



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 1978

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FIRST TRAINING CENTRE FOR SEVERELY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN OPENS
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THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, TODAY (THURSDAY) RENEWED HIS SUPPORT FOR A MODERN CONCEPT ON THE CARE FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE PO LEUNG KUK KWAI SHING CHILDREN'S TRAINING CENTRE - THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN HONG KONG - MR. LEE SAID THIS NEW CONCEPT, WHICH EMPHASISED ON PERSONAL CARE AND TRAINING, WOULD HELP EASE THE DEMAND FOR MENTAL HOSPITAL BED SPACES AND ALSO BRING ABOUT SUBSTANTIAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE FIELD OF REHABILITATION.

+ACCORDING TO OBSERVATION AND RESEARCH WHICH BACK UP THIS VIEW, MOST PEOPLE SUFFERING FROM MENTAL DISABILITY DO NOT NEED LONG-TERM MEDICAL CARE IN HOSPITALS,+ HE SAID.

MR. LEE NOTED THAT IF THIS THEORY WERE SUCCESSFULLY TRIED OUT IN HONG KONG, THE HANDICAPPED WOULD HAVE GREATER CHANCES OF REALISING THEIR POTENTIALS.

+WITH AN ESTIMATED TOTAL OF 2,000 CHILDREN BELONGING TO THIS CATEGORY IN OUR COMMUNITY AT PRESENT, A LOT OF TRAINING CENTRES WOULD NEED TO BE SET UP IF THIS NEW CONCEPT PROVES PRACTICABLE,+ HE SAID.

THE KWAI SHING CENTRE HAS COME INTO BEING FOLLOWING AN APPEAL MADE BY THE DEPARTMENT LAST YEAR FOR DAY OR RESIDENTIAL CENTRES TO BE SET UP BY VOLUNTARY AGENCIES TO PROVIDE BASIC CARE AND SIMPLE TRAINING FOR THE RETARDED ON AN EXPERIMENTAL BASIS.

MR. LEE SAID THAT TWO MORE WELFARE ORGANISATIONS HAD AGREED TO SET UP SIMILAR TRAINING CENTRES IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

DESCRIBING THE KWAI SHING CENTRE AS +PART OF A PILOT PROJECT TO TESTIFY THIS MODERN CONCEPT+, MR. LEE SAID THAT THE CENTRE'S SERENE ENVIRONMENT, COUPLED WITH MODERN EQUIPMENT AND WELL-COORDINATED SERVICES, WOULD BE CONDUCTIVE TO THE REHABILITATION PROCESS.

BEING THE FIRST INSTITUTION TO PROVIDE LONG-TERM PROTECTIVE CARE FOR THE SEVERE GRADE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN IN HONG KONG, THE DIRECTOR SAID THAT THE CENTRE POSSESSED A WELL-THOUGHT-OUT TRAINING PROGRAMME.

+THROUGH A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMME CONDUCTED AGAINST A FAMILY-STYLE SETTING, THE 50 FEMALE RESIDENTS AND 30 DAY TRAINEES AGED SIX TO 16 WOULD BE ABLE TO ACQUIRE SELF-CARE SKILLS, THE WAYS TO COMMUNICATE AND GET ALONG WITH OTHERS, AS WELL AS TECHNIQUES THAT CATER TO THEIR INDIVIDUAL NEEDS,+ HE SAID.

HE NOTED THAT DUE ATTENTION HAD ALSO BEEN PAID TO OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES, NURSING SERVICE, AND TRAINEES' RELATIONSHIPS WITH FAMILY MEMBERS TO ENSURE THAT THE HANDICAPPED WERE ACCORDED THE BEST CARE ON THEIR WAY TO INDEPENDENT LIVING.

MR. LEE THANKED THE KUK'S CHAIRMAN, MR. CHENG ENG-KUAN, DIRECTORS AND OTHER MEMBERS FOR THEIR QUICK RESPONSE IN SETTING UP THE TRAINING CENTRE.

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PWD SIGNS \$26M CONTRACT FOR LAND FORMATION
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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TODAY AWARDED A \$26 MILLION CONTRACT TO THE HSIN CHONG CONSTRUCTION CO. LTD. FOR THE FORMATION OF 14.5 HECTARES OF LAND IN YUEN LONG.

