



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, MAY 11, 1987

NO PLAN TO CHANGE THREE-TIER SYSTEM
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THERE IS AT PRESENT NO CONSIDERATION OF CHANGING THE GENERAL STRUCTURE OF THE THREE-TIER SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT UNDER WHICH HONG KONG OPERATES, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

HE ADDED THAT THE INTER-RELATIONSHIP OF THIS STRUCTURE WAS ONE OF THE QUESTIONS WHICH WOULD COME UP IN THE GREEN PAPER ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT LATER THIS YEAR.

THE GOVERNOR, SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER A FAMILIARISATION VISIT TO THE URBAN COUNCIL, DESCRIBED THE VISIT AS VERY USEFUL.

+I MUST SAY I AM ENORMOUSLY IMPRESSED BY HOW MUCH THE URBAN COUNCIL DOES, HOW ITS ROLE HAS BEEN DEVELOPING, AND HOW VERY EFFICIENT THE SERVICES IT PROVIDES ARE,+ SIR DAVID SAID.

THE GOVERNOR ADDED THAT NOT ONLY WAS HE STRUCK BY THE COUNCIL'S WIDE RANGE OF ACTIVITIES SUCH AS PARKS AND OTHER RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, BUT ALSO BY HOW MUCH THAT WENT ON BEHIND THE SCENE.

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STANDARD COST SUBVENTION OF WELFARE AGENCIES EXTENDED
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A GOVERNMENT WORKING GROUP HAS RECOMMENDED THAT THE PRESENT STANDARD COST SUBVENTION SYSTEM FOR SUBVENTED WELFARE AGENCIES SHOULD BE EXTENDED TO MORE WELFARE SERVICES.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (MONDAY), THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE AND CHAIRMAN OF THE WORKING GROUP, MISS ELAINE CHUNG, SAID THAT THE SOCIAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE HAD CALLED FOR A REVIEW OF THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF THE STANDARD COST SUBVENTION SYSTEM IN MARCH 1986.

THE PURPOSE OF THE REVIEW WAS TO IDENTIFY ANY SHORTCOMINGS IN THE SYSTEM, WHICH WAS IMPLEMENTED IN 1982-83, AND ADVISE ON FUTURE METHODS OF SUBVENTION TO WELFARE AGENCIES.

THE WORKING GROUP CONCLUDED THAT THE AIM OF ESTABLISHING A SOCIAL WELFARE SUBVENTION SYSTEM BASED SUBSTANTIALLY UPON STANDARD COSTS HAS YET TO BE ACHIEVED AS ONLY EIGHT WELFARE SERVICES ARE PRESENTLY SUBVENTED ON THE BASIS OF STANDARD COSTS.

THOSE EIGHT SERVICES ARE FAMILY CASEWORK, FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION, FOSTER CARE, NEIGHBOURHOOD LEVEL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS, OUTREACHING SOCIAL WORK, SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK, SMALL GROUP HOMES AND POOL BUS SERVICE FOR THE ELDERLY.

/MISS CHUNG

MISS CHUNG SAID THAT THE STANDARD COST SYSTEM HAD LED TO SUBVENTION SURPLUSES ACCUMULATING IN AGENCIES' ACCOUNTS UP TO 1985-86 BUT SOME MODIFICATIONS TO THE SYSTEM LAST YEAR HAD +MORE OR LESS SOLVED THE PROBLEM AND SO REMOVED AN OBSTACLE TO MORE SERVICES BEING SUBVENTED ON THE BASIS OF STANDARD COSTS+.

THE WORKING GROUP ALSO CONCLUDED THAT THE PRESENT SUBVENTION SYSTEM HAS IMPORTANT FEATURES WORTHY OF RETENTION, NAMELY, THE CATEGORISATION OF SERVICES FOR FUNDING PURPOSES, THE SETTING OF NOTIONAL STANDARD STAFFING LEVELS WHERE POSSIBLE, THE FLEXIBILITY FOR AGENCIES TO OPERATE WITHIN SUCH PARAMETERS, TO RAISE FUNDS TO IMPROVE SERVICES AND TO PLAN WITH CERTAINTY ABOUT SUBVENTION LEVELS AND THE EMPHASIS BY THE GOVERNMENT ON MONITORING SERVICE DELIVERY. A RETURN TO THE DISCRETIONARY GRANT SYSTEM OPERATING BEFORE 1982-83 WOULD THEREFORE BE INAPPROPRIATE.

THE WORKING GROUP HAS RECOMMENDED THAT THE MODIFIED STANDARD COST SYSTEM SHOULD BE EXTENDED TO OTHER SERVICES FOR WHICH STANDARD COSTS CAN BE ESTABLISHED AND THESE WERE LIKELY TO INCLUDE CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRES, HOMES FOR THE AGED, HOSTELS FOR THE AGED, RESIDENTIAL CRECHES, RESIDENTIAL NURSERIES AND SOCIAL CENTRES FOR THE ELDERLY.

