECTRICAL MACHINERY AND APPLIANCES (\$568 MILLION, + 83 PER CENT), TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING EQUIPMENT (\$496 MILLION, + 75 PER CENT), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$489 MILLION, + 49 PER CENT), IRON AND STEEL (\$336 MILLION, + 27 PER CENT), AND ROAD VEHICLES (\$330 MILLION, + 25 PER CENT).

INCREASES IN IMPORTS FROM CHINA COMPRISED CHIEFLY OF FOODSTUFFS AND RAW MATERIALS, INCLUDING TEXTILES (\$858 MILLION, + 75 PER CENT), PETROLEUM AND RELATED MATERIALS (\$325 MILLION, + 60 PER CENT), VEGETABLES AND FRUITS (\$227 MILLION, + 18 PER CENT), FISH, CRUSTACEANS AND MOLLUSCS (\$156 MILLION, + 32 PER CENT), AND MISCELLANEOUS NON-METALLIC MINERAL MANUFACTURES (\$154 MILLION, + 41 PER CENT).

IMPORTS FROM THE U.S. ROSE BY 24 PER CENT, MAINLY DUE TO A RISE IN DEMAND FOR PEARLS, PRECIOUS AND SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES (\$299 MILLION, + 47 PER CENT), OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (\$255 MILLION, + 31 PER CENT), AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY AND APPLIANCES (\$249 MILLION, + 30 PER CENT).

INCREASES WERE ALSO REGISTERED IN SHIPMENTS OF TEXTILES (\$731 MILLION, + 53 PER CENT) AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY AND APPLIANCES (\$159 MILLION, + 62 PER CENT) FROM TAIWAN AND OF PETROLEUM AND RELATED MATERIALS (\$705 MILLION, + 18 PER CENT) FROM SINGAPORE.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE ILLUSTRATES THE MORE IMPORTANT CHANGES IN IMPORTS BY COMMODITY SECTIONS :

	<u>JAN.-APR. 79</u> <u>(HK\$ MN)</u>	<u>JAN.-APR. 78</u> <u>(HK\$ MN)</u>	<u>INCREASE</u> <u>(HK\$ MN)</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE</u> <u>CHANGE</u>
MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIAL (MAINLY TEXTILE PRODUCTS AND DIAMONDS)	8,152	5,635	+ 2,517	+ 45
MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	5,363	3,547	+ 1,816	+ 51
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY WATCHES AND CLOCKS, ARTICLES OF APPAREL)	3,395	2,323	+ 1,072	+ 46
FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS CHIEFLY FOR FOOD	2,808	2,492	+ 316	+ 13
CHEMICALS AND RELATED PRODUCTS	1,843	1,301	+ 542	+ 42
CRUDE MATERIALS, INEDIBLE, EXCEPT FUELS	1,374	1,292	+ 82	+ 6

BY COMMODITY, SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE REGISTERED IN IMPORTS OF TEXTILES (\$3,632 MILLION, + 48 PER CENT), ELECTRICAL MACHINERY AND APPLIANCES (\$1,639 MILLION, + 58 PER CENT), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$1,192 MILLION, + 48 PER CENT), TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING EQUIPMENT (\$947 MILLION, + 80 PER CENT), IRON AND STEEL (\$796 MILLION, + 51 PER CENT) AS WELL AS ARTIFICIAL RESINS, PLASTIC MATERIALS AND CELLULOSE ESTERS AND ETHERS (\$583 MILLION, + 70 PER CENT).

RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 59 PER CENT, MAINLY DUE TO ACCELERATED DEMAND FROM JAPAN (\$975 MILLION, + 61 PER CENT), U.S.A. (\$537 MILLION, + 58 PER CENT), TAIWAN (\$509 MILLION, + 57 PER CENT), SOUTH KOREA (\$269 MILLION, + 55 PER CENT), CHINA (\$258 MILLION, + 296 PER CENT), AND THE PHILIPPINES (\$252 MILLION, + 80 PER CENT). RE-EXPORTS CONSISTED MAINLY OF TEXTILES (\$877 MILLION, + 122 PER CENT), PEARLS, PRECIOUS AND SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES (\$775 MILLION, + 46 PER CENT), ELECTRICAL MACHINERY AND APPLIANCES (\$320 MILLION, + 92 PER CENT), AND WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$319 MILLION, + 23 PER CENT).