THE CONTRACT, WHICH IS PART OF THE YUEN LONG DEVELOPMENT SCHEME, WAS SIGNED THIS MORNING BY MR. BERNARD NEWMAN, GOVERNMENT ENGINEER (NEW TERRITORIES), AND MR. GEOFFREY YEH, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE COMPANY.

IT IS THE THIRD CONTRACT AWARDED SO FAR FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF YUEN LONG UNDER THE RURAL NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME.

THE CONTRACT WILL INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF ROADS, DRAINS AND SEWERS.

MR. NEWMAN SAID THAT THE WORK WOULD BEGIN NEXT WEEK AND TAKE ABOUT 21 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

HE SAID THAT THE LAND FORMED TO THE EAST OF THE TOWN WOULD BE USED FOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING OPEN SPACES AND A NEW POST OFFICE, A MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK AND A PRIMARY AND A SECONDARY SCHOOL.

THE SOUTH-WESTERN SITE NEAR THE EXISTING SPORTS STADIUM, HE ADDED, WOULD BE USED FOR A NEW SWIMMING POOL COMPLEX, BASKETBALL COURTS, OPEN AREAS AND CAR PARKING SPACE WHILE THE SITE TO BE FORMED TO THE EAST OF SHUI PIN WAI WOULD BE DEVELOPED AS A PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE WITH A PLANNED POPULATION OF 11,000.

FACILITIES WITHIN THE ESTATE WOULD INCLUDE A NURSERY, KINDERGARTEN, PRIMARY SCHOOL, MARKET AND COOKED FOOD STALLS.

+A TRAINING CENTRE FOR MENTALLY RETARDED CHILDREN SERVING THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT IS ALSO PLANNED TO BE SET UP WITHIN THE ESTATE,+ MR. NEWMAN SAID.

+THE COMPLETION OF THE PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE IN DECEMBER 1980 WILL ENABLE MAJOR CLEARANCES IN OTHER PARTS OF THE TOWN TO FACILITATE DEVELOPMENT IN THOSE AREAS.+

HE POINTED OUT THAT THOSE CLEARED WOULD BE REHOUSED AND THIS WOULD PERMIT THE COMPLETION OF THE PACKAGE DEVELOPMENT WITHIN YUEN LONG TOWN BY MID-1980'S.

THE CONSULTING ENGINEERS, BINNIE AND PARTNERS (H.K.), WHO DESIGNED THE ENGINEERING WORKS, WILL SUPERVISE THE CONSTRUCTION WORKS FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

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MORE NEW VOTERS REGISTERED

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MORE PEOPLE HAVE REGISTERED AS NEW VOTERS SINCE THE URBAN COUNCIL ELECTION REGISTRATION CYCLE BEGAN TWO WEEKS AGO.

ACCORDING TO LATEST FIGURES, OVER 780 PEOPLE HAVE REGISTERED, AN INCREASE OF 472 COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD OF THE LAST REGISTRATION EXERCISE IN 1976.

MR. KUO KET-CHEN, REGISTRATION OFFICER FOR 1978 URBAN COUNCIL ELECTION REGISTRATION AND SEXENNIAL INQUIRY, SAID: +I AM PLEASED THAT THESE PEOPLE HAVE RESPONDED SO QUICKLY AND I HOPE THAT THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE COMING FORWARD TO REGISTER EACH DAY WILL CONTINUE TO GROW AS WE MOVE ALONG THIS REGISTRATION CYCLE.+

REGISTRATION FOR NEW VOTERS STARTED ON FEBRUARY 15 AND THE DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION BY POST IS JUNE 15, 1978. REGISTRATION FORMS FOR NEW VOTERS ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL POST OFFICES, CITY DISTRICT OFFICES, DISTRICT OFFICES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, THE HEAD AND BRANCH OFFICES OF THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT AND THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS OFFICE. THESE FORMS MAY BE COMPLETED IN EITHER ENGLISH OR CHINESE.