MISS CHUNG SAID THAT +THIS WOULD STILL LEAVE MOST SUBVENTED WELFARE SERVICES FUNDED UNDER THE 'MODEL' SYSTEM UNDER WHICH SUBVENTIONS ARE BASED ON PREVIOUS EXPENDITURE ADJUSTED FOR PRICE INCREASES+.

+THIS IS RATHER UNSATISFACTORY AS A LONG TERM SOLUTION AS THE MODEL SYSTEM WAS INTENDED ONLY AS A STOPGAP MEASURE WHILE THE STANDARD COST SYSTEM WAS BEING IMPLEMENTED AND IT PERPETUATES DIFFERENT SUBVENTION LEVELS ESTABLISHED OVER THE YEARS FOR SIMILAR UNITS WITHIN THE SAME SERVICE+.

THE WORKING GROUP EXAMINED OTHER SUBVENTION SYSTEMS AND CONCLUDED THAT THE SYSTEMS IN THE EDUCATION AND MEDICAL SECTORS ARE UNSUITED TO THE SOCIAL WELFARE SECTOR.

HOWEVER, THE WORKING GROUP ALSO CONCLUDED THAT THERE ARE MERITS IN REPLACING THE MODIFIED STANDARD COST SYSTEM WITH A SYSTEM SIMILAR TO THAT USED IN THE CIVIL SERVICE TO MEET STAFF SALARY REQUIREMENTS, BUT SUCH A SYSTEM CANNOT BE IMPLEMENTED WITHOUT CONTROLS AND COMPUTERISATION OF PAYROLLS.

MISS CHUNG SAID THAT SUCH A CHANGE WOULD REQUIRE A +DETAILED FEASIBILITY STUDY INVOLVING THE TREASURY, THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT AND THE SUBVENTED WELFARE SECTOR+.

THE WORKING GROUP ALSO RECOMMENDED THAT STAFF SALARY SUBVENTIONS SHOULD BE RELEASED TO AGENCIES MONTHLY INSTEAD OF QUARTERLY AS AT PRESENT AND THAT CLAW-BACK OF INTEREST ON UNUSED SUBVENTIONS SHOULD BE DISPENSED WITH.

THE WORKING GROUP'S REPORT WOULD NOW BE SENT TO THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE FOR COMMENTS BEFORE BEING CONSIDERED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN JUNE.

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'USEFUL' TRIP TO BRUSSELS AND VIENNA
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SPECIAL ADVISER TO THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, TODAY (MONDAY) DESCRIBED AS +VERY USEFUL+ THE VISIT HE HAD MADE TO BRUSSELS AND VIENNA WHERE HE LED A DELEGATION FROM HONG KONG TO PROMOTE THE TERRITORY AS A FINANCIAL AND TRADE CENTRE.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AT KAI TAK AIRPORT ON HIS RETURN, SIR DAVID SAID HE WAS VERY IMPRESSED BY THE ENORMOUS INTEREST THERE WAS IN THESE PLACES IN HONG KONG. THERE WERE GOOD TURNOUTS OF BUSINESS LEADERS, BANKERS AND OFFICIALS AT CONFERENCES AT WHICH SIR DAVID AND OTHER HONG KONG LEADERS SPOKE.

HE ADDED THAT WHILE IN BRUSSELS AND VIENNA HE WAS ALSO ABLE TO TALK TO THE BRITISH AMBASSADORS THERE TO BRING THEM UP TO DATE ON EVENTS IN HONG KONG.

SIR DAVID SAID: +I AM SURE THAT THIS KIND OF VISITS TO GIVE FIRST-HAND ACCOUNT OF THINGS IN HONG KONG IS MOST USEFUL.+

ASKED IF HE HAD EXPLAINED HONG KONG'S POSITION AFTER 1997 TO THE BELGIAN PEOPLE, SIR DAVID REPLIED THAT THE IMPORTANT THING WAS TO DESCRIBE, NOT THE EVENTS OF 1985 AND THE SINO-BRITISH AGREEMENT, BUT WHAT HAD HAPPENED SINCE THE AGREEMENT AND THE PROGRESS THAT HAD BEEN MADE IN THE VARIOUS FIELDS RELATING TO THE AGREEMENT SINCE THEN.

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MARCH EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS RELEASED
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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (MONDAY) RELEASED TRADE VALUE STATISTICS FOR MARCH 1987. COMPARED WITH MARCH 1986, TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE IN MARCH 1987, AT \$59 078 MILLION, GREW BY 53 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS.