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THE TRADE INDEX NUMBERS FOR MARCH 1979 (1973 = 100) WERE RELEASED AS FOLLOWS :

	<u>VALUE INDEX</u>	<u>UNIT VALUE INDEX</u>	<u>QUANTUM INDEX</u>
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	235	154	153
IMPORTS	268	158	169

THE TERMS OF TRADE INDEX FOR MARCH 1979 WAS 97.

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DIRECTOR OF TRADE LEAVES FOR EUROPE TOMORROW
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THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, MR. LAWRENCE MILLS, LEAVES HONG KONG TOMORROW (FRIDAY) FOR A SERIES OF TALKS IN LONDON, BRUSSELS AND GENEVA.

IN LONDON HE WILL MEET OFFICIALS AT THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE, AND AT THE DEPARTMENTS OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY FOR DISCUSSIONS ON GENERAL TOPICS OF INTEREST ON HONG KONG'S TRADE.

HE WILL BE JOINED BY A TICD DELEGATION IN BRUSSELS WHERE HE WILL BE DISCUSSING WITH THE EEC THE VARIOUS ISSUES THAT REMAIN UNRESOLVED IN THE HONG KONG EEC TEXTILE AGREEMENT.

+I HOPE WE CAN TIE UP THESE LOOSE ENDS SO THAT THE AGREEMENT WHICH HAD BEEN OPERATING SINCE THE BEGINNING OF JANUARY 1978 CAN BE FORMALLY RATIFIED,+ HE SAID.

IN GENEVA HE WILL BE DISCUSSING WITH MR. PETER TSAO, MINISTER FOR HONG KONG AFFAIRS, THE LATEST POSITION ON THE SAFEGUARDS CODE IN THE MULTI-LATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS.

MR. MILLS IS EXPECTED TO BE AWAY FOR THREE WEEKS.

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NT RESTAURANT LICENCE FEES TO GO UP
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LICENCE FEES FOR LARGE RESTAURANTS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES ARE TO BE RAISED WITH EFFECT FROM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) WHEN THE FOOD BUSINESS (NEW TERRITORIES)(AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1979 IS PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

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UNDER THE AMENDMENTS, LICENCE FEES FOR GENERAL OR MARINE RESTAURANTS EXCEEDING 450 SQ. METRES (4,500 SQ. FT.) IN AREA AND LIGHT REFRESHMENT RESTAURANTS EXCEEDING 350 SQ. METRES (3,500 SQ. FT.) IN AREA IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WILL BE INCREASED RESPECTIVELY ON A PROGRESSIVE SCALE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR SIZES. THIS BRINGS THE FEES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES IN LINE WITH THOSE CHARGED IN THE URBAN AREAS.

IN THE PAST, THE MAXIMUM LICENCE FEE FOR GENERAL OR MARINE RESTAURANTS EXCEEDING 4,500 SQ. FT. IN SIZE WAS \$3,000 AND IN THE CASE OF LIGHT REFRESHMENT RESTAURANTS EXCEEDING 3,500 SQ. FT. IT WAS \$1,500.

EXPLAINING THE AMENDMENT, THE DIRECTOR OF NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES, MR. H.S. GREWAL, SAID THAT THE PLATFORM FOR CHARGING THE MAXIMUM LICENCE FEES FOR ANY GENERAL OR MARINE RESTAURANT WAS NOW EXTENDED FROM 4,500 SQ. FT. TO 50,000 SQ. FT. WHEREAS THE PLATFORM FOR A LIGHT REFRESHMENT RESTAURANT WAS EXTENDED FROM 3,500 SQ. FT. TO 10,000 SQ. FT.

+THEREFORE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROGRESSIVE SCALE, THE MAXIMUM LICENCE FEES WILL BE INCREASED TO \$35,000 FOR GENERAL OR MARINE RESTAURANTS AND \$5,000 FOR LIGHT REFRESHMENT RESTAURANTS,+ HE POINTED OUT.

+HOWEVER, LICENCE FEES FOR GENERAL RESTAURANTS SMALLER THAN 4,500 SQ. FT. AND FOR LIGHT REFRESHMENT RESTAURANTS SMALLER THAN 3,500 SQ. FT. WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED,+ HE INDICATED.

STATISTICS SHOW THAT, IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, THERE ARE AT PRESENT A TOTAL OF 622 GENERAL AND MARINE RESTAURANTS, ONLY 71 OF WHICH WILL BE AFFECTED BY THE NEW FEES. WITH REGARD TO THE 290 EXISTING LIGHT REFRESHMENT RESTAURANTS, ONLY ONE WILL BE AFFECTED.

+THERE ARE BASICALLY TWO REASONS FOR THE AMENDMENT,+ MR. GREWAL EXPLAINED.