MEANWHILE, NOTICES OF INQUIRY ARE ALSO BEING SENT BY REGISTERED POST TO EACH OF THE ELECTORS ON THE CURRENT REGISTER TO FIND OUT WHETHER THEY ARE STILL ELIGIBLE TO REMAIN ON THE REGISTER IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION AND WHETHER THEY WISH TO CHANGE THEIR POLLING STATIONS.

MR. KUO CALLED ON THESE VOTERS TO CONTINUE TO SHOW THEIR INTEREST BY COMPLETING THE FORMS AND RETURNING THEM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

HE REMINDED VOTERS THAT IF THEY FAILED TO CONFIRM THEIR REGISTRATION THEIR NAMES WOULD NOT BE INCLUDED IN THE NEW ELECTORAL ROLL AND SO THEY WOULD LOSE THEIR OPPORTUNITY TO VOTE IN THE NEXT URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

+IF ANYONE WHO KNOWS, OR BELIEVES, HIMSELF TO BE INCLUDED IN THE CURRENT REGISTER HAS NOT RECEIVED A NOTICE OF INQUIRY BY THE END OF THIS MONTH, IT PROBABLY MEANS THAT WE DO NOT HAVE HIS CORRECT ADDRESS. I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL IF THESE PEOPLE WOULD CONTACT THE ELECTORAL AND JURY SECTION, EITHER BY TELEPHONING THE OFFICER-IN-CHARGE ON 5-765912 OR BY WRITING TO HIM AT 7TH FLOOR, KA CHEONG BUILDING, 4, SUNNING ROAD, HONG KONG, SO THAT A NOTICE MAY BE SENT TO THEM WITHOUT DELAY,+ SAID MR. KUO.

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VALUATION LISTS FOR NEW RATING AREAS IN NT
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THE COMMISSIONER OF RATING AND VALUATION, MR. RAYMOND FRY, TODAY DECLARED THE VALUATION LISTS FOR THE 12 AREAS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WHICH WERE SPECIFIED FOR RATING LAST NOVEMBER.

THE LISTS HAVE BEEN HANDED OVER TO THE COLLECTOR OF RATES WHO IS THE DIRECTOR OF ACCOUNTING SERVICES. RATES, BASED ON THESE VALUATION LISTS EFFECTIVE FROM APRIL 1, THIS YEAR, WILL BE CHARGED BY THE COLLECTOR.

THEY CONTAIN SOME 1,900 ASSESSMENTS IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS WITH A TOTAL RATEABLE VALUE OF ABOUT \$47 MILLION:

- AREA F5 - 7 -- AN AREA IN THE VICINITY OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD FROM SAN TIN TO HUNG SHUI KIU, KAM TIN, SHEK KONG, PAT HEUNG AND LAU FAU SHAN=
- AREA G5 -- AN AREA AROUND TAI PO MARKET INCLUDING HONG LOK TSUEN=
- AREA H5 -- AN AREA AROUND YING PUN=
- AREA J3 -- AN AREA AROUND SHEUNG SHUI, FANLING, PING CHE AND KWU TUNG=
- AREA K2 -- AN AREA AROUND TUEN MUN AND LAM TEI=
- AREA L4 - 5 -- AN AREA IN THE VICINITY OF SHA TIN=
- AREA M5 -- AN AREA SOUTH OF CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD= AND
- AREA N2 - 3 -- AN AREA AROUND NAM WAI, CHUK KOK AND SHA KOK MEI IN SAI KUNG DISTRICT.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT SAID: +THE PREPARATION OF THESE LISTS IS IN FURTHERANCE OF GOVERNMENT'S POLICY OF EXTENDING RATING TO DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING PARTS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES.

+THIS, BEING THE FIFTH PHASE, COMPLETES THE MAINLAND SECTOR OF THE CURRENT PROGRAMME,+ HE ADDED.

THE VALUATION LISTS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION BY THE PUBLIC AT THE OFFICE OF THE COLLECTOR OF RATES AT THE TREASURY, ROOM 202, HANG CHONG BUILDING, SECOND FLOOR, 5, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, FOR 21 DAYS FROM THURSDAY, MARCH 9. COPIES OF THE RELEVANT LISTS WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE AT DISTRICT OFFICES OF THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION.