COMPARED WITH MARCH 1986, DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASED IN VALUE TERMS BY 41 PER CENT TO \$14 483 MILLION IN MARCH 1987 WHILE RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY 62 PER CENT TO \$13 864 MILLION, BRINGING TOTAL EXPORTS IN MARCH 1987 TO \$28 347 MILLION, WHICH WAS 51 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN MARCH 1986. COMPARED WITH A YEAR EARLIER, IMPORTS INCREASED IN VALUE TERMS BY 55 PER CENT TO \$30 731 MILLION IN MARCH 1987.

/DOMESTIC EXPORTS

DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO ALL MAJOR MARKETS INCREASED IN VALUE TERMS BETWEEN MARCH 1986 AND MARCH 1987. SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH WAS RECORDED IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CHINA (+91 PER CENT), JAPAN (+80 PER CENT), THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (+64 PER CENT), FRANCE (+63 PER CENT) AND THE NETHERLANDS (+60 PER CENT).

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM ALL MAJOR SUPPLIERS INCREASED, ESPECIALLY THOSE FROM THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (+89 PER CENT), CHINA (+65 PER CENT), SINGAPORE (+64 PER CENT), ITALY (+63 PER CENT) AND TAIWAN (+60 PER CENT).

RE-EXPORTS TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, THE U.S., THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND TAIWAN INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY IN VALUE TERMS BY 109 PER CENT, 93 PER CENT, 87 PER CENT, 64 PER CENT AND 63 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1987, AT \$153 378 MILLION, INCREASED BY 41 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME QUARTER IN 1986. ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASED BY 32 PER CENT TO \$38 528 MILLION WHILE RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 52 PER CENT TO \$36 485 MILLION. THUS, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS INCREASED BY 41 PER CENT TO \$75 012 MILLION. IMPORTS INCREASED IN VALUE TERMS BY 41 PER CENT TO \$78 366 MILLION.

COMPARING THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1987 WITH THE SAME QUARTER IN 1986, DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO ALL MAJOR MARKETS INCREASED IN VALUE TERMS. THE MARKETS WITH THE FASTEST GROWTH IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCLUDED CHINA (+77 PER CENT), THE NETHERLANDS (+70 PER CENT), JAPAN (+68 PER CENT), THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (+52 PER CENT) AND FRANCE (+41 PER CENT). DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO HONG KONG'S LARGEST MARKET, THE U.S., GREW BY 13 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS.

IMPORTS IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1987 FROM ALL MAJOR SUPPLIERS INCREASED IN VALUE TERMS WHEN COMPARED WITH THE SAME QUARTER IN 1986. SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN IMPORTS FROM THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (+82 PER CENT), TAIWAN (+57 PER CENT), CHINA (+52 PER CENT), ITALY (+51 PER CENT) AND THE UNITED KINGDOM (+31 PER CENT).

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, RE-EXPORTS TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, THE U.S., THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, THE UNITED KINGDOM AND TAIWAN INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY IN VALUE TERMS BY 92 PER CENT, 79 PER CENT, 66 PER CENT, 63 PER CENT AND 57 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

EXTENDING THE PERIOD OF COMPARISON TO THE 12 MONTHS ENDING MARCH 1987, WITH THE 12 MONTHS ENDING MARCH 1986, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASED BY 26 PER CENT TO \$163 365 MILLION. THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS, AT \$135 026 MILLION, ROSE BY 30 PER CENT. THUS, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS ROSE BY 28 PER CENT. IMPORTS INCREASED BY 28 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS TO \$298 648 MILLION. TAKEN AS A WHOLE, THE VALUE OF TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE INCREASED BY 28 PER CENT.

ALL TRADE STATISTICS PRESENTED HERE ARE MEASURED AT CURRENT PRICES AND NO ACCOUNT HAS BEEN TAKEN OF THE CHANGES IN PRICES BETWEEN THE PERIODS OF COMPARISON. A SEPARATE ANALYSIS OF THE PRICE AND VOLUME MOVEMENTS OF EXTERNAL TRADE IN MARCH 1987 WILL BE RELEASED IN EARLY JUNE 1987.

THE CHANGES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO HONG KONG'S TEN MAJOR MARKETS ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

COMPARING THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1987 WITH THE SAME QUARTER IN 1986, INCREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN VALUE TERMS WERE RECORDED IN ALL MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS, THE MORE NOTABLE ONES BEING CLOTHING (BY \$2 202 MILLION OR 22 PER CENT); MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, INCLUDING MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS (BY \$1 543 MILLION OR 36 PER CENT); TEXTILES (BY \$1 348 MILLION OR 69 PER CENT); AS WELL AS TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$1 312 MILLION OR 70 PER CENT).

TABLE 2 ILLUSTRATES THE CHANGES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION.