+FIRSTLY, THE INTENTION IS TO USE THE LICENCE FEES TO RECOVER THE COST OF ADMINISTERING THE RESTAURANT LICENSING SYSTEM IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, AND SECONDLY, THE AIM IS TO SPREAD THIS COST MORE EQUITABLY AMONG THE RESTAURANT OPERATORS.

+ACCORDING TO AN ACCOUNTING EXERCISE CARRIED OUT BY MY STAFF RECENTLY TO DETERMINE THE COST OF ADMINISTERING THE RESTAURANT LICENSING SYSTEM, IT WAS FOUND THAT THE TOTAL COST AMOUNTS TO OVER \$1.6 MILLION PER YEAR WHILE THE REVENUE FROM LICENCE FEES IS ONLY ABOUT \$0.5 MILLION.

+THE REVISED LICENCE FEES ARE EXPECTED TO BRING IN AN ADDITIONAL REVENUE OF ABOUT \$0.4 MILLION PER ANNUM.

+HENCE, THERE WILL STILL BE A DEFICIT OF ABOUT \$0.7 MILLION EVEN AFTER THE NEW RATES ARE BROUGHT IN,+ HE ADDED.

IN KEEPING WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S METRICATION POLICY, THE FLOOR AREA OF THE RESTAURANTS WILL BE CONVERTED TO THE METRIC STANDARD UNDER THE METRICATION AMENDMENTS (PUBLIC HEALTH AND URBAN SERVICES ORDINANCE) ORDER 1979 WITH EFFECT FROM JULY 1, 1979.

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EMPLOYERS REMINDED OF FLOATING HOLIDAY
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A LABOUR DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY (THURSDAY) REMINDED EMPLOYERS THAT IF THEY HAVE NOT ALREADY DESIGNATED A DATE FOR THE FLOATING HOLIDAY -- ONE OF THE 10 STATUTORY HOLIDAYS UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE -- BY THE END OF LAST YEAR, THEY SHOULD GIVE EMPLOYEES THE DAY OFF EITHER ON JULY 2 (THE FIRST WEEK DAY IN JULY) OR AUGUST 6 (THE FIRST MONDAY IN AUGUST) THIS YEAR.

UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE, THE FLOATING HOLIDAY MUST BE DESIGNATED BY THE EMPLOYER AND NOTIFIED TO EMPLOYEES BY A NOTICE PLACED IN A CONSPICUOUS PLACE BY THE END OF THE PRECEDING YEAR.

HE EMPHASISED THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE APPLIED TO ALL EMPLOYEES WHEREVER THEY MAY WORK.

UNDER THE ORDINANCE, ALL MANUAL EMPLOYEES WITHOUT DISTINCTION, INCLUDING DOMESTIC SERVANTS, IRRESPECTIVE OF THEIR EARNINGS AND ALL NON-MANUAL EMPLOYEES EARNING NOT MORE THAN \$3,500 A MONTH, ARE ENTITLED TO THE HOLIDAY.

THEY MUST ALSO BE PAID FOR THE DAY OFF IF THEY HAVE WORKED CONTINUOUSLY FOR THEIR EMPLOYERS FOR THREE MONTHS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY.

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

IF THE ALTERNATIVE HOLIDAY IS TO BE GRANTED BEFORE THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY, THE EMPLOYER MUST NOTIFY THE EMPLOYEE 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE ALTERNATIVE HOLIDAY.

IN THE CASE WHERE AN ALTERNATIVE HOLIDAY IS TO BE GIVEN AFTER STATUTORY HOLIDAY, THE EMPLOYEE MUST BE NOTIFIED OF THE ARRANGEMENT AT LEAST 48 HOURS BEFORE THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY.

IF BOTH EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYEE AGREE, ANY DAY WITHIN 30 DAYS OF A STATUTORY HOLIDAY OR ALTERNATIVE HOLIDAY MAY BE TAKEN BY THE EMPLOYEE AS A SUBSTITUTED HOLIDAY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT STATUTORY HOLIDAYS MAY BE MADE TO THE NEAREST BRANCH OFFICE OF THE LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE. THE TELEPHONE NUMBERS ARE: FOR KOWLOON EAST 3-205638= KOWLOON WEST 3-201652= KWUN TONG 3-898520= TSUEN WAN 12-422096= TUEN MUN 12-818443 EXT. 82 AND HONG KONG ISLAND 5-282523 EXT. 60.