ANYONE AGGRIEVED ON ANY OF THE GROUNDS LAID DOWN IN THE RATING ORDINANCE MAY, DURING THE 21 DAYS, LODGE A PROPOSAL IN THE SPECIFIED FORM TO THE COMMISSIONER OF RATING AND VALUATION FOR THE ALTERATION OF AN ASSESSED RATEABLE VALUE.

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HIGHWAYS AND FLYOVERS - A MARK OF IMPROVED ROAD COMMUNICATION
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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT HAS OVER THE PAST 10 YEARS BUILT A NUMBER OF MAJOR ROAD LINKS AND FLYOVERS THROUGHOUT HONG KONG, RESULTING IN MUCH IMPROVEMENT ON ROAD COMMUNICATION.

THIS WAS STATED BY DR. NIP KAM-FAN, ACTING GOVERNMENT HIGHWAY ENGINEER (WORKS) OF THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE, AT A MEETING OF THE LIONS CLUB OF CASTLE PEAK THIS EVENING.

MUCH OF THE EXPANSION OF THE ROAD NETWORK, HE ADDED, HAD BEEN IN THE FORM OF MULTI-LANE HIGH CAPACITY URBAN ROADS WITH GRADE SEPARATED INTERSECTIONS.

DR. NIP NAMED A FEW MAJOR ROAD PROJECTS WHICH HAVE BEEN OR ARE TO BE COMPLETED SHORTLY. THESE INCLUDE THE SECOND LION ROCK TUNNEL AND THE TUEN MUN ROAD WHICH WILL BE OPENED TO TRAFFIC LATER THIS YEAR.

BESIDES THESE, HE SAID, THERE WERE NUMEROUS OTHER ROAD PROJECTS CURRENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION. EXISTING ROADS WERE WIDENED AND IMPROVED WHILE OLD ROADS WHICH HAD REACHED THE END OF THEIR ECONOMIC LIFE, WERE RECONSTRUCTED.

+IN ALL OF THESE VARIOUS ROAD PROJECTS, UTILITY COMPANIES ARE INVARIABLY INFORMED OF THE PROPOSED ROADWORKS SO THAT THEY COULD PUT IN HAND THEIR PLANNED NEW INSTALLATIONS OR IMPROVEMENT OF EXISTING SERVICES AT THE SAME TIME SO AS TO MINIMISE THE INCONVENIENCE TO THE PUBLIC,+ DR. NIP SAID.

+IT IS A STANDING PRACTICE IN THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE THAT TRENCH OPENINGS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED IN A CARRIAGEWAY CONSTRUCTED OR RECONSTRUCTED WITHIN THE PREVIOUS FIVE YEARS OR RESURFACED WITHIN THE PAST YEAR UNLESS THE UTILITY COMPANY CONCERNED COULD PROVE THAT THE NEED FOR THE OPENING COULD NOT HAVE BEEN ANTICIPATED AND THAT THERE IS NO PRACTICABLE ALTERNATIVE.+

APART FROM THESE ROAD WORKS, HE SAID, THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE EACH MONTH HAD TO MANAGE OVER 1,000 TRENCH OPENINGS MADE BY UTILITY COMPANIES= EXAMINE OVER 80 DEVELOPMENT PLANS, SUBMITTED BY AUTHORISED ARCHITECTS, WHICH MAY AFFECT THE HIGHWAY SYSTEM= RESPOND SWIFTLY TO 2,500 COMPLAINTS ABOUT BLOCKED DRAINAGE AND MAINTAIN 1,100 KILOMETRES OF ROAD AND OVER 300 SETS OF TRAFFIC LIGHT SIGNALS TO FACILITATE THE MOVEMENT OF OVER 200,000 VEHICLES. THESE WERE ALL PART OF THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE'S WORK.

TO DEAL WITH THESE PROBLEMS, DR. NIP SAID, THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE HAD AN ESTABLISHMENT OF OVER 2,000 PEOPLE.

+HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF THE CURRENT BUILDING BOOM IN HONG KONG AND THE INTENSIVE CONSTRUCTION WORK UNDERTAKEN BY THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION, THERE IS DIFFICULTY IN RECRUITING AND RETAINING ADEQUATE ENGINEERS AND TECHNICAL STAFF,+ HE SAID.