THE CHANGES IN IMPORTS FROM HONG KONG'S TEN MAJOR SUPPLIERS ARE SUMMARISED IN TABLE 3.

COMPARING THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1987 WITH THE SAME QUARTER IN 1986, INCREASES IN IMPORTS IN VALUE TERMS WERE REGISTERED FOR TEXTILES (BY \$3 704 MILLION OR 46 PER CENT); ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$2 866 MILLION OR 68 PER CENT); CLOTHING (BY \$1 972 MILLION OR 55 PER CENT); AS WELL AS TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$1 835 MILLION OR 75 PER CENT).

/HOWEVER, DECREASES

HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS (BY \$493 MILLION OR 23 PER CENT); AS WELL AS COFFEE, TEA, COCOA, SPICES, AND MANUFACTURES THEREOF (BY \$67 MILLION OR 21 PER CENT).

TABLE 4 ILLUSTRATES THE CHANGES IN IMPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION.

THE CHANGES IN RE-EXPORTS TO HONG KONG'S TEN MAJOR MARKETS ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 5.

COMPARING THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1987 WITH THE SAME QUARTER IN 1986, INCREASES IN RE-EXPORTS IN VALUE TERMS WERE REGISTERED FOR CLOTHING (BY \$2 097 MILLION OR 88 PER CENT); TEXTILES (BY \$1 835 MILLION OR 47 PER CENT); MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, INCLUDING MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS (BY \$1 382 MILLION OR 88 PER CENT); AS WELL AS ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$1 163 MILLION OR 62 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN COFFEE, TEA, COCOA, SPICES, AND MANUFACTURES THEREOF (BY \$115 MILLION OR 43 PER CENT); AS WELL AS METALLIFEROUS ORES AND METAL SCRAP (BY \$46 MILLION OR 37 PER CENT).

TABLE 6 ILLUSTRATES THE CHANGES IN RE-EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION.

DETAILED STATISTICS ON TRADE VALUE BY COUNTRY AND BY COMMODITY ARE AVAILABLE IN TRADE STATISTICS REPORTS. THE MARCH 1987 ISSUE OF THE +HONG KONG TRADE STATISTICS SUMMARY+ WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SALE AROUND MAY 20, AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT \$5.50 PER COPY. A MORE COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, +HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE+, WITH A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS IN MARCH 1987 WILL BE AVAILABLE IN EARLY JUNE 1987 AT \$15 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES REGARDING REGULAR SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THESE REPORTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT BASKERVILLE HOUSE, HONG KONG, ON 5-214375 AND ENQUIRIES ON TRADE STATISTICS TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON 5-8234915.

/Table 1:

Table 1: Domestic exports by ten major markets

Major market	Jan-Mar 1987 (HKD Mn.)	Jan-Mar 87 over Jan-Mar 86 (%)	March 1987 (HKD Mn.)	Mar 87 over Mar 86 (%)
U.S.A.	14,006	13	5,055	18
China	5,552	77	2,233	91
F.R. of Germany	3,223	52	1,161	64
U.K.	2,353	27	927	43
Japan	1,792	68	743	80
Canada	1,144	10	396	16
Netherlands	900	70	324	60
Australia	783	7	295	34
Singapore	725	36	280	42
France	695	41	284	63

Table 2: Domestic exports by major commodity division

Commodity division	Jan-Mar 1987 (HKD Mn.)	Jan-Mar 87 over Jan-Mar 86 (%)	March 1987 (HKD Mn.)	Mar 87 over Mar 86 (%)
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories	12,411	22	4,359	37
Miscellaneous manufactured articles (mainly baby carriages, toys, games and sporting goods)	5,870	36	2,338	43
Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles and related products	3,292	69	1,348	83
Telecommunications and sound recording and reproducing apparatus and equipment	3,192	70	1,188	63
Electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances, and electrical parts thereof	3,014	38	1,200	39
Photographic apparatus, equipment and supplies, optical goods, watches and clocks	2,969	19	1,138	21

/Table 3:

Table 3: Imports from ten major suppliers

Major supplier	Jan-Mar 1987 (HKD Mn.)	Jan-Mar 87 over Jan-Mar 86 (%)	March 1987 (HKD Mn.)	Mar 87 over Mar 86 (%)
China	23,172	52	8,860	65
Japan	15,061	30	5,998	43
Taiwan	7,016	57	2,773	60
U.S.A.	6,880	29	2,487	51
Republic of Korea	3,494	82	1,365	89
Singapore	3,080	12	1,174	64
U.K.	2,575	31	1,042	42
F.R. of Germany	2,149	30	823	40
Switzerland	1,390	26	551	47
Italy	1,339	51	616	63