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SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME OPENING CEREMONY

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THE 1979 SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME WILL BE LAUNCHED ON SATURDAY BY SIR KENNETH PING-FAN FUNG, STEWARD OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB, AT THE OCEAN PARK.

MORE THAN 8,000 SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL EVENTS WILL BE HELD DURING THE NEXT TWO MONTHS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE. THESE INCLUDE TRAINING AND RECREATIONAL CAMPS, COMMUNITY SERVICES PROJECTS, HIKING, EXCURSIONS, SWIMMING, FUNFAIRS AND VARIETY SHOWS.

+THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME IS TO PROVIDE RECREATIONAL OUTLETS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE DURING THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS,+ SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CENTRAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR YOUTH RECREATION, THE CO-ORDINATING BODY FOR THE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME.

A PREVIEW OF SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR THIS YEAR WILL BE DEMONSTRATED BY 12 YOUTH GROUPS AT THE OCEAN PARK DURING THE OPENING CEREMONY.

+ALL ACTIVITIES ARE DESIGNED TO DEVELOP THE YOUTH'S SELF-CONFIDENCE, TO ENRICH THEIR KNOWLEDGE, AND TO LET THEM UNDERSTAND THEIR OWN POTENTIAL,+ HE ADDED.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROGRAMME IS AVAILABLE AT ALL CITY DISTRICT OFFICES, DISTRICT OFFICES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, COMMUNITY CENTRES, VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND YOUTH ORGANISATIONS.

THE CENTRAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR YOUTH RECREATION COMPRISES REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE, THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB (CHARITIES) LTD., THE BRITISH FORCES, THE HOME AFFAIRS BRANCH OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT, THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION AND THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT (PHYSICAL EDUCATION SECTION, SCIENCE SUBJECTS SECTION AND THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE).

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE 1979 SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME WILL BE LAUNCHED BY SIR KENNETH PING-FAN FUNG AT 10.30 A.M. ON SATURDAY IN THE ACTIVITIES AREA OF THE OCEAN PARK, WONG CHUK HANG.

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY.

PRESS TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED. A GOVERNMENT VAN WILL LEAVE QUEEN'S PIER, CENTRAL AT 9.30 A.M. FOR THE OCEAN PARK.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 1979

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TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SEMINAR ON DRIVING TESTS
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THE DRIVING TEST SECTION OF THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL BE HOLDING A SEMINAR ON DRIVING TESTS THIS SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THAT SUCH A SEMINAR HAS BEEN ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

THE SEMINAR WILL BE ATTENDED BY ABOUT 60 EXECUTIVE MEMBERS OF FIVE DRIVING INSTRUCTORS' ASSOCIATIONS AND THE HONG KONG ROAD SAFETY ASSOCIATION.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THE AIMS OF THE SEMINAR ARE TO:

- * REVIEW THE PRESENT DRIVING TEST SYSTEMS=
- * DISCUSS THE FREQUENT FAULTS MADE BY CANDIDATES IN THE COURSE OF DRIVING TESTS=
- * SUGGEST CORRECT WAYS TO AVOID SUCH MISTAKES, AND
- * IMPROVE DRIVING SKILLS AND RAISE DRIVING STANDARDS IN HONG KONG.

MR. WONG YEE-TING, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER (DRIVING TEST), MR. WONG WAI-LEUNG, DRIVING SUPERVISOR, MR. TSUI PAK-LAM, DRIVING SUPERVISOR, AND MR. AU PO-NAM, ASSISTANT DRIVING SUPERVISOR, WILL PRESIDE OVER THE SEMINAR WHICH WILL LAST THREE HOURS.

BOTH MR. TSUI AND MR. AU HAVE PREVIOUSLY ATTENDED TRAINING COURSES ON DRIVING TESTS IN ENGLAND.

MR. CHAN KAM-CHIU, COMMISSIONER OF THE HONG KONG ROAD SAFETY ASSOCIATION, WILL ALSO ADDRESS THE SEMINAR.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE DRIVING TEST SECTION OF THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL BE HOLDING A SEMINAR ON SATURDAY FROM 2 P.M. TO 5 P.M. AT THE HONG KONG ROAD SAFETY ASSOCIATION HEADQUARTERS IN STADIUM PATH, SO KON PO.

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE SEMINAR.

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CHEUNG CHAU HOME FOR AGED HAS EXPANSION PLANS

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THE CHEUNG CHAU CHUNG SHAK-HEI HOME FOR THE AGED, FOUNDED 10 YEARS AGO, IS TO ESTABLISH A BRANCH HOME TO MEET THE INCREASING DEMAND FOR SERVICES FOR OLD PEOPLE IN THE ISLANDS DISTRICT.

THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR. DAVID AKERS-JONES SAID THIS TODAY (THURSDAY) AT THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY AND INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF NEW OFFICE BEARERS OF THE HOME AT THE CITY HALL.

MR. AKERS-JONES SAID THE SUCCESS OF THE HOME HAD BEEN BUILT UP BY THE HARD WORK OF THE OFFICE BEARERS OF THE PAST NINE TERMS AND IT HAD PROVED NOW TO BE A HAPPY HOME FOR MORE THAN 130 OLD PEOPLE.

+THEY HAVE NOT JUST ENSURED THAT ALL THE BASIC HOME SERVICES ARE SATISFACTORY BUT ALSO PROVIDED A LOT OF INTERESTING AND MEANINGFUL PROGRAMMES TO ENABLE THE OLD PEOPLE TO ENJOY FULLY THEIR TIME,+ HE SAID.

THESE PROGRAMMES INCLUDED VISITS TO THE OCEAN PARK, PERFORMANCE BY CANTONESE OPERA GROUPS AND PARTICIPATION IN THE NEW YEAR FUNFAIR IN THE PAK TAI SQUARE.

+THROUGH THESE PROGRAMMES,+ HE SAID, +THEY HAVE BEEN BROUGHT INTO INTIMATE COMMUNICATION WITH SOCIETY AT LARGE AND DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS - ACTIVITIES WHICH I CAN CALL HAPPY INTERLUDES IN THE PEACEFUL ENVIRONMENT OF THE HOME.+

THE OTHER SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENT OF THE OUTGOING TERM, MR. AKERS-JONES POINTED OUT, WAS THE CREATION OF A PRINCIPAL FOR THE HOME BY EMPLOYING A PROFESSIONAL WORKER.

+I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE HOME WILL BE FURTHER STREAMLINED WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF A PRINCIPAL,+ HE SAID.

MR. AKERS-JONES NOTED THAT THE HOME WAS ALREADY REACHING ITS MAXIMUM CAPACITY AND THE EXISTING PREMISES COULD NOT BE FURTHER EXPANDED.

+I AM GLAD MR. SO TUNG-LAM, THE NEW CHAIRMAN AND HIS DIRECTORS ARE ACTIVELY CONSIDERING PLANS TO ENABLE A BRANCH HOME TO BE ESTABLISHED,+ HE SAID.

+I HOPE FIRM PROPOSALS WILL BE MADE SOON AND I WILL CERTAINLY TRY TO GIVE ALL POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE TO ENABLE YOUR PLANS TO MATERIALISE.+

MR. AKERS-JONES CONGRATULATED MR. SO AND THE NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR ASSUMING THE CHALLENGING RESPONSIBILITIES AT A CRITICAL STAGE OF THE HOME'S DEVELOPMENT.

+I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THEY WILL CARRY ON THE WORK OF THE HOME FOR ANOTHER FRUITFUL YEAR,+ HE ADDED.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 1979

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LABOUR DEPT DIVISION OFFICE
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THE NO. 2 DIVISIONAL OFFICE, NEW TERRITORIES, OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S FACTORY INSPECTORATE HAS MOVED FROM THE THIRD FLOOR TO THE FIFTH FLOOR OF THE CHARTERED BANK BUILDING IN TSUEN WAN.

THE OFFICE HANDLES MATTERS RELATING TO THE SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE OF WORKERS IN FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS IN TSUEN WAN, TUEN MUN, YUEN LONG, SHEUNG SHUI AND FANLING.

THE NEW TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF THE OFFICE ARE: 12-426009 FOR THE DIVISIONAL FACTORY INSPECTOR AND 12-426008 FOR GENERAL ENQUIRIES.

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF HUNG HOM CAR PARK
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THE HUNG HOM MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK IN KOWLOON WILL BE TEMPORARILY CLOSED FROM MIDNIGHT ON SUNDAY (JULY 1).

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (THURSDAY), A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE TEMPORARY CLOSURE WAS NECESSITATED BY SHORTAGE OF MANPOWER AND THE NEED TO RE-DEPLOY STAFF TO OTHER SECTIONS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT SUCH AS THE LION ROCK TUNNEL.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO SAID THAT EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO RE-OPEN THE CAR PARK BEFORE THE START OF THE NEXT RACING SEASON.

HOWEVER, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED, MOTORISTS WILL STILL BE ALLOWED TO PARK ON THE DECK FREE OF CHARGE.

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