/+THE GREATEST PROBLEM

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+THE GREATEST PROBLEM LIES IN THE SHORTAGE OF STAFF AT THE WORKS SUPERVISOR LEVEL.+

DR. NIP POINTED OUT THAT AT PRESENT ONLY 66 PER CENT OF THE WORKS SUPERVISOR POSTS WERE FILLED.

HE SAID THAT THIS WAS BECAUSE +WE DEPEND ON THEM FOR WALKING AND INSPECTING EVERY PART OF THE ROAD SYSTEM AND FOR REPORTING WHATEVER DEFECTS THAT MAY EXIST AND FINALLY IN OVERSEEING THAT REMEDIAL WORKS ARE CARRIED OUT PROPERLY.+

IN THIS RESPECT, DR. NIP CALLED ON THOSE PRESENT TO ASSIST BY REPORTING +ANYTHING ABOUT HIGHWAYS WHICH DO NOT APPEAR PROPER+.

THIS CAN BE DONE EITHER BY WRITING TO THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, OR BY TELEPHONING THE COMPLAINTS OFFICER, MR. JOHN DODWELL, AT 5-244744.

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BUSY YEAR FOR HONG KONG PORT IN 1977

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A TOTAL OF 23.8 MILLION TONNES OF CARGO WERE HANDLED THROUGH THE PORT OF HONG KONG LAST YEAR - AN INCREASE OF ABOUT 11.2 PER CENT OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS RELEASED BY THE MARINE DEPARTMENT TODAY.

CONTAINERISED CARGO REPRESENTED 48.9 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL CARGO TONNAGE DISCHARGED AND LOADED LAST YEAR, COMPARED WITH 44.6 PER CENT IN 1976.

IN TERMS OF T.E.U.S (TWENTY FOOT EQUIVALENT UNITS) TOTAL CONTAINER THROUGHPUT WAS 1.26 MILLION, AN INCREASE OF 22.3 PER CENT OVER THE 1976 THROUGHPUT OF 1.03 MILLION T.E.U.S.

THE STATISTICS ALSO SHOWED THAT 8,916 OCEAN-GOING VESSELS WITH A COMBINED NET TONNAGE OF 42.8 MILLION ARRIVED HERE IN 1977, AS COMPARED WITH 8,071 IN 1976.

RIVER TRADE (MAINLY BETWEEN HONG KONG AND MACAU) SHOWED A SLIGHT INCREASE IN 1977 WITH 71,433 VESSELS OF 11.6 MILLION NET TONS ENTERING AND CLEARING, COMPARED WITH 70,823 VESSELS OF 11.4 MILLION NET TONS THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

CARGO FROM THE RIVER TRADE THAT WAS LOADED AND DISCHARGED HERE AMOUNTED TO 1.8 MILLION TONS, SLIGHTLY MORE THAN IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

THE NUMBER OF PASSENGERS TRAVELLING TO AND FROM MACAU INCREASED BY ABOUT TEN PER CENT OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR TO 5.1 MILLION.

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BANKING STATISTICS FOR JANUARY 1978

BANKING DEPOSITS AT THE END OF JANUARY THIS YEAR STOOD AT \$54,478 MILLION, COMPRISING \$13,360 MILLION IN DEMAND DEPOSITS, \$20,326 MILLION IN TIME DEPOSITS AND \$20,792 MILLION IN SAVINGS DEPOSITS, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY BY THE OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING.

THE AVERAGE LIQUIDITY DURING THE MONTH WAS 45.08 PER CENT.

THERE WERE 74 LICENSED BANKS IN HONG KONG AT THE END OF JANUARY.

THE FOLLOWING TABLES GIVE A DETAILED BREAKDOWN OF BANK LIABILITIES AND ASSETS AND MONEY SUPPLY FOR THE MONTH.