Table 4: Imports by major commodity division

Commodity division	Jan-Mar 1987 (HKD Mn.)	Jan-Mar 87 over Jan-Mar 86 (%)	March 1987 (HKD Mn.)	Mar 87 over Mar 86 (%)
Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles and related products	11,829	46	4,897	63
Electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances, and electrical parts thereof	7,100	68	2,804	68
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories	5,573	55	2,117	58
Photographic apparatus, equipment and supplies, optical goods, watches and clocks	4,325	29	1,742	50
Telecommunications and sound recording and reproducing apparatus and equipment	4,281	75	1,680	82
Miscellaneous manufactured articles (mainly baby carriages, toys, games and sporting goods)	4,040	59	1,676	81

/Table 5:

Table 5: Re-exports by ten major markets

Major market	Jan-Mar 1987 (HKD Mn.)	Jan-Mar 87 over Jan-Mar 86 (%)	March 1987 (HKD Mn.)	Mar 87 over Mar 86 (%)
China	11,808	48	4,554	54
U.S.A.	7,068	79	2,524	93
Taiwan	2,002	57	796	63
Republic of Korea	1,922	66	726	64
Japan	1,747	27	656	35
Singapore	1,387	15	526	24
F.R. of Germany	903	92	336	109
Macau	742	26	301	27
U.K.	679	63	304	87
Philippines	614	28	246	61

Table 6: Re-exports by major commodity division

Commodity division	Jan-Mar 1987 (HKD Mn.)	Jan-Mar 87 over Jan-Mar 86 (%)	March 1987 (HKD Mn.)	Mar 87 over Mar 86 (%)
Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles and related products	5,717	47	2,303	58
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories	4,486	88	1,498	102
Electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances, and electrical parts thereof	3,028	62	1,203	66
Miscellaneous manufactured articles (mainly baby carriages, toys, games and sporting goods)	2,949	88	1,182	106
Telecommunications and sound recording and reproducing apparatus and equipment	2,035	77	792	81
Photographic apparatus, equipment and supplies, optical goods, watches and clocks	1,754	53	682	65

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INCENTIVE AWARD SCHEME FOR PUBLISHERS
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PUBLISHERS ARE INVITED TO TAKE PART IN THE INCENTIVE AWARD SCHEME FOR CHINESE TEXTBOOKS IN SELECTED SUBJECTS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND TO ATTEND A MEETING WITH THE CHINESE TEXTBOOKS COMMITTEE AND EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ON FRIDAY (MAY 15).

THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S ADVISORY INSPECTORATE CENTRES, ROOMS 29-30, 5TH FLOOR, 4 PAK FUK ROAD, NORTH POINT, STARTING AT 9.30 AM ON FRIDAY.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CHINESE TEXTBOOKS COMMITTEE WILL ANNOUNCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INCENTIVE AWARD SCHEME AT THE MEETING WHILE OFFICERS OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL BRIEF THE PUBLISHERS DETAILED PROCEDURES OF PARTICIPATING IN THE AWARD SCHEME.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID A COMMITMENT OF \$7.2 MILLION FOR IMPLEMENTING THE INCENTIVE AWARD SCHEME TO ENCOURAGE THE PUBLICATION OF GOOD QUALITY CHINESE TEXTBOOKS IN SELECTED SUBJECTS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS HAD BEEN APPROVED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE LAST WEEK.

THERE WILL BE TWO CATEGORIES UNDER THE SCHEME:

(1) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AMOUNTING TO \$150 000 WILL BE AWARDED TO PUBLISHER FOR PRODUCING EACH SET OF TEXTBOOKS FOR EACH OF THE 16 SUBJECTS. IN ADDITION, EDITORIAL ASSISTANCE BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL BE AVAILABLE TO PUBLISHERS.

(2) EDITORIAL ASSISTANCE WILL BE GIVEN TO PUBLISHERS BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IN THE COURSE OF TEXTBOOK WRITING FOR SIX SUBJECTS OF TEXTBOOKS.

UNDER THE INCENTIVE AWARD SCHEME, EACH PARTICIPATING PUBLISHER WILL BE REQUIRED TO DEPOSIT WITH THE GOVERNMENT A SUM OF \$50 000 PER SUBJECT, AND TO OBSERVE A CONTROLLED TIMETABLE FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THE TEXTBOOKS.

IF THE TEXTBOOK IS PRODUCED AND SUBMITTED TO THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT FOR REVIEW ACCORDING TO THE TIMETABLE, THE DEPOSIT WILL BE REFUNDED TO THE PUBLISHER, WHO WILL ALSO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE INCENTIVE AWARD IF THE TEXTBOOK IS SUBSEQUENTLY INCLUDED IN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S RECOMMENDED BOOKLIST.