		\$MILLION
<u>LIABILITIES</u>		
1. DEPOSITS		54,478
2. AMOUNT DUE TO BANKS ABROAD		39,043
3. OTHER LIABILITIES		<u>9,938</u>
	TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>103,459</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>		
1. CASH		1,333
2. AMOUNT DUE FROM BANKS ABROAD:		
(1) DEMAND AND SHORT TERM CLAIMS	29,961	
(2) TIME DEPOSITS	<u>5,625</u>	
		35,586
3. LOANS AND ADVANCES:		
(1) HONG KONG	37,944	
(2) ABROAD	<u>19,321</u>	
		57,265
4. INVESTMENTS:		
(1) HONG KONG	3,846	
(2) ABROAD	<u>74</u>	
		3,920
		/5. OTHER ASSETS:

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5. OTHER ASSETS:

(1) HONG KONG	3,954	
(2) ABROAD	1,401	
	<u>5,355</u>	

TOTAL ASSETS	<u>103,459</u>
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AVERAGE LIQUIDITY DURING MONTH	45.08%
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MONEY SUPPLY

MONTH ENDED
31ST JANUARY 1978

\$MILLION

1. LEGAL TENDER COINS AND NOTES IN CIRCULATION (A)		
(1) COMMERCIAL BANK ISSUES	6,470	
(2) GOVERNMENT ISSUES	693	
	<u>7,163</u>	
2. LICENSED BANKS' HOLDINGS OF LEGAL TENDER COINS AND NOTES (B)		1,333
3. LEGAL TENDER COINS AND NOTES IN HANDS OF NON-BANK PUBLIC (A) - (B) = (C)		5,830
4. DEMAND DEPOSITS WITH LICENSED BANKS (D)		13,360
5. MONEY SUPPLY (DEFINITION 1) (C) + (D) = (E)		19,190
6. TIME DEPOSITS WITH LICENSED BANKS (F)		20,326
7. SAVINGS DEPOSITS WITH LICENSED BANKS (G)		20,792
8. MONEY SUPPLY (DEFINITION 2) (E)+(F)+(G)=(H)		60,308

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EMPLOYMENT SURVEY
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A TOTAL OF 268,030 PEOPLE WERE EMPLOYED IN WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES IN DECEMBER LAST YEAR -- AN INCREASE OF SOME 4,000 PERSONS OR 1.5 PER CENT OVER SEPTEMBER 1977 AND DECEMBER 1976, ACCORDING TO A RECENT EMPLOYMENT SURVEY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE SURVEY ALSO SHOWED THAT 118,240 PERSONS WERE WORKING IN RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS, AN INCREASE OF 1,660 PERSONS OR 1.4 PER CENT OVER SEPTEMBER 1977. COMPARED WITH 106,890 PERSONS IN DECEMBER 1976, THE FIGURE REPRESENTS AN INCREASE OF OVER 10 PER CENT.

DETAILS OF EMPLOYMENT IN WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS IN DECEMBER AND SEPTEMBER 1977 AND A COMPARISON BETWEEN THEM ARE GIVEN BELOW:

	PERSONS ENGAGED IN SEPTEMBER 1977	PERSONS ENGAGED IN DECEMBER 1977	CHANGE OF DEC. 1977 OVER SEPT. 1977	
			PERSONS	%
WHOLESALE	37,880	38,420	+ 540	+1.4
RETAIL	131,990	133,500	+1,510	+1.1
IMPORT/EXPORT	94,270	96,100	+1,830	+1.9
RESTAURANTS, CAFES AND BARS	99,450	100,700	+1,250	+1.3
HOTELS AND BOARDING HOUSES	17,140	17,540	+ 400	+2.3
TOTAL	380,730	386,270	+5,540	+1.5

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TEXTILES TALKS WITH CANADA WELL UNDERWAY

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+THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CANADA ARE PROCEEDING SLOWLY BUT SURELY,+ MR. LAWRENCE MILLS, DIRECTOR OF TRADE, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

MR. MILLS SAID: +WE HAVE EXAMINED IMPORT AND EXPORT STATISTICS COVERING THE ITEMS ON WHICH CANADA IS SEEKING RESTRAINT AND THESE HAVE REVEALED CERTAIN DIFFERENCES IN CLASSIFICATION OF PRODUCTS AT THE EXPORT AND IMPORT ENDS OF THE TRADE.+

HE SAID THAT, AS A CONSEQUENCE, THE TWO SIDES HAVE SET UP A TECHNICAL GROUP TO IDENTIFY THESE DIFFERENCES AND TO AGREE ON DESCRIPTIONS OF THE PRODUCTS IN QUESTION.