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GERMAN MP'S BRIEFED ON HK DRUGS SITUATION
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A DELEGATION OF THE GERMAN FEDERAL PARLIAMENT (BUDGET COMMITTEE) THIS (MONDAY) MORNING VISITED THE NARCOTICS DIVISION AND WAS GIVEN AN IN-DEPTH DEPICTION ON HONG KONG'S OVERALL DRUG SITUATION.

THE DELEGATION IS COMPRISED OF THREE MEMBERS OF THE PARLIAMENT'S BUDGET COMMITTEE, MR ADOLF ROTH, MR HELMUT WIECZOREK AND MR WERNER ZYWIETZ AND A SENIOR CIVIL SERVANT OF THE MINISTRY FOR FINANCIAL AFFAIRS, CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT, DR ALRED STENGER.

THE TEAM WAS BRIEFED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR GARETH MULLOY AND THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MRS AGNES ALLCOCK, ON HONG KONG'S EFFORTS AND STRATEGIES IN THE WAR AGAINST DRUGS.

THE GROUP LATER VISITED THE HONG KONG CUSTOMS INVESTIGATION BUREAU DURING WHICH THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER (INVESTIGATIONS), MR TONG KANG-SING, INTRODUCED TO THEM THE LAW ENFORCEMENT ASPECTS OF ANTI-NARCOTICS WORK IN HONG KONG.

THE DELEGATION, ON AN ASIAN DRUGS STUDY TOUR INCLUDING HONG KONG, KUALA LUMPUR AND NEW DELHI, WILL LEAVE HONG KONG TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

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YAN OI TONG PRAISED FOR SERVICES TO NEW TOWN
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THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, DR JAMES HAYES, TODAY (MONDAY) PRAISED THE YAN OI TONG, A CHARITABLE ORGANISATION, FOR ITS PERSEVERANCE IN THE PROVISION OF COMMUNITY SERVICES TO RESIDENTS OF TUEN MUN.

+FOLLOWING THE DEVELOPMENTS IN TUEN MUN AND THE NORTH-WESTERN PART OF THE NEW TERRITORIES, THE YAN OI TONG WITH ITS LONG TRADITION, WAS ABLE TO COPE WITH COMMUNITY NEEDS TO EXPAND ITS SERVICES AND BECOME A MATURE AND MULTI-SERVICE CHARITABLE ORGANISATION,+ HE SAID.

SPEAKING AT THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF THE 8TH TERM OF OFFICE-BEARERS OF THE YAN OI TONG BOARD OF DIRECTORS, DR HAYES SAID THE YAN OI TONG HAD MAINTAINED ITS GROWTH PROGRESS ALONG WITH TUEN MUN WHICH DEVELOPED INTO A MODERNISED NEW TOWN IN THE LAST TEN YEARS.

+OVER THE YEARS, THE YAN OI TONG HAD CONTRIBUTED MUCH TO RESIDENTS BY PROVIDING A COMPREHENSIVE RANGE OF SERVICES SUCH AS MEDICAL CARE, EDUCATIONAL, CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES,+ HE ADDED.

/+THE TONG

MONDAY, MAY 11, 1987

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+THE TONG NOW OPERATES A CLINIC, A COMMUNITY AND INDOOR SPORTS CENTRE, SWIMMING POOLS, SCHOOLS, KINDERGARTENS, YOUTH CENTRES, AND HOSTELS AND SERVICES FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE.

HE NOTED THAT A SERIES OF FUTURE PLANS WAS UNDER WAY, INCLUDING TWO SCHOOLS, A YOUTH CENTRE AND THE EXPANSION OF VARIOUS COMMUNITY SERVICES.

THIS WAS MADE POSSIBLE WITH THE EFFICIENT ORGANISATIONAL SET-UP AND THE FAR-SIGHTEDNESS OF YAN OI TONG'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS WHICH ENABLED THE INSTITUTION TO DEVELOP AND EXPAND ITS OPERATIONS TO COPE WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TUEN MUN NEW TOWN, DR HAYES SAID.

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SAFETY OFFICER TRAINING COURSES INVITE APPLICATION
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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, IS ORGANISING A SERIES OF ONE-YEAR CERTIFICATE COURSES TO TRAIN SAFETY OFFICERS FOR INDUSTRIES.

THEY INCLUDE ONE PART-TIME DAY RELEASE COURSE AND FOUR PART-TIME EVENING COURSES.

THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF THE COURSES IS TO PROVIDE PARTICIPANTS WITH AN IN-DEPTH STUDY OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT PREVENTION AND SAFETY MOVEMENT TECHNIQUES THAT ARE ESSENTIAL TO THE EFFECTIVE PROMOTION OF SAFETY AND HEALTH IN WORKPLACES.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC IN HUNG HOM, THE CITY POLYTECHNIC IN MONG KOK, AND VARIOUS DISTRICT OFFICES.

COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE JOINT APPLICATION OFFICES OF THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC BY MAY 20.

MEANWHILE, THE LEGISLATION GOVERNING THE COMPULSORY EMPLOYMENT OF SAFETY OFFICERS AND SAFETY SUPERVISORS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE FROM DECEMBER THIS YEAR.

SINCE REGISTRATION STARTED IN DECEMBER LAST YEAR, MORE THAN 170 APPLICATIONS TO REGISTER AS SAFETY OFFICERS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

THOSE WHO INTEND TO REGISTER AS SAFETY OFFICERS ARE URGED TO CONTACT ANY BRANCH OFFICES OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S FACTORY INSPECTORATE DIVISION OR TELEPHONE 5-8524064 FOR ENQUIRIES.

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MONDAY, MAY 11, 1987

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MORE FUNDS FOR SIR EDWARD YOUDE FUND
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THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE HAS SO FAR RECEIVED ABOUT \$860 000 FROM LOCAL ORGANISATIONS, SCHOOLS AND THE PUBLIC IN SUPPORT OF THE SIR EDWARD YOUDE MEMORIAL FUND.

IN THE PAST TWO WEEKS, ABOUT \$100 000 WAS RECEIVED, WITH MORE THAN \$57 000 FROM ST LOUIS SCHOOL IN SAI YING PUN; \$22 000 FROM THE INDIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND \$20 000 FROM THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT FESTIVAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DISTRICT OFFICE SAID THE PUBLIC'S ENTHUSIASTIC AND PERSISTENT SUPPORT WAS MUCH APPRECIATED.

HE HOPED THAT THE PUBLIC WOULD CONTINUE THEIR SUPPORT ON A LONG-TERM BASIS SO THAT THE PRESENT AS WELL AS COMING GENERATIONS COULD BENEFIT FROM THE FUND.

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WAN CHAI TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE MEETS TOMORROW

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MEMBERS OF THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD WILL MEET TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO ELECT A NEW CHAIRMAN FOR 1987-88.

DURING THE MEETING, MEMBERS WILL DISCUSS TRAFFIC CONGESTION PROBLEMS AT THE JUNCTION OF TIN LOK LANE AND HENNESSY ROAD= AT TAI HANG ROAD NEAR TIGER BALM GARDEN; AND AT THE JUNCTION OF HENNESSY ROAD, QUEENSWAY AND QUEEN'S ROAD EAST.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS PROPOSALS TO RENAME STREETS AND FACILITIES ADJACENT TO THE HONG KONG CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE.

THEY WILL ALSO BE BRIEFED ON THE PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR WAN CHAI DISTRICT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING TO BE HELD TOMORROW (TUESDAY) AT 4 PM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE ON THE 8TH FLOOR OF TUNG WAH MANSION AT 201 HENNESSY ROAD.

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TSUEN WAN COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER CULTURAL PROGRAMME
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MEMBERS OF THE CULTURE AND ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD WILL CONSIDER THE PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES AND ITS BUDGET FOR THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR AT A MEETING ON WEDNESDAY (MAY 13).

THE BOARD HAS ALLOCATED \$600 000 TO THE COMMITTEE FOR ORGANISING ACTIVITIES DURING THE YEAR.

MAJOR EVENTS TO BE ORGANISED BY THE COMMITTEE INCLUDE THE ANNUAL TSUEN WAN ARTS FESTIVAL AND VARIOUS OTHER ACTIVITIES.

AT THE MEETING, MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPLICATIONS FROM LOCAL ORGANISATIONS FOR HOLDING PROJECTS IN THE DISTRICT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE COMMITTEE MEETING ON MAY 13 AT 2.30 PM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE, FIRST FLOOR, TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK BUILDING, 174-208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN.

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ACCESS ROAD PROPOSED FOR LANTAU
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THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT IS PROPOSING TO BUILD A 2 400-METRE-LONG VEHICULAR ROAD BETWEEN NGONG PING ROAD AND SHAM WAT ON LANTAU ISLAND TO PROVIDE TRANSPORT FACILITIES FOR ABOUT 600 VILLAGERS LIVING IN SHAM WAT, SHAM SHEK TSUEN, SAN SHEK WAN AND SHA LO WAN.

APART FROM WEEKENDS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS WHEN A FERRY SERVICE IS AVAILABLE, VILLAGERS MOVING BETWEEN SHA LO WAN AND NGONG PING ROAD HAVE TO USE EITHER AN INFREQUENT KAI-TO SERVICE OR A 4 900-METRE-LONG FOOTPATH BETWEEN THE TWO PLACES.

THE PROPOSED WORK IS THE FIRST OF A TWO-STAGE PROJECT AND WILL COMPRISE RECONSTRUCTION AND WIDENING OF SHAM WAT ROAD NORTH OF NGONG PING ROAD AND CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW ROAD ALONG THE ALIGNMENT OF THE EXISTING EARTH TRACK FROM SHAM WAT ROAD TO SHAM WAT.

ADEQUATE PASSING PLACES WILL BE PROVIDED ALONG THE ROAD TO CATER FOR MOVEMENT OF LIGHT MOTOR VEHICLES.

/EARTH CUTTING

MONDAY, MAY 11, 1987

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EARTH CUTTING AND FILLING WORKS, TOGETHER WITH CONSTRUCTION OF RETAINING WALLS AND BOX CULVERTS, WILL BE REQUIRED AT SEVERAL LOCATIONS.

SAFETY FENCES WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED.

WRITTEN OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSAL SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT BY JULY 7.

WORK ON THE SECOND STAGE WILL MAINLY INVOLVE CONSTRUCTION OF A SIMILAR TYPE OF ACCESS ROAD BETWEEN SHAM WAT AND SHA LO WAN.

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HOUSING STRATEGY ON DB AGENDA

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THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD WILL MEET TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO DISCUSS THE LONG TERM HOUSING STRATEGY RECENTLY PUBLISHED TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE ACCOMMODATION AT AFFORDABLE COST FOR ALL HOUSEHOLDS.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE THE THREE-TIER FILM CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM, DANGEROUS DRUG (AMENDMENT) BILL 1987, PUBLIC ORDER (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1987, THE ROLE OF TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD IN COLLECTING VIEWS OF THE PUBLIC ON THE POLITICAL REVIEW, AND RELOCATION OF OLD SCHOOLS IN THE URBAN AREA TO TUEN MUN NEW TOWN FOR CONTINUAL OPERATION.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO BE BRIEFED ON VARIOUS REPORTS OF THE DB COMMITTEES.

MISS LING KIT-CHING, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE HOUSING BRANCH AND MISS EMMA LAU, SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT, REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE NARCOTICS DIVISION AND HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT HAVE BEEN INVITED TO BRIEF MEMBERS ON VARIOUS TOPICS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING AT 9.30 AM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT ON THE 3RD FLOOR, TUEN MUN GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, NO. 1, TUEN HI ROAD.

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MONDAY, MAY 11, 1987

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ROAD CLOSURE IN TUEN MUN FOR ROAD WORK
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A NUMBER OF ROAD SECTIONS IN TUEN MUN WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM THURSDAY (MAY 14) FOR ROAD WORK.

FROM 1.30 AM TO 5.15 AM FROM MAY 14 TO 16, THE SECTION OF TUEN FAT ROAD FROM TUEN MUN ROAD TO TUEN SHING STREET AND THE UNNAMED ROAD LEADING FROM CASTLE PEAK ROAD TO TUEN FAT ROAD WILL BE CLOSED.

MOTORISTS ON SOUTHBOUND TUEN MUN ROAD WILL BE DIVERTED VIA PUI TO ROAD EASTBOUND, CASTLE PEAK ROAD SOUTHBOUND AND TUEN SHING STREET WESTBOUND TO THE SOUTHERN SECTION OF TUEN FAT ROAD.

FROM 12.01 AM TO 5.30 AM FROM MAY 19 TO 21, THE SOUTHBOUND SECTION OF TUEN MUN ROAD BETWEEN ITS TWO JUNCTIONS WITH TUEN FAT ROAD WILL BE CLOSED. MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED TO USE TUEN FAT ROAD.

THE NORTHBOUND SECTION OF TUEN MUN ROAD BETWEEN ITS TWO JUNCTIONS WITH TUEN HI ROAD WILL BE CLOSED FROM 12.01 AM TO 5.30 AM FROM MAY 22 TO 24.

MEANWHILE, FROM 1.30 AM TO 5.30 AM FROM MAY 26 TO 29, THE UNNAMED SLIP ROAD LEADING FROM TUEN HING ROAD TO TUEN HI ROAD AND TUEN HI ROAD WILL BE CLOSED.

MOTORISTS ON NORTHBOUND TUEN MUN HEUNG SZE WUI ROAD SHOULD DRIVE VIA PUI TO ROAD EASTBOUND, WHILE THOSE ON EASTBOUND TUEN HING ROAD WILL BE DIVERTED VIA CASTLE PEAK ROAD NORTHBOUND AND PUI TO ROAD.

VEHICLES ON NORTHBOUND TUEN MUN ROAD SHOULD DRIVE STRAIGHT AHEAD ALONG TUEN MUN ROAD.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE
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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 49.5 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 290.300 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 240.786 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 41.1 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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