+AS SOON AS THIS WORK IS COMPLETED, IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE CONSULTATIONS WILL BE ABLE TO CONCENTRATE ON IDENTIFYING ITEMS FOR RESTRAINT, THE LIMITS THAT MIGHT BE APPLIED TO THEM AND ALL THE OTHER ELEMENTS WHICH GO INTO MAKING A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE AGREEMENT.+

THE DISCUSSIONS WILL RESUME TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AND MAY CONTINUE OVER THE WEEKEND.

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NICHOLS ATTENDS FISHERIES CONFERENCE IN MANILA

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THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, MR. TED NICHOLS, LEFT HONG KONG TODAY FOR A TWO-WEEK FISHERIES CONFERENCE IN MANILA.

MR. NICHOLS IS THE SENIOR ALTERNATE DELEGATE OF THE BRITISH CONTINGENT ATTENDING THE EIGHTEENTH SESSION OF THE INDO-PACIFIC FISHERY COMMISSION.

ALSO ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE IS THE DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF FISHERIES AND MARKETING, MR. A.K. MURRAY.

PART OF THE CONFERENCE WILL BE DEVOTED TO A SYMPOSIUM ON FISH UTILISATION AND MARKETING WITHIN THE INDO-PACIFIC REGION. THE PURPOSE OF THE SYMPOSIUM IS TO BRING TOGETHER FISH TECHNOLOGISTS AND MARKETING EXPERTS FROM GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS, UNIVERSITIES AND INDUSTRY TO DISCUSS DEVELOPMENT PROSPECTS FOR THE FISHING INDUSTRY IN THE REGION.

THE COMMISSION WILL ALSO UPDATE DELEGATES ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING THE LAW OF THE SEA. THIS SESSION WILL ENABLE MEMBERS TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON HOW NATIONAL FISHERY POLICIES MAY HAVE TO BE MODIFIED IN THE LIGHT OF THE EXTENDED ZONES OF JURISDICTION OVER FISHERIES.

MR. MURRAY IS ALSO A DELEGATE TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON RESOURCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, WHICH WILL STUDY REPORTS ON INLAND FISHERIES PRIOR TO THE COMMISSION MEETING.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS FOR +WALK FOR A MILLION+
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SEVERAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN KWUN TONG ON SUNDAY (MARCH 5) IN CONNECTION WITH THE +WALK FOR A MILLION+, A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY.

PO LAM ROAD, THE UNNAMED LINK ROAD BETWEEN SAU MAU PING ROAD AND ANDERSON ROAD, AND THE SECTION OF ANDERSON ROAD BETWEEN THE UNNAMED LINK ROAD AND PO LAM ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL VEHICULAR TRAFFIC EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES AND EMERGENCY VEHICLES FROM 7.30 A.M. TO 2 P.M.

SERVICE OF KMB ROUTE NO. 90 WILL ALSO BE SUSPENDED FROM 8.30 A.M. TO 11.30 A.M.

JUNK BAY ROAD FROM LEI YUE MUN ROAD TO SAU MAU PING ROAD EXCEPT THE SOUTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY FROM KAI TIN ROAD TO LEI YUE MUN ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL VEHICULAR TRAFFIC FROM 7.30 A.M. TO ABOUT 11.30 A.M.

DRIVERS REQUIRING ACCESS TO LAM TIN ESTATE BETWEEN 7.30 A.M. AND 11.30 A.M. SHOULD PROCEED VIA LEI YUE MUN ROAD AND KAI TIN ROAD. KMB ROUTE NOS. 15C AND 16 WILL ALSO BE DIVERTED VIA LEI YUE MUN ROAD AND KAI TIN ROAD ON JOURNEYS TO LAM TIN ESTATE.

MOTORISTS IN RENNIES MILL, KO CHIU ROAD, SHUNG SHUN STREET, TUNG YUEN STREET, KO FAI ROAD, CHA KWO LING ROAD, YAU TONG ROAD AND LEI YUE MUN ROAD ARE ADVISED TO DRIVE WITH EXTRA CARE AND GIVE WAY TO THE WALKERS.

POLICE WILL BE ON HAND TO GUIDE MOTORISTS AND ASSIST WALKERS.

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